

'Adventureland' is the meeting of the movies 'Juno' and 'Garden State.'

Movie theaters overreact to sneaking food in, try to force people to buy their overpriced slop.

The self-proclaimed sports leader messes up athletes names constantly and does a poor job in general.

theSpartanDaily.com Spartan Daily

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WED	THU	FRI	SAT
62	61	60	63

THE WIRE

STATE

Salmonella found in central Calif. pistachio plant

FRESNO — Federal officials confirm they found traces of salmonella in a central California pistachio processing plant that sparked a nationwide recall of the nut. The Food and Drug Administration said Monday state and federal inspectors found the bacteria in "critical areas" at Setton Pistachio of Terra Bella, Inc. FDA officials also say they found areas at the facility where raw and roasted nuts could become cross-contaminated with salmonella.

Chris Brown enters not guilty plea in beating case

LOS ANGELES — Chris Brown pleaded not guilty Monday to threatening and assaulting his girlfriend, fellow music star Rihanna. Brown was charged in March by Los Angeles County prosecutors with felony assault likely to cause great bodily injury and making criminal threats.

- Associated Press

NATIONAL

Obesity epidemic affecting preschoolers

CHICAGO — A striking new study says one in five 4-year-olds is obese, and the rate is alarmingly higher among American Indian children. Nearly one-third of them are obese, and researchers said it was surprising to see differences by race and ethnicity at so early an age.

Big cuts seen for big weapon programs

WASHINGTON — The nation should stop pouring billions into futuristic, super-expensive F-22 jet fighters, pull the plug on new presidential helicopters and put the money into systems U.S. soldiers can use against actual foes, Defense Secretary Robert Gates declared Monday. Major overhaul plans laid out by the Obama administration's Pentagon chief would slash several giant weapons programs — and thousands of civilian jobs that go with them. With recession unemployment rising, Congress may balk at many of the cuts in Gates' proposed \$534 billion budget for the coming year.

- Associated Press

A.S. ELECTION

Student hopefuls caught in crossfire

Candidates for Associated Students debate issues during Monday event

HARVEY RAÑOLA
Staff Writer

Aspiring student politicians were given the opportunity to sound off Monday on campus issues in the 2009 Associated Students Candidate Crossfire debate.

The debate featured many of the candidates vying for positions in the student body's governing council, including both of the students competing to be next school year's A.S. president.

A.S. presidential candidate Megan Baker emphasized the need for A.S. to raise their profile among students and SJSU's administration.

"I want to represent students in a positive, well-mannered way, in hopes that students' voices will



Candidates going for Associated Students Board of Directors, from left to right: Tomasz Kolodziejak, running for director of intercultural affairs, Brandyn Jandrew, running for director of extracurricular affairs, Shelsy Bass, running for director of extracurricular affairs, Eric Armendariz, running for director of student resource affairs, Kyle McGuire, running for director of internal affairs and Julio Velasquez, running for director of business affairs. The candidates had a chance to state their positions in front of a student audience to answer questions and discuss campus issues for the A.S. Candidate Crossfire on Monday.

See **CROSSFIRE**, page 2

KINESIOLOGY

Center reopens SJSU operation



Faye Singer and Ruth Genna go for a swim at the grand reopening of the Timpany Center Public pool on Monday morning.

Department of kinesiology takes over local pool after city closed it two months ago

JESSICA AYALA
Staff Writer

More than 25 people waited outside the Timpany Center in San Jose on Monday morning for the reopening of a 92-degree pool and a 102-degree spa that had been closed for two months.

"To come this morning and

to have all these people who have not been able to come in and swim for two months and to say thank you, thank you, thank you, it's incredibly heart warming," said Shirley Reekie, chair of the department of kinesiology at SJSU.

The department of kinesiology at SJSU recently committed to operate the Timpany Center, located on 730 Empey Way, and will use the center as a learning institute for students interested in learning about aquatics, sports management, adapted physical activities and other areas that re-

late to health.

"Not only are we providing an opportunity for folks to access a facility that's going to help them physically, mentally, emotionally, but my students and the students from the kinesiology and the College of Applied Sciences and Arts will have an opportunity in here to gain skills," said Nancy Megginson, a professor of adapted physical activity.

Age is not a factor at the Timpany Center. Ages range from

See **POOL**, page 2

FOOD

Discussion focuses on community-based agriculture project

20 students talk about local growing, Veggielution project

HOLLY SZKOROPAD
Staff Writer

Waging war on the way that America acquires agriculture is no easy task, but more than 20 students and alumni gathered in the Student Union on Monday to discuss what many of them see as a broken system.

About two miles southeast of campus, an agricultural grass-roots farm named Veggielution is aiming to turn back time and allow farming to return to a community effort, instead of an industrial one.

"It's really unusual how we grow our food right now," said co-founder Mark Anthony Medeiros, who headed the discussion. "We have a whole class of people that do farm work, and then a whole other class of people in urbanized societies that

don't ever do any farm work." Medeiros, an SJSU alumnus, said that the agricultural business is now run by machines on large pieces of land, a contrast to the community-based farming that occurred in the late 1800s and early 1900s.

"There's a disconnect," he said. "Food and agriculture is the basis of all human communities and cultures up until very recently."

Medeira said Silicon Valley was commonly known as "The Valley of Heart's Delight" and was filled with orchards until the city began to industrialize.

"It wasn't only a big center, it was the center," said SJSU alumna Megan Fluke. "We were feeding the country."

