

Initio

Alonzo Campos, a graduate student in Mexican American Studies, protests the budget cuts and calls for the resignation of the CSU chancellor.

# **SJSU Demonstrators demand CSU chancellor's resignation**

### **Director**: **More services** with Barnes & Noble deal

### Lyell Marks Staff Writer

Starting April 25, Spartan Shops will first exhibit the capabilities and resources of its new partner, Barnes & Noble.

Students will find a bolstered supply of new, used and rental textbooks, as well as online resources that have not been provided in the past by the SJSU bookstore, according to Beth Pugliese, Spartan Shops executive director.

"With the changing bookstore market and evolving method of content delivery, it became apparent that Spartan Shops as an independent bookstore would have difficulty meeting student needs in the future," Pugliese said.

She said outsourcing was a way to provide better service for students now and will address potential issues in years to come that may have exhausted Spartan Bookstore's capabilities.

SJSU will become the sixth CSU to sign a contract with Barnes & Noble College Booksellers - Cal State Bakersfield, Los Angeles, Monterey Bay, Stanislaus and Sonoma have already formed partnerships in the past.

The 10-year contract with Barnes & Noble College Booksellers will supplement Spartan Shops' existing materials, helping accommodate for what may have led students to use alternative methods to purchase textbooks in the past. "For the first time, students will be able to come in and look at a shelf of new textbooks, used and rental textbooks in the same location," Pugliese said. "You will be able to rent right in store, as opposed to doing the whole mail-in and ship-back method."

Alex Wara & Nate Morotti Staff Writers

SJSU students ended their protest of statewide action against CSU higher education cuts on Wednesday by occupying the Administration building and rally for a meeting with the provost to discuss demands they had.

The No. 1 demand the protesters asked for was the resignation of CSU Chancellor Charles Reed, who protesters claimed has been irresponsible in handling the budget cuts.

Prior to occupying the building, the protest began at noon with students rallying outside of Clark Hall.

A group of about 300 students listened as speakers took the stage to speak about how the CSU system has been suffering from the cuts.

"This is an opportunity for people to have their voices be heard in an aggressive way," said Cindy Chavez, the chief executive officer of the South Bay Labor Council and former lecturer at SJSU. "We're here to make sure that the state of California prioritizes the education system. This is happening across the entire state, and it is

one loud voice saying 'This is what we believe in."

After the speakers, students marched from Clark Hall and moved past the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library as they made their way toward the Alquist State Building in Downtown San Jose chanting "Students United, will never be divided" and "Whose university? Our university."

Marching back onto the campus, protesters gathered in front of Tower Hall and blocked the entrance to the building. The group had intended to occupy the building but was stopped because the building was locked for maintenance issues. "Today we are taking a piece of space that is representative of the administration that we believe is corrupt," said Joseph Tran, head organizer for the Students for Quality Education. "We are reclaiming it because we paid for it and we will decide democratically how we want to do things."

Photo: Donovan Farnham / Spartan Daily

With numbers starting to thin, the students moved on to continue the sit-in at the Administration building to demand a meeting with Provost Gerry Selter.

Protesters sat in the hallway in

see **PROTEST** page 2

According to Pugliese, the partnership will equip students with services and materials that have never been offered at SJSU.

"There will be a 5 percent discount for students on new and used textbooks every day," she said. "In addition to that, Barnes & Noble has far more access to digital materials than we have now and a much more robust website."

Ken Oshiro, a senior business management major, said he sees the partnership as a good move for both parties and thinks he will be enticed to see what the new bookstore has to offer once it opens later this month.

"It's a good business move for both SJSU and Barnes & Noble," Oshiro said. "It gives Barnes & Noble a direct link to students and will likely increase the market share for Spartan Bookstore."

He said he has never tried renting textbooks before but will at least look into the possibility of doing so once the store opens.

"If it's cheaper, I don't see why not," Oshiro said. "I usually buy my textbooks online or in store, but if everything was under one roof that would definitely make buying or renting more convenient."

report suspected sexual assault to the police, but Duncan said it's still possible to seek medical at-

that you need a checkup.

According to the University Police Department's non-forcible sexual assaults were reported.

Duncan said only 2 percent of sexual assault cases ever go to trial, usually because police could not collect enough evidence to go to trial.

"It does not ever ever mean that the (district attorney) does not believe you - it means that there's not enough evidence," she said.

### Sexual assault: Don't blame the victim, specialist says

#### Matthew Gerring Staff Writer

When it comes to sexual assault, one assault prevention intervention specialist for the Silicon Valley YWCA Rape Crisis Center wants to make one thing especially clear — it is not the victim's fault.

"You should be able to walk down the street naked and straddle someone" without worrying about your safety, said Della Duncan in a presentation to 13 students on Wednesday at SJSU's Mosaic Cross Cultural Center.

The presentation, called Sexual Assault Myths & Realities, was presented by Womyn On Womyn's Issues, an inclusive campus club that addresses women's and social justice issues.

Duncan said sexual assault is usually considered a women's issue because one in three women are victims of sexual assault in their lifetime compared to one in 10 men, but suggested that the thinking around the issue needed to change.

