

Commencing
doesn't mean
forgetting

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Let me
tell you a story ...

See NEWS, page 2



Prof. featured
prominently in 01SJ

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SPARTAN DAILY

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MONDAY, MAY 12, 2008

FREE SINCE 1934

SJSU custodians join Teamsters

Union to clean up 'at-will' status

By TARA DUFFY
Staff Writer

The custodians at SJSU will join San Jose's Teamsters union after a 13-10 vote early Friday morning.

Frank Harms, Jr., a Teamsters representative, said that up until then, the custodians didn't have representation nor contracts and were considered at-will employees.

An at-will employee is someone who has signed a contract stating his or her employer does not need any reasonable cause to terminate the employee.

Pat Lopes Harris, SJSU's media relations specialist, said she did not feel that the university should be responsible for giving a reaction about the issue because the custodians are not directly employed by it.

According to Harms, Aramark, a professional services company, employs the custodians.

"We want to give them better wages, a voice, especially the women, as well as the men," said Stacy Alvelais, a Teamsters representative.

"We wanted to give them a voice in the workplace," she said.

One SJSU student felt that unions help protect employees' rights.

"I think unions are good," said Perry Uzunoglu, a second year animation illustration major. "The workers get to work together to protect themselves. Otherwise they would have to fight individually."

"It feels excellent to join the Teamsters union," said Pascuel Hernandez de Ventura, a custodian at SJSU, through a translator. "It makes me more motivated than before. Before, (with) the political atmosphere in the business, it was very difficult to speak your mind. But now, we can vote. Plus, the benefits are nice."

According to the Teamsters' Web site, there are 1.4 million members in the United States. The Teamsters union includes laundry, bakery, warehouse and waste management workers, among other occupations.

Harms said joining the Teamsters would be beneficial to the custodians because "they didn't have anything on paper. If they have a contract, they can know what days of the week they will have off. If they have a problem,

See UNION, page 6

Festival brings blues and brews to campus



LUKE CUNNINGHAM / SPARTAN DAILY

Maxx Cabello, Jr. started off a day of live music Saturday on campus. He shared the stage with many other blues bands.

By TARA DUFFY
Staff Writer

The Metro Fountain Blues Festival took over the SJSU campus Saturday from 12:30 p.m. to 8 p.m., as people lined San Carlos Plaza to listen to blues artists.

Ted Gehrke, the festival producer, said about 7,000 people came out to listen to the sounds of the Robert Cray Band, Koko Taylor and her Blues Machine, Sonny Landreth, the Smokin' Joe Kubek Band featuring Bnois King, the Shane Dwight Band and Maxx Cabello, Jr.

SJSU's Associated Students and San Jose's Metro magazine were the main sponsors of the event.

"The Associated Students were extraordinary in their energy level," Gehrke said. "We had a really extraordinary bunch of young people working on the show."

Gehrke talked about the chal-

lenges of holding a free festival.

"It's tricky when you have a free festival on a college campus, but the Associated Students wouldn't have it any other way."

A few hundred people hung out in the beer and wine garden that had sprung up between the A.S. House and MacQuarrie Hall.

"We are just some dudes having some brews, listening to some blues," said Jimmy

Hennessy, a senior engineering major. "San Jose needs more of these things."

The Blues Festival has been in San Jose for 28 consecutive years, according to the Festival's Web site. Some people said that they were repeat attendees.

"I'm just having some drinks, listening to some good music," said Zack Caltagirone, a senior

See BLUES, page 6



JAMES JEFFREY / SPECIAL TO THE DAILY

Eduardo Ochoa speaks with Ann Kotas of University Advancement during a reception after his public forum and news conference on Thursday.

Ochoa speaks at forum

Presidential candidate
talks about SSU issues

By TOMMY WRIGHT
Staff Writer

The third and final presidential candidate to speak at an open forum, Eduardo Ochoa, talked on Thursday to an audience made up mostly of faculty. There was standing room only in the Engineering Auditorium for the forum with the current provost and vice president of academic affairs of Sonoma State University.

Before the forum was opened for questions, Ochoa began the event with a small speech.

"I have watched (SJSU) over the years," he said. "You have tremendous strengths and a venerable history, and I think you are hitting your stride."

Ochoa said SJSU "embodies the mission of the (California State University system)" of providing access and opportunity, as well as training the workforce of the state.

John Engell, chair of the department of English and comparative literature, asked Ochoa about how, in 2007, Sonoma State President Ruben Arminana received a "no confidence" vote from almost 75 percent of the faculty who voted.

"The two reasons for this that have been stated widely are, first, a misappropriation budgetarily in the sense that too little money was afforded (to) the academic side, your side of the university," Engell said.

He said the second reason was that the president's style

See OCHOA, page 6

COMMENTARY

Nervous candidate to fall back on ethnicity

By ELISHA MALDONADO
Staff Writer

It's rib-tickling that SJSU's presidential race is so reminiscent of the one going on at the national level: two men (one man being a minority), one woman — and no shining star.

However, there is perhaps the proverbial flickering neon light. In bright pink and blue, the letters O-C-H-O-A are illuminated.

I say this because Eduardo Ochoa, the SJSU presidential can-

didate from Sonoma State University, seems likely to become the new SJSU president. I don't say it because I think he is the best in the bunch — I am fairly confident I won't be happy with any of them — but because he represents a hot button issue: ethnic diversity.

Yes, it seems Ochoa is likely to win because they (the people who make the decisions but who are never seen) want to demonstrate how open they are to everyone.

But I wonder if he is up to the task; he doesn't exactly exude confidence.

When speaking at the open forum Thursday morning, Ochoa looked nervous; his hands were clasped in front of him the entire time and he stuttered through his answers as if afraid to speak slowly, methodically and with intention — as if he were making up his answers while plodding along.

He, of course, began his oratory by complimenting SJSU (a bit I find trifling) and then waited for the deluge of questions — all of which were a bit soft.

This, of course, elicited soft responses.

