

### A&E

'Bridesmaids' drops the bouquet

PAGE 4



## MULTIMEDIA

**Arthur Kao:** Brushstrokes of genius

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# SPARTAN DAILY Serving San José State University since 1934 DAILY

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# Details emerge in campus shooting

Students provide insight into events inside garage and Twitter updates

Shirene Niksadat & Kyle Szymanski

Staff Writers

Downtown San Jose, an area all too familiar with pervasive gangrelated issues, was recently the setting of a supposed lovers' quarrel turned homicide-suicide.

The three individuals who died in the shooting on May 10 were identified at a news conference on May 12.

Marcory Tarlit Caliguiran, 25, and Thomas Williams, 26, were accounting majors at SJSU, said Pat Lopes Harris, SJSU's director of media relations.

The suspected shooter was identified as Napoleon Caliguiran, 54. The suspect was not a SJSU student, but was married to the 25-year-old victim, Harris said.

"The fact is, a lot of people felt unsafe and at SJSU we are all supposed to feel safe. This is the first time I haven't."

Omar Torres
Senior political science major

Both victims were supposed to graduate at the end of the Spring 2011 semester.

The younger Caliguiran and Williams were both found dead inside a vehicle that was registered to the married couple, and the elder Caliguiran was found suffering from a gunshot wound outside the vehicle shortly after the call came into police at 8:36 p.m. on Tuesday.

Junior business administration major Jeremy Nguyen was walking with classmates onto the crime scene shortly after gunshots were heard.

"I got out of my night class at 8:30," said Nguyen. "I was walking with my groupmates on San Fernando Street crossing 10th, when we heard about seven to 10 firecrackers go off."

Nguyen and his classmates entered the building and proceeded to walk to their cars.

While Nguyen's classmates were parked on the third and fourth levels of the structure, Nguyen was parked on the fifth level, which he later find out was where the shootings occurred.

Upon attempting to drive his car out of the garage, Nguyen said he had to text his classmate whose car was ahead of his in the line to find out that there had been a shooting and police would not allow anyone to leave the building.

"I had no idea what had happened, only that there had been a shooting," said Nguyen.

"UPD made an announcement over the blue light intercoms that students should stay away from the 10th street garage," said Nguyen. "But there were still twenty of us

see **SHOOTING** page 2

INSIDE:
STUDENTS
REFLECT ON
SLAIN
CLASSMATES

**■** FEATURE



Photo illustration: Leo Postovoit/ Spartan Daily

The ominous cost of books follows students throughout their higher education career, creating an increasingly significant yearly expense as paying for college continues to become a costly nightmare.

# Students find new ways to save money, but prices catch up

Cynthia Ly
Contributor

The automatic sliding doors swoosh open. Colorful greeting cards, SJSU sweaters and a "for sale" table mark the route. Shiny new laptops and iPods create rubberneckers. The staircase leads to the final destination.

see **TEXTBOOKS** page 6

# Students would face fee hike under worst-case state budget

The number of students in the CSU system has risen from 281,782 to 339,873

Dut funding from the state (including federal dollars) has only increased from \$2.25 billion to \$2.29 billion

WORST-CASE SCENARIO

A proposed increase in base tuition by

Source: calstate.edu: Budget Pacts page & Campus Costs of Attendance for 2010-2011

Source: calstate.edu: Budget Pacts page & Campus Costs of Attendance for 2010-2011

Graphic: Leo Postovoit / Spartan Daily

Lyell Marks
Staff Writer

Having already felt the impact of \$500 billion in cuts to the CSU system in March, another wave of cuts will be proposed by Gov. Jerry Brown at 11 a.m. today as a part of his revised budget.

During a conference call on Friday, Robert Turnage, California State University assistant vice chancellor for budget, said the "May revise" announced by the governor could determine whether the CSU will have to endure up to an additional \$500 million in cuts — a scenario he said could possibly result in tuition increases of more than 30 percent for students.

"We are at a point where we are not only cutting fat away, but we are cutting into muscle and bone," Turnage said. "If we go any further in terms of reducing spending, we are seriously going to jeopardize the quality of the programs and

institutions on a lasting basis."

He said that the May revise is a contingency plan by the governor that looks at the newest information about revenue coming into the state treasury, allowing him to modify the budget proposal he made in January.

If the CSU budget is cut by an additional \$400 million, tuition fees for students would increase 32 percent for the upcoming semester while a cut of \$200 million would halve the financial burden on students, still raising tuition fees 16 percent, according to Turnage.

llion in cuts — a scenario said could possibly result in ition increase is directly correlation increases of more than 30 lated with the magnitude of any additional cuts," he said. "We we are at a point where we are tonly cutting fat away, but we contingent situation."

The CSU was originally intended to be fully funded by the state, allowing student to pursue

see **CUTS** page 6

#### SHOOTING

From Page 1

in there."

Nguyen said that around 9:30 the UPD made another announcement over the blue light intercoms that the shooter was in cus-

At that point, Nguyen said he and the others were escorted down to the sidewalk outside by police and interviewed one by one.

