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DRIVE FOR ENGINEERING SCHOOL

Funds sought for assembly line project

Matthew Gerring
Staff Writer

A team of 12 SJSU mechanical engineering students is requesting \$200,000 to develop an automated assembly line process for Boston Scientific, a producer of tools for minimally invasive medical procedures in San Jose.

Team member Andrea Rios said the funding is needed for new equipment to build a working prototype of the new system.

"We have some robots in our labs," she said. "The ones we currently have don't speak to each other very well."

The process the students are aiming to replace is completely manual — factory workers currently assemble the devices by hand.

Jas Johal, senior manager of process development at Boston Scientific, said there are currently differences in quality and process between individual assemblers — which means the final product is not as consistent as it could be.

The team from SJSU hopes to use robots to address this.

Johal said reducing variability in manufacturing is a high priority for the bio-

medical devices industry.

The product, called iSight, is used in coronary intravascular ultrasound, which uses sound waves to develop a 3-D image of the inside of a coronary artery to assist in diagnosing heart disease.

Technical lead Kirk Miller worked in the biomedical devices field before coming to SJSU to complete his bachelor's degree.

Miller said he had experience in the medical field, including the process of obtaining FDA clearance, which he believes will be valuable to the team.

The team hasn't built a complete prototype yet.

"We have bits and pieces, but not at all complete integration," said Christopher Nourse, the team's controls and software programming lead.

Rios said the project is a unique opportunity because it involves working with an actual industry process, where most senior projects are theoretical or academic.

Nourse said it's part of the reason he got involved.

"I was interested in not having a boring senior project," he said.

Controls team member Sheena Farjado worked

see **ENGINEER** page 3



Photo: Donovan Farnham / Spartan Daily

Andy Nguyen, a financial analyst for HP (right), talks to senior computer engineering major Apoorva Sharma about career opportunities during the Diversity Job Fair.

Career fair offers students employment opportunities

Nate Morotti
Staff Writer

A crowd of 30 students met Wednesday in the Barrett Ballroom of the Student Union for one reason: to show some of the top companies of Silicon Valley that they de-

serve to work for them.

The annual Diversity Job Fair is held each year to introduce SJSU students to representatives from some of the biggest computer and technology companies in the world, and to let these companies get an up close and personal look at the next gen-

eration of potential employees.

"This is the fourth year we've presented this event," said Cherita Young, president of the Black Alliance of Scientists and Engineers, the group that organized this year's job fair. "This career fair we solicited to companies in Silicon

Valley who we've built a relationship with over the years. We just asked them to come and celebrate and invite the diverse students of SJSU.

"We wanted student leaders and organizers to come

see **FAIR** page 2

Memorial arch renovation continues



Photo: Vernon McKnight / Spartan Daily

Placeholder reliefs were removed from the Cesar Chavez Memorial Arch as it undergoes remodeling.

Alex Wara
Staff Writer

The Student Union is not the only thing under construction at SJSU.

The Cesar Chavez Memorial Arch is also going through some construction.

Located at the Paseo de Cesar Chavez, the Chavez Memorial Arch, was dedicated in September 2008 and was designed by Judith F. Baca, a professor of Chicano Studies at UCLA, according to an SJSU news release.

Since then, the Chavez Arch has had art pieces taken down and has place holders in place of the original art.

"There's plans to replace those with the tile that replicates what you saw on there before, and that completes that memorial," said SJSU Interim President Don Kassing. "What was removed was a temporary reflection of what the memorial would look like."

The change to the Chavez Arch has not gone unnoticed by SJSU students.

"I was surprised when they took off the paintings because my friend just told me that he remembers when they were building it," said Leslie Lam, a junior business accounting major. "I don't know why they

see **ARCH** page 3

Group works to empower Latinos in college

Wesley Dugle
Staff Writer

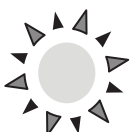
In 1970, a student organization was born on the campus of San Jose State College, as SJSU was known then, out of the Hispanic student walkouts to stand up for quality education for their culture.

Forty-one years later, the organization is still running strong and are now called Chicano Commencement, according to Claudia Gandelas, a senior public relations major and executive board member of the organization.

According to Gandelas, Chicano Commencement's purpose is to "serve as a network and source of support for students who are obtaining a formal higher education," while bringing together students of multiple backgrounds and

see **CHICANO** page 8

WEATHER



High: 66°
Low: 39°

SPORTS, PAGE 4

Team spirit drives Spartan to career-high ranking

Gymnast rises to No.16 ranking in the nation.



A&E, PAGE 5

'The Dresser' flawlessly combines tragedy, humor

Play addresses issues of struggle and survival in World War II.

OPINION, PAGES 6&7

Opposing Views: WikiLeaks Nobel Peace Prize?

Daily staff writers take a look at the WikiLeaks nomination for the Nobel Peace Prize.

SOCIAL MEDIA



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Author: New ideas, risks are keys to success

Kyle Szymanski
Senior Staff Writer

A visiting author warned a near-capacity crowd Wednesday that there is no quick fix to any of society's problems, and that those problems cannot be fixed until risks are taken.

"Innovation drives economic growth and quality of life," said Judy Estrin, author of the book "Closing The Innovation Gap." "It is the only hope of addressing the major changes that we face."

Estrin explained to a crowd at Morris Daily Auditorium that innovation is the capacity to change and being able to come up with something new before challenging them to find success through the formation of innovation.

"It helped inspire me to think creatively," said Lily Tran, a junior business entrepreneur major. "I have always wondered if I should start a restaurant business like everyone else or do something more innovative."

Estrin asked the crowd to break innovation into three categories: coming up with something new, turning a breakthrough into something that works and combining existing innovations for use in a new way.

She explained that the first and third categories are used to create new markets while the second category is used to sustain an already existing market.

"You have to think outside of what the consumer is thinking," Estrin said. "All (consumers) know is what they want now."

She said innovation begins with questioning the status quo by incorporating openness, patience, trust and risk into ideas — and combining that with adequate research, development and application.

"How many countries and companies have we seen fail because they stopped questioning the status quo?"



