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As the weather warms and the flowers bloom, the Central Valley knows it’s time for Party in the Park. Grab a wine glass and beer mug…wait, beer mug? That’s right, in addition to top California wineries, this year attendees can sample unique micro-brews while raising thousands of dollars for CSUB student scholarships. Join the festivities on Friday, May 8, at 5:30 p.m. in CSUB’s Alumni Park.

“We are expanding Party in the Park to accommodate all tastes,” said David Perkins, event chair and member of the CSUB Alumni Association board. “The wineries are stellar, and the micro-brews add a new dimension to the event. But most importantly, we’re raising funds to support student scholarships.”

Vintners from throughout California are already lining up to pop their corks for the worthy cause. With wineries such as Croad Vineyards, Arroyo Robles, Chumiea, and Souza Family Vineyard, the evening is sure to be immensely successful. Perkins anticipates more than 60 wineries will participate along with micro-brews from Lengthwise Brewery, Kern River Brewery and select brands from Advanced Beverage.

“Party in the Park has become a Bakersfield tradition, especially for alumni,” Perkins added. “This event is a great way to have a good time with friends while giving back to the university and students. The event will sell out again, so get your tickets early!”

Last year, Party in the Park attracted 600 guests and raised $7,000 for the Alumni Scholarship Fund. The fund provides academic scholarships for deserving students who might otherwise have difficulty affording a university education.

Party in the Park precedes the annual Bakersfield Jazz Festival. Cost for the tasting is $40 in advance or $50 the day of the event. Available for pre-purchase only is a weekend package that includes both Party in the Park and the Bakersfield Jazz Festival. The package price for Friday’s events is $70, or enjoy the entire weekend for $90.

Major sponsors for Party in the Park are KGET 17 and Cost Plus World Market.

For tickets or more information, please contact the Alumni Relations office at (661) 654-3211.
Each year the Bakersfield Jazz Festival ushers in spring with music and song at the CSUB amphitheater. On Friday and Saturday, May 8 and 9, organizer Doug Davis plans to wow the crowd with a talented and diverse line up that will mark the 23rd year of the festival.

The festival kicks off with music from Kyle Eastwood, son of actor/director Clint Eastwood, Darren Gholston, and Bob Mintzer’s Big Band in its first West Coast performance. Mintzer was a member of the multi-Grammy winning group the Yellowjackets.

On Saturday night, Peruvian singer Cecilia Noel and the Wild Clams will rock the house when they bring their unique brand of “salsoul” to the stage. Well-known musician Brian Bromberg with guitarist Chuck Loeb, Alison Brown, Tim Davies Big Band, CSUB Jazz Singers, and the Kern County Honor Jazz Band will also perform. The evening is punctuated with a stunning fireworks display.

“We receive a huge response to the fireworks every year,” said Davis. “It is a great way to wrap-up this event.”

Proceeds from the festival fund student scholarships in various academic disciplines. Last year more than $30,000 was awarded to 51 students.

“We award the scholarship checks at the event so donors can meet the recipients if they wish,” Davis said. “It is extremely important for everyone in attendance to know that the real reason behind this event is the students.”

Beyond the music, festival attendees also enjoy a variety of great food and drinks. The artisans pavilion typically features a selection of artwork, handcrafted furniture and jewelry available for purchase.

Tickets are available at CSUB, Vallitix outlets, Stockdale Music, California Keyboards, Russo’s Books and Front Porch Music. For tickets, to reserve a table or for more information, please call (661) 322-5200 or log on to www.bakersfieldjazz.com.
Heart-wrenching drama and light-hearted mischievousness filled the Doré Theatre when CSUB presented two, one-act operas by Giacomo Puccini. Directed by music professor Peggy Sears, “Suor (Sister) Angelica” and “Gianni Schicchi” depicted conflicting paths to heaven and hell. The ensemble cast of nearly all CSUB students and alumni were clad in costumes designed by Roger Upton amongst scenery and lighting sets designed by Ray Finnell. A full orchestra, conducted by professor emeritus Gordon Mehling, accompanied the performances.

“We only do a full opera with orchestra once every three years, so it is important to pick an opera that gives maximum opportunities,” Sears said. “With 25 roles to fill, we were able to give many talented students and alumni a chance to share their musical talents.”

Audiences packed the theatre to hear “Suor Angelica,” a tale of loss and repentance. For the dramatic performance, music major Almalinda Duran played the leading role of Sister Angelica. Duran is a CSUB Fine Arts Merit Award Scholarship winner, and last summer studied with internationally acclaimed voice, diction and music coaches in Madrid, Spain.

“This was my first full opera and having the opportunity to affect the lives of others was amazing,” Duran said. “This experience taught me a lot about myself because it was so emotional and helped me grow as a performer and do what I love to do – touch people.”

