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Hollywood Hike is just one of many excursions offered by Outdoor Adventures

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How do today's NBA stars stack up against Michael Jordan?

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DAILY SUNDIAL

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, NORTHRIDGE

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2013 | VOL. 55, ISS. 28 | WWW.DAILYSUNDIAL.COM

(SUN COMES OUT

To see these students' coming out stories go to PAGE 7



BALANCE

CATHLEEN

CREATIVE WRITING



GRACE

POLITICAL SCIENCE AND CHICANO/A STUDIES



CHALLENGE

ANDREW

MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

“There is always something bad to something good. After you come out it won't immediately get better, but there will be aspects of your life that you will be better able to deal with.”

“I feel that for me personally, and throughout my life, there is always different stages in your life. I feel like for example coming out every single time is like a butterfly. You are always in the shadows...and you come out. That is how I like to see it.”

“It is challenging to come out to someone multiple times and it is challenging to have to keep your composure while being forced out of the closet. It is also challenging to tell family who is very religious or are from areas where it's widely known that it is not accepted there.”

PHOTOS BY LOREN TOWNSLEY / EDITOR IN CHIEF

CULTURECLASH



HIT SHOW CAN'T FIND PULSE



Students hike the Hollywood Hills

PHOTOS AND STORY BY ANA RODRIGUEZ
DAILY SUNDIAL

THE OUTDOOR Adventures organization is offered by Associated Students Recreation Sports and gives students the opportunity to explore and learn about their natural surroundings. Many trips are available to students, ranging from trips to Castaic Lake, Eastern Sierras, Leo Carrillo Beach, Yosemite National Park and many more. These outings take place every weekend and range from day trips to three-day trips.

Outdoor Adventures hosted a hike on Oct. 5 to the iconic Hollywood Sign and Bronson Cave. Students hiked a total of approximately six miles with consistent views of the Los Angeles skyline.

The hike was led by four guides: Peter Chagnon, Ariana Cortes, Carolina Nolasco and Stephanie Lobos. The guides led a total of 18 students along the winding paths of the Hollywood Hills to the very top, where they experienced a great view of the Hollywood sign from behind. Students were then led in front of the sign for great photo opportunities.

Chagnon explained that the hike wasn't too tough and was suitable for beginning hikers but cautioned students to take their time when trekking up the hill. He also explained that water was crucial and that snacks were just as important to stay fueled for the hike.

After leaving the sign, students were led to the Bronson Cave, which is famous for having been the filming location for various movies and TV shows. Some of those include "The Scorpion King" (2002), various Star Trek series, "The Lone Ranger" TV series and the 1960s "Batman" TV series.

A few exchange students from Japan and France participated in the trip and explained that they wanted to visit one of the most famous landmarks in Los Angeles. For some, it was their first time in the United States and they wanted to do as much sightseeing as possible.

In this hiking trip, students had the opportunity to not only get good exercise but also see and experience LA in a way they might not have done before.

To find out more about upcoming Outdoor Adventures trips, visit their website www.csunas.org/oa/.



After seeing the Hollywood sign from behind, the guides led the students along another path in order to see the sign from the front.



The path to the top wasn't a straight one. Students hiked winding roads which would eventually lead to the Hollywood sign.



The guides pose for a "funny picture" during a short water break.

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Students and guides stopped for photo of the whole group in front of the Hollywood sign.



Hiking a little further up the radio tower gave students the opportunity to see the Hollywood sign without the fence getting in the way of their view.



Along the way to the top of the Hollywood Hills, students saw groups of people on horseback. The students were advised to stay to one side of the path in order to make room and not startle the animals.



Students walked through the Bronson Cave which served as a filming location for productions such as the 1960s Batman TV series where the cave was the entrance to the Batcave.




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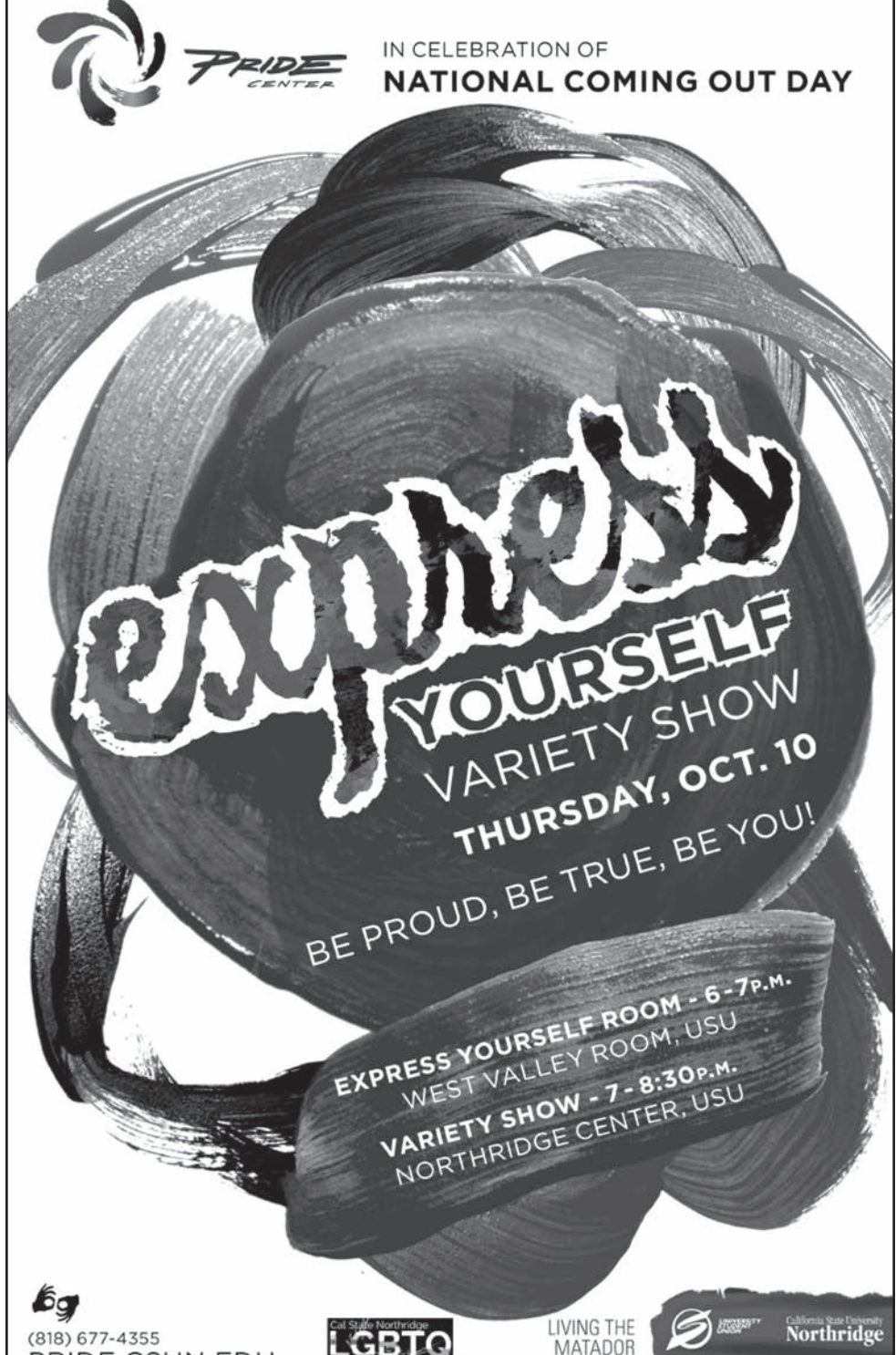
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A day to raise health, rape awareness

