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Stopout, a growing trend among college students

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Every associate degree will soon be transferable to any CSU campus



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Undocumented must be seen as equal, contributing members of society

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NHL facing major problems with recent lawsuit

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# DAILY SUNDIAL

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, NORTHRIDGE

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Claudia Rocha, a junior kinesiology major and women's rugby rookie, received a black eye while playing in a tournament during preseason.

## NO PAIN NO GAIN

Although once rejected as an official CSUN team, the Lady Matadors Rugby club conquered the state for three years

PHOTO & STORY BY  
LAURA PIERSON  
CONTRIBUTOR

**A** GROUP OF STUDENTS made an attempt to start a women's rugby club at Cal State Northridge three years ago to no avail.

The CSUN sports club denied their request and the students were told to try again next year. The eight students refused to give up, so they recruited a team, found a coach and an off campus field to practice on.

The group of students were finally ready to compete, but without the backing of Cal State Northridge they could not register with USA Rugby as a college team. In order to compete in the league they would have to be voted in by every rugby team in Southern California.

The CSUN students decided to register with USA Rugby as a social team and called themselves the All Valley Rugby Football Club, also

nicknamed the Black Roses. The Black Roses contacted two other budding college teams and together they created their own schedule in 2011.

The Black Roses went on to win every match that season, which got the attention of the CSUN sports club. Soon, the Black Roses became CSUN Women's Rugby.

"I work hard to be a leader for my team. I have a lot of responsibility being president and captain of my club," said Gillian Chance, a senior studying CTVA. "I am so happy that CSUN has given us the opportunity to represent our university. Founding and playing for this club has made my college experience better than I could ever have imagined it to be."

Due to the determination of the students, rugby had returned to Northridge after a 17-year hiatus. The CSUN Women's Rugby team was added to the Collegiate SoCal Division II schedule in 2012. Despite having only a handful of girls with experience, the team went on to become number one in Southern California and No. 14 in the nation of Division II schools.



Ashley Gomez, a sophomore urban studies major, waits for the referee to announce the cadence for the scrum.

See RUGBY, page 5

# Is 'stopout' the new college dropout?

Some studies show that more students are taking a break from school, but universities worry that many might not return

**ELIZABETH OHANIAN**  
DAILY SUNDIAL

**THE TERM** college dropout describes a student who decides college isn't working out the way they thought it would so they leave and never look back.

However, a new report shows that a college "stopout" is becoming even more common amongst college students.

The term "stopout" is used when a student decides college isn't working out for them at a certain period of time in their life. Their solution to that is to discontinue their education for a semester or two only to return when it is more convenient.

Toby Park, who conducted the survey in the USA Today report, studied 38,000 community college students who had enrolled in the year 2000, in the state of Texas. The study shows that 94 percent of college students stop out in the course of earning their degree.

"Students who return after stop out are more likely to persist toward a bachelor's degree," said Park.

While stopping out may not be as detrimental as dropping out, it is still an issue that leaves the government with billions of dollars spent on financial aid and loans for students who may not even return to receive their degree.

According to a report done by USA Today, \$9 billion was spent on students from four-year colleges who decided to stop out before reaching their sophomore year from 2003 to 2008.

For CSUN English major, Ashley Delgado, 22, stopping out is a waste of time and money.

"I get loans to be able to afford college but once I graduate I'm responsible for paying off those loans plus the interest, so for me it would just be such a waste," said Delgado.

Students who stop out of college also affect their road to graduation according to Park.

"Stopping out certainly increases time to a degree and can come at a great cost to both the student as well as the university--particularly if the student is stopped out for a longer period of time and needs to retake any courses before moving forward," said Park.

The study also shows that some students stopped out because they got a new job and needed the money, so decided to put off college for a little while.

For some students who are on leave, like Diana Hovsepian, 21, kinesiology major, leaving college was more of a change in mindset.

"I just always thought college was what I was supposed to do after high school was over, but after a while my priorities changed," said Hovsepian.



ILLUSTRATION BY JASMINE MOCHIZUKI / VISUAL EDITOR

Hovsepian is still on her break from CSUN and is still not sure when or even if she'll go back. For her it's a matter of getting back into the mindset she had when she first started.

