

San Jose High School freshmen sit in on a panel discussion about the path to college in the Loma Prieta room in the Student Union.

Group points students toward higher education

Organization stresses the importance of college to visiting high school students

Ron Gleeson Staff Writer

Dayana Salazar, CommUniverCity executive director, spoke on the importance of giving this experience to the

"We really want to foster these students into a collegegoing culture," she said. "We want the kids to start early on and eliminate the barriers of college from their imaginations."

During their stay on campus, about 200 freshman were given a tour of the grounds and the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library,

panel discussion in the Loma sion statement. Prieta Room of the Student Union, said Imelda Rodriguez, CommUniverCity community director.

"The main purpose of this visit is to let them know that they should explore opportunities for college," she said. "But most of all, we want them to learn that college is

CommUniverCity Jose is an organization that seeks to empower students and build communities by organizing service-learning projects that address education, community health and neighborhood improve-

and then had lunch during a ments, according to its mis-

"We really want to foster these students into a collegegoing culture."

Dayana Salazar CommUniverCity Executive Director

Cristina Castro, assistant principal of San Jose High School accompanied her students as they toured the cam-

"This is an absolutely great experience for these students because for many of them this is their first step on a college campus," she said. "We want them to know that education is out there and that there are many opportunities to seek education. They need to remember that college is in no way unreach-

This year marks the fourth year that San Jose High School has partnered with CommUniverCity and taken

see **SCHOOL** page 2

Workshop offers tips to enhance résumés

Ron Gleeson Staff Writer

Bennet Gibson, a Career Center graduate intern and the presenter of the workshop, expanded on the importance of building a résumé.

"It is a single page of information that represents marketing yourself to employers," he said. "It is the one piece of communication that you can have with your future potential employers before getting a call back for an interview."

A group of about 25 students observed the presentation in Module A, one of the temporary portables located next to the Hoover Hall dormi-

Srega Chatterji, a graduate student in applied economics, found the workshop quite helpful.

"The presentation was very informative," she said. "I learned how to improve my résumé a great amount. The most important aspect I took away from the workshop was how to use my action verbs more appropriately."

Career Center intern Megan Bradley, another workshop presenter, elaborated on how the résumé is an ever-expanding tool that a student will end up using throughout his or her career.

"Even I'm still learning how to write a résumé," she said. "Accomplishment is the most difficult thing in the job market, and the résumé is

"I got my first job when as a graphic designer for the Sonoma West Times and News when I was 15 years old and I used a résumé I built to help me get the job."

The workshop included a PowerPoint presentation that touched on topics such as the guidelines to creating a visually inviting résumé, which skills today's employers look for most in their applicants and common resume mistakes.

According to the PowerPoint presentation, the top five skills employers look for in their applicants are communication, analytical, teamwork, technical and soft skills.

"Even though these are the most sought-after skills in the job market, you still should highlight skills most applicable to the jobs you are applying for," Gibson said.

Bridget Li, a graduate student in corporate finance management, said she also gathered the outcomes of the workshop to her benefit.

"It revealed to me the most notable aspects of a résumé," she said. "It gave me information that I will use for years to come."

Li, however, said she hoped for more from the

"I would like to learn more about how I can improve my interview skills," she said. "The interview is an important key to getting a job with a

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Seminar fosters talks, hopes to break gender stereotypes

Rebecca Henderson Staff Writer

About 90 students, staff and faculty members gathered to discuss gender stereotypes Thursday in the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library as part of the Diversity Dialogue se-

Freshman nursing major Monica Villegas said she heard about the event in her Mexican American studies class.

"There should be a lot more emphasis (on such dialogue) because it leads to more acceptance and awareness, which is something we need right now in our society," she said.

Marina Corrales, the Equal Opportunity Program developer at the Office for Equal Opportunity, said they try to address topics that are difficult to speak about or ones that people don't know a lot about.

"It's about a dialogue," she said. "You come here and share your experiences. No one is going to try to change your mind or tell you that you're wrong. We understand that everyone comes with unique experiences and backgrounds — that's what we're pushing for."

Kendall Sallay, a senior social sci-

ence and women's studies double major, said it helps to promote diversity on campus.

"Anytime people are talking openly about their life experiences and others are actively listening to them, it fosters tolerance, understanding and a respect for people's different experiences," she said.

A short video clip was shown displaying stereotypical roles of males and females, with women as housewives and men as the providers. It also showed how different cultures don't stick to these roles.

After the video, student facilitators led discussions in small groups

and asked questions regarding ways the attendees were confined and limited by stereotypes, and whether they or anyone they knew challenged gender roles.

"One thing I liked about the clip was it addressed (that) we don't have to identify as male or female," Corrales said. "It's very Western of us to think there's only male and female, and why is that?"

Freshman psychology major Sara Baes said she was fascinated about what she learned from the video

"I really saw how Muslim women were really involved and I liked that," she said. "Before I thought they just did one thing and nothing

Corrales said it's about informing and learning from each other and building a mutual understand-

"Its not only about 'Lets talk about it," she said. "It's also what can we do."

