

SPARTAN DAILY

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SEXUAL HARASSMENT

Documents suggest investigation failed to follow up on prior claims

Emails and documents obtained by the Spartan Daily reveal San Jose State University’s failure to properly follow up and report sexual harassment allegations dating back to 2014.



BY SARAH KLIEVES & KRISTIN LAM  
Photo Editor & Executive Editor

During a 2015 investigation, San Jose State University administrators failed to follow up on previous sexual harassment allegations against a professor.

A university investigation was launched in 2015 after sexual harassment allegations were filed against counseling education professor Lewis Aptekar.

Documents obtained by the Spartan Daily suggest SJSU administrators did not report sexual harassment allegations made against Aptekar in 2014, prior to a 2015 university investigation of similar charges that found him guilty.

At issue is California State University Executive Order 1097. Article I states “Any Employee who knows or has reason to know of allegations or acts that violate this policy shall promptly inform the DHR [Discrimination, Harassment, Retaliation] Administrator or Title IX Coordinator.”

During the 2015 investigation, counseling education professor Jason Laker served as the adviser to the student who filed a sexual harassment complaint against Aptekar. The Deputy Title IX Investigator at the time, Debra Griffith, headed the investigation.

In a letter addressed to Laker regarding Griffith’s investigation that was dated Oct. 28, 2015, Associate Vice President of Human Resources Beth Pugliese stated, “Human resources had not received any formal or informal complaints regarding Dr. [Lewis] Aptekar prior to this incident.”

In June 2016, Laker learned of complaints made against Aptekar in 2014. Laker then reached out to Santa Clara County Deputy District Attorney John Chase. As a result, Chase’s office launched a separate investigation into the matter in August 2016.

In a letter addressed to Laker on Sept. 14, 2016, Chase determined that “the terms

‘informal complaint’ and ‘formal complaint’ apparently have specific meanings and they do not include an anonymous complaint.”

“Thus the statements of these administrators as reported in the investigation report, while misleading to outside readers, were not false in the language apparently used in HR at San Jose State University,” Chase added.

When contacted for comment, Chase said he was “not at liberty to publicly discuss our criminal investigations, particularly when they

CSU EO 1097 states, “These Employees are required to disclose all information including the names of the Parties, even where the person has requested anonymity.”

Despite the students requesting anonymity, Bruck still reported their complaints and names to the Title IX office, and SJSU had an obligation to investigate per CSU policies.

“I revealed the most vital fact already,” Bruck said in an email to the Spartan Daily. “That is all I have to say to the press.”

raised concerns among other SJSU officials.

“True or false, why weren’t the charges a part of the 2015 case?” said Chair of the University Professional Standards Committee Kenneth Peter. “Who dropped the ball so that the 2014 complaints were not considered when the 2015 case was adjudicated? That is something I don’t know and I presume there is an explanation for.”

Due to her position, Senior Director of Academic Employee Relations and Deputy Title IX Coordinator Joanne Wright and her colleague Pugliese, along with their counterparts in HR, were included in emails that notified them about complaints made against Aptekar.

The original 2014 email chain from Bruck was forwarded to Wright and Pugliese on Aug. 2, 2016. Pugliese claimed in an Aug. 4, 2016 email to Wright that this was “all news to [her].”

Wright and Pugliese have not responded to numerous requests for comment.

Griffith claimed in an email sent on July 29, 2016 that she “contacted [witnesses] repeatedly” during her 2015 investigation. Some witnesses to the 2014 complaints did not respond, however, and were never interviewed.

Griffith, now the Associate Vice President for Transition and Retention Services, refused to comment about the investigation.

Last month, Media Relations Director Pat Harris said in a statement, “The earlier, 2014 case came to light after the inquiry into the 2015 allegations. The professor [Aptekar] was placed on paid administrative leave during an extensive, months-long inquiry that included multiple interviews and a careful examination of relevant records. Ultimately, those allegations were not substantiated.”

Laker brought the 2014 allegations to the public’s attention via The Mercury News in September 2016. He felt university administrators did not do their due diligence

“True or false, why weren’t the charges a part of the 2015 case? Who dropped the ball so that the 2014 complaints were not considered when the 2015 case was adjudicated? That is something I don’t know and I presume there is an explanation for.”

Kenneth Peter  
Chair of the University Professional Standards Committee

lead to no charges being filed.”

SJSU’s 2015 investigation into allegations made against Aptekar revealed that previous complaints had been filed with the Title IX office by David Bruck in 2014. Bruck, an electrical engineering and computer engineering professor, was Associate Dean of Graduate Studies and Research at the time.

According to an email Bruck sent to Julie Paisant, Director of Equal Opportunity and Deputy Title IX Coordinator, two students told Bruck about “some sexually charged encounters with Dr. Lewis Aptekar.”

In the same email on Aug. 12, 2014, Bruck stated to Paisant, “Neither are happy about this being reported, and both wish to remain anonymous.”

Paisant has not responded to the Spartan Daily’s numerous requests for comment.

Article III of Executive Order 1097 further states, “The DHR Administrator or Title IX Coordinator shall promptly investigate the Complaint or assign this task to another Investigator on a case-by-case basis. If assigned to another Investigator, the DHR Administrator or Title IX Coordinator shall monitor, supervise, and oversee all such delegated tasks ... including reviewing all investigation draft reports before they are final to ensure that the investigation was sufficient, appropriate, impartial, and in compliance with this Executive Order.”

