


THE RUNNER

California State University, Bakersfield

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THE BIG STORY

Students adjust to class relocation



Intensive English Language Center staff member Ashley Martinez teaches her students in the Education building on Jan. 15

By Julie M. Perez and
Adriana Ruvalcaba
The Runner Staff

As CSU Bakersfield prepares to remove two of the three east modular buildings, students that have classes in those buildings have will be relocated to other classrooms.

Once the modular buildings are vacated, they will be removed from campus.

The Intensive English Language Center’s students, who are in Modular 2 will now be taking classes on CSUB main campus instead of the modular east buildings beginning this winter quarter.

“The changes for the students have been positive,” said IELC Director Gilbert Cho. “The IELC department and students will have further access to newer technologies and advanced classrooms. But more importantly, we feel more connected to the campus now. In the modular we felt like we weren’t even on campus.”

CSUB will be removing the modular buildings, according to the memorandum released Dec. 14 from CSUB President Horace Mitchell.

The modular buildings are estimated to officially be off campus by the end of February.

The departments and offices located in the modular buildings will be relocating to the

old student housing complex. However, the IELC students are unable to be taught in those rooms. Their classes will now be held in rooms located in Dorothy Donahoe Hall, the Education Building and in other places around campus.

The IELC is a program that provides instruction to non-native English speakers. Students currently enrolled come from Vietnam, France, Brazil, Venezuela, Saudi Arabia, and China. Many of these students will continue their academic plan by enrolling into undergraduate programs at CSUB.

“Being in the regular classrooms gives them an idea of what they are going to do in the future,” said Yuri Sakamaki, who is a faculty member that has been with the IELC for seven years.

Sakamaki said she also hasn’t heard any complaints from students yet. She said the modular was old, had pest problems and felt far away from the other students.

“It’s good taking classes here,” said Bashayer Alharbi, 22, from Saudi Arabia. “Now we meet students on campus.”

“We looked like we were excluded from the university, and now you feel more included,” Mohammed Alkhumaryi, 26, from Saudi Arabia.

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CRIME

Car stolen at CSUB, found in Las Vegas

By Javier Valdes
Assistant News Editor

The vehicle of CSU Bakersfield criminal justice major Erick Meza, 25, was recently stolen while in class at the CSUB campus.

When Meza searched for his mid 90s Honda Accord in Lot J after class on Jan. 7, it was nowhere to be found.

After searching various parking lots without any luck, Meza notified the University Police Department and filed a report.

“The moment I told them it was a Honda Accord, they knew it was stolen,” said Meza.

The following morning Meza was contacted by the UPD where they notified him that the vehicle had been found in Las Vegas, NV.

Meza had to pick up his vehicle in Las Vegas.

He had to pay upward of \$500

to retrieve his vehicle from the impound and for additional locksmith charges.

With all the influx of new students, the UPD gives tips and measures that students can follow to prevent vehicle thefts on campus.

Even after the inconvenience of having his vehicle stolen, Meza acknowledged the efforts of CSUB’s UPD.

“They helped as much as they could,” said Meza. “They were very professional, methodical, and respectful.”

Although rare, it’s not unheard of that vehicle thefts happen at CSUB.

Sergeant Mari Gonzalez with the UPD mentioned how vehicles that fall under the mid to late 90s Honda or Acura models are some of the most commonly stolen cars, at least in California.

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CAMPUS

Hoverboards banned inside buildings

By Haleigh Earls
Reporter

Balance boards, otherwise known as “hoverboards,” are a relatively new, extremely popular alternative to walking, as well as just an exciting device to own. They come in many different colors, and some are equipped with a Bluetooth feature that allows music from your phone to be played through the board’s speakers. Hoverboards are currently permitted at CSU Bakersfield, but have been banned from many university campuses amid safety concerns.

Universities in several states, including Conn., Ga., Ind., and N.J., have completely banned hoverboards due to concerns about their usage.

Though CSUB has not banned hoverboards on campus yet, certain buildings such as the Student Union, Runner Café and the Walter Stiern Library have banned hoverboards inside.

ASI President Mike Kwon

said that students shouldn’t be utilizing or ride hoverboards inside buildings.

“The library for one is not a good place,” Kwon said. “In the café, it is just dangerous, but as far as outside areas, I think it should be OK.”

CSUB student Andrea Peña does not think that hoverboards should be ridden on campus.

“Students should be getting exercise by walking around campus,” said Peña.

While hoverboards have not been banned from campus, there are signs on the doors of certain buildings that state that they are not permitted inside. One such sign can be seen on the doors of the Student Union Building.

Christian Macias, another student at CSUB, agrees with Peña and thinks that these balance devices should be completely banned from campus because of the videos that have surfaced on the Internet within the past few months.

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A CSU Bakersfield student rides on a hoverboard around campus.

The Runner Archives

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President discusses 2016 in Q&A

Mitchell talks quarter-to-semester conversion, building projects

By Esteban Ramirez
Editor-in-Chief

As CSU Bakersfield prepares itself for the quarter to semester change and deals with a high influx of students, CSUB President Horace Mitchell addressed and discussed some of the changes CSUB will see this upcoming year in this sit-down interview.

Esteban Ramirez: One of the big things this year was the quarter to semester change. How do you think the preparation for that has gone?

Horace Mitchell: I think the preparation for the quarter to semester conversion has gone extremely well.

On one hand, our faculty have converted courses that are required to be converted. In addition to that, in 70 percent of our faculty programs, our faculty has decided to do what are called curriculum transformations. Rather than convert courses that have been in our catalog for the last two decades, they took this as a once-in-a-career opportunity to re-conceptualize the nature of their academic programs in relation to what students will need in the future. That's just a phenomenal thing for our faculty to do, and our students will be better for it.

In addition to that, our academic senate has totally reformed our general education requirements from a set of — I'll call them smorgasbord courses — to a set of integrated courses around themes that are in line with a set of university-wide student learning outcomes that we developed several years ago. We'll have a total new curriculum when we start in the first semester in the fall of 2016.

A very significant part of this was to have each student work with their adviser on individual academic plans.

This has been important to us and to students because we want to make sure no student gets into a situation where their graduation is delayed by the change in the academic calendar. We are guaranteeing

students that if they follow a plan that they have worked out with their advisers then they will graduate on time. Now, if students change that plan and decide to do something different, then it depends on what they want to do.

But the process has gone very well and there have been no glitches to speak of.

ER: Why was the quarter to semester conversion so important?

HM: The change from quarters to semesters has been important because we believe — and we being the administration and much of the faculty — that a semester academic term provides for more learning opportunities for students than quarters. One of the big issues is that all of the students that come to CSUB are coming from high schools or community colleges that are on semester. What they don't realize sometimes is that a quarter is only 10 weeks long. If you don't get off to a good start, you have problems. There's not the time to really get caught up in the way that you want. Where as in the case of semesters, they are 16 weeks long.