Junior sociology major Ysenia Sepulveda said both males and females need to unite.

"It's good to be on the same level

see **DIVERSITY** page 2





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RÉSUMÉ From Page 1

large company and it would be good practice to be able to see immediately responses and point out the good and bad of those responses."

Other tips given to those in attendance were to tailor their résumés, position the most relevant information toward to top of their résumés, use impacting action verbs and to be as clear and concise as possible.

"Most employers only look at a résumé for about seven to 10 seconds," Bradley said. "So being clear and concise is absolutely vital."

the importance of the cover letter portion of a résumé.

"The cover letter offers on why you may want the job, how you learned about the opening and allows you to draw a connection to the employer," Gibson said.

Bradley said the same resources are available students who could not attend the workshop.

"Visit the Career Center for any career advice," she said. "There are many dif-Gibson wanted to stress ferent resources there at the disposal of any SJSU student."

> There is also an eightminute long video with a shortened version of the résumé presentation on the career center website, Brad-

NEWS BRIEFS

International

Mubarak steps down; Military dissolves parliament, suspends constitution

Compiled From McClatchy Tribune

CAIRO — The Egyptian army has tightened its grip over the country by suspending the constitution, dissolving parliament and calling for elections within six months — key demands of the protest movement that ousted President Hosni Mubarak.

The actions by the Supreme Council of the Armed Forces came two days after Mubarak resigned and were an indication to protesters that the military, the most respected institution in the nation, was edging toward forming a credible democracy.

However, the army left intact the ex-president's council of ministers to run the government.

Reformers and demonstrators welcomed the army's intervention as a signal that after 30 years of dominance and corruption by Mubarak's ruling party, independent candidates and opposition voices would potentially gain a voice in a future government.

Earlier Sunday, the military moved into Tahrir Square, the epicenter of the uprising in Cairo, and began to clear out the tent city that had sprung up since the revolt against Mubarak's rule began Jan. 25. Demonstrators largely did not resist their efforts, though small groups remained in the plaza.

The effort to clear Tahrir Square was a further sign of the military's determination to restore normalcy to the nation's capital. The popular uprising shut down Egypt's economy, sparked clashes and froze activity in downtown Cairo, home to the government and major businesses.

A protester who was evicted warned that if the demonstrators surrendered Tahrir Square, the army would never meet the Egyptians' demands for greater democracy and an end to decades-long emergency decrees.

"We don't want to leave," said Mohammed Shaheen. "They'll never give up the emergency laws. And they'll use them to put people in jail."

National

Obama administration to propose new budget

Compiled From McClatchy Tribune

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama will propose a new federal budget today that is \$90 billion smaller than the one he offered last year and includes a combination of cuts and revenue increases aimed at chopping \$1.1 trillion from the deficit in 10 years.

The president's \$3.73 trillion spending plan cuts many popular programs while increasing spending in education and infrastructure programs designed to bolster the nation's economic competitiveness.

It seeks to shrink the deficit from an estimated 7 percent of gross domestic product this year to 3.2 percent in 2015, maintaining it at roughly that level through 2021.

Obama also is proposing an end to tax breaks enacted under former President George W. Bush for the nation's wealthiest earners.

About two-thirds of the deficit reduction over 10 years would come

from cuts. The rest would come from revenue increases. The proposed budget includes a five-year freeze on non-national se-

curity discretionary spending, which would save \$400 billion, and the elimination or trimming of dozens of programs. The plan also trims \$78 billion from Pentagon spending over the next

five years, eliminating additional transport planes, a Marine amphibious assault vehicle and an alternate engine for the Joint Strike Fighter. Also on the chopping block are a dozen tax breaks to oil, gas and coal

producers worth \$46 billion over 10 years.

The administration plans to expand Pell grants for college students, but would finance it through a \$100 billion package of savings that could make it harder for some students to finance their education.

The changes would eliminate the availability of the grants for summer students, and increase the costs of graduate school loans by having interest begin to accrue while students are in still in school, rather than after they graduate.

Officials also said the budget would include funding to bring highspeed Internet access to 98 percent of Americans and prepare for 100,000 new science and math teachers, but offered few details on timing or financing.

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the school's freshmen for the tour and crash course on success on the road to college, Cas-

involved with the visit and this year has been much improved," she said. "It has been much more smoother and I feel like we have all come together much more this year."

David Chen, a special education English teacher at San Jose High School, said from an instructor's point of view, he appreciates the opportunity the students are getting.

"This sets the right foundation for the students to build on," he said. "This will allow them to stir their imaginations and gives them a sustainable reality that school can be

The trip to campus brought the experience of college down to the students' level so that they can closely relate themselves to their dreams, Salazar said.

"By bringing these students to SJSU campus they can see how close it is to where they live," she said. "They can see themselves reflected on the students as they walk from class to class and they can insert themselves into the college lifestyle by walking around this beautiful campus."

Adela Lua, a master's student in applied anthropology and Cal-SOAP representative, presented a workshop for visiting students called "Life After High School."

