



P. 2 A&E: Staff writer Thyra Phan dishes out tasty Thanksgiving Day recipes

P. 3 Sports: SJSU football players adhere to class-checking program

P. 5 Opinion: In new addition of 'Just Add Coffee' Leo Postovoit gives an alternative take on Thanksgiving



Coach MacIntyre discusses big game against Louisiana Tech Sports, p. 4

EDUCATION

Future CSU chancellor requests salary cut

By Sage Curtis
@sagedanielle

Timothy P. White, chancellor-designee of the California State University system, requested a 10 percent pay reduction of the state-funded salary last week.

According to a CSU news release, White was offered the same salary of \$421,500 that the current chancellor is paid, but requested that the CSU Board of Trustees lowers the amount to \$380,000.

"I believe this request is what is best for the California State University – its faculty, staff, students and leadership," White stated in a letter on Nov. 14.

He said the passage of Proposition 30 was a success for the CSU system but noted that there are still "grave economic issues" to solve.

"As I join the faculty, staff and students who have experienced cuts, salary freezes and fee increases, I too must do my part," White said.

White indicated he made the decision after meeting with various stakeholders, both within the CSU system and externally.

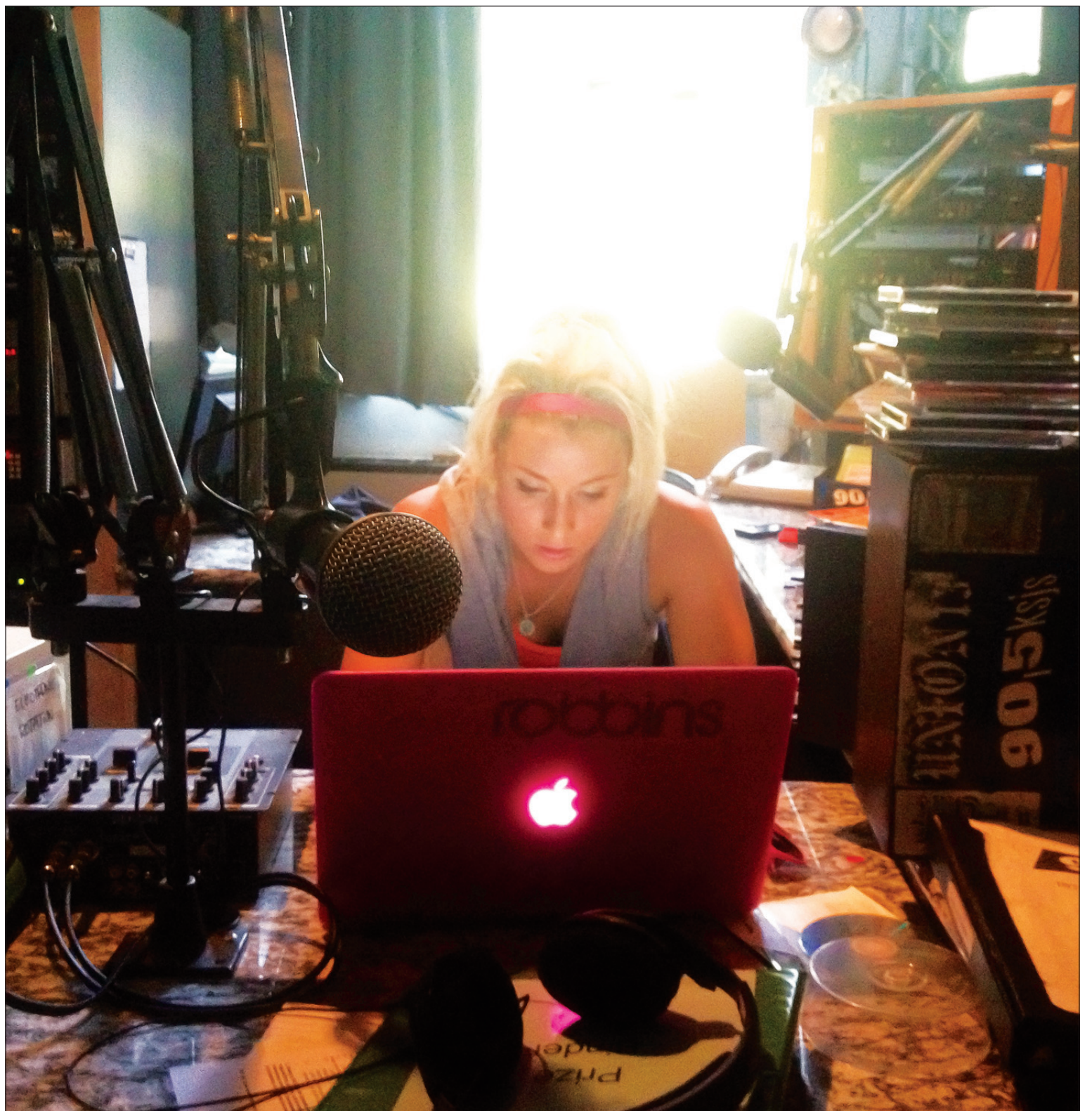
He said he felt the request was appropriate in light of the fact that most employees of the CSU system have not seen a pay increase since 2007.

