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Oliver's shot lifts Spartans

Ron Gleeson
Staff Writer

When it mattered most, the SJSU men's basketball team rallied late in the game to stay alive Tuesday with a 75-74 victory over Hawaii in the Western Athletic Conference Tournament in Las Vegas.

Facing single elimination and a long bus ride back to San Jose, the Spartans (16-14, 5-11 WAC) trailed the Rainbow Warriors (18-12, 8-8 WAC) by one point with 22 seconds left on the clock.

With its final possession of the game, and possibly the season, SJSU gave the ball to its leading scorer and the nation's third-highest scorer, senior guard Adrian Oliver, to bring the win home for the Spartans.

Oliver didn't disappoint.

He hit a jumper from just beyond the free-throw line with about five seconds remaining to give the Spartans the victory.

"The play was to get me down in the flat, attack with the ball and do what I do with the ball," Oliver was quoted as saying in the postgame news conference. "Luckily, he (the defender) bit on my crossover, I got a good look, I got a good shot up and it went down."

Spartan fans were not able to leave the edge of their seats just yet, however.

Hawaii had one last chance at a victory and to prolong its season, and only four seconds to do so.

Following a timeout after the

shot by Oliver, Hawaii inbounded the ball and gave it to sophomore guard Jeremiah Ostrowski who drove to the basket and put up a shot, which was blocked by SJSU junior guard Wil Carter.

The block was rebounded by Hawaii senior forward Bill Amis, who tipped the ball into the basket for what could have been the deciding points for the Rainbow Warriors.

The basket, however, was called off by game officials because it did not leave the fingertips of Amis before the buzzer sounded, giving the victory to the Spartans.

"I knew I got a piece of the first one and I knew it was going to be close," Carter was quoted as saying in a postgame news conference. He finished with 15 points and six rebounds, including a perfect 5-5 from the free-throw line.

Spartans' coach George Nessman said the game was intense and incredibly hard-fought by both teams.

"The game went back and forth quite a bit," he said. "We are in the postseason and the intensity is much higher than any other game earlier this season. I am happy with the effort our guys put out on the court today, especially in the intense atmosphere."

The Rainbow Warriors carried a lead of 42-37 into halftime, which concluded a first half that featured eight lead changes as



Photo: Stan Olszewski / Spartan Daily

Adrian Oliver (2) prepares to shoot against Paul Noonan (25), Jan. 6, in San Jose. Oliver's jump shot with about five seconds to go proved to be the difference in the Spartans 75-74 win against Hawaii on Wednesday.

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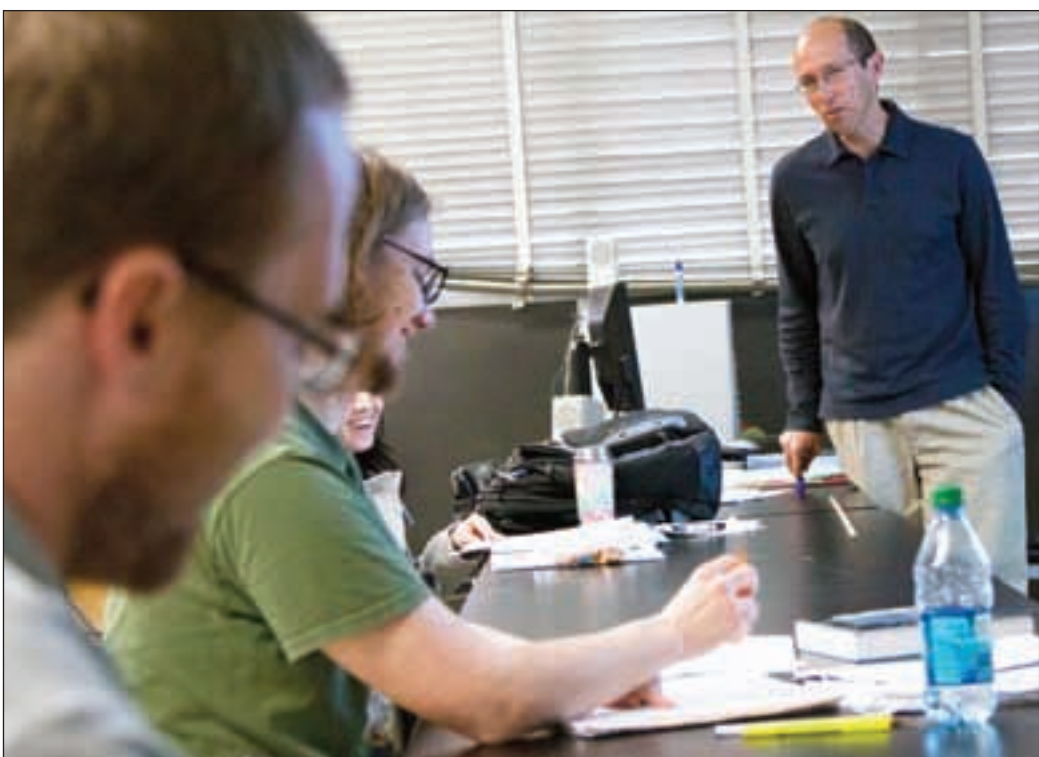


Photo: Michelle Terris / Spartan Daily

Associate Professor Eugene Cordero teaches grad students Colin Mckellar and Henry Bartholomew in a class Wednesday.

Clarity in science communication earns professor a Google honor

Ron Gleeson
Staff Writer

Google has selected Eugene Cordero, an associate professor of meteorology and climate science, as one of 21 Science Communication Fellows, a program that aims to provide comprehensible communication about various scientific topics to the general public.

Google made its selection based on the

applicants' history of outreach and working with the general public, as well as their ability to communicate information in ways the general public can understand.

"This is essentially Google's effort to improve education through technology," Cordero said. "We will learn technology, collaborate and hopefully develop innovative tools for communicating climate

see **GOOGLE** page 3

Student Union renovation sports expanded accommodations

Nic Aguon
Staff Writer

The new Student Union will have several new features and décor to accompany it.

Cathy Busalacchi, associate vice president of campus life at SJSU, explained that the new facility will include natural lighting, sliding glass doors and state of the art technology.

The new Student Union, scheduled to be fully completed in Summer 2013, will have plenty of glass to allow natural light to enter and illuminate the facility, she said.

"From an architectural perspective, we want the Student Union to be more inviting," Busalacchi said.

Aside from the décor, the facility will include several entrances, making the Student Union easier to access from all sides of campus. In addition, more elevators will be built to accommodate the disabled.

"We heard the students loud and clear," Busalacchi said. "We want to make this their space as well as soften the look of all our facilities." To mollify the interior

and exterior décor, she said the construction will include sandblasting the walls to give them a fresh makeover.

She said the Bowling Center will be revamped with better lighting and new carpets. The designers and Busalacchi are in the process of choosing what color carpet to set down on each floor.

Furthermore, she said the new Student Union will feature neutral carpeting color, utilizing dark colors to avoid stains and wear from student traffic.

