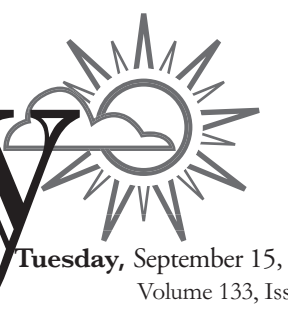




# Spartan Daily

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SPORTS

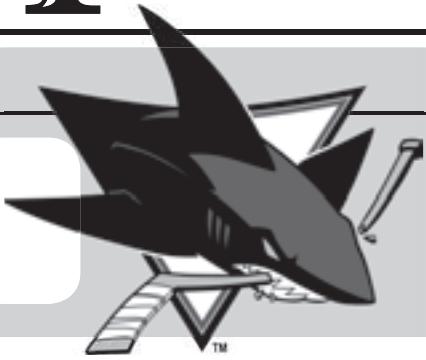
OPINION

A & E

Heatley brings scoring touch to the San Jose Sharks  
Page 4

Kanye West's verbal outburst sparks a debate  
Page 5

Jazz sounds of the '30s fill the King Library  
Page 6



## SJSU flight club has lofty aspirations



[ Dave Cabebe / Spartan Daily ]

Junior business major Jason Dodd pilots an aircraft after taking off from Reid-Hillview Airport on Sept. 5. Before flying, he pilots a short test flight to practice his landing skills.

See story on page 3

## Students peer around for new loan options

By Suzanne Yada  
Staff Writer

With traditional banks becoming more unwilling to take a chance on student loans, other sources for funding tuition have stepped in to fill the gaps.

One source, peer-to-peer lending, allows students to ask their family and friends to contribute to a legally binding student loan, said Brian Cox, chief business development officer for TuitionU.com.

Some students are suspicious of the idea, however.

"I don't believe in paying back anything with interest," said Abbas Ahsan, a junior mechanical engineering major. "It's a scam. It's another excuse to have debt collections after you."

Jared Strubeck, a senior environmental studies major, said that though he didn't have student loans himself, it made sense to seek out other ways of paying for school.

"It's natural for people who have money to lend to people

who don't," he said. "It's like borrowing from a family member."

The peer-to-peer loans are essentially that, Cox said.

Students can create profiles on the TuitionU Web site and list the amount of money they will need, and in turn ask friends, family or members of the public to help pitch in to the total, he said.

Students need to raise a minimum of \$1,500 in order for TuitionU to process the loan, he said.

They can borrow any amount up to the cost of school attendance after financial aid, according to the TuitionU Web site.

Cox said if a student doesn't pay back the money, there is an opportunity to directly negotiate with the lenders.

Otherwise, it will go through collections just like a normal loan, he said.

Coleetta McElroy, the interim director of financial aid and

See PEER, Page 2

## Whitmore aid attempts to bring sustainability to SJSU campus

By My Nguyen  
Staff Writer

President Jon Whitmore has appointed Associate Professor Katherine Cushing to be a director of sustainability and special assistant to the president.

Last year, the Academic Senate created a University Sustainability Task Force, headed by Dean Michael Parrish.

"One main recommendation given to the university was to create a director of sustainability," Cushing said.

President Jon Whitmore has been an advocate for campus sustainability since he came to SJSU a year ago, said Pat Lopes Harris, director of media relations at SJSU.

"He wanted to make sustainability a high priority," she said. "He wanted someone to report to him about sustainability on campus."

Whitmore said he appointed Cushing because of her background and experience as well as her passion for sustainability.

"She has a real passion for this," Whitmore said. "It's a kind of thing you think about 24 hours a day not just eight to five,

and she's well-respected as a faculty member and as a member of the sustainability committee."

Cushing was also a major player on the Sustainability Task Force, with a background at Stanford and connections with Berkeley, Whitmore said.

Cushing said she decided to take the position, because she wanted to educate people on sustainability on a university level instead of a departmental one.

"One of our goals for state is to be a regional leader in sustainability," Cushing said.

Environmental studies professor Gary Klee was on the hiring committee along with Lynne Trulio and Rachel O'Malley, who hired Cushing as an assistant professor for the department of environmental studies.

"[She was] an immediate choice," Klee said. "No questions asked."

Klee said having a campus sustainability director is important, because university campuses have been operating without really being conscious of the diminishing supplies of water, fossil fuels and other natural resources.

"[Cushing's] got so much energy," Klee said. "She has so

many great ideas. She's the perfect person for the job."

Cushing said she wants to help students understand how their choices affect the Earth and how their behavior can make a difference.

Cushing said one thing that stuck out to her was how SJSU's campus didn't feel.

Things the university is doing to become more sustainability conscious include energy and water conservation, Cushing said.

The school has switched out the old lights on campus for more energy efficient lights, she said.

There are also new building plans, involving the renovation of the Student Union and health and counseling building to L.E.E.D (Leadership in Energy and Sustainability Design) Silver Standards, Cushing said.

According to the Government Technology Web site, in order to be certified at the silver level of L.E.E.D, a building project must earn 33 to 38 points of a possible 69 points in six areas of assessment — site sustainability; water efficiency; energy and atmo-

See CUSHING, Page 2

## Biology honor society aims to build community within major

By Kyle Szymanski  
Staff Writer

Lonely biology students now have a place to explore their passion, in a new campus club that will debut this semester before becoming a fraternity next year.

Club founder and sophomore biology major Amy Behnke said the group will feature biology field trips, guest speakers and the opportunity to network with local businesses interested in hiring biology students.

"This society allows biology

students to be a part of a club where everyone can benefit from networking and socializing with other students in the same major," junior biology major Rosie Lin said.

All declared biology majors with a 3.0 GPA are eligible to join the campus club this semester, Behnke said.