Cal-SOAP, the California Student Opportunity and Access Program, is an organization committed to providing information about postsecondary education and financial aid to elementary through high school students while raising their academic achievement levels, according to its mission statement.

"I relate easily to these teens because, like many of them, I am a first-generation college student," Lua said. "We realize certain circumstances exist that can hold you back

from accomplishing your goals, but we want to teach that there shouldn't be.

"There is a huge population of teens that are not receiving the right benefits that would be tremendously helpful, all I want to do is pay it forward."

Her presentation emphasized that life does not end after high school and showed "This is the second year that I have been the financial benefits of graduating from college. It broke down the cost comparisons between going to a community college and SISU, and showed the students ways to fund their college tuition by taking advantage of loans, grants and scholarships, as well as steps to receive financial aid.

> "Do you want to live in San Jose the rest of your life, or do you want to move out one day?" Lua asked. "Don't only do the minimum. Do the extra work that is expected of

> Enrique Rivera, a freshman at San Jose High School, said this was his first time stepping onto the university's campus and he enjoyed his time spent.

"This campus is very cool and I think this college is my first choice for when I graduate from high school," he said.

Brandon Gonzalez, also a freshman from San Jose High School, said he had been to the SJSU campus before and this visit has only reinforced his favorable opinion about the

"San Jose State is definitely my first choice of colleges," he said. "Growing up around San Jose has made me want to go to SJSU and today has made me feel even better about it."

Gonzalez said he hopes to study architec-

Castro, a graduate from SISU and former transfer student from Evergreen Community College, explained the importance of her college education and how it changed her life.

"There is no question I would not be where I am and who I am today without my college education," she said. "I got chills about what college life was like by stepping back onto campus after so many years. Hopefully the kids are getting chills too."

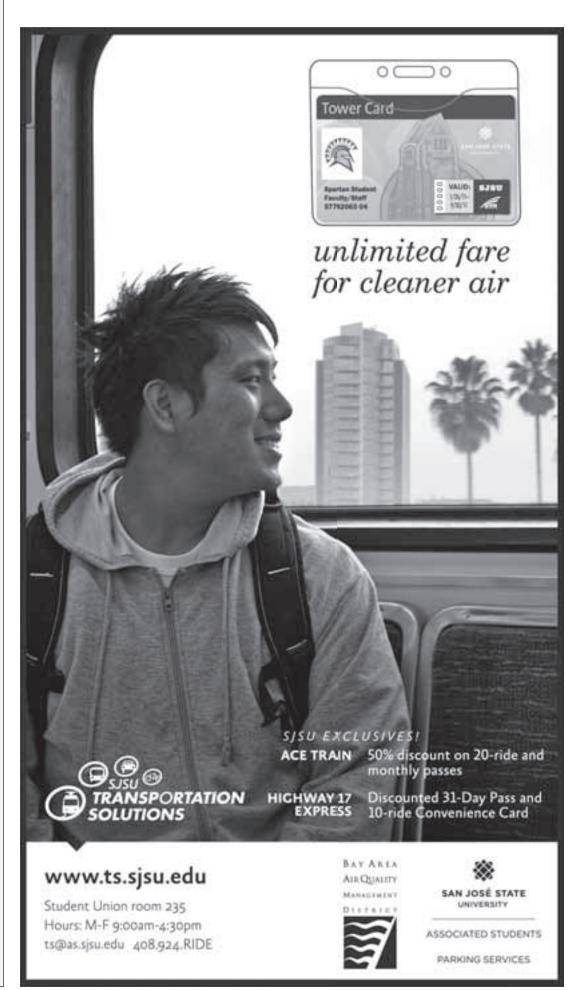
DIVERSITY From Page 1

and have that dialogue to understand where each other

comes from," she said. "We all coalition between us." know the stereotypes related to men and they know about us (women) but to actually talk about some experiences that may hurt each other that's the beginning of the these molds."

Corrales said "we need to question our assumptions."

"We don't have to be stuck in our gender roles," she said. "We don't have to just fit into



■ BASKETBALL

Spartans fall to Wolf Pack in overtime heartbreaker

Staff Writer

Despite a strong start, the Spartans fell 76-84 in overtime Saturday to the visiting Nevada Wolf Pack at the SJSU Event Center. It was a rematch of the previous Saturday's game in which the Spartans also lost.

"We needed to get that game done, all of our players know that," said Spartan head coach George Nessman. "But it's not going to deter us, we still have a lot of season to go and we just have to turn this thing (around) and go get a win on Tuesday."

The Spartans (11-12) opened the first half with a commanding 25-10 lead with 8:30 left but Nevada (10-14) answered with a strong 17-7 run to close following a timeout.

The Spartans started with a 58.8 field goal percentage but quickly fell to 38.2 by the end of game as the Nevada defense tightened.

"It's probably one of my worst shooting nights," said senior guard Justin Graham who had 13 points on the night and a game-high four steals. "But I got to get back in the gym tomorrow and move on."