"By changing the dialogue on my compensation, I hope to send a clear signal to the public-at-large, elected officials, the business community and families of current and future

SEE **CSU** ON PAGE 6

PROFILE

Jockeying for her dreams



DJ Amy Robbins, an SJSU student, gets ready to play electronic dance music on the Meow Mix on 90.5 KJSJ. She is on air on Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. .
Photo by Sage Curtis / Spartan Daily

SEE **NEWS** ON PAGE 6

SAN JOSE

Man arrested after four-hour standoff on top of bus

By David Sheffer
@SD_DSHeffer

A man was arrested after spending four hours sitting on top of a Route 25 Valley Transportation Authority bus yesterday.

The bus contained 15 passengers and a driver, and was located at the intersection of First and Keyes Streets.

The intersection at First and Keyes is busy with four lanes of traffic on both streets intersecting, and the bus stop right next to Cadwallader Park.

"We got the call a little bit after 10 a.m. basically on a report of an adult male on top of a VTA bus coach refusing to come down," said Sgt. Jose Cardoza, public information officer for the Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office.

Brandi Childress, media spokesperson for the VTA, said that the man got on the 10:15 a.m. bus.

According to Cardoza, the man on the bus was not a passenger.

The man walked up to the stopped bus, tapped on the bus window, and then immediately climbed up on top of the bus.

"Within minutes we had our sheriff's deputies respond to the scene, and what they saw when they got here was basically a male person on top of a roof of a bus coach refusing to come down," Cardoza said.

"The bus at the time of the incident had 15 passengers aboard, and they all got off the bus safely and (were) put on the next available bus," he said.

Cardoza said that the sheriff's department had specially trained crisis intervention deputies on scene that are trained to deal with persons with mental health issues or persons refusing to cooperate.

"He was resisting coming down, but it was more of a passive resistance," Cardoza said.

He said that the man on the bus was not visibly displaying any types of weapons, or threatening to hurt anybody.

"We wanted him to come down voluntarily without any injury to himself or anybody else," Cardoza said.

Cardoza was unsure if the 911 call came from within the bus or not.

"They were able to get the adult male to come down voluntarily without causing any injury to himself," Cardoza said.

According to Childress, the identity of the bus driver will stay anonymous since this was a hostage situation.

Anna Alvarado, who lives with her family on Second Street across from the bus stop, said she saw him standing on the bus all morning.

Alvarado said that her family was stuck in the house because the police blocked off the street.

"(The man on the bus) was just saying do it, do it, do it now," Alvarado said. "I don't know what he meant."

Justin Gime was at the bar Kevin's Place on Second Street when the cops showed up.

"I saw him holding papers and taking his jacket on and off, but I couldn't



Police wait for a man on a bus to peacefully surrender. The standoff took place on Keyes St. between First and Second Streets. Photo by Jesse Jones / Contributing Photographer

hear anything he said," Gime said.

The Route 25 goes from Kevin's Place on Second Street to the Alum Rock Station in San Jose.

Workers at the nearby Burger

Barn and Hellen Salon did not see anything that happened, while the man working at the Express Gas and Auto Service did not want to talk about what happened.

"It ended in a good mood with no one injured," Childress said.

David Sheffer is a Spartan Daily staff writer. Follow him on Twitter at @SD_DSHeffer.

SEASONAL RECIPES

Thanksgiving Eats: Easy and comforting recipes for the holidays

Photos and recipes by Thyra Phan
@ThyraPhan



GREEN BEANS WITH ALMONDS AND BACON

Start to finish: 10 minutes

Serves: 4

Ingredients:

- ¼ cup butter
 - ¼ cup sliced almonds
 - 3 strips of cooked bacon, diced to bacon bits
 - ¼ teaspoon garlic powder
 - Salt, to taste
 - 1 pound green beans, trimmed and cut in half
- Optional:** ¼ cup of dried cranberries for topping

Directions:

In a small saucepan, melt butter. Then add bacon, almonds, garlic powder, salt and stir. Add green beans and stir for 3 to 5 minutes. Serve hot. Sprinkle cranberries on top, if desired.



BAKED MACARONI AND CHEESE

Start to finish: 40 to 60 minutes

Serves: 4 to 6

Ingredients:

- 4 cups hot drained boiled macaroni (8 oz. uncooked)
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 2 cups shredded sharp cheddar cheese
- 1 teaspoon salt
- ¼ teaspoon pepper
- 2 eggs (beaten)
- 2 ½ cups milk
- paprika, to taste

Optional: 3 strips cooked bacon, diced to bacon bits

Directions:

Preheat oven to 350 degrees Fahrenheit. Mix ingredients in a 13x9-inch baking dish. Bake for about 40 to 60 minutes until golden brown. Sprinkle with paprika and serve hot.

Ready for dessert?



Check out a recipe for white chocolate and cranberry blondies online:



<http://ow.ly/fqmYz>

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Happy Thanksgiving From the Spartan Daily!

