

Volume 144 • Issue 5



**LOCAL NEWS** 



Arno Bryant | Spartan Daily

All-natural paint rains down on participants of Saturday's San Jose Color Fun Fest 5K, all to the pulsing sounds of electronic beats.

# Color runs wild in San Jose

By RAVEN SWAYNE @itsRavenDawn

Thousands of Bay Area residents made their way to the fair grounds with family and friends to experience a color-filled 5k run. Saturday, the Color Fun Fest made its annual appearance at the Santa Clara Fair Grounds in San Jose, Calif.

Before the race began, on-stage dancers covered the audience in multi-colored sands of people to show up for the race. powder as soon as the D.J. dropped the beat, getting the participants pumped for the 5k run. During the race there were four color stations where runners were doused in all-natural color to make sure everyone had the chance to glow in the black lights.

The Color Fun Festival was an all day event with two waves of crowds making their way through the course. The

first group of attendees began their run around 5 p.m. and the second group began their run around 8 p.m.

The festival isn't just a 5k run, it also had plenty of booths for snacks and drinks, a bouncy house for the children and a D.J. who provided a fun party vibe for all the participants.

The 5k run is a family operated business that has continued to attract thou-

Jessica Waffles is one of the family members who is in charge of registration and marketing for each event.

Waffles said her family only started running these events in Nov. 2013. They work through most of the year traveling around the country bringing color and fun to as many people as possible.

"Our next goal is to get to Canada and then hopefully even bigger," Waffles said.

"We have big goals."

Even though the Color Fun Fest is a family owned business they are able to put on massive events worldwide throughout the year with the help of hundreds of volunteers at every stop.

Tuan Tran, a first year at San Jose State University, is a volunteer for the event.

Tran said he enjoyed the Color Fun Fest so much he made a tradition of volunteering. This year was his second year.

"It's a lot of fun, I plan on volunteering

next year too," said Tran. While there are volunteers who have been through the fun fest before, there were still many participants who were

running at the festival for the first time. Natalia Rogoinova, who was the first runner to complete the 5k, said while



### A&E

## 'The Silent' causes controversy without words



Photo courtesy of Cinequest "The Silent" has drawn criticiśm from commentators who claim the film is plagiarizing "the Heart String Marionette," which was released in 2012.

By Marissa Trigos @MarissaTrigos

Have you ever left the movie theater and wondered what in the world you have just seen?

Well that is how the movie "The Silent" will leave you feeling long after the film has ended.

During much of the film, I wondered what exactly was going on and where the story was headed.

"The Silent" is an animated film with no dialogue.

The main characters in the film are a fugitive samurai, a little boy

hidden in a box, a revenge seeker who looks like Marilyn Manson, a scary stripper and an evil clown in a

The evil clown with a frightening smile is the common enemy among the other characters because they all want revenge.

Many of the characters, such as the one who resembles Manson and the evil clown, wear masks during

It is clear many of the characters are damaged people as the synopsis



### **SPORTS**

## Women's water polo player is a force to reckon with



By Marissa Trigos @MarissaTrigos

A student athlete since she was 9 years old, Rae Lekness, 20-year-old junior kinesiology major, talked with different women's water polo coaches from multiple universities as a senior in high school until she suffered a hernia in her back.

Lekness, who grew up in Calgary, Alberta, said former San Jose State University women's water polo Head Coach Lou Tully was a major deciding factor in her choice to attend SJSU because he was

the only coach who stayed in contact with her.

"What really brought me here was that he had such a great energy and really wanted people to do well," Lekness said.

The Canadian native has been highly productive since making the decision to sign with the Spartans. Lekness is 10th on the SJSU all-time scoring list with 130 goals going into the 2015 season, according to Spartan Athletics.

In her third season with the Spartans, Lekness



### **CAMPUS NEWS**

# Campus discusses leasing theater

By Justin San Diego @incrediblejsd

The Susan and Phil Hammer Theatre, formerly known as the San Jose Repertory Theatre, may become part of San Jose State University's campus in the near future.

The theater closed and filed for bankruptcy last June after operating for 34 years. It was a regular venue of the Cinequest Film Festival, local plays and special screenings.

Humanities and arts faculty met with marketers to discuss leasing the theater yesterday afternoon.

The majority of the meeting covered ways SJSU could use the 54,000 square foot theater, including performing plays and concerts, hosting movie screenings exhibitions and teaching classes.

Marketers and consultants Alan Brown and Ron Evans joined Stacy Gleixner, SJSU's chief of staff, to discuss future plans.

There are a total of 565 seats in the theater; 41 in the front orchestra, 166 in the orchestra, 201 in the parterre and 157 in the balcony.

Some of the theater's amenities include a main lobby, a concession stand, a wet bar, open areas for dinner and receptions, a loading dock, a rooftop terrace, dressing rooms, lounging areas and a high-quality stage.

There was no mention of the cost for



### **OPINION**



## Love is love, but is it enough for LGBTs?

By RAECHEL PRICE @rae\_thecyborg

In his State of the Union address on Jan. 20, President Obama celebrated the fact that "Love is love in 36 states."

He's talking, of course, about the slow, state-by-state chipping away of bans on same-sex marriage.

"I've seen something like gay marriage go from a wedge issue used to drive us apart to a story of freedom across our country," President Obama said.