ER: I've noticed from last year to this year the high increase in enrollment. What do you think that does for the whole university itself?

HM: You're right. We've had very significant increases in enrollment and the reason for that is that we want to provide as many opportunities for students as we can.

There are two aspects to that: one, is providing access and the other is making sure that students have the courses they need to make progress. We made a commitment to make sure there are sufficient courses and sections for students to make progress toward their degree. Our enrollment is larger than our state-funded enrollment and it has been consistently for the last several years. The state does not provide any additional funding for the number of students we have that are over our budgeted enrollment ceiling. We do get money from the fees students pay, but the

overall cost of education is covered by the fees students pay and the amount that the state puts in per student. That state amount per student isn't there when we are over the ceiling, so we have to be very deliberate about making available the resources to hire the part-time faculty that might be necessary in certain areas to have the range of courses that students need.

The other thing we have done is that we have gone to year-long schedules of courses, so that students will know for the whole year what courses will be available. There is some interest in having a two-year calendar. We are not quite there yet, but the one-year calendar is something that is very important.

ER: When you have such an increase in enrollment and the classroom sizes are just not that big because the previous years the enrollment wasn't as high, how do you try to accommodate for more students now?

HM: One of the things that we have in process right now is that we have approval from the CSU Board of Trustees to build what, at the moment, is referred as the Humanities Office Building and that will be a replacement for Faculty Towers. We have authority to do that and we have made that possible in part by dedicating about \$1.5 million of campus reserves to help pay for that building and the chancellor's office is paying for the rest of it. Our original proposal for that building also included two large classrooms that would accommodate about 140 students each.

We just don't have enough classrooms that are larger, so in some cases, classrooms are busting at the seams. In other cases, we need to have three or four sections of a course in the size classrooms that we have instead of a single course with 140 students. The chancellor's office determined that we have enough classrooms for the size of our enrollment, and the case we made to them is, "yes that's true, but these are small classrooms and we



The Runner Archives
CSU Bakersfield President Dr. Horace Mitchell poses for a picture back in 2014.

have the additional cost of hiring more instructors to teach more sections. If we had these larger classrooms, we wouldn't have this problem." They have now agreed with that and we have committed an additional \$800,000 of campus reserves to make it possible for the chancellor's office to cover the rest of it. Those two classrooms will become part of the Humanities Office Building, and essentially the timing of those will be a little bit later than the construction of the building.

ER: When do you think that will be done?

HM: Well, the Humanities Office Building we are looking to [fall 2017]. The plan would be that we remove all the faculty out of Faculty Towers during that time before the new semester starts then we would tear down that building. The classrooms would follow as soon there after it's feasible.

ER: What are the plans for the old dorms and the Faculty Towers?

HM: In the case of the Faculty Towers, they will be torn down because they are deficient in terms of seismic requirements and they are also deficient in

terms of ADA requirements. It's simply not cost-effective to try and improve them.

With respect to the old residence halls, I just issued [last month] the plan for how that space will be used. It does look at the eventual removal of the [modulars] and essentially to move some of those units into the old residence halls, and everything we do in the old residence halls that's not residential has to be on the first floor.

The reason for that is that if we use higher floor then that will trigger other kinds of code requirements either ADA or building codes like that. So to minimize cost we are just using the first floor. Although, we will use some of the space for possible student housing for upper-division students and guests of the university.

ER: What are your priorities for 2016?

HM: First, to have a successful implementation of the quarter to semester conversion.

Then, building the Faculty Towers replacement building, which is the Humanities Office Building. That is a major priority for us. We are going to continue to focus on student access and student success, so I

would project that we will continue to have enrollments that are higher than our enrollment ceiling. Probably if not next year but by the following year, we'll have a student enrollment in excess of 10,000 students for the first time.

ER: When do you see yourself retiring? Will it be soon or do you think it will be in the future?

HM: It's certainly going to be in the future. I have no retirement plans at this point and I have what my wife refers to as a bucket list of things I want to get done. But this is my 12th year and I think the campus is moving along well. I think the faculty and staff are working very hard in all aspects of the university in particularly in supporting student success. I say to our faculty and staff all the time how much I appreciate what they do to serve our students and our communities. I say that it is only when all of us do the things that we are supposed to be doing that we have the successes that we intend to have as a university.

Editor's note: this story has been condensed to fit in the issue. To read the full story, go to therunneronline.com.

Concealed weapons ban sparks campus discussion

By Haleigh Earls
Reporter

Governor Jerry Brown signed legislation that prohibits the carrying of concealed guns on school and university campuses in California. This goes for guns only; other types of weaponry are still permitted on school campuses.

Just a week after the mass shooting at Umpqua Community College in Roseburg, Ore. last October, Gov. Brown signed legislation that bans the carrying of concealed guns on

campus, unless individuals are active duty or retired law enforcement or have been granted permission by school officials.

CSU Bakersfield Campus Police Chief Martin Williamson is aware of this new ban, which prohibits an act that had previously been legal.

"In the past, even though we did not promote carrying weapons even if you had a CCW on campus, it was not unlawful," Williamson said. A CCW is a concealed weapons permit.

Students and faculty should be aware of this new law, because

even if an individual has a valid concealed weapons permit, carrying a concealed gun on campus is now illegal.

"There shouldn't be any impact on campus," Williamson said. "I've heard people talk about that it's their right, and that they feel more secure if they're walking out to a parking lot at night that they should have the right to carry their weapon if they obtain a permit," he said.

With the services that campus police offers students and faculty, there is no need to worry if

an emergency situation were to arise.

"On this campus, we have so many services in place. Our officers are on duty 24/7. Our response time to priority calls is about 90 seconds to two minutes," Williamson said. "We provide escort services 24 hours a day, and we have the call boxes throughout the campus," he said.

Senior Brett Kettler does not think that there is any beneficial reason for someone on campus to carry a concealed weapon without a CCW who has not

been granted permission by school officials to do so.

"If a situation were to break out on campus, I would feel much safer knowing people who have been properly trained to handle a firearm and deal with such situations were defusing the situation, instead of someone with a gun attempting to be a hero" Kettler said.

Christina Henley, another CSUB student, is also comfortable with the new legislation.

"I think making it unlawful to carry concealed weapons on campus is a good thing," said

Henley. "I feel very safe on campus with the services that are already provided to us by campus police."

Chief Williamson is very comfortable with the services that are already in place on campus in the wake of this new legislation.

"We continue to look at ways to improve the campus, by either adding more staffing or even if we put more community service officers out there for eyes and ears," Williamson said. "There's a lot of things that we do."

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EL NIÑO

Weather creates wet conditions at CSUB

By David Kimble
Reporter

If adjusting to a new schedule for this quarter was not a hassle enough, the unpredictable weather seems to be assisting in the daunting task of returning to classes.

Students preparing for school may think the day is overcast, leaving umbrellas and rain boots at home, only to end class with a shower of rain.

