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# Spartan Daily

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**08** 2008

## Cesar E. Chavez Monument unveiled



A large group of people gathers during the unveiling of the new Cesar E. Chavez Monument on Thursday.

MIKE ANDERSON / Spartan Daily

### SPORTS PAGE 5

#### Aw, shucks!

Spartan football loses at Nebraska

### OPINION PAGE 7

The hypocrisy of getting outraged over others' outrages over a teen's outrageous behavior

### STUDENT CULTURE PAGE 4

Increase your cool factor at these five fantastic fro-yo joints

CHRIS CURRY  
Staff Writer

Hundreds of people gathered last Thursday afternoon on Paseo de Cesar Chavez to witness the dedication of the Cesar E. Chavez Monument, titled the Arch of Dignity, Equality and Justice. Speakers included the mayor of San Jose, the president of SJSU and one of the most famous women in organized labor.

The celebration began with a Native American four winds blessing as an acknowledgement of Chavez's indigenous ancestry. Pungent incense washed over the crowd as primitive drumming introduced the Aztec dancers performing the blessing.

The crowd filled the narrow shadows cast by palm trees. Cold bottles of water were passed out. Even when the ceremony began at 3:15 p.m., the late

afternoon sun was still bullying those trying to stay cool.

SJSU President Jon Whitmore declared the new arch, "an important public monument of our region's history." He emphasized his position on equality.

"Social justice is not just a phrase," he said. "It lives here on this campus."

The co-founder of the United Farm Workers of America, Dolores Huerta,

also spoke at the event.

"What I see is a coming together of the activism of the farm workers union and of the power of poor people, indigenous people," she said. "You combine that with the academic world, with education, then that's a very, very powerful voice for progress."

D.J. Avilucea, a senior English ma-

▶▶ page 3

# Breaking down the symbolism of the arch

YA-AN CHAN Staff Writer

Inspired by the works of Cesar Chavez, artist and UCLA professor Judith Baca designed the Arch of Dignity, Equality and Justice to remind the younger generations of the man whose values and beliefs center on working for others.

Other than symbolic meanings that each part of the monument had in relation to Chavez's life, Baca said she wished to convey her own message to the students through the monument.

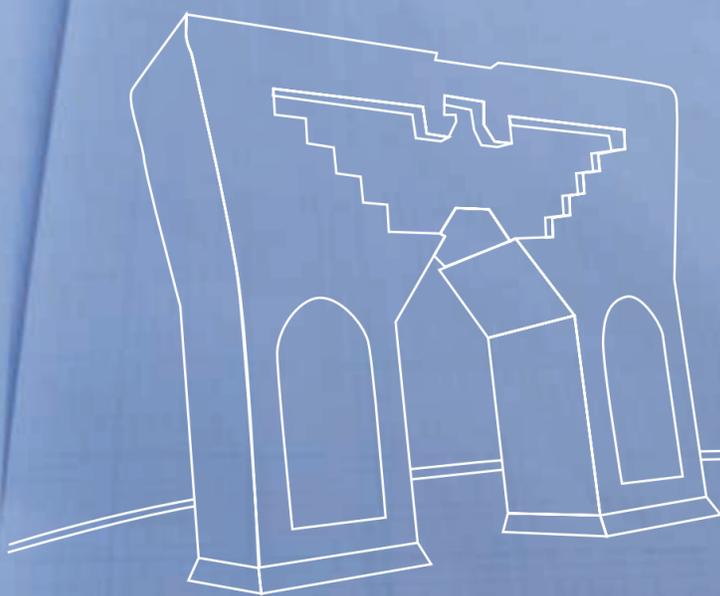
"Education is a rite of passage, but the purpose isn't for oneself only," Baca said. "When you have education, you have obligation to others."

Dolores Huerta, co-founder of the United Farm Workers of America labor union, was depicted on the monument as well, with one of her hands representing the power of persuasion for growers to amend the unjust treatment of the farm workers

and the other hand representing the power of non-violent actions.

Huerta said by linking the eagle and a public university together, the monument is a very powerful symbol of unity and progress.

"I considered myself to be very blessed to be part of the monument," Huerta said.



### The People

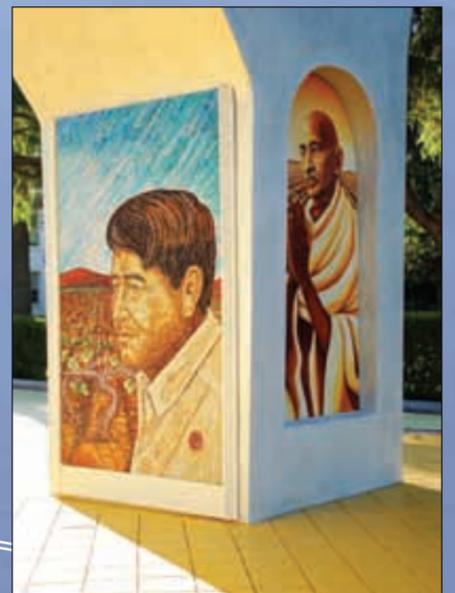
On the side of the arch are two workers bending over in the fields of California. The short hoe, abolished during Chavez's time as one of his most important achievements, caused injuries to many workers, and it is featured in gold on the face of the arch to honor this fact, according to Baca.

On the interior of the arch is a mural of Cesar Chavez, which Baca said she placed there for a reason.

"Cesar Chavez is not on the front side because he's a very humble man, and he always put others first," she said.

On the opposite side of the arch are depictions of Mahatma Gandhi, Chavez's inspiration of social change through nonviolence, and Dolores Huerta, Chavez's partner in the movement's activities.

Baca said these two figures placed on the pillars represent how the two were pillars of the United Farm Workers.



