





THURSDAY MARCH 19, 2009

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| | | Volume 102, issue of | | | |

CAMPUS VILLAGE

Housing

safety plan

aims to

lower crime

JULIANNE SHAPIRO Staff Writer

THE WIRE

The Spartan Daily will return after spring break on Thursday, April 2.

NATIONAL

Natasha Richardson dies after fall on ski slope

NEW YORK — Natasha Richardson, an actress whose career highlights included the film "Patty Hearst" and a Tonywinning performance in a stage revival of "Cabaret." died Wednesday at age 45 after suffering a head injury during a beginners' ski lesson.

Number of babies born increased last year

ATLANTA – More babies were born in the U.S. in 2007 than any year in the nation's history, surpassing the peak during the baby boom 50 years earlier, federal researchers report. The report also finds that more than 40 percent of babies are born out of wedlock.

N.M. governor signs bill banning death penalty

SANTA FE, N.M. — Gov. Bill Richardson signed legislation Wednesday repealing New Mexico's death penalty, making it the second state to ban executions since the U.S. Supreme Court reinstated the death penalty in 1976.

- Associated Press

INTERNATIONAL

End for Iraq war now in sight

BAGHDAD – Six years after the U.S. invaded Iraq, the end of America's costly mission is in sight, but the future is much less clear. Most Iraqis feel more secure than at nearly any time since the war began March 20, 2003 – March 19 in the United States. But violence still continues at levels that most other countries would find alarming.

- Associated Press

GRADUATION

Lofgren to speak at commencement

Has represented SJ in Congress since 1994

RALPH WARNER

MILITARY

U.S. Rep. Zoe Lofgren, who has represented San Jose in Congress since 1994, will be this year's commencement speaker at graduation in May.

Lofgren, who first represent-

ed the university's surrounding area on the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors from 1981 to 1994 before joining the Congress, said she was excited when offered the opportunity by SJSU President Jon Whitmore.

Serving San Jose State University Since 1934

"I'd just like to say I'm tremendously honored to be selected and I look forward to the joyous day with all the graduates and their families," she said.

Katie Camara, a liberal studies preparation for teaching major, said she is excited to have Lofgren as this year's commencement speaker and hopes Lofgren will deliver a hopeful message about the future.

"She's a strong woman," she said. "I remember meeting her when I went to Sacramento in the fourth grade on a class trip."

Whitmore, who met with Lofgren in Washington, D.C.,

See **SPEAKER**, page 2



Courtesy of USGS

U.S. Rep. Zoe Lofgren

The comings and goings of residents of the Campus Village Suites are being monitored by university housing as part of a new security experiment.

Residents are required to show their student IDs Thursdays through Saturdays between the hours of midnight and 3 a.m. Any accompanying guests are also asked to show identification before entering the building, according to a news release sent out to all residents through MySJSU.

The experiment is a safety pilot program that started on Feb. 5, said Kevina Brown, community relations coordinator for university housing.

The program is meant to track who is entering the building, she said.

According to the release, guests caught without identification will not be allowed to enter the Suites. Students who are caught letting people into the buildings who do not live there or are guests of residents are subject to documentation and judicial process, she said.

University housing is expecting the results from the program to result in fewer incidents of strangers walking in behind residents inside the building — tailgating — or people who don't live in the building staying for extended periods of time, Brown said.

If successful, she said, the program might be implemented in the rest of Campus Village buildings in the fall after it is evaluated by officials from the housing department at the end of this semester.

Although the news release states that the program is a

See **HOUSING**, page 2

SHOWING THEIR COLORS Air Force ROTC group welcomes high schoolers into program



ROTC do jumping jacks before the start of the Leadership Laboratory 8 event Thursday afternoon.

Bottom: The White Lightning rifle team perform in the Leadership Laboratory 8 Thursday afternoon.

Top: Members of SJSU's Air Force SANDRA SANTOS / Spartan Daily

SAMANTHA PATTERSON

Decked out in camouflage and combat boots, Air Force ROTC Detachment 045 welcomed a junior detachment corps from Oak Grove High School to participate in a joint training leadership lab at SJSU last Thursday.

Based at SJSU, the unit reached out as mentors to Oak Grove's junior training corps to educate them about the ROTC program in college.

"It's our first time doing this," said 1st Lt. Melissa Ingram, the unit's admissions officer. "We're

trying to incorporate them a lot more into our program. In order to get them interested into our program we want to show them what we do." Although Air Force ROTC is

three active duty officers and two non-commissioned officers. Active duty officers oversee the cadet's activities while noncommissioned officers serve pri-

a cadet-run program, it contains

The joint training leadership lab started in Sweeney Hall with opening remarks and introduc-

marily in administrative roles.

See **ROTC**, page 3

www.spartandailysports.wordpress.com www.spartandailyphoto.wordpress.com www.spartandailynews.wordpress.com

NEWS

Have a look at the 'Live Art Cafe, an event where painters create new works of art.

SPORTS BLOG

The SJSU baseball team is good, but far from perfect.

A&E

Eat of the Week - Indian food from Silk Road Bistro.

PHOTO BLOG

Check out photos and audio of an SJSU-run ROTC leadership lab by Daily staff photographer Sandra Santos.

Take a look at an audio slideshow of the restaurant Silk Road Bistro by photographer Kirsten Aguilar.



KIRSTEN AGUILAR / Spartan Daily

ADVERTISEMENT





SPORTS

yesterday.

Multimedia Editor Joey Akeley

The SJSU softball team split a

doubleheader against Princeton

shares his predictions of the

NCAA Tournament.

| • | Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
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19 Today

Akbayan of SJSU

General meeting. 4:30 to 6 p.m. in the Almaden Room of the Student Union. Contact Justin Lacap at i_lacap@yahoo.com

Bible Study

"Purpose Driven Life." A2 Christian Fellowship hosts a presentation and discussion. 7 p.m. in the Guadalupe Room of the Student Union. Contact Justin Foon at jfoon1@yahoo.com

Marimba Madness

Percussion studio of Lecturer Galen Lemmon. 12:30 to 1:15 p.m. in the Music Building Concert Hall. Contact 924-4673 for more information.

Meditation Group

5 p.m. in Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library, Room 390. Contact Harrison at hhaarrrriissoonn@gmail.com

30 Monday

Child Nutrition Seder Food Drive

Bring canned food to donate to Second Harvest in honor of the Child Nutrition Seder through

Drop-off locations include Mosaic Cross Cultural Center at the top floor of the Student Union, nutrition department and Hillel.

Slam Dunk Contest

Show off your skills during the Slam Dunk Contest as part of the IM Sports Basketball Championship Night. 6 to 10 p.m. Contact Campus Recreation at 924-6218 or rpatchett@as.sjsu.edu

O1 Wednesday

Manipulating the Unwanted: Labor, War and Public Policy

Explore the experiences of Mexican farm laborers in California and learn about the forced immigration of Peruvian-Japanese to the U.S. Free and open to the public.

7 to 9 p.m. in the Schiro Room at Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library. Contact Danelle Moon at 808-2061.

Spartan Smart Cart

Fresh fruit and veggies. 10:15 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Clark Hall, rain or shine. Contact Luisa Garrett at luisa@postalmodern.com

O2 Thursday

Traveling Spartans

Spartan Travel Night 7 p.m. in Campus Village Building B. Contact Jenny at 714-329-4979.

Weekly Discussion

Hangout with globally-minded people, discuss international issues and find out internship opportunities. 6:15 p.m. in the Pacheco Room of the Student Union.

Contact Ryan Wu at GSC.SJSU@gmail.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.

SPEAKER | 6,000 expected to qualify for graduation in May

Continued from page 1

two weeks ago, said Lofgren has been an active supporter of SJSU and it's an honor to have her as this year's commencement speaker.

"We're excited and she's excited about it because there is a lot happening in Washington and she'll bring that energy to her discussion with our outgoing students," Whitmore said.

Lofgren, who was born in San Mateo and lives east of the university, said she feels a close tie to the school because she is a neighbor with many faculty members, and knows many current students and alumni who keep her connected to the

"San Jose State is a school that is known for being accessible to people," she said. "Many of the graduates this year are the first in their families to go to college, and State is an institution

that takes that phenomenon and welcomes it."

The Stanford University graduate also said she was the first in her family to graduate from college, and she believes that the more people in a population of higher education, the more successful that country can be.

"Higher education is extremely important not only for individuals to be successful in life but also for the nation itself," Lofgren said. "It's important for each one of the graduates that their own future is more secure through their education, but also it's important for the United States that our country's future is brighter because of their educational achievement."

Shahid Minapara, a graduating senior aviation major, said that during the recession and a declining job market he hopes to hear an optimistic message about future opportunities for the graduating class of 2009.

"I would definitely want to get some words of encouragement about the future job market," he said. "I want to hear we're not going to be out there on our own and that we're going to have support from our university and from industry professionals who are planning on creating new jobs for the individuals who are graduating."

According to an SJSU news release, 6,000 students will qualify to walk during this year's commencement, which will take place at Spartan Stadium on Saturday, May 23.

HOUSING | Tailgating, trespassing and theft all problems for housing

Continued from page 1

safety precaution for residents, some students, such as Natasha Kleit, a freshman art history major, said the pilot safety program restricts the freedom of students who enter and exit their home.