"We were asked pretty standard questions," said Nguyen, "They asked If we had heard screaming or seen anything unusual. I didn't end up leaving campus until about 11

Harris said the investigation into the shooting is not yet completed, but so far it appears that the husband shot the two victims before shooting himself.

Caliguiran died shortly after being transported to Santa Clara County Valley Medical Center, Harris said.

Senior political science major Omar Torres said he knew details about the shooting

before anyone else.

Torres, who works as a community organizer with the City of San Jose's Strong Neighborhoods initiative, said he knew details surrounding the case from his boss.

Torres' boss, Paul Pereira, a community organizer for the downtown area of San Jose, is described by Torres as very dedicated and proactive individual who has developed a strong relationship with the San Jose Police Department.

While most might have assumed the shootings were a gang-related incident when they first heard, Torres was aware that the shootings were a product of domestic violence long before the majority of the public.

"I work with the City of San Jose and my boss, who has a close relationship with SJPD, was getting the full scoop every other twenty minutes and texting me as well."

Torres, who was hanging out outside of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library with friends around the time of the shootings, mentioned that in addition to the text messages much of the information he and others were receiving

was via Twitter.

Upon asking a university security guard outside of the library what was happening, he found it disappointing that university officials were not sharing any information with students about what was going on.

"I told the guy there was a lot of talk on Twitter about this, and he still refused to tell me anything more," said Torres.

For Torres, like many other students, Alert-SJSU was one of the last sources informing him of the shootings in the 10th Street garage.

Torres, who asserts that he has applied for the text alert system more than once, said he did not receive any text news via the system.

He said he received an email at about 10:05 p.m. about the parking structure.

"The fact is, a lot of people felt unsafe and at SJSU we are all supposed to feel safe," Torres said. "This is the first time I haven't."

"The shooting was an isolated, targeted and contained incident," said UPD Lt. Frank Belcastro, addressing the seemingly slow alert times to the campus. "The suspect was

in custody and there was no threat to the campus community."

In a press conference held in front of Clark Hall on Thursday morning, Torres said a spokesperson at the conference addressed the issue of Alert-SJSU, citing that it was a new system and not yet up to par.

When asked how he knew about the press conference to begin with, Torres said he heard about it on Twitter.

"I wouldn't have even known about the press conference if people hadn't re-tweeted

Students at SISU said they are still having a hard time believing that a shooting took place on campus.

"I think that this whole situation is unfortunate," said senior business major Kenneth Oshiro. "Any situation where there is a loss of life is unfortunate especially when it involves San Jose state students.

"We're lucky, however, that it was an isolated incident that occurred at night and not during the day when a lot of people could have gotten hurt."



On Wednesday, Lecturer Ronald Roman asked students in his Strategic Management class to bow their heads in a moment of silence for the victims in the shootings. On Thursday, he found out one of the victims, Marcory "Cindy" Tarlit Caliguiran, was one of his students.

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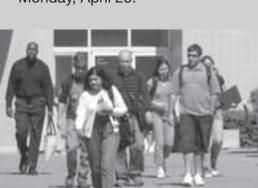
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# **Students and faculty react** to tragedy, remember victims

Shirene Niksadat & Kyle Szymanski Staff Writers

Gunfire rang within the cement walls of the 10th Street parking garage Tuesday night in an on-campus shooting at SJSU. Victims Thomas Kyle Williams, 26, and Marcory "Cindy" Caliguiran, 25 were fatally shot around 8:36 p.m. by Caliguiran's husband, 54-year-old Napoleon Lavarias Caliguiran, who then turned the firearm on himself.

Despite allegations on campus and in the community of a supposed love triangle, close friend and classmate of the victims, senior accounting major Darius Ghassemian sets the story straight.

Having developed a friendship with the victims after sharing classes with them, Ghassemian has known both of them for a year and a half and maintains that the relationship between the two Darius Ghassemian was strictly a school-related friendship.

"They didn't hang out with each other more often than anyone else in our group," Ghassemian said. "They had two to three classes together and a couple presentations they worked on, but nothing out of the ordinary."

Ghassemian, Caliguiran and Williams were all part of an accounting organization on campus, Beta Alpha Psi and they regularly worked and studied together along with other members of the organiza-

Thomas Moschetti, an accounting and finance lecturer and co-faculty advisor to Beta Alpha Psi, said he knew them as hardworking individuals.

"They had friendly personalities and great communication skills," Moschetti said. "They were the type of students that made

teaching fun and reward-

Moschetti said both Williams and Caliguiran received scholarships from the organization for their leadership roles in numerous professional, social, community service and fundraising events.

"In the past both were either officers or directors of BAP and as such played important roles in helping BAP achieve recognition as a 'Superior Chapter' from the national organization," Moschetti said. "Both will be greatly missed."

"I got out of night class ten minutes before them. Had I stayed a little later, that could have just as easily been me."

