

# thespartandaily.com Spartan Daily

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TUESDAY SEPTEMBER  
**09** 2008

**Online Exclusive**  
Go to [www.TheSpartanDaily.com](http://www.TheSpartanDaily.com)  
at 3 p.m. for a live showing

## Live Webcast

of a press conference  
with SJSU President  
Jon Whitmore at 3 p.m.

## STUDENT CULTURE PAGE 4

### Street Fighter IV

comes to SJSU to pound  
you into the ground

## OPINION PAGE 6



### Shut up and drive!

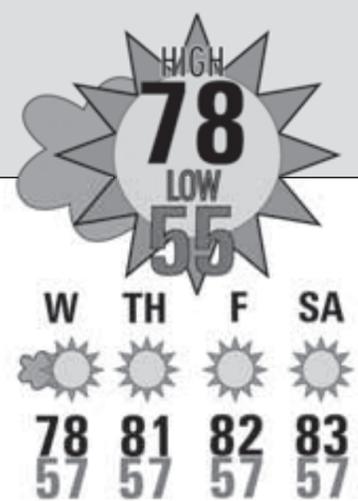
Talking and driving  
go together like beer  
and pregnancies

## SPORTS PAGE 8



### Record books,

make room for these  
two V-ball players



## WAC sports roll onto national network



Photo by WILLIAM COOLEY / Spartan Daily

### New deal adds more football and basketball coverage for SJSU's conference

JOEY AKELEY  
Staff Writer

SJSU students, get ready to collage yourselves in blue and yellow. SJSU athletics are going to be seen a lot more on television.

The Western Athletic Conference and ESPN have agreed to a seven-year contract extension that will allow for more television coverage for football, basketball and volleyball games.

"This new contract will double the amount of football games in the WAC from eight to 16 and will quadruple the amount of basketball games from three

to 12," said Dave Chaffin, the WAC Director of Media Relations. "The contract will also offer men's and women's volleyball games on ESPN for the first time."

Under this new contract, being a member of the WAC in football, basketball and volleyball should give San Jose State sports more television exposure than ever before, he added.

According to ESPN.com, SJSU football will play host to Boise State on Oct. 24 at 6 p.m. on ESPN 2. Then they will play host to Fresno State on Nov. 21 at 6:30 p.m., on ESPN 2.

"San Jose State is one of the schools that does not have a local TV package," Chaffin said. "This way people around the country are guaranteed to see SJSU at least once a year."

ESPN is the self-proclaimed most worldwide network in sports, and more games on ESPN will lead to more people watching the WAC.

"We recognize the power and influence of ESPN," said WAC Commissioner Karl Benson. "This contract gives coaches more recruiting power, and teams will

▶▶ ESPNpage2

## Groups urge young voters

ANDREA FRAINER  
Staff Writer

With the conventions over and the presidential tickets set, both the Democratic and Republican campaigns are vying to win the undecided vote.

Organizations such as Rock the Vote, League of Young Voters, 18 in '08 and Declare Yourself have made it their mission to bring young Americans together with politics. Both Barack Obama and John McCain use social networking Web sites such as Facebook, MySpace and YouTube to connect with young voters.

Andrae Macapinlac, a senior political science major and president of the Democratic Caucus, said he believes the November election will have the highest turnout for 18 to 30-year-olds.

"The Democratic Caucus endorsed Barack Obama during the primaries because we thought that this was the first candidate in a really long time that could excite young people," Macapinlac said. "He literally brought students out to Iowa to caucus for him."

During the presidential election in 2000, 50 percent of 18 to 24-year-olds registered to

▶▶ VOTEpage2

## Blog gives students, faculty view into world of Whitmore

KELLY ENOS  
Staff Writer

SJSU President Jon Whitmore has gone outside the norm for most college presidents and started a get-to-know-the-campus campaign by blogging.

The blog is an effort to get to know SJSU better, said Whitmore in his fall address on Aug. 21.

The blog is part of Whitmore's "100-day deep learning" experience about Silicon Valley and SJSU.

"The president wants to give the community a first impression of SJSU, not necessarily writing every time, but instead showing what he is doing," said Larry Carr, associate vice president of public affairs.

Whitmore started the blog on Aug. 21, and it will run until Homecoming on Oct. 12. He has job-shadowed different workers at SJSU in his first 100 days, and then shared the experiences on the blog.

Carr said the blog will be updated Monday through Thursday. He said the president may continue writing if the blog gains enough popularity.

Due to his time restrictions, the president will not allow commentary, Carr added.

There is a link on the Web site itself for e-mail, and readers may have their comments appear in future entries of the blog. An RSS feed was not added until last Thursday.

There is one skeptic who does not accept it as a traditional blog.

Steve Sloan, a journalism professor who works at the University Help Desk, stated his opinion on his own blog.

"I use it in my new media class as a perfect example, an example of what not to do with a blog," Sloan writes. "In my opinion, Whitmore's so-called 'blog' is worse for SJSU than no blog at all. It makes us all look lame."

The president's staff is now tracking hits to the page and is trying to determine whether it is students, faculty or other staff who are reading, Carr said.

Some students had no clue that the president was blogging.

Sher Chin, a senior health science

major, said, "I probably will be reading. It sounds really interesting, especially to know what he thinks about the campus."

Alex Upegui, a senior music major, did not know anything about the new president or his blog, and he also said he probably wouldn't be reading, a sentiment echoed by several other students.

However, as soon as one student learned the president was blogging, she was intrigued to read.

Kate Parisotto, a junior design studies major, said, "Now that I know, it sounds interesting and I wanted to read it, and it looked like the new president was making an effort to get to know student life here at SJSU."

## Mosaic Cross Cultural Center celebrates diversity, gives students fresh views

RYAN BUCHAN  
Staff Writer

For 10 years, the Mosaic Cross Cultural Center has offered a place for people of all backgrounds to go, as well as events that discuss diversity.

"We are really about serving all students," said Hyon Chu Yi-Baker, director of Mosaic. "We want to create a space that is welcoming, inviting, non-threatening for cross cultures."

Yi-Baker said many students associate Mosaic with people of different races, but it is open to everyone, including people of different religions and sexual orientations.

"There are a lot of social events to help me see new ideas that help me look at things differently," said Nick Underwood, a senior liberal studies major.

Mosaic has various diversity advocate interns who put on social justice seminars, which bring attention to different events that people may not know otherwise. The cultural center offers information on how to get involved if a student wishes to do so after attending an event.

Movies and speakers are also common with Mosaic as they spread the word of different



DEREK SIJDER / Spartan Daily

An SJSU student sets up decorations in the Mosaic Cross Cultural Center, which celebrates and embraces diversity on campus.

