



INSIDE

AT HOODSLAM
BLATANT FAKERY
ONLY ADDS TO FUN

PAGE 5

INSIDE

SO LONG AND
THANKS FOR
ALL THE CLIPS

PAGE 6



Hi: 72°
Lo: 48°

WEDNESDAY,
MAY 6, 2015

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Spartan Daily

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SECOND CHANCE

Suicide-attempt survivor spreads positivity

BY ROSA JASSO
@rosabjasso

From Philadelphia comes a 16-year-old boy named Jordan Burnham who suffered through depression. He felt like a disappointment to his sister and parents and had lost all hope in life.

“There’s a trigger that went off in my brain saying ‘I don’t belong here anymore,’” Burnham said.

At 18 years old, Burnham tried to take his life by jumping out of a nine-foot-story window. He said it was instinctual because he does not remember what happened before and doesn’t remember making that decision.

Burnham broke multiple parts of his body and was only given 24 hours to live after the fall. He managed to survive and went into a coma for five days, slowly recovering afterward.

Fast forward seven years. Burnham is now 25 years old and is going around the country sharing his story with an organiza-

tion called Active Minds. He reaches out to middle school, high school and college students to talk about his depression and how he’s been recovering.

“We can never choose the bad things that happen in our lives but we can choose how to cope with them,” Burnham said.

Burnham visited San Jose State last night

SEE **DEPRESSION** ON PAGE 2 >>>

SPEAKER PELOSI

Nancy Pelosi to give commencement

BY ANASTASIYA RAKOVA
@ssupstace

House of Representatives Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi has been chosen as the official speaker for San Jose State’s Spring 2015 commencement ceremony.

According to President Mohammad Qayoumi’s press release, Pelosi is an ideal role model for SJSU graduates.

“She has had an enormous impact on the lives of millions of Americans,” Qayoumi said. “This is an extraordinary opportunity to hear directly from a national leader about the leading issues of our time.”

According to the official press release from April 16, Pelosi has achieved success in the political sphere.

One of her successes is being the first woman speaker of the House who has served California’s 12th District for 27 years.

According to the press release she has fought for bigger paychecks and a stronger infrastructure for American middle class families.

Andrea Gonzalez, a senior political science major, said she was excited to find out Pelosi would be speaking at her graduation.

“I think she is an amazing person and an accomplished politician,” Gonzalez said. “Her stances on education, immigration, LGBTQAI rights, gun control, abortion rights are almost identical to my own. I admire that she stands up for what she believes in.”

Gonzalez said she hopes to continue

SEE **PELOSI** ON PAGE 2 >>>

OFF AIR



Raven Swayne | Spartan Daily

The band Sweet Hayah performs its newly-recorded song, “Yourself” to close out the first-ever KSJS Musical Showcase in the Campus Village Quad last Thursday.

KSJS goes live on CV quad

Visit spartandaily.com for video coverage

BY ARNO BRYANT
@MrArnoBryant

90.5 KSJS brought its radio show out of the sound booth and onto the stage as they hosted its inaugural music showcase.

Held on the Campus Village Quad, the event aimed to bring attention to San Jose’s local music scene.

The showcase kicked off with Noux, formally known as disc jockey Curly Wurly,

who took the stage to entertain the handful of attendees able to brace the baking mid-day sun.

Next up was Ziggy, part of eight-man collective Westacy, who played through a tight set of his solo West Coast rap.

Emceeding the event were KSJS’ hip-hop hosts Shiva Khales and Derick Morales.

“We kinda realized that a lot of artist that we play on air don’t get the credit they deserve,” said Derick Morales, who DJs under the name Dee-tr3yn.

With temperatures dropping, a small crowd assembled for indie rockers Covet,

who took the stage.

Covet describe their sound as “post-rock math rock,” listing bands like TTNG and Pelican among their influences.

For the uninitialized math rock, it is a genre of rock characterized by its use of fast, complex and often experimental guitar patterns.

The band said it was really excited about the range of music coming out of the area.

“There’s a pretty flourishing indie rock scene in San Francisco,” Covet drummer

SEE **KSJS** ON PAGE 4 >>>

DIVERSITY WORTH SHARING

TEDx comes to campus and attracts a crowd



Rain Stites | Spartan Daily

Ursula Xanthe Young of Few and Far, the assemblage of women artists, outlines what she refers as the “giant coloring book” for attendees to color in throughout the TEDxSJSU event Monday night.

BY ARNO BRYANT
@MrArnoBryant

The world’s only stuttering female comedian and a Native American healer were among a smorgasbord of speakers at TEDxSJSU on Monday night.

TED, which stands for Technology Entertainment Design, is a prestigious non-profit organization responsible for hosting conferences of short lectures across the globe.

Known singularly as “TED Talks,” each 10–30 minute lecture is recorded and released online, gathering over 500 million collective views since 2006.

The theme for Monday’s event was “Diversity.”

TEDx events are the small, independently run, offshoots of the yearly TED conference.

TEDx regulations enforce a ticket cap at 100 live attendees. Due to this, the audience was split between the theater and Clark Hall where the lectures were live-streamed.

SEE **TEDx** ON PAGE 3 >>>

PIN-UP SEASON

Bowling team strikes gold

BY ANASTASIYA RAKOVA
@ssupstace

The San Jose State Bowling Team, an all-male, six-member group formed in 1967, looks back on its season’s achievements, with some of the top scores in the country.

