



## SOCCER

Goalkeeper Meghan Maiwald leads on and off the field

SEE PAGE 4



## OPINION

Germans need to learn racial tolerance

SEE PAGE 7



# SPARTAN DAILY

Serving San José State University since 1934

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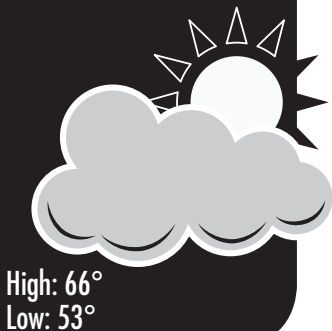
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- Miracle boy green man gives SJSU a reason to smile [spartandaily.com](http://spartandaily.com)

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## OUTSIDE



High: 66°  
Low: 53°

## PROP 23

### Yes on 23

Prop 23 would simply suspend California's global warming plan until the economy stabilizes, we get people back to work and we can afford these investments.

### No on 23

Prop 23 would allow polluters to avoid our state's clean energy standards, kill competition and jobs from California's clean technology companies, and keep us addicted to dirty oil.

INFORMATION COMPILED FROM [WWW.YESON23.COM](http://WWW.YESON23.COM) AND [WWW.STOPDIRTYENERGYPROP.COM](http://WWW.STOPDIRTYENERGYPROP.COM)

# Event supports sight impaired

**KRISTEN PEARSON**  
Managing Editor

**ASHLEY FINDEN**  
Senior Staff Writer

The Delta Gamma sorority at SJSU offered students the chance to dunk its members in water during the Anchor Splash event to raise money for a philanthropic organization on Wednesday afternoon.

Service for Sight is the sorority's national organization which aids the visually impaired, according to the sorority's website.

Brooke Klass, a sophomore graphic design major, said the name for their philanthropy, Anchor Splash, was derived from Delta Gamma's symbol, which is an anchor.

She said there will be swimming events and lip syncing contests throughout the duration of the week.

Wilson Kong, a senior business administration management major, dressed up as SJSU Delta Gamma's mascot — a hannah doll, similar to a Raggedy Ann Doll — for the dunking event.

He said he is running to be the sorority's Anchor-man, which is like the sweetheart of the sorority.

"I just want to represent a bunch of classy girls," Kong said.

He said he wants to help out the girls who have helped him out in other situations.

"I take every little thing, like a thank you or a hug, to the fullest extent because you never know when it's your last day," Kong said.

He said the sorority had previously raised money for Service for Sight.

"I know they donated \$10,000 or more last year to that organization," Kong said.

Lilly Richard, a junior political science major, said this event was the kick-off event for the rest of the week, with a relay pool event taking place on Friday.

"Everyone gets out and it's a nice positive environment," Richard said.

She said that dunking people in water was just a good way to get people to come out.



Sydney MacWilliams, a sophomore occupational therapy major, gets dunked during Delta Gamma's Anchor Splash fundraising event Wednesday.

PHOTO: CLIFFORD GRODIN | SPARTAN DAILY

See **SPLASH** Page 2

# Prop 23 debate urges votes in November

**KELSEY HILARIO**  
Staff Writer

There was standing room only when the debate on Proposition 23 began Wednesday afternoon in the Engineering building.

Robert Ramorino president of Roadstar Trucking, went head-to-head with Eugene Cordero, an associate professor in the SJSU meteorology department.

Four questions were asked by the moderator followed by questions from the audience.

Ramorino argued yes on Proposition 23 while Cordero argued against it.

According to the YE-Son23 website, the proposition will save jobs, prevent tax increases and help families during tough economic times.

Proposition 23 is referred to as "The Dirty Energy Proposition" by those who oppose it, according to the No on 23 flier.

The flier claims that if the proposition passes, it will threaten public health, kill

California clean energy and air pollution standards and threaten California jobs and businesses.

Cordero referred to Cali-

“I thought both of them had poor arguments and I was surprised at the lack of sophistication.”

**AARON NEIGHBOR**  
Senior structural engineering major

fornia and the Silicon Valley as a hub of innovation, and said California is in a unique position to make great strides for Cleantech. Ramorino said he would

regret to see California lose its traditional jobs.

"Not all of you, once you get your degree and graduate, will have the privilege or chance to work for those high-tech companies," Ramorino said. "Sometimes I think that the high-tech companies might not understand how the common man survives."

Kenneth Roman, a freshman creative writing major, said he was glad he saw the debate because he heard new information from both sides of the argument.

"I have already voted no for it and I still am no, but I like to hear valid arguments from both sides and I have not heard a really good valid argument, which I heard today," he said.

Aaron Neighbor, a senior structural engineering major, said he was not impressed with either Ramorino or Cordero.

"I thought both of them had poor arguments

See **DEBATE** Page 3

# Students give firsthand accounts of foreign wars

**AIMEE MCLENDON**  
Staff Writer

Using the darkness of early morning hours as cover, Army Pfc. Damian Bramlett remembers it was eerily quiet in the mountains of northern Iraq.

That was in 2003 when Bramlett's platoon was part of the U.S. invasion into Iraq. He spent 36 hours flying, nothing had been established in the area and he said he went six weeks in the cold mountains without a bath.

Army Spc. Jason Lopez remembers listening to "Welcome to the Jungle" by Guns N' Roses when he landed in the southern mountains of Afghanistan. The blistering 120-degree heat was too much for four soldiers who passed out into a sweaty heap on the ground.

That was part of the 2004 U.S. invasion into Afghanistan. Lopez remembers being ambushed by enemy fire as he was coming out of the helicopter.

Marine Cpl. Dustin Ramirez left the U.S. on the day of Superbowl 2003 and didn't know what to expect as he crossed over the Kuwaiti border into Iraq.

A few weeks later, as he traveled through the cities of Baghdad, there were gunshots and mortar attacks, but what he remembers vividly about that day in Baghdad is that a Marine lieutenant from his regiment was killed.

Although the three men don't know each other, their lives have been inevitably knit together by the bond of war. All three veterans are rebuilding their lives, tattered by

See **WARS** on **Features** Page 6



# Former Spartan Daily editor dies at 78

ALEX SPICER  
Staff Writer

SJSU alumnus Ed Pope, a former reporter and city editor for the San Jose Mercury News, died Oct. 3 at the age of 78 after a year long battle with bladder cancer, said Tracy Pope, one of his three children.

Pope was executive editor of the Spartan Daily during his senior year in 1953-54, before joining the Sunnyvale Standard where he did it all — reporting, editing and photography, following duty in the U.S. Navy, his daughter said.

Later, Pope held the position of South Bay bureau chief for the San Francisco Examiner before spending the final 41 years of his career at the San Jose Mercury News, until his retirement in 2001, she said.

“Ed was the complete newspaper journalist,” said Frank Sweeney, a friend and former colleague. “He did it all, and did it extraordinarily well with great talent, integrity and ethics. He was a mentor to beginning reporters and was a devoted family man, too. Although he was a hard-nosed, award-winning journalist, he was one of the nicest people you’d ever meet.”

