

NSIDE

Deadline for social

justice workshop

CAMPUS VOICES: What are you doing for Halloween? Halloween tips 3

NEWS

A&E

· The history of the Jack-O-Lantern 4 Five best movies to watch on Halloween 4 Haunting Halloween specials spook downtown

San Jose Quirky last-minute Halloween costume

 The election masquerade 7 Kids need to be taught about sex 7 Baseball's supposed to be fun

SPORTS

VIDEO

SOCIAL MEDIA

· Sharks win; Thornton pulls a trick on Devils 8

· CAMPUS VOICES: What are your plans for Halloween?

on Facebook

facebookcom/ spartandaily

Osparlandally

OPINION

Get your last-minute Halloween fix

SEE PAGES 4 & 5



HOCKEY

Sharks chomp the Devils

SEE PAGE 8



SPARIAN DAIL Serving San José State University since 1934

Thursday, October 28, 2010

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Volume 135, Issue 33

Students protest 'Queen Meg'



Student demonstrators bow before Colleen Malloy, a senior justice studies major, who portrays "Queen Meg," as a mocking point for gubernatorial candidate Meg Whitman's proposed policies during a student demonstration against Whitman on Wednesday outside the Event center.

Ironic rally opposes Republican gubernatorial candidate's ideals

JEN NOWELL Staff Writer

With fliers in hand, a bullhorn to reach their voices out to the crowd and "Queen Meg Whitman," the Students for Quality Education chose the high-traffic area of the fountain in front of the Event Center to hold a rally Wednesday at 11:45 a.m.

about 10 members showed up to take part and show their

The group was protesting Meg Whitman, who is currently running for governor of California, with a student dressed as Whitman.

Colleen Malloy, a senior justice studies major, played the part of "Queen Meg," wearing a blue blazer and a At the 15-minute rally, crown atop her head.

"As an actress, I found it fun

not to support her," she said. The group was protesting Meg Whitman's stance on cutting taxes for corporations and the rich, eliminating 40,000 state employee jobs and getting rid of the 8-hour workday and meal breaks, said Joe Tran, a senior sociology major and the group's president.

"Poor people get a clue, California is not for you," shouted the protestors in uni-

He said he is just stating the facts he found on her website, megwhitman.com.

"Push it to the max, but to stop. never over the line," said Ionathan Anonuevo, a sophomore business management major. "So there is no slander in-

He said he thinks it is better to see students out here protesting on campus, instead of outside protestors coming to SJSU.

"It went better than I thought it would," said Herlinda Aguirre, a sophomore art history major. "A lot of people

She said since people have classes, many aren't able to stay involved.

"It's hard to get people to stop in between classes," said Malloy.

Tran said he thought the location was too big for the show, so next time they will try to rally in front of Clark

He said the ironic protest was meant to grab attention.

"It gets people thinking," Tran said. "Throw ironic things out there and you will get their attention."

Tran said his hope is to get people involved and get them

Sorority supports cancer-stricken family

ALEXANDRA RUIZ-HUIDOBRO Staff Writer

Bobbie Atkins will never forget the day her 37-year-old daughterin-law Cathy went in for a routine medical checkup.

"She had originally gone to Kaiser," Atkins said. "She had bloody discharge from her breast."

After the consultation, she said, the doctors had informed Cathy that the blood may have come from when her youngest daughter had given her too tight a hug.

Atkins said that could not be possible and advised Cathy to seek a consultation at the University of California San Francisco Medical

"She was immediately diagnosed with breast cancer," Atkins

Twelve years later, she said, Walterene Cathy Atkins passed away at the age of 49 on May 12, 2010, after the cancer had spread.

Sigma Theta Psi, a multicultural sorority on campus, is raising money during the month of October to donate to the survivors of Cathy Atkins — her husband, three children and her mother-in-law.

Sigma Theta Psi offers young women a sisterhood of encouragement morally, academically and socially, according to the organization's website.

Established in 1991, SJSU's Sigma Theta Psi is the sorority's founding chapter.

Senior psychology major Jackie Nguyen said her sorority has been raising awareness of breast cancer for more than nine years.

"At the end of 2001, we established our national philanthropy to be breast cancer awareness," Nguyen said.

The chapter would work with

The Breast Cancer Society to collect money and the society would give the sorority materials to bring awareness to the community, Nguyen said.

However, just recently the organization has decided to focus its efforts on a specific family that she said has been directly affected by the loss of a loved one because of

Sophomore nursing major Moji Oladimeji stated in an e-mail that she has been a member of Sigma Theta Psi for one year.

Oladimeji wrote she is the one who found the family the sorority is currently raising money to help.

"I was a family friend to the family prior to knowledge that the sorority would fund a direct family," Oladimeji stated. "I supported the family through the loss and was

See **CANCER** Page 2

Local church hosts poverty simulation to educate public

JORDAN LIFFENGREN Staff Writer

To eliminate ignorance, educate the community and inspire advocates to make a difference for low-income families, Grace Baptist Community Church held a poverty simulation on Wednesday, said Beryl Banks, the event facilita-

He said the church, located on the intersection of San Fernando and 10th Streets, teamed up with Sacred Heart, Catholic Charities and Step-Up Silicon Valley to bring the workshop to stu-

Attendees sat in chairs that formed groups of three to five people and were assigned a family that they would pretend to be, said Claire Collins, volunteer supervisor for Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County.

She said there was a packet of information for each family explaining their financial situations, such as living arrangements, budget, jobs and access to transportation, which they had to appropriate accordingly.

They were to act like a small community, Collins said, complete with businesses, a school, a church, etc., and complete a set of tasks that pertained to

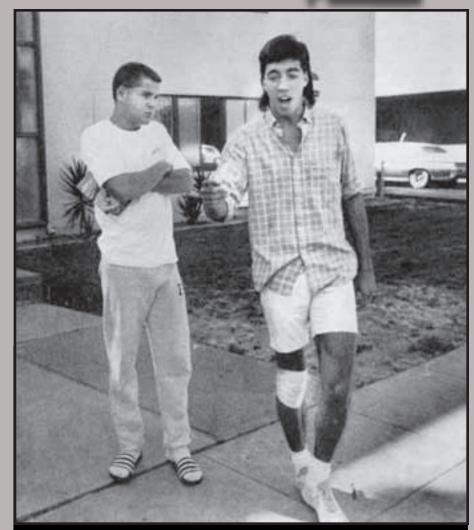
"These actually could have been real families," said senior sociology major Monique Miyahara. "I've volunteered with Sacred Heart before and it's a good resource for basic needs."

