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**CAMPUS**

# San Jose looks back at the civil rights movement



Jenny Bennett | Spartan Daily

(Left) Bobby Seale, co-founder of the Black Panther Party, speaks during the lecture series, Across the Generations: Social Movements Then and Now. (Right) The duo, David and Machiko Piper, known as Jaliya, plays drums in the Barret Ballroom before main speaker Bobby Seale took the stage on Aug. 29.

By Kellie Miller  
@kells21\_

Drums boomed strongly in an attempt to send a cultural message to the audience in the Student Union Barrett Ballroom, as they waited for special guest speaker Bobby Seale, a national organizer co-founding chairman of the Black Panther Party and fellow Bay Area resident, on Aug. 29.

The drums, played by Jaliya, Inc., an "Innovative, Cultural, and Educational Arts Project" headquartered in San Jose, are used to provide knowledge of African-American culture through art.

"In the parts of West Africa I'm familiar with, the drum carries the mes-

sage," said Amadou Bamba, founder and executive director of Jaliya, Inc., and San Jose State alumnus. "It's used to announce, proclaim and support."

Machiko Piper, who performed with Bamba, said she believes their performance was significant to Seale's speech.

"Music is always a universal language and so it transcends time, language, culture, history and all others that sometimes works to divide people," Piper said. "So I think that it was significant that we were invited to this event and was given a chance to demonstrate our artistry in (drumming)."

Seale spoke at SJSU about his struggles and dedication to being a social activist.

According to Seale, he founded the Black Panther Party in 1966, along with co-founder Huey P. Newton, with the vision of defending the oppressed people of the black community and to stand for liberation.

"I was truly inspired by Dr. Martin Luther King (Jr.)," Seale said to the audience.

As a student, Seale searched African-American history and went to the Oakland Auditorium to hear Dr. King speak in 1962.

"I'll never forget that ... I understood what he was doing," Seale said.

The audience chanted "Power to the people" in unison as they pumped their fists in the air throughout the night and roared in applause for Seale once he finished speaking.

As Seale finished taking pictures and autographing books for dozens of people, he added that the pumping of the fist done by SJSU alumni Tommie Smith and John Carlos in the 1968 Summer Olympics in a protest against racism among African-Americans eventually became known as the "black power salute."

Seale pumped both his fists up in the air in a dancing motion as he sang "Power to the people, power to the people, right on."

Along with Seale, Dr. King was an inspirational figure in the civil rights movement, and as a result, SJSU's library, which celebrates its 10th anniversary today, was named after him.

According to Mary Nino, associate dean of the King Library, the main branch library in downtown San Jose in the early 1970s was located on San Carlos St. across from the Civic Auditorium.

"It was shortly after he was killed and it just made sense when we were moving in to celebrate and acknowledge his work," Nino said in regards to why the library was named after King. "King Library is a great acknowledgment of an American hero."

On the third floor of the library, special collections on Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and the civil rights movement can be found.

SEE **ACTIVISM** ON PAGE 8

**SECURITY**

## Campus construction adds to student safety concerns



Melissa Lewelling | Spartan Daily

SJSU students walking through the unlit walkway next to the construction of the new health center. The unlit pathway poses a safety threat to students and staff at night.

By Ryan Brown  
@rgbrownie

Campus construction has added to student concerns about heavy machinery and a seemingly darker campus at night.

Increasingly frequent Alert-SJSU updates and the death of a pedestrian on a construction site at San Jose Community College haven't helped either.

Nikola George, a senior kinesiology major, said she is questioning the safety of SJSU while it is being renovated.

In addition to potentially dangerous construction equipment, Emma Cardenas, a freshman linguistics major, said that campus is especially dangerous at night, when there is

less light to guide them to and from their destinations.

George said the construction has only added to her anxiety about walking across campus at night.

"I know this sounds bad, but I don't really ever feel safe around here," she said. "It could be lit up more because it gets pretty dark at night and there are not a lot of lights."

Cardenas said she thinks campus seems especially dark and she rarely ventures outside her dorm room late at night.

"At night I definitely think it's really sketchy," she said. "I don't leave my dorm at night really, unless it's to go to the (Dining Commons), which is just right across the way since I'm in Royce (Hall)."

However, Samantha Chang, a kinesiology graduate student, said she feels fine as long as she stayed on pedestrian pathways.

"I feel like as long as people take the right pathways, everything is just normal," she said.

She said the fences surrounding construction make her feel safer.

Cardenas, on the other hand, said the fences prevent her from getting a clear view of her surroundings.

Chris Brown, the associate vice president of Facilities Development and Operations, said the necessary precautions have been taken to keep the campus safe for pedestrians.

He said that includes replacing some of the dimmer light bulbs around campus and trimming trees to allow light to shine more clearly on walking paths near both the Student Union and student health and counseling construction sites.

Sgt. John Laws of the University Police Department advises students to take extra precautions whenever they feel unsafe on campus.

"We highly recommend that students use the evening guide program and the evening shuttle program that we have available for them, and we always ask that they be aware of their surroundings," he said. "If it seems like it's a dark area, choose a more well-lit area."

As for the daytime, Brown said safety standards are always met and students should be on the lookout for flagmen directing large trucks and machinery on campus.

Kevin Daniels, a senior computer science major, said he doesn't feel much change with the increased construction on campus.

"There have always been issues with trucks even before construction really started," he said. "You sort of need to have construction occasionally so you're going to just have to deal with it. It's a double-edged sword."

Steven Ishoebayat, a freshman electrical engineering major, said construction is more of a necessary nuisance than a serious safety concern.

"There's always going to be safety issues, but they work around it," he said. "They'll stop for people to cross and stuff."

Ryan Brown is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

**SPORTS**

## Women's basketball coach resigns

By Melissa Lewelling  
@melissadanee91

After two seasons as San Jose State's head coach for the women's basketball team, Tim La Kose resigned for personal reasons, according to an SJSU statement released Aug. 30.

Director of Athletics Gene Bleymaier accepted La Kose's resignation, which was effective immediately.

"We appreciate Tim's contributions to the program the last two seasons and wish him well in his future endeavors," Bleymaier said in the statement.

A nationwide search for a replacement has already started according to Richard Stern, assistant athletics media relations director at SJSU, but the department refused to comment any further.

According to SJSU Athletics, La Kose has 20 seasons of experience as a head women's basketball coach and compiled a 22-38 win-loss record during his two seasons at SJSU, where he was named the Western Athletic Conference coach of the year his first season.

After a combined total of 13 wins in the four seasons before La Kose came to SJSU, the women's basketball team went on to win 11 games per season in the past two years, according to SJSU Athletics.

The Spartans' first game of the season opens Oct. 29 against William Jessup University and will be SJSU's debut in the Mountain Western Conference.

Melissa Lewelling is a Spartan Daily staff writer.



Leeta-Rose Ballester | Spartan Daily  
Ian Newman (left) and Marina Martinez (right) explain the official Quidditch rules to newcomers.

## CLUB SPORT

# SJSU Quidditch team snatches golden snitch

By Leeta-Rose Ballester  
@leetarose

Quidditch may have its beginnings in the fantasy world, but the SJSU team is keeping it real.

Marina Martinez, a senior animation/illustration major, explained that the live-action version is similar to rugby.

"The game is magic and you fly, so we've adapted it for human physics," Martinez said.

On each side of the field there are three large hoops on posts defended by "keeper" players.

The "quaffle" is a regulation-sized basketball.

The goal of the "chaser" position is to get the quaffle through one of those hoops — while riding a broomstick and having dodge balls thrown at them by players called "beaters."

Ian Newman, alumnus and former vice president of the team, explained the rules to newcomers at Friday's practice.

"You must have the broom between your legs at all times, or you're out," Newman said.