### The Mosaic Pathway

Baca said the circular mosaic path is treated with colors derived from the four Maya pre-Hispanic Codices discovered to date: Dresden, Paris, Madrid and Grolier. The four deal exclusively with religious and astronomical matters, and are mostly written in archaic Yucatec, one of the 31 Mayan languages, according to Maya Hieroglyphic Codices Web site.

Baca said the pathway represents the many marches taken by the union. There are four granite stones with important messages from Chavez, representing the passage from hope to education and then action.

### The Eagle and the Arch

Originally designed by Chavez's brother, Richard Chavez, the eagle is the symbol of the United Farm Workers, representing unity of people.

The stacked glass eagle serves as the central element of the "triumphant arch," Baca said.

The arch stands in the middle of the passageway, representing the students going from having a vision to becoming an activist, Baca said.



Illustration and top photo by MEGAN HAMILTON / Bottom photos by HANK DREW / Spartan Daily

# Financial aid students still wait

SELMA SKOKIC  
Staff Writer

Delayed payment of Cal Grants, which is due to the absence of the California state budget, is causing concern among some SJSU students.

"I know how much people rely on (Cal Grants)," said Gurreet Bola, a senior health science major. "Some people have to work two to three jobs just to pay off their loans."

According to a message on the Financial Aid & Scholarship Office Web site, an extended fee deferral will be placed on students' accounts to protect their classes from being dropped.

The message added that Campus Housing has been notified of the delay and will work with students who have a payment due.

According to the message, the payments will remain on hold until the California state budget is signed and SJSU gets its funding from the California Student Aid Commission.

Daniel Nguyen, a senior financing major, waited in a long line at the Financial Aid Office to find out whether he would receive the usual check with money that is left over from his financial aid.

"They gave me a fee deferral,

so all of my classes have been taken care of, but I did not get my check," Nguyen said.

Shivani Agrawal, a freshman business major, said she was told that the issue would be resolved in the next month.

"That's a long time," Agrawal said.

Pat Lopes Harris, SJSU media relations director specialist, said the universities are very hopeful they will receive what was anticipated, but at this point no one can be sure.

"The university will make every effort to assist students affected by the Cal Grant situation," Lopes Harris said.

# Hurricane Ike slams into Cuba and Haiti

Associated Press

CAMAGUEY, Cuba — Hurricane Ike roared into Cuba on Sunday after destroying houses and crops on low-lying islands, and worsening floods in Haiti that have already killed more than 300 people.

With Ike forecast to sweep the length of Cuba and possibly hit Havana head-on, hundreds of thousands of Cubans evacuated to shelters or higher ground. To the north, residents of the Florida Keys fled up a narrow highway, fearful that the "extremely dangerous" hurricane could hit them Tuesday.

At least 58 people died as Ike's winds and rain swept Haiti Sunday — and officials found three more bodies from a previous storm —

raising the nation's death toll from four tropical storms in less than a month to 319. A Dominican man was crushed by a falling tree. It was too early to know of deaths on other islands where the most powerful winds were still blowing.

Ike's center hit the Bahamas' Great Inagua island, where the roofs of its two shelters both sprung leaks under the 135 mph winds. As the storm passed, people inside peeked through windows at toppled trees and houses stripped of their roofs.

"It's nasty. I can't remember getting hit like this," reserve police officer Henry Nixon said from inside a shelter holding about 85 people.

Great Inagua has about 1,000 people and about 50,000 West

Indian flamingos — the world's largest breeding colony. Both populations sought safety from the winds and driving rain, with the pink flamingos gathering in mangrove thickets. Biologists worried that their unique habitat could be destroyed.

"There's a possibility that the habitat can't really be replaced, and that they can't find an equivalent spot," said Greg Butcher, bird conservation director for the National Audubon Society. "You might have a significant drop in the number of flamingos."

Todd Kimberlain, a meteorologist at the U.S. National Hurricane Center, said Ike reached land in eastern Cuba late Sunday night and was expected to remain over the island until Tuesday.

# Obama and McCain get equal TV numbers

Associated Press

NEW YORK — As a television draw, John McCain was every bit the equal of Barack Obama.

The GOP presidential candidate attracted roughly the same number of viewers to his convention acceptance speech Thursday as Obama did before the Democrats last week, according to Nielsen Media Research.

It marked the end of an astonishing run where more than 40 million people watched political speeches on three nights by Obama, McCain and Republican vice presidential candidate Sarah Palin. The Republican convention was the most-watched convention on television ever,

beating a standard set by the Democrats a week earlier.

Three times in two weeks, political speeches were watched by more people than the "American Idol" finale, the Academy Awards and the opening ceremony of the Beijing Olympics this year.

"It clearly suggests that a great number of Americans think that who will be the next president is important and worthy of their time," said Tom Rosenstiel, a former political reporter and director of the Project for Excellence in Journalism.

Television ratings throughout the primary season had already indicated an intense interest in the election, but viewers clearly were more fascinated in the Democratic contest between Obama

and Hillary Clinton than the Republican nomination fight.

This week's ratings, with an average of 34.5 million viewers watching the GOP convention over three days, proved people are becoming more interested in what the Republicans have to say. The Democrats had an average audience of 30.2 million over four days, Nielsen said.

"No one really thought they had it in them in terms of pulling off this amazing convention," said Jay Wallace, vice president for news and editorial at Fox News Channel. But Hurricane Gustav pulled people into the news networks over the weekend, he said. People were also intensely curious about McCain's pick of Palin as a running mate, he said.

# SJSU students get ready to create short films for 7th annual contest

PETER HIRONAKA  
Staff Writer

Students are just weeks away from the world's largest student film festival, the seventh annual Campus MovieFest.

