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LOREN TOWNSLEY / PHOTO EDITOR

COMMUTERS UNITE

Ride-sharing program and transit system yields national recognition

KEVIN KIANI
DAILY SUNDIAL

CSUN has been named one of the Best Workplaces for Commuters (BWC) with its programs to encourage carpooling and a new bus transit station.

BWC, an organization that gives qualified employers national recognition for meeting the "National Standard of Excellence" in commuter benefits, ranks employers with standard created by the National Center for Transit Research (NCTR) at the University of South Florida and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

To qualify, the employer must offer one primary benefit such as employer-paid, tax-free transit and three secondary benefits such as shuttles, compressed work schedules

and transit stations.

CSUN was joined by 33 other schools on the list, including Yale University and UCLA.

One of the main reasons that CSUN was recognized is because of its "Rideshare Program," which includes a public transit program that can save employees 60 percent off their transit pass if they take a bus, rail, or train to campus. They also offer a guaranteed emergency ride program, which gives registered employees who use an alternative commuting mode a one-way ride home in case of an on or off-campus emergency.

Astrid Logan, CSUN commuter transportation coordinator, said there are currently 230 employees registered for these pro-

grams.

"CSUN offers incentives and strategies for employees to consider that make their commute less stressful and more economic," Logan said.

Phil Winters, director of Transportation Demand Management for the NCTR, said CSUN also makes it easy on students and faculty who live on campus and need to get around.

"CSUN provides a very comprehensive program," Winters said.

"The campus tram system provides a means for persons living in the housing area to travel between there and the campus core without driving their vehicles."

One of the biggest additions to the transportation system at CSUN is the new transit system on

campus, located on Vincennes Street between Darby Avenue and Etiwanda Avenue.

This system has eliminated the stress of finding parking for some students and has encouraged the use of public transportation.

However, varying and inconsistent schedules make it difficult for some commuting staff members to utilize all the options that are available. Humanities professor Ellyn Gersh Lerner said she makes her daily commute from West Hollywood.

"As an adjunct faculty member, my schedule varies greatly from semester to semester. Another CSUN faculty member who is a friend lives just a few blocks away, but he's full time, and there's never been the opportunity for us to carpool," Lerner said. "I just know that if I could ride a train from West Hollywood to Northridge, I'd be very

See **COMMUTER**, page 4

Student, former professor sue A.S. over policy

Political policies in budget warrant second court case in past year

GABRIELLE MORIERA
LIVE NEWS EDITOR

A graduate student is suing Associated Students in small claims court for not allowing a third party candidate to participate in a Congressional debate held last year.

Ankur Patel, 27, graduate interdisciplinary studies major, is asking for a \$100 refund from A.S. after former professor and Green Party candidate for the 30th Congressional district, Michael Powelson, was escorted from the VPAC on April 30, 2011.

Powelson is also suing A.S. for \$10,000 regarding the same issue. Patel said that A.S. ignored his and other students' requests to have Powelson participate in the debate and cited

the problem as showing a lack of transparency from the student run organization.

"We went through the process, but it seemed as if the decision had been made beforehand," Patel said during a hearing Wednesday. "There was no vetting process."

Patel is the second student to sue A.S. over Powelson's exclusion from the debate. On July 10, 2011, Edy Alvarez, president of CSUN Greens, also sued A.S. for a \$100 refund, but Judge Benny Osorio, who is reviewing Patel's claims, ruled in favor of A.S.

David Crandall, A.S. general manager, said after the ruling, A.S. President Sydney Powell and Alvarez spoke and came to a resolution. A.S. changed budget language to state that all registered candidates can participate in debates

See **A.S.**, page 3

CAMPUS LENS

BRITA POTENZA/
DAILY SUNDIAL



"I come to school early just to have time to come here before class," Flo Bannout said. Bannout is a senior studying kinesiology with the hope of attending graduate school for homeopathic medicine.

See **CAMPUS LENS**, page 4

Santa Susana alterations continue

Though repairs addressed temperature issues and leaks, additional problems still require attention

MICHELLE REUTER
DAILY SUNDIAL

After a leaking roof and inconsistent heating and cooling system became problematic late last year, teachers and staff are welcome to a newly-repaired Santa Susana Hall.

According to Ken Rosenthal, manager of construction services for CSUN's facilities and planning department, the roof had been leaking, and the Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) system had to be replaced on the fourth floor.

"The reality is, it's one of those buildings where we are aware there have been multiple issues," Rosenthal said.

Last fall, the Facilities and Planning Department undertook the task of addressing some of the worst problems in Santa Susana Hall on the south side of campus across from the Matador Bookstore complex.

The recent rainfall did not penetrate the new roof according to Herman Debose, sociology department chair, whose Santa Susana office was affected by severe water leaks last year.

Other offices on the third and

fourth floors that had also once experienced indoor water damage have stayed dry.

Faculty on the fourth floor said they are enjoying their new HVAC system. Each office now has its own thermostat, so occupants can control the temperature more effectively.

The first, second and third floors, however, are still operating on the original, outdated HVAC system, Rosenthal said.

Debose added that the thermostats in some offices control the temperature in others, and the inclement situation is compounded when staff open doors in order to increase visibility in the hallways.

"Most people don't realize it's all interconnected," Rosenthal said. "They don't have a dedicated unit for each office. It's one big system."

Another recent change in the building is the sudden removal of the venerable system of ivy that had been growing up both of the interior courtyards' four floors for years.

Santa Susana Hall is designed with two courtyards connected by a section of hallway containing offices and the building's elevator. The boundaries of each courtyard are made up by the offices, lined by walkways with a railing that the vines grew up the inside of each of

these courtyards in the corners and around the railings.

Without the greenery, the balconies are more exposed, and the railings are left uncovered.

Some professors are displeased with the naked balconies and feel the courtyards are visually unappealing.

"It looks like a prison now," said mathematics professor Mark Schilling, whose office is on the fourth floor.

Debose said he felt the removal of the vines would allow more light to get through into the building.

Senior manager of Physical Plant Management, Jason Wang, said the vines were posing problems.

The weight of the plants caused cracks to form in the old railings and provided refuge for vermin like rats or insects, Wang said. They determined it was safest to remove the vines rather than to let the situation continue.

He added plans are underway to improve the looks and functionality of the building.

"We're doing a cost analysis right now," Wang said.

Planned improvements include additional seating on the first floor, new railings that are up to current code and doors with larger windows to improve visibility and make the space more inviting. Wang added the project could proceed as early as this summer.



