

A.S. worker recalls fatal shooting

By Jonathan Austin
STAFF WRITER

Political science junior and Associated Students director of intercultural affairs, Brandon Parent gave his account of the fatal shooting on South 10th Street.

Parent described overhearing a loud argument outside of his apartment building early on Jan. 26. He lived adjacent to the crime scene.

“Sometime between 12 and 2 [a.m.] there was shouting — more than usual,” he said. “So I was glad I didn’t go out that night.”

The argument then came to an abrupt end when Parent heard what he said sounded like a car misfiring.

He said it soon became apparent that the sound was a gunshot, but the nearby taco truck employees remained unphased.

“They just kept listing off numbers,” he said.

The Mercury News reported that 23-year-old Cruz Angel Ayala, of Tulelake, a city in Siskiyou County, was identified as the victim of the shooting.

Additionally, no suspect has been identified. The circumstances surrounding the city’s fourth homicide of the year remain under



PARENT

“Sometime between 12 and 2 [a.m.] there was shouting, more than usual, so I was glad I didn’t go out that night.”

Brandon Parent
Associate students director of intercultural affairs

investigation.

Anyone with information regarding the shooting is encouraged to contact San Jose Police Detective Sgt. Isidro Bagon or Detective Juan Vallejo at 408-277-5283.

Follow Jonathan on Twitter
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ELIZABETH RODRIGUEZ | SPARTAN DAILY

Robert Reich (left), Ben Stein (center) and SJSU President Mary Papazian (right) discuss economics, politics, education and the Trump presidency Tuesday night at the Hammer Theater.

Experts discuss economic future

By Elizabeth Rodriguez
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

With President Donald Trump still delivering his State of the Union in Washington, former United States Secretary of Labor Robert Reich and political and economic commentator Ben Stein, spoke to a wide audience at the Hammer Theater on Tuesday night as part of the San Jose State Insight Speaker Series.

SJSU President Mary Papazian moderated as Reich and Stein discussed the future of the economy, education, unequal distribution of wealth and the Trump presidency.

The discussion turned into a

“We need to tax the wealthy because they’re the ones with all the money . . . them giving up \$1 million is not going to hurt them.”

Ben Stein
Political and economic commentator

debate. While they disagreed on several points, the economists both maintained mutual respect with one another.

Reich mentioned he has seen different waves come and go, in terms of political power, during his career working with different presidential administrations, and

said he feels optimistic about the future.

“I’m excited about the future, I’ve seen the tide turn and it will, I hope,” Reich said.

Reich previously starred in the Netflix original documentary

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KUNAL MEHTA | SPARTAN DAILY

Taria Ammou, an accounting senior, throws away his lunch at the student union into a single-stream trash can, where it will be separated off-site.

China hinders SJSU recycling program

By Kunal Mehta
STAFF WRITER

The San Jose State recycling program has been negatively impacted by China’s recent ban on contaminated recycling.

In retaliation for the wrath of the plastic tariffs imposed by the Trump administration, China stopped accepting recycling that was not 99.5 percent recyclable, according to CNBC.

Recycling on campus is handled by GreenWaste Recovery, Inc. All waste

generated on campus is sent to an off-site material recovery facility (MRF), where the recyclables are separated into individual materials, and bundled up for distribution.

“We have felt the wrath of the plastic recyclable ban that’s going on,” said Kevin Martinez, a representative of GreenWaste.

If not accepted by China, there are very few other places the trash can be sent. Much of it is now piling up in the United

States.

GreenWaste’s MRF goes through 800 to 950 tons of recyclable material per day and can process 40 to 50 tons per hour. GreenWaste estimates that it is able to recover over 95 percent of the material it processes.

Martinez said that after separation, the MRF manager is responsible for marketing the bundles of materials to recycling facilities.

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WASTE

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“I led to believe that most of the markets are international,” Martinez said.

But since China now has higher standards for what they’ll accept, it has become harder for recyclers to market their materials. This is partly because of how the materials are recycled.

SJSU uses a single-stream recycling program, where all recyclable, compost and trash waste goes into the same container before being separated off-site.

Other places use multi-stream recycling, in which residents separate recyclables into three types before they get picked up for recycling.

“Single-stream recycling is easy,” industrial technology junior Jason Medeiros said. “It would be a little more inconvenient if

I had to separate them.”

If there are food particles or liquids attached to the object, it is considered contaminated and difficult for the MRF to recycle. If enough of those pile up, the bundle won’t meet purity standards and can’t be sold easily.

Since food waste and recyclables are mixed together, it’s easy for liquids to contaminate paper or cardboard products that previously could have been recycled.

Medeiros said, sometimes he struggles separating the glue-containing tape used on Amazon boxes from the cardboard.

“If they’re too hard to get off, I say screw it,” he said.

A study conducted in 2002 by Eureka Recycling, of St. Paul, Minnesota, looked at the city’s single-stream and multi-stream recycling programs.

The study showed that there was a 20 percent



KUNAL MEHTA | SPARTAN DAILY

The single-stream trash can explains that recycling, compost and trash waste all go into the bin and is expected to reduce the amount of waste that goes to the landfill.

increase in the amount of waste collected after switching to single-stream recycling. But, the amount of waste that could actually be recycled dropped by 12 percent.

Recently, multiple communities have switched to multi-stream recycling to

improve the purity rate of their waste.

Recyclers are valuing the purer recyclable material more than a higher raw amount ever since China raised their requirements.

Miriam Rose, an undeclared sophomore,

worries that if forced to switch to multi-stream recycling, “people would be less likely to separate their recycling because people are lazy.”

Martinez said the best thing students can do to make sure their waste gets recycled

“People would be less likely to separate their recycling because people are lazy.”

Miriam Rose
San Jose State sophomore

is to follow the principles expressed in the “Keep it Clean” campaign.

“Make sure it’s dry, has no food, no excess materials,” Martinez said. “Have your soda can be completely empty, no milliliters left.”

Medeiros wishes that more people would make sure their waste can be recycled. “It only takes an extra minute or less,” he said.

