DAMON AT CSUN

Damon introduces NYU professor Diane Ravitch at Education on the Edge series

ALEX VEJAR
DAILY SUNDIAL

World renowned actor, Matt Damon, visited CSUN to introduce author, Dr. Diane Ravitch, guest speaker at the "Education on the Edge" speaker series. The event took place at the Northridge Center, USU on Wednesday.

Ravitch said she didn’t know where “the top” was and why educators were racing there. “Does this mean that we’re all supposed to get higher test scores?” she asked rhetorically. “More likely, it means we’re in a race, and a race has few winners and a lot of losers. But that’s not what American education is about. American education is supposed to be about equality of educational opportunity, not a race to the top.”

Ravitch also discussed high school graduation rates and said the notion that graduation rates are flat or low is another “hoax.” “(It’s) the highest they’ve ever been in history...We are making progress, and we’ve got to recognize it,” she said.

Ravitch emphasized the problem of poverty, calling it a “barrier to greater progress” and lamented that others have said it was an excuse for bad teachers. “The hardest problem that we face is the biggest problem, and that is that the cause of low test scores, the cause of low academic performance, the cause of almost everything negative that happens is poverty,” Ravitch said. “We must see that...”

See MATT DAMON, page 7
Zumbathon raises funds for breast cancer

NEARLY 300 CSUN students, staff and community members filled the Matadome to capacity and busted a move for the third annual Zumbathon in an effort to raise money for Breast Cancer research Wednesday evening.

Hosted by Unified We Serve, a student volunteer program at CSUN, this zumba marathon was dedicated to the memory of Mary Jane Smith-Waldman, a former CSUN Kinesiology instructor and CSUN Hall of Fame Volleyball player. Smith-Waldman passed away two years ago after battling breast cancer.

“It was very important that we honor somebody who had first-hand experience with our cause,” said Justin Weiss, activity coordinator for Unified We Serve. “We identified through Matador Athletics that Mary Jane was really somebody who helped shine light on the importance of doing an event like this to help individuals like her.” Weiss said. Zumbathon at CSUN has become an annual event that allows the Matador community to dance for the end of disease.

Matador Athletics was a major sponsor of this particular Zumbathon in memory of Smith-Waldman because she was a student athlete while attending CSUN.

“We wanted to honor somebody who had first-hand experience with our cause,” said Mason Brown, CSUN senior, fourth year Greek and programmer on the fraternity’s executive board was in attendance with 15 of his brothers.

“We have moms, aunts and sisters going through it so we thought the cause was fitting,” Brown said. According to Brown, Tau Gamma Rho chose breast cancer as their philanthropic cause because it hit home. Supporting their Greek brothers were the sisters of Alpha Xi Delta.

Senior and fourth year Greek Vanessa Lozoya attended her first Zumbathon. “I was really excited to hear about it” Lozoya said. “My grandma is a breast cancer survivor so I wanted to come out and donate to the cause while having a blast.”

Student Recreation Center (SRC) Zumba instructors, Danny Ramos and Elaine Woods led the crowd in the routines and were joined by other CSUN staff and dancers. Dawn Ellerbe, the associate athletic director for marketing, branding and fan development led two of the dances.

“I’m a Zumba instructor in my personal life” Ellerbe, a regular at Zumba, said. When she found out about the event from the instructors she was excited to participate and work with Unified We Serve. Having CSUN staff participate in hands on roles is a new addition by event coordinators in an effort to get more of the campus involved in helping raise money for the cure.

The event was publicized on campus as well as through social media and was open to students, faculty and the public. Tickets were sold for $10 by Associated Students and $13.50 via Ticketmaster. All proceeds from Zumbathon are being donated in Mary Jane Smith-Waldman’s name to the Susan G. Koman for the Cure foundation.

The CSUN community danced together to fundraise money for breast cancer research in honor of CSUN hall of fame alumna Mary Jane Smith-Waldman on Wednesday night.
The keys for educational success

ABIGAIL RONDON
DAILY SUN DIAL

During the Higher Education Symposium students and faculty learned that practical and intellectual skills such as creative thinking, communication and teamwork are vital for success in higher education.

The symposium took place Tuesday and Wednesday at USU Northridge Center and served as an open forum where ideas about higher education were brought together to form a discussion.

