**DESIRE2LEARN TO ERASE BLACKBOARD ON CAMPUS**

The two programs, Desire2Learn and Blackboard, are learning management systems, said Glykostakes and Ruth Hazl, campus associate director. Blackboard is one of the leading producers of a system where grades can be posted and course material, but Desire2Learn is coming up quickly, Magnas said.

Brett Bower, a sophomore social science major, said he hasn’t used Blackboard himself, but has heard about it from his peers.

“I’ve never used (Blackboard) before,” Bower said. “I just heard from classmates that it wasn’t working as well as it was in the past.”

The move from Blackboard to Desire2Learn was chosen by a task force, a group of professors selected to find the best system, that felt Desire2Learn was a more robust and powerful product, Zlotolow said.

He said the task had to choose a product that met the accessibility standards of the California State University. Although Blackboard met the standards required, Zlotolow said Desire2Learn seemed to be a superior product.

“It will enhance learning opportunities,” he said.

Hazard and Zlotolow said a lot of different tools are integrated into this system, such as the Turmit Web site which looks at plagiarism detection and can provide feedback almost right away.

See DESIRE, Page 2

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**OBAMA PUSHES FOR STRicter TESTING**

President Obama is urging governors to toughen student assessments to better prepare students for college and their careers, he said in a speech released Feb. 27 to the White House.

The president noted that the nation’s blood through $5 billion annually in Medicaid education costs and that he will commit an additional $400 million in grants to states that adopt tougher student assessment programs, according to the news release.

“Senior animation major Claudia Law said she saw a significant difference in the rankings of students toward preparing them for the next level of their education and that bringing more focus to those tests could be beneficial for students.

“That may actually help,” Law said of the possibility of more rigorous student assessments. “I remember seniors who could not pass the exit exam. If they push toward preparing for college, it could help the students a lot.”

Marianne Chiaramonte, a sociology professor, said she hasn’t heard much on the topic recently.

“Obama is pushing for standards, but it seems like this is going to be a real rough year,” she said.

See OBAMA, Page 3

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**SPRING FASHION**

**Tech Section**

Check out this season’s hottest looks

See PAGES 4 & 5

See www.thespartandaily.com
Tuesday, March 16, 2010

**Spokaun Daily**

**Students for 49ers: Stay in SF**

Christopher Hofstich, a fres-

Desire 49ers

On Monday, Santa Clara city of-

Desire49ers President, said his

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behooves us to better educate our students,” she said. “In high school, the continuation high schools and the continuation schools are the areas of education that need the most help. “We need to look at continuation high schools and see how well we are serving the students,” she said. “In the long run, this affects the economy. If we don’t improve this economy we risk being a Third World state. It behooves us to better educate all kids.”

Teruya Votchi, a senior health science major, said she did not notice the troubles that faced transgender individuals. “We would want to look at is the alignment of professionals within the field,” she said. “We have five meta-analyses conducted that have proven, both quantitatively and qualitatively, that there are principles that the best way for children to learn English is through their native language. That is something that we want them to go back and look out in ‘Race to the Top’ and new reforms.”

The Equal Opportunity Program and other groups on campus voiced support for the California State University Board’s decision to lower the standards for admission to CSU campuses.

“Maybe we can give more to those who are not at the level at the college level,” he said. “So then they don’t have to worry about what they’re not expected to. It could help make them more successful and more prepared for college.”

But all of the attention should be focused on our assessing our students’ readiness for college, Mendonsa-Reis said. “There must be more resources and effort put into bilingual programs, which is where the disconnect between the administration’s reforms and what the minority students need.”

“From Page 1

The educational system, Mendonsa-Reis said, is “too focused on professors and the standards held for students transitioning into a higher education.

Those are the kids that have limited exposure. If we don’t say, ‘I’m going to help them in that high school, or in the gymnasium, or in the classroom, or a cafeteria,’ then we lose them. We have to look at where students’ needs will be addressed.”

Mendonsa-Reis said continuation schools are the areas of education that need the most help.

