San Jose State University
SJSU ScholarWorks

Spartan Daily

4-13-2010

Spartan Daily (April 13, 2010)

San Jose State University, School of Journalism and Mass Communications

Follow this and additional works at: http://scholarworks.sjsu.edu/spartandaily

Recommended Citation
San Jose State University, School of Journalism and Mass Communications, "Spartan Daily (April 13, 2010)" (2010). *Spartan Daily.* Paper 252.
http://scholarworks.sjsu.edu/spartandaily/252

This Newspaper is brought to you for free and open access by SJSU ScholarWorks. It has been accepted for inclusion in Spartan Daily by an authorized administrator of SJSU ScholarWorks. For more information, please contact Library-scholarworks-group@sjsu.edu.

PIZZ'A CHICAGO

SEE PAGE 6

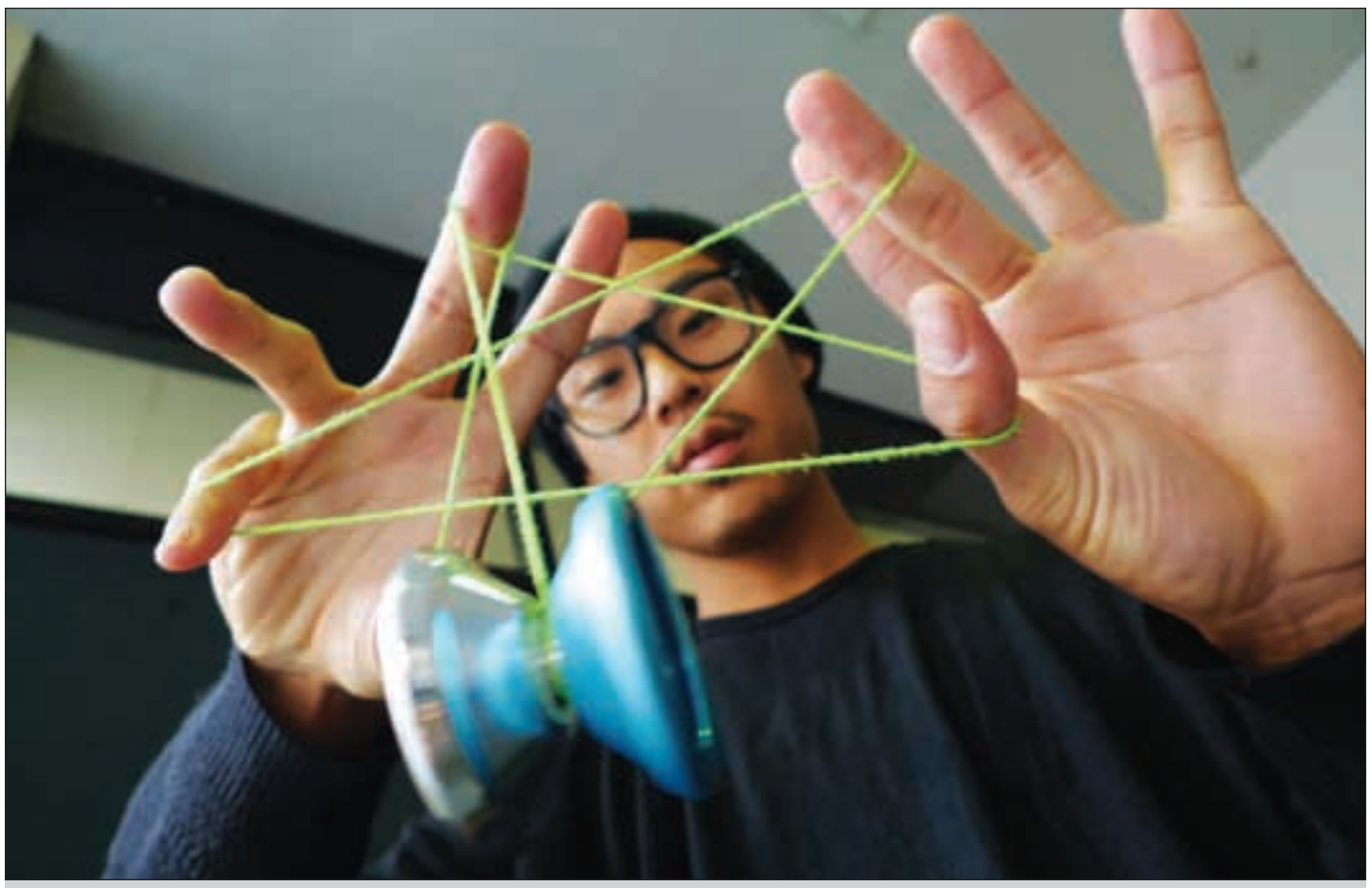
Women's Rugby

SEE PAGE 4

Spartan Daily

Serving San José State University since 1934

Tuesday, April 13, 2010 | www.TheSpartanDaily.com | Volume 134, Issue 36



A posed photograph of Paul Han, a six-time Bay Area regional champion yo-yoer, performing the "star" trick in downtown San Jose on Monday. Han has been yo-yoing for 15 years. JUSTIN ALBERT / SPARTAN DAILY

A master of tricks

SJSU student a six-time Bay Area yo-yo champ

Justin Albert
Staff Writer

To most people, yo-yos are little more than children's playthings.

To Paul Han, they represent something different.

"Yo-yos used to be America's favorite toy and everyone knows what they are, but I always tell people that there is so much more to yo-yoing," said Han, a junior advertising major.

A professional yo-yoer, Han has been described as having an extremely quick, dynamic and consistent yo-yo style, which has led him to several outstanding achievements, including taking first in the 2006 U.S. National Yo-yo contest, according to his profile page on the YoYo Factory Web site.

A six-time Bay Area regional champion, Han said he is currently in the process of creating a co-brand with his current sponsor, the YoYo Factory, in addition to being a full-time student at SJSU.

Early Years

Han said he began yo-yoing at the age of 10 as a form of recreation and leisure.

"I started yo-yoing because at the time I was the only child and it was my only form of entertainment," he said. "I had friends who yo-yoed too, so it was like our little hobby."

Han said his main early influences were yo-yo legends Dale Myrberg, a National Grand Master, and Bill de Boisblanc, a yo-yo world record holder and member of Team YoYoJam.

"Their skill level was so high up there it was just ridiculous," Han said. "I wanted to

See **YO-YO**, Page 2

Professor helps foil attempted bank robbery

Donovan Farnham, Salman Haqqi
Staff Writers

An attempted bank robbery failed at the Wells Fargo San Jose main office near campus Monday, and an SJSU assistant professor said he had to restrain suspect.

Sgt. Amir Khalighi of San Jose Police Department said two men and one woman were taken into custody after the 3:30 p.m. incident at the bank, located on San Fernando and Market streets, he said.

Khalighi said further details from SJPD were unavailable because of the ongoing investigation.

Kim Komenich, an assistant professor of journalism and new media at SJSU, was at the scene during the attempted robbery and said the suspects came in after him while he was waiting in line.

One of the men stood in line, appearing to be inebriated, while the other man and woman sat down in the bank waiting area, he said.

"The guy next to me starts having what I thought was a normal transaction with the teller, and then his voice went up and I started paying attention to him and it was 'Give me your money,'" Komenich said. "I looked down and he had a note too, a note that says, 'I have a gun, give me your money' on a Wells Fargo deposit slip."

Komenich said he didn't notice a gun, but as the man went for his pocket, Komenich proceeded to restrain him.

"I figured if he did have a

See **ROBBERY**, Page 2

Faculty voice remains absent from CSU board

Lidia Gonzalez
Staff Writer

As policies with wide-ranging effects on the university are discussed and adopted, it is important the California State University system has a faculty member on its board of trustees, said a CSU media relations specialist.

"Faculty trustees are recommended by the Academic Senate and appointed by the governor," Erik Fallis said.

Since the board met in May 2009, there has been an open seat, said John Tarjan, chair of the Academic Senate.

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger communicated to the senate, Tarjan said, that he would like more diversity on the board of trustees.

"There are lots of different dimensions to diversity," said junior marketing major Anthony Hue.

> "There are lots of different dimensions to diversity."
>
> **Anthony Hue**
> **Junior marketing major**

He said if the board of trustees is doing the work it needs to do, it shouldn't matter.

