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Spartan Daily (October 25, 2010)

San Jose State University, School of Journalism and Mass Communications

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Symphonic bands
perform music from
the 1800s
SEE PAGE 4



OPINION
America's Middle Eastern
policy: A tragic story of
misadventure
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SPARTAN DAILY

Serving San José State University since 1934

Monday, October 25, 2010

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OUTSIDE



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SJSU begins public donor campaign

School of nursing receives \$5 million at opening gala

ERIC VAN SUSTEREN
Executive Editor

To initiate the public phase of the first-ever public fundraising campaign in its 153-year history, SJSU hosted a gala Thursday night in which the school of nursing received a \$5 million donation.

The campaign, titled "Acceleration," has been in effect in its quiet phase for the past four years, raising \$129 million, said Interim President Don Kassing.

"If you look at our fundraising efforts in the 1990s and early 2000s, a good year was \$10 or \$12 million and some years it was \$6 or \$7 million," he said. "We raised \$130 million in four years at a rate of about \$35 million a year. There's just extraordinary promise in capital campaigns."

The goal of the campaign is to raise a total of \$200 million by 2014 through donations from private companies, individuals and organizations, said campaign chairwoman Cindy Lazares.

"It's ambitious, however it's achievable," she said at the gala in the Event Center. "The university has been around for 150 years and never tried something of this capacity."

The Valley Foundation, a nonprofit organization that supports health care and medicine in Santa Clara County, made the first official donation of Acceleration's public phase with a \$5 million gift commitment to the school of nursing, Kassing said.

In honor of this donation and \$3.5 million in past gifts, he said the school of nursing will be renamed "The Valley Foundation School of Nursing."

SJSU privately received gifts from several major donors during the quiet phase. The public campaign, however, will seek gifts from major and minor corporations publicly, Kassing said.

Though SJSU faces budget cuts, decreased

See **DONOR** Page 3

Spartans fail to bite back against Bulldogs



PHOTO: STEFAN ARMUO | CONTRIBUTOR

SJSU's Tiuke Tuipulotu takes down Fresno State's Robbie Rouse during the game on Saturday.

For full story see **SPORTS** Page 6

Sorority takes steps to combat breast cancer



PHOTO: KELSEY HILARIO | SPARTAN DAILY

Laura-Nicole Romero, Kristin Perez and Mary Do walk during the American Cancer Society's Making Strides Against Breast Cancer event Saturday.

KELSEY HILARIO
Staff Writer

The ladies of Delta Zeta sorority were among the 20,000 people who walked against breast cancer Saturday morning, said an organizer of the event.

It was a cold, wet morning, but that did not stop 65 girls from making the trip from San Jose to San Francisco to participate in the American Cancer Society's Making Strides Against Breast Cancer event, said Ashley Wilkins, the Delta Zeta philanthropic chairwoman.

Registration began at 8 a.m. at Speedway Meadow in Golden Gate Park and the five-mile race ended there as well.

Senior hospitality major Amelia Giusti, the president of Delta Zeta, said the sorority has participated in the event for the last 10 years.

"It is something that we enjoy doing together," she said. "It is part of our sisterhood retreat and we feel as an organization of women it is important to focus on issues that can affect us later in life and other women around us."

The event had a stage with live music, speeches by American Cancer Society leaders, activities for kids, a memorabilia shop and a tent with refreshments for the walkers in addition to other activities.

Volunteers posted around the route cheered on walkers as they passed.

Ashley Budd, a senior liberal studies major, said she has walked during the last four years and enjoys showing her support with her sisters.

"When I am an alumni I want to make a group for Delta Zeta for our alumni to continue to participate in it because I feel that it is a really important cause for us to take part in," she said.

Erica Spratt, a senior illustration and animation major, said she loves sisterhood and bonding with her sisters while giving back to a good cause.

"It was a really great way to raise awareness for the cause and it was also great to see our funding for it grow and grow and grow," she said. "I think it is something I am going to continue to give back to."

Both Budd and Spratt said they have had to deal with breast cancer on a personal level.

They both said they have had an aunt diagnosed with the disease.

"About two years ago one of my closest aunts was diagnosed with breast cancer," Budd said. "For me it is about more than just donating and giving awareness but showing the support."

According to Delta Zeta's team website they raised \$1,825.

The website listed 17 other teams from SJSU that participated in the walk and in the past two years SJSU has raised \$18,000 to help fight breast cancer.

See **CANCER** Page 2

Students 'Ride' to tout alternative transportation



PHOTO: JACK BARNWELL | CONTRIBUTOR

Undeclared freshman Ryan DiBase has his skateboard autographed by professional skateboarder and writer Steve Caballero during the "Ride to School" event Thursday.

CALLI PEREZ

Staff Writer

The grill was lit Thursday at the Associated Students Barbecue Pits for the SJSU "Ride to School Day."

The event was held from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. and students who rode alternative, human-powered transportation were allowed to enjoy a free meal, bike tune-ups, bike-lock exchange, a raffle and a skate contest judged by professional skateboarder Steve Caballero.

"I am here to promote the fundraiser — 'Ride to School' — that they have been having every year," Caballero said. "I guess this is the first year that they have skateboarding. So I am a local professional skateboarder here in town, so Will Wilson, one of the organizers, asked me to be part of the event."