Melissa Valdez, a senior business administration major, speaks with author Judy Estrin following Estrin's sustainable innovation lecture Wednesday at Morris Dailey Auditorium. Estrin is the author of the book "Closing The Innovation Gap."

Photo: Brian O'Malley / Spartan Daily

Estrin asked.

She added that the key attributes to promote innovation are the ability to adapt, explore, experiment, be patient and frame questions.

"As a future graduate going into the work force, one of my concerns is will the United States be able to sustain innovation in the future," she said.

Estrin said she believes the next big innovations will incorporate a creation of new industries and the disruption of current opportunities, which include education, food, transportation, commerce and entertainment.

Although Estrin actively promotes innovation, she said it can have unintended consequences, such as impacting the development of the five senses in humans.

"Smell, touch and taste are underdeveloped since the online world only involves sight and sound," Estrin said.

She said innovation may seem complicated, but success is as far away as a simple gamble.

"Innovation is messy," Estrin said. "It is not predictable. You have to be able to take risks without knowing if you will succeed."

"I have always wondered if I should start a restaurant business like everyone else."

Lily Tran
Junior Business entrepreneur

Melissa Valdez, a senior business administration major, said the presentation was interesting for students since they are potential innovators.

As the recruitment agents began to get up and move around, more students began to wander into the ballroom, looking around at the faces of the people who could one day be their employers.

"I'm hopefully going to try and get an internship here today," said Aymeric Botella, a senior electrical engineering major at SJSU. "I'm just going to go out there today and hope for the best."

As the mingling continued, the gravity of the situation began to set into the

students' eyes as they realized they were talking to some prominent figures in computer engineering.

With the computer industry growing larger and larger every year, companies such as HP and Yahoo continue to look at the next wave of young people entering the workforce with job fairs such as these.

"We've been going to a lot more of these recently," Lin said. "It helps us recruit for our specific needs."

FAIR From Page 1

to this event and speak with these companies and walk away with an internship, or hopefully a relationship."

Christina Chavez, a senior business and human resources major, said she was looking for what she called "some of the best companies out there."

"I'm definitely intimidated," she said. "I've been looking to get into a career, and so I'm looking at these big companies."

Some of the companies that displayed themselves for the group of students this year were organizations such as national defense contractor Lockheed Martin Corp., IBM and Hewlett-Packard Co.

"We're recruiting like crazy today," said Lulu Lin, a project manager for HP's Snapfish online photo sharing service. "We're primarily look for people who are ready to jump into the workforce, especially people that have graduated or that are graduating in May. We're looking across the board, mostly for engineers, but also for design teams and for project managers."

CAMPUS IMAGES



Photo: Vernon McKnight / Spartan Daily

Industrial design major Eric Chang demonstrates Wushu in front of the Event Center on Wednesday.

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CAMPUS VOICES

By: Whitney Ellard

What is the worst pick-up line you have ever heard?

Chibu Amajoyi



Senior Health science

"The worst pick up line I ever heard a guy say was 'If I put you next to the stars in the sky I wouldn't be able to tell the difference.'"

Bj Domingo



Senior Business

"One of my friends and I were walking on campus the other day, he said, 'Can I please take you out for a Sierra Mist sometime?'"

Meagan Nance



Senior Communications

"There's the exit sign, will you go out with me?"

Felicia Lancaster



Junior Social science

"What has 142 teeth and holds back the Incredible Hulk?"
"My zipper."

Ryan Dana



Senior Social science

"Some guy came up to me and said, 'Excuse (me), can you pretend to be my girlfriend because this girl is staring at me and I told her I had a girlfriend and can it be you?'"

Loree Eduvala



Senior Occupational Therapy

"If you think I'm good looking, then keep on walking away."

Obama, House discuss government spending

Budget deficit, economic growth, among issues on the table

Steven Thomma and David Lightman
McClatchy Tribune

WASHINGTON - President Barack Obama had lunch Wednesday with Republican leaders of the House of Representatives, and the federal budget was first on the menu.

Obama and the top Republicans said they agreed in general on the need to cut federal spending and the budget deficit, as well as approve free trade agreements with South Korea, Colombia and Panama.

But they didn't talk specifics.

The White House refused to share budget details with Congress before the president unveils them on Monday. Recent votes in the House suggest that even if the Republican leaders can forge a spending agreement with Obama, they could have trouble getting it past their own party.

"We did have a fairly robust conversation about the need for all of us to work together to send a signal that we're serious about cutting spending.

We had agreement on that," House Majority Leader Eric Cantor, R-Va., said outside the White House. "I guess the particulars and the details will be where the disagreements may rise."

"We looked at places where we could work together: jobs and cutting government spending," added Rep. Kevin McCarthy, R-Calif., the House majority whip. "It was a beginning and a start and we

look forward."

White House Press Secretary Robert Gibbs, who didn't sit in on the lunch, called it very constructive.

"They agreed on cutting spending and reducing our deficits," he said. "They discussed areas such as trade where they can work together. ... Obviously, reducing the deficit and growing the economy were things the president most discussed."

House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, said afterward that he's committed to holding House votes to approve a free trade agreement with South Korea that Obama's team negotiated late last year.

White House aides said the administration would send specific trade agreement language soon, and hoped to send Congress free trade agreements with Colombia and Panama later this year.

As Boehner, Cantor and McCarthy dined at the White House, they faced questions back at the Capitol about how much they can deliver.

The 87 Republican freshmen, along with many veteran conservative members, want GOP leaders to push harder for their conservative agenda.

This week, they've made their voices heard and at times embarrassed their leaders

Most notably, 26 Republicans voted Tuesday night against an extension of the Patriot Act, the controversial George W. Bush-era anti-terrorism law.

GOP leaders were so confident the bill would pass that they tried to push

it through under a special procedure requiring a two-thirds majority.

Democrats split on the extension as well — 67 for and 122 against.

But the inability of the Republicans to deliver all of their votes suggested problems ahead for party discipline in the House, where new conservatives campaigned on the memory of seeing fellow Republicans cave to pressure from former Majority Leader Tom DeLay of Texas in delivering votes for big spending.

