



SJSU meteorology heats up



Professor Eugene Cordero (left) watches senior Suzi Perez monitor the weather station, while graduate student Kevin Clifford stands beside them at the roof top of Duncan Hall on Thursday. KIBIWOT LIMO / SPARTAN DAILY

Department to add new climate concentration

Daniel Herberholz
Staff Writer

SJSU, the only California State University to offer a bachelor's degree in meteorology, will add the first climate science major concentration this fall, said SJSU's media relations director.

"If you want to be a meteorologist, you've got to come to San Jose State," Pat Lopes Harris said. "I guess soon the same

will be true. If you want to have a concentration in climate science, you need to come to San Jose State."

The department of meteorology, which has about 60 students, has been renamed the department of meteorology and climate science, said Eugene Cordero, an associate professor of meteorology.

Climate science will start as a concentration within the meteorology degree, Cordero said,

but will eventually become a separate major.

"The hope is that we will be able to grow the concentration over time ... both in content and enrollment, given that the topic is so relevant today," Harris said.

Cordero said the global average temperature of 69 degrees fahrenheit is growing at least in part because of human action.

"Obviously, global warming

is one of the big topics of the world, and we want to prepare our students for that future, to get jobs in those fields, to design solutions, to do analysis of the science," he said. "We want to design a program for scientists to also be at the interface between science and solutions."

The climate science concentration will cover a more expansive subject matter than

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New textbook rentals to rescue wallets

Marlon Maloney
Staff Writer

With rising costs for higher education, the Spartan Bookstore will introduce a program designed to save students money, said the senior director of retail services for Spartan Shops.

Phil Chiaramonte said the Spartan Bookstore will offer a textbook rental program beginning in the Fall 2010 semester.

The program will provide students with another option

for saving money when buying textbooks from the university bookstore, he said.

"We're trying as best we can to provide as many choices for textbooks and course materials for students to choose from," Chiaramonte said.

He said a select number of books will be made available to rent, rather than purchase. Students will make one payment, at the beginning of the semester, and return their books at the end of the semester during the normal buyback

period.

Some universities have begun to offer book rental programs as part of the Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008, which set aside \$10 million in grants to offset the rising costs of universities, according to the National Association of College Stores Web site.

The typical student spends about \$700 per year on books, according to the association Web site.

Chiaramonte said students

can generally rent a textbook for about one-third the cost of a new textbook.

"It's certainly less than what you would buy a new book for," he said. "In most cases, the upfront cost will be less than buying a used book."

Chiaramonte said buying a used book is still the most cost-effective way to purchase books.

"When you do the math, your upfront cost is less, but if

See **BOOKS**, Page 3

Students struggle with print system

Melissa Sabile
Staff Writer

Students have been getting frustrated with malfunctioning printing systems in both the Clark Hall Academic Success Center and King Library, Luann Budd, a King Library administrative officer said.

"There was an upgrade to the computer systems," Budd said. "Right now it's a challenge for students to designate how much money they can put on the card."

At this time, students can only go to the On Fourth, A Novel Cafe in Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library or to the dining director's office at Spartan Shops to add money onto their cards, she said.

"Students can add money on at the card reader, but will only allow it to be added \$1 at a time," Budd said.

"It wasn't accepting my card even though it had money on it."

Joanna Duran
Freshman nursing

Budd said the systems were defective when they were delivered by the vendors.

"We are working on getting it fixed," she said. "But there is no timeline to when the problem will be resolved."

Michael Condon, an outreach service specialist at King Library, said the main problem is that students are unable to add money to the printing cards the way the system was originally designed to work.

"Before, you could do it at the card vending machines," he said. "Students also should be able to add money onto the card online, but at this time they are unable to do so."

The machines had a software malfunction when they were updated at the beginning of the semester, Condon said.

"The existing machines had their software replaced," he said. "The two systems don't communicate with each other very well."

Condon said the library is in the process of ordering new vending machines to fix the

problem for the students.

"We know it's an inconvenience for them, but they are being patient and understanding while we try and work it out," he said.

Freshman nursing major Joanna Duran said she doesn't like printing in the King Library because it's confusing.

"It wasn't accepting my card even though it had money on it," she said. "They told me to go to the front desk but was too much, so I just went to the print shop."

Vasantha Ranjahi, who works at the help desk in the Clark Hall Academic Success Center, said there have been a few issues with their printing systems as well.

"Issues being that the server goes down from time to time," she said. "That, and money sometimes does not get deducted from the card."

Ranjahi said Clark Hall does not address complaints there and students need to contact Spartan Shops for complaints.

"There is no money here," she said. "Clark Hall does not collect money. Students have to put money on the card either on the phone or at the Spartan Shops."

Junior business major Max Spanko said he doesn't use the printing system in the library, but he does frequently go to Clark Hall to print.

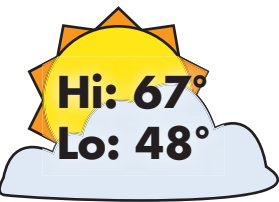
"One of the problems is that sometimes people don't log out," he said. "If you leave without logging out, sometimes people will catch that and use your login to print their papers. It's happened to me before."

