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Spartan Daily, March 19, 2024

San Jose State University, School of Journalism and Mass Communications



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WINNER OF 2023 ASSOCIATED COLLEGIATE PRESS PACEMAKER AWARD, NEWSPAPER/NEWSMAGAZINE NAMED BEST CAMPUS NEWSPAPER IN CALIFORNIA FOR 2022 BY THE CALIFORNIA COLLEGE MEDIA ASSOCIATION AND CALIFORNIA NEWS PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION

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MELISSA ALEJANDRES | SPARTAN DAILY

District 26 Assemblymember Evan Low (left) and Gabrielle Antolovich, the board president of the Bill DeFrank Center encourage the community to vote on Thursday.

LGBTQ+ center promotes bill

By Melissa Alejandres STAFF WRITER

District 26 Assemblymember Evan Low encouraged community members to support the LGBTQ+ community and to vote for ACA 5 at the Billy DeFrank LGBTQ+ Community Center on Thursday night.

Assembly Constitutional Amendment No. 5 (ACA 5) currently only allows same-sex marriage and is the only legal marriage that is recognized by California according to the tracking bill California ACA 5 equality.

Low, who is an openly gay Democrat and who wrote ACA 5, encouraged the community to vote yes to support providing equality for any couple and changing the current constitution, which defines marriage as between only a man and a woman.

The Supreme Court had just stated that after reproductive freedom they're coming after same-sex marriage and interracial marriage said low.

Low said, "If they show you who you are, we have to believe them." In 2008 due to a proposition voted on by the people, Californians voted to eliminate the rights of the same couples to marry and that is in our current California constitution.

Low's proposal to put the amendment on the ballot for this November would be to have constitutional protections for same-sex couples and interracial couples to marry.

Low said the number one proponents who eliminated the rights of same-sex marriage were the organizations of Mormon and Catholic churches.

According to the Pew Study Research Center from 2004, 31% percent of Americans were against same-sex marriage.

"I sat down with them and asked them to get their support for marriage equality protections and same-sex couples," Low said.

Low said that church organizations' response was if the LGBTQ+

community asks for gay marriage equality then they are going to ask for something else adoption rights, donating blood, or visitation rights.



People forget that although the legislative path is very powerful and you can participate as a regular person.

to be protected by law," said Low.

Gabrielle Antolovich, who uses they/them pronouns, is the board president of the Bill

DeFrank Center and said they have hoped that when organizing the center is a place where people can make a change.

Gabrielle Antolovich Board president of the Bill DeFrank Center

Antolovich said they originally got involved with the gay community in Sydney, Australia back in 1970.

They were an active board member and an executive director of a nonprofit for 15 years before becoming the president of the Billy DeFrank Center.

"People forget that although the legislative path is very powerful and

you can participate as a regular person," Antolovich said.

The Billy DeFrank Center was originally founded by William Price, who went by his drag name 'Billy DeFrank,' and who died in 1980, Antolovich said.

Antolovich said Billy DeFrank alongside others raised money so all the LGBTQ+ community members could meet under the same roof.

They said that the people who are hesitant to vote for ACA 5 won't have to declare themselves as LGBTQ+ when they register to vote.

Antolovich said it's important to participate in the democratic process.

"Evan Low outlined some of the difficulties in legislation and trying to get other people to support and vote," Antolovich said.

"What is important is being flexible and I think Evan Lowe showed that he was flexible in the how-to-word legislation so that it is solid but also palatable to the opposition for they'll vote for it," said Antolovich.

"You can have the best legislation on the planet

and no one will vote for it," they said. "That's what's so difficult."

Brian Singer, who is transgender and a retired school teacher of 35 years, said seeing Low speak helps build stronger connections and fires up the community.

He said he transitioned 19 years ago, and said he believes the LGBTQ+ community is rejected a lot by society because of fear.

"There are over 500 bills that are being debated in 41 states (and) these issues keep the base riled," Singer said.

Maurie Singer, who is non-binary and Brian Singer's partner, said she thinks the rejection is fear-driven as well.

