



# Partan Vaily

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# Canoe racers plan to float away with victory



Members of the San Jose State Concrete Canoe Team move their boat from its covered berth in the Engineering building courtward to a trailer on Wednesday. The team and their concrete cance will travel to Chico to race schools in the 2010 Mid-Pacific Regional Competition, which takes place Friday. STEFAN ARMIJO / SPARTAN DAILY

## Site informs students of scholarhips

Jenn Elias

Staff Writer

Students can access scholarships through an online portal called the Scholarship Tracking and Review System, according to a scholarship coordinator and counselor.

Felicity Jimenez-Howard said the Web site currently contains a total of about 300 scholarships and will continue to grow next semester.

"Times are hard now, so the easier it is to make scholarships and free money available to students, the better," said senior kinesiology major Daniel Orth. "Plus, students don't know what to apply for, so this should encourage more people."

Howard said by next fall, 100 percent of campus scholarships should be available on STARS.

"Right now, it's about getting all the departments to go on this one system," said Paul Richardson, executive director of the Alumni Association. "It's a monstrous task."

The Financial Aid and Scholarship Office sent out 16,000 messages to students with information about STARS, Howard said.

She said students who had

at least a 3.0 GPA at the end of the fall semester were the only ones to receive the messages through MySJSU, but any student can create an account.

"To stay within the university messaging guidelines, we picked a targeted group to send out a specific message to," Howard said.

Apart from messages, she said fliers were also sent to club organizations, participating departments, resident housing and faculty.

"We used it for the first time last year," Howard said. "The application site was only used by the nursing department and just used those to work out bugs."

She said this semester, there has been a 50 percent increase in new accounts from last semester.

"There are lot of people like me, don't even know what scholarships they qualify for, so it might bring people to find out more," said junior sociology major Mike Acedo.

Howard said scholarships will appear based upon the answers to a questionnaire, their majors and their depart-

She said it eliminated the

See STARS, Page 2

## Student's Internet hacked at business building

**Eric Van Susteren** & Kristen Pearson

Staff Writers

Robert Fischer, a junior business administration major, stated in an e-mail that he was sitting in the Boccardo Business Complex using the Internet and taking notes in class when every unencrypted Web site started to take a long time to load and displayed a message in bright red text stating, "I'm in ur puter,

"I pinged Google.com from the command prompt and the host resolved correctly, but any unencrypted Web site I went to

stealing ur internets."

was redirected to the hacker's page," Fischer stated.

Unencrypted Web sites are Web sites that have "http" in the Internet address, Fischer stated.

William Maguire, the vice president for information technology, said he didn't know anything about the hacker at the Boccardo Business Complex.

"Unencrypted sites are the real problem here," Maguire

Bryan Lee, a junior business management major, said he brings his laptop to school but doesn't do any banking on SJSU's network and thinks it's the fault of the people who do

those things at school.

"It's sad to hear but it's hard for the IT department to make an open network secure," he said. "He left himself vulnerable. You have to protect yourself. You lock your car when you leave it in the parking lot, you wear a helmet when you ride a motorcycle."

Shobit Kishore, a freshman business management and economics major, said he doesn't use his laptop on campus but worries about campus Wi-Fi being secure enough to access the Internet on campus without thinking about hackers.

See HACK, Page 3

## Program helps students study diversity

**Jasmine Duarte** Staff Writer

The women's studies program at SJSU is one of the oldest in the country and helps students focus on issues that deal with gender, race and class, said an assistant professor of the women's studies program.

"It's a great complement to any major," said Assistant Professor Tanya Bakhru. "It gives students the opportunity to learn about racial and gender issues and global issue that can apply to any career. It allows students to think critically."

She said it is a misconception that the women's studies program just for women.

"We get a real mix in the program," she said. "These issues affect both men and women, so I think it's important to everyone to know them."

It's a great complement to any major. 99

> Tanya Bakhru **Assistant Professor**

Women's studies help students develop organizational skills, said Shahin Gerami, a professor and program coordinator for the women's studies program.

"We get a lot of students that say after taking these classes, this is an eye-opener for them," she said.

After students take their first women's studies class, a light bulb goes off and students start to see the whole world in a different way, Bakhru said.

"Most students who minor in women's studies are students who are passionate about social justice issues and are committed to social change and issues of equality and human rights," she said. "Students walk away with a sense of understanding them-

See WOMEN, Page 4

## **Weather**



## THESPARTANDAILY.COM

Video: What do the A.S. elections mean to you?

## **CORRECTIONS**

In the April 7 edition of the Spartan Daily, Miriam Schustack is pictured above Cynthia Kosso's name and Kosso is featured above Schustack's

Also, the open forums for each candidate will not take place in the "English building" but in the Engineering building, Room 285/287.

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See www.thespartandaily.com

## **STARS**

### From Page 1

need to type up a statement, print it and run around campus delivering it.

Once students have a username and password, they can log in at their leisure, Howard said.

Howard said there used to be a generic application, which the financial aid and scholarship staff would read through and see what scholarships would be a good fit for each applicant.

