| NEWS |

Federal aid could be based on 'competency' instead of credit hours

| FEATURES | P.4

Visual learner finds passion in American Sign Language

OPINION P. 6

Devaluing other people with derogatory words shows lack of humanity



SPORTS |

P. 8

Tennis duos lead doubles for CSUN women

FREE

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24, 2013 | VOL. 54, ISS. 108 | WWW.DAILYSUNDIAL.COM

PARKING STRESS TO SEE RELIEF

Graduate student develops mobile application for students to find open parking spaces in campus structures

MICHELLE REUTER DAILY SUNDIAL

tudents will soon have a tool to help them find parking spaces at CSUN.

A new mobile application has been developed that will help students as they search for a parking structure before they even get to campus.

Graduate student Max Aram has been working with groups all over campus since 2011 to develop a smartphone application that will tell students where to find the most open parking spaces in the parking structures.

The development stages are almost complete and testing will begin in the next few weeks. If all goes smoothly, students could be using the new technology by Fall 2013.

Associated Students General Manager David Crandall said the technology was developed using the campus quality fee, though Associated Students did help oversee the project.

The student fee advisory committee "spoke out vigorously" in favor of it last year, Crandall said.

"What's the saying, 'I got my parking pass, but it's more like a hunting pass?" Crandall said.

In a special meeting held on Aug. 31, 2012, the board passed a motion to approve a resolution encouraging the university president and vice president to approve the Smart Parking Project.

Sensors have been installed at

entrances and exits, as well as some other strategic points, in parking structure B5 according to Aram, who is also the project manager.

When cars pass the sensors, the information is sent through a series of

software knows how many parking spots are left in the structure.

Students will be able to view the information through an application on their smartphones once they arrive within a few miles of campus. Developers have included a voice activation feature so drivers do not have to take their eyes off the road while looking up parking information.

Aram was inspired to do something about the parking situation on his first day as a grad student at CSUN. The manufacturing systems engineering student said he spent an hour, driving around two parking structures and a few parking lots, trying to find a

> space. He ended up leaving his car at the Ross parking lot on Reseda Boulevard.

> > Talar Alexanian, an Associated Students upper division Senator and a commuter student herself, said she hopes the parking app will give students a better perception of

"I know one of the bigger problems for students who

commute to campus is the issue of parking, especially at the beginning of the semester," she said. 'I think it will definitely make the transition for new students coming to campus easier, as well as making the whole campus experience a more enjoyable one once they get here."

Many people have added their expertise to the development of the application. Aram has been working closely with another grad student, Norvan Gorji, who has contributed many hours as a programmer on the project.

There have also been weekly meetings with faculty and staff groups such as the CSUN police department and the Institute for Sustainability, all adding their experience to help refine the system over the last year.

If the feedback is positive, the app could be expanded to cover other parking structures and parking lots across campus, Aram said.

Aram said he hopes this project will leave a legacy for other students by cutting down on the time they



servers and equipment. By counting how many people enter and exit, the See PARKING APP, page 3 Tuition freeze could prevent cost increase

Three assemblymembers joined to propose CSU, UC enrollment remain at the 2011-2012 academic year's price

government is held accountable."

JASON GALLAHER

DAILY SUNDIAL

tudents support the joint efforts of three California State Assembly members to freeze tuition throughout the UC and CSU systems.

Assembly Bill 67, authored by Assembly members Kristin Olsen (R-Modesto), Rocky Chávez (R-Oceanside) and Jeff Gorell (R-Camarillo) would freeze tuition at the rate of the 2011-2012 academic year if there is an increase in funding to UC and CSU schools by 5 percent in the 2013-2014 and 2014-2015 academic years.

There would also be a 4 percent increase in the 2015-2016 and 2016-2017 academic years.

Many students support the tuition freeze, as the rising cost of tuition has caused them to worry about paying for college.

"I'm running

out of financial aid money and I don't make enough at my two jobs," said Brian Escobar, 21, junior sociology major. "This would be

good for me so I'd know how much I need to save for school."

Others said the tuition freeze and increase in budget would focus state tax dollars to

education opposed to areas "It's important...students and families are they see as a lesser concern. guaranteed a stable tuiton rate, and state

"When they raise (tuition) in general, it's unfair," Kimberly Hernandez, 18, fresh-

man psychology major. "I find it unfair that (so much) money is put in incarceration projects instead of schooling."

