



Upcoming campus events for February

Associated Students discuss upcoming elections and funding

Men's Basketball: Matadors win in Braswell's 500th game

Meatless Mondays: Are they a chance to cut back or go all in?

FREE

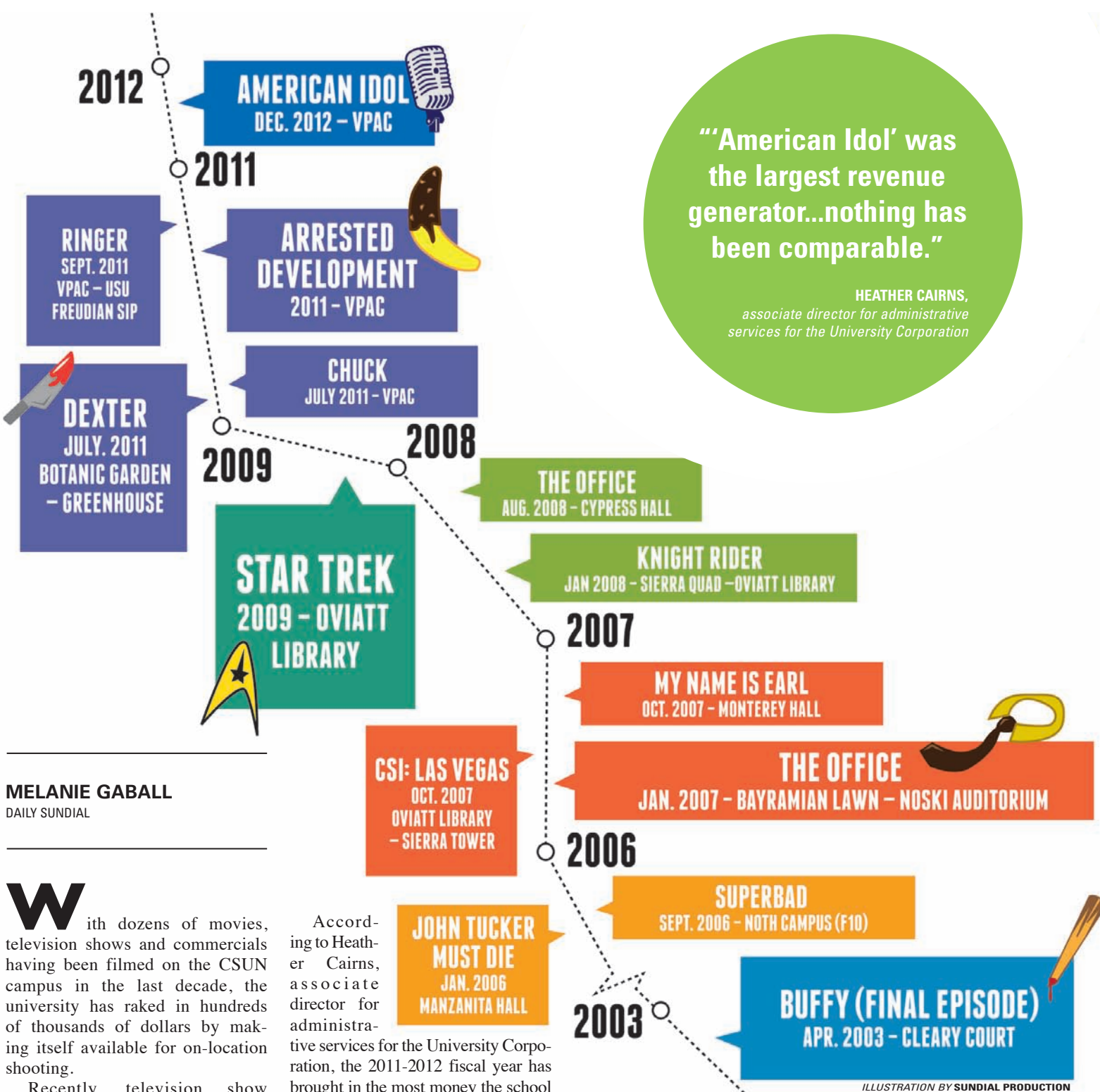
DAILY SUNDIAL

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, NORTHRIDGE

MONDAY, FEB. 4, 2013 | VOL. 54, ISS. 67 | WWW.DAILYUNDIAL.COM

Camera rolls, cash flows

Prime time television and major motion pictures that film on campus generate massive profits



MELANIE GABALL
DAILY SUNDIAL

With dozens of movies, television shows and commercials having been filmed on the CSUN campus in the last decade, the university has raked in hundreds of thousands of dollars by making itself available for on-location shooting.

Recently, television show "American Idol" filmed its "Hollywood Week" auditions at the Valley Performing Arts Center during winter break, adding to the growing list of productions that have filmed on campus.

Sophomore geography major Johnathan J. Powers said he believes that having a show film at his school is almost like being a part of history.

"To figure out a show that you actually like was filmed here is pretty cool, and when you see something you can relate to, it makes you want to watch it more," Powers said.

According to Heather Cairns, associate director for administrative services for the University Corporation, the 2011-2012 fiscal year has brought in the most money the school has ever seen from filming.

"American Idol was the largest revenue generator since (the University Corporation) has been on campus," Cairns said, who also works as the facilities, trademark and licensing manager.

Next to American Idol, the second biggest money making project to film at CSUN was *Bring it On: Fight to the Finish*, which grossed more than \$115,000 for the university after shooting at multiple locations on campus during a two-week period.

The campus also received \$50,000 from the filming of *Star*

Trek in 2009. The movie shot for four days at two locations, including the Oviatt Library, which they used for the "command station" in the film.

Popular television shows such as "The Office" and "Dexter" have also filmed at the university.

"(Knowing 'Dexter' filmed on campus) also makes me wonder who (Dexter) killed here," Powers said.

