

Students defy rain, protest budget cuts

Francisco Rendon
Staff Writer

In Thursday's frigid, pouring rain, the sound of banging drums and chanting students rang into classrooms around the school.

"That's the sound of budget cuts," participant Eric Acedo said. "Even with (the rain) and all the cold, people stayed out marching."

The event gave students a forum to speak out against the reduction in services that have already taken place in the CSU system and the proposed cuts from Gov. Jerry Brown in the 2011-12 budget.

Event Coordinator Herlinda Aguirre said the rally, which was organized through the Students for Quality Education, was the first in a series of events on campus designed to engage students in political reductions of offered class sections and increased student fees.

"Education should be affordable, accessible and quality for all students," she said. "I think (CSU administrators) don't care because they don't take into account student opinion."

In a previous interview, Pat Lopes Harris, media relations director for SJSU, said it was unfortunate that services had to be cut and fees raised, but the CSU system has been dealing with a budget shortfall since 2008, and steps had to be taken to address this.

"(The) state budget shortfall is eroding the promise of a higher education to California," Harris said.

"The original idea is that everyone should have access to a higher education and it should be free. By making education more expensive, we're increasing the cost and decreasing accessibility."

Students began gathering around Clark Hall at 10 a.m. and started assembling protest signs.

As the rain began to fall, participants stood in a circle with bucket drums, and



Senior sociology major Joe Tran leads protesters across campus, opposing proposed budget cuts.

Photo: Jesse Jones / Spartan Daily

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Japanese-Americans vow: Remember the internment

Wesley Dugle
Staff Writer

The slow, steady beat of the Taiko drums and fluttering melody of Japanese flutes resonated through the cold air as members of the Japanese-American and San Jose communities solemnly marched through the streets of Japantown with candles in hand Sunday.

It was the 31st "Day of Remembrance" as the Nihonmachi Outreach Committee commemorated the anniversary of Executive Order 9066 that incarcerated Japanese-Americans during World War II and the lessons learned from it on civil

liberties.

"It's not just a Japanese-American story, it's an American story," said Will Kaku, vice chair of the Nihonmachi Outreach Committee. "It challenges us with what it means to be American, what it means to be loyal to this country, what it means to have civil liberties taken away during war times and the parallels are very strong to today's times."

Kaku said the basic purpose of "Day of Remembrance" when it first started was to raise awareness of the Japanese internment among the American public and work toward redress, which would get the United States government to publicly apologize for the breach in their American civil liberties.

"The odds were stacked up against redress but, through education, people finally got in tune with the particular issues," he said. "This was really a big constitutional tragedy that occurred."

Mike Honda, a Democratic congressman of Silicon Valley, spoke during the event and expressed the honor of coming to speak.

"Day of Remembrance" is something I look forward to every year," he said. "It's a mission that we are trying to bring communities together to learn about each other."

Jaycee Chang, an undeclared freshman from

see **JAPANESE** page 2

Artistic makeover in works for construction walls

Students collaborate with professor for mural recreating artist self-portraits on construction walls

Nic Aguon
Staff Writer

The plywood walls blocking off construction near the Student Union won't be so blue anymore.

A collective of art students and Gale Antokal, an associate professor of art and design, hope to illustrate a mural that will captivate students on campus.

The project is a collaboration between the departments of art and art history. Utilizing acrylic paint specifically designed for mural work, she said they plan to create a public mural on campus, transforming the blue walls around the Student Union into a timeline of portrait painters throughout art history.

"We feel this prominent display of colorful

art images will raise the awareness of passing students to the excitement and value of art images in life, and perhaps spark their own creative spirit," Antokal said.

With the project already in motion, students have begun to observe the art illustrated by SJSU's own art students.

"I was so happy to see them actually putting stuff up," said Irene Groethe, a senior industrial design major. "Our campus focuses on diversity, and expressing it through art is awesome."

Antokal said the project will include western art traditions as well as a wider breadth of art history from Eastern and African cultures.

She said the project will recreate 25 to 50 self-portraits on the

walls across from the Music building and walls near Seventh Street. The Dirty Brushes, a student art club, will also be contributing to the project.

Art history students will be devoting their time to the project by doing preparatory work such as priming the walls for paint, researching specific artists and creating a website to showcase the mural, Antokal said.

"The project represents a vital collaboration between the fine arts and art history by giving face to artists past and present," she said.

Antokal said the painters and art history majors are currently in the process of choosing the artists they would like to portray.

see **WALLS** page 2

CORRECTION

- In the story titled "A look inside SJSU baseball," published Thursday, the cutline to the picture identifies an SJSU baseball player as right-handed pitcher Sean Martin, a junior. The player in the picture is freshman Dan Davis, a right-handed pitcher for the Spartans.

WEATHER



High: 56°
Low: 38°

SPORTS, PAGE 3 & 4

SJSU baseball season starts strong with win over St. Mary's
Spartans' bullpen carries team to opening day win.

A&E, PAGE 6

Visual art speaks out against complacency

Art installation comments on people's indifference to their surroundings.



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Understand financial aid options, says counselor

Nate Morotti
Staff Writer

As money-conscious students know, school is expensive.

"A lot of students have the wrong information about financial aid," said Anthony Bettencourt, a counselor from the Financial Aid and Scholarship Office. "We want to make sure that students know how to apply for financial help."

The SJSU Financial Aid and Scholarship Office offered information at a Tuesday seminar to inform students of the do's and don'ts of applying for government-sponsored financial aid.

The first piece of information that students should know about applying for FAFSA is to make sure they go to the right website.

Bettencourt said students should go to

www.fafsa.ed.gov, where they can file their FAFSA free of charge, instead of www.fafsa.com, which is an unofficial site that charges up to \$80 to send in an application.

The mix up is a common and costly mistake, he said.

Bettencourt said applying for federal aid opens different options for students, which include:

- Grants: Free money from the government that does not need to be repaid.
- Student Loans: Money that is given to students with the intent of being repaid upon graduation.
- Scholarships: Free money that is given to students that have specific areas of study.

"I can't stress enough how important it is to apply for financial aid," Bettencourt said. "It is important to know what your options are."

PROTEST From Page 1

sticks.

From there, the group, which Acedo and Aguirre said at one point numbered above 200, proceeded from Clark Hall to the Student Union, the Aquatics Center and eventually outside Tower Hall.