Ochoa was asked, simply, why he wanted to be president of SJSU. He answered, mundanely, that SJSU's mission is a wonderful one. Really, I don't want a politically correct answer. Why should he get this job?

Compared with his counterparts, though, Ochoa strikes me as the one who will get along with others on the playground.

Jon Whitmore, on the other hand,

See COMMENT, page 2

Chess Club complains about lack of recognition

By LIZA ATAMY
Staff Writer

The SJSU Chess Club has had trouble being recognized as an official club on campus by Student Involvement, said Albert Rich, the president of the club.

Rich, a senior economics major, said the club did not receive funding for a trip to a Pan-Am in Miami, resulting in the club's inability to participate in the competition.

"Associated Students provides the funds, and they failed to fully fund us because Student Involvement didn't promptly approve us as an official

group," Rich said. "A.S. didn't want the paperwork until we were approved as a club."

The Chess Club on campus has 12 to 20 active members who show up to meetings and 150 members who have signed up for the club, Rich said.

"Our team defeated Rowan University, the University of Utah and tied with George Washington University," Rich said, referring to exhibition matches held online.

Rich said he went to Student Involvement to complain about the lack of recognition of the club, but the meeting was unhelpful.

Faisal Gowani, president of the Entrepreneurial Society on campus, said he had dealt with Student Involvement on numerous occasions without encountering any problems. "(Student Involvement) is there to help out student organizations," said Gowani, a senior business management and marketing major. "They do almost bend over backwards to help us."

Richard Kelley, director of Student Involvement, said he recalled speaking to Rich about the upcoming Student Organization Recognition Banquet.

"I can only say that (Rich) came in to the office to discuss the Student Organization Recognition Banquet,

specifically the packet he submitted on behalf of the Chess Club, as well as the club's ability to attend the event, to which seating is very limited," Kelley said. "We have nearly 300 student organizations, 148 nominations/submissions for the event and no venue on campus that will hold everyone."

Rich said he submitted the required information in a timely fashion.

"As far as I know, we followed all relevant policies and procedures," he said. "If they wanted to retract the tickets, I wanted a reasonable

See CHESS, page 8

INSIDE the
DAILY

DAILY WEIGHS IN ON PREZ SEARCH

You may not know the difference between the SJSU president hopefuls, but the editorial board of the Spartan Daily does.

See OPINION, page 7

NBA FINALS STAFF PICKS

Three out of four Dailyoids are predicting a historic Lakers-Celtics championship series, but which team will take it all?

See SPORTS, page 3

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SJSU holds 108th annual storytelling competition

By CASEY JAY AND ANGELO LANHAM
Senior Staff Writer and Staff Writer

Nearly 200 people filled the Hal Todd Theatre in Hugh Gillis Hall on Friday night for the 108th Kaucher/Mitchell Event.

The annual event is a student contest celebrating excellence in oral interpretation and storytelling.

"This event has really shown the caliber of talent that this event

holds," said Emily Howard, a theatre arts graduate student. Howard said the finalists were chosen from about 30 students who auditioned.

"The competition tonight seems pretty fierce," she said, "Everyone seems pretty rehearsed."

A preliminary round of competition was held Wednesday afternoon to narrow down the number of finalists to three storytellers and

seven oral interpreters for Friday.

Beverly Swanson, a professor of oral interpretation and storytelling and coordinator of the event, said participating students completely memorized their material.

The performances on Friday included a variety of stories and interpretations of poetry, movies and song lyrics.

Ovan Chan, a senior theatre arts major and oral interpretation finalist, recited a collection of food poems for his piece.

"My favorite part is being able to take what I like and share it," he said of oral interpretation.

Chan added that the event is important not only for the champagne reception during intermission, but because it showcases a blend of talent.

Celissa Diolata, a junior creative arts major, said the most difficult part

is defining the line between acting and oral interpretation. She said she chose her piece, part of the screenplay from the movie "Pleasantville," because of the message behind it.

"When things are different or out of the norm, people get scared," Diolata said.

Every finalist was given a book, which Swanson said is a Kaucher/Mitchell tradition. Two trophies were awarded to the best student from each category based on votes by three faculty judges.

Caitlin Dissinger, a senior theatre arts major, received the storytelling trophy, and Michael Sanchez was awarded the oral interpretation trophy.

"It feels great," Sanchez said of his win. "I was nervous the whole time because there was a lot of good competition."

Sanchez said he got into oral interpretation by accident.

"I took classes looking for easy credit," he said. "But once I started, I found it was really fun to do, so I stuck around."

Sanchez added that he's only taken two acting classes, and both were with Professor Swanson.

Swanson said the Kaucher/Mitchell Event first began in the 1930s or '40s.

"It was started by Dr. Dorothy Kaucher and taken over by Noreen La Barge Mitchell when she retired," Swanson said.

She said Mitchell always made sure to keep Kaucher informed of the event's happenings and winners and is convinced that it is for this reason that Kaucher left a \$40,000 endowment to the program upon her passing.

Swanson took over the produc-

tion of the event when Mitchell retired, and is responsible for adding the storytelling aspect to it, as well as giving the event its current name, she said.

"What a nice turnout," Swanson said while looking out into the rows of the Hal Todd Theatre, before wondering aloud how many were there for extra credit. At least one was there for class credit.

"I have to attend this for my school," said Nick Boucher, a junior liberal studies major.

"It's fun; it's entertaining. I feel the first guy, Ovan, was pretty good."

Dissinger, who won the oral interpretation award, was just happy to end her college career at SJSU with a bang.

"It's really nice. Since I'm graduating, it's a nice way to go out," she said.

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Rhea Guzman was a featured artist for the Kaucher/Mitchell Event on Friday at the Hal Todd Theatre in Hugh Gillis Hall.

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COMMENT | Ochoa is the only candidate with CSU experience

Continued from page 1

a candidate from Texas Tech University, seems like the recess bully who will do whatever he wants. Whitmore said he wasn't "fully informed" on the budget and cultural diversity of SJSU, which leads me to think he doesn't have a clear understanding of SJSU in the first place. (If he did, he would be all-too-aware that SJSU epitomizes cultural diversity and that the budget issue is one of the latest in a string of controversies.)

