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VOTE
TUESDAY
NOVEMBER 2

SERVING SAN JOSE STATE UNIVERSITY SINCE 1934

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MONDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2004

SJSU holds haunted homecoming



Megan Kung / Daily Staff

A San Jose State University Spectrum Dancer performs with the Spartan Marching Band in the Halloween halftime show during the Homecoming game on Saturday at Spartan Stadium.



Ashley Bess / Daily Staff

Dressed for a "Scream," the Spartan Marching Band horn section performs during the halftime show.

'Golden Grads' reminisce about time spent at SJSU

By Sara Spivey
Daily Staff Writer

The "Golden Grads" remember a time when the football stands spilled over with students cheering on their team.

"The stadium was always jammed with students, alumni and people from the city," said John Aitken, a former Associated Students' president who graduated from San Jose State University in 1954.

The SJSU graduating class of 1954 is celebrating their "Golden Grad" year, their 50th anniversary, this year.

see ALUMNI, page 3

Local polling places prepare to greet voters

By Anna Molin
Daily Staff Writer

As California counties prepare to accommodate what could be an unprecedented number of voters on Election Day on Tuesday, according to news articles, some local polling places take the final rush in stride.

"The voting equipment was dropped off on Wednesday, so we are just waiting for the person in charge to come and set it up," said a secretary for the First Immanuel Lutheran Church at 374 S. Third St., one of Santa Clara County's 822 polling places this election year.

The official body responsible for assisting the voters in Santa Clara County is the Registrar of Voters, located at 1555 Berger Dr. Bldg. 2 in San Jose.

Elaine Larson, an assistant registrar of voters with Santa Clara County, said the local office has, as of Friday, registered 868,182 voters, out of which about 70 to 75 percent are expected to turn out to vote.

"We will have a minimum of four election officers in all precincts, and in some we'll have five," Larson said. "We will also have standby clerks and inspectors who we could dispatch to any polling location if necessary."

Larson said the registrar's office plans to have hundreds of people on standby, in addition to the four-plus certified election officers and a number of paid volunteers stationed at each polling place.

Ana Maria Palacios, a secretary for Grant School at 470 Jackson St. in San Jose, said the school has set aside room A1 for election officers, polling booths and voters.

"Usually we have a class from 8 to 9:50 in the morning, but we'll relocate them for the day," Palacios said. "We'll also open another entrance on Jackson Street, so that people can access the voting booths better."

Palacios said the school has served as a polling location for as long as she can remember.

"We have done it every year when they have

see POLLING PLACES, page 4

SJSU students head to polls

By Ling-Mei Wong
Daily Staff Writer

Some students at San Jose State University believe it's important to vote in the presidential election, even if they don't support either candidate.

"I think it's important since we're college students," said Edmund Lee, a finance freshman. "We don't have a say in (issues such as) tuition."

Lee has registered to vote with an absentee ballot, since he lives in San Francisco and would need to commute if he voted in person.

"Basically I listen to what each candidate has to say," he said.

Other students also based their decisions on what the candidates said.

The presidential debates, speeches and platforms of the candidates influenced the decision of Greg Pieters, an electrical engineering junior.

Pieters also voted by absentee ballot, because he needs to work on Tuesday. He said voting is important because "we can determine how this country is run by voting."

Tony Lam, a justice studies junior, is voting absentee because he is from San Francisco and will not drive back to vote. He said that his vote was influenced by the debates, current information and news coverage.

Other students decided which candidate they would vote for before the debates and campaign speeches.

Isabel Quiñonez, a junior in health

see STUDENTS, page 4

Couple travels 'miles for measles'

By Yasuyo Nagata
Daily Staff Writer

On June 3, Matthew Chico and Laura Shipler Chico stood in front of their house in Silver Spring, Md., and started running nearly 4,000 miles to raise money to eliminate measles deaths in Africa. Matthew and Laura, both in their 30s, finally completed their long journey in San Francisco on Saturday afternoon, and on the same day, they came to a Silicon Valley Marathon Pre-Race Expo at Marriott Hotel in San Jose to talk about their experience.

Laura rode on bike and Matthew ran from the East Coast to West Coast.

"Honestly, I hadn't done any cycling before. The longest I had gone is 40 minutes before we decided to do this, and I went out on a couple slightly longer rides before we actually started," Laura said.

She bought a new bike for the journey. "And the first time I got on that bike was the morning we left," Laura said.

see MEASLES, page 5



Cara Bowyer / Daily Staff

In the Guadalupe room of San Jose's Marriott Hotel, Matt Chico and Laura Shipler Chico talk about their experience participating in the "Miles for Measles," an effort to raise awareness and provide funds for measles vaccinations in Africa.

Both Matthew and Laura said they had mixed feelings when their long running journey finished in San Francisco on Saturday.

"It was beautiful and so moving to have a warm reception, but also sad because it was such an amazing journey," Laura said.

Feud about San Jose concert hall continues

By Sara Spivey
Daily Staff Writer

Santa Clara County and the City of San Jose are in agreement about one thing: San Jose needs a concert hall. But the agencies disagree about where the hall should be built and who should be responsible for building it.

On April 6, the San Jose Redevelopment Agency entered into a contract with the Silicon Valley Sports and Entertainment group, the organization that owns the San Jose Sharks, to evaluate the building of a downtown theater that "focuses on live music concerts with the potential for stage performances," according to an agency memo.

However, the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors began making plans to build a concert hall at the Santa Clara County Fairgrounds on Tully Road in San Jose four years ago, said Patrick Love, development director of the County Board of

see CONCERT, page 9

Many Mexicans to celebrate annual 'Day of the Dead' Tuesday

By Kenneth Seli
Daily Staff Writer

A costumed crowd assembled at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church to celebrate the return of their deceased family members.

Día de los Muertos or "Day of the Dead" is celebrated in Mexico on the second day of November.

Edgar Sanchez, the organizer of the Día de los Muertos parade and dance held this Sunday by the Teatro Familia Aztlan, said the festival is meant to welcome back the spirits of deceased ancestors by celebrating a day with them.

"You feel the ancestors bugging you," Sanchez said about his attention to the event's detail. "You feel something there."

Many Mexicans celebrating the Day of the Dead use the day to remember their heritage.

Jorge Rojas, a 16-year-old high school student, said he decided to dress up like a pirate to honor the dead lost at sea.

Rojas said he began celebrating the festival around three years ago to get in touch with his Mexican roots.

"I moved to the United States when I was very young," Rojas said. "My mom got me involved in the Day of the Dead festival and I liked it."

Yacachitolic, an Aztec dancer who shies away from using his birth name when wearing his traditional garb, said the Day of the Dead celebrations are meant to remind people that death is a natural part of life.

"When we are born, we carry our death with us," said Yacachitolic, whose name means "Hawk Face." "We are born to get the knowledge of how to die. It's the recycling of life. It's the completion of a circle."

Gil Villagran, a lecturer of social work at San Jose State University, said the Día de los Muertos celebrations are a mix of Catholic influences with traditional indigenous

see DEAD, page 9



Catherine Burmeister / Daily Staff

Chiquy Boom rests on a bench on Sunday before Día de los Muertos festivities began at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church in San Jose. Boom is a stilt walker who followed the parade to the Mexican Heritage Plaza.

BRUTALLY HONEST

There is no excuse for skipping out on Election Day

My "first time" wasn't as bad as I'd thought it would be. I flirted with doing the deed back some four years ago, when I was 17, but I didn't think I was ready. Actually, on second thought, I was. It's just that I was too young.

Now at 21 years old, I am able to vote in my very first presidential election.

Several months ago, around the time Sen. John Kerry announced Sen. John Edwards as his running mate, I made sure I was registered to vote.

Within weeks, I received a form to sign, which I did. Almost a month later, my absentee ballot arrived in the mail.

I sat on my floor for a good couple of weeks until this weekend.

Upon inspection, the ballot isn't too confusing. All one needs to do is connect one point to the next.

Gone are the days of hanging chads. Sounds simple enough right? Well ... not so fast.

In addition to voting for who will be the country's next president, there are also a ton of propositions, measures and local elections to vote on.

Now of course, the easy thing to do is to brush off the ones we don't know or care about. I didn't want to go that route.

Now, luckily there are many resources available for voters to help guide them in making their choices.

Many Web sites exist that go into more detail than the voter guide does (i.e., they use English).

My recommendation is for everyone to do their homework before heading to the polls.

The information is out there, and it is relatively easy to find.

Also, if you still have your absentee ballot, you can drop it off at any Santa Clara County polling place tomorrow if you don't want to shell out the 80-something cents to mail it in.

Can't deliver your ballot to the polls? Sign the back of your absentee voter envelope and put the name of the person you're authorizing to drop off your ballot.

The Santa Clara County Registrar of Voters is also offering early voting. It'll be open today from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. if you can't make it to the polls tomorrow.

With all of these options available, there really aren't any good excuses for not voting.