-KRISTIN OLSEN

Assemblymember (R-Modesto)

Gorell said in a statement that rising tuition costs are often the result of reduced state funding to schools.

'We've balanced the budgets of the universities over the past decade by tripling the tuition and fees students pay," he said.

Olsen said this bill will help guarantee funding that was set aside for education purposes will be given to educational institutions.

"Voters were promised that the passage of Proposition 30 would mean more funds for education, including college students," Olsen said. "It's important to pass AB 67 now so that students and families are guaranteed a stable tuition rate and so state gov-

See TUITION FREEZE, page 7

Students can minor in 'going green'

Courses in the sustainability minor teach students how to preserve Earth's resources, propose alternative solutions

ARELI RODRIGUEZ

DAILY SUNDIAL

Students can learn different ways to think green in their daily lives if they were to minor in sustainability.

The minor at CSUN can help students learn about their ecological footprint and the limited resources available in the world.

"The earth is important and we need to try and conserve it and be more efficient so that we can have more generations of people," said Kami Aikens, 22, junior biology major.

Sustainability means to meet the needs of current generations without hindering future generations' basic needs, according to the Institute for Sustainability.

Helen Cox, director of the Institute for Sustainability, said the minor teaches students about sustainable practices that can be used in whatever field they go into.

Cox said the minor is meant to inform students with additional information they can use apart from their major. "Students get exposed to how sustainability applies to different disciplines," Cox said.

The minor was introduced in 2011 and is offered through the college of humanities in the liberal studies department.

In order for students to minor in sustainability they need to complete 18 units with three core courses and three qualified elective courses. Students are required to take the core courses 300, 310, and 401.

The entry level course 300 is designed to help students understand the basic concepts and multiple perspectives of sustainability.

Students who take the 310 course focus on energy, water, food waste, transportation issues and proposing alternative solutions to create a more sustainable planet, according to the Institute for Sustainability website.

The 401 course is created for students to apply the sustainable practices they have learned into a group project to address a community problem and present a solution.

The electives can range from departments such as anthropology, economics, family and consumer sciences and mechanical engineering. Students are able to select electives from different departments as long as the course somehow relates to sustainability.

There are no plans for the minor to become a major, but there might be a graduate studies program available soon for students, Cox said.

Most of the courses in the minor are open to any student who has an interest in sustainability and students can choose not to declare a minor.

Aikens said she is taking Sustainability 310 because she is interested in mycology (the study of fungi) to learn about sustainable ways to grow mushrooms and help her parents' heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) business be more sustainable.

"I want to have a better understanding of the materials I'll be using and the cost to me and the cost to the earth," Aikens said.

Mechelle Best, faculty associate for the Institute for Sustainability, teaches one of the 310 courses and said in her class, and other core courses, students focus on lifestyles and individual practices as well as practices in communities and internationally.

Best said students learn what they can do in a broad



SYNEMIA NICHOLAS/CON

Professor and Director of the Institute for Sustainability at CSUN, Helen M. Cox, Ph.D, speaks to mechanial engineering majors at CSUN about future events concerning sustainability at the Northridge Center on Tuesday.

basis, but also learn what they can do at an individual level.

"We are helping them to be more aware of issues pertaining to sustainability. We expect that that is something that they'll live by and part of their living is how they behave as students on campus and how they encourage others around them to behave as well," Best said.

Students not only gain the knowledge of how to have

a sustainable lifestyle, but there are companies that offer positions such as sustainability coordinator, who tries to adapt sustainability within a company, Best said.

Best said a movement toward sustainability began during the 1960s and 1970s and has become more important because the actions of human beings have had a devastating impact in the natural resources of some areas.

Sustainability has become more popular now because there are certain issues such as global warming that are heard more often in the media and through activism as more people know about these issues, Best said.

"The impacts of some of our actions have become very evident and there are people who see the need for us to change," Best said.





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PARKING APP

Continued from page 1

spend looking for spaces while reducing the amount of gas people have to use driving around campus looking for a parking spot.

Some students are looking forward to the new app while others are not sure.

Luke Guastaferro, 22, senior urban planning major, said he he would use the information to cut down on the time he spends looking for a parking place.

Sergi Corvajal, 23, urban planning major, said he probably would not use the app.

"If you come to school Monday through Friday, you should already know where to look," he said.

