



Tacos take San Jose by storm see p. 5



Businesses get a kickstart see p. 3



Monday April 16, 2012 Volume 138, Issue 38

SPARTAN DAILY

SpartanDaily.com

Health care for students a financial labyrinth

by David Norman
Contributing Writer

The availability of health care is an issue on the minds of many college students.

Rosita Suárez is a senior Spanish major who lacks health insurance.

"I know I need health insurance, but I don't have it because it's very expensive," Suárez said. "I have tried to apply for health insurance, but the process is very time consuming for a busy college student."

A report from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention from September 2011 puts the total percentage of uninsured 18- to 24-year-olds (regardless of college enrollment) at 26.5.

A national poll conducted in the fall of 2011 by the American College Health Association, an association of college health professionals formed in the 1920s, showed that the number of college students who reported that they lacked health insurance was about 7 percent (1.4 percent of students reported that they were "not sure").

There are health insurance options available for students who do not receive employer health insurance and for those who do not qualify for public health insurance.

SJSU, as well as 82 percent of four-year universities in the U.S., offer student health insurance plans with premiums and coverage tailored to students, according to the Government Accountability Office.

The Anthem Blue Cross health insurance plan provided by SJSU has premiums that far exceed the average nationwide 2008 premium of \$850, as reported by the GAO.

SJSU's annual premium for students age 24 and under costs \$1,861, while students age 25-30 will pay \$2,489 for a year of coverage.

SEE HEALTH PAGE 2

Spartan Daily
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Volume 138 / Issue 38

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Snap into spring



The SJSU football team competes in its annual Spring Game intra-squad scrimmage featuring the Blue and White teams on Friday at 7 p.m. at Spartan Stadium. The White team prevailed in the scrimmage with a 17-14 final score over the Blue team. Photo by Sierra Duren / Spartan Daily

SEE SPORTS PAGE 6

Four years in the making, new center shapes success

by Rebecca Duran
Staff Writer

Social Sciences students looking to do homework or ask questions about their academic careers now have the Academic Counseling Center for Excellence in the Social Sciences.

The center has been open for students, but had its grand opening on April 12 with about 50 people in attendance.

Sergio Campos, a junior economics major, said he's been to the center twice already for advising.

"We invited people that have to do with student success to help facilitate the opening," said faculty adviser Hien Do.

The official opening allowed people to find out about the center and see what it has to offer, Do said.

He said these included deans, alumni and faculty from other student success centers.

The center contains books written by faculty members, and is a place where students can do group projects, homework and talk to academic advisers, he said.

The room, 240 Clark Hall, used to be the communications study lab and construction began on the new success center in August, Do said.

The center has a shelf of books, several conference rooms for students to meet, and numerous tables to sit at.

In her speech, Dean Sheila Bienenfeld of the College of Social Sciences expressed her hopes for the center.

"We've invested heavily in creating this because we want students to know that we value them and want to help them," she said.

She said they don't want students to feel lost or wander from office to office.

"Before, we didn't have a place to go, now we have this resource," said senior sociology major Skye Vallejos.

It has taken four years for them to figure out how to create the center, said Maureen Scharberg of Student Academic Success Services.

"This is a dream come true," she said.

The National Science Foundation, an agency that helps fund federal science-related research, gave a grant to help create the center, Scharberg said.



Tim Nielsen (center) and David Heflin (right) talk with another student at the Academic Counseling Center for Excellence in the Social Sciences on Thursday. Photo by Derik Irvin / Spartan Daily

She said six out of SJSU's seven colleges have student success centers, and they create a sense of community.

She said success centers increase the sense of community with stu-

dents and that all the people in the room care about the success of students.

SEE ACCESS PAGE 4

Crossing the line: Roles of a gay best friend abused

by Samantha Clark
Staff Writer

The gay best friend phenomenon and trend, while meant to be fun, silly and harmless, is a form of stereotyping and can be seen as offensive.

"When girls say they want a gay best friend, it sounds like they are reducing gay men to accessories," said junior marketing major Kyle Burt. "I'm not your gay best friend. I'm your best friend who also happens to be gay."

Burt said that while nothing is inherently wrong with having a gay best friend, some women stereotype gays and assume they want to talk about fashion and men.



Illustration by Leo Postovoit and Brittany Patterson / Spartan Daily

"Is it because you think he'll be fun and fabulous to shop with and do all sorts of, quote unquote, girly things?" asked Davey Wavey, a popular Internet personality, in his YouTube video he posted on April 5. "If so, then you're totally basing us on stereotypes —

many of which gay men break. I mean it's basically the same thing as saying, 'I want an Asian best friend, so she can help me with math homework.'"

Wavey discusses gay and lesbian issues and has more than 70,000 video views and 345 videos.

Gay best friendships may be splashed across the media and in TV shows such as "Sex and The City," "Will and Grace," "Glee" and "Ugly Betty," but it's unrealistic, said Chris Martinez, a senior global studies major.

She said she had a best friend who was gay — not a gay best friend.

Burt said even if some truths are evident in the relationships in the media, women seek a gay best friend to mirror what they see on TV, and they

SEE BEST FRIEND PAGE 2

SpartaGuide

Tuesday, Apr. 17

Queer & Asian Panel: Religion & Spirituality

6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

SJSU Career Center Mod A

Presented by Queer & Asian @ SJSU

SpartaGuide is provided to students, staff and faculty, free of charge. The deadline to submit is at noon, three working days prior to desired publication date. Entry forms are available in Spartan Daily, DBH 209. Send emails to spartandailyeditorial@sjsu.edu titled "SpartaGuide." Space restrictions may require editing or exclusion of submissions. Entry is not guaranteed. Entries are printed in order of which they are received.

HEALTH: Financial burden of insurance

FROM PAGE 1

The student health insurance plan provided by SJSU and Anthem Blue Cross includes physician medical services as well as emergency and hospital services.

For senior kinesiology major Carlos Torres, time was a contributing factor to his lack of health insurance.

"I haven't had the time to actually go out and seek health insurance, ask the questions or essentially find out what it takes to get covered," Torres said.

The good news for college students who are not covered by a parent's health insurance plan, cannot afford SJSU's sponsored insurance plan, do not qualify for public assistance or don't have the time to research health insurance options is that they do have an alternative care option provided by the university at the Student Health Center.

Paula Hernandez, senior operations officer at the health center, said there are resources available to students at the Student Health Center.

"Because students pay a mandatory health fee when enrolling at SJSU, we don't require health insurance to see students who are regularly enrolled during the semester," Hernandez said. "Students can come in to be seen for the majority of the services that we offer and not pay for the visit."

The Student Health Center's website outlines the services available, ranging from primary care services including illness and injury treatment, preventative medicine and women's health to specialty clinics involving dermatology, sports medicine, podiatry, psychiatry and travel care.

According to Hernandez, the mandatory health fee allows all SJSU students unlimited access to primary care visits at no additional cost, while certain specialty clinics within the Health Center require an additional fee.

The fees for specialty clinics vary — for example, the fee per visit for the dermatology clinic is \$10.

