



Spartan Daily

Serving San José State University since 1934



Monday, September 14, 2009
Volume 133, Issue 9

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Root beer float conjures up childhood summer memories
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[Kirsten Aguilar / Spartan Daily]

San Jose homeowner Tony Vasquez (center) and senior psychology major Bryan Rojas (right) install an irrigation system in one of the raised-bed garden plots built in Vasquez's backyard. This was one the many built Friday morning in backyards throughout the community as part of SJSU Service Day.

Students plant seeds in community

By Kyle Szymanski
Staff Writer

When President Barack Obama declared Sept. 11 as National Service Day, it hit home for 25 SJSU students.

"It actually makes me feel pretty good, I am not going to lie," sophomore music major George Bravo said.

The students joined 125 other members of the San Jose community Friday to plant raised-bed vegetable gardens at 18 homes around the city during SJSU Service Day.

The students were from a variety of fraternities and organizations, including Sigma Lambda Beta fraternity, Lambda Theta Phi fraternity and the Ce-

sar Chavez Community Action Center.

In teams of four, five, and six, the students helped Sacred Heart Community Service volunteers dig trenches, build flower beds, transport potting soil and construct irrigation systems in the gardens of 18 low-income families.

The aim of the project is to create a wealth of vegetables that will be consumed by the families and given out to neighbors and other low-income families through San Jose's Sacred Heart Community Service," said Todd Madigan, director of development and communication for Sacred Heart Community Service.

"The idea is not only to help

people with their nutritional needs by planting an organic garden, but also to help create community," Madigan said. "These planters will actually create a lot more produce than one family can eat. It's literally planting the seeds of community."

Senior psychology major Bryan Rojas said he enjoyed prepping the gardens.

"Basically, it is to help out the community," said Rojas, Sigma Lambda Beta fraternity president. "A lot of the people we are helping are Latinos, so I feel passionate about their struggles and what they are doing."

Bravo said he felt compelled to volunteer after his roommate explained the project.

"Honestly, it wasn't out of obligation or anything," Bravo said. "My roommate woke up and said 'Hey we are doing community service today' and I said 'OK.' It's good to do some work every once in a while."

By the end of the year, Sacred Heart Community Service plans to have planted 100 gardens around the city of San Jose, Madigan said.

Seeds will begin to be planted in the gardens on Sept. 26, he said.

The gardens will eventually be home to radishes, broccoli, cabbage and other winter vegetables, Madigan said.

For San Jose residents such as

See **SERVICE**, Page 2

SJSU's racial diversity ranks 6th in the West

By Dominique Dumadaug
Staff Writer

It's not bad to be a minority college student in the California State University system.

According to the magazine *Diverse: Issues in Higher Education*, 13 CSU campuses made its top 100 list for the number of bachelor's degrees granted to all minority groups combined in 2008.

"The university prides itself on creating access to higher education," said CSU Chancellor Charles Reed in a July 6, 2009 press release on the CSU Web site.

"Our trustees, presidents, faculty, staff and students have worked to create welcoming and inclusive campuses — resulting in a university system that reflects the rich diversity of the state of California," the press release stated.

Seventeen CSU campuses ranked in the top 100 of *Diverse: Issues in Higher Education's* list for degrees granted to Latino students, 12 campuses for Asian-American, nine for Native American and four for African-American.

"It makes you feel comfortable, because you're not the only (one) that's different," said Myra Siddqi, a psychology major between her junior and senior year. "There are lots of people from different countries (here), and it just makes you feel comfortable."

According to a recent report titled "America's Best Colleges" by U.S. News & World Report, SJSU is now ranked 14th in the West in ethnic diversity among colleges and universities granting bachelor's and master's degrees.

Overall, SJSU is ranked sixth in racial diversity among universities in the West, according to U.S. News & World Report.

Diverse: Issues in Higher Education listed SJSU, along with San Francisco State University, in the top 10 of degrees granted to Asian-American students.

One student said he was not surprised by how high SJSU was ranked.

"There's a lot of Asians here, so a lot of Asians come to SJSU because it's closer to home," said Hau Le, a sophomore biological science major.

According to the 2000 census report, 4.3 million people who identify themselves as part Asian reside in California.

"We will continue to make di-

versity and inclusiveness central to our institutional and educational practices," said President Jon Whitmore during his fall welcome address on Aug. 20, 2009.

One such way SJSU is continuing to promote diversity within the campus is with the Inclusive Excellence and Diversity Master Plan, according to its Web site.

The Web site states that the plan "is an institutional strategy and action plan for deeply infusing the university structure and community (across all levels) with the values and practices of inclusion, belonging, inclusive excellence, intercultural learning and skill sets, and the valuation of multiple perspectives, backgrounds, and identities."

The plan states three objectives: to recruit and hire a diverse faculty, to foster an inclusive and supportive campus in which places care and value of all members, cultures, identities and perspectives at SJSU, and to engage the campus around diversity through the knowledge and understanding of issues and perspectives associated with diversity.

One student said she has felt the effects of being on a diverse campus.

"I do meet a lot of interesting people here," said Aung "Shane" Thu, a senior mechanical engineering major. "I'm a Buddhist originally, but I see a lot of Catholic people, Christian people and Muslims. And I hear a lot of different perspectives from them, so it's really opened my mind up. It's a good thing."

One way SJSU participates in outreach programs to inform minorities on how to get into college is Super Sunday, according to its Web site.

According to the CSU Web site, Super Sunday is a program that was created in 2005 in which all CSU campuses participate to inform African-American students and their families about college.

On two consecutive Sundays, CSU leaders such as presidents and chancellors would go to various African-American churches to inform the community about how to prepare for college, applying for financial aid and other information, according to the CSU Web site.

Whitmore participated in his first Super Sunday event on Feb. 15, 2009 at Maranatha Christian Center.

Text-A-Librarian sends students answers

By Husain Sumra
Staff Writer

Students can now text message a librarian for answers to questions rather than ask a professor or friend.

The King Library has a new service called Text-A-Librarian that will allow students to text message questions to librarians, according to its Web site.

Simon Tsegay, a senior computer science major, said the service is innovative and useful.