BIANCA SANTILLIAN
VICTORIA BECERRIL
DAILY SUNDIAL

“EIGHTY PERCENT of the rapes reported are acquaintance rape,” Maggy Stoicof, peer educator for Project D.A.T.E. said at the Celebration to Wellness Center workshop Thursday morning.

“The closer the relationship, the less likely the survivor will report the rape,” Stoicof said.

Project D.A.T.E., a peer education and prevention project, showed students a presentation that touched on the sensitive subject of rape and incest.

Stoic encouraged students to participate in the discussion and voice their opinions on the myths of sexual assault.

Lanisha Mason, 20-year-old psychology major, attended the workshop and shared her dissatisfaction regarding the myths surrounding sexual assault.

“The biggest myth is ‘girls who wear provocative clothing are asking to get raped,’” said Mason. “I wear shorts and skirts for me and because I feel good,

not because I’m asking for it.”

In addition to being informed about sexual assault, students were educated about the various ways to remain in tune with their bodies at the workshops. The health celebration was a collaborative event hosted by clubs and organizations on campus including University Counseling Services and the Student Recreation Center.

Another workshop that took place during the Celebration to Wellness event was a workshop about eating healthy while without having to spend a lot of money.

Food can last anywhere between a week to 10 days after the “use by” date, according to Ellen Bauersfeld, a registered dietician at the Klotz Student Health Center. Students crowded the USU at the Welcome to Wellness event Wednesday to attend the “Healthy eating on a budget” workshop.

Educating CSUN students on how to manage stress, eat properly, and take better care of themselves was one of the goals of the wellness workshops. Bauersfeld gave students tips advising them on how



JOHN SARINGO-RODRIGUEZ / PHOTO EDITOR

Alexandra Plascencia, 19, Kinesiology major, picks out a few vegetables at the free farmers market at the Wellness event.

to save money while still maintaining healthy balanced meals and educating them on the different food groups.

“So many students are worried that food is going to be bad,” said Bauersfeld. “Students should pay attention to the expiration date which are usually on foods that spoil.”

While students are checking out food at grocery

stores, Bauersfeld advises them to pay attention to the scanners. Scanners are not always updated on foods that go on sale and students can get refunded if there is a mistake.

Forget the old-fashioned typical six-category pyramid food group, Bauersfeld said, and then she introduced a more efficient five category “food plate” to integrate a well-rounded lifestyle.

The food plate includes fruits, grains, dairy, vegetables and protein, all which can be combined together in some foods.

Protein is the main staple that should be in every meal which helps stabilize blood sugar and slow down the absorption of food.

“Ideally in a proper meal, a quarter of the meal should be coming from protein,” advised Bauersfeld. “Protein can come from dairy, vegetarian diets, or chicken and fish.”

Bauersfeld said students should eat three different colors throughout the day; dark greens like kale, or lettuce, red or blue such as grapes, blueberries, and strawberries, and orange or yellow foods such as corn, sweet potatoes, and peaches.

When it comes picking between fresh and/or frozen food versus canned food, the nutritional value of can food is almost identical to that of frozen, and is a cheaper alternative.

Andrea Elzy, one of the coordinators for the Wellness Fair and the Peer to Peer Program at the University Counseling Services, said the rain caught them by surprise, but the information offered to students

is important and cannot be postponed.

“One of the things we pride ourselves (on is that we) that we’ll present to one student, five students, or 200 students,” said Elzy. “As long as the individuals are walking away with the knowledge. That’s all we can hope for.”

Students who attended the workshops were placed into a raffle for a chance to win an iPod. Outside in the USU they were offered 5-minute free massages. Adjacent to the massage tent stood the Free Farmers’ Market offering two free pieces of fruit or vegetables to encourage healthy eating choices. The fruits and produce were products grown by Underwood Farms.



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FRIGHTFEST OR SNOOZEFEST?

Case study: The Walking Dead



ILLUSTRATION BY SARAH CASCADEN / CONTRIBUTOR

JOSH CARLTON
A&E EDITOR

What do you get when you mix a bunch of bitching adults, virtually one likeable character, little to no scares and an occasional zombie or two? Disagree all you want, but the ugly truth is that AMC ratings juggernaut "The Walking Dead" is showing signs of fatigue when it should be hitting its stride.

Now, before you start an apocalypse over someone bashing your favorite show, it's important to keep in mind that this comes from a place of love. This is a show in need of a pulse (pun very much intended), but with the season four premiere looming, have the sins of seasons past already undone the series' potential?

"The Walking Dead" premiered in 2010 and the end-of-days-zombie setup immediately turned some heads. The pilot was strong and represented a promising venture into the world of horror television; it was even pretty scary. While the notion

of a long-running horror series was initially appealing, the question remained: can it sustain this premise? The answer has unfortunately been kind of murky.

The beef that most viewers commonly have with the show, besides having no scare factor, is that nothing really ever seems to happen. Honest fans will joke about most of the episodes being uneventful and tedious. To drive this point home, take a look at the Internet memes that came out after the dismal season two; Daryl not getting enough screen time, T-Dog getting no screen

time, and most famously, Carl not staying in the house. Ask one of your friends what their favorite episode of that season was, and you can almost bet that it will be the finale; the one that finally got them off that pointless fucking farm.

