California State University, Northridge since 1957

Monday, March 12, 2012

DAILY SUNDIAL

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addresses education crisis

SPORTS

Harvard gets weekend edge on CSUN men's volleyball and softball

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Community colleges take further budget cuts

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injury to help others

Director of DRES overcomes

RAEWYN SMITH DAILY SUNDIAL

In February, the revised California budget projections were released showing that community colleges will take another \$149 million reduction.

ME 53 ISSUE 89 • A FINANCIALLY PENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPE

This was an unexpected cut and it has been nicknamed the "February surprise." Further cuts took place because of the higher demand for student fee waivers and low property tax revenues and community colleges, like Moorpark College, have had to scramble to find alternative ways to help transfer students stay on track.

"I think everyone is disappointed that we're having (budget cuts) but I think what we're doing is responding and trying to make improvements that will be good in the long run," said Judi Gould, director of transfer at Moorpark College.

With all of the budget cuts in the past few years, the National Center for Education Statistics stated that is difficult for students in community colleges and public universities to complete college in four years. They also said that of CSUN graduates, like Amanda Dellentash, only 10 percent graduate in four years.

"For me it was simple because I was really determined to get out of a community college after two years because it can kind of suck you in," said Dellentash, a communications major who graduates in fall. "I made sure that I found a major soon and made sure I stuck to the core classes."

Dellentash attended Moorpark College, where Gould said many



from Moorpark College's Director of Transfer - Spend some time exploring career options

ADVICE

- Try to decide on a major early in your college career

- Develop a plan. "If you have a plan, and an opportunity comes up you can see how that fits in the plan," Judi Gould said.

- Don't work too many hours. "It's very difficult to have a full time job and go to school," Judi Gould said.

Students should also look at the website www.assist.org. This website includes all of

KEN SCARBORO / EDITOR IN CHIEF

Standing on tables and chanting to build energy, students from College of San Mateo display their signs. College of San Mateo was one of many community colleges who gathered with other California higher education students to march on the Capitol.

changes, like new transfer plans and workshops, are being made to optimize their learning environment.

"There's really nothing you can do about it so we're trying to make the best out of what it is with our goal to help students to succeed and move onto their next step with transferring," Gould said.

Currently, Moorpark College has two approved major plans – psychology and sociology – that spell out classes for students to take for those majors. If the students follow the plans, they are able to fulfill both GE requirements and some prerequisites for major classes at the universities.

While the colleges are doing what they can afford to do to help students, it is ultimately in the hands of students to navigate the system, according to Gould .

"I think just overall the state of education in California is for stu-

Mun2 visits campus for screening

Spanish-language channel offers students a chance to be on TV

LAURA DAVIS DAILY SUNDIAL

S tudents will have an opportunity to be on TV, get free giveaways and participate in fun activities, like a sexy pie eating contest, when the Spanishlanguage cable television station, mun2, films an episode of its show, "18 & over," on campus today.

Mun2 is the sister network of Telemundo and "18 & over" is a program that counts down the top videos from Spanish music artists, according to Ara Matthewsian, a manager in specialized marketing at Allied Integrated Marketing. "We rank the videos based on popularity in sales, charts and online presence," Matthewsian said. "The show is geared toward the 18 to 24 demographic so we thought Cal State Northridge would be a great campus to visit."

"18 & over" personalities, including actress Dania Ramirez (Losers, 2010) and VJs Guad, Crash and Pico, will be interviewing students and entertaining the crowd throughout the event, according to Matthewsian.

Along with being filmed and possibly appearing on the show, students will have the opportunity to participate in fun activities such as a sexy pie eating contest and free giveaways, Matthewsian said.

CSUN is the first of two college

campuses being filmed for this particular episode of the show. On March 27, mun2 will be taping at the University of Texas at San Antonio, Matthewsian said.

He added that the show will air in late March or early April.

The mun2 crew will begin setting up at 8 a.m. but will not begin their pre-filming activities until about 11 a.m., Matthewsian said.

"A good portion of Spanish-speaking CSUN students are already aware of our network and the show," Matthewsian said. "We hope to find even more of those students and we're expecting a good amount of people to come out to the event."

TELEVISION FILMING



When: Today from noon to 4 p.m. Where: outside the University Student Union Cost: free March 12, 2012 • Daily Sundial • CSUN • city@sundial.csun.edu

Calendar of Events MARCH 2012

12

Minnesota Club WHEN: 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. WHERE: Habatchi Grill **DESCRIPTION:** Every second Monday.

A.S. Finance Meetings

WHEN: 2 - 4 p.m. WHERE: A.S. Conference Room (USU 100) DESCRIPTION: The A.S. Finance meeting to discuss current budget requests.

13

Baseball vs. Rhode Island WHERE: Baseball Field WHEN: 3 - 5 p.m. DESCRIPTION: Matadors hosts Rhode Island

Collecting the World in the Enlightenment: Hans Sloane's Cabinet of Curiosities

WHEN: 5:30 - 7 p.m.

