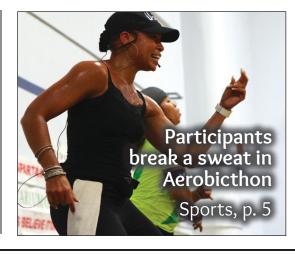
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FOOTBALL

Spartans accept invite to Military Bowl: Will face Bowling Green

By Dennis Biles @Denny149

After an exciting 10-2 season and a No. 25 ranking in the Bowl Championship Series standings, the SJSU Spartans football team will be heading to Washington D.C. to take on the Bowling Green State University Falcons in the Military Bowl Thursday, Dec. 27.

The game will be televised by ESPN and is slated for a 3 p.m. (EST) kickoff.

The Falcons (8-4, 6-2), who accepted their invitation Sunday evening, feature a stout defense that ranks ninth in points allowed per

game (15.8) and seventh in yards surrendered per game (289.7), according to Yahoo Sports.

The Spartans accepted their invitation Nov. 30.

"It was a nice early Christmas present so to

"It was a nice early Christmas present so to speak, the kids are really excited also," head coach Mike MacIntyre said in a news conference on Friday.

Two years ago MacIntyre coached a team that only managed one win in the season.

Now, the Spartans have double-digit wins and are the first team in the five-year history of the Military Bowl to be ranked in the BCS standings at the time they accepted their invitation according to SJSU Athletics.

"I think it's big. When I talk to (DC Bowl Committee, Inc president) Steve Beck on the phone, he was saying we were the highest ranking team he's ever had," MacIntyre said. "It's a credit to what this team has done. They definitely deserve to go to a bowl game and have earned the right to do it.

The Spartans completed their regular season on a six-game winning streak and boast four victories over bowl eligible teams.

SEE **MILITARY BOWL** ON PAGE 5

EVENT CENTER

Rick Ross and crew stomp through SJSU



Rap artist Rick Ross performs during The MMG Tour's stop in San Jose at SJSU's Event Center Friday. Photo by Raphael Kluzniok / Contributing Photographer

SEE **A&E** ON PAGE 8

CAMPUS

LLD 001 students unable to enroll in English 1A

By Camille Nguyen @camillediem

For freshmen enrolled in Academic English I, registering for English classes next semester may be complicated because of the passor-fail nature of the course.

Known as LLD 001, the class is designed for students who did not pass the English entry exam and is aimed to aid pupils in improving their writing skills, according to Stefan Frazier, program coordinator and class lecturer for the linguistics and language development department.

He said students are expected to turn in a collection of writings they have done throughout the semester as a final project, which will ultimately determine if they have passed or failed the class.

"At the end of the semester (students) hand in a folder of all of their writing from the semester and that gets assessed by the instructor as well as one other reader," he said, adding that instructors will be reading through the essays over the course of the final weeks of the fall semester.

SEE **LLD** ON PAGE 3

HOLIDAYS

Annual UPD toy drive serves local families

By Natalie Cabral @SD_ncabral

The University Police Department is hosting its 21st annual toy drive this month according to Claire Kotowski, UPD executive ad-

According to Kotowski, the toy drive is held in order to provide holiday gifts for the children of SJSU's neighboring communities.

Around campus, UPD has placed 23 bins for people to drop off new, unwrapped toys for children ages 0 to 14.

Those eligible for the donations are families in financial need, with school-aged children, according to Kotowski.

"Anybody who is a faculty member, staff member or student with a child or children is eligible to apply for our services," she said.

According to Sgt. Manuel Aguayo, the toy drive served about 200 to 250 families last year.

"I've participated with the toy drive since 1994 and I've seen it grow from just a few dozen families to us now serving 600 to 700 children under the age of 14," he said.

Each family that applies and is accepted by the program is visited personally by UPD officers, according to Aguayo.

"We go into their homes and

talk to them personally," Aguayo said. "It's a moving experience when we see families, especially around Lowell Elementary, that are just trying to make ends meet and we're able to provide wonderful Christmases for them."

Most of these kids don't have the opportunity to take pictures with Santa.

Claire Kotowski UPD executive administrator

Kotowski, who has participated with the toy drive for 19 years, said the experience always brings about a good feeling.

a good feeling.

Recipients of the UPD toy drive's donations are also provided

free Santa Claus pictures, according to Kotowski.

"We'll either deliver the donations or they are picked up at the UPD station where we provide free

tions or they are picked up at the UPD station where we provide free pictures with Santa," Kotowski said. "Most of these kids don't have the opportunity to take pictures with Santa"

According to Sgt. John Laws, the program is also well-supported by

local businesses such as Comerica Bank, Mi Pueblo, and Grocery Out-

Despite a spiraling economy, Laws said the program's support has remained steady considering its small size.

"Some years have been better than others," he said. "But we've been able to get by."

This year, Aguayo said UPD needs gifts intended for the teenage group especially.

"We always get plenty of younger children's toys but it's the gifts for the teens that we always run a little bit short on," he said.

UPD will be collecting the donation bins on campus Dec. 6 and 7.

They will also be holding a wrapping party Dec. 12 in the aerobics studio in the Event Center, according to Aguayo.

"We especially need help with sorting the toys by gender and age," he said.

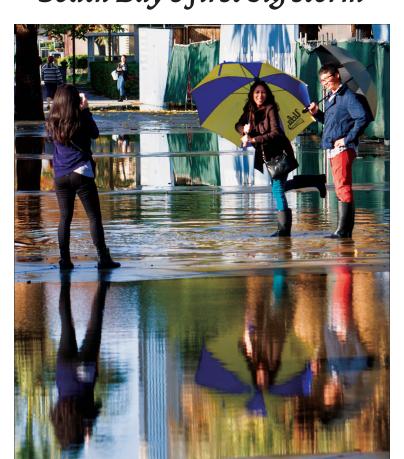
Aguayo said UPD welcomes any students, faculty and staff that wish to walk in and volunteer that day.

"I've known some children who received gifts from us that grew up to be teenagers," Aguayo said, "They remember the university for that."

Natalie Cabral is a Spartan Daily staff writer. Follow her on Twitter at @SD ncabral.

Campus Image

Students splash through South Bay's first big storm



Christine Ngo (left) photographs her friends Tarie Lang (center) and Ford Tran (right) in the puddles on Paseo de Cesar Chavez on Sunday. **Photo by Raphael Kluzniok / Contributing Photographer**

Former foster youth and homelessness: The transitional-aged problem

By Melissa Lewelling Contributing Writer

It's someone's 18th birthday today, but instead of cake and presents they might have to leave home with nowhere else to go.

Every year foster youth 'age out' of the system, facing a high possibility of homelessness.

More than 500,000 kids are currently in foster care across the U.S. - with 100,000 in California alone, according to Kern County's Department of Public Health and Human Services, which oversees the health care program for foster kids in the southern part of California's Central Valley.