So now with a game plan in motion, all that is left is to make that one important decision. Who is going to be the man to lead this country for the next four years?

This year's election, like 2000, is ridiculously close.

Ultimately, the undecided voters are going to determine the nation's fate.

On Tuesday, it's no longer about what states are "blue" or "red" states. It's about each and every one of us as individuals.

It's a representation of what we, as Americans, want for this country.

The easy way out for many is to whine, bitch and complain about the direction our country is going in.

Well, Tuesday is our chance to do something about it. It's time to step up to the plate.

So whether you're a veteran at voting or a first-timer, take the opportunity to have your voice heard and vote tomorrow.



KEN LOTICH

Ken Lotich is the Spartan Daily managing editor. "Brutally Honest" appears every Monday.

Letter: The CSSA did not advocate student fee increases

Dear editor,

I want to thank several San Jose State University students for bringing the important issue of student fees/tuition up to the students of SJSU. I believe that I have a more rational and thoughtful conclusion for how your elected student government executives should effectively advocate the student perspective.

It is absolutely true that the trends in higher education in California and the nation are alarming to say the least.

A recent history of student fee increases in the California State University system looks like this:

1. December 2002 — 10 percent increase for undergrads and 15 percent increase for graduate students.

2. July 2003 — 30 percent increase for undergrads and 30 percent increase for graduate students.

3. May 2004 — 14 percent increase for undergrads, a 20 percent increase for credential students and a 25 percent increase for graduate students.

The California State Student As-

sociation has never advocated for these increases, and we continue to hold the position that fees should be raised only as a last resort because the CSU system is all about access.

The issue of the CSU long-term fee policy is a complicated and involved matter. The CSSA exists to represent the student perspective in all matters of CSU governance. As your elected executives, the CSSA has been working in collaboration with the faculty, staff and administration to develop a predictable, moderate and gradual long-term fee policy for CSU students.

It is my opinion and also the position of the CSSA Board of Directors that students are better served and protected when they have representation within the administration, rather than standing outside the doors protesting increases in which they had no input.

The CSSA remains committed to the ideals of the master plan for education, which promises a free education to all qualified California students; but also recognize that the political reality of the

budget deficit (which is estimated at \$6 to \$10 billion for this year) does not square up with a plan that was created four decades ago.

The last piece of the long-term fee puzzle that I think students should understand is that the process to develop the policy has been ongoing over the past two years.

It is somewhat insulting and offensive for anyone to criticize a policy at the very end of the process, especially when every Associated Students and CSSA meeting is public, with minutes and agenda available online and in hard copy format. Many opinions went into the position statements of the CSSA: elected student body presidents from each of the 23 CSU campuses, as well as a number of students with no government affiliation.

Manolo P. Platin
Chairman of the Board of Directors
The California State Student
Association

ANOTHER SHADE OF GRAY

A liberal society strives for tolerance, not conformity

In recent history, countless oppressed minority populations have rallied to demand rights and redress of their grievances. In most of these cases, groups have sought to promote equality and put an end to the prejudice, hate, violence and discriminatory laws they were subject to on the basis of ethnicity, religion, sexual preference or socio-economic class.

In America, women, African Americans, Chicanos and others had to fight for even basic rights to vote and own property, and despite making great strides in political and social movements, are still engaged in an everyday battle for equality.

Yet here, in the liberal haven known as the Bay Area, an amusing trend is surfacing.

Close-minded social conservatives are beginning to whine about their status as a minority and the lack of respect or sympathy for their preachy, anachronistic and oppressive views.

Cry me a friggin' river. I hate to break it to them, but that is what happens when society evolves and develops a social conscience.

A case in point: last week, a student wrote to the Spartan Daily complaining that Coming Out Week had offended her because her "religious and personal convictions" are that homosexuality is "a sexual perversion" and "morally wrong." She was especially upset that there was no forum provided to voice opposing views.

First of all, the event was held by Gay Lesbian Bisexual Transgender Allies, a student organization and support group on campus — not by San Jose State University, therefore the school is under no obligation to sponsor gay-bashing rebuttals. If students feel the need to respond, they have every right to do so, and should organize their own events.

The letter also claimed that Coming Out Week was designed to "brainwash" students into believing that homosexuality is "normal, healthy and acceptable."

Could one possibly be more self-centered?

The annual event is intended to promote pride and self-esteem within the gay community and encourage those students to celebrate their identities — not to change the minds of bigots who pass judgment on them. In fact, I doubt that any of the students who participated in Coming Out Week give a rat's ass what Bible-thumpers think of them.

If the event were intended to affect the student community at-large, it would only be to send a message of tolerance. Perhaps it did attempt to instill in students a "phobia of homophobia" — and rightly so.

Homophobia is characterized by an irrational fear of, aversion to or discrimination against homosexuals. We absolutely should be afraid of fostering such a hateful mindset because history has shown the horrifying effects it has had.

According to this student, the celebration of Coming Out Week indicates intolerance of her views on the part of the majority. I wonder if she has ever been denied a job, housing or recognition of her marriage to another person on the basis of her belief that homosexuality is wrong.

Are there gay activists trying to enact legislation that would force the entire country to conform to their lifestyle? Are they trying to strip heterosexuals of their rights to conduct their personal lives as they see fit?

No, but that is, however, what many conservatives seek to do to homosexuals, and anyone else they disagree with.

And therein lies the general difference between conservative and liberal social ideologies. Liberalism represents a live-and-let-live philosophy — as long as one citizen's beliefs, decisions or actions do not violate or jeopardize another citizen's rights as a human being, everyone is free to think and do as they please.

Conservatives, on the other hand, believe they hold themselves to a morally superior standard — often rooted in religion — and aim to impose those beliefs upon everyone around them.

The right is not oppressed by the left. When women fight for reproductive freedoms, such as access to contraception and abortion, they are not forcing other women to have abortions against their will, nor are they mandating that all parents give their daughters birth control pills along with their daily multivitamins. They are simply demanding the right to govern their own bodies.

The left is incredibly tolerant of the right — continually defending the freedoms of speech and religion, even when that encompasses the right of citizens to stand in front of abortion clinics with six-foot-tall posters of bloody fetuses and call the patients "baby killers," or to line the sides of Gay Pride parades with signs that read, "Fags will burn in hell."

That is the true definition of tolerance.

So while many social liberals may not have respect for or sympathize with holier-than-thou conservatives who wish to proselytize and meddle in other people's private affairs, they do respect their rights to hold their opinions and run their lives accordingly. One would only hope for the same treatment in return.

If conservatives are uncomfortable living in a liberal society, they should start gathering funds to build a colony on the moon, because the fundamental human rights of homosexuals, women and religious and ethnic minorities worldwide are not up for negotiation.

Carly Roden is a Spartan Daily copy editor. "Another Shade of Gray" appears every other Monday.



CARLY RODEN

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 Bentel 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

An art exhibition featuring student galleries will take place from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Art building. For more information, call the gallery office at 924-4330.

Art History Association

A meeting to discuss Art History Day on Nov. 19 and a symposium in April will take place at noon in the Art building, room 329. For more information, call Rose Smith at (831) 469-0332.

Catholic Campus Ministry

Daily Mass will take place at 12:10 p.m. in the Catholic Campus Ministry Chapel. For more information, call Father Mike Carson at 938-1610.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Joint Library
A documentary film titled "Long Night's Journey Into Day" will be shown from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the King Library. For more information, call Nancy S. Freeman 287-2529.

Counseling Services

An anger management group will meet from 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the Administration building, room 201. For more information, call 924-5910.

Delta Zeta Sorority

The annual "mocktail" event will take place at 7 p.m. at the Delta Zeta Sorority house. For more information, call (916) 752-9933.

Student Life and Leadership

Applications to take part in Leadership Today are due. Leadership Today will take place Jan. 11 to Jan. 14. Applications are available in the Mosaic Cross Cultural Center and Student Life and Leadership. For more information, call Nam Nguyen at 924-5963.

TUESDAY

School of Art and Design

An art exhibition featuring student galleries will take

place from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Art building. The "Tuesday Night Lecture Series" will take place from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. in the Art building, room 133. An art reception for student galleries will take place in the Art building. For more information, call the gallery office at 924-4330.

Catholic Campus Ministry

Daily Mass will take place at 12:10 p.m. "Faith Formation" will take place from 5:45 p.m. to 6:45 p.m. Both events will take place at the Catholic Campus Ministry. For more information, call Father Mike Carson at 938-1610.

School of Music

"The Listening Hour" concert series featuring a guitar recital will take place from 12:30 p.m. to 1:20 p.m. in the Music building Concert Hall. For more information, call the Music Office at 924-4673.

Muse

Provost Marshall Goodman will give a presentation from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. in the Engineering building, room 189. He will speak about his vision for SJSU and the importance of a college education.

Phi Alpha Theta History Honors Society

A meeting will take place at 3 p.m. in the Dudley Moorhead Hall history office lounge. Non-history majors are welcome. For more information, call Paul at 247-8973.