"I think a lot of students can actually benefit from being able to ask anything they want to a librarian," Tsegay said.

Science Librarian Rob Bruce said the library was exploring new territory.

"We're providing another access point for students to communicate with us," Bruce said.

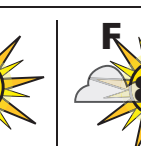
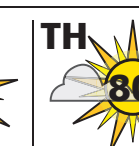
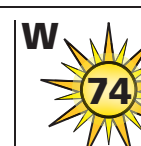
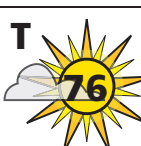
Marci Hunsaker, the co-unit head of reference at the Dr. Martin Luther

See **LIBRARIAN**, Page 2

To use the Text-A-Librarian service, follow the following steps:

1. Enter 66746 as the recipient
2. Start your message with AskSJ
3. Enter your question
4. Wait for a confirmation text
5. Wait for your answer

Source: <http://sjlibrary.org/services/reference/texting.htm>



theSpartanDaily.com

Audio Slideshow
The Spartans go down 24-14 to the Utah Utes

Audio Slideshow
Students volunteer during SJSU Service Day

News Blog
spartandailynews.wordpress.com
The calm after the enrollment storm

Photo Blog
spartandailyphoto.com
Students tailgate before the football game Saturday

Correction

Deanna Gonzales, interim director of undergraduate studies, was incorrectly identified as Deanna Carter in the story titled, "Enrollment reduction plan sends some to community college" in the Sept. 10, 2009 issue of the Spartan Daily.

Whitmore challenges SJSU community to get fit



[Dave Cabebe / Spartan Daily]

Jennifer Whitmore, wife of SJSU President Jon Whitmore, offered words of encouragement during the kick off of the Whitmore Wellness Challenge at the Aquatic Center Thursday. The six-week program is open to students and faculty and is designed to develop healthier habits toward physical fitness.

By My Nguyen
Staff Writer

The second annual Whitmore Wellness Challenge starts today and ends on Oct. 25, 2009, according to a human resources official.

The purpose of the six-week program is to bring people together to work on improving their health habits, said Liz Martinez, assistant to the associate vice president of human resources.

President Jon Whitmore said every piece of data says that if people live a healthy life, they will feel better, live longer and be more productive.

"The idea is for people to come together in groups to commit to doing a certain kind of exercise program for a certain length of time," Whitmore said. "And hopefully getting people in the habit of walking more or going to a workout program two or three times a week when they haven't been before."

Junior kinesiology major Lisa Worsham said she thinks the challenge is a fun way to motivate people to become healthier.

"I'm participating in the challenge to help maintain a healthy and active lifestyle and beat some friends participating on different

teams," Worsham said.

Everyone on campus can participate, including students, faculty and staff, Martinez said.

"It's a team effort," she said. "There are four people on a team and each team has a captain."

There is a fee of \$5 per person or \$20 a team, Martinez said.

"That money is used to purchase snacks and gifts that we will give to the highest scoring team for the best picture and creative team name," she said.

In order to win, teams have to accumulate points by doing activities that will help them develop better habits, Martinez said.

The challenge also encourages people to develop, emotionally and socially, she said.

Participants can earn points by doing simple things such as flossing, going to a football game or hugging someone, Martinez said.

"The challenge is to do things that you don't always normally do that will help you develop healthy habits — such as drinking less than four alcoholic drinks a week, getting six to eight hours of sleep a night, drinking six to eight glasses of water a day and exercising every-day," she said.

If a team exercises twice a day

for 30 minutes each, the team will receive two points, Martinez said.

If a team exercises once a day for 30 minutes, the team will receive one point, she said.

"The team doesn't have to necessarily do things together," Martinez said. "Some teams, last challenge, exercised together and encouraged each other. It's about supporting each other. It makes it a lot more fun."

The goal of the challenge is to help students, faculty and staff develop better health habits, Martinez said.

"This semester, we're going to give points for going to a football game," she said. "We want to get people out there and participate with the SJSU community."

Jennifer Whitmore said she will be participating in the challenge with husband Jon and two other members.

"If you start moving, all the intellectual and spiritual will come to place," she said.

The challenge was an initiative to bring wellness to students, staff and faculty, said Maria De Guevara, associate vice president of human resources.

The challenge started last year but did not bring out as many participants as was expected, Whitmore said.

"These things grow over time, and it's all volunteered — so part of it is getting the word out," Whitmore said. "There were quite a few teams that joined up last year, and the anticipation is we'll have more this year."

Martinez said it's important for students to develop good habits in all aspects of wellness, because students have busy lives, and having a healthy lifestyle will help them deal with stress.

Worsham said wellness is the foundation of living.

"Without maintaining a healthy and active lifestyle I would not be able to participate in many of the activities I love," she said. "If all students maintained a healthy lifestyle today they are much more likely to do the same once they're older."

SERVICE

From Page 1

Tony Vasquez, the work came as a much-needed gift.

"It will be good for the environment, plus it is stuff that we want to eat," Vasquez said. "We won't have to go out and buy it."

The houses were chosen after their residents notified Sacred Heart Community Service that they needed help, Madigan said.

Sacred Heart Community Service has seen the number of needy residents who contact them for help jump by 37 percent in the last year, he said.

Madigan also said the veg-

etables are scheduled to be harvested in time for Thanksgiving, when Sacred Heart Community Service serves 3,300 dinners to the poor.

Senior mechanical engineering major Jesus Gonzalez, who served as a team leader, said it felt good teaching the families to be independent by showing them how to create their own

vegetable gardens.

"It makes me feel proud, because I am not only helping them out, but at the end of this session, they should know what to do and they can help out themselves," Gonzalez said.

San Jose Mayor Chuck Reed was on hand to present a proclamation recognizing the work

of Sacred Heart Community Service.

"I want to thank you for working today and dedicating some hours for service," Reed said. "I know a lot of you dedicate your life to community service and that is something that is an example I would like to set for the rest of the community."



[Kirsten Aguilar / Spartan Daily]

(Left to right) Juan Quiroz, a volunteer from Intel Corporation, SJSU alumnus Jamie Wood, Kenneth Maldonado, a UC Santa Cruz graduate, Linda Gold and John Calderon, Sacred Heart Community Center volunteers, and Mike Kellogg, an Intel Corporation employee walk from the community center to their assigned house.