Approximately 10,000 homeless youth live in the Bay Area, according to Covenant House California, a nonprofit agency with shelters for homeless youth in Los Angeles and Oakland.

In the last three years, 42 percent of the 303 homeless youth who frequented the Covenant House shelter in Oakland had a self-reported history of foster care.

"(Two years ago) 65 percent of foster youth in California left the system without a place to go ... 50 percent became homeless within six months," said Jim Beall, state assemblyman for Santa Clara County and head of several government committees on foster care. "It was an unworkable system that needed to be reformed."

For a female former foster youth at SJSU, who preferred not to be identified, these aren't just numbers or facts — they're a part of her

"I was in the system until two weeks before my 17th birthday (when I ran away) and all I heard was that when you turn 18 you had to get out," she said. "I had that in the back of my mind and thought 'well they're going to kick me out in a year any-

After growing up in a kinship placement, the recent transfer was put in a foster home at age 14 when the state declared her grandmother too old to care for

"The first one I was in just for a couple of months, the second one was just shy of a year, the third one was four or five months, and the last one I was there for the remainder of the time," she

For the 31-year-old, running away wasn't intentional, but driven by her fear of the unknown and a strong desire to get back to San Mateo where she grew up.

"I wasn't in the best foster home," she said. "She never physically abused me ... but anything I did wrong she would hold going to San Mateo over my head."

After ditching school for two days during her senior year, the social work major said she was afraid to go back to her foster home because she thought she might not be allowed to see her friends or boyfriend again.

"Standing in front of those portables ... I had this gut feeling that I shouldn't be there (and) that was the final push ... when I got back in that car I had no intention of going back to San Jose,"

The former foster youth said she remembers thinking of everything on her way back to San Mateo, except where she would live, earn money, get clothes or take a

"I didn't think of those things until later that night ... (and) all I remember thinking was 'f---, what have I done?" she said. "The ride home, the adrenaline of it, the excitement of it ... it wasn't until the first night that it really hit me ... and it hit me like a ton of bricks."

While foster childrens' stories are different, something many of them have in common is a very limited family and support system, said Leslie Griffith, a mentor to several former foster youth and an adult supporter of the Santa Clara County chapter of California Youth Connection, a former-fos-

ter-youth-led organization aimed at changing the system legislatively.

"We have a lot (of foster youth) that may not be homeless when they first leave, but will be at some point in their adult life," Griffith said. "There's a lack of resources for housing and emotional support. A lot of them don't have that one person to go to for help."

In 2010, 5,400 foster youth turned 18 and aged out of the foster system in America - 3,500 of whom became homeless soon afterward, Beall said.

There's a lack of resources for housing and emotional support. A lot of them don't have that one person to go to for help.

> Leslie Griffith Adult supporter of Santa Clara County chapter of the California Youth Connection

"For a lot of foster kids, they aren't homeless but they couch surf, or go from home to home," Beall said.

After running away, the former foster youth said that she couch surfed on and off

until she turned 18.

"I stayed with friends," she said. "We bounced around a lot, sleeping on their couches, staying as long as their parents would let me stay. When they would ask when I was going home, I'd just move on."

Referring to her peers in foster care, she said, "With all of us it's really similar ... being emancipated at 18 was hard, finding a job was hard, really the first couple of years on our own was hard."

Carolyn Glogoski, associate professor of occupational therapy at SJSU and an expert on the topic of homelessness, said that homelessness among former foster youth "is an ongoing problem."

As an attempt to remedy the situation, legislation was passed two years ago that extends foster care to age 21 with conditional stipends for pursuing a higher education, working a full-time job or going through a job-training program.

According to Beall, AB 12, written by himself, gives foster youth "a little more time."

"Most people realize that 18 is too young to be out on your own," Beall said. "If you don't have programs for these kids, there are just going to be more problems."

Adrian Randall, a first semester transfer student majoring in business marketing, heard about the hardships of foster care firsthand from his father and grandmother who were both in the system when they were younger.

While he didn't want to get into specifics, Randall said that he thinks releasing foster kids into the world at 18 "is a big problem that doesn't really have a lot of

At SJSU there is a scholarship program called Guardian Scholars that is specifically designed to help former foster youth through college with access to free tutoring, emotional and academic support as well as emergency funding for food or housing should the need arise.

Rhonda Leiva, interim assistant director of Guardian Scholars, named housing as the biggest issue the students in Guardian Scholars face because "it's now their sole responsibility."

"College is scary for any student, and then when you're a foster youth you don't always have that emotional support of people telling you that 'you can do it' or 'you can go to college," Leiva

Griffith said that losing a job can pose a bigger prob-

"Everyday experiences are exacerbated for these youth," Griffith said. "It's not uncommon for a young person to lose a job, but when former foster youth lose a job they don't have a lot of options."

While none of the 50 Guardian Scholars are homeless at this time, many have been homeless previously, according to Leiva.

"They're a general population," said Leiva, "They face the same struggles as all college students, sometimes they just face a few more because of what they're dealing

Melissa Lewelling is a contributing writer for the Spartan

CALIFORNIA

Judges challenge Orange County, Calif., ban on sex offenders

By Nicole Santa Cruz McClatchy Tribune

SANTA ANA, Calif. -A panel of Superior Court judges has challenged a controversial Orange County, Calif. law that bans sex offenders from parks, beaches and even some roadways and asked the state Court of Ap-

peal to review the measure. On Friday, the district attorney's office, which has pushed cities across the county to join in adopting a version of the sex offender ban, vowed to continue enforcing the county's 2011

"I believe that protecting children from sex offenders is one of the highest priorities in law enforcement," District Attorney Tony Rackauckas said in a statement.

Sheriff Sandra Hutchens has asked her department to stop enforcing the law, and Lake Forest, one of many cities that adopted its own ordinance, is considering repealing it.

The judges overturned the conviction of Hugo Godinez, a registered sex offender who was ordered to serve 100 days in jail for attending a Cinco de Mayo party at Mile Square Park, a county facility, in Fountain Valley in 2011. Noting that restrictions on sex offenders are up to the state Legislature, the judges certified the case for transfer to the state Court of Appeal, which has until Dec. 15 to accept it.

Since 2011, nearly half the 34 cities in Orange County have adopted a version of the county ordinance, and of those, almost half are being for an exemption for work or

To persuade cities to enact their own laws, the district attorney's office has sent ranking prosecutors and administrators to city council meetings to talk with municipal leaders.

I believe that protecting children from sex offenders is one of the highest priorities in law enforcement.

> Tony Rackauckas District Attorney

"The effectiveness of this law will never show up on a statistic," Susan Kang Schroeder, chief of staff for the district attorney, said in a past interview. "Because a sex offender did not show up in a park, a child did not get raped or molested."

Orange County appears to be the lone county in the state to ban all registered sex offenders - even those who haven't been convicted of a crime against children from going to a county beach or spending time in a county park. And although registered sex offenders can apply

challenged in the courts. a family gathering, few have been approved.