The simulation was divided into four 15-minute weeks and four five-minute weekends that represented one month in the life of a low-income family.

See **POVERTY** Page 2



THIS DAY (IN HISTORY)



THE SPARTAN DAILY REPORTED THAT ...

ON OCTOBER 28, 1986

Sigma Nu members Paul Hardeu (left) and Peter Krug recount an incident in which Krug and two other Sigma Nu members were stabbed in front of the fraternity's house.

- Mini-stores in six SJSU residence halls were closed when Ed Zant, Spartan Shops general manager, raised questions about the legality and safety of their operations.
- UPD arrested a man after a call from two SJSU students who helped a women the man was allegedly harassing.
- Bill Honig, state superintendent of public education, spoke on the importance of teacher training and having a college education.

POVERTY

From Page 1

Miyahara and two of her classmates were the Rogers family, which consisted of a 40-year-old divorced father, his two children and grandchild: a 9-year-old son and a 20-year-old daughter with a baby.

The 9-year old had learning disabilities and asthma, and the father's ex-wife did not pay child support.

'Yeah, and she doesn't call me either," said senior sociology major Steve Campbell, who played the Rogers father.

A set amount of transportation passes were given to each family and every visit they made required one pass per person.

The Rogers had to make driving arrangements because they had only two passes and four people in their family, limiting the amount of time they had to complete their weekly set of tasks.

They had \$1,500 to spend for the entire month and a few luxury items they could sell if they chose

"I spend \$100 alone on groceries a week for two people," Miyahara said. "We'll have to sell some of our luxury items to have a bit more money."

She received only \$115 after haggling for more money for her stereo, ring and camera at the lo-

Senior communications major Stephanie DeVost counts out money to pay for bills during a mock poverty simulation at Grace Baptist Community Church on Wednesday.

cal pawnshop, which should have come to a total of at least \$300.

The simulation also included "Luck of the Draw" cards, which were cards that substituted for unexpected events that occur in life, good or bad, such as winning money or getting fired from a job.

This made living circumstances difficult for the Rogers family when the father was fired from his job because he was late to work one day.

"I have no job, so I have to go get more food stamps," Campbell said.

The family had more problems when senior sociology major Shakir El-Jurf, who played the 9-yearold Rogers boy, was handed a card that said he had been caught with a weapon during school.

"I was just taking a quiz and

they told me I was sent to jail because I had a gun or something,"

These are all real-life situations that happen on a regular basis, Banks said.

"Parents can get desperate and they have to make hard choices," he said. "It's not a game. I hope everyone can really get into their roles to see what it's like."

Collins said they hope to reduce poverty in Santa Clara County by 50 percent by the year 2020 through the education of

the middle-class community. "We give out a list of statistics that explains the cost of living here," she said. "We also tell people what they can do to make a difference and how they can get

involved."

CANCER

From Page 1

happy Sigma Theta Psi decided to help as well."

Oladimeji stated the money raised will go to the family. The family said it will use the money to pay bills.

The sorority hopes the money will help with the adjustments the father and the three children left behind have to deal with in the future, Oladimeji wrote.

When she joined her soror- she said. "I know I'm making a

ity, Oladimeji stated, she knew she would be giving back to the community through the organization's philanthropy, but she didn't know it would hit so close to home.

"This has shaped me to never take what you have for granted," Oladimeji stated. "Anything can happen."

Nguyen said it is satisfying to know her sorority's hard work, time and energy in fundraising is going toward helping a specific family.

"I know I'm making a change,"

difference in someone else's life and I actually know that person." Cathy was one in a million, At-

"I knew her since she was 15 years old," she said. "She was a remarkable person that was helpful to anybody and everybody right

up until the cancer completely

kins said.

took over."

Atkins offered some words of encouragement to those going through similar hard times.

"Whatever happens to the family, keep it together, encourage them and keep moving forward," she said.

Deadline for social justice workshop nears

LESTER-PERRY Staff Writer

The application deadline for the Leadership Today 2011 retreat is approaching fast and student leaders and activists need to apply soon if they don't want to miss the chance to attend this four-day workshop, said employees of the Mosaic Cross Cultural Center.

The event is a social justice immersion leadership retreat designed to train advanced student leaders to positively and effectively build community around issues of diversity, according to the Mosaic website.

Leadership Today 2011 applications are due by 5 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 1, 2010, to Student Involvement or Mosaic, according to the student involvement portion of the SJSU

Richard C. Kelley, director of student involvement, said the main thing to point out is that this is the 10th anniversary year of the program.

"With that the whole program has been redesigned," Kelley stated. "We're at a new location (Bosch Baha'i), have new lead facilitators, and a new curriculum."

Bosch Baha'i is a 67-acre campus near Santa Cruz California, according to the grounds' website.

The retreat will provide students with the opportunity to explore their identities as well as identities different from their own, Sadika Sulaiman Hara, assistant director of Mosaic, stated in an e-mail.

"This will happen through activities and dialogue," she stated, "which focus on ones

SCHEDULE DESCRIPTION

Retreat Date:

Applications Available:

Applications Due:

Applicants Notified By:

Mandatory Delegate Orientation:

December 10, 2010, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

own lived experience, while engaging in conversation about how experiences shape us, the way we interact with people in our communities, and our individual responsibility as agents of change."

There is no cost to partici-

pate, according to the website, and students who are chosen to attend the Leadership Today Retreat are expected to design, construct and maintain the entryway, as well as one room for the sixth Annual Tunnel of Oppression, scheduled for

November 24, 2010

January 11-14, 2011 on one example of oppression in society, Hara stated. October 1, 2010 "Different mediums have November 1, 2010 been used in past rooms to

convey the oppressions, such as music, visuals — images, media, props, and literature," she stated. "These rooms are designed by student organiza-

The Tunnel of Oppression is

a simulated tunnel with various

rooms, each of which focuses

tions, classes, and departments." Hara stated there is an application process for groups who would like to design a room, which is available in the Mosaic Cross Cultural Center located on the top floor of the Student

Union.