All player positions are required to keep their brooms in place, leaving them with one hand to play.

Newman said players can keep the broom high or low, but he wouldn't recommend that they keep it "right against the crotch."

As the game starts, players line up at either end and crouch down.

What ensues next is akin to a scene from an epic Roman battle.

The opposing teams rush toward each other, armed with broomsticks, as "bludgers" represented by dodge balls slam into their bodies.

There is also a "golden snitch."

In Harry Potter books and films, the snitch is a self-propelled golden ball.

If a "seeker" player catches the snitch, it ends the game.

In live-action, the snitch is represented by a person who runs around the field wildly with a golden tail attached to their back end.

"It can get pretty physical," Martinez said. "It gets pretty aggressive."

She said they technically are a "partial con-

tact" sport, however there were people knocked flat on their backs within the first minute of play.

More than 25 players came to Friday's first meet of the semester.

"I'm very excited to see so many new faces here," Newman said to the crowd after he led them in warm-up exercises.

One of the new faces, Kevin Metcalf, a junior undeclared major, said he just transferred and wanted to be part of a club.

"It seems interesting," Metcalf said. "It's trying something new and out of the box."

Anna Huang, a freshman undeclared major, was also a first-timer to the SJSU quidditch team.

"I've seen Harry Potter before, but I don't know much about the game," Huang said.

According to Gilberto Ortiz Hernandez, a senior psychology major, the team plays in several tournaments but the most important one is the regional Western Cup.

"Placing in one of the top six teams at regionals earns you a pass to the division one portion of the World Cup, which is like the Super Bowl for us," Hernandez said.

He said there are trophies awarded at the tournaments approved by the International Quidditch Association.

Hernandez said most of the funding for the team's equipment comes from its members and Associated Students.

"Our funds are mostly used for things like IQA membership, team shirts and any equipment we might need," Hernandez said. "We tend to get new stuff when we think it's necessary or when some of our stuff isn't cooperating with us anymore."

The team meets Fridays from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. on the A.S. lawn and is open to everyone.

Martinez said knowledge of the game — or Harry Potter — is not required.

"We're not a Harry Potter fan club," Martinez said.

Leeta-Rose Ballester is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

## NFL

# Retired football players 'settle' for way less than they deserve

By Jamie Ramirez  
@jreports

The NFL reached a \$765 million settlement over concussion-related injuries among 18,000 retired players on Thursday, according to ESPN.

Although this sounds like great news for retirees such as Tony Dorsett, former Dallas Cowboys running back and Jim McMahon, former Chicago Bears quarterback, it's really a deal with the devil to make the issue go away.

No amount of money will bring these men back from the neurological injuries they sustained while playing professional football.

And I'm sure family members of Junior Seau's would agree that no amount of money will ease the pain of losing him.

Seau was a Pro Bowl linebacker who committed suicide

last year because of his ongoing suffering from brain damage which he sustained while playing in the league.

Ray Easterling, a retired pro football player who originally filed the first suit against the league in August 2011, committed suicide before a settlement was reached.

Nearly 90 percent of the settlement is compensation for retired players and family members of those players who have cognitive injuries or suffer from chronic traumatic encephalopathy, a degenerative disease.

The rest of the money funds medical exams and research.

Research money is necessary to develop improved equipment with new technology that could lessen the strain on future players.

Ten million dollars from the settlement goes to research, chump change from an enterprise that's worth billions of dollars.

A vital part of what many retired players are suffering from is the lack of rehabilitation programs and prevention programs for future retirees.

Not a single penny will be invested in prevention or rehabilitation, according to ESPN.

This settlement is a middle finger from the NFL, telling

families and retirees that the league will pay them off in the hopes families will just forget about it.

What is left of the settlement after compensations are paid isn't being used wisely.

Jamie Ramirez is a Spartan Daily staff writer.



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## ASSOCIATED STUDENTS

# A.S. Board discusses auxiliary consolidation concerns

By **Melissa Lewelling**  
@melissadanae91

Six of the 15 Associated Students' board of directors raised concerns with University President Mohamed Qayoumi at the board's first meeting on Aug. 28 regarding his plan to consolidate the school's independent auxiliary organizations.

At the meeting, Qayoumi said he and his cabinet looked at the different aspects of the school's five auxiliaries, including Associated Students, Spartan Shops and the Student Union, in order to "assess the direction (they) wanted to go in the coming year."

"Basically everybody's agreement was that as far as any organizational changes ... we'll still keep them as they are for this year," he said. "What we would like to look at is ... the kind of gains that we can have if we look at the financial systems and the human resource systems and bring everybody on the same platform, 'cause it's something that many CSUs have already started."

Streamlining the operational functions of SJSU's auxiliaries by consolidating the separate legal organizations into one entity is one of the three main priorities Qayoumi outlined for this academic year in his fall welcome address on Aug. 19.

Aaron Miller, director of internal affairs and a junior political science major, said in the meeting that he

was concerned about losing the corporate aspects of certain board member roles in the long-term as a result of the consolidation of the organizations into one.

A.S. has a vote in university budgets, cost-benefit analyses and other "administrative over-sighting," Miller said, which he was worried could be at risk of elimination, based on the board's conversation with Qayoumi.

"I would argue that students would like to be at the (university) board meetings," Miller said, "and like to be in there learning the difficult stuff, because it'll help us in the long run."

Qayoumi didn't directly address Miller's corporate concerns, but said that the "crux" of the consolidation

**How can we really make our operations more efficient, more cost-effective, so more funds can be available for individual programs and also as part of it how we can do it so we can reduce the risks for the organizations ...**

Mohammad Qayoumi  
SJSU President

is to reduce overhead costs so more money can be available to other services on campus and to reduce risk factors for human resources and the auxiliary organizations since they are separate legal entities.

"Those are the two key elements," Qayoumi said, "How can we really make our operations more efficient,

more cost-effective, so more funds can be available for individual programs and also as part of it how we can do it so we can reduce the risks for the organizations."

Emily Curcio, a senior political science major, said she thinks consolidating SJSU's auxiliaries is "probably a good idea."

"I think it is a bit complicated at the moment," she said. "I remember when I was looking for a job on-campus, I didn't even know where to start because it's all separate and broken up, and I'm sure that's going to reduce overhead and sort of these extra costs."

Although the consolidation might face some issues in the beginning, Curcio said she thinks the plan will "definitely" reduce risks

long run it's probably going to sort itself out."

Avesta Sabetian, A.S. controller and senior industrial engineering major, said that he is worried about losing the level of technical and administrative support A.S. has had in the past through its "in-house" services and service level agreements with the school's administration.

"There are multiple things there that I think could be disastrous if we don't get the same level of support that we expect compared to in-house," Sabetian said in the meeting. "If I want a simple router moved in the A.S. house and only (Qayoumi) can touch it, but it takes several weeks, our board of directors can't work for those several weeks and that's why in-house ends up being faster."

In the process of consolidating multiple systems, Sabetian said people are going to get overworked if the transition isn't done slowly and with enough help.

"My concern is that since technology is so necessary now in every organization, if the tech on campus is consolidated and it's not up to the par of what these departments on campus need — it could cripple the entire system," he said.

Qayoumi said in the meeting that he shares students' concern about the technology on campus and ensures a quick response time.

"I totally agree with you (about

the importance of having a robust IT system," Qayoumi said to Sabetian, "as well as the immediate response time."

Tiffany Vuong, a junior business major, said that she wasn't aware of Qayoumi's plan to consolidate the school's auxiliaries and doesn't think many other students are aware of it either.

"I don't think they really informed people about it," Vuong said, "so I don't think many students know about it."

Curcio said she thinks it's an issue that many students don't know about Qayoumi's consolidation plan.

"Especially a school like this, with a lot of commuters," Curcio said, "people don't make the time to go to meetings and that sort of thing."

