



Watch them dance
View a slide show from Nigerian Culture Day at theSPARTANDAILY.COM
Also, see **STUDENT CULTURE**, page 3.

CAMPUS VOICES
What does Black History Month mean to you?
See **INSIDE**, page 4.

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FREE SINCE 1934

Kassing requests FDA to meet

STAFF REPORT

SJSU President Don Kassing's next effort amid the recent blood donation controversy is to meet with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration commissioner.

Kassing plans to be in Washington D.C. in early March, so he made the request to meet with Andrew von Eschenbach considering he would be in the FDA's neighboring area, said Larry Carr, SJSU associate vice president for public affairs.

The commissioner and the FDA have yet to respond to Kassing's request.

Kassing suspended all campus blood drives Jan. 29 because he felt the FDA's policy violated San Jose State's nondiscrimination policy.

The Food and Drug Administration enforces a lifetime blood donation deferral upon all men who have had sex, at least once, with another man.

Because the FDA policy is believed to be discriminatory and inconsistent with regard to the treatment of other groups of individuals with similar risks as men who have had sex with men, Kassing stands by the school policy in placing the blood drive ban, Carr said.

The president's office issued an e-mail Feb. 21 addressed to campus faculty, staff and students, which reiterated his stance toward the FDA's policy and his recent request for a "face-to-face discussion" with the administration's commissioner.

Carr said Kassing has received support from the public, both over the phone and through e-mail, since his original decision.

While other blood banks, Carr said, such as the one at Stanford University have agreed that the FDA's policy is discriminatory, none have imposed blood drive bans.

"President Kassing is interested in doing something about it," Carr said.

INSIDE the DAILY

SUCCESSFUL START?

In not-so-ideal weather conditions, the SJSU baseball battled the University of Utah in a three-game weekend series.
See **SPORTS**, page 6

WHITE PRIVILEGE

Recognizing unfair advantages brings us one step closer in the effort toward racial equality.
See **OPINION**, page 5

GOT AN 'ELEPHANT'-SIZED APPETITE?

Check out if the Elephant Bar really is a dining adventure.
See **STUDENT CULTURE**, page 3

INDEX

Classifieds.....4
Columns.....5
Crossword, Sudoku.....4
Sparta Guide.....2
Sports.....6
Student Culture.....3



CYNTHIA RODRIGUEZ / SPARTAN DAILY

The Tommie Smith and John Carlos Statue next to Clark Hall was unveiled Oct. 17, 2005. Smith's and Carlos' symbolic gesture at the 1968 Olympic games in Mexico stands as a landmark in black history.

Black history every day

In the following interview, Steven Millner, chair of the African-American Studies department at SJSU, shares why he believes black history is a year-round celebration. Millner won Faculty Member of the Year honors from his department's graduating students in 2004. He was also among the first black teachers to work full-time at the University of Mississippi in the 1980s.

By **ELISHA MALDONADO**
Staff Writer

Can you give me a little bit of background on Black History Month?

(It) starts 1926 as Negro History Week. Carter G. Woodson, a history professor at Howard University, was appalled at the lack of knowledge that citizens had about significant black contributions to the American process. He selected the week between Lincoln's birthday and Washington's birthday — Lincoln obviously had been involved in the emancipation of slaves. It was strategic to do it in February because it is one of the key educational months of the year. (It's) after Christmas, before spring fever. Public school teachers find February is one of their key educational months. He was intelligent enough to recognize that. He did not choose February because it was the shortest month of the year.

I've heard some people say black history should be celebrated every day or every week, what are your thoughts on that?

Of course it should, and it is. You use

some ritual in society for symbolic purpose. Martin Luther King Jr. legacy as a protest leader should be recognized throughout the year, not just on his birthday, but it helps to have that celebration.

What do you think is the most important thing for people to think about during Black History Month?

That understanding the spirit of the African-American contribution to this society requires that you appreciate and look at society from the bottom up, not from the top down. For instance, people such as Kirk Clayton — absolutely crucial to the black legacy at San Jose State University — he is the person that gave the gloves to Tommie Smith and John Carlos at the Mexico City games; and he is rarely appreciated. But their protest would not have been what it was without his genius, and rarely is he talked about. It was genius in terms of protest tactics. Ellen Shepherd is ignored and forgotten except by those who really understand and appreciate the African-American music tradition.

Which leaders do you always think of

during this time of celebration?

I think of everyone from Ellen Shepherd to Charles Drew to Earnest Just. I think of a wide variety of personalities. Ellen Shepherd is the most significant figure in bringing the African-American spirit — the jubilee songs to public attention. Charles Drew, pioneer in helping get Red Cross established. Earnest Just was a pivotal figure as a scientist and political activist. I think beyond just the big stars.

The timing for President Bush's trip to Africa couldn't be more perfect.

It is one of Bush's positives. That he would take the initiative to visit Africa at this point, and the response by Africans to him, suggests how important Africans see America. They are not responding to his policies, but the significance they give to our society. They are doing it with respect and dignity and seriousness.

Do you think the president's trip, and his goals for Africa, affect, or will affect,

See **Q&A**, Page 2

Parking poses problem

By **ANDREW HERNDON**
Staff Writer

Parking has been a constant concern for some SJSU students.

The parking services branch of the University Police Department has been overselling parking permits, according to UPD public information officer Sgt. John Laws.

Elwood Tan, a senior occupational therapy major, said he arrives up to two hours before his class starts.

"Tuesdays and Thursdays I get here at 8:30 (a.m.) or so just to find parking," Tan said. "It gets hectic after 8:30 (a.m.)."

In previous semesters, Khoi Tran, a senior television, radio, film and theatre major, said he would leave his San Ramon home around 7 a.m. for the purpose of finding a parking spot before a 9 a.m. class.

Angelina Heredia, a senior psychology major, also said she arrives early to find a parking spot.

"It's not that bad, but I get here around 8:20 (a.m.)," Heredia said. "Last semester I would get here around 9 (a.m.), and it would take me, like, half an hour to find a parking space."

The immediate problem expressed by some students was the lack of parking spots in the garages.

"There's not enough parking spaces," Tran said. "The upper roof of the Seventh Street garage isn't really used other than for housing (students), and the housing people take up the room in the bottom."

Heredia also expressed similar feelings toward the parking situation on campus.

"The parking is not big enough, and we have too many students," Heredia said.

For those students who attend afternoon classes, parking isn't a problem.

Chris Unemoto, a senior mechanical engineering major, said he has classes later in the day.

Unemoto isn't affected by the parking prob-

See **PARK**, Page 2

DARN, ANOTHER TICKET

From UPD parking info brochure

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-------|
| Expired hourly permit | \$10 |
| Parked on the wrong day of permit | \$10 |
| Not parked in stall lines | \$10 |
| No valid permit | \$40 |
| Parked in over time limit | \$40 |
| Parked in red zone, no parking zone | \$46 |
| Altered day permit | \$76 |
| Misuse a semester/annual permit | \$151 |
| Parked in a disabled zone | \$351 |
| Possession of lost/stolen permit | \$400 |

WHAT TO DO NOW

Citations must be paid or contested within 21 days

By mail: to SJSU Parking at SJSU Parking Services, One Washington Square, San Jose, CA 95192-0012

Walk in: UPD, 377 S. Seventh St.

