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FRI	SAT	SUN	MON
51	52	55	55

THE WIRE

NATIONAL

Two big satellites collide 500 miles over Siberia

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — Two big communications satellites collided in the first-ever crash of two intact spacecraft in orbit, shooting out a pair of massive debris clouds and posing a slight risk to the international space station.

NASA said it will take weeks to determine the full magnitude of the crash, which occurred nearly 500 miles over Siberia on Tuesday.

Body dragged nearly 20 miles on NYC roads

NEW YORK — A van traveled for nearly an hour over busy New York City roads before its driver discovered the horrific cargo it had dragged almost 20 miles: the partially scraped-away body of a man who was plowed over by an SUV just before he got caught under the van.

Police said the gruesome episode was accidental and that they have no plans to charge the drivers at this time.

WORLD

Israeli election could boost Hamas truce talks

JERUSALEM — Israel's new coalition government — whether led by hard-line Benjamin Netanyahu or his moderate rival Tzipi Livni — is likely to take a tough line on two burning issues: Hamas and Iran.

As the two began courting potential coalition partners Wednesday, two scenarios took shape: a narrow alliance of hawks who would stall peacemaking with the Palestinians, or a broad power-sharing government that would give Israel a more moderate face and greater international support.

With only a few thousand votes by soldiers still to be counted, Livni's Kadima Party had one more seat in parliament than Netanyahu's Likud. But Netanyahu's natural allies on the right have a clear majority of 65 in the 120-seat parliament, giving him the edge in forming a coalition.

Millions of animals dead in Australia fires

SYDNEY, Australia — Kangaroo corpses lay scattered by the roadsides while wombats that survived the wildfire's onslaught emerged from their underground burrows to find blackened earth and nothing to eat.

Wildlife rescue officials on Wednesday worked frantically to help the animals that made it through Australia's worst-ever wildfires, but they said millions of animals likely perished in the inferno.

— Associated Press

RECRUITMENT

Opening new doors for underserved communities

STEPHANIE VALLEJO
Staff Writer

The California State University and more than 50 California churches will hold Super Sunday, an event designed to inform African-American families about the college process.

More than 30 African-American churches in Northern California will participate in the event on Feb. 15, as will another 20 churches in Southern California on Feb. 22.

"This is an ongoing event that started a few years ago," said SJSU President Jon Whitmore. "It's an attempt to go into the communities, in this case the African-American community,

See **SUNDAY**, page 2

SEE PAGE 2 FOR STORY

Newsom stumps in San Jose



San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom at the Roosevelt Community Center in San Jose talking about his potential gubernatorial run on Tuesday night.

STEFAN ARMIJO / Spartan Daily

CONSTRUCTION

New stoplight at Seventh Street causes more headaches



Students cross the intersection of Seventh and San Salvador streets, where streetlight construction has ended after months.

SANDRA SANTOS / Spartan Daily

Operational since last Friday, signal still has problems

STEPHANIE VALLEJO
Staff Writer

Drivers who cross through the intersection of Seventh and San Salvador streets will have to stay patient while the traffic signals continue to be fixed.

The signal, which became functional last Friday, still has some work to be done before the City of San Jose can assure that it will work properly, said University Police Department Lt. Jim Renelle.

"The light is still going through

some modifications," Renelle said. "It's not working as well as we had hoped. The city, which owns and operates the light, will probably be making a few changes within the next few weeks."

Reactions to the new streetlight from both commuters and pedestrians vary.

"As a pedestrian, it's frustrating to have to wait," said Mayra Villegas, a junior marketing major. "Yesterday, I got yelled at by a cop because the light was green but the little green man wasn't flashing."

JoAnna Gordon, a junior business management major, said she also walks to school every day, and the signal has made

See **LIGHT**, page 2

FEATURE

Change has come to the university's registration process

SAMANTHA RIVERA
Staff Writer

From the first day of the semester until the last day to add, it is a mad scramble — survival of the fittest at its best.

The desperate looks of students anxiously awaiting their

fate in a class they are trying to add may be found in almost every classroom on campus.

The last day to add classes was Feb. 10, which loomed over the heads of many SJSU students who need to be full time for insurance or other purposes.

"Last semester, I had to take a social science class I didn't need

because I was short three units," said Kasey Rose, a junior child development major.

While she said the bright side was the class ended up being interesting and beneficial, she said her graduation date was delayed.

See **ADDING**, page 3



Students line up to add classes at the Student Services Center on Tuesday.

STEFAN ARMIJO / Spartan Daily

THE SPARTAN DAILY.COM

SPARTAN DAILY LIVE

Upcoming: Tune in to theSpartanDaily.com for a live blog of the SJSU vs. Nevada men's basketball game tonight at 7.

VIDEO

Take a look at SJSU's weekly art gallery in a video by staff writer Brett Gifford.



PHOTO BLOG

Check out a behind-the-scenes look at Reed Magazine by Spartan Daily photographer Sandra Santos.



SPORTS BLOG

Is this the end for Brett Favre?

Executive editor John Hornberg predicts the ranked order of finish for WAC women's basketball.

SPARTA GUIDE

12 Today

Bible Study

Acts 2 Christian Fellowship hosts a weekly study. 7 p.m. in the Pacifica Room at the Student Union. Contact Justin Foon at jfoon1@yahoo.com

Black Legacy

A discussion on seldom known history of African-Americans from slavery to modern day. Presented by Dawn Spears. 4 to 5 p.m. in the Costanoan Room at the Student Union. Contact Joy Vickers at joy.vickers@sjsu.edu

Party With A Plan!

Find ways to stay healthy and balanced while engaging in social activities where drinking is involved. 1:30 to 3 p.m. in Clark Hall, Room 118. Contact Veronica Mendoza at veronica.mendoza@sjsu.edu

13 Friday

Discovering Robeson

A presentation about the life of activist Paul Robeson. With writer and performer Tayo Aluko. 7 p.m. in Morris Dailey Auditorium. Admission is \$5. Contact Gil Villagran at gvillagran@casa.sjsu.edu

Music and the Movement

Featuring songs of struggle and liberation and interviews with Tommie Smith and John Carlos, Yolanda King, Nina Simone, Buddy Guy and more. On 90.5 KJSJ. For more information, contact Ramon Johnson at ramonjohnson@yahoo.com

SLIS Colloquium Series

Professor Ken Haycock discusses "Dual Use Libraries: Guidelines for Success." 12 noon in Clark Hall, Room 304. Free admission. Contact Marcia Laughrey at 924-2490.

16 Monday

First in My Family to Go to College: Now What?

Learn about scholarships and financial aid. 3 to 4 p.m. in Clark Hall, Room 118. Contact Veronica Mendoza at Veronica.Mendoza@sjsu.edu

Pride of the Pacific Islands General meeting.

5:30 to 7 p.m. in the Ohlone Room at the Student Center. Contact Kristen Tom at ppi_sjsu@yahoo.com

Pride of the Pacific Islands

Hula and Tahitian practice. 8 p.m. in the Aerobics Room at the Event Center. Contact Kristen Tom at ppi_sjsu@yahoo.com

Sparta Guide is provided free of charge to students, faculty and staff members. The deadline for entries is noon, three working days before the desired publication date. Space restrictions may require editing of submission. Entries are printed in the order in which they are received. Submit entries online at thespartandaily.com or in writing at DBH 209.

POLITICS

Touring the state, SF mayor visits city

Newsom one of many eyeing run for governor of California in 2010

JESSICA AYALA
Staff Writer

With a new president, Californians may not be thinking of a new governor just yet, but San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom expressed his concern about that Tuesday evening at the Roosevelt Community Center in Downtown San Jose.

Newsom, who has been in a series of town hall meetings while exploring a 2010 gubernatorial run, was welcomed by Mayor Chuck Reed.

With an audience of about 250 and not enough chairs to accommodate everyone, Newsom entered the meeting greeting several audience members with a handshake and a tap on their shoulder.

While several protesters stood outside with signs that read "the man without a plan," Reed remarked that Newsom should feel right at home.

