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Nov. 12, 2014

# The Runner

California State University, Bakersfield

Vol. 40, No. 8

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## THEATER

# 'From Dust Thou Art' takes center stage

By Heather Hoelscher  
Assistant Features Editor

California State University, Bakersfield's theatre presented "From Dust Thou Art" at the Doré Theatre on Thursday night.

"From Dust Thou Art", written by Peter Grego, was adapted from the oral history collection of the California Odyssey Project.

The play was directed by Mandy Rees, with sets and lighting designed by Chris Eicher, costumes designed by Roger Upton, choreography by Shari Fortino and music by Peggy Sears.

The set was designed to look like the 1930's countryside with three screens in the background displaying videos and photographs from the dust bowl era.

The actors did a great job of using an Arkansas accent, and their sound was very authentic. They brought their characters to life.

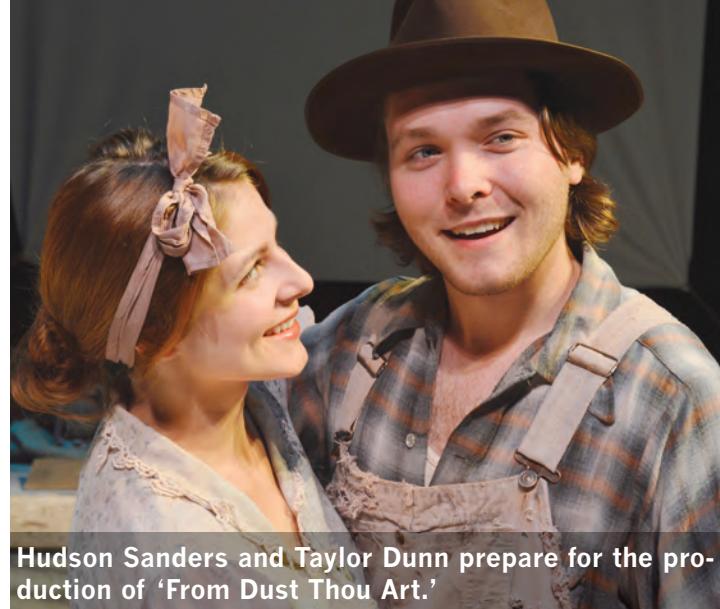
The cast and crew produced a wonderful play about the struggles of the dust bowl era and the stories from the people who experienced it firsthand.

The costumes were very accurate to the time period. It was great to see the actors in these clothes and speaking in the accents. With the background showing pictures and video of those times, it was really well done and it made you feel like

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Three of the couples in 'From Dust Thou Art' share a laugh onstage as they prepare for the production on Nov. 6 in the Doré Theatre.



Hudson Sanders and Taylor Dunn prepare for the production of 'From Dust Thou Art.'

Photos by:  
Marisel Maldonado  
Staff Photographer

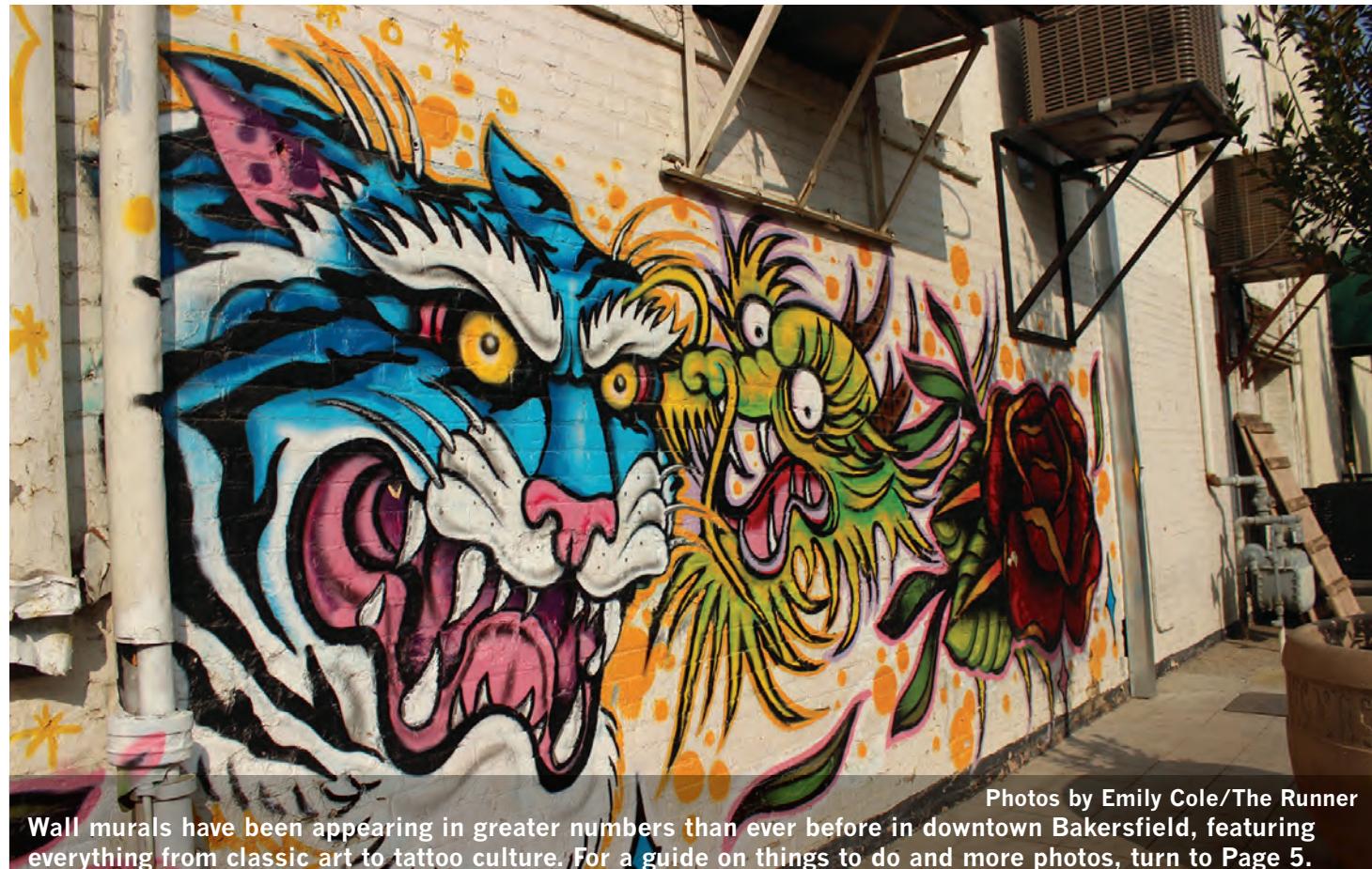
For more photos and coverage on the 'From Dust Thou Art' performances in the Doré Theatre and the audience's feedback regarding the show, turn to **Page 5**.



