

# Officers bid for SJSU police chief position

Three candidates shared their career experiences with students in a series of open forums on campus

BY KUNAL MEHTA & MAURICIO LA PLANTE, STAFF WRITERS



JOHNSON FONG

Johnson Fong was the first candidate for the San Jose State police chief to speak at the Feb. 5 open forum. The San Jose Police Department captain has served the department in narcotics, SWAT, investigations and administration. Fong leads the SJPD Southern Division and has served the department for 29 and a half years. “I believe all police officers, if they ever want to be chief, should have an understanding of the four major cornerstones of policing,” said Fong. “They should understand patrol operations, special operations, investigations and also administration.”

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GINA HAYES DI NAPOLI

Gina Hayes di Napoli was the second candidate for UPD police chief to speak at the open forum on Wednesday. Along with her time as a Lieutenant in the Sacramento Police Department, she has raked up over 38 years of policing experience. She shared a story illustrating how her principles of community policing made her a unique candidate. Shortly after arriving in Sacramento, di Napoli said she took time to comfort a homeowner after responding to a burglary at their residence. She made sure the homeowner could get the door fixed and had company to feel more safe. “I’m just doing community

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ELVIA P. WILLIAMS

The last candidate for UPD police chief, Elvia P. Williams, spoke at another open forum on Thursday. Williams worked as the Chief of Police in Richton Park, Illinois and described herself as having 31 years of “progressive law enforcement experience.” Before serving in Illinois, Williams said she was hired by the Eugene, Oregon, police department to alleviate the public’s concerns about race relations in the city. Williams said she revamped the internal affairs process. She instituted an online form that members of the public could fill out to complain about an officer and receive an update on what the result was.

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## ON THE ISSUES: Community policing

**FONG:** “The key to a successful police chief in particular is solid communication.”

**WILLIAMS:** “[Officers] police up to the levels the community allows.”

**DI NAPOLI:** “We’re not here to put you in [jail], we’re here to help you avoid that.”

## ON THE ISSUES: Public trust

**FONG:** “Public trust is all we have. It’s called police legitimacy, it means, why should the [public] believe you.”

**WILLIAMS:** “I have body cameras for my people. I love them.”

**DI NAPOLI:** “The public are the police and the police are the public.”



ROMAN CONTRERAS | SPARTAN DAILY

The North America Tsinghua Dance Team performs “Kite Umbrellas in Pear Garden” choreography.

# SJ captures Lunar New Year

By Roman Contreras  
STAFF WRITER

The Year of the Pig has arrived and celebrations are underway. On Feb. 9, the fifth day of the Lunar New Year, San Jose State Chinese Student Association collaborated with the Association of Chinese Students and Scholars at Foothill College and De Anza College for the second annual

Chinese New Year Gala. The event was held at the SJSU Morris Dailey Auditorium with an attendance of about 400 people. Tickets for the gala were pre-sold and available at the door for \$5. Each ticket came with a raffle ticket for a giveaway that took place between performances. “It’s kinda like Christmas for Chinese people,” said aerospace

engineering sophomore Ken Zheng. The Chinese celebrate the new year for fifteen days, with each day holding a specific meaning and practice. Red envelopes containing money are a highly recognized tradition in the Lunar New Year. The amounts vary, but it is customary that the cash

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# Pride Center seeks safety through art

By Roman Contreras  
STAFF WRITER

San Jose State’s PRIDE Center debuted its new series, QuArtz, on Feb. 7. QuArtz, or Queer Arts Talk Series, aims to provide a safe space for students to showcase and discuss their queer-related art that helps shape and identify who they are. The talk began with resistance-art guest speaker Juan Carlos Rodriguez, a lecturer from Puerto Rico. He was visiting the Bay Area to teach at the California College of the Arts in Oakland. “Every time I talk, especially when it’s for people I don’t know, I want them to see there’s a possibility of creating art that actually challenges what it means to be a human being today,” said Rodriguez. For Rodriguez, debuting his queer-inspired statement art is a big moment. “You have this precious thing you have been talking about but

“I want my art to inform the Western world about the unknown general Asian homophobia and misogyny and ignorance.”

Calvin Lee  
Art senior

you haven’t presented to a new group of people, so it makes me a little bit anxious but it’s really exciting,” he said. The message Rodriguez aims to send is to use creativity to fight for people’s right to be who they are. “I mainly work thinking about the Latinx community,” Rodriguez said. “So everything I create is to talk to

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Venezuela faces undue American intervention after disputed presidential election

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Spartans narrowly lose to best team in the conference

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Instagram egg cracks into streaming business with new show

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# Teenagers explore science on campus

By Mauricio La Plante  
STAFF WRITER

The footsteps of over 300 San Jose middle schoolers echoed through the halls of the San Jose State Student Union for the 20th annual Science Extravaganza, on Saturday.

Members of Society of Latino Engineers, Society of Mexican American Engineers and Scientists and Mathematics Engineering Science Achievement Schools Program gathered to show youngsters the STEM pathways they could pursue at SJSU.

“It’s important to bring children to events like these,” computer engineering senior Christian Lopez said in Spanish. “If you’re the first generation to enter college like me, and didn’t have the ability to come to an event like this, when you come to college, it could be a big shock.”