Caballero said they held a skateboard contest and gave away some prizes.

"Just making people aware of some transportation that has to do with wheels," he said. "Either two wheels or four."

David Escalante, a senior art education major, said he rode his skateboard to school.

"We just wanted to pro-

mote people to start riding bikes and cut off on all the gasoline," Escalante said. "We have a legendary pro skater here and they gave us a bunch of free stuff to give out for the raffle, so it is just \$1 to donate to the ERC to keep events like this going on on campus."

Undeclared freshman Michael Vozenesky said he was there for the free food.

"I commute, so I have to drive to school," he said.

Jason Chow, a senior justice studies major, said he was there to get his bicycle fixed.

"It was a good experience for me," he said. "I mean, I have done it before and I got my bike from the people here today. They did a good job on it."

Loren Lewis, the sustainability project coordinator for the Office of the President's sustainability initiative at SJSU, said he was there to work with the ERC and showcase the "Green Wave Project."

"(The Green Wave Project) is the campuswide initiative of the sustainability office for this year, which is to train a team of about 100 to 150 San Jose State students, grad students, undergrads, to do home energy audits," Lewis said. "These en-

ergy audits can be done in homes, apartments, dorm rooms and offices."

He said the project is targeted mainly toward the SJSU community, but also

“We just wanted to promote people to start riding bikes and cut off on all the gasoline.”

DAVID ESCALANTE
Senior art education major

to anybody who is a San Jose resident.

Senior Eamon Vandaei and freshman Henna Sayah, both biology majors, said they were present to pro-

mote awareness of Proposition 23.

"We are here to help save the environment by informing the people about Prop 23 and what it can do to the environment," Sayah said.

She said California has clean energy laws that were put in place by Assembly Bill 32 four years ago.

According to the California government website, AB 32 is the Global Warming Solutions Act, which set the 2020 greenhouse gas emissions reduction goal into law.

"The oil companies don't like that, so they got Prop 23 on the ballot," Sayah said. "If Prop 23 passes, it overrides AB 32 until the unemployment rate is below 5.5 percent for four consecutive quarters, but that has only happened three times in the last 50 years so it is more of a permanent thing."

Vandaei said he agrees on voting no on Prop 23.

"California is the leading state in clean energy in the United States, so what happens in California will be a model for the entire United States and by extension the world," he said.

Pancake event serves students global flavors

CALLI PEREZ

Staff Writer

The International House, not to be confused with the International House of Pancakes, held a pancake breakfast Sunday.

"It is an international traditional celebration with international students from the I-House organized for the public with many cultural performances," said Ferdinand Drechsel, a junior industrial design major from Germany.

The event was held from 9:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and a \$10 general admission ticket included three buffets with cuisines from German, American and Asian cultures.

"The pancake breakfast of the International House was started in 1983 by some of our alumni that were here right now and we have been doing it every single semester since then," said Leann Cherkasky Makhni, director of the I-House. "It is an event in which we invite the community to come in and experience the I-House and to meet our residents."

She said the pancake breakfast was put on by the residents of the I-House.

"Everybody dresses in traditional dress," Makhni said. "They cook and prepare all of the food. They do all of the entertainment."

"There are people from inside the house that do the entertainment and also from campus. The visitors that are here are alumni, family of the residents and neighbors from the nearby community and anyone else who chooses to come."

Alumnus Bob Aron said he was a resident of the I-House when the pancake breakfast was originally started.

"It is great to see that it is so big now," he said. "It wasn't so big when we started it. I lived in the house in the early '80s and we started this in 1983 so it has been going for a long time."

As part of the morning's entertainment, the I-House residents put on a fashion show.

"In the fashion show we are just going to display our traditional outfits and provide a little description about each garment," said Reina Chan, a sophomore speech pathology major from the United States.

She said the point of the show was to create awareness of different cultures.

Makhni said the I-House currently has 73 residents from 31 different countries, including the U.S.

"A lot of people on campus don't know that U.S. students can live here too," she said. "So we have almost 20 U.S. students living in the house right now out of the 73."

Kristin Robinson, a senior forensic biology major, said she is a R.A. at SJSU.

"I just brought residents here from Campus Village Building B to kind of help expand their outlook and thoughts on diverse cultures because a lot of times people are stuck on campus and they only see those who live on campus," she said. "But this is an opportunity to allow them to connect with people from different cultures."

CANCER

From Page 1

San Francisco State, Sonoma State, Santa Clara University and Stanford University were only a few of the other schools that

walked alongside SJSU, according to the website.

Delta Zeta will be volunteering for the walk in San Jose next week, Giusti said.

It is the perfect opportunity to not only walk but help with it as well, she said.

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Film condemns arms trade in Africa

REBECCA HENDERSON
Staff Writer

A documentary titled “Arms, Dealing and National Interest” was shown to seven students in King Library on Friday for the closing day of Congo Awareness week.

The film addressed issues such as the global battle going on between citizens and arms dealers, resulting in thousands of civilians being murdered every day because weapons are distributed to the wrong countries.

The movie “Lord of War,” starring Nicolas Cage, was given as an example in the film to compare how arms dealers work their way into African countries, destroying them and gaining wealth from the despair.

