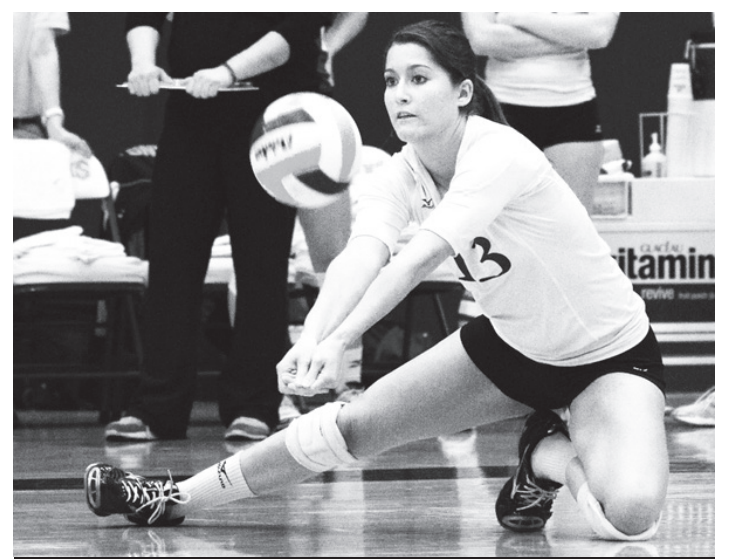




Happiness
does not
come with
a price tag
Opinion p. 5



Hornets swarm Spartans Sports p. 4

Increasing SJ gang activity prompts UPD campus alert

Crimes increase south of campus; police cite regular fluctuation in frequency

by Chris Marian
Staff Writer

On the night of Saturday, Sept. 24, residents of the 500 block of South 10th Street awoke to the sounds of gunfire ringing out into the night, as police said rival gangs clashed once more for territory and respect in the neighborhoods southwest of the SJSU campus.

Police arriving on the scene secured one wounded suspect and captured another — the rest fled south with a San Jose Police Department SWAT team on their heels, according to SJPd.

Four days later, on Sept. 28, the University Police Department issued a campus safety advisory warning students of an apparent increase in gang activity in the neighborhoods south and west of campus, and advising students to exercise caution when traveling through these areas after dark.

There has been a spate of violent gang encounters in the last month, and UPD felt it was time to warn students about the trend, Sgt. Manuel Aguayo of UPD said.

"It was an advisory to make students aware of the climate south of campus," Aguayo said of the warning.

There was gang brawl at a McDonalds on South Third Street over the summer; a mystery shooting at 10th and San Carlos streets early in the semester that police believe was gang-related; a shooting at First and Willow streets on Sept. 18th; a stabbing at Seventh and Reed streets on the 19th; and finally the gunfight on 10th Street on Sept. 24.

Acts of violence aren't the only indicators of an increasing gang presence in the area, Aguayo said.

"Property crimes are up in the neighborhood," Aguayo said.

He said gangs use home and car burglaries as a primary source of revenue, along with drug dealing, and an increase in these kinds of crimes can be used as an indirect indicator of gang presence.

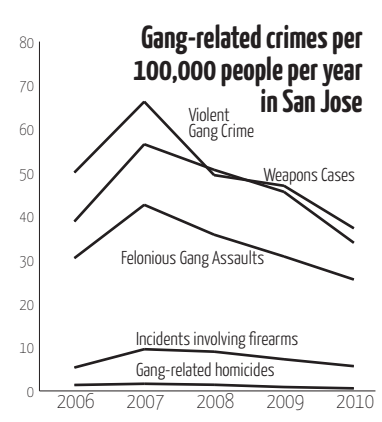
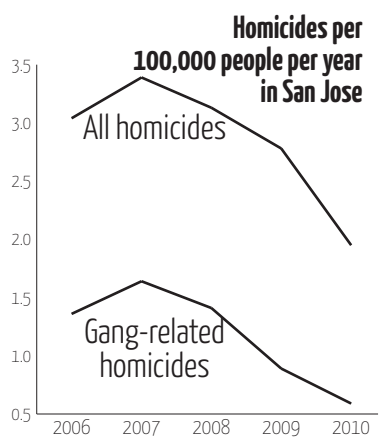
Graffiti is another good indicator of gang presence, Aguayo said.

"There has been a big increase in graffiti all around campus and in the neighborhoods around campus," he said.

The city of San Jose is very aggressive about removing graffiti, he said, but its constant appearance in certain areas is an indicator of areas which

Over the past 18 months, San Jose has seen a spike in gang activity.

"There have always been spikes in gang activities," Sgt. Manuel Aguayo of the UPD said. "It's a generational thing ... it's cyclical."



About the San Jose Police Department

38-member metro unit dedicated 100 percent to gang enforcement; also tracks gangs in all 16 districts of San Jose; all but the airport have gang presence

Source: San Jose Police Department website crime statistics; Interviews with Sgt. Manuel Aguayo of the UPD and SJPd Sgt. Jason Dwyer

gangs are attempting to claim.

"There have always been spikes in gang activities," Aguayo said. "It's a generational thing ... it's cyclical."

As previous generations of gang veterans are caught or run out of town by law enforcement, there is a general dip in gang crimes until the younger generation become strong enough to make their presence felt again, Aguayo said.

SJPd Sgt. Jason Dwyer said a large spike in gang homicides earlier this year was successfully stamped down when large numbers of officers were, in response, re-tasked to gang enforcement.

"We have a 38-member metro unit that is 100 percent all-the-time gang enforcement," Dwyer said.

Entire gangs can vanish under the pressure of police anti-gang task forces, only to be resurrected years later by the few remaining veterans who have escaped police or been released from prison, Aguayo said.

Older gang veterans then begin recruiting fresh members from local middle schools and high schools, using the enticements of money, prestige and pop-culture glamour to prey on desperate and disenfranchised adolescents, he said.

Aguayo said he grew up in a tough East Bay neighborhood, and thus knows these patterns well. He said he believes the area is seeing this kind of growth in the areas around campus.

"The majority of the gangs in San

A Clean Slate



Dulce Alvarez, a San Jose Conservation Corps intern, dumps recyclables into a bin on Wednesday, Sept. 28 outside of Clark Hall. Alvarez has been working as a corps intern since July after being assigned to SJSU.

The Conservation Corp has been working with the City of San Jose to advance its zero-waste policy. The corps has been in existence since 1987.

Photo by Jack Barnwell / Spartan Daily

San Jose Conservation Corps offers a second chance to those in need

by Cynthia Ly
Staff Writer

Before Melissa Avalos enrolled at the San Jose Conservation Corps Charter School, she did not have a high school diploma.

"I dropped out of school when I was 13 years old," Avalos said.

She said she started working using fake papers, abused drugs and was arrested for possession of a stolen vehicle.

Avalos said she was already 18

when she was charged and sent to jail.

After she was released, she remembered her sister recommending the San Jose Conservation Corps Charter School.

"They are strict," she said of the organization's policies toward gang-related activities.

The school is a major part of the San Jose Conservation Corps, which is one of 13 state certified corps focused on helping at-risk youths ages 17 to 24 through education and community service.

"Little by little, I'm building what I have," Avalos said. "I didn't have a car, now I have a truck. I didn't have my license, now I have my license."

