



# SmokeEaters

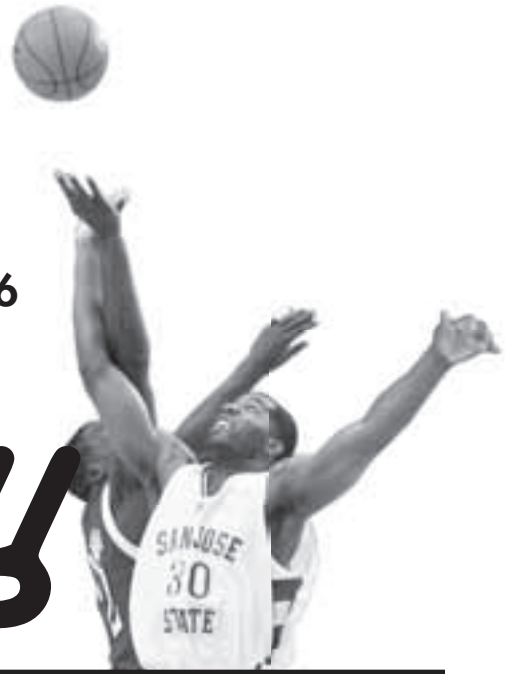
SmokeEaters' burns with low flame

SEE PAGE 4

# CHRIS OAKES

Senior big man lifts program

SEE PAGE 6



# Spartan Daily

Serving San José State University since 1934

Tuesday, March 2, 2010

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## Campus lights out at night

**Kristen Pearson**  
Staff Writer

Some students have taken notice of lights being off on campus at night.

"The lights are a nightmare," said senior art major Virginie McMurdo. "I don't feel safe enough outside."

"The walkway between the library to the chapel has been super dark lately," said Edgar Hernandez, a senior design studies major. "I walk through here on weekends and I don't feel extremely safe."

Adam Bayer, director of energy and utility services at SJSU, said the light problem has been narrowed down to somewhere between the science building, Tower Hall and Washington Square Hall.

"We are bisecting the circuit to see if the lights stay on," Bayer said. "When the wires are bisected it takes out individual lights on campus."

He said bisecting the circuit involves cutting the circuit in half to find out which lights are working.

The outside lights work on photo-cells, which turn off and on with the amount of light around them, Bayer said.

"There are four main areas on cam-

pus fed from circuits," he said. "We are currently troubleshooting the northwest corner of campus between San Fernando and San Carlos."

Emmanuel Orosa, a senior business accounting major, said the street lights on Santa Clara are dim, but he doesn't walk through the campus.

"I have a friend who always wants to walk with someone because it's dark and she doesn't feel safe," he said.

Sarita Llamas, a junior social work major, said she has night classes and has noticed poor lighting in some spots on campus.

"Usually on campus I feel relatively safe, but you never know what could happen," Llamas said.

Bayer said the blue light boxes on campus will help if students feel uncomfortable walking from their classes to the garages.

"We would encourage anyone to use the escort service," he said. "The blue light boxes are there for people to call the University Police Department."

Thi Tran-Le, a senior business finance junior, said she has two night classes and

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## Evacuation drill runs smoothly

**Kristen Pearson**  
Staff Writer

The emergency evacuation drill Monday was an overall success but had a few glitches, said a University Police Department official.

"There were some identified problems," Lt. Frank Belcastro said. "These problems will be going into an after-action report, and we'll be working them out."

Belcastro said some of the problems they had with the fire drill were com-

munication and people loitering close to buildings in dangerous areas.

"Some faculty members apparently canceled class for the drill as well, so they did not get the experience of the

See DRILL, Page 3



Nelson Aburto / Spartan Daily

Student and faculty evacuees mull about in between Tower Hall and King Library during the campuswide evacuation drill Monday.

## New director looks to strengthen EOP

**Eric Austin**  
Staff Writer

The Educational Opportunity Program's director said his major goal in the next few years is to rebuild the program's reputation to what it was 40 years ago.

"We need to strengthen and re-establish the EOP program here at SJSU," Dennis Lopez said. "Having a bigger staff to accomplish this goal, in my view, is a necessity."

Lopez said he was offered the position of program director in late March and started in mid-April 2009.

"My wife saw the job announcement and encouraged me to apply for this job," he said. "And I am very fortunate to have been selected 10 months ago."

The program currently has more than 1,900 students enrolled, Lopez said, with only two staff members other than Lopez, one of whom works part time, to cater to students' needs.

The program is designed to provide first generation, low income and historically disadvantaged students with access

to California state institutions, according to the SJSU Educational Opportunity Program Web site.

Prior to Lopez's hiring, the program had only one employee, he said.

Sophomore kinesiology major Brian Asagba said he agrees with Lopez's assessment.

"It's not really proportionate to the amount of students that need help," he said. "It's obvious we need more staff members."

Asagba said students who are the first in their families to enter college need the most help, and even with the current budget crises, it is important to

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EOP Director Dennis Lopez

Kibiwot Limo / Spartan Daily

## CSU board adds student

**Eric Austin**  
Staff Writer

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger has announced the appointment of a 20-year-old Cal State Sacramento student to the California State University board of trustees, according to a California State University news release.

Nicole Anderson was appointed to the board of trustees as the new student representative on Feb. 11, according to the news release.

Anderson, who has her full orientation for the board and her first board meeting this month, said she is honored by her appointment.

"I look forward to meeting everyone on the board and working for the betterment of the CSU as a whole," she said. "I will abide by the oath I swore to give due diligence to research and educate myself on all topics that come before the board."

