

## Campus Clubs P.3

Campus clubs provide networking resources and cultural common ground for students.

## Summer movie guide P.4

Escape the heat this summer with Hollywood's upcoming blockbuster movies.

## 'Twilight' of the vampires P.5

Sickly sweet human-vampire romance sucks the blood out of vampire genre.

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| THU | FRI | SAT | SUN |
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## THE WIRE

### CAMPUS

#### Library evacuated due to smoke alarm

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library was evacuated yesterday at 9:54 a.m. after a smoke alarm went off on the fifth floor, according to the San Jose Mercury News. Five university police officers responded to the alarm as well as four units from the San Jose Fire Department. The cause has not yet been determined.

— Staff Report

### STATE

#### Pageant eyes Prejean for contract violations

SAN FRANCISCO — The directors of the Miss California USA pageant are looking into whether title holder Carrie Prejean violated her contract by working with a national group opposed to gay marriage and by posing seminude when she was a teenage model. Pageant spokesman Roger Neal said Tuesday it appears Prejean has run afoul of several sections of the 12-page contract that all prospective contestants were required to sign before competing in the November state contest. The detailed document prohibits the titular Miss California from making personal appearances, giving interviews or making commercials without permission from pageant officials. In the last 10 days, Prejean has made televised appearances at her San Diego church and on behalf of the National Organization for Marriage, a group opposed to same-sex marriage.

— Associated Press

### NATIONAL

#### Obama administration seeks \$63B for health

WASHINGTON — The Obama White House said Tuesday that it wants \$63 billion to be set aside in the fiscal 2010 budget to fight global diseases over the next six years. The initiative, announced by Deputy Secretary of State Jack Lew, continues an effort begun under former President George W. Bush to fight HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria. Obama's budget request, he said, also will specify more money for prenatal and postnatal care, children's health and fighting tropical diseases.

— Associated Press

## FACULTY

# Executive assistant named provost

Provost serves as the university's chief academic officer

MINH PHAM  
Staff Writer

SJSU President Jon Whitmore declared in late April that Gerry Selter will be the new interim provost. The search for a permanent provost is expected to be completed by late fall, according to a news release.

"The search for a new provost is one of the single most impor-

tant events in the life of a university," said Judith Lessow-Hurley, an elementary education professor and chair of the provost search committee. "The provost holds a key leadership role."

Selter will be replacing Carmen Sigler, who has served as SJSU provost for more than two decades and will be retiring this summer.

"The outgoing provost was extraordinary and had model leadership," she said. "The quality that made her so deeply loved was how she cared about the faculty, staff and students."

The provost serves as the

university's chief academic officer and reports directly to the president on affairs ranging from the implementation of academic goals to faculty promotions.

"First and foremost, I want to get through what could be a difficult fall," said Selter, a former executive assistant to the president.

"I want to help the academic community prepare for a new provost by communicating with a lot of people on campus."

The search committee is looking for leadership qualities, a broad understanding of university policies and academic plan-

ning in a new provost, Lessow-Hurley said.

The provost, acting as one of the four vice presidents for the university, has the main responsibility for most academic affairs, according to the SJSU Web site.

Deans from the seven colleges report to the provost, as the provost signs off on all hires, promotions and tenors, according to the Web site.

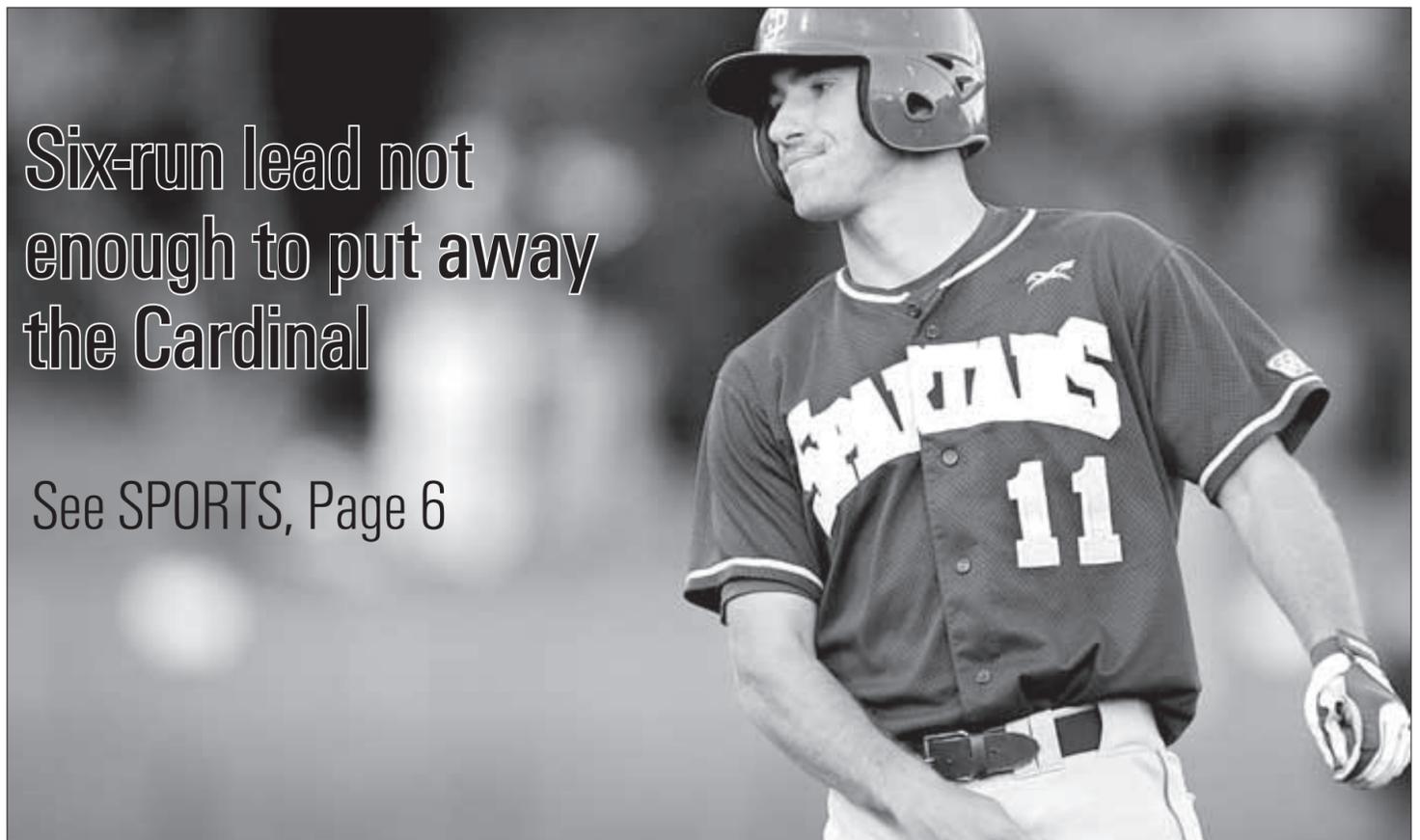
The vice provost for academic planning, budgets and the vice provost for academic administra-

