



THE ELECTIONS ISSUE

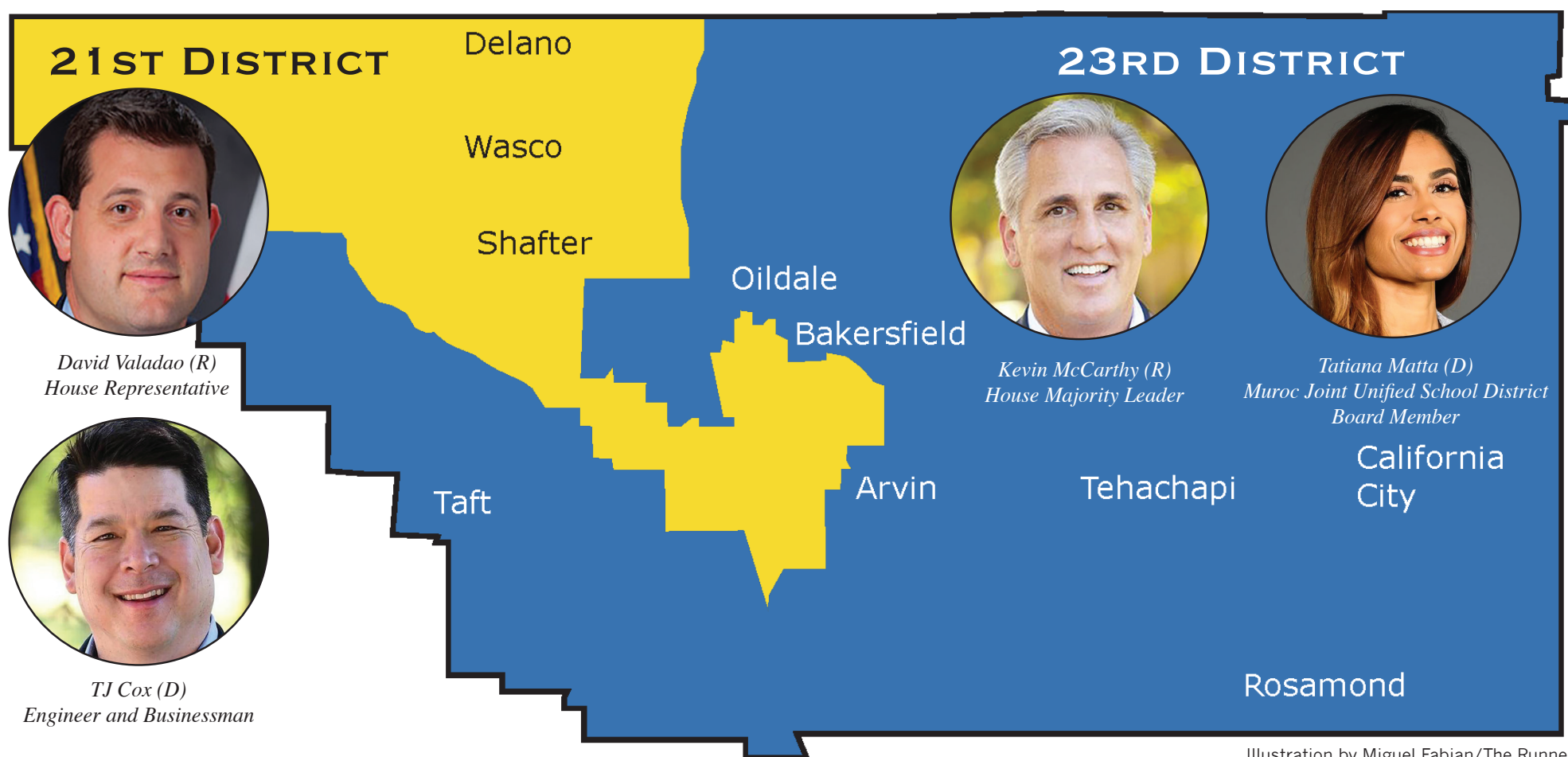
- Six of 10 voters aged 18-29 know “little to nothing” about candidates running for congress
- In 2016, less than half of the population aged 18-29 voted in the election

*According to Pew Research Center and census.gov

Inside our issue:

- District 4 supervisor debate
Page 2
- Voter guides on California Props, Measures and candidates
Pages 8 & 9
- Endorsements on
Page 10

LOCAL CONGRESSIONAL SNAPSHOT



McCarthy, Matta face off for 23rd District

By Fernanda Martinez
News Editor

The race for California's 23rd Congressional District continues as Republican incumbent Kevin McCarthy and Democrat candidate Tatiana Matta seek to convince constituents to vote for them.

California's 23rd Congressional District makes up most of Bakersfield, Mojave, Ridgecrest and parts of Lancaster.

Congressman McCarthy is a native of Bakersfield and an alum of CSU Bakersfield where he earned his B. S. in marketing in 1989 and his M.B.A. in 1994. He is currently seeking his sixth term in office.

He has represented California's

23rd Congressional District since 2013 after representing the 22nd district from 2007 to 2013. McCarthy was elected House Majority Leader in 2014.

As House Majority Leader, McCarthy can control the house floor by deciding what type of legislation can go on the house floor and up for vote.

According to NBC News, a house majority leader can control the house calendar, so they can decide when members of congress have to leave their home districts and go to Washington D.C.

Matta is a governing board member for Muroc Joint Unified School District and a board member of the Military Spouse Advocacy Network.

She was born in Puerto Rico

“People want to see their representative in person because that creates accountability.”

Tatiana Matta,
Democratic
candidate

and later came to the states with her family. She also owns Tatiana Matta Strategies, which is a public relations firm serving nonprofits and political candidates. Throughout her career, she has served for

various nonprofit organizations.

The two met Thursday, Oct. 18 for the first time during a debate which was aired on KGET. The debate was moderated by anchors Jim Scott and Tami Milcoch.

Viewers were also able to tune in on KGET's Facebook page to watch the debate live and join the conversation by posting comments. On Facebook, the debate had over 28,000 views.

McCarthy highlighted in his opening statement what he has accomplished in his last two years in office.

“I was able to move the greatest water reform we've had in California for more than 25 years,” he said. “We have secured full funding for Isabella and Lake Success dams, something we've worked

on for quite a few years.”

He stated that he has worked alongside President Donald Trump to work on agendas like passing a bill to end human trafficking online.

In her opening statement, Matta mentioned her close connections with the military, as a spouse and daughter of military members.

“To me, sacrifice comes in our blood,” said Matta. “I wasn't born here, but I chose to be here. Our family chose to make Bakersfield our home.”

She stated that she is running to give back to a community that has embraced her family.

Matta also addressed the Hispanic community with a few words in Spanish.

See **ELECTIONS**, Page 3



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ELECTIONS

District Supervisor candidates debate at CSUB

By Sarah Montano
Reporter

Students and community members gathered in the Dezember Reading Room of CSU Bakersfield’s Walter Stiern Library to hear candidates for Bakersfield’s 4th District Board of Supervisors position debate the issues affecting the city on Wednesday, October 10. This debate comes ahead of the November 6 election.

New district lines were approved on March 30, 2018, changing the demographics in District 4. It now includes Arvin, Buttonwillow, Delano, Lamont, Lost Hills, McFarland, Shafter and Wasco.

The candidates for the 4th District seat are Delano Mayor Grace Vallejo, credit union manager and CSUB alumnus Jose Gonzalez, and incumbent district supervisor David Couch. CSUB Vice Provost David Schector was the moderator for the debate.

Political science students researched and drafted questions for the debate. The last 30 minutes were dedicated to answering pre-selected questions from the audience. The event was sponsored by the library, the Political Science Club, the Pre-Law Society and the Political Science Department of CSUB.

Steve Bacon, dean of the school of social sciences and education, welcomed the attendees. “I’m particularly happy to see so many

students here,” said Bacon. “You understand that the only way we can improve our communities is if we are committed enough to become aware, and then to get involved.”

John Nilon, a CSUB alum and alumni trustee, said campuses should “have this free exchange of ideas and to allow students to be exposed to what their future supervisor thinks, believes, values, [and] honors.” Nilon continued, “This is a group of students where this may be their first time voting. So, what a great opportunity it is on campus to get a chance to be exposed to these people running for office.”

Immigration, school safety, the environment, marijuana, and homelessness were among the topics discussed.

Immigration

Vallejo said she thinks President Trump’s immigration policy and United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement has evoked fear in the community. She emphasized the role of ICE in the deaths of two Delano residents in March 2018. “I don’t believe that ICE agents should be handling situations the way they are handling them now. That has got to stop,” said Vallejo.

Gonzalez said, “I don’t believe that local law enforcement should be doing the job of ICE. I don’t think that communication should



Monica Juarez/The Runner

CSUB Vice Provost David Schector addresses and the audience and District 4 candidates on Wednesday, Oct. 10.

be there.” He believes immigrant families are simply here looking for a better life for their families, adding, “I’m an example of it.”

Couch agreed, saying, “I don’t think ICE agents should be doing the job of local law enforcement and vice versa. They are two separate distinct groups that should do two separate distinct things.” He went on to say that he does believe law enforcement should cooperate with ICE in cases where undocumented immigrants are being released from jail or prison.

Marijuana

“It’s already legal in California,” Vallejo said. She believes her job will be to ensure the rights of the voters and medical marijuana patients. She said she wants to look for ways to prepare and move Kern County forward, because she expects it will be made legal at the federal level eventually.

“Why wait until it happens?” she asks. “At least you have it [a plan for local regulation] somewhere on the books, on the shelf, waiting to bring it down once the voters declare what they want. So I do

believe we should be working on this already,” Vallejo said.

Gonzalez recognizes the rights of patients, but worries about keeping cannabis away from kids. Couch recently voted against marijuana initiatives put to the Board of Supervisors and is worried about the cost of code enforcement.

Both Gonzalez and Couch expressed concerns that evening with how and where tax revenue would be stored if commercial sales were legalized.

