

WEATHER

High: 70°
Low: 49°Basketball team to play
role of underdogSJSU men's basketball team
is going to Las Vegas for the
WAC Tournament

SPORTS, PAGE 3

House of Siam brings the heat
to San Jose with Thai spicesRestaurant sets tongues aflame
with sweet and spicy goodness

A&E, PAGE 6



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Wednesday, March 9, 2011

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Volume 136, Issue 23

Ethics Bowl team defeated in Cincinnati

Francisco Rendon
Staff Writer

The SJSU Ethics Bowl team was eliminated in the first round of competition at the national Intercollegiate Ethics Bowl in Cincinnati, Ohio on Thursday.

The team debated topics ranging from immigration to stem cell research with schools from across the nation.

"By the time you get to nationals, it's much more competitive," coach Rita Manning said. "Everyone competing won their regional competition."

The regional competition took place on Dec. 4, 2010, at the California Regional Ethics Bowl in Chico, Calif.

Cassandra Agbayani, a junior political science major, said the team took a lot away from the competition.

"This was the first time we all went into something like this," she said. "It was definitely a learning experience."

Manning said the fundraising process required specific attention from faculty, specifically lecturer Janet Giddings, and competing students.

"For us, the challenge was fundraising," Manning said. "Getting on the plane and going there was cake after that."

Prior to the competition, teams were given 15 cases to familiarize themselves with, on subjects such as the military's "don't ask, don't tell" policy and academic dishonesty.

Students then debated against opposing schools on randomly selected cases in front of a panel of judges, with periods for arguments, rebuttals and questions.

To start the tournament, teams were organized into "flights," in which they all competed in three matches against other schools. Winners then advanced into a playoff consisting of quarterfinal, semifinal and final rounds.

The University of Central Florida won the event, defeating Montana State University in the finals.

SJSU's team was eliminated in the initial round of competition, losing two of its three matches — its sole victory was against University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

"They (the team) gained a tremendous amount of confidence," Manning said. "I fully expected everyone to pull together and work really hard. That's what matters."

Manning said she felt the team learned a lot about the atmosphere and presentation skills necessary to compete at the national level, and she was glad many of the team members were juniors and would be able to compete again next year.

"We learned some of the techniques other team(s) employed," said junior philosophy major, Duy Nguyen. "We will bring that to the table next year."

Nguyen said he felt the judging in the early rounds was not as subjective as he would have liked.

"The judge is really everything," he said. "The way I see it, (the judging) was solely on the (personal) views."

Agbayani said she felt SJSU's Ethics Bowl team was the most ethnically diverse.

"It seemed like the teams were all from the same (social) background," she said. "We all looked different than other teams."

More variety in the judges' opinions on the cases was one thing that would have enriched the experience, Nguyen said.

"If there was more diversity amongst the judges, it would have been a better learning environment," she said. "It would have been nice to have different interpretations from judges perspectives."

Agbayani said she enjoyed the experience immensely and felt it provided her with many useful skills.

"If you really want to affect meaningful change, be a part of something like this," she said. "You can't escape morality and ethics, it's everywhere. This helps you grapple with issues in your day-to-day life."



Photo: Jesse Jones / Spartan Daily

From left to right: "Love Without Borders" speakers Gladys Ngema, Tolakele Mkhize and Michael Pan thank the band by performing a short song and dance number Wednesday in Morris Dailey Auditorium.

Humanitarian spirit shines in volunteer speakers

Kyle Szymanski
Senior Staff Writer

It took Gladys Ngema all of two weeks to see the power of humanity, she said Tuesday at a seminar about volunteerism.

Living with wild animals in the bush in Durban, South Africa, Ngema remembers a caravan of volunteers approaching her from the nonprofit humanitarian organization Tzu Chi.

Having just had her house burned down by her husband and his mistress in an attempt to kill her, Ngema said she reluctantly came out of the bush into the waiting arms of volunteers.

It turned out to be the best decision of her life, she said to a capacity crowd gathered in Morris Dailey Auditorium for the "Love Without Borders" seminar, which profiled life-changing stories from South African women.

"Not only were we living in a forest, but we also had a forest (of knowledge) in our heart and in our head," Ngema said.

Shortly after being found by the organization, she was in a career-training center that taught her how to make T-shirts and other crafts for the local townspeople.

With the money earned from training, she decided to join the Tzu Chi organization, which she said helped her become who she is today.

Ngema is one of the 5,000 members of the Tzu Chi organization in South Africa. The organization cares for 5,000 orphans and 1,200 people who are chronically ill.

Ngema's story was just one of many shared by members of Tzu Chi, most of which went from recipients of Tzu Chi's help to workers of the organization.

The organization, which was founded in 1966, has 10,000 members in 50 countries, is a nonprofit organization with world-wide humanitarian efforts that include charity,

medicine, education and humanistic culture, according to its website.

Although Tzu Chi is a Buddhist organization, it has members of all religious backgrounds and does not discriminate when offering help, member Grace Chen said.

Jennifer Kuo, who attended the seminar, said it inspired her to help in the community.

"Those volunteers encourage us to do more here and to work harder," she said.

Tzu Chi means compassion and relief, which member Michael Pan said is the main mission of the organization.

Pan spearheaded the self-supportive training groups that allowed Ngema to become self-sufficient.

From 1995 to today, Pan opened 524 self-supportive skill training groups that have 14,000 members in South Africa.

"Every volunteer, every end-user has a

see **BORDERS** page 2

University reaches out for community donations

Alex Wara
Staff Writer

Located in Clark Hall, the office of University Advancement has been pumping money into SJSU for years.

The office, which deals with donations given to the university, has been receiving donations from a variety of donors in several different ways.

People can make donations that are designated for a specific purpose or to the general fund, said Anne Johnson, associate vice president of development.

"We do work to honor the donor's attention," she said. "That is our primary goal, and to also work to support the priorities set by the university."

