



# theSpartanDaily.com Spartan Daily

Serving San Jose State University Since 1934

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## THE WIRE

### LOCAL

#### Stanford law grad pleads guilty

SAN JOSE - Christina Warthen, a 35-year-old Stanford University law school graduate, pled guilty to charges of tax fraud. While soliciting sexual favors for money, Warthen failed to report her income of nearly \$82,000 in 2003. The plea requires Warthen to pay \$313,000 and serve one year home detention when sentenced June 15.

#### Second set of octuplets in history

BELLFLOWER - A woman gave birth to eight babies in five minutes at Kaiser Permanente Bellflower Medical Center. Doctors were scheduled to deliver seven babies by a Caesarean section and were surprised by the eighth baby. Hospital officials declined to release any other information on the new mother of octuplets, including whether or not fertility drugs were used.

### NATIONAL

#### Thousands more lose jobs to recession

WASHINGTON - Pfizer, Caterpillar and Home Depot announced nearly 40,000 layoffs due to the declining economy Monday. These cuts follow last week's layoffs from major companies Microsoft Corp., Intel Corp., and United Airlines parent UAL Corp. of a combined 12,000 jobs.

#### Geithner confirmed as treasury secretary

WASHINGTON - Timothy Geithner, former president of the New York Federal Reserve Bank, was confirmed to the position as President Barack Obama's treasury secretary Monday. In a 60-34 Senate vote, Geithner was sworn in by Vice President Joe Biden and immediately put to work by President Obama.

### WORLD

#### Troops may withdraw quicker than planned

BAGHDAD - Iraq's Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki estimated Monday that U.S. troops will withdraw more quickly than the established timeline in the U.S.-Iraq security agreement. President Barack Obama mentioned withdrawal within 16 months during his campaign. According to the Associated Press count, 4,236 American service members have died in the war since 2003.

Courtesy of the Associated Press

### HIGH SCHOOL

## Local district does away with sports

Programs could return next year, officials say

DAVID ZUGNONI  
Senior Staff Writer

In a slew of budget cuts across the state of California, a San Jose high school district will do without sports programs for at least one school year, with a return of

the programs hopeful but not certain.

The East Side Union High School District, which serves more than 24,500 students at 11 traditional high schools that have sports teams and 11 other schools, made the decision on Dec. 4 to cut its athletic programs for the 2009-10 school year, said Alan Garafalo, the associate superintendent of student services and facilities for the district.

Garafalo said efforts will be made to save the programs in the form of fundraising and cost reductions.

Among the possible solutions are: cutting free transportation for athletes, leaving parents and coaches responsible for transportation; shortening seasons; leasing out athletic facilities during offseasons; selling ticket packages through a partnership with the San Jose Earthquakes of Major

League Soccer; charging for CPR classes that the district currently offers for free and charging athletes a pay-to-play fee, with an exemption for those who can't afford it, Garafalo said.

"Car washes and bake sales aren't going to get us the 2 or 3 million (dollars) that it will take to fund our sports programs," he said.

He added that it is possible that sports programs will be rein-

stated for the 2009-10 school year and that he hopes the programs return sooner rather than later.

"The longer we go without athletics, the less chance you're going to see it," he said.

SJSU baseball coach Sam Piraro said that while he was not surprised that the programs were in danger of being cut because

See **EAST SIDE**, page 3

### CONSTRUCTION

## Delays push back operation of signal at Seventh and San Salvador



SJSU student walks across Seventh Street and San Salvador on Monday where delays to make the lights operational will continue until mid-February.

SANDRA SANTOS / Spartan Daily

Busy intersection will be without stoplight until mid-February

JULIANNE SHAPIRO  
Staff Writer

The city of San Jose and SJSU have rescheduled the operational date for a new traffic light at the intersection of Seventh and San Salvador streets, near the entrance of the Seventh Street garage, to sometime in mid-February, officials from the city and the university said.

The light was scheduled to be functional at the start of the

semester, said Amy Olay, a senior engineer for the San Jose Department of Transportation, but problems with construction and PG&E caused the delay.

"There were some hang-ups," she said. "For instance, longer-than-expected underground construction work. And there were some unforeseen conditions and also additional work required by PG&E."

This is the second delay for the implementation of the light, which originally was supposed to be completed mid-December last year, Olay said.

The heavy traffic during special events and parking during the start of each semester is one of the reasons the traffic light, a

joint project between the city and the university, is being installed.

UPD Sgt. Mike Santos said gridlock occurs at the intersection because it is the primary entrance into the university.

"The biggest concern we've had and one of the reasons for us to request the stoplight is because of the traffic, especially during the first two weeks of school and during special events like concerts, high school graduations when they have them at the Event Center," he said.

Albert Hsieh, vice president of the Associated Students, said he frequently passes by the intersection.

"When there is a concert there, it's complete chaos trying to get in and out of Seventh Street (garage), especially during the evening," he said.

Drivers going northbound will have a separate left-turn lane, Olay said. In addition, there will also be a lane for through traffic.

"The two lanes of traffic will actually get separated, whereas in the past, the left and the through would be sitting in the same lane," she said.

Melissa Wilson, a sophomore communicative disorders major, said she thinks the traffic light

See **TRAFFIC**, page 3

### LITERATURE

## Author shares stories of nation's Italian immigrants

ELIZABETH KANG  
Staff Writer

Author Vincenza Scarpaci spoke to an audience at the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library Monday afternoon as part of her nationwide book tour, sharing images from her book, "The Journey of the Italians in America."

Scarpaci is an Italian-American author and scholar who focuses her writing on Italian immigrants. In her book, Scarpaci includes more than 400 photographs of Italians, including celebrities, families, settlements and businesses.

In her book, the Brooklyn-born author examines the numerous ways Italian-Americans and immigrants have contributed to American life and culture, from arts and cuisine to sports and politics.

Librarian Rebecca Feind praised Scarpaci's book as "an excellent example of history represented through photographs."

According to the website, The Annotico Report, the book includes many pictures and stories of the hardships, failures and triumphs of many Italian immigrants, starting from the late 1870s. The publisher of the book, Penguin, said, "The author takes a photographic approach towards unraveling the history and legacy of Italians and their presence in America."

David Fatemi, a linguistics graduate student, said he attended the lecture because he finds all stories of immigrants interesting. He said he specifically finds the transition of the changes in Italian images remarkable.

See **AUTHOR**, page 3

# THE SPARTAN DAILY.COM

SLIDESHOW: VIEW THE MOST INTERESTING PHOTOS OF THE SPARTANS' TRIUMPH OVER IN-STATE RIVAL FRESNO.

