



Runner

The

Wednesday
Feb. 17,
1999

Vol.24, No. 16

CALIFORNIA
STATE
UNIVERSITY,
BAKERSFIELD

ASI study finds less expensive book prices elsewhere

By STEVE PEREZ
News Editor

A recent investigation into the textbook prices launched by the ASI External Affairs Committee found that CSUB stands at average when compared to other California State Universities.

The investigation resulted from three complaints in December from students who were outraged about perceived steep prices at the Runner Bookstore, operated by Barnes & Noble.

"The one thing we did find was that we're about average when compared to other CSU's," said Tiffany White, 22, ASI vice-president of external affairs.

According to White, who headed the committee's investigation, CSUB's mark-up rate averages 27 percent. Mark-up rates vary among CSU campuses ranging from 20 percent at CSU San Marcos to 33 percent at CSU Fresno, but the average rate for the state university system is 26 percent.

"I hoped that the outcome would be different," White said.

She said that she had believed this problem would be isolated and unique to this campus.

The ASI External Committee also found that many books could be purchased cheaper at local bookstores, such as Russo's, Barnes & Noble on California Avenue and B. Dalton.

"Any student can go anywhere in Bakersfield and find their books a whole lot cheaper," White said.

For example, CSUB charges \$81.55 for a Calculus (single variable) book by Stewart. In comparison, Barnes & Noble off campus charges \$77.75, while B. Dalton and Russo's both charge \$58.

In addition to these cost-cutting options, those bookstores also offer discounts of some sort. Russo's gives a 10 percent discount to all CSUB students and faculty, but they charge for shipping and handling of textbooks not in stock.

Barnes & Noble offers online shopping in addition to its low prices. If ordering online, books are five cents cheaper, less sales tax, but shipping and handling is charged. If ordering at the local bookstore, there is no shipping and handling charge, but there is a sales tax.

B. Dalton doesn't charge for shipping and handling, but they offer a book club for 10 percent discounts for a \$10 fee per year. Plus, \$100 purchases get \$5 off.

Kelly Swanson, manager of Runner Bookstore, was unavailable for comment. According to White, Swanson was concerned about book prices as well because she is unable to offer the most competitive prices because some professors turn in their book requests too late.

White also said that the CSB Foundation voiced a concern about the investigation. The CSB Foundation is in charge of the bookstore contract and receives about 10 percent of revenue generated from the bookstore.

However, Randy Bye, manager of the CSB Foundation, said that the concern may have been taken out of context.

"As far as the Foundation about ASI launching an investigation, the concern was that they got to the right people for the right answers," Bye said.

King and Queen crowned...



photo courtesy: Bobby Soto

Fernando Caudillo and Irma Cervantes, who were 'presented' at the basketball game last Saturday, were announced 1999 Homecoming king and queen Saturday at the Ball.

Basketball wins all weekend

By SHIREESE MILLER
Entertainment Editor

Last Saturday the CSUB Roadrunners went down south to Carson where they barely succeeded at a much-needed defeat over the Dominguez Hills Toros with a final score of 74 -66.

"Every game is a big victory," said Tyrone Evans, who admits the team needed last Friday's win over LA, along with Saturday's victory over Dominguez Hills, to stay in the running for postseason games.

Evans saw the start of the game from the bench as he remained replaced as a starter by 6-2 junior guard Ryan Addison in the game against the Toros.

"Sometimes he [Evans] can learn better from the bench," said Coach Henry Clark in explaining the switch.

The 6-6 junior guard came in strong, however, earning 12 points, 5 rebounds, and 5 assists by the end of the game.

Lovell Brown was also replaced as a starter due to an ankle injury by 6-5 freshman forward/guard Kevin Lawrence. Lawrence scored his season high with eight points, four rebounds and one assist.

"I played as hard as I could and it paid off," said Lawrence, who stayed in the

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Dulle versus Oswald: the bickering continues

Dear Editor,

The recall of Oswald is progressing. If the rate of gathering the necessary number of signatures continues (10 percent of the all students who pay fees to Associated Students, Inc), then, a vote to recall Oswald will be held at our next annual ASI Elections (Spring Quarter).

Oswald does have time to improve his "civic integrity," and not just on our campus. He must make an attempt to repair his image as Bakersfield's ASI President to students from other CSU campuses (AS Presidents and CSSA Representatives). Oswald does not have to apologize to me. Nor does Oswald have to "give me what I want." (Oswald nor ASI have anything that I want — other than giving students the best organization they can).

Those who have been reading the *Runner* for the last five weeks know that I have taken more than I have dished-out. They say it is lonely at the top. Well, I guess that is why I am alone in my venture to RECALL Oswald (besides the

300+ students who have already signed the RECALL petition). No other student in the history of CSU Bakersfield has ever attained the intensity of knowledge and experiences that I have endured in student government; ask the cognoscenti — if you don't know who they are, get your ASI monies worth by attending an ASI meeting (664-2418).

For my critics, well, they need to understand that I am exercising my rights as a student who pays ASI fees. I have the right to comment and criticize. And unlike most of my critics, I have worked with four CSUB ASI presidents, served as the Internal Vice Chair for the California State Student Association, spent several thousand dollars of my own money traveling over 1,000 miles a month for 20 months, attended more meetings on campus and throughout the state on educational issues, and have testified on behalf of educational bills before the

State Senate Committee.

Unlike all of my critics, I know what is going on, what went on, what should be going on, and what will be going on. Since I have my undergraduate degree from CSUB, and, since I am less than a year from achieving an MPA, I have a lot invested in my education at this institution. I have a life-time commitment to ensure that CSU Bakersfield is the best institution that it can be. Isn't this what being a student is all about, or, is it about take what you can and leave?