Have a Great Break!



SJSU quarterback David Fales threw 25 for 34 with 305 yards, three touchdowns and one interception in SJSU's 20-14 victory over BYU. **Photo by Jesse Jones / Contributing Photographer**

FOOTBALL

Spartans ride five-game winning streak into regular season finale

By James Simpson
@JimmerSimpson

Fresh off a nationally televised win against Brigham Young University (BYU), Spartan football head coach Mike MacIntyre held his weekly news conference yesterday to discuss the team heading into the regular season finale against Louisiana (LA) Tech University.

SJSU's record sits at 9-2 after the 20-14 victory over BYU Saturday night, a game MacIntyre called "one of the most important games in (SJSU's) modern history."

The bowl-bound Spartans' shot at the WAC title remains slim with last week's Utah State victory over LA Tech, but the buzz around the team is at an all-time high as the Spartans finish out the regular season.

The Spartans received votes in both AP and USA Today national polls for the first time this season.

For his performance in the BYU game, junior linebacker Keith Smith was named the WAC Defensive Player of the Week.

Smith finished the contest with 19 tackles and had the game-clinching sack and forced fumble after hurdling a blocker and launching himself

into BYU senior quarterback Riley Nelson late in the fourth quarter.

"I can't even explain what a Herculean effort that was," MacIntyre said. "It was a great, great play by (Smith)."

MacIntyre himself was named a semifinalist for the Maxwell Football Club Collegiate Coach of the Year award.

According to SJSU Athletics, in MacIntyre's third season as head coach SJSU will play in a bowl game for the first time since 2006 and he already has accumulated more wins than the past three seasons combined.

"I'm humbled by it ... the interesting thing is the head coach gets all the credit and he also gets all the blame," MacIntyre said. "The credit really goes to all of our players and the coaching staff this is them doing it."

The upcoming WAC conference game against LA Tech figures to feature plenty of points from both sides.

According to SJSU Athletics, LA Tech (9-2) has the highest scoring offense in the country at 52 points a game and started last week as the 20th ranked team in the Bowl Championship Series (BCS). SJSU has the second high-

est scoring offense in the WAC next to LA Tech with junior quarterback David Fales leading the way.

Fales is currently the most accurate passer in the nation and ranks fourth in overall quarterback rating.

While LA Tech defense allows opponents to average 518 yards a game, MacIntyre sees an opportunistic defense the Spartans need to be ready to combat.

"They cause a lot of turnovers — they are ball hawkers," MacIntyre said. "I think their defense has been maligned a little bit, but they are having to play a lot more plays than most people."

With the potential of defense going out the window in the finale, MacIntyre still would rather not go into a full blown shootout with the Bulldogs.

But if he has to change his game plan at all to match LA Tech's aggressive offense, MacIntyre thinks SJSU will be ready.

The game against Louisiana Tech is on Saturday at Spartan Stadium at 7:30 p.m. and will be televised on ESPN2.

James Simpson is a Spartan Daily staff writer. Follow him on Twitter at @JimmerSimpson.

STUDENT ATHLETES

Class-checking program ensures that football players make the grades

By Dennis Biles
@dennybiles149

Playing for a college football team and being a student is a demanding task, but SJSU has a class-checking program, as well as a variety of other efforts, such as tutoring and counseling, that helps players stay on track in the classroom so they can stay focused on the field.

"Our class-checking program is something we've developed in order to help hold our football players accountable and to make sure that we're able identify issues early and be proactive," said Katie Parry, learning specialist for the football program.

At the beginning of each semester, every player has a spreadsheet made that lists the times and dates of each class he has for the upcoming term.

As each school day begins, Parry prints out lists of the classes and gives them to graduate assistants who are tasked with checking up on the players they have on their list.

"Some graduate assistants check classes every day," Parry said. "We don't necessarily check every class, every day. Sometimes we switch — we may switch it up to make sure we're getting to everyone occasionally. Ultimately, it's a system to help us make sure that our students are in class and that they're taking full advantage of their education."

Parry said the checkers take a quick peek inside doors or windows to be as unobtrusive as possible.

SJSU football head coach Mike MacIntyre said players who aren't in class when the checkers come not only suffer academically, they also pay a price at the next practice.

"We make sure our kids are there," said MacIntyre. "If they're not, we have a thing called 'rolling.' We kind of roll them a little, run them a little bit extra to remind them to go to class."

While every player doesn't make it to every class, MacIntyre says the results prove the class checking is working.

"Our kids do a good job," he said. "They're not always perfect, but I'd say that they're close to perfect. That's why they're here. They're here to go to school. They're here to learn."

A few years ago, the football program was having some trouble with class and

with its Academic Progress Rate, the metric used by the National Collegiate Athletic Association that measures the retention, eligibility and graduation rates of student-athletes.

The number is based on the past four years' performance of the university.

According to the athletics department, the football team had an APR of just 837 in 2005, but by 2010 that number had risen to 931.

That's why they're here. They're here to go to school. They're here to learn.