Brothers Michael and Darren Tang

scored some of the top spaces not only on the team, but nationwide.

Both brothers were selected as first team all-American this year, and their coach also won the coach of the year award. Nearly all members bowled more than 70 games, with percentages of field beaten in the ‘90s, although the team didn’t make the top 50 by total season points.

Michael Tang, a sophomore psychology major, led his team on throughout the season.

Michael Tang said he had the highest individual average out of everybody in the nation and won MVP for the 2014-15 collegiate season. He also won the player of the year award for the club, National Collegiate Bowling Coaches Association and International Bowling Media Association.

SEE **BOWLING** ON PAGE 8 >>>

CROWN AND COUNTRY

Miss Santa Clara sets sights statewide

BY ROSA JASSO
@rosabjasso

Being onstage in a pageant, watching everybody applaud and wearing a crown bigger than the size of someone’s head sounds like a moment girls would dream of having. However, successfully balancing pageants, school, community service and work may sound like a better reward.

Jessa Carmack has been in beauty pageants since she was 15 years old and is now going for Miss California this June. Carmack is a public relations major at San Jose State University who will graduate in Fall 2015.

She has won Miss Santa Clara’s Outstanding Teen, Miss California’s Outstanding Teen, Miss Mission City’s Outstanding Teen and now holds the title of Miss Santa Clara in the Miss Santa Clara Auxiliary.

Carmack works in the Santa Clara community by teaching teens and children to eat healthy and stay active. She visits classrooms,



Carmack

SEE **PAGEANT** ON PAGE 3 >>>

Release of literature magazine generates buzz

BY RAVEN SWAYNE
@itsRavenDawn

Cathleen Miller, an English professor at San Jose State University and the editor-in-chief of Reed magazine for the past three years, is looking forward to the release of the new volume.

Miller said she has enjoyed working with the SJSU students in creating a new volume every year stocked with fresh and creative pieces.

"It's fun being a part of one of the most important literary traditions," Miller said.

The magazine includes poetry, short stories, essays and art from writers and artists from all over the world.

Miller said one of her favorite parts of the magazine is the profile pieces that focus on fellow writers who have and have not written for the magazine. She likes how it shows appreciation for writers who are a big support system for the magazine.

Miller said while the magazine has a deep history, it continues to keep up with current events.

In order to celebrate the 68th volume the magazine staff is hosting a party at Books Inc. in Downtown Mountain View. Books Inc. will also be selling Reed magazine in stores.

Philip Perry, a junior English major, said he has not read a full magazine volume yet but he looks forward to reading the 68th volume because he's heard only great reviews of the magazine.

"There's clearly a lot of time and effort put into it which is probably why it's been around so long," Perry said. "I'm going to absolutely get one this year."

Reed magazine also has contests for each category and a few separate contests for the essay category. Each winner receives a cash prize.

Eli Hansen, a Master of Fine Arts student and managing editor for the magazine, is excited to celebrate the issue after such a long year of getting it all together.

"This year is going to be one of our best, every piece is of superb quality," Hansen said. "There is a lot to celebrate, we received the most submissions in the history of Reed for this issue."

The launch party will include readings and interviews with writers and artists from the magazine issue. Some are from the San Jose area, including Alan Soldofsky, T.T. Monday and Julia Reynolds.

Hansen looks forward to showcasing the work of the editors and all of the writers and artists who are in the magazine.

Reed Magazine

Issue 68 Contest Winners



Allison Grace Myers for Fiction

Allison Grace Myers' fiction piece has been published in Crazyhorse magazine and was awarded the W. Morgan and Lou Claire Rose Fellowship.



Gabriele Rico Challenge for Nonfiction

Beth Roddy, creative writer, has participated in the "switched-up storytelling" series "No, YOU Tell It!" among other series.



Edwin Markham Prize for Poetry

Mary Elizabeth Parker is an essayist, poet and creator and chair of the Dana Awards. Her work has appeared in numerous publications.



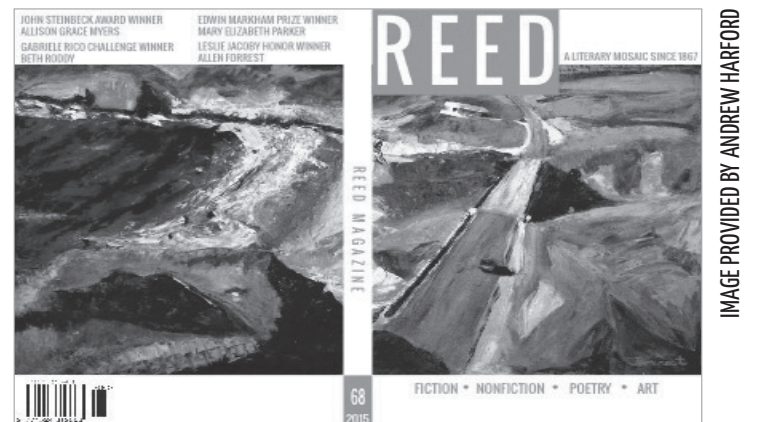
Leslie Jacoby Honor for Art

Allen Forrest reflects the work of California's native artists and its surroundings through oil painting. His work is influenced by painters Richard Diebenkorn and David Park.