WHERE: Whitsett Room, Sierra Hall 451 DESCRIPTION: Please join the history department as they host a lecture by Professor James Delbourgo of Rutgers University titled "Collecting the World in the Enlightenment: Hans Sloane's Cabinet of Curiosities." All are welcome. Light refreshments will be served.

A.S. Senate Meeting WHEN: 2 – 4 p.m. WHERE: Grand Salon (USU) DESCRIPTION: Come see your representatives in action. Join A.S. for an open forum at the beginning and end of the meeting to let your representatives know how you are doing and to be heard.

13 (CONT.)

Idiosynchromatic Art WHEN: 8 – 10 p.m WHERE: The West Gallery @ CSUN (at the north end of campus)

DESCRIPTION: Introducing Idiosynchromatic Art, a music and art show by Daniel Gall. Free Admission. A series characterized by very particular gestures, certain idiosyncrasies that appear again and again throughout the series. In his paintings, it's the worm like shapes that wrap and wind around each other, and combine to form a homogeneous and textural shape. In his music, it's the descending blues like gesture, that shifts chromatically in its descent, often shifting into a dissonance with its counterpart, and growing as a gesture over the course of the series. The shifting descent of the musical gesture is analogous to the winding worms in the paintings, and it's this connection between the two that is important. The Program: In the Long Dream of Exile An excerpt from the Aitken Settings, for cello and voice Christopher Ahn, cello, Jackie M. Hayes, mezzo-soprano.

14

Inagaural Terry Piper Lecture WHEN: 9 - 11 a.m. WHERE: USU Northridge Center **DESCRIPTION:** The inaugural lectures honors former Vice President of Student Affairs, Terry Piper. The inaugural lecture will also feature Dr. Marcia Baxter Magolda, professor of educational leadership and student affairs in higher education at Miami University of Ohio.

14 (CONT.)

Baseball vs. Rhode Island WHEN: 3 - 5 p.m. WHERE: Baseball Field **DESCRIPTION:** Matadors hosts Rhode Island

Men's Volleyball vs. UC Irvine **WHEN:** 7 - 9 p.m. WHERE: Matadome DESCRIPTION: Matadors host UC Irvine.

15

Where Are the Men? Film Screening w/Director

WHEN: 4 – 7 p.m. WHERE: Jerome Richfield (JR) 246 **DESCRIPTION:** A film screening of Taraneh Salke's film "Where Are the Men?" followed by a short lecture and Q&A with the director, Taraneh Salke.

Brian Leung Reading WHEN: 4:30 - 6 p.m.

WHERE: JR 319 DESCRIPTION: A featured reading by former CSUN professor and celebrated author

Brian Leung. Published widely, Leung's work includes World Famous Love Acts, Lost Men and the Kirkus-starred Take Me Home. His work explores sex and gender intersections, as well as Chinese-American identities and he has won the Asian-American Literary Award and the Mary McCarthy Award in short fiction. A CSU alumnus, he now teaches at University of Louisville in Kentucky.

15 (CONT.)

Trauma's Shades of Silence: Women of Color Reclaiming Our Voice WHEN: 6:30 - 8 P.M. WHERE: GRAND SALON, USU DESCRIPTION: This event will raise awareness about trauma and how it has impacted women of color, with a screening of a short documentary and a panel of professionals, among others.

Cinematheque

WHEN: 7 - 9:45 p.m. WHERE: Armer Theatre **DESCRIPTION:** Michelango Antonioni

Retrospective. L'eclisse (The Eclipse), 1962, 126 minutes. The conclusion of Antonioni's informal trilogy on modern malaise, L'eclisse tells the story of a young woman (Monica Vitti) who leaves one lover (Francisco Rabal) only to drift into an empty and unfulfilling relationship with another (Alain Delon). Using the architecture of Rome as a backdrop for the couple's doomed affair, Antonioni reaches the apotheosis of his modernist style, returning to his favorite themes: alienation and the difficulty of finding connections in an increasingly mechanized world.

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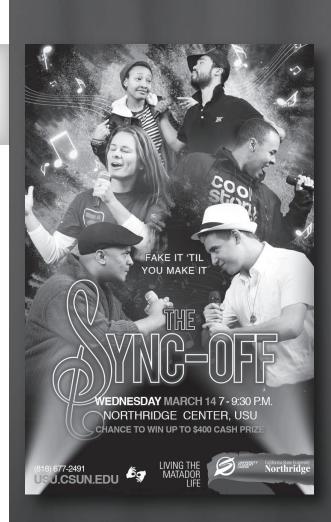
EVENTS

TUESDAY, MARCH 13

TABLE TENNIS TOURNAMENT - GAMES ROOM, USU - 4 - 5 P.M. LA NIGHTS - PUB SPORTS GRILL, USU - 5 - 8 P.M. RED RALLY - WOMEN'S WATERPOLO VS. OCCIDENTAL -MATADOR POOL - 7 - 9 P.M.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14

BILLIARDS TOURNAMENT - GAMES ROOM, USU - 4 - 5 P.M. SYNC OFF - NORTHRIDGE CENTER, USU - 7 - 9:30 P.M.