When the club becomes a local chapter of the Beta Beta Beta National Biological Honor Society, the requirements to join will increase, limiting the pool to students who have completed one introductory biology course and two oth-

er biology classes with a 3.0 GPA.

Prospective members must also have completed their third semester of college, Behnke said.

Next semester, when the club becomes a local chapter of the Beta Beta Beta National Biological Honor Society, students will be eligible to receive scholarships and grants for research, Behnke said.

"This is an excellent opportunity for all biology students to come together and help one

See HONORS, Page 2

## Campus MovieFest offers ticket to prizes and exposure for filmmakers

By Ben Cadena  
Staff Writer

Campus MovieFest, which travels to more than 70 campuses in the United States, is coming to SJSU once again.

It commences Wednesday, Sept. 23, and students can sign up from 12 to 5 p.m. at the Fishbowl Room on the ground

floor of Clark Hall, according to the SJSU Web site.

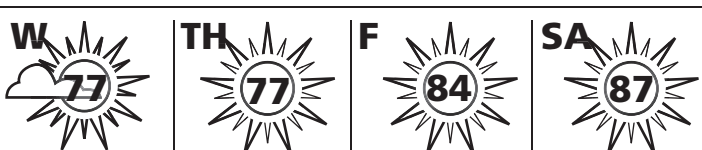
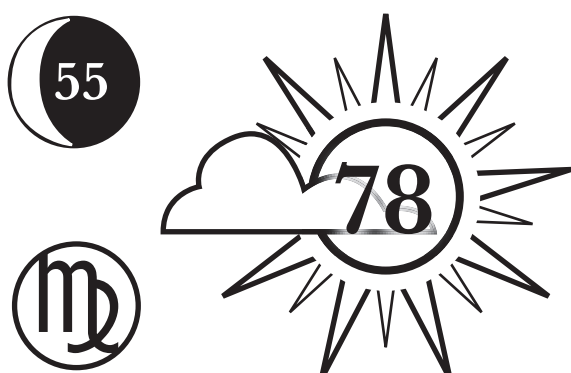
Students will be provided with everything needed to create a five-minute film, including laptops, HD digital video cameras, and phones, all free.

Matt Falkenthal, a graduate student in radio, television and film, said he is hoping his Vietnam vignette will take first

place. "It shows the end results of a homeless veteran forgotten by society," he said. "The vets are mostly on the street now, and we can't forget them."

"The MovieFest is the best opportunity to shoot edit and on AT&T's dime (AT&T is a

See MOVIE, Page 2



### theSpartanDaily.com

- Video**  
Learn about SJSU's motorcycle club The Spartan Riders
- Live Blog**  
Tom Campbell, a candidate for governor, speaks on campus at 7 p.m.
- Blogs**
- News Blog**  
spartandailynews.wordpress.com  
A student was found dead at Yale. Is SJSU safe enough?
- New Photo Blog**  
The Spartan Daily photo blog has moved to spartandailyphoto.com



[ Kirsten Aguilar / Spartan Daily ]

**BIKERS:** The Spartan Riders are more than hooligans on two wheels. Check out a video by the Spartan Daily's Kirsten Aguilar on the club at spartandailyphoto.com.



# SMART classroom is a touching move forward

## PEER From Page 1



[ John Russo / Contributing Photographer ]

**Donna Lenz-Rooney, left, and her sister Marla Lenz cut the ribbon marking the opening of the new SMART Technology classroom dedicated in their grandmother's name, Leola Forward.**

By Angela Marino  
Staff Writer

SJSU has added new technology to a classroom that encourages students and teachers to work together during lectures.

The new technology was funded by a local family whose grandmother was a 1908 graduate of San Jose Normal School.

On Wednesday, a SMART classroom dedication was held in honor of 1908 graduate Leola Forward in Sweeney Hall Room 231, according to the dedication pamphlet.

The SMART classroom is equipped with a touch screen that allows teachers to illustrate a lecture with a point of a finger, said Mary McVey, interim associate dean for the college of education.

A SMART classroom uses a

computer touch screen instead of a projector to run classroom lectures, she said.

The SMART classroom also has a projector on another wall that displays a computer's desktop without touch capability, she said.

"The room is designed with students in mind," McVey said. "It has Skype setup to talk to guest speakers from around the world."

Skype is a program that places visual phone calls through the webcam on laptops, McVey said.

The webcam faces the students, which allows them to interact with the caller, she said.

Caroline Randazzo, a senior child development major, said the SMART classroom should be in more rooms.

"The chairs are comfortable, and the long table is nice

for group activities," she said. "Also, the SMART Board is cool."

McVey said students really enjoy the SMART classroom setup for teachers and students, and that it is a great way to educate students.

"When I heard about the SMART classroom, a light when off in my head. I thought it would be fun and interesting to do this as an endowment, as the school is able to keep it up. With technology, it's not going to just sit there and go away," granddaughter of Forward Donna Lenz-Rooney said.

"Generation after generation, the Forward family have attended SJSU to further their education," said Elaine Chin, dean of the department of education. "In honor of Forward's dedication to education, they donated funds to build the



[ John Russo / Contributing Photographer ]

**Interim Associate Dean Mary McVey demonstrates the capabilities of the new SMART classroom to a group of donors, alumni and members of Leola Forward's family.**

smart classroom."

Forward attended San Jose Normal School, a teacher preparatory school that later was renamed SJSU, according to the dedication pamphlet.

The dedication consisted of McVey demonstrating the new features of Room 231 in Sweeney Hall, according to the dedication pamphlet.

By clicking the surface of the SMART Board, her demonstration began with a PowerPoint presentation.

Other features included writing directly on the PowerPoint slide with a finger, which she demonstrated.

She said the SMART Board operated similar to a touch computer screen when McVey showed the ability to navigate the web and use other computer programs simultaneously.