Ten things participants can do to earn points:

- Intellectual health habits –
 - Attending a lecture
 - Reading a book
- Spiritual health habits –
 - Meditating
 - Going to church
- Physical health habits –
 - Exercising
 - Walking
 - Eating healthy food
 - Flossing and brushing teeth
- Social health habits –
 - Hugging someone
 - Attending an SJSU football game

*According to Liz Martinez, assistant to associate vice president of human resources

LIBRARIAN

From Page 1

King Jr. Library, said the library has been pursuing different ways to communicate with students.

"We've been looking at a lot of reference type ways that students and others can access some help at the library," Hunsaker said.

A Spartan Daily test found that questions were generally answered within 10 to 20 minutes during operating hours while one of the three questions sent did not receive a response.

Joan Bowlby, co-manager of reference, said the librarians don't know who sends the text messages.

The phone numbers are translated into four or five digit identifiers, Bowlby said.

Bruce said his goal is to reply to students within a day with their answers, and no more than two days for more complex questions.

According to the service's Web site, hours of operation are Monday through Friday 1 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Students and others can use the service by text messaging AskSJ followed by a space and a question to 66746, according to the service's Web site.

Hunsaker said the new technology wouldn't result in the loss of librarians.

"It's not taking away any jobs — just helping us make the best use of our resources," Hunsaker said.

Bruce said that he just wants to help as many students as he can — particularly now with furloughs — and that this service allowed him to do so.

Hunsaker said the service is best for short and simple questions.

"We only have approximately 160 text characters to send in a question, and we can reply in 320," said Hunsaker.

The service received 70 text messages in the first week, Hunsaker said.

"We think it could become a very popular service," Hunsaker said. "People like to text."

Bowlby said people with cell phones send and receive twice

as many text messages than phone calls.

"I think it's really important for us to be in tune with the latest technology and the latest way to communicate," Bruce said.

Junior advertising major Sonia Dost said she liked the idea behind the service.

"I think it's pretty cool that you can actually text to get answers," Dost said.

Senior English major Deborah Godinez said the service would be useful.

"I should be using [the service] right now actually," Godinez said.

Bruce said students who come to the reference desk in the library receive higher priority than those text messaging.

Hunsaker said there are still some temporary glitches with the service and that some phones would not work with the service.

She said that the library also suggests not using the service in certain situations.

"We suggest no texting while driving," she said.

*What in the world is going on?
Could this be...*

Tim LaHaye
(Left Behind Co-author)
September 13

Mark Hitchcock
(End-times Prophecy Expert)
September 20

Jim & Penny Caldwell
(The Real Mt. Sinai Discovered!)
September 27

the end?
A CONFERENCE SERIES

at
Calvary Chapel San Jose
1175 Hillsdale Avenue, San Jose, CA 95118

8:30 AM, 10:00 AM, 6:00 PM

september09.org

Students discover colorful history

Campus reading program attempts to foster community building and self-growth

By Husain Sumra
Staff Writer

A group of 11 students gathered in Clark Hall to discuss the book "Color of the Sea" by Bay Area author John Hamamura and compete in a raffle as part of the campus reading program.

"I thought the discussion was very valuable," said My Pham, a freshman political science major.

"Color of the Sea" is the 2007 Alex Award-winning book about a young man trained as a samurai who moves from Japan to Hawaii to California during the 1930s and 1940s, according to the campus reading program's Web site.

"I was so interested in the book I was looking for an opportunity to discuss it, and here was the perfect opportunity," Pham said.

She said this was the first time she'd taken part in an event like this on campus.

"It was definitely a new experience for me," Pham said.

She said there should be more book discussions or at least events similar to book discussions.

Eloise Stiglitz, associate vice president for student services, said she thought the discussion was a success, as students quickly went into discussing the book after introducing themselves.

"There were a wide range of thoughts on the book," Stiglitz said.

Freshman biology major Danielle Perryman said she liked the book.

"Most of the books for school are usually underwhelming," Perryman said.

Freshman psychology major Patrick Harris said he thought the book was interesting.

"The motif continues on throughout the story and actually builds upon the theme of the book," Harris said.

My Pham said events such as book discussions help her grow as a person.

"I find this as a chance to help me find more out about myself," Pham said.

Eloise Stiglitz said the campus reading program allows a lot of



[Dave Cabebe / Spartan Daily]

Undeclared freshman Alvanny Guerra observes a display case featuring memorabilia from World War II in the Special Collections and Archives suite in Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library during the "Color of the Sea" campus tour Thursday.

students to have the same experience and can then discuss it.

"It becomes a campus community building experience," Stiglitz said.

She said book discussions allow students to get into reading.

"It's like 'Oh God, I have to read this book' to 'I enjoy reading,'" Stiglitz said. "That's a part of being in college."

It was nice to know students enjoyed the book chosen for the campus reading program, Stiglitz said.

She said the campus reading program committee wonders how students will react to the chosen books.

Eloise Stiglitz said there's a committee every year that selects the campus reading program's

book.

Stiglitz said the committee reads around 20 books and narrows it down from there.

The final two nominations this year were "Color of the Sea" and "Three Cups of Tea."

Stiglitz said "Color of the Sea" was chosen because it had more richness.

Tour provides insight into SJSU's World War II ties

By Husain Sumra
Staff Writer

SJSU has many ties to World War II, according to the first of a series of World War II-themed tours of the campus.

The tour is inspired by the campus reading program's selection for the Fall 2009 semester, "Color of the Sea," by John Hamamura, according to the campus reading program's Web site.

The book is about a young man who is trained as a samurai and moves from Japan to Hawaii to California, according to the campus reading program's Web site.

Undeclared freshman Jeremy Owyang said the tour helped him appreciate the history of SJSU.

"It gives more insight to what happened on campus," Owyang said.

The tour is an opportunity to learn about the campus, said Annette Nellen, director of the campus reading program and the tour guide.

Nellen said she thought the six students who attended the tour enjoyed it.

SJSU was playing in a football tournament in Hawaii in December 1941, Nellen said.