Online: www.sjsu.edu/parking

Phone: 408-924-6556

Businesses wait to see better days

Off-campus boutiques compete with bad weather, Santana Row

By **TARA DUFFY**
Staff Writer

Walking around downtown San Jose, one may see a few small shops that sometimes look empty during the day.

A few downtown store employees weighed in on what it's like to keep business alive in San Jose.

Circle A, a skateboard and skateboarding apparel store, sits between Second and Third streets on Paseo de Cesar Chavez.

It has been selling in downtown San Jose for the last 10 years.

Yuma Miyagawa, an employee at Circle A, said that mostly teens and college students shop there.

"College kids come here mostly for the skater apparel," Miyagawa said.

She said the shop "does OK" and is surviving.

Miyagawa said it is hard for small specialty stores to do business in San Jose.

"We would probably do better in a big city like San Francisco," Mi-

"I just don't come downtown during the day unless I come to school."

CRYSTAL DILL
Junior psychology major

yagawa said. "But we want to bring business to downtown San Jose."

Some people pass by these boutiques every day but still don't go inside.

Jamie Tapseott works downtown

and said she thought about going inside but decided against it.

"I go to the mall to buy clothes," said Adriana Ramirez, who also works downtown. "When I think of boutiques, I think of them as places to go if you need to buy a dress."

Other people just don't see the boutiques during their daily routine.

"I just don't come downtown during the day unless I come to school," said Crystal Dill, a junior psychology major.

Richard Hudgies works at the Chic Chateau on the corner of Third and San Fernando streets and said that keeping a boutique alive in San Jose is "a challenge."

"There is not more shopping downtown," Hudgies said. "Hudgies said he believes downtown

See **BOUTIQUE**, Page 2



CYNTHIA RODRIGUEZ / SPARTAN DAILY

Circle A, a downtown San Jose business, displays skateboard T-shirts in its front window.

PARK | More spaces ‘always found at Park and Ride’

Continued from Page 1

lems that some students face when arriving in the morning, he said. “It takes, like, 10 minutes,” Umemoto said. Sgt. Laws said, “There’s no way for us to sell the number of permits for the number of spaces.” According to Sgt. Laws, that number has not been reached. “They don’t reach the expected turnover — 3.5 vehicles per space,” he said. “It’s much lower than that, that we actually sell.” According to Lt. Jim Renelle, UPD parking services manager, there would be an abundance of empty spaces if the selling of parking permits were to be stopped at a certain number. The overselling of parking permits, however, doesn’t bother some students on campus. “I guess they got to make money,”

Umemoto said. “You can’t really make any more space for parking here because it’s in the middle of the city.” Heredia said that the school should lower the price of parking permits, because of the lack of parking spaces on campus. “I think they should at least cut it down to a hundred dollars, at least half,” Heredia said. Commuting students pay \$192 for a semester of parking and housing students pay \$271 per semester. Students who attend classes twice a week pay \$152 per semester, and Park and Ride users pay \$96 per semester. Students with on-campus parking permits must drive to the Park and Ride lot near Spartan Stadium if there are no parking spaces available on campus. “There always is enough parking. It’s just there’s not enough parking in the parking garages,” Lt. Renelle said. “There’s always parking available down at Park and Ride.”

PARKING PERMIT PRICES

For SISU students, according to the UPD parking info brochure

- **Single-day permit :** \$8
- **Housing academic year permits :** \$542
- **Housing semester permits :** \$271
- **Commuter academic year permits :** \$384
- **Commuter semester permits :** \$192
- **One-day-a-week semester permits :** \$85
- **Two-days-a-week semester permits :** \$152
- **Park and Ride semester permits :** \$96
- **Motorcycle permits :** \$40

From the Wire

Associated Press

Ralph Nader announces presidential campaign

Washington
Ralph Nader on Sunday announced a fresh bid for the White House, criticizing the top contenders as too close to big business and dismissing the possibility that his third-party candidacy could tip the election to Republicans. The longtime consumer advocate is still loathed by many Democrats who accuse him of costing Al Gore the 2000 election. Nader said most people are disenchanted with the Democratic and Republican parties due to a prolonged Iraq war and a shaky economy. He also blamed tax and other corporate-friendly policies under the Bush administration that he said have left many lower- and middle-class people in debt. Nader, who turns 74 later this week, announced his candidacy on NBC’s “Meet the Press.”

Raul Castro succeeds brother as Cuba’s president

Havana
Cuba’s parliament named Raul Castro president on Sunday, ending nearly 50 years of rule by his brother Fidel but leaving the island’s communist system unshaken. Raul Castro, 76, stressed that his brother remains “commander in chief” even if he is not president and proposed to consult with Fidel on all major decisions of state — a motion approved by acclamation. Though the succession was not likely to bring a major shift in the communist government policies that have put Cuba at odds with the United States, many Cubans were hoping it would open the door to modest economic reforms that might improve their daily lives.

Northern Illinois U. remembers slain students

Dekalb, Ill.
With many wearing ribbons in the school colors of black and red, community members and loved ones prepared Sunday to participate in a memorial for five Northern Illinois University students killed when a gunman opened fire inside a classroom. Memorial organizers said they expected thousands of people to attend, and overflow viewing areas were set up around the campus, about 65 miles west of Chicago. The memorial was also to be simulcast to NIU gatherings across the country and in Iraq. Classes are to be held Monday for the first time since the shooting, in which NIU graduate Steve Kazmierczak opened fire in a crowded lecture hall, killing five people and injuring 17 before committing suicide.

McDonald’s tries feng shui

Hacienda Heights, Calif.
The only familiar signs at the McDonald’s in this large Asian community are the golden arches, the drive-through and the menu. Gone are the plastic furniture, Ronald McDonald and the red and yellow palette that has defined the world’s largest hamburger chain. Leather seats, earth tones, bamboo plants and water trickling down glass panels have taken their place. The restaurant was redesigned using the principles of feng shui, the ancient Chinese practice of arranging objects and numbers to promote health, harmony and prosperity. The makeover is part of the attempt by McDonald’s Corp. in recent years to remodel hundreds of its restaurants to attract more patrons with unique decor and amenities that might entice them stay awhile.

Q&A | Professor says Bush’s warfunding neglects homeland

Continued from Page 1

the way Americans/African-Americans view Bush? Or is his reputation sealed?

Unfortunately, his reputation with most African-Americans has been sealed. Because of his neglect of crucial issues that affect African-Americans. It is not lost on us that we are spending \$800 million a day on the Iraq War while New Orleans, Detroit and Oakland have crumbling infrastructures. And it is not just African-Americans that are disturbed by that. The Latinos in East Los An-

geles don’t have books to give their children, and they are 17 percent of the military in Iraq. Barack Obama — tell me your thoughts. Obama’s campaign is one of the classic examples of how to do modern politics — how to build coalition. His use of technology: exquisite. Building support based on private donations: very ethical. The ability to inspire the uninspired: magnificent. Whatever the results of this process leading toward nomination, his campaign will be studied.

