



| NEWS | P. 2

CSUN creates PSA's addressing issues such as copyright

| OPINIONS | P. 6

Doctors, human rights groups say solitary confinement is torture

| FEATURES | P. 7

Meet the president and founder of CSUN's Improv club

| SPORTS | P. 8

Matadors ice hockey team looks to improve off last season

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LOREN TOWNSLEY / EDITOR IN CHIEF

Mandeep Sethi hugs his mother Mohinder Kaur after his rap performance, which was dedicated to his younger brother Jusdeep Sethi who drowned at Big Bear Lake on Aug. 11.



VICTORIA BACERRIL / DAILY SUNDIAL

CSUN Vice President of Student Affairs, William Watkins, hands Jusdeep Sethi's parents a Certificate of Recognition. Sethi, passed away this summer on Aug. 11. His life was celebrated at the Jusdeep memorial held at Matador Square, Tuesday, Sept. 10, with a variety of Sethi's passions including his culture, gardening, music, and art.

"GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN"

Family and friends celebrate the life of CSUN student Jusdeep, who recently passed away

ALEX VEJAR
DAILY SUNDIAL

DOZENS GATHERED to celebrate the spirit of Jusdeep Singh Sethi at a memorial service held in Matador Square yesterday to commemorate his 21st birthday.

Sethi, a CSUN student who drowned on Aug. 11 during a family trip to Big Bear Lake, was well-known

for impacting many lives and always spreading positivity.

"He was limitless," said Mohinder Sethi, Jusdeep Sethi's mother. "He didn't want to limit himself to his religion, to his ethnicity, to just this college, to just the four walls of his room, to just the four walls of his classroom. No boundaries, no limits."

The celebration brought together some of Jusdeep's passions such as art, nature and hip-hop music. Attendees pot-

See **JUSDEEP**, page 5

Recalling the 9/11 attacks

MICHAEL ARVIZU
DAILY SUNDIAL

CSUN STUDENT Malek al-Marayati was in fourth grade on Sept. 11, 2001.

He remembers the day being filled with chaos.

"It was all pretty abstract to me at the time just because I wasn't able to understand it completely," he said.

He remembers his father, Al Salam al-Marayati, current president of the Los Angeles-based Muslim Public Affairs Council, worrying that, as word spread that the attacks on Washington, D.C. and New York City were the work of radical Muslims, Muslim-Americans would "be demonized".

The younger al-Marayati described the days following the initial attacks.

"The transition period was so gradual between life before and after 9/11. It was such a momentous point of time for the Muslim-American identity, especially," he said.

Al-Marayati, 21, a senior marine biology major and president of CSUN's Muslim Student Association, remembers seeing footage of the attacks everywhere.

"I got to witness what everybody else was witnessing," he said. "But I could not comprehend it completely until later on in my life."

He remembers the stereotype of the Muslim terrorist flourishing in the weeks and months following the attacks. The attacks, al-Marayat heard at the time, were thought by Americans to be part of the "hidden agenda of Muslims around the world."

Al-Marayat would experience the terrorist Muslim stereotype firsthand when he and his family were detained at the airport after disembarking from their return flight to the United States following a family vacation to Cancun about two years after the 9/11 attacks.

The authorities, al-Marayati said, never gave a reason for the detention.

"My mom was freaking out," al-Marayati recalls. "They had us detained for three hours."

See **9/11**, page 4

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PSA tackles cyber-bullying, piracy

ANDREW MARTINEZ

DAILY SUNDIAL

CSUN RECENTLY cooperated with the FBI to release six public service announcements (PSA), covering issues such as intellectual property theft and cyber-bullying.

CTVA professor Nate Thomas was approached by the FBI to produce the spots after having previously worked with the federal government in 2010 for a cyber predator PSA.

The FBI initially wanted to work with Thomas' production company, but Thomas wanted to include CSUN faculty and staff in the process.

"I could make sure students are interspersed throughout this process as well as faculty members and staff members," Thomas said.

Thomas said the FBI had a "nice sized budget" for the PSAs, and it

allowed faculty and students to be paid for their work.

"It was a great experience for the students that helped us work on this, to have meetings with the FBI and to watch them critique the spots," Thomas said. "A department like this should be using the talent of the faculty, staff and students for the better good, especially in the interest of the public."