Same-sex marriage, Obama said, is "a civil right now legal in states that seven in 10 Americans call home."

Seventy percent of Americans now have equal marriage in their home states. But what about the other 30 percent?



2 News

## Students can fulfill undergraduate requirements through new online program called Course Match

By Estefany Sosa @estefany\_scs

San Jose State University students can now take high demand courses online through Course Match, a CSU implementation to expand enrollment.

Course Match allows students at any CSU to enroll concurrently in one online course at another CSU per semester as long as they have completed 12 units of course work at their home campus, have at least a 2.0 GPA and paid their fulltime tuition and fees.

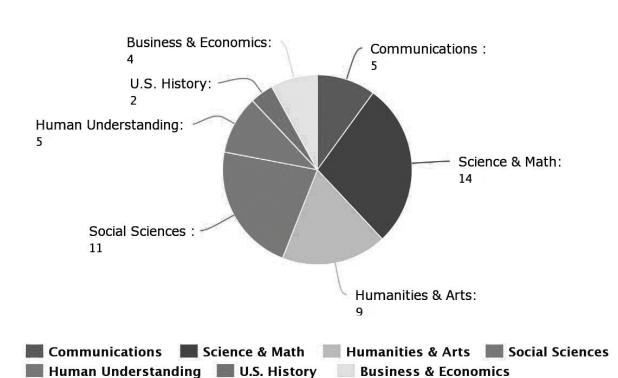
However, Course Match might not be a good option for all students.

Dr. Maureen Scharberg, associate vice president for student academic success services, said that student success largely depends on how comfortable they are with online courses.

"Students need to consider whether or not the online environment is right for their learning style, as well as their access to high-speed internet," Scharberg said.

The official Course Match and the SJSU Registrar's websites offer a self-assessment that helps students determine whether an online learning environment is a good fit for them.

The majority of courses offered through Course Match for the Spring 2015 semester are lower division general education **Course Match Subjects Offered** 



Infographic by Estefany Sosa

I don't wanna be one of those students who stays here for seven years, so anything that keeps me progressing; I'll definitely have to check it out

### **Erin Thompson**

Sophomore public entrepreneurship major

courses, but it also offers a few business courses.

Students can visit the Course Match website for a list of the Spring 2015 online classes.

Students may register for a Course Match course through MySJSU under the "Self Service" banner.

F-1 visa and non-resident students are required to pay additional tuition, course and lab fees to the

Additionally, any course taken through Course Match will automatically appear on a student's SJSU transcripts.

More details and general information about Course Match are found under the SJSU Registrar's website.

Though Course Match has been in place for three semesters, not all students are aware of its existence.

Erin Thompson, soph-

had difficulties getting into general education courses and is willing to give Course Match a try.

omore public entrepre-

neurship major, said she

"I don't wanna be one of those students who stays here for seven years, so anything that keeps me

progressing; I'll definitely have to check it out," Thompson said.

Upper division standing students may also take advantage of Course

has approved a Course Match class that satisfies Area S. The course, however, is not available this semester.

Jennifer Farzande, senior management information systems major, said Course Match would have impacted her academics if she would've had the opportunity to enroll concurrently in online general education

"Being placed among the lowest priority for registration dates has made it more difficult to infiltrate lower GE classes, so with more classes being available via Course Match, it would have given me leeway for graduating within a fouryear plan," Farzande said.

Before enrolling in any Course Match classes, students should meet with their academic advisors to ensure that they need the class for graduation.

Students must follow the add and drop deadlines of the host campus; depending on which campus the course is offered at, it might not be too late to enroll in a Course Match course for this Spring 2015 semester.

Estefany Sosa is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

# Student **Parking** Made Easy

**Fourth Street Garage** Only \$175 for SJSU Students

Spring semester permits are valid January 15 through May 31. Permits are available for purchase at the Fourth Street and Market & San Pedro Square garage offices.

Students must provide valid student ID and proof of enrollment (minimum 6 units). Please bring originals with copies.

For more information, call (408) 794-1090.

Get parking information, directions, maps and more at sjdowntownparking.com











Letters to the Editor must contain the author's name, address, phone number, signature and major. Only letters of 300 words or less will be considered for publication.

### >> FROM FRONT PAGE >>

## **THEATER:** Possible new location for academic activities



Brandon Chew | Spartan Daily

The Susan and Phil Hammer Theatre, also known as the San Jose Repertory Theatre, is being recognized by SJSU as a potential location to rent out for the Arts program. The theater houses an apparel and bookstore on the west wing and an art gallery on the east wing. San Jose teachers and staff hope to use the building for future plays and art shows.

"We're not here to discuss pricing, but to just get ideas with what we can do with the space," Evans said.

Currently the theater is owned by San Jose.

"We aren't currently accepting bids, just looking to see who's interested in working long-term to manage the Hammer Theatre," Karen Park, the art program manager said.

Tours of the theater will take place throughout the next month. The next two tours are Feb. 10 at 3 p.m. and Feb. 26 at 3 p.m.

"I think it's a great idea to lease," Matt Spangler, social science professor said. "The campus here does not have enough space to host events."

Despite SJSU having many facilities already (Event Center, ballrooms, theaters and galleries) many of the faculty members that attended expressed difficulties with finding space to practice and present their art.

"It costs money to use a lot of the facilities on campus," Spangler said.

