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# SPARTAN DAILY



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### ADVOCACY

## Stroke Walk brings hundreds to Rose Garden

BY THOMAS SOARES  
MANAGING EDITOR

More than 500 people walked and jogged for three miles around San Jose's Municipal Rose Garden to support the Stroke Awareness Foundation on Sunday morning.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, a stroke occurs when the blood supply to the brain is blocked by a clot or tear in a blood vessel. In the United States, about 795,000 people suffer from a stroke each year.

The Stroke Awareness Foundation, based in Campbell, hosted the 7th Annual Fight Stroke Walk with the help of donations from sponsors including Kaiser Permanente and

Chan's advice is to not waste time and immediately call 911 if any of these signs occur.

"It could happen to anyone, really. It's not just people who are older. They had a young lady who was in her 20s who had one," Chan said. "Stroke doesn't discriminate. That's why you should remember the FAST rule."

This was Chan's second year at the Fight Stroke Walk and he said it is important for participants to see the relationship the Red Cross has with the foundation.

"Awareness and education is the best tool when handling a person who is dealing with a stroke," Chan said. "Of course, call 911 as soon as

“

**It could happen to anyone, really. It's not just people who are older. They had a young lady who was in her 20s who had one.**

**Derek Chan**  
Red Cross member

Good Samaritan Hospital. Red Cross member Derek Chan was at the event to speak with participants and show people one of the organization's ambulances, which displayed the FAST acronym on a sign.

FAST stands for Face, Arm, Speech and Time. Does one side of the face droop? Is one arm or leg weak or numb? Is their speech slurred or strange?

possible, because as they say, 'time is brain.'"

Noemi Conway, Stroke Awareness Foundation executive director, said this was a record year for the event.

"With this walk, we raised over \$200,000 with our sponsors," Conway said. "We use every dollar we spend on outreach in

RECOVERY | Page 2

### VOLUNTEERS

## Community gives to vets



BY MEI SUZUKI  
STAFF WRITER

Community members packaged donated items at the Operation: Care and Comfort (OCC) care packaging event at the San Jose Municipal Stadium on Sunday.

OCC is a nonprofit organization which supports United States military members, especially those who are deployed overseas. A care package is a box of gifts and cards donated by people and organizations

This program provides support and comfort to deployed military service members overseas.

At the entrance of the Municipal Stadium, boxes were laid out on the ground and participants put donated items and cards with messages into those boxes. The items included T-shirts, socks, movies, CDs, books, sock monkeys and treats such as Girl Scout cookies.

"People come out and

support our military men and women," OCC Vice President Frank Kaffer said. "We'd like to say that donating your time, treasure and talent is one of the ways people can do to help the community. Some of their family members and friends or relatives are deployed, and their people come to support them."

This is the 15th year the care package event was held. The event started in the OCC co-founder and president, Julie DeMaria's garage. It began with shipping care packages to deployed military people overseas and then it grew into the big event it is today. The organization operates the event every three months, but on a monthly basis it ships care packages overseas.

"All the stuff we ship is donated, groups of people collect items and donate to us," Kaffer said. "[At today's event], we have Oracle, National Charity League and [families] put together packages for us."



PHOTOS BY MEI SUZUKI | SPARTAN DAILY

**(Top)** Laura Ruddy, left, and Laurent Ginestet, right, are packaging cards and donated items to the boxes. **(Bottom)** Care packages include clothing, movies, CDs, books, sock monkeys and Girl Scout Cookies.

Boy Scouts came to volunteer and Northern California Girl Scouts donated approximately 30,000 boxes of Girl Scout Cookies for the care packages.

Inside the entrance of the stadium, kids drew pictures and wrote thank you cards to add to the boxes.

"I think the most important thing is giving back to community

supporting something that's meaningful to yourself," Kaffer said.

The event was intended to relay a message of gratitude to military members overseas and the pride of doing something great for the community.

"It was nice seeing all those stuff we are sending and people volunteered and

THANK YOU | Page 2

### WORKSHOP

## Female elites inspire next generation of leaders



BY NICHOLAS GIRARD  
PRODUCTION EDITOR

Silicon Valley companies have a reputation for not being diverse and there are more males in leadership roles, according to the Associate Dean of the undergraduate school of business Malu Roldan.

The Women in Leadership League, held in the Student Union Ballroom on Saturday, started as an accident when a few men on the panel couldn't make it.

"We realized how inspiring [an all woman panel] was for our students," Roldan said.

Roldan said she wanted to keep the event accessible to any interested student.

"It's open to all genders. We can all learn from women leaders, and we can learn both how to improve our careers and how to be better allies for each other."

If more women are trained to lead, the gender gap may shrink.

"It's an opportunity to hopefully make those connections to make us part of diversifying the workforce in Silicon Valley," Roldan said.

At 10 a.m., industry leaders spoke about leadership at an executive level, how to be heard, secure a place and effectively lead.

Speakers at the panel discussed what it meant to be a female leader and how to raise one's voice

and speak up to secure a position.

The hosts included Erica Gladden, VP of Market Strategy for Cisco Systems; Kara Long, VP and General Manager Service Providers for HP Enterprise; and Suja Viswesnan, Director of Engineering at LinkedIn. All spoke on the panel.

The panel was followed by a speed-mentoring session.

From 1 to 2:30 p.m., a networking event titled Birds of a Feather was hosted by Cisco Chief of Staff Varsha Kanwar "My charter is to find opportunities for women in Cisco to connect, share and network with women

LEADERSHIP | Page 2

Business senior Evi Gold (left) receives tips on how to push through biases in the workplace from Angel Vossough (center) and Nazila Malekpour (right) of DiverseUP.





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LEADERSHIP

Continued from page 1

across the Bay Area,” Kanwar said.

“Networking has a negative connotation, especially for women,” Kanwar said.

She said they could have children at home or other things happening, and networking could be frowned upon as schmoozing.

“It’s not so much about hunting it’s more about farming. It’s about nurturing those relationships and meaningful effective impactful connections for yourself and for business,” Kanwar said.

Many students were able to make useful connections at the conference.

“I’ve really wanted to volunteer at a local hospital and I found a representative from Kaiser Permanente,” biomedical engineering

sophomore Hannah Adams said. “I got her information and she was able to get me set up with volunteering there on the weekends,” Adams said.

Some male students attended the event as if it were a normal business conference. Fenil Shukla said he learned, “the power of voice, initiative, and being a good negotiator.”