Follow Kunal on Twitter
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PANEL

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“Saving Capitalism” where he addresses the unequal distribution of wealth and corporate power in connection to politics in the United States.

Reich also served as the former Secretary of Labor for the Clinton presidency. He previously served under the Carter and Ford administrations. During that time, he implemented the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) which protects an employee’s job during a medical emergency.

Stein began his political career as a presidential speech writer, most notably for President Richard Nixon. Stein was also Nixon’s lawyer.

Most may remember Stein from his role as an economic teacher in “Ferris Bueller’s Day Off,” and he reiterated his famous line “Bueller” to the audience. Stein maintained his comedic banter throughout the discussion with quick one-line answers.

Both engaged in an eloquent exchange when discussing a variation of topics, which the audience enjoyed as they clapped to Reich and Stein’s comedic responses.

“It’s just good to see two people who don’t agree on much engaging in a respectful discussion,” economics junior Christian Anigwe said. “Today, things are so heated and there’s a lot of

“It seems like we’ve been talking about this for decades and I would like to see more money being put into education.”

Katelin McClure
Campbell resident

hate out there.”

Being at the heart of Silicon Valley, both agreed that education is a right that requires more funding, especially for early and higher education as well as increased pay for teachers.

“I think throwing money at teachers is a good idea,” Stein said.

Whether audience members were students or not, most agreed on investing more in education.

“It seems like we’ve been talking about this

for decades and I would like to see more money being put into education,” Campbell resident Katelin McClure said.

At one point in the discussion, Stein turned to Papazian and told her “Oh, we forgot about you,” as both continued debating each other on their disagreements regarding corporate wealth.

Another topic both economists agreed on, was the necessity of taxation for the top one percent, to which Reich jokingly asked Stein if he was a true Republican.

“We need to tax the wealthy because they’re the ones with all the money,” Stein said, “Them giving up \$1 million is not going to hurt them.”

Papazian did ask who Reich favored out of the many Democratic presidential candidates. He jokingly answered that he is very impressed with the diversity of all the candidates running.

Even though Stein and Reich were displeased with the current state of the country, both said they are optimistic for the future.

“It’s the young people,” Reich said. “It’s the students who are going to move this country forward.”

Follow Elizabeth on Twitter
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San Jose raises minimum wage to \$15 an hour

Average monthly rate in San Jose
480 sqft. Apartment



INFOGRAPHIC BY ADAM YOSHIKAWA, SOURCE: EXPASTISTAN.COM

By Adam Yoshikawa
STAFF WRITER

The city of San Jose raised its minimum wage from \$13.50 to \$15 an hour to catch up with the rising cost of living in the area.

San Jose’s minimum wage has come a long way from \$10.50 in 2016. It has slowly risen in small increments throughout the past three years.

Based on the Consumer Price Index, which is put together by the U.S. Department of Labor to measure prices paid by consumers, San Jose’s minimum wage can increase up to 5 percent annually.

“Our efforts to raise the minimum wage will provide a significant boost for the thousands of hard-working families across the valley who continue to struggle to keep up with rising costs,” said Mayor Sam Liccardo in a Jan. 1 press release.

When it comes to rent rates, San Jose is unmatched with prices having gone up 52.4 percent since 2010, according to The Mercury News.

Bay Area cities like Oakland and San Francisco have the second and third highest rent inflation, with increases of 51.1 and 48.6 percent, respectively.

Many San Jose State students are employed at businesses that comply with the city’s minimum wage ordinance.

“It especially helps, even more since I do not get as many hours I’d like or I can’t work, like I’m not as broke as I would’ve been,” said Jamba Juice employee and aerospace engineering freshman Jaseck Constantino.

“It helps a little bit but obviously it’s not as much as you’d think, I mean we’re college students.”

College students like Constantino are always trying to split a penny, but when it comes to being able to pay rent, landlords hold power over their tenant’s head.

SJSU faces a large number of homeless students. According to NBC Bay Area in Dec. 2018, 13.2 percent of SJSU students reported experiencing homelessness during the past year.

That’s a whopping estimate of 4,300 students.

According to Expastistan.com, a site that compares the cost of living of each city and state, the monthly rate for a 480 square feet furnished studio in San Jose will cost a person \$2,010.

With the new minimum wage being \$15 an hour, students would have to work over 134 hours a month and 33.5 hours a week to just cover rent.

The only exceptions to the law are for those employed as teaching assistants, according to job listings on the job search engine Glassdoor.com. Such jobs are offered at \$12 an hour.

Four out of five college students are working at least a part-time job according to the Huffington Post and many students strain their mental health as a result.

Going forward, the city of San Jose’s minimum wage will be automatically adjusted with cost-of-living increases.

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Spartan Daily

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Ben Affleck hangs up the bat cape

By Kunal Mehta
STAFF WRITER

It's official, the Bat-fleck is putting down his mask. Ben Affleck announced on Jan. 31 that he was no longer going to portray Batman in the current series of DC Extended Universe films.

He portrayed The Caped Crusader in "Batman vs. Superman" and "Justice League," neither of which were box office hits.

The first film had one of the largest box office drops in its second weekend, facing a decline of 81 percent according to slashfilm.com.

Justice League was a box office bomb, only grossing \$650 million after they had spent \$750 million on it.

Affleck was the sixth actor to play Batman in full-length live-action films.

At the 2017 San Diego Comic-Con, Affleck described himself as the luckiest guy in the world and said, "Batman is the coolest fucking part in any universe."

Affleck's portrayal fell flat among San Jose State students though.

"His acting as Batman was alright, it didn't feel like Bruce Wayne-Batman," said Ryan Tran, an open university student.

"I just wasn't a fan of his acting," said humanities junior Natalie Ortega. "When I think of Batman, I don't think of Ben Affleck."

Both Tran and Ortega

“

I just wasn't a fan of his acting. When I think of Batman, I don't think of Ben Affleck.

Natalie Ortega
Humanities Junior

said that their favorite Batman portrayal was Christian Bale in the Dark Knight Trilogy.

Ortega said that her preference was mostly because those were the films she watched growing up.

The next Batman movie, "The Batman", is planned for 2021, and the search for its titular character is just beginning.

