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PACTIVITY

Get up, get active and get rewarded

By BENJAMIN SIEPAK
MULTIMEDIA EDITOR

If you're looking for that extra motivation to make good on a New Year's resolution, to get those six-pack abs you've always wanted or to just be healthier, Pactivity is ready to help.

Inspired and founded solely by San Jose State University kinesiology major Anthony Lee, Pactivity is a mobile fitness app founded on the premise of motivating and encouraging America to get physically fit.

Launching on Jan. 29, the app has teamed up with local nutritious food crews to offer rewards to users who are working toward their health-related goals.

"Every fitness center you can possibly think of in San Jose, whether it's yoga, pilates, crossfit or local gym, we've geofenced it," Lee said. "Meaning if you're within a certain radius of the gym, using your current location on your phone, it's going to recognize you're within the radius and you'll be able to start the app."

By starting the app, you'll earn points based on the amount of time you work out. Every six minutes you are rewarded

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INSIDE

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



MELANIE PIEDRA | SPARTAN DAILY

Sue's Gallery Cafe offers a whole latte love

By MELANIE PIEDRA
PRODUCTION EDITOR

Family owned, Sue's Gallery Cafe is a quaint place that serves flavorful pastries, fresh coffee and has great customer service. The Gallery Cafe is located on Big Basin Way in Saratoga, just a 20-minute drive from San Jose State University.

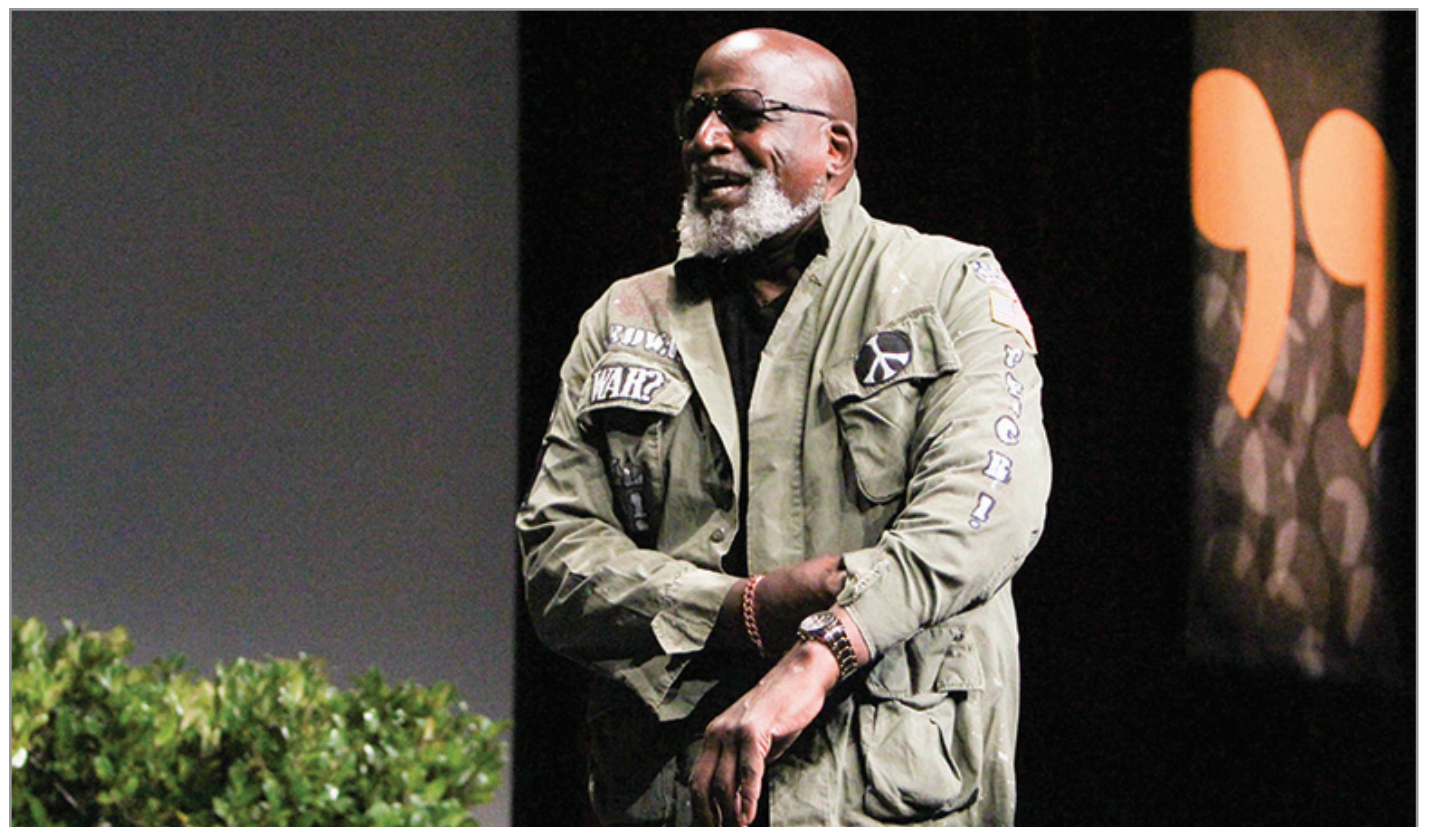
Sue's Gallery Cafe has a simple but modern design that fits the current aesthetic of many modern underground coffee shops. It gives the warmth and comfort of your own home, making it a perfect place to study or relax. A bookshelf is located by the entrance of the cafe, and a basket of blankets sits across from it under a table for people to use when they go outside.

"We wanted to create something unique," said owner JJ Kang. He said the location of the Gallery Cafe was

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WORDS TO ACTIONS

Athletes call for change



KAVIN MISTRY | THE SPEAR

SJSU alumnus and sociologist Harry Edwards was among the many guests who spoke at the 'Words to Action' event.

By SANDEEP CHANDOK
SPORTS EDITOR

Sport, society and social change were the mantras for San Jose State University's Words to Action event on Tuesday and the message was clear as can be: we need change.