The office uses a variety of ways to encourage donors to give to the university, including online donations, giving money through the call center and through direct

Goal for Acceleration fundraising

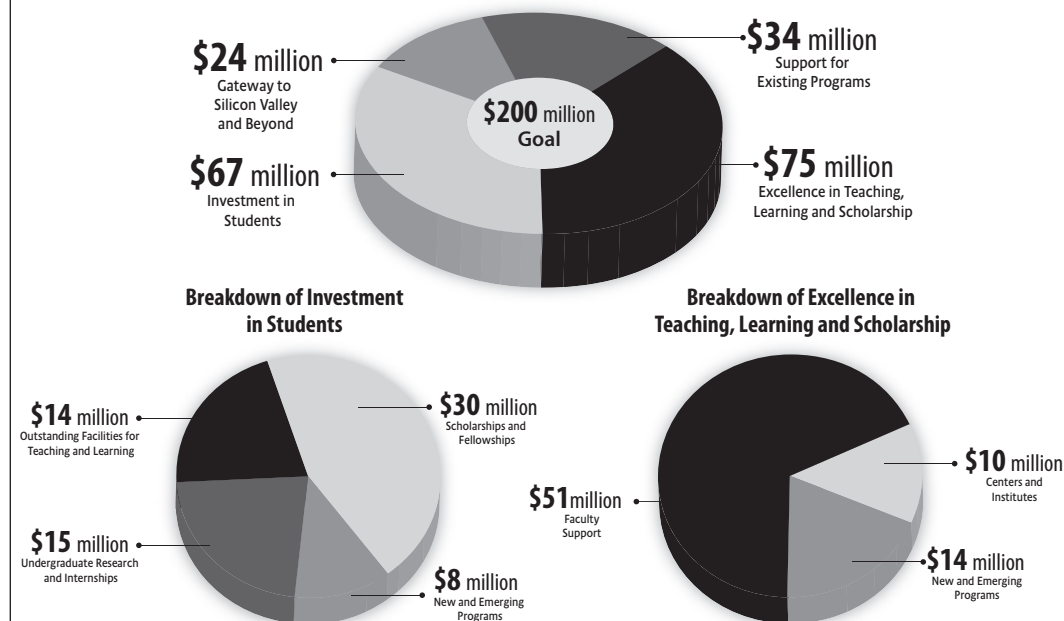


Illustration: Leo Postovoi / Spartan Daily

see **DONATIONS** page 2

SJSU's Acceleration campaign seeks \$200 million to fund campus education projects.



Photo: Jesse Jones / Spartan Daily

A member of the Jaliya South African dance group performs for the audience Wednesday at Morris Dailey auditorium.

BORDERS
From Page 1

story to share with you," said Professor Babak Sarrafan, SJSU director of television and film production.

Sarrafan visited Taiwan with the organization and later made a film highlighting its efforts.

Tolakele Mkhize, another member of the South African Tzu Chi, said it took her a while to warm up to the idea of volunteer-



Photo: Jesse Jones / Spartan Daily

A rhythmic drum percussionist plays during the performance.

ing after receiving help.

When Mkhize was first approached by a friend about the help that Tzu Chi could offer her, she said she was eager.

"I went to the location of the group and was greedy," she said. "I grabbed the clothes and food and said 'Bye.'"

It wasn't until the following week that Mkhize was introduced to the philosophy of Master Cheng Yen, whose teachings the organization follows.

"I learned from our founder to harmonize the community," she said.

Pan said one of his most memorable sto-

ries of volunteerism took place when a suicidal woman called a local radio station during an interview with Tzu Chi members.

Pan said the woman threatened to commit suicide after contracting AIDS after being raped and robbed by four men. She later bore a child who was conceived during the rape, and was also HIV-positive.

Pan said the organization raced to her house, and months after, with care — including food and a wheel chair — she decided to join the organization.

"Great kindness grows a great power of love," Pan said.

THIS DAY IN HISTORY ...



On March 9, 1982
Spartan Daily Reported that ...

(Above) Student Darrel Ponder was arrested for outstanding warrants after leading University Police officers Steve Gallagher (right) and Alex Dourov (left) on a chase through campus.

Head basketball coach Bill Berry announced his intention to stay at SJSU despite rumors he was being considered for positions at Stanford and University of Arizona.

As a result of economic problems, the statewide SHARE tutoring program faces possible termination at San Jose City and Evergreen Valley colleges, leaving the SJSU branch as the last one operating in the city.

Caltrain deficit may leave students stranded

Anastasia Crosson
Staff Writer

San Jose State University has long been referred to as a "commuter school" and while many students do commute to campus, those who travel to campus on Caltrain may soon find themselves out of a ride.

Caltrain, a commuter railway between San Francisco and San Jose, is facing a \$30.3 million budget deficit, and the railway's governing board is considering a major reduction in service, according to a report from the Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board, the governing body for the Caltrain Peninsula commuter rail transit service.

To minimize a budget shortfall going into fiscal year 2012, up to seven Caltrain stations face closures and service could be reduced from the current 86 daily trains to 48, according to the report

Bianca Rodriguez, a sophomore social work major, said she relies on public transit to get to campus, and it also enables her to be a productive student.

"On the train we could at least get some studying done," she said. "It's pretty tiring driving where I come from."

Rodriguez commutes to school from Manteca.

The free, city-maintained, Downtown Area Shuttle (DASH) connects train riders from Caltrain's stop at Diridon Station to two stops adjacent to campus.

Caltrain is the only public transit connection to campus for students living in San Francisco — the peninsula or anywhere north of San Jose that isn't serviced by the Valley Transportation Authority.

Students who commute from areas south of Diridon Station, located in San Jose's downtown area just across from HP Pavilion, may also be affected.

According to the Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board, which governs Caltrain, all train routes south of San Jose may also be cut.

With the possibility of station closures and fewer train routes, students may be at risk of not having a reliable way to get to campus each day.

