

# theSpartanDaily.com Spartan Daily

Volume 131, Issue 36

Serving San Jose State University Since 1934

MONDAY NOVEMBER  
**03** 2008

## SPORTS PAGE 5



### Hockey team dishes out two huge defeats

## OPINION PAGE 7



### Prop. 8 debate and demonstrators on both sides

## ONLINE



### No borders: When Halloween goes international



T	W	TH	F
62	64	70	72
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# GETTING A NEW PLACE TO PLAY



Rain keeps two children indoors before the opening of the new Child Development Center playground extension on Eighth Street on Thursday afternoon.

RYAN KALEM / Contributing Photographer

PETER HIRONAKA  
Staff Writer

The Associated Students' Child Development Center on Eighth Street unveiled a new playground area last Thursday.

In 2000, A.S. joined forces with the child care center, which is now responsible for more than 100 children.

The space was previously used as part of the child care center's parking lot. The idea was conceptualized roughly three years ago, said Fran Roth, director of the Child Development Center.

"We started thinking about getting some more softness into our playground," she said. "Our other play-

ground is so full of concrete and we thought we needed to get a little nature into the children's play area."

As a result, the teachers at the child care center were given parking passes by the Aquatic Center on campus.

Roth said she had contacted a playground architect about a year-and-a-half ago but still thought the project

was out of the realm of possibility.

"I thought, 'This is never going to happen,'" she said. "When I showed it to Cheryl (Vargas, A.S. executive director), she got very excited about it and we brought it to the board. After some deliberation, (A.S.) said it was

►► **CHILDpage4**

## Artists guild, locals gather to celebrate and remember the dead at King Library



The Belly Dancers Collective, wearing skull-themed face paint, dance during a performance for a "Dia de los Muertos" (Day of the Dead) festival held outside the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library on Sunday morning.

CARLOS A. MORENO / Spartan Daily

CHRIS CURRY  
Staff Writer

On most days, looking up from the plaza behind the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library, one sees a perfect society. Palms, elms, pines, cypresses and mulberries all live in peaceful coexistence.

On Sunday, humanity mimicked the ethos of its lofty neighbors with a Mexican Day of the Dead celebration that brought different cultures together.

The San Jose Multicultural Artists Guild, for the second year in a row, chose the triangular plaza as the site for its 11th annual Dia de los Muertos event.

Arlene Sagun, the managing director of the artists guild, described Day of the Dead as a time for the living to come together and remember the dead. People dressed like skeletons to represent the dead visiting the living. They also brought offerings of their remembered loved ones' favorite food and drink.

Despite the threat of rain, drums echoed across campus, leading the curious toward the scene where the colorful costumes of celebrators contrasted the black-and-white skull makeup on their faces. More than 100 people came out to watch and celebrate.

Marla Lepp was one of those participating, whose passion showed through her face paint.

"Day of the Dead is a celebration of our ancestors and the people that have passed away," she said. "We remember them through laughter, by bringing them offerings of food and by dressing like skeletons. But it's a happy occasion."

Yammer! Garcia, dressed in a light blue gown and with a toothy, grinning skull painted on her face, had one person in mind.

►► **MUERTOSpage3**

## Fencing master leads program for 30 years

KAJAL MORAR  
Staff Writer

Maestro William Gaugler's passion for art history, archaeology and fencing allowed him to live him Europe, learn Italian, German, French and Latin and train under the world's greatest fencer, Aldo Nadi.

Gaugler, a former SJSU professor and founder of the school's Fencing Masters Program, retired in 2004.

Having worked in fencing, archaeology and art for about 70 years, traveling around the world, Gaugler now leads a quiet life in Sunnyvale.

Gaugler, 77, was born in the midst of the Great Depression in Highland, Mich., where, at an early age, he developed a love for art and history.

"When I was 6, I asked my father if he would take me to the Detroit Institute of Art, and he did," Gaugler said. "There, I saw basically the three things that I was to pursue later in life."

He said his passion for art began early.

"I was already drawing long before (I was 6)," Gaugler said. "My first work was apparently a fish when I was 3."

In high school, he said he won art competitions and was already creating lithographs and paintings.

"I was the boy wonder in the art school because I started early and I worked very hard and I went to night school," Gaugler said.

"I became a scholarship student at what was then called the Society of Arts and Crafts in Detroit," he added. "I was there until 1951, when I left."

In 1951, Gaugler had exhibited his lithographs in a Philadelphia museum and won a prize in a Michigan artist's show.

►► **GAUGLERpage3**



# Haunted hip-hop hits Sports Club Aerobic Room

CORINNE SPECKERT  
Staff Writer

About 15 students participated in a "Haunted Hip Hop" class put on by Associated Students Campus Recreation Thursday in the Sports Club Aerobic Room.

The hip-hop class, which sported a "haunted" theme, differed from traditional fast-paced hip-hop by matching movements with the eerie tunes from the song "Disturbia" by Rihanna.

"In the (music) video, she's really going insane, so I would shake my head a lot and do movements where you didn't have a lot of control of your body," said Pam Plagata, a Campus Recreation fitness instructor who taught the class.

This year, Campus Recreation chose to have a fitness class closer to Halloween instead of its usual fitness bash held at the beginning of October.

"Originally we were going to do a big Halloween event in the Aerobic Room starting in early October," said Dana Moore, assistant director of fitness and activities of Campus Recreation, "but some of our plans fell through and students said we should have a Halloween-themed hip-hop class, so we modified it."

In the past, she said there would be several classes. This year, though, Moore said Campus Recreation chose to focus on one event.

"We thought it would be a little more fun to do a hip-hop, thriller thing since it's close to Halloween," she said.

Campus Recreation, which offers about 40 hours of fitness classes a week, further used this event as an outlet to increase awareness of the center.

"I know during this time of

the year it's a little harder to get people to come out," Plagata said. "A lot of the people that showed up I'd never seen before, (which) means the advertising is getting out to a larger audience."

The event was Moore's idea, she said.

"She shut down all other classes going on to try and get participation to be really large for that class," Plagata said.

Moore said she thinks a lot of students don't realize the benefits of dancing.

"It's a great way to expose students to different workout formats," she said. "There's so many different avenues to exercise rather than just lifting weights or playing a sport, and we forget that going to a dance class is also a way to get our heart rate up and decrease stress."

Tomoyo Yoshinaga, an undeclared junior, said the fitness

classes are good outlets for students who may be self-conscious.

"If students have some kind of guidance, it's a good way to get people going (because) it's not just exercise," she said. "People wouldn't think of it just as exercise."

Campus Recreation offers a variety of dance and fitness classes ranging from zumba and belly dancing to body sculpting and kickboxing for \$6, Monday through Saturday.

"I think a lot of times, we think of fitness and think we have to go running, but by incorporating dance we make it fun," Moore said.

"Our approach is more like, 'Get your body moving anyway,' whether it is just walking around campus for your own health or participating in one of our fitness classes."



A.S. Campus Recreation offers dance and fitness classes Mondays through Saturdays. CINTHIA RODRIGUEZ / Spartan Daily

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## SPARTAGUIDE EVENTS CALENDAR

### 03 TODAY

#### Scholastic Book Fair

Students, faculty and staff are all invited to stop by and purchase books for children. They make wonderful presents while also giving children knowledge at the same time. The reading levels of the books will range from one to six years of age. The price range will be from about \$6 to \$15 per book.

10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Nov. 3 to 7, in the Associated Students Child Development Center.

Contact the Associated Students Child Development center at (408) 924-6988.

#### Campus Pregnancy Support Team

Pregnant? Confused? Need Support? We are here for you.