Anderson said she is current-

ly a junior international relations major at Sacramento State University and is in a U.S. Marine Corps Platoon Leaders Course with plans to enter the Marine Corps as a non-active 2nd Lieutenant. She will eventually become a Marine Judge Advocate after completing law school.

The board of trustees is composed of 25 members, two of whom are current university students appointed to two-year terms by the governor at the recommendation of the California State Student Association, according to the CSU Web site.

Christopher Gonzales, SJSU Associated Students director of university advising affairs, wrote in an e-mail that having a student voice in the CSU system is important.

"Advocacy is an important activity to bring change in public attitudes and policies that impact our education," he said. "Every

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### Weather



**W** | **TH**  
Hi: 54° | Hi: 59°  
Lo: 43° | Lo: 46°

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Watch video coverage from the campuswide evacuation

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Brianna Calderon / Spartan Daily



# Career Center works to enhance privacy by fixing login glitch

Melissa Johnson  
Staff Writer

A concerned student said he was flabbergasted when he tried to log into the SJSU Career Center's Web site Feb. 18 and read a message instructing students to enter their student identification number as their login password.

"Sure enough, my password was my student ID number and I was able to log in to my Career Center account," said Joshua Lee, a graduate student in electrical engineering. "I believe this violates student privacy since many students leave personal information on the database."

Lee said he was concerned this temporary change violated his privacy rights as a student.

"There was a software glitch that occurred," said Cheryl Allman-Vinnedge, director of the Career Center. "Once the problem was brought to our attention we immediately notified all students (with registered profiles on the Career Center Web site). We immediately worked with the campus community with this issue and corrected everything on Friday (Feb. 19)."

"I've never known this particular glitch to occur," she said. "But as with any software things come up that we have to solve."

Allman-Vinnedge said increased security measures have been taken to ensure students' information is protected.

"In response to a recent concern about security related to using student ID numbers for password login on SpartaJobs (Career Center Web site), we

have revised the protocol for new and existing users," said Julie Sedlemeyer, assistant director of student services. "Existing users will no longer use their student ID number for login purposes."

She said a series of measures have been put in place to increase security for users, and students affected have been notified via e-mail of the new security.

All current users' passwords have been reset, Sedlemeyer said, with e-mail notifications sent to registered users on Feb. 19.

Those e-mails contained an automatically generated password for logging in to SpartaJobs, she said, along with instructions for changing the password and keeping it safe.

In order to reduce confusion for users, she said an alert message on the Career Center login page explains the revised login process.

Sedlemeyer said new users will still use their student ID numbers to create accounts, and once a student profile is created, the system will automatically generate a password.

New users will be provided that information in a welcome letter, she said, and will have the option of continuing to use the generated password or creating a new password.

After being notified of the new login process, Lee said he was given clarity to the situation.

"It's my opinion that (the) Career Center handled this situation pretty well," he said. "For

a technical problem to be solved in one day must have required a lot of effort on their part."

He said he was not pleased with the overall situation, however.

"The important point is that this problem should have never been there (in) the first place," he said.

Lee said he hopes student privacy won't become an issue in the future.

Nalleli Parragil, a senior art history major, said she is registered with the Career Center Web site and has never experienced any problems logging in, nor has she felt the security of her personal information has ever been compromised.

"I feel pretty comfortable with it," Parragil said. "Even if you're logged on (for an extended period of time) with no activity on the site, the site automatically logs you out. I've never felt that someone was logging in unauthorized into my account."

She said when she makes purchases online, she only uses the secure payment method called PayPal to buy textbooks or other items on Amazon.

Senior history major Omar Gonzalez said he also has a profile on the Career Center Web site and has never been concerned about the privacy of his information on the center's Web site.

"I don't like the idea of having it (a lot of his personal information) on there, but it's required, and I understand that having certain personal information is required (to register a profile)," Gonzalez said.

## LOPEZ

From Page 1

rebuild the Educational Opportunity Program.

Lopez's long-term goal is to provide the same services to the program's students as other campuses provide, he said.

"Our goal is to meet with each of the 2,000 students three times a semester to review academic progress, to encourage improvements in academic performance and to assist with academic advisement which other EOP programs provide," he said.

Lopez's experience with the Educational Opportunity Program started when he was a student himself, he said.

He said he grew up in southeast San Diego, where he attended five different high schools before applying to UC Irvine.

"I was a student that some felt was not college material," he

said.

Lopez said he was able to get into UC Irvine because of the Educational Opportunity Program, the same program that Lopez is now director of at SJSU.

At UC Irvine, Lopez became a student recruiter in his sophomore year in 1976, he said.

"I have been working for either EOP or for educational equity programs of various sorts ever since," Lopez said.

Lopez said he has had a total of two-and-a-half years working with the Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund as a policy analyst as well.

The current budget crises have been problematic to Lopez's goals for the program at SJSU, he said.

"My arrival has corresponded with the worst economic crisis since the depression and that economic crisis has been unprecedented for the state and for the CSU and for San Jose State," he said. "When I arrived I was told I would be hiring two more

advisers that would be working full-time, and a half-time administrative assistant, but because of the budget crisis, I was not able to do any of that hiring."

He said he hopes that the program will eventually be able to grow and become as effective as it once was.

"My wish is that someday in the future people will view San Jose State in a light comparable to when it was one of the largest, most effective programs in the CSU system," he said. "And I don't know how long it will take to get there, especially under the current economic conditions."