John Jabaghourian, a child and adolescent development instructor who has taught in the SMART classroom, said, "The classroom is dynamically designed in a sense that the classroom questions the way

you teach. It requires you to change the teaching style to focus more on the information rather than the tradition — the teacher talks and students listen."

"The technology develops an interesting classroom environment that engages the students."

Forward graduated from San Jose Normal in December 1908, according to the dedication pamphlet.

She taught for a short time before she married James Forward on June 27, 1909, according to the dedication pamphlet.

Danielle Walton, a senior child and adolescent development major, said, "I really like the SMART classroom. Both projector screens allow the teacher to write whatever notes as we go."

"I like the use of different materials in the classroom besides just lecturing. The technology creates a good environment to learn in."

## HONORS

From Page 1

another to achieve their goals in the present and future," Behnke said.

The club currently has 10 active members as of Monday, Behnke said.

As of Spring 2009, SJSU had about 2,100 science majors enrolled, according to the SJSU Office of Institutional Research.

Junior biology major Lillian Dang said joining the club is a good first step for undergraduate students who are interested in going to graduate school.

"We know that most of these students plan to attend graduate school," Dang said. "Being a part of Beta Beta Beta can help with funding for their research as well as create an image that is looked upon by the admissions committee in graduate schools."

Founded in 1922, Beta Beta Beta has 520 chapters that span the United States and Puerto Rico, according to the Beta Beta Beta Web site.

According to the fraternity's Web site, the mission is to create a society for students, particularly undergraduates, dedicated to improving the understanding and appreciation of biological study and extending boundaries of human knowledge through scientific research.

## CUSHING

From Page 1

sphere; materials and resources; indoor environmental quality; and innovation and design process.

SJSU is also offering more than 200 classes on sustainability and implementing initiatives such as the Ecological Footprint Challenge, Cushing said.

"Sustainability is something that affects everyone and every single day," Cushing said.

"All the decisions we make affect the impact on the Earth and its resources."

There are "three E's" of sustainability — environmental protection enhancement, economic development and social equity, Cushing said.

She said she wants to help people incorporate the "three E's" in their daily lives.

Cushing graduated from Stanford with a PhD in civil and environmental engineering in 1998.

She came to SJSU in 2003, where she taught courses including Introduction to Environmental Issues, Water Policy in the Western U.S. and Water Resource Management.

Currently, she is working on a book that will help water officials decide how to best use recycled water, Cushing said.

## MOVIE

From Page 1

MovieFest sponsor)," he said.

He won last year's best picture with his work "Hunger."

Sam Sirico, a senior radio, television, and film major, said

"It's fun, but takes hours of editing and refining shots and audio cuts to result in a great video."  
-Victor Taibi

she has a piece she has been working on about a trio of New York wiseguys who mistakenly kidnap Steven Spielberg.

"It started in color, but we had problems with the color balance, so we watched it in black and white, kind of film noir," she said. "So now it's

more dramatic in black and white."

Sirico said, "The prizes are great, but even more valuable are the exposure and publicity."

Victor Taibi, a radio, television, and film major, said, "It's fun, but takes hours of editing and refining shots and audio cuts to result in a great video."

He said he wanted to create a music video as well.

James Tinsley, a senior radio, television and film major, said, "I have a timely, immediate piece about a man evicted from his apartment, desperate to feed his family. He knocks over the local 7-Eleven and suffers the ultimate price."

The finale be on Oct. 9 at Morris Dailey Auditorium at 7:30 p.m., according to the SJSU Web site.

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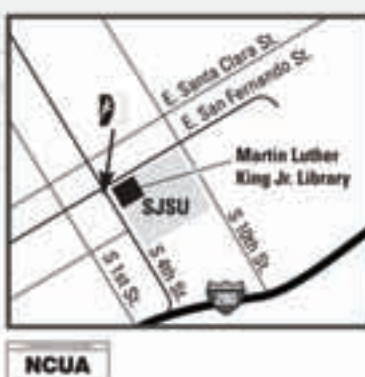
Twitter.com/thespartandaily



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**Sparta Guide**

**Tomorrow**

**Accounting/Finance Job and Internship Fair** 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 Messages** offered from 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. 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](http://as.sjsu.edu/ascr) or contact Associated Students Campus Recreation at (408) 924-6218.

**17 Thursday**

**Fall 2009 Messages** 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 for more information, visit [as.sjsu.edu/ascr](http://as.sjsu.edu/ascr) or contact Associated Students Campus Recreation at (408) 924-6218.

**Party With a Plan** 2 p.m. at Clark 118. Find ways to stay healthy and balanced while you engage in social activities where drinking is involved. For more information, contact Veronica Mendoza at (408) 924-5921.

**21 Monday**

**Did You Hit The Mark Right?** 1:30 p.m. at Clark 118. For more information, contact Veronica Mendoza at (408) 924-5921.



# Team fulfills dreams of flight for SJSU students

By My Nguyen  
Staff Writer

Aviophobia is the fear of flying, and although flying is considered to be one of the safest forms of transportation, more than percent of people have a fear of flying, according to the Airplane Trade Web site.

The SJSU Precision Flight Team offers students, faculty and alumni a bird's eye view of the Bay Area, as well as a new perspective on flying.

"People are scared of flying, because they base aviation on the accidents they've seen on the news," senior aviation major Luca Vezzuto said. "We educate people on flying and how safe it is."

Vezzuto said the team have overcome the fear of flying by looking at other aspects of flying, such as freedom.

Every member of the team is trained and educated on the safety of aviation, he said.

"We have a strong emphasis on safety," he said. "We want to make sure that there are no doubts that the flight will be safe and enjoyable."

Junior business major Jason Dodd said he wanted to fly since he was a kid.

His dream of being in the Air Force was put aside because of his vision, he said.

When he came to state and discovered the flight team, he got a second chance to be a pilot.