SJSU was set to play a game on Dec. 13, 1941, but the game was canceled because of the attack on Pearl Harbor, Nellen said.

Nellen said the team was at Honolulu Hotel eating breakfast as Pearl Harbor was being attacked.

She said students and faculty don't realize the history behind SJSU.

"We just come here, going to class," Nellen said.

The team also saw battleship USS Arizona tip over, Nellen said.

She said the team was deputized by the Honolulu Police Department and helped patrol the streets.

On Dec. 19, 1941 six players stayed behind to help the Honolulu Police Department as

the rest of the team left for San Francisco, Nellen said.

Uchida Hall was used to hold Japanese-Americans before they were sent to internment camps, she said.

SJSU also had 450 soldiers from Fort Ord stationed on campus to protect it from possible attacks, Nellen said.

Ivan Chin, a freshman engineering major, said he learned a lot during the tour.

"Artillery was on campus," Chin said.

Anti-artillery guns were placed near Tower Hall in case of attack, Nellen said.

The state of California also gave SJSU money to expand the size of the campus for returning veterans, Nellen said.

During the war the size of the student body was cut in half because of the amount of students who enlisted, Nellen said.

Chin said he thought there should be more tours.

"Students can learn more about the history of San Jose State," Chin said.

Freshman engineering major Daniel Lue said he thought the tour was interesting and good for freshmen.

"You can meet new people," Lue said.

The tour is a part of Fall Welcome Days, said Garima Agarwal, a senior business major and programming chair for Fall Welcome Days.

Fall Welcome Days is a way to create a friendly environment for freshmen and transfers new to SJSU, Agarwal said.

"The whole goal is to make students aware of what's out there," Agarwal said.

Annette Nellen said she's been giving tours about the history of the campus since SJSU's 150th birthday in 2007.

Nellen said she'd like to continue conducting theme-based tours of the campus.

The "Color of the Sea" inspired tour is set to run for the rest of the semester, according to the campus reading program's Web site.

According to the campus reading program's Web site, the World War II tour of SJSU will be departing from the lobby of Clark Hall on the following days:

- Oct. 14, 2009 12 p.m. to 1 p.m.
- Nov. 17, 2009 12 p.m. to 1 p.m.

Sparta Guide

Today

All You Ever Wanted To Know, But Were Afraid To Ask About College at 2 p.m. in Clark 118.

For more information, contact Veronica Mendoza at (408) 924-5921.

Tomorrow

Accounting/Finance Job and Internship Fair

from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the Student Union. Connect with public accounting, corporate and government representatives to discuss career and internship opportunities. For more information, contact Sherri Bowman at sbowman@sjsu.edu.

Fall 2009 Massages offered from 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Wednesdays and Thursdays at the Sport Club's Wellness Center. To make an appointment, visit Campus Recreation on the second floor of Building BB. To check out prices or more information, visit as.sjsu.edu/ascr or contact Associated Students Campus Recreation at (408) 924-6218.

Global Studies Club meeting at 2 p.m. at the Pacheco Room in the Student Union. Come hang out with globally minded students and increase awareness on international issues. For more information, contact Ryan at ryan.wu@students.sjsu.edu.



write *Your* next chapter with
Alpha Xi Delta!

Go Greek with AΞΔ

You're invited to join us at our
Recruitment Kickoff!

September 16
7 p.m.
University Room

To learn more about AΞΔ and our sorority's recruitment efforts at SJSU, visit www.sjsu.alphaxidelta.org, join our Facebook group "Alpha Xi Delta at San Jose State University", or contact Amber Kreisel at akreisel@alphaxidelta.org.



Alpha Xi Delta

Motorcycle club leaves skid marks over bad boy image

By My Nguyen
Staff Writer

Movies such as "Torque" and "Biker Boyz" portray bike riders as hostile outlaws, but some SJSU students devote their time to breaking the bad-boy image.

Spartan Riders promote motorcycle safety awareness and provide a place for motorcycle enthusiasts.

Al Tomista, a graduate student in chemistry and club president, said the biggest misconception motorcyclists is that they're all "hooligans."

"We're not that kind of club," he said. "We do have standards that we have to adhere to. Part of our mission statement is that we teach safety awareness and mechanical awareness."

Senior advertising major Mikey Tran said people view bikers as speed demons or gang members, and although in some cases that's true, Spartan Riders are none of those things.

"Spartan Riders is unique because it is a club that is primarily made up of SJSU students," Tran said. "It's a motorcycle club that's made just for us and caters around us. It's a great way to meet fellow riders on campus and share tips and information with each other."

Although some members of the Spartan Riders ride competitively, the club does not participate in any competitive events as a group, Tomista said. Instead, they have group rides.

"We have special events in both the spring and the fall," he said. "Our yearly fall event has been riding up to San Francisco and in the spring, we do our 'rain or shine' ride out to Santa Cruz."

The club rides out to events such as Fleet Week, which is a week-long event that allows people to pay tribute to the U.S. Navy and Marines, and the clam chowder cook-off at Santa Cruz Boardwalk, which is an annual fundraiser where chefs compete for the title of best clam chowder.

On Saturdays, the club takes time to work on its bikes to make sure they're functioning properly.

"Tech Day is our day that we set aside to make sure that our bikes are properly maintained," Tomista said. "We also address any safety issues that we might come across with the bikes. We want to make sure our riders have the best chance out there and with our machines properly functioning, we can achieve that."

The club is comprised of mostly male riders, but there are some female riders, Tran said.

"Some of the females can actually smoke some of the males on the road," he said.

Junior justice major Farm Saetern is one of the female riders in the club.

"I've been riding for five years," Saetern said. "I mean, I know it is male-dominated, and it does get exciting to ride with the guys because of the adrenaline, but I don't really see a difference. It's just a personal choice."

Spartan Riders give their members more than a place to ride motorcycles, Saetern said.

"It's what you get out of it, especially when you go on group rides, even though you're in your own machine, so to speak, you're within a group, so you feel that camaraderie within that group," she said.

Tran said motorcycling is a brotherhood, because all motorcyclists have something in common — the love for riding.

"When you see us riding around the city or freeways, we wave to each other, even if we don't know each other," he said. "It's a custom that we all do. If you see a fellow biker stranded off to the side of road, you pull over and see if they're okay."