JOHN SARINGO-RODRIGUEZ / DAILY SUNDIAL

The balconies in Santa Susana Hall's courtyards once lined with vines are now stripped bare due to pest problems and cracks in the railings.

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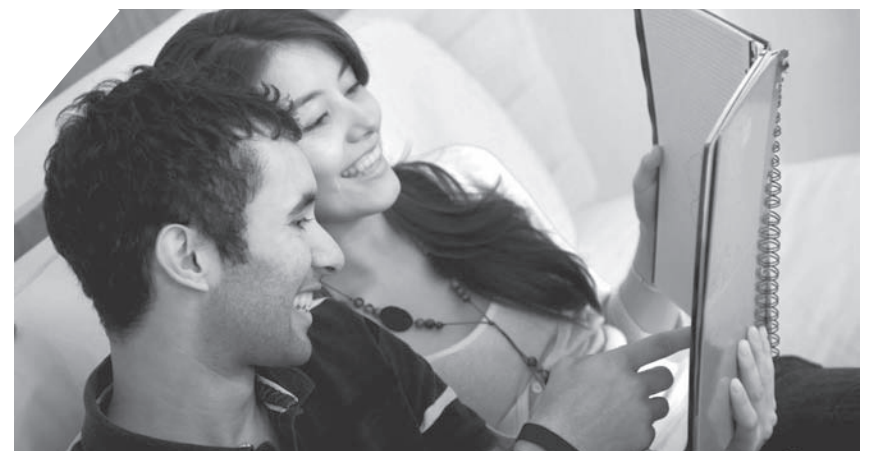
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A.S.

Continued from page 1

on campus as long as it is within budget limits for any program or event.

The language was added August 2011 by A.S. Senate and is the last paragraph in Article III Section E of the budget, Crandall said.

At the Chatsworth Courthouse, Patel, Powelson and Crandall spoke with Osorio, who remembered the previous case and ruling against Alvarez.

“Why aren’t you in agreement?” Osorio said. “It looks like the school was willing to make changes.”

Patel said the budget amendment had too many holes in it and wanted language included that assured registered candidates would be allowed at any sponsored political event without any problems.

Powelson said if A.S. agrees to rephrase the amendment and refund \$100 to Patel, he will drop the case.

“It was only CSUN who excluded me,” Powelson said. “Pierce College and Mission College allowed me to debate.”

Patel said that A.S. is not using student funding correctly and considers them a private corporation, but Osorio said Patel still cannot sue for verbal

agreements or written changes in a budget.

Patel had subpoenaed documentation from A.S. to find e-mail invitations to other candidates and letters that students sent to Provost Harry Hellenbrand requesting that Powelson be allowed to the debate.

In response to the requests, Hellenbrand said the final decision to allow Powelson at the debate was left up to A.S.

Osorio decided to rule on Patel’s and Powelson’s cases together on March 26 because they are similar.

“At what point does this case become moot?” Osorio said. “You’re having someone say this may be an issue, but (A.S. is) willing to work it out.”

BRIEF

Running water returns to SRC after pipeline repairs

The Student Recreation Center was without water supply from Tuesday, Jan. 29 to Wednesday afternoon, Jan. 30.

Bathrooms, sinks and water fountains had no running water due to a broken line in the water that feeds the building, said Jimmy Francis, the SRC director.

He said the water was shut off after the line naturally settled and cracked. Physical Plant Management repaired the line, and water in SRC came back on around 12:40 p.m. Wednesday, Francis said.

The cost to repair the line and related parts was estimated to be \$5,000, Francis said. He added the break was not related to construction being done on the outdoor artificial turf field in front of the SRC, as some students and employees have said.

CORRECTION

In the story “Addicted to Energy” published Jan. 30, the information regarding the sales of 40,000 Rockstar energy drinks was provided by the University Corporation, not the University Student Union, as stated in the article.

CRIME LOG



JAN. 28

GRAND THEFT

An unknown suspect stole a victim’s laptop left charging on a bench in a hallway in Jacaranda Hall between 3:40 p.m. and 4:10 p.m.

Investigation Continued



JAN. 29 (cont.)

THEFT OF PERSONAL PROPERTY

An unknown suspect cut the lock on a victim’s bicycle and stole it between 2 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. in parking lot F9.

Investigations Continued



LOREN TOWNSLEY / PHOTO EDITOR

Mike Powelson, member of the Green Party, speaks during the open forum at the A.S. meeting last year at the Grand Salon.

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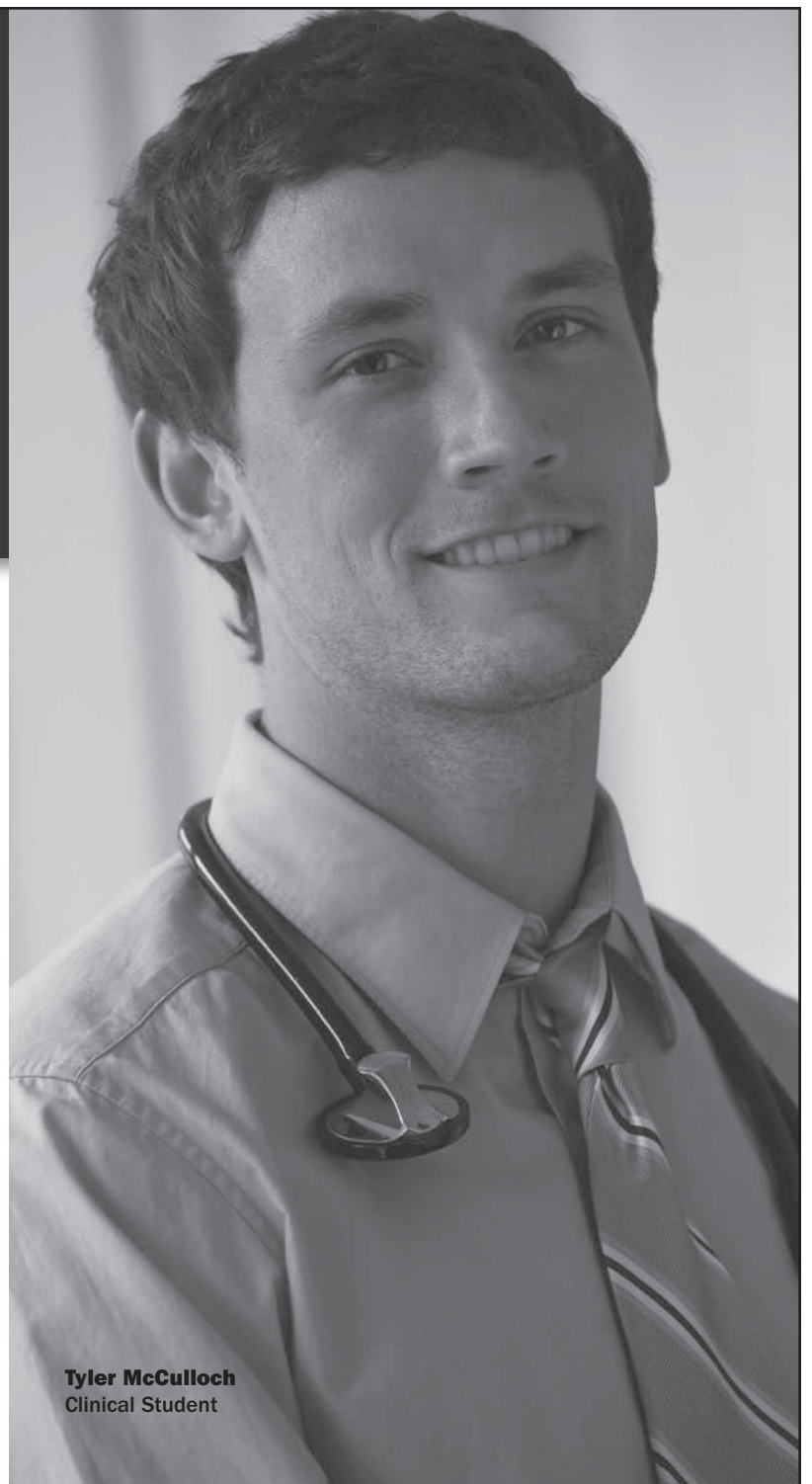
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Tyler McCulloch
Clinical Student