Newsom led off the meeting by telling members of the audience he was interested in details that were on their minds, what

they're looking for and what they believe needs to be done to reconcile the challenges they are facing in California.

"I don't think any of us came here tonight to celebrate Sacramento and the accomplishments as of late on the budget or on issues that associate with the budget on education, health care, the economy," Newsom said.

Newsom acknowledged several SJSU students who sat in the audience wearing yellow to demonstrate their pledge against budget cuts and tuition increases.

"We certainly see a lot of students here from CSU," he said. "They are none too happy about what's going on with those tuition increases and some of the stress they're experiencing."

Julia Kamoroff, a senior molecular biology major, was one of the students who were interested in knowing where Newsom stands with budget cuts and the increase on tuition.

"He is very aware of the students and our needs," she said. "It's good to see a potential governor who understands the importance of higher education."

Newsom told the students that although he may not have answers for everything, he is convinced that if he can govern a challenging city like San Fran-

cisco, he can find the answers for a state like California.

Newsom focused on his top three concerns for California: health care, education and poverty. There are currently 46.6 million Americans without health insurance and 6.5 to 7.2 million Californians without health care, he said.

Newsom said 60 percent of San Franciscans who were uninsured now have universal health care.

He then focused on education by informing the audience of the importance and impact of preschools.

"If you want to get serious about the dropout rates, serious about truancy rates, serious about the disparity of public education for African-Americans and Latinos and Latinas, let's get serious about universal preschool."

Andrae Macapinlac, a senior political science major and president of the Democratic Caucus at SJSU, asked Newsom whether he would sign a pledge against budget cuts and tuition increases for higher education.

Newsom said, "This, to me, is a critical issue and will be a centerpiece of focus not just during this campaign but hopefully all four years of governor."

With a series of questions,

Newsom answered every question with a detailed plan and correlated it with San Francisco.

One audience member who was concerned about affordable housing asked Newsom what he planned to do. Newsom said as a supporter of affordable housing and in effort to continue developing it that 8,800 people in San Francisco are now off the street since he became mayor.

"When was the last time you had a governor care about the homeless?" Newsom said. "Have you ever heard about the governor talk about homeless? This is going to be a very, very big part of what I hope to be successful and we achieve in terms of our focus intention and results as governor."

With the meeting coming to an end, he said "I've been waiting for Air Force One to solve all our problems for a decade, but I still haven't seen it. We have got to take responsibility," Newsom said. "You need a governor to take responsibility."

Garrett Radcliffe, a sophomore political science major, said he found the meeting engaging, especially when he focused on education and the impact it could have.

"I consider myself a realistic kind of person and he's going out

there telling it how it really is, I find that amazing," he said. "Too many times you hear politicians lie. Say things just so that they get elected. But for him, I feel like when he says it he means it, and he's going to do it."

But not all audience members were swept by his plans to change California. Kamoroff, the biology major, said she is interested in learning more about his campaign.

"He's a good politician, so I do want to take a step back and kind of do my own research and look into other possibilities before I decide supporting him," Kamoroff said.

At this point, only Lt. Gov. John Garamendi has announced his candidacy for governor in 2010.

Other Democrats who are exploring the idea of running for governor are attorney general and former governor Jerry Brown and Newsom. Those reportedly considering a run are Representative Loretta Sanchez (D-Orange County) and Sen. Dianne Feinstein.

In the Republican Party, Insurance Commissioner Steve Poizner, former eBay CEO Meg Whitman and former Rep. Tom Campbell (R - San Jose) are all exploring potential gubernatorial runs.

SUNDAY | Whitmore set to visit Maranatha Christian Center

Continued from page 1

which is central to the families (and talk) about the issue of going to college."

Whitmore is scheduled to speak at a Northern California event at the Maranatha Christian Center in Downtown San Jose this Sunday. This will be Whitmore's first Super Sunday.

"President Whitmore's presence at the event shows commitment by top leaders of the CSU system," said Erik Fallis, a spokesperson for the CSU chancellor. "It is very important

to show that (the university) is welcoming to all students of diverse backgrounds."

Fallis said that university system's goal for Super Sunday is to educate parents and their students in both middle school and high school about passing required classes and taking the tests needed to be accepted into a CSU.

He added that creating a support system with the CSU and parents can help qualified students get more serious about going to college.

Pat Lopes Harris, SJSU media relations director, wrote in an e-mail that President Barack Obama is a good example that

can show the younger generations what a good education can become.

Some SJSU students who have younger siblings thinking about attending college agree that CSU programs that reach out to the community give younger students a positive role model from the college.

"It shows younger kids that (universities are) not just motivated by their agenda and their prerogative, but that they're moved by a greater calling," said Melanie Thomas, a senior theatre arts major.

Kenneth Forrest Jr., a senior psychology major, thinks some

communities, more than others, need the extra push to go to college.

"A lot of African-Americans, more so males, think they can't go to college," he said. "They feel like nobody cares about them in their neighborhood, and it shows that they are willing to answer questions and shatter bad stereotypes about college."

Although this event will be held only in African-American church services this month, Fallis said many outreach programs get in touch with other diverse communities.

More than 90,000 students and their families across Cali-

fornia are expected to attend the two Sunday events.

"We want to show that the CSU is an inclusive institution dedicated to meeting students and parents in their own community," Fallis said.

The Maranatha Christian Center service will start at 10:45 a.m., with Whitmore scheduled to speak at some point during the service.

"Our attempt is to say there's a good first start and we're here to provide the information and the resources and invite people to visit campus," Whitmore said, "Over time, I think it can make a difference."

LIGHT | UPD Officer: 'We hope to get it done in a couple of weeks'

Continued from page 1

the crosswalk a lot safer for students.

"It's like a sensor so you don't wait that long and you have a long time to cross the street," Gordon said. "It's safer because before, pedestrians thought that they always had the right of way and kept walking even if a car was coming."

Renelle said the spotlight, depending on the time of day, is on a timer and that may be the problem.

"The traffic on east to west bound is pretty heavy on San Salvador," he said. "We are going to give each direction its own green light so that the wait isn't long on either side."

Renelle said he's noticed the drivers waiting longer than they should.

"We see that drivers are clearly frustrated," he said. "There are six to eight cars in each direction passing the intersection at a given green light, and there are 20 cars still backed up. It's supposed

to be 12 to 15 cars a light."

Daniel Gnekow, a sophomore engineering major, said he has experienced the long wait firsthand.

"I was sitting at the light forever it seems," he said. "It's just ridiculous because there was no one walking, everything was red and the line was getting backed up when people could just be going."

Gnekow also said he liked the intersection more with stop signs because people could work together to get the flow of traffic moving.

"Back when it was a stop sign, people could be smart and people could walk and you could go right behind them and it would be fast and quick," he said. "But now it just slows down everything and makes traffic horrible."

The crosswalk signs are there to keep pedestrians safe when crossing the intersection, but some students are having trouble adapting to waiting for the new light.

"Yesterday, I heard a girl's hand get smacked by a car because she kept walking even

though it wasn't her turn," Gordon said.

Renelle said there is no set finish date for the streetlights.

"The city and the university are actively working on it and evaluating what needs to be done," Renelle said. "We hope to get done in a couple of weeks."

CORRECTION

In the article "Spartan sophomore savior seeks to play in NBA," the Spartans men's basketball team was reported as not having a winning season in more than two decades. The Spartans last winning season was 1993-94

ADDING | 'This semester, one teacher used the waitlist, and then the other teacher didn't use the waitlist and just added people that came to class'

Continued from page 1

DISREGARDING SENIORITY

In President Jon Whitmore's message to the campus community on the SJSU Web site, he said, "Our primary goal will be to continue to deliver quality education to our students, and to offer the classes they need to graduate in a timely fashion."

One student found that adding classes has been especially stressful this semester.

"Some classes are very hard," said Molly McKibben, a senior business major. "I've went in and tried to add and they wouldn't even accept the graduating seniors before some of the other students."

