

TECH

Windows rolls out new mobile OS

**SEE PAGE 4** 



<u>A&E</u> Hilarious misadventures ensue in 'Due Date'

**SEE PAGE 6** 



# 

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NSIDE **SPORTS** 

Tuesday, November 16, 2010

spartandaily.com

Volume 135, Issue 42

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 Microsoft's new mobile OS proves worthy of interest

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- PREVIEW: New 'Glory Daze' series stirs up comedic haze
- REVIEW: Misadventures plague odd couple in 'Due



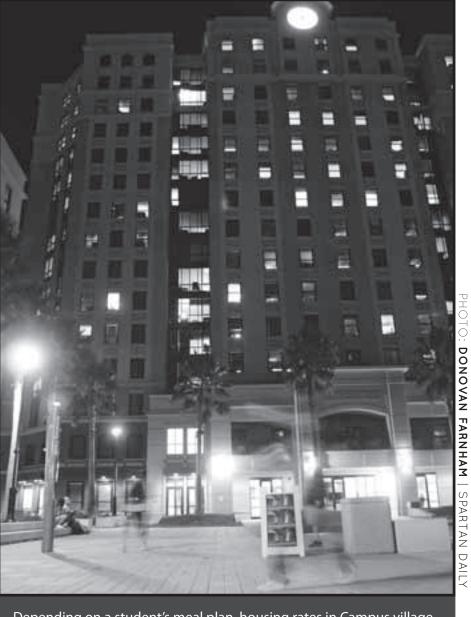
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# Students compare experiences at campus housing



Depending on a student's meal plan, housing rates in Campus village can cost between \$5,458 and \$6,955.

# **University to** issue new **Tower Cards**

**JAIMIE COLLINS** 

Staff Writer

In January 2011, SJSU will be introducing new Tower Cards for all students, faculty and staff members, according to a university news re-

The introduction of the new cards follows the beginning of a new partnership between SJSU and U.S. Bank to enable students to receive electronic refunds instead of paper checks, according to the SJSU bur-

"Students are encouraged to enroll in electronic disbursements so they get all their money, all the time," Marlene Anderson said.

She said SJSU will provide two Tower Card options — one with the basic features currently available and the Maxx card, which will provide holders with the option to open an account with the bank and use their card as an ATM debit card, accepted anywhere Visa is honored.

"It's a kind of dual functionality," Anderson said. "It's the standard card for on campus as we use it today and it's for off campus for going to retail stores ... and (using the) debit card."

Joey Myers, a freshman business management major, said having the Tower Cards working as debit cards is an interesting idea that will reduce the number of cards he has in his wallet.

"Being able to have my school ID, public transportation pass and my debit card all in one place is convenient," he said. "I can get rid of cards I don't need in my wallet and will have to carry less. I'm excited for it." Although the main features of the standard Tower Card will stay the

same, Anderson said they will have an updated appearance inspired by a 1932 yearbook, with a golden tower in front of the university seal. "We had to have a new look," she said. "We've got so many cards in

circulation, we want it to be more current. It's got some nostalgia and history behind it."

Undeclared freshman Melissa Leeman said she doesn't feel the new cards will affect her.

See CARDS Page 2

# **FEATURE**

KELSEY HILARIO Staff Writer

Being the red-headed stepchild is no easy

The same can be said about the Bricks being compared to their younger and cuter sibling, the Campus Village.

Other than both places housing brighteyed freshmen, they really have nothing else

According to the SJSU Housing Services website, housing rates vary depending on where a student lives and what meal plan, if any, he or she chooses for the semester.

Spring 2011 housing rates in Campus Village, with a seven-day Platinum Meal Membership, range from \$6,955 for a studio, \$6,711 for a single occupancy, \$5,864 for a double occupancy and \$5,458 for triple oc-

The bricks offer freshmen two options: \$6,493 for a super single occupancy and \$4,703 for a double occupancy — both prices include the Platinum Meal Membership.

## The Bricks

Three rectangular buildings make up residence halls known as the Bricks — Washburn Hall, Royce Hall and Hoover Hall.

Each building is three stories high, has six wings, a kitchen, patio and two lounge areas. Every floor has two communal bathrooms,

one for the boys and one for the girls.

From the outside the Bricks look like a prison, housing student inmates who did not make the grades or even worse, are doing time for cheating and plagiarism.

From the outside, the Bricks are cold and uninviting, but all that changes as soon as you

People are constantly coming and going, chatter and laughter can be heard throughout the building and the cold exterior quickly melts away and is replaced by friendly faces and positive energy.

Freshman biology major Sara Mickkelsen said she is having an amazing first year living in Royce Hall.

"The Bricks are so fun," she said. "I think that everyone knows everyone on this floor. I know everyone on both wings and downstairs and upstairs. I know all of the R.A.s — when I walk in after late night check-in hours they are like, 'Oh, hey Sara.' It is a very personal experience living here."

The rooms in all of these buildings are small and are a perfect fit for two beds, two desks, a mini fridge and tons of memorabilia of your friends, favorite teams and new college memories.

