

DAILY SUNDIAL

FREE

IN TODAY'S
ISSUE

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INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

PHOTO

Photo essay: A look
inside an Easter vigil

p. 5

NEWS

Strike vote continues as
CSU and CFA return to
bargaining table

p. 9

OPINION

You want healthcare? Vote
for the lesser of two evils

p. 10

SPORTS

Water Polo: CSUN travels to
Davis to face LBSU in BW
Tourney

p. 12

20 YEARS AFTER THE

Faculty member and former
journalist remembers
covering the chaos

p. 2

Ethnic media gives
alternative perspective on
media coverage

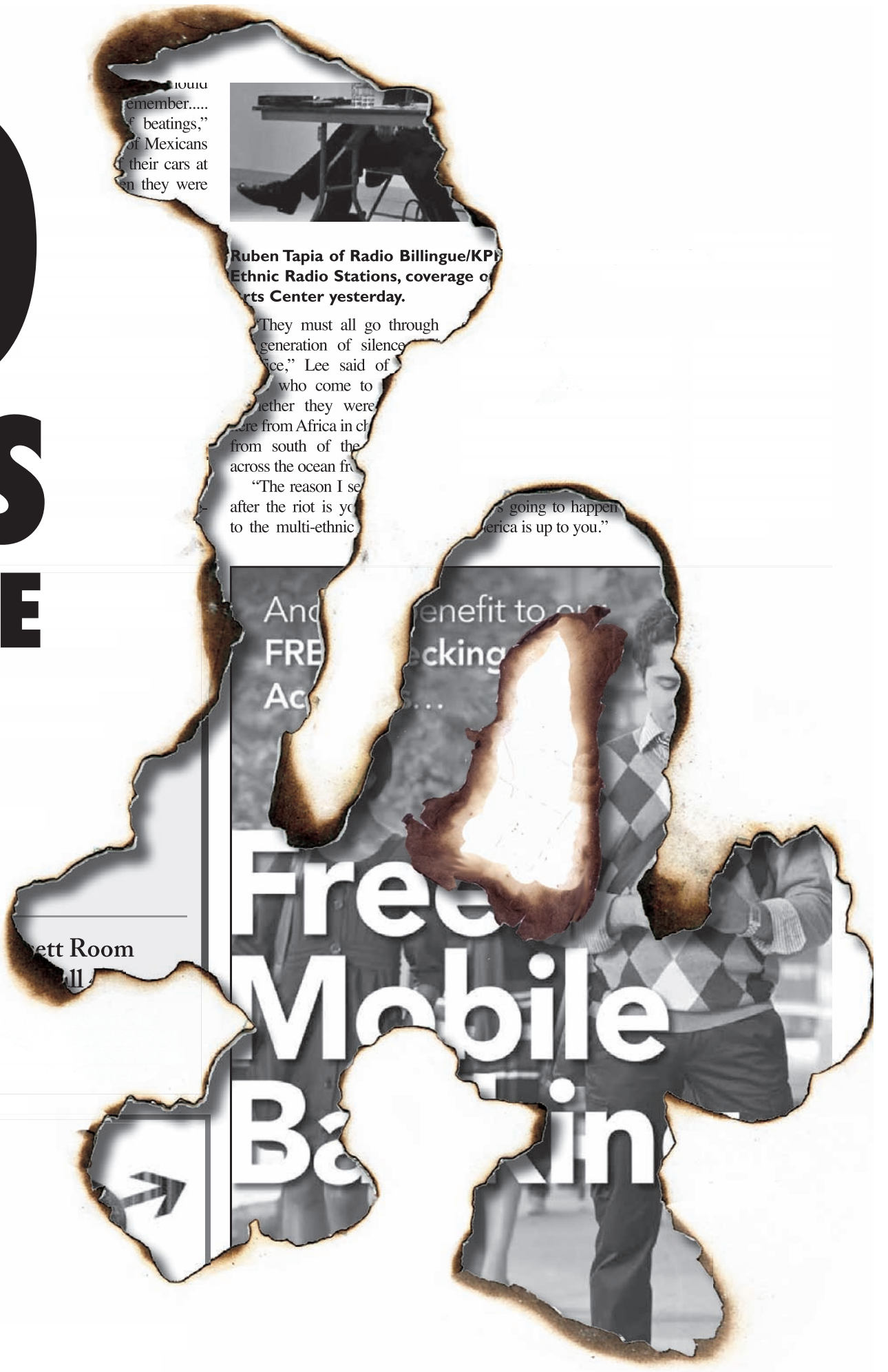
p. 3

What do students know
about the riots and how
far have we come since?

p. 4

View a map of riot hot
spots and discover events to
remember the historic riots

p. 6



RIOTS

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY GABRIEL IVAN ORENDAIN-NECOCHEA / VISUAL EDITOR

‘Los Angeles looked apocalyptic’

Faculty member, former journalist, shares her memories of documenting the most violent week in LA

TANYA RAMIREZ
DAILY SUNDIAL

Carmen Ramos Chandler stood on a hill overlooking Vermont Avenue and the 101 freeway when she peered out to see her city in ruins.

“The sun was shining bright orange through a layer of mystic fog and smoke that engulfed the city,” she said. “I was in awe, Los Angeles looked apocalyptic.”

Chandler, CSUN director of news and information, was a reporter for the Daily News when the L.A. Riots occurred.

Following the verdict that acquitted Rodney King’s police attackers, Chandler traveled to South Los Angeles on assignment to cover resident reactions.

What she saw left her speechless.

Hordes of looters ran rampant, shattered glass encompassed the asphalt, gunshots echoed in the distance, buildings and cars were set ablaze and buses full of armored police frantically attempted to contain spells of violence.

As Chandler attempted to navigate through major streets and

interview victims of violence, she said a feeling of desperation crept in the air and she was taken aback by the sight of a small child encircled by a frenzy of looters.

“He was about 8 or 9 years old and he entered a ransacked store to steal a lip pencil makeup display. Why would he want that? That just goes to show how restless he felt to be involved.”

Chandler was also stunned by the sight of a Hispanic woman being “chewed out” by a police officer for stealing a package of diapers. The woman’s hands were forced in plastic ties, Chandler said, and she bowed her head in shame as the officer yelled “You’re a mother,” in broken Spanish.

“The look on her face,” Chandler said. “That’s something that really sticks with me.”

On more than one occasion during this assignment, Chandler’s life was in danger.

At one point, Chandler overheard a group of Latinos shouting “Sniper, sniper,” because they thought there was a sniper perched on a rooftop trying to shoot down at rioters.

Amid the day’s chaos, Chandler’s co-worker, photojournalist, David Sprague was bashed in the head by rioters and rushed to the emergency room. Chandler trav-

elled with photojournalist David Crane to retrieve Sprague’s car in Vernon, where she faced a gang of men out for blood.

“We pulled up at a stoplight and through the rear-view mirror we could see a group of gang members approaching the car. We floored it, but had we not, we could have been severely hurt.”

Chandler said though L.A. was immersed in violence, she also witnessed acts of community kindness. She said throughout the day firefighters were heavily understaffed and she came across a group of residents coming together to help them lift a hose and put out flames.

“I think it’s important to note that there’s two sides to every story,” Chandler said. “People also came together and put themselves in danger to help one another.”

On April 29, 1992, Chandler said she only expected to work a few hours, but her day began at 7 a.m. and scrambled on until 10 p.m.

Chandler said the faces she saw that day still stay with her and covering the L.A. Riots is an experience she’ll never forget.

“I was completely overwhelmed. I remember coming home, going straight to the shower and weeping in the corner.”



TRISHA SPROUSE / DAILY SUNDIAL

Carmen Ramos Chandler, CSUN director of news and information, stands in her office next to her Greater Los Angeles Press Club Award, for which she was recognized for her outstanding coverage as a reporter for the Los Angeles Daily News during the 1992 Los Angeles riots.

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Twenty years after the smoke cleared

Four members of ethnic media offer alternative perspective on the events of the Los Angeles riots

JOETOMASZEWSKI
DAILY SUNDIAL

Twenty years ago this Sunday a six-day wave of violence, looting, vandalism and arson began that swept through African-American, Latino, and Korean neighborhoods of South-Central Los Angeles.

CSUN journalism Professor Taeyun Kim invited four members of the ethnic media who covered the 1992 LA riots to share their experiences during a panel discussion titled "Sounds that Heal" at the Valley Performing Arts Center, Wednesday.

Jin Ho Lee of Radio Korea, Karen Slade of KJLH radio and Ruben Tapia of Radio Bilingue, representing the Korean, African-American, and Latino communities, offered an up-close alternative to the mainstream media's perspective on the riots.

"An influx of calls were coming in...saying 'my store is burning'. It was just not one or two calls, but calls were coming from all different directions," said Lee, who was in his second year of reporting for Radio Korea.

Lee said listeners were calling in, begging for someone to call the police or fire department,

because their calls weren't getting through. However, authorities were unprepared for, and overwhelmed by the magnitude of the riots. According to Lee, over 2,300 Korean-owned businesses were burned or looted.

The riots started on April 19, 1992 after four LAPD officers were acquitted of assault charges for the beating of black motorist Rodney King during a traffic stop. African-American anger over the verdict caused racial tensions to boil over in neighborhoods of South-Central L.A. and Koreatown. Fifty-three people died, thousands were injured, and thousands of buildings were burned or vandalized, with over \$1 billion in property damage.