This year is on track to be more successful than last considering "American Idol" has produced more money than any other shoot,

Cairns said. However, the exact amount received is currently confidential.

The licensing department had a 15 percent revenue growth from the previous year, with about 50 percent of it coming from filming, roughly \$360,000, Cairns said.

She added she believes that the CSUN campus is very "film-friendly," and it is necessary and beneficial for the university to provide facility rentals, particularly because

See FILM, page 3

HelpLine lends an ear to the valley

Student volunteers aid distressed callers

SHALEEKA POWELL
DAILY SUNDIAL

Everyday on campus, a group of students volunteering for the CSUN HelpLine answer calls from individuals questioning their sexuality, contemplating suicide, victims of domestic violence or suffering from other relationship issues or depression.

The callers, who can remain anonymous, are often searching for someone to take the time to listen without judging them.

Victor Gone, 22, a senior majoring in psychology, volunteered because he wanted to help outside of the classroom.

"I wanted to apply topics I learned in psychology classes on an everyday basis," he said. "It feels really good helping people instead of hearing it in books."

The HelpLine serves the campus community and San Fernando Valley by helping individuals struggling with abuse and domestic violence, addiction and more.

The organization is composed of trained volunteers that offer counseling, emotional support and motivate

HELPLINE

PHONE: (818) 349-4357
HOURS: Sundays through Thursdays 6 p.m. to midnight; Friday and Saturday 7 to 10 p.m.
WEBSITE: <http://www.csun.edu/helpline>
TO JOIN: csunhelpline-training@gmail.com

See HELPLINE, page 4

CALENDAR OF EVENTS // FEBRUARY 2013

04

USU Games Room Table Tennis Tournament (recurring Monday nights)
WHEN: 4:00 - 6:00 P.M.
WHERE: Games Room

05

USU Games Room Billiards Tournament (recurring Tuesday nights)
WHEN: 4:00 - 6 p.m.
WHERE: Games Room

06

USU Games Night Poker Tournament (recurring Wednesday nights)
WHEN: 4:00 - 6 p.m.
WHERE: Games Room

07

Noontime Concert (recurring Thursday nights)
WHEN: 12:00 - 1 p.m.
WHERE: Plaza del Sol
DESCRIPTION: This Thursday enjoy music from indie and alternative artist Mike Sullivan.

LGBTQ Coffee Nights (recurring Thursday nights)
WHEN: 5 - 7 p.m.
WHERE: Pride Center

07 (CONT.)

CSUN Cinematheque (recurring Thursday nights)
WHEN: 7:00 - 9:45 p.m.
WHERE: Armer Screening Room
DESCRIPTION: This Thursday come by and watch Camera Buff (Amator), 1979. Camera Buff is a tragi-comic exploration of the craft of filmmaking. Insightful and self-reflexive, this fictional film about a documentary filmmaker is commonly referred to as a watershed in Kieslowski's transition from documentary to fiction filmmaking.

Neon Nights
WHEN: 8:00 - 10 p.m.
WHERE: Games Room
DESCRIPTION: Enjoy free pizza, music, and games in the USU games room lit up by black and neon lights.

08

Red Rally
WHEN: 6:00 p.m.
WHERE: Matadome
DESCRIPTION: To promote school spirit during select sporting events.

09

Soulful Saturdays
WHEN: 7:00 - 10:00 p.m.
WHERE: PUB Sports Grill
DESCRIPTION: Enjoy live music and free food at the Pub. Singers will be R&B artists Noelle Chestnut and Trijean Wilkins. Event hosted by Jonnae Thompson.

12

CSUNopoly-Matador Dollars
WHEN: 7 a.m. - 3 p.m.
WHERE: Plaza del Sol
DESCRIPTION: Learn about financial aid, FAFSA, scholarships and budgeting for graduation with an interactive game.

13

Euclid String Quartet
WHEN: 8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
WHERE: Plaza del Sol Performance Hall
DESCRIPTION: The quartet will perform several songs by Mozart, Gardel and Schubert. Tickets are \$5 for students.

14

Couples Gaming Night
WHEN: 8:00 - 10:00 P.M.
WHERE: Games Room
DESCRIPTION: Couples will team up against other couples in table tennis, billiards, console games and more in a competition to see which couple wins the most games.

20

Espressions
WHEN: 8:00 - 10:00 P.M.
WHERE: Games Room
DESCRIPTION: This event provides a stage for students to perform their creations of mental and physical forms. Students may bring any of their own art, music, song and/ or poetry to the stage.

21

Karaoke Night (recurring Thursday nights)
WHEN: 8:00 P.M. - 10:00 P.M.
WHERE: Games Room

22

Signature Class
WHEN: 6 p.m.
WHERE: SRC
Laugh Your Class Off (recurring once a month)
WHEN: 6 p.m.
WHERE: SRC

26

Define American with Jose Antonio Vargas
WHEN: 4:00 P.M.
WHERE: Northridge Center
DESCRIPTION: The USU will feature journalist, Multimedia Storyteller and activist, Jose Antonio Vargas. Since coming out as an undocumented immigrant in June 2011, Vargas began the "Define American" Campaign, which aims at addressing this topic.

SUBMIT YOUR EVENT

Go online to **DAILY SUNDIAL.COM** to add your organization's upcoming event to the calendar for free.