THURSDAY, MARCH 15

CRAFT CORNER - PLAZA DEL SOL. USU - 11:30 A.M. - 1:30 P.M. NOONTIME CONCERT - PLAZA DEL SOL, USU - NOON - 1 P.M. VETERAN MEET RELAX EAT - BALBOA ROOM, USU - NOON - 1 P.M. POKER TOURNAMENT - GAMES ROOM, USU - 4 - 5 P.M.

FRIDAY, MARCH 16

MYSTICAL MASQUERADE - NORTHRIDGE CENTER, USU - 6 - 8 P.M.



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DRES director finds calling at CSUN

Jodi Johnson overcomes personal challenges to serve others

IRENE NESBITT DAILY SUNDIAL

odi Johnson had her life all mapped out after she graduated high school. She would apply to Cal State Northridge, enter as a pre-med student, and graduate with a bachelor's degree in medical science. But an injury changed her plans for good and took her in an unexpected direction.

Shortly after Johnson graduated high school in West Milton, Ohio and transferred to CSUN as a premed student she badly injured her knee in an accident.

"I had to have nine orthopedic surgeries and 15 surgeries total to reconstruct my knee," Johnson said. "My injury resulted in me having a physical disability because I couldn't walk."

But Johnson didn't let such an injury stop her from achieving her goals. She continued to attend CSUN and focus on her studies. She was later introduced to the CSUN Disability Resources and Educational Services (DRES) for knee therapy and found her passion there.

As a student involved with DRES, Johnson applied for a student assistant position within the resource center in 1984.

"In that position I got to meet intelligent students who were blind, in wheelchairs and had learning disabilities," she said.

Through this position she helped assist students with test appointments and computer training. Johnson's consistent passion and dedication for these students would help her earn a clerical office position in the assistant technology department three years later.

"I didn't have a lot of exposure to students who had various kinds of disabilities," Johnson said. "But I had a natural comfort around these amazing students and I always loved helping them become their best."

Johnson would continue to work and excel in her clerical position before being promoted to administrative system analyst.

In 1987, DRES received a three-year grant from the California Department of Rehabilitation to establish a lab for disabled students who needed assistance with using computers. Johnson would find her calling at the lab where she worked.

"I enjoyed helping these students learn while working in the lab," Johnson said. "I would teach them how to use the Morse code and show them how to use the new technology so it could help them succeed in their communication and studies."

With Johnson's help and the new technology the students would learn to read, speak and more. Johnson said after working with these students, she knew she was destined to work with people with disabilities.

"I switched my major from premed to liberal arts," Johnson said. "Once I started here (DRES), I knew this was what I wanted to do."

In 1989 Johnson was further recognized for her accomplishments in her former positions and was promoted to an administrative system analyst, where she helped further develop the Morse code for the blind and deaf students and oversaw budget goals.

In 1992 Johnson graduated with a B.A. in liberal arts (special education), and shortly thereafter received her M.A. in education. Two years later, Johnson was promoted to associate director of disability and educational services. After years of continuous hard work, Johnson was promoted to director of disability resources and educational services in 2010. In this capacity, she currently oversees the honor society for people of disability, all student support services, workability and disability training conferences.

Throughout her 20-plus years at CSUN, Johnson has continued to reach out and dedicate her professional life to students with disabilities.

"We (DRES) are here to make sure that we provide disability students with developmental opportunities and help them graduate," Johnson said.

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT



IRENE NESBITT / DAILY SUNDIAL bility Resources and Educational Ser-

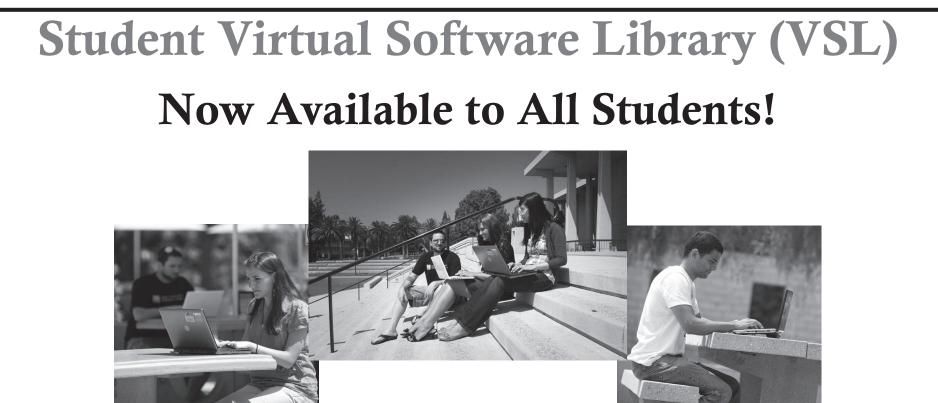
California State University

Northridge

Jodi Johnson, director of Disability Resources and Educational Services, dedicates her professional life to reaching out to students with disabilities.

Do you have a story to tell?

Send us your contact info with a short description about who you are and what you did at features@csun.edu







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BUDGET

Continued from page 1

dents to be far more flexible, aggressive and creative to reach their education goals," said Dwayne Cantrell, director of CSUN's Student Outreach and Recruitment Center.