The students performed science experiments under the guidance of SJSU students and scientists from around the Bay Area.

“This is the best age that these girls can develop the drive to see what opportunities they have, because many parents didn’t



MAURICIO LA PLANTE | SPARTAN DAILY

**Tony Rodriguez, a physics junior from Stanford University’s Astronomical Society shows students a special telescope to look at the sun during the 20th annual Science Extravaganza on Saturday at San Jose State.**

have that opportunity,” Maria Elena Aceves, a mom of one of the students, said in Spanish.

There was a different experiment for the youngsters to do in each room used for the event.

Students flooded into a demonstration by the Santa Clara Valley Water District on depleted salmon populations, while

others made stomp rockets or tested balloon propelled mini-cars.

After completing their experiments in the makeshift laboratories, students got the chance to hear from SJSU alumna Pennelope Zamora-Solano who studied in the Charles W. Davidson School of Engineering at SJSU. She currently works on roller coasters at

Disneyland, in Anaheim.

“I’m so excited to see many different students coming to this event and having the opportunity to be exposed to STEM,” said Zamora-Solano, the keynote speaker of the event. “They got to learn about my career growing up and different internships and roles that I’ve had and now my career at Disneyland.”

During the lunch break

for the extravaganza, Zamora-Solano explained how during her start at SJSU, she was one of the few Latina students in her engineering classes.

“I remember sitting in a very large auditorium, and I remember looking over my right shoulder just looking at the students that were sitting with me,” Zamora-Solano said. “One, I noticed

there were not that many women in the room, and there were even less Latina women in the room.”

That divide still stands today, as there are 11 female civil engineering majors for every 47 male engineers, according to the school of engineering’s Fall 2017 statistics.

“At this point, I had two options, either one, I could drop out because I felt alone and isolated, or two, I could use this to fuel me and drive me push me to get good grades,” Zamora-Solano said.

“I chose the second option,” She continued. “I was determined to prove that women, and especially Latina women, could make exceptional engineers in society.”

Zamora-Solano explained, for the students seeing their first glimpse of the SJSU’s science and engineering programs, it was their time to start taking those steps in the future.

“I hope that they feel some motivation and inspiration from my story that they can see themselves in me and say that ‘One day, I can do that too,’” she said.

**Follow Mauricio on Twitter | @mslapiantenews**

## GALA

Continued from page 1

inside is newly printed and of an even amount.

The event, held completely in Chinese, began with a small welcome speech. Following this, Consul Yang Zeng, from the Chinese Consulate in San Francisco, gave a short speech about celebrating the new year away from home.

“Every year at this moment, I feel very emotional because I celebrated the new year with my family when I was back in China,” said Zeng. “I have not been able to go back because of work, although this is the time that we miss home the most,” he continued.

Zeng praised students for their bravery in leaving their native country to further their education to



ROMAN CONTRERAS | SPARTAN DAILY

**Chinese students from San Jose State, De Anza College and Foothill College collaborated to emcee the New Year Gala on Saturday at Morris Dailey Auditorium.**

provide better lives for their families back home.

The gala featured a variety of performances ranging from traditional to modern Chinese entertainment.

One of the featured performances was Shuang Huang. It is a traditional Chinese performance where one individual

stands behind the other and speaks actions for the individual to act out in front.

Another Chinese traditional art, Xiang Sheng, or crosstalk, has come to overshadow Shuang Huang as a more preferred form of comedic performance in modern-day China.

“We want to make this show because we hope that this traditional art will not be lost,” said Liangle Song, one of two performers in the act.

Bay Area-based Chinese hip-hop artist, Xiaochuan Yang, known under his stage name Chino Yang, also performed at the gala.

Yang found his rise to fame after competing in and winning the popular Chinese reality rap show “The Rap of China.” His addition to the gala provided a modernized look at Chinese culture.

In addition to these two performances, a slew of other artists took the stage to showcase their acts. Performances ranged from musical acts to comedy shows, Chinese martial art demonstrations and traditional Chinese dances involving swords and umbrellas.

April Jiang, computer science sophomore and president of the SJSU Chinese Student Association, coordinated the whole event.

Jiang chose acts that she knew would represent both traditional and modern Chinese art. The process of putting together an event as jam-packed with performances

“Every year at this moment, I feel very emotional because I celebrated the new year with my family when I was back in China.

**Yang Zeng**  
Consul from Chinese Consulate in San Francisco

like this one was difficult, but Jiang found it nothing but rewarding in the end.

“My favorite part is the whole thing,” Jiang said. “Watching all the performances and everything come together is great.”

**Follow Roman on Instagram | @roaminroman\_52**

## QUEER

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the Latinx diaspora in the U.S. and for us to start creating in order to protect our culture and create a movement of resistance to colonization.”

Art senior Calvin Lee said he is thankful for QuArtz.

“It’s a community that I wasn’t able to find until now and it’s a very safe space for me,” Lee said. Through his art, Lee wants to tell the Western world what it’s like to be queer in Asian countries.

“I want my art to inform the Western world about the unknown general Asian homophobia and misogyny and ignorance,” said Lee.

Lark Alder, digital media art lecturer and PRIDE Center faculty fellow, is the mastermind behind QuArtz.

