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News

Get to know the business center's entrepreneurial lab

Page 2



A&E

Fire on the Mountain? No....
Fire on the Fountain

Page 3



Sports

SJSU football team ends homecoming week with a bang

Page 5

Songwriter honored with Hearst Award



ALINA TA | SPARTAN DAILY

Bob Regan, a Grammy-nominated American country songwriter addresses the room full of journalism faculty and students with a smile while discussing his projects.

By Alina Ta & Sofia Hill
COPY EDITOR & STAFF WRITER

San José State University's School of Journalism and Mass Communications awarded Bob Regan the 2024 William Randolph Hearst Award at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library on Thursday.

The William Randolph Hearst awards are given to individuals who have produced "outstanding professional journalism" from SJSU's School of Journalism and Mass Communications according

to SJSU's Instagram page.

Regan won this award because of his work as the founder of Operation Song, a non-profit organization that supports veterans by taking their real stories and creating songs from them.

Through Operation Song, thousands of veterans have been able to find their voices and get their stories told, according to its website.

"When I started, I really didn't have any big ideas about what it was going to be," Regan said. "Number 1, there was no name. It was just me saying, 'I think I'm going to go write some songs with veterans and see

what happens.'"

The goal of these songs is not only to share the stories and lives of these veterans, but to support them mentally and therapeutically by releasing their inner thoughts and turning them to music, according to their website.

Operation Song now has written 1,815 songs, and has served 2,646 veterans and their families through the power of music and songwriting, according to the same website.

"It feels a little unreal. I'm still digesting it. I have to go home and absorb it and process it, but it's extremely

rewarding," Regan said when asked about his Hearst Award win. "I'm just proud (of) what I've done, but mostly I'm just proud of the veterans that you know, served and entrusted us with their stories. It's a big responsibility to get it right."

John Delacruz, the director of the School of Journalism and Mass Communications, talked about how nominations are selected for the award.

Delacruz said every year, the faculty nominates different individuals for the Hearst Award for services they have contributed to journalism.

"We're looking at journalism with a broad brush," Delacruz said. "What does journalism do and how are these people achieving these goals? So, we have a faculty vote, we put our arguments together and Bob won the vote."

SJSU alumna Courtney Lorusso said Regan is a unique contestant because songwriters aren't necessarily what most people picture when they think of journalism.

"You're telling a story, and in this case, a very real story of something that happened to a very real person that went and fought a very real battle," Lorusso said.

Although a songwriter

isn't a typical journalistic figure and is pretty unique, Regan storytelling through songs was defended.

"You may think, well it's maybe a non-traditional choice of a candidate, but not when you really dig deep and find out that journalism is about storytelling and giving a voice to the unheard," Delacruz said.

Regan talked about the best parts of working with veterans on the songs and how special moments of connection can be.

"So many times I've enjoyed just that moment where you connect with a veteran. Oftentimes, they don't know what they want to write about, they're just telling a story," Regan said.

Regan said he remembers the first veteran he ever worked with, Todd Foster. Foster had just arrived back home after being in Afghanistan and didn't want to write a song about his time serving in the military.

He said Foster wanted to focus his song on a World War II veteran named Clovis with whom he had coffee at McDonald's every morning.

"Clovis had all these dumb corny jokes and made little Popsicle stick figures. And he (Foster) wanted to write a song called 'Clovis The Kid.' It had nothing to do with the military, except

it was about a World War II vet," Regan said. "So that was the first song I ever wrote, and people seemed to enjoy it."

When talking about the struggles veterans face like PTSD, Regan said a lot of veterans are hesitant to ask for help or say that they have a problem because they don't want to be seen as "these are their words, a broken soldier."

The songs made for these veterans can help them cope with any mental hardships they have to deal with after serving in combat and make them feel seen when people listen to their songs, according to a video on the Operation Song website.

Regan talked about how important the songwriting process holds to him.