"Having diversity means various areas of the school system," Hue said. "I don't care if they're all white."

He said having a faculty member on the board of trustees will be helpful because he or she knows more about where the money from the budget needs to go.

A faculty perspective, Tarjan said, helps other CSU board members understand the more than 20,000 lecturers employed by the CSU, similar to how former educators, lawyers, community business leaders and other trustees give another perspective to the Academic Senate.

"The benefits come from both sides," Tarjan said.

President Jon Whitmore said having both a faculty voice and or a student voice on the board of trustees is important because they both are major constituents of the university.

"Having direct input from people in those two key positions that are service providers and are service receivers is a fairly normal practice and good practice," he said.

Having a faculty representative on the board is important, said Samantha Cozen, a sophomore social work major.

"It gives a faculty perspective and voice," she said.

Having someone represent a different community other than a business perspective will avoid the chance of people always going along with the chancellor's view, said Elizabeth Cara, an associate professor of occupational therapy.

"If they can function without someone, fine," Cozen said. "But if it's hurting our system, by all means, fill it."

Cozen said she agrees that it is a great idea to have more diversity, but doesn't think the nominees should be overlooked if they aren't "diverse."

The two nominees, Barry Pasternack, a chairman and professor at Cal State Fullerton, and Henry Reichman, a history professor at Cal State East Bay — are white men, according to the Los Angeles Times.

The Academic Senate has been frustrated because the senate would rather have a voice sooner than later, Tarjan said.

It's part of the governor's constitutional responsibility, he said.

"Since the provisions are that there be someone sitting in that chair then all the positions should be filled, in general, at all times with a fairly short gap between openings," Whitmore said.

Kyler Bakhtiari, a junior criminal justice major, said diversity

See **CSU**, Page 2

Weather

Hi: 62°
Lo: 47°

W	TH
Hi: 65°	Hi: 68°
Lo: 48°	Lo: 48°

THESPARTANDAILY.COM

Sex workshop informs about sex education in the LGBT community as part of "Breaking the Silence Week."

SPARTAN DAILY BLOGS

Six-time Bay Area regional champion Paul Han divulges his passion for yo-yoing.
spartandailyphoto.com

There's more than just books at the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library. Check out some of the events happening this month at the King Library by visiting
spartandailynews.wordpress.com

TWITTER

Follow us at **@spartandaily** for headlines straight to your phone.

FACEBOOK

Become a fan and get the latest headlines straight to you.
facebook.com/spartandaily

Online: YO-YO

JUSTIN ALBERT / Spartan Daily

spartandailyphoto.com

EVOKE CHANGE BY VOTING TODAY

@ these locations

1. Student Union
2. Clark Hall (front patio)
3. Campus Village Quad
4. Online @ my.sjsu.edu

Online from 10 a.m. on April 13th through 8a.m. on April 15th
Polling locations are open from 10a.m. to 6p.m. of April 13th and April 14th

SAN JOSÉ STATE UNIVERSITY
ASSOCIATED STUDENTS

ROBBERY

From Page 1

gun that's where there was going to be a gun," Komenich said. "So I clamped a big bear hug on him from behind and held him."

The man, who Komenich said was in his 40s or 50s, didn't resist until the police arrived.

"It took a few minutes for the police to arrive and then two officers showed up immediately and then I let go of him and they immediately put handcuffs on him as I let go," he said.

Komenich said he didn't feel he was in danger because the man seemed intoxicated, while the woman in the sitting area was reacting to the scene as if she too had been caught.

"It was kind of sad because you could tell they were down on their luck and they'd been drinking," he said.

Wells Fargo employees were unavailable to comment on the attempted robbery, but an employee said the branch was scheduled to re-open later in the day.

Shawnte Santos, a closing manager at Specialty's Cafe & Bakery located near the bank, said she was on break at the time of the attempted robbery and didn't see anything take place.

CSU

From Page 1

is important, but it should not be an excuse for why the governor has not appointed someone to the board of trustees.

"We have such a big problem with the education system and it would be nice to have someone trying to get something accomplished to help improve it," he said.

Bakhtiari said a faculty voice on the board will be helpful because they have first-hand experience in the school system.

Tarjan said he is hopeful that a nominee will be chosen by the next Academic Senate meeting, which takes place May 11 to 12.

CORRECTION

In Monday's issue of the Spartan Daily, Paul Yula and Tomasz Kolodziejak were misidentified. Below they are correctly identified.

A.S. PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES

Domingo Castellanos

Paul Yula

Tomasz Kolodziejak

PHOTOS BY KIBIWOT LIMO

YO-YO

From Page 1

be at their level and then take it further than what they were."

In 1997, the year he began yo-yoing, Han said he had accomplished his goal when he took first place at the Hawaii State Yo-yo Championship and was discovered by his first sponsor.

"A company called HPK Marketing that did work with Bandai toys and Yomega found me at the competition and began hooking me up," he said.

Han said he attributes his success to his overall presentation of himself.

"Doing big tricks and making up my own style to certain kinds of music have helped me to set myself apart from the crowd," he said.

Erik Deringer, a friend of Han, said seeing Han's yo-yo abilities in person was nothing short of mind-blowing.

"I'd known Paul was really good at yo-yoing, but when I had finally saw him, I was stunned," Deringer said. "He makes it look too easy."

Han said the initial perks he received from Yomega were plentiful.

"My perks included free trips around the world, paid vacations, and $300 to $400 a day for wearing the company T-shirt and representing the brand," he said. "Not to mention the free product whenever you want."

Han said his first official job with the company included a flight to Japan to do demonstrations.

"Things just fell into place," he said. "I was doing what I was doing, just playing and trying to progress."

Having since competed in numerous competitions, events and demonstrations, Han said he has developed an understanding and relationship with yo-yos that is entirely uncommon to those unfamiliar with the activity.

"At first, it started as a hobby, but it's slowly becoming a sport where people practice for years to compete at the world level and form teams," he said.

In 2006, Han said he was featured on the ABC's show "Master of Champions" where he performed his heavy-hitting yo-yo moves on national television in conjunction with two other teammates.

Performing in yo-yo competitions is something of an art form, he said, where every movement is scrutinized and judged before a final consensus is met.

"Yo-yo performances are judged similar to the way ice-skating is judged," Han said. "Like figure skaters, yo-yoers are judged on a number of factors including showmanship, technicality and the overall impact of the routine set to music."

Han said he designed his first professional yo-yo in collaboration with the YoYo Factory.

"I have a blue and orange 1986 Dyno BMX bicycle, which they wanted to incorporate into a yo-yo color way, which we eventually named the Winston edition, which I designed," he said. "I felt pretty honored I could have a yo-yo made with them."

Han said the yo-yo was released in 2009 in limited quantities to select stores around the world and sold out in a matter of minutes.

"We retailed the yo-yo for $130, but I've seen people on eBay reselling the yo-yo for up to $350," he said.

Han said he has worked on numerous collaborations linking the yo-yo community to other outlets in pop-culture, including work with the clothing brand Fatlace and TiVo.

"Yo-yoing is moving toward a different direction," he said. "It's not just a dorky toy anymore. People are into different hobbies, so I've been doing yo-yo collaborations with companies that suit my lifestyle."

Current Plans

Currently, Han said has a number of yo-yo related plans in the works in conjunction with his sponsor, the YoYo Factory.

"2010 is a big year for us at the YoYo factory," he said. "We're running a big campaign with Bandai toys in Japan, which includes doing demonstrations and running commercials and advertisements to get the word out."

In addition to continuing marketing and advertising work for the YoYo Factory, Han said he has a personal co-brand that he will be launching in May dubbed the "BombSquad."

Junior advertising major Hector Diaz said he is excited for his friend's newest endeavor.

"Knowing Paul, he is destined to do great things and I believe that his brand will do very well in the future," Diaz said. "He's extremely talented and has his head on right."

Han said the idea of him starting his own brand was derived from his personal blog.

"I started this blog that I used to post up whatever I like, from things like skate videos to profiles on yo-yoers that I'm into," he said. "Eventually, the blog started to have a large following, getting 600 to 1,000 hits per day, and from there my company approached me and asked if I wanted to turn it into a full-blown brand."

A plethora of yo-yos and yo-yo-related accessories will launch with the brand in May, including T-shirts, beanies, cases, stickers and possibly skateboards, Han said.