While faculty supported the effort by providing classrooms and encouraging students to attend, Aguirre said the event itself was primarily student driven.

"The whole reason we march is to get campus-wide recognition," she said. "It's showing we have that voice."

During pauses in the march, speakers railed against a 200 percent increase in tuition for CSU students since 2002, saying their education was under attack.

According to the CSU, tuition for undergraduate students has increased by 196 percent since 2002.

Joseph Tran, lead organizer for Students for Quality Education, said the goal of such an event this early in the semester was to make students aware of student activism on campus.

"I just want to bring to light that there is an organization such as ours that is fighting against budget cuts, teacher layoffs, for students, that's working with the faculty," he said. "If they want to do something, the option is on the table."

While attendance fluctuated at times because of the weather, Tran said there were many participants who did show up, including a number of people from the Shrunken Head Man art club.

The event was successful in its goal of engaging

students and letting them know such an organization exists, Acedo said.

"Our main goal was to bring awareness to other students that there is a movement against the cuts to education," he said. "I definitely think we accomplished that."

Acedo said such rallies were important because they provide a medium in which students can stand up for themselves as their situations become increasingly difficult.

"Each semester it seems like my tuition keeps going up," he said. "I am not eligible for financial aid, but I am not wealthy enough so that the budget cuts won't affect me or my family financially. It's making it harder for me to stay in school."

"I just see that education is becoming more of a privilege than a right. Everybody deserves to have that right to education."

THIS DAY IN HISTORY ...



On February 21, 1989
The Spartan Daily reported that ...

Rugby player Mike Piazza (above center) is tackled by a player from Humboldt State as teammate Mike Hutcherson (above left) passes the ball to him. Humboldt won 19-3.

Carlos Delapina, a 19-year-old student, was arrested Feb. 19 by UPD for possessing a martial arts throwing star.

Jennifer Jo Kessler was appointed vice chairwoman for Associated Students over objections from vice chairman Jim Walters, who said he still had three months left in the position.

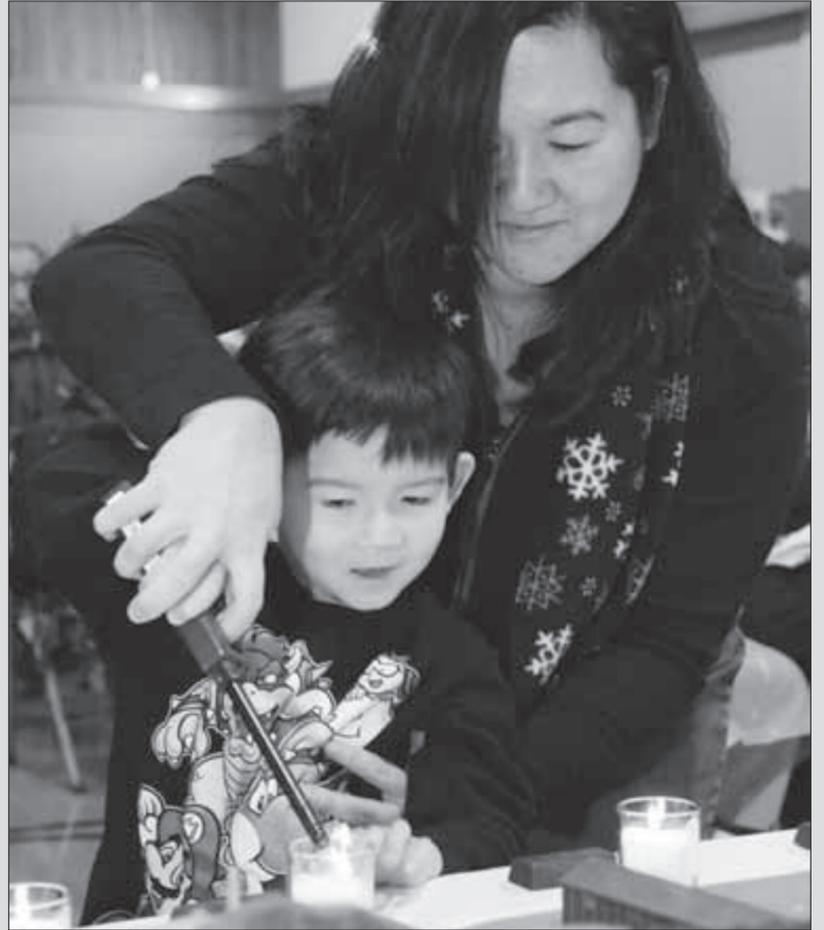


Photo: Donovan Farnham / Spartan Daily

Four-year-old Nicholas Toney and Philly Toney, a hospitality and recreation lecturer for SJSU, light a candle in honor of the Japanese-Americans who were imprisoned in internment camps during World War II at the Day of Remembrance ceremony in San Jose's Japantown on Sunday.

JAPANESE From Page 1

De Anza College who is taking an Asian-American Studies course with her friends, said she understands the significance of the messages involved with "Day of Remembrance."

"It's really important and it's something all people should know about," Chang said. "It's sad though because a lot of people of our generation don't know about it."

Aiko Yamamoto, an 85-year-old Japanese-American who was attending the event with her husband, said she was a young girl when she was interned with her family.

"It was tough," she said. "We (her family) had just lost our mother in '41 and we went to the camps in '42 and those were hard days."

Yamamoto said she has high praise for the current generation and how they are being informed and how people of her generation are finding ways to cope with this event.

"I admire the sanseis (third generation) for being so aware," she said. "I think it's nice for them (her generation) to reminisce and it really helps them heal."

According to the committee's website, this year's theme was "Fighting Against Fear" and had some focus on the Muslim-American community and the prejudices they face.

Zahra Billoo, the execu-

tive director and council on American-Islamic relations in the Bay Area, spoke of the similarities between the past and present.

"Today it is funny that we are remembering Executive Order 9066 in the same light that several provisions of the Patriot Act were renewed and accepted," she said. "It's a modern day version of Executive Order 9066."

Malika Kahn, a board member of the council, said she and the Muslim-American community feel a kinship toward the Japanese-Americans because of what they went through.

"After 9/11 the first people who came to our rescue were the Japanese-Americans," she said. "We feel very close to them because of the hardship they went through."