Torres reported that his overall experience at the Student Health Center was "positive."

"With or without insurance, (the health center) took care of everything I needed," Torres said.

When asked about her experience at the health center, Suárez did have a complaint.

"It takes a while because you have to call in and make an appointment," she said. "The minimum it's taken me to be seen was a week and the longest was two weeks. I feel like it takes too long."

While the health center does much to bridge the gap for students on campus who lack insurance, there is still a danger of being caught unprepared by an emergency.

"We're not an emergency room," Hernandez said. "If a student comes into the Student Health Center with an injury then we will see you, but depending on the extent of the injury we may have to call 911."

In the case of an emergency medical situation on the SJSU campus, even students with health insurance should be aware of how their health insurance contracts with local medical centers.

Out of the two nearest emergency rooms to SJSU, Santa Clara Valley Medical Center and Regional Medical Center, only Santa Clara Valley Medical Center is contracted with SJSU's student health insurance plan, according to an Anthem Blue Cross Life and Health Insurance Company policy representative.

However, lack of coverage is no reason to decide not to seek medical care since in accordance with the Emergency Medical Treatment and Active

(11.5 percent), according to the association study.

The relative good health of college students may be reflected in the health center's low percentage of use by SJSU college students.

Hernandez reported that about 33 percent of SJSU students use the health center.

"We'd like to see more of the enrolled students," she said. "The majority of student visits here are free, and students have already paid for the service anyway. It's important even for students who have insurance to still get registered with us officially. If for some reason you're not feeling well on any given day, call us and see what we can do for you."

Aaron Saini, a senior systems physiology student, said if he lost the health insurance he currently possessed through a parent's employee health plan he would try and obtain health care coverage separately.

"I think it's something to consider because if you don't have health coverage it costs more for taxpayers to cover the bills," he said. "If everyone had (health insurance) there would be some benefit."

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act is federal statute that includes an individual mandate that would require citizens of the U.S. to possess health insurance or else face fines from the Internal Revenue Service.

The net cost of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act over 10 years is estimated to be \$1.252 trillion by the Congressional Budget Office's March 2012 updated report.

The legality behind the act's individual mandate is currently being decided by the Supreme Court.

Suárez would like to see the act clear the supreme court.

"I think health care coverage should be more accessible to everyone. I think we all deserve it because it's kind of a right," Suárez said. "I think if we had health insurance there would be fewer lives lost and people would take care of themselves better by continually getting checkups, but they're not doing that now because it's very expensive."

"I think it's something to consider because if you don't have health coverage it costs more for taxpayers to cover the bills."

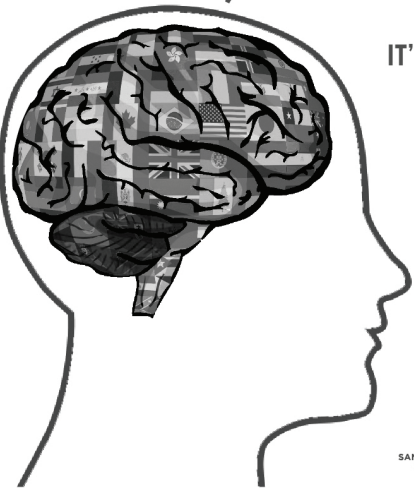
-Aaron Saini, systems physiology student

Labor Act, which clarified policies relating to the responsibilities of Medicare-participating hospitals, virtually all hospitals within the U.S. must provide emergency care to individuals regardless of their ability to pay.

The majority of college students (92 percent) described their health as good, very good or excellent in the study by the American College Health Association.

Also, the majority of students that did report being diagnosed with a condition within the preceding 12 months listed problems addressed by Student Health Center including: allergies (21.2 percent), sinus infection (17.7 percent), back pain (12.9 percent) and strep throat

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Miles of California coastline to be preserved, opened to public

McClatchy Tribune
Wire Service

LOS ANGELES — A spectacular stretch of Northern California coastline that includes ocean-side bluffs, beaches, rolling hills and redwood groves will be permanently protected from development under a landmark deal approved this week by the state Coastal Commission.

The 6,800 acres of undeveloped shoreline, wooded areas and farmland in northern Santa Cruz County — known as Coast Dairies — will be transferred to the state and federal government, which will operate it as open space and preserve portions for agriculture.

Much of the land will be opened to the public.

The coastal panel's unanimous vote at a meeting Thursday in Ventura, Calif., protects 7 miles of coastline that had been one of the three largest pieces of private coastal property between the Golden Gate Bridge and the Mexican border, according to the agency.

The 10-square-mile expanse, former Spanish land grants that were acquired by Swiss farming families in the 1860s, was purchased by the Trust For Public Land in 1998 as rumors swirled that developers had plans to build homes on the land.

"This is important, an incredible part of the Central California coast that's going to be retained in the form it was years and years ago," said Dan Carl, the commission's Central Coast District director. "It's something you don't see a lot in California as development moves and marches forward."

The deal to safeguard the land from builders, in the works for more than a decade, was heralded as going to the heart of the state's stringent coastal protection law.

It comes 40 years after the passage of Proposition 20, the 1972 voter-approved initiative that created the California Coastal Commission and gave it control over development along the state's 1,100-mile coastline. That authority was cemented by the 1976 state Coastal Act.

"This really is a reflection of 40 years of work," said Coastal Commission Executive Director Charles Lester. "The Coastal Act played a fundamental role in making these types of acquisitions possible."

The decision came at the commission's first meeting since the April 1 death of its longtime executive, Peter Douglas, whose decades of leading the agency through high-profile conservation battles is credited with keeping much of the California coast from being paved over.

To keep that from happening to the Coast Dairies ranch, the commission required restrictions that limit use of the land to public recreation, open space and agriculture.

The arrangement transfers upland portions of the property surrounding the town of Davenport, Calif., to the federal Bureau of Land Management and includes several hundred acres of shoreline seaward of California 1 that have already been deeded to the state Department of Parks and Recreation, which operates adjacent Wilder Ranch State Park. About 700 acres will remain under ownership of the Trust For Public Land for use as farmland, including organic strawberry fields.

BEST FRIEND: Relationships exploited

FROM PAGE 1

try to force a "gay best friend" relationship in real life.

He said a girl once asked him to be his "gay best friend" because she needed a "new one."

"It was off-putting and demeaning," Burt said. "I was angry at first, then I was offended. She felt we had a connection to become friends based on one qualifier. ... 'Did your last accessory break?'"

Burt said his best friend is a straight female, and he feels that these trendy, superficial relationships bother him because it stereotypes his complex and real friendship and reduces it to something simple and lacking an emotional connection.

"Remember the traditional outlet for such needs — other women?" asked Nick Chu, a junior history major. "Where are they in this equation? That some straight women bypass each other and beeline for unwitting gay men is an indication of denigrating views toward both straight women and gay men."

Burt said female relationships have a propensity to have drama and cattiness, but that's no excuse.

