

Spring 4-9-2024

## **Spartan Daily, April 9, 2024**

San Jose State University, School of Journalism and Mass Communications

# Spartan Daily

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Tuesday,  
April 9, 2024

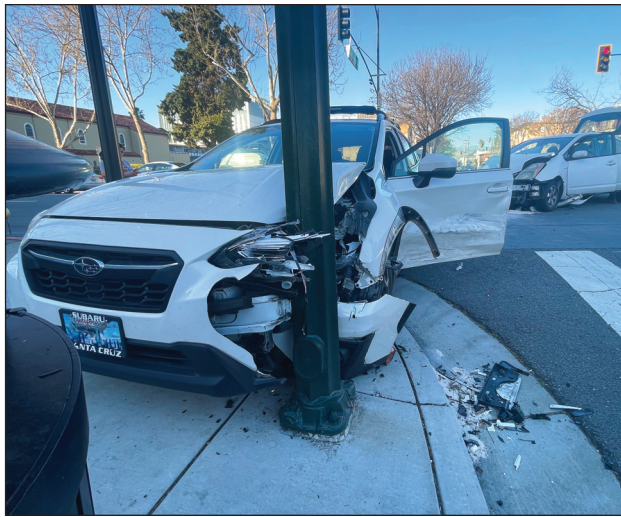
Volume 162  
No. 29

## SPOT NEWS



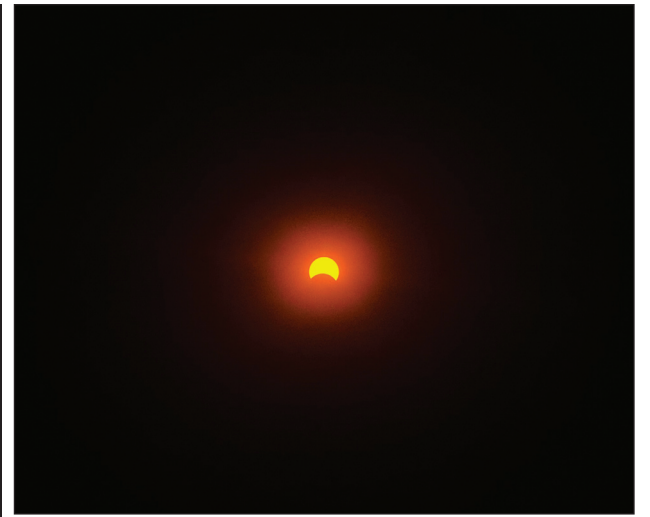
PHOTO COURTESY OF UPD

A unidentified person of interest is being sought by UPD for suspicion of involvement in two fires that started on the eighth floor of the MLK Library, Monday.



ALINA TA | SPARTAN DAILY

No injuries were reported after two cars crashed at around 6 p.m. at the intersection of E. San Salvador Street and Third Street.



MIKE CORPOS | SPARTAN DAILY

California residents got the opportunity to see a rare celestial event after a total solar eclipse passed through Mexico, the U.S. and Canada.

# Ethnic groups discuss advocacy

By Melissa Alejandres  
STAFF WRITER

The Center for Asian Pacific Islander Student Empowerment (CAPISE) at San José State University hosted a speaker discussion event in honor of Arab American Heritage Month in April and Asian Pacific American Month in May on Monday at 2 p.m. in the Student Union.

Asian Pacific American Heritage Month begins in May and celebrates the achievements and accomplishments of API around the United States, according to Asian Pacific American Month's website.

Arab American Heritage Month was officially declared in April 2021 and celebrates the diversity and achievements of Arab Americans, according to the Arab America Foundation Website.

Asian American studies sophomore Yong Ooi, a community organizer at CAPISE, asked speakers opening questions about how students can get involved in

advocacy in more ways than protesting.

CAPISE began with decades of work where faculty and students were requesting a center for API students, Ooi said.

"We provide a space for Asian or Pacific Islander students to hang out, get resources from and career advising and even study abroad advising," she said.

Discussions like these help students engage with advocacy, Ooi said.

One of the speakers, Maryam Ayadi, president of the SJSU Muslim Student Association said her first experience with advocacy started by advocating for a prayer space for Muslim students at SJSU.

"The Muslim community was overlooked, where there is a large population of Muslims on campus," Ayadi said.

The Muslim Student Association was finally able to get a prayer space and room in the MOSAIC Cross Cultural Center, Ayadi said.