Zach Brouillard, a junior global studies major, said the film was eye-opening.

“What really hit me was the images of them

digging up buried heads in the ground,” he said.

Brouillard said students do not have much exposure to such things and they are not as concerned with the things that are bigger than them, only their daily classes.

“I feel there’s not enough awareness,” he said. “That’s why this program is good.”

The film focused on how to stop the countries who manufacture weapons from supplying them to certain regions of Africa and how the military feels as though it has the right to do whatever it wants to whoever it wants and that the rape of women is huge problem.

According to the film, China is the biggest supplier of weapons and the most irresponsible in who they deal the weapons to, while in Guinea it is found that a few European countries supply weapons to the country.

For the people who live in such states, the narrator said it’s like a 9/11 massacre every day

and has been happening since 1998.

The film mentioned that it has become the biggest conflict since World War II but it goes unnoticed since they’re African.

Images were shown of villagers fleeing their homes to hide in the forest, resulting in deaths from hunger.

According to the film, most dealers can’t be persecuted for arms dealing if their weapons are in a different country.

It’s about money before people’s lives, said the narrator.

In the film, Amnesty International, a group working to protect human rights, talked about an international treaty to stop the sale of weapons.

Akubundu Lott, a professor of African-American Studies, said the video was good because it shows the kinds of things people are up against as human beings and as African people.

He said it’s a start of the movement and it

only takes one person to become aware of something.

“I think the underlying thing that moves us to act is it’s not acceptable how women of Africa are being treated — women anywhere,” Lott said. “But you see how bad it can get if you don’t intervene and how do we as a people — as students, as men, women — provide that opportunity for African women to be heard?”

Junior history major Jay Aruta said the issues in Africa need to be looked at and although some people say there is nothing that can be done for Africa, he disagrees.

“Africa is a big place and home to many of the resources of the world,” he said. “It has a very vibrant flourishing history and is very underappreciated as a whole within education and with western values.”

Aruta said anything going on today in the world, even local movements, are just as important because they are within reach.

DONOR

From Page 1

student enrollment and staff layoffs, funds from the campaign will not be used to directly alleviate these issues, he said.

“(These issues are) generally viewed as a state responsibility,” Kassing said. “It’s not intended to be a substitute for state support. Its real purpose is to

make us more distinct and to support the students who make us more successful.”

Instead, donors can finance programs and efforts at SJSU, such as modernizing centers and institutes, providing faculty support, funding scholarships and fellowships, and help sponsor undergraduate research and internships, according to the campaign’s informational booklet.

Yosh Uchida, SJSU alumnus and judo coach, said he thinks the money gathered

from the campaign should be directed toward student scholarships.

“In judo we have a hard time getting students over from other places since a lot of them have not much money,” he said. “An abundance of scholarships would be beneficial.”

California Assemblyman Jim Beall, one of four current state legislators who graduated from SJSU, said a major donor endowment fund for long-term financial support would be most helpful.

Gerry Selter, the provost and vice president of student affairs, said the best way to ensure student success was to use the money in a variety of areas.

“It isn’t simple,” he said. “There are a lot of variables and you can’t simply improve one thing — you have to improve a spectrum of things.”

Money raised will be directed toward SJSU’s seven colleges, the university library, student affairs and intercollegiate athletics, according to an SJSU news release.

Jayne Cohen, the director for the school of nursing, said she couldn’t say exactly where the Valley Foundation’s donation would be used.

“It’s really going to put us over the edge,” she said

of the gift. “We’re going to hold strategic meetings to make a plan to carry the money far into the future.”

According to an SJSU news release, the donation will be used to build an endowment for long-term nursing school support and to help fund the school’s nursing simulation lab.

Valley Foundation Chairman Phil Boyce said he hoped the donation would act as a catalyst for more gifts to SJSU and the nursing department.

“Nurses have become even more important as technology increases and because of the relatively limited number of doctors,” he said. “Nurses are frankly primary caregivers for most patients.”

The SJSU school of nursing is the only school that gives

bachelor’s and master’s degrees for nursing in Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, San Benito and Monterey counties, according to the news release.

Associated Students President Tomasz Kolodziejak, who spoke at the event, said he was excited for the campaign.

“I think it’s incredible,” he said. “We’re hoping this donation will encourage a lot of other donations in the future.”

Kassing said SJSU is the third California State University to launch a campaign like Acceleration.

“The University moving from a modest fundraising effort into this — it takes us to a whole different level of sophistication in terms of our alumni base and support,” he said.



PHOTO: CLIFFORD GRODIN | SPARTAN DAILY

Phil Boyce, of the Valley Foundation, speaks with SJSU Interim President Don Kassing after the Acceleration gala Thursday.

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SJSU, West Valley College collaborate for symphonic band concert

KELSEY LYNNE LESTER-PERRY
Staff Writer

About 200 tickets were sold at the school's first symphonic band performance of the semester, held in the Music building on Thursday.

The auditorium was filled with family, friends, students and the sounds of an ocean drum as West Valley College's and SJSU's symphonic bands played classic songs from the 1800s to the mid 1900s.

"The band has been practicing since the beginning of the semester," said freshman composition major Alex Frank.