> "Such a patchwork of local ordinances poses tremendous risk to the offender who may not be aware of each regulation in each city, or indeed even know the precise location of city borders," the judicial panel ruled Nov.

The decision also says that the county law is detrimental to citizens, and that "any gain to an individual local community from its own specific ordinance is outweighed by the substantial risk to the transient citizens of the state."

Lake Forest, which enacted a sex offender ordinance in January, will consider at Tuesday's City Council meeting whether to become the first city to overturn its law.

A city report said that the ordinance has not had an "appreciable effect" because there is a small population of sex offenders in Lake Forest, deputies have yet to cite anyone for breaking the law and the sheriff has been effective in monitoring registered offenders in the area.

The city report also said that there appears to be a "consensus" developing in Orange County courts that the law cannot be upheld.

Fountain Valley has decided to wait on enacting the ordinance, said Alan Burns, the city attorney. The city of about 50,000 initially approved an ordinance in October, but the action went no

"We're digesting what's happening in the courts right now," Burns said.



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NATIONAL.

California hospitals review disaster plans after Sandy

By Chad Terhune *McClatchy Tribune*

LOS ANGELES — Two nurses examined an earthquake victim writhing in pain inside a yellow triage tent recently on the lawn of Redlands Community Hospital.

They suspected the woman had head trauma, a broken leg and internal bleeding as part of a disaster drill that morning for a magnitude-7.9 earthquake.

The 229-bed facility was running on two generators after losing power, and the nurses needed to get her inside the hospital and into intensive care. Trouble was, the hospital gurneys were too heavy for the damp grass and they couldn't roll them to the triage tent.

In the weeks since Superstorm Sandy crippled some of New York's best-known hospitals, many California health officials are re-examining their own disaster planning.

"If hospitals in a city like New York that is generally very well-prepared for emergencies weren't up to snuff for Hurricane Sandy, how well will other hospitals do under similar circumstances?" said Arthur Kellermann, director of Rand Health, a nonprofit think tank in Santa Monica, Calif. "You want your hospitals to serve as a pillar of strength rather than a site of disaster in need of rescue."

California's 430 hospitals routinely test their preparedness, and many have had considerable experience responding to earthquakes, wildfires and other events over the years.

But Sandy's toll has prompted officials to take a closer look at fuel and water supplies, the need for crowd control after a disaster occurs and the importance of recruiting volunteer help such as ham radio operators to bolster communication when mobile phones fail.

Sandy knocked out backup power to New York University's Langone Medical Center in Manhattan and forced the evacuation of patients down darkened stairwells. Langone, Bellevue Hospital and the Manhattan Veterans Affairs Medical Center all remain partially closed a month after the superstorm hit.

In Southern California, a major blackout last year had already revealed some weaknesses at area hospitals, including Scripps Mercy and Sharp Memorial in San Diego County.

The backup generator at Scripps failed during the September 2011 blackout because of a mechanical problem in a fuel pump and the hospital lost power for about 90 minutes. The Chula Vista hospital said it evacuated some patients and relied on battery power for certain life-support systems.

Scripps Health said "no patients experienced an interruption in care." Based on that experience, Scripps said, it made changes such as having at least two generators at each of its hospitals and expanding its supply of spare parts for fuel tanks and power equipment.

The state requires hospitals to test their backup generators regularly and have a fuel supply on-site for 24 hours of full operation.

A spokesman for the California Department of Public Health said regulators reviewed the power outage at Scripps Mercy and found "no deficiencies" in its emergency planning.

At Sharp Memorial hospital in San Diego, backup generators produced intermittent power during the blackout, but no patient evacuations were necessary, said Dan Gross, an executive vice president at Sharp Healthcare. In response, he said, Sharp upgraded its generators and made it easier to bring in additional power if needed.

Gross said Sandy may lead hospitals to think more about partnering with nearby gas stations on backup generators. It's common during disasters for gas stations to have fuel but no power to pump it. Keeping access to water supplies for running a hospital's heating and airconditioning units is another key issue that's often overlooked during a prolonged disruption, he said.

"If the HVAC system goes out, your intensive-care unit

and operating rooms can become saunas, and you can only go so far before evacuation is necessary," Gross said.

At Redlands Community Hospital, Kathi Sankey-Robinson, vice president of business development, oversaw the earthquake disaster drill two weeks ago looking for potential glitches.

When nurses couldn't get the gurneys through the wet grass to the triage tent, she pointed to a shipping crate behind the hospital that could be taken apart so plywood could be put on the ground. She also noticed that a cart of emergency supplies needed bigger wheels to handle the outside terrain.

"We take this very seriously in California, but Sandy brings it to mind even more," Sankey-Robinson said. "We are really looking for the bad and the ugly from these drills. Muddy grass won't be the worst issue."

Meantime, at the state level, officials are searching for about \$1 million in outside funding to house and maintain three mobile field hospitals that can be deployed during a disaster. State funding is expected to run out next summer.

California purchased three of these 200-bed field hospitals for \$18.3 million in 2006. They are designed to provide hospital beds, operating rooms and other medical equipment within 48 to 72 hours. They have been used in three disaster drills across the state, but no actual events thus far.

"We need to find a partner or we may lose this resource for California," said Howard Backer, a physician and director of the California Emergency Medical Services Authority.

For hospitals, Rand Health's Kellermann said, it can be difficult for them to look beyond their immediate financial pressures and invest in capabilities they hope to never use.

"It's hard to get hospital boards and senior executives to focus on a 'maybe, someday," Kellermann said, "as opposed to next year's capital campaign, this month's bottom line or a busy operating room schedule tomorrow."

LLD: End-of-semester review results keep students waiting

FROM PAGE 1

However, because the portfolio is an end-of-semester review, Frazier said LLD 001 students cannot enroll in Composition 1 (English 1A) classes until the teachers have read through all of the essays, averaged marks and set a minimum passing grade.

"The fact still remains that (students) can't register for English 1A until their full results are known," he said. "We don't know who officially passes until the fourteenth."

According to Kelly Harrison, director of the English department writing programs and English 1A lecturer, the issue with LLD 001 students not being able to enroll in English courses has occurred every semester.

"The computer system is set up so that it considers LLD a prerequisite for Eng-

lish 1A," she said. "(So) it doesn't allow them to register for the (class)."

The English department, however, has set up certain assurances that LLD 001 students will be able to enroll in the necessary classes when they know their final grades, according to Harrison.

"We know that the students won't be able to register until January, so we always plan for this by having multiple (enrollment spaces)," she said.

Harrison said that at the time of the last registration check, there were nearly 600 open seats available to students for next semester.

In spite of the assurances of a virtually guaranteed seat upon passing LLD 001 from professors from both the learning and language development and English departments, some students have said they had trouble enroll-

ing in English 1A even after passing LLD 001.

"I didn't have any problems with having a later registration date for English, (but) my biggest problem came after that when there weren't enough seats for me to even take English 1A," said Philip Tran, a senior business management information systems major, who took the class his first semester at SJSU.

