California State University, Northridge since 1957

Tuesday, May 8, 2012



Police officers and firefighters report to the hunger strike site at Sierra Quad where Raiza Arias, 18, collapsed yesterday. Arias is one of the participants of the strike.

# Student activist falls ill to hunger

### Freshman Raiza Arias examined by Los Angeles Fire Department on the sixth day of the hunger strike

### **ANTHONY CARPIO** SPORTS EDITOR

**RON ROKHY** LIVE NEWS EDITOR

welfare check was performed on one of the CSUN hunger strikers outside Sierra Tower Monday afternoon.

Freshman theatre and anthropology major Raiza Arias looked fatigued and lightheaded after six days of striking as Agustin Garibay, Matador Involvement Center coordinator, passed by and suspected that Arias' condition needed to be examined and made a call to campus police.

We substant for the

"I was feeling dizzy and

half of my body fell asleep. I was like blacking out a little bit," Arias said. "Relative to what I felt last night, (Monday) was way better."

Garibay said he was coming back from lunch when he decided to check up on the strikers.

"I asked her a couple of questions on how she was doing," he said. "Based on

her responses, I thought it on campus, regardless of the a high fever and a collapse. was important that we have a welfare check."

L.A. Fire Department arrived at the strikers' tent a little after 1 p.m. to make sure Arias was in a stable condition.

"My concern as a staff member and a member of the community is to make sure that the students who are

program or whatever activity they're doing, are safe in doing so," Garibay said.

This health scare comes at the heel of one of the hunger strikers dropping out due to medical reasons. Grace Castaneda, a junior double majoring in political science and sociology, ended her strike because of

Arias has participated in the hunger strike since the first day and said that it isn't the first time she has had to seek medical attention.

Prior to Monday's scare. Arias had just come back

See **STRIKER**, page 3

May 8, 2012 • Daily Sundial • CSUN • city@sundial.csun.edu

# Study abroad program to Israel returns

After sending a team of investigators to assess safety, CSU Chancellor's Office brings back program

LAURA DAVIS

DAILY SUNDIAL

he CSU Chancellor's Office has reinstated its study abroad program to Israel, which has been suspended since 2002, and is currently accepting applications from interested students.

The program was initially suspended due to a state-issued travel warning near the University of Haifa, the CSU host school, according to CSU spokesperson Stephanie Thara.

"Travel Warnings are issued when long-term, protracted conditions that make a country dangerous or unstable lead the State Department to recommend that Americans avoid or consider the risk of travel to that country," the U.S. Department of State website says.

In Dec. 2011, the CSU sent a team of investigators to assess the security situation and deemed the area safe for students, despite the travel warning still in place for the area, Thara said.

"The CSU has strict policies for students who wish to study in any country with a travel warning. The chancellor actually has the authority to grant an exception if the security in the program is strong," Thara said. "This is the case for the University of Haifa." An open letter to petition the program because of costs and the travel warning, signed by about 80 CSU faculty and staff members, was presented to CSU Chancellor Charles B. Reed after the Oct. 2011 meeting of the Academic and Fiscal Affairs Committee of the CSU Academic Council on International Programs.

But some CSU faculty, such as CSUN mathematics professor David Klein, who also authored the petition, said politics are the reason the chancellor is turning his head from the travel warning.

"Politically, it's almost impossible for this country to criticize Israel, Politicians fall all over themselves to praise Israel and say how wonderful it is," Klein said. "Reinstating the program was all part of that political process."

U.S. citizens and students have been killed and severely injured by Israeli military forces, according to the petition letter. In 2010, Emily Henochowicz, a 21-yearold Jewish American art student, lost an eye after being shot in the head with a high velocity tear gas canister.

"If a Palestinian student applied to the program and was accepted, it would be dangerous for them just on the basis of their race," Klein said.

Participating CSU students could face discriminatory treat-

ment based on race and ethnicity, the letter claims. Especially those with Arabic or Muslim names, and those born in Muslim or Middle Eastern countries.