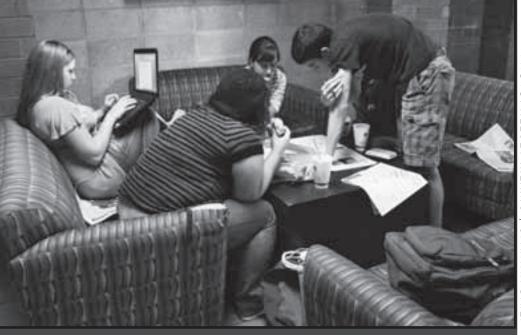
People from all walks of life roam the halls of these dorms.

Freshman psychology major Zarahia Perdomo lives in Washburn Hall and can categorize the people into four groups — "super chill, anal, quiet and loud."

"There are so many different characters you got to love it all," she said. "There are all different kinds of people to meet and enjoy and you find out which ones you blend in with best."

If roaming from room to room is not your style, then you may be able to meet people at the different activities organized by the R.A.s or in the lounges that are furnished with a foosball table, pingpong table, television, piano and chalk wall.

Perdomo said it is not uncommon for groups of people to gather in these rooms to



Students often gather in the lounges of the Bricks dorms for activities organized by resident advisers or just to hang out.

watch movies.

Robert Castaneda, a freshman environmental studies major, said he has nothing but love for his home Royce Hall and thinks the Bricks and the people who live there are fantastic.

"I have met a couple people in Campus Village," Castaneda said. "They say that they like it and I think they are cool. I just feel bad for them because they don't live in the Bricks. I think the Bricks are freakin' amazing."

Campus Village

Although Campus Village is a short walk from the Bricks, the difference between the two places is dramatic.

Campus Village Building B is 15 stories

breakdance, play guitar, break into song or high and is one of the tallest buildings on campus, towering over the rest of SJSU, including one of its counterparts, Campus Village Building C.

Completed in 2005, CVC, also called the Suites, looks new, smells new and the aesthetic is far more appealing than the retro style of the Bricks.

On the first floor is there a lounge with posters advertising the upcoming activities hosted by the R.A.s.

CVB's lounge is considerably larger than CVC — it has multiple rooms with televisions and games.

See **HOUSING** Page 2

# Isabel Sanchez Faculty/Staff 57742083 04 TUSTZER41153840



The Tower Card Maxx, set to be released in January, can act as an identification card and debit card for students who choose to create an account with U.S. Bank.

# HOUSING

From Page 1

The Suites boast several different floor plans including studios, three-bedroom, four-bedroom and five-bedroom apartments — each suite has its own kitchenette and at least one bathroom.

The halls of Campus Village are quiet and private and are only used to go to and from your apartment.

Living rooms are each furnished with a couch, chairs, lamps and small kitchen table. The decorating is left to the suitemates.

Melvina Bryant, a junior health science major, lives in CVB and said Campus Village is an ideal place for young college students to transition into adulthood.

"In CVB you can have a room to yourself and you have things to cook," she said. "You can go grocery shopping and you don't always have to eat in the dining commons — it is more free."

From an outsider's perspective it may seem hard to meet people in Campus Village, but Bryant said students often get

together to play pool, air hockey and pingpong, have movie nights and take part in discussions.

There are mini lounges on all of the floors in the Suites, and inside are vending machines and soda machines stocked with energy drinks and coffee from Starbucks.

Sophomore psychology major Scott Stoddard is an R.A. in the Suites and said The Bricks

The Bricks are so fun ...
It is a very personal experience living here.

SARA MICKKELSEN Freshman biology major

"

In CVB you can have a room to yourself and you have things to cook.

MELVINA BRYANT

Junior health
science major

19

he knows firsthand that the benefits of living in Campus Village are significant. "I lived in CVC my first year as a freshman," Stoddard said. "I made really close connections with my suite mates. You really form a close connection with people that are actually in your suite and that is always really cool. You can make best friends with people you meet on your first day here."

Stoddard said he believes the Bricks are ideal for making friends and acquaintances but truly believes that the bond you have with a best friend can help you get through the tough times in college.

All of the students admit to flaws in both places— the Internet service is slow in the Bricks and they have no elevator, while the elevator in CVB is notorious for breaking down and not functioning properly.

Although the Bricks are old and weathered, they have character and have been around for good and bad times at SJSU.

Campus Village is fancy and new and gives students a place to spread their wings and enter adulthood.

It comes down to a personal preference as to which is better, and the winner in the battle of the Bricks versus Campus Village remains undeclared.

**CARDS** 

From Page 1

"I don't use my card that much except for public transit and discounts," she said. "Getting a new card isn't going to change that."

For students who wish to open a new account with U.S. Bank, Anderson said the bank is offering a \$50 matching certificate as an incentive.

"We're co-branding the card," she said. "We've got the U.S. Bank name on there and it's our card. It's a way of advertising for them."

The current cards will be in effect until March 6, while March 7 will mark the kickoff for the new cards as the only card in use, Anderson said.

Thomas Morgan, a senior business management major, said he is glad the campus is updating its cards because he feels they look outdated

"My freshman year I used my card for everything, including my meal plan," he said. "The color is fading and the picture is almost completely gone. The release of the new cards is coming at a good time."