On another note, the lower level will also include a 24/7 cyber cafe, where students can socialize and get their schoolwork done, she said.

"Student groups will program this area," said Busalacchi in regards to the cyber cafe.

The lower level of the Student Union will include an indoor theater, capable of seating up to 350 people. Furthermore, each floor will have flat-screen televisions and audio equipment to hold events.

"Students shouldn't have to leave campus," Busalacchi said. "By keeping the Student Union open late, we hope to

bring students together."

On the ground level, Busalacchi said the focus will be to provide natural lighting. Additionally, all of the student services offered on campus will be on the ground floor.

From Associated Students to the MOSAIC Cross Cultural Center, all of these services will be placed in the new Student Union.

"Our aim is to put campus life groups in once central location," said Busalacchi. "It's never been done before."

The ground level will also include an information desk, giving students and guests direction around the Student Union. Busalacchi said there will be some natural palm trees planted inside.

The top floor of the Student Union will include multiple entrances and larger meeting rooms. In addition, there will be a new ballroom, which will be carpeted and can be rented out for banquets or seminars.

State-of-the-art technology will also be included to provide students with the proper equipment to conduct events.

see **UNION** page 2

U.S. NEWS

Wisconsin lawmakers bypass Dems, push through anti-union bill

McClatchy Tribune

MADISON, Wis. — The Wisconsin state Senate — without Democrats present — voted Wednesday to eliminate almost all collective bargaining for most of the state's public workers.

The bill, which has sparked protests and drawn international attention, now heads to the Assembly, which is to take it up Thursday morning.

The Assembly, which like the Senate is controlled by Republicans, passed an almost identical version of the bill Feb. 25.

The new version passed the Senate 18-1 Wednesday night, with Republican state Sen. Dale Schultz casting the no vote. There was no debate.

Senate Minority Leader Mark Miller, a Democrat, said Democrats who have been boycotting the Senate for three weeks would return to Wisconsin once the bill passes the Assembly, although he declined to be more specific.

From Feb. 17 until Wednesday, the Senate Democrats were able to block a vote on the bill because 20 senators were required to be present to vote for it. Republicans control the house 19-14.

Late Wednesday, a committee stripped fiscal elements from the bill that they said allowed them to pass it with a simple majority present. The most controversial parts of the bill remain intact.

That committee, formed just hours earlier, quickly approved the bill as the lone Democrat at the meeting screamed that Republicans were violating the state's open meetings law.

The law requires most public bodies to give 24 hours' notice before they meet. The conference committee met with about two hours' notice.

"This is a violation of law! It's not a rule!" Assembly Minority Leader Peter Barca, a Democrat, bellowed.

State Senate Majority Leader Scott Fitzgerald, a Republican, ignored Barca and ordered the roll to be taken. Republicans voted for the measure as Barca continued to plead with them to stop the vote.

Republicans have not yet given an explanation of why they believed the committee could legally meet.

Minutes later, the state Senate took up the bill and passed it without debate.

"Shame on you!" protesters cried from the galleries.

Democrats decried the move and warned it could end the political careers of some Republican senators who are under the threat of recall.

"I think it's akin to political hara-kiri," said Democratic state Sen. Bob Jauch. "I think it's political suicide."

Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker praised the move in a statement.

"The Senate Democrats have had three weeks to debate this bill and were offered repeated opportunities to come home, which they refused," Walker said. "In order to move the state forward, I applaud the Legislature's action today to stand up to the status quo and take a step in the right direction to balance the budget and reform government."

Fitzgerald said Republicans were forced to act because of the boycott by Democrats.

"The people of Wisconsin elected us to do a job," his statement said. "They elected us to stand up to the broken status quo, stop the constant expansion of government, balance the budget, create jobs and improve the economy."

"The longer the Democrats keep up this childish stunt, the longer the majority can't act on our agenda."

But in an interview Miller warned Re-

publicans they would face recalls.

"The people, I don't think knew what they were getting when they voted last November, so there will be a do-over," he said.

Miller also said the fight over collective bargaining is soon to leave the domain of the Legislature but is likely to be taken up in the courts.

Republicans said they were able to push through the bill by taking out a few provisions, including a \$165 million bond restructuring and the no-bid sale of 37 state power plants.

But the bill still includes several monetary changes, including charging public workers more for health care and pensions, which will save the state \$330 million through mid-2013.

Republicans did not explain how those provisions could remain in the bill with fewer than 20 senators voting.

Fitzgerald said the move was deemed acceptable by three widely respected non-partisan agencies — the Legislative Fiscal Bureau, the Legislative Council and the Legislative Reference Bureau.

The budget-repair bill by Walker would end most collective bargaining for public employees and has been at a stalemate for three weeks because Democrats have boycotted Senate sessions.

Democratic state Sen. Chris Larson said Wednesday night he attempted to drive back from Illinois to Madison to get to the Capitol before Republicans passed the measure.

"This is on the Republicans' heads right now," he said. "If they decide to kill the middle class, it's on them."

Larson said Republicans will pay a political price for curtailing collective bargaining for public-sector employees.

"Everyone who is party to this travesty is writing their political obituary," he said.

Demonstrations have rocked the Capitol for weeks as public workers have protested the changes to collective bargaining, but they have quieted somewhat in recent days.

But the crowds swelled Wednesday as word of the conference committee meeting spread, and thousands chanted inside and outside the Capitol well after the building officially closed.

They cried, "Shame!" "This is not democracy!" and "You lied to Wisconsin!"

Earlier in the day, Republicans fined Democrats for missing the Senate session and lawmakers learned they had more time to resolve the budget impasse.

Walker had been steadfast in saying he would not negotiate on his budget-repair bill, but in recent days made offers to Democrats to slightly scale back some of his proposal with a separate piece of legislation.

Miller said Walker's approach of making changes in separate legislation was unacceptable because Democrats are not sure they can trust Walker.

Walker's bill would close a \$137 million gap in the fiscal year that ends June 30, sharply curtail collective bargaining for most public employees, make public workers pay more for their pensions and health care, allow the no-bid sale of state power plants and give Walker's administration broad powers over the state's health care programs for the poor.

Walker had wanted the Senate to approve the budget-repair bill as written, but then have lawmakers make a few changes Democrats want in the state budget they will pass months from now.

That approach raises concerns for Miller because state law makes it illegal for legislators to promise a vote on one bill in exchange for a vote on another one — a practice known as logrolling.

"That comes dangerously close to logrolling," Miller said of Walker's plan.

"The Senate Democrats have had three weeks to debate this bill and were offered repeated opportunities to come home."

Gov. Scott Walker
Wisconsin Senate

THIS DAY IN HISTORY ...



On March 10, 1993
Spartan Daily Reported that ...

