

Alumni panel discusses the importance of social media in their careers

Jewish clubs light up the Oviatt lawn for the final night of Chanukah



Katy Perry's performance at AMA was racist and wrong

Men's Basketball: CSUN shoots down Thunderbirds

FREE

DAILY SUNDIAL

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, NORTHRIDGE

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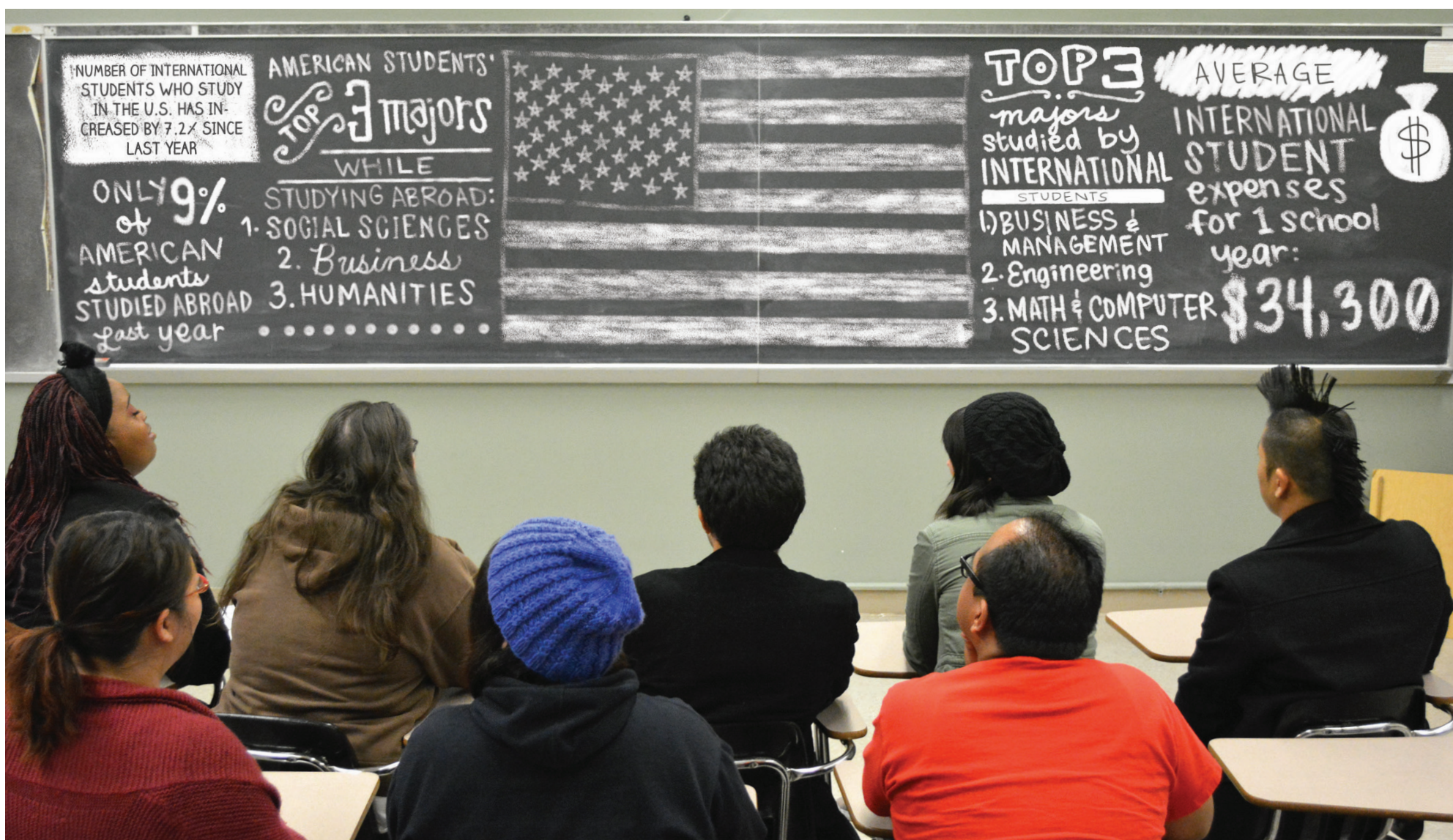


PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY JOHN SARINGO-RODRIGEZ / PHOTO EDITOR AND JASMINE MOCHIZUKI / VISUAL EDITOR

SHIRA MOSKOWITZ
DAILY SUNDIAL

ALTHOUGH 19-year-old Fiasal Alkhamees, a CSUN international student from Kuwait studying engineering, says he is homesick, he is thankful he has the opportunity to get an American college degree.

"When I will get my degree from CSUN, it will mean I will have a U.S. degree, so when I go back to Kuwait my salary will be much

higher and it will be a bigger deal," Alkhamees said.

According to new research published by the Institute of International Education, the number of international students studying in the U.S. has increased over 7.2 percent since last year, resulting in 819,644 international students studying in the U.S. in 2012-2013.

Alkhamees also said because universities in Kuwait are overcrowded, he feels lucky he received a scholarship to study at CSUN.

"Back in my country, we only have three or four universities and there is

not enough space for everyone to study. That's why the government gives us a scholarship to come study in the U.S.," he said.

THE VALUE OF AN AMERICAN EDUCATION

According to the 2013 Open Doors Report on International Educational Exchange, China, India and South Korea are the top three countries that send international students to the U.S. to study, with China making up 28.7 percent of total international students studying in the U.S.

According to director of Global Studies and International Pathways for

the Tseng College at CSUN, Patrick Colabucci, the high reputation that an American degree holds is among the top three reasons international students come to study in America.

"There is a catch that comes with an American degree, especially a bachelor or doctorate degree where you can take it home and then use it to be better positioned for a high quality job. There's a good return on investment for it," he said.

Michal Jankowski, manager for the facility operations at the Student Recreation Center at CSUN, came to CSUN in 2003 as an international student from Poland. There, he got his bachelor's

degree in business administration and marketing and later received his master's degree in higher education administration in 2010.

The student life and student involvement is what Janowski said made his experience at CSUN a memorable one, especially because he said student involvement at Poland universities is almost non-existent.

"That American dream that people refer to is here for you. And if it's not here, you can create it yourself and live it," Janowski said. "Education in

See **INTERNATIONAL**, page 2

CULTURECLASH

MERRY CHRISTMAS,
YOU FILTHY ANIMALS



Alumni advise students on social media use

STORY & PHOTOS BY
ABIGAILLE LEVRAY
DAILY SUNDIAL

A PACKED ROOM at the University Student Union (USU) listened as a panel of CSUN alumni shared their knowledge of social media and its presence in their professional lives.

The “Noise of Social Media” event was hosted by the Career Center and the Alumni Association for the second year in a row. Last year, the event was hosted six times. This year, they intend on hosting 12.

