

Computer engineering major Sam Taherian (left) voices his opinion Union. The discussion was hosted by a group of students and faculty as Juan Ramos (middle) listens at an open forum to discuss the Carl's Jr. controversy on campus on Thursday afternoon at the Student

Kathy De La Torre/ Spartan Daily

called the Queer Revolution

Jay group activates political voice

By Adam Pavlacka Staff Writer

They're queer, and they're ready to be heard.

The Queer Revolution is a rew group on campus whose goal is political activism with a gay and lesbian slant, according to Whitney Bagby, one of the group's co-founders

Bagby said the group was founded two weeks ago partly as a response to the Carl's Jr. controversy, but its primary goal is to provide a political voice for the gay community.

Carl's Jr. has been the subject of debate since August, when it was mutually decided that the chain would not open a restaurant on campus because of alleged anti-gay actions the founder had made 20 years ago. Currently, the group is an

informal club, but it is planning to officially register with Associated Students and the Student Life Center, said co-founder April May.

The group currently has between 10 and 15 members. Membership is open to any gayfriendly San Jose State University students, faculty and staff.

"We wanted to start the group because there isn't very much activism on campus. Our (objective) is not solely gay support," Bagby said. "(The group is) for allies of the homosexual community.

A focus on political activism is A focus on pointical activism is what sets the group apart from support groups such as the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Alliance (GALA), according to May. Both May and Bagby said the group plans on

focus," Johnson said. "Members being very visible on campus and promoting gay issues. "GALA is a social group; this of GALA are not ready for political activism. is a an activist group," May said.

Currently there are no con-

crete plans for future events, but

May said they are looking into hosting more "open discussion"

style events on topics that con-

cern the homosexual community, much like the "Open Discussion

About Carl's Jr." the group held

provide a forum for this," May

Revolution, Kevin Johnson — who is also the adviser for the SJSU chapter of the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Alliance — said he is glad to see the formation of an

is glad to see the formation of an

activist group on campus. "This group has a different

'It took a gay organization to

As a member of The Queer

Thursday.

said.

According to Johnson, the alliance is designed to provide a comfortable atmosphere for homosexuals and those exploring their sexuality. It is not a political group.

Johnson sees the new group as a way to encourage open discussion on issues affecting the homosexual community. He said the group's acceptance of all speech, even from those that disagree, is one of the reasons why he got involved.

They (the opposition) have to have the right to say what they want to say," Johnson said. "You can't achieve your goal without

listening to all perspectives. Those interested in The Queer Revolution should call Bagby at (408) 267-8707.

Bagby started the meeting by passing around a binder containing Spartan Daily articles and letters to the editor about the

topic. The letters to the editor, Bagby said, expressed varying opinions from people on campus concerning the university's deci-

Emotions ran high as gay and straight participants began expressing their opposing views.

"The letters made me sick. They were full of hatred against gays and were extremely disturbing," said a tearful Stephanie May. "I'm embar-rassed to be a student here."

Panelist Jennifer Rycenga, an assistant professor of comparative religious studies, provided the audience with documentation from the Federal Elections Commission. The documents showed donations made by Karcher in recent years to conservative politicians.

"He has consistently donated to right-wing politicians such as (former) Rep. Robert Dornan, Sen. Jesse Helms and others who support the Christian Coalition," Rycenga said.

The Christian Coalition is a conservative special interest group, which Rycenga said advo-cates pro-life and other move-

wingers who are pro-life, or about Karcher being anti-gay?" said Sam Taherian, a computer engineering student who com-mented on the lack of evidence connecting Karcher to the con-

gay community didn't need evidence of a commonly held per-

'Karcher's opinions are wellknown in the community, and the university sent a message that it won't support corporations that discriminate against certain groups of people,' Rycenga said.

evidence the corporation has ever discriminated against anyone in its business practices Taherian used discrimination lawsuits against Denny's as an

"Even if Karcher did discriminate against gays, the company didn't," Taherian said. "Carl's Jr. should be innocent until proven guilty.'

In response, English major Jennifer Stauff said the company hasn't made any formal state ment disagreeing with what Karcher did, which she said means it supports his actions. Taherian said he didn't have a problem with anyone boycotting

Carl's Jr., but said they should do it by not eating there

"One group can't take away the freedom of the rest of the students to choose where to eat,'

Taherian said. Panelist Bagby quickly direct-ed the topic of conversation to what she considered the bigger problem. "The university's decision was made quietly over the summer by administrators, which prevented both sides of the issue from being heard," Bagby said.