Maurie Singer also said she thinks being conservative means wanting things to stay the same and that anything different is a threat.

"We can help make change and we can do it together," Maurie Singer said.

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PAUSE FOR PUPPIES & PACKAGES SMITH/CARLOS LAWN THU, MAR 21 11AM-2PM

Women aviators soar past standards

By Nikita Bankar
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

San José State's Women in Aviation club is hoping to encourage future generations of pilots to fly high and pursue opportunities both during and after college.

Women in Aviation at SJSU is both a social and professional club, according to its website. The club strives to offer support and opportunities for members as they develop their professional networking abilities and make new connections within the industry, according to the same site.

Each week, the club hosts various interactive events, from potlucks and socials to movie nights and closet sales, according to the club's Instagram page.

Halle Patzer, aviation junior and club president, said Women in Aviation gives her and the other members a place to share experiences and connect on a deeper level.

"It is really nice to have a common trait between all of us," she said. "I feel like it is honestly less of a club and more of a big conglomerate of friends."

Patzer said she had always liked traveling to airports, and while applying for colleges, it clicked that aviation was something she needed to pursue.

After applying to a flight school in her hometown and starting flight training, she said she really enjoyed it.

"Suddenly, I saw that San José State had a program and was nearby," Patzer said. "That's when I realized it was the perfect place for me."

Julia Sutter, aviation sophomore and club treasurer, said she attended middle school

in Thailand and was drawn to the field after her parents took her to a Thai Airways International flight simulator for kids.

"I got to fly a full motion 747, which was really fun to land," Sutter said. "I was only 12, but from that point on, I wanted to be a pilot."

In 2023, 10.3% of pilots in the U.S. were women, according to a March study done by the International Air Transport Association.

Only 3% of all aircraft mechanics certified in the U.S. were female in 2023 as well, with only 6% of repair staff and 4% of flight engineers, according to the same site.

Patzer said a lot of times, it feels like the field of aviation is not easily accessible for young girls.

"Whenever you watch a movie, it's always a male pilot, so we love getting to introduce women in the field," she said.

Patzer said having clubs like Women in Aviation provides great mentorship opportunities for both new and older members.

"There are figures who have been here for a few years, who know the ropes, and can teach you how to properly navigate," she said.

Women in Aviation also offers career path workshops and fundraises for annual conferences to get more knowledge and hope for new opportunities, according to its website.

Fernanda Leon Rodriguez, an aviation freshman and club member, was able to help raise over \$1,200 during the club's International Conference fundraiser.

The Women in Aviation International Conference



COURTESY PHOTO BY WOMEN IN AVIATION CLUB

Women in Aviation club members set up a booth for their club at Reid Hillview Airport day in Sept. 2023.

hosts industry professionals all around the world, and provides meaningful networking and professional growth opportunities for women in aviation, according to its GoFundMe webpage.

The club has surpassed its goal of raising \$3,500 for the March 21-23 conference in Orlando, Florida, with a current balance of \$5,765, according to the same website.

Rodriguez said she did a lot of social media outreach, especially on Facebook, to help bring in donations.

"It can be scary because you really have to be humble enough to ask people for help," she said. "The girls in this club have been so welcoming that I was ready to step up right away."

Rodriguez said the girls in the club want to do big things, which is what influenced her to join in the first place.

She also said she was not a part of the club when they held

the Girls In Aviation day, but saw the impact it had.

"There were so many activities for little kids, who were all wearing airplane necklaces," Rodriguez said. "They were so happy."

Patzer said the club is planning on doing a fly-in at an elementary school in the near future.

A fly-in is an informal gathering of private pilots and their aircraft at a prearranged airfield, according to definitions.net.

"We're gonna talk to the kids about aviation and our program, and why they should consider checking it out," she said. "We're really excited to do more outreach events."

Sutter said she has learned many skills, like leadership and being a more involved person through Women in Aviation.

She also said if she just went to class and went back home, she would think college

was boring.

