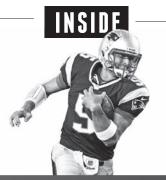
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Tebowmania has officially come to an end

OPINIONS |

Binge drinking can be disastrous and deadly for college students

FREE

S DAILY CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, NORTHRIDGE

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# CSU ENDORSES ALCOHOL AWARNESS PROGRAM



#### CSU chancellor announces endorsement for alcohol awareness program on all 23 campuses

**MELANIE GABALL** 

SENIOR REPORTER

CAL STATE UNIVERSITY (CSU) Chancellor Timothy White recently announced a commitment to implement a binge-drinking awareness program on all 23 CSU campuses.

The decision was made after an emotional presentation from the parents of 18-year-old Carson Starkey, a Cal Poly San Luis Obispo student who died from alcohol poisoning in 2008 after attending a fraternity initiation. After their son passed, the Starkeys founded the prevention program and presented it to the CSU board of trustees during a meeting in July 2013.

The program Aware Awake Alive is a peer-to-peer program dedicated to educating students about the dangers

of alcohol poisoning.

"The Starkeys made a powerful presentation in front of the board of trustees that nearly brought Chancellor White to tears," David Wyatt said, a member of the board of directors for Aware Awake Alive. "He announced his commitment to the program right there."

On the night Carson Starkey died, friends were aware that he had become unresponsive and began to drive him to the hospital, according to the Aware Awake Alive website. However, out of fear that they or their fraternity would get into trouble they decided to turn around and leave him on a mattress to sleep. He died with a blood alcohol level of .40.

"Carson was someone that instinctively helped other people and he died because other people didn't help him," Scott Starkey said in a video posted on the website.

The chancellor's commitment

was made during the review of the sixth biennial report on Campus Alcohol Education and Prevention Programs, Erik Fallis said, media relations manager for CSU.

"As a part of the report we focus on alcohol and other drug awareness programs," Fallis said. "The chancellor believed Aware Awake Alive would fit right into the infrastructure [of alcohol education] that we already have on many campuses."

The Alcohol Education and Prevention programs report shows a general decrease in dangerous alcohol activities across all 23 campuses. The report highlighted different programs from each campus that have been effective in increasing awareness.

The report stated that CSUN agreed to be committed to continuing alcohol awareness education, particularly "with an emphasis on high-risk behaviors and targeted student groups to ensure continued improvement in

alcohol-related measurements."

CSUN freshman Dalton Kebely is preparing to rush this week and doesn't think the greek system is to blame for binge drinking.

"I believe whether or not a student decides to drink is a choice of their own. There can be pressure and outside influences that may encourage irresponsible behavior, but in the end it's your own decision," Kebely said.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) binge drinking is the most common form of excessive alcohol use in the United States. Nearly 90 percent of the alcohol consumed by those under 21 in the United States is done in the form of binge drinking.

In a different study, the CDC also reported that binge drinking among young women is becoming a serious concern where one in eight U.S. adult women and one in five high school students binge drink. The age range

of 18-24 had the highest intensity and frequency of binge drinking, according to the CDC.

Aware Awake Alive is trying to take a non-judgemental approach to alcohol education, making it more like a buddy system where friends can save other friends' lives, Wyatt said.

"The program has online source material and a mobile app that helps identify symptoms of alcohol poisoning," Fallis said.

The website has a feature called the "toolbox" which allows those interested in putting together an alcohol awareness presentation to drag and drop materials into their very own customized toolbox, Wyatt said.

The toolbox has customized features including videos, stories and statistics which can be specifically picked out to cater to different groups such as

See **AWARENESS**, page 4

# New bill helps undocument students

SHIRA MOSKOWITZ

THE U.S. HOUSE of Representatives will soon make a decision on the Senate approved immigration reform bill, possibly providing a path to citizenship for

undocumented immigrants.

Jesus Jevenal, co-chairman of the CSUN proimmigration rights group Dreams To Be Heard for the past two years, said undocumented students will be most affected by the bill when they no longer need to worry about being deported.

"A lot of undocumented students all have the fear that either [they] or their families will be deported," Jevenal said. "If this law passes, it gives them the ability to feel safe, or at least to feel not as threatened as they are right now without any sort of law protecting them."

