

Senior forward C.J. Webster helps anchor the Spartans' men's basketball team.

There are a lot of great events on campus, but no one goes.

Find out if the Spanish-language movie lived up to its blissful name.

theSpartanDaily.com Spartan Daily

Serving San Jose State University Since 1934

TUESDAY, MARCH 03, 2009

Volume 132, Issue 21



WED	THU	FRI	SAT
59	62	58	62

THE WIRE

STATE

Arraignment put off until April in torture case

STOCKTON — The arraignments of four people accused of torturing a teenage boy will take place April 1 after a judge delayed the hearing because of work the district attorney still needs to perform. Defendants Caren Ramirez, Michael Schumacher, Kelly Layne Lau and Anthony Waiters appeared Monday in the San Joaquin County Superior courtroom of Judge Cinda Fox.

— Associated Press

Blaze consumes 70 acres in Riverside County

TEMECULA — Fire officials say a brush fire has burned at least 70 acres of dense vegetation in a rural area of Temecula. No structures are threatened and no evacuations are reported. Riverside County fire spokeswoman Jody Hagemann says the fire broke out Monday afternoon in an avocado grove in the De Luz area. It is zero percent contained. Hagemann says the blaze began when a permitted agricultural burn got out of control.

— Associated Press

NATIONAL

Dow drops below 7,000 for first time since '97

NEW YORK — A relentless sell-off in the stock market Monday blew through barriers that would have been unthinkable just weeks ago, and investors warned there was no reason to believe buyers will return anytime soon. The Dow Jones industrial average plummeted below 7,000 at the opening bell and kept driving lower all day, finishing at 6,763 — a loss of nearly 300 points.

— Associated Press

Administration releases secret terror memos

WASHINGTON — The Obama administration threw open the curtain on years of Bush-era secrets Tuesday, revealing anti-terror memos that claimed exceptional search-and-seizure powers and divulging that the CIA destroyed nearly 100 videotapes of interrogations and other treatment of terror suspects.

— Associated Press

FEATURE: TECHNOLOGY

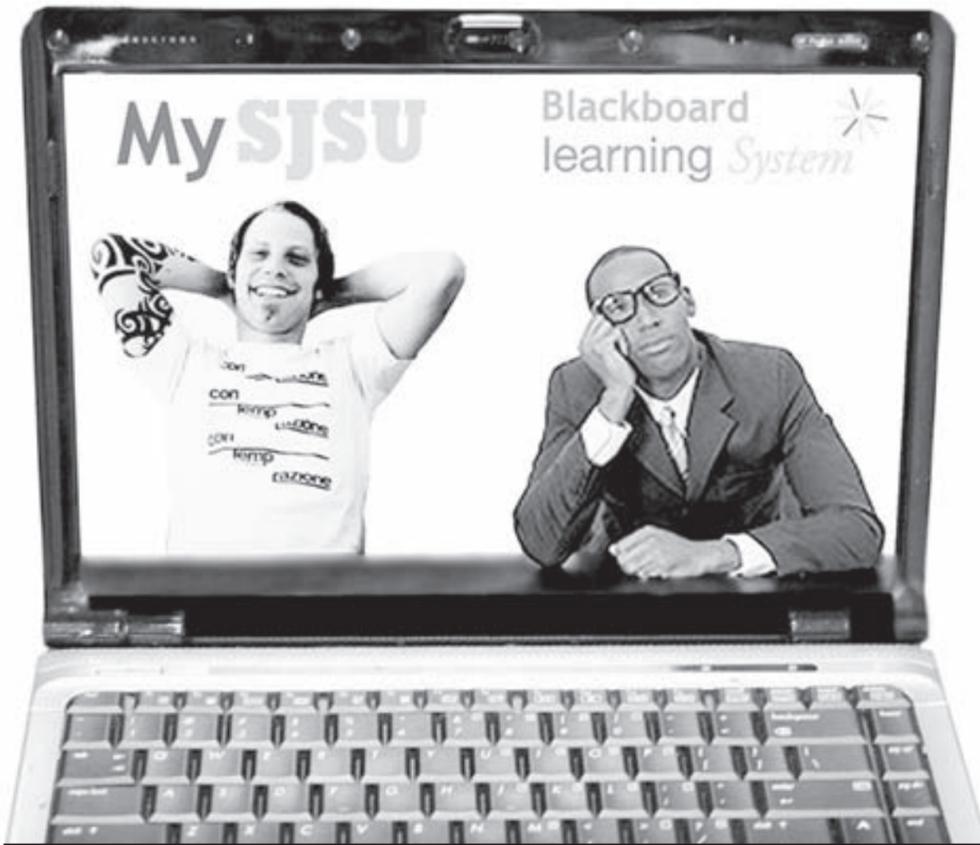


Illustration by YOUNG-SUNG KWON / Spartan Daily

Blackboard chalks up benefits

SJSU may change instructional Web site despite its positives for students, instructors

RALPH WARNER
Staff Writer

For some students, it may not be as appealing or entertaining as social networking sites such as Facebook and MySpace. But for SJSU and many other colleges and universities, Blackboard, a course management system Web site, has become an essential part of academic communication for some students and instructors.

Pete Cadano, a junior nursing major, said he checks his Blackboard account at least once a week.

"It helps me out as a student because if I miss a class, I can go on Blackboard and look at what I may have missed," he said. "It keeps me up to speed with what's going on in the course. I like having that as an advantage."

Blackboard, which has been used by as many as 650 faculty and staff members, is currently being evaluated along with four other Web sites in an effort to find which will best serve SJSU in the future, said Steve Zlotolow, the associate dean for international and extended studies.

He added that once a program is chosen, it will take at least one year before it will be available for use.

"We're getting access to what they call 'sandboxes,' for faculty and staff to go in and play in the technology to see how well it works or doesn't work," he said.

"Then we can get that feedback so that we can actually see whether these new technologies meet the needs of the faculty."

Mark Fox, a junior forensics major, said he has used other Web sites such as eWalk and CourseCompass, but Blackboard has been the most beneficial.

"Blackboard is a lot more helpful because of the communication aspect," he said. "You could instantly e-mail anyone in class. You'd have your course description there, study materials and due dates. It helps me be a better student to be able to instantly access all of that information."

Blackboard has been used at SJSU for about eight years, and is viewed as an

See **BLACKBOARD**, page 2

KING LIBRARY

Exhibit offers glimpse into life in China



Artist Amber Hsu poses in front of one of her favorite photographs, "Calligraphy," at her exhibit on the fourth floor of the King Library.

MINH PHAM
Staff Writer

A glimpse into China's daily life through photographs by artist Amber Hsu was on display at the King Library Sunday.

About 30 photographs lined white-walled dividers on the fourth floor of the library while attendees munched on complimentary snacks and admired the display.

"I like how laidback the scenes are in the pictures," said Ricardo Moreno, a junior art major. "It seems like a relaxed environment

and really natural."

Subjects ranging from field workers pulling their ox to children playing with their parents' mechanical equipment all reflected the day-to-day activity of people from the western regions of China and Taiwan.

"I connect with the daily life," Hsu said. "I admire the endurance of the daily life."

Hsu's photos were first on display at the Writing Center in Clark Hall, said Linda Mitchell, an English professor and the

See **DUST**, page 2

POLITICS

District 7 recall effort heads for vote today

JOEY AKELEY
Multimedia Editor

After months of waiting, San Jose's Council District 7 will vote today in the recall election of Madison Nguyen.