Jonathan Adrias, program coordinator for the alumni

association, said he hopes students will learn how to navigate and maintain different social media. Adrias added that students need to be well versed and able to use these sites with ease for future employment opportunities.

More than 120 attendees listened attentively to the advice and warnings the panelists offered regarding social media profiles.

Luis Lopez, a graduate student in the MBA Program, attended the seminar to get more insight for a research paper he is writing for his marketing and advertising class.

“I am completely unaware, barely know how to use Facebook,” Lopez said. “I have no knowledge

of Flickr, Twitter, (or) any of that.”

Paul Costa, one of the panelists who graduated in 1996, is the president of Direct Hire Associates, LLC. Costa said he uses social media primarily as a tool to get a conversation started and it is also a way show the world who the company is and what it does. Costa added that the more professional credibility students can build online, the more relationships can be built with clients in real life.

Alumnus David Mascarina, who graduated in 2010, is now working as a web administrator for the Los Angeles Philharmonic Association.

“(Social media) is my first line of defense,” Mascarina said. “People tweet or post on Facebook what they like and what they don’t like.”

Mascarina also emphasized that social media is viral marketing.

“Billion-dollar social media companies attain their revenue because of your tweets (and posts), to sell ads, targeted at you,” Mascarina said.

He explained to attendees that when they or someone they know posts about a product or ‘likes’ it, ads will begin to pop up not only for that product, but for products similar to it as well. Down



The “Noise of Social Media” audience raised their hands when panelist David Mascarina, a CSUN alumn, asked who uses social media websites.

to the zip code of the social media user, certain ads will be sent out based on the common buys of that area, Mascarina said.

“I’ve been coming to the past few seminars to get advice from professionals on social media etiquette,” said Jennifer Ramos, a CSUN 2002 Alumnae with a degree in CTVA, “I’m in the process of a career change and am realizing that the game has changed. I have to have more background in social media and marketing.”

Karen Posner, a 2007 CSUN graduate, is now working as a project manager for ReachLocal Inc. Posner said she uses social media on a daily basis — from the moment she wakes to the moment she rests, she checks her social media. Personally and professionally, Posner said social media is completely intertwined in her life.

Posner reminded the audience that social media is online, meaning it is public and anyone can see it.

“You are portraying yourself and need to think about what image you are trying to show,” Posner said. “Stay consistent.”

Costa said a past candidate for employment who was otherwise qualified was not hired because of a Facebook post created by a person with an indirect relationship to the candidate. This shows the importance of being mindful and aware of the disadvantages these sites hold, Posner said.



CSUN alumni David Mascarina (Left), Karen Posner (Middle) and Paul Costa (Right) were the panel of social media experts for the event at the USU.



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CSUN students get crafty at USU

ELIZABETH OHANIAN
DAILY SUNDIAL

BRUSH STROKES, paints of different colors and an empty animal coin bank combine to make a potential masterpiece and a break from students' everyday routine.

Students walking by the CSUN Mercantile Exchange on Thursday afternoons can see projects being created at the weekly Craft Corner.

This week's Craft Corner, the last of the semester, will allow students to paint an elephant bank and take it home. The event, hosted by the University Student Union every Thursday from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., was instituted so students can craft projects focused on a certain theme while enjoying themselves during their free time.

Each week, the theme is different and this semester Craft Corner has focused more on culture.

"The craft ties into a cultural experience so students get to enjoy listening to cultural music while making their own craft," said Jorge Reyes, 20, assistant for events and cultures at the USU.

Reyes said during a Craft Corner event earlier this semester, students crafted their own maracas while a Mariachi band played. At another event, a Reggae band performed while students made Jamaican-style bracelets.

Even though culture played a big part in this year's Craft Corner, that wasn't the only theme.

"Not every Craft Corner revolves around a culture, but every two weeks we have a cultural performance that matches up with our craft time," Reyes said.

The popularity of Craft Corner continues to increase, Reyes said.

"There's always those students who love Craft Corner and they get excited for the next one that's coming up, so they're like the crafters, and more people come by each week," Reyes said.

For Darlene Ortega, 23, fashion marketing major, crafting is a way for her to escape from the stress of her day.

"Crafting is near and dear to me," Ortega said. "It helps me forget about anything that was bothering me beforehand," said Ortega.

Craft Corner is held at the Plaza Del Sol. It is a free event and all students are welcome to attend.

Flipping out over pancakes

CHAMPAIGN WILLIAMS
LIVE NEWS EDITOR

HUNDREDS OF STUDENTS gathered around the Oviatt Library patio with pancakes, coffee and juice in hand.

The annual "Final Flip" took place Wednesday night to rejuvenate students as they prepared for their final exams. The event was themed after the Tim Burton film "The Nightmare Before Christmas." Two large tents were set up on the Oviatt Library lawn and students lamps were posted throughout the area.

"It's cool because we're trying to study and work on projects (in the library) late at night and the school is taking care of us," said Kris Robinson, senior kinesiology major. "The



JOHN SARINGO-RODRIGUEZ / PHOTO EDITOR
Free food and music were offered at "Final Flip," an event meant to bring CSUN students together before final exams.



JOHN SARINGO-RODRIGUEZ / PHOTO EDITOR

Pancakes and assorted fruit were served at the Nightmare Before Christmas themed "Final Flip" event hosted by Associated Students on Wednesday evening.

school is always having something going on and it's cool."

Members of Associated Students (A.S.) stood in one of the tents behind tables covered with platters of pancakes and served students two pancakes at a time. Spread across another table was syrup and other condiments for the pancakes. Students moved in an assembly line fashion to receive their pancakes.

Students participating in the silent disco occupied the second large tent. As reported by the Daily Sundial, A.S. ordered 80 headphones from a company named Silent Storm in San Francisco. Each headphone was equipped with a USB drive that

connected to the DJ's audio system and was transmitted to the headphones.

Students inside the tent and around the DJ's table, bobbing their heads to the disco music that coursed through the headphones decorating their heads. A.S. Productions member Fabian Mendoza deejayed the event.

"I definitely think it will bring out a crowd," said the senior communication studies major. "It's different so it will be attractive."

The silent disco allowed students to listen to live music without disturbing surrounding classes or students studying in the Oviatt Library.

The Final Flip came to an end around 10 p.m.



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Don't be a 'Grinch' this Christmas, get in the holiday spirit by checking out these festive L.A. destinations

NEELOFER LODHY
DAILY SUNDIAL

THE HOLIDAYS represent a time of joy and togetherness amongst close family and friends. Though it seems like the majority of the world is on board with one another during this time of year, there are still many who don't celebrate the true meaning of Christmas. In this instance, it can

be hard to get into the spirit while considering that there may not be many options for celebration. But just because you don't celebrate doesn't mean you cannot enjoy yourself. There are many holiday activities for everyone to partake in with friends and family that won't break the bank.