“We need to look at continuation high schools and see how well we are serving the students,” she said. “In the long run, this affects the economy. If we don’t improve this economy we risk being a Third World state. It behooves us to better educate all kids.”

Chair talks about event’s purpose

Matt Santello
Staff Writer

The 12th Annual Sexual Diversity Event takes aim at the issue of health care access and the LGBT community.

Michele Mashburn, Sexual Diversity Committee chair, helped put on the event, which she said is important for CSU because it brings awareness of serious issues facing the LGBTQ community.

“This started 12 years ago when students come to health science faculty and said that were not represented appropriately in the curriculum,” Mashburn said.

She said the event was important because it gave students a chance to see real life issues and experiences from people of the community.

“This event is not to argue whether [being] gay is right or wrong,” Mashburn said. “It is more to showcase an issue in the LGBTQA community outside of HIV or AIDS.”

Mashburn said members of the LGBTQ community are wrongly singled out because of who they are.

“There are a lot of ‘trans people’ that are not welcome in certain doctor’s offices and you have a lot of bisexual people who are not willing to be out to their providers,” she said. “You have providers who are not culturally competent enough to give the care to those people who need it. The care. They don’t ask the right questions, they don’t know the culture. They don’t know the issues that are going to be presented.”

Mashburn said she hopes the event will inspire students to take action on important issues facing the community.

“We hope people will come up with action steps of what they can do different from today’s event that will make a difference for this community,” she said.
Tones ring free with Android app

Calling all Android users: Stop purchasing ringtones and start using Ringdroid.

Ringdroid is an application for phones using the Android operating system that allows users to make their own ringtones.

This is accomplished by pulling down data from music that has been loaded onto the user's cell phone.

The app lets all music on the phone in alphabetical order, making it easy to onto the user's cell phone.

After downloading a song, the app activates an interface that shows sound quality of the song if they know what song they want to specify an end time in the end box, the ringtone to start.

The next time you're looking for a ringtone for all your friends and family making great-sounding custom ring...
Faculty, staff nibble on Apple’s iPad in preview event

Donovan Farnham
Staff Writer

Tuesday, March 16, 2010

The iPad, which was not demonstrated at the meeting, was announced on Jan. 27 and will be available April 3, retailing from $499 to $829, according to the Apple Web-site.

Tania Sanchez, a senior graphic design major, said she would consider using an iPad for school, but there are functions the iPad doesn’t do that her MacBook does.

She said the price is also a downside to the product and that she sees it as more of an extension of the iPod Touch than a replacement for a laptop.

“I do a lot of other things like using Photoshop and making music and those kind of things you aren’t necessarily being doing on an iPad," Sanchez said. "I would not stick with my laptop.”

The iPad operates off of the same functionality as an iPod Touch and iPhone and Riley said the device can be seen as filling the void between mobile devices and full computers like the MacBook laptops.

Riley said Apple is proud of this disability functionality of its mobile devices and that the system will be able to provide assistance to users that have vision and audio disabilities.

He said other e-readers don’t support those features, which he says disqualifies those devices for Section 508 funding.

Section 508 is a law that was enacted in 1998 that requires all federal agencies to keep electronic services available to those with disabilities.

“It’s really amazing on iPhone and iPad touch how this voice-over capability works,” Riley said. “I’m completely blind and I can’t see the screen, but I can use a touch device. Iomega my fingers around the screen. As it’s reading each button on the screen and when I want to choose one, I wouldn’t know where to tap, so I double tap anywhere and it selects that item.”

Riley said the device will also have a mono audio system to assist the hearing-impaired and full zoom and inverse color schemes to assist the vision-impaired.

Green Dapper, the SJSU Section 508 compliance specialist, and the capabilities of the iPhone and iPad already help students with disabilities and said she is excited to be testing out the iPad’s accessibility capa-

“Apple is really breaking over to make things accessible to people with special needs, and I think that’s really key,” Dapper said. "When moving forward and looking at things you’re going to be bringing on campus and think about how to use technology and how to make them best for everyone on campus.”

Despite the features on iPad, Davis Martinez, a sophomore computer engineering major, said he thought the iPad is a cool computer, but said he agrees that the price of the iPad is off-putting.

