The Bureau’s Office, nestled in the Student Services Center, is often filled with students flipping through reser-
wers and solutions to their money woes and professionals, courteous ad-
vors offering financial counseling.
Thus where the privilege of go-
ting to college and the realities of paying for it collide.
When tuition prices and an uncertain job market, students all over the United States are debating whether going into debt is worth the value of an education.
The U.S. Department of Educa-
ion’s National Center for Educa-
tional Statistics found that 45 percent of all undergraduates received some type of financial aid in 2007–2008.
“Most of the people I know have financial aid or grants/scholarships,” said junior microbiology major Asha Sadhu. “They work before or after school and they are aware of rising tuition.”
Fees for both the California State University System and University of California systems have increased in the past year, according to their respective websites.
For the 2010-2011 academic year, tuition at the CSU system increased five percent, adding $40 to the bill.
The CSU Board of Trustees also passed a 10 percent increase for the 2011-2012 school year which amounts to an annual increase of $952 according to the CSU website.
“Raising tuition costs,” said senior history major, Gary Edwards. “Before my financial aid would cover everything and there might be a lit-
tle bit left over Now, there’s nothing left.”
According to the Pew Research
Center, a non-partisan public opin-
ion research organization, more students are taking out loans to pay for school – in 2008, 60 percent of all graduates had borrowed money, compared with 52 percent in 1996.
Among graduates in 2008 who borrowed money, the average amount for bachelor’s degree recipients was more than $23,000, compared with more than $17,000 in 1996, accord-
ing to Pew.
Educator maddens students with fearless forms of creative expression

PARKER From Page 1

\[ \text{Knowledge. The first part of education is images. Whatever you imagine you can do is what you get to imagine for yourself and for others.} \]

Though Parker struggled to get through college on a half tuition scholarship he said he kept his love for teaching art alive. He continuously performed well academically in his classes and he never lost hope that one day he would become a full-time art teacher.

“I really wanted to teach because I thought I was a good job,” Parker said. “Then one, I could help humanity just a little bit if I prepared myself properly. Before I thought I wasn’t capable of helping at all.”

Parker eventually graduated from the Califor- nia College of Arts Crafts, and earned a BFA and MFA. And he got his dream job as an art professor.

“I wanted to teach my stu- dents how to live outside the box,” Parker said. “My mission was to show my students how to survive in the real world as an artist and to give them the best for themselves as art- ists.”

Parker’s student, sopho- more art major Camoron Scudder said she took Parker’s class not knowing what to ex-pect, but when he met Parker, he was blown away by his crea- tivity and his personality.

“He’s creative in every way. You can imagine what it’s like,” she said. “And he is very fearless which I think is part of creativity and he isn’t afraid to just slap something on his clothes or on a piece of paper and say isn’t this good.”

Parker said he made a mark on campus when he took it upon himself to fill the plain blue walls of the student union with several paintings of images he had thought about. He taped portraits as a way to introduce everyday people to something new and refreshing.

He was inspired to paint the blue walls because I know that art is beautiful and it can be useful as an agent of healing,” he said. “I devoted my time, money and talents in a sacrificial way because I knew this would help everyone and make them all feel better.”

He said that many individ- uals around campus appro- fessed and art but he was dis- appointed when they forced him to stop painting on the wall.

“I’m happy some student’s were allowed to stop up in a limited area,” Parker said. “I sure would love to paint oceans and clouds, dancers, lyrics, famous para- digms-breaking new scientific theories and poetic quotes and lineages on those walls. I think that is what is college is for, just not blue walls anymore.”

Senior animation and il- lustration Mariashaw Edwirth said that Parker inspired her to see life and art in a new way.

“She’s amazing,” she said. “She is very analytical and he inspired me by giving me a breath of fresh air and talking to me like I always have to be perfect.”

LOANS From Page 1

Freshman English major Associate Bursar Deana Genereux said in her office that it is no stranger to borrowing money for school.

“I have a couple of small loans that I pulled out for the first year of college, but I can tell these are going to get greater and greater with each passing year,” she said.

Genereux is working at In-N-Out Burger since the summer of her sophomore year in high school to pay for her first year college fees, but she is still struggling to make ends meet.

“I plan for one thing and tuition goes up,” she said. “I’m going to have bursar student debt in my future because of the constant price raises and the difficulties in being an in- dependent student at the age of 18.”