President Obama refers to the new bill as his vision for the 21st century immigration system. The new bill states that undocumented immigrants need to "get right with the law before they can get in line and earn their citizenship."

Ana Miriam, senior psy-

chology and deaf studies major, is an active member of Dreams To Be Heard. She said the new bill does not give undocumented immigrants the rights that they deserve.

"The only reason I believe [the bill] will pass is because it is giving us nothing...and it will bring the government a lot of revenue. They are not giving us what we truly deserve," Miriam said.

Miriam does believe that change is possible for immigration reform, but only if we start to take a different approach.

"I think we need to humanize the topic of immigration," she said. "We are called illegals, when human beings are not illegal, but actions are illegal. We are seen as the people who take away other jobs or as criminals, but they never get to know us and get to know our story. Bringing that awareness will help change people's mind about immigration."

Part of the immigration reform is to give undocumented college students a green card if they receive a diploma in either science, technology, engineering or mathematics, hoping the students will then stay in the U.S. and contribute to the economy.

Juvenal said undocu-

mented students can help grow the American economy with the knowledge and skills they gained while studying in the U.S.

"Undocumented students study so many different fields and I hope that a lot of them will stay in the country so that they can pursue a job in that field, instead of taking everything they learned here at the states back to their home country and using it there," Juvenal said.

There are currently 11 million undocumented immigrants in the U.S., but the bill only applies to those who have physically lived in the U.S. on or before Dec. 31, 2011.

In order to be eligible to file for citizenship, undocumented immigrants must first pass a national and federal background check. They also need to be up to date in all their taxes, pay a penalty fee of up to \$500 for coming to the U.S illegally, and learn English.

Once those steps are completed, it's only after eight years that an applicant will be able to become a legal permanent resident of the U.S.

If the bill does not become a law, CSUN professor and immigration expert David Moguel said



JOHN SARINGO-RODRIGUEZ / PHOTO EDITO

Ana Miriam, 22, senior psychology and deaf studies major, is an active member of Dreams To Be Heard a group that advocates for immigration reform. She said the new bill does not give undocumented immigrants the rights that they deserve.

the Republican Party will suffer in the next presidential election.

"If immigration reform fails because of the Republican Party, moderate voters, many of them Latino, will not forget that in the next presidential election, and they will make the Republican Party pay," Moguel said.

Idean Behboody, a 21-year-

old engineering major, remembers how his father experienced an exhausting process to become a citizen when he moved to the U.S. from Canada and understands how fearful it can be to have someone you know deported.

"I agree with people not having to fear getting deported. It's a scary thing. I support the fact that this bill protects people from deportation," Behboody said.

President Obama also supports the DREAM Act as part of the new immigration reform. The DREAM Act will allow children who were brought to the U.S. illegally by their parents to become citizens if they served in the army or pursue higher education for at least two years.

UNIVERSITY STUDENT UNION, INC.

# Matador Nights

Matadors! Are you guys excited for Matador Nights? We hope to see you there. In the meantime, here's a little trivia for you about past Matador Nights.

Who was the DJ at last semester's Matador Nights?

Text your answer to 46786 and enter to win a Matador Nights t-shirt. Simply text "CSUN MN" and your answer.







# This week at the USU

TUESDAY

**Tuesday Talks** 

7 p.m. Pride Center, USU

THURSDAY

Craft Corner

11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Plaza del Sol, USU

Noontime Concert Plaza del Sol, USU

Rainbow Reception

5 – 7 p.m. Pride Center, USU

**Neon Nights** 

8 – 10 p.m. Games Room, USU

FRIDAY

**Matador Nights** 

9 p.m. – 1 a.m. University Student Union



## Please join us for the California State University, Northridge Celebration of Constitution Day



# THE CONSTITUTION AND THE GENERAL WELFARE:

Whose? How? Why?

This annual program will call attention to the controversies over what Americans expect their federal government to do in the areas of economic, social and cultural legislation.

Saturday, September 7, 2013 University Club – Orange Grove Bistro

Continental Breakfast 8:30 a.m. Panel Discussion 9:00 a.m.

