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ONLINE EXCLUSIVE



Dark and gritty 'Rango' transcends average animated films

Animated movie grabs audiences with adult humor

A&E, PAGE 6









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Presidential candidate seeks to lead SJSU amid budget woes

Professor blasts insufficient forum accomodations for attendees

Francisco Rendon

Potential budget cuts, growth of bureaucracy and union relations were all subjects of questioning for SJSU presidential candidate Mohammad Qayoumi in an open-forum discussion on Monday.

Qayoumi, currently president of California State University, East Bay, fielded questions from faculty, administrators and union members explaining why he was

interested in the position at SJSU, and what he envisioned for the school.

Recurring themes in his responses were introducing new academic programs and receiving administrative policy input from all levels of the university.

"The role of higher education is far more important today than it ever was in the past," Qayoumi said in his opening address. "I think (shared governance) is part of a number of key policies."

A major goal identified by Qayoumi was increasing retention of Latino students by introducing programs including more general education courses, so that they might branch out into various fields of

In the forum, he addressed questions regarding the short terms of SJSU's recent presidents, the challenge of developing a sense of community on campus and his views on sustainability.

Christine DiSalvo, an adjunct professor of public relations, brought her media writing students to the event, seeing it as a potential learning opportunity for her students.

When the class arrived, she was told there was no standing room available in the Engineering Auditorium, and there was no overflow room available.

"We did not have an opportunity to see the candidate." DiSalvo said. "It is supposed to be a public forum. They should have room for people to go

DiSalvo said she was appalled there were no accommodations in place to make this event more available to the public.

Larry Carr, associate vice president of public affairs, said the lack of space was largely a miscommunication between the engineering department and the event orga-

"We had (an overflow room) set up, but it was just a mix-up between the departments there and what time it needed to be open," Carr said. "We've made contact with the department office and we will have it available. There is obviously a lot of interest in this and we need to be able to provide more access to the forum."



Photo courtesy of: CSU

Carr said all three of the open forum conferences had been recorded and would be posted on the school's website once they were all completed.

While the president is appointed by the CSU Board of Trustees, SJSU's presidential committee handed out a survey to attendees to provide feedback for Qayoumi's responses.

Qayoumi, who received his undergraduate degree

see **PRESIDENT** page 8

SJSU students in Japan report food shortages, blackouts

Country faces nuclear crisis as explosions rock up to four nuclear reactors

Lvell Marks Staff Writer

Two SISU students witnessed from afar the most powerful earthquake in Japan's history, which has left more than 2,400 people dead as of Tuesday morning, according to multiple media outlets.

Billy Yip and Wesley Quo are both seniors at SJSU who were in Japan as part of the Study Abroad Program when what has been reported to be the fourth-largest earthquake in the world since 1900 shook the ground.

Yip, who is majoring in Japanese, has been living in Sendagi, Tokyo, which is roughly 130 miles from the northeast coast that was hit by the tsunami.

While he was at a safe distance from the water damage, Yip was in his dorm room at the time of the earthquake and came away with a firsthand account of how far the devasta-

"About two minutes into the quake we noticed that it wasn't stopping and things began to shake a lot more violently," Yip stated in an e-mail. "Things from the shelves and bookcases started to fall so we hid underneath the doorways.

"We attempted to run outside but the moment we opened the doors, part of the roof collapsed in front of us as we tried walking out the door."

Kuo was in Yokohama, Japan, and described what he said felt like the equivalent of a 5.0 magnitude quake, roughly 30 miles southwest of Tokyo. "After the actual quake, I honestly didn't have any idea

how bad it was," Kuo said via Facebook. "The previous day saw an earthquake that (registered around) 7.0. Because the 9.0 quake felt much stronger, I just assumed it was an aftershock located somewhere around the Tokyo area."

Kuo, a senior international business major, didn't find out the extent of the damage until later when he switched on the

He said he had friends whose families live in the affected areas but spoke with them and heard they are fine.

Rainy day fails to dampen protesters' spirits in march on state Capitol

Leo Postovoit & Alex Wara Staff Writers

SACRAMENTO — College students marched the rainy streets of Sacramento in protest of past and proposed budget

and enrollments cuts Monday. Thousands of students from across the state gathered at the California State Capitol despite inclement waving signs and leading chants due against the proposed fee increases affecting

the higher education system. SJSU had about 70 students at the march and joined the other schools at the start of the route located at California Au-

tomobile Museum. Joe Tran, president of Students for Quality Education, the campus club that organized the event with Associated Students, attended the protest for the last two years and said he is still committed to fighting the budget cuts.

"I decided it was very unfortunate there are people out there who are less privileged than me," said Tran, a senior sociology major. "I wanted to make a difference because I know we can make a difference."

As students gathered prior to the march they started to bang drums, wave signs and sing chants that included, "Whose university? Our university!" and "Kick us out, we'll vote you out."

Student Harrison Wills from Santa Monica College said he traveled across the state with his school to attend the march.

see **PROTEST** page 2



Photo: Michelle Terris/ Spartan Daily

Students from all over California gathered in Sacramento on Monday morning to protest the budget cuts proposed for universities throughout the state.



Photo illustration: Leo Postovoit / Spartan Daily





Photo: Michelle Terris / Spartan Daily

PROTEST From Page 1

"We left at 11 at night," Wills said. "We had very little sleep and lots of inspiration from students."

A taco truck and several portable toilets had been set up in anticipation of the crowd, and several people gave away free water in the crowd as they prepared to

Alex Pader, president of the Student Senate for California Community Colleges, led a group of students in chants prior to leaving the meeting site.

Currently co-enrolled at Sacramento State and American River College, Pader said he was forced to enroll in the two institutions because of a shortage of classes that he could take at either campus.

As state senator at large he was asked what he would like to do in the future.

"I would like to seek public office," Pader said. "I think it is one of the best ways to make effective change in order to help people."

When the march started it began to rain but that did not stop the momentum of the students, who marched in the middle of the street and in the mud.

Sacramento Police and California Highway Patrol officers corked off the streets using officers on bicycles, mounted police and parked cars to control the flow of traffic and protesters.