"And when they say something that's important to them, and you can make it alive and you sing it back, god that's magic," Regan said. "That's as close to sacred or magical or spiritual [as] anything I've ever been a part of in my life. And I hope to be able to continue to do it, or at least others are carrying on."



John Delacruz, the director of School of Journalism and Mass Communications, presents the William Randolph Hearst Award to Regan on Thursday.

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HUNTER YATES | SPARTAN DAILY

Steve Bennet (center), managing director of Bodega Partners and lecturer, educates students about entrepreneurship at the Boccardo Business Complex at SJSU.

Faculty leads information session

By Hunter Yates
STAFF WRITER

San José State Lucas College and Graduate School of Business hosted an information session on Monday about the entrepreneurial lab course.

This course aims for students walk away from college with a full-time position by interning with various companies, according to its web page.

Adjunct business professor Steve Bennet led the session regarding the entrepreneurial lab at the Boccardo Business Complex.

Bennet said he has taught entrepreneurial finance since 1995 and has worked as a chief financial officer investor for more than 100 companies, according to his LinkedIn web page.

"I have spent most of my time over the last 3 to 4 decades in the new venture ecosystem, I have worked for over 30 companies as a (chief marketing officer)," Bennet said. "I've invested in over 100 companies and around 30 capi-

tal funds (as well as) teaching part time since 2006."

About 30-50% of Entrepreneurship Lab students land jobs in fields such as sales, marketing, finance and engineering, according to the SJSU event calendar.

Bennet said 218 students who have gone through the program from a large variety of majors ever since he started the program in 2009.

"I call this class the petri dish of entrepreneurship," Bennet said. "We apply the theoretical knowledge that you earn in other entrepreneurial classes to real life with early-stage startups as well as venture capital firms, who invest in these startups."

A startup is a company that is in the early process of operating with limited resources and funding, with the hope to find funding through investors or venture capitalists, according to a Sep. 25 Investopedia article.

Venture capital is private financing generally for startups

and small businesses, according to a Aug. 19 JPMorgan Chase & Co. article. They also typically trade financing for equity in said startup.

"A few years ago students were interested in crypto and

career path they want to pursue.

Nikola Nikolic, a business graduate student, explained what the course is about and the expectations.

"Through this class, I got an internship

running fundraisers, according to its web page.

"We would visit all different types of startups throughout the Bay Area," said Nikolic, "We would also meet the staff members and make

times and did internships for three different companies," said Engulu. "The last internship I did with the program lasted the longest for a company called EAT club, I was there for 6 years, mainly because they decided to bring me on after my internship."

EAT club is a catering service that delivers individual lunch meals to certain businesses throughout the United States, according to its website.

Engulu said by the time he decided it was time for him to move on to a new role, he went from being an intern to the business intelligence manager.

"Ultimately, everything is a business and this is the place that you need to be to expose yourself," he said. "If nothing else, you have to take this class."



We would visit all different types of startups throughout the Bay Area. We would also meet the staff members and make all different connections to see what startup or company would be a good fit for us through process of this class.

Nikola Nikolic

SJSU business graduate student

now everything is (artificial intelligence)," said Bennet. "Lets see what this year brings, it is a good way to see what trends."

Bennet said that the type of internships vary on the student as well as the company.

He said the purpose of the Entrepreneurship Lab is to give students a head start with real-world experiences in the

for a company named Playyon," said Nikolic, "Which is a company that deals with sports, recreation and organizers, and when I was interning I was involved with a lot of event management."

Playyon is a social media platform for those who want to involve themselves with community building through events, promoting brands and

all different connections to see what startup or company would be a good fit for us through the process of this class."

Loïc Engulu, computer science alumnus, talked about his experiences in the workforce and the impact this class has had on his career path.

"I very much abused this class because I took it three

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR



ABOUT

The Spartan Daily prides itself on being the San José State community's top news source. New issues are published every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday throughout the academic year and online content updated daily. The Spartan Daily is written and published by San José State students as an expression of their First Amendment rights. Reader feedback may be submitted as letters to the editor or online comments.