#### Panelists

Professor James Sefton, Ph.D.

Department of History CSU Northridge

Professor John Evans, Ph.D.

Department of Political Science University of Wisconsin, Eau Claire

There is no cost for the program, but **RSVPs are required by Wednesday, September 4, 2013**. Please email david.matheke@csun.edu or call The Tseng College at (818) 677-2270.

Free parking is available in the parking lot adjacent to the University Club.

## Suspects crash by CSUN

**ALEX VEJAR** 

DAILY SUNDIAL

A CAR CRASH ended with the arrest of two possibly armed suspects near CSUN Aug. 29.

The pursuit started at Roscoe and Reseda at 2:55 p.m. and ended around 3:40 p.m. at Darby Avenue and Nordhoff Street.

Toward the end of the pursuit a police squad car performed the Pursuit Intervention Technique (PIT) maneuver, sending the suspect's car smashing into a tree in front of the Northridge L.A. Public Library.

The male driver and female passenger had allegedly committed a robbery a few weeks ago according to Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD). The suspects were apprehended and taken into custody.

"A firearm wasn't recovered but the suspect was armed in the original robbery that occurred a few weeks ago," LAPD Capt. John Egan said.

While pursuing the suspects LAPD contacted CSUN PD and asked for assistance in the pursuit.

"We did help them," said Anne Glavin, CSUN chief of police. Glavin said that the LAPD helicopter called



TREVOR STAMP / DAILY SUNDIAL

A female suspect was loaded onto an ambulance after a LAPD pursuit ended near CSUN on Thursday, Aug. 29.

CSUN PD to "mutually aid" them in the pursuit.

Two helicopters from LAPD searched the areas surrounding the crash for the suspects.

Katheryn Lopez, 21, senior sociology and criminology major, was leaving her class in Nordhoff Hall when she saw the helicopters.

"When I first came out and saw the helicopters, the first thing that came to my mind was they probably caught the sexual predator that we were hearing about yesterday in school."

Alma Banuelos, an employee from VIP Outpatient Treatment Center, across the street from the L.A. Public Library, said that the police officers were not supposed to chase down a suspect in front of

a public library or next to a school.

"It could have been students or pedestrians or people in there. The cops aren't supposed to do that here. And everybody is applauding the cops. Yeah they did their job but this is not what they were supposed to do not right here," Banuelos said. "If I'm right, they're supposed to wait until the car runs out of gas or they're in an area that's [okay] for them to do this."

The male suspect received medical treatment for minor injuries sustained when he resisted arrest and was being taken into custody.

The female suspect was arrested and placed on a gurney because she complained of an injury, according to LAPD media relations.



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#### Peer Mentor Program

At the VRC, we are happy to offer the Peer Mentor Program for student veterans and military dependents who need someone to lend an ear and offer advice. Whether you need to talk about experiences at school or in your personal life, we are here for you.



## Neon Nights

We are hosting Neon Nights at the Games Room this Thursday, Sept. 5 from 8 - 10 p.m. Challenge your friends to your favorite glowing games, savor free pizza and dance to music mixed by a live DJ.

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#### lext to win!

Fill in the blanks: \_, which pays tribute to all veterans, differs from \_\_\_ \_ during which we honor those who lost their lives in combat or as a result of wounds sustained in battle.

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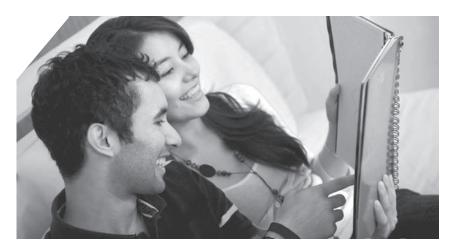
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#### **AWARENESS**

Continued from page 1

high school students, college students, athletes and those involved in Greek life.

"There is also a mobile application, drunkordying. mobi, that helps students identify the symptoms of alcohol poisoning in the moment," Wyatt said. "It is really easy to use, and you don't need to download it from the app store."

Drunkordying.mobi provides information about alcohol poisoning as well as symptoms to be aware of. Wyatt said White is also committed to translating the app into Spanish.