The second opera, “Gianni Schicchi,” was about a greedy family trying to gain control of the estate of their dead relative. Danvir Grewal, a theater major and first-time opera singer, played the part of Schicchi.

“Opera has been a great learning experience for me because it is much different than a musical. I am happy to have had the opportunity to be involved,” Grewal said. “Despite the fact that I cannot read music, which makes it difficult, I have been able to broaden my horizon through this experience. And, it makes my mom happy because she wants me to be a singer.”
Puccini operas set the stage inside CSUB

Above: A moving scene from "Suor Angelica" starring Almalinda Duran as Sister Angelica.
Below: Humorous moments from "Gianni Schicchi."
Celebrate CSUB! offers a day of free family fun

The blue and gold goes green this year at Celebrate CSUB! with an emphasis on sustainability and renewable energy. The annual open campus will be held Saturday, April 25, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and more than 2,000 visitors are expected to attend.

“We are really increasing campus efforts to save energy and reduce our carbon footprint, and we want to share that movement with the community,” said Evelyn Coyle, event organizer.

“Come to campus and see earth-friendly exhibitors demonstrate simple ways to be more earth-friendly. We will also have a ‘Green’ Jobs Fair where job seekers can meet prospective employers.”

Festivities also include a 5K Fun Run, musical performances, children’s events and a spring carnival. Back by popular demand is “CSUB Idol,” a local take on Fox’s popular television singing competition. Finalists will strut their stuff for a large cash prize and professional studio time.

“Everyone is also invited to participate in Circle Painting, a collaborative community art project that will result in a stunning large-scale painting,” Coyle added. “We are also supporting community groups by holding a luggage drive for foster youth at the Henrietta Weill Child Memorial Guidance Clinic and promoting leadership training for young girls through the Girl Scouts.”

Whether you are an incoming freshman, alumni looking to see old friends, or a community member who has not yet ventured to campus, the event is an opportunity to discover – or rediscover – your university.

Major sponsors for Celebrate CSUB! include 29 The Eyewitness News Station/Fox 58, Hot 94.1, and Jesus Shack.

Admission and parking for Celebrate CSUB! is free. A complete schedule of events is available at www.csub.edu/celebrate.

Paint yourself into a circle!

Grab a paint brush and pick a color to participate in a collaborative community art project during Celebrate CSUB! “Circle Painting” will be located along the sidewalk of the new Science III building. The interactive, simple and colorful nature of Circle Painting has made it a phenomenal success around the U.S and overseas. Help Bakersfield create a stunning large-scale painting designed around a circle theme. No artistic talent is necessary.
With its roots firmly planted in the green movement, CSUB’s plans for greater sustainability continue to grow. Already taking shape is a $9.5 million solar construction project that will provide 25 percent of CSUB’s electrical energy. CSUB is one of 15 CSU campuses selected to participate in the public-private partnership agreement with SunEdison who will fund and build the solar power generation project.

“This opportunity allows the university to significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions and substantially reduce CSUB’s dependence on fossil fuels-based energy generation,” said Ashok Bhatt, CSUB project manager. “The solar project supports our vision of sustainability and is a great example of education and business sectors working together to improve the environment.”

Parking canopies with solar panels mounted on the rooftops will be installed over nearly 500 existing campus parking spaces in Lot E, generating over 2.1 million kilowatt hours of energy per year. Patterned after similar projects on the campuses of California State University, Fresno and California State University, Northridge, the solar project is currently the centerpiece of CSUB’s plan to significantly cut climate-warming emissions.

“The solar project is all about sustainability,” explained Pat Jacobs, assistant vice president for facilities planning development and operations. “It allows us to purchase a quarter of our energy from a clean, sustainable source that does not harm the environment and helps us toward our goal of climate neutrality.”

CSUB’s vow to pursue climate neutrality is led by President Horace Mitchell. In 2007 he signed the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment and pledged to encourage carbon-cutting projects to curb emissions.

In addition to purchasing energy-efficient appliances and equipment as well as using eco-friendly materials in construction projects, Jacobs explained that the newly formed Sustainability Committee will look at big and small issues that impact CSUB’s overall “carbon footprint.”

“We are looking at ways the campus can expand sustainability beyond construction,” said Jacobs. “Determining our carbon footprint baseline will help measure the impact of our efforts. We have already learned that we need to look at transportation because the biggest contributor is everyone’s daily commute to campus.

“If we concentrate on sustainability now, reduced energy consumption in the future could help reduce the $1.9 million we pay annually for electricity. That will impact our general budget which affects everyone on campus. Everyone should stay tuned because this is just in the infancy stage.”
Ready your running shoes and pack your pedometer, the house that students built is racing toward completion.

The 75,130 square-foot, two story center located just south of the Student Union, is set to open for the campus community this spring. Funded entirely by an increased activity fee approved by CSUB students in 2005, the $21.7 million project will be a major boost to campus.

