

# SPARTAN DAILY

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## A.S. campaigns begin with no caps on spending

By John Myers  
Daily Staff Writer

With the opening of campaigning for Associated Students candidates on Feb. 25, the candidates now have the task of funding their respective campaigns.

"As far as financing (campaigns) goes, it's up to the candidate," said Alberto Gutierrez, chief elections officer for San Jose State University's Election Board. "There's no limit, and it's all up to the individual and how much money they want to put into the campaign."

The Election Regulation Manual available on the Student Life and Leadership Web site does not contain any information about how campaigns are funded, Gutierrez said.

Huy Tran, who is running for A.S. president with the Independent Party, said he opposes campaign finance limitations in the Election Regulation Manual.

"There were proposals to include sections on campaign finance reform," Tran said. "Part of the proposal was that only students

can donate to political campaigns. I am opposed to that (proposal) because of our nature as students — we receive money from outside sources."

Gutierrez said each opposed candidate receives an account with \$20 for use at the A.S. Print Shop in order to help with campaigning. These accounts will be available for use as of today, Gutierrez said.

"(This money) is budgeted from the A.S.," Gutierrez said. "There are 14 individuals on the list (to receive an account)."

Campus elections are scheduled for March 23 and 24.

Candidates who are running unopposed must finance their campaigns completely independently, Gutierrez said.

Tran said he will be providing his own funds for his campaign but said he has also received donations from friends and family. Tran would not comment on how much money he plans to spend during this election, but he said he had spent hundreds of dollars in last year's election.

"It's so expensive to campaign,"

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## NASA eyes costly horizons

Mars photo courtesy of NASA

By John Kim  
Daily Staff Writer

The rover Spirit rolled out of its lander and onto the barren surface of Mars exactly two months ago. Less than two weeks later and 6,000 miles away, the rover Opportunity parachuted down to the Red Planet, alighting in a small impact crater on the other side of the planet.

Since then, both rovers have sent back spectacu-

lar, high-resolution images of the Martian landscape, thrilling the scientific community and capturing the imagination of curious onlookers.

"I think they're really cool," said Mark Kaufman, an associate professor of physics at San Jose State University. "I watched the landing coverage for both of them."

Kaufman said the rover project is valuable because the planets in our solar system are inter-related.

"I'm teaching a class right now on the solar system, and one of the things I try to argue is that understanding the solar system requires comparing and contrasting the planets," he said. "The Earth is not an isolated object, but one of a class of objects, and any data that we can get about Mars will go to explaining the evolutionary differences between the planets. One question that's never been answered

see MARS, page 3

## Hundreds protest gay marriage halt



Photos by Angela Goodman / Special to the Daily

ABOVE: A demonstrator waves a rainbow flag in front of San Francisco's City Hall on Thursday as he and more than 200 other people took to the streets in support of the right of gays to marry. The rainbow flag has become a prominent symbol for the gay community. Earlier that day, the California Supreme Court ordered a halt to the marriages which began almost a month before on Feb. 12.



LEFT: Ross Ladouceur, right, tears up as he embraces his partner, Stuart Sanders, during a rally on Thursday on the steps of the California Supreme Court, across from San Francisco's City Hall. Ladouceur was originally scheduled to marry Sanders that day, but an hour before their ceremony, the state Supreme Court intervened, ordering the city to cease all same-sex marriages.

## Community center gets student boost

By Mari Sapina-Kerkhove  
Daily Staff Writer

For Federico Varona, academic learning and social responsibility go hand in hand. This semester, a group of students in his organizational communication class have taken their professor's belief to real-life practice, proving that a college assignment can go far beyond just grades and getting it done.

"I would say that this is the best case ever ... they are doing an outstanding job," the communication studies professor said, referring to Katrina Meacham, Erica Jacobs, Matt Adams, Gaby Delgadillo and Laura Pignone, public relations students who have turned their class assignment into a public-relations campaign for downtown San Jose's Third Street Community Center.

According to Varona, the original assignment for his organizational communications class was to engage in community service. His students were then to analyze an organization's communication

needs and put together an intervention plan in a nine-page report.

But this group of students, Varona said, "is doing things more in depth."

According to Meacham, a public relations major, taking action seemed like the best way to help.

"At first, the assignment started as us helping kids with their homework, but then we realized that we could actually help the community center out much more," she said.

Adams, a public relations junior, said after initially thinking he just wanted to get the assignment done as quickly as possible, he soon changed his mind.

"This is for a class, but at the same time it's for a good cause," he said. "It's a really, really good program."

