# SPARTAN DAILY

SERVING SAN JOSE STATE UNIVERSITY SINCE 1934



## BDSM educator leads lecture

**BY JOSE F. GOVEA** *Staff Writer* 

The author of "Sweet and Rough," Sinclair Sexsmith, began a lecture on Tuesday titled "The Sexual Politics of BDSM" by asking students to call out a number to read the corresponding numbered page from the book.

A guest automatically called out "25," and Sexsmith went on to describe their sexual experiences.

Sexsmith explained that they use they, them and their pronouns.

"Oh yeah, oh yeah, hands pulling on my wrist," Sexsmith read.

About 12 students showed up to the presentation and stared at Sexsmith as the lecturer described different sexual experiences in their book, all of which are experienced in a BDSM relationship. The lecture was hosted by the Gender Equity Center in the Student Union.

Sexsmith used personal experiences to describe BDSM.

According to The Daily Dot, BDSM stands for "bondage discipline, dominance and submission, and sadism and masochism."

Sadism is the sexual gratification in causing pain, while masochism is the complete opposite. Masochism is the gratification of receiving pain, according to dictionary.com.

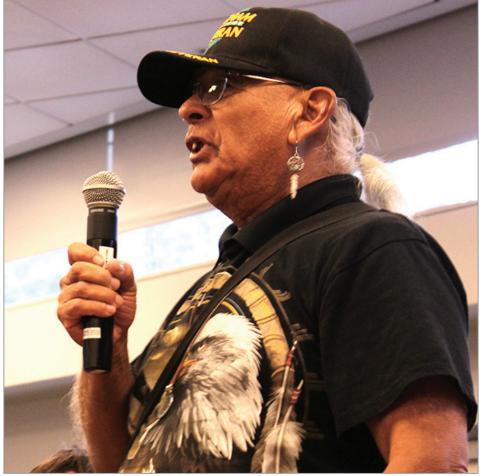
Sexsmith is currently employed as a student facilitator at the University of

## Removal of monuments debated in discussion



#### **BY DAISUKE EGUCHI** Staff Writer

San Jose State students and faculty members gathered to re-examine issues in American education and history at the Martin Luther King Jr. Library on Tuesday. The discussion focused on issues surrounding public monuments around downtown San Jose and at San Jose City Hall.



San Francisco.

There, the author helps students find resources about sexualily or gender issues and teaches a variety of topics relating to both gender and sexualily within their books.

"In some ways I feel that almost all that I do with my work is to work on healing that 14-year-old girl who was in a panic . . ."

> Sinclair Sexsmith BDSM educator

In addition to giving lectures, they run a website, Sugarbutch, to help educate people about sexual fascination with an "edgy" sex life, as Sexsmith described it.

"This teenager knew there was something to figure out, but didn't know where to look," Sexsmith said in regards to being a teenager who didn't know how to relate with others in regards to their sexualilty.

"Where the f\*\*k do I fit in the world?" Sexsmith said. "In some ways I feel that almost all that I do with my work is to work on healing that 14-year-old

**SPEAKER** | Page 2

"One of the problems I see with a focus on monuments and removing statues is that it's only a first step," history professor Libra Hilde said. "It's only a baby step. We can take all the monuments down, but that doesn't destroy the ideology of white supremacy."

The city's decision to remove City Hall's Christopher Columbus statue, which was recently vandalized, sparked the conversation.

According to The Mercury News, the statue in San Jose City Hall's lobby was splattered with red and black paint a day after city leaders announced their plan to remove the statue on Sep. 20. The city hasn't decided where and when the statue will be moved.

Columbus, a famed Italian explorer who initiated the European colonization of North America, has been a controversial figure throughout American history.

"I actually don't think it should be destroyed," Hilde said. "I don't like the idea of destroying the history even when that history is negative."

Six panelists, including SJSU faculty members and students, gave speeches and shared their opinions.

Hilde also pointed at Confederate statues in general as an example of how monuments and statues can also represent white supremacy.

"When African-Americans look at the monuments of Confederacy that are placed in public spaces, they are faced with the physical manifestation of white supremacy," Hilde said.

DAISUKE EGUCHI | SPARTAN DAILY

**(Top)** Attendees display pictures that portray Columbus's enslavement and mistreatment of indigenous people. **(Bottom)** Attendee Tlayehuari asks questions to panelists including student and faculty members during the question and answer session.

While each panelist had different perspectives, they all agreed on the statue's pending removal.

"It's really difficult to see the connection between here and [the] Columbus statue," anthropology professor Marco Meniketti said.

Meniketti and Hilde both mentioned that the statue should be moved to a museum for educational purposes.

"We need to take kids and everybody and say, 'this is what happens when we misremember history," Hilde said.

After all of the presentations, the discussion shifted to how people today can tackle the issue.

"I really enjoyed the last question about how we can change education," graduate student Leslie Corona said. "It's frustrating that a lot of people think they appreciate the history, but they don't really know

**MONUMENTS** | Page 2

### LOOKING FOR AN INTERNSHIP THAT MAKES AN IMPACT IN OUR COMMUNITY?

AARP in San Jose is hiring and what we do might surprise you.





## 2 NEWS



The city of San Jose decided to remove the Christopher Columbus statue from City Hall's lobby on Sept. 20.



DAISUKE EGUCHI | SPARTAN DAILY

Attendees hold pictures that portray Columbus's enslavement and mistreatment of indigenous people during presentations by panelists.

### MONUMENTS

Continued from page 1

much about Californian history."

Corona pointed at the need to re-examine the history curriculum of America.

