



CAL STATE East Bay

SPRING 2016

UMPIRE
STATE OF
MIND

5 MILLION FUNGI
THE CUT

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Right now, students at Cal State East Bay are preparing for their final classes and exams, and perhaps graduation. Mixed in with all of the excitement (and maybe even a bit of “*What’s next?*” anxiety), is a fair amount of well-earned pride. Whether a student is just finishing the quarter or beginning a new life chapter, this time of year is an opportunity to recognize accomplishments.

The 2015-16 academic year was particularly gratifying at Cal State East Bay, bringing a host of achievements that further elevated the university. Some of these included:

- CSUEB freshmen contributed thousands of hours of community service;
- two of our students were the only students from the CSU system selected for an internship program run by the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities;
- graduate student Mario Silva played trumpet on the album that received the 2015 Grammy for Best Reggae Album;
- Cal State East Bay’s inaugural Hack Day challenged students to figure out a way to use drones to combat mosquito-borne illnesses, such as the Zika virus;
- and in Athletics, we celebrated not one but two conference championships (women’s basketball and men’s golf), as well as an individual conference championship (Adam Stone in men’s golf).

It was a memorable year at Cal State East Bay, but the commencement season signals its close, and the chance to celebrate the hard work, dedication, and accomplishments of our students. During this time, the on-campus energy is palpable, serving as an affirmation of what we do as an institution, who we are as a community, and how much our graduates — many of whom took unique and unusual routes to obtaining their degrees — have learned.

Those learning experiences take on special significance when we consider that many Cal State East Bay students — nearly 60 percent — are the first in their family to attend and graduate from college. They understand the connection between education and success, and they make the necessary sacrifices. Notably, many students toil long hours at jobs in addition to their studies; raise children (sometimes as a single parent); and help support and care for their families — all in an effort to change their lives and the lives of their families for the better.

Our graduates often face extraordinary challenges, but they also thrive in extraordinary ways. Their stories — their accomplishments — serve to highlight Cal State East Bay’s motto, *Per Aspera Ad Astra*: Through adversity to the stars.

Go Pioneers!

Leroy M. Morishita

Dr. Leroy M. Morishita
President

CAL STATE EAST BAY University News

The 2015-16 CSUEB women’s basketball team earned the university’s first CCAA championship title in March.
MARTY BICEK



PIONEER ATHLETICS MARKS HISTORIC 2015-16 SEASON

Stephanie Hammon and Steve Connolly

Two Cal State East Bay athletic teams made history this year by winning CCAA championships.

Women’s Basketball

Led by six standout seniors and the No. 2 ranked scoring defense in the nation, this year’s women’s basketball team established new school records for victories and winning percentage, finishing the year with an overall record of 27-5.

The biggest highlight came in early March when CSUEB topped Cal State Dominguez Hills 58-53 in the CCAA championship game. The Pioneers’ season came to an end, however, with a 74-59 loss to UC San Diego in the first round of the NCAA tournament. “In our locker room after the game there was disappointment, but not sadness, Coach Suzy Barcomb said. “We have accomplished so much this season and have many reasons to hold our heads high.”

A strong group of seniors led by Tori Breshers, Shannon Bland, and Laci Effenberger set the tone for the Pioneers. All three were honored as All-CCAA first-team selections. “I’m so thrilled the conference recognized these players,” Barcomb said. “Each has played such a vital role in our historic year, and they lead by example.”

Men’s Golf

Cal State East Bay’s men’s golf team entered the CCAA championship not having won a tournament all season and ranked outside the top 10 in the region. However, they rose to the occasion to defeat the Sonoma State Seawolves in three out of five matches when it mattered most, playing their best golf of the year to capture the CCAA title and earn a bid to the 2016 NCAA Division II West/South-Central Regionals.

The day also included a special achievement by junior Adam Stone, who was named the CCAA’s individual champion — an honor that has only occurred twice

in Pioneer Athletics history. “Adam made a small change back to his old swing toward the end of the year,” head coach Alan Sue said. “He was determined to win and carry the team to the match play round, and that’s what he did.”

In early May, the Pioneers continued on to the NCAA Division II regionals, where the team tied for 14th place and finished out the 54-hole tournament with a total score of 891 (+39).

Junior Adam Stone made Pioneer men’s golf history in being named the CCAA’s individual champion. The men’s golf team also won the CCAA championship tournament.

KELLEY L. COX



THE OAKLAND PROMISE

Cal State East Bay Joins California Leaders in Creating College Pathways

Kimberly Tere Hawkins

California State University, East Bay is working with Oakland Unified School District (OUSD), Oakland Mayor Libby Schaaf's office, and the East Bay College Fund to triple the number of OUSD students who graduate from college within the next eight years.

On January 28, Cal State East Bay President Leroy M. Morishita and 22 other college officials signed the Oakland Promise College Pathways Declaration of Support.

Cal State East Bay will guarantee admission to every eligible Oakland student. "I am a proud partner of the Oakland Promise and am committed to making higher education an attainable goal for every Oakland student," Morishita said.

The Oakland Promise is a pledge for all OUSD students to graduate high school with the expectation, resources, and skills to complete college and enter the careers of their choice.

"This is the single most transformative thing we can do for Oakland and its young people," Schaaf said. "In a district where 71 percent of students are low-income, ensuring that more of our kids earn a college degree has the potential to interrupt generational poverty. Today, we're raising the bar for this entire community by setting out a clear expectation for our children's futures, and giving them the tools and the support to exceed those expectations."

Over the next decade, the Oakland Promise plans to open 55,000 college savings accounts, provide \$100 million in

college scholarships, and serve 200,000 students and families.

"For too many, economic growth has become a spectator sport, and we know that income inequality is synonymous with barriers to educational opportunity," California Lieutenant Governor Gavin Newsom said. "The Oakland Promise offers a model for the rest of the state, weaving together the best practices to tackle generational poverty in a way never done before."

The Oakland Promise has been endorsed by the Oakland City Council and Oakland School Board, 100 community organizations, two dozen university officials, and 200 civic and educational leaders, including the Reverend Jesse Jackson, U.S. Under Secretary of Education Ted Mitchell, and University of California President Janet Napolitano.

For more information visit, theoaklandpromise.org.

VIEW THE VIDEO AT EBTODAY.COM



INAUGURAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY HACK DAY COMBATS MALARIA

On April 16 Cal State East Bay held its inaugural Science and Technology Hack Day, which gave students the opportunity to innovate solutions to global problems. This year's theme, Diseases and Drones, pressed more than 60 participants to combat mosquito-borne illnesses with drones. The winning team, Entomopathogenic Fun Guys, won for their hack "Storm Riders," which explored data collection, mosquito sampling, and insecticide delivery with a land-based drone. Each of the five members won a land-based drone to continue their research.



Judy Sakaki
(BA '75; MS '77)
GARVIN TSO

CSU Leader

East Bay Alumna Judy K. Sakaki Appointed President of Sonoma State

Kimberly Tere Hawkins

The California State University Board of Trustees has appointed Judy K. Sakaki, PhD — a double alumna of Cal State East Bay — as president of Sonoma State University.

Sakaki currently serves as vice president of Student Affairs at the University of California, Office of the President, where she is responsible for policies, services, and initiatives relating to student access, affordability, and success for all 238,000 UC students on 10 campuses. Previously, she was vice chancellor of Student Affairs at UC Davis, and vice president and dean of Student Affairs at Fresno State.

Sakaki earned a bachelor's degree in human development ('75) and a master's degree in educational psychology ('77) from CSUEB.

"I remember many of the excellent and caring faculty that I had when I was an undergraduate student at Cal State East Bay," Sakaki said. "They took an extra interest in me and pushed me. They helped me to grow and develop as a student and person."

Sakaki also held a number of positions with the university early in her career, and she credits former CSUEB President Norma Rees with encouraging her to go into university administration.

"I learned to be open to new people, ideas, and ways of thinking," Sakaki said. "I learned to actively listen to others. I learned to communicate clearly and to think analytically. I learned to lead and to work in teams. I learned to respect and appreciate differing backgrounds, views, and opinions. All that I learned at CSUEB will serve me well in my new role as president at Sonoma State."

College of Science Announces New Dean

Kimberly Tere Hawkins

Cal State East Bay has a familiar face as the new dean of the College of Science — former Department of Physics Professor Jason Singley.

"Dr. Singley has been an exceptional asset to Cal State East Bay as a faculty member, administrator, and member of the campus community," President Leroy M. Morishita said. "I am very pleased to welcome Jason into his new role. As the new dean of the College of Science, he brings a strong history of collaboration, research, and commitment to supporting student success."

"I'm very excited," Singley said. "I've been here for 13 years. I'm very familiar with the college, the faculty, and the students, and am really looking forward to working with the group and building on the successes the college has already had."

Singley was codirector for the semester conversion initiative, and he is also a founding member of the Board of Directors of the CSUEB Institute for STEM Education, where he was cochair for two years.

Singley said he looks forward to working with the Cal State East Bay community to develop a vision for the college. "I want to have broader conversations with the faculty and staff, and with the students, and talk about what it is they think makes us special and how they think we should use the resources we have to focus on that," Singley said. "I think it's really important that the dean play that role of helping to develop a shared vision for the college."

Singley takes over the College of Science from Dean Michael Leung, who served CSUEB for 21 years and retired in February.



College of Science Dean Jason Singley has been with the university for 13 years.
GARVIN TSO

RARE DISEASE DAY DOUBLES FUNDRAISING



Isabel Bueso

Cal State East Bay's 2nd annual Rare Disease Day event, championed by sophomore Isabel Bueso, raised \$1900 in support of students with rare diseases — nearly twice the goal of organizers. Bueso, who has a rare condition called Mucopolysaccharidosis Type VI, pioneered the fundraising day in 2014 by approaching fellow students in health sciences. She hopes the funding will create a scholarship for a CSUEB student with a rare disease.



President Leroy M. Morishita (second from right) joined state and regional leaders in signing the Oakland Promise, an aggressive initiative designed to transform generational poverty.
GARVIN TSO



Gene Yang (MS '03) was born in Alameda, grew up in the South Bay, and taught computer science at Bishop O'Dowd High School in Oakland until going full time as a graphic novelist.
GARVIN TSO

Great Krypton!

Superman Writer Alumnus Becomes First Graphic Novelist Named Ambassador for Young People's Literature

Kimberly Tere Hawkins

Cal State East Bay alumnus Gene Luen Yang (MS '03, Education), Printz Award winner and two-time National Book Award finalist, is the first graphic novelist to be named National Ambassador for Young People's Literature.

The literary ambassador program was established by The Center for the Book in the Library of Congress, the Children's Book Council, and Every Child a Reader in 2008. The program's mission is to highlight the importance of young people's literature to lifelong literacy, education, and the development and betterment of the lives of young people.

"Every ambassador picks something they want to talk about," Yang said. "My platform is reading without walls. By reading, we get to know people outside of our own communities. We gain knowledge others don't expect us to have. We discover new and surprising passions."

Yang will travel the country over the course of a two-year term on his platform.

Born in Alameda, and raised in the South Bay, Yang graduated from Cal State East Bay's online master's program in education in 2003.

Yang is now working on his own young adult book series as well as *Superman* for DC Comics.

"On an adult level, I want to do a good job, but there is a 12-year-old boy in me (who) is just freaking out," Yang said.

Yang added that what resonates most with him about Superman is that he is an immigrant.

"Superman isn't just the prototypical superhero. He is also the prototypical immigrant. He came from another culture. A lot of the pathos behind this character is that he loves America, but he still longs for this home that he barely knows."

VIEW THE VIDEO AT EBTODAY.COM

SAVE THE DATE

FOREVER PIONEER Weekend



OCTOBER 20-22, 2016

Join President Leroy M. Morishita and the Alumni Association in celebrating Pioneer alumni at Cal State East Bay's annual Forever Pioneer Weekend

GOLDEN GRAD CELEBRATION OCTOBER 20, NOON

A special celebration of Pioneer alumni who graduated from our university when it was called Alameda County State College (1960-63) and California State College at Hayward (1963-1972)

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARDS GALA

OCTOBER 21, 5:30 P.M.

Since 1985, Cal State East Bay has been presenting the Distinguished Alumni Awards, our highest honor, to the most accomplished graduates in recognition of their professional achievements, contributions to society, and support of the university

REUNION/AFFINITY CELEBRATIONS

OCTOBER 22, 10 A.M.

Join the university's 14th Annual "Make a Difference" Volunteer Day in the morning, followed by alumni reunions and mixers in the afternoon

For more information and event details, visit csueastbay.edu/alumni

GRAMMY KIND OF MOOD

Student Mario Silva Lays Tracks on Reggae Album of the Year

Rosa Leither

Cal State East Bay graduate student Mario Silva is like most musicians. He says he doesn't play to "make it big" or win awards. He plays for the love of music.

But when the Grammys aired February 15, he won some major bragging rights. That's because you can hear Silva's trumpet on several tracks of Morgan Heritage's *Strictly Roots* — named 2015 Best Reggae Album of the Year at the awards ceremony.

"I am so glad for the opportunity to make music and also to hear the excitement from friends and teachers," said Silva, who is earning his master's degree in jazz performance.

Silva also recently coproduced the album *Borderless* by La Gente, an international recording group based in San Francisco, but his next big recording project will likely be his own — a mix of Latin, salsa, and classical jazz. The musician is starting to write his own material, with the goal of setting down the tracks himself.

Until then, you can catch Silva performing locally with Rupa and the April Fishes, Pellejo Seco, and The Lucky Devils.

VIEW THE VIDEO AT EBTODAY.COM

"I started getting calls because I could sight read really well, to play in a lot of salsa bands," Mario Silva says. Silva started playing trumpet at age 16. GARVIN TSO



THE PLAYER

ROBERTO GRANADOS

BY BOB ROSE
PHOTOGRAPHY GARVIN TSO

AGE: 17

MAJOR: Music

HOMETOWN: Hayward, California

STARTED CSUEB: Age 15

IDOL: Jimi Hendrix

FIRST INSTRUMENT(S): Toy acoustic guitar at three years old, followed by a blue plastic, battery-powered electric guitar from Toys “R” Us at age four

NOW PLAYS: Classical guitar, flamenco guitar, and ukulele


ALSO LIKES: Biology

WANTS TO BE: A performer, composer, audio engineer, producer, or teacher

CLAIM(S) TO FAME: First appeared on National Public Radio’s *From the Top* at age nine; opened for Earth, Wind & Fire and Jennifer Hudson, and met and performed for President Barack Obama at age 10; made solo debut with the California Symphony at 12 years old; and has also played with Jon Anderson of the iconic rock band Yes; at the 36th annual Grammy Awards; and given a TED Talk.

REALLY, MOM?: Rebecca Granados says her son’s love of performing started in their family living room, where the young guitarist loved to play for his parents and younger brother. “He would even make and pass out tickets the day of the concerts!” she says.

CSUEB MENTOR: Guitar and guitar ensemble faculty member Marc Teicholz. “I first met Roberto when he was 12 and he came over to my house in Berkeley. He had been hired to play the *Concierto de Aranjuez*, a guitar concerto for an orchestra, and wanted coaching,” Teicholz recalls. “It was a very advanced piece, but he played it pretty easily. Most of us go from A to B to C, slowly improving. (Roberto) just jumps. If you tell him to go to the moon, he just goes there.”

QUOTABLE MOMENT: “Being a musician is like connecting with the entire universe at your fingertips. There is an endless realm of possibilities, and I only seek to continue following the path I have been traveling all along — to pursue music I love and share it with others. I will dedicate the rest of my life to this.” 

Roberto Granados plays custom-made guitars by Glenn D. Canin, a San Francisco-based luthier, who tweaks the features of the instruments to complement Roberto’s sound. Granados’s classical guitar is made of spruce from the Carmona Valley in Italy and Madagascar rosewood.

 HEAR ROBERTO PLAY
AT EBTODAY.COM



SUNDAY DINNER

STUDENT DOCUMENTARY USES MEAL TRADITIONS TO CONFRONT STEREOTYPES ABOUT THE “TYPICAL” AMERICAN FAMILY

BY NANCY DAVIS-KHO PHOTOGRAPHY GARVIN TSO

It's Sunday morning, and Wiley Kwok Wai Chan will spend it as he does every week: preparing a sumptuous Cantonese feast for between 10 and 35 family members. As the head of a sprawling family, Chan will drive from Burlingame to San Francisco's Chinatown to haggle with market vendors over the price of rock cod, lotus root, and young chicken; haul his treasures

home for washing, cutting, and slicing; and then fill his home with the fragrance of garlic, onions, ginger, simmering fish, braising duck, and steaming chicken — and the sounds of his children, grandchildren, friends, and elders who come knocking for dinner.