Kahn said she has a son who worked for the Bush administration as a councilor in the Department of Transportation but still sees prejudice against him today.

"Still today on Sean Hannity and Fox News they question his loyalty," she said.

"My son is not fearful, but it affects his ability to do other things."

The event also saw the illumination of a little-known, but similar, breach of American civil liberties during World War II in the rendition of Japanese-Latin Americans by the U.S. government in exchange for American prisoners of war at the time.

Grace Shimizu, a coordinator for the Campaign for Justice for Japanese-Latin Americans, discussed how her organization has worked to make the community as a whole more aware of what happened.

"We've been educating the public and organizing to secure acknowledgment and an apology by the U.S. government," she said.

She also described how, despite the fact many people already know of the Japanese-American internment, few know of the Japanese-Latin Americans and the injustice done upon them.

"It was a disappointment we were denied inclusion in that redress bill," she said.

"We've been fighting since the days of internment."

One of the final speakers of the evening was Karen Korematsu, daughter of Fred Korematsu, a Japanese-American who won the Japanese-Americans an apology from the U.S. government.

"It's very significant," she said of the "Day of Remembrance." "It shows to the community at large how important this day is to remember and it's wonderful to be a part of this."

Korematsu said the best way to fight fear is to be educated.

"Fear is ignorance," she said. "Discrimination is ignorance, and racial profiling is ignorance. The only way we are going to fight this ignorance is through education."

WALLS From Page 1

"Each portrait will be a painted description that identifies the artist, complemented with a short historical explanation on their identity and place in art history," she said.

Antokal said the art history students plan to create a catalog and brochure for the project. They also plan to post the complete mural on SJSU's department of art and art history websites when it is complete.

"We anticipate all the work on the initial phase of the project to be completed by May 2011, and then to remain on display until the walls are removed," Antokal said. "We also hope to locate a permanent public place for the portraits at that future time."

She said between 25 to 30 students will be involved in painting the actual mural, working on Fridays and weekends when there is less student traffic near the walls. The students hope to resume painting as soon as the rain ends.

Art Professor Leroy Parker said he intends to contribute to the project to make the campus beautiful.

"Everyone who has passed by the progress so far has been thankful and happy," he said.

Although Parker is arranging his own project on certain sections of the construction walls, he said he hopes the paintings will help heal the campus aesthetically.

Art department Chair Brian Taylor is coordinating the project with Cathy Busalacchi, associate vice president of campus life at SJSU.

Antokal said Busalacchi is supporting their creative efforts with funding for the acrylic paint supplies.

Staunch defense spurs Spartans victory

Kyle Szymanski
Senior Staff Writer

A relative sigh was heard across the Event Center on Friday when senior guard Adrian Oliver picked up his second personal foul early in SJSU's game against Weber State.

By the end of the night, the performance of three other players turned the sigh into a sound of excitement as the Spartans picked up a 62-46 win.

Freshman guard Keith Shamburger had 21 points and junior forward Wil Carter added 16 points to go along with 14 points from senior guard Justin Graham as SJSU (13-12, 3-9 in the Western Athletic Conference) picked up its fourth win in six games.

Oliver, who came into the game as the NCAA's second-leading scorer, had a season-low nine points in 20 minutes of play, and was in foul trouble all night.

"When your leading guy goes down, guys have to step up, obviously," Graham said. "I took it upon myself in the first half to be aggressive and look for my shot. I was knocking them down. I just kept with it."

Keyed by stout zone defense, SJSU held Weber State, the nation's fourth-best three-point shooting team, to 23 percent from three-point range.

Weber State's sophomore guard Scott Bamforth, the NCAA's most accurate three-point shooter, was held without a three all night.

"You hold them to 4-for-17, (from three-point range) you are doing something right defensively because they are an elite shooting team in the country," head coach George Nessman said. "When you watch them on film, it just jumps out at you."

Weber State (15-10, 9-4 in the Big Sky Conference) came into the game riding a six-game winning streak, and was held to 34 percent shooting from the field, which is the lowest

field goal percentage against SJSU this season.

The Wildcats set the tone of the game early after they failed to score from the field for the first six minutes of the game, missing their first seven shots.

Junior forward Kyle Bullinger and senior center Trevor Morris were the only players to score in double digits for Weber State — each finished with 10 points.

The Spartans sealed their victory down the stretch by shooting 46 percent from the field and 42 percent from three-point range.

"I thought we had a real solid game," Nessman said. "We had a lot of energy and we shot the three pretty well. I think the big factor was Weber is a great shooting team, and they did not shoot the ball very well to start the game. That really helped us in terms of building our confidence."

SJSU, which never trailed in the game, took an early seven-point lead with 13 minutes to go in the first half before taking a 30-22 lead at halftime.

With Oliver on the bench for 10 minutes in the second half, Shamburger and Carter came alive to put the game away for the Spartans.

Shamburger's free throw with six minutes remaining gave the Spartans a commanding 18-point lead.

Shamburger scored 14 of his 21 points in the second half, and Carter had 12 second-half points and 14 rebounds in the game.

"There will be nights where your team gets in foul trouble," Graham said. "Somebody has to step up, and these guys really did."

Watch the Spartans play their next game against New Mexico State this Wednesday in a Western Athletic Conference match-up. The game is scheduled for 8 p.m. at the SJSU Event Center and will be televised on ESPN2.