Even when a student is prepared, it may not rain and wearing too many layers may now seem like a bad idea as the overcast sky may or may not last all.

“I have to wear sweats or a sweater instead of a t-shirt and some basketball shorts for the gym... I have to put on different clothes than I would normally wear depending on the rain,” said student Daniel Ochoa.

Not all students, however, find the rain a nuisance.

“I don’t mind the rain. I actually kind of like the rain,” said student Giovanna Silva.

Aside from personal preference, transportation safety looks to be the most significant issue for most students as the slippery roads, puddles of water, piles of mud and freezing cold stops students in their place.

If finding parking was not hard enough already, parking lots have become packed as students who usually commute to campus by bicycle or skateboard have decided to deal with



Karina Diaz/The Runner

Rain water gathered at many lowpoints on campus creating puddles in different areas around CSU Bakersfield.

the almost bumper to bumper search for a parking space.

The bike and board racks in front of the CSUB student recreation center have been quite vacant as of recent as well, further suggesting students are finding drier modes of transportation.

In addition, students waiting for the bus struggle to stay dry due to the lack of bus bench covers and seats, having to stand until the bus comes.

For those students living on campus, lines and wait times have increased in the Runner Cafe as more students are trying to stay out of the rain.

This leaves them with very few options to find a seat, and those that do decide to order

out have to make it to their next location in a rush with the rain ripping through their paper bags.

Smaller issues students have had with the rainy weather have just been a bad hair day or the heater being too hot in class, but many are willing to deal with the uncomfortable humidity in light of the bigger picture.

“We need more rain..maybe even three more months because the drought is no joke,” said criminal justice student Antonio Young.

The students that do not seem to be affected negatively by the rain, somewhat enjoy the break from the sun and even think that it is good that California is getting water.

CRIME

UPD discusses theft issues

[THEFT, Page 1]

Sergeant Gonzalez considers CSUB to be one of the safest areas in Bakersfield, saying that there are at least two officers patrolling the campus 24/7 and that because of the low call rates on campus they can focus more time on added security.

Since 2013 there have been four vehicles thefts at the CSUB campus, one being Meza’s.

Gonzalez mentioned that the element of surprise, as well as the various ways that the department patrols gives them an advantage.

“Sometimes we’re on foot, sometimes we’re on the bicycle, sometimes we’re on the lit-

tle electric cars...this gives us a bit more sneakiness and...more accessibility,” said Gonzalez.

“I think what happens a lot... because we are such a safe campus and we are pretty vigilant and diligent about patrolling, is that students get a little complacent so they’re not afraid to leave a backpack, a purse, or a wallet visible,” said Gonzalez.

Even with the limited video surveillance the UPD has been able to make great use of the video surveillance they do monitor.

“A lot of crimes, not just car thefts, but thefts and fraud cases...we’ve been able to help because of camera footage,” said Gonzalez. “It would be

fantastic (to have a full covered campus) ...the manpower to monitor those cameras would be insane, but if we could have a camera in a parking lot... and later be able to go back and review footage...it would help us definitely narrow down suspects.”

As for now, the UPD continues to widely patrol the CSUB campus. Gonzales stressed that there is no lot that is safer than the other, as even students and facility members are great at notifying the UPD whenever they see something suspicious on campus. Gonzalez advised that if any student sees any type of suspicious activity on campus to call UPD’s emergency number at 661-654-2111.

CAMPUS

Modular moves closing in

[MODULARS, Page 1]

“The reason why you come to an institution was to be engaged with other students.”

The issue wasn’t that CSUB students were unfriendly; they didn’t know about IELC students.

“They don’t know what I’m studying. I tell them ‘IELC’ and they say ‘what’s that?,’” said Zenny Nguyen, 22, from Vietnam.

She would explain the program, what she was learning, and where it was located.

The students said the change is creating experiences they wouldn’t get if they were to continue in the modular buildings. Nguyen said the campus reminds her of the ones she’s

seen in American films.

“I’m studying university, not just English,” said Nguyen.

The diversity can also enhance the experiences for other students on campus.

“It’s a good thing for CSUB students to get to know them,” said Sakamaki.

Associative Vice President of Facilities Pat Jacobs said that there will be another building for student services or other administrative offices but that’s probably not going to happen for several years.

To get the buildings off campus will cost around \$50,000 to \$70,000, but they’re spending over \$40,000 on the lease.

The need was to try get rid of the old, outdated buildings that

were costing forty thousand dollars a year and save the campus money.

The modular buildings were first established 21 years ago and haven’t been renovated for a long time.

“When the folks move out and the company that owns those buildings come in to removed them, students will need to stay away from that area,” Jacobs said. “We will barricade the area off so the people wouldn’t be able to go into those areas.”

He added that students will not be able to park there while it’s being relocated because there will be heavy trucks and equipment to remove the buildings.

“At the most, it will take a week,” Jacobs said.

CAMPUS

Hectic ‘hoverboards’ rules

[HOVERBOARDS, Page 1]

In these videos, hoverboards can be seen catching on fire and rolling out from under the rider while in use. There is also an array of hoverboard fail videos, in which people are falling off, sometimes resulting in serious injury.

Kennedy Poe, senior, is hesitant about hoverboards because she has witnessed an injury.

“When my sister was first trying her hoverboard out, she stepped forward to get off of it and the board rolled out from underneath her,” Poe said. “She fell head-first into her dresser and had to go to the emergency room.”

Although there are certain dangers surrounding hoverboards, those who have mastered the technique of riding them can be seen riding them

virtually everywhere.

“I have seen people riding them in the grocery store while pushing a cart and at the mall while shopping,” said student Chandler Brown. “There are so many videos all over Instagram of people dancing while riding their hoverboards, too, once they have the hang of it.”

As of now, those who own hoverboards are able to freely ride them around campus.

What’s Going on Around Campus

<p>WED., JAN. 20</p> <p>WINNING RESUMES - CECE WORKSHOP 5-6 PM @ DDH 107K</p> <p>WALTER PRESENTS: BRUCE FRIEDMAN, PUBLIC HEALTH AUTHOR 7 PM @ DEZEMBER READING ROOM, LIBRARY</p>	<p>THURS., JAN. 21</p> <p>NAIL THE INTERVIEW - CECE WORKSHOP 5-6 PM @ DDH 105H</p> <p>MEN’S BASKETBALL VS UTRGV 6 PM @ ICARDO CENTER</p>	<p>SAT., JAN. 23</p> <p>MEN’S BASKETBALL VS NM STATE 7 PM @ ICARDO CENTER</p>
<p>TUES., JAN. 26</p> <p>“THE TRAFFICKED LIFE” DOCUMENTARY ABOUT HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN KERN COUNTY 6:30-8:30 PM @ STUDENT UNION MPR REFRESHMENT AND PANEL DISCUSSION INCLUDED</p>	<p>WED., JAN. 27</p> <p>EXPERIENCE MATTERS VOLUNTEER PREP - CECE WORKSHOP 5-6 PM @ DDH 107K</p>	<p>THURS., JAN. 28</p> <p>BROWN BAG: STALKING AWARENESS NOON @ STOCKDALE ROOM FREE LUNCH TO FIRST 40 STUDENTS</p> <p>“HUNTING GROUND” DOCUMENTARY ABOUT SEXUAL ASSAULT 5:30-8 PM @ STUDENT UNION MPR</p>
<p>FRI., JAN. 29</p> <p>CSUB OPERA THEATRE 7:30 PM @ DORÉ THEATRE ADMISSION: \$10 GENERAL, \$5 STUDENTS/SENIORS, FREE FOR CSUB STUDENTS WITH ID</p>	<p>SAT., JAN. 30</p> <p>MINI MAKER FAIRE 10 AM - 4 PM @ STUDENT UNION & RUNNER PARK</p>	<p>MON., FEB. 1</p> <p>BLACK HISTORY MONTH KICK-OFF 10 AM - 1 PM @ STUDENT UNION PATIO</p>