Although she hadn't heard much about the plan before, Vuong said she thinks consolidating five separate organizations into one could become "disorganized."

"If you separate it into smaller entities I think the people that are working in those small departments could be more organized and have better control of things, but if you put it all together then it's really easy to lose stuff," Vuong said. "I think it's better for them to focus on a little part of it rather than the entire thing — I find that always works better."

Melissa Lewelling is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

## MEASURE

## Library tax extension benefits SJSU commuters

By **Samantha Mendoza**  
@sam\_mendoza\_

San Jose State students commuting to campus can expect continued funding to their local libraries, thanks to voters' retention this summer of a tax supporting libraries in Santa Clara County.

"It's a good feeling seeing tax dollars are being spent well," said Jonathan Tran, a senior electrical engineering major, who lives in Milpitas. "It's nice to have somewhere to study when I don't want to make the drive all the way down to school."

Measure A was passed by a special mail ballot election last month, according to the Santa Clara Registrar of Voters. The measure had been in effect for the last 20 years and voters have extended the tax for another 20 years.

**It's a good feeling seeing tax dollars are being spent well ...**

Jonathan Tran  
senior electrical engineering major

Libraries affected by the tax are those within the Santa Clara County Library District, according to the Santa Clara County Registrar of Voters website. This involves two bookmobiles, a community branch and online libraries serving Campbell, Cupertino, Gilroy, Los Altos, Los Altos Hills, Milpitas, Monte Serano, Morgan Hill, Saratoga and the unincorporated areas of Santa Clara County.

Tran said he didn't know the measure was in effect for the last 20 years, but now thinks the program is beneficial for students, children and the community.

"I remember seeing Measure A on the ballot, but I thought it was a tax increase," Tran said. "I think it's reasonable for what the community gets back in return."

For SJSU students, this means having access to contemporary book collections and research materials, extended library hours, qualified librarians and other services.

Measure A was passed by 81 percent and is a continuation of the preceding special tax rates of \$33.66 per single-family home,

as stated by the Santa Clara Library District website. Voters passed the measure to extend the tax without any increase, according to the Santa Clara County Registrar of Voters.

Nancy Howe, a Santa Clara County librarian said Measure A keeps the tax at a reasonable level and is respectful to the tax payers. Howe oversees all eight libraries in the district.

"It's what they choose to pay to have excellent libraries," Howe said. "Public libraries are essential to education and lifelong learning, contrary to belief that public libraries became obsolete when Internet came into life. Libraries are still that place in our community where we can get information."

Howe said the tax raised more than \$5.6 million in 2012. She said the tax makes up 18 percent of Santa Clara Library District revenue.

As the Santa Clara Library District celebrates its 100th anniversary in 2014, Howe said the district has evolved from a rural community to high tech centers of the Silicon Valley. She said the district has been able to focus, adapt and figure out what people need.

"It's delightful to focus on service and not focus on how to make budget cuts and how to fundraise," Howe said. "I am so grateful. We went into this business to make a difference in our community."

Allison Parham, the supervising librarian of adult and teen services at Campbell Library, said, "Without Measure A funding, local libraries would be forced to implement significant cuts to programs and services."

According to Parham, Measure A funds help Campbell Library keep qualified librarians. She said library tax funding helps to maintain the purchasing of new books and up-to-date research materials.

"With school libraries often open only a few days a week, our public libraries are now even more important than ever for our children's education," Parham said. "Continuing Measure A funding helps to maintain and protect library services and programs, book collections and open hours."

Samantha Mendoza is a Spartan Daily staff writer.



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## CULTURE

# Vandalism to Persian Studies fliers raises concerns

By Samantha Clark  
@samanthabclark

Fliers advertising a women's seminar in Islamic studies and the Persian studies program at San Jose State University are being systematically removed and defaced on campus.

This summer, Professor Shahin Gerami posted fliers to promote her course: Gender & Sexuality in Islamic Perspectives Persian studies' fall events and courses and a general education women's studies course.

"Only the posters for Persian studies have been defaced, vandalized or torn," said Gerami of the department of interdisciplinary social sciences and the coordinator of the women's studies program. "The ones for the GE women's course were left untouched."

Giant Xs streak across the fliers, and mustaches are drawn on the veiled women pictured.

She said at least 100 fliers that she and her student assistant posted on campus are missing. The fliers have also been consistently removed from her office door. "I've put up a new one, and it was taken down overnight," she said.

Ritu Srivastava and Ume Naqvi, student assistants to Persian

studies co-director Professor Peris Karim, also posted the fliers advertising the Persian studies program. A few days after school started, Srivastava sent a text message to Naqvi, saying she had a "weird observation." She wrote that all the fliers she had posted were gone and that not a single one was left, adding that it seemed deliberate.

Naqvi had noticed that the fliers she posted had been taken down by the first day of school as well. They posted 70 total.

"It is not a random act; it is a targeted act," Gerami said. "It is against open dialogue, they want to quiet some voices and they want

***It is against open dialogue, they want to quiet some voices and they want to target people with different opinions***

Shahin Gerami

Professor of Social Science & Women's Studies

to target people with different opinions."

The mission of the Persian studies program, of which Gerami is a director, is to educate and promote Iranian culture and the Persian language. A \$300,000 grant from the Roshan Cultural Heritage Institute and a \$200,000 grant from a Persian community foundation

known as PARSAs have been funding the program.

Almost 90 percent of Americans view Iran unfavorably, according to a Gallup Poll released in March 2013, making it the lowest-rated country out of the 22 asked.

On behalf of Gerami and Karim, the SJSU Survey and Policy Research Institute assessed an interest in having a Persian studies program in 2012. The survey also asked about media portrayals and stereotypes of Iranians.

Seventy-six percent of respondents said that Iranians are negatively portrayed in American media. When asked of specific stereotypes noticed in the media, respondents said Iranians are most

often shown as enemies of the U.S. (72 percent), anti-Israel (58 percent) and dangerous (56 percent).

"Negative reaction (on campus) has been subtle before," Gerami said. "There's no subtlety about this kind of behavior."

Naqvi said she noticed that some Persian studies fliers had been removed last semester but

thought little of it because most were after the date of the advertised event.

"I'm not a conspiracist, but it's a little interesting that in a couple different buildings, posters have been taken down," she said, adding that they have been conscious of placing fliers in places where it is allowed. "School is for learning and broadening horizons."

Fliers for the student organization Queer and Asian were being removed last semester, but it is not clear whether they were targeted, said Bonnie Sugiyama, director of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Resource Center and the Women's Resource Center.

"There were not any messages written on the fliers that would denote a hate-motivated act," she said, adding that the incident was not reported to the Provost or Student Conduct and Ethical Development.

Student members re-posted the fliers, instead stapling the corners and center to deter removal.

According to Academic Senate policy S12-6 for advertising events on campus, the removal of postings by anyone other than the posting party or authorized university personnel is prohibited unless the posting "has been posted for seven calendar days, announces an event which has passed, is larger than 11"

x 17", or is duplicated on the same bulletin board."

The same policy states that free speech for content aligned with the university is to be respected in advertisements and that the CA Education Code 66607 regulates political advertising, which is described in the California State University's Handbook of Elections.

Staci Gunner, director of Student Conduct and Ethical Development, said she has heard of fliers advertising controversial topics being vandalized or removed before and that disciplinary action happens on a case-by-case basis.

Sgt. John Laws of UPD said no hate crimes associated with the university or student groups had been reported in the last year and that UPD is able to investigate crimes such as this.

Gerami sees the removal and defacement of her fliers as a disservice to students, denying them a chance to bring more facts and diversity to campus and to show Iran in a different light than how the media portrays it.

"The one-dimensional picture we usually see of Iran is easy to catch," Gerami said. "That is the purpose of a college education - to see beyond the headlines."