At Clark Hall, students pay 17 cents per page, Ranjahi said. They swipe a printing card at each printer, and money is deducted automatically.

As for the problem in King Library, Condon said they are working on resolving the issue.

"We feel bad," he said. "It's bad customer service, and we don't like to give students the runaround. We are feeling frustrated on our end as well."

Weather



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Lo: 46°	Lo: 47°

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Video: Students take a break from midterm stress during "Spartapalooza."

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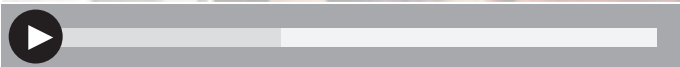
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Spartapalooza encourages healthy eating habits

Jenn Elias
Staff Writer

More than 1,400 students found their way to an education on health and wellness at the second annual Spartapalooza.

“Around midterms and finals, people have their shoulders up around their ears and if they knew more about the stress-coping techniques they would be happier on campus,” said senior communications major Bridget Stevens.

Students and faculty filled the Barrett Ballroom to see performances and tables full of information, activities and giveaways Wednesday.

SJSU President Jon Whitmore attended Spartapalooza and said it is important for students, so they can learn lifelong habits while they’re younger.

“There’s a lot of information here that you don’t learn in your classes,” said junior business major Ron Buena.

From 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., more than 50 booths engaged students with information and activities.

“A lot of people don’t know about the resources regarding their health and wellness,” said senior psychology major Ashley Sewelo. “I learned that it’s actually healthy to go on vacation.”

The main stage held dance performances and Nintendo Wii games were played on the big screen above the stage.

The Spartapalooza had two Wii stations: one on a corner table and one on the main stage.

“Playing the Wii is fun and provides stress relief and social support, which are crucial to college students,” said sophomore kinesiology major Stephen Bayer.

Suzy Ross, a professor of leisure education and philosophy, said her students ran their own tables.

“People are learning about the significance of leisure so they can less identify themselves as a job, but something beyond work,” Ross said.

The Health Center-based club nutrition education action team featured a healthy \$3 a day meal to promote ways of wholesome and inexpensive eating.

The table featured coupons and serving sizes for different foods, such as broccoli and



At the Student Union Ballroom, senior kinesiology major Dana Nevin (right) tests La'rrye McIntyre, a sophomore child development major, and her ability to walk in a straight line while wearing beer goggles during the Spartapalooza Wellness Festival on Tuesday.

KIBIWOT LIMO / SPARTAN DAILY

mashed potatoes.

One table included an activity called “Walk the Line,” in which people were given special goggles to wear while simulating a sobriety test.

“It was scary seeing that people actually drive like that,” said Cassandra Ostgega, a graduate student in occupational therapy.

Peer Health Educator Mufaro Zakers said his booth promoted alcohol awareness by providing party-safe tips and charts that calculate blood-alcohol content, so people know their limits.

A table called “Career Fitness” included six key questions to see if students are prepared to do a job search.

“Part of being career fit is to use the resources to reduce stress and anxiety by being more prepared and organized,” said career consultant Jill Klees.

One table included a survey board for students to show how they are environmentally friendly and what they wish to do more.

“The environment directly

affects your health,” said Kendra Palmer, a junior health science major.

In the event’s final hour, the Spartan Chinese Martial Arts club took the stage and each member performed individually, attracting the crowds’ attention.

Samuel Tran, president of Spartan Chinese Martial Arts, said martial arts helps to build strength and flexibility.

“It has been practiced in China for around 3,000 years, and has become more of a competitive sport in the United States,” he said.

Ostgega said she liked how the event was so interactive and gave away prizes and helpful hints.

“I’ve learned a lot about techniques, nutritional food, and how much I need a vacation,” said senior communications major Bridget Stevens. “I think I’m going to take it really seriously to try and take some time for myself.”

Whitmore said he wished there had been more resources and information available when he was in college.

Whitmore said his wife and him made “The Whitmore Fit Club,” which is a wellness program that enables students to join teams and exercise to develop better habits.

“For the staff members and faculty, health wellness means being a more productive workforce and they’ll be absent from work less because they’ll be healthier,” Whitmore said.



Roger Luna, a computer engineering major, puts hours into studying for his midterm at the Student Union on Friday. KIBIWOT LIMO / SPARTAN DAILY

Stressed students cram for upcoming midterms

Kathryn McCormick
Staff Writer

To students, midterms mean stress, an anthropology lecturer said.

Sandra Cate said she knows that students stress over midterms, so she tries to help alleviate their exam angst.

“I recognize that students get very anxious, so what I’ve tried to do in my classes is to bring in sample questions from past exams so they have a sense exactly of how I ask questions,” she said. “And that seems to help some.”

For her class’ second round of midterms, Cate said she may also allow students to bring a half-page of notes to an exam.

“Not so much to make it easier for them, as to cut down the anxiety levels,” she said. “I don’t find that it makes much of a difference in terms of curve — it might raise the overall average by a point or two.”

Manuel Gutierrez, a senior justice studies major, said he hates midterms.

