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Tuesday, November 12, 2013

COMMUNITY

95th Annual Veterans Day parade in San Jose



Juan Reyes | Spartan Daily

A pair of participants set up before the start of the 95th Annual Veterans Day parade in downtown San Jose on Monday afternoon.

By Juan Reyes @jmreyes831

Hundreds of spectators flocked to the streets of downtown San Jose for the 95th annual Veterans Day Parade on Monday afternoon to cheer on and recognize the nation's troops for their service and sacrifice to the United States.

More than 50 groups, including the Stewart Tartan Pipes and Drums group from San Francisco, South Bay Shriners, Ida Price Middle School marching band and San Jose city council members such as District 3 representative Sam Liccardo, participated in the event.

"It's a wonderful way to honor our heroes," Liccardo said. "This has been an annual tradition since I can remember and we need to keep it going. As much as we want to remember those who fought so bravely in places like Vietnam and Korea we're seeing vets today returning from Iraq and Afghanistan, and we know as a society we really need to pull together to support them."

Liccardo said he's been part of the ride-along in the parade for seven years and he never gets tired of seeing the children who come out to catch a glimpse of the veterans.

"This is sort of a history lesson for them in real time," he said.
"To be able to see those who have fought and just an opportunity for them to understand that ev-

erything we take for granted, particularly our freedom, came to us because someone else fought for

Erwin Anderson, one of the soldiers who fought for freedom, said he was on deck as a member of the United States Coast Guard in World War II on one of the many crew transport ships during the

On Monday afternoon, his ride was a dark brown 1921 Studebaker Light Six, which was part the classic car lineup filled with honorable veterans in the parade and folks such as Cyretha Gaffney came out to cheer in support of Anderson as well as her husband, Tyrone, who served in the United States Marine Corps.

"The parade today is a remarkable event because I am a Marine wife and I have veterans like my brother," she said. "I represent the veterans because I support the disabled veterans that are not able to get support and I am here to advocate."

Howard Friedman and his father Mel, another veteran who fought in World War II, also watched the parade from the sidewalk on Santa Clara Street, but it wasn't until the "Keep the Spirit of '45 Alive" group walked by that the United Sates Army veteran began to choke up.

"You can't describe the honor of being among people from my era," Friedman said. "It's fantastic when you look around here and there's thousands of people, and 90 percent of them were in the service regardless what branch they served."

His son Howard claimed to be a pacifist but still recognizes the significance of having a day to remember everyone who has contributed his or her service in the military on and off seas.

"I have a great love for my father," he said. "I'm very honored that my father did what he did and chose to serve for our country. To me this is showing a unity and it's a place in our mind and hearts where we can say we come together as a

Juan Reyes is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

FINANCE

Students plan demonstration against budget cuts, Qayoumi

By Melissa Lewelling @melissadanae

Student reaction to news Wednesday of swift budgets cuts planned for the Spring 2014 semester is rising to the surface as some call for action against San Jose State University President Mohammad Qayoumi, despite the restoration of funds.

"President Mo has got to go," Will Cormier, a sophomore history major, said at a meeting in the Mosaic Cross Cultural Center on Friday, where 15 students gathered to talk about possible demonstrations surrounding the cuts.

The proposed \$16 million in cuts to SJSU's base budget would result in larger class sizes, fewer section offerings and possibly fewer faculty members for de-

partments such as English and comparative literature, John Engell, English department chair, told the Spartan Daily Wednesday after a meeting between the college deans and three members of SJSU's administration.

Qayoumi released a statement Thursday that said the school would use "one-time funds allocated to campus infrastructure and other projects" to restore course sections originally planned for Spring 2014, but made no mention of following semesters.

Daniel Harris-Lucas, a senior public relations major who is trying to plan a campuswide demonstration, said Qayoumi's statement was a "tactic" meant to "pacify students" and make them "feel safe," but that it isn't going to

stop him from protesting.

"Don't think that we won a victory, (because) that's just a small, little battle," he said. "That doesn't speak for the Fall, Summer (or) Winter session."

Andrew Anguiano, a senior humanities major with a concentration in American studies, said he is worried about his peers who are trying to graduate next semester.

"Most of our classes are only one section, as I see it, and we have the (enrollment minimum) at 20 students," Anguiano said, "which really hurts us because we're a small department and an even smaller concentration."

Sasha Bassett, a senior behavioral science and sociology double major, as well as an intern at the Mosaic center, opened up the weekly meeting of an on-campus social justice group called In Solidarity on Friday to any student concerned about the university's

financial affairs.

"As far as I can tell, the students seem to be really upset—if only because they're confused,"
Bassett said. "The fact that (Qayoumi) has to release something at all saying, 'Oh don't pay attention to the meeting, it's 'fine'

...I don't trust that."