SPORTS: READ AN INTERVIEW BETWEEN SJSU FOOTBALL HEAD COACH DICK TOMELY AND ONE OF THE SPARTAN DAILY'S OWN.

NEWS: STUDENTS AND FACULTY CELEBRATE THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF WOMEN'S INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS.

## PHOTO BLOG

RIGHT: HEAR THE STORY BEHIND OUR PHOTOGRAPHERS' FAVORITE PHOTOS FROM LAST SEMESTER.

SLIDESHOW: THE SPARTAN SWIM AND DIVE TEAM SINKS CSU BAKERSFIELD FOR THEIR 15TH CONSECUTIVE WIN.

PODCAST: LISTEN TO SJSU MEN'S BASKETBALL POST-GAME PRESS CONFERENCE.



# 500 years of keyboard history on display at annual international piano festival



Young sister and brother duo of Ayano and Ryota Watanabe performing at the "Keyboard Evolution Lecture" at the Beethoven Center, Jan. 24. **DAN LU / Spartan Daily**

**DAN LU**  
Staff Writer

Melodies were in the air at the Second International Piano Festival held at SJSU on Saturday and Sunday. The two-day event included master classes, private coaching, lectures, demonstrations and performances.

The joint festival was put on by the nonprofit organization Kurosawa Piano Music Foundation and hosted by the SJSU School of Music and Dance and The Ira F. Brilliant Center for Beethoven Studies in the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library.

"The festival is a good opportunity to understand the history and evolution of the keyboard," said Alex Kurosawa, president of the Kurosawa Piano Music Foundation.

Master classes allow students to work with professionals on compositions by composers such as Claude Debussy and Georges Bizet.

At the Beethoven Center, SJSU piano technician Erik Siverson went through the evolution of the keyboard in a lecture.

Richard Sogg, of the American Beethoven Society, demonstrated his talents on each instrument playfully on different types of keyboards. Developments in the keyboard can be heard by comparing of the soft sound of the 1953 clavichord to a louder tone created by the modern grand piano.

After the lecture, two young artists, the sister and brother duo of Ayano and Ryota Watanabe, showcased their rendition of Beethoven's Overture from "Fidelio," which garnered loud applause at the end.

"As time passed by, inventors looked at ways to make keyboards more expressive," said Siverson, who said he has worked as a piano technician since 1978.

The keyboard evolution lecture allowed folks to hear the advancements in technology and learn how each instrument works.

Siverson said he hoped the audience would learn from his lecture and that "they would get a greater appreciation for the historic instruments and

find their charm."

Piano performances were also held throughout the weekend, featuring The Tosheff Piano Duo and Pas de Duo performing a repertoire which included pieces like "Symphonic Dance," by Russian composer Sergei Rachmaninoff, and "The Dance of the Rebels," by Bulgarian pianist Alexander Raichev.

In addition, students of the School of Music and Dance performed a collection of pieces during the College and Graduate Student Piano Duo concert. Two pianos were placed on stage while fingers glided rapidly across the black and white keys.

Five performance duos were on the schedule at the SJSU Concert Hall. In the audience, young children, adults and piano enthusiasts watched the performance quietly with cameras in hand and loud applause at the end of each duo performance.

One of the student performers, music graduate student

Ruth Ann Moline, said it was exciting to perform her piece. She said she has worked hard on it for three to four months.

"We hear music usually from one piano," Moline said. "This was a special opportunity to hear music from two pianos that's not often performed."

Other performances throughout the weekend included a diverse mix of cultures during the Young Artists' Piano Duo, the Gala Concert featuring The Tosheff Piano Duo, Pas de Duo and a finale performance by SJSU faculty members who performed on a variety of historic keyboards.

Kurosawa said he is dedicated to bringing music and piano ensembles to the masses. He said putting on the event is a way for him to give back to the community and inspire people.

"As artists, it is great to have Alex, who loves music, and help support it and put on an event like this," said Naomi Sanchez of Pas de Duo.

# SPARTAGUIDE

**27** Today

**Disturbed**  
With Sevendust and Skindred.  
Tickets are \$37.50.  
7:30 p.m. in the Event Center.  
For tickets call, 998-TIXS.

**28** Tomorrow

**Sitting Like a Buddha**  
Meditation instruction.  
3:30 p.m. in the Costanoan Room of the Student Union.  
Contact Justin at 677-8681.

**29** Thursday

**Moral Knowledge**  
Professors Robert Audi and David Gallo discuss "Moral Knowledge: Realism, Pluralism and Reasons for action." Part of the Philosophy Series and Center for Comparative Philosophy lecture series.  
4 p.m. in the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library, Room 229.  
Contact Bo Mou at 924-4513.

**30** Friday

**Stand-Up at San Jose**  
Featuring Brad Williams, Bret Ernst, Sammy Obeid and Jim Panetta.  
8 p.m. in Morris Dailey Auditorium.  
Tickets are \$15/\$20.

**02** Monday

**International Youth Fellowship**  
Club meeting discussing volunteer work and studying abroad.  
6:30 p.m. in the Almaden Room of the Student Union.  
Contact Abraham at 722-0312.

**04** Wednesday

**Israel Open Discussion**  
An uncensored discussion hosted by Spartans for Israel.  
5:30 to 7 p.m. in the Almaden Room of the Student Union.  
Contact Vanina at 286-6669.

**Spartan Squad Snow Day**  
Eight tons of snow is brought to SJSU for a Snow Day. Sponsored by Spartan Squad and Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Committee.  
4 to 7 p.m. at Seventh Street Plaza.

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](http://thespartandaily.com) or in writing at DBH 209.

Read an amazing story about the **40th Anniversary of Women's Sports** online at [TheSpartanDaily.com](http://TheSpartanDaily.com).



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# AUTHOR | Image of Italian-Americans has changed in last century, Scarpaci says

Continued from page 1

Fatemi said that although Italians used to be subject to racial slurs and hatred, now, "it's so cool to be Italian. They have the best food, best-looking people."

Scarpaci said she traveled through America for four years, collecting accounts and pictures of Italian immigrants. She toured 35 states in search of detailed and meaningful stories of Italian-Americans and their families.

Although Scarpaci's book and research is mainly on Italian-American immigrants, she said she sees many universal truths that all immigrants, regardless of their homeland, share.

"Each wave of people has cultural similarities," Scarpaci said. "A lot of immigrants don't know English, are illiterate or semi-literate, and have never been given enough dignity."