"One thing that annoys me the most about the history program is that they start teaching local history in third and fourth grade, and they never come back to it," graduate student Stephanie Watson said. "It's ridiculous because that's what kids connect with most and needs to be taught." Hilde also talked about improving the education of American history during the panel.

"We need to have the textbooks that include more people's opinions at greater diversity of history and that aren't dictated by political thoughts," Hilde said.

> Follow Daisuke on Twitter @dk\_0126



Sinclair Sexsmith gave insights about lesbian relationships in their book "Say Please."

### SPEAKER

#### Continued from page 1

girl who was in a panic for too long." One student who is in a heterosexual relationship agreed with Sexsmith's remarks about BDSM sex being unusual and noted that it was, in actuality, normal. "A lifestyle that is kinky could be seen as out of the norm so people think it's weird," sociology senior Christian Arevalo said. "It's a very intimate relationship just because it takes a lot of trust, communication and exploration, just like any other relationship." Arevalo added that BDSM relationships require even more communication than other relationships because there is a thin line between pleasure and abuse. Consent was widely discussed due to the fact that BDSM involves brutal sexuality. Sexsmith added that consent has to be clear within the issue of rape. They taught students about different ways that couples use safe words when participating in BDSM. The lecturer mentioned that people who

wear gags may ring a bell or tap on a wall twice in order to express discomfort.

Others that have hardcore sex with unanticipated dominance that may involve some resistance or surprise say green, yellow and red similar to stop lights. AtBDSMmeetupsor"playparties,"people known as dungeon monitors make sure participants are being safe without being abused. Some monitors may even carry scissors to cut ropes and are CPR certified. lecture covered The topics ranging from penetration not being a gendered or powered act, to an obsession with cream-colored panties. Penetration not being gendered was described as penetration not being associated with masculinity or dominance. "No matter how weird you think something is that you're into, there's probably other people who are into [it] too," communicative disorders and sciences senior Christina Dunbar said. "Continuing conversations, making things approachable, and less taboo and stigmatized is the only way to go."

> Follow Jose on Twitter @GoveaJournalism

## Winter Session January 2 - 19, 2018

## Pulitzer Prize winner to speak at Hammer Theater

#### **BY NOE MAGANA** *Staff Writer*

The Center for Literary Arts is hosting Viet Thanh Nguyen, 2016 Pulitzer Prize winner for fiction and recipient of the 2017 McArthur Fellow Grant, in the Hammer Theater today at 7 p.m.

"I think it's going to be an interesting event," President of the Poets and Writers Coalition Brandon Luu said. "I'm curious to see what part of the Vietnamese community shows up for it."

Nguyen is scheduled to read from his work for the first part of the program followed by a conversation with Andrew Lam. In the final part of the event, attendees will have an opportunity to ask questions.

Lam is an author who was born in Vietnam and immigrated to the U.S. when he was seven years old, according to PBS.

Nguyen won the Pulitzer Prize for his novel "The Sympathizer," a New York Times bestseller.

It tells the story of a South Vietnamese army captain who is a double agent and reports everything about his group to the Viet Cong.

The captain travels with the group to the United States after the fall of Saigon but continues to work for the Viet Cong despite many believing the war had ended.

"It's a novel which replays the Vietnam War from a Vietnamese perspective and it looks at the attitudes of the North and the South," Alan Soldofsky, professor of English and comparative literature said.

The novel also won six other awards including an Edgar Award for Best First Novel from the Mystery Writers of America.

"It's unusual for a writer in their first book to win a Pulitzer, but I would say this is a novel of [unusually] high quality," Soldofsky said.

Nguyen is the Aerol Arnold Chair of English and a professor of English, American studies and ethnicity, and comparative literature at the University of Southern California.

"[Nguyen is] one of the most distinguished [people] to visit SJSU," professor of sociology and interdisciplinary social science Hien Do said.

Nguyen was born in Vietnam and settled in Pennsylvania with his family as refugees in 1975, according to Nguyen's website.

They moved to San Jose in 1978 where Nguyen attended St. Patrick School Elementary School and Bellarmine College Preparatory.

After attending UC Riverside and UCLA, he obtained his English and ethnic studies degrees as well as his doctorate in English from UC Berkeley.

Nguyen also wrote "Nothing Ever Dies: Vietnam and the Memory of War" (2016), a nonfiction book that explores the Vietnam War and how it should be remembered not only by Americans and Vietnamese but also by South Koreans, Southeast Asian-Americans and others, according to Nguyen's website.

His most recent fiction book, "The Refugees" (2017), is a series of stories written over a 20-year period that explores the questions of immigration, identity, love and family, according to Nguyen's website.

Tickets for students are \$25, standard tickets are \$50 and VIP tickets are \$100.

Follow Noe on Twitter @NoeMaganaR



#### Wednesday, October 18, 2017

## Local corgis make daily visits to SJSU



(Left) SJSU students chat with San Jose resident Charlie Shafton, while her Pembroke Welsh corgis Baxter (left) fights for a tennis ball and Rocky (right) waits to move. (Right) Corgi Baxter relaxes on the sidewalk in front of Dudley Moorhead Hall.

#### BY WILLIAM YAP

Staff Writer

Pembroke Welsh corgis Baxter and Rocky visit San Jose State every day with their colorful harnesses and butts in the air. Following behind with her pocket full of dog treats is their owner and self-proclaimed "Corgi Lady," Charlie Shafton.

Shafton became enamored with corgis after watching the Disney movie "Little Dog Lost" at an early age.

"I just fell in love with the breed," Shafton said. "I just love the fact that they're herders, tiny and very loyal."