Final testing of the program is underway now. If everything goes according to schedule, the new parking app will be tested by a small group of students over the summer. It will then go live for all CSUN students in the fall of 2013 in the B5, B3 and G3 parking structures.

CORRECTION

CSUN's Colleges Against Cancer club will hold its 6th annual Relay for Life, not 8th, as stated in Monday's article, "Students continue to fight against cancer."

Aid could be based on competency

Department of Education may give financial aid based on assessment test instead of credit hours

JONATHAN DIAZ
DAILY SUNDIAL

hanges will be coming soon to the federal financial aid program, since the U.S. Department of Education announced that colleges can begin to provide federal student aid based on "competencies," not just credit-hours.

According to the Council for Education on Public Health, "Competencybased education is focused on outcomes, or competencies, that are linked to workforce needs, as defined by employers and the profession."

Students in competency-based universities learn online at their own pace. When a student feels they have complete command of a subject, they can take a test which will allow them to test out of the subject. If they pass, they will not have to take classes in the subject again, and they will be able to graduate more quickly.

This differs from traditional schools like CSUN, where students are evaluated by the credit-hour-based system, since the Carnegie Foundation established the credit hour in 1906 as a measure of course work.

According to the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, one of the governing boards responsible for accreditation, "a credit hour is an amount of work represented in intended learning

outcomes and verified by evidence of student achievement that is an institutionally established equivalency that reasonably approximates not less than one hour of classroom or direct faculty instruction and a minimum of two hours of out-of-class student work each week for approximately fifteen weeks for one semester hour of credit."

Southern New Hampshire University, Capella University and Western Governors University are just a few examples of competency-based schools.

Competency-based schools are fully-accredited nonprofit universities. WGU's website says its competency-based approach is "based on what you know and what you can do."

Lili Vidal, director of the financial aid and scholarship department, said that she doesn't believe increased financial aid for these schools would result in less aid for students at CSUN.

"It's too early to tell what the impact on aid availability might be if other institutions engage in this new program," Vidal said."This is in the very early stages."

The U.S. Department of Education has outlined the process for which competency-based schools can apply for federal aid.

In the letter sent out to colleges, it states "the Higher Education Reconciliation Act of 2005 provided that instructional programs that use direct assessment of student learning, or that recognize the direct assessment by others of student learning, in lieu of measuring

student learning in credit hours or clock hours, may qualify as eligible programs if the assessment is consistent with the institution's or program's accreditation."

Economics professor Shirley Svorny said that this might benefit certain students.

"Not everybody is the same, and not everybody learns the same way," she said.

With competency-based education, she feels fraud is an issue with regards to taking tests, but adds that it can be an issue in larger, in-person classes, too.

"Sometimes in larger classes, I ask

for I.D. when we we have tests," she said.

Svorny also said that a student should

Svorny also said that a student should still qualify for aid if they can complete a course in less than a semester's time.

"Financial aid is meant to help low income students, regardless of where they go to school," Svorny said. "It's a win-win for them if they can complete a class in less than a month."

David Thomas, a U.S. Department of Education spokesperson said it is ultimately up to the Secretary of Education to determine if the school is eligible to receive federal aid.

Some students feel that regardless of what kind of school a student attends, they should be eligible for financial aid.

"It shouldn't matter if a student goes to school online or in-person," said Isaiah Dominguez, 27, CTVA sophomore. "If they can't afford it, they should be able to get help from the (federal) government."

FUN FACTS

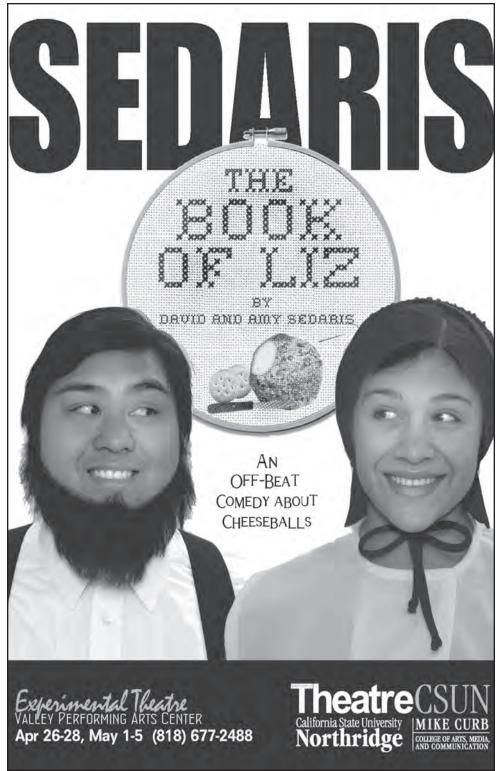
1906: The Carnegie Foundation establishes the "credit hour" as a measure of course work