“Midterms are stressful,” he said. “It’s usually the worst time of the semester besides finals.”

Gutierrez said he deals with midterm stress by working out and trying not to let school consume his thoughts once he gets home.

“I try to relax and keep about my day, because it can be overwhelming, especially with deadlines,” he said.

Junior business major Nicky Nguyen said he tries to stay ahead in his coursework, but does end up cramming the night before his exams.

“There’s always cramming the night before, since all the midterms are usually grouped up together,” he said. “You don’t really get much time to

study for classes ahead of time, so cramming is always the last resort for most people.”

Kelsey Lim, a sophomore child development major, said she procrastinates as well.

“Usually, I cram the night before,” she said. “I try my best to study all the material, and then I just take the test.”

Lim said she deals with midterm stress by commiserating over upcoming exams with friends.

“Usually, I just tell my friends and then they all feel the same way and so I feel like I’m not the only one,” she said. “A little camaraderie, that’s how I deal with it.”

Sophomore marketing major Samson Lee said he finds midterms overwhelming.

Like Lim, Lee said he deals with midterm stress by discussing exams with his peers.

“I study in groups and I just talk to them and see how they feel about it,” he said. “It makes me feel better if other people are stressing over it, too.”

Olamma Ogamba, a sophomore pre-nursing major, said that when it comes to studying, it’s important for her to understand her limits and work around them.

“My job’s really flexible,” she said. “So I can actually study during my job and I just go to the library as much as possible, but I know I can only study for like two hours at a time. Usually, people can pull all-nighters, but I’m not the type to do that, so I have to do it during the day and just work my way towards it.”

Ogamba said she deals with midterm stress by making time to relax.

“I try to work out as much as possible,” she said. “I try to give myself free time as well because I know that if I don’t, then I’ll start going crazy — like, my head’s all over the place.”

Jessica Riley, a senior animation and illustration major, said as an art student, she can’t procrastinate on her midterms.

“Most of my midterms for my art classes are midterm-like projects,” she said. “Like,

even for our final we just have a major project and we critique it. So it’s more like, ‘Oh, we’ve got to put in 60 hours into this project — fun!’”

Riley said she tries not to stress about midterms.

“I try not to stress out about things if I know I don’t have control over them,” she said. “Like, if it gets to a point where it’s like, ‘OK, I’m not going to get this far or I’m not going to know everything I need to know,’ it’s like, ‘OK, that’s out of my control,’ so I don’t stress too much over it.”

Senior business major Ian Chen said he doesn’t stress about midterms.

“Midterms are nothing special,” he said. “I usually study a few hours before the midterm — that’s it.”

Art lecturer Gina Pearlin said she tries to mitigate some of the stress students feel during midterm season by making her exams as stress-free as possible.

“Since in the class I’m teaching now I do the grading all throughout the semester, the midterm for me is just a chance to spend some time meeting one-on-one with students and to tell them very specifically where they’re at,” she said. “And also to get feedback from them, to see if there’s anything they want from me.”

Pearlin said she doesn’t do a test because each project she gives is almost like a test in itself.

“Each project is a skill-building project,” she said.

Pearlin said she tries to make clear to her students that her midterms are an opportunity to relax a little bit and connect in a more personal, one-on-one way.

“I find that my midterms are not a source of anxiety, because students know it’s not a test, it’s just going through their work,” she said. “And I do notice though that this semester, students seem particularly stressed out and somewhat overwhelmed, and this is a time when there’s often some slacking off in coming to class, and it’s easy to fall behind at this time, so you try to track that.”

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CLIMATE

From Page 1

the original meteorology degree, Cordero said.

"It's more focused on understanding how climate works," he said. "What the projections are for the future, and how that's going to impact water and energy and carbon and agriculture."

As with meteorology, students will be required to take classes in physics, calculus, biology and computing languages, Cordero said.

"The climate science degree has classes not only from meteorology but also from environmental studies, from geography, from geology, from communications and from engineering," he said. "It's a broader degree, so it's not so much focused on weather forecasting."

The junior and senior level in climate science will include electives in calculating carbon footprints and doing analysis and visualization of data, Cordero said.

One such class is focused on geographic information science, where students learn about a mapping software program which Cordero said is important for designing climate science solutions.

"Our meteorology students have some understanding, but the field is beyond just meteorology, beyond just the atmosphere," Cordero said. "It involves the ocean, it involves land surface and energy and carbon. We want to design a program that is going to offer scientists that are able to work in the climate change field with the background and training that would be ideally suited for the field of climate change."

Patrick Brown, a graduate student in meteorology, said the new concentration will allow SJSU to train professionals

who do not just want to be forecasters for the National Weather Service.

"It's more about dealing with the problem from an economic perspective and from a social perspective, along with science," he said. "People in our department, a lot of them are just weather geeks and obsessed with forecasting one or two degrees for the next day. All that stuff is completely noise to a climate science person."

Brown said he recently gave a state of climate science presentation to Bay Area K-12 teachers. A shorter version of the presentation is planned for April 15 in Duncan Hall.