"The verdict went the way we didn't expect it to go," said Slade, who was working for Stevie Wonder owned KJLH.

Like Radio Korea, KJLH suspended its regular programming to focus on the riot crisis. The station broadcast the calls of angry, frustrated and scared listeners in an attempt to vent the anger in the community and lessen the violence.

"We were improvising as things were blowing up around us," Slade said. "It was a fever pitch. I think we all worked about 24 hours straight."

One call Slade will always remember is someone who reported a nursing home that was on fire. Police and fire departments were unresponsive, so Slade broadcast the address of the nursing home, requesting listeners to help. Local residents came out to successfully evacuate the patients from the fire.

Tapia lived less than a mile from the corner of Florence and Normandy where the riots began. Tapia got his start as a reporter describing what he saw from the streets.

"What everybody should understand and remember.... there was a lot of beatings," Tapia said. "A lot of Mexicans were pulled out of their cars at stop signs...and then they were beaten savagely."

However, Tapia also remembered seeing an African-American man drag a woman who had been pulled out of her car into his house to save her from being beaten by a mob.

Also featured on the panel was K.W. Lee of the Korea Times, the first Asian immigrant to work for a mainstream daily newspaper in the United States.

Lee tied his perspective on the experience of immigrants in the L.A. riots to his experience covering the civil rights movement in the U.S. in the 1960's.



CHRISTOPHER HO / ONLINE EDITOR

Ruben Tapia of Radio Bilingue/KPFF speaks as a panelists for Sounds that Heal: Three Ethnic Radio Stations, coverage of the 1992 Los Angeles Riots at the Valley Performing Arts Center yesterday.

"They must all go through the generation of silence and sacrifice," Lee said of immigrants who come to the U.S. "Whether they were dragged here from Africa in chains, came from south of the border, or across the ocean from Asia."

"The reason I see only hope after the riot is you," Lee said to the multi-ethnic audience of

students in attendance.

He remarked on how much more diverse college campuses have become since the 1960's.

"Most of you in this room were not even born in 1992, or too young to remember the riots," Kim said at the close of the event. "But at the same time, what's going to happen next in America is up to you."

The event began with a preview of the short film "Love Thy Neighbor," by CSUN alumnus Minh Ha. This fictional story, inspired by actual events, chronicles the reunion of an African-American teenager with the Korean store owner for which he worked, 20 years after their friendship was torn apart by the riots.

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Larry Coben

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This event is open to all faculty and students. Parking is available in the B3 structure via Info Booth 2 at Prairie St. & Darby Ave. for \$6.00. For more information, call the Anthropology Department at 818.677.3331. Communication services (sign language, interpreters, notetakers, real-time captionists or assistive listening devices) are available for this event. Requests for services must be submitted at least five working days in advance.

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A city divided by color and status

Study shows that after the LA riots economic struggles have become a larger issue than race for some

"Who the hell is Rodney King?" wrote one student on an anonymous survey regarding the L.A. Riots. "Did the riots take place at UCLA after a sports game?" wrote another. One hundred CSUN students were selected at random to answer the following questions.

Question #1: Do you know who Rodney King is?

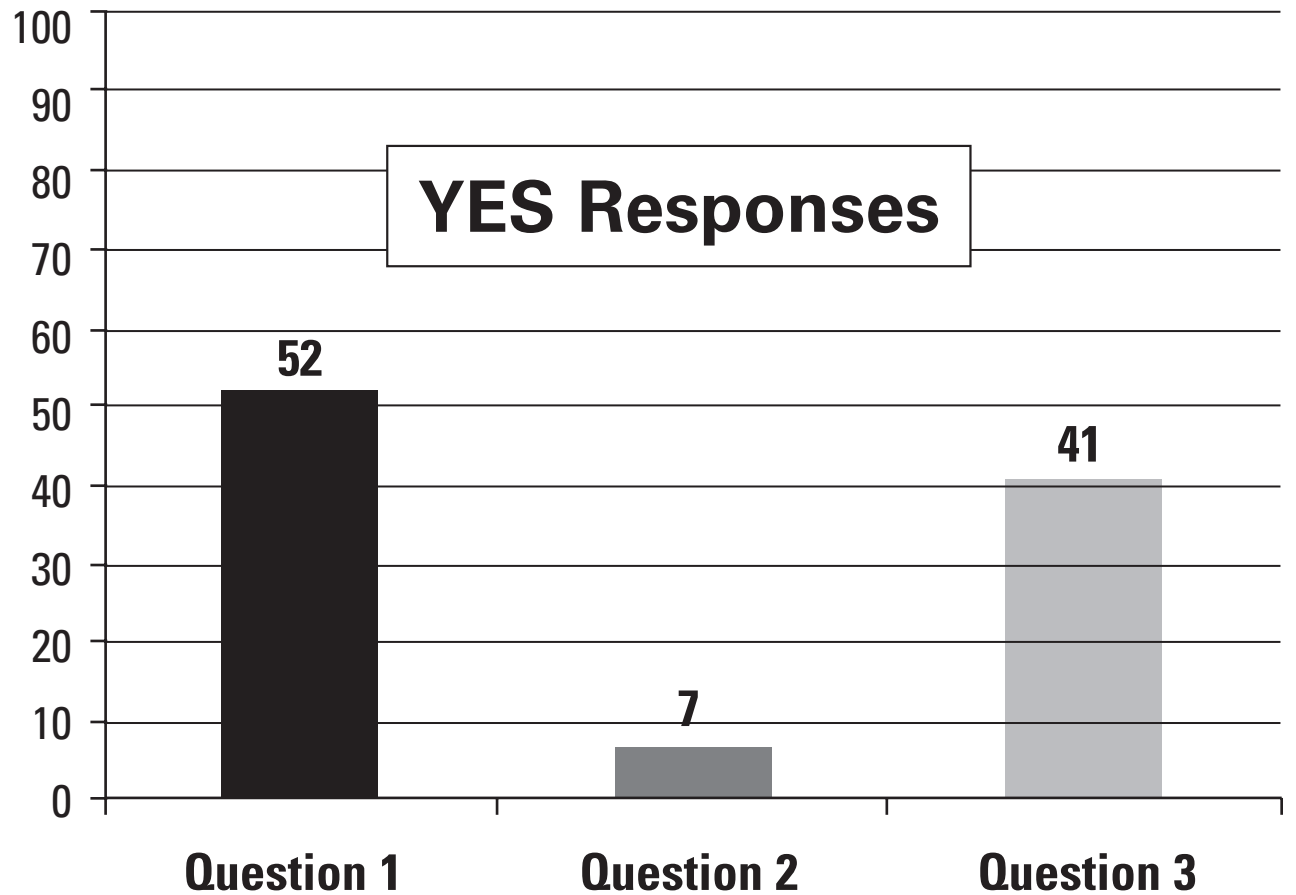
52 out of **100** students answered **YES**

Question #2: Do you know who Latasha Harlins is?

7 out of **100** students answered **YES**

Question #3: Have you heard of the L.A. Riots?

41 out of **100** students answered **YES**



TANYA RAMIREZ
DAILY SUNDIAL

In April 1992, racial tension loomed over Los Angeles and a string of crimes incensed the city until rage boiled over into a six-day riot that ignited over 3,600 fires, killed 53 people, injured over 2,000 and cost the city about \$1 billion in damages.

Twenty years later, racial tensions have significantly improved, according to a survey released by the Center for the Study of Los Angeles. But the recent racially charged killings of African-American teens Trayvon Martin and Kendrick McDade might suggest that any improvement is slight.

Martin was killed by a community watch coordinator after drawing suspicion by running through a gated community to reach the home of his father's fiancée. McDade was suspected of burglary and was shot by Pasadena police though he was unarmed.

Much of the story is yet to be told in the killings of Martin and McDade, but community outrage and public opinion suggest race as an underlying cause.

What caused the L.A. Riots?

The Rodney King incident

Perhaps the most iconic figure synonymous with the L.A. riots is Rodney King, the African-American motorist who engaged CHP officers in an eight-mile pursuit on the Foothill Freeway on the eve of March 3, 1991.

Footage of King being repeatedly clubbed, tased and beaten by three white police officers and one Latino officer was videotaped by an onlooking resident and distributed

to news outlets across the nation.

"That video was everywhere," said Ellis Godard, CSUN professor of sociology. "I was living in Virginia at the time and even there, we couldn't believe what we were seeing. This was before YouTube, mind you."

The Los Angeles District Attorney charged the police officers with use of excessive force and the trial was held in the predominantly white suburb of Simi Valley.

"People weren't happy about this decision," said Johnnie Scott, CSUN professor of Pan African

heading home from CSUN and a white pedestrian, stout and middle aged, turned and yelled the n-word at me as I drove by," Scott said. "I'll never forget that."

Racial clashes and economic struggle

In addition to black versus white animosity caused by the King incident, there was also tension between the African-American and Korean communities, said Taehyun Kim, CSUN professor of journalism.

Kim said Koreatown and Korean businesses faced the brunt of

atown and other poorer communities because police gave more attention to wealthy "white" neighborhoods including Westwood and Beverly Hills.