However, the CSU insists the program is safe and advises students to stay clear of the Gaza Strip and West Bank, according to the University of Haifa's website.

"The security situation around the University of Haifa was evaluated," Thara said. "The chancellor's office and the CSU campuses have made sure that it is safe for students. They have taken all measures to make sure it is deemed as safe."

Dozens of CSU members support the petition initiated by Klein, but many others are against it and, according to Klein, and have sent "hate mail" regarding the issue his way.

"How can you live with yourself while promoting anti-Semitism?" wrote activist Misha Nasledov in an email sent to Klein in response to the petition. "You just want to kill all of us Jews."

More information about the CSU study abroad to Israel program is available on their website and also on the English version of the University of Haifa's website.

"This side of the issue is rarely presented in the American press. I hardly ever see anything that's positive about Palestinians or critical about Israel," Klein said.



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### News 3

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### STRIKER

Continued from page 1

from the hospital the previous day after having similar symptoms.

"(Sunday) night, I was tripping out. It's kind of a mind experience," she said.

She said that she has

an ulcer, but doctors have cleared her but advise that she not continue the hunger strike.

Arias continued by talking about how she felt during each of the days she's been on strike, with the fourth day being the toughest for her.

"I started feeling real-

ly bad, really heavy and weak," Arias said.

After Arias was cleared by LAFD, her friends accompanying her gave her water to help with her current state.

When asked if she would continue with the strike, Arias said she would go on for as long as she could.

### **Cheaper than thought**

### Article claiming Harvard cheaper than CSU inaccurate

FREDY TLATENCHI DAILY SUNDIAL

ast March saw California's higher education system under heavy scrutiny by allegedly failing to live up to its preset standards and garnered further criticism when the San Jose Mercury News released the article "Believe it: Harvard cheaper than Cal State."

The article reported that after the recent rise in tuition fees for the CSU and UC systems, attending Harvard would turn out to be cheaper, in part thanks to financial aid.

The San Jose Mercury News presented the unaided Harvard tuition figure of \$36,305, which excluded room, books and other living expenses. In comparison was the U.C. Santa Cruz total billed and unbilled figure of \$33,000.

Billed costs include room, tuition, fees and on campus meals. Unbilled costs include books, transportation, supplies and personal expenses.

The article stated that a student who receives financial aid and comes from a family that earns \$130,000 annually, will pay \$19,500 at U.C. Santa Cruz or \$17,000 at Harvard. Figure estimates were obtained using a tuition calculator offered by each school, according to Matt Krupnick, the writer of the article.

While the paper's calculations are correct, the details behind the figures have individuals within California's higher education system puzzled. "What the article confused its readers with was not mentioning other factors for such low tuition cost," said Audrey Kahane, a newspaper columnist and college admissions counselor based in West Hills.

Harvard's actual total billed and unbilled costs ran up to \$57,950, barring the \$2,168 student health insurance fee.

Students with families earning up to \$160,000 are eligible to receive aid and are expected to contribute only 10 percent or less of their income, due to the Harvard Financial Aid Initiative.

Furthermore, families of higher income brackets are still eligible to receive aid when taking into consideration individual circumstances. The initiative, which started in 2006, offers students education with no expected parental contribution if they earn less than \$65,000.

The endowments belonging to the private university helps them offer scholarships that might not be available at public schools, said Florentino Manzano, the current vice president of student services at Los Angeles Valley College.

"Besides a simple look, what should be obvious is that the state isn't putting enough money in our education," Manzano said.

Endowments have a deep impact in a university's future. When growing due to donations from alumni and return in investments, endowments are used to pay management fees and take the brunt in investment losses.

The Harvard Management Company website, charged with handling the university's financial matters, reports a \$32 billion endowment at its disposal. UCSC handles a \$93.7 million endowment, last reported in 2009, while sharing the 2011 \$22.7 billion UC system budget with 10 other universities.

The Harvard endowment, currently the largest in the United States, is used for the university's academic programs, supporting the financial aid initiative and continue with medical research.