Michael Dulle

Dear Editor,

I have been observing with interest regarding the allocations that have been brought against ASI President Michael Oswald. As Vice President of Internal Affairs, it would be my position that would perform all of the duties of the president if the sitting president were removed. However, I do not want to invest my time in that debate, I want to explain what ASI has been working on to right a wrong.

In the Jan. 27 issue of *The Runner*, News Editor Steve Perez exposed the costs of the executive retreat, which totaled over \$5,000. This trip involved attending a conference in Washington D.C. I went on that retreat and reaped the benefits, while students reaped the costs. It is my opinion that student dollars would be better spent if invested in CSUB clubs and/or expanding funding on statewide issues. I have always thought that the best retreat the executives could take is to travel among the students here on campus. I have spoken with many clubs and plan to have the Internal Affairs Committee speak to

every club by the end of the year. The students have great suggestions and vast backgrounds in which they are based. Thus, Mr. Perez is absolutely correct in his article and something needs to be done.

However, the expenses on retreats do not stop with the executives. A Board of Directors' Retreat (which includes all of the executives as well) accompanied with a Board Orientation was established last school year. The total amount of student dollars spent this year on both was \$1,500. Thus, the grand total of travel perks spent on ASI leaders neared \$7,000. Putting this in perspective, the average student pays \$77 to ASI per year. So, almost 100 students pay their entire ASI fee so that their leaders can go to the Getty Center, eat dinner with administrators and go to D.C. This is ridiculous!

About the good news, I proposed a significant, but reasonable improvement (in which the majority of the Finance Committee, Board of Directors and President Oswald supports) which will consolidate the Board Orientation and Retreat into one and cut the total student dollars allocated to Executive/Board retreats to \$3,450. This reversed the 150 percent increase that was enacted in 1997-98 and will inevitably free-up thousands of dollars to be spent on the students and not on us leaders.

In closing, I want to say to the students how proud I am of how your student leaders have reacted to your concern. PLEASE continue to apply pressure on them so that we may end a tradition of perks and begin a policy of frugal student governing.

Darren Thompson,
ASI Vice President, Internal Affairs

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Accountability: the real issue in higher education

By CHARLES B. REED
Special to the Runner

Labor negotiations never are easy. Witness the recent National Basketball Association fight. When you have two parties, you have two sides, and meeting in the middle can be difficult. I do believe, however, that the California State University and the California Faculty Association have successfully hammered out a tentative contract settlement that is in the best interests of our 20,000 faculty, 350,000 students and the citizens of California. We will know by February 28, the final date for ratification, if faculty agree with the unanimous vote by the CSU Board of Trustees.

It was a matter of money, of course, but, more important, it was a matter of accountability, the new concept sweeping higher education. Traditionally, higher education had been a unit unto itself, a bit apart from the rest of society. Recall the "ivory tower" moniker that always was associated with universities and colleges. We always had to respond to the Legislature and the public, but it rarely was rough and tumble. We told the state our needs and it pretty much met them. Today, with the ever dimin-

ishing supply of state resources, the public and legislators are rightly demanding that we account for our funds, that we educate students for tomorrow's work force and that we pay people based on their performance.

Paying for performance is a fairly new concept to the CSU. We negotiated it three years ago with all of our unions, basically putting 20 percent of all pay increases into a merit system. The goal for this recent negotiating session was to double it to 40 percent for our faculty, those most responsible for the success of our students. The reasoning was that those who work hard should be rewarded in a more

meaningful way with pay increases that really could be noticed in their paychecks. Let's give everyone a general increase, but for those who make the difference in our students' education, let's compensate them better.

The union, in its role of looking out for all members, wanted more funds put into the general increase. While the trustees were willing to move on several other issues in the negotiating sessions, this was one on which they could not compromise. Every other university with which we compare ourselves for salaries allocates a percent of its increases to

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From wedding blues to movie news, it's on the Web

By TIMOTHY MEIER
Online Editor

Now that Valentines Day is over with, how many of you out there got roped into something that you didn't want to do? Of course, I'm talking about getting engaged to the person you're in love with since, I have been engaged and have gone through some of this myself. So to assist you in your daunting task, and believe me I know, try checking out "the sites of the week." <http://www3.theknot.com/default.htm> - One of the first things my fiance and I did was check out the Web for sites on weddings. This was one of the first sites she looked at.

For about three weeks, every time I visited her, she was checking out this site looking at the different designers. You do have to sign up with them by giving them your name and e-mail address so you will be assured to get lots of spam in your mailbox. But after you sign up, you can view a listing of different designers of wedding dresses. There is actually a section for the groom to be, but it is mostly tuxedos and suits to wear, nothing really cool.

One of the hottest topics in the computer world is that of emulation. If you don't know what emulation is, it is when you emulate another system, like the Apple IIGS or an Atari 2600, on your computer. Because your computer is pretending to be something else, you can play perfect versions of past games you love. Most of the extinct computer systems have some sort

of emulator for it. But where the controversy comes in is you can also emulate current systems like the Sony Playstation or the Super Nintendo. While ownership of the emulator program is legal, the roms that are needed to play the games are not legal, unless you own an actual copy of the game. Companies are claiming that you are depriving them of money that could be spent on buying the game. The problem is some of the systems have been long dead or the company has gone bankrupt. If you would like to join in the emulation game you could try this site, <http://www.emulation.net/> for Macintosh versions of emulation programs.

For those of you own a Windows based computer try <http://www.emulnews.com>. If you own a fast enough computer, it might be worth your while to check out the classics from an older system.

