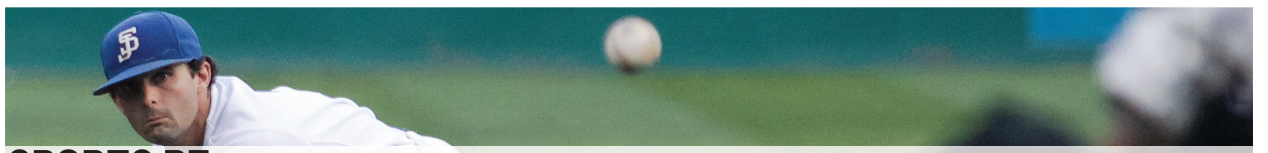




OPINION P5: Americans need to end the murdering of innocent babies



SPORTS P7: San Jose State holds on to even the season series against the Lopes

HEADS UP



Kevin Mistry | Spartan Daily

Members of SJSU Cru, Rolan Jimenez (left), Gabe Senbetu (center left), Luke Bryant (center right) and Zack Burgess (right) play spike ball at Tower Lawn.

CLIMBING TO THE TOP

Ex college dropout elected A.S. president

By Itzel Castro
Contributing writer

There's nothing like a brush with death to get you back on track. That's part of the journey that Hector Perea has taken.

Perea, the new A.S. President for Fall 2016, was involved in a gruesome car accident that nearly took his life in his early 20s.

He was a community college dropout working a 9-to-5 job as a construction worker in West Virginia, where he almost faced death after an exhausting day of work.

"After that car accident, I had a life-changing epiphany, where I realized I had to go back to school," Perea said.

Perea said the reason he dropped out of Fresno City College soon after he graduated from Buchanan High School in 2006 was that he wasn't ready to take on college.

"In the beginning, I wasn't going to college for myself," Perea said. "I was just going for my parents and I was never really motivated enough, so in my second semester I failed all my classes and I ended giving up."

After six years of

working in blue-collar jobs, Perea decided to give college a second chance and returned to Fresno City College in Fall 2012 and ultimately graduated, transferring to San Jose State University in Fall 2014.

Now, as a 28-year-old SJSU student, the San Jose native son of Mexican immigrants looks back, mostly with pride, on his early days.

"My setbacks in life are my biggest learning experiences because I was never the best student and never appreciated education, but experiencing all those low points in my life made me want to be a better person and that's why I am here today," Perea said.

During the course of his almost two years at SJSU, Perea has taken on several leadership roles, including Director of Intercultural Affairs for Associated Students, Intern Coordinator for the Chican@/Latin@ Student Success Task Force, Co-Chair of Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlan (MEChA) and his most recent accomplishment includes being elected as

PRESIDENT PAGE 2

CINCO DE MAYO

Take a little trip in a lowrider

By Rashaad Mubarak
Copy editor

Some Americans assume Cinco de Mayo is Mexican Independence Day. This is incorrect since Mexican Independence Day celebrates Mexico's resistance against Spanish rule on Sept. 16, 1810, whereas Cinco de Mayo commemorates the Mexican Army's triumph against France (in the French-Mexican War) on May 5, 1862.

Nonetheless, the latter is a source of pride and joy for Mexicans worldwide.

One type of automobile has been a source of pride and joy in the Mexican-American community for decades: the lowrider.

This subculture started during the 1940s and '50s in the barrios of East Los Angeles, gaining momentum in the 1960s and '70s.

Lowriders remain a staple in Mexican and American culture for their elaborate modifications, aerodynamics and colorful, Chicano style.

"My lowrider is a 1959 Chevy Impala that originally belonged to my grandfather," said Rudy Castro, a San Jose resident.

"To me, lowriders are a part of my heritage and mean a lot to the Mexican culture. They're an art statement because we're proud of our



Leticia Castro | Spartan Daily

Rudy Castro gets his '59 Chevrolet Impala ready to take out for the Cinco de Mayo weekend.

culture. My parents were hardworking and didn't own a lowrider, but it's something I've always liked and loved."

Castro was also in a car club, but mostly preferred

driving and enjoying his car.

For many lowrider enthusiasts, San Diego's Chicano Park is a true

CINCO PAGE 2

ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

New tattoo exhibit showcased at San Jose History Park



Samantha Verdugo | Spartan Daily

San Jose resident reads the untold stories of California's earliest women with tattoos at the McKay Gallery.

By Samantha Verdugo
Staff writer

Just walking distance from the Spartan Stadium, a new exhibit, "Tattooed and Tenacious: Inked Women in California History," is on display at the San Jose History Park.

A bouquet of roses, a ship bursting, American flags, full faces and exotic animals are just a few of the many artworks that visitors will see in the McKay Gallery.

The exhibit traces the history of women with tattoos in California, from Native American tattooing traditions to the upper-class white

women who first made it fashionable to the tattooed ladies in today's culture across the country.

Amy Cohen, the exhibit's keeper, told Metro that she got the idea from her own body art and also from an un-inked colleague, Diane Curry. After Curry's recommendation, Cohen did some research and discovered that it was a huge deal and should be shared.

"Tattoos and Tenacious" is focused around California women living during the pre-World War

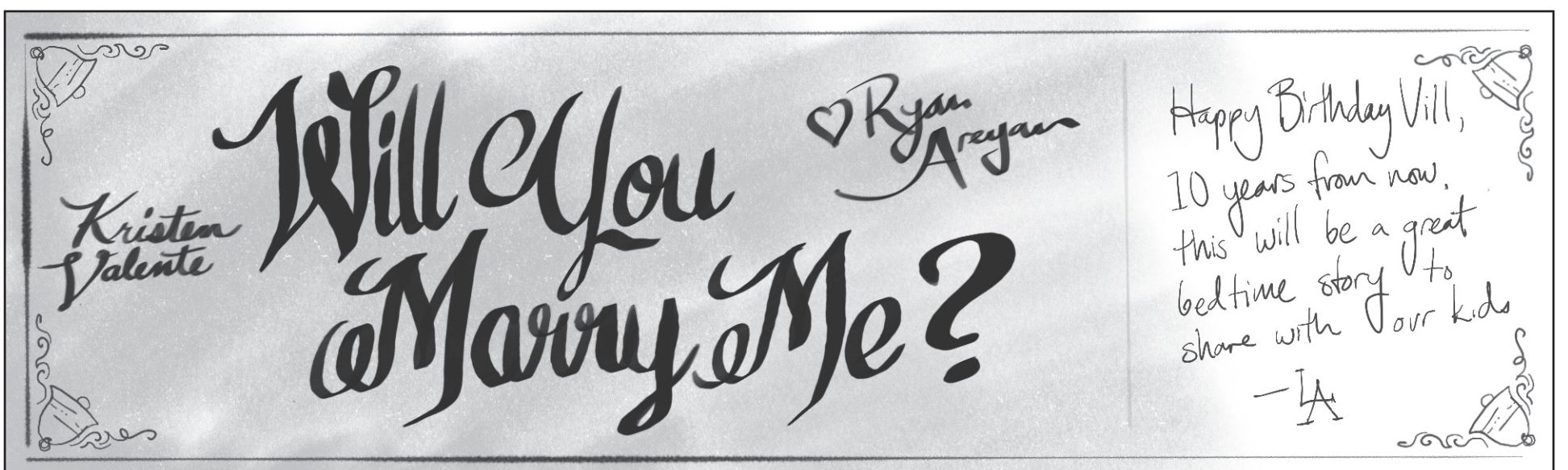
II era to women today from tattoos artists to those tattooed.