Tran said he had to wait one extra semester after passing LLD 001 before being able to enroll in English

"It was irritating because the teachers all said there would be a seat for me after I passed but there wasn't," he said. "It's like what they say doesn't reflect upon what actually happens."

Camille Nguyen is a Spartan Daily staff writer. Follow her on Twitter at @camillediem.

SJSU Crime Log 11/28 - 11/30

The following items are selected from the University Police Department daily crime log. Times shown are when the incidents were reported to police.

Wednesday, Nov. 28

- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library, 8:56 a.m.: Police officers were dispatched to the library for a medical aid call. A non-student was transported by EMS to a local hospital.
- Joe West Hall, 12:30 p.m.: A student called police to report that his laptop was taken from his room while he was asleep.
- King Library, 2:40 p.m.: An officer was dispatched to a report of a bike theft in progress. A non-student was arrested for attempted theft, battery, resisting arrest, and a parole violation.

Thursday, Nov. 29

• Campus Village Building B, 6:15 p.m.: A student contacted police to report being the victim of a battery.

Friday, Nov. 30

- Engineering building, 2:41 p.m.: An officer was dispatched to take a report for threats written in a bathroom stall.
- King Library, 4:58 p.m.: An officer was dispatched to a report
 of a theft in progress. Officer apprehended the suspect and
 placed him under arrest for attempted theft and possession of
 burglary tools.

Information compiled from SJSU police department



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NATIONAL

Driver of crashed bus at MIA did not heed posted warnings

By Andrea Torres, Melissa Sanchez and Anna Edgerton McClatchy Tribune

MIAMI – What began as a day of prayer and fellowship turned into a surreal scene of stunned, bloodied passengers and twisted metal.

There was the sickening sound of crunching metal early Saturday as a busload of Jehovah's Witnesses was low-bridged by a concrete overpass, peeling back the top of the vehicle "like a can of sardines."

Workers running to the scene found shocked passengers thrown into the aisle or trapped in their seats by the wreckage

Riders in the front rows were crushed — two of them killed, others seriously injured.

The driver of the bus, 47-year-old Ramon Ferreiro, took a wrong turn off LeJeune Road, entering the airport by mistake, then rolled past multiple yellow signs warning tall vehicles. He drove on, approaching an overpass whose sign said "Clearance 8'6"." The driver either didn't see it, couldn't read it, or realized it too late.

The bus stood 11 feet tall.
"The last thing he should have done is to keep going," said Greg Chin, air-

port spokesman. "That goes against all logic." Ferreiro, whose driver's seat was lower than those of

the passengers, was not in-

jured.
One passenger, 86-year-

old Miami resident Serfin Castillo, was killed on impact, and all 31 others were transported by ambulance to local hospitals. Thirteen victims were taken to Ryder Trauma Center at Jackson Memorial, where one of them, 56-year-old Francisco Urana of Miami, died shortly after arriving. Three remained in critical condition Saturday night, and three had been released.

Luis Jimenez, 72, got a few stitches on his lip and hurt his hand. He said the group left the Sweetwater, Fla., Kingdom Hall about 7 a.m., bound for West Palm Beach.

"I was sitting in the back when it happened," Jimenez said. "We were on our way to an assembly and lost a brother today. I'm very sad."

Delvis Lazo, 15, a neighbor and member of the same Jehovah's Witness congregation, described Castillo as a "nice, old man." He often saw Castillo at the congregation, and their families have known each other for more than 15 years.

The last time Lazo saw him was about two months ago, as he prepped for a talk before his congregation.

"He gave me a thumbs up, told me that everything was going to be all right," he said.

The bus, one of three traveling to the Spanish-language general assembly on Saturday, had been contracted by the congregation, which has fewer than 150 members.

According to public records, the bus belongs to Mi-



A bus crashed into an overpass in Miami on Saturday killing 2 people and injuring 30 others, some critically. **Photo by Roberto Koltun / MCT**

ami Bus Service Corporation, a Miami company owned by Mayling and Alberto Hernandez that offers regularly scheduled service between South Florida and Gainesville, often used by University of Florida students.

At the home address listed for the company and the owners, Mayling Hernandez told The Miami Herald that passenger safety is her primary concern.

"At this time I'm worried about the driver and the families of the victims. I'm praying for them," she said. "My job is to worry about the safety of the passengers who are our clients. What we do requires a lot of responsibility. I didn't know the passengers but that doesn't mean I'm not suffering."

Neighbor Armando Bacigalupi described the owners as "caring people" and said he had seen buses park briefly in front of the house.

According to the U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, the company has two drivers for its three passenger motor coaches.

The company had no unsafe driving or controlled substances violations based on a 24-month record ended on Oct. 26, 2012.

Hernan Garcia, who works at the airport guiding cruise ship tourists to buses taking them to the Port of Miami, said: "It's clear that the driver was not familiar with the airport. There are designated routes for

these type of buses and it is prohibited to speed in this area."

ists who came upon the crash scene was 3-year-old Edwin Aparicio of Bogota, Colombia.

Among the arriving tour-

"Wow, like a can of sardines," he said in Spanish, referring to the top of the bus, sheered back by the overpass.

Sweetwater Mayor Manny Marono happened to be in the airport Saturday morning, flying in from a conference in Boston an hour after the crash.

"I saw the bus and wondered how the accident happened," said Marono, whose family had to pick him up in the departures section to bypass the crash scene. "My thoughts and prayers are with those families. These were people who were on their way to a place to further their faith."

Back at the Kingdom Hall in Sweetwater Saturday night, Himdley Llopez, 45, was waiting anxiously for his wife Miriam Suarez, who was on one of the other two buses that went to the general assembly. When she arrived, he hugged her tightly.

"We have been married for over a decade," Llopez said in Spanish.

"It's a relief to see her. If something would have happened to her it would have been devastating."

Miami Herald staff writers Alexandra Leon and Anthony Cave and staff photographer Peter Andrew Bosch contributed to this report.





Military Bowl: Spartans to play Bowling Green Falcons on Dec. 27

FROM PAGE 1

This marks the first bowl appearance for the Spartans since a 20-12 triumph over New Mexico in the 2006 New Mex-

"When we go out, people are talking about us in a positive light. When I go to restaurants everybody stops to talk to you about what you've down and how much they appreciate it," MacIntyre

said. "I just think the overall pride of the school has grown and I think that kids out in high schools and junior colleges, they are hearing people talk about San Jose State in a positive light."

MacIntyre hopes that this season is just a harbinger of things to come and that the school will continue to support

"We definitely need to strike while the iron is hot. We need to make sure

more people buy season tickets for a great season next year, that's revenue for us," MacIntyre said. "We need to make sure people building our new stadium are stepping it up. We're in the top 25 now and to stay in the top 25 we need to do those things. The kids we're recruiting are looking for those things."

Dennis Biles is a Spartan Daily staff writer. Follow him on Twitter at @Denny149.