The event was sponsored by RISE (Ross Initiative in Sports for Equality), a non-profit organization driven towards improving race relations in society through sports, and focused on athlete activism and the influence of sport in implementing positive social change.

RISE CEO Jocelyn Benson was present

and served as moderator for the first panel titled "Athlete Activism: Yesterday and Today." The panel included San Jose Earthquakes' sideline reporter, Danielle Slaton, a former U.S. Soccer Women's National Team member, SJSU alumni Marc J. Spears of ESPN's "The Undeclared" and Olympic gold medalist Tommie Smith.

Benson asked the group if in the sports world, does one have to be a celebrity athlete to make noise? Celebrity athletes includes the likes of Stephen Curry, Serena Williams, Von Miller and LeBron James — players that are easily recognizable due to their stature. Spears said anyone can

make noise, everyone has a platform and even LeBron James speaks up more now than he did when first came into the NBA. Slaton, contrary to Spears, felt celebrity athletes do in fact have the ability to make more noise than other athletes.

The discussion then transitioned to the role of women in the sports world and society as a whole. A topic that arose was the average salary for WNBA players which is just \$39,000 compared to over \$5 million for NBA players. This is bigger than sports, however. Women have long been undervalued for their work and as a result

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KAVIN MISTRY | THE SPEAR

(From left to right) Jim Brown, Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, Anquan Boldin discussed how athletes make an impact on social change.

EXPANSION

Camera 12 site potentially to become student housing

By KELLY BURNS
STAFF WRITER

San Jose State University's Advancement Division is looking into acquiring the former Camera 12 Cinemas site in order to build more housing for students and faculty.

Camera 12 Cinemas — located in downtown San Jose along Paseo de San Antonio — closed its doors in September 2016 due to lost revenue built up over a decade. Since then the site has been vacant.

According to Paul Lanning, vice president for University

Advancement and CEO of the Tower Foundation, SJSU is at the very beginning stages for this potential expansion. The Camera 12 site is just one option.

If all plans go through, the project suggests that the site will become a 20-story building housing graduate students, staff and potentially undergraduate students as well.

"We want students to have something beyond just the freshman experience," Lanning said. "We want more options and better options for

our students."

Along with apartments for housing, the proposal for the project also includes ideas for the ground floor to have retail, dining locations and even the possibility of a movie theater. These would all be accessible for public use.

"As a senior, I wish I had this opportunity during my time here at San Jose State, but I'm excited for the future students who might," said senior Sean Haratyk.

The site being in the heart of downtown San Jose and

only a block away from Washington Square makes it a prime location for additional housing. However, this also means competition for SJSU with other local businesses.

"Personally I think the location is great because it's in a safer area of downtown and we don't have a lot of safe living options other than living directly on campus," said junior Kate Pentel.

There is a 60 day bidding process in order to purchase

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APP

Continued from page 1

one point, with a maximum of 15 points a day. So essentially, you can claim a reward every day.

To claim rewards, you must log into the app, and you can choose from an array of nutritious options based on how many points you'd like to spend. Then the coupon will appear on the app with a "redeem" option for when it's presented to the employer. Once redeemed, the points will be deducted from your Pactivity account.

Rewards not only consist of healthy and nutritious food crews, but also discounts on fitness merchandise such as apparel, equipment and accessories.

By taking the necessary steps for a healthier life, Pactivity looks to tackle some serious health problems our country faces.

"It gives you the opportunity to deviate from some of the problems that are

ongoing in America such as obesity and cardiovascular disease," said Brandon Hunt, sports management senior and Pactivity marketing staff member.

According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, cardiovascular-

"We want students to have something beyond just the freshman experience."

Paul Lanning
Vice President, University Advancement

related diseases are the number one cause of death in America. Today, about one in three kids and teens are overweight or obese.

By offering rewards such as acai bowls at Power! Bowl or some carbs at Pasta Fresca, Pactivity looks to help people get up and get active.

"The hardest part about going to the

gym is developing consistency," said Matt Watts, hospitality management senior and Pactivity staff member.

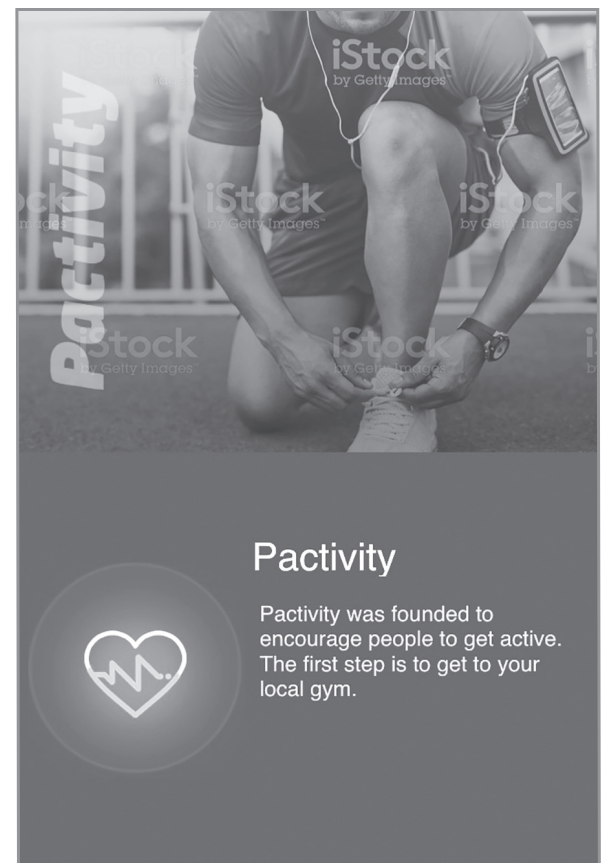
As for the app's launch on Sunday, it will only be available for Apple iPhone users as it's only compatible with IOS. Extending the app's availability to Android users is part of Lee's vision for the future of the app.

"We also have plans to geofence outside areas such as tracks, parks, golf courses and other areas people use to get physically active," Lee said.

As an extra incentive to get active with Pactivity, Lee has partnered with Summer Winter Action Tours (SWAT), to offer a total of three prizes including a spring break party package to Rosarito, Mexico for the top active users.