Two of the PSAs seek to raise awareness about movie and music piracy, issues that have grown in the past decade and have cost the film and music industries billions of dollars as well as thousands of jobs.

Christian Rodriguez, a 20-year-old junior studying environmental and occupational health said although he does not download content illegally or purchase counterfeit goods, he believes people do it because they simply don't care.

"Most people just think that nothing's going to happen. Everybody does it, so they think they won't get caught," Rodriguez said.

Rodriguez said most people would think twice if they were aware of the losses copyright infringement causes within each industry.

"Many people probably just don't know that it's affecting somebody out there," Rodriguez said.

Kurt Saunders, a business law professor at CSUN, said even though education is important to make people aware that intellectual property is just like land or personal property, controlling copyright infringement will still be an ongoing challenge to overcome.

"The internet has made copying a lot easier, and you can reach a wider audience through the internet, peer2peer and torrenting sites in ways you could not do 20 years ago," Saunders said. "A lot of these people who really want to set up these sites are going to be one step ahead of MGM, the big movie studios and music companies."

While movie and music piracy might be the most widely known topics covered in the PSAs, theft of intellectual property for copyrighted designs might even be more prevalent, Saunders said.

"A lot of this stuff happens offshore. And it happens with books. It happens with designs. It happens with certain designs that are associated with furniture and fashion and that happens even more so than what happens online," Saunders said.

Saunders also said that a student's own experience with intellectual property is helpful in understanding the concept of copyrights and infringement.

"The more people get involved in creating stuff, from being involved in entrepreneurship and businesses where intellectual property is important, they (will) get it more than just an abstract concept," he said.

Another topic covered in the PSA is cyber-bullying.

Although the issue of cyber-bullying has increased in recent years with the growth of social media, many students still do not

do anything about it, according to Dr. Allison Freeman, staff psychologist at CSUN's University Counseling Services.

According to a 2011 report, more than 90 percent of teens who use social media have witnessed how "cruel behavior" gets ignored by others. More than 50 percent said this occurs frequently.

Freeman said students might not be accustomed to advocating for others and themselves, and this could explain peoples inaction toward cyber-bullying.

"More often than not, it will not be reported and one of the best ways to stop it is to report it and take action as quickly as possible before it gets out of hand," Freeman said.

Dr. Freeman said PSAs focusing on topics like cyber bullying are important, as promoting a discussion of any kind would be useful.

"The more we know about it, the more authorities can crack down on the people who are doing the bullying," Freeman said.

Justin Martinez, a 22-year-old junior transfer student, said he has seen some PSAs covering cyber-bullying, but does not believe enough attention is being given to the issue.

"Not that many people talk about (cyber bullying) and the media is the easiest way to send out a message. Adults don't give enough attention to their children, and children don't learn anything other than what they see on TV and on the internet," Martinez said.

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BRIEF

President outlines his case for Syria

In a nationally-televised address on Tuesday evening, President Barack Obama made his case for a possible targeted military strike against Syria.

Speaking from the White House, the president said the United States cannot “resolve someone else’s civil war through force, particularly after a decade of war in Iraq and Afghanistan.”

The president said the outlook changed, however, when Syrian President Bashar al-Assad’s regime allegedly gassed thousands of its own people on Aug. 21.

Obama described images of the attack as “sickening.” Chemical weapons, the president said, are a “crime against humanity” and “a violation of the laws of war.”

In his speech, Obama referenced samples taken from victims of the chemical weapons attack as testing positive for sarin gas.

Failure to act against Syria would encourage the Assad regime to continue using chemical weapons said the president.

“Other tyrants, will have no reason to think twice about acquiring poison gas and using them.”

According to Obama, the strike would deter Assad from using chemical weapons and degrade his regime’s ability to use them. It would also make clear to the world that the United States will not tolerate the use of chemical weapons.

Any decision he makes would have the full support of Congress, a sharp contrast to the decision to go to war made by past presidents without full Congressional support, Obama said.

“I believe that America acts more effectively abroad when we stand together,” he said. “This is especially true after a decade that put more and more war-making power in the hands of the president, and more and more burdens on the shoulders of our troops while sidelining the people’s representa-

tives from the critical decisions about when we use force.”

Obama said the decision to attack may not be popular, given the recent wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. But Obama assured Americans that the United States will not put American boots on Syrian ground and lead the U.S. into an “open-ended action like Iraq or Afghanistan,” or seek to remove Assad from power.