Denaé Brown, Jacob Brown, and Madison Santos all play a family in the production of 'From Dust Thou Art,' a play put on by CSUB's theatre department at the Doré Theatre.

## RECREATION

# Guide to downtown Bakersfield



Wall murals have been appearing in greater numbers than ever before in downtown Bakersfield, featuring everything from classic art to tattoo culture. For a guide on things to do and more photos, turn to **Page 5**.



Customers enjoy their coffee at Dagny's Coffee Company in downtown Bakersfield.



A Sunday lunch is always a busy affair at the Padre Hotel.

## SPORTS

# The Western Nebraska Pipeline

Coach, players reunite through volleyball team

By Hayden Carter  
Reporter

Approximately 1,220 miles separate the campuses of Western Nebraska Community College and California State University, Bakersfield. But, if you looked at the volleyball roster, you would think WNCC was right down the street from CSUB.

A junior college located in Scottsbluff, NE has been a reliable source of talent for the volleyball team here at CSUB for the last couple years. And according to CSUB's director of volleyball Giovana Melo, the relationship started between the two schools because of two players.

"It started with [former players] Debora Araujo and Fernanda Goncalves and it was really out of nowhere," said Melo. "[The old volleyball coaches] were really into junior college players and they knew [Araujo and Goncalves] were experienced and would help the program."

Melo was very successful at Western Nebraska, reaching

five National Junior College Athletic Association final fours and winning the NJCAA national championship in 2010.

Melo, as a student-athlete, played volleyball at Western Nebraska for two years before transferring to Arizona State. She also served as the head coach for six years at WNCC before taking over the volleyball program here at CSUB.

"I had an amazing experience there," said Melo. "I grew a lot as a coach and I learned a lot of things I needed to learn to be where I am now."

A total of five student-athletes have transferred from the junior college volleyball powerhouse to CSUB, three of who are currently on this year's roster.

"I think when one player does it, many start following in their footsteps," said Melo. "For the ones that I personally coached [at Western Nebraska], it was an easy way to come [to CSUB]. I think it comes down to wanting to play with each other again."

One of those players is middle blocker Megan Johnson, a red-shirt junior from Sandy, Utah.

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LETTERS TO THE  
EDITOR

Send letters to [runner@csub.edu](mailto:runner@csub.edu). All letters must be signed and verified and be no more than 300 words in length. Letters may be edited for clarity and length.

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## RUNNER ON THE STREET

By Andrea Calderon, Reporter

This week, The Runner asked, "Did you vote in the midterm elections? Why or why not?"



"I did not. To be honest, I had no idea where to sign up."

William Hicks  
Freshman  
Engineering



"No. I've been busy. I am registered to vote."

Terry Potter  
Freshman  
Pre-Engineering



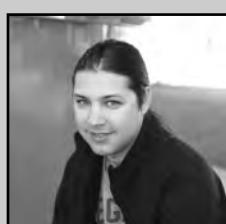
"Yes, I voted because I believe it's important to participate. I think it's important in politics to make democracy work."

Bobby Kapadia  
Freshman  
Business Administration



"No, my classes ended late. I am registered, though. I just got home late."

Jacqueline Silva  
Freshman  
Business Administration



"The propositions made me go out and vote."

Michael Sotuno  
Junior  
Criminal Justice



"Yes because I feel like it's something important. It's something you should do. You have to make decisions."

Melissa Camacho  
Sophomore  
Biology

## Editorial: University should hire provost from within

With former California State University, Bakersfield provost Soraya Coley's appointment as president of Cal Poly Pomona on Sept. 10, the university will engage in a nationwide search for her replacement.

While CSUB will inevitably evaluate both national and international candidates in search of a successor, we want to make the following encouragements to the hiring committee: Hire from within.

Appoint a current CSUB administrator as the university's next provost.

From a practical perspective, hiring from within the university makes perfect sense. Since the position of provost requires one to provide oversight of a university's programs, policies and research affairs, among other responsibilities, we believe the person best suited to make specialized decisions is one who is already familiar with the university, its guiding phi-

losophy and the unique challenges CSUB faces.

Additionally, because CSUB prides itself on its extensive interaction and dialogue with the local community, hiring

**If we are to believe that we as CSUB students are capable of becoming future leaders, we need to see leaders with an education from CSUB.**

someone who is already working for the university – and has thus developed ties to and an extensive relationship with Kern County – provides an opportunity to deepen CSUB's relationship with the greater region.

Whereas a candidate outside of

Kern County is less familiar with the region, someone who has lived in the region and has a specialized knowledge of its challenges is best suited to address them.

However, even more important than the practical advantages of hiring a current administrator is the symbolic importance of such a move.

Of CSUB's four deans – Arts & Humanities, Social Sciences & Education, Natural Sciences, Mathematics and Engineering and Business and Public Administration – none worked within the university prior to their employment.

Similarly, of the six positions within the President's Cabinet, only one – VP for Business and Administrative Services – is held by a CSUB graduate.

As a university whose stated goal is to educate and mold Kern County residents into future community leaders, it is fundamentally disheartening to

know that CSUB does not hire its homegrown talent for prominent university positions.

The implicit message of this trend is that current university administrators or graduates do not possess the talent to fill important positions within a college that people have invested significant energy in.

By hiring a successor from within the university, CSUB has an opportunity to reverse this trend.

To promote a current CSUB employee to that position, then, communicates to students, faculty and staff that we do ultimately have the talent within the college to fill decision-making positions.

If we are to believe that we as CSUB students are capable of becoming future leaders, we need to see leaders with an education from CSUB.

Promoting from within is the ultimate means of providing such proof.

## 'Interstellar': a dramatic odyssey

By Michelle Bean  
Reporter

Christopher Nolan's newest brainchild "Interstellar" premiered this weekend, raking in \$3.5 million dollars its opening night alone according to Forbes.com. The film offers a proverbial breath of fresh air for moviegoers fed-up with the streams of monotony Hollywood keeps churning out.