"If we're paying so much to live in this building, we should be able to go in and out as much as we like without having to check in," Kleit said.

Danielle Willey, a freshman occupational therapy major and resident of the Suites, disagrees.

"People can come in from downstairs from the parking garage and go straight up to their room without having to check in," Willey said. "So, people can still get in a different way."

But Brown said public safety officers patrol the garage.

Kamille Scoot, another Campus Village Suites resident and freshman mechanical engineering major, said he finds the pilot program helpful and thinks it should be implemented into the other suites because it helps eliminate hallway traffic from the party chaos that generally starts on Thursday nights.

TRESSPASSING STORIES

While some residents continue to worry about how the new pilot safety program will affect their partying agenda, others feel it is an improvement from recent trespassing problems that plagued their dorms.

"There have been problems where there have been random people coming in," said Shauna Kyan, a freshman business major who lives in Campus Village Suites. "One of my friends on the third floor found a homeless guy living in her lounge, sleeping over, which is totally gross and creepy."

Other students reported that this isn't a one-time instance.

Willey said that earlier in the semester, she saw resident advisers escorting a man out from a recreational room who had been there for a full day trying to find

"He was looking for some kid," she said. "That seemed a little

Jayme Sy, an undeclared freshman and resident of Campus Village Suites, said she feels safer without having people wandering the halls and poking their heads in her doorway.

"At the beginning of the school year, we'd always have our door open and random people would walk in who don't even go to this school," she said. "It was really weird. Now, they actually have to check in."

TAILGATING AND THEFT

UPD Sgt. Mike Santos said problems within campus housing go beyond people wandering the halls. Those strolling around could steal items from resident rooms, which, he said, is possibly a result of tailgating.

"(Tailgating) is the common practice of residents allowing other persons into the residence halls without having to use their keycards," he said.

Four instances of theft have occurred in 2009, Santos said, which may have been a result of tailgating.

"We've gotten suspects who have said, 'Well I got in because somebody else let me in," he said. "Obviously, they don't have



Students entering the Campus Village Suites.

a key or a keycard. So, they're getting in somehow. It's usually from students inadvertently letting them in."

Sy said she thinks students are too scared to ask other people to show their identification cards before letting them enter the

"(Tailgating) happens a lot," she said. "I think that people are too scared to even just be like, 'Oh do you live here?' and be rude about it."

Kevina Brown said the hous-

ing department discourages tailgating, but she can identify with students who don't feel comfortable not letting someone into the

"I would encourage people to hover and not go in (until the person has either left or has been cleared to enter the building)," she said.

Santos also said residents could alternatively refer strangers to lobby personnel if they aren't sure they are residents or there to visit someone in the dorms.

Warning may force people to avoid Mexico this spring break

HARVEY RAÑOLA

That long-needed break marking the halfway point of the semester is just around the corner, but students planning a spring break trip south of the border may have to rethink their

Last month, the U.S. State Department issued a travel alert warning tourists of the possible dangers they might encounter in certain parts of Mexico.

The alert warned travelers that "Mexican and foreign bystanders have been injured or killed in violent attacks in cities across the country," and that "large firefights have taken place in many towns and cities across Mexico, but most recently in northern Mexico, including Tijuana, Chihuahua City and Ciudad Juarez."

Raymond Sullivan, a first-year Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages graduate student, traveled to Tepic, Mexico in January and said he didn't feel concerned for his safety.

"I felt relatively safe there," he said. "At least from my direct experiences, day to day, I didn't feel like I was in danger."

The border town of Ciudad Juarez is one of particular concern to Mexican authorities. It has reported more than 1,800 deaths in the city since Jan. 2008, according to the alert.

Junior radio, television and film major Arianne Tavares said she was planning on traveling to Mexico for spring break, but decided against it after hearing about an experience her roommate's parents had during their trip to Acapulco.

"His mother said that the hotel told her not to leave the resort," she said. "(Hotel workers said) just to stay there and because things were not safe. So have anything to worry about. Mexico."

Jose Loreto, Consul General for the Mexican Embassy in San Jose, said that the problem stems from a territorial war between competing drug cartels.

Among those cartels is one from the western Mexican state of Sinaloa, which was brought into the national spotlight when its leader, Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman Loera, was named in Forbes magazine's list of "selfmade" billionaires.

Loreto said he does not believe that the wars among groups like the Sinaloa cartel will deter tourists from visiting Mexico.

"We are convinced that the war on drugs does not disrupt the plan of tourism from people from the United States," he said. "Tourists' main destinations are not in the hot zone of these

Gregorio Mora-Torres, a Mexican-American studies professor, said the cartels are fighting against one another and local authorities, and that only those tourists who go to Mexico intending to buy drugs or par-



not go to the beach by herself, ticipate in other illegal activities ted against American citizens," Baja California city will be

lords are very careful not to involve American citizens because of the repercussions from the United States," he said. "They're not going to go out there and deliberately target (Americans) unless they want to."

Mora-Torres said students just need to be cautious and aware of their surroundings when in Mexico.

"There is no real history of violence that has been commit-

then I said, 'OK I'm not going to "Keep in mind that the drug news in Mexico, rarely do Amer-zation Los Niños International, ican students get killed and involved in shootings and injured or shot dead."

This should come as a relief to students, including some of those participating in this year's Alternative Spring Break program, which will send four groups of students to four different locales in need of aid in the United States and Mexico, including the border city of Mexicali.

The group traveling to the

he said. "If anyone follows the working with volunteer organiand Maribel Martínez, program coordinator for the César E. Chávez Community Action Center, who said that measures have been taken to ensure the safety of the students.

"Our first priority is student safety," Martínez said. "So if anything happens between now and (next Monday), we're still at liberty to say 'guess what guys? You're not going,' and we'll have a plan B."





NEWS 3

Cuts force SJSU to turn away potential incoming freshmen

JESSICA FROMM

Thousands of qualified high school seniors seeking admission to SJSU next fall will soon receive notices in the mail saying they have been rejected.

SJSU has been forced to turn away 4,400 eligible prospective freshmen applicants for the Fall 2009 semester, more than any other school in the California State University system.

With the state financial crisis cutting \$283 million from the CSU's budget, CSU Chancellor Charles Reed declared systemwide impaction last February. This move mandated 10,000 students to be cut from CSU enrollment in the coming year.

SJSU must endure one-third of these systemwide admission reductions, which will focus predominantly on incoming Fall 2009 freshmen.

"This is perhaps the first time in history that state budget cuts have forced us to turn away qualified applicants, and this will cause consternation in our community," wrote SJSU President Jon Whitmore in a March 6 faculty memo.

Admission will be denied to freshman applicants attending high schools outside of Santa Clara County who applied after Nov. 20, according to the memo. All lower-division transfer students from community colleges will also be rebuffed, along with those seeking second bachelor's

Whitmore said in a March 11 news conference that SJSU has repeatedly exceeded its enrollment target of 2.5 percent growth each year, bringing in more students than the current budget can handle.

> "This is perhaps the first time in history that state budget cuts have forced us to turn away qualified applicants."

JON WHITMORE

"We're definitely not kicking anybody out, we're just not letting as many in," he said. "We got way over (our enrollment quota) very fast. It's nobody's fault really, we just had more students and a growing interest in wanting to come here. Very quickly, we were over 3,000 (students) than what the state was funding us for. Then, they weren't able to fund the 2.5 percent growth because of the budget crisis. That made it worse, and made it come to a

Pat Lopes Harris, director of media relations at SJSU, said that administrators chose to channel these admission cuts onto 2009 freshman applicants because the university's first priority is to maintain the educational quality of currently enrolled students.

"Over the long term, impaction, which essentially means enrollment caps, should help continuing students by allowing the university to bring its resources in line with its enrollment," Harris wrote in an e-mail. "Right now, we have too many students, given our limited state funding."

SJSU administration is still working through admissions for many Fall 2009 applicants, according to the March 6 faculty

Mike La Fleur, a guidance counselor at Wilcox High School in Santa Clara, said most of his graduating seniors who applied to SJSU have not been notified as to whether they will be admitted or not next fall.

"San Jose State is notoriously late, they've always been the last school to let anybody know," he said. "In the entire CSU, the only school the kids haven't heard from is San Jose State. Cal Poly, San Diego, East Bay, San Francisco, those notices have been coming in for weeks. The only one that hasn't rolled out is San Jose State. So, the kids where San Jose State was their only choice, we don't know about them yet, we don't know what their situation is."

Harris said that all prospective SJSU applicants should know by April 1 if they will be allowed to attend SJSU in the fall.

According to the March 6 faculty memo, 10,680 new students will receive admission packets to SJSU in the next few weeks. Those accepted will include 4,200 upper-division local community college transfers and non-local transfers who applied before Nov. 20.

Enrollment will also be offered to all qualified freshman applicants from Santa Clara County high schools who applied before Nov. 20.

Whitmore said these admission cuts would ultimately benefit current SJSU students.

"The advantage to that is if we have fewer students, then we can spread the teaching out more," Whitmore said. "We can have a ratio of less students to advisers, counselors, medical professionals, career service professionals, who provide services to students. Quality should be allowed to be better if we serve a smaller set of students."