The reported lack of follow-up on the 2014 claims during Griffith’s 2015 investigation has



INVESTIGATION

Continued from page 1

in investigating numerous student complaints against Aptekar. Elaine Chin and Mary McVey were both former deans of the College of Education. Laker said he believes if Chin and McVey tell an investigator that there have been no formal or informal complaints, and are aware of prior incidents, then they are knowingly withholding information. “That, to me, is being willfully misleading,” Laker said. “Any reasonable person would say that if they knew of these other things, then to say it that way [formal or informal

complaints], I have questions. Who told you to phrase it that way?” Chin referred the Spartan Daily to her lawyer, Deputy Attorney General Jodi Cleesattle, for comment. On Chin’s behalf, Cleesattle stated, “When Dr. Chin was asked by the investigator whether there had been any prior complaints of harassment filed against Prof. Aptekar, she answered truthfully that she was not aware of any. Dr. Chin did not learn about the prior complaints until sometime after she was interviewed by the investigator.” McVey did not respond to requests for comment. The legal counsel for McVey and the university, Sarju Naran of Hoge Fenton Jones & Appel law firm, stated that they have no comment upon receiving the Spartan Daily’s requests.

After numerous requests for comment, Harris said in an email on Monday, “I am writing to respond to Spartan Daily inquiries to Andy Feinstein, Debra Griffith, Michael Kimbarow, Julie Paisant, Beth Pugliese and Joanne Wright. Thank you for your inquiries. We are unable to comment given the confidentiality of the Title IX process and pending litigation.” As a result of his actions, Laker felt that the university was retaliating against him. He filed a lawsuit in March 2017 with the County of Santa Clara against SJSU for retaliation and defamation. Court documents state, “He [Laker] brought this lawsuit on March 15, 2017 to protect his reputation and to bring an end to ongoing workplace intimidation through misuse of investigatory process

and deliberate retaliation through defamatory publications.” The document continues to state that the university’s retaliation is “in violation of the California Fair Employment and Housing Act.” On July 12, 2017, Judge Theodore Zayner’s stipulation and order sided with Laker. SJSU has filed an appeal of that ruling. Litigation is still ongoing due to delays in the discovery process.

Managing Editor Isabelle Tham contributed to this article.

Follow Sarah and Kristin on Twitter | @sarah\_klieves and @kristinslam

MOSAIC celebrates 20 years of service

BY CINTHIA LOERA Staff Writer

The MOSAIC Cross Cultural Center will celebrate its 20th year of serving students at San Jose State University this upcoming spring. Program coordinator Sharon Singh was once one of the students who utilized the center. “I actually worked at the center as an undergrad so it’s like a full circle for me,” Singh said. Singh explained that the center is a space available for students to utilize whenever they feel the desire to create and facilitate programs and events. She emphasized that the center is about building community and is a space for students by students. According to its website, the center “provides support services and advocacy for students from historically underrepresented identity groups, along with programming, events, and leadership opportunities for all students, staff, faculty and San Jose community members at San Jose State University.” “Our general goal is to be a resource and a space for students, that never changes,” Singh said. “We always wanna make sure that students who come into the space feel connected.” She said the center is there for students to utilize, whether it be to study, organize an event or to socialize with new people. Software engineering senior Abdellatif Abdelfattah has been utilizing the center’s prayer space for the past two years. He said he was impressed with how the staff at the center listened and answered requests to better manage the prayer space for himself

and his peers. “The center is an open space and everyone’s welcome,” Abdelfattah said. “Once they see the vibe they’ll see it’s very nice so they should come check it out.” Accounting junior Mariam Allam was introduced to the center by her cousin and sister. “I think it’s very comfortable, there’s not a lot of of rules,” Allam said. “You can do whatever you want but still in a respectful way.” She added that she thought the center was a nice place to study and socialize with people. Singh said that one of the purposes of the center was to have students voice their opinions and give the center direction. Graphic design junior Grayson Garcia is the center’s sole graphic designer. He explained how he was drawn to the position because of his combined interest in design and social justice. “My favorite thing about the center is the ambiance,” Garcia said. “I appreciate the fact that it is a space of absolute acceptance.” Singh said that although visitors may see other students working the front desk of the center, it is not a student organization. MOSAIC instead is an open space available for anybody that might need to talk. The MOSAIC Cross Cultural Center is open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Thursday and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Fridays.

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CINTHIA LOERA | SPARTAN DAILY

The MOSAIC Cross Cultural Center is located across from the Spartan Bookstore.



CINTHIA LOERA | SPARTAN DAILY

Students line up in the MOSAIC Cross Cultural Center during its open house on Wednesday, Aug. 30 th to enter a raffle for a chance to win prizes.