During his reporting career, Pope won numerous awards and hallmarks for his work as a journalist, including a share of the Pulitzer Prize for the newspaper’s coverage of the 1989 earthquake, his daughter said.

“Dad always joked that he decided to be a journalist because those are the classes in which he received good grades,” she said. “However, it was in his blood. He loved to tell

people’s stories. He had an investigative nature, and he wanted to use his writing and researching talents to give people a voice who might not otherwise have one.”

Pope won accolades for his work in his 1986, the “No Place to Die” series, which investigated the deaths of 126 patients in nursing homes statewide, she said.

“He loved to provide the check that kept the balance of power completely favoring those at the top,” his daughter said. “He had a strong sense of ethics and believed others should too. If he thought they didn’t, he might go after them to force change.”

His reporting led to the downfall of several CEOs of charitable organizations, Sweeney said.

One of those reports included the head family running Goodwill

Industries that was milking contributions for their own income, he said.

“Ed even traveled to the Caribbean to track them down on the run,” Sweeney said.

Pope was married to Donna Shaw for 50 years, until she lost the battle with lung cancer in 2008, his daughter Tracy said.

She said the couple met at SJSU while working as dishwashers in the dorm.

“Dad loved telling the story of how he asked out mom eight times before she finally said yes,” his daughter said. “He says he always knew the minute he met her that he wanted to marry her.”

Pope loved to work on his house, which was affectionately known as the “Pope Mystery House,” Sweeney said.

“He would draw up plans for a remodel, and go to it,” said Jim Geiger, a friend and former colleague. “He was like Sarah Winchester in that respect. He never stopped building.”

Pope is survived by his three children, Tracy, Todd and Valerie, and has four grandchildren, his daughter said.

In 1984, Pope successfully fought colon cancer after a year of radiation and chemo treatments, she said.

“I called him the indestructible Ed Pope,” Sweeney said. “He survived 41 years at the Mercury News. He beat cancer a quarter century ago. But I guess he’s not so indestructible anymore.”

Tracy Pope said a celebration of Ed Pope’s life is scheduled for Sunday, Oct. 24 at 2 p.m. at the South Bay Labor Council complex, in The Terrace at Willow Glen.

## Internet tutoring program hosts job seminar to attract SJSU students

ALEX SPICER  
Staff Writer

A program that provides free tutoring over the Internet for underprivileged children invited SJSU students interested in applying for a paid “coaching” position to a seminar Wednesday in the Student Union.

@Avanza Online, a tutoring program that is part of Extreme Learning, Inc., provides qualifying students with free Internet service and a free computer, which they may keep upon completion of the program, according to the program’s brochure.

“All of our coaching is done over the Internet with a shared whiteboard using voice and chat and shared educational tools,” said David Kardon, a manager at @Avanza Online. “They don’t have to stay after school or travel to a center — they actually can just go home and do their tutoring from their kitchen or living room with their family around them.”

Kardon said the system works well because the children don’t have peers around them who make them feel embarrassed or shy about asking questions.

“It’s a chance for kids to use technology for the first time in a lot of cases,” he said.

Senior Spanish major Benjamin Perez said he became interested in the program because other tutoring programs were difficult to fit into his schedule.

“This (program) helps because you can work on the weekends,” he said. “It works around my schedule. In other programs you had to fit their schedule, but in this one you get to make your own.”

Sophomore pre-nursing major Isabel Olvera said she was disappointed that she did not qualify for a coaching position with the program because it required SJSU students to have at least 48 cumulative units to apply.

However, she said that she likes what the program provides for less fortunate children and will try to get a tutoring job with the program next year.

“I enjoy tutoring kids and was interested in getting another job,” she said.

“It’s a great opportunity for low-income students, especially those that need more help expanding their basic skills. You’re not there with them, but it’s like you are there with them.”

Nancy Barrera, a lead coach with the program, said the program provides a good opportunity for coaches to get teaching experience while also providing underprivileged children with free tutoring.

“I want to be a math teacher,” she said. “It’s just another form of me learning how to teach kids, especially when I coach, because everyone learns differently. Coaching different kids is always a good way to learn new things and ways a student will learn.”

Barrera said that she grew up in a low-income household where these types of services were not available to her.

“It’s good to help other families and help the students learn,” she said. “It’s very rewarding.”

Kardon said the program is funded by the child’s school district, which is provided federal funds to pay for the program by the No Child Left Behind Act.

“School districts that have been identified as needing program improvement, after two years are placed on a probation period,” he said. “If they still don’t reach their adequate yearly progress after three years, are required to provide supplemental educational services to students who are low-income and are below grade level.”

Kardon said coaching positions in the program are available to anyone who is in good academic standing, has at least 48 units completed and passed a short academic test to make sure that they have adequate math and reading skills.

Moirra Srago, the employment specialist for the College of Science and the College of Engineering from the SJSU Career Center, said Wednesday’s seminar will be the only one of the semester, with the next one in January.

According to the program’s brochure, students interested in getting involved as a coach in the program can visit [www.Avanza.com](http://www.Avanza.com).



PHOTO: JACK BARNWELL | CONTRIBUTOR

David Kardon, manager for @Avanza Online tutorial service, and lead coach Nancy Barrera explain some of the duties that tutorial coaches perform during an informational session in the Student Union on Wednesday.

## SPLASH

From Page 1

“Since we are Anchor Splash we thought we’d incorporate some water events today as well,” Richard said.

She said they had never done it before, but she thinks it was successful.

“We’ve sold a lot of dunks, if you will,” Richard said. “I refuse to go in though.”

Garik Iosilevsky, a senior environmental studies major, said he thought it was an enjoyable event.

“They have this event every year,” he said. “I think it’s fun. I think if they’re charging, maybe like per ball or something like that, that would be good because then it would go towards the philanthropy.”

“They raise a lot of money for their philanthropy and it brings a lot of the Greek system together.”

SCOTT STODDARD  
Sophomore psychology major

Iosilevsky said he didn’t know what to think about the event and he didn’t know what they were trying to get out of it, but he thinks it’s OK.

“All the different Greek organizations are all in their little cliques, just talking to each other, so it’s kind of weird to have to socialize,” he said.

Sophomore engineering major Jesse Yabes said he was participating because he is a part of the Sigma Pi fraternity.

“Apparently there’s a whole week full of events,” he said. “They have relay swimming and all kinds of other stuff.”

Sophomore psychology major Scott Stoddard said he thinks it’s a great event.

“They raise a lot of money for their philanthropy and it brings a lot of the Greek system together,” he said.

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# Presenter gives tips on healthy relationships

MICHIKO FULLER  
Staff Writer

Myths, taboos and misinformation of relationships were addressed by counseling services in the first of four relationship health workshops Wednesday morning.

A small group of six students in varying stages of relationships, from single to long-term commitment, gathered around a conference table to learn healthy characteristics of professional, romantic and platonic relationships.