"Somehow, gay men escape this demonization and seem to maintain an unflinching image of loyalty, reliability and sexual innocuousness, often compounded with sass, elegance and daring fashionability — traits largely reminiscent of a woman's favorite handbag,"

Check back tomorrow and Wednesday for more stories about **LGBTQIA life at SJSU.**

Wednesday will feature a **special section on the queer community.**

The second Urban Dictionary definition states that female friends call a gay best friend "such a good listener ... but (he) never gets the opportunity to have sex with them."

The Urban Dictionary definition of the Gay Best Friend Game states, "When a guy tries to get with girls by acting like their gay best friend. They all love him, and then he goes in for the kill."

After hearing these definitions, Burt said that they reduce gay men to tools and undermine the value of the friendship.

Wiggy Sivertsen, a professor of sociology and counselor, said women can feel more comfortable with gay men, and they don't want to be hustled while dancing at bars.

She said while intergender friendships have many benefits, showing off that your friend is gay or seeking out a friend because he's gay and assuming you have lots in common is demoralizing and vapid.

"To be quite honest, not everyone wants to go shopping," Burt said.

Students fund projects with innovative site Kickstarter

By Rebecca Duran
Staff Writer

Kickstarter, a website for funding projects and businesses, is allowing people to be entrepreneurs in a whole new way.

The website allows people to share their creative projects and businesses and allows others from around the world to make donations to those projects.

"It's the biggest funding platform out there," said JD Leadam, an SJSU business major who has used the website for a project.

To get started, a person uploads photos and information about the project and establishes a time period in which he or she wants to try and reach a monetary goal.

The person can set different amounts to pledge, and with each amount comes a prize the pledger will receive.

"To date, there have been more than 20,000 successfully funded projects," Justin Kazmark, a member of Kickstarter's communications team, stated in an email.

Leadam said he used Kickstarter to successfully fund his hemp plastic water bottles product.

"I've raised \$17,000, and people even got in touch after the funding deadline, asking if they could still give money because they liked my idea," he said.

The water bottles are reusable and are a safe alternative to regular plastic bottles, Leadam said. He was inspired to create bottles out of hemp after watching a documentary about the negative aspects of regular plastic bottles.

His project officially reached its goal on Feb. 18.

Leadam said Kickstarter is innovative and will change the way people use funding platforms.

He said he didn't want to use other crowdsourcing websites because they wouldn't allow him to keep ownership of his product.

Some crowdsourcing sites include Chaordix, Kluster and Ponoko.

He also said Kickstarter allows people from other countries to donate money, and he also likes the ability for project creators to give little prizes to donors.

"For people who donate \$1, I send them a thank you email," he said. "If you donate \$50, you get one of the bottles."

As a business major, Leadam said he initially entered the bottles into the Silicon Valley Innovation Challenge and won \$2,000 from the competition.

He said that gave him the push to go further with the project and put it on Kickstarter.

Anton Orlov and Ryan Kalem are SJSU alumni who have also used Kickstarter to fund a project.

However, they did not reach their goal in time, only raising \$9,892 of their \$16,000 goal.

Orlov said he thought up their project, the Photo Palace Bus, more than a decade ago.

"I came up with the idea in 1997, before social media and even before Google," he said.

The yellow school bus would serve as a nationwide traveling darkroom for photography.

Friends recommended Kickstarter to him to fund the project and he built up hype through his Facebook page, gaining 40 percent of the necessary funding.

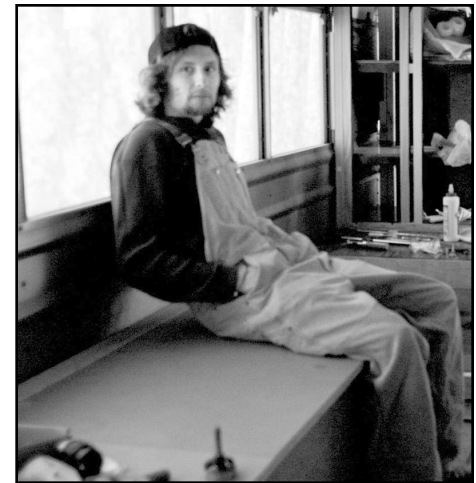
Orlov said he wants to travel around the country and teach children about analog film with workshops and classes.

He says he hopes to produce a non-digital gallery to show the



Ryan Kalem, left, and Anton Orlov, right, hold up a cabinet door featuring one of Orlov's original cyanotype prints encased in lacquer last week in front of the Photo Palace bus in Los Gatos. Despite not meeting their ultimate goal of \$16,000 of funding, they said that Kickstarter helped publicize their project.

Photo by Sierra Duren / Spartan Daily



Left: Ryan Kalem looks underneath the bus to check the customized water tanks on the Photo Palace bus in Los Gatos last week.

Right: Ryan Kalem rests inside the Photo Palace bus, a concept project that would bring a mobile photography darkroom and studio to classrooms around the country, in Los Gatos last week.

Photos by Sierra Duren / Spartan Daily

differences between platinum print and black and white print.

"I want it to be an ambassador for film," he said.

When a person doesn't hit their funding goal, they receive none of the money they raised.

While Kickstarter has its benefits, there can be setbacks for pledgers.

"Kickstarter is a great platform for funding creative projects with small contributions, particularly where there is a strong affinity for the particular product or service,"

said business lecturer Steven Bennet.

Bennet said the setback is the fact that investors only get free products.

"Now that the JOBS Act has been become law, it will be interesting to see what impact crowdfunding has on business creation," he said.

According to a April 5 statement released by the White House, the Jumpstart Our Business Startups Act allows people to go online and invest in small businesses.

Jason Uyeda, a radio, television and film alumnus, was also unsuccessful in his funding for his "WedUh Man" videos.

Uyeda also heard about Kickstarter from friends, and said he thought it was an innovative way to show his videos.

His "WedUh Man" comedy series was based on the pronunciation of his last name, and aims to break Asian stereotypes, he said.

Comedy series such as Family Guy and Chappelle's Show

gave him the idea to do a comedy series himself.

Uyeda said he was also inspired to create films when he was an art major watching a lot of films and taking a beginning screenwriting class.

While he raised \$1,557 dollars out of his \$5,000 goal, he said he is going to try again and set a lower goal amount to help fund the production costs.

"I wanted to get people who I didn't know to watch my videos, and over 100 people have," he said.

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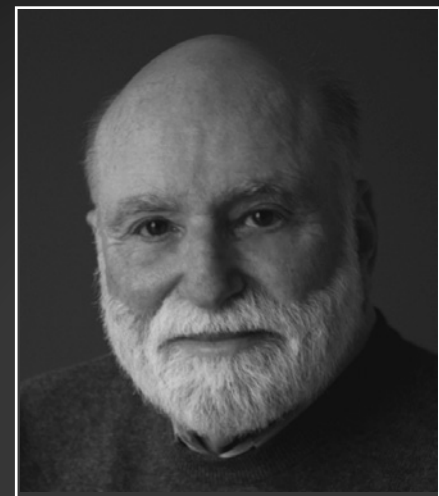


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APRIL 18, 2012

1:00 pm, In conversation with Tobias Wolff
MLK Library 225/229

Author of six novels, three biographies, and two memoirs, including *The Duke of Deception*, runner-up for the Pulitzer Prize. Recipient of awards from the National Endowment for the Arts, American Academy of Arts and Letters, and the Guggenheim Foundation. A former book critic for *The Washington Post*, Wolff directed the Graduate Program in Writing at U.C. Irvine from 1995-2006.