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Fire on the Fountain ignites the night



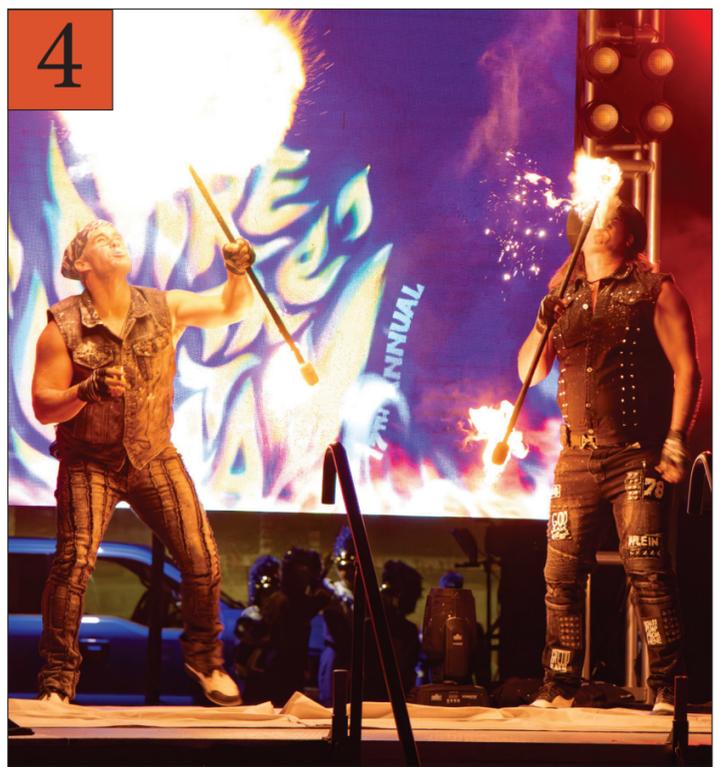
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CHARITY SPICER | SPARTAN DAILY

#1: A fire dancer stands at the front of the fountain on Tower Lawn with her fire wings to begin the show for Homecoming week.

#2: Members of Spartan Wushu show off their skills in wushu martial arts, also known as Kung Fu, a type of Chinese performative martial art.

#3: Fire dancers perform on stage with their wings set ablaze at the 17th annual Fire on the Fountain on Thursday.

#4: Fire dancers spit gas onto sticks lit on fire to send a blaze of fire into the air.

#5: Spartan Bhangra, a Punjabi dance group, perform its routine for SJSU students and local community members.

#6: Spartan Bhangra dancers perform on and off the stage at the Tower Lawn fountain.

Market observes Filipino Heritage

By Charity Spicer
STAFF WRITER

Filipino American History Month is a celebration of Filipino culture and history and marks the first recorded presence of Filipinos in the U.S.

Garden at the Flea has been celebrating Filipino American History Month (FAHM) through its annual market called FAHM Jam which is the largest Filipino American History Month celebration in the Bay Area, according to Garden at the Flea's website.

On Friday, people from all over the Bay Area gathered to celebrate Filipino-American culture, eat food from local chefs and small businesses, purchase local hand-made goods, thrift and watch live performances.

Attendees flooded the gates at the beginning of the event and rushed to grab a bite from their favorite local Filipino food truck.

Many were awaiting the performances of notable artists including the headliner, Jeremy Passion.

Vendors at Garden at the Flea sold a variety of goods such as pre-owned clothing to storybooks for children about Filipino culture.

Pia Barton, CEO and founder of Malaya Botanicals from Alameda said that the event felt like a "reunion" for people

in the community sharing familiar experiences of being a Filipino-American in the Bay Area.

"I moved to Alameda four years ago from San Francisco and my group didn't have community," Barton said. "So I decided to bring some of my community in San Francisco to Alameda."

Malaya Botanicals is a CBD health and wellness company and Barton aims to educate small farmers in Mendocino County on the regulated cannabis industry.

Some of the food trucks at the market went beyond just Filipino food including taquería food trucks, Vietnamese street food, Mexican-Hawaiian and Filipino fusion.