Bassett said she would like to see "some sort of movement" toward educating students on the university's actions and is open to whatever form that takes — rally, workshop or other kinds of demonstrations.

"I feel like, whatever we do, it should represent more than one person and kind of the general student population," she said.

Fifteen students rotated in and out of the almost 2-hour meeting Friday, where they vented feelings of frustration, anger and suspicion regarding Qayoumi's budget messages.

SEE **REACTION** ON PAGE 2

CAMPUS

Faculty reach out to veterans with new mentor program

By Allison Williams *@all3ybobally*

Student veterans gathered in Mosaic Cross Cultural Center on Thursday to celebrate Veterans Day and received updates on upcoming veteran

Veterans Student Organization President Ben Sok opened the gathering with hopes that Thursday's celebration would be the first of many.

A mentoring program is slated to begin as a pilot program in the Spring 2014, said Michele Bolton, who is

helping to establish the program.

Bolton said the mentoring program will pair up student veterans with a faculty member.

She said members would fill out a small survey so that mentors and mentees with similar interests or needs can be matched.

The pair will meet throughout the semester, Bolton said, but she hopes it becomes a connection that lasts longer than the semester.

SEE **resources** on page 2



INSIDE 2



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P. 6 News: Photo spread to honor Vietnam vets

FORECAST

Partly Cloudy









PSYCHOLOGY

Veterans speak out on service stigma



Photo courtesy of Ben B. Sok

Corporal Ben B. Sok stands on top of an armored Humvee while wielding an assault rifle in Iraq during his deployment in 2003.

By Michael Chen @MichaelGChen

When Ben Sok returned from his three-year service in the Iraq war, he was afflicted with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) like some soldiers before him.

Feeling anxiety whenever people sat behind him in the classroom or experiencing frantic reactions when driving in certain places became the norm, according to Sok.

"Psychiatrists say that I'm going to have PTSD the rest of my life, which is a total bummer," Sok said. "I just want to be normal."

Trisha Vinatieri, clinical psychologist at SJSU, said it is common for service veterans to experience PTSD.

"It's an illogical and cognitive happening when someone experiences trauma," Vinatieri said. "That's stemming from combat exposure, or a training accident or military sexual trauma which occurs in about one in 10 women or one in 100 men."

Sok said he had been fighting PTSD for 10 years and that going from the structured, military culture back to a ci-

vilian lifestyle has been a difficult adjustment for him and his family.

"My reactions to experience and stimuli are not normal," Sok said. "It changes my whole household because I react differently than my family members, so they have to equalize and harmonize with me"

Sok attributes the development of his PTSD to the traumatic events he experienced during his deployment in Iraq

Sok said one event involved his Humvee crashing because of a roadside bomb which resulted in the loss of his two front teeth.

He said that at the time, there were chemical weapons alerts and he had to put his gas mask on with a broken face.

But new medication and a willingness to face PTSD head-on have been factors in helping him control his symptoms, Sok said.

"I chose to really overexpose myself to the triggers of my PTSD," Sok said. "I lived in Arizona where the scenery was similar to Iraq in the desert. I would drive and experience PTSD symptoms."

Sok said stigmas rooted in misunderstandings of military culture, as well as stigmas against combat veterans are why discrimination in the workplace is a problem for veterans

It's pretty difficult because you leave a world which is very organized ...

Damian Bramlett Four-year Iraq veteran

He said the stigma that veterans are aggressive is one that can prevent them from getting jobs because veterans have to prove they work well with others.

Damian Bramlett, a fouryear Iraq veteran and Veterans Integration to Academic Leadership coordinator on campus, said employment discrimination is a result of ignorance and people not fully understanding what it means to serve in the military and the hardships that veterans face.

"They never tell you exactly why they won't hire you," Bramlett said. "But it's kind of obvious how they might view you."

Bramlett said military culture was completely different from a civilian one.

"It's geared towards one general job which is to support the U.S. in a capacity that politicians see fit," Bramlett said. "And it varies quite a bit because it's the only job you're going to have where you eat, sleep and do everything where you work. You're on call all the time."

Bramlett said it was tough for him to readjust to civilian life after returning home from Iraq and that he did not speak with his family much about his experience.

"It's pretty difficult because you leave a world which is very organized, they tell you what to do, when to do it and how to do it," Bramlett said. "A lot of the issue is finding that camaraderie again and finding that place in the world." About 15 percent of the most recent returning veterans suffer from some form of PTSD, according to Vinatieri.