Shafton drives Baxter and Rocky from her home in the Berryessa neighborhood, which is approximately a 12-minute drive to campus. Baxter and Rocky greet SJSU students, staff and faculty as early as 6 a.m.

"That's the price of having corgis," Shafton said. "You've got to keep them entertained and tired."

Rocky, the 4-year-old corgi, wears a blue harness and has a long, bushy tail. Rocky will often bark loudly at anyone walking by, which Shafton said means he's happy.

He will often wander, searching for food and Shafton has to get his attention by yelling, "water!"

The one-year-old corgi Baxter is the more active one of the two and can be seen chasing a colorful ball that Shafton throws with a tennis ball launcher, which is the size of an adult arm.

Shafton said Baxter lost his tail the day after he was born because he came from a litter of potential show dogs.

She has been walking her dogs on campus since 2006. Shafton had been looking for a new place to walk her corgi at the time, after the dog park near her house closed down.

She said she had friends in the downtown neighborhood and found a

safe environment on campus.

After many years of walking her dogs on campus, Shafton formed bonds with other dog owners that were doing the same. A mutual understanding was formed and a phenomenon of daily meetings around 6:30 p.m. was created.

Shafton said an average of 10 dogs gather to play on Tower Lawn or the grass area by the Tommie Smith and John Carlos statue. Although many of these dog owners do not communicate off campus, they manage to find each other at the designated time.

San Jose resident Mac Wilkinson lives one block away from SJSU and has walked his five-month-old dog on campus since July. Wilkinson was looking for an open area for Ben, a pitbull and basset hound mix, to walk after his nine-to-five job.

He said he noticed a large green patch on a map and decided to visit SJSU after learning dogs are allowed on campus. "I don't think there's anything better, especially training-wise, like letting him run around with all the distractions that are here," Wilkinson said. "You don't get the same thing at a dog park and especially the same size and openness that is here."

A&E 3

Electrical engineering junior Naeem Mannan looks forward to playing with the dogs at the end of every school day.

Mannan will often roll around in the grassy field with the dogs because he misses his own dog while at school.

"It's kind of hard being an engineer," Mannan said. "Petting them really helps not being super stressed out and depressed."

Shafton said Baxter and Rocky are typically welcomed on campus. Shrieks of glee can often be heard when SJSU students first run into the corgis.

> Follow William on Twitter @TheDapperYap

## Jump Start

## Exhibit showcases Mexican artist's work

**BY CINTHIA LOERA** Staff Writer

Organizers of San Jose State's Natalie are also displayed.

"Calavera de los Bravos Ku Kus Klanes," which translates to "The skeleton of the brave Klu Klux Klan," This print shows a clan member in full attire, holding a burning cross and a KKK flag, while surrounded by human skulls and confronted by a giant life-sized calavera. Hernández also said that Posada's work has been recognized internationally with his creation of the "calavera," which translates to skull, for the Mexican holiday of Dia De Los Muertos. His image of the "Calavera Catrina" was first published in 1910 and is still used during the holiday that celebrates loved ones who have passed away. "SJSU has a large percentage of students with Mexican heritage, so this exhibition may be of particular



SAN JOSE STATE UNIVERSITY

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...It's About Building Relationships For Life and James Thompson Gallery opened an exhibit on Oct. 10, featuring the art of Mexican illustrator and printmaker José Guadalupe Posada.

The "José Guadalupe Posada and the Mexican Penny Press" exhibit showcases some of Posada's work from the 19th century that influenced other Mexican artists, such as Diego Rivera and José Clemente Orozco.

Jo Farb Hernández, who is the gallery director and a professor of art and art history, said the exhibit itself is significant because of the art department's illustrious printmaking program.

She explained that the exhibit allows students to see the technical details put into

Posada's work and can = also inspire them to try some of the techniques for themselves. "Posada and the

members of his workshop utilized a standard form of communication at the time to comment on contemporary issues," Hernández = said. "Social and

political commentary remains an important function for art today."

The gallery is located in room 127 in the art building.

The walls are covered with frames that hold many of Posada's original prints, including his penny press publications, religious prints, board games and chapbooks, which are paperback booklets that hold poetry or song lyrics.

The Trout Gallery from Dickinson College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania provided the art.

The guest curator of the exhibition at the Trout Gallery, Diane Miliotes, gave a lecture on Posada the day the SJSU exhibition opened.

She helped select which artwork came to the gallery, too.

Political illustrations such as

interest to them," Hernández said.

Aaron Wilder is the gallery's interim director.

He said that the exhibit is not only important for art and art history majors to be exposed to, but for the rest of the campus community as well.

The gallery's technical coordinator, Cynthia Cao, was in charge of helping Farb Hernandez's vision come to life.

She explained how she worked with student art handlers to construct the gallery walls, set up all the lighting and hang the artwork.

"All of this is a unique opportunity for the students to gain real hands-on experience in working in a professionallycurated gallery," Cao said.

The exhibition will be on display until Dec. 15. The gallery is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday and also from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Tuesday nights.

> Follow Cinthia on Twitter @cinthia\_loera

"Social and political commentary remains an important function for art today."

Jo Farb Hernández

Gallery director and professor of art and art history

## Local Color welcomes San Jose art lovers

#### BY KAYLEE LAWLER Staff Writer

Local Color lives up to its name as vibrant hues of bright and dark colors in landscape and surreal paintings, photos and collages surround the venue.

4 <u>A&E</u>

The nonprofit organization got its start in December 2016 and became public in July 2017.

It currently calls a vacant Ross on First and Post streets home.