Scarpaci said that all immigrants come to improve their position and even if they were successful in their home country, they have more options in America.

She emphasized that, just like Italian immigrants at the turn of the century, today's immigrants are also looked down upon for

working with their hands and being blue-collar workers, like they're not as good as white collars.

She said there is the same fear of immigrants today as there was of Italian and other European immigrants in the past. She said that the fear was that because the immigrant's native country wasn't democratic, they "never would become American," and "would ruin democracy."

Scarpaci also noted that America is, in some ways, more open to immigrants and is learning from its past. She said Americans are more welcoming than before. One example she gave was schools offering bilingual education and product printing in two languages.

She said Italian-Americans were told to learn English or get out of the country. Scarpaci observed that it also may be more difficult for immigrants because, "in this post-industrial era, immigrants don't have the variety of jobs to choose from."

Scarpaci received a history degree from Hofstra University and a Ph.D. in U.S. history from Rutgers University, specializing in immigration history. The dedicated author currently teaches at the University of Oregon and lives in Eugene, Ore., with her husband.



Author Vincenza Scarpaci signs her book, "The Journey of the Italians in America," Monday afternoon in the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library.

ELIZABETH KANG / Spartan Daily

# TRAFFIC | Security camera, wheelchair ramps also part of project

Continued from page 1

will improve the intersection.

"People will know when to go instead of there being long pauses when no one knew when to go, so I think it will help improve traffic in the long run," Wilson said.

The crosswalk light at the intersection will additionally ensure the safety of pedestrians, Santos said.

Pedestrians previously had to judge when to walk across the street when the intersection was a stop sign. Now, the light will be used as a safety guide.

"There won't be any doubt," Santos said. "There's going to be a sign and a light that says pedestrians can walk and the vehicles shouldn't be moving - pedestrians should be given the right of way."

One of the special features of the project is a surveillance camera that will be set up in one of SJSU's towers, which will

enable the city staff to monitor traffic conditions off-site.

"If they can see there's a lot of traffic, they can make the green light cycle a lot more than ... let's say ... it won't be an even cycle. One direction will have the same amount of time as the other direction," Santos said.

Another feature of the project is wheelchair ramps that will be in all four corners of the intersection, which meets guidelines in the Americans with Disabilities Act, Olay said.

She said pedestrians will be allowed to cross in all directions, similar to the intersection of the Ninth and San Fernando streets.

Santos said the total cost for the project was \$600,000 with the university contributing \$209,000. He said the University Police Parking Services used money drawn from citation fees to cover the cost.

"The citation fees definitely contributed to everybody's safety," Santos said.

# EAST SIDE | Privately funded teams could be alternative

Continued from page 1

budgets are tight across the entire state, he added that he expects the district will find ways to fund them.

"You always try to find solutions before you drop the hammer," he said.

"Perhaps a successful athlete who played at one of those schools who's gone on to the NFL, the NBA, they make a sizable donation."

Alexandria Galusha, an SJSU softball player who played within the district at Santa Teresa High School said she heard talk of sports being cut during her time there but thought it would never come to pass.

"I didn't realize it was that bad until I realized that we never got anything," said the sophomore communications major. "We always had to buy our own stuff. The equipment was always really old."

Galusha said she was shocked and upset when she heard of recent, more serious talk about sports in the district being cut.

"Kids need sports," she said, "especially in a public school, where a lot of things can go wrong and kids can get into bad things. Sports is my life, and I know a lot

of students feel the same way."

Galusha's teammate, Jennifer Ames, who played softball, basketball and volleyball at Evergreen Valley High School, also within the district, said privately funded traveling teams offer a competitive alternative to high school sports for students who

aspire to play in college.

"I think it's worse for the kids who don't want to play a sport in college because they're not going to go out and look for a team to play on," said Ames, a sophomore history major. "Whereas, if this is your dream to play in college, then you're going to do what it

takes to find a team that will get you noticed or recruited."

Both Galusha and Ames played sports at private high schools for two years before transferring to public schools within the district, and both said the private schools funded their athletic programs much better.

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## Things to see and do list:



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SAN JOSE STATE UNIVERSITY  
SPARTAN SHOPS

# Hat tricks pilot Spartans past LMU

SCOTT REYBURN  
Staff Writer

The SJSU hockey team rebounded against Loyola Marymount with a 9-3 victory Sunday afternoon at Sharks Ice.

After two losses to Utah State on Friday and Saturday, the Spartans came out physical early on to set the tone for the rest of the game.

"It all started on Friday night and Saturday night. We lost two against Utah State, both back-to-back, pretty close games," said junior wing Mickey Rhodes. "This one, we just brought it together as a team."

Five minutes into the first period, the Spartans scored the first goal when sophomore center Robbie Vaughan slammed home a rebound into a wide open net, assisted by defenseman Jami James, who is a graduate student, and freshman Kyle Dutra.

Midway through the first period and after a scramble at the net, Rhodes scored the next goal

for the Spartans, which was the first of a hat trick performance.

Things got chippy in front of the Loyola Marymount goal when players started pushing and shoving, leading to a minor penalty for the Lions.

SJSU cashed in early on a power play opportunity when Rhodes netted another goal.

"Skate hard and hustle hard, and put the puck on net right from the beginning," said senior wing Jeff Kuncaitis. "Same thing coming in hard, working the corners, you know, bringing it to them."

With less than a minute remaining in the first period, the Spartans took a penalty followed by a Loyola Marymount goal. Seconds later, the Spartans answered back, leaving the score 4-1 at the end of the first period.

Right off the bat in the second period, Loyola Marymount's freshman center Kevin Keomanee scored a quick goal after multiple turnovers by the Spartans in their own zone.

A few minutes later, Spartans

leading scorer and center Andy Dickerson, who is a graduate student, scored a power-play goal when the Loyola Marymount goalie was down as Dickerson's backhand shot reached the back of the net.

With the Lions defense not picking up their defensive assignments, Vaughan skated in and slapped in a goal off the post to lay it on the Lions.

"Big game from Andy Dickerson, Vaughan, Scarbrough had four (assists)," Rhodes said. "I had three goals and just good game all around."

Loyola Marymount ended the second period on a positive note when a behind-the-net pass led to a goal.

Early in the third period, the Spartans got into penalty trouble leading to a five-on-three power play for the Lions. The Spartans killed off the Lions' advantage with great teamwork, Rhodes said.

"All teamwork, working good power plays and penalty kills, everything," Rhodes said.