Early Monday, the Assad regime accepted a proposal by the Russian government to put its chemical weapons stockpile under international control. The Russian initiative came as a result of comments made by Secretary of State John Kerry in London on how Assad could avoid a military strike.

“We don’t know if Syria agrees to it, but if putting chemical weapons in this country under international control averts the military strikes, then we will immediately get to work on this with Damascus,” said Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov to reporters on the heels of Kerry’s remarks.

The president mentioned the initiative in his speech.

“It’s too early to tell whether this offer will succeed. And any agreement must verify that the Assad regime keeps its commitments,” Obama said.

The president said he has asked Congress to postpone a vote on military action while this diplomatic path is sought.

Kerry will meet with Lavrov on Thursday to discuss the proposal. Obama will then work in tandem with France, the United Kingdom, Russia and China to put forward a resolution at the United Nations Security Council requiring Assad to give up his chemical weapons and “ultimately destroy them under international control,” Obama said.

The U.S. military, Obama said, will maintain its position to “keep the pressure on Assad and to be in a position to respond if diplomacy fails.”

—MICHAEL ARVIZU, DAILY SUNDIAL



CAMPUS VOICE

DAILY SUNDIAL STAFF

Q: How do you remember 9/11? How do you think the treatment towards Muslims have changed?



CERI SHINN
CHILD DEVELOPMENT

“I don’t remember anything from 9/11 because I was so little and I was kind of oblivious to what was going on around me.”

“I think that we’re trying to be open about it because we’re afraid. There is more security at airports, and people are very prejudice. Just because they see someone walking around with a turban, they think that it’s okay to question them and search them. That’s not fair because not everybody is like that.”



TAINÉ ZARAGORA
PSYCHOLOGY

“I really can’t remember much about 9/11, but I know for my parents it was something hard to forget. I was actually living in Mexico at that time, but we received calls from family members to turn on the news channel.”

“Now I think it’s actually worse, some people think ‘all’ Muslims are the same and separate themselves from them. I believe we need to show them that we are as scared as they are for what is happening in the world. Maybe if we all join arms there wouldn’t be war.”

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9/11

Continued from page 1

His family would be detained yet again several years later.

"That was probably one of the most dehumanizing things to be a part of," al-Marayati said. "That was really an emotional part of my life when it happened."

Although al-Marayati did not directly experience the demonization, racism and hate crimes some Muslims were subjected to at the time, he remembers learning about those acts through conversations with friends. Stories circulated among them about Muslim women who were given nervous glances when they ventured outdoors wearing the traditional hijab head covering.

Past CSUN Muslim American Association President Mayid Charif, 21, claims Arabic and Syrian roots. Born in Colombia, Charif is a recent convert to Islam from Catholicism.

As a boy, Charif understood right away the impact the attacks had on the world.

"I pray for the people who were killed," Charif said. "I also pray for the people who committed this atrocity, for them to be guided to the right path."

His family formerly resided in the Syrian capital of Damascus — aunts and uncles, mostly. Because of their Colombian nationality, Charif's family was able to exit the country. Though countless other families remain, unable to leave.



ILLUSTRATION BY JASMINE MOCHIZUKI / VISUAL EDITOR

The dynamics of the Syrian crisis and war against terror in Afghanistan differ, Charif said, but the Syrian crisis echoes the uncertainty the United States went through as it stood on the precipice of war with a foreign terrorist enemy in 2001.

"The United States is actually more isolated than they were before they declared the way against the Taliban, or before they invaded Iraq," Charif said of the possibility of military intervention by the U.S. in Syria. "The United States is acting on its own. Even Britain, and now France, backed out."

Twelve years after 9/11, al-

Marayati said, the demonization of and stereotypes against Muslims have waned, although some instances of Islamophobia still exist. The attacks were carried out by a group of Muslims who committed terrorism in the name of Islam, but other Muslims don't consider the terrorists true adherents of the faith, al-Marayati said.

"They are not considered Muslims by other Muslims around the world," al-Marayati said. "There are extremists in every religion who commit crimes against humanity, but that doesn't mean that their religion is to be blamed."

As president of the Muslim Student Association, al-Marayati said it is important that people educate themselves about faiths they do not understand. His organization strives to inform people about what Islam is and is not.