Current Program



KAYA HENKES-POWER | SPARTAN DAILY

Students from the Center for Asian Pacific Islander Student Empowerment discuss Arab American Heritage Month and Asian Pacific American Month in the Student Union.

Coordinator for CAPISE Mary Tran said CAPISE offers different services including drop-in hours, a resource library and our first-year Asian Pacific Islander empowerment internship program.

"Specifically today's panel highlighted what advocacy and activism look like for

API and Arab Americans," Tran said.

CAPISE also hosts a lot of events that center around what API means to students and provides the opportunity for students to engage with other people with similar thoughts, she said.

"Many times when we go through experiences we

might feel like we are the only ones, but we are here to let students know we support them," Tran said.

Ooi wrapped up the discussion by asking the panelists what last pieces of advice could be given to students who want to advocate but may not know where to start.

Caz Salamanca, director of the Asian American/Pacific Islander Resource Center at UC Santa Cruz said to start by learning other people's language of advocacy.

"Change can take a long time sometimes, but don't give up on your goal," Salamanca said.

Diana Pondivilla Victa, department manager of the César E. Chávez Community Action Center and president of (CaCCCHE) which is the California Council of Cultural Centers in Higher Education, said understanding your system is the number one step Victa said.

Knowing what it is you want to change is the number one question you should be asking yourself, Victa said.

"You don't need 50 people for change to happen as long as people can support you," Victa said.

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# City proposes building project

By Kaya Henkes-Power  
STAFF WRITER

The City of San José proposed a project that will allow for a 60-foot tall multi-use building to be constructed on the northeast corner of Hemlock Avenue in a meeting on Monday evening.

Planning Project Manager Angela Wong led the webinar and presented the construction project.

Wong said to construct this six-story building, three existing buildings and 15 trees will be demolished.

She said the building will be 166,570 square feet wide and include 75 multifamily dwelling units and 100 residential parking spaces.

Attendees at the meeting proposed a special-use permit amendment and vesting tentative map.

A special-use permit is a type of zoning permit that permits a specific piece of land or property to be used in a way that veers from the usual accepted use of the area, according to a webpage from LegalMatch.

A vesting tentative map shows a

proposed subdivision and allows the right to continue development for a specific period, according to city codes from the City of Dana Point.

"The tentative map is to merge three blocks into one lot for up to eight commercial condominium units," Wong said.

She said the permit will also allow for commercial condominiums to be on the site as well.

Commercial condominiums refer to a project that is intended to or include commercial occupancy, according to a webpage by the Code Publishing Company.

"The site is designated as an (urban village) and it's also within the Santana Row Valley Fair Urban Village Plan," Wong said.

Urban villages are areas that have both residential and job-based developments, have access to transit and are walkable, according to a webpage by the City of San José.

This is in alignment with the city's Envision San José 2040 General Plan, which aims to have 60 urban villages, according to the same webpage.

Urban village plans include

specific requirements for sites depending on where in the city the construction will take place, according to the city's Planning, Building & Code Enforcement webpage.

"These urban village plans allow up to 60 feet in height for the current project height," Wong said.

Sam Monfared, architect of the project and owner of the Carpira Design Group, will be spearheading the project.

"We dedicated a portion of the property to provide the 12-foot sidewalk for pedestrians which is the urban village requirement," Monfared said.

He said the company intends to bring a similar feeling as Santana Row with the project.

An open forum was provided where community members had two minutes to voice concerns or questions.

Adam Ashgari, the owner of the project, said the project would be an asset to the neighborhood in response to community member's concerns in the forum.



SCREENSHOT BY KAYA HENKES-POWER

Digital rendering shows the proposed 60-foot tall multi-use building the City of San José proposed on Monday evening.

"Compared to the other alternatives such as affordable housing, I think having high-end condominiums, which would be owned by people, would be a good asset," Ashgari said.

A community member voiced her concerns about living across from the construction site with her two children.

"I love where I live, even with the issues we've dealt with (but) I would not want to live across from this building," she said "This does not seem like a safe place to have my kids here."

Follow Kaya on Instagram @kayuh.h

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EP REVIEW

# Hozier's EP 'Unheard' is heard

By Christine Tran  
OUTREACH EDITOR

Hozier's newest EP may be titled "Unheard" but the Irish singer's vocals are heard thundering across the four tracks.

I first listened to Hozier, whose real name is Andrew Hozier-Byrne, on the radio when his 2013 track "Take Me to Church" gained traction.

Hozier poured so much of his soul into that song; it is a creamy blend of tender and loving lyrics backed with gospel sounds.