Variety's Justin Kroll said that the studio was looking for a "familiar face", and director Matt Reeves had a specific age he was looking for.

"The Batman" is expected to be a noir film that focuses on his detective abilities, according to Reeves.

Reeves is known for directing the two most recent "Planet of the Apes" movies and the TV show "Felicity."

Choosing a new Batman can be controversial, just like picking a new James Bond.

After Michael Keaton was selected back in 1988, fans organized a massive letter-writing campaign to Warner Bros. Studios,



KUNAL MEHTA | SPARTAN DAILY

Ryan Tran, an open university student and Batman fan, said his favorite portrayal of Batman was by Christian Bale rather than the most recent portrayal by Ben Affleck.

complaining about the pick.

But Keaton's portrayal and the film itself was a success, and led to three more sequels, though Keaton would only reprise his role in one of them. It also spawned the critically acclaimed "Batman: The Animated Series" television show.

Often Keaton's Batman was overshadowed by Jack Nicholson's portrayal of the Joker.

For many, this repeated

itself in "The Dark Knight," where Heath Ledger's Joker stole the show and won Best Supporting Actor at the Academy Awards.

Tran especially liked Ledger's performance as the Joker in The Dark Knight. He said, "His acting was phenomenal, one of the best in the Batman universe."

It's uncertain whether Joker will even be in Reeve's film. When Affleck was still involved with the film,

Deathstroke was the planned villain.

DC teased Joe Manganiello as Deathstroke at the end of Justice League, showing off his unique helmet and sword.

There's been no word yet on whether Manganiello will continue to play a part now that Reeve is in the director's seat.

Affleck was originally slated to direct the new film, but announced he was stepping down back

in January 2017.

Tran would not mind having Bale come back, saying that Bale would be his first choice to play Batman if he could choose.

Ultimately though, Tran said he preferred animated films, saying that there were more possibilities with what could be told.

"The Batman" is expected to start shooting in spring 2019.

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(Location: Hawaii, U.S.)

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Keak da Sneak faces prison time

By Adam Yoshikawa
STAFF WRITER

Bay Area rapper and legend Keak da Sneak is facing 16 months in prison, while confined to a wheelchair, after his court hearing on Jan. 28 by judge J.S. Hermanson.

"It feels like they had no compassion," the rapper said in an interview with KQED.

"My health is not good. I know they're not gonna give me the treatment I need in prison," he said, "Once you get behind these walls, they have no compassion. You have to be on your dying bed for them to give you some assistance."

Keak da Sneak, whose real name is Charles Kent Williams, was charged with possession of a firearm as a felon in March 2017. This led to his sentence in January 2019.

Williams is credited as one of the leaders of the Bay Area hyphy movement and made the track "Super Hyphy." He was also featured on E-40's "Tell me when to go."

"I think he deserves the right to contest for house arrest," analytics sophomore Sean Park said. "That's not even fair, since he needs a full-time nurse. You can die in prison. I mean prison doesn't provide the best health care."

Williams is fighting for his sentence to be turned into house arrest because of his condition and the treatments he will need.

Judge Hermanson

gave Williams one week to complete a medical procedure. After, he must turn himself in on Feb. 7.

Williams was involved in a shooting in January 2017 which left him fully bound to a wheelchair and in need of a full-time nurse, colostomy bag and catheter.

As the rapper recalls, he asked a friend for a ride to his car in Oakland following a show in Tracy when several men attempted to rob him. After an altercation, the men started shooting.

"The first bullet busted the window and hit me in the face, grazed my face," Williams said in an interview with People magazine.

"It made me put my arms up and guard my head, so I got shot all in my side, abdomen, my elbows, my sides. When the gunfire stopped, I couldn't feel my legs."

"After that I got a gun," Williams continued.

California law prevents Williams from owning a firearm as a convicted felon.

"Indeed, life in prison is incredibly challenging for inmates with disabilities," said lawyer and activist Aditi Juneja to People magazine, a board member of the Disabilities Rights Fund.

The Disabilities Rights Fund is an organization that is trying to shift the paradigm from charity to rights for people with disabilities.

"Quality of medical care varies widely from facility to facility – even within the same state – and although prisons are covered under the Americans with

Disabilities Act, there's no guarantee that they're always compliant," Juneja said.

Aditi Juneja is an activist and communications organizer at Protect Democracy, a non-profit organization specializing in prisoners' rights.

"If you physically can't like walk or you need the assistance, you should be able to contest for house arrest," business finance sophomore James Nguyen said. "That's not even fair, because he needs the healthcare and his full-time nurse."

Prison systems in America are notoriously overcrowded at 136.6 percent capacity according to a 2017 American Civil Liberties Union report. The report adds that not all facilities have accommodations for wheelchair users.

The rapper now lives in Sacramento with his wife, where he has regular physical therapy sessions. A nurse comes to visit him three times a week to care for him and clean his bed sores, a common ailment with mobility issues, in order to prevent infection, according to CNN.

An online petition on Change.com for Williams was made by his many followers and fans for his sentence to be overturned to house arrest with 38,184 signatures.

Williams told CNN he is still recording music in order to take care of his family while he is gone.

Follow Adam on Instagram | @yoshi_kawa

Pop-punk has overstayed its welcome

By Eduardo Teixeira
A&E EDITOR

Watch any movie that takes place in high school from the early 2000s and you're almost guaranteed to be greeted with a montage of shots of students walking around the school with pop-punk playing in the background.

For some reason, pop-punk gained extreme popularity in the late 1990s and early to mid-2000s.

Songs like "Ocean Avenue" by Yellowcard and "The Great Escape" by Boys Like Girls each received platinum status by the Recording Industry Association of America.

Once Nirvana's grunge wave died down, bands like Blink-182, Sum 41 and Yellowcard took the stage for a while.

Soon, they began pumping out songs about high school and how their parents don't understand them.

The genre eventually faded out of popularity and other forms of guitar music eventually took over, like indie rock.

During its peak, it seemed like a lot of fun, but looking back through the retrospective lens, people began to ask themselves, "What the fuck was that?"