BOUTIQUE | Downtown not the place for shopping, some say

Continued from Page 1

struction of buildings is finished. Chic Chateau has been open for more than two years, and it is a boutique that sells clothing and accessories as well as home decor and “caters to middle-aged working women,” Hudgies said, but it also has many trendy items that young people may be interested in as well. Chic Chateau also specializes in teas and features a tearoom in the back of the boutique. He said he thinks that shopping will also increase as the temperatures in San Jose rise. “We get more traffic flow and more business on sunny days,” Hudgies said.

Justine Broderick, a freshman psychology major, said she doesn’t really go to any of the boutiques downtown because she doesn’t own a car and commutes by bus. “(I don’t) want to walk around carrying bags and stuff,” Broderick said. “People don’t look downtown for shopping,” said Phuong Dang, the manager of Azuki Boutique on Paseo de Cesar Chavez across from Togo’s Sandwiches. “They look more toward Santana Row.” Phuong said that smaller shops, such as the one she manages, give customers more choices. The Azuki boutique sells clothes that are inspired by urban Japan and old school hip-hop, according to Azuki’s Web site www.azukiboutique.com



CYNTHIA RODRIGUEZ / SPARTAN DAILY

Clothing found in downtown San Jose’s Circle A, a skateboard and skater apparel store.

408-947-1717

CAFÉ REHOBOTH

ETHIOPIAN COFFEE & CUISINE

A taste of authentic Ethiopian Food
We offer a variety of sizzling and juicy meat entrées and various satisfying vegetable dishes at a great price.
We serve Coffee, Cappuccino, Latté, Tea & Pastries as well.

655 N. 6th St. San Jose, CA

CORRECTION

On Wednesday, Feb. 20, a news article titled “Harmful effects linked to bottles,” stated that Cisco Systems Inc. provides plastic beverage bottles to the Market Cafe. Instead, it should have stated that Sysco Corporation provides plastic beverage bottles to the Market Cafe.

SPARTA GUIDE

EVENT CALENDAR

Today

Study Group: The 411?
This workshop will discuss how you can make study groups more effective and how they can really help you achieve.
1:30 to 2:30 p.m. at Administration Building Room 269.
Contact: Deanna Peck, 924-5910, georgette.gale@sjsu.edu
Dance Practice
Pride of the Pacific Islands.
8 to 10 p.m. at Event Center, Studio A and B.
Contact: Lisa, 925-639-6781
Tomorrow
Discussion: Students with Disabilities
A supportive environment to socialize, share, and discuss personal experiences. Bring your own lunch.
11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Administration Building Room 201.
Contact: Sybille Ulrike and Carolyn Rittenbach, 924-5910
Live Music: U.S. Army 1st Infantry Division Band
Featuring a brass quintet.
12:30 to 1:15 p.m. at Music Building Concert Hall.
Contact: Joan Stubbe, 924-4649, jstubbe@email.sjsu.edu
Art & Design Gallery Receptions
6 to 7:30 p.m. at Art Building and Industrial Studies Building
Contact: 924-4327, tbelcher@sjsuvm1.sjsu.edu
Art & Design Lecture: Paul Madonna: Image and Text
In this presentation, Madonna will discuss his work and its varied publication venues.
5 p.m. in Art Building Room 133.
Contact: 924-4327, tbelcher@sjsuvm1.sjsu.edu
Discussion: African-American Summit
Discussion on political, social and economic issues that are affecting the African-American student and the community. Free food. Hosted by Alpha Phi Alpha (Epsilon Mu Chapter) and Black Student Union.
7 p.m. at SJSU University Room.
Contact: barbsvp3@yahoo.com, bsu_sjsu@yahoo.com
Movie Showing: Blades of Glory
Hosted by the Students for Academic Freedom.
7 p.m. at Campus Village Plaza.
Contact: Nick Siekierski, mikolaj29@hotmail.com

Wednesday

Lecture: Presidential Candidates: An Analysis of Benefits to American Citizens
Speakers: Dr. Cobie Harris of the political science department and Benjamin Henderson, president of Associated Students.
Noon to 1 p.m. at the Student Union, Pacifica Room.
Contact: Mary Lewis, mlewis@union.sjsu.edu
Relationship Workshop: The Dating Game
This week the discussion will focus on red flags.
1 to 2:30 p.m. at Administration Building Room 269
Contact: Jennifer Naumann, Mariika Felberg, or Ashley Tate de Lara, georgette.gale@sjsu.edu
Dance: Choreography II Showing
1:30 to 2:50 p.m. at the SJSU Dance Theater, SPX 219.
Contact: dance@sjsu.edu
Live Music: The Dimes
Wednesday Event Series: Live at Five.
5 to 6:30 p.m. on the 7th Street Lawn, across from the Event Center
Contact: Associated Students Marketing and Events Office, 924-6269, events@as.sjsu.edu
Catholic and Feminist Weekly Mass
Presided by Victoria Rue, woman priest. All are welcome at the table, especially those marginalized (women, LGBT, divorced, remarried, those who use birth control, those who have had abortions).
5:15 p.m. at Spartan Chapel. Every Wednesday.
Contact: Victoria Rue, victoria@victoriarue.com
Workshop: First Generation College Student
First in your family to go to college? Come learn about SJSU resources that can help you succeed, scholarships and how to budget your money, and how to balance family and social life with academics.
6 to 7 p.m. at Student Union, MOSAIC Center, third floor.
Contact: Veronica Mendoza or Jovina Navarro, 924-5910, georgette.gale@sjsu.edu
Discussion: Words That Hurt
7 p.m. at Student Union, Almaden Room.
Contact: Christopher Riney, 310-529-2248.

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. Space restrictions may require editing of submission. Entries are printed in the order in which they are received. Submit entries online at thespartandaily.com or in writing at DBH 209.

2nd Street Entertainment Presents

Voodoo Lounge

Live Music

slu

Three Gringos

BAJA CANTINA

Tue, Feb 26

COMMUNITY REBIRTH

NIGHT OF LIVE ART & DJ'S

WITH RESIDENT DJS

DANK, SIZZLAK, & DREAD RAMAS

San Jose Bar and Grill

Tuesday, Feb 26

KAMIKAZE KARAOKE!

COME SING YOUR FAVORITE SONGS WITH US!

\$3 KAMIKAZE SHOTS, \$3 SHOTS OF SAKE!