Victory Campus Ministries

"The Source" will take place at 7 p.m. in the Boccardo Business Complex, room 123. Learn about the amazing destiny God has for your life. For more information, call Marla at (510) 368-8239.

DotNet User Group

A meeting to learn about .NET will take place from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. in Sweeney Hall, room 425. For more information, visit <http://www.cob.sjsu.edu/msdotnetug>.

CREEP ON CAMPUS | AIDAN CASSERLY



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Only letters between 200 to 400 words will be considered for publication.

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.

Submissions may be placed in the Letters to the Editor box at the Spartan Daily office in Dwight Bentel Hall, Room 209, sent by fax to (408) 924-3237, e-mail at spartandaily@casa.sjsu.edu or mailed to the Spartan Daily Opinion Editor, School of Journalism and Mass Communications, San Jose State University, One Washington Square, San Jose, CA 95192-0149.

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Robert Sparling / Daily Staff

ALUMNI | 'Golden Grads' return to SJSU

continued from page 1

The "Golden Grads" are the class of alumni that is celebrating its 50th anniversary — this year it is the class of 1954.

Each year the Alumni Association organizes events for the "Golden Grads" to coincide with the Homecoming game, said Paul Richardson, the marketing and program development coordinator for the Alumni Association.

"Usually we have 100 people for a typical 50-year reunion," Richardson said.

The "Golden Grads" descended on San Jose on Friday evening for drinks at the Fairmont Hotel.

"They had a marvelous cocktail party," Aitken said. "I met alumni again and the university's president."

On Saturday morning, the alumni met for a tour of the SJSU campus, which Aitken said had changed significantly since 1954.

"Seeing the streets closed off at San Carlos and Fifth was nice," he said. "We had to dodge cars crossing the streets."

One thing he said looked familiar was all of the construction. He attended SJSU during 1952 and 1953 when the Wahlquist Library was being built, right next to the old reserve book room, where Aitken said the students did most of their studying.

"They were pile-driving all year," he said. "It was pretty hard to study."

Georgia Everson, who graduated in 1956, and Lane Weiss, who graduated in 1954, said that when they attended SJSU there were about 5,000 students, and "everybody knew each other."

Everson and Weiss also attended the "Golden Grad" events, including the campus tour.

"I didn't believe I was on the SJSU campus," Weiss said. "Everything has changed — it's grown up."

Weiss said that rent for an apartment near campus was about \$80 per month when he was a student at SJSU.

After the campus tour, the "Golden Grads" were treated to a catered tailgating party and a serenade by SJSU's marching band.

They also watched the game from a special reserve box section, and were given \$25 gift certificates to spend at the bookstore, Richardson said.

Under a pair of white canvas shade covers, the Santa Clara Valley chap-

ter of the SJSU Alumni Association hosted a potluck-style tailgate barbecue for the other alumni before Saturday's football game, said Lynn Stewart, who graduated from SJSU in 1970.

Stewart said she has been coming to SJSU home games for 13 or 14 years.

She said the games give her a chance to "reconnect with old friends."

Dave Donahue, who graduated from SJSU in 1969, said he comes to all of the SJSU home games, and even traveled to Hawaii this year to support the football team.

He said the Alumni Association hosts the tailgate parties because they want alumni to feel like they have a place to go at the game.

"They should come early and have a beer, just like when they were in college," he said.

The Alumni Association usually has about 60 to 75 alumni at each home game, said Pat Porter, who graduated from SJSU in 1966.

"Each year it gets bigger and bigger," Porter said. "We're trying to bring more people to be active alumni."

Another unofficial alumni tailgate party with about 40 attendees went on in a different area of the Spartan Stadium parking lot on Saturday before the game, said Steve Gossett, who graduated from SJSU in 1968.

Gossett and other friends host the tailgate party every home game, he said, and 30 to 50 alumni typically attend.

He said the tailgate parties are the reason he likes to come to the games, and is sad to say the reason "isn't the football."

"I'm very disappointed right now," Gossett said. "But I'm loyal, so I come."

He said, as an alumnus who supports SJSU football, he is anxious about the lack of substantial student attendance at the home games because of the long-term effects that it could cause.

"If people aren't supporters of extracurricular activities while they're in school, they won't support it when they graduate," Gossett said. "That's going to hurt."

Many alumni are also football season-ticket holders, and occupied their regular seats in the gold reserve section.

Ignacio Mendez, who graduated

from SJSU in 1956, and his wife Emily Mendez, who graduated in 1967, said they have been season ticket holders for two years, since returning from a six-year sailing trip during which they visited 36 countries and sailed 36,000 miles.

"You feel a little disconnected after a trip like that," Emily Mendez said. "The football games offer a chance to reconnect."

Mike Ryan, who graduated from SJSU in 1964, said he comes to every game and is "kind of a die-hard."

"I've always been a supporter of SJSU through thick and thin," he said.

Students supported the football program a lot more in 1973 and 1974 when Bob Minklein said he played offensive tackle for SJSU.

Minklein said he is "tired" of listening to people say that sports are not valuable.

"Sports teach you camaraderie, team attitude and social skills," he said.

A lot of the players would not get the opportunity to go to college without the football program, Minklein said. He said football teaches the players how to overcome adversity and never quit.

"Where else are you going to learn that?" he said. "Not in a classroom and not in a book."



Jason Fithian / Daily Staff



Jason Fithian / Daily Staff

UPPER LEFT: San Jose State University quarterback Dale Rogers lets go of a pass just as University of Texas-El Paso defensemen reach him during the second half of SJSU's 38-20 loss to UTEP on Saturday at Spartan Stadium.

UPPER RIGHT: Left, junior communication major Robert Gutierrez and junior Victoria Boyt, a double major in marine biology and microbiology, dance during the pre-game Homecoming festivities at South Campus on Saturday afternoon.

ABOVE: Students and an alumnus participate in pre-game activities during the tailgate at South Campus Saturday afternoon.



Ashley Bess / Daily Staff

ABOVE: Students show their pride for the Spartans at Saturday's Homecoming game against University of Texas-El Paso.



Ashley Bess / Daily Staff

ABOVE: John Stoll and Irene Bangi are crowned Homecoming King and Queen on Saturday.

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POLLING PLACES | Sites include some classrooms

continued from page 1

requested it," she said, adding that the registrar of voters needs to provide money for insurance coverage, which is arranged through the district's office.

Barbara Pinkham, a secretary for the Anne Darling School at 333 N. 33rd St., said the school plans to house polling equipment in the staff lunchroom.

"We don't really prepare," Pinkham said. "They just call and say they are going to drop off the booths at 6 o'clock in the morning. All we do really is unlock the facilities for them and then lock them up when the polls close."

Another secretary for the Franklin McKinley School District said the school district's headquarters, located at 645 Wool Creek Dr. in San Jose, plans to allow poll workers to set up voting equipment in one of the boardrooms.

She said many of the district's schools intend to grant election officers access to their cafeterias, libraries and other facilities on Election Day.

For example, Kennedy School, located at 1602 Lucretia Ave. in San Jose, intends to use the school library as its polling place, said Julia Plowman, a school secretary.

"People come all throughout the day," Plowman said. "We get a lot of people who come early in the morning to cast their ballots before they go to work."

Then again, other schools, such as Meadow School, intend to reserve an entire building solely for the purpose of voting.

A secretary for Meadow School said that, although the school has been a polling location for years, one problem tends to persist.

"We're a school so, no, there is not enough parking, but we can't do any more just because it is a polling day," she said.

One polling location, which seems to possess the means to provide additional parking space for voters, is the Boys and Girls Club of Silicon Valley, located at 110 E. Jackson St. in downtown San Jose.

Ed Torres, athletic director for the

club, said the organization plans to set up signs by the entrance gates to direct people to where they can park.

"We'll have parking in the back where we will block off half of the basketball court," Torres said. "We'll have signs that will direct the voters to where they'll need to go, and we'll also have signs pointing to the side gates where people who have a handicap could get in."

Torres said the club plans to stay open to serve its members throughout the voting process.

"All we do really is unlock the facilities for them and then lock them up when the polls close."

Barbara Pinkham, secretary

Santa Clara County plans to use the newest touch-screen or direct-recording electronic-voting system as the county's primary voting system, according to the registrar of voters.

As required by the Secretary of State's office, all voters have the option of casting a paper ballot using the traditional optical-scan system of voting. However, Santa Clara County voters will not be able to use the data vote or punch card-voting system where a lever is used to punch each voter's position.

"The preferred method is touch-screen voting," Larson said. "We'll have five machines per precinct, so there will be at least five machines per polling place."

She said the registrar of voters will distribute 10 machines to those large precincts that include two separate

polling places so as to even out the voting process.

The election officers are not instructed to inform the voters about methods other than touch-screen voting unless the voters themselves request the information, Larson said.