The history of women in tattooing goes back further than most people realize.

In fact, tattoos on women were not accepted during these times. People believed that both men and women with tattoos were inherently immoral. So much so that women had to completely cover their bodies with clothing so that their tattoos were not shown.

According to the San Jose

TATTOOS PAGE 4





Itzel Castro | Contributing Photographer

Hector Perea leads a demonstration for better representation of African-American, Chicano/Latino and undocumented students at San Jose State University last semester in front of the Student Union.

PRESIDENT » from page 1

the new A.S. President for Fall 2016.

One of his close friends, senior RTVF major Ivan Abrego, recounts when he first met Perea almost two years ago. According to Abrego, he seemed like a quiet and reserved person.

“He seemed like a person that keeps it to himself, but over the course of time, he developed into a natural leader,” Abrego said.

The newly elected A.S. leader said he promises to empower students, expand on the initiatives that have been passed for underrepresented students, make the campus more accessible, improve campus climate and increase student hunger awareness.

“Without a doubt, my main goal is to empower students because by

empowering them we can tackle any issues,” Perea said.

Perea was one of the main student leaders that drafted the resolutions in support of Student Resource Centers for underrepresented minority groups on campus which includes African-American, Chicano(a)/Latino(a) and undocumented/AB 540 students.

He presented these resolutions to the A.S. Student Government in Fall 2015 and they supported his initiatives. This semester, campus administrators approved the plan which would allow these centers to be part of SJSU in Fall 2016 or Spring 2017.

Co-Chair of Student Advocates for Higher Education (SAHE), Lana Woodward, has worked with Perea in many initiatives throughout SJSU and describes him as a passionate and dedicated leader.

“I feel that he is one of the only members of Associated Students that is actually trying to challenge some things within it and not just trying to go along with it because it is going to be beneficial for his resume,” Woodward said. “But he is actually trying to make things better for all of us in the school.”

After completing his term as A.S. president and graduating from SJSU in Spring 2017, Perea plans to attend grad school to pursue a master’s in Higher Education Administration.

Follow Itzel on Twitter @itzelcastronews

CINCO » from page 1

lowrider space. The 7.9 acre park resides beneath the San Diego-Coronado Bridge and is currently listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Chicano Park contains the largest collection of murals in tribute to the Chicano Movement, or El Movimiento, in the 1960s. Each year, on “Chicano Park Day,” a large number of spectators gather at Chicano Park to enjoy traditional Mexican food, music, dancing and customized lowriders.

Lowriders also have a significant presence in San Jose, particularly Hellyer County Park in Santa Clara County.

Three SJSU alumni — Mario “Sonny” Madrid, Larry Gonzalez and David Nunez — are credited as proponents of Chicano culture since they founded Lowrider Magazine, publishing their first issue in 1977.

The cover photo for their first issue was taken in Hellyer County Park, a 354 acre urban park located between South San Jose and Morgan Hill.

As indicated by the title, Lowrider

Magazine explicitly focuses on the lowrider culture, including fashion and music prominent in Chicano culture.


Madrid died in 2015, but his life and legacy is celebrated across the United States in publications like the New York Times.

The SJSU community hopes to continue his legacy as advertising professor John Delacruz and graduate student Charlotte Orr of the SJSU journalism and mass communications program are forming a committee to create the first in a potential series of “lowrider-space themed” murals at Hellyer County Park.

Orr researched Hellyer County Park and learned that car shows frequented the park during the 1970s.

“The lowrider car shows attracted so many people to the park,” Orr said. “Now, people bemoan the fact that the shows were discontinued due to concerns over gang activity. But for those who participated in these events, it was all about the cars. These people put much work into making their cars look amazing. They weren’t looking for trouble.”

Orr said there are a number of car clubs that still meet out at Hellyer County Park and enjoy their lowriders.



Cinco de Mayo Fun Facts

Cinco de Mayo is not Mexico’s independence day. It’s actually a celebration of an unlikely victory against French invaders on May 5th, 1862.

Mexico hardly celebrates Cinco de Mayo compared to the United States. In fact, the world’s largest Cinco de Mayo celebration takes place in Los Angeles, with 300,000 party-goers.

Cinco de Mayo didn’t have its reputation of being a drinking holiday until the 1980s, when alcohol companies started marketing it as such.

Americans consume nearly 81 million avocados on Cinco de Mayo.

Infographic by Yale Wyatt

Ines Ben Cheikh, a graduate student of the SJSU journalism and mass communications program, is also assisting Orr and Delacruz with the project.

“I am proud to be a part of this project,” Cheikh said. “It’s great that this mural will pay respect to a rich culture and the park itself.”

Orr and Delacruz intend to recruit students from the SJSU art department in Fall 2016 to create the mural.

In addition, Orr hopes this mural will shed light on women’s involvement in the lowrider subculture. While researching lowriders, she learned that Mexican-American women, or Chicanas, became heavily involved in the subculture, transitioning from passenger to driver.

“Lowrider culture has always been male dominated, but there is an unsung history of Chicanas who became more active in lowrider scene during the 1970s,” Orr said. “By the mid-1970s, it seemed women were

no longer riding in the backseat. In fact, many were behind the wheel and formed their own clubs.”

Outside the art and journalism and mass communication departments, Orr and Delacruz are attempting to get other departments, such as the SJSU Mexican-American studies department, on board.