Delegates who will design the entryway of the Tunnel;" she stated. "This means an opportunity to create an introduction to what participants coming to the tunnel will experience. Some past examples include a graffiti wall and visual art that expressed oppressions that exist in the United States."

Because the entryway looks different every year, Hara stated she will be working with the Leadership Today delegates to design what they feel will be a strong message for individuals visiting the tunnel.

Program activities include interactive workshops, large and small group discussions,

"For the Leadership Today" and various activities on intergroup relations, diversity, and leadership development, according to the Mosaic website.

> On top of the activities, a large portion of the curriculum will be spent on self-identity exploration, according to the website.

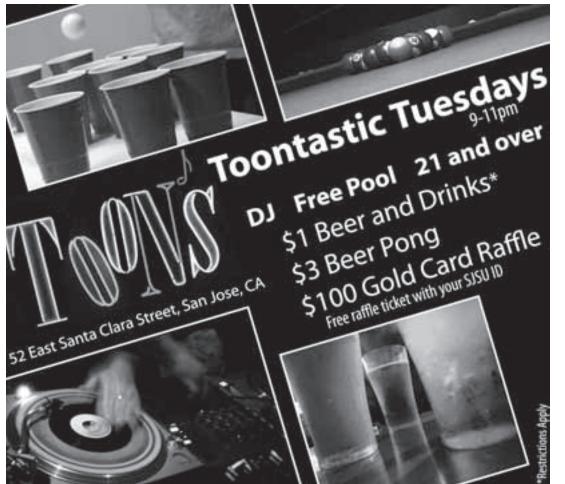
> The retreat is facilitated by two Lead Educators and five Leadership Today Facilitators, according to the website.

Leadership Today facilitators are SJSU faculty and staff who are responsible for overseeing a dialogue group at the retreat as well as assisting the group with their Tunnel of Oppression project, according to the website.



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CAMPUS VOICES



BY: REBECCA HENDERSON

WHAT ARE YOU DOING FOR HALLOWEEN?

LAUREN O'CONNOR-KORB



Senior Spatial Arts

I'm going to Berkeley to hang out with my friend David. We're going to party in the bars around Berkeley.

VINCENT **DIMALANTA**



Junior Business

For Halloween me and a bunch of friends are going to Fullerton through our Filipino organization called Akbayan and we're going to participate in something called 'Friendship

LOREENE **GARCIA**



Senior

My friends and I are going down to Disneyland. We're thinking about dressing like Disney characters.

Engineering

DENNY **SUAREZ**



Sophomore Accounting

For Halloween my fraternity is throwing a club event. We're going to be baseball players.

RYAN SULLIVAN



Behavioral Science



to Chico for Halloween and I'm going to be George Washington.

Games.'

I'm going

NGUYEN VO



Kinesiology

I'm not going to do anything, probably watch a movie, go and have fun with friends — not party or drink because I'm a clean person.

Halloween tips

TYLER DO Staff Writer

Sgt. John Laws from UPD administrative services and SJSU students helped compile a list of safety tips for students attending festivities this upcoming Halloween.

Students going to parties and generally going out should follow these suggestions:

- If students plan to drink, they should do so in moderation and at their own discretion (limit the intake of alcohol and caffeinated beverages to avoid passing out and losing the ability to be aware of the current situation), Laws said.
- Go in groups, especially late at night. Have friends around to help caution one another from dangerous situations and at least two or more friends should be sober.
- Students going anywhere on or off campus should shy away from unlit areas and narrow streets.
- "We highly recommend students don't drink and drive," Laws said.
- Use safe forms of transportation that are widely available downtown, such as taxi cabs

rides are paid by tips, but major Tim Butler. some drivers set standard rates," said Patrick Sink, an Eco City Cycles

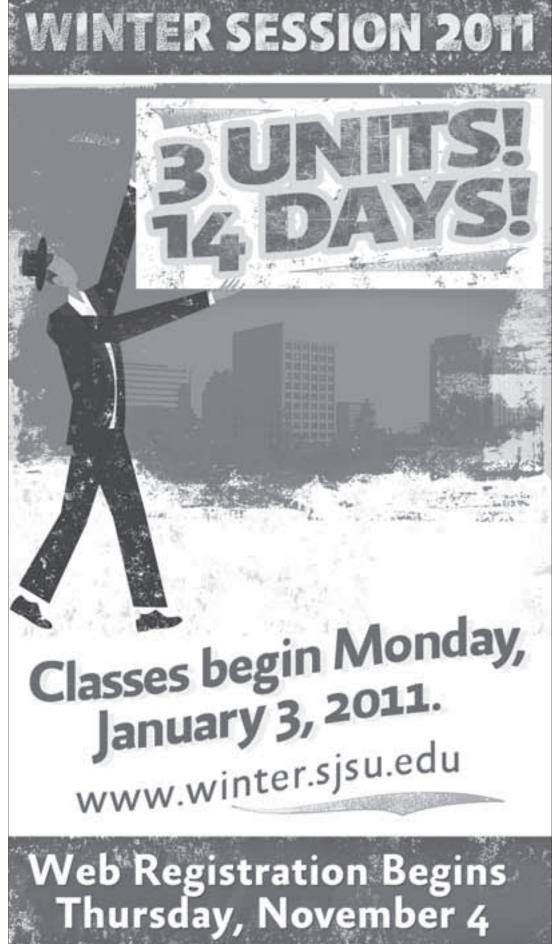
- "Don't get into fights," said senior psychology major, Elizabeth Orozco.
- Watch after your drinks and beverages," said Reva Tambo, a junior biological sciences major.
- "Don't get drunk," said junior engineering major Alex Burns.
- "Stay in groups and doesn't or something, so one person who could drive and not be under the influence of anything and stay safe," said

or pedicabs. "Pedicab freshman engineering

- "Dress cute to get people's attention," said sophomore communications major Esther Costa.
- "Don't dress trashy because you'll attract the wrong attention," said sophomore marketing major Paula Nguyen.
- "Have fun and it only happens one day a year," said senior communications major Serena Sharma.