(“The concentration”) will open it up to more people that might be interested in that,” said Brown, who earned a Bachelor of Science in Atmospheric and Oceanic Studies at University of Wisconsin. “Where maybe before they wouldn’t even major in meteorology, they might choose something else if they want to go into climate science.”

Projections from climate models suggest that in the next 50 to 100 years, global climate could dramatically change, Cordero said.

"Those things that we consider normal, like clean water and clean air, might not be there for us," he said. "So we need to understand the science and we need to design solutions to global warming and we need to have an educated population to do that."

The new concentration will educate students about climate science, Cordero said, and in a much different way than meteorology.

"We're hoping to bring in a different kind of student — a student who is interested in the environment, or engineering, or computer science, and wants to solve real-world, important problems," he said.

CAMPUSIMAGE



Faraneh Farbood, a graduate student in nursing, sketches an image of a building for her beginning drawing class Tuesday. NELSON ABURTO / SPARTAN DAILY

BOOKS

From Page 1

you by the book used and sell it back to us at 50 percent of what you paid for it, your out-of-pocket cost is less," he said.

Students who rent textbooks will be able to take notes in them, a feature which is not offered by all book rental programs, such as online book rental company Chegg.com, Chiaramonte said.

The Association of College Stores Web site states

that textbook rentals are for people who don't want to pay higher costs upfront and can wait to get their money back when they sell back the book or can't afford to buy all their books at the beginning of a semester.

Senior kinesiology major Arielle Carter said she sees the program as only beneficial for lower division courses.

"I think (the book rental program) would be good for people that are taking G.E. courses, but for people taking classes that are in their major, they probably want to keep

their books," she said.

Jay Shah, a graduate student in software engineering, said he prefers to keep his textbooks rather than sell them back.

"I consider them to be my assets, so I tend to keep them," he said.

Regarding the classes taken before becoming a grad student, Shah said what he considered to be the benefits of the program to other students.

"That would be a really good program for students who can't afford their textbooks," he said.

Shah also offered other rea-

sons why the rental program would be a welcome addition.

"Students don't want all their books, because they're not relevant to their lives," he said. "You're just not going to keep them forever. It's like renting an apartment. You probably won't live there long, just for now."

He also said the Spartan Bookstore will need to make sure it keeps track of a textbook's lifespan before making them available for rent, as many textbooks have new editions that are published on a regular basis.

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Downtown eats for cheap

Justin Albert
Staff Writer

If there's one thing that most people living in time of economic hardship understand, it's how to live life on a budget. Food plays largely into this dollar-conscious lifestyle, and I'd be surprised if you couldn't find a person on campus who couldn't tell you a spot downtown to grab a decent meal on the cheap.

San Jose is a well-cultured melting pot of a wide variety of cuisines, but that doesn't necessarily mean you have to fork over mounds of cash to enjoy a decent meal.

For those of you out of the



The two egg hot link breakfast from Peanuts Deluxe Cafe.
JUSTIN ALBERT / SPARTAN DAILY

loop, here's a breakdown of some downtown staples that offer satisfying meals at prices that aren't going to make you cringe.

House of Bagels
Located a block away from campus on the corner of San Carlos and 11th streets is a little house that serves bagels.

House of Bagels is a quaint little bagel establishment that serves the most delicious array of circular-shaped bread and cream cheese anywhere in downtown, and at prices that are budget-friendly.

As a favorite breakfast spot of mine, I typically order a cheese bagel with olive cream cheese, which runs for \$3.25. Top it off with a small coffee for an additional \$1 and you've got yourself a delightful little breakfast, perfect for Sunday mornings.

House of Bagels offers dozens of cream cheese options accompanied by an equally daunting selection of savory bagels such as cinnamon raisin

and pumpernickel, all baked in-house (literally).

Individuals looking to have a simple meal in the morning or a snack between classes need not look further than House of Bagels for a quick and affordable bite in a peaceful setting.

Total spent : \$4.25
Peanuts Deluxe Cafe
Peanuts is a long-standing eatery for the SJSU community, known for its abundant portions and greasy, yet delicious, food.

Found on San Fernando Street across from SJSU, Peanuts offers a variety of grilled foods, such as hamburgers and sandwiches, in addition to a cornucopia of breakfast foods, beer on tap and various side dishes.

Most of the sandwiches run for about \$4 or more, so I found the greatest value in Peanuts' array of breakfast foods, all of which come standard with a heaping mound of hash browns and two pieces of buttered toast.

I almost always order the two egg hot link breakfast, which in conjunction with the hash browns and toast make for one beast of a meal.

For \$4.05, you'd be hard-pressed to find a better deal on a

complete feast that will leave you feeling as bloated as I normally do after wolfing down a plate at Peanuts Deluxe Cafe.

Total spent: \$4.05
Dakao
Dakao is a Vietnamese mom-and-pop restaurant found at the corner of San Salvador and Third streets.

Similar to the larger, more commercialized Lee's Sandwiches in terms of food selection, Dakao is known for its wide selection of Vietnamese take-out sandwiches and pre-made dishes, and also doubles as a sit-down restaurant that serves more traditional meals.