The Bursar’s Office handles collections, student accounts, and is the cashier for SJSU. It disburses financial aid money and helps students who ex-pect part of their financial aid money to be in loans, accord- ing to their websites.

Associate Bursar Donita Hurley has worked in the Bursar’s Office for over 31 years.

“I have seen an increase in stu- dents loans. Students are having to borrow more money because of fee increases. It catches fami- lies off guard especially because the economy is the way it is,” said Deana Genereux, Assistant Bursar.

“I have seen an increase in student loans,” Hurley said. “Students have to borrow more money because the economy is the way it is. Money is so pre- rare and personal. Maybe parents could give $1,000 before and see how they can.”

Graduating senior Colleen Henning said she didn’t want to take out any student loans to get her degree in jus- tice studies.

“My uncle is a dentist and he just paid off his loans,” she said. “I think it’s a bigger commitment than what peo- ple realize. It scares me. If you don’t pay your job, you still have to pay for those loans. I don’t want to have payments for 40 plus years.”

“I have about $15,000 in loans,” said Mikky Pardy, a psychology major at UC Ro- sphere.

“I pay for school with scholarships, grants and loan money,” she said. “I wish the loans would disappear. Though, I know in the end the loans will be beneficial in the education I am receiving and obtaining a career that I will enjoy. I like the money I am spending on my education is already well worth it.”

Genereux said she wishes students would ask for help when it comes to money.

“The best thing you can do is call in your loans,” she said. “We can set up reasonable in- stallments. Our goal is to keep as many students as possible in classes.”

Genereux also said in her experience that the students who have to drop out are the students who didn’t come to SJSU with a plan on how to pay for it.

Even with rising tuition and the possibility of debt, it seems that some students feel that being in school is the best option.

History major Edward said he has plans to go to get his Master’s degree. “I have about $20,000 in debt right now, but with the crap- py economy it’s better to be in school and try and wait it out,” he said.

McClatchy Tribune

Trump drops out of presidential race

The end of Donald Trump’s short-lived pres-idential fl iction Monday further solidi- ed the still-revolting Republican primary. Trump announced that he would be stepping out of focus on sen- timent polls for the GOP nomination.

The possibility of a 2012 White House battle by the outspoken real estate magnate domi- nated the political environment for much of April as Trump asserted he was considering a run. But his merciless questioning of President Barack Obama’s birther base has led many on both sides of the aisle to criticize its potential candidacy as a distraction. After topping GOP polls in early April, Trump had fallen dramati- cally in many surveys by the end of the month.

“Has no impact whatsoever on him personally,” Trump’s ally around Trump’s will-be-or- dination of the president, a leading Republican operative aired former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee’s con- fession last month, he raised eye- brows with a profanity- laced speech in Las Vegas in which he declared “our lead- ers are stupid.”

A July a Quinnipiac Uni- versity national poll showed that 8 percent of American voters said they would never vote for the business tycoon. A candidate with disapp- proved ratings in the stratosphere like Mr. Trump prob- ably made the right decision not to give up his day job,” said Peter Brown, assistant director of the Quinnipiac University Polling Institute.

Trump’s announcement — coming at least at week before he originally said he would relay the news... tired for boost his ratings.”

Even as Trump bowed out, his move relieved some Republican strategists of having to deal with a candidate who won the 2008 Iowa caucuses, underlined the absence of a top-tier con- test on both sides of the aisle to criticize its potential candidacy as a distraction. After topping GOP polls in early April, Trump had fallen dramati- cally in many surveys by the end of the month.

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Photo: Michelle Terris / Spartan Daily

TUESDAY, MAY 17, 2011
TROUBLE IN PARADISE: Ninth inning loss caps disappointing series

The SJSU baseball team lost three out of four games this weekend against the University of Hawaii, leading the Western Athletic Conference.

The series leaves the Spartans with a 9-16 record of 3-10-1 and 10-10 record in WAC play. Meanwhile, the Hawaii Warriors improve their overall record to 28-21-1 and increase their lead in the WAC with a 3-1 record in conference.

Game 1

The Spartans lost the opening game against Western Conference leading University of Hawaii on Thursday after giving up seven runs in the fourth inning at Les Murakami Stadium in Honolulu.

Spartan starting pitcher Roberto Padilla gave up three hits and three walks in the fourth before getting pulled with only one out in the inning, his shortest outing of the season.