"Sometimes you think you know everything already," said junior math major Sara Berg. "It helps to hear it from other people."

SJSU counselor Stephen Chen led the workshop with Laura Alie and Karisman Roberts-Douglass who helped

paper or watching television were under surveillance for 24 hours, even down to providing urine samples throughout the study.

"All couples disagree, but the way you handle it makes a difference," Alie said.

Chen said in five minutes of arguing, Gottman can predict with 90 percent accuracy if a couple will divorce.

The magic ratio for healthy relationships, as studied by Gottman, is five positive interactions to one negative interaction.

Positivity is classified as being kind, empathetic and caring, whereas negativity is anger, hostility and hurt feelings, according to Gottman.

"The point that Gottman is trying to make is that it's more than communicating effectively," Chen said. "You have to work hard at relationships."

Unhealthy characteristics include criticism, lack of interest or communication, disrespect and abuse, according to Alie.

Gottman's research found peaks in divorced couples that had major arguments among themselves and also couples that seemed uninterested in each other.

He said having fun and maintaining a courtship should be high on a couple's to-do list.

"There's a difference between being interested in what your partner is interested in and being interested in your partner's thoughts and feelings about that interest," Alie said.

She said a little bit of jealousy is an indicator of your interest in your partner and lack of jealousy could signal a lack of interest.

"There's a certain amount of jealousy that shows you care," Alie said.

It's also important to recognize there are two independent people in the relationship and the status of the relationship doesn't affect who each person is, according to the presentation.

Ultimately, the most influential factors in maintaining a long-term relationship are compatible core values, according to Gottman's research.

The workshop ran long and some discussion about the building of healthy relationships had to be deferred until next week.

Sharbani Mazumder, a senior graphic design major, said she enjoyed the workshop and would be returning next week.

"When I listen to others, I feel like my relationship is going fine," she said.

“There’s a certain amount of jealousy that shows you care.”

Laura Alie  
Helped prepare and present workshop

Chen prepare and present the workshop.

"We want this whole workshop to be something, gain something from it," Chen said. "We want you to learn what to do."

Next week will cover "Surviving relationships: Beginnings, ups, downs and endings," followed by "Reading red flags" and "Conflict and communication" in the final week.

A 15-question quiz prefaced the workshop, which related to the major points of discussion later on.

Much of the presentation was based on the findings of Dr. John Gottman, who has recorded data about different couples for 35 years in his "love lab."

The "lab" was a room set up as a bed and breakfast where couples signed up to be studied 3,000 heterosexual and homosexual couples doing everyday things such as reading the news-



Robert Ramorino, president of Roadstar Trucking, talks during a debate on Proposition 23 on Wednesday.

PHOTO: BRIAN O'MALLEY | CONTRIBUTOR

## DEBATE

From Page 1

and I was surprised at the lack of sophistication," he said.

Neighbor said the No on 23 posters around campus may persuade students to vote No on Proposition 23 without fully understanding the proposition.

The debate was co-sponsored by the Environmental Resource Center and the Office of the President.

William Wilson, a senior environmental studies major, said Proposition 23 is becoming controversial and it was important for students to know the facts.

"We wanted to offer a venue where we can actually teach the students and have them learn what the proposition was actually about by creating an environment where we had a yes and no person debating," he said.

The goal of the debate was not to persuade or inspire anyone to vote yes or no, but he said he hopes that

people will just get out and vote.

Anne Marie Todd, an associate professor in communications, said she taught a climate course with Cordero last semester.

Todd said she jumped on the opportunity to moderate the debate because it gave students an opportunity to become active and engaged outside of the classroom.

"It is also about making ourselves accountable for future generations and the future of our state, which is something that affects us, whether it is air quality or job quality," she said.

## New pumps cause water loss on campus

JEN NOWELL  
Staff Writer

Replacing the booster pumps in the King Library has led to increased pressure in the water system, causing campus sprinklers to water the sidewalks instead of the grass, said the director of energy and utilities.

"Since the building is so tall, it requires pumps to increase the pressure from the water system to push water to the top floors for restroom use," Adam Bayer said in an e-mail.

When the pumps were out of service, facilities development and operations elevated the pressure on the water system to allow the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library to operate without them, Bayer said.

As a result, the water pressure across campus increased, causing the sprinkler pattern to be greater than normal, he said.

Russell Joyce, a senior environmental studies major, said he notices the extra water when he rides his bike through the puddles around

campus.

He said there is no way SJSU is sustainable when there are patches of grass being watered around campus that we don't need.

Joyce said some of the grass areas are needed for campus activities, but there are small patches that we could do without.

"It's stupid to complain about water pressure when our campus wasn't built to be sustainable," he said.

Joyce said the school is trying to create a New England climate in a western state, and it just won't work.

The new booster pumps went into service on Sept. 26

and at the time facilities development and operations reduced the pressure on the system, he said.

"So the sprinklers should be back to normal," Bayer said.

Bayer said he will work with the school's grounds manager to inspect the sprinklers and check for any overspray.

"I have a vested interest in seeing the overspray is minimized for both cost and conservation reasons," he said.

Senior kinesiology major Evan Blomquist said he didn't see a problem before, because you can always just walk around the water.

"I think we have more prob-

lems with the fire drills than water pressure problems," he said. "We need better communication on where to go and what to do."

Bayer said campus utilities, such as the water for the sprinklers, are funded as part of "our general fund operations" which is allocated from the state.

"It is a waste of water, but it's not like there are doing it on purpose," Blomquist said. "They are trying to fix it."

Senior biology major Amelia Lindsey said she has not noticed any changes.

"The sprinklers have always seemed to over-water," she said. "It's a waste for sure."

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# Mighty Maiwald saves for Spartans

AIMEE MCLENDON  
Staff Writer

Meghan Maiwald ferociously guards an 8-by-24-foot area, similar to a lioness guarding her cubs. If you get near her lair — watch out.

The junior child development major is the goalkeeper for the SJSU women's soccer team.

Her mother Ginny said Meghan has always been intensely physical and resourceful — she makes things happen on and off the field.

That is why Ginny said it took her and Meghan's father two years to figure out Meghan was born deaf.

"I feel like I should have figured it out sooner," said her mother, an SJSU alumna and principal for special education for Santa Clara School District.

Ginny said Meghan learned physical things such as walking and riding a bike so early on that it was hard to see that she wasn't responding in other ways.

When Meghan's mother put all the pieces together, she said she knew something wasn't right.

"But I was actually relieved when I found out she was deaf because it could have been something far worse," she said. "I was already a bilingual teacher, so I just thought, 'We are going to learn another language.'"

After years of hard work in speech and audio therapy, her mother said she placed Meghan in all mainstream classrooms with the support of interpreters and note-takers.

Ginny said she knew right away that Meghan was a very physical girl, so she put her in soccer at the age of five.

Her father Kevin recalls Meghan taking to the sport right away.

"When she kicked a few little boys' butts in the game, she really enjoyed that," he said.

Being on the field is like being home, Maiwald said. "It's where I'm happiest — out here it's like everything else goes away."

