

Romantic comedy features deep cast, but shallow story See Page 5

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Water damage forces students to relocate



Clifford Grodin / Spartan Daily

A worker from Belfour, a company that's contracted to repair damaged CSU buildings, repairs the water damage caused by the fire sprinkler system on Tuesday.

Displaced students expected to return within one month, housing coordinator says

Eric Van Susteren & Melissa Johnson Staff Writers

A kitchen fire on the second floor of Campus Village Building B forced the relocation of 55 residents from the first and second floors of the north wing to vacant bedroom spaces throughout the

Sgt. John Laws of University Police Department said that 20 separate fire units, including three battalion chiefs, and UPD officers were dispatched to respond to the fire at 12:36 p.m. on Valentine's

"On high-rise calls, the fire department always tries to have more resources there and call some off rather than arrive with too few," Laws said. "It's pretty normal for buildings like Building B." Kiana McClanahan, a junior nursing major who

lives on the second floor, said most of her floor was flooded by the fire sprinklers. "It's wet everywhere," she said. "The carpet

smells bad. I feel sorry for whoever had a date." Junior psychology major Jason Anderson said

there was smoke damage on the ceiling and walls where the fire occurred.

The students affected by the fire will be out of their apartments for about a month, said Kev-

See DAMAGE, Page 8

Health Center not ordering more H1N1 vaccinations because of decreased demand

Kevin Hume

Staff Writer

The SJSU Health Center isn't ordering more doses of the H1N1 vaccine, a nursing supervisor stated in an e-mail.

"We have not requested more vaccine because the demand has decreased," Ruby Phillips stated. Larry Carr, associate vice

president of public affairs, said it is the Health Center's decision whether to order more vaccines. "There seems to be enough

vaccine out there," Carr said.

The Health Center ordered 440 doses during the Fall 2009 semester, Phillips stated, doses which were received on Nov. 9, Nov. 17 and Dec. 10.

Phillips stated that demand peaked in late November and early December.

Nov. 23 had the most vaccinations, with 83 people, she stated. On Dec. 3, 63 people received the vaccine, followed by 52 on Dec. 4 and 51 on Nov. 19.

A H1N1 clinic was set up during that time, Phillips stated, and was discontinued in De-

Rob Fair, a freshman business administration major, said he thinks the Health Center doesn't have enough doses of the vaccine.

"I think they should have enough for every student that goes here," he said.

Fair said he contracted H1N1 last summer while he was already ill with mononucleosis.

"It sucked," he said. "I was just a wreck."

Fair said he wasn't aware he had contracted H1N1 in addition to mononucleosis. "The doctor said, 'You know

you have H1N1 in your system?" Fair said. Fair said he was bedridden

for the whole summer because of both illnesses.

"I just wanted to feel better,"

Rochelle Calf, a junior industrial design major, said ordering more doses of the vaccine would be a good idea.

"If it's going to stop swine flu spreading, I think it's a good in-

vestment," Calf said

Calf, originally from Sydney, Australia, said she got vaccinated before coming to SJSU this semester.

> "It was strongly recommended that we come over with it," she said. "I didn't want to risk it. I knew someone who had it, and they said it was a pretty horrible fever to have."

Carr said SJSU has been encouraging students to get vaccinated.

"If they haven't gotten it already, we would highly encourage people to get a H1N1 vaccination," he said. "Hopefully they would have access through their private insurance."

Carr said SJSU is still taking H1N1 and vaccination efforts seriously.

"I wouldn't say we're downgrading the significance of it," he said. "We have had a limited supply all along for those that don't have the opportunity to get it in any other fashion."

Jacilyn Williams, a senior

See VACCINE, Page 3

San Jose pot dispensaries growing in number

Andrew Martinez

Staff Writer

Opening a medicinal marijuana dispensary in San Jose is like opening any other retail business, said a commercial developer.

"To me it's like an ice cream shop," said developer James Suner. "We're just providing a prod-

uct to a population that needs appearance on the Alameda that product, and it's not com- vields a good interface with the plicated. It's just not. It's only as complicated as they want to make

San Jose Patients Group is a recently opened medicinal marijuana dispensary in downtown San Jose.

The Patients Group's discreet

neighborhood, he said.

"We could have a girl scout selling cookies walk into our lobby, and we don't have to have a large security guard with a metal detector tell her she's not sup-

See DISPENSARY, Page 2



Andrew Villa / Spartan Daily

Commercial developer James Suner explains the business of medicinal marijuana dispensaries on Thursday. The Patients Group is one of the few dispensaries serving the downtown community.

Weather



Lo: 45°

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Video: Remembering Martin Luther King Jr. www.theSpartanDaily.com

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Campus organization provides opportunities for black students

Amaris Dominguez

Staff Writer

The SJSU Black Student Union is made up of students that serve as the voice of the black community on the SJSU campus, said Elesia Small, who serves as the group's president.

She said the group is the umbrella organization of many of the black student organizations, providing a forum for them to voice their differences, goals and ideas.

"BSU encourages cooperation between its member organizations and the black student body," Small said. "It's about keeping the dreams of our forefathers alive, and never forgetting where we come from and where we need to go."

She said the way that the black students knew how to change their status was to hold protests and rallies that made the campus see how passionate they were about getting their respect.

BSU Vice President Betty Haileleul said the group serves as a support system for its members.

to promote activities of common interest, as well as cultural and educational benefits for the African-American student body," she said. "The goal of every college student is graduation, and as the BSU, we want to do everything in our power to help our members reach that goal."

Haileleul said the group's focus this year is to bridge the gap and build a stronger foundation and network for new

and older black students at SJSU.

In the 1960s through the 1970s, Haileleul said many students of color were discriminated against and the group served as a support system and outlet for the black students suffering from the effects of

"A trust and a bond between the members soon became inevitable and the group began organizing and holding events that promoted African-American health, education and companionship," she said.

The executive board of officers for the group is made up of seven individuals that meet every other Wednesday to go over plans of action to bring awareness to those issues that affect black students in a university setting, said BSU Secretary Kris Hooks.

Hooks said he got involved with the group after being involved in his high school black student union for three years.

"I got involved in the BSU on campus because I wanted to help get the word of the BSU out there as an organiza-"The purpose of the BSU is tion that people speak highly about," he said.

> "What I enjoy best about the BSU is that the people on the executive board all have common goals for BSU," Hooks said. "None of us have conflicted interest in the organization."

As secretary, Hooks said his job requires him to make sure every meeting and event is put

together adequately. He said that he makes sure his counterparts are doing what they are supposed to do, and finishing what they can't.

Hooks said the group also works with other high school black student unions to work together for the black community.

"Some of the things that we do off campus are getting together with other high school black student unions and hold events and discussions with them," he said. "Some of the things we do on campus are events, fundraisers and discussions about certain topics that are brought up in meetings."

The group plans to hold various events and fundraisers throughout the year to help promote awareness for the group's goals of uniting and networking the black student

"I think it's great that African-American students are taking a stand to have their voices heard and coming together as a community to talk about issues that affect them," undeclared sophomore Ebony Johnson said. "I feel that the BSU brings a more diverse look to the campus and helps unite African-American students."