"There are still a lot of people in America who still haven't been convinced, who are still ignorant to what the truth is," al-Marayati said. "There is still a lot of work to be done."

A campus reacts

Archived Daily Sundial newspapers from the Wednesday, Sept. 12, 2001, issue describe a subdued, frightened,

shocked, and mourning campus. Classes came to a halt as students listened to the former President Bush declaring to the nation that a terrorist attack had been committed.

The Wednesday issue contrasted sharply with the issue published one day earlier, which featured Monday reports of heavy rain affecting the campus, conclusion of construction to rebuild the campus after the Northridge Earthquake, the end of the women's volleyball team's winning streak, and an op-ed piece encouraging students to ride their bikes to school.

"The last vestiges of Amer-

ica's innocence was stripped away from it as the Pentagon and the World Trade Center lay smoking in ruin," read an op-ed piece written and published by the Daily Sundial staff in the Wednesday paper.

CSUN professor of music therapy and music department Chair Ronald M. Borczon was on campus the day of the attack. Borczon and a group of students organized a 60-strong community drum circle on the lawn of Cypress Hall. The name of each Californian killed as a result of the attacks, were given their own unique beat.

"In essence, the rhythm of their name was given life through the beat," Borczon said.

"We just kind of unified everybody and gave everyone a chance to be together and express their sadness and sense of camaraderie," Borczon said. "Music can take the emotion and put it out."

As a psychologist in University Counseling Services, Dr. Mark Stevens encourages people living in a time of crisis to continue to follow their normal routine and share their story to encourage healing.

"Of course, there was just a tremendous amount of sadness," he said. "The healing process is not either/or. You never ever completely heal, but you also don't hold onto the pain in the way that you did at one point."

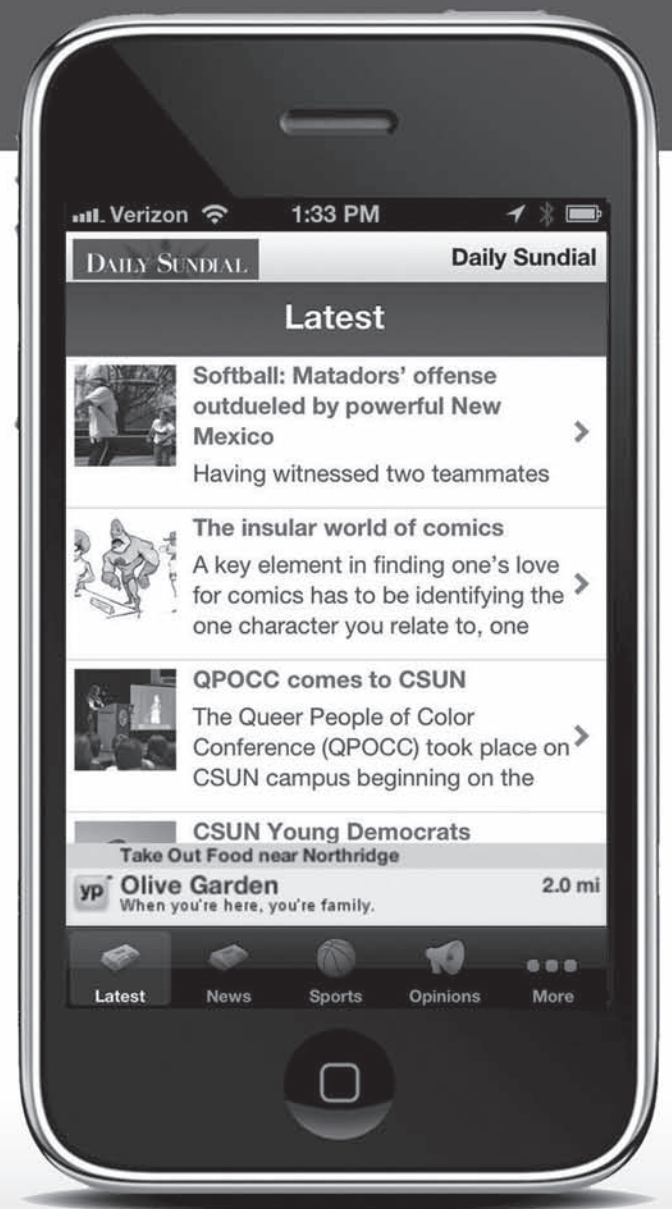
The 9/11 attacks changed the country forever, Stevens said, and are part of our collective consciousness, even after 12 years.