"I think a mobile app [for identifying alcohol poisoning] would be useful because tech-

nology is so prevalent today," Erica Perlman said, graduate social work major. "Most students are reliant on smart phones and if someone is unaware of the symptoms, just like anything else, they will probably use their phones for answers."

Another goal of the organization is to support legislation that provides limited immunity to underage individuals who may seek help in an alcohol-related emergency, Wyatt said.

"It can be hard to tell if someone is experiencing alcohol poisoning or just drank a little too much," Kebely said. "If the person starts to vomit or even begins to black out I would seek some medical assistance for the sake of their life. If I saw some unusual behavior that I hadn't

seen before I would probably look that up and try to see what I could do for them."

California is one of eight states that has passed legislation providing immunity to minors who make the call to 911, even if they are the one who bought the alcohol, according to Aware Awake Alive.

"The endorsement of the CSU system which has 437, 000 students is huge for [Aware Awake Alive] which started as a grassroots organization," Wyatt said. "We hope that students will use the tools it provides with a sense of ownership, not that they are just being told by the CSU system that they need to use it. That's what happened at Cal Poly. They made it their own."

## Welcome Back Matadors!

Start out the new semester by getting involved!



Wednesdays, 7pm Balboa Room, USU, Sol Center

www.csunyoungdemocrats.org

#### **MEET THE CLUBS BRIEF**

#### Club series starts next week

Each week the Daily Sundial will feature one of CSUN's clubs as part of a series called "Meet the Clubs." Pick up next week's issue to get an in-depth look at an organization on campus.

There are between 315 and 324 active clubs on campus this semester, according to Augie Garibay, activities coordinator at the Matador Involvement Center.

A full list of those clubs, their requirements and contact information can be found at the Clubs and Organizations Directory at the Matador Involvement Center website.

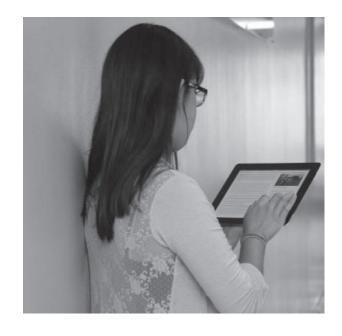
—ANNE CHRISTENSEN

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Information Technology

# ASSOCIATED STUDENTS MATADOR REPORTER

## **Upcoming Campus Events**

September 3rd and 4th 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Bayramian Hall Lawn

#### Meet the Clubs

Learn about the many opportunities for involvement on campus in a centralized, energetic and festive setting. Over 200 clubs and organizations will be present. Hosted by the Matador Involvement Center.

September 6th Castaic lake

#### Free Day at the Lake

Join us for a day at Castaic lake. We will spend an afternoon enjoying the sun, water and fellow students as we Kayak/Paddle Board around the lake. If you are new or experience come out for the day. More info at csunas.org/oa.

September 6, 4:30-7 p.m. Soccer Field

#### Matador Fan Fair

Join us for an event of Games, food and fun for all ages. Free entry for all students, faculty and staff with current ID. Soccer Games are at 5:00 p.m. (Men's) and 7:00 p.m. (Women's). Sponsored by The University Corporation.

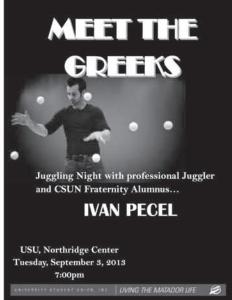




## Clubs and Organization Ads



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Matador Reporter (Sundial ads) csunas.org/media



CAssociated 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.

# SEPTEMBER 3, 2013 OPINION@SUNDIAL.CSUN.EDU

# Binge drinking leads to failure, death

**ANNE CHRISTENSEN** 

DAILY SUNDIAL

STUDENTS AROUND the country have started the fall semester after a long summer break, and ahead lies several weeks of buying last-minute supplies, signing up for clubs and getting lost on a huge college campus. Adjusting to life in college may also include a ubiquitous, but wildly unhealthy, part of the college experience: binge drinking.

Students who binge drink, which means consuming large quantities of alcohol in a short period of time, during their college years are more likely to risk future academic and professional failures, not to mention their long-term health.