Anderson said the first round of cards will be mailed out on Jan.11 to students who do not live in on-campus housing and for students that live in the dorms, the Bursar's Office will be in the Campus Village Building B tower to distribute the remaining cards on Jan. 24 and 25.

"Those two days are pretty much dedicated to just taking care of business, (students) getting their books and whatever else," she said.

Anderson stressed that students should make sure their current mailing address is on file since that is where the IDs will be mailed.

If the address listed on MySJSU is incorrect and the ID is returned, students will have to pick it up at the Bursar's Office, she said.

Senior sociology major Megan Romero said she is excited about receiving her new Tower Card and thinks electronic refunds are a more efficient and convenient way for SJSU to handle students' money.

"Creating this program shows that SJSU cares about making sure students get their funds," she said. "Personally, I rely on my refund money to pay the bills and buy the supplies I need each term. The faster I get my money, the sooner I can concentrate on my classes."

Anderson said SJSU hosted electronic refunds until last June, boasting a 35 to 40 percent campus participation rate but terminated the program when they switched partnerships with an off-campus beneficiary.

The university is resuming the program in Jan-

uary and students will be able to enroll via their MySJSU accounts starting in mid-November, Anderson said.

For partnering with the bank, SJSU will receive a signing bonus and annual royalties from the bank for members of the SJSU community who are current bank members, Anderson said.

For as long as they are bank members, SJSU will be awarded a bonus for being a partner — the Bursar's Office was unable to disclose the amount.

Anderson said these monetary incentives will cover the cost of the new cards, and provide money for marketing and hosting financial events on campus.

"There is nothing wrong with the cards we have right now so I don't understand why we need to create brand new ones," said Joel Gomez, a senior electrical engineering major. "It seems like a waste of funds that could be used for better things."

Anderson said the electronic refunds are beneficial for the campus community because they enable the Bursar's Office to refund financial aid money or money from enrollment withdrawal, meal plan changes, reduction of units or moving out of the dorms.

"Any reason that we owe them amoney, we want to be able to put funds to their account electronically," she said. "It's actually beneficial to the students because when they sign up for e-refunds they get their money faster and more secure."

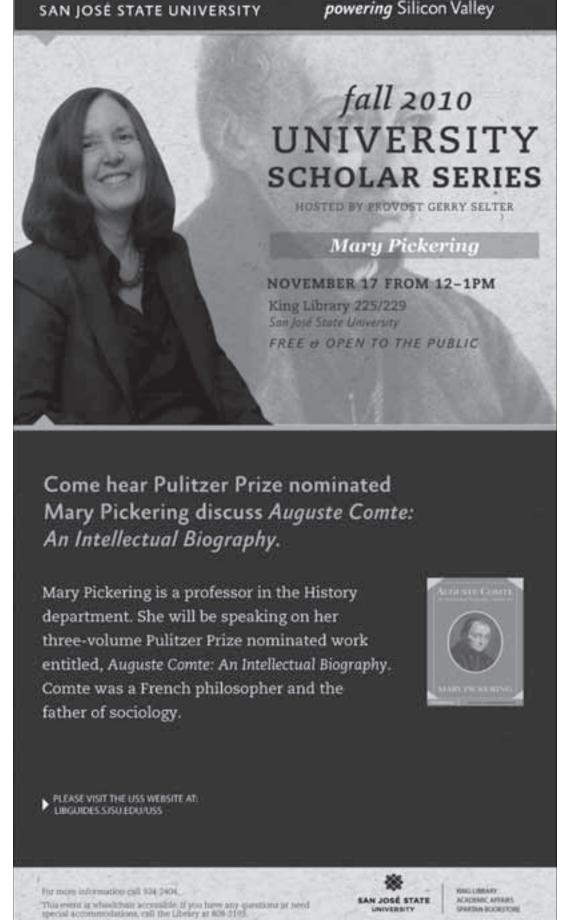
The refunds will be issued on a weekly basis earlier than paper checks, she said, which will be mailed out about a week later.

Anderson said signing up for electronic refunds would result in the elimination of processing fee for checks — currently, when the Bursar's Office sends out a refund check, they charge a \$20 processing fee for all checks besides financial aid

"If a student has a \$20 credit on their account, they don't get that money because it costs us \$20 to process the refund," she said. "If you add that up over a period of being here between four and six years ... we are holding up to a \$100 of their money. If they sign up for electronic refund, they get all their money all the time, even if its only \$5."

Anderson said students will be given the choice between the two cards and e-refunds can be deposited to any bank account, not just those with U.S. Bank.

The Bursar's Office will be tabling at the Student Union Jan. 24 through Feb. 4 along with U.S. Bank to answer questions and assist students and are open at their location within Student Services on Monday through Thursday from 8:15 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. and from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Friday.





# SJSU forward moves to Spartan defense

# Local product Salvatore Barranco excels on both sides of the line

CALLI PEREZ

Staff Writer

This year's SJSU ice hockey team is said to be in good hands on the defensive end with sophomore Salvatore Barranco.

A Saratoga native, Barranco said he started playing hockey when he was 6 years old after he had watched his dad play the sport.

hard at practices and talks to us before every practice to make sure we know what is going on so we don't waste time," Barranco said.

He said he also coaches at Sharks Ice in San Jose, where the SJSU team plays its home games.