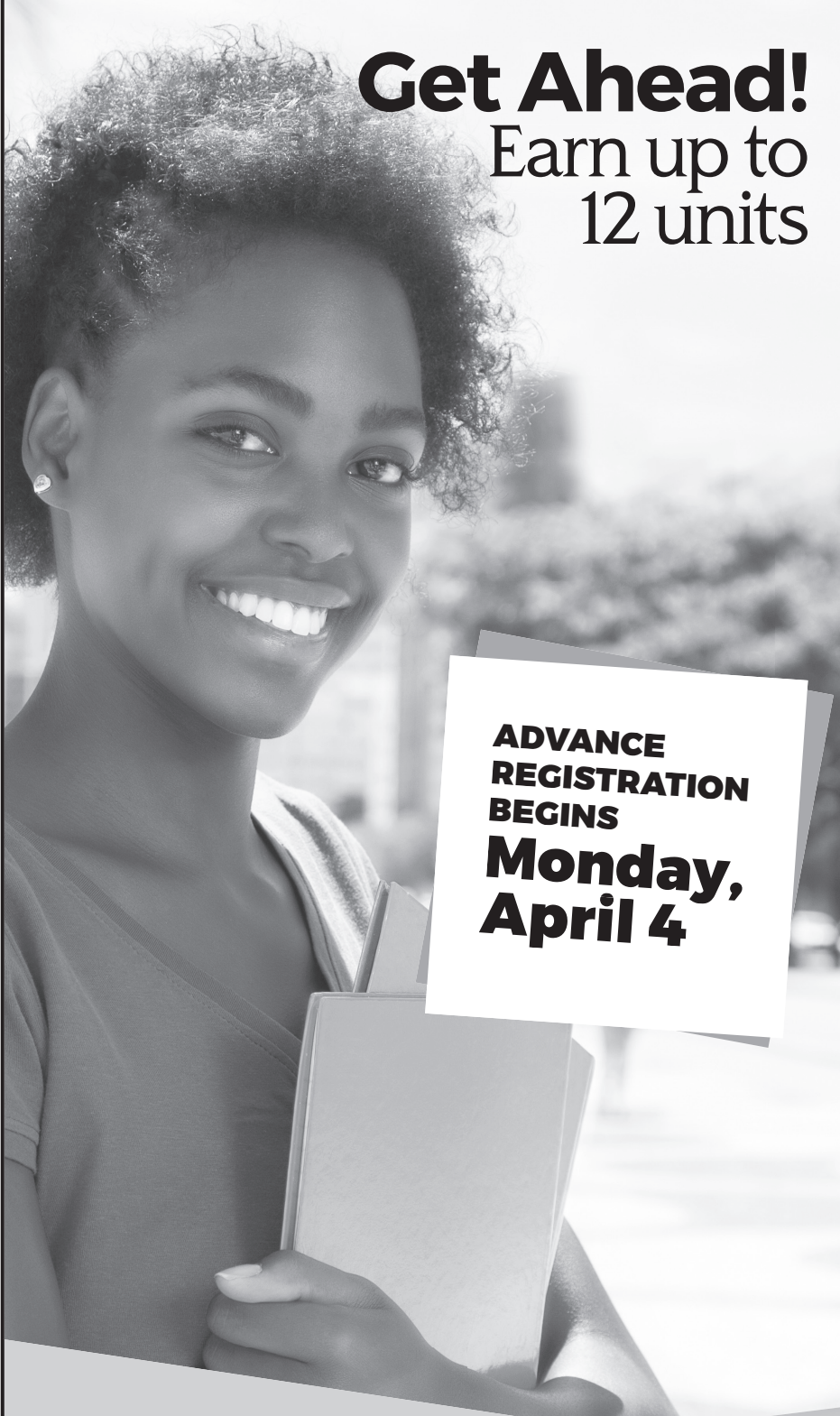
Though occasionally associated with gang activity and explicit lyrics in West Coast hip-hop, lowriders are a cultural emblem of nostalgia in the Mexican-American community and this upcoming mural will share this message with people unconscious of the lowrider’s history and Chicano culture.

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Drake's new album will not disappoint returning fans

By Yousif Kassab
Staff writer

REVIEW Drake released his album "Views," an ode to his hometown Toronto, over the weekend. The album has all the trappings of a routine Drake release. Complete with catchy harmonies, moping and collar-popping, Drake isn't as convincing this time.

The first thing that catches the ear on this outing is how varied the production gets. Songs like "Feel No Ways" and "Controlla" are perfect examples.

The latter is carried by a synth bed that I would have never guessed would be a Drake song. It adds a special kind of softness to the sound of the song that doesn't require Drake to call his ex out by name or list how she's done him wrong.

The beat of the former song sounds like a survivor of the 2009 chillwave era reformatted for today's radio sensibilities. This is owed to Jordan Ullman from the group Majid Jordan, a spacey pop and R&B duo that came to prominence in Drake's shadow.

They're best known for "Hold On We're Going Home" and being promoted by Drake via his Soundcloud every time they release something new.

Full disclosure: I have never been much of a fan of Drake's rapping. Last year the man promised that by his 30th birthday he'd retire from rapping and just be a singer.

As of this writing that's 177 days, 12 hours and five minutes away— but who's counting? That said, the rapping on this release is passable as usual. He displays technical ability on "U With Me?" but these glints of expertise are just too few among the rest of the bland performances.

Another example is "Hype" which somehow is more of a boring snorefest than "Worst Behavior" was back on his past album "Nothing Was the Same."

Some of the most aggressive rapping on the album is performed on "Faithful" by late rap veteran Pimp C of UGK fame. He died back in 2007, so his posthumous verse isn't especially timely or important to the fabric of the song.

Its inclusion almost feels like Drake just wanted Pimp C on this release to prove how well-versed he is in rap. The problem is Drake really doesn't earn the feature with his performance on this song. He phones in an obligatory verse, sings a nice little hook and keeps it pushing. The song isn't a flop by any

means, but it stinks of missed opportunity. "Grammys" seeks to capitalize on the chemistry between Future and Drake which the two have given glimpses of since Drake appeared on Future's "F.B.G.: The Movie" mixtape back in 2013.

Unfortunately just like that collaboration and the majority of the work on the duo's "What a Time to Be Alive" release, "Grammys" just doesn't cut it. Drake does come through to deliver a verse that sounds like he's having more fun than he does on most of this album. Unfortunately Future's half-baked verse just ruins the entire song as he lazily repeats "They gon' think I won a Grammy" what seems like forty times in quick succession.

But, not all features are complete flops. "Too Good" delivers on the Rihanna-Drake dynamic that everyone has been aware of since 2010. The song is a highlight of the album, despite Rihanna undeniably out-singing Drake on his own song.

We can't get through this without discussing the song, "One Dance." I don't need to explain anything about this song. You know it already. No doubt you just started humming the hook under your breath. Drake's ubiquitous role in pop radio makes it easy to dismiss the song as another summer anthem hopeful.

Let's really break it down though: Drake is trying things on this album he hasn't before and even this song is a testament to that fact. When was the last time you heard a dancehall beat like this on the radio outside of the Live 105 Stoner Hour on 4/20? Most importantly this is not just another rehashing of "Hotline Bling" (Drake's most popular hit to date and last year's inescapable summer hit). Drake could already be commended for not going back to the well on that one, but this song is good by itself. It doesn't need the pat on the back.

Potholes and negative notes aside (there are many), if you love Drake, this album is not going to change your mind. He checks all the boxes fans have come to expect. Even on your first listen, there will inevitably be a handful of tracks you play on repeat. It's just a shame that just as many tracks merit skipping after the first listen.



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What to Watch In Theaters

Captain America: Civil War

Neighbors 2: Sorority Rising **X-Men: Apocalypse**

In theaters May 2016

Infographic by Kavin Mistry and Leticia Castro

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DRINK OF THE WEEK

This week's drink:

Black Superman

The "Black Superman" is up there with Long Islands and AMF's when it comes to potency. A drink containing vodka, rum, gin, triple sec, blue Curacao and some sweet and sour mix, it is strong enough to get you a nice buzz, but has enough flavor to make the drink enjoyable. It may not be the sweetest drink you'll ever have, but it's a drink that is made for a night out. If you don't have much of a budget and only want to buy one drink during the night, this may be for you. While some bars don't exactly know how to create this to its fullest potential, I purchased mine from 4th Street Pizza Co. and it was the perfect color: a dark purple. When it comes to looks, this isn't the prettiest beverage, but the taste and amount of alcohol makes it a worthy purchase.



What's inside?