"The UPD has recordhave one person who ed a reasonable amount of crimes related to alcohol on University property and we caution people to use control," Laws said.







Best five movies to watch on Halloween

HUSAIN SUMRA

Senior Staff Writer

It's time for Halloween, when people of various ages dress up in outrageous costumes and knock on random people's doors

After overdosing on processed sugar, some people may go to a party, some may go to sleep and some may want to watch an immensely scary film.

These are the top five films you can watch to scare the sugar

5. The Shining (1980)

One of acclaimed film director Stanley Kubrick's greatest works, "The Shining," will give you a phobia of hotels. It'll also make you oddly afraid of little kids on tricycles. Just don't let your friend creep you out with a well-placed "Heeeere's Johnny."

4. Halloween (1978)

Honestly, a list of movies to watch on Halloween can't not have "Halloween." Another film by John Carpenter, viewing before trick-or-treating is a must for maximum effectiveness. Remember, psychotic murderers on a rampage can make for a great and horrifying film-watching experience.

3. The Thing (1982)

There's a reason John Carpenter said "The Thing" was his favorite film that he made — it's spine-chillingly terrifying. This film is fundamentally about trust. Anyone, at any time, could really be a shape-shifting alien. It's fitting, considering that on Halloween people aren't what they appear to be.

2. Paranormal Activity (2007)

This movie is so scary one of my friends spent two nights sleeping in a Safeway parking lot rather than in his home. It's absolutely terrifying and the special effects are so good you'll wonder whether it's all real or not. After a long and tiring Halloween you might not sleep after this one.

1. The Exorcist (1973)

Possibly the greatest horror movie of all time, which is why it's one of the only horror movies to be nominated for the Best Picture Oscar. This movie is just creepy and includes some of the greatest scenes in not only horror movie history but film history in general.



Halloween: The history of the Jack-O-Lantern

KELSEY HILARIO

Staff Writer

Many traditions in America have become warped and twisted into Hallmark holidays and Halloween is no exception.

By the time mid-August comes around, Target is getting ready to dedicate a portion of its store to excess amounts of candy, fake spider webs, party decorations and costumes for kids, adults and pets.

One of the most iconic Halloween traditions is the Jack-O-Lantern, and to understand where pumpkin carving got its start, it is important to know where Halloween began.

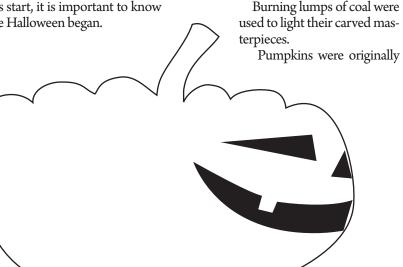
Samhain (pronounced "sowwen") means "summer's end," and is the ancient Celtic holiday that Halloween is

Many years ago, pagans believed that Oct. 31 to Nov. 1 was the day to honor loved ones who had died, and it was during this time that spirits could come back and visit.

According to pumpkincarving101. com, it is also the Witches' New Year and the Last Harvest.

On this particular night turnips or gourds were carved and put in windows to encourage those who had died to come in, and keep evil spirits out.

> Burning lumps of coal were used to light their carved mas-



indigenous to the western hemisphere and have been grown in America for more than 5,000 years — the practice of carving pumpkins was brought to the United States by Irish immigrants.

ier to carve than their original canvases — turnips, gourds and potatoes.

The History Channel website offers one story as to the origins of the Jack-O-Lantern term.

was coined many years ago and is based on an Irish myth about a man

Stingy Jack invited the devil out for a drink one night and when the time came to pay Stingy Jack refused to pay for the devil's drink and instead talked him into turning himself into a coin.

Instead of using the coin to pay, Stingy Jack pocketed the money next to a silver cross so the devil could not

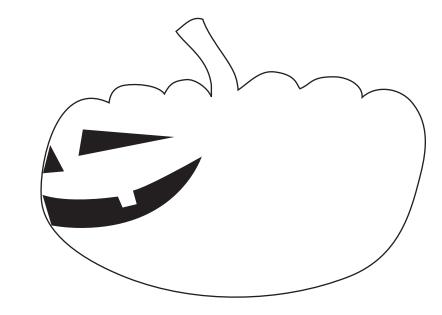
Jack eventually allowed the devil to turn back into his original form on the condition that the devil would leave him alone for one year and not claim his soul if he were to die.

The following year Jack tricked the devil once again and made the devil promise that he would not

They found pumpkins to be far eas-

According to the website, the term named "Stingy Jack."

turn himself back.



visit Jack again for 10 years.

As the myth goes, Jack finally died and was not allowed into heaven.

The devil was still upset by Jack's tricks, but would not claim his soul, as promised.

Instead, the devil sent lack away with a turnip, and inside of the turnip was a burning coal to light his way.

From then on the Irish called him

"Jack of the Lantern," or "Jack O' Lan-

Today pumpkin carving is a must when it comes to taking part in Halloween traditions.

Although the tradition has moved far from its roots, it is a quintessential Halloween decoration and today the ideas are endless when it comes to deciding how to carve a pumpkin.





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Haunting Halloween specials spook San Jose

ALEXANDRA RUIZ-HUIDOBRO

Staff Writer

Downtown San Jose is going to get spookier than usual this weekend as the bars downtown prepare for the Halloween festivities.

If you couldn't make last weekend's Scare Crawl around downtown, don't feel like you missed out. There are plenty of parties and Halloween specials lined up for this weekend, just within two blocks of the campus.

Walking on San Fernando toward Second Street, the first bar you might hit is Fahrenheit Restaurant & Lounge.

Ten dollars will get in you the door of this club's fifth annual Halloween Bash.

Fahrenheit's dress code on Saturday will be costume only and will award \$300 to the best costume, VIP bottle service for sexiest costume and VIP dinner package for the best couple costume.