In addition to a visible police presence, clearly indicat-

ed "event staff" were new to this year's protests, keeping marchers in designated areas, avoiding the train tracks and off sidewalks.

The control was necessary because approximately 80 busloads, about 4,000 people, of protesters arrived, according to Sacramento Police officer A. Johnson. One estimate inside the Capitol placed the crowd at 12,000, however SQE President Tran placed his guess at 11,000.

The marchers' route took them past several downtown businesses and the headquarters of California state departments. Employees inside watched through the win-

The march eventually made its way to the capitol where protesters were met by other supporters. Rallying at the steps in front of the Capitol a podium was set up for speakers.

Pader and other student and faculty leaders spoke to the crowd on issues for the students to lobby, on the severity of proposed and past cuts and on issues related to students' rights.

Speakers included people who have been affected by the budget cuts directly and each speaker offered a solution to the problems at hand.

The speeches were delivered in English and Spanish, with a sign language interpreter translating to the side of the stage.

A speaker who identified himself as Jesus from Mexico, stirred the crowd in English and Spanish phrases, including "si se puede" — "yes we

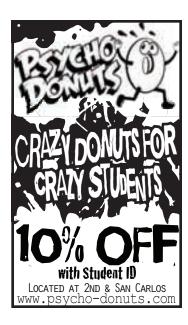
When he spoke about proposed changes to immigration, several people moved from the area under the archway, behind the speakers' podium, and made a peace hand sign to the crowd, stirring excitement.

"We are the future," Jesus said. "We have to pass the DREAM Act."

Despite some topics that some students seemed interested in, the people in the back of the crowd found it difficult to hear the speakers and continued chanting as people spoke.

SJSU students could still be found in attendance at the rally toward the end of the speeches. Instead of listening they continued chanting.

Students from Mt. San Antonio College in Walnut, Calif., and San Francisco State University handed out leaflets about budget and enrollment cut issues and fliers for future events, including a rally in San Francisco for this weekend.



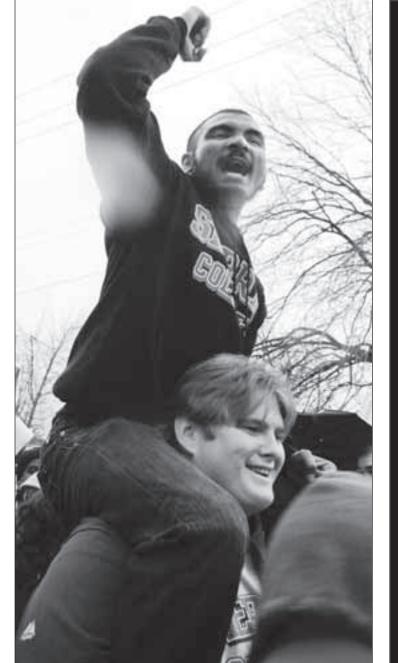


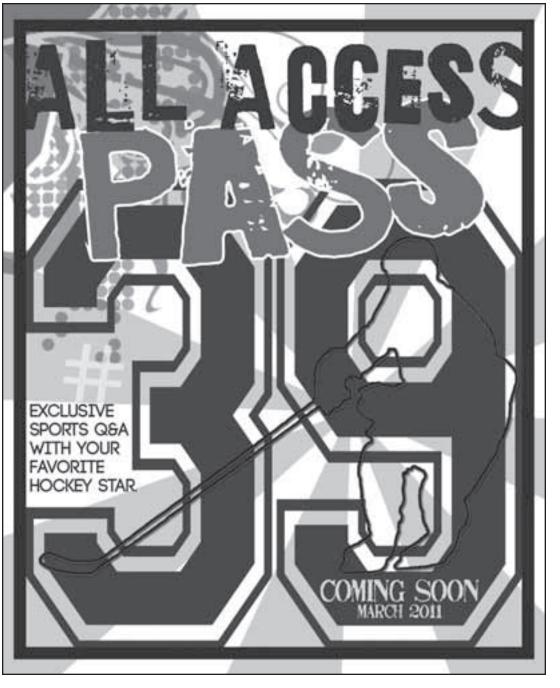
Photo: Leo Postovoit / Spartan Daily

(Top left) The protest route in downtown Sacramento.

(Top right) Alex Pader, president of the State Senate for California Community Colleges, led a prerally in the parking lot of the California Automotive Museum on Monday morning.

(Bottom left) The student crowd at the California State Capitol began to disperse as the protest's audio equipment began to weaken and as speeches began to wrap up.

(Bottom right) Murtaza Moiz, top, and Robin Proffitt, bottom, march to the California State Capitol with fellow students from Sierra in protest of past and proposed budget and enrollment cuts on Monday.



State budget delays complicate CSU funding process

Francisco Rendon Staff Writer

If one hears cries from large crowds of students marching anywhere, and sees them holding signs and banging drums, the hullabaloo is likely to involve dissatisfaction with the California bud-

For years, the state budget has been a source of frustration for legislators, California State University administrators, faculty and students.

"A lot of students don't understand the fact that there is a budget," said Joe Tran, president for Students for Quality Education. "The budget right now dictates how much money we get in the CSU system. We are concerned with how much money we get."

The CSU receives its funds from the state governor and Legislature, which consists of the California Assembly and Senate, said Pat Lopes Harris, director of media relations for SJSU.

Once these elected officials appropriate funds to areas such as the CSU, the prison system and child welfare, the CSU Board of Trustees and chancellor begin deciding how to split up the funds, Harris said.

Funds are distributed based on student enrollment and individual program needs, said Erik Fallis, CSU media relations specialist.

With Gov. Jerry Brown's recently proposed budget for 2011-12, the CSU is facing a minimum of \$500 million in cuts, which means every campus will be affected, Fal-

lis said.

In addition to the \$500 million in cuts proposed by Gov. Brown in January, the CSU system may face an additional \$500 million in cuts if proposed tax extensions are not adopted by legislators or passed by voters in a special

like in the next term, every campus is going to have to be managing a cut," he said. "Because the CSU spends our budget educating students or some way serving students, any cut is going to be felt by students and also by faculty and staff."