Friday, February 29

DJ D-ROC

Tuesday, February 26

STARLIGHT JAZZ

WITH JONAH & TIMELESS

Wednesday, February 27

WINGY TANGO WEDNESDAY

TRAILER PARK BISTRO

Friday, February 29

DON JULIO TASTING FROM 8PM-10PM

Present this Coupon to redeem this Exclusive Offer! Exp. May 2008

Buy 2 Drinks get ½ OFF or Buy 1 Appetizer get your second FREE

Offer available at all 3 Locations Not valid with daily specials

Thursday, Feb. 28

THE CHOP TOPS

THREE BAD JACKS, NO DICE, THE STRIKERS & THE REVTONES (ROCKABILLY/PSYCHOBILLY)

Friday, Feb 29

INSOLENCE RECORD RELEASE PARTY!

ALSO LIVE: COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE, MY FIRST MURDER, & ATAMA (LAPUNK)

Saturday, March 8

STRICTLY BEATZ

DJ BIG RICH V

FREE BEFORE 10:30

\$5 EFFEN VODKA, \$4 BLUE MOON

Wednesday, February 27

TRES GRINGOS UNIVERSITY Night

A safari for your tastebuds

By HEIDI ROMSWINCKEL-GUISE
Staff Writer

Welcome to the jungle. Well ... not exactly, but it is pretty close.

The Elephant Bar, located in Campbell, takes less than 10 minutes to get to from SJSU.

As I pulled up to the Elephant Bar, I noticed that it gave me the vibe that I was about to go on a safari.

There were two main dining areas, both with animal print carpets. The main room contained a life-size, three-dimensional elephant head on a wall.

Next to the main dining area was the bar. A darker room with wooden floors, the bar circled around an exotic elephant display.

The smaller dining area had numerous tables and booths. Each booth had three pictures of animals you would see in a safari.

The first thing I grabbed was the drink menu. I ordered the Jungle Colada, which was made with Whalers Dark Rum, pineapple juice, coconut, a swirl of passion raspberry syrup, mango and cream.

It had a nice white color with a

Restaurant Review

thick red swirl in it. Whipped cream almost spilled over the top of the glass, while coconut shavings sat gently on the cream. A toothpick held a strategically placed maraschino cherry and a pineapple on the rim of the glass.

This drink was very tasty, and I highly recommend it for mixed drink lovers. For less than \$6 it was definitely worth ordering.

When I grabbed the menu to order food, I read the Elephant Bar's slogan: A Dining Adventure. The slogan goes well with the food se-

lection since there were many different types of dishes to choose. The courses were mainly a mix of American and Asian cuisines.

I decided to order an appetizer and chose the E-Bar "Famous" Artichoke Dip for \$7.50. It came on a huge plate with thin tortilla chips and a bowl with the dip. The dip was warm and very creamy with artichoke heart pieces in it. Tomatoes and spinach sat on top of the dip, and once mixed, they gave it an extra kick of flavor. The chips were warm and tasted very fresh.

For my entree, I decided to order the Braised Lamb Shanks for \$12.95. I had the option of ordering just one lamb shank for \$7.95, but since everything before tasted so great, I figured I should try two.

As I expected, my dinner came on a huge plate. Two lamb shanks sat on my plate, soaked in scrumptious gravy. Garlic mashed potatoes were underneath the lamb shanks and mixed steamed vegetables were off to the side.

The meat was so tender and succulent that it felt like it melted in my mouth. The mashed potatoes had just the right amount of garlic in them and were very rich and creamy. I usually am picky when it comes to vegetables, but they were not over-steamed.

After the entree, I thought that I was full, but no one likes to pass up the dessert menu. I decided to go with the Elephant Bar Ice Cream Mud Pie for \$4.95.

It was a huge slab of coffee-flavored ice cream that sat on top of a crumbled chocolate cookie crust. Whipped cream was on the side of it with nuts and pieces of the chocolate cookie crust.

It was a wonderful way to end my night. I wasn't able to eat the whole dessert, but that gives me an excuse to go back to the Elephant Bar to attempt it again.



HEIDI ROMSWINCKEL-GUISE / SPARTAN DAILY

There is elephant decor galore at the Elephant Bar in Campbell.

Celebrating Nigerian Culture



MICHELLE HORTON / SPARTAN DAILY

The Frisco 2 Naija Dancers (above) performed for Nigerian Cultural Day on Saturday. Keynote speaker Molly Uzoh (bottom right) spoke about Nigeria's rich heritage, while members of the Nigerian Student Association participated in a fashion show (bottom left).

By CHRIS BAUSINGER
Staff Writer

The Barrett Ballroom in the SJSU Student Union was dressed with green and white lights, representing the colors of the West-African country Nigeria.

The ballroom was the location of the fourth annual Nigerian Cultural Day hosted by the Nigerian Student Association.

According to NSA President Uche Uzegbu, a senior health science major, the fundraiser showcased the Nigerian culture while having fun and building community.

"The event is a fundraiser, and, at the same time, it's a time for us to get together and celebrate the whole semester and celebrate the African in us," she said.

The function was scheduled to start at 4 p.m. but ended up starting at 5:15 p.m. The Master of Ceremony, Chief Solomon Egbuho, was enthusiastic about getting the event underway.

"I think in this room tonight, I am the most excited Nigerian that is proud to be a Nigerian," he said, in a successful

attempt to energize the crowd.

The keynote speaker was Molly Uzoh, founder/CEO of Learning Right Technologies. The company is a certified African-American, woman-owned small business that specializes in educational tools.

Her presentation was directed mainly at the younger Nigerian students in the audience. She stressed and explained the importance of culture, focusing on heritage, family structure and respect.

Uzoh said, "Part of your culture is to take care of your parents, when they cannot take care of themselves."

After Uzoh's presentation, there was a panel discussion where NSA members asked audience, mainly parents, to answer questions about Nigerian culture and how it pertains to them.

Most audience members spoke about the importance of keeping the culture alive and the idea of "home" with them even though they are in America now.

Samuel Obi, a professor in the Department of Aviation and Technology and NSA faculty adviser, said he was thrilled with the information provided by the speakers in the panel discussion.

"These second generation 'Nigerians' are very responsible and are determined

to learn the culture of their roots," he said, gesturing quotation marks with his fingers "The parents that spoke in the panel discussion really emphasized the point that these students, like others from other cultures, should never disregard their roots."

After the panel discussion, there was a small play about deception and consequence and a dance performance by the Nigerian Children Dance Group.

At the beginning of the event, about 100 people had arrived, but as the evening continued, more people showed up, helping the crowd grow to over 200.

The audience showed great enthusiasm for the performers and participants.

In some cases, the audience members showed their support for the dance group by pressing money to their foreheads and dancing along.

President of NSA Uche Uzegbu said, "Throwing money shows

your support and appreciation and also shows what they like about what the performers are doing."

The money collected from the ticket sales and audience donations goes to the NSA's general fund, which helps pay for other events and next year's cultural day.

Jenish McCoy, a senior electrical engineering major said, "The event brings people of different cultures together and also celebrates Nigerian culture."

After the intermission, there was another dance performance by the NSA Dancers, as well as a comedy routine and the annual fashion show.

To close the cultural day, the members of NSA performed a masquerade.

Uzegbu described a masquerade as, "A dance, always all men, that no matter what part of Nigeria you come from, is something that you can recognize as part of your culture."