"I think the best thing about flying is it gives you a way to escape the world — going out and letting everything go for a couple

of hours," Dodd said. "It's something quite enjoyable."

Senior aviation major Robert Brown said flying has been a lifelong passion.

"I just always wanted to be a pilot," he said. "It seems scary, but once you're up there, it's a blast. You leave all your worries on the ground."

Vezzuto said the Flying 20's is a nonprofit organization that provides aircraft rentals to SJSU students, faculty and alumni.

The flight team practices at Reid-Hillview Airport, where it uses two Cessna 152 and one Cessna 172 planes for practice and competitions, he said.

The team competes in the National Intercollegiate Flying Association Safecon in events such as stimulated comprehensive aircraft navigation, aircraft identification, simulator proficiency, preflight, message drop and precision taxi, Vezzuto said.

"We've been going to national continuously," he said. "At national, out of the 30 schools that go, we've always been competitive."

The team has dominated in events such as landing, navigation, preflight, SCAN, computer accuracy and ground trainer, Vezzuto said.

Dodd said he went to last year's regional and national competition.

"I placed in every event I did in regional," he said. "And national was a learning experience. Aviation is a small community, so seeing 100 people with the same interest as yours is great."

The Precision Flight Team has

been around for almost 20 years, Vezzuto said, but the team's status has been on and off because in 2005, SJSU took the club's status away because of liability issues.

The team is now a recognized club, he said.

"I feel like now we can prove ourselves and to the school that we are a competitive group, and that we are capable of great things," Vezzuto said.

He said the club is a student-based organization that relies on fundraising and donations from the community to compete.

"Whatever we don't get is funded by A.S., and everything else is out of pocket," he said.

The team also provides flights for SJSU students who are interested in flying.

"If there are students who are interested in aviation and have never experienced flight, they are more than welcome to contact us and come to our weekend practice, where they can get a taste of what flying is all about," Vezzuto said.

Coach Warn Kitchen said, "The team's objective is to improve their piloting skills and compete against other schools in competitions."

This semester, there are more people in the aviation club, Vezzuto said.

He said this means there will be more people to fill events at competitions.

"There is a good amount of new people and a good amount of returning people, so I'm excited about that," Kitchen said. "It should be a good team."



[ Dave Cabebe / Spartan Daily ]

"I think the best thing about flying is it gives you a way to escape the world," club member Jason Dodd said. A bird's eye view of Anderson Lake near Morgan Hill.

# Campus Image



[ Michelle Gachet / Spartan Daily ]

Sophomore music major Calvin Sanders and sophomore psychology major Tiffany Choi race in a rubber duck blowing contest during the Spartan Squad Kick-off on Tuesday.

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With: OneRepublic, Carolina Liar  
Tickets: \$39.50 - \$65.50  
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**SLIPKNOT**  
OCT 23, 8:00 PM  
With: Daftones  
Tickets: \$39.50  
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Tickets: \$35.50  
General Admission

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NOV 18, 7:00 PM  
With: Escape the Fate, The Sleeping  
Tickets: \$26.50  
General Admission, \$79 Four-Pack

Metalocalypse:  
**DETHKLOK / MASTODON**  
NOV 21, 6:30 PM  
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Tickets: \$34.50  
General Admission

**KELLY CLARKSON**  
NOV 29, 7:30 PM  
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Opinion

Heatley acquisition adds firepower to Sharks' offense

By Adam Murphy Sports Editor

Sharks' General Manager Doug Wilson finally came through on his promise of a major roster change.

The San Jose Sharks acquired Dany Heatley on Saturday for Jonathan Cheechoo, Milan Michalek and a second round pick.

In a sports talk interview on Sports Radio 680 AM, KNBR, Heatley said San Jose was one of his preferred destinations.

"San Jose was at the top of the list," Heatley said. "They're a great team. I'm excited to be there and excited to try and help this team win a championship."

The top six forwards for San Jose should be filled out by a combination of Heatley, Joe Thornton, Devin Setoguchi, Patrick Marleau, Joe Pavelski and Ryane Clowe.

Michalek put up 57 points last season on the second line, while Cheechoo put up 29 points on the third line.

Meanwhile, Heatley had 72 points last season with 39 goals and 33 assists.

The Sharks have struggled scoring goals in the playoffs — acquiring Heatley should alleviate some

of their scoring woes.

The Sharks seem to have enough talent to win a Stanley Cup, but they have not been able to put it all together. Heatley said the Sharks have been really close in the playoffs.

"To win a championship in this league, it takes more than just talent and skill on paper, and I think everyone realizes that," he said in the interview.

En route to earning the Presidents' Trophy last season, which is awarded to the team with the most points in the regular season, the Sharks averaged 3.01 goals-a-game, ranking eighth in the league.

Heatley said the Sharks are an up tempo team

and he fits in with that style.

"San Jose is an up tempo team, an offensive team, and I am excited to be a part of it," he said in the interview.

During last year's playoffs, the Sharks scored 10 goals in six

games against the Ducks, for an average of 1.67 goals a game. Omitting last season's anomaly and going back post-lockout from 2005-06 to 2007-08, the Sharks have averaged 2.4 goals a game in the playoffs.

That is below average for a team that is anything but below average offensively. Part of the problem is that the Sharks haven't had a pure goal scorer like Heatley.

Look for the winger Heatley to start on the Sharks top line with center Joe Thornton. Heatley said he already has a good relationship with many of the Sharks players.

as successful in the playoffs as he has in the regular season, while Heatley has managed to sustain his high level of play both in the regular season and playoffs. In the 2005-06 playoffs Heatley had 12 points in 10 games. He followed that performance by putting up 22 points in 20 games in the 2006-07 playoffs.

Opposing teams will look to shut down Heatley and Thornton, opening up ice for Marleau, who is in the last year of his contract. If he is healthy going into the playoffs, which hasn't recently been the case, Marleau should return to his 2005-06 form when he posted playoff career bests of 14 points, nine goals and five assists in 11 games.