Sophomore nursing major Ashley Havey said she believes that it is important for the SJSU to bring the program back to the state it was in when it first started at SJSU despite the current economic crisis.

"If it was working 40 years ago with the program being one of the best, then why shouldn't it be one of the best again?" she said.



Courtesy of Sacramento State Public Affairs

Nicole Anderson, a Sacramento State University student, was appointed to the California State University board of trustees by Gov. Schwarzenegger on Feb. 11.

## LIGHTS

From Page 1

an evening class and said she has felt safer walking this semester at night than she did last semester.

"This semester seems lighter," Tran-Le said. "I feel safer at night."

Mike Walters, a senior business entrepreneurship major, said he noticed the lights being out for a while between Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library and the chapel.

"I remember joking with the person I was with saying, 'Wow, has the budget crisis gotten that bad or are the lights simply not working right now,'" Walters said.

Orosa said he's fine with walking to his house in the dark, but said he thinks it would be

good to see the campus more illuminated.

Llamas said she thinks the campus could use a little more light.

"I walk alone usually," Llamas said. "I think it would be better to be in a group of people though."

Tran-Le said she feels safe walking at night because there is a blue light box right outside of Dudley Moorhead Hall, where she has a night class.

"I walk in public places where there are a lot of people around," she said. "I think it would probably be smart for me to carry pepper spray or a safe weapon of some kind."

Hernandez said the dark doesn't really bother him, but mentioned that for women it might be intimidating or dangerous.

"My best advice would be to walk with friends," he said.

"Don't walk alone."

McMurdo said she thinks the campus should have more or brighter lights.

"The lights should stay on until 11:00 p.m., not until 8:00 p.m.," she said. "When I get out of class at 11:00 p.m. everything is dark and closed."

Walters said those who park on campus should be worried for their safety.

"I would definitely be strongly concerned if I were not male," he said. "I look around a lot and trust my instincts, and if I were female, I'd seriously carry pepper spray."

McMurdo also said she thinks there are not enough security guards.

"Police cars are all around campus, but I never see any police officers on campus," she said. "Having the city be safe is nice, but I would rather my campus be safe."

## THIS DAY IN HISTORY



Spartan Daily Archives

(Above) On March 2, 1987, the Spartan Daily reported that the Society of Automotive Engineers displayed various aircraft in front of Clark Hall.

The Spartan Daily also reported that the positions of men's and women's athletic directors would be combined into a single athletic director for both genders.

Students would be allowed to challenge and skip their 100W class if they qualified and passed the Writing Workshop Waiver Exam, the precursor to the Writing Skills Test, the Spartan Daily reported.

## CSU

From Page 1

voice matters, and having a student representative is essential to represent the collective best interests of CSU students."

Erik Fallis, CSU media relations specialist, wrote in an e-mail that he agrees that it is important to have students weigh on issues that come before the board.

"The CSU is excited to have Anderson on the board of trustees," Fallis said. "It is critical to have students at the table when considering policies with wide-ranging impact on the university."

The student trustees are meant to provide a voice for the

approximately 433,000 students in the CSU system and represent their collective best interests, according to the California State Student Association Web site.

Becoming a student trustee is a three-step process that involves applying to become a student trustee through the California State Student Association, which then picks three to five nominees to be presented to the governor, according to the California State Student Association Student Trustee nominating procedure manual. The governor then appoints one of these nominees to the board.

The qualifications for becoming a student trustee include having attained junior class standing with a GPA of at least

2.0, and the ability to travel extensively throughout California to visit campuses and attend meetings, according to the California State Student Association Web site.

Anderson said she has a few words of advice for those considering applying to the board.

"I encourage all prospective applicants to educate themselves on the CSU and current topics the board of trustees have been dealing with recently," she said. "There are representatives at every campus (Associated Students Incorporated) that sit on the board of directors for the California State Student Association that should be able to help students get involved at a statewide level."

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# DRILL

From Page 1

emergency evacuation drill," he said.

Sgt. John Laws of UPD said there will always be problems.

"Certain glitches will always happen during drills and evacuations," Laws said.

Senior music major Keith Hunter said he was getting ready for wind ensemble when the fire alarm went off.

"It's ruining my schedule and routine," Hunter said. "I would rather have written instructions than waste my time evacuating a building."

Carmen Phu, a senior management information systems major, said she was sitting in class when the alarm sounded.

"The alarm went off and everyone just left the classroom and the building," Phu said. "If something would actually happen, people probably wouldn't walk out as calmly as they were today."

Laws said the emergency evacuation passed by quickly.

"I was surprised at how quickly this evacuation went," Laws said.

The last alarm in the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library stopped at about 1:55 p.m.

Supervising electrician John Chesterman said the library was the last alarm to be silenced on campus.

Ivan Padilla, a sophomore child development major, said he was waiting outside his classroom when the emergency evacuation started.

"It was like any other fire drill we had in middle school or high school," Padilla said. "If you're not in a situation, you don't know how people are going to react."

Freshman engineering major Erich Nelson said he was studying math for a test today and had been up all night working his shift at the school radio when the alarm went off.

"This is the 10th time this year our building has been evacuated, and it's making me really angry," Nelson said. "I pretty much refused to leave until they told everyone to get out."

Belcastro said the drills play a part in the education of students and teachers in emergency situations.

"In a real emergency, people will be frightened and panicked," he said. "Generally, people will not panic as much if they know what they're doing."

Veronica Ortiz, a sophomore business management major, said she was in a business class before the alarm.