The group has committed much effort into living up to the group's goal to uplift, unite and empower the black community at SJSU, according to the groups Facebook page.

The Black Student Union's Facebook page acts as the group's primary way to communicate events and promote awareness of topics that may affect college students within the black community.

King said that he would be OK

with a dispensary in his neigh-

borhood as long it was regulated

by the government and the med-

icine was going to people with

professor in the department of

urban and regional planning,

said the identity of the clientele

the dispensary will serve and

operating hours are important

factors to consider when zoning

tor, I probably wouldn't have a

problem with them," said Jamie

Moskwa, a senior mechanical

has limited hours of operation,

open on Sundays so the staff

has a day off and the neighbor-

hood has a day off as well, even

though it would be more conve-

Currently, the Patients Group

He said that they are not

"If it is prescribed by a doc-

Hilary Nixon, an assistant

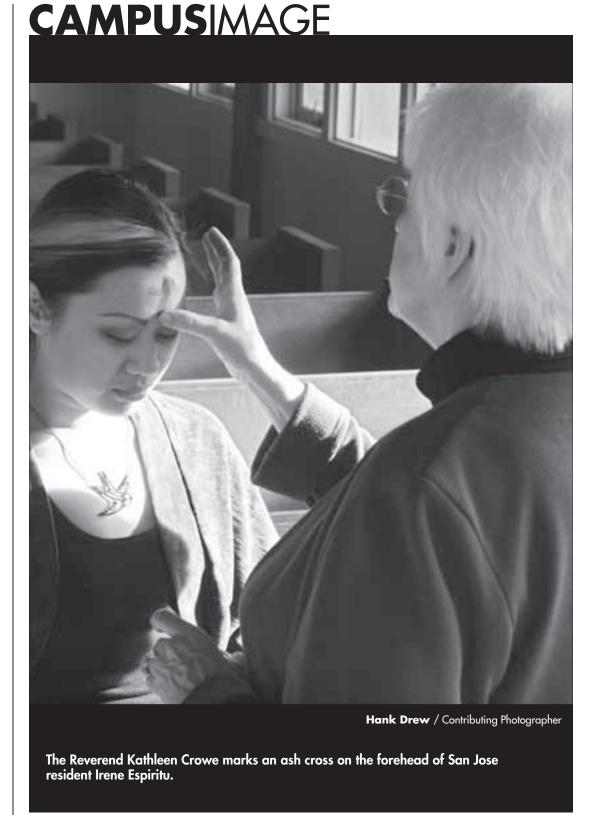
actual need.

dispensaries.

engineering major.

nient for its clients.

Suner said.



Snow Day brings alcohol awareness to forefront

Kathryn McCormick

Staff Writer

Members of the SJSU Associated Students government hope 16 tons of snow will attract students to the A.S. alcohol awareness event next week, an A.S. director said.

Randy Saffold, A.S. interim associate executive director, said Thursday's Snow Day and Winter Carnival intends to inform the SJSU community about alcohol abuse, while also providing students with a fun snow experience.

A.S. will coordinate the annual event in partnership with Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Committee and several other SJSU student groups, Saffold said.

"Different campus groups get together for this event to encourage alcohol awareness among students," he said. "It's an opportunity for students to relax and enjoy, and also to learn about alcohol safety."

Clifton Gold, A.S. marketing and events coordinator, said the event will feature a variety of games, in addition to snow.

"There will be carnival games provided by A.S. and the Alcohol & Drug Abuse Prevention, including 'What Do You Know,' 'Walk the Line,' balance board, basketball shootout, paper planes, snowball toss and more," Gold said.

Last year's Snow Day and Winter Carnival featured similar activities, including a beer goggle game which simulated the physical effects of heavy intoxication, Saffold said.

Freshman animation major Jonathan Thompson said he was pleased to hear of the event.

"I think the Snow Day sounds really nice because my father is an alcoholic," Thompson said. "And this is something that could probably encourage him to stop drinking."

Cindy Tsui, A.S. director of programming affairs, stated in an e-mail that more than 1,000 people attended last year's Snow Day and Winter Carnival.

The Spartan Squad also attended last year's event to help encourage student participation

EVENT DETAILS What: Snow Day and Winter Carnival

Where: Associated Students recreation lawn

When: Thursday, Feb. 25

Cost: Free

and school spirit, Saffold said. In addition to games, Gold said this year's Snow Day and Winter Carnival will offer hot chocolate, sweet treats, popcorn and cotton candy.

The snow will be arranged in a 35-foot circular pit on the recreation lawn by the A.S. house, Gold said.

The Snow Day and Winter Carnival is funded by A.S. fees, Tsui stated.

"All A.S. programming events are funded by student fees," Tsui stated. "Each semester, students pay \$73.50 for all Associated Students services and a portion is divided in a category for campus events and programs. That is why all events are free and students are all highly encouraged to attend."

Annette Rodriguez, a junior fine arts major, said she was intrigued when she learned of the event.

"The Snow Day sounds like fun," she said. "I've never really heard of anything like it. It's kind of weird that alcohol awareness is going with it. It's a little strange. But I like the games, you know, it kind of goes with the fun of the snow."

Tsui stated that the snow for the event comes from Darryl Scotti Events, Inc.

The snow melts over the course of the day, so it will mostly be gone after the event, Tsui stated.

"We don't get snow in San Jose, so if we have to haul it in to get people's attention, why not?" open university student Shaliyah Motie said.

The Snow Day and Winter Carnival is free and is open to all SJSU students, faculty and staff, Saffold said.

Tsui said community members are also welcome to attend the event.



DISPENSARY

From Page 1

posed to be there," he said. "She in a dispensary."

and urban planner, said one of tients Group. the challenges in opening up a dispensary is securing a location because many landlords and commercial brokers are reluctant to lease to a controversial

Before we even ring the first sale, we've generated \$100,000 worth of economic activity, per location.

> **James Suner Commercial developer**

business.

Another challenge is the city, he said, which can take a narrow interpretation of its zoning code.

"Their claim is that if the zoning code doesn't specifically list marijuana as a product, then you can't sell that product," Suner said.

He said the Patients Group is zoned as light-industrial and said one of the mistakes that cities make when they try to zone dispensaries as strictly industrial is that there is no access to public transportation, no pedestrian access and are typically not well-lit.

"We service the neighbors that are in pedestrian walking distance, and if you put us out in an industrial park, everyone has to get in their cars and drive, which is the brownest thing to do," Suner said.

One thing for the city to consider would be the economic development, he said.

Of the 20 dispensaries that opened in San Jose, Suner said every one of them went into a vacant building.

With each dispensary there

were computers purchased, security systems installed, carpenters and electricians hired, all to generate taxable sales revenue,

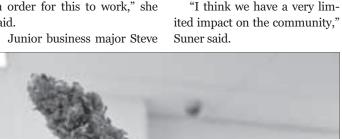
At the Patients Group, there would never know that she was are five full-time and two parttime staff members, said David Suner, who is also a land use Genovese, director of the Pa-

> "Before we even ring the first sale, we've generated \$100,000 worth of economic activity, per location," Suner said.