"I feel like I have to be completely ready and I don't feel like I am yet," Hovsepian said.

Park feels that there are always factors in students' lives that are the cause of them stopping out.

"The reality is that many students (and particularly community college students) face significant struggles preventing them from staying continuously enrolled in postsecondary education," said Park.

me he was going to take a break and come back in the spring," said White.

Recently, White overheard one of his classmates say that he felt like he was wasting his time when he could finish faster by going to a trade school.

"I think, even though college isn't easy to get through, to finish and get your degree really says a lot about a person, but I don't think it's for everyone," said White.

There are some solutions to this problem that are being figured out according to Park.

"The state of Texas recently partnered with the gas and oil industry to offer stackable credentials towards associated degrees whereby students can gain credit in a number of ways in partnership with the oil and gas industry and then gain full-time employment within the industry after completing the credential," Park said.

Park believes that there is always a solution and a way to better the issue of students not making it to graduation/receiving their degree.

"Our economy is one that demands highly skilled workers with degrees and certificate credentials. Any steps the community college sector and independent industry can take to work together are an excellent vehicle for degree completion and economic well being," said Park.

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## BRIEFS &amp; PREVIEW

## Matadors, get ready for the annual 'Final Flip'

The last three weeks of the semester have arrived, which means finals are fast approaching. In an effort to keep students motivated and mentally stimulated during finals, the annual "Final Flip" will be taking place today at 8 p.m.

Associated Students (A.S.) will provide free food and games to students in front of the Oviatt Library while they cram late for their finals. Around 2,000 students are expected to attend the "Nightmare Before Christmas" themed Final Flip this semester.

Apart from feeding students, A.S. will also entertain students with CSUN's first silent disco. "Instead of having music amplified throughout the campus, the music will be played throughout the headphones," said Eric Planas, the senior producer of the A.S.

Having ordered 80 headphones from a company in San Francisco, each one will be equipped with a USB drive that connects to the DJ's audio system and transmit to the headphones. "You only hear music through the headphones, so it's not loud and you'll see 80 people just randomly dancing," Planas said.

The food will be catered and each student will be given up to two pancakes topped with fruit and maple

syrup as well as coffee, tea or juice.

Students are free to come and go by eating their delicious treats on available high tables.

Planas said the whole purpose of the event is not merely to pass out free food to students, but rather to allow students to relax from the stress of finals week and have some energy to complete their all night studying.

Psychology major Gabriel Ylo attended Final Flip last spring and enjoyed the fun and games. "You try and get a bunch of your friends out there and just hang out, eat free pancakes and then try the obstacle course so it was just a really fun experience," Ylo said.

Another student, Glaylee Gomez, a public health promotion major attended in the final flip last fall and remembers the long lines of students waiting to get their food. "The line was wrapping around the library and I remember the A.S. wearing these little elf hats," Gomez said. "It's good that they can just have free food and students don't have to worry about buying stuff off campus since most of those places are closed."

—MICHELLE DOMINGUEZ,  
DAILY SUNDIAL

## New transfer program offers associate degree options

Californian Community College (CCC) students now have access to 1,000 associate degrees in a variety of different disciplines that will guarantee them admissions to a California State University (CSU).

The new degrees were created in an effort to make the transition from community college to a university more smooth by aligning the community college courses with a variety of associate degrees.

In the past many California students attended one of the state's 112 community colleges and then attempted to transfer to one of the 23 CSU colleges. According to Mike Uhlenkamp, spokesperson for the CSU Chancellor's office, past studies show that 12 percent of California students would attend UC's, 30 percent would attend CSU's and the remainder 58 percent would enroll in community colleges in hopes of working their way up to a university.

Now with the new transfer program, if students graduate from community college they will be guaranteed admittance to at least one of the 23 CSU's.

"Before not every course was transferable so students were tak-

ing redundant courses they didn't need. This new degree eliminates taking classes not needed to transfer, which streamlines the entire process altogether," said Uhlenkamp.

Additional benefits of the degree besides guaranteed admissions includes priority and a GPA bump once students enroll.