"It took awhile to get everybody out just because there are so many people," Ortiz said. "We didn't really know where to go."

Sheila Shallop, a senior business management major, said she was walking to class when the alarm was pulled.

"Everyone came out of the building pretty quickly," Shallop said.

Padilla said he does not think fire drills are necessary or that they are an accurate portrayal of emergency situations.

"People are going to act the way they want to act when a disaster happens," he said. "And people don't follow protocol when their life is on the line."

Nelson said he thinks the emergency evacuations are useful, but that they could be shorter.

"This should be implemented at least once a semester," Nelson said.

Ortiz said she thinks the students at SJSU should be more informed about the emergency evacuation drills and evacuations in real emergencies.

She said students didn't know what they were doing and that drills don't really help when no one knows what they're doing.

Shallop said she appreciates fire drills and thinks there is a lot of good in them.

"They're a good way to prepare," she said.

# CAMPUS IMAGE



Elizabeth Medina / Spartan Daily

Advanced Glass student Morgan Chivers makes a unique flower for the upcoming Glass Guild Flower Sale occurring March 10 and 11 in the Art Quad from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

# Teddy bear offers relief to testing students

## TEST TAKING TEDDY

### Tips to help exam scores

- Set a schedule for studying, both throughout the semester and as finals approach.
- Create a test on the test subject. Trade it with another student's self-made test. This is useful to cover the information important enough to be on the test, as well as see what another student sees as important.
- To temper anxiety, it is best to arrive to a test on time. Arriving early can cause anxiety. This is because it puts the test taker in a more stressful location and allows the student to hear other students chat, which can raise anxiety levels. In the case of commuters, it is best to be on campus early but to not arrive to the test until test-taking time.
- When in doubt about a multiple-choice question with an "all of the above" option, choose it.
- The first sentence of an essay response should be direct and forceful, explaining what the response will be about.
- After leaving the test, look over the answers to learn from mistakes. Which type of questions caused trouble? A certain subject? Multiple choice questions? True-False questions?

Courtesy of Deanna Peck, SJSU coordinator of educational programs

Daniel Herberholz  
Staff Writer

The familiar comfort of one's childhood teddy bear can help relieve test-taking stress, an education coordinator said.

A dozen students gathered in Clark Hall Room 118 on Monday for the university program "Test Taking Teddy Plays To Win."

Deanna Peck, SJSU coordinator of educational programs, said the program was designed to use games of "Jeopardy" and a teddy bear to help students learn study tips.

Monique Howard, a junior child development major, said the program was a chance to learn in a more fun way than in the classroom.

"How cute is the teddy bear?" Howard said when she saw the

program's centerpiece. "Oh, it's cute."

Peck said there was a purpose behind the teddy bear.

"The teddy is important because if you always study with the teddy bear and you're comfortable with it, bring the teddy bear with you to the test," he said.

Peck talked about the best approach to essay questions, multiple-choice questions and general test anxiety.

"When I'm around anxious people and they're talking, my energy and my anxiety just automatically lifts — versus if I'm around a nice, calm, relaxed mood, it's going to calm down," Peck said.

Freshman nursing major Brian Huynh said he learned the most about testing anxiety.

"Deep breathing to relieve

stress, I never thought of that," he said. "I always have testing anxiety. I always showed up like an hour early for tests, and now I know that it causes anxiety. It's something good to learn."

Huynh said he came to the workshop because of the teddy bear.

Sophomore psychology major Tracy Chen said the workshop was helpful because it involved the students.

"Some workshops you just kind of sit through it," she said. "I really like workshops that are hands-on."

Peck said the program has been part of the Spartan Success Series for two years.

"We usually have this program around midterms or finals, because it is on everyone's mind," Peck said.

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# 'Atomic' chicken merely satisfies

**Justin Albert**  
Staff Writer

I'm not a huge fan of the heavy, bloated feeling I tend to feel after consuming red meat, particularly beef.

My taste buds are more attuned to the lighter taste of chicken, an ingredient which I tend to enjoy no matter what way it is prepared.

Being the chicken aficionado that I am, I was rather excited to dine at SmokeEaters — a lively establishment known for its abundant chicken options ranging from hot wings and tenders to various chicken salads.

Located on 29 S. Third Street, SmokeEaters, formerly known as University Chicken, offers a sports bar-type atmosphere complemented by a full range of finger foods, burgers and an array of chicken wings and sauces.

Sports-related paraphernalia, a large projector screen and 12 flat screen televisions line the four walls of the rectangular dining area, which adopts the dim lighting akin to most bar and grills.

Having eaten at SmokeEaters on several previous occasions, this particular visit I opted to order chicken tenders basted in the restaurant's signature "Atomic" sauce, a step up on the heat scale from the traditional buffalo.

I complemented the order with a basket of curly fries topped with melted cheese, not the best thing for those of you watching your diets.

A friend of mine with whom I was dining decided on a Buffalo Tender salad.

The restaurant was unusually slow for Wednesday night, so the food was ready to pick up at the front counter after about 10 minutes.

The tenders arrived steaming hot with the buffalo sauce generously spread throughout, which proved a little too much for my taste.

After finishing one of my three tenders, I was already somewhat disappointed that I had skipped out on my usual order of hot wings.

SmokeEaters' tenders were oversaturated with buffalo sauce, something that works for the wings but not so much for the chunky pieces of meat found in the tenders.