Samantha Clark is a contributing writer.



## SJSU Crime Log 8/27 - 9/2

The following items are selected from the University Police Department daily crime log.

Aug  
27

### S. Fourth Street

Officers were called to a report of a person who attempted to grab a student. The suspect fled and has not been found.

### E. San Fernando Street

Officers detained a person for burning clothing. The person was taken to the hospital for a mental health evaluation.

Aug  
29

### Tower Hall

Officers responded to a report of a suspicious package. The area was taped off, Tower Hall was evacuated and the San Jose Police Department bomb squad was called. The package was destroyed. This investigation is ongoing.

### Spartan Stadium

A female was taken to the hospital for high level of intoxication.

Sept  
1

### McLaughlin Avenue

Police saw a vehicle driving dangerously, nearly hitting pedestrians. The police lost sight of the vehicle but later found it involved in a collision. The driver was arrested on suspicion of driving under the influence and possession of a stolen vehicle.

Sept  
2

### Royce Hall

Two people were cited for covering a smoke detector.

Information compiled by Leeta-Rose Ballester from SJSU police department

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**FINANCE**

## Acceleration campaign rakes in an extra \$8 million

By Laura Nguyen  
@Laura\_Nguyen\_

San Jose State surpassed its fundraising goal of \$200,000,000 under the Acceleration campaign launched in 2006, collecting a total of \$208,863,349 according to Rebecca Dukes, vice president of University Advancement which oversees the campaign.

Financial gifts poured into this campaign from alumni, businesses and other community members, according to Dukes.

However, students such as junior undeclared major Derrick Arbiol said he doesn't understand why he is kicked off waitlists and returns to classes day after day in hopes of an add code, only to be rejected from a class in place of a graduating senior.

Arbiol said he wonders where his tuition - which he said he feels rises ever so slightly each year - goes when budget cuts are still being made.

"With Acceleration, it's confusing because people expect it to diffuse fees," Pat Lopes Harris, director of media relations said. "Instead, these gifts are used to support San Jose State."

According to Dukes, the gifts donated can range from stocks, cash, or software, and are donated to the school with "donor intent."

Unfortunately, students are more concerned with their lack of classes than the impact that the gifts have created so far.

Arbiol said he feels that everything should be distributed equally so that everyone could have more classes and more professors.

"It doesn't work that way," Dukes said. "We don't raise a big pot of money and divvy it up."

According to Dukes, each department has a fundraiser goal and methods of fundraising. If they're persuasive enough to get donors to contribute, then they may raise more.

"Students didn't state that it's a smart idea to go on with the (construction) project," said Theodore Reid, an alum-

nus from the radio, television and film department.

Construction could easily be postponed until things get better for everyone during this time of hardship and the consistent decline in employment, Reid said.

"We're not collecting donations to supplement, or to lower fees, or maintain keep of university," Harris said "We collect fees for specific research, scholarships, programs and some cases, structures."

Harris said most of the construction on campus is funded separately through bonds.

"I don't think expansion is what we need, like they're moving the health building," Arbiol said. "We need more internal, than external expansion."

Tuition is being raised, teachers continue to lose jobs and classes are being cut. None of this makes sense for the better good of the schooling system and the foundation we are built upon, according to Reid.

However, Dukes estimates that nine times out of 10, donors direct specifically where they want the money to go.

According to Dukes, "It's totally donor's intent and we honor that intent."

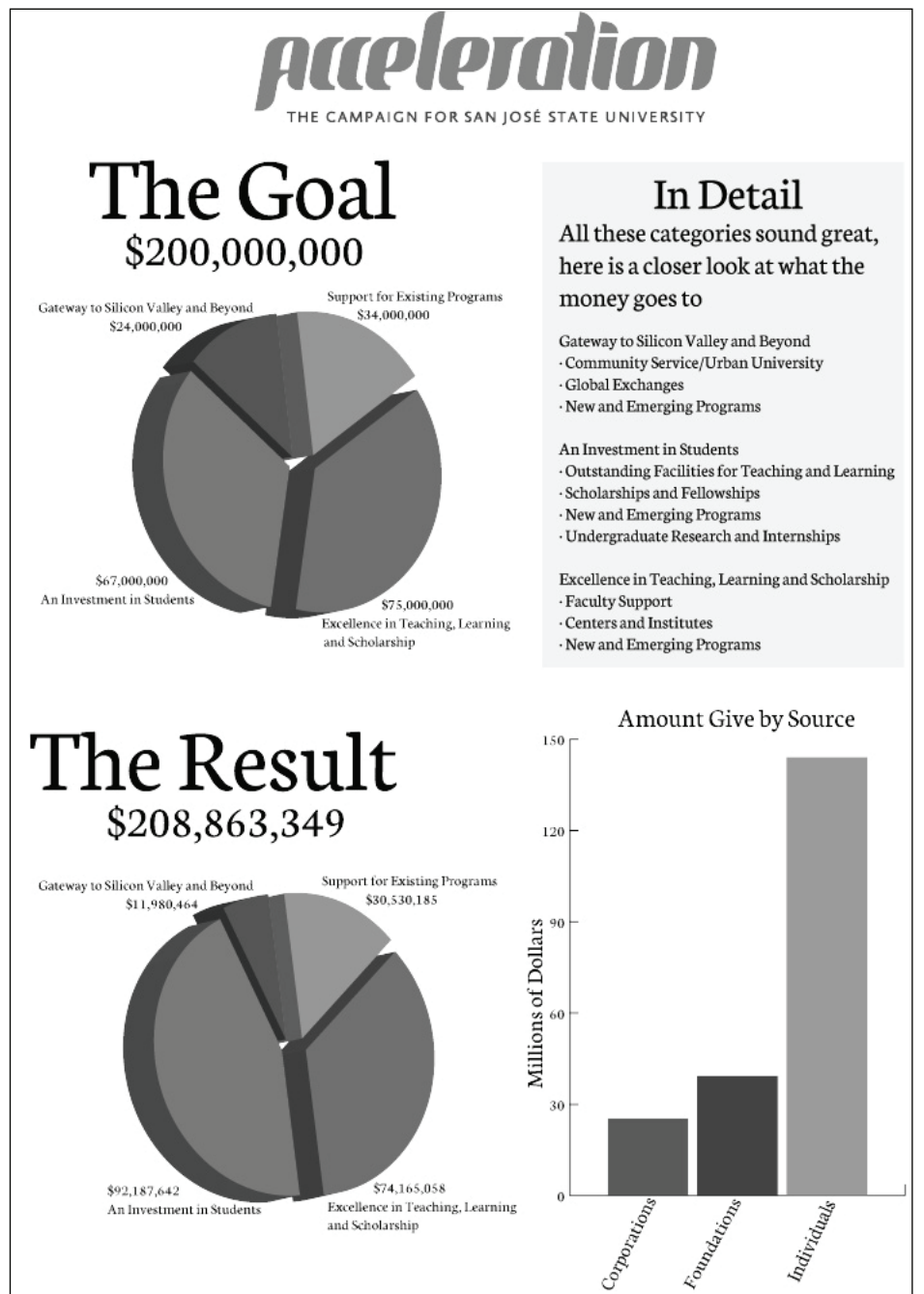
Of the \$208,863,349, 41 percent has been given out to the designated areas and will be put into action to advance the university in some way, Dukes said.

To list a few, \$92,687,142 went to student projects, a large percentage of which is scholarships, according to Dukes.

As for projects in teaching and research, \$74,165,058 was allocated, Dukes said.

"We are the third largest campaign in the CSU system" said Dukes, and almost all universities do some sort of campaign.

San Diego State is the top fundraiser on the CSU level, accruing \$400 million in a campaign launched in 2008 as stated in documents from an Acceleration presentation provided by Dukes.