"I'm really happy I threw myself into this club because I feel like I've made a difference in my community," Sutter said. "We're here for a bigger purpose, and we are here to do something other than taking care of ourselves. It's about other people."

Follow Nikita on Instagram @nikitabankar

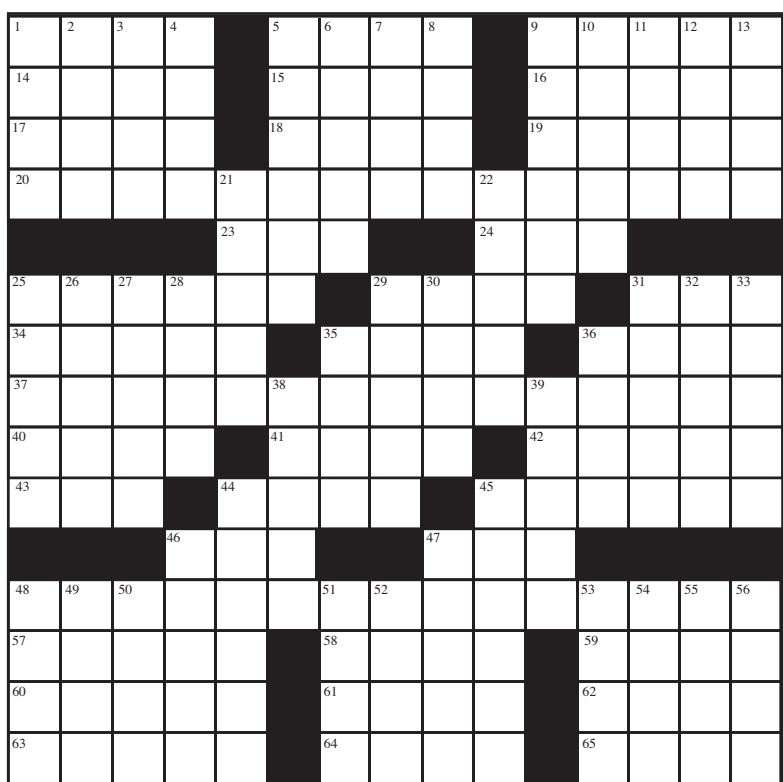
Correction

On Thursday, March 14 the Spartan Daily published a story titled, "Spartans end season in optimism," which misstated the seeding for SJSU's men's basketball team. SJSU tied for the last seed in the Mountain West Conference.

The Spartan Daily regrets this error.

CLASSIFIEDS

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



ACROSS

1. Spill the beans
5. Related
9. Extremely unkind
14. Humdinger
15. Trident feature
16. Exclusively
17. Army group
18. Dorothy's dog
19. Saharanpur strings
20. Irritates, like a zookeeper?
23. Printer's supply
24. Tankard contents
25. Got down on one's knees, maybe
29. Bog
31. Radio settings
34. Strip of gear, as a ship
35. Something to divvy up
36. Toward the sheltered side
37. Irritates, like a stunt racer?
40. No longer there
41. Neck of the woods
42. Shakespearean sprite
43. Trains over the city
44. Boats like Noah's
45. Does salon work
46. Period of note

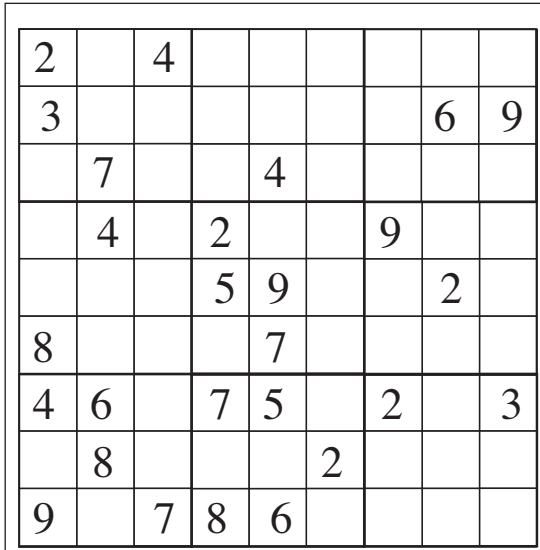
47. Word before hold or nail
48. Irritates, like a masseuse?
57. Clear the board
58. Cop's route
59. Volcanic threat
60. Lawn tool
61. "Goldberg Variations" composer
62. Done with
63. Hard to satisfy
64. Terrier variety
65. Antarctic explorer