Elizabeth Cara, president of the SJSU chapter of the California Faculty Association, said she is concerned about how many qualified high school students

will no longer be able to get into the university, or to be able to pay for or get the classes they need. All SISU students will face fee increases of about \$300 next semester due to the state cuts, according to the faculty as-

sociation. "I'm mostly concerned about them being able to have access to education," Cara said. "On the students' side, their ability to pay for an education is getting increasingly costly, and most of our students have to work. This just makes it even more difficult."

La Fleur, counselor at Wilcox High School, said the biggest challenge his graduating seniors are facing is not being able to afford to go to a university in the current economy. Last year, Wilcox had 103 students accepted to SJSU, the university being the most popular choice for the high school's graduating seniors. La Fleur expects that number to be lower this year.

"It's just a matter if they can afford to go there," he said. "A significant number of our kids, even though they get accepted to San Jose State, can't afford to go to a four-year school, even if they get a Cal Grant."

"That holds kids back. If they cut financial aid, which it seems like they're going to, most of these kids are going to end up at a community college," La Fleur added. "That's basically the reality for a significant number of

ROTC | Detachment serves all universities in Silicon Valley



Members of Oak Grove High School's Air Force ROTC salute their superiors during the Leadership Laboratory 8 event, in which they got an idea of what it is like to be involved in the AFROTC program in college, near MacQuarrie Hall Thursday afternoon.

SANDRA SANTOS / Spartan Daily

Continued from page 1

tions. A PowerPoint presentation was given outlining activities and different events cadets can get involved in such as Jump School, a summer event where cadets learn about persecuting and earn the parachutist's badge.

The lab featured different ac-

Both rifle drill teams Red

tivities, and one was a rifle exhi-

Thunder and White Lightning from the Precision Drill Unit, an extracurricular unit within Air Force ROTC, gave a presentation of their routines.

"We do a lot of throttle spins and a lot of drill and ceremony, like marching around," said



A member of the Air Force ROTC SANDRA SANTOS / Spartan Daily Red Thunder rifle team, Cadet 3rd Class Steven Cooney, salutes a superior, Cadet 1st Lt. Marie Ramirez, during the Leadership Laboratory 8 event Thursday afternoon.

Chris Garner, a senior aviation major at SJSU. "We just try to be as coordinated as we can."

team then demonstrated their rifle exhibition. Cadets then came together

Junior Air Force ROTC drill

to participate in a game called Drill Down.

The game is similar to Simon Says where a command is called for the cadets to follow. When a cadet makes a mistake, they're out. Christy Lam, a freshman at

Oak Grove High School, said she couldn't really understand the calls because it was loud.

"I was pretty bad at it," Lam said.

"It was hard to hear what they were saying," said Thao-Vy Tran, a freshman at Oak Grove. "At my school they say it different, so it was hard to understand."

The leadership lab ended with a Q-and-A forum. High school students' questions ranged from involvement in ROTC to how the cadets managed college life while being involved in ROTC.

"Now that I see what they do I kind of want to do ROTC in college," Tran said.

Cadets then formed in squadron formation in front of the flagpole for retreat, announcements and dismissal. As the flag lowered, the national anthem played and cadets gave their final salute for the day.

"I learned a lot today," said Lam. "I got to experience a lot of things and I started thinking about my career when I grow up, I might do ROTC in college."

The Air Force ROTC has 144 detachments around the country. Detachment 045 serves all neighboring schools of SJSU such as Santa Clara, Stanford and community colleges.

The program, which has been around since 1857, currently consists of about 60 cadets ranging from freshmen

Jury recommends death for man found guilty in arson deaths of 5

Associated Press

RIVERSIDE — A jury recommended the death penalty Wednesday for a man convicted of murdering five federal firefighters who were overrun by one of several wildfires he ignited in Southern California

Jurors took less than a day to decide that Raymond Lee Oyler deserved to die. Prosecutors cited the horrific pain the fire crew suffered and the terror the auto mechanic's fires caused in rural areas of Riverside County.

Outside court, Maria Loutzenhiser, the wife of slain fire Capt. Mark Loutzenhiser, thanked jurors and prosecutors "for putting an end to everybody's misery and giving everybody peace of mind."

"I'm grateful they put Oyler in jail and that he's there and he can't do this anymore," she

Oyler's daughter echoed his lawyers' claim that he never intended to kill anyone.

'That was not in his mind. My dad is not this monster they paint him to be," 21-year-old Heather Oyler said outside the courtroom.

Oyler, 38, was convicted of five counts of first-degree murder, 20 counts of arson and 17 counts of using an incendiary device. At sentencing, set for June 5, the judge still could give him the punishment the defense had urged jurors to choose: life in prison without the possibility of parole.

The jury foreman, who declined to give his name, said the two-month trial was an emotional ordeal but the evidence showed Oyler's guilt and helped persuade the panel he should get the death penalty. ing arguments ended Tuesday and a fourth died soon after at "There were more tears to- afternoon.

said. "It's not an easy decision The foreman choked back

tears as he recalled some of the testimony from family members. He hugged several of them outside court. Prosecutor Michael Hes-

trin told jurors in closing arguments of the trial's penalty phase that Oyler was not a casual arsonist but instead sought the power to end people's lives.

Oyler was convicted of setting numerous fires in rural areas of Riverside County in 2006. The fatal blaze, known as the Esperanza Fire, roared to life that October as fierce Santa Ana winds swept through valleys and mountains about 90 miles east of Los Angeles.

Jurors began penalty phase deliberations when clos-



day than any other day," he The crew of San Bernardino days later, the same day Oyler National Forest Engine 57 was overwhelmed after deploying to protect an unoccupied house perched at the top of a steep drainage in the San Jacinto Mountains.

Three firefighters died there

a hospital. The fifth died five was arrested.

Prosecutors showed jurors graphic photos of the firefighters: Jason McKay, 27; Jess McLean, 27; Daniel Hoover-Najera, 20; Pablo Cerda, 23, and Loutzenhiser, 43.



FREE SHOWING OF

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www.westpres-sj.org

Club showcases live art to help raise funds

ANDREA MUNIZ

Pottery and sculptures were displayed in the back of the Loma Prieta Ballroom of the Student Union Tuesday night as painters from a group called "Community Rebirth" created new works of art while more than 40 people watched.

The "Live Art Cafe," a fundraising event hosted by The Creative Arts Club, showcased three bands, six short films, a dance crew, spoken word and offered an open mic for SJSU students and members of the community.

"I'd figured I'd check it out, see what's up, support the creative arts," said Richard Stephenson, a junior English major. "I'm pretty excited about all of it."

Other students, such as undeclared freshman Simione Broome, came to see a particular part of the showcase.

"I heard about 'Party Foul,' a zombie flick, and I'm actually a connoisseur of zombie films," Broome said. "I like low budget independent films in general. Independent films are more interesting to watch than those you see in theaters."

"Party Foul," written and diof the six short films that were featured that evening on a wide screen above the stage by the film club, Film Productions Society.

Other students, such as senior spatial arts major Carly Silva, were able to display their art in the back of the room for the at-

Silva said that her art, sculptures made from sanded papiermache, would be left in the garage if there weren't events like "Live Art Cafe" that let her showcase her work.

"When there's an event like this, where people are actually coming around to check it out, it's great to talk to people and recognize that there is a community of artists that are trying to emerge in San Jose," Silva said. "Sometimes people just need to find their inner artist, and an event like this can help people do that."

One of the bands that evening, The Ginos, performed

Beatles covers for the audience. Alexandria Perez, a senior creative arts major and drummer for the group, said that this is the first time that The Ginos have performed together.

"I've never performed be-

fore and it's my senior year and rected by Joe Cabello, was one I wanted to do something really special," she said. "And I'm all about creating memories."

> Perez, who is also a member of The Creative Arts Club, said that the event was a good way to acquaint students with different forms of art.

> "Arts are already on a downward spiral in everyone's mind and no one really knows why people always put art second, like it's not a necessity," she said. "We're just trying to create awareness about arts and how important it is. It's not a secondary thing."

> The coordinator of the event, president of the Creative Arts Club and senior creative arts major Teri Nguyen, also believed that the event exposed people to art that they might not necessarily have seen.

> "We want to show that creativity is for everybody, not just art students," she said. "The goal is like our mission statement of the club. 'To activate and engage creative students of San Jose

> By the end of the night, the Creative Arts Club raised \$520 that will go toward activities and convocation.