Senior accounting major

Janis Zaima, chair of the department of finance and accounting, said both Williams and Caliguiran were excellent students.

Williams, who recently received an offer from accounting agency, Pricewaterhousecoopers, and Caliguiran, recipient of a recent scholarship, were both regarded by friends and classmates as highly studious and driven.

Caliguiran is remembered as a very sweet but reserved student Ghasthe type to share a lot of personal information with anyone but became close with another female classconfide in.

This classmate, who has requested to remain anonymous, shared with Ghassemian that Caliguiran had

told her she was married, but in the process of filing and finalizing a divorce from her husband. She conveyed to this classmate that her husband was very possessive and controlling of her and would easily become jealous.

Ghassemian heard these rumors of abusive behavior beforehand and now after the deaths, that Caliguiran's husband had allegedly strangled her once before and displayed suicidal tendencies.

Since the release of the victims' names, speculation has begun to circle as to why Williams would be in Caliguiran's car.

Paired with supposed cause and effect assumptions of adultery, the particulars of this tragedy have prompted some opinions of possible extramarital infidelity. Ghassemian insists that the rumors are

Williams, a newly-married student was constantly talking about his bride according to Ghassemian and was a consistently respectful, friendly guy to those around him.

"He was the kind of guy who would walk a girl to her car," Ghassemian said, "He did that a lot and with a lot of our friends. A lot of us do.

"You run into your friends or classmates, you're walking in the same direction — it's normal behavior."

The situation seems to have been a premeditated act of violence on Napolean Caliguiran's part, Ghassemian said.

In what Ghassemian semian said. She was not describes as a terribly unfortunate case of "wrong time, wrong place" two friends lost their lives.

"It could have been any mate, whom she would one of us," Ghassemian. "I got out of night class ten minutes before them. Had I stayed a little later, that could have just as easily



■ National Hockey League

# **Series Preview:** Sharks look to right past failures

Alex Spicer Sports Editor

The San Jose Sharks are back in the National Hockey League's Western Conference Finals.

For the second year running, the Sharks will try to reach the Stanley Cup Finals for the first time in the franchise's 20-year exis-

It's been a long time coming, beginning in 2004 where a surprise San Jose team reached this same stage before being ousted by a hot Calgary Flames team 4-2. Since then (barring the 2005 lockout), San Jose has been a perennial powerhouse year after year, tagged with a Stanley Cup or bust label by media and

And year after year the Sharks have bowed out prematurely, with fingers pointed at coaching, star players and goalkeeping as the cause.

So here they are again, with (once again) all the supposed problem spots filled. Its déjà-vu to Sharks fans, except this time once the Sharks opened their best-of-seven game series with the No.1-seed Vancouver Canucks on Sunday, things were different.

When I wrote a midseason recap on the Sharks back on Feb. 1, the team sat tied for the final seed in the Western Conference. The team had been anemic all season, with questions abound throughout the

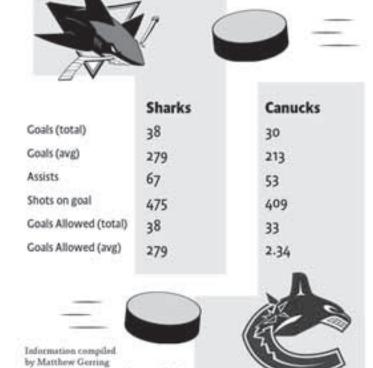
Antti Niemi, the Sharks' current starting netminder, sat behind now-backup Antero Niittymaki. The young defense appeared full of holes and many doubted the San Jose's chances at even qualifying for the playoffs.

However, I predicted the Sharks and Niemi would turn things around, and in San Francisco Giants-like fashion, they would ride a second-half surge into the playoffs and could finally bring the Cup to San Jose.

Fortunately for my sake, they did just that.

This isn't the same Sharks that fans have been watching the last few years -- this is a team with resolve and a craving to succeed.

# Postseason breakdown



#### Sharks-Canucks playoff schedule

1.	5/15	Canucks 3, Sharks 2	
2.	5/18	Sharks @ Canucks	6:00 p.m.
3.	5/20	Canucks @ Sharks	6:00 p.m.
4	5/22	Canucks @ Sharks	12:00 p.m.
5.	5/24	Sharks @ Canucks *	6:00 p.m.
6.	5/26	Canucks @ Sharks *	6:00 p.m.
7.	5/28	Sharks @ Canucks *	5:00 p.m.
		* Game played if necessary	

The Sharks will have to go through a strong Vancouver squad to get there

Graphic: Leo Postovoit / Spartan Duily

This season's President's Cup winners for most points during the regular season, the Canucks are a team with great scoring depth and veteran goalkeeping.

Twin brothers Henrik and Daniel Sedin are each stars in their own right, and center Ryan Kesler leads the NHL playoffs with 15

Netminder Roberto Luongo has long been established as one of the league's elite shot-stoppers.