Aerobicthon: Two hours, six dance styles, lots of sweat

By Thyra Phan @ThyraPhan

As pulsating music blared from the main gym of the Spartan Complex Friday night, more than 200 people participated in a two-hour high-energy, sweat-filled workout session known as the Aerobicthon.

The annual event, which is open to the public, features a variety of dance styles such as bhangra, hip hop, Jazzercise, U-Jam, kickboxing and Zumba.

Carol Sullivan, a kinesiology instructor, has coordinated the event for the past

"I wanted to have a place where students can go and relieve their stress before their final exams," she said. "I also want them to have an active and healthy lifestyle."

The money raised at the event, through a \$5 entrance fee for each participant, goes toward equipment for the department, Sullivan said.

The participants lined up in a row on the dance floor and the instructors stood on an elevated stage at the front of the gym where they led each aerobic routine for 15

SJSU kinesiology instructor Lee Pate led the participants in a warm-up with squats and brisk jumps.

After the warm-up, participants were introduced to the style of Bollywood bhangra, led by dance instructor Geeta Venkatesan.

With the banging of beats from the tunes of Indian dance music, Venkatesan demonstrated the style of Bollywood through upper



Aerobicthon participants enjoy dancing along to Bollywood taught by Geeta Venkatesan. More than 200 people showed up to workout in a variety of dance styles. **Photo by Jessica Olthof / Spartan Daily**

body movement, mainly in the shoulders and arms.

With raised arms and a series of quick jumps and spins to the beat of the music, everyone on the dance floor dripped in sweat as they jumped and skipped in place.

After the high-energy Bollywood dance, Andre Bobo led the group with hip hop through a series of dance steps using the feet.

"Listen to the sound of the music," he said while shifting his feet side to side as he followed the beat. He went offstage to the opposite side sticks, drums and melodic of the room so that everyone could see his choreography.

> "Hip hop is not as jerky (as the other dance styles)," he said. "It's meant for you to

feel good on the dance floor by moving to the beat, and doing a couple of cool tricks."

Bobo said the style of hiphop could be danced to any kind of music, and demonstrated that by dancing to "Gangnam Style," a popular Korean pop song, in which the participants erupted in

After a quick water break, Jerome Flowers led the dancers back to the floor with Jazzercise, which involved a lot of leg movement, jumping and sliding to medium tempo music such as Flo Rida's "Good Feeling."

After Jazzercise, SJSU alumna Tracy Perrilliat intensified the dance session with U-Jam, a style in which

she describes as a "combination of all dances and world beats with an urban flare."

In a series of quick spurts of swaying the hips side to side, U-Jam incorporates full body movement through the swinging of arms and gyrating of hips.

Perrilliat said U-Jam can be danced to Bollywood, hip hop, Latin and Korean pop music.

After U-Jam, Shauna Horton led the participants in kickboxing, which focused more on arm and leg movement, not dancing.

In a squat position and ms bent with fists in front squats, lunges and spins. of the face, Horton stepped side to side while punching the air in front. Then, she kicked her knee up high to the

opposite leg.

In a series known as high intensity interval training, Horton commanded the participants to drop down in pushup form and kick a knee to an opposite elbow before proceeding with leg squats and punches.

After kickboxing, Lee Pate completed the aerobic routine with Zumba, a Latin style of dance.

With vibrant Latin beats pulsating throughout the gym, Pate led the group with a repetition of brisk arm movements before a series of low

After a quick cool down of stretching led by Jerrie Thurman, donations were raffled, ranging from 10 \$5 gift cards

from Spartan Shops to free admission tickets to the Tech

Although Hanna Stidham said she initially attended the Aerobicthon for extra credit, she was surprised that she enjoyed the event.

"I didn't think I was going to have fun because I didn't have friends with me, but it was super upbeat," the freshman hospitality, tourism, and event management major said.

Stidham said the event introduced her to cardio kickboxing, Zumba and Jazzercise, all of which she has never done.

"I really liked the cardio kickboxing – that was the most fun," she said. "Zumba was my least favorite because I'm not really coordinated with the arm and leg movements."

However, senior sociology major Melissa Kauth said she found it difficult to keep up with bhangra.

"I've never done it before, but I would do it again in the future," she said. "It was a workout as I tried to follow all the hand gestures that were going up and down all crazy."

Kauth said Zumba was her favorite style of dancing and she is considering attending more fitness classes on campus.

Sullivan said when the Aerobicthon began 22 years ago, it only had high/low aerobics, but the field has expanded to different styles of

"The Aerobicthon is a lot of hard work, but it's fun," Sullivan said. "I like seeing the students get out there and eniov themselves, and that's what it's all about."

Thyra Phan is a Spartan Daily staff writer. Follow her on Twitter at @ThyraPhan.

SJSU 73, CSU NORTHRIDGE 63

Spartans explode in second half to defeat CSUN Matadors

By Dennis Biles @Denny149

The SJSU women's basketball team overcame a rough offensive first half and found its touch in the second in a 73-63 victory over the Cal State Northridge (CSUN) Matadors at the Event Center on Saturday.

"We did a better job of focusing on the rim in the second half and getting the ball inside," said head coach Tim La Kose. "We were rewarded with a lot of layups and free throws."

Leading the way for the Spartans was freshman forward Riana Byrd with 17 points, all in the second half, and 19 rebounds, equaling the Event Center record set by Teoma Taylor on January 2, 2003 in a 69-64 win over Boise State, according to SJSU

"The last couple of games I'd really been slacking so I wanted to pick it up this game," Byrd said. "I didn't realize it was that many. I just said to myself, 'Just keep rebounding,' and it worked

The Spartans and Matadors had trouble on the of-

fensive side of the ball from the outset of the game thanks to a spirited defensive effort by both teams that generated a constant stream of

"November December are all about getting better and learning. We have a very young team."

> Tim La Kose SJSU women's head

They combined for 33 in the first half, with the Spartans committing 18 of them.

The Matadors (4-3) built a 12-6 lead in the first seven minutes of the half, but the Spartans stormed right back with a quick 10-0 run to take a 16-12 lead with 10 minutes

However, their advantage quickly evaporated as their offensive attack came to an immediate halt that lasted for close to eight minutes as the Matadors went on a 17-0 run to jump ahead 29-16.

Keeping with the theme of exchanging scoring spurts, the Spartans ran off 9 points to end the half and close the gap to 29-24.

"We had a stretch there where we couldn't score," La Kose said. "We were able to close it down to five points by the end of the half. We stayed composed and got the game to two possessions."

The momentum the Spartans rode at end of the first half carried over to the second as they took a 31-30 lead a little more than two minutes into the half.

After being held scoreless in the first half, Byrd made her presence known in the second, controlling the paint on both ends of the floor.

"At halftime we talked about what got us those two runs," La Kose said. "With Riana we talked about continuing to hit the boards and



SJSU forward Riana Byrd tied the SJSU Event Center record for rebounds (19) in a game. Photo by Nina Tabios / Spartan Daily

the points would come for her. She responded well."