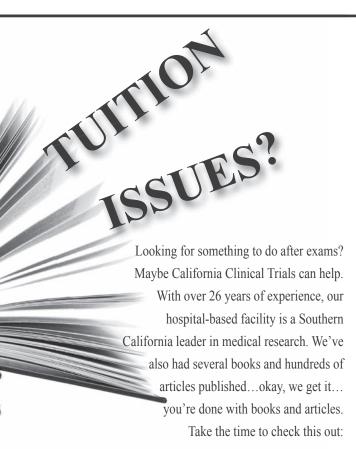
The income amount chosen by Mercury News was misleading due to them picking a financial threshold that empowered the private schools and disadvantaged the public system, according to Dr. Elizabeth Adams, senior director of undergraduate studies at CSUN.

Adams finds Harvard's financial aid program empowering, letting middle to lower income students enter the prestigious institution. Yet there are issues on how it is depicted in the article.

"Most private institutions who are somewhat or as selective as Harvard, are not going to offer you close to that package of financial aid or grants," said Adams. "They may cost just as much but students will leave with much larger loan burdens. The aid Harvard offers is an anomaly."

Those interviewed echo one another in that Harvard's financial accessibility shouldn't be a cause for concern, but as Adams put it, "People are being priced out of an education."

After all, not all college bound students can enter Harvard.



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# Marijuana dispensaries unionize

Medical cannabis clubs in Los Angeles County join forces with the nation's largest retail worker's union

### **IRENE NESBITT**

DAILY SUNDIAL

ispensaries in Southern California joined forces with The United Food and Commercial Workers Local 770, the nation's largest retail workers union, to fight for their jobs.

The Los Angeles City Council is still in limbo-in considering a full citywide ban on dispensaries, due to a court decision that limits its ability to regulate them, according to a news report.

If passed, the ban would forbid dispensaries to sell marijuana, but will allow patients who are ill and their caregivers to cultivate it.

Sam Humeid, executive director and business owner of Perennial Holistic Wellness Center, feels relieved that his workers will have job security now.

"There is a negative social stigma and lifestyle the world associates marijuana with hippies or mafia members," Humeid said. "But in reality, we are workers that have families who work for an honest living to help our patients."

Currently, the city of Los Angeles limits the number of medical marijuana dispensaries by using a lottery to choose which dispensaries can be allowed to operate through the city's existing ordinance.

"We have ill patients who are prescribed by a medically licensed doctor that need our services," Humeid said. "Some of these ailments include lupus, cancer, nausea and sleep deprivation."

Humeid and his employees now join grocery workers, health care providers and pharmacists who are part of the local UFCW 770 in Los Angeles. The dispensaries will be part of the newly formed Cannabis and Hemp Worker's Unit.

The joining of the union will not affect Perennial's product prices. There will only be a marginal shift in pricing, according to Humeid.

My employees and I are grateful to be apart of the union," Humeid said. " Now, my workers will have benefits, and our jobs will be secure. We want to be recognized for what the dispensary really represents, and that is a legal health care facility."

The California Supreme Court plans to review rulings by lower courts on how much oversight local governments can have over medical



Budtender Cruz Juarez, 28, facing camera, prepares to fill an order for a patient at a medical marijuana dispensary in Long Beach, California, March 21, 2012.

marijuana operations.

The UFCW already has contracts with workers at a handful of other dispensaries in Oakland, Calif., Colorado and in other areas where medical marijuana is legal.

Dispensaries unionizing has already produced a major turnaround with in the last month.

In April, The Assembly Committee on Public Safety passed AB 2312, a state by a 4-2 vote.

Authored by Assemblymember Tom Ammiano, D-San Francisco), the bill would create the first statewide regulatory framework for the medical cannabis industry in California. The bill

now moves onto the Appropriations Committee.

Erin Taylor, a dispensary employee from Venice Beach Care Center, added that the workers are continuing to stand with the union to prevent the ban that will cause all licensed dispensaries employees to lose their job.

"By joining UFCW local 770 we have made a decision to stand up and fight for our jobs so we can take care of ourselves and our patients," said Taylor. "We want to join the union to make a standard for all dispensaries throughout southern California and have a safe, regulated environment."