Gould said their focus has switched more toward workshops on future planning to help focus students and form an education plan that fits their lifestyles.

"We're hoping to get incoming students - the freshman - to take those workshops so they're aware early on what some of the limitations are due to the budget cuts," Gould said. "They can take the courses they need

so they can move on after a couple of years."

When students move on, it's up to Cantrell and each major department to help students on their path to graduation. Dellentash also thinks that guidance is a must to navigate the scheduling dilemma most students face because of budget cut changes.

"They helped me so much with transferring credits from my community college to CSUN and making sure the classes I did take would work for my major," Dellentash said. "I took a bunch of liberal studies classes and they helped me so that my classes somehow fit into my major."

Dellentash is one semester behind - graduating in four and a half years because

she switched majors for two semesters. Her CSUN advisers helped her to be able to graduate this fall.

While Dellentash was able to avoid a delay because of budget cuts at the community colleges, she thinks that all cuts to education funding will hurt the future of CSUN and all California schools and students.

"I think it's going to hurt the image of CSUN because the budget cuts - while they're not necessarily CSUN's problem - are the state of California's problem," Dellentash said. "It makes it hard to wake up and go to school because the teachers are too tired and students are tired from working because they can't afford tuition."



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CSUN claims first at nutrition bowl

ALEXANDRA RIGGLE DAILY SUNDIAL

team of nutrition, dietetics and food science students won first place in the 10th (Annual) Nutrition College Bowl, a trivia-style knowledge competition held on campus.

The event ran from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the University Student Union complex. Following CSUN in secnd and third place were Cal Poly and UC Davis.

The CSUN team competed with students from a total of 10 other schools, which included Arizona State University, Cal State Chico, Cal State Fresno, Cal State Los Angeles, Cal State San Bernardino, Central Washington University, Pepperdine and UC Berkeley.

"It was very nerve-wracking, but at the same time very focused," said Carolina Herrera, one of four members of the 2012 CSUN Nutrition Bowl team and a nutrition, dietetics and food science major in her senior year.

"We've been studying for the competition since last December. As we've gotten closer (to the competition)

the coaches," Herrera said.

Two schools at a time, with three students on each team, took to the stage to answer over 20 rounds of questions during the Nutrition Bowl. A moderator asked the students questions, and the team to press the buzzer first could answer.

Buzzing in was one of the biggest challenges, said Juliana Dao, a nutrition, dietetics and food science major on the CSUN team.

"You don't want to buzz in too early and give it (the opportunity to answer) to the other team," Dao said.

Tense moments were frequent, as students struggled for the answers to questions on topics ranging from nutrition program management to food sanitation and safety. A panel of three judges decided whether students sufficiently responded to the questions.

The CSUN students who participated in the competition were selected based on academic performance, GPA and faculty recommendations, said Dr. Joyce Gilbert, director of the Marilyn Magaram Center for nutrition, dietetics and food science at CSUN.

Gilbert said the annual ompetition fosters the devel-

"CSUN students who have participated in the Nutrition Bowl have 100 percent pass rates on the RD (Registered Dietician) Exam. The Nutrition Bowl teaches leadership, teamwork and critical thinking skills," Gilbert said.

Competing students were accompanied by coaches, and several additional tables were set up around the room for family and friends of the teams as well as other guests. iTunes gift cards, handmade slippers, books, movies and a digital recorder were given away during a raffle after lunch.

The Nutrition Bowl is more relevant today than ever, with obesity and related diseases at an all-time high in America, Gilbert said.

"The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics says that by 2015 there will be a shortage of dieticians," he added.

The Nutrition Bowl, hosted every year at CSUN, is an effective way to prepare students for the RDE exam. said Danielle Crumble, a 2012 CSUN Nutrition Bowl team member and nutrition, dietetics and food science major.

"A lot of the material we had to study was new to me. We learned so much, it was

said.



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opment of skills that will benwe've been studying six to eight hours a week, four of those with efit students in the future.

The CSUN team gets ready for the 10th annual Nutrition College Bowl at the Northreally amazing," Crumble ridge Center in the University Student Union on Saturday.

VITA offers free tax preparation for students

STEFANIE DE LEON TZIC DAILY SUNDIAL

ree tax preparation for low-income students and residents of the San Fernando Valley area are available through a student-run program at CSUN.

CSUN's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) is designed to provide timely and relevant federal and state

information to low-income individuals, senior citizens, non-English speakers and the disabled.

The program, which emerged in 1971, aims to educate the culturally and linguistically diverse residents of the Valley of their tax rights and responsibilities.

"It's a good chance to give back to society what you learned in school," said Jaewoo Chung, 21, supervisor and junior majoring in accounting and finance. "You

get to actually meet a lot of different people and look at their tax returns so you learn a lot from that."

VITA offers many basic income tax return services such as filing student loan interests, preparation of federal form 1040 and 1040A, filing out child tax credit and educator expenses. Despite the wide range of assistance the program provides, it does set a \$50,000 maximum gross income (total) per income tax return because of the high demand

for the service.

