



**Opposing views:
Is Obama the leader
the U.S. needs?
See Page 7**



WATER POLO

**Water polo team
riding hot start
See Page 6**

Spartan Daily

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SJSU building new store

Justin Albert
Staff Writer

The ground floor of MacQuarrie Hall is undergoing a series of renovations in preparation of the creation of Spartan Shops' newest endeavor, a full-blown convenience store, said Jeff Pauley, director of dining services at Spartan Shops.

"We're looking to provide students with something they don't already have on campus" said Ryan Ptucha, the appointed manager of the currently under-construction convenience store.

Since groundbreaking in October 2009, the store has been under gradual construction at MacQuarrie Hall, and is on-schedule for an end-of-April opening, Ptucha said.

He said Spartan Shops is looking to establish the new store as something comparable to Trader Joe's, as opposed to a 7-11, that offers different product mixes than that of a run-of-the-mill stop.

"We're making it a personal goal to have at least 20 percent of the in-



Kibiwot Lima / Spartan Daily

The construction site of the new store at the ground floor of MacQuarrie Hall.

See STORE, Page 3

University aims to improve grad rates

Eric Austin
Staff Writer

The California State University system announced a long-term initiative to increase six-year graduation rates and to help increase the number of graduating underrepresented minorities at a Jan. 27 Board of Trustees meeting.

"The graduation initiative involves all 23 CSU campuses, and is expected to raise six-year graduation rates by eight percent by 2016, as well as cut in half the existing gap in degree attainment by CSU's underrepresented students," according to a Jan. 27 CSU news release.

According to the news release, there are no systemwide plans to accomplish this goal.

"Every campus is different in terms of size, student demographics, academic programs and available resources," stated CSU spokesperson Erik Fallis in an e-mail. "While the system certainly has a role and campuses will learn from each other, every plan will be written to meet the needs of a specific campus' students."

As part of the CSU system, SJSU must comply with this initiative, said Pat Lopes Harris, director of Media Relations for SJSU. SJSU's goal is to increase six-year graduation rates by nine percent and to increase the graduation rates of underrepresented minorities by 12 percent by 2015, Harris said.

According to SJSU's Office of Institutional Research, current six-year graduation rates for students entering the university in 2001 as a first-time freshman is 42.1 percent, which is below the reported overall total graduate rate for the CSU system at 46 percent.

For underrepresented minorities, this figure drops to 35 percent, according to the Office of Institutional Research.

When compared to the national average sixth-year graduation rate of 60 percent, both the CSU system and SJSU lag behind, according to a June 2009 report by the American Enterprise Institute, a research advocacy group.

"At a time when college degrees are valuable — with employers paying a premium for college graduates — fewer than 60 percent of new students graduate from four-year colleges within six years. At many institutions, graduation rates are far worse," the

See CSU, Page 8

Spartan iPhone app may be coming soon

Justin Albert
Staff Writer

In a perfect world, you will soon be able to check your class schedule, add and drop courses, review your campus finances, and much more — all with a device that can fit in your pocket, said Neil Torrefiel, the university webmaster.

SJSU Mobile, currently a iPhone-exclusive application, is in developmental stages, in an effort to create a mobile application that runs like the SJSU Web site, with the possibility of yielding even more features, Torrefiel said.

"Students live by the mobile platform, so our goal is to make it as functioning as possible," said William Maguire, vice president of technology at SJSU.

A small townhall style focus group met at the Engineering Building yesterday in order to discuss the potential features of the still in-development mobile application.

The main reason for the meeting was to help gather feedback

and guidance based on information from a previous focus group, which helped developers create a list of potential features they want to include, Torrefiel said.

"We want SJSU mobile to make students happy," Maguire said.

The meeting consisted of a presentation led by Torrefiel, in which the potential features developers

want to include were put up in front of the crowd for criticism.

The first major feature is the inclusion of a fully functioning MySJSU platform designed for

smart phones such as the iPhone, Torrefiel said.

He said the MySJSU portion could potentially include the ability to check class schedules, add and drop courses, check wait lists and view grades and transcripts.

Several audience members emphasized the importance of being able to check to-do lists and holds on student's accounts through the MySJSU portion of the SJSU mobile app as well.

See APP, Page 2

Stress-relief options open to students

Lidia Gonzalez
Staff Writer

Being a full-time student, working a part-time job, having unhealthy habits, family burdens and relationships with friends are all contributors to the amount of stress a student's body can and will sustain, according to the SJSU campus wellness director.

Laurie Morgan said on Friday that it is important to build habits that will help students get through college and the rest of their lives.

"Economic times have hit hard," Morgan said.

The No. 1 problem with students is stress, Morgan said.

She said being proactive is one of the best ways to relieve stress-related tension.

Her mission is to support students' success and prevent them from becoming overwhelmed, she said.

There are SJSU wellness advocates who tackle the task of educating students about each subject related to wellness, Morgan said.

Malm said she has been a peer educator for a year and a half.

"Just being involved with an activ-

ity relieves a lot of stress," she said.

Malm said there is a stress-free zone offered the week before finals, aside from the massage chair.

She said the stress-free zone has Play-Doh and board games out for students to use.

The stress-free zone plays movies for kids and hosts presentations that feature tips to cope with stress, Malm said.

Terri Thames, interim director for counseling services, said there are times that are hard on students.

"There's been a huge increase within the past two years," Thames said.

At the end of last semester, there were 89 individuals left on the wait list, she said.

Thames said the length of the wait list tells her that more students are becoming aware of the services offered on campus.

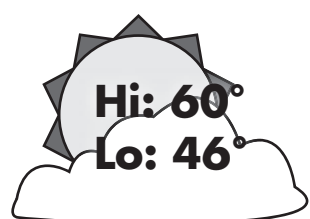
This is important, because counseling services off campus can cost up to \$130, she said.

Six counseling sessions per semester is more than enough, Thames said.