Dayana Salazar, SJSU department chair and professor of urban and regional planning, said that the biggest challenges will be addressing neighborhood perception and educating people

about these dispensaries. Salazar said this issue is similar to discussions about affordable housing and the association they had with the housing proj-

ects of the '70s. "There needs to be an emphasis put on good management in order for this to work," she





A sample of one of the strands of marijuana on display at the San Jose Patients Group on Thursday.

Associated Students seeks to enhance campus life

Group's mission to inform students, A.S. president says

Melissa Johnson

Staff Writer

Stephanie Malone, a sophomore justice studies major, said she never understood why a Victorian-style house was on

"I always walk past that building on my way to MacQuarrie for class or headed off campus and wondered what that house was," Malone said.

The Victorian-style house on campus next to MacQuarrie Hall has been the home of Associated Students since 2001, yet some students are still unaware of what takes place there.

Associated Students President Megan Baker said A.S. plans events for the semester and also serves as a valuable resource for all SJSU students. One resource is student town hall meetings.

meeting took place last semes-

This committee is not as strong as it could be because of the lack of students that are interested or the fact that students don't know this committee exists.

Megan Baker Associated Students President site) will become a

ter, giving students an opportunity to get their questions answered directly from SJSU President Jon Whitmore.

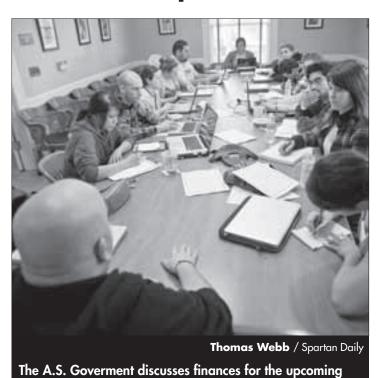
Baker is hoping to plan another meeting this semester, with the goal of making them regular events for future semesters. Baker said it's important for students to attend the town hall meetings.

"It's an opportunity for them to meet him and talk to him on a personal level," she said. "I feel it's important for students to have the chance to ask him questions about actions (regarding the university) being taken or not taken and how it will or will not affect them."

Baker said a personal goal for her as A.S. president is to strengthen the Lobby Corps Committee, which she said is one of the weakest A.S. committees, but has the potential to be one of its strongest.

"Lobby Corps is a committee through A.S. where students are able to be informed and advocate for the politics on campus at





the state level," Baker said. "This could be because of the lack of students that are interested or the fact that students don't know this committee exists."

spring semester Sunday, January 31st.

She said she plans on spend-The first student town hall ing more time with the committee to raise awareness for stu-

dents. Lizzie Orr, A.S. director of student rights and responsibilities, said she is currently working on a Web site that clearly outlines the steps of the academic grievance process at SJSU.

"It's my goal to be able to produce readable and easily accessible material to help students better understand their role in this aspect of their educational experience," Orr said. "Hopefully this (Web

resource for students to become more informed about our school's policies on grade disputes and other communication issues with faculty."

Advising is a step required of students in order to further their progress toward achieving their

"At SJSU, students are dissatisfied with the quality of advising in its current form," said Christopher Gonzales, A.S. director of

university advising affairs. Gonzales serves as a student advocate for issues related to ad-

"The system for advising students is fragmented and is confusing for students," he said. "My goal is to continue my participation to support change in the advising system and the communication between the

university and the students." Gonzales said he is currently

working with the SJSU Adviscommittee is not as strong as it ing Council — which embodies every aspect of advising and services, including student success and supervises the reform of advising by meeting regularly to prioritize objectives, reviewing progress and development of the advising structure.

Byron Pulu, A.S. director of faculty affairs, said his job is to improve communication between students and faculty members.

"My plan is to bring university-related issues to the committee and draft resolutions supporting the needs of SJSU students," he said.

Pulu said he wants to improve faculty affairs by collaborating with faculty and staff members researching the effectiveness of the textbook process, which refers to ordering and purchasing of textbooks along with communication between the Spartan bookstore and faculty. He said he wants to create or redefine policies related to textbooks.

The A.S. hosts events to encourage student involvement, Baker said.

In addition to the second annual Snow Day and the second annual Fashion Trashion Show, led by Cindy Tsui, A.S. director of programming affairs, the A.S. Programming Board will be holding a new event this semes-

Tsui said the closing event for the spring 2010 semester will be the first SJSU Battle of the Bands, where SJSU students will compete for a spot in a larger event hosted by the Event Center.

"The winning SJSU band will compete against neighboring universities Stanford, Santa Clara University, UC Santa Cruz, UC Berkeley, SF State, USF, and CSU East Bay," she said. "Competition is predicted to be very stiff."

Listening post offers students solace

Angelo Scrofani

Staff Writer

Harboring thoughts of suicide is the most severe problem among a list of problems which SJSU students confide to the coordinator of the Listening

Trudi Clifton-Vizvary is the main organizer of the Listening Post, and a semester-end report she addressed to the program's founder recounted some of these issues.

According to the report, "Many students expressed high levels of anxiety, depression and despair. One feared he might die. Another had what appeared to be a psychotic break ..."

"We are not trained psychologists," Clifton-Vizvary said. "When we get into a situation we don't know about, we direct them to the counseling service on campus."

The Listening Post, what she refers to as "brief informalcounseling," is meant for those who need to vent and said is a place where people heal.

A single table, one pair of seats and neatly arranged leaflets sit just inside the automatic doors of the Student Union, with Clifton-Vizvary in one chair and the other empty.

Clifton-Vizvary, an SJSU alumna, said she has headed the project for the last four years, and over the course of some 1,400 days has comforted students plagued by serious issues, some of which include anxiety and depression.

She said the most common issue students come to her with is stress.

"I crafted it, what it is today based on our unique student body, the needs students have," Clifton-Vizvary said. "The same issues kept coming up."

Anna Chivers is a senior who visits the Student Union on a daily basis to occupy the time she has between classes.

"I've never talked to them, but I walk by them all the time," she said. "And I don't think anybody I know has."

Chivers said it's a good resource, but is also conscious of how others may perceive the Listening Post.

"I think there's a little bit of a stigma attached," she said. "It's someone that you don't know and share personal feelings with."

Given its location on the ground level of the Student Union, where a wave of bodies continually invade one another's space, Chivers said confiding one or two secrets may just as well be like sharing them with the others who tread just feet away.

Senior accounting major Kim Nguyen said she has volunteered for the Listening Post in the past and in spite of the Listening Post's placement in a heavily trafficked area, the extra bodies are more friend than foe.

"Surprisingly, considering

the noise level, it's harder (for other people) to hear," she said. "And being out in the open is

more welcoming." Nguyen said that working with such an informal approach eliminates the apprehension some students may have about making their initial introduction.

"It's a great help to students in that just sitting there and saying good morning will wake them up, having that interaction," she said.

Maryam Azarchehr, a comparative literature major, is in her first semester as a peer listener.

"A lot of times, students come to school stressed," Azarchehr said. "The Listening Post should be a place where they can talk about their problems."

Clifton-Vizvary said she is worried about the impact stress can have on students, but worries more about its link to those who are willing to commit suicide.

"My focus is wellness," she said. "Good mental health, growth, whatever it takes to get on with life, enjoy it."