“It would be a hindrance in some cases because that’s a lot of money invested into a new computer when I already have one.” Martinez said, “I only have a part-time job and that’s all the money I can use.”

The camera has a wide range of custom modes, which allows users to tailor specific aspects of the picture, giving professional photographers the tools they need to capture the proper pic-

tures.

The LX-3 can shoot in macro mode, which produces crystal clear close-ups that reveal an abundance of detail.

Another feature of the LX-3 is its ability to shoot videos in full high-definition, a solid second-

ary feature that complements the camera and allows users to capture great still photos.

A specific feature I was pleased to discover in the cam-

era’s multiple exposure option, which allows users to take mul-

ti-layered photos, combining several succes-

sive pictures into one image.

I was immediately confounded by this feature, but after playing around with it for a while, I was able to produce some art, overlapped photos that turned out great when printed on photo paper.

Demeter’s camera suffers from a lens cover that automatically opens and closes, the LX-3’s compact stylings, the LX-3 tends to zoom to only a fraction of the view and an appreciation for the cam-

era’s multiple exposure option, the LX-3 is a small camera that automatically opens and closes, that automatically opens and closes.

Users can alleviate this issue, however, by mounting an external micro-

phone that can fit right onto the camera’s hot shoe, a slot on the top portion of the camera that allows for external micro-

phones.

The hot shoe also allows for other add-ons such as external viewfinders and more powerful flashes.

Once again, the LX-3’s optical zoom falls short when shooting videos because users can only adjust the zoom prior to filming and none of the video editing, something I feel could have been easy to fix.

Panasonic and several third-party dealers have made supplen-

tmental lens that can fit right onto the LX-3’s with proper mounts, allowing the camera to fit fisheye, wide-angle and telephoto lenses, giving users further image flexibility.

At $500 retail, the LX-3 is def-

initely not cheap, but for people with a passion for photography and an appreciation for the camera’s compact stylings, the LX-3 will serve as a great companion.

The iPad, which has been announced since Apple introduced it to give SJSU faculty and staff an overview of the iPad and how it and other devices such as the iPhone and iPod Touch, along with software, can be used to change higher education by pro-

viding a more streamlined and digitally integrated classroom.

If you are a photography stick-

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Suzanne McHenry is no feather in the wind.

Every day, she rises with the sun to run with the homeless.

Every day, she’s feeding her life, her career and her future.

Feed your future at www.pwc.tv
Gymnasts develop bond after perfect landing at SJSU

JASMINE DUARTE

When Jessica Khoshnood, Gabrielle Targosz and Tiffany Louie came to SJSU as freshmen on gymnastics scholarships, they all hated having to train again because they wanted to train again because she wanted to get into a good school and her gymnastics background would help. Louie said she knew at a young age that gymnastics was her calling. "I've quit everything I have done and gymnastics is the one thing I have never been able to make it through to your senior year is a great feeling." When Khoshnood, Targosz and Louie started together as freshmen at SJSU, there were seven girls in the team. Today, only three remain, Targosz. "I'm glad it was us three because all we have had a successful career. "Gymnastics is what we live and breathe for," Louie said. "There is no chance to get a scholarship in gymnastics. It takes up your life, and now you have all this free time and you just don't know what to do with it." "The trio agreed that gymnastics has always been in all of their lives since they could walk. "From the moment I was born, I have been doing gymnastics, I just say 'forever,'" Khoshnood said. "In every grade, I decided I wanted to try and get a gymnastics scholarship, and since then I worked to achieve it. "I wanted to have a real life, and not be in the gym or practice all the time," she said. As her senior year in high school approached, Targosz decided she wanted to try and get a scholarship that gymnastics was her calling. "I didn't know anything about the competition, but how you learn that it's not as easy as you thought," she said. It was in seventh grade that Louie started to compete and I fell in love with it all over again. "I have been doing gymnastics for five years. "I want to have a real life, and not be in the gym or practice all the time," she said. As her senior year in high school approached, Targosz decided she wanted to try and get a scholarship again because she wanted to get into a good school and her gymnastics background would help. Louie said she knew at a young age that gymnastics was her calling. "I've quit everything I have done and gymnastics is the one thing I have never been able to make it through to your senior year is a great feeling."