According to the Campus MovieFest Web site, the film festival was founded by Emory University graduates in 2001. Now, the student festival travels to universities all over the world, one of which is SJSU.

During the 2007-08 tour, Campus MovieFest covered 35 events in the U.S. alone, featuring an estimated 50,000 student filmmakers, according to its Web site.

Each contestant participating in the festival is given one week to create a movie. Each contestant is provided with a laptop equipped with video editing software, a digital camcorder and any additional training and support that may be needed, according to the festival Web site.

Prizes for the event range from iPods and mobile phones

to meetings with studio executives and a \$10,000 cash grant.

There are several guidelines that each filmmaker must follow, including a five-minute-or-less limit for all submissions.

Only current students and faculty are allowed to work on the movie, which includes filming, editing and directing. The event, according to its Web site, is sponsored by AT&T.

Erin Salazar, a senior art major, said her biggest contributions last year were made during the main concepts of the film as well as the cinematography. Salazar also said she helped out with most of the stylistic portions of her film last year.

The SJSU version of the competition kicks off on Sept. 24, with submissions due the following week.

Some students already have their eyes set on the prize.

Amy Krauser, a junior radio, television and film major, said she has already begun brainstorming with her crew. The number

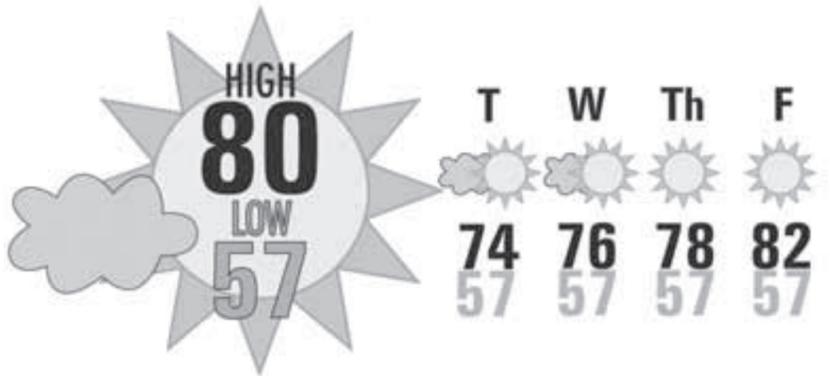
of group members varies from team to team, she added.

"The last few years I worked within a team of five," Krauser said. "I know that other teams have had as many as ten people."

Krauser also added that it is difficult to come up with a good enough idea that will fit in five minutes or less, not to mention the time constraint it has on her daily class schedule.

"It's hard to find time that everyone is available to work on it between work and class," Krauser said. "In the past, we have had to put it off until the last minute for that reason, but it just depends on how much time you put into planning the week."

According to its Web site, the winner from each categorical award will move on to the Bay Area regional competition, which includes surrounding universities. From there, the competition takes on a nationwide event where the best films in the country are showcased.



# SPARTAGUIDE EVENTS CALENDAR

## 08 TODAY

### School of Art & Design Gallery Openings

Gallery shows running from Sept. 8 to Sept. 12.  
Gallery 2: Chris Hofer-Borrer, Gallery 3: Gloria Huet, Gallery 5: Kirkman Amyx, Gallery 8: Emily Seeman, Black Gallery: John Pickelle, Herbert Sanders Gallery: John Pickelle. Ongoing Exhibition — closing Oct. 17. 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the Art Building and Industrial Studies Building Contact Ace Antazo at zephronas@pacbell.net

### Employer Table: National Farm Workers Service Center

10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 9th Street Plaza (in front of the Career Center). Contact Angela Wayfer at career-center.sjsu.edu

### Club Sports Recruitment Barbecue

Lunch that includes a hot dog, soda and CS megaphone will be sold for \$2. Individual items will be sold for \$1 each. 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the 7th Street barbecue pit area across from the Event Center. Contact Allison Clifford at ar\_clifford@yahoo.com

### Tuesday Night Lecture Series

"Linda Inson Choy and 'IPGIM': Living the Change" Concurrent with the exhibition "The Offering Table: Activist Women Artists

from Korea" at Mills College in Oakland, the artists and curator will discuss the work of this activist feminist group that is working within a society that is still largely based on the Confucian patriarchal system. The artists will also share their philosophies and visions for the future. 5 p.m. in Art Building Room 133. Contact Ace Antazo at zephronas@pacbell.net

### School of Art & Design Gallery Receptions

Gallery 2: Chris Hofer-Borrer, Gallery 3: Gloria Huet, Gallery 5: Kirkman Amyx, Gallery 8: Emily Seeman, Black Gallery: John Pickelle, Herbert Sanders Gallery: John Pickelle Receptions: 6 to 7:30 p.m. located at each gallery in the Art Building and Industrial Studies Building. Contact Ace Antazo at zephronas@pacbell.net

## 09 TOMORROW

### Employer Table: The Apple Store

10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 9th Street Plaza (in front of the Career Center). Contact Angela Wayfer at career-center.sjsu.edu

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.

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DEREK SIJDER / Spartan Daily

LEFT: Adan Ramirez, a former United Farm Workers activist, attends the unveiling of the Cesar E. Chavez Monument.



CINTHIA RODRIGUEZ / Spartan Daily

ABOVE: Felipe Chavez, son of Cesar Chavez, raises his hand to pay homage to his father's memorial.



CINTHIA RODRIGUEZ / Spartan Daily



CINTHIA RODRIGUEZ / Spartan Daily

LEFT: A group of Native American Aztec dancers start off the ceremony to honor the opening of the Cesar E. Chavez Monument.