The Sharks do not have the cap space to keep Marleau past next season, even if he does take a hometown discount.

The Sharks need to sign Pavelski and Setoguchi to new contracts. Both deserve large raises.

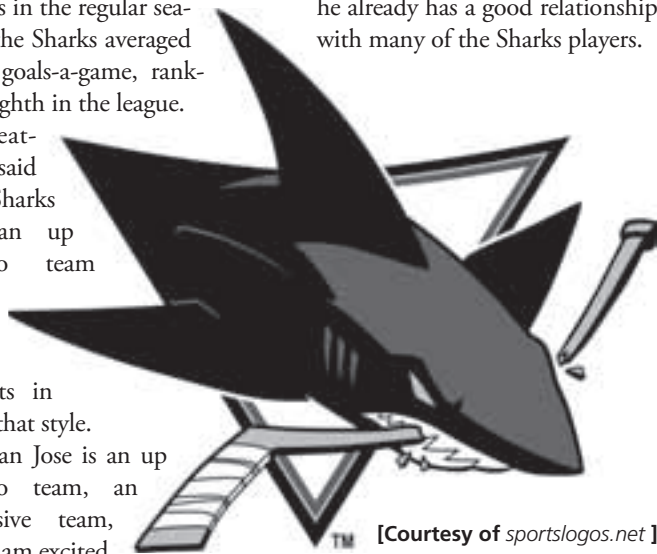
Marleau is just too expensive for the Sharks.

This is the year the Sharks need to make their run, especially after the team's recent playoff failures.

But no Sharks team has had this kind of talent in the top six, and Heatley, a two-time 50-goal scorer, could have a career year with Joe Thornton feed him passes.

If things don't work out and Heatley is largely ineffective in the playoffs, then Doug Wilson can start looking for a new job.

It is Stanley Cup Finals or bust for the Sharks and their GM.



[Courtesy of sportslogos.net]

"I think you come in and be yourself — that's the best thing you can do," Heatley said during the interview. "I feel comfortable going in there, I know a lot of those guys."

With Heatley on Thornton's wing, other teams cannot just focus on shutting down Joe.

Thornton has not been nearly

Heatley's Career Stats

Table with 5 columns: Games, Goals, Assists, Points. Rows include seasons from 2001-02 to 2008-09 and Career totals.

Heatley's Playoff Stats

Table with 5 columns: Games, Goals, Assists, Points. Rows include seasons 2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08, and Career totals.

Courtesy of NHL.com

Sharks practice schedule

Table with 3 columns: Day, Time, Event. Lists practice days from Today to Tuesday with specific times and locations.

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spartandailysports.wordpress.com

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Previous Puzzle

9x9 grid for a previous puzzle with numbers 1-9.

SUDOKU

Difficulty: 4 (of 5)

9x9 grid for a Sudoku puzzle with some numbers filled in.

TODAY'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

- 1. Term used for... 3. Ballpark event... 13. First number... 14. Hoagie substitute... 15. Consensus... 16. Disputed temple... 17. Class of... 18. Van product... 19. Broke 't take... 20. Leaders... 22. Kahl glass... 24. Debate title... 26. Actor's son... 28. Touchup... 30. Concentricus... 31. Wooden speed and... 36. Heels for good... 37. Heels for... 38. Mammal... 39. Gaseous ball... 40. Nothing... 41. Smooth and level... 43. Flare number... 45. Walrus... 46. Gags all the back... 49. Alligent ones... 50. I repeat accessory... 51. Tasty seafood... 52. Tuna sphere... 53. Tuna covers... 59. Imposter... 61. Back's cousin... 63. Puffin... 64. Major massacre... 65. One pop. roughly... 66. Baking soda... 67. Warbed... 68. Bo a g... 69. Good for a ball...

PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED

Completed crossword puzzle grid with words filled in.

DOWN

- 1. Part... 2. Hat spread... 3. Ways of the... 4. Chooser's... 5. Destination... 6. Waterlogged... 7. Water capital... 8. Lily... 9. Salt lakes...

Large crossword puzzle grid for today's puzzle.

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# Opposing views: Was Kanye's VMA outburst acceptable?

## Kanye was just being himself



**Suzanne Yada**  
Staff Writer

I hate to say it, but Kanye West was right.

He's an egotistical assthat who rudely stomped on a young woman's first time in the Video Music Awards spotlight, but he was right.

Beyonce had the better video and everyone knows it.

You don't have to think "Single Ladies (Put a Ring on It)" was the best video of all time. It really was just three women dancing against a white background.

But against the standard MTV flash, the video was unique. Iconic. Memorable.

Everyone from the Jonas Brothers to some fat guys on YouTube has tried their hand at the video's choreography, trotting around in dark skintight clothing in front of a camera.

Try searching for Taylor Swift's "You Belong With Me" on YouTube. That's right — nothing remotely as entertaining.

I venture to guess the Video Music Awards winners are decided by a complex vote-tabulating system. Or maybe someone gives

50 Cent a bottle of tequila, some darts and a blindfold. Whatever it is, the behind-the-scenes mechanism got it right when it decided "Single Ladies" was the video of the year.

So how was Beyonce snubbed for the best female video award, a category with significantly weaker competition, including Swift's winning video?

Was the statue awarded out of kindness for the sweet Swift girl? Should awards be given based on cuteness rather than talent?

I suppose it happens all the time. Awards are often given to the wrong person, and I usually respond with a grumble and a shrug.

But West's outburst, however immature, had a slice of truth in it. Swift's video was a four-minute summary of the movie, "She's All That." A nerdy girl becomes a pretty girl and gets the boy.

It was almost as forgettable as the movie.

I'm not a fan of Swift's underdeveloped vocals, either. I know she's only 19 years old and sings to

a younger demographic, but Beyonce's voice at 19 years old could run circles around her.