California State University Northridge

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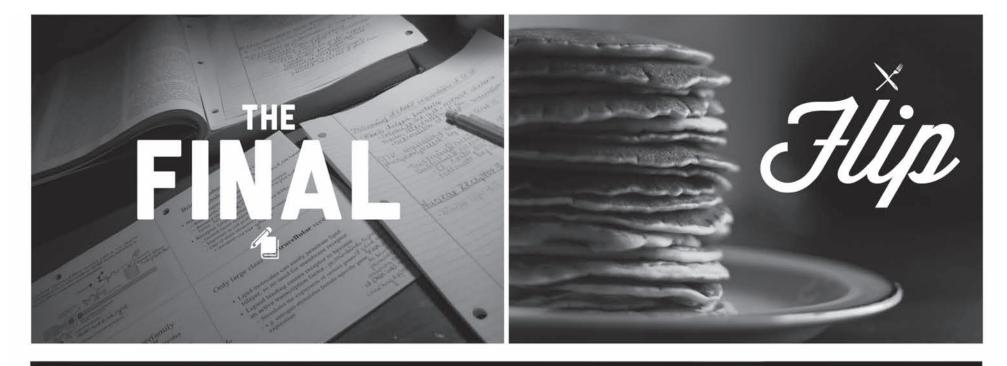






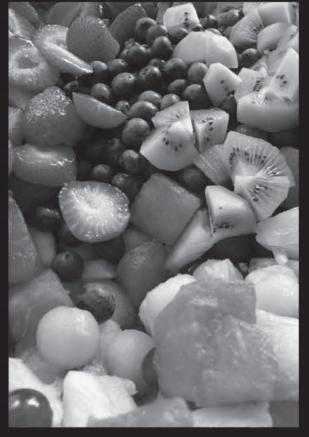
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# May 8, 2012 Daily Sundial·CSUN

## Empty seats void your voice

Participating in democracy requires actual participation, not just symbolic challenges to authority

### KEN SCARBORO EDITOR IN CHIEF

ast Thursday CSUN hosted two events that should have gone hand-in-hand. "Where's the Money?" gave an opportunity to learn more about the CSU's budget and the second Big Politics event provided a chance to meet with people who can directly affect education.

My question for all the students who were at Thursday's "Where's the Money?" lecture, all the student activists and all those who were not at Big Politics is: where the fuck were you?

First up in the evening was "Where's the Money?", a lecture by Eastern Michigan University accounting professor Howard Bunsis. He conducted an independent financial analysis of the CSU and several CSU campuses, CSUN being one, and presented his findings in a digestible format. Not even an hour later was the A.S. Big Politics statelevel town hall. A.S. brought a Republican assemblyman, Democratic state senator and two members of the business community to discuss California's current political climate and how we can move forward to mend our state.

Bunsis spoke to a packed classroom; people were sitting on the floor and standing in the aisles. Assemblyman Cameron Smyth, Sen. Kevin de Leon, Chair Elect of the Valley Industry and Commerce Association Coby King and Wood Ranch restaurant founder Eric Anders spoke to just 50 students while 110 seats sat vacant.



PHOTO BY KEN SCARBORO / EDITOR IN CHIEF

Empty seats greeted panelists at the Big Politics state-level town hall. Students could have had the chance to shake hands and speak with elected officials who can influence education.

there especially if you were at

Bunsis' lecture. Not only did

A.S. Senator Cinzia Lettieri

invite you at the opening of

the lecture, but Bunsis himself

encouraged you afterward to

To be fair, I understand that people have class, work and a social life, but if you could have been there you should have been there.

You should have been

go so you could speak to your elected officials with your new-found knowledge.