Whenever I am in the mood for a Vietnamese sandwich, Dakao is the place I frequent, because of both its tremendous value and fast and efficient service.

My favorite is the grilled pork sandwich, which comes out to a startling \$2.25 for a sandwich that is big enough to constitute a six inch sub at Subway.

The sandwich is an amazing value, but that doesn't mean that Dakao is skimping on the quality.

Served on a warm french roll,

See EATS, Page 5

LOOK OF THE WEEK



Photo and interview by Donovan Farnham

Name: Nicholas Loyola
Year, Major: Senior, graphic design
What inspired your look today? "My look was inspired by being really comfortable, and I still feel like it's casual and I'm not a scrub at the same time. I'm not wearing sweats to school."
What do you hate most about fashion? "It's expensive. I try to find deals. I try not to get into that expensive stuff."
Where are your favorite places to shop? "Thrift stores, any one I like. I guess the Goodwill."
In what clothing are you the happiest? "In jeans and shirt."
What is your most treasured item of clothing or accessory and why? "My V-necks, because they go with everything."

Lecturer illustrates digital future

Lidia Gonzalez
Staff Writer

Avatars, voice synthesizers and digital manipulated lips were topics discussed at an hour-long lecture Tuesday evening in the Art building.

Peggy Weil's Immersive Media and Social Engagement

showcased Weils' digital media career, which explores the relations between human beings and integrated animation.

"I was really impressed with the way (digital media technology) progress over time," said Jenene Castle, a senior digital media major.

Weil, a digital media art-

ist, said she first began her work using a voice synthesizer machine called Votrax for an M.I.T.-funded project.


"There was a sense of delight people got from watching direct manipulation," Weil said.

She said the majority of people during her experi-

ence with the Votrax reacted with disgust in the final stage of having their human voice transformed to sound like a robot.

Human interface, Castle said, was an interesting topic because she wants to learn

See ART, Page 5



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Mary Ellen Petrich
SJSU Graduate Student

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SAN JOSÉ STATE UNIVERSITY

KING LIBRARY

EATS

From Page 4

the sandwich came loaded with a fair portion of freshly grilled pork, along with Vietnamese sandwich staples such as cilantro, jalapeno peppers, sliced carrots and jicama.

Throw in a fried egg roll for 75 cents and you've got a full meal that will definitely leave you feeling like a veteran bargain hunter.

Total Spent: \$3.00
Mi Chalateca
Amid the dozens of taquerias found around SJSU, it's easy to understand how a Salvadoran restaurant might be overlooked.

Mi Chalateca, formerly El Chalateco, can be found on 10th and East William streets. The restaurant serves delicious Salvadoran cuisine that is a wonderful change of pace from the typical downtown Mexican fare.

Although Mi Chalateca does have its fair share of tacos and quesadillas, the restaurant is known mainly for its diverse selection of pupusas, a Salvadoran specialty.

I typically order pupusas, not only because they are delicious, but because they are also an excellent value, at \$2 each.

The pupusa I ordered consisted of maize flour dough stuffed with pork, cheese and beans, but Mi Chalateca offers them in several different varieties.

All pupusas are served with what the waitress called "curtido salad," a coleslaw-like mixture of cabbage and relish which serves as a side dish to the warm stuffed tortillas.

The restaurant has a full salsa bar and free chips to complement their dishes, which helped to round off my pupusa meal nicely.

Between the salad, chips and pupusas, I was stuffed and left Mi Chalateca delighted

with money still in my pocket.

Total Spent: \$2.50
Most of these meals do not include drinks, to which I say, drink water. I typically carry

around a water bottle or canteen with me, because not only does it save me a couple bucks on

drinks, but it's also better for the environment — two birds with one stone.



(Top) Mi Chalateca located on 10th and East William streets. (Right) The pork, cheese and bean pupusus.
JUSTIN ALBERT / SPARTAN DAILY



ART

From Page 4

more about how emotions can be depicted by facial expressions.

Weil went on to discuss her attitudes toward ELIZA, a 1966 computer program that was described by Weil to be a robotic puppet.

She said ELIZA was developed and programmed to be a psychotherapist.

Weil said some people found it exciting, while others saw it as dehumanizing.

"It has a strong disillusion effect on humans," she said.

During the lecture, Weil mentioned her appreciation of Joseph Weizenbaum, the creator of ELIZA, for taking time away from the bot and making it a point to help educate society about the social responsibility that comes with new technology, such as ELIZA.

Weil is known for developing several different computer programs, such as the Mr. Mind Web site, Gun Gitmo and Wall Jumpers.

Mr. Mind is a smart computer designed through a Web site to answer any question. Mr. Mind asks you to try and convince him that you are human.

She said this smart computer is defined as an anthropomorphic, a humanlike representation.

In Gun Gitmo and Wall Jumpers, the concept of having an avatar emerges.

Weils' concerns are based on the relationships humans develop with their avatars.

Desiree Holroyde, a junior digital media major, said she agrees that the intimate partnership between human and avatar is an increasing concern.

Living different areas of your life through an avatar is an idea that has developed, Holroyde said.