She said a common challenge for veterans is going from a very structured environment, where someone is giving orders and told what to do, to a civilian society that lacks the same kind of structure

Bramlett said 15 percent is a small population in the veteran community, however, people have misconceptions that the vast majority of veterans have some form of PTSD.

He said a big part of that misconception dates back to a remnant of the Vietnam War where folks who came back were shamed by the public and many Vietnam veterans did not really identify with having served in the military.

"They have fear of burdening their loved ones or that they may not understand," Vinatieri said. "People have a lot of fear and concern regarding treatment even if they recognize they need it."

The Vital office is located in Clark Hall 240A and can be contacted at 408-924-5462.

Michael Chen is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

Reaction: Group encourages campuswide support of protest

FROM PAGE 1

"Students at large don't know what the f*** is going on," said Yesenia Sepulveda, a senior sociology major, during Friday's meeting. "(Qayoumi) needs to speak on this sh**, don't just send an email."

Herlinda Aguirre, a senior art history major, said she was "pissed off" about the situation and felt as if there was a lot of "sleight-of-hand" going on at the university.

"I feel like we need to create a response to what happened this week," she said.

Bill Nance, vice president for student affairs at SJSU, said he's always encouraged students to be "informed, active and engaged" in matters important to them.

"Protests have long been an important part of university activities, and much more broadly, American history," Nance said. "To have an impact (though), participants need to be fully informed and knowledgeable about the topic that is the subject of their protest."

One question that Nance said he had regarding any planned protest was, "What's the goal?"

"If asked why they are protesting something, participants should be able to recount accurate and factual information, not speculation or generalities," Nance said. "They should be able to describe the desired outcome they saak"

While the student group initially discussed focusing on an anti-Qayoumi campaign, Karim, an SJSU alumni who preferred not to give his last name, said the demonstration should be broader and target aspects of the entire CSU system that students feel are not working.

"I think institutionally we need to have a very large critique," Karim said in the meeting, "so they can't cut out the fangs of the movement by giving in to concessions."

Bassett said she agreed with Karim and others who voiced concerns about attacking Qayoumi rather than the budget issues, but noted the student movement could do both.

"(Qayoumi) is the first long-term president we've had in a long time ... and he was supposed to be our savior," Bassett said. "We should definitely send him packing, but that shouldn't be

A major point of discussion for the group was the effectiveness of speed versus the strength in numbers.

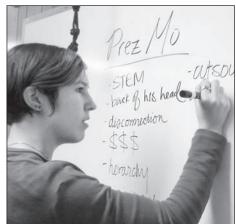
Harris-Lucas attended Friday's meeting in an effort to join the two protests together, although his plans were for a longer term, highinvolvement demonstration.

"I'm trying to get the whole school involved, not just a group of students," he said. "The thing with smaller (demonstrations) is that they're great, for a day ... (but) it's the masses that drive change."

Aguirre and Bassett said they were worried about the movement losing steam if students wait too long to act, regardless of the number.

"In my opinion, reaction works if we plan it out correctly," Aguirre said.

The group's first plan of action is a workshop scheduled for Tuesday, Nov. 19 at 3 p.m., in a to be determined location, to educate stu-



Melissa Lewelling | Spartan Daily
Alessa Baldonado, a senior communicative
disorders and sciences major, writes down
what the student group thought of San
Jose State University President Mohammad Qayoumi in a meeting on Nov. 8. The
group used the list to narrow its overall
message of demonstration to disconnection, money and profit versus non-profit.

dents on the budget situation, let them form their own opinions and then inform them about further demonstration efforts, Bassett said

"I feel like we really need to sit down as students together and figure out what's going on and how we feel about it," Bassett said.

Melissa Lewelling is a Spartan Daily staff

SJSU Crime Log 11/5 - 11/9

The following items are selected from the University Police Department daily crime log. Times shown are when the incidents were reported to police.



King Library

Library security officers responded to a report of vandalism.



Student Union

A man was arrested on suspicion of public intoxication.

King Library

A police officer made contact with a juvenile who had been reported missing. The juvenile was released to a group home.



Joe West Hall

Police officers responded to a report of an intoxicated person. The person was transported by an ambulance to a local hospital for evaluation.

Information compiled by Leeta-Rose Ballester from SJSU police department

Resources: Committee searches for coordinator for new service

FROM PAGE 1

Trisha Vinatieri, Veterans Integration to Academic Leadership initiative program coordinator, said they're working with a set span of time to figure out where more mentors are needed, how effective the program is and what can be

"(We want to) make sure the mentor relationship is beneficial," Vinatieri said.

As of now, Vinatieri said about 20 faculty members and a handful of student veterans have signed up to be mentors.

She said she wanted to be sure of the number of mentors they need before taking student veterans.