Lecture discusses women’s economic rights in history

BY DIANA AVILA Staff Writer

The economics department presented a lecture from the David S. Saurman Provocative Lecture Series on women’s economic rights in the Student Union Theater on Monday. “We wanted to have a place where students were provoked to think, so we don’t believe [we] should teach students what to think, but it’s about how to think things, how to use the economic lens and economic tools,” economics professor Lydia Ortega said. The guest speaker was senior research fellow of the Mercatus Center at George Mason University, Jayme Lemke. She studies women’s history and its effect on the economy. “Women’s rights always has been of great interest to me even before I started studying economics,” Lemke said. “The more I started to learn about how women have been treated historically, it really opened my eyes to this situation.” According to Lemke, gender inequality is still a problem today. She highlighted some events in American history that began to change

policy making in the United States. She added that lobbyists advocated for women’s right to keep their earnings made through labor in the workforce. According to the Law Library of Congress, it was not until 1848 that New York State passed the Women’s Property law – this allowed women to keep all the income they made prior to their marriage. Lemke noted that this influenced other states to do the same. According to Lemke, during this time many advertisements surfaced trying to recruit women to work and live near factories in order to find husbands. “In most of the world women still don’t have equal rights,” Lemke said. “There [are] still 18 countries where women still have to ask her husbands for permission before they can work.” Lemke believes it’s important for everyone to have an opportunity to make their lives better.

“I think that both sides from the political and economic spectrum should come together to talk about it more so that we can have a more diverse approach to this topic.”

Jayme Lemke Senior research fellow

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# Japantown Art Walk showcases local artists

BY JOSE F. GOVEA  
Staff Writer

Sunrays reflected off of signs written with Japanese characters while people wondered from building to building at this year’s Japantown Art Walk.

Young teenagers with hipster sunglasses, couples holding hands and people salivating with hunger all met to admire different forms of art and enjoy great food in Japantown on Friday.

The art walk is a seasonal event that happens every second Friday during the summer to help recognize local artists and different vendors.

Japantown itself is located on Jackson Street and the shops that contributed to the event are located between Third and Sixth Street.

Within the strip, a small shop with Instagram-worthy knick-knacks caught the attention of people walking past.

A huge aerosol painted cat with a gold chain placed by the entrance of Classic Loot greeted those who entered the shop.

The owner Tam Tram stood behind the counter and welcomed customers with an inviting smile and mellow voice.

“We specialize in vintage, handmade and contemporary styles,” Tran said. “We originated from a mobile boutique on wheels. It was basically a food truck that we gutted and turned into a shop and used for three years.”

The shop had a sign with pink neon lights flashing the words “GIRLS RULE.”

Stylish glasses, oversized jean-jackets and miniature cacti in fragile glass vases decorated with flowers were a few items available for purchase.

“I encourage people to come out to Japantown,” Tran said. “We’re not just somewhere that offers only sushi. There’s a lot to offer.”

Different shops specialized in selling clothing and unique jewelry, but only a few shops actually specialized in art.

One particular building had a mural of different faces grouped together into a huge mass of colors. People tended to hangout in this shop, known as The Arsenal, for an extensive amount of time.

Inside The Arsenal — amongst the canvases displayed with warped faces, cat paintings and a Mexican wrestler hitting a piñata resembling President Trump — stood a man with a floral printed five-panel hat and half-inch ear plugs.

“I’ve displayed art here in San Jose, San Francisco and LA,” Francisco Graciano said. “I feel like everyone should really channel into their creativity and create for the better of everyone.”

At the corner of Third Street in front of the Zonkey toy shop, people were astonished by a hard rock band named Soy Sauce Control. Others stayed glued to a man painting a giant mural of the Wolf Man.

Addie McClure stood across the street from all the commotion and displayed her small tablets with watercolor paintings. McClure hopped along to the beat of the band, and enjoyed the intimate space she shared with her mother and sister and was delighted to share her art.

“My family has been involved with the community for over 18 years,” McClure said. “Japantown has been like a second home to me since I was born.”

McClure’s father was a huge contributor to the Obon festival, a Japanese cultural holiday that honors the deceased and involves dancing, food and family.

The art walk was McClure’s way to focus purely on her own contribution to Japantown through art.

“For any artist trying to figure out how to break into the scene, you have to practice every day,” McClure said. “I know it’s cliché but don’t listen to the haters. Just focus on what you love and what makes you happy and people will find you.”



JOSE F. GOVEA | SPARTAN DAILY

San Jose resident Crystal Cisneros-Villa looks at ‘Holla for a Dolla’ jewelry.

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## FILM REVIEW

# “It” smashes the box office records on opening weekend

BY JONAS ELAM  
Staff Writer

A hellish, child-devouring clown that becomes the manifestation of one’s darkest fears is just one of the many reasons “It” was a terrific and horrific movie.

Stephen King’s “It” is so much more than just a work of horror about a child-eating clown. Director Andy Muschietti stayed true to that fact and did a phenomenal job of making another film adaptation of the horror classic.

Derry, Maine is plagued by a major tragedy every 27 years. In 1988, that tragedy is Pennywise the Dancing Clown abducting and eating local children. A team of losers battle the clown to conquer their fears and grow as a group. The viewer will laugh, cry and scream along.

The director did a great job of setting an ominous mood while not keeping the movie strictly terrifying. Richie Tozier, played by Finn Wolfhard, is the ultimate comic relief character. He makes it quite clear, and often reiterates, that he is well-endowed and has had sex with most of the other main characters’ mothers and sisters.

His character offers relief from the horror just long enough to make viewers comfortable, but then they are terrified again, forgetting any joy Richie Tozier gave them.