Lurking on the horizon is an even more explosive issue: spending. Conservatives are disappointed that House Budget Committee Chairman Paul Ryan, R-Wis., has proposed cutting only \$32 billion in fiscal 2011. The government's spending authority expires on March 4.



Photo: Jesse Jones / Spartan Daily

A group of students meet with Kirk Miller (center) to discuss potential funding Wednesday in the engineering building.

ENGINEER
From Page 1

at Boston Scientific for a year, where she observed the process and saw a need for improvement.

The team was given access to the clean room at Boston Scientific to observe the current process, as well as parts to use in

developing the new process, but the team has still faced challenges in dealing with the company.

"Communicating with industry — it's been a challenge," Farjado said.

Team member Adam Worsham said the biggest challenge of the project has been defining the problem that Boston Scientific needs addressed.

He said the team and the

company have gone back and forth several times about what, exactly, the company needs.

Farjado said the team has a "big chance" of getting the funding they are asking for, but Rios said the team will build a prototype whether they get the funding or not.

"We'll simulate the process in our own labs," Miller said.

ARCH
From Page 1

took it down so fast."

According to a SJSU news release, the 22-foot tall arch depicts scenes from Chavez's life, including the symbols and historical events associated with him.

The arch is also topped with a glass eagle, the symbol of the United Farm Workers. The arch lights up in the evening and is surrounded by a circular path of tile that wraps around it.

"I think it is a good idea that they are replacing it with tile," said Johnny Barrantes, a junior business marketing major. "That way they do not have to worry about replacing it in the future. It seems like it will last much longer."

Barrantes said the original design may have just been trial and error.

"Maybe they thought originally it would look better and did not think about the consequences," he said. "I am sure that they can make the tile look nice."

The Chavez Arch became part of the Cesar Chavez Memorial Walk, which was started by San Jose Mayor Chuck Reed when he created the Mayor's Committee to Honor Cesar Chavez, according to the



Photo: Jack Barnwell / Spartan Daily

Caesar Chavez Memorial is lit on a night in Oct. 2010, highlighting the murals.

San Jose City Hall website.

According to the online brochure from Mayor Reed's office, the walk stretches from Downtown San Jose to East San Jose, highlighting areas that were important

landmarks in Chavez's lifetime.

Kassing said he did not know the exact date the memorial would be finished but expects it will be three to four months from now.

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■ GYMNASTICS

Team spirit drives Spartan to career high ranking

Melissa Sabile
Sports Editor

Walking into the Spartan Complex Gym during gymnastics practice can always guarantee one thing: loud team cheering and lots of flipping and twisting from junior Katie Valleau.

Valleau is in her third year of competing gymnastics for the Spartans and, as of Monday, is nationally ranked.

"Katie, right now, is 16th in the nation on floor as an individual, which is really impressive," said head coach Wayne Wright. "We've never had that situation before on that event — for that matter, on any event."

Wright said becoming nationally ranked that high is a commendable accomplishment.

"There are over 657 athletes that compete on that event," he said. "Anywhere that (SJSU) can get anyone in the top 20 or 25 is significant for us because we're not out there, so to speak, like a lot of the schools that are in the top 10."

Valleau has been moving up in the national rankings, as last week she was ranked No. 20, according to Wright.

"I found out Monday morning," Valleau said. "Wayne texted me around 9 a.m. and he said '16th in the nation, don't let it go to your

head.' But I was really excited, I had no idea."

Valleau, who is currently in the No. 1 spot on floor in the Western Athletic Conference, came to SJSU as a walk-on team member and said she did not know she would be competing on the floor exercise for the Spartans.

"I hoped I would compete anything," she said. "Floor was always my best event."

Junior Casey McCord said her teammate has scored at least a 9.800 at every meet the team has competed in this season and that Valleau usually competes last on floor for SJSU.

"Going last on floor is pretty much the anchor spot," McCord said. "The top six girls go, that last spot is really significant to show the judges what we're made of. Katie goes last because she's consistent."

Wright said the weekly rankings come out for team and individual events and record nationally, regionally and in conference.

"It's based on an average and right now she has a 9.850 average on the floor exercise," he said. "I think that's why it has helped her to move up in the rankings. She's been very consistent in the first five meets out so far. We hope she'll stay that way."

Valleau said she enjoys performing her floor routine because of the combination of dancing and gymnastics skills she gets to display.

"I do a front double, which is a front flip with two twists," she said. "That's my hardest skill. I also do a whip-half, front-layout, front-layout, it's kind of hard to explain but it's a lot of forward bounding skills. Then I end with a Rudi, which is a one-and-a-half twist going forwards."

"When I'm performing, I usually just try to stay with the music and show it off, smile at the judges as much as possible and squeeze everything."

Katie Valleau
Junior
Floor & Vault
Specialist

In terms of her skill level and what she does on floor, Wright said Valleau is at a pretty high level.

"Katie does an E skill," he said. "Which in gymnastics, where we go A, B, C, D and E — E being the hardest, A being the easiest — it's difficult to do. She also does two D skills. But I think it's the dance, her presentation, her confidence when she gets out onto the floor, it shows through."

As far as judging and point values go, Wright said Valleau's routine is worth a 10.000, the highest possible score a National Collegiate Athletic Association gymnast can receive on any event.

"Her start value is a 10," McCord said. "So since she's getting a 9.800 or higher, she's obviously doing it well."

Valleau said she credits her level of performance and energy during competitions to her teammates.

"If I didn't have them cheering, I don't know that I would be able to make it through a floor routine," she said. "It's so much encouragement. If you're struggling at the end of a routine just to get your breath or something, that little bit of encouragement pushes you through."

McCord said she has a good friendship with Valleau both in and out of the gym, but as a team co-captain, Valleau un-

derstands the importance of helping out her teammates.

"Teammates first, friends second," McCord said. "We always have to stay on each other and keep each other motivated."

Valleau said gymnastics is such a tough sport that each of her teammates help her get through it each day.

Freshman Julia Greer said she enjoys cheering and watching Valleau compete on floor.