2005: The U.S.
Department of Education decides programs that use assessments instead of credit hours could be eligible for government aid

The definition:
Competency-based
education is focused
on outcomes, or
"competencies," that
are linked to workforce
needs, as defined by
employers

Some competency based schools: Southern New Hampshire University, Capella University and Western Governors University





Student finds comfort in deaf studies

After struggling in basic academic subjects, a visual learner realizes his passion in American Sign Language

CYNTHIA GOMEZ

DAILY SUNDIAL

or Spencer Logan, school had always been a struggle.

He had difficulty memorizing information in subjects like physics, history and math, and it was difficult for him to retain information.

But he found his passion in American Sign Language

"I'm a very visual learner," said Logan, 23, a deaf studies major. "I was able to pick up sign language very easily because it is a completely visual language."

He began taking classes in ASL in the spring of 2006 at Santa Barbara City College, but soon stopped a year after.

"I realized that Santa Barbara wasn't really the environment for me to really progress my sign language skills, so I wanted to wait until I transferred to CSUN to get my signing ability up," Logan said.

He moved to the Los



Spencer Logan is a junior and is in the Fraternity Kappa Sigma. He and his fraternity brothers have an affinity for deaf studies.

Angeles area and transferred to CSUN in August of 2011 where he enrolled in the university's deaf studies program. Here, he met a group of deaf students that he became comfortable working with.

"Interaction with them really helps me build my own communicative skills and learn about the culture and become a better interpreter," Logan said.

The deaf studies major also practices signing in his fraternity, Kappa Sigma. The Greek multicultural organization on campus has brothers who are hard of

hearing and/or are also majoring in deaf studies. Participating in the fraternity has enabled him to socialize and network with other Kappa Sigma chapters throughout the United States.

"I would encourage anyone to join Greek life because you get to meet so many different

people and do things like the national conference," he said.

Logan holds much interest for the art of signing. He hopes to become an interpreter for the court system, a passion he has and can't explain.

"I just have always found it fascinating," he said.

If he doesn't get accept-

ed, Logan will change his major to ASL Literature, which goes in-depth in examining literature written for deaf people.

"There's a lot of culture involved in the deaf community that a lot of people don't know about," Logan said. "ASL literature

is a work of art that a lot of deaf authors have compiled."

The student has found inspiration from professors as well, such as Shoshannah Stern, who teaches Introduction to Deaf Studies. Stern is one of Logan's favorite professors.

"With Spencer, I think I

knew his name after the first week or so," Stern said. "He never failed to come to class prepared, and I could always count on his hand shooting up during every pause. His questions were always thoughtprovoking and on point."

In addition to attending school, Logan works two jobs:

"I'm a very visual

learner. I was able

to pick up sign

language very

easily because it is

a completely visual

language."

—SPENCER LOGAN

Deaf studies major

one at a restaurant in Bel-Air and one as an on-call banquet server in Beverly Hills.

Handling his jobs and studying is the biggest challenge he currently faces. The deaf studies major has learned that balancing his life is essential. and he took the

opportunity to use the resources and events that CSUN offers so he could earn better grades.

"It made me capable to get an outstanding GPA after that," Logan said. "I found that CSUN is an amazing campus with a lot of wonderful resources and really passionate teachers."

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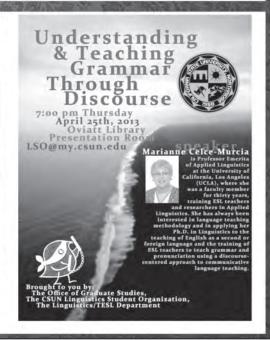
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A SPECIAL EXHIBITION





Associated Students is the official seat of student governance for the campus. The Student Government division represents the student body, advocates their needs, and defends their interests in dealings with faculty, campus administrators and government officials.