The talk was part of one 5 p.m. art lecture series that takes place in Room 133 of the Art building every Tuesday night.

Lectures will continue until the end of the semester. They will include artwork from Nathan Oliveira, and sculptures from SJSU Professor David Middlebrook.

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Constant Kate



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Resisting existing is futile

Ever since we’ve been pushed out into this world, we’ve been taking in a lot of different messages. Some of them are positive ones, such as “I love you” or “You can achieve anything you want.” As we get older, the messages tend to become more cynical and negative, such as “That’s not possible,” or “I can’t make a difference.”

Which messages have you been listening to?

For the 150 students from SJSU who went to the march in Sacramento on Monday to protest the budget cuts, I’m guessing they took the positive messages. As part of the other 29,950 students who didn’t go to the march, I’m not saying I’ve surrendered to the apathetic, negative messages — at least not for the majority of my life.

But I know a lot of people have. Even though we know shortening our showers can save X amount of water, we still let the information slide out of our brains all too frequently, kind of ignoring the impact and difference we could be making. For some bizarre reason, we think we don’t matter. But the only way we wouldn’t matter is if we thought existence was meaningless. And if that’s the case, the pie’s in the sky and I’m just waiting for death.

My sisters and I always joke around about how everything we’re currently doing (i.e. school, work, going out) is a distraction until death. The funny thing about this joke is that it’s kind of true, but the best part is that these distractions have given me a lot of meaning in my life. And that matters a lot to me.

What if you knew that every little thing you did mattered? What if you knew that donating \$5 to Haiti would feed a child for a day? What if you knew attending the march on Monday would stop the budget cuts and bring the fees down to a reasonable number? What if you knew filling out a national census would make the government give funding to your local programs pro-

viding services to the disabled or youth? Would you do it? Here, on this tiny, minuscule, little planet floating in the seemingly infinite galaxy, some of these things matter to us. And when it does, that’s when we start to act.

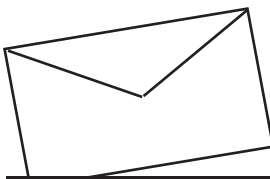
Understandably, the things that matter to me may not matter to you. As much as I’d like for you to care about what I care about, that’s just not the case most of the time.

And that’s OK, because while I’m spreading the message of purchasing local foods, you can be spreading the message of good music or the riddance of diseases or the importance of good teachers.

Connect the dots, and you’ll find what you’ve done has and can make a difference, even if you don’t see it right away.

Whatever it is that matters to you, try to take part in and act on it. Connect the dots, and you’ll find what you’ve done has and can make a difference, even if you don’t see it right away. And if all this activity seems too overwhelming, just promise yourself to do the best you can each day. And sometimes the best you can do for that day is give the change in your pocket to the homeless man on the street. Live for what you believe in — those negative messages don’t matter.

“Obligatory Space Filler,” appears biweekly on Wednesdays. Minh Pham is a Spartan Daily A&E editor.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

This letter is in response to ‘Flavorful food, bland service at Spice,’ which appeared on Tuesday.

Dear Editor,
Thanks to Eric Van Susteren’s article on Spice Vietnamese Restaurant, my Tuesday night blues turned into Friday night bliss. An emergency dental appointment kept me from school today — however, I still needed to get my Daily fix. While trying to muster up the energy to make dinner, I logged on to thespartandaily.com to see what I missed. The descriptive detail of Spice’s food, affordability and clear advice

to avoid prolonged service prompted me to research if the restaurant offered take-out. After a quick phone call and pick-up, I returned home to indulge in my Vietnamese delight. Both my tummy and wallet were happy and I was able to get to bed early without any dishes! Thank you for the Tuesday night rescue!

Korin Harvey

This letter is in response to ‘Truly special collections,’ which appeared on Wednesday.

Dear Editor,
The article in the Spartan Daily titled Truly Special Collections, is a wonderful piece. I was not aware that the library and the university had such archives on our campus. I am glad to see that San Jose State University and the library are collecting important documents, art and writings from our community. I found that the procedure to save these archives from a possible fire is exciting being so similar to

the movie scene in “Angels and Demons.” Saving these documents allows for a community to guard what is essentially the city’s history. This is important to have for future generations as well as people and students today to understand their community. I am pleased to know that these documents are being kept safe in the library.

Araceli Vizcaino-Serrano

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For sale: The Warriors

In the middle of studying for my mass communications midterm, my attention was interrupted by one of the greatest Bay Area sports news I have heard in the last 15 years.

On March 23, ESPN reported that the Golden State Warriors were officially for sale.

As a lifelong Warrior fan and basketball fanatic, I could not have been happier.

The Warriors’ current owner, Chris Cohan, who has owned the team since 1995, has done such a bad job running the team that I believe that Paris Hilton could have made smarter decisions.

My whole life, the Warriors have been, as Charles Barkley would say, ‘turrible.’ Not once have the Warriors been a serious contender.

Whether it was Chris Webber leaving the team in 1994, or Latrell Sprewell choking P.J. Carlesimo in 1997, or the drafting of Mike Dunleavy in 2002, the Warriors continue to be a joke.