“It’s hard as someone who teaches art to feel like it’s not possible to cultivate that space in classrooms,” Alder said. “So thinking about how we as a university can create space,



ROMAN CONTRERAS | SPARTAN DAILY

**Members of the Pride Center created a banner by making illustrations they felt represented them.**

where people can share their work amongst peers, is how this seed was planted.”

Alder also discussed her own art and the places she finds inspiration.

“I have always found inspiration from the queer community, and that is the place where I feel my artistic practice lives and is kindled by that energy,” she said.

Technical writing senior Jessica Rebrukh said the QuArtz series has done its job of creating a safe space for artists to be free.

“[QuArtz] means that I can be in a space where I can really talk about my identity

and the intent behind my artwork without fear of being judged,” said Rebrukh. “I want my artwork to inspire and showcase that people aren’t alone out there and people are making content you can identify with.”

For the future of the series, Alder hopes to see it become something healthy for queer individuals.

“We’re going to have monthly talks starting spring and hopefully it will grow into something long-standing and student-run,” said Alder.

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WILLIAMS

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WILLIAMS

Williams emphasized community policing in nearly every point she made. While working as a police chief in Maywood, Illinois, she required patrol officers to interact with the public in a non-enforcement capacity on a daily basis, so they would be treated as “part of the community.” She reiterated this when asked about how to address the concerns of students who do not feel safe on campus. Williams suggested increasing officer visibility on campus, so students would be more comfortable talking to them. In Eugene, Williams worked with the University of Oregon to address issues of racial profiling through a program named “Driving While Black or Brown.” The study showed that racial

profiling led to disparate treatment of African-Americans and Latinos. The Eugene Springfield NAACP and Eugene Human Rights Commission recognized Williams for her efforts with their Community Partnership Award and Award for Community Outreach. Williams said that an educational background is important for policing on college campuses, though all of her law enforcement positions have been municipal. She has been teaching courses in criminal justice at the college level since 2002. Williams also emphasized transparency, especially when it comes to using force. “I have body cameras for my people,” she said. “I love them.” After being asked by Detective Paul Marshall of UPD about how body camera footage can be misinterpreted, Williams expanded her answer. “Force looks ugly – no force looks good,” Williams said. She explained that body cameras allowed for the public to see what led up to the use of force. Officers should only be using the amount of force necessary to make the arrest,

Williams added. Williams said she was in favor of releasing body camera footage upon request, as long as an attorney confirmed that it would not interfere with an ongoing investigation. She also said she is in favor of officers being armed on campus. “[I am] not going to wear a uniform and not carry a gun,” Williams said. After being asked, she further explained that if she didn’t have a gun, people would treat her as security rather than having the full authority of the law behind her. Williams summed up her community interaction by saying, “[officers] police up to the level the community allows.” Nathan Vargas, treasurer of the Campus Village 2 hall government, said he attended the open forums to represent the student-housing community and was one of the only students in attendance. “I think it’s important that we have campus security, and the people that are in charge are qualified to do the job,” Vargas said.

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DI NAPOLI

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policing like I knew it,” she said. Her training officer scolded di Napoli for going the extra step. She said her training officer told her they were just supposed to collect the facts and move on. “The police are the public, and the public are the police,” di Napoli added. DiNapoli also reminded the audience that she too, was an immigrant. She moved from the United Kingdom. “Anyone who has gone through [the immigration process], you have my sympathy,” she said. Once she arrived in the United States, she began noticing the language differences when she asked a professor for “a rubber” – actually wanting an eraser. Di Napoli emphasized the value of sharing information between different departments, citing her time at New Scotland Yard, a major police department in London. Then, she was questioned about sharing

information with federal agencies, including the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. She said that in all of her years policing, she had only needed to ask about citizenship status twice – once, when a person was likely to commit suicide and a second time, when Homeland Security was involved. In the U.K., police weren’t armed. However, di Napoli said, “In America, there is a need [for police] to be armed, because you have the right to bear arms.” In response to a question about the National College Health Assessment showing that students may feel unsafe on campus, di Napoli said that out of the students she talked to, “nobody said anything about feeling unsafe.” Di Napoli said she had spent the previous day walking around campus, talking to students about their experiences and how they felt about police. One of the students she talked to was Kameo Quenga, Associated Students director of co-curricular affairs. Quenga said she told di Napoli she felt UPD was



DI NAPOLI

more concerned about the safety of women rather than people of all genders. Oladotun Hospidales was one of the few students listening to di Napoli’s open forum, and is a member of the UPD chief of police search committee. Hospidales said he disagreed with how di Napoli felt about the safety of campus, acknowledging that there might be areas surrounding campus that some students may feel unsafe in. “I’m an African-American male, but I’m not tiny,” Hospidales said. “I don’t feel safe walking around here, and I’m probably the most intimidating figure in America.”

