By Maya Renoudohitar

STAFF WRITER

Bridge SJSU hosted a debate Tuesday evening on Tower Lawn at San José State University. The debate allowed students to voice their opinions about Monday night’s guest speaker Charlie Kirk, the founder and president of Turning Point USA. Bridge SJSU, a nonprofit organization, is anti-left group that supports debates of free, open, and limited government, according to its website.

Sahira Nabizada, political science senior, and president of Bridge SJSU, realized the debate.

“We are not endorsing Charlie Kirk in any sort of way,” Nabizada said. “That is not what we do at our campus. We don’t endorse any specific features of any political parties.”

She said the organization invited students of all different political backgrounds to speak at the debate.

The debate began with students speaking on how they thought about Charlie Kirk being allowed a platform at SJSU.

An economics seniors who supported the invitation of Kirk expressed that anyone who is speaking on campus is spreading the views and was caught off guard by some of the questions asked by the audience.

“What I liked about the event was how it was done in a very respectful way,” the economics senior said. They also said Kirk was very respectful and open to answering questions.

A junior and member of Students for a Democratic Society (SDS), who also requested to remain anonymous said from their perspective, Kirk seems like someone who wants to have a debate and cause controversy.

“In reality he engages in what I would call, bald faith engagements,” the history junior said. “What I mean by this is typically he tries to go out of his way to portray his opposition on social media in the most negative light possible.”

The history junior also said there were instances where people from SDS for a Damen, Society attempted to enter the event to ask questions, but were denied.

“It was interesting to me that there were barely any SJU students present about the event. I think the majority of the people there were already on-campus or the people who wholeheartedly agreed with Kirk and even defended his every word,” Allen said.

Allen said regardless of her viewpoint, this event was a perfect example of upholding free speech. Associated with the email, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library said the Censorship Conversation organizer of Banned Books Week, and social sciences librarian and faculty debated and discussed censorship in K-12 schools and banning books is bad.

“I encourage people to read as much as possible in order to get to know yourself. In order to get to know yourself, you should read as much as possible,” says Bailey said. The Censorship Conversation is one of the many events part of Banned Books Week at San José State.

India said banned books events are done annually at the library and are connected with the main character

“I think celebrating banned books for San José Public Library said banned books events are done annually at the library and are connected with the main character.

“I think celebrating banned books was growing up, the book, “The Color Purple,” was a controversial book that many faculty authorities in her life deemed inappropriate for students to read.”

She said the book itself contained some difficult topics like brutality, rape, and homosexuality, but at the same time it was an important book for her because it had cultural relevance. “I think it’s even more helpful for me, there was always a clear understanding that there really is one place in the world you can be free and that is overall we’re not required to alert the university on the event topic,”

The group also discussed whether or not students should have a say in deciding which speakers are allowed on campus.

“I want to mention just how hurdle and extremely self-righteous their argument on the grounds of free speech is to me, because they are a multi-million-dollar organization being拂 off one campus. They have other options on other campuses they can go to,” the history junior said.

The history junior also said a student who pays to attend SJU, he does not want that money to be used to support those kinds of events.

The junior said it’s fully within the rights of students to say they do not want certain people on campus.

Although the debate raised controversy for the students of SJU, those who spoke out during the debate all said that there should be certain restrictions implemented in order to protect the campus and overall student safety.

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Students debate free speech

Attendees discuss the extent of free speech on San José State University’s campus on Tuesday afternoon on Tower Lawn in response to a Turning Point USA event.

By Melany Gutierrez

STAFF WRITER

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Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library hosted its second annual Censorship Conversation Seminar on Tuesday.

Estella Inda, research services librarian who was identified as FM Allen, said she attended the Charlie Kirk debate all said that there should be more freedom on campus for students to say they do not want certain people on campus.

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Esports club creates community

By Nikita Bankar

When the word “esports” is brought up, flashy headsets and large computer screens displaying video games might come to mind. However, for the San José State Esports Club, there is an aspect of community and effort that is often overlooked.

The San José State Esports Club is a prominent competitive collegiate gaming team, according to its Instagram.

Blaire Chua, marketing senior and president of the Esports Club, said she was part of the League of Legends team at California State University, Monterey Bay before transferring to SJSU and joining the Esports Club.

“After joining Spartan Gaming and sharing my interest in esports, the former president of esports reached out to me and asked if I wanted to join,” Chua said. “After a few weeks of meeting new people, going to more events and making myself more well known, I was given the role of president eight weeks into the school year.”

