

SPARTAN DAILY

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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24, 2004

A.S. election sees bigger turnout

REMINDER:

Today is the last day to vote in the A.S. elections. Polling places are open from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Candidates woo voters with fliers, big cars

By Michelle Ochoa
Daily Staff Writer

More than 950 students came out to vote Tuesday for the Associated Students election.

"It was pretty good in comparison to last year, especially because there wasn't a measure on the ballot," said Alberto Gutierrez, chief election officer for the election board, in regard to voter turnout.

In March 2003, the Spartan Daily reported about 800 students voted on the first day of that year's election.

"We'll be open again tomorrow from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.," Gutierrez said on Tuesday about today's polls.

Concerns were voiced Tuesday by some students about the election board requiring students to have a current enrollment sticker to vote. According to the Transportation Solutions Web site, students who did not receive a sticker in the mail must go to the Transportation Solutions office in the Student Union and present their Tower Card to receive a sticker.

Nam Nguyen, the adviser for the election board, dealt with the problem ahead of time by getting a database from enrollment services that lists all registered students.

Nguyen said currently the only requirement to vote is that students have a Tower Card, so poll workers can scan it to verify enrollment.

Poll workers consisted of volunteers from the Senter Road Creekside Association, a neighborhood

association that got involved in the A.S. elections through Diana Harper, the mother of Greek life coordinator Angela Harper.

Diana Harper said her daughter spoke to her about needing volunteers and the two of them got together with the neighborhood association to staff the booths.

Members of the group tried to encourage students to vote by talking to them from the election tables.

"You know you want to vote — I can see it in your face," said Patricia Sotelo, a volunteer working at the Student Union polling location, to a passerby.

According to J.R. Fabito, graphic designer for the election board, the most heavily used voting location was outside the Event Center, followed by the Student Union, the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Joint

see ELECTIONS, page 4



Nicholas R. Wright / Daily Staff

Michael Johnson, a junior radio, television and film major, casts his vote at the voting booth near the Student Union on Tuesday.

Students discuss access to disputed morning-after pill

Student Health Center is among places to get emergency contraception

By Colin Kutch
Daily Staff Writer

For now, women and men cannot get the morning-after pill over the counter.

Last month, the Food and Drug Administration delayed a decision on whether it would approve its nonprescription use for at least 90 days.

Erika Jackson, the Feminist Majority Leadership Alliance president and coordinator of the Women's Resource Center at San Jose State University, said politicians persuaded the FDA to delay the decision after the FDA's Reproductive Health Drugs Advisory and Nonprescription Drugs panel voted to pass over-the-counter status of emergency contraception.

"This (shouldn't be) about politics," Jackson said. "This is a medical decision. Politicians have no business telling doctors how to do their jobs."

The Feminist Majority Leadership Alliance held an informational emergency contraception meeting on Tuesday in the Pacheco room of the Student Union. Jackson led the discussion about how emergency contraception works, what it is and how a student can get it.

Jackson said emergency contraception is a high dosage

of birth control pills that, when taken within the first 24 hours after unprotected sex, reduces the chance of pregnancy by about 90 percent by stopping an egg from being fertilized and from attaching to the wall of the uterus.

J.T. Finn, director of Pro-Life America, an organization he said is dedicated to the education of the death, pain and suffering caused by abortion, said he thinks the FDA should eliminate emergency contraception.

"It's a form of killing babies in the earliest stage of development," he said in an interview from Redondo Beach. "We think it's important to clarify that life begins at the moment of conception."

Finn said not enough attention is placed on the side effects of the pills and how unnatural the pills are to the body.

"These are radical chemicals," he said.

A male SJSU student who requested to remain anonymous said people who want the pills could be too focused on their personal situation to make good decisions.

"It would be better if they were prescribed rather than the morning-after pills being available over the counter," he said. "A lot of

see EMERGENCY, page 4

SJ installs outdoor wireless 'hot spots'



Andrew Hendershot / Daily Staff

Christian Wuerzesser, a German national on vacation in San Jose, utilizes free Internet access at Cesar Chavez Park on Tuesday.

By Daniel DeBolt
Daily Staff Writer

On March 11, free wireless Internet access was launched in three sections of downtown San Jose. Users can log on in Cesar Chavez Park at Market and San Carlos streets, the Circle of Palms across from the park, and San Pedro Square, a row of restaurants on San Pedro Street north of Santa Clara Street.

The unveiling of the free service was held in the Circle of Palms between the Fairmont Hotel and the San Jose Museum of Art on March 11. But today,

those who go to the circle of the palms or nearby Cesar Chavez Park will find the Fairmont Hotel's wireless network asking them to pay money.

Derek Wise, president of Global Netoptics Inc., said that this is a problem that wireless networks sometimes face, and agreements have to be made with others who have strong wireless signals, such as the Fairmont.

Global Netoptics is responsible for the installation, maintenance and management of the project and is acting as the Internet service provider, which adds up to \$27,000 worth of donated annual services. Silicon Valley's Cisco Systems Inc. donated

the hardware. No cost is passed on to the taxpayers, Wise said.

Wise said he is meeting with the Fairmont Hotel today to resolve the issue of the competing wireless signals.

"Hopefully within a week it will be resolved," said Kim Wallash of the city's economic development agency and coordinator of the project.

"If they can provide free Internet access downtown, that would be great," said Rueben Tan, a senior computer science senior and laptop

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WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

Depictions of women by the media criticized

By Nami Yasue
Daily Staff Writer

The negative and unrealistic portrayals of women by the media are diminishing gradually, but there is a still long way to go, according to some women at San Jose State University.

Women have been portrayed as domesticated, as too naive and as sex symbols in American media, according to a lecturer of television, radio, film and theatre at SJSU.