There will be a campus-wide survey sent via email to faculty, students and staff before Friday regarding leasing the theater.

Feb. 13 is the deadline to submit a pricing estimate, then a leadership committee will meet on Feb. 16. The finalized report will be due Feb. 24.

Despite the upcoming deadlines, not all details have been established including pricing and other spacing options.

Justin San Diego is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

## New Steve Jobs biopic being filmed in our own backyard

By Henry Navarro @manof2moro

Filming has begun on the Steve Jobs biopic set to be released next year.

Locals were given the opportunity to act as extras in the film last weekend at De Anza College in Cupertino. De Anza is a significant part of Apple's history because of the Flint Center, which was the location Steve Jobs unveiled the Mac computer in 1984.

Other filming locations include a garage in Los Altos where Jobs started the company, a mediterranean restaurant in Berkeley and the Yerba Buena Center in San Francisco where major product launches took place.

On Saturday, the film crew arrived as thousands of locals lined up hoping to land a spot as an extra in the film. The campus grounds looked like a blast from the past with everyone in '80s attire since the scenes filmed that day took place in 1984.

Danny Boyle, the film's director, believes in authenticity. He worked hard to make sure

that sections of the film would be produced in San Francisco and De Anza as "it was the motherland for Steve Jobs and Apple."

Boyle said the film has a very tight budget and is grateful he had cooperation from people all across the

Boyle wanted to create an environment that seemed realistic for the time, along with a vibe that matched 1984.

When the audience got restless, he would stomp his foot on the floor mimicking the song "We Will Rock You" to get the crowd energetic for big scenes.

Not everyone who registered and showed up were chosen to partake as an extra. Approximately 2,000 people were needed and well over 7,000 came. Those who were chosen as extras were given the opportunity to win prizes as part of

Former De Anza student Max Louangraph was one of the many attendees who weren't

> chosen as an extra. "I've waited all week for this day only to be sent home. I feel like I was voted off a reality show

> > way too

Albert Watson | Fashion Photographer

early," Louangraph said.

One of the many appeals of the film is the young and talented cast.

Michael Fassbender will be playing Steve Jobs and Seth Rogen will be playing Apple co-founder Steve Wozniak.

Other cast members include Kate Winslet and Jeff Daniels among others who will be playing pivotal roles in Jobs' life.

De Anza student Jet Amarasinghe's reason for being there was simple.

"I just wanted to meet Seth Rogen," Amarasinghe said. "Even if I would've been a 100 feet away from him, it would've been worth it."

"Steve Jobs" is directed by Oscar-winning director Danny Boyle who directed "Slumdog Millionaire" and "28 Days Later."

The film opens in theaters

Henry Navarro is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

>> FROM FRONT PAGE >>

## COLOR: Runners dash through colorful courses



Arno Bryant | Spartan Daily

Runners wildly tread through clouds of color creating a chaotic, yet fun scene during the San Jose Color Fun Fest 5K running portion on Saturday, Jan. 31. The event combined the Holi Color Festival and the electronic dance movement, which also featured blacklights that glowed in the dark when night fell.

this isn't her first 5k, it is her first color run and she loved the experience. Rogo- children from group homes and orphaninova, who is an experienced marathon runner, finished the course in 20 minutes and 15 seconds.

"When I came to the color run I thought I will run so fast but when I came I saw it was a lot of fun, no running," Rogoinova said.

The Color Fun Fest is not only a great experience for families and friends but the family run business also makes a point to donate to a non-profit organization, Just Care.

Just Care is a charity that aims to help

"One of our biggest goals is to encourage kids to not go down the wrong route," Waffles said.

They raised over \$1,000 for this organization from the event in San Jose.

San Jose was only their first stop of the year. The next venue will be in San Diego then they'll travel to Sacramento at the end of February.

Raven Swayne is a Spartan Daily

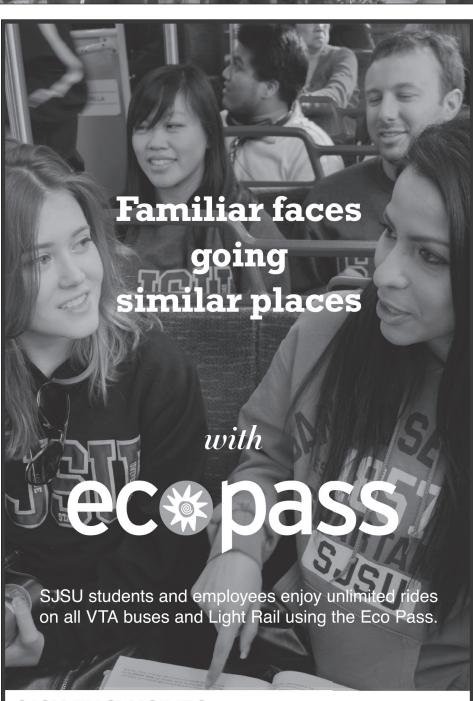
Last day to add classes is on Tuesday, February 10 (last day to drop courses without an entry on students permanent record)

LATE REGISTRATION **PERIOD** 

**Late Registration** period begins on Thursday, January 22 until Tuesday, February 10



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PARKING SERVICES

# Cinequest movie preview: 'Los Hámsters' finds common ground on family issues



Photo Courtesy of Cinequest

Beatriz stares herself down, trying to come to grips with the sexual advances of her yoga instructor while keeping her struggle a secret from her family.