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FONG

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As a child, Fong immigrated to the United States with his parents in 1973 and grew up in San Francisco. He eventually graduated from SJSU with a bachelor’s degree in justice studies. “I have no interest to work anywhere else but here,” said Fong. “My passion is here, at San Jose State.” The police captain explained that he had no kids of his own. Because of this, he believed that he could communicate with students in a different matter than a parent would. “I have a lot of cousins who are of college age,” Fong said. “When I chit

chat, I’m not trying to come at them like a dad, mom or a guardian, but more like, ‘What did you study? Do you guys still drink after midterms?’ Because that’s what we did.” Fong’s work in the Narcotics Enforcement Team, SWAT, the Horse Mounted Patrol and Internal Affairs took him to a number of areas throughout San Jose. “It’s cool going to all these different places, but what is even better, is you talk to the different community members to get their perspective,” he said. Through covert sting operations, Fong has worked with different community members to scout various neighborhoods for gang activity and drug dealing. In addition to patrolling the streets, Fong conducted



FONG

investigations on fellow colleagues of SJPd, for Internal Affairs. “We’re dealing with officers that have violated the public trust, that have committed wrongs administratively, and sometimes criminally,” Fong said. “I’ve had to put handcuffs on a couple of police officers that broke the law, it’s a tough job, I did it, I learned a lot about it.” However, despite being vocal about community

policing and building trust among the public, he was named as a defendant in a racially charged lawsuit. Officer Nabil Haidar alleged that Fong laughed at a racist joke hurled toward him, according to a complaint filed with the Santa Clara County Superior Court. Haidar is Muslim and Lebanese. He has been an officer with SJPd since 1996, according to the suit. The suit alleges the racial slur happened during a briefing on Nov. 10, 2017 while Fong was honoring veterans. SJPd Briefing Sgt. Robert LaBarbera interjected with, “Captain, you forgot to mention [Officer] Nabil [Haidar]. He is an ISIS veteran. He was with ISIS for two years.” The story was first

broken by NBC Bay Area in May 2018. “What happened was one of my staff officers made a joke and everyone laughed about it,” Fong said. The Gwilliam, Ivory, Chioso, Cavalli, & Brewer law firm filed the lawsuit on behalf of Haidar and stated that he was in “disbelief, humiliated and shocked.” Fong claims that he is friends with Haidar. “Like him, we’re both immigrants, we understood the values of hard work and family and I always had a very very good respect for that,” Fong said. “It’s unfortunate that incident happened and I hope that he understands that I mean no harm.” The litigation is ongoing and has mixed opinions from student and staff. “If it had been found that,

you know, he was part of a culture there, then he might not be the best candidate for the job,” said Walt Jacobs, Dean of the College of Social Sciences, who attended the forum. “Since the litigation is ongoing, I don’t think that it should really disqualify him.” Oladotun Hospidales, political science senior and vice president of Associated Students, said he had not learned of the lawsuit surrounding Fong until the open forum. “We are very pursuant of eliminating that barrier between people and moving towards being politically correct and those types of things,” said Hospidales.

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California prohibits noisy vehicles

By Adam Yoshikawa  
STAFF WRITER

Car enthusiasts are blowing a fuse about the new law passed this year in, and only in California. The new law, California Assembly Bill 1824, was passed this January. It targets loud motor-vehicle exhaust systems that are built and added by its owners. No one, under the new passed law, can modify their exhaust system of a vehicle in order to amplify the noise emitted by the motor. Motor vehicles weighing under 6,000 lbs, other than motorcycles, cannot have a sound level over 95 A-weighted decibels, according to Vehicle Code 21751. In other words, all cars and motor vehicles, except motorcycles in California, must be equipped with a muffler. Any exhaust modifications designed to increase the exhaust noise must not exceed 95 dBA. “I don’t think [AB 1824] is necessary, but I get people’s perspective on cars being loud,” said mechanical

“I think the law on modified cars should happen, but only for very loud cars. For example, going down the street at a normal speed shouldn’t sound like gunshots.

Danny Nguyen  
Criminal law senior

engineering sophomore Kendall Ayson. “I don’t really hear too many loud [cars], but since this law has passed, I can see how it can annoy [modified car owners].” Ninety five dBA is an equivalent of the sound of a subway train around 200 feet away or a blender three feet away, and constant noise at that level can cause serious pain or hearing loss, according to Occupational Safety and Health Administration website. Police officers will be able to determine the loudness of an exhaust based off their own judgment, instead of using a decibel meter, according to the bill. California has a large car community that has grown over the last five decades

with hundreds of car clubs according to California Car Clubs. California Car Clubs is an online site listing many different types of car clubs in California. The car scene contains all types of cars ranging from muscle cars, lowriders, foreign, domestic and classic cars, which are being affected by this new California law. “I feel like they should not [keep AB 1824], especially since I personally like the sound of revving cars,” software engineering freshman Sebastian Alvarez said. Alvarez added that he could see why some people find loud exhausts disturbing. “I have heard cars with really customized exhausts and it just sounds really loud,

especially when you’re at home and you hear a car just buzzing through the street,” Alvarez continued. In 2018 and the years before, vehicles in California that violated this law would be issued a “fix it” ticket that enable drivers to fix their vehicle’s exhaust system and provide proof within 30 days to avoid paying the fine, according to the bill. However, according to the California court’s Uniform Bail and Penalty Schedules, all California registered vehicles, with an exception to motorcycles, must obey this law or face an immediate citation of at least \$25 and as much as \$1000. Petitions on Change.org have been building steam with one petition titled “Nullify Fines for loud mufflers: AB 1824 in California.” The petition had 259,839 signatures on Feb. 10 out of its requested 300,000. This petition was started on Dec. 28 and has hopes of revoking the new law, believing this new law is “wasting law enforcement resources,” according to the petition website. Car enthusiasts are