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JUSDEEP

Continued from page 1

ted small plants in origami pots made from newspaper pages and created cardboard paintings with spraypaint.

Jusdeep Sethi was involved in many organizations focused on humanitarian and environmental causes. A recent project Jusdeep Sethi helped organize was “Bridging the Gaps: Hip-Hop in the Age of Mass Incarceration and Deportation” conference, which has been postponed due to the death.

Pan African Studies professor Anthony Ratcliff, whose relationship with Jusdeep Sethi started in 2010, said Jusdeep Sethi had friends of various races and backgrounds.

“He was really good at crossing bridges,” Ratcliff said. “He would engage everybody, whatever their level was.”

During the memorial, Jusdeep Sethi’s parents were presented with a certificate of recognition in their son’s honor by William Watkins, vice president of student affairs. Watkins said the certificate was signed by CSUN President Dianne Harrison.

“I’m humbled. I’m moved. I’m touched,” Mohinder Sethi said, holding the certificate with tears in her eyes.

Marvin Jordan, 24, an Asian American studies major, was a member of the poetry slam team with Jusdeep Sethi and performed a poem in his honor.

“Jusdeep was a great guy to be around,” Jordan said. “He always (supported) people and stood up for what he believed in.”

Preet Singh’s decade-long friendship with the deceased continued while he attended CSUN as an information systems major.

“Jusdeep was nothing more than a free spirit,” Preet Singh said. “He was just all



VICTORIA BECERRIL / DAILY SUNDIAL

CSUN Botanical Gardens staff teaches CSUN Alumnus Brande Hoofkin (Right), 23, how to grow plants and herbs in an environmentally friendly way at the Jusdeep’s memorial held at Matador Walk, Tuesday, Sept. 10.

over the place, wanting to love everybody, wanting to be loved and to spread love; that’s all he was about.”

Jusdeep Sethi’s brother, Mandeep Sethi, performed at the celebration and said the spirit and soul of his brother has given the Sethi family strength.

“It’s been a deeply spiritual process for us to be able to channel his spirit and his soul and channel the strength that it had and that it has to give us strength,” he said. Mandeep also said that despite Jusdeep being gone, his spirit will never be forgotten.

Preet Singh’s brother, Manmeet Singh, remembers Jusdeep Sethi as a person who had a gift for interacting with others.

“He would put 200 percent of effort into trying to just get to know every single person out there, trying to understand them and trying to help them if they needed help, or get help from them to help other people he already knew,” Manmeet Singh said.

Mohinder Sethi expressed deep thanks

to CSUN for organizing the memorial event for her son.

“We as his family want to do whatever we can to continue his legacy here, whether it is helping a student [or] helping the organizations to continue to work together, [we] will be here for CSUN.”

*Contributing reporting by
Jazzmyn Bogard*



SCAN THIS QR CODE
to see a video of Jusdeep’s
memorial



LOREN TOWNSLEY / EDITOR IN CHIEF

Mandeep Sethi performs a rap in dedication to his younger brother Jusdeep Sethi who drowned at Big Bear Lake on Aug. 11.



JOHN SARINGO-RODRIGUEZ / PHOTO EDITOR

Jusdeep Sethi’s girlfriend, Khushboo Gulati, 19, says that her paintings of Sethi express his spirit and vision of community development and how he would work on building his character.



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Opinion

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Solitary confinement has to be reformed

Despite UN reports that say solitary confinement is torture and should be abolished, U.S. prisons continue its use

LISA ANDERSON
DAILY SUNDIAL

ON THE SURFACE, the debate of solitary confinement is about torture, but this is only part of a bigger issue. Are some people actually deserving of this treatment, even if it is a form of torture?

The California prison hunger strike in opposition to solitary confinement recently ended on Sept. 5, but the matter is far from resolved. As with most heavily debated issues, the arguments for and against solitary confinement are not perfect.

Solitary confinement is the act of isolating prisoners in closed cells from 22 to 24 hours a day, denying them direct human contact. To clarify, even if they are allowed visits, they can only see their visitors through thick glass, and the average term for California inmates is 6.8 years, according to anti-solitary confinement advocacy organization solitarywatch.com.

To make things more complicated, the term "solitary confinement" is not always or even usually used to describe this occurrence. Often, solitary confinement is referred to as "segregation" or a state-specific denotation such as Security Housing Units (SHU) for California.