▶▶ MOSAICpage2

## ▶ VOTE Upcoming election brings students to political clubs

vote, while 36 percent of those voters actually voted during the election. In 2004, 57 percent of 18 to 24-year-olds registered to vote, while 46 percent actually voted, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

Jonathan Sandhu, a senior political science major and president of the College Republicans of San Jose State, said he sees a disconnect between young adults and the political process.

"Because it is an election year, there are a lot more people looking for the club," Sandhu said. "But in previous years it was harder to get students involved."

Sandhu said the club encourages its members to interact with local politics and to get involved with the issues that interest them.

"The sooner you get involved," he said, "you can start making these changes and it will evolve into something that interests you."

Both the Democratic Caucus

"The sooner you get involved, you can start making these changes and it will evolve into something that interests you."

studies major, said she registered to vote but doesn't plan on voting in the November elections because she said there are too many variations to politicians' stories.

cause she chooses to vote for the Green Party candidate.

"They tell me that I'm throwing away my vote," she said. "I tell them that I would like to live in a world where the reality is that we have more than two parties running this country."

Cynthia Wong, a junior health science major, said she has researched each candidate on their stances on the issues because she doesn't want to be biased. Wong said she believes young voters should get involved with politics.

"We need to get off our asses and start voting because it counts," Wong said. "We start complaining in the future about what's going on, but if you would have voted for the right person in the first place, it would have never happened."

**JONATHAN SANDHU**  
senior political science major

and the College Republicans of San Jose State will hold events to generate awareness of the upcoming presidential election. They plan on debating each other on the key points for the election and register students to vote.

Julie Evans, a junior liberal

"(Politicians) tell a bunch of lies and false promises, but then when they get in office, it's a whole other story, so I'd rather not partake in it," she said.

Kaisha Torres, a junior environmental studies major, said people give her a hard time be-

## ▶ MOSAIC Increasing popularity may prompt more rooms, speakers, performances and other educational opportunities

issues that affect all people. In November, the center will host a Latino film festival. Later this month, journalist Robert Fisk will speak on issues in the Middle East.

"I believe in access and equity in higher education, and Mosaic allows me to work towards that goal," said Sadika Sulaiman Hara, Mosaic's assistant director.

Since 2004, the cultural center has presented the Tunnel of Oppression, an event that focuses on problems in society regarding race, religion, gender, sexual preference, age and social class.

Mosaic was created as a result of a racial incident between a black student and a white faculty member, Yi-Baker said. When the student was trying to gain entrance to a closing building, the faculty

member used racially derogatory language toward the student, Mosaic's Web site reported.

"It resulted in a cry from the community to have a safe space for everyone," Yi-Baker said,

"It resulted in a cry from the community to have a safe space for everyone."

that was offered as part of an annual open house to share what Mosaic is about.

"I think it offers different resources," said Rose Fried, a freshman sociology major. "There are

"It resulted in a cry from the community to have a safe space for everyone."

**HYON CHU YI-BAKER**  
Mosaic director

"particularly those that have been marginalized."

Mosaic is an acronym: Multicultural Opportunities and Student Awareness In different Cultures.

On Monday, people crowded the center, located in the Student Union, eating free food

a variety of different people that can help me with a variety of different issues."

The room is decorated with pictures of different leaders in cultural change, including Mahatma Gandhi, Che Guevara and Angela Davis. An abundant amount of brochures and

pamphlets fill the walls of a room crowded with desks and chairs for people to socialize, study and learn.

After hearing about the proposed renovation of the Student Union, Yi-Baker said she sees it as a good opportunity for Mosaic. Yi-Baker said the project could add more meeting rooms and program areas that would allow for more speakers, performances and educational opportunities.

Yi-Baker said she has seen increased traffic throughout the years, and she hopes that the success of the program can continue.

Yi-Baker said it does not matter if you are white, black, gay, Muslim, Buddhist or Christian - Mosaic is for everybody of all walks of life.

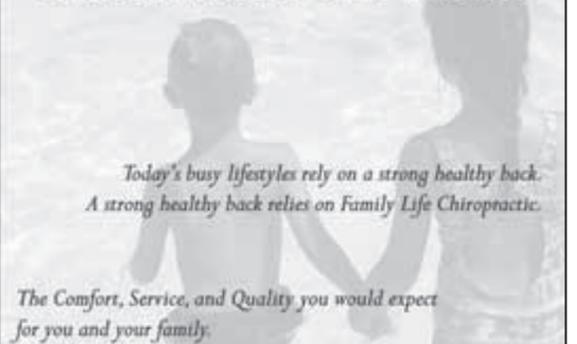
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## ▶ ESPN National broadcasts may inspire fans

receive more exposure."

WAC sports being showcased across the country certainly should help to lure in better young athletes, he said.

The WAC has had recent success with the Bowl Championship Series appearances of Boise State and Hawaii, and Fresno State's NCAA Championship in baseball.

"We have to be realistic with our resources," Benson said. "Our goal is to have teams to be ranked in the top 20 (in all sports) and have our football teams go to the BCS."

Students will now have the opportunity to get on television more frequently.

"I'd probably get a group of friends together and paint our whole bodies and faces yellow and blue," said Jimmy On, a freshman business marketing major. "I would also make a couple of signs for SJSU."

Students should be ready to show their spirit and get themselves on television, he added.

According to a fact sheet on ESPN.com, cable operators ranked ESPN and ESPN2 first and second in perceived value, respectively.

"ESPN games will attract a larger amount of people," said Safi Mojaddidi, a junior civil engineering major. "It will make our fan base larger. It will give more attention to games on campus and off campus."

ESPN games can bring the school together, he said.

"(For SJSU), there will be more (televised) football. There will be more men's and women's basketball and volleyball," Benson said. "In the past we have had limited exposure. This allows all of our schools to have national attention."

## SPARTAGUIDE

### EVENTS CALENDAR

**09** TODAY

#### 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 careercenter.sjsu.edu

#### 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 careercenter.sjsu.edu

#### Club Sports Recruitment Barbecue

Lunch that includes a hotdog, 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

#### Magazine Club

Join the Magazine Club for free root beer floats and to discuss and plan the spring trip to New York.  
6 p.m. in 202 Dwight Bentel Hall.  
Contact Scott Fosdick at (408) 924-7556

**10** TOMORROW

#### Voter Registration

Students can register to vote for the upcoming national election outside the Student Union on Wednesdays starting Aug. 27 through Oct. 15, as well as Monday, Oct. 20. Associated Students Government is providing this opportunity to students. Oct. 20 is the last day to send in the voter registration forms.  
9 to 11 a.m. outside the Student Union.  
Contact Kathryn Linder at klinder@as.sjsu.edu

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# Want to kick it like a sensei? Get in line



Open university student Steve Lucchesi practices during Sensei Jay Castellano's intermediate karate class at the Spartan Complex on Monday. Lucchesi said he has worked with Castellano for 20 years.