Yet unlike the Chicago Blackhawks the Sharks fell to in the same position last season, this Vancouver team doesn't appear invincible.

Similarly to the Sharks near-epic collapse against the Detroit Red Wings in the last round, the Canucks also gave up a 3-0 series lead to a much weaker eighthseeded Blackhawk team, ultimately winning by the skin of their teeth in overtime of game seven.

Both these West Coast teams have the talent to win it all if they go on to the Cup Finals.

As of publication, the Sharks have fallen into a 1-0 hole in the series after a 3-2 loss in the series' opener in Vancouver. Despite this, I expect San Jose to ride a red-hot Niemi to a six-game

Either way, expect to see plenty more games decided by one goal for the rest of the journey.

Commentary

### Sharks lose in third period Ron Gleeson Game 1 Statistics

Staff Writer

The title of "choke artists" has once again surfaced as a fitting description for the San

For the third time this postseason, the Sharks surrendered a lead and ultimately lost the game in the third period.

Carrying a 2-1 lead into the third period – in the opening game of the Western Conference Finals against the Vancouver Canucks, the Sharks gave up two goals within 1:30 to lose the lead and the game.

Canucks' defenseman Kevin Nieska scored the game-tying goal 7:02 into the third period and Henrik Sedin scored on a power play 1:19 later to seal their 3-2 victory, stealing game one from

The loss for San Jose came less than three days after nearly losing a 3-0 series lead to the Detroit Red Wings in the semifinals.

If the opening goal of the series seemed like a hint to Sharks fans that they would finally be on the receiving end of muchneeded breaks — they would soon be

A nightmare mistake by Canucks' goalie Roberto Luongo 18:47 into the first period left the net wide-open for Sharks center Joe Thornton, who was eclipsed by a Canucks defenseman and out of the sight of Luongo.

The Sharks' gift goal was erased less than two minutes into the second period by Canucks' center Maxim Lapierre, his first of these Stanley Cup playoffs.

The offensive power play, which has been near non-existent so far this postseason for the Sharks, finally showed up Sunday as captain Patrick Marleau converted San Jose's only power play opportunity of the game.

Marleau's goal came by way of deflection from a wrist shot by defenseman Dan

For the third time this postseason, the Sharks surrendered a lead and ultimately lost the game going into the third period.

	Sharks	Canucks
Shots on Goal	29	38
Power Plays	1	4
PP Converted	1	1
Penalty Mins.	10	4
Faceoffs Won	29	27
Hits	26	38
Blocked Shots	21	21

### **Scoring Summary**

	Sharks	Canucks
1	THORNTON	
2		LAPIERRE
	MARLEAU	
3		BIEKSA
		SEDIN
TOTAL	2	3

Graphic: Ron Gleeson/Spartan Daily

Boyle as Marleau creatively caused the puck to bounce off his stick up and over the glove of Luongo, into the back of the net, giving San Jose the lead heading into the final period of play.

Sharks goalkeeper Antti Niemi finished with 35 saves and displayed solid net minding for most of the game, with the exception of the ill-fated third period in which two hiccups lost the lead.

Niemi prevented a sure goal by Canucks' All-Star center Ryan Kesler during a rugby-like scrum in front of the net with his right kneepad, and denied winger Jannik Hansen with his right pad with about 2 minutes remaining in the

The Sharks will return home for Games 3 and 4, beginning Friday, at the Shark Tank.

Victories in these games will be crucial for the Sharks to keep their Stanley Cup

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■ MOVIE REVIEW



Photo: Courtesy of Allmoviephotos.com

The cast of funny actresses is led by Kristen Wiiq (far right), who plays Annie, and Maya Rudolph (second from right), who plays Lily, in the new comedy "Bridesmaids."

# 'Bridesmaids' is funny but drops the bouquet

Jordan Liffengren A&E Editor

A long-awaited outrageous female equivalent to "The Hangover" did not hit movie screens this weekend, but "Bridesmaids" did.

Although Judd Apatow has never disappointed with hilarious blockbusters such as "Superbad," "The 40-Year-Old Virgin," "Step Brothers" or "Forgetting Sarah Marshall," this movie did not exactly meet my expectations.

Annie, played by Kristen Wiig, is an everyday woman in a bit of a rut — her cake-baking business was a failure and she's making a living as a clerk at a jewelry store, living with two oddball roommates.

Things get worse for Annie when her best friend Lily, played by Maya Rudolph, asks her to be the maid of honor for her wedding.

She loses her crummy job and gets kicked out of her apartment, setting up quarters back in her mom's house as a 30-something, unemployed, single mess.

The already screwed Annie has to take on a whole new set of responsibilities that turn into a series of unfortunate but funny events.

Amid the craziness, she runs into a charming Irish cop named Officer Rhodes, played by Chris O'Dowd, who pulls her over one night.

The two hit it off and Rhodes helps her stay sane during wedding preparations, including a horrible plane ride, a messy dress fitting and a bit of a bridal shower episode involving chocolate, a really big cookie and puppies.