"First of all, they didn't have officers to dispatch," Kim said. "Korean emergency calls were typically not addressed and outlets like Radio Korea had to step up as emergency hotlines."

But according to Godard, police corruption was merely the "straw that broke the camel's back." At the heart of the riots, he said, were the ongoing frustrations and economic

improved in the past 20 years. The majority also saw decreased gang activity.

"I think there has been positive change," Chandler said. "I think leadership of the city has recognized diversity and the need to change law enforcement."

Chandler said since the riots, L.A. has shifted from militant policing to community-based policing.

"It's not 'us versus them' anymore," Chandler said. "The police are now generally trusted."

Scott said he feels just the opposite.

"As a black man, I'll still get stopped in Beverly Hills. Blacks and Latinos are still targeted by LAPD, and that's the reality of the situation," he said.

Following the riots, many organizations stepped forward to rebuild Los Angeles. South Central's Operation Hope and Koreatown's Saigu and KCCD (Korean Churches for Community Development) all raised millions to repair destruction.

Today, they continue their efforts.

Hyepin Im, president and CEO of KCCD, said that since the riots, mission work in L.A. has flourished. Im said KCCD and the Korean community have made a continuous effort to strengthen community relations and improve economic development.

"I think we've been lucky to have figures in our community who are adamant to promote unity and embrace cultural differences," Im said.

But Scott says though progress has been made, Los Angeles still has a long way to go.

"I don't want to sugar-coat it," he said. "We aren't in the Promised Land yet and I'm not going to say things are better when I know otherwise."

"The city looked like a war zone. There was ash and smoke everywhere and for the life of me, I couldn't understand why people were running into burning, collapsing buildings just to loot."

— Carmen Ramos Chandler
CSUN director of information

studies. "The black community saw it as a slap in the face because the jury was white and the police officers were likely to walk free."

On the seventh day of jury deliberations, the officers were acquitted and anarchy broke out across Southern Los Angeles.

"The city looked like a war zone," said Carmen Ramos Chandler, CSUN director of information and former reporter for the Los Angeles Daily News who covered the riots. "There was ash and smoke everywhere and for the life of me, I couldn't understand why people were running into burning, collapsing buildings just to loot."

Scott said in Northridge, he too experienced residual tension from the Rodney King affair.

"When the riots broke out, I was

destruction, about \$350 million in damages, largely due to the Latasha Harlins shooting that occurred a year prior.

Latasha Harlins was a 15-year-old African-American girl who was falsely accused of theft by a Korean liquor store owner. Following an altercation, Harlins was shot and killed by store owner Soon Ja Du. Security camera footage showed that Harlins had money in her hands at the time, and Du was convicted of voluntary manslaughter.

The shooting occurred just 13 days after the Rodney King video surfaced, and Du was later sentenced to only 400 hours of community service, five years probation and a \$500 fine.

Amid this backdrop, Kim said crime was also escalating in Kore-

woes shared by all ethnic communities.

"They didn't burn down the police station" Godard said. "Mostly people rioted because they couldn't afford the cost of living and there was a definite social distance between those making money and those struggling to get by."

According to USC research, poverty rates in South Los Angeles were 50 percent above the national average in 1992.

Where are we now?

According to an April 12 survey released by the Center for the Study of Los Angeles, about 77 percent of residents feel the economic situation in L.A. has significantly worsened.

But about 60 percent of residents reported racial tensions have

Bringing families together

Photos by John Geronilla / Contributor

This photo essay documents a night at Cathedral Chapel School on April 7, 2012. Church communities from Cathedral Chapel, St. John's, and St. Elizabeth came together to celebrate their Easter vigil in preparation for the most important holiday in the Christian calendar: Easter. It marks the end of the Lenten season of fasting and sacrifice. Most of the children have been fasting from food since 3 in the afternoon. The adults fasted since Good Friday the previous day.

The celebrants are part of the Neocatechumenal Way, a group within the Catholic church focused on the formation of Christian adults and families. Unlike most parishes, the Way is split into smaller communities in every church. The smaller congregation setting allows for more time and intimacy during their mass; there is time for reflection and sharings. Easter is a time when the communities of the immediate area come together to celebrate their belief in the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Each member of the community is a "brother" or "sister" in Christ. The English communities in Los Angeles and Van Nuys are relatively small compared to the Spanish communities (their Easter celebration is held at a different location).

The Way began in 1964 led by Kiko Arguello and Carmen Hernandez to "evangelize the slums of Madrid." Only recently in 2008 were the statutes of the Way and their place within

the church formalized in a written form and approved by the Holy See. Arguello was a student of Pablo Picasso in painting and has recently created a symphony titled "The Suffering of the Innocents" for and well-received by the members of the Jewish community as it expressed their pain throughout the years. The communities are handed down catechisms, or summaries of the teachings of the church, from Arguello to the leaders, or responsables, of every country, and eventually down to the responsables and communities of every parish.

Most of the traditions of the Easter vigil originated from Jewish and early Christian traditions. One of the first songs proclaimed at vigil was entitled "Shema Yisrael" meaning "Hear, O Israel." It is one of the most important parts of prayer in Judaism. Another song was "Evenu Shalom Alehem," meaning "peace be with you." In the Jewish tradition, the celebration of Passover commemorates the freedom of the people of Israel from Egyptian Slavery. As a sign of thanksgiving, an unblemished lamb is usually sacrificed as an offering to God. The Christian tradition extends this celebration where instead of a lamb, Jesus sacrificed himself in order to save the people from sin.

In these communities, there is an emphasis on family and children. Easter vigil is a special moment to pass on the faith to the children. Traditionally, this is a day where people (children and adults) are baptized and welcomed into full communion with the Church.



Where it went down

Ventura County Superior Court
Rodney King's police trial was moved to Simi Valley, where the jury acquitted all officers involved.

Rodney King Incident
After an eight-mile pursuit, Rodney was pulled over on March 1991 just off the 210 Foothill freeway near Hansen Dam.

COMMUNITY EVENTS REMEMBERING THE LA RIOTS

Memorial Art Exhibition
The KCCD commissioned memorial will be a modular installation consisting of 6,000 miniature vessels filled with food ingredients, which represent the unification of the L.A. community.
Date: April 28-29
Location: Museum of Tolerance

SAIGU's L.A. Riots Commemorative Service
Community members, government representative and faith groups will meet with Saigu along to discuss unity and empowerment following the L.A. Riots
Date: April 29
Time: 3 p.m. - 5 p.m.
Location: Glory Church (former Olympic Boxing Auditorium)

Koreatown
Koreatown experienced the most damages throughout the riots, amounting to \$350 million in damages.

Stanley Mosk Courthouse
The Stanley Mosk Courthouse was the original venue for the Rodney King police case, but it was changed to Simi Valley in order to avoid "media influence" on the verdict.

Empire Liquor & Market
On March 16, 1991, Latasha Harlins was shot and killed by Empire Liquor store owner, Soon Ja Du after the two engaged in an altercation.

S Normandie Ave & Florence Ave
The intersection of Florence and Normandie became famous during the riots when several men pulled Reginald Denny from his truck and beat him to death.

East Los Angeles
On April 29, 1992, East Los Angeles was a hot-spot for looting and over 1,000 fires.

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CULTURE • SHOCK

Best beaches

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TESSIE NAVARRO | MULTIMEDIA EDITOR

IRENE NESBITT
DAILY SUNDIAL

With year-long sunshine and warm climates, Californians are always beach-ready. Here are the closest and best beaches for CSUN students to relax, work out, surf, or take part in a number of other offered activities.

Zuma Beach is great for students who need to relax after a long long day of studying. Located on Pacific Coast Highway (PCH) in Malibu, (about 30 miles and a 50 minute drive from CSUN), Zuma is known to be one of the cleanest and most beautiful beaches in Southern California and is ranked among the healthiest beaches in Los Angeles by Yelp reviewers and the LA County Department of Public Health.

Some of Zuma's best features are its blue-green clean waters, wide stretches of fluffy golden sand, breathtaking sunsets,

dolphin sighting opportunities, ample free parking and its soothing atmosphere.

According to beach reviewers on Yelp, Zuma is not very crowded during the year. But they warn that Zuma's peak times are usually on the weekends, during the holidays, and in summer months. If you plan on coming during any of these times you should start your day early to avoid the crowds!

Great tasting food places are located near Zuma Beach as well. For a quick snack there are food huts that sell drinks, yummy burgers, and tasty fries. There are also nice seafood restaurants if you prefer to dine out with friends and family.

Zuma not only scores points for its laid-back atmosphere and beauty, but also for its numerous facilities to help keep you active. Students can surf, kiteboard, windsurf, bodysurf and play volleyball.

For beach lovers looking for excitement, street art and other kinds of entertainment, look no further than Venice Beach. Venice is the beach that never

sleeps!

Venice is not just a beach where students can do typical beach activities, but many other things as well! Students can shop, see street and break dance performers, listen to live music, view art galleries, play at the volleyball courts, and enjoy the variety of restaurants.

Venice is a very diverse place where CSUN students will find tons of interesting people and events that will never cease to amaze you. Via the 405, this drive will only take students 40 minutes to get there.

Attention surf lovers! If your goal is to find a beach with great waves, check out the Malibu Lagoon State Beach (formerly known as Surfrider Beach). LSB is famous for its smooth three-point break waves.