Meacham said the group now meets at the center near campus every Wednesday from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. and works on ideas to help publicize the organization in the community.

see COMMUNITY, page 3



Nicholas R. Wright / Daily Staff

City Year volunteer Taylor Tennant helps Adin Vasquez, a first grader at Horace Mann Elementary, do his homework at the Third Street Community Center in San Jose. The center offers after-school programs for children, computer training and English language classes.

## Campus activities planned with commuters in mind

*Finding a niche is tough for some commuters, transfers*

By Nami Yasue  
Daily Staff Writer

Some student commuters with tight schedules at San Jose State University might have difficulty connecting with the campus community for different reasons.

Carolina Delgado, a junior business major and commuter from Palo Alto, said she doesn't feel connected to the SJSU campus.

"I don't feel like I belong here," Delgado said.

Delgado said she parks her car at the Palo Alto Caltrain station. Then, she takes public transporta-

tion to SJSU for at least more than an hour each way.

Because of her long commute and part-time job, she usually spends her breaks between classes alone doing homework and must leave the campus immediately after her class.

Delgado, former president of the Latino Heritage Club at Foothill College, said she hasn't looked to join any SJSU student organizations, even though she has found difficulties fitting in as a transfer student.

SJSU students have different perspectives, and many cultural student organizations are either too political or too socialized for partying, Delgado said. She also said club traditions and the rules have been already set and transfer students can't really find the place themselves.

According to the Fall '03 enrollment by Institutional Planning and Academic Resources, 7 percent

of undergraduate students were transfer students and 15 percent were first-time students.

Jane Boyd, coordinator of the Re-Entry and Commuter Help Program and part-time psychology lecturer, said students can discover a suitable club since they have many choices from the different types of student organizations. She said about half of all students are transfer students and, whether they are continuous or transfer students, many of them join student organizations during their junior year.

Amanda Sabolish, junior art major and commuter from Sunnyvale, said she has started to feel connections to the campus community since last semester when she began to drive to school.

When she used to take light rail, she said, she could not stay very long on campus because she

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SJSU swept  
by Rice

Restaurant  
REVIEW:  
Sonoma  
Chicken Coop



Stealth suffer first  
home loss of season











# Spartans swept by national champions

By Mark Cornejo  
Daily Senior Staff Writer

The Spartan baseball team was swept in a series for the first time this season, losing all three games this weekend to defending National Champion Rice University.

The Owls' decisive 14-4 victory on Sunday at Municipal Stadium closed out the series in which Rice trounced the Spartans 10-0 on Saturday and 6-3 on Friday.

The Spartans dropped to 10-10-1 on the season, 0-3 in the Western Athletic Conference, as the Owls improved their record to 14-4 overall, 3-0 WAC.

"Rice is a very tough team," Spartan head coach Sam Piraro said. "A lot of things have to go right for you to beat them."

Piraro added that the Spartans miscues this series only helped out a team that doesn't need much help.

"They don't need breaks," Piraro said, "but they got a ton of them this weekend."

The Owls came out firing on Sunday, scoring seven runs in the first two innings of the game.

Rice catcher Adam Rodgers drove in three runs over the first two innings then left the game in the fourth inning, two innings after it appeared he had injured his hand on a wild pitch by Rice starter Philip Humber.

The Spartans suffered a loss of their own in the game when third baseman Josh Lansford injured his hand attempting to apply a tag in the fifth inning.

Lansford became the second infielder the Spartans lost this week. Second baseman/left fielder Kevin Frandsen did not appear in the series because of an ankle injury suffered during weight training on Thursday, Piraro said.

"That didn't help us," Piraro said. "We could have used a guy with his experience on the field to help out some of the younger guys."

Spartan starter Brandon Dewing dropped to 0-4 after giving up seven runs in only one-plus innings of work.

Dewing was lifted with two runners on base and no outs in the second and replaced by reliever Jose Amaya, who struck out the first four batters he faced.

"I felt juiced," Amaya said. "I felt good. My slider was working really well. So was my fast ball."

Amaya went six innings, striking out five Owls and only allowing one run on four hits.

Humber earned his third victory of the season, striking out seven, while holding the Spartans to only three runs on five hits in eight innings.

Rice right fielder Josh Rodriguez led all players with three hits, including a three-run triple in the Owls' five-run eighth inning.

Spartan second baseman David Pierson said the team will be able to use what happened against Rice and move on.

"I think it's just going to propel us into this coming weekend," Pierson said. "In practice (this week), it will give us a little more life to come out and play a little bit better."

## Rice 10, SJSU 0 (Saturday)

In the second game of the series, the Spartans faced off with Rice starting pitcher Jeff Niemann, a six-foot-nine-inch right-hander who was a consensus preseason "Player of the Year" and last season's consensus "Pitcher of the Year."

Behind Niemann, the Spartans were held to only five hits on the day and were shut out for the first time since Feb. 29 against Loyola Marymount.