"We don't want to just influence the people who are already going to the gym, but we want to attack everyone, including the people lacking the motivation to go," Lee said

Follow Benjamn on Twitter | @benjaminsiepak



DORMS

Continued from page 1

the land from the successor agency, who currently owns the Camera 12 site. Richard Keit, the successor agency's managing director, told the Mercury News that they will have to move forward with whoever is the highest bidder on the property.

Currently SJSU has not put in a bid for the land, but they have submitted a proposal for the lease which is owned by Forest City, a real estate management and development company.

Lanning shared that Forest City wants to dispose of their lease on the Camera 12 site since it has become too much of an investment and downtown San Jose is not an area they are targeting anymore. If SJSU can acquire it from them they would be looking at nearly a 70 year lease.

If SJSU is to secure this lease, they will move forward with placing a bid on the land.

Funding for the project would come

directly from a part of the University's Advancement Division, the Tower Foundation which is San Jose State's auxiliary non-profit organization. According to San Jose State's website, the Tower Foundation assists with the development, investment, administration and banking of all San Jose State philanthropic donations.

Lanning said in the next 30 to 40 days they will have a more concrete answer of where this advancement is heading.

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ACTIVISM

Continued from page 1

society has not seen them in as many leadership roles as it should.

"There needs to be more [women] making decisions," Spears said.

SJSU alumnus and Olympic medalist Tommie Smith touched on every question asked. He described how when he came to SJSU, he felt blessed because he came on a basketball scholarship. However, he felt embarrassed because he looked different, was quiet and didn't have a voice.

Smith then shared a moment from his junior year when his sociology professor wanted to speak with him because of his low grade in the class. His professor asked him what GPA he needed to keep his scholarship and Smith told him it was a 2.0, but he had a 1.88 at the time. His professor then told Smith that he had a lot to say and that he needs to talk more. Smith said nothing. Since that moment, however, he hasn't stopped talking.

Follow Sandeep on Twitter | @sandeepcha

also stressed the importance of education as a tool for change.

"When you're going to college, you're supposed to be getting an education," Brown said.

The youth of our society is crucial to America's effort to grow as they are the future. Panelists emphasized this and added that we as a society need to show them what is right from wrong and ingrain leadership skills into them at a young age. Lastly, Edwards spoke on the need to encourage children to use their imaginations and do what they want in life.

"We have to teach young people to dream with their eyes open," Edwards said.

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Please bring your own bags to pick up the food. Some food items are perishable and will need to be refrigerated shortly after pick up. Visit sjsu.edu/sjsucare for more information.

This event is wheelchair accessible. Individuals needing any other accommodations should contact Monica Martin at 408-924-2563.



"The importance of what's happening now is because of what happened before."

Tommie Smith
Olympic Medalist, SJSU Alumnus

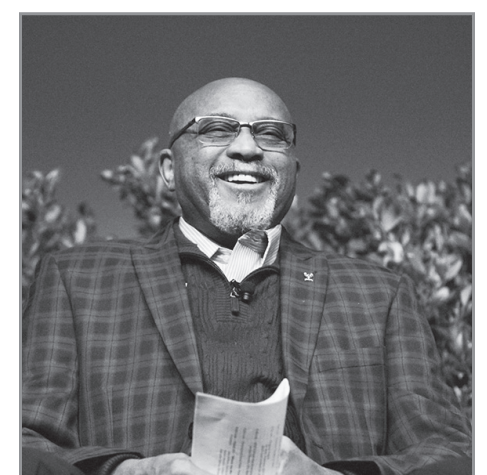
"The importance of what's happening now is because of what happened before," Smith said.

The second panel was led by SJSU alumnus and sociologist Harry Edwards. The discussion was titled, "From Protest to Progress: Next Steps." Members of the panel included former San Francisco 49ers Takeo Spikes and Anquan Boldin, former NBA star and current TNT broadcaster Chris Webber, NFL Hall of Fame running back Jim Brown and NBA Hall of Fame center and all-time leading scorer Kareem Abdul-Jabbar.

The group collectively described the need for people to come together for progress and social change to occur not only in America, but around the world.

Collegiate football players such as Stanford's Christian McCaffrey and Louisiana State University's Leonard Fournette choosing to pass on bowl games to prepare for their NFL careers was also brought up. Webber explained how many student-athletes out of high school are not considering the education aspect when choosing a college but rather looking directly at the athletics.

Brown agreed with Webber and



KAVIN MISTRY | THE SPEAR

(From top to bottom) Marc Spears, Danielle Slaton, Tommie Smith

Exhibit presents artifacts found on city streets

By **GIANNA JOHNSON**
STAFF WRITER

Photographer and former San Jose State University professor Kim S. Uhlik asks students to put their phones away and look down instead of up in his exhibit, “s/he who looks down.” What you find in the exhibit hosted in the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library may surprise and intrigue you.

Using just his iPhone, iPad and absolutely no editing, Uhlik photographs objects, or what he likes to call “artifacts.” He stumbles upon these items during his travels between Palm Springs, Ohio and Holland.

“If you want to experience unusual things, I found that a lot of unusual things are laying on the ground,” Uhlik said.

Images varying from funny and odd to the grotesque are hung on a stark white wall. One image of a crushed beer can, flower and a latex glove grouped together on the grass encourages viewers to think about their relationship and how they wound up in their final resting place.

According to the official artist statement, the exhibit is meant to expose “the zeitgeist of distracted self-absorption.” This is the idea that many are consumed by the need to be constantly connected, whether it’s via Facebook, Twitter or texting.

In its second week, the exhibit open until the end of

February captures a world living beneath the soles of our shoes that most pay no mind to.

One image depicts a beheaded blue army man left for dead on the sidewalk. Did a child snap off his head in anger or was the tiny soldier dropped on the ground only to be crushed and abandoned?