"I coach a lot of young kids at different ages and they look up to me and know I play for state," Barranco said. "I get them to come to "He got me into the sport the games so they see and

maybe it will inspire them to

one day play for us or chase

their hockey career at a dif-

ferent level and play some-

nance major, said he wants

to remain close to the game

and to the Bay Area in the

I have played here my whole

ing kids and setting good

examples to help them learn

life lessons not only on the

plan on playing profession-

ally, but hockey outside of

the pros could be in his fu-

I work — it is all about work ethic, but I think I can play

ing at different career paths

and is considering switching

his major to broadcast jour-

far with hockey," he said.

"Sports commentary could

be for me, possibly a news

broadcaster, play-by-play or

something like that."

"You can only go so

somewhere," he said.

nalism.

"Depending on how hard

Barranco said he does not

ice, but off the ice as well."

Barranco, a business fi-

where else."

Barranco said they have a good team coming back this year.

"We have most of our players from Nationals returning," he said. "We went to Nationals last year and we are hosting it this year. So with our team last year and a couple of additions, I think we are going to make a really good, strong run."

Barranco said his goal this season is to help the team

"As long as the team is winning, I will be happy and fine," he said.

Freshman Nicholas Matejovsky said Salvatore is a very versatile player.

"He can do a lot of things defensively and offensively on the ice," said Matejovsky, a center on the hockey team. "He is also one of the most positive guys on the ice."

Matejovsky said Barranco is the one of the athletes on the team who you can go to after a game and talk to for encouragement.

"He is agile and smart with the puck," said sophomore defenseman Mason Console.

Barranco said he likes hockey because it is a fastpaced game with a team concept. "When you play hockey,

you are out there with not just yourself, but five other guys," he said. "The team consists of 20 players and it is good to be out there as a group."

Barranco said the SJSU ice hockey team is not well known on campus, but he encourages students to come out to the games.

"It's hockey, it's real good "I am a Bay Area kid and hockey," he said.

Barranco said he has gotten to where he is today through the support of his family.

"My dad and mom, growing up, always went to the games and even when I started to play for State they rarely miss a game," he said. "They always have my back and they support me."

Barranco said he has learned that hard work will get you places.

"Once you start being Barranco said he is look- lazy there is always someone else who is pushing for your spot," he said. "No one is going to hand you anything, but there is nothing impossible, no matter what people tell you — 'You are too small' or 'Not quick enough' - you can always work on things to make better yourself and prove them wrong."



and ever since then we have are exposed to hockey so a special connection in the rink," Barranco said. "We just talk about hockey and have that common ground and we enjoy it."

this season.

Now at age 19, he is ready to help the SJSU ice hockey team succeed in the 2010-2011 season.

"Our coach had him become a defensive player this year, and he had really stepped up his game," said life," he said. "So just teachteam captain and senior Mickey Rhodes. "Right now he is one of our leading defensive players."

Barranco, was previously a

He can do a lot of things defensively and offensively on the ice. He is also one of the most positive guys on the ice.

NICHOLAS MATEJOVSKY

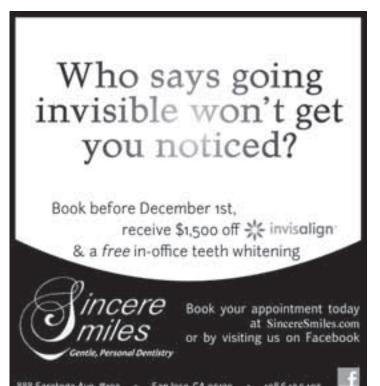
Freshman Center

forward and made the switch to defensive player last year to help out his team.

"I played both positions my hockey career," he said. "I had spoken to Ron (Head Coach Ron Glasow) and I asked if I could try out for defense and see what he thought about it. He gave me the opportunity and he liked what he saw, so he asked me if I wanted to stay there if I was comfortable."

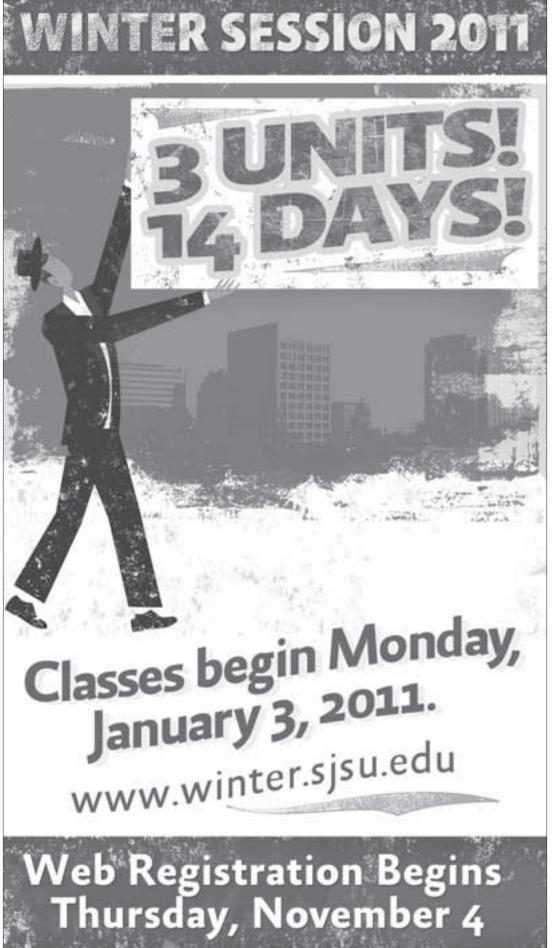
Barranco said Glasow is a great coach.