The only employee at Local Color, Isaiah Beltran, said its location in the heart of San Jose helps with outreach and gaining more exposure.

"One of our main projects is to make sure that we can get marketing as well as pull in people from those main

lines," Beltran said. "Bringing in people from the south side, north side, west side, east side as opposed to just the community that simply surrounds the building that's huge."

The building stretches from First Street all the way to the back of Lightston Alley.

People can walk in through the glass doors where they find art displayed on counters to the right, and ping pong tables to the left.

Past the studios, Local Color has a print studio for shirts and storage for more art supplies.

Artists renting the space make the place their own with sectioned-off studios where they can leave paint supplies and personal belongings. Enormous canvases to small prints surround the makeshift studios.

Local Color has brought artists with different backgrounds and different styles together, including artist Sarah Cade.

Cade draws inspiration from fantasy stories such as Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs.

Being at Local Color gave Cade the chance to sell her art in prints and buttons, which were on display at the building's entrance.

"Even the fact that I have merchandise now, that's all thanks to Local Color," Cade said. "It's all of that community and interaction and then the push to do it [making merchandise]."

Artists such as Marianne De Carolis, who is Cade's roommate, found Local Color through the organization's executive director Erin Salazar.

"I used to go to college with Erin who started this whole thing and I'm really good friends with her," De Carolis said. "When she got access to the place she invited me to come and I've been here since."

De Carolis draws inspiration from

local landscapes and undersea creatures. Her recent work includes a three-foottall painting of empty theater seats.

"I used to do theater as a kid so it was [like] those memories coming back to [me]."

Visitors are welcome to walk by and talk to the artists during regular hours and

At the Spelling Bee(r) event Thursday night, anyone could walk into Local Color and sign up to participate in the spelling bee.

Organizers offered wine and beer at the bar right in front of the communal mural.

the release of a coloring book which includes contributions from artistsin-residence. Proceeds will help fund Local Color's community events.

Follow Kaylee on Twitter





KAYLEE LAWLER | SPARTAN DAILY

(Top) Local Color executive director Erin Salazar, tests her knowledge during the Spelling Bee(r) on Thursday. (Bottom) Artist Sara Cade showcases her work which is inspired by storybook tales such as Snow White and Sleeping Beauty.



## **Changes to**

## MySJSU/PeopleSoft

"I used to do theater as a kid so it was [like] those memories coming back to [me]." Marianne De Carolis

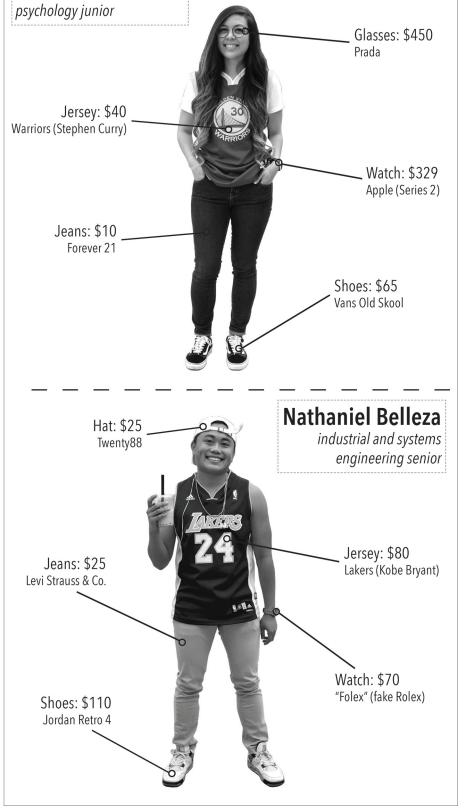
Local Color artist

events.

Artists of all skill levels were invited, and organizers gave the wall a new coat of paint so that more artists had a chance to create.

Local Color's next free event is

@kayleelawler94



## **Coming Soon!**

MySJSU/PeopleSoft will be offline from the evening of November 16 through the morning of November 20 to implement changes to its functionality including:

- An upgrade to the student side of MySJSU
- The separation of HR functionality into its own database

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND OUR OPEN FORUMS to learn how these changes might affect you.

> **TUESDAY - OCTOBER 24** 10:00 am to 11:30 am

WEDNESDAY - OCTOBER 25 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm

**FRIDAY - OCTOBER 27** 10:00 am to 11:30 am

Location: Student Union Theater

INFORMATION GATHERED BY MOHAMED BAFAKIH | INFOGRAPHIC BY NICOLE CHUNG



## Healthcare can be seen as a need or privilege

### Money shouldn't decide the right to live a healthy life



William Yap Staff Writer

aneuvering through life without health insurance can be an agonizing thought. Illness becomes a predator that can strike at any moment and those unprepared have to deal with the consequences at higher stakes.

According to CNNMoney, about 28 million Americans were uninsured last year. Those without the benefits of health insurance are forced to constantly weigh the financial costs of being sick. Dismissing a simple visit to the doctors can be very dangerous if an illness or injury is left untreated because the risks can escalate.

A notable example of a proposed universal health care system in the United States was former Democratic presidential candidate Bernie Sanders' push for a single-payer health care program. Sanders' campaign website said the program would only require patients to provide their insurance card to their doctors and there would be no complications with payment.

A strong argument against Sanders' single-payer system is the cost. According to PolitiFact, multiple experts predicted his proposed program would cost the U.S. government around \$2 trillion. This program is also said to give a basic level of coverage and additional services would be more expensive.

Our current system cost the U.S. government \$1.38 trillion last year, per PolitiFact. Spending with a universal health care system will undoubtedly increase, but lives also need to be considered.