Put-downs aside, the show does occasionally kick it into gear. Season three was an obvious improvement, but the show really had no excuse. It was scraping the barrel by the time Rick finally got around to acting like a real, stressed out human being and not some righteous cowboy with a badge of honor. Last season also took some initiative

by showing us the true nature of a broken culture. The Governor, played with dead-eyed wonder by David Morrissey, exemplified what someone with charm in a sullen world could accomplish or more importantly, demolish. Despite his character betrayal during the season three finale, he was a formidable villain, with a sinister bag of tricks.

But before the praise goes too far, there was a gaping wound in season three that has been festering since the start. The fundamental issue with "The Walking Dead"

See **WALKING DEAD**, page 2

WALKING DEAD

Continued from page 1

isn't that it's a horror show with no horror, or that the plot development usually takes multiple episodes to get going, or the usual lack of desperation, it's that none of these humans feel human.

With the exception of Daryl, no one's journey ever seems to stick. Rick spent most of season three brooding, and lashing out. Merle's character arc, while noble, felt forced, as did Carl's descent into cynical boyhood. Maggie and Glenn were teetering on monotony and Hershel -- well, he's only got one leg now -- so his days are numbered. Even the Governor, who is almost immediately presented as a psychopath, wasn't convincing when he ultimately became one. Odd, considering that his transformation, or lack thereof, should've been a no-brainer.

Despite this, the show isn't entirely at a loss. There's some obvious love from the creators who've been dealing with well-documented behind-the-scenes issues with

showrunners. Glenn Mazzara, last season's showrunner, was subsequently fired after producers were unhappy with his vision and shortage of material for season three. Frank Darabont, legendary film director who shepherded the series to television, was ousted after season two.

The series' newest helmer, Scott Gimple, has been on board since the show's inception, so he has had the chance to see what worked and what didn't with past seasons.

"I'm trying to take a greatest-hits approach and take the best of both those runs and run with it," Gimple said, when asked by the Hollywood Reporter about his direction for season four.

If the newest season can find some sort of path, a direction that the show and its lost group of characters can stay on, then maybe, just maybe "The Walking Dead" will finally become worthy of its unusually large viewership. Because as of right now, these loyal fans deserve better.

"The Walking Dead" season four premieres Oct. 13

TAKE CONTROL

Batman gets to work in prequel

ALYSHA GARRETT-BYRD
DAILY SUNDIAL

Gamers flipped on the bat signal, and a certain masked hero answered. This month, the Dark Knight will return to the world of console gaming and give fans a chance to save the city of Gotham once again. "Batman: Arkham Origins" features a younger, rougher hero on a journey to become the world's greatest detective.

It's Christmas Eve and Bruce Wayne has a long night ahead of him. Villains such as Black Mask, Deathstroke and Bane make their first appearance and begin defining the relationships that will shape Batman's future. While there is no Catwoman in this game, since she is still just Selina Kyle at this point in the timeline, there is a new female villain, Copperhead. This assassin will be one of many the Bat will face off against. The events of the night will test his morale and push him to the limit. This Batman is a vigilante in training -- a newcomer -- trying to save the city he loves from the grips of Gotham's criminals.

The excitement over "Arkham Origins" was met with some confusion as it was announced that Warner Bros. Montreal, not Rocksteady, would be developing the game. Of course, Rocksteady has given the game its stamp of approval, but until the game hits shelves Oct. 25, no one is sure if it can live up to



PHOTO COURTESY OF MCT

Bruce Wayne (a.k.a Batman) taking care of business in the 2011 hit sequel "Arkham City."

the previous Batman titles. Another big change in the series is that the Joker will not be the main villain. He will still face off against the Bat, but will not be seen throughout the story as he was before.

The Arkham series has been hugely successful, with "Batman: Arkham Asylum" and "Batman: Arkham City" both winning Game of the Year awards. Rocksteady developed both titles and created a Batman that was worth caring about. These weren't mere arcade games, these were games that had strong storylines, engaging combat features and intriguing puzzles.

"Batman: Arkham Asylum," released in 2009, is set in the temporary holding facility where many

of Gotham's villains are being held. Joker allows himself to be captured and take hold of the asylum, warning that any intervention will lead to bombs detonating throughout Gotham City. Batman must fight his way through Joker's men, as well as other inmates, to rescue Commissioner Gordon and thwart Joker's plans of destruction.

"Batman: Arkham City," released in 2011, starts with Wayne getting himself arrested and put into Arkham City, the new prison facility section near Gotham, to investigate Hugo Strange. Throughout the game, Batman uncovers political corruption, plans of massacre and a handful of other vile things. The storyline gets tighter

as the Joker infects Batman with a lethal disease that forces the Dark Knight to work with some of his enemies to find a cure.

Robin/Nightwing gets a DLC story mission, which gives players the chance to learn more about the character. The game is full of side missions and Riddler puzzles to solve, making it fun to play even after the story has been completed.