Whatever the decision, I can count on Cohan to make the wrong choice.

The Warriors went 12 consecutive seasons without making the playoffs, and that streak ended in 2007.

On the Warriors that year were talented players such as Baron Davis, Stephen Jackson and Jason Richardson.

They showed their skills to the NBA and made me feel good to support my team.

I joined the “we believe” chants at Oracle Arena during that season because I thought the franchise was headed in a positive direction.

Then, about two years later, I was reminded that Cohan owns the Warriors, and that he was going to find some way to mess everything up.

First, Richardson was traded to Charlotte. Then Davis was not offered a contract extension, and he bolted to the Clippers. Then finally, Jackson was shipped away to the East Coast.

The Warriors never had a chance at a winning record in the 2009-10 season.

Cohan’s roster of inexperienced young players never allowed the Warriors to compete.

The Warriors play in a conference against talented super stars such as Kobe Bryant, Steve Nash, Tim Duncan and Dirk Nowitzki.

If Golden State does not have one player on its roster to match their skill, the Warriors will



Matt Santolla
Staff Writer

never compete.

Every offseason, I sit back and watch other NBA teams fight to make their team better.

Dallas Mavericks owner Mark Cuban will stop at nothing to improve his team.

Each season, he makes trades, signs players, and apologizes to his fans for not winning a championship.

That’s is a real owner.

A real owner does everything humanly possible to win a championship.

The Warriors’ current owner, Chris Cohan, who has owned the team since 1995, has done such a bad job running the team I believe that Paris Hilton could have made smarter decisions.

The last time the Warriors made an appearance in the NBA Finals was in 1975.

The Warriors won the championship that year and Rick Barry was Finals MVP.

That was the last time the Golden State Warriors were relevant in the NBA.

Cohan is such a bad professional sports owner he makes Al Davis look like a rational human being.

At least Davis has won a championship in his respective sport.

With a current record of 19-51, and no all-star players on the squad, the Golden State Warriors will never have a chance at greatness with Cohan as their owner.

A little ‘sexual healing’

My favorite show, South Park, returned last week for the premier of its 14th season, and it did not disappoint.

In usual South Park form, the episode’s topic was a timely one, poking fun at the whole Tiger Woods sex scandal and the media melee that ensued.

The episode, titled “Sexual Healing,” lets you know right from the start what it will be about as the show’s main characters play a new Tiger Woods video game detailing the debacle that led to Woods’ transgressions coming into the public eye.

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention is enlisted to find the answer to the mysterious question at hand.

“Why would a man who’s famous and has tons of money use that to try and have sex with lots of different women?”

That’s essentially the question that news outlets have been asking, as if they can’t comprehend what the answer is.

It’s an obviously sardonic question when you look at the media or ask a guy what their typical sexual fantasy is. Almost every guy thinks it would be cool to have sex with two women at the same time, and TV shows and movies glorify “the player.”

The men who ask the question seem to know the answer, but refuse to acknowledge the reason.

Instead, they blame the “epidemic” on sexual addiction, since it has become more and more prevalent that celebrities only do bad things because they’re addicted.

Eventually, a task force soldier spits out the logical reason, explaining how guys’ minds are wired to become the alpha male.

These rich, famous celebrities go out and have sex with all kinds of women because they can. The soldier goes on to say that we don’t have to condone their actions, but if we were all exposed to the same temptations and opportunities as they are, we might do the same thing.

The current world of media, in which every detail of famous peoples’ lives is available to us through gossip rags and the Internet, has too many of us trying to tear down



Marlon Maloney
Staff Writer

these people we supposedly look up to and admire.

Tiger Woods is the richest athlete, according to a 2009 Forbes.com report, and was arguably the most popular athlete in America. Everybody knows who he is.

But the extent to which his sex scandal has been covered is ridiculous. Every media outlet across the country, from the New York Post to the Seattle Times, talked about him with a level of na-

ivety that’s puzzling to me.

Would Michael Jordan have lasted as long as he did, being the apple of the public’s eye, if gossip rags were as popular 20 years ago?

Would Michael Jordan have lasted as long as he did, being the apple of the public’s eye, if gossip rags were as popular 20 years ago?

I think not.

To me, the answer is as simple as the explanation given in South Park. Woods’ only mistake was getting married at such an early stage in an already sparkling golf career.

Not every guy feels the urge to have sex with everything that moves — I know I don’t — but many of us do. It’s part of our “macho” upbringing that gaining power through every resource is our life goal.

Being muscular, a good athlete, successful, rich and being a ladies man are just some of the characteristics of what is socially construed as being a man.

This is what’s taught to us from birth. Let’s stop pretending to be oblivious to what the paradigms of U.S. society are.

Exchanging the ring on my finger for one over my head

I used to wear a wedding ring on my left hand to make guys believe I was committed and unavailable.

Being asked on dates by random customers happened frequently but at the time, I was in a faithful, long-distance relationship and working in a little coffee shop close to home.

That was two years ago, and I have since ended that relationship and am no longer working at the coffee shop — but I have only recently taken off the ring.