"I've had teachers who say to pick a number out of a hat, but this one just picked whoever she wanted and she didn't give priority," McKibben added.

She said she ended up adding another class that would fulfill the requirement she needed, so her graduation was not put in jeopardy.

The Academic Senate Policy S-93-7 states that graduating seniors have "top priority" when adding classes.

"I know several people that are graduating," said Jason Kawamoto, a senior linguistics major, "and generally it seems that the professors that I've had are pretty good about asking people in the class if there are any graduating seniors."

"I think it's pretty difficult to add classes if you're a freshman, sophomore, or junior," said Eric Lin, a senior marketing major, "but once you're a senior, it's easier."

"I've had teachers who say to pick a number out of a hat, but this one just picked whoever she wanted and she didn't give priority."

MOLLY MCKIBBEN
senior business major

"Then, my department chair had the idea of fixing it so that students can add without an add code."

SCOTT SUBLETT
associate professor of television, radio, film and theatre

Lin cited luck as the reason he had no difficulty adding classes this semester.

"I found out I had to add classes 20 minutes before my add date started," Lin said. "I had 20 minutes to prepare and in that 20 minutes, I got the last couple spots in the classes, so had I waited like an hour, I wouldn't have been able to add."

SMOOTH SAILING

Other students on campus have had the luck of not stressing over adding classes.

"I've never had any problem adding classes," said Jessica Mill-

er, a junior French and Spanish double major.

Kawamoto said he believes that the difficulty of adding classes depends on the major.

"I've gotten most of the classes I've wanted to add," he said. "My major's pretty small, and there are less than 50 people, so it's not too hard."

Kawamoto said he notices the difference between his linguistics major and his journalism minor.

"It's more difficult because there are more people in those classes," he said. "I would imagine that something like business, where there's a massive amount of students, is probably pretty difficult."

PATIENCE IS A VIRTUE

Miller said the only time she noticed other students being unable to add classes was when there were too many people on the waitlist.

Waitlists are valid only during the advance registration period, which runs for approximately 10 weeks, said Registrar Marian Sofish.

Sofish said that during those 10 weeks, students can waitlist themselves on closed sections on MySJSU.

"This process is more convenient for students and faculty alike, since instructors don't have to keep their own list of students wanting to get into their class, and students don't have to scout for the instructors and request to be added on a paper-form waitlist that instructors may keep," she said. "The waitlist provides the instructor and the department the demand for the class, which in turn can be used in planning the class offerings for future schedules."

Rose said she remembers

Another professor put it bluntly for his students.

"I was trying to add a statistics class two semesters in a row and the professor was pretty rude and asked me to leave," Rose said. "He just said, 'My class is full so if you're not in it, leave.'"

DECODING REGISTRATION

Associate Professor Scott Sublett, who teaches for the television, radio, film and theatre department, said his department used to spend a lot of time giving out add codes.

"Then, my department chair had the idea of fixing it so that students can add without an add code," Sublett said.

Sublett teaches introduction to film, a class he said is big enough that a few more students would not affect it.

"I think one could theoretically do that for any section of any class, but obviously there are a lot of classes where it wouldn't be desirable," Sublett said. "For intro to film, it works because we're in a huge room, Washington Square 109, with something like 250 seats, and we just have plenty of space. So we just let people add without the add code."

He said that the class requires no prerequisites or knowledge of film, so those who are in a bind trying to add a class may find this to be an option.

ADVICE THAT PAYS OFF

"Especially now that our campus is impacted, it becomes imperative that students pay attention more closely to deadlines," Sofish said. "Registration deadline information are available on the registrar's office Web site at www.sjsu.edu."

She said students should pay tuition and fees on time to prevent their classes from being dropped.

Those who add classes late are now required to get the signature of the dean of the department.

Sofish said there are various reasons for the requirement of the dean's signature, the first being the "funding implications for the fact that any adds after census date do not generate any FTE funds for the university."

FTE stands for full-time equivalent students, meaning the total support cost, including "expenditures for current operations, including payments made to students in the form of financial aid, and all fully reimbursed programs contained in state appropriations," according to SJSU's Web site.

Sofish said they also need to preserve SJSU's academic integrity.

"Departments and colleges need to know students with le-

COMING TO A CENSUS

Sofish said the last official day to add is the 19th day of instruction. The 20th day of instruction is known as the enrollment census date. This semester's census date is Feb. 18.

Sofish said that SJSU's Office of Institutional Research defines the census date as "the official date at which enrollment is reported to the CSU system for each semester."

"Adds after census, if approved, are not included in the reported enrollment," Sofish said.

It is important for students to add before the census date so that the correct number of enrolled students is reported, said Marilyn Radisch, senior manager of the common management systems project.

The official count of SJSU students is taken to the chancellor's office and that data is used to determine budgets, she said.



Students wait in line to add classes at the Student Services Center on Tuesday, Feb. 10. Tuesday was the last day to add classes without a late add form.

STEFAN ARMIJO / Spartan Daily

MAY I HAVE YOUR AUTOGRAPH?

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"Departments and colleges need to know students with le-

gitimate reasons to do a late add, versus students who are shopping for grades," she said.

Besides requiring the dean's signature, late adds also come with a price.

According to a mass e-mail from the Office of the Registrar sent to all SJSU students via MySJSU, there is a late add fee of \$45.

From Feb. 19 through May 13, the late add fee increases to \$150.

Sofish said that no future policy changes are in the works that concern adding classes.

Depending on whom you talk to, the process of adding classes at SJSU seems to go from one extreme to the next.

For some students, it is a breeze requiring just a few clicks on their mouse as they add courses on MySJSU. For others, it becomes a tiring game of cat and mouse, chasing the classes they need.

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IMPORTANT DATES

Late registration: Thursday, Jan. 22 - Tuesday, Feb. 10
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Get your heart broken this Valentine's Day

MOVIE REVIEW: 'MY BLOODY VALENTINE 3-D'

MICHAEL LE ROY
Staff Writer

"My Bloody Valentine 3-D" is the vanguard of the '80s slasher film revival. "My Bloody Valentine 3-D" is the first of several slasher film remakes that are coming out this year. One can only hope the rest of them are better than "My Bloody Valentine 3-D."

Judging it as a horror film, "My Bloody Valentine 3-D" fails to scare. No tension is built waiting for the killer to attack. He just suddenly appears and goes somebody with his pickax.

The character Harry Warden is not scary compared with other horror killers like Michael Myers from "Halloween" and Jason Voorhees from "Friday the 13th." Harry Warden lacks the unstoppable supernatural pure evil presence that those killers had.

In one scene, Harry is stunned by what appears to be a thrown ham. A normal guy wearing a gas mask and jumpsuit is not scary.

"My Bloody Valentine 3-D" is a remake of the 1981 Canadian low-budget film. During this time period, all the horror movies were set on a holiday or specific day, such as "Friday the



Kerr Smith (left) in a scene with Megan Boone (right).

Courtesy of Lionsgate

13th," "April Fool's Day" and "Silent Night, Deadly Night."

The film's plot revolves around character Tom Hanner played by Jensen Ackles. He has returned to town on the 10th anniversary of a brutal mass murder by psychopathic miner Harry Warden. Once thought to be dead, Harry has come back to kill more people.

Fans of '80s slasher movies will enjoy the high level of violence in "My Bloody Valentine

3-D." People are killed in almost every imaginable way with a pickax. A few of the kills are almost comical because they are so over the top.

People who enjoyed the old film may find this one worth watching as well. A few plot elements have been changed to keep fans of the old film guessing.

The only redeeming feature of this film is its amazing 3-D technology. The movie uses "Real D" technology that is superior to

methods used in older 3-D movies, which required the red and blue glasses.

You still have to wear glasses, but the effect is amazing. Even the intro credits are impressive with this technology. "My Bloody Valentine 3-D" is the first horror film to use this technology.

Seeing a jaw ripped off in 3-D as blood splatter is flying at you is not something you will see in most horror films. And yes, there

is a fully nude woman on screen for several minutes in 3-D.