SJSU hired two interns from the San Jose Conservation Corps to help

with maintaining and collecting from the recycling bins around campus.

"They give students a second chance to get a (high school) diploma," said Dulce Alvarez, 20, one of the interns.

Alvarez said she started her internship at SJSU in July after graduating from the conservation corps' charter school.

The internship also includes a stipend that pays for her courses and supplies at Evergreen Valley College, she said.

The corps is partnered with the city of San Jose and the East Side Union High School District to collect and sort recyclables, such as cans,

SEE CORPS PAGE 2

Funds for MUSE courses evaporate

by Christina Molina
Staff Writer

The MUSE program, general education classes designed to help freshmen adapt to college after high school, has been discontinued because of budget cuts and lack of cooperation from a number of departments, according to officials.

"It wasn't that MUSE (Metropolitan University Scholar's Experience) was canceled, it just faded away," said Dennis Jaehne, associate vice president of undergraduate studies.

Instead, the university is implementing a reduced number of classes for first-semester freshmen through the program First Year Experience.

"The departments (within SJSU) got premium funding for allowing professors to teach MUSE classes," Jaehne said. "There was no more premium funding for MUSE, causing the program to fade out."

MUSE, which was introduced in

Fall 2002, was among other programs within a broader category known as First Year Experience, with the same concept of transition for freshmen, according to Stephen Branz, associate dean of curriculum and director of general education.

"When MUSE was first passed, it was not a permanent category," Branz said. "It was going to be temporary until FYE came into place."

Ultimately, each department within SJSU decides whether to include First Year Experience into their curricula, Branz said.

Changes in the process of incorporating FYE in general education courses also create obstacles for departments to approve, according to Maureen Scharberg, associate vice president of Student Academic Success Services.

The approval of FYE courses is decided by the Undergraduate Studies Committee with recommendations from the Board of General Studies,

which approves all general education courses.

This complex process is one of the many reasons why the MUSE program is no longer in effect, Branz said.

"There is an approval process for all G.E. courses and every MUSE class has to be a G.E. course as well," he said. "There is a normal approval process and MUSE had a different process for approval and I think there were a lot of people in the university and in the governments for the university who didn't think this was fair."

Branz said there is nothing preventing MUSE courses in policy, but they did not happen because departments have chosen not to do them.

During Fall 2011 enrollment, a handful of courses were marked with the letter "Q" indicating that the class met the criteria as a First Year Experience course by university policy, Scharberg said.

SEE MUSE PAGE 2

A sample listing of MUSE classes no longer available

ANTH 96KQ Samurai, Poets, and Tea Masters	BUS4 96FQ Master of My Own Universe: Leading Myself	ENGL 96LQ What Dreams May Come: The Influence of Dreams in Art, Music, and Literature	PHIL 96FQ Deathlore: Stories of Horror in Film, Philosophy, and Folklore	PSYC 96PQ Becoming a Jedi: Success at SJSU
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Source: MUSE Catalog of Seminars, Fall 2010 via its website

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Spartan Daily
Serving San José State University since 1934
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SEE GANGS PAGE 2

CORPS: Advancing S.J. zero waste efforts

FROM PAGE 1

bottles, mixed paper and cardboard, said Stefani Blanco, a sophomore business major and the corps' recycling program assistant.

She said the organization reports the amount they collect to the city every month.

"That goes to the zero-waste bottom line that the city is trying to reach for special events," said Gina Garcia, an SJSU graduate and deputy director of the San Jose Conservation Corps.

The city of San Jose has a goal to reach 100 percent zero waste by 2022, according to its Green Vision website.

Garcia said the corps works at large events around San Jose, such as the Sharks' games at the HP Pavilion and Music in the Park.

When asked about unauthorized recyclers, Garcia said they are an industrywide problem.

The San Jose Conservation Corps gained some notoriety on SJSU campus in August when 75-year-old Mariano Hernandez was arrested for taking cans and bottles from the recycling bins.

clinging bins.

Garcia said the situation with unauthorized recyclers is difficult to deal with.

"Do you let that guy take a bag of recycling so he can eat or do you protect your business?" she said.

The San Jose Conservation Corps, its charter school and various programs are funded by the recyclables its staff collects, donations, and federal grants such as reentry grants, Garcia said.

Organizations can use reentry grants to provide released prisoners educational and vocational opportunities, according to the National Reentry Resource Center, which was established by the U.S. Department of Justice.

The San Jose Conservation Corps received \$490,230 in 2010 from CalGRIP, a 2007 state initiative created to reduce and prevent gang violence.

"We work with people before they come out of jail," Garcia said.

She said the students who attend the charter school need support on a greater scale.

"We need the community



San Jose Conservation Corps student George Ramirez rearranges recycling bins for stacking prior to the end of his shift at the corps' Berger Road facility on Friday, Sept. 23. Photo by Jack Barnwell / Spartan Daily

to accept our students, to give them a chance, to give them jobs," Garcia said.

Melissa Avalos, now 24, said her family and the San Jose Conservation Corps helped get her life back together after her

time in jail.

"Some kids or students or corps members or whatever don't know how to take advantage of what the corps brings," she said. "If you want to come here, it's to change."

MUSE: Classes discontinued

FROM PAGE 1

She said Area E of general education is not FYE approved but was highly recommended for freshmen to take this fall because it dealt with human development and understanding.

Some of these courses include Comm 74Q: Fundamentals of Intercultural Communication, Psych 002Q: Identity Development and Prejudice and

Sci 002: Success in Science.

The Academic Senate approved specific classes within G.E. courses that serve as First Year Experience for freshmen, Jaehne said.

"We already teach G.E. classes, so if we can just get them (departments) to integrate First Year Experience, it makes the class that much more valuable," he said.

Aside from offering courses to help freshmen through their transition state, each MUSE class was assigned a peer mentor to acquaint and assist first-semester students.

Senior English major Lisa

Always has been a peer mentor since August 2010 and was told that Fall 2010 would be the last semester the Peer Mentor Center would be working with the MUSE program.

"MUSE was the best thing the peer mentors did," Always said. "The best work we do is in the classroom with a small group of students that we get to know throughout the semester."

She said the MUSE program being cut was sad, but has found some positive outcomes from the situation.

"We've become more focused on helping the individuals in the Peer Mentor Center,"

Always said. "We have expanded our hours in the center and have hired more peer mentors."

Although there is no specific program that links peer mentors to courses for freshmen in their first semester, she said the Peer Mentor Center continues to work with professors who want mentors to work closely with their students.

"The downfall is that we miss working with that specific program," Always said. "But we still maintain a great level of prestige. If we want to enter a classroom, we have a good relationship with professors and they are happy to have us."

GANGS: Police respond to crime increase with safety advisory

FROM PAGE 1

Jose are gangs that have been around for generations," Dwyer said.

Dwyer said he worked in gang enforcement for several years and knows the city's gangs well.

"San Jose gangs differ from L.A. gangs in a lot of ways," said Dwyer.

The most active gangs in San Jose are part and the larger Norteño and Sureño gangs, Dwyer said.

The Norteños and Sureños, or "Northerners" and "South-

"The code in the new generation of gangs is much, much different than the older gangs."