"If 97 percent of the perpetrators are male, there's significant changing that needs to go on in the male community," Duncan said.

The presentation addressed common stereo-

types about sexual assault, especially the depiction of sexual assault in mass media.

Duncan said sexual assault is any sexual contact without consent, where consent is defined as a "willing and active yes without threat or coercion."

"The weapon most often used in sexual assault is trust," she said, adding that sexual assault committed by strangers is more likely to receive media attention, and that only 15 percent of sexual assaults involve the use of a deadly weapon.

She said the victim of sexual assault knows the perpetrator 80-85 percent of the time, and that the most common locations of sexual assault are in a home alone with the perpetrator, followed by in a car alone with the perpetrator.

Duncan emphasized throughout the presentation the importance of not blaming the victim and said the YWCA no longer teaches self-defense or situational awareness to women to promote the idea that victims of sexual assault should not be considered responsible for crimes committed against them.

Audience member Maryam Azarchehr, an English literature major, said she thinks women should still be told to take precautions against sexual assault.

"It doesn't hurt to tell them try not to get drunk

in a place where you're not protected," she said.

Duncan said disclosing a sexual assault, even to a close friend, can be more damaging than the assault itself.

She said if a friend discloses to you that he or she has been sexually assaulted, it's important to avoid making victim-blaming statements and to support his or her decisions, including whether to report the assault to authorities.

In California, medical personnel are required to tention after a sexual assault — she said you can tell a doctor you had unprotected rough sex and

Annual Safety Report, three forcible sexual assaults were reported in 2009, the most recent year with available data, and nine were reported in 2008. No

see **B&N** page 2

### 2 NEWS

### SPARTAN DAILY

# Kinesiology professor gathers shoes for Japan disaster victims

### Anastasia Crosson Staff Writer

An assistant professor of kinesiology spearheaded a shoe donation drive on campus over the past week to benefit tsunami and earthquake victims in Japan.

With two collection bins placed in Spartan Complex for a three-day drive, Jessica Chin said she was impressed by the donation response as 30 pairs of shoes were collected.

They will be donated to Soles 4 Souls, a nonprofit organization which distributes footwear to regions of the world that are impoverished or affected by natural disasters.

In the wake of Hurricane Katrina, for example, Souls 4 Soles collected and donated more than one million pairs of shoes to hurricane victims, according to a statement from the nonprofit.

Chin said last year, the SJSU community collected 200 pairs of shoes to donate to Haiti, following a disastrous quake in the region. As a part of the kinesiology department, Chin said she feels it is essential to raise physical education resources for those who would otherwise go without.

> "The main mission is to take sporting equipment that isn't being used and redistribute it to communities

in need."

Jessica Chin Assistant professor of kinesiology

"The main mission is to take sporting equipment that isn't being used

and redistribute it to communities in need," she said.

Aside from giving to those in need, the U.S. Department of the Interior states that these efforts also play a role in reducing landfill waste.

According to the U.S. Department of the Interior, Americans throw away about 300 million pairs of shoes annually, but by donating to nonprofits such as Soles 4 Souls, this shoe waste is recycled and re-worn rather than ending up in landfills.

Chin said an organization started on campus called RE-PLAY also redistributes shoes and sporting equipment to those in need while "preventing stuff from going into landfill."

The organization is made up of SJSU alumni and current students, with Chin and Jay Johnson, assistant professor of kinesiology, serving as advisers to the group.

RE-PLAY's future collection efforts include sporting equipment drives at the Spartan Athletic Training Organization 5K run on May 7, and the May 13 Spartan Triathlon.

### MySJSU goes offline temporarily, cause unknown

### Marlon Maloney Copy Editor

The MySJSU website was nonoperational on Wednesday, from 10 a.m. to around 1 p.m., with a bulletin going up at 2 p.m., said Mike Dunefsky, director of administrative technology at SJSU.

"It didn't just affect us, it affected several campuses," he said. "They have all of our servers clustered into villages and they have multiple campuses hosted on the servers." As of publication, Dunefsky said the cause for the disruption in service was still unknown.

"When something goes wrong in production there's no such thing as a 'normal' downtime," he said. "And, again, I don't have an explanation as to what occurred, because all of that stuff is managed remotely by the CSU."

The Chancellor's Office staff and the SJSU campus data center staff, hosted at Unisys, combined to fix the unknown problem, Dunefsky said.



Sparta Guide is provided to students 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. Entries can be emailed to spartandailyeditorial@sjsumedia.com titled "sparta guide." Space restrictions may require editing or exclusion of submissions. Entry is not guaranteed. Entries are printed in order of which they are received.