Faculty is being asked to commit for a year, Vinatieri said, and it's an opportunity for many to give back to a student group in which they may be interested.

She said some are veterans themselves or know military members and veterans.

Vinatieri said some are interested in pursuing graduate school while others may want to get to know the campus Mentors are able to use their expertise, Vinatieri said, and students have support.

"Having a mentor ... is a great way to get connected." Vinatieri said.

Students who attended the Thursday meeting were also given an update on the progress of a veteran's resource

Art King, associate vice president for student affairs, said progress is being made on a veteran's resource center, but a final location hasn't yet been decided.

"We're getting closer and closer," King said.

King said he hopes a location can be found somewhere that doesn't require construction, but there are still discussions being held about a permanent location.

Along with discussions about a resource center, there is also an ongoing search for a veteran program coordinator, King said.

The coordinator would be students' one point of contact for their paperwork and other things, said Fernanda Perdomo A. Karp, director of campus

and community relations.

Karp is also the chair of the committee charged with finding the program coordinator.

A candidate had been previously selected, but they declined the offer and the search had to start again, Karp

She said there are five more candidates, three females and two males, who will be interviewed on Friday by the com-

Student veterans are also welcome to attend, Karp said.

She said that the students will be able to ask the candidates questions and give an evaluation afterwards that will be taken into consideration.

Karp wasn't able to give a concrete timeline on when a coordinator would be selected, but she said the committee's recommendation would be passed on to King, who would then give the decision over to SJSU's human resources.

The final approval from human resources could take two to four weeks, Karp said.

"We want to be the top school in (terms of) being (veteran) friendly," King said.

Allison Williams is a Spartan Daily staff writer. **REVIEW**

'Star Wars: Frames'

Tish Wells

McClatchy Tribune

Who hasn't in their lifetime wanted to study a moment in a film, to pause the action and survey what is going on without fear that the hold suddenly will end?

For fans of George Lucas' "Star Wars" saga, that moment has finally come with "Star Wars: Frames." It is all six of the "Star Wars" trilogy frame-by-frame.

In 2011, "Frames" was issued in a very limited edition of six volumes, and came in a hard case adorned with a Darth Vader medallion. It costs \$3,000.

Now it's been trimmed down to a two-volume set in an elaborate lasercut slipcase box. The cost? \$150.

"Frames" is for fans that know the movies well. There are no captions or explanations - just photographs.

Film director, and "Star Wars" devotee, Guillermo del Toro provides the forward for the volume that covers "Star Wars," "The Em-

pire Strikes Back" and "Return of the Jedi." He fell in love with the saga as a young man.

"For my generation – for me – the first two "Star Wars" films were pillars of not only entertainment, but of filmic myth-generating and mythmaking."

"For the generation that immediately followed mine, the third film was that and Episodes I, II, and III spoke to each successive generation," says del Toro. "

The introduction to the volume that covers "The Phantom Menace," "Attack of the Clones" and "Revenge of the Sith" was written by Lucasfilm author J.W. Rinzler who says director George Lucas sat down in 2005 to select frames for the original six volume set.

He calculated that Lucas "had exactly 184,196 images to examine (for the complete Prequel Trilogy, 566,481 images.)"

Despite numerous interruptions for other "Star Wars"-related projects, Lucas completed "Frames" in 2008.



LucasFilm | MCT

A frame from "The Empire Strikes Back" from the book "Star Wars: Frames."

Rinzler says, "Lucas' reasons for choosing a specific frame can be narrowed down. One motivation was to give both fans and cinephiles the time to examine complex images dogfight scenes, battle scenes, exotic locations, images that were on screen for only seconds but which had 10 months, if not years, to create."

Progress in film technology is clearly shown in the two books. The first three made in the 1970s and early 1980s - "Star Wars," "The Empire Strikes Back" and "Return of the Jedi" – were all shot on film. The three made decades later used digital technology pioneered by Lucas' own Industrial Light and Magic.

One note: "Frames" uses the "Star Wars" with galactic celebrations after the death of the Emperor and the ghostly form of Hayden Christensen (Anakin Skywalker/Darth Vader) from the end of "Return of the Jedi" instead of the original mask-less Vader, Sebastian Shaw.

STYLE

Hunter chic: No hiding fashion world's love of camouflage

Joe Taschler McClatchy Tribune

MILWAUKEE - Camouflage clothing is in vogue and not just among those who are trying to remain invisible

critters. "It's a trend that is most popular now in the U.S. and Europe, but has seen its time in nearly every part of the world," said Jordan Dechambre, a Milwaukee-based style expert.

to white-tailed deer and other

In addition to guys in tree stands and duck blinds across Wisconsin, celebrities including Rihanna, Justin Timberlake, Gwen Stefani and Sarah Jessica Parker have been spotted wearing camo gear.