The Spartans celebrate victory a little early with Andy Dickerson's (39) third goal during the game against Loyola Marymount Lions this Sunday at Sharks Ice. **CINTHIA RODRIGUEZ / Spartan Daily**

After end-to-end hockey for five minutes, Dickerson picked off the puck at the top of the Spartans' zone to go on a breakaway and score a short-handed goal. SJSU went on to score two more goals.

"We needed the win because

we lost twice against a good team this weekend," Vaughan said. "We needed the win to get our confidence back up and keep things rolling."

Vaughan said that they have seen Loyola Marymount before, and knew the Spartans were a

stronger team and that they had to play as hard as they could.

"They definitely got better in the last month or two since we played them last time," he said, "but we got pretty much exactly what we expected out there."

# Shark Tank sparks Downtown San Jose and livens rather dead city life



JOEY AKELEY  
Beyond the Game: A Sports Commentary

We are in recession — possibly a depression — and the people of America are struggling. The Bay Area has been reeling just like the rest of the nation.

Foreclosure rates are rising, the budgets for universi-

ties are being cut and state debt is not getting any smaller. Downtown San Jose lacks the glow and attraction that cities such as New York and San Francisco possess.

But the intersection of Santa Clara and Autumn street marks the heart and soul of San Jose.

This is Sharks territory. The HP Pavilion, also known as the Shark Tank, is where this city comes together for one common purpose: To guide the Sharks to victory.

In the Tank, there are times when you can't even hear yourself talk because it gets so loud.

The arena turns into a frenzy of uncontrollable Sharks fans, and the team feeds off this energy to smash their opponents left and right.

It's like when a shark in the ocean smells blood, it releases its killer instinct. The San Jose Sharks have released their killer instinct in the Tank.

The Sharks have lost just one time in regulation at home this season, and recently matched the second longest steak of home games without a regulation loss at 31.

For the season, the Sharks are off to their best start in team his-

tory through their first 45 games with an NHL-leading 73 points. They are on pace to break the record for the most points in a single season, set by the 1976-1977 Montreal Canadiens with 132 points.

I can't imagine how much that burns the ego of the hockey purists from Canada and the Northeast.

A team from San Jose, known for its nice weather and where snow doesn't even exist, rules the league. What the Sharks have brought to San Jose goes far beyond a few wins and losses. It gives the city something to believe in.

And it's not just the Tank that lights up for the Sharks, it's the entire downtown.

In fact, all of the city, community, Bay Area and Northern California lights up. Downtown San Jose restaurants are packed to the brim when the Sharks are at home. The streets are filled with Sharks memorabilia, and residents are decked out in teal, orange and black.

Comcast SportsNet Bay Area's ratings have reached new heights as they have increased 44 percent from last season, according to the NHL Web site. There is an average of 31,500

households watching the Sharks per game.

Whether it's Patrick Marleau with a breakaway, Evgeni Nabokov with a glove save, or Joe Thornton with a go-ahead goal, this city loves its Sharks. The time is now for San Jose to come together and watch greatness as it unfolds.

After all, this is Sharks territory.

"Beyond the Game" appears every other Tuesday. Joey Akeley is a Spartan Daily multimedia editor.

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# Fresno State can't hang with the Spartans

JESSICA AYALA  
Staff Writer

The SJSU men's basketball team won Saturday night 85-79 against the Fresno State Bulldogs, giving them their first conference win at home and a season sweep against their biggest rival since 1991.

Coming off an eight-point performance against Utah State, coach George Nessman said guard Adrian Oliver promised him he wouldn't have two bad games in a row. Oliver led the team with 29 points.

"I really felt I had something to prove to myself, 'cause it's very rare that I have two bad games," Oliver said. "I have a bad game every now and then. Everybody does, but when you have a bad game you should learn from it."

Guard Robert Owens played 19 minutes and scored 17 points, including four 3-pointers. He said he attributes his success on the court to his teammates.

"When I'm on the floor my

teammates, such as Adrian, that mostly handle the ball, they have a tremendous amount of confidence in me to give me the basketball and for my other teammates to give me help, so you know that just gives me the boost," Owens said.

C.J. Webster, Tim Pierce and Chris Oakes combined for a total of 25 rebounds, equaling the same amount Fresno State had throughout the game.

In the first half, SJSU held Fresno State to 37.9 percent shooting from the field and 12.5 percent from the 3-point range. With SJSU controlling the game, Fresno State managed to score two points after almost three minutes. By the end of the first half, SJSU led 14 points. But SJSU was soon to relinquish the advantage they had at the end of the first half.

SJSU was held scoreless for almost three-and-a-half minutes, giving Fresno State an opportunity to take the lead.

With 8:32 left in the second half, the score was tied at 57-57 and SJSU fought to

take the lead once again. Fresno State scored 50 points in the second half, to SJSU's 42 points.

"We just came out and fought hard every minute from the beginning to the buzzer. As the coach always repeats to us, just keep fighting. It's not over until it's the last buzzer," Owens said. "That's what we did, and we got it done and it feels great to have this home win — especially right now at this point in the season."

Nessman said the second half is what made it an interesting game.

"I credit Fresno State for absolutely coming out in the second half and just attacking us," Nessman said. As for Oliver, he said he felt Thursday's game against Utah State was a crucial step, but he let his team and fans down.

"I feel like I had to come out tonight and not carry us, but be a leader and set the example and show the fans that hey, we had a bad game, but we are a very good team who can try to play for the title," he said.



Junior center Chris Oakes dunks against Fresno State's senior guard Mike Anderson during the 85-79 Spartan victory at the Event Center on Saturday, Jan. 24.

## Wolf Pack devour Spartans

SAMANTHA PATTERSON  
Staff Writer

The SJSU women's basketball team played a strong first half Sunday against the conference-leading Nevada Wolf Pack, but fell 66-52 after an early second half meltdown.

"The second half is where I am a little disappointed," said head coach Pam DeCosta. "It's been our weakness all year long."

"It's the first four minutes; the first four minutes of the second half where we got to try and fix that. We're not coming out as intense as we started the game, so we got to try to find a way to fix that."

The Spartans took the court with determination, but the Wolf Pack started the game with a two-point shot made by Brandi Jones. Shortly after, SJSU got on the scoreboard with a field goal made by sophomore guard Sayja Sumler.

The Wolf Pack and Spartans went head-to-head with a turnover every two points until the Spartans led 13-8 at the start of the game. After a time out, Nevada surged out to a 17-13 lead with 6:37 left in the half.