MIKE ANDERSON / Spartan Daily

## Stranded window washers rescued

Associated Press

Two window washers stuck nine stories above the ground were hauled to safety by San Jose firefighters Monday morning in a precarious vertical rescue.

The window washers became stranded after the scaffolding holding them malfunctioned and

refused to move.

They spent more than an hour stuck along the side of the building at 1 Almaden Blvd. before firefighter Paulo Brito rappelled 70 feet down and put safety harnesses on the men, who were then pulled one at a

time to the roof.

A San Jose Fire Department search and rescue team considered reaching the men by helicopter or breaking windows to pull them inside before deciding to rappel, a department spokesman said.

## Bush's "ownership society" has consequences

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Bush's "ownership society" was never supposed to come to this.

With the government takeover of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, U.S. taxpayers now essentially own the bulk of the nation's mortgage market.

This ownership could even lead to a big increase in the national debt — to \$15 trillion, up from just under \$10 trillion now — if things don't work out as planned.

The government's forced rescue of the mortgage finance giants over the weekend could have many unintended consequences, even though those in both parties — including the presidential nominees, Republican John McCain and Democrat Barack Obama — have greeted it as a necessary evil toward easing the nation's housing and credit woes.

If all goes as planned, it should help make home loans cheaper and more readily available.

It also may slow the rate of foreclosures and possibly halt house price depreciation. But that's a big maybe.

The deal — one of the government's most aggressive market interventions in decades — puts the long-term fate of the two mortgage companies in the hands of the next president and Congress.

It has refocused political attention on the frail U.S. economy, with both candidates and their running mates back on the campaign trail talking about the economy after their respective nominating conventions, and with Congress returning to town for at least a three-week session.

"These companies are so big and so interwoven into the financial markets and our financial system, we had no choice," Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson said Monday in a round of TV interviews. "A failure by either one of these companies would cause great havoc in the economic system."

Paulson said he could not yet estimate the potential burden for taxpayers.

Officials announced Sunday that they would seize both Fannie and Freddie, temporarily putting them in a government conservatorship, replacing their CEOs and taking a government financial stake in the companies. The move could end up costing taxpayers tens of billions of dollars.

The two together own or guarantee more than \$5 trillion in mortgages. That's an amount roughly equivalent to half of the entire national debt, and would represent a huge, if potential, increase in the overall U.S. indebtedness if counted among the government's liabilities.

For now, U.S. officials are trying to emphasize the temporary nature of the takeover and minimize the possible risk to taxpayers.

But some economists say it could take years to work through the nation's housing problems. By then, the takeover could even dwarf the savings and loan crisis, when the failure of more than 700 S&Ls in the 1980s and early 1990s cost taxpayers some \$125 billion.

"I think this is a bigger financial crisis, said Mark Zandi, chief economist of Moody's Economy.com. "Instead of nationalizing an industry like the S&L industry, we've effectively nationalized the mortgage market."

Fannie, Freddie and the Federal Housing Administration now account for backing or issuing roughly three-quarters of the nation's mortgages, with commercial banks playing a decreasing role since the start of the housing-credit crisis.

For a Republican administration that has favored market remedies and less government intervention, and once boasted of an "ownership society" with more individual ownership of private homes, retirement savings accounts and health care policies, the takeover of Fannie and Freddie has been a stark return to a far heavier federal hand on markets.

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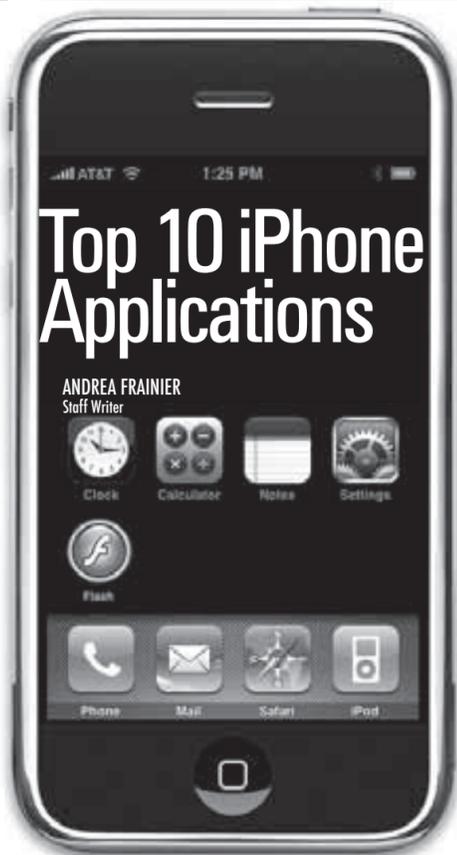
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Carlos A. Moreno / Spartan Daily



The applications you downloaded on your iPhone have allowed you to fight with a lightsaber, chug a pint of beer and embarrass your friends with a virtual whoopee cushion.

Now is the time to download applications that are worth having.

Here are 10 programs that make you wonder how you had ever lived without them, and, best of all, they're free.

**Cubes Lite:** This is one of those puzzle games that might turn you into an addict. Imagine Bejeweled, Jawbreaker and a Rubik's Cube all rolled into one. The goal is to line up and clear cubes of the same color by rotating the puzzle in any direction.

**Pandora Radio:** From the creators of the Music Genome Project, an effort to capture and categorize music, this application creates customized radio stations based on your musical taste.

Enter an artist's name or song title, and Pandora creates a radio station that streams the performer's music, along with music from

similar artists. For example, I entered Rage Against the Machine, and Pandora played back music from Red Hot Chili Peppers, System of a Down and Beastie Boys. Don't like Pandora's recommendations? Veto the selection, and Pandora evolves the playlist to fit your taste. An added bonus: It's commercial free.

**Shazam:** Ever hear a song and wonder what it is? Hold the iPhone toward the speaker and shazam! The program provides the name of the song, artist and album.

At first I was speculative about its accuracy, but after going 20 for 20 — even recognizing Noah and the Whale's "Shape of My Heart" in a crowded restaurant — I'm a believer. It also links you to the iTunes music store and the music video on YouTube.

**Yelp:** Search for nearby eateries, shops and entertainment; read reviews from users who've been there and map places on the phone.

You can also search for businesses by location, price and what's current. Its only downside is that

users can't upload their reviews directly from the iPhone.

**Remote:** Control the iTunes library from your iPhone. Select songs or playlists, see the album artwork and adjust the volume as if you were in front of your computer. The application works through a Wi-Fi network, so the playlists can be managed from anywhere in the house.

**Sportacular:** Get the scores, statistics, standings and news of your favorite professional and college teams. Customize the application to keep track of the stats of your favorite players and the players on your fantasy team.

**Wikipanion:** Search and browse Wikipedia entries on the iPhone. It's fast, convenient and a must for any college student. The application has autosuggest and a landscape mode; the results are displayed in large, easy-to-read text. Its only drawback is that users can't edit or create new entries.