Shukla is an engineering graduate student who said the conference was helpful for him. “Go explore opportunity, be patient, and don’t give up,” Shukla said.

The leadership conference included a LinkedIn executive panelist.

“If I’m okay, you’ll be okay too,” Viswesan said.

Viswesan recalls when she was a student at a networking event looking for a job like many attendees.

“I was in San Jose State working on my master’s



NICHOLAS GIRARD | SPARTAN DAILY

**Varsha Kanwar, chief of staff at Cisco Systems, poses for a group selfie with attendees at the Women in Leadership League Conference in the Student Union on Saturday.**

degree looking for a job, and then the economy collapsed in 2001 and I was totally down,” Viswesan said.

Viswesan worked at IBM while she was a teacher’s assistant at San Jose State. When she graduated she found herself being helped

by contacts she had made in the past.

“All of my career decisions were taken when I was not in a role, and that could have happened only because I was building these networks as I went through that,” Viswesan said.

Her advice to students who are searching for a job was, “You have to balance between ‘I’m so cocky’ and ‘I’m so desperate.’”

Follow Nicholas on Twitter  
@ubentu

THANK YOU

Continued from page 1

donated to help the troops overseas,” San Jose resident Zachary Wright said. “[I saw that] a lot of people care about how troops are doing and support them. I hope we got to send the messages to them that they are not forgotten and that we are all thinking about them.”

Wright came to the event with his family after his mother found about this event on the website AllForGood.org, where people can search or create volunteer activities that are available around

the community. “I like [this event] because I always wanted to do something to help,” San Jose resident Andres Ulloa said. “By doing this, another person will be benefiting from it.”

Ulloa heard about this event through his school.

“If I would give [deployed military people overseas] a message, I would thank them for their services because they do a lot for our country,” Ulloa said. “It is a brave act for them to do. And they are not ordinary people who just go to serve a military, so it’s important.”

Follow Mei on Twitter  
@meiS0000



MEI SUZUKI | SPARTAN DAILY

**Event participants put donated items into boxes at the OCC: Care Package event on Sunday. The items will be sent to deployed military members overseas.**

RECOVERY

Continued from page 1

the community, including ads in the Mercury News, on buses and in movie theaters.”

Conway said the goal of the Fight Stroke Walk is to “get the stroke care community together with stroke survivors and just have a nice walk. You know, bring the friends and family.”

According to Conway, there were no stroke centers in the South Bay. “Every hospital in this area wasn’t able to treat stroke the way they do today. Good Sam (Samaritan) was the first one,” Conway said. “Stanford followed and now every hospital in this county (Santa Clara County) is at least a primary stroke center and three are comprehensive.”

“Stroke care has gone from, basically 15 years ago, when you had a stroke, they would just wait to see how bad it was the morning after,” Conway said. “Today, the level of stroke care in our county is superb and it’s not like that in every other county.”

Konni Thomas, 54, participated in the three mile walk with members of her family. This was Thomas’ first time at this event. Thomas said she was inspired to attend after suffering from a stroke last April.

Thomas’ daughter, Kassi Lieberman said her mother was “learning how to rewalk last April, so she wasn’t ready to do the stroke walk last year,” but the family knew they “would be ready to do it this year.” Lieberman added, “She’s left side deficit. She’s still working on the left side. She had to re-learn how to walk, eat food, sit-up, find her center, all that good stuff.”

In little more than a year’s time, Thomas is now able to walk, albeit not at the same pace. “I’m still a little wobbly every once in a while,” Thomas said. “The hardest part is just to know where your center is, because at first you’re kind of cocked over to one side and you don’t even know your head is that way. So mainly it was learning to keep my head up, but I want to look down at my feet.”

Thomas and her family live in the Gilroy area. When she had her stroke, she was airlifted to St. Louise Regional Hospital in Gilroy.

“Then, we went to Good Sam in Mission Oaks for another rehab,” Thomas said. “Then we went to CNS (Centre For Neuro Skills) down south in Bakersfield. Then we came back up to Gilroy where we live for rehab at learning services.”

According to the CDC, recovery time after a stroke is different for everyone—it can take weeks, months, or even years. Some people recover fully, but others have long-term or lifelong disabilities.

“I’d say it took about 35 days for her to actually get back on her feet and, with people around her, learning how to walk,” Lieberman said. “It’s just progressively gotten better and better the more we do it. We’ve been preparing for this walk. We’ve been walking down our levee in Gilroy to be ready to walk three miles.”

If you go to the Stroke Awareness Foundation website at [www.strokeinfo.org](http://www.strokeinfo.org) you can download its app, which provides a map of all stroke centers in the U.S.

Follow Thomas on Twitter  
@thomassoares9

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EVENT RECAP



DOMINOE IBARRA | SPARTAN DAILY

(Above) Joan of Artware creators sell their homemade bracelets, created with magnetic clasps for an easy wear around the wrist, to the public at Santana Row on Saturday for Makers Market. (Right) Monarch 12, a miniature garden booth, sold succulents, cacti and plants at Makers Market.



Creative crafts collectively displayed at the row

BY DOMINOE IBARRA  
STAFF WRITER

Walking down the row, a soft cover of John Mayer’s “Edge of Desire” echoes through the street mixed in with the sounds of Mexican music playing on Cinco De Mayo Saturday. Along with the music, people crowded around many different booths set up to showcase Santana Row’s Makers Market annual craft fair. The store Makers Market, located in suite #1110, hosts a free craft fair every first Saturday of the month for local creators and artists to

showcase and display the work they sell to the public. In previous months, the fair was located in front of their store, but this month the fair was located in the Oak Tree Lounge across from Pinkberry. The fair consisted of 30 booths from local artists selling handcrafted jewelry, handbags, ceramics, glassware, soaps, succulents, candles and more. Live music and some do-it-yourself (DIY) workshops were also offered. A henna artist from Hiral Henna created beautiful artwork on the hands of visitors ranging between \$15 and \$35 depending on the size of the henna. “I’ve sold my husband’s artwork at this event several times,” Jenny Ha, seller of Patrick Hobbie Art said. “It’s just an opportunity for maker’s to showcase their work and sell to the public here in Santana Row.” Some of the creators at the fair were ImagiNature Jewelry, Less is More Jewelry, Airy Kurktchi Abstract Arts, Gypsy Vine, Monarch 12 and more. “I’m part of Monarch 12 and we sell succulent

