

CFA and CSU reach tentative agreement

By Nathan Campbell and Sandra Vicuna
News/Features Editor and Editor-in-Chief

The California Faculty Association and the California State University reached a tentative agreement Monday afternoon.

The agreement provided all CSU faculty with a base pay increase of 20.7 percent over a four-year period as well as a step increase for eligible faculty that would make the package worth 24.87 percent.

In addition to these increases, \$28 million will be provided in the form of merit and equity increases.

"We are pleased that we were able to come to an agreement with our faculty union. This is good news for everybody including our 417,000 students, and we look forward to moving ahead with getting our faculty their salary increases," said Roberta Achtenberg, chair for the CSU Board of Trustees in a CSU press release.

"We have a tentative agreement on the CSU faculty contract that will be good for the CSU, good for our students, good for the faculty and frankly it will be good for California. As a result, we have put the rolling walkouts at the 23 CSU campuses on hold pending ratification of the agreement," said CFA President John Travis in an email.

"We would never have this agreement without the threat of a strike," said Larry Taylor, president of the Bakersfield chapter of the CFA in an email sent to faculty Monday afternoon.

Union members' had voted to strike and were bolstered by the results of a neutral-party fact-finding report that favored raising faculty salaries. The 37-page report agreed with almost all of the CFA's demands, and outlined appropriate means of compensation to faculty.

The CSU accepted the fact finder's recommendations to establish a salary structure committee to examine faculty compensation issues.

According to local CFA President Larry Taylor, 94 percent of faculty voted to go on strike. An impressive 84 percent of the total CFA membership showed up to vote on the issue of the strike.

The first campuses that would have felt the impact of the faculty strikes would have been CSU Los Angeles and the Maritime Academy, with a strike taking place April 10-11.

(CFA continued on Page 3)

Second annual brains of Bakersfield

Information compiled by Chris Doggett
Staff Writer

The second annual "Brains of Bakersfield" contest will be held Friday, April 13, at CSUB in the Icardo Center.

The event is a co-collaboration of Simon Tobin, Men's Soccer Coach, and Cliona Murphy a CSUB History Professor.

It is based on the British game of Quiz Night. The teams are composed of up to 10 people who are challenged to answer tough questions ranging from sports to science. Overall scores are based on the team's answers, and whether or not they are answered in the time given.

The contest's proceeds benefit the CSUB Soccer Scholarships and the Diabetic Youth Foundation, which is in Bearskin Meadow Camp held for kids with Type 1 diabetes.

The evening begins with a cocktail hour at 6 p.m., then followed by the contest at 7 p.m. sharp. There will be a half time catered by Caesar's Italian Delicatessen.

Everyone is encouraged to form teams of 10 people and call 654-2428 to register. There is a registration fee of \$300 or \$30 per person. Brainy Bunch trophies go out to the team with the highest final score.

Rec Center to break ground in early June

By Melissa Stewart
Staff Writer

After three years of planning, ground breaking may soon begin on the new recreation center.

According to Fred Wilson, assistant vice president for facilities management, the plans and budget for the Recreation Center have been finalized and are now out for contractors to bid on. The final estimated budget for construction is just under \$18 million.

"This is exciting" says Wilson. He explains this is one of the last steps before actual construction begins.

Sink Combs Dethelfs, an architecture firm, designed CSUB's rec center. The company specializes in recreation building design, and just recently completed Fresno State's new recreation center.

The building's design has been broken down into 30 different trade contracts. These are individual bids for building elements such as roofing, windows and electrical. Even the rock wall has its own contract.

All contract bids are due by April 10. Each trade contract may have three or more bids to consider. After looking over all options the best will be

taken. If everything comes in within budget it will be submitted to the CSU Board of Trustees for approval.

"A lot of precautions were taken in budgeting," says ASI President Kenneth Beurmann, who explains that as long as the budget is met, there should be little trouble for the Board to approve construction. Beurmann also assures there has been good feedback from the trustees on different aspects of building design.

"There have been some minor cuts" says Beurmann. These cuts

include using more cost effective structural items, such as trim and doors.

"All major ideas are still in play. Everything students expected is going to be there," says

Beurmann.

The board will make its decision by May 15. If construction is approved, ground breaking will be held in early



Rendering of CSUB's Rec Center designed by Sink Combs Dethelfs.

June.

"We hope to break ground the week of graduation" says Wilson.

Students who will have graduated before construction is complete will still have access to the center.

Beurmann explains that even students that have graduated will still be able to use the center. For every quarter that tuition included money paid into the project, a student has an equal amount of time to use the center and its services free of charge.

However, local students are not the

only ones who have helped pay into the center.

"Our friends at Antelope Valley feel left out" explains Beurmann. The students who live too far away to utilize the center will be compensated with membership to a local gym for the same amount of time.

Everyone involved with the Recreation Center seems very optimistic about the progress that has been made. For now, our rock climbing hopes are in the hands of contractors.