SJSU's operating budget, which was \$277,043,117 in 2010-11, consists mainly of funds allocated from the CSU and tuition fees, Harris said.

She said many auxiliary organizations such as Spartan Shops, the Student Health Center and the Associated Students generate their own revenue and fund their own expenses outside of SJSU's operating budget, with athletics being a unique case that receives some funding from the university and raises some of its own funds.

The challenge, she said, is that the budget is being passed well after the beginning of the fiscal year in July.

The process requires that the governor propose the next year's budget in January, and that the legislature and the governor agree on how to distribute the funds by May.

In 2010, the budget for 2010-11 was passed in Octo-

When the budget passes

must decide how they will plan to spend money without knowing how much will be received from the state via the CSU.

"Imagine having to plan for spring term classes during the previous summer," Harris said, "We try to plan to take these steps before the fiscal "Unfortunately, it looks year begins. It hasn't been easy for anybody. Students have definitely felt the impact of these decisions unfortunately."

> While SJSU generally tends to plan conservatively, so as not to overestimate the amount — will receive, she said things have remained challenging as the amount of funding available has systematically gone down.

> "There have been some very tough choices," Harris said. "Students have had to experience the fact that we've had to reduce enrollment. Applicants have had to experience the new way we handle admissions. All of our majors are now impacted."

Faculty have also had to struggle with layoffs and furloughs with the reduction of funds available to the CSU, she said.

Chris Chavez, president of the California State Student Association, a student organization with representation in the Chancellor's Office, said that despite deficit troubles, his organization remains firmly against reduction in spending.

"We have taken a position of opposing any cuts to the CSU budget and any higher education budget in general," Chavez said. "For almost a delate, school administrators cade now, we've seen repeat-

ed cuts and we've seen tuition increase. More campuses are reliant on student fees than they are from subsidies from the state of California. That's not the way California is going to rebuild itself and make sure that we have an educated work force."

Chavez said if cuts to education continue, he worries that academic advising services and financial aid programs such as CalGrant will be targeted for cuts.

"You can look up and down and see (the problem) is where we are spending the money," he said. "There needs to be a serious discussion about what the state's priorities are."

Harris said that while administrators are often portrayed as disconnected from the struggles of the students, that is not the reality.

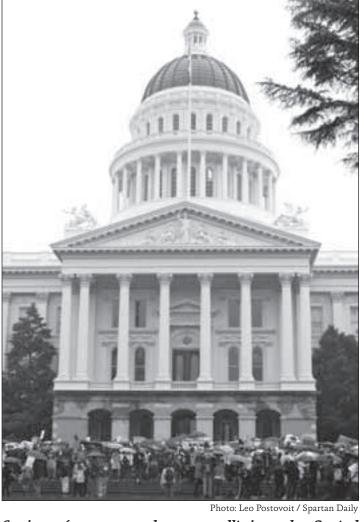
"The entire university is experiencing the same difficulties with the budget," she said. "When students protest and say how the protests will have long-lasting impact on not only the students, but California, we are right there with them on that."

Harris noted that a small portion of the SJSU Operating budget, 0.6 percent is spent on the Office of the President.

Fallis likewise noted that the CSU was also feeling bud-

"The portion of our budget spent on executive salaries is 0.2 percent," he said. "We need to be honest about what the numbers are. There is certainly shared pain."

Fallis said the CSU has already approved a 10 percent



Students from across the state rallied at the Capitol Building in Sacramento on Monday to lobby for education funding.

fee increase for Fall 2011, af-Spring and Fall 2010, in an-

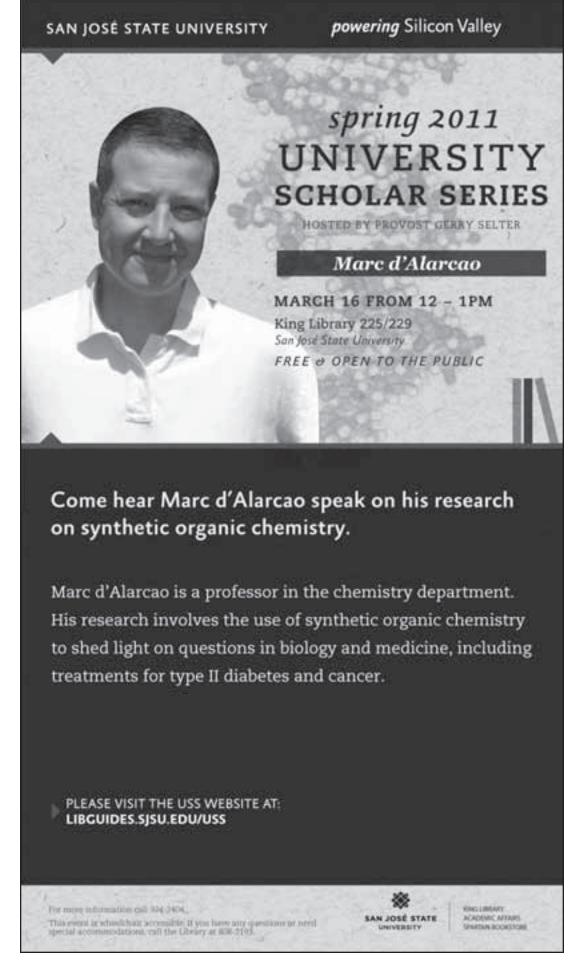
If higher education spending is further slashed he said there is no way to know what as they put into it," Tran said. could be lost.

"We're already at levels of state support that we have not seen for a decade," Fallis said. "It's fallen that far for

Tran said that ultimately,

students need to participate ter five percent increases in in the political process, or state leadership will conticipation of the reduction in tinue to try to cut funding from higher education, where there is the least resistance.

"People will get as much "If people don't put anything into it, they won't get anything out of it. People can't complain about anything anymore, because it's on the table that we can change. Do something or you get cut."