Sometimes, one session is enough, but the average amount of sessions

See STRESS, Page 8

Weather



TH	F
Hi: 58°	Hi: 56°
Lo: 50°	Lo: 43°

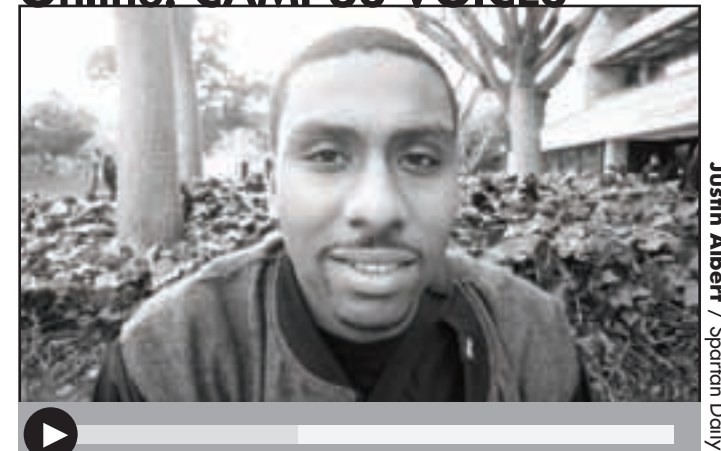
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Interactive Campus Voices: What does Black History month mean to you?

SPARTAN DAILY BLOGS

What does Punxsutawney Phil, SJSU transportation, Facebook and Obama have in common? They're all on the Spartan Daily news blog at spartandailynews.wordpress.com.

Online: CAMPUS VOICES



Justin Albert / Spartan Daily

See www.spartandailyphoto.com

Sculptor's Guild strives to gain more interest

Ashley Finden
Staff Writer

Rutvij Patel, a senior civil engineering major, said he was surprised when he found out that SJSU had a Sculptor's Guild.

Patel wasn't the only student who was unsure that SJSU had a Sculptor's Guild.

"I probably have heard about it but can't recall," said Ruth Gonzales, a senior hospitality management major.

The guild is not new to SJSU and has been a part of the university since 1978, said John Schultz, an SJSU alumnus and member of the guild.

Founded by students, the guild was built to "create a community of artist that had a common goal to make art and work together," said Ryan Carrington, a fine arts graduate student and the guild president.

Carrington said the guild's functions are "to buy and order the materials and working hand in hand to create the things we do here."

"The guts of it is that we're all artists and we all love to make things. Without a facility like this and a guild ordering, (people) couldn't make the stuff (they) create here (on campus)," Carrington said.

"I think building things (is) cool ... anything that is hands on, people should really get into," said Alia Tull, a freshman political science major.

The guild does its best at saving money by ordering materials when the price is low, and by keeping its eyes out for low prices the guild saved \$2,000 last year, Carrington said.

The guild is located off campus, at the university foundry, the actual location where they do their work, on South Fifth Street adjacent to a public park, the Art Ark Gallery and artists' apartments, as stated on the Sculpture Guild Web site.

The main purpose of the guild is, "looking for a symbiotic relationship with the classes that exist at the foundry," Carrington said.

The three major classes offered at the foundry are Art 171-Advanced Sculpture with David Middlebrook, Art 169-Metal Casting with Linda Walsh and Art 175-Metal Fabrication with David Anderson, Carrington said.



Kevin Hume / Spartan Daily

Steve Davis, a spatial arts graduate student, welds metal at the SJSU Foundry.

"The guts of it is that we're all artists and we all love to make things."

**Ryan Carrington
Guild President**

"I would be interested (in taking their classes), because I think art is a part of life, and being able to create something that's a sculpture is an expression of yourself in a way," said Bryan Yen, a senior computer science major.

There are volunteers in the guild who have had a connection with the foundry in the past.

"A lot are ex-students or ex-grads that took a class and fell in love with the place and the medium," Carrington said.

To be a member, one doesn't have to be an art major or have a history with sculptures — the only requirement is to be a student or alumnus of SJSU, Carrington said.

It is recommended by the guild to take a class beforehand for safety precautions, though it is not necessary, he said.

Carrington said that in order for the guild to function, the foundry, where the sculptures are created, is needed — otherwise, there wouldn't be enough space to hold all of the classes and tools.

Art 175, Art 169 and Art 222 must be filled to ensure the survival of the foundry and the guild, Carrington said.

Those members aren't all current students, and the classes at the foundry need more people to participate, observe and create new art to remain, Carrington said.

Teresa Hanson, the guild's treasurer and fine arts spatial major, said there are between 50 and 60 members.

"What is really great about working here is that it's more of a creative workshop where you can browse and get artist feedback," Hanson said.

Another perk of being a guild member is that there is free parking surrounding the foundry, which is convenient for artists who have a lot of supplies to carry, Hanson said.

Membership to the guild is \$15 per semester, and helps students save about 30 percent in the cost of materials, Carrington said.

He said the \$15 membership fee covers tools, general operating procedures and gives students the ability to buy materials through the guild, which allows (students to purchase) at a cheaper rate — but it does not cover the actual materials, such as bronze, aluminum and iron.

Google offers book use

Eric Van Susteren
Staff Writer

The impact of Google's book digitization efforts currently doesn't worry local library administrators or the owner of one San Jose bookstore.

"I think it's a great tool and I like it a lot," said SJSU reference librarian Ann Agee. "It provides more resources and ways to find things."

Agee said she sees the Google database as an important resource for librarians and students alike.

Sales at Beat the Bookstore haven't been affected by Google's book database despite its sprawling breadth, said J. Courtney Black, the store's owner.

"Until digital readers get to a price point where students can afford the risk of them being stolen, I think books are safe," he said.

The Google Books database, which was started in 2004, now features more than 10 million titles.

Books still under copyright can be purchased as e-books, but the database also offers free online access to books that are no longer under copyright, according to the official Google blog.

Even without a digital reader, Steve Zyszkiewicz, a senior software engineering major, said he already prefers reading off

screens to reading books.

"It's hard for me to open a book, particularly a textbook, but if I'm by my computer it's nice just to have it there," he said.

Jon Amasol, a senior health science major, said he enjoys e-books because they make for efficient studying.

"Everything is digital now," he said.

"Rather than using a pen to highlight, I'd rather just use my fingertips."

Mary Nino, the interim associate dean of the Dr. Martin Luther King

Jr. Library, said in the past few years the library has purchased more digital collections based on student need.

Nino said that as of 2008, the library held over 44,000 e-books.

Agee said she doesn't see any of the services offered by the King Library being replaced by Google, despite its gigantic size.

"The library is only becoming more popular, circulation and use keep rising," she said. "As a database it's a wonderful tool, but it doesn't have the accuracy of Academic Search Premier or Web of Science."