The Warriors capitalized on the less-than-stellar outing from Padilla by roughing up Spartan freshman reliever Johnny Melero.

Melero, who relieved Padilla with one out in the fourth, loaded the bases with a walk and an error and then emptied them by giving up a bases-clearing triple to the Warriors’ Jeffery Van Doomum.

SJSU carried a 2-1 lead into the all important fourth inning, behind an RBI double by sophomore designee, a single by Zack Jones which moved Stienstra to third with one out. The heads-up base running by Stienstra would pay off as he scored on a sacrifice fly by Jacob Valdez, lowering the lead to 7-3.

The Warriors would increase their lead once again in the bottom of the fourth, scoring two runs on an RBI base hit and sacrifice fly, making the lead 9-3.

SJSU would fold and went a solo shot over the wall in the sixth, his third home run of the series. That would, however, be the final run scored by the Spartans in the seventh inning.

Game 3

The SJSU offense would finally overcome in the third game of the series against Hawaii, leading the Spartans to a 7-5 win in the second game of a Saturday double-header.

SJSU would allow Hawaii to score first for the third consecutive game of the series, something that plagued the Spartans in the previous two games.

In Game 1 of the series, it was a seven-run fourth inning. And in Game 2, the Spartans surrendered a three-run first inning.

Danny Stienstra crosses home during a 7-5 Spartan victory over the University of the Pacific on May 10.

Danny Stienstra played a big role offensively for SJSU this weekend and leads the team in multiple categories.

The trend would continue in the third game of the series as the Warriors would score first once again with a two-run third inning.

However, SJSU broke out of its offensive slump, recording 14 hits and adding another two runs in the inning. Spartan scoring was sparked with an RBI single by senior outfielder Kerby Jenkins and a two-run single by sophomore Nick Schulz, driving in the score to 7-3.

A two-out single by Valdez would total the Spartan runs to 7, and the Warriors would get one run back in the bottom half of the ninth to end the game with a 7-5 Spartan victory.

Game 4

Hawaii was in disappointing fashion for Spartan fans in the final game a four-game series against SJSU, scoring four runs in the bottom of the ninth inning to steal the victory from the Spartans.

SJSU carried an 8-4 lead to the bottom of the ninth, the Spartans lead coach Sam Peros gave the ball to normally lock-down closer Zack Jones. Jones, however, would give up a walk and two singles and a run with two outs in the ninth, causing Peros to take his struggling closer out of the game.

Meanwhile, the Hawaii Warriors would increase their lead to 5-2.

In the first inning, Padilla gave up three hits, all singles, in seven complete innings of work, adding four strikeouts and allowing only two runs in the outing. Spartan scoring was sparked with an RBI single by catcher Michael Reiling.

SJSU had a 3-0 lead after two innings with runs coming off the bats of Jones, Craig Hertler and Nick Schulz.

Hawaii would increase the lead with a run in the third and three runs in the fourth and add on another for a 5-0 lead.

An RBI single by catcher Michael DiBiccaccio and a sacrifice fly by Hertler would even the score.

One run in the eighth and two in the ninth would give the Spartans the lead before they eventually lost it in the ninth with a final score of 7-6.
**Outdoor festivals heat up South Bay Area’s summer**

**Jamie Collins**

**A&E Editor**

Good news, everyone — the wait is over! Despite this week’s gloomy weather, the anticipated summer season is upon us, promising warm weather and an abundance of outdoor activities.

**Boogie on the Bayou**

May 21 & 22, Downtown Campbell

Louisiana-inspired outdoor festival featuring arts and crafts, plenty of vendors and booths, low entertainment and international cuisine.

Free admission

**Gilroy Garlic Festival**

July 29 — 31, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Christmas Hill Park, Gilroy

Snack on food cooked to perfection with garlic while enjoying low entertainment and arts and crafts.

General admission: $17, Seniors and Children (6-12): $10

**San Jose Juneteenth Festival**

June 18 & 19, 12 p.m. to 8 p.m., Plaza de Cesar Chavez, Downtown San Jose

Observe the day of African American and arts and crafts.

Free admission

**San Jose Greek Festival**

June 3 — 5, Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church

Featuring authentic Greek food and arts and crafts.