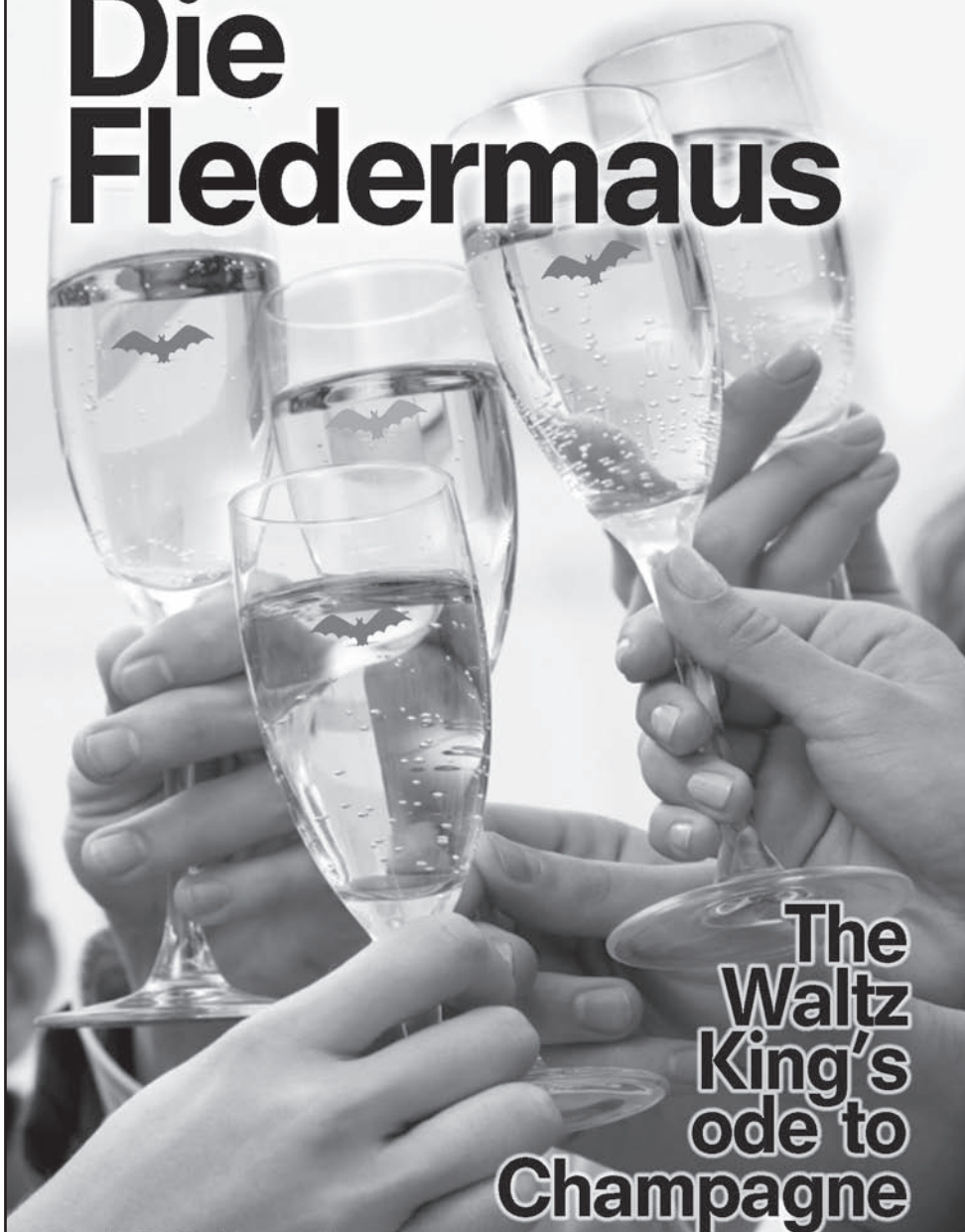
Gamers and critics alike are hoping for another Arkham hit with "Batman: Arkham Origins," and if all goes well, the Bat will be in the running for another Game of the Year award. After all, the billionaire playboy has a habit of getting what he wants.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MCT

Two zombies on the hunt for brains in AMC's "The Walking Dead."

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“THAT’S WHAT HE SAID

A CSUN success story

CHANDELOR ARMSTRONG
DAILY ARMSTRONG

Credited with producing some of the most successful animated films of all time, CSUN alumnus Don Hahn discusses working for Disney, advice given to CSUN students interested in film production and his longtime friendship with Tim Burton. Hahn also updated the Daily Sundial on one of his current projects, a new film starring Angelina Jolie.

DAILY SUNDIAL: Who inspired you to begin producing animated films and why animation?

DON HAHN: The Disney artists who worked with Walt himself inspired me. I didn't set out to produce animated films. I went to school for music and graphic design, and then when I started working for Disney thought I would be an animator, but it became clear to me pretty quickly that I would be an average animator at best. During this time, however, I had the privilege to work with and learn from men and women who had worked directly with Walt Disney. People like Woolie Reitherman, Marc Davis and Ollie Johnston. They inspired and challenged me on a daily basis, and eventually I realized what I was really good at was putting a team of the right people together to get a particular job done, and then cheerleading them past the finish line. And it was people like Woolie, Marc and Ollie who helped me see that about myself. That's how I got into producing. They inspired me to figure out what I was good at, and then to just do that.

DS: Out of all the colleges in the US, you chose to study music and art at CSUN. Why CSUN?

DH: CSUN was a good local college, and I was a local boy, from Bellflower. It seemed like a good place to go, and it had what I wanted to study. It seemed like a no-brainer to me at the time.

DS: You worked with Tim Burton on Frankenweenie. Did you find it challenging working with Mr. Burton?

DH: Not at all. Tim has been a friend of mine for 30 years and I love working with him. I'm always looking for



PHOTO COURTESY OF STONECIRCLE PICTURES

Disney Producer and CSUN alumnus, Don Hahn.

an excuse to do it again. He is brilliant!

DS: There was an incredible magic that was created with the films *Beauty and the Beast* and *The Lion King*. When working on a new animated film, do you find yourself wanting to recreate the magic these two films brought about? These films remain as two of the biggest selling films of all time.

DH: I don't think I ever set out to try and recreate the magic of those two films when starting a new project. The team creates that magic, by doing what it is they're best at, and for me it's always about putting together the right team. Each project is different, and requires the talents of hundreds of men and women, so in building that team you have to figure out what's right for a certain project. You always do what's right for the project, and trying to recreate a past success is a double-edged



SCAN THIS QR CODE

to see the full interview with Don Hahn

“EVERYONE’S A CRITIC

‘Gravity’ orbits perfection

PATRICK J. WILKINSON
CONTRIBUTOR

“Gravity,” Alfonso Cuarón’s follow up to “Children of Men,” is an excitingly peculiar film. Half one-woman stage piece, half human drama set in space rendered across a dark and cold desolate sky, it’s a glorious achievement in filmmaking and a precious slice of imagination in the age of obligatory superhero reboots, worn out sequels and the 3D renditions that come with them.

It’s also one of a few Hollywood films to be released this year that’s based on an original script.

What makes “Gravity” so special is the combination of all the cinematic variables that make it work so well. The film is as minimalist as it comes. Featuring the performances of two characters and clocking in a little over 90-minutes (and that’s including credits). Most excitingly, it features somewhere around 200 cuts with the opening shot lasting, at least by my estimates, 10 minutes.

Sandra Bullock plays Dr. Ryan Stone, a quiet and reserved bio-medical engineer on her first space shuttle mission accompanied by Matt Kowalski, played by George Clooney, a talkative and witty veteran astronaut on his final mission. All seems happy-go-lucky until the film kicks into gear when the team is informed that debris from a Russian anti-satellite test has

gone astray, travelling at lightning speed towards them. The crew must stealthily avoid the debris before running out of oxygen and time.

The tenet of cinema has always been to create immersive experiences and “Gravity” is that rare, intimate human story that reminds us about the power of imagination while giving us hope for the future of films. Television serials of late have been lauded for reinventing the wonderment of on-screen narratives and when we all thought the freshness of movies was long gone, “Gravity” comes along and smacks us in the face.

The true power of the film is Sandra Bullock’s performance, whose plight to survive mirrors, though in a tamer fashion, the one James Franco endured in “127 Hours.” It’s not quite as gut wrenching, but she gives what I’m sure many will agree is the best performance of her career. There are those moments when she’s all alone, pan-

icked, lost, wrapped in self-doubt with seemingly nothing to live for and we’re right there with her. It’s visceral but not overly dramatic. That’s the power of Alfonso Cuarón’s direction and his take on 3D.