More than 9,000 absentee votes have already been cast, and the rest of the district has the opportunity to vote today, said Michelle McGurk, public information officer for Mayor Chuck Reed.

Andrew Ton, a senior business major who said he is half Vietnamese, said he does not think Nguyen's actions warrant her to be recalled.

"What's the point of getting rid of her if she is kind of the only voice we have?" Ton said. "It doesn't really make a lot of sense and it's going to waste a lot of money over a sign."

Duong Dang, a junior marketing major, said she should be recalled for not following her constituents.

"She is the one representative of the Vietnamese community, but then after she got voted in, she doesn't do what the Vietnamese expect her do," Dang said. "She went the opposite way."

McGurk said the naming of a district does not warrant a council member to be recalled.

"While it is within the citizen's right to petition to put a recall on the ballot, recalls generally are to be reserved for serious situations, such as malfeasance or failures to perform in office," McGurk said.

"We believe council member Nguyen has served her district well and has done an excellent job of representing her district and she has shown her commitment and devotion to improving the quality of life for the residents in her district," she added.

Andre Charles, spokesman for the recall Madison Nguyen campaign, said Nguyen should be recalled for secretly having a majority of the council members on her side when naming Saigon Business district, which violated the Brown Act.

He also said Nguyen is not right for the job during the current economic problems in San Jose because she is not financially accountable.

"San Jose is facing a buyer financial crisis," Charles said. "Now more than ever, we need a person who can get us through this. Madison Nguyen is clearly not this person."

McGurk said the name of the Story Road stretch that started this controversy is often referred to as "Little Saigon" now.

"There was a compromise reached at the end of a very long and heated process," McGurk said. "The area, collectively by the community, can be called Little Saigon, so that piece of the issue has been dealt with."

See **RECALL**, page 2

THE SPARTAN DAILY.COM

Sports Blog:
www.spartandailysports.wordpress.com
Photo Blog:
www.spartandailyphoto.wordpress.com
News Blog:
www.spartandailynews.wordpress.com

LIVE BLOG

Check out today's live blog of the District 7 recall election, starting at 7 p.m.



NEWS

A quartet of SJSU jazz musicians performed last Wednesday night.

Author Aimee Bender will talk about her latest work tonight at 7 p.m.

Follow the Spartan Daily on Twitter at twitter.com/thespardaily.

PHOTO BLOG

Have a look at the latest 'Around Downtown' photo.

Check out a slideshow on SJSU's Softball team by Daily staff photographer Stefan Armijo.



STEFAN ARMJO / Spartan Daily

SPARTA GUIDE

03 Today

Buddhism Studies

4:30 p.m. in Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library, Room 390. Contact Albert at xifualbert@yahoo.com

Conflict Free Living

A workshop about how to resolve conflicts and bring peace to your relationships. 3 to 4 p.m. in Clark Hall, Room 118.

Etiquette Dinner

Acquaint yourself with the dining techniques in any business atmosphere with the help of an etiquette professional. \$15. 6 to 8:30 p.m. in the University Room. Contact Cecille Almeda at cecilia.almeda@sjsu.edu.

Pride of the Pacific Islands

General meeting. 5:30 to 7 p.m. in the Ohlone Room at the Student Union. Contact Kristen Tom at ppi_sjsu@yahoo.com

Saxophone Concert

With Professor Dale Wolford. Free. 12:30 to 1:15 p.m. in the Music Building Concert Hall. For more information, call 924-4673.

Spartan Smart Cart

Fresh fruit and veggies. 10:15 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Clark Hall, rain or shine. Contact Luisa Garrett at luisa@postmodern.com

04 Tomorrow

Cookie Tasting

For a food science graduate project. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in CCB, Room 122. Contact Yuki at yukit@earthlink.net

Martin Brauns

Part of the Alumni Speaker Series. Noon to 1 p.m. in the Engineering Building, Room 189.

05 Thursday

Bible Study

Acts 2 Christian Fellowship hosts a weekly study. 7 p.m. in the Pacific Room at the Student Union. Contact Justin Foon at jfoon1@yahoo.com

Chamber Music

Student highlights. Free. 12:30 to 1:15 p.m. in the Music Building Concert Hall. For more information, call 924-4673.

Chris Tomlin

With Israel Houghton. \$33. 7 p.m. in the Event Center.

Meditation Group

5 p.m. in Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library. Contact Harrison at hhaarrriissoon@gmail.com

Patricia Lawicki

Senior VP and Chief Information Officer at PG&E. Noon in the Engineering Building, Room 189.

Reese Erlich

The Student Association for Middle East Studies presents a discussion titled "U.S. Policy and the Middle East Crisis." 3 to 5 p.m. in Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library, Room 255/257. Contact Eleanor Lovinofosse at 215-8117.

Test Anxiety

Learn how to calm your anxieties and make your test-taking experience pleasant. 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. in Clark Hall, Room 118.

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.

BLACKBOARD | On Web site, students expect answers to e-mails, messages at 2 a.m. before class starts, instructor says

Continued from page 1

essential tool of communication for instructors such as Brian Grossman, a health science instructor, who said he has been using similar Web sites for six years. "For students, one of the most important benefits is that they have a digital filing cabinet, and this is both helpful to students and faculty members," he said. "It allows students to feel empowered, to be responsible for their own information."

For Blackboard Applications Administrator and Instructional Developer Mark Adams, the opportunity for communication between instructors and students through programs such as Blackboard is necessary.

"Blackboard integrates a model of learning that is going to have to be mastered in order to keep up in a 21st century workforce," Adams said. "By obtaining the type of skills it takes to become a good learner at distance, it allows access to a whole world of information and training, because so many companies now require you to take online training."

Zlotolow said that although Blackboard is available to all SJSU faculty and staff members, about one-third actually incorporate it with their courses.

"It's their choice. The faculty

chooses how they want to teach and through what mode of instruction they want to teach," he said. "We don't go out and recruit, but some departments may say, 'We like to do things online,' and then Mark will give workshops to those people."

Fewer instructors may sign up for Blackboard due to a lengthy set-up process. In order for instructors to set up Blackboard for their courses, they must go through a line of approval which includes the department chair, administrator and academic scheduling.

"I find that to be an erroneous process and not one that I think works particularly well with such a large instructor workforce," Grossman said. "Were it up to me, every course would automatically have a Blackboard shell and the students would only see it if the instructor turned it on."

The fact that Blackboard is not required by the university has left some students wondering why the use of a potentially beneficial program isn't encouraged more often.

"I've only had one of my professors even mention Blackboard, and its use wasn't really emphasized. He just said to sign up," said Felipe Zaragoza, a junior justice studies major. "As a result, I haven't even used Blackboard, but I think it's a program that should be encouraged, if not

required, because of its benefits, such as getting notes from class, having access to the course syllabus and checking grades."

Although some students believe the program should be more widespread, Grossman said that even when he insists that students check Blackboard often, some students still choose not to take advantage of such opportunities.

"Only about half of the students actually act on the opportunity to figure out what their grade is and make sure they can foresee any problems around grade recording throughout the semester," he said. "In a class where there's 100 students and 25 assignments, that's 2,500 pieces of data entry, and that's a lot of opportunity for error, so Blackboard is a nice opportunity to check back."

Cadano said consistent instructor activity on Blackboard encourages him to take advantage of opportunities that may be overlooked in the classroom.

"One of the biggest advantages is having all of the course content online, because it not only keeps you connected with details of the course, but it keeps you updated," Cadano said. "When instructors actively use Blackboard, such as my physiology professor, it also gives students an opportunity to get ahead."