LEFT: Arch artist Judith Baca (left) and Dolores Huerta (right) and pose next to Huerta's mural.

# Chavez Remembered

## Salinas farm workers receive loudest applause at dedication of Cesar E. Chavez Monument

for, was eager to hear Huerta. "I feel like she is a person that I have to see speak, so I can appreciate certain things, so having an opportunity to see her speak is really important," Avilucea said.

More than a dozen farm workers from Salinas attended. Despite the multitude of well-known speakers and guests, it was they who received by far the largest round of applause and cheers.

Chavez co-founded the United Farm Workers to improve the lives and working conditions of those working in the fields. He supported and taught nonviolence in the philosophy of Mohandas Gandhi to bring change to those who needed it.

"Cesar Chavez is not about the past. He is about the future," said

San Jose Mayor Chuck Reed.

The logistics of bringing artist Judith Baca's vision into reality took five years, a structural engineer, multiple material vendors and many hours of volunteer work.

"As we were developing the vision of the artist, we ran into challenges of how to do things," said Tony Valenzuela, associate vice president of facilities development & operations. "We were more worried about doing it right than setting a hard deadline."

Baca explained her inspiration. "It's not about his personality or 'American hero,' as hero in the traditional sense, but it's much more about a man who lived in the center of his belief system and did it beautifully and carried out a whole lifetime of struggle," she said. "His triumphs were

not over nations or people, but rather for humanity."

Daryl Taninoto, a freshman business major, said he had never seen anything like the monument before.

"It's great that they have something like this in the middle of San Jose State because it really brings out a lot in this culture," Taninoto said.

Paul Chavez, Cesar's son, now president of the Cesar E. Chavez Foundation, was also at the ceremony.

"I think that it's here in San Jose State is fitting," he said. "It was in San Jose that my father first started to organize. And then the history of San Jose State, the activism, the support for our movement and other organizations — the location couldn't be more fitting."



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# Cornhuskers march past Spartans, 35-12



**Multimedia Exclusive**  
For Spartan football photos and video go to [www.TheSpartanDaily.com](http://www.TheSpartanDaily.com)

SJSU safety Devin Newsome (No. 24) attempts to tackle Nebraska wide receiver Todd Peterson in Saturday afternoon's game in Lincoln, Neb.

VANESSA SKOCZ / The Daily Nebraskan

**Staff Report**

SJSU fell to the University of Nebraska 35-12 on Saturday after pulling within two points with roughly 12 minutes to go in the fourth quarter.

Jared Strubeck's 27-yard field goal with 12:17 remaining brought the score to 14-12, but Cornhuskers' kick returner Niles Paul raced 85 yards downfield with the Spartans' kickoff on the next play for a touchdown and a 21-12 lead.

Nebraska scored twice more

in the quarter, and SJSU failed to answer.

The Spartans (1-1) scored the game's first touchdown on a 12-yard run by quarterback Kyle Reed. The score stood at 6-0 after Will Johnson's extra point attempt went wide right.

Reed completed 18 of 26 passes with no touchdowns through the air and one interception for the Spartans.

The quarterback, making his first collegiate start, was sacked twice by the Nebraska defense and left in the fourth quarter af-

ter receiving a concussion.

Cornhusker running back Quentin Castille's three-yard touchdown run and Alex Henery's extra point at 5:16 in the first quarter gave the Cornhuskers a 7-6 advantage.

Two minutes later, Nebraska defensive end Ndamukong Suh intercepted Reed's tipped pass and ran 49 yards to the end zone to boost Nebraska (2-0) to a 14-6 lead.

A 41-yard field goal by Strubeck put the score at 14-9 at halftime. Strubeck made two of

three field goal attempts on the afternoon for the Spartans.

Following Paul's kick return for the Cornhuskers, running backs Roy Helu Jr. and Marlon Lucky scored on touchdown runs in the fourth quarter to make the score 35-12.

SJSU running back Yonus Davis rushed for 58 yards on seven carries, with a long of 24 yards. All of Davis' runs were for positive yardage.

The Spartans finished with 137 yards rushing as a team, while the Cornhuskers totaled

99 yards. Both schools finished with 216 yards passing.

After Reed left the game in the fourth quarter, junior Myles Eden entered for the Spartans, completing one of seven pass attempts and throwing one interception.

Nebraska quarterback Joe Ganz completed 17 of 25 passes and had one pass intercepted by SJSU defensive back Duke Ihenacho.

Cornerback Christopher Owens, defensive end Carl Ihenacho and defensive tackle Adonis Da-

vis each sacked Ganz once during the game.

Ihenacho's and Davis' sacks came during the game's first drive. SJSU linebacker Justin Cole also recovered a fumble by Nebraska running back Castille.

Senior Kevin Jurovich led the Spartans with 84 yards receiving on four catches and became the 18th player in school history with 100 receptions.

David Richmond added five catches for 59 yards.

SJSU outgained Nebraska in offensive yardage, 353 to 315.

## Moston leads women's golf this fall

Reigning WAC Player of the Year begins season today at tournament in Colorado

**RICHARD STERN**  
Staff Writer

As the SJSU women's golf team prepares to compete in the Ptarmigan Ram Fall Classic today and tomorrow in Fort Collins, Colo., senior Erica Moston hopes to use her experiences from this summer to help propel the Spartans to a Western Athletic Conference championship and a spot in the NCAA Championship tournament.

Over the summer, Moston competed at the highest level of amateur golf when she qualified for the match-play portion of two United States Golf Association championships, the U.S. Women's Public Links and Women's U.S. Amateur.

She reached the match play portion of both events.

"I made the cut at the U.S. Amateur and the Publinx, but lost my first match in each case," Moston said. "It was disappointing to get to match play and lose in the first round, but the experience was great and there is always next year."