Fluke, who was last year's director of the Environmental Resource Center at SJSU, said that it's a struggle to get students to change their attitudes about buying food.

"We all live busy lives," she

See **FOOD**, page 2

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Sports Blog:
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SPORTS BLOG

Derby Fever: Sports Editor Matthew Kimel predicts I Want Revenge to win the Kentucky Derby, for now.

The Oakland A's are like men in relationships — they fear long-term commitments, writes Opinion Editor Andrea Frainier.

NEWS

Video: Have a look at a video showing paper airplanes in flight at the Red Bull Paper Wings competition.

PHOTO BLOG

Watch a video of the A.S. election debate by staff writer Harvey Rañola.

See a new "Around Downtown" photo.



STEFAN ARMIJO / Spartan Daily

SPARTA GUIDE

07 Today

Buddhism Studies

4:30 p.m. in Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library, Room 734. Contact Albert at xifualbert@yahoo.com

Fall Out Boy

With 50 Cent, Cobra Starship and All Time Low. \$36. 7 p.m. at the Event Center.

Pride of the Pacific Islands

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

Spartan Smart Cart

Fresh fruit and veggies. 10:15 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Clark Hall, rain or shine. Contact Luisa Garrett at luisa@postalmodern.com

08 Tomorrow

Global Studies Club

Dr. B.S. Mann, a visiting scholar from India, will give a presentation on "Emerging Trends in Globalization." 6:15 p.m. in the Pacheco Room of the Student Union. Contact Ryan Wu at GSC.SJSU@gmail.com

Trashion Fashion Show

This event has been postponed until Wednesday, April 22.

Study Abroad Panel Discussion

Learn about studying abroad from alumni, faculty and employers. 3 to 4 p.m. in the University Room of the Student Union. Contact Veronica Malki at Veronica.Malki@sjsu.edu

Study Abroad Fair

10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Seventh Street Plaza.

09 Thursday

Assert Yourself

The workshop will help boost your self-confidence and self-esteem. 3 to 4 p.m. in Clark Hall, Room 118. Contact Veronica Mendoza at veronica.mendoza@sjsu.edu

10 Thursday

Time Management Feud

Learn how to manage your time and be more productive. 12:15 to 1:15 p.m. in Clark Hall, Room 118. Contact Veronica Mendoza at veronica.mendoza@sjsu.edu

17 Thursday

The Animation Show of Shows

A showcase of animated short films from film festivals around the world. 7:30 p.m. in Morris Dailey Auditorium. Contact David Chai at David.Chai@sjsu.edu

Sparta Guide is provided free of charge to students, faculty and staff members. The deadline for entries is noon, three working days before the desired publication date. Space restrictions may require editing of submission. Entries are printed in the order in which they are received. Submit entries online at thespartandaily.com or in writing at DBH 209.

POOL | Venue will close again in June for remodeling

Continued from page 1

mid 50s to late 80s. With two swimming lanes accessible to guests, few swam — most took the opportunity to walk up and down the lanes.

Other guest stayed on the side of the pool lifting water weights and stretching out and socializing.

The pool is wheelchair accessible and has low steps to help people who have difficulty walking.

The Timpany Center, which was once operated by Easter Seals Bay Area, hosted children and adults with disabilities for 10 years, but when they closed two months ago, it left several people without therapeutic treatment.

Laura Gasper said she has been going to the Timpany Center for more than 15 years. She said she suffers from polio and utilizes the pool to strengthen her walking ability.

When the Timpany Center closed its pool, Gasper said that she did not exercise, due to the fact that other pools aren't warm enough and don't have wheelchair access.

Leticia Medrano, who suf-

fered a head injury in 1991, said she has been going to the Timpany Center for a long time. She said that she enjoys the center because the warmness of the water and the people.

"There is a lot of socialization that goes along in this pool," Megginson said. "The folks that came in today, they came back and they already had a social network in place. They know each other so they come here not only for the physical benefits of it but for the socialization."

Nate Lorenc, a junior adaptive physical activity major, said offering a warm pool for people who have disabilities is necessary and there is a high demand.

"I was surprised how many people came at the first hour of being open," Lorenc said. "We were expecting quite a few people today, but we thought it would be a little more spread out than this. We've been busy and maybe a little bit understaffed, but we're getting through it."

The pool operates Monday through Friday, and membership is \$50 a month. The pool will remain open until the end of June. The pool will then reopen in September after some remodeling.



Angie Papp, a graduate of the SJSU kinesiology program and an employee at the Timpany Center public pool, talks to Marie Claire Rally and Pat Newman, who came to swim at the grand reopening of the pool on Monday morning. **STEFAN ARMILIO / Spartan Daily**

CAMPUS IMAGES



Members of the Pacific Islanders club practice one of their many dances in preparation for their big luau event on Tuesday, April 21.

MICHELLE TERRIS / Spartan Daily

FOOD | Local garden founded last spring; 1,800 pounds of veggies collected

Continued from page 1

said. "Particularly in the Silicon Valley, we're very task oriented ... so even taking a chance to slow down seems almost impossible."

Veggielution was founded during the Spring 2008 semester, and is sustained by community volunteers who tend the rows of zucchini, tomatoes and other vegetables on its one-third acre plot of land.

Medeiros said the farm grew about 1,800 pounds of vegetables for its first yield last year, donating half to soup kitchens such as Martha's Kitchen on Willow Street. The other half gets taken home by weekly volunteers.

Medeiros used Veggielution

as a launching point to help the group discuss what he sees as major political implications of today's industry.

