Spartans remember Camdan McWright

By Adilah Roman

Going into its game against Utah State University on Saturday, San Jose State football players might have their minds off the field and instead, on late running back Camdan McWright.

His death came just one day before SJU’s matchup against New Mexico State. A game which was ultimately postponed.

The Spartans paid tribute to McWright in the following game against the University of Nevada Reno by wearing shirts honoring McWright’s number six before the game according to a Nov. 2, 2022 article by The Spear.

The Spartans upset the Wolf Pack 35-28, coming back from a 20-point deficit with just 6 minutes, 30 seconds left in the game.

Carter recruited McWright into SJU’s football program, according to The NBC Bay Area article.

“His mother’s wonderful,” Carter said. “She just loved her son and I fell in love and knew it was the place for him."

Just have gratitude for the day, for this game (and) for everything. ”

Brennan said his favorite memory of McWright were when he recruited him and saw him commit to SJU.

“He was such a wonderful young man with a great spirit and great effort and I remind our current group about how to represent him,” Carter said.

Carter said he saw McWright on the day of the accident after he was looking for him.

He said the football player was late to practice, which had never happened in the past.

McWright was a two-time Camino Real League MVP and a first-team all-league member at St. Genevieve High in Panorama City, Calif.

Carter recruited McWright into SJU’s football program, according to the NBC Bay Area article.

“They just don’t know that they're”

Carter said people easily gravitated towards McWright and that he not only hung out with young kids, but with coaches Carter himself.

“He was just a cool dude,” Carter said. “Those types of kids you want to coach and he’s a 4.0 student on top of it. He was special.”

Brennan said his favorite memory was simply his big smile.

“Coming out to work every day, he had great energy about him and I think everybody that got to meet him, got a chance to feel that,” Brennan said.

SJSU holds annual homecoming pep rally

By Navin Krishnam

San Jose State held its annual homecoming pep rally on Wednesday at Seventh Street Plaza just for the school and campus’ main events of the year as assembled to kick off one of the campus main events of the year.

The event consisted of band performances, a golf cart parade and cheerleading performances.

“Coming out to work every day, he had great energy about him and I think everybody that got to meet him, got a chance to feel that,” Brennan said.

Brennan said McWright was a hardworking, intelligent and motivated young man.

He said he always practiced on time, worked hard in the weight room and practiced his academics alongside football.

Assistant head and running backs coach, Alonzo Carter, said saying “I was a lucky guy last night”

Carter said McWright was a first-team all-league member at a small school in India.

His family visited the SJSU campus, they fell in love and knew it was the place for him.

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Carter recruited McWright into SJU’s football program, according to the NBC Bay Area article.

“I remember that one time I had a stomach flu and I was in the hospital. He was in there with me and I was pretty upset and he was just like, ‘You’re going to be fine. Just get better.’”

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Homecoming festivities will include a week of fun events to showcase Spartan spirit, according to the SJSU’s homecoming that Jessica Peters, psychology and communication disorders senior said homecoming is a big event for both SJSU and the city of San Jose.

“I love the traditions and the pride the school has,” Peters said.

“I think it’s the best time to show what are some of your expectations for football games this Saturday."

The event consisted of band performances, a golf cart parade and cheerleading performances.

Cultural engineering freshmen Anjali Atwal said she enjoyed the display of school spirit.

“Just coming out with a bunch of people (is exciting),” Atwal said. “It’s about the cheerleaders perfunctorily really well.”

Aerospace engineering freshmen Sheena Moghe said her experience with homecoming celebrations gave her a warm-welcoming experience rather than a culture shock.

Moghe said she didn’t come to the rally to celebrate the homecoming football game on Saturday, but was instead drawn by

“I really feel like it’s amazing to see countries, education (and) cultures.

There’s your academics and also extracurriculars are all like your No. 1 priority,” Moghe said.

She said she enjoys the traditions and the pride the school has.

“I love the presentation and the color of the parade. It’s unique because I’m an international student, I’m not used to this,” Moghe said. “So I feel like it’s amazing to see countries, education (and) cultures.

It’s not restricted, but you can say that they follow systematically,” Moghe said.

A transfer student from India, said students in India have different priorities in comparison to students in her home country, where education always comes first.

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San Jose's Housing Department held a virtual Zoom meeting discussing its application proposal for the Pathways to Removing Obstacles to Housing and Urban Development Grant on Sept. 30.

The Pathways to Removing Obstacles to Housing and Urban Development Grant’s purpose is to identify and remove barriers to affordable housing production and preservation, according to the official U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development website.

The goals of the Housing and Urban Development Pathways to Removing Obstacles program is to actively take steps to remove obstacles to the same website.