PHOTO COURTESY OF ARTHUR YOUNG  
BMW Weatherford technician Arthur Young drives with large twin exhaust pipes extending out of his BMW.

wishing the law will be revoked so they may drive without having to look constantly over their shoulder. “I think the law on modified cars should happen, but only for very loud cars. For example, going down the street at a normal speed shouldn’t sound like gunshots,” said criminal law senior Danny Nguyen. Many car builders learn how to modify their cars from YouTube. Some of them are technicians who put a lot of time, effort, sweat and love into their cars. BMW Weatherford technician Arthur Young has

a BMW that has come a long way from its stock version and has worked years on building it from its original state. Young first learned how to modify his car from YouTube and later took classes to become a car technician. He is a target for a ticket ,considering the new law and exhaust systems. Yet, now he may have to undo years of work. “It’s a very unfair law considering they’re grouping enthusiasts and inconsiderate people together,” Young said.

Follow Adam on Instagram @yoshi\_kawa



# Venezuelan crisis echoes imperialism



Kunal Mehta  
STAFF WRITER

Nearly two centuries ago, President James Monroe introduced his doctrine of preventing European imperialism in Latin America.

Last week, President Trump surprised the world by recognizing Venezuela's opposition-acting President Juan Guaidó.

The most surprising part about this? This was a very by-the-book intervention, but nothing about it felt "Trumpian."

It's rare when we get real news from a White House announcement and not a Twitter account.

After two years of foreign policy shake-ups including participation in negotiations with Kim Jong-Un and the Taliban, or treating Russia as an ally, United States intervention in Latin America is a familiar theme.

The United States toppled governments in Brazil, Guatemala and Haiti during the twentieth century, while failing in others.

And now, the United States has backed Guaidó the day before

he declared himself the interim president.

But this foreign intervention reeks of failed American intervention around the world, and has no indications of helping.

The crisis in Venezuela has been steadily growing, even before President Hugo Chavez died in 2013.

The economy has all but collapsed and nearly 90 percent of the population live in poverty.

There are massive food and medicine shortages, while the government repressed the opposition, adding to the human rights crisis.

The incumbent President Nicolás Maduro won Venezuela's 2018 presidential election, however it was widely denounced as fraudulent by the global community.

According to Deutsche Welle, Venezuela's National Electoral Council disqualified most opposition party candidates, leaving no real challengers to Maduro.

Maduro's campaign reportedly tried to buy

votes, promising starving Venezuelans food in exchange for support at the ballot box.

They used state resources to run campaign events, which was a violation of the agreement signed before the election, per a United Nations report published on Jan. 26.

Before the election even took place, the Organization of American States and the European Union an-

rights grounds.

But since when has the Trump administration had a strong affinity for human rights abroad?

Speaking of rights, American intervention robs Venezuelans of their right to self-determination – one of the United Nations' crucial principles.

It is the right of the Venezuelan people to determine their own political struc-

**It is the right of the Venezuelan people to determine their own political structure, without undue foreign interference.**

nounced they would not honor the results of the election, calling for new elections to be scheduled in a fair and free manner.

The United Nations and other election monitoring agencies did not even bother sending election monitors to observe the Venezuelan election.

It was a surprise to no one that Maduro won the election with the lowest voter turnout in Venezuelan history.

American opposition to him is seemingly well justified on human

ture, without undue foreign interference.

A free and fair government created by the Venezuelan people themselves will be stronger than any government propped up by the United States.

We certainly don't need to give Maduro and his supporters any further reasons to question the legitimacy of Guaidó's rule.

It certainly doesn't help that this intervention is being perpetrated by the same people who did it previously.



PHOTO COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

**Centrist opposition leader Juan Guaidó assumed the Venezuelan presidency on Jan. 23 and was recognized as its head of state by the United States.**

The newly appointed special envoy to Venezuela is Elliott Abrams, who was part of the Reagan administration.

Abrams helped install General Efraín Ríos Montt as leader during a 1982 coup in Guatemala.

Montt would later be found guilty of committing genocide by a United Nations truth commission – all the while being propped up by the United States financially.

While the United States cannot take back

their recognition of Guaidó, we can avoid getting further entangled by not providing financial resources or military support.

We should only act in accordance with the United Nations.

The U.S. must take its hand out of Venezuela, before the situation further deteriorates.

If we think the current situation is bad, a civil war will be even worse.

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**\*Counseling & Psychological Services is a department within the Division of Student Affairs. All services are FREE, and only for SJSU Students. This event is wheelchair accessible. Individuals requiring Sign-Language Interpreters, Real-time captioners, or other accommodations should contact Counseling and Psychological Services at (408) 924-5910 or counseling.services@sjsu.edu as soon as possible.**

## Off-campus security needs prioritization



Roman Contreras  
STAFF WRITER

For the students of San Jose State, housing is a large issue dealt with yearly. Students, like myself, are constantly on the hunt for reasonably priced housing in a safe setting.