"Cheering helps everyone," Greer said. "We always cheer extra loud. For her, it's so exciting when she goes last because you know she's going to make it."

Greer said her and Valleau have been teammates since they were young girls at the YMCA and Valleau convinced her to also compete for the Spartans.

"We've always been really good friends," Greer said. "She kind of inspired me to come here and I think it was a great decision. Being one of the captains, she always talks to me before my floor routines. She's really good at motivating people."

Her teammates, Wright said, also help contribute to Valleau's national ranking.

"We are all very happy for Katie for being 16th, and she's 16th because of her teammates," he said. "Those kids who compete before her, if they score high, it helps her score high too. It's a team effort and when she does well, we all do well."

Valleau said confidence is the key to her consistency and high scores on floor.

"This year, I'm a team captain, which has boosted my confidence a lot," she said. "I'm an upperclassman, so I've been doing it for two years now, I've been on floor line-ups. I've gotten those high scores in previous years, maybe just not as consistently."



Photo: Donovan Farnham / Spartan Daily

Junior Katie Valleau is currently ranked No. 16 nationally and No. 1 in the WAC on the floor exercise. Valleau's career high score on floor is a 9.875.

Over the summer, Valleau was able to learn a new floor routine, and said she thinks that has also helped her in becoming nationally ranked.

"My music is Britney Spears — 'My Prerogative,'" she said. "I think I dance better in this routine. Plus I got a new floor tumbling line, which is not necessarily worth more, but I'm a lot

more confident in doing it."

Valleau said with all the flipping and twisting she does in her routine, what she sees during her tumbling passes is just a blur.

"When I'm performing, I usually just try to stay with the music and show it off, smile at the judges as much as possible and squeeze everything," she said.

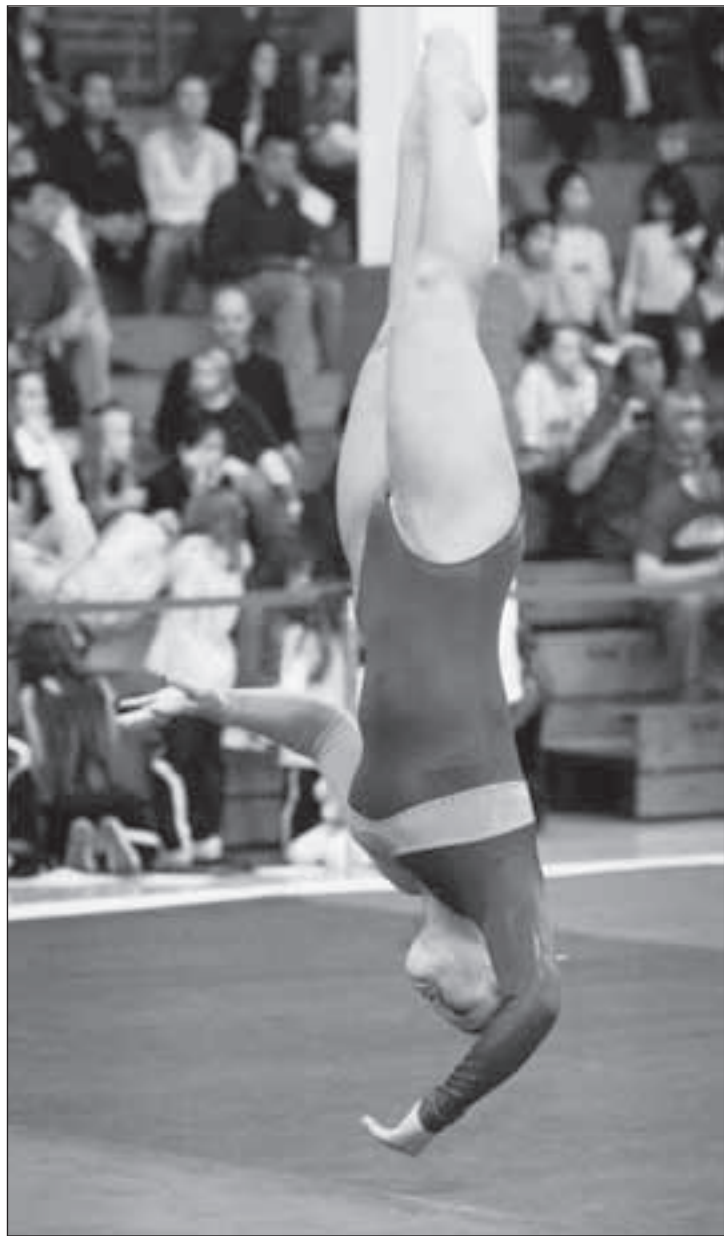


Photo: Stan Olszewski / Spartan Daily

Katie Valleau performs a front double during her floor routine against Stanford University on Saturday.



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■ PLAY REVIEW

‘The Dresser’ flawlessly combines tragedy, humor

Cast delivers well acted performance, but leaves audience guessing

Matthew Gerring
Staff Writer



Photo Courtesy : Kevin Berne Images

“The Dresser” depicts the love of theater and was nominated for three Tony Awards during its run on Broadway.

“The Dresser,” directed by Rick Lombardo and written by Ronald Harwood, left me deeply unsettled.

The theme of the play, first performed in Manchester, England, in 1980, is one of struggle and survival — the struggle of England against Germany in World War II, the struggle of the theater company depicted in the play to put on a good performance and the struggle of the players against their internal conflicts with one another.

The play, set in England during the bombing campaigns of 1942, follows a run-down theater company driven by one man, known in the play as Sir, who is reaching the end of his life but straining to keep his career going.

His dresser Norman, played by James Carpenter, is Sir’s closest confidant. His job is to prepare Sir for the production, which entails wardrobe and makeup, but also negotiating the onset of Sir’s dementia, making sure Sir knows which play is being performed that night and that he remembers the lines.

Norman must also attend to Sir’s ego, which is enormous yet charming. He acts as an intermediary between Sir and the rest of the company, achieving a delicate balance that nearly falls apart throughout the production.