She meets an ensemble of Lily's closest and strangest friends and struggles to keep her position as Lily's best friend, seeing their friendship as the only thing she still has going for her.

Battling against the utterly perfect and high-maintenance Helen, played by Rose Byrne from "Troy" and "Wicker Park," Annie seems to get outshined in every attempt to impress Lily with her efforts.

It's up to Annie to save the wedding, her relationsh ip with Lily and her sad yet entertaining exis-

Rudolph and Wiig are very believable as childhood friends because their chemistry is so natural.

The scenes in which they employ a bit of improvisation are subtly hilarious and completely comfortable.

O'Dowd plays his role well as the humble, nice guy that the audience can root for from the beginning.

The other three bridesmaids include Wendi McLendon-Covey, most famous for her curvy and independent role in "Reno 911," Ellie Kemper, the cute, meek receptionist from "The Office," and freshfaced Melissa McCarthy who steals most of the scenes she's in with her bodily functions and uncomfortable sexual propositions, making for a very interesting cast.

This was not at all a bad movie, but I was expecting a lot more, seeing as Apatow was behind one of my favorite movies of all time, "Knocked Up."

I definitely laughed a good, hearty laugh at least a couple times throughout the film and Wiig was a great leading lady.

Her signature awkward humor and buggy eyes, which led to her breakout "Saturday Night Live" character "Target lady," worked

perfectly for her role as Annie.

There's probably only two scenes that were ridiculous enough to make me cover my eyes, which was pretty mild compared to movies such as "Sex Drive" or "The Hangover."

The ending was a bit too easy, though, and things fell into place too quickly to me.

There were a few lulls within the movie and jokes that went on for a bit too long.

The actors have a lot more talent that could have been showcased and I think the cast danced around the line rather than crossing it.

I think the movie would have been much more memorable had it been pushed a little farther.

It was still worth the money, but, I still await the day an all female-casted comedy really impresses me.

PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED

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#### PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED

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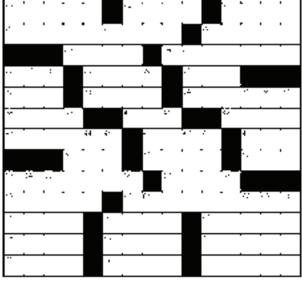
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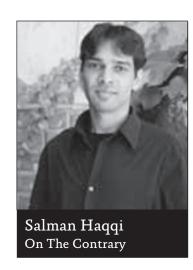
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# 'Three Cups of Tea' spills into controversy



Heroes — real, imagined, or something in between — serve the same purpose today that they did for the Greeks who gave us the term some three millennia ago.

Heroes can inspire, but they mostly tell us who we think we are, thereby revealing the gap between our idealized and true

Greg Mortenson, co-author of the 2006 New York Times bestseller "Three Cups of Tea" and the much-lauded humanitarian, had a very public fall from grace in an exposé on April 17 by CBS's "60 Minutes."

The CBS show questioned the veracity of his stories, the misuse of the millions of dollars he raised to build girls' schools in Afghanistan and Pakistan, and even the existence of many of the schools he claimed to have built.

Many articles have been written in the wake of CBS's investigation and more will follow that will hopefully expose the truth. For now, it is useful to consider what Mortenson tells us about ourselves, and about our heroes.

An April 10 Los Angeles Times story, "Anatomy of an Afghan War Tragedy," describes how on February 21, 2010, in Afghanistan, a U.S. Predator drone aircraft was keeping a convoy of Afghan civilians under surveillance.

From 7,000 miles away in Nevada, the camera operator of the two-man drone crew said "Oh, sweet target." Then, about 2 1/2 hours later, U.S. helicopters unleashed Hellfire missiles — at \$68,000 a piece — on the convoy, killing from 15 (official U.S. count) to 23 (Afghan count) of the Afghan civilians.

The official U.S. military transcript, quoting the Predator drone camera operator, reveals that part of the decision to attack the convoy was based on the questionable assumption that there were no children in the Afghan convoy, despite evidence to the contrary: "I really doubt that children call. Man, I really ... hate that ... Well, maybe a teenager. But I haven't seen anything that looked that

There were children in the convoy killed in the attack.

There are far too many such incidents over the last nineand-a-half years of U.S. and ISAF (International Security and Assistance Force, led by NATO) involvement in Afghanistan.

The majority of these incidents remain either unknown to the Western media or at least poorly documented.

It was widely known for years that Mortenson consulted with the U.S. military and lectured at U.S. military col-

Mortenson was flown around Afghanistan on U.S. Army helicopters, sometimes with General Petraeus. How does an Afghan know if a U.S. military helicopter is there to dispense a book or a bomb? Why did progressives and antiwar folks allow themselves to be entranced by the insane notion that assassination and aid could go hand in hand? Why did so few, including Mortenson himself, question this commingling of aid and armed

Mortenson was an American hero who encouraged us to believe in the virtue of what we are doing to a people very far away and very different from

After nearly a decade, stopping our unjust war in Afghanistan seemed impossible, so Mortenson showed us what seemed possible and all too easy: building schools and educating Muslim girls.