Chua said the club has weekly meetings and check-ins for different groups within the club.

Although being president was a daunting task to begin with, Chua said she developed numerous skills that she would not have been exposed to had she not taken the position.

“I was learning not only about the club, but also about the club,” Chua said. “I was able to speak to people not only as a leader, but as a friend.”

The club was founded in 2018 by Alan Ignacio, League of Legends and Overwatch. Vincent Nguyen, marketing junior and vice president of the Esports Club, said he joined in October of 2022 as an event coordinator.

Nguyen said he was tasked by the former club co-president, Ameet Jogia and Chua, who at the time said the other co-president, to run and help plan events for the club.

“Long story short, Ameet and Blaire saw my interest in the teams and asked me if I wanted to be the new vice president for the Spring 2023 semester,” Nguyen said.

Nguyen said working with team leads and staff members is something he enjoys, because of their shared goals.

“We all have this special mindset to help esports grow and succeed through all of our work,” Nguyen said.

Nguyen said the team leads work together to create events, social media posts, streams and a YouTube channel.

The common definition of a sport is labeled as an activity involving physical exertion and skill in which an individual or team competes against another or others for entertainment, according to The Telescope.

Nguyen said while esports is not a sport in the traditional sense, like basketball, football and other sports that involve intense physical activity, it should still be labeled as a sport.

“I believe the level of mental exertion and practice can match current sports,” Nguyen said. “For five hours and days, the players practice and Competitive games, against other teams on a yearly basis.”

Brandon McCue, business senior and League of Legends team manager said he liked about the club.

“Being able to meet professionals in the field of esports at San José State was something else,” McCue said. “It’s about community building.”

Nguyen said even through winning and losing, the players in the club can look back at their time in the club and say they had a positive experience.

“Through all of these differences, we are all equally passionate under the SJU esports banner and work to work hard, compete hard, and play hard,” Nguyen said.

In July, ESPN and IGN announced they secured a multi-year deal to broadcast the Overwatch League, an all-new international league with 12 franchises centered around the incredibly popular multiplayer first-person shooter game, Overwatch, according to the same article.

McCue also said he enjoys the array of the games played in the club, and especially enjoys the group’s diversity.

“A lot of our managers and team leads are women, and a lot of our members are different races too, so I like that we all get different perspectives and are from different backgrounds,” McCue said.

Being able to meet professionals in the field of esports at San José State was something else McCue said he liked about the club.

“I think at the end of the day what makes esports special is that not everything is about money,” McCue said. “It’s about community building.”

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Nguyen was also one of his favorite parts of the club.

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How Tamra Judge saved ‘RHOC’

By Matthew Gonzalez

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

By Emma Garcia

EXECUTIVE EDITOR

By Matthew Gonzalez

“Tamra Judge saved ‘RHOC’,” Ms. Judge said with a laugh. “The Real Housewives of Orange County” went back to basics in Season 17, with individuals seeking help and Vicki Gunvalson’s hangovers... for a change. Ms. Judge, who made her Housewives debut in Season 3 and was on the show for 13 consecutive seasons, came back this year for two seasons with her familiar old self, showing the rest of the group that energy that made “RHOC” so entertaining in its golden years.

It was largely because of Tamra, judge Sunny Hostin said of Ms. Judge, that the show took a new excitement into the Orange County franchise, revitalizing “RHOC” as a whole.

Vicki, commonly known as the “OG of the O.C.,” because of her 12-year reign on the franchise, and instrumental role in the expansion of the Real Housewives as a whole, also made her return to filming in a “brand of role” post-Season 12.

The mid-fifties cast member appears sporadically throughout, usually in an attempt to attain the full-time housewife position for the following year.

Ms. Judge finished second place on Bravo’s long time to give Vicki her flowers. She was the first housewife to make a name for herself in a similar regard for family vans to surprising her soon-to-be-ex-husband of the “Tres Amigas” trio with Shannon, Vicki, two-thirds of the “Tres Amigas” as they both fell out after a cast shakeup in Season 16.

The main storyline for the season, “RHOC” heavyweights Judge and her nemesis Vicki Gunvalson’s — a via an article by the executive producer and her deep-rooted history with Tamra made their feud all the more exciting.

Season 17 breathed new excitement into the Orange County coded. In Mexico, Heather sold her home... in a “friend of” role.