Teresa Diaz, a sophomore health science major, relies on commuter trains to travel to classes.

"I save money by taking the train," she said.

For students such as senior accounting major Thomas Vallero, transportation also factors into the cost of attending SJSU each semester.

"I live right next to Caltrain so I save a lot on gas," he said.

Vallero commutes to San Jose from Millbrae four days a week, and said he is concerned about the service cuts to midday trains.

"If they cut out the midday trains I'll have to adjust my school schedule," he said.

The Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board has not yet made a final decision as to how service will be cut and which stations will be closed.

The board has received more than 1,350 comments from the public to date, 719 of which expressed opposition to station closures, according to the Friends of Caltrain website.

Nonprofit grassroots organizations such as Friends of Caltrain have been rallying riders and the general public to oppose station closures and service cuts, according to a petition sent to the Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board.

According to Adina Levin, a Friends of Caltrain organizer, the group has been able to send 2,300 letters to "decision makers" and elected officials urging them to "work together to find short-term solutions for Caltrain's fiscal emergency."

In the petition SJSU student Karina Russ wrote, "I would not be able to get to school at San Jose State, so (Caltrain) is valuable to me."

DONATIONS
From Page 1

mail, said Johnson.

The university also keeps members of the community informed with what is happening at SJSU through the publication "Washington Square," an alumni magazine, with remit envelopes included inside for potential donors.

If a donor wants to give to a general fund but allocate it to a certain school or department, then Johnson said, it is up to the dean of that specific department to decide how to allocate it.

"I think education is hard to fund, especially now," said Christina Cartagena, a sophomore health science major. "So anything, such as a donation, is helpful."

With the launch of the Acceleration program, SJSU is in the midst of its first real concerted effort to generate donations.

"The Acceleration campaign is an eight year fundraising comprehensive campaign and our goal is to raise \$200 million," Johnson said.

The program has been reaching out to alumni and members of the community to help reach its goal.

"In that time, we are supporting faculty, students and our partnerships with the region and beyond. We are at 70 percent of that goal right now and have 3 1/2 years to go," Johnson said.

According to the Acceleration website, the campaign priorities include faculty support, and investment in students.

Ways of giving also vary according to the website, which include direct gifts, cash gifts, planned gifts and gift matching programs.

"I think it is a good idea that there is the Acceleration program," said undeclared sophomore Diana Gonzalez. "It allows students to continue going to school and to get a better education."

Donors have the option of deciding where the money goes, and the purpose can be as specific as they want.

If a donor wants the money to be allocated in a certain way, but there is no fund set up for that purpose, Johnson said the university will set one up.

"I think the overall funding is most helpful," Cartagena said. "It will benefit the students overall."

The Acceleration website also profiles the money that has been donated to the university that is already at work, showcasing specific stories.

"Every gift counts," Johnson said.

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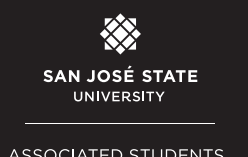
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COMMENTARY

Basketball team to play role of underdog

Joey Akeley
Copy Editor

A 5-11 Western Athletic Conference record and a two-game losing streak now mean nothing to the SJSU men's basketball team, as it is heading to the conference tournament with a clean slate, said head coach George Nessman.

"Only one team will end the season on a win," Nessman said. "You can't worry about being thrown out. You just worry about staying in, and the postseason is really about getting to the next game. You don't say, 'What if we lose?' You say, 'What if we win?'"

If the Spartans can win four straight games, starting with today's contest against Hawaii in Las Vegas, they will earn a berth in the NCAA Tournament.

The Rainbow Warriors (18-11) swept the Spartans (15-14) in WAC play, with both games being decided in the final two minutes.

Nessman said the Spartans have an edge in guard play but lack the size to matchup with the Rainbow Warriors.

"Our guards need to out-play their guards and our bigs need to play their bigs even," he said. "That's a formula where I think we can be successful."

SJSU senior guard Adrian Oliver, the conference's leading scorer and a first team All-WAC selection, has made just eight of 26 field goal attempts against the Rainbow Warriors.

"I think Adrian has just struggled," Nessman said about Oliver's games against Hawaii. "The first time he was hurt, coming off the

"... the postseason is really about getting to the next game. You don't say, 'What if we lose?' You say, 'What if we win?'"

George Nessman
Head coach

concussion, and they did a good job on him last week. But Adrian is not a guy who is easily contained."

A week ago, the Rainbow Warriors outscored the Spartans 13-3 in the final four minutes to secure a 77-71 win at the Event Center.

Hawaii guard Zane Johnson had six 3-pointers, including one with 40 seconds to go that sunk the Spartans.

Junior guard Calvin Douglas said the Spartans have an

edge in athleticism, evident by the team outrebounding the Rainbow Warriors 38-33 in that game.

"They can't guard us," Douglas said. "We just have to contain Johnson from hitting 3s."

Aside from Johnson, the Spartans will have their hands full with forward Bill Amis, a second team All-WAC selection who has a combined 39 points and 18 rebounds in the two games against SJSU.

If the Spartans beat the Rainbow Warriors, they will play Idaho on Thursday, which earned a first-round bye for finishing fourth. The winner of that game will play Utah State, which earned a double-bye by being one of the conference's top two seeds.

Nessman said under the new WAC Tournament format, Utah State and Boise State, the league's top two seeds, have a significant advantage, needing only two victories to win the tournament.

Oliver and senior guard Justin Graham may be playing the last game of their SJSU careers.

"They've given a lot to the program," Nessman said. "They are both really fine young men, and I would sure like to see them go out on a positive."