The 2017 film stays true to the novel for the most part but has some changes to make a film series rather than one movie.

The novel takes place in the 1980’s with the same group of losers, but they are adults. There are a plethora of flashbacks to the 1950’s in which they are children and first encounter It.

The movie is different in that it solely takes place in the 1980’s with the crew as kids. This may be due to the recent craze of 1980’s pop-culture as well as the ability to have the second movie take place in the present day.

Because they plan to split the novel into two movies, I’m not particularly

upset about this change.

Another change that did not negatively influence the movie was the difference in monsters. It takes the form of the kids’ deepest fears, and in the novel most of the kids fear popular 1950’s movie monsters.

Changing the kids’ fears made the movie more enjoyable, as it helped develop their characters. Using the deformed woman or burning parents instead of the Wolf Man also makes the movie a lot scarier and less cheesy.

The movie was also missing the kids’ orgy. In the novel, the kids determine that they have to become united to escape It’s lair in the sewers. Beverley suggests having sex with the boys as transition to adulthood and maintaining their bonds.

“The replacement for it is the scene with the blood oath, where everyone sort of says goodbye,” Muschietti said in an interview with Collider. “Spoiler. The blood oath scene is there and it’s the last time they see each other as a group.”

Regardless of the differences, the movie was a pleasure to watch. It sticks to the important themes of the novel with a slightly more modern taste.

The movie is more than just a horror flick. It is a story about children growing into adulthood by facing and conquering their deepest fears.

According to CNN, the movie made \$123.1 million in its opening weekend, a record for the month of September and the third highest grossing movie this year.


“It” is a timeless horror novel, and the new film adaptation represented it eminently. I implore any Stephen King, horror or cinema fan to see “It.”



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# Marching band director to retire after 40 years

BY KAYLEE LAWLER  
Staff Writer

After 40 years of teaching at San Jose State University, Scott Pierson is retiring as the marching band director after this school year.

Pierson spends his days during the school year waking up and mapping out marching band formations or marching drills at his breakfast table for a couple hours before school starts.

He draws inspiration from the most unlikely of places.

“I would go to tile stores because geometric tiles are a great inspiration for design for field formations. They’re so beautiful,” Pierson said. “Once I have a starting set, it all falls into place.”

A normal day for Pierson includes attending school meetings, preparing music and handouts for the band, practice and teaching private lessons.

When he sees his students before every practice, Pierson said they watch a video of their past performances for constructive feedback.

“When they watch themselves on tv for the first time you can watch them and they’re just going ‘Wow that’s us? Boy, we are pretty good,’” Pierson said.

Because the marching band is open to all students at SJSU, Pierson said he works with students with a wide range of experience, from novice band students to students who are ready to play professionally.

“Every year it’s a new batch [of students] and you have to get everybody to the same level of competency,” Pierson said. “But [after] a month in you would never know who was a rookie and who had been here for five years.”

Music education junior Vincent Jurado

is the current student leader and drum major of the marching band.

In his second year of leading the band, he hopes Pierson’s last year is one he will always remember.

“I hope Scott has a great time and that he can be proud of his products this year,” Jurado said. “The band has gone a long way and I hope he can see how his influence and direction made the band what it is now.”

Music education senior Thomas Narveson has gone on trips with Pierson for marching band performances.

Narveson said that Pierson is good at switching gears when it comes to directing the band or socializing with students when they are off the field.

“When he is off the field he is the friendliest guy you’ll ever meet,” Narveson said. “He is a really nice guy, but when he is in charge of the group he has a plan and he has to get it done.”

Music education

senior Manuel Mendoza said his favorite memory of Pierson was watching him lead a group of Santa Clara Vanguard Alumni in a performance in Indianapolis, Indiana.

“Seeing him [Pierson] make them into a really big beautiful production that really had 20,000 people standing on their feet, hundreds and thousands of people watching at home through the live streams ... was a really cool thing to see,” Mendoza said.

“I would go to tile stores because geometric tiles are a great inspiration for design for field formations. They’re so beautiful.”

Scott Pierson  
Director of Spartan Marching Band



KAYLEE LAWLER | SPARTAN DAILY

(Top) Marching Band Director Scott Pierson sits down at his desk before a marching band practice. (Bottom) Pierson works with his students during a music rehearsal.

Follow Kaylee on Twitter  
@kayleelawler94

## Humans of SJSU



“I got locked inside of Gucci in Las Vegas with Floyd Mayweather Jr.”

-Alex Zaia, undeclared sophomore



“I went skydiving recently at San Jose Skydiving Center [San Martin, CA] from 10,000 feet in the air.”

-Leslie Haselden, communications junior

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# Should women be able to walk around topless?