COMMUTER

Continued from page 1

happy.”

CSUN is looking to add more transit services to its own station in order to make it easier for teachers commuting from different cities, Logan said.

Although full time faculty and staff receive benefits, the same cannot be said about part-time students who work on campus.

Samantha Johnson, 21, junior child care administration major, said she works as a student assistant at the IT

Help Center on campus and makes a lengthy 45-minute commute from Palmdale.

Johnson added she uses a commuter bus called the Antelope Valley Transportation Authority when school is not in session, but she feels like CSUN could offer better incentives.

“My mother, who is a full-time (staff member), gets better discounts than I do as a student and gets access to van commutes,” Johnson said. “The new bus system is nice, but I think discounts would be much more helpful to a majority of the student population.”

CAMPUS LENS

BRITA POTENZA / DAILY SUNDIAL



A duck takes a sun filled nap at CSUN's Botanical Pond, located at the southeast corner of CSUN's campus.



A turtle at Orange Grove pond soaks up the sun during his afternoon nap.



MAP COURTESY OF GOOGLE MAPS

The transit station on the left is where the 741 Rapid runs through the CSUN stop. Buses from this station:

741 Reseda - Devonshire 741 Ventura - Reseda

The station on the right is where the 167 Metro Line runs through the CSUN stop. Buses from this station:

167 Chatsworth Station 167 Coldwtr Cyn - Ventura

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ILLUSTRATION BY JASMINE MOCHIZUKI / ASSISTANT VISUAL EDITOR

BRITA POTENZA
DAILY SUNDIAL

GNOCCHI WITH GRAPE TOMATOES, CAPERS AND THYME IN WHITE WINE BEURRE BLANC

White wine is always great to combine with any food staple, including pasta, like Gnocchi! It is quick and easy to make and goes with almost anything. Bon appetit!

Ingredients

- 1 package of Gnocchi
- 1 tbs Extra virgin olive oil
- 1 large Shallot, sliced thin
- 2 Garlic cloves, sliced thin
- 3/4 cup White wine
- 1 cup Vegetable or chicken stock
- 3 oz Butter, sliced
- 1 tbs Capers, drained
- 1 pint Grape or cherry tomatoes, halved
- 7 sprigs Fresh thyme
- 4 tbs Fresh grated parmesan

Preparation

Cook gnocchi according to directions on package, strain and set aside. Add olive oil to pan on low-medium heat and saute shallots and garlic for 3-5 minutes. Add wine and 3 thyme sprigs to pan, increase heat and reduce until there is only about 1/4 cup of wine left. Add stock and cook another five minutes on medium-high until reduced by half. Turn heat to low. Add butter one square at a time. Swirl around pan until it dissolves then add the next square. The sauce should not come to boil while you are doing this. Remove from heat if it gets too hot. Turn off heat. Add capers, tomatoes and gnocchi. Mix together. Remove thyme sprigs before serving. Plate and add parmesan and thyme. Enjoy!

See **RECIPIES**, page 2

TODAY'S MENU

Drink to these food recipes made with alcohol

RECIPIES

Continued from page 1

CHOCOLATE WHISKEY TART WITH WHISKEY WHIPPED CREAM

Everyone loves a Whiskey Girl! That is what I hear every time I go out for a drink because anyone can tell you, I love my whiskey! But what I love more is cooking with it. Last week was my good friend's birthday and he too loves his whiskey. I was short on time and needed to make him something special so I pulled out one of my favorite recipes. You cannot find a more simple dessert to make in a pinch and did I mention, it has whiskey in it!

Ingredients

- 8 oz Shortbread cookies
- 1 tbsp Sugar
- 1/2 tsp Salt
- 2 oz (half a stick) unsalted butter, melted
- 3/4 cup Heavy cream
- 1/2 cup Whole milk
- 5 oz Good-quality dark chocolate (60 to 72 percent cacao),
- coarsely chopped
- 4 oz Good-quality milk chocolate, coarsely chopped
- 1 Large egg, plus 1 large egg yolk
- 1 tbsp All-purpose flour
- 2 tbsp Good-quality whiskey
- Whiskey Whipped Cream*
- Cocoa powder



BRITA POTENZA / DAILY SUNDIAL

Ingredients for the whipped cream

- 1 1/4 cups Heavy cream
- 2 tbsp Sugar
- 1 to 2 tbsp Good-quality whiskey

Preparation

Tart Preparation

Preheat the oven to 300° F. Lightly spray a 9-inch pie pan with nonstick cooking spray. In a food processor, pulse the cookies into very fine crumbs. If you do not have a food processor, place cookies into a sealed ziplock bag and crush with a rolling pin. (You should have approximately 1 3/4 cups.) Place the crumbs into a bowl, add the sugar and salt, and stir to combine. Pour the butter over the crumbs and mix until combined. Pour the mixture out into the prepared pie pan and press it into the bottom and up the sides using your fingers or the bottom of a metal measuring cup. Place the pan in the freezer for about five minutes, then place on a baking sheet and bake until the crust is just dry to the touch but not browned; about 12 minutes. Remove from the oven and place on a wire rack to cool. Increase the oven temperature to 325° F.

