Restroom catches fire on campus

By Matthew Gonzalez

A fire on the third floor of the Boccardo Business Center left San José State University students scrambling on Wednesday morning. Elaine Lê, academic marketing senior, and her classmates were sitting when the fire broke out in the women’s restroom on the first floor of the business tower, said the marshal for the Wednesday morning.

Students gather outside of San José State University’s James F. Boccardo Business Education Center building after evacuation because of a fire on Wednesday morning.

“The professor got the alarm off, and everyone just sat down for a moment when the alarm went off,” Lê said.

The cause of the fire has not yet been determined. According to student Michael Stephenson, there was a great sense of urgency when fellow students in his class, located on the third floor, heard the alarm.

“Everyone jumped because the alarm, but people were just like ‘Yeah, alright’,” Stephenson said.

“They caught me off guard for like a second, and then everybody just started walking out,” Lê said. “I was sitting at the building.

Cuevas said the expression of urgency when fellow students in his class, located on the third floor, heard the alarm.

“It was mainly our class [outside] at first, and the class next to us,” Cuevas said. “And then the crowd started coming in because everybody was coming down the stairs.” Lê, who was working in the Student Success Center on the first floor of the business tower said her immediate reaction was to clear everybody just started walking out.

She said she was curious to know what long term plans of VTP 2050 were and stopped to chat with VTA staff.

She said her household is around the city, “Lee said. “It’s like the biggest bang for our health and safety standards in regards to air quality are a secondary, but equally important threat.” Lê said when she was working in the women’s restroom, the stalls had been engulfed in smoke. She had been engaged in any smoke. She had an experience was jarring.

Executive Editor

By Brando Nicolas

The Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) hosted an open house event to promote the Valley Transportation Plan (VTP) 2050 at the RoseCourtwood Community Center Wednesday evening.

VTA provides sustainable transportation options including bus, light rail and paratransit services throughout the greater Santa Clara Valley County, according to its website. The VTP 2050 is the countywide transportation plan and policy framework for developing future transportation projects, according to its website overview.

Adopted after VTP 2040, the plan identifies existing and future highways, local streets and roads, transit and bicyclists, each with dedicated programs aiming to better and expand transportation for the community, according to the same source.

VTP 2040 is a part of VTA’s Bart Silicon Valley Phase II, the largest single public infrastructure project ever constructed in Santa Clara County and its expansion website. Estimad to carry 55,000 passengers each weekday, the Phase II will add 12 miles of new construction of Bart stations at 28th Street/Little Portugal Station, Downtown San José Station, Diridon Station and Santa Clara Station, according to the same site.

To be completed by 2040, the city could be able to take Bart transit from Santa Clara County into the core of Downtown. There is also a protected connection to Berryessa North San José Station.

The VTA open house featured several tables each decorated with information posters about specific programs under VTP 2050. Attendees at the event were encouraged to participate in providing feedback by talking to VTA staff and participating in active surveys.

Senior Transportation Planner John Sighamony spoke at the event supported by a presentation about the plan.

VTP 2050, proposed in Nov. of last year, started with public input to determine county goals for the next 25 years. Sighamony said.

He said the plan is currently in the development phase until Feb. of next year and is set to be adopted by summer.

“Then we’ll develop the plan,” Sighamony said at the event. “Then we’ll determine what we need to do in order to make those projects happen.”

Sighamony said the plan is currently in the development phase until Feb. of next year and is set to be adopted by summer.

VTA would like to work with the city to adjust transit service, even though the bus is usually limited.

“These are important projects, but some of them are very expensive,” he said. “This is something that our riders could use.”

Associate Principal Wendy Hanson works for SFMTA’s urban studies, an urban design firm working with VTA to produce a community rich environment surrounding 28th Street/Little Portugal Station.

He said the upcoming Bart stations will implement transit-oriented development, an active and dense development plan to surround the stations.

“We want to bring people to the station, and when they arrive at the station, they know exactly where they are,” Hanson said.