"It is up to the voter to ask for it," she said. "If someone requests to vote regular ballot, we will help them to do so."

Because of some security concerns regarding touch-screen voting, the Secretary of State's office passed 23 additional security measures to calm fears of outside tampering with the ballots.

For example, those counties using electronic systems must allow independent expert analysis of the system's source code as well as ample training of poll workers. In addition, none of the voting machines can be equipped with telephone, wireless or Internet connections.

Larson said those who wish to use paper ballots need to request them when they sign in on the roster or the election representative will assume that they intend to vote electronically.

Once somebody has signed in, he or she will be handed a voting card which is to be inserted into the electronic machine, Larson said.

The machine will then ask the user to select a language, after which the user should be able to vote for his or her positions by clicking on the appropriate boxes.

After making all the selections, a review screen pops up allowing users to verify or correct their choices.

People can find their polling places by turning to the back of the sample ballots sent by mail to see the name and address of the polling places.

Larson said it is crucial for people to go to their designated polling locations as they will not be listed on the rosters otherwise, and their votes could be delayed and therefore go uncounted.

If using an absentee ballot, one could cast it at any polling location on Election Day or drop it off at the registrar of voters beforehand. The registrar of voters is open today from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

One for all and all for me ...



Megan Kung / Daily Staff

From right, Joel Delatorre, 3, Emilio Tagimarao, 4, and Dominic Delatorre, 5, dressed as the Three Musketeers, wait to receive candy from Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Joint Library staff members on Friday in the Children's Room on the first floor. The Children's Room was the last stop of the Halloween Parade that went throughout the library.

San Jose area hospital to limit Medi-Cal services

Associated Press

SAN JOSE — Thousands of Medi-Cal patients in Santa Clara County may not be able to use their local hospital to deliver babies or have non-emergency operations beginning Monday when the Regional Medical Center is expected to stop accepting a major form of the insurance.

The hospital will continue to serve Medi-Cal patients in emergencies and those whose insurance is run by a third-party plan.

"Other hospitals are trying to get ready for this," Kim Roberts, chief financial officer of the public Santa Clara Valley Health and Hospital System, told the San Jose Mercury News. "The community is trying to respond the best we can."

Regional Medical Center is owned by HCA Inc., the nation's largest for-profit hospital operator. HCA owns two other hospitals in San Jose, the Good Samaritan Hospital and the San Jose Medical Center, which will close in early December.

One reason the company gave for closing San Jose Medical Center was that Medi-Cal doesn't cover the actual cost of treating patients.

Regional Medical Center lost about \$24 million in 2003, hospital spokeswoman Leslie Kelsay said. About \$10 million of that stems from the gap between the cost of providing services to Medi-Cal patients and what the insurance program paid, she said.

Medi-Cal covers about 6.5 million of the state's poorest residents.

STUDENTS | Issues include gay marriage and Iraq

continued from page 1

science, said that her absentee ballot vote was decided by her party affiliation.

"I think I was making the right decision and the debates made me sure," she said.

Quiñonez's busy class schedule prompted her to vote by absentee ballot.

Party affiliation was important to other students, as well.

Miriam Ibrahim, a political science senior, said that her political affiliation influenced how she will cast her vote on Tuesday.

Ibrahim said she plans to vote for Sen. John Kerry based on his stances on the war in Iraq and gay marriage.

The war in Iraq and gay marriage were also "big" issues for Amy Fonseca, a senior in history and German, as well as the budget.

"I kind of already decided before the debates," she said.

"It's important for my thoughts to be heard, even if my candidate doesn't win," Fonseca said.

To make sure they're heard, some students have even scheduled what time they'll visit the polls.

"I'm going in person, in the morning at 8," Ibrahim said.

Cino Iannuei, a business administration junior, said he would vote

in the afternoon, since Tuesday is his day off.

"I never registered (to vote absentee), so it's not that big a deal," he said.

"I'm not voting ... I haven't been following all the debates."

Minh Osborne, student

Iannuei said that voting fits his schedule and the polling station he will vote at is near his house.

Some students are still making up their minds about how to cast their ballots.

"I haven't actually decided how to vote," said Seon Joo, a graduate student in urban planning.

Joo said she would go home and look up more information on the can-

didates before going to vote in person on Tuesday.

Other students did not want to endorse either Kerry or President George W. Bush.

"I'm not really sure who to go vote for," said Kaye Len, a business administrative finance senior. "I don't think either candidate is qualified."

Len is not registered to vote since he said is "not impressed" with either candidate.

"Bush doesn't seem capable," he said. "Kerry repeats everything he says and attacks Bush."

Other students registered to vote but chose not to endorse either candidate.

Minh Osborne, a computer science senior, voted by absentee ballot and did not mark his ballot for Bush or Kerry.

"I'm not voting," Osborne said. "I haven't been following all the debates."

Osborne said he goes to school "all day" and then goes to work.

"I hear just a little here and there, but there's no reason why (I should vote)," he said. "I don't have time for all that stuff."

Regardless of schedules, some students feel their votes matter in the presidential election.

"Voting hopefully makes a difference," Pieters said.

Aftershocks rattle northern Japan

Associated Press

TOKYO — Two moderate earthquakes rattled an area in northern Japan still recovering from last month's magnitude 6.8 earthquake, the Meteorological Agency said Monday. No injuries were reported.

A magnitude 5.0 jolt struck at 4:50 a.m., followed by a magnitude 4.0 tremor about an hour later, the agency said.

Both earthquakes, aftershocks to last month's quake, were centered about six miles below the earth's surface in a rural part of Niigata prefecture (state) about 160 miles north of Tokyo.

The Oct. 23 earthquake and several large aftershocks in the days that followed killed 36 people and injured over 2,000. It was as the deadliest quake to hit Japan since 1995, when a magnitude-7.2 quake killed 6,000 people in the western city of Kobe.

The Meteorological Agency said there was no threat of tsunami, potentially dangerous waves triggered by seismic activity.

More than 68,000 people remain in emergency shelters in Niigata because their homes were completely or partially destroyed in last month's quake. Many were too afraid to go home as aftershocks continue.

Japan, which rests atop several tectonic plates, is among the world's most earthquake-prone countries.

A magnitude 5 earthquake can cause damage to homes if it occurs in a residential area.

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Finish strong ...



Julia Weeks / Daily Staff

Marathon runners cross the finish line of the Silicon Valley Marathon at the lawn of Discovery Meadow on Saturday morning. The 26-mile course made its way through Willow Glen, the Los Gatos Creek Trail and Vasona Lake County Park and ended in downtown San Jose.

MEASLES | Animals, people join couple during their trek

continued from page 1

Matthew and Laura are moving to Rwanda in January to stay for at least a year, but before they move there, they wanted to do something meaningful and challenging in their "transition period," Laura said.

While Matthew and Laura were thinking about what they could do, Laura said they received a postcard in March or April from their friend in Seattle who was getting married on Labor Day weekend.

After Laura read the postcard, she came up with the idea to go to Seattle, but not by airplane, she said.

"Hey Matt, what do you think if I bike across the country, and you run?" Laura said.

Matthew said he agreed with Laura's idea immediately, but that they didn't want to just cross the country for their own purposes.

"We also really wanted to connect what we're doing with because that is meaningful to us," Laura said.

Matthew and Laura focused on measles in Africa and they decided to raise money for African children through their running, Laura said.

Youth team from the American Red Cross in Santa Clara Valley also volunteered to raise money for measles at the Marriott Hotel, and some of the members joined Matthew and Laura's presentation.

Matthew said the youth team members attached the red circle cloth that represented measles on their T-shirts.

Youth team members wore dots because they wanted to represent measles, but Matthew said, "Everyone who's wearing dots here, actually they are selling a dot for a dollar. Buy the dots from them, so they don't have measles pocks on their bodies."

Matthew said only a dollar donation provides vaccination and rescues African children dying from measles.

About a million of Africa's children were vaccinated one to three years ago, Matthew said. "Here we're in 2004, toward the end of the year, at this point, total numbers are 120 million children are vaccinated."

Across the country, Matthew and Laura used the Trans-America bicycle trail and for about two-thirds of

their journey, they ran that trail, Matthew said.

"We averaged 35 miles a day. The longest day that Matt ran was 52 miles in Kansas," Laura said.

Throughout their long journey, Laura said that she and Matthew had wonderful hospitality from people and experiences every place they went.

Laura said some people sometimes joined their running, and one of her favorite stories through running was in a small town in Colorado.

There were foreign exchange students in almost every single family because the school had to keep the students' population in that small town, Laura said.

A 16-year-old German boy who just arrived to the small town joined Matthew and Laura's running. "That kid just kept running. He ran all the way with us — 28 miles," Laura said.

At almost the end of the mile, there was the sign that said "East," and the boy mumbled in German, so Laura asked what he was saying.

However, Laura said he still spoke in German, and finally he said in English, "Oh oh, I'm saying at least I'll get the sign."