INFORMATION COMPILED FROM REEDMAG.ORG | INFOGRAPHIC BY PATRICIA LEE

The launch party is Wednesday, May 13, at Books Inc. in Mountain View and will begin at 6 p.m. Reed magazine staff is looking forward to celebrating everyone's hard work in creating the issue. The event will be free of charge with provided food, drinks and entertainment.

Raven Swayne is a Spartan Daily staff writer.



PELOSI

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through graduate school and help with immigration rights.

Even in a rich, diverse area like Silicon Valley, Gonzalez said, people often find themselves targeted for racial prejudice, and she hopes to "be a part of that solution."

Pelosi reflected on Gonzalez's thoughts about diversity being a strength of the SJSU community.

"SJSU's students represent what is best in America today, and what possibilities may be realized in our future," Pelosi said. "I am honored by the opportunity to address such a diverse and determined group of graduates at their commencement."

Pelosi will speak at the commencement ceremony at the Spartan Stadium on Saturday, May 23.

Anastasiya Rakova is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

DEPRESSION

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and shared his story with students. He said the talks he has with students and the responses he receives are what help him cope with the memory of his attempted suicide.

He wants to be defined by how he helps people with their depression and the things he's done after the night of his fall.

Ariadna Manzo, an undeclared freshman, attended the event and said she has personally dealt with depression.

"It's just helped me realize that we're not alone in this kind of stuff," Manzo said.

Burnham said he still lives with depression but has learned to cope. He enjoys ironing in his free time and gets excited when he uses the "fancy" irons in his hotel rooms.

Having gone through depression, Burnham said he's learned to understand other people's problems and it affects how he perceives things in life.

He advises anyone going through depression should analyze themselves and have a support system of people who will listen and offer advice.

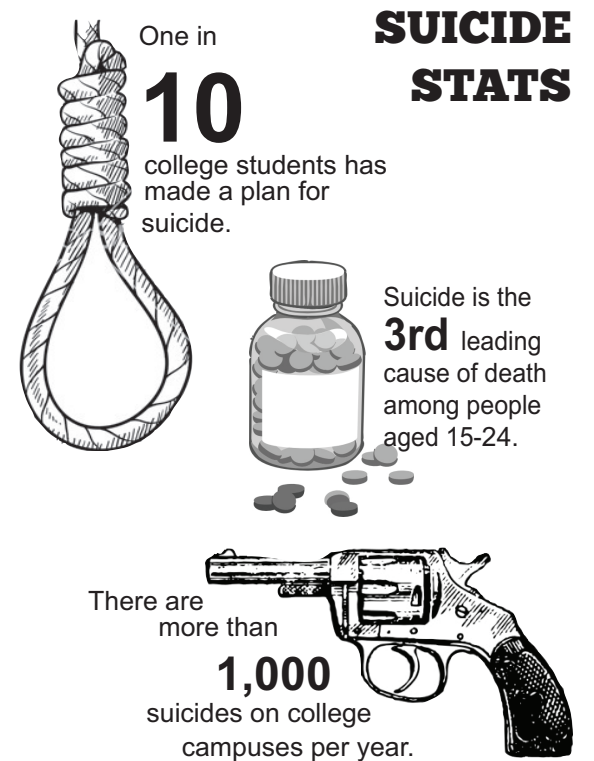
Seeking therapeutic counseling helped him work through his depression and he still visits a therapist.

Burnham said finding a good therapist is like a first date. The first therapist seen might not be the best one for a person so they should look into a second option.

Shelene Huey-Booker works with a non-profit organization called Live Out Love that spreads hope and allows children to talk about their depression.

"Being able to hear the travesty of his story and then being able to see that he's able to find humor in that, that was one of my favorite parts," Huey-Booker said.

Even though Burnham's story is serious and one of the worst things people could experience, he is still able to tell his



Suicidal thoughts, making plans for suicide and suicide attempts are **higher** among adults aged 18-25 than adults over the age of 26.

INFORMATION COMPILED FROM EMORY UNIVERSITY INFOGRAPHIC BY ROSA JASSO

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Rosa Jasso | Spartan Daily

Jordan Burnham visits SJSU to talk about his life story and his battle against depression at Morris Dailey Auditorium yesterday.

story while making people laugh.

Burnham learned to see the light in his dark days and work toward having a more positive

life. He said he loves to travel the country and view the positive reactions from his audience.

Rosa Jasso is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

Professor Soto earns White House award for teaching students science

By JEREMY CUMMINGS
@JeremyCummings3

The Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics and Engineering Mentoring is given in recognition of the crucial role that mentors play in the success of students.

That award, described in a White House press release, is being given to San Jose State's professor Julio Soto.

Mentoring his students is important to Soto because he believes he got to where he is only because he had good mentors during his own education.

"It doesn't matter who you are, you're not going to get what you want without help," Soto said.

Soto teaches undergraduate science courses and manages a research lab for those same students. He also manages research grants for the students in the biology program.

Currently Soto is in charge of a grant at SJSU called Research by Undergraduates using Molecular Biology Applications, or RUMBA for short. Soto accepts 10 students into the program each summer and helps them carry out biological research.

Nicko Ly, one of the students in the grant program for this summer said that Soto's approach to the grant is unique in the amount of freedom he gives the students.