- (Above) "Take Back The Night," a march held to call attention to the dangers women face while walking city streets after sundown, was held Monday evening as part of Women's History Week.
- According to a report titled "Economic Impact of the California State University in the California Economy, 1993 - 2002," the reductions in the CSU budget since 1991 endangered the steady supply of qualified graduates.
- Male students applying for jobs at Lucky Food Centers may soon be able to wear earrings without wearing Band-Aids over them.



Courtesy: SJSU

The Student Union upgrade includes facilities to accommodate student gatherings.

UNION

From Page 1

Busalacchi said there will be projection screens, audio and visual equipment.

"The larger meeting rooms allow flexibility to hold multiple events at the same time," Busalacchi said.

The number of clubs on campus has grown from 222 to 360 in the past five years, she said.

Some students had input in regards to what they wanted to see in the new Student Union. Senior mechanical engineering major Craighton Poon said he wants a quieter place to study.

"I hope there is newer pool equipment in the ar-

cade because it's frustrating to play with damaged pool balls and mats," undeclared freshman Richard Lopez said.

Undeclared freshman Harley Blandford said he wants a larger eating area and better food choices.

Similarly, Busalacchi said the Student Union's food court will include more choices, such as indoor and outdoor seating and an outdoor stage for students to hold events. Moreover, she said the ping pong tables near the Bowling Center will be removed to accom-

modate more food concepts.

The process of deciding what to put into the new Student Union began in 2003, she said. The biggest concerns students had through the feasibility studies held in 2004-2005 addressed issues with food choices and a lack of meeting space.

In regards to the infrastructure, she said there will be bracing on each floor to address seismic issues.

"The goal is to promote student involvement and provide a safe place for students," Busalacchi said.

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GOOGLE
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change to the public.”

Henry Bartholomew, a graduate student in meteorology, said Cordero is deserving of the honor.

“Professor Cordero is a very smart person and an even smarter instructor,” Bartholomew said. “He always will take the time to make sure you understand the material, whether it be spending extra time on a topic or slowing to comprehend the information better.”

Allison Bridger, chairwoman of the meteorology and climate science department, said it is a great honor for Cordero as well as the program.

“It is wonderful recognition of the work he is doing,” she said. “From scientific to social issues, Dr. Cordero has a wide range of skills, most notably a great ability to communicate difficult topics to a wide range of people.”

The 21 people chosen by Google will work either solo or collaboratively during a three-day June workshop at Google headquarters in Mountain View to create a project to help people better understand the effects that climate change will have on the Earth.

“The goal is to pitch an idea of what you want to do to help better communication between scientists and the general public,” Cordero said. “If we are lucky enough, Google will give us grants to further explore and expand our ideas.”

He also said the people with the strongest project proposals will win a trip to the Antarctic, sponsored by Lindblad Expeditions and National Geographic.

Cordero said he is excited to start working with Google because he already has experience working with young people at SJSU on a project called “Green Ninja,” a “climate-action” superhero.

“It is a really neat collaboration,” he said. “It has taught me that there are so many creative faculty and students from so many different areas. I have gotten the opportunity to work with them outside of science, and that’s what we need to do if we want to communicate science to a broader audience.”

The Green Ninja is an attempt to reach younger audiences and educate them about the climate’s future — Cordero said the students he works with played a huge part in creating this eco-friendly masked crusader.

“I asked myself, ‘How can I design something for young people to understand?’” he said. “That is why I asked the students to become involved, to target the young audience. Everything about climate change is new. We have to create a future we are all eager to live in.”

Cordero said scientists are not the only ones who have to be involved in projecting climate awareness to the general public, but also people from many different areas of study.



Photo: Michelle Terris / Spartan Daily

Associate professor of meteorology, Eugene Cordero, has a chance to travel alongside other Google Science Communication Fellows.

“We need people from arts, communications, education, business, engineering — the list doesn’t stop,” he said.

Cordero compared the collaboration that will be taking place at Google to sending a manned mission to the moon.

“When they send someone to the moon, they need a lot of people from many different areas to work on it,” he said. “We need to dedicate similar resources, time and effort to this project, as well as a strong collaborative effort.”

Before coming to SJSU, Cordero spent about five years in Australia teaching and studying ozone depletion at the Cooperative Research Center for Southern Hemisphere Meteorology, which is something he said helped him not only receive the fellowship, but also helped him as an educator.

“Teaching in Australia was really my first experience as an educator,” he said. “It taught me how to further progress my skills as a teacher and as well as a researcher.”

Cordero graduated with a bachelor’s degree in physics from CSU Northridge, where he also received a master’s degree in the same field, but said he decided to achieve his doctorate degree in meteorology from UC Davis because of a mass switch of focus by many scientists from ozone depletion to climate change during the time he was in school.

“I find the area of interest extremely compelling,” he said. “It is very relevant for not only all humans, but most specifically our children and our future.”

Once Cordero arrives at Google to get the chance to work on a project, he said he hopes to create a tool to promote climate change using social media.

“I know students live in a world with phones, Facebook and Youtube,” he said. “If we want to interact with young people, which is one of my main goals, we need to interact in that environment. We need to develop tools and methods that use those things

because that is where our students are operating and where they feel most comfortable.”

Although Cordero has the opportunity to work with Google in the future if his project becomes a success, he said nothing compares to his job teaching at SJSU.

“This is the best job you could ever ask for,” he said. “Where are you going to have a job where you don’t have a boss, you get to work with young people who generally want to be here, and if you get a crazy idea about a project, you can do it?”

Cordero said Google employees have the opportunity to work on whatever they wish once per week and get paid for it, whether it be a side project or something they are working on with Google.

“The best part about my job is I can do this any day of the week,” he said. “I get to work with these young people and if we come up with an idea, we can immediately start working on it. This ability truly can’t be replaced.”

■ WORLD NEWS

Pro-Mubarak forces blamed in Christian-Muslim clashes

McClatchy Tribune

CAIRO — A series of bloody clashes in recent days have heightened fears that thugs loyal to Hosni Mubarak’s former regime are fanning tensions in a bid to undermine political reforms promised by the country’s military-led government.

Fierce overnight clashes between Christians and Muslims left 13 people dead and 140 wounded in a Cairo suburb, state media said Wednesday, while in a separate incident, bands of thugs stormed into downtown Cairo’s Tahrir Square, where they ripped down pro-reform protesters’ tents and defaced a memorial to Egyptians who were killed in the revolution, witnesses said.

Earlier this week, several female protesters were groped and roughed up when mobs descended on a peaceful rally marking International Women’s Day.

Egyptian soldiers present in Tahrir Square did little to stop Wednesday’s attacks and deleted photos taken by journalists who witnessed the chaos.

The Supreme Council of the Armed Forces, the military committee that now governs Egypt, said that it would “stand firm against plans for a

counter-revolution,” according to the state news agency, MENA. It also announced that it had approved a draft law that would allow the death penalty for “criminal acts of thuggery” that result in someone’s death.

The new law is designed to crack down on crimes such as intimidation, thuggery and disturbing the peace, according to state television.

The government “is fully committed to the interests of the people and to implementing the goals of the revolution,” news agencies quoted MENA as saying.