Vodka
Rum
Gin
Triple sec
Blue Curacao
Sweet and sour mix

Drink selected by Nick Avila
Infographic by Kavin Mistry

Thank you to the outgoing Board of Directors 2015 - 2016!

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Welcome to the incoming Board of Directors 2016 - 2017!

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For detailed election results, visit as.sjsu.edu/vote

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'Mother's Day' will ruin your mother's day

By Tyler Kittle
Staff writer



"Mother's Day" is a movie in the most basic sense. It has moving images and a storyline, but doesn't give the audience anything to enjoy over its painful two-hour runtime.

The movie follows several mothers and one father on the disastrous days leading up to Mother's Day.

Despite the day being in the title, it's completely superfluous to the plot. Instead, they just say Mother's Day as often as possible so you don't forget which movie you're watching.

Unlike most films that have a single plot or an A and B plot, "Mother's Day" has five plotlines that are so disconnected, they may as well be their own movies.

Other than a couple scenes early in the film, the characters are completely secluded to their own plot.

It's almost as if each of the four writers wrote their own story and they couldn't decide which one to make a movie out of and decided to do them all.

The main storyline follows Sandy (Jennifer Aniston), a divorced single mother who can't stand the fact her rich ex-husband married a young woman and hates that they want to take her children to concerts and cool places.

Sandy, of course, has to learn to deal with this issue by pouting and being upset at her ex-husband all the time.

Another plotline revolves around two sisters who lied to their racist, homophobic parents about who they married because one of the sisters is a lesbian and the other married an Indian man. Their parents come over as a surprise and results are predictable.

There are still more plots in this movie, but they get so little screen time, it's easy to

forget these characters are even in the film.

The many plotlines end suddenly and switch to a different plot in a jarring manner. The pacing always stays the same throughout the whole movie, so it doesn't feel like it's making any progress.

Toward the climax, things didn't feel any different despite the fact that the movie began to wind down.

The acting is pretty good; the actors feel like they're actually trying but it doesn't matter. Their dialogue filled with jokes never work, regardless of who was saying them.

When the dialogue isn't desperately trying to make you laugh, it's straightforward and boring. This film is recognized as a comedy, but it is far from that. It's probably a comedy because they couldn't think of a better category to fit it.

The camera angles and cinematography in general are laughably simple. All of the shots are flat and never use any interesting or well-thought-out shots.

It's hard to believe that Garry Marshall has directed anything else after seeing this flat, insipid, disjointed mess of a movie.

There is no reason for anyone to see "Mother's Day," let alone make your mother suffer along with you for two hours.

If you want to watch something with your mom for Mother's Day, show her something with more substance and talented filmmaking, such as a video of a cat on YouTube.



Follow Tyler on Twitter
@TylerKittle426



Samantha Verdugo | Spartan Daily

Women tattoo artists from California display their work on mannequin hands at San Jose's History Park exhibit "Tattoos and Tenacious."

TATTOOS from page 1

History exhibit, only sailors got tattoos during the middle of the 20th century of America. Compare that to today's society, where women sometimes sport more body ink than men.

Many un-inked people associate tattoos with lack of education or unprofessionalism.

But this exhibit works to expose positivity for what they truly are by shining a spotlight on the many people who populate the Bay Area. It connects the blue-collar side of Silicon Valley, including the new immigrants, auto mechanics, the punk rock suburbanites and the descendants of farmers and fruit packers who all share common interests in tattoos.

"This exhibit is different but fun," said Patrick Magee, the exhibit's volunteer historian. "It really made me realize the hardship women face and continue to face, especially in the tattooing industry."

Women continue to face similar discriminations and burdens when it comes to tattoos or body modifications.

Whether its body piercings, ink, scars or even biohacking—the recent trend of implanting LED lights under the skin is to light up your tattoos.

"It's art and it's a form of expression to celebrate one's accomplishments or hardships," said former SJSU student, Veronica Villa. "As a woman, tattoos represent an act of deviance and resistance because we are breaking the constructs of male-driven society and challenging the moral of what a 'good woman' should look like, making the act of even having a tattoo revolutionary."

"Tattoos and Tenacious: Inked Women in California's History" will continue to show through Dec. 31 from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. every Saturday and Sunday at the McKay Gallery in San Jose's History Park.

Follow Samantha on Twitter
@sammiespartan

Classifieds

Sudoku Puzzle

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

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

Previous Solutions

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

May 4th

M	E	S	A	S	D	O	T	B	E	D	C	I	D
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L	A	T	T	E	S	E	A	S	O	N			
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F	I	E	E	V	A	N	S	N	O	O	S	E	
T	O	R	R	E	P	A	Y	S	N	I	P	E	

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Crossword Puzzle

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13	
14					15					16					
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20								21							
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56	57	58	59						60	61					
62									63						
64									65						66
67															69

- ACROSS**
- 1 Emulate a quarterback
 - 5 Leak through slowly
 - 9 Prepares for a boxing match
 - 14 With the bow, to a violinist
 - 15 All done
 - 16 Hushed
 - 17 1986 "fish out of water" film
 - 20 Local, as an ointment
 - 21 Condiment in gourmet cooking
 - 22 Perspiration
 - 23 Nicholas I was one
 - 24 Become embedded
 - 27 Tire protector
 - 32 Recede like a tide
 - 35 One way to cook eggs
 - 37 Common beverage
 - 38 Cause for ahem?
 - 42 Edible Pacific tuber
 - 43 Part of a drum kit
 - 44 Ribonucleic acid, familiarly
 - 45 Old sailor
 - 48 Rustic poems (var.)
 - 50 Christian Coalition, e.g.
 - 52 Island (immigration landmark)
 - 56 Partial paralysis
 - 60 Not at all harsh
 - 62 Good thing to have in the jungle
 - 64 Farm mudholes
 - 65 Big-mouthed pitcher
 - 66 Noted canal
 - 67 Is inclined
 - 68 "Friends" friend
 - 69 Changes hair color
- DOWN**
- 1 Formal accords
 - 2 It points the way
 - 3 Rifle attachment
 - 4 Like a party animal
 - 5 37-Across, e.g.
 - 6 Opposite of good
 - 7 Anago, really
 - 8 Fourth estate
 - 9 Shape learned in preschool
 - 10 Corny bits of wordplay
 - 11 Verdi classic
 - 12 Walk dizzily
 - 13 Proofreader's direction
 - 18 Multi-armed creatures
 - 19 Unable to hear
 - 23 "Poly" attachment, in school names
 - 25 Have on
 - 26 B-movie machine guns
 - 28 Major ATM manufacturer
 - 29 It can open for you
 - 30 Impressive style
 - 31 Pro ___ (in proportion)
 - 32 Semiaquatic salamanders
 - 33 Hillside, to the Scottish
 - 34 When doubled, one of the Society Islands
 - 36 Be in charge of
 - 39 "In ___ We Trust"
 - 40 Make an attempt
 - 41 Cosmetics queen
 - 46 Be preoccupied with
 - 47 Flippant
 - 49 Assaulted with goo
 - 51 Purple willow, e.g.
 - 53 Distrustful
 - 54 Private film producer, informally
 - 55 Eyelid lumps
 - 56 Whispered attention-getter
 - 57 Poker pay-in
 - 58 Form of precipitation
 - 59 Barely managed
 - 60 Bottom of the barrel
 - 61 Does the wrong thing
 - 63 A couple

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Pro-choice means anti-responsibility

By Daniel Reedy
Sports editor

This is in response to the travesty depicted through paper and ink, two unwilling participants, lacking cognitive thought, much like the victims of abortion.