The precariousness of Sir’s condition creates a background of anxiety compounded by the setting, which kept me on edge and engrossed for the length of the play.

We know that Sir is not hanging on to life by a thread for the audience — “swine,” he calls them, over and over again.

The Nazis, too, are swine, for bombing the first theater in which Sir performed. The critics are not swine according to Sir, only because he has nothing but compassion for the mentally deficient.

Sir has no love for any of these people, nor the theater at all. He questions repeatedly what he is doing, and claims he is “driven,” “being put through” the roles as if it is some kind of torture — as if he would just as soon lay down and die if not for whatever force is moving him to continue.

Indeed, nobody in the production appears to love acting at all — they either fear it or are made weary by it, cursing their fate as members of a traveling theater company. On the other hand, as the story unravels toward the

end, nobody seems sure of what they would do without the theater.

The play succeeds because of its light touch. Its fast-moving and witty dialogue kept me engaged, but through a subtle use of repetition, the big questions are kept at the forefront throughout.

There is little to criticize about the production, which included three SJSU theater students — it was technically flawless and extremely well acted.

Ken Ruta in the part of Sir was especially moving. His performance hit home for me, as someone who’s seen a relative face dementia in old age. The quirks of a failing memory — tragic yet humorous — were expertly portrayed.

James Carpenter moves fluidly between his role as Sir’s assistant and confidant, richly portraying the private world the two share, and his role as enforcer of Sir’s deli-

cate needs and particulars — at times with a deliciously sarcastic venom.

Supporting actress Blythe Foster, playing the part of the company’s newest member Irene, could have been silent throughout and still played her role in the story beautifully with her eyes and her posture alone.

The most telling line comes in the middle of the play when Sir asks the company stage manager Madge, played by Lynne Soffer, if she is happy and “if it’s been worth it.” She answers “no” and “yes,” but gives no clue as to why.

What is unsettling is that the question of what exactly the struggle is for is never answered. The play ends abruptly in a dark place, leaving the audience with an open wound to heal themselves.

“The Dresser” is playing at the San Jose Repertory Theatre until Feb. 20. Tickets are available to students for \$10.

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SCANLIFE

Opposing Views: WikiLeaks Nobel Peace Prize?

Whistle-blower deserves praise

Owner has bad intentions

On Feb. 2, WikiLeaks was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize, according to the Reuters news service.

According to the Nobel website, the prize was redefined as something that "shall have done the most or the best work for fraternity between nations, for the abolition or reduction of standing armies and for the holding and promotion of peace congresses."

Because of its ability to promote truth to the public, WikiLeaks deserves the prize — it promotes the idea of transparency, which helps make nations' dealings with one another clearer and prevents further problems.

Though this information may incite violence in the short-term, this website of formerly classified information is just. Corrupt dictators do not deserve to be in office, faults require some sort of repair and serious lies warrant correction.

The idea of transparency is about allowing any piece of information about public entities available for access. It functions as a tool for people to keep their governments and international organizations in check.

Recorded wires about secret deals between governments, mistakes by military officials and facts about leaders of states will eventually come out. Being open and dealing with them immediately prevents further problems when they happen and allows for treatment of the cause.

Famed biologist Garrett



Leo Postovoi
Multimedia Editor

Hardin wrote "The Tragedy of the Commons," which details how common space will be destroyed by self-interest and the limited resources within will be depleted.

When we have tools to combat this tragedy of the commons, we don't have to deplete our nation's budgets on bribes and cronyism. Money and the ability of bureaucratic systems are a limited resource that will and do falter without a balance.

As a tool of transparency, WikiLeaks is setting a framework for a more honest approach to the world around us. By having an honest system where dirty dealings are kept in check, we are building a world closer to one of peace.

Just as historians and writers cannot revise the past to fit their viewpoints, governments and public relations, officials cannot revise the present.

The protests in Egypt are connected to WikiLeaks, and for good reason.

WikiLeaks posted secret ca-

bles of conversations between the U.S. ambassador to Egypt and Secretary of State Hillary Clinton about Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, indicating his plan to rule over the country for the rest of his life.

The citizens of Egypt who are not happy with the status quo have protested against this, trying to oust a man who they see as corrupt and of different ideals than their own.

Though this tool was started by Julian Assange, who has a questionable past with allegations of sexual misconduct and potentially violating multiple national and international laws, it is a project by a team who has worked tirelessly to promote the underpinnings of truth.

WikiLeaks, though free-associated with the past of Assange, is a crucial part of improving our society. Projects like this allow for the Internet to be a place not only for kitten videos and pornography, but also a forum of public digest highlighting the things citizens of the world deserve to know.

Just as Indiana Jones said artifacts "belong in a museum," the truth belongs in public hands.

In the long run, this establishes a more efficient government and society, closer to the ideals that it states are its underpinnings.

Though conflict has arisen this has already promised for a more peaceful and unified Egypt. When people vote for the leaders they want, democracy can work in full effect.



Nate Morotti
Staff Writer

There has been a recent outcry from people that WikiLeaks, an online database committed to publishing classified documents and other such material, should be nominated as a candidate for the Nobel Peace Prize.

Now I am completely in favor of the freedom of information, but I don't think WikiLeaks deserves one of the highest honors the international community could bestow upon a person.

At its most basic form WikiLeaks is a website that is committed to whistleblowing, and Julian Assange himself claims that his website has "changed whole regimes." This may seem like a powerful tool, and it is, but so was the hydrogen bomb.

Imagine for a minute that there is some country out in the world whose people are on the eve of civil uproar. One day WikiLeaks publishes a series of documents that reveal the officials of that country's government are participating in activities that are less than ethical.

This causes a rebellion of the people. There are riots in the cities, the government is all but useless at this point, artifacts of that country are starting to get destroyed and people are beginning to get hurt.

Seem familiar? I don't believe that something with that kind of destructive power should be nominated for the worlds biggest prize in the category of peace.

The other reason I think WikiLeaks should not be nominated is because the Noble Peace Prize isn't something that is given out for the most successful publicity stunt in the history of the Internet. I don't believe that the intentions behind WikiLeaks were pure.