In a medium saucepan over medium-low heat, stir together the cream and milk. Bring the mixture just to a low simmer (bubbles will start to form around the edge of the pan) but do not scald or boil. Remove the pan from the heat, add both types of chocolate and whisk very gently until the mixture is completely smooth.

Continue stirring to release excess heat. Set aside for five to 10 minutes, or until the mixture is only slightly warm. In a small bowl, lightly beat the egg, egg yolk, flour and whiskey. (You may add more whiskey if you choose to). Add the egg mixture to the chocolate mixture and whisk until completely blended. Pour the filling into the tart shell and bake for 20 to 25 minutes or until the edges are slightly set but the middle slightly jiggles. Remove from the oven and place on a wire rack to cool for at least 15 minutes. Carefully remove the tart from the pan and let cool completely. Serve either at room temperature or directly from the refrigerator with a big dollop of Whiskey Whipped Cream and a dusting of cocoa powder.

Whiskey Whipped Cream

Pour the cream into a chilled metal bowl and whisk vigorously for about a minute or until soft peaks form. Sprinkle the sugar and whiskey on top and continue whisking vigorously until stiff peaks form. Serve immediately.



BRITA POTENZA / DAILY SUNDIAL

Happy Birthday!

1/23

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OFF THE SHELF

Thriller author Brad Meltzer talks new book

SPENCER KILGORE
DAILY SUNDIAL

Not every author can say they've written eight New York Times best-selling novels. Brad Meltzer can. Some classify him as a political-thriller writer, but it's hard to barricade him in that genre. Meltzer succeeded indie film director Kevin Smith ("Clerks," "Chasing Amy," "Dogma"), who originally wrote for "Green Arrow," not to mention his own best-selling comic book limited series "Identity Crisis."

After creating History Channel's "Brad Meltzer's Decoded," he cemented his status in pop culture as an investigator and history nerd alike. Diving into nonfiction in an attempt to recount the stories of heroes his son could learn from the Wright brothers to Jim Henson, another bestseller was born.

Meltzer's latest novel, "The Fifth Assassin," released earlier this month, focuses around a serial killer who is meticulously recreating the crimes of all four successful U.S. presidential assassins.

Just before his final book tour appearance, Meltzer took a few minutes out of his hectic schedule to talk with the Sundial. It went like this:

Daily Sundial: A good majority of your books have numbers or elements of a number in the title, "The Tenth Justice," "Dead Even," "The First Counsel," "The Millionaires,"

"The Zero Game" and now "The Fifth Assassin." Why have you chosen to include numbers in the titles of your works?

Brad Meltzer: You know, because I'm obsessive, why else? The truth is I just like them as titles. Some people love a kind of beautiful description that is vague and invokes a beautiful memory or scene. For me a thriller should really be something that punctuates hard, like an exclamation point, and I just think those numbers always inevitably force the question of, "who is that person?" "What is that item you're talking about?" The real answer at the end though is that I'm terrible with titles. I always have readers on our Facebook page and Twitter vote for the title, so what you're seeing is also the result of lots of voting. To me, I want to write a 500 page book. I can't reduce it to three words.

DS: You must have gotten to know the character of Beecher White pretty well by this point, being in both "The Inner Circle" and now "The Fifth Assassin." Are there any ways his evolution as a character has surprised you?

BM: It always does. Every character, if you're doing your job right, should surprise you. In fact, when I finish the first draft I always go back and look and say, "okay, let me see how I did." Of course there are the things you plan to put in there but inevitably you'll see the things you didn't even realize you were putting in there. When I finished this book, the first draft of it, I looked at the book and read it and I said "okay, what's in

here?" And I said "oh of course, this book is about growing up," that's what Beecher's doing here, he is growing up. This is the first novel I've written since both my parents had passed away, so I had no choice but for this book to be about growing up.

DS: Is there anything you have in common with Beecher?

BM: I think the real question is: is there anything I don't have in common with Beecher? I mean, Beecher isn't just my personal fantasy, he's my protector. He really gets to step up and protect me, I know that sounds a little insane, but he is this kind of magical totem for me that saves me from a lot of heartache. I think he's smarter than I am, he's sharper than I am and what I love about Beecher is, Beecher will always try to do the right thing. It doesn't mean he always does it correctly or that he does it right, but he will always try to do the right thing. You know what? And we're both history nerds.

DS: How has your writing process evolved since you first started your first published novel, "The Tenth Justice"?

BM: One, they're actually being published. My first novel which came before the "Tenth Justice," it got me 24 rejection letters. There were only 20 publishers at the time and I got 24 rejection letters. But as far as the actual writing goes, I think I'm just more honest about myself and what I want to write about.

DS: How was the experience straying from thriller novels to the nonfiction "Heroes for My Son" and



CHARLIE KAIJO / SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER

Brad Meltzer signs a copy of his new book "The Fifth Assassin" for fans at Barnes and Noble at the Grove on Jan. 25.

"Heroes for My Daughter?"

BM: Honestly, it wasn't much of a difference, except for the part that you have to suddenly get things right, which obviously creates its own challenges, because in fiction I can make everything up. But the truth is whether I'm writing about George Washington or Abraham Lincoln or Superman, to me they all have the same thing in common, which is they are part of our American mythology. And yes, two of them are real and one of them wears his underwear on the outside of his pants and is imaginary, but the reason all of them are important is because

they're not just great stories, but they tell something about us and that's why their stories persist.

DS: You've been considered a legal thriller, psychological thriller, political thriller writer. Nobody really likes to be bound to a genre, but you've broken some of those barriers. How would you classify yourself as an author at this point in your career?

BM: I appreciate that. I mean, I always think of myself as just an author, that's it. From the beginning when legal thrillers were big they called me a legal thriller writer, then when I wrote a financial book they

were like "you're a financial thriller writer" and then I write them a history and they're like "you're a historical thriller writer." The truth is, I'm just writing about topics I like, but people like neat little boxes and they always want to place you in neat little boxes because it makes you easy to understand.

DS: You've done a lot of work on comic books, what elements of comic books do you prefer over novels in regards to both reading and creating them?