### Thursday, April 14

Noon - 2 p.m., A.S. Barbecue Pit Meet the new A.S. Board Barbecue Contact: Brittany Erickson @ 408-924-6242 and berickson@as.sjsu.edu

7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m., St. Paul's United Methodist Church, between 10th and San Salvador Streets Open Table Discussion about Jesus

Wednesday, April 20 3:30 p.m. - 6 p.m., Pacifica Room, Stude

3:30 p.m. - 6 p.m., Pacifica Room, Student Union Environmental Spirituality: An Interfaith Event

### Thursday, April 21

Noon - 1:15 p.m., King Library Room 225/229 Diversity Dialogue: Understanding Suicide Contact: Marina Corrales @ 408-924-2263



Photo: Donovan Farnham / Spartan Daily

Five students and a CFA represen-

Carr listened to the demands and gave

tative presented the six demands that

were being asked of the campus and the

advice to the students on how to handle

the crisis, which included speaking with

Carr assured them that they would be

delivered to the appropriate people.

The demands were handed over and

their local state representatives.

CSU system.

Cindy Chavez, CEO of the South Bay Labor Council, speaks to about 300 protesters set to march against budget cuts in education and who were calling for CSU Chancellor Charles Reed's resignation on Wednesday.

testers vowed not to move until a meet-

would be set up with the provost next

sentatives would be able to meet with

Larry Carr, associate vice president of

public affairs, and Academic Senate

Chair Michael Kaufman, to present the

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Protesters were told that a meeting

Protesters were then told that repre-

### **PROTEST** From Page 1

front of the provost's office still chanting and banging on makeshift drums made from buckets.

With the announcement that the provost would not be able to meet with the students to hear the demands, pro-

### **B&N** From Page 1

Spartan Shops will be closed April 21-22 to allow Barnes & Noble time to move in materials and transfer inventory, but the partnership will be open for business on April 25, according to Pugliese.

"They're literally moving right in," Pugliese said. "It's going to look completely different when you walk in Monday morning."

The new partnership still permits Gold Points for purchases and accepts Barnes & Noble gift cards, she said.

"We are thrilled to have formed this partnership," stated Max Roberts, president of Barnes & Noble College Booksellers, in a news release. "For us, it's not just about offering learning materials. We want to help make the students' educational experience the best it can be and to become a part of the fabric of the San Jose State University community."

demands.

ing was set up.

Tuesday.

While both Barnes & Noble and Spartan Shops will have to move out eventually for seismic retrofits and construction of the new Student Union, they will be moving back in afterward to set up a permanent location.

"What you will see on the 25th is a minor facelift," Pugliese said. "Obviously

they don't want to spend the bulk of their money on a temporary facility. You will see the real change when we move in after the construction. We're going to go back into the same space, but it's going to end up looking completely different."

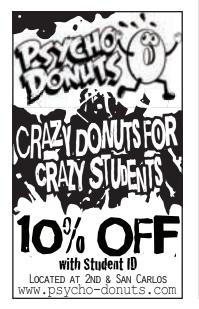
She said the final location will have chairs and sofas where students can read, making it feel more like a traditional Barnes & Noble retail store.

"One of the things we really wanted this to feel like was a destination for stu-

Price: \$20.00

dents," Pugliese said. "Right now, it's kind of more like a place that you pass through."

Spartan Bookstore will retain its name in the partnership, but will inherit the services and resources that appear in more than 630 campus bookstores across the United States, according to the Barnes & Noble College website.



### Friday, April 29

6 p.m., Event Center 49th Annual Honors Convocation Contact: Jessica Larsen @ 408-924-2402

### Saturday, May 14

6 p.m. - 12 a.m., Fourth Street Summit Center A Wish Come True gala by Delta Sigma Pi — Theta Chi chapter Contact: Arleen Cantor @ 650-740-5660



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SPARTAN DAILY

### COMMENTARY

## Sharks have advantage over Kings in playoffs

Joey Akeley Copy Editor

For the next week or so, hockey will be the center stage of the heated NorCal vs. SoCal rivalry, as the San Jose Sharks take on the Los Angeles Kings starting tonight at HP Pavilion. The Sharks, the No. 2 seed, and the Kings, the No. 7 seed, have never met in the playoffs.