According to Casey Binafard, 23, director of external publicity and a senior majoring in accounting, VITA has sites all over the Valley, including the Van Nuys Library, Sylmar Library, Panorama City Library and several more locations.

According to Binafard, many of the students who use VITA don't always have the money to pay for a certified public accountant to file their taxes and the program alleviates some of that stress

"When I used to be a preparer three years ago, I remember a gentleman coming up to me and saying 'If it wasn't for your program I don't know what I would do with my taxes," he said.

Besides aiding the community, the program also allows students to gain field experience preparing tax return forms. It is open to students from all majors with a sophomore standing. Before volunteering for the program, students must attend a 24-hour

training program during the month of January.

Volunteers with experience filing tax returns can take advance classes that would allow them to become site supervisors.

"A lot of people don't know about tax returns, they think it's really complicated," Chung said. "It's really simple, so what we try to do this year is try to teach them how to do it by themselves so next year they don't have to come back to us."

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C.A.P.T.U.R.E.D Brings **Awareness Through Journal**

IRENE NESBITT DAILY SUNDIAL

ne student journal publication at CSUN aims to spread social justice awareness through their work at C.A.P.T.U.R.E.D. (Creating Awareness Productions Through Universal Research & Educational Documentaries) and is looking for additional entries to finish their second edition.

This year, the journal is offering CSUN students a chance to share their experiences and work that showcases, promotes or is inspired by social change.

The group's goal is to give students a voice that they normally wouldn't have. Through this journal, they have the opportunity to share their stories of making a difference, said Sara Tekle, a founding member, and president of C.A.P.T.U.R.E.D..

"A group of students felt that we needed to identify social issues that were underrepresented in the college community and make a change," Tekle said. "Our publication is looking for stories of food, environmental and political justice that are often overlooked or misconstrued in

our society."

Through our research, programming, writing and documentaries, the group plans to educate and inform individuals about the issues that have been affecting many of us throughout our lives, Tekle said.

A significant goal of the group is to capture oral histories and document them so they may not be forgotten, said Kate Parsons, lead editor and group member of C.A.P.T.U.R.E.D.. Whether to inspire, change, educate or enlighten the masses, C.A.P.T.U.R.E.D. produces real world issues from a universal standpoint, Parsons said.

"Where would we be today without the civil rights movement and women's suffrage?" she said. "People think that they can't make a difference, but there is so much proof to the contrary. Even if your involvement is on a smaller scale you're still affecting change."

Parsons also added that topics include, but are not limited to, volunteering, charity, women's rights, minority issues, political activism, the Occupy Movement, food issues, animal cruelty, tuition increases, elder issues and childcare. C.A.P.T.U.R.E.D. wants to display students voices and is looking for student volunteers or students that are

Interested in submitting work to the C.A.P.T.U.R.E.D. journal? You can submit photos, films, short stories, poems and essays. Deadline: March 13 Send your submission to capturedrg@gmail.com

inspired by someone who is making a social change.

"Maybe you're involved in your community through your house of worship, or maybe you did a video or film on a social justice issue. Whatever it is, we want to hear and see what you've been doing," Parsons said. "And we're a curated journal so if students (work is) accepted, their work will be published which is important for resume building and graduate school applications."

C.A.P.T.U.R.E.D. was founded three years ago by Dr. Theresa White, a CSUN Pan-African studies professor and a few other founding members. The journal will be available both on print and online.

"Even by doing good for one person, you make a difference," Parsons said. "I think Ghandi said it best: 'Be the change you want to see in the world."



Viva La CicLAvia

Possible new plan aims to expand LA bike routes

JEFFREY ZIDE DAILY SUNDIAL

■xpanding bike routes and creating new ones in Los Angeles is the latest goal for CicLAvia, a group that strives to make streets safe for people to walk, skate, play and ride a bike, said Jon Linton, cofounder of the Los Angeles Bicycle Coalition and CicLAvia member, during a lecture Thursday.

About 20 people came out for the lecture, entitled "The Bicvcle and the Future of Los Angeles," held on by the Urban Studies department.

Linton spoke about the importance of the bicycle and alternative modes of transportation as a key for the future health and sustainability of Los Angeles, as well as the history of the bicycle movement in Los Angeles and the origins of the CicLAvia movement.

"We had to start to find ways to build a community. We didn't get too far at first. People were a bit hesitant to change and so were municipalities and cities. It took two years for the first CicLAvia," Linton said. "Everyone thinks they can do CicLAvia. Not everyone thinks they can do the bike lane in Reseda."

CicLAvia organizes events for people to walk, skate and bike on closed streets in Los Angeles, so they can use the streets free of vehicles for a few hours.

Linton also talked on the environment and how it relates to cities such as Los Angeles.

"I think there is a tendency in the environmental movement to think that cities are the enemy. I actually think it is the opposite. If we can make cities places where people can really come together on an equal plane and feel like they can have fun, they won't have the need to move farther out in to the suburbs because everything will be right here," he said.

"I think the nice thing about CicLAvia is that (it) brings everyone in Los Angeles together in a way that they are really able to see each other on the same level and that is rare here," Linton said.