Luane Beck, a lecturer teaching acting and digital video production, said media portrayal of women as sex objects is not necessarily a recent trend and the images of strong women have been blocked in media.

Beck said she is sometimes

frustrated when her students hand in their scripts to her.

"The scripts that are coming from my students put women in submissive roles where they can't take responsibility or they don't take the right responsibility," Beck said. "They overlook things that are extremely obvious."

She said audiences are expected to believe the myth that a woman can't handle problems. Because the media often promote expectations, not reality, some women must constantly battle the stereotypes being projected, Beck said.

There are different perceptions between a strong woman and a strong man in the media. A strong woman is considered to be a problem, such as aggressive or a bitch, but a strong man is acknowledged, Beck said.

"Women are strong, but they are not expected to be," Beck said.

Beck said she is currently working on a film in which a married college professor is in love with a female student. She said she is getting positive feedback because women in the film are presented as very strong,

intelligent and progressive, although the film's contents are controversial.

"When I tape my film as well, I use real-looking women. They aren't little skinny sex symbols. They are very real and the audience likes that as well," Beck said.

She said the media don't look to present the strong female image, even though the audience expects to see truth, and the film industry has only a small number of female directors who have the ability to depict real women.

"Certainly, the female audience is ready for it," Beck said.

According to Mediascope, a national nonprofit research and policy organization that promotes issues of social relevance in film, television, the Internet, video games, music and advertising, media portrayals such as depictions of violence against women and sexual objectification of women may influence mistreatment of women in society.

Advertising using female sexuality can lead to sexism and sexual harassment in society, said Jean Kilbourne in "Killing Us Softly," a documentary

film that was shown at the Mosaic Cross Cultural Center for an event during Women's History Month.

Kilbourne is a recognized scholar and educator on advertisements related to alcohol and tobacco and the image of women.

In the film, Kilbourne said the images of female body parts are often used to attract consumers, and women are obsessed with the sexual images in advertisements.

The images of Britney Spears wearing little clothing or Calvin Klein with teenage models have been used to sell products, she said. Sexual images are very powerful because they are emotional and involve life and love.

Although the images of "physical perfection" apply to both genders, women are often scrutinized, criticized and judged based on their physical appearances, whereas men aren't, she said. This also causes some women to take health risks such as increasing their bust sizes by plastic surgery or to develop eating

see WOMEN, page 4



Carlen Veldpape / Daily Staff

A woman walks by the Donald J. Pliner shoe store on Santana Row in San Jose on Friday. Kati Fosselius, a graduate student studying nutrition at San Jose State University, said images of models do not reflect real women.

Correction

Tuesday's issue of the Spartan Daily misidentified one of the fraternities involved in the January 2003 Flickinger Park stabbing as Alpha Phi Omega. Alpha Phi Omega is a service fraternity, not a social organization, and was not involved in the incident. Lambda Phi Epsilon and Pi Alpha Phi were the two fraternities that were involved in the incident and both have been indefinitely suspended. The Daily regrets the error.

Opposing Views:

Was the war in Iraq justified, even though weapons of mass destruction were not found?

YES *Although no weapons were found, Saddam's capture was necessary*

Saddam Hussein is no longer the leader in Iraq, thanks to American efforts, but still there are those who argue that U.S. motivation lacked purity.

During this election year, it isn't surprising that debate pits sides along partisan lines.

But the justification isn't as simple as the black-and-white issues often required for election-year politics. The Democrats want to paint it as only a search for weapons of mass destruction. The Republicans want to call it as an extension on the war on terrorism.

The reality is that Saddam was a bad guy. The world, and more specifically Iraq, is better off without him.

That brings up the argument that there are plenty of bad guys in the world. Saddam was not the only bad guy who was leading a country. Why just go after Saddam?

The difference is that Saddam wasn't just a bad guy — he was America's bad guy.

While the United States didn't support his rise to power in late 1970s, it did support him during his 1980s war with Iran.

More importantly, after the United States stopped his invasion of neighboring Kuwait in 1990, it allowed Saddam to remain in power.

It wasn't just that the U.S. Army stopped short of going on to Baghdad, but it was also that the first President Bush encouraged insurrection within Iraq and then failed to support the insurgents when they began to revolt.

Only a month after the senior Bush's cease-fire, Saddam easily defeated a Kurdish rebellion in the north of Iraq and a Shiite revolt in the south.

The United States left the rebels out in the cold, making it easy for Saddam to identify, torture and eliminate them.

The first Gulf War not only didn't threaten Saddam's reign, it managed to strengthen his hold on the country.

Obviously the current Bush couldn't blame the administrations of his dad or Ronald Reagan for earlier screw-ups and deals with Saddam. It worked better to come up with a different justification, and the weapons of mass destruction excuse worked with the American people.

It's not the first time Americans have been lied to. American governments have tried emotional appeals to rally war fever in the past.

Remember the Maine? Gulf of Tonkin?

Yes, it is possible the government lied. It isn't the first time, and you can bet it won't be the last.

Let's get past the lies and just concentrate on the results.

Some will argue that the Bush administration implied a link between Osama bin Laden and Saddam. Anybody who had just a rudimentary knowledge of either of the two knew that wasn't possible. Neither would have been willing to give up his power to collaborate with the other.

We are in a war on terrorism, and there were well-known links between Saddam and other terrorist organizations, specifically Palestinian terrorist groups, including the Palestine Liberation Front and Hamas.

Saddam had publicly promised \$25,000 to the family of each Palestinian suicide bomber. According to the Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs, there have only been four Palestinian suicide bombers since Saddam lost power.