General admission: $5; Seniors and Children (5): Free

**Music in the Park**

Every Thursday June 2 — August 25, 5:30 p.m., Plaza De Cesar Chavez, Downtown San Jose

Free admission

**San Jose Jazz Fest**

August 12 — 14, Plaza de Cesar Chavez, Downtown San Jose

Free admission

**Tapestry Arts festival**

September 3 & 4, San Jose History Park

Over Labor Day weekend, enjoy live music, food and beverage vendors, and an abundance of arts and crafts.

Free admission

**Starlight Cinemas**

June 8 — August 24

These outdoor movies start at dusk and play at either the Historic District, San Pedro Square or SoFa District.

Free admission

**A la Carte & Art**

May 22 & 23 12 a.m. to 6 p.m., Castro Street, Mountain View

Check out the fine art, crafts, live music and a mix of food and drink vendors.

Free admission

**Downtown San Jose**

August 12 — 14, Plaza de Cesar Chavez, Downtown San Jose

Free admission

**San Jose History Park**

June 8 — August 24

Feast your eyes on a selection of black history.

Free admission

**Class of ’13**

When it came to finding a college that gave me flexibility to start when I wanted, finish at my own pace, and offer evening classes, Notre Dame was the right choice. NDNU and You! GRADUATE AND CREDENTIAL INFORMATION FORUM MONDAY, JUNE 20, 2011 6:30PM

Notre Dame de Namur University gives you the flexibility you need to complete a bachelor’s or master’s or teaching credential in the evening. Conveniently located mid-peninsula in Belmont, NDNU has the quality programs and instructors you need to achieve what you want.

Accepting transfer and graduate students for Fall 2011. To RSVP or learn more, visit www.ndnu.edu or call (650) 588-5650.

**Photo Courtesy: Danger Mouse**

**ALBUM REVIEW**

Collaboration of artists on 5-year project yields mediocre results

**Album’s spaghetti western feel adds to DJ’s wide range of experiences**

*Daniel Herberholz* Senior Staff Writer

**DIJ Danger Mouse has explored the plethora of musical genres, entering into a due with Italian composer Daniele Luppi and existing on an ordinary but creative album.**

Released today, *ROME* is producer Danger Mouse’s collaboration with Luppi in an effort, reportedly five years in the making, to produce a spaghetti western record.

Spaghetti westerns were attempts by Italian film directors in the 1960s to capture the feel of American western movies while using Italian actors and Italian settings.

The music composed for the films mirrored those attempts. A eleven-time Grammy nominated and one-time winner, Danger Mouse is best known for two other collaborations — pop-funk duo Gnarls Barkley with Cee-Lo Green and electronic duo Broken Bells with James Mercer, lead singer of indie rock outfit The Shins.

He also produced Domen Days by Gorillaz (alternatif hip hop), Master Fight by Beck (alternative rock), several albums by The Black Keys (blues) and a soon-to-be-released U2 record.

In other words, the go spaghetti things up and be does so again on *ROME*. Twisting chimes and mellow horns see features in “Rose With A Broken Neck,” guest singer Jack White, of The White Stripes, stones across a smoky number, crossing “Help my soul to a dank / Help myself to the sink.”

The bells and whistles continue on “Morning Fog (Interlude),” an apt name for its sound.

All three interludes on this album reprise later tracks of the same names.

“Season’s Trees” introduces a level of prep, with Whi-vagues and box and a flowing melody that catches the listener’s ear unlike the prior tracks.

“Every girl gets her dreams cast onto reality / Never seemed to bother me, only just some noise from my living room” Jones another opportunity to influence the album with her sad voice.

“Every girl gets her dreams cast onto reality / Never seemed to bother me, only just some noise from my living room”

The fullness of this song derives from its length and depth, making it the best track on the record. The version of “Morning Fog” brings more of the same as the earlier interludes, though with more pomp and drama.

A chorus of voices dispenses the monotony of floating strings and light chimes.

“Problem Queen” gives Jones another opportunity to influence the album with her sad voice.

The piano on the track may also be her influence, as Danger Mouse is known for plugging artist’s individual talents into songs.

“Every girl gets her dreams cast onto reality / Never seemed to bother me, only just some noise from my living room”

She probes the idea of looking towards the forum and how to deal with failure despite one’s best efforts.

“Every girl gets her dreams cast onto reality / Never seemed to bother me, only just some noise from my living room”

The bridge elicits an im-

“Every girl gets her dreams cast onto reality / Never seemed to bother me, only just some noise from my living room”

Though this version of “Morning Fog” brings more of the same as the earlier interludes, though with more pomp and drama.