Junior guards Chasity Shavers and Kelly Blair would add four points to keep up with Nevada. The Wolf Pack brought on a strong offense but the Spartans stayed tough until the end of the first half. The Spartans fell behind just one point, 26-25, at halftime.

"We knew we had specific matchups we had to get done and a specific game plan we had to follow, and I think we followed it and did a pretty good starting the plays," said junior forward Shauna Ridge.

Although the second half was disappointing for DeCosta, she approved of the team's efforts in the first half.

"The first half we fought hard, we had a lot of energy and effort," Shavers said that the team's strategy for the second half was to play strong defense and stay executed.

Nevada quickly added to the scoreboard before SJSU had the chance to get two points in by Shavers.

"We always seem to come out strong our first half, but we can't seem to come out strong the first four minutes of the second half," Shavers said.



Kelly Blair attempts a basket while Shavon Moore of the Nevada Wolf Pack blocks her during Sunday's game. SJSU lost the game to Nevada 66-52.

Shavers then landed a 3-pointer to close the Spartans deficit to 35-30. Soon after, junior guard Ashley Brown made both free throws off of a foul by Megan Cherry.

The Wolf Pack increased their lead to five points when Dellena Criner made a 3-pointer and another two points to set the score to 40-33. From there, the Wolf Pack led an aggressive second half with a 10 point lead and 12:09 left on the clock.

Shavers led the Spartans with 16 points, while Sumler had 10.

"I know Nevada is the number one team, but I feel like we should have won that game," Shavers said.

DeCosta said the Spartans have several things to work on for their next game.

"We need to work on time and score, recognizing how much time is on the clock, and score. We need to work on how to get a sense of urgency on defense. We have it for a couple players, but it has to be everybody," she said.

Name	PTS.
<b>SJSU</b>	
C. Shavers	16
S. Sumler	10
A. Brown	6
K. Blair	6
<b>Nevada</b>	
D. Criner	12
S. Moore	11
B. Jones	10
M. Cherry	9

Team	1st	2nd	Total
<b>Spartans</b>	25	27	52
<b>Wolf Pack</b>	26	40	66

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# “Brick:” teen angst at its murderous best

## DISC OF THE WEEK

JON XAVIER  
Online Managing Editor

A seedy underworld where bad people do bad things to each other, where the prettiest faces hide the ugliest souls and the line between lies and the truth is as thin as a wisp of smoke coming off a mobster's cigarette.

If your first thought was “high school,” congratulations, you and director Rian Johnson are on the same wavelength (and you might want to avoid your 5-year reunion). For the rest of us, Johnson's 2005 detective story, “Brick,” offers a refreshingly noir take on the best four years of our lives.

“Brick” is “She's All That” as written by Raymond Chandler, where the normal high school cliques take a decidedly darker turn.

The popular kids are a secret cabal that runs the town's lucrative drug trade. The drama club is led by a manipulative femme fatale who treats underclassmen like lapdogs. Even the class nerd has some very unconventional extracurriculars.

Into this shady setting comes Brendan Frye (Joseph Gordon-Levitt), a teenage version of Sam Spade given to risk taking and sharp, colorful exposition. Brendan knows all the angles, the DVD's back-of-the-box blurb declares, but chooses to remain

uninvolved. Yet, when his ex-girlfriend and love of his life, Emily (Emilie de Ravin), leaves him a note asking for his help, he suddenly finds himself being pulled into the world he rejects.

Emily, it turns out, is involved in something big. Something bad. When she turns up dead despite his attempts to help, Brendan's mission goes from finding out what that was to punishing the ones responsible.

In lesser hands, “Brick” could have very easily become something ridiculous, a spoof of early detective dramas rather than the fitting homage that it is. But Johnson and his cast play it entirely straight, and the seriousness with which they treat what might otherwise have been a very gimmicky high school trope enables the audience to take it seriously as well. After a few minutes of conceptual vertigo, it's possible to suspend one's disbelief entirely and lose oneself in the story.

Aided by Johnson's quick, witty dialog and attention to detail, “Brick” presents a narrative that is at turns exciting and emotionally engaging. The cast is impeccable, creating a colorful gallery of characters from what is essentially a collection of genre staples.

Gordon-Levitt in particular brings a lot to the film. His character Brendan is a cynical loner in the best hard-boiled tradition, a quick-witted, quick-tongued sha-

mus who trusts no one and keeps the world at an arm's length. But as the film progresses and the investigation begins to take its toll on his mind and body, Gordon-Levitt showcases a vulnerable side that adds a lot of depth to the character.

Also worth mentioning is the score, a collection of moody, atmospheric jazz pieces by the director's cousin Nathan Johnson. Much like the movie as a whole, the music blends the modern with the traditional, with such mainstays as horns and cello joining unconventional instruments such as wine bottles, kitchen utensils and metal filing cabinets.

According to the movie's IMDb page, the entire thing was composed over Internet chat, with the director playing rough cuts of the film for his cousin who was living in England during much of the production. It doesn't show in the final result.

Ultimately, if “Brick” has one failing, it's that it hews a little too closely to the source material.

While the movie has twists and turns enough for the uninitiated, die-hard fans of the genre won't be surprised by the ending.

Still, it does little to diminish the overall appeal of the film, which manages to create something fresh by marrying two genres so often mired in the cliché.

## DVD STATS:

- RUN TIME: 110 MINUTES
- RELEASED: 2005
- LANGUAGES: ENGLISH W/ FRENCH AND SPANISH SUBTITLES
- SPECIAL FEATURES: DELETED SCENES, CASTING AND ROLES FEATURETTE, DIRECTOR AND CAST COMMENTARY
- EASTER EGGS: “ORIGAMI MASTER,” A SHORT FILM THAT DIRECTOR RIAN JOHNSON MADE AS A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT. (HIGHLIGHT THE DELETED SCENES AND PRESS LEFT TWICE)



Brandan, played by Joseph Gordon-Levitt, in a romantic scene with Laura, played by Nora Zehetner. Photo courtesy Ascot Entertainment

## Like ‘Brick?’ Want more? Enjoy these noirs

JON XAVIER  
Online Managing Editor

### The Big Sleep

This 1946 adaptation of a Raymond Chandler story is notable for being a whodunnit, so complex that even William Faulkner couldn't figure it out.

When co-writers Faulkner and Leigh Brackett were adapting the novel for the script, they were unsure who killed one of the characters.

They called Chandler to find out, only to have the author tell them angrily that it was right there in the text.