If you missed the article written by my colleague and our managing editor, Vasuki Rao, from a couple weeks ago, it covered the “over-sentimentalization” of sex and abortion. Her argument was essentially that people place too much emphasis on the emotional connections between sexual partners and parents and their children.

Rao said in the article, “I look forward to a future where conversations about abortion are as simple as this: ‘I got an abortion this morning.’ ‘Oh, how’re you feeling? Did it hurt?’ ‘No, it was fine, it was just a little uncomfortable for the first few minutes.’ ‘Cool, you want to go try out the new Thai place?’”

I am not easily offended and while I disagree with her stance, I read up until that paragraph in a reasonable state of mind. My mindset changed when I read the scenario she made up.

I was appalled. I still am. Her whole dream is based on making both abortion and sex in general a common, causal subject. If something is casual then people will feel comfortable with it. If people are comfortable with it, people won’t feel guilty.

It’s no different than if murder became a normal occurrence. Consider terrorist attacks overseas; those seem to be so common that we are no longer surprised by them. It seems like every week there is a car bombing somewhere in the Middle East. Sure, those are horrible events, but they have become so common that we no longer fret about them.

This seems to be a stretch, except when you consider that many people believe abortion to be murder.

The “sentimentalization of sex” ties in with this. The ability to get an abortion removes responsibility from having sex. “It’s just sex.” Of course, many people want to believe that. If that is true, you don’t have to live by any rules around it. Oops, you got pregnant, well you can just hop on over to Planned Parenthood and get that “problem” fixed. Thanks to waste bins like NARAL (National Association for the Repeal of Abortion Laws) you can have the support of millions in discarding the child you have conceived. Now you’re in the clear and can go back to jumping on anything that moves.

Here is another “fun” fact, a woman was recently sentenced to life in prison because she committed an illegal abortion in Indiana. According to the Washington Post, she was in her third trimester with the child and was convicted for feticide. The woman disposed of the dead baby in her

dumpster. The aforementioned NARAL actually tweeted opposition to this, saying that it was a violation of that woman’s rights. Groups like NARAL are one of many that have succeeded in building the Democratic Party into what it is today, a gigantic coalition of special interest groups. Several groups, the LGBT, environmentalists, Civil Rights groups (ex. NAACP) and other traditionally left-leaning organizations, have unofficially joined together to combat the conservative status quo.

I admit, this has been a very intelligent and successful strategy. Each group defends the other and although they each have their own “special interests” they fight the conservatives, who all seem to have similar views on most issues. This is not the only tactic the liberals have traditionally used. Many liberals like to spin issues to modify the views of the common people.

A perfect example is the topic of abortion. By ramming it down the throats of the American people, much of the country has been convinced that abortion is a women’s rights issue. By declaring it as such, millions of women rally around this concept of unifying to battle the evil “pro-lifers” that supposedly want to take America back to the ‘50s, before Title IX and other gender-equality advancement.



They are wrong. I am not saying I disagree. I am saying they are flat out wrong. “It takes two to tango” has never been more prevalent. Yes, rape is a special case; one that requires extra sensitivity so we can put that aside for now. Two people are required to create life, a man and a woman. Those two each have requirements for creating that life.

Without getting into too much detail regarding human biology, both of those people create that life and are responsible for that life. To say that it is only one of those people’s responsibility is wrong. Just because the woman carries the child does not mean it is solely her decision as to what happens to that child. If it is only hers, why does the father have to pay child support? It wouldn’t be his responsibility. This cannot only apply when it is convenient.

This takes us back to the repeating theme—avoiding responsibility.

If we can take away guilt from committing abortions, then we can one, avoid the responsibility of raising a child we created and two, the responsibility of the consequences of our actions.

Returning to Rao’s argument, she also stated that just because some Americans have certain moral standards that not everyone should have to comply with those standards. She specified religious standards but just because a moral value stems from religious teaching, doesn’t make it invalid. Even scientists believe actions like stealing are morally

wrong and that really isn’t because a “religion” told them so.

Consider that racist remarks can now be considered a hate crime. Whether you agree with the concept of racial equality or not, the moral standards of people that disagree with racism are taken as the official stance—and used as such to create legislation.

To clarify, some believe racism should be outlawed and although not everyone agrees with this moral system, it is adapted into law. Some believe abortion should be outlawed.

Not everyone agrees, but there is a clear comparison here. Even if unanimous support is missing, we can still outlaw a practice that is unjust and hurts people. Even if you disagree, a fetus is still an entity that is being harmed during abortion.

Additionally, many believe that Planned Parenthood was originally founded, particularly in urban districts, to control the population of minorities. Planned Parenthood founder Margaret Sanger said in 1922, “Birth control must lead ultimately to a cleaner race” in Woman, Morality, and Birth Control. Ten years later, Sanger said, “(The government must) give certain dysgenic (exerting a detrimental effect on later generations) groups in our population their choice of segregation or sterilization,” in A Plan for Peace. That is deplorable.

This is not a liberal or conservative issue. It is a human-rights issue. So in conclusion, I would like to leave you with a few ideas to consider.

For one, you should thank your parents for choosing to let you live your life. It may be hard, sometimes you may even resent that choice, but be grateful that you have the opportunity to live in this world, not everyone gets that chance.

Remember all of the intelligence-lacking aspects of people our age. We say “Damn Daniel” and “Deez Nuts” and glorify the Kardashians (and Jenners and Kanye and every other extension of that idiot family).

This embarrassing subsection of the millennial generation is not the type of people that should have the power to decide whether a baby has the opportunity of life.

Lastly, decide for yourselves. Sure, we can fight this injustice by not doing it ourselves, or we can take it a step further and encourage others to see the truth.

Imagine all that life has to offer: gorgeous sunsets, a cold drink on a hot day, warm dessert waiting at home, the embrace of someone you love. Many will never experience such joys because many never get the chance to live at all. Stand up for those who don’t have a voice.