The next CicLAvia event is Sunday, April 15 and will include a route running through East Hollywood, Koreatown, Westlake, Downtown LA, Little Tokyo and Boyle Heights.

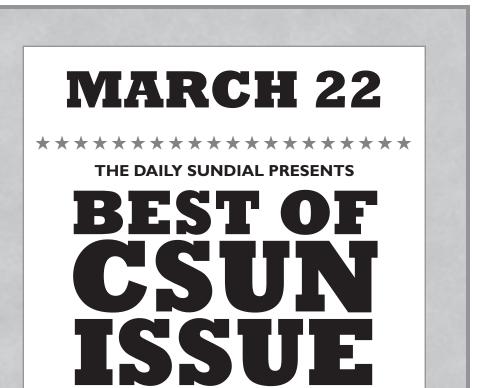
Congratulations Gabbie Gomoz!

Gabbie was the winner of our Women's Basketball trivia contest!

Thanks to everyone who played the game! Keep participating in the Daily Sundial's contests for more chances to win great prizes!



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Let's stand up for education together

Meet Bob Blumenfield:

Assemblymember Bob Blumenfield was elected to the State Assembly in November 2008. He represents the 40th Assembly District, which spans the northwest portion of Los Angeles in the San Fernando Valley, including the communities of Canoga Park, Encino, Granada Hills, Lake Balboa. North Hills, Northridge, Reseda, Sherman Oaks, Tarzana, Van Nuys, West Hills, Winnetka and Woodland Hills.

Bob serves as Chair of the Assembly Budget Committee, and was the first, first-term Democratic Assemblymember to be named to this position. He is the first Assemblymember ever to serve as Budget Chair and a member of the Appropriations Committee simultaneously. He also serves on the Governmental Organization, Transportation, and Water, Parks and Wildlife committees, and the Select Committee on Revitalization of the Los Angeles River and Pacoima Wash.

Courtesy of www.assembly.ca.gov/blumenfield

was thrilled last week when thousands of students from across California rallied around the State Capitol to speak out against further budget cuts at our public universities. I share their frustration with these cuts and encourage you, the students and university community of Northridge, to keep it up!

As chair of the Assembly Budget Committee, my goals for education have been compromised by a disappointing lack of political courage in the Capitol to balance the pain of cuts with revenues. By working together, we

can pressure wavering legislators to protect education this year.

More than anyone else, you know that budget cuts to California's state colleges have consequences. These cuts have reduced course offerings, making it more difficult to graduate in four years. And, tuition has skyrocketed. CSU tuition is a jaw-dropping 191 percent more expensive now than during the 2003-2004 school year. As costs go up, the dream of a college education forces many students to take on crippling debt or give up on their education altogether.

This is a vicious cycle that

must be reversed. Up to now, low-income students have been able to rely on Cal Grants and Pell Grants to weather this storm. That is why, last Wednesday, the Assembly Budget Subcommittee on Education Finance rejected the governor's proposed \$302 million cut to Cal Grants. We did not want to make a bad situation at our state universities even worse.

By continuing to speak out, you can help us ensure that this proposal stays dead. You can also help the Legislature pass ground-breaking legislation to make college more affordable for middle-class students who, without urgent action, will continue to bear the burden of today's growing higher education costs.

I'm proudly co-authoring a bill called the Middle Class Scholarship Act, Assembly Bill (AB) 1501. Under the proposal, CSU and UC students from families with annual incomes up to \$150,000 that do not already have their tuition covered through other forms of aid will have their tuition reduced by two-thirds. That is over \$4,000 in savings per year for 150,000 CSU students. starting this fall if the Legislature passes the measure this year. This real tuition relief is something to be excited about here in Northridge. And, all that students must do to be considered is fill out existing student aid forms.

Given our current state budget challenges, there is no reasonable way to propose such an expensive new program without first knowing how the state can pay for it. We plan to expand student aid by closing an outrageous tax loophole called the "elective

single sales factor." This loophole lets out of state companies choose the method for determining how much tax they owe the state. In essence, companies can assess their tax liability based on the combination of employment, property and sales in the state or just on their sales. In the end, they game the system and cheat the state out of \$1 billion dollars each year. On top of that, the loophole perversely rewards companies for creating jobs in other states.

It sounds like a no-brainer. Close a tax loophole, just as over 20 other states have done, that takes much needed jobs away from California. Then, invest the money in students to revitalize the power of our public universities and to help ensure the competitiveness of our future workforce.

Unfortunately, what may seem so obvious in Northridge is not so simple in the Capitol. We have a fight on our hands and it won't be an easy one. For starters, the companies taking advantage of this tax loophole, including tobacco companies, have already dispatched their army of lobbyists to kill the Middle Class Scholarship Act. We also have procedural challenges. Closing a tax loophole requires a two-thirds vote of the Legislature. That means both Democrats and Republicans must support the measure. This provides many opportunities for lobbyists to pick off crucial votes.

But we have great cause for hope and that is because the Legislature nearly closed this tax loophole before. Just last year, the State Assembly voted by a two-thirds margin to eliminate it but the effort narrowly stalled in the Senate. That's why we need your help. Your passion and your personal stories will break through this political logjam.

