#### SMOLDERING ANSWERS TO BURNING QUESTIONS IN THIS WEEK'S



Hi





GALLERY VISITS OUR CHANGING WORLD PAGE 5



THEFT OF CULTURE IS NOT APPROPRIATE PAGE 7





# Student petition demands SJSU departmental accountability

## Response to fraud allegations questions justice studies review, pressures administration

We have a sick

where multiple

former chair to

game the system

Sang Hea Kil

associate justice

studies professor

offices on campus

job, which allowed

By Lauren Hernandez @LaurenPorFavor

The Student Coalition for San Jose State University Accountability started a Change.org petition demanding an external, independent audit of all departments, colleges, offices and foundations in response to fraud allegations against former justice studies department chair

Mark Correia, Ph.D. in Feb. 2013. The netition calls

for the investigation institutional culture to begin in the justice studies department and the College of Applied Sciences and Arts, including failed to do their an investigation of Correia and Danielle Harris, Ph.D.

member someone like my **SCSA** Tapaatoutai Latu said the petition's initial intent was to put pressure on the administration fully investigate the allegations.

"At the time of petition little was being done, so

we soon outreached to local news media outlets," Tapaatoutai said. "NBC and Spartan Daily took the story on last semester and I believe this helped pressure the university to do an audit."

Associate justice studies professor Sang Hea Kil said she turned to the help of the student activists when the university failed to take action against these allegations.

"I still hope the students get what they want because I think auditing CASA, now that we know what happened in justice studies, would be the next logical step to me and is in line with the students' demands," Kil said in an email.

According to Special Audit Report 14-91, the Board of Trustees Committee on Audit conducted a review of the justice studies department from May 19, 2014 through June 20, 2014.

The report states SJSU did not report an off-campus bank account in the name of the justice department, and expenditures in the account made by Correia were not "prudent or an appropriate use of funds,"

including six days of vacation time and \$1,431 for an iPhone, camera equipment and a transcription

Campus administratorslearned of the off-campus bank account in early 2013, but a review conducted of the account activity reported "there was no indication of Fiscal Impropriety (defined as deliberate fraud, theft, embezzlement)," according to Special Audit Report 14-91.

"I would not have had to turn to the media and students in the first place and

air dirty laundry if faculty affairs did a proper investigation of my allegations when I informed them last Fall 2013," Kil

The campus review concluded that since a portion of the expenditures were reimbursed and resolved by Correia, specifically \$7,131.31 of the \$32,505.66 expenditures, there was no need to report fiscal improprieties to the California State University chancellor's office.

"We have a sick institutional culture where multiple offices on campus failed to do their job, which allowed someone like my former chair to game the system," Kil said.

**Campus Image** Trees of water on a rainless day



**Brandon Chew | Spartan Daily** 

With a paintbrush between his lips and inspiration in his mind, Austin Knop, senior graphic design major, works on a watercolor painting outside of the new Student Union on Oct. 1st. Students from ART 162: Watercolor can be found painting around campus while warm weather sticks around.

The report stated the justice studies department did not account or keep track of equipment purchased by Correia and were unable to locate 16 out of 26 items, including a camera, 12 camera lenses and three laptop computers.

SCSA said in their petition that because campus administration failed to act on a whistleblower's 1000+ page report of fraud in the department, there must be an audit of all campus bodies

The student coalition said if SJSU does not take the campus community's concerns seriously, they plan to protest as a means of acquiring justice.

The petition states, "We suspect that because of the epic fail by the administration to prevent student exploitation and protect public money in recessionary times, these types of activities are probably occurring at larger scales without any intervention or oversight."

The Spartan Daily's numerous calls and emails to CSU Chancellor Timothy White and Vice Chancellor and Chief Audit Officer Larry Mandel were not returned.

The petition also calls for an investigation on Harris due to allegations of exploitation of her students, citing that she offered strong letters of recommendation "in return for students' misused labor."

Tapaatoutai said the coalition decided to take action of their own since they were not pleased with SJSU's internal investigation.

"The 'proper internal avenues' were not working and failed dramatically," Tapaatoutai said. "It is not fair and truly unjust for faculty to use public funds for their own personal gain."

Kil said many of the justice studies faculty noticed there was fraud in the department but were afraid to speak up.

"The faculty noticed it too but did not feel empowered to say anything since SJSU tends to sweep this under the rug and seems to punish those that speak out against fraud and injustice," Kil said.

Kil said there were "misguided" members in the department that tried to prevent the truth from emerging by issuing a statement saying the justice studies faculty urged SJSU to "raise concerns and issues through appropriate university channels rather than anonymously through the internet."

The statement listed faculty members as responders to the allegation, but Kil said that it was not a collective statement as most of the full-time faculty did not sign.

Kil also provided an email sent to the justice studies faculty from student representative Eduardo Bautista in the Graduate Curriculum Committee for the department, saying the committee was unrelated to SCSA's petition for an independent investigation.

The email states they hope to achieve transparency "in a collaborative and mutually respectful effort with the department of justice studies," and they "want to stress that we have no comment on the report or interest in aligning ourselves with these efforts or the SCSA."

Kil said she wants students to realize their power and make complaints and push for justice and accountability.

"I would not have had the media interested in this scandal if the students had not pushed forward on the petition," Kil said.

The petition has gathered 450

signatures. "We will continue to push for justice within the 'justice' studies department by putting more pressure that accountability is taking place," Tapaatoutai said. "What I think is important is that students on campus must continue to organize, agitate and stand up for justice."

https://www.change.org/p/wedemand-an-external-independent-auditof-sjsu to view or sign the petition.

Lauren Hernandez is a Spartan Daily staff writer.



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# History lecture tour opens up SJSU's brilliant past

Professor describes history behind campus buildings, monuments and plaques

By Sonya Herrera @Sonya\_M\_Herrera

Students and faculty stood beneath the welcoming shade of trees while accounting and finance professor Annette Nellen described the history of San Jose State University.

"We've actually had 'San Jose State' in our name since 1887," Nellen said during the first part of her lecture. "There was a time in the early seventies when we got named 'CSU, San Jose,' but the alumnus everybody hated it."

Nellen's history lecture tour was held last Wednesday between 12 p.m. and 1 p.m.

Associate history professor Glen Gendzel was one of the attendees.

"I must have received some kind of official email notification about it, which I shared with Prof. Narveson from my department," Gendzel said in an email. "I teach California history and U.S. history, so naturally I was interested in taking the tour."