If only we built enough schools, the Afghans might learn that we weren't such bad people, and they would stop fighting us. Mortenson allowed us to replace our moral duty ending the war — with a convenient one.

We hoped Mortenson could be the good face of American military power, forgetting that that face is at best a mask.

Should we give up on heroes? Probably.

We throw the term around too loosely, and I'll admit to labeling some people "my heroes," when it is probably more accurate to call them "people who inspire me", or maybe "role models." And that may be where the critical difference lies: heroes do improbable things, whereas inspirational figures inspire us to act.

Truly honest inspirational figures plant seeds and light torches. If we must have heroes let it be them.

The next time someone inspires you, question what it is they are inspiring you to do.

Whether the "60 Minutes" investigation rings true, Mortenson has done a good deed — he has helped many children in Afghanistan and Pakistan obtain an education they otherwise would not have received.

This is the final appearance of "On The Contrary." Salman Haqqi is the Spartan Daily Execu-

# Fox News needs some 'Common' sense

You would think after releasing his birth certificate and getting rid of Osama bin Laden, President Obama would be spared frivolous non-issue attacks by conservative pundits on Fox News for at least a little while.

Last week, Michelle Obama organized a poetry event at the White House in which she invited Grammy award-winning rapper Common to perform and Fox News went on the at-

Fox lambasted this invite, calling Common a "vile" and "controversial" rapper and condemning the president for associating himself with him.

Being a fan of Common, I was infuriated by this.

Common is one of the classiest rappers in the industry today, and for Fox to criticize anybody about incendiary comments is like Michael Bay watching "The Hurt Locker" and saying it needs less explosions.

What Fox News is having issue with here is a poem written by Common that he performed at a Def Poetry session on HBO in 2007 titled "Letter to the

The lyrics in question are a couple of lines referring to "My Uzi weighs a ton," "I got a black strap to make the cops run," and "Burn a Bush, 'cause for peace he no push no button."

Now out of context, this looks pretty bad.

It makes it sound like Mr. Common is a "thug," as Karl Rove put it on Fox, and just wants to kill cops and former President George W. Bush.

But if the pundits at Fox News had taken just a few minutes out of their time of coming up with insults to throw at him and Obama and actually listened to the poem, they may have changed their tune.

A few stanzas after the "Uzi" line Common states "Use your mind and non-power, get the



Wesley Dugle Wes Side Story

government touch." And a few stanzas after the "cops run" line he says "No time for that, cause things to be done/Stay true to what I do, so youth dream come."

These lines reflect Common's true beliefs with this

The "Use your mind and non-power" line is a call to stop political corruption through non-violent means and the "No time for that, cause things to be done" line is saying that everything he mentioned about violence is not the way to solve the problems of society.

It's absolutely astounding to me that Fox News attacked Common over this considering it regularly supports Tea Partiers who make violent threats at Obama all the time.

What's really hypocritical about this is, as the website Media Matters points out, less than a year ago Fox News extolled Common for being a "conscious rapper" and saying his music was "very positive," as the reporter stated.

Does everybody at Fox News suffer from Alzheimer's or does everything have to immediately be controversial or anti-American if they are associated with the president?

Anybody who is a fan of Common's music knows that his rap is hardly "thuggish" or

What I love most about a Spartan Daily Staff Writer.

Common's music is how uplifting a lot of his songs are.

Songs such as "The People," which is one of my favorites, speaks about overcoming struggle and coming together as a community in the face of it.

"Drivin' Me Wild," another favorite of mine, is a song about not taking life so seriously and not over pursuing frivolous

Of course Common has other beats such as "The Corner" that are a little violent in language but speak of real struggle and meaning behind it.

Common has always been known as a socially conscious rapper in the music industry and has hardly stirred the pot of controversy as compared to more mainstream rappers who rap about "hos" and "bitches" all the time.

You would think Common would be the last rapper Fox would try to attack but as always Sean Hannity, Bill O'Reilly, and Sarah Palin have nothing better to do than to make wild accusations about the president and those he chooses to associate himself with.

As for Common, he took the high road in response to these baseless claims about his character simply posting on his Facebook page "Politics is politics and everyone is entitled to their own opinion, I respect that. The one thing that shouldn't be questioned is my support for the police officers and troops that protect us every

Common is one of the few good rappers left in the industry and he really tries to make great and meaningful music in rap. For Fox News pundits to attack this classy artist is so hypocritical of their own programming and rhetoric it simply lacks "Common" sense.

This is the final appearance of "Wes Side Story." Wesley Dugle is

# Obsession with beauty robs girl of her innocence

I remember at the age of 8 running around with my hair in pigtails, worrying about what games my friends and I would play at recess and caring less about my socks, clothes or hair barrettes matching, never once checking myself out in the mirror.