Nino said she didn't feel threatened by the Google books database.

"There are still some issues, like privacy, that need to be ironed out," she said.

Google Books has more than just a few issues to be ironed out as it attempts to make settlement in a lawsuit involving organizations including the Authors Guild and the Association of American Publishers, according to an article by the AFP news agency.

The lawsuit primarily deals with Google partially displaying in-copyright but out-of-print books on its database with books that are considered public domain and those that are authorized to be displayed by publishers, according to an article on CNET's Web site.

The French government is among those not considering a settlement with Google. France has decided to block the use of more than 100,000 French titles under copyright that Google has already scanned, according to an article in Newsweek.

Spartan Bookstore and Robert's Bookstore were unavailable for comment.

"There are still some issues, like privacy, that need to be ironed out."

**Mary Nino
Interim Associate Dean
of King Library**

Donations for U.S. universities fall 12 percent in 2009

SEATTLE (AP) — Charitable contributions to colleges and universities plummeted an average 11.9 percent nationwide in 2009, the steepest drop in at least three decades, according to a new report.

Individual giving dropped in both dollars and participation numbers. Gifts for endowments and new buildings saw the biggest decreases, according to the Council for Aid to Education, which released its 2009 fiscal report on Wednesday.

Donation declines piled on top of endowment drops averaging 22 percent, plus state budget cuts for public colleges.

"We knew that this was going to be a bad year," said Ann E. Kaplan, director of the survey, who noted that 2009 was a bad year for both the institutions and the donors who support them. "Nothing that came out of the numbers surprised me very much."

One area of giving that did not decline as much was gifts from organizations, including corporations, foundations, religious organizations and other nonprofits.

Stanford University took in \$640.1 million and was at the top of the fiscal 2009 fundraising list, followed by Harvard, Cornell and the University of Pennsylvania. The annual report was based on 1,027 survey responses.

Stanford held onto its top spot, despite a drop in fundraising income of \$175 million, because most of the

other universities on the Top 20 list also saw dramatic decreases.

Harvard's fundraising income went down \$50 million, the University of California, Los Angeles, dropped by nearly \$105 million, and even the school known for attracting the most medical research dollars — Johns Hopkins University — saw its income drop by about \$16 million.

A few saw changes in the opposite direction, including Cornell University, with a fundraising increase of \$38 million, and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology with an increase of about \$7 million.

Kaplan said on Tuesday that many universities are expecting 2010 to be a better year for fundraising, because some donors were waiting to see the stock market improve before making some planned gifts.

But she did not expect the improvement to bring donations back up to 2008 levels.

"If the past is an indication of the future, things should start to recover now. How quickly that's going to happen, I'm not sure," she said.

The 20 institutions that raised the most money in 2009 brought in \$7.28 billion, which was \$1.13 billion less than the top 20 top schools raised in

2008.

But 2009 wasn't bad for every college. The University of Washington — No. 12 on the Council for Aid to Education's list — had its best fundraising year in history, said Walt Dreyfoos, associate vice president of advancement services.

It brought in \$324 million in fiscal 2009 — an increase of more than \$20 million over 2008.

Individual donations were down at the Seattle university last year, but corporate and foundation dollars going mostly to research remained strong. In addition to research money, the university was still collecting on multiyear pledges from a record-breaking capital campaign that ended in June 2008.

"You look at the state's investment in this university. And then you look at the private sector's support for this university. The private sector is voting with its wallet, saying this is a great university," Dreyfoos said.

Donations for the current fiscal year are down compared 2009, he added, but he wasn't sure what additional dollars would come in before the end of June.

"I hate making predictions because it kind of assumes people's generosity," Dreyfoos said.

APP

From Page 1

A calendar feature is going to be included with the app that should allow students and faculty to check on-campus events, sports schedules and fraternity and sorority events in real time, Torrefiel said.

He said several other features are also being considered for the application. A directory that could include a list of student, faculty and staff e-mails and contact information is a possibility for the application, Torrefiel said.

He said the SJSU mobile app hopes to include a map feature that would allow users to find buildings, view additional info about structures on campus, and possibly view 3-D architecture at SJSU.

Academic services, such as Alert-SJSU, Blackboard and the Career Center will also be

accessible through the application, Torrefiel said.

Thus far, the application will be developed exclusively for the iPhone, but will eventually branch out to include other smart phones such as Blackberrys, Maguire said.

After covering the potential features of the new application, Torrefiel concluded the meeting by asking audience members what some of the barriers to using the app might be.

Several of the main barriers included, price, coverage and the effectiveness of campus wireless, Torrefiel said.


Despite the possibility of all these new features, Torrefiel said one major factor the developers will be focusing on is maximizing productivity with SJSU mobile.

"One of the most important pieces we are putting attention to is user interface," he said. "The biggest difference between using MySJSU on a browser versus viewing it as an

app is going to be the streamlined interface."

Torrefiel said the application will be developed by an external program vendor once the project gets past the early planning stages.


Thus far, the application is going to be free of charge and is scheduled to launch by this summer, he said.



The Listening Post At SJSU

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Animation lecture inspires imaginations

Donovan Farnham
Staff Writer

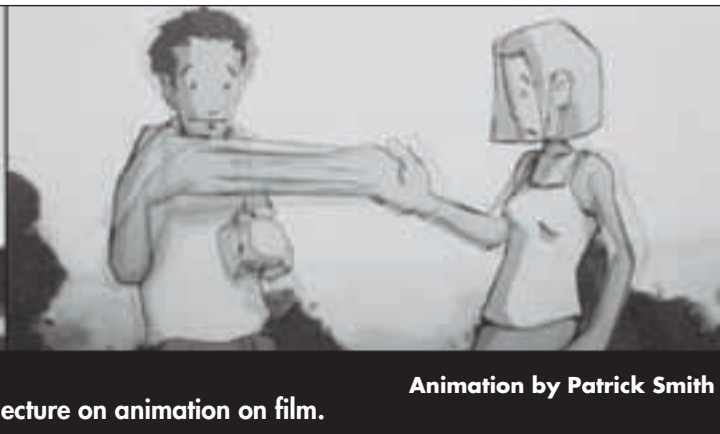
More than 90 students learned the ins and outs of independent animation and filmmaking from a professor who does it himself.