Student Government | Sport Clubs | Outdoor Adventures | Children's Center | Ticket Office | Recycling Service

Opinion@sundial.csun.edu

People, not words must change



BEN ANDREWS SOCIAL MEDIA EDITOR **LUIS RIVAS** SENIOR REPORTER

ords are inherently powerful. So much so that often people, the very controllers of words, fail to understand their effects and ramifications. Simply, people do not really understand how powerful words are.

At times, even the media is susceptible to this ignorance, which is a blatant act of negligence to their responsibility.

The Associated Press (AP), sets the journalistic standard for most media outlets including appropriate terminology and formating dictated in the AP Stylebook. They announced earlier this month that it will no longer be using the "i word," illegal immigrant.

Despite this, certain publications are refusing to drop the term, for whatever reason. The New York Times recently came out with an article on immigration reform where the words illegal immigrant are so prevalent, under the current context it comes across as a big "fuck you" to the AP's landmark decision as well as to all the work that immigrant rights group have done.

It's easy to say that the AP buckled under pressure from immigrant rights groups, but in actuality it was a grammatically correct decision (not simply one of "political correctness"), as pointed out by Senior Vice President and Executive Editor Kathleen Carroll in an AP blog post.

"The Stylebook no longer sanctions the term 'illegal immigrant' or the use of 'illegal' to describe a person. Instead, it tells users that 'illegal' should describe only an action, such as living in or immigrating to a country illegally."

Although one cannot deny that immigrant advocacy groups made it a point to ask the media not to use the term, in the end it was not about pandering to liberal groups or activists. It was about the correct usage of a term.

Jose Antonio Vargas, a gay, undocumented immigrant and award-winning journalist spoke at CSUN on Feb. 26 during a national tour on defining what it means to be American.

During his presentation, Vargas pointed out the absurdity of the phrase.

"Something is terribly wrong when we call them illegal," Vargas said. "Actions are illegal, not people, never people.'

Although we can point fingers at the media for a lack of leadership on this issue, we cannot forget that the media is often reflecting our culture just as much as it is shaping it. Also the media is no longer the loudest voice in the room anymore. Due to the rise of the Internet and social media our ability to publicly share our thoughts have evolved. Unfortunately our sense of decency and respect have not.

The use of casual homophobic language online is particularly unsettling. There seems to be a major disconnect when more and more people come out in support of LGBT rights but people still use anti-gay slurs like it's not a big deal. You might not be calling someone who is actually gay a fag or a faggot, but using that term as an insult against another straight person is just as insulting. It's the fact the thought that comparing someone to a homosexual should even be considered an insult is

And think of it this way. Words and their meaning, as all things, can change. The popular usage of the term "negro" or "colored" to refer to African-Americans was the status quo - it was widely accepted, regardless of how these people felt. Nowadays, you are hard-pressed to find a publication freely using the word negro and colored person.

While we've come a long way in using more appropriate racial terms, we've made little progress in other areas. The website, Nomhomophobes.com, tracks the use of homophobic langauge on Twitter. The term "dyke" was tweeted over 1 million times, "no homo" and "so gay" over 3 million times each, and "faggot" over 10 million times since July 5, 2012. That's just tracking four terms on one social network, a tiny mirror of what's going on around the Internet. The site updates in realtime, with these types of twitter posts appearing virtually every second.

Another issue is about self representation. What input or consent did African-Americans have in the decision-making process? The answer is none. Virtually, the same scenario could be applied to the widespread acceptance of the term illegal immigrant. Here you have a marginalized group of people being mentioned, studied, focused on, written about-but what power do these people have in how they are named in the news?

The lesson of history here is that words carry power and often have been used with reckless disregard to those that are the most affected by their very usage.

Shockingly, history is repeating itself as people continue to invent and use new terms without considering or consulting the groups that could potentially be affected by their use. One of the most mind-numbingly moronic recent examples of this is the term "swag fag." The term has become a widely used hashtag on Instagram and Tumblr as well as an Internet meme. UrbanDictionary.com defines a "swag fag" as "One who thinks he is better than everyone else

based on the amount of artificial swag he has. This annoying personality trait is coupled with his obsessive use of the phrase "swag" in situations (undeserving) of that title."

If someone doesn't realize how problematic this all is by now, let's break it down. Words like faggot, dyke and tranny have been used to demean members of the queer community for years. They are still used daily to directly attack the community. The excuse that claiming the word with some sort of new meaning or context somehow makes them acceptable is wrong. If you are not in the LGBT community you have the privilege of not having to endure discrimination, insult, dehumanization, violence, selfesteem issues, high rates of depression and suicide, due only to your sexual or gender identity. Chances are you or someone close to you has faced these issues, and it should be obvious that careless derogatory language only makes matters worse.