Since states can't agree on either the name or definition of solitary confinement, there are varying statistics on the exact number of people in solitary confinement. Solitary Watch estimates close to 11,000 prisoners in solitary confinement just in California, based on reports from the California Office of the Inspector General and California Assembly's Public Safety Committee.

With that many people affected, it is important to consider whether or not solitary confinement is torture. Juan E. Méndez, the independent United Nations special rapporteur on torture, has said in a Reuters article that the U.S. government should abolish the use of prolonged solitary confinement under all circumstances.

Méndez said that if the effects of solitary confinement on someone are severe, as they are often reported to be, it does indeed amount to torture. You will be hard pressed to find a report that doesn't show that the vast majority of those who endure prolonged solitary confinement suffer severe consequences.

Dr. Stuart Grassian, a board-certified psychiatrist who was on the faculty of the Harvard Medical School for over 25 years, has had his conclusions and observations regarding solitary confinement cited in a number of federal court decisions.

"It is both tragic and highly disturbing that the lessons of the 19th century experience with solitary confinement are today being so completely ignored by those responsible for addressing the housing and the mental health needs in the prison setting. For, indeed, the psychiatric harm caused by solitary confinement had become exceedingly apparent well over 100 years ago," Grassian said in a report.



ILLUSTRATION BY SARAH CASCADEN / CONTRIBUTOR

Grassian goes on to explain that the U.S. is responsible for being the world leader in introducing solitary confinement as a popular punishment.

Solitary confinement was abandoned due to the catastrophic harm to the prisoners. However, in 1983 two correctional officers were murdered by inmates at a prison in Illinois and afterward the prison adopted solitary confinement. Many other prisons began to follow suit.

Detailed, haunting accounts from people who have suffered through solitary confinement are abundant online, and they closely resemble the popularized portrayals on television shows like "Law and Order: SVU" and "Orange is the New Black."

The bottom line is that human touch and socialization aren't just nice to have sometimes, like some sort of luxury. As the World Health Organization asserts, they are integral

components in the very definition of "health."

Not to mention, how are these prisoners supposed to return to society and adjust? The effects of solitary confinement do subside after a prisoner is released, but their capacity to reintegrate into broader society is, not surprisingly, greatly compromised, according to solitaryconfinement.org.

However, this brings about the trickier issue of those who aren't returning to the general public, or the "worst of the worst," like the gang members who began the recent hunger strike. Even if the majority of those in solitary confinement do not fit this definition, would these few inmates alone require the option of solitary confinement?

The whole argument against the strikers' current demands is that the striking leaders are the heads of gangs and need to be isolated to stop or hinder their influence. Those in favor

of solitary confinement, such as Gov. Jerry Brown, argue that it is completely necessary as a form of deterrence.

Even Méndez said that there are appropriate times for solitary confinement, albeit only "in very exceptional circumstances, as a last resort, for as short a time as possible and with established safeguards in place." And this is exactly the key – solitary may be necessary, but rarely, and with these strict limitations.

Already, states like Mississippi have reduced their solitary confinement population and found that there has been a significant decrease in violence and need for violent cell extractions, according to solitarywatch.com. It seems that in the very least, states will benefit from a reduction in the number of those who are "segregated."

Although, this still leaves open another issue, which is that of whom exactly is being "segregated."

Even if fewer inmates are being punished by solitary confinement, they are still enduring this punishment at the discretion of prison administrators. There is no trial and jury for this huge decision.

Solitary Watch reports that approximately 50 percent of California SHU inmates are in solitary because of the gang "validation" process in which inmates thought to be active gang members are sent to SHU for six years. Others have ended up in solitary for being gay, transgender, Muslim, or raped, as a means for protection.

Most notably, juveniles are often placed into solitary for their own protection, where they are 19 times more likely to commit suicide than in the general population, according to the Campaign for Youth Justice.

There has to be an alternative for this.

Even if the inmates who recently led the prison strike deserve their solitary confinement, adjustments still need to be made, at the very least, in the way California decides who will receive this punishment.

Further, the effectiveness of solitary confinement needs to be examined in a more practical and less theoretical light. It seems that Gov. Brown and others won't listen to inmates because some may be attempting to regain power in their gangs, but the situation is not that simple.