Olumide Apkata, a senior computer engineering major and member of NSA, said he was excited about the turnout for the event.

"It allows people of other cultures to witness the Nigerian culture, how wonderful and interesting it is," Apkata said.

theSPARTANDAILY.com

See a soundslide for Nigerian Culture Day.

You won't 'Sleep Through' this CD

By JESSE KIMBREL
Staff Writer

Last week my sister burned me a copy of Jack Johnson's new CD "Sleep Through the Static." After I listened to the album about five times through, my conscious kicked in and made me feel like a pirate, so I happily bought it.

I received the CD in the morning, and the radio had its usual annoying cast of crap on repeat. So, in went Johnson's latest creation, which sat me on the sand in Maui sipping a Mai Tai.

Johnson grew up surfing Oahu's North Shore with some of the greatest surfers on the planet, and it shows in his music. He got his start by making surf movies that featured his own tunes.

The oceanic background is what I come to expect from a Jack Johnson album, with the exception of the "Curious George" soundtrack, which put me at a kindergarten graduation party playing "Heads Up, Seven Up."

"Sleep Through the Static" offers a similar tune as Johnson's previous recordings, "Brushfire Fairytales,"

"On and On" and "In Between Dreams," but with a bit more electric guitar and a hint of an accordion.

Johnson is known for his easy-going guitar melodies mixed with soothing riffs that ease the listener into a better mood.

On the surface, "Sleep Through the Static" keeps its cool, but beneath the surface lies deeply thought-out messages about war and the concerns Johnson has regarding the environment.

CD Review

Sleep Through the Static
Jack Johnson

"It's a battle when you dabble in war," Johnson sings in "Sleep Through the Static," track two on the album. "You store it up, unleash it and then you piece it together."

Under Brushfire Records, the label Johnson started, he recorded this album with 100 percent solar energy and printed the covers on recycled paper.

He wrote a few more love songs to his wife and touched on the human urge for superficial consumption, much like in his previous recordings.

"Sleep Through the Static" will motivate amateur musicians to pull out their acoustic six-string guitar and attempt to recreate Johnson's melodies for loved ones.

Wannabe instrumentalists should resist the urge. Johnson uses a percussion-type palm-muting technique in his strumming along with cleverly composed lead riffs that are hard to emulate. You can try, but do it in solitude because you won't sound nearly as cool as Johnson.

If you happen to be near Australia or New Zealand in March, look up Johnson for a good time. If not, the only scheduled tour date in California is in Indio on April 25.

Every music collection should have a Jack Johnson album; he's a good change of pace.

I like getting screamed at by Dave Grohl just as much as the next person, but sometimes it's nice to kick your shoes off and dip your toes into the sand.

Have any story ideas for the Student Culture section?

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campus voices

What does Black History Month mean to you?

Compiled by Elisha Maldonado



"Black History Month means everything to me. The simplest way of saying it is it really celebrates what my people — the struggles they have made — to come as far as we have. And then it celebrates that we have so much further to go. It recognizes that we are a people who do have strength."

MONIQUE HUGHES
marketing
junior



"Black history means a lot to me, and I think it should mean a lot to everybody really; colored people in particular because they should be able to appreciate what African-Americans have done in their history."

JAMES TINSLEY
radio, television, film and theatre
sophomore



"Black History Month means that we are acknowledging what we, as American culture, have been through and what people have been through to get where they are to-day. And acknowledging that we may even have farther to go."

IRIS BENSON
art
junior



"Black history means to me? This is the embarrassing part. I don't think about it very much, unfortunately. I certainly encourage it, and I should think about the diversity of our country more than I do."

STEFAN FRAZIER
professor of linguistics



"It is about cultural diversity and looking at the Bay and seeing it as open and welcoming as we are, and how we can help the world be open-minded and more welcoming towards other people."

JESSAMY KOEHNE
business marketing
junior



"To me it means paying more respect than we normally do to the contributions of African-Americans in our lives. Be it past, present, even future. I feel like they deserve more respect on a day-to-day basis than they get it. It is a good step toward total equality."

MELISSA LOMBARDO
biology
sophomore



"Black History Month means you get to celebrate a part of America's culture, not just the white America we see around and hear about in textbooks."

ALESSA BEST
SJSU graduate in human
resource management



"Black history means remembering all the past struggles my race, in particular, has gone through. Just, overall, for humanity. Even though it is black history it doesn't matter it can be anybody's history. Just overcome struggle and the negativity."

ERIN WILLIAMS
radio, television, film and theatre
junior

Classifieds

EMPLOYMENT

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PREVIOUS SOLUTION

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HOW TO PLAY: Each row, column and set of 3-by-3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 through 9 without repetition.

SUDOKU

Difficulty: 1 (of 5)

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TODAY'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

1 Balance
5 Under lock and key
9 Groove on
12 Word of honor
13 Nudges forward
15 Diva — Ponselle
16 Confirm
17 Film projection
18 Novelist Jean —
19 News story
21 Like some gas
23 Rum-soaked cake
25 Heck!
26 Mantra chants
29 Fountain order
31 Glove leathers
35 Bleacher shout
36 Removes snow
38 Aherne or Boitano
39 Soften
41 Feasts with poi
43 Fair (hyph.)
44 Sultan's menage
46 Squallid
48 Beads on grass
49 Beatles tunes
51 Pianist Peter —
52 English cathedral town
53 Blank spaces
55 Hindu melody
57 Like laser beams (hyph.)
61 Fairy-tale dwelling
65 Just touch
66 Go furtively
68 Respite
69 Teakettle sound
70 Debonair
71 Party cheese
72 Blonde shade
73 Wire nail
74 Kennel sounds

DOWN

1 Waterfall sound
2 Icicle locale
3 Ladder rung
4 More than ache
5 Classroom
6 Body part
7 Paddock
8 Sidled
9 Morose
10 Palm reader's opener (2 wds.)
11 Squall
14 Grills a steak
15 Roof supports
20 Boat runway
22 Smear
24 Not
26 In a whisper
27 Lawn products brand
28 Paddyfragment
30 Samuel Clemens
32 Vacuum tube
33 Painter's device
34 Cold
37 More confident
40 Barbells
42 Stone-broke
45 Carnivore's diet
47 Guru's practice
50 Glasses
54 Use steel wool
56 Narrow passage
57 Big laugh (hyph.)
58 Stork cousin
59 Pour forth
60 Try, as a case
62 BMW rival
63 Give a hand
64 Endangered trees
67 One of the Gabor sisters

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| 69 | | | | | | | | 70 | | 71 |
| 72 | | | | | | | | 73 | | 74 |

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Leveling the racial playing field



By JOHN ELLIS
Staff Writer

As Black History Month comes to a close, the issue of race seems to be getting less attention.

Some people may not care or may just pretend race is of little consequence in American society. I feel a strange sense of obligation to spill my white perspective on the issue.

I have always seen myself as a person of indifference when it comes to matters of race. If someone is black, who cares? If someone is white, what does it matter? Any variation therein, what's the big deal? We are all people, right?