The song was an international hit that certified five-times platinum in the U.S., according to Genius.

Hozier's first self-titled album released in 2014 included "Take Me to Church" and

the album's ninth track "Work Song" is a song I want to play at my wedding someday.

Hozier has such a gift for describing women he loves poetically. The lyrics are gushing of romance in the first verse of "Work Song": "There's nothin' sweeter than my baby / I'd never want once from the cherry tree / 'Cause my baby's sweet as can be / She'd give me toothaches just from kissin' me."

Shakespeare could not write those lyrics on his best day. In Hozier's March 22 EP "Unheard" almost a decade later, Hozier tells a story about how he and his lover lead their individual lives in a mix of genres from rock, funk, and soul on the first track titled "Too Sweet."



GRAPHIC BY SOFIA HILL

Hozier is accompanied with Allison Russell's vocals. Together, they whisk listeners away to the middle of nowhere with them.

Hozier's third track "Empire Now" could easily be featured in an action movie while scenes of the movie's protagonist training for something physically daunting play.

Hozier sings every lyric with precision and power. He is especially remarkable in this song because he usually builds up to his head voice in the last note, but he leads with it in "Empire Now".

The fourth and final track in "Unheard" is "Fare Well" and it serves as a double entendre of saying goodbye to listeners since it's the last track we will hear until his official album release and seeing how well someone can handle a situation.

Hozier aims for the latter, and constantly repeats the title throughout the song in his lyrics, "A kitty-cosy-in-the-engine-type of wouldn't fare well / A dog-deep-in-the-chocolate-kind of

wouldn't fare well."

I will admit Hozier completely lost me with the overwhelming comparisons in those lyrics but the chorus gleams with positivity showing that he can handle come what may, "I'll take any high / Any glazin' of the eyes / Any solitary pleasure that was sorrow in disguise / Let the sun only shine on me through a fallin' sky / I'll be alright."

Hozier's EP shows his musical range through dark storms and tranquil weathers. The only song I have added to my personal playlist is "Too Sweet" because it's catchy and easy to sing along to, but I would say my experience listening to "Unheard" is similar to attending an art museum.

Sure, I'll admire the paintings on the walls and maybe snap a picture but I wouldn't buy anything.

The chorus: "I think I'll take my whiskey neat / My coffee black and my bed at three / You're too sweet for me" seems to be Hozier making a choice not to change his lifestyle for a relationship.

Although Hozier wishes he "could go along" with his lover's routine of sleeping early and waking up to watch sunrises, he expands on how his lover is too sweet in the pre-chorus: "You know you're bright as the morning / As soft as the rain / Pretty as a vine /

As sweet as a grape."

Leave it to Hozier to exclusively compliment someone even if they are not compatible for him and it's lyrics like these that I can only dream of being talked about this way.

His second track "Wildflower and Barley" switches gears to a soft, peaceful ballad about living in the stillness of a quaint countryside surrounded by nature.

This song pairs perfectly with the acoustic guitar playing as

EP review

"Unheard"

Rating:

★★★★☆

**Artist:**  
Hozier

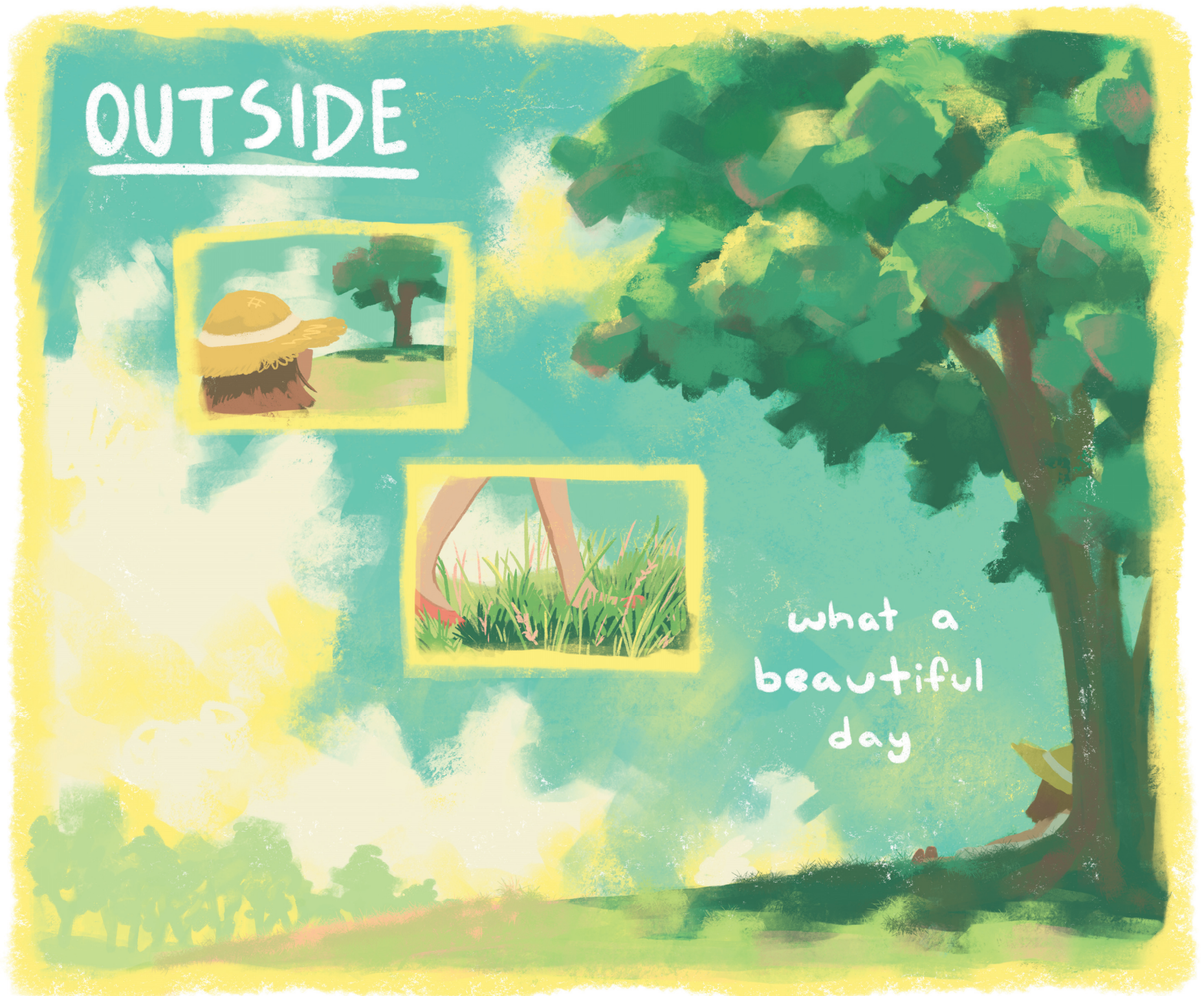
**Release Date:**  
March 22, 2024

**Genre:**  
[ alternative/indie ]

Follow Christine  
on Instagram  
@stinetrans

OUTSIDE

BY CAMMY TAN



LETTER TO THE EDITOR



ABOUT

The Spartan Daily prides itself on being the San José State community's top news source. New issues are published every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday throughout the academic year and online content updated daily. The Spartan Daily is written and published by San José State students as an expression of their First Amendment rights. Reader feedback may be submitted as letters to the editor or online comments.

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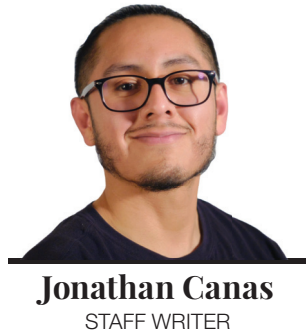
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Columns are the opinion of individual writers and not that of the Spartan Daily. Editorials reflect the majority opinion of the Editorial Board, which is made up of student editors.

# TikTok should actually be banned



**Jonathan Canas**  
STAFF WRITER

On March 13, the House of Representatives passed a bill requiring TikTok to either divest from ByteDance, an internet company based in China or face a nationwide ban, according to The Washington Post.

The bill gave the company six months to find a new buyer or face a potential ban. This isn't the first time TikTok has faced a potential ban. At the end of the day, it doesn't matter whether it gets banned because we are probably all better off without it.

While I agree that banning TikTok would violate our First Amendment rights, we only stand to grow as a society if the bill passes.

Most people who use the app find themselves half awake at night mindlessly scrolling through 30-second videos, and don't even realize the hours pass by.

I have been guilty of staying up and scrolling through TikTok and wondering why I'm so tired the next morning.

Ever since the app exploded in popularity, our attention has completely decreased. Most people can only take

news via a short video and can barely even get through reading a whole article.

It is not just news either. TikTok seems to have become the norm as opposed to getting through a television episode or a movie. Now we have the option of watching a two-hour film over the span of 30 second increments.