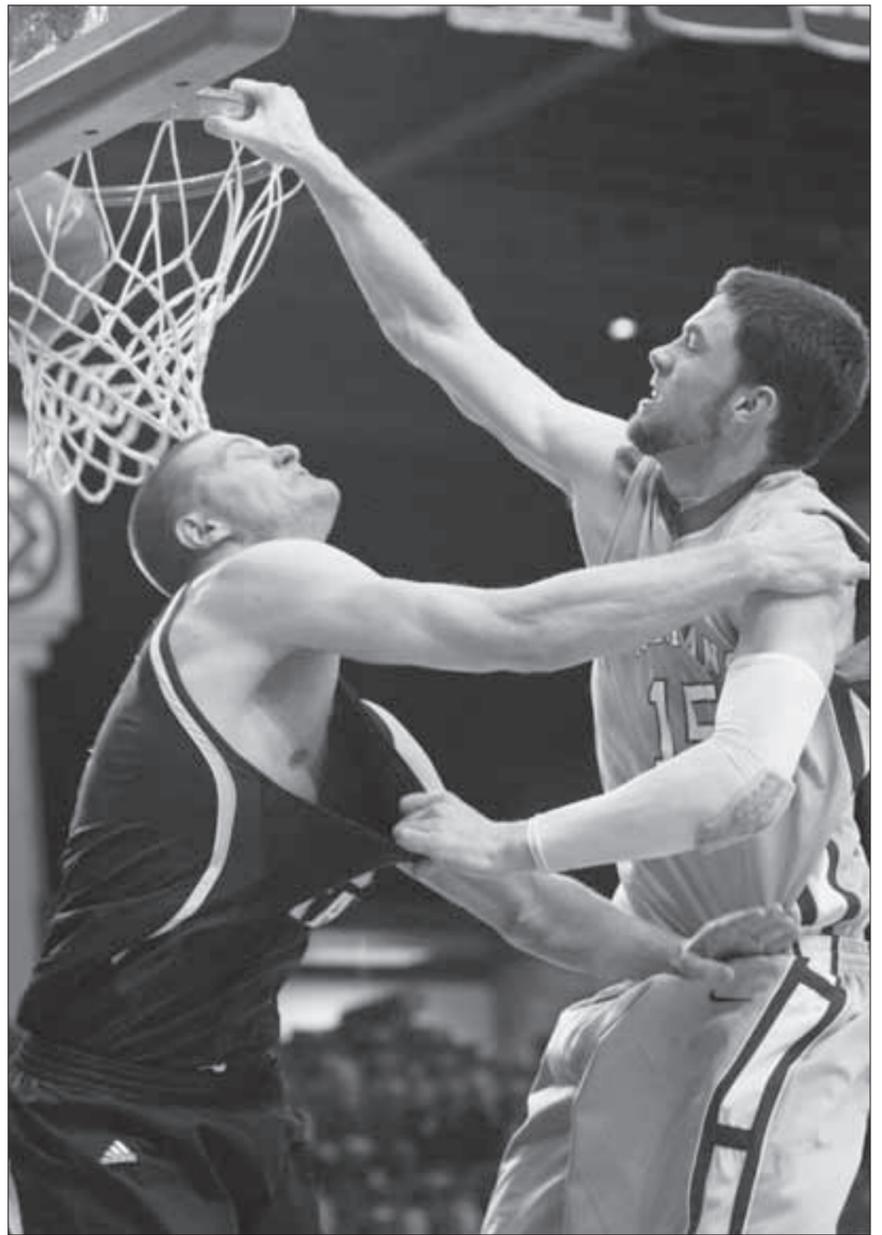


Photo: Vernon McKnight / Spartan Daily

Junior forward Wil Carter drops the ball in over Weber State's Kyle Bullinger during the Spartans' 62-46 win over the Wildcats on Friday.

SJSU sinks to Cal in rematch

Leo Postovoit
Staff Writer

The SJSU water polo team failed at its second shot at UC Berkeley this season, with a final score of 11-6.

Head coach Lou Tully said he saw plenty of differences in the Spartans this second time around.

"We lost this game in the first quarter," Tully said. "We couldn't buy a goal and we gave up four goals to them. We didn't pick people up in front of the cage. We didn't play defense the way we're supposed to play defense in the first quarter, and that basically was the end of the game."

The Spartans previously lost to Cal at the Stanford Invitational on Feb. 5. This time, the team gave up four goals to

the Golden Bears in the first quarter, despite having six six-on-five opportunities to convert.

"We haven't been that bad the whole year on our six-on-fives," Tully said. "We had a lot of kick outs. We had six kick outs in the first quarter — meaning we were up six-on-five. We had extra men. We got nothing out of that, zero."

Team captain Adriana Vogt agreed with Tully's point.

"Six-on-five opportunities are where you win or lose games, and that's a perfect example of the first quarter," Vogt said. "We were having good movement, and I also think we just need to play better defense. When a team scores four goals on you in the first quarter, especially in a water polo game, it's not going to turn out well."

Vogt scored two goals, including a sidebeater in the second half that helped steer momentum back in the Spartans favor.

"We had been running a different offense because we knew what they were running," she said. "They were really good at fronting two meters, and we felt it was better to bring in a different angle."

Despite this job at the Golden Bears' defense, she said ultimately it was some core skills that brought them down.

"They have very strong legs," Vogt said. "They're very good at cutting people off and taking away ball side. They're very fundamentally sound."

She said she was disappointed about not being able to shut down UC Berkeley defenseman Emily Csikos.

"One of our main things

we wanted to do was to shut down No. 4 because she's a good shooter," she said. "That was our game plan and we didn't execute what we had planned on doing."

Vogt said playing through the difficulties is key.

"When you score goals, sometimes that helps momentum go," she said. "You get that goal and you get a stop and then get another goal, and get that two-ace swing. And that can change the momentum of games."

Tully said Cal was pressing

hard, but that he expected it.

"It's something that you should be able to handle and expect," he said.

He noted that starting goalkeeper Meagan Minson wasn't at her best for the game.

"When you allow somebody a point-blank shot at four meters, that's not the goal," he said. "And we were doing that. You'd come down and counter and you'd end up with one or two, three people in front of the cage. That's not Minson. She plays really well, she's one heck of a goalie."

Junior utility player Katie Buzzetta helped soften the blow of the loss, scoring her seventh and eighth goals of the season.

She said she had to help out, as teammates Vogt and junior utility player Dani Curran were under pressure.

"Everyone working together really helped open up people who don't really shoot," Buzzetta said. "When they're pressing out on our main shooters, it forces us to really step it up and really get in there."



Photo: Vernon McKnight / Spartan Daily

Senior Adriana Vogt sets up to score against Cal during the game on Saturday. Vogt scored two goals for the Spartans in the 11-6 loss.

SPARTAN BRIEFS

The following SJSU judo team members took medals in the 63rd annual San Jose Buddhist Judo Tournament, which was held at the SJSU Event Center on Sunday.