For starters, to categorize the aforementioned artists as "punk" is awfully liberal.



PHOTO COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Blink-182 (above), as well as other pop-punk bands have become part of the past with their overly whiny and angsty music.

In the decades preceding, punk bands were releasing their anger on stage while talking about issues like corruption in politics, addiction and social stigmas that plagued the generation they were preaching to.

Pop-punk bands were concerned about if the girl they were into had the same feelings, or about sneaking out of their parents' house to go drink a beer in their school parking lot.

This is not to say that these aren't genuine

thoughts that run through a high schooler's mind.

However, creating an entire genre around these ideas feels incredibly weak and limiting to artistic expression.

What's respectable about this genre is that it doesn't take itself seriously whatsoever.

The members of pop-punk bands frequently say and do ridiculous things, like running around naked in the case of Jack Barakat, giving the entire genre a comedic tone.

The most bothersome

part of this genre, however, is that the same bands that started decades ago, are still writing and recording new music that revolve around the same themes it always has.

It's very strange for someone in their 30s to go into a recording studio and sing about teen angst when they go home afterward to raise their teenage children.

This goes back to the idea that the genre itself is very limiting.

It's pleasant to see some sort of growth in someone's art, and pop-

punk bands really aren't bringing that to the table.

Bands like Arctic Monkeys started out when the members were relatively young, and their lyrics illustrated that with stories about drinking and going to parties.

However, as their members matured, so did their music and their lyrics.

They allowed themselves to venture outside their comfort zone and find success.

Blink-182 still sounds like they're in high school even though it has been

27 years since their formation.

While pop-punk definitely has its place in the history of guitar music, it's safe to assume that it will go somewhat overlooked in the future.

These songs haven't aged well and they already sound dated.

But if I ever want to feel like I'm in high school again, I'll be sure to play Dear Maria, Count Me In.

Follow Eduardo on Twitter | @eduardo_teix97

Girl Scout Cookie season is back in full swing

By Cindy Cuellar
STAFF WRITER

With football season officially finished, Girl Scout Cookies have taken over and are in full season.

Girl Scout Cookies began its season strong.

Girl Scouts now accept electronic payments, such as Venmo, while making their way through campus and San Jose.

"The cookies are very delicious. My favorites are Thin Mints and Tagalongs," says Girl Scout brownie Tamar.

Caramel Chocolate Chip is a new cookie that has been added to the catalog in 2019.

These will be the second gluten-free cookies along with Toffee-tastic cookies that were introduced in 2015.

Girl Scouts from different troops join together and become product ambassadors as well as salespeople in order to fundraise for their own specific projects.

The girls learn how to advertise and inform their customers about the different groups their sales benefit, such as the military overseas and food banks.

The Girl Scout Cookie Program allows the girls to learn valuable life skills like goal setting, decision making, money management, people skills and business ethics, according to the Trail Ahead website linked to the Girl Scouts official website.

These young girls learn and focus on different

“The girls have more access in the program the older they get. Some Girl Scouts had the opportunity to help build a library for an orphanage in Mexico.”

Rochelle Malian
Alpha Omicron Pi
Alumni Chapter President

skills such as making eye contact while talking directly to customers.

Running the business with a partner helps the Girl Scouts to gain communication skills and confidence in executing sales.

Each troop has the flexibility to decide as a team what they will be dedicating their fundraised money towards.

A few Girl Scout cadette troops were selling cookies on campus fundraising money for free little libraries.

The goal of these little libraries is to encourage young kids, who cannot afford books to continue reading.

Other Girl Scout Daisies and Brownies save up their funds for their summer camp.

Rochelle Malian, an Alpha Omicron Pi alum



ILLUSTRATION BY CINDY CUELLAR | SPARTAN DAILY

and current president of the San Jose State alumni chapter, works with her two girl scout daughters, Tamar and Samantha.

She brings them to campus to sell cookies to sorority sisters in the Alpha Omicron Pi sorority house.

Samantha is a daisy, the first level of Girl Scout troops, where the girls learn about the promise of being kind and respecting others.

Tamar is a brownie

which is the next level above Daisies.

As a Brownie, Tamar learns about arts, crafts and sciences.

Malian says, "I come to the Alpha Omicron Pi house because the girls are a part of my family and friends that I really hope help shape my girls too."

The Girl Scouts are able to use their fundraised money to have an ice cream party with the troop or go to a museum

for a more educational experience to share with their troop.

"The girls have more access in the program the older they get. Some Girl Scouts had the opportunity to help build a library for an orphanage in Mexico," Malian added.

"This included collecting the books, organizing it, going to Mexico and communicating with people there."

Girl Scouts work toward gaining new badges while completing projects and learning fundamental leadership skills through trips and activities.

They do not just stand for Tagalongs and Samoas, they strive to be educated women with strong leadership skills.

Follow Cindy on Twitter | @eredetii

Children's films need more heroines



Cindy Cuellar
STAFF WRITER

Social issues and feminism are being imbedded within today's kids' movies.

This is a good change from older Disney movies that emphasized the trope of brawny male characters saving the day for every 'damsel in distress.'

The 2018 animated adventure film, "Ralph Breaks the Internet" perfectly combated that notion in a scene where

to use their respective trademark accessories as weapons too.

Disney was not subtle about addressing each princess going through a tortuous journey that was always resolved by a heroic man and love interest.

Each princess chimes in asking what kind of princess Vanellope is by asking "Were you poisoned, kidnapped or enslaved?"

Bo Peep is back, hopefully to remind little girls and women of the strength they have while still being feminine.

Vanellope Von Schweetz, who is a racer, meets the Disney princesses in a room.

During this scene of Disney self-deprecating humor, Cinderella literally smashes her glass slipper, which resembles her delicate femininity and key to finding her prince, and uses it as a weapon the second she sees Vanellope.

The rest of the princesses are quick

These things happen to the classic princesses just to create conflicts in each film while also degrading them for being women.

Yes, they are just animated movie characters but children watch these films at a young age when they're most impressionable.

A 2016 study conducted at Brigham Young University states, "96 percent of girls and 87 percent

of boys viewed Disney Princess media."

