



**Q&A with Rise Against see p.3**



**Ozzie Guillen eats his words see p.4**

## UPD arrests man for possible link to car burglary

by Julie Myhre  
Staff Writer

A man was arrested by the University Police Department yesterday afternoon for an outstanding warrant and parole violation, according to Sgt. John Laws.

Shortly after 1:30 p.m., a parking enforcement officer saw people acting suspiciously on the roof of the West Garage, on the corner of 4th and E. San Salvador Streets, Laws said.

According to Laws, when the officer approached them, they drove away and he radioed in to have police officers contact them.

UPD caught them on 1st Street and arrested one man for an outstanding warrant and parole violation, according to Laws.

Laws said there may be a connection between the suspicious people and a car burglary that occurred in the same garage around the same time the two were spotted.

"At this time we're investigating possibly

burglary of a vehicle in the West Garage and determining if these people are connected with that burglary," Laws said.

The man that was arrested was not an SJSU student, according to Laws.

"We also have one party that is at-large — we haven't located him yet," Laws said.

UPD will handle the investigation itself and has not teamed up with the San Jose Police Department but did give the department information regarding the case, Laws said.

■ **CAMPUS IMAGE**

## Head over wheels



Break dancer, Randy Chang, performs during the Honda 'It's U' event yesterday as his teammates stand by. The break dance group called the "King Library B-Boys"

volunteered to perform for the event, promoting the 2012 Honda Civic Coupe, outside the Event Center.  
Photo by Sierra Duren / Spartan Daily

## Three plans highlight goals for future of the university

by Margaret Baum  
Staff Writer

The Associated Students' board of directors approved the strategic plan for the organization at their meeting yesterday afternoon with a vote of 13-1.

The university submitted the full strategic plan for SJSU with broad goals, and everyone contributes at the university level, said Tomasz Kolodziejak, A.S. president.

"The provost has the academic plan 2017 and A.S. had a priority to have our own strategic plan this semester," he said.

Kolodziejak said the whole goal is to have a university that works toward the same goals and moves forward.

"Everybody works on the same team to bring better things," he said.

Mark Stockdale, A.S. director of business affairs and chair of the operations committee that worked on the plan, presented it to the board.

According to the plan, A.S. supports the initiatives of the university, which include:

— **Spartan Pride:** The idea of developing vibrant, safe and welcoming communities that create a sense of belonging and instill Spartan pride.

— **Unbounded Learning:** Enhancing student success through continuous learning innovations.

— **Helping and Caring:** Create a culture of helping.

— **Agility through Technology:** Improve organizational responsiveness through an advanced technology infrastructure and by elimination of procedural obstacles.

— **21st Century Spaces:** Provide gathering spaces and up-to-date facilities.

These initiatives complement the same goals listed in the university's strategic plan, Stockdale said.

"A big part of this is organizational growth," he said. "We decided we wanted to connect with our campus more, so we wanted to increase collaborative efforts."

Stockdale said another big part of the plan is the creation of a communications task force.

"By Spring 2015 we wanted to establish a communications task force," he said. "There was talk of making it a committee, but we decided to make it a task force because that's the environment we wanted to create."

SEE SUCCESS PAGE 6

## Proposed act may make tuition more affordable for college students

by Christian Gin  
Staff Writer

California State Assembly speaker John Perez has proposed the Middle Class Scholarship Act (Assembly Bill 1500 and 1501) that would reduce state college fees by two-thirds.

This would happen through closing the single sales factor tax loophole for out-of-state corporations, according to Perez.

"We need to close the single sales factor loophole," Perez said. "Too many out-of-state companies can choose their own tax rates for California."

Currently, the single sales factor tax loophole for these corporations is what gives companies the ability to choose their tax rates, according to Perez.

Perez said out-of-state corporations can have large tax breaks if they have a small number of employees or limited involvement in California.

If the act is passed, California would join 23 other states that do not have this loophole in their tax policies.

It would also give community colleges about \$150 million to improve education affordability, according to Perez.

Ever since the 2003-2004 academic school-year, the student fees at the California State Universities (CSU) have almost tripled, according to Perez.

According to Perez, since that year, fees for the CSU system have risen 191 percent from \$2,046 to \$5,970 for full-time students.

Perez said the Middle Class Scholarship will be available for any student in a CSU or University of California (UC) whose family earns an income of \$150,000 or less.

"The average UC student will save about \$8,200 a year," Perez said. "For CSU students, they would save approximately \$4,000 per year."

Perez said, in addition to the UCs and CSUs, the community and junior colleges would receive money as well, making education affordable no matter the college.

President Mohammad Qayoumi said there is too much uncertainty concerning where revenues would come from if the single sales factor was closed.

"I don't know what kind of revenue streams our state can come up with," Qayoumi said. "If the streams are not identified, it goes to other groups."