With the help of this new degree and it's specific course pathway, community colleges will be less impacted, providing easier access to classes needed to graduate and transfer to two year universities with the 60 units required.

"Another benefit of getting your education this way is students graduate with two degrees, an associates degree and a bachelors degree," said Uhlenkamp.

While degrees are available at every community college, added Uhlenkamp, not every school will have 1000 associate transfer degrees to choose from. Students can only obtain the degrees offered by their community college of choice.

—JAZZMYNE BOGARD,  
DAILY SUNDIAL

# hungry?



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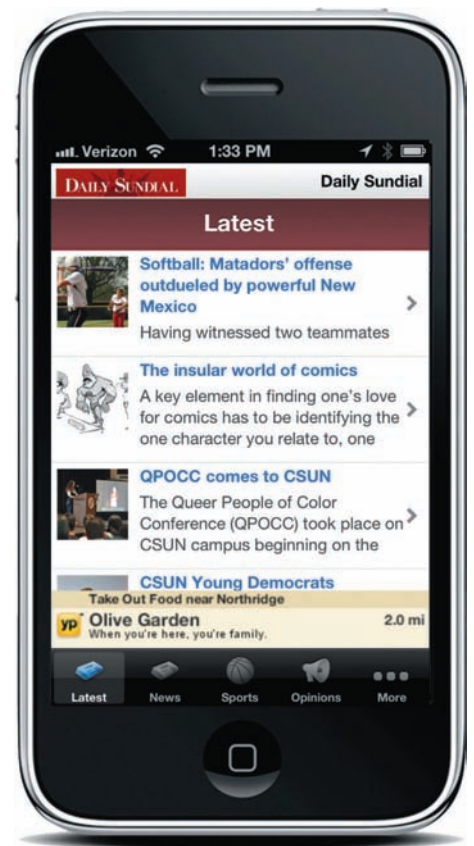
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# RUGBY

Continued from page 1

“Rugby and this team have changed my life. I don’t know where I would be in my life/college career without the connections and friendships I’ve fostered through this team,” said Sarah McGee, 21, a senior studying kinesiology and one of the team’s founding students.

In 2013, the team had 12 players return this year from the previous season while also welcoming over 20 rookies.

The team became No. 1 in California and No. 6 in the nation of Division II schools. This year the team is being led by coaches Christina Alatorre and Adriana Conrad-Forrest.

Between the two coaches they have 17 and a half years of playing and over eight years of coaching experience.

The 2014 team has twenty returning players and over twenty rookies, the largest number of experienced players the team has had to date. This upcoming season marks Alatorre’s third year with the team and Conrad-Forrest’s first, and they expect this year’s team to go even further than last year.

“Since the beginning, these girls would not be denied,” said Alatorre. “That’s the spirit of this team. Every year they have moved closer and closer to winning the title, despite any challenges they have faced. This year, they will do it.”



Sarah McGee, a senior kinesiology major, throws the ball to a teammate before being tackled by two opponents in a game against UC Irvine.



CSUN's women's rugby are in red and white uniform, lined up to begin their match. Despite the team's large number of rookies the women's rugby team is determined to remain a force to be reckoned with.



Christina Alatorre, 27, has been coaching the women's rugby team for three years. Alatorre frequently uses her seven years of experience to help shape the team into better players.



Marisa Navarro, a junior CTVA major, grabbed the ball in a line out and gave it to the teams scrum half.



The team huddles together before the start of every game to pump up everyone's intensity.



Claire Bauer (Left), a senior kinesiology major, Evelyn Avila (Middle), a senior kinesiology major and Katie Kargari (Right), a junior art major lock arms and reflect on the game and how well they did.

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# Opinion

DECEMBER 4, 2013

OPINION@SUNDIAL.CSUN.EDU

## Immigration reform not fast enough

In spite of small victories for the undocumented immigrant community, many still have to endure and struggle

**WON CHOI**  
DAILY SUNDIAL

"HEY, I'M GOING to Vegas tomorrow," Matt said.

"Lucky," I answered. "I'm stuck in school doing my mid-terms and you're going off to party. Good life."

"No girl," Matt said. "I have to get my license there."