He said political statutes, such as subsidized herbicides for massive industrial farms, are turning the agricultural industry into a blindly accepted process.

"I'm not saying everybody has to go out and be a farmer," he said. "We need to just dismantle this belief system that the status quo is normal."

The discussion focused on a web of issues engulfing the agricultural industry, ranging from oil and transportation, to the questionable standards upheld in other agriculturally rich countries.

Students and alumni involved in the environmental studies program filled most of the seats at yesterday's meeting, introduc-

ing themselves in the beginning of the discussion.

Veggielution's other co-founder, SJSU alumna Amie Frisch, said that she thinks food is a really important issue that branches into other important political problems.

"I think that in the bigger picture, what we really need is larger scale policy change," Frisch said. "People need to organize and change the way that our food is given to us."

The discussion urged students to take their food choices into consideration by doing things such as visiting local farmer's markets and demanding local food on grocery store shelves.

"If people organize, it can be a huge change," Frisch said. "Rather than a smaller, individual change."

CROSSFIRE | Debate focused on budget surplus for Associated Students

Continued from page 1

be heard," Baker said. "By the end of my term I hope that Associated Students is more visible and more unified with the school."

Baker's opponent, Tobi Richards, said students should get their money's worth with each semester's Associated Students fee.

"We really need to remember the fact that Associated Students belongs to each and every dues-paying student," Richards said. "We need to be looking at what we're offering to students in return for the \$73.50 that they pay at the beginning of the semester."

Richards also added that other members of the board need to be able to hit the ground running once they're elected to their positions.

"There needs to be better training this year for board of directors members so that they could jump into their job out of the summer and not have that two or three month lag period where they're not really sure what they're doing."

With budget cuts and money distribution being the hot-button issues in the discussion, candidates for A.S. controller gave their take on how student funds should be used.

"You can't just willy-nilly mon-

ey out of nowhere. You kind of have to go through the process and approve of it for the next year," said Jacob Curtis, an A.S. controller candidate. "My goal for this upcoming year would be to analyze and really get the students' input on things where funding is lacking and where we can improve on that."

Christopher Palumbo, a candidate for controller, said he plans on utilizing interest from the money in reserve to benefit student organizations.

"There's an excess of \$8 million over what our reserves need to be," Palumbo said. "We can create an endowment from that money, never touching the principal, and then we can disperse the interest to student organizations."

While the debate never reached a point of contentiousness, students in attendance said they still saw the benefit of having an open forum for students to ask questions to candidates.

"I decided to attend the crossfire to know where the candidates stand politically, in regards to what's going on with the budget cuts and especially what's going on around campus," said sociology major Diana Victa. "I think we really do need a strong A.S. board to fight the budget cuts and to fight what's going on with the economy ...

so I think it's very important for students to come out."

"I think it's really important for people to become educated voters," said kinesiology major Erika Ebert. "Voting affects everyone. It doesn't only affect you. It affects everyone around you, so you want to be educated about the people that are running. You want to know what they stand for and what they will fight for you."

Ebert said that the Crossfire debate, along with the other events leading up to the elections, is essential to students in making the right decision when it comes time to vote.

"It really helps to get people's positions out there and educate everybody else," Ebert said. "I think it's kind of sad that not many more people come, but I hope to see more in the future."

Kinesiology major Linzey Hypes agreed.

"I think that they should at least attend one event or become familiar in some way, shape, or form, whether it's through the voter information guide or attending an event," she said. "I think it's unrealistic to expect students to come out to everything just because it is a commuter school, but I think that if they care about their information or where their money goes it is essential that they attend at least one."

Student Union, Inc. 408.924.6333 www.union.sjsu.edu

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Tuesday, April 7
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General Admission



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BASEBALL

Spartan southpaw beats, 'Berns' opposing batters

Senior leads SJSU's pitching staff with 50 strikeouts in 2009

RALPH WARNER
Staff Writer

SJSU opened the 2009 baseball season with a record of 20-8, in part due to senior starting pitcher David Berner.

This season, Berner has pitched in seven games and has a record of 5-1 with three complete games and one shutout.

"Dave has been an outstanding performer for us," said head coach Sam Piraro. "He is an outstanding competitor and he likes competition. Because of that, it permeates throughout our ball club when he pitches. Guys follow and try to match that intensity."

Last season, his first as a Spartan, Berner was 3-8 in 13 starts after transferring from West Valley College.

Berner, a justice studies major, credits the vast difference in competition at the community college level and Division-I level as something he had to adjust to.

"There's a lot more hitters you have to worry about," Berner said. "At the JC level, there's about four hitters (in the line up) you have to worry about and when you come up to the D-1 level, one through nine are just as good as the four hitters I had to worry about at the JC level."

Catcher Anthony Aguilera, who has been catching for Berner since last season, said that exposure to competition is what has helped Berner improve his pitching this season. Aguilera also



David Berner, a starting pitcher for the Spartans, has thrown 56 innings this season and opposing batters have a combined .184 batting average against him. RYAN BUCHAN / Spartan Daily

said that Berner throws the same types of pitches as last season, but gained experience and changed the way he approaches pitching with runners in scoring position.

"He's just made a tremendous effort to improve in those situations from one year ago to now," Aguilera said.

Piraro said he has also noticed the confidence Berner has gained after one year of Division-I play and said Berner's mental toughness on the mound has been the key to his success.

"I believe his ability to control his emotions, control his adrenaline and not get rattled or upset when things don't go his way have played a huge part," he said. "That's the maturity and the ability to understand the mental game. Those have both been big additions to his game."