Elizabeth Grobsmith's vacuous answer concerning President Kassing's blood drive ban — would she change it? — was a little too evasive for my taste.

She said, "That is a very difficult question, and I think would need to

come to better understand the context and environment in which that decision was reached."

I advise she an original answer soon because this issue isn't a light one, especially among the SJSU community.

*I know the aphorism
is that they save the
best for last, but
what I can't ascertain
is if there is a 'best'
among the three.*

As for Ochoa, he said he didn't have any changes he would make outright, which concerns me slightly.

Surely, he isn't in complete agreement with everything Kassing and his administration has done.

I know the aphorism is that they save the best for last, but what I can't ascertain is if there is a "best" among the three. (That goes for the national race, too).

Though any dirt — or any real information for that matter — on Ochoa was hard to find, it seems that he is the only candidate with experience in the CSU system; he is the provost and vice president of academic affairs at Sonoma State University.

But, again, Ochoa holds the ethnicity factor over his competitors.

So it would seem, Ochoa, an Argentine and a first-generation American, he said, would understand and embrace the diversity that is SJSU.

Check one for Ochoa.

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SPARTA GUIDE

EVENT CALENDAR

Tomorrow

Piano Recital "Student Showcase"

Piano studio of Dr. Gwendolyn Mok
12:30 to 1:15 p.m. at the Music Building Concert Hall
Contact: Joan Stubbe, 924-4649, jstubbe@email.sjsu.edu

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.

STAFF COMMENTARY: NBA PLAYOFFS

Who
will
it
be?

CAVALIERS, CELTICS, HORNETS, JAZZ, LAKERS, MAGIC, PISTONS or SPURS?



CARLOS MORENO / SPARTAN DAILY

Managing editor Lindsay Bryant and sports editor Josh Weaver have a friendly discussion about who will win the NBA championship.

Lakers will win — all of it

By LINDSAY BRYANT
Managing Editor

It's an Olympic year. An election year. The Year of the Rat. Year of Indiana Jones. It's time for the greatest NBA franchises to rekindle the rivalry fire: It's Lakers versus Celtics.

It just feels right. It's nostalgic. And more important, it is time.

Kobe Bryant is in his prime — for the 12th season — and the voting committee finally saw the light and gave Kobe what he deserved six, seven and eight seasons ago: MVP. His 28.3 points per game led the NBA.

Pau Gasol was a gift sent from Memphis (a steal at only \$13 million) and 20-year-old Andrew Bynum is showing more depth than vets Chris Mihm and Ronny Turiaf.

The Lakers are in an upswing since preseason rumors surrounding Kobe and his plans to leave Los Angeles.

But this season has been a long time coming for Laker fans since Shaquille O'Neal bowed out and the rebuilding began.

Since Kobe demanded a supporting cast and Jerry Buss listened, the Lakers are now the team to beat. Kobe needs 35-plus points in the first two games of the Finals to set the table for the trophy.

Once the Jazz series is over (two games left) and they get past the Hornets (say "Buh-bye Tim Duncan") it's on to the Big Show with Kevin Garnett and the Celtics. And I can't wait.

So what if neither team can win a road game? L.A. fans need to save their money to fill the seats for the Lakers in Boston — just pretend it's home, guys.

This is the NBA rivalry that our dads witnessed in the '80s. A Celtics-Lakers series will be the most watched one since Bulls-Pistons.

Spurs should get title No. 5

By DAVID ZUGNONI
Opinion Editor

Sorry to disappoint fans of fast-paced, run-and-gun-style basketball, but the San Antonio Spurs will win the NBA championship — again.

One thing the Spurs haven't done is win back-to-back championships, but last year's finals victory over an inexperienced Cleveland Cavaliers was not exactly the triumph that causes a team to lack the motivation needed to win it the following season.

It's up to the Spurs this season to prove themselves as a team that can take the crown against stronger competition, and they're certainly getting the chance — they find themselves in a tough series with the New Orleans Hornets, a Western Conference Finals likely to pit them against the Los Angeles Lakers and an NBA Finals likely to stage a showcase of the

best in the West versus the revamped Boston Celtics. The challenge may seem daunting, but Tim Duncan, Tony Parker, Manu Ginobili and the rest of the deep defending champions have been through this before.

In the 2005 Finals, the Spurs prevailed in a grueling seven-game series against a Pistons squad that was playing at its peak. Two years prior, the Spurs outmatched the dominant Lakers, who had both Kobe Bryant and Shaquille O'Neal at the time.

Beating Kobe and Shaq at once is a lot tougher than beating them in separate series, and the Spurs will have sent the dynamic duo home again by the end of the conference finals.

Once the Spurs get by the Lakers, there's no way Boston's three-headed monster with no body to speak of will keep them from their goal.

Historic rivalries can wait until next year.

Celtics better than the rest

By JOSH WEAVER
Sports Editor

After witnessing the agonizing demise of the Golden State Warriors' playoff run last month, life has continued and it's time to shift focus and begin to contemplate which team to endorse during the postseason.

Since the first round is merely just for show and rarely includes an upset (except if the Warriors are involved), it would've been ill-advised to settle for one team without proper research.

So, as the first round of the playoffs filtered out the wannabe teams that didn't have any place there, the remaining eight teams are now battling in the second round. Advancing is the short-term goal. A championship is the ultimate prize.

Pledging allegiance to a team in the same conference as the Warriors is difficult and almost blasphemous.

With an ever-present bias and a disdain for a certain team located in Southern California, I have flip-flopped and I am now a registered supporter of the Eastern Conference, and thus wave a "Boston Celtics in '08" banner, hitching a ride on their bandwagon all the way to victory.

Although the list of candidates in the West is impressive, and each has its selling points — the New Orleans Hornets and their improbable resurgence — there is no way in hell I would cast my vote for any team in the West, especially the Los Angeles Lakers.