ICE SKATING

To be able to live in Southern California, and ice skate outside where the temperature isn't close to freezing has to be one of the coolest options

available. In fact, there are two. In the heart of Downtown Los Angeles, located in Pershing Square citizens from all over can glide into the holiday spirit at the outdoor ice rink. The rink is located at 532 South Olive Street in Los Angeles, just a block away from the Los Angeles Central Library. The rink opened Nov. 14, and will be open until Jan. 20, so there's plenty of time to skate. The community rink is open to all citizens, and is open from 11:30 a.m.-9:30 p.m., Monday - Thursday and 10 a.m.-11p.m. Friday through Saturday, but times are subject to change. This fun activity is a general admission

event which will cost a small fee of \$8, and if you don't have skates, you can rent them from an even smaller fee of \$2.

If the downtown option is too inconvenient, feel free to flock over to Third Street Promenade in Downtown Santa Monica where they also offer an outdoor community ice rink located on the corner of 5th Street and Arizona Blvd. The rink is also open until Jan. 20 with free rink admission. Unless you have skates, there will be a rental fee of \$12.

See **HOLIDAY DESTINATIONS**, page 2

HOLIDAY DESTINATIONS

Continued from page 1

CANDY CANE LANE

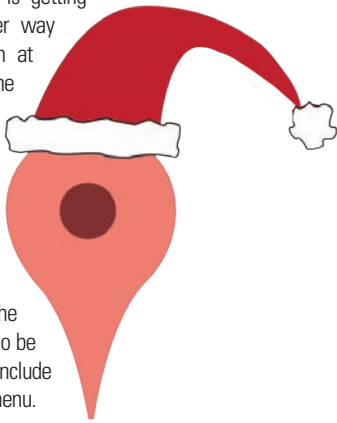
If ice skating isn't in your comfort zone, feel free to take a drive out to the Woodland Hills Holiday light display, also known as Candy Cane Lane. The Candy Cane Lane lighting is a tradition that has been occurring since 1952 that features an array of light displays, decorations, and fake snow! Candy Cane Lane is a collective effort that is put on yearly by a group of homeowners whom all partake in creating the ultimate light display show for neighbors and visitors. The light display started on Dec. 2 and will continue on through the rest of the year. The best part about it, it's free! This is a fun free event for friends and family to celebrate, however, there are times to view this light show. Neighbors encourage that visitors drive by no later than 10 p.m. during the week and 11 p.m. on weekends. The eight-block display of lights is located on Lubao Avenue and Oxford Street in Woodland Hills.

MARINA DEL REY

For those who reside closer to the beach cities and cannot make the trek to Woodland Hills, the option to view a holiday light show is also available. This year Marina Del Rey will be holding their 51st annual holiday boat parade which takes place Saturday Dec. 14. Prior to the boat parade, a fireworks show will take place at 5:55 p.m. with the boat parade to shortly follow from 6-8 p.m. Admittance is free, however it's a large capacity event, so be sure to go early and grab an appropriate viewing spot, as well as a decent parking spot. The Marina is located at the Fisherman's Village at 13755 Fiji Way in Marina Del Rey.

ILLUMINATE YOUR HOLIDAYS AT THE GETTY

The J. Paul Getty Museum is getting festive this season. What better way to spend a Saturday night than at one of the best museums with the best view! Holiday lighting will be taking place every Saturday from now up until Jan. 4. Admission is free, however parking is \$15. The Getty is open Saturday evenings until 9 p.m. and will offer complimentary cider to its guests to enjoy while taking in the view. The Getty restaurant will also be offering holiday food options that include a price-fixed Canterbury-themed menu.



STREET SWAG

Cool weather means hot threads

CHRISTINA MOFFITINO
DAILY SUNDIAL

WE CALIFORNIANS have it lucky with the fall/winter season. We can use most of our wardrobe all year long just by adding on layers. Layering is key when dressing for your day ahead. Temperatures always determine my outfit and since it changes so often, wearing an outfit with versatility is a must. The chillier temperatures have us pining over the comfier things in life, like oversized cozy sweaters and on-sale Target socks. But just because it's sweater weather doesn't mean you should look like you just rolled off the couch to go about your day. Exercise more stylish options this fall/winter season that work for you and the cold days ahead.

LADIES

Options are always good to have, especially when it comes to your wardrobe. Don't limit yourself by tossing your summer favorites to the side, instead find creative ways to style them into your outfit. Those long maxi dresses (in neutral colors and prints) are the perfect base piece to create few Fall outfits. Layer on button up flannels to use as a tie shirt and add a statement necklace to make it pop. Chilly temperatures may call for more coverage, so throw on your favorite denim jacket for that Cali casual look. Slip into booties that show you're a bit edgy. For that extra pop, rock a deep red lip to finish off your look.

WHY IT WORKS: The flannel shirts are a great basic to wear alone or as layering pieces under sweaters or over dresses. They're easy to find and you can even use your boyfriend's for a comfier feel. A denim jacket can add more texture to your style and will come in handy when the temperatures drop. Shoes with color help bring contrast. My favorite ones for fall are colored booties in maroon or royal blue.

WHERE YOU CAN WEAR IT TO:

School, Lunch date, Internship, Movie Night

GENTLEMEN

The effort is all in the detail. Take a nod at the London rainy schoolboy look and opt for the colors that stray from the typical black and blue.

Jackets in gray can add just the right contrast and can be a staple piece worn year after year. Invest in quality and one that gives you enough room to move. A light cotton button up in a print can be layered under button down sweaters, crew necks or coats. Beanies, newsboys style hats help with style but also warmth. Boots are versatile and will last. For a sportier feel, switch out the boots for your favorite pair of sneakers.

WHY IT WORKS: Plum pants are a great alternative to black or blue. The color can really help breathe some life into your look. A printed button-up kicks up the style quotient by adding in a visual that breaks up the color. Rain or shine, boots will work in any weather or outfit. A hat can complete an outfit by adding an effortless and inspired touch.

WHERE YOU CAN WEAR IT TO:

School, Date night, Dinner with friends, Work



CHRISTIAN SABALBURO / CONTRIBUTOR

Layering is a good way to keep warm while looking great.

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RAISE THE BAR

Get jolly with holiday beer

JOSH CARLTON

A&E EDITOR

JAKE FREDERICKS

DAILY SUNDIAL



COURTESY OF THE BRUERY

TIS THE SEASON, yet again. While some of us are counting down the days until our last final, and others are desperately clinging on to multiple-term-paper sanity, there is one thing that is certain to bring Christmas cheer into even the blackest of coal shaped hearts: Beer.

That's right. Nothing says "Happy Holidays" quite like a big, old gust of beer breath. So whether you're heading back home to see the folks, or spending this winter in a post-semester hibernation, these brews are sure to satiate your palate and prepare you for the awkward conversation with your weird cousin or uncle on Christmas day. Cheers!