Berner said he gives the credit of his advancement as a player to the motivation he gains through the work ethic of his teammates.

"They've made all the difference. They made me step up to

the D-1 level," he said. "These players are working hard, if not harder than everyone else. That is what is making me focus on every pitch and in every practice."

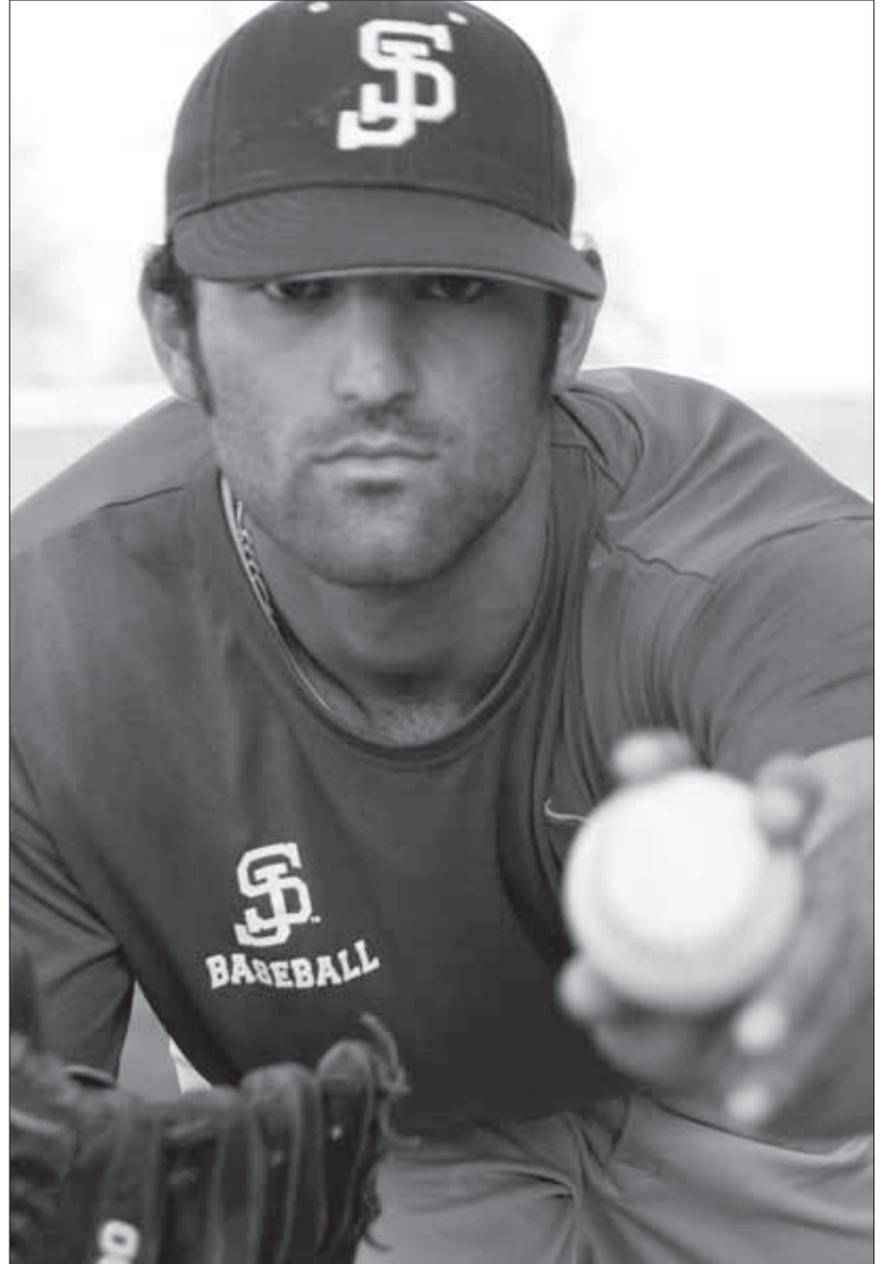
Berner isn't the only one feeding off of his teammate's intensity, said junior infielder Kyle Bellows — Berner's intensity on the mound is something everyone feeds off of, too.

"That's why he's our Friday guy," Bellows said. "Every time he goes out there, he gives us a chance to win. Everybody feels like we can win any game when he's on the mound."

Berner, who leads the Spartans' staff with 50 strikeouts on the season, said he tries to stick to a simple but direct goal every time he takes the mound.

"I just have to focus on every hitter, focus on every pitch, and give my team a chance to win," Berner said.

The Spartans begin their next series against Louisiana Tech on Thursday at 2 p.m. at Blethen Field.



SJSU left-handed pitcher David Berner shows the seams of the ball. STEFAN ARMIJO / Spartan Daily

COMMENTARY



Stop trying to be the 'Ever So Popular Network' and start reporting on sports



JOEY AKELEY
Beyond the Game

Ever since I was a child, one of my dreams has been to become an ESPN anchor. Recently, I have realized that "The Worldwide Leader in Sports" is not a "Dream Job" because it seems to be selling out for higher ratings.

If you are a sports fan living in America, you probably watch ESPN on a daily basis. You have probably witnessed Skip Bayless rip LeBron James' jump shot on "ESPN First Take," Jim Rome criticize everything on "Jim Rome is Burning," Woody Paige goof around on "Around the Horn" and Tony Kornheiser talk about "American Idol" on "Pardon the Interruption."