English major Marc Leon agreed with Bagby. "There are two sides to this

issue and only one side's voice was represented, which is why so many students are upset," Leon said. "The university should have opened it up to the students to discuss it like we are doing now." Pete Michel, SJSU director of

See Revolution, page 3

SISU alumna condemns women's rights abuses around world 0

By JoAnn Peach Staff Writer

More than two dozen students and faculty listened Thursday as feminist Rebecca Rangel described construction workers as "neanderthals" and talked about young girls being sold to the sex industry in Nepal.

As an example of inequality in the workplace, Rangel said less than 1 percent of all construction workers are women.

"Construction is the last male bastion in the United States," she said.

Rangel, a San Jose State University alumna, discussed several other feminist issues.

"There are over 70,000 girls that are used," Rangel said. "Who would want to sleep with a 9-year-old girl?"

Rangel went on to explain that in Nepal, "AIDS is so prevalent that sleeping with a virgin is something men want to do

She also spoke of the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). Rangel said the document

provides guidelines and requirements to be used in ending human rights abuses of women, and was written by several hundred people from around the world.

She also said the document "continuously refers to the education of women," and that she believes in equal access to education across the board.

"If I am qualified to go to an educational institution," Rangel said, "I should be able to go based on my grades, not just because I am a woman or Chicana."

Rangel's visit was sponsored SJSU's International Relations Association. Karim Kahwaji, the club's president, said he wanted "people to be aware of women's rights abuses."

The most abuses in human rights are to women," said Kahwaji, who interned with Amnesty International.

I wanted to educate people and I want everyone, even men, to take action. This isn't just a women's issue, it's a human rights issue."

Kahwaji said although Rangel didn't focus on women's human rights abuses, she was "an inter-

esting speaker." Rangel, a first-generation Mexican-American, said she believes in affirmative action.

An entrepreneur who runs her own consulting business, she said it is her "life's calling" to be an advocate for women's rights. As a single parent with one daughter, she believes in educat-



Clayton Stalter/ Spartan Daily

Rebeca Rangel (left) and Dana Chahidi (right) listen to the president of SJSU's International Relations Association, Karim Kahwaji (middle), after Rangel's discussion of international women's rights issues.

ing women on their rights. "Women are regularly and systematically overlooked when it comes to development," Rangel

about being a humanist, not a feminist."

"My work on the planet is to

said. "To me, women's rights is educate people on CEDAW and women's issues. The world is changing, and unless I help change and expand men's thinking, I won't change for the better

The U.S. government has not ratified the document because of its pro-choice stance, Rangel said

The abortion factor is one that is still being discussed," Rangel said. "It's funny that most people who are discussing what a woman should do about her body are men."

Rangel received her master's in social science from SJSU and her bachelor's in sociology from the University of California at Santa Cruz. She has lectured at several universities, colleges and junior colleges, including SJSU, Santa Clara University, Evergreen Valley College and De Anza College.

Ken Montojo, an SJSU profes-sor of political science, said he thought the discussion was "good for students at SJSU."

Montojo participated in a debate on the North American Free Trade Agreement's involvement with women's human rights abuses in Mexico.

"I thought the forum was a success," Montojo said. "It's (women's human rights abuses) nothing new. I thought is was a good discussion with plenty of information for the audience who participated in this sensitive subject (women's rights)."

FORUM

Apathetic students become bull's-eye for uncaring politicians



oting is like sex. If you do not put out, you do not get anything in return. Last Tuesday, I did not vote in the elections.

So, politically speak-ing, I did not get laid. What we are doing by not voting is pulling down our pants and bending over. When it is too painful to walk afterwards, we will have no one to blame but ourselves

What is sad is that

most college students were like me Tuesday. I am sure that most of you who are reading this column can count on one hand how many students they know who went out to vote. How many hands would we need to count on for those we know did not vote? It then should be no wonder when some slick politician slashes education funding and raises tuition. Yet, students will still wonder why.

Why not? It is not like we are going to vote that person out of office. There is no reason for them to worry about screwing us over when we will not screw them back.

The students of California are like a dead horse. We are just begging to be beaten. We deserve this. We deserve to have tuition

raised and higher education funding slashed. Those who do nothing to defend themselves deserve to have the crap knocked out of them. The old, white people of this state do not have

anything to worry about. They voted.

No politician will dare enrage them, because they know what will happen. The old, white folk will suddenly toss their

canes and rockers aside and screw the politicians over worse than porn star Ron Jeremy could ever dream of doing.

The students of California are about as useless as a vibrator without batteries when it comes to being a political power. My contribution to the future of this state on

Tuesday was sitting on my couch and watching "Buffy the Vampire Slayer."