Not only are the waves great, but there is also a surf museum, gift shops, and great tasty restaurants near the beach. Located about 25 miles and 45 minutes away, LSB beach is one of the most prominent and well-respected beaches in surfing culture and is located in a very

beautiful and affluent area.

A wonderful bonus that LSB has is that it's close to the historic Malibu Pier where beach-goers can get tours of the harbor, whale-watch and enjoy numerous mouth-watering seafood restaurants.

If you are more of a swimmer than a surfer, head to Will Rogers State Beach. For those looking for a refreshing dip in the ocean, this will probably be your number one choice. Bonus points for WRSB is that it won an ocean oscar in 2010 as the best beach in California for swimmers!

Located in Pacific Palisades (near Santa Monica), WRSB has several volleyball courts and a number of great restaurants nearby. WRSB is also easily accessible and travelers should have no problem finding the vast amounts of free parking offered along the streets. The drive from CSUN takes 25 minutes and 35 minutes on the 405.

The Redondo Beach Pier is a great beach for students, who want to get away during spring break week or for a week-

end getaway.

At RB you can surf, fish on the pier, rent bikes or kayaks, take a speed boat ride, or go for a swim!

There are also plenty of local shops, restaurants and hotels for beach-goers and families to go to. If students travel on the 405 and take Hawthorne Boulevard or Aviation Boulevard it will take about 50 minutes and a 25 mile drive.

One of the closest beaches to CSUN is Santa Monica Beach. By taking the 405, you can get there in only 25 miles and 35 minutes. Sure it can be crowded, but hey, the awesome summer concerts and fun amusement park is just too good to pass up.

Santa Monica Beach has a bike path for bicycle lovers, a walking path, good surfing and swimming waters and several volleyball courts.

Those staying overnight will find no problem finding hotels on the beach, as there are a variety located on the beach and in nearby towns.


FOOD REVIEWS

Not the typical dessert at Schulzies

TRISHA SPROUSE
DAILY SUNDIAL

Imagine you're lying on the beach in Venice when suddenly your sweet tooth strikes. Bread pudding is probably not the refreshing treat that first comes to mind.

Schulzies Bread Pudding will convince you otherwise.

Located just steps away from the sand, Schulzies is a great alternative to the typical beach fare offered by the plethora of eateries that line the Venice boardwalk.

What's perhaps most unique about the bread pudding at Schulzies is that it's served cold. Owner Sarah Schulz believes the pudding flavor is more distinct when chilled.

Patrons may request to have their pudding heated up if they prefer it warm, though.

Serving over 108 different flavors of bread pudding out of a walk-up window, Schulzies offers a rotating menu of ten daily flavor profiles, in addition to coffee, tea and espresso beverages.

Forever Fig and Mascarpone, Passion Fruit Pizzazz and The Essential Earl Grey are just some of the more unique flavor combinations offered. But traditional folks will be pleased to know that the classic bread pudding flavor is available as well, in all its brown sugar, cinnamon and raisin glory.

The S'more for Me! pudding flavor was a true standout, served warm, just the way a s'more should be. Chocolate and marshmallow oozed out of the gooey center, while the crust on top flaked apart into a golden

buttery goodness. The addition of raisins added just the right amount of authenticity for a real bread pudding taste.

Prices are reasonable, with the pudding available in either a single scoop for \$3.50 or a double scoop for \$5.50.

And the portions are similar to what you would get at most ice cream joints.

While the marquis proudly boasts Blue Bottle Coffee, the iced mocha was not particularly exceptional, as the majority of chocolate remained unblended at the bottom of the cup.

The New Orleans iced coffee, on the other hand, was a refreshing complement, with its strong java flavor balancing out the sweetness of the pudding.

The service at Schulzies was friendly, albeit not the fastest. A two-drink coffee order yielded a more than 10-minute wait, with only one other customer waiting. But that's nothing compared to most Starbucks and Coffee Bean wait times.

Schulzies strives to be both green and community friendly by buying local organic ingredients, often from the Santa Monica Farmer's Market, and using recycled biodegradable packaging, according to its website.

Venice Beach is famous for its multitude of people watching opportunities, and that's exactly what you'll get sitting on the patio at Schulzies — there's no shortage of entertainment in watching pedestrians and bikers go by, or say, for instance, a guy in a top hat playing electric guitar while rollerblading.

Many of the tables have umbrellas to shield patrons from the sun, but most of the people I saw seemed to prefer sunbathing while they indulged in their pudding treats.

The next time you find yourself in the 90291 with a hankering for something sweet, you can rest assured that ice cream is no longer your only option. So grab your beach towels and head on down to Schulzies for a refreshing scoop of bread pudding.

Schulzies Bread Pudding

1827 Ocean Front Walk
Venice, CA 90291

Hours: 7:30 am. - Sunset everyday

www.schulziesbreadpudding.com



TRISHA SPROUSE / DAILY SUNDIAL

Located along the Venice boardwalk, Schulzies serves 108 different flavors of gourmet bread pudding, in addition to coffee, tea and espresso drinks.

Avenue



For grownup lessons they never taught on that other street

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TheatreCSUN
California State University
Northridge
MIKE CURB
COLLEGE OF ARTS, MEDIA,
AND COMMUNICATION

Not recommended for children 12 or under. Avenue Q has not been authorized or approved by the Jim Henson Company or Sesame Workshop, which have no responsibility for its content.


PREVIEW

Escape to 'Wonderland'

Matador Nights returns tomorrow night with added security and an "Alice in Wonderland" theme

TANYA RAMIREZ
DAILY SUNDIAL

The most widely attended and talked about campus event is just beyond the "looking glass."

Matador Nights is returning to CSUN on April 27, and its "Alice and Wonderland" theme will be sure to leave students 'futterwacken' foxtrotting like the Mad Hatter.

The USU will be transformed into a Wonderland extravaganza, where students will be able to dance and sip tea alongside neon mushrooms, heart-shaped carousels and quirky characters.

"I think students are going to have a lot of fun," said Imran Shaikh, a USU coordinator who organized the event. "The theme's really cool this semester, (and) we've got a lot of great activities planned."

Carnival games and activities

Guests will be able to enjoy cosmic golf, zip lines down the 'rabbit hole,' casino games and karaoke judged by the Queen of Hearts.

Favorite "Alice and Wonderland" characters including Alice, the Mad Hatter and the White Rabbit will also present

at the event.

"We auditioned CSUN students for the character roles," Shaikh said. "They'll be walking around, greeting people and most likely posing for pictures."

Students will also get the chance to peruse carnival tents with free food, including popcorn, nachos and Frozen Crush.

Shaikh said the dance area, the most popular Matador Nights hot spot, will be headlined by D.J. Kid Capri.

"D.J. Capri is really big name in the DJ world," Shaikh said. "He's worked with people like Dr. Dre and Busta Rhymes, and I think he'll bring a lot of energy to the dance floor."

Security and restrictions

But threatening the vibe of the night, according to students on the USU Facebook page, are the event's new restrictions and security detail.

The greatest letdown, as mentioned on Facebook, is the new rule that only allows CSUN students to attend the event.

"They [the USU] should allow guests to go," said Peter Solis, freshman art major. "Or at least charge them. More people will show up."

Other changes include bag checks and three security checkpoints.

These rules are a result

of the Spring 2011 Matador Nights, which ended abruptly due to student intoxication, 11 reported crimes and a fight that broke out, according to USU events manager Shanell Tyus in a previous interview with the Sundial.

This time around, Shaikh said the USU is adamant to prevent misguided behavior.

"We just want to make sure everyone's safe and has a good time without interruptions," he said.

The USU spent an estimated \$6,000 to hire security company Allied Barton, Tyus said. Allied Barton will watch for intoxication and run a command center located on the third floor of the Sol Center, which will overlook the dance area.

Freshman microbiology major Clarabelle Perez, 18, said despite security changes, she still plans on going to the event.

"I'm actually kind of excited," Perez said. "Finally, I don't have to leave campus to have some fun and hang out with friends."

Sophomore Karissa Tarango, who's never attended Matador Nights, is also looking forward to the event.

"The theme's pretty cool — it definitely sounds like something worth checking out," Tarango said.

On the red carpet with Stan Lee

MATTHEW ASHMAN
DAILY SUNDIAL

Stan Lee is arguably one of the biggest names in the comic book universe. Millions of people have enjoyed fantastic adventures he helped bring to life, which are now on the big screen as huge summer blockbusters also watched by millions.

"With Great Power: The Stan Lee Story" recently premiered to an audience that just couldn't wait to see how Lee became a ubiquitous figure in the comic book universe.

Everyone walking down the red carpet couldn't say enough wonderful things about Lee and how he has helped influence them, including Doug Jones, best known for his vari-

ous roles playing nonhuman characters in heavy makeup, such as Silver Surfer in "Fantastic Four: Rise of the Silver Surfer."

"He's created characters in comic books that make all of us want to be better humans," Jones said. "Super heroes are like a template for how humans are supposed to behave."

Jones went on to say how through the heroes Lee inspires everyone become a hero themselves.

Lee has accrued many fans over the years, and some of them were in attendance for this premiere, including Peter Shinkoda, star of the "Falling Skies" TV show, and many other films.

"I'm the biggest fan of Stan Lee," Shinkoda said. "I've read every comic that he's ever written, up until 1989."