For his daughter, Cal State East Bay senior Kerry Chan-Laddaran, the elaborate Sunday dinners are routine — the weekly habit of an average American family. But the 39-year-old mother of two knows that prevailing ideas about what that average American family looks like are much different.

“I was sick and tired of being told, ‘Oh, you’re Chinese, you’re so different from other Chinese people I know’ — I guess because I’m not quiet or shy or a mathematician. So I want this film to dispel stereotypes.”

The film she’s speaking of is a short documentary, appropriately titled *Sunday Dinner*. With the support of CSUEB Department of Communication Chair Mary Cardaras and Cardaras’s production company, and fellow student Jessica Ramirez in the role of associate producer, Chan-Laddaran shot the film in a single 17-hour day. “Kerry is a born producer with a commitment to the craft of journalism,” Cardaras says.

The 30-minute film shows the culmination of a tradition that’s been growing for 40 years. At age 16, Wiley Chan escaped Communist China by swimming from the mainland to Hong Kong in the middle of the night — a four-hour

ordeal. Eventually, through an uncle living in Hawaii, he made his way to the United States and ultimately decided to settle in the heart of Chinese culture in America — San Francisco. Over the past several decades, Chan has sponsored numerous family members in coming to the U.S., found them jobs, and built their houses with his own hands. Though he’s made his living as a contractor, each Sunday he returns to his calling by birthright: Chan hails from a long line of chefs.

“The (CSUEB) communications department highlighted diversity in the curriculum,” Chan-Laddaran explains. “CSUEB is a place where people feel comfortable and safe to be themselves; it made me want to look at my own prejudices.” And through that exploration, she realized that by showing an American family sharing food, working together, talking, and laughing — a family that just happens to be of Chinese descent — she could get viewers to see similarities to their own lives that challenge stereotypes.

At the same time, it’s important to her to send a message about preserving immigrant traditions and being ethnic in America. “It’s hard to love something from your culture, and still feel embarrassed by it,” Chan-Laddaran says. She gives the example of not ordering chicken feet at restaurants when she was younger for fear of being made fun of. “I want people to feel it’s OK to identify with their culture. I wish someone had said that to me when I was younger.”

As *Sunday Dinner* enters its final round of editing in preparation for the 2016 film festival circuit, Chan-Laddaran, Ramirez, and Cardaras’s production company will continue work on a second film called *This Just In*, which follows two golden-aged Pulitzer Prize winners departing from the print of their heyday to launch an investigative journalism website. Chan-Laddaran is also an engagement coordinator for Not In My Town, an organization that works to end racism through film, events, and campaigns. In the future, she plans to create a *Sunday Dinner* series, with families from different cultures that show what the dinner tables of Americans today really look like. **EE**

Cal State East Bay senior Kerry Chan-Laddaran recently finished an internship at CNN.com in Atlanta and she is a regular contributor to the *San Mateo Daily Journal*.



“It’s hard to love something from your culture, and still feel embarrassed by it.”

VIEW THE TRAILER
AT EBTODAY.COM

UIMPIRE

STATE OF MIND

For alumnus Ted Barrett, playing the game right — on and off the field — is what matters most

BY JEFF BLISS

HIS IS A LIFE OF STRUCTURE. For as far back as he can remember, Ted Barrett (BS '88, Physical Education) has embraced the rulebook. Whether on the gridiron, in the boxing ring, at church or even as a kid, Barrett has studied, applied, and even preached the rules. Now, he's stepping into his office — a Major League Baseball field, actually — where as one of the game's most accomplished umpires and crew chiefs, his word is law. It has been that way since he was elevated to "the Bigs" in 1994. ▶

After wrapping up his college football career at Cal State, Ted Barrett (BS '88) went on to a career that included a stint as a heavyweight boxer; obtaining a doctoral degree in theology and role as a pastor; and becoming one of the most well-known and respected umpires in Major League Baseball history.

◻ GARVIN TSO



“No one hurts more than we do (when a call is missed). But sports have helped me deal with that. You can’t let the mistakes eat at you.”

TOUGH CALLS

Described by one sportswriter as “a bulk of a man, a tower of strength on a six-foot-four frame,” Barrett is a commanding presence on and off the field. Before the game and between innings, he is not averse to speaking with managers and players — even trading an occasional quip with them — but when the game is “live,” he is clearly all business.

As is expected for any MLB umpire, Barrett has had more than a few heated “discussions” over disputed calls. What he does not encounter, however, are angry managers trying to physically intimidate him. After all, his size and former career as a pugilist are legend. Miami Marlins manager and former New York Yankee great Don Mattingly was once asked if he would dispute calls with Barrett “the old-fashioned way,” (with fisticuffs) and he demurred: “Teddy’s a big boy. He used to box with Tyson. You don’t want to mess with Teddy.”

As a crew chief and a go-to guy for big games, Barrett has established himself as an “umpire’s umpire.” But he did not reach his current level by simply memorizing the MLB rulebook, carefully watching the game and its players, or hardening himself against the jeers of fans and curses of argumentative managers.

No, for Barrett the road to home plate started on the

fields and courts of his boyhood, where he learned to take as good as he gave.

“Playing so many sports, I think it really helps me out on the field,” Barrett says, “because as umpires, we deal with failure a lot. So, you know, I’ve dropped a touchdown pass. I’ve missed a free throw — *at the buzzer*: I’ve struck out with the bases loaded.

“So it’s like they say,” he continues. “Relief pitchers have to have a short memory. They can’t let the failures eat at them. Well, umpires do, too. Because we miss calls. Sometimes we go to replay and luckily we get them right. But to stand out there in front of 50,000 people and say, ‘Hey, I just failed,’ ... it’s tough. And you feel bad after the game. No one hurts more than we do (when a call is missed). But sports have helped me deal with that. You can’t let the mistakes eat at you.”

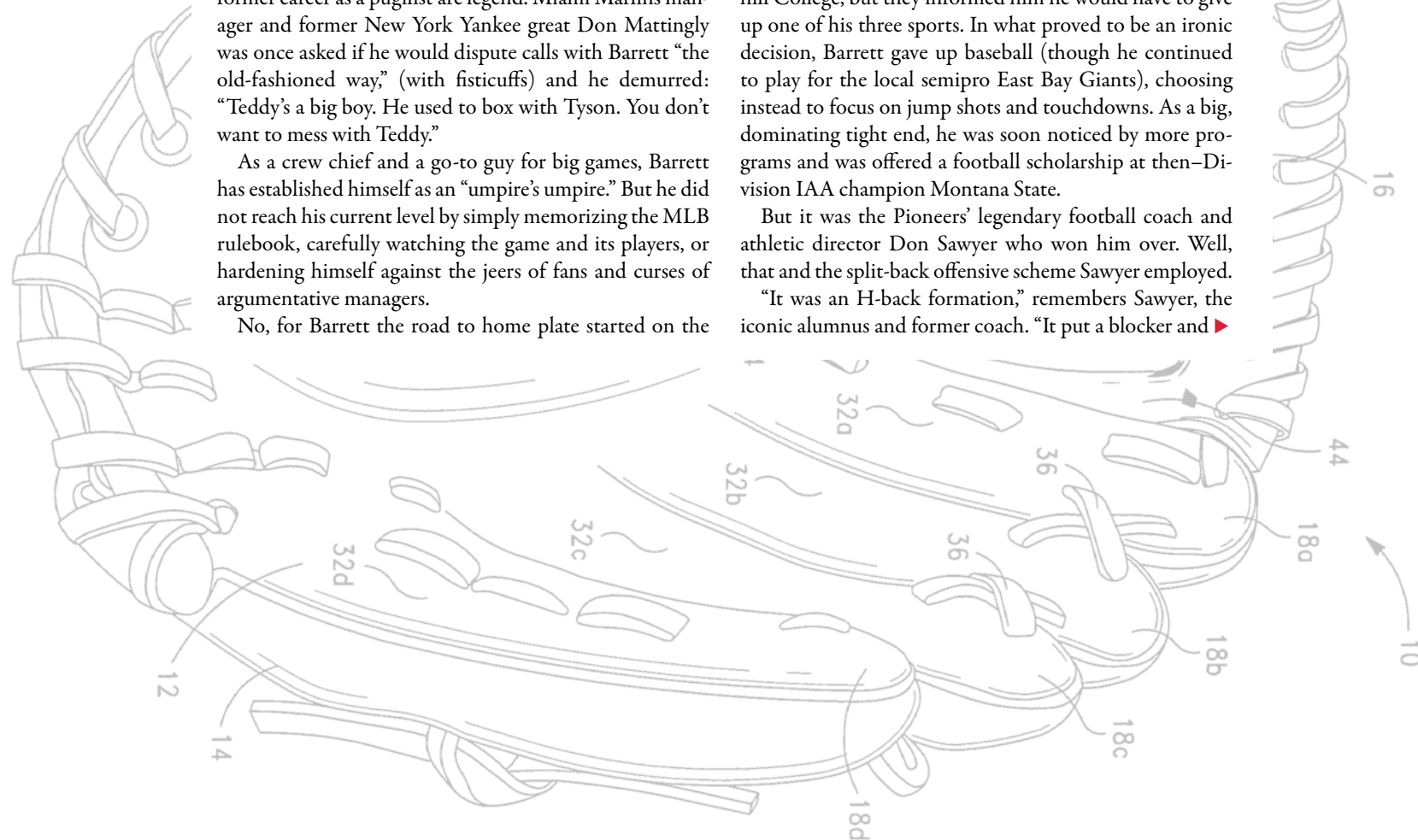
GREAT BEGINNINGS

Barrett’s sports career, which began as a player rather than an official, took off while he was a teen. Born in upstate New York and raised in the Bay Area, he boxed in youth leagues and was a three-sport varsity letterman (baseball, basketball, and football) at Los Altos High School.

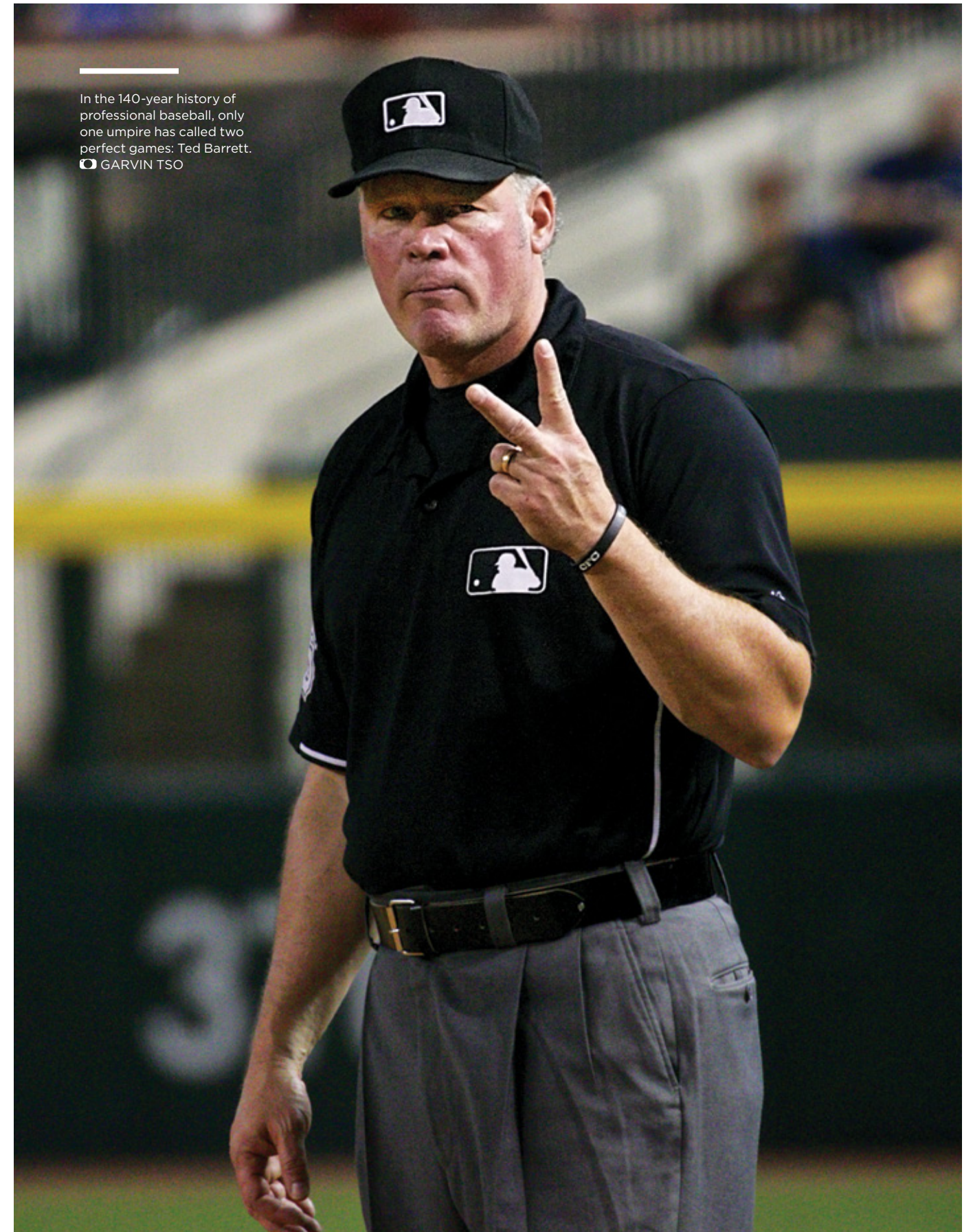
His skills earned him the attention of coaches at Football College, but they informed him he would have to give up one of his three sports. In what proved to be an ironic decision, Barrett gave up baseball (though he continued to play for the local semipro East Bay Giants), choosing instead to focus on jump shots and touchdowns. As a big, dominating tight end, he was soon noticed by more programs and was offered a football scholarship at then-Division IAA champion Montana State.

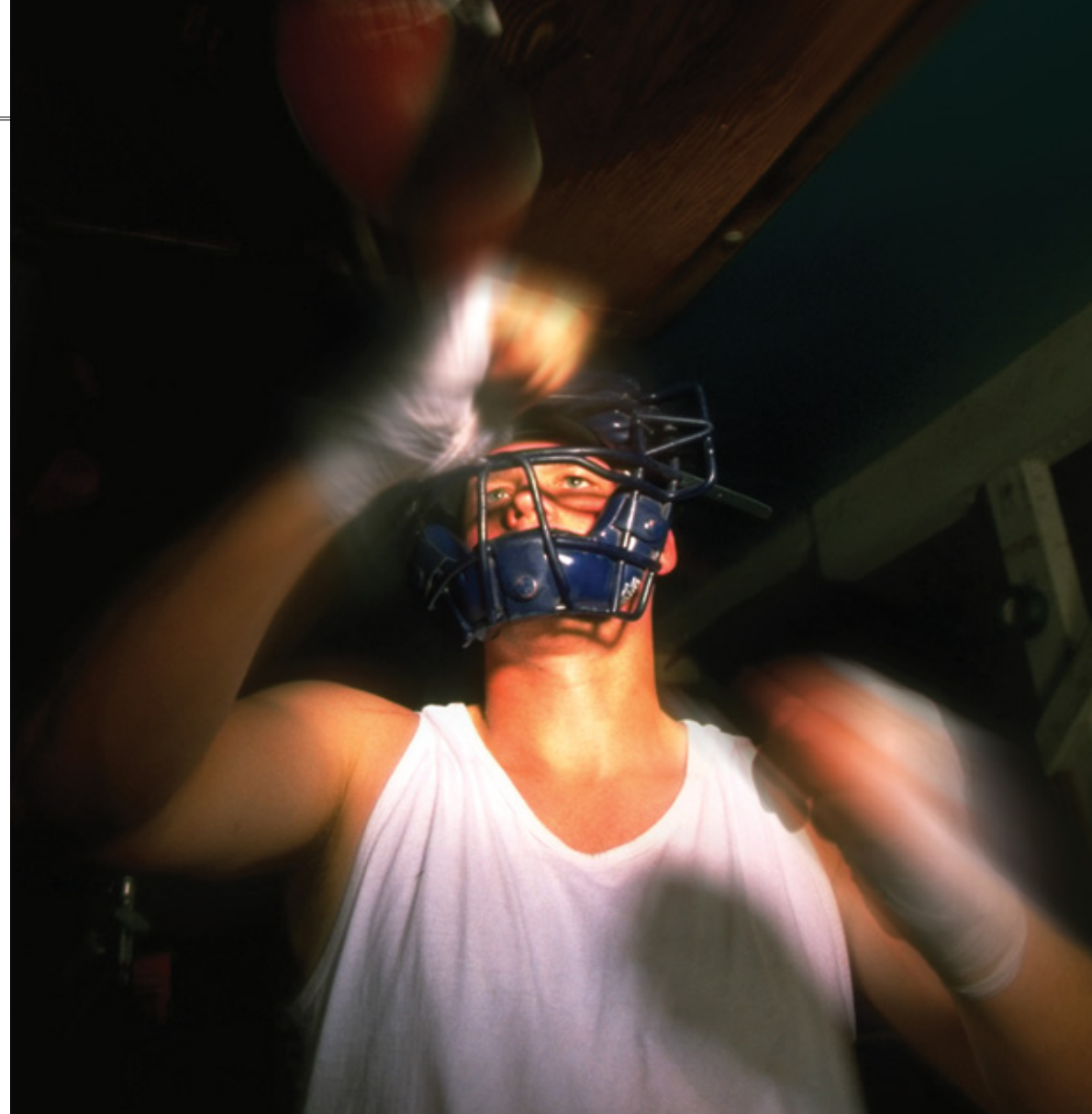
But it was the Pioneers’ legendary football coach and athletic director Don Sawyer who won him over. Well, that and the split-back offensive scheme Sawyer employed.