10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. in the Student Union, Guadalupe Room. 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. in Hugh Gillis Hall, room 255.

Contact a trained peer counselor at (408) 376-1233 or cpst.sjsu@gmail.com or for a list of our services, visit sites.google.com/site/cpstjsu

#### DUI Simulator

Think you can drive? Test-drive the DUI Simulator. Get in a real car. Wear virtual reality goggles. See if you'd be "good to drive." Win Gold Point Cards. Sponsored by: Alcohol & Drug Abuse Prevention Committee, Student Health Center, Wellness & Health Promotion, the Peer Health Education Program and Office of Traffic Safety. This event is wheelchair accessible.

10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the 7th Street Plaza. Contact Jennifer Gacutan-Galang at Jennifer.Gacutan@sjsu.edu

#### School of Art & Design Galleries

Gallery shows running from Nov. 3-Nov. 7: Gallery 2: Kimberly Langston Hagen, Gallery 3: Donna Pettit, Gallery 5: Betty Davis, Gallery 8: Jesse Siegel, Black Gallery: Robert Hitzeman, Herbert Sanders Gallery: Jenny Ly  
Contact Ace Antazo at SJSU\_Galleries@yahoo.com

#### LGBTQQI Discussion Group

A supportive, empowering, confidential environment for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, questioning and intersex SJSU students to share, discuss and explore their personal experiences. 12 to 1:30 p.m. in the LGBT

Resource Center, 1st floor of Building BB between Campus Village Building C and the Aquatic Center.

Contact Angela Krumm at (408) 924-5910.

#### International Youth Fellowship Bible Conference: "The Secret of Forgiveness of Sins and Being Born Again"

7:30 p.m., Monday to Thursday, at the IYF San Jose Center, 1548 Curtner Ave.

Contact Ricardo at 509-9549.

#### Pride of the Pacific Islands

Hula and Tahitian practice. 8 to 10 p.m. in the Event Center, Aerobics Room.

Contact Kristen Tom at (650) 270-4507.

### 04 TUESDAY

#### Student Showcase Hour

12 to 1:15 p.m. in the Music Building Concert Hall. Contact Professor Joan Stubbe at 924-4649.

#### Free Lunch Every Tuesday for San Jose Students

The San Jose Institute of Religion, sponsored by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, invites students to lunch every Tuesday. 12 p.m. at 66 S. 7th Street, adjacent to SJSU.

Contact Brother Bohn at sanjoseca@ldsces.org, 286-3313 or www.ldsces.org/sanjose

#### Zen Meditation

Weekly meditation sessions and talks on Buddhism; come still the mind.

4:30 p.m. in the Student Union, Almaden Room. Contact Justin Joyce at 677-8681 or sjsuzenbuddhism@yahoo.com

#### Global Studies Club

Join the Global Studies Club for a regular meeting.

6:15 to 8 p.m. in Clark Hall, room 116.

Contact Ryan at gsc.sjsu@gmail.com

#### School of Art & Design Gallery Openings

6 to 7:30 p.m. located at each gallery in the Art Building and the Industrial Studies Building.

Contact Ace Antazo at SJSU\_Galleries@yahoo.com

#### International Youth Fellowship

Topic: "The Secret of Forgiveness of Sins and Being Born Again." 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the Student Union, Guadalupe Room.

Contact Ricardo Godinez at 509-9549.

### 05 WEDNESDAY

#### Midweek Mix-up

Music in the Union, featuring acoustic alternative rock music from Ehren Ebbage.

12 p.m. in the Student Union Amphitheatre.

For more information, call 924-6269 or e-mail events@as.sjsu.edu

#### SLIS Colloquium Series

Jennifer Devlin of EHDD Architecture, San Francisco, will speak on the topic of "Beacons of Sustainability: Libraries Meeting the 2030 Challenge to Carbon Neutrality." All are welcome to attend.

12 to 1 p.m. in Clark Hall, room 304.

Contact Marcia Laughrey at 924-2490 or laughrey@slis.sjsu.edu

#### Intramural Softball Sign Ups

Students who want to participate in the Campus Recreation Softball Intramurals need to sign their team up online at as.sjsu.edu/ascr by 11:59 p.m. on Nov. 5. The cost to sign up is \$24 per team. Intramural Softball teams include men's teams, women's teams and IFC divisions.

Contact Campus Recreation at 408-924-6218 or e-mail rpatchett@as.sjsu.edu

#### SJspirit Meeting

Learn about this progressive and fully inclusive Christian organization on campus.

5 p.m. at St. Paul's church on the corner of 10th and San Salvador.

Contact Kelsey Mac at kelsey@sjspirit.org

#### Free LDS Religion Class for Everyone

Come join us at the San Jose Institute of Religion sponsored by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

7 to 8 p.m. at 66 S. 7th St., adjacent to SJSU

Contact Brother Bohn at sanjoseca@ldsces.org, 286-3313 or www.ldsces.org/sanjose

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**GAUGLER** Learned fencing from masters in Italy, kept up program at SJSU for 30 years



Donning a traditional fencing uniform, William Gaugler, founder of the Fencing Masters Program at SJSU, demonstrates the "Italian grip" while holding a sword in his Sunnyvale home. Unlike many of today's fencers who favor the French grip, Gaugler maintains that the Italian grip allows for greater control of the sword and enhanced blade sensitivity. **WILLIAM COOLEY / Spartan Daily**

"All the things you would normally want as stepping stones to go into the career were there," he said. After studying art, he said he realized that he had already laid the foundation for archaeological work through art classes. He said his love for archaeology developed when his father took him to a Detroit museum.

"I realized that if I needed to do the work that was preparatory to understanding the Renaissance, I needed to know about Etruscology just beyond the superficial, and one morning I woke up being an Etruscologist," Gaugler said.

Etruscology, the study of an ancient Italian civilization called the Etruscans, became a prominent factor in Gaugler's work.

He wrote a book on Lars Porsenna, an Etruscan king who started a war with Rome, called, "The Tomb of Lars Porsenna at Clusium." The book described the Etruscans' influence, their religion and their origins.

Beyond his artwork and Etruscan study, Gaugler said he has a passion for fencing.

"We lived two blocks away from the only fencing school in Detroit and as children we would sit on the lawn and watch, and it was wonderful," he said.

As a child, Gaugler said he spent most of his time in the library. One day, he happened to

come across world-renowned fencer Aldo Nadi's book.

"It was such a fascinating and such a readable book, although the technical parts of it were more than I could easily manage without taking lessons," Gaugler said. "I determined then that if I fenced, I would want to work with him."

And he did. In January of 1956, Gaugler moved to Los Angeles and trained under Nadi, who Gaugler said was very strict and proud of his fencing background.

"He was a good teacher and a task master, and as a result, he actually took people like myself and he would move you in terms of competitive capability well over your head," he said. "That's how I went to Europe."

After moving to Italy, Gaugler had to compete with other fencers who had strong fencing backgrounds and had been trained since they were children.

Gaugler received his master at arms certification from Accademia Nazionale di Scherma in Naples, Italy, and became an honorary member of the school in 2005. He received the title "maestro" after earning the certification.

"That shows just how much he has contributed to the fencing community through his work and his texts and his own fencing," said Janine Sahm, assistant director of the Fencing Masters Program. "I've been so honored and blessed to have studied under maestro Gaugler and to have worked hard and been able to achieve the standard that he set."

After teaching in Germany and Italy, Gaugler moved back to the United States. After presenting the idea of creating a fencing program similar to those in the European system, SJSU accepted. He moved to California to establish SJSU's Fencing Masters Program in 1978. He also taught art history and archaeology classes.