The "Inbetweens of Independent Animation" lecture was hosted by David Chai, an assistant professor with the animation and illustration department, who is part of the Art and Design school's Tuesday night lecture series that will continue throughout the rest of the semester. Chai, an alumnus with a Master's degree in animation and illustration, started submitting and competing in film festivals in 2003.

Chai has had animated



An example Assistant Professor David Chai showed during his lecture on animation on film.



Animation by Patrick Smith

short films compete in more than 90 film festivals, including the Sundance Film Festival and San Jose's Cinequest film festival.

According to Chai's Web site, he has won more than 20 awards from film festivals around the

country and his work has appeared on television channels such as MTV2 and G4TV.

Chai said one of the focuses of his lecture was to inform students about the production process of filmmaking, which is something that he had to learn

on his own.

"The first film I did cost a lot of money, it cost \$6,000," Chai said. "It was shot traditionally on 35mm film. And had I known then what I know now it could have been done for \$500 digitally."

Chai said this is important to teach his students because it's something they don't get to teach inside the normal school schedule.

During the lecture, Chai presented short animated films by different animators who he admires.

He explained how different animators finance their films through commercial work or by the awards they receive from winning in film festivals.

"The main thing is showing them indie (independent) filmmakers and showing them different approaches that they can go through if they wanted to pursue a career like that instead of a studio career," Chai said.

Jonathan Thompson, a freshman illustration and ani-

mation major, was motivated by the lecture and the possibilities of working on independent animated films and competing in film festivals.

"My main goal is to get noticed and have my artwork come more alive," Thompson said.

Chai told his students that not every film they make will be accepted by a film festival, let alone win awards.

Chai said he heard an estimate from a colleague that a film has a one in 10 chance of being accepted to compete in an independent film festival.

Chai said each of the four filmmakers whose work was shown at the lecture had different styles of animation, from traditional pencil-and-paper animation to films that used Adobe Flash software.

"I've got some new filmmakers to study and I learned more about the process of submitting films to festivals," said Hillary Bradfield, a senior illustration and animation major.

Despite the struggles of being an independent animator, Chai said there is no greater pleasure than working on a project with great people, because the end result is always larger than one person.

From the Grammys to SJSU, jazz band performs

Daniel Herberholz
Staff Writer

The University of North Texas One O'Clock Lab Band went from the Grammy ceremony at Los Angeles' Staples Center on Sunday to SJSU one day later. Monday night, they put on a show for more than 150 people at the Music building.

The UNT One O'Clock Lab Band is a first-string band of nine big bands at the UNT College of Music, nationally recognized for its jazz studies department, according to the band's official Web site.

The band landed a spot at the Staples Center on Sunday by earning two 2009 Grammy nominations — giving it a total of six nominations in its history.

Scott Mulvahill, the band's bassist, called the Grammy ceremony "a huge spectacle."

The band's album, "Lab

2009," was up for the Best Large Jazz Ensemble Album, and their director, Steve Wiest, was nominated for his piece, "Ice Nine," which appeared on "Lab 2009," in the Best Instrumental Composition category.

"Ice Nine" is a very upbeat number, filled with staccato trumpet blows and layered trombone. The piece, which Wiest said was inspired by the strange element, "ice-nine," in Kurt Vonnegut's novel "Cat's Cradle," felt at times dangerous and rough — much like the book itself. Clapping from the crowd ended a particularly dramatic part, as a calmer piano portion led to a drum-crash ending.

With an up-and-down feel, the composition could easily be a theme song to the Vonnegut novel.

Aaron Lington, SJSU jazz orchestra conductor and One O'Clock Band alum, said the best part of having his former



Photos courtesy of The UNT One O'Clock Lab Band Web site
Grammy nominated, The University of Texas One O'Clock Lab Band performed Sunday night in the Music building.

band play was for his students to "hear what's possible."

The band was already on a West Coast tour, including the 21st annual Folsom Jazz Festival, of which Lington was a judge.

"As a part of the festival, I saw early on that they were going to be out here,"

Lington said.

He then spoke to friend and band manager Craig Marshall to arrange a stop at SJSU.

Early in the show, the band played UNT One O'Clock Lab alum Mike Bogle's arrangement, "Got A Match?"

If there was any way a dying whale could sound beautiful, it would be in "Got A Match?" Blasting trumpet and a gripping solo by saxophonist Sam Reid felt like the harmonious death call of a gray whale.

The piece, originally by Chick Corea, was nominated for a Grammy in 1989 for Best Arrangement of An Instrumental, and appeared on the UNT One O'Clock Lab Band's "Lab 89."

Wiest explained that one advantage of attending the Grammy ceremony was the subsequent after party, at which he said his band was able to meet Corea.

The band also played "On Green Dolphin Street," a number originally composed for a 1947 film of the same name.

The piece featured an ecstatic solo by trombonist Luke Brimhall, along with dreamy piano and lightly drummed cymbals.

Next was a piece rearranged by Lab Band graduate and former SJSU student Dave Richards. Originally by Dave Brubeck, "Here Comes McBride," bounced and twisted throughout.

The song brought to mind an image of a suited man waltzing down an aisle, full of smiles and handing out high-fives to seated men and women along the way.

Once a music major at SJSU, Richards journeyed to Denton, Texas, to study at UNT's renowned jazz division.

The band also performed Steely Dan's "Pretzel Logic." The piece, a rearrangement by Lawrence University's Fred Sturm, had the impeccable feel of a Steely Dan track mixed with the UNT One O'Clock Band's signature jazzy touch.

With obvious experience and music talent, this show was a well-conceived event for the betterment of the SJSU music department — as well as entertainment for jazz enthusiasts in the area.

LOOK OF THE WEEK



Photo and interview by Hannah Keirns

Name: Mia Evangelista

Year, Major: Sophomore, occupational therapy

What inspired your look today? It looked gray outside so I decided to wear some color to stand out. Just because it is gloomy, doesn't mean I have to dress grumpy! Also, my cardigan and boots always keep me warm in this kind of weather.

What do you hate most about fashion? I hate when items are so expensive — it's such a tease because you cannot buy something you cannot afford.

Where are your favorite places to shop? I love affordable places like Forever 21, H&M and Macy's. I also have a weakness for Victoria's Secret's PINK collection because any bright color attracts me!

In what clothing are you the happiest? I'm from Daly City where fog is basically the only weather you get. Therefore, I love wearing sweaters — whether it's a pullover, zip-up, cardigan or hoodie — because they keep me warm and when I'm warm, I'm happy!