Americans should all be happy Saddam is permanently out of power and Iraq, despite a difficult transition, is moving toward a more democratic future.

Dan King is a Spartan Daily staff writer.



DAN KING

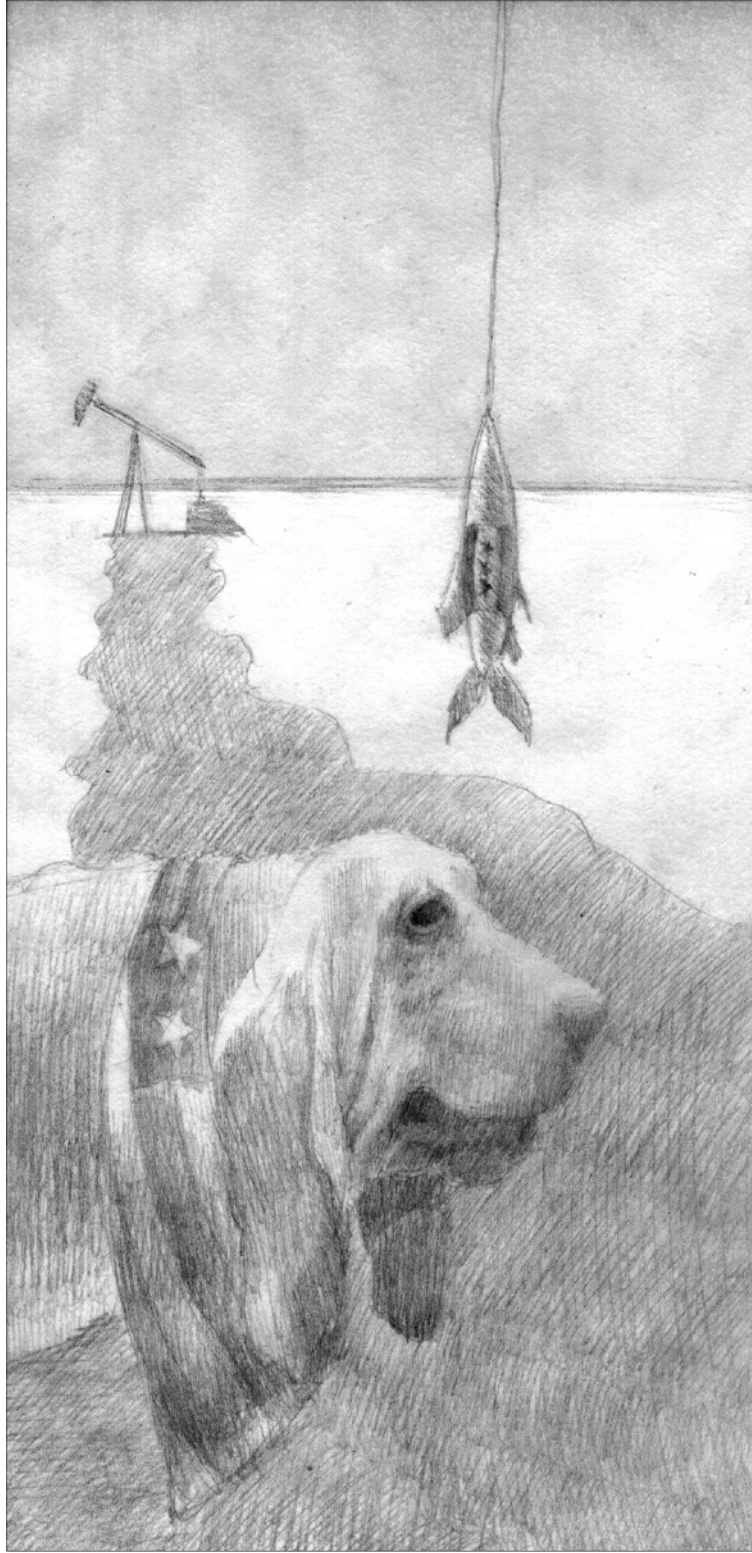


ILLUSTRATION BY KONSTANTIN ABADJIEV

NO *The Bush administration fabricated image of Iraq to justify war*

It wasn't long ago that the United States was faced with an enemy easily capable of wiping us out — the former Soviet Union. They had weapons of mass destruction, and people sure were scared of them, weren't they?

Times have changed, but there is a lesson there. The government sure as heck wasn't going to invade the Soviet Union and do a "regime change." The conflict ended relatively peacefully, and it's only logical that a similar situation could have unfolded with a small country like Iraq.

But logic isn't a trait of a government beating the drums of war.

Several government officials, including former CIA expert Ken Pollack, have come out to say that the Bush administration "cherry-picked" evidence to fabricate an image of Iraq that was highly threatening and show false connections with terrorists.

Scott Ritter, United Nations weapons inspector in Iraq from 1991 to 1998, toured the country in 2002 telling thousands of people that going to war with Iraq would be a horrible mistake. And there continues to be no evidence of these weapons a year after the war started.

In an interview on the CBS show "60 Minutes" Sunday, Richard Clarke, the White House counter-terrorism coordinator during Sept. 11, said Donald Rumsfeld, secretary of defense, was arguing for war with Iraq at government meetings as early as the day after the attacks.

"Rumsfeld was saying we needed to bomb Iraq," Clarke said. "We all said, 'But no, no, al-Qaida is in Afghanistan.'"

"There's absolutely no evidence that Iraq was supporting al-Qaida," Clarke said.

Clarke said Rumsfeld complained that

"there aren't any good targets in Afghanistan and there are lots of good targets in Iraq."

Anyone who has Internet access can see pictures of scenes in Iraq that are more horrific than anybody would wish to imagine. They show who has in reality been targeted — the Iraqi people.