<http://www.aint-it-cool-news.com/> - If you like news about upcoming movies, and who doesn't, then check out this site. It has all of the latest rumors about upcoming movies and projects are in the works. After browsing through, I discovered there is a movie in the planning stages is about the Revolutionary war, and will be in the same vein as "Saving Private Ryan." That means a lot of violence that could be worse than the landing at Omaha beach during "Ryan." <http://www.bandersnatch.com/gduedu.htm> - If you are like me, you probably are feeling kind of down about graduation. It's the middle of the year, and

June seems so far away. If this is the case, you should try transferring to General Delivery University. This fully nonaccredited university offers degrees from such schools like the School of Sorcery, the School of Urban Agriculture, and the School of Hard Knocks. Also, doesn't it sound better to say "I got my degree from General Delivery University," than to say "I got my degree from CSUB or UCLA or anywhere else." So if you are getting flack from your parents, friends, siblings, or significant other, just tell them that you are working on another degree from a highly respected university.

The game of the week is "Yoot Tower" for the Macintosh. If you have played "Simtower," then you already know how to play "Yoot Tower." The object of the game is to build a tower by placing various objects onto the tower. You can create an entire floor of just coffeehouses, although that isn't a good idea. If you like to plan everything out and don't mind a lot of micro-management, this is the game for you. You can adjust everything from the names of the people that live in your tower

to the ratio of sundaes to chocolate bars in the shops. For me, the best thing about playing the original Simtower was cheating to get all the money you need and building the tower according to my vision. Since there aren't any cheats out for this game yet, it just didn't hold my attention for very long. While I did enjoy "Yoot Tower," I did get bored with it after about three or four days. The reason for this is nothing really goes on. There really wasn't anything that got my heart pumping in "Yoot Tower." So because it kept my attention for a little while, "Yoot Tower" gets a B- for effort. Unfortunately, it is only out for the Macintosh, but a Windows based version is coming out soon.

That's all for this week. If you have any questions, comments, or ideas for the Runner Web site, send them to runner@csubak.edu.

Next week, I'll explain how the Runner Web site is put together and what work goes into it. So, until next week, have fun on the Web.

CHANCELLOR, continued from page 2

merit pay; more than half devote all funds to merit.

The CSU recognizes that there is a salary gap between what we pay our faculty and what these comparable institutions pay. We need to restore CSU faculty salaries to nationally competitive levels. My goal, when I became chancellor a year ago, was to work to close this gap. To do so, however, requires that we always remember the CSU mission of providing affordable, high quality education to California's students. The trustees believe that one critical instrument to help close the gap and take the CSU to the next level of quality is merit pay. Unless you single out for reward those who significantly contribute to enhancing the quality of our students' education, then you are not doing enough to move the CSU to the next level of quality.

Under our new revamped merit system — the CSU agreed to several changes requested by the union — two to three times as many faculty will receive merit increases. That number comes closer to recognizing some of the finest faculty in the state. We know we have excellent scholars and teachers, and we know we must reward them in a way that distinguishes them from the ordinary. Not all faculty are created equal, just as not all of our presidents are equal. We give salary increases to presidents based solely on merit, making distinctions in factors such as complexity of their jobs, performance, and campus size. To also recognize faculty in this way follows through on our stated mission of offering a quality educational experience to students. It is not enough to say we

offer quality, we must prove it. One way to prove it is to make judgments on how our employees perform. It is not easy but it is necessary if we are to continue on the road to making the California State University the best higher education system in the nation.

This tentative agreement with our faculty union is a good way to show that the CSU is being accountable to its students and the public. We look forward to hearing that the union has ratified the contract, so that we can all move ahead and keep the CSU on the path to greatness.

Charles B. Reed is chancellor of the California State University system

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Softball winning streak comes to a halt

CSUB's 26-game regular season home winning streak fell on Monday when the softball team and Point Loma Nazarene College split a doubleheader.

The Roadrunners came from behind to edge Point Loma 3-2 before dropping a 2-1 decision in the second game.

CSUB (7-2) was losing in the first game until a wild sixth inning. Point Loma pitcher Kristina Silva was pulling a two-hitter until Emily Torres smacked a double into center field. The Crusaders brought in a relief pitcher who walked Regan Hanes. A wild pitch by the reliever scored Torres. Nikia Owens lined a single to right field, batting in Hanes.

In game two, Point Loma (4-6) was pulling a perfect game until the sixth inning before Hanes singled. CSUB's Owens followed with a run-scoring double, but still trailed 2-1 resulting in a loss at home.

Tomorrow the Roadrunners will travel down south to play the Azusa Pacific University Cougars for a 1:30 p.m. Next Thursday the softball team will host Southern California College at 1:30 p.m.

Wrestlers mighty in win at home

Home was truly a place of the heart this weekend as CSUB wrestlers handed mighty defeats to Pac-10 foes Stanford and UC Davis, providing a fitting end to the collegiate career here of Runner great Stephen Neal.

Neal broke the school record of 66 career pins, pinning Stanford's Andy Hunter in 4 minutes, 9 seconds to tie the 16-year-old record of Mark Loomis. Two hours later, Neal pinned Davis wrestler Brandon Arsenaault for his record-setting 67th collegiate pin.

A standing ovation greeted Neal's efforts, a tribute he seemed reluctant to accept Saturday.

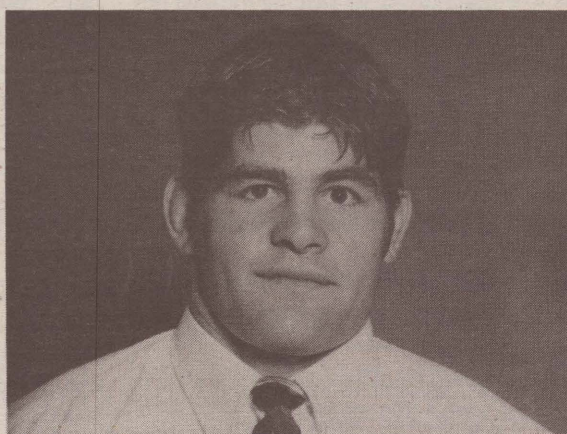
"He's the greatest athlete in any sport ever to go through this school," said coach T.J. Kerr.