You can watch this film in 2-D, but seeing this film with a traditional projector is a waste of time. Almost all of the film scenes are set up with the 3-D technology in mind. If this film is released onto DVD and Blu-ray without 3-D glasses, it will be a shame.

While the Real D technology is impressive, it is not without flaws.

Objects that are in the background can look blurry. Also, if you get motion sickness easily, this technology is not for you.

Another annoyance was that the 3-D glasses had finger prints on them fresh out of the packaging.

One of "My Bloody Valentine 3-D"'s biggest flaws is the awful acting. Jensen Ackles' facial expressions are comical and he delivers his dialogue poorly. Seeing Ackles' "surprise" and "angry" face several times makes his character look unnatural, as if that he spent too much time practicing his facial expressions with a mirror.

Seeing actors right in your face in 3-D acting poorly really takes you out of the film.

The caliber of acting is more

like a teenage drama show on the Disney Channel, not a big-budget Hollywood film.

The Valentine's Day connection is loose at best in the remake.

The original film revolved around a Valentine's Day dance, which was omitted in "My Bloody Valentine 3-D." Even the town in the original was called Valentine Bluffs.

In "My Bloody Valentine 3-D," the only connection the movie has with Valentine's Day is that it takes place on the day and a few human hearts are found in heart-shaped boxes of chocolate.

Despite the title, "My Bloody Valentine 3-D" features no love story and like all horror films, would not be a good date movie.

"My Bloody Valentine 3-D" is a flawed horror film that is only worth renting if it comes with a set of 3-D glasses.

The plot and acting is flawed. The film relies too much on its 3-D gimmick to keep the audience entertained.

Fans of horror films will be disappointed with the utter lack of scares in the film.

You are better off renting the original film. You don't need any funky glasses to watch it.

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Seal your dinner with a kiss

ELIZABETH KANG
Staff Writer

If you want to feel exceptionally amorous this Valentine's Day, order a "Chocolate Velvet Kiss."

This luscious dessert takes on the form of a drink in a sophisticated and appealing martini.

Men take note: the Aztecs considered chocolate to be an

aphrodisiac and many people believe alcohol lowers the inhibitions of women.

After two of these martinis, you and your date will be asking, "Check please!"

Essentially, a "chocolate velvet kiss" is a chocolate raspberry martini.

At E&O Trading Co., bartender Kyle Berry put his own spin on the cocktail.

"I didn't want the raspberry

flavor to overwhelm the chocolate." Berry said he used a little raspberry vodka instead of the usual Chambord liqueur.

He succeeded.

The raspberry flavor in this drink was an afternote, hitting the senses after the initial chocolate flavor faded. It was a subtle flavor that you might not have noticed if someone didn't tell you it was there.

Berry swirled the martini glass with chocolate syrup. Then he put two vodkas, Stolli Vanilla and Hanger One Raspberry, creme de cocoa and half-n-half into a shaker. He poured the well-mixed potion into the glass and dusted it with a little cocoa powder. The finishing touch was a fresh raspberry garnish kissing the rim of the glass.

Despite the chocolate swirl, the martini was not too sweet. It was a little on the strong side, but still tasted silky smooth and creamy. The frothy top and cocoa powder made the drink seem decadent and sinful — perfect for Valentine's Day.

Berry said a "chocolate velvet kiss" sells for about \$9. He uses premium vodkas, which raises the price. Requesting well vodka in the drink will probably lower the price.

He said the drink will be featured on the restaurant's special Valentine's Day menu.

What's your idea for a romantic Valentine's Day? Students reveal how they want to celebrate

JESSICA AYALA
Staff Writer

Everyone has an idea of what a nice Valentine's Day should be. Spartan Daily reporter Jessica Ayala roamed the campus to gain insight on what Spartans like to do with their special someone.

Carlos Espinosa, a junior mechanical engineering major:

"A romantic dinner, just relax and spend time with that someone," Espinosa said. "Maybe a movie."

Espinosa said he felt that the appropriate movie would be a romantic one, and that the food should be either Japanese or Peruvian.

Daniel Gutierrez, a junior electrical engineering major:

"Just spend time with my girlfriend, study less," Gutierrez said.

"That's what we usually do, just study. We don't really get to go out as much."

Gutierrez said his Valentine's Day study break would include a movie, a comedy and a picnic at the beach, "if it's nice."

Liz Cruz, a senior sociology major:

"Flowers and a very, very romantic date that's cheesy, but like something simple," Cruz said.

Cruz felt that a proper romantic dinner is held in "the city," in a nice water-front restaurant. Bright colored lilies should also come into play at some point in the evening, she said.

Geraldine Rivera, a sophomore pre-nursing major:

"I'm not really into materialistic things, just spend time together."

Rivera defined spending time as staying home, baking chicken and watching a romantic comedy.

Marissa Ferrer, a sophomore pre-nursing major:

"Any dinner, it's the thought that counts. If they do something for you on Valentine's Day and they put effort into it, that's all that matters."

She added that she thinks it would be really cute if a guy would sing to her or play an instrument.

Kujo Sengkhammee, a sophomore philosophy major:

"Straight to the point: teddy bears, chocolates, roses and sex."

Enough said.