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North Korea's failed missile raises the eyebrows of many

Missile launch violates two U.N. resolutions, White House pulls aid

McClatchy Tribune
Wire Service

WASHINGTON — The spectacular failure of a North Korean rocket, and the humiliation it presumably caused the nation's young new leader, makes it likely the regime will soon test a nuclear device or take other provocative actions, according to U.S. officials and outside analysts.

The U.N. Security Council condemned North Korea for Friday's launch, saying it violated two U.N. resolutions. And the White House said it would not honor a promise to provide 240,000 metric tons of food aid to the impoverished nation.

President Barack Obama defended the decision to cancel U.S. humanitarian aid to a country that suffers perennial food shortages. His administration has not previously provided any aid to the country.

"They make all these investments, tens of millions of dollars, in rockets that don't work at a time when their people are starving, literally, and so what we intend to do is work with the international community to further isolate North Korea," Obama

said in an interview with the Spanish-language TV network Telemundo.

"North Korea has successfully launched shorter-range Scud and Nodong missiles that were successful, but long-range missile success continues to elude them."

-Bruce Klingner, former CIA analyst

"Obviously any opportunity for us to provide them food aid was contingent on them abiding by international rules and international norms," the president said.

"So we will continue to keep the pressure on them, and they'll continue to isolate themselves until they take a different path."

Ben Rhodes, deputy national security adviser, said

the administration was "certainly concerned" about indications that North Korea was planning to follow the failed launch with an underground nuclear test, as it did after unsuccessful launches in 2006 and 2009.

Experts say satellite imagery of North Korea's northeast Punggye-ri site, where previous nuclear tests were conducted, shows deep tunneling, and other preparations may be under way for a third nuclear test, possibly based on the country's yet-unproven highly enriched uranium program.

"A nuclear test next month is a virtual certainty," said Marcus Noland, a North Korea expert at the nonpartisan Peter G. Peterson Institute for International Economics in Washington.

He said the government in Pyongyang suffered "tremendous humiliation" with the failure of the rocket launch, which was meant to celebrate the centennial of the birth of the nation's founder, Kim Il Sung. Noland predicted that the regime would try to recoup its credibility, at home and abroad, by testing a nuclear device.

Some analysts warned that the widespread opprobrium risked isolating any voices of reason in Pyongyang and might embolden hard-liners to dig in even more.

"It's hard to know whether the international reaction leads them to feel like they're just going to proceed with the nuclear test they've been preparing," said David Wright, an arms control expert with the Union of Concerned Scientists, a nonprofit research group. "If it does, it's going to be very difficult to make progress for a number of years."

U.S. intelligence officials have said they believe North Korea has built as many as eight plutonium-based nuclear bombs. In 2010, the government revealed a uranium enrichment facility at Yongbyon that, in theory, could produce weapons-grade fuel for a much larger arsenal.

North Korea conducted its first nuclear test in 2006, but it was only partly successful. A second test in 2009 was deemed a greater success.

The regime tested long-range missiles in 1998, 2006 and 2009. All of them exploded in flight, although the last flew 2,500 miles before breaking up.

U.S. intelligence officials had predicted that North Korean missiles could threaten the continental United States by 2015. The latest setback suggests that time frame is now unlikely, experts said.



The Unha-3 rocket for launching Kwangmyongsong-3 satellite installed on the launch pad at Tongchang-ri base, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) is seen in this April 8, 2012 photo. Media reports said the Democratic People's Republic of Korea launched an earth observation satellite on Friday, where it broke up quickly and splashed into the Yellow Sea. Photo by Zhang Li / Zuma Press

The Unha-3 missile launched Friday had a slightly larger third stage than the last version that failed, U.S. officials said. This one exploded 90 seconds after blastoff, rising about 75 miles into the atmosphere before breaking into pieces, which fell into the ocean.

North Korea said it was trying to put a civilian weather satellite into orbit, but U.S., Japanese and South Korean officials said the missile had military applications and, if successful, could be reconfigured to someday carry a nuclear payload.

"North Korea has successfully launched shorter-range Scud and Nodong missiles that were successful, but long-range missile success continues to elude them," said Bruce Klingner, a former CIA analyst now at the Heritage Foundation, a Washington think tank.

North Korea, which strictly controls state media, told its citizens after the 2009 rocket failure that it had successfully put a small satellite into orbit and that it was broadcasting patriotic songs.

This time, the regime invited foreign journalists into the country to help publicize the launch. On Friday, a state broadcaster announced that the rocket had failed.

"To me, it's a reflection that they don't have confidence that they can keep big secrets anymore," said Victor Cha, former director of Asian affairs in the George W. Bush administration.

Inevitably, outsiders struggled to make sense of the

regime's insular decision-making process. Some debated whether the launch would undermine the authority of Kim Jong Un, who succeeded his late father, Kim Jong Il, as undisputed ruler in December.

"Who actually ordered this missile test?" asked John Park, a Korea expert at the congressionally funded U.S. Institute for Peace. "Was Kim Jong Un following his father's playbook? Or was this an early example of the military acting on its own?"

In the past, the North Korean government has used its powerful military to demon-

strate an aggressive foreign policy. It has repeatedly fired on South Korean troops and ships, and it has regularly threatened all-out war against its neighbors and the United States.

The failed launch may provide another point of friction.

South Korea and other ships searched Friday for wreckage from the missile off the South Korean coastline, and officials were on alert for a potential clash with North Korean submarines.

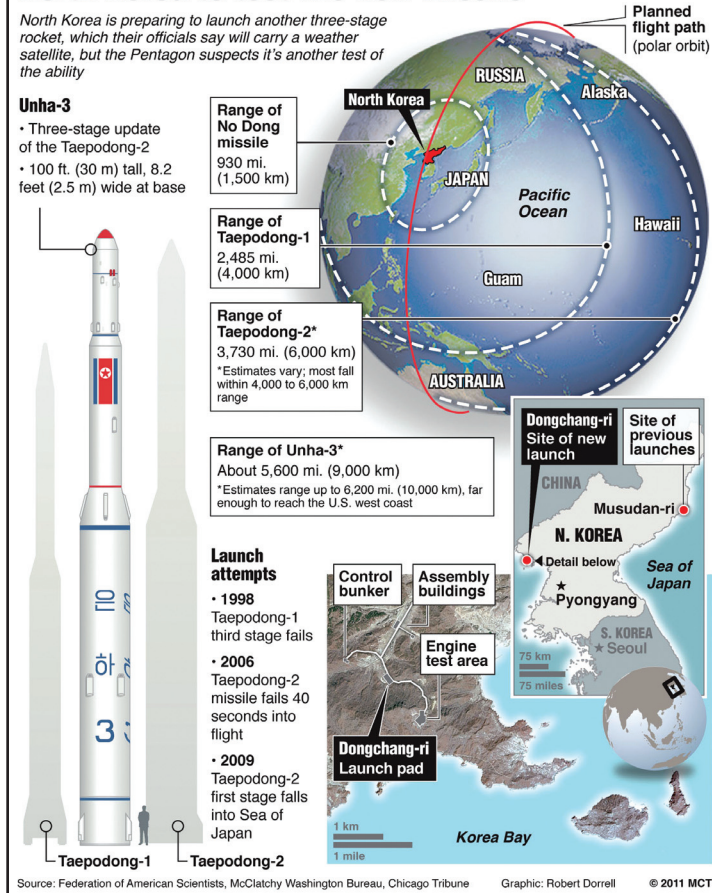
"You have a recipe for growing tension on the Korean peninsula," Klingner said.

