Forum speakers call out SJPD
By Joaquín De La Torre
STAFF WRITER

The San Jose City Council abruptly ended Tuesday’s meeting after an hourlong open forum in which more than 30 people called for “better policing practices” after 20-year-old K’aun Green was shot by San Jose Police earlier last week.

On March 27, San Jose Police shot Green outside La Victoria Taqueria on San Carlos Street, according to an April 1 NBC News article.

Green’s lawyer said he was disarming a gunman during a fight at the restaurant before he was shot, according to the same article.

SJ State students, San Jose community members and Bay Area residents asked for “police accountability.”

“A badge should not shield police officers from accountability,” SJSU alumna Lana Gomez said during public comment. “For the public to truly be able to be safe, we need police accountability.”

Gomez said SJPD should promptly release the full unedited body camera footage.

Women Against Period Poverty members, who are SJ State students, advertise their campaign on campus on March 23.

Newspaper of the Year

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SJSU community honors Yoshihiro Uchida’s birthday
By Rajana Cevic & Jamie Bennett
NEWS EDITORS & SENIOR STAFF WRITERS

More than 50 people gathered at Yoshihiro Uchida Hall Friday to celebrate judo head coach Yoshihiro Uchida’s 102nd birthday.

Those in attendance included the San Jose State judo team, alumni and family members, and friends of coach Uchida.

Something that I really like about Mr. Uchida is that, even at his age, he’s always positive and smiling.

Nina Seone
Judo team captain

Uchida was born in Calexico, California in 1920, the third of five children. At the age of 10, he started to learn judo.

Judo, meaning “gentle way” is a form of modern Japanese martial arts, a system of unarmed combat which primarily involves turning your opponent’s force to one’s own advantage versus opposing it directly. In an article by Puncher media describing the sport, judo has a moral code including the principles of politeness, courage, sincerity, honor, modesty, respect, self-control, and friendship.

According to Black Belt Magazine, judo was considered a traditional method for Japanese parents in America to instill culture in their children.

After the event, Uchida said doing judo has felt “like a lifetime.”

“I started when I was 10 right through the Great Depression in the 1930s,” he said. I enrolled in a judo class in Southern California, and I’ve been at it ever since.

Uchida life changed drastically at the start UCHIDA

Women Against Period Poverty (WAPP), a campaign started by San Jose State students, is asking the university to install menstrual product dispensers and provide free menstrual products in all restrooms on campus.

The Student Union and Duncan Hall are the only two buildings on campus with free period product dispensers but they’re financed by Associated Students and only available in women’s restrooms, according to the WAPP petition.

Sociology junior Claire Nickison pitched the campaign in her social action class, Sociology 164, with five other students who decided to join the initiative. They made their first social media post on March 1 to introduce their campaign.

Sociology 164 requires students to launch campaigns or organizations to bring social change in the SJSU community, Nickison said in a Zoom call.

“If we’re being expected to provide ourselves with our own period products, we’re being told by the university that our experience is othered,” Nickison said. “That we are responsible for our own bodily functions in a way that people who don’t menstruate are not.”

She said the concept of period poverty isn’t specific to SJSU, it’s an issue happening on a global scale.

About 14% of U.S. college-attending women in 2020 experienced period poverty, or the lack of access to menstrual products, according to a Jan. 6 study published by BMC Women’s health.

BMC Women’s health is an open access journal.

Women Against Period Poverty members, who are SJ State students, advertise their campaign on campus on March 23.

Student group campaigns to end period poverty at SJSU
By Eva Martin
STAFF WRITER

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in compliance with SB-412, a California law. The bill requires local and state police departments to release police records publicly that involve incidents of police misconduct, according to the California Legislative Information website. Currently, SPD only releases video footage from the body camera footage in a March 28 interview. Lana Gomez, vice president for social work at W APP, said she believes the press should be the person to decide—“a fraction of a second,” she said in a phone interview. “A fraction of a second is not enough time for the police officer deciding to shoot.” During the interview, San Jose Mayor Sam Liccardo released the stills that looked like they were clearly given to the public, the press, everyone who listened to the police chief’s message would have seen that, that still was a fraction of a second, she said. The stills were shown as part of a news conference. “If the still was released at a fraction of a second, the full content of the video, the public, the press, everyone who listened to the police chief’s message would have seen that, that still was a fraction of a second.”

Simmons, president of Human Empowerment, Radical March 28 Tweet. Simmons said she believes the public, the press, everyone she told in a phone call the incident. “A fraction of a second is not enough time for the police officer deciding to shoot.”

The officer knew that the individual did not when it commands “clearly given to him,” Simmons said. “You can tell the council responded to the community forum. “You can tell via the media they didn’t even put up attention, Simmons said. “They were talking amongst each other, a few city council members got up and walked around.” Simmons said she felt that once the last speaker finished, Liccardo was “emphatic about closing the meeting.”