arrangements along with cactus and air plants,” Phuong Herz said. “This is about our fourth or fifth time here at the event and usually there’s pretty good traffic and people coming and looking at all the different products we have here.” Several of the booths came with a sign that read, “Check me out inside at Makers Market!” This was so people could be aware that some of the creators’ items were located inside the store in case they wanted to check it out on a different day outside of the fair. Many visitors at Santana Row stopped by just to see what was happening. Others, such as San Jose resident Vernessia Craig come monthly to check out some new creators or revisit some of their favorite sellers. “When I was here last month a seller for Butter Me Up Organics told me about her magnesium,” Craig said. “I was catching cramps and wasn’t sleeping well and she said, ‘Try this.’ Can I just tell you I have not had a cramp! I’m sleeping so much better

and I had to come back to say thank you and get more.” Makers Market not only hosts craft fairs in Santana Row but also at San Pedro Square in San Jose and Broadway Plaza in Walnut Creek. Creators who want to showcase and sell their work for future craft fairs can just sign up on the Makers Market website for the next month’s craft fair.

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SERIES REVIEW

Show displays the horrors of totalitarian government

BY CHIOMA LEWIS  
STAFF WRITER

Season two of the Hulu Original series “The Handmaid’s Tale” starts off with suspense and leaves viewers wanting more. “The Handmaid’s Tale” is a based off of a novel of the same name by Margaret Atwood. The series premiered in April 2017 and has already won Emmy and Golden Globe awards. The first two episodes of the second season were released April 25.

The show takes place in the near future in the Republic of Gilead, a totalitarian Christian state that has replaced the United States after a civil war. The fall of the U.S. happened after a coup d’etat, which is a seizure of power, by religious extremist known as the Sons of Jacob. Due to low reproduction rates, fertile women are taken and placed in the houses of elite married couples to bear children for them.

This show portrays how dangerous it can be to rule a country based on the teachings and beliefs of one religion. Seeing how Gilead functioned makes me fear the possibility of losing my freedom.

The handmaids have no say in getting pregnant by the elite men of Gilead. The rules of the republic take women back to the years where they had little to no rights.

June, the main character, develops an intimate relationship with the commander’s driver, Nick, after Serena suggests the commander is sterile and cannot have children. June later finds out Nick is really a spy for Gilead, called an Eye. At the end of season one, viewers find out June is pregnant and Nick is the father.

The novel ends where season one left off, so viewers had no idea what to expect in season two.

The first episode of season two begins where season one ended. June was taken from the Waterford house by authorities and taken to the colonies. June’s refusal to stone her fellow handmaiden Janine is what causes her to be taken to the colonies.

It will be nice to see what direction the show goes because the writers have free range as to what happens next.

The handmaids are taken to what looks like an abandoned football stadium where they are rounded up and placed on platforms with nooses around their necks to be hung. Just when it looks like they will all be killed, it is revealed that it is a tactic to warn them what could happen if they don’t behave.

The second episode provides a real first look at the colonies. The colonies are a deadly wasteland filled with toxic waste. The

air is cloudy with smoke and all of the land seems to be dead. The handmaids are forced to shovel the waste into bags, which have radiation hazard symbols on them, and inhale the deadly fumes. The Aunts, who are overseers and trainers of the handmaids, wear gas masks as they walk around making sure the women are working.

The colonies seem like a representation of the true horrors of Gilead. On the surface it looks clean and nice but in reality it is toxic and deadly.

There is no guessing what surprises and shocks season two will bring but fans will be ready. Episode three is now available on Hulu.

Follow Chioma on Twitter  
@clevermindlewis

WATCH NOW

“The Handmaid’s Tale”

Story by:  
Margaret Atwood

Starring:  
Elisabeth Moss,  
Joseph Fiennes

Genre:  
Drama

Rating:  
★★★★★



ALBUM REVIEW

Nelson proves age is nothing but a number

BY WILLIAM DELA CRUZ  
STAFF WRITER

No matter how much we would like it to be, we can't stay young forever. Life always carries on and since we don't know when our time will come, it is always best to live each day like it is our last. But at 85 years old, the country-western legend Willie Nelson proved that age is nothing but a number as he just made his return with his 67th studio album "Last Man Standing."

Nelson sounds great vocally and the 11-track album, which runs just a bit over 33 minutes long, is lively, entertaining, rocking but also very touching in parts. The album feels like a dialogue between yourself and a man speaking about all the things he has learned throughout his life. Living to be such an age, Nelson has seen a lot of his loved ones pass on so the title of the album is very fitting. In the title track "Last Man Standing," he makes reference to this very fact when he sings, "It's gettin' hard to watch my pals check out / Cuts like a wore out knife / One thing I learned about runnin' the road / Is forever don't apply to life."

GOOD  
TUNES

*"Last Man Standing"*

**Artist:**  
Willie Nelson  
**Release Date:**  
April 27, 2018  
**Genre:**  
Country  
**Rating:**

★★★★☆

Though the lyrics would make the song seem very melancholy, the song itself is very much upbeat, which is a very interesting contrast. In the third track, "Bad Breath," Nelson gives a very humorous take on life. "Don't ever complain about nothin' / Before we can walk, we all gotta crawl," Nelson sings. "Halitosis is a word I never could spell but bad breath is better than no breath at all." The heart of the album for me is definitely the fifth track, "Something You Get Through." It is just a beautiful, sad and touching track highlighted by its soothing harmonica. The song is about the loss of a loved one and