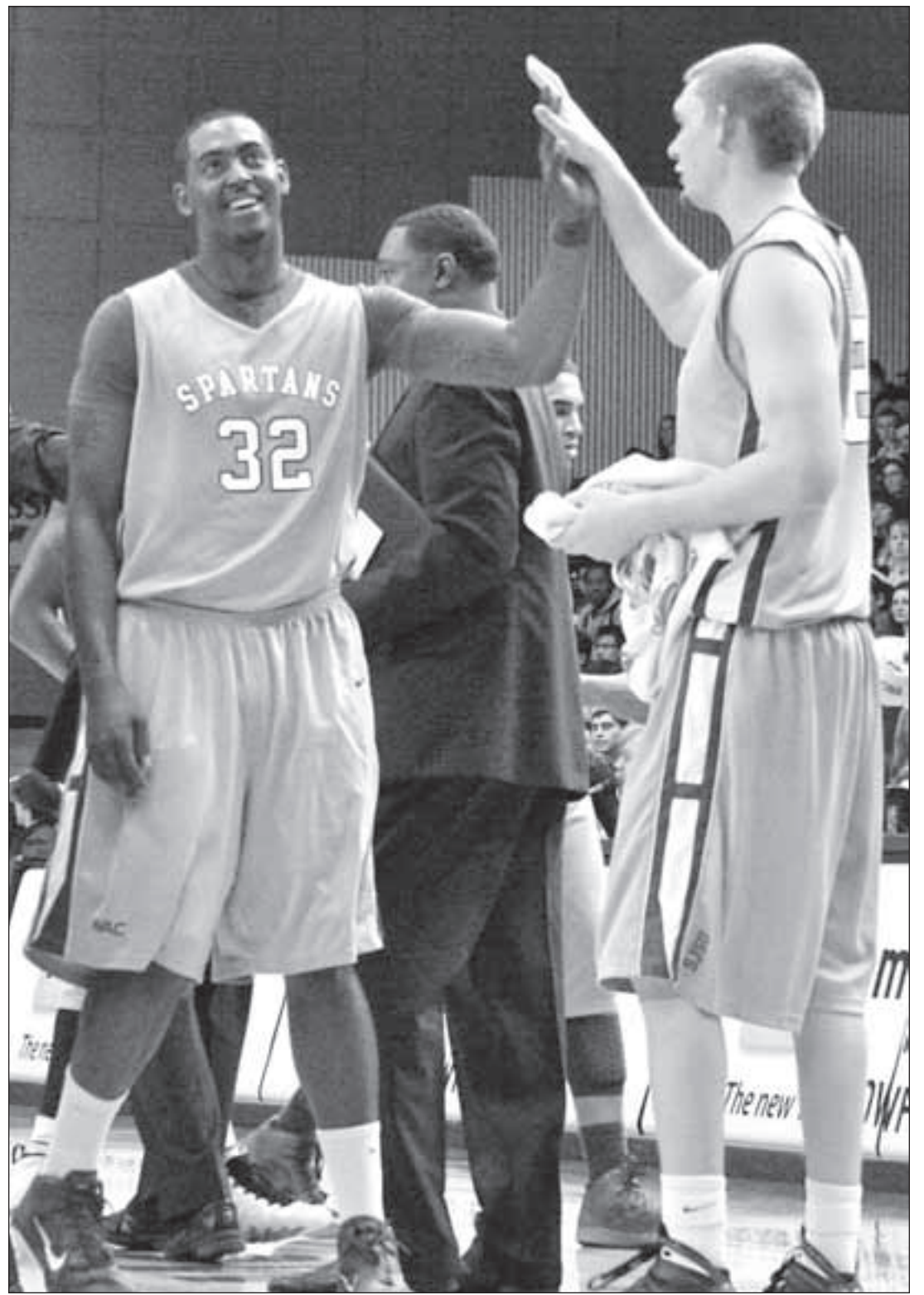


Photo: Jesse Jones / Spartan Daily

Sophomore center Joe Henson (left) and junior forward Matt Ballard (right) high-five during the Spartans' 77-71 loss to Hawaii on Thursday. The two teams will meet in the first round of the WAC tournament in Las Vegas today.

TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

WAC TOURNAMENT FIRST ROUND

Date	Home	Away	Location	Time
Wednesday	SJSU	Hawaii	Las Vegas	12 p.m.
Wednesday	Nevada	Fresno State	Las Vegas	2:30 p.m.

WAC TOURNAMENT QUARTERFINALS

Thursday	Idaho	TBD	Las Vegas	12 p.m.
Thursday	New Mexico State	TBD	Las Vegas	2:30 p.m.

WAC TOURNAMENT SEMIFINALS

Friday	Utah State	TBD	Las Vegas	6 p.m.
Friday	Boise State	TBD	Las Vegas	9 p.m.

WAC TOURNAMENT CHAMPIONSHIP

Saturday	TBD	TBD	Las Vegas	7 p.m.
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CORRECTION

• On March 7, the Spartan Daily reported the SJSU women's basketball team lost 74-49. It should have read 74-39.

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COMING SOON
March 2011
IN SPARTAN DAILY

One-half of the men on TV is drawing all of the attention

It's finally over — at least I hope. He's been fired.

I'm not usually one to give any merit to the latest celebrity gossip. It is almost always overwhelmingly inane, but many of us everyday citizens can't seem to stay away from any news containing a celebrity's personal information.

It all seems overly divulged and pervasive, taking away every bit of privacy that the average person holds dear and would likely fight for.

Recently, however, there has been one celebrity story so polarizing that even the staunchest gossip rag disparagers has been unable to avoid: Tiger-blooded Charlie Sheen.

If by some miracle you managed to not hear of the well-publicized Sheen debacle, check your pulse because you're probably dead.

But I'm not here to continue with the mundane, writing my views on the latest crazy rant he went on in an interview. I'd like to turn this toward a look of how Sheen has been treated.

Despite all the flamboyant rage exhibited in his many radio and TV interviews, Sheen seems to remain popular in the public eye.

There have been countless incidences of misogynistic behavior tied to Sheen, often being alleged to have assaulted women around him and he has a penchant for sleeping with porn stars and prostitutes. He's known for going in



Marlon Maloney
One-Man Peanut Gallery

and out of rehab and being arrested.