Launch fail

A rocket launched Friday by North Korea crashed less than two minutes into flight.



North Korea to test fire new missile



ACCESS: Students excited for center

FROM PAGE 1

Students in attendance said they felt this new center will bring a lot of positive changes.

"Students know about resources, but are sometimes too intimidated," said Victoria Smedley, a student assistant in the sociology department office.

She said the department staff communicates with a lot of students and added that she came to the opening to see how it will aid the department.

Mark Salangsang, a counseling education graduate student, said he decided to come to the opening because of his interests in the social sciences.

"I would like to work with students, and this is the department I relate to the most," he said.

He said the center will be great in two ways.

It will provide extra support for students, like academic counseling, and will be good

for student organizations to use, he said.

Tim Nielson, a junior economics major, said he found out about the center from his friend and about how counseling is offered.

Academic adviser Valerie Chapman said she is happy to help students, and cares about them getting their degree.

"We're here to help them," said Kelly Glass, a graduate student and Peer Adviser.

CAMPUS IMAGE



A two-car accident occurred on the corner of 2nd Street and Margaret Drive on Saturday night. The accident took place at 8:46 p.m. Three people were rushed to the hospital according to an officer on the scene. Photo by Jasper Rubenstein / Spartan Daily

San Jose Taco Festival cooks up innovative food and fun

by **Brittany Patterson**
Managing Editor

They came in droves. The young and the old, with families and friends. They congregated together under the potent California sunshine in search of one thing: tacos.

"For the first time in San Jose, we're doing a large-scale festival that isn't run by baby boomers," said event organizer Ryan Sebastian, founder of Moveable Feast, a food truck collective that organizes and hosts events with local Bay Area trucks.

San Jose police estimated between 6,000 and 8,000 people flocked to History Park on Saturday for the San Jose Taco Festival of Innovation 2012, which touted itself as the largest taco festival in Northern California, Sebastian said.

The festival lineup included food from 24 food trucks, live music, the first U.S. Air Accordion Championships and lucha libre wrestling.

"This is the first time where you're going to go to a festival where you're not going to see posters of dolphins for sale or hear bad covers of the Eagles' catalogue," Sebastian said.

According to Sebastian, the goal of the festival was to meld together the inventiveness of food truck culture and the Silicon Valley to create a venue in San Jose where both the foodie crowd and families felt welcome.

Part of the festival included a taco competition between the food trucks in which participants indicated which truck served the tastiest taco through text messaging.

Every truck featured three tacos for \$2 and diners were

encouraged to text their favorite, indicated by code numbers posted on each truck, to the organizers, Sebastian said.

The winning taco, by Kojia Kitchen, which specializes in Korean/Japanese fusion, was gently packaged into a converted tortilla warmer, attached to a weather balloon with a GPS system and camera and launched into space, according to Sebastian.

Sebastian said they are not the first to launch things into space like this, but they are the first to send a taco into space.

"The GPS system will track the movement of taco in space," he said. "The camera will take video."

He said when the taco eventually lands they'll retrieve the camera and put the footage on YouTube.

The promise of tacos is what brought Lauren Short, a graduate student in geology, to the festival though she said she was also participating in the vote-by-text competition.

"It's good to have something that's fun and it doesn't cost like \$70," she said. "If you don't like tacos, I'm sorry, but you don't have a soul."

Although traditional taco trucks were represented at the event, serving plenty of al pastor, carne asada and pollo, many trucks served less traditional cuisine such as Asian, Korean, Indian and Creole food and repurposed their ingredients to create tacos for the event.

The Chairman, formally known as Chairman Bao, an Asian-fusion truck based out of San Francisco, served mini steamed buns with pork belly and spicy chicken as well other fare.

Truck manager Kevin Kiwata said The Chairman's six-person crew was ready to serve its fusion cuisine for the full six hours in the 100-square foot prep space inside of the truck, brightly painted burnt orange and black.

"At these festivals it (business) can kind of vary," he said. "It's really cramped ... We have a lot of fun in the truck."

AJ Siosin, executive producer of the taco festival, said the event played off of the Tech Museum of Innovation's name as part of its inspiration.

"We made sure that yes, there's the traditional tacos that are here in San Jose, but they're tacos that are maybe Asian or Indian or some other cuisine," he said. "It's all about creating and having fun, giving a challenge to all these other taco trucks, getting all of the taco truck vendors to be in one place so they can talk about their craft and their business together."

The mouth-watering scent of carne asada and onions permeated the tiny space of the No Way Jose food truck.

Stacked neatly on top of each other lay containers of seasoned corn, prepared molé and chopped vegetables.

A mountain of tortillas, sealed together in their plastic wrappers, dominated one corner of the kitchen on wheels.

Ernesto Floresc said he has been cooking in the truck for two months and although it gets busy, he feels like cooking in a food truck is the same as cooking in a more spacious kitchen.

Truck manager Michele O'Hanlon said she felt No Way Jose, which has had a truck for 10 years and whose circuit includes Lockheed Martin and Tesla Motors, probably had



A blackened creole shrimp taco, and a blackened catfish taco with chipotle sauce and sliced green and red cabbage from the Louisiana Territory food truck. Photo by Brittany Patterson / Spartan Daily



Michael Quinnell, 25, enjoys a \$2 taco. Photo by Jeff Cianci / Spartan Daily



Lucha libre fighters "El Mariachi" and "The Grappler III" wrestling. Photo by Brittany Patterson / Spartan Daily

an advantage for the competition because they serve solely Mexican food.

Sebastian said the goal of the festival was to make it unique to San Jose.

"San Jose is the perfect place for a taco festival," he said. "I just feel like there's so much

win in this festival."

San Jose resident Michael Quinnell, 25, said his love for tacos brought him out, but he was surprised at the turnout.

"I knew the lines would be long," he said. "I thought there would be more trucks here."

Quinnell said he would have

like to have seen a taco-eating contest as part of the day's festivities.

Ultimately, Sebastian said he felt the festival was a success.

"A common complaint is that there is nothing to do in San Jose and I think we're proving them wrong," he said.

Freshness at Farmers Market

by **Chris Marian**
Copy Editor

The smell of warm spices and the sound of live music permeated the air around San Pedro Square in downtown San Jose on Saturday.