**Jott for iPhone:** Jott transforms

voice recordings into written text. Dictate up to two minutes of personal notes and wait a few minutes. The application transcribes the recording into to-do lists, text messages, e-mails and blog entries. It works like a speaker phone, so it's a perfect hands-free device when driving in the car.

**Urbanspoon:** Seeing as I don't cook (I microwave), Urbanspoon is heaven-sent for me. With a shake of the iPhone, Urbanspoon randomly selects a restaurant in my area. You can tailor the search by price, type of food and location. Keep shaking until you find an eatery you enjoy.

**Twinkle:** The hands-down winner of all the Twitter-related applications available. Twitter is a social networking service that sends text messages (known as tweets) to your circle of friends.

Not only does this application allow users full access to their Twitter accounts, but they can also read tweets from other Twitterers within a 1,000-mile radius and upload images to go with their messages.

## 'Street Fighter IV' brings battle and quarters into SJSU's Student Union arcade

MARCOS BLANCO  
Staff Writer

Tiger! Sonic boom! Spinning bird kick!

If any of these phrases hold any meaning for you, then get ready for a nostalgic trip down memory lane because "Street Fighter IV," Capcom's newest entry in its legendary fighting series, has been attracting crowds to the arcade at SJSU's Bowling Center in the Student Union since the fall semester began.

It has been almost 10 years since Capcom released "SFIII:

Third Strike," which was the last true installment and update to the original "Street Fighter" series, excluding the various spin-offs such as the "Alpha" and "EX" series.

This latest installment goes back to its roots, bringing back the original 12-character roster and old-school gameplay from the earlier "Street Fighter" games and adding four new combatants to choose from, new "focus attack" techniques for countering and a revenge meter to pull more moves.

The four new fighters are Mexican wrestler, El Fuerte; red-

headed femme fatale, Crimson Viper; buffed-up grappler, Abel and rotund oddball, Rufus. Long-time series vets such as Ryu, Ken, Chun-Li and other memorable characters return to fight in 3-D.

"SFIV" is fully rendered in colorful, flashy 3-D graphics this time around, while still using a 2-D plane.

"I was a little shaky about it at first, but it's pretty good," said Roger Ermard, a mass communications major. "It stays true to the roots. I haven't seen this many people around a game in awhile."

"SFIV" has been attracting

many SJSU students who regularly play at the arcade as well as people who are off-campus. Whether it's because of the seizure-inducing graphics, old-school gameplay or the characters' personalities, "SFIV" has been eating up many quarters and generating different opinions from both old and new fans about the game's direction.

Ermard's brother, Ray, 26, said he likes the speed and gameplay, but that the timing is a bit different for some of the characters and that there could be more environment variety.

David Ung, a molecular biol-

ogy major, described it as "a mix of Street Fighter II and III."

"It's different, but it's fun," he said. "It's more about defense than offense now."

Not everyone was impressed.

"The graphics are nice, but it's boring," said Derek Candelario, a math major. "The super moves and animation are a little dramatic, and it's expensive right now. Bringing back the old characters wasn't that exciting, and I'm bored with them already."

Devoted fanatics and recent followers of the series can find out if they like it for 75 cents.

This latest installment goes back to its roots, bringing back the original 12-character roster and old-school gameplay from the earlier "Street Fighter" games.

## Pandora's box unleashes favorite tunes for music buffs

CHRIS CURRY  
Staff Writer

Finally, there's a radio station that listens when you dictate what it should play. Pandora.com is a free music Web site that takes your suggestions and criticisms. Then it proposes and plays new music to best match your tastes.

"I like how really specific it is and how it can really guess ahead of time (the) music that you like," said Trei Dao, a senior advertising major.

The process starts when a user gives Pandora the name of an artist or song as an example of the kind of music that he or she would like to hear.

The Web site will then play music that is typified by certain characteristics of the original example. Pandora calls those characteristics the song's "music genome."

According to Pandora, the music genome contains "the little details that give each recording its magical sound."

A team of musicians analyze melody, harmony, instrumentation, rhythm, vocals and lyrics, close to 400 attributes in all, and then classifies Pandora's music accordingly.

Users can vote by giving the songs thumbs up or thumbs down. Future selections on each channel are based on how the user voted on previous selections.

The idea is that the station can become more in tune with specific musical tastes.

"I like the way you can give a thumbs up or a thumbs down on the songs," said Lee Connolly, a senior public relations major who listens to Pandora every day. "They won't play the same songs again, or they won't play similar songs."

Giving a song thumbs up af-

fects the next songs played in that session. Also, future songs played on that channel are more likely to have similar musical traits.

A thumbs down will stop that selection from playing and immediately move Pandora to a new song that will be of the same style, but will have different musical traits.

"If I don't like something, it's really easy to get rid of (the song) too. (Pandora) does a good job of remembering what I don't like about it."

TREI DAO  
senior advertising major

Any artist receiving two thumbs-down votes on the same channel will be permanently removed from that playlist.

"Sometimes (Pandora) guesses wrong, so I have to guide it specifically to where I want it to go," Dao said. "If I don't like something, it's really easy to get rid of (the song) too. (Pandora) does a good job of remembering what I don't like about it."

Licensing, however, has placed some limitations on Pandora. For example, there is a limit of 100 channels per account, and each artist or song can only have one channel.

There is also a feature that times out Pandora after three hours if there is no user interaction. Pandora cannot be used in a commercial environment, and this

is an attempt to prevent that.

In addition, each channel is only allowed to skip six songs per hour. Abdoali Shahdawali, a senior biology major, noted this one drawback.

"Sometimes you don't get to listen to the songs that you want to listen to. Even if you try to skip it, you can't skip it," Shahdawali said.

Once listeners have used up their six allotted skips on that channel for that hour, they have to either finish listening to the current song or change to another channel.

Pandora also has a social networking feature that allows you to share your profile and stations with friends.

People can search profiles of those who have listed specific bands, songs or genres. People can see the songs and artists that others have bookmarked.

You can also see all the channels that anyone has customized.

## Got story ideas?

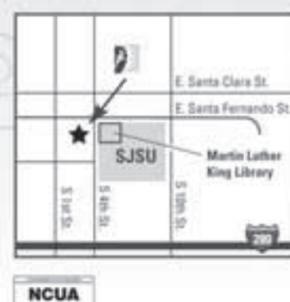
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**CAMPUS VOICES**

What do you think of the new Cesar E. Chavez Monument?

Feature and photos by CHRIS CURRY  
Staff Writer



"It took them too long just to make it. It's good work and art, but it was just a hassle to walk around for two years."

**Jason Camacho**  
senior, psychology



"I think it's nice to look at. It represents how diverse our campus is and that we live in a society where we're able to embrace each other for our differences, and I appreciate it."