Well, to not care about race, I'm realizing, is the same as ignoring the many struggles and hardships that people of color have gone through and are continuing to go through today.

It's not only important to care about race but to understand your place in terms of society's organization of race as well.

You see, I learned about racism by seeing how others have been discriminated against and how that kind of intolerance is wrong. I never considered who I was, as a white person, in the workings of our society.

I was born with an entitlement that gives me an unfair benefit in the world — my skin color.

I recently found a 20-year-old article titled, "White Privilege," by Peggy McIntosh, which opened my eyes to this fact.

Because of who I am, a whitey, there are a number of things that I take for granted and, without conscious effort, use to my advantage.

Though this list could go on and on, here are a few of the things I am talking about.

I know I can turn on the television or read a publication and see people who look like me conveying information that applies to me. It's an unspoken comfort. While the media are becoming more and more diverse, whites are still represented in a disproportionate majority compared to the rest of the country.

I can find housing with ease, and I can be sure that when I move in, my new neighbors will greet me without prejudice.

I can use foul language or shop

at Goodwill without people attributing those things to the bad morals or the poverty that is somehow associated with race.

I can excel at anything and reach the height of my future career without that being called a credit

I was born with an entitlement that gives me an unfair benefit in the world — my skin color.

to my race or people thinking I only got there because of affirmative action.

If the police or a security guard or a store clerk stops me, I can be positive I'm not being singled out for my race.

And lastly, I can be sure that if I need legal or medical help, my race will not work against me.

These are facts of our society and ignoring them can be very destructive to the effort toward equality. And if equality is the ultimate goal, recognizing these unearned advantages is the first step to leveling the playing field, though I don't claim to know what the next step should be.

Regardless, I know my skin color shouldn't be an asset to me,

and people of color shouldn't have any drawbacks because of who they are.

Simply put, because of the actions of my ancestors, and their ancestors before them, I am obligated to try and reverse any ideas that reinforce these misguided and downright stupid assertions.

Because if I don't at least try, than I'm profiting off of the ignorance that has marginalized, alienated and condemned people for centuries. And I can never be OK with that.

From now on, I will always question whether my whiteness plays a role in what I get in life, and, if I can, I will counteract those notions verbally and with passion. It's the least I can do. Peggy, a white woman, showed me that, and I'll take her cue.

"If these things are true, this is not such a free country, one's life is not what one makes it; many doors are open for certain people, though not through virtues of their own. Whiteness has protected me from many kinds of hostilities, distress, and violence, which I was being subtly trained to visit on people of color ..."

-Peggy McIntosh, White Privilege: Unpacking the Invisible Knapsack.

New York Times has a problem with the truth



KRIS ANDERSON

The Decline of Mojo

Are you seeing what I'm seeing? The once proud trumpeter of fact and truth is now finding itself sputtering forth notes of apology.

The New York Times, the self-proclaimed producer of the American record, is desperately scrambling to find something large and sturdy to cover its rear end.

Unfortunately, in the land where the pen is mightier than the sword, no shield can be found.

The problem lies herein: The New York Times published a story Feb. 21 titled, "For McCain, Self-Confidence on Ethics Poses Its Own Risk."

Fine. That's all well and good. On the surface it looked like yet another boring story about soapbox ethics in a landscape littered with the trash of anonymous campaign contributions.

But, the article is nothing if not juicy in the first two paragraphs: It infers a sexual relationship between senator and presidential hopeful John McCain, 71, and 40-year-old lobbyist Vicki Iseman.

And the Times did all us readers a favor in seamlessly tossing that bit of innuendo early in the second paragraph, so that we don't need to crawl through four pages of inane, high-brow political reporting.

After the article hit newsstands, however, criticism of the Times raced through its halls like a firestorm.

The problem with the whole piece was an egregious absence of fact. Nearly the entire article recast the phrases of unnamed sources and revisited McCain's proximity to the Keating Five scandal in the late '80s and early '90s.

McCain, then in the Senate for the first time, received six-figure contributions from Charles Keating Jr., a bank maven, as well as free jaunts to the Bahamas on Keating's private, commercial jet.

In turn, McCain would push lawmakers to lighten up on those stiff banking regulations.

Anyhow, in the end, Keating's banking venture folded and played a large part in the savings and loan crisis, a blunder that cost taxpayers \$3.4 billion, according to the Times.

So, given McCain's all-too-tidy bond and history with lobbyists, one might assume that an ethical turbulence would again arise, given the current allegations involving sexual relations with Iseman.

Why, you ask, would a man so bothered by the sting of a past scandal associate with a vixen traipsing around as a lobbyist?

It's paramount to the story and a question the Times failed to answer. The article is a sad conglomerate of banal specifics that build more of a glass house than a sound argument.

It's all hearsay and reproductions

of warnings that McCain's advisers provide with the intent of preventing more image assassination.

Not once is a single ounce of evidence presented that supports the allegation of a romantic relationship.

For the Times to allow a story so rushed to be published led many to attack the news rag with vigor.

Bill Keller, executive editor of the paper, said the story was ready when it was published, that the Times had been "sitting on it" since December.

But if it was ready in December, why wait till now to publish it — especially if it is so devoid of fact that even a podunk newspaper with a circulation of four would shudder to let it run.

The New York Times is even becoming somewhat of a dying breed,

The article is a sad conglomerate of banal specifics that build more of a glass house than a sound argument.

haunted by decreasing profits and falling stocks.

Could it be that the sage newspaper of the American public printed the story for financial reasons?

The first thing you learn in journalism school is to produce fair and balanced reporting.

The second thing you learn in journalism is that negative-spin stories get read the most.

Was this an illegal use of finance-enhancing substances? Is there a journalistic commissioner who can fine The New York Times for making all journalists look even more like fools?

What's worse is that the story has given McCain so much press that the newspaper might as well be a campaign contributor.

And for The New York Times to sit in its cushy, Manhattan headquarters and do nothing but count the comments that roll in, damages its image even more.

By not issuing anything close to a statement of intent, it makes it seem even more that the move was triggered more by a fiscal imperative than opportunity to blow the doors open on John McCain.

Keller, the newspaper's executive editor, has defended his publication with scant remarks devoid of substance.

"We publish stories when they are ready," he said.

Hmmm ... if that's what the most respected newspaper in the country calls ready, where can I apply? — that is if "New York Times reporter" would still look good on a resume.

"The Decline of Mojo" appears every Monday. Kris Anderson is a Spartan Daily copy editor.

Comment from the Web

The comment below refers to Michael Rizzo's column, "The choir preaching back," from Feb. 21.

I grew up from the age of 9 until I was 18 as a Jehovah Witness and I can tell you that this organization has zero tolerance for anyone who is not one of them.

This article brings to the forefront the Watchtower Jehovah's Witnesses' intolerance of only one of many issues. My own family, including my mother, hasn't spoken to me in more than 27 years simply because I didn't want to remain a Jehovah Witness. I committed no perceived or alleged sin, was never excommunicated; I simply left. And for this I lost my family forever. If that isn't intolerance, I don't know what is. My story is not unique. There are perhaps millions of people like me around the world being shunned.