See **PROVOST**, page 2



Courtesy of SJSU Media Relations  
Provost: Gerry Selter

## SPORTS



Spartan DH Karson Klauer gives a negative reaction as he grounds out during SJSU's 9-8 loss to Stanford on Tuesday evening. SJSU scored seven runs in the first three innings to open up a six-run lead early on, but pitching woes aided the Cardinal back into the game.

CHAD ZIEMENDORF / Spartan Daily

# Six-run lead not enough to put away the Cardinal

See **SPORTS**, Page 6

## HEALTH

# Swine flu, pork connection disproven by authorities



A map showing confirmed Infographic by JOE PROUDMAN / Spartan Daily cases of N1H1 influenza, also known as swine flu, throughout countries worldwide.

HOLLY SZKOROPAD  
Staff Writer

As swine flu, or the H1N1 flu strain, remains a threat in California, the SJSU community is left to reflect on a disease that, so far, has left the university unaffected, according to an SJSU Public Affairs news release.

Although no one on campus has reportedly fallen ill, one student, Areza Lorkalantari, said the swine flu has caused people to spread racist comments about the Mexican community.

"One of my best friends used

to eat Mexican food a lot," she said. "But now, she's stopped eating pork. She just thinks that maybe it's dangerous and for now, it's not safe to eat pork or to go to Mexican restaurant or even to talk to Mexican people."

The U.S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention has confirmed that eating pork is safe.

Lorkalantari said she thinks it's unfair that people blame Mexico for the outbreak.

"It just happened (in Mexico)," she said. "And it could happen in USA. We don't have to blame other people for this disease, because it just hap-

pened. When people are scared, they do everything. They don't think."

San Jose isn't the only city where people have reported racism as a result of swine flu.

In a survey of 1,067 Harvard School of Public Health students, 17 percent said that they are avoiding Mexican restaurants and grocery stores, and 13 percent said they believe they could get the flu from eating pork, according to a WebMD article.

See **FLU**, page 2

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## SPORTS BLOG

Sports Editor Ryan Buchan vents about the heartbreak that is Spartan sports.

## VIDEO

Check out a video with Gerry Selter, SJSU's new interim provost.

## PHOTO BLOG

Watch a glass blowing slideshow from the SJSU glass guild's show, 'Evoking Alchemy,' by photographer Michelle Gachet.

Check out the photos of the week by Spartan Daily photographers.



MICHELLE GACHET / Spartan Daily

# SPARTA GUIDE

## 06 Today

### Latin Jazz Ensemble Performance

Come enjoy hip swinging beats. 7:30 p.m. in the Music Building Concert Hall  
For more information, call (408) 924-6350

### Transformation of Consciousness

Buddhist Lecture 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. in the Costanoan Room of the Student Union. Contact Justin Joyce at jstnjc@gmail.com

## 07 Tomorrow

### Harry Potter Parody Reading

Join author Valerie Estelle Frankel for a reading of "Henry Potty and the Deathly Paper Shortage: An Unauthorized Harry Potter Parody." Noon to 1:30 p.m. in King Library, Room 255.  
For more information, contact Valerie Frankel at valerie.frankel@sjsu.edu

### Overcoming Stress

Discover some helpful coping techniques and find a little bit of peace. 3 to 4 p.m. in Clark Hall, Room 118. For more information, contact Veronica Mendoza at veronica.mendoza@sjsu.edu

### Songs of Robert Schumann

Vocal Recital 12:30 to 1:15 p.m. at the Music Building Concert Hall.  
For more information, contact Joan Stubbe at 924-4673 or jstubble@email.sjsu.edu

## 09 Saturday

### Opera Performance

Watch an opera right here on campus. 7:30 p.m. in the University Theatre  
For more information, call (408) 924-6350

## 12 Tuesday

### Small Jazz Band

For more information, contact Joan Stubbe at 924-4673 or jstubble@email.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 [thespartadaily.com](http://thespartadaily.com) or in writing at DBH 209.