"He makes sure we work





Sophomore Salvatore Barranco played as a forward last season and had 47 goals total. Barranco has one goal with 10 assists this season as a defender.





# Microsoft's new smart phone OS proves worthy of consumer interest

# DAILY 2.0

**HUSAIN SUMRA** 

Senior Staff Writer

The following opinion is a part of Daily 2.0, a Spartan Daily tech column

Microsoft's new mobile phone operating system is out, and the company hopes it can take on Apple's iOS and Google's Android operating systems.

Windows Phone 7 is a broad reimagining of Microsoft's mobile operating system, which used to be called Windows Mobile.

Instead of bringing a desktop experience to mobile devices, Microsoft opted to totally revamp everything and build their new OS from the ground up.

They call their new interface Metro UI, and it's extraordinarily simple to use. From my brief exposure to the OS, I was blown away using it and was amazed by how intuitive it was.

It's just simple.

Big colorful blocks called "live tiles" are where you access your apps, and they allow you to easily see notifications for new e-mails or text messages.

Despite being impressive, Microsoft's new operating system has some big competitors in the form of Apple and Google.

Apple's iPhone is immensely popular, and Android phones are gaining more users daily.

In fact, Android is the No. 1-selling mobile operating system, according to data from The Nielsen Company.

Windows Phone 7 is coming in cold — it's a totally new system and it lacks some key features that other operating systems have, namely copy and paste and multitasking, although Microsoft promises that these features will be available in a software update.

People generally don't seem to get excited about Microsoft, either — its biggest strength is also its biggest weakness.

What do you think of when you think of Microsoft? For me, some words that come to mind are monopoly, cold, billions, Bill Gates and boring.

Perhaps Apple's brilliant "I'm a Mac, I'm a PC" commercials have something to do with it, but its hard to battle perception and that's what Microsoft has to

Microsoft does have the ability to come up with cool

and trendy products. For example, Xbox is a successful brand, Windows 7 is a great operating system and Bing, their search engine, is good.

However, what sticks in people's minds tends to be Microsoft's negatives — Internet Explorer, Windows Mobile, Kin and Vista are just some

things that have been sore spots for the company.

This time, people should give it a chance. It's version 1.0 and it's raw. There are features missing and there aren't a lot of apps right



Microsoft recently rolled out its new mobile operating system in the form of Windows Phone 7, shooting for a complete redesign from their previous OS, Windows Mobile.

now, but it's extremely fun to use.

Apple's Mac OS X is my operating system of choice, Google's Gmail is my e-mail, I have an Android phone and I tend to stay away from everything Microsoft that isn't a Xbox,

but I really enjoyed my time with Windows

If you are considering buying a new phone, don't just shoot for an iPhone, Android or BlackBerry. Give Windows Phone 7 a chance.

# CLASSIFIEDS

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# HOUSING

People gener-

ally don't seem

to get excited

about Microsoft,

either — its big-

gest strength is

also its biggest

weakness.

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Previous Solution

# Crossword **Puzzle**

# ACROSS

1 Cigarette goo 4 Purses Show biz org.

13 Brood 14 Correct copy 15 Glistened 16 Lissome

17 Word lovers Lease signer 21 Mr. in Bombay 22 Kid in "Aliens"

23 Big hurry 25 Safecracker Clandestine Comfort

35 Future fish 36 Jazzman Blake 38 Wyoming range 39 Lahore language Panel focus 43 Bill, briefly

44 Shorthand pro 46 Family car 48 Mammal's need 49 Expedite 51 Water or oil

53 Subj. of rollovers 55 Baba au -56 Just scraped by 59 Right this minute 61 Caught a glimpse 65 Germ-fighters 68 Archipelago dot

69 Ms. Zellweger 70 Jai — Summer forecast 72 Pick up Amaze

74 Wool supplier

# DOWN

1 Enameled metal 2 Could hear — drop 3 Observation 4 Sings with gusto

(2 wds.) 5 Hubbub 6 Club bookings Floor 8 Pale blond

9 Roofing pieces 10 Nat King -11 From the top 12 Nuisance 13 Cheyenne hrs. 18 Deep-dish

20 Unclothed 24 Boxcar riders 26 Acquired 27 Palette adjunct 28 Large artery

29 Grants 30 Less green 32 Perfume base 33 Kind of relief

34 Between, to Pierre 37 Lightweight

40 More cluttered 42 Redeems

(2 wds.) 45 Above, in verse 47 We, in Le

Havre 50 Prefix for second 52 Sports official

54 Fizzy beverages 56 James -

Jones

57 Toddler perch volcano flowers means (2 wds.) Wiesel

ODE PLEBE DWINDLEDME LABELED NEARBY ANDYSWHEN LOG ICKECREPT RPM FOAL MERLOTESQUEAKER

58 Long-active 60 Shrivel, as 62 What "vidi" 63 Nobelist — 64 Cozy room 66 Gentle bear 67 Parisian water EVITA RODIN Previous Solution S E P

# Opposing Views: Is Cheerleading a Sport?

# This S-P-O-R-T is real



The San Francisco Giants just won the World Series. It would have been tough to make it that far without the cheers from their loyal San Francisco fans.