With a regular season record of 57-25, the statistics can't be ignored. The Lakers are good.

But I don't see them getting past New Orleans if the two teams meet in the conference finals.

The Hornets are too proud and too motivated to let a superficial team ruin their march to greatness.

But, if for some reason the Lakers happen to wander into the finals, their opponent will be the Celtics — a clash of old rivals, inviting nostalgia and a taste of the good old days.

But there is no Magic vs. Bird. No Kareem Abdul-Jabbar or

Robert Parrish. Instead there is Kevin Garnett, Ray Allen and Paul Pierce against Kobe Bryant and, umm, Luke Walton? Nice tattoo by the way.

When Shaquille O'Neal left the Lakers in 2004, select NBA analysts around the country had the same thoughts I hold now: Kobe can't carry a team to the finals on his own.

He made headlines this past off-season by whining about wanting a trade out of L.A. MVP? Big deal.

There is a reason it took 12 years in the league for him to achieve the recognition: He didn't earn it.

Dirk Nowitzki and Steve Nash, the two previous recipients of the award, led their teams to nowhere and fizzled in the playoffs.

The individual award means nothing when it comes to the postseason.

L.A. vs. Boston must happen

By JESSE KIMBREL
Staff Writer

The last time the Boston Celtics and the Los Angeles Lakers met in the NBA Finals, it was 1987, a series that was won by the Lakers four games to two.

This time, when these two teams meet to battle it out for the title, the result will be somewhat similar.

It will go seven games, in what will be a historical series and one that the NBA desperately needs, and the Lakers will win it all. But wait, there's still eight teams left in the playoffs, including teams with names like Hornets, Jazz and Pistons. True, but as the Rock would say, "It doesn't matter what your name is."

Those teams were done before the season even started. It's going to be the Lakers against the Celtics.

Softball team's
season ends at
WAC tournament

Staff Report

The No. 22-ranked University of Hawaii softball team defeated SJSU 12-4 on Thursday, eliminating the Spartans from the Western Athletic Conference tournament and ending their 2008 season.

The Spartans, who finished the season with a 26-35 record, jumped to a 4-0 lead over the Rainbow Wahine in the first inning.

Hawaii scored four runs over

the next two innings to force a 4-4 tie before crossing home plate six times in the fifth inning to take a lead it would not relinquish.

SJSU's Sarah Taylor, a regular-season second-team all-conference selection, had two hits in four at-bats and a stolen base.

Pitching for SJSU, starter Deanna Mauer allowed seven runs on eight hits over four and 1/3 innings. Mauer struck out four Hawaii batters and was relieved by Jennifer Adams who threw the final two and 2/3 innings, allowing four hits and five runs.

The Spartan defense also committed five errors on the day, two of which led to six Hawaii runs in the fifth inning.

WAC SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT: SJSU eliminated by Hawaii on Thursday

No. 3 **Hawaii** 010 360 2 — 12 12 1
No. 6 **San Jose State** 400 000 0 — 4 9 5

W - Morton (7-3). L - Mauer (13-17). Save - None. 2B - Grimes, Manuma (UH). Multi-hit - Andrade, Grimes, Robinson (UH); Taylor (SJ) Multi-RBI - Andrade, Porter (UH). Records - Hawaii (34-18); San Jose State (26-35).

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FOOD REVIEW

Spoon sundaes, slurp smoothies, gobble gelato

By **CODY HAUETER**
Senior Staff Writer

Summer break is merely a few days away, and soon, we will be feeling the heat — literally. San Jose's summers tend to be very warm, and nothing tastes better on a hot, sticky day than a cool smoothie or a fresh cup of yummy yogurt.

Swirls Frozen Dairy & Juice Bar

Swirls Frozen Dairy & Juice Bar in San Jose has a variety of cool treats to hold you over until you can make it to the beach or the closest pool.

Located on 179 Park Ave., Swirls is

conveniently close to Plaza de Cesar Chavez Park. It's a great place to meet friends for treats before heading over to the park to relax. If it's too hot outside, you can opt to stay inside and enjoy your yogurt or smoothie at Swirls' bar-style seating.

The staff is friendly, and you can sample anything before you pay. The place is well-known for its healthy desserts. The tart-flavored yogurt was one of the most unique things I have ever tasted. As it is definitely sour, I recommend tasting a sample before you order a whole cup of it.

Some of the other options on the menu include fresh-squeezed juices, smoothie blends and power meal

blends. Everything on the menu is health-conscious and decently priced. With juice names such as California Sunshine and Cold Terminator, it's hard to turn them down on a hot summer day.

Lollicup Coffee & Tea

This little gem, located on 150 S. First St., has a large menu with a scrumptious variety of smoothies and yogurt.

It has slushy, icy drinks in 17 flavors and snow bubble drinks in 19 flavors. It also has yogurt with a choice of fresh fruit toppings.

Lollicup is mere seconds from campus, which is especially nice on hot summer days. The prices are reasonable with smoothies costing up to \$3.75, and there are discounts for SJSU students.

Bijan Bakery & Cafe

This cafe offers smoothies, cakes and gelato. Bijan is one of the closest places to campus that sells a delicious variety of gelato, Italian ice cream.

It's located by the Fairmont Hotel on 170 S. Market St. It looks very ritzy, but the prices are actually very reasonable, and the variety of things to choose from left me with a longing to try it all.

There is not much seating inside, but there's no need for it when you can enjoy the outside weather at the tables on the sidewalk right outside the cafe.

DID YOU KNOW...

July is national ice cream month. It was designated by Ronald Reagan in 1984. He called for all U.S. residents to celebrate with "appropriate ceremonies and activities."
www.idfa.org



LEFT: A Lollicup employee prepares to place toppings on a helping of frozen yogurt.

BELOW LEFT: A Lollicup frozen yogurt sprinkled with nuts and strawberries.

BELOW RIGHT: Lollicup's storefront, which is located on 150 S. First Street.