Although Grossman and Cadano both said they see various benefits when using Black-

board, they also said there are some drawbacks and room for improvement.

"It has resulted in some students feeling like they should always have direct access to the instructor and that's been a little bit of a problem," Grossman said. "For example, getting e-mailed at 2 a.m. and expecting them to be answered before class the next day."

Cadano said problems arose for him when instructors felt they could be disorganized or lazy when submitting course information to Blackboard.

"Last semester, one of my instructors was posting content, such as his syllabus and course notes, from 2002," Cadano said. "Why would you even post information if it's not going to at least be organized, updated and easy to access?"

Aside from nontechnical issues, Adams said the vast majority of students' difficulties regarding Blackboard stem from password issues. The technological compatibility of the system with Internet browsers can be problematic as well.

"That's the challenge: How do I make a product that's easy to use and simple but really powerful and capable of interacting with all of the different types of software?" Adams said.

Fox said the university should make the Web site mandatory in

order to avoid confusion among students.

"I think Blackboard should be universal because right now, some instructors will use eWalk, some will use CourseCompass, and some will use Blackboard, but it would be a lot more helpful if everyone just used the same thing," Fox said.

As SJSU faculty and staff evaluate which system works best, Grossman said that time spent in college should be an opportunity for students to become comfortable with using technology and to enhance their skills as they prepare for the professional world.

"I think that the university should be a fairly low-risk environment around technology, where students can sort of ramp up their skills between their first and fourth year," Grossman said.

"There's benefits to all the modes of learning, and learning which of those modes is going to be optimal is a big part of this educational experience we have at San Jose State," Zlotolow said.

Zlotolow also said that at SJSU, the primary goal is to achieve learning objectives, whether done in person or through systems such as Blackboard.

"It's a challenge for everybody, but it's still very exciting, because it offers so many new opportunities," he said.

RECALL | District 7 'usually experiences low voter turnout,' says mayor's representative; Recall election could cost city \$500,000

Continued from page 1

Melanie Jimenez, campaign manager for Nguyen, said the current recall will cost more than \$500,000, and if Nguyen loses the election, the city will have to spend more than \$500,000 on an election for a new District 7 councilmember.

That election would likely have to go to a run-off, which would cost the city at least \$500,000 more, making the total costs more than \$1.5 million, she said.

A run-off occurs when no candidate gets more than 50 percent of the votes and an additional election is necessary.

"By voting vote yes on this, they're saying that it is OK to spend over 500,000 tax dollars to remove an elected (official) from office on a special election, when she is up for re-election in a year," she said. "They have an opportunity

for the city to vote her out then."

McGurk said District 7 usually experiences low voter turnout, but this recall election could set records.

"By the end of the night, we could have historic turnout," she said. "With the 9,000 absentee ballots, we are close to passing to the turnout for when Madison Nguyen was originally elected in a very close race between Madison and Linda Nguyen."

McGurk said the city's budget will be reduced by somewhere between \$65 and 70 million for next year, and paying for the recall election's expenses will add to it.

Charles said his side has tried to convince undecided voters in the final days before the election through phone calls and door-step conversations that explain what is recall is really about.

Jimenez said that her side was also successful convincing undecided voters by explaining how effective Nguyen has been as a

councilmember.

On Nov. 20, 2007, members of Nguyen's Vietnamese-American constituency became enraged when she voted against calling a section of Story Road "Little Saigon."

The district was named "Saigon Business District" as a compromise before the city removed the name in March 2008.

According to MetroActive writer Erin Sherbert, the name "Little Saigon" is often used for Vietnamese areas in other parts of the United States, and it honors those who escaped during the fall of Saigon in 1975.

Charles said that Nguyen's decision to ignore her constituent's plea to name the stretch "Little Saigon" shows her lack of understanding with her Vietnamese supporters.

"I think it shows a deep level of disconnect between her and her constituents," Charles said.

Andrew Herndon contributed to this story.



Madison Nguyen, city councilmember from District 7. Courtesy of the city of San Jose

DUST | Photo titled 'Calligraphy,' depicting mop on wet tile, one of artist's favorites

Continued from page 1

director of the center. With many patrons commenting on the photographs, Associate Librarian Diana Wu said she decided to contact Hsu to display her art at the library.

"The great thing about these art exhibits is that students get to see stunning artwork, even if they're not looking for it," said Ruth Kifer, the dean of the university's library. "It's a great place for visibility."

Indeed, a steady stream of about 20 people were threading through the various wall displays in the first hour of the opening.

"The big black and white photos really caught my attention," said Hanh-Nhi Pham, a junior communications major. "I really

like Eastern-inspired art."

Partial to black and white photography, Hsu said she responded more to its abstract element and how audiences can immediately know that the pictures are out of context.

Hsu said some pictures were intentionally blurry and out of focus.

"I like impressionism and I want the interpretation element to some of the photos," she said.

Hsu said that despite a more melancholy feel to most of the photographs, she opted for more neutral pictures when it came to the postcards used to publicize the event.

"My mom said most of the pictures looked sad, so I decided to use photographs of objects and scenery instead," Hsu said.

Graduating from St. Martin's University, Hsu said she studied fashion design and loves photographing a created image.

"However, these were more spontaneous and that's a different perspective that I really like too," Hsu said.

Hsu said "Calligraphy" — a photo of a brick-tiled bathroom floor with the leftover mark from a wet mop — was one of her favorites.

"It's like a working person's writing," she said. "It's a trace of their labor and existence."

Capturing a simple smear from a bathroom floor as an art form, Hsu said she aimed to find poetic meaning in everyday things.

"A glitzy and glamorous photo can be exciting, but there's something serene and fulfilling about capturing the human spirit in simple and natural settings," she said.

The photographs can be viewed at the fourth floor exhibit area during all library hours until April 30.

"make a wish..."
SJSU Students get 10% off
"When you show your ID"
Lunch Special: \$4.99
(from 11-2 Mon-Fri)

Dandelion Vegetarian Cafe
 122 E. Santa Clara Street
 San Jose, CA 95113
 (408) 283-4788

ULTIMATE TAN
 2005
 2006
 2007

swim wear not required

Ultimate Tan
 376 E. Taylor Street
 San Jose, CA 95112

Memberships start at \$19.95
 Student Month & Semester Also Available*
 *See salon for details

www.theultimatetanning.com 408.287.8900

BASKETBALL

Spartan forward could help SJSU leap through tournament

HANK DREW
Staff Writer

Six-foot-nine-inch C. J. Webster's coaches and teammates agree: his dominating inside play on both ends of the court and his personality will be one of the keys to his team's success in the Western Athletic Conference Tournament next week in Reno.

The SJSU forward knew he was going to be tall, because he was five-feet-three-inches tall in the fifth grade. He currently uses his big frame to defensively shut down opponent's big men.

"I was bigger than my grandmother" he said. "By the end of my eighth grade year, I was six-foot-three."

Webster said he felt awkward at that point of his life because his feet were also growing at a rapid rate.

"Until I reached 18, I was saying my shoes were older than me," he said.

When Webster was 14, he said he wore a size-15 shoe. When he was 15, he wore a size 16.

"At 18, I stayed at size 17," he added.

Webster said he credits his uncle's suggestion of joining track and field with helping him conquer his awkwardness.

"Being able to run and have a stride, really helped me," he said.