Saetern said she wants to encourage the club to do more volunteer work.

"I hope the club keeps up with their volunteer services and make a difference," she said.

The club began when Tran noticed that there were a lot of motorcyclists at SJSU, he said.

Spartan Riders was started by SJSU students who knew one another from the Bay Area Riders Forum.

Spartan Riders began as a social group, Tran added.

The club started by having meets to talk about motorcycles and riding, and then they started having group rides, he said.

"Part of motorcycling is you never want to ride by yourself," Tran said. "Since there's a lot of bike riders at school, it's like having a little community for ourselves."

The club was made official in 2009 by current president Tomista.

As of right now, there are more than 30 students and associate members in the club, Tomista said.

"You don't need a motorcycle to be in our club," he said. "Several of our members don't have motorcycles. They just merely walk out or drive to our events. They hang out with us, although they still know a thing or two about motorcycles or they want to learn."



[Kirsten Aguilar / Spartan Daily]

Bobby Le, associate member of the SJSU Spartan Riders, works on his bike during one of the club's Tech Days on Saturday, Sept. 5, 2009.



[Kirsten Aguilar / Spartan Daily]

Raymond Ng, a junior mechanical engineer major, works on his motorcycle during one of the SJSU Spartan Riders club's Tech Days, when members meet to work on their motorcycles.



[Kirsten Aguilar / Spartan Daily]

Keyan Navid, a third year civil engineering major, takes advantage of a SJSU Spartan Riders maintenance day where members and other motorcyclists meet and work on their motorcycles together.

First-generation students offered guidance from one of their own

By Leonard Lai
Staff Writer

Some students who are the first in their families to attend college this semester are being guided by one who has walked in their shoes.

"I was a first-generation student myself," educational counselor Veronica Mendoza said. "I felt lost since I didn't know what college was really like, and my parents, who didn't go to college, didn't know how to help," she said.



[Dave Cabebe / Spartan Daily]

Jose Torricos, a senior civil engineering major (left), takes notes while educational counselor Veronica Mendoza (center) explains all of the services SJSU has available to students during the First Generation Rules workshop in Clark Hall on Thursday.

Mendoza said her workshop targets first-generation students, but also welcomes anyone who attends.

"I really wanted to learn what other people were going through," said Stephanie Baitinger, an undeclared freshman. "I had heard about this workshop through MUSE (a first year activities program for students)."

Undeclared freshman Tiffany Yip, said she came to the workshop looking to fit in.

"I came here hoping to bal-

ance family, stress and school-work," Yip said.

Twenty-one people attended the workshop, where Mendoza started by writing a list of challenges that first generation students struggle with in college today.

Attendees wrote examples such as, "parents not understanding college, students who were unfamiliar with the registration system and parents who can't help with registration or didn't know where to go," on a whiteboard.

"I had a friend who didn't know you even had to register," Mendoza said.

She had attendees discuss their own personal, academic and financial challenges in groups.

"I was a bad test taker, and I placed in a low remedial class, so I came to this workshop hoping to better myself," Baitinger said.

Yip said she knew what her problem was, but didn't know how to solve it at the time.

"I didn't network with people a lot, and I realized later that I needed to talk to people more in order to succeed," Yip said.

Mendoza handed out copies of "Student Survival Guide," which contains a list of departments, where they're located and different services the depart-

ments offer to students.

"I wish I had this when I was a student here — most of these departments didn't even exist back then," Mendoza said.

According to the guide, some of the departments listed are the Career Center, which offers cover letter writing and interview skills sessions, and the Student Health Center, which offers nutrition counseling and regular medical appointments.

"I was sick a lot when I was a student here, and my family didn't have insurance, so I went and visited the health center a lot — they also have an affordable pharmacy there," Mendoza said.

"I got a lot out of this workshop," freshman psychology major Stephen Cheong said. "I now know a lot more about resources that are offered here on campus, and the one I'm interested in is community service, since I need more hours."

The workshops are held every other Thursday, from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. in Clark Hall, room 118, Mendoza said.

She said a financial aid counselor will answer students' questions at the next session. It usually ends up being the most popular workshop of the semester, Mendoza said.

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Local Business Review: The Market by Safeway vs. Zanotto's

Addition of new downtown grocery competes with the old



[Courtesy of Web site bBnet]



[Angela Marino / Spartan Daily]

The produce section at a Safeway grocery store.

The deli counter at Zanotto's located on 38 South Second St. in San Jose.

By Angela Marino
Staff Writer

The smell of fresh, green apples heating in the sun tickled my nose as I walked by The Market by Safeway — a new addition to downtown grocery shopping.

The calm lighting and glass cases attracted my eye, and I could smell the warm food from the entrance.

I was in a trance.

I stared at the fabulous array of food, which could even make someone who just ate, ravenous.

I finally escaped the store, after many hours, and headed to Zanotto's for a few special items.

I walked in, and the setup was less than tantalizing. As I walked toward the deli displays, I realized that Zanotto's doesn't need over-the-top fancy cases to display good food.

The delicious food speaks for itself.

The two stores are not competing,

but providing the customer with more variety of foods to choose from. If The Market doesn't have a particular item, it may be at Zanotto's.

I realized Zanotto's doesn't need over the top fancy cases to display good food.

Zanotto's has been in San Jose for decades as the sophisticated choice for grocery shoppers.

The store is known for its family-oriented style and demeanor. It is more of a specialty store that carries items that would not be stocked at the typical market.

Zanotto's high price tag combined with quality items make it worth the extra money.

Regular items, such as cereals and canned vegetables, can be found at The

Market for a much lower price.

Zanotto's is made for an eclectic palette, offering more of an exotic array of cuisine, such as Greek dolmades, a grape leaf stuffed with rice and vegetables.

The store also offers food such as what mom used to make, with items such as lasagna and creamy potato salad.

The Market's customer service is also excellent, with employees around every corner willing to help and answer any questions. The exceptional service may decrease throughout time as the store ages.

Time will tell if the service will stay consistent.

Zanotto's customer service is superb, with slightly fewer employees, but with each visit there are familiar faces greeting customers with a smile.