"It's like I'm on a playground and he's on yard duty," Ly said.

Ly said students in the program are currently doing research on cancer cells.

When Soto was an undergraduate student, he said he learned most by teaching



Courtesy of Christina Olivas

SJSU Professor of Biological Sciences Julio Soto, pictured in his office, will receive the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics and Engineering Mentoring, the White House announced on March 27.

“It doesn't matter who you are, you're not going to get what you want without help”

Julio Soto
San Jose State professor

his fellow students and having discussions with them. He realized that he loved teaching people and decided to make a career from teaching and research.

Soto was first interested in science because he aspired to be a doctor. He was turned off, however, by the thought of

having to deliver bad news to families and so he shifted his focus to study biology.

On Soto's SJSU faculty website it says he is, "committed to making the unlimited intellectual possibilities of modern biology accessible to all students."

Many teachers, according to Soto, simply

teach science as a collection of factoids and important discoveries. Soto believes this is the wrong way to approach the subject.

"I'd rather teach someone how to think, and how to see a problem and how to develop ideas to solve the problem using biology," Soto said.

That is not to say that Soto doesn't try to build on the work and research of scientists who came before him. Soto said he sometimes tells students to take a significant discovery and try to think about how they can use the knowledge gained from that discovery to tackle problems they face.

Soto is involved with Society for Advancement of Hispanics/Chicanos and Native Americans in Science, an organization geared toward improving opportunities for students from less privileged backgrounds.

The desire to help these students comes in part from Soto's own upbringing in Puerto Rico. Soto's father never made it past fourth grade and his mother didn't graduate college until he and his siblings were young children.

Once Soto moved to the United States and began to study, he experienced prejudice for the first time.

When Soto was studying at UC Berkeley he was viewed in a negative light due to his Puerto Rican heritage. There was one occasion when he walked into a research lab and another student presumed he was a janitor despite his preppy attire.

Soto has also been discriminated against due to his homosexuality. He said when he came out to a college friend in New Mexico she cut off contact with him.

Prejudice has never gotten to Soto though, as he understands that prejudice does not come from any flaw in his character and is not indicative of his abilities or intelligence.

Jeremy Cummings is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

TEDx

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The first speaker was Nina Ghiselli, the self-proclaimed singular stuttering female stand-up comedian in America.

In her talk she discussed growing up with a stutter and the frustration of not letting her disability define her.

She's now a regular speaker, using her humor to strengthen the image of those with disabilities.

The next talk came from Native American healer MarTan Martinez who spoke about the hostility Native Americans faced during his upbringing.

Martinez now works with students living in boarding schools, which he refers to as "prisons," teaching them ways to connect to their cultural heritage.

Before leaving the stage he led the group through a tribal healing song.

The event was split into three parts separated by food breaks which allowed attendees to paint in a section of an 8-foot mock coloring book produced by Few and Far, a women's art collective.

Kicking-off the second half of the event was Christina Ngo, who works at NASA.

She used her TEDx Talk as an opportunity to come out as a lesbian in front of a group of her fellow employees she invited along.

Ngo explained the reasons why she'd felt coming out would unduly risk her career in a workforce dominated by 50-plus men.

"One person can simply not like me and I'm out of a job," Ngo said.

She described how she finally reached an epiphany that she couldn't hide when she wanted change.

Speaking after the talk Ngo said she was nervous about going to work the next day.



Rain Stites | Spartan Daily

The guest speakers and the organizers of the TEDxSJSU take applause after a series of lectures at the Student Union Theatre yesterday.

"I don't think it'll hit me till the morning," Ngo said. "But I feel good about it." The final live lecture was conducted by James Kao, CEO of recycling company Green Citizen.

He opened his talk by explaining the dangerous conditions where a large amount of our recycling takes place.

Kao stated that 80 percent of U.S. waste is recycled illegally overseas.

He blamed the consumer marketplace for allowing companies to produce products without considering how they'll be disposed of.

Aided by the use of slides, he proposed there should be a shared responsibility between manufacturers and recycling companies, suggesting that the expense of disposal should be factored into a product's price.

"Recycling is just an afterthought," Kao said.

There was a planned talk from native-activist Sage LaPenya, but she was taken ill and was thus unable to attend.

As well as live speakers, the audience witnessed a selection of projected TED Talks from speakers such as novelist

Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, photo-journalist Eman Mohammed and film producer Lord David Puttnam.

The event was organized by the TEDxSJSU club, a group of students overseen by humanities and environmental studies lecturer Jeanine Pfeiffer.

"In my entire career I have never had a committee that was so committed, diligent, responsive and creative," Pfeiffer said.

The group hopes to make the university a regular host of TEDx events.

Arno Bryant is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

PAGEANT

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reads to students and gives them advice on how to pursue a healthy lifestyle.

Her other responsibilities include working as an intern at Google and being a part of a professional NFL cheerleading team.

In preparation for Miss California, Carmack meets with her dance instructor Melisa Revino every week. Revino is a former local titleholder for the Miss America program and says she would love to see Carmack win Miss California.

"She's so driven and so dedicated to being the best person she can be," Revino said. "I don't know anyone else who

deserves that title."

Winning a beauty pageant requires more than wearing a beautiful face. There is hard work, preparation and dedication that goes into becoming a successful contestant.