Meg Coronel-Ambolo, founder of Chorva Co. based in Los Angeles, said she and her family drove from Los Angeles to San Jose to attend FAHM Jam and share their products with the Bay Area.

"We started Chorva Co. because we just have so much pride for our culture," Coronel-Ambolo said. "We were born and raised in the Philippines and we didn't see that many apparels that had Filipino sayings."

Chorva Co.'s stand saw hundreds of customers and was one of the most popular vendors during the event.

The small business features clothing with Filipino phrases like



CHARITY SPICER | SPARTAN DAILY

R&B singer Jeremy Passion performs at the annual FAHM Jam for Filipino American History Month on Friday.

"mabuhay" which means "long live," stickers and other types of merchandise.

Jeremy Passion, FAHM Jam 2024's headliner, is a Filipino-American singer and songwriter from San Francisco accredited for pioneering the acoustic R&B trend and known for his 2011 single "Lemonade" which went viral on the internet, according to The Hollywood Partnership.

He sang many of his popular originals and brought up one of his long-time friends from San Francisco to sing a duet, Passion shouting out the community in San Jose.

Jaimee Rose Andaya, a local from De Anza College, said how much the event had an affect on her emotionally and helped her feel connected to her culture.

"The second I got here, I was super happy because I got to see a lot of familiar faces, cool stuff that I know that I want more people to be able to get to see," Andaya said. "I also got to eat good food so that really brought my mood up and then I got to see Jeremy Passion."

Judy Dela Cruz, another local student from De Anza College, shared that she knew of a few of the local performers.

"One of the DJs, I think

her name was DJ Bite Size, just DJ'd at my debut, which is the Filipino 18th birthday," Dela Cruz said. "Everyone else that performed today was so great, so amazing."

Andaya said events like this are extremely important to Filipinos in the area because of the lack of representation.

"I'm just so glad that they're having Filipino recognition around our area," Andaya said. "For me, we all grew up in high schools where we barely even had that much recognition when it came to Filipino culture. So, having this around and having all of these events, we're so grateful to have

this kind of community."

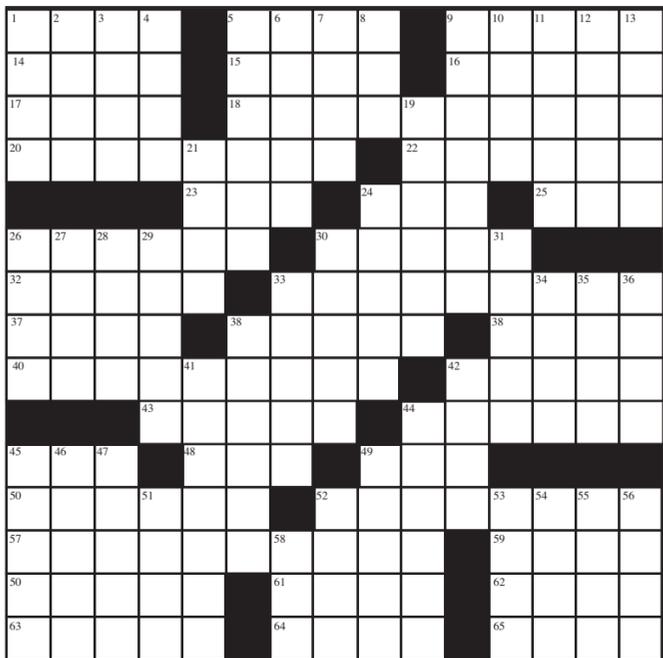
While attendees made their way home after a long day of celebrating, some people stuck around singing popular songs like "Love" by Keyshia Cole and continued to socialize with the community.

"I have a 30-year-old son and I feel like even though I'm very involved in the community and I've raised him to be knowledgeable about the history and our culture, it's still not enough," Barton said. "It really takes a village to preserve our culture and history."