PHOTOS BY ARTHUR MARKMAN / SPARTAN DAILY

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A digital arts festival on the edge



JOE PROUDMAN / SPECIAL TO THE DAILY

SJSU art instructor Shona Kitchen stands in front of one of the buildings depicted in her artwork for 01SJ campaign.

By **CODY HAUETER**
Senior Staff Writer

June will be an artistic month with 01SJ scheduled to return for its second digital arts festival.

San Jose will host the event that will showcase many forms of art including a hip-hop, multimedia presentation and robot art.

The 01SJ artists use many types of art to express what they see in the world around them, such as dance or the construction of a giant robot.

"The second biennial 01SJ: A Global Festival of Art on the Edge is the most prestigious exhibition and festival of its kind in North America," said Joel Slayton, director of the CADRE Laboratory for New Media at SJSU. "SJSU and the City of San Jose are bringing focus to this region as a major cultural center for creativity and innovation."

"For students at SJSU, it is an opportunity to be exposed to the international artists who are exploring the intersection of art and technology."

CADRE is a program that experiments with art and technology, which SJSU faculty and professors have studied and researched for nearly 20 years, according to the program's Web site.

"CADRE is an academic and research program in the school of art and design that is dedicated to the exploration of art and information technology," Slayton said. "It was founded in 1985. It is one of the oldest and most prestigious programs in the U.S."

The 01SJ digital arts festival will exhibit interactive performances, films made using cell phone cameras, video game engines and many other inventive mediums.

"It's always nice to see implementation of art in different areas of our society," said William Smith, a senior business major. "I wouldn't usually go to an art festival,

" *This work weaves together the ambiguities and consequences of globalization, transnational migration and refugees and the impact of our addiction to constant communication.* "

JOEL SLAYTON
director of the CADRE Laboratory
for New Media at SJSU

but this one seems completely different. I'm intrigued by the idea of robot art."

The Tantalum Memorial, created

by U.K.-based artists Richard Wright, Graham Harwood and Matusko Yokokoji, is an exhibit that acts as a memorial to a situation that some people may not have known even existed, according to the festival's official Web site.

"It's a telephony-based memorial to the people who have died as a result of the 'coltan wars' in the Congo," Slayton said. "Coltan is mined for the metal tantalum, an essential component of mobile phones that is now more valuable than gold. This work weaves together the ambiguities and consequences of globalization, transnational migration and refugees and the impact of our addiction to constant communication."

The festival will take place from June 4 to 8 and will be located throughout San Jose.

Opening ceremonies will be held on June 4 with exhibitions shown beforehand and afterwards. The following days will be filled with exhibitions and keynote speakers.

"I am definitely interested in

attending," said Tara Rasmussen, a senior interior design major. "I think it's important, especially in my field of study, to see and understand new and innovative design concepts like the ones that will be shown at the festival."

ZERO1 was founded in 2000 and is the organization that is sponsoring the 01SJ festival.

01SJ DIGITAL ARTS FESTIVAL HIGHLIGHTS

- 6/4 - Superlight Exhibition
- 6/6 - SubZero Festival
- 6/7 - Adobe Global Youth Voices Exhibition
- 6/8 - Symphony Silicon Valley

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OCHOA | Candidate values campus priorities

Continued from page 1

of governance was autocratic, and Engell asked Ochoa to respond to the charges about the president who hired him.

Ochoa explained that Sonoma State started as a school with very little structure in the 1960s. He said the university's "administrative infrastructure was underfunded," and it was forced to undergo changes, and there had to be "some shifting of resources" from academics.

Tyler Wood, a senior psychology major, asked Ochoa about his

plan for the Educational Opportunity Program.

Ochoa said he was not familiar with the issues with the program at SJSU, and Wood said the program has dealt with cuts.

"I think whatever decisions are made in terms of resource allocation and cutbacks have to be done in a way that is coherent and consistent with the identified campus priorities," Ochoa said. "So if you have broad support and buy-in for those priorities, then the decisions, while difficult, will be acceptable to the community."

After the forum, Wood said Ochoa

didn't do enough research on the issues that SJSU faces, but Ochoa does seem to value education.

"It sounded like he could have used most of his answers at any other CSU that he was applying for," Wood said.

Kerry Kulstad, an undeclared freshman, said Ochoa was a good speaker.

"He did make the effort to address each question that was asked and answer it thoroughly," Kulstad said.

She said she agreed with Wood that Ochoa should have had more background information on SJSU to be able to make plans on the issues facing the university. She said this

was the only candidate forum that she had attended.

The last question Ochoa answered at the forum was from James Lee, an assistant professor in sociology. He asked if Ochoa would like to make SJSU more like the other CSU campuses or keep it different and "autonomous."

Ochoa said a strength of the CSU system is the unique character of each of the campuses and the different niches they fill.

"Although I have been at a number of CSU campuses, I have always been very selective about where I look next," he said. "And I'm here."



JAMES JEFFREY / SPECIAL TO THE DAILY

Eduardo Ochoa fields a question from Karissa Barnett, a freshman economics major, about the university blood drive suspension.

UNION | Teamsters rep says custodians are underpaid

Continued from page 1

they can call their business representative to help them."

Harms said he feels unions are good for workers to join because they hold an employer responsible for his or her actions.

"If you are promised a raise, you have to get a raise," he said. "You have a contract, in black and white. You know where you stand."

Alvelais said that she felt many of the custodians were underpaid.

"These are the men and women who clean and sanitize SJSU and keep things well kept," she said. "Some were working for only \$8 an hour. It took some custodians years to break the \$10 mark. We want to

give them better wages. These are human beings. Everyone should have workers rights."

Although the custodians are now officially part of the Teamsters union, there are still a few loose ends to be tied up.

If you are promised a raise, you have to get a raise.

FRANK HARMS, JR.
Teamsters representative

"Now we will negotiate a contract," Harms said. "So now they will tell the union what their concerns are, and it is then negotiated from there."

"I think it's good," said Renata Garaykhanov, a freshman who is double majoring in business and art. Eight dollars an hour is not enough for anybody, especially in San Jose. It's great that they are stepping up to take the initiative to try and change something."