Carmack's full schedule involves her meeting with an interviewing coach, practicing her gymnastics jazz dance routine with her dance coach and volunteering in the community to fulfill her platform.

She said she studies local, national and global news to be knowledgeable in those categories and be able to answer possible questions based on those subjects during the pageant.

Each contestant chooses a platform to work toward,

which can be any local cause. Carmack chose to inspire a healthy lifestyle in youth.

Renee Esquibel has been working with Carmack since Carmack won her first pageant. Esquibel is a scholarship chair and active committee member who directs the fundraisers for the Miss Santa Clara Auxiliary.

"They really look up to her so it's really nice for her to have this audience of kids," Esquibel said.

Even Esquibel's daughter looks up to Carmack as a role model.

Carmack works with hundreds of kids and Esquibel said they are always excited to meet Miss Santa Clara.

Carmack said winning Miss

California would make her a great role model for young girls and she plans to fulfill that role. She said children are the best age group to absorb information and that's why she reaches out to the youth.

Revino and Esquibel said Carmack is an outgoing and bubbly young girl who is easy to get along with. She is focused on her goals and determined to achieve them.

"Even if she does not win Miss California she will be a better person because she's learned more about herself and more about the community," Revino said.

Rosa Jasso is a Spartan Daily staff writer.



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REVIEW

Glass and paintings mesmerize at First Fridays

By ANASTASIYA RAKOVA
@ssupstace

For this month's First Fridays Anno Domini featured a mesmerizing view of glass sculpted into an array of intricate forms, while KALEID featured colorfully imaginative portraits of animal life and people.

Anno Domini's May massive showcase "Spectrum" runs until June 13 and features 57 artists.

The "Spectrum" gallery pieces all feature glass work complemented by other interesting materials. There are tiny versions of common items such as picnic tables, 2-D portraits and mini sculptures of childish characters. The sculptures are whimsical, cute and sometimes shockingly strange, yet always beautiful.

This collection is like a children's toy box suddenly opened for our amusement. Whether it's the way the colors of the glass flow

together or the juxtaposition of glass against raw wood or metal, all of the pieces are one-of-a-kind.

According to "Spectrum" organizers Jonathan Yao and Valerie Pohorsky, "Whether it is traditional glassblowing, frameworking, casting, alternative print processes, repurposed found objects, or a combination of all of the above, this show illustrates a small slice of how artists are using this amazing material as an expression of their creative vision."

KALEID gallery hosted "Color Me Free," a show produced by Four Artists, Live Collaborations, an artistic group that produces wildly colorful sequences of imagery.

Four Artists, Live Collaborations consists of Jay Cee, Nekyua, Theresa Merchant and Al Preciado. The artists worked as a team to manifest a project fit for this month, their combined gallery featuring a nature-esque with a cool

color palette of blues and greens.

Based on character, mythology and animal forms, the exhibit expands the mind with a mix of bold colors, rough lines, and meticulous effort spanning across large-sized canvases.

One piece called "Caducus," by Preciado, Jay Cee and Nekyua, appears to be a snake-like demon with a horned skull on a royal-blue slender body. Lighter colors mix in, placing the character into an ethereal space while at the same time keeping it grounded as dominant element on the canvas.

Most pieces look like this. Some others are wall sculptures—masks put together out of thrown away material, resurrected as disfigured, sometimes haunting creatures and people.

"Color Me Free" artist Sandi Billingsley hopes to portray the pain and unnerving desire to break free

of shackles, whether literal or metaphorical. A native of the Southeast, she spent time in New York fleshing out her career with murals and galleries around town. After moving to California, she's expanded on what she's already started.

One of Billingsley's pieces is her own take on "The Goldfinch" by Carel Fabritius. Fabritius' painting depicts a goldfinch bird chained, by one of its legs, to a metal wall perch. In Billingsley's version, there is no bird; rather, a sole torn off leg still attached to the chain that once held it.

According to Billingsley, "I'm an advocate for animals ... when I saw 'The Goldfinch' painting I felt like it broke my heart. That picture came to my mind, like, what would you do if you were actually chained up like that?"

"Color Me Free" runs until May 29.

Anastasiya Rakova is a Spartan Daily staff writer.



Anastasiya Rakova | Spartan Daily
"Hector the Protector" is a grim piece that brings the dead back to life, composed by Al Preciado, Alex Casbara and Theresa Merchant at KALEID.

KSJS

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David Adamiak said.

Sweet HayaH finished the event with a blast of energy, albeit without its trumpet player.

The band's sound incorporates elements of soul, rock and funk and despite a tepid crowd of 80 or so students. The band did its utmost to engage anyone in the vicinity.

Lead singer, Nehal Abuelata, roamed the uad dragging everyone into a sing-along.

Abuelata struggled to define the sound saying "For me it's just fun, we just play sounds we like to play."

Covet and Sweet HayaH are working on debut albums they hope to release before the end of the year.

KSJS splits its radio

shows into the categories of urban, sub-rock, electronic and jazz—a diversity the station aimed to represent through the lineup.

KSJS also raffled a selection of concert tickets.

Morales described the event as a "success" saying he "hoped it was the first of many."

Arno Bryant is a Spartan Daily staff writer.



Above: Lead vocalist, Nehal Abuelata, of the band, Sweet HayaH, performs original songs at the first-ever KSJS Musical Showcase.