Joe Proudman / Contributing Photographer SJSU Listening Post Coordinator Trudi Clifton-Vizvary chats with junior psychology major Jeffery Hung on Friday.

VACCINE

From Page 1

graphic design major, said she feels otherwise.

"If they're holding back on ordering the vaccinations.

Williams said the Health Center not ordering more vac-

"They should just keep up with the vaccinations," she

Phillips stated that a total of 358 people have been vaccinated at the Health Center.

"We have 82 doses of vaccine available for students," she stated.

Those doses of vaccine will be available to students until the supply is depleted, she

have a feeling that they're kind of stepping away from it," she said. "They addressed it really seriously last semester."

cine seems awkward.

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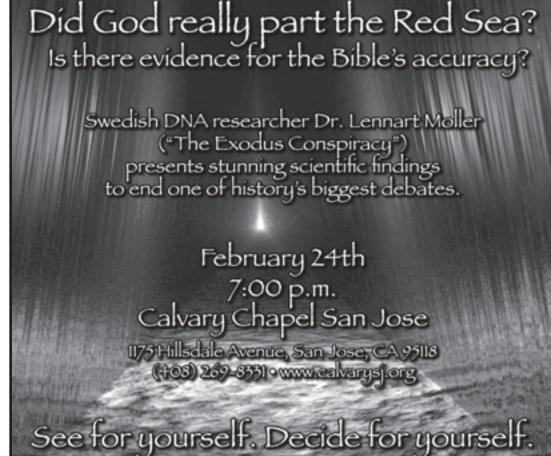




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Women's basketball team ends losing streak

SJSU defeates Hawaii 68-61 for its first win since Jan. 23

Eric Bennett

Staff Writer

The SJSU women's basketball team came into last night's matchup with Hawaii on a sixgame losing streak and on the brink of being eliminated from postseason contention.

The Spartans (6-19) jumped out to an early lead and held on for a 68-61 victory over Hawaii to end their longest losing having fun." streak of the season.

Senior guard Chasity Shavers kept the the Spartans slim hopes alive and scored 16 points against a Rainbow Wahine team that held SJSU to 13 firsthalf points in its last matchup on Jan. 27.

Spartans' head coach Pam DeCosta said the team's playoff hopes would've been squashed with a loss, but that

her team kept its cool despite the magnitude of the game. "They came out fighting,"

she said. "They fought well knowing what was at stake." Shavers said her team need-

ed to buckle down and stay focused even with the implications at hand.

"This was a no-lose situation," she said.

Spartans' junior guard Sayja Sumler scored 13 points and junior forward Marnesha Hall added 11 points with eight rebounds to help SJSU notch its third victory at home in 13 appearances at the Event Center.

to play in the WAC tournament," Hall said. "We were hungry and had to get this

The reason for their success was simple, Hall said, as their coach told the team to hearts.

"We had fun," Hall said. "We are at our best when we are just

This was a nolose situation. We had to leave it all out on the court.

Chasity Shavers Senior guard

> Hawaii (9-17) came within five points with two minutes remaining, but senior guard Ashley Brown connected on a short jumper and sunk four free throws to weather Hawaii's late comeback attempt.

> Brown finished with 12 points. Shavers said the Spartans' ability to overcome early mistakes was key to the win.

"We turned the ball over a lot," she said. "The only adjustment we need to make is keeping everyone together out there."

DeCosta said contributions from the entire team guided the Spartans down the stretch

"We still have a chance to hold onto their originally slim lead.

> "This was a must win," De-Costa said. "Our bench contributed and that was huge for us. We settled down and made shots when we had to."

SJSU is in a battle with Haapproach the game with light waii over one of the last tournament entries and has Boise State next on its schedule.

"We have to play with more energy, I thought we had dead legs today," DeCosta said. "We will need to be fresh and rest these guys up."

De Costa said the top eight teams in the conference make the WAC Tournament.

After the win, the Spartans remained in ninth and last place, but are one game behind Hawaii.

SJSU Games Remaining

Feb. 17 Hawaii

Feb. 20 Boise State

Feb. 24 Idaho

March 3 Fresno State

March 6 New Mexico State

March 6 Santa Clara

*March 10 WAC Tournamen

*March 12 WAC Tournament

*March 13 WAC Tournament

* Pending the outcome of regular season games



Club Center Andy Dickerson skates during a three-on-three drill Wednesday at Sharks Ice. The club team will begin its playoff run Feb. 26 when it takes on UNLV in Greeley, Colorado.

Hockey club wins three in preperation for playoffs

Daniel Herberholz

Staff Writer

The SJSU club hockey team outscored opponents by a total of 25-5 in its three victories this weekend, extending its win streak to 10 games as the team prepares for the playoffs.

The Spartans (25-10) defeated Boise State 12-0 and Texas A&M 5-3 in the first matchup against each team this season, and beat San Diego State 8-2 to win the three-game season series.

The wins put SJSU in a position to play University of Nevada, Las Vegas in the first round of the Division II West Regionals for the American Collegiate Hockey Association. The team will travel to Greeley, Colorado to face UNLV on Feb. 26.

"UNLV is going to come out and try and hit hard and try to intimidate that way," center Andy Dickerson said. "If we're able to hold the fort down defensively, we know we're pretty confident that we can put pucks away our-

The Spartans split two games with UNLV at home last October. SJSU lost the first game of the series 6-3, but won the next day 6-2, led by a hat trick from wing Mickey Rhodes.

"They're a very chippy team, they play really off of trying to antagonize us the whole time," wing Steven Stichler said. "We're just

going to let them run their mouths and beat them on the power play."

Dickerson said the regional tournament is sudden death for-

If the Spartans defeat the Rebels, head coach Ron Glasow said, their next game will likely come against Utah State, which has won both games against SJSU this season.

"Utah State is a real good team, but that is the matchup we want, "Glasow said. "They beat us twice, and we just want to have one more shot at them."

After a near-fight in the last game against San Diego State, Rhodes said he was ready for one more shot at the Aztecs this past weekend.

"I've been ready for that game for a while, so I came out pretty hard," Rhodes said. "It was kind of like redemption from last semester."

Rhodes had two goals and two assists in the game. Alessandro Mullane stopped

37 of the 39 shots he faced against San Diego State.

"He's been great," Rhodes said. "In order to go far in regionals, he needs to keep playing how he's playing."

Mullane also stopped 21 of 24 shots by Texas A&M in the closest game of the weekend.

"They were much stronger than we thought they were going to be," Glasow said.

"A&M came out really hard, motivated, ready to play," Dickerson said. "They gave us some trouble early on, but once our guys woke up after about a period and realized we had to actually put some work in, we were able to control much of the game after that."

Glasow said defenseman Eric Jones broke his ankle in the first period of that game by accidentally running into another player and falling down. Glasow called Jones' injury "a huge loss."

Dickerson scored twice and had one assist, wing Sam Cimino notched a goal and two assists and defensemen Mason Console and Salvatore Barranco each assisted on two goals.

After the close of the regular season last weekend, the Spartans are looking ahead to regionals and beyond, Dickerson said.

"We won't be happy with not making it to nationals," Dickerson said. "We missed it the last two seasons, and a San Jose State team has never missed Nationals three straight years."