This is not the case for 8-year-old Britney Campbell, a pageant participant who recently said on "Good Morning America" she checks the mirror every night for wrinkles in her face.

Yes ... wrinkles!

Sadly she is accustomed to doing this because her mother injects her face with Botox

I don't know about wrinkles at the age of 8 — I'm 24 years old and have yet to see a wrinkle on my face — but to think children begin to develop age lines and wrinkles before hitting



puberty sounds very odd.

When I first read about this San Francisco mother injecting her 8-year-old daughter's precious face with Botox, I was immediately outraged.

To think an individual, especially a mother, would have the audacity to inflict such a procedure on any child, much less her own, is mind blowing.

The first thought that came to mind while reading this story was of the innocent and continuously growing faces of my three younger sisters, the youngest being 8 as well.

I could never imagine my little sister approaching me or my parents and saying "Daddy I see a wrinkle, I need Botox."

My first reaction would be to flip out, but then I'd realize this as a significant time to sit down with my sister and instill a sense of selfesteem within her.

The mother's pathetic excuse on the "Good Morning America" segment was that other mothers with daughters in the pageant world were doing it and the lines on her daughter's face needed to be fixed.

I'm not a parent, but if an individual had the nerve to approach me to discuss seeing a "wrinkle" on my 8-year-old daughter's face or any age for that matter and suggest using Botox, there would definitely be a parental smack down and wrinkles would be the least of anyone's facial

Sadly enough, this process has the 8-year-old girl constantly checking her face for wrinkles.

On "Good Morning America," she said, "I check every night for wrinkles (and) when I see some, I want more injections ... They used to hurt, but now I don't cry that much ... I also want a boob and nose job soon."

What kind of parenting is going on here? This mother has deprived her child the opportunity to grow into her face and allow it to develop naturally.

The mother also stated on the segment "All I

want is for Britney to have the best start in life, so it is easier for her to become a superstar."

I'm sorry Botox mom but if you want your child to have the best start in life you educate her, not fill her with Botox and rid her of her childhood.

According to "Good Morning America," she is currently being investigated by Child Services after the airing of her interview, and I hope there are consequences for her actions.

This makes me question what the hell we are teaching our girls in general?

I'll tell you what we are teaching them we are teaching girls they are not beautiful enough and that their natural beauty isn't good

Beauty pageants need to enforce stricter rules to ban parents and disqualify children who participate in this sick practice.

Beauty pageants, parents and society as a whole need to help instill self-esteem within these little girls, treat them like the little princesses they are and not deprive them of their

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# Students opt to rent textbooks, buy online

#### **TEXTBOOKS**

From Page 1

Like an under-construction walkway, the off-white shelves of the Spartan Bookstore are sparsely filled with the colored slabs of

Yet sections still hold piles of 10 or more copies of required books as students use other ways to cut down on their textbook

"I try to rent my textbooks," said freshman pre-nursing major Anny Nguyen.

Nguyen said she started using Chegg. com, a book rental website, after comparing the rates with the Spartan Bookstore's own book rental program.

The price of textbooks has nearly tripled from 1986 to 2004, according a 2005 study by to the U.S Government Accountability Office, a part of Congress which oversees the use of public funds.

"We spend about \$1,500 to \$1,600 on books a semester now," said senior business major Michelle Lee on how much she and her two sisters are paying for textbooks al-

Financial aid covers the cost of her books and tuition, she said.

Unlike Lee, senior nursing major Kathleen De Leon said she does not receive financial aid and has found other ways to minimize the cost of textbooks, like Roberts Bookstore.

"I went to Roberts' No Tax Day for my nursing bundle," she said. "I like Robert's because they have the online and hardcover version at the same time. For me, it's easier to buy the packet, the e-books."

"Student spending on course materials is going down in dollar terms and as a percentage of all educational costs," Bruce Hildebrand stated in an email.

Hildebrand is the executive director of higher education for the Association of American Publishers, a trade organization consisting of more than 400 companies in the publishing industry.

For an in-state, four-year student, the cost of books and supplies comes to 5.5 percent of the total cost of college, according to "Trends in College Pricing 2010."

The report is by the College Board, a nonprofit organization which created the SAT and provides advice and financial support to students in pursuit of higher education.

The report stated that tuition and fees average about 37 percent of the total cost of college, while room and board average about 41 percent.

According to Hildebrand, one reason for this trend of decreased spending on textbooks is the increase in cheaper options for faculty and students, which include books by the chapter online and three-hole

punched, binder-ready editions.

"Faculty are really sensitive about the fact that students don't have a lot of money," said Catherine Gabor, director of writing programs at SJSU's English department.

Students find the cost of books more bearable in increments, she said.

Gabor said some publishers print smaller textbooks focused on only one or two specific topics which range from \$10 to \$20.

Participating in SJSU's Humanities Honors Program also helped, De Leon said.

The program covers all but three lowerdivision general education requirements and has a set book list that cost her about \$600 through four semesters, she said.

Another factor in lower spending on textbooks is the growth of the used-book market, according to Hildebrand.