Two disc jockeys will be spinning all night and drink specials will include \$5 deadly sin cocktails and \$5 zombie punch.

Don't feel like lounging? Walk a few more steps down San Fernando and enter Azucar.

The Latin Bistro and Mojito bar will have live music all weekend and will be hosting a Halloween weekend bash on Saturday, Oct.

Drinks beginning at \$2 will be available, a cash prize for the best costume will be given out and ladies will get in free before 10 p.m.

If the Latin Bistro is not for you, continue down San Fernando and turn right onto Second Street where you will find a plethora of

options open to you.

Turn right onto Second Street and you are bound to run into Loft Bar and Bistro, more commonly referred to as the Loft.

Six dollar drink specials of Grey Goose and Hennessy shots, Mai Tais, Hurricanes and other rum cocktails will be served starting at 10:30 p.m. until 11:30 p.m.

The Loft will give away bottle service for the sexiest costume and best group cos-

Cross the street and San Jose Bar and Grill will also be hosting the "Nightmare Before Halloween," where \$200 will go to the best

Tres Gringos Baja Cantina right next door will be throwing its Uncensored Not Another Halloween Party event where \$200 will go out to the winner of best costume.

I was unable to find drink specials or a cover charge for both establishments.

If Second Street is too crowded for you, walk down the block and turn right onto Santa Clara Street and you'll walk right by

Make it by 9 p.m. and there will be no cover charge. However, two forms of identification will be required.

A costume contest will be held at midnight and cash prizes and Dive Bar gift cards will be handed out.

Drink specials for the evening include \$1 orange & black jello shots and \$5 zombies, jack-o-lantern shots, pumpkin pie martinis and vampire juice.

If Dive Bar and Second Street don't grab



goblins trolling the streets on Halloween.

your attention, turn around and walk down Santa Clara on your way to First Street.

Club Pearl is hosting a Halloween Hooker Ball, with \$100 going to the best costume.

Down the street two blocks, Brix gay nightclub is opening their doors at 6 p.m. and will also host a Halloween costume

Motif will be hosting a Fresh to Death Halloween party and WET Night Club will also be hosting a Land of Jigsaw Halloween

If you're a creative and broke college student, there's no better opportunity to win some cash on Halloween than at the bars near Second Street.

Quirky last-minute Halloween costume ideas

CALLI PEREZ

Staff Writer

The Halloween costume, a tradition in the United States since the 1930s, was originally conceived to depict eerie monsters straight out of a child's nightmares, according to the book "Halloween: From pagan ritual to party night.'

I'd like to deem this idea "vintage," as the original concept of the Halloween costume has transformed from an outfit to terrify to an excuse to attract and add your neck as a cape. sex to just about anything.

After a certain age we have all pretty much been guilty of using sex appeal to some degree.

The racy army girls, corrupted school girls and cops-gone-wild are a dime a dozen and becoming overdone.

Get creative this year, be original and look to resources such as thrift stores, American Apparel and fabric stores to put together an ensemble that is entirely your own or use a few of my suggestions.

For the ladies:

Mime: Put on a striped shirt, black shorts or pants, a black scarf and a beret. Then draw triangles around your eyes with black eyeliner and if you want the full effect,



color your entire face white. clothes and wrap ace ban-

a dress with heels, or simply jeans and a shirt. Just add fairy wings and carry a toothbrush as a wand.

Statue of Liberty: Wear a green dress or drape green fabric around your body in a toga fashion. Then buy a headpiece or glue green triangles to a headband.

Classic ghost: Take a sheet and cut it into a cape shape, then cut two holes into it. Wear a white dress and tie the sheet around

For the men:

King Kong: Dress up in a gorilla costume and carry a Barbie dressed in an evening

A rain cloud: Glue cotton balls onto a shirt, color them gray and carry a squirt gun.

Clark Kent: Wear a suit and keep it slightly open with a Superman shirt showing underneath it.

Mummy: Wear normal nude-colored clothes.

Tooth fairy: You can wear dages or toilet paper around

Group Ideas:

Adam and Eve: Wear skin-colored clothes and use a glue gun to adorn leaves onto them.

Tweedledee and Tweedledum: Wear collared shirts with the words "Dee" and "Dum" upon them. Add suspenders to the look and wear propeller hats.

Jackie O, Marilyn Monroe and JFK: This idea may require purchasing costumes. Look for apparel matching their classic clothes.

Thing 1 and Thing 2: Dye your hair blue and dress in red with signs that label you as "Thing 1" and "Thing 2" to reenact the Dr. Seuss

Three Blind Mice: Dress in Black or Gray. Purchase or make mouse ears, wear sunglasses and carry canes.

Nudist colony: Wear





In response to the Oct. 20 opinion story "MTV's 'Teen Mom' fails to show the whole picture"

MTV's "Teen Mom" does encourage the viewers to learn that teen pregnancy is 100 percent preventable.

If they already give you a warning at the start of the show, they have done enough in preventing you from becoming pregnant. If you don't have the nerve to watch the struggles, heartaches and triumphs of young mothers and their relationships, there is a way to stop watching it — turn the channel.

MTV can only do so much to prevent teen pregnancy, but I don't see any other big televised corporation out there trying to prevent teen

pregnancy, either.

The young moms on the show never rub in that it was all butterflies and rainbows when they found out they were pregnant. We have seen from watching the show that each mom has her own struggles whether they are her own, her child's or her significant others. This show expresses each emotion of being a teen mom.

Domestic violence was an issue that Amber, a teen mom, expressed to her now ex-boyfriend Gary. From that point on, when MTV aired that episode, domestic violence was as big of an issue

as preventing teen pregnancy.

MTV expresses statistics on the issues and offers ways to help before and after the viewina of each "Teen Mom" episode. With the second season of "Teen Mom" coming to an end, MTV is doing something right because they have viewers still wanting more. Perhaps some viewers relate to "Teen Mom" or some may watch it because they only wish the best for the girls that are on the show since they have become emotionally attached throughout the last two seasons?

Whatever the reasons may be, it shows the incidences: diversity of real teen pregnancies while letting viewers know that there are ways to prevent

pregnancy.