Calendar sponsored by CSUB Office of Student Affairs, School of Arts & Humanities, Walter Stiern Library, and the School of Business and Public Administration. To be included, contact aflores62@csub.edu.

BROWN BAG DISCUSSION

Stalking: Know It. Name It. Stop It. Join Kern County District Attorney Lisa Green for a discussion about stalking: how to define it, how to prevent it, and what actions we can take to stop it.

First 40 students receive a FREE brown bag lunch!

Thursday, January 28th 12pm | Stockdale Room

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CAMPUS

New director at CSUB

By Alex Norman-Washington
Reporter

Already less than a month on the job, Michelle Lyday has set high expectations for herself as the new Director of Public Affairs and Communications at CSUB.

Lyday has over 20 years of experience in the field of marketing and advertising, 11 of which she spent running her own advertising agency that she chose to close in 2010.

After that, she moved onto to Chevron, holding the title of Change Manager assisting the department of Public Affairs and government with a variety of communication tasks such as producing corporate videos and marketing pieces.

“I did enjoy my time at Chevron. It was brand new and there was a lot to learn,” said Lyday. “But this is back to what I love doing. It’s back to press releases. We are going to be working on a television campaign. I am doing ads and working on the magazine.”

The office of Public Affairs and Communications, a division of University Advancement manages projects ranging from the organization of major media and public relations activities to the creation of marketing and informational publications.

This includes “Your CSUB” magazine, the alumni magazine, and major institutional publications.

“Working with Michelle has been great,” said Shelby Parker, a marketing specialist in the PAC office. “She has taught me a lot about working with the



Chris Mateo/The Runner

Michelle Lyday plans to emphasize CSUB social media platforms as the new director of public affairs and communications. She also hopes to bring in support from the community.

media on campus.”

Moving forward, the PAC office plans to place a bigger emphasis on social media with more relevant and frequent posts to the school’s Facebook, Instagram and Twitter accounts.

Lyday also placed an emphasis on the collaboration between the multitude of Facebook pages associated with CSUB.

Currently there are over 20 pages associated with CSUB ranging from athletics, clubs and student organizations as well as some of the schools on campus such as nursing or engineering.

“I think that we can put our arm around them, and make sure that we are sharing the same kinds of posts, that we are linking to each other pages, that we are re-tweeting when something happens that the whole school needs to know about and not just one particular department,” said Lyday.

Another area of improvement Lyday feels she can bring to the campus in the next couple years is more support from the surrounding community, which will in turn help CSUB become a bigger marketing force.

“I think Lengthwise Brewing Company across the street does a good job of having our post-

ers up,” said Lyday. “But why aren’t we in 10 restaurants?”

Students have noticed this divide among the campus and its surrounding area, and would welcome the change.

“It seems like CSUB doesn’t play a major role in the community like other campuses that I’ve seen,” said Michael Nieto a senior criminal justice major. “You don’t really get any specials or deals around the community like you would see at UC Santa Barbara or Arizona State.”

For more information on Michelle Lyday, you can contact her at (661) 654-2138 or mlyday1@csub.edu.

VALENTINE’S DAY

Season of love and heartbreak

By Melissa Maddux
Reporter

CSU Bakersfield students share their bad Valentine’s Day experiences to show that each of us are not alone in the upcoming season of love.

“In our society [Valentine’s Day] is considered the most romantic day of the year, a day to celebrate love and lovers,” according to Shirley Ogletree of *How Do I Love Thee? Let Me Count The Valentines*.

According to the Journal of Consumer Behaviour, Valentine’s Day “is traditionally a gift-giving occasion which over the years has become a worldwide phenomenon.”

Valentine’s Day has many different meanings to a variety of people based on their experience in relationships.

Students of CSUB shared their breakup experience to show us that we all have similar breakups or bad experiences from Valentine’s Day that we may not openly share with others.

Communications major Scot Swan, 20, said that Valentine’s Day to him is “when you are with somebody you can express appreciation for the relationship.”

Swan is currently not in a relationship, but he shared that three years ago he was both dumped and left for his best friend on Valentine’s Day.

Men are not the only ones to feel the wrath of love on Valentine’s Day, as women have also experienced their share of heartbreak during the red-and-

pink season.

Mariah Key, 23, also spoke about an experience she had when she was in high school. Key’s boyfriend dumped her through an “I Hate You” card, which was accompanied with various balloons, chocolates and roses on Valentine’s Day. Valentine’s Day is a “consumerism holiday,” and is “more like an obligation,” said Key.

At the moment she is currently in a relationship, despite her bad Valentine’s Day many years ago.

Even though there are enough holiday horror stories to go around, not all of them are destined to stay that way.

Computer Science major Victoria Losey, 22, said that her and her current boyfriend broke up on Valentine’s Day and then were able to get back together on the following Valentine’s.

The reason for Losey’s breakup is that the couple lost touch in their relationship due to long distance. He was in LA and she was ready to go abroad.

Not all choose to celebrate with the traditional romantic dinner and expected gift exchange.

Losey’s interpretation of Valentine’s Day is “an excuse to get really drunk.”

Whatever the interpretation of Valentine’s Day may be, students are not alone when it comes to breakups, bad experiences, or the feeling of lost love. Each of us may be scared, shy, or want to forget those experiences so that we are able to move on with our current or future relationships.

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STUDENT LIFE

SRC helps students stay active in winter

By Roseanne Ayala
Copy Editor

Winter quarter is now in full swing, accompanied by cloudy skies and constant rain. In order to avoid overloading on stress, it is important for students to remember to maintain balance in their schedule, and one easy way to do this is by staying active. However, this can be difficult to do during the winter season.

The Student Recreation Center (SRC) can be a great resource for those students wishing to avoid the winter lag.

“It’s open to all students, it’s part of the Student Union fees,” said Juan Rodriguez, student manager on duty. Not only is it free for students, the on-campus location makes it convenient for any student to just drop in in-between classes, or at the end of their day. The SRC even makes accommodations for students that want to bring guests.