When did we as empathetic human beings decide money was the golden ticket to live a healthy life? This practice emphasizes a rigid and corporate ideology to an unalienable right. Instead, the idea that every American should not have to worry about being sick should appeal to basic human emotion.

stated in the Declaration of As

Independence, all men (and women) are bestowed by their creator to the right of "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." The quote technically does not guarantee our legislators have to grant us these rights, but only someone who lacks empathy would actively prevent every American from having the right to affordable healthcare.

The current U.S. health insurance system incorporates a combination of ways to fund health care. According to the Department for Professional Employees, funding for health care spending in 2014 came from households, private businesses and government programs, such as Medicaid and Veterans Administration.

However, it left out a portion of the population that did not qualify for these government programs or have a job that provided health insurance coverage. Health insurance providers also have the power to decide what to cover for each household. If someone wants back surgery, that person is at the mercy of the providers to deem whether or not they want to cover it.

Canada currently incorporates a universal health care system. According to the Canadian government website, "all insured persons have access to medically necessary hospital and physician services on a prepaid basis." The Canadian government defines an insured person as a legal resident or someone who is frequently present in a Canadian province.

According to the Washington Post, Canada spent 11.4 percent of its gross domestic product on health care in 2009. Although the amount of spending is on the high end of Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development countries, 85 percent of Canadians believe universal health care is an integral part of Canada's identity.

The argument against universal health care mainly involves logic, so the opposite of an appeal to emotion. At the end of the day, people need to decide which means more money or lives.

> Follow William on Twitter @TheDapperYap

OPINION 5



**Jonas Elam** Staff Writer

ealthcare is not and should not be a right. It is a service in which you have the option to invest.

Something being a necessity does not make it a right. Food is a necessity, but I do not have the right to take it from you or force you to give it to me. Similarly, healthcare is a necessity for someone in need of medical assistance, but they do not have the right to go to a doctor and demand treatment they cannot afford.

Americans' rights are based on John Locke's three basic rights- you get to live once you're created, you're entitled to do what you want if it doesn't conflict with the first right, and everyone has the right to own what they make or receive from trade if it doesn't conflict with the first two.

Arguing that universal health care should be guaranteed by the government and that everyone should have it is nice, but it doesn't work fundamentally.

National Review's Dan McLaughlin said it best. In healthcare you have universality, affordability and quality. You only pick two.

The United States doesn't treat healthcare as a right because in choosing universality it will either be terrible quality or cost a ridiculous amount of money for the federal government.

If it chose universality and affordability, the quality would go down substantially, and everyone would have equally poor healthcare. You lose quality because doctors and medical professionals still have to put themselves through medical school, only to be told they have to serve everyone with incredibly low reimbursement rates, making people less inclined to go into the medical field.

If it chose universality and quality, the country would go bankrupt. Not only would it be giving healthcare to everyone, it would

have to fund the national mass-training of doctors and put obscene sums into the healthcare system. People want it all without a tax raise, which is simply not sustainable.

Attempting to have all three qualities ultimately fails.

"Having me pay taxes for your failure to buy health insurance is you stealing from me," political journalist Ben Shapiro said. "Having you tell my wife, who's a doctor, that she must care for you no matter what you choose to pay her is involuntary servitude."

Quality and affordability are ideal.

To improve the quality of medical care, you need to incentivise people to become doctors and make it worth their time and money to do so. By using governmentregulated reimbursements, doctors make less money and we have less doctors.

Prices will naturally go down if there are more doctors because the supply will increase and the demand will theoretically stay the same. Providers will have to lower their prices to get people to utilize their care, and then it's more affordable.

"We need a system that prioritizes the health of working-class families over the profits of insurance companies," Senator Bernie Sanders said.

Doctors, nurses and other medical professionals are a part of the working-class, so helping them make more money is helping members of the working class and improve quality. Insurance isn't the only method of acquiring medical care, and the argument of "it helps rich people so it's bad" is used to shift focus away from how impossible the request is.

Healthcare is not a right in the U.S. because the country can't afford for it to be one unless it heavily sacrifices the quality of the care, which defeats the purpose of healthcare. I want everyone to have access to healthcare, but I would prefer it to be affordable and high-quality than universal.

> Follow Jonas on Twitter @TheElamite

## San Jose's rank as second happiest city for employees is a joke



**Mohamed Bafakih** Staff Writer

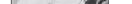
years ago and the professor asked us, "What are the five largest cities in California?"

Everyone knew Los Angeles was No. 1 and San Diego was second without much surprise. Then it got tricky as a majority named San

Francisco, Oakland and Sacramento.

Happiest cities in the world (According to Forbes magazine)

### You cannot have it all when it comes to quality of care



an Jose ranked second in Forbes' Top 10 "Cities Where Employees Are Happiest" ranking, only behind nearby San Francisco.

Its proximity, not the quality of its conditions, is the closest way San Jose touches The City, though.

In fact, the cities listed behind San Jose stand better chances to replace it.

With the help of Glassdoor, a website where current and former employees can anonymously review companies and management, the ranking is mainly based on a job satisfaction rating comparing 50 of America's metro areas.

San Jose scored a 3.5 rating out of 5.0. Meanwhile San Francisco scored a 3.6.

I get it — the diversity is amazing, the pay can potentially be great, the weather is above average — but boy, the amenities are mediocre and the cost of living is atrocious in San Jose.

I remember sitting in my History of California class at Bakersfield College three But not one person said San Jose.

In fact, a student even responded with, "Where's that?"

Now, I'm not a geography maven, but with a population of over 1 million you'd expect the place to have a lot to offer. Especially for those who come from afar to be in the heart of the Silicon Valley.