"In these economic times, everyone's going to need something," said junior business major Elena Sessa. "Technology is at a point where the school should utilize something like this."

She said a committee that uses a paperwork process will typically make a copy of every application for each committee member, but the Web site may allow staff to reduce the amount of paperwork they use.

"They don't need to come together for meetings anymore and do all the paper shuffling," said Veronica Murphy, director of stewardship for University Advancement.

Howard said faculty and staff who may not be on campus every day can log in to the information at home and review applications.

"It provides a tool for departments to give scholarships and receive applications in a one-stop shop," Howard said.

She said they plan to provide more information about scholarships so students know more about them.

"Students will have more knowledge about where the scholarships comes from," Howard said. "We are hoping to incorporate more donor information to the scholarship program so you can see more information about who gave that particular scholarship."

April 15 is the deadline for the majority of scholarships, she said.

"It depends how many scholarships are available, based on department and college," Howard said. "Some have one or two, while others have in the 20s."

She said the Colleges of Business and Engineering are bigger so they have more scholarships than a smaller college.

Not all of the scholarships are academic merit-based, Howard said, some are based on community service and leadership.

"Some of the scholarships may only be for a hundred dollars, but it can pay for a book," Howard said.

She said students can expect responses from scholarship rewards between July and

## **HOW-TO**

### Howard said the STARS site works best through the **Internet Explorer Web** browser.

Howard said the STARS site works best through the Internet Explorer Web browser.

"A lot of our students are apple users so we have gotten some feedback about having a multi-platform, multi-browser accessible and we've given that feedback to the developer," Howard said.

She said applicants using browsers other than Internet Explorer can get to the end of the application, but will not be able to do the very last submission because an "error" message will show up.

"I think they should still have an option to fill out the paperwork and not do it online," said Tamera Price, a graduate student in anthropology.

Howard said she and the staff are trying to convey to the third-party developer that technology is more prevalent in the Silicon Valley and there are students who use every form of Web browser.

She said the financial aid and scholarship office offers the option to submit an application from its office, with two computers in the lobby area that use Internet Explorer, along with computers in the library and learning assistance resource center.

Howard said some department representatives, such as from the art and design department, know their students are primarily Mac users, and are offering a computer for them to use.

"We are going to do more messaging for the fall, and that's were we get the best response from students," she said.

Howard said they have been happy with the product, and that sometimes there is going to be some kind of hiccup.

Students can find STARS from the SJSU Web site on the Financial Aid and Scholarship page or they can go to the Web site https://scholarships.sjsu.edu/stars/.

early August.

"It seems convenient and time-efficient," said Veronica Sanchez, a junior justice studies major. "Now that I know about it, I am going to check it out."

The application process begins with asking for an applicant's biographical information, including his or her name, birthdate and SJSU ID number.

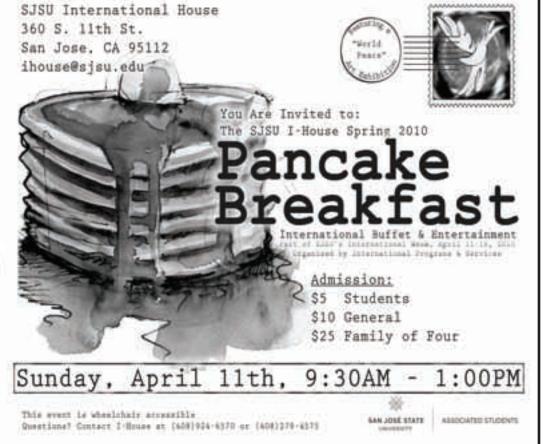
The second section is a questionnaire that begins the scholarship filtering process. Depending on how questions are answered, there can be

anywhere from 15 to 20 ques-

tions. Next, there is a free-form questionnaire, followed by a section where students can upload documents such as letters of recommendation.

The final menu shows a list of scholarships for which a student may apply.

By clicking on a specific scholarship, Howard said it will show information such as the dollar amount and the amount of students who will be chosen for the particular award.



## Students dig into research on campus

### **Lidia Gonzalez**

Staff Writer

The walls at the back of the University Room showcased posters with research, leadership and expertise that students have been working on with the help of faculty, said an information specialist for the research foundation.

"The event shows the knowledge disseminating from our faculty to the students," Nancy Riley said.

Five students were chosen, in the 31st Annual Student Research Forum, as finalists for the SJSU portion of the Annual CSU Student Research Competition.

Each of the students will be competing at the CSU level of the Annual CSU Student Research Competition, being held for the first time at SJSU, from April 30 to May 1, according to a brochure passed out at the event.

John Kim, a senior biology and chemistry double major, said perseverance was important when doing his research on gel encapsulations of the enzyme bromoperoxidase.

"I learned that I do best when I'm in the lab," said Kim, the only undergraduate student among the finalists. "I learned I want to go into (the field of) research."

He said all the time spent in the lab has paid off and hopes he can inspire other undergraduate students to further enzyme research.

"I want to be able to pass this on to another undergrad that wants to learn about research," Kim said.