	SHARKS	KINGS	ADVANTAGE
FORWARDS	In years past, the Sharks have relied heavily on their first line of Joe Thornton, Patrick Marleau and Dany Heatley, which hasn't computed to much postseason success. This year, the Sharks used a new formula for suc- cess — balanced scoring. San Jose was the NHL's only team in the regular season that had seven players score at least 20 goals. While Marleau (37 goals), Heatley (26 goals) and Thornton (21 goals) have had there ups and downs, rookie Logan Couture has been a model of consistency, ranking second on the team with 32 goals. He has a strong case to win the Calder Memorial Trophy awarded to the league's top rookie. The other three 20- plus goal scores are Joe Pavelski, Devin Setoguchi and Ryane Clowe.	The Kings leader in points and assists, Anze Kopitar, under- went surgery on his ankle Wednesday and will likely miss the en- tire playoffs. Without him, the Kings will be lacking the top line talent that the Sharks have. Justin Williams, who had 22 goals and 35 assists, may be back for the Kings in time for Game 1. Williams missed the last nine games of the regular season with a dislocated shoulder injury. Dustin Brown (28 goals), Ryan Smyth (23 goals) and Jarret Stoll (20 goals) will have to step up to overcome Kopi- tar's absence.	
DEFENSEMEN	Instead of going after a big name defenseman at the trade deadline, the Sharks acquired Ian White from Carolina under the radar. The move has paid dividends as White has two goals and eight assists in 23 games as a Shark. White joins Dan Boyle, Douglas Murray, Marc-Edouard Vlasic and Jason Demers to form a steady defense. Murray is the Sharks enforcer, while Vlasic uses superb quickness and positioning to be ef- fective.	Drew Doughty will have to be on his A game on offense and de- fense if the Kings have any chance in this series. Doughty, who has 11 goals and 40 points, may be the most talented defenseman in the series. Doughty and Jack Johnson have the ability to contain the Sharks top line, but if they don't, this could be a quick series in the Sharks favor. Willie Mitchell and Rob Scuderi are solid defensemen who will also log big minutes in this series.	
GOALIES	In his first postseason a year ago, Antti Niemi won the Stanley Cup with the Blackhawks, but he depended heavily on Chicago's loaded of- fense. He allowed 2.63 goals per game in his 22 playoff starts, which is pretty average for a starting NHL goalie. Niemi has been solid with the Sharks this year, posting a goals-against average of 2.38 and six shutouts. Niemi doesn't have the playoff baggage that former San Jose netmind- er Evgeni Nabokov carried into the playoffs every single year, which should help the Sharks.	Jonathan Quick struggled down the stretch of the regular season, but don't let that fool you — Quick has the ability to steal this se- ries. Quick's 2.24 goals-against average ranked second for starting Western Conference goaltenders. A year ago, Quick struggled in his first playoff series, allowing 13 goals in the final three games to the Vancouver Canucks. Although he lacks the playoff success of Niemi, Quick has had success against the Sharks in his career, posting six wins in 10 starts.	
COACHING	In three seasons as the Sharks head coach, Todd McLellan has won 152 regular season games, the most of any coach over that span. But in San Jose, coaches are defined by the playoffs, and the Sharks have failed to make the Stanley Cup Finals in his first two postseasons. So far, this season has been McLellan's best coaching job yet. The Sharks were struggling in January, at one point slipping out the conference's top eight, but McLellan helped turn things around, and the Sharks enter the playoffs having won 27 of their past 37 games.	Murray. The Kings missed the playoffs five seasons in a row before Murray came, but he has led the Kings to two consecutive playoff	

# Spartans swept by Dons

### Shirene Niksadat Staff Writer

The SJSU women's tennis team's efforts were not enough to beat the University of San Francisco Dons in a 7-0 match Wednesday afternoon.

As the last home game of the season, Wednesday's match against USF was also the women's tennis Senior Day. Seniors Olivia Marshall, Anna Guzman and Kalin Eshelman were all given congratulatory flower bouquets before their matches. Starting off with a doubles match, Guzman and freshman Emily Prescott were the only SJSU doubles team successful at beating their opponents, although SISU needed to win two out of three doubles matches to earn a point in the final match score.

Despite the enormous energy and effort displayed on the court by both teams, the Spartans were swept in the their singles sessions. The only player able to move past two sets was Leon Chau. Similar to her doubles match, Leon Chau was on the court longer than her teammates in battling her USF opponent, Julia Wartenburger. "In doubles, I was just thinking 'attack, attack," she said. "But in singles, I was trying to focus and relax. It was more of a patience game than anything." The end result was an 6-2, 3-6, 10-3 loss.

With the wind factor out on the courts during the matches, both Leon Chao and Marshall felt as if the weather factored into the game.

"We fought really hard out there," Marshall said. "It was a tough game, especially with the wind, but that plays its part on both ends so we just have to learn to execute those points a little better and



Sharks win in 5 games

The Sharks have been on an offensive rampage of late, averaging 4.25 goals per game over their last 11 games. Quick was pulled in the second period after allowing four goals in his last start against the Sharks, and he struggled in last year's postseason. Expect Marleau to have a big series and the Kings offense to flounder without Kopitar.





"It was a tough match, but we did well I think," Guzman said. "This doubles match was my first win against USF ever, so that felt good."

Freshman No. 1 player Sabastiani Leon Chao and sophomore Sandra Florea battled it out in an unusually long session against their USF opponents. The final score in their doubles effort was 9-8(2), losing the match.

"I was content," Leon Chao said. "It was an improvement since last match, so that's good. But of course everyone wants to win, right?"

The team suffered a bit of a downhill slope after not being able to practice for 10 days because of the rain, but were coming off of a 5-4 win against Cal State Los Angeles this past weekend.

During the break between the doubles and singles sessions, head coach Anh-Dao Nguyen-Church said she was very happy to see the girls' high energy during the match.

"USF is a really tough team, but so far I am happy with what I am seeing," she said.

Moving into the singles portion, competition continued to be fierce against the Dons. "Those girls from San Francisco are really consistent," she said. "We can't be too defensive, because those girls would kill us."

She said it is incredibly important that the team work on playing more offensively by attacking the net more.

Guzman also played a visibly exhausting singles match.