Even though "Spider-Man" is Shinkoda's favorite comic book, he

would love to star in the yet-to-be-announced Wolverine origins sequel.

"With Great Power: The Stan Lee Story" includes many interviews with comic book creators, actors, film producers, family and friends. The movie shows original transcripts, illustrations, photographs and stories of Lee's amazing journey from early on in his career working at Timely Comics all the way to his current company POW! Entertainment.

When asked about the acquisition of Marvel by Disney, Lee seemed very optimistic about the deal.

"The acquisition of Marvel is the greatest thing that's happened," Lee said. "They haven't changed one bit, and Marvel has all the marketing expertise of Disney behind it."

In reference to the premiere itself, he regarded it as, "Just another glamorous weekend."



Stan Lee (center) is the co-creator of many famous comic book characters including Spider Man, The Hulk, and Iron Man.

PREVIEW

Student work showcased at TRENDS fashion show

MELISSA SIMON
DAILY SUNDIAL

Up-and-coming designers will be showing off their collections at the TRENDS fashion show called "Cirque de la Mode" (Fashion Circus) tonight at 7 p.m.

The Family and Consumer Sciences department, FCS, is sponsoring the show with the help of

the TRENDS fashion club.

"Several people are involved in the show — the designers from Dr. Jongeun Kim's class who are seniors showing their collections, the fashion-show production class that Professor Warren is teaching and TRENDS," said FCS professor Diane Lewis-Goldstein.

Kim teaches a course in studio problems in apparel design.

"TRENDS is our fashion club

on campus, it has been chartered since 1978, and I believe we had a fashion club before that with a different name," said Lewis-Goldstein.

The club is open to all students on campus, including those who are not fashion students but have an interest in fashion and design.

Students involved in the fashion show are mainly students in the apparel and merchandising

option of the FCS major.

"The 16 designers for the fashion show are graduating seniors who are currently taking the apparel design capstone course (FCS 476), which is taught by me," Kim said.

The student collections will be based on the different inspiration and artistic visions of each designer.

"We have 16 designers with 90 looks total under three dif-

ferent categories: contemporary sportswear, romantic sportswear and special occasion dresses, including avant-garde art wears," Kim said. "There is so much of a variety of looks, more than ever before."

The looks cover a range of genres including street rock, minimalist, futuristic, tribal inspired, ethnic dresses, feminine touches like laces and silk-inspired materials, leather and trimming accent-

ed looks, evening gowns and ballroom dance costumes, cocktail dresses, artwear, musician's stage wear and more, Kim said.

The presentation of "Cirque de la Mode" will be today at 7 p.m. at the USU Northridge Center.

The show is open to everyone. General admission tickets are \$20, student tickets are \$15 with ID, and there are even some VIP tickets for \$30.



IN CONCERT FRIDAY, APRIL 27



IN CONCERT FRIDAY, MAY 11

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FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE Concert Schedule



- April 27 Pepper
- May 4 NO CONCERT - DAY RACING ONLY
- May 11 DEVO
- May 18 G. Love & Special Sauce
- May 25 SOJA
- June 1 Rebelution
- June 8 The Wailers
- June 15 The Jesus and Mary Chain
- June 22 Jimmy Cliff
- June 29 Michael Franti & Spearhead
- July 6 Iration
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**WEEKLY
GUIDE**

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RAEWYN SMITH / DAILY SUNDIAL

We put together the best bets for your week so you don't have to! Your guide to all things free (or at least cheap) in Los Angeles over the next seven days.

APRIL/MAY

26 THURSDAY

WHAT: L.A. Comedy Shorts Film Festival
WHERE: Downtown Independent
251 S. Main St, Los Angeles, 90012
WHEN: 11:30 a.m.
PRICE: \$20
DESCRIPTION: There will be a number of comedic shorts with celebrity judges and panelists.
<http://lacomedysshorts.com/lacs-2012new/about.html>

27 FRIDAY

WHAT: Twilight Los Angeles
WHERE: Sklylight Theater
1816 Vermont Ave, Los Angeles 90028
WHEN: 8 p.m.
PRICE: \$15
DESCRIPTION: A piece on the Rodney King trial 20 years later.
http://eventful.com/losangeles_ca/events/twilight-los-angeles-1992-/E0-001-047750747-8

28 SATURDAY

WHAT: Month of Photography Los Angeles
WHERE: Premiere Events Center
613 Imperial St, Los Angeles 90021
WHEN: 7 p.m. to 2 a.m.
PRICE: \$15
DESCRIPTION: Photography is a universal language and this exhibit strives to combine people.
<http://www.voiceplaces.com/mopla-month-of-photography-los-angeles-los-angeles-1654076-e/>

29 SUNDAY

WHAT: Vintage Clothing and Textile Show
WHERE: Pickwick Gardens
1001 W. Riverside Dr
Burbank, Ca 91506
WHEN: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
PRICE: \$7
DESCRIPTION: Around 65 vintage dealers.
<http://www.caskeylees.com/Vintage/Vintage.html>

30 MONDAY

WHAT: The Table Screening
WHERE: The Los Feliz 3
1822 N. Vermont Ave, Los Angeles, 90027
WHEN: 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.
PRICE: \$10
DESCRIPTION: A screening of a documentary / story of a group of writers, directors, actors, producers, editors and everyone else trying to make it in the entertainment world.
http://eventful.com/losangeles_ca/events/table-screening-/E0-001-047673144-9

01 TUESDAY

WHAT: Girl's Night Out
WHERE: Santa Monica Civic Auditorium
1855 Main St, Santa Monica 90401
WHEN: 5 p.m.
PRICE: \$10
DESCRIPTION: The night will include shopping, cocktails and goodie bags.
<http://www.goldstar.com/events/santa-monica-ca/sheckys-girls-night-out-2>

02 WEDNESDAY

WHAT: Saving Our Sons: A Community Conversation
WHERE: Los Angeles Trade Technological College
400 W. Washington Blvd, Los Angeles
WHEN: 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
PRICE: Free
DESCRIPTION: An open meeting on how Angelenos can create a more promising future for black male youth.
http://eventful.com/losangeles_ca/events/saving-our-sons-community-conversation-/E0-001-047612449-0

☺☹ DRAMA

'Avenue Q' premieres at CSUN theatre

MELISSA SIMON
DAILY SUNDIAL

The theater department is bringing "Avenue Q" to CSUN this spring, according to William Taylor, head of the theater department.

"Avenue Q" has been called the "Sesame Street" for adults that just cannot seem to believe they have grown up. The play touches on life situations that the characters on "Sesame Street" would not have faced.

"Avenue Q" follows Princeton, a recent college graduate who comes to New York with big dreams and a small bank account. Princeton soon finds that the only neighborhood he can afford is "Avenue Q," where he

meets new friends.

"There's Brian, the out-of-work comedian, and his therapist fiancée, Christmas Eve, Nicky the good-hearted slacker and his roommate Rod – a republican investment banker who seems to have a secret, an internet addict named Trekkie Monster and a cute kindergarten teaching assistant named Kate," said Taylor. "Together, Princeton and his newfound friends struggle to find jobs, dates and their ever-elusive purpose in life."

The play is a co-production between the CSUN theater department and the music department.

"The puppet captain is Michelle Lane, from the Las Vegas cast of "Avenue Q," and choreographer is Julia Aks," said Taylor. "We are using

the puppet design from Broadway and the video segments from the Broadway tour."

The faculty director for "Avenue Q" is Shad Willingham, and the faculty musical director is David Aks.

"Avenue Q" premieres April 27 in Nordhoff Hall's Campus Theater, as opposed to the Valley Performing Arts Center. There will also be performances April 28 and 29, and May 2-5. Each performance will be at 7:30 p.m., except for the Sunday performances, which will be at 2 p.m.

"National Center on Deafness interpreters will be interpreting for the deaf and hard-of-hearing at the April 29 performance," Taylor said.

Tickets are on sale now, and some shows have already sold out.

Students can purchase early bird tickets for \$9. After the first show, student tickets will go up to \$15. CSUN employees can get discount tickets for \$16, and general admission tickets are \$20.

"Avenue Q" is sure to be a performance to remember, but Taylor does offer a parental advisory.

"Avenue Q" may not be appropriate for children and preteens, because "Avenue Q" addresses issues like sex, drinking and surfing the Web for porn," he said. "According to Trekkie, the best thing about the move to CSUN is the faster internet."

Avenue Q

Running from April 27-May 6
General Admission: \$20
Seniors: \$17 Faculty: \$16
Students: \$15
Purchase tickets at Box Office



David Acala (right) as Rod discusses adult life lessons with Alex Tordi's Nicky as Lauren Tyni's Kate and Bobby Avila's Princeton look on from behind.



Lauren Tyni's Kate watches as Trekkie Monster (Danny Guerrero with Shelby Wane) sings of the "pleasures" of the Internet.



Matador Nights

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Friday, April 27

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Largest university strike in state possible

After not having a contract for 22 months, CSU faculty vote whether or not to take demands to picket lines

AGNES CONSTANTE
DAILY SUNDIAL

The ongoing budget cuts to California's higher education system have affected students and administrators, but the effects have also taken a toll on adjunct faculty.

Adjuncts, also typically categorized as "lecturers," are temporarily appointed faculty not tenured to the institutions at which they teach. Their jobs hinge on budget availability and class enrollment. They are paid by the course, and may or may not receive benefits depending on the number of classes they teach.