-Brenda Lee

Letter to the editor

On Feb. 12, I went to the Tuesday night art party in the Art Building. To my observation, the art community of SJSU is dwindling, steadily, and it causes me concern. They used to be real parties, all or most, galleries active, cordiality, nice food, hors d'oeuvres and wine. Did you hear me? I said wine. Red wine, white wine, occasionally champagne, and less frequently, a lone struggling artist would bring some beer — as a sacrifice of course. Ah, how nice. The days of wine and roses, love and art. But that was yesterday. Today the world is cold; the art "parties" are like funeral dirges. What happened, monsieur? The fun of creativity and art is now replaced by a computerized mentality of efficiency and experience.

*-J. Martin Nysted
SJSU alumnus, mathematics*

There's only one way to dive into the pool of life: headfirst



By NICOLE LIEURANCE
Senior Staff Writer

I remember the first time I jumped off the diving board as a kid. Usually, I liked to ease into the water slowly, taking my time down the steps into the shallow end.

But I watched as the older kids took turns on the board, having so much fun with their cannonballs and swan dives, and I decided to try it out.

But to go feetfirst or headfirst? I decided headfirst was the only way to go since going feetfirst was less "diving" and really just "jumping."

Standing on the edge of the board, I raised my hands above my head as I'd seen other kids do. I took a deep breath and leapt, pointing my head and shoulders downward and squinting my eyes.

Smack!

I hit the water with a resounding belly-flop. Inexperienced diver that I was, I met the surface at a less-than-satisfactory angle. I'm pretty sure the first thing that hit the water was my face.

After that, I decided to go feetfirst for a while.

As I near graduation, I find myself back on that diving board. A little older, a little wiser, but still out of my depth.

You see, a few short weeks after I walk across that stage, I'm packing up and moving to the other side of the country to a little old place called New York City.

It's the farthest I'll have ever been from home, from friends, from family. For the past 22 years, the Bay Area has been my home, and it won't be easy to leave it.

On one hand, I don't have to go. I could get a job close to home — even live with my parents rent-free if I wanted to.

Yes, I could step into "the real world" slowly, holding onto the rail as I descend the steps into the shallow end. But sometimes that's a lot more unpleasant than just getting it over with, if you know what I mean.

Here's the part where I'm supposed to say that after a lot of time and practice, I got to be a great diver. Nah, I'd still rather go in feetfirst.

It's outside our comfort zone where we often find out what we're made of.

But the point is that you live and learn, and sometimes you learn a lot about yourself just by taking that plunge.

How can we know what we're capable of if we don't test our limits? It's outside our comfort zone where we often find out what we're made of.

So I'm getting ready to jump into the deep end, my toes curled at the edge of the diving board, knees knocking and looking down at the ripples below me.

I know it's not going to be a swan dive; I'm far too much of a novice for that. But hopefully, it won't be a belly-flop either.

I know from experience that it will be the most exhilarating experience of my life so far.

Picture the moment when you first hit that cold water and it swallows you up, adrenaline rushing though you like a bolt of lightning. It's shocking ... scary, but don't you feel alive? I know I do.

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the DAILY QUOTE OF THE DAY

"If the Democrats can't landslide the Republicans this year, they ought to just wrap up, close down, emerge in a different form."

RALPH NADER

Responding to claims that his running for president will take votes away from the Democratic candidate. Nader has run for president in four previous elections. He has not yet said which party he will represent.

Gymnastics team wins again

Spartans roll through home schedule undefeated

By **HEIDI ROMSWINCKEL-GUISE**
Staff Writer

Five seniors were honored after the SJSU women's gymnastics team competed in its last home meet of the season Friday night.

The Spartans beat UC Davis in a nonconference meet 194.300-192.300 to improve their record to 9-1.

Seniors Leah Bigelow, Shina Cardeno, Casey Jay, Michelle Minotti, and Emily Stebbins were recognized for their participation at SJSU and were presented with flowers and a framed photo of themselves competing for SJSU.

Fifth-year seniors, Raylyn Cardeno and Greta Leach were honored last year during their senior meet, said senior co-captain Minotti.

Minotti said she was pleased with her performance on her senior night.

"I remember being a freshman and having my first senior night thinking that's so far away from me," Minotti said. "But it was tonight, and it was crazy. I'm just glad I was able to hit today because I fell off the (uneven) bars the last four meets."

Minotti tied for second place on the vault with a 9.775, tied with teammate Alise Blackwell for second on the uneven bars with a 9.725, and also tied for third on the balance beam with a 9.725.

She credited her teammates for making her senior year memorable.

"I couldn't be happier with my team," Minotti said. "I couldn't imagine being on any other team for my senior year."

Coach Wayne Wright said this year's senior class was very experienced, and it showed in the meet's results.

"Those guys are the rocks," Wright said. "You can always count on your



MICHELLE HORTON / SPARTAN DAILY

Above: SJSU sophomore Jessica Khoshnood competed on the uneven bars Friday night. Below: SJSU senior Michelle Minotti performed on the balance beam.

upper class people. They know how to compete. They know how to adjust and they did that tonight."

Raylyn Cardeno tied for first place on the vault with a 9.800. Leah Bigelow placed first on the balance beam with a 9.775. Emily Stebbins placed second on the floor exercise with a 9.800, and Casey Jay tied for third on the floor with a 9.750.

Wright said Shina Cardeno has been hurt this season, but she was able to perform an exhibition on the vault for the Spartans even though it did not count toward their final score.

Senior Emily Stebbins said that although she has only been with the Spartans for a year, it is going to be hard for her when she has to stop competing in the program.

"I haven't been here that long, but I feel like the time I have been here I have connected with the team like we were a family," Stebbins said. "It's

definitely heartbreaking to know that this is my first and only year with these wonderful women. They are true champions in my eyes."

Junior co-captain Veronica Porte placed second on the balance beam with a 9.750, tied Jay for third on the floor exercise with a 9.750 and placed first in the all-around competition with a 38.850.

It was Porte's fourth all-around competition win this season.

Freshman Shanice Howard placed first on the floor exercise with a 9.875, which was the Spartans highest score of the evening.

The Spartans completed 23 out of 24 routines Friday night, but Wright said he did not want his team to lose focus.

"We still have a lot of meets to go," Wright said. "There are a lot of things that we want to accomplish."

The Spartans travel to Tempe, Ariz.



MICHELLE HORTON / SPARTAN DAILY

to compete against Arizona State University, Stanford University and the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh on Friday, Feb. 29.

SJSU boxing club represents in Santa Clara

By **JOHN ELLIS**
Staff Writer

Spartan club boxers displayed pugilistic skill and warrior heart but complained of a bias decision at the Santa Clara University Boxing Invitational on Saturday.

The final match of the eight-bout fight card was the most competitive of the afternoon, and ended in a scorecard decision. Spartan Luc Mai, a sophomore aviation major, showed good technical skill against the equally talented Pat Welde of Santa Clara University.