DOWN

1. Fuzzy memory
2. Pale-green moth
3. Stepped off
4. Joker's patsy
5. Be in the audience
6. Newsstand booth
7. Enthralled with
8. Sign-enhancing gas
9. Give a hard time
10. Carroll heroine
11. Roman Catholic tribunal
12. Hang-up
13. Present
21. Loyal subject
22. Planting milieu
25. Shift slightly
26. Sign up
27. Smiles
28. Cave in
29. Acts gloomily
30. Timiest bit
31. Swing wildly
32. Fracas
33. Vends
35. Skulk
36. Out of kilter
38. Fergie, formally
39. Corroded, with "away"
44. Blood carrier
45. Give solace
46. Salom patterns
47. Frequent leading man for Hepburn
48. Atoll barrier
49. Pakistani language
50. Carry-ons
51. Lets up
52. Feeble
53. Handful of mud, say
54. Not straight, as hair
55. Declare positively
56. Scotland _

SUDOKU PUZZLE

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



SOLUTIONS

March 14



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

JOKIN' AROUND

What do you get when you put a sheep on a trampoline?

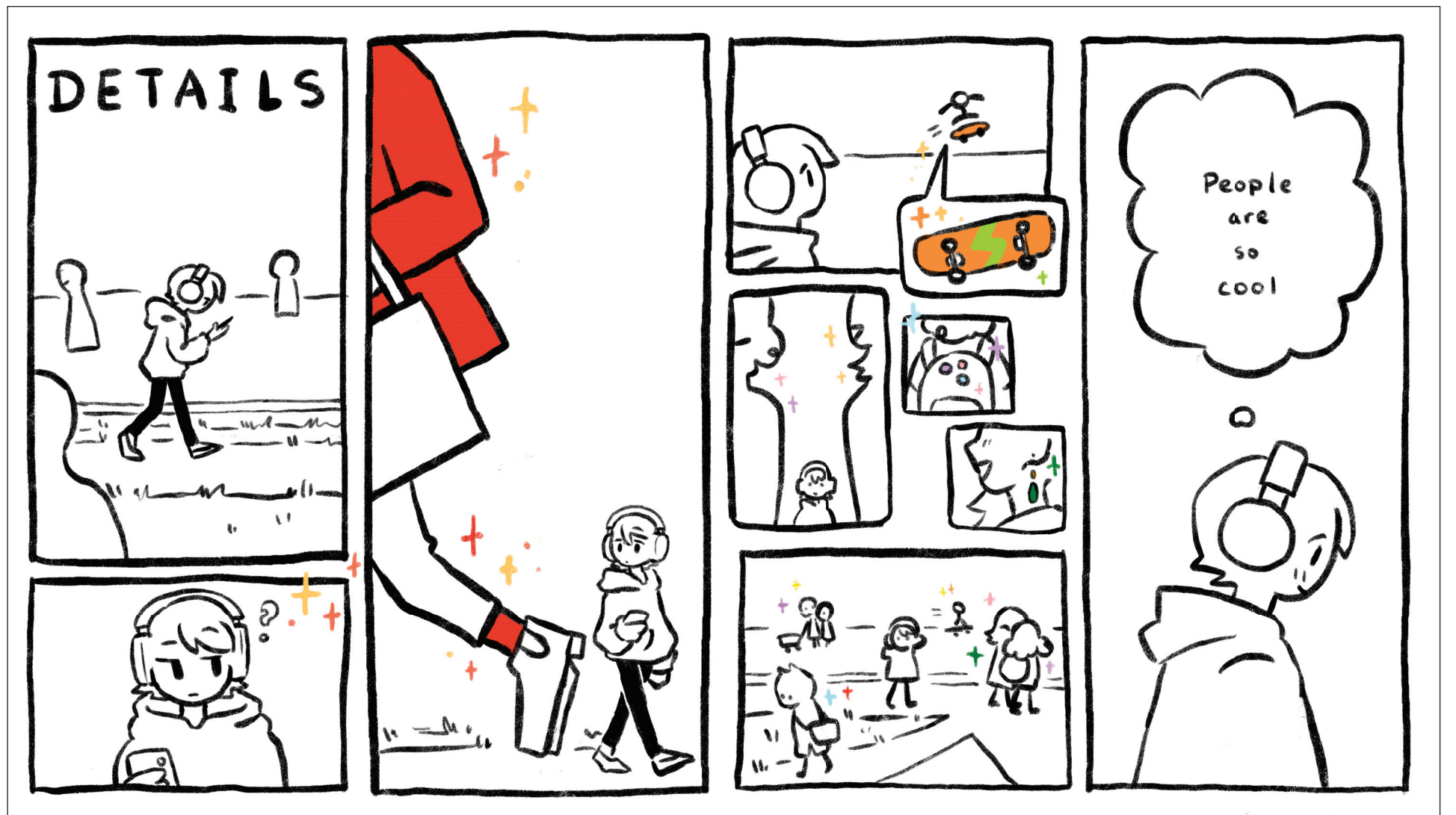
A woolly jumper!