"Camo has been an important trend over the past couple seasons and shows no sign of slowing down," Sofia Wacksman, vice president of trend for Menomonee Falls, Wis.-based Kohl's Department Stores, said in an email.

"While re-colored and abstract iterations make it look new, the classic camo can also feel modern when mixed with softer colors like ballet pinks and creamy neutrals."

The fashion appeal of camo comes as no surprise to Al Lob-

"I always thought that," said Lobner, president of the Wisconsin Bear Hunters' Association. "The rest of the world is starting to figure it

Lobner, 60, said he has been wearing camo for at least 30 years. He has a closetful of the stuff. So do a lot of other people these

"The fact that camouflage is more easily accessible than ever - whether it's from localboutiques or national retailers - makes it much more convenient to rock the trend," Dechambre said. "'Standing out' in camouflage is no longer an oxymoron."



Mark Hoffman | MCT

Sam Firari checks women's camouflage hoodies while shopping, Oct. 30 at Cabela's in Richfield, Wisconsin. Firari, who loves camouflage, will be going on her first deer

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SPORTS

FOOTBALL



Basil Sar | Spartan Daily

SJSU receiver Kyle Nunn is taken down by defensive back J.J. Whittaker after an incomplete pass. The SDSU Aztecs came from behind to win the game 34-30.

Spartans look to move on after tough conference loss

By Ryan Brown @rgbrownie

After Saturday's loss to San Diego State, the Spartans (5-4, 4-2 Mountain West Conference (MWC)) are still looking for their bowl-qualifying sixth win of the season.

Despite leading by as many as 11 in the fourth quarter, SJSU was unable to hold on to what would have been a crucial conference win.

There were a few big plays that shifted momentum back to the Aztecs, but one of the biggest issues for the Spartans was a lack of a running game.

According to SJSU Athletics, the Spartans rushed for 81 yards as a team, after they gained at least 160 on the ground per game during their four-game winning streak.

Freshman running back Jarrod Lawson led the team with 17 attempts for 78 yards.

At the press conference on Monday, Head Coach Ron Caragher seemed to excuse the low rushing total.

"I think it's important to run the football whenever you can, but also I think you have

got to take advantage of what the defense gives you," Caragher said. "Sometimes defenses can put their foot down in certain phases and absolutely be determined to stop it, and a good offense is able to adjust and work around that."

Caragher also said San Diego State's unique 3-3-5 stack defense played a key role in slowing the SISU offense.

"It can be challenging to run the ball against that because there's so much movement up front," Caragher said. "You've just got to be able to create advantages in the man-to-man coverage."

yards through the air, but the lack of balance also limited the passing game's effectiveness.

The Spartans did manage more than 300

This Saturday, SJSU travels to Reno, Nevada to take on the Nevada Wolfpack (3-7, 2-5 Mountain West), a team that has gave up a conference-worst 265 rushing yards per game.

After starting the season 2-0 in the Mountain West, the Wolfpack lost their last five games, but Caragher won't take that for granted.

He said it'll be important to slow down Nevada's balanced pistol offense. Though they don't excel at either passing or running, the Wolfpack are in the top half of the NCAA in passing and rushing yards.

"It's a lot of deception, a lot of speed, a lot of ability for the quarterback to run the ball," Caragher said of the Nevada offense.

Wolfpack quarterback Cody Fajardo, a junior from Brea, California, went for 2,701 yards of total offense on the season, with 17 total touchdowns to two interceptions.

"We've faced some athletic quarterbacks in this conference," Caragher said. "Fajardo is right up there. He makes the thing run."

Another key for the Spartans will be slowing Nevada wide receiver Brandon Wimberly. Wimberly is a big, strong pass-catcher at 6 foot 3 inches and 225 pounds and creates matchup advantage against smaller cornerbacks.

Freshman tight end Billy Freeman, who left Saturday's game with concussion-like symptoms, isn't ready to return to the field for SJSU, and could miss the game against Nevada.

"(He's) day to day, right now. Obviously we're hoping he comes back," Caragher said. "He's really blossomed as a player the last couple weeks."

Freeman has 19 catches for 343 yards on the season, according to SJSU Athletics.

Two defensive players for the Spartans are making news as well, senior cornerback Bene Benwikere and fellow senior linebacker Keith Smith.

Benwikere is now tied for the most interceptions among active players, according to SISU Athletics.

His interception against San Diego State has helped him tie for the lead with 14, while also tying a school-record four straight games with an interception.