# War cartoon exhibit paints a silent history



Alex Nazarov, a sophomore mechanical engineering major, looks at political cartoons based on the Philippine-American War at the Cultural Heritage Center in Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library on Monday.

BIANCA DECASTRO  
Staff Writer

Fliers depicting a controversial image of Uncle Sam holding a crying Filipino baby were the precursors to the exhibition and discussion of "The Forbidden Book: The Philippine-American War in Political Cartoons" at Student Union on Thursday.

Co-authors Abe Ignacio and Jorge Emmanuel presented a slideshow and a discussion about the book and the exhibition of images, titled "KATOON-ayan: The Truth about the U.S.-Philippine War Through Cartoons," that are currently on display at the Cultural Heritage Center in Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library.

The image printed on the fliers corresponded to content from the book, which explores media portrayal of the Philippine-American

War from 1899 to 1902.

Estella Habal, one of the event organizers and a social sciences assistant professor, addressed the concern about the image on the fliers.

"We are not promoting racism," he said.

One image in the slideshow presentation depicted Filipino men and boys lined up as soldiers pointed weapons at them, which Ignacio said represented a time when the U.S. ordered all Filipino males ages 10-and-above to be shot.

Angelica Cortez, a junior political science major and a community and political affairs chair for Akbayan Pilipino Club, said the event made her feel closer to her heritage.

"It doesn't make me happy to see these images, but I am excited to share with them my grandparents and to let them know that I am informing myself about our history," she said.

Emmanuel said the reasons behind making the book are an extension of his political activism.

John-Paul Limpin, a co-cultural chair for Akbayan Pilipino Club, said he believes a historical event, such as the U.S. involvement with the deaths of hundreds of thousands of Filipinos, is part of a silent culture.

"You have to go to great lengths to learn about your history," the senior television, radio and film major said.

"You really don't know what's been hidden away," Limpin added. "They didn't do it to just one culture or race. We went through racism similar to African-Americans only ours happened in our own land."

The exhibit is scheduled to run until June 30.

Julianne Shapiro contributed to this story.

# FLU | Officials say a pandemic could be declared in upcoming days

Continued from page 1

The U.S. Department of Agriculture confirmed that swine flu is not a foodborne illness and that all meat products are safe to eat when prepared correctly.

More than six schools have closed in Santa Clara County because of confirmed cases of swine flu, according to the Santa Clara Valley Health & Hospital System.

Marissa Williams, a junior

psychology major, said since the swine flu has been reported in more than 21 other countries, such as Israel and New Zealand, people should know that anyone from anywhere could carry the virus.

"You can't just be ignorant enough to think that one specific race is going to give it to you," Williams said.

Maria Fonca, an employee at Taqueria Los Gallos de Villa on 345 So. Fourth St., said no one has raised health concerns at the restaurant where she works.

"Nobody is scared when they come in," she said. "People are not scared of the flu, and not of the meat."

In an area historically driven by Mexican culture, Daniel Kouba, a junior photography major, said he worries about swine flu's effect on Cinco de Mayo celebrations.

"It's such a big time for the Mexican heritage," he said. "How it's affecting them, at this point in time, is kind of unfortunate."

Kouba said swine flu adviso-

ries don't worry him and won't affect his lifestyle.

"The media tends to hype things up so much, just to get you afraid, to start buying into things," he said. "If I catch it, I catch it."

Williams said swine flu heightened her germ paranoia.

"It makes it even more uncomfortable to be in public places," she said.

"I won't say I'm a full-blown 'germaphobe,' but if people sneeze when they're near me and they don't cover their mouths or

anything, I just kind of cringe."

Although President Barack Obama said the outbreak was not yet a "cause for alarm" on April 27, World Health Organization officials said on Tuesday that a pandemic could be declared in upcoming days, according to the Associated Press.

On Monday, Mexican officials lowered the flu alert level and allowed non-essential operations, such as museums and churches, to reopen, according to Mexico's President Felipe Calderón.

# PROVOST | The provost serves as the internal representative

Continued from page 1

tion and personnel also report to the provost, according to the Web site.

"I never really knew what the provost does," said Kelly Riccio, an undeclared freshman. "I know they are important. But since I haven't really noticed any changes even though we don't have one right now, I guess it's not that big."

While the president is the external representative of the university, the provost serves as the internal representative, in charge of running the actual academic programs, said Lessow-Hurley.

An initiative Provost Sigler was in charge of was the Accessible Technology Initiative, a program currently in the process of converting all university instructional material to be accessible to disabled students.

"I have noticed that on fliers for school events, there's always a little handicapped sign in the

corner to tell people it's handicapped accessible," said Randy Phillips, a freshman biology major. "I heard they're going to change some stuff on their Web site also."

One of the many people the provost will be interacting with is Sigurd Meldal, chair of the Academic Senate, which acts like the legislative assembly of the university, proposing policies to the president.

"Although the responsibilities of a provost are a lot, everything is delegated," Meldal said. "She should set a tone, a strategic direction for academic affairs, and make sure people on the lower level are on the ball and doing their job."

With challenges such as budget cuts and overenrollment, Meldal stresses the importance of a provost whose actions are aligned with his or her words.

"SJSU is already a great university, and if we can bring on a good provost, it could bring the school to a whole other level," he said.

# CAMPUSIMAGES



Jean Schulz (left), wife of Peanuts creator Charles Schulz, Irma Brilliant (middle), wife of the late Ira Brilliant who founded the Ira F. Brilliant Center for Beethoven Studies at SJSU, and William Meredith (right), director of the Beethoven Center, celebrate after revealing a mannequin of Beethoven during Schulz's Beethoven: Schroeder's Muse exhibition Friday night. Located on the fifth floor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library, the exhibit will be on display until July 31.