Each show has its moments of solid sports commentary, but each one seems to be reaching for ratings more than reporting sports news. I'll admit, when Bayless says LeBron is not a top 10 player, I am entertained mainly because I think Bayless is crazy. Now, I am starting to realize Bayless is over exaggerat-

ing his argument to get people to watch the show.

My next gripe comes from ESPN anchors mispronouncing names. I don't think any "SportsCenter" anchor has come close to pronouncing Warrior guard Kelenna Azubuike's (Kuh-LEN-nah-OZ-uh-boo-kee) name right, and although I don't forgive them, it is somewhat understandable.

But I have heard Albert Pujols (POO-holes) pronounced POO-Joles several times, which leads me to wonder if some of the anchors are clueless to sports culture. In my opinion, mispronouncing the name of one baseball's most prominent sluggers on national television is ridiculous.

And if a person watched "NFL Live" for the first time, they may think that the Dallas Cowboys are the only team in the NFL. There are actually 31 other teams, and I'm pretty sure most American sport fans want to hear more analysis of the other teams and less about Jessica Simpson and Cowboys quarterback Tony Romo heading to Cabo San Lucas during a bye week.

This is not to say that all of ESPN's content and anchors are poor. I think the radio show "Mike and Mike in the Morning" is rich in analysis from hosts Mike Greenberg and Mike Golic.

But when ESPN makes mistakes or gives us poor analysis,

who is there to call them out?

There have been few programs that have challenged ESPN, but none have come seriously close to becoming a rival. Comcast SportsNet is probably the closest thing right now, with its multiple local stations giving local sports news. Yesterday, it launched "SportsNet Central" and "Chronicle Live," two Bay Area sport shows that could potentially steal some local viewers from "SportsCenter."

I am rooting for "SportsNet Central" to grow to a national audience and push ESPN for better performance and accuracy. I already believe that the best sports show on television is "Final Score," a Fox SportsNet product that shows quick highlights and analysis of the most viewed professional sports.

But to really challenge ESPN, there must be a sports show with in-depth coverage and extensive analysis, which "SportsNet Central" plans to do.

ESPN will continue to be the worldwide leader in ratings, but hopefully Comcast will dethrone ESPN as the true worldwide leader in sports.

Joey Akeley is the Spartan Daily multimedia editor. "Beyond the Game" appears every other Tuesday.

NFL

SJSU alumnus signs with Raiders

Associated Press

OAKLAND — After a four-year, five-season odyssey since leaving the 49ers, Jeff Garcia finally found his way back home to the Bay Area — albeit on the other side from where he started.

The four-time Pro Bowl quarterback joined the Oakland Raiders on Monday, with the

39-year-old passer agreeing to a one-year deal to be JaMarcus Russell's backup.

Garcia spent the past two seasons with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, starting 24 games while leading them to a division title and a playoff berth in 2007, when he also earned his fourth Pro Bowl berth.

Garcia, who will be paid more than the league minimum by Oakland, is a native of Gilroy

just south of San Jose. Although several teams had interest in Garcia as a backup, he chose the Raiders for the chance to continue his career close to home with a familiar coaching staff, including passing game coordinator Ted Tollner, a former 49ers assistant.

Garcia played at San Jose State and enjoyed the best seasons of his NFL career with San Francisco.

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CD REVIEW: 'ROCKET SCIENCE FOR DUMMIES'

Smug 'Astronauts' crash and burn



B. Rhyhan (left) and India from Astronauts of Antiquity. Courtesy of AOA official Web Site

JULIANNE SHAPIRO
Staff Writer

Astronauts of Antiquity is one of the most pretentious band names I have stumbled across since a band named The The. I really wanted this band to have something intellectually stimulating to sing about, but alas, my standards were set too high.

If you can struggle past the band name without having to bust open the dictionary, Astronauts of Antiquity have created a piece of art for those they deem the lesser folks of society. The album, titled "Rocket Science for Dummies," is no chemistry lesson. Instead, it's a big bloated ball of blah for people who enjoy Yanni and Enya.

No thanks. I have heard better elevator music in my office building ... where there's silence.

It's hard to feel enlightened by lyrics such as, "The subway it slows me down / Stuck in a sardine can / No room to move around" in the song "Sup Soul." I'm still puzzled as to what "sup" even is, other than the term used as a greeting that stemmed from the film "Clueless."

I guess this band is just over my head. Or, how about the chorus to the song "Rocket Science," which goes: "Is there anybody home in there / It ain't rocket science baby / So don't act like you don't know what I'm talking about" — I think I had a flashback to my childhood when I was being lectured by my dad.

The bad lyrics are just caked over bad music, which inspired me to cringe at many points while listening to the 13 tracks. The funky, jazzy beats are repetitive and increasingly annoying throughout the entire album. The music lacks diversity under singer India's vocals, which sounds like a weaker version of Amy Winehouse.

The only other officially acknowledged band member, B. Rhyhan, plays sitar and guitars. Due to India's overwhelming desire to hog the listener's attention, Rhyhan's presence is needed more on the album.

Taylor Ryan is listed inside the album as the culprit playing keyboards and making beats on the album's tracks. However, he is not acknowledged as being part of the band — he is just list-

ed as an Astronauts of Antiquity "player" along with three other musicians on the band's Web site, whereas India and Rhyhan are listed as the band. It's smart, not officially acknowledging the huge problem with your band as even really being part of your band to begin with — again, completely over my head.

I must have taken a wrong turn at the retro glasses of the chick on the front cover thinking this would be interesting and insightful in a beatnik-kind-of way.