PREVENTION

New grant for sexual assault awareness program

By Ashlynn Adams
Reporter

CSU Bakersfield was one of the 57 schools, and one of two CSUs in the nation to receive a grant of \$299,000. This grant was awarded specifically to the new Roadrunner Risk Reduction Program.

The leader of this program, Claudia Catota, says that it is a “comprehensive and culturally specific program catered to sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking prevention.” She states that CSUB received this grant after “the Office of Equity, Inclusion, and Compliance applied to the grants to reduce sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and

stalking on campus program.” The grant was awarded through the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Violence Against Women.

Catota says that this program will also include a Peer Educator Program. She states that this program will focus on “training students to recognize sexual assault and dating violence.” She hopes it will allow students to gather the courage to “intervene in incidents involving these types of violence.”

Another vision Catota has for this program is that it will provide students with an “open dialogue” about these topics. She hopes this will allow students to learn from each other on how to cope with

facing these stressful situations. Catota hopes to share more about this program with CSUB as soon as possible.

She states that this program will work closely with other organizations in Bakersfield such as the Bakersfield Police Department and the Alliance Against Family Violence and Sexual Assault. This program hopes to reach out not only to CSUB, but the entire community. Catota is “looking forward to working with the community and campus partners on creating and developing this program.”

Business major at CSUB, Edrie Martinez, says that knowing that this program is coming to campus helps her “feel safe.” Martinez

says that knowing that she has a safe space to discuss these topics provides her with a sense of security on campus. She hopes that this program will advertise around school so that all of the students on campus are aware of the help they can receive.

Martinez mentioned that “people can sometimes feel embarrassed to talk about being in situations like these.” She thinks having a program dedicated to helping these victims will “make it easier for victims to seek help.”

Advisor of CSUB’s consent group, Kathleen Hanson, says that the need for groups like these on campus is “exceptionally important.” College students must learn about these topics because a

majority of them are “dating and sexually active,” meaning there is a possibility they can encounter situations like these. Hanson mentioned these topics are “usually not spoken of in high school,” showing a need for students to be educated on them now.

Hanson states she believes her consent group will be “heavily active in working with the Roadrunner Risk Reduction Program.” She says they have a lot of interaction with similar programs on campus. She hopes to work with the new Roadrunner Risk Reduction program and introduce it to CSUB at the Sexual Ethics Fair on Nov. 27. It will take place on campus on the Red Brick Road.

editorial staff Volume 44, Issue 5 The Runner California State University, Bakersfield 9001 Stockdale Hwy. Bakersfield, CA 93311-1099 Telephone: 661-654-2165 Email: runner@csub.edu ADVISER Jennifer Burger jburger1@csub.edu	EDITOR-IN-CHIEF Peter Castillo	PHOTO EDITOR Skylar Carrasco	DISTRIBUTION MANAGER Marisa Gamez	MARKETING MANAGER Evelyn Andrade
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ELECTION 2018

McCarthy, Matta debate immigration, local issues

[ELECTIONS, Page 1]

The debate covered a wide range of topics starting with why local voters should give up the political interest of having McCarthy as House Majority Leader and possibly next in line to become Speaker of the House and elect Matta to Congress instead.

“I understand the pride that comes with having a future Speaker of the House. I come from an island that understands that pride is all they got,” Matta said. “But that doesn’t give our communities and our families money to eat.”

The topic of immigration was also brought up, as it has been continuously debated nationally and within the district.

Just the prior week, McCarthy had introduced a bill that would fully fund President Trump’s border wall between the U.S. and Mexico at an estimated cost of \$23 billion. At the beginning of Trump’s presidency campaign in 2016, Trump had stated that he would ensure Mexico would pay for the wall. McCarthy was asked why there was a sudden change.

“We need border security. If you’ve ever been to the border, especially if you go along California, the only place that we’ve already started building the wall is California,” said McCarthy. “If you look today and think of our own community, we need the security.”

McCarthy stated that the U.S. needs that security to reduce crime, drugs, and gang members.

“I want to have a legal system that works that’s why I put two bills on the floor that reform immigration.”

Matta said that she understands the need for security in the country.

“As a military family member, that is one of our existing goals within our family, making sure that this country is safe,” said Matta. “At the same time, billions of dollars for concrete is not going to necessarily make us safer.”

McCarthy specifically stated that the bills he proposed would “remove MS-13 gang members” and condemn illegals that vote.

“If you watch in San Francisco, they now allow illegals to vote in

their elections, it will condemn that. If you allow illegals to vote in your election, you are degrading the power of everybody else, and most importantly any naturalized citizen,” stated McCarthy.

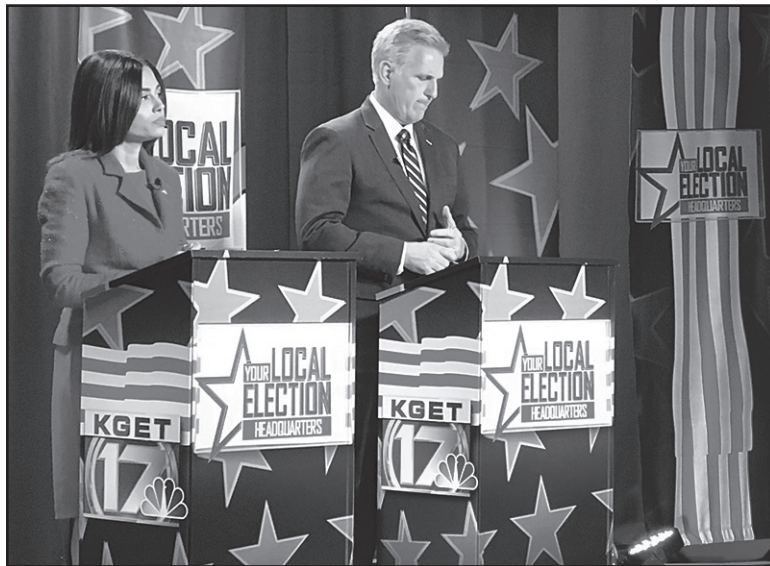
CNN reported in July of 2018 that San Francisco was in fact allowing undocumented persons to vote, but “only for school board elections” in which their children attend.

McCarthy was asked about why he consistently resisted calls from Latino constituents in the district to hold town hall meetings.

McCarthy stated that the aforementioned was not true and that he does telephone town halls when he is in D.C. because after a survey “more than 75 percent prefer a telephone town hall” since politics are chaotic and via telephone they can remain anonymous.

Several people watching the debate live on Facebook chimed in on the conversation and called McCarthy out for not having these town hall meetings via telephone.

Matta stated that “people want to see their representative in person



Fernanda Martinez/The Runner

Tatiana Matta and Kevin McCarthy debate issues affecting the 23rd Congressional District at KGET 17’s broadcast on Oct. 18.

because that creates accountability.”

The two other topics that were debated were health care and environmental issues. Matta addressed that it is important to sit down and discuss how the government can provide affordable health care for all.

McCarthy was asked if it was accurate that in this election cycle

he has received \$218,000 from pharmaceutical companies to which he replied that he had not checked the tallies recently.

In this election cycle, Matta has received \$34,974.57 in campaign contributions, while McCarthy has received \$3.4 million, according to the Federal Election Commission.

ARTS & HUMANITIES

SCHOOL OF MAJORS THAT MATTER

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, BAKERSFIELD

WALTER PRESENTS:

POETRY FROM THE GREAT WAR

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 7TH
6:00 P.M.

DEZEMBER READING ROOM, WALTER W. STIERN LIBRARY



As part of CSUB’s Public History Institute’s commemoration of the 100th anniversary of America’s involvement in the first world war (the “Great War”), students, faculty, and members of the community will read from the poems of “the war to end all wars.” The power of the words that arose from the war speak across generations.

What’s Happening Around Campus

October/November

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>23 Paint Nite
5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Student Union MPR</p> <p>Candlelight Event
6 p.m. – 8 p.m.
Student Union Patio</p> <p>24 Fall Career Expo
6 a.m. – 3 p.m.
SRC Gym, Blue Court</p> <p>DZT Torta Sale
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
DDH East, Outside</p> <p>Hall of Fame Press Conference
10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Library, Dezember Rm.</p> <p>25 Destress Your Stress
12:30 p.m. – 2 p.m.
Library, Dezember Rm.</p> <p>Dreamers: Aqui y Alla
8 p.m. – 10:30 P.M.
Dore Theatre</p> <p>26 Halloween Dance
9 p.m. – 12:30 a.m.
SRC Gym, Blue Court</p> | <p>27 Runner Dance Marathon
10 a.m. - 10 p.m.
Student Union MPR</p> <p>29 Light the Night Walk 2018
4 p.m. - 9 p.m.
Campus Amphitheatre</p> <p>30 Zombie Climb
5 p.m. - 8 p.m.
SRC Rock Wall</p> <p>One Book, One Bakersfield
7 p.m. - 9 p.m. .
Icardo Center</p> <p>31 NSME Club Fair
10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Red Brick Road</p> <p>1 Dia De Los Muertos Celebration
9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Student Union Patio</p> <p>FabLab Hours:
Tues: 11:30 am - 6 pm
Wed: 10 am – 6 pm
Thur: 11:30 am – 2 pm
Fri: 10 am – 3 pm
Sat: 10 am – 3 pm</p> |
|---|--|

Calendar sponsored by School of Natural Science, Mathematics, and Engineering and School of Arts and Humanities. To be included, contact jburger1@csub.edu.

CAMPUS

CSUB Children’s Center receives new grant

By Rylee Smith
Reporter

Childcare will soon be free or reduced-price for a wider range of CSU Bakersfield students due to a new government grant.

The CSUB Children’s Center has received a grant for \$560,000 to be distributed over four years, according to Gladys Garcia, the center’s director. The grant comes from the U.S. government’s Child Care Access Means Parents In School Program.