Smith remains the NCAA's active leader in tackles with 439 career stops. The linebacker is now 60 tackles ahead of the NCAA's next-best Though the Spartans lost control of their

own destiny against the Aztecs, Caragher emphasized that the Spartans have always played one game at a time. "That's really been our philosophy. Just one

game at a time," Caragher said. "Whether we haven't had a victory or we're undefeated, it's so important to focus on the task at hand."

Ryan Brown is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

Classifieds

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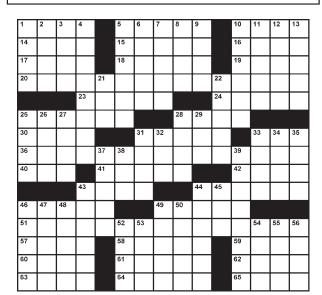
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Today's Crossword Puzzle **Universal Crossword**



perhaps Lady's husband

58 Highest-

ranking

way 60 Word with

62 Hardly

63 Do a far-

64 Not ver-

bose

65 Condition of misfor-

1 Follower

2 Parts of

hipbones 3 Port side

5 Depress Royal cap Spots with

indoor

perhaps 8 Name one

when sail-

ing south Amorphous

DOWN

"do" or

"cost you" Bluegill fish

rier's work

Boy Scout

for Heming

preposition 22 Cat's nine 25 Little

touches,

26 Away from the wind,

27 Castle

28 How pro-

29 Volcano

fallout 31 Out of

whack

32 Colossal

33 Fix, as a

heart

and ends

34 It starts

35 Dwarf or giant ___ 37 Privileged

member

restrictions

39 Having no

43 Walk like a

45 Stick-figure

46 Words be-

48 Monte

fore "calm" and "bright" 47 Word with

44 Devious

as of paint

on a yacht

53 Word with

54 Place to

pray 55 Electroni-

duel

56 Place to

cally scored

play catch

"dinner

ACROSS (replacing) uncleaned

- 5 Like fish Bator,
- 10 ___ Bator, Mongolia 14 Alda of TV and film 15 Comedian
- Lange 16 Whimper 17 It's as good as a mile 18 Backs,
- anatomi-19 It's seen in many Christmas
- specials 20 Far from 23 Skybox
- 24 Concepts25 Wet Wash up 30 Sunburn
- treatment Take down 31 a notch 33 Bride's new title
- 36 Perspiring position
- 41 Colossal 42 Andean of old
- 43 Unmake (with "up")
- melancholy 46 Accessor
- ing jacket 49 Mother
- 51 Like the
- by one 9 Fist pumper's 10 Advantageous aspect
- a fencing
- touch

palindromic

- 11 Attempt at 12 Waikiki welcome 13 Grown-up
- efts 21 Poet's
- country 50 Strongman's reference? 52 If it's outstand-
- river or ing, it's really not

Americans' reactions to Vietnam vets

Why is there a generally positive reception of veterans and servicemen of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars when they return home in contrast to the notoriously negative treatment of Vietnam servicemen?

To gain some insight, I discussed the issue with retired Army officer Tom Griffin, a

decorated Army Lieutenant Colonel who served three tours in Vietnam.

Griffin summed up his memory of the public's treatment of Vietnam era veterans and servicemen as "hostile."

Griffin said anti-war and antimilitary sentiments were so strong in



Follow Sarah Kenoyer on Twitter @sarahkenoyer

the Vietnam era that servicemen stayed on base when in the United States "because we knew it wasn't safe to go

"Most military didn't want to mingle with the civilian population. We (servicemen) were being blamed for whatever happened in the war," Griffin said.

Griffin recalled an experience that occurred while

traveling home from his second tour in Vietnam. While in SFO airport, he and his fellow servicemen encountered anti-war demonstrators. A protestor spit on Tom and struck him with a sign that read, "Baby Killers, Get Out of Vietnam."

Griffin attributes the negative treatment of Vietnam era servicemen to "the strength and noise of the Vietnam protest movement."

"People believe whatever is noisiest out there," Griffin said.

Griffin said he feels the public is desensitized and apathetic to the Iraq and Afghanistan conflicts because "the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq have gone on so long and there's no clear winner."

Regarding general public goodwill toward servicemen and veterans of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars, Griffin said, "I think the country feels bad about how they treated Vietnam vets," suggesting that it is in part a gesture to try to make up for prior public bad behavior.

I think a prime reason for the difference in American public support is the backdrop and origin of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars – that is, they were initiated by the terrorist attacks upon the U.S. on Sept. 11, 2001.

Although the Saddam Hussein regime had nothing to do with the attacks directly, American citizens and the George Bush administration were looking for a scapegoat. The Afghanistan conflict was largely a hunt for Bin Laden and a war on terrorism which had so tragically touched U.S. soil and lives.