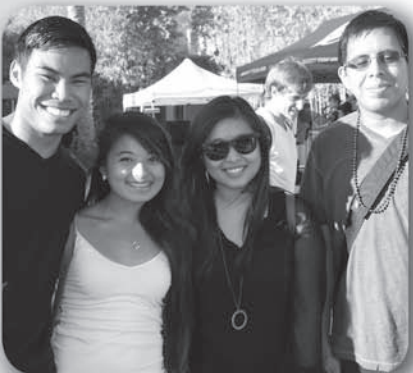
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To redeem your prize, visit the USU front desk and show us your check-in.

www.facebook.com/usu.csun



This week at the USU

- MONDAY**
Table Tennis Tournament
 4 p.m. Games Room, USU
- TUESDAY**
Billiards Tournament
 4 p.m. Games Room, USU
Tuesday Talks
 7 p.m. Pride Center, USU
- WEDNESDAY**
Poker Tournament
 4 p.m. Games Room, USU
- THURSDAY**
Craft Corner
 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Plaza del Sol, USU
Noontime Concert
 Plaza del Sol, USU
LGBTQ Coffee Nights
 5 p.m. Pride Center, USU
Neon Nights
 8 p.m. Games Room, USU
- FRIDAY**
Red Rally: Men's Volleyball
 6 p.m. Matadome
- SATURDAY**
Soulful Saturdays
 7 p.m. Pub Sports Grill, USU



usu.csun.edu

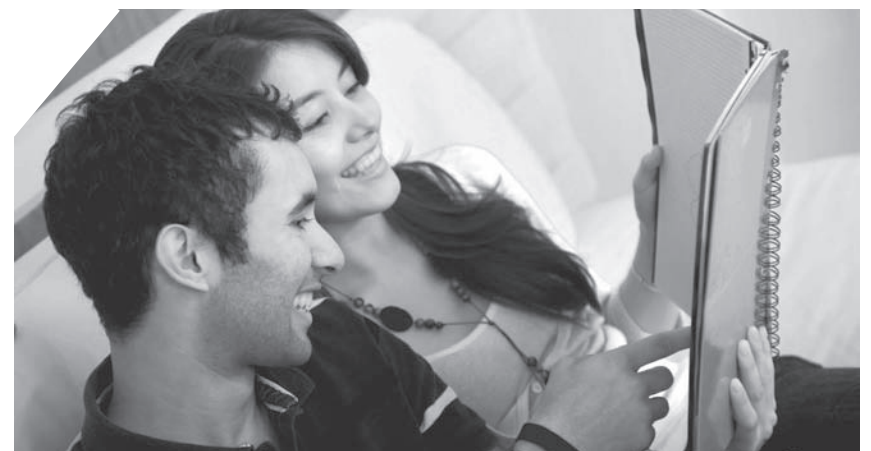
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Outdoor Activities get a revenue boost

TAYLOR VILLESCHAS
PRODUCTION STAFF

Associated Students discussed campus elections and fund allocations Friday morning in the Grand Salon of the USU.

Elections Chair Breanna Kyle made a special presentation asking senators to participate in election events. Kyle requested that senators advertise the election and talk to possible candidates about the benefits, responsibilities and experiences that senators enjoy during their terms.

President Sydni Powell agreed that it was important to participate in the elections and advised the Senators to also look for their own replacements if they were not returning next semester. She also recommended they find constituents to nominate in order to fill committee seats.

Senator Talar Alexanian discussed admissions for the upcoming fall as CSU system has experienced a consistent spike in the num-

ber applicants. CSUN has had approximately 29,616 first-time students and about 7,000 transfer students.

Alexanian said that CSUN may be "slightly impacted" for the incoming freshmen, but not the transfer students.

The Social Work Society and Advising Resource Center/EOP both received money from the Unassigned Contingency fund, which is money that was not used in last year's budget.

The Social Work Society plans to use the money to pay for speakers during their Diversity Day event. The Advising Resource Center/EOP is planning to use the funds for their Majors Fair. This event is also co-sponsored by the University of Southern California, who donated an additional \$1,000.

The Deaf CSUNians collected money as well. A.S. allocated \$300 for their Miss Deaf CSUN pageant. The Finance Chair, Kevin Lee, noted that the organization already has funds from their Mr. Deaf CSUN pageant to use, as well as the profit made by



JEFFREY ZIDE / CONTRIBUTOR

A.S. President Sydni Powell listens to Elections Chair Breanna Kyle suggest Senators be involved in the A.S. election process.

selling tickets to the event.

The Chicana/o Graduate Student Association received \$800 for their event, Spiritual Activism: The Intersection of Faith and Justice.

Finally, A.S. approved a transfer of \$15,000 worth of unused funds from outdoor activities, to sports club student wages. They also chose to allocate an additional \$4,000 to the Sports Club Council Budget, which will pay for new sports clubs' team jerseys, travel and other assorted expenses. All allo-

cations were passed easily, with no opposition.

Before adjourning, the Senate nominated new representatives for the Elections Committee, Environmental Affairs Committee, and the Judicial Court.

Senator Malek Al-Marayati was nominated as Representative of Elections. Vice President Christopher Woollett became Representative of Environmental Affairs and Senator Jennifer Perdomo became Representative to the Judicial Court.

FILM

Continued from page 1

of its proximity to Hollywood.

Senior Central American studies major, Delia Morales, said she agrees it must be CSUN's the distance from studios that makes it popular for filming.

"I watch 'The Office,' and I think it's cool that it was filmed here. It does make me wonder where the money goes, though," Morales said.

The money made from filming goes directly to the university, Cairns said.

"American Idol" had been looking for a new home for Hollywood week which was previously held in Pasadena. One of the reasons they were pleased with the VPAC was that it had the smaller rehearsal spaces for contestants to disperse into at the end of the night, Cairns said.

She added the VPAC is quickly becoming the most sought after filming spot on campus.

Since it started allowing filming there in 2011 with the television pilot for "Grace," the VPAC has supplied settings for several others shows including, "Chuck," "Ringer," and in October, "Arrested Development," which brought in \$23,000 in total revenue. The facility receives several requests a week from filming prospects.

"One thing that's been

very popular are lot of car commercials and car photo-shoots, something we never expected. We have done at least eight to 10," Cairns said.