This week's installment of the year-round farmer's market at San Pedro Square, organized by the Urban Village Farmers Market association, featured more than a dozen stands selling everything from organic produce to chowder and waffles.

Sophia Pardini, a representative for the association, said gathering growers for the market was an inconsistent and sometimes informal affair.

"Either you're approached by the city ... or you heard about it from the community," she said.

Pardini works for the association alongside her sister, Bianca, and her father, Ron Pardini, the executive director.

Rows of produce stands, manned by independent farmers and growers, dominated the main thoroughfare along a closed-off section of W. St. John Street.

Hovering over boxes of oranges, artichokes and jars of meat broth in the shady recesses of his voluminous stand, independent farmer Kenny Baker showed off his wares with pride.

"I own my own farm," Baker said. "I've been doing this for about seven or eight years."

Baker said he runs a cooperative operation with another farm, which raises grass-fed livestock in accordance with organic farming principles.

Much of the produce in his and other stands looked different than what might be found in the average grocery store because it was grown in a different manner, he said.

Baker said growing organically is not an easy or simple process, and he, like many of the stand operators, proudly

displayed his farm's California Certified Organic Farmers certificate.

Molly Davenport, another independent farmer, ran a large flower stand on the end of the street and described the certification requirements in broad terms.

"It's complicated," she said wryly.

Fundamentally, she said, farming to organic standards requires three things: the complete absence of pesticides or other chemicals, responsible crop rotation and operating in a generally sustainable manner.

Davenport, who has only attended this farmers market for two weeks, works at a 45-acre operation called Thomas Farm.

"It's a really beautiful, open land," she said. "We grow everything seasonally."

Davenport said all their flowers were grown outdoors with no use of greenhouses and zero chemicals.

Adrian Albor, another independent farmer, said that operating a small farm allowed him to take a more sophisticated and nuanced approach to growing crops, unlike larger operations, which require a more massive, brute-force approach.

With a background in chemistry and biology, Albor worked for a larger farming company before deciding to become an independent farmer, a choice he says he does not regret.

"I don't like to work indoors," he said. "I like to be free ... I like to watch the vegetables grow."

Albor said his scientific understanding of farming, as well as the small scale on which he works, allows him to make very fine tweaks to his growing techniques, producing the best possible results.

The intimate control of the process, he said, also allows him to use more unorthodox biological strategies, such as the employment of small animals that would otherwise be

considered pests at a larger operation.

Albor said he deeply enjoys his work, but the paperwork is a hassle.

"I was inspected three times last year," he said. "The hard part is the administration — my life is production."

Baker said he, too, found that organic farming involved a mountain of red tape.

"Surprising, there are still quite a few middlemen you have to go through," he said, describing the multitude of federal, state and city authorities he had to deal with on a regular basis — mainly to ensure the safety of his products.

Nevertheless, Baker said he also found the work rewarding.

"I really like being on the farm," he said. "It's really interesting to me ... it's a really political thing."

Baker commented on the potential revolution in food



Kenny Baker (left) organically grows and sells his own produce. Photo by Chris Marian / Spartan Daily

production that organic farming represented.

He said he found the direct connection between the produce, himself and the buyers at the market refreshing.

He wasn't the only one.

One of the dozens of visitors strolling among the shady stands that sunny afternoon,

Tim Hollenbach, commented on how much better this farmer's market was, particularly in atmosphere, compared that those

in his hometown of St. Louis.

Being a professional grocer himself, Hollenbach considers that an expert opinion.

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White team wins 2012 Spring Game, Fales throws for 194 yards

by Eddie Fernandez
Staff Writer

Fans trickled down the bleachers into Spartan Stadium to get glimpse of SJSU's annual Spring Game intrasquad scrimmage.

After almost two hours in the chilly weather, the White team overcame the Blue team's halftime lead and closed out the game 17-14.

Junior quarterback Dasmien Stewart took the first snaps for the Blue team, handing the ball off to junior running back Jason Simpson only to have it fumbled and turned over to the White team's defense.

Stewart ended his night completing four of seven passes for 76 passing yards, two interceptions and no touchdowns.

Junior quarterback David Fales of the White team capitalized on the turnover by throwing a 37-yard touchdown pass to

junior wide receiver Noel Grigsby, ending the first quarter with the White team up 7-0.

Grigsby had four receptions for 66 yards and the touchdown.

"Coming back this year, if you looked at our team I would say that you said, offensively our receivers and our tight ends are very good," said head coach Mike MacIntyre.

Fales went 16-23 for 194 yards, one touchdown and no interceptions.

The first half was played aggressively by both defenses.

Headlining the defense of Friday's game was sophomore cornerback Forrest Hightower of the White team with two interceptions on the night.

"It's very competitive at the defensive back position right now so I just gave my all, my best," Hightower said. "As long as me and the safety are on the same page, we can accomplish what we want to."

One minute into the second quarter, Simpson scored on a five-yard running play, tying the score 7-7.

Fales looked steady in the pocket playing for the Blue team as he moved the squad down the field with short yardage plays which resulted in senior running back Ina Liaina scoring a two-yard touchdown play with the Blue team up 14-7 at halftime.

The defense line for the Blue was led by junior defensive tackle Anthony Larceval.

"I feel like we're a good defense," Larceval said. "We should be one of the top defenses in the WAC. I hope so."

With less than five minutes left in the third quarter, the White team made a score, tying the game 14-14 at the end of the third quarter with a rushing touchdown by sophomore running back Ben Thompson.

Thompson was the game's leading rusher with 39 rushing yards on six carries.



SJSU freshman wide receiver Sam Boyd, #3, fights for yardage at the annual SJSU Spring Game at Spartan Stadium on Friday. Boyd caught two passes for 20 yards during the game. Photo by Sierra Duren / Spartan Daily



The Spartans hold a group prayer after the SJSU Spring Game. The White team defeated the Blue team 17-14. Photo by Sierra Duren / Spartan Daily

FOOTBALL BY THE NUMBERS

111
Sophomore quarterback Blake Jurich threw for 111 yards, completing 11 of 29 passes with no interceptions.

66
Junior wide receiver Noel Grigsby caught four passes for 66 yards and one touchdown.

42
Junior place kicker Harrison Waid kicked a 42-yard field goal in the fourth quarter to give the White team its 17-14 lead.

39
Sophomore running back Ben Thompson was the game's leading rusher with 39 yards and one touchdown on six carries.

Junior Harrison Waid kicked a field goal for the White team and closed the quarter out with the White on top 17-14.

The start of the fourth quarter was a bit of a struggle for the Blue team as it couldn't get in sync with play calling.

Furthermore, an interception by Hightower resulted coming off the timeout, turning the ball over to the White team.

The White team finished the second half strong, sealing the game 17-14. Sophomore quarterback Blake Jurich also saw playing time, making 11 passes out of 24 attempts for 111 yards with no touchdowns or interceptions.

The Spartans' last scrimmage game will take place Tuesday.