The Wolf Pack carried their strong first half finish into the second and took their first lead with 9:38 left to go when Nevada guard Malik Story hit a three-pointer and put them up 50-49.

Story gashed the Spartan defense for 29 points and six assists on the night.

"(Story) had that little stretch where he made some shots," Nessman said. "I think he had that one burst that really got

Senior guard Adrian Oliver had a great performance against the Wolf Pack with 30 points on 10 of 20 shooting but was caught in foul trouble at a critical moment when he was called for a technical foul late in the second half.

The foul gave him his fourth personal which held him out late in the game.

The two teams exchanged leads back and forth throughout the remainder of the game.

With two minutes remaining, the Spartans had a chance



Photo: Vernon McKnight / Spartan Daily Spartans' head coach George Nessman and senior guard Adrian Oliver react during Saturday's loss.

to ice the game on free throws, but freshman guard Keith Shamburger and Justin Graham both went one for two at the line, giving the Wolf Pack just enough life to find a way to force overtime.

After a layup by Nevada guard Deante Burton that cut the Spartans lead to 72-70, instead of fouling Oliver on the ensuing possession the Nevada players forced a turnover. In an attempt to keep Nevada center Olek Czyz from scoring Oliver fouled him, giving Oliver his fifth personal foul and leaving the Spartans without their top scorer for overtime.

"We had three chances to put the game away and we failed to do it," Nessman said. "You've got to close strong. We didn't do it and Nevada did."

Coach Nessman did express some positives with the out-

"The positive is this — we played with energy, we stayed on the attack, but we just didn't get it done," he said.

Graham said for the younger players on the team there is a good lesson to be learned from this loss.

"You tell them 'Look, it's disappointing, but look we got to



Senior guard Justin Graham drives to the hoop during the Spartans' home loss to Nevada on Saturday.

move on," he said. "We got a game on Tuesday, we got more games to play. It hurts but use that as motivation to play better and to get a win on Tuesday."

The Spartans play again on Tuesday against Montana State in the second of a six-game home stretch.

■ GYMNASTICS

Season-high score not enough in final home meet

Alex Wara Staff Writer

The SISU women's gymnastics team walked out of the gym on Friday with the second-highest team score in school history.

Hosting Boise State, UC Davis and Seattle Pacific at the Spartan Gym, the Spartans scored a 195.550, placing them behind Boise State for second place.

The Spartans started the meet off at the vault, where junior Thomasina Wallace and senior Lily Swann both had the highest scores for the team with 9.825.

After the first event, the Spartans were in second place with a score of 48.850, just trailing Boise State's 49.175.

On the bars and beam Wallace scored an eventhigh 9.900 and won the allaround competition with a score of 39.325.

"I just wanted to do what I have been training to do," Wallace said.

After struggling on the beam last week with a few falls, the Spartans bounced back with 48.925, the highest at the meet.

Wallace set the tone for the team on the beam with a score of 9.900, and the Spartans' support after every gymnast competed could be heard throughout the gym.

"I felt great because my team had set me up so well," Swann said. "It just kept going and building. It was great, it felt like our floor usually does."

All six athletes stayed on the beam and brought the team into the last rotation ahead, said head coach Wayne Wright.

"Our beam performance was phenomenal," Wright said. "We've had issues on beam all year but we figured it out and obviously the score proved that, they did a wonderful job on the beam."

Heading into the last event SJSU was tied with Boise by a score of 146.675, with the

Spartans on the floor and compared to SJSU's 195.550, a Boise on the vault.

On floor the Spartans were led by Swann with the highest score with a 9.875, followed by junior Aubrey Lee with a 9.850.

The floor score of 48.875 was not enough for the Spartans as Boise State scored a 49.250, putting Boise in first Katie Merritt and Swann. place with a score of 195.925

.375 difference.

UC Davis placed third with a score of 192.325, followed by Seattle Pacific with a score of 190.025.

The event marked the final home competition at SJSU for the team's three seniors, Shanice Howard,

Howard competed in the



Photo: Vernon McKnight / Spartan Daily

Senior Lily Swann performs during the beam event Friday. The Spartans scored 48.925 for the event.



vault and bars scoring 9.750 and 9.575 along with Merritt scoring a 9.750 on vault, 9.775 on bars and 9.500 on beam.

"We are glad that we can send them out with this performance because it was really good," Wallace said. "We are glad to send them off in a good way."