“You can buy day passes as well, so if you had friends that wanted to come here, you can sponsor two people per day, and they can come in here and work out with you for five bucks each” said Rodriguez. You can also sponsor people to join the SRC for the month for a separate fee.

Many students are not presently aware of some of the amenities that are offered to them through the Student Recreational Services. Not only is it a gym with the basic equipment, but it also offers, for example, a basketball court.

“I like how they have the track

inside, that is my favorite thing to use when I come here,” said Ana Ruiz, a CSUB student. The SRC also offers fun and active classes every week that students are free to try out once, or as many times as they’d like.

“I love getting people excited about fitness, finding something that they enjoy doing” said Melissa Lam, instructor of Body Combat. “I would say this class is for every level, anybody that just wants a different type of workout would really enjoy this. It’s not your normal fitness class,” said Lam. The SRC also offers interval training, cycling, kickboxing, H.I.I.T., yoga, Zumba, Hip Hop, ballet, and many more classes. There is even a rock wall open for students to use throughout the week at varying hours.

If you are truly adventurous, and you are looking for activities to do on your weekends with fellow friends and students, the SRC organizes several different “Outdoor Adventures” for every quarter, that usually involve hiking and camping at different Kern County locations, among other fun things. There is a fee to pay per person for these incursions that is used to cover things such as transportation and sometimes, depending on the duration and circumstance of the trip, even meals.

“We just hired on board, this previous quarter in the fall, a director for outdoor and rock wall adventures,” said Rodriguez. He expects the Outdoor Adventures program to be getting bigger.

CSUB program provides outdoor fun times

By Javier Valdes
Assistant News Editor

CSU Bakersfield’s Outdoor Adventures program continues to build and expand while offering CSUB students the opportunity to develop their leadership skills as they receive an adventurous outdoor experience.

The program is designed to enhance the college experience for CSUB students by providing adventurous outdoor activities where students can develop new skills while visiting different parts of California.

Marshall McArthur, outdoor adventures and experiential education coordinator, was hired August 2015 to work under the Student Recreation Center, since then McArthur has been focusing on the growth of the Outdoor Adventures program.

Currently, the program takes trips to areas within California, but McArthur is hopeful that as the program expands so will the trips boundaries.

One of the programs slated to launch this spring is the Instructor Development program.

“We want to expand, currently we are trying to build up the trip leader program for students who are interested to come learn to be trip leaders and to develop the skills to take people out on trips,” said McArthur.

McArthur states that the Instructor



Photo by CSUB Outdoor Adventures

CSUB Outdoor Adventures program attends one of the many trips offered.

Development program aims at helping students develop their leadership ability throughout the trips so that the more experienced students can help the less experienced students that are new to the program.

The trips are based on interest of the programs staff and students, whether it’s rock climbing, surfing, horseback riding, or skiing. The cost of the trip does vary depending on transportation, location, and activity.

“All of the trips are subsidized by the SRC, so we create a total cost per person and we take 40 percent off because it (Outdoor Adventures) is ran by student funds, so they are already paying for that,” said McArthur.

Although the trips price varies, the 40 percent stays constant. The trips transportation also varies, most of the time they use vans but sometimes they take a bus depending on student interest and location.

As for now, McArthur is not only trying to build up the program, but also aims at gaining student interest. “We are still trying to build awareness that we do have these trips..., I think that a lot of the students on campus don’t know what we have,” said McArthur.

McArthur is excited for upcoming trips for the winter quarter and so are returning CSUB students.

CSUB mechanical engineering major Michael Davalos, 19, has attended

previous trips and enjoyed his mountain climbing experience.

“Being outdoors and being with an environment of people that keep pushing you forward...it was a good experience,” said Davalos.

Even though Outdoor Adventures aims at providing adventurous outdoor activities, some students attend mainly because they enjoy getting out of town and visiting different locations.

CSUB criminal justice major Josh Coy, 19, has also gone on past trips with Outdoor Adventures and thinks that other students would enjoy a similar experience.

“It helps them get out of Bakersfield...I think a lot of people here a kind of stuck and don’t get out much,” said Coy. “So it definitely helps you get out and travel and see different parts of California.”

The trips are tailored to each individual and don’t require experience to attend.

“All of these trips are designed for beginners to advance, so...we can relate to different skill levels,” said McArthur.

“On a rock climbing trip we can teach you how to rock climb...for the advanced we can send them on harder climbs and give them that opportunity as well.”

Trips scheduled this quarter include snowboarding, skiing, hiking, horseback riding, and an overnight camping trip.

To register for upcoming trips, students can visit the front desk at the SRC before the Wednesday prior to the trip.

CSUB students celebrate New Year’s with resolutions

By Annie Russell
Assistant Features Editor

It has been two weeks since the ball dropped in New York welcoming 2016.

There are many ways to celebrate New Year’s which could mean keeping up with family traditions, going out with friends or even opening up a bottle of wine.

Ricardo Jimenez a student

here at CSU Bakersfield, studying single subject teaching credential, with a focus on math was happy to have celebrated New Year’s with his family.

Being part of the military he looks forward to being around his family every chance he gets, not knowing when he will be deployed.

Jimenez described his New Year’s traditions with his family with delight.

“I spent it with my loved ones” said Jimenez.

At midnight Jimenez and his family go outside and have a few shots to toast wishing everyone a happy New Year’s.

Jimenez and some of his family members then get out a few rifles shooting them into the night sky celebrating 2016.

Afterward Jimenez and his family go back inside and play the guitar till sunrise and then

return back outside to see the first sunrise of the year.

Not everyone is bound to traditions some prefer to do their own thing or go to a club, while others find January 1st as just another day of the year.

Criminal justice major Diego Aguilar went to Las Vegas with a couple of his friends to bring in 2016 with good memories.

“We walked around, drank, hit up clubs” said Aguilar.

The New Year’s isn’t only about celebration but to start fresh in life and many people attempt to bring about change in a positive way by creating New Year’s resolutions to better themselves or achieve something.

According to the Statistic Brain Research Institute in their article “New Year’s Resolution Statistics,” the top five resolutions of 2015 were to: lose

weight, get organized, spend less, enjoy life to the fullest, and lastly stay fit and healthy.

When asked what her New Year’s resolution for 2016 was, human biology major Precious Nwaoha answered.

“To get my grades on point.”

Nwaoha like most spent New Year’s with her family.

2016 is here and there is much to look forward to.

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“Trial by Jury” by Sullivan

Zarzuela Scene

“La Revoltosa” by Chapi

Directed by Soo-Yeon Chang

Staged by Peggy Sears

TIME7:30 PM

DATEFriday, Jan. 29

VENUEDoré Theatre

PARKINGFree in Lots B & C

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STAFF EDITORIAL

Student IAPs just one route for grads

Individualized Academic Plans are the best way a student can figure out how their college experience could be laid out, especially with CSU Bakersfield’s switch to the semester system next fall. However, many students are approaching their IAPs as a rule book they cannot deviate from, and it’s causing scheduling issues for those who cannot get into the classes they need or want to take for fun.