Does that give West the right to steal Swift's microphone and ruin her first experience winning a Moonman?

Hell, no.

Everyone seems to agree that West is a self-important douche. Remember when he threw a hissy-fit when he lost to Justice and Simian at the MTV Europe Music Awards in 2006?

Or when he whined and sniveled after the 2005 Grammy nominations came out? He said he was "gonna really have a problem" if he didn't win the album of the year.

He didn't win. He had a problem.

This is what's expected from a complete egomaniac. No one should be surprised or shocked that West has done it again.

But even egomaniacs get it right sometimes.

Culturally important pieces of art don't necessarily have to win all the awards. "Star Wars" didn't win best picture at the Oscars.

But Beyonce won best video and didn't win best female video. She should have won both. This doesn't add up.

Grumble. Shrug.

Kanye, take note. That's the proper response.

## Taylor deserves a swift apology



**Allie Figures**  
Features Editor

If your mother were still alive, Kayne West, I hope she would shake her disapproving head at you — or maybe even toss your grown ass over her knee.

Perhaps a bitter bar of soap in your mouth would suffice.

Now is your chance to represent for country music and be proud of your influence on the entertainment industry.

Enter stage right — Mr. West in his Hennessy haze of self-righteousness.

for "Video of the Year." And it was apparent by her reaction that Beyonce did not appreciate the outburst either.

Maybe it's best you leave Swift's and Beyonce's names out of your mouth and continue complaining about your own music's recognition.

I hope Swift's "fearless" confidence will no longer be shaken by West's "heartless" outburst. Miss Swift, you have just as much of a right to be on that stage as Be-



[ Photo Illustration by Jon Xavier / Spartan Daily ]

# 9/11 not quickly forgotten



**Angelo Lanham**  
Yes, I Have A Point

Today is Sept. 15, which means that 9/11 was four days ago. It took me by surprise this year.

Well, not the fact that it passed. That happens every year. What got me was that it has been eight years since the attack.

It certainly doesn't seem like eight years ago when I turned the dial to KSJO early in the morning, bleary-eyed and on my way to Evergreen Valley College.

I thought it must have been some morbid joke by Lamont and Tonelli, only to arrive at school to discover that it had been shut down in case the terrorists had a small Silicon Valley community college in mind as their next target.

Then, there were exchanges of "where were you when ... ?," as a shattered sense of safety made everyone's surroundings when they got the news seem profound.

I remember my escapist circle of friends who, a week after the event, suggested that we move on as a society. "That's in the past, man," they said. "We need to focus on the future."

They were into letting by-gones be by-gones, no matter how extreme, turtling up, and pretending like the whole mess never happened.

On the other side of the coin were the "lets go git 'em" variety of folk, who promptly bought

"don't tread on me" signs and began beating up anyone they ran into who was wearing a turban.

I remember every one of the 15 minutes that Bush seemed like a competent president (which he promptly used to tell us all to go shopping).

I remember my gag reflex being jackhammered by some patriotic TV special, in which a bunch of conservatively dressed nationalists sang patriot songs, made up acronyms for "America" (e.g. 'A is for the Amazing American Spirit'), and women wearing figure-engulfing dresses from the 1820s — ironically made up like hookers — pumped their fists in the air and said, "Never forget."

They even had the audacity to suggest that America lost its innocence on that day.

After the gag reflex subsided, though, I realized the whole "never forget" thing wasn't such a bad idea.

After all, a good number of people have no idea when D-Day is, or what happened on that day, and in 2001, the 9/11 attack was compared relentlessly to the Pearl Harbor attack.

Intellectuals suggested that we were in this jam because the president didn't ask us to sacrifice anything, a la World War II. I'm not sure how the public would have responded to having

the plugs pulled on its TV sets and being suddenly told to collect aluminum foil from gum.

It could be said that we are beginning to forget.

Some have blamed former President Daffy Duck for duping us all into thinking Saddam Hussein attacked us on that day and doing his best to make it seem like wars aren't even going on.

War? What war? Go shopping.

But it really is our responsibility to remember — we can't pin that one on Daffy. It became evident a few years ago when, in a social problems class, a loud-mouth know-nothing said something about "November 11," that the memory was already fading.

This clashes harshly with the sentiment of September 2001, which had people buying plastic American flags for a buck from the guy on the corner and then, putting on their most grim, serious faces, declared, "Things will never be the same."

And sure, things are different. Things are different for me.

Apparently, I look just like a terrorist, because every time I try to fly anywhere, I'm yanked out of the line, run over with a metal-detecting wand of some sort, and groped before being set back in line.

But what's really changed in a country where we can't be bothered to remember that someone knocked down one of our famous architectural achievements, along with the many lives within, just eight years later?

In the time that has passed,

At the MTV Video Music Awards on Sunday night, Mr. West interrupted Taylor Swift's acceptance speech to rant about how Beyonce's video, "Single Ladies," should have won instead.

Remember in 2005, when you won "Best Male Video" for "Jesus Walks?"

Aren't you glad Snoop Dogg or Eminem didn't get up and steal your thunder?

It has only been four years since, and apparently you have forgotten what it feels like for an artist to earn his or her first "Moonman."

Maybe your ego has clouded your conscience into thinking that ruining Swift's moment was acceptable.

Put yourself in Swift's designer heels for a second.

You are 19 years old, repeat 19, on stage in front of all your fans and friends, joining the ranks of your music idols.

You are accepting an award for your video, belonging to a genre that is typically forgotten by MTV and the Video Music Awards.

I've been on both sides of conspiracy theories (what really happened to building seven?). Attitudes have changed a bit. The suggestion that we just nuke the entire Middle East and forget the whole thing is finally subsiding — although certain idiots in certain bars can still be found suggesting that one.