The second interlude of the album, “Her Hollow Ways,” reprises with gems and melody, though not impressively.

“Every girl gets her dreams cast onto reality / Never seemed to bother me, only just some noise from my living room”

White lends his voice again for the final track, “The World,” which is easily the best rendition of a spaghetti western tune.

The bridge elicits an im-

“Every girl gets her dreams cast onto reality / Never seemed to bother me, only just some noise from my living room”

The World (Interlude)” is the best of the interludes, raising the tension of the album without rattching up the flow.

Jones reappears on the longest track of the album, “Black.”

“Every girl gets her dreams cast onto reality / Never seemed to bother me, only just some noise from my living room”

ALTERNATIVE INTERLUDE

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Android app seeks to ease course catalog frustrations

Matthew Gerring
Spartan Wire

Choosing the right classes is arguably one of the most important things you have to do as a student, but you’d never know it given the amount of thought put into the systems we use to do it. It speaks volumes that Scott Close, creator of SJSU Class Finder for Android, has vastly improved on the current options with a solid but definitely incomplete first version of an app that does exactly what it says — allows you to browse and search for classes at SJSU — but one that you won’t find in any of the official alternatives.

Take PeopleSoft (known to SJSU students as MySJSU), the self-service registration platform used by the CSU and many community colleges, for instance — the people who designed PeopleSoft have clearly never had to actually use it, and it seems like none of them have ever had the problem that they’re trying to solve.

Oracle, the company responsible, must have some incredible salesmen to be able to polish up that heap of garbage enough to have convinced our university to pay for it! In what isn’t even your major, that happens to like coffee!

Most importantly, we need candidates that are enthusiastic people with some sales experience, that happen to like coffee!

Duties include: promoting brand awareness, assisting consumers and of course demo-ing the machines.

The app also offers a “Search Classes” function, allowing you to search and filter classes using the same options available on MySJSU, but without all the clunky controls and agonizing loading messages, and with a back button that does exactly what you’d expect:

"In my wildest dreams, the app would also be able to figure out what time of day it is and find me an open class in my major, then show me where it is on campus.”

In my wildest dreams, the app would also be able to figure out what time of day it is and find me an open class in my major, then show me where it is on campus.

If this developer could pull that off, I and many other students might even be willing to pay for the app.

In any case, Oracle should have hung this guy to find PeopleSoft. Even though SJSU Class Finder is feature light and very simple, it shows what great software you can create by solving your own problem instead of trying to guess what someone else’s.

Situations like this abound in certain kinds of software, especially the kind used by large institutions, and it’s a low-hanging fruit for programmers and entreprenuers looking for a problem to solve.

The interface of SJSU Class Finder is very simple — just two colors, one screen at a time, using data scraped from the online course catalog.

The “Browse Classes by Subject” function doesn’t offer a whole lot more than the online course catalog, but it’s much faster and much less cluttered than the official counterpart.

The “Search Classes” function succeeds because it’s simple and it works fast, but it leaves some features to be desired. The fact that you have to wait for the app to scrape the entirety of the SJSU course catalog before you can look through it seems strange — a better choice might be to download the course catalog on first run and save for chang- e or subsequent use.

In my wildest dreams, the app would also be able to figure out what time of day it is and find me an open class in my major, then show me where it is on campus.

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The SJSU Class Finder app for Android phones allows users to look up and view information about classes found on MySJSU from the convenience of their mobile devices.

The app, which is available for free through the Android Market, is designed to help students navigate the university’s course catalog on their own.

“It’s a great tool for students who want to find classes on the go,” said Scott Close, the developer of SJSU Class Finder. “It’s intuitive and easy to use, and it’s a great way to keep track of your classes.”

The app includes features such as a search function, a course catalog index, and a class summary screen. Users can also save their favorite classes and view class information such as the class code, title, and instructor.

“I appreciate how easy it is to use and how well it fits in my daily routine,” said a student who uses the app regularly. “It’s a great way to stay on top of my classes and keep track of upcoming assignments.”

SJSU Class Finder is available for free through the Android Market and can be downloaded by searching for “SJSU Class Finder” in the app store.

The app is developed by Scott Close, a computer science student at SJSU. Close said he developed the app as a class project and decided to release it to the public.