Cuarón is in a league of his own. His career has seen him breathe life into cinema with energy and freshness. He’s a humanist who knows what to do with characters, putting them first before plot and cinematic tropes. His take on “The Prisoner of Azkaban” changed the texture of the “Harry Potter” franchise. One of my favorite films is “Y Tu Mama Tambien.” Not to mention the deeply engrossing “Children of Men.”

“Gravity” is not a perfect film but it certainly comes close. In the end it’s a successful new age cinematic experiment that bridges the gap between what cinema was made for and what it can still become, leaving enough space for us to wonder exactly where movies can go from here.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MCT

George Clooney is off the hook in original sci-fi film, “Gravity.”



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12

5:00 to 8:00 p.m.
Treatober Fest
Angel City Brewery
Cost: \$15 to \$30

L.A. Foodie is throwing a Treatoberfest costume party at Angel City Brewery in downtown L.A. Dress up in your Halloween costume and go trick-or-treating among L.A.'s finest sweets and treats vendors. Munch on samples at dozens of different tables providing assorted cupcakes and treats. Then wash it all down with 3 awesome beers from Angel City Brewery. All of this is included in the price of your \$15 ticket!

13

9:30-1:30pm
Green-O-Ween
Mar Vista Farmer's Market
Between Venice Blvd and Grand View
Cost: Free

In need of a new Halloween costume? Swap costumes with other costume swappers! The Los Angeles Costume Swap encourages you to do some fall cleaning by recycling or donating your gently-used adult and children costumes! For every costume you bring, you can swap it out for a different one, or simply donate the ones you no longer need. Your donation will benefit a local homeless child, teen, or adult.

14

8:00 p.m.
VooDoo Comedy
House of Blues- Sunset Strip
Cost: free (2 drink minimum)

Go check out some of the best live stand up comedy in LA at the VooDoo Lounge in the House of Blues! There will be a great lineup of some of LA's best comedians, including special guest and national touring headliner Lisa Landry. This is an amazing show, so go grab a drink and have some laughs at VooDoo Comedy!

16

7:30 p.m.
Elemeno Pea
Nordhoff Hall "Little Theatre"
Cost: students \$15, general \$20

Directed by Peter Grego, this comedy of bad manners includes two sisters squaring off in a satirical-filled play sure to be a favorite!

17

6:00 pm-2:00 am
M Dot Fashion Show
930 Hilgard, Los Angeles
Cost: \$25 general \$75 VIP

With midterms right around the corner, students need all the laughs they can get. The Laugh Factory in Hollywood has become a staple in the LA comedy scene and has played host to comedians from all sides of the spectrum. Ari Shaffir and Neal Brennan round out a night that is sure to be just the antidote in getting rid of that mid-semester frown. Don't miss out!



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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7

MATADOR BASKETBALL PREVIEW

ONLY IN THE DAILY SUNDIAL

Critical skills are not fully taught in college

CALVIN RATANA
DAILY SUNDIAL

A COLLEGE DEGREE should be a student's golden ticket to securing a career, but higher education seems to be only doing a fair or poor job at preparing recent college graduates for the workforce according to a new study.

"A lot of people just graduate and they don't know what it's like to work or have a real job," said Karen Ortiz, 23, who studies public health at CSUN.

While education policy makers and other leaders continue to emphasize the need for technology, math and science, a new national survey by the Northeastern University shows that most Americans and hiring decision-makers believe that being well-rounded as a student is more important than just having specific industry skills.

The report shows that about 62 percent of Americans say that the higher education system is not doing an adequate job to provide certain skills necessary to gain employment. Both groups said broadly applicable skills such as problem solving and writing skills are preferable over just having one specific skill, which colleges tend to emphasize.

Glenn Omatsu, professor of Asian American studies, said the problem is affected by the political atmosphere of America.

"In the last 20 years, especially for state institutions like ourselves, there has been an emphasis on continuation rates and graduation rates," Omatsu said. "So colleges are pretty much judged based on how many students come in and graduate within X number of years. That actually puts a lot of pressure on institutions to have better graduation rates, which can then interfere with training students

in terms of skills such as social interactions, communications and critical thinking."

Randi Picarelli, a communication professor at CSUN, said technology and universities' tendency to emphasize on certain subjects have affected what skills students come to acquire.

"Technology has certainly altered young people's ability to communicate effectively, orally and in writing," Picarelli said. "I think our emphasis on the hard-degree subjects like business, for example, de-emphasizes what we

consider to be soft sciences or the humanities or people's ability to think critically. I think we neglect these things or see them as unimportant."

At the same time, Picarelli said she is not sure if preparing students for the workforce has ever really been her job.

"Universities were not (built) as a work-prep institution," she said. "Our goal in any university was to get people to think more critically and to make them understand their role in the world and learn through the process of academia about issues of morality, ethics or citizenships."

Casey Naves, 20, majoring in environmental and occupational health at CSUN, said students should rely not just on professors to get the best education or to become well-prepared for the real world.

"I think colleges try and do their best but it doesn't always help," Naves said. "It's definitely something where they give you the foundation but it's up to you to practice and exercise it yourself. There's only so much that school can teach you."

Internship could open many doors for students

Nine of 10 Americans and more than 70 percent of employers support experiential learning and internships, according to the study. They believe that integrating students' studies with experience with a professional group leads to more successful employees.

"I'm doing an internship right now and it's really important to me and cool to see what's out there without having to actually commit to a job," Naves said. "I'm definitely learning stuff that I'm not learning in school such as being in a professional setting and being able to interact professionally. That's not really something you can learn in school."

Danica Rozanski, 20, a child development major at CSUN, said internships are necessary because they can help find one's true passion in life while saving time.

"I think it's important because you get to figure out what you like and you're not stuck with a job once you graduate and you end up not liking it and you've invested all this time," Rozanski said. So I think it's important to figure out what you like doing

while you're still in college."

What skills are employees really looking for?

Omatsu says that students need to understand that having a good grade point average, a letter of recommendation and majoring in certain subjects doesn't always translate to landing a well-paying job.

"If you were to ask students what employers are looking for, I don't think most students would pick skills such as social skills, communication or critical thinking," Omatsu said. "They will probably pick out having

high grades and being able to master certain academic matters. They take the other skills for granted."

Steven Park, a junior studying biology, believes that getting a job requires more than just a bachelor's degree.