It has been awarded to other childcare centers in the CSU system in past years, but this is the first year that CSUB has received it.

Garcia heard in the week of Oct. 8 that CSUB would be receiving the grant and plans to start advertising the new financial aid options soon. The grant is already in effect.

Currently, a family of two people that makes \$5,067 a month is eligible for a reduced childcare fee of \$251 a month for part-time care under the California Department of Education. The Children’s Center has worked with individual student parents over the years to adjust costs to meet their needs, but Garcia says this was not possible in every case.

Some students, she says, would seek childcare in the community or wait until their children were older to get their degrees instead.

The grant will make it so that students making more than \$5,067 a month may be eligible for reduced costs. Students making this amount or lower a month will not have to pay any child care costs at all.

Students with the lowest monthly income will receive the benefit first.

“My goal is for them to not have to pay anything. For them to go to class not worrying about how they’re going to pay their tuition,” Garcia says.

Maria Villegas, lead teacher in the center’s class for three-year-olds, says that financial aid for childcare would have made a positive impact on her life when she attended college.

“At the time I didn’t use [on-campus daycare] because I didn’t know financial aid options applied for me. I only got in-home daycare for four hours. It’s hard to do homework and take care of a kid,” she says.

Former CSUB student Marcus Borigo-Hackler, who graduated this past spring with a master’s degree in history, says that going to school and working while raising his baby Colton was “fairly difficult.”

He agrees with Villegas that the grant will have a positive impact on student parents, and says it reflects positively on CSUB that the university prioritizes the needs of its students.

“I believe it’s not a school’s responsibility to provide care for the children of the students who attend the school,” Borigo-Hackler says. “The fact, though, that CSUB is going to apply a grant to help its students who are parents shows to me a

concern for the wellbeing of student parents that surpasses the expectation of what a school should do or provide.”

Of the approximately \$140,000 that the center will receive each year (the amount increases by three percent every year), Garcia says that \$86,000 will go directly towards childcare tuition for CSUB parents. The rest will go towards administrative costs, such as faculty and supplies.

For patrons of the Children’s Center who are already paying full price, Garcia says that they will continue to do so. They can, however, see if they qualify for free care under the new standards.

Though students and faculty are offered spots for their children first, the center also offers childcare to members of the community.

Applying for reduced or waived tuition is not a lengthy process, and the grant will not change this. Interested CSUB parents are required to fill out an application and provide proof of income.

Whether a student is qualified will be based on Pell Grant eligibility, family income, academic standing, and child care need. To prove child care need, students can bring in proof of enrollment and a current class schedule.

“My goal is for them to not have to pay anything. For them to go to class not worrying about how they’re going to pay their tuition.”

Gladys Garcia,
CSUB Children’s Center
Director

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www.csub.edu/bookstore

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sbozarth2@csub.edu

Visit the AL\$ Website:



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California State University, Bakersfield Graduation Workshops

The **Division of Enrollment Management** has scheduled a series of graduation workshops as shown below. If you would like to learn how to avoid delays and know what to expect when you are close to graduation, you will want to attend one of these workshops. You will learn the answers to the following questions (and more).

- What do I need to graduate?
- How does the graduation filing process work and when should I apply?
- What if I filed for graduation but still have classes to take?
- What is the timeline to have my degree conferred and get my diploma?
- How does graduation relate to Commencement?

Next Graduation Workshop:

Monday, Nov. 5 2 to 3 p.m. DDH 101K

For more information on the workshops, contact the Office of Admissions & Records at (661) 654-3036.

Did you know **Midterms** are more important than Presidential elections?

VOTE

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6

Not registered? No problem, in California you can register on Election Day and then vote. Get all the information you need at i.vote.org/CaliforniaEDR

Problems voting? Call the Election Protection Hotline at (866) OUR-VOTE • (866) 687-8683



VOTE.ORG

STUDENT LIFE

Being gay is okay at CSUB



Andrew Paredes/The Runner

Students, staff and other community members walk along with President Lynnette Zelezny to promote the LGBTQ+ community on the Red Brick Road on Oct. 10, 2018.

By **Chelsea L. McDowell**
Features Editor

With obstacles like homophobia and stereotypes, members of the Kern County's LGBT community may feel like they live in a hostile environment. CSU Bakersfield's Campus Programing partnered with gender and sexuality focused clubs on campus to host Pride Week to show those in the community that there is support for them in such a politically conservative environment.

CSUB's 2018 Pride Week began on Oct. 8 with the Campus Programing's resource fair that invited LGBT community members to the Red Brick Road to learn more about the clubs and centers that cater to them. People could have participated in a game night, listened to a panel discussion at the Ally Rally or shared their coming out story at the expression night. These events and more were in promotion of CSUB's campus as a safe zone.

An ally is a straight supporter of the LGBT community. A safe zone is a community in which homophobia, transphobia, and sexism—amongst other discriminatory practices—is not tolerated.

Sexual orientation and gender identity are not the same thing. Sexual orientation is the relational attraction, or lack thereof, to someone else. A person's gender identity is their internal sense of their self as a male, female, both, or neither.

While it's more commonly referred to as the shorter LGBT, the LGBTQ+ acronym is a more wide-ranging term that includes the sexualities and gender identities beyond lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender. The LGBTQ+ community consists of people who are intersex, asexual, pansexual, bigender, gender queer and any other self-identifying terms.

It is worthy to note that pedophilia, and other variations of an adult's attraction to a minor, are not included nor supported within the community.

Queer was originally a slur used against the members of the community, that they have since reclaimed. Junior ethnic studies major Brianna Santaella is the vice president of ClubGen, a woman centered organization that focuses on gender and sexuality issues.

"The word 'queer' in itself isn't an open

invitation for everyone to use," Santaella said. "The way we use queer is more we're reclaiming that word ourselves."

Senior liberal studies major Vanessa Zepeda is the president of the CSUB LGBTQ+ Network Club. Zepeda and the club helped detail the week-long event. She hoped that this year's Pride Week would show everyone that being queer is supported on campus if not in their own home.

"I know people whose parents are real Republican base, homophobic and they don't even want to come out to their family, because they'd be disowned or kicked out," Zepeda said. "[The parents'] will love their friends that are gay, but when it comes to their own child, it's a totally different story."

Kern County has a history of violence and discrimination against members of the queer community.

Jan Hefner is the executive director for the Center for Sexuality and Gender Diversity.

"Gay murder was a thing at one time back in the 1970's," Hefner said in a phone interview. "There were at least eight murders of gay men recorded between 1978 and 2002 in Kern County."

One particular case was in 1981, when businessman William Robert Tyack shot and murdered his gay neighbors Jack Blankenship and Sidney Moses Wooster during a confrontation. After claiming he was afraid of the unarmed men, a jury acquitted Tyack of murder, and convicted him on the lesser charge of involuntary manslaughter.

Times have changed since as being gay or lesbian has become more widely accepted.

"We don't have too much challenges with lesbians and gay men because most people at large know someone who has come out as lesbian or gay," Hefner said.

She continued that not too many people know someone who's bi or pan, nor do they understand the spectrum that is sexuality.

"Everyone, even straight cisgender people, has a sexual orientation and gender identity," Hefner said. "Not just the LGBTQ."

Cisgender means that a person identifies as the gender assigned to them at birth. While public perception of gay people is relatively more positive than it was just forty years ago, the wider community doesn't understand what being a transgender person is like.

Transgender and gender non-conforming people face violence that other less visible LGBTQ+ individuals do not. The Human Rights Campaign, a queer civil rights organization, reported 22 cases of a trans

person's death due to violence in the United States in 2018 so far.

For members of the LGBTQ+ community, the struggles of being queer are multiplied by the disenfranchisement that comes with being a person of color.

This is called intersectionality, which Hefner defined as an overlap of cultural marginalization that stems from each aspect of identity.

Rene Upton is a junior art major and the public relations officer for ClubGen.

He is a white transman.

"It's unfortunate, but we do have to point out certain minority groups are more at risk than others," Upton said. "A black trans woman walking down the street is more likely to be hurt or beaten or killed in this county than maybe me."

Bre Parks, who is a junior communications major, is also a pansexual black woman.

She described the black community's reception of the LGBTQ+ as a trash fire.

"There's this really strange notion in the black community that non-heterosexual people can only be white," Parks said. "Just trying to come out to someone who thinks like that is almost impossible because they're going to just be like 'well you're not gay, that's for white people.'"

Along with misconceptions about LGBTQ+ believed by others, some members of color believe there is not enough representation of the diversity in the community.

Anthony Hernandez is a junior communi-

cations major and gay man.

"I think all you see is pretty—this is going to sound bad but like—pretty white boys who are like so put together and that doesn't represent the LGBT community," he said.

He said that in a community like Bakersfield where masculinity is what's sought after, he feels like he doesn't fit it.

Senior psychology and woman, gender, and sexuality studies major Samantha De La Cruz is ClubGen's president. From policing and gate-keeping, she said that there are issues within the community as well.

"Like any other community, we're disjointed," De La Cruz said.

The Ally Rally served as an open forum for allies, those who were curious, and LGBTQ+ members to come together to dispel the myths that surround the community. Myths included that one can't be gay without having "gay experiences"—which is false-- and that a queer person can't be religious.

Senior sociology major and Ally Rally panelist Delila Solis used her own experiences as a queer woman to dispel that myth. She said that a relationship with God isn't based on a set of rules, but is about oneself.

Teaching people how to be a better ally was another objective of Pride Week.

For those who want to learn more about identity and sexuality, De La Cruz suggested CSUB students to take a class.

"We have amazing professors," said De La Cruz. "The classes aren't just feminists that are angry. The classes are diverse."

Being a better ally includes not being defensive if someone calls you out for using a particular word. For example, the word 'tranny' is just as offensive as the word 'blackie' is racist.

"Just say 'I didn't know that.' Admit your fault and then learn from it," De La Cruz said.