**Joanna Jackson**  
senior, advertising



"It connects each one of us in different ways. Our families have struggled to overcome situations in their lives. It shows that there are people that can help make changes in our lives and in the world also."

**Jossie Gonzalez**  
senior, undeclared



"I'm thinking that it's some sort of Nazi stuff because I'm thinking about the eagle."

**Lawrence Perlas**  
sophomore, undeclared



"I think it's cool what they did to remember him. I think it's perfect."

**Kenny Masuda**  
freshman, undeclared



"I like it, it's nice. It adds spunk to the school."

**Jessica Yano**  
junior, occupational therapy

**Old and new fans will go ga-ga over the Goo Goo Dolls' latest album**

**CD REVIEW**

**KAJAL MORAR**  
Staff Writer

With the popular single "Iris," the Goo Goo Dolls have transcended from their early thrashing, punk-esque sound to a scarred yet emotionally mature band. They have released "Greatest Hits Volume Two: B-sides and Rarities," which includes their earlier work as well as familiar tracks.

This CD-DVD compilation encompasses not only their more famous hits, like "Iris" and "Black Balloon," but also their lesser-known music, which has a harsher feel with grinding guitar chords and ear-throbbing drum lines.

The CD starts out with the gentle and sorrowful "Hate This Place." The disc then drifts into "Stop the World" and "Long Way Down," two tracks that mourn the loss of someone close to the heart.

The twangy guitar chords and light tone make up "All Eyes on Me," while "Lazy Eye" moves into overdrive with heavy, masculine riffs and husky vocals.

The demo version of the ever-popular "Iris" is demolished by broken, jangled vocals and sharp chords. Thankfully, the chorus takes a break from the choppy guitar riffs and smooth vocalist John Rzeznik's harsh, unfeeling voice. Overall, the song leaves something to be desired.

"I'm Awake Now" has a gentler feel with haunting lyrics as well as softer drum beats and guitar riffs. "Torn Apart," "No Way Out" and "String of Lies" provide a faster beat and angst-filled lyrics but are nowhere near the thoughtful and melodic tracks they produced in their later years. The foot-tapping "We'll Be Here (When You're Gone)" turns the mood around with strong drumming and simple guitar chords. The sobered lyrics stress the idea that



Photo courtesy of Warner Bros.

The Goo Goo Dolls in concert.

lost ones are always around — no matter how rough the road remains. "Without You Here" sets the mood for a confession of love with twinkly cords, hushed vocals and soft percussion. It is one of the more honest and emotional tracks. "Only One" is an unusually heavy track, which includes unorganized, choppy lyrics and an overbearing guitar riff that take over the bass lines and drumming.

"Truth is a Whisper" has a head-bopping beat and clean vocals that address the double standards of society. More catchy beats make up "What a Scene," which addresses the unreal image of the "real world" and self-inflicted illusions. Of their cover tracks, only half were worth the listen. The Damned's "Wait for the Blackout," INXS's "Don't Change," FabTheGap's "I Don't Want to Know" and Tom Petty's "American Girl" had smoother vocals and more catchy beats than the other songs. The Plimsouls'

"Million Miles Away," the Soft Boys' "I Wanna Destroy You" and Lime Spiders' "Slave Girl" were disappointing. Lead singer Rzeznik's imitation of gruff vocals broke every other lyric, and the overbearing cymbal-thrashing and crashing guitar chords left the ears ringing with noise.

The upbeat songs such as "We'll Be Here (When You're Gone)" and "Truth is a Whisper" make this CD a great pick-me-up before going to work or when you need to wind down from a stressful day. The more sobered tracks such as "Without You Here" and "Iris" set a calm and relaxing mood.

This disc is a strong representation of the changes the band has undergone. From the more anger-driven tracks to the catchy and somber songs, the Goo Goo Dolls have found their place in many music players. For a variety of tracks, Goo Goo Dolls' "Greatest Hits Second Volume: B-sides and Rarities" is the one to pick up.

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## Children of indigenous people have a right to their culture



**DINA BASLAN**  
FROM THE CAUCASUS TO THE WORLD

A group of people are "indigenous" in claiming its land first, or in occupying its land prior to the arrival of the first settlers.

The people possess their own culture of color and extravagant customs. They function under a set rule of traditions. They feed on raw insects or on the spices of their lands.

They sway to the melodies of their folkloric music.

They bow.

They walk on all fours.

They are nude or covered from head to toe.

They are individuals with characteristics unexplained and mysterious to those from the outside world. But the resources of their lands are under microscopes.

As the settlers arrive, the first encounter between the cultured and the colonizers unfolds. The indigenous are oppressed and in many cases slaughtered. Their sense of fear and protectiveness turns into hostility while the struggle over individual interests takes main stage.

The survivors of what some define as "genocide" follow the new rule on the soil of their homeland. They now walk on two, and their tongues struggle to speak a new language they communicate through among themselves.

As years go by, the indigenous people become "civilized," looking, speaking, acting as their own colonizers had planned.

Their language is replaced, and their

homes are renovated — they welcome the New Age.

On the streets, citizens of the land seem to function just the same. The world is harmonious, and every son and daughter works toward fulfilling their dream of a higher education and a respectable wage.

Centuries roll by, and the new generations start to dig into their past, reminiscing on their ancestors' past life. They seek to reclaim the oppressed lifestyles of their forefathers.

They are told stories by their grandparents of men with feather hats circling around bonfires, singing in the darkness of the night, feasting on their hunted goods. They lived the indigenous life.

In the present time, a generation follows the paths of history. Searching for the roots of their origins, their sense of misfit pleads answers to what they have lost.

They are souvenirs from the past.

What makes these groups hold onto a timeline that carries with it a life they have never known? What prevents them from blending into the society that functions under law and order? And how many generations will it take to wipe clean their true identities for the sake of fitting in?

Who knows? Perhaps it's worth it after all.

In the palms of those possessing the power, the world revolves. And despite the right and value of upholding a culture and a language, the indigenous lag behind until one day, calling for their freedom in the name of genocide.

"From the Caucasus to the World" appears every Tuesday. Dina Baslan is the Spartan Daily features editor.

## Please put down the cell phone and pay attention to the road



**CHRIS BAUSINGER**  
PLAYING THE ODDS

Human beings have developed into strange creatures, capable of doing many things at one time, multitasking as it has come to be known. Some people are good at this, finishing multiple tasks at the same time, and some people struggle to manage a single task.

I find myself capable of doing a maximum of two things at once, no more. Any more than that and I struggle to do either thing properly. So when I am driving my car, a manual that requires shifting, talking on the phone is not one of the things I choose to do.

I have a Bluetooth headset and use it when I drive, but prefer not to talk at all, a helpful excuse when it comes to ignoring particular people.