The American public was personally angry - just as it had been after the bombing of Pearl Harbor - and a renewed patriotism was born of that anger. The American public just wasn't behind the distant war of Vietnam, a war whose reasons did not touch American lives and concerns so directly and intimately.

I remember the immediate post-9/11 era clearly, when all the homes in my neighborhood flew U.S. flags, when there was a stigma against people who did not have a U.S. flag in their home and a yellow ribbon on their front yard tree. That was the "noise" of patriotism which we heard loud and clear and beckoned to its call. Just as those of the Vietnam era followed the lead of the highly visible and vocal anti-war

I guess he who cries loudest will sway public opinion. But that will never excuse the deplorable and unjustified treatment of those who served in Vietnam. We need to follow our own conscience and moral compass, not follow the pied piper

Sarah Kenoyer is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

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VOLUME IS A VIRTUE BY ANDREW FORGY 2ND & 4TH TUESDAYS

Musicians vocal about patriotism

Follow Andrew on

@andrewforgy

If you are the type of music fan who pays attention to lyrics, you might realize that musicians and politics do not always agree.

Marvin Gaye, Outkast, Bad Religion, SOJA, Immortal Technique, The Dixie Chicks, Madonna, P!nk and countless others through the years have expressed their disapproval of the government in the

catchiest of ways for many decades. Musicians, for the most part, are free thinking, creative and not afraid to express their feelings. They practice our right to freedom of speech to the fullest, tackling some of the most controversial topics in politics and sharing them with the public, inspiring even some of the laziest and uninformed individuals to put their thinking caps on for three to five

I am all about sharing distrust of politics and discontentment in certain policies that have been passed. Heck, even my band has shared a few thoughts on our albums, but one thing I cannot

in general, speak out against our soldiers.

"Fuck the FBI and Army troops. Fighting for What? Be your own man. I'll be flying through the clouds green like I am Peter Pan." Not only are these lyrics by Soulja Boy unintelligent and most likely written after one or 72 bong

rips, but they are also completely offensive to the people

fighting overseas for our freedom. Fortunately, few have come out with such offense, and Soulja Boy did apologize for his lyrics, though it might have been another celebrity PR move.

Songs lashing out against war and the draft were a trend during the Vietnam era. Country Joe and the Fish showed their disapproval of the draft with "Well, come on all of you, big strong men, Uncle Sam needs your help again. He's got himself in a terrible jam, way down yonder in Vietnam. So put down your books and pick up a gun, we're gonna have a whole lotta fun." CCR chimed in as well with its hit "Fornon, Bob Dylan and many other pop/rock stars of the era.

I have a high level of respect for musicians and bands who give praise to the people making sacrifices away from home. Though some do not agree with the war, people have to realize that soldiers did not specifically choose to fight in the area that they are sent. Most people I know join because of family, to honor our country or because they have no other choice.

"I pray for peace, prepare for war. And I never will forget. There's no price too high for freedom, so be careful where you tread," wrote country star Clint Black when paying his respect for the men and women who fight for us.

Country music has always seemed to be the front-runner in patriotic music, with artists Toby Keith, Johnny Cash, Merle Haggard, Alan Jackson and others who have expressed their love for their country and respect for the military. And though rock artists sway more toward the protests against military action, there have been artists such as Bruce Springsteen, Metallica and Bret Michaels who have shown their patriotic support.

Disapproval of what our government is up to is bound to happen, and fortunately we have the right in this country to express it through music. Something musicians should remember when writing their music is that we have this freedom because of the men and women who make the ultimate sacrifice overseas, and we should show them the ultimate respect that they deserve.

Thank you to everyone who has made this commitment and sacrifice for us.

Andrew Forgy is a Spartan Daily



Our military is not our government

As a '90s child, a nation at complete peace is basically a foreign concept. I hardly remember a time when war and the military haven't been issues or made headlines.

I have only known a country that has had a military presence in another

Political debates about the next military action and casualty counts flash on the news and in the papers.

front-page news has note. A quick "Oh, people part ways. I can remember

after Sept. 11, a patriotic fervor planted itself in nearly every **war...** heart across America.

And as the years have passed, I've noticed the change in sentiments.

Patriotism has turned into something similar to annoyance. Now, I see a large portion of people who don't support the war. Unfortunately, I often see this coupled with an unpleasant view of the military.

Not agreeing with a war shouldn't equate to not supporting our troops.

I may not agree with the actions of our government or the invasions and wars they declare, but I can't assign blame onto the men and women they send to fight for them.

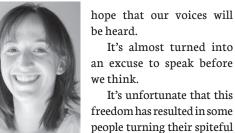
Whatever my political beliefs are, I am always thankful I live in America.