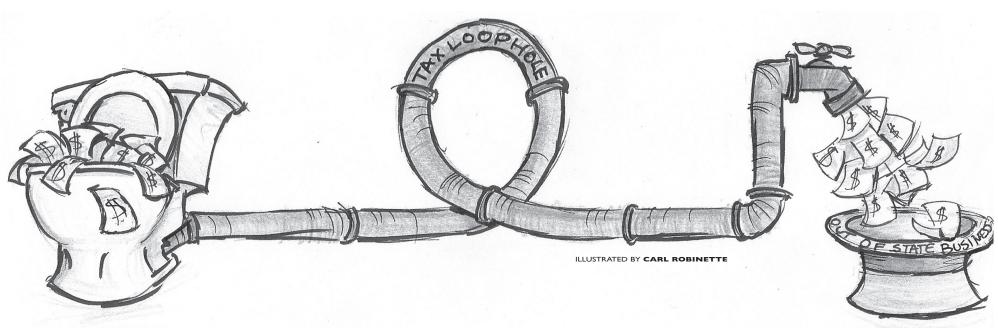
The fight ahead of us strikes at our society's core belief that hard work should be rewarded with opportunity. Victory in our cause will revitalize the role of our state universities as the great equalizers in our state, where dedicated students from working families can get a world class education.

For more information, please visit my website at www.assembly.ca.gov/blumenfield.

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BASEBALL

Fast learners: CSUN turns it around in win

ALONSO TACANGA SPORTS EDITOR

ollowing a 7-3 Friday loss in which the Matadors gave up seven consecutive unanswered runs, CSUN head coach Matt Curtis had a lengthy chat with his team, particularly about defensive mistakes.

The Matadors had only one error, but recorded six wild pitches, making their comeback attempt an allafternoon uphill battle they eventually lost.

"We had a pretty big talk about (the mistakes)," CSUN left fielder Nate Ring said.

Curtis' words evidently drove the defensive message home about as much as CSUN drove in runs during its 12-5 dismantling of the Hoosiers Saturday afternoon at Matador Field to even the series. CSUN (7-7) took advantage of multiple Indiana mistakes and avoided committing them itself to take the easy win.

CSUN pitcher Alex Muren gave up three hits and two runs in the first inning, but settled down after and only allowed six more hits and another run through the next six. He had three strikeouts.

The Matadors had a double play in each of the first three innings. In the following two defensive innings, CSUN retired batter after batter in order.

Despite Indiana's 11 hits on the day, the Matadors' fielding and pitching quietly stifled the Hoosiers.

"They got a few hits early, but our defense just played well all game," Muren said. "Sound defense."

Ring said: "We didn't really kick it around much, didn't give up any free bases, kept it clean behind the plate and the outfield, everyone did their jobs."

The roles were totally reversed from Friday to Saturday. Aided by a string of fielding gaffes from Indiana, the Matadors - who only had one error – scored five runs in the bottom of the fourth inning and turned a 2-2 game into a rout.

The inning started with CSUN first baseman Tommy Simis bunting to the left infield. Indiana third baseman Sam Travis, who had four errors on the day, picked it up but overthrew the out at first base, sending Simis to second. One out later, CSUN shortstop Kyle Attl hit a linedrive right to where Simis was, but another fielding error allowed him to reach second base while Simis scored.

The inning continued with Indiana pitcher Drew Leininger hitting Ryan Raslowsky and walking Ring, moving Attl to third and loading the bases. Designated pitcher Adam Barry scored Raslowsky and Attl in with a single and - one out later - Barry and Ring were brought in courtesy of a double by right fielder Miles Williams.

and a run on Saturday as CSUN won resoundingly, 12-5, against the Hoosiers at Matador Field. "We had a lot of energy even though we got down early," said Ring, who had two hits and a RBI. "But then we came back and stormed ahead and we hadn't really been able to do that lately.

Aided by more defensive mistakes from Indiana, CSUN added three more runs in the fifth and two more in

the sixth as its lead ballooned to 12-3. Curtis was pleased with his team's defense and ability to take advantage of the Hoosiers' tough outing, but was quick to recognize it's not typical for an opponent to have that rough a day defensively.

"We've got to more work to do offensively because what we got

CSUN first baseman Tommy Simis runs to first base during a Friday game against Indiana. Simis had a hit

today was largely due to some of the struggles (Indiana) had defensively," Curtis said.

Indeed, Indiana out-hit the Matadors 11-9, but CSUN only gave up one walk in contrast to the Hoosiers' seven

"We just capitalized on their mistakes." Muren said.

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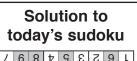
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March 12, 2012 Daily Sundial·CSUN



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MEN'S VOLLEYBALL

Matadors 'tired in loss

Playing three games in five nights, fatigue finally catches up to CSUN, which loses to Harvard in four sets

ANTHONY CARPIO SPORTS EDITOR

After having a great hitting percentage one day before in their game against Loyola (III.), the Matadors (8-11) couldn't continue their solid play Saturday night and fell in four sets (17-25, 20-25, 25-22, 22-25) to Harvard (12-2) in a nonconference game at the Matadome.