As for the activists, I know you are pissed at A.S. because they did not invite your Green

Party candidate to the national debate and then ejected several of you from the debate. However, Michael Powelson did not reach out to be part of Big Politics, and the first people to throw a hissy-fit were CSUN Greens, not Powelson or anyone on his staff. So how much blame for Powelson's exclusion really belongs to A.S.? I am just as sick of this two-party political gridlock as you are, but from the childish display you put forth I cannot blame A.S. for ejecting you from the debate. Granted the moderator, KFI conservative talk radio host Bill Handel, was quite offensive in the way he addressed your hecklers, but as we all know, two wrongs do not make a right.

If you think you achieved something through this symbolic challenge of authority, you did. You successfully proved you are incapable of providing constructive criticism and solidified the view that the fringes are not a serious part of the political realm.

Your absence, be it a pur-

poseful boycott or you just forgot about it, from the statelevel forum proved another point. All of those empty seats proved to more elected officials that students do not care. Sure, there wasn't an open forum portion of the panel, but there was time at the end of Thursday's Big Politics for networking with the panelists. You could have had one-on-one time with people who directly impact decisions and attitudes about education in Sacramento. Instead, you proved students cannot be bothered to give input and will roll over to whatever Sacramento hands us.

So how about this? For the next installment of Big Politics, grow up: do your homework, look presentable and ask educated questions at the right time (by the way, the right time is not when someone else is speaking). If we can prove to our politicians that students are educated on the issues, passionate, civilized and unified, perhaps they'll take us seriously for once.

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Jeffrey Zide's opinion piece on Autism Speaks presents a false impression of the nation's largest autism science and advocacy organization. Just content of the nation's largest nization. Just content of the nation's largest autism science and advocacy organization. Just content of the nation's largest nization. Just content of the nation's largest Just content of the nation's largest Number of the natio

Zide decries supposedly "shady finance" but ignores recent data which show that 72 cents of every dollar raised by Autism Speaks in 2011 went to fund its programs. This exceeds the Better Business Bureau's standard for charity accountability.

Zide criticizes the volunteer involvement of the families of people with autism and quotes Prof. Jacob Hale's comment that parents' and grandparents' "claim that they speak for (their autistic children and grandchildren) is offensive." This view denies reality. Parents are legally empowered to speak for their minor children and many, like my wife and me, are the court-appointed conservators of their adult children. Who will advocate for the increasing number of individuals on the to them? As the father of a nonverbal son with autism, this section was particularly disturbing to me. To see your hopes for your child dashed by limitations imposed by autism is disappointing. Personally, despite his autism, the day my son was born was and remains the happiest day of my life. When we received the diagnosis, my wife and I instinctively decided to do what we could to help our son achieve a productive and fulfilling life.

Some parents have taken the news harder and some marriages have been rocked by stress and disappointment. While our outlooks and approaches may differ, I would never deny the validity of their feelings. To criticize those parents – particularly from the comfort and luxury of eloquence and high function – is unseemly and disrespectful.

Zide suggests that Autism Speaks is focusing on vaccine-related

taken a "multiple line of inquiry" approach to autism research. It funds top researchers in the United States and around the world without limitation to "pet theories" of causation. Autism Speaks has committed over \$173 million to broad based research and has leveraged more than \$300 million in additional funding. Some of the research has addressed the concern that childhood vaccinations may cause autism; these studies have not found a link between vaccines and autism.

Some have criticized Autism Speaks for conducting too much research on vaccines. Others have criticized Autism Speaks for conducting only a limited amount of research on the issue. Autism Speaks strongly encourages parents to have their children vaccinated to protect

See AUTISM, page 7

photo@sundial.csun.edu

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### AUTISM

Continued from page 6

them against serious diseases.

Zide's claim that Autism Speaks does not engage in social justice advocacy/activism or efforts is incorrect. I've been personally involved in legislative advocacy of laws providing government support for the needs of autistic individuals. Autism Speaks was a leader in the drive for Congressional passage of the Combating Autism Act, is currently spearheading a

state-by-state initiative for insurance reform requiring coverage of autism treatments, and is a proponent of the ABLE Act, which would legalize tax-advantaged savings accounts to help assure a secure future for people with disabilities.