Follow Charity on Instagram @charity.spicer

CLASSIFIEDS

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



ACROSS

- 1. "--- Lisa"
- 5. Exclamation of sorrow
- 9. Island off Manhattan
- 14. Quizzer Trebek
- 15. Singer or Italian lake
- 16. Invalidate
- 17. Muddy the water
- 18. It carries pesticides
- 20. Sparkling wine
- 22. Hang it up
- 23. Country monogram
- 24. According to
- 25. Unfamiliar, as territory
- 26. Snitch
- 30. It's fit for a queen
- 32. Collection
- 33. Place for kisses?
- 37. Ananias, e.g.
- 38. Movers' supply
- 39. "Dies ---" (Mass hymn)
- 40. Maryland retreat
- 42. Casual attire
- 43. Regular and long
- 44. Establishes
- 45. Piano tune
- 48. Option for moving
- 49. Famous architect
- 50. Spain's peninsula

- 52. Meals on sticks
- 57. Teller's charge
- 59. Painter's calculation
- 60. Fashionable Lauder
- 61. Flyspeck
- 62. Custard concoction
- 63. Cut, as wool
- 64. Attention-getting sound
- 65. Phoenician trading center of old

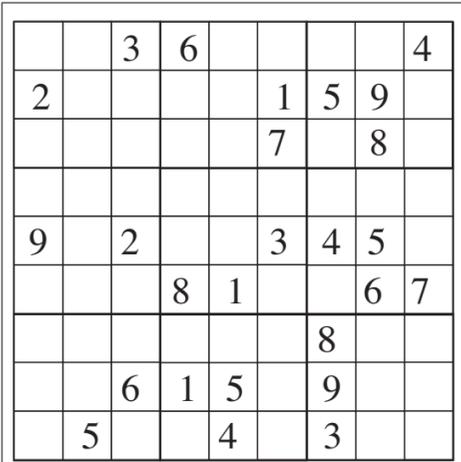
DOWN

- 1. Cleo wooer
- 2. Gallimaufry
- 3. Dudley Do-Right's love
- 4. Hewed, in a way
- 5. Point the finger at
- 6. Poet Federico García
- 7. Running wild
- 8. Mollifying concession
- 9. Tender of the prince's horses
- 10. Deadly sin
- 11. Cato's tongue
- 12. Its capital is Grenoble
- 13. Mouselike mammal
- 19. Is apprehensive of
- 21. In a proper manner
- 24. Carried a torch (for)

- 26. Softest mineral
- 27. Verdi's "Caro nome," e.g.
- 28. London trolley
- 29. Diamond protectors
- 30. Prepares for takeoff
- 31. "Au revoir!" relative
- 33. Witches' group
- 34. Rain anagram
- 35. Paper type
- 36. Dame of the piano
- 38. Sale for charity, maybe
- 41. Partition
- 42. Associate with
- 44. Domesticated polecat
- 45. Prepares potatoes, in a way
- 46. Make embarrassed
- 47. Christopher Wren's "Beau ---"
- 49. Well-versed folks?
- 51. Earthbound bird
- 52. Some noncoms
- 53. Off one's trolley
- 54. Air France airport
- 55. Trucker's selection
- 56. Opposite of 53-Down
- 58. Roadie's tote

SUDOKU PUZZLE

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.



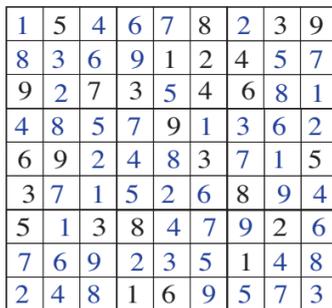
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In his sleeves.

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FOOTBALL

SJSU bests Wyoming, moves to 5-2

By Israel Archie
STAFF WRITER

San José State was a brick wall against University of Wyoming defending their turf to end homecoming week on a good note.

SJSU football team (5-2, 3-1 MW) wrapped up homecoming week winning against Wyoming (1-6, 1-1), 24-14.

The defense allowed 17 total offensive yards in the second quarter and intercepted the ball three times the entire game.