While the plot is by no means groundbreaking, "Interstellar" innovatively subverts the classic alien invasion genre by centering on humanity's search for a new inhabitable world after a mysterious blight destroys most of Earth's food supply.

The movie's three-hour runtime might seem excessive, but the time flies by due to spot-on pacing. Excellent character building and exposition in the first 30 minutes give the story humanity that kept me rooted to the edge of my seat.

"Interstellar" features spectacular performances from Matthew McConaughey, who plays an ex-NASA pilot turned farmer; Michael Caine, who plays a professor searching for the equation that will save mankind; Anne Hathaway, who plays a scientist and astronaut working along-side McConaughey; and Jessica Chastain, who plays McConaughey's daughter.

Despite its compassionate core, "Interstellar" suffers from scientific-sounding mumbo-jumbo. I found myself simultaneously wishing I knew more about quantum physics and glad for my own ignorance, because it would probably ruin the whole movie if I knew why everything they said about space-time was wrong.

I wish I could say Hathaway's "love conquers all" speech, in which she compares love to scientific constants like time and gravity, was just cheesy enough to work, except that it was decidedly much too cheesy to work.

To its credit, the movie incorporated space travel theories of time relativity quite successfully, if a little densely for the average viewer. Nolan certainly didn't pander to the lowest common denominator in creating this thought-provoking film, which comes through in his style as well as his subject matter.

Several instances of choppy, non-sequential editing added an element of unpredictability to the finished product. Various astute sound choices – such as long stretches of silence demonstrating the silence of space – immerse the audience in the characters' unique world.

"Interstellar" reached for lofty, experimental stylistic goals, and for the most part, I'd say that it met them. The last quarter felt a little ethereal and poorly grounded, but nevertheless, it was an exciting and refreshing adventure, which may confuse but never disappoint the attentive moviegoer.

## Poor sportsmanship is not becoming of CSUB fans

By Nathan Sanchez  
Senior Reporter

I've written sports at CSUB for two years and I've loved every week of it.

I've seen the propulsion of the baseball team into the upper echelon of competition, an unprecedented accomplishment for a program so young.

While this may be considered unbecoming of a journalist, I've formed an emotional attachment to Roadrunner athletics. These two years have gotten to me, and I can confidently say I'm a big fan.

I'm also a fan of The Runner, CSUB's student-run newspaper. If you haven't heard of it, you're lying because you're reading this right now.

On the back page of the Nov. 5 issue, something caught my

eye.

It was a quarter-page ad describing in detail how CSUB wants you to cheer for them. I'm not picky, but I'm also not a Division I basketball team.

The fact that there's a specific way to cheer didn't bother me but the fact that there's a way to belittle the opponents is what bugged me the most.

Roadrunner basketball fans are instructed to hold up newspapers and chant things such as "Who cares," "Big deal," "So what" and "Who's that" during the visiting player introductions.

This is incredibly poor sportsmanship.

When visiting players miss a shot, Roadrunner fans are instructed to repeat the chant "Air ball," as if to remind them of their botched attempts.

When visitors step up to the free throw line, Roadrunner

**There's a line between lifting up your own and kicking outsiders down.**

fans are instructed to make random noise such as "yelling weird noises" or join in a student-led rendition of "I'm a little tea pot."

Before every game, an announcement is made to the fans and players to conduct themselves with dignity and good sportsmanship.

I think this goes against that very principle.

It's offensive to opponents and makes us as fans look mean-spirited and cold.

There are fans of visiting teams at Roadrunner home games. In most cases, they're friends and family of one of the players, who've made the drive to Bakersfield to see them play.

The last thing I'd want to hear as a father, brother or friend of a student-athlete is the home crowd chanting, "Who cares?" at someone I care about.

I've got nothing against cheering for your team.

I love my teams.

But there's a line between lifting up your own and kicking outsiders down.

This year, Roadrunner Athletics put up a new slogan a reminder that "We're all Runners."

We may all be Runners, but let's not forget we should keep that gold standard we already know.

## Letter to the Editor: 'Glory hole' stirs controversy

him regarding my article.

I agree with you that ABC's video coverage of my article, which featured several CSUB students making negative comments about homosexuality or claiming that even seeing gay people makes them uncomfortable, was appalling. However, their responses do not represent my article.

People commented on the Channel 23 Facebook with opinions ranging from casual humor to crude and cruel remarks. This was not the goal or intention of my article.

My article was not, in any manner, judgemental of individuals who are gay or engage in anonymous sex; fear-mongering against members of the LGBTQ community or propagating of homophobia.

The Craigslist ads, which spurred me to write about the occurrences on the fourth floor of the library and all cited invitations for sex are largely unlikely written by a spam-bot.

Considering that Martin Williamson, the chief of the UPD, confirmed that there had been illicit activities in the past on the fourth floor of the

library, I did not doubt the authenticity of the ads. Williamson stated that no arrests were made after routine surveillance by UPD. This does not mean that no incidents occurred.

As for the hole itself, which Williamson called a "peep-hole," I can see why you are skeptical. However, the glory hole is what it is.

Addressing a glory hole as being used mainly by gay men is not disparaging toward homosexual men. I used the platform of anonymous encounters which were explicitly labeled as "male seeking male" to discuss health services and how to protect yourself if you are meeting casually for sexual activities. This information was for everyone, considering heterosexual couples meet for anonymous sex, too.

My article is not damaging or homophobic, however, it saddens me that the ABC coverage generated responses that were. I hope you keep picking up The Runner for campus news. You never know what you'll find out.

Elizabeth Peisner, Ed.D.

\*\*\*

On Tuesday, Oct. 11, I received a call and subsequent text message from ABC 23 reporter Mark Christian. It was nerve wracking, but I met with

the fourth floor of the library and all cited invitations for sex are largely unlikely written by a spam-bot. Considering that Martin Williamson, the chief of the UPD, confirmed that there had been illicit activities in the past on the fourth floor of the

Robin Gracia

## MENTAL HEALTH

# Autism awareness run comes to campus

By Bre Williams  
Senior Photographer

MAPSS - Multilevel Applications and Positive Support Services - hosted the second annual Autism on the Run 5k on Saturday, Nov. 8 on the California State University, Bakersfield campus.

The event was held to raise funds for League of Dreams, which is a non-profit sports league for disabled children from the ages of 5 to 22.

MAPPS is a local Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA) company that specializes in treating and analyzing children with autism.

Attendees were encouraged to wear a costume for the run.