See MELTZER, page 4

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EVERYONE'S A CRITIC

'Hansel & Gretel' fails

NATALIE RIVERA
A&E EDITOR



PHOTO COURTESY OF PARAMOUNT PICTURES

Hansel & Gretel: Witch Hunters" is exactly what you think when you read the title. Old and new thrown into a mess of a movie.

Everything from the beginning is just a hyped headache and any actor associated with this film should be embarrassed. Especially Jeremy Renner, I mean he had Marvel's "The Avengers" going on for him, why would he do this to himself?

Hansel and Gretel starts off its terrible tale with fluffed melodramatic bits of the German fairy tale. Brother and sister, Hansel and Gretel are lost in the woods when they find themselves finding a house made out of candy.

Due to their lack of manners, the siblings enter the house uninvited and find themselves not in a house of deliciousness but in the house of a witch. A rather loud and extremely over the top ugly witch that they somehow wind up killing by pushing her into her oven where she was planning to bake the children. The siblings then escape and decide that they've found the right career path for them: witch hunting.

Obviously more "twists" and "surprises" are thrown in for violent and dramatic reasons. Why have their parents left them, and where are they? Who's the witch taking all the children in their old town? And my favorite, why is it that everyone but Hansel and Gretel has a fake accent? Is everyone supposed to pretend to be German but them?

Though these questions are mind blowing and so original, this can not save this movie. The story line is too generic, the brother and sister relationship is too awkwardly close and the weaponry can not be possible. Sorry to break it to you but it just really can't be possible that they have such advance ammunition in a German town set in the late 1800s. Sorry.

Even the costume and makeup

is too exaggerated and silly. Most of the witches in "Witch Hunters" look like the goth kids that would torment your old high school.

The acting is also too out there for a period film like this. The script is filled with unnecessary cursing that was obviously thrown in there to make Gretel, played by an unfortunate Gemma Arterton look like a ass kicking hot female character. You know, cause Hollywood doesn't have enough of those.

Apparently the creators of "Hansel and Gretel: Witch Hunters" has taken advantage of today's naive desire for classics being turn into CGI infested action films. Though "Witch Hunters" is an attempt at coolness, it makes me wish I was reading the original tale instead.

BREAK A LEG

'Sleeping Beauty' ballet to be performed at VPAC

KEVIN KIANI
DAILY SUNDIAL

The Russian National Ballet Theatre will be bringing the fairytale classics of "Sleeping Beauty" and "Cinderella" to the Valley Performing Arts Center, Feb. 9-10.

The Russian National Ballet Theatre, formerly called the Soviet National Ballet, was founded in Moscow in the late 1980s during the

transitional period of perestroika.

This brought about more expressive freedom for the dancers and although their performances include traditional Russian dance, it is also infused with more contemporary styles.

The core group of dancers come from the top-ranked ballet companies and academies in Russia, Ukraine, Poland, and Latvia. Today, the Russian National Ballet Theatre is its own institution, with over 50 accomplished dancers. Amongst the group, there are 19 gold medal holders.

Their performances are largely

influenced by one of the great ballet choreographers in history, Marius Pepita, whose works include renditions of "Don Quixote," and "The Nutcracker," among many others.

The Russian National Ballet Theatre will perform their version of "Sleeping Beauty," which is set to the music of Tchaikovsky, in one of their signature performances on Saturday, Feb. 9 at 8 p.m. in the Great Hall inside the VPAC.

Tickets are now available starting at \$30. It is a matinee performance starting at 3 p.m. inside the Great Hall at the VPAC.

MELTZER

Continued from page 3

BM: Silence. That's the one thing that comics do so beautifully, is you can do silent. You can just show a character, in a room, saying nothing, and you can do a full range of emotions. In a novel, yes, I can paint the picture and describe how the character is feeling and use all the words that I need to paint that moment, but I've got to use the words. There's something very elegant about the simplicity of silence, so for that, comics just

kill it.

DS: What is the ONE mystery you really want to prove or debunk?

BM: I'd love to really pull apart the JFK story. I know it seems so overdone, but I think that for a generation of people out there JFK's story comes almost solely from the Oliver Stone movie, which even Oliver Stone acknowledges has parts that are completely made up. I think what we're all seeing, and everyone sees when they go on to Google and do a search, is that it's easy to find information,

what's hard to find is what's actually true and separate that from what's actually nonsense.



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Opinion

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THE TALK

FIFTY SHADES OF



Sexuality identity is not as simple as we want it to be, and that's O.K.

**HANSOOK OH/
BENJAMIN ANDREWS**
DAILY SUNDIAL

Our country entered 2013 with more equality for LGBT or “queer” Americans than we did at the beginning of the new millennia. ‘Don’t ask don’t tell’ no longer bans outwardly queer soldiers from serving. Ten states have legalized same-sex marriage and the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) is likely to be ruled unconstitutional by the Supreme Court in March, with public support. Our president is the first to publicly express his support for the equality for all, no matter who they love or share intimacy with.

Though attaining the rights to marry and to serve in the military for all Americans are imperative steps toward creating a more egalitarian future, we have a long way to go before it really gets better. Contrary to DOMA defense lawyer, Paul Clement’s claim that gays and lesbians are “one of the most influential, best-connected, best-funded, and best-organized interest groups in modern politics, and have attained more legislative victories, political power, and popular favor in less time than virtually any other group in American history,” queer people are still often stereotyped, and left out of important cultural and political processes.

The goal of discussing matters of LGBT issues should not merely be to procure national “tolerance” for those who do not identify as heterosexual; rather, it is time that we start viewing human sexual-

ity in more complex terms than merely gay or straight.

Sexual identity is largely a modern concept. The term “homosexuality” was not coined until the 19th century and people’s sexuality was not politicized the way it is today. That does not mean, however, that the tendency for human beings to have emotional, spiritual and physical attractions and connections with those of the same sex, either momentarily or for life, has only existed since the 1800s. Scholars and historians note discussions or questions of same-sex intimacy throughout many cultures through the ages.

In 1948, Dr. Alfred Kinsey and his colleagues developed something called the Heterosexual-Homosexual Rating Scale or the Kinsey Scale, in order to “account for research findings that showed people did not fit into neat and exclusive heterosex-

ual or homosexual categories.” Kinsey’s research shows that simply labeling someone a “homosexual” or “heterosexual” is often misleading.

According to the Kinsey Institute, many people did not always adhere to consistent sexual behaviors or preferences across time.

“Though the majority of men and women reported being exclusively heterosexual, and a percentage reported exclusively homosexual behavior and attractions, many individuals disclosed behaviors or thoughts somewhere in between,” stated the institute’s website.