"This really is our best chance at Regionals in a while because the matchups couldn't be better," Rhodes said. "I personally want that second game against Utah State. It's personal this time."



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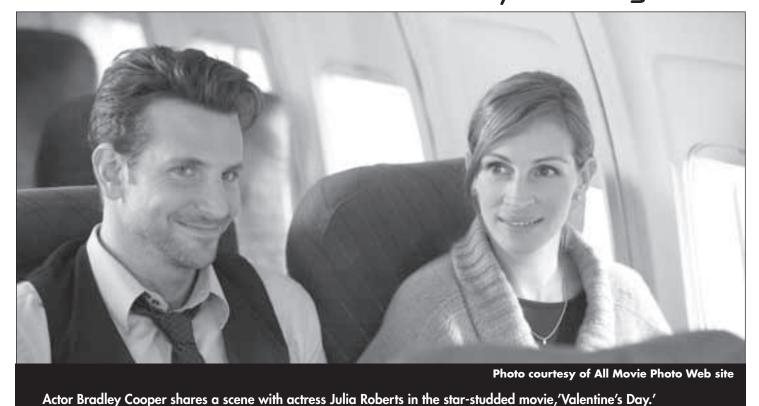
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One too many sweethearts sour V-Day flick



Donovon Farnham

Staff Writer

Like the holiday the movie is named after, "Valentine's Day" will make your eyes roll as mushy, feel-good moments pour off the screen. The film ultimately falls flat, because there are too many characters to follow.

"Valentine's Day" is set in Los Angeles and has a cast of 19 characters whose lives intertwine and collide on Feb. 14.

Think of "Valentine's Day" like the 2004 film "Crash," but with less racism and more heart-shaped chocolates and red

film is a proverbial smorgasbord ner, from the "Twilight" films, of A-list actors, including Jamie Foxx, Julia Roberts and Anne Hathaway.

The movie tells the story of how these 19 interconnected lives go through a series of breakups, wacky situations and epiphanies about whom they should be dating and what love really means on Valentine's Day.

The characters' feelings toward Valentine's Day range from the hopelessly romantic — Ashton Kutcher's character — to the pessimistic workaholic, Jessica Biel's character, who throws an anti-Valentine's Day party.

The problem with this movie is that some characters, such as Kutcher's, get a lot of time on screen and are well-developed, while others, such as Bradley Cooper's, don't get enough screen time to develop their character and story.

The worst characters from the

and Taylor Swift. They play high school sweethearts.

Throughout the film, both characters go through the trials of a stereotypical high school romance, but they never end up adding any real substance or perspective to the film and ultimately come off as annoying, like real high school students on Valentine's Day.

There is so much to follow with some characters that you want to hear more from them and what their reasoning is for participating in Valentine's Day.

If the cast was cut in half and the more interesting characters were given more time to develop, then this could have been a very good movie.

Amajorexampleisthatthroughout the course of the movie, Bradley Cooper's character is sitting on a plane, talking with Julia Roberts' character.

The movie makes it pretty clear that Roberts is on leave from the military, but viewers are left almost completely in the dark about Cooper.

It's too bad, because by the end of the movie, Cooper's character has one of the more interesting stories in the film, and he's not given the time he deserves.

But, because you have to follow the who's who of events of both minor and major characters, some major plot twists toward the end of the movie go without a reasonable explanation.

Since there are so many characters to cover, the film gets bogged down and ends up confusing and boring in some

Ultimately "Valentine's Day" is a corny date movie that will at 90/5ks/ Top 10

Llorona

Stars come out

Alternativo En Espanol

Song Artist Rodigo Y Gabriela Atman

Electronic

Calvin Harris

Anna Estrada

Artist Song **CFCF** Snake charmer

Jazz

Artist Song Ramona Borthwick Resident Alien

Myra Melford's Be Bread On the lips of insanity

Subversive Rock

Artist Song Into a Wasteland Freya Spoon Who makes your money

Urban

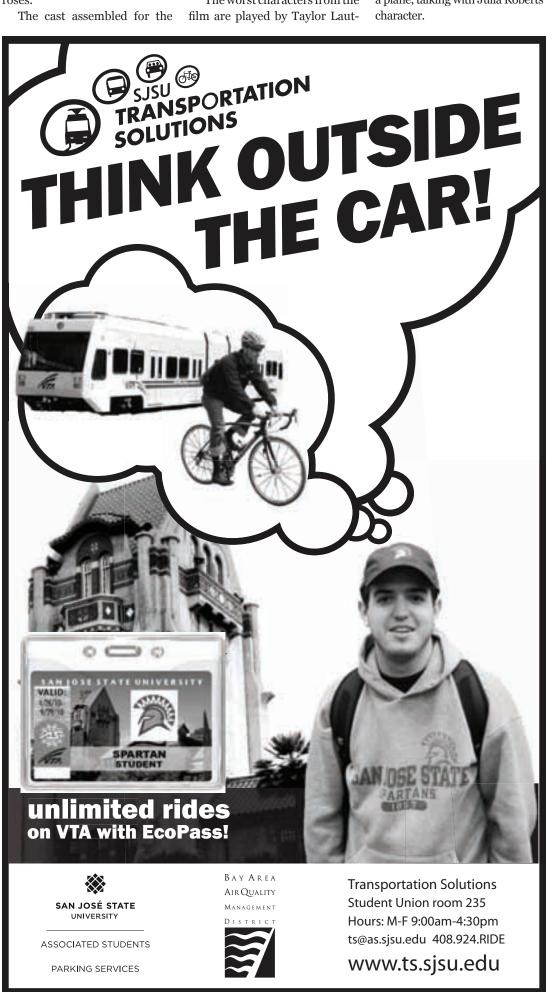
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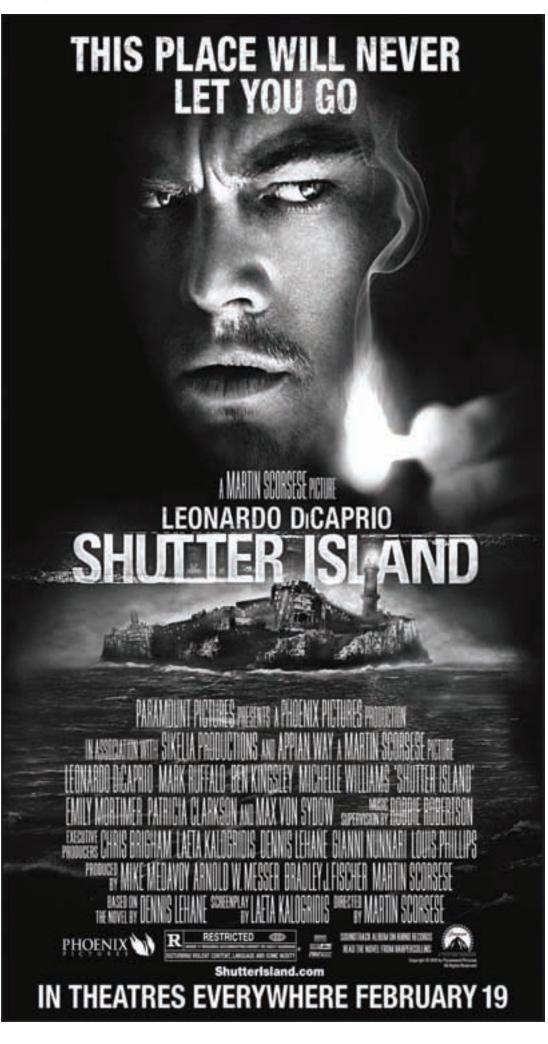
best entertain to a point while tugging on some emotional heart strings.