April is sexual assault awareness month

By Nicole Sanchez
Assistant Features Editor

Events are taking place at the CSUB campus throughout April to observe Sexual Assault Awareness Month. Sexual assault and sexual harassment happens more than the average person would like to believe. For that reason, an entire month has been set aside to observe its significance and to stress its existence to people world wide.

Throughout the month of April, colleges around the world are planning events and gaining student support for this much needed cause. CSUB students are no exception; stu-

dents on campus are participating in everything from making t-shirts to viewing art.

Katie Miller, Business Management major at CSUB, has made it her mission to inform students around the city about the importance of sexual assault awareness. "Everyone should be aware of what is going on around them. It may happen to them," said Miller.

The events are not funded by the school budget, and Miller has been gaining donations from local business. A few of the business that have donated supplies and support are Bolthouse Farms, Wal-Mart, Rain for Rent, along with many clubs on campus.

Starting off the month, on Tuesday from 12

p.m. to 1 p.m. guest speakers spoke on the Student Union steps, and later tied teal ribbons around the trees on campus. To end the month there is an Open Mic Night in the student lounge on April 30th from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. This will be a time for students to express their concerns, experiences, music and/or poetry about sexual assault.

There are various other events throughout the month and The Runner will be keeping the readers informed on where and what time these events will take place.

(Awareness continued on Page 2)

Nursing department opens new clinical simulation center

By Rhonda Johnson
Staff Writer

At the beginning of March, California State University Bakersfield's Nursing Department held an open house at the new nursing modular building to showcase the new Nursing Clinical Simulation Center.

Funding was provided by former U.S Representative Bill Thomas before his retirement through the U.S Department of Education which enabled the purchase of two state of the art computer driven mannequins, Sim-Man and Sim-baby, that will help assist nursing majors with safe, hands on, life-like experiences.

"CSUB's nursing faculty have developed scenarios similar to what nurses experience in practice, so the nursing students can learn in a non-threatening and patient safe environment," said Dr. Peggy Leaply, chair of CSUB's nursing department.

The laboratory is modeled like a hospital with hospital beds and monitors. There are cameras in the monitors that record procedures that students carry out, which allows the professor to make sure the students did the proper assessments on the patient.



Photo courtesy of the Nursing Department
Student poses with Sim-baby in the new clinical simulation center

The mannequin are able to stimulate breathing, heart rates, pupil changes, swelling of the tongue and pulses in different locations. Before this new technology came along, the nursing department used mannequin but they were not computerized. With this new advancement, it helps them become

more knowledgeable with current instruction. Instructors are able to teach more methods and add more scenarios to their lesson plans.

"Not every person will see someone go into shock or other situations so with this technology it allows students to be involved in many patient situations," stated Leaply. It is also allowing the instructors to lecture those scenarios which helps students more in the classroom with problem solving and makes it more real to them.

"Students seems to be enjoying this experience," Leaply says.

The Nursing Department is still looking for more funding to update their laboratory, to make sure they are teaching with current equipment and procedures.

For those interested in viewing the life-like mannequin, there will be another open house with the date to be later announced. Contact Dr. Peggy Leaply at (661) 654-3103.

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ABOUT

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

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The Quest for Cheesy Fries is not as easy as it seems

By Emily Shapiro
Assistant News Editor

Editorial

Simple is never simple. In fact simple can be very complicated.

Take for example my quest for a simple plate of cheesy fries. To all of you who do not know, I am an avid fan of French fries drenched with nacho cheese, a Midwest specialty. So what do cheesy fries have to do with life?

Everything.
Something as simple as fries can be totally complicated to the point of idio- cy, just like wanting to know simple facts and figures.

My assignment was simple. I was to interview a representative of Sodexho Foods, Inc. and then gather a few num- bers.

The interview went smoothly. The per- son I interviewed was very congenial, but when I asked this person for a copy of Sodexhos' contract I was met with a blank stare. I was then told politely that the contract was not public information.

Being a resourceful person I immedi- ately (on advice from a professor of mine) went to the library to research. What I found was interesting but not relevant to my story.

The numbers I found only outlined what the university made, not what Sodexo made.

The food service contract with Sodexho lasts seven years, beginning July 1, 2002, and CSUB receives 6.25 percent of net receipts.

Upon conferring with my advisor and other editors, it was suggested to me to file a letter under the California Public Records Act.

The Act states that "public records are open to inspection at all times during the office hours of the agency and every person has the right to inspect any pub- lic record except as provided, and to receive an exact copy" of an identifi- able record unless impractical.

So the letter was typed, addressed and sent away to the University Foundation. I thought that by taking this action I would be provided with the informa- tion. Boy was I wrong.

According to the policy, the agency is given 10 days to respond. Within this time frame I was contacted and told that I could pick up copies of the requested information. As I flipped through the contracts I began to see that these peo- ple were playing games.