She said being goalkeeper is the best position she could play because all the action is in front of her.

Every once in a while Maiwald said she may not hear a whistle, but other than that she's able to just play the game.

Something Maiwald said she is not able to hear on the field is trash talk or chatter, and that might be a good thing because it enables her to stay focused.

Head coach Jeff Leightman said Meghan works her butt off out on the field and that being deaf doesn't seem to affect her much because she has learned to adapt.

"She doesn't make excuses, she just plays," Leightman said. "She reads the game well, she reads lips well — there's nothing really different. She's a soccer player, not a deaf soccer player."

He said three words that best describe her personality are humble, competitive and caring.

Maiwald's father said she has shown that same sense of caring since she was a little girl.

When Kevin and Ginny Maiwald found out Meghan's brother Sean was also born deaf, Ginny said they were shocked.

But as it turns out, Meghan and her brother have a special bond that Ginny said couldn't have been forged any other way.

Meghan took a lot of time to teach her brother many different things when they were growing up and now they both love sports and are super close, Ginny said.

"Now, I can't imagine my life if I didn't have two deaf children," she said.

Meghan's dad said they put her in sports to give her every

"She's a smart player and she owns the box — that's her area," said Santoro, a center defender. "She's super competitive and quiet, but when she does say something people listen because it really means something."

Santoro said Maiwald is one of the hardest workers she's ever met and that she looks out for the best interests of others.

"I remember one meeting we had in high school when everyone was talking at once and couldn't agree about the game plan," said Santoro, who has been playing with Maiwald since they were in 7th grade. "Megan went to the white board and wrote something and everyone went quiet."

On the board was a quote from Vince Lombardi: "Winning isn't everything but wanting to win is."

Santoro said after that, everyone came together and went on to win that game.

Maiwald said one of her favorite games of the season was against St. Mary's College, located near Oakland.

"It was a very intense game," she said. "They were ranked in the top ten in the region and we scored on them in the last ten minutes."

Maiwald said her passion for soccer is equaled by her effort in academics.

Her father said Meghan gave up the chance to play for the USA Deaf Women's National soccer team in Taipei, Taiwan, because she thought it was more important to focus on her studies.

Although she said she would love to go on and play soccer after college, she plans to teach deaf children.

Beyond soccer, Maiwald enjoys basketball, softball, hiking and snowboarding.

"I also love to read," she said. "I don't listen to music, so books are something I really enjoy."

Maiwald also enjoys making her teammates laugh, said



Junior goalkeeper Meghan Maiwald is in her first year with the Spartans. At the age of two, Maiwald's parents discovered she was deaf.

PHOTO: VERNON MCKNIGHT | CONTRIBUTOR

“ She doesn't make excuses, she just plays ... She's a soccer player, not a deaf soccer player. ”

JEFF LEIGHTMAN  
Head Coach

opportunity to feel normal in a hearing world.

"Meghan was, and still is, the easiest person to be around," he said. "She's nice, she's pleasant and she cares deeply about the people around her."

As an athlete, Maiwald's dad said she's driven and has a passion that runs deep.

Although this is Maiwald's first season, she refuses to be intimidated and she refuses to back down, said teammate Angela Santoro.

junior kinesiology major Jessica Ingram.

Ingram, who plays center defense, knows sign language and has been playing soccer with Maiwald since they were on high school club teams together.

"She's funny — she says random things at the perfect time and it makes us all laugh," Ingram said.

She echoed others' sentiments about Maiwald's character — that she's very supportive and motivating.

Maiwald said soccer isn't just her passion, but a place where she has made very close friends and created a lot of memories.

The goalkeeper may be ferocious on the field and tenacious in her studies, but her sensitive nature endears those around her.

Caring, funny, motivating, hardworking and unselfish is the common thread her parents, coach and teammates use to describe her personality.



Maiwald kicks the ball out of the goal box during practice on Wednesday, Oct. 13. Maiwald has started in 22 games and has 68 saves this season.

PHOTO: VERNON MCKNIGHT | CONTRIBUTOR

**SPARTAN GAMES THIS WEEK**

DATE	TEAM	OPPONENT	LOCATION	TIME
Sat. Oct. 23	Volleyball	Fresno State	Spartan Gym	1 p.m.
Sat. Oct. 23	Football	Fresno State	Spartan Stadium	5 p.m.
Sat. Oct. 23	Hockey	Eastern Washington	Sharks Ice	7 p.m.
Sun. Oct. 24	Men's Soccer	New Mexico State	Spartan Stadium	12 p.m.
Sun. Oct. 24	Women's Soccer	Boise State	Spartan Stadium	2:30 p.m.

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Sun 12:30, 1:40, 2:45, 3:50, 5:00, 6:05, 7:10, 8:15, 9:20  
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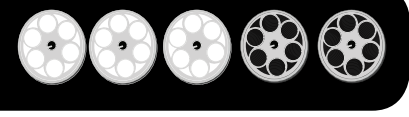
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# 'Wall Street' sequel overbids romance, undercuts on corporate intrigue

## REVIEW 3/5



ALEXANDRA RUIZ-HUIDOBRO  
Staff Writer

"Wall Street: Money Never Sleeps" is, in theory, a drama centered around the fall of some of the U.S.'s banks in 2008.

The reality is that it's a love story hidden behind expensive suits, lavish philanthropic events and the fabulous life that is New York.

Directed by Oliver Stone, this movie gives only slight insight to what it may have been like during those hectic days, behind the closed doors of some of the largest financial institutions of the United States.

The movie is a sequel to Stone's 1987 film "Wall Street," in which Douglas played Gordon Gekko.

I haven't seen the first film, but you don't need to watch it in order to follow the sequel. Its story line is such that it stands on its own.

Jacob Moore, played by Shia LaBeouf, works for Louis Zabel, played by Frank Langella, who is his father figure and mentor.

As the market begins to take a dive, Zabel commits suicide and his company teeters on the edge of bankruptcy.

It is not clear whether the company goes under but the movie does show employees packing up their belongings and walking out.

Moore begins to suspect that someone is behind the death of Zabel.

Gordon Gekko, played by Michael Douglas, is an ex-Wall Street hustler convicted of insider trading who is released from prison at the beginning of the movie and begins a speaking and book tour.

Moore seeks out Gekko's help investigate Zabel's death and grabs Gekko's attention by introducing himself as the fiancé of Gekko's estranged daughter.

Winnie, played by Carey Mulligan, is scarred by her childhood as Gekko's daughter. She is turned off by the idea of marriage because of him and rejects all things superficial.

I found it interesting to see a portrayal of what Wall Street may have gone through during the stressful bailouts the bank executives found themselves in.

Aside from that, this movie is basically a love story with a flashy New York spin on it.

Almost half of the movie is about Jacob and Winnie's relation-



'Wall Street' contained the love story of Jacob Moore played by Shia LaBeouf and love interest Winnie Gekko played by Carey Mulligan.