Most attendees dressed as superheroes to show support for children living with autism.

The first 100 runners to register were given a free t-shirt to commemorate their success in running the 5k.

Runners could enjoy the live DJ and take photos with Auti the turtle, who acted as a mascot for the event.

At the finish line, there were numerous vendors present awaiting the runners.

They included booths from Jamba Juice, In Shape Fitness, MAPSS and many more.

They had a game area for children to enjoy games and fun outdoor activities while the run was taking place.

Project manager and CSUB alumni Isabella Borreli said, "We are looking forward to doubling our numbers this year for the run from 100 to 200 participants."

Borreli is also a MAPPS employee and said their main cause is to help raise autism awareness in Bakersfield.

Borreli suggested that, because the number of participants has doubled, autism awareness in Bakersfield has grown over the last year, and MAPSS intends to make this continue to happen.

Project Manager  
Isabella Borreli

**"We are looking forward to doubling our numbers this year for the run from 100 to 200 participants."**



Photos by Bre Williams/The Runner



Attendees began the race at 10 a.m. and were encouraged to dress in costumes.



Children enjoyed playing games during Autism on the Run at CSUB.

## CRIME

## Crime Blotter: Incidents on campus

By Jennifer Reynolds  
Reporter

The following is a sample of incident reports provided by the University Police Department from Oct. 7, 2014 through Nov. 3, 2014.

**Disturbance:** At 7:08 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 7, a disturbance occurred at the Modular Building where there was a refusal to leave.

**Suspicious subject:** At 9:11 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 7, there was a student that does not belong in the Grab Lab, but has been seen for the last two weeks. The suspect was a male in his 20's, with a beard and wearing a green shirt.

**Disturbance:** At 3:51 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 8, two male subjects were disturbing the peace. One subject was wearing a military uniform and the second subject was wearing a red shirt and shorts. The subjects were possibly arguing over a girl.

**Check the welfare:** At 3:58 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 9, a female was sleeping outside the doors of the Runner Café. She was wearing a dark blue shirt, jeans, a pink backpack, and was sleeping with her phone out.

**Suspicious Circumstances:** At 8:34 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 9, a male subject was attempting to make an entry into a white SUV with a stick in Parking lot F. The subject was wearing a tan shirt and dark green pants.

**Suspicious Subject:** At 9:36 a.m. on Friday, Oct. 10, a male, 5'10 with a skinny build, wearing a baseball hat and carrying a water bottle was looking into parked vehicles in Parking Lot K.

**Disturbance:** At 7:46 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 10, there was a drunk male, 35 to 40 years old, wearing a white shirt sitting on the bench at the GET bus stop.

**Suspicious Circumstances:** At 1:27 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 13, a male wearing a black shirt and wireless headphones, was attempting entry into a gray vehicle in Parking Lot B.

**Suspicious Subject:** At 10:29 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 13, a male subject was cussing at a female student in the Dorothy Donohoe Hall. The male subject was possibly on his phone.

**Disturbance:** At 7:20 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 14, there were subjects that were not authorized to be on the soccer fields because they do not have an ID or guest passes. They were asked to leave, but they did not comply.

**Hazardous Situation:** At 6:01 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 20, there was a strong odor of gas reported inside of Togo's.

**Suspicious Circumstance:** At 10:56 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 23, it was reported that someone was camping out in the storage room of the Albertson Room.

**Hazardous Situation:** At 12:03 a.m. on Friday, Oct. 24, a white care was going down Kroll Way with a skateboarder on each side hanging on the vehicle as it is driving.

**Suspicious Circumstances:** At 11:24 a.m. on Sunday, Oct. 26, two subjects that appear to be homeless approached a student and the demeanor of the subjects made her feel uncomfortable.

**Suspicious Subject:** At 4:25 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 27, a tall male subject, wearing a long jacket and white mask was walking towards DDH on the red brick road.

**Hazardous Situation:** At 10:18 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 31, a tree fell down on a car in Parking Lot K.

**Traffic Collision (hit and run):** At 8:44 a.m. on Monday, Nov. 3, a male in a black SUV hit a parked vehicle and fled towards the south end of campus. The victim's vehicle was a black Kia Forte.

If you have any information about any of the above incidents, contact campus police at 661-654-2677.

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**POINT LOMA**  
NAZARENE UNIVERSITY

# A guide to exploring the streets of Bakersfield

By Shelby Parker  
Features Editor

If you haven't noticed by now, Bakersfield doesn't always offer the same opportunities that larger cities, like Los Angeles has.

However, that's not to say that there's "nothing to do" like many often complain. I was born and raised here, and while I used to be one of the many counting down the days to move away, I've grown to appreciate the city for what it is.

Over the past few years, I've seen many improvements from hip cafés to swanky restaurants. If you're looking for an entertaining Friday night with friends or a relaxing Saturday afternoon, look no further than downtown Bakersfield. There's a little of something for everyone!

## The Arts District

This section of town has acquired the reputation of drawing the hipster crowd. There are coffee shops, thrift stores and art galleries. What more could you ask for?

### Dagny's

Dagny's is a locally owned coffee company, which Mike Walters and Jackie Lawlor run.

The shop offers the perfect environment for studying or meeting with friends. Grab a seat on the couch or table on the patio, while sipping a cup of Joe or eating one of the many bakery treats like a cookie, cake or scone. The shop even offers a nice selection of wine and beer. According to barista, Saige White, 22, some of the popular drinks are the monthly coffee, which is always changing, the mochas and the refreshing white iced tea.

### Fox Theater

The historic Fox Theater opened on Christmas Day in 1930,



Customers of Dagny's play an intense game of chess while drinking coffee. Emily Cole/The Runner

bringing the elegance and style of Hollywood to Bakersfield. It was once home to showing motion pictures, but closed in 1977 after 47 years of movie magic.

In 1994, they reopened their doors and have been entertaining crowds with film festivals, concerts and more. The theater offers a more intimate setting and a romantic feel for all of the eras that have come and gone.

In front of the theater, you can also catch a glimpse of Bakersfield's best, with our very own Walk of Fame, featuring Buck Owens and Merle Haggard.

### Shopping

Why go to Los Angeles, when there are plenty of local boutiques that provide the same quality of clothing? Fashionista Boutique at the Fox is just one of the shops that carries designer brands and top of the line attire. Among those, you can also hunt for rare or hard-

er to find items at the antique and second-hand stores.