J.J. McCabe and Neale Jones from Complications perform at the

MICHELLE GACHET / Spartan Daily



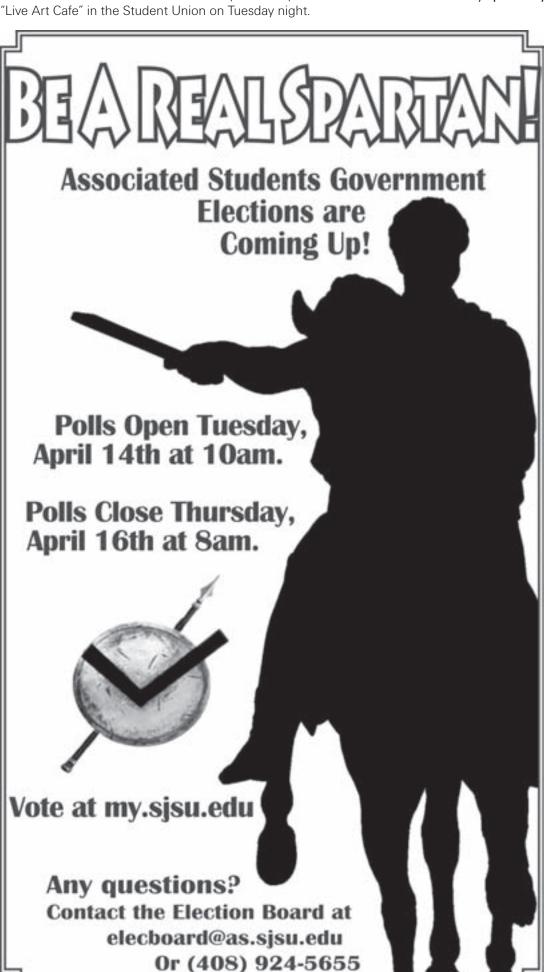
Break dancer Richard Tran from Above as One performs at the "Live Art Cafe" in the Student Union on Tuesday night.

MICHELLE GACHET / Spartan Daily





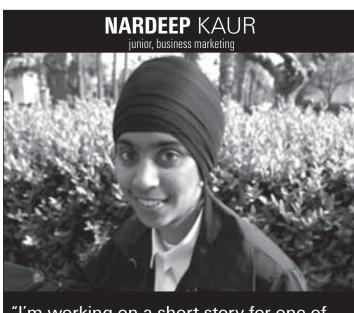
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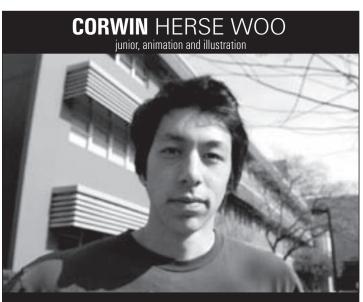
CAMPUS VOICES

What are you doing for spring break?

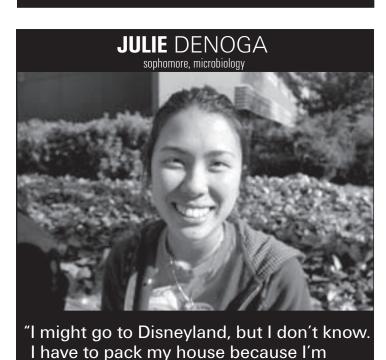
Feature and photos by HOLLY SZKOROPAD



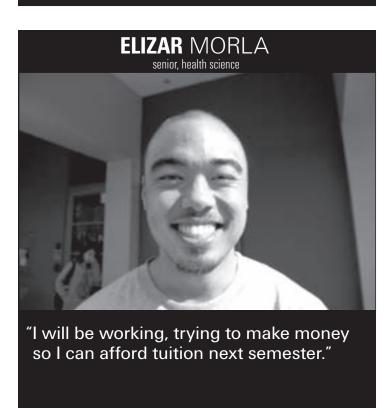
'I'm working on a short story for one of my English classes. I'm probably going to be emulating a style, possibly of Ernest Hemingway. I'm going to be working on that for the entire week."



'I'll be preparing for portfolio review for the animation (and) illustration program, so that's going to soak up a lot of time."



moving. I'm packing!"



CAMPUSIMAGES



SANDRA SANTOS / Spartan Daily From left to right: Jessica Dunham, a freshman advertising major, Jamie Harvey, a freshman kinesiology major, and Maricela Contreras, a political science and justice studies double major, prepare a snow cone for Luis Casillas, a junior animation major, as part of Spring Break Week near the Event Center Monday afternoon.

Funding thaw may be imminent for state public works projects

Associated Press

SACRAMENTO — A state board agreed Wednesday to ease its freeze on funding for thousands of public works projects, providing some hope for financing for a variety of programs that have been stalled for three

The Pooled Money Investment Board voted 3-0 to authorize \$500 million for some of the more than 5,000 projects that were held up when the board imposed the freeze on Dec. 17 because of the state's massive revenue shortages.

The decision is contingent on the treasurer's office being able to sell about \$4 billion in state bonds next Wednesday to replenish the Pooled Money Investment Account, which provides infrastructure project loans that are repaid with bond proceeds.

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A spokesman for Treasurer Bill Lockyer, Tom Dresslar, said the sale will only free up another \$500 million for public works because most of the \$4 billion will be needed to pay down \$6 billion in loans already made from the account.

"We need to get the account fully restored just from the state's cash management standpoint," he said. "There are higher calls on Pooled Money Investment Account money, higher than infrastructure financing, such as making sure we have enough money to pay for education and debt service."

The Department of Finance will determine how to disperse the \$500 million.

Tom Sheehy, the department's chief deputy director for policy, said the department was working on a set of criteria, such as maintaining health and safety, drawing federal stimulus money and paying off bills that

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infrastructure projects have already run up.

"We have to look at bills for money we already owe for work that has already been completed (by) those contractors and those institutions and facilities that are in extreme financial hardship as a result of being frozen out," he said.

The freeze affects about 5,300 projects with an estimated total value of \$18 billion, ranging from new classrooms to car-pool lanes to levee improvements.

Dresslar said the treasurer's

office is considering another bond sale next month that could generate more funding for projects hit by the freeze, but he said it was too early for officials to settle on an amount for that sale.

The investment board again put off a decision on whether to loan \$29.1 million to the state's high-speed rail project. The project's executive director, Medhi Morshed, said two weeks ago that he would have to shut down the program if it didn't get a quick infusion of cash from the state.



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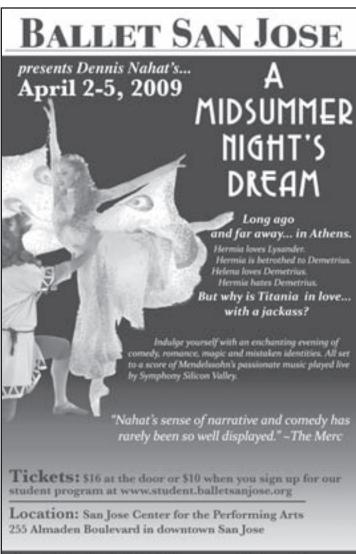
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SJSU counselor goes the extra mile for gay and lesbian rights

HANK DREW Staff Writer

Wiggsy Sivertsen, open and honest almost to a fault, refuses to answer only one personal question: What's her birth name?

"My sister used to say, 'She wiggles. She wiggles,' which came out as Wiggsy," Sivertsen said.

She was nicknamed "Wiggsy" by her older sister due to her hyperactive nature.

She was shipped off to a women's finishing school as part of her mother's desire to transform her into a lady, she said.

"We can see that was a failure," Sivertsen said, as she warmed her hands inside her fleece sweater.

Wiggsy Sivertsen, a faculty counselor, is considered, by those who know her, a boisterous cultural agitator with 41 years of service to the SJSU community and whose influence reaches beyond the SJSU's gay community.

Bonnie Sugiyama, the assistant director of SJSU's LGBT Resource Center, said she has worked with Sivertsen over the past six months.

She said Sivertsen has a strong personality and is able to easily disarm negative reactions to her brash nature.

"She can use the 'f' word and still get her point across," she said.

COMING OUT

Sivertsen said she used her personality to force her way through the SJSU system. Her father decided she should attend San Jose State University to finish her education and be a heterosexual, she said.

Sivertsen's eyes brightened as she said, "You could say that was

She said her family lived a very connected life in Southern California and had friends in the movie industry, so she said she was aware that homosexuality existed.

Sivertsen said she knew she was a lesbian very early in her life.

Her older sister was "the quintessential heterosexual woman," and this helped her realize she was different.

"It was very clear — she is 13 months older than I am — that I was not like her at all," she said.

Her educational career started out rocky as she worried more about optimizing her ski time than studying, she said.

"My idea of school was set your classes up for Tuesdays and Thursdays and then leave Thursday to go skiing and come back late Monday night," she said. "I was never a great student."

Sivertsen said she originally wanted to be a surgeon, but eventually decided to study social work because her counselor suggested it.

She said she decided she would need recommendations if she had any chance of being accepted into graduate school, so she began working for a Palo Alto agency where she had been a volunteer.

Sivertsen said she was still in the closet at this time and the parents of her girlfriend complained to the agency's board of directors when they discovered the nature of their daughter's relationship.

"She, believing that her parents being these limousine liberals in Palo Alto, were fine with it and they weren't," she said.

GETTING FIRED UP

This was the early '60s, when gays and lesbians had no job protection, she said. She said the agency was crystal clear. They were firing her for being a lesbian and were trying to silence her.

"I looked at them and thought, 'The cat's out of the bag. You're dead. I'm telling everybody why you're firing me," Sivertsen said.

Sivertsen's discussion of her firing led to boycotts of the agency, which she no longer mentions by name because the process helped the agency make internal changes.

"They have actually turned the corner and have done some wonderful things in terms of their policies," Sivertsen said.

The agency's loss would be SJ-SU's gain as Sivertsen moved into a

full-time position at the university.

"When I came back in 1968, I was out," she said. "I was not going to live in the closet again."