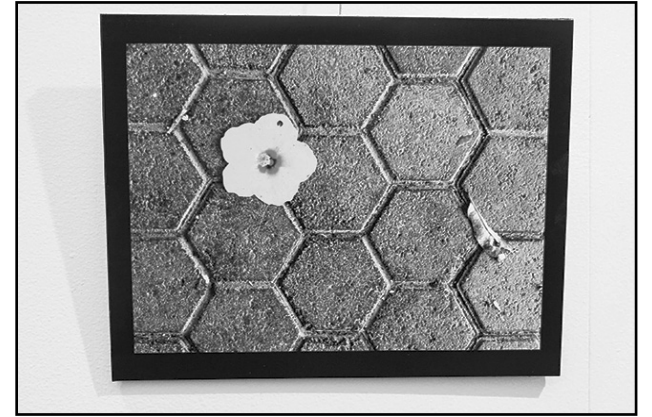
Uhlik’s photos spark the imagination and wonder of the viewer leaving them wanting to know more about the backstory of how these “artifacts” wound up where he found them.

Some of Uhlik’s other pieces aren’t necessarily of artifacts but feature textures found along his walks. Old gum stuck to the ground creates a polka dot like pattern that surrounds a storm drain. A manhole cover that is ever so slightly askew, makes for an image that is both interesting and pleasing to the eye.

A report by Nielsen Company revealed that Americans spend almost 11 hours a day using technology. This generation is so distracted by the constant buzz of phones and the “like” counts on Instagram photos that they aren’t connecting with our environment.

Uhlik’s hope for this exhibit is that people will be encouraged to get active, walk around their neighborhoods, put away the phones and take in their environment.

With the ground serving as his canvas and the oddities strewn about the city streets, Uhlik plans to continue looking down and photographing this world that exists in plain sight.



GIANNA JOHNSON | SPARTAN DAILY
A picture of a flower and a leaf on the ground displayed at the Dr. Martin Luther King library as part of the “s/he who looks down” exhibit

MLK Library Events Coordinator Candice McGee called “s/he who looks down” an unusual exhibit, but noted that it has been well received by her colleagues and library patrons.

Explore the strange world that lives on the streets of cities around the world in Uhlik’s “s/he who looks down” exhibit on display until Feb. 28.

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[@GiannaJohnson](#)

JAM

Continued from page 1

once his home, but after deciding to open a cafe, he and his wife completely renovated the building.

The cafe uses handmade cups and pour-over sets for their guests and features other ceramic art made by Sue Kang, the owner’s wife. The Gallery Cafe allows its guests to purchase the ceramic ware they are currently using or from the small gallery located in the corner of the store.

Sue Kang designed the entire store and the charming pottery that is displayed. Kang is an interior designer by trade, but has been a potter for nearly 40 years.

Each table in the cafe has a dainty succulent plant in a handmade pot that adds a nice touch to the modern aesthetic of the store. Sue’s Gallery Cafe has seating indoors and outdoors, as well as second floor seating that overlooks the first floor. The upstairs windows



MELANIE PIEDRA | SPARTAN DAILY
A latte decorated with a tulip and served in a ceramic cup from Sue’s Gallery Cafe.

provide a view of the beautiful scenery outside.

The menu has many unique items like earl grey milk jam, affogato and monaka ice cream. The earl grey milk jam served with toasted milk bread is my personal favorite. It is a one-inch thick bread that is lightly toasted and served on a tray with an option of up to two free spreads.

Other spreads for the toast are yuzu marmalade,

garlic herb spread and salted butter. Yuzu is a citrus fruit, similar in size to a small orange, and has an aromatic scent and flavor somewhere between a lemon and a grapefruit.

The Gallery Cafe also offers classic drinks and pastries like caramel lattes, hot chocolate and a variety of croissants. Not only was the milk bread delicious, but each espresso based drink is served with beautiful latte art that is definitely Instagram-worthy. Some of the designs I saw were hearts, rosettas and a particular barista made a bird.

The baristas were all very friendly and would make conversation while I was waiting for my drink and food to be made. The natural light, music in the background and lingering smell of coffee made this place very comforting. Sue’s Gallery Cafe is the perfect place to simply relax, eat and enjoy yourself.

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[@melaniepedra](#)

Cinequest marries film with virtual technology



TAYLOR JONES | SPARTAN DAILY

Halfden Hussey talks to the audience about the new Cinequest for the spring, which will include virtual reality and an expansion to Redwood City.

By **NICOLE CHUNG**
STAFF WRITER

Paving the way to enhance the movie-going experience, Cinequest introduced the usage of virtual reality in films at its media launch party on Tuesday at Yoshihiro Uchida Hall.

Cinequest, a Silicon Valley-based organization that blends 21st century technology with films, hopes to enhance the movie-going experience for its audiences by introducing them to virtual reality movies.

Using new technology, the organization wants to expand beyond the traditional single screen commonly used in many movie theaters.

“VR is a new experience, a new way to tell the story,” said Joseph Morales, a marketing intern for Cinequest.

The introduction of virtual reality to films goes hand in hand with Cinequest’s use of three-screen theaters with the help of Barco Escape, which is a “three-screen format for the ultimate immersive cinema experience” according to Barco’s website.

Cinequest will provide workshops for those interested in learning how to create compelling pieces of art using new virtual reality technologies. One will take place at Yoshihiro Uchida Hall on Saturday March 4 from 12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Hussey also announced this year’s

lineup and new venues for its annual “Cinequest Film and VR Festival.”

With the closing of Camera 12, Cinequest has had to find new venues to showcase films.

Some of these venues include the California Theater on First Street, Santana Row’s CineArts, San Jose Stage Company, San Jose State University and Fairmont San Jose Hotel.

As with previous years, the films that will be screened showcase a variety of creative talent, showing new creative minds hoping to get exposure through this festival.

The festival will also feature familiar faces like James Franco in ‘Actors Anonymous’ and Alyson Stoner in ‘Mr. Invincible’.

“While we definitely highlight the people who are renowned, we also really like to highlight the people who are breakthrough artists,” said Jessica Gelico, publicity manager for Cinequest.

The virtual reality films are a new addition to this year’s lineups that will run anywhere between 15 to 25 minutes according to Hussey.