The simple fact is that most students like me did not care enough to vote. So, when it comes time to make decisions about us, do not expect the politicians to care, either.

Not exercising your right to vote equals los-ing your right to complain. Even the San Jose State University adminis-

tration knows that students are loathe to take any real political action.

No one asked the student body if they would object to Carl's Jr. not being allowed on campus The administration knew students would whine, but no one would actually do anything. That empty space next to Sbarro Pizza is

there in part because of student apathy. If the administration knew there would have

been rallies and protests calling for their necks in a noose, they would have asked students for their opinion. They did not, and neither will the govern-

ment of California Just wait until the politicians who were just

elected start looking for places to cut spending. We have a nice big target sign on us. But hey, we painted it there ourselves.

Shane Lewis is a Spartan Daily senior staff writer. His column appears every Friday.



m. in the Student Union's Montalvo Room. For more informa-"Die, Die, Diana" at 7 p.m. in Hal Todd Theatre, located in Hugh tion, call Joyce Lim at 993-8006

CORREL SO?...IT'S NOT LIKE HE DID THAT TO MY DAUGHTER!... 6 PUBLIC OPINION

Initiative process hijacked by special interests

he initiative process has been hijacked. The people who have L taken it over aren't using guns. They're using money, lots of money.

The 1998 election provided us with three excellent examples of how moneyed interests have taken over a process designed to curb their power. Proposition 5, the Indian casino initia-

tive, will go down as one of the most expensive ballot fights in state history. California Indian tribes spent \$8 million just to get it on the ballot and another \$67 million in a successful attempt to get it approved (it received 63 percent of the

Opponents, led by big-time Nevada casinos fearful of the competition, pumped \$29 mil-lion into the "No on 5" campaign. Not ones to lose graciously, Prop. 5 foes are preparing for a court fight.

Gina Stassi, of the Nevada-casino-backed Coalition Against Unregulated Gambling, said in the San Francisco Examiner: "It's disappointing especially since Prop. 5 proponents spent an unprecedented \$70 million to mislead California voters and prey on their emotions. ... (Prop. 5) will

be legally challenged." Looks like the Indian casinos bought themselves an election for \$70 million or so. Sometimes, though, "only" \$7 million is enough to

sway the outcome of an election. Proposition 8 would have permanently reduced class sizes and made other reforms, such as creating the office of chief inspector to rate schools and placing the schools under the control of local boards made up primarily of parents, rather than the local

superintendents and school boards. The California Teachers Association, a faculty labor union which evidently abhors the idea of parents having a big say over their kids' education, spent \$7 million in just the last three weeks of the campaign to air attack ads. Supporters of the measure were able to come up with only \$1 million.

Never has it been more clearly demonstrated what a huge influx of money can do to a ballot cam-paign. According to the San Francisco Examiner, Prop. 8 was considered a sure winner back in

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ADVERTISING

September, when polls showed the mea-sure enjoying the support of 70 percent of the electorate. That was before the California

Teachers Association's last-minute ad blitz

On Election Day, 63 percent of the voters rejected the measure. After the votes had been tallied, Prop. 8 backer Mitch Zak was quoted in the San Francisco Examiner as saying, "We were outspent 7-to-1. The teachers' union dollars were able to drown out the issues

Speaking of status quo, it looks like

utility rates aren't going down just yet. Proposition 9 sought to roll back elec-tric utility deregulation and electric rates, as well as

stick utilities such as Pacific Gas and Electric with the bill for failed nuclear power plant ventures. The utilities, naturally, poured \$40 million into anti-Prop. 9 ads. The money, at least from the utili-ties' point of view, was well spent. The measure lost 73 percent to 27 percent.

That's not exactly shocking. All this goes to show the ultimate definition of the Golden Rule: Those who have the gold make the rules

Harvey Rosenfield, a consumer activist who co-wrote Prop. 9, was quoted in the San Francisco Examiner as saying, "The defeat of Prop. 9 illus-trates people have lost control of the initiative process to corporate interests."

How ironic.

California's initiative process was instituted in 1911. It was the brainchild of then-Governor Hiram Johnson, a reform-minded man who wanted to strike back at the Southern Pacific Railroad and other moneyed interests which pretty much had the state Legislature in their hip pockets.

Now, the moneyed interests have the initiative process in their hip pockets. Johnson could be used as an electricity generator

for all of Sacramento. That's how fast he's spinning in his grave.