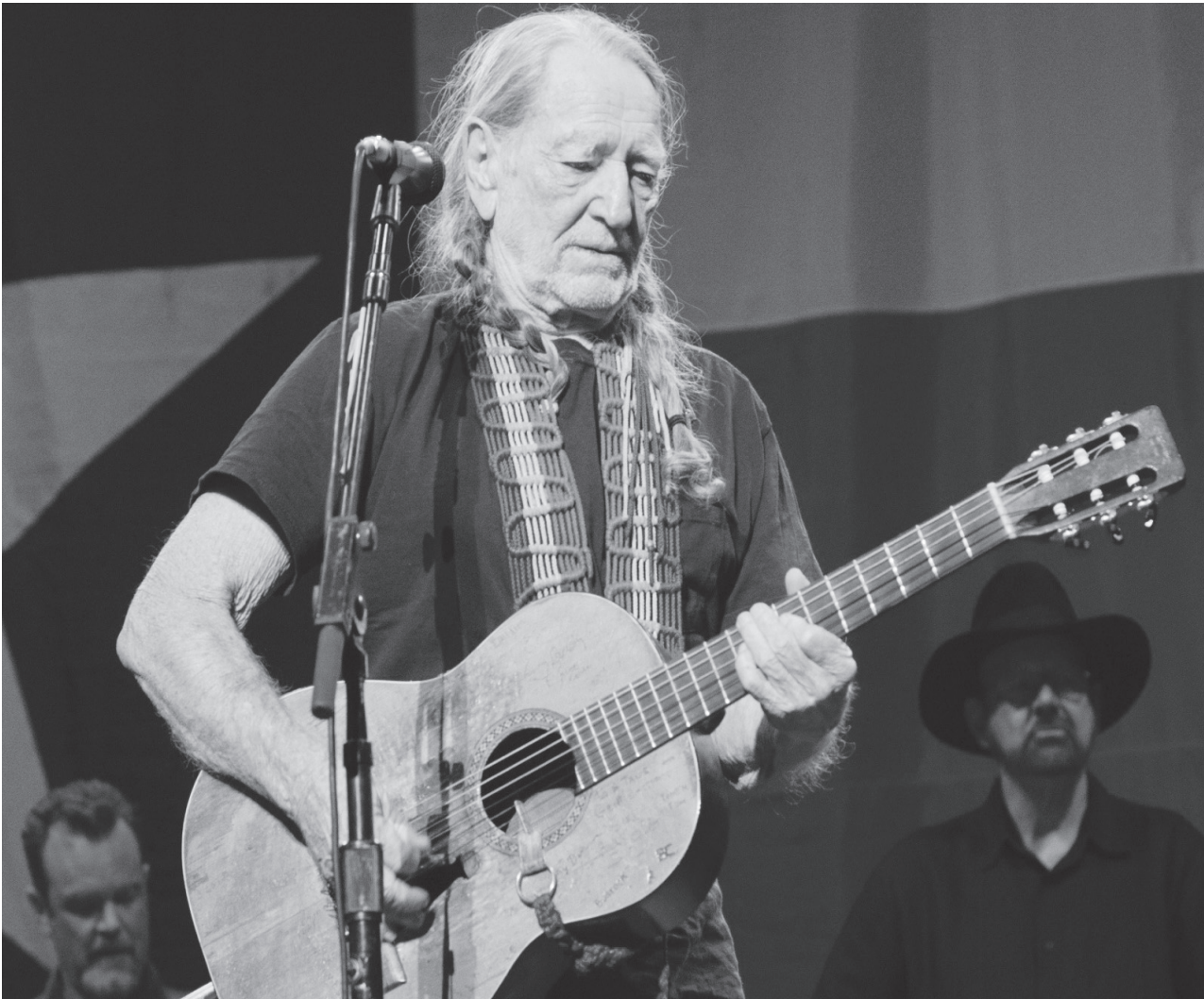


PHOTO FROM WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Country legend Willie Nelson gives life perspective through his new album "Last Man Standing."

while we all may feel that love is something we can have and hold on to forever, it is a bigger concept that we are lucky to experience. Love, as he describes it, is "not ours to be taken, it's just a thing we get to do." The next track "Ready to Roar" made me feel like I was transported to my local country shindig and this is the

song playing while we're all hitting a mean square dance in the middle of the dance floor. "Heaven Is Closed" talks about why he would rather live than be in heaven or hell. Nelson describes it as "heaven is closed and hell's overcrowded so I'll just stay where I am." He also makes sure to "burn one up" for those

living in hell, for those who think they are in heaven, for everyone in the whole world and everyone stuck in the middle, which I thought was funny. I am not necessarily a big country fan. Some of my only experience with country is Elvis Presley's early records, so I was surprised I enjoyed this

album overall as much as I did. Its lyrics either made me feel something or the music made my head bob or my feet tap. So even if you are not the biggest country fan, this album is definitely worth the listen.

Follow William on Twitter  
@liamotsd

MOVIE REVIEW

New thriller disappoints

BY GABRIEL MUNGARAY  
STAFF WRITER

"Bad Samaritan" will send chills running down your back at every jump scare throughout the movie, but fails to deliver a well thought out plot. Director Dean Devlin does a great job in planning out the movie in terms of the right amount of horror a film needs to get the audience on the edge of their seat and filled with suspense. The only downside of the movie was the actual plot itself. I found the plot to be quite confusing and rushed. I felt Devlin could have further developed the first couple of scenes after Sean Falco, played by Robert Sheehan, broke into millionaire Cale Erendreich's house, played by David Tennant. The acting was phenomenal, Sheehan made every one of his parts very believable when he was in danger or about to be killed by Tennant. Tennant also did an outstanding job in his role as psychopath serial killer Erendreich. He drew me into every suspenseful scene when he was about to commit another murder and had a psychotic breakdown. Tennant's facial expressions and behavior were spot-on as he grit his teeth in anger every time he became furious with Falco constantly eluding him.

The first scene of the movie begins with Falco and his partner in crime, Derek Sandoval, robbing a neighborhood house in Portland, Oregon. They run a valet service for Nino's restaurant where they take each home address found in the cars they park and then proceed to rob that car owner's house while they are eating at Nino's. The scene is quite humorous as Falco is chased around by the house owner's dog until he escapes and manages to get back to Nino's in time before the couple is done eating and wants their car back. The movie then jumps to the next night where the plot seems to develop as Erendreich arrives in a Maserati to Nino's for a dinner party. Falco and Sandoval target Erendreich as the next victim of their valet scam. Falco then drives Erendreich's Maserati to Erendreich's house after finding the home address in the car log, and thinks he scores big as he pulls up to the two story mansion. This part of the film felt rushed as I thought Devlin would show a couple more scenes of Falco and Sandoval robbing other houses before this night, they seemed to be just amateurs during the first scene. Falco breaks into the mansion where he finds a brand new credit

card, expensive jewelry and cash. As Falco is about to walk back downstairs and leave the residence, he hears a scream from inside a room he had not noticed in the house. Falco proceeds to open the door slowly, drawing the start of suspense in the movie. From this point forward in the movie, I found the plot confusing and underdeveloped. There were parts I couldn't quite grasp or understand, and became frustrated trying to comprehend what was happening. Anyone who plans to watch the movie should watch the trailer first before deciding if this is a movie they are interested in watching.