- Sgt. Manuel Aguayo of UPD

erners," trace their roots back to a 1960s culture clash between established Mexican immigrants, the Norteños, and the new wave of Mexican immigrants coming up from the south, the Sureños, Dwyer explained.

These gangs began and are still largely headquartered in the California state prison system, he said.

The Norteños and Sureños are not specific to San Jose, Dwyer said, but are endemic to all of California and the American Southwest in general.

Bakersfield is a commonly accepted dividing line between the gangs, said Dwyer.

In San Jose, Dwyer said, there are about a dozen major gangs operating at any one time, and many more smaller, short-lived, gangs made up of less serious

adolescents and wannabes.

The problem in dealing with San Jose gangs from an enforcement standpoint, Dwyer said, is the difficulty in pinning them down.

Although San Jose gangs will defend their nominal "territories" if their criminal enterprises are threatened, they are far more interested in looking for fights with their rivals, wherever they may be, he said.

San Jose gangs hunt one another throughout the city, and members from any one gang could potentially be found in any part of the city, said Dwyer.

"It's pretty spread out, all over the city," he said. "The misconception is that East San Jose has all the gangs. There are sixteen districts in this city, and every one of them except the airport has gangs."

Despite this, there are historic hotspots, Dwyer said.

"10th and William, you're looking at a hotspot," Dwyer said.

The neighborhoods around campus, particularly to the south, have had gang violence in the past, but are better known among interviewed students for their levels of petty crime.

"I used to live downtown on Sixth Street, there was a gang shooting there on Halloween once," senior advertising major Jennifer Giles said.

Audrey Ford, a molecular biology senior, said she has

lived both at 10th and St. John streets, and at 5th and Reed streets, and has seen her share of drug dealers and other shady characters at each.

"It's sad because it's really not that bad downtown, it's just bad late at night," she said.

Like most students interviewed, senior business major Ron Buena said he didn't know about the gang violence, but had heard plenty about robberies and other petty crimes in the neighborhoods south of campus.

UPD is more than willing to provide escorts for students walking alone at night within two blocks of campus, Aguayo said.

Beyond that, he recommended avoiding making yourself an attractive target for robbery by hiding your valuables, particularly money and phones, and always trying to walk in groups on the better lit streets.

Most gang violence is directed at other gangs, and they typically only attack bystanders if they get in the way or have something they want to steal, Aguayo said. But times may be changing, he said.

"The code in the new generation of gangs is much, much different than the older gangs," he said, referring to an unofficial code of conduct among older gangs theoretically prohibiting attacks on bystanders. "With the new generation, there is more of a sense of entitlement."

Aguayo said he fears San Jose gangs may someday evolve into something similar in behavior to the Oakland gangs, for whom anyone is fair game.

SpartaGuide

Well U Dance Workshop: Garba

Indian Student Organization
Friday, Oct. 7, 2011
12 to 1 p.m.
Washington Square Hall 201

Jive and Samba Dance Lessons

Ballroom Dance Club
Friday, Oct. 7, 2011
7:30 to 9:30 p.m.
Spartan Complex room 89

Honors Program Reunion

SJSU Humanities Honors Program
Saturday, Oct. 8, 2011
1:30 to 4:30 p.m.
Fourth floor of Clark Hall

Difficult Dialogues: Environmental Issues at SJSU

Tuesday, Oct. 11, 2011
3 to 4:30 p.m.
Clark Hall 547

Want to be a Global Citizen?

SJSU Salzburg Program
Wednesday, Oct. 12
12 to 1:30 p.m.
Engineering Building rooms 285/287

SpartaGuide is provided to students, staff and faculty, free of charge. The deadline to submit is at noon, three working days prior to desired publication date. Entry forms are available in Spartan Daily, DBH 209. Send emails to spartandailyeditorial@sjsu.edu titled "SpartaGuide." Space restrictions may require editing or exclusion of submissions. Entry is not guaranteed. Entries are printed in order of which they are received.

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Law schools nationwide show drop-off in student applications

McClatchy Tribune
Wire Service

MINNEAPOLIS — Law school is no longer a sure bet, and would-be students are noticing.

The swell of students applying to law school — despite growing debt and contracting job prospects — has slowed. Prospective students have read the bad news, are asking tougher questions and, more often, are declining to apply.

Admissions officers say that's not a bad thing: The students starting this fall are more "focused."

"Frankly, for many years, there were many students who went to law school because they didn't know what to do," said Cari Haaland, assistant dean of admissions for the University of St. Thomas School of Law. "Now, prospective students are thinking more critically about the decision."

There's evidence demand will shrink further. New data show a dramatic 18.7 percent decline in the number of students who took the Law School Admission Test this summer compared to the same time last year.

The job market for law school graduates is the worst it's been since the mid-1990s. Both the employment rate and the starting salary fell dramatically for the class of 2010, new reports by the National Association for Law Placement show. Meanwhile, debt rises. The average amount run up while at one of Minnesota's four law schools now exceeds \$90,000.

"In the aggregate, this class is going to have a harder time paying down its debt than classes before it," said James Leipold, the national association's executive director.

New law students say they're aware of the data, but are sure of their abilities and hopeful the market will have improved by the time they graduate. Several said their goal has never been to nab a high-paying job at one of the big law firms.

Still, "it is discouraging," said Cassie Benson, 25, a "1L" at William Mitchell College of Law. "Everything on the In-

ternet is 'Don't go to law school.' But I have to be confident that this is right for me, and that there are lots of people and alumni who want to help."

During the recession, more people applied to law school, according to the Law School Admission Council. But then for fall 2011, the number of applications nationwide dropped 9.9 percent, according to the Law School Admission Council, to the lowest total number in at least nine years. The number of people taking the LSAT took a dive.

"It is possible that many people took the LSAT then to see if law school would be a reasonable way to wait out the recession," said Wendy Margolis, the council's spokeswoman. "But as news about the declining job market for law school graduates spread, fewer people did that."

"The ones that do apply really want to be there," said Nick Wallace, the University of Minnesota admissions director. "They're not just applying on a whim or as an escape route from the real world."

But the size of an applicant pool doesn't always translate to the size of an incoming class. Even with fewer applicants, St. Thomas enrolled three more students than it did last year. About 3,500 people applied to be a part of the University of Minnesota's class starting this fall, compared to 2,700 in 2006, yet the school enrolled fewer students than it did then.

On legal blogs, law school grads are calling on schools to pull back their numbers so their graduates don't glut the job market.

Minnesota schools say they're admitting only students they expect to succeed.

"We haven't changed our standards," said Dave Jarzyna, assistant dean for marketing and recruitment at Hamline University School of Law. "We've never taken in a larger class to inflate our tuition revenue."

The schools are responding to prospective students' worry about the job market by publishing deeper post-school employment data, matching



First-year law student Terran Chambers studies in the law library at the University of Minnesota-Minneapolis. Chambers says she spends her time studying and worrying about

end-of-year exams than the job market for new lawyers. She also passed on Harvard Law School to keep her school costs down. Photo by Renee Jones Schneider / MCT

more students with mentors and presenting career services earlier in the process.

"We've always had a strong presence at admissions events," said Nancy Lochner, director of career services for Hamline Law School. "But there's maybe a more receptive audience."