Redshirt senior wide receiver Nick Nash had 98 yards on 10 receptions and scored a touchdown.

This was Nash's fourth game this season with 10 or more receptions which ties the record for the school record which was set by Evan Jurovich in 2007, according to a web page from SJSU Athletics.

Redshirt senior wide receiver Justin Lockhart led the team in receiving yards with 129 yards on four receptions.

Redshirt junior quarterback Walker Eget had nothing, but praise for Lockhart on his performance in the game.

"A lot of people don't really know about him, because with Nick Nash (being) such an all-around player, people forget that all of our other receivers,

especially (Lockhart) can really do all of it," Eget said. "(Lockhart) is someone that I think can play at the next level."

Nash said Lockhart's performance is a testament to the way he works during practice. However, Nash also said he thought that the team as a whole could have played better.

While the Spartans did win, Nash said they still need to fix some things and play better than they did in this game.

"Obviously we didn't get everything we wanted to get done, but it's a win," Nash said. "So we're happy about the win, but there's still a lot that we can fix."

The Spartans started Eget making it his first start of his career.

Although the nerves came with it being his first career start, Eget appeared to be prepared to do it and led the Spartans to the finish line, while never losing the team's lead.

"It felt good," Eget said. "(I) was a little nervous as usual, but I think on offense we put up a lot of yards where we just didn't finish drives."

Despite a few offensive struggles including throwing two interceptions and fumbling the ball on a 32-yard rush, he went 20 for 38 in passing with 318 passing yards



Spartans wide receiver Nick Nash steps up for one of his ten receptions against the Wyoming Cowboys at homecoming Saturday afternoon.

and threw his first career touchdown pass.

The Spartans got off to a quick start scoring on their first drive of the game with a 39-yard rushing touchdown from junior running back Floyd Chalk IV.

SJSU head coach Ken Niumatalolo was satisfied with the running performance in this performance this game and attributed some of the success to the offensive line.

Redshirt sophomore Jabari Bates contributed to this running performance

bringing in 36 yards on three carries.

"The whole line did a really good job blocking," Niumatalolo said. "I thought Floyd ran really well (Bates) ran well so (I'm) happy for them."

Chalk IV went on to record 91 yards on 12 carries. The ground game from SJSU was the best it has been all season, tallying 176 rushing yards.

Bates scored the last touchdown for the Spartans with a 19-yard rushing touchdown in the fourth quarter.

While the Spartans did

take home the win, Niumatalolo said he felt that they could have played better.

"It's kind of hard for me to celebrate this win because we didn't play championship football," he said. "We were good enough to win but I'm not going to lower the standard for what we have to do."

Redshirt senior defensive lineman John Ward acknowledged it took a team effort to be successful on defense during the game.

"We executed our plays

and trusted each other on defense and came out with the result," Ward said. "We all need to play as a team and come together like we did today, and we'll come out with great results like today."

Following this win the Spartans are scheduled to play in a Mountain West rivalry game against Fresno State at 5 p.m. Saturday in Fresno, Calif.

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OPINION

NBA season returns to TV with a bang

By Anfisa Pitchkhadze
STAFF WRITER

The NBA season is right around the corner and it's time to tip off to a new basketball season.

Fans like myself are brewing excitement to not only see their favorite team and stars returning but also the free agency moves made over the summer like acquisitions of stars to play out on the court.

The Boston Celtics are led by its five-time All-Star Jayson Tatum along with three-time All-Star and 2024 NBA Finals most valuable player (MVP) Jaylen Brown.

Tatum and Brown are vital to the Celtic's offense since both are the team's top two scorers and were key contributors to the team's Finals run in 2024 to earn Boston's 18 banner.

Tatum agreed to a supermax extension on a five-year \$315 million contract to be part of the Celtics franchise for long-term, according to a July 6 NBA.com report.

Boston seems to be the most complete in the NBA from both ends of the floor as they led the league with an offensive rating of 122.2 and had the second-best defensive rating of 110.6, according to an NBA.com stats logger.