"Paul definitely has a way he carries himself, and if his brand is any representation of that, it will not only look cool, but sell well," Diaz said.

Han said the brand will also release its own signature set of yo-yos under his name, which will be distributed in limited quantities to specific stores.

Han said BombSquad will debut at the 2010 Bay Area classic competition on May 29.

In addition to creating a co-brand under the YoYo Factory banner, Han said he has also been contributing to the local yo-yo community by hosting a class that meets every Sunday at Barefoot Coffee in Santa Clara.

"I wanted to basically have a weekly gathering of people who want to come and learn, hang out or just mingle and meet new people," he said.

Han said he attributes his passion for the class to the idea of giving both new and old members of the yo-yo community an outlet to develop the motivation to continue yo-yoing and hone their abilities.

"Yo-yoing is just like any other sport," he said. "It's like a discipline. If you want to get better at something, you work hard at it."

Han said that as the advent of his new brand slowly approaches, he hopes to continue doing what he has always done for more than 10 years.

After college, he said he plans to continue his work with the YoYo Factory, as well as marketing and maintaining his own brand.

Reflecting upon his hectic lifestyle, Han said he has no qualms about the life he has lived thus far.

"I get to travel all around the world and do it for free. There's really no downside," he said. "I'll be yo-yoing for the rest of my life. It's my passion and it's not going to stop with age."

Paul Han demonstrates a complex maneuver while fellow yo-yoer Kenny Chow follows along in their friend's Cupertino home on April 4.
JUSTIN ALBERT/ SPARTAN DAILY

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

On April 13, 1989 the Spartan Daily reported that ...

♦ (Above) Adrian Manns, a junior justice administration major, speaks to other students about why plastics pollute the Earth's water.

♦ Former Gov. Jerry Brown was planning to visit SJSU as a part of an eight-college tour.

♦ Santa Clara County records showed two graphic and contradictory stories of alleged gang rapes on the top floor of the 10th Street garage.

SPARTAGUIDE

TODAY

Gatorade Pong Philanthropy Event
5 p.m. at the Delta Upsilon house, 201 S. 11th St. Contact Mike Mattoon at (805) 558-6992 for more information.

Associated Students elections
Vote from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Clark Hall, the Student Union, and Campus Village housing complex.

Tim Wise on Priveledge
12 p.m. to 1 p.m. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library, Room 225/229.

TOMORROW

Spring Job and Internship Fair
12 p.m. in the Barrett Ballroom. Meet with employers who have upcoming summer internship and career opportunities. Open to all majors. Contact Lisa Trikofski at Lisa.Trikofski@sjsu.edu or (408) 924-6016 for more information.

David S. Saurman Provocative Lecture Series
5:15 to 6:45 p.m. at the Morris Dailey Auditorium, contact Jack Estill at john.estill@sjsu.edu for more information.
12 to 1 p.m. in Clark Hall Rm 304, contact Marcia Laughrey at 924-2490 and laughrey@slis.sjsu.edu for more information.

Sparta Guide is provided free of charge to students, faculty and staff members. The deadline for entries is noon, three working days before the desired publication date. Space restrictions may require editing of submission. Entries are printed in the order in which they are received. Submit entries online at thespartandaily.com or in writing at DBH 209.

Smartpen puts note-taking to rest

REVIEW

Matt Santolla
Staff Writer

Students who find themselves too busy taking notes to pay close attention in class should definitely own a Livescribe Pulse Smartpen.

The Smartpen allows people to take written notes and record audio of a person talking at the same time. The Smartpen connects the audio and written notes, so a person can place the pen on a special notepad and the audio will go directly to what was being said at the time it was being written.

This is great for students because the pen can record a teacher's entire lecture. A student can then click on the part of the notes where something important was being written down. Jumping through the audio is quick, easy and simple.

As a device intended for college students, Livescribe made the Smartpen too expensive, with a 2GB Pulse Smartpen costing $149.95.

I don't care what a pen can do, no college student will spend $150 on a pen.

The pen is six inches long and an inch in diameter, but is too light for its size. It feels like you're trying to take notes with a highlighter. I would have made the device heavier and more solid.

The Smartpen is made from titanium and looks slick, with a small, light-up screen that allows a user to easily navigate the pen's menus.

Though the pen will work on normal paper and record audio, it requires special "dot paper" to make full use of its electronic capabilities. "Dot paper" looks like a normal spiral notebook, but at the bottom of every page is a menu bar for jumping through recorded audio.

The "dot" paper has pages with different commands and menus used to operate the pen. To issue a command, the user simply has to press the tip of the pen to a menu button.

This device requires a software download from the Livescribe Web site, which will allow the user to create a myLivescribe account.

With this account, the user can perform many convenient actions unique to the Smartpen. When a person uploads recorded content to the account, a PDF file and a pencast are automatically created. Pencasts are online videos of recorded audio and handwritten notes.

This allows people who have Smartpens and accounts to share their notes from class on the Internet.

It is really cool that a person can upload written notes and audio recordings to his or her computer. For storage purposes, I like being able to access all of my notes from a computer.

The pen is easy to operate. A user can get it to work right out of the box without much difficulty. I am not a tech savvy person, so it's great if I can just take something out of the box and get it to work.

The Smartpen is a useful and helpful device, but wait a year or two to buy this device. Hopefully, it will be much cheaper by then.

The Livescribe Smartpen
CLIFFORD GRODIN / SPARTAN DAILY

FEATURED TWEET

What's your favorite smartphone app?

Daryll_ @SpartanDaily The Chase Mobile Banking App for iPhone so I can keep track of how much money I don't have.

Get your game on with the All-in-1 Gamebox app

REVIEW

Justin Albert
Staff Writer

Since their release, the iPhone, the iPod touch and now the iPad have proven themselves to be competent video gaming devices with enough ingenuity and support from both the developers and gaming community to compete with hand-held giants such as Sony and Nintendo.

A slew of games utilizing the intuitive control schemes and compact processing power of Apple's products have been released through the App Store, allowing Apple users to hop online and download games straight to their devices.

Games typically cost anywhere from $1-10, depending on the developer, but in the current economic climate, it can be hard for some people to invest more than a few dollars into a phone application.

For those of you itching to employ the gaming capabilities of your shiny Apple products but are skeptical about spending more than few dollars on a game, look no further, for the All-in-1 Gamebox gives one the most value they could ask for in a game-centric app.

The All-in-1 Gamebox is a hodgepodge of 28 full games offered at 99 cents, giving those looking to beef up their iPhone game library an easy choice to make.

To be clear, the developers of this app weren't skimping on the quality of these games, despite there being a colossal amount of them included in one package.

We are talking about 28 conceptually different games in their entirety, not shortened mini games. Each game comes with its own set of levels, options and difficulties.

Having playtested all of them, I would have to say that not every game included is an absolute blast, but the majority of them make for enjoyable experiences, which, when looked at separately, more than make up for the Gamebox's $1 asking price.

The main screen of the All-In-1 Gamebox app.
COURTESY OF TRINITI INTERACTIVE LIMITED

At the time of this writing, the app is at version 2.8 and includes 28 games.

The developers have promised to include a new game with every update, making the app an even greater value to those looking to game on their touch devices.

Included in the Gamebox's roster is a wide range of games that stretch across several different genres.

"Iron commando" is a fun, "Contra"-style, side-scrolling shoot em' up with an interesting stick-man art style.

"Robo Rush" is a "Super Mario"-inspired platformer that has players jumping around as a little robot, collecting screws across several different worlds.

"Knights Odyssey" is a bloody little romp around a medieval-esque world in which players do battle with evil knights in an effort to level up their own character.

For those who are more into puzzle games, the Gamebox still has Apple gamers covered.

"Observer" is a quirky "spot the difference" game in which users compare side-by-side photos to discover their differences in a fast-paced, timed format.

To top it off, the Gamebox has a slew of archery and shooter-based games for aspiring armchair snipers.

All things considered, the Gamebox is a tremendous value for those looking to get the most out of a 99 cent asking price.

With the developers adding new games to the growing library with every update free of charge, there's really no arguing over whether the Gamebox is a sound investment.

Cisco likes students' pitch on cloud computing

Matt Santolla
Staff Writer

Imagine being able to access recorded television and video content on a cell phone or mobile device with Internet access.

This was a concept created by a group of SJSU business students who competed in a contest held by Cisco Systems Inc. in March, according to group members.