Debra Humphreys, the guest speaker and vice president for Policy and Public Engagement at the Association of American Colleges and Universities, discussed the education system and the changes that should be made to improve the quality of education. In order to properly prepare and overcome challenges that come after graduation, a student must gain knowledge of things such as human cultures and personal and social responsibilities, according to Humphreys.

“I think that what we may have to give students is that membership piece. I would encourage students to make sure that they still stay connected to their faculty because technology is a tool,” said Marilyn J. Williams, a professor in the department of education and a current faculty member at the Academic Technology Center. “I think that we are able to learn from each other, and so that learning community, I think, is very important.”

Part of Humphreys’ presentation included select data on student achievement. According to the statistics, only 48 percent of college students surveyed by UCLA claimed that their knowledge of global issues had grown since beginning college.

According to proficiency profile competitive data only eight percent of college seniors tested proficient in critical thinking. “I want to focus on the fact that not only do we need more college graduates, but we need them to be educated with a quality education,” professor Williams said. “We have both a quality shortfall and a attainment shortfall, and both of them are pretty urgent.”

Educational practices such as internships, writing-intensive courses, learning communities and undergraduate research are just a few of the objectives Humphreys pointed out in terms of creating a better learning environment for students and eventually a higher success rate after graduation.

She said these kinds of practices are those in which students can’t be lacking in the background, and it is crucial that they engage with faculty, peers and the subject matter in order to succeed.

Juana Mora, special assistant to the dean of Chicana/o studies, supported Humphrey’s claim that education has turned into a concern.

“I think she’s right that we just haven’t done that across the board, we don’t provide that to all the students, and that’s one of my concerns. I want to make sure that in the future, every student has that kind of access to those kinds of practices,” Mora said.

With hopes of raising success rates among students and bringing awareness and a resolution to the issue, Humphreys closed with an encouraging message: “Partly what I see as my job is to create a more informed public who can understand why it actually is worth investing tuition dollars and tax dollars in the quality education,” Mora said. “Ultimately, it is really important that we provide students with knowledge and the ability to put knowledge to use.”

Expressing art with The Guild

CLARISSA CORONA
DAILY SUN DIAL

CSUN’s Painting Guild introduced its new exhibit at “Meet The Guild!”, an opening reception, Wednesday evening in the Art & Design Center. The exhibit features 22 art pieces judged by the officers of the guild, ranging from paintings to sculptures.

“We traditionally accept all disciplines of artwork ranging from sculpture, photography, printmaking, graphic design, illustration, performance, and of course painting,” said Ashley M. Rodriguez, president and judge of the Painting Guild.

The Guild is an academic club that allows students to express themselves while developing professional skills. All students are encouraged to join the CSUN Painting Guild no matter their major.

Albert Domínguez, freshman undecided major, attended the opening of the guild because he had gone to a meeting of the Guild before and enjoyed all the people.

“I was really eager to get into the art community here at CSUN,” Domínguez said. “I’ve always been into the arts...without (art) life would be boring.”

The artists who had their art displayed at the exhibit also came to check out the reception, and some were found taking photos proudly next to their art.

Emma Wolgast, freshman CTV major, decided to join Domínguez to the exhibit because of the possibility of meeting new people and seeing the art.

“Without it, there would be significantly less color and life would be boring,” Wolgast said. “If there was no art, there would be no expression. Without expression, we would be ticking time bombs.”

The “Meet The Guild!” exhibition is the third one of its kind that has been put on by the guild as an “introduction of our member’s work to the CSUN community,” said M. T. Rodriguez. All the art shows has the opportunity to be chosen on display in the Art Advisement office.

The Exhibition will be continue until Oct. 10 in the West Gallery located in the Art & Design Center. It’s open Mon.-Sat. 12-4 pm and Thurs. 12-8 pm.
Student shares family tragedy and her first generation guilt  

VERA CASTANEDA  
DAILY SUNDIAL

CHOOSING TO continue her undergraduate studies at CSUN while her father was dying in a Colorado hospital bed was a hard but clear choice for Blanca Samano. Although her father never got the chance to tell her the pride he felt in how attending college could change her future, Samano later found out through his friends.