“It was an H-back formation,” remembers Sawyer, the iconic alumnus and former coach. “It put a blocker and ▶



In the 140-year history of professional baseball, only one umpire has called two perfect games: Ted Barrett.
 GARVIN TSO





Ted Barrett, in a feature photo circa 1996, working a speedbag. The one-time pugilist used to spar with World Heavyweight Champions George Foreman, Evander Holyfield, and Mike Tyson.
 SCOTT WACHTER

a receiver in the backfield, and that was good for Ted.”

“He showed some film of the offense and it was kind of ... *it was really cool*,” Barrett says with a smile. “The tight end would start in the back field, he’d split out, and he’d come in tight. It was just kind of a quirky offense and I really liked that. I figure I had twice as much opportunity to play.”

Playing for the growing college at then-Cal State Hayward agreed with Barrett. He excelled in his kinesiology studies (“I wanted to coach, but honestly I thought it sounded impressive,” he chuckles); he was courting his future wife, Tina; and he was captain of the gritty Pioneer football squad. “That was one of the things I’m proudest of in my athletic career — that I was voted captain by the players. That was quite an honor,” Barrett recalls.

“Ted always played by the rules,” Sawyer adds. “He embodies those positive sportive values and principles we want our student-athletes to learn and develop from participation in athletics. He had respect for his opponents — even when he knocked them down, he’d come over after the play and give them a hand up. He always had respect for the game and honored the game.”

HARD KNOCKS

As accomplished as he was on the field, Barrett knew his prospects lay elsewhere. Following his Cal State friend and fellow Pioneer athlete Kenny Bayless (BS ’72) to Las Vegas, he picked up where he had left off years earlier — in the ring.

“I stayed with Kenny Bayless, who is the Cal State alumnus who is considered the premier boxing referee right now,” Barrett notes. “It was a great time to be on the boxing scene.”

It is easy to see why Barrett recalls such a violent time in his life so fondly. Squaring off in the top prizefighting class, heavyweight, the kinesiology grad out of Hayward won an impressive 36 bouts during his short-lived boxing career. Even more impressive (or scary, depending on whose side of the punches you were on): 20 of those wins were by knockout.

“My family says that I was the greatest heavyweight champion there never was,” Barrett jokes.

And it bears noting that some of his sparring partners were among the greatest, most formidable boxers in history —

“My family says that I was the greatest heavyweight champion there never was.”

including former World Heavyweight Champions George Foreman, Evander Holyfield, and Mike Tyson.

“I remember getting hit by George Foreman’s right hand,” Barrett says. “You felt it. Your brain gets foggy for a second, but you ride it out and then you’re good to go — ready for another one.”

While Barrett recalls his sparring sessions with Foreman happily and says he was influenced by their conversations

and Foreman’s faith, his mood changes when Tyson gets brought up.

“A dirty fighter,” he says. “Low blows, again and again. My manager told them I wouldn’t spar with Tyson anymore. But he was, you know, the *baddest* man on the planet, so that’s just kind of a ... battle scar that I have.”

LIFE BY THE RULES

Despite attaining an enviable record, Barrett wondered if the sport’s accompanying damage was worth it. Family and friends were cautioning him, and his former mentor caught his ear.

“Coach Sawyer preached to me,” Barrett remembers. “He said, ‘You’re going to end up with your brains scrambled.’ You know, he just impressed on me — he said, ‘Hey, you’re a bright young man. You’ve got a great future. You shouldn’t go that route.’” ▶

Ted Barrett (center, facing forward) leads his crew in prayer before every game. He is also founder of a Christian prayer/study/support group for MLB umpires, Calling for Christ.
 GARVIN TSO



“He’s always in control of who he is as a person and in his profession.”

“The fear is that in boxing, you come out worse than when you go in,” Sawyer says. “For someone with the capabilities he had — he was smart and hardworking — he needed to do something where he could develop. Not where he would be damaged.”

So Barrett headed back to the game he chose to give up when he began playing college sports — baseball. Only this time, it was as an official. He followed the usual route: enrolling in and attending umpire school, and then embarking on a series of road-worn seasons, working his way up the system. He began by calling games in small backwater town after small backwater town, typical for umpires and players alike. And then the call-up came.

“I first went to the big leagues in ’94,” Barrett says. “I filled in for vacations and injuries (for a few seasons). There were three guys retiring at the end of the year, and three of us were informed that we would be hired to replace them.”

That was 1999, and in the 17 seasons since, his career trajectory has skyrocketed. He has been tapped to umpire playoff, All-Star, and World Series games. Three seasons ago, Barrett was selected as one of about a dozen crew chiefs: the leader of a squad of four umpires on an MLB field who travel and work together throughout a season. Along the way, he’s established a number of marks for umpires, including being the only home plate umpire to ever call two perfect games.

“When you see what Ted has done with these values and principles he lives by, you see how it all lines up and why he’s so good at what he does,” Sawyer notes. “He’s always in control of who he is as a person and in his profession. He’s focused and he has that unique capacity to be in the

moment ... in the time. And he does that on a regular basis. That’s why he’s acknowledged as the best. And those were the same qualities — the same character traits — that led us to recruit him to play here.”

“It is amazing if you think about the history of baseball,” Barrett adds. “Umpires have umpired thousands of games. And there I was right in the middle of it. And you think about the hundred-plus years of pro ball, and how many games are played each year, and there have only been about 20 perfect games. And to be behind the plate for two of them, you know, it’s ... it’s pretty amazing.”

HIGHER CALLING

For Barrett, though, friends, family, and faith matter more than all the sports accomplishments he has racked up.

Married for 28 years, he and Tina have three children. Their eldest, Andrew, is “following in the family business,” Barrett says with a touch of pride. “He finished his first season in professional baseball as an umpire (last year).”

Barrett’s faith, which he reconnected to during his Cal State years through a university ministry organization called Campus Crusade for Christ, blossomed into a second career as a minister, primarily in the Phoenix area. He is also a founder of a Christian prayer/study/support group for MLB umpires, Calling for Christ. In addition, his renewed faith led him to earn master’s and doctoral degrees in theology — successes he attributes, as he does his umpiring accomplishments, to structure and discipline.

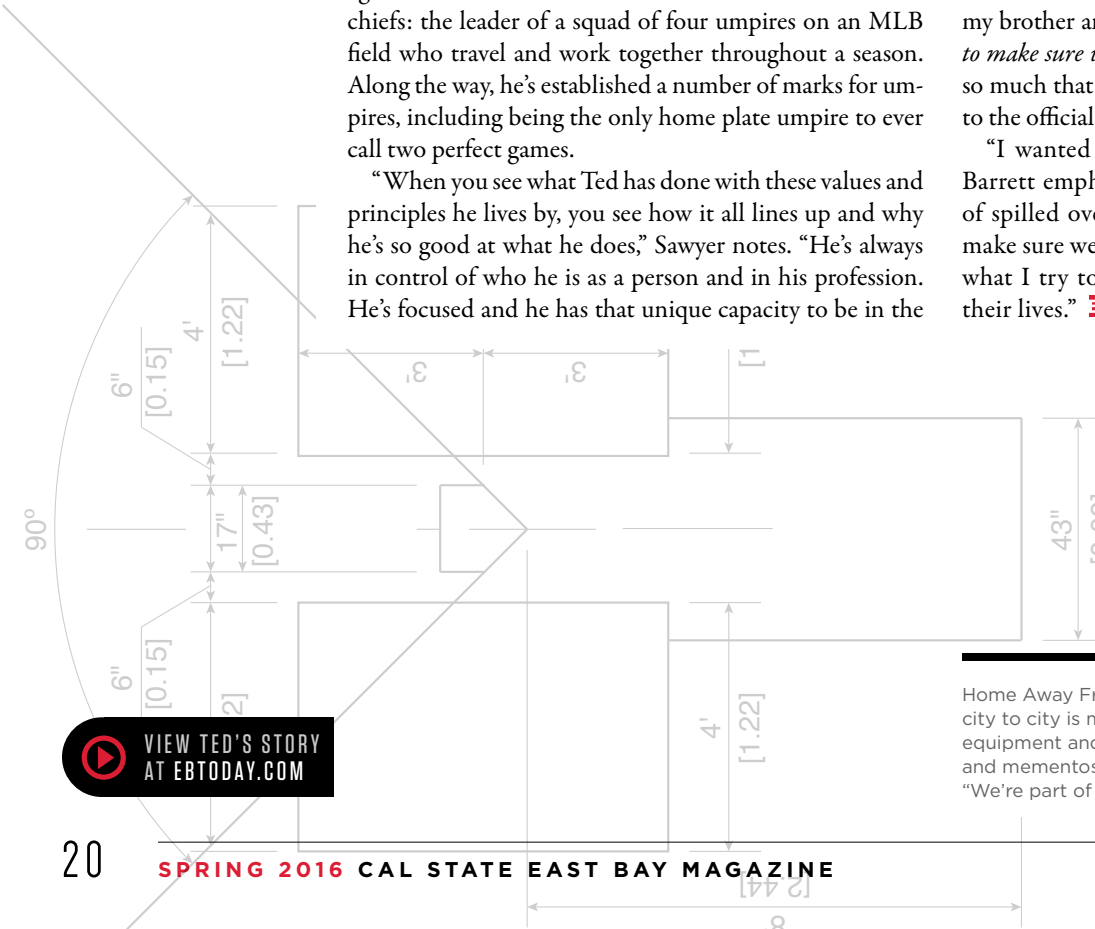
“I was always that way, I think beginning as a kid — even when it came to playing pickup ball in the backyard with my brother and friends,” he says. “I wanted to ... *I wanted to make sure we were following the rules.* But I liked sports so much that I wanted to learn the rules, and I looked up to the officials who worked my games.

“I wanted to make sure the game was *played right*,” Barrett emphasizes. “And you know, I guess that’s kind of spilled over into my life off the field, too. I want to make sure we’re ... *we’re doing the right thing.* And, that’s what I try to preach and how I try to help people live their lives.”

Home Away From Home: The trunk Ted Barrett ships from city to city is more than just a case filled with his game equipment and uniform. It is adorned with photos of family, and mementos of professional sports officials who have died. “We’re part of a brotherhood,” he says. **GARVIN TSO**



“I wanted to make sure the game was *played right*. And you know, I guess that’s kind of spilled over into my life off the field, too.”



VIEW TED'S STORY AT EBTODAY.COM

THE Cut

How one decision — defying the Maasai tradition of female genital mutilation — changed everything for CSUEB student Juliet Naishorua

BY KRISTA DOSSETTI PHOTOGRAPHY GARVIN TSO

JULIET NAISHORUA IS ON A MISSION TO TELL HER story — and she begins it the same way each time.

She was looking forward to “the cut.”

For a child of Kenya’s reclusive Maasai ethnic group, the rite of female circumcision marks the transition to womanhood, symbolizes chastity, and hails readiness to marry and bear children. For life to finally begin.

The idea of refusing female genital mutilation (FGM) never occurred to 12-year-old Juliet. She didn’t know anyone who had done so, including her mother, three older sisters, sisters-in-law, aunts, or her grandfather’s dozen wives.

It wasn’t until anti-FGM talks were given at the Pentecostal church her mother attended that Juliet learned she actually had a choice — and that her mother wanted her to refuse to be cut.

“I was angry. I thought, ‘No, you’re crazy,’” Naishorua says. “It’s something that you grow up knowing that you’re going to do, so you’re looking forward to it.”

Her mother grew adamant, though, and pressed Juliet to attend the *enoto* (circumcision ceremony) of a friend from school.

“It was a beautiful ceremony, (a) three-day ceremony,” Naisho-

rua says. “They do all these things — they shave her head, they sing songs of praises, but the actual cutting ... that day, very early in the morning, (it’s) freezing. You don’t feel as much when you’re numb and they pour cold water, but when you see how the girl behaved — she was shaking and there was a lot of blood. She panicked.”

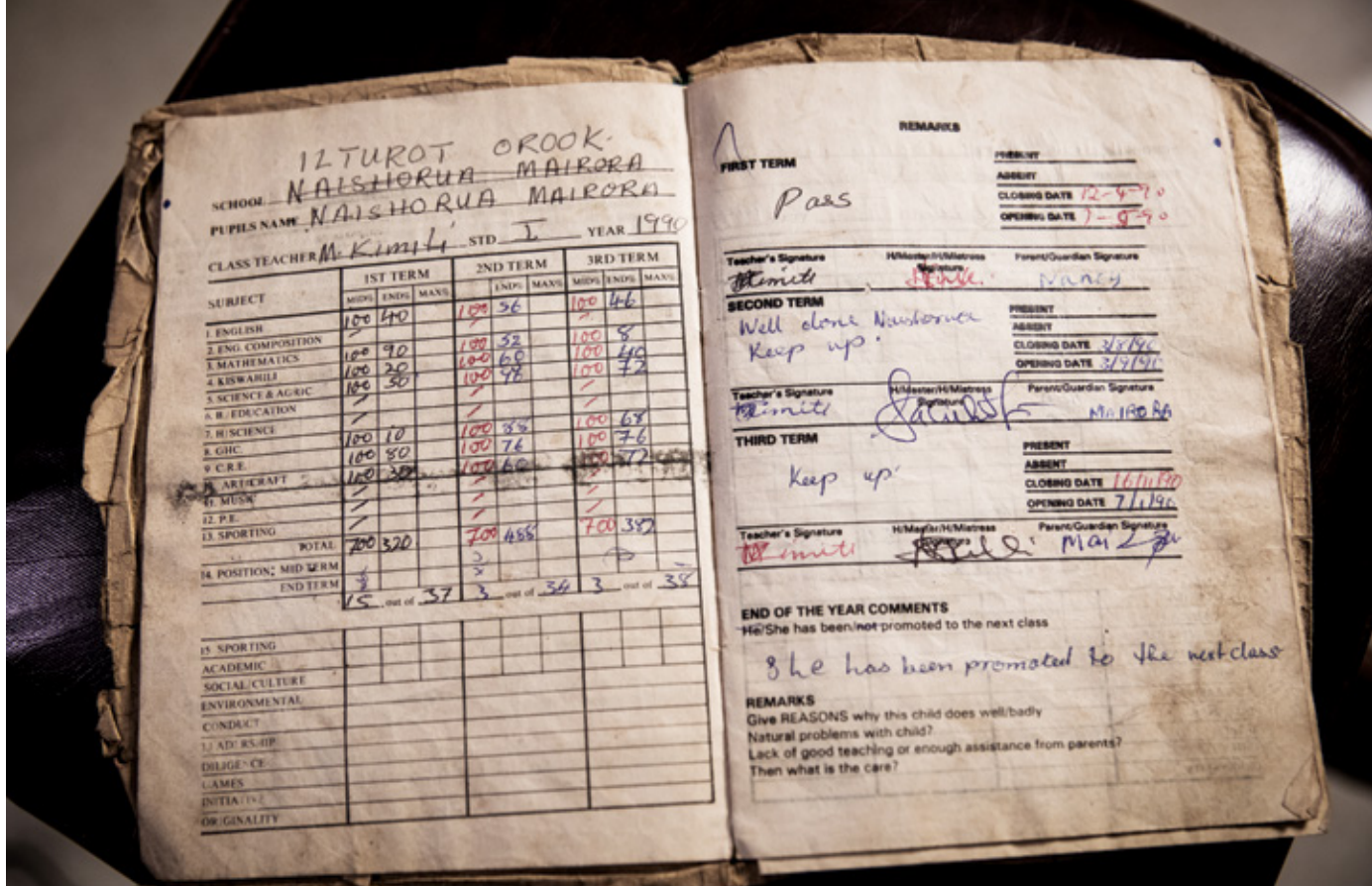
To her mother’s relief, the *enoto*, as well as the wisdom of Naishorua’s three elder sisters, convinced Juliet.