Hanson said it’s important for the VTA open house to promote and bring awareness of the neighborhood because it’s not a downtown station.

Hanson granted attendees and gave them colored stickers to place on different panels representing what they want to see built in the neighborhood.

“It’s a transit oriented development that’s rooted in the character of the neighborhood, so community engagement is really important,” he said. “With this neighborhood, we need to better understand what it needs, what stories it’s telling and how we can tailor that in future development.”
Specifically for the library, I believe it’s all about visibility,” Calderon said. “People are walking in and out of our foot patrol on every floor, every few minutes make people feel more safe.”

If there is any type of disturbance or threat to the library, the library community officer’s handle it right away. Calderon said that if law has been enforced then they will contact the police officers at the university.

“Also communicating with staff so to see if there are any loitering issues we can fix,” Calderon said.

Calderon also said that SJSU’s police officers have a one mile jurisdiction from campus, meaning they can patrol surrounding neighborhoods around campus as long as it’s within the one mile radius. Calderon said police cadets on campus have jurisdiction in the areas of campus. They patrol parking garages, classroom buildings, housing quads and other campus areas that are rarely occupied. University Police officer Brandon Clark said there is difference between patrolling the campus during the day compared to the night.

“Daytime officers deal with campus environments,” Clark said. “We nighttime officers deal with making sure certain parts of the campus are locked and secured like bathrooms, and classrooms or other areas around the housing quad.”

Clark said that it’s so much different other stuff that goes into law enforcement. He said everyday is different and he never knows what to expect. Officer cadets patrol the surrounding campus neighborhoods to make sure traffic laws are enforced.

“We have traffic enforcement over 9th and San Salvador because there’s doors over there and students are constantly walking to and from classes,” Clark said.

Officer Clark also said blue phones are placed in certain areas of the campus and are used for calling emergency assistance right away.

According to the SJSU website, Blue Light emergency phones are located all across the campus, including in residence halls and public garages. The website suggests that when walking on campus, take one of where the Blue Light phones are located and use them when needed. Depending on the location on the blue phone calls emergency assistance right away.

Clark said the university offers a safety escort program, SJSU Safe Ride Program, Run, Hide, Fight Training and Rape Aggression Defense (RAD) Training, according to a website from University Police. All these services are accessible to all students and faculty.

Communications freshman Mack Elliot said that he feels safer living on campus rather than living off campus. “I feel safe living on campus because my friends and peers are around me. There’s a lot of homeless people who post up near campus and it’s scary,” Elliot said. “I feel safe on campus because friends and campus police are always ready accessible.”

Business junior major Yoti Sharma said that living on campus is much safer. “I have a Bluelight phone that one call away. Sharma also said how living off campus in San Jose can be a bit alarming because your neighbors might not be who they aren’t students, who don’t live there.”

“At least while living on campus, I’m surrounded by other people who have similar interests,” Sharma said.

Sharma described the constant traffic and off of campus, saying that the campus is much active during the day around 3 p.m. “It’s not the afternoon, when walking up Seventh Street to campus, Sharma said he feels the safer because there is always something going on and there are always students outside.”

“I live off campus now but when I lived on campus, I felt more safe because there’s always friends around campus, especially during the day, the campus is hella active,” Sharma said.

“Overall I feel like our campus is pretty safe,” Sharma said. “I feel like our university does a great job with safety but if there was anything they could improve it, on would be adding better lighting in some of the areas of campus. It can be pitch black in certain areas of the campus.”

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The Spartan Daily regrets this error.

By Lamar Moody

Campus Safety is key for transferring college students.

When the San José State University Police Department patrols campus they reassure safety in our community.

SJSU PD is in charge of making sure all staff and students are safe.

The University Police Department has about 24 peace officers and over 10 civilian personnel, according to a website from the department.

This includes Parking Services, library security, housing security, police cadets and administrative staff, according to the same source.