If you don't have anything nice to say, don't say anything at all. These words of wisdom were well crafted to guide our civil discussions on the playground growing up, but in the adult world, not sayin anything is not an option. We have a responsibility to talk about the key social issues of today and even though our society is becoming more open and progressive, we have to be more cognizant of how we communicate with each other and the language we use. We have all been hurt by derogatory words so we have to display empathy and solidarity with one another. It's best to remember how you felt when someone used their words to attack and wound you, and make the choice to be an ally instead of an instigator.



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The Daily Sundial Manzanita Hall 140 18111 Nordhoff St. Northridge, CA 91330-8258

News (818) 677-2915 Advertising (818) 677-2998 Fax (818) 677-3638 www.dailysundial.com

Editor in Chief
ASHLEY SOLEY-CERRO editor@csun.edu

News Editor CHRISTINA COCCA city@csun.edu

GABRIELLE MOREIRA city@csun.edu

Features AGNES CONSTANTE features@csun.edu

MELODY CHERCHIAN features@csun.edu

Sports Editors
CASEY DELICH **RON ROKHY** sports_sundial@csun.edu

Opinions
NATHAN MCMAHON opinion@csun.edu

Assistant Opinions Editor
MONA ADEM

Culture Clash **NATALIE RIVERA** ane@csun.edu

Photo Editor **LOREN TOWNSLEY**

photo@csun.edu Assistant Photo Editor YOSCELIN PEREZ

Multimedia Editor **CHRISTINA BENNETT**

Visual Editor JENNIFER LUXTON

ssistant Visual Edito **IASMINE MOCHIZUKI**

Online Editor **BRYAN RODGERS** online@.csun.edu

Social Media **BEN ANDREWS**

Copy Editor MATT FISHER JIM McLAUCHLIN

Staff Reporters **IESSICA BULLOCK** ESMERALDA DAVALOS JONATHAN DIAZ MEGAN DISKIN MELANIE GABALL JASON GALLAHER BOB GARCIA HAROLD GOLDSTEIN CYNDI GOMEZ JOELL GRAGER LUCY GUANUNA KARLA HENRY KEVIN KIANI SPENCER KILGORE ELLEN KRAUSSE JORGE NERI LEAH OAKES DAISY PINEDA-RAMIREZ **BRITA POTENZA**

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Sales Manage **IESSICA LYSHOLM**

Sales Representatives
CANDACE CASTILLO DARIN LEE NICOLE MADDOCKS ads@csun.edu

Production Designers JASMINE MOCHIZUKI **YOSCELIN PEREZ**

TAYLOR VILLESCAS

Marketing Team **KALEENA COX SHARIFA MCCAULEY** MONIQUE MUÑIZ CHANDRA O'CONNOR

Classifieds LITA VAN HOUTEN

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Assemblymember Jeff Gorell (R-Camarillo)

TUITION FREEZE

Continued from page 1

ernment is held accountable to using Prop 30 funds for our students and public university system."

According to CSUN's financial aid and scholarships department, CSUN tuition for the 2012-2013 school year is \$3,252, and is expected to rise only \$8 for the 2013-2014 academic year.

Olsen, Chávez, and Gorell each put forward their own tuition freeze bills earlier in the year. The three politicians came together in early April to co-author AB 67 instead of having three competing bills that all had the same general goal.

In Chávez's original bill, AB 159, a tuition freeze was proposed for first year students for six years.

This provision would have created added complexity for the CSUN financial aid and scholarship department.

"One of the things (AB 159 would have done) is



Assemblymember Rocky Chavez (R-Oceanside)

add complexity to explaining why we are paying different financial aid amounts to students who are taking the same amount of classes," said Lili Vidal, director of financial aid and scholarships. "Their cost of attendance includes tuition and those different costs would make them eligible for different amounts of money."

This concern is addressed in AB 67 as tuition rates would be frozen for all students, regardless of their year in school.

The bill has passed unani-

mously in the Assembly's Higher Education Committee. It is now being reviewed by the Appropriations Committee.

Olsen sees this as a potential problem for getting the bill passed.