TikTok also has the potential to play with your emotions by making through a swirl of different emotions in the span of five minutes. By the time you know it you can find yourself emotionally drained.

The National Library of Medicine did a study on 3036 students who actively used TikTok and the results showed a partial mediation of depression, anxiety, and stress. The same article also stated that an estimated 1.5 billion people actively use TikTok.

Not to mention if TikTok were to be banned we have a plethora of other options to turn to, such as Instagram Reels and YouTube Shorts.

Many people receive news from TikTok that other platforms fail to report on but never decide to do their own research past what they saw on the app.

If you really receive news on TikTok there is still the option of either turning on the news or reading an article.

Some people argue news articles and news channels



GRAPHIC BY MELANY GUTIERREZ

never have any sources but the same people who check on TikTok for news never bother to fact-check certain videos they watch.

Conspiracy theorists have claimed that China is using TikTok as a way to track and monitor United States citizens but I hate to break it to you, we are all probably being monitored either way.

Lawmakers have not offered any evidence of the Chinese Communist Party using TikToks as a weapon against American interests according to NPR.

The only downside of the potential ban of

TikTok is the social media influencers who are actually making a living out of the app.

There is a small number of people who have actually found economic success through making short videos for TikTok. There are other social apps that are just as well known that people can profit from.

TikTok does not only hurt the active adults who are using the app but kids stand to see negative effects of TikTok, especially those who start consuming social media from a very young age.

TikTok has dethroned

Instagram as the most used social media app among kids 12 to 17 years old, with 63 percent of them using the app on a daily basis, according to Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance.

Messing with the attention span of adults is one thing but when it comes to kids it's hard to actually get them to focus once they've picked up a habit they've been used to their whole life.

It goes from scrolling through Tik-Toks in the classroom to scrolling through Tik-Toks while you're bored at work.

Just scrolling is

something that seems so innocent but it's affecting our everyday routines and how we go about interacting with one another. Instead of asking someone if you saw a piece of news, you would ask if they saw the TikTok.

Obviously, parents who don't keep track of social media usage among their children are more than likely to blame for the recent surge in usage in TikTok. Now the next generation is already receiving their news and entertainment in 30-second montages before moving on to the next video.

TikTok, just like any other company, is designed to make you keep coming back and make you hopelessly addicted.

Companies and influencers compete with one another for our undivided attention, and we keep falling for it.

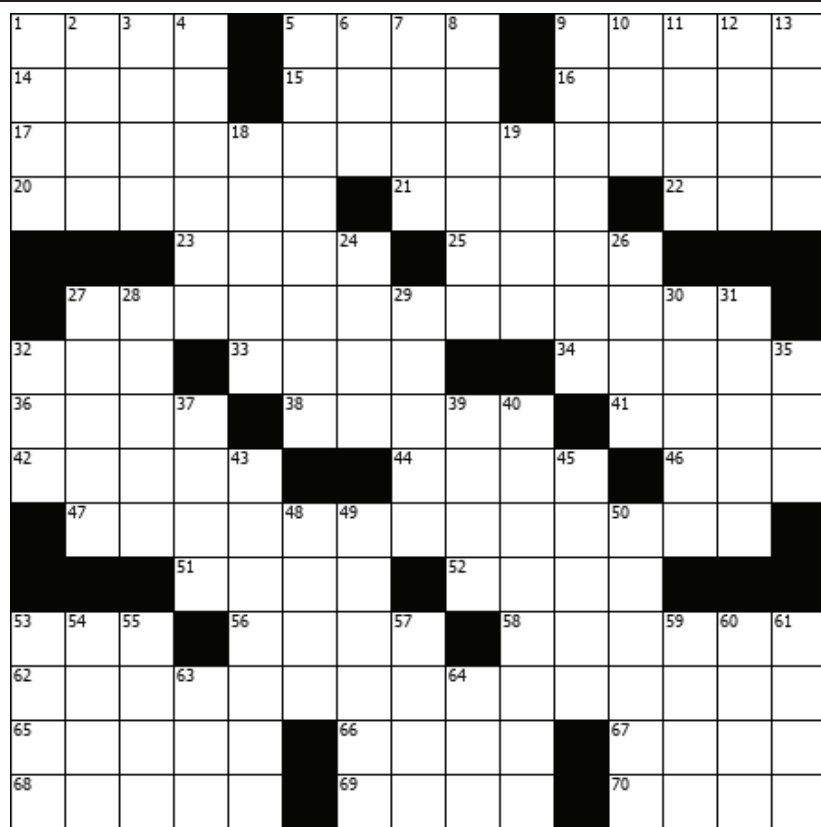
That goes for all companies who have adopted this strategy. TikTok just happens to be the application that's facing the ban.