BLUES | Plaza filled to 'standing room only'



LUKE CUNNINGHAM / SPARTAN DAILY

A crowd of people watch and listen to blues music at Saturday's Metro Fountain Blues Festival at San Carlos Plaza.

Continued from page 1

hospitality management major. "We came last year. It's a lot of fun."

Booths lined the front of Spartan Complex, selling things such as clothes and food. Sonny Landreth, a guitar player from Lafayette, La., was the fourth act to take the stage.

"I love the Bay Area," he said. "I want to come out here more."

Landreth said it was his first time playing the festival.

"I was impressed with how great everything sounded, with how organized it was and how great the wine selection was," he said. "Everyone did such a great job. I would love to come back."

San Carlos Plaza became "standing room only" when the Robert Cray Band took the stage at about 7 p.m.

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8	9	1	5	2	7	6	4	3
9	1	2	8	5	6	3	7	4
7	6	8	3	9	4	5	2	1
3	5	4	1	7	2	9	6	8
4	7	9	6	8	1	2	3	5
1	2	5	7	3	9	4	8	6
6	8	3	2	4	5	7	1	9

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

SUDOKU

Difficulty: 2 (of 5)

7			6	2				1
		6			9			3
3				1	5	8		
		4	7					9
9		1		2	6	4		
	8						3	
6		8	2					
		2	9	5				
4						7	5	1

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TODAY'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

- Gator kin
- Patronage
- Still snoozing
- Highland lake
- Safari leader
- Make mention of
- Ess molding
- Pullman amenity
- Worry about
- Almost
- Sunmier
- Pyle or Kovacs
- Mistake (hyph.)
- Not dangerous
- Muscles
- Four Corners state
- Chemist's hangout
- Lose
- Chilly and damp
- Riled up
- Before now
- Kind of numeral
- Caught ya!
- Vitality
- Clapton classic
- Deep-voiced lady
- Open
- Pulpits
- Stress
- Put the — on
- Toward sunrise
- "Bojoro" composer
- Cuzco builder
- Poker stake
- Stone marker
- Mild oath
- Black hole, once
- To the point
- Hurting

DOWN

- Genetic copy
- Sluggish — Maris
- Dolphin habitat
- Hold dear
- Popular advice giver

PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED

MART	HOP	TUBA
ILLIAD	SIDE	ETON
DELLA	USER	ATL
ICECUBES	SERENE	
	BAY	LEI
AMBLED	TYING	
SOLID	MAIDENLY	
PAUL	BARN	AUEL
TRAVEL	LOG	STALE
CARAT	RESULT	
SEA	STY	TEE
WALKER	AUDITORS	
ERIE	AKIN	NEPAL
ELIAN	NORA	GRATA
PSIST	DIIS	ALAW

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Bush bails out McCain, but at what cost?



By TOMMY WRIGHT
Staff Writer

President Bush has come to the rescue of Sen. John McCain's presidential campaign. After both major parties seemed content with leaving the Federal Election Commission powerless, the Bush administration has decided to take action.

The Federal Election Commission is normally made up of six members, but it currently only has two. On the commission's Web site, it states that no more than three of the six commissioners can be members of the same political party. And to take action, the commission needs at least four votes from its members.

On Tuesday, Bush announced three new candidates to the Federal Election Commission. The nominees did not include current chairman, David Mason.

Bush nominated two Republicans and one Democrat to join the current Democratic commissioner, Ellen Weintraub. Hans von Spakovsky, a Republican, was a recess appointment by Bush, but his term expired. He was re-nominated in January, but Democrats have opposed him, according to an article published by the New York Times on Friday.

Donald McGahn, a lawyer for the National Republican Congressional Committee, is slated to replace Mason.

In February, Mason sent a letter to McCain in which he questioned if McCain could withdraw from the primary election public financing system. McCain originally applied for the public financing, but later withdrew when his campaign picked up steam. Mason asked McCain in the letter to elaborate on the loan before he was let out of public financing.

Mason wanted McCain to clarify if he used public funds as collateral to obtain \$4 million in bank loans.

The questions Mason brought up in February could have ended up as a thorn in McCain's side. If the commission was put back into working order, the Democrats could join with Mason and penalize McCain if he was found to have broken

public financing laws. The way he received the loans could be considered accepting public funds, if he used the promise of the funds to receive the loan.

If that happened, McCain could have been forced to follow the public financing laws and would have limited funds until the general election begins, according to public funding information on the Federal Election Commission's Web site.

Obama has raised three times more money so far than McCain.

An article published by the New York Times on Friday quoted Sen. Barack Obama's campaign lawyer, saying it is "inconceivable" that McCain didn't have knowledge of Bush's decision to leave out Mason.

The article also quoted campaign finance experts who said that it would be "severely complicated" for McCain to collect \$85 million in public financing for the general election without a working committee.

McCain pledged to take the public funds if the Democratic nominee follows suit.

According to a Sunday San Diego Union-Tribune article, Obama has raised three times more money so far than McCain. So for McCain, public financing may be the best option for the general election, especially if the Democratic nominee agrees to do the same.

It is expected that the Bush administration would use any avenue necessary for political gain. From NASA to the Department of Justice, the administration has jumped at any opportunity to make federal agencies serve its party's interests.

McCain, however, used to be above this type of thing. McCain sponsored the Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act of 2002 with Sen. Russ Feingold to reform campaign financing.

The two senators teamed up again to sponsor a bill last year to change the Federal Election Commission to an independent administration.

After the questions about voting irregularities that arose in Ohio in 2004 and in Florida in 2000, the country needs a functional, independent Federal Election Commission to address any issues in the upcoming election. While the system needs major upheaval, just being able to take action would be a good start.

When a fresh start is not wanted



By LIZA ATAMY
Staff Writer

As the academic year comes to an end, it is just the beginning for those of us who are graduating. Commencement.