By Henry Navarro @manof2moro

"Los Hámsters" touches on several struggles of everyday life that modern families face.

Money, love and lies are all threads in this movie that tie into the central plot. The dialogue is in Spanish with English subtitles, as it was shot in Mexico, but the story is familiar and relatable nonetheless.

Rodolofo is a father who finds himself in an occupational hole that leaves him desperate to find a new job at age 50. He acts as frugally as he can to ensure his remaining money lasts as long as possible.

Rodolofo's wife, Beatriz, enjoys her days of yoga and swimming. There's one thing she didn't expect to happen, though—getting hit on by her yoga instructor.

Juan is their son and an undisciplined student. He and his girlfriend find out something that will change their lives forever; she's pregnant.

He's the type of person who drinks out of the milk carton when his mother constantly tells him to pour the milk in a glass. This scene is shown several times and can be seen as a metaphor for him not using a condom.

Teenage daughter Jessica deals with the same things every other girl her age does. She deals with young love, not wanting to go to school and Facebook. She and her best girl friend grow close; so close that Jessica's mother finds them in an unexpected intimate situation. Beatriz finds herself in a bind as she isn't sure whether to tell her daughter she saw them being intimate.

This makes for great dialogue at the dinner table.

What do these family's conundrums have in common? None of them know each other's secrets. They all live under the same roof completely unaware of what is going on in each other's lives. This dynamic is caused by their weak family relationship. There are several opportune times to share their troubles but none take advantage of them (there is a scene, for example, when the son almost came forward but backed out in a show of fear).

This film strengthens the notion that in today's landscape, people are connected more than ever, thanks to the Internet, but when it comes to sharing what's going on with their own family, everyone wants to keep quiet.

Embarrassment, shame and the fear of what others will think are key reasons why this family doesn't want to share what they're hiding from one another. With predicaments such as employment at an older age, becoming a parent at a younger age, figuring out your sexuality and being sexually approached by your yoga instructor as a married woman, it's easy to see why they would be hesitant to share those things with anyone.

"Los Hámsters" is a breath of fresh air as it mirrors several awkward situations many families find themselves in and reflects the struggle of sharing secrets with loved ones.

Henry Navarro is a Spartan Daily staff writer.



SJSU SAN JOSÉ STATE UNIVERSITY

SAN JOSE DIRIDON STATION/ALMADEN BLVD 🗕

## >>> FROM FRONT PAGE >>> SILENT: Fans of 'Heart String Marionette' voice their concerns of plagiarism

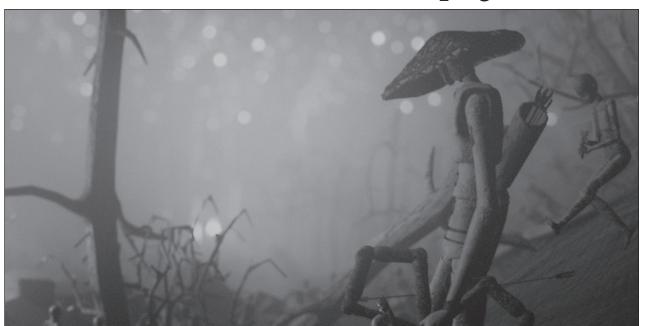


Photo Courtesy of "Heart String Marionette" M dot Strange is credited for writing "Heart String Marionette" and the controversial "The Silent."

the reason as to why they are so is

not clear, nor is it ever revealed in the

The movie consists of 10 chapters that jump between the different characters' story lines with flashbacks that do not seem relevant to what is going on in present time in the film.

Overall, the movie appears to have no real plot because it is difficult to understand each individual's story. I was often left wondering when the film would end and how matters would be resolved.

It turns out the film was intentionally made this way, as it was told in the narrative style of Noh.

Noh is a type of Japanese theater that does not follow the traditional narrative

M dot Strange and Endika Currier, the writers of the "The Silent," have used this type of storytelling in their previous collaboration of an animated film called, "Heart String Marionette."

"Heart String Marionette" seems to be related to "The Silent" because it appears to reuse the same animation and characters. The difference is that "Heart String Marionette" includes

This striking similarity has caused

a stir on the movie's Cinequest webpage. Commentators have accused the movie of plagiarizing the "Heart Sting Marionette."

The narration of "The Silent" is scattered and difficult to understand. I think the movie could have greatly benefited from having dialogue, even if it may have been limited.

It is a necessity for a storyline dealing with the complexity of so many different character storylines.

The web page of "Heart String Marionette" further explains the idea of the Noh style of narration when it states, "One of the premises of Noh, as explained by its creator Zeami, is that emotion is more important than the ability to lay out a clear cause and effect story."

"The Silent" evokes emotions of fear and sadness. But it is difficult to understand why the characters feel the way they do without the due diligence of explaining the different characters' storylines.

For example, it is not clear why the different characters want revenge

against the evil clown. The audience gets more of a cue on how to feel during the film from the soundtrack, which was performed by Currier's San Jose-based band Panthelion.