This has been going on for years!

Clearly — he isn't the greatest guy, I mean, this type of behavior is completely unacceptable in any other social arena.

What would happen if a woman were doing these things? My thoughts are that the public consensus would view her in a much crazier and more negative manner.

The closest female comparisons that come to mind are Lindsay Lohan and Winona Ryder. I don't count Britney Spears because I blame media sensationalism more for her fall.

The last movie Lohan played in was "Machete," where she portrayed a drug lord's drug addict daughter who eventually appears in a sex tape with her father's enemy — ultimately, she plays herself.

Winona Ryder will forever be remembered for shoplifting, despite having had a

well respected acting career up to that point. These two will never be considered A-list actors ever again.

On the men's side, the only recent meltdown of an A-list actor has been Mel Gibson.

Notice a difference between the two groups? I'd say the two men sure are a whole lot older than the two women I mentioned.

Both have the backing of F-you money to be able to say whatever they want, but their careers are very different. "Major League" and "Two and a Half Men" don't quite compare to Gibson's acting career.

What Sheen has done is amplify the idea of masculinity to the extent that it has become laughable. I guess you could also say he is by far more charismatic: People can't wait to see what he's going to say next.

About a week after joining Twitter, Sheen has amassed two million followers, setting a Guinness Book of World Records pace.

Apparently, the bad-boy persona is enough to pull you through any scenario. Something about the ultramachismo creates a kind of hero type in our society.

I for one say it's time to see Charlie Sheen for what he is: a junky degenerate.

Now since when is that a good thing?

This is a special appearance of "One-Man Peanut Gallery." Marlon Maloney is a Spartan Daily Copy Editor.

Music: It's easy to make, but just try to get paid

There is something ironic about today's musical landscape.

For musicians, creating studio-quality tracks and finding inexpensive promotional tools have never been easier. It's also harder than ever to hold people's attention and build a fan base.

It's kind of like finding a pot of gold and then being told that it's worthless.

It's an interesting problem.

People can record high-quality tracks at home using digital audio workstations and assets like Pro Tools, or find relatively affordable studio rates. Those tracks can be disseminated for free using music hosting sites and social networking — and all of this can be done at a fraction of what it would have cost in 2000.

The issue is that with so many people putting up easily-accessible music, it becomes more challenging to find content with any sense of depth. Even good content flounders amid so many elements competing for attention.

Add to that the fact that music can be downloaded for "free," and there is a diminished incentive for people to pay for it. Why buy a CD at a show or even go to the show when the Internet can save you the time and effort?

In San Jose, it can be common for an active musician to spend thousands of dollars producing an album — the costs add up quickly.

First, the music has to be recorded. That means either buying studio equipment or renting studio time.

Along with studio time comes the cost of a producer/engineer, then mixing and mastering.

Once that's done, the album either has to be physically printed or distribution has to



Matt Young
Staff Writer

be set up online. It can easily cost more than a thousand bucks for a limited run when the cost of replicating an album with artwork comes due.

Free copies will go quickly.

Friends and family can be expected to want their copies given to them.

Factor in promotional copies, and a fair amount of stock is accounted for.

Selling the remaining stock is the challenge. Many bands will end up with boxes of their hard work languishing in their garages. People just don't buy CDs like they used to.

The mere fact of finding good shows to sell these leftovers at can be challenging. With clubs and venues like the VooDoo Lounge and Mission Ale House closing, the field of active venues is dwindling.

If you do get a show, you can expect to be your own roadie and sound engineer in addition to playing and trying to sell stuff — and good luck getting paid.

What's the solution?

Well, it's not an easy fix. The people who do make it might have a good amount of luck factoring in, but they also work hard, spend lots of their own money and find ways to connect with their audiences that resonate. They find creative ways of making and distributing their music, and pick their battles as for when and how to sell it.

They have thick skin, and a determination to keep at it.

It will take both the hard work of artists and the conscious support of music fans to make a difference.

The first step: Go see a local show! If a band plays at a club and no one is there to hear it, did it really happen?

"People can record high quality tracks at home using digital audio workstations and assets like Pro Tools, or find relatively affordable studio rates."

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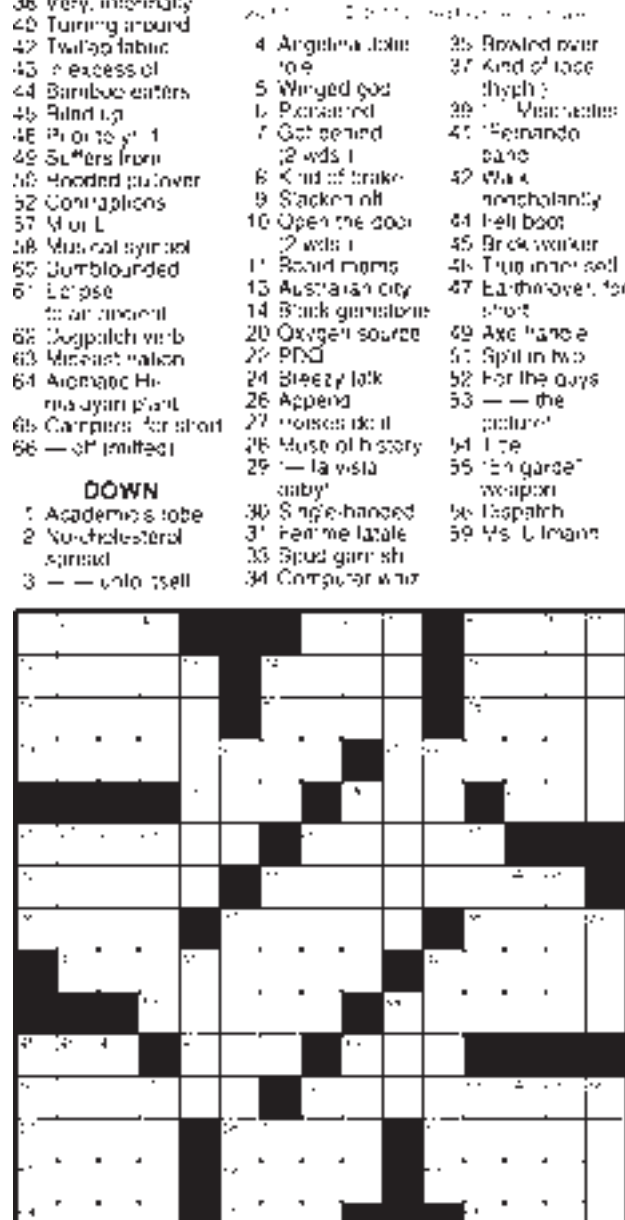
TODAY'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS
1 Touchdown
5 Bucket type
8 Cartoon chipmunk
12 Mexican post
14 Chocolate sauce
15 Atomic goat
16 Extraneous
17 Agrees silently
18 Fill to the girls
19 Currently
21 Play
23 Veto
24 Ave. markers
25 Naval oil
26 Say it again
30 Philly handle
32 Slot
33 Using a wise
36 Lecturer's spot
37 Sparkled
38 Very, intensely
40 Turning around
42 Twofold fabric
43 A excess of
44 Bamboo eaters
46 Blind tip
48 Pilot's # 1
49 Suffers from
50 Hooded plover
52 Contagions
57 Mui L
58 Musical syntax
60 Jumbled
61 Lease
62 An amount
63 Dogpunch verb
64 Mismatch
65 Average
66 Campers' for short
68 — of intellect

PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED

ALMS AMBOS BACH
L I I PEARL AX C
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5 Winged god
6 Pursued
7 Outland
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9 Kind of brake
10 Open the door
11 Board name
12 wds I
13 Board name
14 Australian city
15 Back generation
16 Oxygen source
17 PNC
18 Breezy talk
19 Append
20 voiceless
21 Muse of history
22 — la vista
23 Any
24 Academic robe
25 Non-chemical spirit
26 — into shell

25 Rowed over
27 Kind of lace
28 Myth
29 Mischief
30 Fernando
31 bare
32 Walk
33 melancholy
34 Fall boot
35 Brick worker
36 For the days
37 — the
38 picture
39 17e
40 "in garde"
41 weapon
42 Spanish
43 1/2 L man



Classifieds are FREE for SJSU Students!!!

Athletes make better enforcers against streaking

On-field streakers have always been an unwanted part of sporting events.

The combination of alcohol and the spur-of-the moment desire to run among professional athletes with (or without) clothes on in front of thousands of people will always exist.

Field security has tried to fight back — last May a fan was tased for running on field during a Philadelphia Phillies game.

This would seem to be an effective incentive to stay off the field, but just two days later a fan replicated the feat — this time sans taser — in Philadelphia.

Players have taken it upon themselves to deal with the intruders in the past, often helping security by tripping or tackling the miscreants when they roam near them.

However, this added dimension of field defense could be no more with recent events.

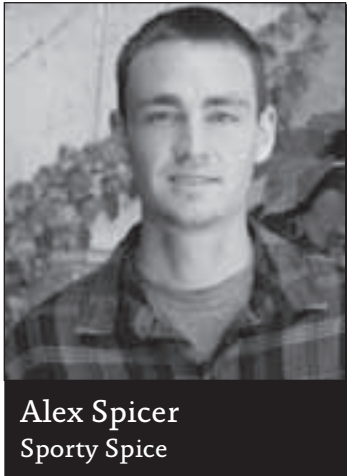
When a man wearing a thong, similar to the one seen in Sacha Baron Cohen's film "Borat," ran onto the field of a low-level league game in England on Monday, Dorchester's player-manager Ashley Vickers took out the intruder with a tackle.

The referee responded to Vickers' vigilante action with a red card, forcing the team to play down a man despite the tackle being directed toward a fan rather than an opposing player.

The law of soccer states that any player who attacks anyone on the field must be ejected, but this rule is normally overlooked in the case of streakers.

In this instance however, the referee decided to stick to the rule book.

The incident could potentially be the gate-



Alex Spicer
Sporty Spice

way other referees needed to begin ejecting players for putting an end to unwanted criminal acts on the field.

If this is true, then it will only provide drunken hooligans an added incentive to disrupt sporting events.

Fans can take the game into their own hands by antagonizing players when they streak on the field, baiting them into violently lashing out at them in order to get them ejected.

Dorchester went on to lose its match 3-1 — a major blow in its fight for a playoff spot that could secure a promotion into a higher-level league.

On a larger stage such as the World Cup, one fan's actions could have repercussions felt around the globe.

I'm not advocating the practice of violence among athletes in sporting events, and ideally they should ignore on-field intruders and let security deal with the disturbance.

Yet as we often see, security personnel are not quite as limber as the subjects they chase, creating a parade of follies as they attempt to apprehend their target.

Then the misfit enters the space of an athlete — angry that his event is being disrupted, the athlete would trip or tackle the felon, much to the delight of the crowd and the appreciation of security workers.

Somehow, I think being slide tackled by an athlete in cleats would be a better streaker deterrent than the by-the-book methods.

"Sporty Spice" is a biweekly column appearing on Wednesdays. Alex Spicer is a Spartan Daily Sports Editor.

Respect people regardless of religion

I do not believe in God. Wow! I finally said it! To tell the truth, I've actually been saying it for some years now.

I went to Sunday school and church when I was younger.

I started to question my beliefs while I was in high school.

It wasn't until serving in Iraq that my views completely changed.

I was 19 and the first time I saw a dead body shocked me — unfortunately this was not the last.

I have picked up body parts, cleaned up brains from the back of my Bradley Fighting Vehicle, seen bodies burned black and I've even witnessed a friend of mine hold his rifle to the head of a doctor until he removed a bullet from a 4-year-old boy's leg.