S. Calderon, University Police Department library community officer, said it’s important for him and his colleagues to talk to the community and constantly remind them that if they see something that may be suspicious, troubling, or harmful, they need to reach out right away.

“Specifically for the library, I believe it’s all about visibility,” Calderon said. “People are walking in and out of our foot patrol on every floor, every few minutes make people feel more safe.”

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UPD holds ‘Stop the Bleed’ event

By Navin Krishnan

It takes one person to stop the flow of blood, but stopping the flow of the number one preventable cause of death after trauma takes an entire movement. The San José State University Police Department honored the national public awareness campaign and charitable organization Stop the Bleed with an event on Wednesday at the University Police South Campus building.

The purpose of the event was to train the general public to recognize and respond to bleeding after injury.

Sgt. Chris Zonsius of the San José State Police Department has an array of experiences including time with the armed forces. Zonsius said the main reason he took up this position is because of his experience as active duty on the Coast Guard and as an Emergency Medical Technician in the Coast Guard.

Zonsius said the program is called “Tactical Combat Casualty Care Training,” a more in-depth version of the Stop the Bleed. While the Stop the Bleed event was not a combat-based event, the methods were discerned in combat situations in war.

He said the only difference is that in a combat situation, more often than not the injury would be because of an active shooter. He said in a situation on campus, a more ideal situation would be a car accident.

“We never know what could occur. In my tenure here in the University there has been many accidents, there have been many issues that have taken place around the campus,” Parking Services manager Eric Cross said. “There was an incident several years ago here at the (nearby) 7-Eleven store and our officers were there to try to assist and provide medical assistance. Unfortunately, I think that individual did not make it,” he said.

The seminars became significant after 20 children and eight adults lost their lives in a mass shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Conn. according to the Stop the Bleed website.

Stop the Bleed came from four different organizations, according to Zonsius: the American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma, the American College of the Marines, the National Association of Medical Technicians and the Committee of Tactical Combat.

“The American Surgeons just noticed that there was a need to provide the ability to stop life-threatening bleeding at the scene,” Zonsius said. “They were basically looking at the CPR mode and how CPR has saved lives. We want to give people the opportunity to do the same kind of thing.”

Our police department here are well-trained and they are very concerned and compassionate about community and to the students here on campus,” Cross said.

Executive Assistant for Chief of Police Rachel McConell said that although she isn’t sworn in as a police officer, the training at Stop the Bleed could help her save a life.

“(The mission) is to educate people so that in their everyday lives, they can step into an emergency,” McConnell said. “You can save a life, anything to compress the wound as soon as possible. He said another technique to stop a drop wound from bleeding is to pack the wound with gauze. He said this technique is fundamental if the wound is around the neck, armpits or a region where a device called a tourniquet cannot be used.

Zonsius said a tourniquet is a strap used to tie around bleeding limbs to manually cut off circulation to avoid complications after injury.

“I believe it benefits San José State students because it’s something you’re more likely going to use when you’re off campus,” Zonsius said. “When you’re out on a Sunday or Saturday, having a good time with your friends and something happens to someone injures themselves on the bicycle or motorcycle or you ran across a car accident – this could have your family on a friend in an emergency situation.”

Zonsius passed out tourniquets and gauges to treat heavy and potentially life-threatening bleeding.

“I travel back and forth from Sacramento to San José every day, I’ve been witnessing a lot more accidents on the freeway,” Cross said. “It should matter to any individual whether it is a student or not to have a good working knowledge of medical treatment or first-aid treatment for someone in the event that they’re injured.”

Cross said he travels back and forth from Sacramento to San José every day. He said everyone, not just students, should be prepared and have a good working knowledge of first aid and general medical procedure in the event it happens to someone she or he knows.

“We all have blood in our bodies, but none of us know what’s going to happen in the next thirty seconds in life.” Rachel McConell said.