"It's a very disciplined program, starting from A to Z, so I respect the man highly to be able to create a program like this," said Tony Barajas, a student in the fencing program.

Maestro Gaugler earned the Italians' approval for the program and has kept it running for 30 years.

"I absolutely love it," said Sydney Thomson, another student in the fencing program. "It's not an environment that's trying to force you to be a competitor and to do anything you can to win. It's actually an environment that's trying to teach you to do things cleanly and to do things in a focused manner and to do it to the best of your physical abilities because not everybody can be an Olympic athlete."

**MUERTOS** Although specifically Mexican, event brought in people from multiple cultures

"This day is specifically to remember dead people," she said. "For me, it's my grandfather."

The multicultural feel didn't just extend to the people attending; the artists guild brought in people of other ethnicities to perform onstage. There were performers from the Mexican, Vietnamese, Filipino and Middle Eastern communities.

"We bring in other cultures to celebrate with us because other cultures also have similar traditions to pay tribute to their dead," said Adrian Vargas, an SJSU alumnus and the event's emcee and co-producer.

"We give it the Mexican flavor, but we bring in all the cultures," he said.

Cherina Sida, a downtown resident attending the event, was particularly moved by the display of unity.

"They had Vietnamese people dancing the Mexican dance. I cried. I teared up because that's a major step in mankind," she said.

Another attendee, Jenny Ramos, appreciated the effort to use the event as a platform for the entire community to learn.

"Usually, at other celebrations, they don't have other cultures," she said. "I noticed that the Vietnamese were doing their thing too. I think that's good because it shows us a little bit of their culture, and by them being there it shows them what Dia de los Muertos is all about."

The event was accompanied by a display of traditional altars created by artists as a tribute to those who have died. Upon entering the exhibit, which is on the fourth

floor of the King Library, mari-golds grabbed hold of the senses. Their sunset color and strong fragrance highlight each display, which are scheduled to remain up until Nov. 7.

"I think that it's important because it shows that the university

is not just about studying your major," Ramos said, "but that everyone can be part of sharing culture and have a good time."

**Online Slideshow**  
For additional photos from the event, go to [www.TheSpartanDaily.com](http://www.TheSpartanDaily.com)



Star Mejia, a member of the **CARLOS A. MORENO / Spartan Daily** Belly Dancers Collective, twirls silk from her dress during a dance performance for "Dia de los Muertos" outside of the Dr. Martin Luther King Library Jr. on Sunday.

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## CHILD ▶ Took six months, as many as 11 men to construct new 5,400-foot playground

OK to go ahead."

Russiano Construction Company built the new playground, which covers about 5,400 square feet. Charles Russiano, who co-owns Russiano Construction with his wife Ellie, said he was contacted six months ago about the planning and development stages of the playground.

"We have worked on day care centers," Russiano said. "It's one of our specialties."

He said he was happy with the work his team put into the project.

"At one point, we had about 11 guys working on it," he said. "They felt it was a serene place. They really enjoyed working for the kids. A couple of them came in on Saturdays and Sundays just to put some time in."

The child care center's primary mission is to look after the children of student-parents. Roth said about 92 percent of the children at the center have parents who are students at SJSU. The other 8 percent of children come from the local community or faculty.

Jennifer Ghastin, a creative writing graduate student, is

one of the single mothers who bring their children to the day care.

"The quality of the place is unmatched," she said. "I moved a block away so that we could be more involved with the school and everything. I think very highly of this school. I've let it be central to our lives in a lot of ways."

The staff at the child care center is a combination of teachers and student workers, Roth said.

Kimberly Antenor, a junior child adolescent and development major, said she began working at the child care center part time back in August.

"The kids are really fun to be around," she said. "I watch the kids to make sure they are being attentive to the teacher, and just helping the teacher out with whatever she needs help with."

Elisa Lopez, a junior child development and Spanish double major, said the child care center is a great place for kids to have fun with classmates.

"They learn how to talk with others," she said. "There are a lot of problem-solving issues they learn."



Children play at the new RYAN KALEM / Contributing Photographer Child Development Center playground on Thursday.

## CAMPUSIMAGES



UPD officer Fernando Del Moral extinguishes a bin fire on the west side of the Industrial Studies Building last Wednesday night.

MIKE ANDERSON / Spartan Daily

## Police defend conduct in handling of Bailey case

Associated Press

OAKLAND — The Oakland Police Department on Saturday defended its investigation into the slaying of Oakland newspaper editor Chauncey Bailey, disputing a report by a group of journalists that the lead detective working on the case ignored important evidence.

The department denied that Sgt. Derwin Longmire failed to adequately probe Your Black

Muslim Bakery leader Yusuf Bey IV's cell phone records and withheld data from a tracking device on Bey's car, according to a statement issued Saturday.

The tracking data was not in Longmire's report because it was included in another investigator's report, police said.

Longmire prepared search warrants for Bey's cell phone and for cell phone records and handed the records over to the Alameda

County District Attorney's office investigators, police said.

The Chauncey Bailey Project, a coalition of San Francisco Bay area investigative journalists, reported last week that Longmire's case notes did not show he had analyzed the records or the tracking data.

Robert Rosenthal, the project's executive editor, said on Sunday "the Chauncey Bailey Project is reviewing the police

statement and will soon respond appropriately."

A bakery handyman, 21-year-old Devaughndre Broussard, is charged with gunning down the 57-year-old Oakland Post editor in August 2007. He has pleaded not guilty.

Oakland Mayor Ron Dellums has asked the California attorney general to conduct an independent investigation into the department's handling of the case.

## Nevada governor acquitted

WASHINGTON — Nevada Associated Press

Gov. Jim Gibbons, whose first term has been marred by an FBI corruption investigation, has been cleared of wrongdoing and will not be charged in the probe, his attorney said Sunday night.

Gibbons, a former Republican congressman, has been under investigation into whether he improperly received gifts from a software company that received military contracts while he was in Congress. Gibbons steadfastly denied any wrongdoing and said the Justice Department could look as hard as it wanted and wouldn't find anything inappropriate.

Defense attorney Abbe Lowell said the Justice Department told him that Gibbons would not be charged. Such assurances are commonplace when prosecutors have completed a case.

"The prosecutors in the case confirmed what the governor has been saying for the past two years — that he did nothing wrong and there was no basis for any allegations against him," Lowell said in a prepared statement.

The Justice Department had no comment on Lowell's assertion Sunday. But a law enforcement official close to the case, speaking on condition of anonymity because authorities have not even officially acknowledged the investigation, confirmed the substance of Lowell's statement.

"I anticipated this would be the result," Gibbons said in a telephone interview Sunday. "This is taking a little of the weight off my shoulders. I hope the public is starting to see that the partisan attacks and attacks of personal destruction against me are false."

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# Hockey team demolishes rivals

## Spartans beat Santa Clara 10-1 and Stanford 20-2 over weekend

RYAN BUCHAN  
Staff Writer

The SJSU hockey team put up double-digit scores in both of its games over the weekend to earn a South Bay sweep, defeating rivals Santa Clara, 10-1, and Stanford, 20-2.

"It's a school rivalry no matter what (sport) it is," said senior Sean Scarbrough after Friday night's victory over the Broncos. "You want to come out, and you want to beat any rival as hard as you can. It's nice to put up 10."

In the two games, four Spartans compiled hat tricks, each scoring three goals in a single game.

"I really didn't do anything," said junior Steven Stichler after getting one of the hat tricks against the Cardinal. "It was just good passes from everyone else."

Scarbrough had three goals in Friday's game while Stichler, Lathan Logan and Robbie Vaughan scored the same number of times on Saturday.

"You need goals to win games," Scarbrough said. "It's nice to get three, but I would've taken none for a win."

