

Featuring



Town Hall Meeting:

Outspoken legislator takes questions in Alameda.

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Winning at Losing:

Former heavyweight Samuel Owle shares his Club One fitness tips.

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Not from Brazil:

The Brazilian Girls show off an eclectic mix in the band's new CD.

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Campus Events

Aug. 22,23
Freshman
Orientation

Sept. 1
Labor Day
Campus Will Be
Closed

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Has the slaying of an American during the Olympics exacerbated animosity?

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Soccer Ineligibility Probe Raises Questions about DII Move

By Steven Tavares
Sports Editor

Forgive Jair Fory for feeling like Sisyphus. Instead of carrying a boulder up a hill only to watch it roll back down, the Cal State East Bay men's soccer coach is dribbling a soccer ball with same fate as the mythic ancient Greek.

Without a set roster less than week before the season, unavailable practice fields and a key performer from last season's squad academically ineligible, the preseason has not been kind to Pioneers soccer.

"It's very frustrating. They want a team, but how can I have a team without having them tryout first?" said Fory. "It's like we're going forward three steps and two back."

Tensions between the men's soccer team began to heat up when a notable returning starter from last season was deemed ineligible last Friday.

A discrepancy in the player's transcripts was discovered precipitating his ineligibility.

Fory place blame on the athletic program saying, "It's their job to keep track."

CSUEB Athletic Director Debby DeAngelis says an investigation is currently underway and hopes to have the issue resolved before the team opens its season Aug. 29 in Spokane, Wash.

Failure to monitor an athlete's academic progress raises questions as to how the pro-

gram will handle similar issues in the future when participation in Division II increases the amount of oversight needed for awarding scholarships.

"We're on probation now for Division II, right?" said Fory. "If we can't handle this, what if they put off allowing us in Division II?"

Last Monday, Fory held a tryout for over 40 new and returning players.

He says he will need to cut the roster to fewer than 25 before opening the season.

His frustration increased when the planned two-a-day practice at Pioneers Stadium was moved to the upper soccer field primarily used by the women's soccer team when the pitch was unmowed and without field stripes.

To make matters worse, a broken riding lawnmower was left on the playing field making any practice time a possible liability for the university.

"It's my first day of practice and I don't have a field to practice," said Fory.

DeAngelis said a work order to the Facilities Department was sent weeks in advance, yet only the upper soccer field typically used by the women's team was prepared.

Women's Head Soccer Coach, Amy Geracie, whose squad also practiced last Monday, said field management has never been a problem in the past.

"This is just a one-time occurrence," she said.

"It's a stressful time of year for any coach,"

said DeAngelis. "He's got more people than he can keep, so he has to make some fairly quick evaluations and decisions."

The perception that the Pioneers men's soccer is the ugly stepchild of CSUEB has been pervasive for a few seasons said senior defender, Jordan Ferrell.

"There's been a lot things I've seen here," said Ferrell. "We do seem like the neglected program down here."

While he admits that players on almost every team have qualms with the program's treatment, his stories usually trump all others.

"I know people on a lot of the other teams here and they all think they get screwed, but when I tell them my stories they usually agree ours are worse," said Ferrell.

Ferrell describes numerous instances over the years of sprinklers inexplicably interrupting practices and rumbling lawnmowers and tractors making communication on the field impossible.

He also said a team-organized practice on the CSUEB field this summer was broken up the university police.

"We're not asking for Division I treatment, but we should be treated like intercollegiate athletes, at least," said Ferrell.

DeAngelis said she was not aware with discontent on the soccer team and offered an open-door policy.

"I make a big point of saying, 'If there's something that needs to be fixed, I need to

know about it,'" said DeAngelis. "I can't fix what I don't know is broken."

DeAngelis says she has repeatedly offered Ferrell, who also participates in the student government and was a major student proponent for Division II, a spot on the Student Athletics' Council.

On the pitch, Fory was impressed by two possible additions to the team in freshman Manuel Cardenas, an athletic defender who he calls a "smart tactical player" and junior transfer Chris Prado, a left back from Stockton.

Fory tried out Cardenas at sweeper Monday, a position the coach says needs to be filled and indicated he performed well.

A team-wide dearth of fitness, though, seems to have plagued some returning players according to Fory.

"I was kind of surprised about some of the guys who played before," said Fory. "I think they're not - flat out - in shape. That's going to be a major problem."

If the team is to succeed this season, the onus is going to be on the players to reach their potential.

"It's shows commitment, especially coming from the guys from previous years," said Fory. "It's up to the athlete on what type of commitment they want to have. They know what the expectations are and if they fail those targets, it's their own fault."

Godspell-binding

By Ishita Maheshwari
A&E Editor

It was an entertaining play, it was a Saturday night, and it was free. What more could one want?

With shows on Aug. 8, 9, 15, 16 and 17 at the Cal State East Bay University Theater, "Godspell," directed by Darryl V. Jones ("The Wiz"), was a modern street adaptation of the original 1970's famous, religious musical written by Michael Tebelele with music and lyrics by Stephen Schwartz.

For a non-Christian such as myself, it took a while for me to catch on what the play was actually about. It was assumed that the audience was familiar with "Godspell" being a musical adaptation of stories taken from the New Testament.

But once I figured that part out - or, rather, asked my friend - the show was nothing short of impressive.