Dodge, Honda, Cadillac, Lexus, Nissan, Toyota and Volkswagen have all done either commercials or photo shoots outside of the VPAC.

"(Filming) helps to enhance the visibility of CSUN and the VPAC venue (as well as) gives us exposure to a wider audience. It also creates another monetary stream for CSUN," said Dean Porter, marketing director for the VPAC.

"We don't often broadcast that something is necessarily being filmed here, but we are getting more and more in that direction where we would like our name out there," said Cairns, adding that she hopes "American Idol" will announce they are at CSUN when the episodes air to showcase the campus.

CSUN students can even participate as extras through the licensing department for certain productions that request it.

"I have seen a few episodes (of American Idol) but, I don't watch the show regularly. It's exciting that such a popular show was filmed on our campus," said Nicole McBride, senior English major. "I may just try to catch the Hollywood week episodes." "American Idol's Hollywood Week" is scheduled to air Feb. 6, 7, and 13 at 8 p.m. on Fox.

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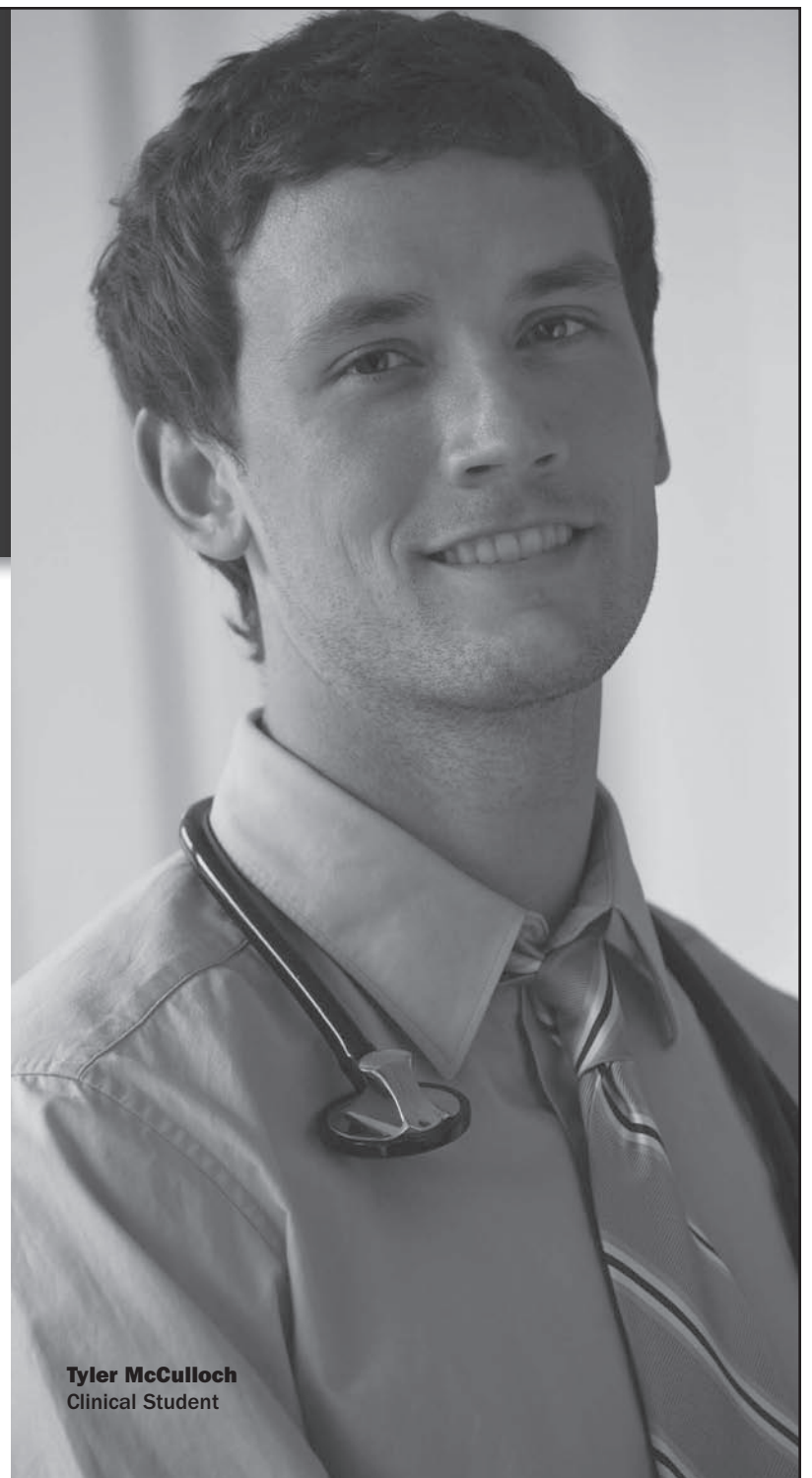
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**American University of the Caribbean
School of Medicine**

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Tyler McCulloch
Clinical Student

HELPLINE

Continued from page 1

individuals to take control of their life.

Marshall Bloom, clinical psychologist and adviser of CSUN HelpLine, said the service has been in existence since 1990 and there are a large number of student volunteers, but not all are students.

“Roster is at 100 plus which is a large number of listeners,” Bloom said.

CSUN HelpLine Training Director Ali West said calls received range from individuals being lonely, abused, raped, battling with sexual issues or suicidal.

Volunteers are trained to help individuals in a crisis and find solutions, whether it is depression, loneliness, anxiety or confusion of any sort.

“You’d be surprised how many people are going through intense things and feel uncomfortable talking to people close to them,” said Bernice Contreras, 23, CSUN alumna and HelpLine volunteer. “Having a helpline gives them the opportunity to anonymously talk about their lives.”

Bloom said the HelpLine generally receives a consistent flow of calls, especially during stressful times like finals and holidays when people might be feeling depressed.