Pamela Clay, a graduate student in geology, said she started doing work in research when she was in the undergraduate geology program.

"I started here at SJSU in 2005 and I loved the geology program so much that I decided



Pamela Clay, a graduate student in geology, stands by her poster on Wednesday afternoon. Her work showcases the research she did on the structure of Jurassic and Cretaceous plutons in the southwest area of **Lake Tahoe.** \*COURTESY OF KRISTIN NWAKOBI

here," she said.

Clay became a finalist in the competition for investigating the structure of Jurassic and Cretaceous plutons in the southwest area of Lake Tahoe. She said she is proud to be representing the earth science field because it has a lot to show for SJSU.

Riley said students should recognize that their peers are doing research alongside faculty members.

"(Students should) be excited about the academic activity that is happening on this campus," she said.

Khe Dinh, a graduate student in chemical engineering, said she believes her mouth-throat deposition measurement research for the Staccato Loxapine drug, can become the new standard for future technology in inhalers.

"It's cutting edge research that will directly affect the public," said Melanie McNeil, a professor for material and chemical engineering.

Michael Jennings, who is also a professor of material and chemical engineering, said

I would stay to get my master's Dinh's research is an example of what can be done in Silicon Val-

> "We have so many people that want to be involved with our students," Jennings said.

> The inhaler was a great example of research, said Yao-Eng Chang, a former sponsor program manager for the research foundation.

> "It's really important the students get recognition for the work they have to dig for," she said.

> Chang said research broadens the horizon for students, faculty and anyone in a developing field.

"The goal is not winning," said Manjari Ohala, chair of the linguistics and language development department. "The goal is acquiring the passion for research."

Ohala said research is important because it advances society toward the future.

Both undergraduate and graduate students, Nancy Riley said, share the common goal of gathering information, learning from literature and obtaining data from other researchers.

## <u>AROUND DOWNTOWN SAN JOSE</u>

### **FRIDAY SATURDAY SUNDAY** 10 11

"Rosencrantz & Guildenstern Are Dead" on opening night when the Santa Clara-based "Shady Shakespeare Theater Company" presents at Theatre on San Pedro Square (29 N. San Pedro St.) ... show begins at 8 p.m., tickets are \$20 for students/seniors and

Find out if

\$25 otherwise.

Hear poetry inspired by a current exhibit at the San Jose Museum of Art (110 S. Market St.) with Santa Clara County poet laureate Nils Peterson and SJSU English professor Kate Evans at the Poetry Invitational in honor of National Poetry Month ... words begin at 1 p.m., tickets are \$5 for students/ seniors and \$8 otherwise.

Starting with a performance called "Square Dance" the Ballet San Jose brings the moves with a "Spring Repertory I: Square Dance, Moments, and Salut D'Amour" at the San Jose Repertory (255 Almaden Blvd.) ... dancing begins at 8 p.m., tickets are \$30.

Smooth jazz in the air at City Lights Theater Company (529 S. Second St.) when Jessica Johnson sings as part of the San Jose Jazz Concert Showcase ... tunes begin at 7 p.m., tickets are \$15.



COMPILED BY DANIEL HERBERHOLZ



THIS DAY IN HISTORY



On April 8, 1976, the Spartan Daily reported that ...

SJSU opened an investigation regarding the possibility of pornographic films being made in campus dorms, in response to a story written by Spartan Daily reporter Louise Ransil, pictured.

The Spartan Shops Board of Directors voted to use \$58,000 to remodel the Student Union cafeteria.

• The Educational Opportunity Program introduced new guidelines to help incoming EOP freshmen choose classes and avoid academic probation.

## Late SJSU art professor remembered as 'unique' and 'unforgettable'

Community loses artist and war veteran

Ben Cadena Staff Writer

Former SJSU art Professor Robert Freimark died February 18 at San Jose's Kaiser Hospi-

His daughter, Christine Freimark, said he was born January 27, 1922, in Doster, Michigan.

"Freimark served in the United States Navy in the Pacific from 1939 to 1946," said Starr Davis, Freimark's publicist. "His ship had the best firing record and Bob was a pointer, the man who aims and fires the guns."

Davis said Freimark received an M.F.A. in 1951 from the Cranbrook Academy of Art. He then married Mary Carvin and had a son named Matisse. Freimark then began teaching at the Toledo Museum of Art and Ohio University in Athens, Ohio.

Christine Freimark said she was born after he married his second wife, Lilian Tihlarik, in 1954.

His son, Matisse Freimark, said Freimark graduated in 1950 from the University of Toledo with a bachelor's degree in creative writing and majored in writing at the Toledo Museum of Art.

Davis said that between 1959 and 1963, Freimark was an "Artist in Residence" at the Des Moines Art Center. His

family moved to San Jose, Calif. in 1964.

Freimark family were lifelong music lovers.