This word has been floating around in my subconscious throughout the whole semester. It is a ceremony where academic degrees are conferred. Then comes a beginning, a start, as the Merriam-Webster dictionary states.

I don't pay much attention to the ceremonial aspect, being that it's just one of those events that starts much too early for me to make it on time. And during its entirety, I'm counting the minutes until I can take off the ridiculous cap that keeps slipping off my head, regardless of the 101 pins I've used.

I keep thinking of the start — the beginning of something. Something that seems too magical, too powerful and too life-altering for one to simply fathom and contemplate.

Commencement.

I think back on the last year and come to realize I have much more to *commence* than just my career. Perhaps my mind starts to take the definition of the word out of context, but rightfully so. I am forced to *start fresh* in many aspects of my life.

Something that seems too magical, too powerful and too life-altering for one to simply fathom and contemplate.

One of the hardest obstacles I had to overcome — and am still struggling to accept — was the loss of my beloved 19-year-old cousin, Mehraj. July 16 marks one year since his departure. One year of time that has passed by without him. One year of trying to adjust to life and attain normalcy without him. How did time not come halting — crashing to a stop? It certainly ceased to exist in my mind and only became more torturous when acknowledged. How does one *start fresh* after losing a part of one's spirit?

I considered Mehraj more as a brother because of the close bond we shared and the fact that our families lived together for the first 12 years of my life. I remember his infancy. I watched him grow. I played with him, held him and never grew tired of kissing him until his cheeks turned red.

The day he passed on, all I could think of was his first birthday and how much of a beautiful baby he was. That was his *commencement*: turning a year old and having the rest of his life to look forward to.

Memories are all I have left of him. Moments that have become just a passing in time make life more unbearable. All I long for is to relive and remain in those moments with him, to hear his voice just once more, to see his smile or feel the warmth of his embrace just once.

But I am forced to *start fresh*. So I pass my days, continuing to unravel whatever it is that makes life worth living.

The realization of his passing hits my comprehension abruptly — so suddenly. And I am back to the moment where life was suffocating. There was nothing I could do. He was gone, and there was nothing any of us could do. The pain overwhelms my senses and I struggle to breathe.

How does life start again?
How do I *commence*?
How do I continue when weakness has become my only form of strength?
How do his parents and siblings *commence* and continue life without being consumed in the overwhelming loss they have endured?
No.

We don't have to *commence*.
As unimaginably painful as this has been, Mehraj is just as much alive in spirit as he was when his presence graced our lives.

He is in every gathering, in every smile, in every thought, in every waking moment.
Memories of him are painted everywhere before me and only grow more vivid as time stretches the distance between the moment I last laughed with him and hugged him tightly and the present that fills the air with melancholy.

We will never have to start fresh because he will always be right there with us — his essence warming our hearts and giving light to everything.

Letters to the editor

Campus should support UPD

I am very disappointed with the disparaging manner in which an SJSU employee has been criticized in the Spartan Daily by the SJSU CFA representative. The facts of this event are still under investigation. Both Ms. Cooper and Sgt. Laws are valued members of the SJSU community.

While I can appreciate the support some of Ms. Cooper's students are offering on her behalf, the staff of the University Police Department also deserve the support of the campus community as they put their personal safety on the line to provide a safe and secure learning environment for the campus community.

-Andre L. Barnes
chief of police, San Jose State University Police Department

Investigation should look at both sides

I have nothing but the utmost respect and admiration for Pat Lopes Harris and the fabulous job she does for SJSU. But I have to take issue with a quote attributed to her in your April 28 article on the Heather Cooper/UPD settlement case.

I specifically refer to the following paragraph: "After reviewing the evidence involving Cooper and Laws, and discussing the situation with administration members, SJSU media relations specialist Pat Lopes Harris said the officers were correct in their actions."

The SJSU administration has not done an investigation; they have made no attempt to contact Dance instructor Heather Cooper — the aggrieved victim — or a second faculty member who witnessed the incident or myself. This can only mean that their definition of "evidence" consists solely of Sgt. John Laws' version of the events. I would like to respectfully suggest that a fair investigation makes an attempt to gather more than one side of a story.

-Jonathan Karpf
SJSU Faculty Rights Representative, department of anthropology

"I said,
'While you're whining,
you should be creating
new technologies.
That's how you meet the date.'"

the
DAILY
QUOTE OF THE DAY

GOV. ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER

Said Friday to the Associated Press after meeting with members of the Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers regarding California rules to lower greenhouse gas emissions.

Editorial: The Daily's presidential pick

San Jose State is getting a new president. And although members of the editorial board don't have a say in the decision process, we wanted to make our voices heard.

There are both concerns and praises for each presidential candidate. After reviewing the media interviews and going over the background of all three candidates, we realized the decision was harder than we had previously thought.

All three candidates have very impressive resumes, are exceptional speakers and would probably be good fits at SJSU. Here are some of the things that we liked about each candidate.

Elizabeth Grobsmith, the current provost of Northern Arizona University, seemed humble, but not shy, and well-equipped to handle SJSU's budgetary problems. A self-assured speaker, she seemed to place importance on students and academics, as she was quick to focus on the lack of academic advising that plagues the campus.

Jon Whitmore, the current president of Texas Tech University, comes from a university of about the same size as SJSU. He seemed confident that he can do the job, and he has been a university president for five years. His background is strong in fundraising and academics. He also would bring a different perspective to the university, and he seems calm and laid back.

Eduardo Ochoa, the current provost of Sonoma State, is comfortable with the CSU system. He was secure in his speaking, modest and familiar with SJSU and the community. He also has a background in business and talked about specific issues regarding SJSU, topping the other two candidates' more general responses.

What SJSU needs in a president is someone crafty, someone who can stretch what resources we have to cover and then stretch them some more. Or we need someone who can go out and get money for the university and

establish relationships with alumni and the community that will bring fundraising to the campus.

The president needs to have strong relationships within the campus as well. A president needs to be accessible to students, not just student media (though we, of course, want that), and be able to build relationships with students and student organizations. This also means working on improving student advising. Students are tired of thinking they had taken care of their classes, only to be told subterranean crocheting was mandatory and that they wouldn't get their degree until it was completed.