PHOTO COURTESY OF: ALLMOVIEPHOTO.COM

“I wanted to see more on the collapse of businesses and how it effected employees.”

ship and their struggles.

Winnie doesn't want to get married because she had such a bad childhood and blames her father for it.

Jacob asks her to marry him and she agrees, even with all her marital doubts.

But as rumors circulate about the death of his mentor, Jacob goes behind her back and seeks out Gekko.

Gekko helps Jacob piece together information regarding Zabel's death, but not without a trade.

Gekko wants to make amends with his daughter and, with Jacob's help, become more active in her life.

Shia LaBeouf does a great job in this role. He is convincing as a young and passionate Wall Street professional in love while he is also trying to find a way to make the world a better place.

Michael Douglas is equally fantastic as a cunning and conniving ex-Wall Street player who is determined to get ahead.

Overall, the movie was OK. If I

were to recommend it to a friend, I would tell them to wait for it to come out on DVD.

I wanted to see more on the collapse of businesses and how it affected employees.

I also expected to see what measures the companies took to resolve these problems or how the banking institutions got there in the first place.

Instead, I got a love story about a girl who doesn't talk to her dad and has decided to marry despite all her doubts about marriage.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ALLMOVIEPHOTO.COM

Shia LaBeouf, Josh Brolin and Michael Douglas play as Jacob, Bretton and Gordon in 'Wall Street: Money Never Sleeps.'

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**SPARTA GUIDE**



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 spartandaily@casa.sjsu.edu 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.

**Oct. 21**

**Career Fair**  
Place: Barrett Ballroom, Student Union  
Time: 12 - 4 p.m.



**Alternative Transportation Day**  
Place: A.S. BBQ Pits  
Time: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

**Kashmir In Conflict**  
Place: Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library, Rooms 255/257  
Time: 7 p.m.  
Contact: (408) 677-9137

**Oct. 23**

**Immigration Conference**  
Place: Student Union Building  
Time: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

**Oct. 26**

**Proposition 19 Debate**  
Place: Umunhum Room, Student Union  
Time: 6-8 p.m.  
Tickets: \$25 reserved, \$15 students

**Sing-A-Thing!**  
Place: Music Concert Hall  
Time: 12:30-1:15 p.m.  
Contact: (408) 924-4649

# Bullying: the American pandemic

The great philosopher Jean-Jacques Rousseau claimed human beings by nature are good and society corrupts them.

That's bogus. Children can be evil by nature and some are extremely evil.

The proof is in the limitless cases of bullying in schools. According to the Stop Bullying Now website, studies show that between 15-25 percent of U.S. students are bullied.

Sometimes children drive other children to suicide, and others confine their peers to a future of low self-esteem and depression.

Phoebe Prince, a 15-year-old Massachusetts girl, hanged herself because of relentless bullies in March. And recently, Rutgers University student Tyler Clementi jumped off a bridge to his death after being humiliated online by his roommate in September.

"The Students For Peace Program reported that in 1 week's time, 60% of students had engaged in name-calling, 55% had made fun of others, 44% had pushed another student, 39% had hit or kicked another student, and 36% of students had threatened another with violence," according to a recent article in the Group Dynamics: Theory, Research, and Practice journal.

I vaguely remember being in second grade and getting called out of class with some other girls.

We were taken into a small room and talked with some woman. I recently found out why — I asked my mom and she said the school thought I had social issues so they stuck me in counseling.

Unfortunately, I don't think the school counseling helped.

My torment began in third grade. During recess a girl took her purse and hit me in the stomach, knocking the wind out of me. I ran to the school office, barely able to breathe, shocked and scared. After reporting the incident the girl was reprimanded.



**AMBER SIMONS**  
Copy Editor

Now that I think about it, I'm not sure she got in enough trouble, since this bullying continued throughout the rest of my elementary years.

One day I got hit in the head with a big rock someone threw at me — this is the first time I've ever told anyone.

In fourth grade, a boy came up to me during class, pulled my hair and called me the N-word —

of course I didn't know what it meant, I was just a kid — so I called it back to him. I got in trouble because the teacher heard me. I ran out of the classroom crying. Again, I was the one who got in trouble for leaving the room.

Myschool implemented carpooling for field trips.

One day, in the same fourth grade class, my car and another car of students got dropped off before the teacher returned. Suddenly, I was the target, like a mouse surrounded by snakes. A girl began to taunt me and then proceeded to attack me. I had no help — even my so-called friends stood by watching.

No one found out about that incident either.

Anytime I told the authorities about my being bullied, I was called a snitch and was bullied worse.

I was a tomboy at the time, and also a very sensitive girl. I didn't quite fit in, thus a spotlight of hate was aimed in my direction.

Bullied continuously, I had no real protection from my tormentors besides the various art projects I was supplied with in my after-school program.

Just as I learned to keep my pain hidden inside my head, I would stay inside for protection.

I hated school. "As many as 160,000 students may stay home on any given

day because they're afraid of being bullied," according to the Stop Bullying Now website.

The summer before middle school brought only more distress for me.

During a church summer program a girl called me a bitch and slapped me in the face.

Middle school was the same story — I was called names, teased and physically assaulted by my fellow students.

I was nerdy, I was in the science club and I wore hideous, out-of-style clothing. I was constantly a loner since my friends would either move away, or, in one case, just decide to stop talking to me one day.

While studying in the school library, a girl poured a bottle of glue into my backpack.

My mother and I met with school administration, but nothing changed. They saw it as no big deal.

The rest of my abuse during middle school is blacked out in my mind. It was so horrible that I mentally blocked it.

Luckily, my family moved before the eighth grade so I got a new start in a new town. My social life picked up, I had friends and I was free from the fear that had plagued my past.

I went from getting Cs and Ds to a 4.0 GPA in one semester. My life improved and I was free to be who I wanted.

Today, I suffer from major depression, anxiety and low self-esteem — most of which I blame on my past. I have a difficult time trusting people and I am a "stuffer" — I keep my thoughts and my emotions to myself, because it did me no good displaying my vulnerability before.

I'm fortunate to have escaped my bullies, because if I stayed in that town I'm not sure I would still be alive. There are plenty of children who weren't so lucky.

The bullying trend needs to stop, in all forms. People need to address it because it's not only children who bully, college students and adults are guilty of it, too.

“Anytime I told the authorities about my being bullied, I was called a snitch and was bullied worse.”