“One of the reasons that made me come back to college (after visiting him in the hospital) was that a lot of his friends approached me and told me that my dad talks so much about me,” Samano said. “He was proud that his oldest daughter attended college.”

Her father died during spring break that year. She was not able to attend his funeral during finals week and despite her best efforts, Samano had to medically withdraw from all her spring classes.

“Missing her father’s funeral and not being involved in rearing her younger siblings are a few examples of paradoxical guilt felt by many first generation students,” Samano explained.

Samano thanks the broadcasters from Univision for reporting a story on the importance of a college education. She said she couldn’t imagine what her mother had not watched that broadcast and pushed her to attend CSUN.

“When you are first generation, your parent’s knowledge about college is all what they see on TV, what the media tells them it is,” Samano said.

Samano is a peer advisor in the Mike Curb College EOP Satellite. She works alongside full-time staff that advise first generation EOP students.

“A student who is first generation may need additional information on how and what kind of access they can receive. I also believe that university personnel advocates for students who are first generation versus parents advocating for the students,” said Sevetlana Pirjan, an EOP academic advisor.

Despite the fierce support her mother provided in the beginning of her college career, Samano received frequent calls from her asking if she’d had enough of college and if she was ready to come home.

“At times my parents don’t understand what it means to be away. They don’t understand that you can’t come to all the holidays and the birthday parties, especially when they live four hours away,” Samano said.

Samano’s family didn’t expect her to go to college, saying that they have more hard-laboring farm workers, than students.

“Thermal is a small city in the Coachella Valley. It’s an agricultural area. There are a lot of farms and reservations. My grandparents worked in the fields. My mom worked in the fields,” Samano said.

Her background influenced her chosen majors, chicano studies and sociology, and her plans to return to thermal as a community organizer.

“I think it goes back to being from a farming family. I know what happens in the fields. There are a lot of things that we can strive for and work for,” Samano said.

“Working conditions are bad, the living conditions in Thermal are really bad.”

Her involvement in M.E.Ch.A. (Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlán), a Chicano student organization, began during Samano’s freshman year and led to her position as chair.

“My first impression of her was of a strong woman who was not afraid to voice her opinion,” said Ana Miriam Barragan, Samano’s roommate and M.E.Ch.A. member. “She might be impatient at times, but when it comes to organizing and her life, Blanca will not waste time focusing on the problems but rather focusing on alternatives.”

Through academia, Samano wants to realize her parents’ hopes of creating something of greatness for them through her future plans.

“In the future, I do see myself as one of the mujeres that I look up to here in the Chicano studies department. But I also feel a sense of commitment to my community back in the Coachella Valley—back in Thermal,” Samano said.
The art of tattooing has clearly become a popular trend in today’s popular culture. Musi-
cians, actors, and even celebrities are sporting these works of art all over their bodies. Musi-
cians like Lil' Wayne, the Game, Travis Barker, and Lil' B are some of the celebrated indi-
viduals that have their entire bodies and faces concealed in tattoos. Television also glorifies
tattoos with shows like “Miami Ink,” “LA Ink,” “Ink Master” and “Tattoo Nightmares.”

But if these celebrities are idolized and main-
tain employment and a successful lifestyle even
if they’re “tatted up,” does this also apply to the
average Joe? Is there a taboo still attached to
tattoos? Has it become completely normalized?

See TATTOOS, page 2
**TATTOOS**
*Continued from page 1*

"The definition of taboo takes it to the extreme, but in a way it definitely was a taboo," said 24-year-old CSUN grad Cecilia Hernandez, who works as a preschool teacher and recreation therapist. "But some people definitely still have the mentality that tattoos are still associated with criminals and ‘thugs’ and a lot of people still have that old school mindset where tattoos give off false assumptions about a person."

As society changes, people’s perceptions about the world and its inhabitants also change. People are becoming more open to accept the wide range of individuals that make up our society.

Veronica Perez, a 21-year-old political science major, believes that even though tattoos are becoming an everyday thing even in the outside world, but are becoming an everyday thing with employees having tattoos. "I think it really depends on the old belief that it may connect and build a trusting relationship with the older students she works with."

"It definitely gives me some common ground with children and when I begin working with at-risk youth and children that have mental health and behavioral issues, having tattoos will help connect and build a trusting relationship with them," Hernandez said. "Currently my supervisors have no issue with [tattoos] and I don’t have any issues in the social service world."