Senior Chrishaun Bradford, 21, a psychology major and HelpLine volunteer, said it is extremely vital to have a helpline on campus because it allows individuals the opportunity to help themselves get through recurring illnesses.

“Our callers are being heard, and in extreme cases led to safety, which



CHARLIE KAIJO / SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER

Psychology major and HelpLine trainee, Samiah Kazem, interviews with a trainer for CSUN’s HelpLine. The HelpLine receives calls from individuals suffering from depression, abuse, rape, battling with sexual issues or suicide.

is most important,” Bradford said.

Tina Maskan, 25, a senior psychology major and HelpLine volunteer, said there is a need for the helpline because it allows students to gain experience and develop communication skills.

“Shockingly a lot of people are isolated throughout their lives and it’s good to talk to people and vent,” she added.

Volunteers do not receive monetary compensation and do not need

any prior experience.

Bloom said Associated Students provide funding for the HelpLine in basic budgetary categories, including phone lines, supplies, publicity and general training.

There is a 10-week training course volunteers must undergo to ensure they are well prepared to listen to and motivate individuals in a crisis to take control of their life.

“We break trainers and trainees in groups and they do mock role plays

that last from three to five minutes,” West said. “There are two rounds of example calls and trainers give trainees feedback.”

Training lasts as long as needed but trainers aim to finish in four hours every Thursday starting at 7 p.m.

Once training is completed, all volunteers have a nine-hour a month commitment for one year.

Members of the HelpLine create a positive environment in the call center.

“The atmosphere is a bunch of people that are warm, sympathetic, caring and sincerely want to help people,” West said. “Everyone comes from different areas of life wanting to share stories.”

“I wanted to volunteer because I have a passion for valuing the emotional and physical needs and capabilities of human beings,” Bradford said. “Rather than judging a book by its cover, I enjoy reading every page front to back.”

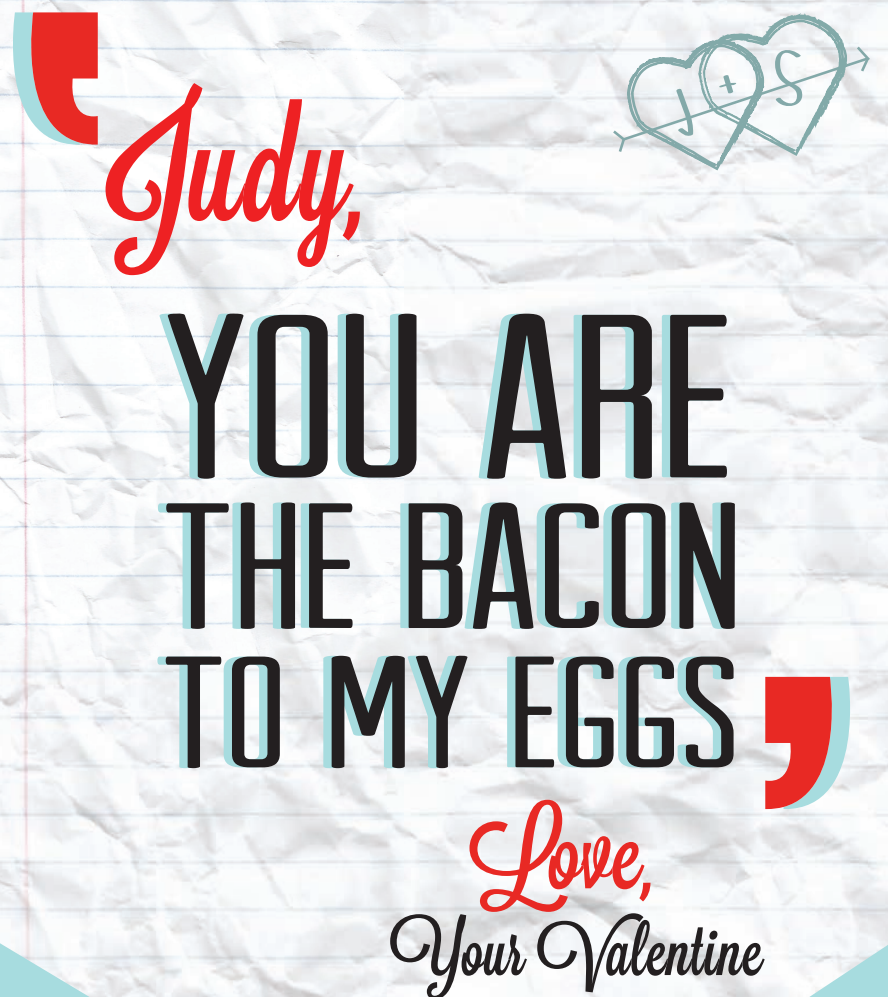
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DAILY SUNDIAL OFFICIAL BALLOT

Fill out this ballot now through February 28 and give us your opinion on the top local spots. Drop off your completed ballot at the Daily Sundial. After you complete your ballot, you'll be entered to win a grand prize. We'll publish the winners and runners-up in a special section on March 21.