- Allison Clifford - 1st in women's minus 78 kg, and 1st in women's open division.
- Kenny Hashimoto - 1st in men's 73 kg.
- Matt Dong - 2nd in men's 60 kg.
- Aivaras Sajus - 2nd in men's 90 kg.
- Colton Brown - 3rd in men's 90 kg.

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BASEBALL

SJSU baseball season starts strong with win over St. Mary's

Ron Gleeson
Staff Writer

The SJSU baseball team started their season off on the right foot Sunday, defeating St. Mary's College by a final score of 5-1 at San Jose Municipal Stadium.

The first two games of the series were scheduled for Friday and Saturday, however the off-season was slightly longer than expected for the Spartans because of rain, which washed out any plans of starting the season on time.

Head coach Sam Piraro said the weather delay that pushed opening day back two days had little effect on how his team played Sunday afternoon.

"I don't know that they could have played any better," he said. "Obviously the weather has prevented us from practicing the past three days, so I was a little concerned maybe our timing might not be good. But I think they dispelled that."

Much like the first game scheduled this season, the Spartan's offense showed up a little later than the team had thought.

The game was scoreless through three innings, with both starting pitchers, Blake McFarland for the Spartans and Mark Anderson from St. Mary's, showing strong confidence early in their outings.

Anderson, however, was taken out after only three innings of work.

"Anderson is an excellent pitcher for St. Mary's," Piraro said. "He had a good change-up and a sneaky fastball and he only went three innings. So, I think if we saw him another time around the lineup we would have done better."

The Spartans did not get their first hit until the third inning, when junior catcher Michael Di Rocco almost took off Anderson's head with a screaming line drive right up the middle, which was knocked down by Anderson.

The game's first run came in the fourth inning by Gaels' right-fielder Brenden Kalfus after he turned a pitch from McFarland into a slow-rolling groundball back up the middle past diving infielders into center field, as the Gaels' senior designated hitter Justin Fazio crossed home plate.

After one inning of perfect relief, Gaels' pitcher Kyle Barraclough gave into the Spartans' offensive struggles as he gave up a double to senior shortstop Nick Borg.



Photo: Vernon McKnight / Spartan Daily

Junior pitcher Roberto Padilla lobs the ball during the Spartans' 5-1 win over the St. Mary's Gaels on Sunday. Padilla allowed only three hits and one walk and struck out six Gaels during his 4 and 2/3 innings.

The Spartans' break came shortly after the double by Borg when junior second baseman Michael Reiling scorched a ground ball between the legs of Gaels' third baseman Patrick Wisdom and into left field, scoring Borg.

Piraro said the error was "big" and the first run is always welcomed, no matter how it arrives.

"It gave us a chance to tie the game," he said. "The first run of the game is always the toughest run to get. They made a mistake, we tied it, and it gave us a shot in the arm and we ran with it."

SJSU scored again in the fifth after a double by sophomore left fielder Craig Hertler, replacing Reiling who was standing on second fol-

lowing the error by Wisdom.

"I was looking to be aggressive," Hertler said. "I got into a two-strike approach, and I wanted to put the ball in play. He left a change-up up in the zone and I got a good piece of it and sent it into the gap for the RBI."

McFarland was replaced with one out in the fifth inning by junior Roberto Padilla, who put it in cruise control and allowed only three hits and one walk while striking out six Gaels hitters through 4 and 2/3 innings.

"Blake threw to his pitch count, and my job was to throw to mine and finish the game," Padilla said. "That was the goal of the game and it

ended up happening."

Padilla said he is normally a starting pitcher, however the rain delay caused Piraro to change things up.

"We did what coach thought best," he said.

The longest ball hit during the game came off the bat of sophomore right fielder Tim Quiery, who sent a pitch from Barraclough deep into right field. However, it came up short of the wall and was caught on the warning track.

"I got into it pretty well," Quiery said. "I thought it had a chance to get out or hit off the wall, but it didn't. All you can do is hit the ball harder."

Quiery said he could tell some difference in the flight of the ball with the new graphite bats that are now under NCAA regulation.

Immediately following the out by Quiery, senior first baseman Danny Stienstra sent a ball low off the left-field wall, ending in a stand-up double.

After a walk to sophomore third-baseman Tyler Christian, Borg drove Stienstra in with a single up the middle. Christian and Stienstra were then driven home by a two-run double from junior catcher Michael Di Rocco.

Following the end of the fifth inning, the Spartans were up 5-1, which would prove to be enough for the winning score behind a solid outing in relief by Padilla.

"I take each outing one by one," he said. "My goal is to give my team a chance to win in any given situation."

Padilla finished the game on the mound for the Spartans and earned the win after allowing one runner in the seventh and striking out four of the last six batters he faced.

Piraro said the game thrown by Padilla was good, especially against the kind of quality squad that St. Mary's brings to the field.

"They are a very disciplined team," he said. "But Padilla had great tempo. His curveball made them chase and that is credit to him."

Piraro said the win Sunday will only do good things to the Spartans' confidence and team morale.

"Opening day is basically a validation of all our practice," he said. "These guys have been working pretty hard, so when you win the first game it shows proof of all the work they put in."

The Spartans will attempt to continue their early success today against St. Mary's in Moraga, Calif., which was rescheduled from Saturday's rain-out.

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TODAY'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

- Chase (10)
- Slack (6)
- Joey (6)
- Green (4)
- Money (6)
- Des (6)
- Slaw (6)
- Van (6)
- Eye (6)
- Al (6)
- W (6)
- Sign (6)
- Physical (6)
- Big (6)
- Mex (6)
- Con (6)
- W (6)
- Bar (6)
- NASA (6)
- Part (6)
- Wife (6)
- Disc (6)
- Notice (6)
- Over (6)
- Male (6)
- Film (6)
- Alan (6)
- Murray (6)
- Dark (6)
- Winter (6)
- How (6)
- Senior (6)
- Res (6)
- Pow (6)
- Blind (6)
- Level (6)
- Pre (6)
- Shooting (6)
- Dry (6)
- That (6)
- Judge (6)

PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED

DOWN

- West (6)
- Knew (6)
- Wood (6)
- Impe (6)
- Right (6)
- Three (6)
- Touch (6)
- Fury (6)
- Work (6)
- For (6)
- Smig (6)
- Peas (6)
- Criss (6)
- Dis (6)
- Part (6)
- and (6)
- Foot (6)
- How (6)
- Qu (6)
- Spain (6)
- Cr (6)
- LV (6)
- Peas (6)
- Speed (6)
- Put (6)
- Cr (6)
- Kar (6)
- Wan (6)
- Young (6)
- Sp (6)
- Dan (6)
- How (6)
- Str (6)
- L (6)
- Jam (6)
- How (6)
- 17 (6)
- to (6)
- Down (6)
- AMA (6)



The struggle to define online privacy

Pennsylvania high school English teacher Natalie Monroe was suspended Wednesday for posting rants about her students and colleagues on her blog.