**THE BRUERY – AUTUMN MAPLE
BELGIAN-STYLE BROWN ALE
ABV: 10.00%**

Description: The Bruery, located in Placentia CA, has been around for a few years and knows a thing or two about brewing heavy-bodied beers with unique twists. Autumn Maple is just one of their many fine brews and would pair perfectly with a brisk winter evening. The reddish color and light head mixed with a sweet aroma make the presentation almost as impressive as the first sip. The taste is something along the lines of a strong Belgian mixed with maple syrup, vanilla spice and a humbly sweet finish. To put it simply, this is the kind of elixir the season calls for. This beer is best enjoyed slightly chilled, with that extra special someone...because 10% goes a long way, and you may need a ride home.

Food pairing: It's a classic Thanksgiving beer. For a sure bet go turkey and mashed potatoes. If you're feeling extra saucy, and it's closer to Christmas, throw some prime rib in the mix. Settle down with a slice of pumpkin or pecan pie for the nightcap.

**ALESMITH – YULESMITH 'WINTER'
IMPERIAL DOUBLE RED ALE
ABV: 8.50%**

Description: AleSmith is a San Diego staple for fellow beer snobs. It is rare to find a beer from this brewery that isn't as good as the last, and when the time comes to unleash their winter selections there are no exceptions. But how can a brewery located in the weather haven of San Diego make a brilliant

holiday ale you ask? Crafting a fine winter ale is more about technique than it is location, and AleSmith is more than up to the task. The YuleSmith Holiday Ale is brewed seasonally, as most winter beers are. The brew is in keeping with AleSmith's signature hoppy and strong beers, but has a delicately nice malt that accompanies the piney bitterness. The beer pours an amber color and gives off a caramel like aroma that hits your nostrils almost immediately. The taste is bold, with just enough hops to knock you flat, and a toasty aftertaste to warm you up after the dust has settled. Who knew beer could be so dramatic?

Food pairing: The hoppy and malty blend calls for something lean. A good salmon or sea bass dish would pair beautifully. Mix that in with some roasted asparagus and you've got yourself a satisfied stomach. For dessert, go apple pie. Enough said.

**MIDNIGHT SUN BREWERY – T.R.E.A.T
IMPERIAL CHOCOLATE PUMPKIN PORTER
ABV: 7.80%**

Description: There was a dark, tumultuous time when one couldn't really find anything from the Alaskan-based brewery, Midnight Sun, in California. It wasn't until recently that the beer gods smiled upon us, and made the availability of this brewery's beer now slightly above "extremely scarce." Not to worry though, because when you taste T.R.E.A.T (The Royal Eccentric Ale Treatment) you'll understand that beer like this should not be over-indulged. It should be enjoyed during certain times of the year. Specifically when the weather gets chilly, the scent of pine starts to fill the house and wearing shorts when it's 60 degrees outside is only slightly acceptable. This porter packs a wallop, but goes down ultra smooth. The velvety finish of the cocoa, spice and pumpkin not only tastes like no other beer around, it satisfies your dessert craving while guaranteeing that you'll come back for seconds.

Food pairing: Since the sweet is already covered in this brew, savory is the ticket. Roasted chicken and yams, hearty beef stew or a good old-fashioned chicken pot pie would do just fine.

JAKE'S ADDITION/SUGGESTION:
**OSKAR BLUES BREWING (CO., USA)
MAMA'S LITTLE YELLA PILS
CZECH-STYLE PILSNER
ABV: 5.3%**

Description: Don't be dissuaded by the unassuming, redneck-esque aluminum can— Oskar Blues' 'Yella Pils' will surely put a big grin on your face this holiday season. Crisper than the Autumn dew, this Czech-style pilsner comes heavily fortified with '100% pale malt,' lending itself to uncompromising flavor and taste. Oskar Blues Brewery specializes in small-batch beers, including seasonal IPAs, Belgian-style ales, and even a non-alcoholic root beer.

Food Pairing: Although this beer does just fine by itself, its subtle hoppiness and smooth flavor works well with shellfish and roasted chicken. Use it as a braising liquid, accompanied with some fresh aromatic herbs— like rosemary and thyme— for an out-of-this-world bowl of steamed mussels.



JOHN SARINGO-RODRIGUEZ / PHOTO EDITOR

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CALENDAR *of* EVENTS

FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 5-DECEMBER 9

sponsored by VALLEY PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

5

8 p.m.
L.A. Contemporary Dance Company: Urban Nut
Brockus Project Space at The Brewery
618B Moulton Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90031
\$15

There is no better way to kick off this holiday season than watching a contemporary riff of an old Christmas classic. The Urban Nut puts a L.A. twist on the well known Nutcracker ballet. Every night an audience member is chosen to portray the role of Clara or Clarence. Only those who submit their name on arrival will get picked.

6

9 p.m.
Zak Waters, Blackbear, Story of the Running Wolf
The Satellite
1717 Silver Lake Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90026
\$10

After turning the club into a raving dance party, Zak Waters is back for more. The young up and comer has provided vocals for artists like Flo Rida and Madeon, the french DJ. Far more than a Robin Thicke knockoff, get ready to dance like crazy before finals week.

7

8 p.m.
In the Heights
Casa 0101 2102 E. 1st St., Los Angeles, CA 90033
\$25 student discount

If you love underground theatre and feel more comfortable sitting in a smaller venue than why not come down to L.A. and enjoy the Tony winning Best Musical. Set in New York's Washington Heights neighborhood the play emphasizes on its overwhelming hispanic culture which faces growing changes. Filled with dance, song and forbidden love this play will open your eyes to new worlds.

8

All day
Calder and Abstraction: From Avant-Garde to Iconic
Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA)
5905 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90036
\$15

Expand your mind to new innovative ideals by visiting the LACMA's new exhibition. Calder's 50 works of art take inspiration from French surrealists, where he combines flat pieces of painted metal and hangs them with a fine wire. Each one sways side to side as a gust of air propels the sculptures making them look like giant whim chimes.

9

7 p.m.
PXL THIS 23
UnUrban Coffee House
3301 Pico Blvd., Santa Monica, CA 90405
Free

This intimate coffee house is Santa Monica welcomes on of Los Angeles' long running film festivals. All the movies are shot in black and white using a 70's Fisher-Price toy camcorders. Film topics vary from Obama's drone warfare to the homeless. If you enjoy watching avantgarde movies and appreciate the grittiness of guerilla filming then this spot is just for you.