On Friday, it did not take much time for the Spartans to get the puck past Bronco goal-

der Michael Ford. Scarbrough put the puck in with the help of Stichler only 22 seconds into the game.

"It was kind of just a brief turnover," Stichler said. "Scarsy (Scarbrough) and I were in on a forecheck hard and just found each other."

**"By the third period, they didn't have energy left to put up much of a struggle anymore."**

**SEAN SCARBROUGH**  
SJSU hockey player

About four minutes later, the Broncos had an opportunity to even things up when they went on a power play after SJSU's Tommy Reed was sent to the penalty box. The Spartans' defense only allowed Santa Clara one shot during the one-man advantage, which was denied by sophomore goalie Michael Steininger.

"My defense played really hard in front of me and didn't allow very many shots this game,"

Steininger said. "It really kept my game very easy to play."

The next time Santa Clara went on a power play, SJSU didn't have the same success, giving up a goal to Brett Johnson in the second period.

At that point, the Spartans already had a 3-1 lead. Santa Clara never had any more success on power plays, and SJSU scored two shorthanded goals by Scarbrough and Vaughan.

"You put some speed guys out there like Vaughn and Scarbrough, give them a little ice, a loose puck — they make a mistake and it's in their net," said head coach Ron Glasow. "So that's what speed does for a penalty kill."

SJSU eventually won the game 10-1.

"We were hungry for it," Scarbrough said. "We needed this win. We just came out, played hard and wore them down. By the third period, they didn't have energy left to put up much of a struggle anymore."

The next night against Stanford, the Spartans continued to find the net, scoring 20 goals.

"In the past we've been hitting the goalie all the time and tonight everything seemed to go

in," Glasow said. "It was a catch-up night. Everything evens out in the end."

The Spartans again put up the first points early, with Vaughan scoring 44 seconds into the game.

Stanford evened up the game two minutes later when the Cardinal's Joe Ulerich put the puck past sophomore goalie Caleb Murray on a power play. SJSU was able to take advantage of a power play as well with a goal by Stichler to put them back on top, 2-1. Seconds later, sophomore wing Richie Norris scored another Spartan goal to take a 3-1 lead.

Trailing 4-1 after another Spartan goal with two minutes left in the period, Stanford fought back with another power play goal by Ulerich.

A quarter of the way into the second period, the Spartans scored their fifth goal, this time by Scarbrough. The Spartans found the net an additional 15 times, sealing a 20-2 victory and advancing their record to 5-7.

"It feels good," Vaughan said. "It's not a very good team, but you know at this point in the season we're not doing very well, so anything good is a good sign."

## SPARTAN SPORTS — IN-BRIEF —

Staff Report

### Football

SJSU quarterback Myles Eden, filling in for an injured Kyle Reed, passed for 295 yards and two touchdowns in the Spartans' 30-24 win over the University of Idaho Vandals on Saturday. Reed was recovering from a bruised tailbone, according to SJSU Athletics. Spartan wide receiver David Richmond caught eight passes for 138 yards and two touchdowns. SJSU's Jared Strubeck kicked three field goals and passed current San Francisco 49ers kicker Joe Nedney to become the Spartans' all-time leading field goal kicker with 41. The victory moved the Spartans' season record to 6-3 and its Western Athletic Conference record to 4-1.

### Swimming/Diving

The Spartan swimming and diving team moved its record to 8-1 after winning 13 of 16 events against Boise State on Saturday at the Aquatic Center. The Spartans bested the Broncos in overall team scoring 197-102. The meet marked SJSU's eighth consecutive victory since the team lost at Stanford in the season opener on Oct. 3. Heather Denman, Caitlin Macky, Rudie Guerrero and Lauren Mar won the 200-yard medley relay for the

Spartans. Jessica Holden won both the one-meter and three-meter diving events for SJSU.

### Women's Soccer

Despite a 2-1 loss at Boise State on Sunday, the SJSU women's soccer team qualified for the WAC tournament by beating Idaho 1-0 on Friday afternoon. SJSU freshman Amanda Martin scored the game's only goal against Idaho. The Spartans ended the regular season with an overall record of 5-10-4 and a 2-4-1 WAC record. The tournament begins Thursday in Reno, Nev.

### Women's Basketball

Paced by senior Natalie White's 20 points, the SJSU women's basketball team defeated Sonoma State 66-55 in an exhibition game Saturday at the Event Center. Sayja Sumler scored 10 points and recorded a team-high six assists for the Spartans. Chasity Shavers, a junior college transfer from Texas, added 17 points to the SJSU effort.

### Men's Soccer

The SJSU men's soccer team defeated Mountain Pacific Sports Federation opponent Air Force 1-0 on Sunday, pushing the Spartans' record to 6-5-4 overall and 2-4-1 within the conference. Nick Cukar scored the lone goal for the Spartans.

# Spartan volleyball team sweeps Fresno State, loses to Idaho in 4

MARCOS BLANCO  
Staff Writer

The SJSU volleyball team defeated the Fresno State Bulldogs in a Western Athletic Conference match in three straight sets 25-16, 25-14, 25-23 at the Spartan Gym on Thursday.

"It was a better match than (playing) at Fresno," said senior outside hitter Kelly Crow about a sweep of the Bulldogs back in September.

Crow led the team with a double-double of 15 kills and 15 digs against Fresno State.

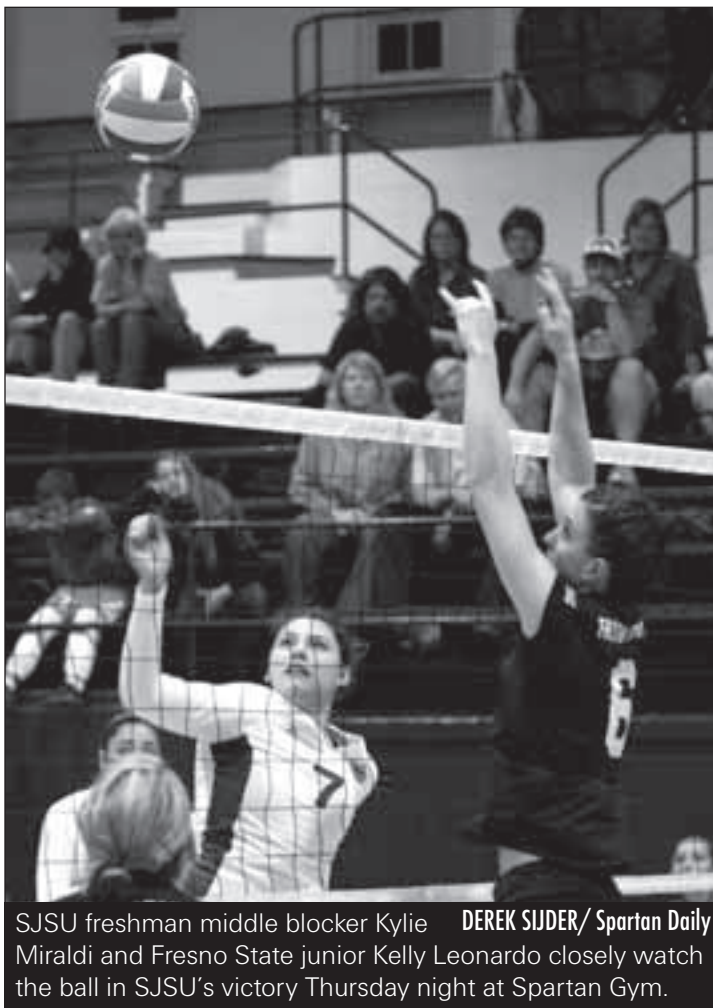
"I think we've stepped up our game a lot," Crow said. "We swept them unexpectedly."