"The greatest attribute that Steve has, is that he goes out and competes with everything he has in every match. If all our guys

did that we'd be a lot tougher."

Other Runners contributed to the win over the weekend, with Mike Mendoza and Nathan Vasquez helping out with their wins.

CSUB is undefeated in Pac-10 dual meets



Neal

for the first time since the 1994-95 season after recording the 31-6 win over Stanford and 1 38-3 win over UC Davis.

Swimmers close but lose to San Diego at crucial weekend meet

The CSUB men's swim team almost won the Pacific Collegiate Swimming Conference Saturday night in Long Beach, but they lost by a few hairs.

Going into the meet unshaven, the Roadrunners hoped to repeat as conference champions but UC San Diego ended up winning with 682 1/2, while CSUB finished with 666 points.

Joe Loftus won the mile event in 15:58.52 and Derek Guffey won the 200 backstroke, but UCSD swam strongly in other events to win the meet.

Looking ahead, the Roadrunners will head to nationals next month in Buffalo, N.Y. The women were unable to qualify any swimmers for nationals, but still have until Feb. 28 to do so. CSUB's Skye Flocco missed qualifying by four seconds in the mile

CSUB diver Robb Pendergrass placed third in the three-meter event.

Shortage of nurses extends deadline

The Nursing Department at California State University, Bakersfield has extended the deadline for applications due to the extreme nursing shortage at area hospitals.

"The new deadline is March 15," said Candace Meares, chair of the department.

Meares said the Nursing Department wanted to maximize the opportunity for those seeking to enter the nursing profession in applying to the program. "With hospitals offering premiums and bonuses, it's an excellent time to begin work on a bachelor's degree in nursing," she said.

"We also offer master's degrees, and those with bachelor's or master's degrees will find increased employment opportunities and opportunities for promotion."

Those interested should contact the Nursing Department at 664-3101 for more information.

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game 22 minutes.

The Runners got off to a shaky start as Dominguez Hills (7-15, 5-13 CCAA) led by nine with a score of 33 points at half-time.

"Sometimes we have lapses," said 6-7 junior forward Jamal Livingston. "They were good enough to capitalize on our lapses."

This was proven as Dominguez Hills took advantage of Bakersfield's shortcomings in the first half. Over a period of seven minutes, the Toros outscored CSUB 15-2, giving them a 19-11 lead. Meanwhile, Bakersfield made eight turnovers and only one out of five shots taken during the same time period.

"I could have played better defensively in the first half," said Livingston. Despite his dissatisfaction with his first half performance, Livingston was the highest scorer with 19 points, eight rebounds, and one assist.

Coach Clark seemed to agree with Livingston, as he could be seen physically admonishing both Livingston and Evans during time outs in the game.

"Sometimes you get upset, but you have to remember he's not doing it to disrespect you; he's just trying to help you as a coach," said Evans of the confrontational situation.

The confrontations must have worked, as the team rebounded.

"I told our guys that Bakersfield would not play as poorly in the second half as the

did in the first, and that's what happened," said Coach Larry Hauser of Cal State Dominguez Hills.

Coach Hauser was right, and, with neither team scoring in the last 3:08 minutes, the game went into overtime, when Rahim Wright made four successful free throws in the last 39 seconds of the game to hand the game to the Roadrunners.

The Runners need to win every game from this point on in order to make it to the finals.

Making it to the finals is something each player is determined to do, said Evans, adding the likelihood was good, "most definitely -- one game at a time."

The CSUB Roadrunners will be playing this Friday and Saturday at Centennial Gardens against Grand Canyon and Cal Poly Pomona.

CAL STATE BAKERSFIELD (13-10, 10-8 CCAA)

Evans 6-90-0 1, Lawrence 4-80-0-8, Germany 6-7 4-6 16, Cooper 1-80-2-3, Addison 0-10-0 0, Wright 2-44-4-9, Brown 0-21-2-1, Crawford 0-00-0-0, Livingston 6-77-8-19, Wilson 1-20-0-2, Ellis 1-32-2-4. Totals 27-51 18-24 74.

CAL STATE DOMINGUEZ HILLS (7-15 5-13 CCAA)

Bradley 4-10 1-2-9, Fray 7-19 3-4 17, Dolan 1-2 3-4 5, Johnson 2-4 4-6 8, Williams 5-14 3-3 15, Newton 1-40-0-2, Shevlin 0-10-0-0, Sims 1-10-0-2,

Wade 3-4 1-3 8. Totals 24-59 15-22 66.

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Counselor/Ombudsman dedicates energies to betterment of CSUB

By **LA TASCHIA GRAY**
Staff Writer

Good communication, good humor, outstanding citizen and a loving personality are just a few ways to describe Willis Hill, associate counseling director/ombudsman.

Hill has been active on the CSUB campus for the past 23 years after completing his graduate work at Brigham Young University. His hands-on experience with the African American Student Union organization has been an inspiration to many students on campus.

"He has given so much that we wanted to give something back," said senior Anita Madden, referring to his recent honor for supporting AASU in bringing about a clear and positive outlook on the African American culture.

Hill's colleagues take part in feeling that

his contribution would be greatly missed if he were to ever leave CSUB.