Sarah Limongelli, Liberal Arts

In response to the Oct. 13 opinion story "Harry Potter to be continued?"

I find it amazing how J.K. Rowling created such a vision with her series. The way that she connects and ties the book together is mind-blowing.

etters to the editor



I agree with Kenny Martin when he questions the idea of J.K. Rowling continuing the Harry Potter series. She has done such an amazing job with the series and the way she put everything together at the so-called end is astonishing.

Even though I feel like the series would not be the same without Harry Potter, I feel like Rowling can and will stay true to the other characters and

create something amazing.

The series is called Harry Potter. This whole time the book is tied back to Harry Potter. Without Harry, the book would not be the same. But in the past couple years the book has built such a large fan base that continuing the series would not be such a bad idea.

There are so many people like myself that have followed the series. J.K. Rowling has opened a new world to readers and it would be wrong to just end it.

I am sure that Rowling has many more ideas that can make the series even more amazing than it already is. What she has done in the past few years is genius. I would love to see what else that brilliant mind has to put down on paper and I am sure that many other people, like Kenny, feel the same way.

Christine Nguyen, Biology

In response to the recent bullying

On Oct. 20, I was very surprised to see lack of people wearing the color purple on campus.

Groups on social networking sites such as Facebook, had decided to wear purple on that day to remember the six gay boys who committed suicide because of constant emotional and physical abuse by their peers.

Some people may say that they did not support this cause because these boys were gay. However, they may not have realized that Oct. 20 was not only to remember these boys, but to show support for other victims of abuse.

Many are abused and discriminated against because of their physical appearance, race and

more. That day was meant to demonstrate to those victims that people are here to support them and that suicide isn't their only option.

Oct. 20 was not simply about gay rights, but anyone who is ostracized and abused.

Parents and peers can do this to us and we can do this to ourselves. We can have a negative image of ourselves, feel as if we are alone, and be harassed to the point where we feel as if we cannot take it anymore.

Abuse, no matter what form it appears in, is not

Alexandra de la Rocha, Psychology

In response to the Oct. 19 opinion story "The experience of losing things"

Herberholz makes a very compelling point about losing a personal belonging that holds a certain degree of value. On my first day at San Jose State as an incoming freshman, I had lost my wallet somewhere in between my last two classes of the day. I immediately began to panic because I had all of my personal information including my credit/debit card in that wallet.

Without hesitation, I notified one of the librarians at the King Library since that was the last place I remembered having my wallet in my possession.Panicking about the possibility of someone else finding my wallet, I found that all of my attention and focus during my last class was completely

I kept thinking about the possibility of someone finding my wallet and receiving all of my personal information. I had no choice but to cancel my debit card and notify the DMV to resolve my license issue. The moral of this experience is that losing valuable items can fill an individual with anxiety and fear.

There is not one person, I imagine, who hasn't experienced a time in his or her life in regards to losing a valuable. It's a very stressful and difficult time, but fretting over the situation by your lonesome will do nothing to resolve the issue.

In my particular case, I lost focus during my last class, similar to way in which Herberholz felt when he lost his valuables.

As Herberholz suggests in his column, it's sometimes best to start over and realize that lost valuables and personal belongings can be replaced as long as we all have patience.

Brian Glaros, Mechanical Engineering

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Previous Solution

Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS 1 Bland

5 Friendly 9 Mo. bill

13 Less damp

15 Old audio system (hyph.) 16 Late spring flower 17 Hitachi competitor

18 Betting factor 19 Sound from Babe 20 WNW opposite 21 Cotton unit

23 River rapids 25 Blunt 26 Persuaded gently 27 General pardon

30 Not their 31 Jump over 32 Sack (hyph.) 37 Gate

38 Teen bane 40 Othello's betrayer 41 Award

43 Doctrine

44 Ending for depart 45 Counterfeiters 47 Stomping grounds 50 Lotion additive 51 Miniature tree

52 Hamilton-Burr clash 53 Fleece giver 56 18th-century

English composer Hockey score 59 Enjoys a hammock 61 Industrial glant

62 Romance writer Victoria -63 Fragment

64 D'Urberville girl 65 The other guys

66 Get paid

DOWN Consumer gds. Some CDs Bus route Tunis pasha Completely

Office assistant Country addr. 8 Add incorrectly Red Cloud, e.g. 10 Moth-eaten Quarried

12 Reproving clucks 14 Hardy 22 Pilot's stat. 24 Pay attention 25 River-mouth

deposit 26 Bedspring 27 With, to Henri 28 Long dress 29 Nantes night

Play on words 33 Attack on a fort 34 Rustic road 35 Disney CEO

Bob -35 Kitchen utensils 38 Completely sealed

39 Female rabbits 42 Salad choice

58 Circus crawd 60 Expert 43 Folklore dwarfs

49 Tech-support

chipmunk

53 Poet - Pound

54 Become frayed

broadcaster

Previous Solution

callers

51 Insulation

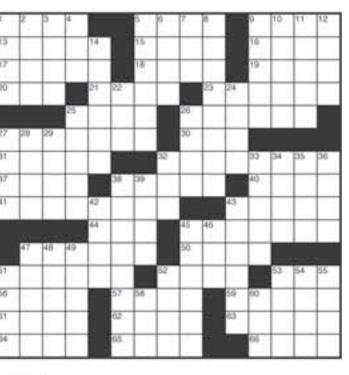
bundle

52 Cartoon

55 NFL

noise

45 Defective 46 Bullring cheer Cowboy's ride 48 Pavlova and Freud





The election masquerade



On my way out the door Wednesday morning, dropped my ballot into my mailbox.

On the way to my mailbox, I dropped about three weeks worth of campaign literature into my recycling bin.

In the four years I have spent as a member of the voting public, never have I been more relieved to have finally discharged my duty as an American citizen.

Also in four those years, I have never noticed just how close Election Day is to Halloween, literally and figuratively.

On a purely intellectual level, I know that Election Day comes after Halloween — Oct. 31, the first Tuesday of November and all that.

But it wasn't until after spending far too many weeks watching Meg Whitman spar with Jerry Brown over the airwaves and in my mailbox that I realized it's actually quite fitting that Election Day should fall on a date so close to Halloween.