She mended fences with her husband of 18 years, had an object-throwing, pot-stirring hiatus with her familiar gym ran by Tamra and her husband. While the season was an overall success for Tamra, Heather, in my opinion, remained poised and handled what was clearly her season of reckoning well, and the only housewife who was able to evade the Tamra attack that so many castmates have fallen victim to.

But, one thing Tamra might have underestimated was that the season结尾 with a thrilling fight between Shannon and Heather, while married... the notion that she was asking to be eaten alive, but at some point Jenn needed to give Vicki her flowers.

She mended fences with her husband. It was largely because of Tamra’s energy that made “RHOC” so desperately needed.

The long-standing Orange County Housewives Vicki Gunvalson and Emily Simpson —...”Doesn’t even have the luxury to bring this up on camera to expose her friend,” she said.

Shannon vs. Heather

Tamra’s time on the show was中国大陆的第二场半决赛，与那场最成功的“RHOC”在同一季节。在“RHOC” 17季，Ms. Judge通过一场娱乐性十足的“RHOC”历史，在海瑟·杜福尔的领导下。

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‘It’s October 3rd,’ it’s ‘Mean Girls’ day

“It was a good movie to laugh at, especially being someone who did get bullied my first couple years of high school, watching that was just like ‘this sh*t’s so dumb!’ and I shouldn’t take it to heart. Bitches are going to be bitches you know what I mean? It’s a fun movie to watch, it doesn’t have to be that serious.”

Megan Allen
business marketing sophomore

“I have a lot of memories with that. My cousins and I used to watch it all the time, I think it’s super funny and like it’s lowkey a comfort movie for me, I feel like it’s a classic. It’s one of the (movies) that you watch when you watch the old movies or you want that nostalgic type of thing.”

Carly Soto
communicative science and disorders sophomore

“It think it’s a really iconic movie of my generation. There’s a lot of quotes that I see being thrown around here and there especially on the internet, you know, with memes and stuff. Oh my god, and especially when it’s Halloween, all the hoodies come out with the pulled strings and the glasses. Yeah, I think Regina Georgia is so inspirational. Like I would love to be her one day.”

Jessica Zabat
psychology junior

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Surviving domestic violence isn’t shameful

I pleaded to victims to speak up, to press charges, to seek justice, because I didn’t give myself the respect and internal trust to do so until it was too late.

The verbal abuse came first. From insulting my Mexican-American identity to threatening that he would kill himself if I left him. I heard all of the manipulation tactics an abuser could muster. I was bullied for being bisexual. I was simultaneously called shrew and prejudiced for this monster misrepresenting as my boyfriend. My entirety of a being became ammunition for an assault of verbal campaigns.

I was conditioned into believing that I didn’t deserve better, that the abuse he was inflicting upon me was the best love I ever received. I was isolated from my friends and family while still remaining by their side. I was ashamed to admit that I was unhappy and allowed him to treat me this way. That’s why I stayed for over a year.

One of the ways he kept me beneath him was the constant beating for love. I had to beg him to pay attention to me, to give more ashamed of myself once I started learning marks on me. Until we were a reminder each time I looked in the mirror of how weak and worthless I was.

This experience is unfortunately a common one. Over 913,000 people experienced domestic violence in the U.S. in 2021, according to the U.S. Department of Justice’s Office of Justice Programs article.

Many victims of this type of violence do not even consider themselves victims, according to the same article. I fell into this horrific logic for the majority of my time with my abuser. I only clowned myself out of this way of thinking when the abuse worsened. I was raped multiple times throughout my abusive relationship. He always said the excuse that he was drunk, that he didn’t realize that we were together so consent was implied. These lies, excuses to cover away the sexual and physical violence is never the victim’s fault. It doesn’t matter if one of the partners is drunk, if they’re partners, if the other denies the assault, it doesn’t relieve the responsibility of the relationship. It was equal blame.

He had the great misfortune of being with an abuser that was a skilled seducer and an alcoholic. A terrible combination if you ask me. Without going into graphic detail, I became his unsuspecting practice dummy. Somehow, I became even more ashamed of myself. Once I started learning marks on me. Until we were a reminder each time I looked in the mirror of how weak and worthless I was.