This past July the parents of an 18-year-old student from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, who died from acute alcohol poisoning in 2008, spoke in front of Chancellor White and the board of trustees. After their son's death they founded the non-profit organization Aware Awake Alive to raise awareness and prevent alcohol poisoning among youth.

Binge drinking increases your likelihood of making strikingly poor decisions about sexual activities and partners. It may also jeopardize the possibility of admittance to graduate or professional schools, and the likelihood of securing employment.

Not to mention the damage to students' social media profiles as a result of being the drunken target of compromising video or photography. And as we all know by now: whatever happens online, stays online.

Incoming freshmen are the most vulnerable to succumb to peer pressure and binge drinking. After all, many students have left the comforts of their childhood homes for the first time and must now rise to the academic challenges and extracurricular activities while managing their own finances and household, and maybe even holding down a job. That amount of pressure is bound to build up some degree of stress. The question is, should the

stress relief come in a bottle?

Binge drinking is the "most common pattern of excessive alcohol use in the United

the severe consequences of binge drinking refer to the medical establishment's decision to exclude binging from the regular dependency spectrum. This reduces the stigma associated with alcoholism and substance abuse. But the physical harm associated with binge drinking is hard to miss: alcohol poisoning, liver disease, neurological damage, sexual dysfunction, and, of course, a dramatic increase in poor judgement leading to seriously questionable decisions such as drunk driving.

The rigors of college life may trigger binge drinking, but this behavior does not always originate in college. A 2011 CDC study revealed that 20 percent of female high school students engaged in binge drinking, and 38 percent regularly consumed alcohol. So not only are incoming freshmen more likely to arrive to college with poor alcohol habits, but they're also more likely to engage in social binge drinking within the first few years of their academic careers. Those first years are vital to establish a connection with fellow students and professors, and may easily be wasted when binge drinking causes blackouts that regularly wipe clean the knowledge that students work so hard to attain.

Students at CSUN are no can College Health Association within a 30-day period.

regretted something they did

States," according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. That means consuming more than four to five drinks in a two-hour p eriod would be enough for the CDC to consider you a binge drinker.

Those reluctant to validate

strangers to drug and alcohol consumption, including binge drinking. In 2011, the Americonducted a survey to examine the campus health trends. The survey revealed that within a one year period, 30 percent of CSUN students had experienced levels of stress severe enough to damage their academic performance, and more than 54 percent reported consuming alcohol on more than eight days

The survey also revealed that 25 percent of students later

SARAH CASCADDEN / CONTRIBUTOR

while intoxicated, 21 percent couldn't remember what they were doing or where they were, and 14 percent had unprotected sex. But most devastating is the 29 percent of students who reported getting behind the wheel of a car after they had been drinking.

Reducing the number of college students who engage in binge drinking requires that we focus on the social

context of drinking. The University of Michigan's 2012 National Survey Results on Drug Use suggests that peer group behavior and the direct exposure to alcohol consumption greatly influence the severity of future substance abuse. The report also states that young adults between the ages of 19 and 22, the group that experienced the most binge drinking in the Michi-

gan survey, are less likely to disapprove of heavy drinking on the weekends.

Academic demands and peer pressure in an unfamiliar setting places students under significant amounts of stress. But instead of seeking out venues where binge drinking is the norm, students should be encouraged to seek stress relief, or approval from peers, at entirely different outlets.

Seeking professional help, either on or off campus, could mean the difference between making a successful transition to campus life or dropping out. The college experience is mostly about gaining the academic knowledge that will lead students into their professional careers. But it's also about the company they keep and the choices they make along the way.

#### DAILY **SUNDIAL**

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## Traffic signal built at Dearborn Avenue

**MICHAEL ARVIZU** 

DAILY SUNDIAL

A NEW TRAFFIC signal was installed at the heavily trafficked and high-risk intersection of Reseda Boulevard and Dearborn Avenue on Aug. 20, 2013.

The traffic signal is about half a block west of campus and CSUN PD reminds pedestrians and drivers to remain vigilant while traveling through the area.

CSUN Kinesiology major Josh Pang rides his bike through the intersection on his daily commute to and from CSUN. Before the signal was installed, Pang would avoid crossing at Dearborn Avenue. Instead, he would would go out of his way each day to cross at Nordhoff Street or north at Prairie Street. Now that the intersection is controlled with a traffic light Pang said he saves time by crossing at Dearborn Street.