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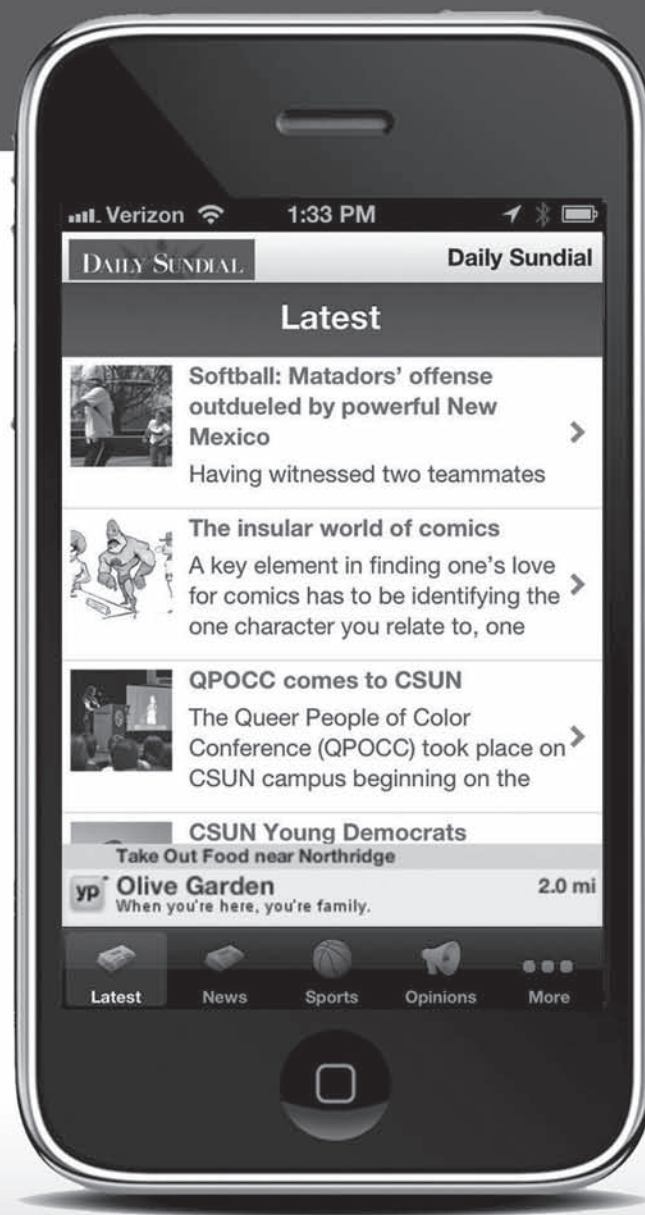


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Clubs celebrate and light up the night

BIANCA SANTILLIAN
DAILY SUNDIAL

NINE FULLY LIT candles stood 10 feet tall in front of the Oviatt Library. The candles hold special meaning to the Jewish community in Northridge as it is the last night of Chanukah. More than 50 students, faculty, staff and community members sang as they watched the Rabbi light the menorah.

The Chabad Jewish Student Center, CSUN Hillel, Alpha Epsilon Pi fraternity and Gamma Alpha Theta sorority, co-sponsored the event. The funds helped provide the sufganiyot (jelly filled donuts) and latkes (potato pancakes) that were served on the two tables adjacent to the silver menorah. The fried food is part of the Chanukah tradition as they commemorate the miraculous oil that held the menorah lit for eight days.

Chanukah is an eight-day festival of lights that begins on the eve of the 25th of the Jewish month of Kislev. Sandra Braum, student president of the Chabad Jewish Student Center, said that the Chabad has taken a permanent place in her heart and hopes that the spirit of Hanukkah spreads across campus.

"Not a lot of people know about our organization," said Braum. "The Chabad is all about our outreach and a Jewish home away from home."

In the days leading up to the big celebration, the Rabbi Chaim

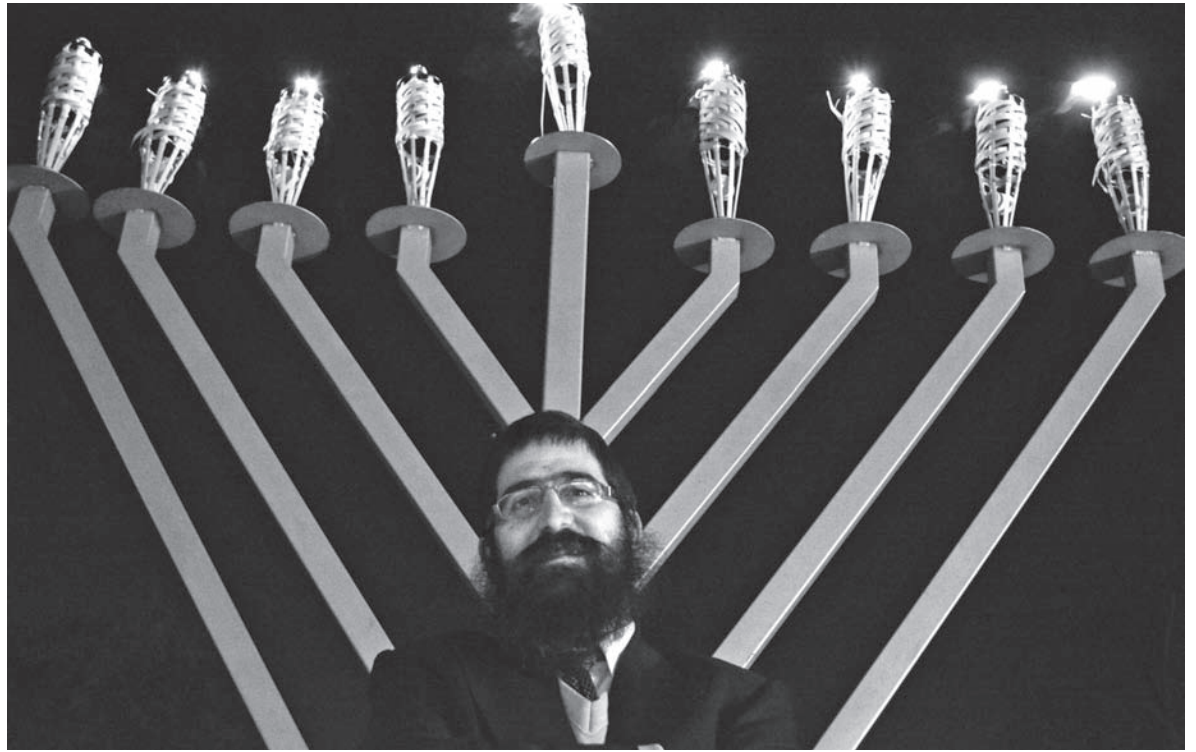
Brook of the Chabad Jewish Student Center stood next to the giant menorah, meeting and informing CSUN students about the upcoming events. This is the ninth year the Jewish student organizations invited the public to join the members in front of the Oviatt Library as they light up the night and celebrate the Jewish festival of lights.

"The fact that we can stand in the middle of the university and celebrate Chanukah, is the epitome of freedom of religion that we have in our country," said Rabbi Brook. "It's so important that every student from every religion feels comfortable knowing that they are in a safe spot and encourage to practice the way their heart desires."

All of the guests were given individual-sized candles that represented the shamash, or the attendant candle, that is used to light all the other candles, moving its flame from left to right. Non-Jewish CSUN students stopped out of curiosity and participated in the celebration.