Niemann struck out seven Spartans, while only allowing two hits and one walk in six innings of work.

Spartan starter Corey Cabral took most of the beating, giving up nine runs on 10 hits in five innings.

After scoring one run in the first, the Owls' offense erupted with two outs in the second, scoring five runs on four hits.

Rice shortstop Paul Janish and Rodgers drove in two runs each on singles through the infield in the inning, giving the Owls a 6-0 lead.

The Owls had another big inning in the fifth when three hits and one Spartan error added up to three more runs for Rice.

Owls' third baseman Adam Morris and Rodriguez each crushed RBI doubles to left-center in the fifth.

Pierson was the only Spartan to have two hits, going two for four against the Owls on Saturday.

The win evened Niemann's record at 2-2, while the loss dropped Cabral to 2-3 on the season. Rice reliever Eddie Degerman, who came in relief of Niemann in the seventh, earned his second save of season.

## Rice 6, SJSU 3 (Friday)

Prior to this weekend's series, the only pitcher in the WAC with more strikeouts than SJSU's Matt Durkin was Rice's Wade Townsend.

The two undefeated pitchers faced off for the first time this season in the series opener on Friday, though neither pitcher was particularly dominant.

Durkin gave up all six runs and a season-high eight hits, striking out five Owls in eight innings, while suffering his first loss of the season.

Townsend fared a bit better in his six innings of work, allowing only three runs on six hits, but walking seven Spartans. The win kept Townsend's record untarnished at 4-0.

Rice's Josh Baker came in for Townsend in the seventh on his way to earning his second save of the season.

The Spartans took an early 1-0 lead in the bottom of the first on first baseman Brandon Fromm's single to left, driving in Pierson from third.

Rice took the lead in the fourth on Morris' two-run home run into the Spartan bullpen in left field.

The Owls added two more runs in the sixth, including Morris' third RBI of the game on a double down the left field line to score first baseman Matt Ueckert. Morris was driven in by designated hitter Adam Hale's single.

Spartan left fielder Darrell Sales and Pierson brought the Spartans back into the game in the seventh inning, cutting the Owl lead to 6-3.

The Spartans left a total of 10 base runners in the game, including four in the final three innings.



Yvonne Pingue / Daily Staff

Spartan second baseman David Pierson attempts to throw to first base after tagging out Wade Townsend of Rice University. The Owls defeated the Spartans 14-4 at Municipal Stadium Sunday afternoon, completing a three-game sweep.

# Kings overpower shorthanded Spurs

Associated Press

SACRAMENTO — Mike Bibby scored 20 of his 24 points in the second half, and the Kings got nasty to defeat the San Antonio Spurs in Sacramento for the first time in more than two years, 101-87 Sunday.

Brad Miller had 19 points and 13 rebounds for the Kings, who had a 23-7 run early in the fourth quarter. Sacramento also abandoned its finesse game to bully and outwork the Spurs, who were without Tim Duncan.

Chris Webber had 23 points and eight rebounds, and Doug Christie made several impressive defensive plays in the fourth quarter as Sacramento roared ahead for its fourth victory in five games.

Peja Stojakovic added 18 points for the Kings, who got an early taste of playoff ball. Without their star, the Spurs forced Sacramento to play slow-

tempo, defensive basketball.

Manu Ginobili scored 16 points and Rasho Nesterovic had 14 points and 13 rebounds for the Spurs, who had won three straight in Sacramento.

But after controlling the game early and entering the fourth in a 68-68 tie, San Antonio scored just four points and made eight turnovers in the first six minutes. Sacramento put on a show, finally running its fast break and getting open shots with sharp passing.

Bibby was impressive, dissecting the Spurs' defense with drives and hitting outside shots.

Duncan, the two-time MVP and the Spurs' leading scorer and rebounder, sat out for the eighth time in nine games with a knee injury.

In Duncan's absence, Nesterovic and Hedo Turkoglu seemed inspired — though Turkoglu also got fired up to face the team that traded him last summer in the three-way deal that brought Miller to Sacramento.



# 2004 Elections

IT'S YOUR CHOICE!  
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## COME TO THESE EVENTS TO LEARN MORE:

Candidate Forum	3/15, 12:00p-1:00p	S.U. Amphitheatre
Candidate Debate	3/16, 12:00p-2:00p	S.U. Umunhum Room
Meet the Candidates	3/17, 12:00p-1:30p	Art Quad

## For more information on Elections:

A.S. Election Board

408.924.5955

[http://sa.sjsu.edu/sll/programs/election\\_board/](http://sa.sjsu.edu/sll/programs/election_board/)

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Funded by Associated Students

**Election Dates**  
Tues., March 23, 2004  
Wed., March 24, 2004



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