Follow Gabriel on Twitter  
@SJSneakerhead

IN  
THEATERS

*"Bad Samaritan"*

**Directed by:**  
Dean Devlin  
**Starring:**  
David Tennant,  
Robert Sheehan  
**Genre:**  
Horror/Thriller  
**Rating:**

★★★☆☆

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# Studying abroad is an irreplaceable experience



Mei Suzuki  
STAFF WRITER

There are countless ways to experience valuable lessons throughout your life and those lessons are all different from one another. Those lessons and insights you gain from each life event becomes a significant part of yourself in the future.

Studying abroad is one of the ways you can learn so many unexchangeable life experiences. It will change the way you see the world and even yourself.

“It sounds cliché, but studying abroad is really a character building,” San Jose State University Study Abroad coordinator Alaric Trousdale said. “It can make the strong people even stronger.”

Trousdale was an international student himself. He studied abroad in Scotland as a graduate student and lived there for eight years. His experience overseas inspired him to enter the field of international education.

“Students who study abroad are also going to

gain valuable insights about their own culture back here in America and California by looking at American culture and Californian culture from the outside in,” Trousdale said.

It is almost impossible to fully feel the culture unless you go to the country surrounded by its native people and atmosphere.

But at the same time, it is almost impossible to look at your own culture with fresh eyes if you don’t get out of the culture and learn a different one.

“The most important things that they will learn are intercultural communication skills,” Trousdale said. “They learn about their host culture including values, about the people and about the language.”

Through his own experience in Scotland, Trousdale gained wider international awareness and cross cultural competence.

“If you have the experience with multiple cultures, then you’ll be able to talk to different types of people easier,” business

freshman Simon Bortcosh said. “And I think that would be something that would help you in your future whatever career path you take.”

I’m an international student from Japan and I have been in the United States for five years. Since graduating high school in Japan, I changed the way I interact with people here as well as back home.

San Jose has such diverse communities and backgrounds of people. As I interacted with those people, I started to get interested in where they came from and the path of their lives.

Experiences of studying abroad helped me decide what I wanted to major in at SJSU, which is communication studies.

Not only am I building my character, but I am also building my future life through studying abroad. I would never have been able to do so if I had not come here.

“It’ll be a great opportunity to explore the world on my own, which is scary but exciting at the same time,” social science sophomore Monica Koshiro said.

Koshiro is going to Japan for a full academic year to study

abroad beginning this summer.

“I’m looking forward to go out of my comfort zone and most importantly experience first hand what it’s like to live in Japan or what it’s like to be a part of Japan’s society and culture,” Koshiro said.

For some majors, studying abroad is a graduation requirement. Bortcosh’s major is one of them.

“It should be a good experience,” Bortcosh said.

Trousdale advises students to look into

studying abroad sooner rather than later. The earlier you can begin planning, the better.

It is such an enormous and scary leap to take. You have to start from zero where you don’t know anyone and any place in the country.

But the outcome you will get is irreplaceable. It is because you are starting from where you know nothing.

The fact the you are alone and don’t have family or friends in the area will make you stronger. It will help you live through

challenging situations.

The confidence and experience of facing and overcoming challenges will help you when you begin your career in the future.

What you gain is different depending on where you go and what you experience. What I gained will be different from what others can possibly gain.

The only way to know your possibility is to go out there, challenge and explore.

Follow Mei on Twitter | @meiS0000

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### send a letter to the editor

Letters to the Editor may be placed in the letters to the editor box in the Spartan Daily office in Dwight Bentel Hall, Room 209 or emailed to [spartandaily@gmail.com](mailto:spartandaily@gmail.com) to the attention of the Spartan Daily Opinion Editor.

Letters to the Editor must contain the author’s name, address, phone number and major. Letters become property of the Spartan Daily and may be edited for clarity, grammar, libel and length. Only letters of 300 words or less will be considered for publication.

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## Your GPA should be a priority

Chioma Lewis  
STAFF WRITER

Having a high grade point average (GPA) definitely helps students be successful in college.

Though an individual’s GPA isn’t the only thing considered when trying to get a job or join a club, having a good one will always help. In regards to GPA, a 4.0 is an A and a 3.0 is a B and a 2.0 is a C.

I don’t think anyone tries to have a low GPA, but not everyone has the same experiences in school. There are people who have a poor GPAs because they don’t work well in their learning environments and then there are students who just don’t try.

“I know people who dropped out that are doing better financially than college graduates,” political science senior Oladotun Hospidales said. “It’s all a matter of perspective and the extent to which you will pursue dreams.”

Most colleges have a certain GPA that has to be maintained for a student to be in good academic standing. A student who cares about their education should at least make sure they stay in good academic standing.

To be part of certain clubs or greek organizations, students have to maintain or stay above a certain GPA.

“GPA is the concrete measurement of achievement administered by the university,” political science freshman Drew

Gonzales said. “It’s the basic precedence for measuring student achievement academically speaking. While extracurricular and work experience are of importance, they are purely supplementary to what you learn, which is your grade.”

I know some students who say that it doesn’t matter because a degree is a degree but having a low GPA can affect you getting a job at school and could also slow down your degree process.

SJSU Handshake is a network that allows students to apply for jobs and internships through San Jose State. When applying for a job, there is a sidebar that shows employer preferences such as major, school year, work authorization and GPA. A green check appears next to each if the individual meets those requirements.

According to U.S. News & World Report, many employers see a strong GPA as an indicator that an individual can handle pressure and has motivation to succeed. U.S. News & World Report also stated that GPA alone is not the only factor that they consider. Many employers might be satisfied with a college degree and use other factors along with grade point average when choosing who to hire.

For students who are trying to work while still in college, whether the

job is on campus or off campus, their GPA might be considered by potential employers.

Along with GPA, many employers look for individuals who are detail-oriented, team players, dependable, organized and experienced. If a person has all of that and a 2.5, they still might have a good chance, especially against someone with a higher GPA who doesn’t have the skills or the experience.

“I think that GPA isn’t important for success because most employers don’t look to GPAs in hiring. Your success is dependent on how far you are willing to commit yourself to your passions and career,” Hospidales said.

As a student who does well in school, making good grades is very important to me. I’m in school to do my very best and have never been satisfied with poor grades. I’m aware that there are students who also dislike getting poor grades but they simply don’t do well in their classes.