Meanwhile, Coptic Christians called for the government to investigate the sudden spasm of sectarian violence, which some Christian leaders have blamed on disgruntled Mubarak-era security officers.

Muslims and Copts stood in solidarity during the 18-day uprising that toppled Mubarak and even held several interfaith worship ceremonies in Tahrir Square. But old fissures resurfaced this week after a church fire and the publication of leaked security files that suggest state involvement in past attacks on Egypt’s Christian minority, including a bloody New Year’s Day bombing in Alexandria that killed 21.

Muslim clerics and Christian priests plan a rally Friday in hopes of easing tensions in

the village of Etfeah, where the torching of a church set off four days of protests.

Armed mobs attacked a related Christian demonstration on the outskirts of Cairo late Tuesday, and fighting raged for hours as the groups hurled rocks and Molotov cocktails at one another while blocking a main highway into the capital. Cars that drove near the melee were set upon by mobs that smashed windshields.

Hanan Fikry, a journalist at a weekly Coptic newspaper, said she suspects the work of “counter-revolutionary forces” loyal to Mubarak’s former security chiefs. She said mob attacks of the past week signaled the work of thugs, formerly on the government payroll, who are now acting as “mercenaries” to stop Egypt’s political reforms.

The main concern, Fikry said, is that the escalating violence could force a delay in the military’s transfer of authority to a new civilian government.

“There’s an old saying that goes, ‘If you want to destroy Egypt, hit the Nile or cause sectarian strife,’” she said. “This is an internal, despicable movement trying to strike the country from within. It’s the remnants of the former government, and they’re trying to kill the Jan. 25 revolution, targeting the

vulnerabilities that already exist among Egyptians.”

Georgette Qilini, a Copt who served in the Egyptian parliament, said she, too, feared that organized forces were working to overturn the reform movement.

“What’s happening in the country is not only against the Copts, it’s against everyone,” she said. “I told everyone this is what I think. I even told the Muslim Brotherhood that it’s planned and against them as well.”

Qilini also criticized state media, saying their reports have contributed to the sense of unease by at first downplaying the violence, then later disseminating full accounts of what had taken place.

“Yesterday, after 10 people were killed, they denied

that anything was happening,” she said. “Then today, they said the absolute opposite, that there are 13 deaths. The delays in uncovering the facts just add to the atmosphere of violence and intolerance.”

“I’m feeling so sad for the whole country,” she said.

At least some of those killed overnight died of gunshot wounds, an oddity in a society where carrying a firearm is relatively uncommon.

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STATE NEWS

City initiates effort to clean up shoals of dead sardines

McClatchy Tribune

LOS ANGELES — A day after waking up to find a silvery carpet of dead fish on the surface of King Harbor, Redondo Beach set about the enormous task of ridding the marina of an estimated 1 million sardine carcasses before they start to decay.

City officials said Wednesday it will take days and cost at least \$100,000 to clean up King Harbor after the sudden fish die-off that began Monday evening.

The city declared a local emergency Wednesday in an effort to obtain state and county aid for the cleanup.

A crew of 200 workers already has removed more than 35 tons of fish, mostly by skimming the water's surface. But another 30 tons — and perhaps more — are believed to have collected in a 2-foot-thick layer on the bottom of the harbor, roughly 20 feet below.

The variety of fish-removal techniques being explored Wednesday to coax the submerged fish to the surface gave the cleanup the look of a frantic lab experiment.

Row boats and firefighting vessels floated slowly through the marina dragging nets behind them as dozens of volunteers went from slip to slip scooping floating clusters of sardines with fishing nets and plucking individual, hot-dog sized fish from the water.

Workers aimed high-pressure hoses at the harbor bottom to churn up dead fish for a diver to capture and the Harbor Patrol boat revved its outboard motors to stir up the water and bring fish to the surface to be scooped up in nets.

When the tide dropped, sewer vacuum trucks arrived to suck fish from the edges of the harbor with a long plastic hose that had the appearance of an elephant's trunk.

Beyond the stench expected to be unleashed once the fish start to rot and float to the surface, oxygen-eating bacteria could cause oxygen levels to dip again and kill anything else living in the harbor, such as mack-

erel and perch.

The decay also could boost nutrients in the harbor, leading to an algae bloom that could again deplete the oxygen supply — hence the rush to remove as many fish as possible from the harbor and deposit them into plastic-lined dumpsters.

From there, the fish carcasses will be taken by the truckload to a facility in the Victorville area to be processed into organic compost.

"The quicker we remove the decaying fish the better opportunity we have for recovery," said Bill Workman, Redondo Beach's city manager. "Time is of the essence; we have to move quickly."

The prevailing theory among scientists and wildlife officials is that something — windy conditions, predators or perhaps a column of oxygen-poor water in the ocean — forced masses of sardines into the harbor as a storm blew in Monday evening. Their huge numbers in such a confined area caused oxygen levels to suddenly plummet below life-sustaining levels.

The state Department of Fish and Game and University of Southern California marine biologists have found no evidence of significant water pollution, toxins or algal blooms, the usual culprits in fish kills.

Scientists at USC said they expect to be able to pin down the exact cause of the die-off because of monitoring equipment installed in the harbor after a 2005 fish kill that followed an algae bloom known as a "red tide."

In that episode, decomposing flesh floated around the harbor for weeks and plagued the area with a stink that frustrated surrounding restaurants and led some boaters to complain of feeling sick.

City officials said they are working to limit such irritations this time around, in part by using a greater, more effective repertoire of fish-removal techniques.

The city plans, for instance, to hire a company in the next few days to gently vacuum the hard-to-get deposits of fish on the harbor floor.



Photo: McClatchy

Workers use a huge vacuum hose to collect dead fish from King Harbor in Redondo Beach.

WORLD NEWS

Governments debate intervention in Libyan crisis

McClatchy Tribune

BRUSSELS — On a day when Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi's forces again launched withering attacks against rebels using warplanes, tanks and artillery, U.S. officials and foreign diplomats said Wednesday that the carnage hadn't reached a tipping point necessary for a Western military response.

Beginning Thursday, NATO defense ministers will meet for two days in Brussels to determine whether and under what circumstances to impose a no-fly zone to stop Gadhafi's air attacks. Some Arab states in recent days have backed the imposition of a no-fly zone, but there is no consensus and such a plan could take some time to implement.

Western officials have expressed concerns that a no-fly zone would not turn the tide of the fighting. But diplomats said that if the Libyan government escalates attacks on civilians, there is strong support for such a move in many NATO capitals.

The Obama administration and its allies prefer to first get the blessing of the U.N. Security Council. But they may be willing to endorse the step without it, provided there is support from such organizations as NATO, the Arab League and the African Union. U.S. and European officials fear without such

support, any Western-led intervention could provoke a negative reaction in Arab nations.

It's unlikely that NATO will reach a decision in the meetings on a no-fly zone, said diplomats who spoke on condition of anonymity about the sensitive discussions. France has said it will not support such a mission without Security Council approval, but permanent members China and Russia are balking.