Women’s bodies need to stop being sexualized



**Lovina Pavel**  
Staff Writer

I have always been proud to live in the Bay Area, a region that prides itself on being progressive and inclusive, but the fact that it took so long for the city of Berkeley to stand up against something oppressive is questionable. The Berkeley City Council is looking to amend a law to allow women to be topless in public. A law against it didn’t exist until 1994 when a University of California, Berkeley student arrived to class naked. Today, a man could take a jog around the block without a shirt on and nobody will bat an eye. The dilemma is not so much the ability to go topless in public or not because there is actually a much bigger issue. Every inch of a woman’s body is oversexualized and now is the time to start recognizing and putting a stop to it. At the end of the day, what folks are really concerned about are breasts. The reality is that most women probably don’t feel the need to go out without wearing a shirt. The issue that is being fought against is the sexualization of women’s bodies. A body is a body. A chest is a chest. Breasts are nothing but a part of a woman’s chest. “I would never walk out of the house without a top on,” marketing senior Shanya Sorkhabi said. “But I don’t think women should be told they can’t do something because of boobs.” For a culture that is actually obsessed with breasts, we sure seem to have an issue with seeing them. They are somehow okay to see when used as the focus of a Carl’s Jr. advertisement or looking at pornography online. Interestingly enough, most of these things are geared towards men. As soon as a mother goes to breastfeed her baby in public or simply takes control of her own body, people grow uncomfortable.

Follow Lovina on Twitter | @lpavss

The objectification of women begins early, too. A study done at the University of Alberta in Canada found that one-third of 13-year-old boys admitted to viewing porn on the internet. As a society that has made a large amount of progress, we still have a long way to go when it comes to equal rights for women. A law created to restrict only women and not men being topless is completely inexcusable and contradictory for a region that prides itself on being progressive. Not amending this law only promotes the fact that women’s breasts are sexual objects rather than body parts.

*“The reality is that most women probably don’t feel the need to go out without wearing a shirt. The issue that is being fought against is the sexualization of women’s bodies.”*

“I don’t think there’s a rational public policy to justify having the double standard for men and women,” Berkeley councilman Kriss Worthington told SF Gate. Worthington also said that a law against toplessness “objectifies women and creates confusion for transgender individuals as well,” which is very important to note. The proposed amendment applies to public streets, so a private business still has the option to refuse service to anybody they choose. The government should not have the right to oppress a group of people over something they can’t control. Women have boobs. Breasts aren’t offensive or sexual objects. Get over it.

Society isn’t ready to fully accept lawful public nudity



**William Yap**  
Staff Writer

The obsession with female areolas and nipples should ideally not be a trivial issue. However, if the Entertainment Software Rating Board (ESRB) ever taught us anything—gore is good and boobs are the most sinful things on planet Earth. According to ABC7, Berkeley’s city council will soon debate if the city should reconsider its nudity law and allow women to be topless in a public setting. It was once legal for anyone to roam the streets of Berkeley naked. This all changed after a University of California student attended class naked. As a male, I am painfully aware I am treading dangerous waters with this topic. Before anyone disregards my opinion and refuses to read anything beyond this point, let it be known that I am for women having the same rights as men. I just believe it will not be a good idea for women to be topless in public. American society isn’t ready for partial female nudity to become a social norm. An unfortunate trend seen today is a victim of sexual harassment receiving blame through no fault of her own. Aggressors who catcall or gesture at a person in a sexual manner will verbally express their interests in a person even if it is unwarranted. Undeclared freshman Nathalie Canales said she has been catcalled countless times and believes the trend will not go away. “Women can be completely covered up and they still get catcalled,” Canales said. “So I feel like if they have no top, it’s a huge percentage of them getting catcalled [even more].” Growing up, we are taught certain parts of the human body are taboo. When these body parts are later exploited in pornography and advertisements, we amplify the lust for them. It’s a harsh reality, but the consequences a female can face for being topless is

unpredictable. There is no way of knowing how radically a person may react. “Even just walking here outside of campus with my friends, like [drivers] backup on one-way streets and get out of their cars,” Canales said. “This is just not verbal catcalling, but this can turn into something physical.” Although the citizens of Berkeley can tout themselves for living in a known progressive city, they still should be cognizant of the people outside their liberal bubble. Design studies senior Jonathan Chow admits he comes from a traditional background and believes children seeing topless women in public will have a negative influence on them. “I guess if kids see them [females] going [topless] like, ‘oh, they’re totally fine being half naked and all that stuff,’” Chow said. “They may actually start going naked and start running all over the place.” Shattering a social norm such as this will take time. As it stands, the idea of public partial female nudity being taboo is well ingrained into our society. However, it does not mean society’s view on it will never change.

*“American society isn’t ready for partial female nudity to become a social norm.”*

Introducing to children at an early age, when they’re most impressionable, that it is acceptable for women to be topless is fundamental. Change will not be guaranteed or widely accepted, but it must start somewhere to influence the rest of society. Before Berkeley’s city council makes a decision on a controversial issue, officials need to take a step back and reassess their surroundings. Change can happen, but it will take time. Follow William on Twitter | @TheDapperYap

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## Self-checkout is killing the shopping experience