It's hard to believe an outside army with tainted objectives is "liberating" Iraq. Are we supposed to believe that the Bush administration's numerous ties to the oil and defense industries don't affect their decisions?

So far, the war has killed at least 8,776 Iraqi civilians and 684 coalition soldiers and has cost \$107 billion in taxes, according to iraqbodycount.net and costofwar.com.

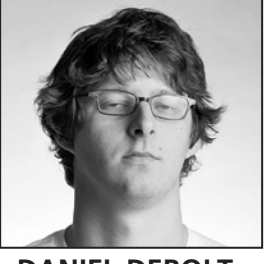
While the government was out "liberating" Iraq, a whole lot of Americans were forced out of work and students were forced from colleges that had to make budget cuts.

Where is the liberation for the 175,000 students who were forced out of California community colleges last year and the 20,000 that will be forced out of the California State University system next year due to budget cuts? How about the thousands of unemployed and struggling workers in this country who are finding that not working is a whole hell of a lot more stressful than working the horrible job they had when they at least had that?

Just a fraction of the billions of dollars being spent on the war could help fix these problems. It's all about priorities.

But most importantly, whether you are an Iraqi or living in the United States, everything depends on how well regular people can organize themselves to get the justice that they deserve.

Daniel DeBolt is a Spartan Daily staff writer.



DANIEL DEBOLT

campusvoices

COMPILED BY MARI SAPINA-KERKHOVE; PHOTOS BY SHIH FA KAO



"Yes. Even without finding the weapons, there still was a major threat on the freedoms we appreciated."

Jeff Mellor
junior,
industrial design



"No. We didn't have a reason to go. I thought it was wrong to go in the first place, and I still think it is."

Adrian Robinson
senior,
business



"Absolutely. Saddam's practices made the war justified. He was a bad guy and agitator to the rest of the world."

Thomas Nikl
senior,
computer science



"Yes. I think it was justified because people who suffered there needed our help as well."

Jennifer Williams
freshman,
dance



"No. There wasn't any reason for it. Everything we were told at the beginning never turned out."

Mark Johnston
graduate student,
geography



"No. The rest of the world didn't want it. Even our own people didn't want it."

Julie Nano
graduate student,
teaching credential

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A letter to the editor is a 200-word response to an issue or a point of view that has appeared in the Spartan Daily.

A viewpoint is the same as a letter to the editor, except it is a 400-word response to an issue or point of view that has appeared in the Spartan Daily.

Submissions become property of the Spartan Daily and may be edited for clarity, grammar, libel and length. Submissions must contain the author's name, address, phone number, signature and major.

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OUT OF THE SHELL

Media portrayal of gays promotes intolerance

A few weeks ago I had an interesting encounter at the restaurant where I work on weekends. I approached a table of four teenagers, assuming that the two boys and two girls were, perhaps, on a double date. I was accurate to some extent; however I was surprised to see the two young men being openly affectionate with each other — holding hands, kissing. Had they been a heterosexual couple, my reaction might have been something along the lines of “Aww, young love. How cute.” Instead, I was, well, shocked and uncomfortable. Then I was appalled at my reaction. I consider myself to be open-minded and liberal and in favor of gay rights. I immediately wondered if my reaction wasn’t, at least in part, because of the reluctance of mainstream media to portray same-sex couples in intimate ways. I mean, we all know Rachel and Monica shared a kiss on “Friends” as a way of getting the guys to do what they wanted — but this is wrong for so many reasons, not the least of which is the implication that it’s OK for women to kiss each other to manipulate men or turn them on. This is not exactly a ringing endorsement of homosexuality. “We’re always shocked about things that are unfamiliar

to us,” said Kirsten Levin, co-chair for San Jose State University’s Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered Allies. Levin said that the media tends to portray the GLBT community as sexual deviants and some people are surprised when they meet “normal-looking” people who are gay. “They’re abnormal — can’t make it in regular society,” she said about the depictions. She added that gay men are portrayed as wanting to party and have sex all the time, which isn’t an accurate portrayal. Misrepresentation is only part of the problem, she said, because the gay community is also underrepresented. “As it becomes more known that we’re out here ... people will see it and not be so shocked,” Levin said. “(It’s) like when people first saw interracial couples or anything unfamiliar or socially seen as a taboo.” Levin said that legalizing gay marriage will help to legitimize same-sex relationships. “As long as the laws are different, relationships will not be seen as equal,” she said. “I would hope that one day people feel comfortable around all sexual orientations.”

According to the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, there are 10 television shows with “leading lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender characters in original, broadcast, and cable programming for the 2003-2004 television season,” including NBC’s “Will & Grace” and “Coupling,” which was canceled in October. The list did not, however, include Bravo’s “Queer Eye for the Straight Guy.” I distinctly remember a “Will & Grace” episode from its second season, titled “Acting Out,” in which Jack is outraged when NBC schedules an on-air kiss between two gay men and the kiss is only alluded to, never shown. I also recall an episode where Grace and Leo passionately kiss for what seems like a very long time in a pumpkin patch at the end of an episode. And while the show is now in its sixth season, I don’t recall any relationships Will or Jack have lasting very long or resulting in such a kiss on screen. There is little doubt that “Will & Grace” has broken down barriers by portraying gays more realistically than has been done in the past. However, while I admit it is one of my favorite shows,

I am sad to say the show alone is not enough to make people comfortable with the idea of gay intimacy. According to the alliance, same-sex kisses on shows such as “Laverne & Shirley” and “Spin City” aired without much alarm, yet on a 1997 episode of ABC’s “Ellen,” a kiss between the title character and her female friend “was preceded by a written and voice-over advisory warning parents about the content.” Warnings like these only reinforce the idea that being gay is wrong. Homosexuality is not a disease or a fad. It has been documented in human behavior for thousands of years. Gays and lesbians are human beings — they are not all good or all bad. They are capable of loving and living decent lives. The media should be responsible for portraying all people in a realistic manner so that we can all learn to be tolerant toward one another.