Moston, a business major from Belmont, said she preferred to compete in stroke-play, the common scoring system in golf, as opposed to match play, in which players win or lose individual holes by scoring better than their opponent.

"I have been having kind of a

rough time with match play lately," Moston said. "It's difficult when you don't regularly practice match play and only play it once or twice a year."

Success and consistency are things that Moston has had a lot of when competing for SJSU. As a freshman in 2005, she had four top-ten finishes, including eighth place at the WAC Championships.

In her second season, she again tallied four top-10 finishes and won the WAC Championship, while lowering her scoring average by nearly one full stroke.

Last year she was named the 2008 WAC Player of the Year.

She again had four top-10 finishes and landed in 13th place at the NCAA West Regional Championship, which qualified her as one of two individual players from the west region to compete in the NCAA Championship.

"Erica has progressed in every way imaginable: as a golfer, socially, academically and as a team leader," said head coach John Dormann. "She has grown in every way you would want to see a student athlete grow, from the time they enter your program as a freshman to their senior year."

Moston said she would like to pursue a career in professional golf.

"After this year, I am going to try to qualify for the Duramed FUTURES Tour, which is one level below the LPGA. I am also planning on trying to qualify by going through the LPGA Qualifying School."

Dormann said Moston displays a confidence seen in professional players.

"She is getting to the point where she is starting to make good scores from bad shots, the way LPGA pros do," Dormann said. "If she hits it in trouble now, she makes a par or birdie, where in the past she would make a bogey. ... Nobody cares how far you hit it or how good your swing looks; it's all about the numbers."

Asked which professional Moston reminds him of, Dor-

mann answered, "I think she is probably a lot like Meg Mallon, whom I worked for for eight years. Meg wasn't a great college golfer, but she had a desire to become a great player. I think Erica has a similar attitude and game. She is not too flashy, but very consistent."

Moston said her goals for this season are to keep her stroke average under 74, which she said would keep her in contention to win tournaments. She has won once in her collegiate career and described the feeling as "incredible."

"I want that feeling again," Moston said. "I want to win."

**Online Exclusive**  
For a women's golf team preview, go to [www.TheSpartanDaily.com](http://www.TheSpartanDaily.com)

|          | 1  | 2 | 3 | 4  | Final |
|----------|----|---|---|----|-------|
| SJSU     | 6  | 3 | 0 | 3  | 12    |
| Nebraska | 14 | 0 | 0 | 21 | 35    |

First downs: SJSU 19, Nebraska 19  
Total offense: SJSU 353, Nebraska 315  
Rushing yards: SJSU 137, Nebraska 99  
Passing yards: SJSU 216, Nebraska 216

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# 'It's the first birthday party I have seen for a building'

**RYAN BUCHAN**  
Staff Writer

The library that allows university students and city residents to study side-by-side celebrated five years of existence on Saturday.

"It's a wonderful center for the entire community, and a great intersection of city and university," said Sam Liccardo, District 3 councilman for the city of San Jose.

Celebrations included a singing "Happy Birthday" to the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library and eating cake.

"It's the first birthday party I have seen for a building," said Anna Hollinger, a junior sociology major.

Five years may seem like a short time since the King Library sits on the campus of the oldest public university in California.

"It's arbitrary to celebrate this milestone," said David Cohen, who was chair of the San Jose Library Commission from 2002 to 2007, "but important to remind people of the success of the experiment."

The party began with various speakers talking about the library and what it has done for the city.

"What this library demonstrates to everyone is a college education is a step away from the library," said Jane Light, director of the San Jose Public Library system.

Speakers discussed how the project got started to build a collaborative library between the university and the city.

"We are in awe because we saw a powerful visionary idea that became reality," said Car-

men Sigler, SJSU provost and vice president for academic affairs. "What we are really celebrating is the real success of that idea."

After the opening speeches, a taiko performance, a type of Japanese drumming, was performed outside the library.

Following that was a martial arts presentation with a lion dance and Peruvian dances. Saturday's event began at 11 a.m. and went on until 4 p.m., but it was just the beginning of a month of celebrations that will go on at the King Library, said Diane Stake, director of government and community relations at SJSU.

Libraries may seem to some as a strange place for music and celebration when they are often characterized by silence and studying.

Ruth Kifer, library dean at SJSU, said this was a rare event and the noise would not be noticeable to students studying on the upper floors.

Vincent Goveas, a software engineering graduate student, said he could not hear the festivities below while he was studying on the eighth floor.

The celebration also took place inside the library, with different activities planned for people of all ages.

On the fifth floor, library guests listened to lectures about composer Ludwig van Beethoven and his instruments, as well as a lesson regarding author John Steinbeck.

"It was really cool," said Sean Lisle, a San Jose resident. "You could hear Beethoven's music on instruments of the time — kind of like a time machine."

On the second floor, there was a video game tournament involving various games.

"It is pretty appropriate considering it's the Silicon Valley," said Malcolm Wallace, a senior sociology major.

Miguel Amezcua, a junior at Leland High School who was at the video game competition, said he liked the event and wished other libraries would do things like this.

The King Library has accomplished many feats in its short lifespan.

From the time it opened in September 2003 to June 2008, the library has had more than 13 million visits, which is equal to the amount of fans that visited AT&T Park in the past four years, according to the event's program. The program also stated the library has had around 11.3 million items checked out.