■ HOCKEY

Spartans strive to dominate competition at home

Daniel Herberholz Contributing Writer

The SJSU club hockey team will host the Ameri-Collegiate Hockey Association's Division II Championship Tournament — hoping to rise like a phoenix from the ashes of a recent hiccup in its season to capture the title.

On Feb. 5, reports surfaced about the team being suspended by the university for an allegation of alcohol abuse. Pat Lopes Harris, director of media relations at SJSU, told the media the team was being suspended "for their own safety." An investigation by the university and six forfeited games later, the suspension was lifted on Feb. 14.

"Well, it sucked, obviously, to sit out six games," said team captain and forward Andy Dickerson. "When the situation happened, we all came together and talked it over. We just had to sit by and let the process take its course, because we knew we'd be exonerated in the end."

Rather than a sigh of relief, senior defenseman Jeff Sawhill said the team took a breath after the suspension was over and said, "Now that we're clear, let's get down to business."

The tournament kicked off with an opening ceremony, the first in its 20-year history, at Morris Dailey Auditorium on Monday night.

The Competition

The Spartans (17-10) are the fourth seed in one of four pools, and will face Florida Gulf Coast (36-2) tonight, Michigan State (14-12-1) on Wednesday and finish up on notched 25 goals and 23 assists

Thursday against Montclair State (20-6-1).

Dickerson called Florida Gulf Coast the toughest opponent for SJSU, pointing to its record this season.

"If we win against Florida Gulf, which we feel we have a very good chance of doing, we have control of our own destiny," Dickerson said. "If we lose that game, we've got to have something else happen for us. So we want that first game as badly as possible."

The Eagles present the most daunting task for the Spartans, Sawhill said.

"We watched video on them the other day and they are really fast," he said. "They move the puck really well."

Florida Gulf Coast has six players with at least 20 goals and 20 assists on the season. Eagle forward Nathan Altman has struck the puck into the net 32 times and forward Jake Coyle has 52 assists. Also, the Eagles boast two goalies with goals against averages of 2.93 and 1.93, with the latter notching a perfect 16-0 record.

Another intriguing matchup for SJSU, Dickerson said, is against Michigan State, whom the Spartans have played in each of their last four tournament appearances.

"It's a huge Spartan on Spartan rival," he said, adding that he was one of three holdovers — the others being senior wing Mickey Rhodes and senior center Steven Stichler — who faced Michigan State in the 2007 National Tournament. "You get residual feelings every time you hear Michigan State."

This year, Michigan State is led by sophomore forward Zack Rourke, who has



Photo: Daniel Herberholz / Spartan Daily

Spartan club hockey team captain Andy Dickerson hosts the introduction ceremony in the Morris Dailey Auditorium on Monday to kick off the American Collegiate Hockey Association Division II National Tournament, hosted by SJSU.

during the regular season.

The third game on the slate for SJSU is against Montclair State, which has struggled on the road, winning 7 of 11 games compared to 11 of 14 at home.

The Red Hawk Pride are led by freshman forward John Hero, who has 25 points and 22 assists — though head coach Ron Glasow said that experience is overrated.

"At a National Tournament you can't really take anybody easy," Sawhill said. He said this is because there are no weak teams.

"That's what's great about this tournament," Glasow said. "Any team could sur-

The Season

After getting off to a 12-3 start last semester, with two losses coming against teams at this week's tournament, the Spartans stumbled in January, losing five in a row.

Wins against eventual tourney-participant Utah State and a 13-0 smackdown of Weber State in late November were overshadowed by a sweep of the Spartans at Eastern Washington's tournament.

The Spartans fell to three National Tournament participants that week — host Eastern Washington, Utah State and Colorado State. Western Washington split two games with SJSU at Sharks Ice in late January.

Then the team's suspension erased six scheduled games.

Once it was lifted, the Spartans played two games in Valencia, Calif., against eventual ACHA Division 3 national champion College of the Can-

"Those were great games," Dickerson said. "We didn't play very well defensively we were hopping off the bus and weren't ourselves. We split the games. But it was good to get back in the groove, experiment with a few things and get guys ready for this weekend."

With four goals, junior center Kyle Dutra led the Spartans in the two games with the

Sawhill called Dutra and Dickerson the team's most valuable players this season.

"Their offensive abilities are just unmatched," Sawhill said.

For the Spartans to win this tournament, Sawhill said, two things need to happen: Dickerson's first-line needs to step up — "their line is basically our backbone, if they do well it resonates with everyone" and senior goalie Alessandro Mullane must shut down their opponents — "He is basically the on-off switch — if he's playing on, then our team's on; if he's playing off, then our team's off."

Dickerson said special teams will be the key to victory in the tournament.

"Honestly, games are going to be won or lost on that," he said. "If you get three power plays and you get all three, you're going to probably win the game. For us, the penalty kill is going to be huge because we've been struggling with that a lot. So if we can, one, stay out of the box, and two if we do get in the box then kill

penalties off, then we'll be in really good shape."

The Situation

Glasow said the main disadvantage to the suspension was missing ice time.

"That's the biggest stumbling block, not being in shape," he said. "The games we had to forfeit hurt us in rank-

The coach said he was impressed with his team throughout the suspension.

"I was proud of how everyone handled the situation," said Glasow, who has coached the team since its conception 20 years ago. "They could have been negative and been really upset, but everybody's accepted it and moved on."

The coach called his team's greatest strength its heart, which was only buoyed by the

"That's the biggest thing you've got to learn is never give up," Glasow said. "I think we learned that last year. We win some games that we shouldn't because of (our heart)."

Dickerson said his goals for the tournament are financial support to help the team stay afloat, awareness about the program amongst SJSU students, and, of course, winning the tournament.

"From a competitive standpoint obviously you want to win," Dickerson said. "Our team has never advanced out of pool play in 20 years, so just advancing to the semis itself is a win. But it's not the win that we want."

Glasow wouldn't be satisfied with making it to the semifinals, and his goal is ap-

"To win it," he said. "We've been too many times to do anything but."