Fresno State comes in second with \$214 million raised from their campaign launched in 2009.

"Fundraising always goes on," Dukes said, "We are state supported, not state assisted."

Overall, there were about 30,000 donors and 57 percent of them made their

first donation to the SJSU campus, Dukes said.

"We put on a campaign because gifts from corporations, foundations and individuals provide that extra margin of excellence that our university can be," Dukes said.

Laura Nguyen is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

Infographic by Vince E...

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**Tuesday**  
**September 10**  
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Thanks to the generosity and dedication of SJSU's students, faculty, staff and community members, **we did it!**



## REVIEW

## New Luke Bryan album 'crashes' in ratings



By Jamie Ramirez  
@jlrreports

Country crooner Luke Bryan released his latest album "Crash My Party" on Aug. 13, topping Billboard charts by selling more than half a million copies in its first week.

Congrats to Luke who sold far more copies than this album deserves.

Overall, this album was a bore with an overabundance of ballads that didn't differ much from one another and lacked honky-tonk party tracks.

Bryan's fourth album since 2007 isn't worth the \$12 you pay for it on iTunes, but it is worth a partial download.

Some songs, like "I See You," "Play It Again," "Beer In the Headlights" and his first two hit singles off the album, "Crash My Party" and "That's My Kind of Night" are worth a listen.

In true Luke Bryan fashion, every single track is about spending time with a beautiful woman, drinking alcohol or both.

"Drink a Beer" was a yawn fest.

Bryan sang beautiful harmonies on this track, but it is by far the least interesting song on his album.

As an avid Luke Bryan listener and social media follower, I was disappointed by this album and thought its predecessor "Tailgates and Tanlines" was much better.

iTunes reviews showed I wasn't the only unhappy fan.

"Typical, every song sounds pretty much the same," wrote Volfan55. "Straight off the Nashville assembly line."



Photo courtesy of www.countrymusicislove.com

Another iTunes review by "Always a country fan," read, "This doesn't impress me. I wish he would go back to his roots ... and quit trying so hard."

Other strong supporters call the album "perfection" and they're nothing short of delusional.

Bryan's Instagram and Facebook page are flooded with comments from women saying this album is his best one yet.

Maybe his music has fallen on deaf ears.

Where Bryan gets credit is on his opening track, "That's my kind of night."

Bryan, who won the Academy of Country Music's "Entertainer of the Year" award in April, opens the album

with a strong track with a tune arrangement that mixes banjo, guitar riffs and hip hop production touches.

It feels like Bryan is attempting to bridge the gap between country and rap by throwing in a T-Pain lyric in his first track.

However, his one line doesn't make him Colt Ford, a legitimate country rapper who wrote the original version of Jason Aldean's "Dirt Road Anthem."

Most of the ballads are almost painfully identical, but Bryan sure knows how to pull at a woman's heart strings.

His lyrics speak to the inner cow-

girl in every woman with lyrics promising things most men wouldn't actually ever do.

Some tracks on the album take women out of the realm of possibility and quite frankly, Bryan makes men look bad.

In "Crash My Party," Bryan is one of few country singers who make booty call ballads an art form.

Bryan continues the trend in other tracks such as "Goodbye Girl," "Roller Coaster" and "Shut It Down."

**His lyrics speak to the inner cowgirl in every woman with lyrics promising things most men wouldn't actually ever do.**

Bryan stems out from his typical swooning with small town anthems such as "Dirt Road Diary," "We Run This Town" and "Blood Brothers."

Unfortunately, it isn't enough to keep me hitting replay.

Needless to say, I hope Bryan's fourth album doesn't "Crash My Party" again anytime soon.

Jamie Ramirez is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

## REVIEW

## 'The Spectacular Now' explores real life issues



Photo courtesy of collider.com

Sutter Keely, played by Miles Teller, and Aimee Finicky, played by Shailene Woodley, spark an unlikely romance in "The Spectacular Now."



By Jerry Salas  
@popcrnchicken

Sutter Keely, played by Miles Teller, drifts through life one drink at a time.

He's a social butterfly who regularly attends parties to drink until he passes out, only to wake up and do it all over again.

Throughout "The Spectacular Now," we see Keely with a flask in his pocket and a take-out cup in his hand and neither of them are filled with iced tea.

Rather than tackle Keely's constant need to be inebriated, the film focuses on the issues that screwed him up in the first place.

Everything seems fine on the surface between Keely and his family, but there is obviously an elephant in the room of which no one speaks.

Enter Aimee Finicky, played by Shailene Woodley, a shy, insecure girl who Keely never knew existed until he woke up on her lawn after a slow night at the bar.

Finicky is an anime-loving girl next door who doesn't seem to think that guys would give her a second look.

Woodley is one of the better-looking women in Hollywood and no

matter how much "ugly" makeup they put on her, this is still a bizarre role for the gorgeous actress.

If you can look past this minor discrepancy, she plays a respectable nerd who happens to be easy on the eyes.

**Although Teller has played the same type of character in his two previous films, his execution is so remarkable that it leaves the viewer begging for more.**

As you can guess, the two main characters fall for each other and begin an odd romance that is unlike any other.

If this were a typical film of the same genre, Finicky would try to turn Keely around by getting

him sober.

Instead, we get two kids that spend the majority of the film sipping from their flasks and enjoying life.

Keely doesn't care what the future holds and doesn't think anyone else should either.

He's the type of person who lives his life one day at a time.

Teller doesn't have much of a resumé, but after this role, he may become the next big thing.

Teller is the type of actor who can steal every scene in a movie without trying.

He can talk circles around people the way Jesse Eisenberg and Vince Vaughn do in every role they play.

Although Teller has played the same type of character in his two previous films, his execution is so remarkable that it leaves the viewer begging for more.

Woodley may not have fit this role aesthetically, but you can't deny the magic her and Teller create together on-screen.

She already had a breakout role playing opposite George Clooney in last year's "The Descendants," and can only get better if she plays her cards right.

"The Spectacular Now" walks the line between romance and tragedy and does an amazing job of keeping the viewer invested.

This film finally received a wide release last week after a month that has been less than stellar for the movie industry.

If you're looking for a film that will alleviate the stress you suffered from paying \$28 for popcorn and a soda, I'm sorry, but that film doesn't exist.

However, if you're looking to enjoy a film that has the guts to explore touchy issues and keep you entertained, "The Spectacular Now" will easily fill that void.

Jerry Salas is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

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TECHNOLOGY

## Students get organized with new Asana application

By Sydney Reed  
@SyydNee\_Daily

Facebook co-founder Dustin Moskovitz and his colleague Justin Rosenstein are aiming to make the lives of college students on various campuses easier with their new interactive application. The app, Asana, is a shared task list that makes organization and communication simple for teams and individuals.

According to Emily Kramer, Asana staff member, Moskovitz and Rosenstein left Facebook in 2009 to focus on creating an application that would eliminate the hassle of searching through emails, Google Docs and unnecessary meetings to get all of their work done.

"Asana was born from this idea that there is a better way to coordinate with other people than email, Google docs, pieces of paper, white boards and chat," she said.

According to Kramer, Asana is a communication tool that makes group planning easier.

"It's a robust platform for tracking everything you're working on," Kramer said.