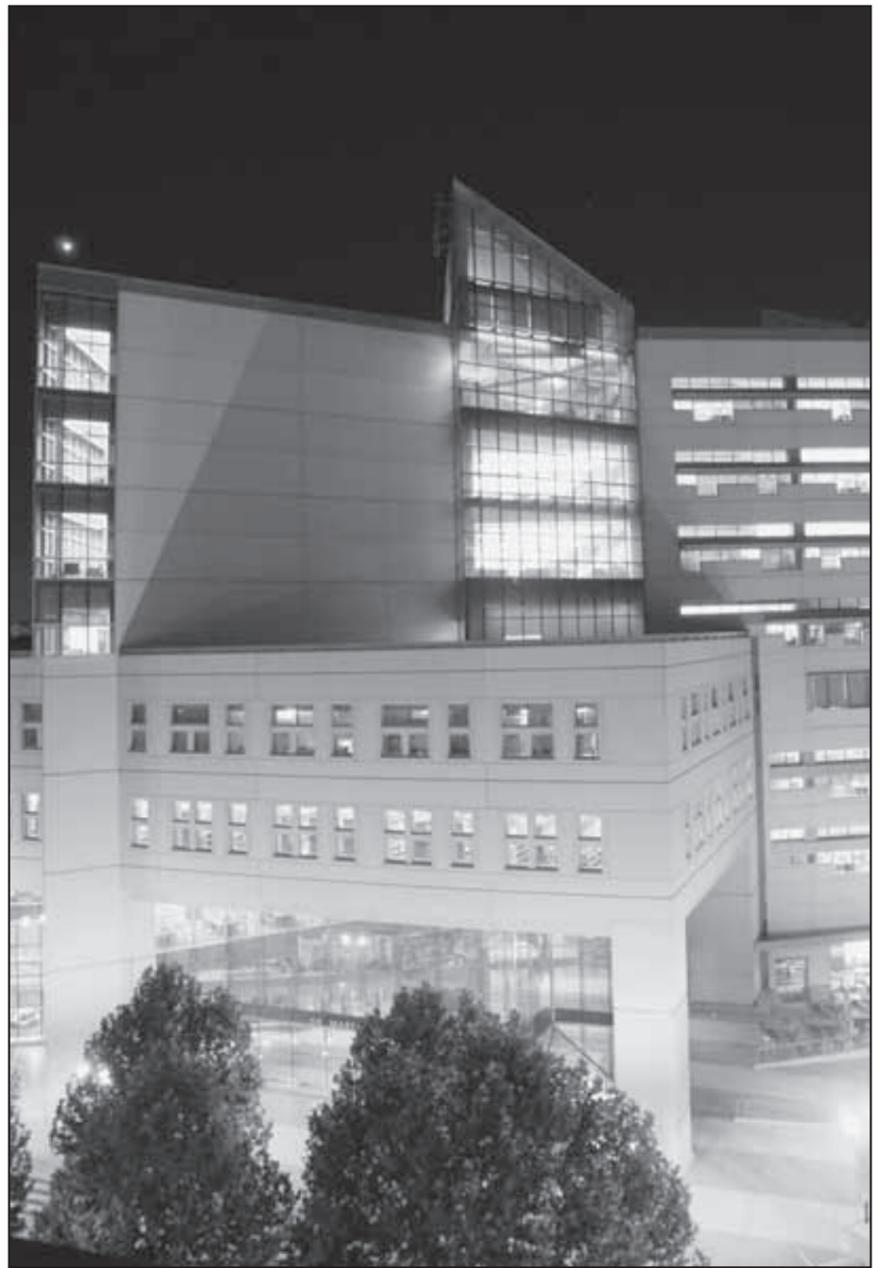
"It's such a different kind of library," Kifer said. "It's truly unique; it's just been an enormous success."

The library also affected at least one student's decision to come to SJSU.

"I love it," Hollinger said. "It's beautiful. It is one of the main reasons I came to this school."

The Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library celebrated its fifth year in partnership with SJSU and the City of San Jose as a beacon of knowledge and innovative architectural design.

CARLOS A. MORENO / Spartan Daily



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### TODAY'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE

**ACROSS**

- Overcharge
- Food on a skewer
- Kind
- Firebug's crime
- Debussy music
- Ice melter
- Lamb and ham
- Black and white animal
- Hindu title
- Purple flower
- NASA outfit (hyph.)
- Cannibals and headhunters
- Ice cream treats
- Straightens
- Bit part
- Neon and helium
- Collapses (2 wds.)
- High school class
- Comes unglued
- Struck a match
- Almond confection
- Indy driver
- Fluffy quilt
- Conditional release
- Took stock?
- Refreshing drink
- Merman or Waters
- Limerick or ode
- Through
- Snow shelter
- Fill with
- Diminutive folkloric character
- Hamburger extra
- Groovy
- Rent out
- Cancels
- Windows tycoon

**DOWN**

- School of whales
- Natural resource
- Cable network
- Figured out
- Annapolis grads
- French Legion headgear
- Depot info
- Cinnamon
- Put 2 and 2 together
- Long-eared dogs
- Hot topic
- Like the tabloids
- Makes mittens
- Second notes
- Load cargo
- Long story
- Burglar deterrent
- Panoramic view
- Birthday count
- Expert
- "Rag Mop" brothers
- Havana export
- Stared at
- Bauxite giant
- Harvest
- Go horseback
- Park feature
- Solar plexus
- Huge number
- Plowing into
- Where — you?
- Fruit pastry
- Luxuriate
- Serviceable
- Elevator opening
- Lake birds
- Motel plus
- Wildebeest
- Mae West role
- Drop — line
- Baseball club
- Versatile vehicle
- Dawn goddess

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| PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED |         |       |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|------------------------|---------|-------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
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| ABLER                  | ONCE    | ALPO  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| REEFS                  | LYES    | BLEU  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| KATO                   | TOADS   | TOOLS |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| SHARPEN                | HURTLE  |       |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|                        | MAX     | ARABS |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| RESET                  | VIALS   | WEB   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| NEAR                   | PERIL   | EAVE  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| SKY                    | WHEEL   | PAGED |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|                        | WARPS   | JOT   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| MARINA                 | SEESAWS |       |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| IRIDESCENT             | CLAW    |       |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| LINE                   | IOLA    | IRATE |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ASKS                   | NDAK    | DOMED |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| NEST                   | GENE    | SWORE |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

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# Yes, we know there is no flying car, please stop talking about it



When the ball dropped and the year rolled over from 1999 to 2000, and it became apparent that the world wasn't going to melt within the clutches of Y2K (and I recovered from the anti-climax), I looked around and noticed that there weren't any flying cars.