I used to think that wearing that little ring helped me stay truthful and unwavering in my relationship, but what I’ve come to realize is that I was hiding behind the fake rock on my finger.

The ring served as a cop-out. If I was wearing the ring, I wouldn’t have to worry about anyone getting too close.

Vulnerability was not an option.

I’m a pretty emotionally guarded person. Opening up has always

been difficult and I choose a select few people who I let into my life.

As a result, I carry around this tough girl persona, trying to give off the impression that I really don’t care about people or things going on around me.

But I’d be lying if I let people believe this about me.

The truth is, I’m not a tough girl and I do care about people and things.

I put my heart and soul into everything that I do, and I’ve been known to care too much about others and not enough about myself.

A little over a month ago, a guy told me that the world is too harsh for someone like me. He said that if people were more forgiving, then putting your heart into everything would



Melissa Sabile
Staff Writer

be OK, but that’s not the case.

It wasn’t very long after saying that, he left me alone in my thoughts. He called off our relationship and went back to his crazy ex-girlfriend, leaving me by myself and completely jaded.

For the past month I’ve been thinking about it, trying to

make sense of his comment and this is the conclusion I’ve come to:

Yes, this world may be harsh and people are generally unforgiving, but there is nothing wrong with giving it your all.

I’ve found that if you hold back, you don’t experience as much as you can. Whether it’s for work, school, friendship or love, masquerading behind a facade means abandoning the chance

to live life to the fullest.

Life is all about growing through your experiences and learning from your mistakes.

In lieu of my recent epiphany, I’ve dedicated myself to opening up and not letting my past relationships dictate who I am or how I live my life.

I refuse to let this “cold harsh world” or its residents bring me down or get in my way of living, and nor

should you.

If you choose to disregard this advice, that’s fine.

Not everyone can wear their hearts on their sleeves.

The trick is to find the balance between guarding your heart and giving it your all without missing out on life’s experiences.

Life holds so many great opportunities and leaves no time to be jaded.

I’ve found that if you hold back, you don’t experience as much as you can. Whether it’s for work, school, friendship or love, masquerading behind a facade means abandoning the chance to live life to the fullest.

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Spartan pitching inept against Davis

Head coach Sam Piraro denied 1,000th victory in loss

Kevin Hume
Staff Writer

After suffering through UC Davis' five-run second inning, the Spartans weren't able to recover in an 8-3 loss Tuesday night at Municipal Stadium.

Pitching proved to be the deciding factor in the game.

Spartan starting pitcher Luke Mazzanti took the loss. He gave up four runs in the Davis second and was removed from the game with the bases loaded after throwing only 1 1/3 innings.

Relief pitcher David Russo let one run score in the remainder of the Davis second.

Pitcher Craig Broussard came on strong for the Spartans in three innings of relief work, allowing no runs, striking out five batters and allowing two hits.

"I was just trying to keep the team in," Broussard said. "I was just trying to pound the zone and get as many outs as I could."

Broussard said he wasn't expecting to be pulled from the game.

"That's how it goes," Broussard said.

Pitcher Drew Bradshaw faced more Davis offense in the sixth, giving up two runs on four hits in his lone inning of work.



Zack Jones slides back to first base during an attempted pick-off play in SJSU's 8-3 loss to UC Davis on Tuesday. The Spartans are now 9-10 on the season.
CLIFFORD GRODIN / CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

Andy Hennessey came on to finish the game. He allowed one run on three hits in three innings.

Broussard said the team needs to improve.

"I think, pretty much, we all could do better," he said. "We need to give up less runs."

After jumping off to an early 1-0 lead in the first inning, the

Aggies controlled Spartan hitters for the rest of the game, allowing only three runs on seven hits.

The Spartan offense couldn't capitalize with runners on base, leaving 12 players stranded on base over the course of the game.

First baseman Danny Stienstra was playing in his first

game back with the team after suffering a sprained wrist during the pre-season.

Stienstra did well offensively in the loss, going 2-for-3, drawing a walk and scoring once.

"I was glad to be out there playing," Stienstra said. "It's good to be out there again."

He said he knew he had to be ready to play once he came back, so he kept working.

"Every day, I just did something I could do to get better," he said.

Stienstra said he wasn't happy with the Spartans' perfor-

mance on the field but offered some hope for the future.

"I was a little disappointed," he said. "We're young. It'll get better. We just got to stay with it."

Another player who had a solid offensive performance was Jason Martin, who played center and left field in the game. He went 2-for-5 with one RBI and scored once.

"I've been seeing the ball pretty good lately," Martin said. "I've been lucky that they've been giving me some good pitches to hit."

He said it was good to see Stienstra back in the lineup.

"I think it was one of the good things today," he said. "Every at-bat, he looked good. It didn't even look like he missed any time at all. He just looked like the old Danny."

The long second inning for Davis hurt the Spartans' concentration, he said.

"I think we did a good job battling back," he said. "We had a couple innings where we had some runners on. We were just missing that key hit."



Kerry Jenkins returns to the dugout during the Spartans 8-3 loss on Tuesday.
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