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DETAILS: NOTICING THE SMALL THINGS



CAMMY TAN | SPARTAN DAILY



LETTER TO THE EDITOR



ABOUT

The Spartan Daily prides itself on being the San José State community's top news source. New issues are published every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday throughout the academic year and online content updated daily.

The Spartan Daily is written and published by San José State students as an expression of their First Amendment rights. Reader feedback may be submitted as letters to the editor or online comments.

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Columns are the opinion of individual writers and not that of the Spartan Daily. Editorials reflect the majority opinion of the Editorial Board, which is made up of student editors.

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of your tax documents
and our volunteers will
prepare your tax return



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or call 415-229-9240

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Tax Aid is a nonprofit organization that provides properly prepared tax returns for Bay Area families and individuals with incomes less than \$64,000. Tax returns are prepared at no cost by volunteers who donate their time.

Checklist of Tax Forms We Need

- TAX QUESTIONNAIRE**
With info on your household
- SOCIAL SECURITY CARD OR ITIN**
For each member of your family
- W2 & 1099 FORMS**
From all jobs and self employment
- OTHER FORMS & DOCUMENTS**
 - 1099 Social Security
 - 1099 NEC
 - 1099 INT
 - 1099 G
 - IRS and FTB letters
 - Self employment expenses
- A VOIDED CHECK**
For the account to deposit your refund
- LAST YEAR'S TAX RETURN**
If you still have it
- PROOF OF HEALTH INSURANCE**
1095-A and 3895 if you have them
- CHILDCARE PROVIDER INFO**
For children under 18

SJ celebrates 'Throwback Thursday'



NIKITA BANKAR | SPARTAN DAILY

#1: A colorful collection of acrylic paint markers sits on a table for students to use during the Throwback Thursday event last week.

#2: Business analytics senior Shriya Bevara and business management sophomore Sophia Soto laugh as they use colored markers to decorate rocks with designs of their choice.

#3: Tropical flavored Capri Sun, bottled water and Sunny D sit on top of a table for students and attendees to enjoy during the event.

#4: Students check-in with the Sammy app and then take the free drinks, snacks and t-shirts being offered at the event.

#5: Students laugh together and play a large version of Connect 4 on Tower Lawn during the event.

#6: Psychology senior Antoinette Nagal laughs after her friend shows her the design she painted on her rock.