Matt (not his real name) is an undocumented immigrant who lived in the U.S. for about 20 years. His California driver license expired a long time ago, and due to the issue with his status, he could not get a license in the state anymore. Now, his Arizona license expired and his next state was Nevada.

"I thought California passed a law or action or something that gives immigrants licenses," I said.

"That begins next year. I can't just drive without a license for one whole year," Matt answered.

Matt is a sushi chef in the Northridge

area. He has been a chef for more than 10 years. With a great sense of humor and sushi skills, he does not only serve great food, but entertains his customers as well.

However, he needs to find a restaurant that is willing to hire him illegally and pay with cash, since he is not permitted to work with his current status. Even if the employer treated him wrongfully and fired him without a notice, Matt would have no right to complain. He even married his friend who is a citizen to get a green card, but "something messed up," so he still remains as an undocumented immigrant.

I have several other friends who are like Matt. Most of them moved to the states with student visas and applied for green cards. But there is no guarantee of when the green card will be issued. Until that day comes, they keep extending the student visas. Sometimes it works, sometimes it does not.

Often the visa application is denied, too. Then they become undocumented immigrants, or they leave. My ex-boyfriend from three

years ago broke up with me when he could not extend his visa and left the U.S..

Most are not knowledgeable of the complicated immigration laws and are forced to spend hundreds and thousands of dollars on lawyers. And nothing is promised.

I had helped one of my friends with his paperwork because he did not have \$1,000 to spend on a lawyer. His student visa was about to expire. (That application got through, thankfully.)

While waiting to get a proper status to stay in the U.S., there are not many things they can do. They cannot work unless they are hired illegally and because they cannot work at a decent position to make enough money, they cannot afford the expensive non-resident college tuition.

Tammy (not her real name) lived in the U.S. for 10 years with a student visa but was never recognized as a resident. She was admitted to UC Berkeley and went to the school as an international student. However, she eventually dropped out because she simply could not afford the international student tuition.

Undocumented immigrants cannot leave the U.S. for fear that they will not be able

to come back. My previous landlord lost his father from a heart attack in Korea, but he could not attend the funeral because he was an undocumented immigrant.

The recent film "Captain Phillips" depicted America's struggle to rescue an American captain who was taken hostage by Somali pirates. Even though the nation put all of its effort and power to save the captain, they killed the pirates without a trial and lied to the pirate captain to lure him out.

If I was in the same situation as Captain Phillips, America would do the same for me. But not for Matt or Tammy because they are not citizens. They are viewed as expendable, like the Somali pirates in the movie.

After talking to Matt, I compared myself with him and Tammy.

I am a U.S. citizen and he is not. He lived in the U.S. longer than I did, made more money than I did, made more people happy than I did, and got less traffic tickets than I did.

Tammy did better at school and got admitted to UC Berkeley, which I did not even bother to apply to. As a church bible study leader, she embraces and comforts others who go through the similar situations as her.

Although I was born in the U.S. and they were not, it seemed like they were making more positive influences in society than me.

I cannot help but ask, why should we isolate these people and blindfold ourselves from what they are going through when they are clearly part of us, our nation?

Obviously, immigration laws are very important in society but we also need to embrace undocumented immigrants outside of the realm of laws. Undocumented immigrants have to be seen as equal, contributing members of society.

To these immigrants, America is not a dream but the subject of fear. Although they settled perfectly in America, the nation rejects them from being an equal part.

