New State Budget Falls Short for CSU, Students

By Anne Burzlaff

Last week, the California State Senate finally passed the state's operating budget. The $96 billion package added to out-of-state students and increases the state's spending. However, the $1 billion increase would not impact the CSU state's spending.

The same day the State Senate passed the lofty budget plan, Cal State East Bay had a fiscal crisis. The college's request for an additional $2 million, or 2% of the current fiscal year (2008-2009), as well as an additional $6.6 million, was reduced to $1.5 million by the state. The reduction will impact our ability to maintain quality and serve our students. As a result, we have already been forced to reduce student enrollment for the fall.

"It's very disappointing, especially with the good news that we received today," said the college's vice president for business services, said. "We're still concerned about the state's budget cuts and are working to ensure that we continue to provide a quality education for our students."

Pioneers Head to Tournament Hoping to Advance to Nationals

By WJ Maloudou

The Cal State East Bay men's basketball team won its first regular season game in Paris Heights, Virginia, defeating the Virginia Union. The win marks an improvement from the last two seasons when the team lost its first four games.

However, the team still faces a tough road ahead. The team is ranked 11th in the NAIA poll after being just 31st last year. With the Cal Pac Playoffs this week, the team will have two wins away from Branson (the conference championship). With the Pioneers, the regular season ends with a home game against Concord library.

"We've been working hard all season, and we're hoping to make it to the conference tournament," said the team's head coach. "The team has been coming together, and we're excited to see what we can do."