"Bob" to his friends, was like a troubadour, singing ballads with Tihlarik and folk songs at political events, Davis said. Tihlarik died in 2005 and Freimark dedicated a verse of "Lili War II, to his wife.

father taught art at SJSU from the mothers of the Desapare-1964 to 1986, where he was cidos (disappeared ones) in awarded a Professor Emeritus Argentina. designation in 1986. In 1970, Freimark spent a year-long sabbatical traveling to 18 countries in Europe. He included an exhibition of his "50 States" show in Germany and had a Czechoslovakian family reunion in Brno, Czech Republic, at the Vienna Woolen Mills.

"Freimark created tapestries using the 'Art Protis' technique of sheep's fleeces sewn in place 1/8 inch apart," said Freimark's longtime friend Shirley Trevino. "From 1972-73, Freimark was a visiting professor of art at Carpenter Center for Visual Arts, Harvard University, introducing Harvard to the lithograph. Bob supported many causes. In 1966, he participated in the historic march organized by Cesar Chavez, from Delano to Sacramento, California."

Christine Freimark said in 1967, her father received a Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education Grant for Rehabilitation

through Art, sponsored by Soledad State Prison. can you Tengu? 111 Paseo de San Antonio (408) 275-9491 Buy 1 Meal, Get a 2nd Meal 50% Off!\*

Peter Salz, a curator for Freimark, said Freimark did a She said members of the solo retrospective of his work in 2007, titled "Bob Freimark: Art of Dissent," which was ex-Freimark, also known as hibited at the Mexican Heri-

tage Plaza in San Jose. He said the exhibit demonstrated Freimark's dissident voice as expressed in his artwork examining the wars in Iraq, the treatment of United Marleen," a song from World Farm Workers' Vice President Dolores Huerta at the hands of Matisse Freimark said his the San Francisco police and

Fellow painter Ralph Marquez said that in 1981, Freimark and Warren Haack traveled to Isla Janitzio on Lake Patzcuaro in Michoacan, Mexico, to record celebrations of the Day of the Dead, or Dia de los Muertos. He said Freimark also made recordings of Arte Cubano in Cuba and the Royal Chicano Air Force, an art collective from Sacramento, showing his solidarity with Chicanos.

"My father, Bob Freimark, was one of the founding members of the Los Angeles Printmaking Society, now the largest printmaking society in the world, and he created 500

landscapes starting in 1964, devoted to showing an unspoiled perspective of California," said Christine Freimark.

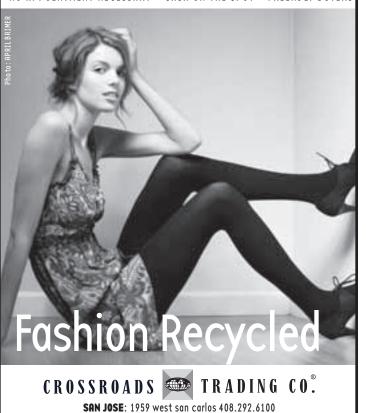
David Middlebrook, SJSU associate professor of art, said Freimark had a lust for life and art, and recalled a fishing trip to Santa Cruz - they missed the boat on Saturday because they had too good a time on Friday night, so Saturday night they chained their truck to the boat and were awakened and arrested on Sunday.

Middlebrook said that when they went to court, they explained their plight and inability to wake up on time. He said the judge understood and dropped the charges, since he was also a fisherman.

"Bob was unique and unforgettable," Middlebrook said.

Freimark's publicist, Starr Davis, said his work may be found in the collections of the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, the British Museum and 350 other museums and galleries worldwide. A memorial was held Saturday, March 20 at Gavilan College, and a further celebration of his work will be held this summer.

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## Travel4School may funnel money to university

**Amaris Dominguez** 

Staff Writer

Students planning upcoming vacations or weekend getaways can now book hotels and give back to SJSU while doing so, according to the Travel4School Web site.

Mark Murphy is the owner of TravelTribe, the parent company to Travel4School, and is the owner of the fastest growing media companies in the United States, according to Inc Magazine - Performance Media Group.

"The inspiration for Travel4School came from the realities of our current economic conditions and the fact that the company behind the site is one of the largest affiliates of Hotels.com in the world," Murphy said. "By leveraging this relationship and partnering with schools across the country, we felt that we could make a real impact on school budgets."

With budgets becoming increasingly tight and more school budgets getting voted down, the ability of communities to help raise money continues to grow, according to the Travel4School Web site.

Members can help schools without having to find extra money by giving while they travel, choosing a school to receive five percent of the total amount spent, according to the Web site.

"The project launched

in late February and is currently in beta," Murphy said. "More than 15,000 schools are included in the program that ranges from k-12 to colleges and universities."

"I found out about Travel-4School from a co-worker of mine who said was invited to join a fan group on Facebook for it," said sophomore English major Robert Hall.

"I think it's an interesting concept and a cool way to give much-needed money back to our school while we book hotel stays for whatever reasons," Hall said.

Members are not limited to one school, but can choose to give back to multiple schools in different states, cities or districts for each hotel they booked, according to the Web site.

"As one of the largest affiliates of Hotels.com, we earn a percentage that allows us to pay participating schools five percent of all room revenue booked and traveled," Murphy said.