Qayoumi said that even though the act sounds good for some students, not everyone will benefit from it.

"Unless (our state) can identify another source of revenue stream, it means they would be forced to distribute the existing resources to others," Qayoumi said. "Because of this, it will create a new set of winners and losers among different classes for people."

Some students have been forced to take out loans due to the high price of paying for tuition and other fees at SJSU.

"I was forced to apply for my first loan, which was a headache," said junior English major Peter Hammersley.

SEE ACT PAGE 2

## Second-degree murder charge for Zimmerman

Special Prosecutor Angela B. Corey announces that she is filing charges for second-degree murder against George Zimmerman, the shooter in the Trayvon Martin case, in Jacksonville, Florida, yesterday. Zimmerman is in custody of law enforcement at this time.

Photo by Gary W. Green / MCT



McClatchy Tribune  
Wire Service

SANFORD, Fla. — For weeks, protesters around the nation have demanded the arrest of George Zimmerman.

A Florida special prosecutor made that happen Wednesday. She announced that Zimmerman — the neighborhood watch volunteer who admitted to fatally shooting an unarmed black teenager on a rainy night here in February — had turned himself in and would be charged with second-degree murder in the death of 17-year-old Trayvon Martin.

"We did not come to this decision lightly," said Florida State Attorney Angela Corey at a news conference in Jacksonville.

Alluding to the intense publicity surrounding the case, she added,

"Let me emphasize that we do not prosecute by public pressure or by petition."

Corey declined to discuss the details of the investigation that led her office to charge Zimmerman, who had claimed self-defense — and who had been free, though in hiding, for weeks. Nor would she say where he was being held, "for his safety as well as for everyone else's safety."

It was a reminder of the volatile nature of a case that has plunged the country into the kind of difficult and impassioned conversation about race and justice that has followed other notorious racial incidents, from the lynching of Emmett Till in 1955 to the police beating of Rodney King in 1991.

"It feels good to know he's off the streets. I feel very good just ... knowing he's off the street, that he's in custody, that the wheel's

starting to turn in our favor," Trayvon Martin's father, Tracy Martin, told a Washington news conference.

SEE MARTIN PAGE 2

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# MARTIN: Suspect turns self in

FROM PAGE 1

Sybrina Fulton, the teenager's mother, said as she fought back tears: "I want to say thank God. We simply wanted an arrest. We wanted nothing more, nothing less. We just wanted an arrest and we got it, and I say thank you."

Alluding to the racial overtones of the case, she added: "I just want to speak from my heart to your heart because a heart has no color. It's not black, it's not white."

Zimmerman will plead not guilty, said Mark O'Mara, his new attorney. Self-defense would be "one facet" of the defense, O'Mara told CNN, adding that Zimmerman was "troubled" by the charges but "doing OK" considering his circumstances.

In Florida, second-degree murder is typically charged in the event of a death stemming from a fight or confrontation that does not involve premeditation. It can result in a life sentence when a gun is used.

In Sanford, a city of 53,000 with a history of racial tension, some African Americans had said they were worried that riots would break out if charges

were not forthcoming against Zimmerman, who is half white and half Latino.

On Tuesday, someone shot up an empty police car parked near Zimmerman's neighborhood. On Wednesday, African American resident Troy Jackson, 43, said he might participate in a riot if there were no charges. "I'm going to loot every Caucasian store," he said, sitting in front of a grocery store in the majority-black Goldsboro community. "Blood for blood."

But as the news of the arrest trickled out, there was a palpable sense of relief.

"I feel like this is the beginning of seeing justice prevail," said Sanford resident Gloria Baskerville, 54.

Baskerville, who is black, said she was convinced she would have been immediately arrested if she had been in Zimmerman's shoes. All she ever wanted to see, she said, was an arrest. If Zimmerman is now acquitted by a jury, she said, "I would have to be satisfied with whatever the outcome is."

After an initial investigation, Sanford police officials said that bringing charges against Zimmerman was complicated by Florida's "stand your ground" law, which allows for the use of deadly force in some life-threatening situations.

Many critics have claimed that the shooting — and the lack of an arrest — stemmed from the fact that the victim was a young black man, considering it cut-and-dried evidence of the social injustices that people of color in the United States have long faced.

President Barack Obama even weighed in, calling the story a "tragedy," and adding, "If I had a son, he'd look like Trayvon."

Zimmerman had taken a vigorous interest in the safety of his neighborhood, which had suffered a rash of break-ins in the weeks leading up to the evening of Feb. 26, when he spotted Martin, 17, returning from a convenience store with a bag of Skittles and an iced tea.

Zimmerman was driving out of his gated town-home development on his way to the supermarket, when he called police and reported Martin as "a real suspicious guy" who looked like "he's up to no good or he's on drugs, or something." The police dispatcher asked Zimmerman whether he was following the youth.