Left: Yvette Young performing with her band Covet during the music showcase held by KSJS outside the Campus Village Quad on Thursday.

Photos by Raven Swayne | Spartan Daily



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REVIEW

Hoodslam brings 'real' wrestling

By ARNO BRYANT
@MrArnoBryant

I spent Friday night at the Metro Opera House Oakland and I left smelling of weed and covered in Jack Daniels, faux cocaine and the guts of a vanquished cyborg.

Hoodslam is an underground wrestling extravaganza. Packed inside an unassuming warehouse on the first Friday of each month, fans cue around the block to get into the ring side's sweaty splash zone.

I must confess, I've never been much of a wrestling fan. Perhaps because my first encounters with the sport consisted of being repeatedly chokeslammed through sofas by my wrestling-mad cousins.

I've always failed to see it as anything more than a testosterone pumped sofa opera.

Fortunately this isn't lost on Hoodslam, whose slogan "This is real" is so tongue-in-cheek it's ripped through the cheek and is beating someone round the head with a chair.

It is, in essence, a self-indulgent spoof of professional wrestling but without denying the intriguing entertainment value of watching athletes beat the s--t out of each other.

An early fight pits Techno Destructo (a Mad Max-type cyborg armed with a five-foot robot spanner arm) against Doc Animosity (an alien thing covered in alien things) in an intergalactic death match.

It's insanely gripping, and not just because a momentary lack of concentration will result in a wrestler taking you out.

The warehouse is just that, a warehouse. Aside from a few makeshift bars and an

impressively stocked merch table, it's just a ring and space.

Fans swarm ringside with crowd's no-more than 12 people deep.

Hoodslam describes its formation as an "accidental phenomenon" but is now an impressively orchestrated event, not that they'd ever admit it.

This is perhaps to be expected when each move is a grand act of precious illusion.

A live band, comically entitled Limp Seabizkit, play the intro music while Broseph Joe Brody, an archetypal frat jerk, breaks up the fights pouring whiskey down the throats of the audience while winding them into a frenzy with his love of Nickelback.

The highlight of the night is the fight between Drugs Bunny, I'll allow you to imagine him for yourself, add some more cocaine, a sprinkle more, yeah you're good—and Virgil Flynn III, whose lack of a distinctive character makes him stand out as an outright weirdo.

Although it's funny to see a man in a rabbit costume do an 8 foot line of baking soda, I quickly find myself engrossed in a way I'd never imagined. I flinch with every hit, cheer with every slam and gasp with every two-count.

A few moves seem to challenge the laws of gravity as they tumble through the air.

Much of my issue with pro wrestling is its obsession with the absurd notion of its legitimacy. When you're told something is real you concentrate on trying to spot its trickery. But once you strip away the pretence of realism you're allowed to indulge in the magnificent feats of melodramatic athleticism.

Although this might not be the



Above: The Stoner Brothers slam Paul Lomdon to the canvas in a devastating two-man power move.



Left: Brian Kendrick grabs the rope while the referee looms over his opponent Rick Scott who is laying catatonic in the center of the ring.

Photos by Jeremy Cummings | Spartan Daily

Arno Bryant is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

immediate response to watching Paul London rip his testicle out of his Lycra to bag his opposition from the top rope, by putting

entertainment above franchising Hoodslam is creating a much purer form of wrestling than any stadium filling WWE show.

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Raechel Price



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Language has immense power, especially when it comes to the words we choose to identify ourselves.

To wear a label like a shield can be dangerous. While it feels amazing to finally find the thing you identify with, the same advantages to labels can also be disadvantages.

It can be very freeing to let a label speak for you, to use one word or phrase that gets your point across almost instantly.

Labels and identity are subjective, and one person's relationship with a label might differ from the standard socially accepted definition.

Labels make the personal political

In some ways, labeling reinforces heteronormativity, the supposition that attraction to an opposite gender is the default "normal" state for human beings.

Giving something a label can signify that it is outside the sphere of normality and thus must be considered "other."

Labels can also be a micro-aggression against an identity, especially when there isn't one that quite fits.

Because I identify as gender nonconforming, I don't feel comfortable with the classic courtesy titles associated with my biological sex. Being called "ma'am" is like a needle to the eardrum.

"Miss" is even worse, somehow infantilizing on top of misgendering me.

But what's my alternative? "Sir" is just as much of a poor fit.

The struggle with my gender identity mostly comes from my exhaustion with our society's rigid binary attitudes toward gender and the gap that exists between our language and the complex nature of identity. I'd rather divorce myself from the conversation altogether.

The University of New Mexico's student newspaper the Daily Lobo announced this semester they would start using the gender neutral pronoun "ze," and its corresponding possessive "zir," when

asked by students who identify as neither male or female.

While this is a step in the right direction for news reporting, it still doesn't solve my courtesy title problem.

Laura Jane Grace, front woman of the band Against Me!, wrote a piece for her Vice.com column "Mandatory Happiness" on the problem with pronouns.

"They got me dead to rights, born with an 'M' on my birth certificate. But I don't care what the ID card says, I want them to respect what I'm telling them," Grace wrote.

She reinforces the idea that coming out is a daily process, not something you can just do once and forget. It means constantly having to stand up for yourself and assert preferred language when it is not used.