This summer, before first-year classes even began, the University of St. Thomas offered a workshop for admitted students called "What can I do with a law degree?" Students drew a lesser-known profession or area of law, quickly researched it and presented it to their classmates.

About 87.6 percent of the class of 2010 had a job — any job — nine months after graduation, according to a June report by the National Association for Law Placement. That's a 15-year low.

"But you have to remember that students 15 years ago didn't have the same debt," Leipold said. "A lot of students have six-figure debt coming out

of law school now ... so the picture is even bleaker."

Yet even that 15-year low "conceals a number of negative trends in the job market," the report stated. Only 68.4 percent of graduates who reported their employment had a job for which they had to pass the bar exam — "the lowest percentage ... ever measured." About 11 percent of those who reported being employed were working part time.

Big-firm jobs "just dried up," Leipold said. That also contributed to a 13 percent fall in the median pay for recent grads. The national median salary for those who reported working full time was \$63,000 for the class of 2010, compared to \$72,000 for the class before it.

In part because there are fewer large firms here, new graduates in Minnesota make less than the national median. Minnesota's median salary for the class of 2010 was \$58,500.

Wallace said it's good for students to weigh those numbers: "In addition

to students, they're also consumers, and they're making an amazingly important investment."

Terran Chambers, 21, is in the midst of the constant reading and outlining that is the life of a first-year law student: "It's a whole new level of exhaustion." She has long wanted to go to law school; "Erin Brockovich" was one of her favorite movies as a kid. "I would love to make big changes," she said. "I will have the power to do that with a law degree."

Although she was accepted at Harvard Law School, the Bemidji, Minn., native picked the University of Minnesota, partly because the U offered her a scholarship.

"Harvard would have given me a lot of great opportunities, but the costs were so substantial and so out of reach," she said. "I didn't want to go to a school where I was so strapped with debt that I would be forced to work at a big firm in New York or L.A. because I couldn't afford to work anywhere else."

STUDY: Wars take mental toll on vets

McClatchy Tribune
Wire Service

WASHINGTON — Nearly 20 percent of the more than 2 million troops who have served in Iraq and Afghanistan suffer from mental health conditions, according to a new report.

They amount to more than half of the 712,000 veterans from both wars who have sought medical treatment since leaving military service. Nearly a third of those veterans may suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder, one of the signature injuries of the conflicts.

Veterans for Common Sense, a nonprofit, nonpartisan activist group for veterans' interests, and health care issues in particular, compiled the statistics from a raft of government reports.

In whittling them down to just the bare data, the group created a grim shorthand for the toll the wars have taken on a generation of young men and women.

"A large number of people serving overseas have mental health impacts, and more and more are coming home," said Democratic Sen. Patty Murray of Washington, the chairwoman of the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs. "I am deeply concerned that we are not ready."

The Department of Veterans Affairs, which is trying to grapple with the wave of new veterans, has been under considerable stress. In a related development this week, an internal VA survey requested by Murray's committee found that its staff doesn't think it has the resources to handle the growing demand from new veterans for mental health services.

Paul Sullivan, the executive director of Veterans for Common Sense, said that in 2003, the government expected that the VA would see about 50,000 new patients from both wars. With nearly three-quarters of a million Iraq and Afghanistan veterans already in the VA system, he said, the long-term estimate was "ominous."

"More than 1 million total patients from the wars by the end of 2013," Sullivan predicted.

His group summarized health care data on veterans based on reports by the VA, the Department of Defense, congressional testimony and its own work over the years.

Of the 109,000 casualties since combat in Iraq and Afghanistan began, 6,200 troops have been killed. Among those were 298 war-zone suicides, according to the study. Overall, it reported 2,300 active-duty suicides since 2001.

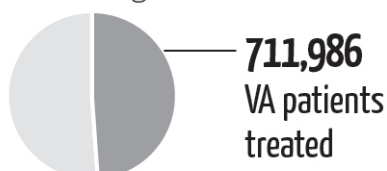
Suicides have been a persistent problem, un-

Iraq and Afghan war veterans

Since Sept. 11, 2001, more than 2.2 million U.S. service members have been deployed to war zones.

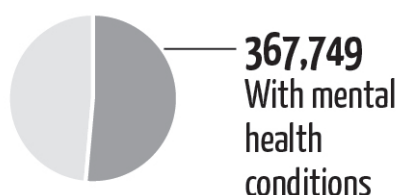
PATIENTS TREATED

1.4 million Afghan and Iraq war veterans eligible for VA health care



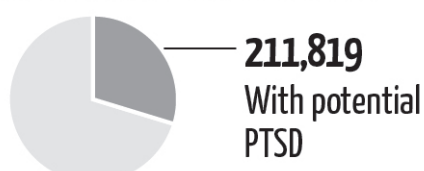
MENTAL HEALTH

Treated patients who had mental health conditions



POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS

Treated patients with potential post-traumatic stress disorder



9,700 average number of new veteran patients each month

938,000 estimated new veteran claims by the end of 2013

Source: Veterans for Common Sense
Graphic: Judy Treible

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derscoring the stress that 10 years of war have placed on the troops as a result of multiple deployments. In 2009, suicides exceeded deaths in combat.

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Volleyball team fails to overcome two-set deficit, loses to Hornets

by Peter Fournier
Staff Writer

The SJSU women's volleyball team couldn't overcome a two-set deficit against Sacramento State Tuesday night, falling to the Hornets 25-22, 25-17, 18-25 and 25-17 in the Spartan Gym.

"We weren't passing well enough to be effective enough offensively," Spartans coach Oscar Crespo said. "Even though we did have players with good attack numbers, we didn't put them in good enough position to be much more successful than what they were."

After the Spartans (6-11, 1-4 WAC) tied the match at 22 in the first set, the Hornets (4-1, 3-1 Big Sky) went on a 3-0 run to stop the Spartans' rally and take the set.

The Hornets then went on a 5-0 run to start the second set, and pulled ahead by as many as 10 points to dominate the set.

"We really got into a funk," Crespo said. "We didn't pass well. Service errors were a part of it too."

Despite a first period that featured 15 ties and seven lead changes, the Spartans failed to get either in the second set.

"I think that was indicative of how everything was running through the whole match," Crespo said. "When our ball handling was on, that is our first-ball reception, our side out was dead on. They couldn't stay with us on our quick attack."

The Spartans rebounded by controlling the third set, pulling away with the stanza after a 13-

13 tie and going on a 12-4 run to win their only set on the night.

The joy of the third set victory didn't last long for SJSU, as the Hornets pulled away after a tie early on to take the fourth set and the match.

Savanah Leaf, a freshman left side hitter, led all Spartans with 13 kills, and junior middle blocker Alex Akana notched 11.

Akana said the team needed to work on its serve receiving, hitting stronger serves and recording more aces.

She credited senior defensive specialist Asia Casino, who came in for regular starter and junior Caitlin Andrade at setter after the first set and finished with 31 assists, with doing a good job.