When Zimmerman replied that he was, the dispatcher told him, "We don't need you to do that." Moments later, Zimmerman — armed with a 9-millimeter weapon — got out of his car.

Zimmerman has said he shot Martin in self-defense after the youth struck him in the face, knocked him down and began pounding his head into the ground. Others suspect Zimmerman was the aggressor, one who overstepped the legal bounds of a concerned citizen.

Coverage of the case was largely limited to local media until the call between Zimmerman and the dispatcher was made public, along with a 911 call that one resident made just before the shooting. In the background of that call, someone can be heard yelling for help. Martin's parents insist that voice belonged to their son. Zimmerman has said the voice was his.

The Sanford police chief stepped down as national attention snowballed. On March 23, Florida Gov. Rick Scott appointed Corey, a state attorney from Jacksonville, to take over the investigation.

The Justice Department, meanwhile, is conducting a separate investigation to determine whether Zimmerman should be charged with violating Martin's civil rights. U.S. Attorney General Eric H. Holder Jr. said Wednesday that "if we find evidence of a potential federal criminal civil rights crime, we will take appropriate action."

Zimmerman's friends and family have argued that he is neither a racist nor a hothead, and have said that the facts would vindicate him.

This week, Zimmerman launched a website soliciting donations for his living and legal expenses. It was also peppered with quotations, including one attributed to British statesman Edmund Burke: "The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is that good men do nothing."

The Rev. Al Sharpton, though pleased with the news of the murder charge, said it was not a cause for celebration.

"We do not want anyone high-fiving tonight. There's no victory here. There's no winners here. They've lost their son," he said as Martin's parents stood beside him. "This is not about gloating. This is about pursuing justice."

# Accusations of massacres as Syria deadline looms



The UN and Arab League envoy to Syria, Kofi Annan, has said he has received assurances from Damascus that it will respect his ceasefire plan, during a meeting with Iran Foreign Minister Ali-Akbar Salehi, yesterday in Tehran, Iran. He said there could be 'improved conditions on the ground' by Thursday morning, if all sides did so. Photo by Ahmad Halabisaz / MCT

McClatchy Tribune  
Wire Service

BEIRUT — Syrian security forces on Wednesday undertook fewer military operations involving armor and heavy artillery ahead of Thursday's cease-fire deadline but conducted raids and arrests in the country's northern and central regions that left at least five people dead.

Evidence emerged of a pair of mass executions in the city of Homs, underscoring how brutal the government's crackdown had become in recent days, as it used the last few days ahead of the U.N.-sponsored cease-fire to try to overwhelm its foes. The 59 alleged victims of the executions were killed Monday, when the military sent ground troops into the neighborhood of Deir Balba after shelling it for a week, Syrian human rights activists said.

At least three pro-government militiamen were killed in the city of Hama on Wednesday, and the official news agency SANA said that seven members of the Syrian

military killed by anti-government rebels were buried. The statement did say when they had died.

In a separate news item citing an unnamed "source at the Ministry of Defense," SANA also reported that the Syrian military would abide by the cease-fire proposed by U.N. Syria envoy Kofi Annan and agreed to by Syrian President Bashar Assad last month. That item warned, however, that the military would respond if provoked by anti-Assad rebels.

"It has been decided to halt the armed forces' missions starting Thursday morning, after they carried out successful missions in combatting criminal acts by armed terrorist groups and enforced the authority of the state on all its territories," the statement read. "The armed forces will be on alert to confront any attack by armed terrorist groups against civilians, law enforcement members, the armed forces and private and public facilities."

Heavy shelling continued in Homs, the country's third-largest city, which has been

a main center of anti-Assad forces since last year.

Sami Ibrahim, who documents deaths for the London-based Syrian Observatory of Human Rights, said he'd interviewed a half-dozen witnesses to the executions of anti-Assad activists in Homs on Monday and that other members of his organization also had spoken to eyewitnesses.

"They told us they gathered them and made one grave for all and then they burned them. Among them were five women and five children," Ibrahim said.

The alleged killings took place in two neighborhoods in Homs, where more than a half-dozen neighborhoods have been heavily shelled since February as the Syrian government has escalated its military campaign against the Free Syrian Army, the name widely adopted by the loosely organized and lightly armed army defectors and volunteers who have taken up arms against the government.

SEE SYRIA PAGE 6

# ACT: Speech in Berkeley later today

FROM PAGE 1

"It's becoming a hassle to buy textbooks each semester and it's been painful for me to depend on my parents for money," he said.

Hammersley said the proposed act would definitely help him out in cutting costs.

Others have been searching and applying for any scholarships that are available to them.

"Even though I took my first loan recently, I've used the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) to hopefully receive financial help," said Emil Collado, a sophomore civil and environmental engineering major. "Unfortunately, I took my first loan last semester because of the financial problems I've had. I still keep searching for scholarships and grants to help me out."