Mike MacIntyre
SJSU football head coach

In the latest tabulations released in June, which covers the 2008 through 2011 academic years, the Spartans posted a score of 959, the highest in the history of the football program, according to the San Jose Mercury News.

Schools get higher scores for keeping athletes in school and on track to graduate, with 1,000 points being a perfect score.

According to the official NCAA website, schools that score below 925, equivalent to a 50 percent graduation rate, could face discipline

from the NCAA in the form of lost scholarships and post-season bans until the score is boosted.

Even with the dramatic turnaround over the past few years, Lawrence Fan, SJSU Athletics media relations director, said SJSU is merely doing what any other college would do with the class-checking program and other forms of help for athletes.

"Whether its football or any of the other sports there are various forms of class checking," Fan said. "That's a common occurrence for all Division One schools. It's not specific to San Jose State."

In addition to the overall improvement in the classroom, the Spartans also have senior defensive end Travis Johnson in the running for Academic All-American honors.

He said a big part of the credit for his success in the classroom, especially with essays, is because of the assistance he has received from Parry and SJSU.

"Essays are the big thing," Johnson said. "When things are getting hard and you just can't brainstorm, she helps bring those thoughts together. Basically when you need help, someone is there."

Johnson is a testament to the class checking program since he has never been found to have missed class, according to Parry.

"Class checking is one of the tools that we use to ensure our athletes success," she said. "Coach Mac has come in and put together a formula for academic success."

Dennis Biles is a Spartan Daily staff writer. Follow him on Twitter at @dennybiles149.

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"Dear Leland... we hope that the issue you brought to the President's attention has been resolved. However, if you still need help with a Federal agency, we are pleased to assist you."

BY LELAND

Including President Obama's August 2009 White House letter to Leland (page 2)

"Dear Leland... we hope that the issue you brought to the President's attention has been resolved. However, if you still need help with a Federal agency, we are pleased to assist you."

2012 Maxwell Football Club Collegiate Coach of the Year Semifinalists

Coach	School	2012 Record
Dave Doeren	Northern Illinois	10-1
Sonny Dykes	Louisiana Tech	9-2
Darrell Hazell	Kent State	10-1
Brian Kelly	Notre Dame	11-0
Chip Kelly	Oregon	10-1
Mike MacIntyre	San Jose State	9-2
Urban Meyer	Ohio State	11-0
Jim Mora	UCLA	9-2
Will Muschamp	Florida	10-1
Mark Richt	Georgia	10-1
David Shaw	Stanford	9-2
Bill Snyder	Kansas State	10-1
Kevin Sumlin	Texas A&M	9-2
Dabo Sweeney	Clemson	10-1

Information courtesy of SJSU Athletics

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FITNESS

Fit for the holidays: Quick and easy exercises for core muscles

Photos and story by Celeste Lodge
@celestelodge

Disclaimer: Do these exercises with caution. If you feel any unusual discomfort, stop immediately. Always stretch before and after performing these exercises.

Planks

Steps:

1. To prepare, get on all fours on the floor.
2. Straighten legs out and hold your body up with your toes on the ground, using your forearms to keep you up.
3. Make sure your back and body are completely straight. Do not sink the stomach and back down or inward.
4. How many? Three sets of 10, holding for 5-10 seconds each time.
5. Want more of a challenge? Try a one-legged plank.

What does this exercise target? Core muscles

Once you are able to hold the plank position stable with both feet planted then you can move to one-legged planks.

Steps for one-legged planks:

1. Do the same thing as before but this time bring one leg off the ground while keeping it straight.

This makes the exercise harder by making it more unstable and off balance, so you have to use your core strength even more. This also works your buttock muscles.

How many? Three sets of 10 holding for 5 seconds each time (or as long as you can). Alternate between legs.



Top photo: The preparation step for regular planks. Note how the body is positioned on all fours.

Bottom photo: The preparation step for the one-legged plank exercise. Note how one leg is off the ground while it maintains its straight posture.

Model in photos: Amber Hayes, personal trainer

Towel Situps

What do you need? A kitchen dish towel

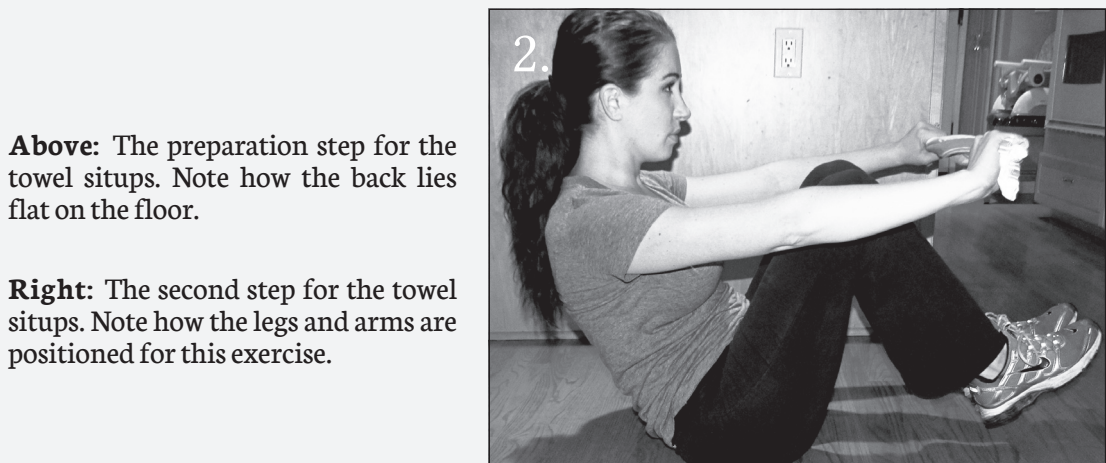
Steps:

1. Lie on floor and prop your legs up and keep back flat on ground.
2. Keep legs bent.
3. Hold opposite ends of towel with both hands and extend your arms over your head.
4. Bring upper body up to legs using abdominal strength.
5. Bring arms and towel all the way over your legs with arms still extended.
6. Lower your body back down to starting position and repeat.

How many? Three sets of 12-15.

Want more of a challenge? Keep legs up straight instead of bent.

What does this exercise target? All abdominal muscles.



Above: The preparation step for the towel situps. Note how the back lies flat on the floor.

Right: The second step for the towel situps. Note how the legs and arms are positioned for this exercise.

Classifieds

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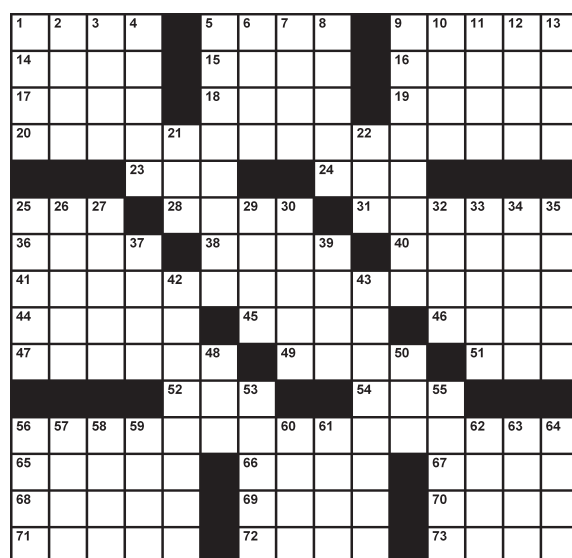
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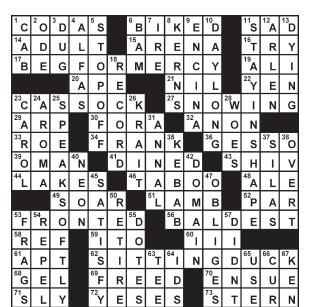
ACROSS

- 1 Fathers' garments
- 5 Fixes, as a carnival game
- 9 Places for crow's-nests
- 14 Hanger material
- 15 Polish a Time piece?
- 16 Worship
- 17 Word before "singer" or "guitar"
- 18 Highly rated
- 19 Eyelashes
- 20 Place that makes sweet stuff?
- 23 Little bit of liquor
- 24 "Pardon ___ dust" (renovation sign)
- 25 ___ du Flambeau, Wis.
- 28 Pass out cards
- 31 Overturn, as a government "It's a pity!"
- 36 "It's a pity!"
- 38 Feverish
- 40 Doesn't just want
- 41 Some Steinways
- 44 Acid in proteins
- 45 Extreme anger
- 46 Giff wrapper's roll
- 47 Sgt. or cpl.
- 49 Pirates rivals
- 51 Hardly too strict
- 52 Hoover, for one
- 54 Bill stamp
- 56 It has fragrant, tubular flowers
- 65 Place to call home
- 66 "The ___ Ranger"
- 67 Grasp
- 68 Cheese choice
- 69 Lightly burn
- 70 Ho-ho-ho time
- 71 Mexican mister
- 72 Emulates kangaroos
- 73 Without much fat