What is your most treasured item of clothing or accessory and why?

My snow jacket. I use it as my raincoat, and it's very useful, especially when it's cold since I don't always like to carry an umbrella, but today I did.

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Aida Chitumba
SJSU Undergraduate Student

Aida's Top Five

- **Laptops for checkout on the lower level**
<http://www.sjlibrary.org/services/computers/laptop.htm>
- **Time management tool for research papers**
<http://tutorials.sjlibrary.org/tutorial/calculator/index.htm>
- **6 minute tutorial to help develop your topic**
<http://tutorials.sjlibrary.org/tutorial/topicart/index.htm>
- **One-on-one appointment with the librarian for your major**
<http://libguides.sjsu.edu/browse.php?o=a>
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SJSU grad's death still stuns peers

Kathryn McCormick
Staff Writer

Albert Cobarrubias, an SJSU alumnus and member of the criminal justice honor society, Alpha Phi Sigma, was fatally shot on Jan. 23, according to a San Jose Police news release.

Michael Burke, Alpha Phi Sigma's current president, said he is still in shock about Cobarrubias' passing.

"I am the only member of Alpha Phi Sigma who knew him out of the current members," Burke said. "I wish our current members had the opportunity to get to know him."

Gilbert Villareal, justice studies department coordinator, said Cobarrubias did a lot of volunteer work with Alpha Phi Sigma, including work with the University Police Department's toy drive and community service.

Villareal said Cobarrubias also volunteered with the justice studies department.

"He volunteered at our convocation ceremonies and sometimes at our career and internship fair when we had it," Villareal said. "And even afterwards, after he graduated, actually, he used to call and ask if he could help."

Cobarrubias' involvement with Alpha Phi Sigma and his regular presence in the justice studies department allowed him to become close with Villareal and the department's staff.

"We actually hung out with him after our last convocation in the spring, because he came and he volunteered," Villareal said. "I love that guy. I'm going to miss him a lot."

SJSU Assistant Professor Sang Kil became close with Cobarrubias after having him in her Justice Studies 132 class.

"He was really the person I kind of designed the class for," Kil said. "In the sense that I really want people to analyze their social location, and to analyze legal practices vis-a-vis their stories, and he picked up on it really quickly."

Kil later became Cobarrubias' adviser when he interned at Silicon Valley De-Bug, a San

Jose-based organization that explores community issues, including racial profiling.

After Cobarrubias completed his internship and graduated from SJSU in the Spring 2008, Kil said he continued his involvement with De-Bug, volunteering in its legal clinic and attending its Sunday meetings.

Cobarrubias and Kil remained in contact.

Kil said Cobarrubias volunteered with a student activist summit Kil was putting together for SJSU in the Fall 2008 and Spring 2009.

"Albert was on the ground level, helping me and other students really kind of think through and figure out what we could do around activism and student involvement and student advocacy work," Kil said.

Kil said Cobarrubias' involvement with the summit reflected his passion for social justice and for SJSU.

"He was just amazing like that," Kil said.

Kil said that in addition to his work with the student activist summit, Cobarrubias remained involved at SJSU by volunteering at graduations, passing out commencement programs in the aisles.

"That was just Albert," Kil said. "He would come back and still help out, as if he was a student. He participated even more than our students who are actually enrolled do."

Kil said that De-Bug had a fundraiser on Friday to help Cobarrubias' family pay for funeral costs, and said that SJSU's justice studies department is working on giving Cobarrubias a scholarship posthumously, or finding some way to lessen his family's financial burden, as a means of acknowledging Cobarrubias' dedication to the department and to SJSU.

Jan Hagemann, Alpha Phi Sigma's adviser, said that members of the criminal justice honor society will also raise money to help cover Cobarrubias' funeral costs by selling coffee and breakfast foods next week in MacQuarrie Hall from 8:30 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

Greek Councils relations improve

Kristen Pearson
Staff Writer

The Greek Councils at SJSU are getting closer to solving their differences, a Greek Council representative stated.

Sarah Lewis, the new president of the SJSU National Panhellenic Conference, stated in an e-mail that she thinks the Greek Councils are moving toward a new understanding of one another.

"The current relationship between the four Greek Councils is very promising," Lewis stated. "I think that the Greek Councils and their member organizations have all come to the realization that the Greek experience will be a lot easier and fun for all of our members if we try to understand our differences and learn from each other. Our four councils have definitely begun to work together a lot more often and are actively working to improve relationships."

In past semesters, the story was somewhat different, a Greek Council representative stated.

Gerald Baptiste, former president of the National Panhellenic Council at SJSU, stated in an e-mail last semester that the Greek Councils were trying to rebuild relationships between one another.

"What I can say about the relationship between the four councils is that it is rebuilding," he stated. "I would say certain organizations are closer to one another than the councils as a whole. That's why I say the relationship is progressing and rebuilding."

Jackie Nguyen, former president of the United Sorority and Fraternity Council, stated in an e-mail that the Greek councils need to develop better relationships and communicate better.

"The relationship between councils are yet in need of more communication," Nguyen stated. "We are working hard on narrowing down the gaps for many years. Each year, we try different activities and requirements to help bond better."

There are high hopes for the semesters and years to come, since the relationships of the councils during the last few years have not been that strong, Baptiste stated.

"In the past year, the councils have gotten somewhat closer and more friendships are start-



Thomas Webb / Spartan Daily
(From Left) Sarah Lewis, president of the Panhellenic Council, Gerald Baptiste, president of the National Panhellenic Council, and Jeremy Manuel, of the United Sorority & Fraternity Council.

ing to build between individual members," he stated. "Hopefully, if we continue to progress like we have, our councils can be strong and always willing to work with one another."

Lewis stated in the e-mail she has seen the councils grow a lot over the past few years, and she's looking forward to them growing even more.

"The relationship between the councils has grown to be a lot more positive," Lewis stated. "By addressing both positive and negative preconceived generalizations, our councils have been able to understand each other better and respect our differences."

Nguyen stated she is not so sure the relationship will be built back as quickly as it should be.

"Each year, there are new board members representing the council," Nguyen stated. "It is harder, because we start our relationship over and over each year. Some of the event we try

to do together is Greek Week."

Nguyen stated that before, it was only a couple of the fraternities and sororities.