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# Organizations put best foot forward to go clubbing

**SAMANTHA PATTERSON**  
Staff Writer

Organizations on campus offer students a chance to find a familiar community at SJSU.

It also offers networking opportunities and the ability for students to develop leadership skills, said Pauline Le, coordinator of Student Organization Development at SJSU.

"It gives students a chance to develop those skills because they can be a member, maybe lead a committee, and perhaps become an officer," Le said.

With 317 student organizations offered at SJSU, almost any interest or niche is available for students. Organizations range from religious to cultural to recreational and social groups.

## From the start

Edgar Miranda, a junior computer science major, started the game development club.

Miranda, the club's co-president, said the organization has been around for two semesters at SJSU, and the club started off slowly, with few members who were mostly computer science majors, game designers and artists.

"It was a very rough start, with not a whole lot getting done when the group initially formed," Miranda said. "Now we have about 25 or so active members."

He said the purpose of the Game Development Club is to provide a community to help students develop video games. The organization gets together every Monday for meetings. They occasionally host game development competitions and guest speakers.

"The game development competition is where you get a month to develop a game under a certain theme," Miranda said. "Our next game development competition is for 'Tower Defense,' which is a computer game."

SJSU requires incoming freshmen to attend a mandatory orientation that welcomes them to campus while introducing them

to other students.

At orientation, organizations are introduced to students so they can learn about the different SJSU clubs.

Jason Amarante, a sociology graduate student, started the social change through music club. One of the club's events is a concert it will be hosting during fall welcome days.

Amarante said he started social change through music after he became more interested in sociology, and combined it with his lifelong love of music as a musician, performer, and music business professional.

Shelby Shock, a senior global studies major, has participated in Rotaract, a service organization for local communities.

"I want to eventually work with a nonprofit organization that builds schools in developing countries," she said. "Rotaract has provided me with the experience with what I want to do after obtaining a degree."

## Jumping through hoops

Students seeking funding for organizations may go to Associated Students, SJSU's acting student government, which has a pool of money for that purpose that partly comes from student fees.

"I know funding has definitely been reduced," Le said. "It has gone down from \$4,000 to \$3,000 and honestly, I don't know what it's going to be like for next year."

Students have to apply for funding and attend a finance committee meeting to explain why they need the funds.

"The money will cover most things like T-shirts and conferences," Le said. "They have to include price quotes and it allows them to learn how to manage their money early on."

Amarante said the funding process was painstaking and required several levels of approval and lots of paperwork. Students interested in starting an organization or club must first visit the student involvement Web site to review the materials necessary for

recognition.

According to the Web site, students must attend a drop-in meeting with one of the student organization and leadership staff to go over the startup process and discuss benefits, policies and procedures. This allows the student to ask questions about the necessary documents that need to be filled out, according to the Web site.

They must then obtain a minimum membership of eight currently enrolled SJSU students, according to the Web site.

"We require the students have at least eight members so we have a rough number of members in organizations and clubs on campus," Le said. "Some clubs have 30 active members and some have 10. It really varies. We just oversee the eight."

Those members must then elect a president and treasurer who meet the GPA requirement of at least 2.0, according to the Web site.

"Officers can't be enrolled in too many units," Le said. "We want to make sure they're going to be around for at least a year and maintaining those eight members."

The organizations must overview the guidelines of the student organization constitution and then carefully develop their own, according to the Web site.

Le said they give students a template of a constitution. Students usually follow the template. Sometimes they change the wording, but Le said it's pretty general and self-explanatory.

The constitution must be voted, approved and dated by Student Involvement staff, according to the Web site. Officers of organizations must read and agree to the university's policies and procedures on the student organization's code of conduct, and are required to obtain an adviser that is a faculty or staff member at SJSU.

"The role of the adviser is just to make sure that the students are complying with the university's policy," Le said. "They are that objective person to make sure communication between members and the officers are OK, and if they



The necessary documents for an organization to be approved at SJSU can be found on the Student Involvement Web site. Photo Illustration by CARLOS A. MORENO

need someone to bounce ideas off of, they are like mentors."

A meeting with a student organization coordinator will then be made so they can review and approve the documents. Member information must be submitted to Interactive Collegiate Solutions online.

"The process was involved," Amarante said. "Filling out paperwork, creating a constitution, meeting with folks in the student involvement office, more paperwork, and web-related stuff — it took me longer than I had initially thought it would."

According to the Web site, one officer and one member must go to a mandatory student organization leadership conference so both sides of the organization are represented.

"It's a conference that helps students build their leadership skills," Le said. "They also have

to do a mandatory alcohol and drug abuse workshop at that time. It's required for them to be a recognized organization here on campus."

Amarante said it was hard to coordinate schedules with other club members in order to make the mandatory conference.

## Seeking approval

Communication with the student involvement office then needs to be made by students within the organization for approval or for further documents or information.

About 80 percent of clubs follow through with the process and get approved. The students who struggle because of deadlines, finding members, and lack of communication tend to be the ones whose organizations don't get approved, Le said.

"It's a very inclusive process —

starting your own organization," Le said. "It takes a lot of skill that perhaps you wouldn't learn in a classroom, but it's great to have that extracurricular activity here on campus."

Amarante said student participation and involvement seems to be on the rise at SJSU.

"It could and should be a lot higher," he said. "Other campuses have a dedicated student base that is much more involved than ours. That could be attributed to the fact that we're a commuter campus."