Maybe India should just stick to retro clothing shopping and give Rhyhan a chance to sharpen his sitar skills, because I'd still much rather listen to "Norwegian Wood (This Bird Has Flown)" by The Beatles or anything by George Harrison circa 1970s.

Maybe I'm just not sophisticated enough to listen to Astronauts of Antiquity with my wine, but stay away, even if you're considering space travel. Otherwise, I only recommend this album to fans of the cheesy jazz music outside of Gordon Biersch during the summer. You know who you are. Talk to me after for a free copy of the album.

LOCAL MUSIC REVIEW: 'EL BUZZARD'

Stoner-rock band is a real creeper

DAVID ZUGNONI
Senior Staff Writer

I have a bad habit of making basketball analogies.

An ex-girlfriend of mine couldn't stand it. Even during serious talks about our relationship, relationships in general, I would somehow turn it into a basketball analogy.

Indulge me and check out this analogy in regards to the free-for-download, 16-minute EP called "Songs for Total Dicks," released in 2008 by the San Jose-based band El Buzzard.

(For readers who don't want to get into this whole basketball thing, the short review goes as follows: It's pretty good stoner rock/metal. And it's free. It's like Kyuss with screaming instead of yelling.)

Now that those other readers are gone, it's just you and me.

Imagine yourself in a park getting ready to play a pickup game. Most guys around you are wearing appropriate shoes and shorts, appearing natural as they take a few warm-up shots, generally ready to play some ball.

And then there's one guy looking out of place, inserted into the game just to even up the teams, wearing loosely tied, ankle-high sneakers, jeans with paint all over them and a one-size-fits-all hat. He takes a warm-up shot that makes him look like he hasn't touched a basketball in years.

You end up having to guard him. You don't know where to start because he doesn't know where to stand.

The first time he touches the ball, he makes a mad dash to the basket and clanks one off the bottom of the rim. No touch, no footwork. You're laughing on the inside, but you also wish you could be guarding someone more apt.

But he stays aggressive and he's fast. He makes another mad dash, and you let him go because you can't imagine he would ever make a layup, but he gets a friendly roll and scores.

That won't happen again, you think. You plan on playing a bit stiffer defense the next time. But next time comes, and he gets by again and scores again.

Now you're ready to play tough defense like you know you can. He makes another dash and you tip the ball away. Ah ha! But he recovers the ball and takes a shot that rims in.

It becomes one play like this after another, and the game's over before you know it. You lost.

That's what this EP is like, a basketball player who is devoid of skill but somehow wins every time.

It doesn't draw any attention to the qualities that make it good. When you first hear it, you think it's just a cheap recording with sloppy playing.

The vocalist is screaming his head off, but you still have trouble hearing him. Nothing is crisp. It's all muddy.

You might envision a group of teens trying to play hard-core metal and getting upset that it doesn't sound how they think it should.

But for some reason, you're bobbing your head. While there's nothing that stands out, there's also nothing that distracts you. There are a couple of catchy, wailing guitar solos, but otherwise it's very sparse. No crazy drum fills, no explosive double bass drums.

It rolls along, one quick spurt of fuzzy riffs after another. The songs are short, so it never gets boring. The average time of the first five songs is two minutes, and the last song is essentially the same length with four minutes of a distant old-school Broadway piano tune tacked onto the end.

It has a few of those stop-and-gos made famous by stoner rock pioneers Sleep. It's not the "stop on a dime" technique that early hard-core bands such as Minor Threat used, more of a "stop on a dollar bill and slip into a puddle."

It has the driving rhythms of Kyuss, the ones that remind you of a dirty old muscle car barreling down a desert freeway.

It's loud, aggressive, unorganized, full of background noise, and most people would think it's plain obnoxious.

But I enjoyed it. The whole stoner rock with hard-core-style screaming idea is actually somewhat fresh, and the band has enough sense to keep the songs real short and sweet.

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Going to the movies? BYOF (Bring your own food)!



STEPHANIE VALLEJO
Staff Writer

Good people don't get into trouble. Bad people who do bad things get in trouble and are escorted by policemen.

I consider myself a good person, but sometimes good girls make mistakes. A few months ago, I was escorted out of a movie theater because I tried to smuggle something inside the building.

I got past the front doors, but when I tried to reach my final destination, a skinny teenager ordered me to leave and said six words I'll never forget: "You can't bring McDonald's in here."

In my left hand was a bag of two double cheeseburgers and small fries. In my right hand was a \$10.50 piece of paper that had the name of the movie I wanted to see.

Movie theater food is part of the experience when on a date, but it shouldn't cost more than the total amount of watching the movie itself.

My partner in crime, who came to enjoy a movie with me, grabbed the bag and stormed in anyway. The young ticket checker's voice cracked when he yelled for security to escort us out. He was appalled we tried to bring food inside the movie theater.

No outside food is allowed at Century Theatres at the Great Mall in Milpitas. This is a common company policy among cinema houses to entice moviegoers to buy ridiculously-priced food.

This policy is shared among many movie theaters around San Jose State such as Camera 12, AMC Eastridge and Century 20 Oakridge. But this was the only theater that enforced the policy so strongly.

When I offered to buy a drink or small popcorn, since I knew the movie theater corporate goal is to sell their own food, they told me to throw away my food or eat it outside.

What if I was on a strict diet, and I had a bag of carrots and celery sticks? Would I be kicked to the curb, too?