There are some funny moments and situations that will leave a smile on your face, like when Anne Hathaway's character tries to work her phone-sex operator job, which her character calls "adult phone entertainer," while attempting to go on a romantic date with her new boyfriend, Topher Grace's character.

This film isn't anywhere near as good as other date movies, such as 1990's "Pretty Woman," which was done by the same director, Garry Marshall.

If you enjoy this sort of date movie in which everything is resolved before the credits roll at the very end, then you should enjoy "Valentine's Day" - just don't look for anything that will change the way you look at date movies.





Starr still shines in the sky



Salman Haqqi

Staff Writer

In the 40 years since the break up of the Beatles, Ringo Starr has carved out a fairly successful solo career.

His 15th studio effort, "Y Not," may be his best effort since his 1973 album "Ringo."

True to Ringo tradition, "Y Not" featured an all-star lineup of guest musicians.

Working with legends like fellow Beatle Paul McCartney, Eagles' ax-slinger Joe Walsh and sultry vocal powerhouse Joss Stone, Ringo dished out his most playful and personal album to date.

The album opened with a good, old-fashioned bluesy rock 'n' roll track called "Fill In The Blanks" with Joe Walsh lending crunchy guitar riffs making for a solid opener.

It's clear from the start that Starr and his band of aging rock stars are a bunch of guys refusing to let their age get in their way.

Following the riffy opener, Ringo slipped into a thoughtful tribute to John Lennon featuring McCartney's signature bass playing on "Peace Dream."

Although simplistic in its lyrics, Ringo reiterated Lennon's quest for sanity and reason with a serene composition.

On "The Other Side Of Liverpool," Starr went into a poignant nostalgia trip, touching on his childhood and recalling his early days with the Beatles as he sings "Went to Hamburg, the red lights were on / With George, Paul and my friend John."

The album reached its apex with a beautifully sweet ballad, "Walk With You." It's possibly



Photo courtesy of Ringo Starr official Web site Ringo Starr's latest CD, 'Y not,' features a variety of guest musicians including fellow Beatle Paul McCartney.

his best song since his 1973 hit juxtaposed with Ringo's. "Photograph."

this ode to a lifelong friendship, adding his unmistakable soaring harmony parts, which couple seamlessly with Ringo's everyman voice.

McCartney's ability to completely own a song with a seemingly small part was vividly displayed and distinctly illustrated the Beatles' unparalleled song-writing chemistry.

The only downside of the album was its ending track, "Who's Your Daddy."

Featuring Joss Stone on vocals, one wonders why she was even allowed within a mile of someone of Ringo's stature.

Stone is undoubtedly a rising star with a truly unique voice, but it'll be years before she has the rock 'n' roll cred that qualifies her to work with a Beatle.

Musically, the song opens with a rocking guitar riff and a solid groove, but Stone's powerful voice was a sonic mismatch

The rest of the album was Paul McCartney starred in typical Ringo fare with contemporary distorted guitar tones thrown in here and there to keep the songs rel-

It's the good-humored pop rock that we've all come to associate with everything Beat-

Using simple melodies and personal lyrics, Ringo proved that his song writing was not mired by his technical limitations.

After all these years fans should know not to expect another Beatles album.

However if listeners are looking for a Sunday afternoon pick-me-up, Ringo is your man.

"Y Not" showed that at the age of 69, Ringo is undoubtedly content and happy.

The album expressed his joy and showed us all that in a world rife with cynicism, music can be the shining light among the darkness.

'The Incredible Hulk' smashes low expectations

Donovan Farnham

Staff Wrtier

If there is one thing about my personality I take pride in, it's the fact that I love comic books and I'm not afraid to have them seep into my everyday life.

When my friend told me about a cocktail called "The Incredible Hulk," I was sold before I knew what was in it — it could have been paint thinner mixed with rusty nails and I would have

Luckily, The Incredible Hulk is more palatable than that.

The drink is one part Hypnotiq, a bluecolored tropical fruit-flavored vodka mixed with cognac, and more cognac — in this case,

When the two are mixed together in a glass, they transform into a tasty green goliath of a cocktail that packs a big punch for the small glass in which it's served.

As my friends and I sat down at a booth of the BJ's Restaurant & Brewhouse at Oakridge

Mall, I told them what I was ordering to a chorus of chuckles and comments about my ridiculously named drink order.

The same thing happened when our server came to take our order.

She was so surprised by its name, so she called over another server to double check if The Incredible Hulk was an actual drink.

I don't blame her. I felt silly trying to keep a straight face

while ordering a drink named after a comic and tonic. book superhero.

My friend — who was against me ordering a nerd drink — asked the servers if there was something else they could suggest, but I decided to stick with the drink.

To my surprise, the servers asked me which way I wanted the drink prepared because there are three ways.

There is the first way, with Hypnotiq and

Hennessy.

The second way has The Incredible Hulk on a sugar high because it's mixed with Mountain Dew soda, vodka and melon liqueur.

The third way, which is a single shot, had melon liqueur, vodka, Triple Sec liqueur and sour mix.

I decided to stick with the first version of the drink because it had alcohol that I knew I could handle.

When the drink arrived, the presentation surprised me. In a small tumbler was an ominous green liquid that looked as cool as I hoped

The first sip of the radioactive-looking green cocktail revealed it was as strong as its namesake.

The first flavor I tasted was the tart flavor of the Hypnotiq that left me with a slight pucker followed by the taste of cognac.

Despite the drink's mixture of alcohol, it was surprisingly smooth to drink.

The second thing to hit me about the drink was that it is much stronger than my usual gin



Within a few swigs of the drink I was already buzzed — not angry and ready to rip off my shirt in a rage like Bruce Banner, the Hulk's alter ego — but jolly and in a good mood and happy to be with my friends.

The Incredible Hulk came in at a total of \$9, which I consider to be reasonable at BJ's Restaurant & Brewhouse, and I will definitely consider ordering it again.

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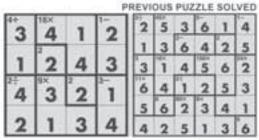
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- 14 Horse's gait 15 Radio-tube gas
- 16 Dwarf buffalo 17 You got ----
- "You got --- deal" 18 TV teaser
- 19 Research sites
- 20 Made hay 22 Sterile
- 24 "Did you ever lassie . . . 27 Avid support
- 28 Wall reinforcer 32 "Eleanor —" (Beatles tune)
- 36 Queen of Thebes Prickly pear
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The father-son bond I'm happy not sharing

Spartan Daily

It seems to be a common story for all fathers to come home from their jobs, dead tired from the hard work they did during the day, but still have just enough strength left to spank the living daylights out of

My dad was one of those fathers, who was hard on his son, and wanted him to be the best.