“My sisters are very intelligent — unbelievably smart,” Naishorua says. “If they had the education, I joke to them ‘Maybe you guys would be lawyers or engineers’ or whatever. So they used to tell me, ‘See the kind of lives we live? We would love to go to school but we are married, we are not young. We have to raise kids. If you can, I would rather you stay in school.’”

It was 1999, 12 years before FGM was officially outlawed in Kenya, when Naishorua became the first woman she knew of to stay whole.

Today, as a senior at Cal State East Bay, when she describes the events that followed her decision — her father’s refusal to support her education, working manual labor jobs to pay for boarding school (or else face wild animals during the three-kilometer walk each ▶

With her mother’s support, Juliet Naishorua, now 31 years old, refused female genital mutilation at age 12 — a decision that made the difference between education or marriage and children during adolescence.



Juliet Naishorua keeps her elementary school record as a constant reminder of how far she's come.

way), befriending children with textbooks so that she could borrow them — there's only one thing that makes her throat catch:

Her elementary school grade records.

It's a plain booklet of 6 × 9-inch notepaper, stapled together and covered with brown paper — not so different from the grocery bags American students use to cover their textbooks.

But to Naishorua, its value is much different. "This was very expensive!" she says, gently passing a hand over the cover. "I wanted to protect it. I slept with this under my pillow for many years and I want to keep it for a long, long time."

As she opens the booklet and flips through the pages, it's clear that its worth is even more than its cost, measured out in liters of water hauled, bushels of weeds plucked, or secondhand clothes sold.

"Nancy," for instance, the name neatly printed under the parent/guardian signature column, is the memory of teaching her mother to write. "Never my father's," Naishorua adds, as she traces a finger over years of signatures.

At the bottom of each page is her personal class ranking, progressing from 15 of 37 students during her first year, to consistently attaining the No. 1 position — a reflection of her growing competitiveness and self-confidence.

The booklet also contains comments of praise from Naishorua's teachers. Simple words that are barely personalized ("Good work, keep up!"; "Well done Naishorua; Keep same spirit!"), but for a child with one parent unable to understand her daughter's activities at school and the other adamantly opposed to her attending, they were her only encouragement — and the seeds of an idea that she was good at something, that she was smart, that she could live a life beyond the Maasai.

LIFE OUTSIDE

The turning point came after Naishorua indeed graduated from St. Anthony's Secondary School. She worked briefly as a teacher in a nearby village while saving for a two-year journalism program at the East Africa School of Media Studies, which led to a job with the *Nairobi Star* (currently the *Star*).

"I was in the office one day and everyone was gone — on vacation or out on assignment, and this man came in looking for a translator. I told him, 'I'm sorry, everyone is gone,' because I was still the junior person at the time, and he asked if I spoke Swahili. I said, 'Yes, I do,' and when he learned I was Maasai, he offered to hire me. I ended up traveling with him and translating for him several times, and he taught me to capture footage on a flip-camera."

The man was G. Pascal Zachary, an American journalist and professor of practice at the University of Arizona, who was working in Kenya on a Gates Foundation grant to understand the spread of HIV in rural farming communities.

According to Zachary, Naishorua's tribal childhood and comfort in the bush made her the ideal field assistant. "She had real roots in an ethnic group, the Maasai, that are very tied to rural areas," Zachary explains. "She was very interested (in) and connected well (with the people), especially with women. And also, these can be more rigorous physical environments ... so the fact that she had grown up in this unusual, very rural ethnic group — she had a fluency that was really helpful."

The travel Naishorua did in the role, interviewing women who wouldn't share their information with a man, translating notes, and filming, also created opportunities to shed light on the issue closest to her heart — circumcision.

"I grew up being curious about 'What's that world that is beyond us?'"

In 2008, she and Zachary were interviewing farmers in Uganda when they stumbled upon a rare public circumcision ceremony for two 17-year-old boys. Even within the Maasai, Naishorua explains, the ceremony would typically be private and segregated by gender. With the aid of her flip-camera, she was able to capture the festivities leading up to the cutting and spotlight the deep cultural mores surrounding circumcision in a rural African community. The clip was ultimately picked up by the Bay Area's non-profit public access station, KMTP-TV.

That same year, through an introduction to the editor of Project Syndicate, a global alternative news site, Naishorua told her own FGM story for the first time. In the brief article, she explains how she escaped "the cut" but emphasizes that many girls are not so fortunate — including a 13-year-old whose father and husband-to-be tried to discard her body in the bush to hide her death by FGM. Through Project Syndicate, the piece was translated into 12 languages and reprinted across the world.

TAKING FLIGHT

By early 2009, Naishorua was ready to continue telling that story, this time outside Kenya.

"I grew up being curious about 'What's that world that is beyond us? I really want to experience this, I really want to meet other people outside here.' But part of (telling my story) is wanting to make a change," she continues. "Part of it is being the youngest (of eight children) and seeing there is a problem and wanting to correct it. That's where the motivation came from."

She obtained a one-year visa, and through Zachary's connections in the Bay Area (he lectured at UC Berkeley at the time), Naishorua cobbled together a year of multimedia internships that included acting, radio, filmmaking, and writing.

Shortly before she was set to return to Kenya, her life took yet another pivotal turn, though this one was completely unanticipated.

The man she had been seeing, a journalist and Kenyan radio personality named Edwin Okong'o (BA '05), a graduate of Cal State East Bay's Department of Mass Communication, proposed. The couple married shortly thereafter and had a daughter in 2011. With Okong'o's encouragement, Naishorua applied to her husband's alma mater the following year.

Now finishing her final semester with a double major in political science and international studies — and graduating *cum laude* — Naishorua will soon mark another first, not just within her family but for all women of the Nairagie Enkare in her rural village: She will be a college graduate.

"Cal State has given me an opportunity to learn, grow, and be myself. I've made mistakes, and I've learned, and people have embraced me. For the first time, I feel like people are willing to help me and accept me for who I am."

The countdown to graduation involves juggling a four-year-old, 22 units, and two high-impact internships — one under the Office of Sustainability at CSUEB in Parking and Transportation Services, and the other in Oakland Mayor Libby Schaaf's office, which includes a special role as liaison with AC Transit and the Alameda Transport Commission.

"It was her dedication," says Matt Nichols, Oakland's policy director of transportation and infrastructure, describing the stream of emails Naishorua sent about ▶



Juliet Naishorua in the traditional garb of the Maasai at age 18. "This picture was taken after I completed form four (senior year of high school)," she says. ◻ COURTESY OF JULIET NAISHORUA

available internships. “She has a certain magnetism. She is very humble and so sincere, and people respond to that.”

Although Naishorua says both internships being in transportation is a happy coincidence, she’s hoping the synergy between the two will maximize her impact on the university.

“I have been using AC Transit for so long, and the shuttles on campus to and from BART, that I’ve experienced every possible situation that can happen,” she says.

Her goals include increasing student ridership and convenience, and reducing the university’s carbon footprint.

“I have been looking at the reasons that students don’t want to use the shuttles through student surveys. One thing we’re trying to do is ensure that the breaks that the drivers take do not affect the evening shuttle wait just to get on the bus to get home.”

Director of Sustainability Jillian Buckholz says Naishorua has also been working on a digital transportation guide for students; promoting Zimride, a carpooling app that connects commuters; and building a new shuttle schedule that will better match university transit with train arrivals at Hayward BART Station.

“When you first meet her, she seems like any typical East Bay student,” Buckholz says. “However, it’s not until you get to know her that you begin to understand how she’s empowered herself and is forging her own future. Her attitude is a constant reminder to focus on what’s really important in life.”

COMING HOME

In the long term, Naishorua plans to use the breadth of her experience — the journalism, the documentary film-making, the exposure to city planning and legislature, and her dual degrees — to launch a foundation that fights FGM in Kenya and beyond.

“I’ve seen a lot of nonprofit organizations with the same cause, but the weakness that I see is that they say, ‘Don’t do FGM. It’s not good, it’s barbaric, don’t do it. Period.’ But you cannot tell people to not do something without an alternative. The message without an alternative is that Maasai culture is bad — but it’s only that one aspect that needs to be changed. Maasai culture is very, very beautiful.”

For Naishorua, that alternative means opening up a new world of education, literacy, career potential, property ownership, and independent choice for rural African women, who, she explains, are frequently accustomed to lives of subservience.

“The whole aspect of treating women as we ought to be treated, the foundation (for that) has to start for both boys and girls,” she continues. “And FGM is only one small part, actually. If you empower women, and then you don’t teach boys and men how to treat those empowered women, then (you’re) not solving the problem. If we keep just talking about one issue and overlooking the other one, it’s always going to be a seesaw. We need to come to a balance.”

Naishorua has already had an indelible impact on her own family, which includes seven nieces. She reports that none of them are circumcised.

And the man who once refused to support her education has also had a drastic change of heart.


“My father has softened over the years,” she says. “He is proud of me now and his attitude toward my daughter is completely different.”

Yet the work to build awareness is hardly over.

“As we progress into the future, I’ve seen things changing. (African) people are becoming more open because of technology, and because of a lot of nongovernmental organizations that now have gone to Kenya and other places in Africa to help women, (to) tell them it’s OK to talk about sexuality and be open about things, not to be embarrassed.

“But still. Yes, there’s a law (against FGM), but people are still doing it. Plus these are young girls — these are girls that are shy, that respect their elders, that cannot push on their dad, that are obedient.

“There are many cases still today where girls bleed until they die — it’s not rare. But who’s going to report it? (The Maasai are) such an isolated community. We are a minority within Kenya. How many reporters are there in the Maasai culture? Who of the Maasai is going to give his information?”

Juliet Naishorua need only look to herself. 



Juliet Naishorua’s internship within Oakland Mayor Libby Schaaf’s (left) new Transportation Division includes a special role as liaison with AC Transit and the Alameda Transport Commission.

Female Genital Mutilation: Facts and Consequences

BY PROFESSOR EMERITA OF ANTHROPOLOGY LAURIE PRICE, PHD, MPH

As a cultural practice, female genital mutilation (FGM)* is both mysterious and pervasive. Evidence of it has been found among multiple ancient civilizations; its practice transcends ethnicity, race, and country; and it is frequently shrouded in the privacy of extremely conservative communities, making it difficult to stop — or track — even where it has been outlawed. UNICEF’s most recent numbers tell us 130 million women today have experienced FGM, most predominantly in Africa and the Middle East.



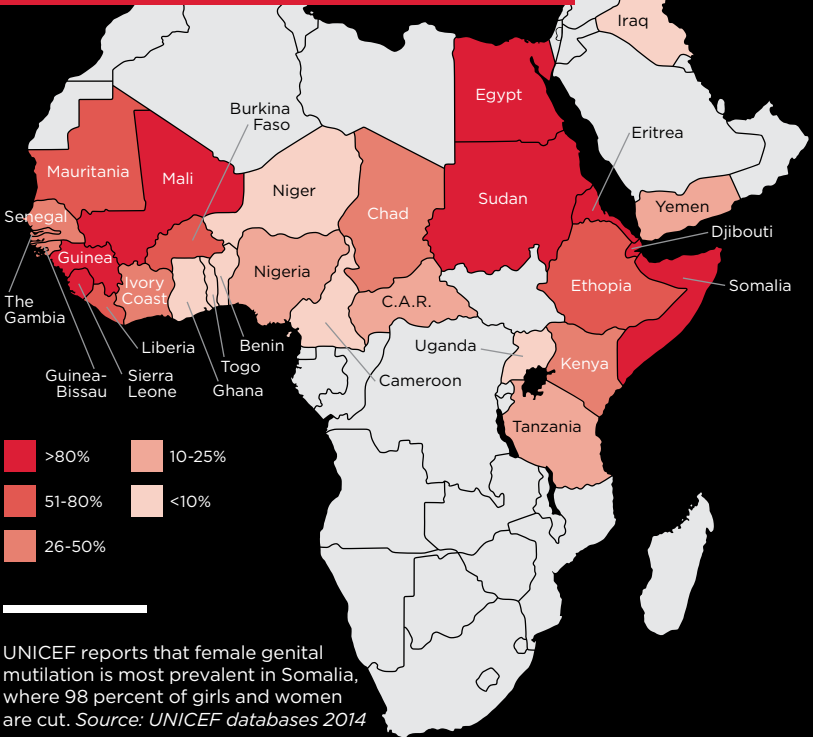
ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Laurie J. Price is a cultural and applied anthropologist with a master’s in epidemiology and PhD in anthropology. Her research interests are mainly in traditional healing, disease prevention, including HIV/AIDS, and environmental health.

Price joined CSUEB in 2001 and became a professor emerita in 2013. She still frequently teaches medical anthropology, anthropology of South America, and research methods, theory, and applied anthropology.

FACTS ABOUT FGM AND ITS CONSEQUENCES:

- FGM is the removal of a young female’s clitoris, but can also include the labia minora and much of the labia majora.
- FGM is believed to preserve a girl’s virtue (virginity); to enhance her marriage choices; and to reduce sexual drive and prevent sexual activity before/outside of marriage.
- FGM is often carried out in non-sterile conditions on girls three to 15 years of age and can lead to sepsis, death due to excessive bleeding, and/or the transmission of infectious diseases.
- Females who undergo FGM have an increased risk of health problems and death their entire lives; health issues include higher rates of urinary tract infections, infertility, cysts, and tumors.
- Psychological problems such as feelings of deep betrayal, having been sexually abused, PTSD, and more, are common in women who have been cut.
- The World Health Organization reports a higher likelihood during labor of hemorrhaging, caesarean section, and hospitalization for women who have undergone FGM, and a 66 percent increase in infant resuscitation.

PREVALENCE OF FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION



*Note: Some anthropologists endorse a stance of cultural relativism toward female genital cutting (FGC), meaning they attempt to understand the custom as a cultural phenomenon on its own terms, without judgment, and prefer not to use the emotionally charged word “mutilation” in referring to it. The banning of FGM is controversial among anthropologists for this reason; however, many, including me, believe universal human rights trump cultural relativism in the case of FGC.

Assistant Professor Brian Perry's next venture will take him to Vanuatu, a remote island chain off the eastern coast of Australia, where he'll hunt for large forest mushrooms.