Rohan Dhammaskar, a senior computer science major, said, "Being known as a commuter campus definitely has some effect on student involvement."

Edgar Miranda said he thinks it's great that students can get involved in so many clubs.

"If there isn't one that you're looking for, you can always start your own," he said.



(From left to right) SJSU game development club co-president Marek Kapolka, adviser John Bruneau, secretary Edgar Miranda and co-president Parris Khachi. Spartan Daily Archives

## HOW TO GET YOUR CLUB APPROVED AT SJSU

1. Review all necessary materials.
2. Attend a drop-in meeting with a staff member.
3. Gather minimum membership.
4. Develop and approve constitution.
5. Read and agree to university policies and code of conduct.
6. Select an adviser.
7. Meet with a coordinator for student organization development.
8. Submit information to Interactive Collegiate Solutions online.
9. Talk with student involvement during the recognition period.
10. Go to a mandatory leadership conference.

Source: Student Involvement Web site

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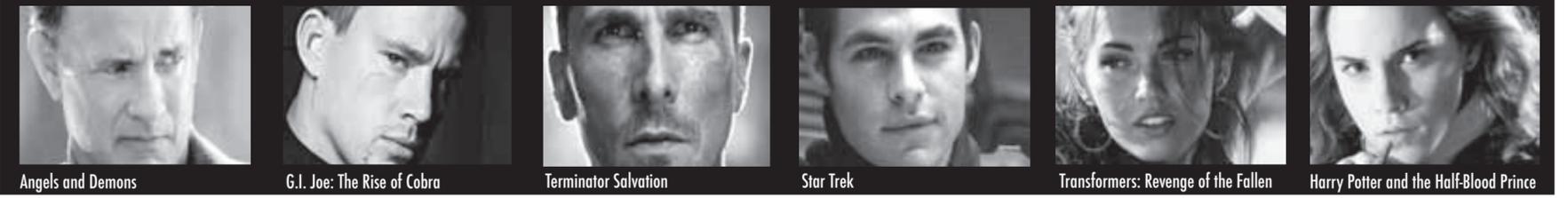
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PREVIEW: SUMMER MOVIES

# Sci-fi and sequels prop up summer cinema



ALLIE FIGURES  
A&E Editor

Sooner or later, these clouds are going to roll away and the sun will shine with its full potential, indicating summer is finally upon us. Oh how we welcome the 80- and 90-degree temperatures that provide great weather for outdoor adventures.

But when the temperatures reach the triple digits, we search for a cool place to lurk. The movie theater is a cool place to chill for a couple hours for a couple dollars.

Here is a summer movie guide to help you plan out your solar escape:

**"Star Trek"** (May 7) – Another one of those sci-fi reinventions — but this one looks promising. A strong storyline is supported by a surprisingly good cast and stunning special effects aimed at giving every Trekkie out there something to gush about. So spread those fingers in the famous Vulcan salute and let your

inner geek be satisfied.  
**"Angels & Demons"** (May 15) – Unlike "The Da Vinci Code," I actually finished this book, and the fact that Tom Hanks will return as Professor Robert Langdon really revs my literary engine. This time, Langdon is actually teaming up with the Catholic church to combat an ancient secret society set out to destroy the Vatican with the bomb of all bombs.

**"Terminator Salvation"** (May 21) – Bring on the machines ... as long as Christian Bale is there to save us. The Terminator chronicles continue as John Connor, played by Bale, leads the few surviving humans against Skynet, a race of enemy machines.

**"Night at the Museum: Battle at the Smithsonian"** (May 29) – Can't keep all this action adventure straight? Are you thinking that Shia LaBeouf is the captain of the Starship Enterprise and now fighting against an evil priest conspiracy? This sequel provides an escape from the crunch-

ing of metal as history comes to life, promising a good laugh with a returning cast, including Ben Stiller, Owen Wilson and welcoming Amy Adams and Jonah Hill.

**"Hangover"** (June 5) – Bachelor parties never seem like a good idea, and this movie proves me right. Under the comedic expertise of director Todd Phillips ("Road Trip" and "Old School") this tale of three groomsman, too much alcohol and a missing groom in Las Vegas is sure to deliver a hardy laugh.

**"Land of the Lost"** (June 5) – Oh, I think I just had a flashback to awesome animation, A-list actors and dinosaurs. Will Farrell brings this old-school television show to life with the tale of ridiculed paleontologist Dr. Rick Marshall. He accidentally travels back through time and space and somehow has to find his way home to claim his major findings.

**"Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen"** (June 24) – All of the original stars are back as

well as some new ones, both human and robot. It looks like even Megatron is going to return from the deep, as Hugo Weaving is once again voicing the character in this sequel.

**"Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince"** (July 15) – Finally, what you have been waiting for: The next movie in the Harry Potter series is back with old favorites, new professors and haunting new mysteries. More teenage angst comes into play as Harry and Ron find themselves becoming more involved with girls and romance.

**"G.I. Joe: The Rise of Cobra"** (August 7) – When all else fails, make another cartoon, comic movie, right? Add this one to the lot of movies fashioned after retro television shows. I do not know how promising the story of an elite team of international operatives is, but I am sure it will be another box office hit, simply because of hot actors and special effects.