The festival will launch with the screening of ‘The Last Word’ on Tuesday February 28 at 7:15 p.m. and will conclude with ‘The Zookeeper’s Wife’ on Sunday March 12 at 7:15 p.m. Both films will be shown at the California Theatre.

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STUDENT PARKING MADE EASY

Fourth Street Garage
Only \$175 for SJSU Students



Spring semester permits are valid January 15 through May 31. Permits are available for purchase at the Fourth Street and Market & San Pedro Square garage offices.

Students must provide valid student ID and proof of enrollment (minimum 6 units). Please bring originals with copies.

For more information, call (408) 794-1090.

Get parking information, directions, maps and more at [ParkSJ.org](#)



ALBUM REVIEW

The xx explores new horizons with “I See You”

By MARGARET GUTIERREZ-LARA
STAFF WRITER

After a five-year hiatus the European trio Romy Madley Croft, Oliver Sim and Jamie Smith, also known as The xx, just released their third album “I See You.” “I See You” is the follow up to their sophomore album “Coexist” which also reached number one in the U.K. The album felt like a rollercoaster ride full of highs and lows.

The xx’s uncommon and vivid sound is a mix of R&B, indie-pop and electronic music. “I See You” debuted at number one in the U.K. upon its release on Jan. 13. It was met with critical acclaim due to its vibrant sound and moody lyrics.

The album starts off strong with the lead track “Dangerous” which hits hard with horns and synths. “Dangerous” sets the tone of the album and leaves you eagerly waiting for what is to come. The song describes a relationship that is full of risk and danger but is too powerful to let go.

In the eighth track titled “On Hold,” producer-drummer Smith — who also goes by the name Jamie xx — cleverly samples a remixed version of the classic pop song “I Can’t Go for That” by Hall and Oates. The sampled chorus intertwines with dark lyrics that describe the desire to repair a damaged relationship which has come to an end.

Lead vocalists Croft and Sim convey a sense of sorrow and pain in their lyrical exchange on many songs with simple, yet powerful verses. Croft has a way of opening herself up and giving listeners a view into her deepest insecurities and innermost feelings about the challenges faced in relationships. The keyboard

riffs, synths and samples provided by Smith bring a rich and stark backdrop to the deep lyrics.

I could relate to the song titled “Performance” as Croft describes the feelings of a love that is lost and the pain that it brings. “If I leave before the end, will you forget that I was there?” Croft sings. “When you see me hurting, when my heart it breaks, I’ll put on a performance, I’ll put on a brave face.” She sings with so much honest emotion that listeners can almost feel her misery.

In contrast to “Performance” and “On Hold,” the track “I Dare You” provides a much more uplifting view of the feelings faced when being consumed by a new love. The song features a more upbeat rhythm and is reminiscent of ‘80s pop music. “I need my feelings set on fire. Now I’m deep in it, infatuated,” Sim croons while expressing the excitement of opening his heart to someone new.

In addition to the ten tracks on the album, the box set bonus provides three additional tracks including “Naïve” which uses a sample of “Doing it Wrong” by Drake. Sim confronts his own struggles with alcohol addiction and describes how it is taking control of his life. “Naïve” describes the help that his loved ones and friends try to offer him but he asks “Can’t they see I’m having fun?” which leads one to believe that he is not ready to get treatment.

“I See You” is an album that takes you through a series of emotions with catchy rhythms and soulful lyrics. The raw and honest lyrics throughout this album connect with listeners and they evoke feelings of disappointment and emptiness that can be left in the wake of a love lost.

The xx evolves in this album bringing a wide



IMAGE FROM WIKIMEDIA

Cover art for The xx's sophomore album 'I See You.'

range of sound and energy for the listeners to enjoy. If they can replicate the success from the last two albums then they could end up being one of the most influential and defining groups of this generation.

Follow Margaret on Twitter | @maggieslara



SONG REVIEW

Gorillaz back in protest spirit with “Hallelujah Money”

By CAROLINA IBARRA
STAFF WRITER

For the first time since 2011, Gorillaz publicly released a new single purposely delivered on the eve of then president-elect Donald Trump’s inauguration. “Hallelujah Money” was released as a response to the new political ideals that promise to sweep the nation with a new administration.

The song title itself gives away its objective. It reflects a cynical take on the new administrative era with the haunting vocals of Benjamin Clementine and slow, melodic beats.

Angelic choir chanting in the background contrast against Clementine’s deep voice in a soothing, yet chilling way.

The accompanying video echoes the lyrics’ message. Images of a dystopian society including outtakes of KKK gatherings and murderous clowns are countered by segments of bright cartoon images of rainbows and bluebirds. It’s unapologetically creepy. The video is just as twisted as it is mesmerizing and the message is clear and haunting.

The song itself does a fantastic job of conveying the same sentiments in its audio rendering as it does in its

lyric. Although it is a departure from the upbeat sound of more popular songs from past releases, “Hallelujah Money” remains undeniably authentic to Gorillaz style and expectations.

So, it’s weird — but it’s good weird.

Follow Carolina on Twitter | @xoxoxcaro



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WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Stick it to me: An inside look at freshman gymnast

BY ISABELLE THAM
STAFF WRITER

Women's gymnastics' Taylor Chan has stuck quite the landing this season.

Chan was recently named women's gymnastics' Freshman of the Week by the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation following her accomplishments at the NorCal Classic and Sacramento State meets earlier this month.

At the NorCal classic, Chan tied for sixth on the floor with a score of 9.775, and at Sacramento State she tied for first on vault with a 9.775, winning her first collegiate event. She also tied for second on floor with a 9.825.

Originally from Coquitlam, British Columbia, Chan began her gymnastics career recreationally at the ripe age of two and started competing at age nine. She described her home club, TAG Sports Centre, as small, but it introduced her to a competitive team atmosphere much like the one at San Jose State.

"In club [gymnastics], everything's on you," Chan said. "I didn't really have a team, but now there's this added pressure that what I do affects the team. Sure, I win floor and sure, I come third on vault or whatever, but, I want the team to do well."

The move to California found Chan in a flurry of new responsibilities, from living on her own to balancing gymnastics and school.