Since construction began, plans for the operational aspects of the center have been ongoing. A committee, comprised largely of students, is working to determine implementation of the program procedures and operating policies. Faculty, staff and alumni representatives are also active in the planning process.

“Since this facility was built by students, we thought it was important for them to participate in the framework of how the facility will be run,” said Mark Harriman, recreation center director. “We have already hired 105 student employees who will staff the facility. The student staff has participated in ongoing trainings in safety, customer service and conflict resolution. Prior to opening, they will also attend training specific to their job to ensure the safety of those who come to use the facility. This will be a service oriented and safety focused facility.”

Once the flooring and electrical infrastructure were complete, the university began moving in equipment, televisions and supplies. To satisfy the thirst of active students and others, the center will feature a Juice It Up! location staffed by student employees.

Current CSUB students can use the center free of charge and those that graduated after the fall of 2005 will be allowed to use the center at no charge for the number of quarters they paid increased student fees. Memberships will also be offered to faculty, staff and alumni who are members of the CSUB Alumni Association at a cost equal to that of the students’ contributions. For continuing updates on the center, log on to www.csub.edu/reccenter.
Geoff King: Strengthening campus and community

As far back as he can remember, Geoff King (’76, B.S. business administration/accounting) has understood the importance of higher education.

Now a certified public accountant and partner with Barbich Hooper King Dill Hoffman Accountancy Corporation, King recalls the unique programs at CSUB that prepared him for the future. “The Inter-Collegiate Business Games taught me valuable business modeling skills,” said King. “I used much of what I learned in my own career.”

King now gives back to the university that helped shape his life. As vice chair of the CSUB Foundation Board, chair of the Foundation Intercollegiate Athletics Committee and a member of the NCAA Division I Campaign, he is often on campus. King contributes to the university and believes those contributions strengthen the foundation of the campus and the community.

“Communities with institutions of higher learning prosper and flourish both financially and culturally,” King explained. “Businesses come to the community and offer economic benefits that we would not have had without the higher education component.”

King was honored as Alumnus of the Year in 2001 and shares his passion for CSUB with his wife Lisa, an alumna (’78, B.S. business administration) and his daughter Jennifer who is preparing to graduate from CSUB this spring. King’s two other children, Matthew and Alyssa, attend college out of state.

Investing in the future of students

Is that opportunity knocking or just your telephone ringing? You may soon be hearing from the university regarding an opportunity to invest in academic excellence through the CSUB FUND.

“The CSUB FUND is a unique opportunity for the community to contribute to the success of not just CSUB, but the success of its students and their college experience,” said Geoff King, CSUB Foundation board member and alumnus.

The CSUB FUND is the university’s annual giving program, created to build a bridge between a good education and a great education. The program provides the university with unrestricted funds and the flexibility to quickly seize unbudgeted academic opportunities that may arise for students and faculty.

“We believe an economically-challenged student should be able to take a cutting-edge research project to a statewide competition without worrying about how she’s going to pay for gas,” King said. “The fund can support one-of-a-kind experiences that students can take with them. It can also support faculty needs that translate into classroom innovation and enhanced learning.”

An investment in the students of CSUB is an investment in the future of our community. “Seventy percent of CSUB’s nearly 31,000 graduates have opted to remain in our community to pursue their careers and raise their families,” said CSUB President Horace Mitchell. “They comprise a large segment of the professional workforce and contribute leadership in every economic sector. The CSUB FUND supports the very students that ultimately make our community great.”

As the university sharpens its vision for excellence, remember to support students and faculty of your university through the CSUB FUND.
Scholarships help student-athletes earn experience, degrees

Since 1973, community members, alumni and university faculty and staff have been investing in the futures of student-athletes through the Roadrunner Club. Currently one of the largest non-profit groups in Kern County, the club provides scholarships to talented and worthy CSUB student-athletes.

Jackie Torvestad, a psychology major who plays on the women’s soccer team, is thankful for the doors her scholarship has helped to open. As an intern at the Centre for Neuro Skills in Bakersfield, she is gaining career experience and preparing for graduate school.

“Without having my soccer scholarship, there is no way I could pursue some of these internships I am doing now, mostly because they are all unpaid,” Torvestad said. “Not having to worry about money freed me up to take jobs that otherwise would require me to have my degree.”

For Rene Hjorth, education has always been important. But in his home country of Denmark, continuing his education beyond high school would have meant giving up his other passion – swimming.

Hjorth spent a year swimming at the University of Pittsburgh, but his dislike for the climate and large class sizes led him to Bakersfield. The business administration major will complete his undergraduate degree this spring and begin work on his master’s next year.

“The opportunity to come to the states to pursue my academic and athletic careers never would have happened had it not been for the athletic scholarship,” said Hjorth. “It has helped me tremendously to see how far swimming can take me and complete my education.”