Kinsey’s scale ran from scores of zero to six and measured sexual preference or behavior by accounting for one’s sexual activity. A score of “zero” meant that one

See **GAY**, page 6

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GAY

Continued from page 5

was “exclusively heterosexual” with no homosexual activity or experiences; a score of “one” meant an individual was “predominantly heterosexual, only incidentally homosexual,” a score of “two” meant that one was “predominantly heterosexual, but more than incidentally homosexual,” a score of “three” meant that one was “equally heterosexual and homosexual,” and as the scores increased, one’s measure of homosexuality increased, with the highest score indicating “exclusively homosexual.”

Kinsey’s work was groundbreaking at the time and is still important to understanding what we call “sexual orientation.” What does it really mean to be gay, lesbian or bisexual? Is a man who has mostly had sex with women, but had one or two experiences with other men automatically gay? Does a woman who has had equally heterosexual and homosexual experiences until age 40, and then decides to stay in a relationship with another woman for the rest of her life have to say she is a lesbian, despite her past heterosexual experiences? Do past heterosexual experiences invalidate someone’s coming out experience? Does one have to have a stated sexual identity to justify any experiences or decisions one has made?

Though Kinsey’s work provides a basis to ask these excellent questions, his work was limited, as he did not account for variances in gender identity, such as transgender or intersex people, or for asexual people who still have romantic or

emotional preferences. Nor did his studies explore how one’s race, class and sexual/gender identity could make uniquely different experiences for some queer people than others, creating a kind of social hierarchy even within the queer community.

It may seem like much to ask for the public to digest, but it is important to learn about sexuality for both straight and queer Americans alike. As our society becomes less and less heteronormative and heterocentric, new identities and societal expectations may emerge, creating new challenges or solutions. It is important to create fairer and better public policy, culture and art.

Because of all the political and social progress made so far, queer Americans and their allies can be hopeful for a fairer future. According to the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, 48 regular LGBT characters are on television today, an increase from 35 regular characters in 2009. And although gay men are still represented more than lesbians, bisexuals or transgender people, the diversity even within the queer character group is increasing. More businesses and corporations are rooting for the equality of queer Americans today than ever before. Marginalized living for queers is disappearing, slowly but surely.

Hopefully someday we will have exhausted our recipe for the queer “alphabet soup,” and sexual and gender orientation will not need to be turned into a public identity to defend. Perhaps one day it will be just as “normal” to be gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, pansexual, intersexual, queer, curious or questioning, as it is to be “straight” in today’s age.

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Completely Heterosexual



Mostly heterosexual, but with instances of same-sex activity



Mostly homosexual, but with instances of opposite-sex activity



Equally heterosexual and homosexual



Completely Homosexual



I am asexual




I have never had sex

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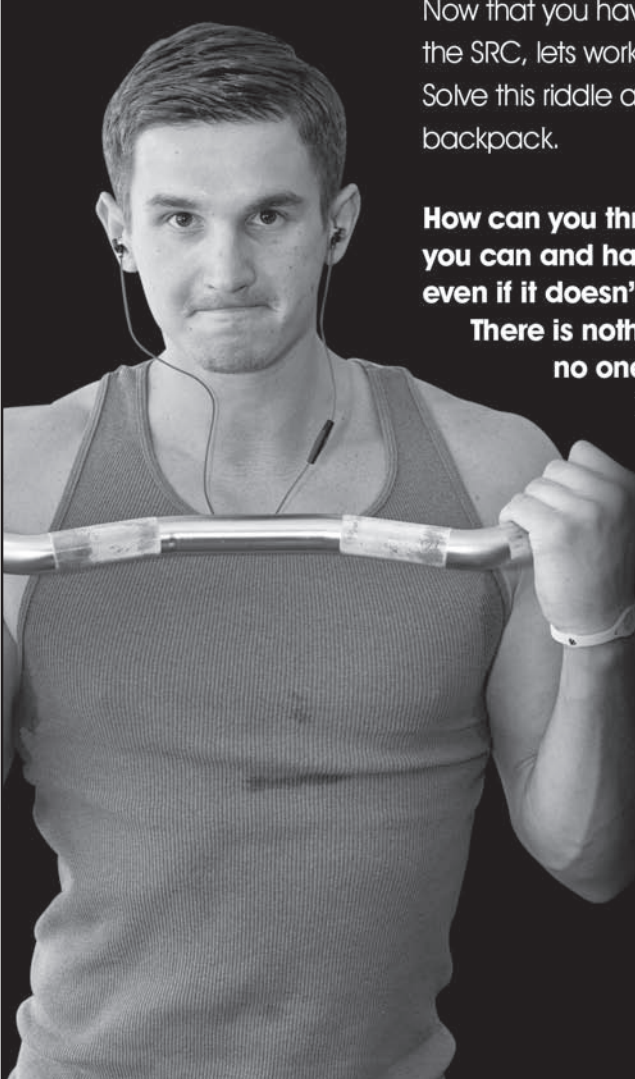


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Searching for new athletic director

KEVIN KIANI /
BOB GARCIA
DAILY SUNDIAL



LOREN TOWNSLEY / PHOTO EDITOR

CSUN has begun its search for a new athletic director, holding public forum interviews with candidates Ken Weiner, senior associate athletic director at UCLA, and Janet Lucas, executive associate athletic director at UC Riverside.

Northridge is without an athletic director since Rick Mazzuto stepped down from his position last November. He was replaced by Associate Athletic Director Ashlie Kite, who took over his duties.

During Weiner's time at UCLA, the athletic program won 14 national championships and various other conference championships. Weiner was also a part of the negotiations that resulted in a 20-year agreement between UCLA and the Rose Bowl.

Lucas has a familiarity with CSUN's athletic department, having previously been the interim director of athletics from November 2005 to August 2006. Her vision for CSUN athletics is to elevate it to the next level.

"I really believe that (CSUN's sports) program could be in the top-third of the

UCLA Associate Athletic Director Ken Weiner address a public forum at CSUN, part of the screening process for a new athletic director..

Big West Conference," Lucas said. "Do we have a lot of work to do? Absolutely. Do we have a foundation? We have part of one in a variety of areas. Do we want to build on that? That's what this next phase is all about because we cannot just say we want to do that. We have to back it

up with actions and building blocks."

Weiner started out with a statement expressing his positive outlook on CSUN athletics, as well as his background and work experience.