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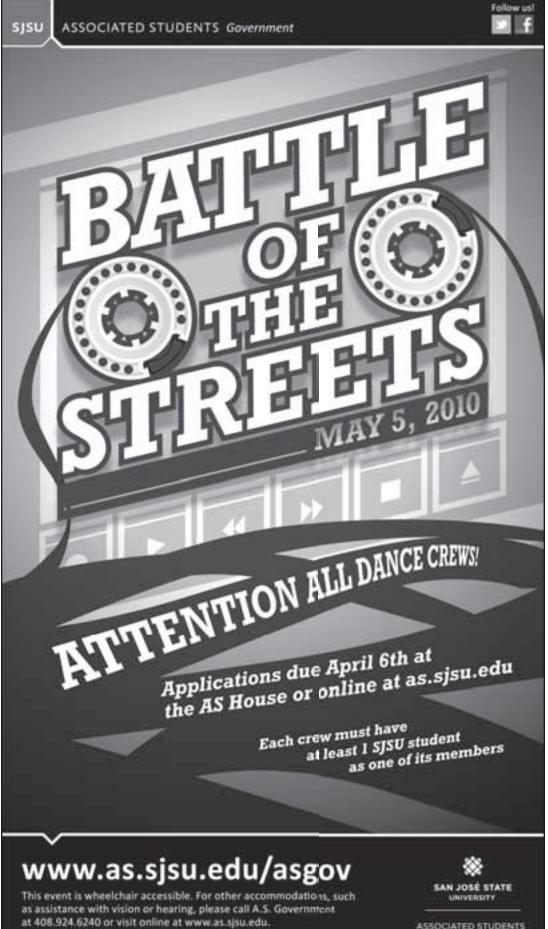
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■ TECH COMMENTARY

iPad 2: Worthy upgrade or redundant rehash?

"I can only have my

wallet and my mind

shock-and-awed so

many times a year ..."

Donovan Farnham Senior Staff Writer

Apple's goal for tablet-computer world domination moved a bit closer to completion on Friday with the release of the follow up to the company's first "magical and revolutionary" device, the iPad.

The appropriately named iPad 2, announced on March 2, had the typical pomp and spectacle, per the usual, for Apple products — this time was a bit more special with an appearance from CEO Steve Jobs, who is on a medical leave of absence.

the iPad 2 was going to have two cameras — one for Apple's video-chat program, FaceTime, and one for taking video — a new vice, which was a gangbuster by capitalizing

processor that runs the device twice as fast as the first-generation iPad and was going to be one-third thinner, I had an odd feeling that I haven't felt about Apple's mobile devices.

I was unimpressed blasphemous, I know.

If you look at the range of Apple products and their various updates over

the years, the iPad 2 announcement and up- encing isn't a lack of awe for innovation, it's grades seemed lackluster.

Take the Macbook Pros: Last month, the laptops were updated and given a new and badass-sounding dataport called Thunderbolt that allows up to 10 gigabytes per second transfer speed.

The same goes for the MacBook Air. When Apple updated the product in October, it blew people away when people saw how light and thin it was and the fact that it was packing a brand new solid-state

People's jaws hit the floor and were followed shortly after by their credit cards flying into their hands and then into Apple's

Or perhaps farther back to when the iP-

hone 4 was announced last year and customers were lining up around corners for the device with a mixture of Apple fandom and borderline sexual arousal for the device.

In comparison, the iPad 2 release was a bit underwhelming.

The announced upgrades that were were nothing that consumers and analysts weren't expecting. Having two cameras for FaceTime is a precedent that was set by the

Making the device thinner wasn't a wow factor for me either because it's something that's in Apple's bag-o-improvements.

The only thing that really wowed me was When the announcement came out that the processor being twice as fast, allowing it to be able to handle more taxing graphics.

With the success of the first iPad as a de-

on the digital reader market, these advancements for the iPad 2 seem underwhelming.

The release is comparable to the way the iPhone 3G was to the original iP-

The iPhone 3G had similar upgrades as the iPad 2 to the iPad.

I think what I'm experimore like apathy for Apple and it's we're-thecenter-of-the-universe marketing schemes.

I can only have my wallet and my mind shock-and-awed so many times a year, and the amount of announcements the company has made this year has pushed me over the edge of caring.

But it doesn't really matter what the skeptics think, the iPad 2 will sell well and not because there's always going to be people waiting in line for 40 hours and people willing to buy those spots in line for \$900 on the first day.

Congratulations Apple on another successful launch — just give it a few months before you make another big announce-



Photo Courtesy: Apple website

The iPad 2 represents Apple's second foray into the realm of tablet computers.

iPad 2 BY THE NUMBERS

- 500,000: the amount of iPad 2's sold on launch day.
- 500: the price for the most basic iPad 2 model.
- 70: the percentage of first time iPad buyers who purchased an iPad 2 on launch day.
- 10: the number of hours of battery life the iPad 2 can yield on a full charge.

*Information compiled from Apple.com

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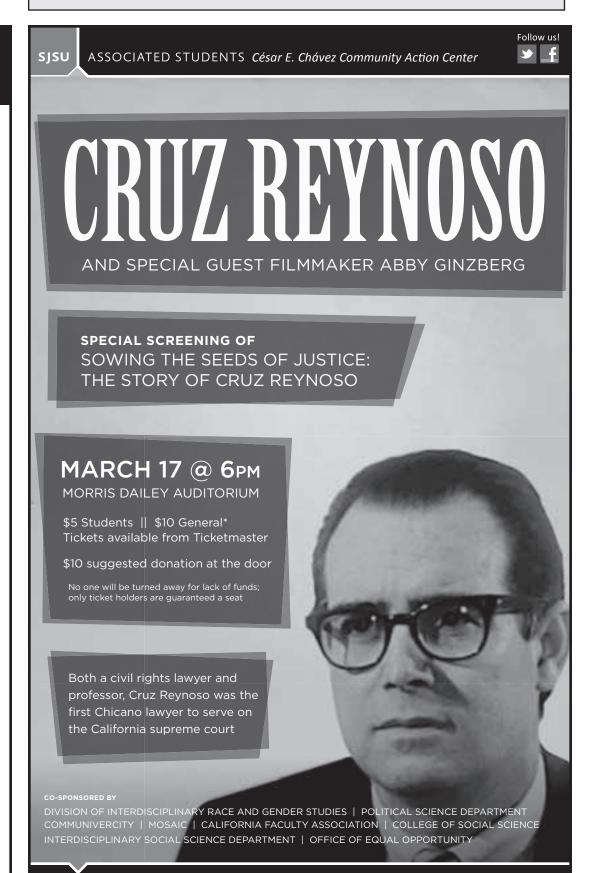
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Dark and gritty 'Rango' transcends average animated films

Nate Morotti Staff Writer

Two genres of the film industry have always captured my attention — classic westerns and CGI animated films.