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

Previous Solution

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

## Crossword Puzzle

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12				13			14		15	
16				17					18	
19				20		21		22		
23				24		25				
26	27	28		29		30		31		32 33 34
35				36			37		38	
39		40		41			42		43	
44		45		46			47		48	
49				50		51			52	
53				54		55		56		
57	58	59				60		61		62 63 64
65				66			67		68	
69				70					71	
72						73			74	

- ACROSS**
- Frat-party attire
  - Lip, slangily
  - Position
  - Aphrodite's child
  - Flip-flop
  - Major — (steward)
  - Barge
  - News medium
  - Classical poet
  - Bwana's trip
  - Rapport
  - Auto-supplies store
  - Knock — loop
  - Sharp bark
  - Meat in a can
  - Clank
  - Nibbled on
  - Great blue —
  - Banister post
  - Find fault
  - Extinct birds
  - Brava! recipient
  - Raised prices
  - a dull moment
  - Toon Chihuahua
  - Sampled
  - Fluid rock
  - Attorney's deg.
  - Plunder
  - Barbecue extras
  - Money matters
  - Does a double take
  - Follow along
  - Tropical resin
  - Make muddy
  - One-sidedness
  - "Dream Lover" artist
  - Hunter's supply
  - Former JFK arrival

- DOWN**
- D'Urberville girl
  - Killer whale
  - Blow it
  - Lake Nasser dam
  - Removed paint
  - Caught ya!
  - Ice-cream treat
  - Check for freshness
  - Rock's Bon —
  - Forget to mention
  - Whodunit must
  - Like very much (2 wds.)
  - Contributed
  - Too quick to act
  - OPEC country
  - Baseball great Hank —
  - Cruise in style
  - Open-air lobbies
  - High mountains
  - Cover girl
  - Handle a baton
  - Raze
  - Spiral-horned antelope
  - Kim — of "Vertigo"
  - Sells out
  - Cutting off
  - Faculty head
  - Come unglued
  - Mixed
  - Stall
  - Fergie's first name
  - Watch pockets

- Long-billed wader
- Without the ice
- Inoculants
- "Juke Box Baby" crooner
- Reid and Considine
- Piggy-bank feature
- Hr. fraction

YETI	SPLIT	COBB
ABED	ERASE	LIEU
NOTE	WOMAN	USER
KNEAD	BASEMENT	
LICE	CEES	
CROSSOUT	LITER	
EON	KEBAB	SERVE
DUES	DILLS	RIOT
AGATE	EKING	AKA
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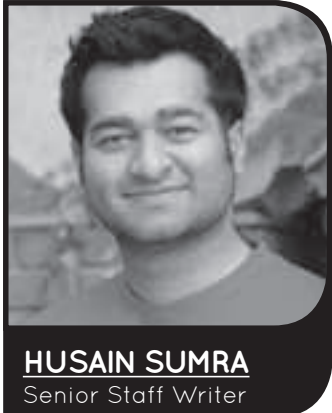
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# Are multicultural societies feasible?



**HUSAIN SUMRA**  
Senior Staff Writer

German Chancellor Angela Merkel said last weekend that Germany's multicultural society has failed, according to a Agence France-Presse news article.

Merkel said the concept of "Multikulti" means that different people are living side by side and are happy about it — which sounds like it amounts to putting on a happy face and hiding the problems like

someone would hide an old, moldy sandwich under a mattress.

What has failed is the German people's view on multicultural society.

According to AFP, this marked the first time Merkel spoke on this topic, which has been a hot issue in Germany since a German central bank member said poorly educated and unproductive Muslim migrants were making the country "more stupid."

Could anyone imagine if the same thing was said in the United States of America?

First, I'd imagine the person who said it would be taken to town by the media, followed by hours upon hours of coverage from the big three cable news networks — CNN, Fox News and MSNBC.

Picture, if you will, Wolf Blitzer on "The Situation Room." Cue the flashy intro, and Blitzer walks to the center of the stage and says his tease:

"Today, are immigrants not adjusting to life in America? Are they hurting the economy? We find out today, on The Situation Room."

What I could also see happening is the federal government scrambling to correct that issue and help immigrants out, although it probably would take forever.

The German chancellor offered another solution as well.

She said Germans feel tied to Christian values and that "those who don't accept them shouldn't be here."

Merkel also went on to say that "Islam is a part of Germany," and that the government should encourage the training of Muslim clerics in Germany.

Turkish President Abdullah Gul weighed in as well and urged Turkish immigrants to learn the German language and to learn it so well that there isn't an accent present when they speak.

The key isn't that the immigrants are stupid. People misjudge speakers of another language as stupid when they actually don't understand what is being said.

Once these immigrants learn the German language they'll be able to adapt to the culture of the country and contribute to society.

Not only that, but their children will grow up already adapted to German culture and will be able to contribute to the country's economy.

One example of this is the German national soccer team. Sami Khedira and Mesut Ozil are both German nationals, but their families are from different countries.

Khedira is half Tunisian while Ozil is a third-generation Turk, and these two players illustrate what Germany will be in the future.

Although the German chancellor feels that Germany's multicultural society has failed, it hasn't. It's simply

going through a large, but essential, growing pain.

The Muslim immigrants cannot succeed without going through the pain of adaptation. Unfortunately for the Germans, the pain will affect them as well.

Tensions have flared as the person who said the Muslim immigrants have made the country more stupid has since resigned, but his book has been selling like lemonade on a hot day, according to the AFP article.

His book is titled "Germany Does Itself In," which makes me think he's a lot like Glenn Beck — a polarizing conservative figure here in America — so his book probably should be titled "For People Who Aren't Patient."

That's what it'll take for Germany's multicultural society — any multicultural society — to succeed: patience.

## Duke student's PowerPoint is an abuse of technology

Little black book, watch your back, because Microsoft Office is about to make you obsolete.

Sex scribing, the art of recording your sexual encounters, has shifted these days to PowerPoint and is no longer done by notepad.

Karen Owen is the latest perpetrator of technology abuse, using technology via PowerPoint to rank 13 university male athletes she shagged.

Owen, a Duke university graduate, said she made the 42-slide presentation ranking her sexual escapades as a joke and meant to just e-mail it to three friends.

She didn't know it would spread like wildfire as an Internet sensation.

The presentation was initially intended to be a comedic piece for friends, but Owen's unofficial 'senior thesis' has evolved into a mark of disdain for more than a dozen men that Karen Owen shared her nest with since going viral on the Internet.

However unfortunate the situation is, I find it quite hilarious how people find new ways to

destroy not only their own reputation, but the good names of others they have touched.

Duke is a well-regarded university, but the recent occurrence of Owen's presentation, titled "An Education Beyond The Classroom: Excelling In The Realm Of Horizontal Academics," might actually harm the university's image.

Actually, after this incident, the effect will assuredly taint the university's prestige and scholastic luster.

"People have this impression that Duke is this culture of these hypersexual people, and unfortunately events like this don't help our case," said Duke student government President Mike Lefevre, a senior.

Well, there must be some truth to it since the students are going around having sex and then ranking each other.



**TYLER DO**  
Staff Writer

Meanwhile, Karen Owen, the woman who allegedly blurred the photos of each of the 13 players and gave brief background information (how they met, drinks she was given along with the run-down of the dates, pros and cons of their "precious" moments and a ranking score from one to 10 on sexual performance) about them on a PowerPoint presentation, has gone into hiding.

Owen did give an apology to Jezebel, an online news site, saying "I regret it with all my heart," and "I would never intentionally hurt the people that are mentioned on that."

Since then, she's disappeared from the public scene, withdrawing her presence from all social networks and has left the men she served to face the music.