"Employers are looking for everything. Really good grades, experience in the field and probably community service as well," Park said. "What really sucks is that it's not about what you know anymore, it's about who you know."

"Our goal in any university was to get people to think more critically and to make them understand their role in the world and learn through the process of academia about issue of morality, ethics or citizenships."

—RANDI PICARELLI
Communication professor
at CSUN



ILLUSTRATION BY JASMINE MOCHIZUKI / VISUAL EDITOR

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OCTOBER 10, 2013

Opinion

OPINION@SUNDIAL.CSUN.EDU

Student, think critically — it pays off

Future employers say they are looking for employees who think critically and creatively, not just college graduates

JOSHUA KHABUSHANI
CONTRIBUTOR

MARK TWAIN once remarked, “I have never let my schooling interfere with my education.”

Truthfully, for quite some time, I chastised such an absurd statement; I thought to myself, isn't it well-known that school and an education are synonymous? That an education is received through schooling? Although this was my disposition for most of my undergraduate career, as I progressed through the system of our current-day university, I began to share similar insights as Mr. Twain.

As a former nursing student, I can recall taking the many necessary prerequisite courses, which were solely focused on memorizing information and regurgitating it back onto a scantron during quizzes and exams. Ironically, I performed at an exceptionally high level and received top marks in all of my courses — I had learned to be the good student my professors expected me to be.

However, looking back, it saddens me to say that there was no progression in my overall being. None of the information being forced upon me carried any merit or significance and certainly did not require me to expand my mind, let alone think critically.

The current mentality society instills in students is depriving us of what a true education entails. Instead of encouraging us to engage in courses that promote critical thinking and self-actualization, we are being forced into majors that statistically have the greatest job demand in today's workforce.

But wait. Isn't that what trade schools are for? There is nothing wrong with being solely interested in learning a craft, in order to turn around and find work. However, those aren't the ideals universities were originally founded upon. A university is supposed to be a place that promotes growth — a safe haven where students can explore their passions and pursue knowledge, an institution that exposes students to the great works of our world.

Unfortunately, here at CSUN, the idea of thinking for ourselves has been sabotaged and replaced with student learning outcomes professors are supposed to bestow upon us. Rather than representing the grounds of free thinking, administrations have taken the business model approach



ILLUSTRATION BY JAE KITINOJA / ILLUSTRATOR

and shifted the idea of school into a contest of how much money they can raise from their consumers.

Recently, I have had the privilege of taking courses that are taught in a more authentic and unorthodox manner — where grades are irrelevant and the focus of the course is placed upon teaching the student to expand their horizons.

Professor Vincent Coppola of the philosophy department has pushed aside the pretension and encouraged us to “dare to know, dare to be wise, dare to really think with a life-affirming view.”

Coppola uses the Socratic method, challenging us, often using humorous methods to engage us and show that an education still can be obtained — in spite of the confines of the institution.

“Come to expand your horizon and enrich your life with thought and knowledge, thought and knowledge about philosophy, literature,

physics, everything. And do so for the rest of your life,” he said.

Unfortunately, despite the worthiness of such an enriching method, administration expects professors to follow their protocol and abide by their expectations of what ought to be taught in the classroom. Regardless what the administration, or even society is expecting of us, we must learn to think and fall in love with it!

More so than ever, double majoring, minoring, or even taking additional courses for the simple sake of pursuing various passions has become frowned upon and a taboo in our university. As students, we are being capped at a certain number of units and are practically being forced out of the institution, ready or not. Instead of growing minds, we are being treated like numbers, expected to rapidly go through the system so the next can come in.

Ironically, a recent article published in “The Chronicle of Higher Educa-

tion” states that “employers are looking for recent graduates who can critically and creatively think, and communicate effectively both orally and in writing.” In addition, these same employers responded that they are far less interested in students who received “narrow training and industry-specific skills.”

Reality proves that skills pertaining to specific jobs can always be learned; however, well-roundedness and holistic thinking is a trait that is developed over time. Moreover, as students, if this is what our future employers are thinking, why haven't universities joined this movement and encouraged overall student development?

During his Stanford commencement speech, Steve Jobs shared with his audience that within the first few years of his college career, he made the decision to drop out because he felt he wasn't getting anything substantial out of his schooling. Instead, he made the effort to sit in on classes he was

genuinely interested in. In particular, he immersed himself in a course on various typography — a subject that didn't seem to have any benefits in the job market, but forced him to expand his mind and think critically.

Rather than focusing on how typography would benefit him in the future, he decided to follow his heart and do what he loved. Ten years later, Steve Jobs was able to incorporate what he learned into engineering Apple computers.

I believe this is a valuable lesson to be learned — that although critically thinking courses may not provide immediate gratification, they certainly benefit us down the road.

It is our right as students to freely pursue education and explore various fields of study. Rather than being stifled with the hype of administrative and societal standards, students must regain their freedom to expand their horizons and receive a fruitful education.

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COME OUT, BE YOURSELF

LOREN TOWNSLEY
EDITOR IN CHIEF

NATIONAL COMING OUT DAY is an annual celebration which celebrates coming out as lesbian, bisexual, gay and transgender.

"It was after the March on Washington that really ignited National Coming Out Day...(it) was really about visibility for the LGBTQ community and standing up for equality" said Sarina Loeb, the coordinator of the Pride Center and LGBTQ Initiatives.

Below, two students share their coming out stories.

GRACE CASTANEDA

There was a slam on the table, her mom crying, when an overwhelming feeling came over her. This is when Grace Castaneda, realized what her mother was demanding: the truth about her sexual orientation.

Grace had just come home from school when her mother confronted her. Earlier that day at work her mother had been humiliated by a coworker, who had seen Grace kissing a female friend.

"This is when I was trying to tell my brain, 'run stupid, run,' but my legs weren't working," Grace said.

Her mother kept demanding the truth from her. She pleaded continuously, but Grace initially couldn't conjure up the courage.

Another slam on the table, this time harder. Grace froze, and she pleaded with her mother to stop. "Are you a faggot? Are you a dike?" rang through the house. Grace continued to play it off as if she didn't understand: joking around to settle the mood. After several attempts Grace finally told her mother the truth about herself.

"Yes mom, your golden child is a fucking faggot."

Her mother went so far to send her to a psychologist because she thought it was a mental issue and thought that they could fix her. Grace's mother looked into hormonal treatments as well.

Recently, her mother has come to accept that her daughter is gay.

But during those hard time, Grace needed a support system. She had her best friend who knew she was gay since they were 14 years old. Her best friend was very understanding and told her that being gay didn't change the way she felt about her.