Qayoumi said it will depend on the final look of the proposed bill to determine if it will help students at SJSU in the long term or not.

The bill was proposed on Feb 8 and has been under discussion for two months.

"We need to see the finalized shape of this legislation," Qayoumi said. "I want to know how it will be administered and who would be eligible after the final touches in order to know who benefits from this."

Speaker Perez and Assemblymember Nancy Skinner will be addressing the press at UC Berkeley today at 12:30 p.m. in Eshleman Hall.

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■ Q&A

# Rise Against bassist Joe Principe talks past, present and future

by Brittany Patterson  
Managing Editor

Punk rock veterans Rise Against have been in the art of making music with a message — that quintessential punk sound, the rawness of a quick drum beat, catchy guitar and of course frontman Tim McIlrath's arresting lyrics. With six albums under its belt, the band is reaching a larger audience than ever before. I chatted with bassist, Joe Principe, about the band's transition to fame and the punk community in the Bay Area.



Rise Against will be performing at the SJSU Event Center with A Day to Remember and Title Fight. Photo courtesy of loudwire.com

**Brittany:** As co-founder of Rise Against back in 1999, what were some of your original hopes for the band?

**Joe:** Back then, I think I was totally content being on an established independent label and the goal was always to be playing in front of 600-1000 kids a night in cities. I liked it better when it's bigger than that. Bad Religion and NOFX were the bands we looked up to. We never really considered this to be a career. We were still in college when we started. It just kept taking off, slowly. Things kept coming our way, the major label deal and it's worked out. I definitely didn't think we would get to where we are today.

**B:** Can you recall the first time you picked up a bass?

**J:** My oldest sister had an acoustic guitar... it was sitting around our house. Right around freshman, sophomore year of high school I just got the itch to learn how to play a power chord just listening to the Ramones and stuff. I wanted to learn how they did that. You can only go so far on an acoustic guitar learning power chords and punk rock stuff. A year into it, me messing around on the acoustic, a friend of mine who I skateboarded with, he played drums and he was like, 'Hey, would you be interested in playing bass?' He knew I had never played bass, but my friend had a bass I could borrow. It just came really easy to me. I've never taken a lesson and I've never put it down since I was 15.

**B:** Can you tell me a little bit about the punk community back in Chicago? I know you tout influences like The Descendents and other crucial punk bands. How much of listening to stuff like that really influenced the sound you try to bring now?

**J:** Without bands like Bad Religion, Descendents and Rancid, I wouldn't have picked up the bass and Rise Against definitely would not sound the way we do. I learned how to write songs because of listening to bands like Bad Religion. I learned how to play different chords because of NOFX. They were doing something more than three chords. That's how I learned to play

bass, mostly because of Rancid and Descendents because their bass players are amazing. It was something that just came natural to me. Without that, I would be very lost. It definitely helped fill a void in my life.

**B:** Rise Against is known for championing issues, animal advocacy with PETA and supporting groups such as Amnesty International. Why is it important for the band to incorporate these issues into your music?

**J:** It's something that is just a part of us. It was a part of us before Rise Against. The PETA thing, I discovered right at the start of Rise Against through friends of mine. I grew up with being used to the fact that punk bands were singing because they felt things needed to be changed, whether it be politically or socially. That's just something I always associated with the music I was listening to, that was just something I could relate to. Before I even knew about straight edge, I just didn't drink. And then when I figured out bands like Minor Threat were singing about it I was like, 'Oh, wow, there's this whole scene I could relate to.' I think it's just a part of me and a part of us. When we started Rise Against, we kind of wanted to carry the torch that bands like 7 Seconds and Bad Brains carried. That is definitely the heart and soul of Rise Against — that passion to inspire change for the better.

**B:** You've been around for 13 years now and a lot of your fan base has been with you from the beginning. Does it affect your musical content, especially as you've picked up notoriety and a younger fan base along the way?

**J:** I've definitely seen that our fans have grown up, but we've grown up as well. When

people get married and start having children you realize how important it is to inspire change for the better now for the future of our children. You just don't think on those terms when you're growing up like that, that you're going to be molding this young mind, that you're putting your children out into this world that has a lot of messed up qualities to it. It really gives you a spark to push forward.

**B:** Upon the release of "Endgame," you guys put a message on your website inviting listeners to apply the songs' messages to current events like with "Make it stop." Why was it important to reach out to your listeners, to open up that forum?

**J:** In order to raise awareness on how badly the effects are of being bullied, people need to talk about it. I think when the actual bullies ... when they hear the dialogue, hear people talking about it, it's going to hopefully trigger something. I hope they realize this has a lasting effect and I can't do this anymore. Kids really don't realize the lasting effects it has. For me, I just hope it opens up some minds. I hope that's what they got from it.