Joseph Perry, a freshman music education major, said he couldn't get too excited about performing.

"If you get excited then you play funny," Frank said. "You have to accept that, hey, I'm going to be a little nervous."

West Valley went on promptly at 7:30 p.m., starting with "Olympiada" by Samuel R. Hazo — it was a short song conducted by Gus Kambeitz.

Up next was "Fantasy on a Japanese Folk Song," also by Hazo. The audience began hearing rain sticks, ocean drums and other percussion instruments here, along with strong, oriental-sounding horns and bass percussion complemented by heavy flute and clarinet.

The third song in the set was a piece called "Yosemite Autumn," originally by Mark Camphouse. First it was sweet, and then hit a crescendo with a lot of cymbals, drums and strong use of horns.

Frank Tichelli's "Cajun Folk Songs," the fourth song in the set, opened with a saxophone solo. It also included more of the ocean drum, a French bistro-sounding use of brass instruments and a muffled trumpet. After a while, the song began to sound a bit cat and

mouse, with all of the instruments feeding off of each other, and there was a cute use of the xylophone.

West Valley's last song, Hazo's "Ride," was a great piece to finish the set with the band in full swing.

Sanglee Nguyen, a senior graphic design major, said he had to attend the event because it is required for his music appreciation class.

The sound was extremely patriotic — it sounded very New England and reminiscent of the founding of America.

"The West Valley band was pretty good," he said. "I actually heard some mistakes though."

The SJSU band went on around 8:15 p.m., beginning with a song called "Bayou Breakdown" by Brant Karrick.

The sound was really fast-paced and a lot more polished than West Valley, with Diana Hollinger conducting the piece.

"It is in major scale, it's a very happy tune, and the homophonic dynamic is relatively constant," Nguyen said.

"Variations on America" by Charles Ives was the second song in the set. The sound was extremely patriotic — it sounded very New England and remi-



Melson Varsovia, a graduate student in instrumental conduction, conducts one of the SJSU symphonic band's musical numbers during the band's concert Thursday night in the Music building Concert Hall.

PHOTO: JACK BARNWELL | SPARTAN DAILY

niscient of the founding of America.

Fred J. Allen's "When the Stars Begin to Fall" was the next song. It was a really slow song, sounding like a mix between classical and gospel music with its use of deep bass horns, but the song had a warm feeling because of the use of saxophone and soft percussion.

Diana Hollinger returned to conduct the last two songs, starting with "Radio Flyer" by John Gibson.

I felt like a kid at Christmas during this piece, like Ralphie from "A Christmas Story" — there were sounds of shakers and sleigh bells, which lent even more to the Christmas theme.

But the song took a turn, sound-

ing antagonistic, like the scene in Tim Burton's "Edward Scissorhands" where Vincent Price's character is admiring his workshop of robots.

Julius Fucik's "Entry of the Gladiators, Op. 68" was the band's final song, and the upright bass players started getting a little funky — they twirled their instruments, made silly faces, and chuckled the entire song.

Nick Liberatore, a senior music major and bass player, said a lot of the music is pretty groovy.

"I get into it and it works for the whole band," he said.

"Thunder and Blazes," arranged by Louis-Philippe Laurendeau, was the

band's encore piece.

Senior music major Yu-Ting Wang said West Valley sounded pretty good and noticed a trend of the band sharing concerts with community colleges.

"It's a pretty good collaboration," said Wang, a cello player in the SJSU orchestra. "Knowing that SJSU is reaching out to other musical communities around here, a lot of these kids are probably going to attend SJSU. They are from the area and we have a good music program here."

She said the band at SJSU has continuously gotten better, and since it is not a music major ensemble, recently the sound has gotten a lot better.