According to the Travel-4School Facebook fan page, more than 500 fan pages are dedicated to multiple schools that are registered with Travel4School to reap the rewards of the service, including SJSU.

Murphy said traffic numbers are just beginning to ramp up because of initiatives on Facebook and partnerships with schools such as SJSU.

## **HACK**

From Page 1

"The department that looks into Wi-Fi systems should try and prevent future problems," Kishore said.

Rene Aguilar, a senior business finance major, said he's apprehensive about Internet hackers.

"There should be stronger privacy programs to prevent hackers and viruses," he said.

Shaan Aslam, a freshman radio, television and film major, said he thinks hacking happens all the time and that people need to protect themselves

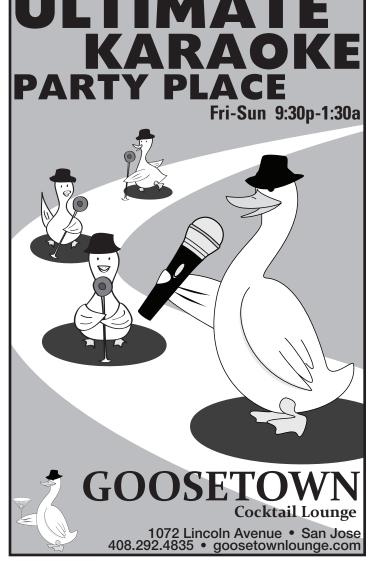
"If people can hack the FBI and the CIA, then personal computers should be no problem," he said. "The university should do what they can to prevent this from happening, but students have to do their part,

Junior history major Josh Levy said his first reaction to the hacking incidents was that his personal e-mail, Facebook and Wells Fargo accounts are liable to be hacked because he regularly accesses his accounts on campus and brings his laptop to every class to take notes.

"If it happened to one SJSU student. I have cause to worry." he said. "But it's not too extreme. It's only one case."

Officials in the technology office, the University Help Desk and SJSU media relations said they did not know anything about the hacker and what the consequences would be for hacking into a computer at SJSU.

University Police Department could not be reached for comment regarding penalties for being caught hacking.



## CAMPUSVOICES BY AMBER SIMONS

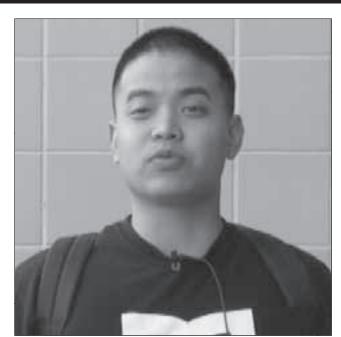
## What do you think about the A.S. elections?

Johnson Eung Junior, Communication



"I've actually personally never heard of the A.S. elections. San Jose State's a pretty big school, and I guess maybe it's not as easy for every student to be involved."

Tim Hwong Junior, Business



"I think that the A.S. elections are unimportant and irrelevant because most of the people that vote don't really even know what's going on, and it just seems like somewhat of a popularity contest."

Aashna Sinha Junior, Electrical Engineering



"I think the A.S. elections are very important because it's very important to know ... who's making the decisions for us, and we should definitely take a part in voting."

## Jun Kim Junior, Global Studies



"I find them somewhat important, somewhat not, since I focus myself more on campus, my school life. So they're important for the people who I don't feel really focus much in class themselves.'

## Rajat Khanna Masters, Mechanical Design



"Yeah, it's important. It's a good thing to have it because there are many problems which students suffer ... so for that there should be some authority who could represent the student.

Tanveer Kaur Freshman, Psychology



"I think the A.S. elections are important because it gives a good opportunity for students who are running, like for experience, and to be able to make a change in how their university runs."

## WOMEN

From Page 1

selves in the world more critically and contribute in creating a more just world."

Gerami said that at times, it feels like the younger people of today forget or may not realize that at a point in time, women were limited in what they were able to do.

"People fought for the right for women to play sports and to do other things that at one time they were not allowed to do because of their physique, and today, people take advantage and forget that," she said.

With the recent and future budget cuts, Gerami said the program, like many others on campus, has faced cutbacks.

"Like any program and department, we are worried about losing faculty and turning students away from taking

classes they need or want to take," she said.

As for the future of the women's studies program, Bakhru said one of the program's goals is to become a department and be offered to students as a major.

The program offers students a minor in women's studies or a concentration in the social science department, according to the women's studies Web site.

Another goal of the pro-

gram is to grow and focus on health and reproductive justice, and the program wants to offer courses in women's health and sexuality, Gerami

"We teach the theory of feminism," she said. "The essence of feminism is believing in equality for all groups, and with that comes the commitment to achieve it."

Gerami said just because a women does not shave her legs does not make her a feminist.

"It's not just about going into the streets screaming and burning your bra," Gerami said. "It's about helping people. You work with people. You work with children who need help reading. That is activism — to help and take care of others. It's helping, lending a hand to achieve equality."