**Diana Avila**  
Staff Writer

Technology continues to grow and make life simpler, but now it has gone too far. The newest technology, in certain supermarkets, is self-checkout stations. Customers can go up to a register and scan each item without the assistance of a clerk. However, when consumers need to check out fresh produce, it’s not as simple. The checkout station can be confusing and can cause unintentional theft. Corporations want to save money with these machines, but supermarkets will be losing revenue on unpaid products. Unwanted theft is not the only issue. People who are not fluent in technology will also spend more time at the self-checkout register than with assistance from a clerk. “I enjoy having the human interaction while shopping,” Safeway customer Nancy Clark said. “If I wanted to ring myself up, I would just shop online.” Grocery shopping is not just about buying food, but the experience that comes with it. As technology grows we find new ways to avoid human interaction. When there is a self-checkout lane in the grocery store, I look for a register with a person behind it. I like having someone to interact with me because sometimes they have information that I might not be aware of, such as coupons and specials. Sometimes when I go to the store, I do not pay attention to signs that are displayed. I may miss out on a two-for-one deal. Clerks can bring awareness to those deals. Employees will also spot products that are damaged or expired. Self-checkout stations do not detect these kinds of problems. “I like the self-check[out], it gives me privacy,” Safeway customer Sarah DeSoto said. “I don’t need the weird stares when I am buying certain things.” Many people would say that self-

checkout stations give them privacy, but in this technological world there is no such thing. Cash is used less often in today’s society. If we use a debit or credit card, there is already a record of making those purchases. Other ways that stores might have people’s information is through loyalty programs that may ask for a phone number. Also, there is nothing uncommon or wrong about purchasing personal items. Walking into a store and buying feminine products or condoms should not be an issue. “Grocery shopping is not just about buying food, but the experience that comes with it. As technology grows we find new ways to avoid human interaction.”

Not only is technology taking jobs from people, it is also decreasing the amount of social interaction we have. We are engaging more with machines than we are with people. How are we expected to learn to be active humans of society if we are not willing to interact with others? Technology is not a bad thing, but too much of anything can be damaging. We need to stay aware of how far we are drifting away from human interactions. People should make purchases they don’t want others to see online. Everything else should not change. We are not even making an effort anymore to connect with others. I am shocked every time I find new ways that technology is dividing us.

Follow Diana on Twitter | @dianaavila284



Twitter needs to read over its own usage rights



Daisuke Eguchi  
Staff Writer

Social networking services allow us access to a large amount of information, but at the same time their sites are also spaces where users can start conflicts.

Unfortunately, this time Twitter started the conflict.

According to BuzzFeed, a woman was permanently removed from Twitter last week after she tweeted her “opinion” of Taylor Swift.

She tweeted: “No offence but is Taylor Swift ever gonna grow out of her ‘i wrote your name in my burn book’ phase she’s a grown ass woman,” which means Swift should grow up, in simple interpretation.

Her tweet was based on Swift’s recent single, “Look What You Made Me Do,” from her upcoming new album, “reputation.”

Although she still has no idea why

her account was suspended, the tweet went viral – gaining over 124,000 likes and 35,400 retweets – even after the account’s suspension.

“I agree that she should not waste so much energy making her song and album about people that she has issues with,” creative arts senior Belle Potter said. “Why give it that much energy?”

*“It doesn’t make any sense that her account was suspended for one tweet, which was nothing but her opinion.”*

Potter is not a big fan of Swift, but she was surprised to hear about the Twitter suspension.

“It was a little critical, but it was her opinion and didn’t say anything malicious or violent so I think it was fine,” Potter said.

Some Taylor Swift fans supported the user and disagreed Twitter’s decision

to ban her from the site, rather than just remove the tweet.

“I disagree with your opinion, but no one should ever get shut down like this for a Tweet. Good luck,” one of the fans tweeted.

Twitter has not stopped people from posting racist remarks, so something like this should not be taken to that extreme.

“She wasn’t physically hurting anybody, she wasn’t bullying anybody in extreme ways,” chemical engineering senior Leanna Nguyen said. “Twitter is one of those platforms where you can pretty much say anything you want about anybody, so she shouldn’t deserve it.”

It doesn’t make any sense that her account was suspended for one tweet, which was nothing but her opinion. What annoys me is no one knows why Twitter did it.

“That’s just the way the online community works right now,” Nguyen said. “I feel like it’s inevitable because a lot of people here feel like they are entitled to say whatever they want, and it doesn’t matter how harsh the comment could be in person or online because the celebrities aren’t going to see it.”

I agree with Nguyen, but I think Twitter chose the wrong person to hold responsible. Twitter attempted to imply to users this is the consequence of offending people – including celebrities.

Although I use Facebook and Instagram more often than Twitter, I have seen videos and posts on those sites that are much worse which could hurt and disgust users.

What about Trump’s tweets? His comments are causing much more conflict and hatred between him and other Twitter users.

Her Twitter account has not been recovered yet. Apparently, losing one user’s account has no effect on Twitter as a company.

I have no objection with its system, which controls users’ freedom of speech in order to reduce the defamation on Twitter.

I feel disappointed when I see Twitter failing to control hate speech but attacking one user who is expressing an unharmed opinion.