Toward the end of her singles match against USF player Jessy Mekpoh, the two girls consistently got into extended rallies.

"I was just trying to keep the ball in till I could set up the point," Guzman said. "She got everything back and she was fast and she just wasn't going to miss. Toward the end, I was just trying to find the energy to bring the point in." sooner."

This being the last home game of their SJSU tennis careers, there was a sense of nostalgia among the seniors.

"It is definitely bittersweet," Marshall said. "It's closing a chapter in my life and it's going to be really tough. I'm going to miss the team a lot and playing these courts everyday."

Nguyen-Church expressed pride for her seniors and her sentiments about losing them as players. Team captain Guzman, who has been with SJSU women's tennis for the last four years, is said to be a model team player.

"I've had a chance to really see her grow these past years and I am so proud of her," Nguyen-Church said. "She's had a great collegiate career and she's a great kid."

When asked what advice she had for her teammates for next season,"Just keep fighting and work hard" is all Guzman had to say. "It has paid off for me these past four years and I can say that I'm happy."



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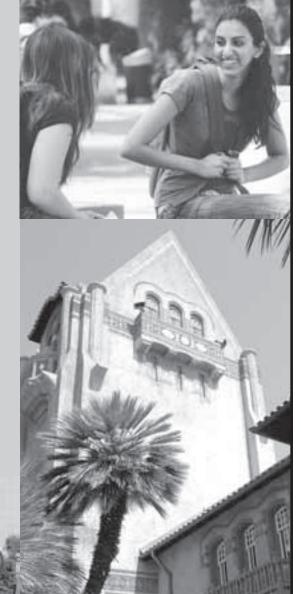
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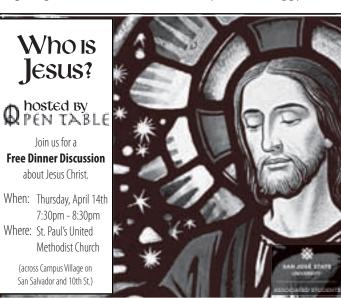
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Advanced Web Registration Begins Monday, April 11 and ends Wednesday, May 25.

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### OPINION

### Spartan Daily

rests on the students' shoulders.

It isn't a college's responsibility to hold

Colleges can equip the students with the

It is a childish notion for students to be-

As adults, it is students' task to prepare

students' hands as they find their path into

tools to succeed, but they are not responsi-

lieve a college should do everything includ-

ble if their graduates succeed or fail.

ing securing them a job or career.

for the day when college is over.

## **Graduation anxiety is a wasted effort**

As I graduated from Chabot College and transferred to SISU, I saw many people enter college with the "student" mindset burrowed into their minds.

That mindset becomes entrenched throughout their entire collegiate careers up until graduation. They might fret at one time or another about finances, grades or personal relationships, but seldom anything else.

Then reality comes crashing down upon those students the moment their names are called at the graduation ceremony.

The safety net is gone. Anxiety sets in and the newly graduated begin to panic, asking "What the hell am I going to do now?"

Suck it up and get over it.

Graduation anxiety may be a common

thing but it's linked to a moment in time that can be seen lap — graduating students must aggressively pursue all avin advance.

Instead of preparing in advance to try and make a transition into the professional world smoother, they panic.

Planning for more than just graduation is a must. Four or five years may seem like a long time, but that time flashes by quick.

The world doesn't stop while students are going through college. It moves along and it is ruthless to those unprepared or unaware — to the freshly graduated.

Several people can quibble over how college should have better prepared them, but a large part of the responsibility



Online Editor

Those who don't will find themselves in a sinking boat in the middle of piranha-in-

Grow up.

the world.

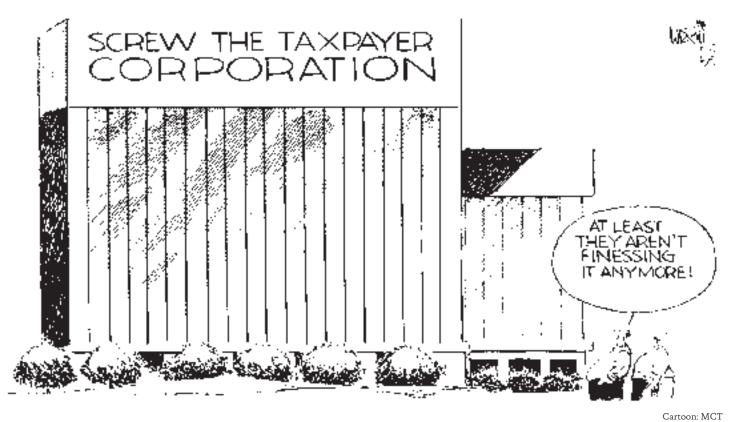
fested waters. Seldom does anything fall into anyone's

enues.

Pound the pavement and knock on doors. Use the connections and use the knowledge you gained while still in college.

Any argument that planning is useless because even the best laid plans can fall through bears no weight. People stumble, but it shouldn't prevent them from getting up and to continue moving forward.