Obviously, the Giants have the physical talent and ability to play the game of baseball, but people like to be supported.

Cheering somebody, or a team, on will boost their morale — it is part of the sport.

Everyone is a cheerleader. Maybe not the traditional pompom, skirt and football game cheerleader, but a cheer-leader.

Traditional cheerleading is still seen everywhere — even the National Football League has traditional cheerleaders.

Modern cheerleading has only been exposed through movies and television shows such as "Bring It On" and "Hellcats."

Thanks to these shows the sport of modern cheerleading has been beaten, bashed and belittled over and over again.

Astonishingly, cheerleading is more than a Rah! here and a Rah! there.

was cheerleader. I will not had a purpose.

deny it, the first half of those 13 years was nothing but tering our routines as Rah! Rah! Rah!

Not until the physical practice started to get competitive did I feel like cheerleading was a sport.

Competition was no longer between rival schools, like in the 1950s, but more like West Coast versus East

When I was a cheerleader in high school, before summer break and before the school year began, cheer practice was a fundamental part of my life.

Four out of seven days a week I had practice. Two of those days were two-adays — meaning that in one day, I had practice early in the morning and later in the afternoon.

Each practice was about three to four hours. Before and after practice we would run two miles.

Each practice was about three to four hours. Before and after practice we would run two miles.

The team also spent 30 minutes exercising before we started to practice our cheer routine.

All the cardio and weight-For 13 years of my life I lifting we did during practice

It was my way

of releasing

the thoughts

that were

stuck inside

my head.

Practice was spent masthough it were the day of competition.

Of course we didn't practice with our complete uniforms and hot red lipstick on — accessories were not as important as the physical aspect of the routine.

As cheerleaders trained our diaphragms to be able to yell as loudly as possible.

We trained our bodies to be able to throw girls 10 feet in the air and to be able to do a double toe-touch out of a "full" aerial layout, all while maintaining a smile on our faces.

If some of this terminology doesn't sound familiar, it's OK because it's more complicated to do than it is to say.

The difficult practices helped prepare us to compete against other schools' cheerleaders who trained just as hard, if not harder.

The sore days and nights were worth it in the end.

We conquered other divisions, other schools, other states.

Like the Giants, I'm sure it didn't take uniforms to make them champions.

It took skill, time and practice for their bodies to be able to compete the way they did. Every competitive sport takes skill, time and practice to win.

Cheerleading is a sport because it encompasses all of the above factors.

It just happens to be a sport that emphasizes in S-P-I-R-I-T.

Spirit! Cheerleaders are spirit-leaders, it is part of the

# Cute not competitive

KELSEY LYNNE LESTER-PERRY

It seems to me

that physical

prowess is not

necessary to

the definition

of a

cheerleader ...

Staff Writer

I have never considered cheerleaders to be more than a bunch of high school students wanting to skip fifth period in order to flash their midriffs and wear hot pants during a lunchtime rally.

However, a question has recently arisen: Is cheerleading a competitive sport?

The first definition in the 2010 Random House Dictionary defines "sport" as an athletic activity requiring skill or physical prowess and is often of

a competitive nature, including racing, baseball, tennis, golf, bowling, wrestling, boxing, hunting, fishing, etc.

A "cheerleader," as defined by the same dictionary, is a person who leads spectators in traditional or formal cheering, especially at a pep rally or athletic event.

It seems to me that physical prowess is not

necessary to the definition of a cheerleader and therefore, by the power of deduction, cheerleading should not be considered any kind of sport, competitive or otherwise.

This isn't to say that cheerleading shouldn't be important to girls, boys, women, men, sports players and sports fans everywhere, because it should be.

It is an American pastime, much like hot dogs and football. As a matter of fact, cheerleading has its roots in intercollegiate football.

In 1898, a medical student named Johnny Campbell assembled a group to energize the team and the crowd at the University of Minnesota during a football game. According to Varsity.com, Johnny picked up a megaphone and rallied the team to victory with the first organized cheer: "Rah, Rah, Rah! Ski-U-Mah! Hoo-Rah! Varsity! Varsity! Minn-e-so-tah!"

That is what cheerleading is about. It's about making up silly cheers and waving pompoms around to pump up your team and psych out your opponents. It's about creating a bond with a group of people who care about

a team as much as you do. It's about having a sense of pride in your place of education and its time-honored tradition of sports. With that said, how and when did a discussion about

> to the original definition of a cheerleader. In competitive sports you have to compete. Who are the

cheerleading being a competi-

tive sport even arise? By doing

this, a disservice is being paid

cheerleaders competing with? Their team? No, because the nature of a cheerleader is to cheer his or her team to victory.

In competitive sports you have to follow rules. If cheerleaders had to follow rules, they would be stuck doing a routine pyramid or a few round-offs while the quarterback of their team scores a game winning touchdown.