"As the budget starts to erode, and we have less class sections, the first to lose their jobs are lecturers or adjuncts, because they are part-time and temporary personnel," said Nate Thomas, CSUN chapter president of the California Faculty Association.

The association is a union that represents 23,000 professors, lecturers, librarians, counselors and coaches in the California State University system, according to its website.

Faculty in the Cal State system are currently working under a contract that expired 22 months ago. Members of the association

would like to maintain the same terms and conditions in the expired June 2010 contract, but Thomas said a new proposed contract would cut benefits, increase the number of students in each class, and require faculty to pay more for parking.

"What they're doing is using a bad economy to dish out a bad contract for us and using this crisis to diminish the power of the faculty," he said.

In addition to their contract status, faculty have not received a raise in four years, Thomas said.

As a result, members of the association have been voting on a two-day rolling strike, which if approved, would take place in the fall throughout the 23 Cal State campuses.

While different types of teachers are represented in the California Faculty Association, each group has varying levels of compensation and job security.

Instructors at universities are generally classified into one of three categories: tenured faculty, tenure-track faculty and lecturers.

Tenured faculty are essentially guaranteed permanent employment and typically teach a 15-unit course load. Twelve of these units are taught in classrooms, and they serve on committees, complete community service and advise students to meet the remaining three units.

Tenure-track faculty are full-time instructors who are on the way to becoming tenured, and do so by performing community service and academic research during a six-year probationary period.

Leslie Bryan is a lecturer in the theater arts department at Cal State San Bernardino, which follows a quarter system. Every 10 weeks, she faces the possibility of losing her job.

"I think my nerves are just worn out right now, but usually around the eighth week, I start getting nervous about what's going to happen next quarter," she said. "It's hard to plan anything long term, because you don't know what's going to happen."

Bryan has taught at San Bernardino for 14 years, and remains non-tenured at the university. She also teaches a class in San Bernardino's humanities department because she is teaching one theater class less than she normally does.

Like tenured faculty, lecturers are considered full-time with a course load of 15 units, which on average comes out to five classes. They also hold office hours, but are not required to serve on committees or perform community service like tenured and tenure-track faculty.

Elizabeth Hoffman, an English teacher at Cal State

Long Beach, is a lecturer and a member of the California Faculty Association's bargaining committee. She also previously served as the organization's associate vice president.

Hoffman said the hardest aspect about her teaching status is the job uncertainty, but because lecturers are paid less, they are a cheaper option for the administration.

"It's very hard to get a full-time load of five classes," she said.

For this reason, lecturers may pick up classes at other campuses to make ends meet.

Hoffman has taught at multiple campuses, including Long Beach City College.

"Students don't need faculty running between campuses. Instead of having one person divide their work up between three campuses, why not have more permanent faculty?" she said.

While picking up another class in another department has enabled Bryan to pay rent, it would still be easier for her to focus on one area, she said.

Still, even with the continuous cuts to the Cal State University system and uncertainty she faces as a lecturer, Bryan is passionate about her job.

"I love working with students. I'm going to stay there as long as I can," she said.



MICHAEL CHENG / DAILY SUNDIAL

Professor Ramon Garcia of Chicana/o studies department drops his ballot at the California Faculty Association voting booth on Tuesday.

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Faculty Voice

ALEXANDRA RIGGLE /
DAILY SUNDIAL

Voting is underway at CSUN and across the CSU system to decide whether faculty will strike. The last CSU faculty contract expired 22 months ago, and negotiations for a new contract have been unfruitful. If voters approve, a series of two-day "rolling strikes" will take place at CSU campuses.

The following are voices from the voting booth:

VINCENT GUTIERREZ CHICANA/O STUDIES PROFESSOR

"It's not so much for myself, students seem to be under attack with fees. It reminds me of (U.S. Representative Virginia) Foxx, a Republican who sits on the Education Commission in Congress. She thinks it's disgraceful when students have \$80,000 to \$100,000 in debt when they come out of school. My fees were \$600 a year at UCLA. Something is wrong here."

NATE THOMAS, CHAPTER PRESIDENT OF CFA FOR CSUN

"They want to change the sabbatical system. The president would have unilateral authority to reallocate funds for sabbaticals and would have unilateral authority to issues layoffs. There are orders of layoffs—you can't just layoff whoever you want." He (Chancellor Reed) wants to run this like it's the Xerox Corporation. The man makes more than President Barack Obama."

AUDRENA REDMOND LEAD REGIONAL SERVICES REPRESENTATIVE California Faculty Association

"We talked about the workload and wanting to make adjustments when students can't get into classes. When there are more students, the way faculty teach a class has to change. We (faculty) have to eat, sleep, spend time with our kids." "Only 35 percent was spent on instruction in the '09-'10 year. This is a multimillion dollar budget."

Today is the final day for faculty voting on campus from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. in Sequoia Hall room #283

Back to bargain, voting continues

TANYA RAMIREZ AND
NATALIE RIVERA
DAILY SUNDIAL

The California Faculty Association and the CSU will return to the bargaining table in early May.

CFA faculty members across all 23 CSU campuses are engaging in online and in-person voting this week to give authorization for a CSU-wide faculty strike.

The strike vote was a response to 20 months of failed negotiations between the CFA and CSU over a fair contract and labor agreements, according to a CFA report.

CFA spokesman Brian Ferguson said the Chancellor's Office scheduled the bargaining session immediately following the first day of strike votes.

Ferguson said topics of discussion for the bargaining session have yet to be announced.

"We (CFA) don't know what the May session will entail," Ferguson said. "But we are hopeful the Chancellor's Office will come to their senses and not put a price tag on quality education."

In a release sent to CSU faculty, Gail Brooks, CSU vice chancellor of Human Resources, said CFA demands and proposals will cost the CSU system about \$504.1 million.

"These demands come at a time when the CSU has had its budget cut by \$750 million, with an additional \$200 million cut possible at some point in the next fiscal year," wrote Brooks.

Ferguson said the CFA is not demanding hundreds of millions, but rather "a modest 1 percent increase."

"I don't know how the CSU came up with this figure," Ferguson said. "I don't understand where these numbers came from."

Ferguson said among CFA demands are quality education, student fee priorities and extended education.

The CFA is also concerned with the CSU "limiting academic freedom," according to the CFA website.

Ferguson said despite May negotiations, a strike is still a possibility.

"We don't want to strike," Ferguson said. "But we will if reasonable negotiations aren't made."

Orange Line safety begins with you.

Metro is now testing buses along the four-mile extension of the Metro Orange Line, near Canoga Av between Victory Bl and Devonshire St.

Please be alert and use extra care at all Orange Line crossings:

- > Obey all street signage and road markings
- > Never run a red light – Metro operates photo enforcement cameras at every crossing
- > Watch for flashing signs that indicate a bus is coming
- > Observe the "Keep Clear" zone at crossings
- > Make sure you turn onto a street – never onto the busway

- > Never drive, walk or bike on the busway
- > Use the designated bike path when riding along the busway
- > When turning left across the busway, watch for vehicles in both directions
- > Do not make a right turn on a red light
- > Never try to beat an Orange Line bus across an intersection
- > Always use crosswalks
- > Wait for the "Walk" signal before entering the crosswalk – never jaywalk across the busway



For more safety tips, visit metro.net/molextension.

April 26, 2012

Opinions

opinion@sundial.csun.edu

A health care history lesson

Why not voting is a chronic illness and how the lesser of two evils may be the right choice