'A C.J. WEBSTER CARD'

Webster said his love of sports goes back to when years ago, his uncle gave him a box of mixed sports cards. He immediately fell in love with sports card collecting.

The highlights of his collection include a gold-plated Jackie Robinson card and a rookie LeBron James card.

"I keep mine away from everybody," he said. "I told my mom to let them collect dust. If anything happens (financially), we are good."

Webster leaned back in his chair and flashed a quick smile at the thought of having his own sports card. The junior sociology major said it would be weird to sign his own picture and put a mark on his own face.

"If I had my own card, I could put it in plastic and place it next to my jersey," he added. "Then I could say, 'Hey, I've got a C. J. Webster card.'"

The Texas native said he credits his family with helping him choose to transfer to SJSU.

"My dad always said you always look at the established teams and you want to go there," Webster said. "Why not go somewhere and be a founding member and build something."

'BLESSED TO FIND SJSU'

The second-year Spartan said he was looking for a college program that was building towards improvement.

"I was blessed to find San Jose State," he said. "Coach Nessman, his staff and the players are committed to making SJSU basketball the way it was in the '60s and '40s."

Webster said he considers Nessman the best coach he has ever had, and that he was also one of the reasons he chose SJSU.

"Our personal connection is very deep," Webster said. "He instills certain things in me that I know that I am going to need as a man, on court and off."

"He's my guy," he added.

Webster said his coach has helped him see beyond his own talent level and enhance the place of his teammates, which



Spartans' junior forward C.J. Webster shoots a foul shot on Thursday at the Event Center against the Idaho Vandals in the second half. **RYAN BUCHAN / Spartan Daily**

will make him an NBA-ready player.

Webster had his first brush with the NBA when he trained with retired seven-foot-tall Basketball Hall of Fame center Hakeem Olajuwon.

"I actually got to hold him a little bit," he said. "It's hard to stop him. He is still playing like he is in the NBA."

When Webster was guarding Olajuwon, he knew a low-post move was coming.

"I just couldn't stop it," he said.

At 255 pounds, Nessman said Webster is not someone easy to push around on the court.

'THEY RESPECT ME'

"When he's been healthy, he's as good a low block scorer as there is in the Western Athletic Conference," Nessman said. "You can see how teams defend us — they normally sink two, three or four guys against C.J."

Webster said this sort of defensive pressure used to mentally frustrate him, until his parents and the Spartans' coaching staff helped him see this as a badge of honor.

"They respect me and fear my capabilities," he said. "If I am being double or quadruple teamed, somebody is going to be open — I have to find them."

SJSU guard Justin Graham said Webster usually does find his teammates with a pass once he is double teamed.

"You know if you give him the ball, you might get it back," Graham said.

Webster considers his low post defensive skills one of his main strengths.

"In my mind, I want to hold the best post player on their team," he said. "Power forward or center — it doesn't matter. I just want to go at them and battle."

Webster recently battled Fresno State's Brandon Webster — his second cousin.

"We talk smack with each other," he said. "I kind of got in

his head both times we played them. Its just fun and games."

'A FREE SPIRIT'

Graham said he considers Webster a free spirit and a fun companion.

"He's a big laugh machine and is always nice to have around," he said. "But when it is time to take care of business, he gets serious about it."

Graham said he thinks Webster's play is one of the keys to SJSU's future success.

"If C.J. is having a good game, then you know the rest of the team is having a good game," he said.

Webster said his team's current record is not indicative of the quality of this team and injuries to himself and Adrian Oliver haven't helped.

Webster feels that the team has enough talent to beat anyone in the WAC.

"If I am willing to go out there and put skin on the ground for this team, I think everyone else will too," he added. "I think we can beat anybody."

Webster said he enjoys playing with all of his SJSU teammates, but his favorite player to watch is forward Tim Pierce.

"Tim and I are really close," he

said. "He's one of the guys that is older than me that I respect fully in his talent level and how he commits to working."

Webster thinks Pierce will be playing in the NBA once he departs from SJSU.

"I think he can go to the NBA and be an amazing player if he sticks with it and I think he will," Webster added. "We played in a pro-am together and the NBA rules fit him pretty good."

Webster said he has faced the greatest low post challenge of his life from his fiancée, Kia Palmer, who was a small forward on Texas State's women's team.

'THE RIGHT DIRECTION'

"Some of my best one-on-one battles have been with her," he said. "She has pretty good post defense and can stop me from scoring every now and then."

He said she will be joining him in San Jose once she graduates from Barry University in May. Webster said he is currently petitioning the NCAA for another year of eligibility.

"That is what I am praying for," he said.

Webster said he wants to leave SJSU a lot better than he found it.

"Before I got here, they were going in a positive direction and we still are," Webster added. "Whenever I decide to leave or am forced out, I can feel a little better about leaving knowing that we are at that point rather than fighting to get out of the bottom."



C.J. WEBSTER
San Jose State Spartans #22

Height: 6' 9"
Weight: 255
Born: 10/29/1986
Hometown: Missouri City, Texas
High School: Thurgood Marshall

YEAR	TEAM	G	M/G	FG%	3FG%	R/G
07-08	SPARTANS	32	28.4	.505	.000	6.8
08-09	SPARTANS	25	31.4	.492	.000	6.4
TOTALS		57	59.8	.499	.000	6.6

YEAR	A/G	S/G	B/G	TO/G	AVG	PTS	
07-08	2.13	.53	.59	1.75	11.3	363	
08-09	2.2	.52	.72	1.88	11.8	295	
TOTALS		2.17	.525	.655	1.82	11.55	658

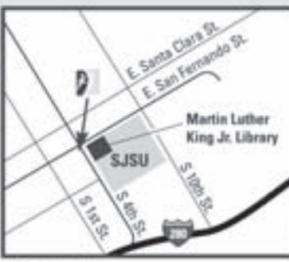
Top: Photo by DEREK SIJDER. Bottom: Photo by MIKE ANDERSON. Illustration by MEGAN HAMILTON



COUNTY FEDERAL SUPPORTS SJSU!

Visit our City Centre Branch, conveniently-located across from the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library at 140 East San Fernando Street.

- San Jose State University Faculty, Staff & Students are all eligible to join!
- Membership Fee Waived.
- Free Rewards Checking; No minimum balance or Direct Deposit requirement.
- Free Online Banking / Free Bill Pay.
- Free, unlimited ATM use at CO-Op Network, 7-Eleven Stores and County Federal ATM Locations.
- Free Car Buying Service/Auto Loans.
- Free Financial Education Seminars.
- Multiple Branch Locations, many conveniently open on Saturday!
- Receive a \$10 gift card when you open a membership account.



Branch Hours
Monday–Thursday
10:00 am to 5:30 pm
Friday
10:00 am to 6:00 pm



www.sccfcu.org
(408) 282-0700

★ Kappa Delta Sorority presents ★

SHAMROCK SHOWCASE
12th annual lip sync & dance contest

MARCH 12th, 2009
Morris Dailey Auditorium

★ 7:00PM ★

All proceeds go to

PREVENT CHILD ABUSE AMERICA & CHILD QUEST & INTERNATIONAL

PRE-PAID: \$5. AT THE DOOR: \$7
TO PURCHASE TICKETS IN ADVANCE, CONTACT ONLY TEL AT 408.531.5822

★ NCUA ★

MOVIE PREVIEW

Film falls short of 'Euforia'

SAMANTHA RIVERA
Staff Writer

"Euforia", a Spanish-language film, is centred around the life of Pat (Humberto Zurita), an '80s rock star who is struggling to find himself.