A student who tries their very best in their classes shouldn’t feel bad if they don’t get straight As or achieve a 3.6. As long as they are doing their very best to be successful in their classes, they shouldn’t feel discouraged.

Students who disregard their GPA as being unimportant should know that their grade point average may still affect them after college and it certainly does during college.

Follow Chioma on Twitter | @clevermindlewis



COUNTERPOINTS

# Does the NBA or NHL have the better playoffs?

## NBA is more entertaining



**Gabriel Mungaray**  
STAFF WRITER

The NBA playoffs will always reign supreme over the NHL playoffs. Both sports leagues' playoffs start in early April and end around mid-June. This gives fans of both sports the opportunity to watch both leagues' playoff games simultaneously, but the NBA playoffs are by far more entertaining and exciting to watch. Right now, both league's playoffs are in the conference semifinal rounds, but the NBA playoff ratings have been greater than the NHL playoff ratings. An example of this came on April 26. Game 6 of the NBA first round series between the Milwaukee Bucks and the Boston Celtics aired at the same time as Game 1 of the NHL conference semifinal between the Pittsburgh Penguins and the Washington Capitals in the NHL playoffs. According to Sports Media Watch, game six between the Bucks and Celtics earned a 1.5 rating and 2.4 million viewers on TNT. This was a 25 percent increase in ratings and 28 percent in viewership from last year. Game 1 between the Penguins and Capitals earned a 0.8 rating and 1.40 million viewers on NBCSN which was a two percent decrease from last year.

The ratings for the NBA playoffs in general have increased from the first game. According to Deadline, the first night of the NBA playoffs put up its best numbers in five years across ESPN and ABC, as the coverage increased 17 percent from last season and collectively recorded a 2.7 rating. The NBA playoffs also feature more prominent and well-known superstar athletes than the NHL playoffs. The NBA's most followed player, LeBron James, has a total of 37.1 million followers on Instagram. He has now made the playoffs for 13 consecutive seasons and the NBA Finals for seven straight seasons. The NHL's most followed player, Washington Capitals' forward Alexander Ovechkin, has 1.1 million followers on Instagram and has yet to make it to one Stanley Cup Final. Both sports provide great back-and-forth action as players race up and down the court or ice, but the NBA playoffs allow for more one-on-one battles to be showcased, allowing fans to see featured matchups between two great players more often. NBA fans are able to see a one-on-one matchup between LeBron James and Kevin

Durant or LeBron James and Stephen Curry more frequently than an Alexander Ovechkin and Sidney Crosby matchup, because there really aren't any isolated plays in hockey for players to go at it. The NBA playoffs also provide better storylines in terms of playoff matchups than the NHL. Will the Golden State Warriors secure back-to-back championships and play LeBron James and the Cleveland Cavaliers for a fourth straight year in the NBA Finals? Can the Houston Rockets be the first Western Conference team to dethrone and stop the Golden State Warriors from advancing to the NBA Finals for a fourth consecutive year? Those are just two of the numerous headlines that are currently being talked about in the NBA playoffs. Though the NHL playoffs feature a Pittsburgh Penguins hockey team that is looking to win a third consecutive Stanley Cup Final this year, the NBA playoffs feature two teams that have gone back and forth against each other for the past three years in the NBA Finals and is far more intriguing to watch than any Stanley Cup Final. The NBA playoffs have the better ratings, athletes and storylines that intrigue every sports fan and keep most people from even thinking about the NHL playoffs.

Follow Gabriel on Twitter | @SJSneakerhead



**Alex Martinet**  
STAFF WRITER

Nothing in sports compares to The NHL playoffs. The beards grow longer and the intensity ratchets past anything the regular season served up. I've watched just about every playoff game this year because, for me, there's nothing that beats it. The NHL postseason is a one-of-a-kind thrill. Often, the best team doesn't win the Stanley Cup Finals. In the 100-year history of the NHL, only eight teams have won the Stanley Cup Finals and the Presidents' Trophy, the award for finishing with the best record in the regular season, in the same year. The last team to accomplish this feat was the Chicago Blackhawks in 2012. The biggest problem that hockey has is that the game's top athletes can't dominate the game. The elite players like Sidney Crosby, Alexander Ovechkin, or Connor McDavid can only be on the ice for 20 to 25 minutes, which limits their influence on the game, according to a study done by Blue Mountain Capital Management Director of Research Michael Mauboussin. In comparison to the NBA, where superstars are the main attraction, this direction is the

complete opposite. So far in the second round of the NBA playoffs, LeBron James has toyed with the Toronto Raptors by averaging close to triple-double and playing over 40 minutes a game. It's easier for the NBA to promote its best talent because they're not wearing helmets, or padding on the court. I've enjoyed watching the NBA Playoffs, however, so far in the second round there has been little back and forth between teams. It looks like the Golden State Warriors and Cleveland Cavaliers are on a collision course to meet in the NBA Finals for the fourth consecutive time. Because there are only two superstar teams in the league, the competitive play has suffered. While the same couple of teams are dominating the NBA playoffs every year, the past 16 Stanley Cups have been won by 11 different teams. There is no better sports experience than sudden death overtime. It's win or lose. I remember staying up until 2 a.m. watching the San Jose Sharks battle the Dallas Stars in a four-overtime thriller. The game lasted for five hours and 14 minutes. It was a nonstop rollercoaster ride that had me on the edge of my

seat consuming every moment. It felt like I aged 20 years watching that game. The NHL is really fast while, at the same time, erratic and physical. Round after round, hockey players play through injuries to be on the ice. In the 2018 NHL Playoffs, San Jose Sharks forward Evander Kane played with a separated shoulder and a sprained MCL but still didn't miss one game, according to the San Jose Mercury News. When the final minute ticks down, players still hustle on defense, laying out to stop 90 mph game-tying slapshots. In the NBA playoffs, the action slows to a crawl because coaches call timeouts every ten seconds. I just prefer the straight up insanity that hockey provides. Watching the NHL Playoffs is like watching a suspenseful movie, knowing that something is going to happen but not knowing exactly what it will be. Hockey is tough, but still a sport filled with tradition. After a winner is decided, both teams meet at center ice for a handshake no matter how difficult the series was. This is refreshing to see in the age of social media because it's more about a unit working together to achieve the ultimate prize, raising the Stanley Cup.

