

Students and Faculty Dance in Showcase

By Lynette Topacio
A & E Editor

This weekend students and faculty at Cal State East Bay's department of theatre and dance will perform in "Ice," the university's annual holiday dance extravaganza.

The presentation will be produced by Nina Haft, Eric Kupers, and other faculty, and will showcase various styles of dance choreographed by students and faculty, including modern,

interpretive, hip hop ballet, spiritual and spoken word.

CSUEB student, Dana De Guzman will perform in senior Olutola Afolayan's, "Delta Cries."

"I was in the dance cluster last quarter and was asked to be in the production," said De Guzman. "It's a modern dance. It's going to be great."

Other students that will showcase their choreography include Brittany Coleman, Hannefah Hassan, Algin Sterling, Denise Hampel, Corissa Johnson,

Jillian Sanchez, Shaedah Deal, Kate Pinedo and Corinne Leon.

Dance faculty professors Haft, Kupers, Sergio Suarez and Grace Alvarez will also give the audience a preview of winter 2008's "Go!"—a dance concert by CSUEB faculty and Bay Area dance professionals.

"Ice" will take place in the CSUEB Dance Studio (PE 140) on Dec. 7 and 8 at 8 p.m. Ticket prices are \$3 for students, seniors and youth, and \$5 for general admission. Tickets are available at tickets@csueastbay.edu or by calling (510) 885-3261.

Heavenly Wind Generators at Tahoe

By Rachael Nyrhila
Staff Writer

Although Mother Nature hasn't given Heavenly Mountain Resort exactly what it has wanted last winter or during the past few months, the resort is working hard to make sure she is happy.

Vail Resorts, Inc., Heavenly Resort's parent company, announced that it has purchased completely renewable energy to replace the company's entire electrical power sources, according to Kelly Ladyga, media relations

director for Vail resorts.

Vail resorts now operates completely on wind power.

"By embracing wind power as a clean and renewable source for 100 percent of our company-wide electricity use, we want to reinforce our commitment to the natural environment in which we operate..." said Rob Katz, chief executive officer of Vail resorts.

Wind power is not the only green initiative in which Heavenly resort is partaking.

In May of this year, Heavenly announced its "Compost your Combustibles" program. Through this program Heavenly, together with the Tahoe-Douglas Fire District and the South Tahoe Refuse, helps locals "increase defensible space and reduce the amount of material that goes into the waste cycle," said Russ Pecoraro, director of communications at Heavenly Resort.

"Heavenly is on the forefront of green initiatives, and not just the consumer-based ones, but the on-mountain improvements aimed at keeping Lake Tahoe blue," he said.

Heavenly also announced in October of this year that it will be serving all natural meats and organic dairy.

In a program called "Appetite for Life," Heavenly will serve hormone-free meat and poultry at seven of its on-mountain restaurants. They have partnered with Coleman Natural Foods LLC and WhiteWave Foods Company in what they call the "largest undertaking to offer these products in the travel industry."

"The organic food initiative is especially exciting for Heavenly because a large number of our guests are environmentally-aware and health conscious," said Blaise Carrig, Heavenly's chief operating officer.

Sierra Club president, Michael Donahoe said, "Heavenly Mountain Resort has joined the ranks of the most environmentally-friendly ski resorts." Donahoe also states that many of the skiers and boarders have been coming to Heavenly for a long time and are excited about the programs.

Heavenly Mountain Resort, a subsidiary of Vail Resorts, is located in South Lake Tahoe. According to the company's website, it is "a world-class destination offering guests a one of a kind combination of scenic beauty and exhilarating on-snow experience." And now it is completely powered by wind.

Skydiving Without Airsickness—In Good Weather and Bad!

By Cristina Aguilar
Staff Writer

There's no need to jump out of airplanes to get the skydiving experience. Now you can have the same experience at iFly indoor skydiving in Union City.

In late August, iFly opened its doors to the public, in the busy Union Landing shopping center. It was the perfect attraction for many residents.

"It makes sense for the location; Union City is the center of the Bay Area. Heavily populated and a lot of people look for recreational activities to do," said Guillermo Nevarez, a recreation consultant.

The Union City iFly facility is one of the first in Northern California; a second center is scheduled to eventually open in Hollywood.

"It's a neat experience for those who are terrified of heights and don't want to risk their lives, perfect place for them," said Nevarez. "It's a lot cheaper than paying a couple hundred dollars to go jump out of an airplane that lasts for thirty seconds. In here you could go longer than a minute."

For those who don't have any flying experience, iFly offers training classes before patrons take their first jump.

Kris Reynolds, Union City resident and flying instructor, has been flying out of airplanes for nine years and has been working in the indoor skydiving facility for about four years.

"The whole process takes about an hour to fifteen minutes, you start off half an hour with the instructor and your group in a classroom talking about body position and body signals and

what to expect. We supply all the gear for you and then you go in there and rotate a couple of times with everybody in the class," said Reynolds.

iFly offers many packages to choose from: there are first time flyers, to expert flyers, group flyers, even student specials.