"Before you had the crosswalk you took a risk," Pang said. "Even though it was legal, I didn't feel really safe. Every time I crossed I got a little scared. But now, I don't have that feeling anymore. I now cross here more often."

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In the past the intersection had been consistently plagued by vehicle and pedestrian accidents, most recently on Sept. 12, 2012, when a 19-year-old woman was struck by a hit-and-run driver.

In 2009, CSUN Chinese exchange student Yao Lu was struck and nearly killed by another hit-and-run driver two blocks north of Reseda Boulevard and Vincennes Street. In that case, outcry from residents and businesses prompted the installation of a traffic light at the intersection.

At the Dearborn Street intersection, LA City Councilman Mitchell Englander advocated for the traffic signal's installation. Englander represents the District 12 on the city council, and CSUN is within District 12 territory.

"Our office pushed to have a signal installed at this location because we have known for many years that it is dangerous," Englander said in an article published by the Daily Sundial on Feb. 27, 2013. "We have known about every one of the pedestrian collisions."

According to figures made available by the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) and published by the Daily Sundial in February, 42 pedestrians have been struck by cars



JOHN SARINGO-RODRIGUEZ / PHOTO EDITOR

A new traffic light was installed at the intersection of Reseda Boulevard and Dearborn Avenue on Aug. 20. Once a high-risk intersection, students may now cross the street safely.

at the intersection since 2008, and 19 of those incidents were hit-and-runs.

In 2010, CSUN police and LAPD conducted a sting operation that yielded more than 100 violations given to drivers who did not give pedestrians the right of way.

The National Transportation Safety Board records list California, Florida and Texas as the states with the highest number of pedestrian deaths.

LA ranks among the top five cities in pedestrian deaths, along with New York, Chicago, Phoenix, and Houston.

The biggest cause of accidents is distracted behavior from drivers and pedestrians alike, Anne P. Glavin said, CSUN chief of police and director of Police Services.

"I have my iPhone in my hand. I'm going through my emails. I'm walking on a campus sidewalk. I get to the curb, mv head is down - I don't look right, I don't look left," Glavin said. "And my expectation, apparently, is cars are just going to stop because I, the pedestrian, have stepped into the crosswalk. And you know what? They don't."

Motorists are also guilty of distracted driving, Glavin said. She has seen people attempt to drive while using a phone, eating, and even reading a book.

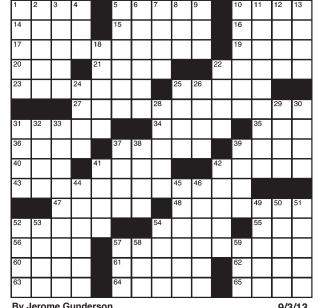
Classified Ads

"They get to the intersection and roll to a stop while looking at this," Glavin said, motioning to her phone. "Somebody comes off the curb, I don't see them — whack!"

While it is hoped that the new signal at Dearborn Street will help curb the amount of incidents at the intersection, it is not a "save all" strategy Glavin said. Motorists and pedestrians need to be aware of their surroundings at all times.