Grace recalled a night she recently spent with friends, where someone deliberately misgendered her in a moment of drunken anger.

"It's actually an incredible advantage to have—a built-in litmus test letting you know who is worthwhile in your life and who isn't," Grace wrote.

Grace's examples are slightly more personal than political. Luckily I didn't have to look very far to find another one.

Rick Santorum's recent com-

ment on Bruce Jenner's identity as a woman is a perfect example of politicizing the personal.

Santorum recently spoke at a GOP convention in Columbia, South Carolina, where he said of Jenner, "My responsibility as a human being is to love and accept everybody."

Upon reading this carefully crafted sound byte, I was speechless, considering Santorum's historically militant stance against LGBT rights.

Santorum did make a distinction between identity and behavior, however.

"I can criticize, and I do, for what people do, for their behavior. But as far as for who they are, you have to respect everybody," Santorum said.

Santorum was also oddly silent when his home state of Pennsylvania legalized same-sex marriage in May. So while he has not officially announced his candidacy, those sounds like the words of a future presidential hopeful to me.

As our language evolves, so will our need for labels and the way we use them. For now, labels are a necessary evil that should be approached with caution.

Raechel Price is a Spartan Daily staff writer. Off the Straight & Narrow runs every other Wednesday.

Journalism is not for me

If I could go back to my 18-year-old self in high school, I would've done a lot of research before choosing a major.

My family gave me the freedom to choose my own major, but they never guided me or provided me with the resources to learn about careers.

I applied to several private colleges for early decision, but when it came to declaring a major I was troubled and didn't exactly know what to choose.

"I had never quite wrapped my mind around the concept that major does not equal career until I had real world corporate experience"

I had a 4.5 GPA and took several Advanced Placement, or AP, classes. I knew I picked up languages easily, I liked to write, I liked world history and I was a great artist.

I also knew I didn't want a nine-to-five job. I wanted to be outside and travel so that is one of the main reasons I thought I could major in journalism.

When it came to officially declaring a major I had my friend flip a coin to choose my major because I didn't believe I could make the right decision.

I literally had no idea what I was getting into with journalism, but once I started the program at San Jose State I knew I didn't fit

into the major.

Although I wasn't entirely convinced by journalism I stayed in the major, but then I became discouraged and upset with myself.

I was sick of professors telling students that we were going to fail and that we wouldn't find jobs. My tipping point was when I found out I would be making a \$38,000 salary, according to payscale.com.

At SJSU I was exposed to so many other careers that I had never quite known too much about in the past.

I did try to change my major, but unfortunately the university doesn't make it easy for non-intensive math and science majors to change to STEM majors.

My sophomore year, my boyfriend basically forced me to go to the big career fair on campus, and that changed my life.

That day I met the vice president of human resources for the company I currently work for and began to apply for marketing and public relations internships at numerous tech companies.

I had interviews with some of the best and biggest tech companies, but I ended up interning in a financial institution during the summer of 2014.

That internship opened my eyes to all the possibilities.

I had never quite wrapped my mind around the concept that major does not equal career until I had real world corporate experience.

That summer internship turned into a job offer, and I now work as a regular employee in the marketing department.

In a way I feel that I proved all those pessimistic journalism professors wrong.

It's not that I absolutely hate journalism; there are many aspects of journalism that I like.

I like the social responsibilities jour-



Estefany Sosa

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nalists have with the public.

I like that people pour out their heart and soul to you.

I admire all my classmates who are passionate, aspiring journalists because journalism isn't for everybody.

Now that I've had experience with journalism I look back to my 18-year-old self, and realize the nine-to-five job is for me; and the running around and being on daily deadlines is not for me.

I definitely don't like the newsroom culture, and I just don't feel entirely satisfied with being a journalist.

As bad as this sounds, I care too much about money and I want a six-figure salary, I know I won't have that as a reporter.

I know now that I have an entrepreneurial spirit, and believe it or not I actually don't mind number crunching and data analysis.

When I tell people my story they think I'm lost and confused, that I don't have a plan.

I do have a plan.

I will be graduating early this December, I finished my degree in three and a half years; then I will work for one year and go to business school and earn an MBA.

I don't entirely regret majoring in journalism because it forces me every day to step out of my comfort zone, and I've learned something new from every story I've produced.

Even if your major isn't the right fit for you, remember that major does not equal career.

The possibilities are endless.

Estefany Sosa is Spartan Daily staff writer.



Destiny Palacios



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The Arctic National Wildlife Refuge protects and provides homes for various wildlife species.

The refuge is one of the largest ecosystems in the world

Save the Arctic from oil exploitation

that has not been disrupted by industrialization and is also one of the last intact landscapes in America, according to Defenders of Wildlife.

The World Wildlife Foundation states the refuge is estimated to hold the world's largest remaining untapped gas and undeveloped oil reserves.

Climate Progress Organization states there is about 5.7 billion barrels of oil within the coastal plains of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, or ANWR.

In 1960, President Dwight D. Eisenhower established the refuge in order to preserve unique wildlife, wilderness and recreational values.

However, for decades the refuge has been under siege by

threats of oil drilling from a variety of entities, including former presidents such as George W. Bush.

The Washington Post reported in January of this year that President Barack Obama proposed to set aside 12.28 million acres for wilderness, which includes the preservation of species and natives within the land.