Spartunes: Songs for Spring

<p>"The Other Side" Alice Merton (indie-pop) Selected by Alina Ta Executive Editor</p>	<p>"Daisy" Delorians (alternative) Selected by Melany Gutierrez Managing Editor</p>	<p>"Solitude" Billie Holiday (pop/jazz) Selected by Maya Benmokhtar Opinion Editor</p>	<p>"First Love / Late Spring" Mitski (indie rock) Selected by Alexia Frederickson News Editor</p>	<p>"The Ides of March" Iron Maiden (metal) Selected by Mike Corpos Production Chief</p>
<p>"Aaj Ki Raat" Sonu Nigam ft. Mahalaksmi Iyer (Bollywood pop) Selected by Navin Krishnan Sports Editor</p>	<p>"Aphasia" Pinegrove (indie-folk) Selected by Julia Chie Production Editor</p>	<p>"Morning Glory" Kehlani (r&b) Selected by Aaliyah Roman A&E Editor</p>	<p>"Die Hard" Kendrick Lamar (rap) Selected by Mat Bejarano Social Media Editor</p>	

COUNTERPOINTS

The best of the West or the beast of the East ?



ILLUSTRATION BY CIA CASTRO CARBAJAL

The West Coast is the best coast, hands down.



Kaya Henkes-Power
STAFF WRITER

The sweet-salty spirit of the West Coast nestles in my mind compared to the bland-forgettable essence of the East Coast.

Most of my memories have the backdrop of iconic spots from the West Coast such as Sunset Cliffs from my hometown San Diego.

The smell of the dried, rotten egg kelp and the sounds of waves combing through the rocks are stained in my mind compared to the blank canvas visits to the East Coast.

The rotten egg kelp smell may not be a selling point for most but it reminds me of home.

I think most people get past the smell the moment they see the golden-painted skies reflecting off of the bright, blue water.

Even as I slowly make my way up north the sunrises and sunsets seem to only get better and take up most of my camera roll.

No matter where you are on the West Coast, you're guaranteed to see skies that will bring the East Coast to shame.

Similarly, the West Coast culinary experience is unlike anything I have had on the East Coast.

The flakey fresh fish on delicate homemade corn tortillas slathered with rich savory sauces honestly will trump the heavy stomach bombs that are East Coast dishes.

As they say, "When in Rome, eat like the Romans" and when I ate the dishes on the East Coast I felt my arteries begging for mercy.

Hush puppies, fried fish, and too many boiled peanuts made me enter into a food coma for what felt like weeks.

When I did have the chance to travel to the East Coast, as I walked the streets I never saw myself settling down there.

Being a queer non-binary human, the spaces I've experienced on the East Coast have never felt welcoming or inviting.

Maybe that's because a large majority of the East Coast has bills that discriminate against LGBTQIA+ individuals according to an interactive map for the Movement Advancement Project.

When I traveled down the East Coast highways I came across a variety of

billboards with big, obnoxious, bold letters saying "Jesus Can Save Your Soul" and other religious sayings.

Even in a car with two accepting and loving people, I felt somehow ashamed of who I was and what I looked like.

I felt out of place, especially because at the time I hadn't fully come into my sexuality and gender identity.

In all my 22 years I have yet to remember a time in the East Coast where I've thought 'Oh I want to go back there.'

To this day, there are times when specific places and quirks of the West Coast that I have encountered are lodged deep within the crevices of my brain because of how distinct they can be.

While most young people wake up every morning to the sound of their alarm clocks or their parents or guardian begging for them to get up, I was awoken by the screeches of parrots.

There are 13 established species of wild parrots in Southern California according to a 2019 San Diego: 10 News article.

These birds are descendants of other parrots that were released before a 1992 law that made it illegal to purchase wild-caught parrots, according to the same article.

Though the origins of these parrots weren't positive, their presence in my hometown has become a unique feature of San Diego and one that never escapes my mind.

Iconic places on the West Coast have easily overshadowed many of the locations I have visited on the East Coast.

Riding underneath the Golden Gate Bridge arguably brings so much more satisfaction than walking through Charleston, South Carolina any day.