Chandler called them back, saying he re-read the story himself, and even he wasn't sure who had killed the character, so they should decide for themselves.

### The Naked City

“There are eight million stories in the naked city,” producer Mark Hellinger intones over the opening credits of this 1948 crime caper, “and this is one of them.”

Shot on location in New York City, and interspersed with semi-documentary style portraits of life in a bustling metropolis, “The Naked City” is as much about its setting as main plot, a gritty police procedural centered on the murder of a young model in her apartment.

It uses the innovative approach of mixing actors with the real residents of city — the extras in many scenes are normal people going about their business who were filmed with a hidden camera.


### Le Samourai

If you're looking for a movie about one man going it alone against an uncaring world, it's hard to find a better example than this 1967 French film by Jean-Pierre Melville.

Starring Alain Delon as an immaculately dressed hit man who approaches murder with the same meticulous eye for detail with which he positions his fedora hat, “Le Samourai” is a story of a crime gone wrong, and a criminal struggling against a fate that seems increasingly certain.

Notable for a thrilling chase sequence as Delon's character evades a police dragnet that would late be stolen wholesale by movies such as “The Bourne Ultimatum.”

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Photo courtesy of Mayhemfest

# Bringing the sickness back to San Jose

## CONCERT PREVIEW

STEPHANIE VALLEJO  
Staff Writer

Sounds of heavy riffs and screeching solos may leak through the Event Center tonight, as Disturbed takes the stage along with the bands Sevendust and Skindred.

Since 1996, the band members of Disturbed have become known for their catchy riffs and their lyrical political views on current events.

Their newest album, "Indestructible," gives fans a new feel to Disturbed's old talents.

Lead singer David Draiman's vocals are deep and easy to understand, unlike some other metal bands whose vocals growl.

Their songs are rhythmic and make you want to dance and bang your head.

So go ahead and play along to the inevitable solos that stream from the stacks of amps.

Guitarist Dan Donegan plays long and complicated solos that even an untrained ear would appreciate.

Donegan also creates the electronic aspects of the Chicago-based band's music that

make its songs not easily comparable to other rock bands'.

The nu-metal genre, which the music of Disturbed falls under, draws its influences from classic heavy metal bands such as Metallica.

The other featured band, Sevendust, takes heavy guitar riffs and the sweet melodic vocals of Lajon Witherspoon to create a sound easy on the ears.

Their music is both soothing and heavy at the same time. There may be plenty of opportunities to whip out a lighter and sway it back and forth during their songs.

Some of their other works are filled with crazy licks that make you want to show off your air guitar skills.

The band is not afraid to experiment with softer melodies and all of their songs on their newest album, "Sevendust VII: Hope and Sorrow," express the whole band's experience since its start in 1992.

This five-man band is influenced by their Atlanta roots and popular rock bands such as Rollins Band and Rage Against the Machine.

Skindred is a "ragga metal" band that meshes sounds of

heavy metal, reggae and punk rock.

Founded in Newport, South Wales, in 1998, the quartet's upbeat music charted at No. 1 on the Billboard Top Reggae Albums in the United States in 2004 with the band's second album, Babylon.

The sound itself can be described as weird, but tasteful. It is not something commonly played on mainstream radio stations.

The first time hearing lead singer Benji Webbe's voice, one would expect trumpets to be playing in the background.

His reggae sound makes it seem like he is part of a ska band.

But instead, you hear heavy metal sounds backed with up-beat drums.

Skindred is definitely a toe-tapping kind of band.

Pick out any one of their songs and you will find yourself clapping your hands and getting up to shake your long locks out of their hair ties.

General admission for the show costs \$37.50 per person.

The doors open at 6:30 p.m. and is scheduled to start at 7:30 p.m.



Members of Chicago-based rock band Disturbed, from left: bassist John Moyer, guitarist Dan Donegan, vocalist David Draiman, and drummer Mike Wengren. Photo courtesy of Disturbed official Web site



Photo courtesy of Metalsucks



Above: Sevendust vocalist Lajon Witherspoon performs. Photo courtesy of Sevendust official Web site

Left: Members of "ragga metal" band, Skindred.

## Sparta Sketch

"The Scenster": a person who tries very hard to fit the stereotype of a certain scene



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Freshman Sean Whitmore (center), 20, **DEREK SIJDER / Spartan Daily** a computer science major does a "pivot" on his skateboard in front of Campus Village on Monday evening. Freshmen Alron Bundy (left), 20, a political science major, and Arthur Chang, 19, an electrical engineer major, look on.

SOCIAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT						
SPRING 2009						
Asian American Studies						
Course No.	Code	Title	Instructor	Day(s)	Time	Room
AAS 033B (9)	29980	AS AM US HIST/POL	H. DO	TR	1500-1615	ENG 343
AAS 175 (1)	26093	ASIAN AM COMM	H. DO	TR	0900-1015	DMH 162
AAS 186 (1)	29136	VIETNAMESE EXP AM	H. DO	TR	1030-1145	DMH 354
Social Science						
SOCS 100W (1)	28270	WRITING WORKSHOP	M. OCHOA	MW	1200-1315	CL 318
SOCS 177 (3)	29139	SOCIETY AND EDUC	H. GUTIERREZ	W	1800-2045	DMH 164
SOCS 177 (4)	28240	SOCIETY AND EDUC	H. GUTIERREZ	TR	1330-1445	CL 303
SOCS 177 (5)	28241	SOCIETY AND EDUC	J. COVARRUBIAS	TR	1200-1315	CL 310
Women's Studies						
WOMS 010 (3)	28246	SEX AND GENDER ROLES	T. BAKHRU	TR	1500-1615	CL 303
WOMS 101 (3)	29299	STUDY OF WOMEN	T. BAKHRU	TR	1330-1445	DMH 149B
WOMS 160 (1)	29286	WOMEN, RACE, CLASS	S. GALLARDO	TR	1030-1145	SH 347

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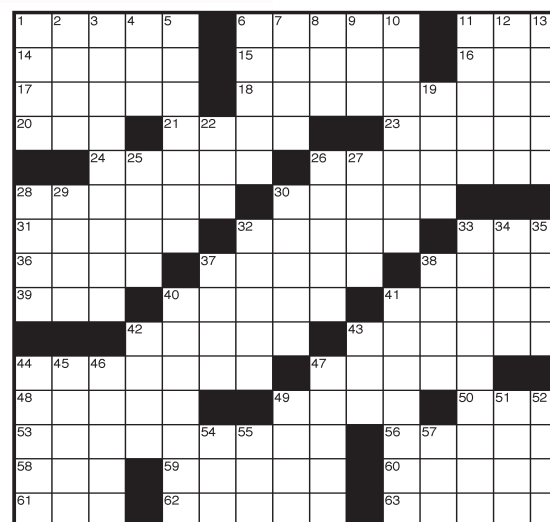
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- Attached
- Eurasian range
- Dried fruit
- Not according to Hoyle
- Snowy
- Fans' cries
- Minnows
- Spotted
- Albert, to Victoria
- Basketball move
- Thicken
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# Reading the future, one card at a time



**KAAJAL MORAR**  
Features Editor

Some say the devil created them. Others think they can cast a spell on you. Still others think they can suck your soul away. It seems as though there has always been a social stigma against Tarot cards.