During the lecture, Nellen described the history of the buildings, the meanings behind various plaques, and told stories of SJSU in the days of World War II and the Civil Rights era.

Nellen first covered the history of Tower Hall, explaining that the Tower originally came with a quadrangle, which had surrounded Tower Lawn.

Nellen and her listeners then walked to Tower Hall to learn the history of the plaques on the building's west side.

One of the plaques pays tribute to poet Henry Meade Bland, who joined SJSU in 1899 and was the university's first professor with a doctorate.

"He was a very well-loved faculty member ... students just loved this guy," Nellen said. "He helped students set up a literary society, like (the Shakespearean Club) the Short Story Club, the Browning Society, where they studied poems of Robert Browning."

Standing beside Yoshihiro Uchida Hall, Nellen described the history behind the building.

Born in 1920, Yoshihiro Uchida was a Japanese-American who taught judo at SJSU for more than 60 years.



Sonya Herrera | Spartan Daily

Accounting and finance professor Annette Nellen lectures outside of Clark Hall during a history tour held on Wednesday, Sept. 22.

During World War II, while members of his family were imprisoned at various internment camps, Uchida served as a laboratory technician with the U.S. Army's Medical Corps.

Another interesting story coming from the World War II era concerns SJSU's football team.

According to Nellen, the team was scheduled to play a game in Honolulu near the time the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941.

"The police department actually recruited the football players into commission; they gave 'em guns and shields and all that," Nellen said. "They had to maintain blackout conditions after the bombing."

Nellen next explained the story behind the monument to SJSU alumni and Olympic athletes John Carlos and Tommie Smith.

The monument in front of Clark Hall was completed in 2005. Carlos and Smith were students at SJSU during their participation in the 1968 Olympic games in Mexico City, Mexico.

"Leading up to the 1968 Summer Olympics ... there were many African-American athletes who were wondering, 'Should we even participate?" Nellen said.

She said there was still a lot of blatant discrimination being practiced against African-Americans during that time.

According to Nellen, after a few African nations practicing apartheid were pulled from that year's games, the athletes decided to participate.

Following a race in which Tommie Smith won first and John Carlos won third place, the students planned a protest that would become a symbol of strength and unity in the United States' Civil Right struggle.

"They're both barefoot, representing poverty of African-Americans, and they put opposite fists in the air because they had one pair of gloves," Nellen said.

The student athletes faced severe backlash, including death threats, for their decision to protest at the games.

"When they came back, the president of the university at the time, President Clark ... welcomed them back. He was very supportive," Nellen said. "(Smith and Carlos) spoke very fondly of him."

At the end of Nellen's history tour, only history lecturer Eric Narveson and a few other faculty members remained.

He said he sees a need for more of these types of tours and thinks they ought to be more widely publicized.

"I walk my students around for an hour and a half in my critical thinking class," Narvesown said. "I tell a few stories, but I also make them think about what's there, to show them history is all around you, if you know what you're looking for."

Sonya Herrera is a Spartan Daily staff writer. Go to spartandaily.com to see the video of the tour.



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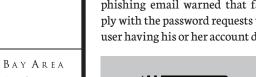
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SAN JOSÉ STATE

PARKING SERVICES







## **Fake email posing as administrators** tries to steal passwords, ITS says

Phishing attempt sent through SJSU email account

What made last week's incidents

used to send the messages were

possibly been compromised in an

information security officer

for Information Technology

Mike Cook

Services

real SJSU accounts, which had

earlier phishing scheme

different is that the accounts

By Abraham Rodriguez  $@A_Rodriguezzz$ 

A rare attempt at stealing San Jose State University's One account passwords made its way through normal email security last week.

The password attack was the result of a malware infection that latched onto the email account of an SJSU lecturer. The email sent from the lecturer's account posed as "SJSU Admin."

The email, sent on Sept. 24, told users that SJSU.edu mail accounts were breached and users had to supply usernames and passwords to confirm new account setup by administrators.

It supplied a Google Docs form where passwords and account names could be submitted.

"What made last week's incidents different is that the accounts used to send the messages were real SJSU accounts, which had possibly been compromised in an earlier phishing scheme," said Mike Cook, information security officer for Information Technology Services.

Cook said in an email that the university's filters catch thousands of phishing attempts during a regular week. This email only got through because it was sent via an SJSU email account.

The accounts infected that sent phishing emails were disabled by IT employees. The phishing email warned that failure to comply with the password requests would lead to a user having his or her account disabled.

Phishing is when another individual or group tries to steal password and account info while disguising as a legitimate organization.

In this case, the deception came from an account labeled "SJSU Admin" that claimed it was from the maintenance team in charge of running email accounts.

Joey Richardson, a software engineering junior and treasurer for the San Jose State computer science club, said phishing

> attempts are usually obvious. Vague text and images appear as if it's a legitimate business.

> When it comes to emails, it will often ask for personal information and lead to another website, he said. "Sometimes the most simple ones are the hardest to tell," Richardson said.

> Last spring ITS reset passwords for

all SJSU-based accounts after the Heartbleed security exploit in April.

Critical systems like Canvas that could have been vulnerable were updated immediately.

Vivian Nguyen, a business senior, said the potential for a security compromise over the email and information systems was concerning.

"We feel unsafe if our private information gets leaked out like that," Nguyen said.

Students concerned over security issues should email the ITS' cybersecurity division at security@sjsu.edu.

Abraham Rodriguez is a Spartan Daily staff

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## **NEWS**



### Newly placed Spartan logo first step in Campus-to-the-City initiative

Head to be first of many to grace SJSU's campus in connection with city of San Jose

**By Jonathan Giddens** @JayofthePeople

A new Spartan logo was laid across the intersection of South Ninth Street and East San Fernando on Sept. 15.

The logo can be seen when walking to or away from the Student Services Center next to the 10th Street garage.

Measuring 15 feet across, the logo is the first step of the Associated Students of San Jose State University's Campus-to-the-City initiative, according to SJSU's media relations director Pat Lopes Harris.

"The goal is to bring Spartan pride into downtown and surrounding sections of the city so that SJSU is recognizable, not just on campus, but in the entire area," said Mykel Jeffrey, senior political science major and A.S. director of internal affairs.

The idea for the initiative came from last year's A.S. board, headed by then president Nicholas Ayala, who was inspired by similar efforts seen at other campuses such as Sacramento State.