I have been told that businesses will do almost anything to keep their secrets well hidden, but I was not prepared for the brouhaha that was to follow.

Both contracts that were provided were absolutely useless. I could have spent the three dollars on something else—on something useful like nacho cheese!

All financial information, (numbers, data, etc) had been marked out. For the last 10 days I had been hoping for some important information. The result of my research was toilet paper.

This move made me wonder what the University was hiding. What was so important that they couldn't provide me with a truthful, data based answer?

This put my mind into overdrive. I then re-filed the same letter. This time I requested any and all complete and

unredacted information, or information that could not be marked out, i.e. finan- cial data.

They would now have to give me what I wanted, but was I wrong... again.

The next move in this rat race was an official letter saying that one of the businesses that I requested information about has stated that their financial data is considered a trade secret and there- fore they are exempt from this request.

In addition, the University Foundation is a "private entity" and doesn't have to comply with the California Public Records Act.

So I am now in a conundrum. The par- ties involved declined to comment on this matter.

Should I pursue? Hmmm...of course I should and I am.

As a side note, I have now stocked my closet with nacho cheese. I only need some place to heat it up, but I doubt after this the people in the Sodexho kitchen would allow me to use their space.



Nicole Sanchez/The Runner
Shirts decorated for Sexual Assault Awareness Month

(Awareness continued from page 1)

The events are not only organized to bring awareness to the cause; Katie Miller suggests that it is also to teach students how to support and console sexual assault victims.

Janet Millar, chair of Campus Violence Prevention Committee, has high hopes for the events, and is excited to see what the month might hold. According to Millar, this is the first year that CSUB will be participating at this level. It is vital for college students to be knowledgeable about the issue because one in three college students experience sexual assault. "We want everyone safe on campus and to be educat- ed on what sexual mis-conduct is," said Millar.

Rape, sexual assault and harassmt hap- pens very often. The rape treatment center at UCLA reported that one in six women

have experienced an attempted rape or a completed rape. One must also remember that rape or sexual assault does not only happen to women, it does occur more to women but men also experience their share of sexual assault. The same UCLA study found that one in every 33 men has also experience sexual assault.

There are plenty of other statistics that would shock the average person. For that reason students like Katie Miller and coun- selors like Janet Millar are taking steps to inform and educate. There might never be a more perfect time to learn about sexual assault and its propensity. To make it con- venient for students, gatherings have been scheduled to take place where students hang out the most: on campus. Students who would like to volunteer can contact the Counseling Center at 654-3366.

SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH ACTIVITIES

Take Back the Night

Student Union Steps
April 12, 2007
6-8 p.m.

Guest speakers, march around campus and candle-lighting ceremony, the T-shirts from the clothes line will be hung up. The t-shirts are made in various colors that represent different types of sexual assault.

Gallery Reception

Albertson Room by Dore Theatre
April 16, 2007
7-9 p.m.

Each piece revolves around the theme of sexual assault

Legal Panel

Student Union MultiPurpose Room
April 25, 2007
11-noon

A group of legal panelists speak about sexual assault and how to "Fix a Broken System"

Open Mic Night

Student Union Lounge
April 30, 2007
7-9 p.m.

Poetry, music and stories from survivors of sexual assault

For more information please call:
CSU, Bakersfield Counseling Center
(661) 654-3366

Runner on the Street

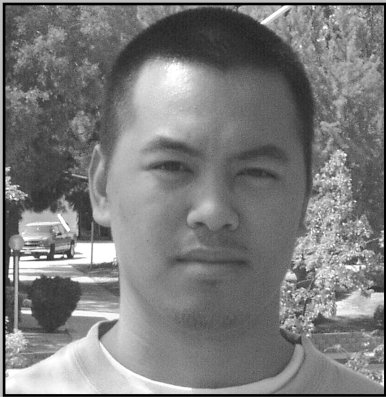
By Marc Perez, Staff Photographer

This Week, The Runner asked, "Would you use the Recreation Center, and what would you use it for?"



Will Neuenkirk
Senior, ERM

No, I probably wouldn't use the Recreation Center, because I already have a gym member- ship, but I would use the park- ing lot if it has better parking.



Govin Ifurung
Sophomore, Criminal Justice

I would use the Recreation Center mainly for playing pick- up basketball games.



Sandeep Kaur
Sophomore, Business Administration

I would use the Recreation Center to get together with friends and hang out, I would also us it for the occasional study group.



Javier Barba
Sophomore, Physiology

Yes, I would use the Recreation Center mainly to work out. I would like to use one of the basketball courts to play a pick- up game of indoor soccer. It will also be a good place to get together with some friends.



Tamika Temple
Senior, Political Science and Philosophy

Yes, I would use the Recreation Center to exercise weekly, and I would also use the Recreation Center to socialize with other students.

CSUB student finding her groove in college life

By Evelyn Martin
Staff Writer

Lotella Hale is not the kind of student who will sit on the sidelines during her college career. Active in many campus ventures, Hale is desirous of extracting the most from her college experience that she possibly can.