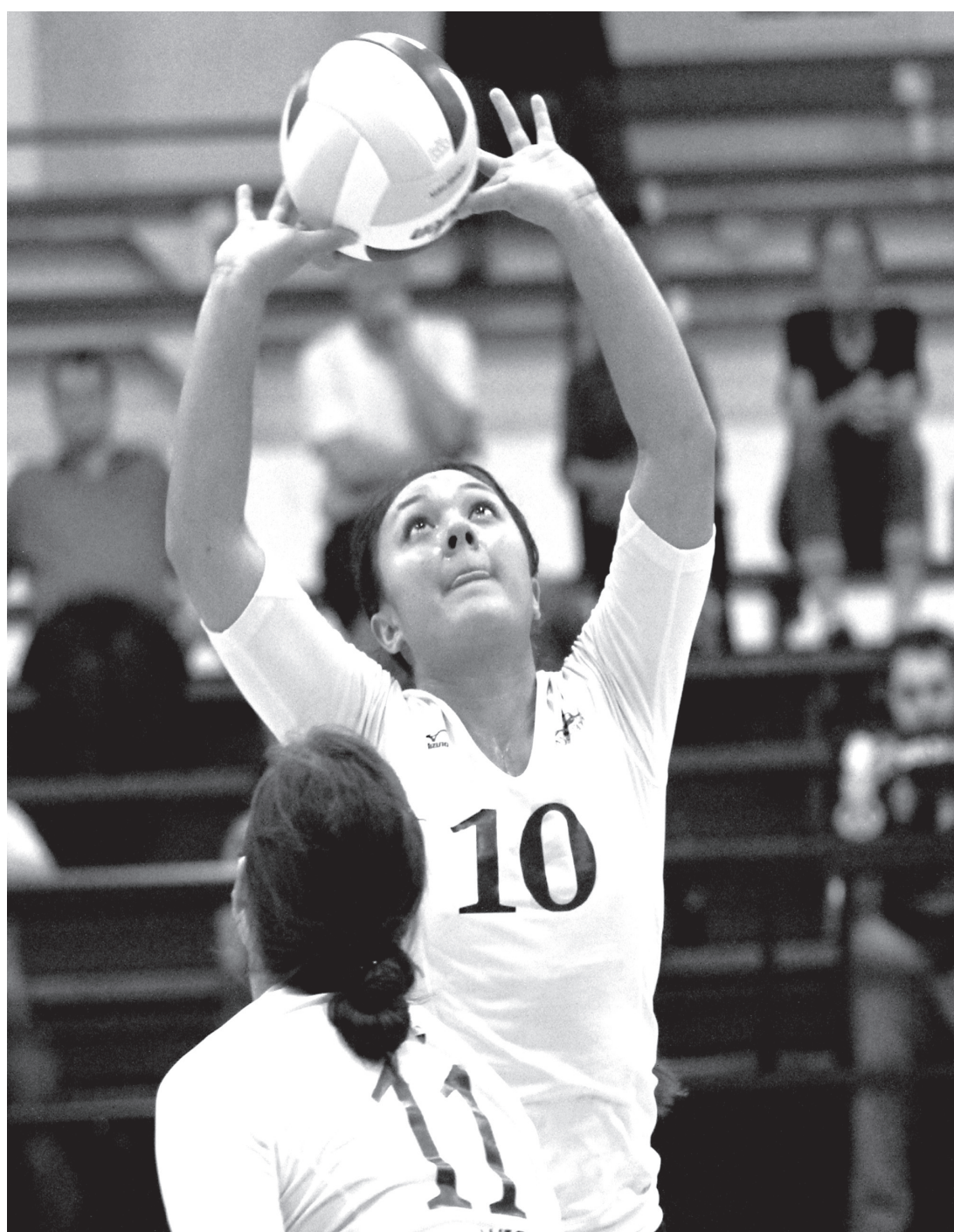
"She just did whatever she could with the ball," Akana said. "Even if it was an off pass, she set the ball up and gave our hitters an opportunity to put the ball in play."

Casino had only played in 17 match sets compared to Andrade's 58.

Andrade lead SJSU in sets played this season before Tuesday's match.

Crespo said he was looking for a change on the court.

"We were looking for set selections, perhaps looking for a little different chemistry out on the court," he said.



Senior defensive specialist Asia Casino sets (No. 10) the ball during the Spartans' loss to Sacramento State in four sets Tuesday night in Spartan Gym. Photo by Vernon McKnight / Spartan Daily



Junior middle blocker Alex Akana and sophomore middle blocker Sarah Griest get crossed up while attempting to play a ball in Tuesday night's loss. Photo by Vernon McKnight / Spartan Daily

"We really got into a funk. We didn't pass well."
-Oscar Crespo, head coach

"The attackers were not put in the best position to attack. At that point, we just needed to change it a little bit."

Casino said she was glad

just to be back on the court.

"I miss being out there," she said. "It was good to try and perform and get back in that rhythm of game mode."

The Spartans will travel to Honolulu to play No. 9 Hawaii Saturday.

Crespo said he won't let the match against the nationally-ranked and Western Athletic Conference standings leading Rainbow Wahine intimidate the team.

"When our performance is really at a high level, the four components we identified to be really needed for our team to be successful - ball handling, attack, block and serve ... when those things are on, we're a team to be really respected and looked at as a tough opponent."

"Although it is Hawaii," he said. "That still doesn't mean we won't have those goals for us."

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Sudoku

		2		3		7		
	8			1	4	2		
			3	8				4
	3	8						9
	2	4					5	8
	9						3	4
3					4	6		
			2	5	7			3
	9			1		8		

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

Previous Puzzle Solved

8	1	4	7	3	6	9	5	2
3	2	6	8	9	5	1	7	4
9	7	5	2	1	4	6	8	3
7	3	9	6	5	8	2	4	1
6	8	1	9	4	2	5	3	7
5	4	2	3	7	1	8	6	9
2	5	7	1	8	3	4	9	6
4	6	3	5	2	9	7	1	8
1	9	8	4	6	7	3	2	5

How to Play

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

Check back daily for new sudoku puzzles and solutions.

Today's Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

- Make a run for it
- Buddhist monument
- Thanksgiving roots
- Quarter of a quartet, perhaps
- Type of "colony" or "system"
- Hand cream ingredient
- Mental coercion?
- It may be passed in school
- bygone be bygone
- "... I saw Elba"
- Dance where poodle skirts were often worn
- Lansing-Detroit dir.
- Soak (up), as gravy
- Emulates a judge
- Dig Bach?
- Ahab's ship, for one
- What to do when told to "beat it!"
- Three strokes, sometimes
- Writer Bagnold
- Type size or playing marble
- Say it isn't so
- Hide-hair connector
- Beginning of culture?
- "The Last King of Scotland" setting
- The Oregon Trail?
- Stedman's steady
- Sun Devils' sch.
- Small hotel
- Big name in TV ratings
- Part of a crater
- Check the water?
- Squeal
- Practice making deductions?
- "Two silkworms raced. They ended in ___."
- Voice lesson topic
- Basic change

Previous Puzzle Solved

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13		
14				15							16			
17				18							19			
20				21				22		23				
		24	25			26	27			28				
29	30				31				32					
33							34				35	36	37	
38						39	40					41		
42					43				44	45				
					46				47					
48	49	50				51				52				
53					54			55	56			57	58	59
60					61			62				63		
64					65							66		
67					68							69		