"Cultivating Spartan pride beyond SJSU's walls will help students feel more at home while they're in school and help plant those long lasting memories so they'll want to revisit as alumni," said Ayala in an article by Harris.

The process of getting the Spartan head placed in the intersection started about a year ago and required meetings with a myriad of city officials and departments, according to Jeffrey.

The A.S board said the process helped them gain experience maneuvering through bureaucracy and red tape in a big city.

During the process, A.S. worked with the San Jose Department of Transportation, the office of Cultural Affairs and council member Sam Liccardo.

The group also met with the mayor's office.

"The logo was the first step in the initiative," Jeffrey said. "The next move is banners on the light poles, starting on fourth, seventh and 10th extending all the way down to South Campus."

According to Jeffrey, while working with the city, the A.S board was able to get the city to prioritize upgrading the lights extending to South Campus first, before continuing onto the rest of the downtown area.

"The third endeavor of the initiative is to paint the letters 'SJSU' along with a Spartan head throughout the

said the



Jonathan Giddens | Spartan Daily

Mykel Jeffrey, Associated Students Director of Internal Affairs, follows through with former president Nick Ayala's Campus-to-the-City initiative with the completion of the Spartan logo on Mon. Sept. 15.

get more spartan gear in the windows," Jeffrey said.

The city is placing a minimum six-month hold

rises or if there are any glare issues with the current Spartan head at the Ninth Street intersection.

The original location was planned to be on Seventh Street and San Salvador, but potholes and uneven paveNinth Street location was chosen because of its prime location and brand new asphalt on San Fernando.

"I thought it was a good idea to add the logo," said Anthony Alexander, senior graphic design major. "We don't have anything else like it on campus."

The next goal is to get another logo placed on Fourth Street and San Fernando and the other areas around campus with heavy foot traffic, Jeffrey said.

Jonathan Giddens is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

The third endeavor of the initiative is to paint the letters 'SJSU' along with a Spartan head throughout the bike lanes surrounding campus, and hopefully gain local business collaboration to get more spartan gear in the windows

Mykel Jeffrey senior political science major and A.S. director of internal affairs

bike lanes surrounding campus, and hopefully gain local business collaboration to on the start of the next logo location to determine if the frequency of car crashes "I really love the new logo," said Jack Le, junior photography major. "It's a cool new addition."

ment wouldn't hold the logo's thermoplastic material. According to Jeffrey, the

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# Sparta Guide

DATE	<b>EVENT</b>	TIME	LOCATION
THURS 02	Vocal Festa	12:30 p.m. 1:15 p.m.	Music Concert Hall
<b>07</b>	Acoustic Gestures	12:30 p.m. 1:15 p.m.	Music Concert Hall
<b>07</b>	SJSU Salzburg Program Informational Meeting	12:00 p.m. 1:30 p.m.	Clark Hall 412
<b>08</b>	SJSU Salzburg Program Informational Meeting	12:00 p.m. 1:30 p.m.	Clark Hall 412

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#### THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2

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# 'OK Photography' student's art gallery opening invites attendees to think about evolving world

**By Lauren Hernandez** @LaurenPorFavor

Photography enthusiasts filed into the Art Building's Gallery 5 to view senior photography major Michael Boehnker's "OK Photography" BFA show on Tuesday.

Boehnker's show is part of the department of art and art history's weekly Tuesday gallery showings that give students the opportunity to showcase their artwork.

"Take away from it what you want," Boehnker said. "I just want them to have fun and enjoy my pictures."

The gallery's white walls were adorned with photos conveying people as "a part of the process of creation and destruction," according to Boehnker.

Boehnker said he wanted attendees to think about their involvement in the world's constantly changing environment, which includes creating, manipulating and destructing their surroundings.

An 8.5-by-11 inch piece of paper stapled in the corner of the gallery stated the show is a "reminder of the efforts and aspirations of our ancestors, which have shaped our world materially, intellectually and emotionally."

A broken mirror laying near an alleyway dumpster, a cat lounging lazily underneath a car covered in a blue tarp and a white brick building with piping are some of the photos caused attendees to crowd the vicinity.

San Jose State alumnus Robbie Sugg said Boehnker's compositions and use of light were "tight and incredible."

"Some of them have a painterly feel," Sugg said. "The compositions are really surprising because they're not cliché."

The photos were taken in a variety of locations in California and Washington where Boehnker spent time photographing during the summer.

Boehnker said instead of developing a theme and shooting accordingly, he accumulated images over a period of time and then reflected on them afterward to review similarities and establish a theme.



Lauren Hernandez | Spartan Daily

Attendees discuss a photo of a trash-filled plastic bag laying on the concrete at senior photography major Michael Boehnker's "OK Photography" show on Tuesday.

"It's mostly just an emotional response to them and not necessarily something that I constructed," Boehnker said.

Boehnker described the selection process as difficult because as the artist, he is the only one familiar with his work.

"I looked for images that were formally similar and the ones that stick with the ideas that I'm hoping to convey," Boehnker said.

Boehnker said he hoped he conveyed the world is in a constant state of evolution and its inhabitants must realize they are involved in this process of creation, manipulation and destruction.

Graduate photography student Thomas Sanders said Boehnker's show reminded him of contemporary photographer Bill Owens' work.

"It's kind of taking very ordinary scenes, magnifying ordinary scenes and making them unordinary," Sanders said.

One photo depicts a shadow of a hand forming the "OK" symbol, connecting the thumb

and forefinger, projected onto a grass bed.

Junior photography major Marissa McPeak said she enjoyed how the photo aligns with the show's title.

"I just love how simple it is, yet there is this story in all of his work," McPeak said. "It's just the little details that you wouldn't normally pay attention to."

The show's title, "OK Photography," conveys a sense of comfort and happiness, according to Boehnker.

"I think it's just the sentiment of being relaxed in your environment and approaching life from a positive (perspective)," Boehnker said.

Graduate photography student John Stewart said the show evokes a thoughtful response in attendees and resulted in them asking questions.

Stewart observed that nearly every photo featured was taken with high-noon lighting, which was depicted by 90 degree angle shadows.

"I think high noon is this really flat kind of lighting and I think he's executed it very well," Stewart said.

Although unintentional, Boehnker said he took high-noon lighting into account when he was on photography expeditions.

"A lot of people try to avoid shooting high noon because it's harder to get nice shots, but I do take notice of the light," Boehnker said.