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CLASSIFIEDS

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14					15						16			
17					18						19			
20					21				22					
				23							24			
25	26	27					28	29	30	31				
32						33						34	35	36
37						38						39		
40					41						42			
					43					44				
45	46	47	48							49				
50					51	52		53				54	55	56
57								58				59		
60					61							62		
63					64							65		

ACROSS  
1. Academician  
5. Burn slightly  
10. Iron oxide  
14. Greek letter  
15. Smells  
16. Ammunition  
17. Modify  
18. Designation  
20. Performance  
22. Having toothlike projections  
23. Gangster's gun  
24. Children  
25. Makes less religious  
32. Tally  
33. Sarcasm  
34. Water barrier  
37. Pigeon-\_\_\_\_  
38. Advances (money)  
39. Mongolian desert  
40. East southeast  
41. Not glossy  
42. Restaurant  
43. Compulsively  
45. Procrastinate  
49. Mineral rock  
50. Whorl of petals  
53. Economic indepen-  
dence  
57. Not arrogant  
59. Diminish

60. Exposed  
61. A garden  
62. District  
63. "What a shame!"  
64. Piece of paper  
65. Evergreens  
  
DOWN  
1. Jetty  
2. Was a passenger  
3. Ear-related  
4. Exhausted  
5. A musical compo-  
sition  
6. False god  
7. French for "Name"  
8. Electrical or cross-  
word  
9. Feudal worker  
10. Threadbare  
11. Inuit boat  
12. Clobbered  
13. Notes  
19. Jittery  
21. Story  
25. Satisfy  
26. Prima donna prob-  
lems  
27. Algonquian Indian  
28. Violent disturbanc-  
es  
29. Angry

30. Districts  
31. N N N N  
34. Accomplished  
35. Cain's brother  
36. Like a bog  
38. Chemist's work-  
place  
39. An unintentional  
disclosure  
41. Girlfriends of gang-  
sters  
42. Soil  
44. Searched  
45. Aqualung  
46. Relating to tone  
47. A kind of macaw  
48. Fails to win  
51. Totes  
52. Nanny  
53. Blind (poker)  
54. Unusual  
55. Was cognizant  
56. Not nays  
58. Fury

SUDOKU PUZZLE

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

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

SOLUTIONS 9/7/2017

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

R	A	R	E		B	O	C	C	A		W	U	S	S
A	R	E	A		E	U	R	O	S		A	N	O	A
B	I	T	T	E	R	N	E	S	S		L	A	W	N
B	A	R		R	A	C	E	S		S	L	U	N	K
I	S	O	L	A	T	E		E	P	H	O	D		
			A	T	E		S	T	O	O	P	I	N	G
L	A	S	S	O		S	T	I	N	T		T	O	E
E	R	I	S		S	W	U	N	G		R	E	S	T
F	I	G		I	C	I	N	G		L	A	D	E	S
T	A	N	T	R	U	M	S		D	I	P			
		P	R	O	M	S		B	E	S	T	R	E	W
S	W	O	O	N		U	S	U	A	L		A	G	O
L	I	S	P		R	I	N	G	L	E	A	D	E	R
A	N	T	I		U	T	I	L	E		D	O	S	S
B	O	S	C		E	S	T	E	R		A	N	T	E

JOKIN' AROUND

A magician was walking down the street and turned into a grocery store.

What kind of shoes do ninjas wear?  
sneakers

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MEN’S SOCCER

Romero’s two goals push SJSU past Saint Mary’s



NOE MAGANA | SPARTAN DAILY  
(Top left) SJSU coach Simon Tobin gives players instructions in the second half of last Thursday’s game. (Right) Jeremy Romero maintains possession from SMC defender Sem Kroon. (Bottom left) SJSU keeper Alex Clewis dives to block the ball as it hits the crossbar on a free kick.

BY NOE MAGANA  
Staff Writer

Striker Jeremy Romero led San Jose State over Saint Mary’s College by scoring the match’s only two goals last Thursday.

A long ball from SJSU keeper Alex Clewis to Romero bounced past the Gaels’ defense and broke the tie at nil in the 36th minute.

“The defender slipped up for the first goal,” Romero said. “I was able to capitalize on it and make it a one-on-one situation and find the back of the net.”

The forward’s second goal came in the 63rd minute when he received a pass from midfielder Jonathan Partida near the right sideline. Romero cut inside to avoid the defender and kicked the ball into the bottom-left part of the net to give the Spartans the 2-0 lead.

SMC’s keeper Andrew Konstantino moved away from the net to decrease Romero’s shot angle

on both scoring plays, but Romero’s touches were perfectly placed.

“Because of his speed and strength he’s dangerous and he’s now becoming a complete forward,” SJSU head coach Simon Tobin said. “And now he’s gotten technically a lot better.”

Romero leads SJSU with three goals this season.

SMC didn’t go down without a fight. A minute before the half ended, forward Andrew Lucas broke free and went one-on-one with the keeper, but his shot went wide right.

“We knew that they weren’t going to let down no matter what,” Romero said about taking the lead in the first half. “We knew that we were going to have to fight ‘till the finish.”

The Gaels kept pushing forward in the second half. They almost scored on a shot from outside the box and later on a free kick, but in both instances the

ball deflected off the crossbar.

“Both of them were so close and I dove but if it was going in, it was going in,” Clewis said. “[I was] just happy that the crossbar was there to save me.”

Clewis finished the game with two saves and earned the Spartans’ first clean sheet of the season.

SJSU’s defense allowed eight goals in the first four games of the season.

Clewis credited his four-man defensive line along with midfielder Jonathan Partida for keeping SMC’s scoring opportunities to a minimum.

Tobin knew his team was in a spot where one play could complicate the game.

“That’s the game of soccer,” Tobin said. “We could look brilliant for 18 minutes, but ultimately it comes down to that.”