Child development senior Nasjah McKay came to San Jose two and a half years ago from New York to get a taste of California living.

"I think San Jose is a nice city, but I don't think it should be ranked No. 2," McKay said. "It's really expensive and there's not much to show for it."

Happiness is finding satisfaction with a worklife balance.

Even some of the brightest of minds within Silicon Valley have dealt with the imbalance.

Current VMWare CEO Pat Gelsinger used to regularly log in 80-hour workweeks at Intel, according to Business Insider. To keep his workaholism in check, his wife created a point system to prevent him from working too much.

1. San Francisco	6. Washington, D.C.	1.1
2. San Jose	7. Seattle	一次的
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4. San Diego	9. Austin	S. Es
5. Boston	10. Ft. Lauderdale	1. 7.73
Information retrieved from	11 17	

INFOGRAPHIC BY MOHAMED BAFAKIH

That doesn't sound like much happiness to me, but I guess that's what earned him his role as CEO of a \$25 billion tech company.

With all this money, you would think the growth of companies in San Jose would lead to infrastructure to accommodate those looking to stay nearby and a variety of things to do.

I was in Oakland earlier this month for First Friday, a lively community gathering held on the first Friday of the month, and it reminded me that downtown San Jose has a long way to go as it plays catch-up to San

Francisco and Oakland.

In comparison, the relative lack of culture and bleak attractions make San Jose look lifeless.

"When I go to San Francisco, it automatically makes me happy," public health senior and Missouri native Meytra Brahman said. "There's so much to do, everyone's so accepting. You could walk out in pajamas and everyone would love you."

> Follow Mohamed on Twitter @moe\_fresco

### Ride-hailing companies should ensure safety for their customers



Jenae Mims Staff Writer

ur parents taught many of us to never get into a car with a stranger. It's a scary thought, because a stranger in the driver's seat has all the power over the vehicle. They can take you anywhere they want to, and as a passenger you have limited control.

With ride-hailing companies such as Uber and Lyft, we willingly get into cars with complete strangers these days.

It has been a constant debate on whether Uber and Lyft should require fingerprint background checks for all their drivers, in the interest of public safety. According to the Uber website,

the company currently has its drivers undergo criminal background checks using court records and the National Sex Offender Registry. I use Uber or Lyft every weekend when I go out and occasionally on the weekdays when I study at the library until it gets dark and it's too scary to walk home. I fill in my destination, select which car I want and then pray that I don't get a creepy driver. All I know is what the driver looks like and if the reviews are good.

"I have experienced a situation firsthand where a driver tried to kidnap me," dance senior Yamato Nishino said. "There should be extensive background searches, including fingerprinting, for anyone who wants to become a Lyft or Uber driver because the companies are responsible for the safety of their customers."

Fingerprinting doesn't completely screen employees on its own because it does have its flaws, just as a criminal background check does. But that is why it's important for ride-hailing companies to do both.

"Its another precaution that we consider when we get into the car," sociology junior Nicholas Asprer said. "At the end of the day we're getting into a stranger's car and hoping that they get us to our destination."

Drivers should be required to submit their fingerprints to protect the riders of Uber and Lyft. In contrast to criminal background checks done by name, fingerprinting ensures that people cannot hide under fake names.

"Whether they take fingerprints, blood samples, [or] criminal background [checks] we just have to be in the right state of mind to know that we are hoping to get from point A to point B," Asprer said. "We're not going to get from point A to point B."

According to the Boston Globe, a driver who was paroled in 2008 after a 1982 murder conviction became an Uber driver by using a false name.

Background checks on ride-hailing company drivers, just like checks on teachers and government workers, are for the protection and safety of the public.

"If you want to work with kids or do community service they usually ask you to do background checks or fingerprints depending on what you're doing," communications sophomore Angelica Gonzales said. "So I feel like this is even more intense because your life is at stake."

Uber and Lyft users have limited control as passengers, so it's important that the drivers get the absolute best and most secure background checks, as well as get their fingerprints taken, to protect the passengers.

> Follow Jenae on Twitter @jenaemims\_

## 6 OPINION

## Dove receiving backlash was a big misunderstanding



**Noe Magana** Staff Writer

understand we live in a time where racial issues are extremely sensitive, but people need to use their reasoning and intelligence instead of their impulsive feelings.

Dove has faced backlash for a commercial that some people deemed racist. Dove has since apologized saying the company "missed the mark in representing women of color truthfully."

The video shows a black woman taking off her brown shirt and turning into a white woman with red hair wearing a beige shirt. She then takes her shirt off and turns into a dark-skinned woman with black hair wearing a tan shirt.

There are three women used in the video and the controversy has focused on the first two models. Stop it people! Don't create unnecessary controversy.

"This is just a typical example of a group of people creating a commercial without thinking how racially insensitive it looks."

I, too, momentarily joined the hype but then I watched the nine-second video multiple times and changed my mind.

"People are seeing the snapshot first before they see the advertisement, so they are basing it off the black and white racial difference and not taking into consideration what they are trying to portray in the ad," graphic design junior Ali Burney said.

This is just a typical example of a group

of people creating a commercial without thinking how racially insensitive it looks. The advertisers are not racists, they simply did not take into account the model's race and how it would look to the viewers.

"I don't think they had bad intentions, but with everything going on right now people did take it as racist," behavioral science senior Miguel Puerta said.

When I first heard about it and saw a picture showing the black woman next to the white woman, I thought that Dove was purposely making the ad look racist to get more publicity.

"Without any context, if I just see that screenshot that's obviously racist," radio, television and film senior Rit King said.