Counseling Associate Director/Director Reentry Bobbie George shared that she has known Hill for the past 25 years.

"His deep dedication to his job," said George, "is one of his main attributes to CSUB." When George was asked to describe Hill's best characteristics, she did not hesitate to describe him as being kind, concerned and sincere. "He will go the extra mile," George added.

Hill is extremely modest when it comes to taking some of the credit for AASU's efforts to reach the students on campus.

"I give them a lot of latitude," said Hill. Hill takes some of that burden of the membership rate in AASU being presently low, because he was absent most of the fall quarter due to an unavoidable surgery. "Just being there (for the stu-

dents) would have been some encouragement," he said.

Hill is not as concerned with the number of members as he is with the number of participants. "I would like to see a large number of people for the planning of events," said Hill.

Since there are many conflicts with schedules from school, family, work and other extra curricular activities, it is difficult for all of the members to be present at one time. There are "some legitimate reasons," said Hill that affect the attendance rate in AASU.

Hill thinks all members will walk away with the knowledge of organizational skills, arranging of events, budget and finance skills, marketing and advertising experience as well as planning opportunities.

Although this is Black History Month, Hill said the celebration should not start,

nor stop in February. "In order to have that time be meaningful, we have to convey that same message throughout the year," he said.

Division Director of the Educational Opportunity Program, Lee Adams said of Hill, "he is open, concerned and gives good support to students." Students find Hill "very favorable," said Adams.

"When someone who is so kind and concerned about students welfare, they can't help but respond to him positively," said George.

As for the future, Hill would like to see the channels of communication open up so everyone who is connected with the university can work together.

Furthermore, Hill advises students of all cultures "as you go into an experience, each student should spend time and gain a personal perspective in what their education means to them."

Debate provides students insight into death penalty

By **TINA KWON**
Staff Writer

Cal State Bakersfield students recently had the opportunity to listen to some of the key issues and arguments regarding the death penalty in a debate held on campus last week.

The four members of the debate panel firmly held their ground in last Friday's debate as CSUB students, instructors, and other members of the audience asked questions and further added to the discussion.

"I think it went really well. There were compelling arguments from each side," said Tim Brandon, 25, philosophy major. Brandon knew ahead of time that at least half the panel members involved were "anti-capital punishment."

"I was thinking it was just going to be kind of a beating up on the pro-penalty guy but Mr. Somers held his own very well, I think, and he did really good," explained Brandon.

John Somers, Kern County Deputy District Attorney, clearly advocated the death penalty and stated that the majority of the American public also favors it. He based his argument on the belief that there are some criminal acts that are absolutely unredeemable and unforgivable, with death as the only equivalent consequent.

Somers was the only one of the four panel members who took the advocate position but also explained that he did not feel "unfairly outnumbered."

"I enjoyed the debate very much. I think this is the kind of thing that's good for students to hear," said Somers. "To have a chance to debate some of the broader, more important issues is challenging and makes me better at my job," added Somers.

"The arguments that were discussed were really good," said Seba Clemente, 22, CSUB English major.

Clemente agreed with Somers and said that, despite the three to one ratio representation of the panel members, she thought her views were well represented in the discussion.

The interaction among the panel members and information they provided dealt with many arguments, "sub arguments," "premises," difficulties, and complexities that surround the controversial debate about capital punishment.

"I thought there was real good interaction among the panel members," said CSUB Philosophy Professor, Christopher Meyers. "All the key issues got focused on and the students asked great questions, exactly as I would have hoped."

Meyers, who represented the opponent viewpoint, placed emphasis on his view that the criminal justice system should be

based on "good principle judgment," not emotions. He also presented a couple questions along with his argument, "Can a civil society return evil for evil? Even so, are we a better people, a better society, for doing so?"

Other opponents on the panel were Denise McPeak, Kern County Deputy Public Defender, and Scott Senjo, CSUB Criminal Justice Assistant Professor.

During one moment of the debate, McPeak asked, "Why have *death* be an answer in an imperfect system?" She explained that the most compelling reason for her position on the issue of capital punishment is the fact that innocent people are sometimes executed. She stated that capital punishment goes against both her opinions and her reasoning.

Judo Club to hold women's self-defense clinic

In celebration of more than 25 years of teaching judo and self defense to CSUB students, the CSUB Judo Club is sponsoring a women's self-defense clinic on Saturday, April 17. The clinic will consist of hands-on self defense moves taught by Sensei Sam Imoto, a 6th degree black from the Visalia YMCA Judo Club; CSUB Sensei Michael Flachmann, a 4th degree black belt; and Sensei Alan Schultz, a 2nd degree

black belt, also from CSUB Judo. Attendees will also hear from a judge, a district attorney, and a family violence representative. The clinic will be held in the wrestling room and will be limited to the first 50 people who register. Pre-registration will begin at a later date.

To keep posted, see the club's Web site: <http://www.csubak.edu>, or e-mail them at judo@csubak.edu.