These impressions create and promote stereotypes for girls who grow up believing true love will solve all of their issues.

Such trends were recently disrupted with recent Disney hits such as "Frozen" and "Moana," which feature single females.

While many viewers still await the first LGBTQ princess/prince, the furthest we've gotten is a princess of color who does not fall in love by the end of her movie.

This notion is evident when Rapunzel asks Vanellope, "Do people assume all your problems got solved because a big strong man showed up?"

Princess movies are supposed to be about the princess getting stronger through her own struggles, yet these films still end up being about a man.

The transparency and self-awareness shown through this scene is necessary for younger kids to realize that almost every princess movie is the same, with thinly disguised misogyny.

Pixar is also incorporating feminism in their upcoming film "Toy Story 4."

The classic "Toy Story" character Bo Peep, who was briefly mentioned in "Toy Story 3," makes a return in teasers and posters that hint at her strong role in the

new film.

She has a completely new look on par with that of a superhero and her confidence is apparent through her power stance on the film's poster.

Bo Peep ditched her pink dress and now has a blue jumper and cape, with her shepherdess crook at hand.

"Bo's taken control of her own destiny" said "Toy Story 4" director, Josh Cooley, in a press release.

Bo Peep is back, hopefully to remind little girls and women of the strength they have while still being feminine.

Bo is a porcelain glass doll who hardly had much of a role in the previous "Toy Story" films but her new look might change that.

Bo Peep's reintroduction establishes her as an independent female character.

This is evident as she bursts through a poster reading "Get ready" to Woody and Buzz Lightyear's surprise during a clip posted on the film's Twitter account.

Any bit of female empowerment shown through Disney or Pixar films is welcomed with open arms.

Other Disney and Pixar films that have strong woman leads include "Incredibles 2" and "Star Wars: The Last Jedi."

In "The Last Jedi," female protagonist Rey, played by English actress

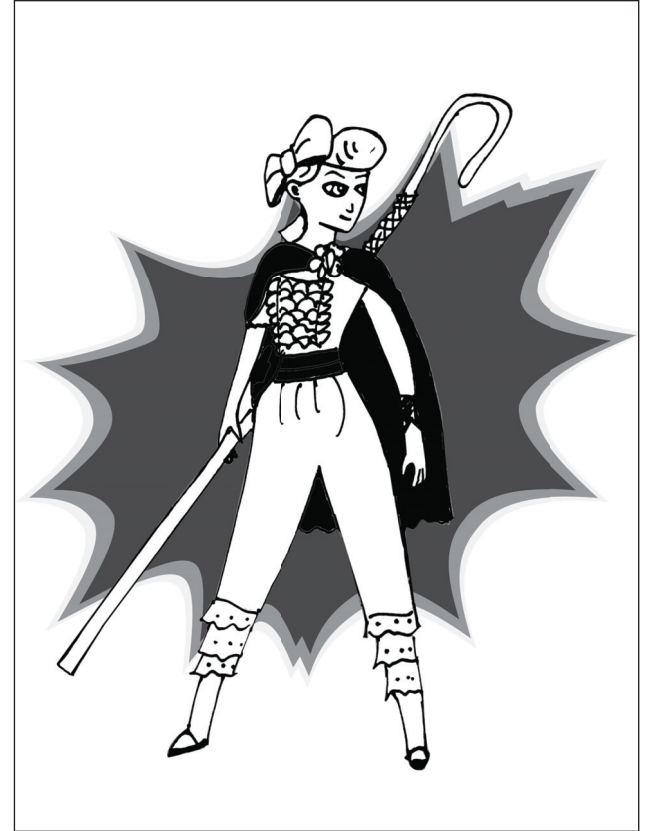


ILLUSTRATION BY CINDY CUELLAR | SPARTAN DAILY

Daisy Ridley, breaks the streak of long-running male leads in the Star Wars franchise.

Fans on Twitter were quick to compare the newest incarnation of Bo Peep to the outfit and iconic accessories used by Rey.

The 2016 animated comedy "Zootopia" perfectly incorporates social issues within its film and has a popular quote that says, "Change starts with you."

Racism is alluded within the plot as the antagonist, Bellwether, plots against certain characters for being different species.

It is extremely important for movies that

are directed towards a younger audience to encourage strength and confidence.

Such actions challenge antiquated American social constructs for both men and women.

This new wave of strong female characters encourages girls to believe in the strength, dreams, creativity and knowledge they carry regardless of their gender, sexuality or background.

Enacting this change in children's films is a great and artistic way to do so.

Follow Cindy on Twitter @eredetti

CLASSIFIEDS

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

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

ACROSS

- 1. Introductory
- 6. A metal fastener
- 10. Skin disease
- 14. Surpass
- 15. Hodgepodge
- 16. Sailing ship
- 17. Metal
- 18. Vice President
- 19. Atmosphere
- 20. Large and roomy
- 22. L.L.L.L.
- 23. Wander aimlessly
- 24. Eagle's nest
- 26. Refute
- 30. A hard kind of stone
- 32. Sheeplike
- 33. Skyscrapers
- 37. Care for
- 38. Playgrounds
- 39. Alone
- 40. Bearable
- 42. Handed over
- 43. Loads
- 44. Equine animals
- 45. Free-for-all
- 47. Vigor
- 48. A social club for male under-

DOWN

- 1. Pear variety
- 2. Car
- 3. Flower stalk
- 4. As just mentioned
- 5. A perfumed liquid
- 6. Hollow-horned ruminants
- 7. Margarine
- 8. Place
- 9. Certain sails
- 10. Sponsor
- 11. A pungent stew
- 12. Chivalrous
- 13. Female sheep (plural)
- 21. East Indian tree
- 25. Terminate
- 26. Shower with love

- 27. Not odd
- 28. Fasten
- 29. Wavelike motion
- 30. Rolls up
- 31. Similar
- 33. Baseball great, ___ Ruth
- 34. Gestures of assent
- 35. Delight
- 36. Mats of grass
- 38. Detachable locks
- 41. Uncooked
- 42. Laughable
- 44. Not her
- 45. Lefteye flounder
- 46. Lift
- 47. Scenes
- 48. Banner
- 50. Piece of glass
- 51. Tall woody plant
- 52. Storage cylinder
- 53. Threesome
- 54. Frosts
- 55. Walking stick

SUDOKU PUZZLE

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

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

SOLUTIONS 02/05/2019

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

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

JOKIN' AROUND

Why couldn't the bicycle stand up by itself?