For people questioning their sexuality who want to meet other LGBTQ+ people outside of a bar, or want to volunteer, the Center for Sexuality and Gender Diversity is located at 902 18th St. in Bakersfield. There is also a more discreet office location, for directions call the center at (661) 843-7995.

COMMUNITY

Via Arté festival paints the Marketplace

By Kayla Olivieri
Reporter

Bakersfield’s local professional and student artists brought life to the Marketplace parking lot with their talent and street art.

Celebrating its 20th year, the Bakersfield Museum of Art’s Annual Via Arté Italian Street Painting Festival came alive with artists young and old..

Participating artists at any skill level were encouraged to be creative and “draw their inspiration from the Masters - reminiscent of the classic Italian Street Painting style,” said Erwin Ledford, media and marketing coordinator for the Bakersfield Museum of Art.

Via Arté is the largest yearly fundraiser for the Bakersfield Museum of Art, while being a sponsored, free community event.

Hundreds of artists transformed the pavement into chalk works of art while music from a live band played, clowns made balloon animals for children, and families of onlookers buzzed around.

Beth Chaney, a CSU Bakersfield art education alumnus and now an art teacher at West High School in Bakersfield, was one of the professional artists that

participated in the festival.

“I have been doing this for 15 years. I try to choose something topical or relevant at the time, and I love doing portraits. This year’s portrait is Anthony Bourdain,” Chaney said.

Chaney feels honored and loves being involved in Via Arté every year as it is such an iconic and exciting event in the community.

On the other side of the parking lot from the professionals was the children’s area. There groups of high school students, middle school students, girl scout troops, children, and families could be found working on their masterpieces.

Jiya Barnes, Indiana Vargas, and Rylee Robberstad are eighth grade students from Rosedale Middle School, and were proud of their art piece they had prepped and worked on.

“I honestly wanted something artistic and cultural for our art piece. I researched for cultural, colorful, abstract art and this one came up. It is called ‘Audrey of Mulberry’ and I thought it was perfect,” Barnes said about the process of choosing what art piece they would model at the festival.

“I feel amazing being involved in Via



Kayla Olivieri/The Runner

Beth Chaney, a CSUB alumnus creates a chalk portrait of Anthony Bourdain for Via Arté in the Marketplace on Saturday Oct. 20, 2018.

Arté. It feels so awesome. I am really excited about this whole thing.”

In addition to trained artists, young aspiring artists of all ages were present and worked on their pieces. In the Via Bambino Children’s Art area, small squares of

pavement could be purchased along with chalk to allow kids to express their own creativity invoking their vision, talent, and love of art.

For more information on Via Arté, visit viaartebakersfield.com



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The 5 measures and 11 propositions you'll need to know about

3 measures to choose from on marijuana

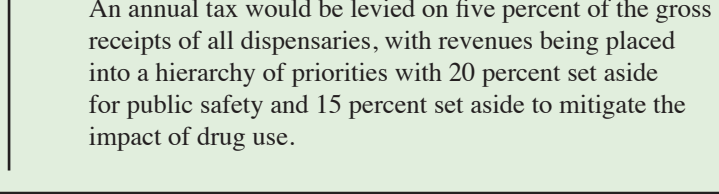
Cannabis Measure J

If passed, Measure J would retain the county ordinance passed by the Kern County Board of Supervisors which bans recreational cannabis activity in the county. It would allow for the regulation and taxation of commercial medical cannabis activity in all unincorporated areas of the county at a rate of 7.5 percent. Those tax dollars would be put into the County's general fund to be used at the discretion of the board of supervisors. All cannabis activities must maintain a distance of 1,000 feet from one another, and 600 feet from any schools or parks.




Cannabis Measure K

If passed, Measure K would lift allow for both recreational and medicinal cannabis activities in Kern County. Retail and testing businesses would be restricted to commercial, agricultural, or industrial zones, while all other cannabis activities would be limited to two designated commercial cannabis areas off of Interstate 15. Opponents of the measure claim that the measure's authors already own that land. The number of cannabis retailers in the county would be capped at 35 and must maintain a distance of at least 1,000 feet from schools, parks, and youth centers. An annual tax would be levied on five percent of the gross receipts of all dispensaries, with revenues being placed into a hierarchy of priorities with 20 percent set aside for public safety and 15 percent set aside to mitigate the impact of drug use.




Cannabis Measure O

If passed, Measure O would repeal the City of Bakersfield's ban on medical cannabis activity. Similar to Measure J, it would allow for the regulation and taxation of medical cannabis activity in the city, while maintaining to ban on recreational activity. Dispensaries would be taxed at a rate of 7.5 percent per year, with those revenues going into the county general fund. Dispensaries in the city would be required to maintain a distance of 1,000 feet from any schools, and 1,000 feet from one another. They would also be limited to operating between the hours of 8 a.m. and 10 p.m.




Tax measures in Kern County



Tax Measure N
































Tax Measure N states that if passed it would allow an increase sales tax by one percent in the City of Bakersfield. The total sales tax rate within the city would increase to 8.25 percent. In other words, the price of an item that is subject to sales tax in the City of Bakersfield, would increase by one cent for every dollar of purchase. The increase would result in an additional \$50 million annually to the City of Bakersfield. The revenue will help fund top priorities like improve public safety, 911 emergency response, anti-gang/drug units and homelessness in the city.



Tax Measure I

Measure I states that if passed it would authorize the county to enforce a one percent sales tax on all retail sales made in unincorporated areas within the county. It is estimated that \$35 million would result in revenue annually from that sales tax. The revenue would fund general county services of those unincorporated areas. Services include public safety and protection, parks, code enforcement, roads and libraries. If passed the measure will take effect on April 1, 2019.

Proposition Exposition

Prop 1 	Prop 2 	Prop 3 	Prop 4 	Prop 5 	Prop 6 	Prop 7 	Prop 8 	Prop 10 	Prop 11 	Prop 12 
REP. - NO 	REP. - YES 	REP. - NEUTRAL	REP. - NO 	REP. - YES 	REP. - YES 	REP. - YES 	REP. - NO 	REP. - NO 	REP. - YES 	REP. - NO 
DEM. - YES 	DEM. - YES 	DEM. - NEUTRAL	DEM. - YES 	DEM. - NO 	DEM. - NO 	DEM. - YES 	DEM. - YES 	DEM. - YES 	DEM. - NO 	DEM. - YES 
<p>Proposition 1 would authorize the State to borrow up to \$4 billion for affordable housing for veterans, working families, seniors, people with disabilities and the homeless. It would provide \$1.8 billion to affordable multifamily housing programs. Affordable housing programs generally provide local governments, nonprofits, and private developers with low-interest rates. Prop 1 would also provide \$450 million to programs that build housing near public transportation and in existing urban areas, and another \$450 million would go toward helping low-and-moderate income individuals buy a home. Prop 1 would also provide \$300 million in loans and grants to build housing for farmworkers. Program funds would be used for both rental and owner-owned housing. Another \$1 billion would be used to provide home loan assistance to veterans.</p>	<p>Proposition 2 is in the ballot this November as the proposition that would use millionaire's tax revenue for homelessness prevention. In 2016, the California State Legislature passed legislation to spend revenue from Proposition 63 on revenue bonds for homelessness prevention housing. It was not put into effect because of pending litigation on whether millionaire's tax should be used on homelessness prevention housing. Prop 2 is on the ballot this November because the revenue on this bond would come from a tax that is part of a ballot initiative, Proposition 63. If passed, the state would be allowed to use revenue from Proposition 63 for homelessness prevention housing for people who need mental health services.</p>	<p>Proposition 3 is the California water infrastructure and watershed conservation bond initiative. A 'yes' vote supports the sell of \$8.877 billion in general obligation bonds to be put toward environmental and water projects, such as dam repair, drought protection, and the reuse of stormwater. A general obligation bond is used to fund public projects that serve as a good, but don't make money. According to Investopedia, "a general obligation bond (GO) is secured by an issuing government's pledge to use all available resources, even tax revenues, to repay holders of the bond." Because of that, general obligation bonds are considered to be relatively safe for investors. A 'no' vote opposes the sell of the bonds. Those that vote no on this measure are rejecting the possibility of the interest payments that will have to be repaid to the bond holders.</p>	<p>Proposition 4 is asking California residents to fund expansion, growth and construction to improve children's hospital services, equipment, and buildings. The proposition is asking for \$1.5 billion in bonds. It is estimated that the interest of the bond will be about \$1.4 billion over the next 35 years. Property and sales tax revenues may be used to pay back the bonds. 72 percent of the money will be given to eight nonprofit hospitals: Children's Hospital of Los Angeles, Children's Hospital and Research Center Oakland, Earl and Lorraine Miller Children's Hospital, Loma Linda University Children's Hospital, Lucile Packard Children's Hospital at Stanford, Rady Children's Hospital, San Diego, and Valley Children's Hospital. 18 percent of the funds will go to five University of California general acute hospitals, and 10 percent of the funds will go to other public and private hospitals.</p>	<p>Proposition 5 changes requirements for certain property owners to transfer their property tax base to replacement property. It would apply to homeowners over the age of 55, severely disabled homeowners and contaminated or disaster-destroyed property. The fiscal impact of the prop would affect schools and local governments with over \$100 million in annual taxes lost. That number could swell to \$1 billion per year. A 'yes' vote means all homeowners over the age of 55 or who meet other qualifications would be eligible for property tax savings should they move to a different home. A 'no' vote would mean only certain qualifying homeowners would be eligible for the savings.</p>	<p>Proposition 6 would repeal the 2017 transportation law's tax and fee provisions. The current gas tax is at 47.3 cents and with a 'yes' vote on the prop, would remove the 12 cent tax added from last years prop. It would require California legislature to get voter approval on future fuel and vehicle taxes. A vote 'no' will keep the taxes at the current rate they are at and would allow California legislation to bypass voters on future fuel and vehicle taxes. They would need voter approval for new or increased state fuel or vehicle taxes in the future.</p>	<p>Proposition 7 would allow state legislature the ability the change daylight savings time period. A 'yes' vote would not directly alter daylight savings time, but simply give legislature the right to alter it. A 'no' vote would mean nothing would change. The vote would pass with a two-thirds vote. Both the democratic and republican parties are in favor of Prop 7. Arguments in favor the prop passing say the time changes, which occur twice a year, are hazardous to our health and productivity. Those opposed to the prop say not changing the time during the fall would cause an extra hour of darkness in the morning in winter time, which can be dangerous for children walking to school.</p>	<p>Proposition 8 adds language to the existing law setting limits on how much private chronic kidney dialysis clinics may charge their clients, prohibiting clinics from refusing to take clients based on their specific payment method, and preventing clinics from dropping any current clients using Medicaid, Medicare, or Medi-Cal to pay for dialysis services. The proposed law also requires dialysis clinics to submit annual reports to the state about their operations, and to begin issuing rebates to payers if their annual profit exceeds 115 percent of all direct client services and quality improvement costs. The law as proposed would go into effect beginning Jan. 1, 2019 and provisions exist in the text requiring costs related to enforcement to be paid by the governing entities that own and operate the dialysis clinics.</p>	<p>Proposition 10 expands the local government's authority over rent control on residential property. The fiscal impact of Prop 10 could be a potential net reduction in state and local revenues. Depending how local communities react, the loss could mean tens of millions of dollars lost in revenue. A 'yes' vote would mean state law would not limit the kinds of rent control laws that cities and countries could have, while a 'no' vote would continue to limit it. Since rent in California is so high, roughly one of five cities in California have already begun enacting rent control laws. The prop was put on the ballot by petition signatures.</p>	<p>Proposition 11 would set on-call rules for private sector emergency ambulance employees during their shifts. Drivers would be required to be on-call during their breaks, and be reachable by cell phones or other devices during their meals and rest periods. They also would be paid while on break, and they would not be required to take their break at the beginning or end of a shift. Supporters say the law would bring ambulance driver break rules in line with similar rules for police, firefighters and other emergency service providers. Opponents suggest the proposal is actually aimed at helping American Medical Response dodge labor lawsuits currently pending against the company in California.</p>	<p>Proposition 12 would ban the sale of meats, eggs, and other produce that comes from farms that violate state regulations regarding space requirements. Beginning in 2020, the law would ban: the sale of veal from calves that were confined to an area of less than 43 square feet of usable floor space per calf; pork meat from pigs confined in an area with less than 24 square feet of usable floor space per pig; and eggs from hens confined in an area with less than 1 square foot of usable floor space per hen. In 2022, egg producers would be required to confine egg-laying hens in outdoor or indoor cage-free housing, based on the United Egg Producers' 2017 cage-free guidelines. Knowingly violating the measure would be considered a misdemeanor, with fines up to \$1,000.</p>