“I wanted to create an app that would help students navigate the course catalog and make it easier to find the classes they need,” said Close. “I’m excited to see how people use the app and hope it helps students in their academic journey.”

The app has received positive reviews from users, with many praising its ease of use and convenience.

“I love how easy it is to use and how quickly it finds the classes I need,” said another user. “I can’t recommend it enough.”

SJSU Class Finder is available for free through the Android Market and can be downloaded by searching for “SJSU Class Finder” in the app store.

Contact:
Scott Close
Developer
SJSU Class Finder
scottclose.developer@gmail.com

The SJSU Class Finder app for Android phones allows users to look up and view information about classes found on MySJSU from the convenience of their mobile devices.
Letters to the editor

To the Editor,

This letter is in response to “Bad Manners: The next generation’s downfall.” While our younger generations continue to use these so-called “bad manners,” our only choice is to accept them. Our evolving cultures should learn to accept these common behaviors.

Many years ago, some of today’s habits were seen as negative manners. For example, smoking marijuana was once a taboo activity. Now, it is almost clear that the majority of people approve of smoking marijuana. It clearly shows the transition of bad manners into good ones.

Sure, we can try to prevent our children from the behaviors we consider bad. But, honestly, what will that do? Other people will continue to act in ways we consider “negative.” All we can do is get used to it.

Domingo Juan

Janet political science major

Marijuana abuse: What makes people smoke their lives away?

Among the varying definitions available for the term “vice,” Merriam Webster defines it best—a habitual and usually trivial defect or shortcomings, an abnormal behavior pattern in an individual detrimental to one’s health or usefulness.

Me! I indulge in a couple of vices of my own.

Every so often, I delight in a good face of over-sleeping and put a reasonable hour of lazing in the sun’s radiant yet delightfully bronzing rays, full-for-what dressing and three times a week I participate in getting absolutely drubbed with some of my best friends.

Missing among my list of transgressions is the real problem is the degree of dissatisfaction present as well.

According to the British Lung Association, smoking weed is not the “real” problem—choosing a creamy ranch instead of oil and vinegar on my salad doesn’t weigh down my day. Smoking weed might be the “real” problem—the real problem is the degree of dissatisfaction people that believe there is addiction to cigarettes.

The French National Consumers’ Institute published in its monthly magazine that when smoking a blunt, you inhale deeper and hold the smoke in your lungs for much longer, exposing yourself to three times the amount of tar found in cigarettes and 50-70 per cent more carcinogens that are present as well.

How arrogant doing that to your insides day in and day out.

My grievances are definitely not so much with the smoking of weed in general but in the abusive cyclical nature that some individuals find themselves in. I’m talking lighting up a doze and locking back with friends to relax versus abstaining and smoking weed, first and foremost, every single day.

Smoking weed is not the “real” problem—the real problem is the degree of dissatisfaction someone feels in their life that prompts them to regularly and obsessively use and abuse pot in hopes of alleviating said dissatisfaction.

What it is, is a purely psychological addiction, a mental attachment of sorts. A continual dependency on anything chemical or not, is having to do with something that you can’t physically add to other classes for different courses, but that will just make it harder by paying more and also the time and gas in commuting. I know we are in a budget crisis, and it’s getting worse with no relief in sight.

If JJSU is increasing tuition then I believe there should be an increase of the availability of classes.

Merylla Corpuz

Pre-majors major

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EACH PERSON'S REALITY IS THEIR OWN!...It's About Building Relationships For Life

Santo Element

Staff Writer

College graduation: Crossing the finish line

People always ask me, “What are you going to do after you graduate from college?”

The response I give them is very simple.

Get married, have kids and live happily ever after.

But wait, what is next?

When I first started college I set out to be the next Lois Lane, but over time my vision has changed and expanded.

I no longer want to open up a restaurant, work to house the homeless, work with the youth, publish a poetry book, publish a children’s book series and still publish a novel.

My career is endless, but I’m nervous and scared not knowing what to expect. As I leave the world of college, I’ll enter into the “real world,” where everyone expects me to get a job and pay my own bills while living out my own path as a student.

Suddenly I’m not as excited as I was before.

I have a variety of mixed emotions. It’s bittersweet.

I’m ecstatic because I’ve accomplished what I set out to do and it wasn’t an easy task.

I think back to the days when African Americans were entering college for a higher education, but they never gave up and fought for future generations like myself.