Torvestad and Hjorth are two shining examples of the 451 student-athletes at CSUB, many of whom receive Roadrunner Club support. While student-athletes benefit from the community’s generosity, club members also benefit with discounts on season tickets, premium seating and exclusive events.

Support student-athletes in achieving their dreams, by joining the Roadrunner Club. For details, call (661) 654-3472.
Nestled on the southeast corner of campus lies a tree covered oasis. Upon entering the grounds, you quickly realize that you are someplace special. You have entered the Facility for Animal Care and Treatment (FACT) where sick and injured animals come to convalesce.

Since its inception in 1975, FACT has cared for thousands of animals, specializing in birds of prey. Sick or injured animals are treated and retrained for reintroduction into their natural habitats. FACT has successfully rehabilitated red-tailed hawks, prairie falcons, great horned owls, kit foxes, golden eagles, red shouldered hawks and American bitterns and annually provides services to an average 200 animals.

“It takes about two months for an animal to fully recuperate after they arrive,” said Marlene Benton, FACT coordinator. “And, about 60 to 65 percent of our animals are released back into the wild.”

Bucking the two month average recuperation time was the latest red-shouldered hawk to call FACT its temporary home. Brought in by a local resident, the bird suffered neurological damage, perhaps caused by a collision with a building or window. The bird was cared for and released after only four weeks of rehabilitation.

FACT’s facilities have also just been rehabilitated, thanks to $75,000 in donations.

“The new rehabilitation area has five cages and a work area that will later be enclosed,” Benton said. “When complete, the cages will essentially double our capacity to house birds. We are as excited about the new cages as the birds!”

FACT also brings excitement and conservation education to local school children and community members. With over 150 educational programs and 6,000 visitors each year, the center creates greater understanding of wildlife rescue.

FACT is supported through private donations, the CSUB Foundation and other organizations. For animal rescue services, call (661) 654-BIRD (2473).
From theme parks to oil fields, you will find them making inspections of equipment and ensuring the safety of workplace conditions. They are safety and health professionals and their skills are in demand. CSUB has introduced a new program that is answering the community’s call for these specialized graduates.

“Within the safety profession – especially in the field of occupational safety as it relates to the oil industry – there is a shortage of qualified individuals entering the profession,” explained Aaron Hegde, director of CSUB’s environmental resource management (ERM) program.

“Many local companies have had to go out of state to recruit qualified employees. There are also a significant number of safety individuals who will be retiring in the next five to 10 years, increasing the already critical demand for such professionals. The community approached the university in an attempt to bridge this gap, and we have responded.”

Work Force Staffing, a locally owned staffing company, committed $50,000 to the partnership last fall to develop new courses to grow the program.

“There is a huge demand for a local occupational safety program,” said Brooks Whitehead, owner and president of Work Force Staffing. “Until now, both those entering the field and professionals wanting to advance had to go out of town for their education. We’re pleased to be part of making this educational program available in Bakersfield.”

ERM is an interdisciplinary bachelor’s degree that includes competencies necessary for individuals pursuing a career in the environment or related fields. The occupational safety and health program is offered within the
The new courses include Introduction to Occupational Safety and Health, Advanced Occupational Safety and Health, Fundamentals of Industrial Hygiene, and Hazardous Materials Management.

“The idea is that students who complete the four-course sequence will be eligible to enter the safety profession,” Whitehead continued. “Upon gaining five years of experience, they will be eligible to take the certification exam for the designation of a Certified Safety Professional. Upon graduation, students can work as safety technicians and safety professionals. They can work either for a local oil company, or a company that deals in a related industry, ranging from a large corporation to a small firm.”

Experts said salaries typically start from $50,000 a year and up.

The program provides added advantages for local employers. “While students are moving through the program, local employers have access to a pool of interns. Upon their graduation, it also gives them access to trained graduates who can become part of a growing industry in the Bakersfield area,” he said.

Joe Bariffi (’89, B.S. petroleum land studies), lead health and safety advisor for Aera Energy LLC, has encountered the problem of recruiting in this field. “I spent four weeks this year recruiting health and safety interns and professionals from across the nation. It’s a critical position. As a safety professional you engage every level of an organization from the field workers to the CEO,” Bariffi emphasized. “The ultimate goal is that every day everyone goes home alive and well. Safety professionals provide managers the tools to excel in that goal.”

Lynn Bishop, a safety specialist with Gene Watson Construction and current president of the Bakersfield chapter of the American Society of Safety Engineers, sees the program as a real asset to the community. “Before there was nothing local except one course that was being taught,” she said. Bishop was pleased the ASSE supported the project with a $5,000 gift that paid for the first course offering. “We knew we were going to jump into this with both feet. We knew CSUB would be a good source for prospective employees in the fields of safety managers and specialists. CSUB will now be able to provide what employers are looking for and what they need.”