The eclectic band is able to evoke strong emotions from the audience with its high-pitched, ominous vocals

throughout the film. However, the predominant emotion "The Silent" evoked with its Noh narrative style was confusion because of the story with no real premise. The film jumped between different characters and random flashbacks too much. It was difficult

to grasp what was going on. While I suspect that this type of film will be able to attract a small cult following for those who are into Japanese animation and the Noh narrative style, I would not recommend this movie if you are looking for a movie with real substance. You might want to skip this dark animated film and instead look for one of the indie films with more substance opening at this year's Cinequest film festival.

I would give "The Silent" one out of five stars.

Marissa Trigos is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

## Why the Seahawks won't be going to Disney World

After a long season, it was clear that the best two teams in the NFL were playing in the Super Bowl.

The Patriots and Seahawks seemed so evenly matched that any bad throw or amazing catch could decide the game.

Indeed the game had its fair share of highlight plays including the miraculous catch in the fourth quarter which nearly won Seattle the game.

What went wrong? At the beginning of the season, the Seahawks thought Percy Harvin, their former wide receiver, was going to be a crucial piece for their season's success.

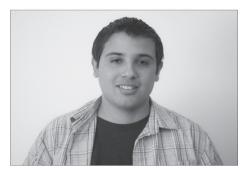
Though less than midway through the season, they traded him to the New York Jets for next to nothing. Harvin was supposed to add dynamicity to the Seahawks'

It resulted in a hole that was never really filled, leaving them even more limited on offense.

The Seahawks traded Harvin to save team chemistry, resulting with two offensive weapons out of the team.

The other, being wide receiver Paul Richardson, a young receiver with great potential unfortunately was injured during the season.

But once Sunday came, it didn't matter what happened to each team during the season.



**Follow Henry on Twitter** @manof2moro

The Seahawks also lacked the same levels of mental tenacity and strategic awareness that the Patriots have had a knack for over the past decade and a half

What mattered was what was going to happen during the game.

The Seahawks' passing game could not

match Tom Brady and the Patriots.

Bowl MVP as almost all of his passes were perfectly thrown.

Seahawks quarterback Russell Wilson on the other hand couldn't quite match up passing-wise.

Of course that's largely due to the coaching staff making the play calls, which led to them running the ball a lot.

But it's not just from offensive and defensive categories that the Seahawks lost to the Patriots—it's the intangible categories that led to the Seahawks' loss.

The Patriots, unlike the late-game crumbling Packers from the NFC Championship Game, are more disciplined and experienced than the Seahawks.

Sure, they won the Super Bowl last year, but coming into the game, the Patriots had won three in the Brady-Belichik

The Seahawks also lacked the same levels of mental tenacity and strategic awareness that the Patriots have had a knack for over the past decade and a half.

It was almost as if the Seahawks got a little too complacent after Green Bay practically handed them the game two weeks ago to send them to the Super Bowl.

They can't rely on games like that to happen every time they're in a deficit. The staff writer. better team will win most of the time.

Whether all of the off-the-field sto-Brady was deservedly named Super rylines affected their performance, remains to be seen.

There was cornerback Richard Sherman contemplating he would not participate in the Super Bowl if his girlfriend went into labor, which didn't happen after all. Though, according to the Oregonian, Pete Carroll, coach of the Seahawks, gave Sherman his blessing if he wanted to skip the game to see his son's birth.

There was also running back Marshawn Lynch and his lack of podium etiquette that the media made into a national story as covered on ESPN.

To be fair, a star player saying "I'm just here so I won't get fined" 29 times during a five-minute interview as documented by the NFL, isn't what you'd expect from a player just days before the Super Bowl.

Though it does make for a fun watch on YouTube if you ever get bored.

Overall, the NFL season ended with a bang as two football behemoths clashed in University of Phoenix Stadium.

A victory from either team would've been icing on the cake to an eventful season of great storylines, and more importantly, great games.

In the end, the better team won.

Henry Navarro is a Spartan Daily







### Sudoku Puzzle

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

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DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆

### **Previous solutions**

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### **Crossword Puzzle**

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Feb 03

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- Indian often
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FROM FRONT PAGE

# LOVE: Marriage equality is a milestone for the LGBT rights movement, but the struggle continues

What's going on in the remaining 14 states?

In Alabama, District Court Judge Callie V. Granade has ruled in favor of striking down the ban on same-sex marriage, but a hold has been placed on the case by Republican Attorney General Luther Strange. According to data from http:// freedomtomarry.org, the hold expires on Feb. 9, which could make Alabama the 37th state to legalize same-sex marriage.

Of the other 13 states that are left, it's only a matter of time. The Supreme Court is set to hear four equal marriage cases from Midwestern states this year. Seven states, including GOP breeding grounds like Texas and Arkansas, have equal marriage court rulings pending further action.

Only three states—North Dakota, Nebraska and Georgia—still have outright constitutional bans on same-sex marriage.

As more and more states amend their laws to include equal marriage, it appears that an ugly chapter of American history is coming to a close. But is the fight really over? Will the LGBT rights movement end when marriage is equal in all 50 states?

The short answer: no.



Follow Raechel Price on Twitter @rae\_thecyborg

Our public policies have the power to change minds. When we make samesex marriage legal, we make it okay for citizens to express themselves

Equal marriage is not the be-all, end-all for LGBT rights. There is plenty more work to do.

Marriage is just one issue among a cornucopia of social issues related to the LGBT rights movement. These issues include employment protection, equal access to health care, protections for transgender youth, bisexual erasure and overall media representation.