Boehnker said he hoped attendees walk away understanding their involvement in the evolving world and appreciate his photographs.

"The material world is a manifestation of the efforts of the people came before us, and we're continuing the process by acting, so I hope to get people to reflect on that just by looking at (the show)," Boehnker said.

The last day of "OK Photography" is tomorrow in the Art Building's Gallery 5.

Lauren Hernandez is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

# Student Services Center (SSC) Open House

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2014

2:00-4:00pm SSC on 9th & San Fernando Streets



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# Horror film 'From Dusk Till Dawn' finds plenty to build on

By Kelli Skye Fadroski McClatchy Tribune

Though the horror film "From Dusk Till Dawn" made its debut nearly two decades ago, director Robert Rodriguez ("Sin City," "Machete") still had dozens of ideas to expand the story of the movie's two main characters, Richie and Seth Gecko.

After years of toying with a variety of concepts, Rodriguez finally pulled the trigger and debuted "From Dusk Till Dawn: The Series" in March on his own newly launched El Rey Network, and it was later made available to Netflix customers as a Netflix Original Series.

The show loosely follows the original script of the film, which was written by Rodriguez's longtime cinema cohort Quentin Tarantino ("Pulp Fiction," "Kill Bill"). It's an in-depth look into the lives of the Gecko brothers, as well as the pair's hostages, the Fuller family, and further explores the mythology behind the vampire-like creatures that the cold-blooded gangsters and innocent Fullers encounter at a 24-hour strip club in Mexico.

The cast and director recently walked the red carpet at opening night of Universal Studios Hollywood's Halloween Horror Nights, which this year includes a live-action attraction based on the series, and chatted about working on the second season and re-creating a cult classic.

"The movie was a moment in time and the series is the novel," said actor Wilmer Valderrama, who plays one of the show's villains, Carlos Madrigal. "It's a crime saga that's original and unique and the way Robert presents it, it's very clever. It's amazing because he uses this genre as great license to just be a little more fantastic with the show."

Rodriguez said he's excited for a second season, which will premiere early next year, according to El Rey, and that now that these characters have been reintroduced to a television audience, things can really take a turn.

"Midseason, it really started departing from the film in order for us to build up that mythology that we wanted to explore," Rodriguez said of season one. "We're really going to get into that more in the next season so we had to sort of restart the story and get all of these characters established to be able to take it now ... wherever we want it."

D.J. Cotrona, who portrays Seth Gecko, said he wasn't at all nervous about taking on the role fa-

mously played on screen by George Clooney.

"Hey, it was his first movie!' Cotrona said with a laugh. "It can be a little intimidating anytime someone is remaking something that's just so iconic, but the thing that made me confident was that this wasn't someone else trying to do an interpretation of Quentin and Robert's work, this is Robert himself saying, 'Hey, I want to go back and do this again."

"When Robert Rodriguez says, 'You're my guy,' all doubt goes out the window and you go in, you have fun and you do the best you can," Cotrona said. "Doing this show was a no-brainer because not many people get access to Quentin Tarantino characters, so the fact that we get to do

this is amazing."

Though his films may be high-action and often intense, actress Madison Davenport (Katie Fuller) said Rodriguez is one of "the most calm and cool people I've ever met."

"Robert is so down to earth and nice," she said.
"While we were shooting the show he was also editing 'Sin City 2' and directing and writing and producing and running a whole freaking produc-

tion, but he's still so mellow."

In her best Rodriguez voice, Davenport quipped, "He would be like, 'Whatever. Yeah. It's all cool man. Let me grab my guitar and play a little guitar now — everything is cool."

When the series was picked up as a Netflix Original, the show, which boasts almost a full four out of five stars via viewer ratings, was a hit with fans as they began to binge watch episodes and discuss happenings via social networking sites.

"It's a great show to binge on because it is constantly forward-moving action and it takes place over such a short period of time," actor Zane Holtz (Richie Gecko) said. "The entire first season of the series takes place in only like a 36-hour sort of time frame so to sit and watch it binge-style over 10 hours, you sort of get to experience it the same way the characters do."

"From Dusk Till Dawn: The Series" also reunites Rodriguez with the film's original special effects and makeup supervisor, Greg Nicotero ("The Walking Dead"). Nicotero and his KNB effects team did the makeup and prosthetics and added all of the gross-n-gorey little details into the show.

"I'm never tired of getting blood splattered all over me at work," Cotrona said. "Getting to play with those guys is too much fun."

# 'Boxtrolls' illustrates how animation houses are playing a new, fun toon

By Rebecca Keegan McClatchy Tribune

After a recent screening of "The Boxtrolls," a child approached animator Travis Knight and said he loved the movie because "it was the weirdest thing I've ever seen."

For Knight, president and CEO of Laika, a stop-motion animation company based outside of Portland, Ore., the child's remark was the highest form of praise.

That's because the 9-year-old studio has found its place in Hollywood's increasingly crowded animation marketplace by making films slightly left of center, beginning with its first movie, the spooky, Oscar-nominated "Coraline" in 2009.

"Boxtrolls" opened Friday to respectable reviews and \$17.3 million in box office, the strongest opening ever for Laika.

The film is meant to appeal to audiences looking for something more offbeat than the usual Hollywood animation fare.

"Animation's never been more popular than it is right now, and yet as a fan there is a generic sameness to so much of what comes out from the big animation houses," Knight said. "It's a shame because you can use this extraordinary visual medium to tell really unusual, beautiful stories. When someone tells me that it was the weirdest thing they've ever seen ... to me that shows that they're engaged."

Directed by Anthony Stacchi and Graham Annable, "The Boxtrolls" is loosely based on a bestselling children's book called "Here Be Monsters" by Alan Snow.

The boxtrolls are a family of misunderstood, mischievous trash collectors living underground — a kind of steampunk version of "Despicable Me's" minions who adopt a human boy named Eggs (voiced by Isaac Hempstead Wright of

"Game of Thrones").

Above them on the streets of Cheesebridge, an anti-boxtrollcrusadernamed Archibald Snatcher (Ben Kingsley) is angling for membership in society's most elite group, the White Hats, who spend their time eating lots of stinky cheese.

Made using a combination of the 100-yearold medium of stop motion along with modern digital animation, "The Boxtrolls" significantly expands on the scope of Laika's previous film, "ParaNorman."