There's the old adage that there are no atheists in foxholes — not quite!

Instead of turning toward faith like most, I turned my back on faith.

I couldn't fathom the thought of belief in anything after seeing all of this pain, hurt and death.

I'm not writing to justify my belief, though. It is amazing that I can say this and not be persecuted like in many other places.

I have friends from many different religious backgrounds, and they accept me for me. I accept them for them.

It is about respecting others' beliefs and not



Jesse Jones
Staff Photographer

judging them for believing in something you don't.

All religious practices deserve this respect from everyone, ranging from Catholicism to Buddhism, Christianity to Scientology, Atheism to Islam and so on and so forth.

Religions do not promote hate, individuals promote hate and try to use religion as a tool.

The Westboro Baptist Church is a great example of this. It uses the idea of fear and going to hell as way to control its small group of followers.

I'm pretty much screwed according to them — I'm a soldier, an atheist and I do know gay people. I might as well just call it quits from here on out.

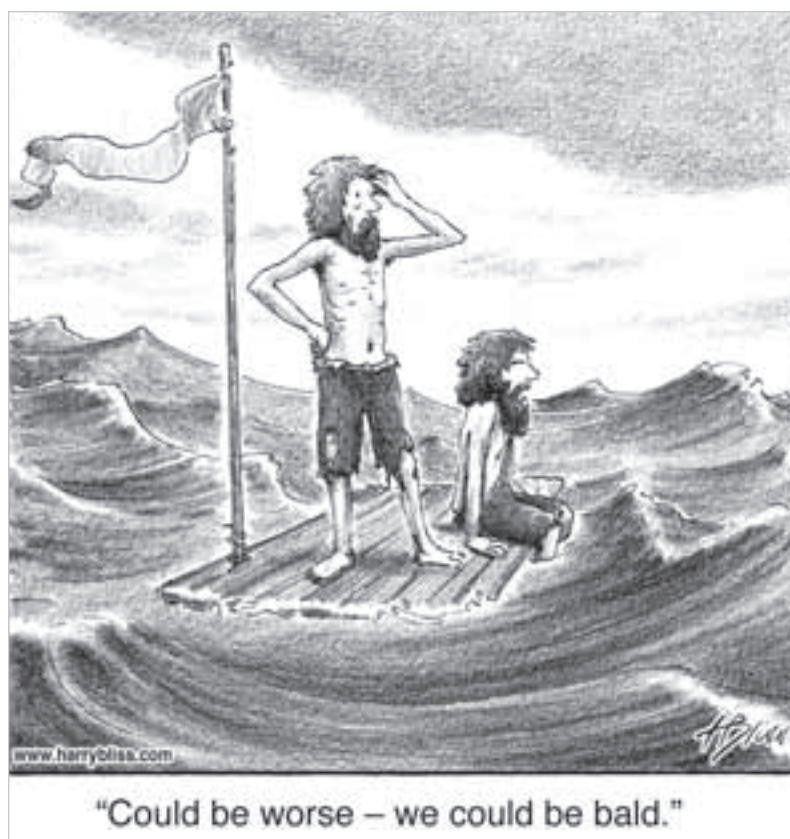
It is great to know, however, that people of all religions do not condone groups like this.

Religion is about loving your fellow man or woman.

Although I do not believe in a higher power, I do believe in humankind and people actually having good morals.

I have been told "God bless you" numerous times by people who know I am an atheist. They say it because what they have learned from their faith is not to hate but to embrace all for who they are.

I do not see myself changing my beliefs in the future, but I will always respect all religions and treat all people as they should be treated regardless of their religion.



Editorial Cartoon: MCT

My return to the fresh side of life

When a friend told me that many kinds of deodorant sold in retail stores can actually cause cancer, I vowed on the spot to keep my pits pure — free of foreign contaminants.

Nevermind the fact that upon further research, I found that the scientific evidence for this was marginal. My friend's opinion was enough for me to swear myself to stink for five months.

So I became that guy whose presence you dread on a warm day, the guy you did not want to meet after exercise.

Why might I do something so selfish and socially isolating, you might ask?

I am still not entirely sure, to be perfectly honest.

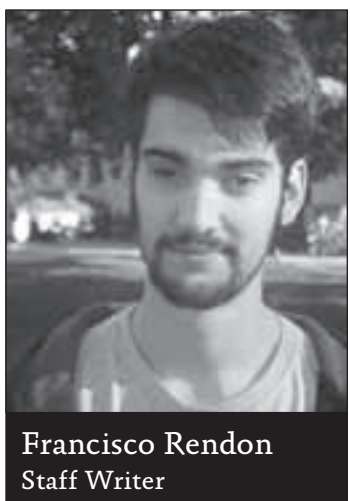
Part of it was my twisted sense of humor.

I loved being able to make others uncomfortable by raising my arms and getting a reaction from everyone.

Part of it was because I love being able to feel like I am effecting social change.

I wanted people to ask me about my hygiene, so I could tell them about the dangers of rubbing metal-laced poison all over their bodies.

Part of it was probably



Francisco Rendon
Staff Writer

a deep-rooted sense of fear that I might be rejected if I actually started to make an effort to present myself in a composed way.

Part of it was that I am just really lazy.

With most of my everyday life already committed to some activity, I certainly was not going to have time for a girlfriend or job interviews, and besides that, I had been showering daily, so I would like to think it was a clean stink.

Thus it continued for months, with me mostly forgetting but occasionally taking advantage of the opportunity to get on my soapbox to tell everyone why I was musty.

It wasn't until some of my closest friends, who had

already heard my soapbox spiel, started treating me differently, calling attention to my musk, that I realized it was time to stock my supply of aluminum-free deodorant.

While I am sure many are relieved at this news, I, like so many others at the end of an era, hope that my boycott leaves some sort of legacy.

I would hope the legacy of my bodacious body odor would be that people realized how completely disconnected we are from most products in our day to day lives.