"The goal of the competition was to create an idea Cisco could pitch to their customers and the service providers to make money with video streaming over the Internet," said Evan Newlove, a senior business administration major with an academic focus in management information systems.

Newlove said the group, which consisted entirely of business administration majors with an academic focus in management information systems, worked together in class and created a concept that was able to achieve the goal.

"We created a strategy that would enable Internet service providers to capture lost revenue," said senior Denise Lurker. "Take for example, Comcast, so to create a strategy where Cisco and Internet service providers like Comcast capture lost revenue to competitors like Google or Yahoo."

Lurker said the group was chosen out of several other SJSU student groups to present its idea to Cisco judges alongside a team from UC Berkeley.

Newlove said the group's idea focused on moving recorded video to a "cloud," which is a server at Cisco headquarters that stores content online. He said their concept allows people to move their digitally recorded video content so anyone can access the content from any mobile device, cellphone or computer.

Lurker said the competition was held at Cisco headquarters in San Jose.

"The judges like the idea because it was going in the direction that they wanted," he said. "The whole competition was monetizing the Internet service providers, and we addressed that. It was on track, that was the word they used, and it was in the direction that Cisco is going forward with, and that was huge for us."

Lurker said the Cisco judges liked the simplicity of their idea.

"We nailed exactly what Cisco wanted to do, which was monetize video and increase ISPs profits without putting them directly in the market," she said.

Lurker said Kobi Loredo, a fellow MIS student, contributed to the development of the SJSU team's strategy.

"If Internet service providers are not making any money, they won't be buying any equipment for Cisco," said teammate Jaspal Bhamra, who also worked with the group.

Bhamra said Cisco needed some way to show Internet service providers that it is possible to make more money while letting content providers present the infrastructures.

"The cool thing about our idea is that it is simple and at the same time these things are practically being done right now," Bhamra said. "It is all in the process."

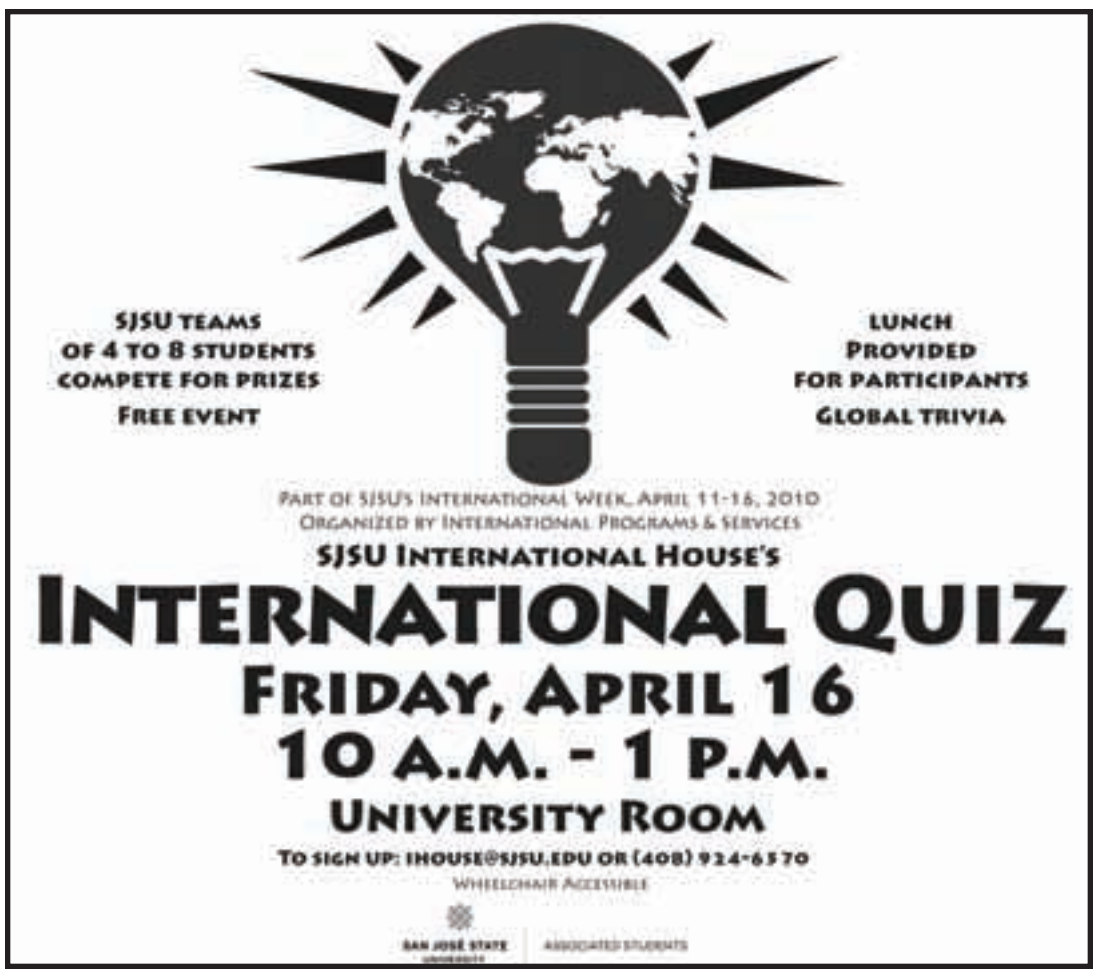
Justin Crowe, another contributer, said anyone with a cellphone or a mobile device with Internet access would benefit from their concept.

"I'm into the whole tech scene, and I am really big into watching shows and movies myself," Crowe said. "What I saw missing from the market was conventional DVRs allow you to only record a few shows at a time. Well, I thought it would be cool if you could record multiple shows at any time."

He said he wanted improve the lives of average people who watch television.

"You would not necessarily have a physical recording device in your home," Crowe said. "The recording device would be a giant massive server farm that Cisco controls, and it would license that content to Comcast or AT&T."

He said the benefit of having recorded content on cloud service would allow people the convenience of accessing that content from any place with an Internet connection.



Former rugby coach plans to restart club team

Melissa Johnson
Staff Writer

After an absence of nearly two years, the women's rugby club team is in the process of making a comeback at SJSU with the help of former coach Karl Laucher and former captain Angela Adrizzone.

Laucher founded the club team in 1997 and coached the team for five years.

In 2003, other coaches took over the team, which was terminated in 2008, Laucher said.

"We want to get women's rugby up and running again at San Jose State because we want to prepare these women for the 2016 Olympic Games," Laucher said.

He said he was confident that during the time that he was the coach at SJSU, he had at least five women who would have been Olympic candidates.

Angela Adrizzone, an alumna and former women's rugby captain at SJSU, who played on the club sports team that went to the Pacific Nationals Championship in 2003, said she desires to help bring the sport back to life on campus.

"There's a bright future for rugby, and we think San Jose State women deserve the right to be introduced to it," Laucher said.

Adrizzone said the problem with club rugby at SJSU is all the work that is involved in running the team.

"It's a big commitment for coaches to do it, because not only do they have to give up their time and effort, they often have to front the bills," she said.

SJSU NCAA sport teams, Adrizzone said, are different from SJSU club sports teams.

> "There's a bright future for rugby, and we think San Jose State women deserve the right to be introduced to it."
>
> **Karl Laucher**
> **head coach**

"The club sports don't get funding for their first year," she said.

Gathering funds and filling out paperwork to get a team going is just a part of the lengthy process of becoming an official club team, Laucher said.

"Even now, when we told them that we wanted to start a women's rugby team, they said 'we don't think you can get it done in time' and they made clear to us all the regulations that were involved," Laucher said. "You hesitate because it sounds like they're going to knock you dead with bureaucracy."

Adrizzone said creating and maintaining club sports can be a difficult feat.

Laucher said with Adrizzone's help, they're trying to draw the interest of all SJSU women interested by the idea of playing women's rugby, regardless of prior experience with the sport.

"With rugby, there are 15 players on each side with 15 positions all playing at once," Adrizzone said. "Anyone could play rugby and have a position."

She said there is a position for every body type and skill level, whether a player is talented at kicking, throwing, running or tackling.

"All the positions you could think of we need a different sized person, or skill to play specific positions," Adrizzone said. "No matter what your athletic ability is you could fit into rugby and play."

Laucher said a lot of women like to play tough sports just as much as men do.