(From left to right) Tom Hanks, Channing Tatum, Christian Bale, Chris Pine, Megan Fox, Emma Watson  
Photos courtesy of: Ace Showbiz, Celebritywonder.com, Movie WallpaperZ, StarTrekmovie.com, Fanpop!, Image Shack, respectively

## Transformation of Consciousness

"The body is the wisdom-tree,  
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Place: Costanoan Room, 2nd Floor Student Union

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# Classifieds

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Part-Time Personal Assistant to Silicon Valley entrepreneur, South Fremont, private residence. Must have positive attitude, strive for excellence, be detail oriented, and open to learning. Approximately 15-25 hours a week to start, flexible times. Attractive compensation, \$15-\$20/ hour based on experience. Send resume to [ksefff4@hotmail.com](mailto:ksefff4@hotmail.com)

## NANNY NEEDED

executive-single mom needs help with two children (15 and 11) while I travel for work. 5-10 days/nite per month. Downtown area (408)621-4574

## FOR RENT

3 BEDROOM NEAR SJU \$1800  
[tammy\\_5252@yahoo.com](mailto:tammy_5252@yahoo.com) (408) 661-1096

## 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: FREE  
STUDENT ID REQUIRED.

Ads must be placed in person in DBH 209 from 10 AM or 3PM.  
Not intended for businesses and/or other persons.

Frequency discount does not apply.  
[www.thespantandaily.com](http://www.thespantandaily.com)

## TODAY'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE

**ACROSS**

1. The body is the wisdom-tree, the mind is a bright mirror in a stand, take care to wipe it all the time, and allow no dust to cling. (Sixth Patriarch Huineng)

**PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED**

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**DOWN**

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## Put a stake in it: Twilight's done



KAAJAL MORAR  
Both Sides of the Coin

Rabid fan-girls swarm toward the shelves filled with books from the "Twilight" series at stores wherever I go. It makes me cringe inside.

It is the bane of my existence. Ever since I picked up this monstrosity, my mind has been filled with images of blood and sparkles.

Don't get me wrong, I don't hate the book or the rest of the "saga."

OK, let's be serious. I loathe the books. But my reasons are justified.

The story starts with the two-dimensional, perfect and flawless Mary Sue, I mean, Bella Swan (Get it? Beautiful Swan. Hah!) who moves to Washington to live with her father because ... well, it wasn't really established exactly why, but it doesn't matter, does it?

She goes to live with her uncool dad who lives alone and can barely fend for himself. She automatically and willingly takes on the job of cooking for herself and her father, as well as balancing schoolwork and maintaining a social life.

Mary Sue's first day of high school in Forks, Wash., consisted of her wanting to fit in but also scornfully looking down upon her peers while miraculously gaining five admirers, including the pale and mysterious Gary Stu — I mean, Edward Cullen — who happens to be a vampire, and a sparkly one at that.

Edward immediately develops a passionate dislike for Swan. He leaves for a week to gather his nerves before telling her they can't be friends, while contradicting his statement and admitting to stalking her.

Clearly, their attraction is a

passionate one when he feels compelled to watch her sleep every night for a month and she is content with it.

For the next 300 pages, Mary Sue — I mean, author Stephenie Meyer — details the love between Mary and Gary, even though they've known each other for only, what, three weeks?

I guess it's love if she thinks he's beautiful — even though he is bipolar and abusive — and he thinks she smells pretty and treats her like a child.

I'm not entirely sure that's accurate, though.



Cartoon by CARTY SEWILL/Spartan Daily

Mary Sue, I mean, Stephenie Meyer, continuously gushes about every aspect of Edward's beauty, including — get this — his breath.

"As I had just that once before, I smelled his cool breath in my face. Sweet, delicious, the scent made my mouth water."

Ew. That's gross.

Edward is a god, Adonis, a marble statue.

OK, I get it. I'm jealous that my boyfriend isn't a sickly-looking creature from hell. Really.

Now let's get on with the show.

With less than one-third of the book left, I was wondering whether it'd be worth it to unearth the plot from the load of crap and mush that was Bella and Edward insisting that they can't be together.

It appeared suddenly. When the Cullen family was playing vampire baseball, three rogue vampires arrived, smelled Bella's

humanness, and reacted as any predator would — they wanted her blood.

This called for drastic action, but I won't spoil the fun for those of you who have yet to sell your soul and cave in to read the book.

Swine flu has nothing on the pandemic that is Twilight.

Not only is the series shallow, but it encourages women to rely completely on their men, that they are incomplete without being in a relationship.

Ladies, don't forget that stalking is completely normal and should be encouraged.

It tells guys that it's OK to verbally abuse their partner and treat them like dirt.

Being a control freak is actually desirable, so start telling your woman what to do, guys.

This says nothing for the rest of the books in the series.

Maybe I'm reading too much into it, but an interview from Film Web site with Robert Pattinson, who plays Edward, said, "I read the book like five months before casting. I read the first 50 pages, up until when he gets introduced and I was just like, 'No.'"

It's obvious that things have gotten out of hand with Twilight when Hot Topic started selling \$10 jars of "Twilight Edward Body Shimmer." You "youngins" go ahead and continue to read your misogynistic books about abusive boyfriends and women who can't live without them.

I'll be sitting quietly in my corner reading books with three-dimensional characters and a plot.

This is the final appearance of "Both Sides of the Coin" Kaajal Morar is a Spartan Daily features editor.

## Comcast loves to leave empty wallets



RALPH WARNER  
Staff Writer

Despite the recession and bleak job market, there are still some companies that have no mercy on consumers.

The cruel fact of large corporations charging as much as possible for poor services came to my attention about a month ago during a dispute with Comcast.

When my roommate and I set up cable for our apartment downtown, we were told Comcast was our only option because the positioning of our apartment prevented us from having a satellite service provider.

Our initial relationship with Comcast was forced, but their amusing commercials promoting a \$69 per month introductory price for Internet and basic cable services didn't seem bad.