"Now we have all councils collaborate and get together," Nguyen stated.

There are reasons for the past rocky relationship, Lewis stated.

"I think the past rocky relationships between the four councils is greatly due to misunderstandings," Lewis stated. "Our four councils are different but represent the same values. I think it just took a bit of time for members to realize that all of our organizations are founded on the same principles - creating a family, scholastic achievement, personal development, community involvement and leadership growth."

Past councils and present councils have attempted to put things together to help the relationships of the organizations, Baptiste stated.

"With my organization, Phi

Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc., we are throwing social with other organizations on campus," Baptiste stated. "Also we continue to converse with other members outside Greek-time like walking to class, having lunch/dinner with one another, or even going to movies and parties."

Some organizations are helping one another out by attending each other's events, Lewis stated.

"My specific sorority is really trying to break down barriers by educating our members about all of the councils, as well as participating in and attending events that all Greek organizations hold," Lewis stated.

Other organizations are assisting each other by extending a helping hand, Nguyen stated in an e-mail.

"My sorority is Sigma Theta Psi," Nguyen stated. "We don't just hang out or help out our council chapters, but extend ourselves to other councils by helping them."

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Hot start has team dreaming of championship

Amber Simons
Staff Writer

The SJSU women's water polo team has started its season 7-0, but it won't settle for anything less than an NCAA Championship appearance.

The Spartans have won two tournaments, the Michigan Kick-Off and the Nor Cal Cup, winning three games each weekend. The largest win came in their last game over Sonoma State, in Berkeley, where the team won 17-3.

"It's teams that are not in our conference, it's not as competitive," said Kath-

ryn Hannum, a fourth year player on the team. "But they're still good games, nonetheless."

Several members of the team said they expect a lot of wins.

"So far, we haven't really seen anybody from our conference, but I think we can beat everybody, everybody is beatable," said Meagan Minson, the team's starting goalkeeper. "I expect so much out of our team, actually, this year. Just like last year, we all have our goals in mind, NCAA, and to really do well."

This weekend is the Stanford Invi-

tational. On Feb. 6, the team plays USC and Michigan and on Feb. 7, they play Stanford.

"It will get a little bit tougher at that point as we meet teams within our own conference, the MPSF (Mountain Pacific Sports Federation)," Hannum said.

The women's water polo team is a young team, with most of its players being sophomores, but head coach Lou Tully said that isn't an issue.

"On paper, we look a little young, but they're fairly experienced," he said. "The two freshmen are coming on pretty fast."

While the team is young, they all have experience, Tully said.

"There's a lot of sophomores here, but those are not new faces," he said. "Obviously they played here last year, and they played a lot last year. We had some very good freshmen, which are sophomores now."

Tully said there are three players who came back who were top scorers

last season.

"Dani (Curran) was an All-American last year as a freshman," Tully said. "And that's the first time we ever had a freshman All-American, and she was also I think the highest scorer in the MPSF for player for freshman, so she's a real big-time player."

Bridget McKee and Adriana Vogt are both good scorers, Tully said.

"Those three, I think, are our top returning scorers, and they accounted for a lot of goals last year," he said.

McKee is fast, so she gets a lot of goals from counter attacks and Vogt and Curran are both tremendous outside shooters, Tully said.

Minson said the team's strength is in its good communication skills.

"I see us coming together as an actual team," she said. "And I think the Michigan tournament helped us bond inside the water and also outside the water."

The team has two strengths, speed and quickness, Hannum said. But she

said she thinks the team needs to work on team defense.

"Individually, we're just as strong as anybody else," she said. "It's just working as a unit on defense."

Tully said Minson is outstanding as the team's starting goalie.

He said Lauren Lewis, the team's second goalie, is doing great as well.

"We're in a conference that is the top eight teams in the country, basically," said Tully. "... So we cannot afford to lose to anyone outside our conference. We have to win any non-conference game. And within our conference, we have to do the best we can."

Tully said right now, the two best teams are USC and Stanford.

He also said he expects competitive games from Cal, Hawaii, San Diego State and Arizona State.

"You have to be very focused, and you just play your heart out every time we play," Tully said.



Spartan Daily archive photo

Katie Buzzetta is one of several members of the team who feel it has enough talent to compete for the NCAA Championship.



Andrew Villa / Spartan Daily

A group of water polo players swim during practice on Tuesday. SJSU is ranked 8th in the nation and has started the season 7-0. The Spartans return to the pool Saturday for the Stanford Invitational.

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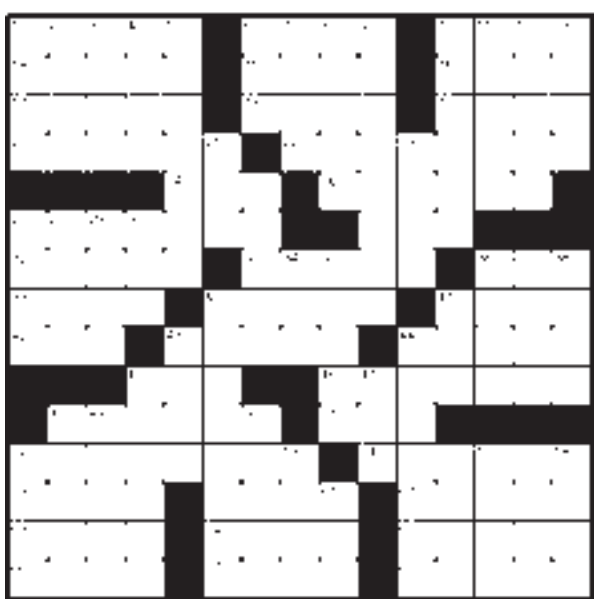
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- Part of the range
- Latin translation
- Seaweed-like
- Coagulate
- Arms of Hockey
- Make good
- General letter
- Dutch colonial
- Skippy
- Figuratively
- St. Louisian
- Postponed action
- Plumbeous
- Latin
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- Delicious dream
- His own setup
- Physical needs
- Handwritten
- Just a bag
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- Pol parts
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- Quays
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- Gold Rush phenomenon
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- Latin March
- German
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- Poppy is a
- Controversy
- Wheel knots

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- Advantage
- Some pasties
- Outrigger
- Team leaders
- Puss Jew
- Quarry's place
- Story
- Mad buck
- Low power
- And
- Heavily taught
- Wrinkle
- Cup and sleeve
- Cave shape
- Mely Inilla
- Intermediate
- Quarrel
- Class response
- Seating
- Hang up sales
- Hotly snub
- Reverend
- Approved
- U.S. count down
- Asst
- Freight
- destination
- Math course
- Most likely
- Brain scan for shell
- Link and sink
- Whets
- Page-1
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Opposing Views: Obama's State of the Union Address

Not meeting the peoples' expectations

It has been just more than 365 days since Barack Obama has taken office at 1600 Pennsylvania Ave., and this Wednesday, the president used the State of the Union address to answer one question all Americans have been asking themselves in 2009 — Who is Barack Obama?