The real legacy of the attack, though, is the removal of the political middle of the country.

Thanks to the attack, anyone wearing a turban is eyed suspiciously and patriotism has be-

No one is trying to infringe on your speech or take away your freedoms, but being a rude jerk is so not cool. It does nothing but make me want to delete your respectable and relatable "808s and Heartbreaks" from my iTunes library.

I thought your talent was good enough to make up for the douche bag of a person you are or the crazy antics you do, for whatever sake.

Boy was I wrong. Just as your hairstyle was at the awards Sunday night.

Your outburst did nothing for the greater good of music. It only revealed to everyone that you will stoop to any level to steal some spotlight.

And no matter how much you claim to be defending Beyonce and her "Single Ladies" video, this was just another stunt to have your name and face in the headlines Monday morning.

Well, here is a news flash for you — Beyonce did not need your help getting the acclaim she deserves — proof in the "Moonman" she won later in the show

and West. Many people may not prefer your genre or may not think that you are talented enough, but why not let the fans or the platinum certifications decide?

Maybe Swift's video, "You Belong with Me," was not as unique or visually appealing as "Single Ladies" (I would rather appreciate the song for its lyrics), but Swift's video has its place in the music world too, clearly reflected by the audience's reaction and posts to the official Video Music Awards Web site.

So bring on the "Team Taylor" T-shirts and anti-Kanye Facebook groups.

Don't you think young girls have it hard enough these days, seeing each other dancing scantily clad in most music videos? Then why not appreciate "You Belong with Me" for being a pure and honest example for young girls.

Or maybe you should just start the "Men who try to ruin the shining careers of young women and get away with it" club.

So that's the legacy of what has since been dubbed "Patriot Day" — the transformation of the momentary unity of the entire country, which developed on 9/11 itself, to a childish political argument, even more polarized than it was in the first place.

It's a wonder we didn't all flee to Canada like we threatened.

Angelo Lanham is a Spartan Daily copy editor. "Yes, I Have A Point" appears every Tuesday.

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Movie Review: "9"

# '9' fails to impress with a typical plot

By My Nguyen  
Staff Writer

When I first saw the "9" trailer, I found myself five inches off my popcorn-butter-stained chair — or what I assumed was butter — bumping my head to the soundtrack and thinking, "I want to see this movie."

I was so disappointed. The movie begins with the main character 9, voiced by Elijah Wood, coming to life to find himself in a post-apocalyptic world.

Created by a scientist whose integral identity is later revealed in the movie, the sock monkey-looking creature 9, or "Stitchpunks," as the director calls it, discovers he is not the only one of his kind.

Everything in the movie is visually stunning — from the scenery to the characters.

While wandering the lifeless and abandoned streets, 9 meets eight others similar to himself — spineless leader 1, voiced by Christopher Plummer; crafty inventor 2, voiced by Martin Landau; mute-twins 3 and 4; loyal-sidekick 5, voiced by John C. Reilly; misfit-artist 6, voiced by Crispin Glover; fearless warrior 7, voiced by Jennifer Connelly; and bumbling-idiot 8, voiced by Fred Tatasciore.

When 2 is captured by a giant, rampaging killer robot, 9 and 5 decide to rescue him. During their rescue mission, they

encounter the destructive machine, one of many that try to destroy the "Stitchpunks," characters 1-9.

Their fates seem sealed until 7 storms in, decked in her signature, skeletal bird mask, and rescues them.

The reunion is cut short when 9 unknowingly awakens the machine that assembles other machines from the scraps left by the catastrophe.

The "Stitchpunks" find themselves coming together to stop the evil monstrosity that destroyed the human race.

"9" is an action-packed movie — or would have been, if the trailer hadn't shown all the interesting and essential scenes.

The movie takes a while to hit its stride, but once the action begins, your attention will be grabbed — until you realize you've already seen this.

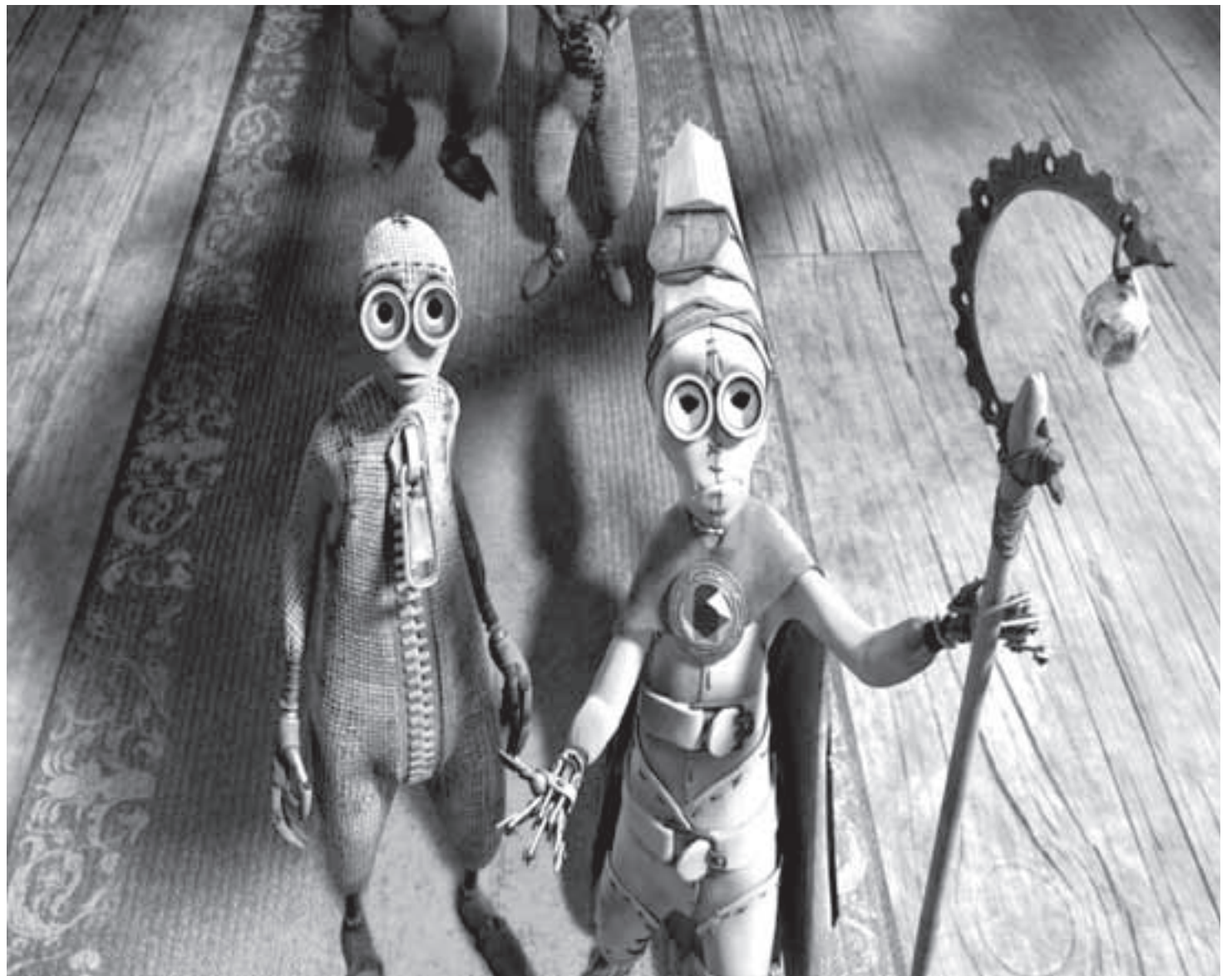
Although the story is well-written, it is far from original.