#### **Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle**

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis



ACNE

By Jerome Gunderson

**DOWN** 1 Russian cottage 2 Hideous giants 3 Shaking causes 4 Brimless cap

39 Not left out of 40 Pallid 41 Latvian capital

42 Move with ease 43 Biding one's time

47 Like pretentious gallery-goers 48 Crime against one's country

52 Follow 54 Carson's predecessor

55 Mary's little lamb, perhaps 56 Cabernet containers

57 Informal name for the double bass

60 Correct copy 61 Native Alaskan 62 Got long in the

tooth 63 A bit blue

64 Garb at the Forum 65 Raises, say 5 Cricket official

6 Ones who dig 21-Across 7 Outshine fruit bars brand

8 Regulus's

constellation \_TV: "Not reality. Actuality." 10 Golf tournament first played in

1895 11 Portmanteau region between Dallas and Little Rock

12 Solemnly swear 13 Ones in a pecking order

18 They have strings attached 22 Regulus, for one 24 "Beg pardon ... 25 Leigh Hunt's "\_

Ben Adhem" 26 Linen fiber source 28 WWII torpedo craft 29 Cupid's Greek

counterpart

30 Portable shelter 31 Hems but doesn't

S T O O D Y E N T L

REESE

32 Jai 33 Hard to believe 37 Moral lapses

38 Punk star \_\_ Pop 39 Mite 41 Marriage or

baptism 42 Dearie, in Dijon 44 Reliable 45 Milano's land

46 Botanists' scions 49 Swamp grass

L Y N N S W A N N I O N A I P S O

COUPE

TWIST

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

A R E N A S A P R O N M U S E R S N O O P D O G G

A S H B A H T W I R L E D

P O L I O A A A
T O B I A S W O L F F

B A N K I N G E R A S E S

BRYANBATT

CNET

SHEET

DICERANDREW

FREE

J A M I E F O X X

50 Young bird of prey 51 Non-negotiable things 52 On any occasion

53 Zippo 54 Socket insert 57 Bridle piece 58 Half dos 59 Gentle

application

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Weekday afternoon driver needed to pick-up high school and middle school child from schools near CSUN and deliver home near CSUN. Must be responsible and have car insurance. Contact Ben at 818-614-6417. Pay is negotiable. Email belisondo@skirball.org

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#### WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

# Sights set on deep postseason run

#### Mix of veterans and freshman newcomers are ready to make noise in Big West and in playoffs

**ANDREW MARTINEZ** DAILY SUNDIAL

The women's volleyball team looks to build on their success in 2012 and make a push for the postseason this year behind an experienced core of returning starters and talented underclassmen.

Despite improving their win total the past few seasons and having their best win total since 1996 with 21 wins last season, the Matadors missed the NCAA Tournament as they finished third in the competitive Big West Conference behind Long Beach State and powerhouse Hawaii.

Although the Matadors face a tough schedule this season, head coach Jeff Stork believes it's going to be a successful year for the Matadors.

"We have a senior and junior heavy squad, and we have been making a lot of progress over the last several years, and this is in some

ways a culmination of this group of athletes," Stork said. "In anticipation for a stronger team, we've actually scheduled very heavy, so it's going to be a challenging year for this team, but I think this team is ready for this challenge."

The team picked up five newcomers this season, but keeps its core of starters. Among them is junior middle blocker Casey Hinger who was named American Volleyball Coaches Association All-American and first-team All-Big West and also led the Big West Conference with 1.34 blocks per set. Also returning is senior setter Sydney Gedryn who was named to first-team All-Big West for the second year in a row while setting career highs in assists (1,160), kills (161) and blocks (140).

Sophomore middle blocker Cieana Stinson, who made an immediate impact as a freshman last season with 210 kills and 89 blocks, believes this team is poised to make a run at the NCAA tournament this season.

"At our fall camp we've been looking pretty good, and everyone's been working really hard," Stinson said. "Our outcomes and our plays have worked in our favor last season so I think if we execute it this season everything will be solid for this year."

Stinson also said the senior leadership on the team has been helpful, as they have made the underclassmen feel comfortable and have helped coach her and teach her how to handle experiences on the court.

Mahina Haina, a returning senior who led the team with 320 kills and was an honorable mention on the All Big West team last season, thinks chemistry is key this season.

"We've played with each other for a long time now, so the chemistry is really good and it's kind of easier when you have the younger players coming in and they just kind of have to get with our groove," Haina said. "I think because we have a lot of experience it helps on the court, we all know our

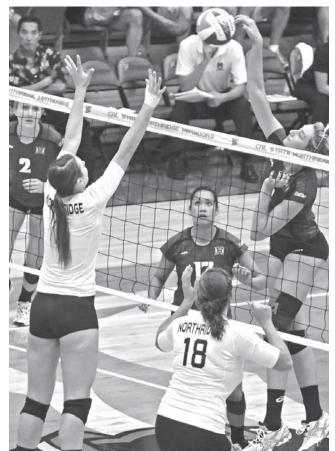
role and what to do and it'll help the younger players see what they're expected to do in the future."