"I like coaching them because they're easier to coach," he said. "They don't just try to kill themselves out on the field. They pay attention and are just as dynamic as the men with the same fighting spirit as we know in all sports."

While the team is recruiting interested players, Laucher said the women's rugby team will not be holding tryouts because any student who is seriously interested and committed is guaranteed a spot on the team.

"If they're ready to come out, play and learn the game, we'll condition them and get them into shape," Adrizzone said.

Undeclared freshman Natalie Mendoza said she would consider giving rugby a try.

Sophomore science major Julie Tran said she didn't know there were women's rugby teams.

"I know it's a sport played mostly in European countries, but I didn't know they had women's leagues in the United States, too," Tran said.

According to the official Web site of the Olympic Games, the International Olympic Committee Session voted in October 2009 to include rugby in the list of sports that will be played in the 2016 Olympic Games.

When men's rugby was in the 1924 Olympics, Laucher said the American team won the gold medal.

Former rugby head coach Karl Laucher and Angela Adrizzone, an alumna and former women's rugby captain at SJSU practice rugby. Adrizzone and Laucher plan to restart the women's rugby club team at SJSU. KIBIWOT LIMO / SPARTAN DAILY

CLASSIFIEDS

HOUSING

SJSU INTERNATIONAL HOUSE
One block to campus.
US & International students.
Safe. Friendly. Homelike.
Intercultural experience.
Wireless Internet access.
Computer lab. Study room.
Student kitchen.
Assigned parking (fee).
One semester contract.
Apply now! 360 S. 11th St. 924-6570 or http//sjsu.edu/ihouse

EMPLOYMENT

SURVEY TAKERS NEEDED: Make $5-$25 per survey. GetPaidToThink.com.

EARN EXTRA MONEY Students needed ASAP. Earn up to $150 per day being a Mystery Shopper. No Experience Required. Call 1-800-722-4791

STUDENT WORK
Featured in the Wall Street Journal.
* $16.75 BASE - appt.
* FLEXIBLE SCHEDULES
* No experience necessary
*Training provided
*Customer sales/service
*Scholarships awarded annually
*Internships possible
*Some conditions apply
*All majors may apply
CALL FOR INTERVIEW
(408) 368-8610 - South SJ
(408) 866-1100 - West SJ
(408) 940-9400 - Mtn View
(510) 790-2100 - East Bay
www.workforstudents.com/sjsu

DISCLAIMER
The Spartan Daily makes no claim for products or services advertised below nor is there any guarantee implied. The classified columns of the Spartan Daily consist of paid advertising and offers are not approved or verified by the newspaper. Certain advertisements in these columns may refer the reader to specific telephone numbers or addresses for additional information. Classified readers should be reminded that, when making these further contacts, they should require complete information before sending money for goods or services. In addition, readers should carefully investigate all firms offering employment listings or coupons for discount vacations or merchandise.

SERVICES

25% DISCOUNT FOR EDUCATORS
Save Hundreds on Auto Insurance. Call 1-877-451-4943 or instant quotes at http://www.autoagency.com/educators

Ken Donaldson Insurance Agency Ca License 0E05617

STUDENTS SAVE ON CAR INSURANCE
Special Programs for Students - Call 1-877-451-4943 or instant online quotes at http://www.autoagency.com/students

Ken Donaldson Insurance Agency CA License 0E05617

OPPORTUNITIES

$$SPERM DONORS WANTED$$ Earn up to $1,200.00/ month. Give the gift of family through California Cryobank's donor program. Apply online: SPERMBANK.com

Need a Roommate?
Need a Job?
Need a Roommate with a Job?
Spartan Daily Classifieds

PREVIOUS PUZZLES SOLVED

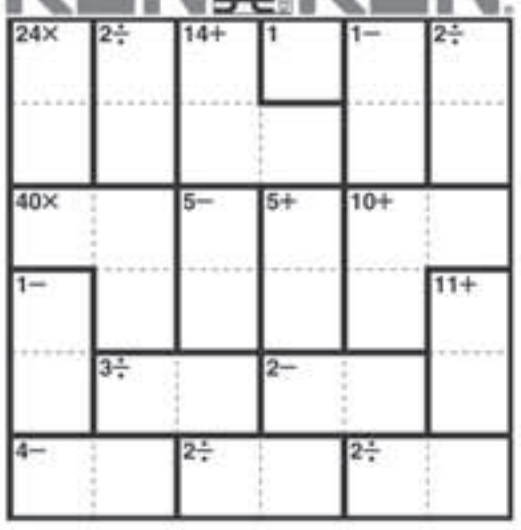
7	2	3	4	1	5	6	9	8
5	8	4	6	2	9	3	7	1
6	1	9	3	7	8	2	4	5
1	9	2	8	4	6	7	5	3
3	5	6	7	9	2	1	8	4
8	4	7	5	3	1	9	2	6
9	6	1	2	5	4	8	3	7
2	7	5	1	8	3	4	6	9
4	3	8	9	6	7	5	1	2

3	4	5	6	1	2
4	1	6	3	2	5
5	2	3	4	6	1
6	5	2	1	4	3
1	3	4	2	5	6
2	6	1	5	3	4

SUDOKU

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

KENKEN



Rules for KenKen
1. Each row and column must contain the numbers 1 through 6 without repeating.
2. The numbers within the heavily outlined boxes, called cages, must combine using the given operation (in any order) to produce the target numbers in the top-left corners.
3. Freebies: Fill in single-box cages with the number in the top-left corner.

TODAY'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE

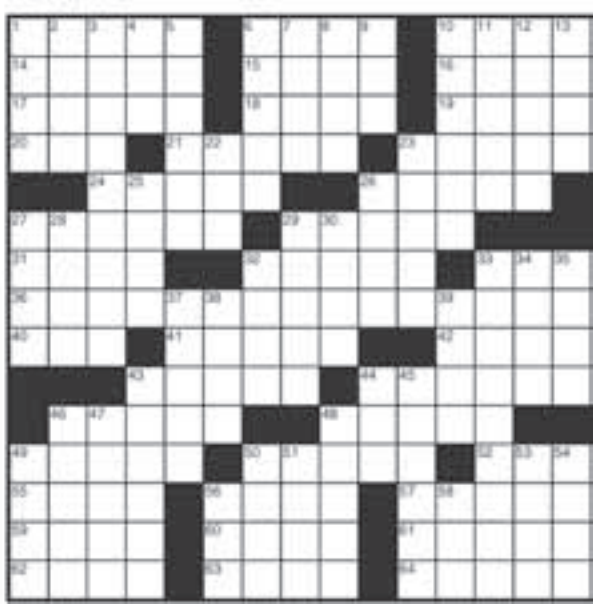
ACROSS
1 Boring (hyph.)
6 Suit's third piece
10 Hockey feint
14 Same
15 Currier's partner
16 She, in Seville
17 — and dined
18 Marathon or 10K
19 John — (the Lone Ranger)
20 Down for the count
21 Frighten away
23 Gives autographs
24 Tiny streams
26 Change colors
27 Humiliates
29 Magna cum —
31 Yothers or Sinatra
32 Cobra kin
33 Fitting
36 Brainy one (2 wds.)
40 Frothy brew
41 Used a beeper
42 Sec'y
43 Grinch creator
44 Shark tagalong
46 Night sky streaker
48 Claus von —
49 Egads!
50 Tackle a mountain
52 — Turner, Styron hero
55 Worse than bad
56 Having no cards in a suit
57 Relating to sheep
59 Salon rinse
60 Curved roof
61 Forty —
62 Applies frosting
63 Kitchen meas.
64 Long stories

DOWN
1 Bird of prey
2 Mixed bag
3 Obstacle
4 Hula accompaniment
5 Snoop
6 Computer menace
7 John, in Wales
8 Minority group
9 Mao — -tung
10 Ridicule
11 Mournful poem
12 "Dave" actor
13 Diving-bell inventor
22 Hirt and Gore
23 Roomy vehicle
25 Ms. Dinesen
26 Country yokel
27 Gillette product
28 Sci. course
29 Shoestrings
30 Between
32 E-mail contents
33 Repudiating
34 Former UN power
35 'Butch Cassidy' role
37 Touche provokers
38 Drawn tight
39 —'-shanter
43 Processes ore
44 Pirate's quaff
45 Pipe bends
46 Kind of duty
47 Reckon
48 Waits awhile
49 Hairy humanoid
50 Talks fondly
51 Like a wet noodle
53 "Diana" recording star
54 Dick Tracy's wife
56 PC screen
58 Airline ticket word

PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED

B	A	S	S	■	A	T	H	O	S	■	G	P	A	S
N	I	G	H	■	D	O	G	M	A	■	E	O	N	S
A	L	T	O	■	V	I	T	A	L	■	N	U	N	S
I	S	S	U	E	■	■	S	H	I	V	E	R	S	■
■	■	■	L	L	D	S	■	A	V	E	R	■	■	■
H	A	R	D	B	O	I	L	■	A	R	O	M	A	■
M	P	H	■	E	D	D	I	E	■	B	U	I	L	D
O	H	I	O	■	O	L	L	I	E	■	S	T	I	R
S	I	N	C	E	■	E	A	G	L	E	■	Z	E	E
■	D	E	C	A	F	■	C	H	E	E	P	I	N	G
■	■	■	U	R	E	Y	■	T	E	L	E	■	■	■
■	P	E	R	S	I	A	N	■	■	S	L	A	B	S
W	E	A	R	■	S	H	A	G	S	■	L	Y	R	A
H	A	V	E	■	T	O	R	T	E	■	E	L	O	I
O	K	E	D	■	Y	O	D	E	L	■	T	A	W	S

© 2010 United Feature Syndicate, Inc.



CLASSIFIED AD RATE INFORMATION

- A minimum of three lines is required.
- Each line averages 25 spaces.
- Each letter, number, punctuation mark, and space is formatted into an ad line.
- The first line will be set in bold type and upper case for no extra charge, averaging 20 spaces.

Deadline is 10:00am, 2-weekdays prior to publication.

MINIMUM THREE LINE CLASSIFIED AD:

DAYS:	1	2	3	4
RATE:	$10.00	$15.00	$20.00	$25.00

$2.50 each additional line after the third line.
$3.00 each additional day.

FREQUENCY DISCOUNT: 40+ consecutive issues: 10% discount

SJSU STUDENT RATE: FREE *student ID, walk-in required

Not intended for businesses and/or other persons.
Frequency discount does not apply.

RATES ARE CONSECUTIVE DAYS ONLY - ALL ADS ARE PREPAID
NO REFUNDS ON CANCELED ADS

Spartan Daily classified ads appear in print and online.

Place your ad at the service window in Dwight Bentel Hall, 209 on M-F 10am-3pm or online at:
www.thespartandaily.com
Advertising > Classified Ads > Register

QUESTIONS? Call 408.924.3270

Escaping to sportland

Matt Santolla
Staff Writer

Whether it is the start of the Major League Baseball season, the return of Tiger Woods, or the upcoming start of the NHL playoffs, it is times like these that I just sit back and love the fact that I am a sports fan.

With all the stress that comes from midterms and family drama, I constantly find myself wanting to escape from all the problems I have.

So when I chill out on the couch and watch all the major sporting events playing out in the month of April, it is not hard for me to indulge.

Let's start with the 2010 Master's Golf Championship. This, by far, was the greatest golfing event in the last 10 years.

Of course, there is no bigger story then Tiger Woods' return to golf.

How was he going to play? Would he win the event? Would any of his mistresses come out of the woodwork and crash the event?

These are storylines you can't find anywhere else on television.

Overshadowed by the Woods saga was the tale of Phil Mickelson. Mickelson had to focus on golf while his mother and wife battle breast cancer.

With a heavy heart, Mickelson competed in the biggest event of the year, and had one of the greatest performances of his career, winning the championship in a spectacular fashion.

I was glued to the TV, and I don't even like golf.

With most of my attention on guys wearing funny pants, hitting a ball around a grass course, I almost forgot the Giants were off to a terrific start to the season.

Baseball is the greatest viewing event for the ultimate sports fan couch potato.

The Giants are legitimate contenders this year, and as a true fan, I have to watch.

Although the Warriors have been terrible this year, it was cool watching Stephen Curry and company help Don Nelson break the record for all-time wins in the NBA.

Nelson is a colorful character and watching him on TV is always interesting.

This month, I watched Anderson Silva defeat Demian Maia for a UFC record sixth straight title defense.

As a hardcore mixed martial arts fan, I appreciate watching great champions compete. The level of skill it takes to be a mixed martial arts fighter is unbelievable.

I still can't believe Silva has marched into the UFC and completely dominated the opposition.

All of these ongoing sporting events are great to watch, but to me the biggest sporting event in the month of April is the upcoming NFL Draft.

Are the Raiders going to draft a left tackle with the eighth pick? Will C.J. Spiller be on the board when the Niners are on the clock?

These are questions I sit and dwell over night after night.

Everybody is different, and the way I escape reality is by watching sports.

From guys golfing in funny clothes to warriors destroying each other in the octagon, the world of sports has allowed me to forget the fact that I am failing my mass communications class.

> **Baseball is the greatest viewing event for the ultimate sports fan couch potato.**

Some people exercise to deal with stress and others make music.

I sit on the couch for hours and watch the drama unfold.

Stovetop meditations

Ryan Fernandez
Not Yet Rated

I nearly seared my fingerprints off while pulling a pan of roasted chicken thighs out of the oven.

Before that, I nearly shortened my fingers by a quarter of an inch while slicing vegetables.

I suppose that's the price to be paid for a meal that's delicious and moderately healthy.

Sure, I could have gone out to a restaurant or picked something up from a fast-food joint. I could have gorged myself on sugar and salt and oh-so-delicious grease — the flavor of the lowest common denominator — for only a couple bucks.

That's not to say I don't enjoy any of the junk food. If it's good enough for millions of satisfied customers every day, it's good enough for me. I'm not going to turn down an expedition to the awesome Thai place down the street.

Still, there's something ineffably more enjoyable about eating home-cooked food.

It could be the sense of accomplishment in seeing the product of my own two hands on a plate. A circle is thus completed, with the energy put into creating a meal returning to its source.

It could also be the control I can exert over my meals. I can eat what I want to eat, whenever I choose to eat. I know exactly what I put into my food, in what dimensions and in what proportions, cooked precisely to my tastes.

The flip side is that I would have no one but myself to blame for substandard cuisine.

For me, the real draw behind cooking my own meals is something infinitely more visceral than health, pride or price.

It is peace of mind, a meditation in motion that engages all the senses.

The smell is always the first thing that draws me to the stove.

Taste is also paramount, as are sound (while the food is cooking) and texture and appearance, but they're secondary sensations.

None of them have the power to reach people from around corners, to draw them out from behind barriers and to bring them in from the outdoors.

The ears come close to replicating this ability, in the sizzle and the snap, the pop and the rap-rap-rapping of thinly sliced meat and vegetables stir-frying in a pan that's just this side of being too hot to touch.

Taste buds have woefully short-ranged sensory capabilities and fingertips require a hands-on approach, while photons have an annoying tendency to scatter.

The chicken smells spicy, and I might have gone a bit overboard with the garlic.

Nah, there's no such thing.

They've taken on a golden-red hue from the chili paste and turmeric in the cooking sauce, but they look pretty dry.

Nope, their appearance is deceiving. A flash of steel from the knife in my hand reveals that each thigh is still perfectly moist on the inside.

The oven is not my appliance of choice — I prefer to cook on the stovetop.

At the stove, it's easier for me to fall into my familiar meditative rhythm.

I find the stovetop to be infinitely more forgiving than the oven. My cooking is immediately accessible: I can see, smell, taste and stir as easily as I can stand. I can adjust recipes and proportions on the fly, make alterations as I wish.

Oven-work requires a little more preparation and a lot more waiting.

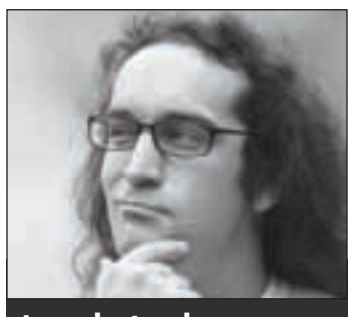
I can't stand waiting. Even when I'm doing nothing, I have to do something — which is why traditional, sitting-in-the-lotus-position-while-changing-"Om" meditation never worked for me.

I can still relax while working with the oven — it's just a lot harder.