Do we have our problems? Yes, but in comparison, I don't think ours are really that bad.

I may not be proud of every decision the national powers make, I confess that I'm not, but I think I'm blessed.

I'm blessed and thankful for the many men and women who have lost their lives throughout our history and the many others who risk theirs to protect the freedoms that many of us take

Our freedom of speech is something that we highly regard and respect in America. We can speak out against our government, usually without any fear. We can critique and be vocal about what we think is going wrong in our nation, and we hold



Follow Allison Williams on Twitter @all3ybobally

I doubt all of What was once the people who slowly become a foot- have lost their note. A quick "Oh, by the way" before lives in a war wholeheartedly agreed with the

abstract, there were 1,088,465 active duty military personnel in 2009. Add to that the 819,318 people in the National Guard and the reserves. That's a

total of 1,907,783 people, not including civilian personnel.

To think that almost 2 million people (more than that if you consider the 709,265 civilian personnel) all have the exact same thoughts about a war or invasion as the government is farfetched, to say the least.

These men and women put aside their personal viewpoints and risk their lives. I doubt all of the people who have lost their lives in a war wholeheartedly agreed with the war, but they did what they were ordered to do. They put their own lives on the line for something they may despise, because that is their job.

They didn't sit down with the president or Congress to decide what to do. They are told what to do.

Many of us go to a job every day, do what we're told and go about our day.

It's the same thing with military personnel, only there is a lot more on the line with their job.

It's one thing to disagree with our government, it's our right, but we should be careful to never confuse our unhappiness with our government with our respect for our troops.

You can disagree with a war and still support the men and women who

Allison Williams is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

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REMEMBRANCE

Vietnam War Memorial honors the 142 fallen





Allison Williams | Spartan Daily

The Sons of San Jose Vietnam Memorial Dedication is displayed on West Santa Clara Street in San Jose, Calif. Dennis Fernandez, Sandra Fernandez and Bill Otterlei are three of five members of the Board of Directors for the Vietnam War Memorial Foundation and graduates from San Jose State University. Fernandez, Otterlei and Michael Salas are veterans of

By Allison Williams @all3ybobally

On West Santa Clara Street, just a brief walk from the SAP Center, is the Vietnam War Memorial.

Dennis Fernandez, president of the board who organized the independent organization to build the memorial, stated in an email that the sole purpose of the organization is the memo-

The memorial itself is made of dark marble with

142 names and a dedication etched in white. The design is simple; three marble slabs lined up next to each other like a presentation board sitting atop concrete steps. Around the memorial are four flagpoles with flags flying high amongst the palm trees. Two benches face the monument side with the names and dedication.

"This memorial was built for the obvious. Many cities had a monument, but not San Jose," he said. "San Jose has the third highest casualty numbers of California."

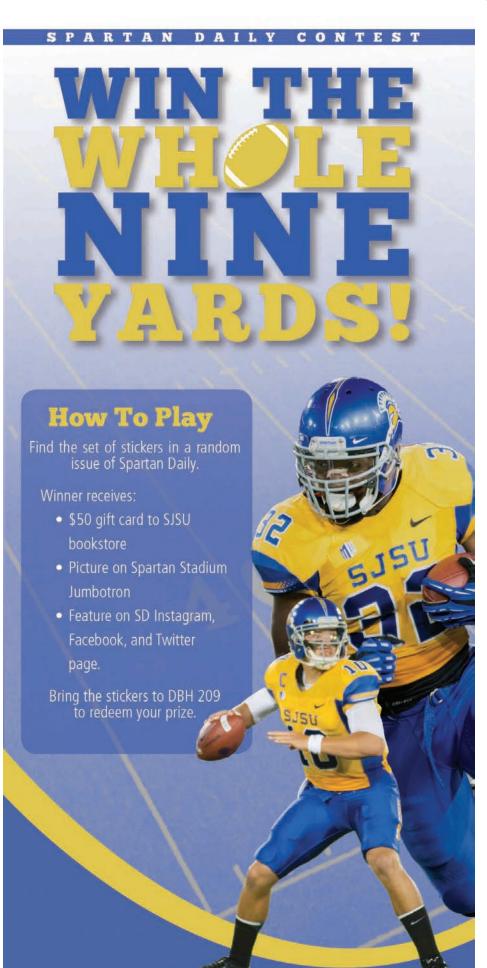
Fernandez said the 142 casualties of San Jose men are behind Los Angeles and San

Started in August 2008, the memorial was unveiled on March 30 of this year, Fernandez said.

Fernandez said \$30,000 still needs to be raised to cover the costs, separate from the cost of building the mon-

Allison Williams is a Spartan Daily staff writer.







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