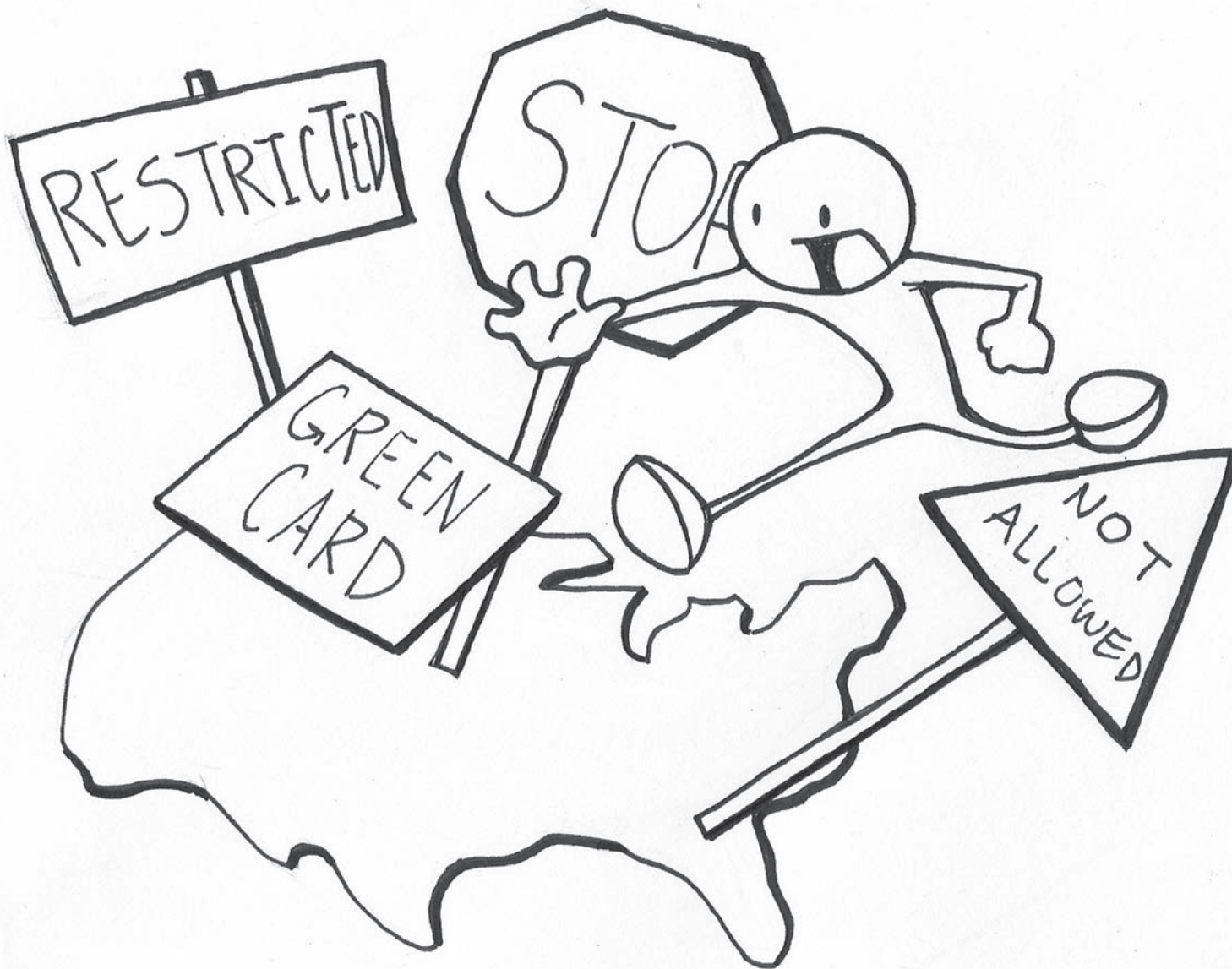


ILLUSTRATION BY JAE KITINOJA / ILLUSTRATOR

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# Professors pull ideas from a 'Brown Bag'

**JACOB FREDERICKS**  
DAILY SUNDIAL

**A SMALL CONFERENCE** room on Jacaranda Hall's ground floor has been dedicated to the College of Engineering and Computer Science (CECS) Brown Bag Research Seminars since 2012.

The "Brown Bag Series," as the seminar is regularly called, is an informal conference hosted and maintained through the CECS and its faculty. The series is geared toward generating interest about projects envisioned by faculty members. The seminars, which take place at least once a month, are also a forum for analyzing topic material through collaboration among colleagues.

"The idea behind the seminar is to explain to people the significance of the work we do but, more importantly, for students to be able to look at these topics as a way of framing their own careers and their lives," said the Dean of the College of Engineering and Computer Science S.K. Ramesh.