First, students are avoiding changing their schedule assigned by their academic advisers. Most often, they’re scared that any hiccup in scheduling will affect them drastically in the long run, when the IAPs should be looked at more like a map. An adviser may point out the simplest or fastest route, but there are others that will get you to your destination as well. To avoid confusion, students should request a list of when these classes will be available in the future, or alternates if they have to fulfill a certain requirement. If they cannot get a certain class now, they can adjust accordingly, and quickly in case their adviser isn’t available as soon as the student needs them. This happens most often in the beginning of a quarter when the advisers are in high demand and their scheduling is full.

Second, some students take their IAPs as a list of classes they will be taking, and think they cannot take any others. The college experience, first and foremost is to educate the student who is willing to go above and beyond their high school education. To limit the college experience to a list of requirements set in stone is absurd.

Minors and themes already expand past the requirements of a major, and intend to create a well-rounded student, but sometimes this isn’t enough. To refer back to the map metaphor, students shouldn’t be afraid to take “pit stops” in classes outside of their requirements if the subject is something they may be interested in.

Often, our staff will meet fellow communications majors who aspire to some sort of journalism position, or even want to just try it out for fun, but because The Runner class is not part of their IAP requirements, they don’t enroll in the course.

College should be an experience that empowers and transforms a student, not something that should be holding their interests hostage. The Individualized Academic Plans are in place to help you achieve, but they’re just that: plans. Plans can change.

COMICS



COLUMN

‘The Middle’ hits home with lots of viewers



By Annie Russell
Assistant Features Editor

There aren’t enough words to describe the ABC family series *The Middle*. The show is centered around a middle class American family of five. It shows the struggles, and ups and downs of life through a

comedic way. By the end of each episode there is always a life lesson to be learned. I came across this show about a year ago when I was studying. I just remember looking up and seeing this girl with braces and mixed matched clothes, filled to the top with energy. After watching a few of the episodes I really took an interest in the show. It wasn’t just another sitcom with funny jokes it had a message of the importance of family. All five of the main cast is very relatable to most families. The two oldest kids Axl and Sue are now going through college and trying to figure out their path in life.



Image from ksctv.com

Similar to Axl, I know a lot of students will second guess what they want to do with their major. And like Sue, some students new to college will struggle

making friends. The show throws a lot of situations and problems at the Heck family, but they make it through one step at a time. This show gives a perspective

that life is what you make it. I find Sue Heck to be a great role model for a lot of teens and college students. She has the worst luck but goes through life with an optimistic attitude. In the last few episodes the writers show how Sue is adapting to the college scene. It reminded me of my first semester at CSU Northridge, which was the worst semester

ever. Much like Sue, my roommates and I did not get along. I struggled to make friends and being away from home for the first time really took a toll on me. Sue at one point broke down and wanted to come back home after a few bad experiences. But with the advice of her brother Axl she decided to stay and things started to get better. Watching this episode reminded me that a lot of students become overwhelmed in college. It’s important to remember to stay positive and keep trying to be successful in life. The show is now on its seventh season with new episodes premiering every Wednesday night at 8/7 central on ABC Family.

STUDENT LIFE

New technology is huge help to modern students

By Abigail Youngblood
Reporter

At this point in time I do not think technology operates on a basis of whether it is a necessity or not. We have reached a point where the most publicly used and available tech is made for convenience rather than subsistence. When we think of the devices we use on a daily basis to make our lives easier or more connected, there is no doubt in my mind that the individual has much more than could ever be essential. I also know that

we are living in world that has reached a point where it has become a prerequisite to have a certain amount of technology to simply communicate. We use technology not only to further ourselves personally but also globally. No nation wants to fall behind in an evolving world of tech. Because of this, I believe that technology has a huge hold over people in building a confident and unified population. The Consumer Technology Association, also known as the CES, holds a trade show every year in Las Vegas. According

to the CES website it runs for four days in January; this year it ran from the sixth to the ninth. The most groundbreaking and futuristic technology is put not only on display but in use. CES provides a place to showcase the future of technology that is simply a few years out of reach. This year they had everything from self-driving cars using QNX software to a robotic bartender by Somabar, and while there is no doubt that the market for anything and everything electronic is a booming business, there remains a fasci-

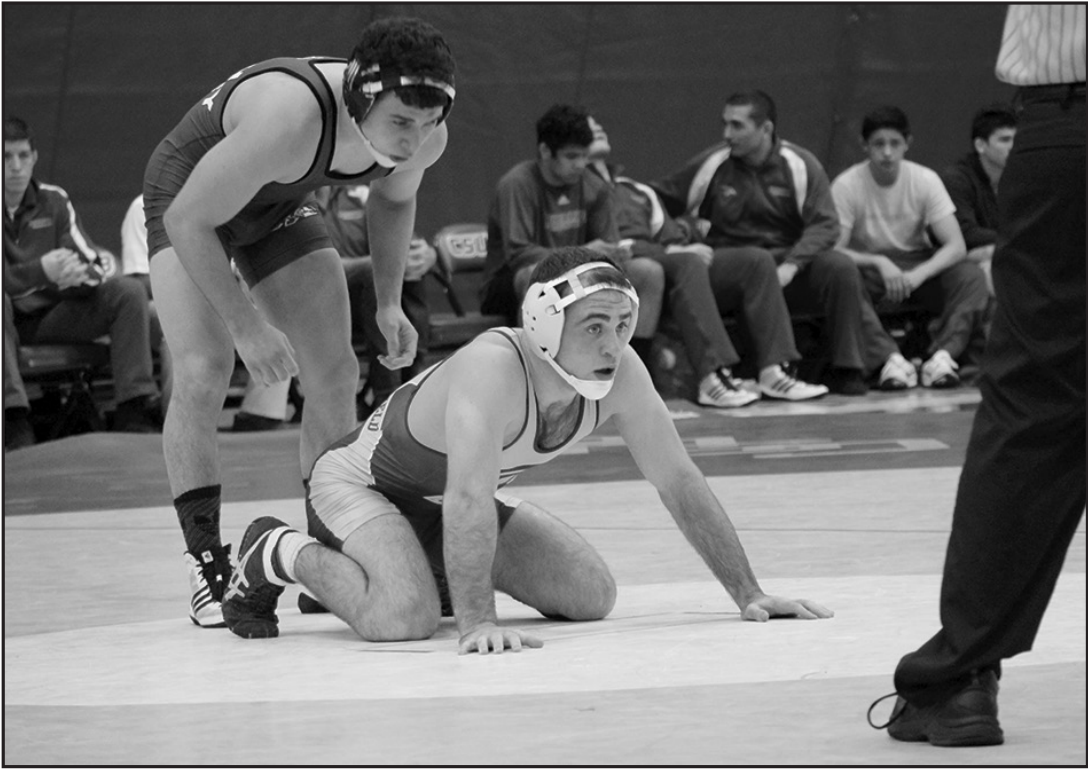
nation with older technology. As we look to the future for the next innovative invention, there remains a draw to the past, which has grown particularly strong in recent years, to dated technology. This appeal does not come from the technology itself but from the feeling it gives when you use it. Technology like Polaroid cameras, record players, and typewriters pull people in because there is warmth and character that come with the item, a familiarity that seems almost instinctive. We also must look closer at

how it affects us in the moment. As a college student I use technology that provides amazing resources and gives a whole new life to how I learn. Online classes can be a wonderful way to take a class and completely work it around your schedule, but many students, like Katlin Smith, a studio art major, have never taken an online class for the fear that they could not learn unless they were in a classroom. After talking to fellow students on campus it became clear that technology has become essential, especially in