Besides the Celtics, the Philadelphia 76ers, Milwaukee Bucks, and the New York Knicks are other teams to pay close attention to in the Eastern Conference and can be potential threats to the Celtics.

The 76ers and Knicks in particular made bold moves in the offseason in

hopes of upgrading the roster.

Firstly, the 76ers in the offseason most notably signed Paul George to a four-year \$212 million deal, according to a July 1 ESPN report.

George joins MVP center Joel Embiid and All-Star guard Tyrese Maxey to form one of the league's most anticipated big three.

Embiid is an MVP candidate while Maxey had a breakout year as he averaged career highs in rebounds, assists, steals, blocks and an average of 25.9 points per game in the 2023 to 2024 regular season, according to ESPN stats.

Besides the 76ers, the Knicks took their chances by trading for Minnesota Timberwolves four-time All-Star Karl-Anthony Towns in a three-team trade, according to an Oct. 3 NBA report.

The Knicks notably gave the Timberwolves three-time All-Star Julius Randle and guard Donte DiVincenzo while acquiring a first-round pick, according to the same NBA.com report.

With Towns heading to New York, he will make an interesting pairing with All-Star Jalen Brunson.

Brunson led the Knicks in scoring with 28.7 points per game in the 2023 to 2024 NBA season, according to ESPN stats.

The Bucks feature two-time MVP and eight-time All-Star Giannis Antetokounmpo and another eight-time All-Star Damian Lillard as they make a push for a title run.

The NBA Eastern Conference has loads



GRAPHIC BY ANFISA PITCHKHADZE | SPARTAN DAILY

of star power but hasn't featured much of a tough competition between teams fitting for seeds compared to the Western Conference.

The Western Conference is highlighted with the Dallas Mavericks signing five-time All-Star and four-time NBA champion Klay Thompson to a three-year \$50 million deal, according to a July 6 ESPN article.

The team added Thompson in hopes of providing a boost to help five-time All-Star guard Luka Dončić and eight-time All-Star guard Kyrie Irving after losing the 2024 Finals to the Boston Celtics.

However, I believe the Denver Nuggets are the strongest competitors in the West led by three-time MVP and six-time All-Star center Nikola Jokić.

Nuggets forward Aaron

Gordon resigned after agreeing on a four-year \$133 million contract, according to an Oct. 21 Yahoo Sports report.

Gordon is a key piece for the Nuggets that provides offense and defense from both ends of the floor and played an important role in helping Denver achieve their first NBA championship in 2023.

Denver will also receive some scoring contribution from nine-time All-Star Russell Westbrook as he signed a two-year \$6.8 million deal, according to a July 29 NBA.com report.

There are also the young Oklahoma City Thunder and the Timberwolves teams that are looking to earn a top spot in the tough Western conference.

The Thunder is led by two-time All-Star Shai Gilgeous-Alexander and

has a solid supporting cast.

Minnesota's season seems uncertain after the departure of their star center Karl-Anthony Towns and the team building around two-time All-Star Anthony Edwards.

The West also features the Stephen Curry-led Golden State Warriors, the LeBron James-Anthony Davis duo for the Los Angeles Lakers, and the Phoenix Suns' three stars, Kevin Durant, Bradley Beal and Devin Booker.

The Sacramento Kings are another team to keep an eye on.

It also caught me off guard that the Kings decided to add veteran guard and six-time All-Star DeMar DeRozan in a sign-and-trade on a three-year \$76 million deal, according to a Sept. 9 NBC Sports article.

The Kings are led by All-Star guard De'Aaron Fox and three-time All-Star Domantas Sabonis.

With DeRozan's addition to the team, the Kings' ball movement will look different with three All-Stars on the court.

Overall, time will tell how the upcoming season will go which can be full of twists and turns.

The 2024-2025 NBA season is scheduled to tip off at 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday featuring the New York Knicks versus the Boston Celtics and at 7:00 p.m. featuring the Los Angeles Lakers vs. the Minnesota Timberwolves, according to NBA.com.

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