The final home meet for

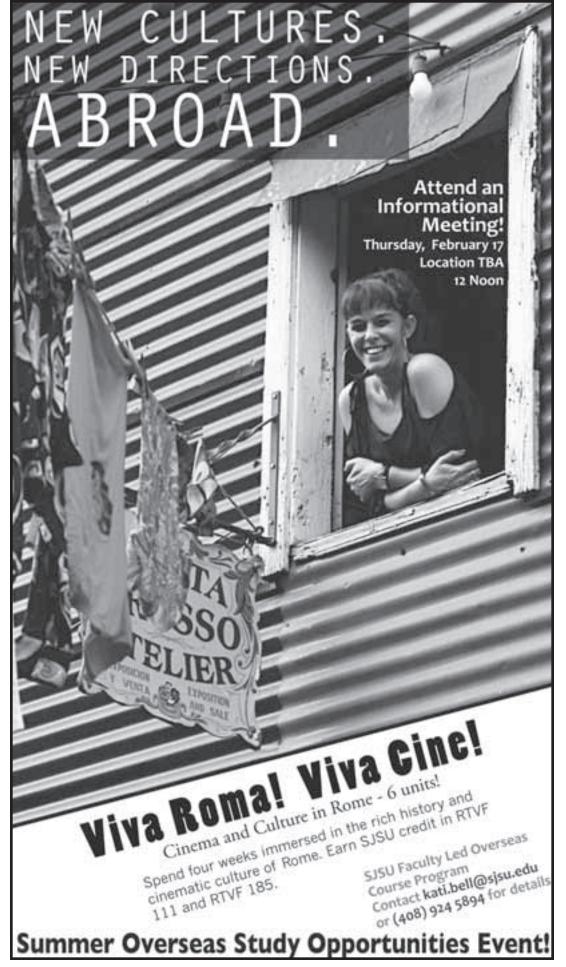
the seniors came early this Wright said. year, Wright said.

"I think they are great leaders and obviously great gymnasts," he said. "They will be missed, but we are not missing them yet, there is still a lot of gymnastics to go."

The team plans to prepare for its next meet by just doing a little more of the same,

"I am a creature of habit and in gymnastics consistency is everything, so we are just going to go back in and do what we do," he said.

The Spartans will face Southern Utah on Feb. 18 followed by Oregon State, UC Davis and Washington



Valentine's Day Shout-Outs



Dear Emily Anne, You're the bestest gf ever! I LUV YOU S00000000000000000 -Arkley

Travis. You make me the happiest girl in the world. I can't wait to spend the rest of my

life with you:) 6/6/08 Love You Always. angel P.S. You Heard!

Lots of love to my very awesome fraternity Alpha Phi Omegal

<3, your CO VP of Fellowship. Jessica Luc

Dear Chris, Jean't wait to spend every Valentine's Day with you - I love you with all my heart. Love, Your Sandy χοχοχο

To My SoPi Sisters. I love you all, and best of luck this semester -especially my Lil Sis and Lil Bros and the QE class and everyone! Toodles!

Love,

Alie B.

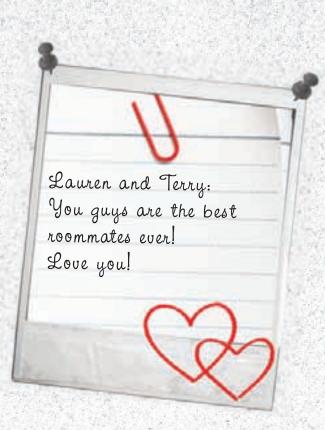
My Dearest Big Bro Evan: You're awazing! Thanks 4 everything! Love Tess. P.S. Much love to George, Airy and V-Tay

I'll care about you a/ways. From: Gordo

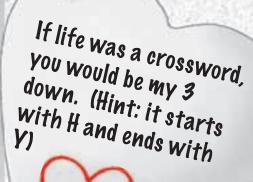
I HAVE BEEN LOVE STRUCK BY TRANSPORTATION SOLUTIONS

To Dark Chocolate Bear, ALL I have to say is... NaNaNaNaNaNa! Much Love, Jordan

To Storms: Love you BEST FRIEND!!! You are the BEST Valentine for 2 years in a row now! Apple juice and Mac N Cheese for life! Ridiculous! Haha love you always buddy. -Your best friend Lee



To Marie Garcia
I look forward every day to your smile. You make my life complete. Don't ever change.
I Love You!
From Sergio Garcia







Happy Singles Awareness Day! Go buy yourself something nice!



Daniel,
I just want to say I love you so
Much. The past 4 years have been
amazing and I can't imagine
differently. I'm so proud of how
Much our love has grown.
Happy Valentine's Day!
Love,
Tazmine (Baby Squirrel)

Jade Duggan,

14 is Valentine's Day

today and though you are
far away... As roses are
red and violets are blue,

1'm, stuck in the Daily...

But I love you



Avoid disaster with last-minute Valentine's Day gifts

Whitney Ellard Staff Writer

According to the National Retail Foundation the average couple will spend \$68.98 a piece on Valentine's Day. Short on cash?

Don't have \$68? These fun last-minute gifts under \$20 allow you to show how much you care without breaking the bank.

Message In A Bottle

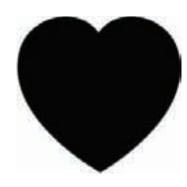
A message in a bottle is a great idea for a significant other and it doesn't cost

You can spend more than \$40 ordering a decorated bottle with a computer-generated note or you can simply get an old Coke bottle, clean it out, take the label off and add

your own personal touch.

You can find crafts to decorate the outside and inside of the bottle at Target, Walmart or Michaels craft store.