In an article for the Center for American Progress on gay and transgender workplace discrimination, authors Crosby Burns and Jeff Krehely wrote "Gay and transgender individuals suffer from socioeconomic inequalities in large part due to pervasive discrimination in the workplace."

GLAAD's "Where We Are on TV Report" shows rising numbers for both broadcast and cable networks for 2014, but LGBT characters are still underrepresented across the board.

Last year, I watched as the states fell like dominoes, my heart swelling with pride as I celebrated with friends across the country who now have the freedom to marry the person they love.

But I also mourned the hurt and the unnecessary loss of life.

I ache for all the victims of hate crimes and police brutality, the teens who turn to suicide as their only way out.

I listened to the story of Leelah Alcorn, a transgender

teen from Ohio who committed suicide in December.

My heart aches for the girl who is buried in the ground, dressed in a suit with the wrong name on her tombstone.

I fear for the next time we have to hear about another life lost to hatred and intolerance.

We have come so far, yet we have so much further to go.

Perhaps the better question is how will the movement change once marriage is equal in all 50 states? How will our focus shift? Which policies will we push for next?

There is a relationship between social attitudes and public policy. They influence one another, and while both are incredibly important to this movement, make no mistake that one always follows the other.

Our public policies have the power to change minds. When we make same-sex marriage legal, we make it okay for citizens to express themselves. We tell our young people that how they feel is normal, that who they are and who they love is right and good.

A new normal is on the horizon. How quickly it arrives is up to us.

Off the Straight and Narrow runs every other Wednesday.

## The new and improved way to take a selfie

"But first, let me take a selfie."

Whether you are at a club or in front of the Eiffel Tower, a selfie is always required no matter what the outing, but what is so great about the "Selfie Stick?"

There have been some interesting controversies about 2014's hottest gadget, according to http://contracostatimes.com.

Have they gone too far with the Selfie Stick though?

I don't think they have. It's a great invention and useful in many ways.

There have been countless times where I wasn't able to capture a picture because my arms weren't long enough, and there wasn't anyone around.

With the Selfie Stick I am able to take the best photo possible with an easy push of a button.

Beyonce has sh

Nobody is ever left out, and I can always get the most scenic view.

All I have to do is set my phone at the end of this stick and click—perfect selfies wherever I go.

It's awesome that the selfie stick has Bluetooth abilities, which makes it easier to operate with hands-free devices.

It connects to almost all smartphone devices, which makes it universal for all providers.

The selfie stick works much like a Go-Pro, except you are using your own phone,

Follow Andrea Sandoval on Twitter
@axsand0val

which makes the stick very affordable compared to the GoPro price.

The prices range from \$6-80, and the selfie sticks can be found at most local electronic stores.

Beyonce has shown off her selfie stick in her music video "7/11" and Diddy has also been seen with this gadget, which makes spectators more interested in getting it.

My first time ever seeing a Selfie Stick was when I was hiking to the Hollywood sign this past break.

I saw a group of girls holding this long stick and taking pictures.

I remember thinking, "Wow! How awesome, I wish I had one of those so I wouldn't have to ask anybody to take my pictures, I could take as many as I'd like."

It may look funny to have your phone at the end of a stick, but hey if you get great pictures at the end of the day that is all that really matters.

As for the opposing view, some have said the metal rod is a hazard to bystanders everywhere and see it as a dangerous weapon, according to an article on http://craveonline.com.

Although the rod can extend anywhere from 9-42 inches, and may look like the end of an umbrella pole, people have tweeted about how it detracts from their view.

"Selfie sticks are stupid and always get in the way," wrote Twitter-user @richh\_du.

Others believe Selfie Sticks only make society look as if it has reached "peak narcissism."

The trend has people taking selfies like no other, which is perfectly acceptable in every way. Selfies are self-expression, which is what I love most about them.

The ability to show self-expression is what people live for and makes them feel great about themselves.

Let's look at the bigger picture, and think who wouldn't want a lifetime of memories to be taken with such a simple device.

Andrea Sandoval is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

## EDM culture is a victim of negative stereotypes

Every person in their life will be criticized for doing something they truly love.

So what would you think of a young adult dressed up in full neon, carrying glow sticks, "kandi" bracelets around their wrists ready to party all night long?

The media looks at raves and sees nothing but the negative, which happens to be the illegal drug use. The media portrays this negative image to the rest of the public.

Issues on drug use has its place in media, but biased and inaccurate representation of drug abuse at raves is unacceptable.

The electronic dance music culture, like any other, has a dark side along with a positive lifestyle. The media makes the rave culture look like it is nothing but a multitude of youth getting together to get high and dance to techno, which is not the case.

What's so great about the EDM lifestyle is that you have the freedom to express yourself. People accept, appreciate and encourage your differences and uniqueness.

Raves are simply what you



Follow Raymond Ibale on Twitter @RaymondIbale

We all know drugs are going to be a part of the rave culture, but stereotyping EDM lovers as drug users is undeserved

make of them, whether you like the music or simply just want to escape the stresses of life; there, you are safe.

stresses of life; there, you are safe.

EDM lovers equate raves to a form of therapy and the festival itself to a drug, in a sense that it allows anyone to escape

from reality.