The Matadors took the lead back on a 3-pointer to make it 36-35 with 15:46 to play, but it turned out to be the last time they jumped ahead as SJSU refused to let up on offense.

The Spartans (3-3) quickly re-took the lead and built

their largest lead of the night at 57-44 with a little more than eight minutes left.

"In the second half we got a couple of good runs and had the momentum on our side," said freshman guard Alexis Hill. "We were working as a team and picked up our defensive intensity which made things better on the offensive end."

Asserting their dominance inside was the key to success for the Spartans as they outscored the Matadors 46-to-22 down low on the af-

"They were a big team," Byrd said. "Our coaches are always telling us to control the paint. That's what I was focused on. I wanted to rebound more and stop fading away on my shots. I had to start going up stronger."

The Matadors would fight back to make it 69-63 with just under a minute to go, but the Spartans forced a missed layup before getting two free throws from Byrd to close it

The victory snaps a threegame losing streak for the Spartans and brings their record back to a .500 clip.

"November and December are all about getting better and learning," La Kose said. "We have a very young team and we want to get better every game regardless of the opponent."

The Spartans will face their next opponent tonight as they play host to the undefeated Pacific Tigers (6-0) at 7 p.m. in the Event

"Pacific is playing very well," La Kose said. "They're going to be a good test for us

Dennis Biles is a Spartan Daily staff writer. Follow him on Twitter at @Denny149.

Kansas City Chiefs' Belcher kills live-in girlfriend, then commits suicide

By Glenn E. Rice The Kansas City Star

KANSAS CITY, Mo. - The argument apparently started about 1 a.m. CST on Saturday, when Kasandra Perkins returned to her Kansas City home from a Trey Songz concert at The Midland arena and drinks afterward with

Her boyfriend, Kansas City Chiefs linebacker Jovan Belcher, lived with her and was mad that she'd stayed out so late, a friend of Perkins

The disagreement ended tragically about seven hours later, when Belcher killed Perkins by shooting her multiple times at the couple's home, witnessed by his mother who was in from New York visiting the couple and their 3-month-old daughter.

Belcher then drove the five miles to Arrowhead Stadium, where, in a parking lot outside the team's practice facility, Belcher fatally shot himself as Chiefs General Manager Scott Pioli, Coach Romeo Crennel and other team personnel tried to stop

News of the deaths spread quickly and resonated around the nation. Expressions of sympathy poured in from current and former Chiefs, other National Football League players and teams, college football coaches and

"I am devastated by this morning's events," Chiefs linebacker Tamba Hali tweeted Saturday afternoon. "I want to send my thoughts and prayers out to everyone affected by this tragedy."

Police Capt. David Lindaman said Belcher, 25, and Perkins, 22, were arguing at their home in the 5400 block of Crysler Avenue in Kansas City. Around 7:50 a.m., Lindaman said, Belcher shot

Lindaman said Belcher's mother called 911, and Perkins was taken to a hospital, where she was pronounced

Belcher left the scene on Crysler and drove his Bentley to the Chiefs practice facility at Arrowhead, said police, who were called to the training facility there

When Belcher arrived there he encountered Pioli, Crennel and another team coach. Police said Chiefs staff attempted to keep Belcher from committing additional acts of violence.

"He had a conversation with Scott Pioli," Lindaman said. "There was no threat and it was quite friendly, from what I understand. The Chiefs organization had been very supportive of him and he was expressing that."

Belcher then walked a few feet away and pulled out a handgun. The Chiefs staffers tried to intervene, but Belcher shot himself in the

Police were called about 8:10 a.m., and when they arrived they heard the gunshot and found Belcher.

Relatives of Perkins declined to comment, and Belcher's family could not be reached. Lindaman said Belcher's mother was inter-



Kansas City Chiefs linebacker Jovan Belcher shot and killed his girlfriend yesterday morning and fatally shot himself. Police said team personnel were unable to stop him. Photo by David Eulitt / MCT

viewed by police.

The friend of Perkins who said the argument started after the Trey Songz concert did not want her name to be used because of the sensitivity of the situation. As news of the deaths spread, she and other friends gathered outside the home where Perkins and Belcher lived.

Perkins went to high school in Austin, Texas, and came to Kansas City about three years ago. The friend said she and Belcher had dated for most of that time.

Another friend, Jennifer Ashley, said Perkins started dating Belcher after being introduced to him by the wife of another Chiefs player.

"She was sweet, very nice and down to earth," Ashley said. "She cared about people. She was a person who didn't talk about her problems."

Ashley said Perkins had been a student at Blue River Community College and was studying to become a school teacher. Ashley said she had not enrolled in classes for the fall semester because of the birth her daughter.

Pictures on Perkins' Facebook page show she was a proud mother, displaying images of the baby sleeping, smiling, taking a bath and looking up at her dad. Just 10 days before her death, Perkins posted photos from the baby's checkup at the doctor.

She told her Facebook friends that her daughter received three shots and joked that the baby didn't like the

Brianne York, 21, described herself as a close friend of Perkins.

"She was a very good person, she was fun to be around and very loving," she said. "I don't know why he'd want to hurt her like that.

"I love her and I wish she was still here ... and I wish Javon was still here, too. I think they could have worked it out. It shouldn't have happened."

York said the couple appeared to be getting along well the last time she visited.

"I was just over there a

few days ago and everything seemed fine and they seemed to be happy," she said. "We were good friends, but they liked to keep their relationship personal."

But other friends who came to the home on Crysler said the couple argued fre-

Perkins had accompanied a group of friends to the Trey Songz concert.

Belcher called Perkins' cell phone, wanting to know when she was coming home, the friend said, and, after Perkins arrived about 1 a.m., the couple argued.

Police said that argument likely continued later Saturday morning.

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Call us at 408.924.3270 or Visit us in DBH 209 2pm-3:30pm

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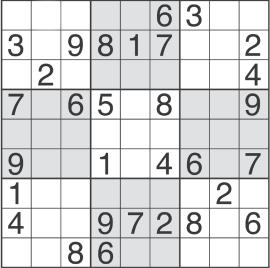
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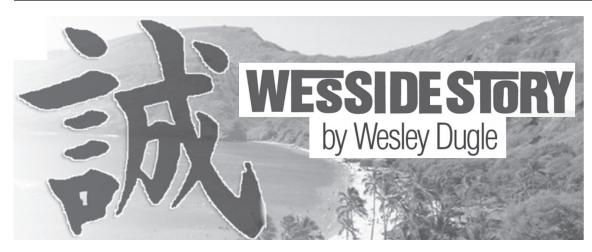
UNIVERSAL

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DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆

OPINION



Don't judge 49ers QB by his ink

For the last three weeks, 49ers quarterback Colin Kaepernick has helped lead his team to a 2-1 record with some outstanding play, getting some San Francisco fans thinking he may be the next Steve

While he suffered a setback yesterday when his team lost to the Rams, Kaepernick has helped breathe

some life into the 49ers' passing game and has led with the dignity and humility needed to be a quarterback in the NFL.