You can purchase or use your own stationary to write what your significant other means to you.



Roll the note up, tie it with a bow, place it in the bottle and put the cork on top.

Lastly, tie ribbon around the top or add any other personal touches to the bottle and you're done.

It's something so simple that can go a long way.

Personalized Coupons

Got a printer? Check out givecoupons.com to create and print out personalized coupons for that special someone or friend from your home computer.

Print out a free massage, car wash or dinner for your valentine. Whatever you print out is a fun and simple way to show you care.

Reasons Why I Love You Book

Your valentine will truly appreciate a personalized one-of-a-kind "Reasons Why I Love You Book."

Create a list of reasons why you love that special person and incorporate those reasons into each page of a journal or notebook.

You can get more creative by adding pictures or drawings to each page.

This is a easy and creative way to impress your valen-

Bath & Body Works Gift Sets

Know that special lady, sister, friend or mom's favorite scent?

Run over to Bath & Body works and purchase a \$10, \$15 or \$20 gift set which may include travel-size body wash, body spray, soaps, lotions and many other special little gifts.

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Photo Courtesy: bathandbodyworks.com

Bath & Bodyworks offers gift sets starting at \$10 per set.

der are TSA compliant for a traveler's carry-on bag.

Personalized Basket

Know your valentine's favorite candies or snacks?

Run to the Dollar Tree, Target or Walmart and purchase a small basket, small storage bin or pail.

Secondly, buy their favorite candy bars, cookies or

Purchase clear wrapping paper and a bow or ribbon.

Place all the candy nicely into the bin or basket and wrap it up like an Easter basket and seal the top with ribbon or a bow.

This basket is a fun and simple way to show that you care and have been paying attention to your significant other.

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Still looking for the perfect last minute deal?

Check out livingsocial.

This website has daily local deals as well as deals all over the country — if that special someone is far away — for restaurants, spas and other fun activities.

PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED

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Photo Courtesy: sephora.com

Sephora sells palette and combination makeup sets under \$20.

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Discounts apply to the original base rate, plus	16-31 classifieds	30%off
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TODAY'S <u>CROSSWORD PUZZLE</u>

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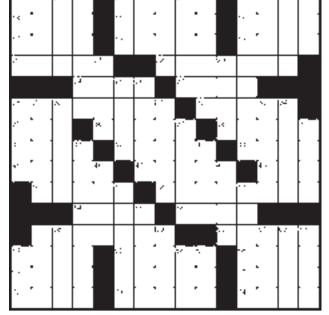
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The revolution was televised ... and streamed

For the past couple of weeks or so, the revolution in Egypt has captured the attention and hearts of people around the world as each day brought a new twist to the Hosni Mubarak saga and finally his inevitable end.

Last Sunday I sat in the newsroom and followed the Super Bowl on mute from a live streaming feed that occupied half of my computer screen.

On the other half of the computer screen, I cycled through YouTube clips of

the protests in Cairo and coverage from Al-

Christina Aguilera's lips were moving as she sang the national anthem, but the only thing audible was the call of a muezzin ringing out into the street as a group of worshippers rose in tandem from prostration.

To me, that call to prayer is one of the eeriest, most mysterious sounds in the world, and to hear it coming out of the mouth of a bleached-blonde American diva was one of the most bizarre juxtapositions imaginable.

I'd put it right up there with the Pope breaking into a Latin rendition of "Genie In

As I saw the two completely unrelated events unfold, I began to ponder a question: What is news, and what is

Without the help of the Internet, such a comparison would seem wholly contrived, but once we have the medium to place the two events side by side, the visual parallels are undeniably real.

Fans at Cowboys Stadium in Arlington, Texas, where the game was held, rose from their seats all at once to commemorate each dramatic play, an undulating human wave of

Meanwhile in Egypt, the prayerful, wearing business suits, sweatshirts and head coverings, rose from their rugs to march through a city swept by riots and ungoverned by police forces.

As the Green Bay Packers and Pittsburgh Steelers headed in silence toward the collision that would begin the game, armed supporters of Mubarak descended upon the large group of anti-Mubarak protesters who had assembled in Cairo's Tahrir Square.

In the background lurked the green, boxy silhouettes of the army tanks that would intervene once full-scale violence broke out.

In spite of the attacks suffered by reporters such as Anderson Cooper in Egypt over the past two weeks and the suppression of the Internet and networking media through which protest events were organized, you can find just about anything you would want to

The camera lens leaves little to the imagination: bloody bodies and Molotov cocktail explosions, burning photographs and Egyptian flags, posters in Arabic hoisted into the air by shouting crowds of men and women of

People are constantly searching the Web for new links and images, e-mailing and forwarding the most appalling, the most exciting, and the most humanizing parts — like those Egyptians who formed a human wall to protect treasured artifacts housed in the national

What unifies this diverse and often disturbing set of visuals is their uncanny resemblance to highlights from a feature film, or closer yet, to the on-screen replays from the televised Su-

So what differentiates news from spectacle? Is it the stakes?