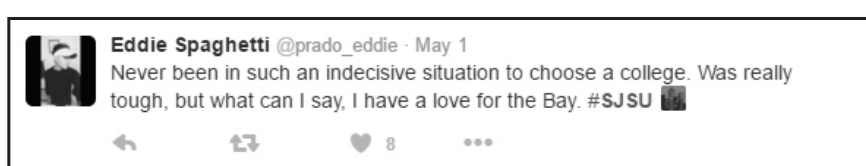
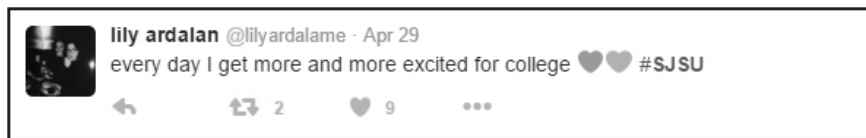
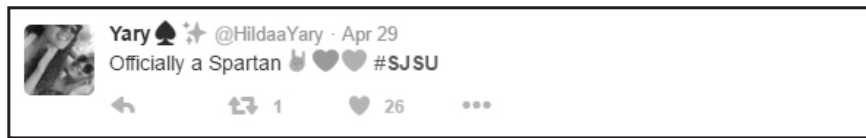
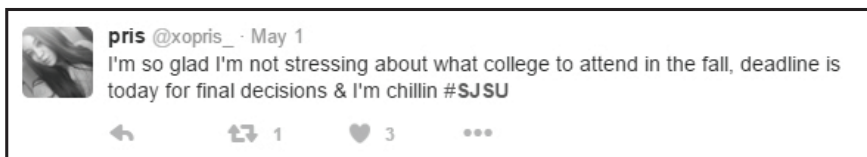
Be pro people. Be pro justice. Be pro life.

Follow Daniel on Twitter
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See Vasuki Rao’s article here: <http://bit.ly/23qROqk>

Thursday thoughts

FUTURE SPARTANS



Campus Voices

Is Cinco de Mayo significant to you?

Interviews conducted by:

Justin Tonel
Staff writer



Pablo Zendejas
Civil engineering

"I am Mexican so I understand the historic celebration. However coming to America, my fellow Mexicans have lost the heritage and it has become Cinco De Drinko."



Maria Halatsis
Business administration

"It's not an actual holiday in Mexico. I personally don't celebrate it. I know its used to market parties."



Katy Haas
Graphic design

"Basically it's to commemorate a battle however a lot of the hype around it is to sell alcohol. I can see the significance in having a holiday to celebrate Mexican independence but that is not how it is."

The truth about Cinco de Mayo

By **Nick Avila**
Staff writer

They say ignorance is bliss and there may not be a more blissful feeling than being drunk off tequila celebrating a holiday with your friends and family. So when May 5th rolls around, it's easy for people to throw on a cheap Chevy's sombrero, wear some red, white and green and act "Mexican" as they sip some alcohol.

Even with the general lack of respect for some Mexican traditions and the stereotypes of someone dressing up as a cholo for Halloween, I don't really get too offended. I mean, I'm not a ra-ra Mexican, hell, I barely even understand the simplest of Spanish. I also don't care if someone else wants to look like a complete tool. But, being half Mexican, I have this constant effort of letting my friends, and sometimes strangers, know some things aren't as accepted as others.

So, this is something that truly irks me — and has irked me since I was a kid. My father sat me down and first explained Mexican Independence Day to me when I told him why my class was celebrating Cinco de Mayo.

Cinco de Mayo is not Mexican Independence Day.

Mexican Independence Day is September 16. It is the day that is celebrated because in 1810 Miguel Hidalgo exclaimed "El Grito de Dolores" (Cry of Dolores) and passionately enlisted hundreds of citizens to fight with him against the Spanish military who were coming for Hidalgo and other Mexican revolters, according to the Latin American History website.

I feel like I have been saying it for years when someone invites me out drinking on Cinco de Mayo. I'm not against having fun on that day. On the contrary, I typically will go out and throw back some beers, down some shots and maybe even eat some Mexican food. But, I understand what the day is about. For those who have been too ignorant to care what they're "celebrating," let me inform you.

Cinco de Mayo is the day the Battle of Puebla was won by the Mexican Army over the French Army, which was occupying the town of Puebla, Mexico in 1862.

The battle was a huge victory for Mexico due to them being significantly less equipped and outnumbered. The Mexican Army's resilience only lasted for so long and after retreating to regroup, the French Army eventually won the following battle about a year later and made their way into Mexico City, according to History Channel.

So, as much as the Corona brand wants you to believe Cinco de Mayo is something you should celebrate, it's barely even celebrated in Mexico, with Puebla obviously being the main town. But, this doesn't stop Americans from celebrating.

In 2013, Nielson reported that over 30.6 million cases of beer were purchased in the



Cinco de Mayo

- **31.8 Million:** number of US residents of Mexican-origin.
- **61%:** percentage of the Mexican-American population in the United States that resided California (11.4 million) and Texas (8.0 million) in 2010.
- **25.5:** Median age of people in the United States of Mexican origin.

3 Million pounds of guacamole eaten on Cinco De Mayo.

Over \$600 million dollars of beer was sold on Cinco de Mayo in 2013, more than the Super Bowl and St. Patricks Day.

*Statistics provided from U.S. Census Bureau 2012, Nielsen data, californiasocio.com

Infographic by Justin Tonel

U.S. during the week of Cinco de Mayo. That number beat out single week totals for the Super Bowl and the total revenue the beer brought in was \$658 million. America has tried its hardest to create the impression that the holiday is something that all Mexicans care about and to make others join in to have a good time, but truly that's all just been for the benefit of those marketing their products.

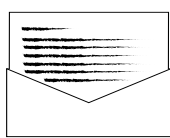
So while I contribute to the beer sales, I urge you to stop following the trend. Actually give yourself some knowledge on the subject, especially if you're going to go out and make a fool out of yourself. Celebrate Cinco de Mayo all you want, but just know it's not Mexican Independence Day.

Follow Nick on Twitter @NickVanExelent

LETTERS TO MY SISTER

My mother showed a different kind of strength

By **Vasuki Rao**
Managing editor



Throughout my childhood, I had this crippling paranoia that someone was going to kill my mom.

If we were travelling back home by bus from our grandparents' house, the bus ride took about nine hours. I would try my hardest to stay up as long as I could because I was almost certain the person behind her would stab her with a knife.

Every time my dad took my sister and I out, leaving my mom at home to catch a break, I would constantly feel uneasy, worried about random intruders hurting her.

It's hard to explain what it felt like, but I remember feeling as if something were to happen to her, she would not be able to defend herself.

The more I think about it, as a child, I remember seeing my mom as the weaker parent, physically and emotionally.

Now that I'm 22, I realize how wrong I was.

Three years ago, my dad had a heart attack that led to a number of different complications and it shook our family. In a matter of minutes, the dynamic of our family that gave me a sense of familiarity shifted drastically.

Going through that experience showed me, more than

anything, how strong my mom is and realized she's always been that way.

I used to look at only my dad for strength because in my eyes, it was defined by muscles and a career.

I overlooked the emotional and mental strength my mom was made up of that contributed to the person I am today.

My grandma raised my mom the way most children from my mom's generation were raised. Nurturing and affectionate love wasn't a huge part of their relationship.

But my mom made it a point not to repeat the cycle. She realized that there's more to motherhood than being strictly a provider and disciplinarian.

While growing up, my sister and I spent most of our time with our mom because my dad mostly worked offshore. She used to handle literally everything at home.

If it was some ridiculous art project that I was whining about, she would sit with me all night helping me finish it.

If I was staying after school, she'd cook my favorite noodles, bring it to school hot and let me sit in the air-conditioned car while I finished my meal.

It's funny because when my dad was home and picked us up from school, it was festive. It felt like a special occasion and I looked forward to it more than I've ever looked forward to being picked up from school.