*Proposition 9 was removed from the ballot by order of the California Supreme Court.

ENDORSEMENTS

Governor of California	Gavin Newsom	Kern County Supervisor, District 3	Jeff Heinle
United States Senator	Kevin De Leon	Kern County Supervisor, District 4	Grace Vallejo
United States Representative, District 23	Tatiana Matta	MEASURE J	YES
United States Representative, District 21	TJ Cox	MEASURE K	YES
Kern County Supervisor, District 2	Whitney Weddell	MEASURE O	YES
PROPOSITION 1	YES	MEASURE N	NO
PROPOSITION 2	YES	PROPOSITION 7	YES
PROPOSITION 3	YES	PROPOSITION 8	YES
PROPOSITION 4	YES	PROPOSITION 10	NO
PROPOSITION 5	NO	PROPOSITION 11	NO
PROPOSITION 6	YES	PROPOSITION 12	YES

OUR VIEW

Choose the candidate that cares, Tatiana Matta

‘OUR VIEW’ is an unsigned opinion story which reflects The Runner editorial board’s stance on an issue. Join the discussion and send us a letter to the editor at runner@csub.edu

Don’t vote for congressional race candidate Tatiana Matta because she’s a woman of color and can bring some much needed diversity and representation to the U.S. congress, vote for her because she cares about the district she wants to represent. Born in the U.S. territory of Puerto Rico, Matta has since embraced Kern County as her home. She is a business owner, a member of the Muroc Joint Unified School District School Board, the wife to a U.S. Air Force Cpt., and

member of the Military Spouse Advocacy Network Board of Directors. Matta has been endorsed by the California Labor Federation, California Teachers Association, and the National Education Association. For contrast, Congressman Kevin McCarthy is endorsed by the California Pro-Life Council because he wants to defund Planned Parenthood. It’s unsettling how he feels entitled enough to take a side in a decision that wouldn’t affect him in any way. Women need more women who understand their struggles and issues to speak on their behalf so decisions like that aren’t being made by someone who would never even have to consider having a pregnancy terminated. There’s no way around it, McCarthy is a Bakersfield native,

and the city’s community wants to support one of their own into the White House. But the people of the district he’s been elected to represent are not being spoken for, and we desperately need a change. While McCarthy has claimed to have made so many gains for the district and the country, the truth is homelessness in this community has reached alarming rates. On Thursday, Oct. 18, Matta went head-to-head with McCarthy in a debate broadcasted by Bakersfield’s KGET news station. It’s been made clear by his absence from town hall meetings that he’s too busy rubbing elbows in Washington to hear the voices of the common people. When asked about his reluctance of meeting with Latinx community members, McCarthy said “I do telephone town halls

when I’m in D.C.” Matta rebutted that “people want to see the representative in person because that creates accountability. However you vote in congress, you have to come back and talk to the people of the 23rd district.” Attending town hall meetings and listening to the voices of the people is important because that’s the most direct way for a representative to understand the concerns of their people. This election season, immigration is a hot-button issue. McCarthy proposed \$23 billion of taxpayer money to pay for Trump’s wall in hopes that that will deter crime. The wall is unnecessary, if some big drug trafficker really wanted to get into this country, they will find a way. However new to politics, Matta understands that such a complex issue deserves more than a one-di-

mensional solution. “We need more people with different experiences out there legislating and making sure we have other voices, because immigration isn’t something that’s easy,” Matta said. Steven Mayer, a reporter for the Bakersfield Californian, wrote in an article, “Matta has a massive hill to climb if she is to mount a serious challenge against McCarthy.” When voting, it’s understandable that a new candidate is a scary choice. Some people are afraid of change, but that’s exactly what this district needs. McCarthy was once a new candidate as well but people put their trust in him in 2006, and should now put the same trust in Matta. Times and values have since changed, and it’s about time we elect a woman into congress that will reflect that.

POLITICS

Democratic senate showdown



Photo from California State Senate

By Norma Hernandez
Opinions Editor

In an era of feminism, selecting a woman to represent women seems like the obvious choice, but there are men who are fighting for women’s rights as well.

Senator President pro Tempore Kevin de Leon (D-Los Angeles) has proven as a California State Assembly member and member of the California State Senate that he can represent women, Latinos, students, and all his constituents.

In 2014, De Leon passed a bill, Senate Bill No. 967, that requires each community college, California State University, University of California, and any other independent post-secondary institutions to improve their policies, protocols, and programs to better address and help student victims of sexual assault.

De Leon has also supported and advocated for women’s right to choose what is in their best interest when it comes to their bodies. He stands with Planned Parenthood and ensuring that government does not interfere women’s access to safe abortions.

“I stand with Planned Parenthood every day. Women’s health should never be a

pawn in political budget debates and men should not be making health decisions for women,” said De Leon in 2015 after an attack at a Planned Parenthood center in Thousand Oaks.

De Leon is a true feminist and will continue to fight for women’s rights.

De Leon, like others in California, is the son of a single immigrant mother. His mother worked in housekeeping and other jobs she could find. Understanding the value of education, he was the first in his family to attend and graduate from college. De Leon recognizes that education is important and has called out President Donald Trump when he rescinded the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA).

De Leon worked alongside with other legislative leaders and Governor Jerry Brown to provide funding of \$30 million to assist Dreamers in legal services and financial aid through the Dream Loan Program.

Until recently, Senator Dianne Feinstein (D-CA) has been more vocal of immigrant rights, but it wasn’t always like that. In 1994, there is video of Feinstein on national television discussing her beliefs on to handle illegal immigration.

“To have a situation where 40 percent of the babies born on Medicaid in California today are born of illegal immigrants creates a very real problem for the state which is in deficit,” said Feinstein. I don’t see her being an advocate for this community.

To progress in our government and make changes, we need to change the people in those positions of power, especially those who have been there for far too long.

De Leon has the experience to represent the voices of California. He has several endorsements by significant organizations like The California Democratic Party.

As a woman, Latina, college student, democrat, and a daughter of two immigrant parents, my vote will go to De Leon because he has the capabilities, passion, and experience to advocate for issues that pertain to me and many Californians.



Photo from U.S. Senate

By Hana Ayoub
Reporter

California Senator Dianne Feinstein has been in office since 1992, and has since made effective changes to many different aspects of California’s important issues.

She has an impressive resume as well, with issues ranging from agriculture to education to foreign affairs.

Senator Feinstein should be re-elected based on her statements regarding national issues, as well as her actions on those issues. She stays true and consistent to her stances on subjects, and has the best interests of the country in mind.

Enrique Olivas, a freshman criminal justice major, believes that agriculture should be one of the main focuses of any Californian politician.

“It is one of the main sources of income of our valley,” said Olivas.

One of Feinstein’s major focuses is on agriculture, which is demonstrated through her support of Agricultural Worker Program provisions.

Feinstein encouraged the use of domestically cut flowers to be used for White House events, which are mostly supplied by California.

Gabriela Fernandez, a junior nursing major, believes that education is a major issue to be addressed.

“Being a student, I would push access for education and simplify it for students who are first generation or who have economic barriers towards education,” said Fernandez, who is a first generation American herself.