I can remember every computer feeling overwhelmed from classes and friends, being home sick and wanting to drop out.

But as the years passed by I realized I was one step closer to what I wanted to be. And quitting has never been an option.

But I’m also sad because it’s time to move on.

I’ll miss the friends that I’ve made because I know that I won’t see them much. I’ll miss the city that I’ve grown accustomed to. Football may be the place where I was born and raised, but San Jose is where I became an adult.

I’ll no longer be a struggling college student telling people give sympathy to, instead I’ll be a struggling adult trying to make something of myself to help the rest of the world.

There are many unanswered questions floating around in my head.

Am I truly ready? Can I do this? Will I fail?

Entering an economy where jobs are scarce doesn’t mean you have to work harder.

I’m constantly being reminded that the less jobs Americans, newspaper are facing, I should always take a career that has a higher income, and to stay in school.

But I can’t turn back now, I’ve reached the light at the end of the tunnel and I’m crossing the finish line.

Although I fear the unknown, I’m determined to succeed in life.


**Lessons learned in time**

By Joey Aylett

_Sparks Daily Copy Editor_

I once had someone tell me the best days of your life are ahead and that you should be like to amend that statement to say the best and worst days of your life are spent in college.

I once had much more from college than what was written on my transcript. I was taught in classes. I was taught to be a part of a close-knit community. I was taught to be a part of a large, new family.

I was taught how to communicate with my professors and how to deal with anything the professors said. I was in a new place and too excited and nervous to fully concentrate on the things I was learning.

Freshman year I had six roommates in my suite on campus and learned right away that everyone has their own way of doing things.

The girl who shared a bedroom with me had Spartanism, cause of the lymph nodes. I watched as she filled the bottom drawer of her desk with the various medications she needed to take on a daily basis to stay alive. Even though we didn't get along and weren't good roommates, I adored her enough.

Another roommate of mine struggled with an eating disorder. We listened to her as she threw up in the shower every day. Finally, she sought help and we were all relieved.

Although I didn't think our year was very special, we had remained close friends.

I thought you would think we were far too young to be there, but I was wrong.

I lost my best friend at school after she decided one day that her other roommates were too much for her. I thought I would deal.

Being a high school graduate, move away or grow again, it is possible to meet new people and make new friends even when it seems unlikely — another lesson I learned while in college.

I was lonely when I graduated and I wasn't the only one. My closest friends had moved away and I didn't think I would be able to make new friends in college.

I decided to hold onto the friendships we began new adventures in our lives.

The girl who began as my RA and I became the closest friends have things to do, meet new people, and have all kinds of adventures in life. I still like my 2276.00

Do you feel safe?well I am a student in the San Jose State University security department, and I spent my time working in the police station. I believe there is a need to step back and go at a slower pace.

I withdrew from SJU in the fall of 2009. I was overwhelmed, trying to accomplish too much for my major. I found myself ill the time I seemed to be severely depressed and even suicidal.

This would be the worst part of my life that people do not know.

After studying as my daily therapy program, I found it all documented to the mental ward of the hospital in my hometown. I moved a group of people in different stages of life who were struggling with the same thing I was — trying to find the fight within them to stay alive.

I returned to SJU with a new outlook on life and a new appreciation for the things that I once thought of as an exciting challenge.

I'm ready for the world.

This is the final appearance of "Simons Says." Amber Simons is the Spartan Daily Opinion Editor.

With the support of my new group of friends at school, I believe I could have been a better person. I had never been through anything like I took care of myself.

Last Tuesday's shooting at the 10th Street garage forced everyone on campus to realize how great our safety is.

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Dog day afternoon

Clockwise from top left:
1. Public relations and environmental studies double major Kathy Cooke gives a healthy treat to Bubba the “chiweenie” during the Human Ecology class’s first semi-annual “Bring Your Dog to School Day.”
2. Environmental studies Professor Gary Klee takes his students and their dogs out for a picnic on their last day of class to bring students into a more natural environment.
3. Environmental studies major Stefanie Nakagawa joins her classmates at the Smith-Carlos Statue for “Bring Your Dog to School Day.”
4. Environmental studies major Robert McGehee thumbs through papers yesterday at “Bring Your Dog to School Day.”
5. Environmental studies major Joe Cintas watches on as Bubba nervously licks his chops.

by Vernon McKnight
Staff Photographer

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Monday, April 25.