THE JOE-PINION



JOE TOMASZEWSKI
DAILY SUNDIAL

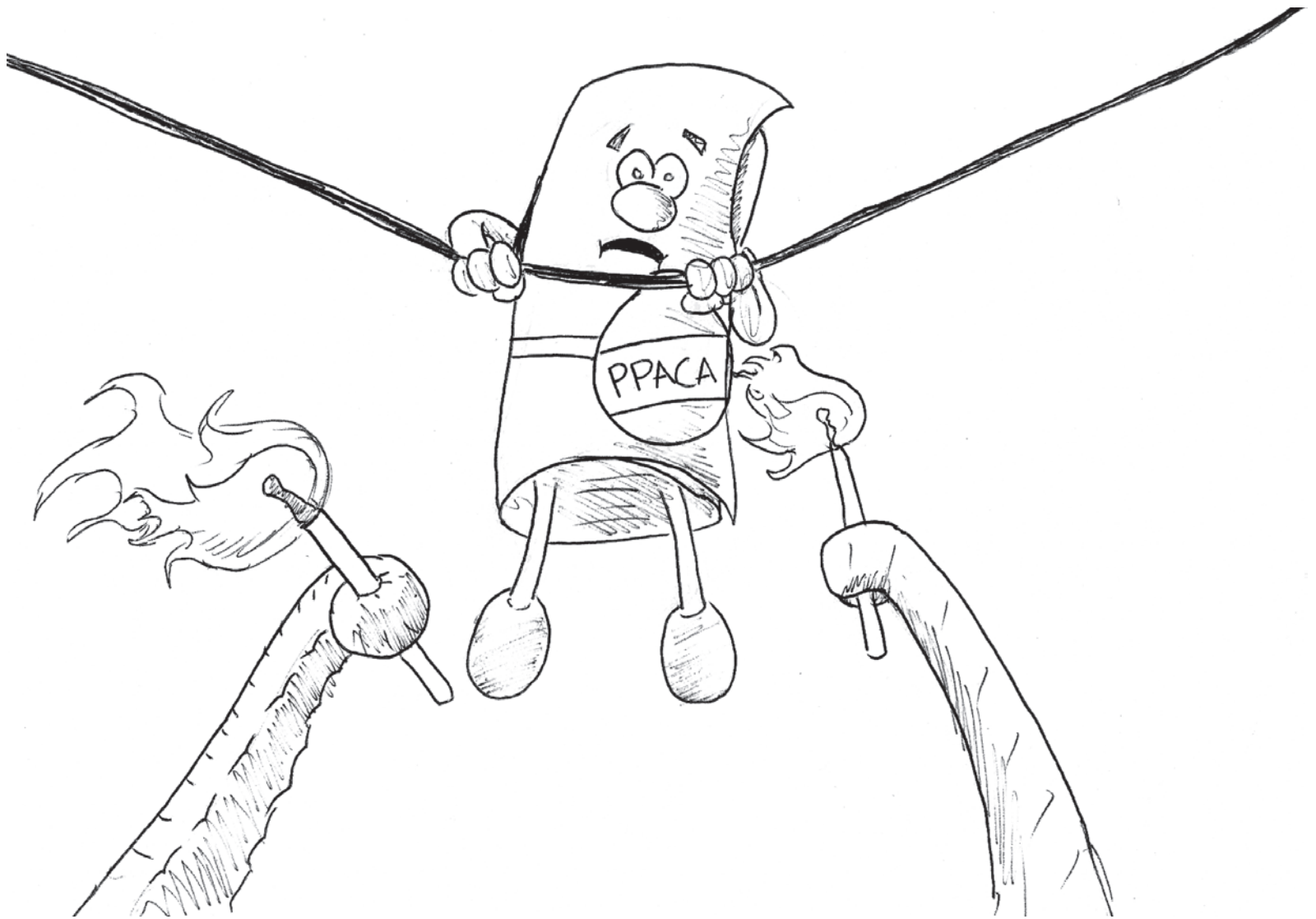


ILLUSTRATION BY GABRIEL IVAN ORENDAIN-NECOCHEA / VISUAL EDITOR

I present here a cautionary tale of how the misguided choices of liberal voters in the 2000 presidential election may have cost us the ability to purchase affordable health insurance after we finish college.

Last month, the Supreme court heard oral arguments challenging the constitutionality of parts of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA), or “Obamacare.” They are expected to render a decision this summer.

This is particularly troubling for those of us getting degrees in departments where many of our post-graduation jobs will be freelance and not provide us with health care.

Our political system can seem dysfunctional because of partisan gridlock; we may wonder if it really matters who is president. But presidents make decisions that have consequences affecting our lives far into the future.

I once heard a historian say a great leader is a good leader who faced an extraordinary crisis and rose to the occasion. He noted that, so far, our country has been lucky to have good leaders in a time of crisis — George Washington, Abraham Lincoln and Franklin Roosevelt, for example.

On the morning of Sept. 11, 2001, these words came to haunt me as I listened to a radio broadcast describing the World Trade Center Towers crumbling to the ground. I felt a sickness in the pit of my

stomach, thinking of how George W. Bush would handle this crisis. I said to myself: “We’re Doomed.”

I thought of all of my liberal friends who voted for Ralph Nader instead of Al Gore in the 2000 election.

They said our government was so broken that it didn’t matter whether a democrat or a republican was president. We needed to vote for the Green Party’s Nader to send a message to those in power, they said. I suggested it was important to vote for Gore because the next president might fill vacancies on the Supreme Court. My friends argued that who sits on the Supreme Court isn’t important.

Although I agreed with most of Nader’s positions, I knew he had no chance of being elected. I thought casting my ballot for Nader would be throwing my vote away. My friends thought voting for the lesser of two evils instead

of someone I really believed in was a cynical choice.

Gore lost Florida and its 25 electors to Bush by 537 votes. More than 97,000 Floridians voted for Ralph Nader. A 2006 study by faculty from Dartmouth College and UCLA came to the conclusion that liberal Florida voters who chose to vote for Ralph Nader instead of Gore, likely cost Gore the election.

I had to watch the Bush Administration’s deceitful and mismanaged invasion of Iraq, with its terrible human and economic costs, while they dropped the ball in Afghanistan. I had to watch an incompetent Bush appointee bungle the Hurricane Katrina response. I watched Bush’s tax cuts and war spending leave us with a huge budget deficit by the time the 2008 economic crisis hit, just when we really could have used the money.

And I watched Bush fill two

Supreme Court vacancies with conservative Supreme Court Justices Samuel Alito and John Roberts, maintaining the court’s 5-4 conservative majority. Judging by the tone of questioning during recent oral arguments, the conservative justices appear likely to invalidate the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

The PPACA may not be perfect, but it offers the promise of affordable healthcare for the 44 million Americans who have no health insurance, including freelancers, the self-employed and those with pre-existing conditions. The law mandates that Americans without health insurance, purchase it by 2015 or face a tax penalty. However, it offers subsidies to make coverage affordable, and prohibits insurance companies from denying coverage, or charging more to people with pre-existing conditions.

I share my perspective on the

2000 presidential election, because I overheard students on this campus before the 2008 election saying they weren’t “going to bother voting,” because “it doesn’t matter who wins.” They may rightfully be cynical about politicians. They may have felt that voting is simply voting for the lesser of two evils.

I often wonder what would have happened if liberal voters who voted for Nader in 2000 had voted for Gore instead. Our national debt might be much smaller, we probably would have avoided the Iraq war debacle and we might have a liberal-majority Supreme Court more likely to let the affordable health care act stand.

If this summer we learn the Supreme Court has invalidated our best chance for affordable health care in the future, consider voting for the lesser of two evils. Sometimes, it makes all the difference in the world.

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SOFTBALL

CSUN hopes turnaround starts with Titans series

ALONSO TACANGA
SPORTS EDITOR

No matter how many times the Matadors have lost this season, pitcher Brianna Elder isn't used to the feeling of defeat. It stings her every time.

"Losing is always difficult, I never really like to do it," she said during a Wednesday practice.

It's not that she should be more acclimated to the feeling, but wins have come sparingly for CSUN in 2012. However, the Matadors are not to be mistaken for the Charlotte Bobcats of softball.

Despite having been on the wrong side of an outcome in 34 of 43 chances, Elder and the Matadors usually haven't gone down easy and, in occasions, have even surprised the opposition.

One needs to look no further than the beginning of the month, when CSUN went into Pacific and won two out of three against the Tigers, who – prior to the Matadors' visit – hadn't lost a Big West Conference series since 2010.

So when the Titans – the second-best hitting team in the Big West – come into Matador Diamond this weekend for a three-game series against CSUN (9-34, 4-8 Big West), they will have their work cut out for them.

"You can't ever take a deep breath with (the Matadors)," CSUN head coach Tairia Flowers said.

Pacific sure couldn't, but little has gone right for CSUN ever since. The Matadors have only won two out of their last nine Big West games. Six of those were at home.

Against visiting Long Beach State Saturday, the Matadors got a 2-1 walk-off win to bring their spirits up. Still, CSUN lost two out of three to fall to seventh place in the Big West standings.

With nine games left in the conference season, Flowers and the Matadors are looking for more than just not letting opponents relax on them. They still

have a shot, although a more-than-daunting one, at capturing the Big West crown and going to the NCAA Tournament.

It all starts with Cal State Fullerton this weekend.

Hitting .284 for the year, Fullerton (17-23, 5-7) comes into the weekend a team in need of a confidence boost. The Titans have lost six of their last seven games, including a 10-0 drubbing by San Diego State Wednesday that was called in five innings due to the mercy rule.

The Titans still remain one of the best hitting teams in conference. But Elder is more concerned with what her own team is doing to get ready.

"Knowing (the Titans) are the second-best hitting team in the conference isn't that intimidating because we're working hard," Elder said.

Statistically, CSUN is far from the top in hitting, among other categories. Losing has taken a toll on the players, but in a strange way it has also helped them, according to Elder.

"It definitely makes me more motivated to do things better," Elder said. "Because I don't want anymore losses."

First chance to avoid more stings comes this weekend.



MARIELA MOLINA / PHOTO EDITOR

CSUN pitcher Brianna Elder throws a ball to a Long Beach batter Sunday. The Matadors host a three-game series against Cal State Fullerton this weekend.