Unfortunately, the more I find out who Obama is, the less I like him.

Let me point out that I want the president to succeed. I voted for him.

Obama has done good things during his administration, such as reshaping America's image around the world and supporting public education, but on the most profound and important issues that face the country today, we have fundamental disagreements.

A big mistake Obama made in his first year was letting House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Senate majority leader Harry Reid write a 2000-plus page healthcare bill. Learning from HillaryCare in 1994, the president wanted to get what he could take without having his own bill rejected.

This made Obama look like a Washington insider, because he was tied to the meat-grinding process that got so ugly. The healthcare debate was defined as "death panels," "a complete government takeover," and "pulling the plug on grandma."

To date, America does not have significant health insurance reform, and now, any bill is D.O.A. on Capitol Hill.

Any fiscally responsible Democrat can not defend the out-of-control spending that has gone on in Obama's first year.

According to the Treasury Direct Web site, our country's debt is well over \$12 trillion dollars. I understand Einstein's theory of relativity more than our country's financial situation.

It's clear that the support for Democrats and the president peaked on Election Day.

Whether it was the governors' races in New Jersey and Virginia,



Matt Santolla
Staff Writer

or Scott Brown's surprise victory for Ted Kennedy's senate seat in Massachusetts, recent elections show Democrats seeking election across the country are sailing in rough waters.

In order to stabilize the economy, Obama gave us a second term for Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke.

Bernanke is the Al Davis of the U.S. economy. He does what he wants, when he wants, with complete control, under a veil of secrecy, and nobody can understand his logic once he has made his decisions.

Don't even get me started on Treasury Secretary Tim Geithner — the guy who was president of the New York Federal Reserve in 2008 while AIG, Lehman Brothers, and Goldman Sachs were acting more financially insane than college students who got their first credit cards.

I agree with one of my favorite people, Sen. Bernie Sanders.

The senator wrote on his Web site, "... Chairman Bernanke was asleep at the switch while Wall Street became the largest gambling casino in the history of the world and hurtled into insolvency. His failure to adequately regulate financial institutions should not be rewarded with a re-appointment."

We knew Obama's view on the war in Afghanistan when he was elected.

The 30,000 U.S. troop surge was expected, but we did not know President Obama's views on terrorism.

On Jan. 30, Sen. Susan Collins

delivered the weekly GOP address on national security and policy that was posted on YouTube.

Collins said that Umar Abdulmutallab, the foreign terrorist who tried to blow up a plane on Christmas day, was interrogated by the FBI for only 50 minutes before he was read his Miranda rights and given a lawyer at the taxpayer expense.

Collins said no top officials were briefed on the situation before the decision to treat him as an ordinary criminal was made.

"The decision was made by the Obama justice department, without the input of our nation's top intelligence officials," she said, "The director of national intelligence, the secretary of defense, the secretary of homeland security, the director of national counterterrorism center all were not consulted."



President Barack Obama
Marc Nozell / courtesy of Marc Nozell

New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg said in a radio interview that trying terrorists in civilian courts will cost New York upward of \$200 million. Why would we spend any more taxpayer dollars than is absolutely necessary?

I don't know what is scarier, the fact liberals in Washington are out of control, or that I agree more with Dick Cheney on national security.

Continuing to be cautiously optimistic

A lot has changed in a year. Or has it?

We all remember the night Barack Obama was elected president.

The excitement in the air was almost palpable — people were dancing in the streets and TV stations were jammed with tearful interviews expressing disbelief and hope.

Optimism was inescapable. Only a year ago, President Obama rode with his shining armor of overwhelming public support, wielding the formidable weapon of a 60-Democrat super Senate majority to slay the beast that is health insurance.

It seems now that he's returned from battle, battered and more than a little bruised. Public support for the president has plunged, and the time of a filibuster-proof "super Senate" has ended.



Eric Van Susteren
Staff Writer

"What has really been accomplished?"

The economic recovery measures seem to be working, but we're still struggling with unemployment and recession.

We're withdrawing from one war while being sucked deeper into another.

Still, no significant steps have been taken to avert the looming disaster of climate change.

Now, don't get me wrong. I believe in President Obama and I still think he's the one who can help us out of the mess we're in now.

We were blinded by the optimism and excitement from the election, and maybe the president was too.

Maybe we bit off more than we could chew with healthcare reform.

It was evident from his speech on the State of the Union, that President Obama in his second year is more seasoned and a little wiser, if not a bit more cynical.

He's recognized it may not be worth grinding out a perverted, rider-infested healthcare reform bill if it means further dividing the nation.

It's time to focus on more realistic and less divisive goals. These are undoubtedly smaller battles, but they're also extremely important.

The 10 percent unemployment rate is a gaping and embarrassing hole in the economy of the United States. Financial support in the form of tax breaks and credits for small businesses,

the renovation of the national infrastructure and the goal to double exports from the U.S. in the next five years are just a few of the president's plans to create jobs for millions of Americans.

We need cleaner, more efficient energy solutions to make the country more energy independent. While the president's suggestion of increased nuclear power is valid, I would urge extreme caution in opening offshore oil ventures and in the almost farcical notion of clean coal.

These are just a few of the things we can get done.

We've heard many speeches and listened to many promises. We don't need words now, we need actions. They're necessary, not only to restore faith in the president's ability to complete difficult tasks, but in the ability of our political body to work together to accomplish goals.

This means we need unity and strength from a disjointed legislative majority — we need them not to "run for the hills" as the president so tersely put it. But we also need a minority that doesn't make knee-jerk negative decisions based on entrenched anti-liberal sentiments.

I think the main point that President Obama made in his speech to Congress was this: "Let's get things done."

We can't give up on healthcare reform, but there are other urgent and accomplishable matters that we can champion.