Having read them for about nine years, I can tell you that the cards haven't convinced me to sacrifice virgins nightly, they haven't cast any spells on me, nor have they been able to contact the devil yet.

The history and origin of Tarot cards is vague, but I have heard rumors that they were first created during the 1400s in Italy as playing cards. Since the time I had gotten my first pack, they had been known solely as a form of divination.

Although learning the meanings of all 78 cards can be time consuming, Tarot cards are far simpler to read than it seems.

There are 22 major cards called the Major Arcana. The remaining 54 make up the Minor Arcana and are split into four different suits, much like regular playing cards. A Tarot spread can range from a simple, three-card spread to an elaborate, 12-card spread. They can be read for any occasion or problem, from relationships,

family, health to inner growth. I first became interested in reading Tarot cards when a cousin visited and read them for me.

Two months later, I had my own deck and was reading them whenever possible. They excited me. I felt important, knowing I could find out what will happen in the future.

### Having read them for about nine years, I can tell you that the cards haven't convinced me to sacrifice virgins nightly, they haven't cast any spells on me, nor have they been able to contact the devil yet.

The people I have read cards for were impressed with the things I told them. People asked me to divine their relationships, how the rest of their week will go and when their love life will flourish. Friends have demanded that I read them their future on a daily basis. It may not seem like it, but figuring out the relationships between the cards and their meanings in a spread is draining.

Not only must you know the meanings of the cards, but it's also important to know how many cards of each suit

appears, as that determines the timing of events as well as more subtle indications such as sickness, strength and confidence.

I've had skeptics that approached me for a reading, only to dismiss everything I'd said. It was frustrating, because I knew I was wasting my time trying to convince someone who was already determined not to believe what the cards said.

I have been a slight skeptic from the start. I realized later that it's good to have a little skepticism, because it has prevented me from becoming obsessed with Tarot cards and relying on them completely.

I had no problem reading the cards for others, but as the years passed I read them for myself less often. I felt that I shouldn't have to rely on a pack of cards to tell me what I should or shouldn't do. Even so, I found that my readings became more accurate despite the fact that I read them so little.

Perhaps I had gained more insight. Maybe I cared for them more than I had realized. Whatever it was, I was more confident in my ability to read them accurately. Maybe I've changed. Maybe my skepticism has shaped the way I see things.

Whatever it is that happened, I know that I am in control of my own life, no matter what the picture on a card may tell me.

Kaajal Morar is a Spartan Daily features editor.

# Concert faux pas to avoid



**JESSICA FROMM**  
Staff Writer

If you've ever been to a concert, odds are you've run into them. He's that dude in front of you with the two-foot 'fro who keeps yelling "Freebird!" She's that drunk chick in back of you who's spilling her beer all over your pants. He's that guy to your right hollering "You da man!" during every intricate guitar solo.

These people are concert faux pas-ists. They are everywhere, and they could be you.

Certain individuals repeatedly engage in heinous behavior at shows (the "concert faux-pas") that not only spoils the musical experience, but also makes them look like complete idiots. Despite their ramped obnoxiousness, concert faux pas-ists appear to be blissfully unaware that their fellow concertgoers want to stone them to death.

There is nothing more irritating than having an evening ruined by a bunch of people who behave like they've never left their mother's basement before. Going to a gig is not an excuse to get trashed and toss out all social etiquette, so I've compiled a list of standards for audience behavior.

Before you head off to your next rock fest, read these five simple rules:

**1. Don't get out-of-your-mind wasted.**

This one seems just like basic good judgment, right? Don't get me wrong, a healthy buzz can help diversify and elevate any

concert-going experience.

People need to remember that despite what mommy told them in kindergarten, and what the blow they snorted a half hour ago leads them to believe, they're not the center of the universe.

Trust me, people who slur their speech and act obnoxiously intoxicated are not hot. Neither are drunks that sidle up on the girls in front of them while splattering beer on the guys next to them or puke in their own lap. Think of your own dignity and people around you and before you commit to that one last shot.

**2. Don't go in the mosh pit if you can't handle it.**

Unless you've ridden the London Underground during rush hour or you're an avid cuddle party enthusiast, you'll never have so many strangers crammed into your personal space than when in the wonderful world of concert general admission.

Again, please use common sense. Haven't eaten anything that day? Don't go into the mosh pit. Dehydrated as of late? Don't go into the mosh pit. Just had a hernia operation? Don't go into the mosh pit. So intoxicated you can barely stand up? Don't go into the mosh pit.

Remember, the mosh pit is called the mosh pit for a reason: you get moshed, it smells like an armpit and there's no oxygen. You'll lose shoes, become completely drenched in mysterious liquids, emerge feeling molested and wake up aching in the morning ... but you'll like it.

**3. Don't be a shove-weaver.**

Ah, the shove-weaver, a very specific breed of moron. You can spot these knobs pushing people aside on crowded concert floors, usually hollering that they're "looking for their friend" as they

slowly weave their way to the front of the crowd. They come in two flavors: short inebriated girl and tall slippery guy.

The practice of shove-weaving violates the gig-going cardinal rule: if you want to be up front, get to the venue early.

**4. Don't be a mane-mauler.**

You've seen them. The Grateful Dead follower with a greasy mane that reaches his belt. The southern-fried chick with hair so teased, it looks like it could get caught in a ceiling fan. The Rastafarian with four-foot long dreads like ropes.

In the close-packed environment of the concert arena, people like these, known as "mane-maulers," pose an uncomfortable predicament. When the music starts up and the crowd starts head banging, if you're standing directly behind one of these individuals you'll find yourself being repeatedly assaulted by their hair.

Keep in mind that if you're going to a concert and your coiffure is the size of Texas, please, for the safety of people around you, tie it down securely.