“The instructors are industry leaders providing real world experience and teaching us industry standards.”

Matthew Kennedy
CSUB senior, Environmental Resource Management
FACULTY PROFILE: Jianjun Wang
A love for learning

Jianjun “JJ” Wang has never stopped learning at CSUB. In fact, the CSUB advanced education professor and research director has never had any desire to stop and has been able to continue his passion at the university. “I’ve been acting like a graduate student since the time I joined CSUB,” he said, thanks to his supervisors, colleagues and graduate students.

After passing the college entrance exam in 1977, Wang chose to major in physics, and received a bachelor’s degree from Hefei Normal College and a master’s degree from Beijing Normal University. He then attended Kansas State University where he received a doctorate in science education. In addition, he also received a second master’s degree in statistics and passed the second doctorate-qualifying exam in statistics.

In line with his professional training, Wang’s research interest merges several fields. He worked in Beijing for the International Association for Evaluation of Educational Achievement. “My interest in comparative education was derived from the job responsibility,” the 50-year-old professor explained. Leading scholars have recognized his critical contribution in this area.

Wang was able to recruit or collaborate on a total of 11 external research grants based on his background in statistics, science and science education. The funding agencies include the National Science Foundation, the National Center for Education Statistics, the U.S. Department of Education, the Carnegie Foundation, the Spencer Foundation, the California Department of Education, and the American Educational Research Association.

He has also been recognized as a fellow of the National Center for Education Statistics.

Wang is pleased to have been a part of the CSUB family since 1993. “I have been working with other colleagues to keep our campus visible in the profession,” he said. “We have many good colleagues, some of them have devoted their entire professional lives here. They are the asset of our university, and should be recognized accordingly. I have spent a good portion of my professional life here and I am grateful to the campus community for the opportunity to grow in the profession.”
Grant gives Kern’s children hope for a healthy future

An ancient proverb states, “He who has health, has hope. And he who has hope, has everything.” With funding that enables CSUB’s participation in the National Children’s Study, understanding the health of our community’s children looks especially hopeful.

In October 2008, the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development announced that CSUB had been selected to partner with University of California, Berkeley, University of California, Irvine, and University of Chicago’s National Opinion Research Center in a nationwide study designed to improve the health and well-being of children. The universities were selected to receive $14.5 million over five years for the research with CSUB receiving a lion’s share – $10.4 million. Since the announcement, progress has been made toward the goal of implementing a program to gain insight into the effects of environmental and genetic factors on child and young adult health in the United States.

“We have started the planning phase of the project and anticipate it will take 18 months to get ready to knock on doors for enrollment into the actual study,” explained Peggy Leapley who recently retired from CSUB as chair of the nursing department but will continue working on this project. “We are wading through the approval processes that address confidentiality and data security and have monthly conference calls with our university partners to determine our course of action.”

The study will follow a sample of 100,000 children nationwide from before birth to age 21, seeking information to prevent and treat some of the nation’s most pressing health problems, from birth defects to obesity. In Kern County, one of 105 counties selected to participate, the study will include 1,000 children and their families.

“Participation is significant for Kern County because our health needs are unique,” Leapley says. “We consistently place low in studies that look at the health of our children and participation in this study gives us a chance to look closely at the factors that affect our health. It also gives our students an opportunity to participate in a significant research study.”

University officials have worked diligently to establish collaborative relationships with local partners and received broad support from hospitals, regional medical care providers and the Kern County Board of Supervisors.

Recruitment of Kern County participants in the study will begin in early 2011.

The National Children’s Study looks at the effects of the environment on the health and development of 100,000 children across the United States from birth to age 21. CSUB received $10.4 million of the $14.5 million awarded to the partnership which included:

- California State University, Bakersfield
- University of California, Berkeley
- University of California, Irvine
- University of Chicago’s National Opinion Research Center
Daphne Harley named CSUB alumna of the year

Waste, garbage, debris; whatever you want to call it, none of it sounds glamorous. But for Daphne Harley, it was all in a day’s work as the director of Kern County waste management. Harley was recently recognized as CSUB’s 2008-09 alumna of the year for commitment to the health of the community and to CSUB. She was honored during the Alumni Hall of Fame gala at Seven Oaks Country Club.

A native of the Virgin Islands, Harley began her career in 1975 as the first African-American hired as a Kern County health inspector. She was appointed director of Kern’s waste management department in 1992 and earned her master’s degree in public administration from CSUB in 1998. He is also currently the president of the Kern High School District board of trustees.

• **Joel Heinrichs** – The CEO of Lightspeed Systems, Heinrichs earned his master’s degree in public administration from CSUB in 1989. He is also currently the vice president of the Kern High School District board of trustees.

• **Pauline Larwood** – A government relations consultant since 1995, Larwood is serving as the Bakersfield Police Department, Rector has worked with BPD since 1982 in various areas including patrol, training, vice/narcotics and juvenile/sex crimes. He graduated from CSUB in 1989 with a master’s degree in education.