The proposal states it will also ban oil and natural gas drilling across 12 million acres, this is a plan republicans oppose, according to Vice News.

The refuge's ecosystem includes species such as oxen, polar bears, grizzly bears, wolves and sheep.

Indigenous natives known as Gwich'in care for the land and

are dependent on caribou for food.

If companies drill oil in the refuge it could leave permanent damage and severely threaten species.

The National Wildlife Refuge Association, for example, said the future of porcupine caribou and muskox populations could be under threat.

Displacement, disturbance and destruction causes animals like polar bears, shore birds and walrus to suffer after being removed from their habitat.

Defenders of Wildlife even found that displacement can lead to increased mortality and lower reproduction rates among these species as well.

Turtle exceeding expectations in freshman year



By VANESSA GONGORA
@_princessness_

The San Jose State University baseball team has a “turtle” on the team that has been picking up the pace.

Freshman Hawaiian pitcher and infielder Rashaan Kalib Kaeleo ika imi loa Kuhaulua, who goes by Turtle, has been manifesting his skills on the mound and field.

Kuhaulua said he got the nickname in Hawaii from his family when he was 2 years old.

Kuhaulua followed his brother into the water and when his dad went to go look for him, his dad saw him floating on what he thought was a pile of rocks—until he realized it was a turtle’s shell.

Fellow Hawaiian senior pitcher Kalei Contrades said Kuhaulua has been a big asset this year.

“He’s still young but he’s really helped the team. He’s a two-way player,” Contrades said. “He’s been doing good at pitching, hitting, whatever we need him to do. When he gets older and what not, he’s going to be a really good player.”

Kuhaulua is humble about how well he is doing with the team as a freshman because in

Hawaii he only played against three teams and playing with SJSU has given him the opportunity to play against better athletes.

“It’s a lot more pressure, a lot of better players,” Kuhaulua said. “Especially because I only played three teams back home so it’s a lot different, a lot harder.”

Kuhaulua got the win in his first career start on the mound on April 26 against Nevada, working the first 5.1 innings and allowed four runs on six hits.

“I could be doing a lot better and we could be doing a lot better as a team,” Kuhaulua said. “It is what it is right now. Us ourselves give ourselves the most competition. It basically depends how we play. I think we can honestly beat any team we play and that’s if we play as good as we can.”

Matt Brown, also a freshman pitcher, underestimated Kuhaulua coming into the fall season.

“In the fall I didn’t think he would be a starter,” Brown said. “I thought he would be middle relief or closer but he came a long way and he showed that he could throw multiple innings.”

Kuhaulua has a record of 2–2, an earned run average of 3.60 and five saves as a closer in

his freshman year.

“I get through the pressure basically knowing that our team is going to keep us in the game and that my defense is going to back me up when I’m out there,” Kuhaulua said.

Brown said Kuhaulua is a gamer on the field.

“He’s probably the dude that hates losing the most,” Brown said. “If we lose, whether he played or not, he’s down in the dumps for the rest of the day and then he tries to come back out and compete the next day.”

Kuhaulua is a great guy who gets along with everybody, according to Brown. Contrades agreed with Brown and added he can be quiet but is also a funny guy.

“On the field he takes it serious and puts in work, but he’s a little different off the field because he likes to crack jokes here and there,” Contrades said.

Kuhaulua said he’s glad he is starting his career at SJSU and wants to continue playing baseball after college.

“If I’m not going pro, which is hopefully what I’m doing, I guess I just have to find a way to get there,” Kuhaulua said.

Vanessa Gongora is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

Neal Waters | Contributing Photographer
Freshman Turtle Kuhaulua delivers a pitch against the Fresno State Bulldogs on Sunday in a 3–0 loss for the Spartans.

BOWLING

» FROM PAGE 1

Like his brother Darren Tang, Michael Tang got into the sport in elementary school. Their bowling enthusiasts parents got them into the spirit of the game early on, and it continued through college, where hard work reaped deserved awards.

Out of 13 games, the team won 11 in a row, a solid start that they’re very proud of.

“This season may have been one of the most successful seasons during the regular season,” Michael Tang said. “We hobbled a little bit towards the end of the season, losing in the third round of the national championships, putting us in ninth to 12th place.”

Despite the small slide, the team continued to present a winning side. According to Michael Tang, the national championship consisted of purely baker format bowling, and the SJSU team had the highest baker game average of any school in the nation.

“Overall it was a great regular season but a little bit of a let down at nationals from last season where we finished third,” Michael Tang said.

Darren Tang, a senior mechanical engineering major, who trailed close behind his brother and brought the team to acclaimed status, believes a focal point of this season’s success has been good guidance.

“In the bowling world, there are not many coaches who actually know what they’re talking about,” Darren Tang

said. “My brother and I have been able to use what we’ve learned to carve a path for ourselves.”

In his freshman year in 2011–12, the team has won 20 tournaments total—a first for SJSU in nearly 15 years. Last year, the team finished third in the nation.

Their spirits remain high, despite finishing in the round of 12 of 16 at nationals.

“All else aside it was definitely a season to remember. We won more tournaments than any other team in the nation this year and for that we are very proud,” Darren Tang said.

The national championship will be aired on CBS Sports on Monday at 4 p.m. ET.

Anastasiya Rakova is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

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