The curly fries were pretty standard, seasoned with just enough spice and served with ranch sauce, complementing

## RESTAURANT OF THE WEEK



**Justin Albert / Spartan Daily**  
The cheesy curly fries and chicken tenders covered in "Atomic" sauce from SmokeEaters located on 29 S. Third Street.

the chicken nicely.

The cheese, however, proved to be more of a nuisance than a delicious topping.

Large chunks of cheese were slopped on the top of the curly fry mound, which quickly melted into an unidentifiable combination of potato and cheddar, something that was both hard to eat and a little too thick for my taste.

My friend's salad consisted of pieces of chicken tenders coated in buffalo sauce, similar to my order but chopped into smaller bite-size pieces, over a bed of greens and blue cheese.

The combination worked well as the buffalo chicken tenders were far more manageable when cut into smaller, less saucy pieces while still retaining enough of a zing to complement the rest of the salad.

The bill came out to around \$17, translating to about \$6 an entree, which could be considered a bit on the pricey side for the standard array of finger foods that SmokeEaters offers.

Tuesday nights at SmokeEaters are dubbed "Winger Tuesdays," and are definitely one of the busier weekday nights for the establishment.

From 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., all wings are

50 cents, drawing in droves of San Jose residents and college students for a pretty good deal on chicken wings.

SmokeEaters' final claim to fame is its "Hellfire Challenge," a ridiculous contest which is sure to leave participants with stomach ulcers in exchange for a dingy "I survived" T-shirt and a photo on the wall.

Participants of the challenge are required to eat 12 of "the hottest wings on the planet" within 10 minutes and without napkins or a drink.

Following the hot wing binge, contestants must withstand a five-minute "afterburn" period which the bloated individual must endure before receiving his or her novelty shirt and photo on the wall.

The "Hellfire Challenge" pretty much sums up what SmokeEaters is all about — a truckload of novelty and very little substance.

All in all, SmokeEaters is a hit if you have a large group of friends looking for a fun place to eat, but don't expect to write home about the abundance of fairly standard finger foods.

Perhaps a nice frothy beer with your wings will be enough to help mask the mediocrity.

# Story of the Year plays 'constant' rock



**Kevin Hume**  
Staff Writer

Story of the Year always puts tons of energy into its music, and its latest album is no exception.

"The Constant," released on Feb. 16, is chock-full of riffs that will make even the laziest person get up and start rockin' out.

Teaming up with producer Michael "Elvis" Baskette, who helped co-produce the band's last record "The Black Swan," the band sounds thick, strong and as heavy as ever.

Story of the Year has an absolute knack for writing heavy, anthemic alternative metal songs with pop sensibilities.

What exactly does that mean? It means they know how to write radio friendly metal songs that are incredibly easy for listeners to access because they have a firm grasp on pop music hooks.

Story of the Year reminds me of a modern equivalent of bands like Poison and Motley Crue — bands that wrote heavy pop songs that made listeners want to party.

That's what this album is — a party in a jewel case, or digital download if you don't like CDs.

From the beginning, the album blasts off and barely stops to let the listener breathe.

When the band kicked in on opener "The Children Sing," my head started to bang because the riff demanded it.

The song has such a good hook, and shows how Story of the Year blends anthemic choruses and chugging verses.

Lead single "I'm Alive" follows with its slower modern rock radio fare, replete with guitars soaked in reverb and a 1980s power ballad feel.

"To the Burial" is one of the

heaviest tracks on the album. Vocalist Dan Marsala screams all over this track, while the band cycles between an up-tempo verse and a half-time chorus. A frenetic guitar solo appears toward the end of the song.

"The Dream is Over" is one of many album highlights. It is one of the most accessible tunes on the album.

The song is a fast-paced rocker that never tips the scales into being too heavy. It features the best guitar solo on the album and a guitar riff that will get stuck in your head because it is so damn hypnotic.

"Holding on to You" is the lightest song on the album. Reminiscent of past hit "Sidewalks," it is a piano-driven pop song that could be considered cheesy, but, is beautifully constructed and feels genuine. I love this band because this song would feel out of place on any other band's album, but doesn't here.

What immediately follows is the heaviest song, "Won Threw Ate." A shotgun of a snare hit sounds the assault, with Marsala's scream ever-present. If this song doesn't start mosh pits, I don't know what will.

Baskette's production makes the band shine. Marsala's vocals are heard loud and clear. Drummer Josh Wills' snare sounds like a shotgun throughout the record. Guitarists Philip Sneed and Ryan Phillips' sound is crunchy on heavy parts and full of reverb when clean. Bassist Adam "The Skull" Russell fills the bottom end, standing out when necessary.

Most of the songs on here sound like they could be B-sides from Story of the Year's 2005 album "In the Wake of Determination."

The band's last album, 2008's "The Black Swan," was a much more original, stronger album than "The Constant."

"The Constant" is a great alternative pop-metal album. While it lacks in innovation, its strength is in its ability to make listeners want to party and rock out.