You can also vote online at www.dailysundial.com

Off Campus Food & Drink

- ★ BBQ
- ★ Bar
- ★ Cheap Eats
- ★ Chinese
- ★ Coffeehouse
- ★ Desserts & Sweets
- ★ Food Truck
- ★ Gluten-Free
- ★ Greek
- ★ Indian
- ★ Italian
- ★ Late Night
- ★ Mexican
- ★ Middle Eastern
- ★ Pizza
- ★ Romantic/First Date
- ★ Sandwich Shop
- ★ Steak
- ★ Sushi
- ★ Thai
- ★ Vegetarian/Vegan

Student Needs

- ★ Art supply store
- ★ Computer/OS
- ★ Free WiFi

- ★ Furniture Store
- ★ Place to use CSUN ID
- ★ Social networking site
- ★ Textbooks Provider

On Campus

- ★ Bathroom
- ★ Class
- ★ Dorm Building
- ★ Food
- ★ Nap place
- ★ Parking
- ★ Study spot
- ★ Non-Greek Club/Organization
- ★ Fraternity
- ★ Sorority
- ★ Volunteer Opportunity

Entertainment

- ★ Adult Store
- ★ Club
- ★ Free Entertainment
- ★ Game system
- ★ Getaway
- ★ Movie theater
- ★ Music store
- ★ Place to meet someone
- ★ Radio station

- ★ Theme Park
- ★ Video game

Looking Good

- ★ Bargain
- ★ Car
- ★ Cellphone
- ★ Cellphone provider
- ★ Clothing store
- ★ Gadget
- ★ Jewelry Store
- ★ Manicure/Pedicure
- ★ Piercing/Tattoo parlor
- ★ Salon/Barbershop
- ★ Shoe store
- ★ Spa

How to enter

- Drop off your ballot at the Daily Sundial (Manzanita Hall 140)
- Ballot must be received by February 28
- Don't want to write? Vote online at www.dailysundial.com
- One ballot (paper or online) per person
- No purchase necessary

Vote with your phone!*



*Barcode/QR Code reader required

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FEB. 4, 2013

Opinion

OPINION@SUNDIAL.CSUN.EDU

Meatless Monday: Yay or Nay?



RON ROKHY
SPORTS EDITOR

CON

As a die-hard red meat eater who's guilty of making numerous vegetarian jokes throughout my college career, I will say this: if you normally eat meat and are going to skip out on eating the flesh of animal on Meatless Monday, I will track you down and tempt you with crispy bacon.

While I may poke fun, I'm not actually against people who don't eat meat. However I am against getting anti-meat propaganda shoved in my face by staunch vegetarians or vegans (I understand the people who do this are in the overwhelming minority) every so often.

But no matter what is said, there's just no way I could ever give up eating meat.

First, let's get the obvious out of the way: Meat is god damn delicious. It's literally the best tasting food on the planet (followed by cheese), and it can't be replaced. Every single meat substitute I've tried can't compare to the actual product, though I admit some of them weren't bad. But nothing can replace the taste of a freshly grilled burger or a perfect filet mignon.

In 2012, NPR projected that the United States would eat over 55 billion pounds of meat (270.7 pounds per person a year). People don't eat this much meat because it's beneficial to their health or because it's necessarily

cheap, they eat it because it beats vegetables in terms of taste any day.

It's important to note, though, that eating meat does have many benefits. **M e a t**

dangers can be reduced by choosing the right types of lean meat to eat.

Besides, being carnivores is a big part of our evolutionary history. Why should we starting changing now? We're at the top of the food chain for a reason: because we chomped down on the competition before they chomped down on us. We're the product of our carnivorous past and morality, in this case, is not an issue because eating pertains to our basic instinct: survival.

Oh, and did I mention meat is extremely tasty?



BERLYN REISENAUF
DAILY SUNDIAL

PRO

Meatless Mondays are on the rise as some are embracing a new diet and skipping out on meat for a day. The concept may seem absurd, but there are many positive possibilities that can come from a meat-

free Monday.

Meatless Mondays are simply a way to introduce, to someone that may eat a lot of meat, different types of meals. Most meat-eaters are surprised to know that I really don't eat many vegetables and I still love a good BLT. The bacon of course, is replaced with Morning Star Bacon

Strips. Morning Star is a vegetarian company offering many substitutes for those wanting to eat less meat. Substitutes vary from bacon, chicken nuggets, burgers, chicken patties and more.

Meat is delicious. I'll admit it. Why go for a veggie burger when I can have a good old fashioned cheeseburger? The thing is, a vegetarian version of your favorite meal isn't going to taste the same, but that doesn't mean it isn't good. It's like having a brand new meal, and variety is always a plus.

While not important to everyone, knowing how and where meat is processed is often an important choice in a non-meat lifestyle. In an interview with Oprah, author, Michael Pollan said that, "If you make the choice to eat meat, you should know how it's produced."

The process is often violent and inhumane. But let's face it, many don't care about where it comes from or how it gets to their plate.

The strongest argument for limiting meat consumption, is that it can be good for your body and general health to do so. Katharine Milton describes in her article, "A Hypothesis to Explain the Role of Meat-Eating in Human Evolution," that animal proteins can provide all of the nutrients our bodies need. Milton also points out that protein is best balanced out in diet. According to Milton, humans can reach high levels of protein with small amounts of meat, but eating too much can be unhealthy. Taking meat out of the equation one day per week, could help avoid excessive protein levels.

Simply going one day a week without meat might allow people to realize that it isn't that bad or difficult. The substitutes are often very good, sometimes even better and there are even more options. It allows meat-eaters to try something new, something they may even like while also benefitting all of us in the long run.



ILLUSTRATION BY
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POLL OF THE DAY: MULTIPLE CHOICE

QUESTION: Do you celebrate Meatless Monday?

NO

YES

Join the discussion in the
Opinions section at
DAILY SUNDIAL.COM



Scan the QR code here for
this survey (and more).