**B:** If people have never seen you before, is there something that you want them to get out of that experience?

**J:** Just a sense of community. When I was growing up, I really did not fit in with any scene other than the punk rock scene, and I've never felt more comfortable than I did when I was going to shows. I want our fans to feel that and take that from our shows — a sense of belonging.

Visit [spartandaily.com](http://spartandaily.com) for the full interview with Rise Against bassist Joe Principe.

# Drink of the Week:

## Dave & Buster's Black and Tan

by Eddie Fernandez  
Staff Writer

If you are low on cash and looking for multiple drinks in one combination, look no further than Dave & Busters during happy hour at the Great Mall in Milpitas.

Upon entering Dave & Busters, walk down the Midway walkway and make sure to order the Black and Tan beer.

This half black, half pale, two-toned beer gives you two alcoholic beverages for the price of one, a recession special.

You can get the taste of winter and summer at the same time.

At first, you may be a bit skeptical of half Guinness and half Sierra Nevada, stacked on top of each other in a 22 ounce glass, but don't be.

The drink starts off with a taste of Irish dry stout and is finished with the flavor of pale ale to get your taste buds renewed.

Black and Tan is a simple combination of 11 ounces of Sierra Nevada poured first than topped off by adding 11 ounces of Guinness on top, giving it a distinct black look upon serving.

The drink is valued at \$7.70 but if you come in at happy hour you get a dollar knocked off, bringing this recession alcoholic beverage down to \$6.70.

This beer is great for those sunny and rainy days mixed in one week because you get a



Dave & Buster's Black and Tan offers a beer mixture of half Sierra Nevada and half Guinness in a 22 oz. glass, for \$7.70. Photo by Eddie Fernandez / Spartan Daily

taste of summer and winter in one glass.

If the Guinness scares you because of its black color, you have half a glass of Sierra Nevada's medium brown color to wash it down.

The combination of Guinness's dark Irish dry stout and Sierra Nevada's pale ale will get you that buzz without the sense of feeling the full effect.

Guinness has a bit of a harsh dark roasted taste not liked by most people,

but after a few sips it gets easy to drink because you get accustomed to the dark flavor.

However, Sierra Nevada has that dark ale taste that gives you a feel like you're drinking Samuel Adams but with a lighter aftertaste.

Black and Tan takes you from a harsh taste to a softer flavor and gives the two-for-one combo a good mixture.

Dave & Busters is located in Milpitas off Interstate 680, at 447 Great Mall Drive.

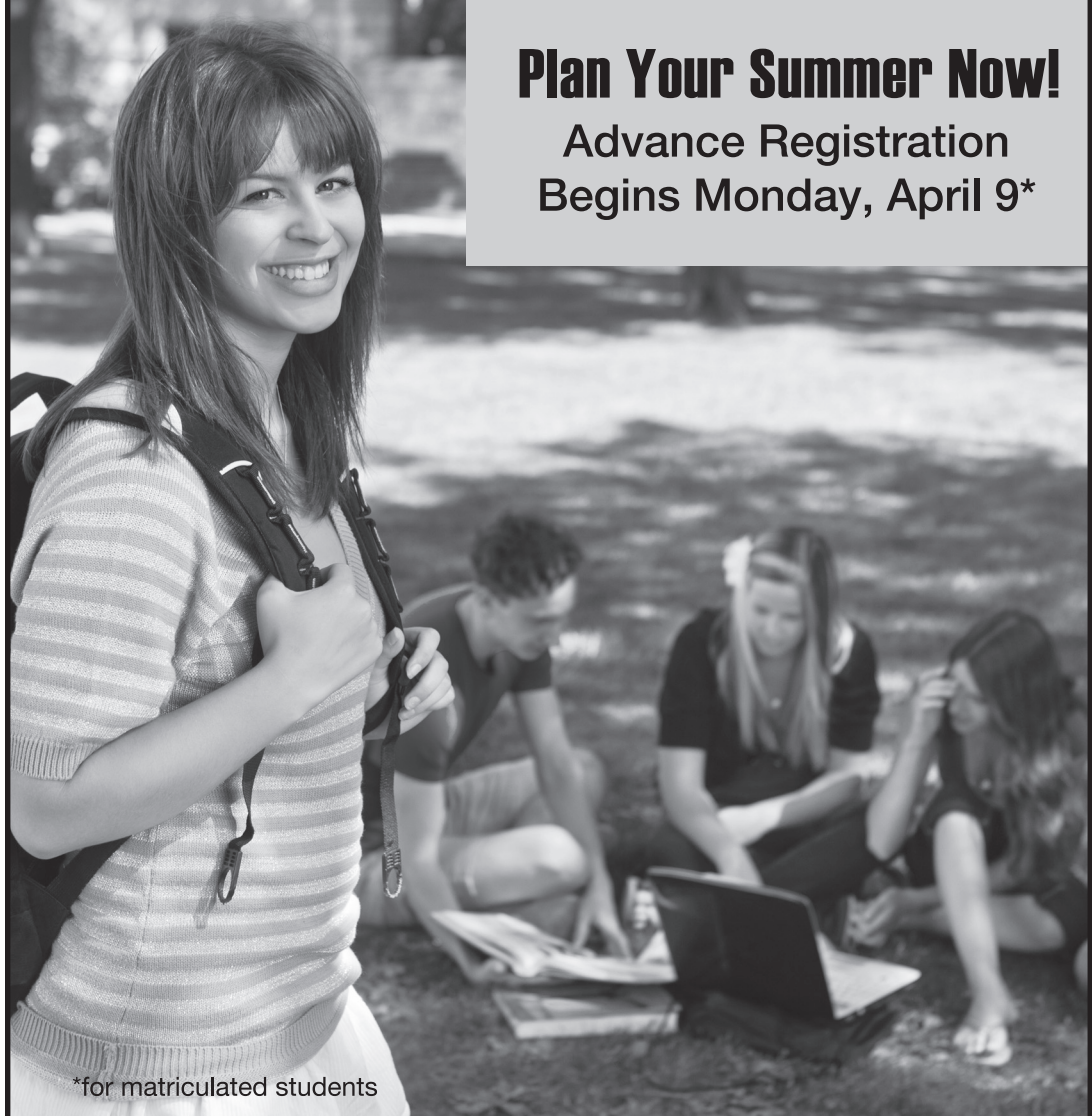
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COMMENTARY