She described her students with some choice words such as “rat-like,” “frightfully dim” and “a complete and utter jerk in all ways.”

In a post from Monroe’s recently deleted blog titled “Where are we going, and why are we in this handbasket?” she wrote:

“My students are out of control. They are rude, disengaged, lazy whiners. They curse, discuss drugs, talk back, argue for grades, complain about everything, fancy themselves entitled to whatever they desire, and are just generally annoying.”

On this blog, Monroe was careful not to mention names but made one fatal mistake: she used “Natalie M” as her user-name and posted a picture of herself as her user profile picture — a mistake that is cringe-inducing to anyone familiar with how the Internet works.

Sure enough, her blog was found by a student and Monroe learned the hard way that any content posted online and made available to the public can be found and used against its creator.

Monroe’s story is nothing new. Every month there is a story about a teacher or a politician getting into hot water over something they posted on Facebook, Twitter or any number of social networking websites.

A few weeks before Monroe’s story became international news, Ashley Payne, a 24-year-old teacher from Apalachee High School in Georgia, was fired for posting a picture on Facebook of herself holding a glass of wine and a mug of beer.

Many tech-savvy college students would say that she would have been perfectly safe if she enabled all of her privacy settings on Facebook, which only allows access to those who are granted permission.

Here is the scary part: according to CBS News, Payne had enabled all of her privacy settings so that only her friends could see the contents of her page, but someone still reported her.

Payne’s mistake is made by most social-networking site users: never trust anyone with content that is meant to be private. As soon as content is shared with a single individual online, you have no control over where it will end up.

While Payne and Monroe’s stories are similar on the sur-



Eric Austin
Staff Writer

face, there are key differences which need to be taken into account.

In Monroe’s story, she posted rants on a blog that was available to the entire World Wide Web. This is the online equivalent of posting a sign on a freeway.

In Payne’s story, she posted her alcohol-laden pictures to a private page on a social networking site that should only have been seen by those she allows, which is the online equivalent of handing out copies of pictures to friends.

In Monroe’s case, the school board made the correct decision in suspending her. Her rants were personal, insulting and public. All it took was for a student to find it and post it on Facebook, in which case she might as well have handed out copies of her blog posts in class.

Even if her descriptions were accurate, I cannot imagine a scenario where telling her students they are “rat-like” or “a complete and utter jerk in all ways” could improve the situation.

As for Payne’s firing, this was the incorrect response by the school board. She took measures to ensure that those pictures would not become public and her students could not see her pictures unless she “friended” them on Facebook.

Even though private content has a tendency to leak out and become otherwise, the initial intent of privacy should be recognized, and the privacy rights of the individual need to be taken into account.

Would this case be different if she had the same pictures in her home and someone broke in, found them and then reported her for having them? Of course it would.

The bottom line is that privacy is a highly-prized commodity that is not easy to achieve, but being aware of how hard it is to maintain is a good first step toward protecting it. Remember never to use your name or photo when posting about your boss, colleagues or students.

It could come back to haunt you.

Borders bookstores abridged

I’m a total bookworm.

I have a veritable Library of Congress going on in my house. I’m particularly guilty of hoarding the science fiction and fantasy books that I gladly shell out my hard-earned dollars on.

I was understandably taken aback when I heard that Borders stores were closing. I immediately thought that meant the national “borderers” to Canada and Mexico would be tightening up in some kind of improbable conservative super-coup.

No, the national border lines are still operating as usual — it happens to be my favorite book retailer.

On Wednesday, when I checked my e-mail account, there was something other than the usual Borders missive loaded with coupons and purchase suggestions. Instead, there was a rather flowery message pushing solidarity from Mike Edwards, president and CEO of Borders, Inc.

It opened well enough, going on about how for generations Borders stores have been “beacons of enlightenment and education, where readers young and old can explore their passions and find that special book that speaks to them personally.” They claim to want to remain a “best-in-class book seller” and that they will strive to do so.

The rest of the message is pretty predictable, blaming the economy and the “rapidly changing retailing environment for books and related products” for their woes. Here comes Chapter 11, one of my least favorite chapters.

Okay, I get that, but I also know that they severed their ties with Amazon.com a few years ago and have been getting a shellacking in the online space for some time.

The issue is that online retailers have been cannibalizing the sales of conventional stores for years, and the trend isn’t changing. The smart businesses roll with the punches, offering the most robust online shopping experiences possible.

That’s what rival Barnes & Noble did, and they even compete directly with Amazon. They have a solid network of physical stores, a full online retail site and even their own e-reader called



Matt Young
Staff Writer

the “Nook,” which is the counterpart to the Amazon Kindle.

I’ll admit to shopping at both Borders and Barnes & Noble stores, and even have the premium cards for both retailers. But it was Borders that won out over the last few years because of its frequent coupons.

Those coupons, from 25 percent off all the way up to the rare 50 percent off, arrived in my inbox like packages from Santa.

I timed my purchases to the better coupons, and felt like quite a deal hunter when I knew how much I’d saved.

I feel like my world is narrowing as Borders moves to shut down my favorite stores. All the convenient locations near me are on the chopping block.

Maybe it’s partially my fault. Maybe my thriftiness robbed the chain of needed money.

Whether more people are reading digital copies of books, magazines and newspapers, there should always be a physical space for people to get the sensory experience of picking up books and feeling their weight, smelling that new-book smell and chatting with people face-to-face about their favorite titles.

There’s a sense of detachment for me when I read digital content. I like picking up old dog-eared books for the next read-through.

Perhaps that’s just because I experienced media different from the way the kids do today.

Maybe there will still be anachronisms in the digital space, like highlighting passages, writing notes in virtual margins and looking at mock-up covers complete with titles on spines.