The相似的 sentiments, Nancy Robles, lead organizer of the Bay Area branch of Party for Socialism and Liberation, said she was disappointed with the Tuesday meeting. Party for Socialism and Liberation is an organization with branches across the country dedicated to bringing together new revolutions alongside veterans with decades of experience, according to their website. “It was just so bad. No comments were made that kind of like [validated] how we were feeling. It was just incredible disappointing,” she said in a phone call after the meeting. Robles said she believes councilmembers need to “speak up” and “denounce the shooting as wrong” going forward. “Liccardo does not hold accountable. For the public to truly be able to be safe, we need police accountability.”

CAMPAIGN

Women Against Period Poverty campaign leaders table on 7th Street Plaza on March 25

We’re being expected to provide ourselves with our own period products, we’re being told by the university that our experience is other.

Claire Nickson, sociology junior, Women Against Period Poverty Intern, said during the city council meeting. “That’s why these things should be a taboo in society.”

“I feel that something is that we should be doing of anyone and I think that’s why it should be more of a talk with the university, not just a vote because I think that it is a big issue that most people are just worried about talk and embarrassment to be able to talk.”

UCCHIDA

Continued from page 1

of World War II, as did the lives of many others, according to an April 3, 2012 New York Times article. He was a 2nd lieutenant in the 1st Infantry Division under President Franklin D. Roosevelt’s command during World War II. After the war, Yoshio Uchida Hall, now named Uchida Hall, was drafted into the army and served as an army medical technician, according to the same article. In 1947, Yoshio Uchida earned his bachelor’s degree in biology and entered the United States Naval Academy in 1948. After graduating in 1957, he remained at the same school while also teaching a lab supervisor on campus. He has continued to be a professor for 50 years. According to the California State University Voting website Uchida, along with UC Berkeley, the judo coach Henry Stone helped make the university the first American to win an Olympic medal and become the first American to medal and become the first American to...
Bring back plot: biopics are dead

We don’t need new cliché-ridden films about celebrities’ lives

By Jennifer Schildge

You cannot condense a person’s life, and in particular any interesting life, into a two-hour movie without shortcuts and cliché storytelling tropes. A biopic is a movie dramatizing the life of a particular person, typically a public or historical figure, according to a Feb. 25 Master Class article.

The description of biopics is a little vague but it’s about anything that has happened in real life. Biopics can focus on a person, event or political history. When turning someone’s life into a film, it needs to be dramatic and bold. Biopics can feel like glamorized documentaries that try to convey too many things to the audience, including cliché life lessons as in last year’s movie “Being the Ricardos,” a film about Lucille Ball and Desi Arnaz.

If an audience wants to know about Ball and Arnaz, viewers should watch the Amazon Prime documentary “Lucy and Desi” because it tells the love story better than the movie adaptation. In some movies and television shows that have come out in the last couple of years, there’s been a disheartening trend with biopics.

I understand wanting to highlight older historical figures but the films about people who are still alive are corny and cringey. I didn’t care much for the movie “King Richard” which is about how professional tennis players Venus and Serena Williams’ dad lived his life. The performances were well done and the filmmaking is solid but it does absolutely nothing new or interesting. The film takes the story of two of the greatest tennis athletes and tells the story of their dad instead.
Continued from page 3

Why is Showtime producing a series about former first ladies Michelle Obama, Betty Ford and Eleanor Roosevelt this month?

Viola Davis is one of the greatest actresses of this generation and in the trailer for “The First Lady” she looks like she’s in a Saturday Night Live sketch imitating her.

I didn’t understand why this story needed to be told. I found myself asking that about nearly every biopic surrounding a public figure.

When someone hears Harding’s name, I doubt they’ll think “Wow, the American figure skater who performed a triple axel successfully in a competition.”

No, they’re thinking about if she hired someone to bust Nancy Kerrigan’s knees. It wasn’t like I was watching a biopic thinking “so, what?” It was done more like a movie, a drama comedy, which is how biopics should be presented.

Biopics should be treated like long documentaries with slow paced and pointless clichés. I think how biopics should be done, uniquely. A more recent 2019 biopic I found myself loving was “I, Tonya.”

“Tonya Harding” is a 1994 biographical drama film directed by Martha Coolidge. It was released on April 29, 1994. The film follows Tonya Harding’s life and career as a figure skater, and her involvement in the 1994 Olympics.

There are some off-the-wall biopics that I admired more because they didn’t feel generic. Although after watching the film “The Eyes of Tammy Faye” I asked myself, “Okay, what was that for?” I thought it was really well done.

“Tammy Faye” is about Jim and Tammy Faye Bakker, a couple who started a religious broadcasting network and pushed prosperity in a religious sense, while Jim joked behind the scenes. From the acting to the cinematography, I didn’t mind watching it. Jessica Chastain took home the Oscar for Best Actress for portraying Tammy Faye and it was deserved.

I didn’t learn about evangelist Tammy Faye and it was interesting to see, I didn’t understand why this story needed to be told. I find myself asking that about nearly every biopic surrounding a public figure.

But films about events are the best kind of biopics.

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