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Homecoming Ball "A Night of Romance" and a night of fashions

By AMANDA LAURIA
Editor in Chief

The Homecoming Dance last Saturday, sponsored by ASI programming, portrayed a complete formal fashion show with a variety of tastes, outfits and attire. Guys and gals were strutting their stuff in some fancy duds. There definitely were some dresses and accessories that stood out of the crowd of more than 300 students, staff, faculty and alumni present at the event. The top 10 fashions of the Ball are as follows:

1. Big dresses are in, and not just because I was wearing one, just ask Homecoming Queen candidate Gloria Pereyra. The Cinderella look has come back and everyone has jumped on the pumpkin carriage showing off their poofy floor length gowns. In colors ranging from white, silver, black, and yellow, these gowns really dressed up the event.
2. Wear a crazy out-of-place top hat with silver sparkles that doesn't even go with your outfit. You will definitely be the talk of the evening, pointed out by the ASI president during his welcome speech and by the comedian cracking jokes about your assumed-to-have tongue ring, since you are wild enough to wear the hat.
3. Black was definitely the "color" of the night. Although it was a Valentine "Night of Romance" theme, most gals went for the sexy seductive look with the color black. Wearing chic slick dresses, the women slid through the room almost unseen with the dim lighting.
4. Dance with your feathered boa. OK, so your date wasn't that great of a dancer; let the boa take his place. This accessory accented any plain dress and made the ensemble nice and fancy with that 1920's flapper look.
5. Many gals put down \$10-20 to purchase one of the new

trendy illusions necklace, which can be found in almost any clothing or accessories store in the mall. This necklace creates the illusion of a floating rhinestone on your neck. The rhinestone comes in various shapes, butterflies, squares, circles, rectangles, and hearts. It hangs from fishing line and probably costs about 89 cents to produce, but you have to pay to be beautiful.

6. What happened to the romantic gesture of the man bringing his lovely date a bouquet of flowers for the occasion? Those few gentlemanly men who did bring their dates flowers had a much cuter picture taken by the professional photographer for their album and probably a happier date for the night.

7. Tuxedos were rare to be seen at the event, but those who were decked out in the utmost formal attire were looking pretty snazzy. It was a formal occasion, and the gals were dressed their best, so it only seems appropriate for the guys to be also. The tuxedos looked very nice guys.

8. A popular new 90210 hair style for the gals is the twisty things. Up-dos, down, or any other way, the gals managed to put some kind of twists in their hair going for that Beverly Hills trendy look. Hairstyles are changing very quickly these days. But this one looked very nice.

9. Butterflies are the in insect, in case you hadn't noticed. In your hair, on your dress, hanging from your necklace. Gals seem to love butterflies, thanks to Miss Mariah Carey. The winged insects were fluttering around the room attached to someone all night.

10. Lastly, totally be one of the two people wearing the crowns and stylish red robes as 1999 Homecoming King and Queen. Congratulations Irma Cervantes and Fernando Caudillo. It will completely be a positive accent to your attire, no matter what you are wearing. It just makes you so special that evening.

These are the top 10 fashions that appeared at the third annual Homecoming Ball. If you have a formal event coming up find a big black dress, a feathered boa, an illusions necklace, twist up your hair and stick a butterfly clip in it, then find a date in a tuxedo and a crazy hat and have him bring you some flowers. You are set for a stylish evening, now just hope to be crowned queen.



Neomi Verduzco, Frank Flores and Maurice Pittman rejoice in Frank's recent marriage proposal to Neomi.

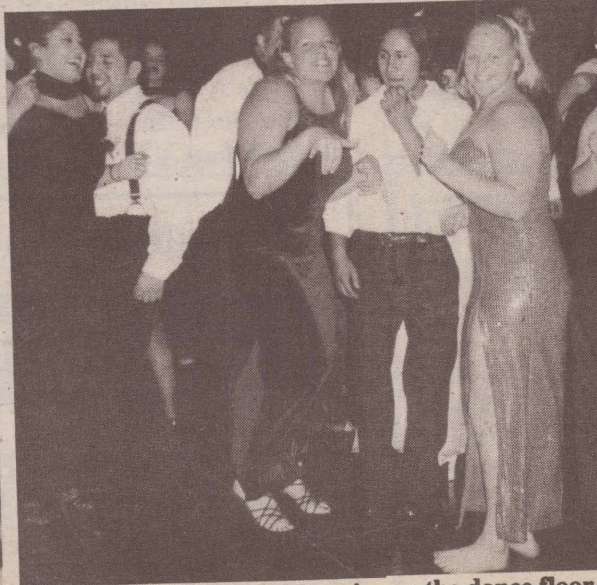
photos by
Ioana Tarta



Amanda Lauria, MC, presents the 1999 Homecoming court during the coronation.



Lyle Gartenlaub shows off his eye-catching hat.



Everyone gets down and boogies on the dance floor.



Guys and gals prove "the rythm is gonna get you".

This is one 'Message' that should be kept in a bottle

By SHIREESE MILLER
Entertainment Editor

We've all heard about it. Put a message in a bottle, throw it in a body of water, and hopefully someone will answer. It could possibly be one of the most romantic forms of finding or searching for love, well this movie ruins that idea.

In "Message In A Bottle" Kevin Costner makes his first movie debut since "The Postman"; unfortunately, he does it in a poor way. The movie tells the story of a *Chicago Tribune* journalist (Robin Wright Penn) who finds a letter in a bottle while jogging along the lake. Deeply touched by the letter's sentimental value, Theresa decides to do an extensive search for the man who wrote the alluring message.

She finally meets up with Garret Blake

(Costner), the mysterious man behind the letter, in St. Claire, North Carolina. But she does this under false pretenses; he thinks she's there to do research on sailing. Nevertheless, the two become close and it is through this relationship that she finds out that the letters were sent to his wife who is now dead.

The climatic point in the movie comes when Blake finds out that she knew about the letters in the bottle all along. It's here when he has to decide whether he can trust her and be with her.

What better way to kick off your Valentines weekend than with a love story? That was my first thought when I decided to see this movie. However, the lyrics "build me up, buttercup, baby, just to let me down," is all I could think of when I came out of the theater.

"Message In A Bottle" begins fanciful and fantastic as most other love stories do. How could this movie where a woman traveling hundreds of miles to meet a man who could be an ax murderer for all she knows, be deemed as romantic? Well, he ends up not being an ax murderer and the two fall in love. Too bad it all ends tragically.