It seems that although most of today’s employers are OK with their employees having tattoos, some are still holding on to the old belief that it may poorly represent their company to customers.

But society has changed. Most people, including some employers, know that having tattoos does not mean you were once in a gang, in prison or murdered someone.

Personally, I am well aware of that and that’s why I usually always cover my tattoos. CSUN admits thousands of students every year, and celebrates a diverse student population, but are becoming an everyday thing with employees having tattoos. "I think it really depends on the old belief that it may connect and build a trusting relationship with the older students she works with."

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**The good, the bad & the delicious**

**JACOB FREDERICKS**
*DAILY SUN Dial*

**FOR A CITY**

stopped in an immensely diverse and rich Hispanic heritage, it is incomprehensible how few quality Mexican restaurants operate in the San Fernando Valley, commonly referred to as “The Valley.” San Fernando is recognized as “The First City of the Valley,” and has been a final destination for emerging Hispanic families since its foundation in 1874. According to a regional map produced by the Los Angeles Times, Latinos remain the predominant ethnic group in the 34 communities that comprise the SPV.

However, in a community of predominantly Hispanic ethnicities, it often feels as though it would take the resurrection of Francisco Pizarro to track down something as straightforward as a good street taco. In a quest to uncover a street taco that stayed true to its humble origins, three purveyors of Mexican cuisine answered the call, but only one proved worthy.

Señor Sol, located at 13123 Reseda Blvd., failed to positively repre-

sent two varieties of tacos: the street taco and the rolled taco, or “tacos.” Their street tacos ($2.80 ea.) only consist of a corn tortilla and choice of meat — in this case, carnes (pork) — and patrons are expected to deco-

rate their tacos with available salsa bar accoutrements. Despite the salsa bars well-balanced offering, nothing could have saved the over-priced, foot-long chicken flautas ($6.79) from drowning beneath a sea of kike-

warm cheese, lettuce, sour cream and feta cheese-guacamole.

Three blocks southwest of CSUN and Señor Sol stands the cosmeti-

cally unassuming El Taco Llano. The 8709 Corder Ave. establishment is one of two in the SPF under the same name and ownership, and it speaks to the no-frills taco-enthusiast.

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Aside from the aesthetic hard-cap of a dilapidated kitchen, puzzling one of two in the 8709 Corbin Ave. establishment is one of two in the SPF under the same name and ownership, and it speaks to the no-frills taco-enthusiast. There are dozens of Mexican res-
taurants waiting to be discovered in the SPF. Unfortunately, the reality is that in such an oversaturated market, dining out may entail eating at more Señor Sol’s and El Taco Llamas before a Tacos Michoacan comes along.

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8**

12:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m.

**O R**

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9

3-5 p.m.

**MANZANITA HALL**

140

**You don’t have to be a journalism major to work for the Daily Sundial. We have positions that range from multimedia reporting to graphic design to advertising and marketing. We create content for our web, mobile and print products every day during the semester.**

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When it comes to landing the internship or job of your dreams, confidence is everything. If you look good, you feel good and that energy is just what employers are looking to take on in their workspace. Now if buying new clothes for that interview wasn’t on your priority list, you might want to reconsider purchasing those key pieces to help you stand out. The student struggle is real, but anyone can make it happen. It’s about being creative and adopting a fashion philosophy that works for you, your style and budget. You don’t have to have mad money to have mad style. Here’s some looks that can easily transition from work to weekend wear. Hopefully they help inspire you to dress for success.

Confidence in Color

A well-fitted dress with a subtle waist belt is airing on the side of simplicity. It’s a traditional look that works for any job or internship interview and can easily be styled for a day at school or weekend luncheon. Picking a solid bright color definitely makes you stand out and can help your potential employers remember who you are. This look is simple with neutral and minimal accessories. Remember, when it comes to job interviews, less is more. Statement earrings and a watch add the right touch to show you’re detail-oriented and you have mastered self-presentation.

Women

FASHION FORWARD

A leather skirt makes a standout wardrobe piece, it’s flirty yet edgy. It can easily work for a weekend out. This look would be appropriate if you’re applying for a job or internship in a more creative field. You can mix patterns without overdoing it. In this case, the pairing is a polka dot top and floral satchel. The mix of pattern and classic leather will help you stay on trend. Heels are always a must, they’ll notice that you made the extra effort to dress up. Plus they’re the perfect pump of confidence you need to strut into that interview. Just remember to practice walking around in them first!