Music is the main tool, and electronic music is made with creativity and skill. The media needs to know the meaning of peace, love, unity, respect—also known as PLUR—and spreading its positive vibes is what the rave culture wants to share with the world.

The feeling of acceptance in an open-minded community is something no other type of community can relate to.

Our society has many different cultures and the rave scene

has definitely impacted it.

If people would treat each other like they were at a rave, then the world would be a

What's killing the rave scene is the use of illegal drugs.

much better place.

An article in USA Today stated, "Ravers say the scene is still all about the music. But a rising number of critics say it's also about rampant drug use, mostly involving the illegal stimulant Ecstasy."

The Electric Daisy Carnival, better known as EDC, is a three-day music festival which took place in Las Vegas last

year. It is one of the world's largest music festivals. At the festival, there were two deaths which brightened the spotlight on illegal drug use. This is just a small blemish that has been highlighted frequently in the discussion of raves.

We all know drugs are going to be a part of the rave culture, but stereotyping EDM lovers as drug users is undeserved.

Drug abuse spread across all genres even before EDM became a term. Drugs are smuggled into clubs and festivals like nobody's business. Have you ever heard of Burning Man?

Not everybody who goes to raves take drugs. It is hard to stand on a soapbox and convince people that EDM is not all about drugs because nobody would believe you.

In fact, there are people who attend raves that have never touched drugs and actually enjoy dance music.

You don't have to do drugs to have fun at raves. The music and PLUR vibes are all you need.

Raymond Ibale is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

# SPORTS 7

# Freshman gymnast a true all-around talent

By Courtney Kreitner @CourtneyKreitner

Gymnast and freshman kinesiology major Katie Won, from Mesa, Arizona, earned second place in the all-around woman's gymnastics event against Cal on Jan. 16, which is one of the top 10 teams in the nation.

More recently, Won scored a 39.000 in the all-around event at the Texas Woman's Quadrangular, a season-best on Sunday in Denton, Texas. She tied for second in the floor event with freshman teammate Mackenzie Douglas with a score of 9.775.

Won was 18 months old when she first stepped onto a gym mat in a "Mommy and Tot" gymnastics class, which is a mother and daughter bonding experience. Won said she fell in love with the thrill of gymnastics and grew up learning new skills.

Won's mother thought the gym class would keep her daughter active, but she never expected Won would take it this far.

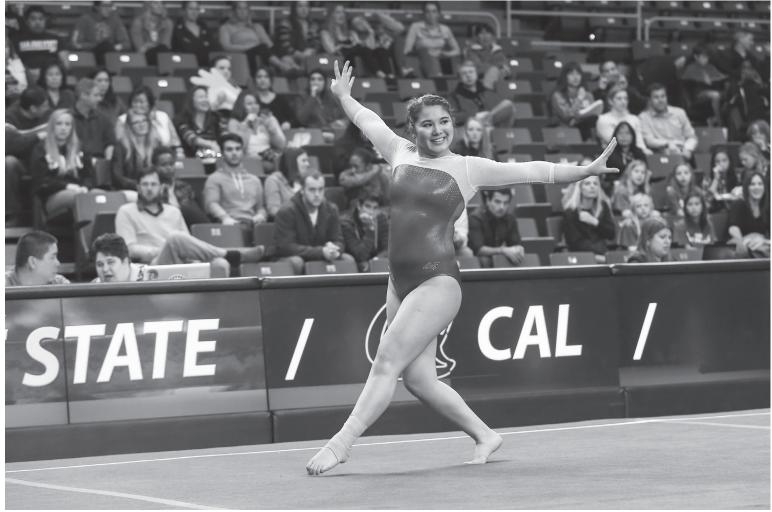
Even though her mother lives a state away, she continues to be her strongest supporter and biggest fan by keeping up with the scores streaming live online.

"She calls me right after and right before meets, and my coaches definitely push me to not give up and build my confidence," Won said. "Coach Wayne Wright and my teammates have been great."

Looking ahead, Won plans to go to physical therapy school to specialize in sports medicine.

"My favorite event to perform in a meet is the floor routine because the crowd gets so into it and I really enjoy bars because it's a lot of fun to perform," Won said.

One of her best skills is dismounting on the bars. Won calls



Terrell Lloyd | SJSU Athletics

Freshman Katie Won performs her floor routine on Jan. 16 against UW-La Crosse and Cal at the SJSU Event Center.

it a "full-in laid-out," which is a combination of two flips in a straight position with a full-twist.

Won's senior year of high school was difficult after tearing her labrum, a type of cartilage in the shoulder which can be very difficult to heal. It required surgery before she could return to gymnastics.

Forced out of competition and practice, she was able to overcome her injury by conditioning and staying focused on healing until she could begin practicing again. "Once I was cleared to start doing

gymnastics, I went back every day and made sure I was working on new skills and all the stuff I used to be able to do," Won said.

With her injury in the past, Won said one of her biggest accomplishments is her recent second place finish in the woman's all-around gymnastics event on Jan. 16.

"It's crazy that as a freshmen I can come in and win a meet like that, I knew I have it in me but it was just crazy to see it actually come out in results," Won said.

Teammate Cami Guyer said

Won has a positive attitude throughout competition, and her confidence is contagious and sets the team up for a successful meet.

"Katie is powerful in a sense even as a freshmen—we all look up to her," Guyer said.