He had success in the '80s, but now he finds himself in a band composed of washed-up musicians who are going nowhere. He meets an attractive woman named Ana (Ana Serradilla), who helps him on his journey to self discovery.

What I loved about the movie was the visual backdrop of Guanajuato, Mexico. The history of the ancient buildings there comes to life on the screen. Although the formula of man meets beautiful young woman and falls in love plus sex, drugs and rock 'n' roll would seem like a recipe for success, "Euforia" falls short.

As a Latina, I support fellow Latino actors in their endeavors. This movie will definitely get support from the Latino community because of its Latino cast and will find some box office success.

Pat, who is Irish and Mexican, suffers from insomnia and takes sleeping pills. He falls into a deep sleep and looks forward to the dreams held within his vivid imagination every night. Ana often wonders why Pat sleeps so much, and he explains that he loves to dream.

The movie opens with visions of Pat's dream world and his thoughts, which may confuse the viewer since the beginning tends to drag on for a bit as the movie struggles to make sense.

But the viewer is captivated again once Pat meets Ana and the plot of the movie starts to form.

Ana struggles to make ends meet and ends up getting fired from her job, Pat decides to help by driving her to Guanajuato, to reunite with her grandfather. He decides to help her probably because he really has nothing better to do. It is also fair to assume that Pat is aiming to win the young woman's affections by doing this.

The road trip is filled with random mishaps that both disengage and engage the audience because they are so random. They range from a murder to Ana's sexual encounter with a Catholic priest. It was perplexing to see how it would all come together.

Pat was often trying to find his way into Ana's pants. She would resist him at first but then she began falling for him toward the middle of the movie.

He just seemed like a huge mess who often looked like he was high on something. The actor's age is apparent in his face, making him a good candidate to play this washed-up former rock star. It is amazing that he intrigues Ana, since there is nothing remotely attractive about him.

Serradilla's acting is uninspired and there are scenes which are meant to be serious and end up laughable, such as the times in the movie in which she is having intense conversations with Pat in attempts to reach an emotional breakthrough with him.

The same goes for Zurita. I recognized the actor from a Spanish soap opera I watched on Univision when I was little, and he was not good in that one either.

While he had the blank and dazed stare of a stoner throughout the movie, his emotional scenes fell short. It seemed he was trying too hard and as a result, it wasn't believable.

While the movie failed to appeal to me, there may be some whose curiosity will be piqued enough to go watch it.

"Euforia" will be playing on Wednesday at 6:45 p.m. at Camera 12 in Downtown San Jose.



Ana (Ana Serradilla) and Pat (Humberto Zurita) in a scene from "Euforia." Courtesy of official Cinequest Web site

Cinequest Events

Today
Maverick Spirit Event:
Louis Gossett Jr.
"The Least Among You"
7:00 p.m.

Wednesday
Maverick Spirit Event:
Kevin Pollak
Evening of Film Comedy
7:00 p.m.

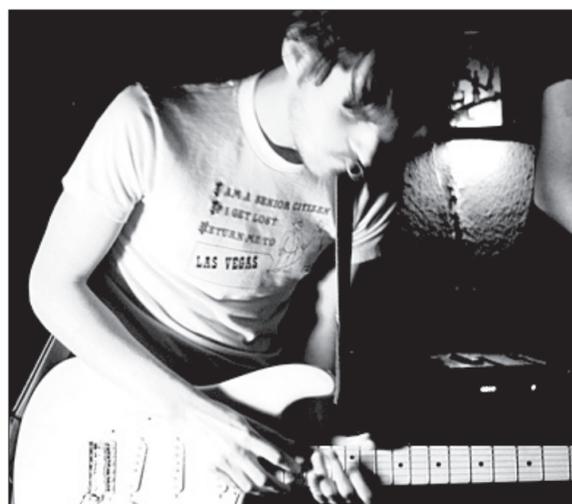
Thursday
"Firaac"
7:00 p.m.

"First Person Singular"
7:00 p.m.

Friday
Maverick Spirit Event:
Diablo Cody
Day of the Writer
3:00 p.m.

**Check out Cinequest.org for prices and locations

LOCAL MUSIC REVIEW



Guitarist Ross Giffen Courtesy of official The Aimless Never Web site of The Aimless Never Miss.

Bands electrify the East Bay

DAVID ZUGNONI
Senior Staff Writer

If your band plays at a pub in a residential neighborhood and about 20 girls and a few guys dance their heads off for 40 minutes, you must be doing something right.

Butterfly Bones, from Berkeley, turned the Starry Plough into a dance party with bright, bouncy, tightly-structured songs Friday night.

They had that modern indie style — you know, skinny jeans, skinny bikes, all the hair going in one direction — and added some well-placed digital sounds and a vocalist with an uncommon delivery who knows how to fit his voice into the right places.

They reminded me a bit, just a bit, of the '70s/'80s avant-garde rock band Talking Heads. They're billed for March 13 at the Butterball Music Festival in Santa Clara.

One of many marks of a good band is being able to get through less-than-ideal conditions.

The Aimless Never Miss, from San Francisco, did just that, putting on an enjoyable set despite their vocalist's noticeably scratchy throat. The poor guy apologized for his sickness

but also managed to pump out some powerful melodies when it counted.

The band's recorded material on MySpace, rather controlled, radio-friendly modern rock with a touch of indie flair, turned out to be deceptive, as they became electric, intense and raucous at times in their 30-minute set.

They're scheduled for March 13 at the Retox Lounge in San Francisco before heading to Texas to play in front of a bunch of record executives at the famous South by Southwest festival.

Unfortunately, I missed the show's opener, San Francisco's Low Red Land.

Judging from the music on the band's MySpace page, they make for some upbeat, head-bobbing fun, a good variety of textures, atmospheric guitar work, tight song structures and a singer who sounds a lot like the guy from the Toadies (Remember them? A more-or-less one hit wonder from the mid-'90s?).

A local band review appears every Tuesday. David Zugnoni is a Spartan Daily senior staff writer.

Classifieds

EMPLOYMENT

EARN EXTRA MONEY Students needed ASAP Earn up to \$150 per day being a mystery shopper No Experience Required Call 1-800-722-4791

STUDENT WORK (NEAR SJSU) As featured in the Wall Street Journal in August 2008. *\$17.70 BASE-appt. *FLEXIBLE SCHEDULES *No experience necessary *Training provided *Customer sales/ service *Scholarships awarded annually *Internships possible *Some conditions apply *All majors may apply CALL FOR INTERVIEW (408) 866-1100 (650) 940-9400 (510) 790-2100 www.workforstudents.com/ sjsu

SURVEY TAKERS NEEDED: Make \$5-\$25 per survey. www.GetPaidToThink.com

GREEK MESSAGES

CAMBROIDERY No minimum order for embroidery or printing... Fraternity/ Sorority emblems 475 Stockton Ave. (408)298-2399

SERVICES

FIXLAPTOP.COM BUY SELL REPAIR Laptop & Parts Repair PC Data Recovery Remove Virus Rental Trade Laptop & Parts (408)469-5999

CLASSIFIED AD RATE INFORMATION

Each line averages 25 spaces. Each letter, number, punctuation mark, and space is formatted into an ad line. The first line will be set in bold type and upper case for no extra charge up to 20 spaces. A minimum of three lines is required. Deadline is 10:00 am, 2-weekdays prior to publication.