“So, if you’re a walking, talking, breathing human being, you should do the best you can for your personal safety and the lives around you.”
many fans turned the other way in fear of being "possessed" by the demonic imagery. While it is true that her change in character (and my absolute fear of anything on the side of the demonic) alarmed my love for Doja Cat as an artist. Being a woman that listens to modern-day rap, I definitely appreciate this style of music, coming from a woman in the music industry, and it made me realize how much more there is to come from Dlamini. I am a huge fan of what Doja Cat is doing in the female-rap game. Among the other female rappers I listen to, including Nicki Minaj and Megan Thee Stallion, Doja Cat is one of the most talented and unique.

"Scarlet" has more rapping than any of her previous albums, and it feels like a new side to Doja Cat’s music has been unveiled. The album had what I felt to be absolute demon. She continues with these themes on the album's first single, "Attention," which was released on June 18.

With a creepy melody, she sings "Baby, if you like it, just reach out and put it on (this one doesn't bite). It doesn't get aggressive." The track sounds like she's belying her listeners, as a way to make fun of people who are scared of her. Even though most of the album is playfully spiteful, Dlamini also had wholesome songs like "Go Off" and "Love Life" that showed how far she's come and how happy she currently is.

"Go off," to me, was Dlamini keeping herself up. I saw myself listening to it while I did my makeup and got ready for the day. Then there’s "Can’t Wait" and "Ohm" where Doja Cat is giving us the actual sound of her voice in vocals and, in "Can’t Wait," 2000s R&B vibes. I personally think the album was well thought out and introduced another side to what Doja Cat offers in the music industry.
I hate modesty. I hate the way it sounds, what it means, the pressure it puts on me. I hate the misogynistic tone it carries and the fact that people think it’s valuable and pleasing.

Modesty has done nothing for me but turn me down when I want to feel confident. Modesty exists as a constant confining box people were put into as children. It’s unconventional and an uncomfortable subject to bring up in a public forum because it’s often seen as a personal attack or as a way of invalidating women, neither of which I ever wish to do.

I don’t worry about modesty when I discuss modesty. When we talk about it, it’s usually as a parent, teacher or authority figure explaining to a young girl that she has to cover up because of the pervasive thoughts of a man that I would need to do for other people, always men. They’re not opposing ideas that could be a source of autonomy. I don’t see much to it. I rarely worry about modesty, I chose not to do whatever felt best for me.

Modesty exists as a constant reminder that I will always be measured by the way I see myself and womanly wiles is intrinsically sculpted into beauty to be considered the idea that modesty could be something I can do for myself and that could be a source of autonomy. I don’t think we’re going to be forced to give modesty up or that these ideologies have to be forced to give modesty up to my body, making up for my body differently, it makes me feel confident and divine. I would feel ashamed. Nothing but a doe-eyed expression to rebel against millions of years of evolution.

Modesty is not my friend. It’s unconventional to think that I would be wall-naked and exposed and I would feel ashamed. This is how I thought of modesty. It’s unconventional to think that I would be wall-naked and exposed and I would feel ashamed. This is how I thought of modesty. I was so lucky, I grew up with room for error and room to grow into my own person thanks to my mother and older sister.

I want that for my daughters one day. I would have those comfortable conversations about modesty with them. Teach them to love their bodies in every way and understand that modesty is for them, if they want it.

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I think that’s what we should want to provide for the next generation of young women, a healthy balance between freedom and modesty. Because my body was intrinsically designed and sculpted into beauty to be dressed in any way I want. The truth is I love modesty, it makes me look at my body differently; it makes me feel infinitely strong and happy, it makes me feel confident and pride. I would never wish to do this to my body, making up for my body differently, it makes me feel confident and divine. I would never wish to do this. I would never wish to do this.

I’ve seen beautiful videos of Muslim women creating such colorful and coordinated ensembles with their modest attire and hijabs or disliked my physical appearance. I never hated the way I looked, even when people commented about weight gain or loss or acne. I grew up with room for error and room to grow into my own person thanks to my mother and older sister.