For Egypt the stakes could not have been any higher, and the riots already promise a serious ripple effect throughout the Middle East, threatening to dissolve tenuous alliances and further embroil the region in uncertainty.

President Barack Obama publicly addressed the crisis last week, as it will certainly affect the ongoing wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

But on a more immediate, short-term level, the stakes may have been higher for those who had placed bets on the Super Bowl. For this

large contingent of the people around us, objectively much more depended on the Green Bay Packers' victory, absurd as it may sound.

In his speech, Obama told the Egyptian authorities to "reverse the actions they have taken to interfere with access to the Internet, the cell phone service and to social networks that do so much to connect people in the 21st century."

Indeed, the Mubarak government shut down the Internet as a riot control weapon, a scaled-up sort of police baton.

But Obama referred specifically to a "social network," undoubtedly Facebook, which protestors used to establish times and locations for their demonstrations.

It's easy to claim that the overcrowded communication system that is the Internet abstracts and dulls reality to the point of cre-

However, its visually driven format does lend itself to a global rubbernecking phenomenon where we ogle at new car wrecks on the side of the road.

I think the only answer is to continue to question our reactions to new sources of spectacle as they appear from riot to Super Bowl, and to use the tools at our disposal to probe, instead of mask, what is real.

"On The Contrary" is a weekly column appearing on Mondays. Salman Haqqi is the Spartan

If it's love, it shouldn't be complicated

Salman Haqqi

On The Contrary

Last week, I met a longtime friend face to face for the first time - we had only ever known each other over the Internet.

Upon hearing news he was making his way from Kentucky to California on business, I was ecstatic when he told me he would make time to come see

We ran aimlessly around downtown documenting all of the fun we were having with a camera. That night, he uploaded the pictures of us into an album on his Facebook, but one my life. thing stood out from the rest of the albums.

that I was in.

When I asked him why out for drinks. he didn't want to make his ex-girlfriend mad.

Wait, what?

Did I hear that right? You didn't want to make someone who you're no long ago, if longer romantically involved with upset — that's ing for some-

"It's complicated," was might all he said.

You could guess that I was hurt by it all.

I don't think I'm alone It's in saying I'm kind of a Facebook creeper.

I am totally guilty of going onto an ex-love's page and reading the love notes he and his new girlfriend post on each other's walls.

I remember the day I saw his status go from "single" to "in a relationship."

It was official that I should probably pick up



Amaris Dominguez Senior Staff Writer

the pieces of my broken heart and move on with

Recently, a friend confided in me that she saw Every picture had a lit- an unfamiliar girl post on tle story except the ones her boyfriend's wall stating that she wanted to go

mine were being neglected I told her if she trusted believer that if you keep of a story, he explained that her boyfriend she should breaking up and making just shrug it off, but if she up with someone, you kept digging into finding shouldn't be together. some dirt on their "friendship" to be careful.

> I learned you go lookthing, you find exactly what you've been suspecting. not a feelgood ing and it's a horrible way

to live life. In the past week seen seven friends' sta-

tuses go from "in a rela- sense that I don't undertionship" to "it's compli-

So, what's the deal?

Facebook lets us leave things in this weird love limbo. It makes us insecure when it comes to love and trust.

We can easily misconstrue anything and everything posted at any given

I never see love as an in between — you either want to be in a relationship or you don't.

You can't force someone to love you and want to be with you, trust me.

That little status button has given people the option to be involved in unhealthy relationships all while maintaining the freedom of not really being someone's boyfriend or girlfriend.

I've always been a firm Why stay with someone if you're always going to be

"I learned

long ago, if you

go looking for

something, you

might find

you've been

suspecting."

exactly what

walking thin ice?

"It's not official til it's on Facebook," something all too familiar to hear when talking about who is dating whom. Well,

let it be official that I am single and complicated in the

stand why Facebook lets relationships be seen as a

Get your children up and out of the house to play

Recently, I went out with a couple of buddies of mine to a Target - or Targé, as I like to call it when I noticed the dearth of children walking around with their heads not tilted downward with their eyes fixed on some form of portable technology.

When I was a kid, all we had was Nintendo Game Boy, and playing it was strictly reserved for car

According to the Centers for Disease Control

website, childhood obesity has more than PS3 motion controllers and the Xbox Kitripled in the past 30 years. The prevalence of obesity among chil-

prevalence of obesity among adolescents ages 12 to 19 increased from 5 percent to 18.1 percent.

Aren't these kids getting enough time watching TV or playing their Wii's, Xbox's and PS3's at home that they can go on a quick shopping excursion exploring their surroundings?

Unfortunately, schools across the nation have been cutting physical education courses in favor of more mentally stimulating activities. You can't argue with that logic, but at the same time we are becoming a nation of couch potatoes.

I remember when kids would beg to sleep over at each other's houses to climb trees, throw rocks, roll balls of mud ... you know, stuff that might actually cause some perspiration.

Slinging a tennis ball against a wall was a sure source of exhilaration on many afternoons growing up.