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10 Pinch of salt  
14 — Linda, Calif.  
15 Nautical command  
16 Columnist — Chase  
17 Not "ter"  
18 Eccentric  
19 Six, in Seville  
20 Milky Way  
22 Bookstore section (hyph.)  
24 Vex  
26 Pick pears  
27 Grain alcohol  
30 Backed financially  
34 Tiny legume  
35 Cattle prods  
38 Petal, maybe  
39 Dernier —  
40 Dork  
42 Before, in combos  
43 Acrylic fiber  
46 Did the exterior  
48 Toy canine, in brief  
49 Analyzed  
51 In — (overdue)  
53 The other people  
55 Orka, neighbor  
56 Came back to  
60 Kampala's land  
64 Cushy job  
65 Famed violin  
67 Diner employee  
68 "— Lisa"  
69 Noted soap vixen  
70 Cager — Kukoc  
71 Endorse a check  
72 After-shower wraps  
73 Port near Algiers

**DOWN**  
1 Smelling waste  
2 Forum garb  
3 Jannings of old films

**PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED**

4 Canal site  
5 Grocery section (2 wds.)  
6 Space task?  
7 Works on a bobbin  
8 Flowers with rays  
9 Vogues  
10 Suds container  
11 Toward shelter  
12 Black & Decker rival  
13 Fastener  
21 Ped — (traffic caution)  
23 Blubber and snot  
25 Defects  
27 Orlando attraction  
28 — Haute, Ind.  
29 Rains ice  
31 Frat letter  
32 Wrong move

33 Considers  
36 Opus —  
37 Car model  
41 Resort islands  
44 Hassock  
45 Radar  
O'Reilly's soda  
47 Remnant  
50 More compressed  
52 Hobby knife  
54 Part of MGM  
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57 "The Time Machine" people  
58 Freud rival  
59 Small amount  
61 Koh-i — diamond  
62 Lisbon lady  
63 Related  
66 King beater

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# Doing the dirty job: our path to a degree

No one wants to clean up excrement. I don't think I'm going out on a limb by saying that is just one of those facts of life. Jobs whose workload include the removal and/or disposal of excrement are, naturally, some of the hardest-working and most honest jobs that exist.

But somehow, our society doesn't value this skill set. Why?

Because no one wants to clean up excrement.

So if no one wants to do this, why isn't the world covered in excrement? To quote an age-old adage, "It's a dirty job, but someone's got to do it."

And, more or less, that's why we're all here at SJSU, isn't it? So we don't have to do dirty jobs?

I used to have a job as a heavy lifter at a hardware store. Some soccer mom came by in a minivan with her kid to pick up \$400 worth of patio furniture.

Fortunately for me, the box mover, patio sets used to come in large, unwieldy boxes, each weighing as much as a concrete dwarf.

After I had finagled the middle-class accessories into the back of her van, she told her kid, while pointing at me, "That is why you're going to college."

OK, so I had a dirty job, and her kid is going to have a clean job.

But riddle me this: What if the whole world went to college?

Let me break it down a little more. Right now, all of your pleasure as a consumer is based on people whose jobs are worse than yours. You're a student at SJSU, probably working a few part-time jobs to get through college. When you go to P.F. Chang's, you are gaining pleasure at the expense of the misery of those you patronize. It's sort of an even trade, though,



**Angelo Lanham**  
Yes, I Have a Point

because it's likely that at least one of your part-time jobs is on that level.

So maybe your waitress at P.F. Chang's will come bother you at your flower shop job one day, and you're obligated not to mind, since you stiffed her for a tip on account of you're a broke college student.

Mostly, though, the P.F. Chang's waitress you didn't tip serves people in a somewhat higher tax bracket than she. It's

not easy either, being on her feet all day, being condescended to by middle-class folk and stiffed by broke college students.

In short, she, like all retail employees, works weekends and holidays for one reason: To serve those who don't.

Yes, friends, we are all servants. We don't mind too much, because eventually, we will end up with nice, sparkly degrees. The degree has many applications — we will use them to have weekends off and go to Target five minutes before closing to buy new dress shirts.

Back to the question: What if the whole world went to college?

Let's say everyone on the planet is educated and qualified for some coveted desk job.

No one's serving up food, renting you DVDs (shut up, Netflix people, you get my point), running the return counter so you can get rid of that awful,

gifted Christmas tie ...

A world without servants. It could be argued that these positions would be held by those who are currently going to college, but if the world is made up entirely of college-educated individuals gaining weight behind desks, odds are that college students don't have to work their way through.

Let's not get detailed enough to imagine what an economy supporting this would look like — that's not the point. The point is, as a consumer, you make other people miserable in order to be momentarily happy. So do I. It's another one of those facts of life.

Even if you steer clear of P.F. Chang's and, say, buy DVDs to watch in the privacy of your own home, you are patronizing the misery of the Indonesian children responsible for producing the plastic and assembling the damn thing, all so you can

watch "When Harry Met Sally" with director commentary.

How do you like that \$60 DVD player? If everyone who had a hand in making it was paid a fair wage, God knows how much the damn thing would cost — not to mention the intellectual property that was ripped off in the first place.

Look. No one likes sweatshops, and no one likes making waitresses miserable. Most of us feel like we're on our way to something greater. We're waiting tables, cleaning up crap, or whatever — it's usually considered a milestone on the way to something society deems more grand.

But if you don't do your dirty job, who will? Further, what's so bad about your dirty job in the first place?

"Yes, I Have a Point," appears weekly on Tuesdays. Angelo Lanham is a Spartan Daily copy editor.

# Instructor's checklist: apple, chalk, eraser, gun

Teachers shouldn't play with guns. No, seriously.

Ever since that crazy lady went and shot three of her colleagues at the University of Alabama-Huntsville, I've been having nightmares about being gutted alive by a pissed-off professor who got mad at me for questioning his or her authority.

All because she was denied tenure.

Gee, I wonder why? She probably made a habit of writing her name on the tuna sandwich she brought for lunch and left in the faculty refrigerator, just waiting to pounce on the first hand that made a move for it.

Come to think, I wouldn't doubt she beat her students behind closed doors every now and again.