After all, they have leather covers for the e-readers.

Hopefully Borders will survive. Maybe Barnes & Noble will get the memo as well and tighten up its stores.

I suppose I’ll get over it eventually. I might even drive a little to get to the nearest store, if the chain survives and the coupon is big enough.

On the bright side, I guess I can hoard books during the inevitable clearance sales.

Our constant addiction to nonsense

What did Lady Gaga wear to what again? Will Lindsay Lohan ever be able to get her act together? Kanye said what? And oh, poor Jennifer Aniston got dumped ... again?

This is the chatter that passes for news these days.

It’s the gossip peddled by the windbags on the airwaves, the noise that drowns out rational discourse. The timidity and cowardice of what is left of the newspaper industry reflects our flight into collective ignorance.

We stand on the cusp of one of the most seismic and disturbing dislocations in human history, one that is radically reconfiguring our economy as it is the environment, and our obsessions revolve around the trivial and the absurd.

What really matters in our lives — the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, the steady deterioration of the dollar, the mounting foreclosures, the climbing unemployment, the melting of the polar ice caps and the awful reality that once the billions in stimulus money run out we will be bereft and broke — doesn’t fit into the cheerful happy talk that we mainline into our brains.

We are enraptured by the revels of a dying civilization.

Once reality shatters the airy edifice, we will scream and yell like petulant children to be rescued, saved and restored to comfort and complacency.

Celebrity worship has banished the real from public discourse.

And the adulation of celebrity is pervasive. The frenzy around political messiahs, or the devotion of millions of viewers

to television divas, is all part of the yearning to see ourselves in those we worship.

We seek to be like them. We seek to make them like us.

We yearn to stand before the camera, to be noticed and admired. We build pages on social networking websites devoted to presenting our image to the world.

We seek to control what and how others think of us.

Our society has come to define our worth solely by our visibility. We live in a world where not to be seen, in some sense, is to not exist.

The route to happiness is bound up in how skillfully we present ourselves to the world.

We not only have to conform to the dictates of this manufactured vision, but we also have to project an aura of unflagging optimism and happiness.

The American oligarchy — one percent of whom control more wealth than the bottom 90 percent combined — are the characters we most envy.

This glittering life is held before us like a beacon. This life, we are told, is the most desirable, the most gratifying.

“Greed is good” goes the mantra and we exist pinning our hopes on the notion that we will one day be part of the elite.

The working class, comprising tens of millions of struggling Americans just like us, are locked out of television’s gated community.

They are mocked, even as they are tantalized, by the lives of excess they watch on the screen in their living rooms.

Almost none of us will ever live these lives of wealth and power.

Yet we are told that if we want it badly enough, if we believe sufficiently in ourselves, we too can have everything.

We consume these countless lies daily. We believe the false promises that if we spend more money, if we buy this brand or that product, if we vote for this candidate, we will be respected, envied, powerful, loved and protected.

The flamboyant lives of celebrities and the outrageous characters on television, movies and sensational talk shows are peddled to us, promising to fill up the emptiness in our own lives.

Celebrity culture encourages everyone to think of themselves as potential celebrities. Possessing unique, if unacknowledged, gifts. Faith in ourselves, in a world of make-believe, is more important than reality.

The illusionists who shape our culture, and who profit from our incredulity, hold up the gilded cult of us.

We are told that all of us, by tapping into our inner reserves of personal will and undiscovered talent, by visualizing what we want, can achieve, and deserve to achieve, happiness, fame and success.

This relentless message cuts across ideological lines and has seeped into every aspect of our lives.

Because of this self-absorption and deep self-delusion, we have become a country of child-like adults who speak and think in the inane gibberish of popular culture.

We are already paying a heavy price for this and we will continue to do so as long as we have an obsession for the trivial.

“On the Contrary” is a weekly column appearing on Mondays. Salman Haqqi is the Spartan Daily Executive Editor.



Salman Haqqi
On the Contrary

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■ GALLERY VIEWING

Visual art speaks out against complacency

Anastasia Crosson
Staff Writer

If you don't usually make it out to the Art building to view the weekly student exhibitions held there, Morgan Chivers has a message for you: You should.

Chivers is a current exhibitor whose decade-long student career at SJSU led him to pursue a bachelor's in fine arts, photography and spatial arts.

Currently applying his studies in spatial arts, Chivers said he hopes his installation now on display in Gallery 5 of the Art building will communicate an even greater message.

Yet, he let the pieces speak for themselves.

A worn, green, wooden-handled broom was suspended from the gallery ceiling to meet the upturned corner of a rug, as if to sweep something under it.

A magnifying glass, still wrapped in its plastic packaging, hung from a single screw on an adjacent wall.

With a rug, broom and magnifying glass, Chivers hoped to tap into the consciousness of his audience and convince

them to look closer, he said.

Though in the dimly lit Gallery 5, viewers didn't look closer. Instead, they did exactly the opposite.

A single floodlight was set up above the rug which laid center stage of the small "gallery" — a room no bigger than an average-sized bedroom.

Dozens of people entered the gallery, walked around the carpet, looked at the magnifying glass and, with a satisfied smile toward the artist, asked Chivers what the exhibit was all about.

With that, he returned a satisfied smile that he had made his point.

"We use the tool of ignoring things more often than the tool to investigate," Chivers said.

The broom, then, was the tool of ignoring while the magnifying glass was a tool to "look closer," he said.

This also explained the suspended broom as an allusion to sweeping something under the rug.

Through the exhibit, Chivers expressed the notion that people are too often passive and dismissive about problems, political, social, personal or otherwise.

Rather than taking action, people grow complacent and

choose to sweep problems under the rug than actually look at them and create a solution.

Instead of picking up the magnifying glass and walking across the rug to look closer, we walk around it and ask "What's the point?"

"It's not that people don't have good ideas, it's just easier not to do something," Chivers said.

Having a closer look is the theme of the exhibition, though Chivers has not given this piece an actual title.

Current global events would point you to the civil uprising in Egypt, which Chivers said he had in mind when creating the piece.

The Internet played an integral role in organizing a protest movement in the country.

In this way, Chivers said he believes the Internet to be a tool of examining and looking closer.

"But, the Internet doesn't just have one face," he said.

Instead he explained that it is a double-edged sword.