There was this thing called an imagination that children would use to help get through times of boredom. They would create people and stories for them and their friends to act out.



One-Man Peanut Gallery

watch other kids on TV lobbying their parents to buy vehicles with - you guessed it - internal TVs and headphones. Basically these cars come fully equipped with a sit-down -and-shut-up package.

Nowadays, kids can

This feature has been around for a while now, but more recently, video game developers have been creating equipment and games for people to work out with - inventions such as the Wii and

As you get older, you begin to lose time dren ages 6 to 11 increased from 6.5 per- for the more frivolous activities of your cent in 1980 to 19.6 percent in 2008. The youth. Using the new technologies that developers have created becomes an attractive and simple alternative to going to the gym.

> But for kids, these new creations can be both a gift and a curse. In one hand these games allow otherwise sedentary children to get some form of physical activity, while in the other hand their creativity and ability to socialize continue to be stifled.

My parents didn't have to go out and buy me "exercise" equipment — I was a kid, I just went outside for the sake having fun.

The American Heart Association suggests just a few hours of physical activity a week, about 2.5 to 4 hours, for middle- and high school-aged kids. Is it really that difficult for parents to get their kids outside for such a small amount of time?

Let's try a little harder to get kids off their butts and away from the assortment of technologies made readily available to

"One-Man Peanut Gallery" is a biweekly column appearing on Mondays. Marlon Maloney is a Spartan Daily Copy Editor.

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

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.



Club Neon hosts a Valentine's Day underwear party each year at The Knockout on Mission St. in San Francisco.



Photo Courtesy: iflysfbay.com

iFLY in Union City offers indoor skydiving for a little more than \$50 per person.

Venture outside the heart-shaped box

Take that special someone on an unconventional outing

Shirene Niksadat

Staff Writer

Valentine's Day: a day of love, romance, and of course, the almighty Hallmark card.

It's around this time of year that anyone can look around and see the magnitude of power that this lover's holiday commands.

In every avenue of the marketplace, a heart shaped something or other can be

From your local grocery store, to the lingerie department, to the street vendors selling carnival teddy bears on the side of the road, it's safe to say that Feb. 14 has inspired

somewhat of a following.

Instead of the usual trifecta of roses, chocolate and jewelry — though they may be time-tested and true — try freshening up the old Valentine's Day routine with a couple of interesting options in San Jose.

Valentine's Day, also known to many as "Single Awareness Day," can sometimes be the source of some angst and loneliness.

But not to worry, for those currently unattached or perhaps in a serious relationship with themselves, all of the ideas below also apply to all the independent men and women out there.

Whether you're out on the town with your significant other or a group of your nearest and dearest, any of these options are sure to make your 2011 Valentine's a night to remember.

Hours of operation at iFly Indoor Sky-

away from the usual humdrum Valentine's Day ideas, tickets are a little more than \$50

iFLY is a vertical wind tunnel that simulates the closest possible thing to true human flight, definitely taking the win over dinner and a movie.

If you're looking to spice up your night with some foreign flavors, there's a great Valentine's Day dinner special going on off of Market Street at Morocco's.

Authentic Moroccan decorations and billowing drapes hung around the restaurant create an exotic ambience while enjoying your food.

The restaurant is serving up a five-course meal including a spinach, fruit and nut salad; garlic and lemon shrimp; their fan-favorite beef tagine; imperial couscous with chicken and a surprise dessert.

The meal is served family style, so pairing up with a couple of others might be a fun alternative on this traditionally couplesecluded night.

Even better, they have wine specials going on all night!

Romance and vino have gone hand in hand for centuries, y'all.

For more exotic cocktails, candlelight dining and romantic Latin tunes, head over to Azucar Latin Bistro and Mojito Bar off

of San Fernando street from 5:30-11 p.m.

diving are from noon to 11 p.m., so if you're haven't already made plans give Azucar feeling adventurous and looking to get a call for a great mix of Latin beats and savory dishes.

> Once you're done filling up on cocktails and cuisine, nothing says "I love you" like professing your love through an inebriated serenade.

> The Red Stag Lounge off of W. San Carlos exudes the dive bar feel and has a karaoke happy hour from 7 to 10 p.m. that only furthers its appeal.

> With their massive selection of tunes to choose from, singing along to your favorite "shower song" in the presence of your date can only make you even more adorable.

Thinking about getting out of town for

Voted best semi-nude dance party by SF Weekly in 2009, Club Neon is hosting its seventh annual Valentine's Day Underwear party at The Knockout on Mission St. in San Francisco.

Go with your partner or go with your pals, either way get ready to have what promises to be an interesting night shaking your groove thing in next to nothing.

Whatever you choose to do, make sure to do it with the ones you love.

Whether it be with your boyfriend/girlfriend or simply with your friends, Valentine's Day will only be as awesome as you make it.

In any case, avoid the "Singles Mixer" at all costs. Some advice — straight from me Reservations are a must, so if you to you — with love on Valentine's Day.



Photo: McClatchy Tribune