### Nightlife

The downtown area comes alive at night with clubs, live music and restaurants that could even be compared to those in New York City. Lighting and atmosphere makes all the difference with these

### The Padre

The Padre is easily one of the nicest places in town, even if you aren't staying in one of the guest rooms.

Aside from the hotel, there are several restaurants; including the Belvedere Room, Brimstone, Prairie Fire Lounge and Farmacy Café. There are also options for private dining, should a special occasion occur.

For a more casual setting, join your friends on the patio for drinks and conversation, especially while the weather is lovely and accommodating during this southern California winter.

The hotel also holds special events including The Happiest Hour from 3-6 on Mondays and during the month of November, there will be showings of holiday films every Wednesday, including "Elf" and "A Christmas Story."

### The Mark

Another high-profile restaurant that is quickly becoming another hot spot in town is The Mark. According to their website, it is reminiscent of restaurants in places, such as San Francisco or Los Angeles, and offers international cuisine. It is sure to take you to another place with its sights, sounds and tastes. Every Friday and Saturday, customers can also enjoy the stylings of live jazz musicians

There are many hidden treasures that the city has to offer, sometimes it's just a matter of looking a little closer.

## Hitting the books: Tips for finding perfect finals study spot

By Andrea Peña  
Reporter

As the fall quarter comes to a close, students at California State University, Bakersfield are preparing for finals and clamoring to find the perfect study spot.

Preparing for final exams is serious business; it is not something that should be taken lightly.

This year, the Student Union is holding a week long study session called Study Strong. It begins on November 20, the week before finals. The Student Union offers a different itinerary for each day of studying. The Student Union and ASI are offering the students free snacks, tutors and possibly free school supplies, such as scissors, to help promote studying. Inside the student union, different study rooms will be available that can offer something similar to a classroom setting; this study spot is perfect if you want to have a group study session.

"We have CSUB Study Strong finals week. We really start a whole week of activities that encourages students and helps them study. On Friday [of study strong week], we have a snack shack. We take a cart and fill it up with snacks, all kinds. We have the healthy snacks, we have the I-love-sugar-and-I-need-to-wake-up-

snacks, and we go around campus and we deliver," said Hilda Nieblas a Student Union employee at CSUB.

If you need a quieter place to study or you are easily distracted, the library is also a great and convenient place to study. You can utilize the various carrels around the first floor, or you can use one of the group study rooms on the third floor.

Complaints have been made over the years that the library does not have conductive study hours for students that are night owls. This year, the library has decided to extend its hours for final examination preparation. The week before finals, Nov. 17-20, and the week of finals, Nov. 24-25, the library's hours will be 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 a.m.

"I cannot just go anywhere on campus to study, I need to go to a quiet place. I love to go to the fourth floor of the library," said Carlos Benjarano, a 19-year-old engineering major at CSUB.

If you are the type of student that needs a quiet peaceful place that has someone there to help them, I would recommend the tutoring centers. They offer assistance in multiple subjects. To find the right tutoring center, you may go to CSUB's website.

"I like to study on campus in the academic advising center [...] it is always quiet in there and you can print for free. It's the perfect place. When I do study off campus, I like Barnes & Nobles, they

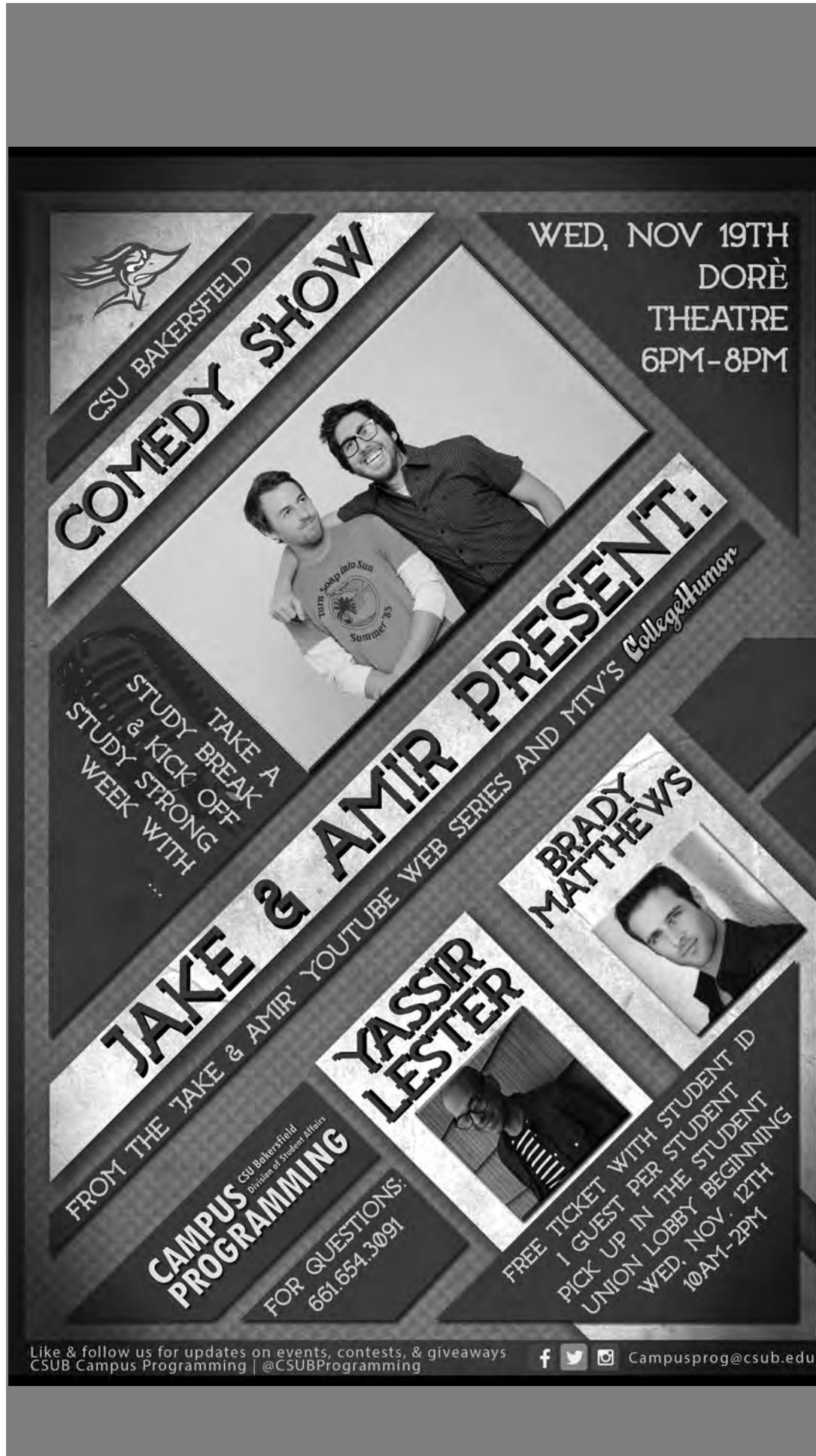
have Starbucks, and it's not too loud in there," said Savannah Andrews, a 21-year-old psychology major at CSUB.