TAMMY KRIKORIAN

Tammy Krikorian is the Spartan Daily executive editor. “Out of the Shell” appears every Wednesday.

Response | Spartan Daily endorsement of candidate Huy Tran

Dear editor:

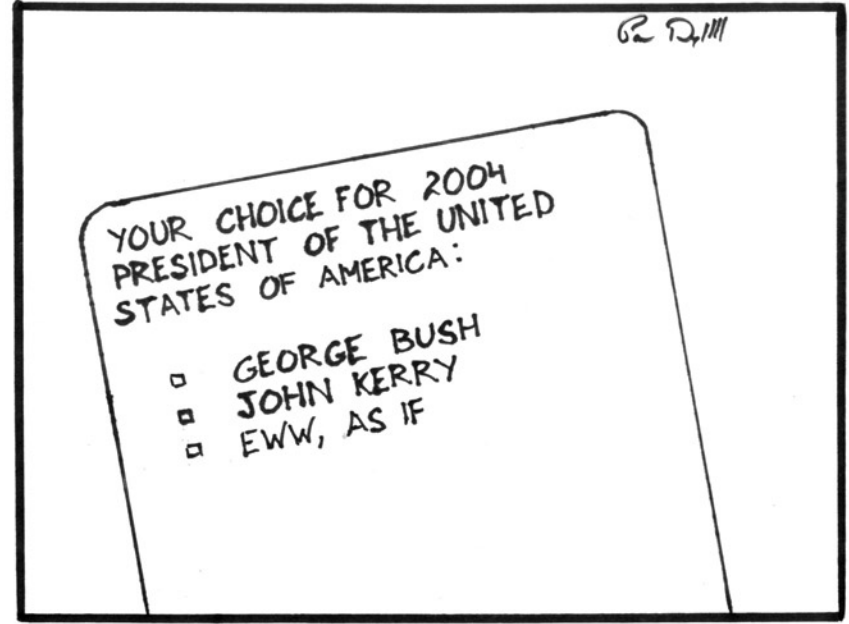
In Tuesday’s edition of the Spartan Daily, it was written “Huy Tran demonstrates skills fit for the A.S. president position.” Not only was this irresponsible of the Spartan Daily to present an argument on behalf of only one candidate, but I find the statement to be inaccurate as well. Rachel Greathouse is among the other two candidates running for the position of president, and the following is my argument of why she is more qualified for the position based solely on the points addressed in Tuesday’s editorial: •“Tran ... has stated ... he will fight tuition hikes and the loss of programs, most notably the Educational Opportunity Program.” Rachel has stated very clearly that she will fight tuition hikes and the loss of programs. In fact, Rachel organized a group of A.S. directors to visit Sac-

ramento to lobby to members of the state Legislature on issues of higher education; Mr. Tran was not present. This is only one example of how Ms. Greathouse has already proven she will fight for students. •“Tran served as director of Governing Affairs (and is) an active member of countless student organizations.” Ms. Greathouse was director of Legislative Affairs in 2002-03, and she is currently the A.S. controller, doing an extraordinary job in both roles. She is also a member of many student organizations herself. •“With Tran, SJSU has the ability to become more active and vocal in the CSU system.” Ms. Greathouse happens to be in an even better position to accomplish this, as she has been an active member of the California State Student Association, which is the statewide governing body of all 23 CSUs, for

the past two years, serving one year as San Jose State University’s student representative and currently as an executive member of the CSSA board. She has fought relentlessly in these roles for the students, just as she did before and just as she will continue to do as A.S. president. These are not all of the reasons why I feel Ms. Greathouse is a qualified candidate but are merely an example of how she measures up on some of the points presented in the previous editorial. I personally feel she is an excellent candidate, and I hope that others will take the time to find out all of the facts pertaining to the candidates and will then vote for the person whom they feel will best represent their needs as the future leader of their campus.

Joe Lombardo
Senior
Finance

ANOTHER DIMENTIAN | PAUL DYBDAHL



THE BRAND-NEW SPECIAL EDITION BALLOTS FOR FOURTEEN YEAR-OLD VOTERS.

SPARTA GUIDE

Sparta Guide is provided free of charge to students, faculty and staff members. The deadline for entries is noon three working days before the desired publication date. Entry forms are available in the Spartan Daily office in Dwight Bentele Hall, room 209. Entries can also be e-mailed to spartandaily@casa.sjsu.edu titled “Sparta Guide.” Space restrictions may require editing of submissions. Entries are printed in the order in which they are received.

TODAY

School of Art and Design Student galleries will be on display from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Art and Industrial Design buildings. For more information, call the gallery office at 924-4330.

SJSU Catholic Campus Ministry Daily Mass will be held at 12:10 p.m. in the Campus Ministry Center located on the corner of Tenth and San Carlos streets. For more information, call Sister Marcia Krause at 938-1610.

Book Signing Professors Iris Jerke, Lou Holscher and Steven Millner will speak and sign their book “California’s Changing Majority: Historic and Contemporary Dynamics.” The event will be held from noon to 1 p.m. in the

Cultural Heritage Center of the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Joint Library, room 525. For more information, call 808-2645.

Peer Health Education Program Participate in an interactive tabling event in which you can learn how to avoid getting burned, sample and learn how to make mocktails, learn safe sex tips and win free prizes from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Art quad. For more information, call 924-6204.