However, once our six-month rate ran out we were introduced to a new rate of \$110 per month — a nearly 60 percent increase.

### DID YOU KNOW...

Adolf Hitler only had one testicle? A German army medic saw Hitler's uneven groin during World War I after Hitler was injured in the abdomen and lost his second precious pearl.

—FOXNews.com

For a few months we dealt with this new rate, but after hearing from several friends who were paying less per month and receiving premium cable, Internet and home phone service, seeing our whopping bill grew frustrating.

We attempted to switch the name on the account to my name, in order to once again receive the introductory rate for the last few months of our lease.

However, upon showing up to their offices — which had a stunning resemblance to the DMV with about 14 numbered windows, a ticketing machine and plenty of disgruntled customers — I realized this might not be as easy as I thought.

Rather than waiting in line, we attempted to resolve the issue on the phone. We were told a switch of accounts could be done, but there would be an installation fee of about \$60.

When I asked what exactly they were installing — since none of the equipment had to be disconnected or moved — I was told, "Sir, we're a business and you're trying work the system."

Work the system? I'm sorry for not wanting to be bamboozled into paying \$110 each month for a basic cable and Internet package where the Internet isn't even always reliable.

I hung up the phone and realized nothing could really be done to avoid this stranglehold Comcast had on us.

After dealing with this experience, I did some

research and found out we weren't the only ones frustrated with Comcast's customer service.

According to a 2004 survey by the American Customer Satisfaction Index, Comcast's customer service satisfaction rating was the lowest of any organization or company finishing lower than the IRS.

In addition to poor customer satisfaction rates, Comcast also has false or misleading claims of offering the most HD channels in their advertisements.

Many entertaining commercials, which are set up as interventions, tell DirectTV customers to switch over to Comcast because of the hundreds of more HD channels available, claiming they're "HDelusional" or are in "HDdenial."

However, it's Comcast that seems to be in denial.

An article from the TV Predictions Web site revealed that those claims of hundreds of HD channels are On Demand and pay-per-view services that must be ordered.

So by their definition, new movies featured On Demand in HD count as an "HD channel."

Don't be fooled by those humorous commercials of the "Slowsky" turtles or "Intervention" spinoffs.

Underneath that witty inviting exterior lies a corporation that exudes greed and shows no gratitude toward loyal customers.

Ralph Warner is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

## Save the planet: Put a rubber on



ELIZABETH KANG  
Staff Writer

Which group is "greener," a family of six who takes the bus and grows their own food, or a family of three who drives an SUV and eats fast food?

Let's not be so hard on the family of SUV-driving gluttons. At least they had the consideration to spare the Earth from three extra resource-consuming inhabitants. The obese child in this family eats unhealthy fast food and is predicted to be part of the first generation to die before the parents.

Therefore, I would argue that the family of three, although unconsciously, is more environmentally friendly.

By not having as many children, and by dying sooner, they will contribute less to the biggest environmental threat our planet faces — overpopulation.

Our current world population is 6,764,307,709, according to the world population clock at the Worldometers Web site.

Oh wait, that was 10 seconds ago, now it's 6,764,307,767. Wait a minute, that's not right either. The number keeps going up like seconds ticking away on a clock, but faster. It's pretty hard to wrap my head around a number like that, but it's a lot of people who use up a lot of resources.

We are so busy worrying about plastic versus paper that we are missing the big picture: There are simply too many people on this planet, and the problem is just getting worse.

I don't need statistics or data to realize this. I face it every day when I fight for a parking spot, petition to add an overfilled class or can't find my favorite fish on the menu anymore.

But statistics and data sure do pack a punch. In 2050, the world population is predicted to be 9,538,988,263, according to the Web site Geohive. If we continue reproducing at the rate we are now, in just 41 years, our world will have one-third more people. The rate of growth is even more alarming if you compare that number to the population in 1950, which was about 2.5 billion.

In Asia, where 60 percent of the population resides, China has turned to forced abortions and now implements a one-child policy in an attempt to control a population that has already outstripped its resources.

Not all countries are contributing to the population surge.

In some parts of Africa, where famine and AIDS are epidemic, the point at which the death rate outnumbered the birth rate has actually been reached, according to Web site All Africa.

An EU report stated that low fertility rates are contributing to a situation where deaths will outnumber births in European countries and immigration will be the only reason for a population increase.

The U.S. continues to grow and is the third most populated country, trailing far behind India and China.

It seems that we don't deal with problems until they have become crises. Let's not reach the point where we have mandatory child limits. Let's not come to the devastating circumstance of having exhausted our food and energy sources. Even alternative energy and sustainably produced food will run out if there are too many people consuming them.

We need to educate people about birth control and provide attainable access to it. We need to find incentives for reducing family size. To keep our population in check, immigration must also be considered carefully to help preserve our quality of life.

With worldwide births outnumbering deaths by a huge margin 137 million per year versus 56 million, our population is escalating dangerously.

We have no predators. We develop cures for diseases and vaccines for plagues, and the medical hope that stem cell research provides might find cures for even the deadliest diseases.

But who wants to live a long life that is subpar? An existence that is spent with restricted resources, inadequate food supplies and limited space is the price we will pay if we continue to breed at this pace.

It is socially and environmentally irresponsible to have many children, unless they are adopted.

Considering most of us don't need extra hands to work the family farm and infant mortality has decreased dramatically, more than two kids seems excessive. Some families have more than two children because they are trying for a boy after having two girls, or vice versa. That is understandable having one of each sex is fun and fulfilling.