Unfortunately one sports writer decided to pick a very odd fight with the team's new starting quarterback and the argument this guy makes varies from ridiculous to just plain ignorant.

AOL.com "sports writer" David Whitley wrote a near 800-word rant about Kaepernick's tattoos (which are highly visible on his arms during the game) which in his opinion dilute the dignity of the quarterback position.

Whitley led off his "enlightening" critique by saying "San Francisco's Colin Kaepernick is going to be a big-time NFL quarterback. That must make the guys in San Quentin happy."

What

Right away Whitley is comparing Kaepernick's character to the violent criminals and murders who reside in our state prisons.

Whitley continues his rant by making a broad, uneducated, claim that "Approximately 98.7 percent of the inmates at California's state prison have tattoes"

He would back this up of course by stating "I don't know that as fact, but I've watched enough 'Lockup' to know

it's close to accurate."

SHENEMAN TRIBUNE MEDIA SERVICES



Weskey Dugle's colums appears every Monday

Whitley's unwarranted attack on Kaepernick's ink screams "old man problems" as he even goes on to call himself a "dinosaur" who thinks quarterbacks should sport no ink such as "Sammy Baugh, Johnny Unitas, Doug Williams or Joe Montana"

It reminds me of that
Simpsons episode way
back when Abe Simpson was watching
Joe Namath at Super Bowl III in a flash-

Joe Namath at Super Bowl III in a flashback and angrily yells at the TV screen "Get a hair cut you hippie." Whitley continues his old-man

Whitley continues his old-man rampage saying "His ink-covered arms will one day raise the Vince Lombardi Trophy. Imagine the impact that could have."

Oh imagine the horror!

Up would be down, down would be up, there would be free love, socialism and drugs everywhere and there would be Colin Kaepernick leading the charge with his "ink-covered arms."

Please

If Kaepernick brought San Francisco a Super Bowl championship the fans probably wouldn't give a crap how many tattoos he had plastered across his body.

I think it's safe to say Whitley may not be a fan of the NBA with superstars such as Kobe Bryant and LeBron James sporting ink like an "Etch A Sketch" as Whitley so eloquently put about the

This is baseless argument is a nonissue, but let's entertain Whitley's wild claims of tattoos and character issues and see exactly what kind of ink Kaepernick is sporting.

Well according to his parents, who came out in defense of their son in an article on vahoo.com. his tattoos are

bible verses — hardly offensive or "motor cycle gang" material as Whitley described player tattoos in his article.

Now Whitely states that he believes the human body is a "temple" that shouldn't have "graffiti" on it, and that's a fair opinion, but for some tattoos are a sign of one's cultural and a tribute to who they are as a person.

Now if Kaepernick had a Crips or Bloods tattoo or something inflammatory like a "Kill Whitley" tattoo inked all over his arms, then I would say that would be cause for alarm.

But Kaepernick is only sporting bible verses on those arms, probably to symbolize his devotion to his religion and faith, hardly a sign of character flaws.

But Whitley apparently thinks quarterbacks should be like vanilla ice cream from the 1950s and keep their bodies clean of the "graffiti."

No matter what Kaepernick's reasons are for his tattoos, it's his body and he is well within his right to sport whatever the hell he wants on it.

Keep it tasteful, of course, but in the end it's not Whitley's decision what a quarterback should look like.

No matter what happens to Kaeprnick, in the end his tattoos don't define his personality — his actions do and so far he has shown he is a quality player and person and Whitely is wrong to pick this fight with him.

Whitley's editorial sounds like nothing more than a noisy, uneducated ignorant old man's rant and he should be ashamed to call himself a sports journalist.

It's Whitley's opinion if he dislikes his quarterbacks having tattoos, but next time he should consider sparing his readers such garbage.



How much is coffee really worth to you?

How much coffee is "enough?"

I'm going to try to answer this exact question.

Earlier this week, theatlantic.com published Lindsay Abrams' "The Case for Drinking as Much Coffee as You Like," which cites more than 20 different scientific studies, concluding

that coffee consumption is inherently good and leads to longer life.

I agree that coffee does great things, and I will continue to drink direct trade blends and support nonprofit coffee growers in developing economies.

But is there a place where this goodness ends?

This week the Starbucks Coffee Company started serving its new ultra-premium luxury good, a \$7 cup of coffee, in several dozen stores throughout the Pacific Northwest.

Comic and late night show host Jimmy Kimmel scoffs at this new bump in price.

"I feel like this is a test to find out just how stupid we are," Kimmel said during a show this week. "Although, while it's ridiculous to spend \$7 on a cup of coffee, it's actually not that much more ridiculous to spend \$4 on a cup of coffee."

I think coffee is delicious and am excited at the premise of its scientific benefit, but the reality is there's a huge markup in coffee pricing and I believe we're falling victim to a society based on conspicuous consumption and marketing ploys.

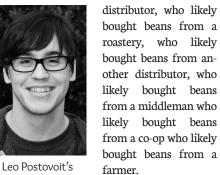
Considering that a \$7 cup of coffee probably won't be seven times better than a \$1 cup of coffee, hedge your bets. I may consider myself a coffee gourmand, but often a cheaper coffee is not that far off from an expensive blend. Yes, it may taste better, but just like wine, a \$100 bottle of an aged Chaton-terroir-or-something-or the-other is not going to taste 50 times better than a bottle of Two Buck Chuck.

One analyst cites that a coffee shop's cup might only cost 55 cents, and the markup of upwards of \$3.50 by most brewers can gross profits of upwards of \$500,000 in prime locations.

Is this perceived convenience, artificial ambiance, and alleged quality that premium coffee shops provide make for something worth all of that money?

You have to ask yourself—the obvious luxury and probable benefit of the tasty caffeine drink you have is one small dime in a large interworking of a corporate system around coffee.

The barista works for a shop, who likely bought roasted beans from a



column appears
every Monday

If you put the \$2.95
taken by the barista and

the shop aside, that's still a lot of people who are leeching off of the 55 cent cost of coffee.

The coffee shop pays likely around \$9 per pound for its coffee but the farmer who grew it will see just on average of 50 cents per pound, and even less in some parts of the world. This means the café selling a \$3.50 coffee has an insane markup.

Coffee is the second most valuable commodity exported from developing countries, only behind petroleum.

For many of the world's least developed countries, including Honduras, Ethiopia, and Guatemala, coffee exports are sometimes as much as 50 percent of foreign export.

Yes, it costs money to ship, distribute and market goods, but at what price? You, the coffee consumer, should be concerned with where your stuff comes from because this is often a very obvious form of extortion.

By buying fair trade you shouldn't feel smug like you're a Toyota Prius-driving, Toms shoewearing vegan whose carbon footprint mirrors the co-op farm's plants that they eat.

You should go on about your day, humbly, knowing that, in collection, small decisions made on a daily basis might help the overall life of someone halfway across the world.