Still, I've found that no matter how I cook, Nirvana is as close as the heating element in my stove.

"Not Yet Rated" appears biweekly on Tuesdays.
Ryan Fernandez is a Spartan Daily copy editor.

The pointless quest for the lost art of argument



Angelo Lanham
Yes, I have a Point

After reading an article about spanking kids in TIME magazine, I decided to make a giant sign.

More on the sign later.

The article suggested that spanking children is an even more damaging way to discipline children than previously thought — that whacking your kid for drawing on the walls may teach him/her/it that aggression is the best way to deal with problems. Further, the article suggested that kids who are spanked become more aggressive 5-year-olds than those who aren't.

It's not the strangest stretch of logic. You wash Mom's car with rocks and find yourself suddenly having a fundamental disagreement with Mom. Mom paddles you around a bit, and you surmise that the best way to deal with fundamental disagreements is a good paddlin' session.

I'm not going to get into that debate, because along with abortion and politics, spanking is one of those stalemate issues that just can't be constructively argued. Just try. I have, and I can barely get a sentence out before my very excited opponent interrupts and manically reminds me that I am wrong.

To hear people debate the spanking issue, it would seem that there is little area between knocking your kid around with a phone book until its kidneys fly out and calmly sending a child to a corner called the "naughty spot" because the parent in question saw some ninny on the television do it.

My solution, I think, is simply not to reproduce. There is already a smattering of people who ardently argue that I should not reproduce, and if I comply, it keeps me away from this conundrum.

I've argued with people about abortion, only to find a snarling, red-faced opponent, frothing at the mouth — and the other guy was pretty pissed, too. It was also mentioned that I was a murderer and the Anti-Christ.

I've argued politics only to be called a communist who doesn't care about where my money goes.

It's a sad fact that the art of arguing has been lost. There is no well-tempered debate to be had involving any of these hot-button issues.

The initial speaker will be silenced by a flurry of emotionally charged words, only to have the same thing happen in return.

To hear Professor Rucker, the Bob of SJSU Mass Communications, tell it, there was a point in time in the 1960s that a couple of people could plunk down, say "Let's rap," and have a little debate.

It would get heated, but there could be a dialogue of sorts, and the friendship didn't necessarily need to terminate when one side didn't conform to the other.

Imagine that. People always say not to bring up politics or religion in polite company. In all fairness, they've always said that, even in the '60s. There's a reason — it takes normal people and turns them into single-minded blithering idiots.

> **I've argued politics only to be called a communist who doesn't care about where my money goes.**

It seems, though, that the opportunity for reasonable discourse on controversial topics is waning even more. Watch a couple of people argue about something.

It results in either a screaming match between hotheads or the submission of the calmer party.

The former matchup will go to blows over an issue, and the latter is non-confrontational enough to just throw hands up and say, "Screw it."

What is this inane fear of disagreement we have built into our culture?

Is it a deep-rooted apprehension about not being liked?

Well, the TIME article was floating around in my head as I walked by San Fernando and Fourth streets. A fellow I have titled "The Jesus Guy" had a humongous sign that read, on one side, that Jesus saves, and on the other side, that he has also the ability to keep you out of hell.

A rotating cast of individuals hollered their approval, preaching to the masses, all of whom walked briskly by and avoided eye contact.

Well, at least they have the gall to holler their beliefs. More gall than I had, as I quickly crossed the street and continued my search for pizza.

As I crossed San Fernando, I thought perhaps I should join them with my own sign — not one that disagrees entirely, such as "Evil Rocks," or "Satan Rules," but just one that puts things in perspective.

A huge sign that reads "Maybe," for example. So it would be "Jesus Saves ... Maybe."

Somehow, though, I think even my attempt to offer perspective would have been treated aggressively. And I don't want to piss off The Jesus Guy, y'know, just in case.

But hey, if anyone wants to do a little stalemate rap with me on a hot-button issue, I'm down, if you can find me.

I'm calm, reasonable, will listen, and won't go to blows over it.

How about you?

"Yes, I have a Point," appears weekly on Tuesdays.
Angelo Lanham is a Spartan Daily copy editor.

Spartan Daily
San Jose State University
San Jose, CA 95192-0149
Phone: (408) 924-3281

SPARTAN DAILY STAFF

Joey Akeley, *Executive Editor*
Husain Sumra, *Managing Editor*
Kirsten Aguilar, *Multimedia Editor*
Michelle Gachet, *Multimedia Editor*
Suzanne Yada, *Online/Copy Editor*
Leonard Lai, *Opinion Editor*
Jill Abell, *Features Editor*
Kyle Szymanski, *Sports Editor*
Minh Pham, *A & E Editor*
Jennifer Hadley, *A & E Editor*
Ryan Fernandez, *Copy Editor*
Angelo Lanham, *Copy Editor*
Stefan Armijo, *Photo Editor*
My Nguyen, *Production Editor*
Rachel Peterson, *Production Editor*
Jenny Ngo, *Advertising Director*
Shirlene Kwan, *Creative Director*
Amy Donecho, *Assistant Advertising Director*
Tanya Flores, *Assistant Creative Director*

STAFF WRITERS

Justin Albert
Regina Aquino
Eric Austin
Eric Bennett
Ben Cadena
Amaris Dominguez
Jasmine Duarte
Jenn Elias
Donovan Farnham
Ashley Finden
Lidia Gonzalez
Salman Haqqi
Daniel Herberholz
Kevin Hume
Alicia Johnson
Melissa Johnson
Hannah Keirns
Anna-Maria Kostovska
Jhenene Louis
Marlon Maloney
Andrew Martinez
Kathryn McCormick
Kristen Pearson
Melissa Sabile
Matt Santolla
Angelo Scrofani
Amber Simons
Eric Van Susteren
Shiva Zahirfar

ADVERTISING STAFF

Nicholette Bankmann
Brooke Carpenter
Sarah Clark
Melissa Funtanilla
Amanda Geannacopulos
Kristopher Lepiten
Jon Nemeth
Alan Nguyen
Karl Nguyen
Darren Pinto
Alan Potter
Tyler Swasey
Daniel Tesfay
Phong Tran

SENIOR STAFF WRITERS

Hank Drew
Scott Reyburn
Tommy Wright
Jon Xavier

STAFF PHOTOGRAPHERS

Nelson Aburto
Briana Calderon
Andrew Villa
Kibiwot Limo

DISTRIBUTION

Piyush Bansal
Gurdip Chera

ADVISERS

Richard Craig, News
Mack Lundstrom, News
Jan Shaw, News
Kim Komenich, Photojournalism
Tim Hendrick, Advertising
Tim Burke, Production Chief
Tim Mitchell, Design
Pat Wallraven, Business Manager

OPINION PAGE POLICY

Letters to the editor may be placed in the letters to the editor box in the Spartan Daily office in Dwight Bentel Hall, Room 209, sent by fax to (408) 924-3282, e-mailed to spartandaily@casa.sjsu.edu or mailed to the Spartan Daily Opinon Editor, San Jose, CA 95192-0149.

Letters to the editor must contain the author's name, address, phone number, signature and major. Letters become property of the Spartan Daily and may be edited for clarity, grammar, libel and length. Only letters of 300 words or less will be considered for publication.

Published opinions and advertisements do not necessarily reflect the views of the Spartan Daily, the School of Journalism and Mass Communication or SJSU. The Spartan Daily is a public forum.

Cheap fare sets bells ringing at Firehouse bar

REVIEW

Eric Bennett
Staff Writer

Bartender Cayce Osborn prepares a "stoplight" beverage for patrons at Firehouse No. 1 Bar and Grill in San Pedro Square on Monday. NELSON ABURTO / SPARTAN DAILY

David, a bartender at San Pedro Square's Firehouse No. 1 Bar and Grill, rings the rusted bell behind the counter just about anytime he can — for example, at the end of the wise-ass jokes he or drunken customers sometimes blurt out.

"A pitbull could wear a dress, but that doesn't make it any prettier," cracked the bartender with a tattoo on the inside fold of his elbow, to apparent 20-something regulars guzzling down their various pre-gaming elixirs.

And maybe, whether for effect or profoundness, the bell is rung and the locals embrace it like the loud ding signifies good times are rolling.

"Whenever the mood strikes," David said.

The laughs were abundant at Firehouse No. 1 and the local beer smoothly warming my insides made it even easier to appreciate a bar that's aesthetically a notch above your typical bar and grill combo.