One could tell that Jones also improvised a lot of the dialogue and creatively repackaged the original concepts and story format.

"This is not an ordinary 'Godspell.' It's generally the New Testament told through storytelling and game playing and with the people sort of acting clowns, dressing like clowns usually...sort of circus characters. I saw it when I was very young and fell in love with it. In fact, I think I was a bit of a 'Godspell' groupie," said Jones about his inspiration to direct this play.

The nine re-characterized actors portrayed real and relatable people with shades of gray, and yet the play was colorful, buoyant and larger than life. The characters included drag queens, street people, and prostitutes who were in search of salvation, which they found through Jesus (the Spanish pronunciation). Most of the characters went by their real, off-stage first names.

"It's these people that are coming together creating this sort of...community, but until that time they've all been disenfranchised, they've been loners, they've been by themselves and this man comes along and brings them together, gives them hope, makes them feel a sense of community. And I said well it doesn't make sense to do it with clowns and stuff, because there's real people out there in the world that are looking for some sort of direction," said Jones.

Jones said that his choice of an unconventional Latino Jesus stemmed from the fact that if "someone showed up today and said they were Jesus, we would laugh at them probably, but an ordinary man, an ordinary Jesus (Hay-soos) could be Jesus and we wouldn't even know it."

Kudos to the music director, Nick Di Scala, for the music was touching and fabulous to say the least. The live band was tight, clear and they delivered. Might I add that I was rather taken aback at how absolutely exceptional some of the singers were.



Cast A Wicked Godspell: During rehearsal cast members finish a number. Performances ended Sunday.

Photo/ Ishita Maheshwari

The upbeat choreography by Laura Elaine Ellis, Denise Hampel and Jones kept the audience attentive and glued to the stage. The lighting by Richard Olmsted was appropriate and aided the play in its overall creativity. The set, also engineered by Olmsted, recreated a modern day bar with the

backdrop of a city.

The colorful costumes were in sync with the storyline and were distinctive to the characters. With nine char-

See **Godspell**, page 3.

CSUEB Hosts Super Saturday



Checking it out: Visitors seek information from one of the booths at Super Saturday last weekend.

Photo/ Nicole Olson

By Nicole Olson
Campus Editor

Cal State East Bay brought the community together by hosting the CSU Super Saturday College Fair on Aug. 16, where prospective students and families gained information about 10 of the 23 California campuses.

"The purpose of the event is to outreach to the community and inform them of CSU requirements, financial aid opportunities, and give them a roadmap to help with college preparedness," said Vivian Lee Rhome, Assistant Director of Enrollment Development for CSU East Bay. "We have had quite an array of attendees. Mostly high school students, but also middle school and grade school. Approximately 200 registered online but we've seen a little more than that in actual attendance."

The event, which most called a success, featured campus representatives from 10 of the Northern California campuses, who set up shop in the new University Union to answer questions and give prospective students a taste

See **Saturday**, page 3.

Students Not Using Free Health Services

By Ryan Mariategue
Staff Writer

A new asthma clinic offered free of charge by the Student Health Center expected to begin in the fall will be added to the list of free clinics on campus that many students are unaware of. Ominous.

The center already provides students with an HIV Testing clinic, a Nutrition Assessment clinic, a Smoking Cessation Program, and a Birth Control Consultation clinic.

"We want to get more students here to utilize the clinics," said Janice Frias, a Health Education Assistant and the Clinic Coordinator for the Student Health Center. The problem isn't the availability of health resources; it's getting the word out to students in need of health services including health education, said Frias.

Even though the numbers are not what the health center wishes they were, more students have been utilizing the clinics.

"Since last quarter we've had a boom of student coming in," said Monica Carpio, Chair of the Student Health Advisory Committee and Peer Advocates for Wellness intern.

According to Frias, the HIV Testing clinic is utilized by students the most, testing from 200 to 300 students per academic year. The clinic is free, completely anonymous, and for those who quiver at the thought of a needle, is needle-free.

The Nutrition Assessment clinic is a personalized critique based on a three-day food diary. Students can receive personalized tips and information during their sessions.

See **Services**, page 3.

Isfalt is New ASI Public Relations Director

By Isioma Emordi
Staff Writer

Jessica Isfalt, a junior majoring in communication, was appointed to the position of director of public relations by the Associated Students, Inc. board of directors on July 30.

Last spring quarter, Isfalt and her opponent Ernest Parker ran for the public relations position, and after the votes were tallied, Parker was declared the winner. But the ASI Elections Board Committee noticed that candidates for the public relations position, and one other ASI post, had failed to obtain the two-thirds vote that is needed to win.

The former ASI board voted to hold a run-off election to fill the positions; however, current board members overturned the vote and instead decided to hold a special board meeting to elect members, prior to the start of the fall quarter.

At the meeting there was a solid vote for Isfalt. "I think Jessica is an extremely deserving and talented individual, and I have no doubt that she would do complete justice to the office of public relations," said ASI president Udeetto Maheshwari.

But Maheshwari isn't the only board member anticipating Isfalt's contributions to the campus.

ASI Vice President of Finance Shiva Premmanisakul said, "I think Jessica is a good person and I look forward to working with her on the board for the students."

See **Director**, page 4.



Jessica Isfalt

Photo/Courtesy ASI