If you are a student that needs a quiet place but cannot stand to be stuck in a drab and lifeless room for hours, I recommend any park near you. It provides a change of scenery, and the fresh air will do you some good during this stressful time. Remember to pack a few snacks so you will not have to leave to get food when hunger hits you. Find a table or even a tree to lean against and you may have just found the perfect place to study.

Starbucks also has everything a student needs: a cozy atmosphere with air conditioning to keep you awake, free WiFi and of course, the necessity that every student lives on during this nerve-racking time, coffee.

However, if you find Starbucks to be too crowded and commercial, Dagny's could be the perfect alternative. They offer a comfortable setting with large tables and even sofas and reading chairs. They have similar qualities to Starbucks but with more of a homey feel to it.

When trying to find the perfect study spot make sure it is comfortable, because you may be there for hours, and make sure it is conducive to your learning styles.



## 'From Dust Thou Art' educates viewers

[PLAY, Page 1] you were right there with them.

The Walter Stein Library has the collection of the detailed interviews and the first person accounts of what these people went through. Grego drew from these collections to produce this theatrical piece.

The "From Dust Thou Art," production had premiered at the Doré Theatre in 1983 and it has returned for the 75th anniversary of "The Grapes of Wrath," celebration.

Nick Frey a theatre major played the various characters very well. He got into the different characters easily and shows the different emotions each one had.

"I've always been running around the house singing and I always wanted to act out things I saw on TV," Mariah Johnson said, a Theatre Arts major, who has been acting and singing since she could remember.

"I think [the play] went well. I think we did exactly what we were supposed to do, have fun and we definitely educated some people. Someone came up to me and said, 'I didn't realize what it was like for them and we didn't realize they really build up the towns around here,'" Johnson said.

Since this story is such a historic part of California Frey felt honored to get to tell people the

stories of these people.

Johnson wanted to educate people who are from here and those who aren't.

"I always want to convey a message that some people might not get day to day. The

bowl so it was very interesting to see all the people and the interviews they collected," Brown said.

"It was really well done and it depicted that era, the sadness and desperation, well," she said.

play] sounded just like the way we came out here. They stopped us at the border and we had three mattresses. We just got a maid by the Red Cross in Arkansas because the flood took everything else. So they stopped us and they put our mattresses in some kind of steamer to kill any boll weevils.

"My grandpa had a house for us and a job at a labor camp here in Buttonwillow. So we didn't have to fight like they did but I had seen [people] fighting for jobs," Best said.

Heather Bennett, a CSUB theatre graduate, grew up hearing her grandma, Pauline Best, stories.

"I grew up hearing her stories but it was kind of great hearing other people's stories because I didn't know [the other stories]. Hers is different she had a job when they came out her. Others had to fight. It was just really interesting hearing other stories as well,

"I love the singing, because my grandma would sing. They would have these groups and it was great. I grew up with that kind of music," Bennett said.

The play was very emotional; these stories were told in such a way that the audience can feel the struggles and pain those in the Dust Bowl endured.

**Mariah Johnson, left, and Nick Frey, right, rehearse before opening night of 'From Dust Thou Art'**

thing about theatre is it can bring messages to you without you even knowing it. Subliminally you're learnings things. I want them to see what it was like," Johnson said.

"I love [playing these characters]. It was really challenging because mine was a more serious role," she said.

Kim Brown, audience member and mother of DeNae Brown, who is in the production, thought the play was really good.

"I enjoyed the whole play. Our family comes from the dust

A line from the play that suggested how they were judged when they came here was particularly interesting. It suggested that if you had one mattress on the top of your car you were poor, if you had two you were doing all right and if you had three, well then you were doing much better than the others. This line stood out because the actor spoke this line in a humorous way.

Pauline Best experienced the Dust Bowl time first hand and this type of judgment.

"I'm from Arkansas and [the

## Multicultural club honors the Festival of Lights

**By Dylan Knight  
Reporter**

California State University, Bakersfield's Multicultural Club celebrated their third annual Diwali, The Festival of Lights, on Tuesday, Nov. 4 outside on the Student Union patio.

The Hindu festival symbolizes the coming of autumn and light, knowledge and good.

"Diwali is when one of the Sikh Gurus got released from jail and everyone celebrates it by lighting candles. It's a day to celebrate good over evil," said Kamal Singh, 22, senior nursing major.

The event provided free Indian cuisine, Garba dancing, Bindi, bangles, henna tattoos and the opportunity to wear authentic Indian clothes and turbans to get an inside view on the culture. Many Americans are faced with negative connotations and views on individuals wearing turbans but they are simply a symbol of honor and respect. It is also custom to let important guests try them

on, like the students of CSUB were able to. "We also provide Indian clothes for people to try on," said Amanpreet Kaur, 19, freshman criminal justice major while helping students try on their turbans.

Students had an opportunity to broaden their ideas, opinions and understanding of the Indian culture by taking a step into the shoes of fellow students who stand for their Indian faith and culture.

"The Diwali Festival was a complete success. Students were able to line up for free Indian food and experience a part of the Indian culture through delicious ethnic food, getting henna tattoos and trying on turbans and saris," said Sara Melgar, 19, sophomore pre-nursing major.

Henna tattoos are something nearly every student is familiar with. However few know that their use was described in the earliest Hindu ritual, and they are intended to be a symbol of the inner light that is in us all.

"I feel that the event did bring cultural awareness to the campus because with

every plate of food served, every student was given a handout that included the meaning and purpose of Diwali. Many students also conversed with club members to know more about the Indian culture," said Singh.

Diwali can be described as one of the happiest holidays in India. Participants often clean and redecorate their homes, buy new clothes, gifts and jewelry. It is also a time for stories about the battles and victories of good over evil and light over darkness.