MINIMUM THREE LINE CLASSIFIED AD:
DAYS: 1 2 3 4
RATE: \$10.00 \$15.00 \$20.00 \$25.00

\$2.50 EACH ADDITIONAL LINE AFTER THE THIRD LINE.
\$3.00 EACH ADDITIONAL DAY.

* RATES ARE CONSECUTIVE DAYS ONLY. *ALL ADS ARE PREPAID.
* NO REFUNDS ON CANCELLED ADS.

FREQUENCY DISCOUNT: 40+ consecutive issues: 10% discount

SJSU STUDENT RATE: 10% discount.
Ads must be placed in person in DBH 209 from 10 AM or 3PM.
STUDENT ID REQUIRED.

Rate applies to student's individual ads only. Not intended for businesses and/or other persons. Frequency discount does not apply. www.thespartandaily.com

TODAY'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

1. (4) ...
2. (4) ...
3. (4) ...
4. (4) ...
5. (4) ...
6. (4) ...
7. (4) ...
8. (4) ...
9. (4) ...
10. (4) ...
11. (4) ...
12. (4) ...
13. (4) ...
14. (4) ...
15. (4) ...
16. (4) ...
17. (4) ...
18. (4) ...
19. (4) ...
20. (4) ...
21. (4) ...
22. (4) ...
23. (4) ...
24. (4) ...
25. (4) ...
26. (4) ...
27. (4) ...
28. (4) ...
29. (4) ...
30. (4) ...
31. (4) ...
32. (4) ...
33. (4) ...
34. (4) ...
35. (4) ...
36. (4) ...
37. (4) ...
38. (4) ...
39. (4) ...
40. (4) ...
41. (4) ...
42. (4) ...
43. (4) ...
44. (4) ...
45. (4) ...
46. (4) ...
47. (4) ...
48. (4) ...
49. (4) ...
50. (4) ...
51. (4) ...
52. (4) ...
53. (4) ...
54. (4) ...
55. (4) ...
56. (4) ...
57. (4) ...
58. (4) ...
59. (4) ...
60. (4) ...
61. (4) ...
62. (4) ...
63. (4) ...
64. (4) ...
65. (4) ...
66. (4) ...
67. (4) ...
68. (4) ...
69. (4) ...
70. (4) ...
71. (4) ...
72. (4) ...
73. (4) ...
74. (4) ...
75. (4) ...
76. (4) ...
77. (4) ...
78. (4) ...
79. (4) ...
80. (4) ...
81. (4) ...
82. (4) ...
83. (4) ...
84. (4) ...
85. (4) ...
86. (4) ...
87. (4) ...
88. (4) ...
89. (4) ...
90. (4) ...
91. (4) ...
92. (4) ...
93. (4) ...
94. (4) ...
95. (4) ...
96. (4) ...
97. (4) ...
98. (4) ...
99. (4) ...
100. (4) ...

PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED

DOWN

1. (4) ...
2. (4) ...
3. (4) ...
4. (4) ...
5. (4) ...
6. (4) ...
7. (4) ...
8. (4) ...
9. (4) ...
10. (4) ...
11. (4) ...
12. (4) ...
13. (4) ...
14. (4) ...
15. (4) ...
16. (4) ...
17. (4) ...
18. (4) ...
19. (4) ...
20. (4) ...
21. (4) ...
22. (4) ...
23. (4) ...
24. (4) ...
25. (4) ...
26. (4) ...
27. (4) ...
28. (4) ...
29. (4) ...
30. (4) ...
31. (4) ...
32. (4) ...
33. (4) ...
34. (4) ...
35. (4) ...
36. (4) ...
37. (4) ...
38. (4) ...
39. (4) ...
40. (4) ...
41. (4) ...
42. (4) ...
43. (4) ...
44. (4) ...
45. (4) ...
46. (4) ...
47. (4) ...
48. (4) ...
49. (4) ...
50. (4) ...
51. (4) ...
52. (4) ...
53. (4) ...
54. (4) ...
55. (4) ...
56. (4) ...
57. (4) ...
58. (4) ...
59. (4) ...
60. (4) ...
61. (4) ...
62. (4) ...
63. (4) ...
64. (4) ...
65. (4) ...
66. (4) ...
67. (4) ...
68. (4) ...
69. (4) ...
70. (4) ...
71. (4) ...
72. (4) ...
73. (4) ...
74. (4) ...
75. (4) ...
76. (4) ...
77. (4) ...
78. (4) ...
79. (4) ...
80. (4) ...
81. (4) ...
82. (4) ...
83. (4) ...
84. (4) ...
85. (4) ...
86. (4) ...
87. (4) ...
88. (4) ...
89. (4) ...
90. (4) ...
91. (4) ...
92. (4) ...
93. (4) ...
94. (4) ...
95. (4) ...
96. (4) ...
97. (4) ...
98. (4) ...
99. (4) ...
100. (4) ...

SUDOKU

Difficulty: 3 (of 5)

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

**Need a Roommate?
Need a Job?
Need a Roommate
with a Job?**

**Spartan Daily
Classifieds**

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

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

DISCLAIMER

The Spartan Daily makes no claim for products or services advertised below nor is there any guarantee implied. The classified columns of the Spartan Daily consist of paid advertising and offers are not approved or verified by the newspaper. Certain advertisements in these columns may refer the reader to specific telephone numbers or addresses for additional information. Classified readers should be reminded that, when making these further contacts, they should require complete information before sending money for goods or services. In addition, readers should carefully investigate all firms offering employment listings or coupons for discount vacations or merchandise.

TODAY'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

1. (4) ...
2. (4) ...
3. (4) ...
4. (4) ...
5. (4) ...
6. (4) ...
7. (4) ...
8. (4) ...
9. (4) ...
10. (4) ...
11. (4) ...
12. (4) ...
13. (4) ...
14. (4) ...
15. (4) ...
16. (4) ...
17. (4) ...
18. (4) ...
19. (4) ...
20. (4) ...
21. (4) ...
22. (4) ...
23. (4) ...
24. (4) ...
25. (4) ...
26. (4) ...
27. (4) ...
28. (4) ...
29. (4) ...
30. (4) ...
31. (4) ...
32. (4) ...
33. (4) ...
34. (4) ...
35. (4) ...
36. (4) ...
37. (4) ...
38. (4) ...
39. (4) ...
40. (4) ...
41. (4) ...
42. (4) ...
43. (4) ...
44. (4) ...
45. (4) ...
46. (4) ...
47. (4) ...
48. (4) ...
49. (4) ...
50. (4) ...
51. (4) ...
52. (4) ...
53. (4) ...
54. (4) ...
55. (4) ...
56. (4) ...
57. (4) ...
58. (4) ...
59. (4) ...
60. (4) ...
61. (4) ...
62. (4) ...
63. (4) ...
64. (4) ...
65. (4) ...
66. (4) ...
67. (4) ...
68. (4) ...
69. (4) ...
70. (4) ...
71. (4) ...
72. (4) ...
73. (4) ...
74. (4) ...
75. (4) ...
76. (4) ...
77. (4) ...
78. (4) ...
79. (4) ...
80. (4) ...
81. (4) ...
82. (4) ...
83. (4) ...
84. (4) ...
85. (4) ...
86. (4) ...
87. (4) ...
88. (4) ...
89. (4) ...
90. (4) ...
91. (4) ...
92. (4) ...
93. (4) ...
94. (4) ...
95. (4) ...
96. (4) ...
97. (4) ...
98. (4) ...
99. (4) ...
100. (4) ...