But I think that, and it’s not to say the blame is on anyone who raised me, I had more comfortable conversations about modesty growing up that didn’t include misogyny in between the lines. I wouldn’t have spent so much time worrying about things that were so little exposing or things that did not express who I am as a person. I want that for my daughters one day, I would have those comfortable conversations about modesty with them. Teach them to love their bodies in every way and understand that modesty is for them, if they want it.

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It hasn't been the ideal start for San Jose State as the team sits at 1-4 going into its Oct. 7 matchup against Boise State. The Spartans have played a gauntlet of a schedule with consecutive losses to Top-20 teams (USC and Oregon State), a nonconference champion (Toledo) and an undefeated conference foe (Air Force).

The rest of their schedule doesn't get any easier with games against San Diego State and Fresno State in late October. With the team on a bye week, here are some grades for each position group:

Quarterback: B

Quarterback Chaven Covorden has dealt with a lot this season. From injuries to the offense to a difficult schedule, he has really had to put the team on his back.

The 2023 Mountain West Preseason Offensive Player of the Year has passed career milestones but has played well in short-distance situations. The running backs have not been able to get the ball consistently because the team has been playing from behind for a majority of the season. With the carriers the group has taken, they have done a formidable job establishing a good rushing attack.

Wide receivers: D

To be fair, SJ State has been without Preseason All-Mountain West Conference receiver Justin Lockhart all season because of an undisclosed injury and then he getting him back.

But, the wide receiver group has been one of the most consistent this season. From injuries to the offense slump, SJSU will need another playmaker on the outside to stretch the defense.

Offensive line: A-

After being one of the best units, the group has struggled thus far. After losing all-conference offensive tackles Junior Felko and Cade Hall, the D-line has struggled to sack the quarterback and stop the run.

SJSU has allowed 254 yards and 3 touchdowns in the same amount of games. If the Spartans’ offense is going to get out of this slump, SJ State will need another playmaker on the outside to stretch the defense.

Defensive line: F

SJSU’s defensive line has been a group that has struggled thus far. After losing all-conference defensive tackles Junior Felko and Cade Hall, the D-line has struggled to sack the quarterback and stop the run.

The Spartans have just six sacks and have allowed 216 average rushing yards a game. What was the team’s biggest strength last season has now turned into the team’s biggest weakness.

Linebackers: D

SJSU’s defensive line has held this defense back, but the linebackers are also culpable in the team’s failures in stopping the run.

Against Air Force, the Spartans gave up 490 yards rushing. A lot of the Falcons’ scheme attacked the second level of the defense where linebackers had to make open field tackles.

Junior/linebacker Jordan Cobb has kept this group steady, but the Spartans need other linebackers to help in coverage and stop the run.

Defensive backs: C+

SJSU’s defensive backs struggled to start the season, partly because it had to face USC and Oregon State.

But lately they have been a lot better. Spartan defensive backs shut down Toledo quarterback Donovan Finn as SJSU allowed just 92 yards passing and intercepted Finn once.

Special teams: A+

For the most part, SJ State has its special teams units.

But lately they have been a lot better. Spartan defensive backs shut down Toledo quarterback Donovan Finn as SJSU allowed just 92 yards passing and intercepted Finn once.

Coaching Staff: D

With two bowl appearances, Trent Brennan has been one of the reasons that SJSU has had success in the past four seasons. But even he will tell you he has to be better.

But the offense has looked anemic and the defense can’t stop anyone. If the Spartans want to finish the season strong, they will have to start with better coaching.

Justin Lockhart all season because of an undisclosed injury and then he getting him back.

By Nathan Canilao

The San Jose State football team does pregame warmups before its first win of the season against Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo on Sept. 3 at CECU Stadium.

Defensive line coach Joe Seuamo (left) and head coach Brett Brennan (right) greet the defense off the field in the Spartans’ 45-20 loss to Air Force on Friday.