5 Million Fungi

Every living thing is crawling with microorganisms — and you need them to survive

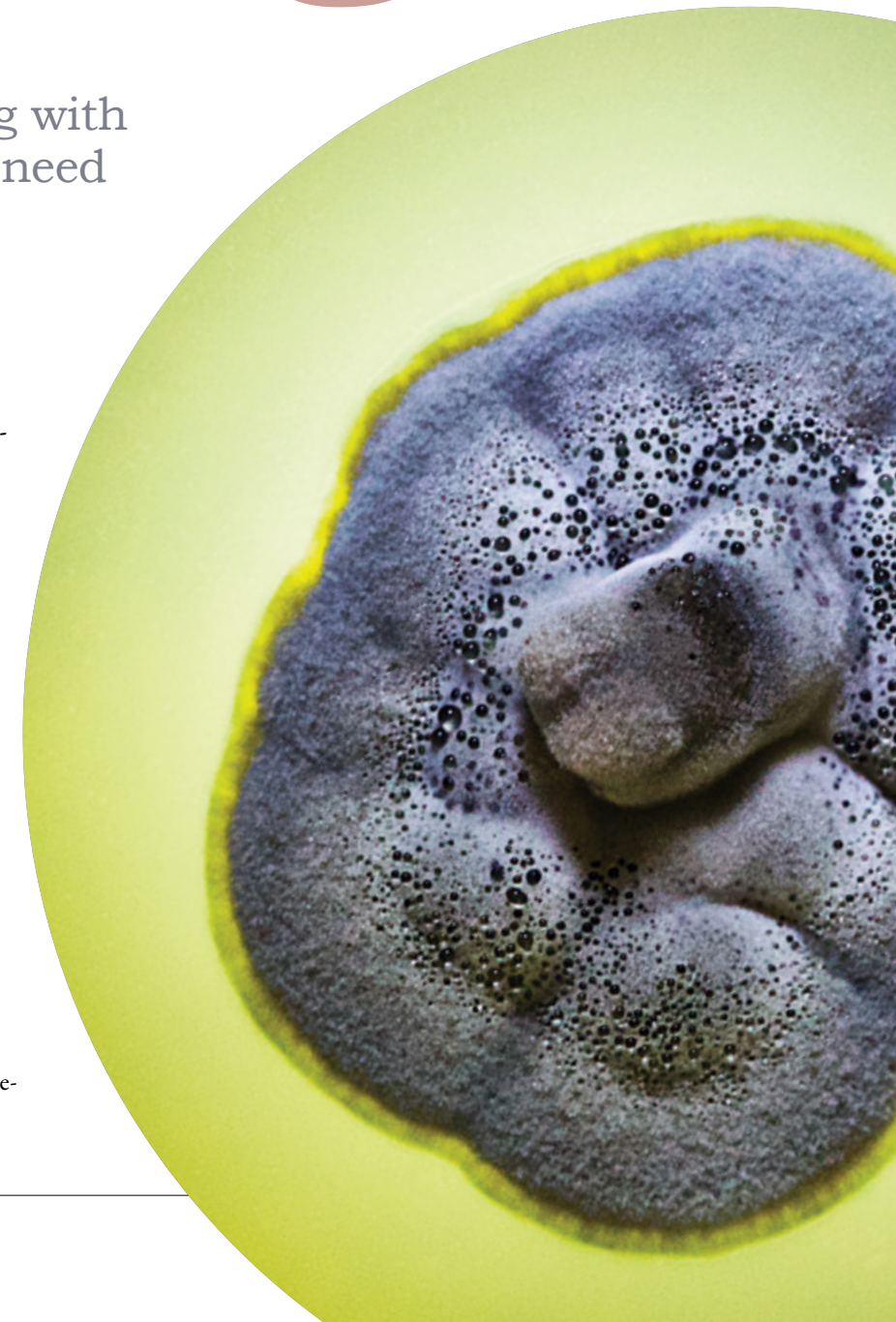
BY DAN FOST PHOTOGRAPHY GARVIN TSO

FUNGUS IS GROWING IN BRIAN PERRY'S REFRIGERATOR — and not the kind blooming in someone's forgotten lunch bag.

No, the Cal State East Bay assistant professor has intentionally packed his shelves with 1,500 petri dishes, each containing a tiny sample of fungus from native and endemic Hawaiian plant leaves. The 45-year-old mycologist (a person who studies the genetic and biochemical properties of fungi, among other things) figures hundreds of those containers hold heretofore-unknown species.

The professor's work identifying and cataloguing fungal endophytes — microscopic fungi that live inside plants — carries several important implications. Scientists know little about the workings of these fungi, making them a particularly exciting frontier for examination: Learning about endophytes' relationships to their host plants could save many endangered species; farmers have begun tapping into endophytes' power to help crops build resistance to pathogens; and researchers are interested in using them to unlock new compounds to make crucial medicines for people.

The only problem — finding, naming, and preserving them before it's too late. ►





GLOBAL FORAGER

Perry's search for fungi actually began locally in the East Bay, where he grew up fishing, hunting, backpacking, and collecting mushrooms, although he was unable to name them at the time. After obtaining his bachelor's and master's degrees from SF State and his PhD from Harvard — an educational journey that included a switch in majors from photography to biology along the way — he began uncovering mushrooms and endophytes across the globe. Throughout Tibet and Micronesia, on Borneo, and on São Tomé and Príncipe (tiny islands off the coast of West Africa), Perry has surveyed "hotspots," or regions with high levels of endemic, endangered plants and wildlife.

According to Conservation International, there are 35 total hotspots in the world that comprise just 2.3 percent of Earth's landmass, yet these regions hold more than half of species that can't be found anywhere else.

Along the way Perry has also helped find and name five new species and one genus — including one that made international headlines and late-night comedy shows for its shape and name, and one bioluminescent specimen. Each was the first fungus named to the annual Most Exciting New Discoveries list by the International Institute for Species Exploration (2010 and 2011, respectively).

"With the endophyte project, we're talking about big evolutionary questions."

Of late, with CSUEB graduate student Sean Swift under his wing, Perry has been scouring the Hawaiian archipelago — the most isolated island chain in the world, where more than 90 percent of plants are unique to their environment, and nearly 30 percent are threatened and/or endangered according to the state's Division of Forestry and Wildlife.

"We're collecting the baseline data," Perry says. "We're surveying the diversity of organisms and determining what's there. In all these places, we're saying, 'No one's ever been to this place and done a full documentation of all the biodiversity that's here.' That's the starting point."

Perry was recently awarded two National Science Foundation grants to study fungi. "He's very ▶

Diversity in Bloom: A small sampling of fungal morphotypes isolated from native Hawaiian plants in Assistant Professor Brian Perry's lab.

accomplished,” says Simon Malcomber, program officer in the NSF’s Division of Environmental Biology. “He’s been making exciting discoveries, and we expect him to make even more.”

“With the endophyte project, we’re talking about big evolutionary questions,” Perry explains. “When we look at endophytes that are living in native plants, we want to know: Did they coevolve with their host plants? Did they go through adaptive radiation (rapid evolutionary diversification of an organism)? Where did they come from?”

“The likelihood of the discovery of new species from this research is extremely high,” Malcomber adds. “(Perry and his team) will also make really important advances in understanding the pattern of relationships in the tree of life, and how this life is shaped and formed. This is basic information that we need. They are getting at this dark, unknown biodiversity.”

Dark Mystery: An as-yet-unidentified fungi isolate.

MICROBIAL BOOM

From tiny endophytes, Perry sees big potential. He believes the microfungi hidden in leaves and stems may be doing more than meets the eye. For instance, the yew tree (an endangered species) was credited with producing the crucial compounds for the drug Taxol, a powerful chemotherapy treatment used for ovarian, breast, and prostate cancers. But it turns out the compounds actually derived from the yew’s endophytes — the fungi living inside it. Perry thinks endophytes might also be the reason some fruits and vegetables taste good and have health benefits. “The terroir (soil and climate conditions) of these things could be coming from the microbes that are associated with them (rather than the plants themselves),” he says.

As Charles Bacon, research leader and supervisory microbiologist of the Department of Agriculture’s ▶



CSUEB graduate student Devin Schaefferkoetter prepares endophyte samples for DNA extraction.

Growing Roots

CSUEB Assistant Professor Brian Perry’s global fungi research gives students local opportunities

When Cal State East Bay graduate student Devin Schaefferkoetter needed a project, Assistant Professor Brian Perry gave him an assignment that represented the perfect blend of science and nature.

“My background is in ecology and conservation, so I wanted to be outside as much as possible,” Schaefferkoetter says. “I chose (Perry’s) lab to get more hands-on experience.”

Perry, whose work surveying fungi has taken him around the world, is finding opportunities for CSUEB students to contribute to the research here at home, too.

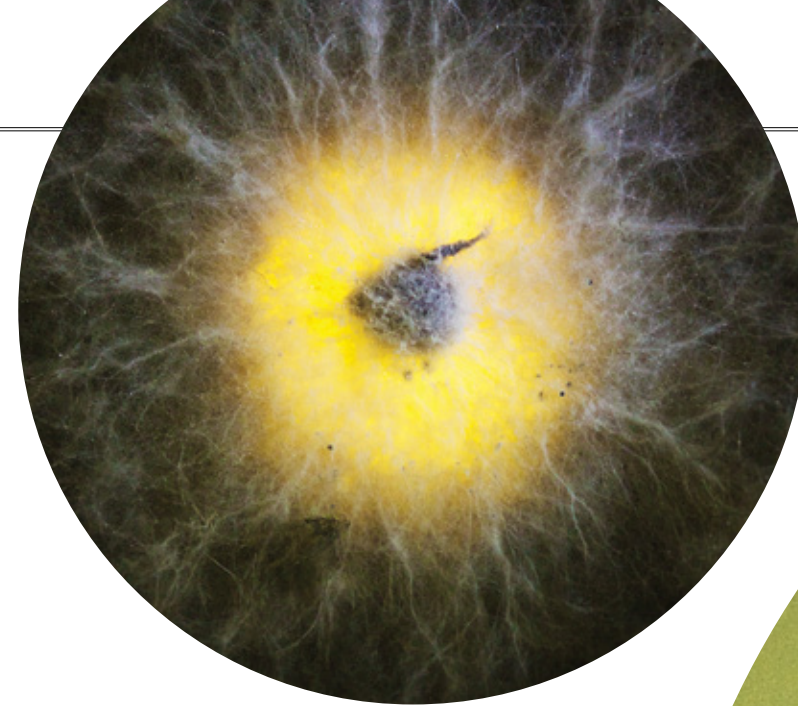
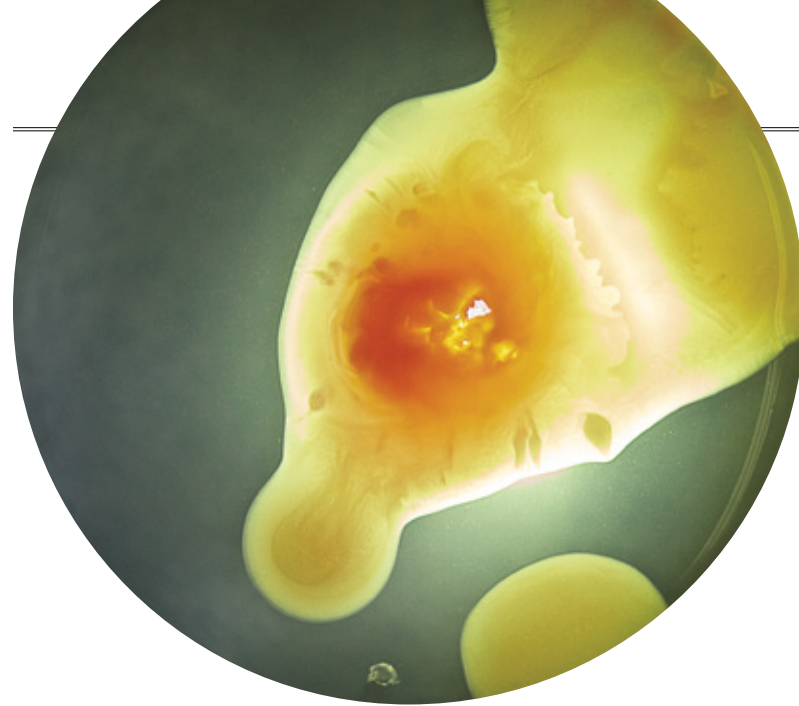
He sent Schaefferkoetter to catalog the diversity of mushrooms at the Pepperwood Preserve in Sonoma County, a 3,120-acre wildlife and plant sanctuary. “I knew the preserve,” Perry says. “They had never done a comprehensive fungal diversity study. There are still huge por-

tions of California that we’ve never done a thorough survey of.”

In his first two trips to Pepperwood, Schaefferkoetter found 25 species of fungi.

At the preserve, Shaefferkoetter is also teaming up with a UC Berkeley professor who’s been collecting data there to study the impact of the weather on large woody plants. By including fungi, they can search for correlations in each other’s work, and possibly draw some conclusions about the effects of climate change on the environment.

Perry says the work with the nature preserve can ramp up over time. “We hope we can maintain a relationship with Pepperwood and go every year for sampling. If we go to the same site year after year for five, 10, or 15 years, they’ll develop data that will enable them to draw important conclusions about the health of the property.”



“We’re now aware that there’s no such thing as a single entity on this planet.”

Toxicology and Mycotoxin Research Unit, says, “The biggest thrust (in this field of research) is to use these organisms for biochemicals — medicinals — for anything from headaches to cancer. Some of these endophytes are very talented at making and transforming exotic metabolites (byproduct compounds), which cannot be manufactured or synthesized in a laboratory by a chemist.”

Conceivably, endophytes could be put to work doing anything from replicating the qualities of a rare wine to bolstering drought tolerance in water-greedy plants — so long as scientists can document, harvest, and study their minute capacities before it’s too late.

In addition, millions of dollars have been spent on sterile greenhouses in which scientists grow endangered plants. However, Perry says many of these plants die once transferred into their natural habitats, likely because they

haven’t been inoculated by beneficial endophytes and are too fragile to survive.

Much like how humans are now discovering the importance of their microbiomes, Perry believes scientists are coming to appreciate plants’ microbiomes. “We’re thinking of probiotics for plants,” he says. “How do you build up the endophytic community in your plant to make it as healthy as it can be in its environment? As we learn more and more about these systems and truly understand the biology of these endophytes, they become a very important factor in plant conservation.”

LIVING LIBRARY

In his lab, Perry maintains the appearance of an outdoorsman in a plaid shirt and hiking boots. He looks as if he’d rather be in a muddy forest, reaching into logs, braving leeches and spiders — or as he recalls, a four-foot green cobra dangling at head level from a tree branch — to find a new mushroom.

A mycological Indiana Jones, if you will.

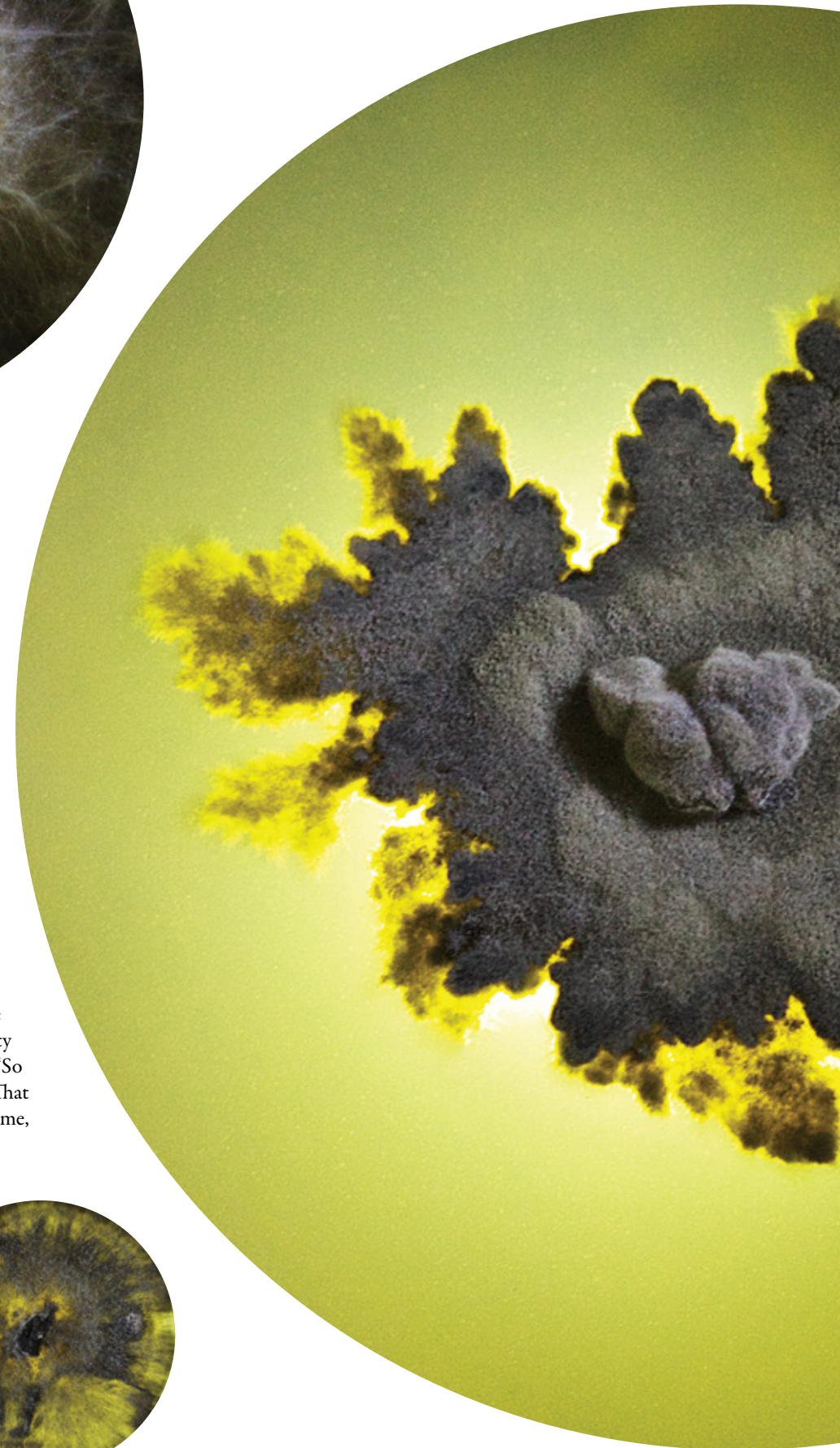
In that vein, though Perry’s work does include sophisticated laboratory equipment to replicate and sequence fungal DNA, he uses startlingly mundane tools — a garden-variety hole-punch to gather samples, and plain vials to transport them from the field. Once the samples are

carried and/or shipped from the Hawaiian Islands to Cal State East Bay, they go into a fridge that looks like something straight out of student housing. That fridge smells funky, but it’s doing what the USDA regards as critical work.