Apparently, these days an indirect apology is fair restitution for plastering someone's face

online along with raunchy, slanderous accusations about them.

I hope this reckless "slore" is not attempting to pull a Kim Kardashian by using technology and the Internet to make herself famous, because if I see another idiot on TV, I might shoot myself.

Speaking of shooting myself, this is a bad time to be using technology to harass people on the Web because of current events involving suicides.

This is in reference to the case of Tyler Clementi, a Rutgers University freshman student, who jumped off New York's George Washington Bridge to his death after his two roommates recorded him in homosexual activity on iChat.

Clementi's classmates, Dharun Ravi and Molly Wei, were both arrested and charged with invasion of sexual privacy; so I hope Karen Owen isn't going to be another copycat of these two.

More of the story is, people should stop abusing technology!

## What is the price of Tommie Smith's legacy?

What is the value of an Olympic gold medal?

I guess it depends on who you ask.

For some, it is a representation of years of hard work and dedication, something they dreamed of achieving since adolescence, whose worth could not be priced.

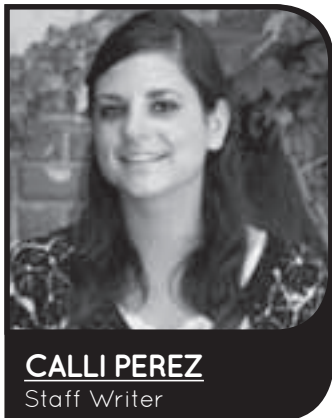
However, if you took a gold medal to your local Cash4Gold cart in the mall, you'll find that is not of much value, rather a few hundred bucks of metal.

Tommie Smith, the SJSU alumnus, former track & field athlete and wide receiver in the American Football League has decided to sell his gold medal that he won at the 1968 Olympics in Mexico City.

If you don't know who he is visit the plot of grass between Dwight Bentel Hall and Clark Hall.

You will find him there with his fist raised, in a mosaic statue form.

He stands in mosaic alongside John Carlos, depicting their famous, black power salute at the Olympic stadium, Estadio Olimpico Universitario.



**CALLI PEREZ**  
Staff Writer

Their protest shocked the world and raised criticism for being held at an Olympic ceremony.

In a recent interview, Smith said the protest was to show his community and the rest of the world he believed in human rights, that is all it was.

Whether the protest was right or wrong is a moot debate at this point, but selling his gold medal and shoes from that historical day makes me wonder if the self-proclaimed human rights activist is selling out.

I understand that the cash flow of an Olympic athlete, particularly one of the 1960s is short-lived.

If you visit his personal website, Tommie-Smith.com, it becomes evident the man is strapped for cash.

The site has a section where people can purchase Tommie Smith, Limited Edition Puma shoes, running up to \$475 a pair.

You can also purchase an autographed pair of shoes, an autographed 1967 Sports Illustrated Magazine, a historic button worn by athletes in the 1968 Olympic games, or an autographed victory stand poster.

With a bid starting at \$250,000 for his gold medal and running shoes, the auction will be sure to assist with Smith's financial situation.

I have been able to witness firsthand the dedication and sacrifice that is put into achieving Olympic athletic standing.

I know I would never sell a medal after working that hard for something, but clearly Smith does not feel that way.

Even if he did not care about winning an Olympic race, I would think he would consider the medal as a representation of his protest that very much defines who he is and how this world will remember him.

Clearly that is not the case, and it is a shame, but a decision that is his to make.

I just hope he does not regret this.

“... selling his gold medal and shoes from that historical day makes me wonder if the self-proclaimed human rights activist is selling out.”

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San Jose State University  
San Jose, CA 95192-0149  
Phone: (408) 924-3281  
Advertising Phone: (408) 924-3270

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# WARS

From Page 1

war, attending San Jose State University for various academic degrees.

## Damian Bramlett Off To War

Bramlett, who is currently working on his justice studies thesis, served two tours in Iraq.

"There was always gunfire and mortars being launched," he said. "I can't think of a day I didn't hear it — it was as normal as hearing a bird chirp."

Bramlett said he received one liter of water a day and he could bathe with it or drink it — he chose to drink it.

"No one wants to go to war," he said. "It's a last option and shooting someone is also a last option. No one I knew loved war."

By the time Bramlett was serving his second tour in Iraq, he said he was burned out on war.

"The first time, I knew we were doing a good thing, getting rid of Saddam Hussein," Bramlett said. "By the second tour, I was more jaded, but I knew I was still there to do a job."

The guys to his right and left were depending on him, and he said that's what kept him motivated to do his job.

Bramlett said he lost his best friend and others, but did not want to talk about it.

A vehicle directly in front of his convoy was hit by a roadside bomb and flipped the vehicle he was in, he said.

The explosion blew out his right eardrum, injured his knee and shoulder and ultimately got him sent home, Bramlett said.

He equated getting out of the military to a bitter divorce.

"When you leave you don't know where to go or what to say," Bramlett said. "I felt lost and I wanted to be alone."

A history professor who specializes in military history at SJSU said that veterans are just normal people but at the same time, combat veterans are a sort of subculture.

"These young people have experienced things that most people will not," said Jonathan Roth. "The crucible of war, as they call it, changes them. And I don't think we should focus on them as somehow sick or ill, but I think they've earned our respect."

Roth said that while some veterans need extra help working through post-traumatic stress disorder, others are working through the process of rebuilding and moving on by themselves.

## Jason Lopez Motivated By 9/11

Jason Lopez, a senior accounting major, said he signed up for the Army after 9/11 because he wanted to do something about the situation that affected America on so many levels.

He said he remembers a mission in 2004 in which his platoon was guarding the perimeter where the elections were being held in Afghanistan.

"The Taliban kept trying to put IEDs on the way to the polling places and this particular time our vehicle broke down just before we hit one," Lopez said.

He recalled seeing people from surrounding towns walking for miles or riding in on donkeys to vote at the risk of being killed.

"After 30 or 40 years of war in that country, you could finally see hope in their faces, especially the older people," Lopez said. "You could see they thought that finally, maybe things could change for their country."

"Democracy can't exist unless you're willing to sacrifice," he said.

Lopez said he knew four men who were killed, one who lost a leg, one who was temporarily blinded and one who was shot in the leg but was later sewn up and sent back on duty.

He said it was when the Iraqi people began taking charge of their own country that he thought things in Iraq could possibly get better.

The adjustment back to the Bay Area was tough, Lopez said.

"When I left there were American flags all over the place and people were in favor of us being there," he said. "But when I got back there were no more American flags, everyone hated the president and I had to accept that America had changed."

Roth, who heads up a task force to help veterans on campus, said that whether faculty or students agree with the politics of the war, it's important to show veterans respect.

"I wouldn't say San Jose State is anti-military, but I wouldn't categorize the campus as military-friendly either," Roth said.

He said an indication of that is the absence of a dominant American flag on campus, which is symbolic of patriotism and respect to veterans.