This is why I jumped at the chance to catch the movie "Rango," the new film from Nickelodeon Studios.

At fist glance, "Rango" seems like your runof-the-mill animated movie about talking animals that go on wacky adventures. Within the first 15 minutes of the movie,

however, it becomes apparent that the film is much more than that. "Rango" follows the exploits of a name-

less pet chameleon who accidentally becomes stranded in the Mojave desert while his family

He soon finds himself in the town of Dirt, an old-west style town filled with saloons, shootouts and all the other stereotypes that make up classic western movies.

Through some fancy acting and his unnaturally lucky tendency for survival, he soon finds himself sheriff of Dirt.

He is charged with the task of defending the town from any number of seedy outlaws as well as uncovering the mystery of the town's dwindling water supply.

The film is filled with an all-star cast such as Johnny Depp as the hero of the movie, Ned Beatty as the town's curmudgeonly mayor and Bill Nighy as the gunslinging outlaw, Rattlesnake Jake.

The first things I loved about this film are the darker adult themes it imposes on the audience in comparison to the slew of recent CGI movies from the last few years.

"Rango" features chain-smoking, heavydrinking characters, full-on western-style shoot-outs and a gritty western feel that could be rivaled by any movie made by famed director Gordon Verbinski.

The next aspect of this movie that solidified my approval was the fact that it seems to be doing a throwback to the classic late-'90s style of writing.

The film has lots of thrills and laughs for the kids as well as a few offbeat jokes that



'Rango' boasts the voices of Johnny Depp as Rango the chameleon (left) and Isla Fischer as the voice of the lizard Beans (right).

only mom and dad, or anyone over the age of

The hilarious is mixed with the racy in a way that leaves anyone who goes to see it thoroughly satisfied.

The last aspect of this movie that made me fall in love with it was the surreal style of ani-

With recent advancement in the technology used for these CGI animations, the level of detail in "Rango" was astounding, but that's not what drew me to this movie.

The characters of the film are creepy, ugly

Many of the character designs draw heavily from the style of famed artist Ralph Steadman, the man responsible for the acid-inspired art of Hunter S. Thompson's novel "Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas."

The film was a welcomed departure from the well-used style of cartoony characters and exaggerated expressions made popular by Pixar and Dreamworks films.

"Rango" is a must see film for anyone who has a few dollars to spare and wants the downand-dirty action feel of a western with some great laughs and slap-stick humor.



PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED

ROLE SCENE TES COHOSTS

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The film was released on March 4, grossing \$38 million in its opening weekend.

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TODAY'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE

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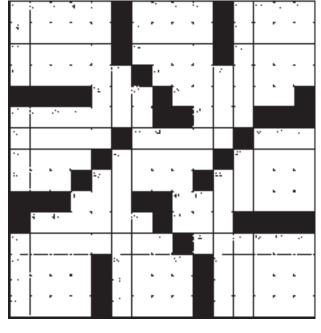
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With each day my grandmother slowly fades away

Every now and again, my grandmother forgets who I am.

There have been times when I have called her house and she has hung up because she didn't know who "Jaimie" was.

Regardless of the fact that I repeated "It's me grandma, Jaimie, your granddaughter," she insisted she had no idea who she was talking

About five years ago, my grandmother was starting to become spacey, distracted and con-

She couldn't stay focused and would forget what she was doing halfway through a task. When my grandpa finally took her to the doctor, they diagnosed her as having suffered several small strokes, which had affected her brain capacity and left her with severe dementia.

According to WebMD, dementia is the loss of mental functions, such as thinking, memory and reasoning, that are severe enough to interfere with a person's daily functioning. Several different factors can lead to dementia, the most prominent of them being strokes and Alzheimer's disease, and it usually affects people age 60 and over.

My grandmother is easily the most independent, sharp witted and intelligent woman I know. As a single mother of six children, five of whom were boys, my grandmother always put others before herself. Stubborn and strict as a



Jaimie Collins Ya know what I mean?

line, she encompasses the old-fashioned, ladylike persona of earlier generations of

It is her determination and character that makes it so hard to cope with her dis-

These days she can't drive to the grocery store without getting lost. She has had to give up cooking dinner and attending social functions because she gets confused and frustrated.

During one of my visits, my grandmother dished her husband ice cream for dessert and not even two minutes later forgot she had done so. She inquired where he got it and denied ever giving it to him, feeling suspicious and confused.

It is the small things like this that make the whole situa-

I love my grandmother unconditionally, but being around her is emotionally draining. Coming to terms with her disease has been an ongoing battle for my family. Her dementia creates a mound of stress and there are no words to explain the heartbreaking feeling I have whenever she doesn't recognize my face.

Even worse is the toll it is taking on my mother. I have seen her slowly come to terms with the sadness of eventually losing her mother in the next few years.

The pain my mom is feeling is tangible. I can see her worrying that someday she will be the same way and, in my heart, I have the same fear.

Even now, at the age of 58, my mother forgets our conversations, misplaces things and gets confused. She laughs these moments off but it is easy to tell that it's a burden she

This type of disease is one of the worst ways to lose someone. While experiencing the death of a loved one because of a heart attack or stroke is extremely painful, there is nothing worse then watching them fade away in front of you until the person you once knew and loved completely disap-

I can't help but dwell on the things my grandmother will miss experiencing — all the graduations, weddings, babies, birthday parties and holidays. Each one she may never be able to see and it saddens me to think that she won't be there to celebrate with us.