"Being exposed to the festival made me appreciative of the food and customs that are associated with [Indian] culture. I would love to see more events like this happening on campus," said Melgar.

It's easy for us as Americans to be blindsided by ethnocentrism, however it is beyond important for each of us to recognize the other amazingly beautiful cultures that exist all over the CSUB campus. America was founded on diversity; why not celebrate the diversity found in all of us?

## 'Best of Me': A shallow look at a troubled life

**By Nate Sanchez  
Senior Columnist**

Nicholas Sparks is well-known in the literary community for writing romantic novels which are then adapted into films. It's no secret that the target demographic for Sparks' films is women who enjoy a good love story. I don't fit into this group at all, so I figured I'd see his latest film, "The Best of Me," and review it for you.

Upon the death of their old friend Tuck, Amanda Reynolds and Dawson Cole are reunited 21 years after they fell in love, then were torn apart after an unfortunate conflict between Cole and his father that left his cousin Bobby with a bullet in his head.

Tuck's will insisted that Dawson and the now-married Amanda liquidate his estate and spread his ashes over the garden he and his late wife planted. Over the course of the weekend, Dawson and Amanda rekindle their love in their dead friend's house.

Amanda deals with the internal

conflict between her love for Dawson and her marital responsibility to her alcoholic husband, while Dawson's rugged past with his criminal family come back to haunt him.

This film is armed to the teeth with cliché. There's rain, a pretty southern lady on a tree swing, a shirtless buff guy doing yard work, a wise old man who knows what's best for everyone and an alcoholic jerk husband with an abnormal golf fixation whose purpose is to make infidelity sound like a good idea. Then there's more rain, car accidents, fatal diseases, heart transplants and death.

Symbolism in the film was easily recognizable and accessible from the opening seconds. Sparks' characters were bound together by fate and despite their loss of communication, were still connected by the love they shared in their youth.

Throughout the film, either Dawson or Amanda would look up into the stars, and the audience would be brought back down to the other's point-of-

view. The stars, unmoved by the circumstances haunting our heroes, served as their constant connection.

The most obvious lesson in the film is to revere something that affects all of us at some point in our lives. For some it's magical and a bit scary, while others see it as an inevitable curse. That thing is death. You were thinking about the power of love, weren't you?

Well, you're wrong. Death is a major element in the film. It greases the wheels (then spins the crap out of those wheels) on every aspect of the plot. Without Tuck's death, Dawson and Amanda wouldn't have crossed paths again.

Without Bobby's death, he'd still be alive and the two wouldn't have had to separate in the first place. Without Dawson's death, Amanda's son wouldn't have gotten a heart in time for his surgery and would have kicked the bucket. That means "died."

Oh yeah and that's a spoiler.

We don't often give death his due, especially when we

immerse ourselves into a love story such as this. This is wrong. Let us remember, while we carry out the mundane minutiae of our everyday lives, that we are constantly followed by the chilling hand of death. He comes for us all in the end.

I welcome death, and when my time comes I anticipate greeting him like an old friend. I think we all should. Hooray, Death! We welcome your cold embrace.

I also spotted low-key commercials for Bud Light, Budweiser, Evian, Chevrolet and machetes.

Demographically speaking, I'm an outsider. I was glad to be able to broaden my horizons, "looking through the bent-back tulips to see how the other half lives," to quote the 1968 Beatles hit, "Glass Onion."

With that being said, I would recommend this film to fans of the genre. If you're a fan of Sparks' other works, you'll love this one. For those like me, I'd stay away from it. It's just not my cup of tea.

## What's Happening On Campus

**Thursday, Nov. 13**

Brown Bag Discussion – Athletics in Stockdale Room 12 p.m. – 1 p.m.

Volleyball Pre-Game Runner Pep Rally – Icardo Center at 6 p.m.

Volleyball vs. Utah Valley – Icardo Center at 7 p.m.

**Friday, Nov. 14**

Women's Basketball vs. Air Force – Icardo Center at 7 p.m.

Men's Wrestling vs. Appalachian State – Old Gym at 7 p.m.

Concert Band – Doré Theatre, Main Theatre at 7:30 p.m. – 9 p.m.

**Saturday, Nov. 15**

Women's Volleyball vs. Seattle U. – Icardo Center at 1 p.m.

CSUB Singers concert – Doré Theatre 8 p.m. – 10 p.m.

**Sunday, Nov. 16**

Men's Wrestling Roadrunner Open – Fresno, Calif (Selland Areana) All Day.

Chamber Orchestra Concert – 4 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

**Tuesday, Nov. 18**

New Student Housing Ribbon Cutting Ceremony – New Student Housing 12 p.m. – 2 p.m.

**Wednesday, Nov. 19**

CSUB Comedy Show – Free tickets w/student ID at The Doré Theatre 6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

**Saturday, Nov. 22**

Men's Wrestling vs. Northern Colorado – TBA

**Sunday, Nov. 23**

Men's Basketball vs. Delaware – Icardo Center at 4 p.m.

**Monday, Nov. 24**

Campus Clean-up Day – Starts at Runner Park 12p.m. – 1 p.m.

**Calendar sponsored by CSUB Office of Student Affairs, School of Arts and Humanities, and Walter Stier Library.**

If you would like your event to appear in this calendar, contact [runner@csub.edu](mailto:runner@csub.edu).



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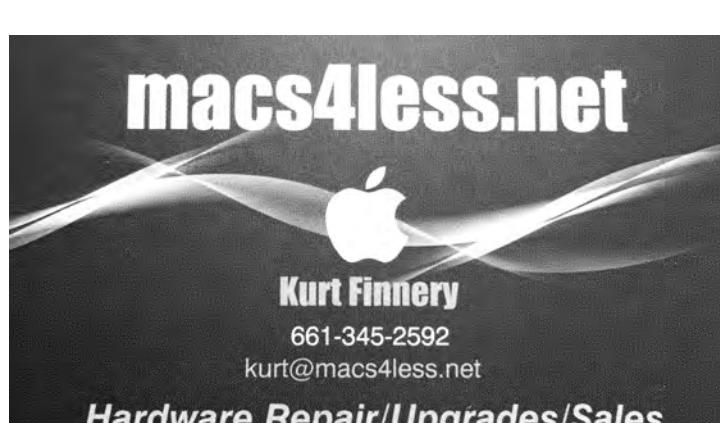


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## Men's soccer gets sixth seed in WAC tourney

Photos by AJ Alvarado/The Runner



Senior midfielder Alex Flores heads the ball as Utah Valley freshman forward Chandler Boyd fights for position on Nov. 7 at the main soccer field. CSUB lost to Utah Valley 3-1.