DRINK OF THE WEEK



Elizabeth Kang / Spartan Daily

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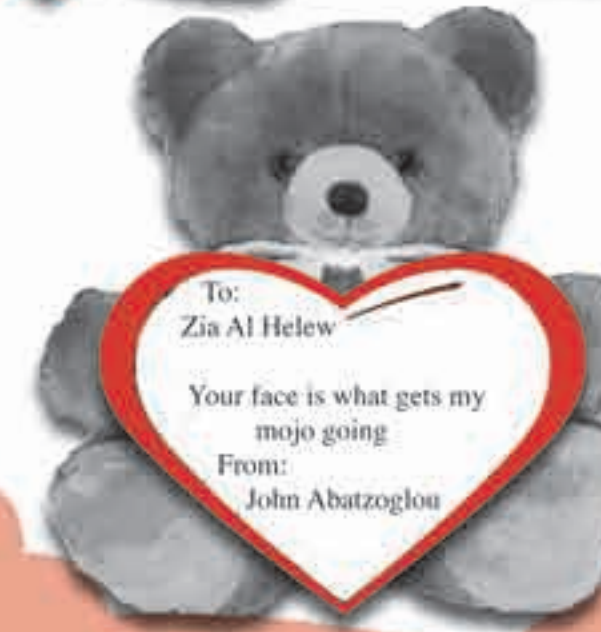
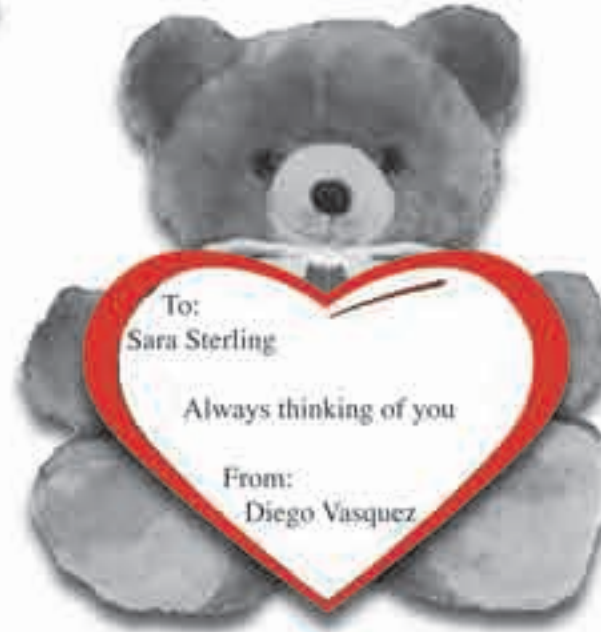
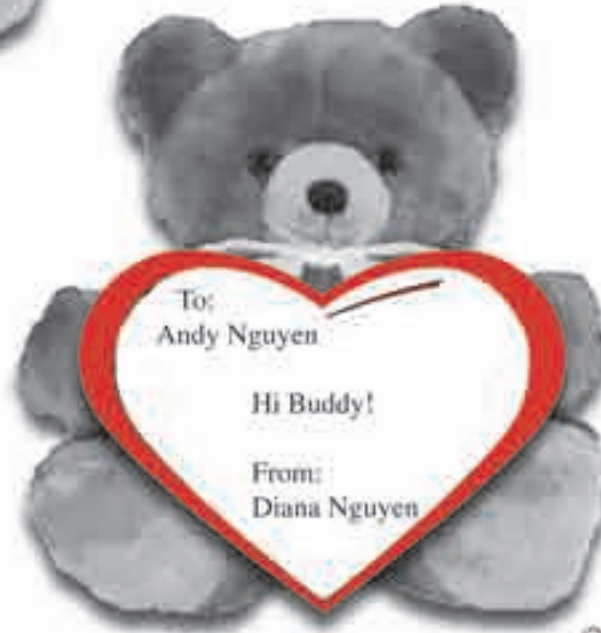
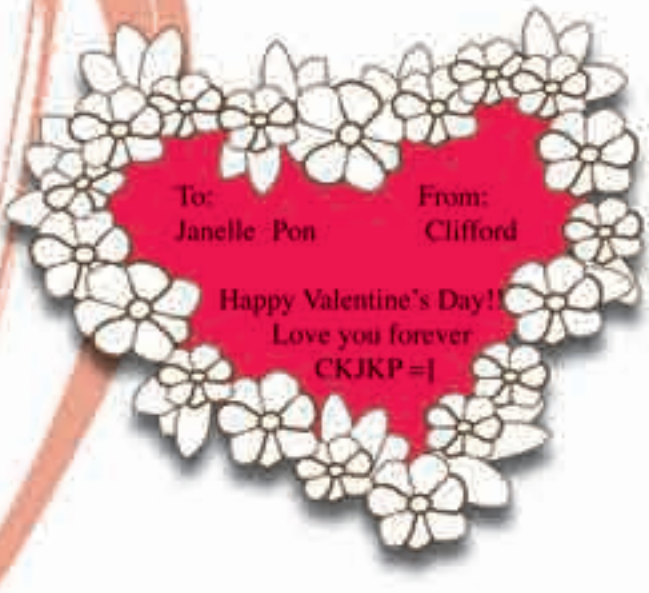
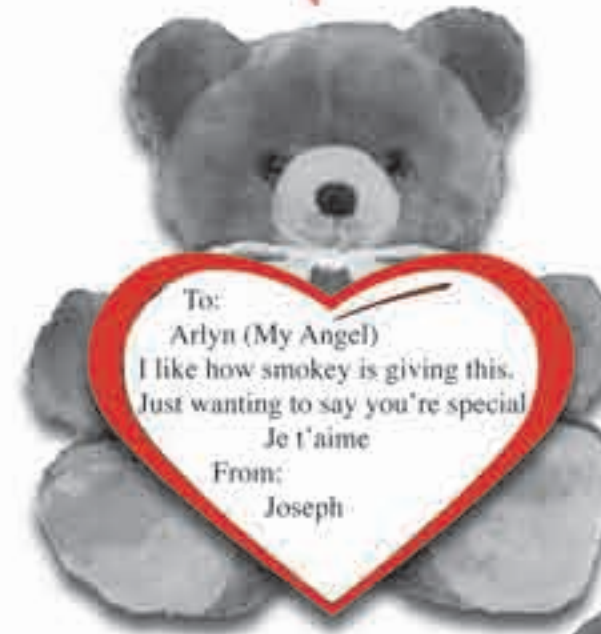
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CAMPUS VOICES:

What's your favorite thing or biggest gripe on campus?

Feature and photos by SPARTAN DAILY STAFF

KELSEY BONE
senior, liberal studies



"My favorite thing about the campus is all the resources on campus like the library. I love this school. All my needs are met."

CARL FLYNN
senior, political science



"The thing I like about this campus is the diversity. Last year I lived in the international wing with a guy from Japan, a guy from Ethiopia, a guy from Nigeria and a guy from Mexico. There is also a big diversity of thoughts and political views, I like that too."

ANNIE POCHE
junior, nursing



"The cafeteria, because you can get food!"

KAYLEIGH LARNER
freshman, theatre arts



"I love how pretty and lively the campus is."

MELYSSA CAHARIAN
freshman, hospitality management



"Parking sucks ass. Because honestly, even in the morning when people say the parking is awesome, I have a nine o'clock class. I live 10 minutes away from campus. I still have to leave my house an hour early and I still have to look for parking, so it's pretty bad."

Congress reaches compromise on proposed \$790 billion bailout

ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Moving with lightning speed, the Democratic-controlled Congress and White House agreed Wednesday on a compromise \$790 billion economic stimulus bill designed to create millions of jobs in a nation reeling from recession. President Barack Obama could sign the measure within days.

"More than one-third of this bill is dedicated to providing tax relief for middle-class families, cutting taxes for 95 percent of American workers," said Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid at a Capitol news conference where he was joined by moderates from both parties whose support is essential for the legislation's final passage.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., Reid's partner in negotiations over more than 24 intense hours, initially withheld her approval in a lingering disagreement over federal funding for school construction. "We had to make sure the investment in education" was in the bill, she said.

Obama, who has campaigned energetically for the legislation, welcomed the agreement in a written statement that said it would "save or create more than 3.5 million jobs and get our economy back on track."

The emerging legislation is at the core of Obama's economic recovery program.

The president's signature tax cut was preserved — a break for millions of lower- and middle-income taxpayers of \$400 per individual and \$800 per couple. That's less than the \$500 and

\$1,000 the White House originally sought, although officials said it would mean an estimated \$13 per week extra per paycheck.

Wage-earners who don't earn enough to pay income taxes would get a reduction in the Social Security and Medicare taxes they pay.

The bill also includes help for victims of the recession in the form of expanded unemployment benefits, food stamps, health coverage and more, as well as billions for states that face the prospect of making deep cuts in school aid and other programs.

Another provision will mean a one-time payment of \$250 for millions of beneficiaries who receive Social Security, Supplemental Security Income and veterans pensions and disability, according to officials. They added that the measure will include \$46 billion for transportation projects such as highway, bridge and mass transit construction.

The president also won money for two other administration priorities — information technology in health care, and "green jobs" to make buildings more energy-efficient and reduce the nation's reliance on foreign oil.

The bill "will be the beginning of the turnaround for the American economy," predicted Sen. Joe Lieberman, the independent from Connecticut.

Republicans couldn't have disagreed more.

"It appears that Democrats have made a bad bill worse by reducing the tax relief for working families in order to pay for more wasteful government spending," said Rep. John Boehner of Ohio.

But some prominent Republicans straddled the issue.

Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin, last year's Republican running mate and a potential White House contender in 2012, said her state was ready to accept a projected \$1 billion in federal funds if they make sense for the state. But she criticized increased spending on social programs, which she said could wind up costing her state in the long run and "don't necessarily stimulate the economy."

The events capped a frenzied 24-plus hours that began at midday Tuesday when the Senate approved its original version of the bill on a party-line vote of 61-37. Reid, Pelosi and White House Chief of Staff Rahm Emanuel plunged into a series of meetings designed to produce agreement in time for Obama to sign the bill by mid-month.

Pelosi was conspicuously absent from Wednesday's news conference in which members of the Senate announced the agreement. Moments later, Reid arrived in her office, and the two talked by phone with Emanuel, according to officials who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Officials had said previously that one of the final issues to be settled was money for school modernization, a priority for Pelosi as well as Obama and one

on which they differed with Collins and other moderates whose votes will be essential for final Senate approval.

Originally, Pelosi and House Democrats wanted a new program dedicated to school construction, but Collins held firm against that. In the end, officials said the agreement added flexibility to a \$54 billion State Stabilization Fund, to permit local governments to use some of the money for modernizing school buildings but not building new ones.