UFC on FuelTV Preview: Expect epic victory for Gustafsson

by Wesley Dugle
Opinion Editor

After a little over a month of inactivity, mixed martial arts fans will finally be treated again to Ultimate Fighting Championship (UFC) action when light heavyweight up-and-comer Alexander "The Mauler" Gustafsson faces hard hitting Thiago Silva this Saturday in Stockholm.

A native of Sweden, Gustafsson aims to improve on his impressive record of 13-1 to inch closer to someday challenging for the UFC light heavyweight title.

Meanwhile, Brazilian Thiago Silva (14-2, one no contest) aims to get back on the horse after being out of action for a little over a year after testing positive to banned substances after his fight with Brandon Vera on Jan. 1, 2011.

Both fighters have a lot to gain through this fight.

A win by Gustafsson would give him his first legitimate win over a top-10 opponent in his career and would move him closer to challenging for the title.

A win by Silva, however, would put him back into light heavyweight legitimacy, and also have him back moving up the ladder toward title contention.

With all the intrigue going into this fight, there is sure to be some fireworks, as both are skilled stand-up fighters with nine knockouts each in their respective careers.

In terms of both fighters'

"If Gustafsson finds himself behind in the match, he will likely pull from the crowd's energy to help him rebound in the fight..."

ground games, neither hold too much of an edge.

As mentioned before, both fighters prefer to go for the knockout. That said, Gustafsson does hold a purple belt in Brazilian jiu-jitsu (BJJ) with two submission victories to his credit, while Silva holds his own black belt in BJJ with two of his own submission wins in his career.

The fight is likely to stay standing. With that said, who has the edge in this fight between top-10 light heavyweights?

Well, when the main event goes down in Stockholm this weekend, I fully expect Gustafsson to pull out the victory and move closer to title contention.

A big reason I see Gustafsson taking down Silva here is the hometown crowd will

likely play a big factor in "The Mauler's" motivation for the fight.

This will be the UFC's first trip to Sweden and I see Gustafsson, as well as the other Swedes on this card, to have a little extra energy when he starts standing and trading with Silva.

If Gustafsson finds himself behind in the match, he will likely pull from the crowd's energy to help him rebound in the fight, and it could give him an edge over Silva here.

However, the biggest factor I see going into this fight is Silva's cage rust.

Typically, when a fighter is out of action this long between fights (over a year in this case for Silva) it can greatly affect how he approaches a fight when it comes to dealing with crowd noise, pre-fight jitters and establishing rhythm when the fight begins.

Silva is no slouch, being a veteran of the sport and a highly skilled fighter, but when he steps into that octagon on Saturday it may take him some time to get up to fight speed and Gustafsson may exploit it.

Even if Silva didn't have cage rust, I would see "The Mauler" getting the win here, as I feel his momentum right now (a four-fight win streak) will be too much to stop for Silva, who has not had a significant win since 2009.

So expect to see Gustafsson with his hand raised this weekend in Stockholm - and a win closer to a shot at the light heavyweight belt.

COMMENTARY

Guillen has big mouth, but will not be fired by Miami Marlins

by Boris Slager
Staff Writer

It comes as no surprise that Miami Marlins manager Ozzie Guillen stuck his foot in his mouth again.