"I went to President Clark, who was a wonderful man, and I said, 'I don't want this happen to me again. I want you to know," she said.

She said Robert Clark, who was president in the '60s, looked at her and said, "I don't care. Do your job."

Sivertsen said she was the only openly lesbian person on campus and it was lonely at times.

"I didn't care," she said. "I worked with the students and it was during the anti-war days and the black student movement days. There was a lot of stuff to do with the students."

She said she was very active with the black student movement and the women's movements on campus in the late '60s. She said she moderated encounter groups for African-American students.

"Our two guys out there with the statues," Sivertsen said, "I knew those guys."

Paul Wysocki, interim director of the Billy DeFrank LGBT Community Center, said San Jose has always existed in the shadow of San Francisco and needed a strong person to draw attention to issues.

He said this person is Wigg-

"She can fire up a crowd like nobody's business," Wysocki said. "She's the impassioned orator that we've always needed."

He said Sivertsen charges into a situation and stirs everyone up.

"We come in behind her and fill in the details," he said.

Wysocki, who helped Sivertsen create the first gay support group on campus, said working with her

"Doing anything with Wiggsy is amazing because she is such an intense woman," he said.

"Wiggsy is so passionate about the rights of people, especially about the rights of people who have been marginalized."

He added, "She will not let anything get in the way."

BREAKING THE SILENCE

Sivertsen said that SJSU, during the black student movement and the women's movement, was "a tumultuous boiling cauldron of different activities" when she was

"Over the years, it has settled. Sometimes I think it's too settled. It's way too quiet," she said. "There are things that people let go too much of in terms of human rights and civil rights."

Sivertsen said she fears that students' current fascination with cell phones and MP3 players is leading to social separation on campus.

"I tell my students at the beginning of the semester, I see it, I hear

it, I own it," she said. She said students start dialing as soon as class ends to tell people they are out of class.

"It is like you and I are walking together," she said. "But we are on the phone talking to someone else."

HOW MAY I HELP YOU?

Asher Moody, a senior computer engineering major, said he would like to see Sivertsen celebrated by the SJSU community.

"There should be a freaking statue of her in the middle of campus," he said. "I wish more people knew her and knew that she was an amazing person who can be an advocate for you."

Moody, a member of the Peers in Pride mentoring program, said he learned of Sivertsen from his mother, who has worked for the city of San Jose for many years. Sivertsen had been called in by the chief of police to consult on the case of a transgender police officer.

He said he contacted Sivertsen to help arrange for gender neutral bathrooms on campus and she worked with administration to find 15 bathrooms that could be easily converted.

"The budget people went a little crazy and she said, 'It's just a sign, the cheapest retrofit possible,"

AGREE TO DISAGREE

She said she feels it is important that we all learn to connect with each other and learn to respect our differences without hurting

"After September 11, I thought, 'Oh shit, why are these people so angry with us?" she said.

She said she thought we should sit down with them and try to learn exactly why they were so angry.

"You would have thought I had flown one of the planes into the buildings myself," she said. "People were so upset at that notion."

Sivertsen said she feels that this sort of conversation should extend to groups who do not support gay rights. She recalls spending time with Peter Wilkes, who was the pastor of South Hills Community Church in San Jose while the board of supervisors was deliberating domestic partner rights.

"His people were really terrible, calling us dogs," she said. "He was upset by it and scolded the Christian community because of it."

Sivertsen said she disagreed with his opinion that homosexuals

"By the same token, I appreciated him for being a really nice guy," she said. "He and I went to the next board of supervisors meeting together with and understanding that we both diametrically disagreed on the issue, but that we also had a strong feeling that we needed to have public discourse that was constructive."

personal, she said.

"She said, "I am not a cheap street

Sivertsen said she was touched

Years later, while shopping

"This person came and tapped

walker. I charge \$500 a night and I

have been with every big name in the

that the student trusted her enough

at Valley Fair, she encountered

me on the back and said, 'Wiggsy?"

Sivertsen said. "She said she wanted

to introduce me to her husband

for this personal revelation.

this student.

Sivertsen said she thinks that the gay community should reach out to people who are anti-gay.

Some members of the gay community were upset when Melissa Etheridge met with Rick Warren, pastor of the Saddleback Church who once compared homosexuality to bestiality, to discuss their differences.

"When Melissa met with Rick Warren, I thought, 'Yeah, I'd meet with Rick Warren," she said. "I wouldn't meet with Phelps. Someone needs to get him back on Prozac."

IT'S THE THOUGHT THAT COUNTS

Sivertsen said her 41 years at SJSU have a pleasure because of her students.

"I was telling my partner the other night that it has been one heck of a ride," she said.

"The students are wonderful. I have so much admiration for students. They are so gutsy and courageous and resilient."

"They are a pain in the ass and all kinds of things," she added.

These same students also provided her with lasting memories and emotional gifts.

Sivertsen remembers one particular furious student thundering into the counseling offices yelling, "Wiggsy!"

She said the student had been walking to class through Fourth and San Carlos, and had been accused of being a prostitute by an SJPD officer.

"She was so angry, and rightfully so," Sivertsen said.

She and this student would go to a local coffee shop to talk and during one of these talks, the student revealed something deeply





'There should be a freaking statue of her in the middle of campus. I wish more people knew her and knew that she was an amazing person who can be an advocate for you." ASHER MOODY

SANDRA SANTOS / Spartan Daily

Wiggsy Sivertsen, a personal counselor at SJSU, poses near the Tommie Smith and John Carlos Statue. Sivertsen knows both Smith and Carlos, whom she met when she attended the university.

really funny," she said. She said Sivertsen helped direct her to a San Jose therapist who was familiar with gay issues.

"She's just very aware of how complicated life is and how coming out issues and queer issues can complicate therapy," Davis said.

She said Sivertsen makes her life as an out student more comfortable.

"You feel like she is a force that is on your side, so you do not feel powerless," she added.



and her 13-year-old son."

seled by Sivertsen.

"Why would anybody work any-

This type of story is not uncom-

Elaine Davis, a junior health sci-

where else when you can get that kind

mon to those who have been coun-

ence major, said she wanted to see

a lesbian counselor when she first

came to SJSU because she had always

worked with lesbian counselors in

"I had a counseling appointment

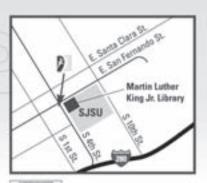
with Wiggsy and she was great, and

of gift from somebody?" she said.

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NCUA

NHL veteran Roenick not afraid to play the fool

JESSICA AYALA

Confident, easy going and a good personality define Jeremy Roenick. At least that's what the San Jose Sharks center likes to think.

Roenick, a Boston native, is considered to be one of the best American-born hockey players. After a practice Friday, he let loose, dancing and singing along to "Just Dance" by Lady Gaga, a song that can very much define who he is.

The 19-year NHL veteran is not afraid to speak what's on his mind or make a fool of himself in front of his children — or anyone else, for that matter.

"I dance and sing in front of people I don't know in public," he said. "If I hear a song and music is playing, I'll bust right into it, dance right in front of everybody and my daughter, she walks off. She can't be seen with me. Yeah, I'm not afraid of making a fool out of myself."

His teammate, goaltender Evgeni Nabokov, said he didn't know what to expect when Roenick signed to the Sharks in 2007. But now Nabokov said he is amazed not only by Roenick's talent and passion for hockey, but by his unbelievable energy level.

Roenick, who is also known as JR by his teammates, recently turned 39, and does not let his age affect him on the ice rink or whhe is in general off the ice.

"Everything about him is upbeat," Nabokov said. "It's like the energy is coming out of his ears, coming out everywhere, and that is something I think this locker room needs."

Right wing Claude Lemieux, another NHL veteran, has played with IR twice, once with the Phoenix Coyotes in 2000-01 and now

with the Sharks, said there are his career took off. Roenick said many goofy things JR has done and added that there is never a dull moment when playing with JR.

Lemieux said one of his most memorable JR moments was when Roenick played with the Philadelphia Flyers and during warm up he wore an afro. Lemieux, who was watching the game, told himself that only JR can pull such a move.

"Outside of his talent on the ice, he just brings a lot of life and makes people laugh," Lemieux said. "The guy is loose, but at the same time when it's time to play and really focus, he's your ultimate team guy. He's a great, caring guy — cares about everyone on the team."

But Roenick said it wasn't by chance that he came across hockey. He said his childhood friend, who was his next door neighbor, would often skate, and his mom asked Roenick's mom if he would keep him company. JR said that he never thought hockey would come so naturally. Growing up, some of his favorite NHL players were Bobby Orr, Rick Middleton and Derek Sanderson, guys from the Boston area.

Drafted at 18

Roenick was drafted into the NHL at 18 by the Chicago Blackhawks after leading his high school to the championship and scoring 84 points in 24 games in 1988. He said that being drafted at 18 was terrifying and one of his biggest challenges.

"I was scared to death, he said. "I actually just came out of my junior year of high school and I was about 155 pounds, I was really small, so when I came in the league, I came in with these giant men that had hair all over their body, beards. I can barely grow a couple of hairs on my face."