After Saturday night's loss in four sets against third-place Idaho, 25-21, 20-25, 30-28, 25-15, SJSU is now 5-7 in the WAC and 10-14 overall.

The first set started off even with five tied scores to start. Later on, the Spartans had a four-point lead, 12-8, after a fierce volley with Fresno State. SJSU won the first set 25-16.

SJSU quickly opened up the second set with a score of 8-2 in the first few minutes. Senior middle blocker Colleen Burke scored a key kill against Fresno State, making the score 14-9 in SJSU's favor.

SJSU won the second set by 11 points, 25-14. The Spartans exploded out of the gate in the third set against Fresno State with a 5-0 lead. The Bulldogs quickly caught up, tying SJSU 7-7 and later 10-10. The rest of the set was close until the very end, but Fresno



SJSU freshman middle blocker Kylie Meraldi and Fresno State junior Kelly Leonardo closely watch the ball in SJSU's victory Thursday night at Spartan Gym. **DEREK SIJDER/Spartan Daily**

no State couldn't snatch away SJSU's lead. The Bulldogs fell to the Spartans in the third set with a close score of 25-23.

SJSU head coach Oscar Crespo said he and his team weren't mentally focused going into the third set.

"We needed to close things out early," he said. "We controlled the first two games very well. Fresno State did a very solid job in the third set."

Crow said the Spartans had to push themselves to finish off the Bulldogs.

"We got a little too comfortable and we had to finish," Crow said.

Sophomore outside hitter Brianna Amian, who also had a double-double with 12 kills and 19 digs, said SJSU was in need of a win.

"It felt good. We came in with a lot of pressure," Amian said.

## BLOG

**Go to the Spartan Daily sports blog for another look at SJSU sports.**

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**San Jose State University had Levels of Coliform Bacteria above the Drinking Water Standard in September 2008. The water quality problem was limited to the Campus Village Buildings.**

Our water system recently violated a drinking water standard. Although this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what you should do, what happened, and what we are doing to correct this situation.

We routinely monitor for the presence of drinking water contaminants. In September 2008, we took 3 weekly routine samples for coliform bacteria on September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2008 from the Campus Village Buildings. All 3 of samples showed the presence of coliform bacteria. We collected 9 follow-up samples and 4 of the repeat samples showed the presence of coliform bacteria. The standard is that no more than 5.0 percent of our samples may be positive for total coliform. In total, 7 of the 113 samples or 6.2% of the samples collected in September were positive for total coliform. As a result, we exceeded the standard for September. We collected samples from the rest of the campus at the time of the incident and all samples were absent of coliform bacteria.

Since this incident, all subsequent weekly samples collected from the entire campus, including the Campus Village Buildings, were absent of coliform bacteria. The water quality problem has been resolved since September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2008.

#### What should I do?

- You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective actions.
- This is not an emergency. The occupants at the Campus Village Buildings were notified of the violation immediately. Total coliform bacteria are generally not harmful themselves. Coliforms are bacteria which are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially-harmful, bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems.
- Usually, coliforms are a sign that there could be a problem with the treatment or distribution system (pipes). Whenever we detect coliform bacteria in any sample, we do follow-up testing to see if other bacteria of greater concern, such as fecal coliform or *E. coli*, are present. We did not find any of these bacteria in our subsequent testing. If we had, we would have notified you immediately.
- People with severely compromised immune systems, infants, and some elderly may be at increased risk. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. General guidelines on ways to lessen the risk of infection by microbes are available from EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1(800)426-4791.
- If you have other health issues concerning the consumption of this water, you may wish to consult your doctor.

#### What happened? What is being done?

- We were notified of the positive samples on September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2008 and collected additional repeat samples on September 25<sup>th</sup> and September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2008. Routine Sampling was done on September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2008. No additional coliform bacteria were found on September 29<sup>th</sup> and September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2008.
- We investigated for potential sources of contamination and did not find any physical problems with the distribution system. We took corrective actions, including emergency chlorination and distribution system flushing.
- We will continue to monitor and manage the disinfectant residual that is present in our distribution system.

The Campus Village Building occupants were notified of this violation on September 26, 2008.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly.

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# Should everyone go 'Rock the Vote?' Probably not, so just go back to sleep



Well, Halloween is over. I did what I'm supposed to — I worked a bit, drank a lot and watched Jamie Lee Curtis run and scream in "Halloween" again, but now it's over. I have grudgingly taken off the hockey mask I had worn since I woke up on Halloween (and also wore to bed that night). Thanksgiving is the next gas station on this road we call life, I guess, and that's not as much fun. You don't get candy or anything; you just eat overcooked bird, and the idea that you have to see your whole family often ruins your entire November.

Nothing much going on until then. Right?

Oh. Well there's voting; I almost forgot about that. I'll have to get around to that sometime tomorrow.

You should too, I guess. After all, the whole "Rock the Vote" attitude is aimed at tricking you into voting.

You know the score: They prop Bono from U2 up on some stage and have him give a profanity-laden speech about just how f\*\*\*ing awesome voting is, something or other about having your voice heard, and then the band comes out and they give us a version of "Beautiful Day."

Of course, these campaigns succeed only in making MTV teens scratch their heads and say, "Who's that guy in the sunglasses?"

I don't quite get it. Why do you want to get anyone and everyone at the polls?

Sure, it's a great privilege to have a chance to at least get the feeling that you're affecting some sort of outcome

by penciling the middles of arrows on Nov. 4, and it is indeed a responsibility. But, if you haven't been responsible enough to realize what the issues are, why do these campaigns insist that you vote, by hook or crook?

Every election year, after standing in line for a bit, I get up to the poll booth, look at my ballot and think about how easy it is for me to vote.

The first step is merely existing as a person who is older than 18. That's simple. With the exception of surprise, fatal diseases or a manic tendency to walk in front of speeding buses, continuing to not die for a stretch of time lasting 18 years is no incredible feat.

The second step is registering, which, last I checked, you may do by cutting out a form from a cereal box and sending it to Cap'n Crunch.

Then, all you've got to do is toddle over to your polling place, either touch a screen or complete arrows for a while, and you get a sticker.

You voted.

But while I'm standing there at the poll booth thinking about how easy it is to vote, I also lament what a drag it is.

Just think about it. You can read about all the propositions, have a very informed opinion involving the candidates and head down the polling place and vote.

And I, conversely, can turn 18, register through Cap'n Crunch and head over to the polls piss-drunk, fill in a bunch of random arrows and completely cancel you out.

Isn't that just a bitch?

Maybe we should institute some sort of IQ test or something, just so slobbering fools with a hankering for pro wrestling, Michael Bolton and "Judge Judy" can't dawdle into the polls just to flip random switches.

What if "Rock the Vote" worked, and otherwise disinterested adults

flocked to the polls, singing "When a Man Loves a Woman" as they dawdled drunkenly?

With that many people randomly picking candidates and issues, Hulk Hogan could be elected via write-in, and our propositions would involve little except chinchillas and lollipops.

At the same time, I can understand the apathy of our voting youth. After all, most of the propositions aren't anything the average Joe would come up with.

For example, what does anyone trudging around SJSU know about raising chickens? What do we know about how much space chickens need? What does anyone who is not gay have to say about the right of homosexuals to get married?

The rest of the propositions are always designed to be as confusing as possible. Every time one of these things comes around, you hear nothing but people saying things like, "What do you think about Prop. 6?"

"Which one is that?"

"I think it's the one about the police."

"Aren't there three about the police?"

"I thought it was two."