Effort shouldn't be wasted on fretting over what happens as graduation nears. It should be channeled into laying solid groundwork for a post-graduation world.



### My grievance with higher education

Since the creation of the education system there has been one singular trait that has linked every group of students together: the criteria for judging how good teachers are based on how easy their classes are.

Since my days in middle school this has always been a conversation starter between me and other children. If you hear a teacher is good then chances are the students mean that the teacher is easy, because that is what the standard student is always thinking about.

If you asked students what they think about any given class, "How much work would I have to do?" may comes out of their mouth, but it is almost certain to be their heads.

If a teacher is known for being liked among the student population for having easy lectures and little or no homework, then what are the students even getting out of taking that class?

The point of taking a a skill or formulate a more educated opinion of a certain subject, but if the kids are only taking the class because they need the credits and they heard the teacher is easy, then what is the point of even taking that class?

having an easy class or easy teacher can't be educational or beneficial to the students, but it seems to make more sense if the class actually forced students to exert themselves and take something away from their classes.



Most kids would say they take easy classes like these because they need the units, or it's a requirement for their major, but I think that's a waste of time and resources not be the first response that for both the student and teacher.

If units are the only reathe first idea that pops into son a student has for taking a class, then something is wrong with the system.

Perhaps it would be a nice change of pace if more resources were sent to funding the classes that are actually relevant to the students graduation instead of making them take a bunch of classes course in college is to learn to learn things that they may or may not use.

Ideally the end result of doing this would be both a streamlined education system that lets people get out of college with a degree in a shorter amount of time while at the same time having spent I'm not trying to say that way less money, and also providing the student with a much more fulfilling educational experience.

> This is how I thought that college was going to work, and this is how I think that the world of higher education should work.

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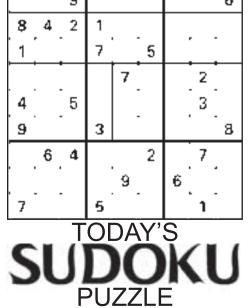
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### SPARTAN DAILY

### OPINION

# Smile, when your heart is breaking

When I was a little boy, I learned that I couldn't have feelings.

I think I was 5 years old, waiting for my turn on the slide when another boy pushed me out of the line and took my place.

I was sitting on the tanbark, alternating between tears and murderous glares, when he said, "You're a boy. You can't be sad."

I learned many times in my life that there's little to be gained from open displays of emotion.

I was admonished for showing that I was angry, sad or afraid, and every disappointment, every missed opportunity, every perceived injustice became a lesson in self control — lessons I think I learned a little too well.

Though every stereotype and tradition I've encountered says I shouldn't even have feelings, let alone say anything about them, I know how deeply emotional I can be.

There are days when the world suddenly becomes too small and I don't know what I can do — whether I want to lock myself in a room and bury my face in a pillow to muffle the sobbing, to reach out and strangle the closest living being with my bare hands, or to simply walk out of a room and never return.

But I can't do any of that, because as soon as I start considering it, the rational part of my mind takes over and forces me to stay where I am and suck it up, schooling my features and feelings into something that resembles calmness.

At that point, the only thought in my head is, "If not me, then who?"

If I am not a bastion of control and focus, how can I expect anyone else to be?

If I don't set an example, how can I expect anyone to follow me?

My friends say they would consider me emotionally expressive, if a bit reserved, but there are days when I wonder whether I'm really expressing an emotion or if I'm just a better actor than I think I am.

Intellectually, I know that emotions have a place in our lives — they are a sign that we are thinking beings, that we are ca-



Ryan Fernandez Rated R

pable of reacting to our environment, that we are more than matter and energy in motion.

Take fear, for example. It's a useful emotion in the right quantities.

Too much throws people into a mindless panic, but you can't deny that fear really has a way of lighting a fire under them. It provides the impetus to get things done. It is what triggers the fight or flight response,

the desire to either run from a threat or kill it so we don't have to be afraid anymore.

As a writer, part of my craft is to use words to evoke an emotional reaction from people: sympathy, outrage, terror or lust, but it's hard to make those feelings come out from the end of my fingers when I'm not sure I'm properly expressing them on my face.

I know it's not healthy to keep all that inside, and I'm working on it, but in the meantime, I think I've found a working stopgap.

Laughter truly is the best medicine, at least for now.

I laugh when I'm happy or amused, but sometimes I have no choice but to laugh when I'm stressed or tired, enraged or morose, or just drunk.

After all, when mice have gnawed holes in your best-laid plans and the world is falling down around your ears, what can anyone do but laugh at the absurdity of it all?

The only other choice is to throw yourself into whatever pit of despair opens beneath your feet, and that's no option at all.

If you're wondering how I sound when I'm doubled-over by a half-mad cackle, look up the title character in the movie "Amadeus" — it's on YouTube.

Sure, it's a manic cackle that contorts my face into a grotesque mockery of mirth and pulls my mouth into serial-killer rictus, but it's better than the alternative.

"Rated R" is a column appearing every other Thursday. Ryan Fernandez is the Spartan Daily Managing Editor.