It was two tired.

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Is Abuelita a corporate mentira?



Mauricio La Plante

When I tell people about my love for Mexican-style hot chocolate, oftentimes they'll nod in agreement and talk about how much they love the brand Abuelita.

I don't know how to respond when people assume I am making Abuelita, I want to say, "No I don't drink Abuelita unless friends or family offer it" or "I'm actually not a huge fan of Abuelita"

I just nod in agreement as if Abuelita is this chocolate elixir extracted from the mountains of Mexico, when in reality, it's an over-glorified corporate commodity.

This doesn't necessarily mean the chocolate is garbage. It's far from it.

The brand originated in the state of Veracruz, Mexico, where the duo of brothers Francisco and Raymundo Gonzalez developed the first blend of Abuelita. What is more problematic is the identity it carries.

Although Abuelita is made in Mexico, the company that owns the iconic hot cocoa brand is the Swiss Corporation Nestle.

The mega-corporation has a near monopoly on

the sweets industry, with popular sub-brands such as Crunch, Butterfinger, Raisinets and Wonka.

This is the company that defiled the coffee bean with Nescafe and made billions of dollars using water extracted from Michigan aquifers, paying only a small fee of \$200 to the town it stripped dry, according to Bloomberg News.

In fact, former Nestle chairman Peter Brabeck-Letmathe once said that declaring water a human right is "extreme."

In fairness to Nestle, no enormous scandal involving its chocolate business has been widely publicized, so this is not a vain attempt to shame those who suck at the teet of Nestle.

According to United Press International, Nestle bought Fabrica de Chocolates la Azteca, the company that makes Abuelita, from Quaker Oats in 1994, who had initially acquired the brand in the 1970s. At the time, Azteca proclaimed itself as the leading seller of chocolate in Mexico.

Thus, this is a critique of a how a product gives value to Latinos in



SOURCE: MAURICIO LA PLANTE | SPARTAN DAILY

Nestle's acquisition of the Mexican hot chocolate brand known as 'Abuelita,' which translates to 'grandmother,' has turned the Mexican cultural staple into yet another heavily Americanized commodity.

America, in the eyes of a corporate behemoth, such as Nestle.

Nowhere else in the world, but the United States of America, does a society put so much value into buying things.

This is evident even at our most esteemed museums, such as the Smithsonian, where a container of Abuelita was propped up as an artifact of Chicano culture, according to the Smithsonian's website.

How strangely appropriate that a Mexican product bought out by a Swiss business to be sold in American markets, is a notable example of Chicano Culture for the museum. After all, what

would we Latinos be worth if we can't pay any money to a big business?

In an article describing the so-called "artifact," some naive intern described her interaction with a Mexicana apparently marveling at the Abuelita.

"She was thrilled to see a beloved, everyday item on display at a renowned Washington, D.C. museum; she even asked to take a picture with the cart," the 2013 Smithsonian article read.

Yes, how thrilling it is to pay hundreds of dollars to take a trip to DC and see your culture represented through some chocolate you could have bought at

the market in San Jose for \$3.99.

What's bothersome, is Nestle and corporate America's narrow assessment of Latino history and how the Latino people choose to spend their money.

I'm not a communist or anything, but the intersection of culture and market desecrates the history of different people and puts it up for sale.

Xocoatl, the earliest of chocolate drinks in Mexico, was a bitter beverage that held a sacred place to the Mayans and Aztecs, according to the Encyclopedia Britannica. As Spain obliterated

both the tribes and most of their culture, the Europeans commodified it into their product with sugar. Perhaps the part about sweetening the chocolate, was not so bad, but nevertheless, it's important to question how indigenous a product actually is.

I would never decline a glass of Abuelita, unless I knew it had poison in it, but I believe that Latino culture with all of its diversity should not have one of its most beloved drinks viewed under one corporate and overused icon.

Follow Mauricio on Twitter | @mslaplantenevs

We must stand with Jussie Smollett



Courtney Vasquez
STAFF WRITER

On Tuesday, Jan. 29, Jussie Smollett, one of the stars of the hit Fox television series "Empire," was viciously attacked in Chicago.

Two men dressed in ski masks allegedly attacked Smollett as he left a restaurant, pouring a chemical substance on him and wrapping a rope around his neck.

According to The Hollywood Reporter, Smollett was hospitalized after the attack, and told police that his attackers yelled homophobic and racial slurs at him.

Smollett, a Santa Rosa native, was born to a Russian/Polish Jewish father and an African-American mother.

After having starred in films such as "The Mighty Ducks" and "North," Smollett made waves when he came out as homosexual during an interview with Ellen DeGeneres in 2015.

"His attackers yelled pro-'Make America Great Again' (MAGA) comments during the attack, such as 'MAGA country,'" wrote The Hollywood Reporter's Ryan Parker on Jan. 29.

Days before the alleged

attack, Smollett received threatening letters while on the "Empire" set, according to Friday's CNN article.

Hate crimes such as these must be put to an end. It is unacceptable that crimes like this continue to happen and something needs to be done about it.

In addition, we as a nation must accept the sad reality that hate crimes of this caliber persist, even in the nation's seemingly most liberal areas.

A similar crime was committed at San Jose State in 2013 when three white students attacked their African American roommate, freshman Donald Williams, Jr.

According to an NBC Bay Area article written in Feb. 2016, the three white students had put a bike lock around Williams' neck for several minutes, and displayed a confederate flag in their room.

While this was clearly a hate crime against Williams, the students were only charged with misdemeanor battery, and "escaped a conviction on hate crime

allegations," according to NBC Bay Area.

The Williams incident occurred just eight years after African-American SJSU student Gregory Johnson, Jr. was found hung dead in a fraternity with blunt trauma to the head.