Kayla Prike, an 18-year-old art major, was on her way to the library when she noticed the silver menorah and a large group surrounding it. She says she has never taken part in the Jewish holiday, but hopes she can continue to come every year from now on.

"I thought it was a great experience and it was a beautiful ceremony," said Priske. "I really like how we each got a candle. We all connected by lighting from each other's flames. It showed community bonding."



JOHN SARINGO-RODRIGUEZ / PHOTO EDITOR

Director of the CSUN Chabad Student Center, Rabi Chaim Brook stands in front of a large Menorah on the Oviatt Library Lawn. Different Jewish organizations gathered for the last night of Chanukah on Dec. 4.

As the night hours crawled in, the nine candles were the only light source for the group that remained after the lighting ceremony. In the previous years, Chanukah took place after school finals, but this year it came a bit early, the first night falling on Thanksgiving.

CSUN Hillel director, Judy Alban, who has helped plan the celebration for the past five years, said she is happy to see a lot more

student participation including the non-Jewish students who came out to support.

"I think it's important for the Jewish students on campus to feel supported and know they can come out to celebrate together," said Alban. "It's really nice that the campus let us do this. We hope we can continue to do this in the next years."

Chanukah is traditionally celebrated in a public fashion and is

commonly referred to as "illuminating the darkness." Each candle is lit to add more light to the night and spread the spirit of the celebration.

"The message of Chanukah is always increasing. We are never satisfied with the amount of light we are spreading," said Rabbi Brooke. "That's a very strong message for each student to never be satisfied with their accomplishment. Always add more and more."



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Opinion

Katy Perry: an unconditional racist

Katy Perry's American Music Awards racist performance was a blatant example of Asian cultural appropriation

CALVIN RATANA
DAILY SUNDIAL

IT WAS JUST a regular Sunday night after a busy shift, one hour before closing. My co-worker decided to change the TV channel to view the American Music Awards (AMA). Some odd twist of fate led me to witness the beginning of Katy Perry's performance and that sense of dread crept on me and I couldn't help but facepalm myself.

In a move that is all too common throughout American media, Perry was opening with her song "Unconditionally" dressed as a geisha. Ms. Perry, you really fucked that performance up.

Perry's costume was a full-blast cultural appropriation of Japanese culture. Perry wore a kimono, had geisha make-up on, a hairdo complete with

an Asian-inspired backdrop, back-up dancers dressed up as geishas who wielded fans, cherry blossoms, floating lanterns and the Great Wave of Kanagawa.

The customers who remained in the restaurant saw this and asked if we liked what Perry was doing. To my disgust, my co-workers (who are all either Thai or Japanese) said yes. But I said no, much to everyone's discomfort.

But why so angry? Because Perry's performance is an assault to Asian-Americans. Let me break it down. One, Perry is perpetuating the stereotype that all Asians are foreigners and are exotic beings with exotic cultures. Two, Perry's costumes and stage set-up was completely ignorant of her intention to copy the Japanese culture. Three, Perry's song "Unconditionally" and her costume unfortunately tie in with the lotus blossom stereotype and the idea that Asian women are submissive and exotic.

PERPETUATING THE STEREOTYPE OF ASIAN FOREIGNERS

Why, Katy Perry? Why did you have to dress up in an Asian-inspired theme for your performance? In what way does your song have anything to do with any Asian culture at all? You just ruined the image of Asian-Americans because you decided to dress up in an Asian inspired outfit. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), America has an Asian population of 18 million people. Amongst the 18 million, we are a diverse group of people who are not to be broken down into fans and kimonos.

Instead of just being yourself, you decided that you needed to appropriate a whole race of people. Let me be clear: no, not all Asians know how to do a fan dance and no we do not all own a kimono or some sort of authentic Asian gar-

ments. We are Americans just like everyone else in America, shaped by our surroundings.

But Perry's performance just reinforced the idea that to many people, I am still not an American and someone that looks like me is not visible in American society and media because this kind of racism can still happen without major backlashes on a heavily televised event.

CULTURAL APPROPRIATION

Perry's performance was meant to be a tribute to Japanese culture. But the entire performance was like seeing those Asian fast food restaurants at the mall: a mash of Asian cultures as if it was a pan-Asian buffet, also known as cultural appropriation.

First, her costume is not a traditional kimono. A kimono does not show cleavage. However, Perry's costume showed off her bust in an exotic costume. Second, a traditional kimono does not have slits down the sides of the dress. Perry's costume had those slits to show off her legs. The slits on the side of the dress is more linked to the Chinese dress, cheongsam. In the sake for a cool costume, Perry disrespectfully melded two traditional dresses together and tried to pass it off as Japanese. Her costume was just as confusing as her performance. Is it a kimono or a cheongsam? But to Perry, both dresses were probably the same in her eyes. Because, obviously, all Asians are the same.

Because for Ms. Perry, after her performance, she can take off that yellow skin she was wearing. She can remove that costume, take down the props, and take off the make-up and go back to being "normal." But what is offensive is that Perry took advantage of that privilege to appropriate Asian culture. We cannot take off our yellow skin. We cannot perform one song in some get-up and the next moment take it off and never have to deal with the burden that comes with wearing that skin. But for Perry, because of her privilege, she can wear our skin but never truly understand or even appreciate what it means to be an Asian-American. Her white privilege allows her to choose to use our people and our culture as a prop. At the same time, her performance only keeps Asian-Americans from being visible to the American public. That is white privilege and cultural appropriation.

EXOTIFICATION OF ASIAN AMERICAN WOMEN

It wasn't only horrifying to see Perry dressed up as a "geisha," but to also hear Perry belt out her song, "Unconditionally" while in an appropriated female Asian costume. Let's start by examining "Unconditionally" lyrics:

"Unconditional, unconditionally
I will love you unconditionally
There is no fear now
Let go and just be free
I will love you unconditionally
So come just as you are to me
Don't need apologies"

The problem here lies in the fact that Asian women are already exoticized and fetishized. Perry in her disgusting costume belting out submissive lyrics only strengthens the idea that Asian women are submissive, sexual and exotic.

The cross references between the lyrics and Perry's costume as Cio-Cio San from the opera "Madame Butterfly" is hard to not notice.

Cio-Cio San tells the story of a Japanese woman who takes a Western lover and is left behind by him. She kills herself after finding out about his betrayal because she could not live without her Western lover.

Quite unfortunate, really. But with Perry dressed in yellowface and the lyrics of the song, the image of a servile Asian woman who would weather anything in order to make her lover happy is blatant. And while Perry can wash off that performance, the icon of that show, an exoticized Asian woman submitting to her lover, cannot as easily be erased from the minds of the public. It only does harm to the thousands of strong Asian American women in America who are fighting for their rights everyday.

But really what irks me is my co-worker's reaction to Katy Perry's performance. They called it artistic and that it wasn't offensive to them in anyway. Even my ethnically Japanese coworkers were OK with the performance.