But we must consider having fewer children for the benefit of the children we have already. Consider their quality of life before your desires of big family barbecues.

If you really want to contribute to the green movement, please pop those pills ladies, and gentlemen — wear a raincoat.

Elizabeth Kang is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

## EXCLUSIVELY ONLINE

Read **Kimberly Tsao's** column, "It's Down to This," about the country that requires skinny figures to adopt kids.

Check out **Chris Curry's** column, "For Those About to Read," about how cool things can have an evil twin.

theSpartanDaily.com

**BASEBALL**

# Spartans squander six-run lead, lose 9-8

**JOHN HORNBERG**  
Executive Editor

PALO ALTO — Despite a six-run lead early in the game, poor pitching proved to be the Spartans' undoing Tuesday night in their 9-8 loss on the road against the Stanford Cardinal.

"They hit our pitching," said Spartans head coach Sam Piraro. "When they needed a hit, they got it."

A rapid succession of pitchers in the middle of the game — Trevor Gibson, Steve Connolly and Tyler Heil — gave back all of the lead the Spartans had amassed in the game's first three innings and allowed the Cardinal to score eight unanswered runs.

"The guys who came in from the second to the fifth didn't do their jobs," Piraro said. "They didn't do the things they needed to do."

After victimizing Stanford's pitchers in the second and third innings, the offense would go cold until the ninth inning.

"We built a 7-1 lead, ... but we knew that we were going to have to score more than that," Piraro said.

The Spartans jumped out to an early two-run lead in the second inning after Karson Klauer walked and third baseman Corey Valine hit a double. A grounder brought in one run, and a sacrifice fly followed to bring in Valine on a close play at the plate.

"I'm seeing the ball real well," Valine said. "My balance is there and I'm getting good pitches to hit."

Overall, Valine was 3-5, with a double and a home run.

SJSU came back in the third

inning, adding five more runs and sending 11 batters to the plate. After giving up singles to the first two hitters of the inning, the Cardinal removed starting pitcher Danny Sandbrink for reliever Scott Snodgrass.

Shortstop Kyle Bellows welcomed Snodgrass into the game by driving his first pitch over the left-center field fence to extend the Spartans lead to 5-1.

"The guy came in, threw a fastball, and Kyle was ready for it," Piraro said. "It was a big at-bat at that point in the game."

Bellows said the scouting reports gave him a clue about which pitch he would get — a fastball.

"When they bring in a new guy, they come right at you with fastballs, they aren't afraid to get ahead," he said. "I got a fastball, and I hit it."

Stanford scored in five straight innings to tie the game at seven before reliever Luke Mazzanti held the Cardinal scoreless in the sixth and seventh. Despite picking up the loss, Mazzanti held Stanford to one run over three innings of work while striking out three, and quelled Stanford's offense.

The Spartans would fall victim to Stanford's late-inning offense, which has produced 53 runs in the last two innings of games this season.

After a one-out double, Jack Adams replaced Mazzanti. Adams walked the first batter he faced on four pitches. A wild pitch on a 0-2 count to leadoff hitter Colin Walsh would advance both Cardinal runners into scoring position.

Walsh made the Spartans pay



SJSU third baseman Corey Valine tags out Kellen Kiilsgaard as he tries to steal third base during SJSU's 9-8 loss to Stanford at Sunken Diamond on Tuesday.

CHAD ZIEMENDORF / Spartan Daily

with a double to center field to score both runners, giving the Cardinal their first lead of the game.

But the Spartans weren't done yet. After hitting a foul ball off of a fastball by Cardinal closer Drew Storen that had home-run distance but drifted foul, Corey Valine clubbed a solo home run to cut Stanford's lead to one.

"After that fastball, he threw me a slider that was really devastating," Valine said. "So, I

shortened up, he threw the same slider, and I hit it."

A comeback was not to be. The tying run would be stranded at second base after John Shaffer popped out.

The Spartans' record falls to 32-16 entering their weekend series against New Mexico State in Las Cruces, N.M., which opens on Friday.

The Spartans play Stanford again next Tuesday at Municipal Stadium.

**Game Stats**

|                 | AB | R | H | RBI |
|-----------------|----|---|---|-----|
| <b>Spartans</b> |    |   |   |     |
| Aguilera        | 3  | 1 | 2 | 1   |
| Bellows         | 5  | 1 | 3 | 3   |
| Valine          | 5  | 3 | 3 | 1   |
| <b>Stanford</b> | AB | R | H | RBI |
| Clowe           | 3  | 2 | 2 | 1   |
| Gerhart         | 4  | 1 | 2 | 1   |
| Walsh           | 5  | 0 | 3 | 4   |

**Baseball**

| WAC STANDINGS |            |             |              |             |
|---------------|------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|
| Team          | WAC        | Pct.        | Total        | Pct.        |
| Nevada        | 9-6        | .600        | 24-22        | .522        |
| <b>SJSU</b>   | <b>8-6</b> | <b>.571</b> | <b>32-16</b> | <b>.667</b> |
| NM St.        | 9-7        | .562        | 38-10        | .792        |
| La. Tech      | 11-9       | .550        | 26-18        | .591        |
| Hawaii        | 9-10       | .474        | 27-20        | .574        |
| Fres St.      | 6-10       | .375        | 22-25        | .468        |
| Sac St.       | 5-9        | .357        | 24-21        | .533        |

|          | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | Runs | Hits | Errors |
|----------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|------|------|--------|
| Spartans | 0 | 2 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 8    | 14   | 1      |
| Cardinal | 0 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | x | 9    | 14   | 2      |

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