Kevin W. Hecteman is the Spartan Daily copy editor. His column appears every Friday.

from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. in the Art and Industrial Studies buildings. For Chicano Commencement more information, call Scott or Jenny at 924-4330

Currently accepting nominations

Meeting at 6 p.m. in the Chicano **Resource** Center. For more information, call Mike at 631-2699

Nurses Christian Fellowship "What are spiritual need a.m. in the Student Union's

call 924-4555.

negative effect on mental well-being ovies today aren't what they used to Happy endings have been exchanged for blood,

Movie violence has

terror and crime. Even though reported assaults have decreased over the last few years, the last crime rate from "Crime State Rankings of 1996" indicates California is the most violent state with 164,955 assaults (16.95 percent of all reported cases in the United States). The num-



bers from 1993 are a lot higher — 336,381 cases (17.48 percent of the U.S.).

Psychologists say TV violence causes children to become more hostile. Even the video games of today are all about kicking, killing and vaporizing the enemy.

According to "National Coalition on TV Violence," by the age of 18 a typical child has wit-nessed an estimated 200,000 acts of violence, including 25,000 murders.

There should be a count on how many mur-ders a 45-year-old adult has watched because nobody is immune to violence.

Children are not the only ones influenced by violent messages through the media. The younger the viewer, the more influenced, but it is highly unlikely that adults are not influenced at al

An age limit isn't the right way for government to judge if a person is old enough to watch a certain movie. Many adults are not "old" enough to watch the movies shown today.

enough to watch the movies shown today. The movies "Saving Private Ryan" (starring Tom Hanks and Matt Damon) and "Seven" (star-ring Brad Pitt) were extremely violent. The German enemy in "Saving Private Ryan," slowly pushing the knife into one of the guys fighting for the United States — who suf-fers a slow, literally heart breaking death — was horrificing to watch horrifying to watch.

"Seven" displayed many people being tortured as well.

If viewers' eyes don't fill with tears and their hearts with pain, I'd be suspicious about the per-son's lack of fear and sensitivity.

The movies are both well written and well directed, but they are too realistic and terrifying.

There are people who can take body parts fly-ing around here and there better than others. However, even extremely violent people should not go and watch a violent movie.

They will become more frustrated and violent afterwards.

According to Art Silverblatt's "Media Literacy & Keys to Interpreting Media Messages (1995)," violence does have an effect on our mental well-

being. Violent messages reinforce beliefs that the world is a violent and generally unsafe place. This may lead one to believe violence is an effective solution to problems and violence is safe, glamorous, gratifying and often has no apparent consequence

Movies used to end pleasantly and they "lived happily ever after." Today, I walk out wondering if there was a freak watching the same movie as I did.

Perhaps the freak wants to practice what he had just witnessed on the screen.

Cecilia Afzelius-Alm is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

> **Theatre Department** "Die, Die, Diana" at 7 p.m. in Hal Todd Theatre, located in Hugh Gillis Hall. For more information,

Muslim Students Association



and preserve the status quo."

Gillis Hall. Performance on Saturday as well. For more information, call 924-4555

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information, call Ginny at 938-1610.

4 p.m. on the first floor of the Student Union. For more informa tion, call Evonne Wilson at 956 1696

American Indian Science and

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Native American Arts from 10 a.m.

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SJSU School of Nursing Pre-nursing advising at 1:30 p.m. in the Health Building Room 303. For more information, call Virgil Parsons at 924-3182

School of Art and Design Student galleries art exhibits for the Who's Who Award for Outstanding Students. Deadline is Nov. 20. Forms available in the Student Life Center. For more information, call Dyrell Foster at 924-5950.

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Student Life Center

Free film "Evolution of a Science" at 7:30 p.m. at 410 Cambridge Ave. Suite C in Palo Alto. For more information, call Joe at (650) 853-0602.

Montalvo Room. For more informa tion, call Diane Stegmeir at 279-6385

Delta Sigma Pi

Professional event, financial investing at 7 p.m. in Business. Classrooms Room 004. For more information, call Chun Lee at 995-8462.

Islamic Awareness Week through Nov. 19. Lecture on terrorism from 1:30 - 2:30 p.m. outside the Student Union in the Ampitheatre. For more information, call Adil Syed at 223-8363.

Women's Resource Center

Women's health forum from 12:30 - 1:30 p.m. in the Student Union's Council Chambers. For more information, call Vicci at 924-6500.



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Friday, November 6, 1998

NEWS

CLASSIFIED

Revolution: Gay forum

Continued from page 1

the educational opportunity pro-gram, said it didn't matter if people aren't 100 percent sure if Karcher discriminated against anyone.