Most of us have no idea what Aluminum Zirconium Trichlorohydrate, Glycyl, Cyclopentasiloxane or Dimethicone are, yet we rub them all over our bodies regularly.

Not only do we not know what these things are made out of, we have no idea where they come from or what they might be doing to us.

I hope those who have tolerated me over the past five months will remember that while I will once I again pick up the stick and start scenting my armpits, some things are not so easy to change, and there is still no cure for cancer.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

RE: Let Planned Parenthood stand on its own two feet

According to Jack Barnwell's stance, Planned Parenthood funding should be halted and become a private business.

Planned Parenthood should stand on its own as a private business versus being free to the public?

Why, God almighty, we might've just solved our health care issues.

This supposed "crutch" the author mentions throughout the article is government funding.

Is Planned Parenthood the crippled being who refuses to walk on its own?

There are several reasons why halting the funding to Planned Parenthood would be detrimental not only to those who seek abortions, as most advocates for the budget cuts claim, but rather the opportunities for women and men — most in low-income communities, seeking health and sexual assistance.

In regards to his statement "there should

be regulations that conform to federal and state laws."

What would be regulated?

The amount of condoms dispensed at said clinics?

You can't put a boundary based on income brackets. The idea of Planned Parenthood is that it's open to all of the community, regardless of income.

It shouldn't cost a large amount of money to receive health care.

While everyone loves a good service, you also have to think of image.

Planned Parenthood cannot simply help Americans, it needs to take a step further by helping internationally.

It's all politics.

So to even yank that program lessens the value of the service and the brand.

While this may come from a budding feminist, one must take note of the greater services. Planned Parenthood does provide for all women.

That cannot be ignored.

Isidora Torres
Junior advertising major

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

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Photo: Alex Wara

From top: House of Siam is a Thai restaurant located on Second Street. The Siam Chicken dish has sautéed chicken breast with bell peppers, garlic, onions, cashew nuts and pineapple.

■ RESTAURANT REVIEW

Thai dining brings the heat with spices from the East

★★★★☆
Alex Wara
Staff Writer

There are numerous options when searching for a place to eat in Downtown San Jose.

A diverse city brings different ethnic foods and you can't go a few feet without walking by restaurants and salivating at the thought of the food served in each one.

I was starving after a night class and wanted some food that I knew would satisfy my taste buds.

Instantly, I knew I wanted something spicy so I decided to try Thai food.

House of Siam came to my mind. Located on Second Street, it was a few blocks from campus and having passed the restaurant numerous times, I knew trying it was a must.

I was welcomed into the restaurant with a smile from one of the waitresses, which was a nice start to my dining experience.

House of Siam offers a unique experience — there are items throughout the eatery that remind you of Thailand, adding a warm feeling to the atmosphere.

I started off with the Thai Iced Tea, which I never pass up when eating Thai food. The beverage was sweet and energized me after being in class for hours.

When it came time to deciding what entrée to order, it took me longer than I had expected.

The menu had a variety of options that included the usual options such as appetizers, poultry and beef dishes, noodles and fried rice.

What surprised me was a wide variety of vegetarian options that were on the menu.

It was refreshing to go to a location that offered a little bit of everything for any type of diner.

Eventually I decided to try the Siam Chicken, which was sautéed chicken breast with bell peppers, garlic, onions, cashew nuts and pineapple.

Hesitant at first to try a dish with pineapple, because I like to keep fruit separate from anything else I eat, I was curious to see how the

chef prepared the pineapple in the dish with the Thai spices.

My hesitation was put to rest when the food came out.

When I took the first bite of the pineapple mixed in with the spices it was delicious.

Although I ordered my meal as medium spicy, my mouth was on fire so the pineapple was a nice refreshing touch to the dish.

The medium spicy dish left me drinking a huge amount of water.

However, the servers were always there to refill my water glass and made sure that it was not too spicy for me to handle.

Even though the dish made my mouth feel like it was on fire, it still had all the flavors I love when eating Thai food and I was still able to enjoy the rest of the components in the dish.

The dish left me feeling full with enough food for leftovers.

The price of the dish and drink was a little over \$15, which can put a dent in any college student's pocketbook,



Photo: Alex Wara

House of Siam's Thai Iced Tea is a sweet burst of liquid energy.

but I would recommend taking friends to get a variety of dishes and splitting the bill.

House of Siam offers great service, a unique experience and delicious food, which is exactly what one should be looking for in a dining experience.

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THIRTY SECONDS TO MARS

EVENT CENTER
7:30 PM

\$29.50 GEN. ADM.
\$19.50 SJSU STUDENT (LIMITED)

DISCOUNTED TICKETS AVAILABLE ONLY THROUGH EVENT CENTER BOX OFFICE, 408.924.6333. LIMIT TWO PER CUSTOMER.

\$10 OFF FOR SJSU STUDENTS

Look of the Week

By: Tyler Do

Cardigan: Forever21

Belt: Urban Outfitters

Jeans: H&M

Shoes: Macy's

Senior Adessa Kiryakos, behavioral science/sociology

How would you describe your style?

Fresh.

What inspired your look today?

I decided to wear this because it wasn't too cold or too warm outside, so I felt like a cardigan and a cute belt would be very appropriate for today.

Where did you buy your outfit?

I got my shoes from Macy's, jeans from H&M, the cardigan from Forever21, belt from Urban Outfitters and earrings from a boutique in San Diego.

Do you have a favorite article of clothing you like to wear?

I really like to wear scarves and earrings.

Where do you usually shop?

Almost all of my clothes are from H&M, Forever21 and Urban Outfitters.

Why do you dress the way you dress?

I feel like every day is almost like a fashion show and everywhere you walk is a runway. Just waking up in the morning and trying to look cute, and I have so many different styles. I might be hipster one day, and funky fresh one and might be classy looking another.

Tonight's plans in your pocket.



*All locations shown are within 6 blocks of San Jose State University

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