"I am sorry; I was driving and am against using my phone while I drive," I said.

That goes over well with my family members. The truth is that the hands-free law is in effect and has been in California since July 1. The sad part about that fact is no one seems to care.

When I take my bi-monthly, 45-minute trip to my parents' house, I have begun to count the number of phone-holding offenders. Since the law has been in effect, I have actually seen an increase in the number of people using their phones while they are driving.

In case you are not aware of the two new laws, vehicle codes 23123 and 23124, here is the Department of Motor Vehicles' description in its frequently asked questions: "(23123)

prohibits all drivers from using a handheld wireless telephone while operating a motor vehicle. Motorists 18 and over may use a hands-free device. The second law (23124) prohibits drivers under the age of 18 from using a wireless telephone or a hands-free device while operating a motor vehicle."

Now that you are clear on the rules, put down your cell phone and drive.

The hands-free device is not hard to set up and use. If you are having trouble, go to your cell phone provider and ask for help, or flag down a 13-year-old on a Razor scooter and ask her. It is not too difficult once you set it up, and it should work when you turn on both devices.

Plenty of Californians have had trouble putting down their phones since the law came into effect.

According to an e-mail from Jamie Coffee, an information officer in the media relations department for the California Highway Patrol, as of Sept. 5, the CHP has issued 14,308 citations for primary violations under vehicle code 23123.

I am not sure what it is about the law that has people still putting phones up to their ears. Could it be a technology-age gap? Maybe an issue with how much the headsets cost? My best guess is because people don't care if they get caught or not.

Most people choose to use their phones when they drive and then just hide the phone when they see a police officer: "Sorry, I just had to hide my phone from the patrol car driving

by. Oh crap, he is turning around. I'm going to have to call you back."

I think the only way to make this law more effective is to increase the fines and penalties for first and multiple occurrences. According to the DMV's Web site, the current fine for talking on your cell phone while driving without a headset is a base fine of \$20 for the first offense and \$50 for subsequent offenses.

To make people change their cell phone-using ways, the DMV is going to have to, at a minimum, quadruple the fines and add a point to your license — the point being removable through traffic school. Otherwise people will continue to ignore the law.

This legislation was passed to protect people on the roads from people who are not capable of multitasking. Even if you can multitask, driving a vehicle and using a phone are two things that you shouldn't do anyway. You would be better off parking your car in the middle of Highway 101 at 8 a.m.

We put people who drink and drive in jail; there are warning labels telling people not to operate machinery after taking certain medicine. These types of combinations are looked down upon in our society, and it's about time we added driving and talking on the phone to that list.

"Playing the Odds" appears every Tuesday. Chris Bausinger is a Spartan Daily copy editor.

**Results of theSpartanDaily.com poll:**  
Should the legal drinking age be lowered to 18?  
Yes: 31 No: 40

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### EVENTS

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

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### SUDOKU

Difficulty: 1 (of 5)

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### TODAY'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE

**ACROSS**  
1 Plant louse  
6 Cakelike cookie  
9 Rajah's land  
14 High-tech replica  
15 Outback bird  
16 Linger  
17 Silvery rays  
19 Call forth  
20 Boston summer hrs.  
21 Job opening  
22 Four-star reviews  
23 Ballerina's leap  
25 Showed fright  
26 Guarantee  
29 Amazing act  
31 Physician  
32 Daunt  
36 Jai —  
37 Glove sz.  
38 Acorn producers  
40 Chaos theory phenom  
43 Evening star  
45 Has the flu  
46 Nostrum  
47 Starbucks order  
50 Declines, on Wall Street  
51 Eyewash acid  
52 Sports channel  
54 "ER" setting  
57 Astronaut's base  
58 Hid (2 wds.)  
61 Musty  
62 —Magnon man  
63 Kilns  
64 More bashful  
65 Biddy  
66 Starchy food

**DOWN**  
1 Crowning point  
2 Trudge along  
3 Owl's call  
4 Quaint lodging  
5 Society girl  
6 Blues street in Memphis  
7 Hunter's need  
8 Orange coating  
9 Say again  
10 Of ships  
11 Herd of cattle  
12 Vexed  
13 Pro votes  
18 Organic compound  
23 Gourmet cook — Child  
24 Prior to  
25 Skillet  
26 Gleeeful shout  
27 Kind of portrait  
28 German industrial region  
29 Oil and kerosene  
30 Put a stop to  
33 Gallivants  
34 Metal rooster  
35 Just scraped by  
37 — de mer  
39 Dirty place  
41 Baseball player  
42 Bind up  
43 Shenanigan  
44 Tripod part  
47 Very reluctant  
48 Vast assortment  
49 Proof of ownership  
50 Bill and coo  
51 She preceded  
52 Write on glass  
53 Like some losers  
54 Currier's partner  
55 Dollar fraction  
56 — Major  
59 Badge wearer  
60 Fish-to-be

**PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED**

G	O	U	G	E	K	E	B	A	B	I	L	K	
A	R	S	O	N	E	T	U	D	E	S	S	U	N
M	E	A	T	S	P	A	N	D	A	S	R	I	
I	R	I	S	G	S	U	I	T					
S	A	V	A	G	E	S	M	A	L	T	E	D	S
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A	R	T	R	A	G	E	S	L	I	T			
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E	I	D	E	R	P	A	R	O	L	E			
R	U	S	T	L	E	D	L	I	M	E	A	D	E
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V	I	A	I	G	L	O	O	I	M	B	U	E	
E	L	F	O	N	I	O	N	N	E	A	T	O	
L	E	T	N	U	L	L	S	G	A	T	E	S	

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## Remembering the genocide of my past isn't an option; it's a necessity and a fact



**SELMA  
SKOKIC**

"You may forgive, but you never forget" is a phrase used by many. It is also a phrase very close to my heart because I live my life by it.

As a child, I grew up in Bosnia and Herzegovina, a country torn by war. I have experienced genocide, and lost almost my entire family to it.

Genocide is defined as the deliberate and systematic extermination of a national, racial, political or cultural group. To me it is more than that. To me it is what took my family away from me; it is what made me a refugee and what made me live in fear for three-and-a-half years of my life.

I was never taught to hate; it is a word that does not exist in my dictionary.

Those who know me would notice no difference in my appearance compared with the next person. I am white and have blue eyes, but I am also a Muslim.

I was despised and persecuted because I am a Muslim, yet the definition of genocide does not include extermination of a religious group. Sure, it is implied, but it is not spelled out for us.

The last genocide that happened to the Bosnian Muslims in the 1990s was not the first one committed

against them. It was the 10th in our history.

You'd think we would have learned something, but I guess not. Not only did we forgive the Serbians, but we also forgot.

I don't remember ever learning about the genocides committed against my people in school. I am one of those people that will never forget because I have lost people close to my heart in this genocide.