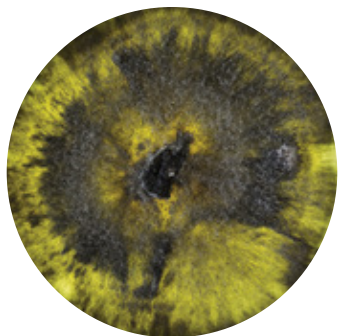
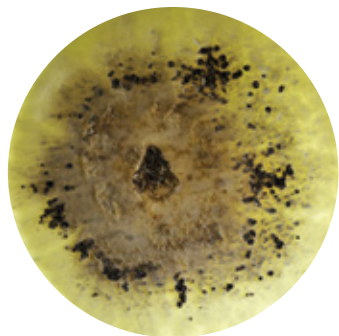
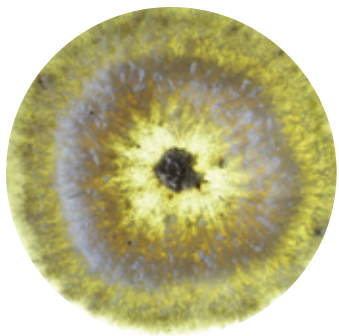
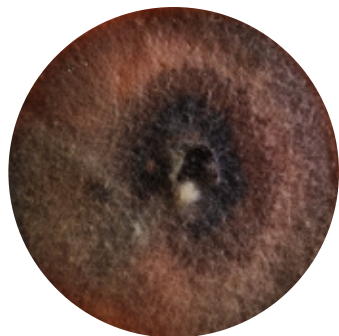
“It’s necessary to do this because no one else has,” Bacon says. “We’re now aware that there’s no such thing as a single entity on this planet. Every living thing is made up of a conglomerate of organisms that is contributing to its success.”

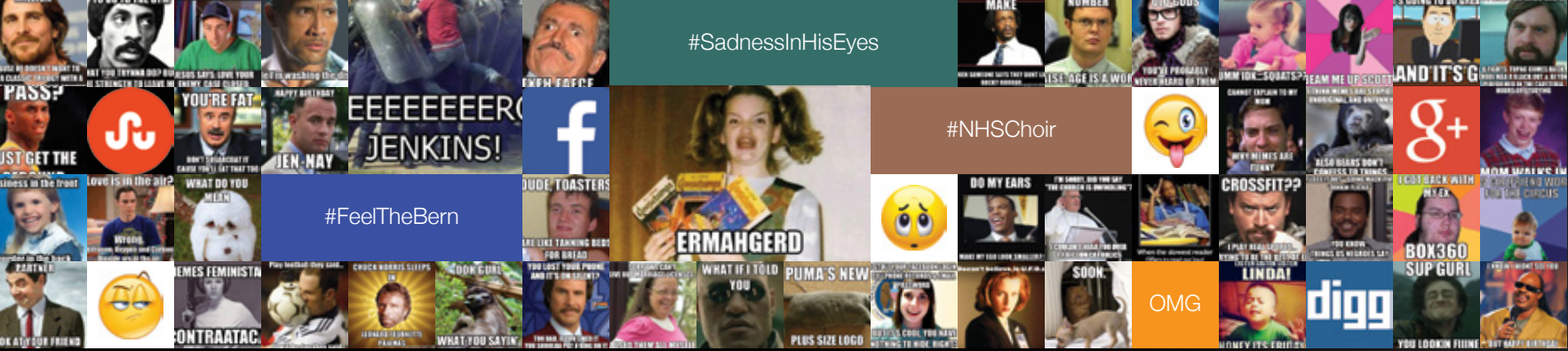
“We’re creating a living library of all these fungi,” Perry explains. “We’ll identify them, then we’ll send them off to the USDA, about 1,000 species. They’ll grow them and then cryopreserve them. Essentially, once you freeze-dry these things, they’ll last forever, as far as we know.”

The samples will be ready and waiting for scientists — perhaps Perry down the road or one of his students — to extract the compounds and solve another scientific mystery in the evolutionary tale of life on Earth. “Our estimate is that global fungal diversity ranges from 3.5 million to 5 million species,” he says. “So far we’ve only documented about 100,000 of those. That tells you how much there is out there to be done. To me, that’s incredibly exciting.”



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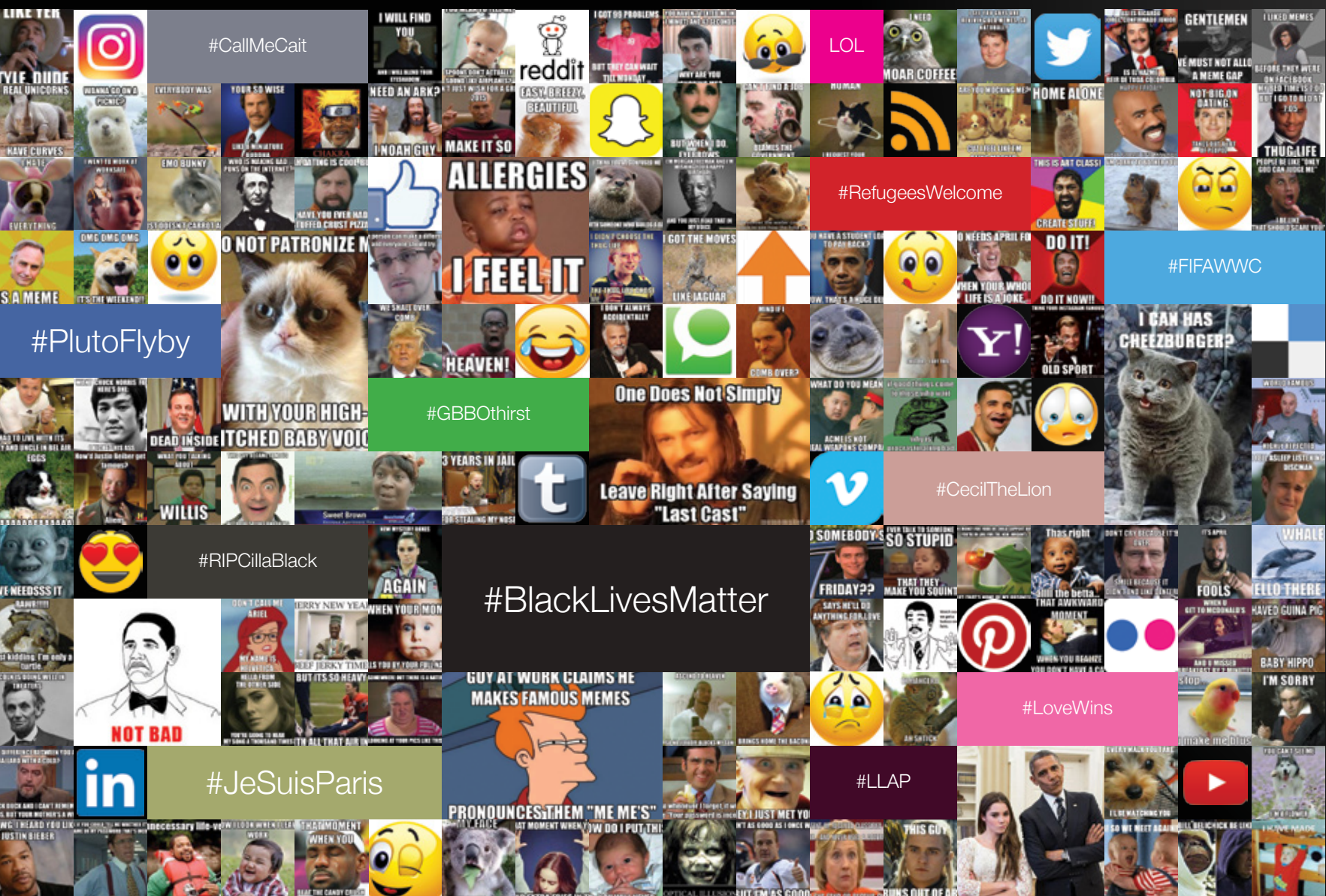


Go Ahead, Blame Twitter

How Sharing
Memes May Be
Keeping Us Apart

BY FRED SANDSMARK '83

Associate Professor Grant Kien, CSUEB's current Alumni Association faculty representative, gives the "V for Victory" sign — the meaning of which was transformed after "going viral."  GARVIN TSO



Associate Professor Grant Kien studies very small things that grow and mutate and propagate. He observes them as they spread around the world, and tries to understand how and why they behave as they do.

But he's not a biologist peering through a microscope or an epidemiologist tracking a disease outbreak. Kien is an associate professor in Cal State East Bay's Department of Communication, and his subject is memes.

Yes, memes.

And not just the pictures with sarcastic captions.

Memes, by definition, encompass any image, video, or piece of text that can "go viral" across the Internet — the low-budget videos, celebrity GIFs, and hashtags that fill our social media feeds and generate countless shares, comments, and emojis.

Silly, you might think, but Kien argues that memes deserve rigorous academic analysis because they are a major way in which people today express vital thoughts and ideas — about themselves, each other, and the world we live in.

Take just a few of Twitter's "Most famous hashtags of 2015": #RefugeesWelcome, #PlutoFlyby, #FIFAWWC #JeSuisParis, #CaitlynJenner, and so on. In just three words or less, they distill contemporary thought and

emotion surrounding politics, terrorism, science, popular culture, social movement — and some of the most pivotal events of the 21st century thus far.

Even more important, Kien says, memes need to be understood because they can spread beyond digital networks to affect the physical world. Just think of #BlackLivesMatter — it's a social movement that has spread across the country and began entirely online.

But the impact of most memes is subtle. While memes certainly can be funny and lighthearted, the professor says they play a critical role in "hipster racism" — the ironic sharing of humor based on race, disability, religion, sex, and other attributes.

"These are intended to be jokes between knowing people, and quite often that's how they're consumed," Kien explains.

But because the Internet is a broadcast medium, the messages sometimes take on lives of their own.

"When we're mindlessly reposting, resharing, and upvoting (hitting the "thumbs up" button on a post), we're actually propagating the very same social ills that we've been fighting so hard to eradicate offline," Kien says.

Whether these actions take the form of spreading images of "Hitler Kitty" (a cat with markings that mimic

Adolph Hitler's mustache) or sharing the video of a bus driver bullied by elementary school passengers, memes have the power, for example, to collectively minimize a horrific and violent tragedy or amass \$700,000 in donations from sympathetic viewers.

In the context of our election-year politics and the rampant spread of memes that comment on presidential candidates and bipartisan views, keeping a shrewd eye on social media will be vital. Because intentionally or not, Kien says, our social media-saturated culture is increasingly serving to isolate and divide us.

Graduate student Amalia Alexandru is doing the research to prove it.

For her master's thesis in communication, Alexandru analyzed Twitter messages from the 2013 two-week federal government shutdown. "It is interesting to see how politics has adopted social media and merged old (communication) tactics with new tools and strategies," she says. "Memes are a vital way (for political parties) to connect with specific groups within the masses."

Although Alexandru began with the premise that "politics, technology, and culture in online platforms accommodate new waves of political perspectives," her in-depth case study showed that messages on Twitter exist in silos,

"We're uniting around things based on how we feel about them, not how we think about them."

pitping groups against each other to evoke a binary, for-us-or-against-us emotional response — not to build relationships between entities and ideas or facilitate compromise.

"My generation is the generation that not only experienced the first wave of social media interaction, but also tested some of its implications," she says. "Not being aware of the messaging behind social media and memes is a critical matter for future generations."

"We're uniting around things based on how we feel about them, not how we think about them," Kien says. "I believe we have an ethical responsibility in this day and age to consider the very real impact this communication is having on the world, and to arm our students with the ability to dissect how those messages are shaping it."



1941: Winston Churchill's "V for Victory" hand signal is imitated by prominent figures such as Charles de Gaulle and Richard Nixon, ushering in the first era of memes. The meaning is reassigned by antiwar protesters in the 1960s and 1970s to signify peace, and in 1972, U.S. Olympic figure skater Janet Lynn sets off a wave of Asian assimilation when she is broadcast cheerfully flashing the sign after falling on the ice in Japan. The meme is so thoroughly adopted throughout Asia that it is now synonymous with Japanese, Chinese, and Korean culture.

1980s: Scientists and researchers share information on a global scale for the first time through ARPAnet, named for the Department of Defense's Advanced Research Projects Agency. Simultaneously, cultural phenomena lay the groundwork for memes in the age of social media: Hip-hop popularizes "mashups," and "leetspeak" is born among hackers who use American Standard Code for Information Exchange as an "elite" language — preceding abbreviations like "LOL," "OMG," and ultimately, emoticons.

1992: Students and researchers at the University of Illinois develop a browser that allows users to see words and pictures at the same time, and to navigate information using scrollbars and clickable links. Congress approves use of the Internet for commercial purposes.



1996: "Dancing Baby" or "Baby Cha-Cha" becomes one of the first bona fide Internet memes through email forwards — and then leaps offline in a series of recurring hallucinations on the TV series *Ally McBeal*.

2003: MySpace launches. Its large population of musicians and fans leads to the embedding of music and video players into MySpace pages, popularizing what become known as Internet mashups — web applications that combine functionality from more than one online media source.

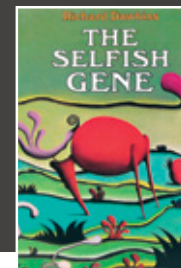


2005: The Reddit.com community web platform goes live with its user upvote system that ranks user-submitted content. Calling itself "the front page of the Internet," Reddit becomes one of the key sites propagating Internet memes.

#BlackLivesMatter

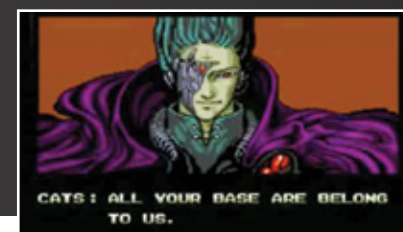
2013: After the acquittal of George Zimmerman in the murder of Trayvon Martin, an unarmed black 17-year-old in Sanford, Florida, three women communicating on social media claim #BlackLivesMatter as an expression of outrage against racial profiling and police brutality toward African Americans. Since going viral, #BlackLivesMatter has spawned a robust activist movement and network.

1976: In his book *The Selfish Gene*, Richard Dawkins coins the term "meme" (from the Greek *mimeme*, meaning something imitated), describing it as, "Just as genes propagate themselves in the gene pool by leaping from body to body via sperms or eggs, so memes propagate themselves in the meme pool by leaping from brain to brain."



Oxford University Press

1991: Tim Berners-Lee introduces an Internet that is a "web" of public, retrievable information. The same year, the first traceable meme goes viral in the form of a mistranslated Japanese Sega Genesis video game ad.

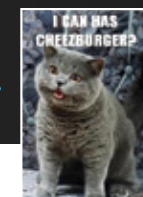


1994: Douglas Rushkoff publishes *Media Virus! Hidden Agendas in Popular Culture*, explaining how free email services like Hotmail and Yahoo! add advertising to outgoing messages. The book touches off a revolution in viral advertising.



Penguin Random House

2000s: Internet memes become a popular form of mediated communication between friends on social media networks, creating sensations such as "Star Wars Ninja Kid"; "Leeroy Jenkins"; "I Can Has Cheezburger Cat"; and countless others.



2004: Facebook debuts and quickly surpasses MySpace in user numbers. It integrates wave after wave of rising social media platforms, such as Instagram, Twitter, and YouTube, facilitating an enormous surge in viral activity. The same year, blogger Carmen Sognonvi coins the term "hipster racism" to describe the use of racist jokes and/or the misappropriation of cultural symbols "ironically," and frequently through memes.