When Roenick was signed to the Chicago Blackhawks in 1988, that he attributes some of that success to his teammates, because at 18, he said tendencies are to run wild in the big city, drink

"I was brought up by some good guys," he said. "Doug Wilson was kind of my mentor. He was my roommate, he took care of me. Guys like Denis Savard, who is a future hall of famer, Steve Larmer, guys like Michel Goulet. These guys really took me under their wing and made sure I was doing the right things and at the right time and taking care of myself."

JR has also extended this guidance to some of his young teammates, taking them under his wing. For instance, Jamie McGinn, left wing for the Sharks, who was drafted into the NHL at 17 and signed at 18, said players such as Roenick have helped him ease his nervousness.

"He's an amazing hockey player, and at the age he is, and still being able to go out there and perform," he said. "He can fly like the wind out there. It definitely inspires me to just keep working hard and hopefully have a long career."

(Not so) Memorable moments

Roenick is not one to brag about his successful career and many awards. He said some of the most memorable moments in his career have been playing in the 2002 Olympics and winning the silver medal, being in the 1992 Stanley Cup and his first All-Star Game in 1991.

"(The All-Star Game) was during the Gulf War, so our fans were

b i g with all the

flags allover the stadium," he said. "The way that they treated me was great."

But Roenick's has not been smooth sailing all the time. He said that once he became a star player, maintaining that level of play throughout his career has been a challenge.

"It's a lot of work, year, after year, after year, and it's something that I have to learn the hard way in order to keep up the level of play that I have from so many years," he said. "That's probably the hardest thing I have to go through."

Roenick has endured numerous injuries in his career, which has been a challenge for him. In his face alone, he has had over 500 to 600 stitches. He has broken all 10 fingers and toes, his ribs, his jaw twice, his nose nine or 10 times and chipped his teeth.

Roenick said that despite having just about every part of his body broken, playing hockey is like a drug — it becomes addicting.

"To tell you the truth, when you feel pain, you get used to pain," he said. "It's a pretty big thing. We're not all there, that's for sure. It's that tough guy mentality."

The best interviewee

In a recent edition of The Hockey News magazine, NHL observers voted Roenick as best interviewee, which he and his teammates don't find surprising.

"I've been voted number one interviewee for a number of years now. That's

Illustration by CARTY SEWILL / Spartan Daily

don't give a shit what I say," he said. "I just say what is on my mind, whether it's controversial or not controversial. It's not your typical cliché answers. I'll tell you what I think and if you don't like it's too bad."

What the future holds

IR believes he will be in the Hockey Hall of Fame one day.

and hopefully, all my numbers and what I've done the game speaks for itself." If the Sharks win the Stanley Cup this year, JR hopes to become a general manager for an NHL club or go into the business world of hockey. He has never won the Stanley Cup before, but said that he hopes to play one more year of hockey when he turns 40. "I think I can do a lot of good for hockey on the business side," he said.

"All the guys that have scored

500 goals have been inducted," he

said. "I think that will be an inter-

esting thing to look forward to,

but I'll leave it up to the writers

"I've been voted number one interviewee for a number of years now. That's because I don't give a shit what I **JEREMY ROENICK** say."

COMMENTARY

Sharks win division, captain didn't know



MATTHEW KIMEL **Sharks Remarks**

Even though San Jose lost in Phoenix Tuesday night, it clinched the Pacific Division on the same night.

Were the Sharks content with the feat?

"I didn't even know (we won the division)," said captain Patrick Marleau.

Wednesday afternoon, the Sharks were scheduled to practice at HP Pavilion at 1 p.m.

And it sure didn't seem like the team was celebrating after several media members and myself sat in the empty seats at the Tank waiting for the team to come on to the ice.

After 30 minutes of dead silence in a usually full arena, we were informed that the Sharks were having a team meeting and a practice was uncertain.

ioked that the team couldn't possitives before its recent "slip." bly have had anything to talk about after last night's 4-3 defeat in which the Sharks gave up three goals in the first period and the game winner with fewer than one minute remaining in regulation.

After 90 minutes, General Manager Doug Wilson and ex-Shark Mike Ricci exited the locker room and we were finally able to speak to the Sharks.

Several players joked about the nature of the closed-door meeting, but none were willing to give extensive details of what

> went on. "I thought we were doing yoga," Marleau said, when asked what the team discussed.

Center Joe Pavelski said it was "more of an in-house thing" and apologized for not

giving a "whole lot" of details. The captain did add, however, that the conversation was both player and coach inspired with getting "things out in the open" and guys getting stuff "off their chest."

Marleau said the team talked about what they need to do over

the 13 remaining games this sea-

"We're in this together," Pavel-

son before the playoffs and how Other reporters and myself San Jose needs to get back to where

> During the fall from being the No. 1 team in the Western Conference to the No. 2 in overall points, the Sharks struggled to score, and on some wild nights when they have scored, failed to hold 3-0 leads.

"Obviously, we have not played as well as we'd like to," Pavelski said.

The Sharks have won just four of their last 11 games, beginning with a 4-1 beat down in Hockeytown on Feb. 25.

No one was singled out though, Marleau added, in the "calm" setting with no "yelling" and he reinforced the fact that the talk was not all negative.

So Patrick, what do you personally think the team needs to work on during the next 13 games?

"Our commitment, getting back to the system and everybody getting prepared for games," he said. "We've got a lot of teams that are fighting for playoff spots that we will be playing against. Those are good stepping stones for us getting ready for the playoffs."

Matthew Kimel is a Spartan Daily sports editor. "Sharks Remarks" appears every other Thursday.

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KIMEL'S TOP-FIVE NHL TEAMS

| 1. New Jersey | The Devils remain hot and Brodeur continues to win. | | |
|---------------|--|--|--|
| 2. Detroit | Holds top spot in West, but has played two extra games. | | |
| 3. San Jose | Sharks need to make their run now to win Presidents Cup. | | |
| 4. Washington | Caps, Ovechkin may not win East, but are a playoff threat. | | |
| 5. Boston | Bruins keep on losing, but are still No. 1 seed in the East. | | |

MOVIE PREVIEW: 'I LOVE YOU, MAN'

All in the name of true 'bromance'

SAMANTHA RIVERA

If you know someone who has always been in romantic relationships without taking the time to be single or bond with friends, whose whole world revolves around their significant other, then you will relate to the movie, "I Love You, Man."

This film will have you nodding your head in understanding of what Peter is going through. This would definitely be a good movie for the guy who drops friends when entering a relationship or the friend who can't just be single.

Peter Klaven, played by Paul Rudd, is a real estate agent who has been labeled as a "girlfriend guy." He has no friends because he has always focused his sole attention on whoever his girlfriend is at the time. This becomes painfully apparent after he proposes to his girlfriend Zooey, played by Rashida Jones.

Zooey has friends she can call to share the great news while Peter does not. He can tell his family, but has no close guy friends to go to. Zooey even thinks Peter's lone best friend is his mom.

Then comes the question of who will be his best man? Apparently, not his brother Robbie, played by Andy Samberg, a gay personal trainer. Peter decides to broaden his horizons and find a male friend to be his best man with Robbie's advice.

Friends, family and the Inter-

"man-dates." Robbie informs Peter that a "man-date" should only consist of drinks or lunch — never dinner or a movie, because that would be going overboard.

Raunchy and crude humor is everywhere in this movie, so if you liked "Knocked Up," "Forgetting Sarah Marshall" and "Meet the Parents" you will not be disappointed. Most of the "man-dates" end up either unsuccessful or awkward, especially when one of Peter's "man-dates" kisses him.

Then, there's the fact that Peter is more in touch with his feminine side than his masculine side. He is considered dorky and loves the movie "The Devil Wears Prada" which makes finding guys who are willing to hang out with him hard to come by.

In fact, Zooey's friend's husband only agrees to have Peter over for poker night at his house because his wife promises to have sex with him with the lights on. But one day, Peter finds a guy who just may be the one. Sydney Fife, played by Jason Segel, is a bachelor who is loud, funny and pretty much everything Peter is not. Zooey becomes excited that Peter finally has a friend but soon realizes her relationship with Peter has been affected by his new "bromance." Peter is soon caught between the whole "bros before hos" dilemma or following his usual pattern of being a "girlfriend guy." Filled with laughs and male bonding at its finest, I recommend you watch "I Love You, Man," opening in theaters everywhere tomorrow.



The unconventional Sydney Fife (Jason Segel, left) and the very conventional Peter Klaven (Paul Rudd, right) strike up an unlikely friendship in the comedy "I Love You, Man."

Courtesy of Dreamworks Pictures



Zooey Rice (Rashida Jones) is getting married and a bit worried that her fiancé has no male friends.



Robbie Klaven (Andy Samberg) is an athletic trainer who has a knack for making male friends.

Courtesy of Dreamworks Pictures

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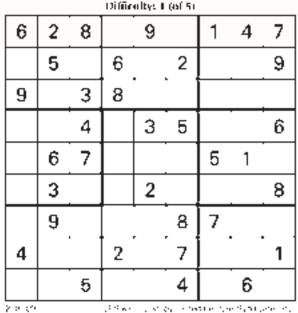
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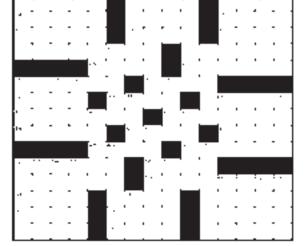
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The Spartan Daily is a public forum.