However, many believed Johnson's death was a murder cover-up.

While racism may seem to be an antiquated notion, hate crimes have recently been on the rise.

According to an article written by the NAACP in June 2018, hate crimes increased by 12 percent in 2016.

There have been too many too often, and this must change for America to change for the better.

Just as millions of people around the country have vocalized their support for Smollett in the days since his alleged attack, it's important that the tragedies surrounding local students such as Williams are met with the same urgency.

Discrimination, hate crimes and mass shootings have no place in today's society even when we seem more divided than ever.

If we do not put an end to forms of discrimination like these, there will be no hope for our country to improve.

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Freshman from Spain leads women's water polo

By Victoria Franco
STAFF WRITER

Her ability to score five points within the first two games of the water polo season speaks for itself.

Freshman Olga Descalzi, from Barcelona, Spain, may be new to the San Jose State team, but is already demonstrating her ability to lead her team to victory.

Redshirt junior driver and teammate Sierra Painter said Descalzi is an example to the team and shows compassion to everyone.

"Olga's a great teammate and is constantly looking and creating new opportunities for everyone else in the water," Painter said. "She's a very selfless player."

Descalzi makes it a point to show her competitors and teammates that life as a utility player in Division I water polo is something she always dreamt of, and she's doing it all at 18 years old.

Before coming to SJSU, Descalzi began playing water polo at 8 years old on a professional water polo team in Spain. Her parents encouraged her to stick with the sport.

In Oct. 2017, she reached out to SJSU water polo head coach Gabor Sarusi for recruitment.

"Our conversation went from that point on when she contacted me in 2017," Sarusi said.

"I saw videos of her and I have a good amount of contacts in other countries, like in Spain, and I was able to talk to coaches that saw her play. I also got to see video of her play in the national team," he added.

Sarusi said Descalzi looked promising in videos, so he made her an offer.

Despite receiving offers from other schools, Descalzi said she knew she would play for SJSU.

"The university gave me an opportunity to study a major. They also gave me an opportunity to practice the English I had been learning for a long time too," she said. "And they were a Division I school which I was hoping for."

She added that she knew two other girls from Spain who came to SJSU to play sports. They gave Descalzi good feedback about the school, which helped her pick SJSU.

While Descalzi has played water polo for a majority of her life, living in a new country and setting changed the way she plays the sport.

Descalzi described the different aspect of playing water polo in Spain, where players try to grab at opponent's clothing underwater. She said playing in the United States is not the same.

"Here, when players try to play dirty, they are immediately called out by the refs. Spain is more dirty, more aggressive when playing the game," Descalzi said.

Her extensive experience for the sport and the amount of world experience she has, makes Descalzi an asset to the team.

"I think she brings a lot of great experience," Painter said. "This year we only have five upperclassman, so having her come in with a higher level knowledge brings a great threat for our opponents."



PHOTO COURTESY OF OLGA DESCALZI

Freshman water polo player Olga Descalzi winds up her arm, looks past Stanford defenders and gets ready to throw the ball to her teammates while at the Cal Cup last week.

When she is not in the water practicing to better herself on offense and defense, Descalzi is making a schedule to balance her academics with her sports calendar.

"I sacrifice a lot of my free time, but I love giving my time to this

sport," she said. "I fix my schedule to have time for everything. With the rare moments I do have free time, I try to watch Netflix and go out to eat with friends."

With the season just beginning, Descalzi has a few goals for her and her

teammates to rise to the top of the standings.

"We started out No. 20 for our national ranking, and now we are at No. 11," she said. "My goal is for us to make it to the top 10."

With the support and encouragement of her teammates and fam-

ily back home, Descalzi has high hopes that the water polo team will rise in rank by the end of the season.

Follow Victoria on Twitter
@ayeveevicky

Online petition calls to remove an official from the NFL

By Adam Yoshikawa
STAFF WRITER

New Orleans Saints fans watched this weekend's Super Bowl with a chip on their shoulder.

NFL fans created an online petition two weeks ago for the removal of sideline official Bill Vinovich and his entire crew. The petition currently has 146,932 of the requested 150,000 signatures for their removal.

Very few students inter-

viewed knew of this petition, but almost all supported its call.

"I could hear my brothers screaming in the other room," said San Jose State voice performance freshman Miguel Lopez. "That game was incredibly important."

There is no doubt in anyone's mind that the Rams vs. Saints NFC championship game was an official disaster, especially since it was one of the most important games, deciding

which team would make the Super Bowl.

"He should at least be penalized for the no-call," said SJSU criminal justice senior Danny Nguyen.

The single play in mind was between Saints receiver Tommy Lee Lewis and Rams cornerback Nickell Robey-Coleman late in the fourth quarter.

Robey-Coleman blatantly struck Lewis with a helmet-to-helmet collision, ending with no call

from Vinovich. Another sideline referee followed Vinovich's no-call.

In an interview with



I do think he should be removed but I don't think he will be removed. I think if the play is clear enough, he should be removed.

Francisco Silveyra
senior civil engineering student

The Times-Picayune in Louisiana, Vinovich said "It's a judgment call by the officials, I personally haven't seen the play."

His interview raised eyebrows because when watching the replay, Vinovich is the closest official to the actual play.

Not only did the helmet-to-helmet no-call potentially cost the Saints the win, but it also risked player safety.

San Francisco 49ers cornerback Richard Sherman is a strong advocate for player safety. He brought up the issue in 2016 with a 4 1/2 minute long video dedicated to player safety.

In the video, Sherman said "the NFL could really care less" and "it's just things that come with the territory."

Vinovich is now in the hot seat for his action, or lack of action, in this year's NFC championship game between the New Orleans Saints and the St.

Louis Rams. The call cost the Saints a trip to this past weekend's Super Bowl.

"I mean the game already

civil engineering student Francisco Silveyra said. "I think if the play is clear enough he should be removed."

According to the online petition titled "Remove Bill Vinovich from officiating the NFC Championship," Vinovich is the only official to ever eject Aaron Donald and Chris Long.

But if Vinovich and his crew were fired, it would be hard to find their replacements.