There also was an unspecified last-minute change in a House proposal that would allow state legislatures to order the use of funds over the opposition of governors. Officials said that issue related in part to South Carolina, where GOP Gov. Mark Sanford has been a vehement critic of the legislation.

The officials who described the developments and elements of the bill did so on condition of anonymity, saying they were not authorized to speak.

Stocks moved higher in the moments after Reid stepped to the microphone just outside the Senate chamber. The Dow Jones industrials, which plunged 382 points on Tuesday, rose 51 points for the day.

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CAMPUSIMAGES



Celeste Perryman, a senior English major, creates a Valentine's Day card in the Student Union on Tuesday afternoon. The cards collected by SJSU's Black Mask Honor Society will be given to the children at O'Connor Hospital in San Jose on Valentine's Day. **SANDRA SANTOS / Spartan Daily**

Remembering Darwin on his 200th birthday

Other Bay Area universities set to celebrate, but not SJSU

ELIZABETH KANG
Staff Writer

"Charles Darwin." Yeshe Mengesha, a senior health science major, blinked and repeated the name. After some hints from a friend and a light of recognition, she frowned and asked, "Isn't he the one that said people came from monkeys?"

Today is "Darwin Day," celebrating a man whose revolutionary ideas about evolution are sometimes misunderstood. This day observes the 200th anniversary of Charles Darwin's birth.

Darwin Day began at Stanford University in 1995 and is celebrated each year at universities throughout the country.

Stanford is hosting guest lecturers, and UC Berkeley is holding a museum tour in Darwin's honor. At Cal State Northridge, a whole week has been set aside.

Here at SJSU, no events are planned.

"Why would you praise or remember a person like that?" Mengesha asked. "For some of us, it's against our religion."

Many people, like Mengesha, will not be celebrating. A CBS/New York Times poll conducted in 2004 showed that more than half of Americans do not accept or support evolution. Anthropology

lecturer Jonathan Karpf said he believes the number is much lower at SJSU. Karpf said he has been conducting his own poll of students' beliefs on evolution and creationism since 1987. He distributes the survey at the beginning of the two classes he teaches that include evolution.

Karpf said he has collected results of about 5,000 students surveyed.

"On average," he said, "eight to 10 percent of students reject macro-evolution."

Karpf said he observed that numbers are significantly lower than the average population.

"The state has a Bible Belt the same way that the country does," he said. "Metropolitan L.A., the Bay Area, all have students that are less conservative politically and tend to be more likely to subscribe to scientific explanation."

Karpf said he taught at UC Irvine where he also conducted the poll. He said he found that in more conservative places like Orange County, students and residents are more likely to subscribe to a more fundamentalist viewpoint.

Most students, Karpf said, take a middle-of-the-road approach to evolution. In his poll, Karpf said he gives options such as "God created life and guided evolution," "God created life and evolution evolved naturally," "I believe in God but evolution and the origin of life happened naturally," and "I believe in God but the Big Bang, origin of life and evolution all happened naturally."

In his poll, Karpf said he also

includes the options, "Literal Genesis: no evolution," "agnostic, natural origin of life and evolution," and "atheist, natural origin of life and evolution."

While Karpf said his findings indicate that most SJSU students do believe in evolution, many students have misconceptions about it and Darwin's ideas.

"Survival of the fittest," Karpf said, "is an inaccurate representation of natural selection. It doesn't matter how long an individual lives, it matters how many surviving offspring an individual has."

Others recognize Darwin's contribution.

"(Darwin) wasn't the first to suggest evolution of organisms. What he did do was to assemble massive evidence and combine," said Jean Beard, a volunteer for the College of Science.

"He did this reluctantly," Beard added, "because he knew it would not be acceptable to many."

"Darwin had a radical new idea," said Chris Haynes, an undeclared sophomore.

Haynes said he believes in evolution, and he thinks "evolution and a theistic world view is totally compatible."

Elizabeth McGee, an associate professor of biology, quoted Ukrainian geneticist Theodosius Dobzhansky.

"Nothing in biology makes sense except in the light of evolution," she quoted Dobzhansky.

"It was a brilliant and elegant idea that now seems so obvious in hindsight," she said of Darwin's idea of evolution.

House committee grills peanut executive about salmonella outbreak

ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — See the jar, the congressman challenged Stewart Parnell, holding up a container of the peanut seller's products and asking if he'd dare eat them. Parnell pleaded the Fifth.

The owner of the peanut company at the heart of the massive salmonella recall refused to answer the lawmaker's questions — or any others — Wednesday about the bacteria-tainted products he defiantly told employees to ship to some 50 manufacturers of cookies, crackers and ice cream.

"Turn them loose," Parnell had told his plant manager in an internal e-mail disclosed at the

House hearing. The e-mail referred to products that once were deemed contaminated but were cleared in a second test last year.

Summoned by congressional subpoena, the owner of Peanut Corp. of America repeatedly invoked his right not to incriminate himself at the House Energy and Commerce subcommittee hearing on the salmonella outbreak that has sickened some 600 people, may be linked to nine deaths — the latest reported in Ohio on Wednesday — and resulted in one of the largest product recalls of more than 1,900 items.

Parnell sat stiffly, his hands folded in his lap at the witness table, as Rep. Greg Walden, R-Ore., held up a clear jar of his

company's products wrapped in crime-scene tape and asked if he would eat them.

"Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, on advice of my counsel, I respectfully decline to answer your questions based on the protections afforded me under the U.S. Constitution," Parnell responded.

After he repeated the statement several times, lawmakers dismissed him from the hearing.

Shortly after Parnell's appearance, a lab tester told the panel that the company discovered salmonella at its Blakely, Ga., plant as far back as 2006. Food and Drug Administration officials told lawmakers more federal inspections could have helped prevent the outbreak.

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Letters to the Editor

This letter is in response to the fee hike used to remodel the Student Union:

As a commuter student, I am rarely informed about what our fees are used for.

I have heard rumors about where the spending goes, but one of the things I did not know about was a constant increase in tuition because someone believed SJSU needed a new Student Union.

Although it is a good idea to

improve the Student Union, it is quite unnecessary at the moment, especially during a time when people are unable to afford even their homes.

How long has this \$30 increase on the Student Union fee been going on? Most students have not even heard about it until recently.

Most of the people that I mentioned the Student Union remodeling project to did not even know about it.

I first heard about it when I

found a link on the SJSU Web site in 2007.

It originally was only a PowerPoint slide with no information about dates, when it would start or when it was to be completed.

I feel like SJSU had tried to hide what they were planning with the students' fees. In addition, what will happen to the Student Union during construction?

If the old cafeteria building will be demolished, where will

students go to eat during construction?

Where will the many departments housed within the Old Cafeteria and Student Union go?

Where can the students go to rest during their breaks?

It makes me sad that I know I am contributing to building a legacy that I will most likely never see or use.

—Jenny Ngo
San Jose, Calif.

This letter is in response to the protest of the Israeli consul general during a discussion about the state of Gaza:

I do not think I am any better of a person than any other student attending SJSU. However, I do take a different personal responsibility than what several students apparently took on Feb. 5, at the Israeli Distinguished Visitor forum.

What personal responsibility might that be?

Anytime I attend an academic function of any sort, I represent the mentoring and expectations of those who imparted upon me high expectations of self-control.

No student at any time need fear how I will represent them in any public forum.

Do I maintain personal feelings on matters? Absolutely. Nevertheless, to supplant my school's reputation for committing itself to the pursuit of higher learning and respect for diversified opinions with my own personal axes to grind?

Never.

Make no mistake: I realize the personal heart connections several of the protesters feel regarding the continuing situation in the Middle East. I share similar heart connections to experiences in the United States that my 1860s ancestors suffered.

And yet, if I as a student of equal standing with any other student can set aside my personal opinions regarding the suffering my family experienced as a result of General Sherman's "March to the Sea," I expect that any student's equally traumatic, emotional experiences in the Middle East can be set aside for an hour in the hopes of professionally learning another's point of view.

Despite my genealogy and personal inclinations, SJSU could rest assured that I would maintain a level of decorum that befits a student of higher learning.