Without rules they can throw that routine to

the wayside and jump around like maniacs doing cartwheels and screaming for their team!

Sure, cheerleading is athletic. Sure, cheerleading makes you break a sweat. Sure, cheerleaders have uniforms like every other competitive sport team.

But would a real cheerleader want to give up the meaning of what it is to be a cheerleader in order to compete?

Maybe now, maybe in this day, but I don't think the original pep-boy, Johnny Campbell, would agree. The simple answer is to leave

cheerleading to cheerleaders and think of a completely different word to describe competitive cheerleading.

My suggestion — synchronized team gymnastics.

"The original purpose of cheerleading is still relevant in today's world, even with the increasing popularity of competition," Varsity. com states. "Cheerleaders are the promoters of your school and community. They are a key marketing tool to the athletics programs that they support, and they create the community patriotism we call 'school spirit."

Now those are my kind of cheerleaders.

# When life gets in the way of your passion When someone digs a hole

since I was in middle school.

them. Sometimes, unfortunately, the passion with my pen.

I posted ridiculously long blogs on my Xanga website almost every day of seventh grade. I would write about the many crushes I had, detailing the events of the day down to what I ate for lunch. The critical and superfluous held equal footing.

is lost as they age.

Many nights of high school involved fighting with my dad and then sitting at my desk, churning out poems of frustration and distress.

Many days were spent distracted in class, scribbling a line or two in my notebook about how boring the teacher was or about the girl sitting in front of me.

I have used writing as a form of therapy Yes, much of my writing was focused on the opposite gender. Since I was too shy to talk hurt of an alcoholic father and When people are young, they find activito a girl I didn't already know, or too much the sting of a lonely high school ties they are passionate about and pursue of a friend with the ones I did know, I pined

It was my way of releasing the thoughts that were stuck inside my head. It didn't feel like it helped my situation. The subject of my writing, whether it be a tree outside or a cute girl in math class, wouldn't actually read my writing, but I didn't understand the importance of my random poems and ridiculous rambles until recently.

Somehow, the inspiration has gone away.

I can't pick out the day it happened — it wasn't even the day that my relationship ended. It was some time

Erik Estrada

shortly after that when I felt like my brain had stopped producing the chemical needed to kickstart creativity.

My way of coping with the existence just deserted me.

This fact leaves me in a state of desperation.

Where did it go? Could it have decided to buy a ticket to Tahiti for an extended beach stay? Why didn't it take me with it?

Most importantly, how can I find it again?

It pains me to reveal this desertion, but it seems to be the only thing that is springing out of my fingers.

Actually, that's exactly the way it used to feel when I was able to bust out two-liners that rhymed — perhaps it's a path I must go down.

In a backwards way, this might end up being my solution.

Instead of having these thoughts stuck in my head, they will be out there for the world to see.



The Things I Say

only thing they can do is raise a ladder and begin climbing up. Being honest about the hole I'm in will give me the freedom to lift my ladder toward the sky, gazing toward the bright blue path above my head. I can use the honesty of this

for themselves mentally, the

piece and a positive outlook to do it.

It may look like a far way to climb, but ascension is pos-

sible. This is true for anyone that has lost a passion they once felt.

No matter what, there is always the possibility of pulling oneself up by one's own bootstraps and re-entering the world with new vigor.

"The Things I Say" is a biweekly column appearing on Tuesdays.

Daniel Herberholz is a Spartan Daily Sports

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# **New 'Glory Daze' series** stirs up comedic haze

The great

pleasure the

show deliv-

ers comes

from the

hysterically

dumb-wit-

ted jokes

that emerge

from the

mouths of

the char-

acters with

practically

every line.

# **PREVIEW**



Staff Writer

For many people, the four years they spend in college may be an invaluable experience, but for the four freshman guys of TBS' new series, "Glory Daze," college is a well of a comedic situations.

The pilot is set to premiere tonight at 10 p.m. with an encore showing on Saturday, Nov. 20., at 12:10 a.m. on TBS.

In the first episode of "Glory Daze," the as beer that runs from the kitchen taps and

show will appear to be a revamped television series of the 1995 movie starring Ben Affleck as Jack, a soon-to-be alumnus who fears graduation and leaving the glory days.

Instead, the new lead character in the 2010 series, Joel Harrington (played by Kelly Blatz), hopes to discover his own path as he begins his college journey.

Show creator Walt Becker sets the show at an Indiana university in the year 1986, which interestingly enough makes the '80s appear quite alluring.

The characters and plot fails to portray the social era of Pac-Man, MTV and Madonna because of the minimalist cosmetic changes to the set, scene after scene, nor do female blow-up dolls and countless girls in neon-colored bikinis necessarily depict the '80s.

What will strike viewers as tummy-tickling television are the varied characters and familiarity of the college stereotypes brought to life that will

appease even the sternest of prudes. Eli, (Matt Bush), is a Jewish virgin with dif-

ficulty picking up girls.

Jason (Drew Seeley) takes on the role of a young, wealthy and preppy Republican.

Brian (Hartley Sawyer) is a reluctant athlete who doesn't know what college is and searches for his own identity.