I don't know about you, but I for one am tired of shedding a tear at every other movie I see. Lately Hollywood has produced enough tear-jerker films to cry a river. There are so many in fact, that I could not bring myself to cry at this movie, I've grown immune, having become acclimated to seeing tragedies.

The movie is unrealistic, but it's a great story idea, no doubt. So why go and ruin a good thing? Don't get me wrong, I liked

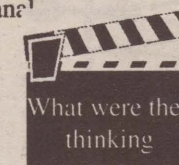
the movie, until the last 15 minutes. So, if you are wondering what is so bad about the ending, let's just put it this way—its to die for.

This is definitely a bottle that is better with the cork left on.

SHIREESE'S SCALE OF MOVIE ENJOYMENT

- Gotta See It
- Pretty Good Movie
- Just Ok
- Wait To See It On Video
- What Were They Thinking
- Rather Get A Root Can!

"Message In A Bottle" scores:



Social workers to hold conference for National Social Work Month

Some of the state's leading social workers will address a half-day conference at California State University, Bakersfield on Wednesday, March 3.

"The Business of Social Work: Helping People Help Themselves," opens at 9 a.m. to inaugurate CSUB's new Department of Social Work, and to celebrate National Social Work Month.

Joseph Chandy, who chairs the Department of Social Work, said the conference also marks the 100th anniversary since social work education began in the United States. "We want to celebrate the social work profession and to kick-off other social work-related activities in Kern County during the month," he said. "We plan on having thought-provoking speakers who will provide important insights into this profession." He said he expected about 150 people to attend.

Speakers include:

- Anita Harbert, president of the California Association of Deans and Directors of Schools of Social Work. Harbert is director of the School of Social Work at San Diego State University.
- Marylyn Flynn, dean of the School of Social Work at the University of Southern California.
- Kathleen Irvine, director of the Kern County Department of Human Services.
- Diane Koditek, director of Kern County Mental Health Services.
- Assemblyman Dean Florez (D-Shafter).

The conference also offers Chandy the opportunity to focus on CSUB's new degree, the master of social work, that will be offered beginning in the fall 2000.

"We're laying the groundwork now for our program to begin next year," he said, adding that he expects 35 to 40 students to enroll. "Our program is in response to the

long-standing demand from social agencies for a graduate social work program here."

Since his arrival Chandy has been visiting various social agencies in Kern County to assess demand and determine agencies' willingness to support the program.

"The demand for social workers here is great," he said. "I've been visiting a number of social organizations in this community, and am working to set up a professional advisory committee for the program. It's important that we have the support of the agencies because internships are critical to the program. You need 1,000 hours of internships before you can receive your degree."

"I've been meeting with those people, and they're very excited about our program, and very supportive. All of them have pledged to provide internships for students. And most qualified social workers and licensed clinical social workers have expressed a desire to supervise the students and work with them."

Indicative of the support is the list of sponsors for the event: Kern County Human Services Department, Kern County Mental Health Services, National Association of Social Workers California chapter, Clinica Sierra Vista, private practitioners, and the CSUB School of Arts and Sciences.

Cost for the conference is \$10, which includes lunch. For registration information, please contact Patricia Cadena in the CSUB Department of Social Work at 664-3434, or e-mail her at pcadena@csubak.edu.

For more information about the conference, or about CSUB's new social work program, please call Chandy at 664-2308.

Road Dawgs pump up the volume

By LA TASCHIA GRAY
Staff Writer

If you don't mind harsh language, but like to groove to funky beats, then Road Dawgs "Don't Be Sapprize" will fill the need to bob your head and turn the volume up.

Mack One O Productions put out this new 14-track demo, featuring MACK 10, ICE CUBE and MC EIHT, set to be released March 23.

I couldn't get into the beat the first time I heard it because I couldn't get past the language, but, being the unbiased listener, I played the taped again. The second time, I didn't hear the words, I just felt the thump. And if you're anything like me when a cut comes on that makes your body convulse, you have to turn it up so everyone around you can feel it too.

My 4-year-old son happened to be in the car when the first song "Bouncin," featuring Mack 10 came on; he had the same head-bouncin', finga-snapn', knee-shakin', boodie-poppn' reaction. In other words, he liked it. Thank God there was hardly any cussing in that song because I had to play it over-and-over again. Its mellow intro didn't prepare me for the rhythm that was about to follow. The lyrics flowed, leaving me free and undisturbed of breaks in the rhythm scheme to close my eyes and feel the power and belief that backed the words.

The best way to appreciate Road Dawgs is to allow them to be themselves. You can either take their message or leave it. Regardless, the message will get out there. I've realized over the years that rap music relates to the artists' reality or someone they know. So, when you hear the word "Bitch", know that there is more than one possible definition.

If you are under 18 you will have to get parental permission because this tape is definitely lyrically explicit.

Join Phi Sigma Sigma Sorority Saturday from 12noon-8:00p.m. while they rock in chairs at the Marketplace to raise funds for the National Kidney Foundation.

CHANCELLOR, continued from page 3

ward, or sipping chamomile until 5 a.m. with a kitchen full of friends.

Last Friday, Fiammetta and I went to an Ice Bar. It was a bar fashioned out of, you guessed it, ice. We sat in ice chairs, stood at ice tables and ordered drinks in ice glasses. The bar was outside, which made it even more, well, cool. We took pictures, and another drink.

Sunday marked the final day of the Rally Championship. Rally is where cars race through the forest on snowy roads at average speeds of really really fast and was held in Karlstad this year. And as for safety, I'm not sure it would be legal in the U.S. because people could move freely about

the track until they heard a whistle blow, at which point the car would go speeding by.