I owe my degree of personal conduct to SJSU for providing

all opportunities to learn as a professional.

Anything less would be my disservice to my school, my mentors and my fellow students' status.

Personal expression is a fantastic gift in the United States, largely guaranteed through our US Constitution.

Nevertheless, to abuse such a gift in a way that limits future learning experiences for others breaks my heart for my children.

My son and daughter deserve better; SJSU's future students deserve better also.

—Mike Montgomery
Senior psychology major

Comments from the Web

In response to "Should SJSU ban cigarette smoking on campus?"

I understand smoking is a habit, but it isn't my habit. Just as some people are allergic to perfumes, my body reacts negatively when it encounters smoke. It isn't personal to the people with the cigarettes, just to the smoke itself. ... To a degree, I think this comes down to respect for others and for the law.

—CY

In response to "A fresh perspective on the 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell' law"

I served 20 years and never saw anybody trying to make a statement. All I saw were fellow sailors trying to accomplish the mission, regardless of race, religion, or sexual orientation. Nobody is asking for special treatment — just equal treatment.

If gays are expected to serve in silence, the same rules should apply to heteros — no bragging about the date you went on last night, no talking about the wife and kids, no drooling over the latest playboy centerfold. And no "special treatment," like housing, extra pay and healthcare for your family. In fact, if we find out you got married or had straight sex or have kids you'll be kicked out because that would affect "unit morale."

—WeTheSheeple

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- Golden
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- Nutritional supplement

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3	6	7	1	2	9	8	4	5
8	5	9	4	7	6	2	1	3
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Michelle Obama: a new kind of first lady



MERRIL GUZMAN
Staff Writer

When Barack Obama was elected president on Nov. 4, it was a historic day for the world. But his wife, Michelle, has been equally impressive along the campaign trail, and all the way into the White House.

She truly is a modern woman. Shopping at J. Crew, engaging in "fist-bumps" and wearing a dress from little-known designer Jason Wu to the 10 official inaugural balls contributed to the nation's captivation with Michelle Obama.

She is part of a new generation of American women who have both a career and a family. She knows there is value to being educated and working hard to build a career, but she also focuses on her family.

Michelle has a bachelor's degree from Princeton and a law degree from Harvard.

The Obama's daughters, Malia, 10, and Sasha, 7, attended an academically challenging elementary school in Chicago and now attend a top school in Washington, D.C. Michelle and Barack are both well educated and are providing their daughters with the best education possible.

The Obamas' family values and education have been key assets to their success.

When her husband was a U.S. senator, Michelle worked with the University of Chicago Hospitals, and kept her job throughout the early stages of his presidential campaign.

Not only was she working, but she was also making a significant amount of money. According to the family's 2006 tax return, she made close to \$300,000 a year. Barack was making around \$155,000 as a senator during the same time period.

Michelle is not defined by her husband or stifled by his career in the way that many other political spouses have been.

She has used his career to focus on the issues she cares about: work-life balance and the well-being of military families.

She is practical. She is not an elitist. She comes from humble beginnings on the South Side of

Chicago and, most importantly, she knows how to have fun.

Michelle Obama addressed the Democratic National Convention last August and delivered a speech that made me proud to be an American woman for the first time in my life.

On Sept. 8, she danced her way onto the set of Ellen DeGeneres' talk show to Rihanna's hit song, "Don't Stop the Music."

For the record, she's a far better dancer than our commander-in-chief, who also danced, albeit with far less grace, his way onto Ellen's show in 2007.

Michelle Obama is stylish but substantive. She's not all glam like Jackie Kennedy or Nancy Reagan but she's not all issues like Hillary Clinton.

What's not to admire about the new first lady?

Michelle Obama addressed



CARTY SEWILL / Spartan Daily

the Democratic National Convention last August and delivered a speech that made me proud to be an American woman for the first time in my life.

"I come here as a wife who loves my husband and believes he will be an extraordinary president," she told the crowd.

"And I come here as a mom," she said. "As a mom whose girls are the heart of my heart and the

center of my world, they are the first things I think about when I wake up in the morning and the last thing I think about before I go to bed at night. Their future and all our children's futures is my stake in this election."

Merril Guzman is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

Leave it to angry grandmothers to defend our rights



ANDREA FRAINIER
Guerrilla Wordfare

There's a lot of wrong in this world. Economies around the globe are in the toilet, Australia's on fire and a single mom on welfare just gave birth to eight babies.

On the home front, America's engaged in two wars, jobs are being cut and peanut butter has been compromised.

Personally, I juggle two jobs, work 60-hour weeks and have no savings to show for it. By the way, my rent is due tomorrow.

So, I can spend the next few hundred words lamenting about how life sucks and how nothing is going to change, or I can pick myself up by my bootstraps and belt out "The Sun

Will Come Out Tomorrow" at the top of my lungs.

Or, like many of my fellow peers, I can do nothing. Just sit here, log onto Facebook and have a good laugh while joining a group called "I want a Snuggie Blanket made with ShamWows."

Or, I can try my luck with what's behind door No. 3, which entails getting up off my butt. Like Gandhi said, "be the change we wish to see in the world."

Shouldn't it be my generation, us young bucks, that take to the streets and risk our necks to protest the government's actions?

And I know of one local organization that has done exactly that: The Raging Grannies.

Grannies as in grandmothers. As in your mom's mom. As

in really, really old ladies.

And they're mad. In fact, they're raging.

They're raging about the state of politics and aren't afraid to don their big, flowery hats, feather boas and hit the streets in protest of war and voice their support for social justice.

This international grassroots organization (it was founded in Canada) has more than 60 gaggles worldwide. Their mission: To create a better world for future generations.

The Bay Area chapter of this organization has pulled stunts like hand-delivering Congressman Mike Honda a plastic spine, singing anti-nuke, anti-war songs and standing outside of Speaker Nancy Pelosi's house with pink signs that read "Bunnies, Not Bombs."

These grannies use humor, theatrics and songs to promote world peace, justice, equality and raise awareness of their cause.

And they've caught the attention of someone.

According to a 2006 Roll-

ing Stone article, in operation "Information Synchronization, Knowledge Management and Intelligence Fusion," the California National Guard spied on members of the Raging Grannies as they organized a peaceful protest against the Iraq War.

Why did the National Guard do this?

According to the article, Lt. Col. Stan Zezotarski thought that terrorists could infiltrate this group of singing, peace-loving grandmothers.

Right. Isn't there something wrong with this picture?

Shouldn't it be my generation, us young bucks, that take to the streets and risk our necks to protest the government's actions? Not our elders, who, in reality, don't have a lot of personal gain by standing up against "the Man."

When was the last time you rose and took a stand?

The last time I remember my generation getting riled up about something was during the five days after Sept. 11.

Everyone had an opinion, and everyone wasn't afraid to share it. There were candle light vigils, peace rallies and prayer services in memory of those who lost their lives.

Then on the sixth day, when television went back to normal programming, everyone got sucked backed into their hermit lifestyles, watching television and surfing the Web.

The Raging Grannies sing, march and protest so that my generation won't have to pay the consequences of an irresponsible government. Well, if that isn't selflessness, I don't what is.

But I think it's about time that this generation unglued itself from computers, got up off the couch and stood up for something it believes in.

Stand up for something. Anything.

Andrea Frainier is the Spartan Daily opinion editor. "Guerrilla Wordfare" appears every Thursday.

Fourteen children is too much for a single mom



ALLIE FIGURES
Figures It Out

Add Nadya Suleman to the ranks of those who continue to make our society worse, because she is the mother who recently gave birth to octuplets.

Let my list of gripes against her begin.

Suleman is a single mother of 14 children with no job and, currently, no income.

She is using student loans to support her children. Although she previously claimed to have never wasted tax dollars and never accepted government assistance, Suleman clarified in an interview with Ann Curry that she receives \$490 a month in food stamps.

"It's only temporary," Suleman said about her plans to discontinue accepting the aid until after completing graduate school in about one to one-and-a-half years.