Follow Alex on Twitter | @almartinet

# Employers are not looking at your cover letter



**Dominoe Ibarra**  
STAFF WRITER

You're going through the questionnaire, fulfilling all the needs of a job application. They then ask for your resume, the one thing you have worked so hard on to look polished and professional. Once you think you're done, they ask for a cover letter. Now, are cover letters really necessary? You're basically putting everything you want job recruiters to know in your resume. Cover letters aren't always necessary for job applications. According to a survey of 1,400 recruiters done by Jobvite, a recruiting software provider, "Nearly two-thirds of recruiters say it's not an important factor when they review applications." I recently attended a workshop with my sorority held by Google Recruiter Amy Clark, that focused on the look

of our resumes and what she, as a recruiter, looks for in a job applicant. One thing that stuck with me was that she takes about six seconds looking through resumes because she has so many to read. This raised the question on the importance of cover letters: if a recruiter takes that much time to simply look at the most important piece of paper we have set up our lives to showcase, then what is the point of going in depth in a cover letter that might not be read? I don't personally believe it should be a requirement," Clark said. "The reason is that the job description state pertains 'qualifications' to be considered for a job, correct? Therefore, reading that resume should display those qualifications and if they do, I should legally take time to speak to you

about the role. I can better access your fit for the role once I speak to you then." This is just how she feels about cover letters, and she doesn't know Google's official stance on them. Others may say cover letters determine what make or break you in an interview. The resume is supposed to get enough attention from the employer to schedule an interview but many applications may offer the same qualifications. "You will find that some employers or recruiters love to read cover letters to see if there are some insights into these points or they just don't read them at all," San Jose State Career Center Director Anita Manuel said. "In my 15 years experience as a career counselor and former recruiter, I'd say it's about 50/50, 50 percent read them 50 percent don't," Manuel said. "Since you don't know the preference of your future employer or recruiter, I always advise students to submit a well written cover letter just in case." Isabel Thottam, a writer for the global

online employment website Monster, believes for people seeking jobs, the resume is basically the cover letter. "In most cases, your resume does not go straight to the hiring manager. Rather, it often goes to a recruiter who then reviews your qualifications and follows

up with a phone call to screen you. The recruiter essentially takes on the responsibility of selling the hiring manager on why you're a good match for the job," she said. If you want to be able to stand out for a job, focus on your resume, since it's the one thing that will get you the interview.

The rest is up to you to show your qualifications for a job. It is more in depth in an in-person interview, rather than through a cover letter.

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# Three must-visit summer vacation destinations



Summer, the light at the end of the tunnel, our holy savior, the GOAT, nothing beats it. In a few weeks, we will be released into the world to indulge in all the things that summer has to offer like sunshine, jet skiing, tanning, traveling, you name it.

Wherever you decide to travel this summer I believe Santa Cruz, Tahoe City and Austin, Texas should be on your list.

Santa Cruz, California is an awesome summer destination. It's about 45 minutes south of San Jose, so it's close and affordable.

"Santa Cruz is my favorite place to go on the weekends," undeclared sophomore Eli Torrez said. "The moment I am out of class on Thursday I try and go head to the beach to catch the sunset and just chill."

Santa Cruz has a lot to offer, especially during summer time. The Boardwalk is one of the best places to spend your days and/or nights. The Boardwalk offers live music every Friday night on the beach,

movie nights every Wednesday and retro nights every Monday and Tuesday during the summertime.

On Retro Nights, guests can enjoy \$1.50 rides, plus old-school prices throughout the park. It's a great place to feed the adrenaline junkie in you by riding their extensive number of rides along with trying some great food and enjoying the beautiful ocean front view.

Capitola is a town near the Boardwalk, but has a bit of a different vibe to it. It's made up of little shops with multiple restaurants and fun bars.

There's also downtown Santa Cruz, which is like a larger version of Capitola. They have big brand name stores for shopping and fun places to eat and drink like Pour Taproom, which offers a variety of beers, ciders and wines all on tap.

Lake Tahoe is another must stop on your travel destination this year. It's a great place to go to experience one of the most beautiful bodies of water and isn't too far



ILLUSTRATION BY MARCI SUELA | SPARTAN DAILY

## Wherever you decide to travel this summer I believe Santa Cruz, Tahoe City and Austin, Texas should be on your list.

from San Jose. In Tahoe City, you and your friends can rent a boat, jet ski, paddle board, canoe, or parasail. The possibilities are endless.

If you prefer to lounge on the beach or one of the many hotel pools with a cocktail in hand, that's a great way to spend your time too.

"Tahoe is fun because there's always so many other people there too," marketing senior Eden

peak days. About three million people visit Lake Tahoe each year."

Now if you're really willing to get out there and explore this summer, Austin, Texas is where to go.

Yes, a plane ticket may seem kind of pricey, but trust me, it's totally worth it.

According to the U.S. News and World Report, Austin is ranked No. 1 for the best place to live. The city has so much charm, it looks like something straight out of Country Magazine.

Austin is also named the live music capital of the world. According to the Austin Relocation Guide, "the slogan became official in 1991, after it was discovered that Austin had more

live music venues per capita than anywhere else in the nation."

Whether it's spending a relaxing day at Lake Austin having a picnic with some snacks and refreshing drinks, or hitting Sixth Street for a night out on the town, there is always something to do.

So if you want to stay close this summer, Santa Cruz and Tahoe City are only a short distance away. If you're really wanting to get away, I highly recommend making the visit to Austin. It won't disappoint.

Wherever you're heading to this summer, make sure these places are stops on your list.

Follow Amanda on Twitter  
@AmandaWhitDaily

## CLASSIFIEDS

### CROSSWORD PUZZLE

|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
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| 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. Deep cut  
5. Crop up  
10. Enumerate  
14. Pearly-shelled mussel  
15. Hermit  
16. Pang  
17. Corporate image  
18. Renunciation  
20. Ostentation  
22. Candidate  
23. Vagrant  
24. Anxiety  
25. Escalates  
32. Unit of weight for gems  
33. Fellows  
34. Ouch!  
37. Modify  
38. Same  
39. Relating to aircraft  
40. Dab  
41. Got up  
42. Vary  
43. Prolongation  
45. Mystic  
49. Japanese apricot  
50. Hot sauce  
53. Narrative description of past events  
57. Fair