He is notorious for doing this.

For example, when he was still a manager for the Chicago White Sox, he said, "I'm the Charlie Sheen of baseball without the drugs and a prostitute."

He was recently quoted saying, "I love Fidel Castro." The Miami Marlins have suspended him for five games for the statement and Bud Selig, commissioner of Major League Baseball, is standing behind the Marlins on the suspension of Guillen.

Florida has a large Cuban population, and one reason they are there is to escape Castro and his policies.

One of the reasons Guillen was brought in to be the manager was that so he could connect to the Latin population in Miami. The Marlins opened a new stadium this year and they wanted him to help bring in those fans to the ballpark.

Fans are picketing the Marlins stadium and calling for Guillen to be fired.

I expect Guillen to survive this latest slip up, but he is on his last leg. The reason he will not be fired is because the team doesn't want to eat the majority of his contract.

Guillen apologized to his team yesterday and issued a



Protestors call for the resignation of Miami Marlins manager Ozzie Guillen in Miami. Photo by Roberto Koltun / MCT

public apology for his remarks as well.

There is always the question of sincerity when it comes to athletes and coaches, but I believe he speaks from the heart and he is sorry for his statements.

The bigger issue here is whether Guillen understands the gravity of what he said.

In the apology, he claimed that he was speaking Spanish and the writer wrote in English so the comment could have been misinterpreted.

He should have just owned up to it and made a commitment to the Cuban community to understand what they went through with Castro in Cuba.

The apology was in Spanish, trying to appease the Cuban-American crowd and the Marlins are hoping that this will blow over in the next couple of days.

"For Cuban-Americans,

(Castro)'s our Hitler. Without getting into a comparison shopping on atrocities, let that marinate for a second," said Dan Le Batard, a Cuban-American writer for the Miami Herald. "For Cuban-Americans, Fidel Castro is our Hitler."

There is no way this comment will go away because there is a Little Havana in Miami. Most of the population of Little Havana is Cuban-American and the Marlins stadium is located near that section of town.

Guillen said something that was the equivalent to someone supporting Saddam Hussein or some other dictator and his ideas.

He should learn to understand he is a public figure who needs to be on his best behavior when talking to the media, as well as realize that he represents the Marlins whenever he makes a comment or voices his opinions.

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

4/12 UNIVERSAL Sudoku Puzzle grid with numbers and difficulty rating: ★★★★★☆

Previous Puzzle Solved

Grid showing the solution for the previous puzzle: SOLUTION: 4 5 7 8 2 6 1 9 3, 2 1 8 9 3 5 7 4 6, 9 3 6 7 1 4 5 8 2, 5 7 3 1 4 9 6 2 8, 1 9 4 2 6 8 3 7 5, 8 6 2 3 5 7 9 1 4, 3 8 9 5 7 2 4 6 1, 7 4 1 6 8 3 2 5 9, 6 2 5 4 9 1 8 3 7

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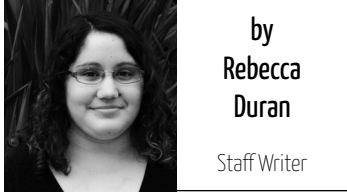
Edited by Timothy E. Parker April 12, 2012

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down. Includes 'PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER' grid and 'EASY DOES IT' grid.

EASY DOES IT By Milton J. Ruff

4/12 EASY DOES IT crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-62.

# Miss Universe pageant letting in transgenders is the right thing to do



by  
**Rebecca Duran**  
Staff Writer

As a straight female, I've never gone out of my way to watch the half-naked ladies in the Miss Universe pageant.

I am, however, a supporter of equality for all types of people, and a big change is coming.

It piqued my interest to find that a new policy will allow transgender women to participate, which is nearly ready for approval from pageant owner Donald Trump, according to the Associated Press.

This change comes after a denial for a transgender woman to run in the pageant — Vancouver resident Jenna Talackova, according to AP.

**“The pageant is based on physical appearance and personality of contestants, so why should their sex chromosomes matter anyway?”**

I've never really cared one way or another about Trump, but his acceptance of transgender women in the pageant is a pleasant surprise.

Thanks to this policy change, Talackova will now be able to participate.

Talackova underwent a sex change four years ago and was therefore denied the opportunity to participate in the Miss Universe Canada pageant (which takes place in May), according to AP.

The Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD), which reports on media discrimination, got in contact with the Miss Universe contest to have the denial overturned, according to AP.

The group's request also included an overturn of the denial of all transgender women to participate.

Their wish will be granted. I think it's great the rule will be overturned, as there are many transgenders around the nation, and times have changed since the pageant began in 1952.

The pageant is based on the physical appearance and personality of the contestants, so why should their sex chromosomes matter anyway?