Tuesday afternoon, Associate Professor of Computer

Science George (Taehyung) Wang, prepared his presentation, "Big Data— Trends and Technologies"— the final presentation of this semester's Brown Bag series.

"Big data is a top-tier (information system) complex, such as Facebook, Google, Yahoo! and LinkedIn," said Wang. "It is comprised of data sets whose size is beyond the ability of typical database software tools to capture, store, manage and analyze."

Facebook, for example, currently stores more than 100 petabytes of data—the approximate equivalent storage capability of 100,000 MacBooks.

Wang's seminar focused on the demand and, more importantly, the impact big data plays in capital-based economics and education.

"Different fields have benefited from the study of big data. Several studies have already highlighted the benefits that big data could bring to the field," Wang said. "The studies presented in this review exemplify where big data is utilized to improve the quality of existing systems, develop new retail strategies, and develop new systems to improve healthcare service."

Wang believes that as



ANA RODRIGUEZ / DAILY SUNDIAL

Associate professor of computer science George Wang presented information on the trends and technology associated with Big Data. The College of Engineering and Computer Science started the Brown Bag series in the Fall. Colleagues were encouraged to bring their lunch and listen and discuss their current research and projects.

technology advances over time, so will the parameters that define big data. In other words, the datasets and information systems we use today will likely become obsolete as the digital landscape of technology evolves.

Over the past seven years, Ramesh has been gradually

expanding the presence of the five departments within the CECS and has started hiring new, subject-specialized faculty members.

In 2011, the Department of Education and Hispanic-Serving Institutions Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (HSI-STEM), awarded Ramesh

and the CECS a five-year \$5.5 million grant to put toward increasing the rate of minority enrollment into the engineering fields.

"Ultimately, the idea is to provide a forum for our faculty and perhaps even our graduate students to be able to share the work that they do," said Ramesh.

Although the Brown Bag series has concluded for the year, Ramesh said that they will resume in the weeks following the start of the Spring 2014 term.

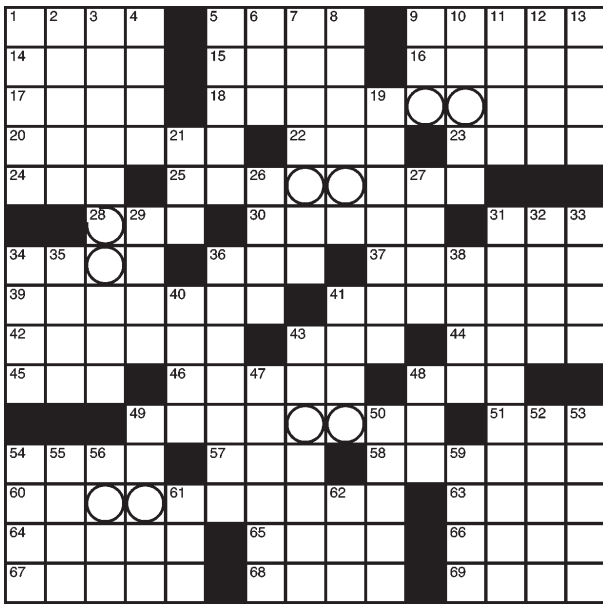
The seminars are open to all faculty and students and a schedule of future speakers can be viewed at [www.csun.edu/ecs](http://www.csun.edu/ecs).

## Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

### ACROSS

- 1 Caesar's love
- 5 Signal to an on-call doctor
- 9 Omits
- 14 Chowhound's request
- 15 Sharif who played Zhivago
- 16 World Court site, with "The"
- 17 Shepard in space
- 18 Plate ump's purview
- 20 Brand for heartburn
- 22 Providence-to-Boston dir.
- 23 Scraps for Rover
- 24 Unit of work
- 25 Soda for dieters
- 28 French season
- 30 Thin pancake
- 31 Violinist's gift
- 34 Move very slowly
- 36 Suffers from
- 37 In recent times
- 39 Mechanic, at times
- 41 "That works!"
- 42 4-Down collector
- 43 Boy king
- 44 Made a hue turn?
- 45 Suffix for records
- 46 Oater group bent on justice
- 48 Nile biter
- 49 Blush wine, for short
- 51 Short market lines?
- 54 Piedmont wine region
- 57 Erie Canal mule
- 58 Pipeline, Oahu surfing attraction
- 60 "She's Not There" rock group
- 63 "Ripostes" poet Pound
- 64 Overnight refuge
- 65 Theater part
- 66 Choir part
- 67 Blow some dough
- 68 collar
- 69 Stonewall's soldiers