"It's the little things you have to think about all the time," Chan said on the difficulties that come with being a student-athlete. "On and off I'm thinking, can I do this? Am I strong enough, am I awake enough, did I get enough sleep?"

A typical day for Chan is packed with classes and back-to-back practice, leaving her with little time to spare for much else. Despite the constant travel and problems of a student-athlete, she says many others are in the same boat so it isn't hard to feel connected to people. To Chan, being involved in a team sport gives her a family

away from home.

That strong, familial team atmosphere is something Wayne Wright, the head coach of women's gymnastics, seeks to instill in the athletes.

"One of the things they learn here is that this is bigger than themselves," Wright said. "She's not Taylor the gymnast anymore, she's Taylor the San Jose State gymnast and that carries a lot of weight. We always try to go out and make the university proud of what we do in the athletic department."

The transition from competing as an individual at a club to being on a team brings a whole new experience, Wright explained.

For Chan, that transition has paid off early in the season.

Despite her early season accolades, winning in individual events does not carry as much importance for Chan as being on a solid team does.

Reflecting back on her experience at the NorCal Classic and Sacramento State meets, Chan said winning against other teams was enough to make her happy. However, she would rather want the team to improve on themselves.

"You can tell that gymnastics is one of those things where she just has fun with it and there's not too much pressure," said Madison Loomis, a teammate of Chan's. "In the gym she always tells us, 'just have fun! Sassy and classy.'"

Chan said she is excited to continue this life-changing experience for the rest of her college career, adding that she didn't think she would make it this far.

"I'm a little shy sometimes, but when I'm competing and doing my stuff, I feel good. I'm confident, I'm sassy," Chan said. "In this sport, you work so hard to hit all these routines, you're practicing 24/7. You're practicing mentally and physically, but when it pays off it's like the greatest feeling in the world."

Follow Isabelle on Twitter | @isabelletham



Taylor CHAN



KAVIN MISTRY | THE SPEAR

San Jose State gymnast Taylor Chan concentrates while practicing her vaults in the Spartan gymnastics facility.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Rams' runaway first half buries host Spartans

By DANIEL REEDY
THE SPEAR

Even on home court, San Jose State's women's basketball team was overmatched by the Mountain West Conference's top defense.

The Spartans (6-14, 35 in MWC) lost 68-56 to the visiting Colorado State Rams (15-5, 7-1 in MWC) Wednesday night.

Colorado State's Elin Gustavsson and Ellen Nystrom were dominant. Gustavsson posted a game-high 26 points and pulled down 10 rebounds. Nystrom was just one assist away from triple-double, scoring 17 points and grabbing a game-high 15 rebounds (with nine assists).

Rams' guard Stine Austgulen also finished with 17 points and was deadly from downtown, sinking 5 of 7.

"They were the better team," said San Jose State's head coach Jamie Craighead postgame. "[We] couldn't hit shots from the high post, couldn't hit shots from the three-point line ... I just don't think we were playing."

Colorado State's conference leading defense immobilized the SJSU's offense in the first half. Their commitment to the zone defense proved successful, restricting the Spartans to outside shots and 16.7 percent shooting.

Craighead criticized SJSU's attack for being stagnant and not working to find the gaps in the zone.

As usual, guard Dezz Ramos led the Spartans in scoring but recorded just 17 points — well below her average of 27 points per conference game (22 points per game overall).

SJSU was dreadful in the first two quarters, entering halftime down 43-16. The Rams were on fire, shooting 60 percent in the first half and draining 6 of 9 from three-point range.

The Spartans only scored five

points in the second quarter, and were shutout until there were less than two minutes in the second frame.

Apart from Ramos, the other four starters struggled to score throughout the game, making just 6 of 35. Forward Paris Baird and guard Myzhanique Ladd each missed their four attempts from beyond the arc.

Craighead was unsurprisingly disappointed heading into the locker room, but "challenged [the Spartans'] heart, their passion" and to play better in the second half.

And they did.

SJSU came out much stronger in the second half, and outscored Colorado State 40-25.

After making just 3 of 19 from range, the Spartans were able to hit 5 of 17 in the third and fourth quarters. Forward Hailee Gennett knocked down a pair of threes off the bench.

The Spartans shot 13 of 33 in the second half and it wasn't because the Rams pulled their top players. Each of Colorado State's starters played at least 30 minutes.

Obviously, the 15-point differential wasn't enough to overcome the massive deficit left by the disastrous first half, but Craighead called the second half improvements "something to build on."

The Spartans did win the turnover battle, committing just five turnovers to the Rams' 11.

Additionally, SJSU shot well from the line at 83.3 percent and only gave Colorado State nine free throw opportunities, but the sharp-shooting Rams made each one.

The Spartans will hope to bounce back on the road against the University of Nevada, Las Vegas Rebels (14-6, 5-3 in conference) at 4 p.m. Saturday.



Forward Jasmine Smith (center) is recognized for having scored 1,000 points for her career by SJSU's athletic director Gene Bleymaier Wednesday night.



Spartans' guard Myzhanique Ladd (right) and forward Hailee Gennett (center) strain as Rams' forward Ellen Nystrom grabs the ball — one of Nystrom's game-high 15 rebounds.

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Gift cards are practical yet impersonal



By **PAYJE REDMOND**
STAFF WRITER

The holidays are over, and whether you celebrate Christmas or not, you were bound to experience a gift exchange with a loved one. Among the most dreaded and loved is the classic gift card. We can collectively agree that gift cards are practical yet impersonal.

According to Google Trends, which reveals interest over time, "gift card" was searched the most in December 2015, receiving the highest score on the scale of 100 percent. For December 2016, there was a slight decrease of 2 percent showing

a 98 percent rating of interest over time. Benedicto Llave, department coordinator of the Cesar Chavez Community Action Center, received a gift card to Round Table. "I was happy because I like practical gifts...and I know that Round Table is food," Llave said. "That's been very practical for me as a recent college graduate."

However, Llave does not purchase gift cards for others. "Typically, I don't get gift cards for a friend. I stray away from that now I don't want to encourage materialism," he said.