I am hoping that by reading this article some of you will become more aware that genocide exists. It is not something that happened only in World War II. It happened in the '90s, and it is still happening in Africa to this day. I think that if we talk about it and keep it in remembrance, it is less likely to happen again.

I go back home and visit Bosnia once every two years. Every visit brings back painful memories.

Last time I went, I buried my grandparents, uncle, two aunts and two cousins, ages 6 and 10. All of them were victims of genocide. Last year, my mom went and buried her youngest brother, who was only 25 when he was killed, and he left behind an infant child and a young wife. My family was killed in late '92 just because they were Muslims, and their remains were finally laid to rest 13 years after their deaths.

When I go back home, all I remember is who is not there to greet me. There is no one who will be happy to see me. I talk about my past

all the time because I will not allow myself to forget and I will never forgive either. How do you forgive someone for killing your family? How is my mother supposed to forgive, or my little cousin who was orphaned at 7 months? We will never forgive or forget.

Walking through my hometown, a place that used to bring me so much joy, is now a painful memory. I feel like I am walking on dead bodies that used to line the streets. I will never set foot in the beautiful Drina, a river I used to bathe in as a child, for it is the same river that my family was thrown in after they were killed. I will never allow myself to forget.

The recent arrest of Radovan Karadzic, a Serbian leader who was the mastermind behind the genocide committed against the Bosnian Muslims, gives me hope that there is still justice in this world. I find myself glued to the TV, wanting to know if the Hague Tribunal will find him guilty. This may give us some peace, although the pain will never go away.

I hope that some of you will take this to heart and become aware of the existence of genocide, remember it and never let it happen again. The world stood still and watched as my people were dying, but I will not stand still and let it happen again. I will remember it, and my children will know of it, so it will never repeat itself again.

Selma Skokic is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

## Student's desperate e-mail plea or burgeoning e-mail scammer?



**KIMBERLY  
TSAO**

**THE MOST YOU  
EVER KNEW**

Max Stephenson, an 18-year-old recently accepted into New York University, was able to scrounge up \$6,000 from generous donors who responded to his e-mail request for college money, according to a 2008 Time magazine article.

Can you believe the nerve of some people?

OK, I'll admit it — I'm jealous. I wish my bank account was greener than my eyes right now. I could use \$6,000, and, unlike Stephenson, that amount would cover my entire tuition and then some.

He still needs \$19,000 to take care of the rest of his tuition, according to the same article. All his other loans wouldn't cover it.

And this is someone who started his own organization, AccessHybrid, which, ironically, loans students money to buy environmentally friendly cars. If he has that gold star on his resume, but he still can't get financial aid, where does that leave the rest of us?

The standards put on today's youth are way too high. We're just not tall enough. I mean, what more can we aspire to? What's higher than entrepreneurs? Entrepreneurs have no bosses, for Pete's sake.

If you ask me, though, I don't think Stephenson even needs the money. The article states that he went to Russia for a year to play ice hockey. How could he afford that and not NYU? He should have saved that money for college.

I see his priorities — he'd rather become the next Mighty Duck than a college graduate. I smell a scam, but Time magazine says it's legit.

Stephenson's messed-up priorities, however, show that sometimes, it is college students' fault that they can't get

loans. Part of the reason I'm disgusted with Stephenson is that he doesn't seem to be taking responsibility for his actions. He's taking the easy way out. He probably never asked himself, "What would Spider-Man do?"

I understand the desperation for cash, but I would liken Stephenson's mass e-mail to begging: He's asking strangers for money.

Indeed, whatever the means to the ends are, it's easy to criticize someone who's successful. But, perhaps, we all should swallow our pride and do as Stephenson did — lest we fall.

It may not be the same as asking for money from the parental units or the Financial Aid & Scholarship Office, but if we can wrap our heads around online dating, why not this?

In fact, if I were Stephenson, I'd be patting myself on the back for coming up with something so wild — it worked.

Taking chances pays off. We've learned at least that much from this debacle.

Stephenson's e-mail plea also shows how far we've come. Technology-wise, we've evolved. We can reach strangers on the other side of the world within seconds. We've come a long way from tying two tin cans with a string.

The fact that he can afford a year in Russia, but not a semester at NYU, speaks volumes about the state of the union. The U.S. economy is failing college students, among others.

Maybe Stephenson's e-mail is a wake-up call. The response he has gotten is a testament to people's kindness. Even though I throw up a little in my mouth thinking about Stephenson's e-mails, if — 10 years from now — I have a steady income, and I receive a similar plea in my inbox, I might throw in a penny.

We all remember what it's like to suffer. Those memories are never filtered as spam.

"The Most You Ever Knew" appears every Tuesday. Kimberly Tsao is a Spartan Daily student culture editor.

## His politics of change, not just his skin, put him in more danger than others



**BIANCA  
deCASTRO**

Whether you believe that there was an attempted assassination on Sen. Barack Obama or not, there is no denying the hype about his safety. According to interviews with suspects, the attempt was to take place at the Democratic National Convention in Denver as Obama accepted the nomination for presidential candidate on Aug. 28.

Obama supporters fear that the closer he gets to the White House, the more in danger he is. Whether you like it or not, this presidential race definitely has some race issues.

Some would like to believe that when it comes to such an important matter as electing our president, we would look past the color of skin and more into the views and issues of each nominee and how each as president would make the best choices for the country in which we live.

However, this time, in this election,

if you say you don't notice the color difference, then you're only fooling yourself.

Obama has a dangerous road ahead. Many say his danger is caused by the color of his skin, but I say it's caused by a combination of two factors: his politics and his African-American heritage.

In the expert opinion of Gerald Posner, author of books on the assassination of President John F. Kennedy and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Obama is in no more danger than his opponents.

Perhaps there is then some other explanation as to why Obama has become the earliest candidate to receive secret service protection.

British Nobel Prize winner Doris Lessing and former Minnesota Gov. Jesse Ventura have separately both expressed their concern for the safety of Obama as he continues in the presidential election. Lessing went as far as predicting Obama will certainly be killed if he becomes president.

The fact is Obama promises change, and change is often a frightening concept when it involves politics.

Some people will do anything to prevent the type of change Obama may bring.

Kennedy brought change; perhaps it may have been that which caused him to be assassinated. Kennedy more closely physically resembled the typical presidential candidate than Obama does. This is one reason that leads me to believe presidential assassinations are far more than an issue about race.

If Obama is elected president, we can obviously expect a historical event, primarily due to his African-American heritage, which will shake the nation, possibly the world, as we know it.

Furthermore, if his politics are as different as his physical appearance compared to previous presidents, we should expect to see Obama addressing the nation in something closely resembling a bulletproof bubble as he serves out his term.