It's not fair to discriminate the people who spend their money to watch a movie and assume they will cower to the small selection of popcorn, Jelly Bellys and hot

dogs. Thank goodness they have Diet Coke for those of us who prefer something healthy.

When I called each movie theater around San Jose, each representative said, "Absolutely no outside food allowed inside the theater."

The only theater whose representative said any kind of food is allowed in was AMC Mercado in Santa Clara. For this reason, I went there last weekend and enjoyed a burger, fries and strawberry shake, all of which I did not find on their menu.

I suppose safety concerns may be an issue, like people bringing infected raw meat to watch a new movie, but I think it's just a cover up so that moviegoers can eat their "my way or the highway" kinds of food.

Movie theater food is part of the experience when on a date, but it shouldn't cost more than the total amount of watching the movie itself. In total, I spent

more than \$20 for a two-hour flick and \$3 to feed both of us. Luckily, I didn't want the expensive large fries from McDonald's (or my wallet would be crying of loneliness.)

In New York, a movie ticket for an adult is \$11. After adding two medium drinks, a large popcorn, Red Vines and Dibs, a couple can spend more than \$45. Where's the sympathy for people who are watching new movie releases to get away from all the economic hullabaloo?

Snacking in peace is only possible if you commit to the movie theater's terms. So remember, good people don't sneak food in their purses or in their pockets into movie theaters, because that would be wrong.

Stephanie Vallejo is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

I fought the law, and the law lost



ANGELO LANHAM
Yes, I Have a Point

Hi. I am a criminal.

If I don't do a specific set of things in the next few days (before April 10), I will be charged at least \$300. Or, I'll be thrown in the slammer for a little while. Or both, if the judge decides he really doesn't like me.

It all started on a dark and stormy night. The lovely executive editor of the Daily was kind enough to give me a 2:30 a.m. ride to the proximity of a VTA station where my car was parked.

I trudged the remaining block (uphill and in the rain — someone start a sad violin for me) and began the approach to my vehicle. Imagine my surprise to find, soaked by the rain and bunched up under a windshield wiper, housed in a plastic bag that seemed to have been designed to hold water and surround its contents with it, a ticket.

A ticket! What could I have done wrong parked in a spot at the light rail station? I'm not the best driver, true, but in general, when I'm not in my car, I don't do anything illegal with it.

I had really outdone myself, I said to me, as I unwrapped the ticket and slid into my old, battered vehicle. I read my newfound literature with the aid of my dome light.

It was a ticket for expired registration. Can they even give those in VTA parking lots?

I guess so.

In any event, the ticket confused me. I had paid my registration, like a good duckling.

I looked closer. "Expired registration tag." Tag. I get it. The officer clearly ran my plates, or else he wouldn't have known my address to write on the front of the ticket. And if he ran my plates, he knew that my registration was current. But there is still a code for expired registration tags, even though the space age in which we live has equipped us with far less antiquated methods of plate checking.

I admit, I was dumb enough not to have updated my tags in the first place. I had any number of good excuses. When the tags came in the mail, it was raining, so I was going to wait.

Then, I wanted to scratch the old ones off with a razor blade so tag fetish types couldn't steal mine for their collection. But the old tag wouldn't come off and boom, almost a year later, still no tags.

I guess it's not too shocking. After all, there have been a few articles in the Mercury about increased arrests involving drunk in public and other minor offenses.

The real question becomes, are the people of San Jose really bothered that I, a more or less law-abiding citizen, still have a blue rectangle on my license plate instead of an orange one?

If they're bothered by that, why aren't they bothered when I stumble out of the bar, shouting "Minnie Mouse, marry me, goddammit" at the top of my lungs, even though drunk in public arrests are pretty high these days?

But then, I'm not Hispanic, which brings up another question: Are these laws being used to single Hispanics out?

According to an April 4 article in the San Jose Mercury News, the population of San Jose is less than one-third Latino, yet they make up 70 percent of disturbing the peace charges.

It seems a bit fishy, and hasn't been sufficiently explained by

the department, who have more or less cried "coincidence."

For the most part, San Jose is a city safe enough to give the impression that a body can safely go power walking at 3 a.m. dressed like a Power Ranger without negative effects.

So at least I wasn't arrested staggering out of a bar after one of my drunken chess playing excursions.

According to the article, though, it's not just drunk in public anymore. In fact, arrests for minor offenses open to interpretation by arresting officer seem to be up, according to the article.

"There is strong evidence that the San Jose Police Department uses misdemeanor arrests as social control," Santa Clara County Public Defender Mary Greenwood was quoted as saying in the article.

In any event, I'd gladly take the tag ticket in place of, say, a disturbing the peace arrest after drunkenly and loudly proclaiming my love for Minnie Mouse on my way out of Cinnabar.

I'm not bashing cops. Some of my best friends are cops. The last time I was pulled over, it was by a very polite officer who kindly reminded me that my blinker wasn't blinking. I asked if the tag was a concern, even

showed it to him. He was not bothered.

But mister sneaky, rainy-day ticket-giver, he was bothered by it.

The point I was trying to get at with the whole wet windshield tag ticket stands. It's going to be a happy ending, to be sure. I put the cursed sticker on, finally, and got the ticket signed off after I proved it. As soon as I mosey on down to the courthouse on First Street, I can drop the ticket and a \$10 processing fee at the court and forget the whole deal.

It still nags me, though, that I could be spending that time and \$10 with a footlong and a soda.

I will make sure always to smack my latest sticker on my plate, and the rates of drunk in public arrests have gone down recently, possibly due to the publicity they've garnered.