Kids could even enjoy their birthday party at iFly—an experience that they will not forget.

"Right now our biggest customer base is families or corporate groups," Reynolds said. "A lot of families come out on the weekends and just try it out together."

Everyday, customers come into iFly curious about indoor skydiving. Customers who have never experienced this before have come back to fly again, something they thought they would never try.

"We have a lot of guests that come in that enjoy it so much that they keep coming back. We give them the option of a DVD for everyone that has your whole family taped on that DVD. The feedback is really good from our guests," says Amerae Bergado, a sales assistant at iFly.

I watched people flying high and doing tricks in a vertical wind tunnel with air at 120 mph. It looked like a lot of fun and I knew I would never have the courage to jump out of a plane, so I decided to give indoor skydiving a try.

As I approached the entrance to the tunnel I felt nervous and excited at the same time; I crossed my arms, prepared myself mentally and dropped into the tunnel.

With all the air rushing to my face and body I felt free as a bird. Indoor skydiving turned out to be a lot of fun, and it's something I would definitely want to try doing again.

Skater Beware at CSUEB

By Rachael Nyrhila
Staff Writer

Skateboarders are seen all over the Cal State East Bay campus riding from class to class. But is skateboarding valid transportation or a crime?

According to CSUEB policy, skateboarding is "prohibited on campus."

"It's a safety factor," said Sgt. Alfred Sisneros of the campus

police, who noted students caught skateboarding can be cited. "(Students) are not allowed to ride a skateboard on campus...It's a safety issue. We don't want people tearing down the road."

Sisneros said citations issued to violators of the anti-skateboarding stricture are "few and far between. It's hard to measure the numbers but there are lots of people who don't know, and we try to give them the benefit of the doubt," he said.

Instead of writing tickets, verbal warnings are common practice among officers, he said.

The law is listed on the campus website, but not in the student handbook. No signs are posted

on campus warning students that skateboarding is an offense.

As a consequence, there are people at CSUEB that are unaware of the restriction. Ed Faso, programs and events coordinator with Associated Students, Inc., didn't know skateboarding was against the law. "I have never seen a sign saying it was (illegal)," said Faso.

Sisneros said it is hard to tell if all offenders are even students.

"During the summer and on weekends, there are high school kids," Sisneros said. "There are some local residents and some from outside the area."

He said most of the people on skateboards do have some business on campus.

Elfrid Zalamea, alternative transportation coordinator at CSUEB, said, "the police are not trying to discourage skateboarding on campus."

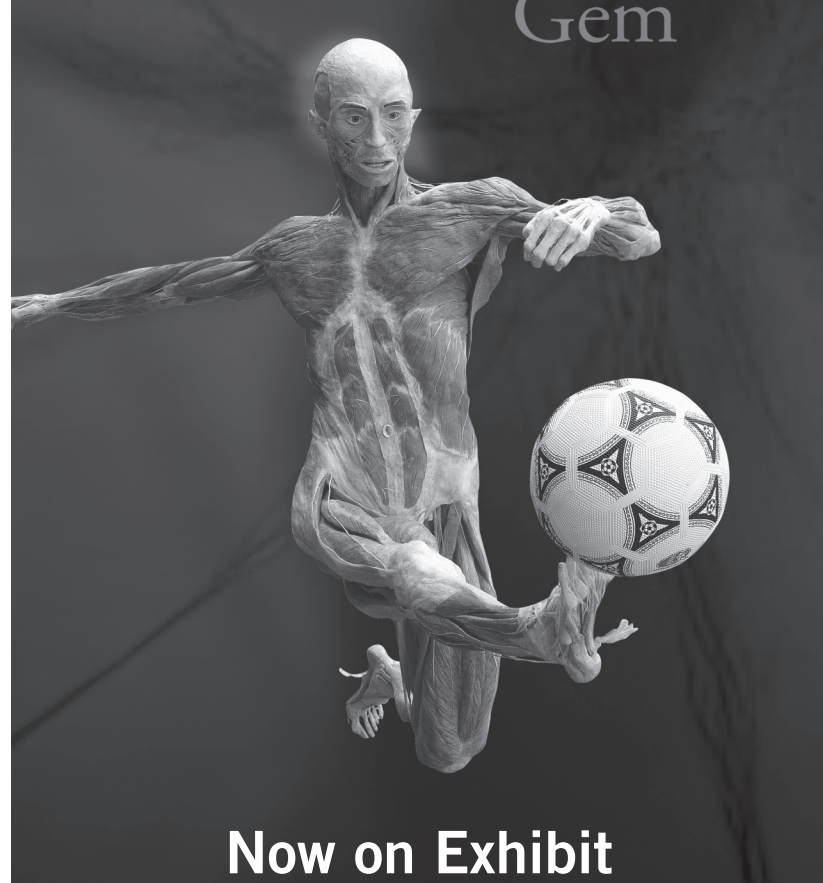
Sisneros confirmed this, but stated, "if it is a problem, it is punishable by citation."

According to one anonymous offender, if you are caught, "they will take your board."

"...if it is a problem, it is punishable by citation."

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