59. Murres  
60. Loyal (archaic)  
61. Cons  
62. Wet  
63. Ground forces  
64. Tidy  
65. North American deer (plural)
- DOWN**
1. A deep wide chasm  
2. Dwarf buffalo  
3. Anagram of "Sing"  
4. Rhythmic horse's steps  
5. Warning devices  
6. Gown  
7. Hotel  
8. Observed  
9. Therefore  
10. Language of ancient Rome  
11. Cake frosting  
12. Footwear  
13. Basic belief  
19. Hoard 21. Parental sister  
25. Chilled  
26. Zero  
27. Journey  
28. Snow house  
29. A belligerent mon-

- grel dog  
30. Embellisher (comic art)  
31. French for "Summer"  
34. Abominable Snowman  
35. Chocolate cookie  
36. Frayed  
38. Arrive (abbrev.)  
39. Elevation  
41. Gorillalike  
42. Cards with 1 symbol  
44. Twixt  
45. Grave marker  
46. Have second thoughts  
47. Perpendicular to the keel  
48. Virile  
51. Keg  
52. A single time  
53. Rope fiber  
54. By mouth  
55. A building for skating  
56. Wild Tibetan oxen  
58. Dike

### SUDOKU PUZZLE

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

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

### SOLUTIONS 05/03/2018

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

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

## JOKIN' AROUND

Why don't seagulls fly over the bay?

Because then they'd be bay-gulls! (-:)

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NHL

# Sharks eliminated



KAVIN MISTRY | THE SPEAR  
**San Jose Sharks forward Tomas Hertl battles with Vegas Golden Knights defenseman Nate Schindt in the Sharks' 3-0 loss on Sunday at the SAP Center.**

BY JESSICA HOWELL  
SPORTS EDITOR

The San Jose Sharks fell to the Vegas Golden Knights 3-0 in Game 6 of the 2018 NHL playoffs on Sunday, ending the Sharks' season.

The Sharks had their chances to score early but their shots clanked off posts and players whiffed on empty net opportunities.

The Knights got on the board in the second period after a failed clearing attempt led to a one-on-one against goalie Martin Jones, with Knights' Jonathan Marchessault putting it home.

It was all downhill from there for San Jose. Vegas got another in the second after the puck took a weird bounce off the post and the in-net camera. Vegas sealed the win with an empty netter making it 3-0. Vegas goaltender Marc-Andre Fleury earned his fourth shutout of this

year's playoffs.

In the 2018 playoffs, Fleury has a .951 save percentage with a 1.53 goals against average.

"The game was there. We had a good first. I thought we came in pretty good, we had a good first, we had some good chances, didn't score," Sharks defenseman Brent Burns said. "Sometimes you have to give credit to the other guy. I think the enemy got a vote and the enemy this series, Fleury, I mean I don't know his numbers but he played unbelievable I think. It was tough to get goals and obviously we didn't get any tonight so you're not gonna win."

The Sharks organization now looks to the offseason. There are a lot of unanswered questions. Joe Thornton is an unrestricted free agent who has said he doesn't want to play anywhere else. His one-year contract cost the Sharks \$8 million this season.

There are some high-end free agents the Sharks could go after if they can't reach a deal with Thornton. New York Islanders' John Tavares, who had 84 points in 82 games in the 2017-18 season, is a name that has been thrown around.

The Sharks also have the option to re-sign Evander Kane who said he has enjoyed his time in teal.

"I enjoy winning. Coming here was a great opportunity for me to do that, really really really enjoyed my time with this group of guys," Kane said. "Love going to battle with these guys. Like I said, got a lot of confidence in this group."

If they do, San Jose will lose its 2018 first-round draft pick. The draft takes place on June 22 and 23 in Dallas. The free agency window opens on July 1.

Follow Jessica on Twitter | @JessicaSHowell3

SPORTS COLUMN

# Ryan Leaf tops list of biggest NFL draft busts



Gabriel Mungaray  
STAFF WRITER

The biggest draft bust in sports history is former San Diego Chargers and Dallas Cowboys quarterback Ryan Leaf.

Leaf attended Washington State University from 1995 to 1997 and had an exceptional college football career.

Leaf also led the Pac-10 and the NCAA in passing yards in 1997. He threw 3,968 yards and led the Pac-10 in pass completions, pass attempts, passing touchdowns, total yards and total plays.

He led the Washington State Cougars to a 10-2 overall record in 1997 and a No. 9 ranking in college football. The team lost to the number one ranked University of Michigan Wolverines in the Rose Bowl on Jan. 1, 1998.

In the 1998 NFL Draft, Leaf was selected No. 2 overall by the San Diego Chargers, one pick behind future Hall-of-Fame quarterback Peyton Manning.

From there it would be downhill for Leaf, as he displayed qualities worthy of being considered a bust in sports.

To be considered a bust, an athlete must fail to meet the expectations placed on them during their college career.

"If there's a lot of hype around you as a player, then you have to live up to the expectations," kinesiology senior Gabe Ribeiro said.

Leaf played four seasons in the NFL from 1998 to 2001. He played for the Chargers for the first three seasons and ended his career with the Dallas Cowboys. During the four seasons, he only appeared in 25 games.

He threw 14 touchdowns, 36 interceptions and 3,666 total passing yards and had a passer rating of 50.0 during the course of his NFL career.

Pop culture website Complex stated Leaf is remembered more for his locker room outburst toward a San Diego Tribune reporter during his rookie year.

Reporter Jay Posner asked Leaf a question about his 1-for-15 passing performance in his third career game and then Leaf proceeded to tell Posner "Knock it off!" and then had to be physically restrained by

Chargers linebacker Junior Seau. Leaf then followed that with chucking a football at Posner's head the very next week.

Leaf was considered a top talent in college, so not being able to translate those skills to the NFL is another reason he is considered a bust.

"If someone was a really good college player, that should translate to the NFL, but for a lot of players that is not the case, so they are immediately considered a bust," biology junior Shahil Sharma said.

Later, Leaf became an assistant football coach at West Texas A&M University in 2006.

There, Leaf was arrested in June 2009 and charged with second degree felony for allegedly breaking into a student athlete's apartment and stealing pain killer pills, according to the Seattle Times.

Leaf was battling with substance abuse at the time and was sentenced to 32 months in prison. Once Leaf was released, he sought treatment for his drug and alcohol problem.

Leaf could not ultimately live up to the expectations coming out of Washington State and will be known as one of the biggest draft busts in sports history.

Follow Gabriel on Twitter | @SJSneakerhead



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# Family is undeniable with SJSU's lacrosse team

**Club President and midfielder Trevor Rivera dodges an Aggies player during the match on March 11.**

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