Where the heck was campus police when all of this was taking place, huh? The doughnuts and coffee must have been real yummy that day.



**Angelo Scrofani**  
Staff Writer

And apparently, this isn't the first time a screw came loose in her noggin.

She shot her brother once upon a time in 1986, and not with the stink eye or a sling shot, but with real bullets.

She killed him for crying out loud!

I guess stuff like that might have been cool back in the '80s, but this is ridiculous, it's fringing 2010.

I wonder how this impor-

**I now have to psych myself into believing there isn't a pistol in the top drawer of my professor's desk.**

tant piece of information, this nugget of truth, slipped between the cracks when she applied for a job at the university?

Granted, she was a Harvard-trained neuroscientist, which probably isn't the easiest thing to learn, so I guess it's safe to assume she was a genius.

But I'd like to think all the money students pay in tuition could produce a background check worth more than, "What's your name again? What do you teach? Where'd you go to college? OK, good enough, the gig is yours."

Now, no longer do I have to worry only about the person occupying the seat next to me going nuts for no other reason other than the fact the sharp end of his or her pencil broke off.

I now have to psych myself into believing there isn't a pistol in the top drawer of my professor's desk.

I feel like I'm going to have duck-walk behind a shrub, poking my head out to make sure the coast is clear and doing judo rolls across campus, so I can get to class safely.

Entertain that thought for a brief second.

Teachers walking around with 9 mm automatics pasted to their hips, it's high noon and tumbleweeds are blowing in the background synchronized to the theme music for "How the West was Won."

You better be quick on the draw.

It's bad enough tragedies like the Columbine and Virginia Tech massacres grabbed us all by the privates, involving kids so immersed in their own personal issues that the voices in their heads took the wheel.

Now we should watch out for our instructors, too?

It seems as though with every passing year, the sanctity of schools nationwide become painted red.

I don't mean to be disrespectful or ignorant.

I understand how others might still be sensitive about the whole subject.

I just think we could all use a bit of humor from time to time.

I'm at a loss for words.

Somebody, please, pinch me so I know this isn't a dream.

# Learning from kids with Down syndrome

I'll admit one of the reasons I volunteered for the San Diego Special Olympics was to help expedite the process of getting my ex-girlfriend to realize I was capable of a good deed. OK, maybe it was more like 85 percent of my motivation for offering one of my few evenings off from work each week to kids who'd most likely forget me.

During my sophomore year of junior college in Southern California, my buddy Anthony told me about a local volunteering opportunity as basketball coaches with six 14-year-olds. Being the sports-all-day-everyday junkies we once were, we jumped at the chance to beef up our resumes. He signed me up for the program that night.

The next day, Anthony and I were leaning back in our chairs at a meeting at our school newspaper was about to commence. I can clearly envision it, he snorted a quick laugh and said, "Did I tell you it was on Thursday nights? Oh yeah,

and it's for the Special Olympics."

Of course Anthony forgot to mention that. It was nothing new to him because he had taught similar lessons for mentally challenged children at the bowling alley where he worked. Trying not to fret over why I hadn't asked for details before I signed up, I told him it was completely cool with me. In my head, I hesitated for an instant. I was worried my lack of experience with children might play a role in my effectiveness with these kids.

I was down for the challenge but unfortunately for the wrong reasons. At this point, I had already turned in my applications to my prospective colleges — I wasn't terribly worried about my resume in general either.

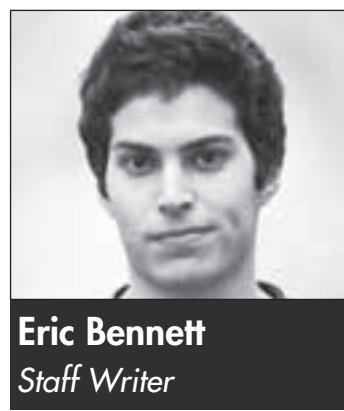
The girl I had dated since my senior year of high school was doing well during a break we decided to take from our relationship. We lived 500 miles away from each other at that point, but I wanted her to see I was being productive on

my own as well. Going into these practices, I wanted to believe I was as good a person as Anthony, but that wasn't the case then.

I wasn't going to tell my high school sweetheart about the volunteering until I was a few months into it. She told me she started dating another guy a day or so before the first practice.

It turned out the practices were held in a poor, slummy area of San Diego. Anthony and I arrived before many of the kids. We were shooting hoops for a while before the children started to trickle into the gym.

I began to tense up, nervousness eating me alive. Normally I am much more charismatic, I thought to myself.



**Eric Bennett**  
Staff Writer

As I turned to my friend to ask what we should do now, a young boy sprinted up to us, stole our basketball and went in for a shot. His shot attempt had completely missed the mark, sailing over the backboard and into a nearby hallway. But he turned back toward us with one of the biggest, most genuine smiles I'd ever witnessed.

This boy, Nick, has Down syndrome. Happiness seemed to run to Nick's core. After that moment, Anthony and I sported smiles for what seemed like the entire six months we spent helping those kids that fall. It was unfathomable how much energy children with cerebral palsy and other life-changing diseases could have. These kids just wanted to play ball and

maybe have someone show them a pointer or two.

They took the coaching seriously and it showed when competition time came around — although I'm pretty sure Anthony taught them most of what they learned.

I was too caught up in mini bouts with the kids for who had the better shot, dribble, etc. They always came out on top. Those kids at the Special Olympics showed me how enjoyable the simpler side of life can be.