With a major in Child Development and a minor in Theatre, it is apparent that Hale is a sociable people person. Hale graduated from Tulare Western High School, where she was involved in Theatre all four years.

Afterward, she attended the College of the Sequoias in Visalia where she received her AA degree in Dance. She then arrived at CSUB fall of 2004.

From the very start of her college career at CSUB, Hale knew she wanted to be active on campus. As a resident in the dorms, she was drawn to become a member of the Residents Hall Association (RHA), and has remained a part of the RHA ever since, with her peak position as secretary occurring last year.

The inviting social setting was appealing to her and it seemed a natural progression to add to her commitments a taste of the Greek life, courtesy of Kappa Delta Nu, for which she pledged membership in fall 2005. She tries to consistently participate in everything the sorority is involved with from weekly meetings to events and fundraisers.



Photo courtesy of Lotella Hale
Lotella Hale, pictured in the front with glasses poses with her Kappa Delta Nu sisters.

“It’s a lot of hard work; a lot of fun. You definitely get a connection with the female bond,” said Hale.

Full-time status as a student and 17 hours of work each week at the Children’s Center on campus take up the majority of her time. Her drive to balance

her educational pursuits and maintain her spot on the Dean’s List along with gaining experience working with young and energetic children on the job are offset by her active sorority life and love of dance.

“I’m a dancer. That’s my passion,” Hale said with

a zealous grin.

In fact, Hale was just recently fortunate enough to snag the much-coveted duty of choreographer for the hit musical “Grease,” which will begin rehearsals two weeks before the quarter ends in Tulare.

Indeed, Hale’s extensive background in dance (jazz, hip hop, ballet, tap, and more) and her love of the musical will aid her in choreographing and meeting the demands of the popular production.

As far as theatrical endeavors go for campus events, Hale has not had the time to dedicate to such projects but is taking Improvisation among her courses this quarter.

Though Hale’s busy days can begin as early as 7 a.m. and end as late as 2 a.m., downtime is important to her. She enjoys filling these moments with trips to the local movie theaters, watching One Tree Hill, and supporting the men and women of the Runner basketball teams. Her week is usually rounded out with attendance at Vineyard Christian Fellowship.

“It’s hard to balance a social life, being as busy as I am, but it can be done,” said Hale.

With plans to graduate next Spring, and no sign of slowing down, Hale is appreciative of the various components of her life that she juggles, maintaining a pleasantly composed and content demeanor.

“I believe that they key to success in school is by being active because that way you don’t let the stress of school weigh you down,” said Hale.

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2165 for more informa-
tion or email us at runner.csub.edu.

(CFA continued from Page 1)

According to a CFA press release, the initial rolling strike was to be followed immediately by strikes at CSU Dominguez Hills, East Bay, Sacramento and San Marcos.

If the tentative agreement is ratified by the CFA, it will then be submitted to the CSU Board of Trustees for approval.

To view the fact-finding report, visit:
calfac.org/factfinding.html



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BOLD MOVES
Southern California Ford Dealers

CSUB Crime Beat

Compiled by Reema Hammad
Staff Writer

Sunday, March 25, 2007

22:47 Found Property Report
Occurred at Dorothy Donohoe Hall on 9500. jumper cables and a baseball bat
Disposition: Report Taken. The prop- erty was seized for safekeeping.

Monday, March 26, 2007

09:50 Burglary Report
Occurred at Education Building on 9600. . Laptop taken in last 6 months. Disposition: Report Taken. No suspect information located.

16:08 Burglary Report
Occurred at Wiley’s Pub on 9400. . Economics Geography Book taken Disposition: Report Taken. No suspect information located.

Tuesday, March 27, 2007

04:30 Hazardous Situation
Occurred at Science 2 on 400. . rp states there is a bad leak that appears to be coming from the 4th floor and leaking all the way down the stairwell. Disposition: No Further Action Required. Facilities management notified of the leak.

Wednesday, March 28, 2007

11:34Suspicious Circumstances
Occurred at Dorothy Donohoe

Hall on 9500. . Vendor selling offen- sive posters. Disposition: Assignment Completed.
Subject was contacted and confirma- tion was made that they were author- ized to be on campus.

17:37 Found Property Report

Occurred at Science 2 on 400. . Insulin kit. Disposition: Report Taken. The property was seized for safekeeping.

Thursday, March 29, 2007


13:51 Found Property Report
Officer initiated activity at Student Way, , C S U Bakersfield.LOT F. black

organized planner Disposition: Report Taken. The property was seized for safekeeping.

22:18 Hazardous Situation
Officer initiated activity at Hillman Aquatic Center, 9400, C S U Bakersfield. Disposition: Report Taken after the area

was checked and secured.

22:58 Disturbance (on campus)
Occurred at Dobry Dorm on 400. . Subject reported hearing BB gun shots. Disposition: Area was checked and no BBguns located.