DOWN

- "Matilda" author
- Out of the storm
- Event for a rural family's outing, perhaps
- Coal scuttle
- Item on a cowboy boot
- Nobel-winning mother
- French article
- Jet-setter's document
- Part of a.k.a.
- Arch-foe at Fenway
- Hello or goodbye
- Driving force?
- Passes through slowly
- Farm machinery pioneer
- Pal
- Realtor's sign of success
- Gives ministerial authority
- Singer Stefani
- Cry of exasperation
- Warsaw or Munich
- Waiting line
- Cumby ingredient
- TV/radio personality Seacrest
- Bad puns, slangily
- Sock-mender's oath?
- Sounds from the masseur's table
- Laundry problem
- Place for a five and ten?
- Cartoon Mutant Ninja
- Ready to pour
- Michelangelo masterpiece
- Shroud of Turin, e.g.
- Politically incorrect suffix
- Groundless, as rumors
- State point-blank
- Southwest sight
- Obedience school command
- Associate of Tigger

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Happiness does not come with a price tag



By Jaimie Collins

In the 1980 song “Zion Train” by Bob Marley, the reggae legend sings, “Don’t gain the world and lose your soul / Wisdom is better than silver and gold.”

Marley may have written these words more than 30 years ago, but they are more relevant today than they have ever been.

Last weekend, I drove the two hours east to Escalon, Calif., where my best friend’s family participated in one of the biggest yard sales I have ever seen.

Households pay \$10 and get their address listed on a map, for bargain hunters to visit and shop in the city-wide garage sale.

While I had a blast selling my old clothes for a dollar apiece as I spent time with my friend, the day-long shopping spree had me considering how materialistic people have become.

As I negotiated prices with shoppers of all ages, I couldn’t help but

think that these people were spending their hard-earned money on objects they could most likely live without.

In an age where every person has a smartphone and owns as many brand-name items as possible, our country is quickly becoming detached and desensitized.

Companies have managed to convince us that we simply cannot survive without their products, and while that may be because of a brilliant advertising campaign, the blame also rests on our gullible natures.

Ads tell us how much better our lives would be with said items and we nod our heads in agreement as we salivate over the thought of having the next best thing.

The main argument for this shift in behavior is convenience and attention. The newest gadgets on the market come with tools that make it so the user rarely has to lift more than a finger — directions, Internet connectivity and email are all made easily accessible.

Also, our constant need to buy more stuff can be centered on the illusion that by getting these hip objects, those around us will become instantly infatuated with us or we will become instantly popular.

And let me tell you right now — if you are basing your friends and relationships on what you own or buy, you have bigger problems.

The fact that these addictions start early on in life doesn’t make the situation any better.

Over the summer, I worked as a camp counselor for kids ages 5 to 12 and was surprised to learn that some of the youngest ones had cellphones.

What the heck does an 8-year-old kid need a cellphone for?

It has become more apparent than ever that our society has become obsessed with the materialistic lifestyle, often believing that the next best thing will make their life more complete.

Not that I can say I am immune to this rising fixation — I am just as

bad as the next person as I wear my brand new clothes while typing away on my MacBook and checking my email on my iPhone.

The difference is that I value many things over these material objects.

My relationships with friends and family, my education, my job and my health all rank much higher than the new pair of shoes in my closet. If I had to choose what I wanted in my life, the decision would be an easy one.

What disturbs me is that many people could not easily say the same thing. In our current society, the majority of citizens are so plugged in and addicted to the objects they buy that they simply believe life would be unmanageable without them.

Though it would certainly never happen, I think it would do the world a ton of good if our society could gain a little perspective and realize that there are better things out there than items with a price tag.

Television: Dulling the minds of our youth



By Aliza Saeed

read by Marie Winn, titled “The Plug-in Drug.”

Statistics show that children who are under the age of 6 watch 32 hours of television a week and children between the ages of 6 to 8 watch about 24 hours of television a week.

Winn said studies are conducted to discover whether television commercials make children greedy and materialistic or, as some have suggested, generous and spiritual.

The effects that something as simple as a television can produce are not as minor as they may seem.

It’s not the radio waves coming from the television that affect the human brain — it is the content on the television.

The actual nature of television and what it can do to the mind is rarely considered and children these days are mentally conditioned through television more than before.

Parents do not realize that by turning that switch on, they turn their child’s switch off, hence putting them in a trance which slowly causes a long-term effect on their kids.

In Winn’s book, she mentions that in a range from 200 to 800 SAT points, the average scores went from 478 in 1964 to 424 in 1980, which is a drop of 54 points.

She said people thought it was because of the immigrants who were coming from other countries at the time but that is not the case because children who were born and raised here along with minorities had bad SAT scores around the peak of television (1960s).

After the late ’50s, the TV-set ownership increased rapidly in American households and kept increasing internationally as well.

According to Winn’s book, in 1950, fewer than 8 percent of American families owned TV sets; by 1954, more than half had televisions; by

1957, 78 percent of families owned TV sets; and by 1964, almost every-one — 92 percent.

From the SAT score decline given in Winn’s book, one can conclude that TV had something to do with children’s verbal abilities because of the steady increase in television ownership year after year from 1950s and on.

Evidently, the number just kept increasing and so did the low scores and we wonder why we have less time these days in our so-called “fast paced” lives.

Now this is just a statistical fact on how television spread like a disease all over the country, but there’s plenty more where this comes from.

Television didn’t just make children dumber over the years, it also induced violent behavior, materialism, fetishes and laziness.

For example, I see my nieces and nephews, and they would rather watch TV than play or do anything else around the house.

Sometimes I have to tell myself to just spend the whole day studying, because I know that even if I plan on “only” watching one recorded show, it ends up being a movie on HBO and then there goes three hours slipped right out of my hands.

I am not trying to persuade everyone to stop watching TV.

I just want to let it be known that watching too much of it can not only cause depression, sleep deprivation, decreased productivity and self-esteem issues, but leave less time to do other things in life, such as homework.

For some people, TV is a necessity, just like food, water and cell-phones.

I’ve tried going without it for a week and it’s really hard, but the results are amazing because well ... you get so much more done!

From the moment Posey went down, the Giants had little chance to repeat



By Scott Semmler

The bottom line was that Posey was out for the season and the Giants’ offensive production seemed to plummet without him.

To make matters worse, the most consistent Giants hitter, Freddy Sanchez, and their biggest power threat, Pablo Sandoval, also went down with injuries.

Sanchez was lost for the season, and Sandoval was injured for six weeks.

So San Francisco’s three best hitters all had stints on the injury wagon. However, what it affected most was the team’s morale.

They were lost without their best hitters.

You might as well have stopped the Giants’ season there.

Yes, they competed well enough to stay in contention halfway through September, but the fact that there was no offense meant it was just a matter of time before the season would slowly spiral into disappointment.

The result of the numerous injuries was one of the worst offenses in the major leagues, and a team relying solely on its pitching.

For the record, that strategy does not work.

How far would the Giants have gone if the team was fully healthy?

No one really knows, but it would have been better than what actually did occur.

As much as Sabeen and others in the front office tried to save the season by making trades and acquisitions, the damage was already done. The toll the injuries took on this team was enough to send them back substantially, both physically and mentally.

The Posey injury was a blow to the morale of this team and they could never come back from it, no matter how much it looked like they would make the playoffs.