"I think there is a great energy about things moving forward," Weiner said. "A lot

of people are optimistic about where the university is going, where athletics are going. Athletics can create some good opportunities and integrate itself into the mission of the university, and I'd like to be a part of that."

Weiner outlined a plan to return Northridge sports back to prominence, spearheaded by wide open communication between him and the coaches. An evaluation process will take place before he moves forward in any aspect.

"Radical change, or change of any sorts, doesn't turn on a dime," Weiner said. "There is a lot of work to be done but putting a plan out there is great for staff to know that there is light at the end of the tunnel."

As CSUN's athletic director, Lucas said she would aim toward involving the surrounding Northridge community, on-campus community and students.

"(We) need to help them understand what the vision is for the (sports) program so they will buy into that and are excited about it and believe in it," Lucas said. "Because they are going to be our best ambassadors moving forward."

Hoping to engage the faculty more, Weiner hopes to hold "Academic Days" at sporting events, where faculty would be recognized.

Head of the search for CSUN's new athletic director, Dr. Michael Neubauer, director of the liberal studies pro-

gram, echoed these sentiments when describing what he is looking for.

"Someone who can connect with the community, connect with the students on campus, and connect with the faculty and staff," Neubauer said.

If Weiner is hired, he would be coming from a larger athletic program at Pac-12 member UCLA to CSUN, which belongs to the smaller Big West Conference. However, Weiner doesn't believe that it will impact his approach to resurrecting the athletic program at Northridge.

"You are hired as a person, you are hired for the attributes that you bring to the job," Weiner said. "My strengths are that I can build a team, I've directed large projects and I've been at the highest ranks of an athletic department before. If you can extrapolate those to another place, and do it in an admirable way, that's what they're hiring you for."

CSU Bakersfield Athletic Director Jeff Konya was an original candidate for the position, but withdrew his name earlier this week. He stated Northridge's tremendous upside was part of his decision, but ultimately decided to stay at CSUB. He was rewarded with a five-year contract extension.

"In final analysis, my head and my heart ultimately guided me to stay at Bakersfield due to the fact that we are in clear growth mode and are on a definite ascent on so many different levels of the athletics department," Konya said. "I feel the CSUB Roadrunners are poised to do great things in the years to come."

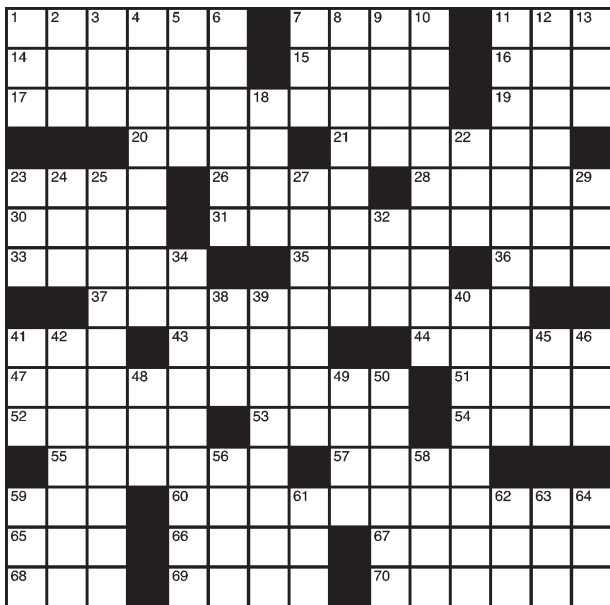
Additional candidates may visit Northridge during the middle of February.

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

ACROSS

- 1 Treehouse feature
- 7 Matured, as cheese
- 11 Some condensation
- 14 For one
- 15 One who's all action
- 16 Eggs in a clinic
- 17 Illusionist's effect
- 19 Bushranger Kelly
- 20 Novelist Wiesel
- 21 "Days of Thunder" org.
- 23 Duck
- 26 Diplomat's forte
- 28 Feeds without needing seconds
- 30 Arrive
- 31 Major bore
- 33 Pull (for)
- 35 Kicked oneself for
- 36 BBQ heat rating
- 37 County fair competition
- 41 Flooring wood
- 43 Busy time for a cuckoo clock
- 44 Italian soccer star Maldini
- 47 Many towns have one
- 51 "Voulez-...": 1979 ABBA album
- 52 Big name in foil
- 53 Make a fine impression
- 54 Outer limit
- 55 Discipline involving slow, steady movement
- 57 Toppled, as a poplar
- 59 Goose egg
- 60 1967 #1 hit for The Buckingham, which can describe 17-, 31-, 37- or 47-Across
- 65 Traditional London pie-and-mash ingredient
- 66 New news
- 67 Stereo knob
- 68 Funny, and a bit twisted
- 69 One way to run
- 70 Nine-ball feature



By Paul Hunsberger

1/31/13

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved

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

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1/31/13

DOWN

- 1 Slurp (with "up")
- 2 "Who Needs the Kwik-E-Mart?" singer
- 3 "Makes no ___"
- 4 Lawyer, at times
- 5 Renewable energy subj.
- 6 Equips afresh
- 7 Nelson, e.g.: Abbr.
- 8 Hit the road, musically
- 9 "___ mouse!"
- 10 In one's Sunday best
- 11 Make a bank deposit?
- 12 Top of the world
- 13 Lump
- 18 He played James
- 22 Half-___: coffee order
- 23 2002 Olympics host, briefly
- 24 "As if!"
- 25 How shysters practice
- 27 Small crown
- 29 Onetime Beatles bassist Sutcliffe
- 32 Led ___: "Stairway to Heaven" group, to fans
- 34 One who turns a place upside down
- 38 Foldable sleeper
- 39 Blasted
- 40 Purple hue
- 41 Org. with an oft-quoted journal
- 42 More racy, as humor
- 45 Tote
- 46 Sugary suffix
- 48 "Oh, ___ won't!"
- 49 Tunnel effect
- 50 Five-finger discounts, so to speak
- 56 Audiophile's setup
- 58 Witch costume stick-on
- 59 Wet behind the ears
- 61 "Spring forward" letters
- 62 One of four in a grand slam
- 63 Wildspitze, for one
- 64 "___ willikers!"

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Solution to today's sudoku

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

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

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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Bring on the Harbowl Predictions



MICHELLE REUTER
DAILY SUNDIAL

PREDICTION
49ERS

After following the postseason games and seeing the way the San Francisco 49ers offensive line has dominated, I predict that they will pull off their first Super Bowl win in 18 years this Sunday.

About halfway through the season, coach Jim Harbaugh benched starting quarterback Alex Smith, who was having the best year of his career, and sent young Colin Kaepernick into the fray.