Not only did people join them in their running, but animals joined them, as well, Matthew said.

When Matthew and Laura were running in Kansas, there were four beautiful horses, Laura said. Those horses were watching Matthew and Laura, and all of a sudden, the horses turned and started running along with them, Laura said. "It was just a magical, breath-taking moment."

Matthew and Laura said they also faced difficulties such as finding place to stay, Matthew said.

"It was very common for us to start out in the morning not knowing where we were going to stay that night," Laura said.

Matthew said there were many nights when they couldn't find motels or camping places, therefore, they always had to explain what they were doing and ask people to stay at their places, Matthew said.

Usually, Laura asked people whether or not they could stay, Matthew said. "It usually works and is often easier if women ask."

Twice, they stayed at fire stations, Matthew said.

Not only did Matthew and Laura face difficulties finding places to stay, but there were also climate and weather problems, Matthew said.

Sometimes, Matthew and Laura had to run in very hot temperatures, on snowy roads and on muddy roads, on windy days and at high elevations, Matthew said.

Even though they had various difficulties, Matthew said Laura and he could follow their schedule on time.

After Matthew and Laura's presentation, the youth team from the American Red Cross Santa Clara Valley chapter kept collecting donations.

"It was absolutely worth hearing the one hour speech," said Justin Lam, a 16-year-old, international services coordinator at the chapter.

Lam, a student from Bellarmine College Preparatory said he didn't consider raising money for measles at the chapter before.

However, Lam went to a Red Cross national convention in May 2003, and he saw a college student who gave speech about measles and who raised \$20,000 for the cause in only one night.

Lam was very impressed with seeing the student's work, and he decided his chapter should help prevent and cure measles, he said.

"They were very inspiring and admirable," said Cary Segall, a mem-

ber of the audience. Segall came from Madison, Wis. to join the Silicon Valley Marathon that Matthew joined on Sunday.

Segall said hearing Matthew and Laura's experience made him think about the measles issue in Africa.

Several youth team members said they were very glad to hear Matthew and Laura's presentation.

"I thought it was very informative and it showed compassion," said Parminder Sandhu, one of the youth volunteers.

Sandhu, a student at Andrew P. Hill High School, said there are about 150 students volunteering at the Red Cross Youth program from his school.

"It was very inspiring to hear a person can really run from Washington D.C. to San Francisco," said Sharanpreet Kaur, also from Andrew P. Hill High School.

"I like to make people smile, to change their life. It's a really great feeling," said Katherine Pham from Oak Grove High School.

Matthew and Laura said they were very glad to share their story with other people and youth team members from Red Cross.

Matthew said he feels great satisfaction and accomplishment. "We've been cared for by so many wonderful people throughout the country, and had a new experience every single day — seeing new places and meeting new people," he said.

Networks preparing for busy election night

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Before 2000, the focus of television Election Night coverage was pretty simple: Count votes as fast as you can and explain why people voted the way they did.

Two trends in this year's plans show the residual impact of hanging chads and blown calls. Networks are intent on following potential voter irregularities and laying bare their own decision-making processes as results flood in.

ABC, CBS, NBC, Fox, PBS, CNN, Fox News Channel and MSNBC will all devote prime time to election results Tuesday night. Smaller networks with specialized audiences, like BET and MTV, have unprecedented coverage because of the intense interest in the presidential race.

Chip Reid will be stationed at the "Making Your Vote Count" desk at NBC News. ABC's Jake Tapper will deliver "Ballot Watch" reports. Mika Brzezinski at CBS, Major Garrett at Fox News Channel and Jeffrey Toobin at CNN all have the same assignments: Comb the country for reports of potential fraud or disenfranchised voters.

"We all got a civics lesson in 2000 so what we feel we need is some good intelligence with secretaries of state in every battleground state," said Paul Mason, ABC News senior vice president.

ABC's planning the days before the election resembles The Weather Channel's right before a hurricane makes landfall: Keep checking for where news is likely to strike before putting correspondents on airplanes.

NBC is helping to finance a national voter help line. Civic responsibility is one motive; so is the hope it might tip the network off to trouble spots before its rivals.

"After the election, the story will be about how broken the election system is," NBC's Tom Brokaw said.

Networks also want to rebuild public confidence in their performance after the 2000 disaster. You'll recall them declaring Al Gore the winner in Florida, rescinding it, giving Florida and the presidency to George Bush, then having to wait several weeks before a court fight settled the outcome.

ABC, CBS, NBC, CNN, Fox News Channel and The Associated Press collaborated to construct a new exit polling system from scratch. The AP will also be the sole source for a nationwide vote tabulation.

After the primary season and several test runs, the participants expressed cautious optimism certainly more optimism than they did in 2002 that things will work on Election Night.

"I think everyone rightfully learned a lot of lessons four years ago," said David Bohman, CNN's Washington bureau chief. "You also learned that you don't have 100 percent confidence in anything."

Networks all promise caution in declaring winners state by state, adopt-

ing "we'd rather be right than first" as a new mantra. They also expect to more thoroughly explain why they're calling or hedging on a state's results.

On CBS, for example, Brzezinski is stationed at her network's decision desk and explain to viewers what her colleagues are doing.

Dan Rather has covered every presidential election since 1964 and will be CBS News' anchor again. Bob Schieffer is his analyst-sidekick. Watch for whether Rather holds back on his favorite cornpone phrases because of the cloud over CBS due to the National Guard controversy.

Peter Jennings will anchor ABC News' coverage, with George Stephanopoulos as analyst.

NBC has constructed an elaborate outdoor studio at New York's Rockefeller Center for Brokaw and analyst Tim Russert. It's likely the last big event presided over by Brokaw, who is stepping down as NBC "Nightly News" anchor on Dec. 1 and breaking up the Rather-Jennings-Brokaw triumvirate after two decades.

Fox broadcasting will have coverage anchored by Shepard Smith, while Fox News Channel will have a separate feed with Brit Hume as host.

CNN has rented out Nasdaq's headquarters in New York for a visually striking set, where Wolf Blitzer will be in charge. MSNBC's Chris Matthews will have his own desk near Brokaw's at Rockefeller Center.

PBS coverage will start at 10 p.m. EST, with Jim Lehrer as anchor. PBS will rely on the AP's projections for presidential and Senate races.

Focusing on its target youthful audience, MTV will cover results on "Total Request Live" and in a special later Tuesday. Throughout the day, it will run testimonials from viewers on why they decided to vote.

"If you are in the age range of 18 to 30 and you want to see what the Election Day process has been like for your peers, this is the place to turn to," said Dave Sirlinick, executive vice president of MTV News.

MTV has never devoted such resources to an election, he said. It's a reflection of the interest it has sensed among viewers: a 61 percent increase in views to its Web pages devoted to the election.

BET is also running an Election Night results special. Throughout the day, the network will run on-screen notices and public service announcements filmed by celebrities designed to get black viewers to the polls.

Telemundo has its own studio in NBC's Rockefeller Center complex, where Pedro Sevcec will anchor the Spanish-language coverage.

For all the networks, that's millions of dollars worth of on-air talent, newsgathering, eye-catching studios and graphics all for democracy's biggest night.

"This is just a stage setting," Brokaw said. "The important thing that we have to do Election Night is tell the story of what America has been through the past year."

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Calendar

Music

Le Tigre will perform with Lesbians on Extasy and Robosapien at 9 p.m. on Nov. 19 at The Fillmore in San Francisco. Tickets are \$20 and are available through Ticketmaster by calling 998-TIXS.

Performing Arts

The King of San Francisco, a rock opera, will continue its run until Nov. 14 at the Langton Arts Theatre in San Francisco. Tickets are \$10 for students and \$15 for general admission and are available at the door.

Picnic will run from Saturday through Nov. 21 at the Lucie Stern Theater in Palo Alto. Tickets range from \$18 to \$29 and are available by calling the theater at (650) 329-0891.

Art

Women on the Verge: The Culture of Neurasthenia in 19th-Century America will continue its run until Feb. 6, 2005, at Stanford University. Admission is free. For more information, call (650) 723-4177.

Suspensions, an exhibit that is part of the "New Works by California Artists" series at the Triton Museum of Art, will run from Nov. 4 until Jan 2, 2005. Admission is free and the Triton Museum of Art is located in Santa Clara. For more information, call 247-3754.

Film

The San Jose Jewish Film Festival will continue its run until Nov. 21 at Camera 12 Cinemas. For more information, call 874-5907.



Photo courtesy of United Artists

Devon Alan, left, and Jamie Bell star in "Undertow," which is currently playing in theaters.

Plot buries 'Undertow'

By Ling-Mei Wong
Daily Staff Writer

If you're looking for a warm, fuzzy date movie, skip "Undertow." "Undertow" will make you never want to cheat.

REVIEW

The scene is set in the deep South, where the first character comes onto the screen while throwing rocks at his girlfriend's window. Chris (Jamie Bell) throws a rock too hard, breaks the window and is chased by his girlfriend's shotgun-wielding father.