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Men

PERSONALITY ALWAYS WINS

Shake up that traditional cotton shirt and tie, slack combo and opt for a denim button up shirt with a fun, quirky tie. Instead of traditional black and grey, throw in some caramel corduroys to bring out the colors in a tie. Just remember gentleman: when your tie is bold, your shirt holds back and when your shirt is loud your tie quiets down. Mixing a printed tie and shirt is great for weekend wear but you don’t want to overwhelm your interviewer in the first meeting.

MODERN MAN

If you don’t want to look like the average applicant, go with a pattern. Plaid and stripes get you noticed. A wool tie in a rich texture is a great investment piece that can work for date nights and other special occasions. You don’t have to always pair the tie with a blazer. For a more casual interview or day at the office fold up your sleeves and wear some dark wash jeans. To make the most out of your work wardrobe invest in classic, quality pieces that will last and transition throughout the changing seasons of fashion. Think of your wardrobe like your bank account, you want to save for the things you really want and it’s an investment for yourself and your future. Come prepared with a printed resume, a portfolio (if you have one) and questions for your employer. With a well-polished look and the right preparation, you’ll be updating your LinkedIn profile with your new job in no time!
October 3, 2013
CULTURE CLASH
ANE@SUNIAL CSUN EDU

2013
OCTOBER
CALENDAR
of events
sponsored by VALLEY PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

4
At 8:00 p.m.
Hamlet: The Acting Company
Plaza Del Sol Concert Hall
Cost: $35 to $40
The VPAC is hosting a special performance of the Shake-
peare classic, “Hamlet” that is not to be missed. The Acting
Company, who has been around for over 40 years, is performing
the play for the first time since forming. One may be turned
off by “Hamlet,” considering that it was one of those plays
most were forced to read in high school, but revisiting a clas-
ic later in life can be a rewarding experience for a weathered
soul. That being said, take a chance and go see “Hamlet.”

5
At 4:00 to 5:00 p.m.
Eagle Rock Music Festival
Colorado Blvd. between Eagle Rock Blvd and Argus Dr.
Cost: $15 to $20
Street festivals are always a good time. Street fests with
live music are even better. The Eagle Rock Music Fes-
tival started in 1998 with the hopes of bringing LA na-
tives together. The fest promotes not only local bands,
but also Eagle Rock business’ and the culture within the
neighborhood. Another plus is that the event is all ages
and pet-friendly, so feel free to bring the whole family!

6
At 2:00 to 10:00 p.m.
Way Over Yonder
The Santa Monica Pier
Cost: 2 Day Pass $80, 1 Day $45
Way Over Yonder began as a way to bring the tradi-
tion of the Newport Folk Festival in Rhode Island west-
ward. The classic fest, still going today, saw one of the most con-
traversial moves in music history: Dylan going electric. It’s probably
safe to say that Way Over Yonder won’t be causing an uproar in
the folk scene, but with Bright Eyes’ frontman Conor Oberst head-
lining Sunday night, it’s sure to be a reason to check this fest out.

7
At 8:30 p.m.
Little Green Cars
The Echoplex
Cost: $12 to $14
The members of the Irish indie rock band, Little
Green Cars, are barely old enough to drink in the states, but these
old souls are without a doubt turning some heads over here,
and by the looks of it, they’re here to stay. After making the rounds
on the fests over summer (Coachella, SXSW), LGC is making a
stop in Los Angeles in support of their latest album “Absolute Zero.”

8
At 10:00 p.m.
Ari Shaffir, Neal Brennan + more
The Laugh Factory
Cost: $17 to $27
With midterms right around the corner, students need
all the laughs they can get. The Laugh Factory in Hollywood has
become a staple in the LA comedy scene and has played host
to comedians from all sides of the spectrum. Ari Shaffir and
Neal Brennan round out a night that is sure to be just the anti-
dote in getting rid of that mid-semester frown. Don’t miss out!