He never said "I love you" directly. Instead, he would use harsh words to put me down, telling me to constantly strive to be

better. But in reality, I knew he wanted me to be better than him, and he couldn't express it in any other

I would be learning my multiplication tables in kindergarten at the age of 6, because my dad wanted me to be better than everyone else.

If I ever threw a tantrum at a store, my dad would take me outside and "fix" me, which usually ended up with us coming back in with me sniffling and him sternly telling me not to cry anymore.

Around the time I turned 11, my dad was gone.



Leonard Lai An Honest Lai

He left for Taiwan on some sort of business trip. At the time, I never questioned why he left and would be gone for years.

A sense of freedom was present as I felt as if I wouldn't be punished as frequently anymore.

I was able to enjoy years of freedom afterward. We would talk on the phone once a year, and that would be the only contact I had with him.

Years passed and once I turned 18, my grandfather passed away,

and my father came back.

Even after seven years of not seeing him, he still treated me as the little 11-year-old boy he knew before. He never saw me as someone older, even though I was taller than him.

At this point, I didn't even feel like I knew him anymore. I felt insulted. Here was someone who only spoke to me on the phone for the past several years, and as far as I knew, hadn't helped his family in any way, who was addressing me with such a familiar tone that is was like he never left.

"Who are you to speak to me like that?" was all I could think about. "Don't try to be a father to someone you haven't seen for half his life."

Eventually he started to make "home improvements" to my house, a place he hadn't been living at for seven years. Who was he to make these decisions?

I started to argue with him, and I knew before with his short temper, it wouldn't take long before things

My father grabbed a nearby hammer and threatened to kill me with it. I, at the time, felt the same urge to inflict bodily harm to him as well.

Eventually my mother broke up the fight by sending me to my room and grounding me. Preposterous! I haven't been grounded since I was 10, now to be grounded at 18. How much of an embarrassment to my pride was that?

I still complied, but not before my father came into my room, grabbed the TV, and threw it on the ground, breaking it.

He eventually went back to Taiwan after sending off my grandfather. We never resolved our differences and I hope he never comes back.

Years later, I talked with my mother about my father, jokingly reflecting back on the whole situation,

it's with his

leather dad-

band, Hunx

and his Punx,

or his new-

est girl group

outfit, Hunx

and the Pun-

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is always a

If the Ra-

blast to see.

Xanadu

and it was then my mom told me what really happened.

My parents divorced when I was 11. Her voice was filled with such hatred, she said she never has told any-

one about this before including her own parents. Divorce isn't uncommon at all, but to find out more than 10 years later was a shock to me, and to find out how much my mother hates my father, her tone sur-

I had wondered during all the years that I hadn't seen my father, if my parents were divorced, but I never questioned it, assuming it was possible, but never considering it.

At the time she said it, I felt sad about how my family was doomed more than a decade earlier.

Now I realize I didn't need him, but every now and then I think about what would have happened if my family were still together, but the reality is that he is gone, so there is no point in thinking about it.

Growing up without a father is a reality some people will go through, but in the end we all make do with what we have.

"An Honest Lai," appears weekly on

Thursdays.

Leonard Lai is the Spartan Daily opinion editor.

Thank you, Mama, for making me gold pants

I hate slow music.

Folk music, fall-asleep indie music, complicated-genre hipster music ... It's sedate.

Dull. Deathly.

I like fast music, noisy music, weird music: songs that feel alive, bursting with vitriol and energy.

Songs that have an infectious sense of urgency and

passion and vitality. Songs that make me want to dance and sing along.

It's like I need everything in my life to be instantly gratifying.

I can't be bothered to sit through a warbling, dripping, "singer-songwriter" song to get some kind of message - I want it quickly or I don't want

I guess I'm just impatient. Though it's already been two months, and though they

announced that it would happen last October, I'm still bummed that my favorite band, Mika Miko, broke up at the beginning of this year.

In its earlier days, it played homemade-sounding punk music, complete with self-made microphones they crafted from hair dryers and telephones.

Over the years, it gradually merged elements of "no visiting wave," a 1980s New Yorkbased music scene, into its sound with saxophones and bending guitars, which were hallmarks of the genre.

Despite their evolving music style, Mika Miko's live the end of the day, St. Louis shows remained the same.

They were electric, packed to the gills with jumping, dancing kids who were all there to have a good time.

One of the dumbest decisions I've made in a while

to miss Mika Miko's final show in Los Angeles on Year's New Eve in favor of going to St.

It's not to say I didn't have a ball my friend there

Louis.

 who could complain about time spent buying goldsequined berets and Miley Cyrus wigs?

It's just the fact that at is still around — my favorite band, sadly, is not.

There are still other interesting bands and performers around, though.

One such performer is Seth Bogart, a.k.a., Hunx.



Kathryn McCormick Staff Writer

mones had a three-way with the Ronettes and the New York Dolls and produced a bouncing and bedazzled gay baby, it would be Hunx.

Originally a member of GRAVY TRAIN!!!!, an Oakland-based electro-rap dance party band, Hunx now coowns a vintage shop and salon in Oakland called Down At Lulu's.

But more importantly, and for this jacket.

more in line with the theme of this article, since Mika Miko's hideous that it's somehow split, Hunx has become my favorite live performer.

I like about him, a significant stretch pants and gold shoes, chunk of my interest in Hunx lies in his penchant for loud, sparkly clothing.

Not unlike a pigeon, I have a predilection for anything glittery or shiny.

As such, I am pretty obsessed with gold pants, gem sweaters, and of course, sequined clothing.

As my friend Hillary aptly put it, "You have an old woman's dress sense."

A fair point.

I shop like I'm stockpiling clothes for my late 70s.

Case in point: I recently found a multicolored sequin jacket that is truly dazzling.

Liza Minnelli would kill me is how we do it!"

gorgeous.

It's so gaudy and almost-

Back to the point, with this Though there is a lot that jacket, along with purple lamé I've got a pretty crazy outfit on my hands — definitely something to wear to the upcoming Leslie Hall show March 7.

Leslie Hall, queen of gold pants and gems sweaters, is an electro-rap Midwest diva.

Like Hunx, she is an amazing performer and dancer.

Also like Hunx, her affection for spandex and gems play a significant role in why I love her.

In short, I can't wait for her show.

To quote the lady herself, "Watch out for my body rolls, watch out for my body rolls! High kicks! High kicks! This

Can't. Wait.

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How to not get your photo in a newspaper

Upload. View. Sift through pho- and you'll see what I mean. tos. Peace sign. Reject. Thumbs up. Reject. Waving.

Definitely reject. This would be my typical regimen after photographing a newspaper assignment at a largely publicized event.

I feel like I've already met a fourth of the students attending this

After registering as a staff photographer for the campus newspaper, I've learned there are more people who aren't as camera-shy as I am.

Here's a tip: if you would like to avoid getting your photo published in the newspaper, one way is to be sure to use any one of the gestures in the beginning of this article the next time you see a photographer point his or her lens in your direction.

Attach a nice big lens to a digital single-reflex camera and snap a few hundred photos at a public event,

You're bound to have someone, somewhere, somehow void a few publish-worthy photos by looking your way and posing for a picture.