He manages to run away until he impales his foot on a nail. Chris manages to limp to a lake, only to be brought in by the police. Bell plays the rebellious youth perfectly, albeit while looking pretty at the same time.

Chris is bailed out by his father John Munn, played by Dermot Mulroney. Mulroney, perhaps best known for his role as a gay man in "My Best Friend's Wedding," looks out of place in the South with his overalls and sideburns. He has the same pitfall as Bell for being simply too beautiful to look like he belongs out in the sticks. Even whiskers and a decent Southern accent can't make a pretty boy a convincing hog farmer.

John's younger son Tim (Devon Alan) is sickly but as pretty as the rest of the family. It is his birthday when Chris is bailed out, and he awkwardly

assures Chris that it's OK his birthday is ruined. While Alan's performance may not be as electrifying as those of Haley Joel Osment, his quiet innocence makes him an effective and believable 10-year-old.

His innocent psyche faces evil incarnate in his Uncle Deel, played by Josh Lucas. Like his family, Deel is good-looking, though mercifully not as pretty. Lucas is deliciously creepy as an escaped prison inmate waiting to get some good old-fashioned revenge.

Apparently, before Deel was put away, he had a girlfriend named Audrey. Without giving anything away, he has a score to settle with his brother John.

You really don't want to cheat with your brother's girlfriend, or lie about inheriting heirloom gold coins.

Before you can say "gratuitous violence," John gets whacked in a spectacular fashion for a good 10 minutes, blood flying everywhere. This scene single-handedly earns the R rating for this film.

Deel, being the clever con he is, kills his brother while his two nephews are at home.

They naturally witness the brutal murder of their father and are dumb enough to wait around for their uncle to realize they're present. Chris and Tim run for the rest of the movie, escaping with the clothes on their backs and the gold coins.

The movie's score is by Stephen Glass and is eerily effective when

Chris and Tim run for their lives from their own home. Above an ominous string arrangement is a light, merry tune that belies the seriousness of the scene. Chris and Tim should be children playing mindlessly in a forest instead of being chased by their killer uncle.

The idea of "Undertow" is the sense of being helplessly pulled in by one's past. This gives the film a rather fatalistic cast that gives rise to a weak plot populated by passive characters.

Except for gory violence and scenes upon scenes of running, this film is soporific.

Even with solid performances from the four principal actors, they're helplessly overcome by the "Undertow" of an unconvincing and improbable plot.

"Undertow"

Director: David Gordon Green
Cast: Jamie Bell, Devon Alan, Dermot Mulroney
Production Company: United Artists
Running Time: 107 min.

Compilation showcases only scattered hits

By Ken Lotich
Daily Managing Editor

Jam-packed with 41 tracks on two compact discs, "Take Action! Volume 4" offers a mixed bag of goodies for rock fans.

REVIEW

With a list price of less than \$6, one really can't go wrong snagging up this collection.

In addition, 5 percent of the suggested retail list price is donated to The National Hopeline Network.

A free copy of the book "Suicide: The Forever Decision ... for those thinking about suicide and for those who know, love, or counsel them" is also on one of the CDs, and is viewable on a computer.

"Take Action! Volume 4" has many bands that are not household names, but this album should give the listener a rough idea of where the future of rock music lies.

The first disc starts off with Andrew W.K. doing a short public service announcement, informing listeners that if they do need help, they should seek it, and The National Hopeline Network is a resource they can utilize.

The first band on the CD is Berkeley's NOFX.

"Concern of a GOP Neo-Phyte (Wrong Version)," gets the album off on the right foot, with a rugged instrumental and a saucy lyrical delivery by frontman Fat Mike.

After NOFX makes its exit, we hear our first scream on the album.

Squad Five-O's "Lay it Down" begins like it's going to get the party started, but the track ultimately turns into a punchy, Juicy Fruit, take-the-soft-top-off-the-jeep-and-let's-go-to-the-beach-type song.

Nonetheless, it's a fun song that'll keep the headphones on your ears.

The next couple of tracks follow like a bad high school prom. Some are full of energy and excitement, and just when you're getting into the album, they slow it down.

With no real flow on the album, one is going to need to learn how to

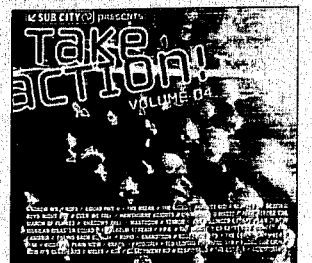


Photo courtesy of Sub City Records

program his or her CD player in order to get the most out of this.

"Consequences David, You'll Meet Your Fate in the Styx" by Fear Before the March of Flames is a very dark track, which gives the earlier pop-rock music a beating worse than the Boston Red Sox gave the St. Louis Cardinals.

The bands Terror, Shadow Falls and Dillinger Escape Plan contribute later on the CD with some more hard-hitting tracks that keep this album alive.

Disc two starts off a little too much like the middle section of disc one, with songs that come off a bit too light for a rock compilation.

However, Taking Back Sunday helps break up some of the fluff with "Bonus Mosh Pt. II" — the best song on the second disc.

Some of the tracks on this disc that rock include "Detachment Kit" by The Race and "A Stirsticks Prediction" by Despidado.

Another enticing track is "Wipe that Brow" by Roy. Although the track is far from intense, it will remind many of us what Weezer used to sound like.

Although this album is supposed to deter people from killing themselves, it contains the same qualities of a gateway drug. It's a "drug" that will have listeners longing to get their fix by checking out some of these bands' complete albums.

"Take Action! Volume 4"

Artist: various
Label: Sub City Records
Running Time: 141 min., 10 sec.

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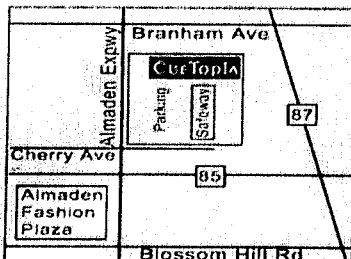
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'Sideways' bubbles with comedy

Mismatched friends light up screen in funny adventure

By Amaya Wiegert
Daily Staff Writer

The film "Sideways" is an ironic comedy about friendships and second chances.

Written and directed by Alexander Payne ("Citizen Ruth," "Election," "About Schmidt"), the film focuses on former college roommates Miles (Paul Giamatti) and Jack (Thomas Haden Church), who pair up to enjoy a week of wine tasting in the Santa Ynez Valley prior to Jack's wedding.

REVIEW

Miles, a recent divorcee who hasn't gotten over his ex-wife, and Jack, a cheery and sleazy former soap opera star whose current work consists of stain-remover commercials, couldn't be more different in their ways if they tried.

Their vastly different personalities provide for some guaranteed hilarity throughout the film as the two get used to being around each other.

The trip starts innocently enough, with several chuckle-worthy scenes where Miles schools Jack on how to properly analyze a glass of wine, and Jack, in turn, coaches Miles on how to get back into the dating game by sharing some of his womanizing secrets.

After a while, though, it becomes clear that Jack's idea of a good time is different than that of Miles.

Jack wants to get all the action he can in his last days of freedom as a single man. Miles, whose ex-wife shared his love of all things wine, just wants to enjoy the wineries and play golf.

He's not sure how he feels about being pushed by Jack into getting acquainted with Maya, an attractive local waitress who shares Miles' interests.

The trip begins to unravel when Jack confesses that Miles' ex-wife has gotten remarried and will be at Jack's upcoming wedding with her new husband. Miles is shocked by the news and immediate-



ly goes into mid-life crisis mode, breaking open a bottle of wine and running down the hillside with it while Jack chases him down.

It only makes matters worse when Jack falls head over heels for a local wine pourer (Sandra Oh) at one of the vineyards and starts spending all of his time with her, leaving Miles alone to occupy himself with cutting his toenails and watching television in the hotel room.

As the movie progresses, it changes gears a bit and almost becomes depressing.

Jack's shenanigans end up ruining Miles' chances with Maya when Jack's fling, who is friends with Maya, finds out that Jack is getting married in less than a week.

Miles also finds the book he's been working on has been rejected by potential publishers and that his ex-wife is expecting a baby.

The viewer is so moved with pity for Miles at this point that it is almost painful to continue watching.

What keeps the movie going are the spontaneous, hilarious dilemmas Jack gets himself into and the truly loyal actions Miles takes in order to get Jack out of them and ensure he makes it to his wedding ceremony on time.

Though the film could have been a little shorter in length, the message of "Sideways" is far from skewed: life may be unpredictable, but true friends will always be there.



Photos courtesy of Twentieth Century Fox

TOP: "Sideways," which is currently in theaters, follows two ex-college roommates as they travel together for a week of wine tasting.

ABOVE: Paul Giamatti, left, and Thomas Haden Church, star in "Sideways."

"Sideways"

Director: Alexander Payne
Cast: Paul Giamatti, Thomas Haden Church, Sandra Oh
Production Company: Twentieth Century Fox
Running Time: 124 min.