This includes barriers caused by outdated zoning land, lack of neighborhood amenities, deteriorating infrastructure, and gaps in available funding for developing affordable housing, according to the same website.

Mindy Nguyen, a development officer of the San Jose Housing Department, hosted the Zoom meeting and said that San Jose’s Housing Department’s plans were, if approved, groundbreaking.

San Jose’s Housing Department has four main activities it plans on implementing to get approval for the grant.

“There are four activities that further develop, evaluate and implement housing policy plans, improve housing strategies and facilitate affordable housing production and preservation,” Nguyen said. “We can do this in planning and policy, development, preservation and structure and in preservation.

She said that San Jose’s application for the grant will be mainly focused on preservation.

Rachel VanderVeen, the assistant director of the Housing Department of San Jose, said they are seeking funding that will help fund an acquisition rehab program.

“We want to go and support partners who are acquiring and rehabilitating existing market rate housing, making it affordable to households in San Jose who are at or below 80% of the area median income,” VanderVeen said. “We want to secure federal funding to the official U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development website.

State governments, county governments, city or township governments, metropolitan planning organizations and multi-jurisdictional entities who are eligible to apply for grants.

Each grant size will be between $1 million and $10 million to the same source.

“Sandi Perry, a representative for South Bay Community Trust, was an attendee of the meeting and said she was thankful for the housing department for putting out the application,” VanderVeen said. “The need for this (grant) is obvious and extreme,” Perry said. “We actually need quite a bit more than what we’re talking about here, but this is a good start. We’re really happy that the housing department is willing to apply for the application in and that the City Council agreed to fund it.”

Rachel VanderVeen, the assistant director of the Housing Department of San Jose, concluded the meeting and said the department wants to put in the best application that the city has.

“We want to bring more support and thoughts to us in this process, the better application we’ll have,” VanderVeen said.

By Vanessa Real

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Poets take on activism and horticulture

By Julia Chie

The Associated Students Community Garden held “Poetry and Protesting With Plants” on Wednesday. The event was dedicated to sharing poetry, student voices and guerilla gardening tips, according to an Instagram post from the organization.

Pizza, cucumber lemon water and seed bombs were available for free.

Matthew Mangoni, environmental studies graduate and Campus Community Garden coordinator, oversees the garden and its operation. Mangoni said the event was all about meeting in one place together, sharing different perspectives on the environment, hunger, or protesting, and building community with each other.

“When things are really good in life, sometimes people forget about poetry, but when it comes to times of hardship, and people are reaching for things or looking for something to hold onto, poetry is really important,” Mangoni said. “That’s where you can express a lot of your feelings, be raw, and have something to connect with other people with.”

Mighty Mike McGee is the Poet Laureate of Santa Clara County, “which is kind of like being the mayor of poetry town. It’s a relatively arbitrary title for an arbitrary thing . . . but these professors would bring me on campus to do poetry stuff.”

At the garden, McGee performed “My Resounding Failure,” “Uprooted,” “Sorrow is Not My Name” by Ross Gay and “A Village Plays Futbol on the Street.”

Damian Huffman Orpustan, animation junior and assistant at the Associated Students Community Garden, said the event went well.

“There was a big turnout, but I also really enjoyed these smaller events,” Orpustan said. “I feel like they’re more interpersonal. The poetry was very nice, and it’s always very connected.”

He performed a poem called “Feeding the Worms” by Danusha Lamiris, and described what it must be like being a worm receiving compost.

“‘Feasting about in this dark writing ecstasy’ as (the author) puts it,” Orpustan said. Ryan Stell, junior graduate student, was at the event to represent Reed Magazine, the oldest literary journal west of the Mississippi.

“As opposed to a (typical) magazine, where people within the magazine are writing the material, people send in material to us from all over!” Stell said. “I guess you could say our team is kind of like literary and art critics.”

At the event, copies of their magazines were sold and some of its staff members got some mic time.

English junior Abigail Christy, who also works at Reed Magazine, read one of the poems from the 156th issue.

“The poem is called ‘Ghost Eulogy’, and it’s about the speaker’s dad who passed away,” Christy said. “It connects to nature and also their childhood, which really resonated with me because, you know, I’ve been through that.”

Performers Mighty Mike McGee presents poetry at the Poetry and Protesting with Plants event at the Associated Students Community Garden on Wednesday afternoon.

Golf Carts Parade down Seventh Street

By Julia Chie

The SJSU Police Department strolls through the parade with a Spartan Safety golf cart.