Autism Speaks has initiated programs to help improve people's experience with autism. These include a guide to establishing a treatment program for the newly diagnosed child; Community Service Grants to organizations serving the autism community; and The

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Transition Tool Kit, to help people with autism achieve a meaningful and productive adult life.

Jeffrey Zide doesn't see the value in all this, but fortunately many others do. Just last month more than 30,000 people turned out for the Los Angeles Walk Now for Autism Speaks event and raised over \$1.6 million to support Autism Speaks' important work.

### -Stanley Landes

Los Angeles Chapter Advocacy Chair, Autism Speaks and CSUN professor of journalism.

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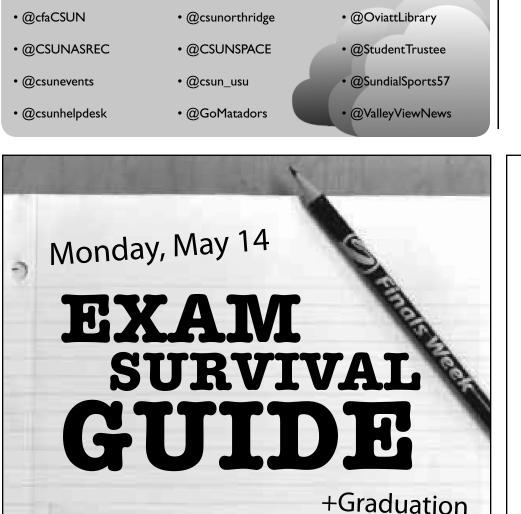
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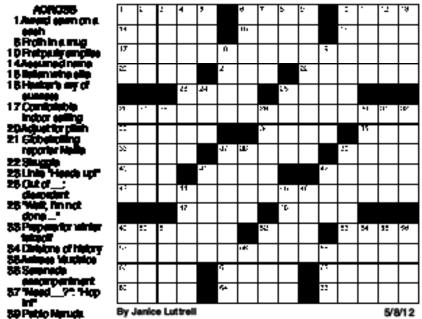
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### Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis



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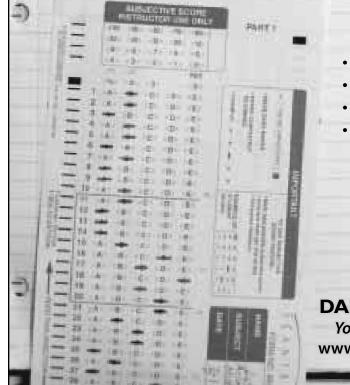
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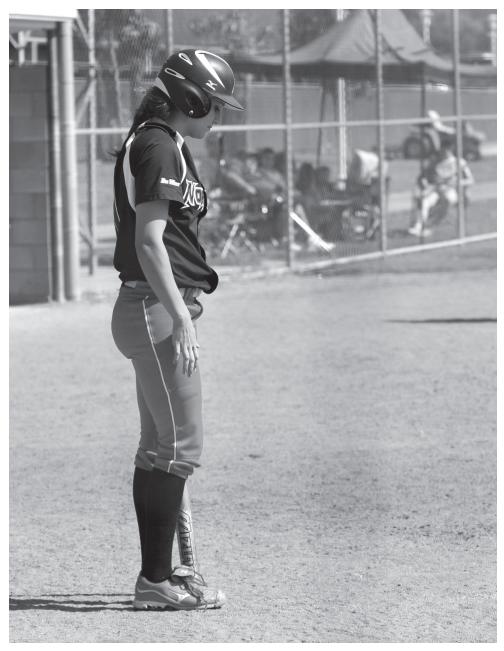
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### Matadors' lack of wins make history

Daily Sundial CSUN

May 8, 2012 Sports sports@sundial.csun.edu



### ANTHONY CARPIO / SPORTS EDITOR

CSUN pitcher Mia Pagano steps up to the plate in Game 2 against UC Riverside on Saturday. After losing their latest series against the Highlanders, the Matadors are on track to having the fewest wins since 1978.

### CSUN to end 2012 with fewest victories since 1978

ALONSO TACANGA SPORTS EDITOR

n order to avoid a historically infamous place in the CSUN record books, the Matadors needed to do something last weekend that historically had been but routine for them.