And although Twitter and Tumblr blew up with sides either defending or attacking Perry, the fact that cultural appropriation and yellowface is still OK to do in the American public is a gigantic problem. I simply ask that we take a stand and start deconstructing this racist system instead of submitting to it. We, as people of color, must step up and rise against a society that has kept us under their thumb for too long.



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INTERNATIONAL

Continued from page 1

America is not only about the academic quest, it's about that student involvement that adds to it and makes it so rich. College is a beautiful experience and if you're missing out on this student life component then you're missing out on a lot."

Colabucci also believes that what sets the American university system apart from other countries' is its hands-on experience.

"At American universities, you have to participate at all levels. You speak in the class and you work in teams and you work on projects," he said. "You go to baseball games and you work on campus. You're a vibrant member of the community and it's a true university experience."

The University of Southern California (USC) was the number one institution to host international students in the 2012-2013 academic year, and UCLA was the sixth most popular institution to host international students, making California the number one state to host international students in the U.S. according to the report. In 2012-2013, California hosted 111,379 international students alone.

While CSUN is not one of the top 10 schools to host international students, Janowski believes its broad range of culturally and ethnically diverse students along with

the fact that that the university is affordable sets it apart.

"Because of the amazing diversity we have on this campus and because of the student life, CSUN is unique that it gives that amazing student involvement experience," Colabucci said.

THE COST OF BEING AN INTERNATIONAL STUDENT

In 2012-2013, international students contributed 24 billion dollars according to the U.S. economy the Open Doors report.

Residential undergraduate students who do not live with a parent or relative will pay \$23,952 for the 2013-2014 academic school year according to the CSUN website, while the estimated student expenses for one school year for an undergraduate international student totals to \$34,300.

Students who are not residents of California have to pay an additional \$372 per unit.

"I know some countries offer scholarships for students to study and I know that other people have their families give them the money, but there are a lot of people who take credit and go through a lot of economic struggle to send their kids to American colleges," Janowski said. "They take loans and they do the regular things that American parents do because they value that American education."

President of CSUN's International Student Association

(ISA) Daniel Aguiar says many international students transfer to CSUN from community colleges so they can save money.

"International Students tend to transfer to CSUN since they pay more than double what a resident would pay for their fees, and community college tuition is slightly less than a four-year university," Aguiar said.

Although some international students can work on campus, Aguiar says it is not enough.

"Their main source of support comes from their parents, relatives or a sponsor such as their home country government or entity," Aguiar said.

For Mike Lee, a 20-year-old international student from Japan, studying in America means being able to choose a major he likes, as opposed to choosing a major that is required for a specific job like he would have to do if he studied back home.

"You will go to class and study very hard, even if it's a topic that you don't like. Here I can choose to study what I like," Lee said.

Even though he loves studying at CSUN, Lee is not here on a scholarship which he said is an expensive experience that his family ends up paying for.

"My family is paying for this and it is much more expensive than Japan. Here we have dollars, so that's already more money," Lee said. "I have a (high) tuition fee, and I need to pay a lot of extra money for insurance."

SCHOLARSHIP VS. PERSONAL MEANS

While the fees associated with being an international student are high, the report shows that 63.6 percent of international students' primary source of funding comes from their families or personal means, while only about 20 percent comes from the U.S. college or university at which they are studying.

Abtin Jaberli, 20, an international student from Iran, came to CSUN four months ago to study to become a veterinarian, a venture he said his family is paying for out of pocket.

Although he's far from home, Jaberli said he doesn't miss Iran.

"I don't miss being back home. America is much better, LA is better. It's better people, better culture, better rules, everything is better here," Jaberli said.

For Moath Al Omar, 17, an international student from Saudi Arabia who is majoring in psychology, getting a scholarship from the Saudi Arabian government made it possible for him to study at CSUN.

"When anyone comes here from Saudi Arabia, the government pays for them," said Al Omar. "Their tuition is free, the campus, the insurance, everything is free. If I didn't have the scholarship, I wouldn't be able to come. If I you're rich, you can come here easily."

CULTURAL REASONS FOR COMING TO THE U.S.

While Al Omar said the main reason he came to study in America is because of the benefits of holding a U.S. degree, he also loves the American culture.

"Everything is better here in America. The culture is more open and free. In Saudi Arabia, everything is split," Al Omar said. "The women and men are split in everything, even in high school, college and restaurants. We have a women's section and men's section. Women can't even drive there. Here there is a lot more freedom."

Of those who are international students, 41 percent are undergrads and 38 percent are graduate students. Business and management, engineering, and math and computer science are the top three majors being studied by international students, leaving humanities, education and agriculture as the least popular.

Mohammed Al-Suheem, an 18-year-old international student from Saudi Arabia who is also studying psychology at CSUN, said he chose to study in California after his brother had graduated from the university.

"I asked my father if I can try to study at CSUN like my brother did, since he loved the culture and environment so much, and so I can improve my English, and he said yes," Al-Suheem said.

In the two months he's been here, Al-Suheem said he's met many other inter-

national students and he is excited to be spending his first Christmas in the U.S.

"I am really excited to see how the holidays are celebrated here. I think I might go to Big Bear or Las Vegas with my friends," he said.

U.S. STUDENTS STUDYING ABROAD

Juliet Aylmer, Study Abroad and National Student Exchange adviser, said the main reason American students like to study abroad is to learn about another country.

"Students like to study abroad to fully immerse themselves in another country, in another culture, to learn about themselves and others and perhaps learn a new language," Aylmer said.

For U.S. college students, the United Kingdom, Italy and Spain are the top three destinations students choose to study abroad.



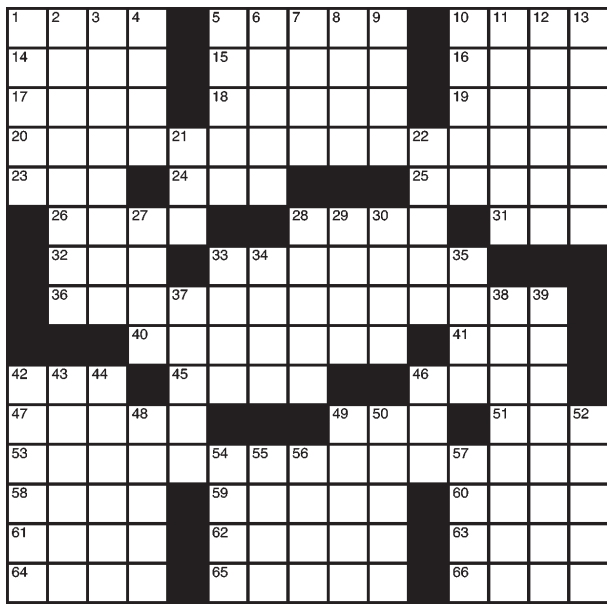
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Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