There's a complex waltz scene with 150 characters — the stop-motion equivalent of the chariot race in "Ben Hur."

But the studio also relied on what director

Stacchi calls "MacGyver moments." To create moving water, for instance, one of the studio's riggers used two pieces of shower glass lit from beneath.

As one of the few places in the world still making stop-motion animated films — along with Britain's Aardman Animations — Laika attracts artists with unusual skills, like the ability to knit tiny sweaters.

"When I walked in while they were making 'Coraline,' I was like, "What a bunch of freaks. Now I know where everybody goes when Burning Man's not happening in the desert — they're all in this factory," Stacchi said.

Knight declined to discuss Laika's budgets except to say that, taken together, his company's three films cost less than one movie at the larger animation studios, which typically cost at least \$150 million.

"If you're spending those kind of budgets, you have to be calculatingly populist in your approach," Knight said. "It has to feel that every possible demographic will help you make that budget back. By keeping our budgets significantly lower than that, we can take more risks, tell stories

that are more challenging. If we were spending \$150 million on a film, we would have to make this same kind of choices, we'd have to appeal to everybody. But because our threshold of success is lower, we can take more risks."

Laika is one of a handful of animation businesses — some independent studios, some units within larger film studios — that have emerged in recent years to produce high-quality, often-irreverent work at considerably smaller budgets than the films coming from traditional industry leaders Disney, Pixar and DreamWorks Animation.

This year saw a surprisingly subversive hit, "The Lego Movie," from Warner Bros.' new animation unit that somehow managed to tell a story inspired by a toy that mocked both consumerism and Batman; in October, 20th Century Fox will distribute "Book of Life," a Day of the Dead-set film from Texas-based animation and visual effects company Reel F/X, with strikingly vivid CG animation inspired by Mexican folk art; in December, niche distributor GKIDS will release "Song of the Sea," a handdrawn fantasy film from a tiny, Ireland-based company called Cartoon Saloon.

In a category of their own in terms of boxoffice success are the two "Despicable Me" films from Universal Studios' animation arm, Illumination Entertainment, which have grossed more than \$1.5 billion worldwide and have a spinoff, "The Minion Movie," due in 2015, and "Despicable Me 3," due in 2017.

"Conventional thinking was that animated filmmaking was a high-stakes gamble," said Tom Sito, a professor at USC's School of Cinematic Arts who was an animator and storyboard artist at Disney Animation in the 1990s. "Only Disney, Pixar and DreamWorks with their brand-loyal audiences seemed to hold a monopoly on success.

Illumination films seemed to come out of nowhere and were wildly successful. Add to that the success of

'The Lego Movie,' and the thinking now is that anyone can play."

(Japanese telecommunications and Internet company Softbank is in talks to buy DreamWorks Animation, a move that may change the animation landscape even more.)

With no Pixar Animation film due this year, the animated feature Oscar race is missing one of its perennial contenders — and frequent winners — leaving a door open for one of the smaller companies.

As the home of Bugs Bunny, Warner Bros. has a robust animation tradition, but it hadn't been a major player in feature animation in recent years. With "The Lego Movie," the studio relaunched its features department in February with a model more like live-action films — it hired "21 Jump Street" and "Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs" filmmakers Phil Lord and Chris Miller to direct and relied on Australia-based Animal Logic to produce its animation.

When I walked in while they were making 'Coraline,' I was like, 'What a bunch of freaks. Now I know where everybody goes when Burning Man's not happening in the desert — they're all in this factory'

Anthony Stacchi
"The Boxtrolls" director

"We could have contemplated opening something like a DreamWorks or a Pixar, but those are such entrenched institutions with long histories to them," said Chris DeFaria, president of animation, digital production and visual effects at Warner Bros. "What we set out to do was to make great animated movies but in a way Warner Bros. knows how to make movies."



Photo courtesy of Laika

### Room for more doom at the box office?

**By Steven Rea** *McClatchy Tribune* 

Sure, people are watching movies on tablets and smartphones, on their couches, streaming video on demand. But maybe there's another reason box office is down dramatically (summer biz dropped 25 percent from the same period in 2013). Call it the Dys Factor, as in dystopian post-apocalyptic young-adult sci-fi, as in dysfunctional family comedies, as in you're showing me dys movie — again?

In March, "Divergent," Neil Burger's adaptation of Veronica Roth's YA novel, opened in theaters, with Shailene Woodley as the heroine living in a frayed, futuristic Chicago where what's left of society is divided into five factions, and where every year the kids who come of age are tested for assignment to a group and a vocation. Downright dystopian.

Then "The Giver," Phillip Noyce's adaptation of the Lois Lowry juvenile fiction bestseller, opened in theaters, with Brenton Thwaites and Odeya Rush as the hero and heroine living in an isolated, black-and-white world where a governing body of control-freaky Elders assigns the kids a role, a job, that they must keep for life. Downright dystopian.

Even Thwaites was aghast over the

parallel premises.

"I watched a little bit of 'Divergent' on the plane the other day, just to get a sense of what people were talking about," the Australian actor said dur-

ing an interview in Philadelphia in early August. "The similarities between the characters – crazy!"

That was even before Thwaites had a chance to catch "The Maze Runner," adapted from James Dashner's postapocalyptic, or "The Hunger Games: Mockingjay — Part 1," adapted from Suzanne Collins' postapocalyptic, dystopian YA fiction series, opening Nov. 21.

So, what's with all the futuristic Clearasilian gloom?

"It's a somewhat anxious time, and postapocalyptic fiction is a way to channel our anxieties," Emily St. John Mandel, author of the dystopian novel "Station Eleven," told a reporter this summer.

And let's face it: "Divergent" and "The Hunger Games" franchise have made money. Like, kabillions. ("The Giver," not so much: With a \$25 million production budget, and probably that much again in marketing costs, its one-month tally of \$42 million does not bode well for a sequel.)

But if teenagers running around shooting crossbows and confronting all-seeing authority figures isn't your cup of tea, how about a couple of hours with a clan of angry, angsty grownups reconvened when the grand patriarch has died?

The imploding family has long been a theme in theater and film, from Edward Albee and Eugene O'Neill to "Little Miss Sunshine," "Meet the Fockers," and "National Lampoon's Vacation." The appeal is obvious, com-

bining the rubbernecking thrill of watching a car crash with the painful recognition of something all too familiar — our own messed-up parents, children, siblings, and in-laws. Our own messed-up selves.