Last weekend I didn't find myself exclaiming "Oh my gosh, do you guys realize we're in Sweden???"

I think I've learned to live as a Swede and quit questioning my location. I'm in one of the most beautiful countries in the world. At least as far as I'm concerned. I've finally begun to appreciate it. Perhaps I'll even go naked at the Midsummer Festival in June. Until next time, I remain, wonderstruck, like a raccoon at sunrise.

This column is dedicated to Tommy Makinen, for winning the Rally Championship.

See next week's issue of the Runner for a review of Ionesco's play "Rhinoceros", the absurdist masterpiece about hysteria.

**WEDNESDAY
Feb. 17**

"Unlimited Hype Dance"
Student Union-MPR, 9:30am-10:30am.
Sponsored by Rec. Sports, 664-3449.

Coffee w/professor and Alumni Board
Albertson Room 1:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Programming Meeting
SU:132 2 p.m. - 3 p.m.

A.A.S.U. Meeting
SU:137 5 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Phi Sigma Sigma Meeting
SU:137 8 p.m. - 10 p.m.

Funk Squad Hot Link Sale
DDH: West Entry 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

**THURSDAY
Feb. 18**

"Bake Sale"
DDH, 9 a.m. -- 11:30 p.m.
Sponsored by Criminal Justice Club.

"Meeting"
Student Union, #137, 2 p.m.-3:30 p.m.
Sponsored by M.E.Ch.A.

Feb. 17-21

"Meeting"
Student Union #132, 1:30 p.m - 2:30 p.m.
Sponsored by CANDUE.

KEMP Math Meeting
SCI: 177 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Lecture - Danish Resistance During WWII
Albertson Room 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.
History Department

Operations Meetings
SU:154 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

History Through Dance
SU: Multipurpose Room 4 p.m. - 6 p.m.

HERMES Meeting
SU:132 8 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Cheerleading Recruitment
DDH: Hallway 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

FRIDAY, Feb. 19

KEMP English Meeting
AW: 101 3:30 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Law & Ethics Extended
MUS:114 6 p.m. - 9 p.m. University Course

Phonics and Rica Review
EDUC: 129 4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

SAACS Tutoring
DDH: E101 10 a.m.- 11 p.m.

A.S.I. Board Meeting
SU:137 3:30 p.m. - 5 p.m.

**SATURDAY
Feb. 20**

"Volunteer Income Tax Assistance"
DDH, Faculty Office.
Sponsored by U.A.A.

"Meeting"
S.U.-Blue Room, 9:30 a.m.-4 pm.
Sponsored by M.E.Ch.A.

"Behavior Science 4th Annual Research
Conference"
Student Union-MPR, 8 a.m. -2 p.m.
Sponsored by Psi Chi.

**SUNDAY
Feb. 21**

"Meeting"
DDH-H101, H103, H105; 4pm-8pm.
Sponsored by Alpha Kappa Psi .

"Closed Meeting"
DDH-GJ102, 4pm-8pm.
Sponsored by Alpha Kappa Psi .

"Closed Meeting"
Nursing 105; 5pm-9pm.
Sponsored by Alpha Kappa Psi .

Science Bowl to draw young experimenters vying for titles

One hundred-sixty future scientists will descend on California State University, Bakersfield this Saturday for the seventh annual Kern County Regional Science Bowl, hosted by CSUB.

Tom Meyer, CSUB professor of physics and computer science, who is coordinating the event, said volunteers have been lined up and he's looking forward to the event. The Department of Energy sponsored competition takes place in about 50 regions across the country, with the winning teams attending the National Science Bowl in Washington, D.C. on April 29.

Members of the 32 five-person teams competing in the Kern County Regional Science Bowl will register from 7 to 7:45 a.m. Saturday morning in Dorothy Donahoe Hall on the CSUB campus, followed by a welcome and general information session from 7:45 to 8:15 a.m.

The round-robin competition is scheduled from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in Dorothy Donahoe Hall. Science exhibits will also be on display in the Dorothy Donahoe Hall Galleria during that time.

Lunch will be served from 12:30 to 1:20 p.m. in the Runner Cafe, the cafeteria at

CSUB. Then the double elimination tournament will take place from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. in Dorothy Donahoe Hall followed by the last two rounds from 4 to 5 p.m.

The last two rounds, including the final, will be televised this year by CSUB's ITV on Educational Television (Channel 15 on Time-Warner, Channel 20 on Cox, and Channel 50 on Popvision) from Studio B in the Walter Stiern Library on the CSUB campus. Overflow crowds will be able to watch the event from neighboring Studio C, where the awards ceremony will be held as well.

This year's moderator for the final rounds will be local executive Joel Heinrichs, president of Lightspeed Net, Inc., the local internet service provider.

Meyer said Occidental Oil and Gas Corp. is sponsoring the Science Bowl again this year. Other donations have been made by Aera Energy and the American Petroleum Institute.

Parking is free on campus Saturday for those wishing to watch the competition.

For more information, call Meyer at 664-2014, or 664-3082.

Danish resistance fighter set to speak

Niels Agov Skov, a Professor Emeritus at Evergreen State University in Washington and the author of "Letter To My Decendants", will be speaking tomorrow afternoon, beginning at 2 p.m., in the Doré Theater's Albertson Room. Skov fought in the Danish Resistance during World War II. He was arrested

by the Gestapo in May of 1944 and sent to a concentration camp in Germany. He later escaped and joined the American forces.

Skov's visit to CSUB is sponsored by the History Department. Refreshments will be served.

**When was the last
time you saw
a doctor?**



**Make an
appointment
TODAY with
your student
Health Center!!**

**Call 664-2394 for an appointment
today!**

Email us at RUNNER@CSUBAK.EDU