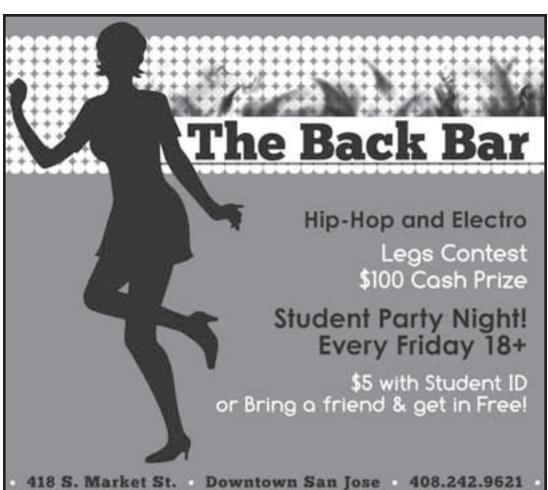
Junior sociology major Crystal Land said she has thought about taking a women's studies minor.

"I think it's important to

know the history of women and how we got to where we are today and how to deal with the current issues that face us now," she said.

Land said she is bothered by how women are treated in the workplace.

"It's terrible that after so many years of women fighting for what is ours, we still make less than men, but at the same time it feels we are expected to do more with our lives," she







## **Eric Austin** Staff Writer Conference. 2 and then proceeded with another individual first-place finish at the Juli Inkster Spartan Invitational on March 9. it happened twice in a row." with two first-place finishes.

Gabby Targosz performs a floor routine earlier this season. Spartan Daily Archives

## **Gymnasts headed to regionals**

Kathryn McCormick

Staff Writer

SJSU gymnasts junior Lily Swann and senior Gabrielle Targosz will be competing at the 2010 NCAA Women's Gymnastics West Regional.

"We have a great chance going in," said gymnastics head coach Wayne Wright. "This week we've been practicing, and Gabby Targosz looks just phenomenal on floor. Gabby has a unique skill it's a round-off one-and-a-half twist, step out to round-off back handspring double twist, which is a unique, highly difficult move and she's very proficient in doing it. Lily's just doing a great job and being really consistent in the all-around."

The team recently competed in the Western Athletic Conference season, where it placed lower than they would have liked.

"We did OK considering we were without our top allarounder, sophomore Thomasina Wallace," Wright said. "The week prior, she tore her Achilles. I think when you're down one of

your top all-arounders, it hurts you a little bit. We did OK - weshould have done better. But we did well. We ended up fourth.

Although we didn't Merritt scored a 9.745 average make it as a team, sending individuals is good. We're very happy and excited about the kids that made it.

## Head coach Nationals."

We finished third, but because of a technicality we got bumped to fourth."

Though the team didn't qualify for regionals, Targosz and Swann will compete there, along with junior Katie Merritt as a vault alternate.

The girls qualified because they have the highest seasonlong averages of the team.

Wright said that Targosz

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scored a 9.8 season average, the highest of all five floor regional qualifiers. He said that Swann scored a 39.1, the second highest all-around average of the five regional qualifiers. He said that as a vault alternate.

"Our goal has always been to win the WAC and continue to make it to NCAA Regional as a team," Wright said. "Although we didn't make it as a team, sending individuals is good. We're very happy and excited about the kids that made it. They're going to go in there, Wayne Wright try to do their best, and hopefully they'll make it into NCAA

> Targosz is in her final year at SJSU, so the regionals will be her last collegiate meet unless she makes it to the national championships.

Swann is in her junior year, so as a senior she will be the only all-around competitor on the 2011 team with regionals under her belt.

The Regional takes place 6 p.m. Saturday at UCLA's Pauley

## **Corpus putting excitement** into women's golf team

In winning back-to-back tournaments, SJSU women's golfer Christina Corpus has solidified her place as a top com-

petitor in the Western Athletic Corpus won the Fresno State Classic Individual title on March

"I've dreamed about this since I was a freshman," she said. "I've always wanted to win a Spartan Invitational and win my first college tournament and

Corpus, a senior sociology major, leads the women's golf team in average strokes per round and in total number of under-par rounds for this season. She is the only Spartan

She was also recently named WAC Player of the Week in recognition of her outstanding play, according to the SJSU Athletics Web site.

Madeleine Ziegert, a sophomore teammate of Corpus for the last two years who finished second behind Corpus at the Fresno State Lexus Classic, watched Corpus clinch her vic-

"It was amazing to see," she said. "I think it proves to us that hard work pays off and that if you do your best every day, you will succeed."

Corpus, who has been playing with the SJSU women's golf team since her freshman year, has developed a comfort with being atop the leaderboard,

Spartan head coach John Dormann said.

"I think she has learned how to win," he said.

Dormann said he also has noticed an improvement in her short game.

"I think she is putting a little better," he said. "She's making a few more putts and a few

I've always wanted to win a Spartan Invitational and win my first college tournament and it happened twice in a row.

### **Christina Corpus** Women's golfer

more birdies, which is the key to a good score."

Winning the tournaments not only has boosted Corpus's confidence, but has garnered some exposure for the women's golf team.

"It's amazing how after you win a tournament, a lot of people want to sponsor us," she said. "It helps a lot."