After all, what is an election, if not a masquerade on an epic

Consider Halloween, where people put on different faces in the hopes of getting something good — candy, kisses or screams of terror — from complete strangers.

Compare that with Election Day, which is the endpoint of a process in which the candidates put figurative masks on themselves and their opponents to get money and votes from complete strangers.

For weeks, the other voters in my house and I — along with the rest of the registered voter population, I imagine were bombarded with TV ads and radio spots while a parade of paper faces that somehow passed for political literature marched through our mailbox.

Nearly all of it was devoted to either dressing themselves up or dressing their opponents down.

I know the free flow of information is vital for a democratic society, but there is such a thing as too much information, especially when every fact seems suspect and every source has an agenda.

In an attempt to be fair and balanced — folly, I know — I tried to read every pamphlet and postcard and give equal time to every side, but all I ended up with was a headache and still had no idea who or what to vote for whether fool or king, ghoul or goose, queen or priest.

I was having a hard enough time deciding whether I should indulge my inner geek and be Spock (the new Spock, sorry Original Series fans), or pick up a whip and be Indiana Jones.

... what is an election, if not a masquerade

on an epic

scale?

After while, I realized I didn't need the California Labor Federation, Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association or the various "Yes on Proposition X/No on Measure Y" campaigns to tell me how to vote.

I shoved all the junk mail off my desk and picked up the "Official Voter Information Guide," which was actually vetted by Debra Bowen, the California Secretary of State.

There's too much to know and even more to actually comprehend, and now I understand why it seems as though only the loudest and shrillest voices are heard and only the most oft-repeated phrases are the most wellremembered.

In the costume ball that is the election season, it's all too easy to be astounded by the spectacle and the glossy prints, and to have our brains shorted out by the sheer volume of information we need to make our choices.

When we're drowning in the light and in the sound and can't name a single face on our ballots, it's time to step away from the political ads and go back to the basic voter guides.

"Rated R" is a biweekly column appearing on Thursdays. Ryan Fernandez is a Spartan Daily Copy Editor.

Kids need to be taught about sex



Is it just me or does it seem that the kids of today are engaging in sexual activity at a much younger age?

When I was 12, sex was nowhere on my mind. I was playing outside, watching cartoons, collecting Pokemon cards and playing with Bar-

But only a decade later, kids are doing much more than watching cartoons.

I was watching the "Tyra Banks Show" a while back and one of her guests was a teenage girl around 13 years old.

She was telling Tyra she didn't think she could ever get pregnant because she had never used a condom with her boyfriend.

The first thought that popped into my head was "OK what about sexually transmitted diseases?"

The fact that she doesn't know or care about the risk of getting an sexually transmitted disease makes me really sad and even angry for the future of

Reports show that the United States has some of the highest rates for teen pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases in the developed world.

According to an article on MSNBC, 66 percent of American high school students have had sex by their senior year.

Sexually transmitted diseases are on the rise among teens.

Each year there are about 19 million people infected with an STD and almost half of the people are ages 15-24, according to an article on the Center for Disease Control website.

It makes me wonder, where is the education? Do parents not talk to their kids anymore?

Whenever the topic of sex comes up it's always so hushhush and no one wants to discuss it for fear that their child might go out and experience it for themselves.

Ok, lets face it, kids are having sex — it's not a secret.

But they're engaging in sexual activities without proper knowledge of it and have no one to turn to if something goes

Currently there are 21 states and the District of Columbia that requires sex education to be taught in school which leaves a remaining 29 states without it.

If parents don't want to talk about it and schools can't talk about it then who's going to talk

Usually teens confide in their peers. The same peers who are also unaware of the facts.

Some people believe sex ed-

ucation should be taken out of the school curriculum all together because if it's taught in school it will only promote sexual activity among teens.

Other people believe that schools should teach an abstinence-only message and encourage waiting until marriage.

The problem isn't kids having sex, kids have always and will always have sex.

The problem is they're having sex and have no clue what they're doing or how to protect themselves.

Simply telling a child no is the easy way out.

It will only make them want to do it even more and it's not educating them, it's hindering

In a study conducted by the World Health Organization it was found that abstinence-only programs are less effective than

comprehensive classes. Comprehensive classes should be taught because students need more facts.

If students are taught a com-

If parents don't

want to talk

about it and

schools can't

talk about it then

who's going to

talk about it?

prehensive lesson they will about learn contraception, condom use, sexually transmitted diseases and abortion.

At the end of the day it's not up to schools to educate kids, parents play a vital role in sex education as well.

Parents can do their part at home by talking to their children openly and honestly about sex.

And no, I don't want kids out there just having sex, but I also want them to be aware of it if they do decide to do it.

With proper education teens can learn to make the right decision for themselves.

Baseball's supposed to be fun

When you think of baseball, do you think of 9/11?

I do, every time I hear the song "God Bless America." It's an unhappy mo-

ment marring a game that I find to be a lot of fun and for which I am passionate.

Baseball was one of the first things I fell in love with as a kid. I began playing it when I was seven and continued to play for 10 years.

It ended up being one of the great joys of

I have always enjoyed watching games at home and seeing it in a stadium, partaking in all the cheering and singalongs, makes it even better.

However, since 9/11 "God Bless America" has served as a sober reminder that terrible things happened to our country

Let me stress that: Years ago.

Sept. 11, 2001 was just over nine years ago, yet we are still reminded of this event all the time.

Politicians constantly refer to it as a reminder for us to be guarded and prepared for the next terror attack.

But do we really need to be reminded of this while we are out enjoying a great baseball game?

In the immediate aftermath of 9/11, patriotic songs such as "God Bless America" surged in popularity.

Members of Congress sang it on the steps of the Capitol, supposedly in a fit of impromptu patriotism.



Jumping on the patriotic bandwagon, Major League Baseball instituted a policy across both leagues stating that teams were to substitute "God Bless America" for "Take Me Out to the Ball Game" during the traditional seventh-inning

The organization later altered the policy, ending daily use of the song, though it is still to be used on Sun-

days, holidays and throughout the playoffs, which are currently going on, for those that don't know.