If you really want to watch a show or a movie, maybe watch the whole thing and if you really want to be informed on news that doesn't get mainstream attention maybe it's time to read a newspaper.

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## CLASSIFIEDS

### CROSSWORD PUZZLE



**ACROSS**

- 1. Quizzes
- 5. Cabbage side dish
- 9. Church doctrine
- 14. Owl yowl
- 15. Director/writer Ephron
- 16. Diamond flub
- 17. Spare tire location, perhaps
- 20. "Dateline NBC" anchor Tom
- 21. Male singing voice
- 22. \_\_\_-relief
- 23. Isle off Italy
- 25. Daunting burden
- 27. Essential element
- 32. Comedian Charlotte
- 33. Pot starter
- 34. Fergie, formally
- 36. Somewhat
- 38. Varieties
- 41. Defeat at chess
- 42. Dwell on with smug satisfaction
- 44. "No \_\_\_ luck!"
- 46. John Ritter's dad
- 47. Beyond conventional practice
- 51. General quality
- 52. Indenture unit

- 53. Rollaway bed
- 56. Prefix with second
- 58. Hung loosely
- 62. Easily decided investigation
- 65. Off-the-wall play
- 66. Carrier to Jerusalem
- 67. Socialite Maxwell
- 68. Excuse
- 69. Foe of Carthage
- 70. Coral ridge

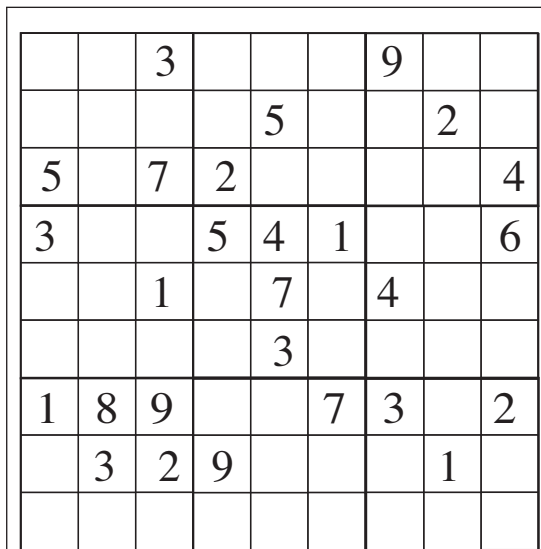
**DOWN**

- 1. Moby Dick seeker
- 2. Having an acid taste
- 3. Instrument with 7 to 13 strings
- 4. "Dracula" author Bram
- 5. Mound of wintry precipitation
- 6. Shot with a high arc
- 7. Song for a diva
- 8. Hit, and how!
- 9. Alternate routes
- 10. Boston Bruin great
- 11. Food from a chuck wagon
- 12. \_\_\_ Lisa
- 13. Clumsy vessels
- 18. Island south of Sicily
- 19. Europe's highest

- volcano
- 24. Against
- 26. Con artist's game
- 27. Artist Picasso
- 28. Vowel quintet
- 29. Hard to get through
- 30. Sappho's Muse
- 31. Lab glove material
- 32. Old T-shirt, maybe
- 35. Use black magic on
- 37. "Bye!"
- 39. Military obligation
- 40. Timetable
- 43. Enormous sea wave
- 45. Artichoke center
- 48. Islamic republic
- 49. Anger
- 50. Stiff drink
- 53. \_\_\_-Cola
- 54. Fiery gemstone
- 55. Actress Hatcher
- 57. Norwegian's capital city
- 59. Color-deficient
- 60. Being, to Brutus
- 61. Hard of hearing
- 63. Head, slangily
- 64. Prosciutto, e.g.

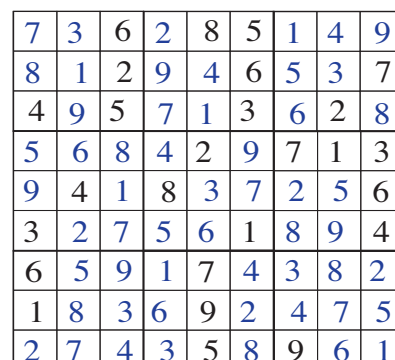
### SUDOKU PUZZLE

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



### SOLUTIONS

April 9



### JOKIN' AROUND

Why did the tomato blush?

Because it saw the salad dressing.

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