Dormann said Corpus' recent victories have generated recognition within the athletic department and has provided the team with a sense of pride.

"We want the best players in the conference, and we want the best team in the conference," he said. "Those types of awards recognize that."

Corpus said she owes her recent success to her coaches and fellow team members.

"My team has supported me

and they believe in me," she said. "That helps a lot."

Dormann's advice has been invaluable, Corpus said.

"Coach John has helped me with my swing all throughout college and that is why I won those two tournaments," she

Corpus, who said she has been playing golf since she was four years old, said her ultimate goal has always been to play on the LPGA tour as a professional golfer.

"That is what I dream of," she said. "I always try to qualify and miss it by one or two strokes."

Corpus said she is planning on trying out for the U.S. Open Tour on May 24, and this time she is feeling more confident.

"I'm working harder than ever before," she said.

Dormann said he believes the odds are in Corpus' favor to make the tour.

"It's a matter of hard work and discipline, which are some of Christina's strengths," he

If Corpus makes the LPGA tour, she will become a part of the history of women's golfers from SJSU who have turned pro, including two-time U.S. Women's Open winner Juli Inkster, whose tournament Corpus recently won.

"She has a lot of role models from San Jose State on tour to follow," Dormann said.

Teammate Ziegert said she also believes that Corpus has a good chance of making the tour because of her unmatched work ethic.

"I've never seen anyone else who works as hard as she does," she said.



## **Envision the Possible!** Become a Fulbright Scholar

On Monday, April 12, all SJSU seniors and graduate students are invited to come learn more about international Fulbright opportunities!

Monday, April 12, University Room, 12:00 noon - 1:30 p.m.

For more info call 408-924-2664 or e-mail dchandler@ gs.sjsu.edu

On Monday, April 12, all current SJSU seniors and graduate students are invited to attend a luncheon and information meeting to learn more about International Fulbright and other study abroad opportunities.

San José State Fulbright alumni and representatives from the offices of the deans of graduate and undergraduate studies, the Institute for International Education student Fulbright Program, SJSU faculty, Study Abroad staff and the German Academic Exchange Service Scholarship Program will be on hand to provide information and answer questions.

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# Curiosity collides with Kaleid gallery



Opinion Editor

Entering the gallery, I was greeted by a man in a red trench coat with a red top hat baring a creepy over-exciting grin.

man, but a cardboard cutout from the art gallery behind Flames Restaurant & Bar.

I always wondered what occupied that stretch of space an art gallery waiting to be ex- ranging from \$10 upwards to

Kaleid, meaning beauty and form in Greek, is a gallery resides on Fourth Street, right next to Flames Diner across the street from the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library.

From paintings, to draw-Except, it wasn't really a ings, to pottery, to jewelry, all sorts of glittering unique pieces were found all over the show floor.

All the pieces come from

and lo and behold there was the art being up for sale and \$1500, depending on the piece, according to the clerk at the front desk.

> Kaleid also hosts \$2 Tuesdays, where they sell certain pieces of art for two bucks, with live music and other activities going on that day.

> People can even go to the gallery's Web site to send samples and potentially have their art displayed and sold at Kaleid.

Entrance into the gallery is about 60 local artists, with all free, and being so close to cam-

pus, anybody can take a few minutes and hop on over to enjoy a variety of local art.

Facing the entrance is a giant painting by Kate Saturday titled, "Tom Warts & Coyote Having a Laughing Contest," showing a man laughing and hovering over a table while a coyote is laughing on the floor.

Another painting next to it features girls riding pink whales with hot air balloons and butterflies floating in the background.

A wall stands to the left of the painting and is reserved for anyone to draw on, with markers and pens laid out for those who desire to leave a little mark of themselves.

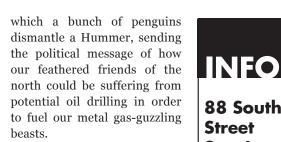
Away from the entrance, one can find a bicycle painted with bright pink colors and a helmet accessorized with antelope horns attached on top of it.

There is also a giant hummingbird's head attached to a wall, magnets with assorted famous logos and pictures such as "Tide," Michael Jackson, older Dr. Pepper logos and the republican elephant.

A wire-frame cat with packaging tape wrapped around it, along with many other quirky pieces of art were also present.

There is something for everyone, something that could pull at all sorts of emotions within our minds.

A Cichon mask by Patina Paintings hangs at Kaleid gallery. KEVIN HUME / SPARTAN DAILY



One of my favorite pieces was "A Singular Universe," a giant painting made up of mostly many Pac man ghosts with devil horns and angel halos, spoke to the video gamer inside me.

It was funny to see Inky, Blinky, Pinky and Clyde used for someone else's inspiration.

I now know where to pay I laughed at Michelle a visit after happy hour -aWater's piece, "Raising the gallery that allows my artsy side Fuel Economy," a painting in to come out and express itself.