Suleman said she is \$50,000 dollars in debt. How responsible is it to bring an additional eight children in a world that you already cannot afford for your existing six children? With no job and no income, Suleman cannot even take care of herself.

I understand sometimes we make mistakes — expensive ones. Sure, we can all use a little help to cover our expenses (and mistakes) from time to time.

But knowingly artificially implanting herself with six fertilized eggs while incapable of providing for her other children screams irresponsibility.

And I feel sorry for the sucker who contributed his sperm to fertilize her eggs.

She said the man is a long-time friend, happy about the babies but not responsible for rais-

ing the children.

This could have been a platonic "Will & Grace" situation that turns into him coaching Little League.

In my opinion, he is not the brightest for participating in this sick song and dance several times, but I do not think he should be held responsible for Suleman's baby fetish.

Oh, and a fetish it is.

How responsible is it to bring an additional eight children in a world that you already cannot afford for your existing six children?

"I longed for siblings," she told Curry about the yearning she felt growing up as an only child. "I

needed to feel something inside, to fill the void."

Suleman's mother described her daughter's fascination with children as unhealthy and not justified by her upbringing having grown up in a very "loving and affectionate family."

Being an only child does not justify bringing 14 children in this world thoughtlessly. Even rabbits stand a better chance than her children.

Then there is the odd relation between her and Angelina Jolie. Appearance wise she could pass for the ugly, fat older sister because of her similar nose, full lips and long dark locks. Along with the gaggle of children, it is not hard to draw a line connecting the two.

Other than hot looks, Jolie has another major advantage over Suleman. Jolie has the money to bear/save/adopt as many ridiculously attractive or less-fortunate children as she (and Brad Pitt's stamina) want. She can fashion her own version

of the United Nations.

Suleman now has a publicist and wants to write a book, maybe in hopes for the same celebrity as TLC's Jon and Kate Gosselin, who still receive money and gifts since the birth of their second set of multiples.

But these parents of twins and sextuplets took full responsibility for their children by having a steady income to support their family, never putting the stress of their reproductive choice on taxpayers.

So, if this whole college thing doesn't work out as I planned, I now know I can knock myself up seven times over, live off of my student loans and food stamps, get a publicist and demand millions of dollars for rights to my oh-so-fascinating book.

Allie Figures is a Spartan Daily arts & entertainment editor. "Figures It Out" appears every Thursday.

GOLF

Myers and Conrad drive Spartans to tournament triumph



Mark Hubbard



Jay Myers



Stephan Stallworth



Rosco Valentine

RALPH WARNER
Staff Writer

The SJSU men's golf team opened the spring season with its first team tournament win since 2005 on Tuesday.

Freshman Jay Myers and senior Aaron Conrad led the Spartans, finishing third and fourth respectively, on the individual leaderboard at the Pat Hicks Thunderbird Invitational in St. George, Utah, on Tuesday.

Myers shot a one-under par on Monday, then followed that performance with an even par score in the final round on the

72-par course. Myers' total score of 143 was third overall.

Conrad scored an even par on both days of the tournament. His total score of 144 was good for a four-way tie in fourth place. The finish was Conrad's third top-10 placement of his collegiate career, the last being his win at the Del Walker Intercollegiate tournament in 2006.

Last spring, a lack of depth in the roster and team injuries resulted in zero top-five team finishes and a sixth-place finish out of nine teams at the Western Athletic Conference Championship, which was hosted in San Jose.

This season's addition of three

first-year Spartans — freshmen Myers and Nick Brown, and Bakersfield College transfer Bryce Holloway — increased the Spartans' active roster from 10 to 13.

Brown, from Rocklin High School, was named one of the 2008 Sacramento Bee Players of the Year — the only in boys golf.

Myers, from Branham High School, was recognized as the 2008 San Jose Mercury News Player of the Year. Holloway was named the 2008 Western State Conference Player of the Year. Both were awarded in boys golf.

"I'm excited by their potential," head coach John Kennaday said. "There's no doubt about it

— they are the players that we thought they were. They have a lot of work ahead of them, a lot of lessons to be learned, but so far they have made good, steady progress."

The Spartans opened last fall with a 13th-place finish at the Windon Memorial Classic in Glenview, Ill., but closed the semester with a third place finish at the Kauai Invitational in Hawaii.

"We started out a little slow in the fall, but finished fast," he said. "It's really starting to push everyone into a position where it's making our practices better and qualifying far more competitive."

Kennaday said the addition of new players increases competition among the team and encourages players to better themselves.

The Thunderbird Invitational was Conrad's second tournament of the season. He redshirted the 2007-08 season due to injury.

"I had to watch the guys leave every week and go out to the tournaments," Conrad said. "I just learned to take advantage of the opportunities we have, to use everything around us and try to be as good as we can be."

Conrad sees the competition within the team as a positive, which has the potential to benefit returning letterwinners as well as

first-year members.

"They're making all of us work harder," Conrad said. "Nobody is boss on this lineup. Everybody has to practice, everybody has to come ready to play."

In addition to bettering themselves through increased competition, Conrad and Kennaday said seizing every opportunity is a common theme for the 2009 season.

"You don't take anything for granted," Kennaday said. "You've got to play each round like it could be your last, because you never know what could happen. I think that's become more evident to everybody this year. It's the way we should play all the time."

Photos courtesy of SJSU Athletics

SWIMMING

Team hopes to 'place top two' at upcoming WAC Championship

RALPH WARNER
Staff Writer

As the SJSU swimming and diving team prepares for the Western Athletic Conference Championship, the players and coaches look to continue the success of their 16-1 dual meet season record.

Head coach Sage Hopkins and diving coach Brian Tanner have led the Spartans to their most successful season in recent history, going undefeated in eight conference meets and only surrendering one loss on the season to nationally-ranked Stanford on Oct. 3.

During the season, the team received 13 WAC swimmer or diver of the week honors. Hopkins said the team's success was a result of work ethic and unity.

"The team showed up in very good shape in the fall and has just worked very, very hard right from day one," Hopkins said. "The second key to success has been team camaraderie and team chemistry, something we work on both a fair amount, and we talk about them a lot."



Ashley Krisman

WILLIAM COOLEY / Spartan Daily

Senior swimmer Beste Erenner said the team's consistent recognition from the conference this season brings respect and attention to the sport of swimming, which despite the lengthy season, isn't as recognized as other college athletic programs.

"Swimming is a big, big sacrifice," said Erenner, who has earned second-team All-WAC honors last season. "We have the longest season from October to February. We worked hard and now it's all paying off. So, it's just really nice that people are recognizing

that, paying more attention to the swim team, and supporting us."

Hopkins and Erenner both agree that the defining moment of the season came at the WAC Shootout in Las Cruces, N.M. on Oct. 10 and 11, when the Spartans beat five teams, including two-time defending WAC champion Nevada, to win the tournament.

"When we won the WAC Shootout, I thought that really energized the team, and they really started believing that they were the top, if not one of the

top, couple of teams in the conference," Hopkins said.

Senior swimmer and team tri-captain Tarolyn Robertson said the team's confidence gained after winning the WAC Shootout was carried throughout the season for each following meet.

"We definitely have a lot of confidence going into each meet just based on our performances," said Robertson, who also earned All-WAC honors last season. "Coming into practice everyday is a lot easier knowing we're 16-1 and knowing what we can accomplish."

Despite having such high levels of success, Hopkins said there are still goals to be accomplished heading into the WAC Championship.

"We want to place top two at the conference championship and everybody to get their best times at the conference championship," Hopkins said. "In terms of two things that are kind of harder to quantify, we want to be the most vocal and most spirited team at conference championship. We want our team to have the most fun at the confer-

ence championship."

Junior swimmer Erin Garcia said she believes that approach and attitude has played a pivotal role in creating a comfortable atmosphere for members of the team.

"It's the first time in my life

when I've had a coach that I've thought genuinely cares about every swimmer equally and not just in the water, but out of the water as well," Garcia said.

The WAC Championship begins Tuesday, Feb. 24 in San Antonio.

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