DOWN

- 1 Punch tools

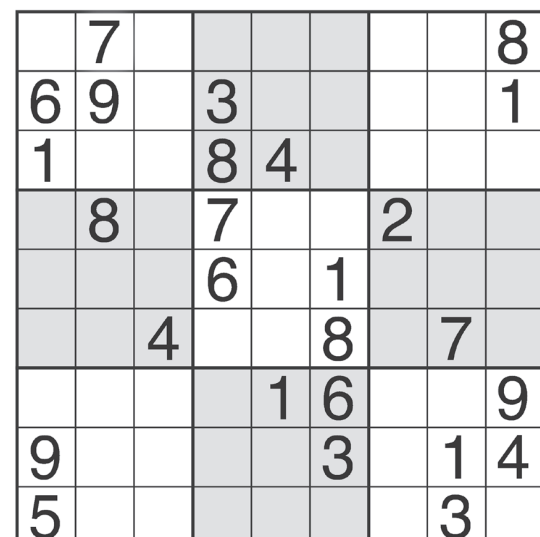
Previous Puzzle Answer



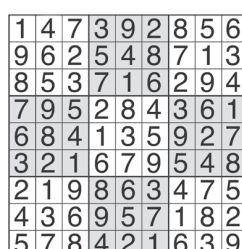
- 21 Get ___ of (eliminate)
- 22 "The boy king"
- 25 With whom Jacob contracted to marry Rachel
- 26 Famous San Antonio mission
- 27 Log home
- 29 Jelly for germs
- 30 Ward before "module" or "landscape"
- 32 It's in the bog
- 33 Like some colonies or codes
- 34 Parkinson's disease drug
- 35 County abutting London
- 37 Out of ___ (not harmonizing)
- 39 Upper hand
- 42 Big name in tires
- 43 Street vendors, e.g.
- 48 Kettle and Joad
- 50 Take action against
- 53 Landscaper's covering
- 55 Anti-knock fuel
- 56 Witches
- 57 Pastoral woodwind
- 58 Thing in grammar class
- 59 Taro corn
- 60 Small salmon
- 61 Word attached to "sack"
- 62 No gentleman, he
- 63 First name in jazz legends
- 64 Garden of the Bible

UNIVERSAL Sudoku Puzzle

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.



Previous Sudoku Answer



DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

Tell me, how thankful are you this year?

It's Thanksgiving time again: Have you decided if you're thankful?

Are you happy that some allege 2012 might be the last year, ever?

Are you happy that despite some allegations of voter suppression and voter fraud, Nate Silver was right and your president was re-elected?

Are you thankful that a widespread conversation of the United States' impending "fiscal cliff" means that specific taxes and on whom these should be levied means some beneficial changes might actually happen?

Perhaps you are a fan of our consumerist nature, do you say, "We'll start shopping again and we'll break the previous years' sales records?"

Are you thankful the Apple iPhone 5 came? Are you happy that "4" is now an old number? Or are you satisfied with the



This is a special edition of this column.

newfound ability to further throw money at Apple for a new iPad?

Or are you still thankful that iPad, iPad Mini and iPhone cannot make you walk on water, and that when crossing bodies of water we'll instead need to resort to bridges, swimming, boats and rafts?

Are you thankful that Swarovski has made a new iPhone case, bejeweled with a cheap diamond imitation that costs just \$300?

Are you, perhaps, thankful that a Robert Mugabe-loyal Zimbabwe has flooded the market with \$2 billion conflict diamonds, so that you just might be able to get cheap real ones instead this shopping season?

Or, further still, are you grateful for the fact that in the United States we're not widely discussing the civil war in Mali, where a bloody Islamic revolu-

tion by al-Qaida against the Tuareg National Movement's rebellion has left thousands of citizens killed, scores of children kidnapped and sites of archaeology abandoned? Are you happy that the real war of al-Qaida – which we've stated since Sept. 12, 2011 we want to fight – is not actually being fought?

Are you happy that no one can go to a country where tourism to its UNESCO Historical Sites such as Timbuktu and Gao used to be the majority of its gross domestic product because they kidnap, rape and murder westerners?

Or have you decided that you'll be thankful for the wars that we've ended, started and continued this year?

Are you able to sleep soundly as President Obama individually signs off on each Pakistani murder via Hellfire missiles from unmanned drones? Are you happy that you likely don't know a single name of one of the as many as 3,325 people killed in these Waziristan attacks since 2004?



Are you thankful that the world is now hyperfocused on Israel, Palestine and Syria's very violent and very public war, broadcast on Twitter, Youtube, Instagram and Facebook?

Are you, perhaps, thankful for Austin Tice, a missing freelance journalist who decided to suspend graduate school to report on the uprisings in Syria?

Are you happy that you can ignore all of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad's human rights abuses and suppressions of uprisings with a show about finding rare coffee beans?

Are you happy that "Dangerous Grounds" promotes the ad-

venture to parts of the world where Four Seasons resorts don't dot coastlines like a festering wound?

Are you happy that you wouldn't likely ever go to one of these places that are far from international airports to acquire coffee that has passed the digestive system of a civet? Are you happy that you won't likely ever drink that "crap"?

Speaking of crap, are you thankful that not only can Guy Fieri open a terrible and overpriced restaurant in this day and age, but also the New York Times can run a scathing review of it entirely consisting of questions?

It seems that our world is full of gunk, but this weekend take the time to stop and reflect on the world. Not all of it is so brash, war-driven and consumeristic. Drop your Black Friday shopping plans and go for a hike, swim at the beach or hop on a bicycle. Or thank the people in your life.

The rest of this season will keep holding the rest of our destructive nature with us, so we might as well take this day for what it's symbolically become.

Leo Postovoit is the Spartan Daily Production and Art Director. Follow him on Twitter @postphotos.

Painful loss makes for another opportunity for personal growth

One of the most basic tenants of writing is write what you know.

I procrastinated this week in writing my column and my brain gets foggy when I try to write anything on a whim, especially an opinion piece.

As I ran through a number of mediocre topics I could write about, I remembered to write about what I know.

One thing I know a lot about is loss.

Nearly every person has lost someone close to them, and the odds of that grow as you get old, unfortunately.