"Evidence or not, we need to stand together and fight discrim-ination on all levels," Michel said. "If Carl's Jr. were on campus, I would be standing on the picket line.' The audience erupted with applause with the exception of a

"This is really scary. I could dig up skeletons in the closet on someone in every company that does business with this universi-ty," said Leon. "When do we stop prosecuting people for their political affiliations? This could really

get out of hand." Student Yvette Barnes said she thought there was no problem with it snowballing.

Every civil rights movement has to start somewhere. Karcher has enough money to support organizations that take action against human rights," Barnes

said One student summed up the discussion with a plea for understanding.

"This is a case of a minority of people on campus asking for the support of the majority of heterosexuals on campus to help fight discrimination," liberal studies student Amy DeRoboam said.

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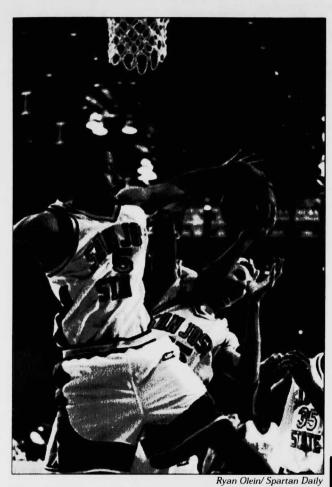
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Page 4



Shawn McCullough (5) and Maik Mertens (45) of San Jose State University stymied the Taiwanese national team's offensive drive.

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SPORTS

Spartans win 74-67 BYU defeats SJSU 2-0 in

By Shane Lewis Senior Staff Writer

The Spartans held their lead against the visiting Taiwan national team — barely.

What started out as a 15-point lead evaporated into a 6-point lead by the end of the first half.

With a 74-67 victory against Taiwan in their first exhibition game of the season, the Spartans came away with a win, but they have a lot of room for improvement. During the beginning of the game, the Spartans came on strong with fast passes and fast breaks

"Early in the game we played fairly well," said Spartan guard Shawn McCullough. Then we broke down defensively. We let Taiwan drive in the zone, and they should not have been get-ting in there like that." With the defensive weaken-

ing, the offense of the Spartans soon followed suit. "Out of 40 possessions, we

played strong on seven of them," coach Phil Johnson said. "It was

not so much what they were doing as much as what we were doing

By the end of the game, the Spartans had 19 turnovers and allowed the Taiwan team to make 13 steals. "It got a little sloppy," Johnson said. "I wanted our team to per-form well, and we didn't play as

well as I wanted it to." Leading the Spartans in scor-ing was guard Michael Quinney with 19 points, 15 of them from 3-point shots. Forwards Terrence Richmond and Will Trawick both

put in 13 points for the team. McCullough said the team needs to improve its shooting game so its offense will be stronger. The Spartans' shooting percentage was 42.9 percent while Taiwan's was 51 percent. "Taiwan shot the ball very

well," he said. It was this disparity that nearly cost San Jose State University the game.

"We have a nice man offensive

(one-on-one scheme)," Quinney said, "but they played a zone defense.

It was this zone defense that

hurt the Spartans. "We have not practiced

against the zone defense," McCullough said.

Taiwan dominated the game during the beginning of the sec-ond half. Forward Cheng Chih Lung scored 11 of his 23 points in the game against the Spartan defense in less than five minutes into that half.

"We can play a lot better defense," Quinney said. "We have got to get up on defense."

Taiwan came dangerously close to overcoming the Spartans in the last three minutes of the game by bringing the score to 66-63. The Spartans rallied by the end of the game with for-ward Richmond slam-dunking the ball, giving the team the energy it needed to stay alive.

Despite this relatively weak showing, Quinney said the team will do well against its Western

Athletic Conference competitors. "A lot of people will underestimate us because of our size," Quinney said. "We are fast and that will make up for our lack of size. And we will get stronger

once we practice more.'

semifinal

The Spartan women's soccer team lost 2-0 to the Brigham Young University Cougars in Thursday's semifinal of the Western Athletic Conference Championship in Provo, Utah. In pouring rain gusty wind

In pouring rain, gusty wind and hail, the Cougars, playing in front of a home crowd, were too strong for San Jose State University.

Preseason All-Americans Maren Henderson and Shauna Rohbock scored BYU's goals.

The Spartans dominated the first 10 minutes of the game and took five shots before BYU attacked and Henderson scored on a pass from Rohbock in the 12th minute.

Rohbock's goal came in the 71st minute, ending the Spartans' season.

"We are not going home losers," SJSU goalie Amee Brown said in a press release. "We set a goal to make it to the WAC (tournament). We made it here and gave it all we got."

Spartan Daily staff report