It seems as if my grandmother's death is looming on the horizon, threatening hard times and tears, and all we can do is sit by and wait for its arrival.

Her dementia is a daily reminder that the woman I admired and loved is slipping away and there is nothing I can do to stop it.

"Ya know what I mean?" is a weekly column appearing on Tuesdays. Jaimie Collins is a Spartan Daily A&E Editor.

"I went through

these stupid

no one else was

my mom had told

me was popular."

rocking the style

sideburns,

A hairy situation

I was six when I first decided I hated my hair.

I came home from the first grade telling my mom that I wanted long blonde hair like my dolls and friends from school.

She tried really hard to explain to me why I couldn't have blonde

I didn't understand.

My hair was long indeed, but it rocking the style my mom had was also frizzy and thick.

This was also the time in my life when my mother, a self-prowould be cute and in style to give me sideburns like Gloria Estefan.

They were more triangular than the normal mental image of what sideburns should look like,



Amaris Dominguez Senior Staff Writer

these were damn near ridiculous. I went through my childhood with these stupid sideburns, unaware of why no one else was

told me was popular. I was teased for them once I reached middle school, being claimed hairdresser, decided it called "Elvis" or told "Shut up, sideburns."

Apparently, they were unaware that this was the "style" of the

Thanks, mom.

When I was old enough to start styling my own hair, I opted for either a ponytail or twirled in a bun. I decided to grow out those sideburns.

I still hated my hair.

It was after I was over that phase of pulling my hair up into a bun in high school when I realized the power of a flat iron.

Instead of embracing this frizzy, bird-nest-of-a-mess hair, I ironed it pin-straight for years.

However, there is one thing that will always ruin even the best of good hair days — humidity.

It never fails. I could spend an hour making sure my hair is super straight only to walk outside to a shift in weather and my hair goes from silky to poofy.

This is why to this day, I still envy those with naturally manageable hair — yes, even blondies. I wish I could shower and let my hair air dry and still have it look

Instead, I go through phases where I decide to wear my hair natural and am confident enough to walk out that door into the world only to be stopped by my hate relationship with my hair. who so mom

politely utters, "You're really going to wear your hair like that?" I can't even count how many

times friends have suggested to not straighten hair, only when I showed them the result of when my wet hair meets a blow dryer they said "maybe not." I hate that I

have to worry about how frizzy my hair will look after a night out dancing with friends.

I hate that I have to opt for a ponytail when it's raining outside, or yell at my friend who is closing the window in a hot room for sabotaging my straightened

I am 24 and am still in a love-

I love that my hair can achieve any hairstyle that may be in "style" my childhood with today, but I hate that it takes me additional hour to get it to look perfect every day. unaware of why I've consid-

ered many permanent straightening treatments, hoping it would cure my sucky hair blues.

I just can't ever seem to commit to them for fear that I

will regret it.

I've just got to learn how to embrace that I am not my hair, but that my hair is a part of what makes me different.

I've dealt with it for years, why change it now?

Let us witness the March Madness

I knew it was wrong, but I did it anyway.

As students listened attentively to the professor's lecture, I turned on my computer and got lost in a college basketball game.

It was a David vs. Goliath matchup.

The Murray State Racers (David) had fought their hearts out, but found themselves down by one point to the heavily favored Vanderbilt Commodores with seconds remaining.

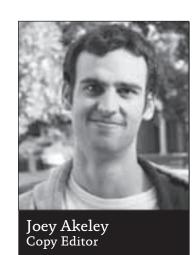
Racers Danero forward Thomas released a shot as time

The fate of the game would be determined by whether the ball swooshed through the net.

Thomas made the shot, and the Racers pulled off a big upset on the first day of the NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament a

And that's when it hit me — I last 10 minutes of class.

For the next three weeks, much of America will be focused



on the buzzer-beating shots, Cinderella stories and bracketology of the NCAA Tournament, which kicks off today.

The tournament is a big hit for just about anyone - students, professors, bosses and employees tend to at least fill out a

Once again, that interest is hadn't paid any attention to the sure to infect the American work force and college classes with

Hundreds of millions of dol-

lars will be lost during the three to multiple reports.

Some companies have resorted to blocking an employee's ability to stream the games online, but I'm sure that people will find a way to stay connected to the action through text messages and smart phone applications.

My advice to employers and professors: embrace the threeweek extravaganza.

Although loss in productivity is an issue in every workplace, the tournament also serves as an opportunity to boost employee morale. Employees who could be struggling from the effects of a poor economy or the Japanese earthquake and tsunami.

I'm not suggesting that employees should be allowed to spend every second of their eight-hour work shift watching basketball.

Firing an employer for keeping his or her interest in sports is not the answer either.

Allowing some viewership of weeks because of a drop in em- the games could go a long way ployee productivity, according toward establishing a good employer-employee relationship.

As for professors, they could also use the tournament as an opportunity to boost student

Ari Kohen, an assistant professor at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, invites his students to enter a bracket pool, and the winner receives five points of extra credit, according to a U.S. News Education article.

Kohen also used the beginning of his class to talk about the games, opening discussion to otherwise quiet students.

I'm not suggesting that professors should use their class time to show the games, but a little fun never hurt the motivation of a student.

Ultimately, the excitement of the NCAA Tournament may be just what the psychiatrist ordered, and it should be shared by students, professors, employers and employees.

Comment on any of these opinions at spartandaily@ gmail.com

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EARTHQUAKE From Page 1

To compound matters, news of possible nuclear leaks surfaced afterward.

"The reports of the melt-down caused a heavy delay in the train systems in Japan," Yip said. "Normally we have multiple lines running across Tokyo with an average wait time of three minutes before the next train. Currently only the JR Yamamote line is running with an average wait time of 20 to 30 minutes."

The McClatchy Tribune news service reported that Tokyo Japanese officials warned Tuesday that the threat of radioactive fallout has intensified because explosions at the crippled Fukushima nuclear power plant may have breached a reactor's inner containment vessel.

"Radiation levels around the compound have risen to fairly high levels," said Japanese Prime Minister Naoto Kan in a morning press conference. "There is a danger of even higher radiation levels."