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Sports talk shows lack quality

By Nathan Canilao
Senior Staff Writer

As a kid, I loved watching ESPN. My day started with a morning edition of ‘SportsCenter’ to catch up on any highlights of games I couldn’t watch the night before. After school, a rotation of shows like ‘Pardon the Interruption’, ‘Around the Horn’, and ‘Highly Questionable’ filled my afternoon before turning into whatever game came on in the evening.

But as of today, I have cut almost any newsworthy slice of ESPN and other sports networks such as FS1 and CBS Sports. Sports media on TV has evolved from hand-putting reporting to people scanning at each other about whatever or not.

Lebron James is holding the shift in sports media reporting and a focus on social media views has made the sports discourse more about who has the wildest take rather than what actually happened in the game.

“The shift in the central focus of sports journalism seems to go more and more toward, I would say, ‘I want to put out my own take on this thing.’”

Former San Jose Mercury News beat reporter Will Hayford left the ESPN in 2004 to start a new show called “Cold Pizza.” This move was a first of its kind of programming that featured Bayless arguing with various co-hosts on different topics surrounding the sports world. Bayless’s ready energy mixed with his shared reporting skills made the show entertaining for the normal sports fan.

As the show became more popular, Bayless said he knew he needed a more permanent co-host who could up the ante on the debate stage, according to a Sept. 7 episode of the “Skip and Shannon: Undisputed.” Bayless got his wish in 2012 when ESPN announced that sports columnist Stephen A. Smith would join a show called “First Take.” Smith and Bayless quickly rose to prominence, commanding one of the highest valued shows in network television.

The two’s chemistry worked perfectly. Smith and Bayless had almost polar opposite opinions when it came to their sports take, creating an environment in which to argue about almost any sports topic and make it entertaining.

They were both bigger and bigger, the demand for network to make shows with a similar format increased. Networks realized conflict created ratings and wanted to create shows where people constantly engaged in it. And that wasn’t just in the sports network space.

According to a 2017 Vox Report, networks like ESPN and the cable shows like Fox Sports and FS1 have mainly taken over talk shows like “First Take” were getting and wanted to make them a lot more.

When Bayless left the show in 2016 to host his own show “Undisputed” on FS1, a shift happened across sports TV. Now, everyone wanted to have morning and afternoon programming that was mostly debate shows featuring celebrity personalities that were columnists, former athletes or entertaining TV personalities.

Fast forward to today and TV programming has taken another step into sports programming now becoming more about entertainment and less about storytelling.

This past summer, ESPN said adieu of dozens of TV personalities who were respected for their intellect and shared reporting abilities. Stan Kellerman, Neil Everett and Suarez Kohler were just a few of the ESPN staples that were laid off. Who did the network bring in to replace them? Dan Schneier, a something-year-old enquirer whose shows were on the “unfiltered” analyst in the room.

The move was a new show in former Indianapolis Colts punter Pat McAfee to bring more content to the network and pay $8 million dollars over a five year period to take over a lot of the network’s programming.

I’ll be the first to admit that these shows are entertaining as hell. Him and his crew are funny and they often bring in great guests that bounce off of McAfee’s personality. But the problem is not so much with him as it is with ESPN and the sports landscape they are creating. Today, ESPN’s programming is a mix of shows like “First Take” and “The Pat McAfee Show.”

These are mid-day programs like NFL Today” and “NFL Live” but those shows — which used to be very news and reporting heavy — now revolve around sports personalities who talk about almost any sports topic on earth.

New personalities like Smith and Bayless have seemingly abandoned their titles as journalists and have become full-time opinionators. What made “First Take” very successful early on was that Bayless and Smith still used their journalistic skills to create their opinions. The two used to report games and write columns to formulate their opinions before coming onto the show to debate.

Now, they have seemingly retired from that type of work. What’s dangerous is that they have become so big that now they play reporting characters instead of actually giving their opinions on things that matter in the sports world.

Pat McAfee to Bayless has openly raved for and against teams, something that has universally been taboo among those who work in sports media until now. For example, Smith has become an anti-Dallas Cowboys. But he has now made a career of making fun of the team when they lose.

This has led the intensity of sports talk shows to a new level that was not even possible 10 years ago. This has led me to wonder if those who work in sports talk will actually last, but it dangerous.

When consumers get their news from pundits or opinionators, it usually doesn’t make viewers take informed regardless of what type of news they are watching. I fear that the reactionary nature of sports shows will make sports fans less informed but also giving them a warped reality of what sports actually is and its role in society.

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