California State University, Bakersfield men's soccer team dropped Friday's game against Utah Valley University 3-1, but tied Seattle University on Sunday 0-0 to clinch the sixth seed for the Western Athletic Conference Tournament.

Redshirt-senior midfielder David Velsquez scored the lone goal for the 'Runners in the 20th minute against the Wolverines.

On Nov. 9, CSUB was led to a tie against Seattle thanks to

a clean sheet from its defense and sophomore goalkeeper Nicolas Clever, who had two saves in his 110 minutes of play.

The 'Runners (9-7-3, 3-5-2 WAC) struggled in WAC play this season, but qualified for



CSUB junior midfielder Dante Niño fights to get around Utah Valley freshman forward Karson Payton on Nov. 7 at the main soccer field.



Redshirt-senior midfielder Joe Masumiya advances the ball past Utah Valley's defense on Nov. 7.

the tournament in Seattle with help from an Air Force Academy loss.

The 'Runners will open up postseason play on Thursday when they look for revenge against third seeded Utah Valley.

The winner of that game will advance to play second seeded Seattle on Friday.

The WAC Championship game will be held on Saturday, where the winner automatically qualifies for the NCAA tournament.

## CSUB men's hoops routs Whittier in exhibition game

By Esteban Ramirez  
Assistant Sports Editor

From start to finish, California State University, Bakersfield men's basketball team controlled the exhibition game against Whittier College as they cruised to a 82-62 victory on Nov. 8 at the Icardo Center.

The 'Runners, who never trailed in the game put forth a dominant effort on the boards as they outrebounded the Poets 49-32, and had an 18-2 advantage in offensive rebounds. That aggressiveness helped them build a double-digit lead for most of the game.

But despite controlling just about every facet of the game, CSUB felt that there's still plenty of improvements to be made.

"I give us a C-plus because our defense was terrible tonight," said redshirt-senior guard Javonte Maynor.

"We made great offensive plays here and there, but overall I think we should have A-plus performances every day. That's the kind of practice we have. We got to have that kind of energy. Guys diving on the floor for balls, guys helping on defense and guys getting out on shooters, so today we were kind of relaxed because the competition was low."

"We realized that we had a height advantage, so we started

going inside and started going into the paint because those guys really couldn't guard us with the dribble or the penetration. The only thing was that tonight we really killed ourselves. We turned the ball over a lot and missed some lay ups inside."

Maynor added that they will emphasize and focus on improving their free-throw shooting. The 'Runners shot 38.1 percent from the charity stripe against the Poets.

CSUB started the game on a 19-3 run behind its strong inside play, but the bad night at the free-throw line kept its Division III opponent in the game as they were able to go into halftime only down 39-28.

The 'Runners only shot 40 percent in the first half, but thanks to an offensive spark from Maynor, who scored 19 of his game-high 24 points in the second half, including 15 from behind the three-point line, the 'Runners were able to get going offensively in the second half. They shot 51.4 percent in the second half. The lead never got under double digits in the second half.

"I thought our guys did a good job, especially in the second half," said CSUB head coach Rod Barnes.

"I was disappointed in our defense in the second half. The

first half I thought we played the way we needed to play."

Barnes added that they missed chances at the free-throw line to ice the game.

"We had opportunities there with the game kind of in our hands and we could've put away, but we missed too many free throws," said Barnes.

"The second thing is we had some ill advised turnovers. Fourteen is enough, but the ones we had were really bad. We were careless with the basketball not taking care of it like we need to take care of it. I thought we had balanced scoring, we had several guys step up and make shots and that's a positive."

Junior center Aly Ahmed finished with 15 points and a game-high 12 rebounds for the 'Runners, and junior forward Kevin Mays added 12 points and 11 rebounds.

Junior guard Dashawn Richmond came off the bench and scored 14 points.

"We had chances to perform better, but we didn't," said Ahmed. "It's because it's our first game, so our chemistry it's not so good together. A couple more games and I think we will have it down."

CSUB will play High Point University in the Outrigger Resorts Rainbow Classic at Honolulu, HI on Nov. 14.

## Instructions for Runner Basketball Fans

### Player Intros (visitors)

**Player #1:** Runner Newspapers (Papers will be provided)  
**Player #2:** "Who cares?" (Everyone yells)  
**Player #3:** "Big Deal" (Everyone yells)  
**Player #4:** "So what" (Everyone yells)  
**Player #5:** "Who's That" (Everyone yells)



### Player Intros (CSUB)

**Player #1:** Three quick claps in unison (Everyone)  
**Player #2:** Three quick claps in unison (Everyone)  
**Player #3:** Three quick claps in unison (Everyone)  
**Player #4:** Three quick claps in unison (Everyone)  
**Player #5:** Three quick claps in unison (Everyone)

### Free Throws (CSUB)

Yell out "RUNNERS UP" before the first shot and hold up the bird signal with both hands (Everyone)  
**Make Shot:** 3 quick claps and yell "Runners" (If a two shot foul then place arms up for second shot)  
**Missed Shot:** Bring arms down (If a two shot foul then place arms up for second shot)

### 3 pointers (CSUB)

Soon as shot goes up hold three fingers in the air. (Everyone)  
**Shot Made:** Yell "Three Pointer!!" (Everyone yells)  
**Shot Missed:** Nothing, bring arm down (Everyone)

### Air Ball (visitors)

Chant "Air Ball, Air Ball". Every time that person touches the ball until he/she makes another shot. (Everyone yells)

### Free throws (visitors)

**Option #1:** Random Noise (yelling, weird noises, etc.)  
**Option #2:** Student led song or chant. Example: "It's a small world" or "I'm a little tea pot"

### Foul Out (visitors)

Chant "Left, Right" in unison with his/her steps and "SIT DOWN" when the person sits on the bench. (Everyone)



**#ALLRUNNERS**

## 'Runner Roundup

California State University, Bakersfield women's soccer team (4-16-1, 3-7 Western Athletic Conference) was eliminated from the WAC tournament in Seattle by New Mexico State University as they fell 3-0 on Nov. 6 in the opening round.

### Awards

CSUB Sophomore forward Hedda Regefalk garnered All-WAC first team honors, and freshman midfielder Maja Green garnered All-WAC second team honors.

### Women's Soccer



New Mexico St.

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CSUB

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