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Die Fledermaus

The Waltz
King’s ode to
Champagne

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PRESenTS
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and more

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DAILY SUNDIAL Your news. All day.
Alumna to share her story at local TED Talk

ANDREW MARTINEZ
DAILY SUNDIAL

CSUN ALUMNA Olympia LePoint is not your typical educator. A former award-winning rocket scientist, LePoint is the CEO of her own consulting corporation and is the author of the book, “Mathaphobia: How You Can Overcome Your Math Fears and Become a Rocket Scientist.” And now she can add TED speaker to her resume.

The TEDxPCC Conference, an independently organized TED event, will be held at the Arcadia High School Performing Arts Center in Arcadia on Saturday, November 23.

TED, an acronym for Technology, Entertainment and Design, is a set of conferences that are featured around the world. Established in 1984 by a non-profit foundation, TED promotes “Ideas worth spreading,” and features speakers who promote creative, innovative ideas.

LePoint will be the featured speaker at the independently organized TEDxPCC Conference in November, where she will discuss the challenges she faced in overcoming barriers in both her education and career and how others can use the same methods to succeed.

LePoint’s path to success was not easy. She faced adversity early on, growing up in poverty in Los Angeles and struggling in the classroom. LePoint failed algebra and geometry, and got a D in calculus. However, in 11th grade, she met a teacher who tutored her for the AP Calculus exam.

“When it would be a beautiful story if I could say that I passed the calculus test afterwards but I didn’t,” LePoint said, “but rather I learned the process to study, and I learned the process to succeed.”

LePoint realized that she struggled with “mathaphobia,” a term she created which describes the fear that shuts down a person’s critical thinking when struggling with mathematics.

“When I learned to overcome mathaphobia I was empowered and I thought to myself if I could do this and reprogram my brain to become a rocket scientist, I can help other people do the same,” LePoint said.

After graduating high school, LePoint was motivated to pursue a career in science and mathematics. She was shocked to discover that only 1 in 31,000 African-American women hold a doctorate degree in mathematics or science.

“I became determined to be on that path to be one of those individuals, as well as change those numbers and help not only other African American women but men, women, and children alike of all colors understand science and mathematics and embrace it so we’ll have a new future of people to pursue those fields,” she said.

Shellie Hadvina, LePoint’s former mentor and current CSUN associate director of alumni relations, saw firsthand LePoint’s drive to educate and help others.

“Even as an undergraduate, she was passionate as a student in completing her education and sharing the value of education with everyone around her,” Hadvina said. “She has always been an innovative problem solver and she has honed her skills well and is now dedicated to fostering change in our nation.”

LePoint, who graduated in 1998 with a BA and later in 2005 with an MA, both in Applied Mathematics, said her time at CSUN was “extremely amazing and extremely challenging at the same time.” She even had to tough it through the 1994 Northridge earthquake.

“We had to find a way to keep up the courage to continue with our education,” LePoint said, “at the same time it was exciting because all of us that were here that stayed bonded together and we’ve become friends for life.”

She was hired by Boeing after she graduated and worked as a rocket scientist with NASA for 10 years as a reliability engineer.

LePoint helped launched 28 space shuttles, and was awarded with the 2004 Boeing Company Professional Excellence Award, as well as the 2003 National Black Engineer of the Year “Modern Day Technology Leader” Award.

The TEDxPCC Conference will focus on “overcomers,” what LePoint calls people who overcome adversity.

The event organizer selected her as a speaker after reading an article about how she became a rocket scientist after failing mathematics in the past.

“I’m always talking about the process to succeed, but they’re asking about what it was like in my head as I overcame these barriers,” LePoint said. “This is the first time I will share with the world what it took and what went through my brain in doing so.”

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Opinion

IT’S JUST A GAME, ASSHOLES!

Sports is about bringing people together, not about team rivalries that escalated into violence, bloodstream and death.

Unfortunately, the string of senseless violence connected to this rivalry does not end there.

The world of sports is saturated with blood of fans who’ve been wounded or murdered over the rivalries their favorite sports teams belong to. Let me repeat: they’ve been wounded or murdered over the rivalry their team belongs to.

The Dodgers-Giants rivalry is just one of the catalysts that have sparked this kind of meaningless, bloodless. It spans across all sports and all countries.