CSUN vs. Fullerton

Game 1: Sat. noon
Game 2: Sat. 2 p.m.
Game 3: Sun. noon

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

- ACROSS**
- 1 Party boss?
 - 5 Bunks, e.g.
 - 9 Lavish meal
 - 14 Wine-growing region
 - 15 Neural conductor
 - 16 '80s-'90s legal drama
 - 17 Frustrated crossword solver's cry
 - 20 Kindle competitor
 - 21 Chew toy material
 - 22 Scholarship, e.g.
 - 24 Spits out, as a DVD
 - 27 Small beef
 - 28 Move through muck
 - 30 Brand at Williams-Sonoma
 - 31 Little songbird
 - 34 Frustrated crossword solver's cry
 - 40 Kindergarten rejoinder
 - 41 Kan. hours
 - 42 Hacienda honorific
 - 43 Frustrated crossword solver's cry
 - 46 Formula One racer Fabi
 - 47 Enzyme suffix
 - 48 Spirited horse
 - 49 Shriner hat
 - 52 Two-time Bond portrayer
 - 55 Ph.D. seeker's exam
 - 56 Keys at a bar, perhaps
 - 59 Onetime larva
 - 61 Relieved crossword solver's cry
 - 66 Nice states
 - 67 Co-star of Tom in "Angels & Demons"
 - 68 Telethon request
 - 69 It may be roja or verde
 - 70 Shirts with slogans
 - 71 Walkout walk-in
- DOWN**
- 1 Yes, in Yokohama
 - 2 __Kosh B'Gosh

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14				15				16				
17				18				19				
		20					21					
22	23		24		25	26				27		
28			29		30			31	32	33		
34			35				36			37	38	39
40					41			42				
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56			57	58				59	60			
61						62	63			64	65	
66					67				68			
69					70				71			

By Steven J. St. John

4/26/12

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved

S	I	L	O		B	E	T	A			E	L	K	S	
O	P	A	L		Y	O	W	L		S	L	E	E	T	
M	O	O	D		M	U	S	I	C	K	E	A	N	U	
E	S	S	A		Y		N	O	S	I	G	N	O	F	
					G	O	O	D		K	A	R	M	A	
Y	A	L	E		B	O	W	L		S	A	N	C	T	A
A	B	A			P	E	E	S		S	C	O	R	N	
C	H	I	N		E	S	E		T	A	K	E	O	U	T
H	O	L	E		S		B	I	O	L		P	S	I	
T	R	A	I		T	S		T	O	P	M	A	S	T	S
					G	A	I	N		S	P	E	E	D	
S	I	G	H	T	S	E	E			R	O	C	H	E	
A	D	O	B	E		P	A	N	I	C	R	O	O	M	
H	E	R	O	S		A	S	P	S		N	O	R	M	
L	E	E	R		L	Y	R	E		S	T	A	Y		

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4/26/12

- 3 Superior talents
- 4 Save for later, in a way
- 5 Holdup
- 6 Bus. line
- 7 Track relentlessly
- 8 Show derision
- 9 One may be fatal
- 10 Per capita
- 11 Bold poker bet
- 12 Jidda native
- 13 Short online posting
- 18 Job ad abbr.
- 19 "Delicious!"
- 22 It has defs. for 128 characters
- 23 "Didn't bring my A-game"
- 25 Business biggies
- 26 By the sea
- 29 Respond smugly to 23-Down's speaker
- 32 __-bitsy
- 33 Greek letter
- 35 It may be retractable
- 36 Desert trial
- 37 Like non-hydrocarbon compounds
- 38 Baseballer married to soccer's Mia
- 39 Diving bird
- 44 Mountain warble
- 45 Takes another look at, as a cold case
- 49 Small winds
- 50 Musical with the song "A New Argentina"
- 51 Divided into districts
- 53 Till now
- 54 Rapa __: Easter Island
- 57 "Peanuts" cry
- 58 She met Rick in Paris
- 60 UPS deliveries
- 62 Carry a balance
- 63 Brush-off on the brae
- 64 Reproductive cells
- 65 Homespun home

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Solution to today's sudoku

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

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

sudoku

How to play:

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

Solution above.



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CSUN sporting events

WATER POLO

Championship Weekend!

CSUN faces LBSU at Davis, seeks out Big West Tournament title

ANTHONY CARPIO
SPORTS EDITOR

After ending the season strong with two wins and big performances from their offense Sunday, the Matadors (17-19, 1-4 Big West) head to UC Davis for the Big West Conference Tournament and face Long Beach State (11-16, 1-4) in the first round Friday.

CSUN scored a total of 43 goals against Cal State San Bernardino and La Verne, with a season-high 22 goals against the Leopards.

BIG WEST CONFERENCE TOURNAMENT

CSUN vs. 49ers
Friday, 3:30 p.m.
@ UC Davis

"Everybody had an opportunity to play in the last two games," Matador head coach Dr. Marcelo Leonardi said. "Offensively, we had the best produc-

tion we've had all year, which is really critical heading into the Big West."

Unlike other sports in the conference that have a round-robin-styled season, playing each other multiple times, the water polo season was relatively short, having only lasted five games. Northridge clinched the No. 4 spot despite only winning one game in the conference.

Still, CSUN finished its season with 36 total games under its belt, the most by any Big West team. In comparison, top-seeded UC Irvine played only 28 games, but there's a reason the Matadors played more games.

"This year we played more because of how young we were and I needed to get more games and more experience for those younger players to finally be able to peak at the right time," Leonardi said.

Fatigue could be an issue as CSUN has played more than its conference opponents, but Leonardi has confidence in his young squad.

"There might be some wear-and-tear, but because we're so young, we've been able to develop our bench and our depth as well," he said.

Having already defeated them on April 1, 11-7, CSUN will get a second look at the 49ers Friday. Leonardi's team



COURTESY OF CSUN ATHLETICS

CSUN utility player Jenny Jamison looks for a goal in a game. Jamison and the Matadors head to UC Davis on Friday to face Long Beach State in the first round of the Big West Conference Tournament.

feels confident heading into the match.

"We always do a really good job of breaking down film and really focusing on each team individually," two-meter defender Heidi Pettinger said. "We're really prepared as a whole and we know what to expect. Even if they change it up, we'll still be prepared."

Utility player Jenny Jamison, who has a team-high 67 goals this season, will be looking to lead CSUN offensively. Though the sophomore has scored the most, she credits the team's defense for sparking her offense.

"If we don't play good defense, then our offense will struggle," Jamison said. "We have to focus on our defense

first and I think the offense will just come naturally."

The Matadors had limited exposure to their Big West opponents, and with Long Beach being the first on their list, they will have to repeat what they did in their first meeting if they want to continue through the tournament.

Should the Matadors get past

the 49ers, they'll face UC Irvine the next day. Overcome that and they'll be in the championship game Sunday.

"We have to come out with the same intensity because (the 49ers have a really physical press ... and if we can get past that, just like we did when we played them last time, then we'll be fine," Jamison said.

BASEBALL

CSUN looks for hot hitting to continue vs. LBSU



SAMUEL ALBARRAN / CONTRIBUTOR

CSUN outfielder Miles Williams waits for a pitch during a game against Bakersfield Tuesday. The Matadors start a series against LBSU Friday.

JONATHAN ANDRADE
DAILY SUNDIAL

C SUN's bats are hot after a 5-2 non-conference victory over CSU Bakersfield Tuesday.

CSUN (17-20, 4-5 Big West) will need the hot hitting to continue if it plans on scoring runs against the Dirtbags, who notched their second shutout of 2012 in their last outing at USC.

Long Beach State (19-19, 9-3) has used its pitching to earn six consecutive series victories and travels to Northridge for a three-game series this weekend.

LBSU has three starting pitchers with ERAs below 3.00.

Senior Shawn Stuart leads LBSU with a 2.28 ERA and is a perfect 5-0 this season with nine starts under his belt.

Stuart has gone the distance once and only allowed 44 hits in 59.1 innings of work. Stuart has used his control on the mound to fan 49 batters faced and only walked 20 batters this season.

CSUN should also expect to see junior Matt Anderson and sophomore Ryan Strufing as each have made 10 starts apiece for the Dirtbags in 2012. The pair have combined for a 7-4 record

and have 118 innings between the two.

If Long Beach has the edge on the scoreboard in the closing innings, the Matadors will surely see LBSU closer Kyle Friedrichs, who has already compiled seven saves out of the bullpen and has a 1.42 ERA in 19 appearances.

LBSU's offense hasn't shown as much pop as CSUN's, but it has the hitters to put runs on the board.

Senior outfielder Brennan Metzger leads the Long Beach squad in batting average (.298), hits (39) and slugging (.412). He also has the only home run LBSU has hit this season.

Metzger has also stolen a team-high nine bases in 12 attempts.

The rest of the LBSU offense has gathered 38 extra-base hits in 2012 and while they've been out-hit by opposing bats, they could still pose a problem for the inconsistent CSUN staff.

On the mound for CSUN, freshman Jerry Keel and Alex Muren have been tough to hit against and will both see starts against the Dirtbags.

Keel continues to lead the team with his 2.01 ERA and has only surrendered 49 hits in 53.2 innings on the mound.

Muren pitched deep into games started with two complete games this

season, but should be able to depend on his bullpen this weekend.

Sophomore Harley Holt has been effective in his last outings while red-shirt freshman Louis Cohen has proven he can hold leads in the latter innings of ball games.

If the bullpen provides solid innings of relief, the offense could provide run support with its newfound power.

Against CSU Bakersfield, senior Steven Keller and juniors Marty Bowen and Kyle Attl all homered to give CSUN the victory.

Attl now has four dingers this season, one behind team-leader, sophomore Miles Williams. Attl has also hit safely in five of his last six games and homered in two of his last three.

Williams has been struggling at the dish with 44 strikeouts this season, but has the power to drive any ball over the Matador Field fences.

Matadors vs. LBSU

Game 1: Fri. 3 p.m.
Game 2: Sat. 1 p.m.
Game 3: Sun. 1 p.m.