# **Forgiving loved ones is** a struggle to the end

On March 13, my family celebrated my grandpa's 79th birthday.

Complete with a band and a large spread of food, I sat and took in the atmosphere.

I watched as my grandpa was brought to tears when the band played some of his favorite songs.

With each song, tears rolled down his cheeks. Something felt different.

When it came time to leave, I went to give him a hug and a kiss goodbye.

He grabbed me by the shoul-

ders looked me in the eye and embraced me gave us the news that my grandpa had died a — this time longer than normal, like it would little after 2 in the morning. be the last time.

I kissed his cheek and told him that I loved him.

Ten days later, I was at work and I received a panicked call from **look beyond the** out of hand and put my family my cousin who said she couldn't get a hold of my dad to tell him my grandpa had been admitted into the hospital and that things weren't looking optimistic.

I stood there, unaware of how to feel — emotionally detached.

My grandpa had been an alcoholic for years.

I remember being a child, sitting on the floor of my grandparent's living room during a birth-

day party and watching him take swigs from the bottle of vodka that sat next to his feet as music blared from the stereo sitting in front of him.

This was nothing out of the ordinary until my dad picked me up and placed me on my grandpa's lap.

"Tell your grandpa not to drink — tell him to stop drinking for you," my dad said.

I can still remember the guilt in my grandpa's eyes, as I sat there pleading him to quit his habit.

I was too young to truly understand the severity of alcohol addiction.

Guilt trips never ended well with him. It either ended in a fit of rage or with more drinking.

Ultimately, this is what happened about three weeks ago.



Amaris Dominguez Senior Staff Writer

"I was able to effects of his addiction and love him for the amazing man that he was."

After an alcohol-induced argument, my grandpa did something in a fit of rage that caused a heart attack.

That night was cold, like the waiting room that my extended family crowded into.

Family members shuffled in and out of the room to say their final goodbyes.

I had opted out of going in to say goodbye to my grandpa, wanting to spare the mental image of machines and tubes attached to him as he struggled to cling to life. I didn't cry when my dad

I couldn't cry because I was so emotionally confused.

I was angry that my grandpa had let his addiction get so through such trials.

It caused me to disconnect myself from him, feeling it would be the easiest way to deal with his addiction with alcohol.

I felt I wasn't at peace.

I blamed every enabler who had given in to his addiction just to put a smile on his face. I was upset at him for being so selfish.

Things changed the following week at the funeral when my dad gathered my brother, sister and me around the casket and told us that my grandpa had told him many times that he was trying to fight his ways for us.

At that moment I made my peace with him - I no longer held the resentment I was carrying since his death.

I realized that above all, he was still my grandpa who loved me unconditionally.

Why shouldn't I be able to do the same?

I was able to look beyond the effects of his addiction and love him for the amazing man that he was.

My grandpa may have struggled with his addiction for as long as I knew him, but his love for me never changed.

At the end of the day, that is what really matters.

### There's no money in this career, but I'll do it anyway

I recently came across a news article naming the top college majors that earned graduating students the highest starting salaries out of school.

The article stated that majors in the engineering field dominated the list of top-paying degrees for the graduating class of 2011, with engineering majors receiving an average starting salary of more than \$60,000.

Out of the top-five paying degrees, four were different degrees in engineering (chemical, mechanical, electrical and communication) and the fifth was computer science.

Guess which major was nowhere near the top of the list?

That's right, journalism.

I guess I can find some comfort in the fact that journalism didn't make the list of "college majors that don't pay," but it still doesn't give me much hope.

At most, starting out in the field of journalism (granted that I'm lucky



enough to find a job after graduation) will earn me about \$25,000 a year.

So why then, you may ask, do I subject myself to a major that is sure to leave me doomed once I leave this institution?

I suppose you could say that I'm doing it for the pure joy of writing. It's true, that I feel a certain time I pick up the Spartan Daily and I might land after college.

me doomed

institution?"

see my byline next to an article that I've put a lot of work into.

When a coach you may ask, do thanks me for writing a story about his or her team's success, it's really gratifying.

If an athlete sends

home an article to mom and dad with their name and face on a full-page spread, once I leave this it makes me happy to know that I've helped them be recognized

But how am I going to make enough money to support myself in the future?

I'm going to be honest. I already have a job that pays me more working part time than I would possibly

amount of accomplishment every earn at any entry-level reporting job

Working in the "So why then, pharmacy at Kaiser, I'm essentially a glorified cashier and while that might not be the I subject myself career I'm looking for, it pays for my car to a major that payment, my rent, my phone bill and still is sure to leave leaves me extra money for food every week.

It's not like the health care industry is going anywhere anytime soon, and journalism seems to be a dying art.

Whenever someone asks me what my college major is and I tell them journalism, the follow-up statement usually is something like, "Well, good luck with that. You know newspapers aren't going to make it much longer."

I know, not very encouraging. So why do I continue to pursue this major?

Maybe I'm crazy for pursuing journalism as a major. Maybe I'm crazy for thinking I can somehow make writing for newspapers when they are practically on the verge of extinction.