My grandmother died this past weekend while I was away on vacation in Vancouver.

Her death was far from a shock, as she was sick much of the last two years, but it still hit me hard.

She was one of the few people in my life who was always there for me when I needed her most.

She was there last year for me when my grandfather died.

She was there for me when I couldn't decide whether I should become a journalism major or a political science major.

She was there for me when my mother died when I was 11.

She really was always there offering support.

Now she's gone.

One thing death has



Jonathan Roisman's column appears every other Tuesday.

taught me is that it always feels different when you lose a loved one.

All four of my grandparents have died, along with a parent. Every time it happened the loss never felt the same.

In the past I was stricken with grief and sadness. A pain that felt like it would never end for weeks at a time.

It's different now, however.

I'm sad, of course, but I'm thankful my grandmother lived such a full life.

She was 92 and she worked her ass off to stay married for 72 years.

She traveled across the country and Europe.

She raised two wonderful children: one of whom I call a wonderful father and the other a spectacular aunt.

We didn't always agree but she was always adamant to defend her position on something, whether it had to do with her politics or why she thought carrot cake actually tasted good.

Now she's gone, and I'll never see her again or hear her voice on the phone every Saturday for our weekly phone calls.

I'll always remember her and use the wisdom she gave me to help live my life.

I can't express coherently how important of a role she played in the first 22 years of my life. All I know is that I loved her very much.

As I continue to ramble on to an anonymous audience

I'll use one of her lessons in life, which is to continue forward no matter what the past brought.

I used to send her my best journalism clips from the different publications I worked for, and she always said to continue to hone my craft in any way possible.

She said I should do whatever makes me happy, even when it wasn't convenient.

Well, it's not the most convenient or happiest time in my life, but I've got to carry on with life.

I have an interview for an internship today in San Francisco, and I'm already channeling my grandmother's lesson of going forward.

I'm going to go live my life and continue to improve myself even if she's not here.

Jonathan Roisman is a Spartan Daily Staff Writer. Follow him on Twitter @jonroisman.

Letters to the Editor

Do I not have the right to breathe fresh air?

Smoking cigarettes should not be allowed on campus.

I am a nonsmoker for many reasons. Not only does it cause lung cancer and make your teeth yellow, but also nicotine stinks.

Although there are a few signs posted around campus stating "no smoking allowed" in certain areas, the nicotine-heads do not abide by the rules.

They smoke by entrances and any other place they feel the need.

There are no repercussions for them not abiding by the signs, either, so they feel that it is acceptable.

It never fails – everyday while walking to class, I have to use my jacket as a shield over my nose and mouth so that I don't inhale someone's nicotine.

If it is their choice to smoke cigarettes, why must I be subjected to it?

Not only does firsthand smoke kill, but secondhand also.

Along with secondhand smoke comes thirdhand smoke.

Studies show that thirdhand smoke now exists and is known to be more harmful than secondhand.

Thirdhand smoke consists of the smell and residue of nicotine and other toxic chemicals cigarettes contain in them being stuck in one's clothing, personal belongings or walls of the home.

Thirdhand smoke is so harmful, because even when the smoker isn't around, the fumes are still being let off and inhaled, affecting the body.

While I am in college, I am slowly being murdered each day I attend classes.

What good is getting a degree, if by the time I graduate, I am diagnosed with lung cancer because of an action I did not personally perform?

Sha'Ronai Bell
Sophomore forensic science major

Texas schools efforts to curb truancy violates students rights

Truancy is a major issue today which is violating many of the students' rights in school.

In response to the article "Texas schools efforts to curb truancy violates students rights," which ran on Oct. 22, no school should allow microchips to be placed into the students' IDs, as they are an invasion of privacy.

I believe if the students' rights were violated, they would not have the freedom to go anywhere or talk to anyone, as they would be monitored at every second.

Truancy does not improve schooling for any reason.

In fact, truancy should be outlawed as the issue would cause students to be forced to come to school.

Meraj Unnisa
Fifth year health science major

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PROFILE

Student radio host spins to own beat on airwaves, dance floor

By Sage Curtis
@sagedanieele

Amy Robbins spins. Her bright blonde hair flying around her at all times, she spins electric dance music tracks during her radio show, she spins her favorite mixes on her turntables at clubs and she spins her body during dance practices.

When she moved here from Maryland in 2008, Robbins never imagined that her life would spin into control.

"After I graduated from high school, I had no idea what I wanted to do with my life," Robbins said. "I had done web design development, and that's what brought me out to Silicon Valley."

Robbins started out as a computer science major, but quickly learned that she did not want to end up in a cubicle at Google sitting behind a computer screen.

"I couldn't be 9 to 5 for the rest of my life," Robbins said, while throwing her hands around enthusiastically. "I randomly thought one day, during a mid-college life crisis, I want to be a music video director."

It seemed like a natural step for Robbins, who spent her life as a dancer and music enthusiast, to jump into a career that involved music.

Her new experiences in the radio, television and film major led to her discovery of radio and San Jose State's station KSJS.