Kramer said because students struggle daily with juggling schoolwork, personal business and differing schedules, they don't always have time to

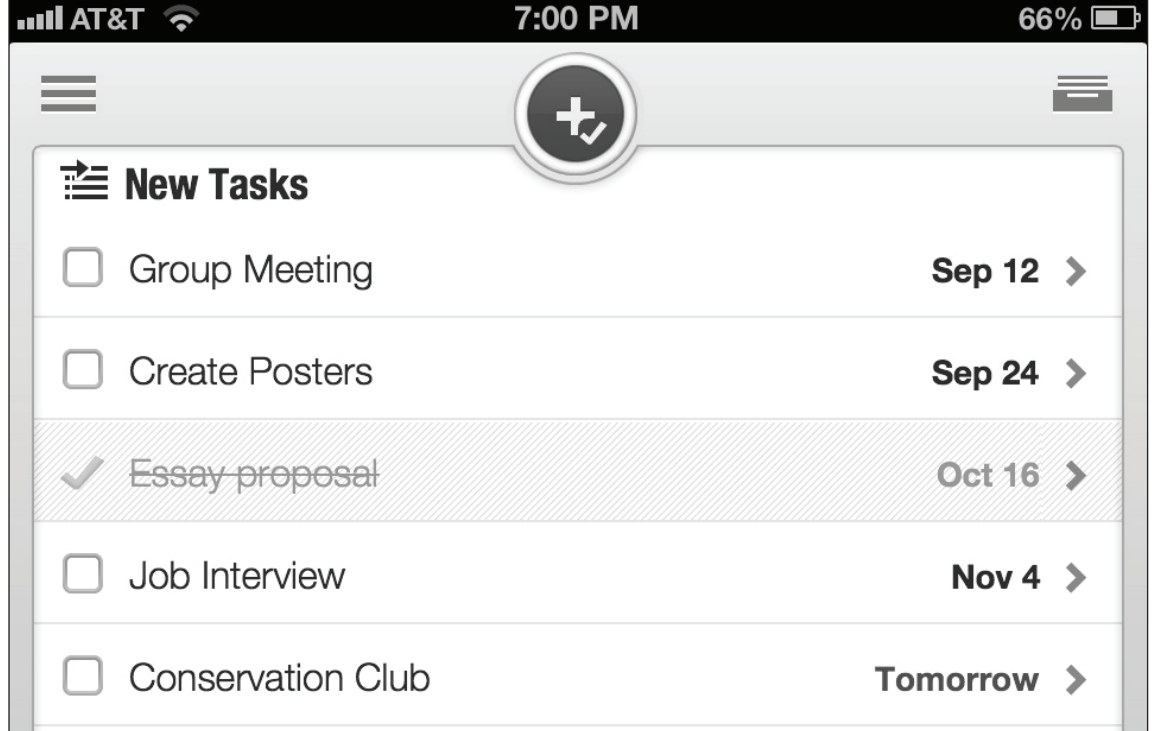
them to connect about the status of things that are going on and define responsibilities without actually having to meet in person, or have endless chat conversations, or texting back and forth," she said.

According to Kramer, students also like that everything in Asana is archived, making it easier for students to go back and share group or club history, instead of spending time searching through emails.

Brea Watts, assistant marketing coordinator of Associated Students and SJSU alumna said she's been using the web-based application since July and has had a great experience, but putting in information and organizing takes time.

"If you're already the type of person who has a lot of things going on, and you already use planners and notebooks, switch over to Asana, you can sync it to your phone," she said. "For someone that's all over the place and aren't going to remember to go on your phone to check, it may be a little confusing."

Tommy Pham, sophomore graduate student and marketing graphic designer for A.S., likes the program because it shows him what has been assigned to him and what he needs to get done.



Asana application screenshot

Pham said having his entire task in one platform is easier and less time consuming compared to Google Docs because he doesn't have to keep updating the document, but can instead just check off what's been done.

According to Kramer, Asana can be used for faculty and professors as well as students.

"We are finding that professors are starting to use it as sort of a course platform to track assignments and then you can actually share the assignment and syllabus with students," she said.

Kelli Williams, associate executive director of the A.S. marketing staff, said she found out about Asana through Maribel Martinez, the Cesar E. Chavez Community Action Center department manager.

"She is always looking for new and free tools that will help us do

our work and provide us a different type of environment to work within," Williams said.

According to Williams, A.S. does hundreds of projects each semester, which makes it easy to forget about certain duties.

"With Asana, we've been able to divide the workspaces by department so each department now has a workspace of its own and all of their marketing projects are within that workspace," she said.

According to Williams, individuals are also able to attach documents, different people are able to follow a task and it can be synced to Gmail and Google Calendar.

"Now that the university is transitioned into using Google for all student emails, (the ability to sync tasks is) awesome because we've been using Google products for our own internal due dates

and calendars when we're in the office, and we are using Google Drive as well," she said.

Now that students are using Asana, Williams said the departments can see all the students that get assigned a project and they can be synced right into their calendars.

For students who have a .edu email address, Asana has a plan that's free for up to 100 students per group according to Kramer.

"We want to provide students with the best experience using Asana and we don't want to limit them," she said. "We know students are budget constrained, we know that students will eventually be graduating and going on to companies and we hope they take Asana with them because they've had a positive experience with it on campus."

Sydney Reed is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

**It's a robust platform for tracking everything you're working on ...**

Emily Kramer  
Asana staff member

meet and discuss projects and/or events, but with Asana, they can better manage their class assignments, student activities and group work.

"We found that students really love Asana because it enables

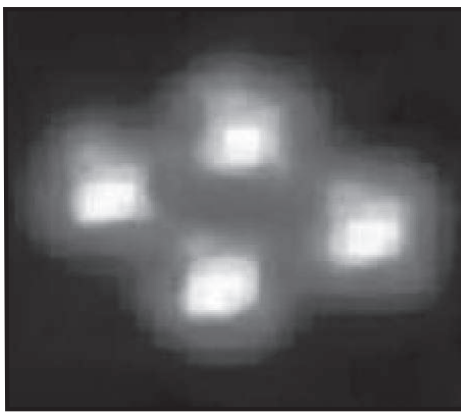
"I've been going through (tasks) pretty rapidly," he said. "Each project we have (on Asana) has about seven to eight compartments to it. We sub-task those individual items so when done I check off that I've finished."

## The gathering of the Forces of Light

Important events are taking place in many parts of the world. People everywhere will be astonished by the reports. These will include sightings, in unprecedented numbers, of spacecraft from our neighbouring planets, Mars and Venus in particular. Nothing like this increased activity, over vast areas of the Earth, will have been seen before. Those who have steadfastly refused to take seriously the reality of this phenomenon will find it difficult to deny. More and more accounts of contact with the occupants of the spacecraft will add their testimony to the fact of their existence. Miraculous happenings of all kinds will continue and multiply in number and variety. The minds of men\* will be baffled and amazed by these wonders, and this will cause them to ponder deeply.

### Wonder-filled

Into this wonder-filled, wondering world Maitreya will quietly enter and begin his open work. He will be asked to counter their doubts and fears, to explain these happenings and he will vouchsafe their validity. These extraordinary events will continue unabated and cause many to prophesy the ending



Luminous UFOs appearing over Volvic, France

of the world. Maitreya, however, will continue in his simple way and interpret differently these events.

Thus will Maitreya encourage men to see the marvelous breadth and scope of life, the many layers of which man knows but little till now. Gently he will introduce them bit by bit to the basic truths of our existence, the Laws which govern it, and the benefits achieved by living within these Laws. He will acquaint man with the vastness of our Galaxy and show that, in time, men of Earth will conquer Space and Time. He will encourage men to seek within, as well as without, for the answers to their problems, and validate their constant connection to each other and to Cosmos. He will remind humanity of its long history and of the many perils which man has overcome. He will sow the seeds of faith in our own illustrious future and vouchsafe the eternal divinity of man. He will show that the path of life, the evolutionary journey, leads unfailingly upwards as well as for ever onwards, and that to make the journey together, as brothers and sisters, is the surest way and the way most lit by joy. Look, then, for the signs of Maitreya's entrance, make it known, and uplift the hope of your brothers.



\*The words "men" and "man" are used throughout the article as general terms meaning humankind.