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Looking for something to do in Bakersfield?

Compiled by Krisi Bollinger
Staff Writer

What to do in the little town of Bakersfield....Feel free to cut this out!

4/1 Jam vs. Idaho
4:00 p.m. at the Rabobank Arena, 1001 Truxtun Avenue, for info. Call 661- 852-777

4/4 Condors vs. Idaho Steelheads
7:00 p.m. at the Rabobank Arena, 1001 Truxtun Avenue

4/5 Quietdrive
At Jerry's Pizza doors open at 6:00 p.m., 1817 Chester Avenue, for info. Call 661-633-1000

4/5 Hellogoodbye, Boys Like Girls and The Hush Sound. Doors open at 6:00 p.m., at the Dome, 2201 V Street, for info. Visit www.bakersfielddome.net/



Photo courtesy of www.myspace.com
Hellogoodbye brings there pop-punk to The Dome in Bakersfield.

4/5 Bone-Thugs-N-Harmony
Starts at 8:00 p.m., at The Majestic Fox Theater, for info. Call 661-324- 1369

4/6 Condors vs. Idaho Steelheads
7:00 p.m. at the Rabobank Arena, 1001



Photo courtesy of www.lorenze.com
This kid loves Condors games because he has no idea what's going on.

to close. Make sure to bring friends who like a little bit of country and a little bit of rock & roll.

4/7 Jam vs. Albuquerque
7:30 p.m. at the Rabobank Arena, 1001 Truxtun Avenue

4/10 Ying Yang Twins w/ special guest Amber Pacific
Doors open at 6:00 p.m., at the Dome, 2201 V Street

4/12 Jamie Foxx
8:00 p.m. at the Rabobank Arena, 1001

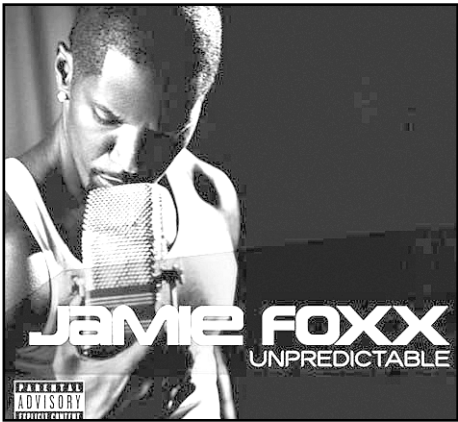


Photo courtesy of www.bellaonline.com
Jamie Foxx brings his one of a kind personality to the Rabobank Arena.

Truxtun Avenue

4/6 FLICS presents Water
7:30 p.m., at The Majestic Fox Theater

4/6 DANCING at the Crystal Palace.
9:00 p.m.

Truxtun Avenue, Bakersfield

4/13 DANCING at the Crystal Palace
9:00 p.m. to close

4/14 Jam vs. Colorado
7:30 p.m. at the Rabobank Arena, 1001 Truxtun Avenue



Photo courtesy of www.nlpoasandiegocounty.com
Come watch your local cops box it out at the Dome.

4/14 Boxing/ Battle of the Badges
Doors open at 6:00 p.m., at the Dome, 2201 V Street

4/17 Halifax
Doors open at 6:00 p.m., at the Dome, 2201 V Street

4/17 Five For Fighting
7:30 p.m. at The Majestic Fox Theatre, 2001 H Street

4/20 FLICS presents The Beat That My Heart Skipped.
7:30 p.m., at The Majestic Fox Theater

4/21 Village Artisan's Spring Craft Fair
10:00 a.m. at Jastro Park, Truxtun and Elm

4/22 Village Artisan's Spring Craft Fair
10:00 a.m. at Jastro Park, Truxtun & Elm

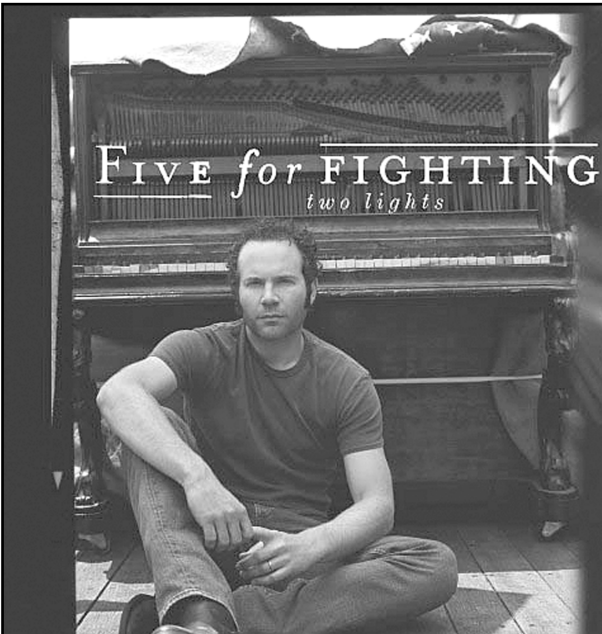


Photo courtesy of www.sarez.com
Five for Fighting brings their high pitched voices to the Fox on April 17.