The candidate that we feel best fits with what SJSU needs in its next president is Jon Whitmore. He comes from a larger university (almost 30,000 students) than the other two candidates, has a huge amount of experience, values athletics, has experience in building stronger academic aptitude into athletic programs, wants to make the study abroad program more accessible to lower-income students and has raised more than \$1 billion dollars for Texas Tech. And he has no plan to overturn the blood drive suspension.

He also seems ready for the job. He seems confident that he can do the job, that the execution of presidential duties would not even be a question for him.

We realize that Whitmore is not perfect. As of December, one month before Whitmore's contract ended, Texas Tech was put on accreditation probation for not satisfying one out of 87 criteria. He's leaving that university after five years and at 63 years old, we have to hope that he wants to push back the traditional retirement age of 65.

Whomever we get as president next year, we are sure that he or she will do a good job, which we will be happy to tell the campus about. Of course, if the president does something wrong, we'll tell the campus about that too.

SPARTAN DAILY

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Tornadoes takes lives and homes in Plains and South

Associated Press

SENECA, Mo. — Stunned survivors picked through the little that was left of their communities Sunday after tornadoes tore across the Plains and South, killing at least 22 people in three states and leaving behind a trail of destruction and stories of loss.

At least 15 people died in southwestern Missouri. In the fading mining town of Picher, Okla., at least six people were killed, and at least one person died in storms in Georgia.

Susan Roberts, 61, stared at the smashed remains of her classic 1985 Cadillac sitting on her living room floor — the only thing left of her Seneca home. A woman who had apparently sought shelter in the car died there, she said.

"That is what is tearing me up," Roberts said. She had warned the woman — who stopped to change a tire as Roberts and her 13-year-old grandson drove away from the rental house — to escape. The tornado hit just minutes later.

"I'm from Kansas. I grew up watching storms," she said as she walked through the debris. "If I didn't have my grandson with me, I probably wouldn't have left."

The same storm system earlier hit Oklahoma, where at least six people died and 150 people were injured in Picher.

The town, once a bustling mining center of 20,000 that dwindled to about 800 people as families fled lead pollution there, was a surreal scene of overturned cars, smashed homes and mattresses and twisted metal high stuck in the canopy of trees.

"I swear I could see cars floating," said Herman Hernandez, 68. "And there was a roar, louder and louder."

Ed Keheley was headed to town to help out Saturday night when he heard a woman screaming. He looked over to see her hand reaching out of debris.

"She was sitting in the bathtub, she had curlers in her hair and she wanted out of there," said Keheley, who along

with several others pulled her out.

The area is part of a Superfund site, and residents have been asked to take part in state and federal buyouts in recent years.

"From what I've been able to determine, that wouldn't have any bearing on whether a disaster declaration would come forth," said Federal Emergency Management Agency spokesman Earl Armstrong.

One storm victim's child was initially reported dead, but state emergency management spokeswoman Michelann Ooten later said the infant was actually alive at a Tulsa hospital.

As the system moved east on Sunday, one of at least six tornadoes in Georgia killed a person in Dublin, about 120 miles southeast of Atlanta, the National Weather Service said.

The small town of Kite was destroyed by the storm, said Caroline Pope, a spokeswoman for the Johnson County Sheriff's Department. Close to 1,000 people live in the community, she said.

"From what they're telling me, it's gone," she said from the dispatch center in the jail, which was operating on a generator because the power was out.

Storms later Sunday in North Carolina destroyed several mobile homes, and six people were slightly injured, said Patty McQuillan of the state police. And in South Carolina, a possible tornado damaged several homes, but no injuries were reported, said Charleston County spokeswoman Jennie Davis.

President Bush has talked with governors to express his condolences for the lives lost and to discuss needs for recovery, according to the White House.

"The federal government will be moving hard to help," Bush said.

In Missouri, the tornado hit the rural area about eight miles north of Seneca and continued east.

In storm-weary Arkansas, a tornado caused significant damage in Stuttgart, but no one was seriously injured, said Weather Service meteorologist Joe Goudsward.

CHESS | Recognition info available online

Continued from page 1

explanation on the basis of such an unjust decision.

I expressed that excluding Chess Club from the award banquet is unacceptable."

Rich said the person who was dealing with his complaint at Student Involvement said she had more than 300 organizations she had to approve, and a mailbox is just a "bonus."

"If you are going to have a service, shouldn't a professional staff make it timely and efficient?" he asked. "I complained that the slow recognition process made funding difficult, and they told me we could have applied for funding while we were in the approval process."

"Perhaps Student Involvement could better explain the funding process to various organizations," he said.

Kelley said one could file requests for funding by A.S. while paperwork was pending with Student Involvement, and information on the process could be

found on the Student Involvement and A.S. Web sites.

"Student Involvement goes to great lengths to provide up-to-date and accurate information to our nearly 300 student organizations," he said.

"We utilize the department's Web site, a student leader list server (and) the student organization mail boxes," he said.

"Any policy or procedure that we manage can be found through our Web site and communicated documents. Student organizations that have questions about A.S. protocols should contact Associated Students."

Kelley also said Student Involvement makes it a priority to take care of students.

"What I can say is that Mr. Rich did complain about the way in which he felt he was treated," he said. "I explained to him that I and the rest of our staff take our roles as advisers, mentors and staff members of the university very seriously."

"Service to our students is paramount. We try to show great patience in our work with our students and to help them to understand the parameters within

which we operate."

Gowani said the Entrepreneurial Society member who was preparing the nomination proposals for the banquet became ill and was hospitalized.

"We had to turn everything in by Friday morning," Gowani said.

"I discussed the problem with Student Involvement and asked

if I could turn the proposals in by Friday evening.

"They were understanding and told me I had until Sunday to submit the paperwork because things don't get looked over until Monday morning."

Gowani said he felt the staff at Student Involvement always reached out to help students.

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