By Ed Sessa

12/4/13

### Tuesday's Puzzle Solved

ACROSS  
 5 "Thick and Rich" chocolate syrup  
 6 Rescue pro  
 7 Ones on the payroll  
 8 Freddie Jr. of "Scooby-Doo" films  
 9 Ship reference  
 10 Musical buzzer  
 11 Composer Stravinsky  
 12 Fourth-down play  
 13 Dates  
 19 Property border warning  
 21 The Red Sox' Jon Lester, e.g.  
 26 1980s Chrysler product  
 27 Altered mtge.  
 29 Social cupfuls  
 31 This crossword, literally for some, phonetically for all  
 32 "Please don't yell"  
 33 Oboe, e.g.  
 34 Eye rudely  
 35 They're found in lodges

DOWN  
 14 Chowhound's request  
 15 Sharif who played Zhivago  
 16 World Court site, with "The"  
 17 Shepard in space  
 18 Plate ump's purview  
 20 Brand for heartburn  
 22 Providence-to-Boston dir.  
 23 Scraps for Rover  
 24 Unit of work  
 25 Soda for dieters  
 28 French season  
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 39 Mechanic, at times  
 41 "That works!"  
 42 4-Down collector  
 43 Boy king  
 44 Made a hue turn?  
 45 Suffix for records  
 46 Oater group bent on justice  
 48 Nile biter  
 49 Blush wine, for short  
 51 Short market lines?  
 54 Piedmont wine region  
 57 Erie Canal mule  
 58 Pipeline, Oahu surfing attraction  
 60 "She's Not There" rock group  
 63 "Ripostes" poet Pound  
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 66 Choir part  
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## COLUMN

# NHL facing concussion lawsuits

The lawsuit the NHL is facing from former players could also have ramifications after the checks have been signed

**DARKO DEBOGOVIC**  
DAILY SUNDIAL

**LAST MONDAY**, 10 former NHL players filed a class-action lawsuit against the NHL through a California-based law firm, alleging that the league was aware of (or should have been aware of) the dangers posed by concussions.

The 47-page suit claims that the NHL did not do enough to decrease the risk of head injuries and failed to inform its players of the long-term ramifications caused by trauma to the brain.

"While every blow to the head is dangerous, Plaintiffs did not know, and were not told by the NHL, how dangerous this repeated brain trauma is."

Of the 10 plaintiffs, three played fewer than 20 career NHL games and none played in the league past the 1994 season (most played during the 70s and 80s).

The suit seeks medical care for former players, monetary value in damages and changes to the current rules to make the sport safer moving forward.

Although no dollar value has surfaced publicly, experts speculate that it could very well exceed the hundred-million mark, much like

the NFL suit which settled for \$765 million in August.

Unlike the NFL, which takes in a substantially larger profit when compared to the other four major sports, the NHL cannot afford to settle anywhere near that figure.

In response to the grievance filed, the league issued a statement citing that it was the National Hockey League Players Association's responsibility to monitor player safety.

It will be up to the plaintiffs to prove that the league concealed information regarding player safety and that their long-term conditions were caused by their direct involvement in the NHL.

Because fighting is such a big part of the sport (the NHL is currently the only major league to permit fighting without immediate disqualification) changes to amend the rule could be fast approaching.

Commissioner Gary Bettman has publicly stated that there is no direct link between fighting and chronic traumatic encephalopathy, a degenerative brain disease, and will likely be forced to defend that statement in a court of law.

"Rule 48," which prohibits hits where the head is the main point of contact is one new measure that the league has taken to avoid concussions.

Other precautions include forc-

ing players with concussion-like symptoms to be removed from games and evaluated before being allowed to return. Visors on helmets were also made mandatory starting this year in an attempt to reduce injuries to the eyes.