4/22 Kern Veterans Memorial Twin Oaks Poker Run.
8:00 a.m. at Tina Marie's Café, 2000 Chester Avenue

4/24-26 The Producers
Rabobank Arena, 1001 Truxtun Avenue



Photo courtesy of www.ticketspecialists.com
The Producers blends comedy, music and dancing that is sure to entertain even the most meatheaded of Bakersfield types.

Celebrity Roll Call

By Marcus Mulick
Entertainment Editor



Photo courtesy of www.vh1.com
I think New York picked Tango because she thought he was Common.

naughty Mary Camden (Jessica Biel), the awkwardly hot Jan of the family Lucy Camden (Beverly Mitchell), or the never-ending supply of girlfriends (including Ashley Simpson) that Simon were somehow able to convince that he was straight. Wait...those were just the reasons why I watched. This show filled the void that was left in my heart after "Full House" went off the air. Now I have no idea what television family I'm going to attach myself to next. Wait, yes I do. "The Riches"! Wednesday nights at 10

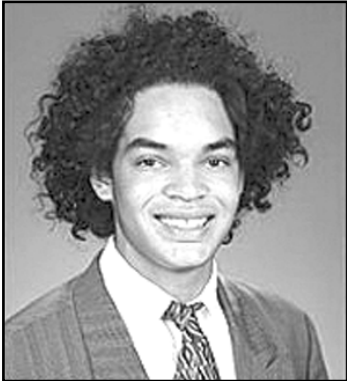


Photo courtesy www.news.lib.com
Geico. So easy to use, Joakim Noah could use it.

- For the seven of you that have been watching "I Love New York," you're probably just as disappointed as I am that New York picked Tango over Chance. This dude is so fake that even New York looks genuine compared to him. And can you believe he proposed to her on the spot? Kenny Chesney and Renee Zellweger aren't going to be the only ones who's relationship end's with a legal document claiming "Fraud".

- After 11 seasons, "7th Heaven," AKA everyone's favorite guilty pleasure, is finally coming to an end. We all were drawn to this show for different reasons. Whether it was to watch the gorgeous and always



Photo courtesy of www.7thheaven.awp and www.imageshack.com
Gentleman, I give you Ruthie Camden. She'll be 18 by the year's end. I give her a +/- 4 months before we start seeing pictures of her and Lindsay Lohan clubbing in L.A.

o'clock on F/X.

- For the last month, the most common name in college basketball hasn't been Kevin Durant or Greg Oden. It's been the one and only Joakim Noah.

Last year, I was able to ignore him. But this year, he's everywhere. And I can't take it anymore. He's overrated, obnoxious and stinky.

Legend has it that after starring in the Geico caveman commercials as Caveman #2, he decided to play basketball. Now that his college career is finished, the NBA's toughest and meanest players are counting down the day that they will have the chance to flagrant foul him.

Thanks for reading. You have now gained important knowledge that you can impress your friends with. As for me, the Ruthie Camden Birthday Countdown has officially begun.

Now Hear This... It's time to File !!



Associated Students Elections



If you are interested in running for an Associated Student Body office, please pick up a filing packet, starting April 2nd in the ASI office. Filing period begins April 2nd and ends on April 13th at 12:00 noon exactly!

Offices include:

President,
Executive VP,
VP of Finance,
VP of Programming,
and Student Body Directors
representing each class level and
each academic school.



For more information contact ASI in the Student Union
or at 654-2418.

Deadline for filing is Friday, April 13th at 12:00 noon.

Waterpolo season almost finished: Who will come out on top?

By: **Amanda Galindo**
Staff Writer

The Women’s Waterpolo season is almost over and the Runners are ending the season with an impressive record. So far, their record is 19-10, but they still have two more tournaments to compete in before they end their run.

Sadly, there are no more home games for the Runners. However, Loyola Marymount is holding an invitational April 13-14 where our Runners will be facing the likes of UC San Diego, Colorado State, Sonoma State, and UC Santa Cruz. Then, on the last weekend in April, the girls will head up to Santa Cruz where they’ll compete for the title in the Western Waterpolo Association Championships.

“We have confidence because we have played them (LMU) before. The last time we played them we lost by 3. They will be competition but we have beat them before and we can do it again. This past weekend we beat Santa Clara, one of our biggest competitors, so I think we’re ranked in the top 20 now,” said Amanda Ortiz, sophomore.

We have an international team. Of all our 24 players, six come from a different country. Three hail from Puerto Rico, two from Russia and one from Hungary.

And what powerhouses they are.