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6				3			4	5

Previous Solution

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

Crossword Puzzle

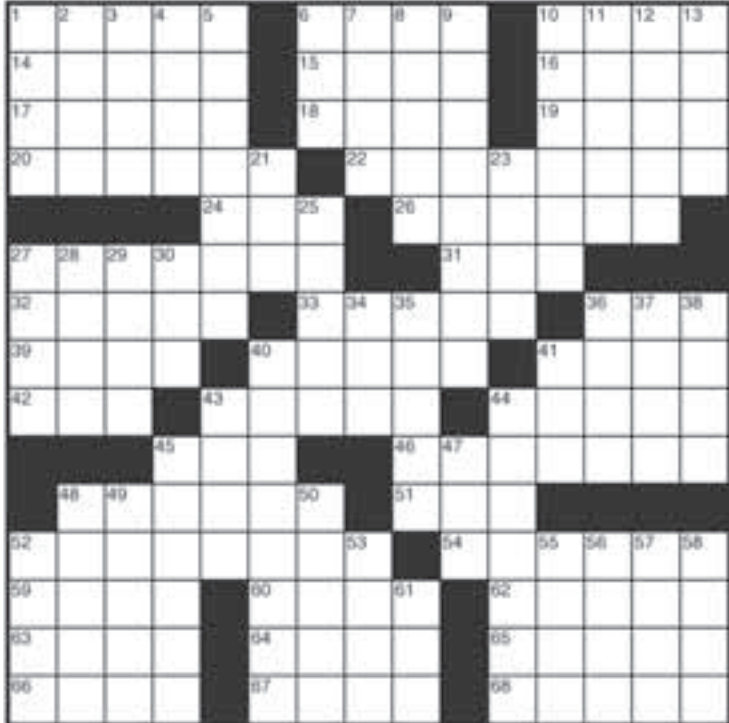
ACROSS

- Wild shrub
- Almond of Soft Cell
- Tykes
- Not get along
- Nursemaid
- No future —
- Loos or Bryant
- Sotto —
- fide (in bad faith)
- Lady's address
- Kind of memory (hyph.)
- Big clumsy guy
- Rocks
- Retired professors
- Arrogance
- Name in spreadsheets
- Laissez- —
- Whiskey grain
- Zen riddle
- Animals that bark
- Order for dinner
- Last year's jrs.
- African tribe
- Seedless orange
- Util. bill
- Lasting forever
- Tried hard
- Pat on
- Safety barrier
- Plexiglas
- — equal basis
- Leaves
- Tibetan monks
- Amino —
- D'Artagnan prop
- Haik wearers
- Blanc and Gibson

- Hockey feint
- Hear or smell

DOWN

- Swindle
- Bone below the elbow
- of honor
- Whodunit terrier
- Soft leather
- Dallas cager
- Roman love god
- Hotfoots it
- Crib users
- "Shogun" costume
- Foolish plus
- Sour pickles
- Overnight visit
- Absorb, as costs
- Venetian magistrate
- Piccolos' kin
- Antlered animals
- Drop anchor
- LAX guesses
- Skedaddle
- Road-map org.
- Homer's tale
- Scream and shout
- Montand of the movies
- Congers
- Rescued
- Bard's prince
- Feline sound
- Interstellar clouds
- General drifts

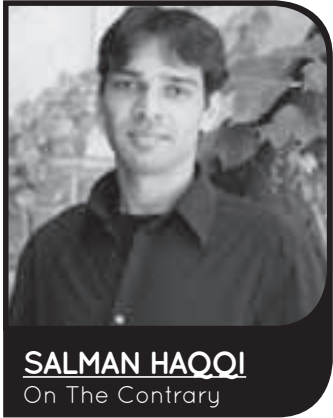


- 128 fl. oz.
- After
- Shadow
- Flee to the JP
- Bubbles
- Onion relative
- Worry about
- Statuesque model
- Keep — on
- Latin I verb
- Get the picture

TOGA	SASS	JOB
EROS	THONG	DOMO
SCOW	RADIO	OVID
SAFARI	AFFINITY	
NAPA	FORA	
YAP	SPAM	RATTLE
ATE	HERON	NEWEL
CRAB	DODOS	DIVA
HIKED	NEVER	REN
TASTED	LAVA	LLD
RAID	KEGS	
FINANCES	REACTS	
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Middle East: America’s folly



SALMAN HAQQI
On The Contrary

As the second plane made a left turn and gunned its engines into the South Tower, we knew the world had changed.

In the weeks and months after the atrocities of 9/11, we knew the what, where and how — 19 Middle Eastern men, box cutters, tall buildings, etc.

The question that was largely left unanswered was “Why?”

Was there a problem in the Middle East? The answer is an emphatic yes. The West has been meddling in that region for decades.

After World War II, the United States decided to show its imperial teeth as it started to spread its interests around the globe. America knew that the engine of the country’s economic future lay buried deep under the barren sands of the Middle East.

As the United States finds itself in the aftermath of another crisis in the Middle East, it is worth the risk of opprobrium to ask why there should be hostility toward America in that region.

Some insight can be gained by surveying official U.S. conduct in the Middle East since the end of World War II. Acknowledged herein is a fundamental,

yet deplorably overlooked, distinction between understanding and excusing.

The stubborn and often self-serving notion that the historical record is irrelevant because political violence is inexcusable ensures that Americans will be caught in crises in the Middle East and elsewhere for many years to come.

After decades of broken Western promises regarding Arab independence, it should not be surprising that the West is viewed with suspicion and hostility by the populations of the Middle East. Add to this the thousands of civilians we have killed and are killing with our “surgical” missile strikes, which is much like doing open heart surgery with a machete.

The United States, as the heir to British imperialism in the region, has been a frequent object of suspicion. Since the end of World War II, the United States, like the European colonial powers before it, has been unable to resist becoming entangled in the region’s political conflicts.

Driven by a desire to keep the vast oil reserves in hands friendly to the United States, a wish to keep out potential rivals such as Russia and China as well as domestic political considerations, the United States has compiled a record of tragedy in the

Middle East.

The most recent part of that record, which includes U.S. alliances with Iraq to counter Iran in the 1980s and again in Iraq and Afghanistan today, which is edging dangerously and increasingly into Pakistan, a key, yet admittedly dubious ally of the United States.

Since taking residence in the Oval Office, President Barack Obama has amped up the covert drone program as part of an effort to target and kill suspected terrorists hiding on the border between Afghanistan and Pakistan.

As Jane Mayer has written about extensively in “The New Yorker,” these drone attacks are killing untold numbers of civilians in both countries and creating more people who hate us.