"The biggest obstacle to AB 67 will be getting it through the Appropriations Committee because the bill requires the state to increase funding for our CSUs and UCs," Olsen said.

An analysis of AB 67 prepared by Chuck Nicol, an Assembly Appropriations Committee consultant, challenged the rationale of a tuition freeze being enacted for students to be able to plan their finances.

Assemblymember Kristin Olsen (R-Modesto)

PHOTO COURTEDY OF OLSEN'S OFFICE

"A fee policy allowing for modest increases (in tuition) would still be predictable and would allow families to plan for their college expenses," the analysis read.

Nicol further argues that small tuition increases can have direct benefits for students.

"(Given) the impact of recent budget reductions, in reduced class offerings for example, the state and students could benefit from a modest increase if the additional revenues were to provide direct services that allowed more students to get the courses they need," Nicol said in the analysis.

Olsen hopes California residents who support the tuition freeze will take action to let their voices be heard.

"I urge everyone to call the members of the Assembly Appropriations Committee and encourage them to pass the bill to help college students," she said.

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

ACROSS

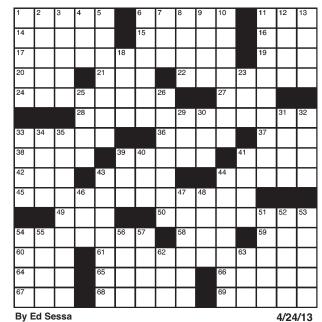
- 1 Singer Bryant 6 Tooted in a Revolutionary band
- 11 Jacques, e.g.
- 14 Common java hr. _ of Two Cities'
- 16 Be in the red
- 17 Michael Jackson memorabilia
- 19 Coal container 20 Met display
- 21 Met supporter: Abbr.
- 22 Completely
- drained 24 Cold War
- concerns 27 Web address
- ending 28 Line-drawing tool
- 33 Fruity
- 36 Aristotelian pair?
- 37 Cauliflower boxing injury 38 "Exodus" author
- 39 Heavy curtain 41 Head of a family?
- 43 Jalapeño rating characteristic
- 44 Nemo creator

Verne

- 45 Conversational 49 Info source, with
- 50 Like early life
- forms 54 Shakespearean
- actor Kenneth 58 SALT subject 59 Worker who handles returns,
- briefly
- 60 Tune 61 Uno ancestor, and, in a way, what are hidden
- in 17-, 28- and 45-Across
- 64 Prune 65 New worker
- 66 Pick of the litter 67 Sot's symptoms
- 68 Readied, as the
- presses 69 Deep sleep

DOWN

1 Engaged in armed conflict



- 2 Beatles lacket 3 Contract change
- approvals: Abbr. 5 Motel Wi-Fi, for one
- 6 Singer-dancer Lola
- 7 Jurist Lance 8 Top choice,
- slangily
 9 Type of sch. with low grades?
 10 Iron-isted rulers
- 11 "Don't sweat it" 12 Baby's boo-boo 13 Convalesce
- 18 First in a car, say 23 Uno e due
- 25 Retired fliers 26 Straddle 29 Spark plug
- measurement 30 Color 31 Look open-
- mouthed 32 Valentine's Day deity
- 33 Target of a joke
- 34 St. Ľouis sýmbol 35 Sci-fi travel conveniences 39 Dict. feature

Tuesday's Puzzle Solved

ASH

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F R O S T N I X O N
P R E M E D H E E L E D O V A THELIONINWINTER U A L D R E A D E D O R E COLDPLAY

SEGUE

OLE BEES (c)2013 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

- 40 Dirty one in a memorable Cagney line
- 41 Sugar shape 43 Terrace cooker 44 Night-night
- clothes? 46 DDE, in WWII 47 Worn at the
- edges 48 Sarcastic remark 51 TV monitoring
- 52 Most likely will, after "is"

GELD

JABBA

- 53 Surgery beam 54 Not in need of a barber
- 55 Mob action 56 It may run from cheek to
- cheek 57 Carol opening 62 Zip code start?
- 63 Day-__: pigment brand

lassified Ads

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1 7 2 6 3 9 8 5 4 8 4 2 8 7 3 2 4 8 2 6 9 9 7 1 8 7 2

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5	2		9		8	6		
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8		4		9				
					5		8	
		1	8		7		2	5

sudoku

How to play:

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9.

Solution above.