The Matadors hope to improve on their 12-6 Big West Conference record last season, as they look to sweep Long Beach State again. Notable games out of conference include matches against Washington and UCLA, both ranked teams.

Although the Matadors were picked to finish third in the conference in a preseason poll, Stork believes his team will outperform their projection.

"They're very mature. They're focused, so we're excited about this season," Stork said. "We've been talking to this team for a couple years about NCAA playoffs, and we've been talking with this team about winning a conference title. It's a difficult task but that's the focus we set before them and they certainly are aware of what's ahead of them."

The Matadors open at home on Sep. 17 against Seattle.



Junior middle blocker Casey Hinger and senior setter Sydney Gedryn get ready for a block in a game against Hawaii last season.

#### COLUMN

# Tim Tebow era cut short

**KEVIN KIANI** 

DAILY SUNDIAL

The traveling circus started in Denver, moved to New York and ended in New England as the Patriots cut Tim Tebow on Saturday. There comes a point where magic ends, novelty wears off, facts come into play

and ultimately logic prevails. The facts are that Tebow can't play quarterback at any professional level. Tebow was the 89th ranked quarterback in the preseason posting a 36.7 percent completion percentage and a 47.2 quarterback rating. It doesn't take football knowledge to look at these horrendous numbers and Tebow's awful throwing mechanics to realize he doesn't belong in the NFL.

Being picked up by the Patriots seemed perfect for Tebow. He went to a place where the starting quarterback job was well out of reach with Tom Brady still gracing the Earth with his presence. Instead of taking advantage and locking up the backup spot, Tebow reminded us all why his fairytale run with the Broncos was an anomaly that will never repeat itself.

The amount of media cover-



Former Patriots quarterback Tim Tebow eludes a Tampa Bay Bucaneer defender in a recent preseason game.

age that Tebow received was not deserved and his recent play is evidence of that. The media and fans became prisoners of a moment and raised Tebow to a mythical status prematurely.

He is perhaps the most polarizing figure in all of football but it's difficult to root against Tebow because of his work ethic and his willingness

to do anything and everything to get on the field. The challenge facing Tebow is that he is inadequate for his natural position of quarterback and yet not prototypically built for any other position. In essence, his strength is his weakness and he has been put on a pedestal so high that his imminent downfall will be dramatic and painful.

Football is a brutal sport that cannot accommodate nice guys with no talent. He has ridden the coattails of love and sentimentality from his fans for too long and now it's time to hang up the cleats. Let's just hope ESPN can find enough content to plug up the usual Tebow worship.

## WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL BRIEFS

## **Matadors win Bulldog Invitational**

The Matadors (3-0) snapped a streak of five straight season-opening losses as they went unbeaten in the Bulldog Invitational in Fresno. CSUN posted wins against Santa Clara (1-2), Rice (0-3), and Fresno

The Matadors took care of Santa Clara quickly by winning three close sets 25-22, 25-23, 26-24. Junior opposite hitter Natalie Allen and sophomore middle blocker Cieana Stinson recorded 11 kills each to lead the team. Allen had six digs and two blocks and Stinson hit a solid .500 in 18 attacks.

Senior setter Sydney Gedryn tallied five blocks, six kills, six digs, and a game-high 36 assists exceeding the entire Broncos team.

The Matadors then defeated Rice in five sets to move on to the championship game. Allen matched her career high of 21 kills, hitting .500. Senior setter Sydney Gedryn had a well rounded game posting 53 assists, eight kills and four blocks.

The Matadors remained unbeaten after they won another five set thriller against tournament host Fresno State 25-17, 22-25, 23-25, 25-17, 15-9 in the championship game. The Matadors fought their way back after being down 2-1 to take the final two sets and finish off the Bulldogs.

Allen led the Matadors in kills with 17 kills and two other Northridge players had double digit kills in the win. She was also named tournament MVP.

Junior middle blocker Casey Hinger, who was named to the all-tournament team, finished the game with nine kills (.300), six blocks, two digs, and a pair of aces.

Head coach Jeff Stork is happy with his team's performance thus far.

"We're executing at a very high level and if we continue to do this, we'll win a lot of matches," said Stork in an interview with www.GoMatadors.com.

—DARKO DEBOGOVIC