Kan said 400 millisieverts of radiation were detected at the plant at about 10:30 a.m., which is 20 times the amount a radiation worker may be exposed to annually.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Yukio Edano said, "Now we are talking about levels that can damage human health. These are readings taken near the area where we believe the releases are happening. Far away, the levels should be lower."

Kan urged anyone within an 18-mile radius of the facility to remain indoors. Officials have already evacuated about 200,000 people living 12 miles from the plant.

There have been at least two interruptions in the efforts to pump seawater into the reactor in the last 24 hours.

In the most serious, at least half of the 18-foot length fuel rods were exposed to air for more than two hours, long enough for a partial meltdown of the fuel pellets inside the rods.

Company officials have not confirmed whether they have been able to get the fuel rods completely submerged again.

While areas like Tokyo haven't been devastated like the coastal regions that were engulfed by the tsunami, Yip said there still have been noticeable differences in Tokyo's social landscape since the disaster.

"The grocery stores and convenience stores are all having a shortage of food and water," he said. "Everything from water, tea, soda, instant ramen, microwave food, bread, fruits, vegetables and snacks are currently sold out. New shipments come every morning and afternoon, but they tend to sell out within the hour."

With rolling power outages and widespread uncertainty, survivors still must deal with the reverberations from such a disaster.

"Tokyo and the surrounding areas are expecting blackouts due to the plant shutdown," Yip said. "Cell phones cannot make calls for the time being due to the heavy traffic, but texting works just fine."

Kuo had a similar experience, describing rolling blackouts and limited train service, and said many places feel empty after the disaster.

"People are only going out if they have to," he said. "Some people have headed towards safer areas such as Osaka or out of the country completely."

Kuo noted that the im-

pending danger from the nuclear situation may be the driving factor behind stores selling out, as many are stocking up in case they are told to leave their homes.

"Most people are waiting to see how the situation at the nuclear plants develops," he stated. "They are getting ready to flee if it proves to be necessary."

Yip said he and his friends walked around their neighborhood the day after the earthquake to help clean up wreckage from the quake.

"The stores in the area are mostly family run shops," he said. "We helped them clean up, pick up their shelves, replace the piping systems and volunteered at the elderly home nearby."

Seiichiro (Keach) Inaba, professor of world languages and literatures at SJSU, stated in an e-mail that there are currently three other students located in Japan as part of the Study Abroad Program.

While they were unable to be reached for comment, Inaba stated that he had spoken with the Study Abroad Office on Monday and been informed that the others were out of harm's way.

Dillon Adams stated via e-mail that he was vacationing in China during the disaster while Michael Scales and Stella Wong are both okay, according to the Study Abroad Office.

PRESIDENT

From Page 1

from Beirut, Lebanon, and has traveled throughout the Middle East, said one aspect that strongly attracted him to San Jose State University was the campus' wide variety of cultures.

"Diversity is something we should be celebrating," he said. "San Jose is a unique city with the opportunities it provides."

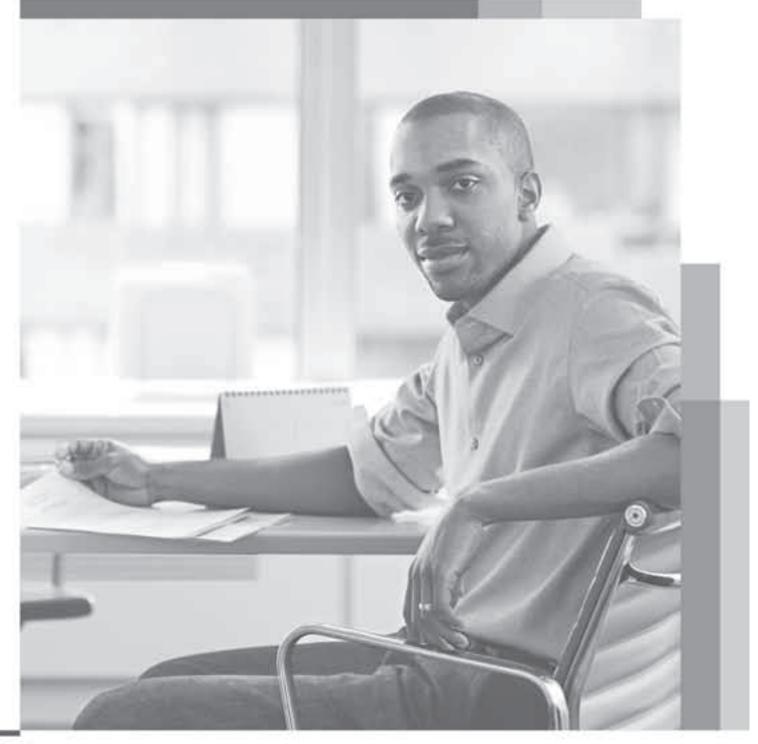
Pat Lopes Harris, director of media relations, said all of the candidates, though different in many areas, offered some similar strengths for the position.

"What really sets these three candidates apart is all three are clearly dedicated to the CSU system and everything it stands for," she said. "All three are familiar with SJSU and our challenges, and all three have global connections, which is especially important here in the Silicon Valley."

Career Highlights

- President of CSU East Bay since 2006
- Served as vice president of CSU Northridge for administration and finance and chief financial officer 2000 to 2006
- Senior adviser to the minister of finance in Afghanistan
- Served as SJSU associate vice president for administration from 1986 to 1995

Your future's timeline, fed.



pwc

2006	Introduced to PwC at a
	scholarship reception
2007	Selected for PwC's Semester
	of Discovery Internship program
2009	Earns MSA and CPA certification,
	starts full-time position at PwC
2010	Mentors at-risk kids in community

Wayne Rowe, PwC Associate. PwC sensed Wayne's passion for numbers before he started college. An internship where his mentor introduced him to senior partners followed, then a full-time position with opportunities ranging from accounting to community outreach—all of which feeds Wayne's life and his future. To see Wayne's full timeline and how you can

feed your future, visit www.pwc.tv

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