Ending of 'Birth' leaves audiences bewildered

By Leah Nakasaki
Daily Staff Writer

Directed by Jonathan Glazer ("Sexy Beast"), "Birth" takes the audience on a journey by encompassing family, love and mortality to form a fairy tale-like script.

REVIEW

Nicole Kidman plays Anna, a sophisticated young widow who has just accepted a proposal from Joseph (Danny Huston), who has patiently waited for her acceptance for three years.

At Anna and Joseph's engagement party, a solemn-faced little boy named Sean (Cameron Bright) shows up unannounced and wants to speak with Anna, telling her he is a reincarnation of her dead husband.

After many failed attempts of trying to convince Anna that he is her husband, Sean collapses in front of her, capturing her heart and making her finally believe his story.

At this time, a microphone can be seen dangling from above the actors' heads, causing a serious scene to become quite comical.

It is at this point in the movie where viewers might start to lose interest and pay more attention to the beautiful music by Alexandre Desplat in each scene. The methodical rhythms paralleled with extreme close-ups make the characters much more rich and diverse.

Desplat seems to know just when to incorporate highs and lows in each scene to evoke certain emotions in each of the characters.

The music is by no means overpowering — as it is sometimes in dramas of this nature, where voices are subdued to a point beyond recognition, drowning in a sea of musicians' egos.

As soon as the story picks up again, director Glazer holds the audience's attention with intimate scenes of Kidman and Bright. Glazer attempted to give Bright directives on how to act like Anna's husband,

but Bright still came off looking like a child.

In one scene in the movie, Sean asks Anna to meet him in Central Park, to which she agrees, and instead of them sitting on a bench together talking, Sean hangs from the monkey bars and plays on the swings, leaving her sitting on the bench alone.

Wait a minute, maybe these actions aren't too far off from normal men's actions when they are frustrated and upset.

In another scene later in the movie, Bright is perched in a tree. This is definitely not something that a male adult would do. This action closely resembles little boys who want to make their mothers worry with their daredevil-like ways.

There is no doubt that Bright wasn't doing everything that was asked of him by director Glazer, but the directives did not seem correctly parallel with his character.

Bright, however, did a superb job in this movie despite instructions given to him by those in authority. He can be compared to Haley Joel Osment ("The Sixth Sense") for his endearing mannerisms and soft-spoken nature.

While Anna is carrying on with her husband back from the dead, her fiancé is left stranded and in a jealous rage over a little boy. Anna must decide if she wants to start a new life with Joseph, or take back her old life with her husband Sean.

At the end of the movie, Anna has chosen one over the other, but viewers may still leave theaters unsatisfied and thinking, "What just happened?"

"Birth"

Director: Jonathan Glazer
Cast: Nicole Kidman, Cameron Bright, Danny Huston
Production Company: New Line Cinema
Running Time: 100 min.

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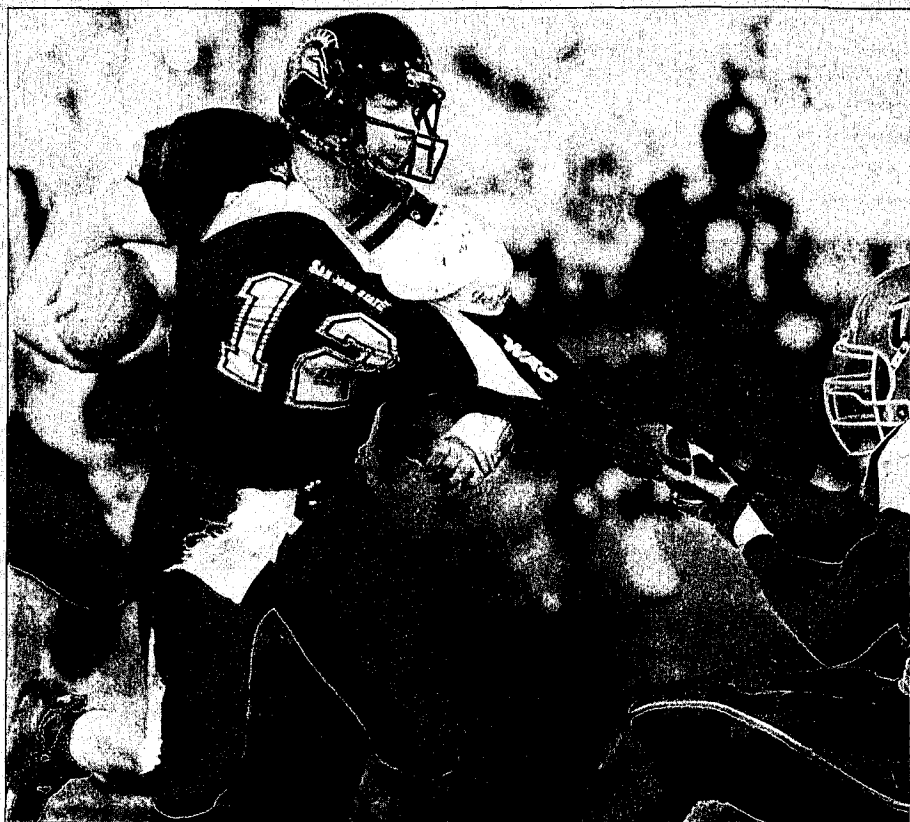
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UTEP crashes SJSU Homecoming party with 38-20 win



Megan Kung / Daily Staff

San Jose State University quarterback Dale Rogers is pulled down by a member of the University of Texas-El Paso defense during the Spartans' Homecoming game on Saturday at Spartan Stadium. The Miners defeated the Spartans 38-20.

By Kenneth Seli
Daily Staff Writer

Spartan turnovers proved costly in the 38-20 loss to the University of Texas-El Paso football team on Saturday at Spartan Stadium.

San Jose State University squandered numerous scoring opportunities by cutting short its drives during the Homecoming game.

Despite the Miners coming into the game ranked No. 24 in the Bowl Championship Series poll, Spartan head coach Fitz Hill said he expected the Spartans to beat UTEP.

"I thought we would be victorious again," Hill said, "but we didn't give up three fumbles in (last year's game)."

The Miners quickly went up 14 points with a 38-yard touchdown from UTEP quarterback Jordan Palmer to wide receiver Chris Francies and a 23-yard touchdown pass to wide receiver Jayson Boyd within the first 10 minutes of the game.

The Spartans, who moved the ball effectively in the first half with 205 yards of total offense, mustered seven points, produced by tailback Tyson Thompson on a nine-yard rush in the next SJSU drive.

Spartan wide receiver James Jones committed the first SJSU fumble one yard away from the end zone early in the second quarter.

Despite having players lose the football while fighting for extra yards, Hill said he was not down on his team.

"You can't even fault a guy for giving an extra effort," Hill said.

Hill said the lost attempts for touchdowns cost the team a chance to gain much-needed momentum in the game.

"We should have commanded the lead at the half," Hill said, "and receive the ball (after halftime) for a touchdown."

The second quarter ended wildly with safety Brian Nunez intercepting a UTEP pass on the Spartan 40-yard line and handing it off to SJSU cornerback Jerrell Hardy who moved the ball to the Miner 15-yard line before Palmer tackled him from the back.

Officials negated the run with an illegal block penalty to end the half.

The Spartans saw the point gap widen in the third quarter where UTEP scored another 10 points, and held SJSU scoreless increasing the Miner lead 24-7.

SJSU quarterback Dale Rogers threw two key interceptions in the third quarter.

Rogers' interceptions turned into a UTEP touchdown drive with ten minutes left in the third quarter and a Miner field goal from the Spartan 20-yard line with around one minute before the fourth quarter.

"It's never easy coming back," Rogers said. "We (should) not (have) put ourselves in that position."

The Spartan defense, which had success in the second quarter holding the Miners scoreless, began to melt-down after halftime with 24 points scored against them.

Despite the interceptions being a major factor in the loss, Spartan safety Josh Powell, who led the Spartan defense with eight tackles, said the defense did not fault the offense for taking chances.

"Of course it's frustrating, but football is a team sport," Powell said. "I don't blame them for going up top (with the pass). They need to put it up (so opponents can) respect the pass."

The start of the fourth quarter signaled the beginning of the end for the Spartans as a botched handoff to Thompson on the SJSU three-yard resulted in a fumble, which was recovered by the Miner defense for a touchdown.

Thompson, who rushed for 84 net yards, said the dropped balls chipped away at the Spartan offense's effectiveness.

"It always hurts to have turnovers," Thompson said. "They made some adjustments in halftime. The momentum (went) to their offense."

Rogers later pulled in six points on a three-yard rush only to get stopped short of the goal line for a two-point conversion within five minutes of the fourth quarter.

Spartan backup quarterback Adam Tafrales replaced Rogers halfway in the fourth quarter and produced a one-yard touchdown rush for the final score of the game.