Not to put down the camera friendly, but I mean to approach these events as a media journalist on assignment.

I've snapped, sometimes unintentionally, people doing anything from pointing, waving or showing an upset face at me. My stealth skills are as sharp as a boulder — move toward any direction, and things will break.

Ever seen one of them? Not a boulder, but a photographer on assignment. If the photographer likes the photo you're in, he or she probably asked you for your name.

If this hasn't happened to you yet, and you would like to keep it that way, I suggest that you look straight into the lens of the camera and prohaving your photo taken with Mickey Mouse. While you're at it, let's throw in Darth Vader and the Easter Bunny making peace signs next to you.

I can guarantee you that no wellrespected newspaper will print your

Most of the time, your awareness of the picture being taken defeats the purpose of visually capturing the true atmosphere of the moment at any event.

What I've learned so far about photojournalism is that, at its foundation, it produces another medium for us to visually document situations, moments in history, people



life. Hopefully, it produces work powerful enough to move someone - anyone enough to take action. Of course, all

these photos and videos are ideally presented and taken without undue influence of

the photographer's presence and biases. But that's a whole other opinion article.

If you have this fear of seeing your photo in the newspaper, just remember: look straight into the camera and give it a wave.

"Burstin With Kirsten," appears biweekly on Thursdays. Kirsten Aguilar is a Spartan Daily multimedia editor.

Spartan Daily

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DAMAGE

From Page 1

ina Brown, the SJSU housing community relations coordinator.

Belfor, a company that is contracted by the California State University system to repair on-campus damage, is handling the repairs, said Margaret Hom, the associate director of facilities for SJSU housing.

Belfor project manager Joe Grisolio said 35 members of his staff have been working as quickly as possible to repair mostly water damage in CVB.

Brown said Belfor is testing for the presence of molds in the building.

"In this instance we've tried to be proactive to make sure that there will be no potential for the growth of mold," she said.

The affected students have been reassigned to similar or slightly upgraded apartments within CVB, Brown said.

One student who had a studio apartment on the second floor was moved to Campus Village Building A, which is normally reserved for faculty, staff and graduate students, Brown said.

Junior nutrition major Sara Miley said she was at work when the water damaged her apartment.

"When I got back from work on Sunday and went into the parking garage, I saw three R.A.s standing there — they told me that I couldn't go back into my apartment, and that I needed to find a place to stay for the night," she said.

Miley said her apartment sustained water damage to the walls and that the ceiling was also wet throughout her apartment, and she had to wait until the water was dried up before she could return to retrieve her belongings.

"Sunday evening at 11:30 p.m., I got a call from an R.A. telling me I would have to pick up my new keys (to her new apartment) at 11:00 a.m. on Monday and be moved out by 5:00 p.m. — I'm so glad it was a furlough day, I can't imagine moving on a regular day during all my classes," she said.

Brown said she didn't know if the students who started the fire would have to pay for it.

"Costs like this are usually absorbed by housing as maintenance costs," she said. "If the residents weren't violating the terms of license for CVB, there should be no reason those costs would be passed on to them."

Miley said she was not satisfied with the responses of the resident advisers or the housing staff.

"They could've given us more time to move, and my roommates should've been told that they were getting a new roommate," Miley said.

Kristen Lewis, a sophomore political science major, said she thought housing did the best they could under the circumstances.

"Obviously we're not happy about moving but they acted really quickly," she said. "Wondering if my room was damaged wasn't the best way to spend my Valentine's Day."

Forensic science major Cassie Crisp said students in CVB should be more careful.

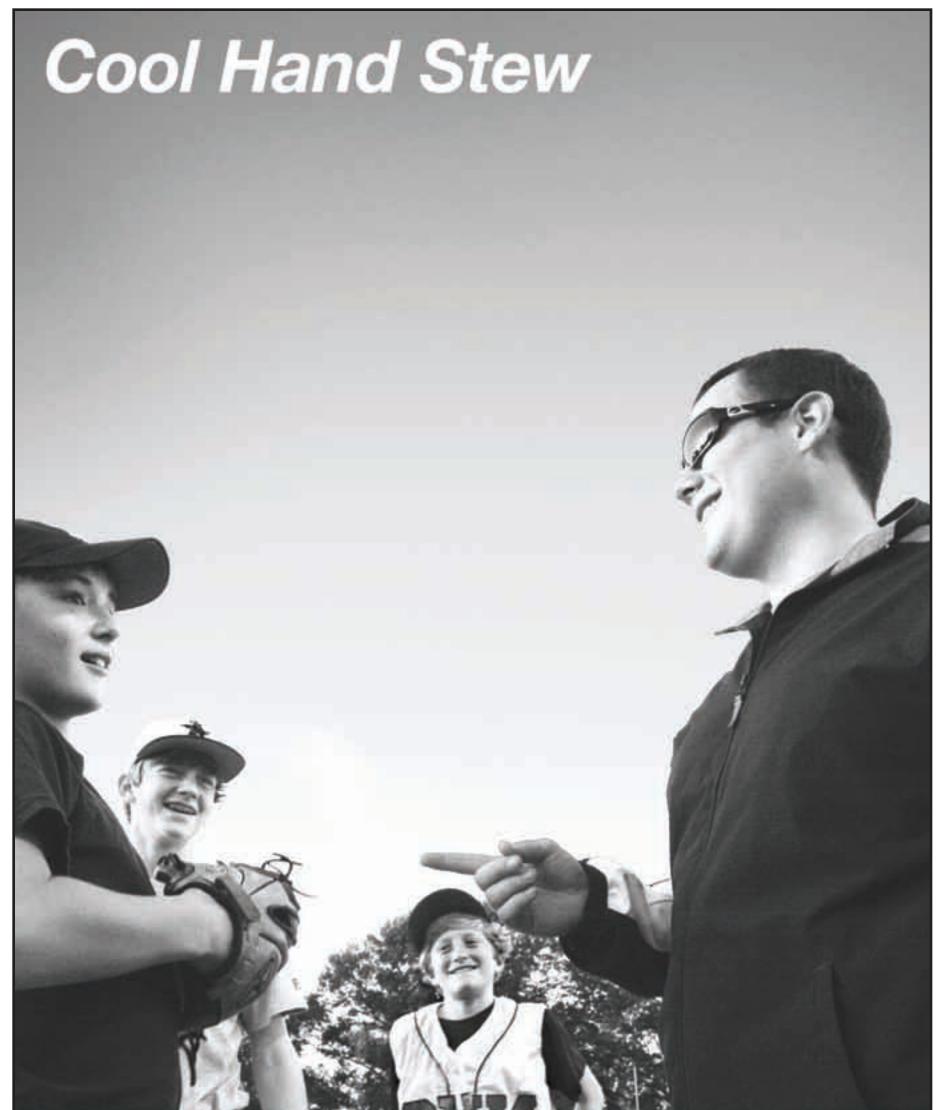
"Situations like this can be avoided," she said. "It's not fair for everyone else to wait outside because of one student's carelessness."

Miley said it would be inconvenient for her to have to move all of her belongings again before finals with the semester nearly ending.

Instead, Miley said she plans on staying in her new living assignment until her contract is

"I love it," Miley said. "I love my new space."





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