The Giants will be back in contention next year, but this was one frustrating, injury-plagued season in San Francisco.

It is tough to say how the San Francisco Giants would have ended up this year had everything gone according to plan.

A team coming off an improbable World Series championship, already with targets on their back, loses their best, second best and third best players to injury all in one season.

Bad luck?

Nope, it’s baseball.

What a year for the Giants. Coming into the season, the sky was the limit. That was until reality showed up in the form of Scott Cousins.

The Bay Area native can no longer show his face in San Francisco. He put his house up for sale, and was even publicly called out by Giants’ general manager Brian Sabean, questioning his controversial actions.

Cousins is, of course, the Florida Marlins player who attempted to score a run at home plate in a vicious collision with catcher — and the Giants’ heart and soul — Buster Posey.

Posey suffered a broken leg and Cousins was run out of town, and possibly baseball.

Cousins did nothing wrong though, he simply collided with a catcher blocking him from scoring a game-winning run. Posey happened to be in the way and in the wrong place at the wrong time.

The rules clearly state that a catcher can block the plate, but at his own discretion. That means Posey was entitled to stand in front of home plate, but Cousins was also entitled to knock him senseless, which he did.

Whether Cousins deserved to be run out of the Bay Area is part of a whole different column.

“If television can affect a typical adult’s life, imagine what it can do to a child.”



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■ COMMENTARY

Discussion: Have recent movies lost originality?

Hollywood has lost its touch in film

by Danreb Victorio
Staff Writer

"Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2."
"Transformers: Dark of the Moon."
"The Hangover Part II."
"Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides."
"Fast Five."

Other than four of the five movies having ridiculously long titles, what can be said about all of them?

For starters, they're all sequels.

Of these five sequels, four of them are a part of a trilogy or something bigger.

According to statistics provided by boxoffice.com, each of these films grossed more than \$200 million.

With that, it's no secret that America loves their sequels and rehashed films.

The release of these films makes me wonder if there is any originality left in Hollywood anymore.

"The Deathly Hallows" was definitely needed to put an end to the Harry Potter movie franchise, but was it really necessary to divide the last book into two? Book seven wasn't even the longest book in the series.

After the terror that was "Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen," why make "Dark of the Moon?" That name doesn't even make sense.

"The Hangover" did not need a sequel. Losing your fiancée's little brother in Bangkok is hardly funnier than losing your best friend in Vegas.

Neither did we need a fourth "Pirates" movie — how many times does Jack Sparrow have to survive?

And in regards to "Fast Five," let's just say the "The Fast and the Furious" ran out of gas when it Tokyo drifted its way into obscurity.

Not only has Hollywood become unoriginal, but it's become obvious that they're in it for the money, especially in the summer where moviegoers had become foolish enough to want to watch random sequels to avoid the blazing heat.

Take "Rise of the Planet of the Apes," for ex-

ample. The 2001 reboot of the 1968 classic was simply OK. As good as this movie was, it didn't have to come out.

"Scream 4" was another useless release. The third film that supposedly ended the trilogy made watchers think Sidney Prescott finally wasn't going to be stalked anymore. Obviously that wasn't the case.

Every movie I mentioned was a sequel. None of them had to be made.

Without questioning the actual content in any of these movies, what kind of college student would spend their hard earned money on sequels to films that came out more than a decade ago?

Trilogies might make sense, but fourth and fifth entries?

At least Dreamworks knew they were going to make three more Shrek movies after the original movie's release. A lot of these other films are uncalled for.

What kind of director would even fathom creating more entries to films that aren't even that great in the first place?

The answer to that one is easy.

Take Disney for instance. They bought Marvel, responsible for three hero movies released this summer.

"We believe that adding Marvel to Disney's unique portfolio of brands provides significant opportunities for long-term growth and value creation," Disney president Bob Iger said after the Marvel acquisition.

In other words, they're in it for the money.

Disney classics are released temporarily from the "Disney Vault" all the time, and this allows the company to control all their prices. This process is called moratorium, and with home entertainment, Disney has been the only studio practicing this strategy.

"The Lion King 3D" grossed more than \$76 million, and it's only been out for a month. On top of that, the Blu-ray just came out on Tuesday.

America's top six grossing films this year so far are all sequels.

Hollywood is emptying our wallets by fooling us into thinking all this old stuff is new.

Industry still produces quality work

by Scott Semmler
Staff Writer

There has been a growing trend in Hollywood these days.

According to a study done by New York Magazine, one out of every three movies was an unoriginal film in 2010. There will also be more unoriginal films released over the next year than ever before.

First things first, unoriginal films refer to those movies that simply piggyback on another idea that was produced previous to that current movie.

They include sequels, books made into movies, remakes and historical events.

Some examples over the past year have been the superhero film fad that included "Iron Man 2," "Thor," "Captain America" and "Green Lantern" to name a few.

These movies have been made after the comic book origins of these characters and follow much of the same storylines, but introduce a new modern-day twist to the idea, which is where Hollywood's originality comes into play.

Hollywood seems to be taking a bad rap for seemingly showing a lack of originality these days.

Is Hollywood really lacking originality, though?

It is unoriginal to make a movie off another idea, but original to take that idea, give it a different storyline and present it to a whole different audience?

You cannot argue with the fact that some of the highest-grossing movies ever made were called unoriginal.

The biggest money makers in film to date are "Avatar," "Titanic," "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2," "Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King" and "Transformers: Dark of the Moon."

"Avatar" is reportedly based off of several comic series put together, "Harry Potter" was based off the book and a sequel, "Lord of the Rings" was based off the book and a sequel, and

"Transformers" was based off the toys and television show.

How the story is told is what makes a movie original.

If filmmakers can take an old idea and tell that story well, it will attract an audience. People go to the movies to be entertained, and original and unoriginal movies alike do that job.

It is one thing to remake the superhero Batman, it is another to come up with original ways to transform that superhero into an entirely different character with a totally different plot line and grab the attention of a whole different audience.

Re-imaginings and sequels of movies are simply a trend in today's film industry — nothing more and nothing less.

Hollywood is still coming up with new storylines and plots to distance itself from making just another remake.

These movies entertain, if nothing else. We are arguably seeing more visually entertaining movies today than ever before, and it has nothing to do with originality. It has to do with how well Hollywood is telling that story and constantly coming up with better ways to turn a remake into a movie that is that much better.

Today's age of film may be the best yet, no matter how unoriginal it may seem.



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■ REVIEW AND COMMENTARY

A night at the opera: 'Idomeneo' delights, dazzles audiences

by Anastasia Crosson
Staff Writer

It was opening night, the curtains were drawn and the lights in California Theater were dimmed just enough for the gold foil detailing around the stage to appear as if it were glowing.

Conductor George Cleve, was directing us, the audience, in a pre-show sing-along of the national anthem.

As theater-goers clad in gowns, opera coats and the other costumery of the bourgeoisie lifted their voices to the art deco rafters, the acoustics made these amateurs (myself included) sound almost operatic. The last eight bars played by the orchestra reverberated. We applauded and I knew I was in for a treat.

That treat being an Opera San Jose production of "Idomeneo" by Mozart, a tale of King Idomeneo's paternal love and a forbidden romance between the prince of Crete, Idamante, and the captured princess, Ilia, from the rival civilization of Troy.