Feinstein believes that education is vital to any citizen. She has released multiple statements about her proposals.

Senator Feinstein supports “proposals to allow student loan borrowers to refinance both their federal and private student loans at lower interest rates.”

Fernandez believes that good politicians value “honesty and being genuine about your intentions, and just being up front as to your motives and why you want to push for certain things. We’re so quick to send tanks and soldiers everywhere, but there’s kids and families being separated and killed, but were not exposed to that as much.”

Senator Feinstein has released her statements about separation at the borders upholding bills that “ensures children may only be separated from their parents in the event they are being trafficked or abused by their parents.”

Senator Feinstein has been in office for 26 years and has made effective strides in her years of service. As a long term senator, she has proven that she will make progress.

Aly Diaz, a liberal studies freshman, believes that those who are in office longer can have a bigger impact. “Long term change is what’s going to carry us,” said Diaz.

Senator Feinstein will continue to take stances that benefit our citizens and country as a whole.

She will make a much better candidate than her runner-up, Senator Kevin De Leon. She has proven that she is a senator for the people.

BALLOT MEASURES

Kern County needs a plan for pot regulation

By AK Pachla
Reporter

Kern County has been at odds about how to handle cannabis decriminalization for as long as I’ve been here.

When I moved here in Oct. of 2011, the scandal was about the differences between a cannabis cooperative and a cannabis dispensary, and the county shut down a bunch of places that were functioning as dispensaries, but were only paying the licensing and registration for a co-op.

Then there was Measure G in Jun. of 2012. That measure would have regulated where dispensaries could be operated in Kern County.

The measure was passed, but declared invalid because the county didn’t do the right kind of environmental impact study.

For the last six years, cannabis has become more and more legal and available all over California, where voters officially ended cannabis prohibition statewide starting this year, but Kern County still struggles to adapt. Every few days, reports of county sheriffs raiding local dispensaries come through on local news.

Growers and dispensary owners still live with the threat of raids. Many local dispensaries have resorted to becoming delivery services because local retail landlords are leery about renting space to cannabis businesses.

The confusion has even affected our local government. Kern County Supervisor Leticia Perez, currently running for re-election, was charged with a criminal misdemeanor this past summer for hiding a conflict of interest when she voted on certain issues relevant to cannabis business licensing.

Her husband has a vested interest in a local dispensary, and the outcome of Perez’s vote would have affected her own personal finances.

Perez has since chosen to abstain from any more votes on cannabis issues, but she has retained the office through the misdemeanor process.

And so in this election season, the county is trying again to sort out this weed business. Activists and volunteers have pushed petitions in every corner of Kern County trying to get a plan on the ballot.

The results are Measure J and K, and for residents of the City of Bakersfield, Measure O.

All three of these measures would create a system for regulating and taxing the cultivation, sale, possession, and use of both medical and recreational cannabis.

Voters are able to vote on each individually and do not have to choose just one measure to vote on, but in order to be adopted by the county, a measure would have to get more than 55 percent “yes” votes. It is possible that all three measures could pass.

Legal marijuana is here to stay in California, at least for the foreseeable future. Failing to regulate this new business opportunity within Kern County is causing problems that go beyond the normal “what about the children” types of concerns.

Even our county supervisors are spending more time arguing about weed than they should be.

This is our chance to tell them to stop. Even residents who aren’t cannabis users would still benefit from the county devising and implementing a system to start collecting taxes from its cultivation and sale.

It is possible for voters to pass Measures J, K, and O simultaneously if each measure receives more than 55 percent “yes” votes. If all three measures pass with that kind of

momentum, it will send the message to the Board of Supervisors that we want them to start working on a plan for legitimate regulation.

As it is now, county government is too willing to let county sheriffs infringe on the rights of growers, dispensary owners, and patients, raiding grows and businesses too regularly for this being a place where weed is supposed to be legal.

Kern County needs a plan, and we need our Board of Supervisors to start working on that plan right away.

Voters who prefer one cannabis measure to another should vote yes on their choice. Voters who don’t have a preference should vote yes on all of them.

Right now, every cannabis business is up in the air. Closures are threatened for November. Patients all over Bakersfield and Kern County are nervous about whether or not our medicine is going to remain available to us.

For the business, for the patients, for the tax revenue, vote yes on having a plan. Vote yes on Measure J, Measure K, and Measure O.

RUNNER ON THE STREET

By Michael Lynch/Photos by Monica Juarez



Celine Skibichi
Psychology

“When I dressed up as a butterfly and I had these really cute wings it was super cute and it was really colorful and my mom did my makeup really nice.”

WHAT WAS YOUR BEST HALLOWEEN COSTUME AS A CHILD?

“I liked being a scarecrow. I thought being a long and lanky guy like myself fit that sort of costume.”



Zachary Richardson
Business / Philosophy



Adrian Romero
Spanish

“It was always superheroes. I liked Spider Man [and] Ironman.”

“I didn’t really celebrate Halloween as a child, but I think one time at school I dressed up as a cowboy because I had a plaid shirt.”



Jennifer Heffler
Anthropology

ELECTIONS

Keep Kern safe with Measure I

By Kimberly Hernandez
Reporter

Earlier this year, The California Department of Education’s annual crime statistics revealed that, out of the 58 counties that make up California, Kern County had the highest murder rate in 2017.

The reality that Kern has become an unsafe place to live can be worrisome to those who reside in the county. It may feel like the issue with Kern County has gotten out-of-hand, especially when the statistics prove that the county is the leader in murder and homicides.

However, the upcoming November election may give Kern

County residents an opportunity to make a positive change in their community. Measure I on this year’s ballot, seeks to improve the safety, and quality of communities within Kern County. Kern inhabitants have the chance to change the criminal statistics that currently exist.

The proposed measure, if passed, would result in a 1% increase in sales taxes paid within Kern County communities; this means the current sales tax of 7.25% would be increased to 8.25%.

Bakersfield City residents will vote on a similar tax increase with Measure N.

Although the difference in taxes paid may not seem like a drastic

change, there may be some people who will be opposed to the raise in taxation. However, voting residents should take into consideration the benefits that the slight tax increase would bring about.

If passed, Measure I is expected to produce an additional thirty-five million dollars to the current county budget.

Measure I also states that the money that is acquired through the tax increase would be invested in “public safety and protection, parks, code enforcement, roads and libraries.”

Improving roads and providing better parks and libraries would clearly be a positive contribution to the community. However, there

seems to be a primary focus on how the measure will strengthen law enforcement presence in Kern County.

The increase in the yearly budget would allow for the hiring of more law enforcement officers to protect the streets and our communities. With crime rates being at all time high, the increase in law enforcement officers seems like a step towards a solution.

When federal, state, and local taxes are already being taken from people’s paychecks, it may seem like adding another percent to the current sales tax is out of the question.

To put things into perspective, a person who spends roughly

\$500 a month in taxes would pay an additional \$60 a year in sales taxes should the increase be implemented. The increase is slight and it would be used to not only safeguard our community, but to also ensure the children of our community will live to continue to make the community better.

Whether or not Kern County residents are willing to pay an extra 1% to ensure the decrease of homicide rates will all depend on the results of the election that will take place on November 6, 2018; the measure requires a majority vote to pass.

Voting information can be found at www.kernvote.com

MONEY

Skip the lotto ticket and start funding your dreams

By Michael Lynch
Assistant Opinions Editor

The lottery is a tax on people who can’t do math. Despite the odds and horrible rate of return, millions of Americans are flocking to convenience stores to buy tickets.

Why are so many people obsessed with the lottery? The Powerball and Mega Millions both are fundamentally unfair because of the low expected value; therefore, the wise choice is to save your money and not play.

The October 23rd Mega Millions jackpot is expected to come in at 1.6 billion dollars, while the Powerball for the same day will

total 620 million. Those are very tempting numbers until we consider the odds of winning.

To win all five numbers plus the mega million, the odds are 1 in 302,575,350. It is slightly better for the Powerball lottery, with the odds at 1 in 292,201,338 for correctly guessing all five numbers, plus the powerball. These figures do not include taxes, splitting the winnings if there are multiple winners or the penalty incurred if the winner chooses get paid in a lump sum over an annuity.

The lottery operates using incredibly unfair odds. It is often noted by the media that you are more likely to be struck by lightning than to win the lot-

tery. According to the National Weather Center, your chances of being struck by lightning in any given year are 1 in 1,171,000. This statistic doesn’t adequately describe how low the odds are. For perspective, according to the United States Census Bureau, the current United States population is approximately 329,000,000.

With 1 in 302,575,350 as the odds for the Mega Millions, your chances are roughly the same as being randomly picked from every U.S. resident.

According to data compiled by the Bakersfield Californian, Kern County residents spent \$127 million on the lottery in 2017. The worst part is the California

Lottery Commission markets predominantly in low income areas. The lottery sells a false, unachievable dream by taking advantage of people who need money the most. This makes it a fundamentally regressive revenue source. Because lottery tickets do not sell as well in wealthier neighborhoods, this further increases the income divide within communities.

Perhaps the most appealing part of the lottery is the dream it sells: telling your boss that you quit, retiring, and never having to worry about money again.

The problem is that people often spend money they need for necessities on the lottery, hoping it is their way out.

My recommendation is to put all the money you would otherwise spend on the lottery in a savings account because you will still have your money when the game finishes.

The lottery, although exciting, is a voluntary tax. States across the country spend your tax dollars to market it. If you win, it will take back half of what you just won in taxes.

Despite the record high jackpots, the odds are still against you if you play the Mega Millions or the Powerball.

The next time you stop at a convenience store, don’t skip just skip the bags of chips; skip the lotto ticket too.

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Roadrunners to utilize speed this year

By Peter Castillo
Editor-in-Chief

After posting a combined 49-19 record over the previous two seasons, which included the school's first-ever appearance in the NCAA tournament, the CSU Bakersfield men's basketball team struggled to a 12-18 finish last season.