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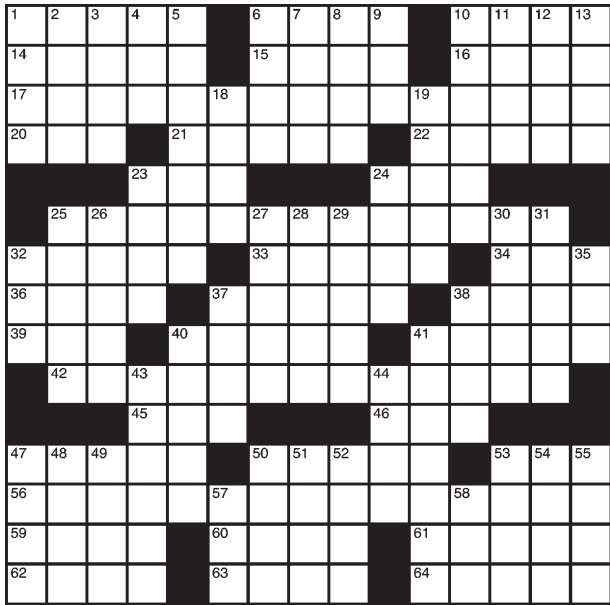
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- ACROSS**
- 1 David Copperfield's forte
 - 6 High-ranking Indian
 - 10 Like the Sahara
 - 14 Last new Olds
 - 15 Alike, in Lourdes
 - 16 Madcap
 - 17 Main idea, as of an argument
 - 20 "Pinafore"
 - 21 Handy bags
 - 22 Inventor Howe
 - 23 Candy in a wrapper
 - 24 WSW's opposite
 - 25 Stick to a strict budget
 - 32 Beauty parlor
 - 33 Saying to remember
 - 34 Tool for a lumberjack
 - 36 Cultivate the soil
 - 37 Car pedal
 - 38 Needed a Band-Aid
 - 39 Till now
 - 40 ___ fatale
 - 41 Town near the tip of Cape Cod
 - 42 To the point
 - 45 Notes after mis
 - 46 Contents of a cruet
 - 47 Saltwater candy
 - 50 Rested (against)
 - 53 ___ Beta Kappa
 - 56 Burnout cause
 - 59 Part of USA: Abbr.
 - 60 Like dedicated fans
 - 61 18th-century Swiss mathematician
 - 62 Goes bad
 - 63 High roller's rolls
 - 64 Baseball's Pee Wee



By Bernice Gordon

2/4/13

- DOWN**
- 1 Sitcom set in Korea
 - 2 Homecoming visitor
 - 3 Jeweler's inventory
 - 4 401(k) alternative, briefly

- 5 Have inside
- 6 Take a break
- 7 Flu-like symptoms
- 8 Pokes
- 9 Three racing Unsers
- 10 Colorful garden shrub
- 11 Wife of a 6-Across
- 12 Ancient Peruvian
- 13 Turns blue, perhaps
- 18 Campus residence
- 19 Like someone pacing back and forth
- 23 Forehead
- 24 Rim
- 25 Comical Soupy
- 26 Material
- 27 Cheese city in northeast Italy
- 28 End of Rhett's sentence that begins "Frankly, my dear"
- 29 Like a newborn
- 30 Relative worth
- 31 Put forth, as effort
- 32 Le Carré character

Thursday's Puzzle Solved



(c)2013 Tribune Media Services, Inc. 2/1/13

- 35 Tokyo's former name
- 37 Puts money (on)
- 38 Songwriter Jacques
- 40 Wears at the edges
- 41 Social network for short messages
- 43 Bids
- 44 Male offspring
- 47 Old Russian monarch
- 48 Prefix with sphere
- 49 Guitar ridge
- 50 Volcanic output
- 51 City west of Tulsa
- 52 Does some sums
- 53 Ashen
- 54 Hurries
- 55 Legal memo opener
- 57 Carpentry tool
- 58 Feel bad about

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

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

sudoku

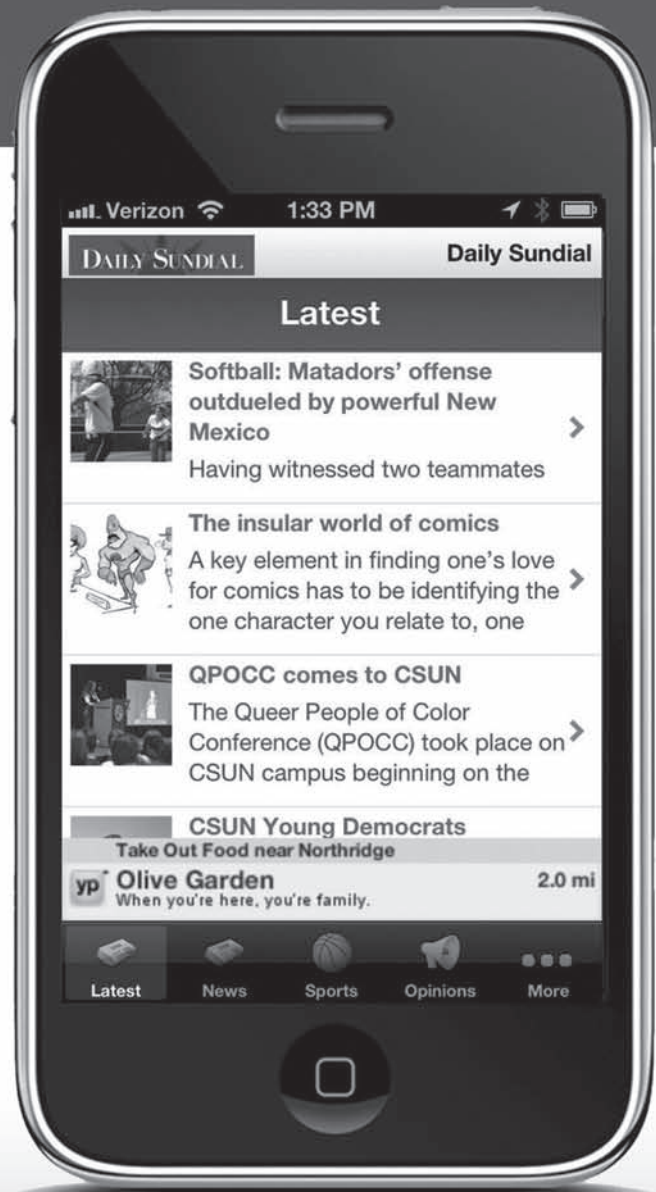
How to play: Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9.