Provided by Associate Professor Grant Kien

SPEAK FROM THE HEART

ALUMNUS, CORPORATE VICE PRESIDENT, AND DONOR DAVE RUTH SHOWS STUDENTS HOW TO CONNECT AS LEADERS

BY KRISTA DOSSETTI PHOTOGRAPHY GARVIN TSO

In Lecturer Dave Ruth's MBA Leadership course, which is inspired by the two-day Jumpstart workshop, students share personal stories after agreeing to "Vegas rules" — what happens in class, stays in class.

Unlike the job-hoppers of today, Dave Ruth (BS '90, Business Administration; MBA '92) has spent the last three decades growing his career with the same company — Associated Lighting Representatives, Inc. (ALR), a sales agency headquartered in Oakland. Over the years, the first-generation college graduate has spent time in a number of the company's departments, including IT, accounting, human resources, and now he is both vice president of ALR and an executive board member. While Ruth is passionate about learning (he's a lecturer in Cal State East Bay's MBA program), it's safe to say he could finish up his career without resolving the single fear that's haunted him since he was a teenager.

"The embarrassing moment goes back to high school," Ruth says. "I walked up to read my first speech and was completely unaware that my body would sabotage me. That it would turn into nerves to the point that I couldn't speak. It was a moment of terror — I never got past it and it never went away."

Fast-forward 30 years.

After completing his MBA, Ruth first reconnected with Cal State East Bay as a manager looking to recruit talent. "This school was an incredible gem that changed my life," he says. "The things I learned here I took the next day and used at work — it's practical knowledge, it's not a waste of time."

His involvement with the university has since grown to include several student interns; a few new employees; the investiture of the Ruth Family Foundation, a fund devoted to the College of Business and Economics (CBE); a role as a board member on the CBE Dean's Advisory Board; and two children — one an alumna, and the other set to graduate in June.

But it had been awhile since the accomplished executive had an *a-ha* moment of his own — until he got a call from Dean Jagdish Agrawal, who invited him to attend an executive leadership communications workshop called Jumpstart.

"CBE's Jumpstart workshop is designed to develop the ability to listen, communicate, and connect with others,"

Agrawal says. "These skills are necessary to be successful no matter what career anyone chooses to pursue."

Though Ruth thought he'd just swing by campus quickly, he not only ended up staying to participate in Jumpstart — which combines personal storytelling, martial arts, and theater exercises — but he came back to the workshop the next day, too.

And something unexpected happened.

"It solved my problem. I've always been able to tell stories one-on-one, but it was getting it to the larger audience (that I couldn't do). Just like that moment in high school that trailed me all these years, once I had a positive moment, I thought 'Now, I can hang something on *that*.'"

"The power of Jumpstart is that it makes you realize the person looking back at you in the mirror every morning can be better."

"The power of Jumpstart is that it makes you realize the person looking back at you in the mirror every morning can be better," says Travis Nelson, career development manager for CBE and one of the organizers of the event. "The best way that I have ever heard it put into words was from a student who said, 'I never spoke up in my classes because I've never felt as if I had something to say that people wanted to hear. I learned at Jumpstart that I have a voice, and that people actually want to hear what I have to say. I will never let that fear get in the way again.'"

Ruth has since made an additional gift to the university dedicated to ensuring Jumpstart continues.

Yet it isn't just the public speaking piece that's made him a believer.


"I came here as a junior college student from Ohlone College. There are a lot of commuter students here who never build that college community. You'd be surprised how many students hear someone else's story and say, 'I've had three classes with you and never knew you were *that* person.'"

"Most people think you have to be guarded as a leader — hold your cards close," Ruth adds. "But in all my years of experience, I've learned that I'm the most productive when we build a culture of trust, where I trust people and people trust me. That's what this style of communication is about, and that's the foundation of real leadership — connecting with others." ■

"It was going to drive me nuts if I went to my grave and didn't get past that," Dave Ruth (BS '90; MBA '92) says of his struggle with public speaking.

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Judy Huey (BA '02, Human Development) and her husband Leland Levy are passionate about giving back to their communities. Through careful planning with Cal State East Bay, their gift will continue a lifetime of generosity.  GARVIN TSO

“My life was changed by Cal State, and I know that future students’ lives will be changed as well.”

– Judy Huey

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to serving students and families throughout the region, and hope you will join us in celebrating the many accomplishments Cal State East Bay has achieved with the help of your support.

To all of you I give my thanks,



Tanya Hauck, Vice President, University Advancement



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JustGive
LexisNexis
Lockheed Martin Corporation
Foundation
Network for Good
Pacific Gas & Electric Company
Procter & Gamble Fund of
Greater Cincinnati Foundation
The Walt Disney Company
Foundation
Wells Fargo
Truist
UPS
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CLASS NOTES

1960s

GEORGE CAPRON (BA '69, Art) is an art restoration lecturer for the Crocker Museum in Sacramento, at nearby Sierra College in Rocklin, and at arts organizations on both coasts. Capron founded the Armory Foundation for the Arts, and Fine Arts Restored Studio for Conservation and Restoration. Capron has been working to conserve and restore hundreds of important works of art since 1979.

JIM CLARK (BA '68, Political Science) has retired from his role as Chino Valley High School's soccer coach. Clark led the boys' team to seven small-school state titles over the course of almost 30 years. He plans to travel with his wife, including visiting their son in the Bay Area, and work on his rustic furniture business.

DIANE KALLIAM (BS '65, Physical Education), CSUEB Athletics Hall of Fame honoree, took part in the first-ever reunion of former women's professional and amateur softball players in September 2015. The 72-year-old first competed as a centerfielder in 1961 for San Mateo High School, and went on to play for the inaugural Women's Professional Softball League. Kalliam was inducted into the National Softball Hall of Fame in 1984.

1970s

JUDY BANFIELD (BA '72, English; MS '77, Education) is a lactation consultant, certified life coach, and owner of Mountain Baby in Nelson, British Columbia, an adventure-inspired children's boutique. Previously, she coordinated a postpartum support program.



MARK CURRY ('79-'87) of *Hangin' with Mr. Cooper* fame is anchor of a new "morning dream team" on San Francisco Bay Area's KBLX radio. Curry, whose TV character was a one-time Golden State

Warriors player, had a DJ show during his time as a Pioneer, and has experience in radio in Oakland and Berkeley.

MARC JENSEN (BA '77, Political Science; Economics) is CFO of GSC Logistics, Inc., a transportation and logistics company. Jensen has held a variety of operational, financial, and information technology roles, including as principal at MLJ Consulting, LLC and as vice president for Pacer International.



PATRICK KWOK (BS '70, Biological Science; BS '72, Chemistry; MPA '81) has been named board chair of Asian Americans for Community Involvement. The group's mission is to improve the health, mental health, and wellbeing of individuals, families, and the Asian community. Kwok is a former Santa Clara Valley Water District board member, former mayor and council member (Cupertino), and has been a professional civil engineer for more than 45 years. He and his wife, Susan, immigrated to the U.S. in 1968.



BILL SALEEBEY (MS '73, Counseling) has opened an office in Ventura, California. Saleebey is recognized as a psychological expert in the field of business networking. He is the author of three books, *Connecting: Beyond the Name Tag*, *Sell Yourself*, and *Study Skills for Success*. He has also been a speaker, trainer, and teacher on numerous platforms.

CORA TELLEZ (MPA '79) has been appointed to the board of directors for Pacific Premier Bank. Tellez is founder and CEO of Sterling Health Services Administration and Sterling Self Insurance Administration. Over her 35 years of experience in healthcare management, Tellez has worked for Prudential, Blue Shield, and Kaiser Permanente.

1980s

SANDRA BULMER (BS '85, Physical Education) is dean of the School of Health and Human Services at Southern Connecticut State University. Previously, Bulmer was the school's interim dean, and has been with the university since 1999.

CHRISTINE DAVIS (BS '85, Business Administration) is CFO of ioSafe Inc., an award-winning startup and manufacturer of disaster-proof hardware systems. In July 2015, she was featured in the *Sacramento Business Journal's* annual CFO of the Year special publication for small-company honorees. Last year, Davis managed a successful campaign that raised seven figures in preferred financing for the 10-year-old company.

DEBORAH EUDALEY (MBA '87) is CFO of UserZoom, a leading user-experience research and testing SaaS platform. In her new role, Eudaley will lead the company's finance, human resources, and legal teams. Eudaley has more than 25 years of experience in financial leadership roles.

WILLIAM FONG (BS '86, Business Administration) is hotel manager at the Fairmont in San Francisco. Fong has more than 25 years of experience in hospitality. Previously, he was the hotel manager at the Westin, Maui, and he has held several senior positions at the St. Francis and St. Regis. Fong began his career with Hilton Hotels.



CHRISTINE FORD (BS '84, Business Administration; MBA '88) has been director of human resources at the Oregon State Bar for 13 years. Previously, Ford

worked in similar roles with the Musicians Institute and UltraViolet Devices, Inc.

DOUG GARNHART (BS '87, Business Administration) is chief financial officer at SYSPRO USA, a cloud and mobile-based enterprise resource planning software company. Garnhart was previously CFO of DLG Consulting, an information and security technology company, and has held a number of senior finance positions in Silicon Valley.

NEAL GOLDSTEIN (BA '85, Mass Communication) is manager for San Mateo High School's baseball team. Previously, he was the junior varsity manager at Hillsdale High School, his own alma mater. Goldstein played several years of San Mateo American Legion Baseball before playing ball for the Pioneers.

JOHN GOUVEIA (BS '89, Recreation) is retiring from his position as the district manager of Hayward Area Recreation and Park District. Gouveia has officially been with the district for 25 years, though he first started helping out at the ball field at just 14 years old. He has served as general manager since 2012. His immediate plan after retiring is a trip to Disney World with his wife, and Gouveia also intends to continue his involvement with USA Softball, where he has been a board member since 2008.

JIM HANSEN ('87, Administrative Services Credential) has come out of retirement to accept the interim superintendent position for the Pleasanton Unified School District for 2015-16. Hansen has amassed 34 years of experience in public education in a variety of roles; he left his prior position as principal of Amador Valley High School in 2013.



DIANA HUFF (BA '86, English; MA '93, English) is president of Huff Industrial Marketing, a company focused on small industrial manufacturers and retailers. Huff Industrial Marketing won two 2015 Gold MarCom awards for custom-developed small-business manufacturing websites.



KEVIN INN (BS '84, Psychology) is president of Better Homes and Gardens Real Estate Advantage Realty, based on Oahu, Hawaii. Previously, Inn was vice president of sales and business development at Advantage Realty. He is active in professional organizations, such as the Council of Real Estate Brokerage Managers, Honolulu Board of Realtor's East Oahu Regional Group, and the Hawaiian Pacific Section of the United States Tennis Association.

CARL NIELSON (BS '82, Geography) retired from his position as state park ranger of Mount Diablo Park. Nielson is a competitive cyclist who could regularly be seen patrolling the park on a bicycle, leading the *Contra Costa Times* to dub him the "Guardian of Cycling" in September 2015. Nielson is routinely a top 10 finisher in the Mount Diablo Challenge.

CHUCK POTTER (BS '81, Business Administration) was featured alongside his wife and painting partner Diane Williams at the Main Street Artists Gallery in Quincy, California, in August 2015. The couple hold an art retreat in nearby Greenville each summer, and spend much of their time teaching workshops and connecting with fellow artists.



JOAN ROSAS (MS '89, Education) is superintendent of San Mateo-Foster City Elementary School District. Over the past three decades in education, Rosas has served as a teacher, principal, administrator, and most recently as assistant superintendent of student services in San Mateo.



ANNE ROSS (BA '82, Liberal Studies; MS '85, Counseling) published *Beyond Rain Man: What One Psychologist Learned Raising a Son*

on the Autism Spectrum in April. Ross is an award-winning writer and school psychologist in Northern California, and she is a past winner of an American Psychological Dissertation Research Award. Her creative writing has been nominated for a Pushcart Prize and a Lambda Literary Award.

TIM SILVERA (BS '89, Business Administration) is executive vice president at Intercare Insurance Solutions, an innovative commercial insurance brokerage that specializes in employee benefits, wellness, and retirement, among other sectors. Silvera has held previous senior roles at TAS Consulting Group, Auction.com, Callaway Golf, and PG&E.

MARTIN "MARTY" SUKLE (BS '83, Business Administration) is CEO of Snake Creek Lasers, a developer and manufacturer of miniature lasers. Previously, Sukle was the CFO for Alps Electric, a Japanese manufacturer and distributor of electronic components. Sukle is passionate about leadership and inspiring others to succeed, and he loves to travel.



SUSANNE TRIMBATH (BS '82, Business Administration) is an adjunct professor at Creighton University and CEO and chief economist of

her own company, STP Advisory Services, LLC, a financial and economic research and consulting business. Trimbath also has a book coming out, *Lessons Not Learned*, about the 2008 financial crisis.

1990s



DIANE AGUINAGA (BA '90, Business Administration) is police captain in Antioch. Aguinaga has been with the Antioch Police Department for more than 20 years. In 2011 she was promoted to lieutenant, and in 2014 she supervised the department's gang unit and Crime Prevention Commission, and received the Distinguished Service Award. Aguinaga is passionate about serving as a role model for boys and girls.

JIM ALEXANDER (MBA '94) is senior vice president of customer success and worldwide services at Aria Systems, a top-ranking cloud billing company. Previously, Alexander was head of product management and he served as vice president at Amdocs, a global communications corporation.



NATALIE ALVANEZ (BS '98, Psychology) is vice president of marketing and business partnerships at Visit Oakland. Previously, Alvanez was director of marketing and operations. She has earned the Certified Destination Management Executive designation, which is the only integrated executive program specifically designed for the destination marketing industry.

KIM COOK (BA '93, Performing Arts) has been appointed director of art and civic engagement for the Burning Man organization, a new role designed to broaden Burning Man's impact through year-round events. Cook is former president and CEO of the Arts Council of New Orleans, and has held several theater/arts positions throughout the Bay Area.

LISA CROWE (MS '94, Taxation) has been appointed chief deputy commissioner at the California Department of Business Oversight by Governor Jerry Brown. Previously, Crowe was the division chief of Payroll and Personnel Services at the California State Controller's Office, and she served in several positions at the California Franchise Tax Board.

CASEY HANKIN (MS '96, Counseling) is an accomplished ceramicist. In September 2015, Hankin returned to the Gathering at the Great Divide Art Festival, which is nationally ranked in the top 200 fine arts shows in the U.S. Hankin uses only wheel-thrown and sculpted clay, and the 400-year-old Japanese raku method of firing.



JEANETTE HANSCOME (BA '92, Liberal Studies) is publishing her sixth book, *Suddenly Single Mom: 52 messages of Hope, Grace, and Promise*.

Hanscome is an author, teacher, speaker, and mother of two sons. She resides in the East Bay.



CARRIE KNUDSEN (BS '95, Business Administration) is a board member for the Young Americans Center for Financial Education. Knudsen is CFO at Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, where she oversees all aspects of the firm's finance, billing, and collections. The Young Americans Center for Financial Education focuses on education in finance, economics, and business for adults under 21.

KEVIN MIKESELL (BS '90, Business Administration) has worked as an accounting professional for more than 25 years and is currently the fiscal manager for Tulare County's Health and Human Services Agency, where he oversees 20 employees and a budget of \$240 million.



MARY MIRANDA (BS '96, Business Administration) is director and lead people consultant for transaction advisory services in the West within Ernst & Young LLP's Core Business Services practice. Miranda remains in the company's San Francisco office, where she was previously associate director. Miranda is currently pursuing her executive coaching credential.



FRED RANDOLPH (MA '95, Music) is releasing his third CD, *Song Without Singing*, a compilation of original music featuring his own quintet, and longtime friends. As a native Hawaiian, Randolph's first instrument was a ukulele, but he switched to guitar in his early teens before taking up a variety of other instruments, such as saxophone, trumpet, classical bass, flute, and clarinet. Randolph currently teaches at Bishop O'Dowd High School.



LUIS REIS (BA '91, Physical Education) has been head coach of women's soccer at Wheaton College in Massachusetts for 19 years. Under his guidance the team has played in 13 consecutive NCAA tournaments, won 12 NEWMAC regular season conference championships, and won the ECAC New England Regional Tournament in 1999 and 2013. During his time as a Pioneer athlete, Reis played men's soccer from 1989-90, and was on the team that made it to the NCAA Division II Final Four.