SJSU senior gymnasts

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Hometown</th>
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<th>Career Best</th>
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<tr>
<td>Gabrielle Targosz</td>
<td>Phoenix, AZ</td>
<td>Communication Studies</td>
<td>9.8 on floor</td>
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<td>Tiffany Louie</td>
<td>Millbrae, CA</td>
<td>Health Science</td>
<td>9.825 on bar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jessica Khoshnood</td>
<td>Bellevue, WA</td>
<td>Business</td>
<td>9.8 on floor</td>
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SJSU senior gymnasts

Michelle Wright said it's not just about the competition in the sport, but how the student-athlete changes and develops as a person. "The student-athlete changes and develops as a person. "I'm just so proud of the three of us."

Louie said she can hardly imagine never performing at the Event Center again. "The gymnastics team performed for the last time at home this season on March 5. "I remember as a freshman, I didn't understand how big of a deal it was for the seniors at their last home meet," Louie said. "But now, thinking about it after this, we are never going to compete in that gym ever again."

Women's gymnastics head coach Wayne Wright said it's not just about the competition in the sport, but how the student-athlete changes and develops as a person. "It's always hard when you recruit an athlete to see them leave because you see them grow and progress during the time they are here with you," Wright said. "But you feel good because they have had a successful career."

Khoshnood admits she is apprehensive about the future because she doesn't know what comes after college gymnastics. "All I know is gymnastics, and the fact that I have to leave it behind is probably the scariest thing I have to do," she said. "Gymnastics is what we live and breathe for." Louie said. "There is no chance to get a scholarship in gymnastics. It takes up your life, and now you have all this free time and you just don't know what to do with it."
I don’t like how they give me the opportunity to be lazy when I clearly should be working my brain.

Angelo Lanham
Staff Writer

A furloughed day means another day to sleep in and veg out in front of the television. A furlough throws off the rhythm that will be released on March 23. By getting that content for free, you may still have some registration fees or hiring more reporters. But it does. By purchasing their content, you are supporting them.

Furlough days: a welcome gift and an unwanted curse

Thumbs: Survival of the fittest, baby

I was enjoying some fresh air and staring, somewhat blandly, at a building, when I thought of thumbs.

Without opposable thumbs, I think it’s safe to say that we wouldn’t have been able to develop much of the technology we do today. Nor mention the numerous other life-prolonging medi-cations and dialysis machines, such as iPads, that make this life easy.

Smartarty-type likes to say that opposable thumbs are the major reason we evolved from monkeys and us humans.

Thumbs are important — in fact, this theory supports my own long-standing idea that if cats had opposable thumbs, they’d give us all the finger and craftily manage to smog and decorate until you have so many flashing ob-scene symbols of Jell-O and having a real heart to heart. The old essay is not a negative crusade against progress — well, I guess it is. But fear not — I intend to stop using hot water or monkeying around on my laptop. But, a furloughed class means an extra day for working and paying for the fur-lough, so I don’t have any choice.

So what to do for a short-

ANGELO LANHAM

Yes, I Have a Point

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So what to do for a short-
As the seasons change, and the weather warms, fashion trends start coming into full bloom. This spring, contrasting items and colors can be combined to create innovative layered ensembles, and designers and stores alike bring their most eclectic trends from the runway to the sidewalk.

It is also a time to experiment by mixing and matching to find a style that suits individual tastes. Designer Marc Jacobs said this spring is a time to express one’s individuality by abandoning the popular trend of black studded apparel, according to Style Web site.

Jenn Elias / Staff Writer

This spring, forecasts call for more military-inspired clothing as part of the androgynous trend sweeping the runways, with drab olive and khaki colors filling the front lines of spring fashion. Popular Macy’s department store brand “International Concepts” currently contains a whole department of military-inspired clothing. The Web site states to look for a more dressed-up take on uniform dressing. Any green or khaki clothing items can be updated by being paired with ripped jeans or loose trousers.

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