Assange, serving as the spokesman of his "ethical hacking" group, started his career as a computer hacker in his home country of Australia, and has always loved the attention of the media.

The WikiLeaks controversy is nothing more than another grab for the spotlight, because what better way to get noticed than to publish secret documents from the American government.

Every move he has made, every public appearance while he was "on the run," was carefully calculated to make sure it had the largest effect on the global media, such as turning himself over to British authorities for his charges of alleged sexual misconduct — which just so happened to be right around Christmas time.

The point I am trying to make is that the Nobel Peace Prize is given out to those who try to fight for the rights and betterment of all, while at the same time trying to overcome great challenges from the world.

The prize is not for someone who stumbled into something bigger than they could imagine and then decided to use it for his or her own advantage.

Assange is definitely an accomplished businessman, and an even better self promoter, but he is no freedom-fighter. He is just another man who found a way to get his 15 minutes of fame.

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SUDOKU

PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED

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9	2	3	7	5	8	1	4	6
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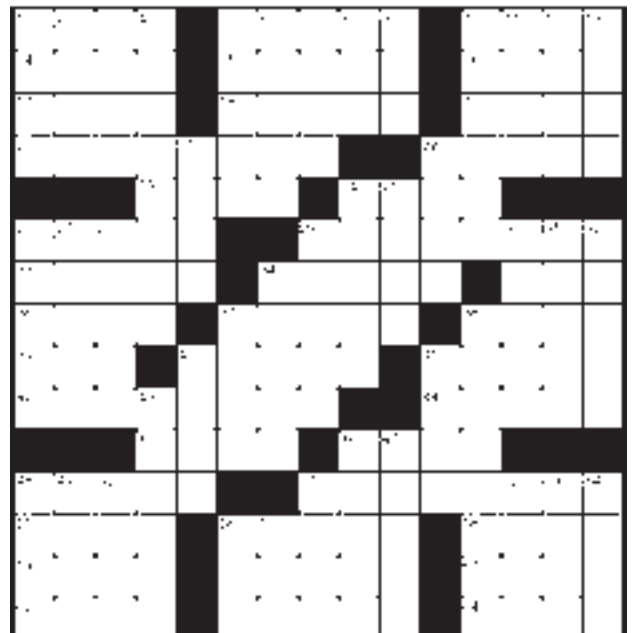
TODAY'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE

- ACROSS**
1. Instable lecture
5. Sea party
10. To ban
14. Mr. Moe's reply
15. Coal deposits
16. Layered haircut
17. Extrajudicial
18. Oath commission
19. Hockey nostalgia
20. Honor trucks
22. Fruit tarts
23. Web page
24. So-so grades
26. Public house
29. Most dramatic
33. Winery process
34. Tu bugs
35. Maraculin
36. Lyric
37. Ford or Fielding
38. Theatrical company
39. Dissembler
40. Daily news
41. Promotional basis
42. Badge
44. Fireman's cap
45. Microwave
46. Lady's shoe
48. The serving
49. Thank about
52. wds
55. Petty or Laughlin
56. Gauchos' rope
58. Yacht category
59. Set of
60. Common phrase
61. Make a squeal
62. Louis L'Amour's blue
63. Falbe's term
64. Bulking lot

- DOWN**
1. Apple's computers
2. Nose lymph
3. Ford part
4. Gunslinger's practice
5. Crooked
6. One of a stand
7. Knocks firmly
8. Cassowary kin
9. Farmer's PK
10. St. Francis
11. Lower jaw
12. Slog
13. Fruit's s
14. The smoo King
15. Bottom edges
16. Pungent taste
17. TV silhouette
18. Blue Grotto's
19. Snow's partner
20. Post-cards
21. Body
22. Washstand
23. Name
24. Hair pigment
25. Peevish

PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED

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NASA's function replaced by hackers and wealthy

NASA is pretty cool, but did you know there's a space program in San Francisco's Mission District?

At a free technology workspace (also called a "hackerspace") called Noisebridge, volunteers get together every Sunday to build robots that can be launched into space with weather balloons. The program, Spacebridge, has successfully launched four missions over the last year.

There's also a do-it-yourself space program in Brooklyn, a volunteer manned spaceflight program in Denmark and a recent issue of Make Magazine dedicated to build-at-home space projects.

Beyond volunteer projects, private spaceflight and tourism companies are beginning to gain traction. Elon Musk, co-founder of PayPal, started the company SpaceX, which already has contracts with NASA to ship cargo to the International Space Station.

Then there's Virgin Galactic, started by billionaire entrepreneur

Sir Richard Branson, which recently broke ground on Spaceport America in New Mexico.

All the examples above have budgets ranging from \$0 to tens of millions. Spacebridge is putting sensors into space with cheap or donated materials.

According to Space.com, the entire construction of Spaceport America is projected to cost \$31 million. SpaceX is launching rockets at \$10.9 million a pop, according to the company's website.

Then there's the U.S. space program. NASA estimated a total budget of \$19 billion for 2011, roughly \$8.9 billion of which was for "Space Operations" and "Exploration" — that is, actually going into space — in its



Matthew Gerring
Staff Writer

budget request this year.

The military officially requested \$11 billion for various space activities in 2010 according to the department's budget request, but several sources suggest that number isn't reliable.

A Congressional Research Service report from 2006, before the Department of Defense listed "Space Activities" as a line item in its annual budget, stated the total budget request for military space activities in 2006 was \$22.5 billion.

Some of that money is going to research to study building space-based "directed energy weapons" — in layman's terms, a death ray — according to the Center for Defense Information.

So a safe estimate for the amount the U.S. government is spending on space, whether for exploration or killer space lasers, might be in the neighborhood of \$30-\$40 billion.

So how bad does the U.S. government need an official space program, and is it worth cutting it?

Compared to the projected \$3.9 trillion (with a "T") total outlays of the U.S. government in 2011, \$30-\$40 billion is peanuts.

It's about 3 percent of the \$1.3 trillion budget deficit, or a little more than we would need to fix California's projected budget deficit.