The Miss Universe pageant website states that the pageant was started as a bathing suit competition, or a search for a “bathing beauty.”

If a transgender woman can work it in a bikini, what's wrong with that?

I've seen pictures of Talackova, and I would have never guessed she wasn't born a woman.

Also, if she has the brains to give sufficient answers to the judges' questions, then good for her.

It shouldn't matter if she was born a girl or is a girl “on the inside.”

What matters is she is happy with herself and wants access to a contest.

Sure, Talackova and other transgender women weren't born females, but it is their choice to be who they want and do things women do.

Coming from a diverse family myself, I've always been pretty lax about how other people are and what they do with their lives.

I accept all kinds of people, transgender people included, and I think laws that inhibit people just because they are seen as different are wrong.

It's time for people to just accept their opinions and beliefs for what they are — opinions and beliefs.

If you disagree with certain lifestyles people choose to live, that's fine, but don't use laws and rules to stop them from living their lives.

While Trump has voiced his support for the change in the media, it will be great once he finally gives that official approval and signs off.

People are entitled to their opinions and beliefs, but denying groups the opportunity to participate in a contest is an outdated idea, and I'm glad it's on its way out the door — or rather, off the stage.

My congratulations to Talackova and the LGBT community for another broken barrier — I'm sure she'll put some of the other women to shame.



# No body part is worth an iPad or iPhone



by  
**Cynthia Ly**  
Copy Editor

A 17-year-old teenager, only known to the media by his last name, sold one of his kidneys to buy an iPhone and an iPad, according to an article by Al Jazeera.

Let that sentence simmer for a moment.

Kidneys are those squishy organs that go under the helpful label of “vital.”

They help clear your blood of toxins that naturally accumulate in your body.

If needed, modern technology can make you pseudo-bionic if you lose both — with the stipulation that you have the money and access to said technology.

The teenager, who lives in one of the poorest provinces of China, sold his kidney for the equivalent of \$3,500 and now suffers from renal deficiency, according to the article published on April 7.

There are, oddly enough, several silver linings to the situation.

For one, the kid isn't dead. He didn't die on the table from any number of complications, and the criminals didn't outright kill him by taking the rest of his transplantable organs.

As for the criminals, several of them were caught and are being charged for their actions.

The victim could have gone on for longer without anyone

knowing the wiser — he didn't tell his mom what happened until she asked how he got the money for the Apple products, according to the article.

In that time, those butchers could have left the province, covered their tracks or bought themselves alibis.

Who notably got away? If you guessed the person who paid for the organ, you would be right.

Hopefully that kidney has ended up inside a person who needs it a hell of a lot more and grows up to be the next Mother Theresa.

I'm not trying to argue that this whole thing is not straight out of a seriously messed up horror movie.

No, this is real life, which is worse because logic and nature say we keep our organs where they started.

For money, for more time, for whatever this processing line of organ snatchers wanted — whatever reason lead to this crime, it isn't contained in the distant, rural areas of China.

I've heard of some countries mimicking American levels of consumerism. I'm wrong, right? There are other reasons, yes?

The government of China banned the trading of organs in 2007, partly because of criticisms toward a policy that allows the state to take organs from executed prisoners.

In some kind of cold-blooded, practical way, it makes sense to harvest those organs — no point in wasting such a valuable resource, especially since the number of people

who need organ transplants is significantly higher than that of donors.

But the incident with this teenager is something altogether worse.

He sold his kidney for two two pieces of metal and plastic which, when combined, weigh less than 2 pounds.

Can you imagine that scale? The weight of it makes me want to break something.

As for the surgeon involved, he was trained enough to successfully remove a kidney. Why or how did someone with that level of skill go one step

**“There is something systemically wrong in China's society — how the value of a whole human being is calculated.”**

up from a grave robber? Was it just for the money?

Frankly, this is so messed up I can't really comprehend it.

There is something systemically wrong in China's society — how the value of a whole human being is calculated.

It tells us that if a person can't buy the best gadgets, be in highly respected profession, or hold enough influence and money, he or she is worth nearly nothing.

Only nearly nothing because there are pieces put on resumes that tell nothing of what a person is really like in life, but does get one a job, and pieces that are reduced down to numbers in an Excel sheet, but make statistics easier and at least reasonable-looking.

I'm not sure if I'm just talking about China anymore.

We tell ourselves this — not every day because the truth of it would drive anyone insane — that this is a problem with society as a whole, from one highly competitive place to the next.

So how do we stop this from becoming an all-systems failure?

We get angry, we grieve and we try to remember what matters.

Because after hearing the deafening alarms, we roll out of bed because something makes each and everyone of us care enough to do so.

We, as a society, won't let everything going into an all-systems failure because it is too incomprehensible to all of us, no matter the starting point.

Apparently, staying human is a fail-safe.



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