It’s not hard to imagine the homicidal rage that would well up in any one of us if robot planes swooped over our

houses and blasted them to pieces. This plane has no pilot. It is controlled using a joystick thousands of miles away. It blows up all the houses on the street, and chars your family and your neighbors until there is nothing left to bury but unrecognizable pieces of flesh.

Now imagine this happening week after week. Then there’s Iraq — a war based on lies and a war

throughout which we have been lied to continually.

On Oct. 22, about 400,000 documents revealed by WikiLeaks clearly record the mass torture, rampant shooting of civilians, the outrageous use of air power against family homes, the vicious American and British mercenaries and the cemeteries of the innocent dead.

The Iraqi people have known about this all along, only we pretended we didn’t know.

In the aftermath of 9/11, even to suggest that American foreign policy in the Middle East may play some part in answering the question, “Why do they hate us?” was akin to blasphemy. “They hate us for our freedoms,” was the common refrain, and if you didn’t agree with that, you were on the wrong side of history.

There is no doubt that we are dealing with a people still stuck with a Bronze Age view of society. But if there are any lessons to be learned from these wars, it’s that we cannot bomb a whole civilization into modernity.

Historically, revolutionary change has always come from within a society. I have no doubt the people of the Muslim world might very well want many of the freedoms that we so dearly cherish.

But the freedom they want most is freedom from us. And it seems that is the one freedom we are not willing give them.

*“On The Contrary” is a column making a special appearance.
Salman Haqqi is a Spartan Daily A&E Editor.*

After decades of broken Western promises regarding Arab independence, it should not be surprising that the West is viewed with suspicion and hostility ...

The inscrutable acts of the DMV

Crash. Crumple. Snap.

The crash was the sound of the truck behind me plowing into me at a red light, breaking my taillight.

The crumple was the sound of the metal on my beautiful car being smashed into bits.

The snap was the sound my neck made as it whipped forward and down.

Considering all this happened a year ago, you’d think I’d be over it by now.

The car is a wonderful 1985 Nissan ZX with an engine that purrs like a new kitty drinking a bowl of milk.

Thankfully I still have my car and it wasn’t destroyed.

However, the cost to repair was more than my car is supposedly worth — although to me, the car is priceless.

It was sold to me by my grandpa, who co-owned the car with my aunt.

She passed away five years ago and was my best friend, so he thought the car should go to me because she was going to teach me to drive stick shift on it.

When all the insurance information went through a year ago, I quickly turned things around and went to the Department of Motor Vehicles to claim my car as salvage, which means it’s totaled and I want to keep it.

After about a half hour (because I got there exactly when the office opened) of waiting to talk to someone at the DMV, my number was called.

While I was waiting, I had been praying for a non-crabby employee to help me out, and all my prayer paid off.

The woman who helped me was such a sweetheart.

To my surprise however, the DMV had no record of my car being salvaged by the insurance company.

I walked out feeling lighter than air, thinking everything was perfectly OK and I wouldn’t have to do anything.

Eleven months later I was sent my registration bill as usual.

I sent it in, hoping they wouldn’t send me a packet of papers to fill out and that they would just send me my



KRISTEN PEARSON
Pearson's Ponderings

stickers and that the insurance company had forgotten completely.

No such luck.

Almost a month after sending my money in for registration, they sent me a packet of papers to fill out, with instructions to get a brake/light check, a smog-only check and to surrender my license plates to the DMV.

They want me to buy a new car with the money tree I have growing in my backyard so that I’ll save the Earth ...

Now, I ask you, what was wrong with informing me six to eight months

ago that my car was salvaged by the insurance company?

I did my part, trying to come in and get it taken care of — can’t they do their part?

Now my registration is going to expire and I have millions of things to do before I get new registration.

How does the DMV expect me to get to work, school, church or to any of the places it requests me to go for checkups, if I have expired registration?

That’s just it — they don’t expect me to.

They want me to buy a new car with the money tree I have growing in my backyard so that I’ll save the Earth with the lesser smog emissions of my new car.

Goodness knows there won’t be any way to get out of this paradox, but I’ll try, that’s for sure.

I started the process today of getting my speedometer fixed, which is required to work for a smog check.

Once that is done, I can get my smog check, brake/light check and get new license plates for my car.

Another thing that confuses me about this whole thing is why they would need me to surrender my license plates.

I’m still the owner of the car, aren’t I? So I should be able to keep my old license plates.

No one stole it and used it for selling drugs or something.

My license plate number is not in the system as a car that has been involved in illegal acts.

So, why then should I get rid of the license plates I have?

Someone should really attempt to explain why the DMV does the things it does. Just be careful if you try — you may go crazy.

*“Pearson’s Ponderings” is a column appearing weekly on Mondays.
Kristen Pearson is the Spartan Daily Managing Editor.*

No country for cowardly men

There are many words that come to mind when I think of America.

Strong. Powerful. Proud.

When it comes to the American public, however, those are not the first words to appear in my head.

Instead, I think, selfish, self-centered and cowardly.

Last Thursday morning, a young man entered the GameStop in the Westfield Galleria mall in Roseville, Calif., stating he had a gun and demanding that the employees leave the store.

Reports say 23-year-old Alexander Piggee then barricaded himself inside the video game store and proceeded to set the store on fire.