So just how big of an impact could the concussion lawsuit have on the NHL?

In the immediate future, not too big, but there is a good chance that the NHL could face simultaneous lawsuits from the U.S. and Canada, which would be catastrophic in financial terms.

Additionally, the suit can have implications on the game's future with worried parents feeling less inclined to sign their kids up for hockey, thus creating a shortage of talented prospects.

Similar to the NFL suit which was backed by more than 4,500 players, the NHL suit is likely to see an increase of retired players wanting some type of equity for their participation in the league.

There's little doubt that the plaintiffs will be targeting big name players, to help attract more attention to their cause.

Assuming that a judge rules in favor of a class-action lawsuit, the NHL could be writing plenty of checks in the next couple of months—or years.



COURTESY OF MCT

The NHL is the only league that permits fighting but amendments can be coming due to the recent lawsuits filed by former players.

## COLUMN

# Will Derrick Rose wilt away?

The recent injury to superstar Derrick Rose will be career-defining as he looks to come back from another major setback

**BRIAN BERNSTEIN**  
DAILY SUNDIAL

**ESPN ANALYST** Michael Wilbon called Chicago Bulls point guard Derrick Rose's latest injury "the cruelest blow we've seen in Chicago," and he might just be right.

It is a rare luxury for NBA fans to experience a great player and Rose is the best thing to happen to the franchise since Michael Jordan, or was he the best thing to happen since Jordan?

The 25-year-old Chicago native, 2010-11 NBA MVP, and No. 1 overall pick in the 2008 NBA Draft has been viewed as the star to lead the Bulls to their seventh NBA Championship, and the only non-Jordan banner. However, Rose suffered yet another setback to his young career by sustaining a tear in his right medial meniscus.

Rose made the smart decision opting to have the cartilage repaired and reattached because he is young enough in his career that he can recover and return to all-star status.



COURTESY OF MCT

Derrick Rose suffered his second big injury of his career and with the explosive nature of his game, his superstar ability could be compromised when he returns.

Another reason he chose to have it repaired instead of removed were the opinions of players who chose to have the cartilage removed like Miami Heat's star Dwyane Wade, or former Portland Trailblazers player Brandon Roy, all of

whom have said it will cause more problems later in the young point guard's career.

This injury is a frustrating blow for Rose because he is one of the most exciting players in the NBA. Rose relies heavily on the ability to

stop on a dime, change directions laterally and explode out of those cuts and be aggressively attacking the basket. All of that agility relies on strong, sturdy knees. This new injury could make the difference between Derrick Rose

the superstar/game changer, and Derrick Rose the above average point guard.

Regardless of how well Rose recovers from this injury, he will still be better than most of the point guards in the league, but as of now, he becomes a liability as a franchise player until he can prove to the Chicago Bulls organization he can make a full recovery and sustain the abuse of playing a full NBA season.

A surgically repaired left ACL suffered in the 2012 playoffs, and now a torn medial meniscus in his right knee has left Rose with two bad knees. With the type of player Rose is, he deserves the chance to prove he can still play at an all-star level because he attracts fans and publicity. Rose sells out games, whether it's a home game in Chicago, or on the road for fans to see him once or twice a year. He also is the reason why the Bulls are featured on nationally televised games. Outside of his production on the court, he is a seat-filler, ticket-seller and money-maker for the Bulls organization.

Still, Rose is young enough to come back from this unlucky stretch of injuries. Sports has seen it before, most notably with NFL superstar Adrian Peterson, the running back of the Minnesota Vikings, who came back from an ACL tear and posted a 2,000 yard season. It is all about staying strong mentally and rehabbing patiently and properly.

A part of staying strong mentally involves playing with a free mind. Rose has to play without having the injury constantly in the back of his mind. If he continues to think about it, to the point where every move he makes he is aware of the injury, it will hold him back. Rose is at his best when he is unleashed, using his creativity to weave through defenders. If he can't get back to that mentality, he might fall into the Brandon Roy/Greg Oden pile of players who were ascending to superstardom, but fell short due to injury.

If the Chicago Bulls franchise player is as strong mentally as he will be physically after rehab, he will return to full force for years to come.