I promptly called my good friend and said, "We were promised flying cars by the year 2000. There aren't any. I've been robbed."

"Yeah," he responded, giggling all the while, "I want my flying car. What the hell?"

And that was that. A new century, all ready to be written. In 90 years, we at the turn of the 21st century would seem as old as the people in big hats, ties and goofy dresses standing around flame-powered streetlights at the turn of the previous century.

And I felt so smart, standing on the

edge of Y2K and having made this clever quip about the future that wasn't.

Well, it's been eight years. Stand-up comedians have made the same stupid joke about flying cars, as have talk-show hosts and just about every breathing person who happens to have a working larynx.

And recently, I heard a radio ad, one advertising a bank of all things, mention that there aren't any flying cars.

Well, I pulled my rust-covered, primer-pocked car over, got out, stood on the roof and screamed, "Enough!"

I want to hear nothing more of flying cars. They aren't here. I'm sure somewhere there's some military jerk just sitting on some kind of vehicle that at least hovers, but we don't have cars that fly, and with the price of gas floating around \$4 per gallon, would you really want one?

It's time to give up on this whole "future" deal. The future is now, friends, Spartans, countrymen, and it doesn't include flying automobiles that look like '57 Chevys, no matter what the '50s told you.

The odd part is that "the year 2000" still has a futuristic ring, and it's almost a

decade old now. In addition to the flying car business, we don't have robots to give us our bourbon (or granola bars, for you health freaks), boots to allow us to walk on ceilings or wallpaper that changes designs with the touch of a button.

What we do have in place of flying cars? Let's start with the abbreviations. Call me archaic for only having recently realized what "rofl" means in an e-mail, but the Washington Mutual bank chain has now changed a few of its signs to read "WaMu."

WaMu? Do you really want to trust your money with an establishment that has chosen to modify its name to closely resemble some baby's first warble?

One that has just come to my attention is "fro-yo." For the un-hip, this is frozen yogurt. What is that, some kind of a street lingo? Since when is frozen yogurt cool enough to have a street name? Perhaps when people want some Jamba Juice they'll start telling the clerk, "Hook me up with some 'J.'"

Since the turn of the century, "hoochie mama," "crack-ho" and "d'oh" have all been added to the dictionary.

What else has happened? Let's see ...

Half the world thinks we're a laughable bunch for putting Daffy Duck in office twice, and the other half hates us for what Daffy's done for global stability.

We have a nice handful of conflicts with several nations and a few more waiting in the wings. There weren't any weapons of mass destruction in Iraq, but we are stuck there.

The elation of anyone owning even a postage stamp-sized bit of land in Silicon Valley has faded as the price of housing fell around here.

And the cost of living has gone up enough that anyone who might have bought a flying car, had they existed, to go stargaze is now content to ride a bicycle.

Aforementioned gas prices are so high that, for lack of demand, GM actually had to shut down a few plants that specifically produce gas-guzzling moose vehicles, and a couple of people around here have actually swayed to the will of the inflexible public transit system.

But I digress. This is the future. So maybe it's not the utopian ideal we thought the year 2000 might bring us, wherein people float around in tunics with their auras plainly visible

and we have robot maids to sweep up our messes, and all appliances in our houses seem to be automated and have a Jetsons-esque antenna with a few circles around the end.

In fact, we still have to make our toast by pushing the handle down on that infernal bread burning machine and our vehicles have stopped talking to us altogether. There was a brief stint when automobiles of the Chrysler elite would say, "The door is ajar," to which wits such as Henry and Muffie would respond, while sipping their martinis, "No, the door is NOT a jar; the door is a door."

So no flying cars. But in their place, we have new abbreviations, silly words in the dictionary and some good old-fashioned conflicts to concern ourselves about.

Drat. OK, but this is the last time. Maybe I do want that flying car after all.

"Yes, I Have a Point" appears every Monday. Angelo Lanham is a Spartan Daily student culture editor.

## 'You are screwed, have a nice day.' - Sincerely, the Financial Aid Office



Normally, the political bickering in Sacramento doesn't affect many students directly. The state not having a budget is only a small inconvenience to many people because it's usually resolved before anything gets to a critical point.

Being a financial aid student, though, still leaves me with cause for worry. I wouldn't be at SJSU without student loans and Cal Grants. This means that I'm at the mercy of the state government every July and August as politicians argue over the state's budget.

Often, this means other students in need of Cal Grants are left sitting and waiting for both sides to agree on a budget.

This September, the state was supposed to pay out \$155 million in financial aid to college students across the state, part of what will become more than \$12 billion in services that will go unpaid this month if there is no budget, the San Francisco Chronicle reported.

Right now, 15 state senators and 32 assembly members would rather hurt millions of people by holding up social services statewide than accept a paltry one-cent increase in the sales tax. Even the governor — also a Republican — is in favor of the sales tax increase.

But here on campus, we have to make do with the situation. Unfortunately, the university's services are not making it any easier.