Solution above.

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FEB. 4, 2013

SOFTBALL

CSUN looks for turnaround season

ELLEN KRAUSSE
DAILY SUNDIAL

The Matadors are looking to improve on last year's struggles with a new positive outlook on their 2013 season that kicks off Friday in Arizona.

Third-year head coach Tairia Flowers has been working hard with the team on not just physical strength, but mental toughness on and off the field.

"We are talking a lot about their self (esteem), heavy confidence in sports is huge," Flowers said. "So we have attacked it from the angle that we just need to be more aware of the thoughts that are going through their minds, helping them control them and how to approach the game."

The Matadors had a tough year in 2012, finishing 10-42 overall and 5-16 in the Big West Conference, but are looking to make an impact statement right away.

"There is a lot of room to improve from last season, but I think that the mental part is definitely going to give us that

head start," Flowers said. "We are working day in and day out just getting better physically and working together as a group."

Northridge will face tough competition in the Big West Conference, with perennial contender Long Beach State expected to field a tough lineup. Big West newcomer Hawai'i enters the conference this year and is ranked 23rd in the USA Today preseason poll.

According to the Big West preseason coaches poll, Northridge is predicted to finish last, with Hawai'i and Long Beach State contending for first.

Senior catcher Mikayla Thielges, who is entering her senior season after leading the Matadors in 2012 with seven home runs, a .252 batting average and 22 RBIs, hopes to make her final season one to remember.

"I am most excited for our first game to come out and get that first win," Thielges said. "The more work you put into it the more you are going to get out of it. I am going to work as hard as I can this season."

With many of last years players returning, a good core has been established for the Matadors. Five new players bring



FILE PHOTO / DAILY SUNDIAL

Senior catcher Mikayla Thielges will be an integral part of the Matadors season, after leading the team with seven home runs in 2012.

strong personalities, energy and new talent that Flowers hopes to have an impact right away.

"I think we have a good group that is jelling and we are understanding that we have to play as a team," Flowers said.

Among the returning players expected to make an impact is senior pitcher Mia Pagano.

Pagano, who is returning to the lineup after foot surgery in the summer, led her team last season with a 3.44 ERA and an 8-19 record, earning All-Big West Second Team Honors for 2012.

"I am really excited, this is my first year in a while where I have been uninjured," Pagano

said. "So I am excited to put my best foot forward for my senior year."

Pagano and Thielges are looking to lead the team with their four-year bond as a pitcher and catcher duo, with the help of their fellow four seniors competing in their final season.

"Our strength is our chemis-

try this season, which helps us build our defense and offense," Pagano said. "We are able to pick each other up when we need to and when we are on fire we are on fire."

The Matadors open their season with multiple tournaments throughout February, and won't have their home opener until the

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Matadors win in up-tempo shootout

Led by guard Josh Greene's 24 points, CSUN won on the road in head coach Bobby Braswell's 500th career game



LOREN TOWNSLEY / PHOTO EDITOR

Freshman guard Landon Drew looks to make a pass against a Titans' defender in Thursday's 92-86 CSUN win at Fullerton.

CASEY DELICH
SPORTS EDITOR

Fullerton — The Northridge men's basketball team stormed into Titan Gym Thursday and came out with a wire-to-wire victory, overpowering a smaller Titans team 92-86.

Missing their leading scorer, sophomore guard Stephan Hicks due to an injury, the Matadors wouldn't ruin a celebration for head coach Bobby Braswell. Braswell, in his 16th season with Northridge, coached his 500th game, earning career victory 248 at CSUN.

"It's a really special night," Braswell said. "I completely lost track of that until the officials said something to me before the game tonight, 'congratulations.' I'm more excited about what our guys did tonight, I'm more excited about how our guys came out here without our leading scorer, Stephan Hicks. (He) didn't even make the trip because of an injury."

Starting out quick in an up-tempo game, the Matadors jumped out to an early 4-0 lead,

shutting down the Titans vaunted offense for the first three minutes of the game.

Once staked to that four point lead, the Matadors would never trail in the game, although Fullerton would tie the game at 4-4 and 9-9.

Keeping the Titans out of the paint, forcing them to take long-range jumpers and three-pointers kept the Matadors in the lead.

Northridge held the Titans to 18 percent 3-point shooting and 32 percent overall shooting in the first half.

"Our coach tells us that if we stop the drive then their three-point percentage is going to drop, because they won't have enough cushion to shoot," said freshman forward Tre Hale-Edmerson, who had 17 points and eight rebounds.

The Matadors went on an 11-0 run halfway through the first half that lasted three minutes, building their lead to 13 points. CSUN would eventually lead by 14 before the end of the half, and go into halftime leading by 10.

Coming out for the second half, the Titans showed new life, forcing the Matadors to change up their approach as the Titans

switched to a zone defense.

"They really couldn't guard us man-to-man because we were attacking them and getting them in foul trouble," said junior guard Josh Greene. "They went to the zone, so that kind of slowed us down a bit, but we made adjustments as well. We just started pounding it in, driving and attacking."

Greene led the Matadors with 24 points, recording one of the Matadors two double-doubles as he also pulled down 10 rebounds.

Unable to drive to the basket against the zone, CSUN settled for threes and shot 27 percent from behind the arc, going 3-11.

The Titans mounted a comeback during the first 12 minutes of the second half, coming within three points of the lead. Northridge responded by extending their lead to 13 with three minutes left, putting the game out of Fullerton's reach.

The Matadors outrebounded Fullerton 47-27, helping them overcome their 21 turnovers.

"The way we played from beginning to end, I'm just proud of them," Braswell said. "Great effort, very competitive, we defended well, it was just a great team win."