DOWN

1. (4) ...
2. (4) ...
3. (4) ...
4. (4) ...
5. (4) ...
6. (4) ...
7. (4) ...
8. (4) ...
9. (4) ...
10. (4) ...
11. (4) ...
12. (4) ...
13. (4) ...
14. (4) ...
15. (4) ...
16. (4) ...
17. (4) ...
18. (4) ...
19. (4) ...
20. (4) ...
21. (4) ...
22. (4) ...
23. (4) ...
24. (4) ...
25. (4) ...
26. (4) ...
27. (4) ...
28. (4) ...
29. (4) ...
30. (4) ...
31. (4) ...
32. (4) ...
33. (4) ...
34. (4) ...
35. (4) ...
36. (4) ...
37. (4) ...
38. (4) ...
39. (4) ...
40. (4) ...
41. (4) ...
42. (4) ...
43. (4) ...
44. (4) ...
45. (4) ...
46. (4) ...
47. (4) ...
48. (4) ...
49. (4) ...
50. (4) ...
51. (4) ...
52. (4) ...
53. (4) ...
54. (4) ...
55. (4) ...
56. (4) ...
57. (4) ...
58. (4) ...
59. (4) ...
60. (4) ...
61. (4) ...
62. (4) ...
63. (4) ...
64. (4) ...
65. (4) ...
66. (4) ...
67. (4) ...
68. (4) ...
69. (4) ...
70. (4) ...
71. (4) ...
72. (4) ...
73. (4) ...
74. (4) ...
75. (4) ...
76. (4) ...
77. (4) ...
78. (4) ...
79. (4) ...
80. (4) ...
81. (4) ...
82. (4) ...
83. (4) ...
84. (4) ...
85. (4) ...
86. (4) ...
87. (4) ...
88. (4) ...
89. (4) ...
90. (4) ...
91. (4) ...
92. (4) ...
93. (4) ...
94. (4) ...
95. (4) ...
96. (4) ...
97. (4) ...
98. (4) ...
99. (4) ...
100. (4) ...

Spartan Daily

Dwight Bentel Hall, Room 209
One Washington Square
San Jose, CA 95192-0149

News: 408-924-3281
Advertising: 408-924-3270
Fax: 408-924-3282
News e-mail:
spartandaily@casajsu.edu
Advertising e-mail:
spartandailyads@casajsu.edu

SENIOR EDITORIAL STAFF
JOHN HORNBERG, Executive Editor
TOMMY WRIGHT, Managing Editor
CARLOS A. MORENO, Photo Editor
JON XAVIER, Online Editor
ANDREA FRANIER, Opinion Editor
RYAN BUCHAN, Sports Editor
MATTHEW KIMEL, Sports Editor
CHRIS CURRY, Arts & Entertainment Editor
ALLIE FIGURES, Arts & Entertainment Editor
JOEY AKELEY, Multimedia Editor
KAAJAL MORAR, Features Editor
KIMBERLY TSAO, Features Editor
ELISHA MALDONADO, Investigations Editor
MEGAN HAMILTON, Production Editor
YA-AN CHAN, Copy Editor
ANGELO LANHAM, Copy Editor

SENIOR ADVERTISING STAFF
VANESSA ALESSI, Advertising Director
DARREN MITCHELL, Assistant Advertising Director
KRISTI RIGGS, Creative Director
EMILY JAMES, Assistant Creative Director

STAFF WRITERS
JESSICA AYALA, MARCOS BLANCO, HANK DREW, DOMINIQUE DUMADAUG, KELLY ENOS, JESSICA FROMM, BRETT GIFFORD, MERRIL GUZMAN, ANDREW HERNDON, ELIZABETH KANG, MICHAEL LE ROY, DAN LU, ANDREA MUNIZ, SAMANTHA PATTERSON, JUSTIN PERRY, MINH PHAM, HARVEY RAÑOLA, SCOTT REYBURN, SAMANTHA RIVERA, JULIANNE SHAPIRO, HOLLY SZKOROPAD, STEPHANIE VALLEJO, RALPH WARNER

SENIOR STAFF WRITERS
TARA DUFFY
DANIELLE TORRALBA
DAVID ZUGNONI

ADVERTISING STAFF
ASHLEY CHAVIRA, DIEP DINH, SAMANTHA INOUIE, KHALID JIVANI, RYAN KINGSLAND, LILIA LUNA, SHOKO MASUDA, RITA MIKHALTCHOUK, NAMPHUONG VAN

ILLUSTRATOR
CARTY SEWILL

PHOTOGRAPHERS
MIKE ANDERSON
STEFAN ARMILJO
SANDRA SANTOS
YOUNG-SUNG KWON

ADVISERS
RICHARD CRAIG, News
MACK LUNDSTROM, News
JAN SHAW, News
TIM HENDRICK, Advertising
TIM BURKE, Production Chief
TIM MITCHELL, Design
JOHN SHRADER, Multimedia

OPINION PAGE POLICY

Letters to the editor may be placed in the letters to the editor box in the Spartan Daily office in Dwight Bentel Hall, Room 209, sent by fax to (408) 924-3282, e-mailed to spartandaily@casajsu.edu or mailed to the Spartan Daily Opinion Editor, School of Journalism and Mass Communications, San Jose State University, One Washington Square, San Jose, CA 95112-0149. 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.

Advice from an outsider: Get involved



HOLLY SZKOROPAD
Staff Writer

There's something I think you should know. Until I was on the Spartan Daily and was instructed to attend various sports and community events on campus, I never went to any.

It was easy to say I was too busy, or that cool kids like me never went to school events.

I had no school spirit. And until last Thursday, it didn't quite sink into my skull that I enjoyed being "forced" to go to these events, even if I sometimes whine about it.

Let me convince you to do the same.

I know it's not very impressive to indulge in campus events, but attending them can impress and educate you.

But first, a story:
In search of alcohol last Thursday, my boyfriend and I ventured to a downtown restaurant to grab a few drinks and munch on some Mardi Gras grub. What was supposed to be a chance to relax became a heated discussion about school politics and Associated Students.

A student we had never met, Walter, slid next to us at the packed bar, and after smoothing over all the boring "what's-your-major-and-how's-your-semester" jabber, Walter, my boyfriend and I unveiled a drunken and proud discovery many apathetic students never admit: We actually do have school spirit, but we have no idea what to do about it.

We aren't unlike any of you who have jobs and are incredibly busy. We are the ones who sit through class and silently listen without uttering a word to our classmates, just like so many others.

As seniors, we now realize the value of the college experience, and you should too.

After mulling this over with a professor earlier in the day dur-

ing a club meeting that no one attended, I couldn't help but feel that this was a sign that I needed to convince others to try going to an event.

You know the school's shrinking budget? Well, a lot of that money trickles down to clubs and school events. This free-flowing cash actually comes from your pocket, so why not steal back as much as you can?

What better way to give the finger to "the Man?"

You might even meet a new friend and score some free food. And there is no cheaper way to culture yourself, so you can mention some cool art/Asian/environmental forum you attended to your classmate.

In a school so indulged in its diversity, I see a lot of cliques that remain isolated and offer no incentive for an outsider to come for a visit. I often pass campus clubs camped outside of the Student Union on benches, engulfed in conversation with fellow club members.

If only these clubs actually seemed interested in widening their following and tried to break

out of their close-knit society. I can't help but feel unwelcomed by their closeness.

I'm almost four years behind, and I'm not that experienced in the art of club joining.

In a school so indulged in its diversity, I see a lot of cliques that remain isolated and offer no incentive for an outsider to come for a visit.