CSUN needed to sweep UC Riverside – a team it had dominated in the alltime series, going 77-8 against it – to have a chance at winning at least 16 games in 2012 and only tie the record for the fewest wins in a single season since Tony Venditto's Matadors went 4-19 in 1978.

With the Highlanders shutting Northridge out twice, completely turning the tables on it and sweeping it, CSUN won't even match the 16 wins the 2005 squad garnered. The 2012 team, led by second-year head coach Tairia Flowers, will unofficially go down as the worst team in the history of the program.

As CSUN gets ready for a final homestand of three games against UC Santa Barbara this weekend, it does so not only owner of the dreadful record, but also on a run that seriously threatens its goal of ending the season strongly to carry some momentum into next vear.

Heading into the series

at Riverside, CSUN pitcher Mia Pagano said her team would try to finish better than the fifth place Big West Conference coaches had predicted for it in a preseason poll. But after UCR sweeped them, the Matadors are now on a fivegame losing streak and in eighth place in the standings.

Of the five losses, three have been shutouts and two of them had to be called off early due to the mercy rule that lets a team walk away after five innings if it's down by double-digit runs. The last one occurred Sunday, when the Highlanders rudely decided to rewrite history by pounding CSUN 11-0.

Prior to the weekend, UC Riverside had never won a series against the Matadors, let alone sweep them in such a discourteous manner. UCR had only won three Big West games all year but doubled that with the sweep.

Despite the historically rough year, the Matadors can still it finish on a positive note if they take the final series from the Gauchos.

UCSB is still in contention for the conference title.

### Streak on hold

In a struggling 2012 offense that's lacked steady

execution, first baseman Madeline Sale has been one of the most consistent performers, leading the team in hits with 36 for the year.

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> Sale became kind of the go-to person for hits this season, especially as she put together a string of 11 consecutive games from April 8-28 in which she recorded at least one hit per game.

> But Sale has been kept in check and not recorded a hit since. Coincidentally, the Matadors have gone 0-4 and been shut out three times in the span.

> Sale will try to get back on the hitting streak this weekend against UCSB. She's the Matadors' leader in batting average (.265).

### Pagano playing through pain

Mia Pagano has started the most games for CSUN in 2012 and is the team leader in wins (8-16). She usually starts two of three games every weekend.

The workload has taken a toll on her body and she's been seen wearing a protective walking booth in her right leg after games. The junior pitcher says she'll need surgery after the season ends.

In the meantime, she's tolerating the pain.

"I'm kind of used to it," she said.



BY SUNDIAL SPORTS DESK @SUNDIALSPORTS57

What are the Matadors saying on the social network?



Why the Lakers kept Steve Blake over Derek Fisher, I will never know.

**@Jason\_Flowers**, Jason Flowers, women's basketball Did Blake just say,"I actually got a chance to be out there." SMH. You are marginal bruh, play your part! May 6



*lsn't he just 25 years old?*  **@CoachTrutanic**, Mario Trutanic, women's basketball Bynum needs some Just for Men - Touch of Gray. May 6



You've got a point. I'd rather hear someone fart than pee. **@HGurriell**, Haley Gurriell, water polo I just heard the person in my apartment above me peeing, ewww May 6



Not the millions of apps available in the App Store? **@HGurriell**, Haley Gurriell, water polo Screenshots are by far the coolest thing on the iPhone May 6



Do people still use batteries for things? @SmoovSteph, Stephan Hicks, men's basketball Who got AAA batteries May 1



Why? Just why? @TdiggerSIMIS, Tommy Simis, baseball Ps I pooped my pants badly :( May 6



*Can I join this team, please?* **@nubigglyfe,** Kyle Attl, baseball Corn dog run #teamthick May 3



Maybe they want your autograph? Or David Beckham's. Just saying...

**@Rafizzy07,** Rafael Garcia, men's soccer Why am I always on the freeway when police decide to completely stop traffic??#luckyme May 3