Opposition also remains in Turkey, and German officials have told other officials privately that they too are opposed to it, the diplomats said.

There have been mixed signals from the Arab League, with some members saying they welcome a no-fly zone, and others, including Algeria and Syria, against it. Syrian officials privately have indicated that they may be willing to yield, the diplomats said.

Also up for discussion at NATO is whether to provide humanitarian assistance by air or sea to rebel-held towns near the borders with Egypt and Tunisia. Western countries are eager to approve those steps, and diplomats said they expect there will be announcements of addi-

tional help soon.

U.S. Defense Secretary Robert Gates is among the officials attending the NATO meetings. Gates, who has expressed concerns about U.S. military action against Gadhafi, is not opposed to using force, but wants to explore the potential consequences of intervening, his spokesman said Wednesday.

U.S. and European governments are engaged in outreach to rebel leaders to try to determine their goals, and whether they can collaborate with the West.

In a sign that the rebels' National Transitional Council is gaining wider recognition, French President Nicolas Sarkozy is to meet Thursday in Paris with two council members assigned responsibility for foreign affairs, Mahmood Jibril and Ali Issawi.

Gene Cretz, the U.S. ambassador to Libya, was in Rome and Cairo over the weekend to meet with representatives of the council, and also relatives of the Libyan king who was deposed by Gadhafi in 1969. The king had strong support among the tribes in eastern Libya, and Western officials hope to be able to use members of the former

royal family to open channels with tribal leaders, diplomats said.

Obama met Wednesday with top national security officials, including Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, CIA Director Leon Panetta and Adm. Mike Mullen, chairman of the Joint Chiefs

of Staff. The administration hopes, through "messaging and policy," to isolate Gadhafi both internationally and within Libya, said a senior White House official speaking on condition of anonymity.

Analysts and retired Air Force officers say a no-fly zone over Libya could be

difficult to enforce without U.S. involvement. It would require hundreds of fighter aircraft and refueling tankers and could exceed the capabilities of Britain and France, which have been the most vocal NATO governments calling for an international response.

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Photo: Vernon McKnight / Spartan Daily

Freshman guard Keith Shamburger dribbles the ball during SJSU's 77-73 win against Montana State. Shamburger had 12 points and 2 assists on Wednesday.

SJSU survives last-second scare

WAC
From Page 1

well as four ties and a game-high seven-point lead by Hawaii.

The second half was as much of a roller coaster ride as the first.

Hawaii held its lead for most of the second half before the Spartans were sparked by freshman guard Keith Shamburger, who scored all of his 12 points in the second half.

Shamburger scored eight of SJSU's 10 points, including six straight, in a span of three minutes for the Spartans keeping them within reach before Oliver hit a 3-pointer to tie the game with about six minutes remaining.

The Spartans heard from Shamburger again after he drained two free throws to give SJSU its first lead of the second half with less than five minutes to play.

SJSU held the lead for the next four minutes of play until Hawaii senior

forward Bill Amis was fouled with 22 seconds remaining, resulting in two made free throws to give Hawaii the lead and Amis a team-high 23 points.

On their final possession, the Spartans gave the ball to Oliver, who eventually scored the deciding basket in the Spartans' victory, giving him a game-high 29 points to go along with seven rebounds on the day.

The victory ensured the

Spartans' first winning season since 1994, and it also gave the school its 16th victory on the season, the most since 1987.

SJSU experienced foul trouble throughout the game, with senior guard Justin Graham eventually fouling out with just under two minutes to play, finishing with 11 points and six assists. Sophomore center Joe Henson also fouled out with under 12 minutes still

to play in the second half.

Carter and junior center Matt Ballard finished with four fouls each, and Shamburger added three for a total of 24 personal fouls for the Spartans.

"We knew we wanted to keep playing," Nessman said. "We all wanted our season to continue. The coaches and the players are having so much fun this season and we were able to hang in there with foul trouble and showcase our mental toughness out on the court."

The Spartans, which need three more wins to win the WAC Tournament, will get their chance to go forward when they play Idaho (18-12) today at noon at the Orleans Arena in Las Vegas.

The winner of the game will play Utah State, the conference's top seed on Friday at 6 p.m.

GAME LEADERS

Adrian Oliver	Points	29
Bill Amis	Points	23
Vander Joaquim	Rebounds	8
Jeremiah Ostrowski	Assists	8
Adrian Oliver	3-pointers	5
Wil Carter	Blocks	3
Bill Amis	Blocks	3
Jeremiah Ostrowski	Steals	3
Joe Henson	Steals	2

■ Commentary

Spartans look to advance to WAC semis against Idaho

Joey Akeley
Copy Editor

Dramatic finishes have been the theme for the Spartans all year, and Wednesday was no exception.

Adrian Oliver's jump shot to beat Hawaii kept his college career and SJSU men's basketball team's season alive, and he will look to lead the Spartans past Idaho in the quarterfinals today at noon in Las Vegas.

The Vandals (18-12) and Spartans (16-14) split the season series, each winning on the other teams' home court.

Idaho finished on a 20-7 run at the Event Center, beating the Spartans 75-67 on Jan. 8.

The Spartans then got revenge less than a month later on the road in a game equally thrilling to yesterday's madness, forcing overtime with a 7-0 run in the final 1:15 in regulation, and eventually outlasting Idaho 92-89 in double overtime.

Justin Graham's 3-pointer with 22 seconds left in regulation tied the score at game at 65, but the Spartans once again needed a comeback at the end of the first overtime.

This time, Keith Shamburger stepped up, making a game-tying 3-pointer with 11 seconds to go, and the Spartans stopped the Vandals from scoring to force a second overtime.

Shamburger then buried two 3-pointers to begin the second overtime, and the Spartan held on for their most unlikely victory of the season — until maybe Wednesday's thriller.

Sure, the Spartans had played Hawaii very competitively in two losses, but the Rainbow Warriors were one of the hottest teams in the conference — winners in five of their last six — and the Spartans hadn't had any success in the WAC Tournament in the past few years.

After all, prior to the win against Hawaii, they had only won two games in the WAC Tournament since they became a member of the conference in 1997.

As head coach George Nessman said before the tournament started, the Spartans can't worry about the result of losing — they must simply focus on the reward of winning.

He also mentioned after the win against Hawaii that his team is loose and excited to try and make a deep run in

They must simply focus on the rewards of winning.

the tournament.

That nothing-to-lose attitude might have helped Oliver make his game-winning shot, and it may help the Spartans pull off another upset today against Idaho.

Conference leading scorers

1. Adrian Oliver	SJSU	24.5 ppg
2. Troy Gillenwater	NMSU	19.2 ppg
3. DeAndre Brown	LTU	15.8 ppg
4. Zane Johnson	Hawaii	15.8 ppg
5. La'Shard Anderson	BSU	15.4 ppg

The Spartans match up well with the Vandals, which also often play a three-guard lineup. SJSU has outrebounded Idaho in both games this season, and the Vandals only player listed over 6-feet-8 inches is sophomore Kyle Barone (6'10").