In the grocery market, fair trade goods are almost always sold alongside regularly listed products. At places like Target, Cost Plus World Market, and even Starbucks, the "fair trade" good is often the same exact price as the non-fair trade good.

At many coffee shops, one of the three or four blends served daily will usually feature a "fair trade" blend available at the same price as the other drips.

So make a small decision this holiday season — choose your coffee (and for that matter, any goods produced abroad) wisely: Together, we just might be able to make a healthier economic system when we choose to make ourselves healthier with another cup of coffee.

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

GOP BOMB SQUAD "I KNOW YOU'RE FREAKED OUT, BUT DON'T WORRY... I'M ALL OVER THIS SUSAN RICE THING."

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CONCERT

Rapper Rick Ross rips up the stage at SJSU Event Center

By Christina Molina @ms_molina

If you combine a hyped hip hop crowd, the fine artists of MMG and the pungent smell of marijuana and alcohol, you're sure to have a dynamic show, which was exactly what happened Friday night at the SJSU Event Center.

The biggest boss himself, Rick Ross, stomped into town with his solid Maybach Music Group, rappers Meek Mill and Wale and was joined by wild boy Machine Gun Kelly (MGK) to create a hip hop party atmosphere for eager listeners to enjoy.

The night opened well with the fast-paced lyrical talents of MGK, who was dressed in an orange prison jumpsuit and soon after shared the stage with Meek Mill for a fiery combination.

Although none of the artists "rep" the Bay Area, they were sure to pay respects by playing tracks by none other than the prominent Mac Dre.

MGK, an Ohio native and Meek Mill, who resides in

Philadelphia, were adamant about reminding the crowd where they were from but warmed everyone up when having the DJ play some West Coast classics.

This included fellow weed enthusiasts and renowned Cali rappers Dr. Dre and Snoop Dogg, which woke the crowd up from the mindless swaying back and forth, but this could have easily been a result of so much smoke being blown in people's faces from every direction.

Based on the crowd's reaction, the second most anticipated artist of the four had to

The rapper, who was sure to share his hometown of Washington D.C., has been associated with MMG for over a year and performed some of his greater hits off his most recent album "Ambition," including the slow and sultry song "Lotus Flower Bomb."

It was no surprise the biggest presence on stage was headliner "Ricky Rozay," who was introduced and accompanied by all three rappers for the majority of his set.

Fans went crazy at the first glimpse of Ross, who sported multiple gold chains around his neck.

He stood his ground on an elevated platform above the stage, giving off some major energy but retracted from the middle to the end of his performance.

Around the same time, crowd participation died down as well.

Guests toward the back



Rap artists Rick Ross and Wale perform together during The MMG Tour's stop in San Jose at the SJSU Event Center Friday. Photo by Raphael Kluzniok / Spartan Daily

of the Event Center referred to the jumbotron for a closer look at the stage.

Although none of the artists "rep" the Bay Area, they were sure to pay their respects by playing tracks by none other than prominent

This only brought on more love and energy from

The special effects certainly kept everyone's attention, which were mostly used during the concert's ending.

Confetti rained twice and fireworks lit up the whole arena as Rick Ross and his crew were ready to sign off.

Just before leaving the stage, Rick Ross demanded everyone pull out their phones, capture him, Wale, Meek Mill and MGK posing and post on Instagram, hashtag MMG-

Christina Molina is the Spartan Daily communications director. Follow her on Twitter at @ms_molina.



Front row fans cheer during The MMG Tour's stop in San Jose at the SJSU Event Center Friday. **Photo by Raphael Kluzniok / Spartan**

PHILANTHROPY

Spartans' Best Dance Crew brings out fresh moves for charity

By David Bermudez @bermudez_dave

The moment you walked up the steps to Barrett Ballroom in the Student Union on Saturday night, you could feel the high energy level the audience was ready to give to see the first Spartans' Best Dance

Crew aka SBDC. "It feels like everybody is so anxious to see what the different crews are going to dance to and see what moves they have," said undeclared freshman Jonathan Miranda.

"We felt a great energy around us when we danced and performed for this crowd and I'm proud that my crew gave it their all."

Phillip Szeto dance leader of the King Library Rockers

Delta Sigma Phi sponsored the event as they tried to raise money for the Smile Train Foundation, a cleft-lip char-

According to philanthropist director of Delta Sigma Phi Alejandro Sanchez, the money that was raised would all go to the Smile Train Foundation.

"Once we provide the donations that we raised we

would be able to see the results of how many patients Smile was able to provide with costs \$250 each," Sanchez

According to Sanchez, the SBDC event was planned out

The event began after 7 p.m. with an introduction of the three-judge panel and how much each crew would get if they come in first (\$250), second (\$100) or third (\$100).

Once the introductions were done, the members of Delta Sigma Phi got SBDC going by stepping out first onto the stage where they performed their routine.

Delta Sigma Phi started off slow with Trey Songz's "Heart Attack" but as soon as they transitioned to their third song "Patty Cake" by YG, they had the crowd on their feet as they walked off the stage to David Banner's "Play."

But before the competition began, Delta Sigma Phi played a video for the audience that explained that all the proceeds were going to the Smile Train Foundation.

Right after the short video, the first four acts came out and performed their routines.

Alpha Phi Omega came out first as they mixed in rap and R&B into their routine such as Clyde Carson's "Slow Down," and Rihanna's "Talk That Talk."

Sigma Chi performed a dance number to the tune of "Jingle Bell Rock," which parodied the movie "Mean Girls."

Alpha Omicron Pi and the CJB Crew finished off the first part of the show before inter-

After a 20 minute intermission, those who knew how to dance to PSY's "Gangnam Style" were asked to come

onto the stage and once they started dancing to the song, it got the crowd hyped up again the cleft-lip surgery that only and ready for the rest of the

> The second set featured the crews that came in first, second and third.

> The ladies of Sigma Theta Psi came out first and the King Library Rockers followed them.

> The King Library Rockers came out wearing camouflage shirts and performed their eventual first place winning dance routine.

> The routine was very inyour face because of the militant style and creative dance moves they worked into the hip hop, R&B and dubstep

"In the beginning when we first decided to do this, we didn't expect any of this," said Phillip Szeto, the dance leader of the King Library Rockers. "We felt a great energy around us when we danced and performed for this crowd and I'm proud that my crew gave it their all," Szeto said.

Following the King Library Rockers came the ladies of Kappa Delta, then came the performance by the dance crew Akbayan who placed in

Alpha Phi closed out SBDC and their performance earned them a place in third.

"I really loved all of the performances but the King Library Rockers deserved to win," Miranda said. "I think the judges got it right and I hope they do this event again next year, because I think now the different crews will try new things."

David Bermudez is a Spartan Daily staff writer. Follow him on Twitter at @bermudez_dave.



Alpha Phi, the third place winners of Spartans' Best Dance Crew, snap their fingers during their dance routine on Saturday night. Photo by David Bermudez/ Spartan Daily