ACROSS

- 1 Rewards for waiting
- 5 Sauce finisher, often
- 10 Bit of Halloween makeup
- 14 Gray subj.
- 15 Expansive
- 16 Parting words
- 17 Family nickname
- 18 Parting word
- 19 Erelong
- 20 " "
- 23 Presidential nickname
- 24 Inflationary fig.?
- 25 Drive off
- 26 Language of Pakistan
- 28 Peak on the 1,000-yen note
- 31 Language suffix
- 32 ___-Julie, Quebec
- 33 Nail-biting way to win
- 36 " "
- 40 Jerks
- 41 Morse code letter after dit-dit
- 42 Outlaw Clanton
- 45 Get rid of
- 46 Gorilla trained to use sign language
- 47 Holiday air
- 49 Mao ___-tung
- 51 Ten-cent pres.
- 53 " "
- 58 Designer Schiaparelli
- 59 The Joe in Detroit, for one
- 60 Superb
- 61 Tallow source
- 62 Huge
- 63 Earthworm habitat
- 64 Stun, in a way
- 65 Bout of retail "therapy"
- 66 Fine subject?



By Steve Blais

12/5/13

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved



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DOWN

- 1 "Lost" actress Raymonde
- 2 How soldiers may lie
- 3 Gratify the baser side of
- 4 Have the lead
- 5 Shellfish morsels
- 6 Lines from the center
- 7 33-Down's homeland
- 8 Open-mouthed
- 9 Western landform
- 10 Cliché
- 11 Happy hour morsel
- 12 Makes amends
- 13 Rub the wrong way
- 21 Manjula's husband on "The Simpsons"
- 22 Like autumn mornings
- 27 Like morning grass
- 28 Made-up
- 29 Loosen, as laces
- 30 Enroll
- 33 U2 frontman
- 34 Belly laughs
- 35 Prefix with morph
- 37 Pixar title robot
- 38 Hardwood option
- 39 Mystery
- 42 Most distant
- 43 Black Russian component
- 44 Fulfills a takeout order?
- 46 Alpine parrot
- 48 Roundish
- 49 1,000 kilograms
- 50 Kerry's department
- 52 Projection room stack
- 54 Badgers
- 55 It may be round
- 56 Stuff in a backpack
- 57 José's home

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MEN'S BASKETBALL

Northridge routs Southern Utah

ALEX VEJAR

DAILY SUNDIAL

THE CSUN Matadors (5-4) dominated the Southern Utah Thunderbirds (1-5) 84-57 behind a strong performance by junior forward Stephen Maxwell, Tuesday night.

Maxwell reached a double-double in the first half and finished with 27 points and 13 rebounds for the game. Junior guard/forward Stephan Hicks had an efficient game, scoring 20 points on 6-7 shooting, and also reached the 1,000-point plateau in his CSUN career with his first two points of the contest.

"It means a lot," Hicks said of the milestone. "I'm extremely blessed to get this opportunity to play (Division I) basketball. I just gotta continue to be humble, put hard work in practice and continue to be a good teammate."

Freshman guard Trey Kennedy led Southern Utah with 17 points and three assists.

Maxwell started the game with CSUN's first 10 points as the Matadors took an early 10-7 lead, but a 5-2 run by the Thunderbirds knotted the game at 12 apiece.

With the game tied, a Maxwell layup started a 10-2 run punctuated by freshman guard Aaron Parks diving for a loose ball which led to a Hicks three-pointer to push the Northridge lead to eight.

The Matadors extended the run to 22-6 after junior forward J.J. Thomas rebounded a South-

ern Utah miss and passed the ball to Maxwell, who went the length of the floor and laid in a basket while getting fouled. The made free throw ballooned CSUN's lead to 18.

Just before the end of the half, Parks drove baseline and found Maxwell under the basket for a thunderous two-hand throwdown which gave CSUN their biggest of the half. A buzzer-beating jumper by Kennedy made the halftime score 45-28 in favor of the Matadors.

"Coach always talks about us being a hit-first team, and I feel like today it was the first day that we actually did that," Maxwell said. "We gave them a punch first then after that, it was over for them. They had no fight in them."

CSUN continued their impressive performance right from the start of the second half with three offensive rebounds in one possession and a putback layup by sophomore forward/center Tre Hale-Edmerson, giving the Matadors a 19-point lead with 18:31 left in the game.

Southern Utah was not able to get any closer than 17 points, and Northridge eventually built up a 32-point lead when Hicks converted a layup off a half court lob pass from sophomore guard Landon Drew.

The Thunderbirds only shot 36.4 percent for the game compared to 50 percent for the Matadors. Head coach Reggie Theus felt Southern Utah's poor shooting was a result of his team's defense.

"Tonight, I thought they executed our game plan pretty well defensively, which I thought caused (Southern



TREVOR STAMP / DAILY SUNDIAL

Freshman guard Aaron Parks drives past a Southern Utah defender. Parks finished the night with 14 points on 5-8 shooting.

Utah) problems," Theus said.

Northridge also dominated the game on the boards, out-rebounding Southern Utah 48-26. CSUN also won the paint battle, 44-26.

After a loss to the Fresno State Bulldogs in November, Theus said his team needed to be tougher and get to more loose balls. He felt

they did that against the Thunderbirds, but still have room for improvement.

"I thought the energy level was very good," Theus said. "There were still two 50-50 balls on the ground that we didn't come up with, so it's something that we're going to have to keep talking about until

we become 100 percent with 50-50 balls because those are game-winning plays. Those are inspirational plays, and a team needs those kind of opportunities."

The Matadors will host the Seattle University Redhawks for a home game Thursday night at the Matadome.

GET TO KNOW

Cinnamon Lister

Major: Communication studies

FAVORITES

Food: Any Mexican food

Band/Artist: The Dream

Athlete: Ticha Penicheiro and Rajon Rondo

Sports Team: Boston Celtics

LIFE

Hardest part about being a student-athlete: Balancing school and getting extra time in the gym

Greatest accomplishment: Signing a Division I scholarship out of high school

Hobbies: Basketball and working out

BASKETBALL

Best part of my game: Handles/shot

Part of my game that needs improvement: Finishing left hand layups

Best player I've played against: Courtney Vandersloot

Player I model my game after: Kara Lawson or Kristi Toliver

Pre-game rituals: Prayer and eating half a bag of peanut M&Ms

Difference between this year's team compared to previous years: Our cohesiveness off the court is good

GOALS

Team: Regular season conference champs and Big West conference champs and getting past first round in the NCAA tournament

Personal: Making 1st team All-Conference, and average 19 points per game.

EXTRAS

Other sports played: Ran track

When I started playing basketball: Seven-years-old

How I stay in shape during off-season: Jeff Crelling's CrossFit workouts

Life after CSUN: Overseas basketball player, and then a college coach.

Where I see myself in ten years: A coach at a Division I University.



JOHN SARINGO-RODRIGUEZ / PHOTO EDITOR