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4:30 – 6:00 pm

SJSU Student Union, Meeting Room 1A

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INFORMATION



## PRE-GAMING

## Head football coach Brent Brennan is pro-tailgate

BY JENAE MIMS  
Staff Writer

San Jose State head football coach Brent Brennan announced at a Greek Town hall meeting on Aug. 28 that he supports student tailgating as long as rules are being followed.

“We want them to come have a great time, experience college football and be together and party, but [they] just have to be responsible,” Brennan said.

Brennan has taken steps to change the campus culture since he took on his position. One thing he wants to change is the perception of SJSU football games. He wants to create a culture where the Greek community and other students are more excited about coming to football games and are involved with the team.

“A big part of that is them getting to know the football team, and us being a little more accessible,” Brennan said. “Another part of that is that we haven’t been very good and I understand that. We need to be good and we need to win games.”

Last football season, students blasted loud music, played drinking games and binge drank excessively at the student tailgates. Students also brought kegs and beer bongs to consume large amounts of alcohol. Hundreds of students attended which meant there had to be a lot of security and police to patrol the area.

“Last year at games we had a couple of people that had to get airlifted out of here because they had too much to drink,” Brennan said. “If kids are of age and can drink, then they need to be responsible when they drink.”

Students would make it to the tailgate, but few of them would cross the street and attend the actual football game. Midway through the season, the athletics department, administration and police department found that



LUKE JOHNSON | SPARTAN DAILY

Brent Brennan smiles at a sideline reporter after SJSU defeated Cal Poly two weekends ago. It was his first NCAA Division I win as a head coach.

the tailgates were a problem because students got too intoxicated, so they put an end to them for the season.

“After they shut down the student tailgates they started to realize that students weren’t coming to the games anymore,” Standards Chair for Interfraternity Council Yoni Feldman said. “So no one was really winning in this situation.”

This year, the athletics department has decided to put restrictions on tailgating. According to the SJSU

Athletics website, glass bottles, kegs, mass-consumption devices, drinking games and loud music are prohibited from any tailgate areas. The athletics department also turned the student tailgate area into a parking lot that costs \$10 for students to park in and \$20 for general parking. They have not given students a specific area to resume tailgating.

Brennan hopes that allowing students to tailgate with the new restrictions will encourage more of them to watch the game

and support the football team.

“We want the student body to lead us onto the field every week, whether that’s the Greek system or general student population,” Brennan said.

Brennan’s immediate family members were all a part of the Greek community during their time in college. When he went to UCLA, he was an actively involved member of Sigma Nu.

“It is nice that the head coach supports the Greek community and wants us to have fun tailgating,” Kappa Delta

President Matti Harrington said. “But it is just important that we are safe while doing that.”

Some of Brennan’s best memories in college were being a part of a fraternity and going to football games with his brothers. He hopes that he can bring that culture to San Jose State.

Follow Jenae on Twitter |  
@jenaemims\_

## HOCKEY

## Reigning champs aim to keep opponents on thin ice

BY LOVINA PAVEL  
Staff Writer

San Jose State’s hockey team is coming off a championship season and is looking to defend its Pacific Coast Hockey Association title.

SJSU held open tryouts to fill 12 open roster spots. The team had 18 players return for the 2017-18 season. Head coach Phillip Hazelwood described the turnout for tryouts as surprising and pleasing.

“Obviously Dino was a huge part of our team, we depended a lot on him. We’ve got a couple of players... Tonna, Semmelmayr, I think they’re going to kind of lead the way.”

**Phillip Hazelwood**  
Head coach for SJSU hockey

Hazelwood has led the Spartans to multiple postseason tournaments since joining the team in 2014. The PCHA title is their first tournament championship in 20 years.

“I think we’ve added players that have got a lot of speed,” Hazelwood said. “Our overall speed has increased from last year so that’s a plus for us.”

SJSU will be without star player and former captain Christian Rendino this season. Rendino sealed the Spartans’ championship

win with a hat-trick and completed his five-year playing career as the school’s all-time scoring leader among defensemen — recording 75 career goals. He ranks 16th in all-time scoring at SJSU.

Hazelwood said the players to watch this season are junior forwards Emmanuele Tonna and Corey Semmelmayr.

“Obviously Dino was a huge part of our team, we depended a lot on him,” Hazelwood said. “We’ve got a couple of players... Tonna, Semmelmayr, I think they’re going to kind of lead the way.”

Semmelmayr leads the current roster with 75 career points. Tonna has posted up 13 assists and 21 points in his career thus far.

The Spartans will open up their season against the Cal Bears in Berkeley on Sept. 15.

SJSU will then return home to a doubleheader against Boise State. Coaches and players have high hopes for the 2017-18 season.

“This year is going to be our toughest yet,” junior forward Romeo Sandoval said. “We are going to come out strong using last years momentum to push us forward and hopefully into another championship situation this year.”

The most notable games of the season for SJSU are against Santa Clara on Oct. 13 and Nov. 10, not just because they are South Bay rivals, but because those games serve as rematches from last season’s PCHA Championship.



LUKE JOHNSON | SPARTAN DAILY

(Top) Senior forward Jared Anstett substitutes in play during a regular season home game against CSU Northridge last year. (Bottom) Junior forward Corey Semmelmayr positions himself during a faceoff against CSU Northridge. He leads the current roster with 75 career points at SJSU.

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