"For anyone who wants to come out it's up to you. There is never a perfect time to come out...I would say build a community, a support system...of friends who can take you in and let you crash on their couch or can provide you some type of support," Grace said.

ANDREW RIDDICK

Andrew Riddick spent many years using his physical strength as a façade. He had difficulty accepting who he was.

"I was teased a lot for being gay in middle and high school...I pretty much beat up anybody that decided to question that and right about the time I came out to myself was when I got it established that the public knew I'm straight. I had finally established this now that is a façade. The truth is you guys were right, but I am not going to let you know that until I feel I can," Andrew said.

When he finally came to terms with who he was, he knew it was time to tell his family.

The first time Andrew told his mother, she dismissed everything. The second time, she was upset and began to ask why he was going against God's plan. It didn't really sink in with her until the third attempt.

It was during Thanksgiving and Andrew was getting ready to leave for dinner when his mother came in. She had heard from his father that he had told him that he was gay the night before. His mother didn't say very much.

It wasn't until dinner with the family that he learned what his mother really felt. An aunt at the dinner table began speaking up about how Andrew needed to be fixed.

"My mom turned to her and said that is my son. I don't care if you are my sister, don't ever talk about my

son that way. And I will stop talking to you forever if you ever decide to say anything that horrible again," Andrew said.

Andrew's mother and him are now getting along. She has even met his boyfriend, Logan who he has been dating for a year now.

PRIDE CENTER SUPPORT

For those thinking about coming out or who need a support system, the CSUN Pride Center provides a space where students can feel safe. Cathleen Molloy is one of many students that have taken advantage of the Pride Center. It has helped her deal with prejudices that have come with being bisexual.

"In our society we like to think that we are tolerant of other sexual orientations but really we are more tolerant of those we understand the best. For example lesbian and gay. The B (bisexual) and the T (transgender) have a hidden relationship with each other. It is the L and the G that are put in the spotlight but the B and the T are included but they're shoved to the side" said Cathleen.

The Pride Center, located in the University Student Union, provides a peer mentor program where students can meet each other and discuss anything that they would like to talk about: like coming out.

COMING OUT DAY EVENTS

The Pride Center and the University Student Union are hosting:

GALLERY WITH COMING OUT STORIES

6-7pm
West Valley Room

VARIETY SHOW

7-8:30pm
Northridge Center, USU

Share a coming out story throughout the whole event West Valley room



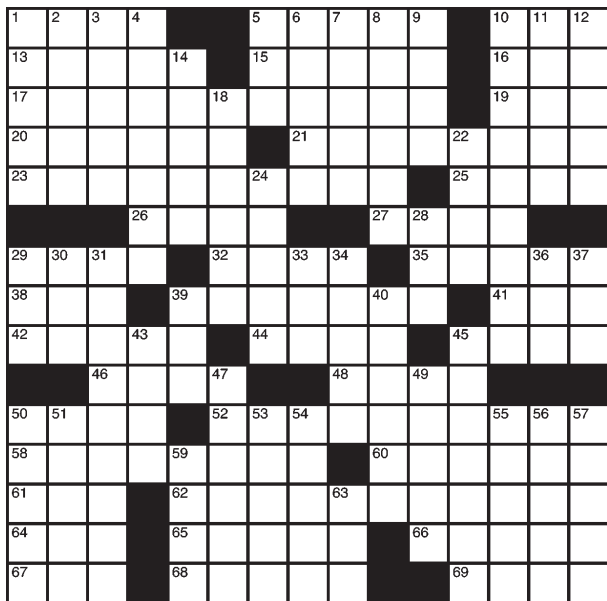
SCAN THIS QR CODE to hear their interviews

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

ACROSS

- 1 Kindle add-ons
- 5 Fight
- 10 Rainy day consequence
- 13 Wool source
- 15 Personal strength
- 16 George's songwriting partner
- 17 *Slow-to-develop sort
- 19 Cover
- 20 Work in which ligo is a baritone
- 21 Spot for a Hindu's tilak
- 23 *Precursor to adoption, often
- 25 Like an unswept fireplace
- 26 "Ring Cycle" goddess
- 27 Skip over
- 29 Hubbub
- 32 Gloss targets
- 35 Maui howdy
- 38 Amigo
- 39 Pound spenders
- 41 Postal motto word
- 42 Coffee shop feature
- 44 Half a sci-fi sign-off
- 45 Yard parts
- 46 Star in Lyra
- 48 Sphere opening
- 50 Gray
- 52 *Bargain hunter's destination
- 58 All one can stomach
- 60 Northwest college town where "Animal House" was filmed
- 61 Big bird
- 62 Salad choice, and a literal description of the starts of the answers to starred clues
- 64 Twitch
- 65 Witch
- 66 Where many tennis winners are hit
- 67 Farm structure
- 68 Father of Moses
- 69 Word after high or open



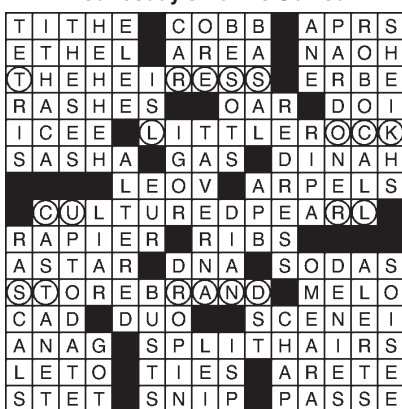
By Jennifer Nutt

10/10/13

DOWN

- 1 "___ the Lights": Kanye West song
- 2 First philosopher to mention Atlantis
- 3 Gourmet spreads
- 4 Ore refinery
- 5 Fiscal VIP
- 6 Bubble bath accessory
- 7 Hard wear?
- 8 Music provider
- 9 On hand
- 10 *21st birthday, e.g.
- 11 Hater of David, in Dickens
- 12 Pops
- 14 More qualified
- 18 Imperious
- 22 Flag down
- 24 ___ terrier: Highlands hunter
- 28 More, in Madrid
- 29 Relaxing getaway
- 30 La Brea goo
- 31 *Old TV title shown in a heart
- 33 Newscaster Lindström
- 34 Capital SSW of Riyadh

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved



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10/10/13

- 36 Weeder's tool
- 37 Busts, perhaps
- 39 Lose tensile strength
- 40 Pumpkin pie spice
- 43 ___ ticket
- 45 Evolves beyond forgiveness
- 47 Maintain as true
- 49 Tierney of "ER"
- 50 Drives the getaway car for
- 51 Mail payment
- 53 Vegas hotel with a Sphinx re-creation
- 54 Colleague of Ruth and Sonia
- 55 New Hampshire city
- 56 Nine: Pref.
- 57 Lab work
- 59 Village People classic
- 63 Rep.'s rival

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OCTOBER 10, 2013

COLUMN

Who can beat Michael Jordan?