In a 2011 pre-season game, the San Francisco 49ers beat the Oakland Raiders at Candlestick Park 17-3 before two fans were shot and wounded in the stadium parking lot. And just before that a 26-year-old fan was attacked and brutally beaten unconscious in a stadium bathroom which led to him being hospitalized. The “Battle of the Bay” exhibition game no longer is played as a result of this incident.

Sometimes a rivalry isn’t needed to trigger these senseless acts.

Sometimes the string of a recent loss can have the same effect.

Two Chicago Bulls fans were shot by two Philadelphia 76ers fans while riding a train in Philadelphia after the Bulls beat the Sixers 96-89. Both parties had been arguing before the shots were fired. But want to know the worst part? The shooters were teenagers! What kind of example are we setting if two teenaged boys are causing this kind of violence?

At a soccer game in Brazil, a referee named Otavio da Silva got into an on-field argument with player Josenir Abreu and da Silva eventually ejected him from the field. Abreu wouldn’t leave so the referee took out a knife and stabbed him to death. In retaliation, angry fans stormed the field, stoned the field. But Abreu wouldn’t leave so the referee took out a knife and stabbed him to death. In retaliation, angry fans stormed the field, stoned the referee to death and quartered his body before mounting his head on a stake in the middle of the field.

What causes this kind of behavior? Is it the frustration of another loss or the excitement of the excitement of another win? Or could that inebriant called alcohol, which often rears ugly head when something needs to be blamed, be the culprit?

In this case, alcohol isn’t just a scapegoat. According to the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence, alcohol is a factor in 40 percent of all violent crimes. Alcohol can also “change mood and behavior, and make it harder to think clearly,” according to the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism.

As much as I enjoy drinking a beer at Dodger Stadium I would gladly give it up if there was any chance that it could decrease the number of fan-related deaths and injuries.

These kinds of incidents ruin the sanctity of sports. No fan should ever be killed over a lost game. In all seriousness, what control do the fans have over the outcome of the game? And besides bringing rights and contentment, what does the fan get when their team wins a game or even a champi-onship title? Unless they have money to pay for the game, absolutely nothing. They are mere spectators.

On the other hand, if a fan commits these kinds of violent acts they become eligible to receive lawsuits, time in prison, community service, fines and my favorite: a place in hell.

When I attend Dodger games I am choosing to use my valuable leisure time to enjoy something that brings me happiness. It’s a time for me to escape the struggles of my daily life and be a part of something that’s bigger than myself. I carry a love and respect for the game of baseball. I also carry love and respect for the rest of humanity, especially the people who love the same sport as I do. Sports should bring fans together not tear them apart.

But we live in a society that is obsessed with competition, us versus them. It’s not about the love of the game. It’s about who holds the trophy. It’s not about the love of the country. It’s about whose idea is the most power. Until the global society changes the way it thinks about conflict, survival and legacy, this problem may never go away.
reduce poverty in this country,"

Nina Rees, president and chief executive officer of the National Alliance for Public Charter schools, was a former colleague of Ravitch and disagrees with Ravitch’s views on poverty.

“The mindset very much contradicts the viewpoint of a lot of reformers who believe that regardless of how poor you are you should have access to a high quality education,” said Rees. “We also believe it is the educators job to bring that quality education, and you certainly should not be making excuses for kids who come from a disadvantaged home. If anything you need to invest even more time and energy because education ultimately is (their) ticket out of poverty.

Ravitch mapped out several solutions to the problems she feels America is facing with education, including good pre- natal care for women to facili- tate normal cognition in their children, universal pre-kindergar- ten, arts programs in schools and reduced class sizes.

Spagnuoli feels Ravitch’s visit is an example of CSUN’s com- mitment to education.

“(Ravitch) recognizes that we are a big producer of qual- ity teachers, and so she wants to speak at institutions where a lot of people are going into a profession and wants to inspire them,” Cole Dean Spagnuoli said.

When it comes to rape on college campuses, 90 per- cent of the perpetrators know the victims, according to Dr. Jackson Katz, co-founder of the Men’s Movement in Violence Pre- vention (MVP).

“A lot of people are aware of these things,” Katz said. “What we need to do is do something about it and do something in a more systematic way.”

Katz, an educator, was invited by the University of Ver- nument (UNH) on Oct. 1, to speak to CSUN students in the Grand Salon about gender violence and different ways students can bring more awareness among the male population to sexual and homophobic violence.