CSUB was forced to deal with a rash of injuries, inconsistent shooting and a young and inexperienced roster last year.

However, head coach Rod Barnes is hopeful the experience his young players gained from last season will propel them forward in the Western Athletic Conference this year.

"I like our team. I like the make-up of this team. I like the chemistry of this team," said Barnes. "I'm excited about this season and what our guys can build."

CSUB was picked to finish fifth in the WAC in both the preseason coaches and media polls.

The team graduated three players last season, including Brent Wrapp, who will serve as a graduate assistant coach this season. Wrapp finished tied for the most career assists in CSUB history.

The Roadrunners will also be without a true center this season, but according to Barnes, the team will attempt to play at a faster pace this season to offset their lack of size.

"We feel like we make up for our size with our athleticism. We do have speed and we feel really good about that. We just have to take advantage of what our strengths are."

Rod Barnes,
men's basketball
head coach

"We feel like we make up for our size with our athleticism," said Barnes. "We do have speed and we feel really good about that. We just have to take advantage of what our strengths are."

Key returners for the Roadrunners include redshirt-senior guard

Damiyne Durham, senior guard Rickey Holden, redshirt-sophomore forward Justin Edler-Davis and sophomore guard Jarkel Joiner.

Durham struggled shooting the ball early on last season and was suspended for two games in January by Barnes for disciplinary reasons.

Once Durham returned from suspension, he caught fire. He averaged 15.1 points per game after his suspension, including a 29-point effort in the quarterfinals loss against Utah Valley University in the WAC tournament.

Holden was forced into the starting lineup right out of the gate last season due to an injury to Brent Wrapp.

However, despite a steep learning curve, Holden held his own and finished second on the team in both points per game (10.7) and assists per game (2.8).

"I worked on my shot, knowing where I'm supposed to be on the floor and to get people the ball," said Holden on what he aimed to improve over the summer. "But most of all, I'm trying to be leader and to lead this team to a lot of victories this year."

See MEN'S HOOPS, Page 15



The Runner Archives
Sophomore guard Jarkel Joiner goes up for a layup in a game last season against Chicago State.

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SWIMMING & DIVING

Swimmer claims 4 titles in native Croatia

By Johnathan Wheatley
Sports Editor

Most students during the summer return home or find a job and work. Sophomore swimmer Kris Rogic who calls Zagreb, Croatia home, returned to his native country this past July to compete in the Croatian National Championships.

He didn't just compete but took home some hardware too. He didn't win just once, or twice, or even three times. Rogic won four different national titles in Croatia and even a third place to add on to his already impressive resume at the championships.

It was a complete sweep for Rogic in the individual events: 50-meter backstroke, 100-meter backstroke, 200-meter backstroke, 200-meter individual medley.

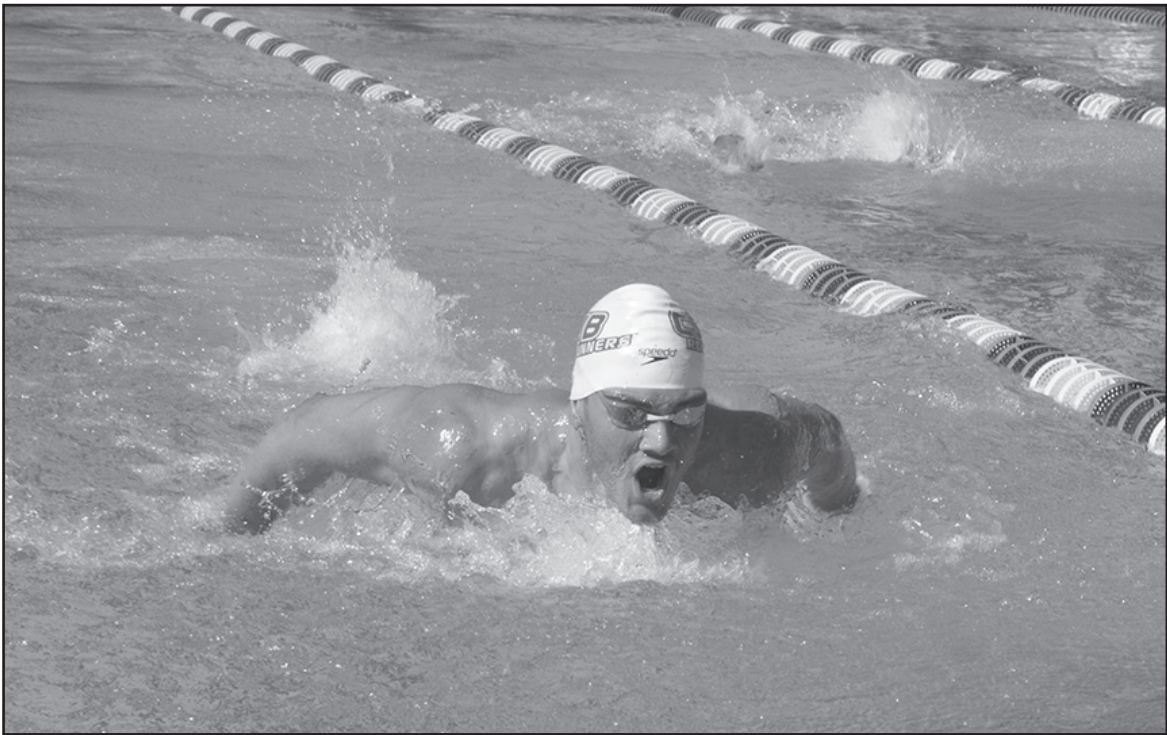
Rogic didn't know which events he was swimming in until a couple weeks before the event.

For the 400-meter medley relay his team finished in third place.

Last year the swimming coaches didn't know what kind of swimmer Rogic was. They couldn't concentrate on just one event, which according to Director of Swimming Chris Hansen is a nice thing. The coaches then figured out he was a backstroke event swimmer.

Rogic has been training for this moment his whole life, and with the help from his mother he got into swimming.

A lot of times we hear that moms



Claudia Alvarez/The Runner

Sophomore Kris Rogic comes up for a breath as he competes in the 200-meter butterfly at the Roadrunner Invite.

always know what's best for their children and for Rogic, his mother putting him into swimming seems to be the right choice.

"My mom had me join swimming around five or six years old because she was afraid I might get hurt playing other sports," said Rogic.

Rogic won his individual events with the posted times of a 26.29 in the 50-meter backstroke, a 56.10 in the 100-meter backstroke and a 2:04.12 in the 200-meter individual medley.

"I thought he was going swim

fast, but I don't think either of us expected him to swim that fast," said Hansen.

Rogic can represent Croatia at the World Championships in South Korea if he can trim his 56.10 seconds in the 100-meter backstroke to 55.8 seconds, according to Hansen.

Rogic would need to get that time by next May if he wants to represent Croatia.

"In January we will head to Knoxville and go to the TYR Pro series and then go to one in April in Richmond," said Hansen on

places Rogic can get the 55.8.

The events Rogic is swimming in are all long pool, meaning a 50-meter pool.

Before coming over from Croatia, Rogic used to swim in the 50-meter pool, but since coming to CSUB he has had to train in a 25-yard pool.

For Rogic to properly train, they must go from the short 25-yard distance of the pool to the 50-meter long distance of the pool so that he can get his strokes and turns timed perfectly.

The 100-meter backstroke will

be the only event Rogic will try to represent Croatia in. The other events had too much of a time gap for him to represent his country.

Being from Croatia, Rogic's training has been quite different at CSUB then what he is used to.

"He [Rogic] immensely disliked our dry land activates from running to med ball stuff," said Hansen when Rogic first came to CSUB. "He actually smiles when we do dry land now and doesn't come in last on the runs."

Hansen has a plan for Rogic to begin next year for training in hopes of qualifying for the world championships.

"We are going to rest and save for conference and then rest and save for NCAA's or NIC's."

Rogic has already made the U.S. Nationals, which he will be attending next August.

The fall swim season has started for CSUB swimming & diving and Rogic has already seen the podium.

At the CSUB Sprint Classic, Rogic posted a 22.99 50-yard backstroke and took first place in the event. He also led the Roadrunners to a second-place finish in the 800-yard freestyle relay.

This season while training for the national championships and competing for CSUB, Rogic just wants to have fun.

"I want conference to be fun and want as many teammates to be happy with what they did and give their best," said Rogic.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

CSUB looks for return to WAC championship

By Briana Gutierrez
Reporter

As the basketball season approaches, the CSU Bakersfield women's basketball team prepares for a return to the Western Athletic Conference Championship after a close loss to Seattle University, 54-57.

Senior Malayasia McHenry and senior JJ Johnson were named to the WAC all-tournament team.

The Roadrunners returned home after the WAC tournament to the Icardo Center to face Fresno State in the Women's Basketball Invitational where CSUB lost 77-66.

With new faces joining the Roadrunners and being one of the senior leaders this year, JJ Johnson has taken up the responsibility and has a good look on this season to come.

"Being positive, and showing up to the younger players. Teach them things, that way they don't have to go through the same mistakes that I made or anyone else made," said Johnson.

With plans of bringing the WAC

championship home this season, the Runners know exactly what needs to be worked on this coming up season to make that happen. Even if it means changing a few things up during practice.

"As a team I would like to see us ranked higher not only just defensively," said sophomore center Vanessa Austin.

Last season the Roadrunners were ranked 23rd in the nation on scoring defense, according to NCAA.com.

After having the championship fall just off their fingertips, the Roadrunners have a fire burning under them that will keep them motivated this season.

"Just knowing that we were close to winning and knowing all the little mistakes added up to the big game. [We're] fixing that in the beginning of the season so it does not happen again," said Johnson.

"The fire is hot, it is burning up really hot. Their excited about it [WAC] and I am too," said CSUB head coach Greg McCall.

This year the WAC added Cal-

ifornia Baptist University and with another team added, CSUB women's basketball team is determined to show up and show out during conference play.