The Market has fancy amenities such as touch screens that place orders for the deli. The store's food is delicious as well, with a full service sushi bar and

deli that has so many choices, it may take several minutes to decide what to eat.

The Market's environment is fresh, with calming colors such as pale yellows and soft, sandy browns.

The simple floor plan makes maneuvering around the store easy and convenient.

Choosing one store over the other doesn't have to be a final decision... each store offers different items.

Tiny shopping carts are also a great feature of the store, allowing customers to fill up on grocery items but still effortlessly glide through the aisles.

Zanotto's environment is also small but with higher-end items that a typical college student may not crave right now. The store doesn't offer small carts, which make it hard at times to maneuver

in the narrow food aisles.

Downtown has been transformed into a better environment with the two stores, adding to the unique urban style.

Zanotto's and The Market by Safeway both have a quiet area to sit and enjoy food with company.

Both grocery stores have a common element. The stores want to put the customer first by providing them with fabulous food.

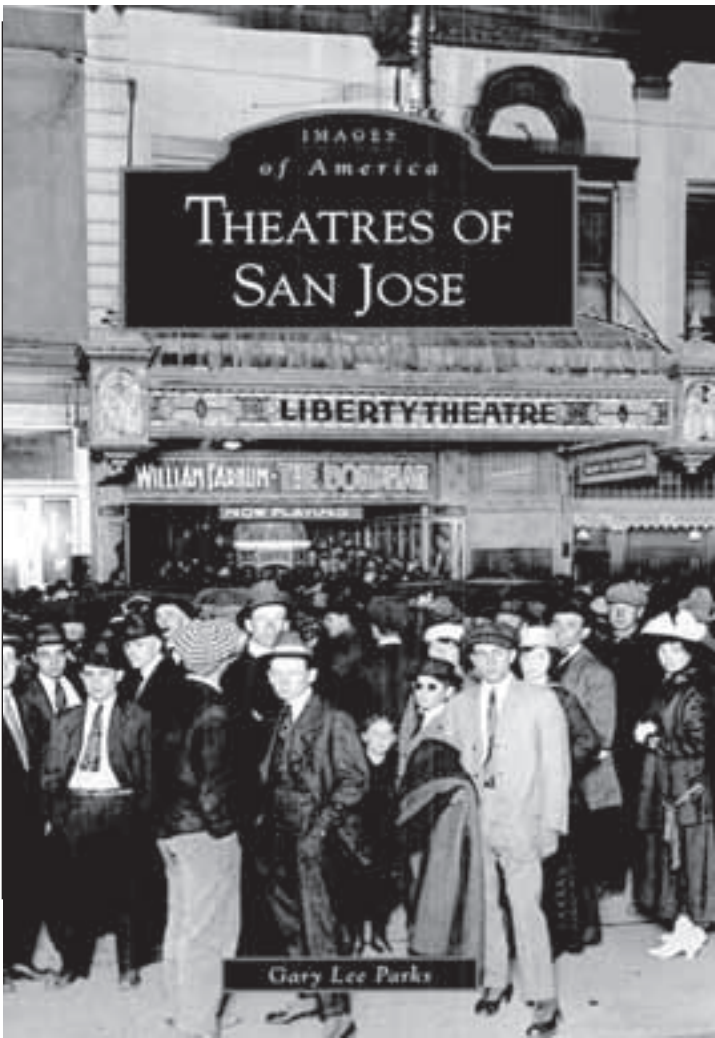
With more great places to buy great food, I see only positives in The Market addition to downtown.

Choosing one store over the other doesn't have to be a final decision.

Each store offers different items and acts as a giant local grocery store.

The Market and Zanotto's make downtown a better place to live and work by providing a variety of amenities. Both stores offer fresh and healthy alternatives to high calorie restaurant meals.

Historical, majestic San Jose theaters showcased in new book



[Courtesy of Google Books]

The cover of Gary Lee Park's new book, "Theatres of San Jose."

By Jill Abel
Staff Writer

Strip clubs, night clubs and churches — these occupy most theater houses from the late 1800s to the 1900s.

Gary Lee Parks investigated theaters that have been hidden by time and wear throughout Silicon Valley and compiled his findings in his book "Theatres of San Jose."

Parks, a board member of the Theatre Historical Society of America, held a slideshow presentation in Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library on Sept. 3, 2009.

He took his audience on a journey to find clues and remains of historical theaters that were once the heart of San Jose.

The room itself lacked the character of most theaters in his presentation.

The room was sanitized of any personality, with the exception of one winking light in the corner.

Parks knew every detail of historical theater — to the great satisfaction of audience members.

Despite the chilling ambience, Parks and his wife welcomed and offered snacks to each patron who entered room 257.

Two slideshow screens accommodated both audiences on either side of the room.

Parks flitted between each screen, wielding his laser pointer, or what he referred to as his

"light saber."

Parks knew every detail of historical theater — to the great satisfaction of audience members — some who were actually around before these theaters became "historical."

One slide in particular was the side of a beige building with a tiny crack at the foundation. Gasps of wonderment could be heard from the audience.

The crack itself was actually evidence that a theater had once existed there.

I just saw a crack.

Parks said that the future of theater will depend on the architectural value from the past.

"The whole experience was almost like Disneyland," Parks said. "You walk through the doors, and you're in a different land — you leave your worries behind. It is important to keep that fantasy."

He continued that the structure of a movie theater itself is incredibly expensive.

However, people, regardless of age, will stop to stare at the drapes, the lights, the ceiling and become one with the atmosphere of a different time.

It was hard to visualize a fantasy setting when I was looking at a picture of "Victory" parking lot, which was the space where "Victory Theatre" was located.

Electrical engineer Curtis Jones said he wished he could have seen the theaters of Silicon Valley in all their glory.

Curtis also said, "The reason I liked my hometown amphitheatre, is because it was real-lighted before the movie started. Enough light for me to read."

John Briere, another audience member, did not seem to share the enthusiasm with the rest of the audience.

He said, "I'm just here with my wife."

It was clear that Parks was on a mission to revive historical theater when he said, "The streets of heaven are lined with neon."

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Cheer on the Spartans with this BBQ at the Big Game vs. Rival Utah!