Hill said the loss against UTEP puts a dampener on the goals he has set for the Spartans at the beginning of the year to win the WAC championship and to be bowl-eligible, but also said a bowl game is still possible in their future.

"We (have) backed ourselves into a role," Hill said about the Spartans' remaining games. "I do believe in miracles but we do have a small margin of error ahead of us."

UTEP improved to a 5-2 record, 4-1 in WAC play, while the Spartans fall to 2-5, 1-3 in the conference.

The victory put the Miners in bowl contention for the first time since 2000, as well as ending UTEP's three-game losing streak to the Spartans.

The Spartans will travel to the University of Nevada-Reno for a 6 p.m. kickoff on Saturday.

Women's soccer team concludes season with 2-1 loss to Tulsa

Daily Staff Report

The San Jose State University women's soccer team wrapped up its 2004 season with a 2-1 loss to the University of Tulsa on Sunday at the Hurricane Soccer & Track Stadium.

SPARTAN ROUNDUP

Tulsa freshman Molly Fitzsimmons scored two goals, including the game-winner.

SJSU concluded the season 5-12-1 overall and 2-5-1 in WAC play.

The Golden Hurricane end their season with a record of 7-9-3, 4-3-1 in the WAC.

Fitzsimmons broke a 1-1 tie with her second goal of the day in the 80th minute when she headed an Ashley Rickner cornerkick straight up into the air and then headed the ball over a Spartan defender and into the left side of the net.

Early in the second half, Tulsa broke the scoreless tie when Fitzsimmons registered her first collegiate goal in the 53rd minute when she one-timed a low line-drive cross from sophomore Katie Ward into the net to give the Golden Hurricane a 1-0 lead.

The Spartans took advantage of a Tulsa defensive mistake and tied the game in the 77th minute when Spartan Vanessa Alfonso broke loose behind a Golden Hurricane defender, intercepted a pass and knocked the ball into the empty net tie the game at 1-1.

Tulsa and SJSU battled to a scoreless tie in the first half. The Spartans out-shot the Golden Hurricane, 9-7, and attempted six shots on goal to just

one for Tulsa.

On Friday, Rice University only needed Erin Droeger's lone score in the 13th minute to defeat the Spartans 1-0 in Houston.

Droeger scored on a 35-yard shot that went into the goal over the head of Spartan goalie Adrienne Herbst. Maria Fadool assisted on Droeger's goal.

Herbst had nine saves for the Spartans. The team took 11 shots in the match, four on goal.

Men's Soccer

University Nevada-Las Vegas senior midfielder Boomer Arbelaez scored the match's only goal with one second remaining in regulation play as the Rebels ended the Spartan men's soccer team's four-game winning streak, 1-0.

Arbelaez beat Spartan goalkeeper Daniel Benton with a shot to the right corner of the goal after receiving a pass from Rod Dyachenko with less than 10 seconds remaining.

The loss drops SJSU's record to 5-10-1 overall and 4-5 in the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation. UNLV's victory raises its overall record to 5-9 and 5-4 in the MPSF.

The Rebels also defeated the Spartans 1-0 on Oct. 15 prior to the start of SJSU's four-match winning streak.

Rebel goalkeeper Peter Clitheroe made three saves and earned his second shutout of the Spartans this season. Benton had six saves for the Spartans in a losing effort.

On Friday, Spartan Frank Mata scored in the second overtime for SJSU as the Spartans defeated San Diego State University in San Diego, 2-1.

Mata's game-winner occurred after he intercepted a free ball along the line and moved within 12 yards from the

net to drive home the score. It was his third goal of the season.

The Spartans fell behind 1-0 when the Aztecs' Dan Dally scored in the 37th minute.

SJSU's Johnny Gonzalez tied the game less than two minutes later as he stole a ball from an Aztec defender, dribbled in the box and put the ball past SDSU goalkeeper Tally Hall.

The Spartans hit the field next against MPSF leader, University of New Mexico, at 7 p.m. on Thursday at Spartan Stadium.

Volleyball

The SJSU volleyball team lost a five-game match at Boise State University, 30-20, 25-30, 27-30, 30-25, 15-13, Saturday afternoon in a Western Athletic Conference match at Bronco Gym.

Senior outside hitter Carrie Nash had her third 20-20 match of her career with a team-high 29 kills and 26 digs. Dana Rudd added 14 kills and a team-high eight blocks. Jennifer Senfleben had 11 kills and four blocks. Kristina Conrad recorded 63 assists, 18 digs and four blocks. Nia Freeman added 11 kills and two blocks. Jessie Shull had 28 digs for SJSU.

The Spartans hit .186 for the match and were out-blocked 15-12 by Boise State. SJSU is now 14-9 overall and 6-5 in the WAC. SJSU hosts Fresno State on Wednesday and Nevada on Saturday. Both matches begin at 7 p.m. in the Event Center.

Cross Country

The Spartan women's cross country team finished seventh out of nine

and the Spartan men were sixth out of six teams at the 2004 Western Athletic Cross Country Championships held at Lincoln Parish Park in Ruston, La.

The women's team posted a score of 162 on the 5,000-meter course. Ashleigh Nebeker finished 18th with a time of 18:42.76 and Tiffany Hall finished 22nd with a time of 18:49.68.

Rice's Kate Gorry was the indi-

vidual winner with a time of 17:01.59, more than five seconds ahead of Karina van Rooyen of Southern Methodist University.

SMU won its first conference title with a score of 30, followed by Rice, 88, and the University of Texas-El Paso, 97.

The Spartan men had a team score of 153.

Ryan Rogers was the only Spartan to finish in the top 25, finishing in 11th place with a time of 26:06.09.

Rice won the men's team title with a score of 27, and the Owls' Marcel Hewamudalige won individual honors with a time of 24:57.13.

Tulsa was just ahead of UTEP, 79 to 80, for second place in the men's division.



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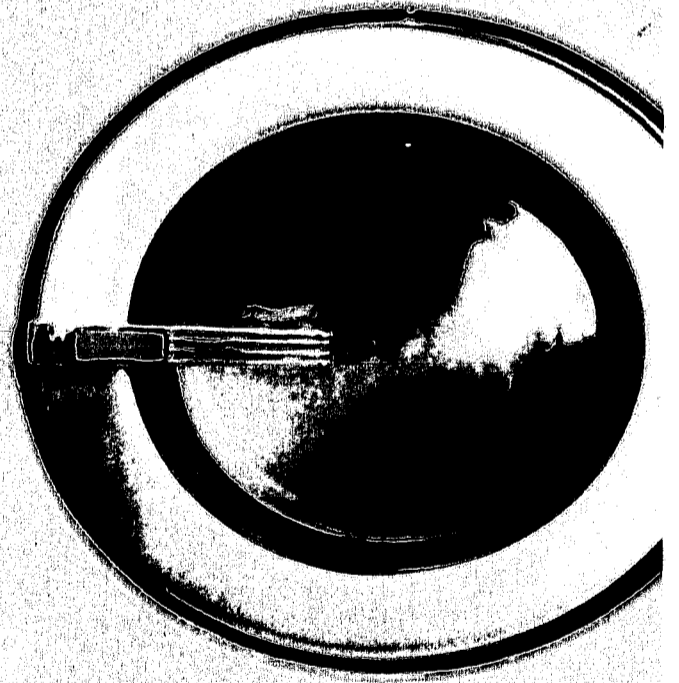
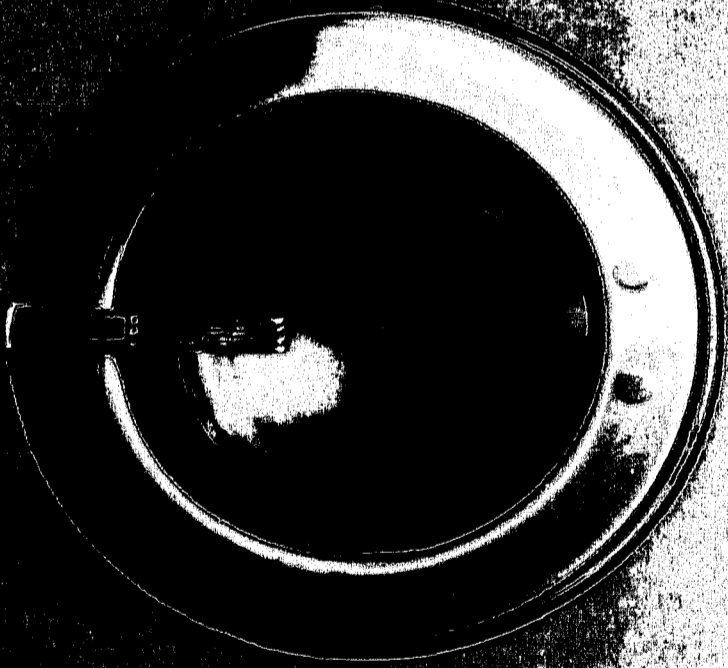
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