Another sign is that there hasn't been a veterans' student organization on campus since the '50s, Roth said.

One of the biggest misconceptions about veterans, Roth said, is that they are uneducated robots, blindly taking orders from officers.

He said the military encourages them to be creative problem-solvers and highly critical thinkers.

## Dustin Ramirez Keeps Rolling

Dustin Ramirez, a former Marine and senior business finance major, said the American military has rules and codes of conduct, but al-



Army Spc. Jason Lopez said this Humvee was hit by an improvised explosive device in 2004, a week after he arrived in Afghanistan. He said the driver lost his leg but everyone else had only minor injuries.

PHOTO COURTESY: JASON LOPEZ

Qaida and the Taliban do not.

He said the enemy knows Americans have rules of warfare and they exploit that.

He remembers his captain ordering his unit to line up in formation before his first mission when he arrived in Iraq.

"The captain told us to 'Look at the man on your right and look at the man on your left — some of you are going to die and I wish I could promise that wasn't true,'" said Ramirez, who served two tours in Iraq.

"That gave me chills," he said. "But it was true and he was getting us prepared for what was ahead."

Even when a suicide bomber took out four Marines, Ramirez said there was hardly any time to mourn.

"You lose people and it's sad," he said. "But over there, there's no time and we had to keep rolling."

Yet he recalls one 19-year-old Marine in his unit with whom he ate his last meal — that same night, a suicide bomber killed the Marine.

"He asked me for a piece of my turkey and I said no," Ramirez said. "Murderers and criminals get a choice of one last meal and I didn't even give him my turkey."

Ramirez, along with Bramlett and Lopez, said they did not feel the media was giving an accurate picture of American soldiers deployed to the war, nor was the war itself being portrayed accurately.

Ramirez said he didn't think about all the discomforts of Iraq because he was focused on trying to stay alive.

But he does recall the heat as one agitation he never really got used to.

"I remember having a thermometer in my tent that went up to 120 degrees," Ramirez said. "I walked in one day and it had blown up. You just make do, but that heat makes for some hot-ass water on a hot-ass day."



When Army Spc. Jason Lopez first arrived in Afghanistan in 2004, these small tents are where the soldiers slept for weeks.

PHOTO COURTESY: JASON LOPEZ

## Giving A Nation Hope

In a more somber tone, Ramirez said he doesn't think the war was about oil or weapons of mass destruction, but to give hope to a nation that was without hope.

"Tax dollars are not always all about you and me and our tuition," he said. "We used some of that money to give the Iraqi people some hope and that's a good thing."

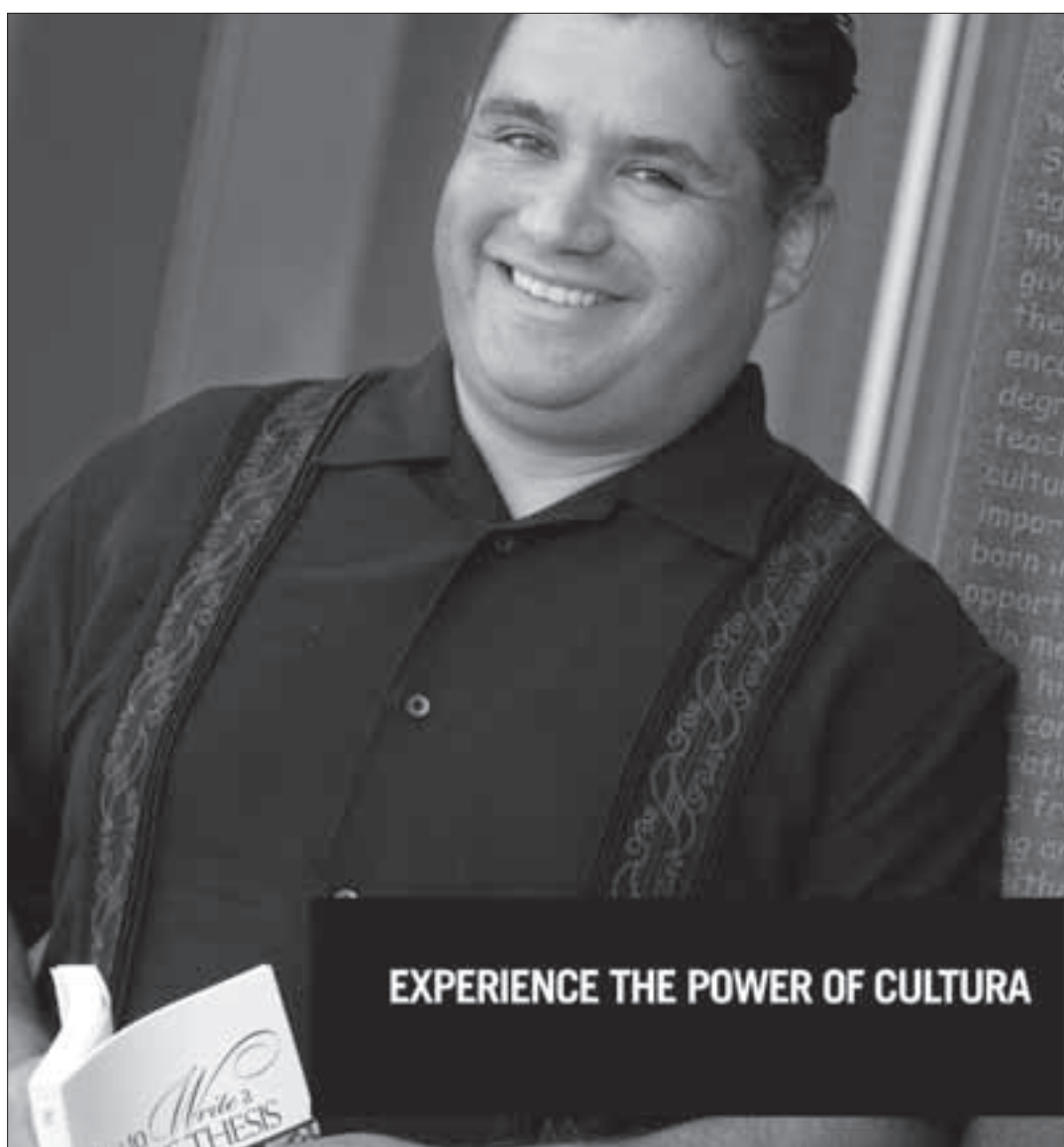
He said he wishes people could go outside the U.S. to other nations, where things are horrible and the poor are truly poor.

"I wish they could talk to the people of Iraq and then decide what they think of the war effort," Lopez said. "The act of war is horrific, the cause is what you have to look at."

When transitioning back to civilian life, he said everyone has to face their own demons in their own ways.

But Ramirez said if he could express one thing about combat veterans that people may not know, it is that they are not monsters.

"We are not all crazy, taking pills and unable to function," he said. "If anything, war had the reverse effect and it makes me just want to live in peace and have a house with a white picket fence — not go out and shoot people."



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