The New York Yankees, not surprisingly, are the only team to still use it during

George Steinbrenner, the late owner of the Yankees, wanted to keep the song in place to remind fans that it is important to honor America, those who died on 9/11 and those who have fought and died for our country.

How depressing.

I understand that many New Yorkers still find 9/11 to be a fresh wound, as evident over the summer with the protests surrounding the proposed Park51 center, aka the "Ground Zero Mosque."

But the New York Mets don't use the song daily.

I doubt it has anything to do with the teams and their proximity to Lower Manhattan, as the Mets are closer than the Yankees. Perhaps it may have something to do

with the Yankees being considered America's Team, much like the Dallas Cowboys are for football.

That's all fine and dandy for New York-

If you want to torture yourself with memories of that day every time you watch the Yankees, knock yourself out.

But should it be considered something that we force people to submit to while attending what is supposed to be a raucous sporting event?

At Yankee Stadium, ushers and security put chains on the aisles during both "The Star-Spangled Banner" and "God Bless America," confining fans to their aisles as evervone stands to honor America, according to a New York Times article.

At a minor league game in Newark, New Jersey, three high school students were kicked out after refusing to stand during the song's performance in the seventh-inning stretch, according to an article on Syracuse.

This is too much.

The day we start forcing people to stay put or get kicked out at sporting events over a song is the day we take things way too seriously.

Enough is enough.

I'm tired of hearing about the mountains, prairies and oceans white with foam. I want my silly, classic song about pea-

nuts, Cracker Jack and rooting for the home team back.

I can't think of anything more fun at a game than that simple singalong.

"Humor Me" is a column appearing biweekly on Thursdays.

Kevin Hume is the Spartan Daily Multimedia Editor.

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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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SPARTAN DAILY

Sharks win; Thornton pulls trick on Devils

ALEX SPICER Staff Writer

After getting off to a disappointing start to the 2010-2011 season - emphasized by their 4-0 loss to Calgary three days earlier — the San Jose Sharks welcomed the last-placed New Jersey Devils to the HP Pavilion last night in hopes of returning to the type of form fans have grown accustomed to over the last few years.

The Sharks top-line of captain and center Joe Thornton, along with wingers Patrick Marleau and Dany Heatley, took it upon themselves to get carry the Sharks out of their early

"They did some real good board work," Sharks head coach Todd McLellan said of his top-line. "They were moving, they were hard to cover. When you compare that to some games where we haven't had many scoring opportunities, we often are standing in one spot, so give them

Jamal Mayers, San Jose Sharks' right winger, gets into a fight with

Adam Mair of the New Jersey Devils on Wednesday.

credit. They bought into it and they

Thornton got the scoring started seconds before the halfway point of the first period, wristing a shot after being fed the puck by Heatley past Devils net-minder Martin Brodeur from between the circles in front of

Just over a minute later, linemate Marleau scored to make it 2-0 on a wrap-around shot from behind the goal resulting from an aggressive fore check and pass from Thornton.

Thornton then scored for the second time, tipping in a pass to the front of the net from Marleau who was stationed in the right corner of the rink, to give the Sharks a three-goal lead with about a minute left in the first

The Sharks' top-line accounted for all three first period goals and five assists, and were far from calling it a

However, the Sharks did not maintain their momentum heading into

the second period.

They gave up a sloppy goal to the Devils three minutes into the period when the puck took an awkward bounce off the boards and redirected in front of the net to Devil winger Da-

Clarkson scored easily with the Sharks' goaltender Antero Niittymaki caught out of his net.

The Devils then committed a similar mistake with 3:55 left in the second period, when Heatley dumped the puck into the offensive zone and it clanked off the boards behind Brodeur's goal and popped back in front.

Brodeur was caught out of position and left Thornton with an easy tap-in to make it 4-1.

"I think he's making a conscious effort to shoot the puck a bit more and go to the net," Marleau said of Thornton. "So you can probably imagine he's gonna get a lot more goals this year."

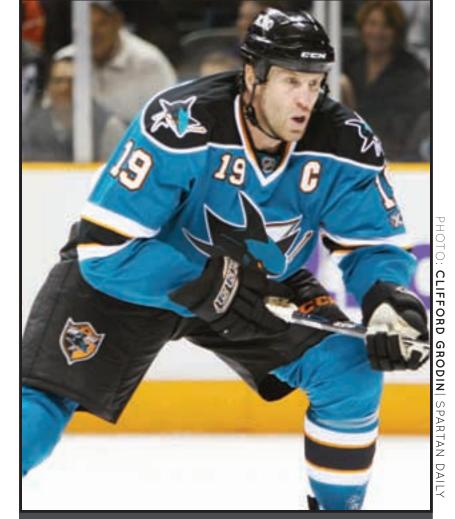
The goal gave Thornton his fifth goal of the season and his fourth career hat trick, the act of scoring three goals in a single game.

"It's nice to see Jumbo (Thornton) get three," Heatley said. "We were working it well in the corner, supporting each other. We were getting a lot

Thornton then returned to his usual provider role, as the San Jose topline added another goal to their tally with 6:47 gone in the third period.

After the Sharks recovered the puck from an offensive dump, Thornton slid a pass from the right corner to a streaking Heatley in front of the net, who slapped it in from eight feet out to make it 5-1.

The Devils then scored their second goal of the game after winger Zach Parise's shot rebounded off Niittymaki and fell to center Dainius Zubrus, who crossed the puck over to



Joe Thornton, newly named captain and center, scored three goals in Wednesday's game against the Devils, completing his fourth hat trick in his NHL career.

defender Andy Greene, who scored on a slap shot to make it 5-2.

The top line of Thornton, Marleau and Heatley finished the game with a combined five goals and eight assists.

"That's a real key for our line support and moving," Heatley said. "Doing that creates a lot more space and you get guys like Jumbo and Patty (Marleau) time to make plays, and

good things are going to happen."

The only other Shark to record a point was defenseman Jason Demers, who was credited with an assist.

It was the first home win of the season for the Sharks, who improved to 4-3-1 on the season.

"It was fun, it was a good night," Marleau said. "Something we can definitely build off."



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