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UNIVERSAL Sudoku Puzzle

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

1			6	2	4	3		
				9		2	5	
	3			5	6			
	2	4		5				
3			8		6			2
				7		9	6	
		2	5			8		
1	7		6					
	8	6	3	2				5

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆

Previous Puzzle Solved

2	6	4	5	1	8	3	7	9
7	9	3	6	2	4	1	8	5
1	8	5	7	3	9	2	4	6
6	3	7	9	4	5	8	2	1
8	2	9	3	6	1	4	5	7
4	5	1	2	8	7	9	6	3
9	7	2	8	5	3	6	1	4
3	4	6	1	7	2	5	9	8
5	1	8	4	9	6	7	3	2

How to Play

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

Check back daily for new sudoku puzzles and solutions.

Today's Crossword Puzzle

Universal Crossword

Edited by Timothy E. Parker April 16, 2012

ACROSS

- 1 Aim at the barcode
- 5 Graft recipient
- 9 Kindergarten adhesive
- 14 Diva's solo
- 15 Teensy bit
- 16 Tin Pan
- 17 Be utile
- 20 "The King's"
- 21 Barrister's headgear
- 22 Shell competitor
- 23 Unambiguous response
- 24 "So Fine" (Chiffons)
- 26 Big bird of the pampas
- 28 Cookie celebrating 100 years
- 30 Wooden footwear
- 34 Told too many times
- 37 Barber's quick job
- 39 Native Indian in the British army
- 40 Where advancing is the only option
- 44 Cessation of breathing
- 45 Polar bird
- 46 Word on wine bottles
- 47 Pea or bean, e.g.
- 49 Belgrade citizen, perhaps
- 51 Academic period

DOWN

- 1 Flippant
- 2 suzette
- 3 "Million" ending
- 4 Altar approach
- 5 Until now
- 6 "How impressive!"
- 7 All-in-one meal
- 8 Fleshy-snouted beast
- 9 '72, at Augusta National
- 10 Kind of soup
- 11 Gin variety
- 12 "Dick Tracy" character
- 13 "Keep your peeled"
- 18 Yodeler's reverberation
- 19 Expressions of disdain
- 25 Feudal laborers
- 27 Tranquil rest
- 29 Barnyard sounds
- 31 "Mr. Holland's" (Richard Dreyfuss film)
- 32 Came apart at the seams, e.g.
- 33 Former boy band, "N"
- 34 Aussie gemstone
- 35 Canterlike gait
- 36 "Correct answer" sound, sometimes
- 38 Pouty expressions
- 41 Atomic bits
- 42 Busted, like a bronco
- 43 Welsh rabbits
- 48 "Change the World" singer
- 50 A drummer keeps it
- 52 Bellowed like a bovine
- 54 "Hello" or "Goodbye"
- 55 "Employee of the Month," e.g.
- 56 Amid the waves
- 57 Stamp-making org.
- 58 Dried and withered
- 59 Zap with a Taser
- 61 "Go back," in word processing
- 63 "She sells seashells" problem
- 65 "fi fo fum"
- 66 Tumultuous noise

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

R	A	T	S	N	O	B	I	Y	D	E	E		
L	O	S	T	O	O	L	J	E	U	R	N		
T	U	R	K	E	Y	S	H	O	O	T	C	A	D
P	A	N	O	I	R	E	S	U	M	I	A	K	
L	A	R	S	F	I	R	E	P	R	O	N	E	
F	L	A	T	B	E	A	U	T	S				
B	O	W	T	I	E	S	C	O	A	L	P	I	T
E	L	A	I	N	E	P	A	N	T				
E	L	L	E	N	A	R	M	Y	T	O	R	I	
S	A	K	I	S	T	E	R	H	A	L	T	E	D
O	N	S	E	T	H	A	L	T	E	D			
R	E	V	P	I	E	C	O	F	C	A	K	E	
I	R	E	A	N	N	A	L	S	W	R	E	E	
P	E	R	T	E	D	E	U	M	S	A	D	D	

TENNIS LESSON By Donald Stubin

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14				15				16					
17				18				19					
20							21			22			
23				24		25		26		27			
				28		29		30		31	32	33	
34	35	36			37			38		39			
40				41	42				43				
44						45					46		
47					48		49			50			
				51		52		53			54	55	56
57	58	59			60		61		62		63		
64				65				66					
67							68				69		
70							71					72	

Being an atheist is just right for me



by
Julie
Myhre
Staff Writer

People have a lot of misconceptions about atheists.

Oftentimes people don't know what to think or how to react to an atheist because they usually think they are lost individuals who haven't found God.

Another possibility is that people aren't around a lot of atheists in their everyday lives.

Only 5 percent of adult Americans do not believe in God and of that 5 percent, only 1.2 percent consider themselves atheists, according to a 2009 religious landscape survey conducted by Pew Research Center.

I have been an atheist for a little more than four years now and I can honestly say I have never been happier and more at peace with myself.

I was born into a somewhat religious family and raised Catholic. I even attended Catholic schools from kindergarten through high school.

Religion was always something that I was taught is required in life because it gives me a reason to live as a good person.

My religion classes in school taught me what to believe, which included the rules of Catholicism and the morals I am required to live my life by.

I was taught if I pray and be a good Catholic girl, I will be rewarded in heaven.

I remember there were times as a child when I was extremely terrified to do something wrong because I thought God would punish me.

I felt like I was living my life on eggshells, always afraid they would break and I would be damned to hell.

It wasn't until early college when I began to question my religion.

As I grew older, I realized that I don't agree with mostly anything the church required me to learn.

After I took a couple of science classes at my community college and learned about evolution and how small and insignificant people are compared to the whole universe, I began to question the existence of God.

After the initial fear of being punished from God for not believing in him or her subsided, I learned that it was

OK to live without God and religion.

Slowly I began to discover my own self-awareness.

I began to think for myself and question everything.

I was able to decide what morals I wanted to live my life by.

I wasn't afraid to do anything or to act in any way.

I felt like I was finally able to act and think the way I wanted to think and it felt great.

Since I decided to become an atheist, I have gotten a lot of backlash from religious family members, friends and even strangers because I think they mostly believe I have lost my values, which isn't the case at all.

Whenever I tell someone I'm an atheist, the first question I am always asked is "Why?"

Usually, my response is "God used to be an important part of my life then I realized I can be my own thinker and decide what I want to believe. I do not want to believe in a God only because I fear him or her."

Then the conversation of God's existence usually comes up and that's when often times a small debate arises.

After the debate, which can truthfully never be solved or won, the person tells me I will find God again or hopes for me to find God again one day.

That part secretly infuriates me because if I can respect the fact that you believe in God then why can't you respect my choice in lack of faith.

I am not expecting to turn you into an atheist, so please don't expect or try to "save me" with your religion.

Atheism has allowed me to not judge or hate anyone because of my religion.

I can be my own person and believe what I want.

I don't have to live my life in fear that I might go to hell because I don't believe in heaven or hell.

I am sure some people find this odd, but I get complete satisfaction in believing in no afterlife.

This is my one-and-only life and I am trying to take full advantage of it by living the way I want.

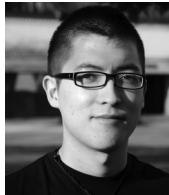
I am living my life with the morals, beliefs and values I decided were best for me.