Bianca deCastro is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

## Comments from the WEB

Referring to "Bridge to Palin, aka to nowhere" by Tommy Wright, which ran on Thursday, Sept. 4

I'm glad you read newspapers; too bad you didn't do any more in-depth analysis. Mrs. Palin did support the "Bridge to Nowhere" as a mayor and as a candidate, but once she took over as governor and saw all the competing needs in the state, she let the bridge drop and used those funds for more important projects — just exactly what we voted her into office to do. She made a sound decision on how to spend our tax dollars. You liberal bloggers can put out half-truths and try to slant the news all you want, but we have your number. The people of Alaska know the truth, and the truth will be out before the election.

-D. Czonke

Referring to "YouTube sucks people in and leeches away their intelligence" by Joey Akeley, which ran on Thursday, Sept. 4

YouTube is an entertainment medium as well as a forum to allow everyone to post their own views (no matter how unsavory or biased). It is popular for different reasons for different users. (Stephen) Colbert actually is less biased than most news anchor men and is much more "on the money" with current affairs.

YouTube also allows people from all over the world to exchange views immediately without moderators filtering transgressing views. Some vids are unbelievably informative and allow views that the mainstream media would not give the time of day to.

So YouTube is like every other blog site, news site, forum — some of it is gold while some of it is crap. The great thing is that we get to click, and we get to comment.

-Dilyd

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

Published opinions and advertisements do not necessarily reflect the views of the Spartan Daily, the School of Journalism and Mass Communications or SJSU.

The Spartan Daily is a public forum.

## QUOTE of the DAY

"The Democrats are in trouble. Sarah Palin has totally changed the dynamics of this campaign. Period."

**WILLIE BROWN**

*Democrat and former mayor of San Francisco*

**SPARTAN  
SPORTS**  
—IN BRIEF—**Spartan volleyball players secure  
their places in school record book**

Staff Report

SJSU sophomore Emily Burke was named Western Athletic Conference Volleyball Player of the Week for Sept. 1-7, according to an SJSU athletic department release.

The Spartans' setter was honored with the award for the first time in her collegiate stint.

In four contests over that week, Burke registered 21 kills, 146 assists and 33 digs, and averaged 2.36 digs and 10.43 assists in each set.

Last Friday against Saint Mary's College, Burke became SJSU's first setter to deliver a triple-double, which occurs when a player records at least 10 assists, digs and kills in a match. Burke finished with 40 assists, 15 digs

and 10 kills. Her 1,487 career kills ranks No. 9 in SJSU history.

Senior outside hitter Colleen Burke, not related to Emily, became the second SJSU player this season to record her 1,000th career kill on Saturday in a loss to CSU Northridge.

She cemented herself as the 12th player in team history to reach at least 1,000 kills, and finished the week with a total of 1,005 kills.

Fellow senior Nikki Clement reached the 1,000-kill plateau earlier in the season on Sept. 1 against St. John's University. The Spartans' overall record stands at 2-5 on the season.

SJSU will play in the Four Points Sheraton LAX/LMU Volleyball Classic starting this Friday in Los Angeles.

**Five games, one goal and no wins  
for the SJSU women's soccer team**

Staff Report

UC Riverside shut out SJSU women's soccer 4-0 on Sunday, marking the fourth time in the Spartans' first five games in which they failed to score a goal.

The Spartans (0-3-2) have scored just one goal so far in the 2008 season.

SJSU and UC Riverside both registered 11 shots on goal during Sunday's contest, but UC Riverside scored three goals between the 19th and 25th minutes

of the game. The game's first two goals were by UC Riverside's Heidi Garrett.

Spartan goalkeeper Jordan Michelle Santos, the reigning Western Athletic Conference Defensive Player of the Week, recorded one save in the game.

Emmy Belding's goal against the then-No. 17 Cal Bears on Aug. 24 stands as the only goal the Spartans have registered this season.

SJSU hosts Sacramento State at Spartan Stadium this Sunday.

DANIELLE TORRALBA  
Staff Writer

Not many students at SJSU know that a coach of one of their very own athletic teams is a 2008 Olympic medal winner.

SJSU assistant softball coach Vicky Galindo, a member of the U.S. women's softball team, was one of the final 15 players chosen for the national team that won silver at the Beijing Olympics.

"Being in the Olympic Village with all the other athletes blew all my expectations out of the water," Galindo said.

Her road to the Olympics was not an easy one.

Galindo overcame a broken arm after being hit by a pitch in the first game of the Bound 4 Beijing Tour, where the U.S. national team played 46 games across America against elite softball teams, including Canada and China.

After receiving surgery and rehabilitating her injured arm, Galindo was back to training with the U.S. team in four weeks.

"Initially I was sad because I worked so hard for the chance to participate," Galindo, 24, said. "I was determined to fight my way back."

Galindo's hard work did not go unrewarded.

She and her teammates earned the Olympic silver medal after a loss to Japan in the gold-medal game.

Galindo, a Bay Area native and Cal graduate, is in her third year coaching the Spartans softball team.

Her collegiate softball career started when she played her first season at a junior college in nearby Saratoga.

"I went to West Valley Junior

College for a year, then trans-



MATTHEW MOUNTFORD / Spartan Daily

SJSU assistant softball coach Vicky Galindo, shown here in the office of head coach Peter Turner, competed in the Beijing Olympics as a member of the U.S. women's softball team.

ferred to Cal, walked on, earned a scholarship and a starting position," Galindo said.

Along with earning Pac-10 honors every season while played at Cal, Galindo led the Bears to the Women's College World Series three times.

After graduating with a degree in social welfare from Cal in 2006, Galindo signed on to be the Spartans' assistant softball coach alongside head coach Peter Turner.

"Coaching is something that I found that I love," Galindo said. "Coach Turner and I balance

each other out nicely."

Galindo says she has high expectations for the Spartans this spring.

"You know what you want from your players," Galindo said.

Along with being the Spartans' assistant coach, she is also a part of National Professional Fastpitch, where she plays for the Chicago Bandits.

NPF was formerly the Women's Pro Softball League, but it changed its name in 2002.

It is an organization whose mission is to showcase the top talent in softball and promote positive role models for young people, according to its Web site.

"Transitioning from player back to coach showed me what I want as coach," Galindo said. "And as a player I got to see what my coaches wanted from me."

When asked what she considers to be her biggest accomplishment throughout her career, Galindo explained the near joy and sadness about her Olympics dream possibly coming to an end.

"It would be that I accomplished my dream, my dream of going to the Olympics," Galindo said, "but it is almost kind of sad because that dream is over."

With softball being taken out of the 2012 Olympic Games in London after a secret International Olympic Committee ballot was made public in the summer of 2005, Galindo became a huge supporter of the Back Softball Campaign.

The campaign was launched by the International Softball Federation with the intention to have softball reinstated in the 2016 Olympics by improving the sport's image.

# WIN

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