We know that gift cards are materialistic, wasteful and impersonal. On the other hand, we do have the heartfelt solution of a "do it yourself" (also known as DIY) project. Personally, I can never go wrong with a DIY, and the internet is among the best source for finding simple instructions or great inspiration.

There is almost always a personal satisfaction of knowing you created something using your own hands. For example, SJSU community garden

manager Mark Batcheler grafted a fruit tree, fourth-year art history major Myles Fenton created a six-sided die out of PVC pipe and I put homemade cookie batter in mason jars.

Gift cards are flexible. Literally they are a piece of plastic, but admittedly students and staff often regift the vouchers they have no use for. "Somebody gave me one to Walmart, and I don't buy from Walmart ever," Batcheler said. "I regifted that gift card to someone else."

Although this practice is somewhat shameful, I can't help feeling it's better to regift rather than waste.

Fenton is somewhat of a gatekeeper for "practical plastic." He received over nine gift cards this Christmas alone from places like AMC, Amazon, BevMo and Hot Topic. "In my desk, I have a drawer full of gift cards that sit there and collect dust over time," Fenton said.

The question now is, should I not buy gift cards? Llave said gift cards can be helpful to him because they recognize his likes. He added that giving a gift card can

be thoughtful when you know that person loves a particular establishment.

Batcheler experienced a similar reaction. "The Whole Foods card was really nice because it's really practical, the REI gift card was nicer [and] it was something that I wouldn't have gotten myself," Batcheler said.

Ask a friend, a parent or loved one if they've received a gift card. One if not all will say yes, which goes to show there is no shortage of those gifting gift cards. The National Retail Federation's 2016 consumer survey revealed that 34 percent of people had already purchased their holiday gift cards before Dec. 17, 2016. This percent trumps other gifts like food, jewelry, sports items, computer electronics, etc. Gift cards purchased falls right under clothing at 50 percent and toys at 35 percent.

I can't help but hope the millennials will slow this trend down in exchange for presents of more significance.

Follow Payje on Twitter | @Theyasked



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Classifieds

Sudoku Puzzle

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

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★☆

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

Previous Solutions

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

Dec 8

S	W	E	A	T	G	R	A	T	E	P	A	P			
H	O	O	C	H	R	I	C	E	R	A	L	A			
H	O	N	E	Y	M	O	O	N	E	R	T	I	P		
G	A	I	E	T	S	M	I	T	T	E	N	T	I	N	E
B	L	T	E	S	T	Y	A	W	N	E	R				
O	U	R	S	T	O	P	S	L	O	A	D	S			
S	U	G	A	R	P	L	A	N	T	A	T	I	O	N	
S	T	O	O	D	P	E	O	N	A	R	A	B	L	E	
T	A	R	R	E	D	I	D	A	S	A	T				
A	U	N	T	R	E	A	L	I	S	M					
P	L	E	T	G	O	L	D	E	N	S	Y	R	U	P	
L	E	T	L	O	S	E	R	E	R	A	S	E			
E	R	E	O	P	E	N	S	T	A	P	E	R			

Crossword Puzzle

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13			
14					15						16						
17					18						19						
20											21						
22					23						24			25	26		
27					28				29	30	31			32			
					33	34	35							37			
					38	39					40						
41											42						
43										45				46	47	48	49
50						51					52	53	54		55		
						56					57	58			59		
60	61																
63											64				65		
66											67				68		

- ACROSS**
- 1 Soft "hey, you"
 - 5 Drum kit essential
 - 10 White-tailed raptor
 - 14 Flower associated with Easter
 - 15 Kind of plant or lunch
 - 16 Any animated character
 - 17 Some new dads
 - 20 City in Scotland
 - 21 One with a nest egg?
 - 22 Society page word
 - 23 Tokyo currency
 - 24 Big ___ (WW1 howitzer)
 - 27 Put in harmony
 - 29 Early fur baron of note
 - 32 Dental space?
 - 33 Photo (campaign P.R. events)
 - 36 Relief
 - 38 Some relatives
 - 41 Light bulb thread
 - 42 Pester constantly
 - 43 Anger or cholera
 - 44 "___ porridge hot ..."
 - 46 Account that's way overdrawn?
 - 50 Bee collectible
 - 52 Skim milk trimming
 - 55 Ceremonial ashes receptacle
 - 56 Number of years in a decade
 - 57 Did freezer maintenance
 - 60 One paid to deliver
 - 63 Having no warranty
 - 64 Fill with high spirits
 - 65 High-quality rating
 - 66 Track setting?
 - 67 Like many bathroom floors
 - 68 Sprouted like a weed
- DOWN**
- 1 Midwestern landscape
 - 2 Legendary movie star Poitier
 - 3 Opposite of a neatnik
 - 4 Exhibit a clerical skill
 - 5 It may tingle when one is frightened
 - 6 Nine-day prayer ritual
 - 7 Blows minds
 - 8 Calls the shots?
 - 9 Bit of history
 - 10 Chloroform relative
 - 11 X-ray discoverer
 - 12 Word often with "neither"
 - 13 Some print shop measures
 - 18 Make a valiant effort
 - 19 Russell or Saldana of Hollywood
 - 24 Petty officer on a merchant ship
 - 25 Brinker of the silver skates
 - 26 Suitable for the circumstances
 - 28 Leaves leaving an addiction?
 - 30 Branch offshoots
 - 31 "The ___ of Pooh"
 - 34 Beach in Florida
 - 35 Facial expression of scorn
 - 37 Some Russian fighter jets
 - 38 Address to a king
 - 39 Kind of blanket or eel
 - 40 Evidence that's tough to dispute
 - 41 Shark piece
 - 45 Lacking in physical strength
 - 47 Name on a book jacket
 - 48 Lorne of "Bonanza"
 - 49 Presidential first name, twice
 - 51 Saying little on purpose
 - 53 Combat-ready
 - 54 "Me ___!"
 - 57 Surrealist Salvador
 - 58 Bibliography notation
 - 59 Lonely way to attend prom
 - 60 Forest fluid
 - 61 Olympic jacket letters, for some
 - 62 Come by or acquire

Jokin' Around

Where does the king keep his armies?