It's a lot, but not nearly enough, and cutting it would largely be a symbolic measure that would damage important research and development work.

Among other things, the military uses the space budget to maintain GPS satellites, and NASA also collects climate data used for modeling the effects of climate change.

A bigger problem than the amount

of money NASA spends is that it is actually reducing its scope and capacity. The space shuttle is going out of commission by 2012, and there are no plans to replace it.

President Obama has proposed cutting back funding for manned spaceflight and focusing on sending robots to other planets instead.

It doesn't take tens of billions of dollars to build robots and send them into space — enterprising hackers operating from a loft in San Francisco with next to nothing in funding have proved this.

So why isn't NASA hiring more people like this?

Moreover, the real story here is that the mass proliferation of knowledge and technology has made it possible for motivated individuals to do things once thought too big, complicated, or dangerous for anyone but the government.

We don't yet know what the effect of this will be, but I eagerly await the results.

The fate of the NFL is questionable

As the focus of the National Football League moves on from Super Bowl XLV and into the offseason, the question that lingers is if we'll be seeing another one next year.

The National Football League Players Association expects team owners to lock out the players when the current collective bargaining agreement expires on March 4.

In 2008 team owners decided to opt out of the current contract, hoping that with a new bargaining agreement they will be able to take a larger cut of the revenues — which totaled about \$9 billion last year.

Additionally, owners are expected to request a rookie wage scale — something other American sports, such as baseball, are accustomed to — and an 18-game season, which would add two regular season games and cut two preseason games.

Both the league and the owners have a strong case on their side.

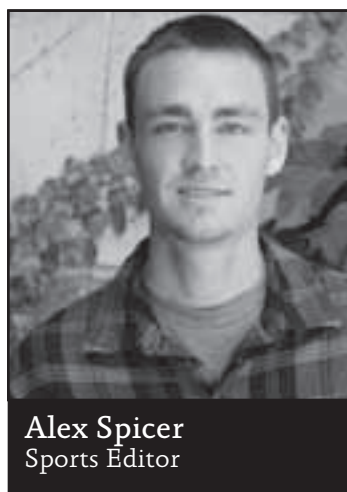
The rookie wage scale, for instance, makes sense.

Big, ugly rookie contracts are a dime a dozen in the NFL, as unproven college stars enter the league expecting a hefty pay day, only to flop or not live up to their cozy, often unearned fortunes.

On the other side, the players aren't the ones asking for a lockout, and they are the ones who will suffer because of it.

Owners appear prepared to survive a lockout season even if it means no incoming revenue, because it also means they would not be required to pay for player benefits such as medical and 401k, which is estimated to save the league's 32 teams \$320 million in total.

Yet for both the NFL and owners, there really could not be a worse time for a lock out.



Alex Spicer
Sports Editor

Coming off the heels of a Super Bowl that was the most-watched television show in American history with 111 million viewers (beating out — you guessed it — the 1983 M*A*S*H series finale), the last thing the league could possibly want is a lockout.

The NFL has seen record numbers all season long, and as much as I hate to say it, is surpassing baseball as the most popular sport in America, both financially and in popularity.

The league estimates that if a settlement isn't reached by the beginning of the season, the revenue losses will total \$400 million per week.

And if the bargaining agreement talks fall through, which currently do not appear to be heading in either a positive or negative direction, the league and its players would effectively be sitting out what could be their most financially successful season to date, despite the poor economic climate.

Sure, all the players under contract will still be able to feed their children, but what about everyone else?

The owners certainly don't seem too bothered that thousands of others employed by the league will be laid off, not to mention all the loyal fans who won't get to spend Monday nights yelling at a television from their favorite couch.

All signs appear to point toward an agreement falling into place in a timely manner, but what makes the process intriguing is that the owners are asking for relatively drastic changes for a league that has found a comfortable routine.

It's difficult to find any positives resulting from a missed season at this point, other than sparing viewers from the inevitable sequel to the Black-Eyed Peas Super Bowl halftime show, of course.

Give your texting a rest for safety reasons

It's one thing to be nearly run over by a car, it's quite another to be almost bulldozed by a woman coming off a shopping spree at Macy's.

There was no apology from her, no looking back with an expression of sheepish horror, not even a little mea culpa shrug.

I don't think she even saw me — no, I know she didn't see me, because in the brief glimpse I caught of her as she flashed past, her head was down and her hands were busy tapping out a message on her phone.

I'll say this for her, though: She must have had some killer forearms to have enough strength to carry half a dozen shopping bags while holding her phone up to text.

I thought California had outlawed texting while driving? What about texting while walking?

A distraction is still a distraction and an accident is still an accident, whether you're driving or walking.

I'll admit, my attention was mostly on the Cinnabon I just bought — so I'm not totally blameless — but at least I was aware enough of my surroundings that I managed to dodge the fashionable juggernaut barreling toward me.

About a month ago, I saw a video of a woman who fell into a fountain at a mall because she was too busy texting to notice where she was walking.

I laughed for a good three minutes.

And then I remembered some of the near disasters I've seen while walking the streets of San Jose: An older man who almost walked into traffic at Santa Clara and Seventh streets, a woman who did walk into a light pole near my house.

I stopped laughing.

I know I'm not a graceful person. There are better than even odds that I will trip if I don't look at my feet when I walk up and down stairs, my



Ryan Fernandez
Rated R

toes seem to catch on every unseen irregularity in the pavement, and I'm a better dancer while I'm sitting than when I'm standing.

And after a few drinks ... well, the less said about that, the better.

But my efforts to stay on my feet whenever I'm in motion are not helped by the fact that I end up having to dodge hordes of iPhone zombies.

Consider my daily sojourns between classes: during peak crowd times between classes, the simple act of walking to class turns into an unnatural foxtrot while I pivot and weave my way around people who have neither courtesy nor awareness enough to try to pivot and weave around me.

Yes, the offence of walking while distracted is not as bad (and in some cases, so much funnier) than driving while distracted, but the potential for harm is still there.

Please, for sake of my sanity and your safety, exercise a little common sense and a lot of situational awareness.

Keep the smart phone in your pocket when you walk, or at least stand still when you text.