• **Wayne Montgomery** – Owner of Montgomery Insurance since 1977, Montgomery is also the pastor of Christ Community Church in Wasco. He received his bachelor’s degree in psychology in 1976 and master’s degree in education in 1978.

• **Bill Rector** – The chief of police for the Bakersfield Police Department, Rector has worked with BPD since 1982 in various areas including patrol, training, vice/narcotics and juvenile/sex crimes. He graduated from CSUB in 1989 with a master’s degree in education.

“My experience at CSUB was important because it allowed me to interact with students in similar fields,” Harley said. “It helped me understand policy and programmatic issues that ultimately helped me structure my department.”

During her career Harley faced adversity time and time again, but rose above the challenges. She has been able to share her drive to succeed as an adjunct faculty member at CSUB, but learns something along with the students she teaches.

“I believe it is important for working professionals to build a strong connection to their local university in order to improve their work,” Harley said. “Higher learning is truly the lifeblood of any community.”
A CSUB alumnus is after the “superbug.” In fact, his work fighting bacterial infections has been recognized by the National Inventors Hall of Fame Foundation.

“Currently, there are 90,000 deaths per year in the U.S. as a result of bacterial infections and 70 percent of bacterial infections are resistant to one or more antibiotics,” explained Brandon McNaughton, who earned his bachelor’s degree in physics (’02). “There is a type of infection called Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA), which is often referred to as the ‘superbug.’ As of last year, the ‘superbug’ actually killed more people than AIDS in the U.S. The Centers for Disease Control considers this to be one of the world’s most pressing health problems. They state that the solution is not only stronger antibiotics, but also faster diagnostics, which is what I have been developing.”

Working with nanoparticles and magnets up to 10,000 times smaller than the width of a human hair, McNaughton and his research colleagues at the University of Michigan have invented a device capable of quickly detecting the presence and growth of bacteria. The device reduces testing time from two days to eight hours for hospital patients who develop infections, allowing for faster administration of appropriate antibiotics.

The 28-year-old, who attributes much of his success to his time at CSUB, recently returned to campus as a guest lecturer. “Coming back to campus was a great opportunity,” he said. “I enjoyed seeing my professors. They really helped build the foundation for my scientific research and inventions.”

McNaughton received his doctorate in applied physics in January 2007 from the University of Michigan and has stayed on as a postdoctoral research fellow to continue his work. He currently resides in Ann Arbor, Mich., with his wife and two children.

“My ultimate goal is to see this technology have a real health impact. I believe this invention will result in saved lives. To make this happen, I plan on continuing the technology development and starting a company in the next year,” he detailed.

For more information on his research, visit http://www.umich.edu/~bmcnaugh.
1970s

WAYNE VERRELL (’75, B.A. sociology) is married with two daughters. Since graduation, he moved to the South Bay area, and has worked for the Automobile Club of Southern California for the past 34 years in auto and homeowners claims. He will be retiring soon and is looking forward to playing more golf.

1980s

MICHELE NEWELL (’88, B.A. communications) recently joined the CSUB public affairs department as a writer. She is responsible for writing copy for collateral materials used to market, publicize and aid in development of activities for the university. She has been married to her husband Scott for 20 years and has two children Zack, 13, and Dylan, 12.

MARY ELIZABETH MCINTOSH (’89, B.S. biology) is living in Memphis, Tenn. After CSUB, she graduated from the Southern College of Optometry in Memphis. Her home and busy practice are in Memphis, but she really misses living in California.

KEVIN MCCARTHY (’89 B.S. business administration; ’94 M.B.A.) was named “Rookie of the Year” by the readers of Roll Call, a Capitol Hill newspaper, and congress. org. He was also named chief deputy whip of House Republicans, making him the third highest ranking House Republican.

1990s

MARCI GREENFIELD (’99 B.A. humanities and social science) is a project assistant for Global Engineering and Construction with Chevron Business and Real Estate Services in Bakersfield. A former CSUB cheerleader, she has now put away her pom-poms for good! She is engaged to fellow alumnus, JEFF SCHILLING (’03, B.A. humanities and social science).

TONY LOPEZ (’99, B.A. psychology) has been promoted to program director for the Kern County department of human services and will manage the food stamp Medi-Cal division.

RON RADNEY (’98, M.B.A.) successfully defended his dissertation to earn a doctorate in educational administration from University of the Pacific. He is currently CSUB’s director of financial aid.

JAMES SCULLY (’98, B.A. music) is a full-time lecturer at CSUB in the music department. He serves as director of the small jazz ensembles and the new guitar ensemble. He is married and has three children.