We want to stay out late with our friends and enjoy our youth, but we are constantly watching our backs while walking down the street in fear of someone attacking us.

In light of the recent homicide that occurred just one block away from campus – on the corner of 10th and William St in downtown San Jose – I've begun to seriously question the safety of my neighborhood and those surrounding the university.

Too often I walk down the street and am approached by a random stranger offering me drugs or asking for money.

My female friends expressed their constant fear of random men asking for their phone numbers or cat calling them as they are simply trying to make their way to and from campus.

"Living in downtown

with not only students and other residents, but homeless people and people in halfway houses, makes walking home from classes when it gets dark, scary," said public health junior Karina Quezada.

I have found this to be the case with many other students as well. As a community, we have decided that willful ignorance of our surroundings is bliss.

According to urban statistics site AreaVibes, the area surrounding SJSU has a livability index of 55 out of 100.

A livability index refers to how "livable" an area is, factors like noise, crime, schools, etc. are all taken into account when calculating this number.

This is considerably lower when compared to cities just a few minutes away.

Factors like crime and the cost of living received an "F" in their grading scale when rating downtown San Jose, as compared to a "C-" when rating crime in San Jose as a whole. This only feeds further into the negative

image many SJSU students have already developed about the area.

According to the 2018 SJSU Annual Security Report, the two most common crimes off campus include assault and burglary.

With over 6,000 crime reports per 100,000 people in the area, according to AreaVibes, those around me and I are finding it difficult to lead a normal "college" life.

Late nights spent studying at the library turn into brisk jogs to get home as quickly as possible, to avoid prolonged time outside.

Although the university offers shuttle services to the surrounding areas, they shut down operation at 1 a.m., essentially leaving us to fend for ourselves.

A large student population in the downtown area should urge the city to make safety a bigger priority, but such downtown safety seems to be taking a back seat.

We see new road and housing developments, but no real effort to ensure that the residents and us students, feel safe and secure while trying to navigate our way through the city.

Follow Roman on Instagram  
@roaminroman\_52



# Spartans keep up with the Broncos

By **Mauricio La Plante**  
STAFF WRITER

The San Jose State women's basketball team went from an 18-0 comeback to a fourth quarter heartbreak.

The Spartans lost 83-69 to the Boise State Broncos at home in the Event Center on Saturday.

The Broncos put the pressure on early with an 18-point run less than five minutes into the game. A lone free throw by sophomore forward Cydni Lewis pulled the Spartans out of the gutter.

"I think we were able to just kind of breathe, settle down when [Lewis] hit that free throw and buckle in," said sophomore guard Danae Marquez.

The Spartans kept the momentum going and closed the gap on the Broncos, trailing by only five points at the end of the quarter.

"I think we just kind of kept it play by play," said junior guard Analyss Benally. "We finally scored, and we just had to know we had to get stops and we had to score."

Benally led the charge on offense, scoring two three-pointers in the first quarter to help the Spartans regain their footing. She ultimately drained four shots from behind the arc and totaled 17 points for the entire game.

The Broncos had little room to breathe in the first half after the Spartans found their energy. The teams scored back-to-back and SJSU kept up with Boise, ending the first half one

point behind, 39-38.

The ride would not last for long though. Despite standing up to the reigning Mountain West Conference champions, fatigue set in for the Spartans.

"The difficulty is you can defend well and still get scored on, like, if a kid hits a shot, you can't really do anything about that," said head coach Jamie Craighead. "This is Boise State, they've been in the NCAA tournament the last three years in a row, they've won our conference."

Craighead continued, "When we go on a run, they're not going to back down."

The Spartans took the lead at the start of the second half and weaved through the Broncos' defense to gain a brief six-point lead, but with more than a quarter left of the game, the visitors closed in.

"We were just late on rotations, giving them threes, they were attacking the paint, getting easy buckets inside," Benally said.

To Craighead, the offense got slogged and gave the ball away too many times as Boise State kept pressing SJSU. "Turnovers were our achilles heal today," said Craighead.

Craighead believed she overplayed some of her roster so that she could have better defensive players on the floor. But she said it came at a cost because the extra



MAURICIO LA PLANTE | SPARTAN DAILY

**Freshman guard Raziya Potter looks to drive through Boise State defenders in the Event Center on Saturday.**

play time exhausted her key players.

"I think that Raziya [Potter] ... I wasn't really pulling her out for fatigue, it was just some defensive lapses that she was having," said Craighead. "That meant [Marquez] had to play too many minutes and too many long stretches, because she knows the defense."

She continued, "Maybe if we weren't as fatigued. Maybe we don't turn the ball

over 23 times."

The lead slipped away for the Spartans going into the fourth quarter. The Broncos scored 25 points over the Spartans who only netted 15 points. The score was at 64-53 by the end of the third quarter.

It was an uphill battle for the Spartans the rest of the game. Boise State kept finding the net as SJSU struggled to hold them off.

"They hit two threes at the top of the key, and if we

don't give those up, I think it's a different game," said Craighead. "In that fourth quarter, I think those were kind of like back-breakers a little bit for us."