**5. Don't yell out requests.**

This is one of the most common concert faux pas — crowd members hollering song requests at a band between songs.

Believe me guys, the band almost always knows what songs they're going to play the moment they set foot on stage. Unless you expressly know that the artist is going to be taking audience requests, just don't do it.

Oh, and yelling out "Freebird!" a dozen times is past being ironic, and now only merits a swift sucker punch to the back of the skull.

Jessica Fromm is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

# Obama, Katy Perry and McDonald's gift cards: A whole bunch of crazy



**ANGELO LANHAM**  
Yes, I Have a Point

Those looking for deep, meaningful and possibly insightful words should know that they are currently in the wrong place. I wish only to make fleeting and discombobulated points, so don't get upset when you read the last word and still are not enlightened.

Now that I've scared away all the fuddy-duddies, I'd like to point out that since last November, the word "change" has been on the edge of the minds of most Americans.

Indeed, here we are in 2009, waiting for it to happen. We have a brand-new president in office, and we're all just sort of staring at him now as if to say "OK pal,

the campaign is over, the cigars are smoked and the leftover champagne has been corked. We gave you the job. Now fix this damn place."

To Mr. Obama's credit, he already seems hard at work forming legislation that could do good things. It's a sizable contrast to the first stretch of former President Daffy Duck's term, which involved a lot of golfing.

On one hand, expectations are unrealistically high and Obama has a bit of a messiah image to live up to, meaning the people might start to get a bit itchy if he's not spotted walking on water pretty soon.

On the other hand, it hardly seems like things could get much worse. The year 2008 wasn't all that terrific, by anyone's estimation. Just look at the music. What were the chart-toppers?

Well, Katy Perry delivered a Top 40 hit about how she kissed a girl and liked it, with all the conviction and sincerity of a 16-year-old high school girl with a fresh coat of sparkled

mango lip gloss and pink hair who suddenly declares "I'm bi" before graduating and having an illegitimate child leading to premature wedlock.

One Ohio church, apparently viewing poor Perry's grasp for attention as some threat to their flock, was inspired to erect a sign outside reading "I kissed a girl and I liked it, then I went to hell" as a means of subtle protest.

Just imagine the confusion of passing motorists who aren't in the pop culture "know."

Elsewhere, Sara Bareilles wrote a whiny tune about how she refused to write the love song her record label demanded of her.

She must have missed the fine print in the contract mentioning that in return for her stardom, her mind, body and soul belong to the record company.

Someone told me the New Kids on the Block returned, spawning the question: "Who asked for this?"

If music was in the dumps, so too (you may have read about this) was the economy. Already belonging to the bottom of the food chain, I have yet to feel the full effects of the economic downturn.

There are plenty of things to meditate on, though, that have nothing to do with change, bad music or economic pessimism.

McDonald's gift cards never quite made sense to me. I did receive one this year, and while I appreciate the utility of the gift and the number of hasty "Oh shit I'm running late" breakfasts it will surely become, doesn't it seem rather odd to gift a body with something they could probably grab with spare change in the first place?

If you don't think it's a strange gift, imagine someone showing up to your house for chestnuts on an open fire and tossing \$10 worth of double cheeseburgers under the Christmas tree. It's not that you wouldn't appreciate the gift, just that it would warrant a head scratch.

Pancakes I can't afford most of the time, during economic ups or downs, and I certainly don't appreciate the way IHOP taunts me and my poverty with their gaudy, large, acute-angle bright blue roofs, hinting sleazily at the pancakes contained within.

The purpose of contemporary ties as a symbol of status confounds me, given that they make strangling deaths more likely and that their original purpose was as a napkin for royalty who didn't want the burden of one on their laps.

The list could go on longer than anyone would care to read.

If there's a point to be had here, and I'm only lightly suggesting that there might be, it's that we live in a mad, mad world.

The sort of mad, mad world that makes Blagojevich think auctioning Obama's seat in the Senate like a pair of bunny slippers on eBay is a good idea.

The sort of mad, mad world where politics are tied to issues like abortion, scientific research and open container laws.

The sort of mad, mad world where you can be fooled into reading 800 confusing and relatively meaningless words when you could simply have saved yourself the trouble and read one of my neighbor's columns, printed here on all sides of me.

"Yes, I Have a Point" will appear every Tuesday. Angelo Lanham is a Spartan Daily copy editor.

### DID YOU KNOW...

Donald Duck's middle name is Fauntleroy? In the short "Donald Gets Drafted," his draft card reveals his full name as Donald Fauntleroy Duck.

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# CAMPUS VOICES: What's your biggest gripe on campus so far this semester?

Feature and photos by **ANDREA MUNIZ**  
Staff Writer

**DUNG "YOUNG" PHI**  
freshman, English



"Maybe the random homeless guy asking for cigarettes. Random homeless people."

**SARAH SZELIGA**  
junior, animation



"Nowhere to park. I paid for a parking permit — you'd think I'd get a spot because I paid for it."

**SHALIN SHROFF**  
freshman, computer software engineering



"I'm a vegetarian. There's not enough veggie food available."

**CORINNA MORENO**  
junior, graphic design



"Knowing that I have to buy books that I'm never gonna have to read."

**KAMLESH AMRAVADKAR**  
freshman, computer software engineering



"What bothers me is that there are no campus jobs here."

**CECILIA RAMIREZ**  
senior, social work



"Heating and A/C systems need to be updated and in every classroom so that students can better focus on their work."

## Obama moves toward greenhouse gas regulation

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — For a decade, environmentalists and states have urged the federal government to limit greenhouse gases from automobile tailpipes.

On Monday, President Barack Obama took a step toward making it happen.

He ordered the Environmental Protection Agency to reconsider allowing California, 16 states and the District of Columbia to control the amount of greenhouse gases — mainly carbon dioxide — in truck and car exhaust.

It was the clearest signal yet the Obama administration plans to regulate the emissions blamed for global warming.

The Bush administration repeatedly refused to use existing law to control greenhouse gases, despite increasing scientific evidence that the Earth is warming and court rulings that said the government has the authority to act.

Should the EPA grant California and others states permission to reduce greenhouse gases from automobiles, experts say federal regulations will soon follow, then limits on emissions from refineries and industrial plants.

"There is little question that this is heading in the direction of federal regulation of carbon dioxide," said Michael Gerrard, director of the Center for Climate Change Law at Columbia University.

Greenhouse gases from automobiles currently are not regulated by the federal government, and the Bush administration opposed state efforts to set their own restrictions, despite requests dating back to 1999.

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