2000s

ADAM ALVIDREZ (’00, B.A. psychology; ’04, M.P.A.) started a new career with Chevron North American Exploration and Production as a policy, government and public affairs representative. He works with a team of public affairs professionals dedicated to enhancing Chevron’s global image and reputation. He is responsible for developing and implementing several community relations initiatives, building key partnerships in communities through grants and sponsored programs, and managing special projects.

CLINT BAIRD (’00, B.S. business administration) became tax manager at Brown Armstrong after working there for more than seven years.

SHANNON MCQUEEN (’01, B.S. business administration) raced to victory in the Bay Cities Racing Association (BCRA) Midget features in Lakeport and Hanford in 2008 helping to solidify her racing moniker – “Lightning McQueen.” In Lakeport McQueen clinched first career BCRA Midget victory. McQueen took Hanford’s Kings
Speedway by storm winning the Tachi Invitational, taking the $850 pot and a monstrous Cotton Classic trophy. Both victories earned McQueen recognition as the first female to win on both dirt and pavement in a BCRA event. McQueen’s day-job is a certified public accountant for local accounting firm Daniells, Phillips, Vaughan & Bock.

AMANDA DICKERSON ('04, B.S. business administration), a certified public accountant and audit manager for Brown Armstrong, returned to the firm after a move to Southern California. She has five years of audit and tax experience, and manages the firm’s governmental clients from the Los Angeles and Inland Empire areas.

GABRIEL HERNANDEZ ('07, B.A. liberal studies) graduated with a master’s in education from University of California, Santa Barbara in December 2008 and is now working as an English instructor at a college. NORAZLINA HERNANDEZ ('07, M.A. education) is a second-year doctoral student at UC Santa Barbara. They have two children, Ismael, 3, and seven month old Iman.

ADRIANNA KESSLER ('04, B.A. sociology) is a program director managing ongoing and specialized caseloads for CalWORKS.

MARY LYDUM ('06, B.A. Spanish) is currently looking for work as a Spanish teacher and is considering getting her master’s in Spanish, possibly in Spain.

VIRGINIA (GIA) MARKS ('01, M.S. counseling psychology) is currently working at CSUB in the counseling center. She enjoys working with students at her alma mater and helping them achieve their higher education goals. She says the diverse student population keeps her work interesting and enjoyable.

RICKY YANEZ ('06, B.A. psychology) is a financial advisor for Morgan Stanley’s Global Wealth Management Group. As a financial advisor, he provides sound financial plans for his clients allowing them to meet their short and long-term goals. He is engaged and will be getting married next summer.

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Infielder Brandon Boren could feel the excitement and anticipation as he walked onto Hardt Field and took his position as the first-ever batter for CSUB’s inaugural baseball team. The moment was greeted by the 800 fans in attendance with as much fanfare as the first game of the World Series.

“It has been my dream to play Division I baseball, and CSUB offered me a great opportunity to realize that dream and play close to home,” said Boren, a local boy who graduated from Stockdale High School and is now a junior liberal arts major. “We have a really tough schedule and it’s incredible to have my dream become reality.”

Opening day was also an opportunity to honor local residents Tom and Barbara Hardt, whose $1 million gift transformed a dirt field into a stunning training and playing facility. Phase I construction of Hardt Field began in September 2008 with Mr. Hardt donating his time and talents as the project’s general contractor. He was also instrumental in securing many in-kind gifts that were essential to complete the field’s construction.

“I played baseball in high school and know the skills and virtues I learned on the field have stayed with me throughout my life,” said Hardt (’73, B.A. public administration). “When I pursued my higher education at CSUB, the discipline, competitiveness and teamwork I learned as an athlete helped me to be a better student. Barbara and I believe the baseball facility and program will have a positive impact on student-athletes now and for the future.”

Head coach Bill Kernen noted, “The whole team understands how incredibly special it is to be part of such a major ‘first’ for the university. No other players or coaches can say they were part of the day baseball began at CSUB. It’s very exciting and we look forward to making our community proud.”

Baseball is CSUB’s 19th sport and part of the university’s transition to NCAA Division I athletics.
It's official! Welcome to Hardt Field!

Left to right: Parents Mike and Tammy Walkley arrive with Omar Rodriguez and Al Medina to watch their sons play in CSUB's first game.

It’s official! Welcome to Hardt Field!

Jackie Kegley and Charles McCall are first in their seats.

Tom Hardt gets ready to throw the first pitch.

Field facts

• More than 100,000 sq. ft. of Bermuda grass was laid by hand by CSUB coaches, players and volunteers.

• Hardt Field’s infield is a specialized mixture of material mirroring what is used by Petco Park, home of the San Diego Padres, and Angel Stadium, home of the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim.

• The 25 spruce trees planted in center field create a natural ‘batter’s eye’ or background so batters can more easily see the ball when pitched.

• The pitching mound was built to major league standards and features brick under the rubber and the landing area for added stability.

• A good luck charm was buried at the field by CSUB players and coaches during construction. The object, which will not be identified, will remain there for perpetuity.