Thus far this year, the list of dysfunctional family comedies includes "Wish I Was Here," in which Zach Braff struggles with a dying dad and a deadbeat brother, and "Are You Here," in which Zach Galifianakis struggles with the inheritance left by his dead dad, and with the annoying presence of his deadbeat best bud. (Two dysfam-coms with "Here" in the title starring guys named Zach!) And then there is "This Is Where I Leave You," which assembles Jason Bateman, Tina Fey, Rose Byrne, Corey Stoll, Adam Driver and Jane Fonda with a boob job (it's a running joke), sitting shiva and yelling up a storm. There are no Zachs

in this one.

"The Judge," coming Oct. 10, isn't a comedy, but its story about an estranged son (Robert Downey, Jr.) returning home to manage a crisis concerning his fading father (Robert Duvall) is rich with dys-fam-com elements: sibling rivalries, the re-meet with a high school sweetheart, embarrassing declarations triggered by too much alcohol.

Now if only some Hollywood brainiac could fuse the two genres: the ultimate dysfunctional, dystopian, sci-fi postapocalyptic family comedy.

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#### **Tim's Shoutout**

#### **Happy Birthday Chris! Reunite the Big 3!**

To: Chris From: Tim

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#### I'm still alive!

From: Hologram Tupac

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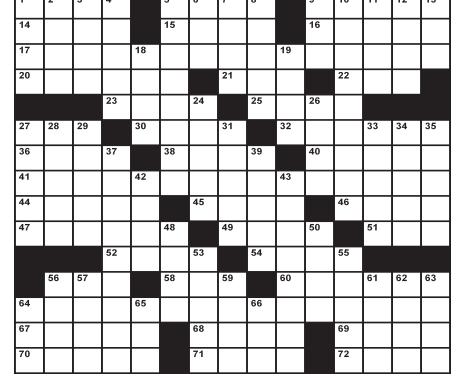
#### Sudoku Puzzle

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

5					7	9		1	10/2
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		6	9				4		
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	6				2	8			© 2014 Knight Features/Distributed by Universal Uclick
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DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★☆

#### **Crossword Puzzle**



#### **Previous solutions**

1/01	3	9	8	5	1	6	4	2	7
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tributed by	4	7	6	2	8	9	5	1	3
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Sept 1

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#### **ACROSS**

- 1 Wordless summons 5 Word with "bubble"
- 9 Genuine they're not 14 Wise to the tricks
- 15 Penultimate word in a Hemingway title
- 16 Artist's stand
- 17 Bided one's time
- 20 Lie with limbs spread
- 21 Cent's color?
- 22 Took care of 23 Pasturelands
- 25 What
- reducers weigh
- It comes
- 30 Muddy the waters
- 32 Lower in spirits
- 36 Bacon unit for a
- butcher
- 38 Chimney duct
- \_\_ Rae" (1979 film) Slow server's com-
- 44 Crosswise, in a ship 45 Predatory Arctic

- bird 46 Luxor
- waterway 47 "M\*A\*S\*H" figures
- 49 Bathroom fixture 51 NASCAR legend
- Jarrett 52 Big wine
- valley 54 Schusses or wedels
- **56** Faux \_\_\_ (goof) 58 Follower of Santa?
- 60 Uncut 64 Samuel Beckett
- classic
- 67 Down for
- a pillow
- raptor
- 69 Bulging earthen-
- ware vessel
- 70 Swelling in some
- plants 71 "Odor" anagram
- that will make you cross?
- 72 Barrel-bottom contents
- **DOWN**

effects

- 1 "Batman" TV sound
- 31 Hides in
- 33 Exhaust, as strength

35 Assigned

the shadows

2 Cookie, bean or

and about

completely

6 Weisshorn, for one

7 Top Romanov (Var.)

10 6:30 on a watch?

18 Very fancy jug

19 "Beware the \_

minded

27 Indian state

theater

a mug

29 Having a handle, as

34 "Nana" novelist Zola

a PG, e.g.

28 Bard's

of March"

storage buildings

11 Italian wine center

5 In sorry shape

8 Place to stay

photo

3 Be up

4 Wreck

12 Alloy

13 Shrewd

24 Airtight

26 Sober-

- 65 Savings plan 66 Yoko who married
- 62 You'll get credit for 63 Pilots' approxima-

59 Large, round hairdo

61 Not doing much

37 Medulla oblongata

42 Hit song from the

"for")

48 Bridge

Village People

43 Had a craving (with

measurement

50 Checkers double

decker

53 Hot temper

55 Bar staple

56 Discharged

a debt 57 Assistant coach, e.g.

structure Small

- tions, briefly
- 64 Early. as hours



# The mocking of cultures reinforces stereotypes

I grimace every time I see another white female musician proceed to "twerk" and shake her ass while surrounded by black backup dancers.

They somehow have this notion that it is OK to appropriate behaviors associated with the black culture.

Cultural appropriation goes beyond insulting and stealing from people.

It essentially refers to the imitation of certain elements associated with one culture by a different cultural group, usually in a mocking manner.

It continues patterns of disempowering groups that are already marginalized.

Whether it is Lilv Allen's "It's hard out here," Taylor Swift's "Shake it off," or basically anything Iggy Azalea does, these women

seem to think it is OK to parody rappers by butt-smacking and pouring champagne on a bunch of twerking black women.

Earl Sweatshirt of the Los Angeles-based hip hop group Odd Future, voiced his disapproval of Swift's music video "Shake it off" by tweeting "perpetuating black stereotypes to the same demograph-

ic of white girls who hide their prejudice by proclaiming their love of the culture."

There have been many instances in music history when white musicians have "borrowed" music styles of black musicians.

This was especially prevalent during the 1950s and 1960s.

Because African-Americans were going through many societal and controversial problems during that time, record labels preferred having recording artists that were white, like Elvis, to replicate the sound of black musicians.

As a result, many musical forms, such as rock'n'roll, are mainly associated with whites, in spite of the fact black musicians were the creators.

I can go on and on listing different musicians that appropriate cultures, from Rihanna and Katy Perry to Selena Gomez and Macklemore.

The point is, it is not OK to appropriate different cultures because you or your audience thinks it is cool.

The United States is known for being a "melting pot," or as one of my professors said, "a tossed salad."

There are many different cultures that are bound to influence one another.

There is nothing wrong with a culture being influenced by another culture.