THURSDAY

SJSU Catholic Campus Ministry Daily Mass will be held at 12:10 p.m. in the Campus Ministry Center located on the corner of Tenth and San Carlos streets. For more information, call Sister Marcia Krause at 938-1610.

School of Music The Listening Hour will take place from 12:30 p.m. to 1:15 p.m. in the Music building Concert Hall. Chamber music will be performed, featuring Karen Kirk on the harp, Bahram Behroozi on the classical

guitar and Bruce Moyer on the double bass. For more information, call Joan Stubbe at 924-4673.

Hip-Hop Congress A meeting will take place at 4 p.m. in the Pacheco room in the Student

Union. For more information, call 476-6397.

International Youth Fellowship Bible study will occur at

6:30 p.m. in the Ohlone room in the Student Union.

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RECURRENT GENITAL HERPES...

....Infection is a sexually transmitted disease that disrupts the lives of one in five Americans.

San Jose Clinical Research is seeking adult volunteers for a research study of an approved medication to observe recurrent genital herpes outbreaks.

If you are between the ages of 18 and 65 and have had four or more outbreaks within the past year, please call us today.

Qualified volunteers will receive FREE study related care to include physical exam, laboratory tests and study medications.

If you have recurrent genital herpes with frequent outbreaks,

Please call (408) 297-6030
San Jose Clinical Research
2039 Forest Avenue Suite 204B
San Jose, CA 95128

Summer Jobs FESTIVAL

Thursday, March 25, 2004
1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Student Union

Earn some cool cash during the hot summer months!

Visit the Career Center table to: Register with us • Check out additional Hot Jobs • Have your resume critiqued

Participating Organizations:

- Albert L. Schultz Jewish Comm. Ctr.r
- Applied Biosystems
- Bonfante Gardens
- Destination Science
- Easter Seal Camps
- Fisher Investments, Inc.
- J.Jill
- Kennolyn Camps
- mun2 Television
- Paramount's Great America
- Pebble Beach Company
- Protiviti
- Target Stores
- SJSU Housing Services
- YMCA of Santa Clara Valley
- ZipLip, Inc.

careercenter.sjsu.edu

WOMEN | 'Media has this idea of the ideal woman'

continued from page 1

disorders, and at least one out of five American women have eating disorders, she said.

Women are often portrayed as passive, vulnerable and silent, but they are physically attractive, and the media repeatedly send a misleading message that men's achievements lead women's fortunes. A solution for women facing problems is beauty, Kilbourne said.

Masculinity is portrayed as violence, and femininity is devalued. Women are dehumanized, and the change has been profound globally, she said.

Every woman is influenced by media images to some extent, said Jennifer Styles, a nutritionist at the Student Health Center.

Styles, who teaches a weight management class, said eating disorders are an important issue, and one of the main causes is the unrealistic body image in the media.

Women are objectified in the media, said Kati Fosselius, a graduate student studying nutrition. People are unconsciously affected by media images, but the images of models do not reflect real women.

"All the airbrushing, all the things that are done to her manipulate the way she looks," Fosselius said.

William Rames, a sophomore majoring in mathematics and a visitor to the Women's Resource Center on campus, said he can perceive the

female body images in the media objectively because of his homosexuality and criticizes the way the media present women physically.

The unrealistic images of women in the media are based on men's fantasies and perspectives, and it is unfortunate for many women to be affected or oppressed by the media portrayals of women, Rames said.

"Media (have) this idea of the ideal woman," said Jessica Martin, a senior majoring in sociology and minoring in women's studies.

Martin, who is also a coordinator of the Women's Resource Center and the event chair of the Feminist Majority Leadership Alliance, said women's portrayals in American media have caused problems of oppression, sexual assault and social hardship for some women.

The average American woman wears a size 12, and only 5 percent of the population actually looks like Britney Spears, Martin said.

She said people are aware of the problems, but she hardly sees changes in the way media portray women because there are not enough people who are concerned about the issue.

Jamonte Cox, a sophomore majoring in sociology, said he believes women are portrayed in the media respectfully, and physically attractive men are often presented in the media as well.

He said although some women want a muscular man with a great body, men are not obsessed with see-

ing the perfect body image in media.

"I think all men should not judge a woman by her body but more toward her personality," Cox said. "I like a big woman anyway."

The portrayal of women as leaders is accepted in the media nowadays, but it wasn't the case 30 years ago when she was a student, said Elena Dorabji, a SJSU political science lecturer.

Dorabji said images of outstanding women in the media give women the expectations that they can become leaders, but the young generation takes the improvement for granted.

In the news media, a woman being a spokesperson is no longer considered as something remarkable, she said. A White House spokesperson or president of a university can be a woman, and a good example is National Security Adviser Condoleezza Rice.

Erika Jackson, a senior majoring in anthropology and behavioral science and a coordinator of the Women's Resource Center, said she has been inspired by outstanding female public figures, especially by Hillary Clinton.

Women in their 20s who are activists or outstanding are seldom presented, and those images are not portrayed in the media, Jackson said.

"People basically now accept that there are women leaders in government or in positions of the power," Dorabji said.

She said people acknowledge women public figures if they are in government or academics but not in business. However, they are expected



Carrien Veldpape / Daily Staff

Clare Cheung tries some eyeliner in a Sephora cosmetics store on Powell Street in San Francisco. Cheung works in Palo Alto as a consultant for the chemical industry. She is also a part-time student at UC Berkeley where she is majoring in project management.

to be well-qualified and mature and to have a normal middle-aged appearance.

Women can be strong and professional, but not too strong because they can threaten men's status, Dorabji said.

"You can tell that in American

society obviously men are still in control," Dorabji said.