"Is that the one where they put 12-year-olds in jail?"

"Maybe. Are you voting no?"

"I dunno."

Go back and read that fake dialogue with voices like the vultures at the end of Disney's "Jungle Book" cartoon and you'll see what I mean.

Whoever equated voting to expressing one's self is a moron. Playing "Green Sleeves" on a ukulele is expression. Voting isn't.

Maybe I've lost you by now. I think the point here is if you're an idiot, don't vote.

"Yes, I Have a Point" appears every Monday. Angelo Lanham is a Spartan Daily student culture editor.

# While the American economy flounders, Dubai creates personal islands for the rich



The S&P 500, a U.S.-based stock market index, plummeted a record low 285 points for the month of October. Its 27.2 percent change has been the worst performance since 1931. Companies have been firing employees like Joan Rivers gets botox injections. But that is neither here nor there.

What truly amazes me is that through all the economic turmoil we have been experiencing here in the U.S., there are places around the world that are still doing well. One that has been flourishing is the city of Dubai.

The most populated city in the United Arab Emirates, Dubai has garnered much attention in the world of business with its towering skyscrapers and oddly shaped hotels, one of which is in the shape of a sail.

The city's ambitious planning has sparked an interest with the big shots in business, sports and entertainment.

Donald Trump has already stamped his mark on Dubai with the Trump Tower Dubai, which is expected to open in 2009. Tiger Woods has begun building his first golf course there. He also owns a modest 50,000-square-foot vacation house. Not too shabby.

Sheik Mohammed, better known as the crowned prince of Dubai, conceived the idea of a series of man-made islands formed in the shape of the seven continents called The World. Yeah, that's right. Along with Nakheel Properties, Mohammed developed The World, which acts both as private residences and resorts, off the coast of Dubai. It has celebrities and business

people plopping down a fortune for their own piece of The World.

Then there is the Burj Dubai. Currently in its completion process, it will be the tallest building in the world, projected to stand at 2,684 feet. The building includes 30,000 properties, nine hotels, a mall and even a man-made lake. Good thing they have the space for all that.

Formula One racing champion Michael Schumacher revealed plans for his World Champion Tower that is expected to be built in 2011. The 59-story, luxury tower will have a series of reflective fins on the outside, constantly giving the glass structure a different appearance. The moving fins track the sun and in doing so control the solar shading on the building.

But the grand daddy of all projects: The Jumeirah Gardens. This "city within a city" consists of three buildings: 1 Dubai, 1 Park Avenue and Park Gate. The three structures consist of office space, recreation, a hotel, retail and residences. It is projected to be completed in 2020 at an estimated cost of \$95 billion.

Wow. I have got to admit I am impressed. It seems to me this city of the future does not rise and fall with the rickety market. No, it is fueled by something much sturdier: oil. Sure, real estate and financial services are the main contributors to Dubai's economy, but most of the vision and development has come from Sheik Mohammed and his oil wealth.

I guess since the New York Times listed Dubai as the hot spot for travel, my only question is: How much is the airfare?

Peter Hironaka is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

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- 1 Archeologist's find
- 5 Discrete
- 10 Rough it
- 14 Wound a matador
- 15 Rabbi's reading
- 16 Water, in Baja
- 17 Substitute for butter
- 18 Express one's views
- 19 Enormous
- 20 Back in business
- 22 Wards off
- 24 Stein filler
- 25 Blend
- 26 Parts of a strand
- 29 Warm colors
- 33 Cattails
- 34 Treasure-hunt aid
- 36 Tony-winner —Hagen
- 37 URL suffix
- 38 Makes meringue
- 39 Burnish
- 40 Caesar's 1002
- 41 Lubricates
- 42 Magna cum —
- 44 Conference part
- 47 Ship's officer
- 48 Alice's chronicler
- 49 Co.
- 50 Lackey
- 53 Pouched animal
- 58 Europe-Asia range
- 59 Column type
- 61 Gridiron's — Flutie
- 62 Cement component
- 63 Rust away
- 64 Latin I verb
- 65 Barely managed
- 66 Drab, as colors
- 67 More than satisfy

**DOWN**

- 1 Borodin prince
- 2 Mete out
- 3 Two-piece cookie
- 4 Snow —
- 5 Makes up for
- 6 Vatican head
- 7 Needing rain
- 8 Turned chicken
- 9 Playhouses
- 10 Underground chamber
- 11 Lab medium
- 12 Has to
- 13 Dabs on
- 21 Building extensions
- 23 By way of
- 25 Tureen contents
- 26 Big dances
- 27 Like a Stephen King story
- 28 Patronage
- 30 Spiritual counselors
- 31 Liszt opus
- 32 Cavalry sword
- 34 Slacks material
- 35 Mae West role
- 38 Warm garments
- 42 Gill alternative
- 43 Galleries
- 45 Took a cruise
- 46 Keogh relative
- 47 Lobster claw
- 50 Kind of slipper
- 51 Estrada or Satie
- 52 Appellation
- 53 TV control
- 54 Helper
- 55 Diva
- 56 Ponselle
- 56 Remove from office
- 57 Curved molding
- 60 Pizarro's quest

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## SUDOKU

Difficulty: 1 (of 5)

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## PREVIOUS SOLUTION

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



# Everyone up in arms about marriage and how it will or won't affect them



**JOHN HORNBERG**  
INSERT WITTY STATEMENT HERE

It takes commitment to be out protesting at 11 p.m. A massive protest by people mostly in support of Proposition 8 erupted on Saturday, stretching the majority of the sidewalks in front of the Sunrise Marketplace area in Citrus Heights, a suburb of Sacramento.

By a quarter to midnight, when I arrived on the scene, the numbers had dwindled to comfortably fit on the street corner of Sunrise Boulevard and Greenback Lane.

Fifteen protesters waving "Yes on Prop. 8" signs were mashing the previously well-manicured lawn of a gas station facing Greenback. About the same number of people opposing them with large signs they made themselves held their ground on the Sunrise side of the sidewalk. Some of them had been out there since 2 p.m. in the afternoon.

The group split along more than just yes and no, religious and non-religious. The supporters were generally clean cut and spoke with confidence of their cause to me. A few of them were parents, or at least nearing their 30s. Their signs were uniform yellow plastic banners that can be found in front yards throughout the Central Valley.

Those against looked like a motley band of misfits, complete with signs spray painted on plywood and cardboard. There wasn't a member in the group older than 25, and they were wary of my presence around them.

## Most of the supporters of Proposition 8 pulled God into their reasons for voting in favor of it, but it wasn't the only reason.

One of the protesters, who identified herself only as Ashley Y., said she objected to someone earlier who was taking her picture. She had been out protesting all day with a large sign that read "No on Prop 8."

She trusted me about as much as she trusted the supporters of Proposition 8, who she said had yelled insults at her all day long.

"I'm out here standing up for my lifestyle and what I believe in," Ashley said. "It's all about equal rights. God has nothing to do with it."

She couldn't have been more right. Most of the supporters of Proposition 8 pulled God into their reasons for voting in favor of it, but it wasn't the only reason.

"I think that family values should not be brought down by teaching children that everything goes," said Laurie Burdi, who said she decided to join the supporters on the corner after she and her daughter saw them earlier while getting dinner.

She likened the fight over Proposition 8 to that of biblical proportions, saying we could be heading for another Sodom and Gomorrah.

The arguments that raged between the two sides were largely civil. Local news reports said it never got to anything more than arguing, although there was one person who reportedly was drunk who tried to start something with both sides.

This isn't to say there wasn't a fair amount of venom between them. During my time on the corner of Greenback and Sunrise, many cars filled with supporters leaving other areas passed by, honking to the supporters while saying derogatory things to those opposing.