The reasons I joined might make me shake my head, but in the end the lessons still resonate.

There's a lot more fun I could be having if I wasn't so consumed by my other feeble affairs.

I've gone back with Anthony in the two summers since and by the time practice is over, we've heard our names a hundred times too many. So much for the kids forgetting about us.

## Spartan Daily

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# Oakes uses blocks to build home in paint

Center excels through tragedy to find success

Daniel Herberholz  
Staff Writer

Chris Oakes grabs the rebound and tries to put it back. From below the basket, he watches it roll in and out and then off the rim, as a Fresno State Bulldog pushes play the other way. You can see it in the grimace on his face that he wanted that one, as he lets out a roar and sprints back on defense.

"I'm always anticipating if it is just coming off (the rim)," said the starting center for the SJSU men's basketball team. "If I'm going up, or if somebody misses a shot and I'm going to go rebound it on the offensive or defensive end, I'm always looking to get a rhythm."

Oakes, a senior African-American studies major, used this rhythmic approach to become a mainstay in the paint for the Spartans the past few years. The 6-foot-9-inch man has averaged 9.7 rebounds and 7.9 points in 80 games as of Saturday's contest against Fresno State.

Oakes is second in the Western Athletic Conference in both offensive and total rebounds this season.

After taking Oakland's Castlemont High to the NorCal championships his senior year, Oakes played two seasons with Pepperdine before transferring to SJSU in 2007.

This season, Oakes has scored 10.9 points per game, making 57 percent of his field goals — which is sixth best in the WAC.

"He brings a huge amount of energy, he's the motor to our car," said senior guard Robert Owens.

"Every team needs that — it's real important you've got a real vocal voice out there. We feed off of that."

On and off the court, Oakes said he feeds off a love for jazz artists like John Coltrane, as well as off grief placed on his shoulders in 2005 when his father died because of lung cancer.

"He was dying when he found out," Oakes said. "I didn't know anything about cancer. I had heard of it, but I didn't know the severity of it as far as timing and what he had to do."

He said he watched as his father lost weight because of chemotherapy, and as his father went into the operating room.

"I saw him fighting for his life," Oakes said. "That experience I think made me stronger, just knowing you can't take life for granted, and how important it is for you to fight for what you believe in."

This semester, Oakes said he is taking a history of jazz course, and said Coltrane is one of his favorite jazz musicians.

"The rhythm of jazz and how the horns play and how they compliment each other, but they still are independent within themselves," Oakes said.

"Everyone is rhythmic and have to move on defense and offense, but still individually you express yourself from your own play."

#### The Blocks' and home roots

Oakes coach once called him a "program player" — a description that seems to fit.

"Chris is with us 100 percent of the time," said George Nessman, SJSU men's basketball head coach. "You'll never find Chris on his own agenda. He's on the agenda of what is best for San Jose State basketball."

That attitude is apparent when watching Oakes on the court, as well as in the way he speaks about being on the team.

"One of the things I did when I first came here, the mindset I

wanted to have, was to try to help build this program into something that our fans would want to come and can enjoy, and that they can appreciate," Oakes said. "I think that blocking shots, rebounding, dunking the basketball and just helping San Jose State — do whatever I can do to help my team get a win."

This season, he moved into the No. 2 spot on the school's all-time blocks list with 105.

"To the program, it means a lot," Owens said of Oakes' placement on the blocks list. "For him to do that, it just shows how much he's been working."

Oakes said the NBA team he is most impressed with is the Boston Celtics because of their hardworking, team-first attitude. As a sophomore in high school, Oakes played against former Celtic and fellow Oakland native Leon Powe, who was a senior at the time.

"I was a skinny kid with braces and an afro, and playing against Leon was one of the biggest challenges," Oakes said. "The first couple plays down, Leon tried to shoot and I blocked it. I felt so good. But by the end of the game, he had 44 points, and I had fouled out."

Oakes acknowledges Powe's affect on Oakland basketball.

"I respect Leon a lot for what he did to open up the doors for a lot of big men like me who came after him," he said.

#### Team and Personal Growth

Fellow senior Owens also played high school ball in Oakland, facing Oakes while at Skyline High.

"I look up to Chris a lot," Owens said. "I'm a quiet guy myself, and (he) is kinda quiet. As time went by this year, it's a whole 360 — we're all together. For both of us to make that transition is great."

Owens is not the only one to see improvement.



Thomas Webb / Spartan Daily

Senior center Chris Oakes dunks in SJSU's loss to Seattle University on Feb. 22. Oakes moved into the No. 2 spot on the SJSU's all-time blocks list earlier this season.

"He was a good rebounder, and now he's a very good rebounder," Nessman said. "He was a pretty good defender, and now he's an excellent defender. He's just grown in all phases."

Oakes said he sees growth in the program as a whole.

"This year is like a building block," Oakes said. "We're building to become a better San Jose State men's basketball team. Hopefully the guys after us ... will continue to build until this place

becomes without a doubt one of the hardest places to come play at."

As for Oakes' own future, Nessman said he will have the opportunity to at least play overseas in Europe.

"If I had to project, he'll end up in an NBA training camp, and we'll see what happens there," Nessman said.

Oakes said he wants to continue playing basketball as long as he stays healthy.

"I feel like I have so much to learn about this game," he said. "I'm just now tapping into what I can do."

Nessman said Oakes is not only prepared for competition at a higher level, but also prepared for life.

"Chris always was a good person, but he's really ready to enter into the world now," Nessman said. "There's no question about it."

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