The best thing about the speech last week was it captured some of the familiar early-Obama magic. The old optimism and excitement is there, but now it's tempered with realism and a greater wisdom of the workings of Washington.

The goals he's put forth are indeed daunting, but certainly attainable.

Of course, we're still just hearing words, only time will tell if they're acted on.

Until then, I'll remain cautiously optimistic.

All-white basketball league sets us back a half-century

Why are people so stupid?

Exhibit A: Don "Moose" Lewis

This former wrestling promoter appears to have taken too many shots to the head.

According to the Augusta Chronicle, Lewis is going to begin an all-white basketball league that only allows players who are natural-born United States citizens with Caucasian parents.

To make matters worse, Lewis said his motivations for starting the league have nothing to do with racism.

"There's nothing hatred about what we're doing," Lewis said to the Augusta Chronicle. "I don't hate anyone of color. But people of white, American-born citizens are in the minority now. Here's a league for white players to play fundamental basketball, which they like."

Lewis said he is hoping his idea will catch on, eventually leading to 12 teams who will be based in the southeast portion of the country.

He points

to recent developments by athletes such as Gilbert Arenas, who recently brought a gun into the Washington Wizard locker room, as reasons why the American public needs a new basketball league.

To no surprise, there has been widespread outrage over this idea, ranging from the NAACP, who say this development sets our nation back 100 years, to bloggers on the Internet.

Everything about it screams racism.



Kyle Szymanski
Running With Szyssors

In fact, I am wasting my time, paper and ink just writing about this idiot.

But his radically stupid idea and the attention it has garnered makes me wonder, why would Lewis even attempt a stunt of this magnitude?

According to the Dino Costa radio show, Lewis is attempting to start his league with 12 teams. The league wants to catch on with a network that would nationally broadcast this ridiculous display of racism, as basketball.

There is no way this league will ever get off the ground. No network executive would ever dream of

In fact, I am wasting my time, paper and ink just writing about this idiot.

broadcasting this rampant racism, so why even try?

Granted, perhaps this insane individual is in desperate need of his 15 minutes of fame, but the only thing it will get him is permanently labeled as a racist.

Thankfully, it doesn't appear this idea was anything more than a publicity stunt. It appears to be a professional wrestling itself.

The Atlanta Journal Constitution reported the league doesn't have a Web site, and its attempts to contact Lewis were unsuccessful.

Regardless of his motives, the mere thought of beginning an all-white basketball league coupled with the fact the idea has reached the mainstream media shows how far the United States still has to come.

"Running with Szyssors," appears biweekly on Wednesdays. Kyle Szymanski is the Spartan Daily sports editor.

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STRESS

From Page 1

for a student is three to four, she said.

She said there are peer groups, mens' and womens' groups, and mental health ambassadors that are free of charge.

Thames said that 99 percent of the time, students who walk in for the first time receive counseling within the first 15 to 30 minutes from when they arrive.

Thames said that if students cannot stay, they get a priority card that allows them to go ahead of the line the next time they seek counseling.

She said she and her staff don't want students to go home disappointed.

"We see a big bump during first midterm time," Thames said.

Malm said that most people don't know about the massage chair offered in the health center.

"The massage chair is amazing for stress," she said.

The massage chair is free to all students and is open from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, Malm said.

The programs and services offered on campus are important during this time, she said.

Students probably perform better when they aren't stressed out, Thames said.

Her staff of nine full-time counselors and eight doctoral trainees is highly qualified, she said.

Thames wants students to educate each other in effort to reduce the stigma of mental health services, she said.

CSU

From Page 1

report stated.

The CSU initiative plans on determining why so many students fail to graduate within six years, Fallis said.

"Graduation is important, and the fact is that too many students take more than six years to graduate," he said. "There are several reasons for this, and the initiative is going to look into those reasons."

A major reason is that students lack direction when entering a four-year institution, Fallis said.

"One primary problem is that students do not have a clear roadmap of the path to a degree," he said. "The longer it takes to graduate, the more likely something in a student's life, such as finances, will get in the way."

The university administration is still in the process of coming up with strategies to accomplish its goal of increasing the six-year graduation rate by nine percent by 2015, Harris said.

One plan is certain, there will be a heavy push for students to receive student advising, so students can have a clear roadmap leading to the ultimate goal of graduating on time, she said.

Mai Huynh, an SJSU alumna who graduated in her sixth year last semester, believes that this will benefit most students.

"With the cost of tuition increasing every semester, I think that most students will want to graduate as soon as possible, and I wish that there was something like this when I was a freshman," she said. "It might have saved me from some tuition fees."

SPARTAGUIDE

TODAY

Author/Illustrator Matt Tavares on Henry Aaron's Dream

King Library, Rms 225/229, 2nd Floor,
When: Wed, Feb 3, 7:00 p.m. - 9:00
p.m., contact Lorraine Oback
at lorraine.oback@sjlibrary.org
or call (408) 808-2183.

"Road Trip, Birth of Car Culture" Exhibit and Lecture

Program begins at 7:00 p.m.
on the 5th floor of the Dr. Martin Luther
King Jr. Library. The exhibition will be on
view January 25 through May 16.
Contact Charlene Duval
at cduval@cruzio.com.

TOMORROW

The Listening Hour

The Listening Hour, a free noon concert
series, features classical, jazz, and music
from many cultures. Concerts are held in
the School of Music and Dance Concert
Hall beginning Feb. 4. Concerts are
each Tuesday and Thursday from 12:30
to 1:15 p.m., contact Joan H. Stubbe,
Concert Series Coordinator
at (408) 924-4649
or email jstubbe@email.sjsu.edu
for more information.

6 SATURDAY

Pride & Passion: Opening Reception

King Library, Rms 225/229, 2nd Floor
When: Sat, Feb 6, 2:00 p.m. - 4:00
p.m., contact Lorraine Oback
at lorraine.oback@sjlibrary.org
or call (408) 808-2183.

Sparta Guide is provided free of charge to students, faculty and staff members. The deadline for entries is noon, three working days before the desired publication date. Space restrictions may require editing of submission. Entries are printed in the order in which they are received. Submit entries online at thespartandaily.com or in writing at DBH 209.

Constant Kate



Katie Chandler is finding balance as the legal guardian of her teenage sister, her busy life and her promising career. Every day, she's feeding her life, her career and her future.

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