Any publicity is good publicity, after all. But I was wrong about it being racist.

The order of the women, which went from black to white to brown, provides the first clue. If the company was trying to make the ad racist, the order would have been black to brown to white.

The second clue is Dove's history of commercials showing inclusivity of women

with various skin tones, despite its other blunder in 2011 when the company erroneously placed "before" on the background of a black woman and "after" near a white woman.

The third clue is Lola Ogunyemi's, the black Dove model, interview with BBC.

Ogunyemi said everything I expected her to say, including that she would do the commercial again and that all the models were happy with it.

What stood out to me was how unscripted the interview looked. She mentioned the models did not know in which order they would be featured in the commercial. If Dove sent her to BBC to quiet the controversy, they would have instructed her to say that she was aware of the order and that she did not see a problem with it.

There are enough racist people in this world. We do not need to create racism where it doesn't exist.

> Follow Noe on Twitter @NoeMaganaR

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## CLASSIFIEDS

**CROSSWORD PUZZLE** 

### SUDOKU PUZZLE

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- 58. Lacking leadership
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  62. Smell
  63. Historical periods
  64. Vestibule

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- 1. Blackthorn 2. Not cool 3. Dogfish 4. Bearing 5. Discussion **6.** Type of connective tissue 7. Margarine 8. To fancy (archaic) 9. Diminished **10.** A certain cut of meat Double-reed instruments 12. Publish 13. Classify 21. "\_\_\_\_ the season to be jolly" 25. Woman 26. Get bigger 27. Wander 28. Was indebted **29.** Lingo 30. 4-door car
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Why don't skeletons ever go trick-ortreating?

They have no body to go with

### AD

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## BIG SWING Driving ambition keeps SJSU golfer under par



TERRELL LLOYD | SJSU ATHLETICS

Born in the Philippines, Abegail Arevalo has become the leading golfer at SJSU as a junior. She was awarded Women's Golfer of the Month by the Mountain West Conference in October.

#### **BY DIANA AVILA** Staff Writer

Junior Abegail Arevalo has continued to decrease her golf average score since her debut with the San Jose State women's golf team.

Arevalo's average has improved from a 74.23 from last season to 70.83.

Head coach John Dormann said that it is too soon to tell how her season will go. The team has only played in two tournaments this season. Women's Golfer of the Month for September after playing at the Colonel Wollenberg's Ptarmigan Ram Classic in Colorado.

"It was the first tournament and I had low expectations, so I was just enjoying playing the game," Arevalo said. "[I] was very calm [and] relaxed. I think that was one of the things that contributed to that."

During the second tournament on Oct. 7 at Ron Moore Intercollegiate in Colorado, Arevalo had a difficult time on the first day. The team had difficulties as a whole.

"As far as from what I heard from other team members it just more of the short irons and wedges and being able to place the ball really would have helped the team on that course," teammate Alexandra Cooper said.

Coming to the U.S. from the Philippines at such a young age has helped Arevalo learn to adapt to change quickly. She feels that her ability to adapt transfers to the golf course when she plays. "Be comfortable with an uncomfortable position," Arevalo said. "The transition from the Philippines to here was pretty hard. The culture and the food was very different, but I was able to overcome it by being tough.".

SPORTS 7

Dormann said Arevalo is working hard on and off the field, as she is trying to obtain a 4.0 GPA while trying to become an All-American golfer.

"You know it's hard to expect that to continue," Dormann said. "A lot of it depends on the golf course you play on. Not to say that Abegail hasn't been playing great. I mean she's been under par in five of the six rounds that she has played. That's outstanding. She is on her way to do great things."

When it comes to golf, Arevalo said she prefers to play without giving it much thought because that might cause her to perform poorly.

"My mental game has gotten better," Arevalo said. "I am enjoying it more and more and I'm embracing [the] pressure and [the] challenge."

Arevalo was selected as Mountain West

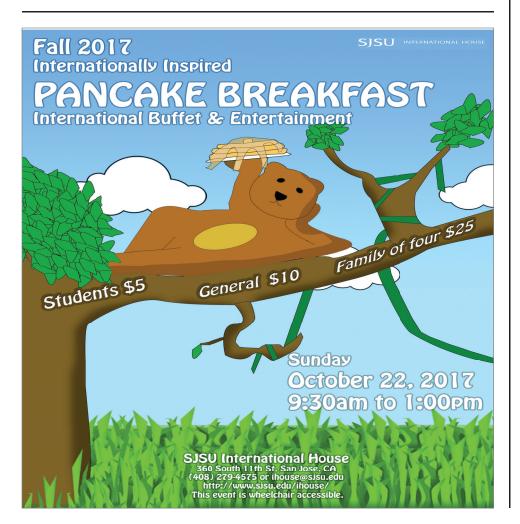
"She struggled in the first round," Dormann said. "She was named Mountain West Player of the Month and I think there was added little pressure on herself. She was not herself and did not [make] good choices."

According to Dormann, Arevalo was able to see where she went wrong at the beginning and made changes.

Both Arevalo and her teammate Franziska Friedrich scored under par that tournament.

"My first day was kind of rough, but I was able to bounce back the second and third day," Arevalo said.

However, she was not the only one who struggled during the last tournament.



Follow Diana on Twitter @dianaavila284

## MARTIAL ARTS Students fight to keep a jiu-jitsu club on campus

#### **BY SAVATORE MAXWELL** *Staff Writer*

San Jose State Brazilian jiu-jitsu is relaunching its efforts to be considered an official club by the school.