MARIA RODRIGUEZ-DRAIN (BS '94, Health Sciences; Credential '95; MS '98, Education) is included in *Who's Who Among America's Teachers*, received an A+ Teacher of the Year Award in San Joaquin County, and has earned the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards certification.



RAYMOND SANGUINETTI (BA '93, Political Science) has joined Rathje & Woodward, LLC in Wheaton, Illinois. Previously, Sanguinetti was an attorney at Whitfield McGann & Ketterman for 17 years. Sanguinetti's concentration in law includes employment law, labor disputes, civil rights defense, and general litigation in state and federal courts.

KATRINA SCOTT-VANCE (BA '94, Sociology) is San Leandro's new postmaster, where she will oversee three stations, 188 employees, 106 carrier routes, and 52,382 addresses. Scott-Vance's parents were postal workers, and some of her children are too. Previously, she worked in Oakland and Berkeley.

MERRILEE SILVEIRA (BS '92, Health Sciences) is the science department chair at Carondelet High School in Concord. She has been teaching more than 20 years, with time spent across all grade levels, from elementary to high school, and in general education.

MEG STEWART (BS '92, Geology) has received her master of arts in teaching from the American Museum of Natural History's Richard Gilder Graduate School, a one-of-a-kind program among American museums. Stewart is one of only 14 recipients of the master of arts degree.

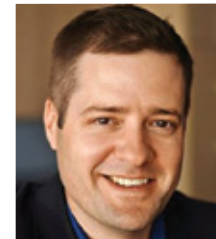
TRACI TABER (MS '99, Counseling) is assistant professor of psychology at Francis Marion University in Florence, South Carolina. Taber is a nationally certified school psychologist and board certified behavior analyst. Previously, Taber worked as a behavior consultant in private practice and spent 12 years as a school psychologist.

KARI TAYLOR (BA '95, Psychology) has been named vice president at Benco Dental, a supplies, research, equipment, and technology company. Taylor has held management roles with Office Depot, Home Depot, and WW Grainger. Early in her career, she worked for Sun Microsystems in a variety of international positions.

2000s

ADRIANNE BRETAO (BS '01, Criminal Justice) has joined Common Interest Management Services as vice president and market leader. CIMS is a full-service homeowner's association (HOA) management company for homeowner communities throughout Northern California. Bretao will take up the organization's expansion into the San Joaquin Valley.

DAVID CASTILLO (MA '09, Educational Leadership) is head of school at Urban Montessori in Oakland, an organization he has been involved with since its inception. Castillo is a first-generation college graduate and began his career in global logistics for the technology sector before finding his true calling in education.



TYLER CHALK (BA '02, Music) is a strategic account manager at Embroker, Inc., a new cloud-based platform that combines the service expertise of insurance brokers with a technology platform. The company has plans to go public in 2016. Previously, Chalk was a business development executive at Maroevich, O'Shea & Coghlan Insurance.

ERIN MCKENZIE CRAIG (MS '09, Mathematics) is founding principal and executive director of Unity Middle College High School in Orange, California. Craig is also founder of E=MC2 Consulting, LLC and was previously the principal of NOVA Academy Early College High School in Santa Ana, which won a bronze award from *U.S. News & World Report* in 2009 as one of Orange County's top schools.

FLORIAN GMEINER (MBA '04) is the senior manager, online Europe Central for LEGO Group. Previously, Gmeiner was head of marketing for the Americas at Lufthansa Airlines, and has been a speaker/panelist for several years at universities and professional organizations.

MIKEY KILUN (BA '05, Mass Communication) oversees and develops social media strategy for more than 40 clubs under the House of Blues Entertainment Division of Live Nation. In October 2015, Kilun gave an exclusive interview to the California State University's Entertainment Industry Blog debunking common myths about effective social media branding.



MINDY KIMBALL (MS '05, Geology) is an academy professor at West Point in the Department of Geography & Environmental Engineering. She is a lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army. Kimball received her PhD in sustainability from Arizona State University, where her focus was transportation sustainability in metropolitan cities. Kimball visited Antarctica in 2013 as part of the 125th anniversary of the Geological Society of America.

CYNTHIA LANG (BA '06, English; MA '12, English) has been awarded the Arthur M. Kaplan Award at the University of Wisconsin, where she is associate professor of English. The award is in recognition of Lang's contributions to education at UW. Lang says her education at CSUEB prepared her well for her present position.

ELIAS MUNIZ (BA '05, Psychology; '06, Preliminary Credentials) is principal at Hearst Elementary School in Pleasanton. Muniz served as interim principal during the 2014-15 school year and was appointed to his full-time position in May. He has been teaching since 2007 within the Pleasanton Unified School District.



ERIC NEUENFELDT (BA '07, English; MA '09, English) is the 2015 Grace Paley Prize in Short Fiction winner from the Association of Writers and Writing Programs (AWP) for his most recent collection of short stories, *Wild Horse*. Neuenfeldt's work will be published by the University of Massachusetts Press in 2017.



SHAREEN RAM (BA '06, Political Science) has been named senior field representative for 7th District California Senator Steve Glazer. Previously, Ram worked in similar positions in the offices of East Bay Assembly members Mary Hayashi and **JOHAN KLEHS** (BA '75, Political Science; MPA '77), and she is a former associate director of alumni relations at CSUEB.

HEATHER RUIZ (MPA '05) was appointed human resources director for Napa County by the board of supervisors in late 2015. Previously, Ruiz worked in human resources for San Mateo County and the City of San Jose, and she also has experience in the technology industry.

BENJAMIN SARASUA (BS '06, Criminal Justice Administration) has been promoted from officer to sergeant within the Pleasanton Police Department. Sarasua is a Marine Corps veteran who served during Operation Iraqi Freedom before joining the PPD in 2007.

He has held roles with the PPD on the SWAT team, as a detective, and as a field-training operator. **STEVEN SELTZER** (MA '06, Economics) is a professor of economics at UC Merced, primarily in the areas of econometrics and industrial organization. Seltzer is also co-founder and principal at American Trash Management, a company dedicated to reducing the environmental impact, costs, and problems of trash.



KIERON SLAUGHTER (MA '07, Geography) is one of 10 Urban Fellows for the National Park Service, a program that places a representative in a city for two years to create change and strengthen connections between the parks, programs, and other partners. Slaughter, who was previously a city planner in Richmond, has been assigned as a fellow there.

2010s

ASHA ABDI ('11-'15, Sociology) was honored at the White House in September 2015 as a "Champion of Change." Abdi, who came to the U.S. as a Somali refugee at eight years old, was recognized for her work with Agoon Foundation. Agoon, or "orphan" in Somali, serves orphans in Somalia and first-generation Somali-Americans.

MORGAN BREEDVELD (BA '12, English) performed at Livermore's Bankhead Theater in fall 2015 as Lucy Harris in *Jekyll and Hyde*, and early in 2016 as Kate in *The Pirates of Penzance*. Breedveld has been acting for more than 20 years and frequently works with the Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre.

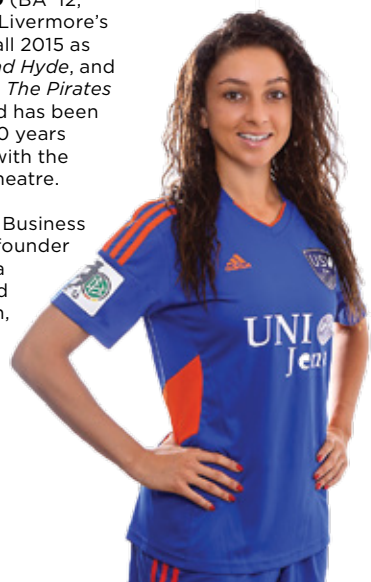
JACKIE CRUZ (BA '10, Business Administration) is the founder of Kicks & Chronicles, a lifestyle blog dedicated to soccer, travel, health, and fitness. Cruz has been playing soccer in Germany since graduating.



TENAYA DAVIS (BS '12, Business Administration) has left her position with CSUEB in marketing and communications for the Department of Athletics to take on a new role as a consumer-marketing specialist with Hi-Tec Sports USA near Portland, Oregon. Davis says her time with the university, including as a student-athlete, has been special in her life and invaluable to her career.



WILL FREEDMAN (BS '11, Business Administration) is head coach of men's basketball at Lassen Community College in Susanville, California. Freedman joined the Pioneers basketball team as a forward and led his team in points, rebounds, and field-goal percentage during his freshman year. He graduated as a top five all-time scorer.



ANELYSE GEORGE (BA '12, Liberal Studies; Credential) has been hired at Quail Run Elementary School in San Ramon, and was awarded the Golden Apple Award New Teacher of the Year for the San Ramon Valley Unified School District.



ROBERT MARCUS (BS '10, Recreation) is president and CEO of Boys & Girls Clubs of Marin and Southern Sonoma Counties. Marcus has worked with the organization since 2010 and was the founding director of S.T.A.R. Clubhouse, an after-school enrichment program within BGCMSSC. Previously, he was a program specialist with the City of San Leandro's Department of Recreation and Human Services.



MARKITA MAYS (MSW '10) is a recipient of a UCSF Chancellor Diversity Award, the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Award for Diversity. Mays, a San Francisco native, is an advocate for children of incarcerated parents and is the co-founder of the Alameda County Children of Incarcerated Parents Partnership. She is currently on staff at the UCSF/SFGH Child Trauma Research Program.

MARK MCCOY (MS '10, Educational Leadership) is assistant superintendent for the Dublin Unified School District. Previously, McCoy was director of human resources for the Pleasanton Unified School District. He has been working in education for nearly 20 years and spent 10 years teaching science at Pleasanton Middle School before taking a vice principal position at Foothill High School in 2007.



JUSTIN PASTORES (BFA '15, Art) was one of five artists featured at the Marin Museum of Contemporary Art in its sixth annual Emerging Artists of the Bay Area Juried Exhibition in fall 2015. Pastores, who is the youngest of the five artists, explores in his series "Between the Fourfolds" themes of assimilation, separation, integration, and marginalization in Oakland's Chinatown.

SEAN RAYMOND MORRIS (BA '12, Psychology) is a research analyst at the Office of Institutional Research at Community College of Philadelphia. Morris provides assessment and information on the college's effectiveness, and reporting on government initiatives.



LEFT TO RIGHT: STEPHANIE COUCH, LEORA FEENEY, AND ALOYSIA ROCHON FOUCHÉ



FRANCISCO HERNANDEZ SALGADO (BA '12, Liberal Arts; Spanish) is a high school Spanish teacher in Chelsea, Massachusetts, who is primarily focused on 9th and 10th graders. He is currently developing a Spanish for Spanish-speakers program with a colleague.

KURT SCHLEHUBER (MPA '14) is police lieutenant with the Pleasanton Police Department. Schlehuber was promoted from the rank of sergeant, and has served as a patrol, bicycle, and field training officer, SWAT team member, and child abuse detective since being hired by the PPD in 2003.

DIANA STEPHENS (MA '11, History) recently helped the *Berkeley Barb* celebrate its radical, underground roots with a 50th anniversary party. During her master's work at CSUEB she became an unofficial historian on the *Barb* while researching its controversial, progressive contributions to changing gender roles and Berkeley feminism in the 1960s and 1970s.

LEORA FEENEY (BS '89, Biological Science) and **ALOYSIA ROCHON FOUCHÉ** ('82, Administrative Services Credential) have been named to the Alameda County Women's Hall of Fame. Feeney is a longtime volunteer with the Golden Gate Audubon Society, and helped convince federal agencies to turn Alameda Naval Air Station into a wildlife reserve that has saved the endangered California least tern. Rochon Fouché is a former school teacher and one of the few female funeral directors in the country. She took over her husband's funeral business in 2001, enabling Fouché Hudson Funeral Home to become the first African-American-owned business to celebrate its 100-year milestone in Oakland. Alongside the alumnae is fellow inductee Stephanie Couch, executive director of Cal State East Bay's Institute for STEM Education and interim vice president for research.

EMERITI FACULTY

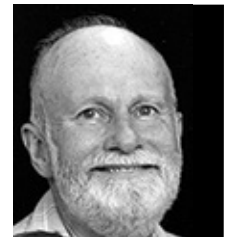
CLAYTON BAILEY, alongside his wife Betty, is curator and proprietor of the Bailey Art Museum in downtown Crockett, California. The pair, who met in the eighth grade, has been cultivating their collection of curiosities, memorabilia, and relics for more than 50 years, and displaying them — alongside their own artwork — with eye-catching originality and humor. Bailey is a professor emeritus of ceramics; he retired in 1998 after 37 years of teaching.



In Memoriam

FACULTY

MAURICE DANCE, former provost and vice president of academic affairs, passed away Jan. 10. Dance served in this capacity for 22 years at then-Cal State Hayward and retired in 1991. He is survived by his wife and nine children.



MARC G. NEITHERCUTT, professor emeritus of the Department of Criminal Justice Administration, passed away Dec. 16, 2015, from complications due to cancer. Neithercutt began his career at what was then Cal State Hayward in 1997 and retired in 2003. Neithercutt was a founding faculty member of the criminal justice program.



DELMO DELLA-DORA, professor emeritus of teacher education, died Dec. 22, 2015, after a short but aggressive battle with cancer. Della-Dora was 89 years old and served at the university from 1973-92. He was well known in the Hayward community for his longtime work with Ruby's Place, an organization that provides emergency shelter and support to victims of domestic violence, human trafficking, and homelessness.



DIANE SATIN, professor of accounting and finance, died Jan. 9. Satin joined the College of Business and Economics in 1990 and was a valued faculty member for more than 25 years.

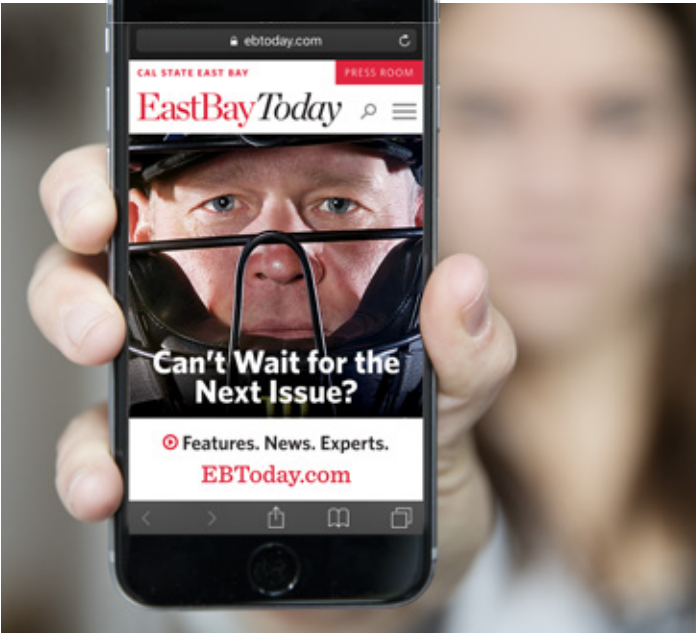
JOHN H. SIMS, a retired U.S. Navy captain and professor emeritus of management in the College of Business and Economics, passed away Nov. 29, 2015. Sims died of natural causes. His last request was that those who knew him say a prayer, drink a toast to him, or both. He wanted all to know that “it’s been a great life.”

DOUG SPRAGUE, professor emeritus of educational psychology and former department chair, passed away Jan. 6. He was 82 years old. Sprague taught at CSUEB for 40 years and retired in 2001. He was known for his popular course on child therapy, and for helping to create the marriage and family therapy program within the College of Education and Allied Studies.

ALUMNI



MIC GILLETTE ('69-'70), renowned brass player and founding member of legendary Oakland funk group Tower of Power, died Jan. 17 after suffering a heart attack. Gillette was also a member of Bay Area-based groups Cold Blood and the Sons of Champlin, and he played a stint with Blood, Sweat and Tears. Over the course of his career, Gillette recorded with music greats, such as the Rolling Stones, Elton John, Santana, Rod Stewart, and more. After a handful of top 40 hits in the '70s, he left Tower of Power to raise a family and teach music in the East Bay. Gillette continued to record solo material with his own band, which included his daughter, and work as a session musician throughout his life.



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Or email: penny.peak@csueastbay.edu

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PARTING SHOT

Cal State East Bay’s women’s basketball team ended the 2015-16 season with a historic CCAA championship win — a first for the program and Pioneer Athletics in a team sport. The women’s basketball scoring defense was ranked No. 2 in the nation within Division II. KELLEY L. COX





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Ted Barrett (BS '88,
Physical Education)