The point gap was too much for the Spartans as the Broncos pulled out a 16-4 run in the fourth quarter to beat SJSU 83-69.

The Spartans face New Mexico, the second-best team in the conference, next.

"We haven't seen this team yet, we've seen Boise before, so we have to really mentally prepare," Benally said.

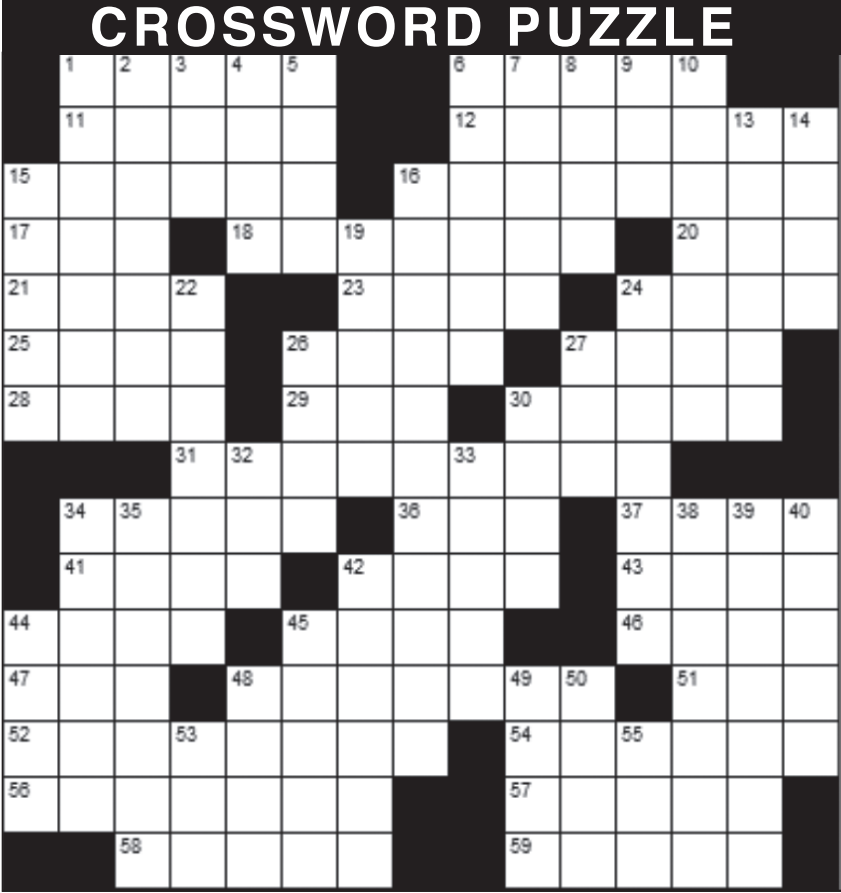
## UPCOMING GAME

New Mexico vs. SJSU  
Feb. 13 @ 7 p.m.

Follow Mauricio on Twitter  
@mslaplantenews

## CLASSIFIEDS

### CROSSWORD PUZZLE



#### ACROSS

- Blocks
- "Hogwash!"
- Positive pole
- Perfect
- A citrus fruit
- A cage for fattening fowl
- Church bench
- Wearing away
- A parcel of land
- At a distance
- It comes from cows
- Family lines
- Attraction
- Dampens
- Backside
- Toboggan
- Yore
- One who is excessively proper
- Crested N. Am. songbird
- New Zealand native
- Charged particle
- Plaster
- Winglike
- Camber
- Roman moon goddess
- Oversupply
- Part in a play

#### DOWN

- Cautiously attentive
- Oblivious
- French for "Good"
- Border
- Clairvoyant
- Students
- Smell
- \_\_\_ Kong
- Mime
- Foolish
- Makes amends
- Catches
- Opaque gems
- By means of an editorial
- Alpha's opposite

- British soldier
- Pan for pancakes
- Dry riverbed
- Arrive (abbrev.)
- Half a quart
- Mistake
- Studied intensely
- Hammer
- A graduate
- Scrutinized
- Unclothe
- Howled
- Curled
- Spurs
- Russian currency
- Baseball great, \_\_\_ Ruth
- L.L.L.L.
- Agitate
- Evil spirit
- Half of a pair

## SUDOKU PUZZLE

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

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

## SOLUTIONS 02/07/2019

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

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

## JOKIN' AROUND

Why did the butcher work extra hours at the shop?

To make ends meat.

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# Black history depicted through art

By Jozy Prabhu  
STAFF WRITER

On the fifth floor of the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library is the African Diaspora Cultural Exhibit in honor of Black History Month.

Environmental studies graduate student Ashari Taylor-Watson shared her excitement for all the events taking place on campus over this month.

“[I’m] humbled by the African Diaspora Exhibition, to see the ones who fought for me and my generation, shows the resilience of my people,” Taylor-Watson said. “It is so important for me to learn my history and remember those who fought for me to even attend San Jose State, they paved the way for my dreams.”

Dental teacher for Carrington College, Pamela Farley also expresses pride over the exhibit.

“Some of my artifacts from home are in that case over there,” Farley said as she gestured to the glass display with different types of African dolls.

Farley heard about the exhibit from Patience Awazi, African-Atlantic coast culture and cuisine expert.