I am not some crazy immoral person who does horrible things just because I am an atheist.

WESSIDESTORY

by Wesley Dugle

Playing for the love of the money



This column
appears
every
Monday

I love sports.

I enjoy watching the athletic plays, the hard-hitting tackles, the slam dunks and the big home runs year in and year out.

For me, watching pro athletes go at it on the field, the court and the gridiron are among my favorite joys in life.

These athletes are blessed with great talent and should be thankful that they can make a good living doing what they love.

But unfortunately, sometimes these people let it get to their heads and say things that are incredibly stupid and out of touch.

For instance, take this past week when Miami Heat shooting guard Dwyane Wade was talking about pro basketball players playing in the 2012 London Olympic games.

"We play the whole summer. I do think guys should be compensated," Wade said in an article on sportingnews.com.

Let that sink in for a minute. Dwyane Wade, a perennial All-Star with a huge multimillion-dollar contract that was just signed a year ago thinks he and

his Team USA basketball teammates should be paid to represent their country.

Are you kidding me?

Boston Celtics shooting guard Ray Allen said more or less the same thing in regards to the Olympics.

"You talk about the patriotism that guys should want to play for, but you (need to) find a way to entice the guys," Allen said.

Entice?

Representing your country on sports' biggest stage isn't enough to "entice" you, Mr. Allen?

Considering that to represent your country at the Olympics you are not only getting an all-expenses paid trip to London, but you are getting a chance to test your skills on the world circuit, I would like to think that would wipe away any concerns players such as Allen and Wade would have.

Besides, unlike the smaller sport athletes who participate in things like the shot put, track and field and gymnastics to name a few, being big time pro athletes like Allen and Wade mean they will get Team USA endorsement deals up the wazoo from companies such as Nike, Reebok and Puma.

They are already being compensated!

Unless you are Michael Phelps, you are pretty much not getting any endorsement deals unless you are part of the major sport teams at the games.

Sure, both Allen and Wade make mention further in the article about deep playoff runs in the NBA season ending too close to the beginning of Olympic preparation time so their bodies are worn down, but if your body is really that beat up then you can always choose not to go!

If being worn down is a problem then no amount of money should bring you over, right?

Let someone else go and represent the USA.

All this continues to remind me that pro athletes like them need to wake up and realize they have nothing to complain about.

The recent lockouts in both the NBA and NFL are good examples of this.

In both cases, pro athletes complained about not making enough money and that they should be more heavily compensated for their play.

What really astounded me in both cases was that it was not the lower-tier fringe players that were arguing the most — it was the big multimillion-dollar franchise players.

In the NFL, quarterbacks like Drew Brees, Peyton Manning and Tom Brady all filed

anti-trust lawsuits against the league and Dwyane Wade said publicly during the NBA's lockout that star players like LeBron James, Kobe Bryant and Dwight Howard were all not making enough money.

The most absurd statement of them all came from the NFL's lockout where Minnesota Vikings' star running back Adrian Peterson went as far as to compare the league to slavery.

"It's modern-day slavery, you know? People kind of laugh at that, but there are people working at regular jobs who get treated the same way, too," he said in a 2011 Huffington Post article.

Sure, Adrian. I bet you can really relate to those people at "regular jobs" who are paying off school bills and mortgages and struggling to make ends meet.

It's sad that for these athletes the love of the game means less to them than a few extra million dollars.

I sure hope that players like Wade and Allen man up here and either go to the Olympics or stay home without saying a word because if representing their country is not enough to "entice" them but getting paid is, then I don't want them wearing our colors in London this summer.

Zimmerman prosecution means justice will be served



by
Alyxandra
Goodwin
Staff Writer

Last week, prosecutor Angela Corey announced that George Zimmerman has been charged with second-degree murder in the case of Trayvon Martin's death.

After all my years of watching Law & Order, I still never figured out the difference between first- and second-degree murder and because this case has had so much media attention, it was in my best interest to look into it.

Second-degree murder means that, in this case, the murder of Martin was not premeditated but happened because Zimmerman felt like his life was in danger and death was a possibility for himself.

Basically, the murder was a result of self-defense.

I'm glad that Zimmerman

has been charged with Martin's death for the simple fact that he took someone's life. The details as to which degree of murder he should have been charged with is where it gets a little blurry.

According to the media, the tapes released of Zimmerman's call to a dispatcher has him recorded as chasing after Martin even after the dispatcher told him that was not necessary.

Coupled with that, is the call Martin made to his girlfriend in which Martin is the one that sounds threatened, according to her.

From the sounds of this, Martin's life was in danger.

The difference between first- and second-degree murder is that first-degree means that it was premeditated — the idea that Zimmerman was chasing after Martin sounds like premeditation to me.

If it wasn't the murder that was premeditated, it was at least a fight that Zimmerman was looking for.

In my eyes, there is no type of violence that should be premeditated.

It's hard to say what really happened because nobody was there except for Zimmerman and Martin, and only one side of the story is alive to be told.

I think that if public opinion was what drove this case, Zimmerman would have been charged with first-degree murder, but according to the prosecutor in this case, public opinion or petition is not what drove this decision.

That is a little hard for me to believe, for the simple fact that there was so much pressure it was hard to ignore.

If Zimmerman had gotten off without being charged with anything, the negativity surrounding this case only would have gotten worse.

I think the court knew it was in the best interest of themselves and Zimmerman to charge him.

One thing, in my mind, that our country values — but has a

lot of trouble doing — is taking responsibility when someone screws up. Nobody ever wants to be wrong or to be the bad guy, and our country has had a few of those instances, especially concerning race.

Of course, the actual slavery of African-Americans in this country is well over with, but in my opinion African-Americans are still suffering because of how institutionalized racism seems to be.

Hopefully, the hype around this case will be over.

Yes, it shed light on issues such as whether racism still exists and how culture stereotypes individuals, but Martin's death wasn't going to solve all of this and I think that people hoped it would.

I'm glad that some kind of justice was served and Zimmerman has at least been charged with something.

In the end, someone's son died and responsibility needed to be taken.



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Letters to the editor must contain the author's name, address, phone number, signature and major. Letters become proper-

ty of the Spartan Daily and may be edited for clarity, grammar, libel and length. Only letters of 300 words or less will be considered for publication.

Published opinions and advertisements do not necessarily reflect the views of the Spartan Daily, the School of Journalism and Mass Communication or SJSU. The Spartan Daily is a public forum.

CSU FACULTY

TIME TO BE COUNTED

A stylized illustration of a hand holding a sign. The hand is rendered in a bold, graphic style with black outlines and red and white shading. The sign is white with a black border and contains the text 'STRIKE VOTE' in large, bold, black capital letters. The background of the entire poster is a vibrant red with a pattern of thin, white, diagonal lines radiating from the center, creating a sense of movement and energy.

**STRIKE
VOTE**

APRIL 16-27

On Campus Voting, April 16th to 19th

8 am to 5 pm, Clark Hall - in front

Online voting info: www.calfac.org/StrikeVote411