The film is a typical science fiction movie that teaches us that technology is evil and will screw us over — a la the Matrix.

Some parts are genuinely dark and creepy. For example, one of the machines is a slithering robotic snake that uses the dead corpses of the "Stitchpunks" to lure the other "Stitchpunks."

Even though the beginning of the movie is full of action, the film starts to become more of a feel-good Disney movie.

The movie does do a good job of developing the characters. Even though 9 is the main character, 7 is the most memorable.



[ Courtesy of Areyoucreening Web site ]

Main characters 9 and 1 view pictures of human destruction.

Her character is fierce and valiant, with the grace and speed that help her kick robot ass.

Most of the action scenes involve 7, including one scene where she does a slow-motion jump over one of the robots in order to slice off its head with her blade.

It's not worth \$10.75, or even matinee price for that matter.

The most worthy aspect of the film is the special effects.

Everything in the movie is

visually stunning — from the scenery to the characters.

The characters are meticulously detailed — the lace on 2's clothes, the stitching on the "Stitchpunks" and the motion of the shutters on 3 and 4's eyes.

The animation is an example of intricate craftsmanship of the computer animators of today.

While the visuals make up for the weak story line, I wouldn't recommend seeing 9 at the movie theaters.

It's not worth \$10.75, or even matinee price for that matter.

I'd wait for cable — at least then, you'll get your money's worth.



[ Courtesy of Screenrant Web site ]

The "Stitchpunks" in director Shane Acker's film "9."

Event Review: Popular Jazz Tunes Concert

# The sound of jazz music rings through library halls for a concert event



[ Angela Marnio / Spartan Daily ]

Saxophonist Ben Flood and bassist Clint Sobolik perform during a jazz concert at the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library.

By Angela Marino  
Staff Writer

The sound of a saxophone emanated from the once tranquil setting of the library's second floor.

The fusion jazz forced its way out from underneath the cracks in the door as avid jazz listeners took their seats. The drums took lead as their violent beats erupted in my chest.

A woman stood to join the instruments' upbeat tempo. She pressed her lips to the microphone. She breathed deeply in and released a voice that transported the audience back to a 1930s jazz era.

"Jazz is complex. I never realized how jazz and blues told the

story of slavery," senior psychology major Al-Lien Le said. "The music created something positive out of something so negative that was happening at that time."

The SJSU jazz band played songs such as "All Things you are," "Body and Soul" and "Honeysuckle Rose" from the 1930s.

The jazz festival took place in the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library Room 225 on Saturday.

Az Samad, a senior jazz studies major, said the quintet jazz band consisted of saxophonist Ben Flood, a senior jazz studies major, drummer Adam Everett, a junior jazz studies major, lead vocalist Kiyoe Wakabayashi, a junior jazz studies major, acoustic bassist Clint Sobolik, 2004 jazz studies alumnus and himself on guitar.

The music drifted through the air as the audience sat in astonishment. Songs that had been played decades before were just as potent today.

As I sat in my chair, I could feel the spirit of the song. The calming ballad of "Honeysuckle Rose," enlightened the room with its lyrics: "When you're passin' by, flowers drop and sigh / And I know the reason why / You're much sweeter, goodness knows."

I could see the musicians feel the music as they played their instruments. Chord by chord, the emotion of the ballads were on each of the members' face — some of the music needed no words to speak. The energy from the powerful beats communicated more than words could allow.

"Mainly I choose songs from the era," Samad said. "It's just a variety of stuff, like the jazz waltz, a ballad, different tempo swings — one medium, one slow — just a variety of songs."

Songs that had been played decades before were just as potent

Today's music still has the forceful message underneath its musical tone, although the message may not be as powerful as jazz, infused with serious messages of slavery and depression.

"Jazz is unique, because if you are good enough, you can just join a band of strangers, and still make a great jazz sound," Sobolik said.

"I have always liked jazz," senior economics major James Choi said. "Jazz has personality. It creates a feeling from sound feeding off the emotions from the musicians."

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