And the pope said, let there be no condoms



ALLIE FIGURES
Figures It Out

Pope Benedict XVI should flip over a Trojan and read the fine print.

"AIDS cannot be overcome by the distribution of condoms," he said while on a visit to Africa.

Typical behavior from the Roman Catholic Church.

In its quest for marital purity, a ridiculous statement against the obvious slipped out of the old guy's mouth. To give him some credit, he was probably trying to say that abstinence should be practiced in the AIDS-ravaged country instead of the distribution of condoms, which may seem to condone sexual activity.

According to an actual condom, the fact is: "If used properly, latex condoms will help to reduce the risk of transmission of HIV infection (AIDS) and many other sexually transmitted diseases. Also highly effective against pregnancy."

That's what I call a double bonus, but the Catholic Church seems to think otherwise.

The United Nations estimates that 22 million Africans have the virus that leads to AIDS, and three-quarters of the world's AIDS deaths in 2007 were in sub-Saharan Africa.

I wonder what that number would be if condoms were readily available? I wonder what this number would be if more funds were directed for education of

The traditional value of absti-

nence until marriage the Catholic Church and other religions support just does not cut it for today's global society where children are having sex and bearing children. In no way am I asking the Catholic Church to lower their holy standards. I am asking them to recognize that intolerance is not likely to fix the problem. Thanks to the original sin of Adam and Eve, according to the Bible, desire for the flesh is a part of our human nature.

But sexual miseducation does not only occur in Africa.

The private Christian school I went to from seventh to 12th grade taught sex education to students. There were no awkward cucumbers or bananas — instead, just the textbook, biological review of the reproductive organs. To prevent further stumbling into immorality, the boys and girls were lectured about penises and vaginas in separate rooms. And that was it. Quick and dirty, it was done in one quick class period (no pun intended).

There was no information about how to practice safe sex, preventing STDs and STIs or even how a baby is actually conceived. Nothing sinful of these sorts would be tolerated in the school sanctuary.

Currently, \$1 billion of federal funding for sex education is given to American schools that teach abstinence-until-marriage programs and nothing of condoms and contraception, according to the Human Rights Campaign.

Another fact: Abstinence is not likely among the teens and young adults in our society. With the prevalence of sex everywhere from the media to word-of-mouth, children are exposed to it against their will.

These days, underage youth are even using their cell phones to send sexual messages, often con-

taining nudity, referred to a "sexting." Some police, parents and prosecutors even consider "sexting" a type of child pornography. This sort of sexual phenomenon happens when adults do not communicate with young people and children about sex, leaving it a taboo, yet mysterious, topic to incite their interest.

For example, a girl from my class got pregnant while still in high school. I do not know if she was aware of what her actions may lead to, but the administration expelled her. Instead of educating students on the consequences of sex, they covered up the situation entirely, leaving us further in the dark.

And what they say about private school girls going crazy once they get into college can be true. This is only because they do not know better. Sudden immersion into a hyper-sexual environment without any know-how equals a recipe for disaster.

By the Christian way I was taught about sex, I actually grew to fear it. I feared the unknown aspect of it. I also feared being ostracized by my religion if I were to fall prey to my hormones.

Soon, I learned the value of it all and how it can be something sacred shared between two people who can appreciate it. Whether or not these two people should be married is not my decision to press upon you. I just ask that we all be responsible adults.

Communication and education is key. Equipping children, young people and even Africans with the knowledge and tools necessary to protect themselves could lead to a healthier society.

God bless the condom-condemning Pope's soul.

Allie Figures is a Spartan
Daily A & E editor. "Figures
It Out"appears every Thursday.

Counting the woes of the world's poorest billionaires



ANDREA FRAINIER Guerrilla Wordfare

It's been real tough for the richest people in the world. According to Forbes, there's been a major drop in the world's billionaires.

Last year there were 1,125 walking this Earth, but this year there are "just" 793. That's a 30 percent decrease.

What poor, unfortunate souls. Can you believe it? Wandering this cold, cruel world are hundreds of newly demoted millionaires. What a shame.

What will Mark Zuckerberg, the founder of Facebook, do? He lost \$600 million of his \$1.5 billion fortune.

And what about brothers John Marriott Jr. and Richard Marriott? They each lost \$1.1 billion. I guess if they ever get kicked out of their milliondollar homes, they always have a place to stay at their local Marriott.

On the other end of the spectrum, Mexico's most wanted man made the billionaire list at No. 701. Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman, allegedly the head of the Sinaloa cartel, has a \$5 million bounty on his head. That \$5 million seems like peanuts compared to the drug lord's net worth. He could probably put up some major pesos to keep people from snitching.

The No. 1 spot was awarded to Bill Gates. Even though the Harvard dropout lost \$18 billion, he leapfrogged to the top of Forbes' coveted list.

And we can't forget poor, poor Bernie Madoff. The 70-something-year-oldwillspend the rest of his life behind bars after he swindled more than \$60 billion from investors via a Ponzi scheme, which, essentially, is a glorified pyramid scheme where investors are rewarded with high returns paid by new investors.

But it's not only lowly billionaires who are having problems in these troubling times. Let's not forget the American International Group. AIG hired guards to watch its Connecticut offices when executives received death threats and angry letters from the public, according to a Christian Science Monitor article.

What did little AIG do to warrant such outrage? Well, it just began paying out \$165 million in bonuses after it received part of a billion-dollar taxpayer-funded bailout from the federal government — another example of the rich pat-

ting themselves on the back for a job not done.

While corrupt corporations and greedy business moguls have worked together to destroy the American economy, us worker bees are getting the shaft.

Who cares if the world's billionaires are now a little bit poorer? I see honest, hardworking people getting laid off. People are being forced out of their homes and onto the streets. I see more people coming onto this campus to collect glass bottles and aluminum cans than ever before.

Is there any way to stop this epidemic? Well, if it was up to me, people like Madoff and the executives of AIG need to be made into examples.

I'm not talking about jail time. Serving in a minimumsecurity prison, while retaining billions of dollars in some offshore bank account, is not my idea of justice.

Who cares if the world's billionaires are now a little bit poorer? I see honest, hardworking people getting laid off. People are being forced out of their homes and onto the streets.

Did the fates of the former Enron executives discourage other companies of swindling the American public?

My point exactly.

In China, three executives of the Chinese dairy firm Sanlu Group, whose tainted milk killed six infants and sickened 300,000 others, were sentenced to death in January.

Here in the States, when word leaked earlier this year that salmonella-tainted peanut butter was knowingly shipped to the supermarket shelves, were any of the executives of Peanut Corporation of America held accountable?

Here is a fundamental difference between the U.S. and China. China holds its wrongdoers accountable.

Even though killing babies isn't on the same playing field as swindling billions of dollars, I bet you the executives at other Chinese dairy farms will think twice about selling tainted products to turn a buck.

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

This is Earthquake country



HARVEY RAÑOLA Staff Writer

Ask the average sports fan what time of the year it is and six times out of ten will you will hear it's the most exciting time for college basketball — March Madness.

The other four will probably tell you that it's time for baseball's spring training.

I, on the other hand, would tell you that Major League Soccer is kicking off its 13th season. That's right, soccer, of the major league variety, and I'm pretty darn excited.

In countries where soccer is the sport at the top of the pecking order, the atmosphere is rivaled only by big-time college football games here in the U.S. And while MLS is not quite there with regards to the atmosphere, it's not too much of a stretch to say that it's among the best in professional sports

Outside of a college football or basketball game, where else will you hear large sections of fans trying to sing and chant their team to victory?

Ninety minutes of singing, the sporadic hurling of streamers and the occasional lighting of a flare are among the things you can expect to hear and see at an MLS game. After a year of seeing the San Jose Earthquakes and their fans back in full force, it's hard to attend another sporting event without expecting the same kind of passion from the crowd.

Quakes fans who get to see what former Norwich City Football Club star Darren Huckerby can do over the course of a full season after scoring six goals and notching four assists in 14 appearances for San Jose. The league's newest expansion team, the Seattle Sounders, also gives the Earthquakes a new West Coast rival who they'll face twice this year for the honor of winning the first ever Heritage Cup — a competition honoring current MLS teams who have taken on the names of their predecessors in the nowdefunct North American Soccer League.

For the next two seasons only the San Jose Earthquakes and Seattle Sounders Football Club will be competing for this cup due to restrictions in the competition's bylaws, but that could soon change with the prospect of Portland and Vancouver heading the expansion race for 2011.

Consider yourself a soccer fan but ignore your domestic league? I suggest you drop the snobbery and catch the bug, because now's as good a time as any to become an MLS fan.

Seriously, how fervent of a Manchester United or Barcelona fan can you really be when you're thousands of miles away from the team and only make an occasional pilgrimage to the Theatre of Dreams at Old Trafford or the intimidating confines of the largest stadium in Europe, Camp Nou?

There's something about sharing the joy of a goal or commiserating the absolute depths of a loss over the course of a season with the thousands around you that you simply can't get in front of a television. The highs are that much higher, and the lows are that much lower, but that's part

This year is an exciting one for akes fans who get to see what mer Norwich City Football ib star Darren Huckerby can over the course of a full season of the beauty of what millions around the world call "the beautiful game."