In 2010, 65 percent of textbook sales were for new books and 35 percent for used books, according to the National Association of College Stores, a non-profit trade organization that includes more than 3,000 retail stores on college campuses.

"I don't usually buy books," said Jonathan Ly, a senior animation and illustration major. "When I do, I usually sell them back online."

He said that he has sold books back at higher prices than he purchased them.

The growing used-book market has increased the retail price of all college textbooks, according to Hildebrand.

Publishers are pushing to release new editions to render older copies obsolete, according to a 2007 report by the Advisory Committee on Student Financial Assistance.

members appointed by Congress and the Secretary of Education to help make policies on student financial aid.

On average, new editions of textbooks are published every 3.9 years, according to "Affordability of College Textbooks," a 2008 study by the California State Auditor, an external auditor who monitors the state's financial activities.

According to the study, revisions are typically made in two- to four-year cycles, which indicate the demand for up-to-date material and the increasing use of technology.

### "I don't usually buy books. When I do, I usually sell them back online."

Jonathan Ly Senior animation and illustration major

"The increasing costs associated with developing products designed to accompany textbooks, such as CD-ROMs and other instructional supplements, best explain price increases in recent years," according to the 2005 study by the U.S. Government Accountability Office.

Although these increases occur, publishers are also exploring other venues that cut costs through electronic means, such as providing inexpensive or free online interactive material, Gabor said.

"Ninety-five percent of students own or books anymore."

The committee is comprised of eleven have access to a computer," stated Hildebrand. "Computers are fully capable of handling a large, complex, full-color textbook and all of the associated interactive and digital supplements."

> Project Gutenberg, the collection of free e-books, opened its website in 2000 with about 3,000 e-books.

> Today the number stands at nearly 35,000 in the project's U.S. archives, according to the project's website.

> Though the publishing industry as a whole had an estimated drop in annual earnings in 2009, book sales in the "Higher Education" category increased by 12.9 percent to \$4.3 billion, according to the Association of American Publishers' yearly industry sta-

> The growing number of students pursuing higher education is a major factor in this increase, according to Hildebrand.

> Students have found multiple paths to deal with the cost of textbooks, and the publishing industry, while adjusting to shifts caused partly by the used-book market, is still making a profit with college textbooks.

> De Leon points out a possible reason why there so many books still left on the shelves of the Spartan Bookstore.

> "Especially since the rise of RateMyProfessors.com, students can find out prematurely if they need to buy the books at all," said De Leon. "Maybe it is not a reflection of the books professors are choosing, or the cost of production or inflation or whatever.

> "Maybe it has to do with the fact that students are just not buying their

# Cost of textbooks and supplies NATIONAL AVERAGE: MT WY UT Source: collegeboard.com 2004 study; cost is per year. Graphic: Leo Postovoit/ Spartan Daily

### **CUTS** From Page 1

higher education without the financial barriers of tuition, according to the CSU website's 2011-12 budget FAQ

Created under the California Master Plan for Higher Education in 1960, the state's deteriorating financial situation has shifted responsibility for funding higher education to the students' shoulders — as further cuts would impact the state's economy and limit entry and services at all 23 CSUs, according to the website.

maintaining a lower level of enrollment that will partially address the \$500 million dollar cuts in March," said Erik Fallis, media relations specialist for the Office of the Chancellor. "There was also

"We are not only cutting fat away, but we are cutting into muscle and

Robert Turnage CSU assistant vice chancellor for budget

"The CSUs are already a tuition fee increase of 10

bone."



percent that was adopted in November to help address the loss in funding."

Fallis said that somewhere around 10,000 fewer students will be admitted to CSUs, reducing the number of transfer students who will be admitted for winter and spring semesters.

The number of students in the CSU system has risen from 281,782 in 1999 to 339,873 in 2011, but funding from the state (including federal dollars) has only increased from \$2.25 billion to \$2.29 billion during that 12-year span, according to the CSU website's Budget Facts page.

"The first \$500 million dollar cuts pushed things right to the edge," Turnage said. "We have already shrunk the work force 8.8 percent, which means more than 4,000 fewer faculty and staff will be working for the CSU."

Systems in the CSU still do everything they can to receive funding from major donors, but these efforts can't realistically account for the proposed reductions to the budget, he said.

"That is not a place you can make up for a \$500 million or \$1 billion dollar debt," Turnage said. "The magnitude is just simply not there.

"People interested in taking the place of what they rightfully see as the state government's responsibility to fund the basic operations of the university."

## THIS DAY IN HISTORY ...



On May 16, 1978 Spartan Daily reported that ...

- (Above) SJSU occupational therapy students offer free treatment for people of all ages with disabilities, working with them on motor and sensory problems.
- Kiyoshi Okamoto, a 72-year-old graduate student, will receive his fourth degree from SJSU, a master's in Asian philosophy.
  - Male feminist Steve Mehler will be the first man to obtain a master's degree from the women's studies program at SJSU.