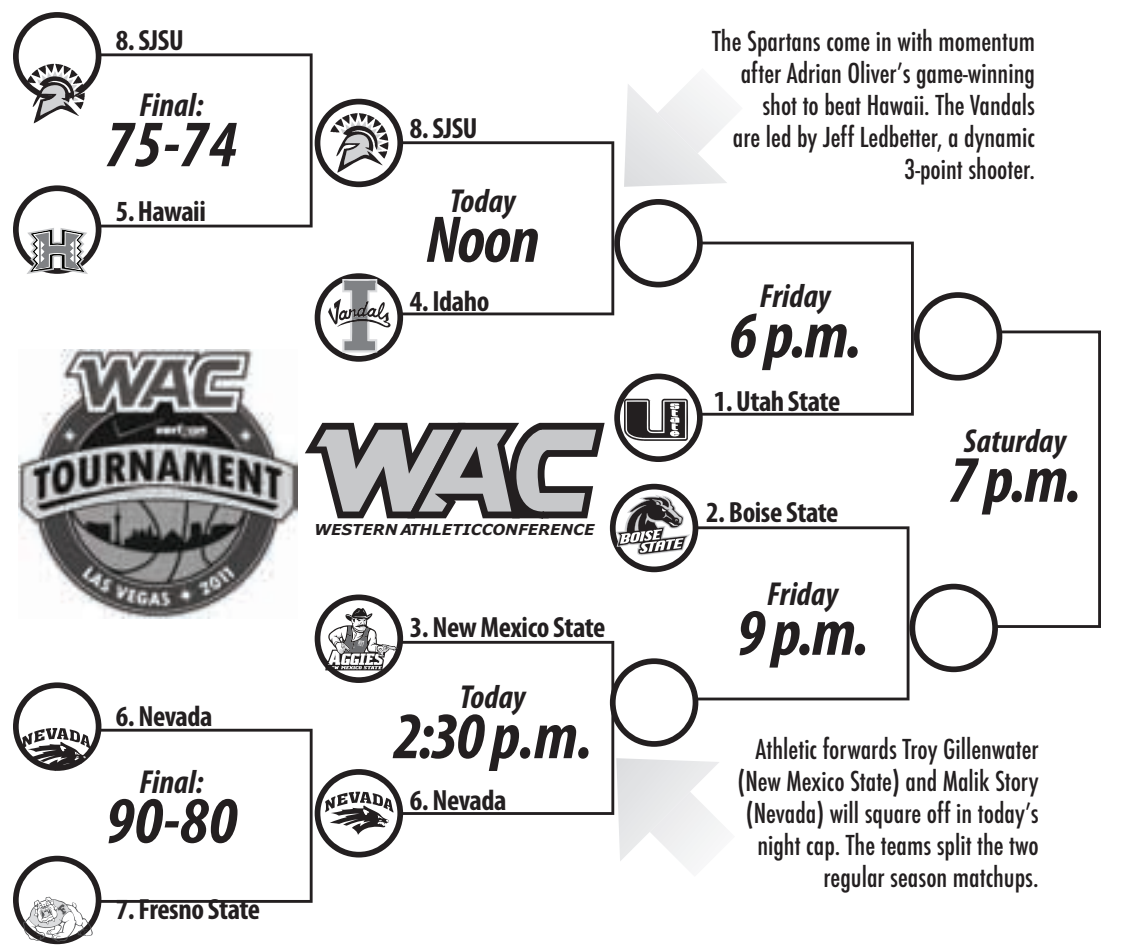
The Vandals' are paced by guard Jeff Ledbetter, who is the league's second-best 3-point shooter. And when the Vandals play their game, they can be deadly, as shown by their 64-56 upset of Utah State Feb. 9 — Idaho is the only team in the conference that beat Utah State.

The Vandals have also been on a streak recently, winning four of their last five games.

Similar to SJSU, Idaho's strength is its guard play. But the Spartans have arguably the league's best backcourt, and they dominated the Vandals in the Cowan Spectrum in Idaho. In that game, Oliver, Graham and Shamburger combined for 71 points, whereas the Vandals starting guards Ledbetter, Deremy Geiger and Shawn Henderson combined for just 25 points.

I have a hunch that the Spartans will build off their winning performance and give Idaho fits with their guard play. And if they can do that, a semifinal appearance against top-seeded Utah State should be within SJSU's reach.

2011 WAC Tournament Bracket



Bracket: Leo Postovoit / Spartan Daily

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MUSIC REVIEW

Lupe Fiasco shifts toward mainstream hip hop in 'Lasers'



Nic Aguon Staff Writer

Lupe Fiasco's newest album, Lasers, which came out Tuesday, is a compilation of tracks that resemble a commercial, club feel.

A product of several push-backs and delays by Atlantic Records, he began recording the album back in 2008.

The album was three years in the making, and Fiasco said Lasers is short for "Love Always Shines Everytime, Remember 2 Smile.

The opening track, "Letting Go" is synthesized with a good piano riff but the chorus is monotonous and dry of substance.

His provocative wordplay shines on "Words I Never Said," with "Jihad is not a holy war/Where's that in the worship/Murdering is not Islam/And you are not observant."

In "Till I Get There," Fiasco expresses his frustrations about the album being pushed back and his declining fan base. "The truth stings like Muhammad Ali/I tell 'em tell 'em don't homicide me/I'm just a little old hope

with his back against the ropes/Fighting for his fans and fighting for his folks."

The track that surprised me most was "All Black Everything." Fiasco's lyrics are clever and imaginative in that he rhymes that W.E.B. Du Bois penned the U.S. Constitution, slavery never happened and Martin Luther King eulogized a Malcolm X who lived into old age.

However, "State Run Radio" is a rap-rock record that is not Fiasco's style. Lil Wayne's Rebirth album serves as a prime example that crossing over genres may not be in the best interest of his fans.

"I Don't Wanna Care Right Now" is a track that I feel does not fit with the theme of Fiasco's album whatsoever. The song has a club feel to it, a first for Fiasco. Although he may be taking a shot at garnering mainstream hip hop fans, this feels more like a pop, made-for-radio tune.

This gives the record a bit of a bland and outdated feel. I am kind of neutral toward the album as a whole. Some of the tracks shine as others fall flat.

It's upsetting that electro-pop seems to reverberate across the record. Compared to his past two albums, Food and Liquor and The

Cool, I was expecting Fiasco to craft an encore masterpiece. But the quality of Fiasco's tracks could have used more fine-tuning.

For the most part, it makes me wonder if Lupe was rushed into releasing Lasers after all the delays.

The closing track of the album, "Never Forget You," seemed forced against Fiasco's will. It doesn't seem to be his style at all — a musical fight between guest artist John Legend and him.