Awazi had contacted Farley and many others to organize the exhibit, as well as plan the exhibition’s opening day.

“[The African

Diaspora] Exhibit looks from the past to the present, to the future,” Awazi said. “So in the beginning [of the exhibit], we start with famous African Americans we all know, you might see some you know.”

Awazi then pointed to a photo of a man from the oldest dynasty in Africa standing with African-Americans partaking in a renaming ceremony.

“So [in this picture], [these African-Americans are] regaining their power after all these years,” Awazi said. “[The African-Americans] want to go back. It’s a part of their healing, and they wanna go back and connect with their people over there, and see where their ancestors came from.”

Akubundu Amazu-Lott, SJSU lecturer in African-American studies also organized a section of the exhibit.

“The political theme we’re looking at is from Black Power to Pan-Africanism,” Amazu-Lott said.

Pictures of Malcolm X and Kwame Nkrumah, African drums and the Black Panther Party Ten-Point plan are among the other artifacts displayed.

Further in the back is a glass room where Amazu-Lott hosts documentary events throughout the month.

“[During these events,] we’re taking on themes. Like last week was history, this week will be



Audience members dance as African-American studies lecturer Akubundu Amazu-Lott plays the drum.

African youth, and then we’ll use different clips from different eras and different films and just try to engage [people],” Amazu-Lott said. “It’s a film and dialogue series. So we really want to emphasize the exchange of ideas and dialogue.”

The next event for the African Diaspora Exhibition will be on Saturday, February 16.

The African Diaspora exhibition is open from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. on the fifth floor of the Dr. Martin Luther King Library.



Many of the attendees, such as Ashari Taylor-Watson (pictured above), took their time at the exhibit to reflect on and admire the history of the African diaspora.

## PREVIEW

# Hulu isn’t yolking around with its new show

By Adam Yoshikawa  
STAFF WRITER

An egg having a Hulu series? No yolks?

But this isn’t just any ordinary egg. This is the world’s most popular egg that ousted Kylie Jenner from the world record for most likes on Instagram. The world’s most popular egg has over 52.5 million likes on Instagram, demolishing Kylie Jenner’s record of 18 million.

The egg’s owner, Egg Gang, said “This is madness, what a time to be alive,” according to The Verge.

Kylie Jenner took to Instagram and posted a video

of her throwing an egg on the hot pavement saying, “take that, little egg” in retaliation to the egg de-throning her, according to The Washington Post.

Egg Gang teamed up with Hulu on Super Bowl Sunday to reveal the egg’s new series. In a 30 second clip, the egg breaks into pieces in a mental health public service announcement (PSA) illustrating that it’s “cracking under pressure” from social media.

Melissa Vargas, SJSU Chicana and Chicano studies graduate student said, “It’s kind of weird [an egg addressing mental health] but I feel like if that’s the outlet that people in this

generation are going to pay attention, then, I mean go for it.”

In broken shells, the egg says in the PSA, “the pressure of social media is getting to me. If you’re struggling too, talk to someone.” The egg springs up with a smile saying, “We got this.” The website Mental Health America is illustrated across the screen and then turns to black.

The name behind Egg Gang is Chris Godfrey. Godfrey works for an agency called The&Partnership which, according to their website, is a holding company where the owners are also the founder and partners of individual businesses.

In an interview with The New York Times, Godfrey talked about Kylie Jenner’s Instagram post and her baby announcement being the world record holder of likes on social media and took that as a challenge.

He said, “could something as universal as an egg be great enough to beat that record?” Who would’ve thought that it would only take ten days later be the current record holder.

After being asked by Times Magazine why he chose an egg, Mr. Godfrey explained, “an egg has no race, gender, or religion. An egg is an egg, it’s universal.”

“I think it’s pretty clever using an egg for a PSA,” SJSU biochemistry junior Michelle Pham said. “It’s not a model or attractive guy announcing the PSA for money because its an egg. Eggs can’t do it for money.”

Ever since beating Jenner’s post, Egg Gang has posted multiple photos of the same egg but with a progressively growing crack in its shell with each photo. Its final reveal was showcased on Super Bowl Sunday and its act of cracking under pressure from social media.

“[The egg having its own series is] kind of crazy, but I think mental illness is



something to be taken seriously and if anyone [even an egg] can help then that’s good,” computer engineering sophomore Jeffery De Prima said.

A video on the egg’s Instagram, @World\_record\_egg, ends with references to the website talkingegg.info. The website features links to various mental health organizations around the globe.

With over 10 million followers on Instagram, the egg has a golden opportunity to bring awareness regarding mental health issues on its large platform. This includes a statistic about how many college students suffer from mental health issues.

Godfrey and his two friends told The New York Times they are not as interested in the money, but rather in “promoting positivity.”

E a c h year, millions of people around the world struggle with mental health and “crack under the pressure.” According to the Nation Alliance of Mental Illness, “one in five adults in America experience a mental illness.”

This world record-breaking egg is much more than an ordinary egg, it can possibly be at the forefront of addressing mental illnesses and what comes with the pressure of social media.

With only a short PSA in a series of possibly many more to come, this egg can address situations so we are no longer “walking on eggshells” when it comes to mental health.

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