All I know is that I love to write and I love sports.

Put those two things together and sports journalism seems to be a good idea, right?

I just hope that by the time I graduate, there will still be a place for me in the "real world" of journalism and all the effort I put into my writing here will amount to something.

Because at this point in time, there's no way I can change my major to any sort of engineering.

"The Real Deal" is a weekly column appearing on Thursdays. Melissa Sabile is a Spartan Daily Sports Editor.

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### SPARTAN DAILY

### MOVIE REVIEW

## **Robert Redford interprets history in 'The Conspirator'**

Authentic sets and stellar cast enable film to shine

Jaimie Collins A&E Editor

Considered at the time to be one of the world's most shocking murders, the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln was a national tragedy.

John Wilkes Booth is nationally recognized as the man who assassinated Lincoln.

The story told less often, however, is that of a supposed conspiracy surrounding the president's death and its connection to the violence against the vice president and secretary of state on the same evening.

Bringing a fresh perspective and intriguing suspense to this historical legend is director Robert Redford's new film "The Conspirator," which will grace the big screen starting Friday.

This film is an intriguing and interesting history lesson, cataloging the manhunt and trial that ensued in the wake of the president's assassination.

In the weeks following the crime, seven men and one woman were arrested and charged with conspiring to kill these political officials.

Superbly acted by Robin Wright, the sole woman placed in custody was 42-year-old Mary Surratt, owner of the boarding house where Booth and the other alleged conspirators plotted their attack.

The mystery of Surratt's involvement and how much she knew concerning the assassination led the court of post-Civil War Washington to charge her with conspiracy and abetting murder.

whereas John evades capture even though it would get his mother released.

Aiken, who was reluctant to support Surratt in the first place, evolved from believing Surratt was guilty to passionately fighting for her despite the growing discrimination and social prejudices he experienced.

Best known for his role in "Atonement," McAvoy's acting shined in this film.

His interactions with the other characters and serious demeanor during the trial was personable, intriguing and attention grabbing.

Similarly, Wright, known for her role as Jenny in "Forrest Gump," does an excellent job of portraying her character in an emotional and convincing way.

Reenacting the role of an old-fashioned woman, Wright succeeds at portraying her character perfectly, which attracts further interest to the film.

In addition to the movie's lead characters, this film features a superb cast including Kevin Kline and Justin Long, accompanied by "True Blood's" Evan Rachel Wood and "Gilmore Girls"" Alexis Bledel.

"... It was a story that was unknown connected to a story almost everyone knew."

### Robert Redford Director

Photo Courtesy: Allmoviephoto.com

"The Conspirator" showcases Robin Wright (left) as Mary Surratt and James McAvoy (right) as Frederick Aiken.

height. Through the sets, costumes and overall recreation of the past, every detail was carefully tailored to ensure the interpretation looked as real as possible.

From the candlelit lamps to the dirt streets and horsedrawn buggies, "The Conspirator" did an excellent job of taking the audience on a trip back in time.

With near-tear-jerking dialogue, heated courtroom battles and several broken spirits, this film tugs at the heartstrings and makes the viewer call for justice.

Moreover, award-winning actor and director Redford does a great job of pulling all the elements of the film together. Each aspect of the film combines to produce a cohesive cinematic presentation.

During a news conference in Hollywood on March 4, Redford said his inspiration to take on this project was the uniqueness and originality of the storyline and script.

"I was attracted to the



Robert Redford discussed his experience creating this film during a news conference at the Associated Collegiate Press journalism convention in Hollywood on March 4.

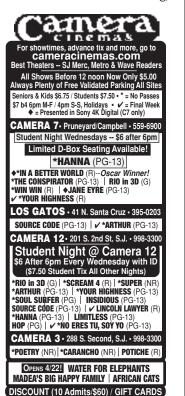


Enlisted to represent Surratt is the Union war hero and rookie lawyer Frederick Aiken, portrayed powerfully by actor James McAvoy.

Through careful investigation, Aiken battled to reveal the truth, coming to the realization that Surratt may be innocent and that she is being used as bait to capture the only conspirator to have escaped — her son, John Surratt.

Beneath the political and historical characteristics of the film lies an emotional core that branches from the bond between mother and son.

The values of loyalty, trust and family ties are apparent as Surratt refuses to reveal where her son is hiding,



Each cast member contributed to the film's success in a variety of ways — Kline represented the harsh and biased ideals of this era's government, while Wood added a touch of emotion and Ble-

del brought the romance. Of the ensemble, however, Long's performance stood out. His attitude added muchneeded comic relief.

He constantly cracked jokes and did an excellent job of becoming the on-screen comedian.

In addition to a stellar cast, the level of authenticity brought this film to a new

story because it was a story that few people, if anybody, knew about," he said. "What intrigued me was that it was a story that was unknown connected to a story almost everybody knew. That got me."

This cinematic masterpiece does a superb job of portraying a country's reaction to a national crisis.

Captivating from start to finish, "The Conspirator" sheds light on the story everyone thought they already knew while exposing the details behind what may have happened on that night in 1865.

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