This is especially common in places



Follow Jerica on Twitter @thehellajerica

dominant group mock

they often reinforce

stereotypes about

minority groups

like the Bay Area and New York City – both areas are known for being a place where many different people integrate.

Many people in this country who grew up in these diverse communities may pick up the language, customs and palate of the ethnic groups surrounding them.

Cultural appropriation is a completely different problem that has very little to do with

someone having knowledge of different

Cultural appropriation typically involves members of a dominant group exploiting the culture of groups less privileged.

This dominant group is often ignorant of the culture's history and customs.

With Hallow-When members of a een just around the corner, spreading the awareness of certain the cultures of others, popular costumes is important.

Kat Lazo's article "Is Your Halloween Costume Racist," from the online news site Everyday Feminism,

explores the idea that even if no harm was in the costume chosen, it can be extremely offensive to people it impersonates.

Sexualizing different cultures is a popular trend in costume names such as "Sexy Chinese Geisha" and "Reservation Royalty."

There are costumes that manage to mock a terrible situation and event while demonstrating flagrant racism, such as wearing a black face dressed up as Trayvon Martin and including the Arizona tea can and bag of Skittles he carried before he was

Another example is when a group of men dressed as bloodied flight attendants from the Asiana Airlines crash.

Costumes such as these are totally ignorant and unnecessary.

When members of a dominant group mock other cultures, they often reinforce stereotypes about minority groups.

People need to understand that cultural appropriation remains a problem and costumes imitating cultural groups are part of the reason why.

People need to stick to wearing actual scary costumes like witches, vampires and werewolves. Or stick with the "slut" trend and dress up like "a mouse, duh."

Jerica Lowman is the Spartan Daily Opinion Editor. "Phenomenally Feminist" usually appears every Thursday.

# ONE WORD WES MOOTS

# Rhythm: a beat pattern path to the heartstrings

I'm in love with a woman. She lives near Niagara Falls, N.Y.

and you probably have never heard of her.

I swear she's real though.

"Rhythm" has been a word which has bothered me since I was six years old.

It has six letters, two syllables,

only half a vowel and on elementary school spelling tests, it defied every rule my still young and apparently not-confused-enough mind had learned of the English language.

"Rhythm" is defined by the dictionary as "movement or procedure with uniform or patterned recurrence of a beat, accent or the like." But let's all admit something here: there

is so much more to rhythm. Ever since my parents blasted Electric Light

Orchestra out of the stereo, since my grandmother sat down at a piano to try (and fail) to teach me to play and since I learned that dancing was more fun than standing still, rhythm has been more than just a pattern.

There is little in the world which can calm me like the sound – the rhythm – of rain beating on the aluminum awning that hangs over my parent's back porch.

Each of us is born with our own take on the ba-dum ba-dum of our own heartbeats.

For many of us, it is a driving motivation in life to find a person to trust enough to let them listen to it, as we listen to our partner's, and see if they can align in what

Nearly every culture has wedding songs, funeral songs and songs of celebration.

We play songs for the new year and almost any part of our life can be put to some kind of rhythm.

There is little more jarring in life than the dissonant interruption of a rhythm.

A musician can strike a minor chord to invoke worry or sorrow, but nothing makes the heart stop like the sudden silence that



Follow Wesley on Twitter @Stevewes

I've never been so

the rhythm of her life

thankful for the Internet

which allows me to watch

comes when someone else's rhythm suddenly stops.

In an Irish wake, we sing, play music and shout in the hopes the dead are only sleeping because these rhythms are what we associate with life.

We'd rather focus on making rhythm in the hopes of bringing the dead back than on the silence of their absence.

Rhythm is the key to music,

and like math, it is one of only a few universal

Though the words may change, all people can dance and sing to the same rhythm.

It can enhance our productivity while working and it entertains us on our way to work and home.

Rhythm is poetry – it's the most obvious

separation between verse and prose. Rhythm is an

Almost anything can make rhythm, but rhythm cannot

abstract.

create itself nor exist without the observation of something beyond itself. It is symbiotically reliant on everything

in the universe, nearly as much as everything in the universe would feel somewhat less substantial without it.

I'm in love with a woman, and no, I won't tell you her name.

Most nights we dream of each other, but most days we're 2,800 miles away.

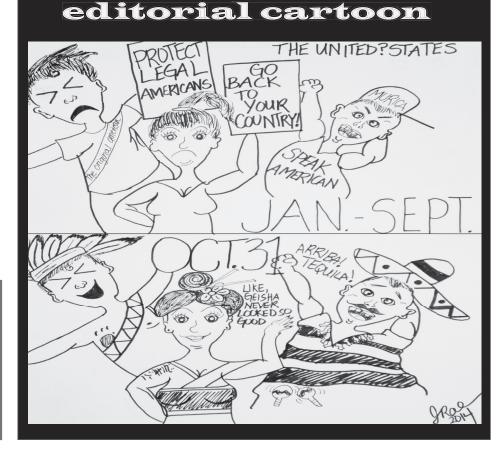
I've never been so thankful for the Internet which allows me to watch the rhythm of her life.

Through the wonders of technology, the unique rhythms of our hearts are able to meet each other somewhere in the air and sync up.

Through texts, skype and calls, we don't feel as far apart.

Wesley Moots is a Spartan Daily staff writer. "One Word Wisdom" usually appears every Thursday. Tweet a single world to his Twitter handle with the tag "#OneWordWisdom" and your word can be chosen for a future column.

Join the discussion! Tweet us at @spartandaily





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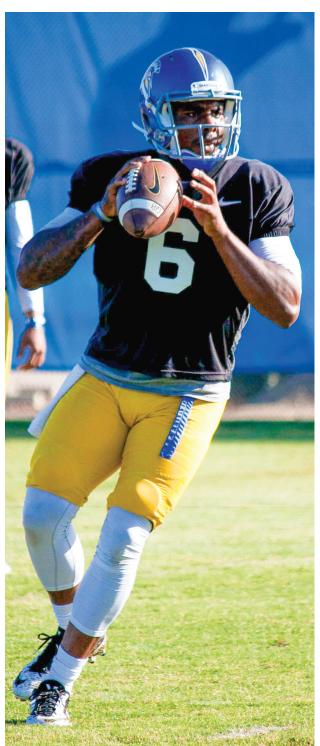
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# Joe Gray: Once standout basketball player sets eyes on new calling for himself, Spartan football



Brian Stanley | Spartan Daily Spartan junior starting quarterback Joe Gray tries to find a receiver to pass to in practice on Tuesday at South Campus.