Drink of the Week: BJ's Irish Root Beer



[My Nguyen / Spartan Daily]

Sweet, frothy root beer float transforms into adult treat

By My Nguyen
Staff Writer

When I was little and it was a scorching summer day, my sister and I would raid the refrigerator for vanilla ice cream and root beer so we could make root beer floats.

The combination of sweet, cold ice cream and fizzy soda always cooled us off.

With the hot days of summer still lingering, my sister and I decided to venture to find a root beer float that would bring back the memories of our childhood while celebrating our adulthood.

BJ's Restaurant & Brewery offers its version of a root beer float for grown-ups.

BJ's Irish Root Beer is made with Jameson Irish Whiskey, Baileys Irish Cream, Bols Butterscotch Schnapps and BJ's handcrafted root beer.

The drink is served in an ice-cold mug similar to the ones you get at A&W restaurants.

The color is a rich copper brown with hints of caramel-colored swirls.

I think this is what J.K. Rowling imagined when she created "butter-

beer" in her Harry Potter book series. The taste of the whiskey is subtle, but succeeds in providing the perfect buzz.

The Irish cream smooths out the flavor — similar to what vanilla ice cream does for root beers floats.

There is a distinct butterscotch flavor, but it doesn't overwhelm the overall taste. The sweet liqueur lingers on the back of your tongue and leaves a candied aftertaste.

The frothy foam is light and airy and has a slight hint of vanilla — be prepared to sport a foam mustache if you decide to sip from the cup instead of using a straw.

BJ's handcrafted root beer is made from its special recipe. And since BJ's has its own brewer, the taste and aroma of the root beer is 100 percent authentic.

The root beer has a spicy licorice taste but at the same time has a sweet vanilla and molasses flavor.

All the alcohol complements the root beer, so you don't lose the taste of the root beer itself.

I noticed that different BJ's Brewery locations will make the drink differently.

If you go to the BJ's in Cupertino, the drink is much sweeter and lacks the taste of alcohol.

The BJ's at Oakridge Mall, however, makes the cocktail a bit stronger.

There is an apparent and strong taste of whiskey — if you want your money's worth of alcohol, the BJ's at Oakridge will definitely provide that.

According to the Web site Yum-Sugar, Frank Wisner of Cripple Creek, Colo., was looking outside his window one night and was inspired to float a scoop of vanilla ice cream on top of his glass of root beer.

The radiance of the full moon let him catch sight of the snow on top of nearby Cow Mountain.

The delicious cold treat was popular among the children in the town, who called it a "black cow."

Whatever it's called, root beer floats always hit the spot when you're craving something creamy and refreshing.

BJ's twist on an all-American classic can be a popular tasty treat for those who grow up making and devouring root beer floats.

For \$6.75 plus tax, you can treat yourself to the best invention ever — next to the wheel.

BJ's restaurant bakes up a beast of a cookie with its famous 'Pizookie'

By Joey Akeley
Sports Editor

A giant cookie, baked in a pizza pan — what a revelation.

That's exactly how BJ's Restaurant & Brewery makes its famous dessert, known as a "Pizookie."

A "Pizookie" is essentially a thick sheet of cookie dough baked in a pizza pan, served with vanilla ice cream on top.

Before I went to BJ's, I never even thought about such a treat. Now, it has become my favorite dessert.

One "Pizookie" is probably big enough for two people after a hearty meal.

For those of you who like to dine in groups, I would recommend the "Pizookie" Party Platter, which gives you the choice of four different flavors in a gi-

ant pizza pan.

I prefer the good old-fashioned chocolate chunk flavor.

It's aroma reminds me of the batches of chocolate chip cookies my mom always made back when I was a youngster.

The peanut butter flavor is a favorite among my friends, but it just doesn't interest me.

I was never a peanut butter and jelly nut. If I had to make a sandwich, I would always settled on turkey.

For those who like the combination of nuts and chocolate, the white chocolate macadamia nut flavor hits the spot for me — not as nutty as the peanut butter, not as chocolatey as the chocolate chunk.

The oatmeal-raisin-walnut flavor tasted just like an oatmeal raisin cookie. It plays second fiddle to the taste of a chocolate

chip cookie.

After eating a chocolate chip cookie, oatmeal raisin just doesn't cut it.

For those of you who prefer Oreos as your choice of cookie, rejoice — the Oreo flavor is also a fantastic choice.

I was always one of those people who loved to lick the cream between the two oreo cookies.

When eating an Oreo "Pizookie," that is not an option, but the taste of an Oreo "Pizookie" more than makes up for that.

I have personally downed half of a party platter by myself. I got a little sick the next day, but it was all worth it.

I just couldn't believe that my friends could stop with half of the "Pizookie" sitting right in front of them.

So, I ate it all, downing it like a competitive eater.

The vanilla ice cream on top just makes it easier to eat more.

I soaked the cookie in the ice cream like Joey Chestnut soaks hot dogs in water.

To carve it out of the pan, I would advise one to use a spoon.

Be forewarned, the cookie does not always come out the same. Sometimes, it is really doughy and easy to dig into with a spoon.

Others times, the cookie is a little crisper, making the digging process a laborious event.

If your birthday is coming up, pay attention.

BJ's Restaurant & Brewery gives you a free "Pizookie" on your birthday.

And if it's not your birthday ... it's worth a lie.



[Courtesy of Picasa Web site]

The "Pizookie Party Platter" contains all four "Pizookie" flavors.

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No. 17 Utah pulls away in 4th quarter

By Adam Murphy
Sports Editor

For the second straight week, the SJSU football team played a ranked opponent, and for the second straight week, the Spartans were defeated — this time 24-14 to the Utah Utes.

The Utes traveled to Spartan Stadium Saturday night and put their 15-game win streak, the longest in the nation, on the line against a Spartan team that lost the previous week, 56-3, to USC.

"I think the great thing about playing teams like the two we just played is they expose you for every weakness you have," head coach Dick Tomey said.

For three quarters it seemed as if the Spartans had overcome those weaknesses that plagued them against USC. The game was tied at seven entering the fourth quarter, and Utah's winning streak appeared to be on the line, but a simple slant pass from Utah quarterback Terrance Cain to Jereme Brooks turned into a 51-yard touchdown, giving Utah a lead it would not relinquish.