In week three of the 2012 NFL season, a lockout took place and it directly affected NFL officials who then decided to strike, so college referees were called in to replace them.

The problem was not resolved. Fans put the college officials through hell for their poor and missed calls.

NFL Chairman Roger Goodell addressed the missed call this Wednesday and said to reporters, "We understand the frustrations of the fans." He added, "Technology is not going to solve these issues."

Vinovich is still set to officiate, but with the online petition nearing its goal of 150,000 signatures, his current position is up for question.

Follow Adam on Instagram
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SJSU SAN JOSE STATE UNIVERSITY

SJSU football gets \$1M for new locker room

By Cora Wilson
STAFF WRITER

The San Jose State football team's facility has been improving thanks to generous donors and will continue to see renovations in the new season.

Anonymous donors gifted the Spartans with a \$1 million gift that will go toward a new locker room for the team.

SJSU announced the news last week and said the locker room is now expected to be completed by May 2019. The football team will get brand new lockers with Spartan themed graphics.

The donation will also support head coach Brent Brennan. A new space will be added to the building, where he will be able to devise new plays, watch game footage and study the competition.

"A lot of [the football team's] time together, a lot of their chemistry is developed being in that space together," Brennan said.

"Getting ready for practice or getting ready for a workout or after a workout – having a nice place to live or a nice place to work impacts the way we think about the work that we're doing and the way we feel about investing in that process."

For Brennan, success starts in the locker room. Having a new and clean locker room will help build a team connection and will aid the success of the players.



ILLUSTRATION BY MELODY DEL RIO

Members of the football team said that the current locker room is old and outdated, and like any other space that is used a lot, it has been beaten up a little over time.

Besides the janitors, the football team maintains the locker rooms and believe a brand new space will be highly beneficial.

"The locker room is where our brotherhood starts," said redshirt senior Ethan Aguayo. "It's where our comradery starts."

These new renovations will not only benefit the players, but will also help a lot with the recruitment process.

"When we bring recruits on campus, for them to walk into that space and

see a first-class facility with great looking lockers, a space that's really well taken care of, with a lot of graphics and some real pop to it, I think it will be something that the players are excited about and the recruits are excited about," Brennan said.

According to SJSU Athletics, the donors are long-time Spartan football

season ticket holders.

The donors told SJSU athletics that, "Locker rooms are a great place for the team to bond. We hope the new locker room will show the team that we support them 100 percent."

The players are excited to see the new locker room.

"This is a new opportunity for us to grow as a team and this is the start to

the 2019 season," Aguayo said. "We are all just super motivated and ready for the season."

The new renovations will be made in the existing football team locker room at Simpkins Stadium Center, adjacent to CEFCU Stadium on south campus.

In January 2019, the football team also received another \$1 million donation from alumnus Kevin Swanson and his wife Sandy Swanson. Their gift will go toward a new football operations center on the east side of the CEFCU Stadium.

Now that the football team has received generous gifts from numerous donors, the Spartans are closer to reaching their \$40 million goal for a new football operations facility. According to the SJSU All In Campaign website, the team needs about \$17 million more to reach the goal.

If redshirt senior Troy Kowalski was able to meet the donors, he would tell them, "Thank you for everything. The dedication to the program and that you guys care about us really means a lot."

The Spartans look forward for the renovation to be completed by May or early summer of this year.

Follow Cora on Twitter
@corawilson

Women's basketball trades winter break for more practice

By Roman Conteras
STAFF WRITER

San Jose State students spent the past two weeks switching their minds from winter break mode to school mode. Most students are now adjusted to walking around campus again, but for SJSU student athletes competing in the winter and spring, they never even left.

The holidays are normally a time for rest and relaxation, but for SJSU athletes, the holidays are a time to train hard and prepare for their respective seasons.

During the 2018 holiday season the SJSU women's basketball team took only four days off from their busy training schedule to return home and spend time with their families.

"This year we had the 22nd through the 25th off, and we had to be back the 26th for practice," said guard Danae Marquez.

After the team's four day break, they were greeted with silent residence halls and an empty campus. The players took this time to continue preparations for their 2019 season.

"We play two games a week and practice about 90 minutes to two hours on the days leading up to the game, and we take Sundays off," said head coach Jamie Craighead.

Two hour practices may seem grueling to some, but it is actually quite generous. Coaches

can work their players six hours a day or more during the vacation period, according to NCAA rules.

Non-Division I athletes like third year biomedical engineering major Colby Loop, spent their winter breaks at home enjoying time with family and friends.

"I spent some time in Denver visiting a close friend of mine. I also took care of some appointments and stuff like that," Loop said.

Jennifer Sandoval, a senior psychology major, spent her winter break taking trips between Northern and Southern California.

"I spent most of my break back home in Los Angeles with family," Sandoval said. "I spent new years in San Diego, and then I came back to San Jose so I could head back to work."

Short breaks and missed time off are a small price to pay for these athletes, according to the women's basketball players.

Full scholarships and nationwide recognition for their talent arguably make up for a shortened winter break.

Even though these athletes spent most of their break on campus, they managed to find the perks in being some of the few still here.

"It's kinda lonely, but the good thing about it is the elevators are quick and parking is easy," said Marquez.

Although, even when looking at the positive side of things, downsides still show through.

"All the stores on campus are closed and the only thing you can really do is sit in your room and watch Netflix," Marquez added.

Despite the downsides, Marquez continued to look to her teammates for support.

"It's worth it, you're here with your teammates, we have each other and we get closer. We go through a different kind of struggle," she said.

After one win against Cal State Bakersfield in late November, the team fell into a 14-game losing streak that spanned through winter break.

The team broke this losing streak last Wednesday when SJSU beat Utah State 68-59 at home in the Event Center.

Now that the semester is in full swing, athletes on the women's basketball team are practicing a total of 20 hours per week.

The team still has nine games to go in the regular season before heading to the Mountain West Conference championship in March.

The Spartans will take on Boise State next in the Event Center on Saturday, Feb. 9 at 2 p.m.

Boise State is currently ranked second in the Mountain West Conference.

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