"I love playing music and providing people with music. I got to learn the business aspect of radio too, not just about being a radio personality," Robbins said. "It's a lot harder than people would expect to balance the personality with the music. There are people out there who call in and tell me they can't listen to me because I am 'so annoying.'"

Radio presented Robbins with a challenge that she accepted, and she has built a following of listeners and fans playing electronic dance music on her segment the Meow Mix with her co-host, Badcat (Andrew Reclusado), on Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

"Amy really knows her music," Reclusado said. "We focus on different styles of music that complement each other but are distinctly different. It makes working with her never dull."

It seemed like the next natural step for Robbins to step out into the world and test her new found skills in front of an audience.

"I saw a random job for a company looking for a wedding disc jockey," she said. "I had started doing radio in 2010, but this job was totally different than radio. I got the job and was trained professionally as a MC and a DJ."

From there, Robbins was contacted by a local DJ, David Alga, who asked her if she would be interested in DJing clubs.

"It wasn't necessarily like 'Oh, I want to be a club DJ now,'" Robbins said. "I had to get all the equipment, be at home and practice. I practiced for a year before I went out to do a club show."

Robbins said meeting Alga was a risk that paid off because, as her new manager, he showed her the ins and outs of the club scene in the Bay Area.

"After I met him, he pushed me and helped me," Robbins said. "He provided me with the knowledge that I needed to succeed."

Alga said that he contacted Robbins at first because her personality and energy caught his attention.

After working with her for a only a few days, he said he realized he had a superstar on his hands.

"I really like Amy's work ethic," Alga said. "I can't say I trained her or taught her anything. I led her on this path and she did everything herself. She has no laziness, extreme motivation and is always smiling and having a great time."

Robbins said her success as a club DJ also comes from her background and experience as a dancer for the San Francisco 49ers' Gold Rush Cheerleaders.

"Never in a million years did I expect to become a professional cheerleader," Robbins said, "but having that title has given me opportunities I didn't expect. I learned so much from it."

Being part of that organization has helped Robbins book gigs and make connections in the Bay Area, but she said it also has its downside.

"There are people who see me out in clubs and think 'She's just a cheerleader,'" Robbins said. "They think I'm a gimmick, but there are more pros than cons in my mind because I don't focus on the negatives."

The can-do attitude Robbins possesses led her to the Gold Rush Cheerleaders in the first place.

"Most people don't realize that I made Gold Rush because I had a radio show and because I love music so much," Robbins said. "I'll never stop dancing. I just made captain of a dance team for the San Francisco Giants that hasn't been announced yet. It's called the Giants Gems, and it's getting approved through the organization."

While Robbins has veered off from her computer-programming past, she said that too has helped her do different things in her life.

"I just do so much," Robbins said. "It's awesome because, as far as DJing, dancing and web development, I



DJ Amy Robbins wants to use her skills as a DJ and what she has learned in SJSU's RTVF program to be able to make her own music, videos and choreography. **Photo by Sage Curtis / Spartan Daily**

can integrate everything into what I do for myself as far as becoming a DJ."

Robbins plans to start producing her own music in the recent future by attending Pure Mind, a private production school in San Francisco, in order to further her career.

"You can only be a DJ for long," Robbins said. "You can only get recognized so much for going to clubs. Once you start producing your own

music, that's when you start touring and going around the world."

She wants to use this skill to tie everything together that she learned in the RTVF program, making her own music, videos and using her own choreography.

Robbins does all of this while maintaining her school schedule of 12 units and balancing her family into the mix.

"My entire life right now is undoubtedly crazy," Robbins said. "I've accomplished more in two years than most people could dream of accomplishing in a lifetime. My life is so fast paced and so supported by a solid foundation of people. It's going to be impossible to stop me from doing what I'm doing."

Sage Curtis is a Spartan Daily staff writer. Follow her on Twitter at @sagedanielle.

CSU: 10 percent salary cut for Board of Trustees requested

FROM PAGE 1

students that public higher education matters to all of us," he said. "We each must play a part in the rebuilding efforts."

Some students on campus recognize the gesture but wonder exactly how much of an impact the reduction will make.

"It was a noble move, a nice gesture and a good show of character, but it's so small that it doesn't really make much of a difference," said Robert Carrera, student organizer for Students for Quality Education. "He still needs to be held 100 percent accountable as the new chancellor."

Other students echo Carrera in an online forum on the subject.

"Ten percent is generous but hardly makes an impact," said Diana Crumedy, executive board member for Campus Alliance for Economic Justice (CAFE J). "It symbolizes sympathy and understanding, but isn't putting a dent in anything. I feel like he just gave us a lollipop."

Bob Linscheid, chair of the CSU Board of Trustees, said that White was not obligated to make the request.

"It is a testament to his commitment to the CSU and a demonstration of his leadership," Linscheid stated in the news release.

White has been the chancellor of University of California, Riverside since 2008 and will take the office at the end of the year.

Sage Curtis is a Spartan Daily staff writer. Follow her on Twitter at @sagedanielle.

See article online about busy students who are unable to celebrate Thanksgiving



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