"Rated R" is a biweekly column appearing on Thursdays. Ryan Fernandez is the Spartan Daily Managing Editor.

Watches: More than just fashionable

One of the most common questions traded around is "What time is it?" which was uttered one day around a group of friends.

I looked down at my watch to announce the time when my friend exclaimed "Holy crap! You still wear a watch?"

I was taken aback by this statement and so were my watch wearing friends.

Time can be viewed anywhere now in the business world that we live in, be it from your computer screen at work, pulling out your cell phone, to music players.

I have all those things,



Leonard Lai
Senior Staff Writer

but when I have a program that takes up the full screen, then the clock is gone. Good thing I place my watch below my monitor in order to tell the time in that scenario.

There's no need to reach over and click on any number of my machines just to look at the time when I can glance at my watch and see that the short hand is on one number and the long is on another.

It seems in this day in age, the watch is going the way of the dodos, the dinosaurs and Lindsey Lohan.

The practicality of the watch has been reduced to

nothing more than a fashion statement, and no longer serves its original purpose of telling time.

We should be more considerate to the people who have provided us time for hundreds of years, we shouldn't be encouraging them to add more diamonds, gold or silver just attract us when it really has a simpler reason to be worn.

So please buy a watch for more than a fashion statement, and if you can't do that, think about what's going to all the poor Swiss who are unable to produce our wrist accessories of practicality.

but the main reason I wear a watch is to tell time.

Sure, I can look at my computer for telling time,

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CHICANO

From Page 1

disciplines to celebrate their academic achievements "Latino culture."

She said the group's main objective is to get more Latino students to graduate.

"Our goal is to address a much bigger issue — that not enough Latino students are graduating from the university," she said. "We want to inspire and lead the pathway for future generations."

Chicano Commencement Adviser Christina Ramos said she is proud of how far the organization has come since its inception.

"It started so grassroots and it's grown a lot since then," she said. "To have this establishment is something Latino students can be proud of."

Ramos is in her first year advising the organization and said she took the job because of her past ties to it when she was a student.

"Being a part of this — a student and a faculty member — has helped me help the students uphold the legacy here," she said.

According to Candelas, the organization is the

longest running group of its kind on campus and has grown since its early days, both in numbers and in the diversity of its Latino students and their fields.

"There are about 35 members right now," she said. "We are open to all currently enrolled students who are completing their undergraduate or graduate coursework at San Jose State University."

Ramos said the organization helps Latino students who may feel alone or without help at SJSU.

"It builds a community and it lets students know that they are not alone, es-

pecially if they come from a minority background," she said. "It embraces our culture."

Chicano Commencement Co-secretary Humberto Calzada said he was drawn to the group when he saw how involved and passionate its members were about the organization and he wanted to be a part of that.

"I like that it's an organization with broad majors and you get to meet people from different departments," said Calzada, a senior management major. "The commitment to reach our goals it's pretty much for the students by the students."

He also said that Chicano Commencement has helped him as a student.

"It's helped me deal with different kinds of people," Calzada said. "The responsibility I get from being on the board has taught me time management skills and to communicate with people."

Co-treasurer of Chicano Commencement Ivan Garcia stated that it has also taught essential skills as well.

"It has helped me get a leadership role and get to network with other people outside my comfort zone," said Garcia, a senior Spanish major.

According to Candelas, Chicano Commencement has fundraisers every week to raise money for their graduation ceremony and do service projects for their community.

"There are many organizations that support us and help with our fundraisers," she said. "We also work closely with our community and despite our busy schedules we make time to do community service projects."

Ramos said the best advice she can give to an incoming Latino student to SJSU is that it's a big investment in their future.

"There is no easy pathway to the future," she said. "It's definitely a lot of hard work in paving that pathway but students shouldn't take it for granted."

Ramos believes that the Latino students on campus who are not members are missing out on the experience of being part of Chicano Commencement.

"It was a really true experience for me and my family," she said on her time as a student in the organization. "And for them to miss out on having their family be a part of their education would be something to regret."

Cuba opens blocked websites

Juan O. Tamayo
McClatchy Tribune

MIAMI - Popular Cuban blogger Yoani Sanchez described it Wednesday as the end of "the long night of censorship" — the government's surprise unblocking of access to her and 40 more Internet sites critical of the government.

Sanchez seemed giddy as she told in a post how she used a Havana hotel's Internet cafe to confirm that authorities had removed the filter blocking people on the island from visiting her Generacion Y blog.

"I have come to confirm if the long night of censorship no longer falls on Generation Y," she wrote. "I click and I see a page I have not seen since 2008 ... I am so surprised I scream, and the security camera on the ceiling records my tooth fillings during uncontrollable laughter."

But Sanchez and her husband, fellow blogger Reinaldo Escobar, were cautious about the timing of the decision to lift the blocks on Voces Cubanas and Desde Cuba, two portals that house Sanchez, Escobar and 40 other independent and opposition Cuban bloggers.

"We know that access to Voces was unblocked about one week ago. We confirmed it Friday," Escobar said by telephone from Havana, adding that the second portal was confirmed open on Monday. "What we don't know is why."

Most likely, Sanchez and Escobar agreed, it's because Havana is hosting the Informatica 2011 fair Feb. 7-11, expected to bring in many foreign computer experts. Among the participants is the head of the United Nation's telecommunications agency.

"It would not be very elegant for those persons to be able to confirm that in Cuba there are blocked websites," Escobar told the Miami Herald by phone from Havana. The blocks easily could be put back in place once they leave Cuba, he added.

Your future's timeline, fed.



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2008	Completes PwC's Tax practice internship and PwC's Internship Development Program
2009	Earns Masters of Accounting, hired as a Tax Associate at PwC
2010	Joins Marketing & Sales

Mallory Elliott, PwC Senior Associate.

Following an internship at PwC, Mallory earned a Masters of Accounting. After she was hired full-time, her work impressed a senior partner and she was given the opportunity to move into Marketing & Sales, feeding her career and future even further.

To see Mallory's full timeline and how you can feed your future, visit www.pwc.tv