West Coast weather is also consistently amazing, seriously, it feels like there is year-round sunshine.

When the sun isn't shining, the rain seems to fall when I am longing for it the most and somehow makes me feel warmer than the sun on my cheeks.

I have never been able to escape the West Coast no matter how hard I've longed to be away from home.

I truly believe there's a reason why the saying "West Coast is the best coast" exists.

The East Coast just makes more sense to me.



Navin Krishnan
SPORTS EDITOR

Growing up, I always wondered whether it was the chicken or the egg that came first.

But when it comes to the creation of our nation, it's crystal clear that the East Coast came first.

Three thousand miles across the nation, Manifest Destiny personified itself as the sorry and imprudent excuse for a habitat known as the West Coast.

I was born in San José, but my parents met and married in Leominster, Massachusetts. When I was a 1-year-old, my family moved to Potomac, Maryland.

Those were the best years of my childhood. After I turned 12, my parents decided to move back West to California.

That was the first time I experienced the West Coast – the land of hippies, gangsters and deserts.

I still, to this day, don't see what's so great the more west you go. West Coasters talk about how the East is filled with ferocious weather and is less of a cultural melting pot, but I couldn't disagree more.

The West Coast has almost double the population in comparison to the East Coast. California ranks first in all states in population with more than 38 million people in 2024, according to the World Population Review website.

Maryland ranks 19th with around 6 million people and Connecticut is ranked 29th overall with 3.6 million people, according to the same source.

People talk about how the East Coast is too sped up, but I'd take the fast-paced transportation and work ethic of East Coasters over the horrendous traffic and laid-back mentality of the West Coast.

Vehicle miles in the Western United States summed up to 9,929 in 2023 while vehicle miles in the Northeast, tallied up to 3,939 miles in 2023, according to traffic volume trend report by the U.S. Department of Transportation.

In the West, people come to get sunburned or get high on caffeine and marijuana. In Washington, 30.7% of people smoke cannabis and in Oregon, the number inflates to 32.8%.

When I walk down the street, the last thing I want to experience is a

whiff of marijuana from some guy who is dressed as if he'd been mauled by a bear.

On the East Coast, I can catch a train and be in another state within half an hour. In my West Coast town, it takes me 20 minutes just to get from one side of the city to another.

People say the West Coast diet is the best, but most of the people out West don't even eat quality food.

Compared to the East Coast diet, West Coasters stick to pre-packaged foods, drinks with enormous amounts of sugar and caffeine, and candy, despite the reputation of the 'West Coast beach diet' and its royal healthiness.

On the East Coast, we rarely ever wander around town trying to find things to eat. Most of the years I spent back East involved conversations shared at the dinner table over a home cooked meal.

California Gross Domestic Product was \$3.4 trillion in 2021, the equivalent to the three biggest metropolitan areas in the East Coast, according to the Investopedia website.

On the East Coast, people are straight up and won't hesitate to be real and speak from the heart, even if it's disrespectful.

If they don't like you out East, they will tell it to your face instead of talking about you behind your back.

My friends complain that people in the East Coast are colder than the weather and won't greet you or talk to you at all, and will just brush you off.

People say East Coast drivers are insane and have zero patience.

I say, tough shit.

On the East Coast, the normal attire is to walk around in a full suit, which was a sign they were well off financially.

When I first came back to the West Coast, I felt alerted when I saw someone in a hoodie and baggy jeans. I saw him walking into a restaurant and thought he was going to hold the place up.

On the East Coast, people were dressed in full-bodied suits as if they were part of a government agency. The East Coast is a massive anomaly when it comes to work ethic. Growing up, the fast-paced thinking and early mornings made me the hard-working student-athlete I was in high school.

On the West Coast, they say they like to take it slow and enjoy life. This is probably because of the excess of marijuana smoking in the wild, wild West.

I've been living in California for the bulk of my adolescence and into my early adulthood, and one thing I've grasped – the West Coast is a fucking nightmare.

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