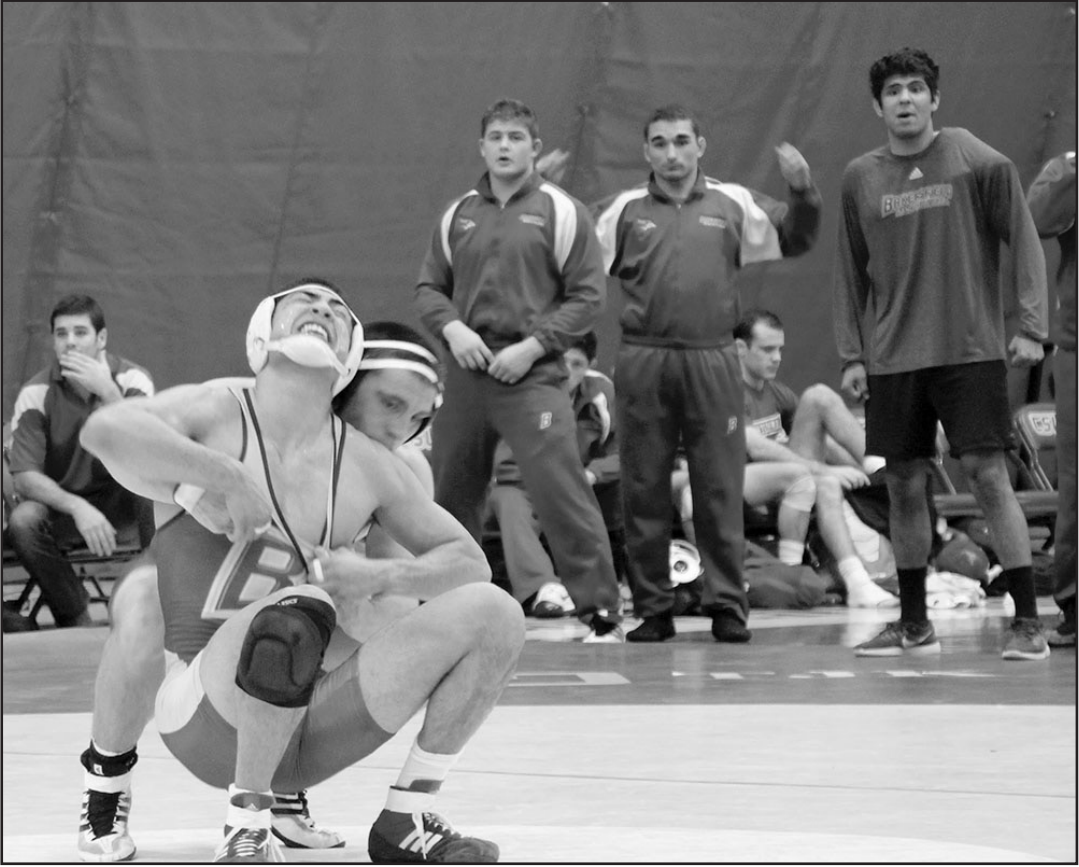
college. Jessica Paniagaun, a liberal studies major, elaborated saying that while technology is vital it does not feel as reliable as a book does when you are researching, for example. The future of technology is a vast landscape that is being filled with the most inventive ideas and the pioneers of those innovations. As we begin to move forward and invest in the tech of tomorrow it is important to understand how the technology we use affects not only our lives but also the technology to come later.

WRESTLING



CSUB grapples to a victory over Utah



Bryce Hammond (right) prepares to take the bottom position after a reset during a match against the Wolverines.



Adam Fierro (foreground) struggles against Utah Valley's Raider Lofthouse. Fierro was defeated by Lofthouse in the 174 pound weight class.

	27
	19

By Juan Garcia
Reporter

The CSU Bakersfield Wrestling team defeated Utah Valley University 27-19 on Jan. 16th at the Icardo center. "The pins made a big difference in this (dual)," said CSUB head coach Mike Mendoza.

CSUB were only able to win 4 out of the 10 matches. Without the two pins and technical fall by CSUB, the majority of the points would have been in favor to the Wolverines.

Utah went in to this meet after a loss to Stanford with a score of 37-5.

"Sergio (Mendez) did a good job fighting all the way through," said Mendoza.

"We were really close to scoring, we didn't capitalize in

"We were really close to scoring, we didn't capitalize in some of the positions that we could of."

Adam Fierro, red-shirt senior wrestler

in some of the positions that we could of." CSUB redshirt-senior Adam Fierro (11-7) was moved up to the 174 pound weight class from 165 pound weight class. This was done because they received a forfeit in the 165 weight class and so they had an opening in 174.

"He started off strong, but we knew it'd be a toll on him," said coach Mendoza. Fierro wrestled against Utah red-shirt-senior Ross Taylor (6-6) of Utah Valley. The match between Fierro and Taylor ended 13-5 in favor of Ross Taylor.

CSUB redshirt-sophomore Coleman Hammond (15-8) wrestled against Utah sophomore Matthew Ontiveros (8-10)

and won by technical fall with the overall score being 17-1. "I kind of came out fast and then had trouble on my turns but I got the points where it counted. I wanted that pin though," said Hammond. He finished the match at the end of the 2nd period and was fighting for a win for himself and his team.

CSUB redshirt-senior Reuben Franklin (23-5) had another great match as he pinned Utah redshirt-freshman Aryton Almberg (2-5) within a minute into the first period. "Went out there like any other match, got prepared and worked on what I need to work on," said Franklin. "The goal is to go out there and get them good every time, and so this time I was able to get him." Franklin is ranked sixth in the nation as he is definitely a great wrestler to watch on the mat. The CSUB wrestling team has been doing very well lately with a 7-2 record so far in the season and a 2-0 record in the PAC 12.

The CSUB wrestling team will be facing off against Southern Illinois University Edwardsville at 3p.m. and South Dakota State at 7p.m. on Jan. 22nd at South Dakota.



Coleman Hammond (Left) defeated Matthew Ontiveros, by a score of 17-1.