Mai unloaded fast combinations in the first round, while Welde answered back with counterpunches that made Mai step back and reposition.

Mai danced around in the second round, trying to set up some effective shots and make his opponent miss. Mai landed some crisp counter-shots as Welde let off some rapid-fire body blows that appeared to have little effect on Mai.

In the final round, both fighters gave it their all, and while Welde continued with pitter-patter body punches, Mai countered and snapped Welde's head back numerous times.

"I don't think the judge could see me when I was in the corner," Mai

said, visibly disappointed. I was landing clean shots. He was just tapping me, and I was blocking them and countering."

SJSU Boxing Club supporters and fighters thought the decision was

"You showed a lot of heart, mentality and courage."

CANDELARIO LOPEZ
SJSU boxing club coach

based more on hometown favoritism than success in the ring.

"Home-field advantage. Perfect example, man," screamed Armando Cervantes, vice president of the SJSU Boxing Club. "You can't score those kind of body shots. Home-field advantage."

Coach Candelario Lopez, known to his students as "Coach Candy," said the judges shouldn't have scored the weak body punches thrown by Welde, but added that he was proud of what all his fighters accomplished.

SJSU boxers won two of the five bouts they participated in.

Each bout consisted of three two-minute rounds, and fighters wore protective headgear to limit damage.

The two SJSU Boxing Club victories came via early stoppages.

The first was by Jessie Sanchez, a junior kinesiology major, who showed good foot movement and sharp jabs. He staggered his opponent, Randy Tong of UC Davis, with a hard right hand seconds before the end of the third round.

"I just did what I was supposed to," Sanchez said. "I heard my corner say something and I did it."

The second win was by David Ly, a senior public relations major, over University of San Francisco's Niro Cuvinar.

The fight exploded early and ended just as quickly when Ly landed a straight right hand that bloodied the nose of his opponent late in the second round.

"I was just doing what works," Ly said. "I listened to the coach. We have a great coach."

"You guys were 100 percent improved from last time," Lopez said to his team after the event. "You showed a lot of heart, mentality and courage. No one should get discouraged."

In the first fight, SJSU boxer Alejandro Cuadra lost in a decision

against SCU's Brandon Dahl. Cuadra said the fight went by fast, and there was little time to think. He said he was glad for the experience and is looking forward to his next fight.

Spartan Kedrick Shadley lost via stoppage late in the third round against SCU club boxer Lorenzo Gamboa. Shadley, more tired than hurt, said he needs to improve his cardio so he can move around the ring and still stay active.

Fight Summary:

Brandon Dahl, 130, SCU, outpointed Alejandro Cuadra, 130, SJSU, 3.

Jessie Sanchez, 139, SJSU, stopped Randy Tong, 139, UC Davis, 3.

Lorenzo Gamboa, 156, SCU, stopped Kedrick Shadley, 156, SJSU, 3.

David Ly, 165, SJSU, knocked out Niro Cuvinar, 165, USF, 2.

Pat Welde, 147, SCU, outpointed Luc Mai, 147, SJSU, 3.

Spartan baseball squad sweeps Utes in rain-shortened series

By **JESSE KIMBREL**
Staff Writer

The SJSU baseball team warmed up for its opening game of the 2008 season Friday afternoon by spreading dry dirt over the rain-soaked diamond at Blethen Field.

Despite the on-and-off showers of Friday's doubleheader, the Spartans came away with two opening-day wins against the University of Utah Utes.

Game 1 went 10 innings for a final score of 6-5, and game 2 was also won by a one-run margin in a 7-6 victory.

Spartans game-1 starter Spencer Snodgrass struck out four batters in four-plus innings of work, but he was pulled in the fifth inning when he gave up a solo homerun to Utah catcher Jesse Shriner.

Shriner's homerun gave Utah a 2-1 lead in what sparked the beginning of many lead changes.

The Spartans answered back in the sixth inning when catcher Corey Valine came in and delivered a pinch-hit double that knocked in two runs and gave SJSU a 3-2 lead.

Valine said he knew an inning ahead of time that he was going to have to pinch-hit, so he took the time to warm up and take some swings.

In the seventh inning, Utah's designated hitter Cody Guymon hit a double off of the center-field wall that drove in Shriner and tied the game at three.

San Jose State regained the lead in the bottom of the seventh when center fielder Michael Drake smacked a double that drove in designated hitter Craig Hertler. Drake then scored on a pop fly to center by Sonny Garza, which Utah's right fielder Fred Ferguson dropped for an error.

With a 5-3 lead heading into the eighth inning, Anthony Vega came in to pitch for the Spartans after the Utes' Cooper Blanc singled up the middle. Blanc then reached second base after a catcher's interference call on Valine, which put runners on first and second.

Utah second baseman Corey Shimada then dropped down a sacrifice bunt to advance the runners to second and third. Utah shortstop Michael Beltran grounded to first to score Blanc and advanced third baseman DC Legg to third.

With two outs, Vega through a wild pitch, allowing Legg to score, tying the game at five.

Neither team could break the tie in the ninth inning, so they headed into extra innings with the sun quickly fading.

Ryan Shopshire came in to pitch the 10th inning. The only

hit he gave up was a single to Shimada who reached third base on an error and a ground out, but he never made it home.

When the Spartans came to bat in the 10th, Valine reached first on an error by Beltran. Valine reached second on a sacrifice bunt by shortstop Tyler Heil and the next batter, second baseman John Shaffer hit a single giving Valine enough time to make it home for the Spartan win.

Immediately after game one, the teams shuffled their gear across the street to Municipal Stadium for the nightcap of Friday's doubleheader.

Within 40 minutes the game was underway and the rain was on its way down.

The rain continued through the first two innings, but there was no sign that the game would be postponed.

Game two gave weathered fans virtually the same action with the same result — a back and forth battle that ended in a Spartan victory.

The second game was highlighted by San Jose State's starting pitcher David Berner, who threw seven innings and struck out 11 batters.

"It's a long day for the home team," head coach Sam Piraro said about the doubleheader.

He said his team didn't play its best, yet they still came away with two wins. "That shows a lot about their character," Piraro said.

Pitcher Scott Sobczak said the team didn't let the cold weather bother them because they knew they had to play the game no matter what.

"The ability to go back and forth between a one-run lead and one run down, and to be able to come back and be on top in the ninth inning, I think is a pretty good attribute," Sobczak said.

After their two wins on Friday the Spartans woke up Saturday morning to continue their streak with a convincing 10-4 victory to wrap up the series against Utah.

Sunday's scheduled game four was cancelled because of the rain.

Sobczak got the win in game three by throwing five innings, striking out three batters and giving up three runs.

With game four of the series being cancelled due to weather, no makeup date has currently been set.

The Spartans will play their next game Tuesday against Cal State East Bay at 2 p.m. at San Jose Municipal Stadium.

■ **SJSU** catcher Corey Valine had 5 RBIs and shortstop John Shaffer had six hits over the three-game series.

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