"In general, we took it too easy," Matador opposite Julius Höefer said. "We thought that Harvard wouldn't be that good, and we didn't prepare the way we should have."

Northridge outside hitter Matt Stork, who hit .395 against the Ramblers Friday night, was a no-show for most of the game Saturday. Stork played the first two frames, but hit an absurd -.188 and was on the sideline for the rest of the night.

"I think (Stork) was tired. He played great the last two games and he was just tired," Höefer said of his teammate, who also starred during a

UP NEXT:

CSUN vs. UCI When: Wednesday Time: 7 p.m.

*Live game updates on Twitter @sundialsports57 Wednesday win against Ball State. "Three games a week is really hard. Normally, it's just two, but three games are a lot."

Höefer played three of the four sets in the game, performing well after coming off an ankle injury.

"The injury is feeling better. I just got to get into the game right now," Höefer said. "I just need to get used to the setter."

The opposite from Germany was productive, getting 12 kills for the game. But he also tallied a total of nine errors, five from attacks and four from services.

As a team, the Matadors hit .220 for the night. In the opening set, CSUN hit .091 while Harvard, which hit .364 for the night, hit a hot .387.

"We were pretty tired on the court," Höefer said. "(Harvard) was just playing volleyball. They were hitting good and serving good. Our serving was pretty bad and our blocking. They played well."

Though Northridge found itself in a 2-0 hole, there was some hope in the third set. Led by Höefer's five kills in the frame, the Matadors hit a blazing .419. Outside hitter Brandon Lebrock provided more firepower, adding five kills of his own and an ace.

"We got a couple of new guys on the court, so that was a difference," Höefer said. "We should have kept it up in the fourth set."



ANDRES AGUILA / DAILY SUNDIAL CSUN opposite Julius Höefer lays on the floor after attempting a dig during the Matadors' 3-1 loss to Harvard Satur-

CSUN struggled on the defensive end, allowing three of Harvard's players to earn double-digit kills. Höefer credited Crimson setter Rob Lothman for all the kills.

"Their setter was using

their attackers pretty good," Höefer said.

day night at the Matadome. Höefer had 12 kills but CSUN lost as the Crimson hit .364 for the night.

Harvard's best hitting performance occurred during the second set, where it hit .565 with 14 kills and only one error. Errors were the other culprit besides CSUN's poor hitting Saturday night. Twenty-five errors for the night ruined what could have been a decent offensive outing. The Matadors

stumbled during the opening of the second frame, with three consecutive errors to put themselves in a 3-0 hole. Stork accounted for most of the attack errors, with six to his name.

SOFTBALL



ANTHONY CARPIO

girls are seeing the ball well right game. The junior tallied three 1-2-3



ANDRES AGUILA / DAILY SUNDIAL

Pitcher Mia Pagano goes for a pitch Saturday afternoon against Harvard. The Matadors completed their 1-2 weekend with a 5-2 loss to the Crimson. SPORTS EDITOR

slow start on pitching led to CSUN's 5-2 loss against Harvard Saturday afternoon at Matador Diamond.

The Matadors (5-18) lost twice to the Crimson (5-3) in the Northridge Classic, once Saturday and once Friday.

"I think we did a better job from (Friday)," CSUN head coach Tairia Flowers said. "We put the ball in play. We were hitting some shots. We didn't have any strikeouts, so we're definitely moving in the right direction."

Though the Matadors tallied six hits, compared to Friday's three, they also left seven runners on base for the day.

"We just need to come up with a couple more timelier hits, with the runner on third and come up with the run," Flowers said. "I think our

now."

CSUN shortstop Leann Lopez had difficulties on offense, not recording any hits and leaving three runners stranded.

Northridge pitcher Alexa Limon had a rough start, allowing four hits and four runs, with three of those runs being earned. Despite recording a strikeout, she was taken out of the game only having pitched for 1.1 innings and was replaced by Mia Pagano.

But Pagano had a start that a pitcher would not want to remember. The first pitch she threw was wild, allowing Crimson outfielder Ashley Heritage to score and moving Stephanie Regan to take third base. Then on Pagano's second pitch, she was called for an illegal motion that allowed Regan to score.

Harvard scored three runs in the second, all due to poor pitching by Limon and Pagano, but Pagano made up for it the rest of the innings, retiring six batters in-a-row between the fifth and sixth innings. Pagano also had three strikeouts in the game.

"Our pitchers did a great job. They kept us in the game," Flowers said. "We just need to clutch up a little bit more offensively. Our pitchers, like I said about the entire team, are moving in the right direction."

Flowers added that Pagano did a great job and did what was asked of her in her 5.2 innings of play.

The Matadors did win one game to open the Northridge Classic, with a victory against Maine Friday morning.

Pitching was nearly flawless for CSUN, with Pagano pitching all seven innings, tallying six strikeouts and allowing only two hits in the game.

Matador designated hitter Jaci Carlsen led her team with two hits and a RBI.