Entertainment media appeal to men's culture more, she said. Many female students wear molded bras and tight jeans and show a large part of their belly.

She said there are some exceptions,

in that many female artists from hip-hop, alternative or Latin music show more cultural images rather than sexual images.

"Why do they need to go to the sexual extreme?" Dorabji said. "It shows that we still have a long way to go."

WIRELESS |

continued from page 1

consultant in Dwight Bentel Hall. "A lot of people would appreciate it, but then again a lot of corporations would not appreciate it."

Companies like Starbucks are charging customers to use wireless connections at their coffee shops. But free connections are being offered at independent coffee shops and many other places.

Even though San Jose calls itself the capital of Silicon Valley, it is ranked last on cnet.com's top 10 list of cities for wireless connectivity (cnet.com is a well-respected technology news and information Web site).

"I read all of these things about this place being tech advanced, and it isn't," said Ryan Kelley, a senior art design major. "We are a model of technology ... and we should be a showcase to the rest of the world."

San Jose is not the first city to have free wireless Internet access, but it is one of only a handful of city governments that have initiated their own projects.

Grassroots networks without city sponsorship have been popping up in places like San Francisco and Berkeley over the past few years, according to the San Jose Mercury News. There are Web sites for groups in Seattle and New York. An example of these grassroots organizations can be found at personaltelco.net, a group in Portland, Ore.

"We are a volunteer group of Portlanders who believe that 802.11 (wirelessnetworking, or 'Wi-Fi') technology is both cool and empowering," the Web site states. "We started out by turning our own houses and apartments into wireless hot spots (sites for Internet access, also referred to as 'nodes'), and then set about building these nodes in public locations such as parks and coffee shops."

Tan said he had purchased a wireless network detector from Fry's Electronics and found it to be quite useful.

"I just pull this out and say, 'Hey, there is wireless Internet connection,'" he said.

Tan said that when his girlfriend bought a wireless router for her apartment, he found that there were three connections already emanating from surrounding apartments. While it could be considered stealing, Tan said ideally "it should be a community thing — everyone should share."

Art professor Joel Slayton said that art students are planning on putting together innovative public art installations in storefront windows that may utilize the wireless network.

"The most important technology to impact the art world is the Internet," Slayton said. "There are thousands of artists that use the net."

Wise and Wallash said that future plans for the project could be to start a new hot spot near the San Jose Repertory Theatre, a block from SJSU. This could happen in a matter of months, but Wise said that working the bugs out of the existing spots is a bigger priority. Coverage maps, computer requirements and other information are available at www.sanjose.org/wifi.

EMERGENCY |

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people don't realize the side effects they can cause."

Emergency contraception is available at the Student Health Center without an appointment, Jackson said, but not on the weekends because the center is closed then.

Jackson said women and men can get the pills from their doctors, but it can take too long to get an appointment in an emergency.

She said Planned Parenthood is another place to go for emergency contraception.

"Emergency contraceptives are an option we have that no one knows about," said Jessica Martin, a senior sociology major.

Martin said the meeting was

important because it discussed a topic that many people are confused about.

June Tapiador, a sophomore art major and member of the alliance, was the only male who attended the meeting.

"In general, men should know what options are available," he said. "If one guy knows in a group of friends, that guy becomes a resource for them (about what's available)," he said.

Carol Mukhopadhyay, a professor of anthropology at SJSU, said it's a basic right that women should have safe and available contraception options.

"I think it is absolutely essential women have every technological advance to use," she said.

ELECTIONS | Candidates campaign at polling booths

continued from page 1

Library and then Uchida Hall.

The election board set up posters and tents encouraging students to vote Tuesday on Paseo de Cesar Chavez and around campus.

"Hopefully the candidates are also out there encouraging students to vote," Fabito said.

Many candidates did spend much of the day encouraging students to vote. The Spartan Party brought a

Hummer onto Paseo de Cesar Chavez to get students' attention and were also handing out buttons, fliers and even condoms with Spartan Party endorsements.

Presidential candidate and Spartan Party member Rachel Greathouse said the Hummer would be out again today from about 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Also visible Tuesday were non-partisan presidential candidate Jassim Ubaid and Independent Party presidential candidate Huy Tran.

Ubaid said he plans to be out today

as well, with six or seven supporters promoting his candidacy around campus by handing out fliers and talking to students.

Sean Bashaw, nonpartisan candidate for director of extracurricular affairs, was on Paseo de Cesar Chavez next to the Spartan Party table with a Ford Excursion on loan from his friend who works at a car shop.

Bashaw said he might be out with the car again today but would probably be promoting the election by talking to students in his classes.

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Calendar

Music

The Strokes will perform at the Warfield April 8 at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$25 and available at (408) 998-TIXS.

Beyonce, Alicia Keys and Missy Elliot are scheduled to perform at the Oakland Arena April 18 at 7 p.m. and April 20 at 7 p.m. Tickets available at Ticketmaster.

The Vines and Jet are performing at the Warfield April 11 at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$20. For more information, call (408) 998-TIXS.

Kid Rock will be at the HP Pavilion in San Jose April 23 at 8 p.m. For tickets, call (408) 287-9200. Tickets are \$35.

Kuumbwa Jazz Center presents the Caribbean Jazz Project March 29 at 7 p.m. Dinner is served at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$20 advanced, \$23 at the door. For more information, call (831) 468-3399.

Yes is having its 35th Anniversary Tour at the HP Pavilion April 17 at 8 p.m. Tickets range from \$35.50 to \$75.50 and are available through Ticketmaster.

Chayanne is performing at the Event Center at San Jose State on April 17 at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$40 to \$65 and are available at Ticketmaster.