Any time the bell echoed, I was expecting a small herd of firefighters to erupt from the kitchen, equipped with the fire-retardant jackets and slick axes I saw pinned to the ceiling above the bar.

Unfortunately, they never showed up, despite the one-block distance from the actual San Jose Firehouse No. 1. The close proximity and original red and brick walls, David said, were the inspiration for the decor and name three years ago.

When it's happy hour on a Friday night and you can get three ales for less than $10, the mood seems to frequently call for the tolling of the bell.

But this fire station-themed bar seems to corral everyone from middle-aged women discussing Suze Orman's latest financial strategies over a glass of red wine to the typical blue jeans and San Jose Sharks T-shirt-wearing layman looking for a quick fix in the form of a vodka and Red Bull.

As I waited a short minute or two for my San Francisco-brewed Anchor Steam ale, I followed the eye candy bordering the ceiling — yellow fire hydrants, oxygen tanks and 10-foot-long pointed stakes that left me wondering whether they were used to poke unwary cats snoozing in trees.

Few things distract you from the firehouse ambiance, such as an electronic jukebox, or the required fire extinguishers that seem oddly out of place below hard hats and valves that you anticipate spitting cold water.

The only aspect of the firehouse that is missing is a metal pole running down from the ceiling, but I'm pretty sure I know why it's absent.

The discounted ales went down so easily that I began to question whether I'd become an alcoholic as of late. I haven't — they were just smooth. The basket of piping hot, crisp fries with dashes of cilantro blended tragically well with the bitter, yet not overpowering, hoppy taste of Mirror Pond ale.

As I casually licked the leftover ranch from the corners of my lips and discretely wiped the salt off my fingers against my sweater, I learned that the bar even attracts cocktail dresses and suits.

A man in the suit claimed his attire was nothing special and that he is running for city council. Sharing the name of some locals' favorite liquor to mix with pineapple juice might score a few extra votes. He may have actually ordered a Hennessey and pineapple juice.

The prices were right, the ales and appetizers hit the spot and the barstool company included people from all walks of life. The bartenders even provided moments of entertainment between the hustle and bustle of taking the drink orders of eager night crawlers.

Go for the 3 to 7 p.m. half-price drinks and munchies and stay for the sporadic bell–ringing that occurs only beneath the hooks and ladders of Firehouse No. 1.

Pizz'a Chicago offers taste of the Windy City

RESTAURANT OF THE WEEK

Daniel Herberholz
Staff Writer

(Above) The cheesy garlic bread from Pizz'a Chicago. (Right) A waiter sprinkles Parmesan cheese on a slice of Pizz'a Chicago's signature "Wrigley Field" pizza.
DANIEL HERBERHOLZ / SPARTAN DAILY

From the pan pizza to the firehouse garage doors, "Pizz'a Chicago" is an ode to its namesake.

As a group of friends and I walked into the restaurant, located on San Fernando and San Pedro streets, we were immersed in everything Chicago all the way down to the blues on the speakers and the sports memorabilia on the walls.

There is a wall dedicated to Michael Jordan, complete with photos of His Airness himself and Bulls championship posters galore. A Sports Illustrated spread of Sammy Sosa and Mark McGwire on the wall behind us commemorated the 1998 baseball season in which the two broke the single-season home run record. Wrigley Field stood in a photo behind our table.

The waiter brought us our water, and I was already impressed. The water was in old-school Mason jars, a cool way to present a normal dining object.

The menu featured creatively titled pizza options. While the "Great Chicago Fire" and the "Sears Tower" looked enticing, we went with two complete opposites — the meat-heavy "Rush Street" and the summer-day "Wrigley Field."

A 10-inch small was $16.75, a hefty price for a tasty pizza.

We also selected a cheesy garlic bread for while we waited for the pizza — which was a good idea because it was a 20-minute wait.

The garlic bread had cheese that popped off the soft bread. Its fresh taste could be accented by dipping it into a bowl of marinara sauce so warm it had steam rising from it.

The dish left a very nice cheesy aftertaste — not overwhelmingly strong, nor too light.

The pizza arrived and the waiter pulled the slices out of a three-inch-deep circular pan, a different way to serve pizza than local San Jose pizza places.

He asked if we wanted Parmesan cheese, and upon our accepting his offer, he began grating cheese onto our slices using a button-operated, electric cheese grater. It was like automatic snow.

I had to try the "Wrigley Field" first.

Anchored by a bed of pesto and feta cheese, it included teriyaki chicken, roasted garlic and sun-dried tomatoes. The combination was brightly colored in the pan, with the green pesto, white cheese, brown chicken and brilliant red tomatoes.

Soft and melty, the ingredients worked well together as I chewed a bite in my mouth.

The sharp feta complemented the chewy chicken. The pesto acted in concert with the other flavors without getting in the way like a marinara sauce might have. The tomatoes provided a nice burst of freshness next to the solid garlic.

This dish was perfectly named. In a baseball season, the Cubs need pitchers, fielders, batters, fans and luck (sorry, Cubbie fans). In this pizza, you get every aspect of Wrigley Field. The tomatoes sat in the outfield, the pesto and feta manned the infield, the bases were loaded by the teriyaki chicken — say, Ichiro Suzuki, Hideki Matsui and Hideo Nomo.

On the other hand, "Rush Street" was a weighty mix of spicy sausage, pepperoni, Canadian bacon, linguica and meatballs.

Stuffed as a teddy bear, "Rush Street" worked best with ranch, adding a light atmosphere to the heavy ground of meat.

Also, it was easy to split the payment of the pizza between friends.

If you're looking for Chicago, go to the home of the "Wrigley Field."

Northern Son's debut album shines bright

REVIEW

Salman Haqqi
Staff Writer

The debut album "Wider Skies" from the band Northern Son. PHOTO COURTESY OF THE NORTHERN SON MYSPACE PAGE

South Bay rockers Northern Son have been on a roll these days. The band's debut album, "Wider Skies," came out this February and the band hasn't looked back, playing shows all over the Bay Area with a fan base that grows with each show.

Born from the ashes of well-known local bands such as My Former Self and Plans For Revenge, Northern Son's sound has a comforting familiarity to it, while still possessing a freshness that keeps me interested.

It's always refreshing to find a band whose sound is difficult to neatly pigeonhole into a specific genre.

The album kicks off with the title track, "Wider Skies," a solid opener with a catchy opening acoustic guitar riff supported by a good old-fashioned distorted guitar progression.

In many ways, this track sums up the band's sound in a nutshell.

From the get-go, it's abundantly clear that Tom Petty ranks high among the band's influences. Its sound possesses that good old-fashioned American heartland vibe that Tom Petty has come to symbolize.

Even though the lyrics cover simple subjects such as love and friendship, it's that simplicity that makes me relate to them personally and gives them an endearing sense of sincerity.

One of the songs that embodies that spirit is a track called, "Downtown." As the chorus goes, "We're going down, downtown / Where they know our faces not our names." It's a catchy, straight-up rock 'n' roll track with distorted guitars and a melody that's perfect to sing along to with friends on a Saturday night.

"This Old Town" is a folky track starting with a jangly acoustic guitar and channels Tom Petty's "I Won't Back Down" to an extent that might raise a few eyebrows, but it's hard to be to too harsh because of the song's simple elegance.

What's most impressive about the album is the quality of the songwriting. All the songs have a maturity that is a rare commodity in many of today's upcoming bands.

The members of the band play to serve the song rather than showboat their individual skills.

The rhythm section, in the form of percussionists Bret Nunn, Sean Ghavi and bassist Tyler Florence, is tight and steady and allows the guitars and vocals to shine.

The stand out track on the album is a rocking ballad, "Love Will Find A Way."

It opening with a delicate melody played with a clean guitar, but as soon as the drums kick in, the track rockets up a few gears. It's a perfect stage song with a distinct chorus that will please crowds anywhere.

For a first album, "Wider Skies" is without a doubt a commendable effort.

Most of the tracks have great hooks that engage me, and each member adds subtle textures and layers to each song that shows their attention to detail.

Even though Tom Petty's apparent influence is what drew me to Northern Son in the first place, I would like to see the band develop their own sound in upcoming albums.

That said, Northern Son is by far the best Bay Area band I've come across in a long time, and its debut album makes me look forward to what comes next.