Part of the reason anything my mom did for us back then didn't seem like a big deal was because I grew up in a society that implied she was obligated to do them simply because she was a woman. It was expected of her.

Subsequently, everything that mothers do tends to be underappreciated.

Mothers are great, and to me, my mom is the greatest. She taught me to be a genuinely nice person (still working on this) and how I can endure a lot more than I think.

When it comes to having kids of my own in the future, I'm still very much on the fence about it. The thought of having kids in the future I see myself in, does not appeal to me. But when I think about how much of a positive impact my mom has had on me, it makes me want to have that effect on someone else.

I haven't seen my mom in ten months because she's in a different continent entirely but that doesn't stop her from keeping track of me, everyday.

There will be a final Letters to My Sister next Thursday. Follow Vasuki on Twitter @VasukiRao94

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0 home games 7 away games	6:00PM	SJSU 14-30	4:00PM	SJSU 22-24	6:00PM	SJSU 14-30	4:00PM	SJSU 22-24	ALL DAY	SJSU	1:00PM	SJSU 14-30	12:00PM	SJSU 22-24
		UNV 24-20		BSU 13-33		UNV 24-20		BSU 13-33		SJSU		UNV 24-20		BSU 13-33
	Reno, NV		Boise, ID		Reno, NV		Boise, ID		Stanford, CA		Reno, NV		Boise, ID	

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

SJSU BASEBALL



AVG
.450

HITS
9

RBIs
2

RUNS
3

JOSH NASHED

Josh Nashed has been an on-base machine over the last week. In an offensive showdown against the University of Pacific Tigers, Nashed made his mark. In his five at bats the first baseman had two hits, two runs and one RBI in a standout performance which paved the way for the Spartans victory against the Tigers. The following series was played at home against the University of Nevada, Las Vegas Rebels. After a route in Game 1, Nashed led the Spartans to a victory in the second game. He got a hit in each of his four at bats and drove in one run in the 5-3 win. In the Game 3 rubber match versus the Rebels, Nashed continued his offensive onslaught going 2 for 4 in the game while also drawing a walk in the tight 3-2 loss to the Rebels. As the end of the season draws near, Nashed will look to end the season on a high note in the final two series of his sophomore campaign.

CHEW ON THIS

Infographic by Kavin Mistry

Spartans reject tradition

By Yousif Kassab
Staff writer

Baseball and chewing tobacco have been linked since baseball began in the 19th century. The SJSU baseball team still has remnants of that link. Many of the Spartans have had run-ins and experiences with smokeless tobacco.

"I used to use it," said Michael Breen, junior middle-infielder. "And I used it as a crutch to deal with stress. Now that I've stopped, I frown upon it."

Baseball Hall of Famer Tony Gwynn's death, which resulted from chewing tobacco, had a dramatic effect on Breen.

"(Gwynn) was a head coach in our conference and that hit pretty close to home, cause you know that could be any of our coaches or any of our teammates," Breen said. "I just don't want to see that happen to people. I hope they get a grip on it and it's minimized as much as possible."

Freshman infielder Aaron Pleschner disagreed and said that it's a part of the game.

"I don't really have a problem with it and, I mean, it's part of the game," Pleschner said. "It's something that's been around for a long time. You know, baseball is considered America's pastime. And beer, chew and hot dogs, that's baseball."

Assistant Coach Mike Cummins has had some firsthand experience with chewing tobacco, but feels very strongly about it now that he's seen how it has affected others throughout his career.

"When I played way back when, it was pretty common," Cummins said. "I was a catcher so I never really got into it. I tried it and everything, but when I was catching I just felt restricted with

something in my mouth so it never grabbed me. But I've known a lot of guys who did."

Cummins said chewing tobacco is a tradition but that shouldn't justify it.

"I don't think kids should be doing it," Cummins said. "I think what they're doing, (is) trying to educate about it and not show it in the big leagues, those are all positive things."

According to Fox News, the New York City Council passed legislation in March that bans the use of smokeless tobacco in all ticketed baseball stadiums, arenas and recreation areas. They also reported that similar bans have already been enacted in Boston, Los Angeles and San Francisco.

Senior outfielder Mitch Ravizza said he agrees with the idea of banning it.

"I don't like it. I've never tried it or gotten involved with that," Ravizza said. "It's going to be tough to ban (it) just because it's involved with baseball. When people hear about tobacco they immediately think of baseball just because of the tradition that's been around for so long."

Ravizza agreed with both Cummins and Breen on tobacco use.

"I think they should try to ban it just because of all the health issues and the risks that we see nowadays," Ravizza said. "Like Tony Gwynn, just him as an example, I hate to keep categorizing him with that but that's how our generation remembers him. I don't know why people would want to try it in the first place."

Follow Yousif on Twitter
@youuusif

Information compiled by Ryan Vermont and photo and infographic by Kavin Mistry

BASEBALL

San Jose State survives Lopes' late game rally

By Tony Nunez
Staff writer

The San Jose State Spartans avenged an ugly non-conference loss to the Grand Canyon University Lopes by squeezing out a 7-6 win Wednesday night at Municipal Stadium in San Jose.

"You take the win — you take them any time you can get them — but it's just disappointing how we finished that game," said SJSU's head coach Dave Nakama.

One night after losing in the 10th inning to the Lopes (22-21-1) in their first-ever meeting, the Spartans (15-30) nearly squandered a 7-0 lead in the ninth.

After three pitchers teamed up to hold GCU to only two hits and no runs through first eight innings, the Spartans allowed five hits and six runs in the final inning. The winning run made it to second base before junior third baseman Michael Breen made a game-saving stop and a diving tag. "The pitching was good and to do that in the last inning was just disappointing," Nakama said.

Freshman left-handed pitcher Zach Wallace picked up the win for SJSU after 6 2-3 innings of work. He entered during the third inning and allowed only one hit through his first six innings.

"I was really locating my fastball down in the zone," Wallace said. "I was able to go in and out and mix in a lot of change ups and curve balls away."

Wallace started losing his command in the ninth. He allowed a lead-off walk and two RBI singles to make it 7-2 in favor of the Spartans.

Nakama decided to pull his pitcher with only one out left in the game. It took two pitchers to get the final out, as the Lopes hit back-to-back two-run doubles off of junior right-handed pitcher Zach Tanner to come within one run.

Sophomore right-handed pitcher Jake Swiech entered in relief of Tanner and allowed a single and a walk to load the bases

before recording the final out and the save. "It was 7-2 then and there was two outs," Nakama said. "I would've loved for (Wallace) to finish the game but I thought I could go into the bullpen and have a guy get one out."

SJSU jumped out to a 3-0 lead in the first inning on an RBI single and two-run single from sophomore first baseman Shane Timmons and freshman left fielder Brendt Citta, respectively.

The Spartans added a run during the third inning on another RBI single from Timmons, the 24th run he has knocked in this season.

They gave themselves more of a cushion in the seventh inning with RBIs from Breen and senior outfielder Dillan Smith.

SJSU all but iced the game with a pair of runs in the seventh and one more in the ninth.

The Spartans racked up 11 hits in the ball game.