BASEBALL

Lasorda stops by for Hot Stove Dinner



Famous Los Angeles Dodgers manager Tommy Lasorda stopped by the baseball team's fundraiser, The Hot Stove Dinner event on Saturday, Jan. 16 at the Kern County Fairgrounds. This was the third year this event was held.



WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK...



**THURSDAY
JAN. 21
VS. UTRGV
6 PM
RESIDENCE
HALLS
BATTLE OF
THE FLOORS!**



**SATURDAY
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7 PM
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**SAVE THE DATE
WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
VS. GRAND CANYON
THURSDAY, JAN. 28 - 7 PM**



MEN'S BASKETBALL

CSUB soaring to bigger heights

By Joe Macias
Sports Editor

The CSU Bakersfield men's basketball team is off to a potentially memorable season. During the winter break the 'Runners (13-5, 3-0 WAC) got to a slow start as they would start with a three game losing streak. After CSUB's close loss against the University of Wyoming, the 'Runners would be battered by Saint Mary's College of California giving up 94 points to the Gaels in the 94-59 loss, which is so far its biggest loss of the season. CSUB's three game losing streak would be completed against Idaho University on Dec. 2nd in a close 67-63 loss against the Vandals. Searching for some type of way to get its season back on track CSUB was able to get a win at home against Northern Arizona University 72-55. The 'Runners were led by senior forward Kevin Mays who had a double-double with 24 points and 14 rebounds. "Guys are confident. The atmosphere is better," CSUB head coach Rod Barnes said on the team's performance. "We just challenge the guys each and every day to play well." CSUB would go on to win its next two games against University of South Dakota 77-67 on Dec. 12th and against Dartmouth 69-62 on Dec. 14th. Coming off a three game win streak CSUB's next game against rival Fresno State on Dec. 16 would be another bump in the road that the 'Runners would have to overcome. The 'Runners struggles at the free throw line proved to be the difference as the team missed 10 free throws and went on scoring drought for 3:35 in the fourth quarter losing the game 76-68. This is a game the 'Runners would have definitely would want to have won. After losing to Fresno State CSUB would come back home for two games against Menlo College and Portland State University. The 'Runners would have no problem against

Menlo as they made easy work of them winning 82-50 led by redshirt-freshman guard Damiyne Durham who had 22 points. CSUB's game against Portland would be the 200th win for the CSUB men's basketball program as they won 78-66 and would be the eighth win for the 'Runners on the season. "We play really tough," senior center Aly Ahmed said on the team's performance over break. "We play with friendship and enjoyment. We don't care who scores." The Roadrunners next game would be against Arizona State. CSUB held on for the first half of the game but the Sun Devils turned it on in the middle of the second half as Arizona State sophomore guard Tra Holder, who had 23 points in the game, made some big three-pointers to separate the score as the Sun Devils would go on to win 75-59. CSUB didn't let the loss to Arizona State stop them as they would face Morgan State University on Dec. 31 to wrap up the 2015 year. Ahmed led the team with 21 points and grabbing eight rebounds in a 80-68 win over the Bears. "I think after that Arizona State game, obviously we lost the game, but I think they gained some confidence," said Barnes. The confidence that CSUB gained after its game against Arizona State followed in the 2016 year as the 'Runners defeated UC Riverside on Jan. 2. "I feel like we've definitely grown," Mays said on his thoughts about the team's performance over break. "We came closer together. We figure out ways to win." CSUB has found its groove and have now won five straight games, four of those games being on the road, and are undefeated in 2016. The 'Runners look to extend their winning streak as they will play against University Texas Rio Grande Valley on Jan. 21 at 6 p.m. in the Icardo Center.



The Runner Archives
Senior center Aly Ahmed goes up for a basket against San Diego Christian College on Nov. 14 at the Icardo Center. CSUB is currently 13-5 overall and 3-0 in the WAC.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Roadrunners off to slow start

By Joe Macias
Sports Editor

The CSU Bakersfield women's basketball team has been going through deep adversity this season. During the winter break, the 'Runners (5-13, 2-1 WAC) faced nationally ranked teams such as (2) South Carolina, (10) Arizona State, (11) Stanford, and (17) UCLA. "Of course it's frustrating. It would be hard for me to say I'm not frustrated," CSUB head coach Greg McCall said on his team's performance. "We're getting wide open shots, wide open lay-ups because of our defense. It's us beating ourselves, it's not the teams that are beating us." During CSUB's second game of a tournament in Honolulu they lost to nationally ranked South Carolina, 90-71 on Nov. 28. The next game against No. 10 nationally ranked Arizona State on Nov.29 in Honolulu. CSUB took its third straight loss, 60-47. The 'Runners tried to bounce back against Fresno State on Dec. 2. CSUB was unable to break its losing streak and lost in a close game, 57-52. The 'Runners were not going to get a break in its next game against No. 17 nationally-ranked UCLA as it defeated CSUB 82-68. CSUB almost ended its five-game losing streak at home on Jan. 8 against Pepperdine but junior guard Allie Green's late game-winning three-pointer gave the 'Waves a 76-73 lead with 0.8 seconds left. CSUB faced No. 12 Oregon State on Jan. 15 after losing to UC Riverside on Jan. 12.



AJ Alvarado/The Runner
Freshman guard Addi Walters goes in for a layup against Seattle University's junior guard Kaylee Best on Saturday, Jan. 16 in the Icardo Center.

The 'Runners were only able to post a 51-point score against Oregon State as they lost once again. The 'Runners got a win against Cal Poly 57-52 for their second win of the season. CSUB's next game against No. 11 nationally ranked Stanford was on Jan. 22, but the 'Runners would be set back as Stanford only allowed CSUB to score 41 points in its 83-41 win. The 'Runners faced UC Irvine on Jan. 3 at home and had its best performance of the season only allowing 39 points to the Anteaters and getting a 65-39 win. "Coach has been making prac-

tices super challenging so the games come easy to us," said senior forward Batabe Zempare after CSUB's game against Chicago State on Jan. 7. "I'm just pumped to see how far we can take this thing." The 'Runners have gathered themselves after its performance in the pre-season play starting its WAC with a 2-1 record and looking to be contenders in the conference. "Pre-season definitely has prepared us for conference," said senior guard Alyssa Shannon. The 'Runners will play at University Texas Rio Grande Valley on Jan. 21 at UTRGV at 5 p.m.

FINANCIAL AID AWARENESS MONTHS

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FREE Financial Aid Workshops for 2016/17

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- **January 14, 2016 - 11:00am - 1:00pm**
Walter Stiern Library - Lab 16
- **February 10, 2016 - 2:00pm - 4:00pm**
Walter Stiern Library - Lab 16
- **February 26, 2016 - 10:00am - 12:00pm**
Walter Stiern Library - Lab 16

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- **January 29, 2016 - 1:00pm - 3:00pm**
Walter Stiern Library - Lab 16
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Walter Stiern Library - Lab 16

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January 1st to March 2nd
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