Joel, the most normal of the four, is concentrating on his career as a pre-med major, but quickly is seduced by the collegiate "fruits" when he decides to pledge a fraternity with his new buddies, hence starting their path in the "Glory Daze."

Together the guys make their way to form a strong male friendship, and their testosterone-based bond eventually brings them closer together and join the Omega Sigma fraternity.

The frat house is seen as a hybrid home that comes off as both a zoo and pseudo-

Animals roam here and there while girls in bikinis flock the premises, dancing wildly.

The party house possesses such essentials

pornography projected on the back of neighboring homes.

The great pleasure the show delivers comes from the hysterically dumb-witted jokes that emerge from the mouths of the characters with practically every line.

Mostly, the inappropriate and amusing situations they get themselves into will bring about tears and screams of joy for the audience.

One gut-busting scene is when Mike Reno (Callard Harris), the head of the Omega Sigma fraternity, pretends to be a staff member of the English department while pushing a little person in a shopping cart with hopes of scoring with a staff member of the same department.

The result of his rich rejection will keep viewers hooked as the playboy's goal throughout the season seems be to lure this staff member into his faculty, which hints to many comical instances of failure.

Viewers in search of entertainment concerning the male libido should definitely tune in or set their TiVos to this season's must-see new show to watch these boys seek out trouble in an era without Facebook and iPads.

Audiences should watch with discretion as they will be delighted with unruly jests about topics such as masturbation, intoxication, unrequited love and stuffed testicles that are assured to appease their funny bones.

# Misadventures plague odd couple in 'Due Date'



JORDAN LIFFENGREN Staff Writer

Perhaps I'm biased because I feel that neither Zach Galifianakis — "The Hangover's" quirky break-out star — nor Robert Downey Jr. — "Ironman's" exdruggie-turned-America's-newsweetheart — can disappoint, but the Nov. 5 release of "Due Date" proved to be just as hilarious as expected.

Downey plays Peter Highman, a hotshot businessman simply trying to fly back home to L.A. in time for the birth of his first child, stuffed monkey in hand.

He meets Galifianakis' character, Ethan Tremblay, an eccentric wannabe actor with a horrendous perm, when they become involved in a minor car accident.

The accident is an obvious foreshadowing of the ridiculous predicaments the two find themselves in throughout the movie, and every situation seems to be the worst until the next scene ensues.

The ordeal first begins when the two meet again as passengers on the same flight.

Tremblay somehow manages to mention the words "terrorist" and "bomb" before the plane even takes off, causing a scene and getting himself and Highman kicked out and placed on the no-fly list.

Highman has no way of getting home after his luggage and



Downey Jr. (left) as odd-ball road trip partners.

wallet are stolen, forcing him to accept a ride from Tremblay all the way from Atlanta to Los Angeles.

Their cross-country journey turns into one of weird, desperate, uncomfortable and mostly illegal situations, enticing WTFs and LOLs galore.

Tremblay is entertaining on looks alone, dressed in tapdancing shoes, acid-washed skinny jeans that reveal his buttcrack one time too many and a sweet hipster scarf.

He is accompanied by Sonny, an ever-faithful French Bulldog and the cutest little sidekick anyone could ever hope for, whose squished nose and forlorn expression slightly resembles Tremblay at times.

Later on in the film, the audience discovers that there's a lot more to Tremblay's character, adding a bit of empathy and understanding toward his strange quirks.

Jamie Foxx makes a bearable cameo as Highman's best friend

Darryl provides the duo with some food and a car since they ended up wrecking their rental, which is a story all on its own.

They have that car for a little while until Juliette Lewis' character, Heidi the drug dealer, gives them an insanely strong bowl of pot that lands them passportless at the Mexican border.

That fiasco was just one instance in which they manage to escape authorities, steal something and shoot someone.

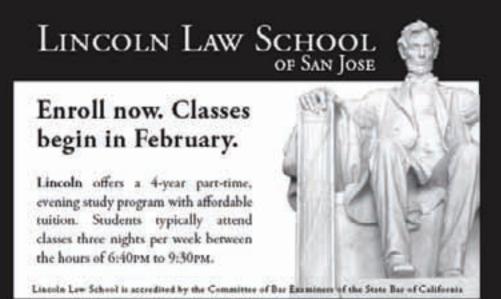
One of my favorite scenes, which I knew I couldn't forget to mention, was when Highman punched a child in the stomach.

The circumstances definitely called for it.

The soundtrack to the movie turned out to be unexpectedly cool as well, featuring Wolfmother, Band of Horses and one of my favorite songs, "Sweet Jane," covered by Cowboy Junk-

"Fat Jesus" and "Iron Man" proved to be an unstoppable force of chubby, hairy men I never wanted to escape.





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# RAED TIHS, KEEP READING.

Aoccdrnig to rcsheearch at Cmabgride Uinervitsy, it dseno't mtaetr waht oderr teh ltetres of a wrod are in, as lnog as teh frist and Isat leettr of teh wrod saty teh smae. Teh hmaun mnid wlil be albe to raed it because it does not raed idviniuadl lttrees, but teh wrod as a wolhe.

See if yuor firneds can raed tihs too—olny 55 out of 100 can.



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