Answer: In his sleeves!

Knock Knock

Who's there?

Europe

Europe who?

No ur a poo!

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OPINION

Trump's first days send shockwaves of fear



By **ELIZABETH RODRIGUEZ**
STAFF WRITER

Donald Trump's presidency calls for concern and fear. Trump became the 45th president of the United States, and under his new administration it's clear that it will be profoundly worrisome.

It only took a few moments after Trump was sworn into office to feel the ripple effects of what his new presidency would be like. The White House website was the first thing to be changed.

Under the Obama Administration, the website previously had pages on issues for disabilities, climate change, LGBTQ rights and healthcare. All of which was nonexistent only minutes into Trump's presidency.

It is understandable to make fast changes after a peaceful transition of power. What causes concern is the information that was eliminated because it excludes specific groups of people from obtaining useful information.

Now, if anyone searches for information about disabilities on the new website the only information that is provided is how a person with disabilities can tour the

White House.

By no longer including information about climate change or health care, it makes it seem as if those issues no longer matter. It shows that the American people should not be informed about them.

As novelist George Orwell said, "Political language, is designed to make lies sound truthful and murder respectable, and to give an appearance of solidity to pure wind."

In the hours following Trump's presidency, major cities around the world such as Berlin, London, Sydney, Bethlehem, Manila and Mexico City all protested the president. This was particularly disturbing because other major cities criticized a leader that is not their own, but is now our representation of the United States.

According to the San Jose Mercury News, 25,000 people attended the march in San Jose. It began at city hall and made it's way to the Plaza de Cesar Chavez. State Assembly member Ash Kalra, Santa Clara County Supervisor Cindy Chavez and San Jose Mayor Sam Liccardo were some of the speakers at the march.

On the president's second day in office the most prominent and powerful statement was made. The Women's March was a global movement in which approximately 4.6 million people participated worldwide, according to Democracy Now, compared to the 160,000 that attended the inauguration estimated by Manchester Metropolitan

University in Britain.

"We stand together in solidarity with our partners and children for the protection of our rights, our safety, our health, and our families" according to the march's mission statement. Many of those whom attended the march also used this opportunity to raise awareness on other issues such as LGBTQ rights, immigration rights, affordable healthcare, the environment, religious freedoms and freedom of the press.

The fact that more people participated in the march on Washington than the inauguration is a clear indication that Trump's presidency is clearly not welcome.

On Monday, Trump also took it upon himself to issue his first executive orders. One of the most controversial actions was anti-abortion. This order will prohibit U.S. funding to international organizations which advise families on reproductive healthcare and abortion.

The audacity was Trump being surrounded by eight of his senior staffers, all men making choices on women's reproductive health, because that completely makes sense.

That same day Trump's press secretary Sean Spicer gave his first press conference in which he gave false information about the crowd size that attended the inauguration. "This was the largest audience to ever witness an inauguration, period," he said. Clearly for Trump, this means that false information and lying to the American

people is perfectly fine and acceptable.

Trump advisor Kellyanne Conway tried her best to justify Spicer's comments in an interview with Chuck Todd. "Don't be so overly dramatic about it, Chuck. What ... you're saying it's a falsehood," said Conway. "And they're giving Sean Spicer, our press secretary, gave alternative facts to that."

Once again it's evident that under a Trump presidency lying, saying falsehoods, giving alternative facts, plagiarism and misinforming the public is clearly acceptable.

We all knew that a Trump presidency would mean exclusion, discrimination and alternative facts, but seeing all these ideas turn into actions is extremely unsettling and dangerous. Although we are living in a deeply divided nation, all the marches, protests, public figures voicing their concerns, congressmen who refused to attend the inauguration and strong opposition from the public are all indications that this new administration is clearly unwanted.

For anyone who feels disenfranchised, discriminated or excluded they must remember that work begins at the local level. How long will it take for the American people to begin the process of impeachment before any further damage is done? Use your freedom of speech to impeach and remember that the power of the people is greater than the people in power.

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SPARTUNES FAVORITE SONGS OF 2016

VICENTE SERNA-ESTRADA: PINK + WHITE - FRANK OCEAN

DIANA SAN JUAN: LOVE ON THE BRAIN - RIHANNA

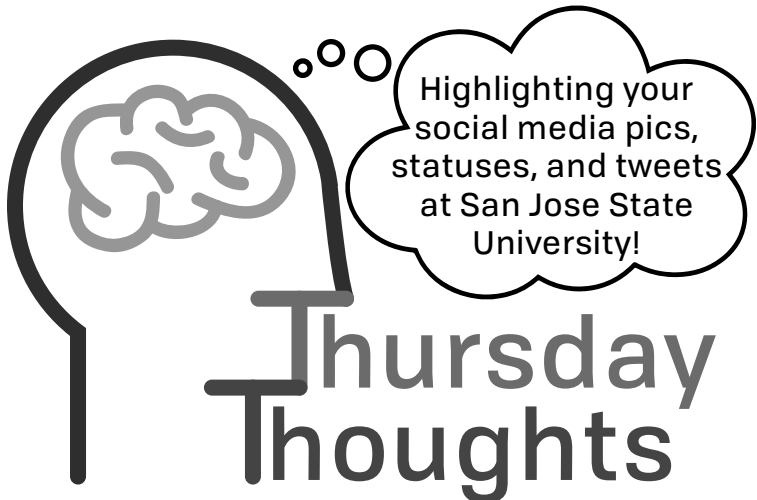
LISA PRINCIPI: ALL WE KNOW - THE CHAINSMOKERS

RYAN BARNHART: BAD AND BOJEE - MIGOS FT. LIL UZI VERT

FRANCISCO FRANCO: SAME DRUGS - CHANCE THE RAPPER FT. JUSTIN BIEBER

KARIANNE SUDYKA: WATER GUNS - TODRICK HALL FT. JORDIN SPARKS

SANDEEP CHANDOK: TOO GOOD - DRAKE FT. RIHANNA



RAIN DROP DROP TOP

Welcome back to school, but wish break didn't have to stop stop