By Samuel Brannan @SamBrannan

Joe Gray is the new face for San Jose State football fans.

Gray took over for graduate student Blake Jurich as the first-string quarterback in the Spartans' loss to the University of Nevada-Reno Wolf Pack on Saturday.

Gray was raised in Inglewood, Calif., near Los Angeles. He was a quarterback his freshman and sophomore years at Inglewood High School before transferring to Dorsey High School for his junior and senior years.

Ranked as the 49th best high school quarterback in the nation during his senior year in high school, according to ESPN, Gray was 19-6 during his two seasons as a starter at Dorsey.

Gray passed for over 5,000 yards and 49 touchdowns during his two-year tenure.

Gray's family, which is small and close-knit, is one of the main aspects that is most important for the Spartan quarterback.

"My nieces are a soft spot for me," Gray said. "Everytime I see them, I melt. They're so dear to me."

He considers his immediate family to be his sister, two nieces, nephew, mother and father.

Gray's father had a big impact on his success in high school and is ultimately making an impact here at San Jose State.

"Some of the kids I grew up with did the wrong things," Gray said. "My dad did his best to surround me with the right



Brian Stanley | Spartan Daily

Spartan junior starting quarterback Joe Gray scans the defense after bringing back a handoff to sophomore wide receiver Tim Crawley in practice on Tuesday at South Campus.

people with similar goals."

In his spare time, the Spartan quarterback enjoys a much less physical activity — one where he is not running out of the pocket.

"A hobby of mine is poetry," Gray said. "I enjoy poetry in the spoken word. It really just calms me down."

Gray, who is multi-talented and very athletic, not only played football in high school, but was also a standout basketball player at both Inglewood and Dorsey High School.

"I was one of the lucky ones to get to play varsity all four years even when I transferred from Inglewood to Northside," Gray said.

Although Gray didn't receive any offers to play basketball in college, there was some interest from the

collegiate level.

After his first year in high school at Inglewood, Gray received a letter from Villanova University in Pennsylvania.

"It was off and on with basketball," Gray said. "I would play December tournaments and it didn't feel right, so I started training harder in football."

In his first start as a Spartan on Saturday against the University of Nevada-Reno Wolf Pack, Gray showed to be an effective passer and agile runner.

Spartan head coach Ron Caragher said in his weekly press conference, "He came out and completed 32 of 46 passes, so I thought he did a nice job and made good choices."

Gray had two costly interceptions for the Spartans but was able to distribute the ball to four different wide receivers for 276 yards and ran the ball five times for 26 yards.

"He was excited," Caragher said. "I think Joe will work out his opening game kinks and settle in the next time around."

Before last week's start, Gray only had four passing attempts as a Spartan and will now prepare for Saturday's Homecoming game against UNLV.

When first admitted into San Jose State, Gray was a kinesiology major. He was unable to practice due to courses only being offered during football practice.

Now a communication studies major, Gray said he wants to pursue a career in broadcasting as a sportscaster so he can stay in the sports industry.

Samuel Brannan is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

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# SJSU SAN JOSÉ STATE UNIVERSITY



# Spartans looking to gamble with Rebels at Homecoming

By Brian Stanley

@BStanleyPhotos

The San Jose State Spartans football team hopes to snap a losing streak against the University of Nevada-Las Vegas Rebels at Homecoming at Spartan Stadium on Saturday.

For the second season in a row, the Spartans (1-3, 0-1) find themselves starting the season 1-3 on a three-game losing streak heading into October.

After losing to San Diego State 34-17 last week, the Rebels (1-4, 0-1) are also hoping to break a three-game skid.

Last year, San Jose State broke the losing streak with a 37-27 win over Hawaii.

"One area that we talk about is improvement over the course of a season," said Spartan head coach Ron Caragher. "I really believe that our defense continued to get better each and every week."

The Spartans lead the Mountain West Conference in pass defense, holding Minnesota and Nevada under 70 passing yards each.

Caragher said he is really encouraged by the defensive team.

The defense has limited opponents to an average of 83 passing yards per game and has only given up 332 passing yards this season.

Last week against the University of Nevada-Reno, the Spartans held the Wolf Pack quarterback Cody Fajardo to 64 yards in the air.

The Spartans shut down Nevada on third downs forcing the Wolf Pack to go 0-9 on conversions.

In week three against the University of Minnesota, the Spartans held the Golden Gopher quarterback Chris Streveler to only 7 yards passing on one completion.

7 yards passing on one completion.

San Jose State is one of four teams this season to hold two teams under 70 yards in

the first five weeks of the season.

Stanford, New Mexico State and Temple University join the Spartans on the list with San Jose State and Temple to be the only two teams to do it in

back-to-back weeks.

Sophomore linebacker Christian Tago leads the Spartans with 33 total tackles, 19 unassisted and 14 assisted, in four games.

Sophomore cornerback Cleveland Wallace leads the Spartans' pass defense with one interception and five broken up passes.

San Jose State junior quarterback Joe Gray threw for 276 yards in his first start of his collegiate career by completing 32 of 46 passes against Nevada.

"He made good choices," Caragher said.
"I was encouraged by that."

Gray also threw two interceptions against the Wolf Pack, one that was returned for a 27-yard touchdown.

Caragher emphasized that even though last week was the fourth game of the season, it was Gray's first time starting.

"I'm excited to see Joe in his next start," Caragher said.

Sophomore tight end Billy Freeman topped the Spartans in receiving with 78 yards, including two 25-yard completions from Gray.

"Billy brings a spark to the crowd," Caragher said. "Everyone saw it when he hurdled the defender for the second year in a row."

Caragher said Freeman has been struggling while he recovers from an ankle injury.

The Rebels haven't had much success against the Spartans lately, losing the last four meetings including a 34-24 loss last year in Las Vegas.

The last time San Jose State hosted UNLV was Nov. 23, 1996 at Spartan Stadium, where they defeated the Rebels 31-28.

In all San Jose State Homecoming games, the Spartans are 46-29-2.

San Jose State is 3-3 in the last six Homecoming games.

Kick off for the Homecoming game is scheduled for 5:02 p.m at Spartan Stadium on Saturday.

The Spartans and Rebels will be broadcasted on ESPNews and KLIV 1590 AM radio.

Brian Stanley is a Spartan Daily staff