Coach Wright said Won is an exceptionally good gymnast and her competitive spirit stood out when scouting the 18-year-old Arizona native, something he thought the team was in need of.

"Katie is hardworking, committed and wanting to do well, which I think are all a quality of a

great athlete," Wright said.

According to Wright, the team's goal is to win at the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation Conference championship held on March 21 in Anchorage, Alaska and to qualify for the 2015 NCAA Woman's Gymnastics Championships in April.

The team will face the Southern Utah Thunderbirds at the next meet on Friday, Feb. 6, in Cedar City, Utah.

Courtney Kreitner is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

### >> FROM FRONT PAGE >>

## **LEKNESS:** A force to reckon with

plays the 2-meter role.

Johnny Bega, the current women's water polo head coach, was the assistant coach at the time and said they still sought out Lekness despite her injury because she would still show up to every practice.

"She's pretty much a warrior and somebody who is not going to give up and that's why Lou and I kept pursuing her," Bega said

Lekness' childhood friend and teammate, Cara Robinson, sophomore child development major, was there to support her while she was injured.

"I knew that as soon as she could get back in the water she would," Robinson said. "She belongs in the water."

If her statistics are anything to go by, then you can see that Lekness does indeed belong in the water.

Lekness leads the Spartans this season with 33 goals. She continues to climb the rankings, adding two more goals against Stanford over the weekend.

She is also one of five players in the school's history to score 70 or more goals in

a season, reaching her 76th goal last season.

"She is a force to reckon with," Bega said. Lekness doesn't let her achievements get to her head and tries to stay grounded.

"It's all balance," Lekness said. "Knowing there's life after sports and that I have to be able to do something with my life after water polo helps me."

Bega said even though she is not a captain, Lekness is a solid leader for the team in and out of the water.

"Rae is always there when I need help," Robinson said. "She can tell when I'm having a bad time and she will always know how to help me get through it."

Robinson, also a Calgary native, said Lekness is not only a great teammate but also a great friend. Whenever she misses home, Robinson goes to Lekness because she feels like a piece of home.

"She is really driven to become a better water polo player both in and out of the pool and that motivates me to do the same," Robinson said.

Marissa Trigos is a Spartan Daily staff writer.



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### Wednesday, February 4, 2015

## Spartans meet their match, no longer undefeated



Justin Edrington | Spartan Daily

The San Jose State women's water polo team listens to Head Coach Johnny Bega during a timeout in a match against Stanford at the Stanford Invitational, losing to Stanford 11–8 and finishing sixth place overall on Sunday in Stanford, California.

By Justin Edrington @justineddy925

### **daily** video

The San Jose State University women's water polo team had an up and down weekend against tough competition at the annual Stanford Invitational at Stanford University in Stanford, California

The Spartans entered the eight-team water polo tournament undefeated (8–0) and ranked seventh overall nationally. After going 1–2 in the preliminary rounds, the Spartans faced off against Hawaii for fifth place in the tournament.

In a hard fought game that needed overtime to decide a winner, the Spartans came up just short losing the match 12-10.

"We weren't able to accomplish the small things as far as finishing shots," first year Head Coach Johnny Beg said. "Our defense couldn't make some stops that we needed to."

The Spartans got off to a strong start in their final match thanks to sophomore Clara Espar Llaquet who scored three goals in the first quarter, giving the Spartans a 4–2 lead.

Llaquet fouled out of the match midway through the second quarter forcing SJSU to continue without one of their leading goal scorers.

"We lost Clara early in the match and she is our top goal scorer," graduate student Timi Molnar said. "However everyone stepped up and we shared responsibility in the water on defense and on offense. It shows good team play."

Molnar finished the game with three goals, but

it wasn't enough to seal the victory.

The Spartans were up 10-9 with just a minute left but couldn't hold the lead as Hawaii scored the tying goal forcing the game into overtime.

Hawaii continued to attack in overtime by scoring two unanswered goals and won the match 12–10 placing them fifth in the tournament while SJSU finished in sixth place.

"It's tough, every loss is tough," junior Bianca Seyfert said. "Playing into overtime and losing is incredibly sad but we fought hard and did everything we could. This was our 14th game in three weeks so we are tired."

Seyfert also scored three goals in the game and was the Spartans' top scorer of the weekend, finishing with nine goals in four matches.

SJSU opened tournament play on Saturday where sixth ranked UC Irvine dealt the Spartans their first loss of the season, beating them 9–6.

After a long layover, the Spartans rebounded with a convincing 15-6 victory over 18th-ranked UC Davis to conclude the first day of tournament play.

Day two of the tournament began with a match against the defending NCAA champions, the number one ranked Stanford Cardinals.

After being outscored 6–2 in the first quarter, the Spartans fought back outscoring the Cardinal 6–5 over the final three quarters of the match. It was too little too late and the Cardinal won 11–8.

The tournament concluded with the match against Hawaii and the Spartans finished the weekend 1–3.

"When I think about the whole weekend I feel better," Molnar said. "Playing against tough opponents can be a good thing. We progressed through each game and know what we need to work on heading into our next tournament."

The Spartans now have two weeks to practice before heading down south for the 16-team UC Irvine Invitational on Feb. 21-22.

Justin Edrington is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

TOURNAMENT RESULTS



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