"I am ready to go at it during the WAC. I'm ready to be competitive," said Johnson.

There is one team that CSUB has its eyes on for the season and the team will get to begin WAC play against them.

"Mainly Seattle U, just because I have that taste in my mouth from last year. Three points away, that's not happening again," said Austin.

The Roadrunners are also going to be able to enjoy the newly renovated Kern Schools Court that was installed in the Icardo Center this year.

"I love it. It's totally the upgrade we needed," said Austin.

CSUB will have only four of its 13 nonconference games played at the Icardo center before the team heads into conference play.

The first game of the season for CSUB will be at the Icardo Center on Tuesday, Nov. 6 at 7 p.m. against Wright State University.



The Runner Archives

JJ Johnson drives through the paint against Fresno State in the Women's Basketball Invitational last season.

The Roadrunners will head to Seattle U to being conference play in a rematch of last years WAC

championship on Jan 3.

The WAC tournament will begin in Las Vegas on Wednesday, March 13 at the Orleans Arena.

COMMENTARY

Student-athletes deserve to be paid

Hana Ayoub
Reporter

College sports are a big deal for any school, and bring in big funds.

Student athletes make up a significant portion of CSU Bakersfield's student population.

College can be stressful, especially for student athletes. They often have to balance time with their schoolwork while keeping up with playing sports, and/or a job.

Student athletes barely have the time to fit all their homework in, let alone hold a job.

It can be very stressful to manage their sport with classes, especially when they have to travel to compete and practice every day.

Student athletes should be paid, especially if they are endorsing their school's athletic programs. Students need money outside college needs, such as making car payments or paying for groceries.

If a student puts as much time and effort into playing a sport as they would with a job, then they should get paid.

Pahola Osorio, a senior psychology major, believes that athletes need the money outside school.

"They don't have time to work, they also need money for academics and for themselves, like to pay for their apartment or things like that," said Osorio.

She believes that they invest so much time in their sport, and they do not have the time to invest in a job.

While some may argue that it is unfair to pay students who already have scholarships for their athletic talent, student athletes have to put double the work, whereas some students receive scholarships for good grades, student athletes must maintain their academic performance alongside their athletic performance.

Any student who holds a GPA below a 2.0 could be put

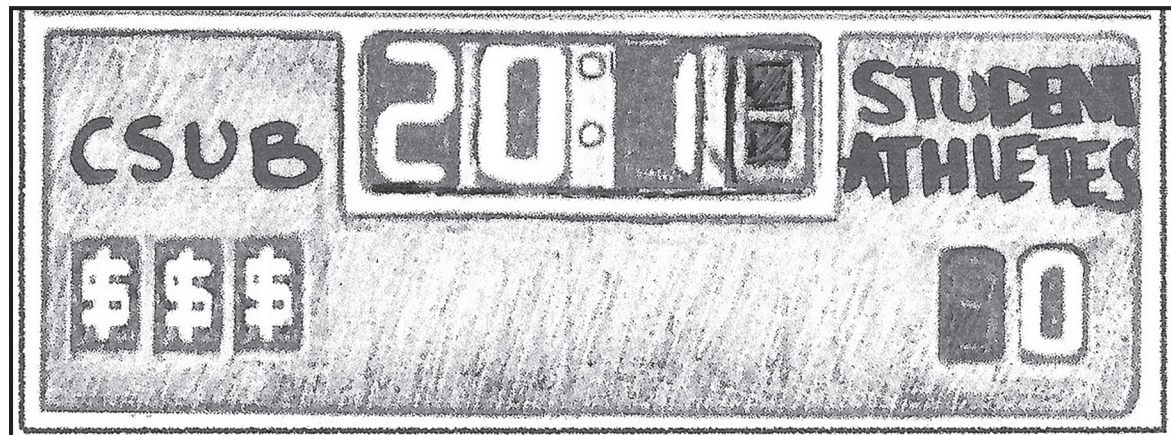


Illustration by Aqsa Khan/The Runner

under academic probation as per CSUB's policy.

Some majors require more work than others, but the workload is still a lot regardless.

Kylie Kiefer, a freshman biology major, wanted to try out for CSUB's soccer team, but her major required too much work for her to play soccer as well.

"It's hard to manage school and soccer, so they should earn something for managing it," said

Kiefer.

Kiefer played club soccer before attending CSUB, and would love to play if she had time for it.

Mayte Quintana, a sophomore psychology major, does not believe an athlete who is receiving a sports scholarship should be paid.

She believes it is a good idea to pay them, because that way they won't struggle with money, but does not believe they should get

both a scholarship and payment for playing.

Business Insider stated "The 231 NCAA Division I schools with data available generated a total of \$9.15 billion in revenue during the 2015 fiscal year."

CSUB's men's basketball team is a NCAA Division I team. If a student athlete endorses a school that brings in a significant amount of revenue, they should be paid. It's as simple as that.

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Young roster features athleticism, depth, lacks experience

[MEN'S HOOPS, Page 13]

After sitting out the 2016-17 season as a redshirt, Edler-Davis showed what he was capable of last year with a strong freshman campaign. He finished with averages of 9.4 points per game and seven rebounds per game in WAC play. He also added a pair of double-doubles.

Joiner set a CSUB record for free throw shooting percentage in his freshman season. The Mississippi native shot 89.6 percent from the stripe. He also averaged 10.4 points per game and 3.4 rebounds per game last year.

"I wanted to improve more of my ball-handling and be more consistent on my threes," said Joiner about his summer routine. "I just wanted to learn how to break down the game and take the

game slower."

New additions to this year's roster include a pair of transfers in Darius Williams and Kevin McNeal.

Williams, a native of Newark, New Jersey, came to CSUB by way of Paris Junior College in Texas. He stands at 6 feet 9 inches tall and features an impressive wingspan which will allow him to guard multiple positions on the floor.

"He's long, he's athletic and he has a high IQ," said Barnes about Williams. "He's getting stronger too and he's very versatile and think people will get a chance to see that."

A transfer from San Bernardino Valley College in Southern California, McNeal averaged 14.1 points per game last season.

Barnes also praised him for his defense and versatility.

"[McNeal] I think has a chance to be one of our best defensive players," said Barnes. "He also has a knack for scoring and obviously, we need that."

CSUB will also welcome the return of redshirt-sophomore guard Taze Moore after he sat out last season recovering from a knee injury he suffered in February 2017.

The Roadrunners' nonconference road schedule features games against some schools who could potentially be ranked in the top-25 in the nation.

"I think our schedule is leaning toward the tougher side before we get to conference play," said Barnes. "We going to play against three of the best teams in the country."

In addition to facing other Division I mid-major programs such as Cal Poly and the University of Lamar, CSUB will also take on some non-DI schools such as the University of Antelope Valley, UC Santa Cruz and UC Merced as part of its nonconference schedule.

The team will also travel to the Bahamas for the inaugural Junkanoo Jam beginning on Thursday, Nov. 15 against the University of Central Michigan. The Roadrunners will play three games in the weekend tournament.

WAC play will begin for CSUB on Thursday, Jan. 3 at the Icardo Center against Seattle University at 7 p.m.

Homecoming and Senior Night are scheduled for a game against the WAC's newest member

California Baptist University on Saturday, Feb. 23 at 7 p.m.

The regular season will conclude on Saturday, March 9 on the road against Utah Valley University.

The WAC tournament will begin on Thursday, March 14 at the Orleans Arena in Las Vegas, Nevada.

The Roadrunners will hit the floor when they take on Long Beach State for an exhibition game on Saturday, Oct. 27. The game will benefit the relief efforts of fires throughout the state.

CSUB opens the regular season on the road against TCU on Wednesday, Nov. 7 at 6 p.m.

The Roadrunners' home opener is scheduled for Friday, Nov. 9 at 11 a.m. against Antelope Valley as a part of its annual "Education Day."

WOMEN'S SOCCER

CSUB clinches spot in conference tournament

By Peter Castillo
Editor-in-Chief

By virtue of its 2-0 win on Sunday over New Mexico State University, the CSU Bakersfield women's soccer team has clinched a berth in the Western Athletic Conference Tournament.

The Roadrunners (6-10, 3-4 WAC) will take on Grand Canyon University (6-12-1, 3-3-1 WAC) at home in the regular season finale on Friday, Oct. 26 at 5 p.m. in a match that will have seeding implications.

"I'm proud of this group for sticking together while he results were not happening for us,"

said CSUB head coach Sebastian Vecchio to gorunners.com. "Now we turn the page to Grand Canyon so we can send our seniors on a high note."

If CSUB wins Friday, it could enter the tournament as either the fourth or fifth seed, depending on the outcome of Utah Valley University's game. With a loss, the Roadrunners will enter the tournament as the sixth seed.

CSUB did not qualify for the tournament last season.

The WAC tournament will begin on Wednesday, Oct. 31 in Orem, Utah.

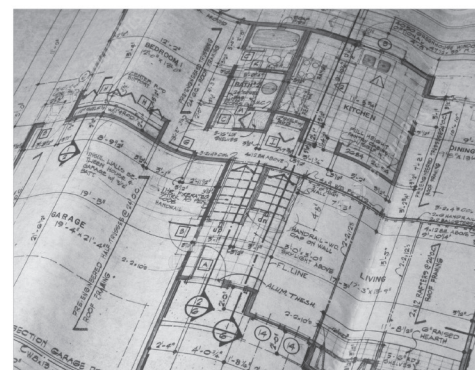
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All CSUB students are eligible to participate in the LEADER Program. Students should be motivated, open-minded, and ready to participate in learning, application, and self-reflective activities and programs.



Be an ARCHITECT

Club representatives are encouraged to attend BLUEPRINT Series Workshops. Each Workshop covers one area of Organizational Management, Risk Reduction, Marketing & Recruitment, Fiscal Responsibility and Event Planning.



Check RUNNERSYNC events for workshop times and locations.

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