While I stood talking with one of the supporters, a white car leaving the gas station pulled close on the corner. Something was said to the opposition, invoking a wad of spit from one of the girls protesting.

"God bless you!" the passenger in the car yelled as it sped off, rounding the corner. Five minutes later, the driver returned, and accosted the no protesters for answers about the wad of spit.

Ten minutes later, four police cars arrived on the scene, called by the driver. They stood in a daze at the scene. They couldn't arrest all of the protesters, and no one was giving up a name.

Gina Burdi, Laurie's daughter, said she had been called several vulgar words while at the protest.

"When people bring emotion into it, it means they are ignorant," she said. "Because I'm holding a sign that says 'Yes on 8' doesn't mean I'm a bitch or a slut."

One of the main concerns of the supporters involved whether school children would be taught about gay marriage. Several supporters, such as Emily Perry, feared that children would be told being gay is acceptable at a young age.

"I don't want kids in school to think this is OK," she said.

Laurie Burdi said she doesn't think homosexual relationships should be taught in school because it's teaching young children that it's natural.

"If I had a child turn gay," she said. "I would support them 100 percent because that's their choice."

All of the supporters I spoke to took great pains to mention that they have friends who are gay, but felt that decision was "misguided."

The opposition felt as though their lifestyles were under attacked by people who didn't understand who they are and that they were people. One of them, who would only identify herself as Annie B., openly wondered what in the last six months had caused the sanctity of marriage to be under assault.

"They are trying to restore (marriage) to Britney Spears' 55-hour, just-for-fun marriage," she said of her motivation for protesting as long as she had.

One of the more civil and fascinating debates that raged between both sides involved Aaron Fackrell, whose plywood sign read, "Satan wants you to vote yes," and a collection of supporters holding a generic yellow banner that proclaimed, "Yes on 8."

Fackrell was a master of turning the supporters' arguments on their head, finding ways to use their arguments to justify such things as the atom bomb and a septic tank as holy objects.

He was the only member of the opposition to use God as a justification for his decision, although he said he was "not religious," adding that he believes in a God.

"God gave everyone the right to choose who they want to be," he said. "If you vote yes, you are taking away their God-given right to choose. You are taking the role of God."

He added that homosexuality was less of a sin than telling God it is wrong, which is essentially what voting yes would do.

"Voting yes judges someone," Fackrell said afterward.

One of the supporters of Proposition 8, Sean Fehrenbacher, put it best about the protest and the whole ordeal at the corner of Sunrise and Greenback.

"Everybody classifies everybody," he said. "I'm not God. I see people as people. I try to see the good in everybody."

If only both sides of the Proposition 8 could truly do that. Perhaps this wouldn't be such an issue.

"Insert Witty Statement Here" appears every other Monday. John Hornberg is the Spartan Daily managing editor.

# Is this country ready for change or do we want more of the same?



**CORINNE SPECKERT**

The outcome of this election could have a significant effect for better or worse on our country and all that encompasses it, such as the economy, current rights and taxes. Unfortunately, change isn't guaranteed, and the key word here is could.

A lot of things could happen within our country after either Obama or McCain is declared president on Nov. 4, but it's the population's activism that could make a difference, or can it?

## Let's face it: There are a lot of conservatives in this country, and a lot of Americans are still racist.

For the past two years, every media outlet has emphasized the necessity of our generation's vote. Well, I'm registered, I'm voting and I made sure as hell to get everyone I know to do the same, but if Barack Obama isn't elected after all that talk of our generation's vote counting, I don't know what I'll do.

I want to believe that my vote, that our generation's votes will make a difference in this election, but I'm doubtful they will. I feel that there is so much fear in this country. Fear of pulling out of the Iraq war, fear of straying away from Bush's tactics and fear that if we do have change, would that mean that we've just wasted eight years?

I hate to say it, but if Obama was a white male with the same ideals and same family type, I think he would have a much better shot of winning. Let's face it: There are a lot of conservatives in this country, and a lot of Americans are still racist.

A 2006 CNN poll based on 1,207 Americans, including 328 blacks and 703 non-Hispanic whites, asked participants if they knew someone they would consider racist. Forty-three percent of whites and 48 percent of blacks said yes. The poll stated, "most Americans, white and black, see racism as a lingering problem in the United States."

In the same poll on racism, CNN reported that a University of Connecticut professor, who researched racism for more than 30 years, said he estimates that up to 80 percent of white Americans have racist feelings of which they may not be aware.

The National Journal's 27th annual vote ratings reported that Obama was the most liberal senator in 2007. Some may think Obama being labeled as the "most liberal" would be a plus in his campaign, but unfortunately a lot of Americans aren't ready for change.

An entry on RightNation.us entitled "Obama's agenda is so 'gay,'" criticizes Obama for supporting the right of homosexuals to marry, stating "if Bill Clinton was the first black president, Barack Obama, if elected, will be the first 'gay' president." The entry continued, saying Obama would be "the most radically pro-homosexual, anti-family president in history." If having two daughters, a wife and close relations with the rest of your clan means anti-family, then I sure don't want McCain in office — well, actually I never did.

America is known by other countries as the country of freedom, but if that's the case, why do we still have bans on essential human rights, such as gay marriage? If we're free, why are our rights, and therefore lives, limited by our government?

Bottom line is that a lot of things could happen in the election, but the question is: How ready are most Americans for change? I'm doubtful that change will stray far from Bush's and inevitably McCain's ideals.

Corinne Speckert is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The letter below is in reference to the article, "The things we forgive when we expect the crazy," by Angelo Lanham, which ran on Oct. 27.

Well, of course, under our presidential election system, Ralph's nomination would appear to draw votes away from Mr. Obama. That assumes that Mr. Nader would in fact "steal" more independent votes and/or Democratic votes than he would "steal" McCain votes, and that by itself isn't really clear.

What I personally hate instead of Mr. Nader is our system of electing a president or any other person for office. It's a "winner-take-all" system. It works well enough for only two candidates for office — the one with the larger vote count should take the office.

But what if there are three candidates? The vote could easily be split such that no one receives a majority of all votes cast. Suppose, for example, A gets 40 percent, B gets 35 percent and C gets the remaining 25 percent. Should A take the office? Instead, suppose a run-off election between A and B was held. The voters for

C will either have to choose between A and B, or not vote. In that event, it's possible that most or all of the C voters will vote for B, and B gets the office. With no run-off voting, there's no official way to tell. Hence one is left with the suspicion that with Nader running, he could get (say) 5 percent of the vote, and Obama/McCain split (say) 49-51 percent of the remainder, who should be president? No way to tell.

Run-off voting is expensive, so a better plan would be to have each voter select a first choice, second choice and third choice among several candidates. The voting system could then examine the second and third choices as needed to select the "best" candidate, i.e. the one who would win in a run-off election.

-William Barrett  
lecturer, computer engineering department

A 15-year-old is by no means as mature as her parents. It is in her parents' best interest to protect her life. Regardless of the fact that they may condemn her actions, parents will always look out for a child's well being. The intent of Proposition 4 is to protect the lives of pregnant teens. An unwanted pregnancy puts teens in a state of fear, frustration and desperation that makes them make impulsive decisions that result in tragedies. No one will protect these young teens better than a parent.

Parents have the right to be aware that their child could be in danger by choosing the wrong doctor. Say yes on Prop. 4.

-Claudia Ocano  
public relations major

The letter below is in reference to the article, "Prop 8 doesn't protect anything; it threatens equal rights precedents," by Tommy Wright, which ran on Oct. 16.