Sitting through the entire record and enjoying it from beginning to end may be difficult. I ended up hitting fast forward on a few tracks simply because the beats were dull or just plain boring.

In the end, Fiasco just does not hit the right notes to make an impact like he did with The Cool.

Maybe he should kick and push back to his Chicago roots, where he can showcase his smooth rhymes and storytelling.

The bonus tracks included on Lasers resemble Fiasco's vintage form from The Cool. "I'm Beaming" and "Shining Down" are both original and catchy tunes that have Fiasco written all over them. Whether Fiasco was



Photo Courtesy: AlbumArtExchange.com

'Lasers' boasts 12 songs and a bonus track.

aiming toward record sales or building a mainstream fan base, Lasers could have been better. The record overall feels forced, incomplete and unrefined.

It differs from Food and Liquor and The Cool stylistically in that it has a more pop sound across the board. Of course, like Fiasco says, the show goes on.

OBITUARY

Former Alice In Chains bassist dies at age 44

Matt Young Staff Writer

Another of the musicians from the early '90s grunge scene is gone.

Mike Starr, the original bassist for Seattle alternative rock band Alice in Chains, was found dead in a Salt Lake City home on Tuesday.

Starr, who was in the band from 1987 to 1993, played bass on many of the band's most iconic tracks, from "Man in the Box" to "Would?," "Rooster" and "Brother."

Battling drug addiction throughout his tenure, Starr was asked to leave the band because of issues surrounding his drug use in 1993 and was replaced by current bass-

ist Mike Inez. The current lineup of the band played at SJSU's Event Center in October.

Starr appeared on the reality show "Celebrity Rehab with Dr. Drew" in 2010, alongside such celebrities as Dennis Rodman and Tom Sizemore.

He was one of the principal personalities on the show.

At the time, Dr. Drew Pinsky, who facilitated the show, said Starr's addiction was "one of the most profound cases" he had seen.

Reactions to his death came in immediately from friends, colleagues and fans.

These included YouTube tributes, Twitter posts and message board comments from people such

as Velvet Revolver's Matt Sorum and Slash, as well as from Mötley Crüe's Nikki Sixx.

Alice in Chains released a statement that read "Members of Alice in Chains are mourning the loss of their friend and ask that the media respect their privacy, and the privacy of the Starr family, during this difficult time. Their thoughts and prayers are with the Starr family."

Fans of grunge have dealt with loss before, from the 1994 suicide of Kurt Cobain to the passing of another Alice in Chains member, vocalist Layne Staley, in 2002.

Starr was dealing with his addiction problems as late as February, when he was arrested for possessing an unmarked bottle of prescription pills in Utah.

"Drugs and alcohol aren't a joke," former Guns N' Roses drummer Matt Sorum stated in a Twitter post. "Please take care of yourself and respect yourself. We lost Mike Starr today. Rest in Peace, man."



Photo Courtesy: VH1 Blog

Mike Starr was a member of Alice in Chains from 1987 to 1993 and was on season 3 of 'Celebrity Rehab with Dr. Drew.'

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TODAY'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE

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PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED

Grid of crossword puzzle solutions with words like GOAL, BELL, DALL, COLLAS, OREGO, IREX, WEARY, NODS, SATI, NOWADAYS, PACIFIC, NIX, STAINS, ARCHER, ALIAS, OFFRAY, CLAMPING, OASIS, SHONE, REAL, ROTATING, BEAG, ABOVE, PANDAS, MAD, RCF, HAS, ANORAK, VACATION, SIZE, CLEFT, AGAPE, OMENTAINT, YEVEN, NARD, HYS, LEEED

DOWN

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2. Dumb or hostile
3. Softly, leisurely
4. On a bike
5. Agile
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Don't believe every idea you happen across

In Christopher Nolan's "Inception," the premise of the film is that the most resilient parasite is an idea.

Once an idea has taken hold it's almost impossible to get rid of it.

Despite the film being based in a bizarre dream world, I think Nolan is right about ideas being impossible to get rid of once they've taken hold in someone's mind.

Case in point: Barack Obama is not a natural-born citizen and is therefore ineligible to hold the office he was elected into.

For those who don't remember, during the 2008 Presidential Election the question was raised if Obama was born in his "alleged" native Hawaii or in Kenya where his biological father is from.

The Obama campaign submitted a certificate of live birth from the state of Hawaii, but at roughly the same time there was a fake Kenyan birth certificate floating around that said he was born there.

Rumors about Obama's birth were debunked in ways such as Obama's maternal grandparents submitting birth announcements to a newspaper, investigations by third-parties and the fact that parts of the Kenyan "birth certificate" are wrong. Still, people hold onto the idea that he's not from here.

The most recent bullshit example came Monday when the Supreme Court threw out another case claiming that the presi-



Donovan Farnham
Senior Staff Writer

dent was born in Kenya.

This court case went a step farther down the crazy path by not addressing Obama as Obama but by Soetoro, the surname of his Indonesian stepfather and the same surname the president went by when he lived abroad as a child.

The funny thing is that this "birther movement" isn't necessarily a minority fringe group. A poll by CNN reported that 27 percent of Americans surveyed still have doubts

about where the president is from. To all the birthers that have been incepted with the idea that Obama was not born in the U.S., let it go.

If you don't like the president for some reason or another, and the reasons are aplenty — be it his politics, his fiscal or social policies or the fact that he supported the Steelers during the Super Bowl — just admit that's the reason you're not a fan.

Whatever the reason is for the birthers' bizarre form of xenophobia, it has inevitably been incepted into parts of American society and accepted regardless of how silly it sounds.

But it is a cheap cop out for coming up with a mildly intelligent complaint to have with the Obama presidency.

It serves as an example of why you shouldn't believe everything that's found on the Internet or what dribbles out of a network news pundit's mouth.

"The funny thing is that this 'birther movement' isn't necessarily a minority fringe group."

Lament from low Earth orbit

"The Eagle has landed."

Those were the only words that came to mind as I watched the space shuttle Discovery touch down at the John F. Kennedy Space Center in Florida on Wednesday.

Yes, those words are from a different era, meant for a different purpose — even the feelings they evoke are different: awe and hope back then, regret and uncertainty now.

Neil Armstrong's words — uttered to confirm the arrival of the Eagle landing craft at the lunar Sea of Tranquility in 1969 — signaled the beginning of the United States' reign as the oft-challenged, yet undefeated, master of the Earth-Luna system.

Today, Armstrong's words have taken on a second meaning, marking the beginning of the end of that selfsame era.

The United States — the eagle — has returned to an aerie perched on a crumbling cliff, and I fear it may not fly again.

Discovery's mission was not the last — that honor belongs to Atlantis, which is set to launch in June — but I miss the shuttle flights already.

Well, perhaps it's a little early to start waxing nostalgic — there are two more missions planned: the aforementioned Atlantis and Endeavor, which is scheduled to launch in April.