"You can use a rolling pin to make pasta to feed your family, or you can hit someone over the head with it," Chivers said.

In other words, the Internet can be used to accomplish



Photo: Vernon McKnight / Spartan Daily

Morgan Chivers' three-piece visual artwork was featured in Gallery 5 of the Art building.

change or it can be a tool for diverting one's attention from anything worth changing.

Chivers said his work is most often influenced by "peripheral experiences" such as the news he has heard of Egypt's current political and social climate.

Other experiences include courses he has taken "for fun" at SJSU.

It was his nature photography course led by Don An-

throp that influenced him to pursue art in 2004.

Now, seven years later, Chivers has nine exhibitions in his repertoire.

This artist said his early work was "laughable," but the experience has "come full circle" with his first exhibition and now his last both held in Gallery 5.

"It's a great opportunity for people to come (into the art program), and grow as an

artist," Chivers said.

He added that he hopes future students will have the same opportunities.

"With budget cuts, students are beginning to be treated like commodities," he said.

Upon graduation this summer, Chivers has plans to possibly enroll in graduate school and continue to create art that he hopes will be "a positive catalyst."

■ ALBUM REVIEW

Radiohead's 'The King Of Limbs' strikes typically eccentric note



Salman Haqqi
Executive Editor

If the past has taught us anything, it's that above all else, Radiohead revels in playing against type.

They are a band which has wrung beauty from alienation for more than a decade.

It's written in their discography — excluding the conjoined twins that were *Kid A* and *Amnesiac* — each of their albums constitutes a heroic effort to debunk those that came before it.

Hail to the Thief was a revelation, representing the band's full-circle digestion and synthesis of the sounds and methods they first toyed with on *OK Computer*.

Their last effort, *In Rainbows*, was a different kind of Radiohead record. Liberated from their self-imposed pressure to innovate, they sounded — for the first time in ages — user-friendly.

From its pay-as-you-wish, set-the-industry-ablaze rush release to its scattershot sonics — all clicky drum tracks, doomy guitars and keening electronics — it was exactly the kind of thing you'd expect from arguably the most mercurial band on the planet.

Radiohead has somehow beaten down a path between the expectations of their fans and the abyss of absolute freedom.

And they've done it again.

While *In Rainbows* was an experience, a journey into the cerebrum of Radiohead, *The King of Limbs* is a quick, percussive, in-your-face blast of odd beats, plaintive melodies and succinct soundscapes.

The hand of Thom Yorke, the incorrigible

contrarian, is evident everywhere, especially in the frenetic melody and shamanistic machine beat that kicks off "Bloom."

Once you've effectively been told to sit up straight and listen, everything is played out around rhythm that resembles a sectioned patient trying to escape a straitjacket.

It is reliably unorthodox, a new sonic adventure for the restless Oxford quintet, but despite its boldness and weirdness, the album is easy on the ear, with a mellifluous melodiousness and gentle palette that doesn't demand huge leaps of faith.

Percussive, groovy, spacious, ethereal and melodic, this is late night Radiohead with a twist of lime — a stoned, somnambulistic wander through urban wastelands.

Taking the gentle intimacy of Radiohead classics like "No Surprises" and "Fake Plastic Trees" and cross-pollinating them with elements of world music, jazz and ambient, the result is the kind of chill-out music that keeps you awake.

Highly strung and instinctively contrary, but also deeply harmonically musical, Radiohead somehow finds a space between the sinister and the beautiful, the tense and the meditative.

They remain the masters of musical di-

chotomy.

The King of Limbs' percussive undertow, constructed on nervous, skittery rhythms, draw on North African and jazz roots, chopped and skewed by computer-era cut and paste sensibilities.

They seem to have made a conscious decision to bury the

guitar work of Jonny Greenwood and Ed O'Brien deep in the mix, slowly building steam on a pastiche of wavy electronic pulses.

The drum work of Phil Selway and the ominous bass playing of Colin Greenwood are especially evident on "Morning Mr. Magpie" and the roiling, dank "Little by Little."

The guitars never really show up and, to the best of my knowledge, there's not a single solo on the whole album — or when they do, they're of the ringing acoustic type such as the genuinely pretty "Give Up the Ghost."

Thom Yorke's vocals float with sweet tunefulness. He has always been a mumbler, preferring a kind of impressionistic suggestion of a lyric, where key lines shift into focus then disappear, sucked back into the band's abstractions.

This can be deliberately disconcerting, but there is something about his tender set-to and reassuring phrases such as "I'll set you free / No one gets hurt" that suggest succor rather than dystopian paranoia.

The slowly decaying guitars and pitter-pat drums on "Separator" work hard at creating a mood. One that is part amniotic, part pastoral, yet all washed over in a gauzy, dreamlike haze.

It is not an immediately gratifying listen, and it most certainly does not rock. Rather, *The King of Limbs* reveals itself to you gradually, in layers, at its own deliberate pace.

Clocking in at 37 minutes, it feels like a small record and I suspect that it's meant to. Not necessarily unsatisfying, just ephemeral and slippery.

Listen once and you're unsure. Listen twice and you know that three minutes in, a plangent pounding piano will lead you out into a snow blind crescendo of melodic light and you're excited before you even get there.

How does it rank alongside other Radiohead albums? It's far too early to tell.

Listening to a new Radiohead album is much like embarking on a new relationship — it's too soon to know the role it will go on to play in your life.

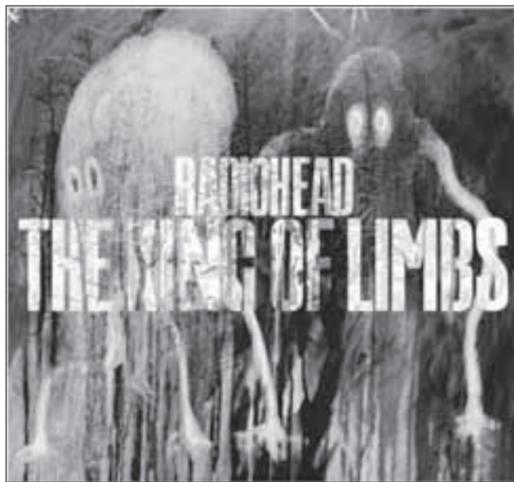


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"The King Of Limbs" was released on Friday.

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