At the time, it seemed an odd and even controversial choice, but Kaepernick has won over fans with his old-school running game and killer long-distance passes. In a wild-card playoff game against Green Bay, he set the record for most quarterback rushing yards in any game with 181.

Then there is tight end Vernon Davis, who has also proven himself still useful recently. His postseason per-game yardage totals since 2011, account for three of the five highest for

a tight end in a single game.

Once the Niners offensive line gains momentum, they have proven to be nearly impossible to stop, being held under 20 points only four times. Their offensive strategy relies heavily on running

the ball. It's a perfect match for Kaepernick's style of play, who can also easily hand off the ball to 1200-yard rusher Frank Gore.

San Francisco's defense, ranked number four in allowing rushing touchdowns, may make it harder for Baltimore to run the ball, but that's not Flacco's game plan. San Francisco's defense allowed only seven rushing touchdowns this season, less than half of Baltimore's 15. When it counts, the Niners have the strength to keep the Ravens out of the end zone until the clock runs out.

Final Score:
49ers 35 - Ravens 14



Baltimore's Anquan Boldin will try to evade San Francisco's secondary, including free safety Dashon Goldson in Sunday's Super Bowl.

COURTESY OF MCT



RON ROKHY
SPORTS EDITOR

PREDICTION
RAVENS

The events leading up to Super Bowl XLVII leave no room for doubt in my mind: the Baltimore Ravens will win their second championship in franchise history.

First of all, Joe Flacco is playing out of his mind. He has thrown for 853 yards, eight touchdowns and no interceptions in the last three playoff games. He led the Ravens to back-to-back wins against Peyton Manning and Tom Brady,

two of the greatest quarterbacks to ever play the game.

Flacco's through-the-roof passer rating of 114.7 and stellar clutch play, has shown that he's gotten over the hump. This Sunday marks his first Super Bowl appearance, despite playing in four AFC Championship games since 2008.

While the San Francisco 49er's may have an outstanding defensive squad, their main weakness is the deep pass, which Flacco excels at. The way Flacco is playing right now, there's just no stopping him when he decides to gun it down field to either Anquan Boldin or Torrey Smith; and San Francisco's defense won't catchup.

Secondly, there's Ray Lewis. Who better to have on defense when facing a run-happy quarterback?

Yeah, 49ers QB Colin Kaepernick broke a record by putting up a ridiculous 181 rushing yards in one game against Green Bay. There's no way Lewis and fellow linebacker Terrell Suggs will allow that to happen again, as they'll be pressuring and shadowing him all game long.

Returning from the injury and facing retirement after this season, Lewis has played his heart out, totaling 44 tackles throughout the playoffs so far (14.6 per game).

Final Score:
Ravens 34 - 49ers 28



NATHAN MCMAHON
OPINION EDITOR

PREDICTION
49ERS

This Sunday's Super Bowl showdown was already framed the minute Ravens free safety Bernard Pollard smushed Patriots running back Stevan Ridley. Every sportswriter in the country did a collective leap out of their chair and the Harbowl was born.

While rival brothers on the field seemed to be fated as a showdown between Eli and Peyton Manning, the battle between Jim and John Harbaugh on the sidelines seems almost as good.

Easy money is on the experience and team building of

older brother John and his longer tenure with the Baltimore Ravens. Virtually nothing beats a well-established and well-organized team of veteran players. The Ravens have had a successful run under John's five years of leadership, making the playoffs every year and reaching three AFC Championship games, finally winning this season.

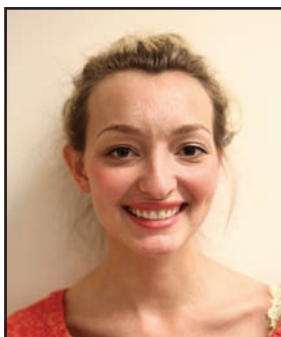
The 49ers lack of experience is made up for with vicious tenacity. Jim has established his leadership skills in his two years as an NFL head coach. Last season his Niners would've had their first Super Bowl appear-

ance in 17 years, if not for a muffed punt at the end of the NFC Championship game.

Jim's decisive move to keep mid-season quarterback replacement Colin Kaepernick, after Alex Smith was eligible for return, presented the classic quarterback controversy scenario. Sticking with Kaepernick was reminiscent of Patriots coach Bill Belichick, and his decision to keep a young Tom Brady in over established veteran, Drew Bledsoe. That paid off for the Patriots and I expect it to pay off in spades for the 49ers.

The Ravens and their experience are no match for the 49ers and their offense. The Niners are on a roll, and Kaepernick will be the deciding factor in the Super Bowl match-up. It'll be close but the Ravens aren't a team of destiny like they proclaim. San Francisco has the momentum and no amount of Ray Lewis crying can stop them.

Final Score:
49ers 31 - Ravens 28



JOELL GRAGER
DAILY SUNDIAL

PREDICTION
49ERS

Down by 3 and with 30 seconds to go, Baltimore linebacker Terrell Suggs comes charging forward, barreling through the offensive line and zeros in on the 49ers quarterback Colin Kaepernick.

At the last second, Kaepernick dodges Suggs and spots Vernon Davis in the end zone. The football spirals through the air and sails straight into Davis' hands.

San Francisco wins Super Bowl XLVII.

Alright, I don't have psychic powers, I can't predict the future, but here are a few chal-

lenges that await the Niners as they try to bring home their first championship since 1994.

This game comes down to Kaepernick's ability to escape the grasp of Baltimore's linebackers versus Joe Flacco's ability to find Torrey Smith down the field for long completions.

When San Francisco stacks their defense they're practically invulnerable to the run, which will force the Ravens receivers to run beyond the defense for long passes, one of San Francisco's weaknesses.

The Niners defense will be too much to overcome for

Baltimore running back Ray Rice, while the quick legs of Kaepernick and running back Frank Gore will help keep San Francisco out front.

Superstar middle linebacker Ray Lewis, who recently announced his retirement after the season, is looking to end his career the way he started it: by bringing down Niners head coach Jim Harbaugh.

Lewis might feel as if winning would add another golden feather in his cap, but there are two other linebackers that are impact players.

NaVorro Bowman and Patrick Willis are key defensive players for San Francisco, leading the team in tackles. Bowman was responsible for 149 tackles, while Willis accrued 120, both getting more than Lewis' injury-plagued season of 57 tackles.

Coming down to a defensive battle, this may be a game for the ages.

Final Score:
49ers 17 - Ravens 10

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