Timmons was 4-for-5 with two RBIs and two runs and a stolen base. Citta finished 2-for-4 with two RBIs and a run scored. In the two games against the Lopes, Citta is hitting .500 with four RBIs. Senior second baseman Ozzy Braff scored two runs.

"This one feels good," Timmons said. "It's always good to win. We need every one we can get so it feels good to get things rolling again going into the weekend."

SJSU could have put the game away early.

The Spartans loaded the bases in the third and fourth innings and had runners on second and third in the fifth but couldn't cash in.

They left 13 runners on bases.

SJSU continues its Mountain West Conference season with a three-game series at Nevada. Game 1 is Friday at 6 p.m.

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POWERING *an* OFFENSE

By Justin Tonel
Staff writer

On track to becoming one of the best softball players in the history of San Jose State University, Jessie Hufstetler has set records on the diamond in the 2016 season.

Hufstetler, who graduated from Atascadero High School in 2012, holds the record for single-season RBIs and home runs.

This season will be Hufstetler's fourth year at San Jose State. With the end of the 2015 season, Hufstetler was the career leader for batting average at (.400), a slugging percentage of (.622) and on-base percentage (.498).

Hufstetler was named 2016 USA Collegiate National Player of the Week and the National Fastpitch Coaches Association Player of the Week for her performance in Week 8 of the softball season (March 29 to April 4). Hufstetler is the first athlete to be selected for these honors from SJSU.

"She's one of the best hitters on our team," said coach Peter Turner. "Hufstetler started the year off a little slow, but it was

only a matter of time. She's been a great help to our number three and number five hitters."

She batted .571 (12-for-21) with 12 RBIs and eight runs scored. Of her 12 hits, nine were extra base hits over a six-game stretch against the University of Nevada, Las Vegas and Colorado State from March 29 to April 4.

As one of the consummate leaders for her team, Hufstetler has been instrumental in helping freshmen such as Madison Aurin adjust to playing for SJSU.

"We're both firstbasemen, she has been a great mentor and put me under her wing," Aurin said. "She helped me with the speed of things and adjusting."

Hufstetler has been named the Mountain West Player of the Week four times in her career and is the first player in the conference to be honored twice this season. She is currently tied for third on SJSU's all-time hits list at 229 and tied for second with 27 home runs as of April 30. She shares the number two spot in the all-time rankings with Kara Kanney (27 in 1996-98, '00).

"I didn't really notice it until this weekend's writeup," Hufstetler said. "People tell you, you're a great player, but you don't think about it. I've been fortunate to have the opportunities to get close to and break records."

Hufstetler currently holds records in eight offensive categories and is in the top three for another four for her SJSU softball career.

Hufstetler ranks first for batting average (.391), slugging percentage (.643), on base percentage (.487), doubles (53), walks (88), hit by pitch (32), RBI (180) and total bases (377).

She is currently ranked no. 35 nationally in doubles per game and ranks 32 in triples per game. In her career, Hufstetler has been at bat 596 times and is currently batting at (.351) with a slugging percentage of (.718) as of May 1, 2016 according to the NCAA.

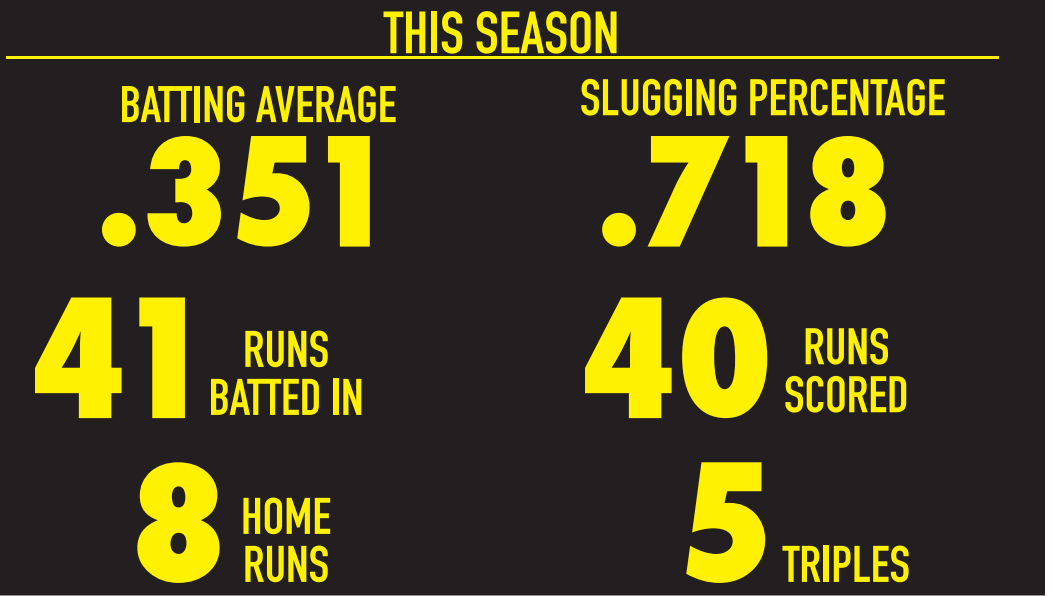
Despite a series sweep this past weekend against the Fresno State Bulldogs, Hufstetler went 2 for 3 with a home run on April 30 against the recently crowned



JESSIE HUFSTETLER

Mountain West champions. The series sweep was the first suffered by the Spartans since joining the Mountain West conference in 2014.

Follow Justin on Twitter
@justin_tonel



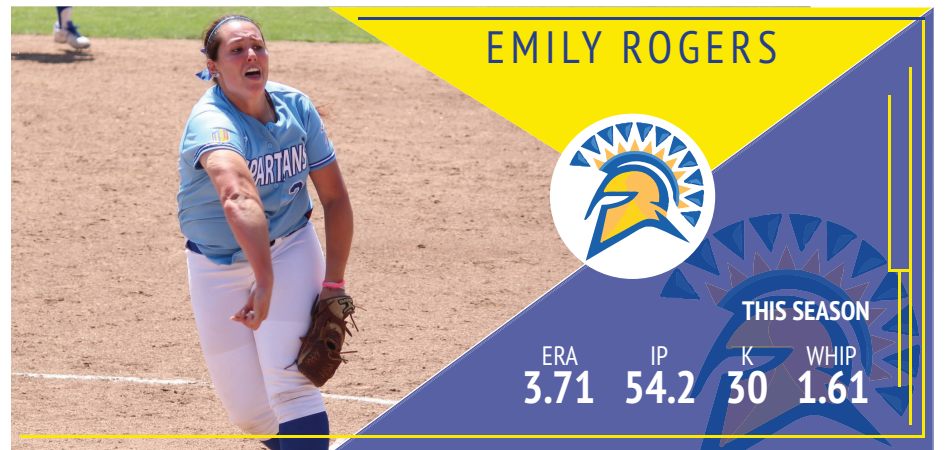
Infographic by Kevin Mistry



Softball Weekend Preview Spartans take on Boise State



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faculty, staff and alumni poets

8:15 - 9:30 p.m.
Hammer Theatre Center:
Poets Laureate Reading

Featuring
Juan Felipe Herrera, U.S. Poet Laureate

For more information visit:
legacyofpoetryday.wix.com/hammer

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