Comedy

Don McMillan, star of the national commercial series for Budweiser, will be at the San Jose Improv Theatre today at 8 p.m. For tickets, call (408) 280-7475.

Theater

"Rounding Third," written by Richard Dresser, will be performed at the San Jose Repertory Theatre through April 18. Call (408) 367-7255 for tickets.

Rap artist DMX fails as an actor



Photo courtesy of Twentieth Century Fox
Rap artist DMX, center, and Reagan Gomez-Preston, left, star in "Never Die Alone," which opens nationwide Friday.

By John Kim
Daily Staff Writer

In the tradition of "Cool As Ice" or "Poetic Justice," "Never Die Alone," starring DMX, is the latest entry in the canon of movies featuring acting performances by rap artists that are difficult to watch.

REVIEW

"Never Die Alone," which opens nationwide on Friday, is adapted from the novel of the same name by Donald Goines. It is a relatively straightforward tale of crime and redemption, but its resolution is achieved through two circuitous, intertwined plotlines that both revolve around the DMX character, who calls himself King David.

King David, a ruthless drug dealer entranced by his own infamy, has returned to his hometown to settle old business and get on with the rest of his life.

When an attempt to pay a debt goes terribly wrong, David is stabbed and finds himself literally dying in the gutter. A bystander, Paul (David Arquette, best known

for his performances as a sweaty, screaming pitchman in television ads for AT&T long distance), attempts to save David by driving him to the hospital. Consequently, before David dies, he leaves Paul his earthly possessions, including several audiotapes containing his memoirs.

To Paul, a struggling writer who has posters hanging on his bedroom walls of both Ernest Hemingway and the Wu-Tang Clan, the tapes are a treasure trove of source material.

As Paul listens, David's exploits are depicted in lengthy flashbacks. David's recorded voice intones that he lived "an extraordinary life," but his tale is actually one of a petty thug whose biggest accomplishment was to introduce heroin to the set of a "Baywatch"-like television program at the same time he seduced one of its blond female stars.

Those flashbacks are interspersed with scenes from the present that chronicle a chain of events put in motion with David's killing. What would make us impressed with the David character, or at least care about him, is charisma, something DMX lacks.

King David is brimming with complexity and bombast, a larger-than-life figure drunk with his own self-importance. After all, what sort of drug dealer makes a recorded account of his life for posterity?

In hip-hop circles, DMX is known for his lively, emotional concert performances. He has been known to cry onstage. He could have used some of that emotion and energy in his role as King David.

Instead, his performance is wooden and desultory. The film is directed by Ernest Dickerson, who directed a young Tupac Shakur in the 1992 movie "Juice." One can't help but wonder what Tupac could have done with the role of King David.

Absent a compelling performance by the marquee star, Dickerson is left with a failed film noir that's long on violence and style, but short on intrigue. The characters in the movie never rise above that of archetype.

Possibly the most appalling aspect of the movie is its treatment of women, almost all of whom are depicted as vengeful, conniving junkies. When Paul consults with his girlfriend about King David's audiotapes, she essentially tells him to grow up. "This isn't a rap video," she tells him. It's a lesson Dickerson should have remembered.

Confusing 'Intermission' not worth admission price

By Theresa Smith
Daily Staff Writer

The opening credits of this film hadn't even appeared on the screen when a waitress gets punched in the nose after being sweet-talked by a hotheaded bad boy. While blood trickles down her nose, he demands she remove all the green bills from the cash register. Three minutes into the movie, your cushioned seat is still cold, your popcorn is still hot and there's already blood on the screen.

REVIEW

"Intermission" is packed with action, with everything from good girls to evil little boys taking their place in the film.

When a heist goes sour, Lehigh (Colin Farrell), a heartless crook with a bad attitude, seeks the help of people on the outside, who subliminally bring their past problems into the picture.

Directed by John Crowley, the film was shot in Dublin, Ireland, in two months.

In a weird way, the characters cross each other's paths one way or another. These lonely characters are linked in search of love and attention, and each character conveys that in his or her own unique way.

Lehigh asks John (Cillian Murphy) and Mick (Brian O'Byrne) to help him, not knowing that the more people involved, the more problems they'll all face. John is fresh off a break-up with his girlfriend, Deirdre

(Kelly Macdonald), who is seeing Sam (Michael McElhatton), a married man who left his wife to be with her.

John leaves his job at the local supermarket and is furious with Deirdre's decision to immediately start a new relationship. He doesn't hesitate to join the heist when he finds out Lehigh is targeting the bank where Deirdre's new-found love works as a manager.

While the three stooges are in the process of chasing the dollar, awkward things are happening on the outside, which eventually affects all of them by the end of the film.

All the while Lehigh and friends are making their moves, not far behind is Jerry (Colm Meaney), a detective who is filming a documentary as he goes on his daily assignments. Jerry has it out for Lehigh and is determined to bust him.

In between the drama, a mischievous little boy named Phillip (Taylor Molloy), who is the most interesting character, creates ongoing chaos for people. Phillip, who likes to throw objects at people, doesn't realize he is hurting people in the process or that his actions have constant repercussions.

There are patches of dry humor throughout the film where it didn't fit, and with all the profanity, viewers could have used an "intermission" to break away from it all.

The abrupt ending was typical — the heist was not successful, the guy gets the girl (back), and somebody gets shot or dies. Colin Farrell or not, I'd save the \$9.25 on this one and wait until it's shown on TBS.

2004 Elections

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- 1. Event Center 9:00 am-8:00 pm
- 2. Uchida Hall (YUH) 9:00 am-8:00 pm
- 3. King Library 9:00 am-8:00 pm
- 4. Student Union 9:00 am-8:30 pm

For more Information on Elections:

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Election Dates

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