**ShareInternational.info/sjsu**

**888-242-8272**

This article, published in *Share International* magazine, was written by a Master of Wisdom. The Masters, headed by Maitreya, the World Teacher, are highly advanced teachers and advisors of humanity who are planning to work openly in the world very soon.

**FREE TALK AND VIDEO PRESENTATION THIS WEEKEND  
"UFOs: THEIR SPIRITUAL MISSION"**

## Activism: Documentary aims to raise social awareness

FROM PAGE 1

According to Nino, a "vessel" that is shaped in the profile of Dr. King is also located on the third floor and is "designed to show, when lights are on, the different skin tones of the people of San Jose."

Aug. 28 was the 50th anniversary of the March on Washington, a part of the civil rights movement and where King gave his "I Have a Dream" speech.

Now, 50 years after the March on Washington, a group of SJSU students showcase what

they've learned about civil rights in the documentary "A Dream Fulfilled? A Dream Deferred?" with regards to violence in San Jose.

"It is based on the civil rights movement and Dr. King's dream was a significant part of that history," said Destiny Palacios, a senior journalism major who worked on the documentary. "It is based not on the speech itself, but the dream. The civil rights movement was about overcoming a struggle, becoming a community and glorifying God and his love."

Palacios said one part covers the nationally

known story of the murder of 17-year-old Trayvon Martin in which suspect George Zimmerman was found not guilty on July 13.

According to the documentary, protests started across the United States, including in San Jose, where residents demonstrated outside of City Hall.

"We take a lot of what civil rights leaders have done for granted," Palacios said. "Dr. King opened eyes and revealed a community, a togetherness and love that we need to grasp on."

Palacios said that making of the documentary

was a reality check for her and that this generation needs Dr. King's values passed down.

"Today people are becoming kind of blind again, and see these deaths on the news and we have become so immune to it," she said.

She said people are seeing these crimes as just another statistic, but that there is actually so much more to it: a story, a family, grief and redemption.

"We need to start making changes now," she also said.

Kellie Miller is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

### STUDENT LIFE

## User Experience Association teaches how to please consumers

By Nirmal Patel  
@NirmalPatelSJSU

When you look into buying products, there are many things to consider. Consumers should look in close detail to see if the product is worth buying.

User experience looks deeply into the various products that are available in today's market and analyzes them the way it pleases users.

According to Mike Wang, director of marketing and promotion and Human Factors and Ergonomics graduate student, User Experience Association was started by a group of Human Factors and Ergonomics graduate students.

"User experience encompasses all aspects of the end-user interaction with a company's services and products," he said.

Wang said the User Experience Association student organization at SJSU is looking for all types of students to join their organization.

"User Experience Association is open to all students currently attending SJSU and alumni," he said. "Joining the User Experience Association can show members how

user experience can impact their career."

Lara Cheng, president of User Experience Association and Human Factors and Ergonomics graduate student, said she aims to increase awareness and knowledge of the user experience field for students in all areas of study.

"User Experience is a big demand for companies and we encourage all students from all majors who have an interest in user experience to join," she said.

According to Cheng, in many

"Most universities don't have majors tailored specifically toward professions in UX, so I decided it would be great to expose SJSU students to User Experience via talks, company tours, workshops and networking events," she said. "If we can help students explore and exercise their passion for this fresh, (relatively) new field, we've done our job."

According to Wang, User Experience Association concentrates specifically on user experience, a small but very in-demand sub-

have access to guest speaker events from working professionals within the industry, workshops to help students enhance their marketability to potential employers and company tours to give students an inside look at the day-to-day environment inside a company," he said.

Cheng said that Silicon Valley is a prime location for User Experience growth, which is why the User Experience Association has been able to contact successful people in the field to host workshops for them.

"User Experience jobs are in high demand," Wang said. "Whether you're working for a company that produces products, services or both, knowledge about user experience can only benefit you regardless of what you do."

According to Wang, User Experience Association guest speakers will be from companies such as Oracle, Google, Modcloth, NASA, Salesforce and more.

"Our workshops would give our members more of a hands-on learning experience in related fields of User Experience," he said.

According to Cheng, User Experience Association will bring

in speakers with varying backgrounds and domain interests to emphasize that User Experience is widely applicable and necessary to companies.

Cheng said the flexibility starts with Dr. Sean Laraway, committee adviser and associate professor at SJSU.

"Dr. Laraway has always been supportive in every way," she said. "Everything usually has to get past Dr. Laraway's permission."

According to Wang, in early November, with the help of Dr. Laraway and others involved, User Experience Association will host the "Share the Knowledge Tour" with the Interaction Design Foundation.

Wang said Max Peer, known as "the man biking around the world for equal access education," will make a stop at SJSU to share his four-year biking experience and mission goals with attendees.

"We will have a lot to offer to our members this semester," Cheng said. "It's worth joining from the experience you will get."

Nirmal Patel is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

**User Experience is a big demand for companies, and we encourage all students from all majors who have an interest in User Experience to join ...**

Lara Cheng

president of User Experience Association

cases, the students in the program didn't discover User Experience until at least a few years after graduating from college.

Cheng said while becoming more popular and in-demand, User Experience is still underexposed.

section of the entire human factors field. Human factors is how humans behave physically and psychologically in relation to particular environments, products or services.

"Besides introducing students to User Experience, members will

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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.

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

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

SOLUTION:

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

### PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

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

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## Today's Crossword Puzzle Universal Crossword

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- ACROSS**
- 1 Start of a drill instructor's count
  - 4 Crowd around noisily
  - 7 Converted liberal, informally
  - 13 Name among boxing legends
  - 14 Cookies 'n' cream
  - 16 Climber's task
  - 17 Geneticist's letters
  - 18 Blow to the kidney, perhaps
  - 20 Trousers of yore
  - 22 Some old Ford models
  - 23 Korean Peninsula capital
  - 24 It's mightier than the sword?
  - 25 "Bali \_\_\_\_\_" (Song in "South Pacific")
  - 26 Sleuth, slangily
  - 28 Large silvery fish
  - 31 Something to raise
  - 34 Disassembler
  - 38 Dec. 24, for one
  - 39 It will waste the boss' time
  - 42 Do-say connection
  - 43 Where Eugene
  - 44 Auto door defect
  - 45 Smooth and glossy
  - 47 ESPN reporter
  - 49 Bit of work in physics class
  - 50 Moral slip
  - 53 River mouth
  - 57 Cube designer
  - 59 Assembly hall
  - 61 Novelty dance of the '50s
  - 63 Old syllable meaning "before"
  - 64 Martha's Vineyard, in the summer
  - 65 Dryer collection
  - 66 Card game that ends in a shout
  - 67 "Chico and the Man" setting, briefly
  - 68 Fleur-de-
  - 69 What boring things never seem to do
  - 6 Form of jazz
  - 7 N.L. East squad
  - 8 Mysterious power
  - 9 Concerned with pupils?
  - 10 Atari game named for an arthropod
  - 11 How many oldies get rereleased
  - 12 Unspecified degrees, in math
  - 15 Instrument to which an orchestra tunes
  - 19 Travel-guide listing
  - 21 One in a class by himself?
  - 25 High on the Moths scale
  - 27 Spicy sauce
  - 28 Target of much advertising
  - 29 Appliance with a timer
  - 30 Well-groomed
  - 31 Cries of surprise
  - 32 "Houston, we have a problem" recipient
  - 33 Property of a cliché
  - 35 Highlands "Uh-uh"
  - 36 Archaeological site
  - 37 Yoko of music and art
  - 40 Deep bell sound
  - 41 Gentleman of leisure?
  - 46 Short story collection by Isaac Asimov
  - 48 Accepts, as a resolution
  - 50 Yellow blazer
  - 51 Country poem
  - 52 Nothing, in Latin
  - 54 Feudal figure
  - 55 Famous shroud's locale
  - 56 Fix
  - 57 To be, in France
  - 58 Large, flightless bird
  - 59 Rectangular pilaster
  - 60 Novelist Morrison
  - 62 Web address, briefly
- DOWN**
- 1 Some stringed instruments
  - 2 Radian
  - 3 Steinway product
  - 4 Team spirit
  - 5 Mouthy?