I just hope that the police force, who are indeed putting their lives on the line every day, remember to be reasonable in their tickets, arrests, and who they arrest for that matter.

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

The abomination of the Obama nation



HARVEY RAÑOLA
Staff Writer

"He's a Democrat ... and he's a really good speaker."

No, those weren't the exact words that were spoken by an acquaintance of mine when I regrettably turned a recent conversation from the usual music and movie banter to politics, but it was more or less along those lines.

Regardless of the accuracy of the statement, you can probably guess who the conversation was about. But rather than focus on who it's about, I'd much rather talk about the group of people this statement represents.

Before pundits and writers got on their high horses and berated the youth about their indifference toward political issues, someone probably should have told them to be careful what they wish for.

In the lead-up to the most recent presidential election, there was a whole lot of talk about how the youth vote was going to come out in force and finally rid themselves of the stigma that they are apathetic toward issues that aren't under the pop-culture radar.

Well, they sure came out in force, but did they do it for the right reasons? More and more, the cynic in me is beginning to believe that they did not ... and why, you ask?

In terms of getting the youth of this country to get out and vote, the representatives of the presidential candidates finally got it right.

This past election season, we saw the faces of both the candidates and their respective sidekicks everywhere from Facebook to MTV.

There were T-shirts and posters advocating the face of "change." Yet, something just didn't feel right about the commercialization of the elections.

Anyone out there remember that "so hip you can't even find their product in stores" clothing brand Obey, which featured a vector image of wrestler Andre the Giant?

Shepard Fairey, the man behind a brand that prides itself on "manufacturing quality dissent" and delivering "worldwide propaganda," were behind the ever popular posters that featured a vector image of a Barack Obama coupled with words like "progress" or "hope," bold and in all-caps.

Who would've thought that dissent and propaganda would make great marketing tools for a presidential candidate?

Oh, if only they'd thought of it sooner.

In continuing my conversation with my acquaintance, I was also able to get her to admit that she also had little to no knowledge of this candidate's platform or his policies, and at that point I was really getting worried.

If even a handful of the coveted under-30 demographic voted for a candidate based solely on their political affiliation and charisma, then I would think we all have reason to worry.

Instead of looking at a presidential campaign as pushing a commodity and ambiguously-positive catchwords, maybe the focus should've been on properly informing the public about policies.

Instead of "change," how about "lower health care costs by \$2,500" as stated on Obama's Web site.

Instead of "hope," how about "the typical middle class family will receive well over

\$1,000 in tax relief?"

Or, how about instead of buying into novel buzz-words from multimillion dollar hype machines, let's start cutting through the bull and forming our opinions based on what a candidate says he or she will do once elected?

Harvey Rañola is a Spartan Daily staff writer.



Illustration by Jon Xavier

MOVIE REVIEW: 'ADVENTURELAND'

'Twilight' star rides the adventurous life of the '80s

DANIELLE TORRALBA
Senior Staff Writer

It is almost a proven fact that when you are between the ages of 16 and 22, you are destined for a summer or two of working at fast food joints or in some retail hell.

But in the case of James Brennan, who can simply be described as a screwed 20-something-year-old who has a string of bad luck, his summer fate lies at Adventureland theme park.

The best way I can describe "Adventureland" would be "Juno" meets "Garden State." It has similar humor to "Juno" with a twist of "Garden State's" overall humanistic heartfelt appeal.

Director Greg Motola made this movie look like it was destined to follow in the footsteps of his well-known hit "Super Bad," but it actually surprised me.

In this 1987-based story, the main characters have a "Fast Times at Ridgemont High" appeal. It has a typical '80s movie cast, from the main geek that has potential and his geeky entourage, to the edgy, independent young woman and the token beautiful girl. Throw in a stoner to complete the cast.

Brennan, played by Jesse Eisenberg is forced to give up his European vacation with his friend because his dad loses his job and has no other choice but to spend his summer working as a "carny," as he sarcastically de-

scribes himself at one point in the movie.

Eisenberg makes his somewhat annoying character likeable by midway through movie. His character's innocence is charming, which also makes it hard for Kristen Stewart's character, Em from becoming attracted to him.

Em is quieter and deeper than a majority of the other characters. Her maturity is easily recognized along with a troubled past that gives her a sense of vulnerability at some points in the movie.

Other random characters that help to make this movie quirkier are Joel, who works games and has the social skills of an eighth grader or the infamous balls puncher Tommy Frigo, who Brennan has a love / hate friendship with. I also should not forget to mention Lisa P., who looks like she should be in a White Snake video and, of

The best way I can describe "Adventureland" would be "Juno" meets "Garden State."

course, has all the guys lusting over her.

From the trailers, not too many viewers would realize that Ryan Reynolds is a part of this oddball cast. He brings the older, good-looking maintenance man façade to the film. I'll let you make up your mind about how you feel about him in the movie.

"Adventureland" has enough depth to give it a sweet storyline many can appreciate but enough pot smoking and sarcastic puns to help sustain a happy medium



Top: Jesse Eisenberg as Brennan and Kristen Stewart as Em work the game booths of "Adventureland."

Courtesy of Available Images

Right: Bill Hader as Bobby and Kristen Wiig as Paulette, drumming up excitement in the park.

Courtesy of All Movie Photo



between the two.

This movie's story has depth, humor and does a pretty good job of paying tribute to the late '80s with the music, acid washed jeans, bright colors, and lycra-influenced wardrobe choices.

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