The Utes preferred to keep the ball on the ground and attacked the Spartan run defense for most of the game, totaling 251 yards.

Fifteen of those yards came on a Utah touchdown by running back Eddie Wide, putting the Utes up 21-7.

The Spartans responded by scoring their second touchdown of the game on a nine play, 77-yard drive. Starting on the 23, junior quarterback Jordan La Secla completed a 12-yard pass to receiver Kevin Jurovich, and then followed with a 23-yard completion to receiver Marquis Avery. For his third completion in a row, La Secla hit Ryan Otten for 14 yards, bringing

the Spartans to the Utah 28-yard line.

La Secla said the offensive line was a big reason why he had so much success passing.

"We aren't really able to run that much tonight," La Secla said. "All we had to do was pass, and the defense knew that, and we were still able to block ... and that's huge for our o-line and that's something we can build on."

A pass-interference penalty on Utah cornerback Greg Bird put the Spartans on the 13-yard line. A 7-yard completion to Jurovich and a roughing-the-passer penalty on the same play put the Spartans at the 1-yard line.

Two unsuccessful quarterback sneaks by La Secla put the Spartans at third down and still trailing by two touchdowns. The Spartans returned to the air and found the end zone on a 1-yard pass to Avery.

La Secla was hit as he threw the ball, but he still managed to get the throw off to Avery.

"Coach [Margerum] tells us all the time, just give Marquis a chance," La Secla said. "He is that type of a player, he is going to go up and get it."

The Utes put the game away on their next possession, driving 77 yards down the field and kicking a field goal with 13 seconds left on the clock.

On the same drive the Spartans had a chance to regain possession on a Utah third-and-two, but Utah ran for three yards, gaining a first down. Two plays later, Utah running back Sausan Shakerin ran for 46 yards to the Spartan 4-yard line.

Tomey said he was pleased his team played better against a good Utah team, but expects better results.



[William Cooley / Contributing Photographer]

Utah quarterback Terrance Cain, No. 7, hurdles Spartan safety Duke Ihenacho while Justin Cole, No. 93, pursues the Utah quarterback. Cain ran for 76 yards in the Utah win Saturday night at Spartan Stadium.



[Kirsten Aguilar / Spartan Daily]

Spartan quarterback Jordan La Secla, No. 12, eludes Utah's Nai Fotu, No. 42.

La Secla frontrunner in QB competition with Reed

By Joey Akeley
Sports Editor

Quarterback Jordan La Secla said he experienced jitters when he entered the game against Utah on the last play of the first quarter.

But after Kevin Jurovich caught his first throw down the sideline for 33 yards, he settled down.

"It wasn't the best throw — it was to the side and Kevin made a great play," La Secla said. "When a receiver makes a play like that, it kind of relaxes you a little bit. And when you have that trust in your receivers, then you can pretty much play with a lot of poise."

That throw was the beginning of what head coach Dick Tomey called a tremendous performance.

"For somebody who has not played a full game at this level — and to be playing against that kind of defense — I thought he did a terrific job," Tomey said.

La Secla threw for 269 yards and recorded his first touchdown pass in two years during SJSU's

24-14 loss to Utah Saturday night at Spartan Stadium.

With the Spartans down 21-7 in the fourth quarter, La Secla completed five passes for 57 yards, including a 1-yard touchdown pass to wide receiver Marquis Avery. La Secla said he was confident during the drive.

"That drive was really special," La Secla said. "People say you're in a zone, that's kind of what it felt like. I felt like whatever defense they were in, we were able to make plays."

The touchdown pass itself came on third and goal from the 1-yard line.

La Secla was hit as he threw a wobbly pass. But receiver Marquis Avery was still able to make the catch.

"I was actually kind of mad at myself on that play," La Secla said. "I held the ball a little too long, and I got hit as I was throwing it. I was trying to make it a little easier on him than it was. But as you could see right there, he makes plays."

Quarterback Kyle Reed played all but one offensive play in the first quarter. He attempted only one pass, as the Spartans did not record a first down in his two drives.

La Secla played quarterback for the rest of the game, leading two touchdown drives.

La Secla said he has not won the starting quarterback job for the season.

"I think Kyle is too good of a quarterback to say that I won the starting job," La Secla said. "I don't really feel like I am in that position yet."

La Secla's main targets were Avery and wide receiver Kevin Jurovich, who combined for 15 catches and 215 yards.

La Secla converted three out of seven third down conversions in the second half. Tomey said La Secla played with a lot of poise.

"When he had pressure, I thought he avoided the pressure and still made good throws downfield," Tomey said.

thought we were capable of doing and we were capable of doing."

La Secla, in a quarterback competition with first quarter starter Kyle Reed, finished the game 22-34, for 269 yards, with one touchdown and one interception. Jurovich was La Secla's most thrown

to target, catching eight passes for 146 yards.

Utah scored a touchdown on its first drive of the game, the only team to put up any points in the first quarter.

SJSU tied the score in the second quarter on La Secla's first

drive of the game. Running back Brandon Rutley rushed for 2 yards to tie the game on the drive.

The Spartan defense forced and recovered two fumbles and made a goal line stand that culminated in a turnover on downs.

CHIEF ELECTIONS OFFICER

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- Nominate candidates for the Election Board
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- Oversee the Other Election Board Officers and Members
- Provide reports to the A.S. Board of Directors
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- Provide and facilitate candidate orientations
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ABOUT THE A.S. ELECTION BOARD:
The Associated Students Election Board is a group of students dedicated to overseeing the election process at San Jose State University. The board is responsible for all aspects of elections, including establishing an election timeline and guidelines, informing students about running for office, publishing election dates, and promoting student participation, educating candidates about rules and regulations, facilitating referendum voting when applicable, and overseeing at least two days of elections in April. The A.S. Election Board carries out its duties by employing three executives, including the Chief Election Officer, Vice Chief, and Design and Communications Manager.

The Board is also made up of five Election Consultants, as well as At-Large Members who are responsible for the daily management of the election process, voting and making decisions in cases where rules have been violated, and communicating with candidates throughout campaigning and elections.