(Tommy Wright) is absolutely correct that Prop. 8 doesn't support anything and threatens equal rights. As a gay person born and raised in California who votes and pays taxes in the state, I do not want to see hate and inequality against myself and my family built into our state constitution.

The organization on campus for which I am president, the California Faculty Association, also does not support hate and inequality and officially urges a no vote to hate and inequality. Don't succumb to the scare tactics for a proposition that protects nothing. Vote no on Proposition 8.

-Elizabeth Cara  
SJSU California Faculty Association president, associate professor, dept. of occupational therapy

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CD REVIEWS: CHEAP NOTHING'S 'THE POLITICS OF EXISTENCE' AND 'WOMEN'S BODY PARTS'

# The band Cheap Nothing lives up to its name — not once — but twice

ANDREA FRAINIER  
Staff Writer

The Indianapolis-based group Cheap Nothing takes on the Book of Job, among other biblical passages, on one of two debut albums, "The Politics of Existence," which will be released with "Women's Body Parts" on Nov. 4.

I should take a moment to point out that "The Politics of Existence" isn't meant to appeal strictly to a Christian base or resemble a Christian pop record, which it doesn't.

The fourth track, "Only 22," struck a chord with me. Perhaps it's because I myself am 22 and can relate to the lyrics, "I got nothing better to try / I got nothing better lined up / I got nothing better to do / Life is over and I'm only 22."

Cheap Nothing, which comprises Malachi Black (vocals), Tony Brock (backing vocals), Scott Comanzo (guitar, bass, piano and drums), Rob Heath (percussion) and Jesse Lucas (bass), describes its sound as "slop rock" (whatever that means).

The band lists Frank Zappa, Beck and Mike Patton from Faith No More among its musical influences on its MySpace page.

"The Politics of Existence" was inspired by the Book of Job, found in the Old Testament of the Bible. If you're not familiar with the Book of Job, in the simplest terms, it's about the age-old question: Why do bad things happen to good people?

And so goes "The Politics of Existence" as it explores themes of good and evil, gluttony, wealth, power and everything else that makes this a dog-eat-dog world.

Cheap Nothing is an experimental band — too experimental for me. Their tracks are loosely structured and Black's weak vocals continually forced me to crack open the CD booklet in order to understand what he is trying to sing (and I use the term "sing" very loosely).

The opening track "Class Warfare" jumps right into the band questioning the hierarchy of society. Black sings about the world through the eyes of someone who lives in poverty as he begs the question, "Do you work that much harder than I do / Do you break your back like I do / Do your kids starve like mine do?"

By the time I reached the seventh track, "I Wanna Die," I too wanted to die from listening to this album. But there are a handful of songs on the 16-track album that aren't completely insufferable.

The fourth track, "Only 22," struck a chord with me. Perhaps it's because I am 22 and can relate to the lyrics, "I got nothing better to try / I got nothing better lined up / I got nothing better to do / Life is over and I'm only 22."

The track, "Death Tax," which features Comanzo instead of Black on lead vocals, will be my new personal anthem as he sings, "I've got 30 times debt than capital / I've got nothing else to lose / but my indebted life" over an upbeat, country guitar riff.

Toward the end of the album, tracks such as "The Nothing Hole" and "Benign Empty Whole" are somewhat redeemable for Comanzo's electric guitar solos. The downside: You have to make it through two minutes of Black's raspy, incoherent singing to get to it. Hardly worth it.

If you're into experimental music, I would say give "The Politics of Existence" a shot. Perhaps you can appreciate the band's "slop rock" sound and political efforts more than I did.

KAAJAL MORAR  
Staff Writer

Anyone with class and taste will avoid Cheap Nothing's CD, "Women's Body Parts."

Only the insane will understand what Cheap Nothing's artist Scott Comanzo was thinking when he recorded this (or maybe he wasn't thinking).

The first track, "Go Bulls," was far from pleasing.

Think of nails on a chalkboard intensified by a few thousand decibels with crying babies in the background. You'll probably end up showing Q-tips in your eyes from the pain of hearing it.

The nonsensical guitar chords were not really in tune with the drums, which were so painful to hear that I couldn't finish listening. I skipped it halfway through.

The CD picks up dramatically with the second track, "Chlamydia," which was sung by Malachi Black.

Funny how all the good songs are not sung by Comanzo. "Chlamydia" had a catchy, foot-tapping beat with rich vocals and clean-cut guitar chords and drumming.

Track 6, "Possessive," takes a turn for the better. It actually sounds like music most normal people would want to listen to.

The jazzy guitar chords and strong bass line kept the rest of the song in top shape. Comanzo's vocals actually sounded human and full for the first (and last) time.

Track 8 was a revisit to "Chlamydia." I already heard that song! What a waste of 56 seconds I will never get back. My life is ruined.

Track 10 was awkward. After about three minutes of more nonsense, the song is followed with seven minutes of silence.

Someone want to explain to me what that was about?

The last track features Comanzo literally mashing on the keys of a poorly tuned piano (that poor piano). The guitar picked up slightly, only to be ruined by random chords. If only he could stick to guitar and let real musicians take over.

I went in to the last song feeling like that, and came out with tears of joy pouring down my cheeks after realizing his lacking vocals were not on this track.

Elevators would reject this utter nonsense.

Comanzo has the skill, but it just doesn't seem like he's putting his talent to good use. The different instruments sound cluttered and don't mesh well.

It is a good CD, but only if you were planning on jumping out a window and needed some kind of confirmation that this world was dying.

The actual CD is good for a coaster. Try it out, guys. It works. You'll just have to tape up the hole in the center. Or you can save yourself the effort and toss it.

Look no further, my friend.

Just two minutes into the CD and you'll shoot headfirst through the closest window, guaranteed.

It's also a good CD for when you want to scare off an undesirable date.

One listen will make him or her wonder what meds you're on and why you skipped them today.

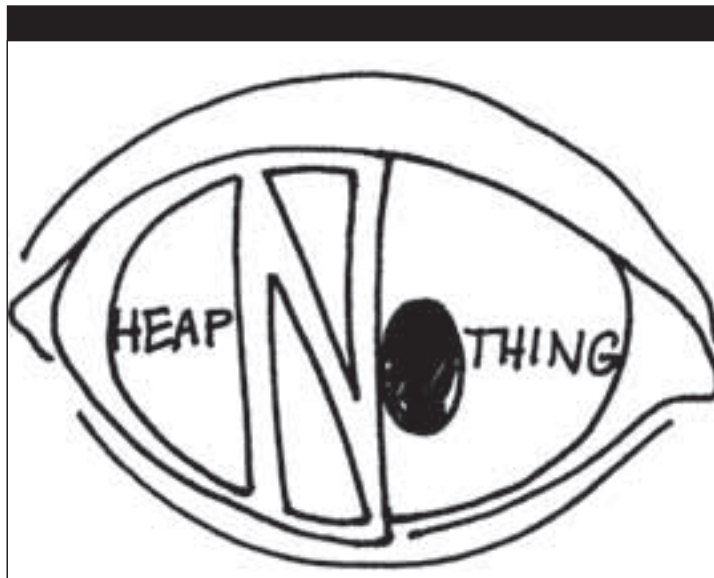
The actual CD is good for a coaster. Try it out, guys. It works. You'll just have to tape up the hole in the center.

Or you can save yourself the effort and toss it.

Maybe Comanzo thought he was in one of those offbeat poetry clubs with moody lighting and an inebriated audience.

I'd rather listen to Barney on helium.

Listen to real music. Avoid Cheap Nothing.



Courtesy of Scott Comanzo

The logo that appears on the covers of "The Politics of Existence" and "Women's Body Parts," which are scheduled to be released on Nov. 4.

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