Though it is still unclear what happened, GameStop employees said immediately upon evacuating the store, they called the authorities and 911 dispatch responded right away.

As it stands, more than one-fourth of the Roseville Galleria has been destroyed and no one is allowed to enter the area, leaving hundreds of people without jobs right before the holiday season.

What blows my mind out of the whole ordeal, however, is not that some attention-seeking, deranged young adult came and set fire to the mall, but that no one did anything to try and stop the guy from doing so.

After listening to media coverage on the radio, watching the local news and reading the reports from surrounding Sacramento areas, I was somewhat annoyed by the fact that Piggee was apprehended without possession of a gun.

I was more annoyed by the fact that 90 percent of people who called in to the morning radio talk show I listen to said they would have done the same as the GameStop employees — which was nothing.

It was reported that Piggee announced he had a gun when he entered the store, but no one bothered to call him out and see if there was really a weapon.

Whatever happened to people thinking of the greater good? Or doing the right thing, because it’s the right thing to do? Have we lost all of our pride?

Many people claimed that it is typically a store’s policy to “not get involved in that sort of instance, simply go tell the authorities,” and that termination from the job would apply for those employees who broke the rule.

Other people called in and argued, “Why should I risk my life for a minimum-wage job?”

One man even said, “If it were me, I would have just grabbed a couple of PS3s and been on my way.”

Wow. Those people basically said doing the right thing in that situation only comes when it’s worth the value of the job.

Whatever happened to people thinking of the greater good? Or doing the right thing, because it’s the right thing to do? Have we lost all of our pride?

What it comes down to is our society is comprised of a bunch of cowardly, self-centered people.

Our society has seemed to adopt the “run and tell dad” mentality, where we pass off the information to authorities and go about our business. Or, we simply think someone else will handle it so we don’t need to do anything.

Sure, there are those few people who stick up for what they believe in, but those are the people who are criticized and called stupid or reckless.

But there are so many people who think they are so important that they are not willing to do anything for society because it might cause harm to themselves.

To me, that is selfish.

In the instance of the Galleria fire, there is a possibility that the entire thing could have been prevented had someone simply asked Piggee to produce his supposed weapon.

Now, in the event that Piggee had pulled out a gun, I’m not afraid to admit I’d be the first to start following through with his request to leave the store — but that wasn’t the case.

We cannot, as a society, live with the scared mentality that everyone is out to get us — if that were the case, some creep could simply threaten a person and every time that person would give in out of fear.

We’d end up losing our wallets, our cars and any other items worth carrying on our person, simply because we are too afraid to stick up for ourselves.

It’s not fair to live in a world of “what ifs.” We can point fingers and say, “What if someone had just stood up to him?” But we will never know the outcome of a “what if.”

All we can do is learn from what actually happened. Ultimately, creeps will always exist in our society — we will never get rid of all the them.

*“The Real Deal” is a weekly column appearing on Mondays.
Melissa Sabile is a Spartan Daily Sports Editor.*



MELISSA SABILE
The Real Deal

Late air attack not enough, SJSU loses

ALEX SPICER
Staff Writer

The SJSU football team put up its best offensive display of the season Saturday night against the Fresno State Bulldogs, but lost 33-18 despite a late surge.

“It was a disheartening loss, a game we could have won – should have won,” said SJSU head coach Mike MacIntyre. “(We) played with them toe-to-toe, and just made stupid mistakes.”

In what was a rain-soaked affair, the Spartans (1-7, 0-3) were held scoreless in the first half, and trailed the Bulldogs (5-2, 3-1) 20-0 before beginning their comeback in the last period.

The Bulldogs got the scoring started with 6:23 remaining in the first quarter when junior kicker Kevin Goessling clanked a 43-yard field goal off the left goal post and through the uprights.

Fresno State sophomore running back Robbie Rouse then added a 4-yard touchdown run with 6:11 left in the first half.

The Bulldogs came out biting to begin the second half, adding an additional 10 points within seven minutes.

Goessling struck again with a 44-yard field goal before sophomore wide receiver Rashad Evans caught a 43-yard reception for a touchdown with only 6:30 gone in the second half.

SJSU had been shut out for eight consecutive quarters dating back to the first half against Nevada on Oct. 9, until freshman kicker Harrison Waid put the Spartans on the board with a 41-yard field goal with just over five minutes to play in the third quarter.

Fresno State added another touchdown on a 6-yard run by Rouse with 1:36 remaining in the third quarter to make it 27-3.

In the fourth quarter, the Spartans mount-



Senior quarterback Jordan La Secla was sacked five times by Fresno State in Saturday's game.

PHOTO: VERNON MCKNIGHT | SPARTAN DAILY

“Defense was doing a great job — they were stopping them,” Grigsby said. “As offense we knew we had to keep moving the ball downfield and get some scores in so that we could win the game.”

The defense kept the Spartans in the game during the team's first-half struggle, and ultimately held Fresno State to 2 for 13 on third-down conversions.

Turnovers hurt SJSU, with two passes thrown for interceptions and one fumble lost.

Fresno State committed no turnovers.

“The kids fought hard from the beginning to the end,” MacIntyre said. “They’ll always do that. We just got to quit making mistakes that hurt us.”

SJSU's 18 points in the second half were more than the team had scored in any other game this season.