Amanda Ortiz, from Ponce, Puerto Rico, is a member of the Puerto Rican Women’s National Waterpolo Team, along with three of her sisters and CSUB’s own Paola Medina. Last week, they traveled to Australia to compete in the world championships where they lost all of their round-robin

games. Moreover, Amanda Ortiz’s 92 goals this season breaks CSUB’s single-season goal-scoring record previously held by Yulia Blinovskaya (2006) and Dawn Rodriguez (1999) at 91 goals in a season. Also, the team’s 337 goals is a team single-season scoring record, breaking the 328 goals scored in 2005.



Photo courtesy of Sports Information
Women’s waterpolo team

Another international waterpolo star, Yulia Blinovskaya of Moscow, Russia, arrived in Bakersfield after developing into one of the top young waterpolo players in all of Russia. Blinovskaya was captain of the Russian junior

national team and led the team to a second place finish in an international tournament twice. She played on a seven-time Russian championship team and was a three-time runner-up at the Euro Cup.

Also training for a spot on Mexico’s National Waterpolo team is CSUB’s Neshmil Ariy, a junior from San Diego, Calif.

The women’s waterpolo team has always been Division I as there is no Division II in Women’s Waterpolo; Only Division III and Division I. NCAA rules are very strict for Division I athletics. Their preseason is from September-January and their regular season is from February-April. There can be no games between schools in the off-season. So, the team has scrimmages between themselves, constantly working

towards the season to come. Because they have weekend games, Coach Poljack usually gives them Monday to rest.

But these ladies are committed, practicing everyday for upwards of four hours a day. Not even cold

weather stops these fish from hopping in the water.

The team practices year round, even in the freezing cold.

“It’s rare that you’ll see a teammate missing practice. That’s how much we love it. We’re sick and we’re still there, even in the cold weather,” said Ariy.

“We have three Puerto Ricans on the team. Us Puerto Ricans come from a very hot place, so when we came here and had to practice in the cold water we almost died!” laughed Ortiz.

But without skipping a beat, Ariy chimed in, “But we are committed. No cold water is going to slow us down.”

“We want to finish in the top 20, and to do so we need to finish the season like we’ve been doing. We have been doing well, and we just need to stay consistent. Last season we started out well but finished poorly, and this season we need to finish strong. Our team is really small compared to San Diego and Santa Clara...They have, like, 20 more players than us. But we beat Santa Clara and they are ranked high,” said Ortiz.

Ariy added, “It’s hard because we don’t have a big bench and we have a lot of freshmen which could mean less experience, but we are dedicated. Its hard moving your body in the water all the time, and all the other teams outnumber us so they get to sub out and bring fresh bodies in, but us, all we have is heart. The small players that we have on the team, I mean, they don’t match up with the 30 or 40 that San Diego and Santa Clara have, but we have a lot of heart, and our heart, consistency and love for the game will take us all the way.”

Bigger isn’t always better

By **Phillip Barnett**
Sports Editor

Editorial

Next year there will be no more CCAA Division II for CSUB. Instead it will go hand in hand with Chris Tucker’s career – bitter-sweet memories about something that doesn’t exist anymore. Meanwhile attendance at CSUB athletic events will remain constant.

Cal State University Bakersfield does not have a plethora of die-hard fans like some of the bigger, more established Division I schools that seem to excel athletically year in and year out; yet we are still trying to fill Rabobank Arena, which seats about 10,000 people.

Bakersfield is not a city that is huge on basketball, so why spend money on a venue where we consistently fill less than half of the seats during the course of the season. We can hold the games on campus, at least until we can consistently fill the Icardo Center. Pack the Stands Night was the only one game this season where attendance was greater than 3,000. On a night where anyone could get in free, there still was not enough in attendance to fill half of the arena.

The Icardo Center seats 3,800, a number that is still about 1,000 over our average attendance. At only 44,000 square feet, players and fans alike can actually tell that there are people watching the games, the atmosphere tops the atmosphere at Rabobank, and it gets a lot louder than it ever would at the arena with the same amount of people.

Going to sporting events is also an experience that some students look forward to after

graduating high school, and there are a lot of students who live on campus who don’t get to enjoy that experience with the main sport at CSUB because of transportation issues.

Students and coaches seem to like the games on campus more than downtown.

The arena downtown is a beautiful place and a nice facility and if you have 10,000 people you have a large capacity and we’ve had a lot of success there. The arena has been good to us,” said La Kose. “With that being said, we’ve had a lot of success here [Icardo

Center]. This is home. It’s more student friendly, perhaps more family friendly as far as costs. If we put a thousand here we have a much more collegiate atmosphere than what we would have at the arena.”

Some of the students on campus would love to see the majority of the home games being played on campus too.

“The games should be played on campus because it’s easier to get there and it is more like a Division I school,” said John Davis, a junior majoring in history.

“I think we should play on campus because it is closer and it is the school’s home game,” said Wendy Hernandez-Cruz, a senior majoring in business. “I think if we are going to have home games they should be on campus.”