Ryan Fernandez
Rated R

Still, the retirement of the surviving members of the space shuttle fleet — Challenger broke up on launch in 1986 and Columbia disintegrated during re-entry in 2003 — represents a low point in the future of manned space exploration.

Perhaps I'm overly romanticizing, and perhaps I've watched too many "Star Trek" reruns (all series, not just the original), but what is the

point of exploration if we are not out there experiencing the final frontier for ourselves?

Robotic probes are all well and good — after all, there's no need to consider keeping a space probe alive or ensure it comes back in one piece after transmitting its data — but there is no substitute for having an actual person conduct an experiment and experience the results, to analyze and in-

terpret events as they unfold, rather than suffer a 10-minute communications lag while waiting for instructions.

The machines we send out may one day be that sophisticated, but they're not there yet.

I suppose the only hope manned spaceflight has is on the backs and booster rockets of the likes of Sir Richard Branson's Virgin Galactic and Elon Musk's Space X, commercial ventures created to send people and cargo into space.

Though injecting a profit motive into anything that is supposed to benefit humanity usually leaves a bad taste in my mouth, I have no problem with the privatization of spaceflight.

I'll support nearly anything that gets us — that gets actual human beings — back into space (barring alien invasions or forced colonization via the destruction of our biosphere).

Indeed, the problems involved in launching something into orbit are not insignificant, and anyone who can overcome those hurdles without a government's backing and nearly unlimited resources deserves to be praised for his or her ingenuity.

Space travel is a long-term prospect that requires thinking in even longer terms, and it is truly sad that we were short-sighted enough to allow our only true space vehicle to obsolesce without a viable replacement.

"Rated R" is a column appearing every other Thursday. Ryan Fernandez is the Spartan Daily Managing Editor.

"The machines we send out may one day be that sophisticated, but they're not there yet."

Growing out of ignorance and into a lifelong friendship

For the past week, the topic of discussion in my "Diversity, Stress and Health" class has been gay marriage and it has been making me evaluate my stance on the issue.

Most of my life, I was unaware of homosexuality and what it was.

Growing up in a Christian home, I had never come across the subject nor did my parents talk about gay people.

I didn't know anyone who was gay and if I did, I probably wouldn't have been able to recognize it anyway.

Sure, I grew up using phrases like "that's so gay," but I just assumed it was another one of those things kids say.

It wasn't until I was in high school that I finally began to understand homosexuality and what it entailed.

Still, I hadn't personally encountered a gay person and was pretty much ignorant to the topic.

During my junior year of high school, a boy I knew "came out," and for the remainder of the year, he was constantly talked about.

Suddenly, everyone was different around him, but I still didn't fully understand what the big deal was or why people criticized him.

What I began to realize (or so I thought) was that he was wrong.

Men being attracted and loving other men, to me, was weird and unnatural.

For the next four years I believed that I was right and, like most politically conservative people, voted yes on Prop. 8 and thought that gay people were immoral and wrong.



Melissa Sabile
The Real Deal

Ignorance got the best of me and instead of trying to learn about a culture or lifestyle that was unfamiliar to me, I chose to agree with the thousands of people in protest against gay marriage and though I was never hateful about it, I would ignore the issue completely.

In 2008, my thoughts on homosexuality started to change.

The week I was hired at the hospital where I now work, I started training with my new fellow employees in the pharmacy.

Everyone was nice to me and helped me out when I needed it, but one

person stood out more than the rest.

It didn't take me long to figure out that he was gay and he wasn't the type of guy to try and hide it.

He was charismatic, funny and everyone loved him. He was knowledgeable about the job and could fix any problem that I encountered.

Despite his sexual orientation, he was, and still is, practically the face of the pharmacy.

We were always friendly toward one another and would crack jokes but we never really spent any time together other than work.

He invited me out to drinks with a bunch of coworkers one day over the summer and I hesitantly agreed to go.

One Friday night turned into a weekly drink after work and soon he became a staple in my social group for the weekends.

Little did I know that a drink after work would turn into something so much more than that.

We began to go out by ourselves once a week in addition to the Fridays with everyone else.

Life, love, relationships and everything else under the sun was what we would talk about over a drink.

Not only did he share with me his life stories and experiences, but he made me realize that everything I thought I knew about homosexuality was wrong.

I let ignorance blind me into thinking and believing stereotypes about gay people, but the more time I spend with him, the more I realize how wrong I was.

People at work still try and figure out why the two of us spend so much time together and what it is we talk about, because on the surface I'm just a Republican redneck hick from Vacaville and he is a liberal Indian boy from Fairfield.

The truth is, he has become one of my best friends and a true confidant

and even though we joke about him being "my gay husband," I know that the two of us share a real connection stronger than just jokes.

I am grateful for his friendship and for his showing me that if I put my judgments aside and broaden my mind, I can learn a whole lot from someone who is different.

"The Real Deal" is a weekly column appearing on Thursdays. Melissa Sabile is a Spartan Daily Sports Editor.

"I let ignorance blind me into thinking and believing stereotypes about gay people, but the more time I spend with him, the more I realize how wrong I was."

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Serving San José State University since 1934

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Letters to the editor must contain the author's name, address, phone number, signature and major. Letters become property of the Spartan Daily and may be edited for clarity, grammar, libel and length. Only letters of 300 words or less will be considered for publication.

Published opinions and advertisements do not necessarily reflect the views of the Spartan Daily, the School of Journalism and Mass Communication or SJSU. The Spartan Daily is a public forum.

THIS WEEK IN PHOTOS ...



Photo: Michelle Terris / Spartan Daily
Students of Gunderson High School wait for the arrival of the members of the Westboro Baptist Church on Friday.



Photo: Michelle Terris / Spartan Daily
Kids watch a demonstration as part of an event in the MESA Day competition held Saturday in the Student Union.



Photo: Michelle Terris / Spartan Daily
Chau Truong attempts a backhand against UC Davis on Saturday.



Photo: Michelle Terris / Spartan Daily
Frank Annino cuts the hair of one of his patrons at the Spartan Barbershop.



Photo: Michelle Terris / Spartan Daily
No. 21 Marnesha Hall plays against Utah State at the Event Center on Saturday.

CAMPUS VOICES

By: Kyle Szymanski

Have you noticed a change in the parking situation on campus?

Kurliegh Mason



Senior Finance

"No, I have not noticed any difference. I have my own secret spot tucked away."

Alistiar Yu



Grad student International studies

"There are not enough parking spaces this semester. They need more space for the students because a lot of students live far away."

Carlos Amaya



Freshman Economics

"Yes, I have. It is hard to find parking around the mid-afternoon. The streets are jammed and you have to waste more gas."

Anthony Martinez



Senior Economics

"I feel like there are a ton more cars for less spots, so I feel bad for commuters."

Isabel Caraos



Freshman Accounting

"I take the VTA to get here because I don't want to deal with parking from stories I have heard from people."

Christin Tomaschke



Grad student French

"I have heard that it is hard to find a spot on the street if you have a S.U.N permit, so you have to park a few blocks down."

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