“We showed good signs that we can move the ball,” La Secla said. “We can score, but it's too little, too late. You can't not score in the first half and expect to win the game.”

The Spartans finished the game with a season-high 327 passing yards, with 292 distributed by La Secla.

“We just got to execute and put a full drive together,” he said. “We haven't shown that we can do that consistently.”

La Secla finished the game with two touchdown passes and two interceptions, and Grigsby led the receiving corps with seven receptions for 117 yards.

“Our offense is picking it up,” Grigsby said. “We're a young team but we're playing great. As long as we continue to improve, we know that in a couple of weeks or next week the score will go in our favor and we'll win the game.”

The Spartans will have the opportunity to pick up their second win of the season next Saturday when they travel to New Mexico State.

Freshman Spartan earns national honor

MELISSA SABILE
Sports Editor

Though the team failed to grasp the win on Saturday against Fresno State, freshman linebacker Keith Smith came out successful.

Smith was named a national Linebacker Performer of the Week by College Football Performance for his defensive effort against the Bulldogs.

He was credited with 14 tackles, 4.5 of which were tackles-for-loss, and he also had three quarterback sacks.

Smith's tackles-for-loss tally is the highest from a freshman so far this season.

“We're a hungry defense as a whole, and we all love to play to our emotion,” Smith said after the loss on Saturday. “That's why I love playing with these guys, because it's just fun. They make it fun. When there's that emotion that we just want to

get it, that's when we all play better.”

Smith's three sacks are the second highest of any freshman linebacker in the country thus far.

“The play came my way, and I just happened to be there to make it,” Smith said about one of the sacks. “It could have went to any other lineman, or Vince (Buhagiar), or anybody else. It just opened up for me at that time.”

In the first eight games, Smith has the third most tackles for the Spartans with 49.

“All we can do is worry about our job and rely on our teammate to do their job too,” Smith said. “Everybody just has to come through and whatever happens, happens.”

The honor was shared with Syracuse senior Doug Hogue, who had ten tackles and two interceptions.

	SJSU	FS
First downs	16	16
Net total yards	339	353
Net passing yards	327	168
Comp.-Att.-Int.	24-37-2	11-19-0
Net rushing yards	12	185
Rushing attempts	21	47
3rd-down conv.	5-of-14	2-of-13
4th-down conv.	0-of-1	1-of-1
Fumbles-lost	3-1	2-0
Penalties-yards	2-10	6-67
Punts-yards	6-241	5-186
Punt returns-yrds.	2-7	2-30
Kick returns-yrds.	7-122	0-0
Possession	24:41	35:19

Women's volleyball team falls to Bulldogs

SHIVA ZAHIRFAR
Staff Writer

The SJSU women's volleyball team came up short in a match against the Fresno State Bulldogs on Saturday, losing 3-1 at the Spartan Gym.

The Spartans won the third set, but the Bulldogs (9-11, 3-5) beat them in all of the other sets.

“I would say we had good effort,” said head coach Oscar Crespo. “We played OK but we shouldn't be satisfied with that.”

Fresno State gained the first point of the game and kept the momentum through the first set.

Quickly after, the Spartans earned their first point and chased the Bulldogs on the scoreboard during the set. The score was tied eight times during the match.

Spartans lost the first set 19-25.

The second set continued in Fresno State's favor, with an early lead of 3-1.

Going into the third set, Crespo said he talked to the girls about fixing weak points the first two sets presented to the team.

“We talked about the individual responsibilities of the players and blocking them on the left side and the strength of serving putting them in the defensive position,” he said.

Spartans lost the second set 16-25.

Like the previous sets, Fresno State earned the first point of the third set.

However, SJSU got a quick lead that was maintained through the set.

After being tied at 3-3, the Bulldogs were unable to pick up the pace to reach the Spartans and their several point lead.

Fresno State dropped the ball a couple times, allowing the Spartans to score points because of a lack of communication.

“When we communicate we are a different team,” said junior middle blocker Kylie Miraldi, who had 10 kills.

Sophomore defensive specialist Katie Turner said communication was important.

“When we communicate, we do better,” she said.

Fresno State continued to attempt to chip at the Spartan's lead, but quickly after earning a point, the

Spartans would also gain a point.

“We fought hard in the second set,” Miraldi said.

The score was 14-7 by the second timeout.

Scoring three points after the timeout, the Bulldogs got closer to the Spartans' lead but the next three points of the game went to SJSU.

Freshman left side hitter Hanah Blume served at game point and the Spartans won the third set 25-17.

At the beginning of the fourth set, neither team

had a runaway lead and the points went back and forth until Fresno State gained a three point lead.

Spartans lost the fourth set 21-25.

“We didn't jump on the opportunities,” Miraldi said.


Blume had ten kills and eleven digs, and sophomore setter Caitlin Andrade assisted her teammate 41 times during the game.

SJSU will play against Utah State on Thursday in a Western Athletic Conference matchup at 7 p.m. in the Spartan Gym.



PHOTO: VERNON MCKNIGHT | SPARTAN DAILY

Freshman left side hitter Hanah Blume slams the ball past junior middle blocker Brianna Clarke (No. 14) and junior hitter Kelli Parker (No. 15).



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