The Financial Aid & Scholarship Office has shown little tact with students who are waiting for their Cal Grants to clear the budget hurdle. A message went out through MySJSU to students. In it, students were sent to a link of a letter telling them that fee deferrals will expire on Sept. 10, at which point payments would be due.

It was a message that should have never been sent out, given the current circumstances, because a note on the Financial Aid Office's Web site reads that no students will lose their classes for failing to pay because of issues with Cal Grants, and that University Housing Services has been notified of the delay.

Several students did receive the correct message concerning their grant money, which leaves me to wonder why I got a different one.

My loans have put my last payment in mid-October, so I wasn't as affected as much by the gaffe as other students. Still, many people were put on notice. A colleague of mine said he didn't know what he was going to do when the fee deferral on his account was lifted.

As a student, I understand the pressure that is on those who work in the Financial Aid Office. At last count, there were more than 31,000 aid applicants at SJSU, and the office's job is to process all of them and to disburse money to those who qualify.

Many people at SJSU have enough on their minds, with classes and jobs and homework running through their heads. Adding the concern of the Financial Aid Office threatening students to drop classes for not paying the remainder of their tuition, even if it is just a false alarm, is an added strain.

Sending the right message means the Financial Aid Office won't have to endure a week or so of phone calls, e-mails and students in line, pleading for extra time to pay off their tuition without seeing the message on its site.

A little sympathy from those who hold the purse strings would go a long way, and getting the right message to students in a manner everyone should see is only part of it.

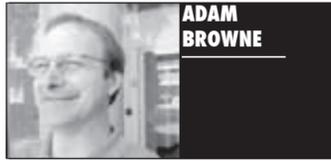
"Insert Witty Statement Here" appears every other Monday. John Hornberg is the Spartan Daily managing editor.

## QUOTE of the DAY

**JOHN McCAIN**  
*The senator said Sunday on CBS News' "Face The Nation" regarding Barack Obama.*

"From the time he came up in the Chicago political arena to the time — the short time — he was in the Senate, he never took on his party on a single major issue."

## Of course they can dish it out, but they definitely can't take it



The latest political news about Gov. Sarah Palin of Alaska and her family got me thinking, in a rant typical of me, that there is something seriously weird about news commentary shows these days.

Blog sites such as the DailyKos.com, an aggressive liberal site, seem to scare the right-wing news commentators at Fox News into thinking that blogs are a plot by the left-wing, liberal media to circumvent the government and do harm to the country.

The latest hypocritical stance on the talk news block on prime-time was that vice presidential candidate Palin is under scrutiny regarding her pregnant teenage daughter and her new baby. Even though Palin's family is also an issue on CNN, MSNBC and other major news networks, Fox News seems to be especially concerned, not because it's bad to be a teenager and pregnant, but because it's wrong to bring it up about a politician's family.

Last Monday, the rhetoric began on "The O'Reilly Factor" and continued on "Hannity & Colmes" afterward. The problem is that Fox News not long ago bashed the idea of teen pregnancy, and now it seems to be OK so long as the teen is the daughter of a governor who happens to be Sen. John McCain's running mate in the 2008 presidential election.

On "The O'Reilly Factor," the agitator of anything remotely secular-progressive screamed for war over allegations that the DailyKos.com Web site

published comments about Palin's 17-year-old daughter being pregnant and that the blog writer speculated that Palin's special-needs baby was really the daughter's child, which is ridiculous. That is offensive, but it's not news.

I checked the DailyKos.com Web site that night because on some occasions it has sarcastic humor about both sides of the political spectrum, and found nothing on this story until the next evening.

Besides, Bill O'Reilly never named the blog writer nor did he get the source right. DrudgeReport.com writers later claimed that one of theirs wrote the story. DrudgeReport.com is a conservative Web site. No retraction or correction was aired on Fox News when that broke.

By Tuesday, all the networks seemed to be covering the baby story, like it was bigger than Hurricane Gustav, which temporarily stalled the Republican National Convention for a day. Were this not an election year, a governor with a daughter who was a teenager and pregnant would not be news.

Last Tuesday, the DailyKos.com published a rebuttal in which a blog writer from DrudgeReport.com claimed responsibility for the inappropriate comment about Palin's family. O'Reilly's staff of fact checkers must have known not to use a blog site as a news source from the start, but because they're biased against liberals, they believed it was right to report it.

The whole story is just politics as usual, and it is typical of the conservative editorialists at Fox News to jump on anything that might be liberal bias, but the audience probably wasn't really concerned that a blog site ran a smear comment one night. It was just one person's opinion and hardly worthy of a week's worth of commentary.

The DailyKos.com blog writers didn't help their cause, though, because just after the rebuttal, others made really inane and nasty comments about Palin in general. So it's not like they're the best outlet of journalistic integrity anyway. After all, nobody said that blog sites had to have any journalistic standards. That is, nobody but O'Reilly, followed by Sean Hannity and Alan Colmes, who also discussed it on their talk show.

Apparently, the Fox News political pundits are under the odd delusion that they're the beacons of hope in the mire of the vastly more powerful liberal media that seems to control everything. Ironically, if any of them actually replayed their rhetoric, they'd wonder if it came from the liberal media.

Palin's daughter is a pregnant teenager, and it's unacceptable to make light of that on a liberal blog site, or to make that even an issue.

Fox was so offended that they went on about it up until last night. Suddenly, because Palin is the Republican vice presidential candidate, that makes it OK to mention her questionable parenting skills in regards to her daughter, and not OK for some random blog writer to make fun of her. Palin should be the news story, not her family. Downplayed is the fact that she was an advocate for proper parenting education in Alaska. The real story should be whether or not she is a good choice for vice president, not her family issues.

Adam Browne is a Spartan Daily senior writer.

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