2. San José State’s Cheerleading and Color Guard teams performed on Seventh Street for the parade.

3. The SJSU Accessible Education Center drove a golf cart adorned with posters and streamers on Wednesday afternoon.
SJSU reacts to new WNBA team

By Lamar Moody

With the recent success of the Golden State Warriors, basketball fans will soon have a new professional team to root for in the Bay Area.

On Oct. 5, the Women’s National Basketball Association (WNBA) announced San Francisco an expansion team, this will be the 13th team in the league and first new franchise since the Atlanta Dream in 2008. April Phillips, San Jose State women’s basketball head coach, said the new team will give a lot of women something to look up to.

“Ideally we will be able to see women’s basketball at the professional level in person, as opposed to TV, I think is monumental for women in sport,” Phillips said. “I understand the Warriors are supportive of the new team and any time the NBA is supportive of women’s basketball it’s awesome.”

The team will tip off in 2025 and will play its home games at the Chase Center in San Francisco. The team will also take over the Warriors’ old front office and practice facilities in Oakland according to an NBA Oct. 11 press release.

“The new franchise will likely be known as ‘Golden State’ to represent the entire Bay Area but the team name is still to be determined,” Golden State chairman Joe Lacob said. “One player I would like to see play for the new WNBA team would be Sabrina Ionescu.”

San Francisco’s Chase Center will be home to two basketball teams in 2025 with the recent announcement of a Women’s National Basketball Association expansion team.

Although we have an NBA team in the Bay Area, a women’s team would mean much for young girls, especially those who have aspirations to play in the WNBA in the future.

Alyssa Malla (Golden State Sophomore guard)

“Although we have an NBA team in the Bay Area, a women’s team would mean so much for young girls, especially those who have aspirations to play in the WNBA in the future,” Avery said. “One player I would like to see play for the new Bay Area WNBA team would be Sabrina Ionescu.”

Sabrina Ionescu is currently a guard for the New York Liberty and was the No. 1 overall pick in the 2020 WNBA draft out of the University of Oregon.

Biomedical sophomore Luke Avery said he would like to see current Phoenix Mercury center Brittney Griner headline the new team.

“She’s a little older now but I think she would dominate for us and provide toughness and veteran experience,” Avery said. He said that it makes perfect sense for the Bay Area to be chosen for a WNBA team because of the locations’ huge market for sports.

“We have the best fans in the Bay. So fortunate for this new team, they’re going to inherit a huge fan base quickly,” Avery said.
Halloween is a waste of time and money

Navin krishnan
STAFF WRITER

As October comes around, shouts of laughter and armor of children storm the streets in anticipation of burning holes in people’s pockets and draining the festivity from the souls of adults.

I told my 5-year-old she should go with the flow. That I should embrace Halloween. I felt like this is a creek of garbage. But for me, the invention of Halloween by the Irish more than 2000 years ago makes me want to throw up before I bend on decayed candy or contract the flu.

Being someone who is nauseated by outdated candy and dreads walking in heavy costumes drenched in sweat, I hate Halloween. I feel like this holiday has been sold on longer-term, more wasted resources that Halloween spending is a crock of garbage. I feel like staying at home and go around shopping to do is burn up my time.

Halloween is for consumers who look downward to a cultureless, washed-out excuse for a holiday. Some experts argue that Halloween spending diverts resources that would be better spent on long-term, more productive economic activity, according to the National Credit Foundation website. The same source said this can lead to fewer savings overall and reduced receipts for companies that employ workers “full-time year-round.”

Call me a Halloween Grinch, but someone has to stand up against this objectionable, detestable and draining the festive Halloween dominated October.

Halloween is a waste of time and money.

But for now, I’m not buying candy. I’m not dressing up and I’ll celebrate by the college-aged crowd, of course. We celebrate the adult way — with booze and skimpy clothing.

The conventional trick-or-treat Halloween is for students who look downward to a cultureless, washed-out excuse for a holiday. Some experts argue that Halloween spending diverts resources that would be better spent on long-term, more productive economic activity, according to the Retire Pilots website.

Americans should revert the $10.16 billion dollars they waste on Halloween in 2021, according to an Investopedia article.

In 2021, the average spending for Halloween totaled $3.6 billion on costumes, $1.3 billion on candy and $3.4 billion on decorations, according to the National Credit Foundation website.

The same source said this can lead to fewer savings overall and reduced receipts for companies that employ workers “full-time year-round.”

Call me a Halloween Grinch, but someone has to stand up against this objectionable, detestable and draining the festive holiday. But for now, I’m not buying candy. I’m not dressing up and I’ll decorate my house to my heart’s content when Christmas rolls around. Some experts say Halloween is a broccoli to how children differentiate fantasy from reality, according to the NPR website.

Quite literally, it’s time to end this fantasy before it becomes a nightmare.