Christina Major, singing the part of Elettra — a princess vying for the attention of Idamante — belted out a solo aria in front of the drawn stage curtain so close to the audience it felt like intimate girl-talk. George Cleve, also a music director of the Midsummer Mozart Festi-

val, conducted the orchestra in a way only one well-versed in Mozart could have. I was enamored.

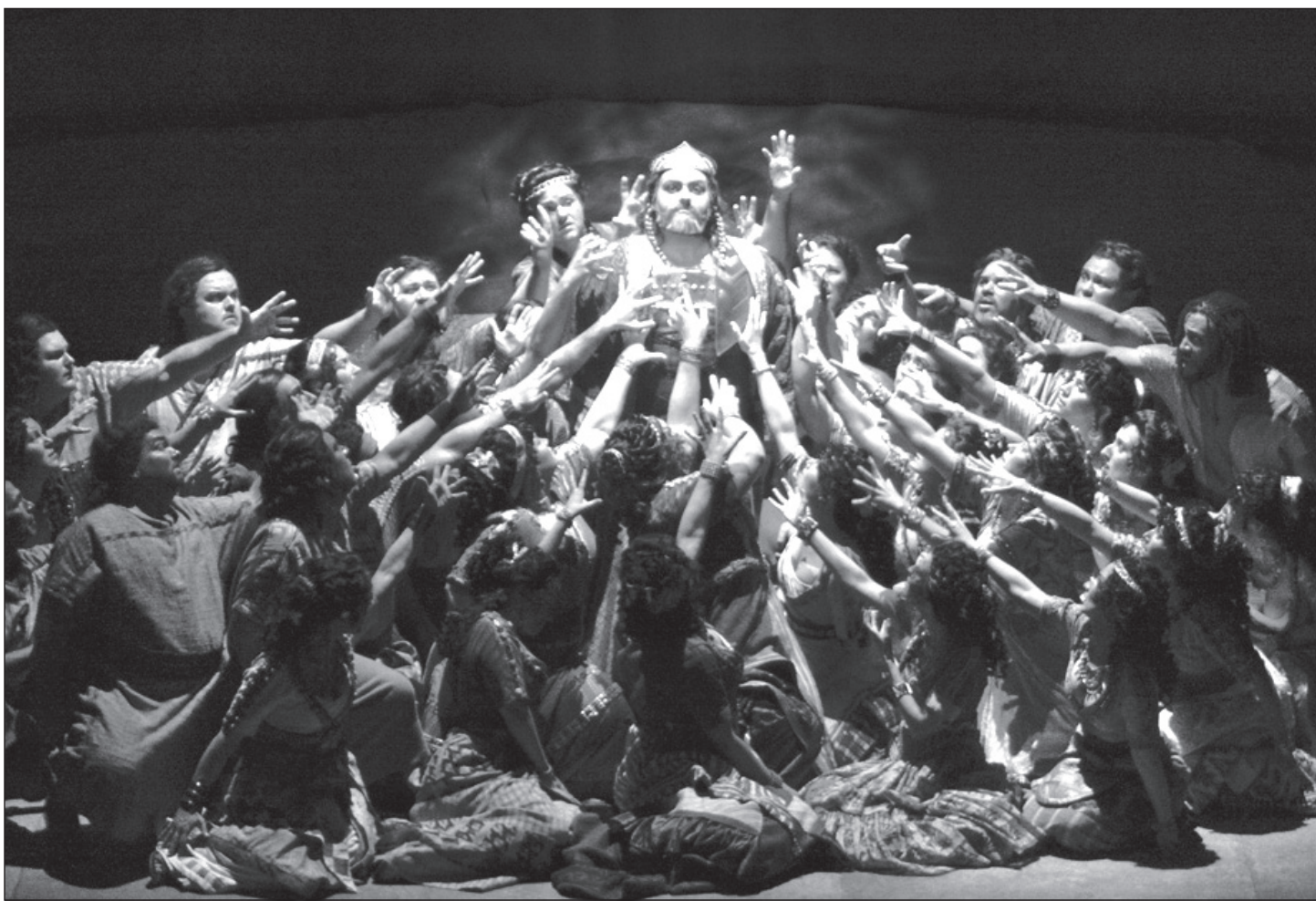
As lengthy as a three-hour production may be, this wasn't one that would have you checking your watch or mentally going over your to-do list for Monday. In fact, with each act theater-goers audibly "wow"-ed at the constantly changing sets, richly hued costumes and impeccable vocal performances which were sang with equal vibrato from the first scene to the last.

In the third act, the curtains opened to reveal a floor-to-ceiling construction of a set which any discerning eye could see was inspired by the true Temple of Knossos. It was not a historically accurate rendering of the ancient temple on the island of Crete, but the period-specific detailing in the temple columns and earthy red and sand tones were close to any picture of the real deal.

At this point a man to my right leaned over to his companion to whisper, "They really plunged some money into this one didn't they?" — I was thinking the same thing.

A TRIP TO THE OPERA SAN JOSE

SJSU Humanities honors students visited California Theater, on First Street in downtown San Jose, to view matinee performances of "Idomeneo" on



Alexander Boyer (middle) plays the title role of the Opera San Jose production of Mozart's "Idomeneo." Photo courtesy of Opera San Jose

Sunday, Sept. 18, and Sunday, Sept. 25.

According to Cynthia Rostankowski, director of the Humanities honors program, the cohort of about 250 students in the program focus on antiquity studies in the first semester and baroque studies in the second semester.

Set in Ancient Greece, "Idomeneo" is about antiquity.

Mozart, the respective composer, wrote this opera during the Baroque period of the 18th century.

"The (Humanities honors) program is comprehensive, and I think its great because we get the opportunity to see an opera," said Griffith, a sophomore majoring in Humanities and Spanish.

This was Griffith's first opera experience, made possible

by a donation to the Humanities honors program from Marcia and Hank Lawson.

According to Rostankowski, the Lawsons have been longtime supporters of the program as Marcia Lawson herself was once a Humanities honors student at SJSU, where she majored in music.

"When we have this extraordinary opportunity for the gift of funding, it will enrich (the students) lives in the future," Rostankowski said. "It gives students a chance to really cultivate that part of lifelong learning and have a richer, more varied experience of contemporary culture."

"It's a very exceptional opportunity to be in the program and for someone to donate money," Griffith said. "The (opera) is a fundamental experience you need to have, and it puts our class readings into perspective."

As both a library for the public and SJSU, these performances are open to all and are free to attend. Each event is a mix of arias from the opera performers (often sung a cappella) and a panel discussion about the production. Performers discuss their interpretation of centuries-old characters and composers and discuss their interpretation of opera scores from the greatest composers ever known.

Speaking on music and art from periods of antiquity to baroque, each Opera San Jose vocal performance is both food for thought and food for the soul. The same can be said, as it will be said here, for Opera San Jose's production of "Idomeneo" — a feast for the eyes, ears and intellect served in three acts.

A LAYMAN'S EDUCATION IN OPERA AND THE FINE ARTS

Opera San Jose productions encourages an educational experience.

Prior to the opening of each production, Opera San Jose resident company members, as well as visiting performers and conductors, host a vocal performance in the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library at SJSU.