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FEATURE

Doubles duos help lead CSUN



IICHELLE REUTER / DAILY SUNDIAL

From left to right, senior Sabrina Man-Son-Hing, senior Maria Pistalu, senior Anna Yang and junior Lorraine Cheung make up the number one and two doubles teams for CSUN's women's tennis.

MICHELLE REUTER

DAILY SUNDIAL

n the game of tennis, sometimes a little drive and determination is just what a team needs to prevail against a tough competitor. Luckily for the CSUN women's tennis team, its top two doubles pairings are chock full of both.

Doubles set the tone for matches between schools. Comprised of three doubles matches to open up play, whichever school wins two of the matches receives a point towards their overall total. Followed by six singles matches, worth a point each, a total of four points is necessary to win. A successful doubles pairing can give one team momentum throughout the day.

"It adds a little bit of cushion," said Sabrina Man-Son-Hing, a senior on the No. 1 doubles team and a 2012 All-Big West Doubles First Team selection. "If you can just get the early point you feel a little bit more relieved. Especially when you're playing better teams, you need to have an early lead in the match."

The No. 1 doubles team started the season incredibly strong with a 13-match winning streak. Man-Son-Hing and senior Anna Yang have been playing doubles together since last summer, and tennis has played an important part of both of their lives since they were kids.

Man-Son-Hing, a psychology major, said both her father and grandfather played

tennis. Her father played for UC Irvine and toured for a short time after he left school. Yang's father started her with badminton, but she graduated to tennis by the age of seven and hasn't looked back since.

CSUN's No. 2 doubles team are no slouches either, finishing the regular season with a 12-8 record, pairing up junior Lorraine Cheung and senior Maria Pistalu.

Pistalu, who is graduating with a major in biology and minor in chemistry, is originally from Germany. Her tennis career started at the age of 5 when her parents were looking for something to occupy their very active little girl.

For Cheung, a 20-yearold accounting major, tennis was a family tradition. Her dad was a coach and she was given the chance to start swinging a racquet around the age of 6, unable to stop since.

The doubles pairings ability to get an early lead is no accident for the Matadors. These four young athletes have learned how to listen and react to each other with split-second accuracy. Spectators who watch closely can catch what appears to be entire unspoken conversations passing between them with one quick, significant look.

"It feels comfortable because she's one of my best friends and we're playing well together on the court," Man-Son-Hing said. "We're honest with each other and we can communicate well. It's fun."

For Yang's part, she tries

to stay focused on the game and her teammate Sabrina.

"I think our communication is really good and we get along with each other," said Yang, who was awarded with an Honorable Mention All-Big West Doubles selection in 2012.

Spend a little time with Pistalu and Cheung and it's easy to see how these two friends compliment each other on the court. Pistalu's spark and energy are balanced by Cheung's tenacity and calm.

Like one of her favorite players, Roger Federer, Cheung tries to maintain a serene visage on the court, even if she's having some pretty strong feelings about the match. Put together, they form a strong duo that can recover from any setback.

"I think that's our main strength," Pistalu said. "That we never really give up and we can always come back."

Pistalu and Cheung's nine-game winning streak at the beginning of the season came as a welcome surprise to everyone, and was complemented by Man-Son-Hing and Yang's 13-gamer. While the players said they all knew they got along and enjoyed playing together, no one anticipated such amazing success.

"I knew we had strong doubles teams but I could never have expected that kind of excellence," said head coach Gary Victor, in his 15th season at CSUN.

Attributing the girls' success to hard work, motivation and some great chemistry, Victor admits that while it doesn't always guarantee success on the court, it has worked out well for these women.

Doubles matches are very different from singles, Victor explained. In a singles match, the players can stay at the back of the court, far away from the net, and points can take much longer. With four players, the speed of play increases and there is more need to be aggressive and approach the net.

"They love the challenge," Victor said. "They love the opportunity to lead a team and they've done the things necessary to be successful on and off the court."

These athletes possess drive and determination off the court as well. Man-Son-Hing plans to attend law school after she graduates, while Yang intends to go to nursing school. Both Pistalu and Cheung have qualified for the athletic honor roll or "Varsity N," earning at least a 3.2 grade point average over two semesters.

Coach Victor summed it up, "They are very much 'cando' and really, what more can a coach ask for?"



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Senior Sabrina Man-Son-Hing gets low to go after a point during a doubles match against UC Irvine.