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## How my eyesight affects my education

There are a lot of things we take for granted in life, for me, it would be my eyesight.

Do you know what I'd give to be able to wake up in the morning and tell the time on the clock across the room clearly without squinting my eyes and tilting my head?

I don't have 20/20 vision, and I'm not blind, but I do have very poor eyesight.

So what's my glasses prescription? I don't know. I stopped trying to remember it when the numbers would just keep changing after every yearly eye exam.

According to Vision-Quest 20/20, a non-profit organization for childhood vision screenings, "vision problems affect more than five million elementary school children nationwide."

I've been wearing glasses since kindergarten. Back then, I could manage a day without glasses just fine, but as I got older, a day without them progressively became a huge issue.

My poor vision affects my daily lifestyle, but I had no idea how much it would affect my education.

No one liked assigned seating in school because they couldn't sit next to their friends. I didn't like assigned seating because it seemed as if I was always placed in the back of the room — the worst place you could put a kid who couldn't always see clearly.

Do you know how embarrassing it is for a shy 13-year-old to ask to move to the front of the room because they couldn't see from anywhere else?

I'm nearsighted, so things farther away appear blurry, but my ophthalmologist told me once that even if I sat in the front row in a classroom that I would still have trouble seeing even with glasses on.

I would copy down the wrong homework assignments and test dates, so I always felt left behind and out of the loop.

I hated copying down math problems from the whiteboard. The number 14 easily looked like the number 19 and no matter how hard I looked at the fuzzy blob, it didn't morph into a clear number that I could see.

According to a provisional report for the 2011 National Health Interview Survey, 21.2 million Americans ages 18 and older reported experiences of vision loss. "Vision loss" is defined

as people who say they have trouble seeing even with glasses or contact lenses.

Let's just say I dreaded going to classes that had chalkboards in them and also wasn't very fond of green dry erase board markers.

I often got in trouble for talking to classmates when all I was trying to do was ask what was written on the board.

I was always that kid who got up from my seat to walk up to the front of the classroom so I could get a better look at the board.

I felt like my classmates were always staring at me, wondering how it was possible that I couldn't see from where I was sitting.

I always felt bad about not having perfect vision until one of my high school teachers approached me about my eyesight and seemed to truly care.

He saw how I was struggling and told me about how his poor vision had always affected his education when he was my age. Somehow after talking to him, I didn't feel so ashamed or alone.

My eyesight problems have always been with me and are still with me today.

I was sitting in class the other day and my professor put an assignment up on the projector that I couldn't see clearly.

My choices were to either go to the front of the room and sit on the floor because the front row seats were taken, or take a photo of it on my cell phone.

I ended up taking a picture of the projector and zooming in as much as my phone would let me.

I had always felt that my vision was far worse compared to everyone else, which is why I was shocked when I met a friend who shared my same woes.

We were talking about how some restaurants had their menus posted online along with others that had printed brochure menus.

I told him how much I rely on both because I have a difficult time reading menus posted on walls of restaurants. To my surprise, he did too.

My vision will always affect the way I live, but instead of letting it affect me negatively, I've learned to appreciate what I have and that I can still see.

I may not ever have 20/20 vision, but for now, I can live with all the cute glasses frames there are out there.

Stephanie Wong is the Spartan Daily executive editor.



Follow Stephanie Wong on Twitter @StephanieWong



## The business of sports

I've always found it funny how sports, like religion and politics, have the ability to fire people up. It's a world where people wear their allegiance on their sleeves, literally. In the passion, some of us lose sight of an important principle: professional sports teams are businesses.

It doesn't matter how much they interact with their fan base or what they contribute to their community. Team owners follow the same principles as every other business, an eye is always on their bottom line.

I've been contemplating going to a San Francisco Giants game all season, but buying tickets directly from the stadium or going through a third party website are both pricey options.

While it seems that tickets are cheaper on third party ticket sites, there's often a convenience or transaction fee. StubHub, for instance, charges buyers a 10 percent fee and sellers a 15 percent fee for tickets bought and sold on their site.

In a time where the price of nearly everything is increasing, from food to gas, it should be no surprise that the price for game tickets increases as well.

Prices of goods fluctuate; they change with the economy and time. The cost of living is getting more expensive; it makes sense that the cost of luxury increases with it.

Even as the price of tickets increases, the attendance seems to remain steady. It seems that fans are always willing to pay higher prices when their team is doing well.

For the 2012-2013 season, ESPN reported that for the 24 home games the San Jose Sharks

played, there was an average of 17,561 seats sold. That means that every home game they played was in front of a sold-out crowd.

As someone who tries to go to at least one Sharks game a year, I've noticed the increase in ticket prices over the past few years. Even as prices creep up, the Shark Tank still sells out.

If I were running a business and clients were willing to pay more for what my business provided, it would make sense to charge more. I would have bills to pay and payroll to make and anything to increase my profit would be a good idea.

Dallas Mavericks owner Mark Cuban is number 206 on The Forbes' 400, the 400 richest people in America. As of March 2013, his net worth was \$2.4 billion. He didn't make all of that money as an owner of a NBA basketball team. He made his money as a business entrepreneur, selling Broadcast.com, an audio and visual portal, to Yahoo! for \$5.7 billion in 1999.

In a post on blogmaverick.com, Cuban compared team ownership to his other business ventures in the following quote: "Would I do it the same way again? In a heartbeat. Why? Because in the NBA, like in the non-sports business world you have to take chances in order to be rewarded. You have to be smart and you have to be more than a little lucky."

It's hard to see the business side of things as a fan. Sports



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teams are something that we form a bond with as fans. We make memories around a team and a venue. Whether it's a fan who remembers being a kid and going to games with their dad or someone who paints their body in team colors to show their dedication in the stands, our teams become a part of our life.

One could argue that it preys on the emotions of its fan base. Perhaps that is the darker side of business. To a certain extent, though, all businesses do. No matter how high gas prices soar, people will still buy it because gas has become a necessity for many people.

Sporting events are not like gas, though. It doesn't factor in to our ability to function daily. Going to a game is a luxury, not a necessity.

That's not to say that I don't think \$20 for standing room only or \$40 for centerfield bleacher seats at a Giants game isn't ridiculous. I do, but I also refuse to spend that much money on a ticket to watch a game.

It comes down to this: as long as fans keep spending the big bucks for tickets to see a game, ticket prices will continue to rise.

It's business first for many companies, and a team, after all, is really nothing more than a business.

Allison Williams is a Spartan Daily staff writer. "Fanatic-Ally" appears every 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month.

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## Letters to the Editor

To the San José State University student body,  
On behalf of your football team and the entire athletics department, THANK YOU for the turnout at our season-opening win over Sacramento State.

More than 3,800 students took advantage of our long-standing agreement - free admission to San José State on-campus athletics events with a valid Tower ID. From my seat in Spartan Stadium, I could see our players and coaches feed off of the continuous energy and spirit from the student sections the entire evening. And, you



helped San José State become the first football team in the country to win by a shutout this year.

We hope you return for our remaining five home football games and our other 130 home contests. Like football, you can see your Spartans at The Event Center, Municipal Stadium, Blethen Field, the Aquatic Center, the Softball Field at South Campus and in Spartan Stadium for free.

Please continue to show your school spirit and sportsmanship and cheer on San José State. Thanks again.

**Gene Bleymaier**  
San Jose State University  
Athletics Director

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