Even if the leaders of the hunger strike are only using the real issues surrounding solitary confinement as a platform for their agenda, those real issues still exist. The Pelican Bay SHU prisoners have five demands that are not unreasonable, one being to "provide adequate and nutritious food."

Also, to grant their five demands does not necessarily entail success for the gangs and their leaders, except perhaps for ending long-term solitary confinement. That demand could be made conditional with long-term solitary having stricter requirements for what will land an inmate there and more frequent evaluations.

Solitary confinement should not exist as it is; a change needs to be made.

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HOCKEY

Ready to compete at highest level

With 14 returning players, the Northridge hockey team looks to build off experience and improve from last season

MELANIE GABALL
SENIOR STAFF

THE CSUN ICE Hockey team brings fresh faces along with experience as they develop their roster to compete in a challenging division.

From 2008-2011 the Matadors were dominant in the Division 3 Pacific Collegiate Hockey Association (PCHA) by making the championship three consecutive years.

Because of that success, they were moved up to Division 2 in the American Collegiate Hockey Association, but struggled adjusting to the higher level of play and finished 6-12 last season.

"We moved up a division and we lost nine players, including three All-Americans," Gale said. "Replacing them offensively just hasn't happened yet."

Coming off of a "rebuilding year," the team began their first week of tryouts Friday at the L.A. Kings Valley Ice Center, where they saw a large combination of returning and new players, according to junior defender Branden Casillas, who is starting his third season on the team.

"It was probably the biggest (tryout) turn-out that I have been apart of in my



ALEX VEJAR / DAILY SUNDIAL

CSUN's ice hockey team holds an open tryout at the LA Kings Valley Ice Center. The team has 14 returning players but needs to add depth to its roster in order to compete.

three years. There is such a big mix of players in different skill ranges that it made it a really fun try-out," Casillas said.

One of the top new recruits on the ice Friday, was freshman Alex Reints, who Gale has been working to bring to CSUN for two years.

Reints was the top scorer in the California Amateur Hockey Association and led his team to third place at the national championships this

year.

"On my last team, I was practicing five days a week with them and doing private lessons before practice, then we had games on the weekends," said Reints, who did independent study his last two years of high school to focus on hockey.

The story of a life-long commitment to hockey is a trend throughout the team, which Gale says is essential for a six-month season.

Casillas has been dedicated to hockey for 18 years. After seeing the "Mighty Ducks" movies when he was 3 years old, he began practicing in his garage before his mom found an ice rink near their home in Texas.

"For a college kid, it's a lot of dedication. They are students first who want to play hockey as well," Gale said. "We play 20-30 games a season, and practice at 7 a.m. four days a week. We

are looking for guys that really want to be on the team."

In addition to hours of practice, every member of the team has to pay upwards of \$2,000 to fund part of the Ice Hockey budget. Associated Students also contribute around \$17,000, Gale said.

"Everyone sacrifices four or five days of their time, everyone hits the gym on their own time and it's not a cheap sport to play," Casillas

said. "We pay a little over \$2,000 to play and that right there says commitment to me. It's not a club that you can just come and go at, and I think that is why we become so bonded, because everyone wants to be there so bad."

Sophomore Ryan Kunisaki found out about the ice hockey team midway through his freshman year, after recovering from a torn anterior cruciate ligament, and joined the team last year in the middle of the season.

"We play because we love hockey," Kunisaki said. "For me, I don't like just sitting there watching. It annoys me. I really want to play."

Kunisaki spent the summer working for Base Hockey in Canada, where he taught kids how to perfect their technique.

"Hockey is what I know," Kunisaki said. "Playing at CSUN was a chance to continue playing hockey."

Captain Eric Roberts, who is starting his fourth year on the team, is looking to lead his team to the ACHA regional tournament and followed by the national tournament.

"As a team we hope to move forward. We fell victim to the injury bug last season and it kind of hindered the results we wanted," Roberts said. "It all starts with taking it a game at a time and performing to our fullest capability night in and night out. With the guys on the team this year, all of these goals seem very attainable."

For more information on the CSUN Ice Hockey team and game ticket purchases visit csunhockey.com.



LOREN TOWNSLEY / EDITOR IN CHIEF

CSUN's ice hockey team practices early in the morning four days a week in preparation for their weekly games. Playing in their second season in the ACHA division, the Matadors will try to improve on last season's 6-12 record.