“I think part of the prob- lem is that we call these issues women’s issues,” Katz said. “We need to start rund- ing with women.”

Students came to the Grand Salon early filling in the chairs and crowding alongside the walls, and around the entry- way waiting to hear Dr. Katz began his lecture, “Tough Guise: Violence, Media, and the Crisis in Masculinity.”

Katz, an international speaker, author, filmmaker, and cultural theorist, is known for visiting public schools edu- cators in schools, teaching young gender violence emphasizing that media violence is an inte- gral part of perceptions both women and men are “bystand- ers,” or neglecting to take action in a sexual situation.

“This experience was a response from the Woman’s Center to let men know it’s just not about women,” said Professor Shira Brown, director of the Woman’s Research and Resource Center, and professor of gender and women studies.

“It’s a gender problem and we need to look at it that way,” Brown said.

Katz finished off his lecture with an open Q&A interacting with the students and getting their comments.

“I was very taken by how many students said they have been directly affected by vio- lent masculinity, whether as a victim, bystander or knowing the perpetrator or victim,” Professor Eisenstock, professor of Gender and Media Stud- ies. “We all need to do action and students have two power- ful tools for social change.”

Tools as in everyday accessibility students have such as media technology and the notion that students should take action by not supporting television shows or movies promoting gender violence.

Recently finished with his new documentary movie, “Tough Guise 2” which shows how boys are influenced by media and society eventually molded to in being “macho” men, Katz shared a quick pre- view with the students.

“Feel a lot of these documentaries should be put out more instead of the Hollywood movies,” said Joey Reynoso, 24, a gen- der and women’s studies student.

“If we spent the money we use on making these films to instead make things that would educate us, it would make a huge component to dealing with this issue.”

Other students appeared to have the same consensus when it came to tackling this issue.

“I thought this speech was very informative.谈恋爱, Robby Reynolds, 20, photojournalism major. “It reached the right audience as far as coming to a college campus where such sexual harass- ment typically happens.”

For more information on how you can learn about gender violence prevention, please visit http://www. mysteries.net.

“We all need to be more socially responsible and socially active,” said Reynoso.

By Pancho Harrison

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NATHALIA H. NIELSEN
CONTRIBUTOR

THE WORLD CUP is a big deal around the world. Actually, it is a huge deal. Not only do fans get to watch the best of what soccer can offer over the course of several weeks, but the countries hosting the tournament empty their piggy banks to run the event. Let us look at some numbers to get a feeling of the sheer size and importance of the World Cup.

Last time it took place was in 2010 in South Africa. About 3.18 million fans attended the 64 matches. It was shown in every single country on Earth and television coverage reached over 3.2 billion people. The finale between Spain and the Netherlands alone reached 909.6 million in-house viewers and 130,000 jobs were created in South Africa because of the event. South Africa spent $5.6 billion to host the games and $3.6 billion was raised, not even counting money made by selling actual tickets to the soccer games.

It is apparent that the World Cup extends far beyond soccer alone. It is no longer a matter of love for the game but rather a matter of prestige, politics and economics. Being chosen as a host country will put you on the map – for better or worse.

Whilst the festivities in South Africa are three years gone, another country has been passed the torch and steps into the limelight as they prepare to host the World Cup in 2014. Brazil was unsurprisingly chosen as host nation in 2007 by FIFA due to the fact that they were the only bidders. Still, when the news broke, Brazilians took their celebrations to the street and excitement began bubbling in the hearts of soccer fans. The World Cup would return to the home of soccer can offer over the course of several matches.

This comment was solely made on the fact that the temperatures during summer reach an inhume level. But what about inhumane treatment of workers then? The Guardian reported that immigrant workers in Qatar face “abuses that amount to modern-day slavery.” In an uprising revelation, it was found that at least 44 workers died between June and August due to either heart-related issues or workplace accidents, and further that Nepalese men had not been paid for months.

Having run face first into a brick wall of human rights, FIFA is currently trying to salvage what is left of their credibility by promising to make workers’ well being their first priority. What these recent events have shown more than anything is that FIFA not only governs soccer but also holds the lives of millions of people in their hands. Now, the question remains whether this is a job they took too lightly.