The SJSU Club Sports website defines a club sport as "a group of students who meet regularly to pursue an interest in a competitive collegiate activity at the state, regional and national level."

University requirements to be recognized as an official club include competitions against other schools in the same sport, participating members with good standing and advisors to run the organization.

"To be [considered] under a club sport you have to compete once a semester," treasurer and electrical engineering senior Johnny Hernandez Sanchez said.

The Spartan Daily reported in December 2016 that the Brazilian jiu-jitsu club was dismissed due to a lack of commitment and club members.

The club had 11 members in 2016 and has since grown to about 20 members devoted to the defensive craft.

BJJ Club President Jorge Soto-Enriquez revamped the program after its dismissal. Because BJJ is being reestablished, it has no official set dates for competition, but the club members are looking forward to it.

Hernandez Sanchez said the club is temporarily under Associated Students as an organization for funding and is working to become an official club.

Compared to previous years without a coach, the club sought out black belt Erick

Matlin of Claudio Franca Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu in San Jose to come and give lessons on defense tactics and fighting strategies.

"It's gratifying to pass [jiu-jitsu] on and it also helps me learn and execute new moves," Matlin said.

Matlin can not be at every practice but tries to coach once a month. However, SJSU alumnus and Claudio Franca student Chase Hari comes to assist practice with his fellow members.

Business administration senior and Vice President Anand Zala embraced the fact that the club is all-inclusive and encourages women to join or just learn some defensive moves. Currently there are no members who are women.

The club does not table during rallies and other campus events because of a lack of equipment, but currently the organization relies on word of mouth to get the information around campus for new members.

"They are a small club but they seem to know what they're doing," new member and materials science junior Ben Tagami said. "I would tell people about the club and that they have all the resources for a really good sparring and fighting practice." In the past, the club has fundraised for equipment such as mats for practice. Currently it is not in need of fundraising because they are more focused on building connections with other schools.

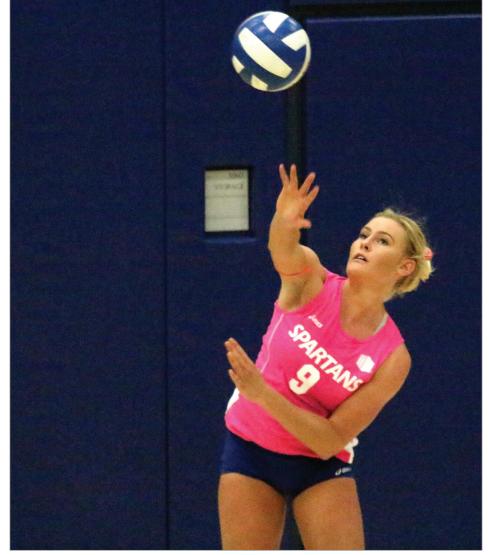
> Follow Salvatore on Twitter @VinnyMaxwell95

## 8 SPORTS

### VOLLEYBALL

## Spartans sweep Nevada, sit at third in Mountain West





LUKE JOHNSON | SPARTAN DAILY

(Left) SJSU outside hitter Giulia Gavio gets pumped up after scoring Tuesday in the Spartan Gym. (Right) Spartan setter Breann Robinson delivers an ace versus Nevada.

#### **BY MOHAMED BAFAKIH** Staff Writer

After being swept in the last two matches on the road, the San Jose State volleyball team returned home to serve a sweep of its own against Nevada Tuesday evening.

A packed house of 478 fans inside Spartan Gym saw the Spartans get back over the .500 mark in Mountain West play with their win over the Wolf Pack.

Sophomore middle blocker Thaliana Grajeda, who finished with nine kills on 12 attempts, was excited about defending home court.

"It's pretty awesome just having all of our fans here and knowing that they're supporting us the whole time," Grajeda said. "It's kind of lonely on the road."

SJSU (13-7, 5-4 MW) and Nevada (5-16, 3-6 MW) went back-and-forth in the first set, leading to 12 ties and five lead changes. The Spartans pulled away, however, as they clinched the first set 25-18.

The second set was much closer, but the return of Fernanda Vido proved to be an advantage for SJSU as the outside hitter's late kill led to a 26-24 second set win.

Vido, who missed the last six games due to a hamstring injury, finished with a game-high 11 digs.

"My teammates helped me a lot to get back from this injury and made me feel comfortable playing," Vido said.

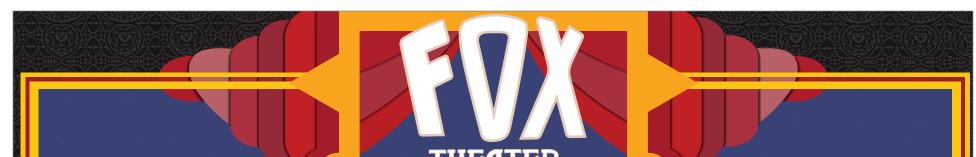
After reaching 1,000 assists on Oct. 12 against 20th-ranked Colorado State, senior Breann Robinson tallied 35 more against Nevada.

The Spartans finished off the third set, 25-21. Tuesday's win tied the season series against the Wolf Pack after losing in Reno on Sept. 19 in four sets.

With three consecutive games at home, SJSU will be jockeying for position as it sits third in conference standings behind Colorado State (18-2, 5-0 MW) and Wyoming (11-9, 6-2 MW) — two teams which swept the Spartans last week. SJSU currently has a half-game lead over Utah State and Boise State.

"We really appreciate being back home," SJSU head coach Jolene Shepardson said. "We love it. We're grateful to be home two weeks in a row. It's a huge advantage."

> Follow Mohamed on Twitter @moe\_fresco





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