I really don't care what anyone says about the quality of play in

MLS. When two teams of equal

quality play each other, it has the potential to be a firecracker of a shootout or a goalless stalemate, and that can be said for any league around the world.

I know, it's impossible to become a fan overnight, but if you love all the pageantry and passion of a soccer game, why not head

over to Santa Clara's Buck Shaw

Stadium this weekend when the Quakes open their season by taking on perennial MLS Cup favorites, the New England Revolution?

When you're ready for the main course, make the trek out to the March 28 game against the Houston Dynamo which is guar-

anteed to be a hot-blooded affair

due to the controversial history between the two teams.

For the uninitiated, when the Earthquakes were relocated in 2005 by then owner Anschutz Entertainment Group, it was moved to Houston where it subsequently won two MLS titles and earned two stars above its team crest — honors many San Jose fans begrudgingly believe should have

pionships for the Quakes.

Now that the history lesson is out of the way, go on and give our domestic soccer league a shot. With games starting in the early evening and European League games ending by three in the afternoon Pacific Time, why not treat yourself to a different kind of March Madness?

been the third and fourth cham-

Harvey Rañola is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

DID YOU KNOW...

The Eagles is the most commonly used mascot name at four-year universities? It's used at 74 colleges, followed by the Tigers (46), Bulldogs (39), Panthers (33), Knights (32) and Lions (31).

— USAToday.com

Experience a taste of dirty pop

HANK DREW

BevMo is the home of all things liquid and good. I call it the Fortress of Drinkatude, and I go there when life gets me down.

Tucked away in the back corner of the store is a Technicolor section of gourmet sodas, a siren's call of cane sugar and dayglow colors.

So, I asked four of the Spartan Daily's editors to lay their kidneys on the line and test six sugar coma-inducing delights.

Rocky Mountain Fizz promises a fizzy liquid chocolate.

Chris Curry, arts and entertainment co-editor, said Coco Fizz had a watery vanilla flavor and tasted like a weak cream soda.

Five out of 10 stars

Elisha Maldonado, investigations editor, said it smelled like Bonne Bell chapstick, and actually tasted like it.



Zero out of 10 stars

John Hornberg, executive editor, said Coco Fizz tasted like cream soda-flavored mouthwash, a statement we should submit a patent request for, and would taste better with light rum. He said the drink smelled like chocolate.

Five out of 10 stars

Allie Figures, arts and entertainment co-editor, said Coco Fizz was light and creamy with hints of spices.

Two out of 10 stars

Rat Bastard Root Beer, picked mostly because of its name, was met with a more generous reac-

Curry said it delivered a moderately biting root beer flavor with a hint of honey and a nice aroma.

7.75 out of 10 stars

Maldonado said you can never go wrong with a root beer.

Six out of 10 stars

Hornberg countered Curry's glowing review, saying it contained no bite and had a weak root beer flavor. He did say it was smooth, but verv weak.

Six out of 10 stars

Figures said the root beer was not spicy and was a bit flat.

Four out of 10 stars

Cheerwine has been in production since 1917 and is a lovely burgundy-colored beverage, with very high carbonation.

Curry said it was super fizzy with a light cherry taste. He detected a slightly ashy aftertaste.

Six out of 10 stars

like nothing.

Zero out of 10 stars

Hornberg said it smelled like artificial cherry flavoring and had enough sugar to send him into a diabetic coma.

Eight out of 10 stars

Figures said Cheerwine was like a very fizzy skittle soda with lots of red sugar.

Two out of 10 stars

Love Potion #69 is a purple soda that quickly brings Dimetap elixer to mind. This soda is loaded with herbs and hints at an aphrodisiac nature. Note: None of the tasters experienced any heightened sexuality after tasting this drink.

Curry said this soda had a twisted grape flavor and seemed to have a curry spice undertone.

Six out of 10 stars Maldonado said the purple color beher of Dimetap elixir.



Photos by CARLOS A. MORENO / Spartan Daily

Maldonado said it tasted She said it left a nasty aftertaste. Zero out of 10 stars

> Hornberg said it looked like purple candy and gives a sour cream, fruit-flavored after taste.

Three out of 10 stars

Figures said Love Potion #69 was a berry explosion in her mouth and tickled the sides of her tongue.

Seven out of 10 stars

Waialua Mango Hawaiian Soda is a beautiful yellowish liquid with a wonderful scent of peach or maybe mango.

Curry said it was very aromatic and had a heavy peach flavor.

7.5 out of 10 stars

Maldonado said she hated the putrid smell, but that she might have liked it if she did not have an unreasonable hatred of mangoes and peaches.

Zero out of 10 stars

Hornberg said it had a nice champagne color and a peach aroma that you could smell across campus. He said it had a srong peach taste.

10 out of 10 stars

Figures said this soda smelled delightful and was not too fizzy. She loved the peachy, or mango, flavor.

Seven out of 10 stars

For our final taste, I chose Empire Bottling Cola, which is a pure cane sugar cola.

Curry said it had a dirty brown sugar flavor and delivered an aftertaste of rust and cigarettes.

4.5 out of 10 stars

Maldonado said it smelled like a nursing home and it left a dirty feeling in her mouth. Zero out of 10 stars

hated everything.

DRINK OF THE WEEK

EAL COLA

Hornberg said it was an ex-

While we used water to

cleanse our palate after each

drink, I do think that Maldona-

do's taste buds may have been

fried at some point because she

tremely sweet cola and it had a

perfect color and taste – not too

harsh or too sugary.

10 out of 10 stars.

The ended with Curry being dared into pouring all the leftover sodas into one glass for a gag inducing drink.

In my opinion, Waialua Mango Hawaiian Soda and Empire Bottling Cola are the two worth seeking out.

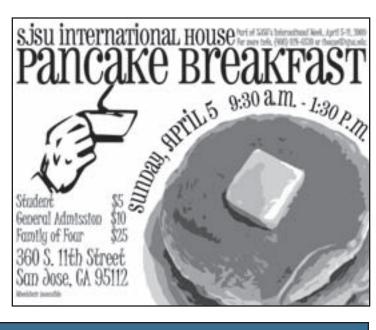
Waialua Mango Hawaiian Soda is the perfect soda for the coming days of spring and summer. It is fizzy and bright. It tickles the nose and the taste buds.

Empire Bottling Cola provides a much more rich, cola flavor than Coca-Cola or Pepsi. I love a good cola and this one really hit the spot.

It would make the perfect Cuba Libre (light rum and lime juice poured over cola and ice).

These sodas are available for \$1.49 at BevMo or your local purveyor of sugar bombs.

I think it is always fun to stray off the beaten path and support companies that are creating exciting new things.



MOVIE REVIEW: 'LET THE RIGHT ONE IN'

Bloody good romance



Eli, played by Lina Leandersson, covered in blood after uninviting Oskar, the vampire played by Kare Hedebrant, on her private property.

Courtesy of Magnet Release

HANK DREW

"Let the Right One In", directed by Tomas Alfredson as if it were "Fargo" meets "Martin," is set in 1982 Blackberg Sweden. Blackberg is a snow-blind town that is an oppressive character in the movie.

This movie, I hope, will make you forget the dreadfully stupid "Twilight."

Wonderfully underplayed by Kare Hedebrant, Oskar reminds me of myself when I was 12 years old. We were both children of divorce and victims of intense bullying.

Oskar and I had a keen interest in violence and gore. I collected Fangoria, the magazine of the slasher movie scene, and Oskar collects news clippings about murderers and serial killers.

Luckily, I pulled myself out of this spiral of darkness. Oskar may or may not be so lucky.

We were both Columbine

incidents waiting to happen.

Oskar meets Eli, played with deep mystery by Lina Leandersson, who is a 12-year-old like him, but stands around in the cold without a jacket or shoes.

Leandersson's huge eyes suck

the viewer into Eli's soul. She is

a vampire who has been 12 for a very long time. I've been there. The title of the movie refers to the fact that vampires cannot enter private property until they

are invited. I think it also refers to Oskar inviting Eli into his life. Despite being told by Eli that she and Oskar cannot be friends, they both fall in love with

each other. This is a film capable of ferocious and animalistic violence. Yet, the love of Oskar and Eli rises above it all.

Eli's friendship and love gives Oskar the courage to fight back against the bullies.

Eli's "father," played by Per Ragnar, is actually her hunter. He kills people and drains their blood to feed Eli.

Eli has an aversion to killing. In one exchange with Oskar, she tells him that he wishes to kill for revenge and she kills because she is driven by her nature.

In the end, this is a grand love story that will make the audience feel that a deep love is possible between two 12-year-old kids and despite some minor nude spooning, it never feels dirty.

"Let the Right One In" is, by far, my favorite movie of 2008, and should have been nominated by Sweden for its entry in the Academy Awards. It is sweet and, at times, darkly funny.

Will Oskar and Eli's love survive despite the odds? The movie hints at this but never really answers it, a master stroke showing that the film was made outside the Hollywood system.

Hollywood would have us see Oskar and Eli 20 years later with a litter of big-eyed kids.

Personally, I do not need every single detail spelled out for me. I always prefer to do that later while I mull over a great film.