Ready to cheer the Runners to victory!
Maria Brown, graduate student

Hometown: Turlock, CA

Degree objective: Single subject teaching credential in English

Background: I am a first generation American, born to immigrants from the Azores, Portugal and spoke only Portuguese until I began kindergarten. I successfully battled stage IV Hodgkin’s disease during my senior year of high school and began at CSUB the fall of 1991. I came out of remission a year later, and had to withdraw from CSUB in order to undergo a bone marrow transplant. I was married in 1993 to Jeremy and we have two beautiful children, Victoria and William. In 2002, I decided that it was time to return to school to get my bachelor’s and a teaching credential. I graduated cum laude with a degree in English last June.

Highlight of CSUB: My membership in Phi Sigma Sigma International Sorority and Sigma Tau Delta International English Honor Society. Both of these have offered me outstanding leadership opportunities and avenues for active collegiate involvement.

Influences: My grandparents and parents are the most powerful influences in my life. Although they came from very little education and means, they always stressed that someday I would go to college and get my degree. I am thrilled to have lived up to their expectations!

Passions and interests: I love performing community service and socializing with my sorority sisters. I also enjoy promoting literacy as a Runner Reader Ambassador for the CSUB common reader program.

Favorite thing about CSUB: My professors! I am impressed by the high caliber of the education they provide and their willingness to work with students one-on-one.

Future profession: I plan to teach English at the high school level. I also aspire to teach at the collegiate level in the near future.
Upcoming Events

APRIL

14 23rd annual Charles W. Kegley Memorial Lecture
Famed anthropologist Richard Leakey will speak on “Ethics and Environmental Change: The Future of Life on Earth.”
Doré Theatre, 7 p.m. Free admission. Details: (661) 654-3149

25 Celebrate CSUB!
Campus open house with activities for the whole family. CSUB, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Free admission. Details: www.csub.edu/celebrate

25 CSUB/BC composers’ concert
Doré Theatre, 7:30 p.m. Free admission. Details: (661) 654-2511

25 La Charanga Cubana concert
Hispanic Excellence Scholarship Fund presents the Latin Grammy nominated group La Charanga Cubana. Niles Street Bar and Grill, 1721 19th Street, 7 p.m. Tickets and details: (661) 654-3406

MAY

1 CSUB opera theatre
An evening of opera and musical theatre scenes. Doré Theatre, 7:30 p.m. Tickets: $10; $8 faculty/staff/senior; $6 students

2 FACT open house
1-4 p.m. Free admission. Details: (661) 654-3167

8 Party in the Park
Wine and beer tasting benefitting student scholarships. Alumni Park, 5:30 p.m. Tickets: (661) 654-3211

8/9 23rd Annual Bakersfield Jazz Festival
Presented by BMW of Bakersfield. CSUB Amphitheatre. For tickets and information: Vallitix (661) 322-5200 or www.vallitix.com. For festival information: www.bakersfieldjazz.com

14 37th annual athletics spring barbecue
Benefits the athletic scholarship fund. CSUB Icardo Center, 5:30 p.m. Tickets and details: (661) 654-3473 or www.gorunners.com

21-31 “Anna in the Tropics”
Play directed by Maria-Tania Becerra. Doré Theatre, May 21-23 at 8 p.m.; May 28-31 at 2 and 8 p.m. Tickets: $10; $8 faculty/staff/seniors; $5 students. Details: (661) 654-3093

23 Women’s choir spring concert
Huber Chapel of the First Congregational Church, Real Rd. and Stockdale Hwy., 7 p.m. Tickets: $10; $5 students/seniors

31 Chamber music concert
Huber Chapel of the First Congregational Church, Real Rd. and Stockdale Hwy., 4 p.m. Tickets $10; $6 students/seniors

JUNE

5 Concert band
Featuring guest composers Gregory Yasinitsky and Shirley Mier, plus works by CSUB student Kevin Calvin and director Doug Davis. Doré Theatre, 7:30 p.m. Tickets: $10; $6 students/seniors

6 Jazz ensemble
Doré Theatre, 8 p.m. Tickets: $10; $6 students/seniors

7 CSUB singers and friends
Presents “The Creation,” a celebration of Haydn’s 200th birthday. Doré Theatre, 4 p.m. Tickets: $10; $5 students/seniors

12/13 Commencement
Log onto www.csub.edu/commencement for details

Additional events can be found online at www.csub.edu. For the spring athletics calendar, log on to www.gorunners.com.
A NEW TWIST

Celebrate
CSUB!

GOES GREEN

Saturday, April 25
9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Open Campus
FREE

Food • Music • 5K Fun Run • Pancake Breakfast
Spring Carnival • Community Art Project
“Green” Jobs Fair • CSUB Idol
And much more!

For more information, log on to www.csub.edu/celebrate