With more than 30,000 students, there are countless activities on campus. There are so many events on campus, in fact, that many go unnoticed.

Associated Students, I have a small request.

If you could, please make a calendar of every school event and somehow put it somewhere where we can't ignore it. Post it on Facebook, MySpace and even on that MySJSU Web site we

have to occasionally visit.

But really, an event calendar would give every event an equal chance for an audience.

It's hard enough to keep up with school. We don't have time to stand and ponder at every event flier hanging around campus.

I've spent almost four years avoiding school activities because I've felt like an outsider. Don't be like me.

This old commuter school doesn't need to feel as lonely as it does. Going to events helps to create a community, something SJSU is starving for.

I know people like to stick to their Filipino, film and crocheting clubs, but take a trip to another event and see how pleasant that warm, tingly feeling is when you meet someone new.

I know it's not cool to be Mr. or Ms. School Spirit, but I know it's even more uncool to be boring and indifferent, just like everyone else.

Holly Szkoropad is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

Tough love needed to combat abuse



ELISHA MALDONADO
... in love and war

I know, you never thought you would forgive him. I mean, really, he beat you.

Your close-up-ready face was colored — not with eye shadow, but an array of burst blood vessels and capillaries.

Your face was plump, not from youth, but rather the swelling around your eyes and mouth caused by a hand. A fist. Some object. Whatever.

Again, I know. You love him, you hate him. It is a vicious cycle.

It's like breaking your high heel — a break that causes you

(and your world) to tumble down a treacherous hill.

Even worse, like your high heel, your relationship couldn't — can't! — be repaired. I mean, even if the cobbler attached the two again, there would always be some crack. Some glue. Some cost for the reparation.

He was your friend, your lover and, at other times, your Judas — except that it wasn't just a kiss on the cheek. Still, it was a kiss on the cheek that the whole world witnessed, and you were made the fool. (No, I am telling you, you were.)

Your mother always told you to never settle for less than you dreamed of, your Charming, on a faithful, white steed.

Your father's music played in the background of your thoughts: "Guard your heart. Don't trade it for treasure. Don't give it away."

But you did. And he tram-

pled on it (let's not forget about your face!)

For me, the other girl representing the millions watching, he stomped a little more on my faith in humanity.

I know. Really, I do. It was the good advice you just didn't take.

Your close-up-ready face was colored — not with eye shadow, but an array of burst blood vessels and capillaries.

Gosh, you took him back — after the way he treated you — and you look the fool once more.

You say you "care so much about each other,"

that you will hunker down and work out things out. I believe you. (I hope you caught my lie.)

How can you fix it? Why, I'm so glad you asked. You must first fix what is actually broken. It starts with you.

They tell you this all the time, but it actually turns out to be true, especially for you. If you don't think you are the bee's knees, who will?

If you want, I can list all of the things I love about myself. (I warn you, though, the list is really long.)

And so I come to this conclusion: That love and hate are born of the same egg. Though they split somewhere, they share a common bloodline.

You can hate with the same vehemence as you love; the power is just as strong.

It is the motivation — not the power — behind the emotion that decides.

Unfortunately, you got the rotten side of the deal. But the thing is, you ate it. In fact, I can see that you are still chewing.

But you don't get it, do you? Love does not mean forgiving and forgetting ... until next time.

It is an expression, an assertion, a response to your own values — your own self-esteem — in another.

Love is, indeed, profoundly selfish.

You will find that you cannot love another until you first love yourself.

It is a selfish happiness that one earns, one looks for, in love.

But you aren't selfish, are you? You aren't happy.

Elisha Maldonado is the Spartan Daily investigations editor. "... in love and war" appears every other Tuesday.

Stop faking your way to a college degree



ANGELO LANHAM
Yes, I Have a Point

I know what you're doing right now. You're reading the paper. I'm a bit sketchy on the rest of the details — let's just say my crystal ball is foggy today.

So for the sake of argument, I'm going to guess that you're curled up with your morning bagel and cup of coffee waiting for class to start and reading these words.

But what are you doing here? The overarching idea is to take some classes, come out of this whole mess with a college degree and thus become a marketable somebody on the job market.

Ideally, you might even learn something along the way. This is why it's interesting that every time I peruse the Student Union, I hear someone blithering about bluffing through a class, quiz or essay.

"I just, like, made something up, and she said, like 'that's a really interesting point.'"

Isn't it a bit strange to pay thousands in ever-increasing student fees all for the purpose of avoiding learning and then bragging about it?

I'll admit that I groan to myself whenever a "stock" essay topic comes up in a class. Busy work gets old after a while.

Half the point of learning droves of facts you never use in real life is to be able to quote them to people years later with the intent of making them feel stupid.

Not as old, though, as hearing someone drone on about how her teacher doesn't know anything, and that three pages of drivel by some 22-year-old with the word "Juicy" emblazoned upon her ass is enough to pull the wool over the eyes of someone who has spent at least seven years getting an education in order to give educations.

I consider it absurd to actively avoid learning in school. If you're one of those, put this

paper down, and go get drunk or something. School without learning? Do you go to a bowling alley and then brag about how you didn't bowl?

Just imagine taking a karate class and then somehow faking your way to a purple belt.

"Oh my God, I totally got a purple belt and I didn't even learn how to kick."

"That is like, so, like, totally awesome."

But you're still going to get your ass kicked next time you troll down some dark alley. That's why everyone who bothers to take a karate class makes damn sure to learn karate — or they don't bother showing up.

That's the problem with college these days — not enough like karate. Why waste all those hours listening to some instructor drone on if you're not even going to get anything out of it?

Half the point of learning droves of facts you never use in real life is to be able to quote them to people years later with the intent of making them feel stupid.

Ask yourself this: If you don't pay attention in class, what are you going to say to your future co-workers while standing around the old water cooler to make them feel like a bunch of idiots?

Learn from my mistakes. I once coasted through a Shakespeare class, and I left knowing little more about the old bard than I knew going into it. What a waste of time. The upper-division Shakespeare class I'm taking right now keeps reminding me that I never bothered to pay very close attention during the class in 2005.

Not only did I miss a great opportunity to go through my early 20s quoting "Macbeth" flawlessly, I could have come to my current class already possessing fresh insights on how Anto-

nio from "The Merchant of Venice" is gay.

But alas, poor Yorick! I am learning with everyone else, a little behind on the reading and listening to some class members giggle at Hippolyta's outfit as we watch excerpts from a 1969 film.

Pay attention in class, guys. Your mothers will agree.

Angelo Lanham is a Spartan Daily copy editor. "Yes, I Have a Point" appears every Tuesday.

DID YOU KNOW...

Dr. Seuss' real name is Theodor Seuss Geisel? The children's author published more than 60 books. Yesterday was his birthday (he would have been 105 years old).

— Los Angeles Times



Committed to **Boycotting Israel?**

Be **Zion-Free** - do not use:

- ☒ Cellphones (you can keep the case)
- ☒ Voice mail and cellphone camera chip
- ☒ AIM®, ICQ®, instant messaging
- ☒ Google® (runs on Israeli search algorithms)
- ☒ Microsoft Windows XP® or Vista®, Microsoft Office®
- ☒ Intel® microchip, Pentium® chip and microprocessor
- ☒ Firewalls and virus protection software

All developed in Israel

To acquire the Zion-Free **iCAN Phone** contact:
studentboycotters@carrier-pigeon.net

iACT.WIESENTHAL.COM