Jordan recently made comments about how he would stack up one-on-one in his prime against today's NBA greats

BRIAN BERNSTEIN
DAILY SUNDIAL

NBA FANS have long debated who the best player in the game is, or who wins in a one-on-one matchup. Michael Jordan has added fuel to topic saying he would beat any of today's NBA superstars in a solo matchup.

"I don't think I would lose," Jordan, 50, said. "Other than to Kobe Bryant, because he steals all of my moves."

Jordan is the best basketball player to ever live. He has paved the way for the new generation of players just like Bill Russell, Magic Johnson, and Julius "Dr. J" Erving did before him. So how does Jordan in his prime stack up to against today's superstars?

KOBE BRYANT VS. MJ

Kobe Bryant is hands down Jordan's toughest competition one-on-one. Bryant mirrors Jordan's game. He has perfected his patented turn-around fade shot from the base line, has hangtime, a killer instinct and most importantly, he is cerebral.

Bryant has an arsenal of offensive moves. If Jordan were to stop one, Bryant comes at him with a counter. If Bryant favored a side or move, Jordan would take that option away, but instead, defenders have to be more disciplined when defending Kobe.

The Black Mamba's thirst for victory is stronger than anyone in the game today and rivals Jordan's. This matchup will be a chess match and a battle of will. If these two played a best of seven series, Jordan wins 4-3 because

of the ability to outwit his opponents.

LEBRON JAMES VS. MJ

At first glance you see James' 6'8, 250 lbs stature too much for Jordan's 6'6, 216 lbs frame to handle. You would assume James would use his strength and height to bully defenders, but Jordan does not back down from anyone.

James has one clear advantage and that is strength. But what good is strength if you don't use it to your benefit? James is known for not using his strength consistently enough to gain a leg-up on his opponents. Instead, he tends to play with the ball above the three-point line and shoot jumpers. That plays directly into the hands of Jordan, an NBA Defensive Player of the Year winner and nine time NBA First Team All-Defense.

Jordan has studied and pointed out a flaw in James' game.

"When LeBron goes right, he usually drives; when he goes left, he usually shoots a jumper. So if I have to guard him, I'm gonna push him left so nine times out of 10, he's gonna shoot a jump shot. If he goes right, he's going to the hole and I can't stop him. So I ain't letting him go right."

James has a habit of taking possessions off to where he is not involved in the play. If he does that against Jordan, there is no hope. He does not possess the same hunger to win. When Jordan stepped on the court, it became personal.

James would lose to Jordan because Jordan would take James out of the game mentally.

KEVIN DURANT VS. MJ

Durant is one of the best shooters in the game today, but lacks the strength to battle against Michael Jordan. He is a guy who wants to



COURTESY OF MCT

Michael Jordan says he wouldn't lose to anyone in today's NBA except Kobe Bryant because, according to Jordan, "he steals all my moves."

shoot the ball, but Jordan's quickness and strength would disrupt that ability. Durant would struggle to beat Jordan off the dribble, therefore not being able to create space to get off a good shot.

Durant's height would allow him to shoot over the top, but Jordan's defense would force him to shoot a contested or fade away shot, lessening their percentage of success.

Durant does not stand a chance versus the physical Jordan.

One-on-one is a different monster similar to how playoff basketball differs from the regular season. The component of being

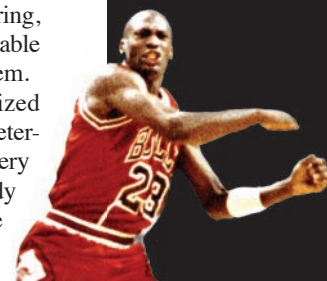
alone shows a player's true colors. How does a player respond when all they have to rely on is themselves?

The NBA during Jordan's era was played significantly more physical than it is today. While players would be able to match the physicality Jordan would bring, no player would be comfortable enough for it not to bother them.

Jordan is immortalized because of the heart and determination he brought to every battle and that is why nobody in today's NBA would be able to outduel the greatest player to ever live.

WHAT ELSE DID MJ SAY?

Listen to Sundial Sports debate on which players stand a chance against Michael Jordan



FANTASY FOOTBALL

Waiver wire gold rush for week six

KEVIN KIANI
SPORTS EDITOR

YOU OWN Julio Jones and Owen Daniels and you are sitting ugly at 1-4 caught in the ever-deepening fantasy football injury black hole. The rest of your league is laughing at your pathetic excuse of fill-in bench players as you unconfidently submit this week's roster. Get your head out of your hands. I'm here to tell you that all hope is not lost and that there is fantasy gold to be found on the waiver wire.

Garrett Graham

What does a plunging Matt Schaub need after throwing pick sixes in four consecutive games and losing his security blanket for eight weeks? A healthy dose of fourth year tight end Garrett

Graham. Even with Daniels in the lineup, Graham has been a big part of the Texans passing attack hauling in 15 receptions for 141 yards and three touchdowns over the first five weeks. The Texans will be facing the St. Louis Rams this week, who rank 19th overall in pass defense, and 28th in rush defense. The Texans will have no problem moving the ball against the swiss cheese defense of the Rams. Look for Graham to solidify himself as a top-10 tight end moving forward.

Vincent Brown

The Chargers rollercoaster is in full swing yet again. They beat the Eagles on the road, beat the Cowboys at home and go to Oakland the following week to lay an egg against the Raiders. Despite their confusing start, they have the fifth-ranked passing offense in the league led by the

awkward release of Philip Rivers. That is why Vincent Brown is an intriguing start this week. The Chargers will be at home against the 4-1 Indianapolis Colts which promises to be a shootout. The Colts will have no problems putting points up against the Chargers' awful 27th ranked pass defense and the Chargers will be playing catch up for most of the evening. With wide receiver Malcolm Floyd on injured reserve, look for Brown to be the recipient of the majority of deep balls that Rivers will fling in his direction.

Ted Ginn Jr.

The Panthers wide receiver has 211 yards and two touchdowns in the past three games and going against the Minnesota Vikings, who are currently the 29th ranked pass defense in the league, he is in store for a big fantasy day. Start Ginn with confidence as a wideout or flex in all formats.



COURTESY OF MCT

Texans tight end Garrett Graham is worth a pickup this week against an awful St. Louis Rams defense.