A simple solution would be to keep the games on campus until we can consistently fill the Icardo Center, then move to the bigger Rabobank Arena. Fans will come with time and actual conference play. We should be patient because in the future Rabobank could be a wonderful place for our basketball programs.



Phillip Barnett/Runner
You can use your fingers to count the people watching this game.

Women’s Basketball head coach Tim La Kose had this to say about the venues: “I think there are positives to both of them.

Roadrunners respond with pair of wins

After a pair of losses on the first day of the Davis Shootout, Cal State Bakersfield responded with a pair of wins on Sunday, knocking off No. 17 Santa Clara, 8-7, before taking an 11-8 victory over Cal State Monterey Bay.

After a weekend without the services of Paola Medina and Amanda Ortiz due to national team duties at the FINA Water Polo World Championships, Ortiz scored six goals on Sunday while Medina provided solid defense to lead Bakersfield to two wins including one over a nationally-ranked opponent.

Against No. 17 Santa Clara, the Roadrunners trailed 3-2 after one quarter and trailed as late as 7-6 with 2:07 remaining in the third period, but Bakersfield’s defense took over at that point, not allowing a single goal the rest of the way for Santa Clara. Media scored at the end of the

third period to make it 7-7, and Becky Seelos scored her lone goal of the game with 52 seconds to go to give Bakersfield the win.



Photo courtesy of Sports Information
Sophomore Amanda Ortiz

Ortiz scored four goals for Bakersfield to lead all players, while Katherine Gillett and Yulia

Blinovskaya also scored once for the Roadrunners.

Bakersfield struggled early on against Monterey Bay and even trailed 4-3 midway through a high-scoring first quarter. But the Roadrunners started pulling away in the second quarter for an 8-6 halftime lead, and a goal apiece from Seelos and Medina to start the second half made it 10-6 and put the game out of reach.

Blinovskaya led Bakersfield with three goals while Ortiz, Bori Toth and Seelos each scored twice. Medina and Gillett each also added a single goal.

The Roadrunners return to the pool April 13-14 for the LMU Invitational at Loyola Marymount University.

Press release provided by Sports information

Runners reach Silver Championship Game at TOC

TURLOCK, Calif. – The Cal State Bakersfield softball team won twice to advance to the Silver Bracket Championship game only to fall in the finale Sunday afternoon at the 2007 Tournament of Champions Presented By Mizzuno at Pedretti Park in Turlock.

Bakersfield (22-17-1) received two pitching gems to defeat Notre Dame de Namur 8-0 in the quarterfinals and UC San Diego 2-1 in the semifinals. But the good pitching met with hard luck in the championship game as Western Oregon scored twice late to pull out a 2-1 upset.

Freshman pitchers Katie Chavez and Shawna Truan combined on a two-hit shutout of Notre Dame in Sunday’s opener. The ‘Runner offense, meanwhile, exploded for eight runs, including a five spot in the fourth inning to put the game on ice. Carrie Hilvers’ RBI double in the first inning provide all the support Chavez would need as she allowed just two hits in four innings before Truan pitched a perfect fifth to end the game via the eight-run mercy rule.

Senior pitcher Kristyn Daniels was nearly as sharp against regional contender UC San Diego in the semifinals. She pitched six innings of two-hit, shutout ball before nearly falling victim to a string of bad luck in the seventh.

Hilvers staked Daniels to a 1-0 lead by leading off the fourth inning with a triple ahead of all-tournament selection Hilary Taylor’s perfect squeeze bunt. The ‘Runners manufactured an insurance run in the sixth when Pikake Nutter-Gaudet laced a two-out single through the left side, stole second, then scored on a Danielle Lyman base hit. Daniels retired the first two

batters in the seventh before a slow roller through the right side of the infield nearly opened the floodgates for UCSD. An infield single and an error loaded the bases before Danielle Lukk blooped a single over third base.

Lukk’s hit scored Sara Robinson to cut the deficit in half. When Brittani Carino lofted a soft fly ball into shallow left center, the Tritons seemed certain to take the lead. But centerfielder Bethany Snow came out of nowhere to make a circus catch and preserve the ‘Runner victory.

A sweep appeared to be in order for Bakersfield when it jumped to a quick 1-0 lead in the first inning of the championship game versus Western Oregon thanks to Hilvers’ second RBI double of the afternoon. But the Wolves scratched back to tie the game thanks to four singles in the fourth inning.

Aside from the hiccough in the fourth, the pitching combo of Truan and Chavez was in control until the softball gods frowned in the sixth inning. With two outs and runners on first and second in the sixth, Chavez coaxed Amanda Fleer to pop up behind second base. But miscommunication allowed the ball to drop untouched as the winning run scored.

Bakersfield finished the seventh annual Tournament of Champions with a 5-3 record. The tournament also brought to a close a 34-day road trip for the ‘Runner softball team, which returns home to host Cal State Monterey Bay Friday, April 6.

Press release provided by Sports Information