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Free Admission

Open Tue-Fri. 12pm-7pm; Sat. 12pm-5pm



"Tom Warts & Coyote Having a Laughing Contest," by Kate Saturday is on display at Kaleid gallery. KEVIN HUME / SPARTAN DAILY



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PARATLEL



In "How to train your dragon," characters Hiccups and Toothless form an unexpected bond. PHOTO COURTESY OF ALL MOVIE PHOTOS WEB SITE

## "How to train" doesn't drag on



Kristen Pearson

Staff Writer

Dreamworks Animation has delivered an adorable little flick about dragons and Vikings bonding with each other.

I wish I lived in a land where dragons were trainable, cute and lovable.

In "How to Train Your Dragon," teenage Vikings learn and train together in a ring, fighting against captured dragons.

This is the way they've lived in the village of Burke for years.

The story is about a teenage Viking named Hiccup, voiced by Jay Baruchel.

Hiccup's lifelong goal was to become a dragon-killing Viking, and one day he knocks a dragon out of the sky with a contraption he invented.

Hiccup then looks for the Night Fury (the name of dragon's species) after he knocked it down so he could kill it and take it's heart back to his father.

Not exactly the family friendly plot you'd expect to find in an animated movie with a kid's theme.

The Night Fury was a dragon no one had ever seen before, and Hiccup, using clever inventions and unique ingenuity, was able to bring it down.

Throughout the course of the movie,

Hiccup finds that he can train the dragons instead of killing them.

It's a heartfelt family film with action, adventure and humor.

The film was CG (computer graphic) animated and sometimes I forgot I was watching an animated movie, falling into the world of training dragons and thinking it was actually real, which reminded me of the almost-real animation of "Shrek."

Panoramic views of the land, sky and sea showed the whole village as Hiccup flew on the back of his dragon.

The camera views made me really dizzy after staring at the screen for a while because there are a lot of swooping and aerial views with flying dragons.

I would have had a major problem watching this movie in 3-D. Not only does 3-D make me dizzy, but the dizziness also makes me sick to my stomach.

The colors were vibrant and crisp, especially after living in such a dull world. If there was really a land that looked that green, I would move there immediately and become a nomad living off the land forever.

Even the colors of the people's clothing, although mostly browns and tans, popped off the screen. It made me feel like I'd walked into a world of brighter colors, as opposed to my normal world of gray desks, tan floors and beige walls.

Water and fire, which are normally dif-

ficult to animate, seemed to be simple for the animators of this movie.

The credits included more animators than voice actors, though, so they had plenty of legwork on this piece of work.

Hiccup's father, Stoick, voiced by Gerard Butler, is a tough Viking. In fact, he's the leader of the Vikings and is extremely ashamed of Hiccup because of his lack of muscles. This animosity between father and son cast a feeling of sadness over the movie.

A small love story also developed, which captured my attention when I wasn't being flown in and out of large rocks and tunnels, between Hiccup and Astrid, voiced by America Ferrera, whom he liked from the beginning of the movie.

I would love to live in a world like this. When the movie was over, I turned to my friend and we both said, "I want a dragon."

I could not resist the appeal of Toothless, the name Hiccup gave the dragon. It reminded me of an adorable puppy so much that I constantly wanted to reach into the screen and hug him.

He had the eyes of a puppy and the mannerisms as well. He just made me want to love and have a dragon of my own.

The end of the movie was endearing, as all fairy-tales and animated movies should be, and I would recommend it to anyone, young and old.

# Beware of this breakfast bubbly

**Ashley Finden** 

Staff Writer

After I experienced a morning in the academic equivalent of hell, I felt the need to bolster my spirits with a nice breakfast and needed the perfect drink to accompany my meal.

I looked at the menu at Flames Restaurant & Bar on Fourth and San Fernando streets and thought the regular cocktails that were available all day long would be too strong.

A section of the menu titled, "Wake-up Call," called to me — maybe even sang to me.

I glanced down and saw a small list of alcoholic drinks appropriate for the late hours of the morning.

That is where I saw the Pomegranate Champagne Cocktail. I love fruity drinks and am fond of champagne. Another huge perk of the beverage is that at \$4.75, it is about three dollars cheaper than all of the other drinks on the traditional cocktail menu.

The ingredients in the drink were pomegranate, champagne and Cointreau liqueur.

When I saw the drink, my first impression was that it would be a deliciously fruity drink that would pop in my mouth and wake me up.

A slice of orange floated in a mystical fuchsia-colored fluid, which was an attractive contrast that filled a perfectly clear margarita glass. The drink was a beautiful concoction.

My first sip had me tasting nothing more than champagne.

I am sensitive to the taste of alcohol, so I thought maybe the taste was stronger because I haven't had champagne in quite some time. A few more sips and the champagne flavor engulfed

my taste buds

Then a burst of bubbles tickled my tongue. The bubbles were all that perked me up when I had the cocktail.

I didn't hate the way it tasted, but I was expecting much more pomegranate flavor. Any flavor outside the taste of champagne seemed to be absent from my drink. Even though some of the flavor could have been at the bottom of the glass, I avoided stirring



the drink at the risk of ruining the champagne's flavor by releasing its bubbles.

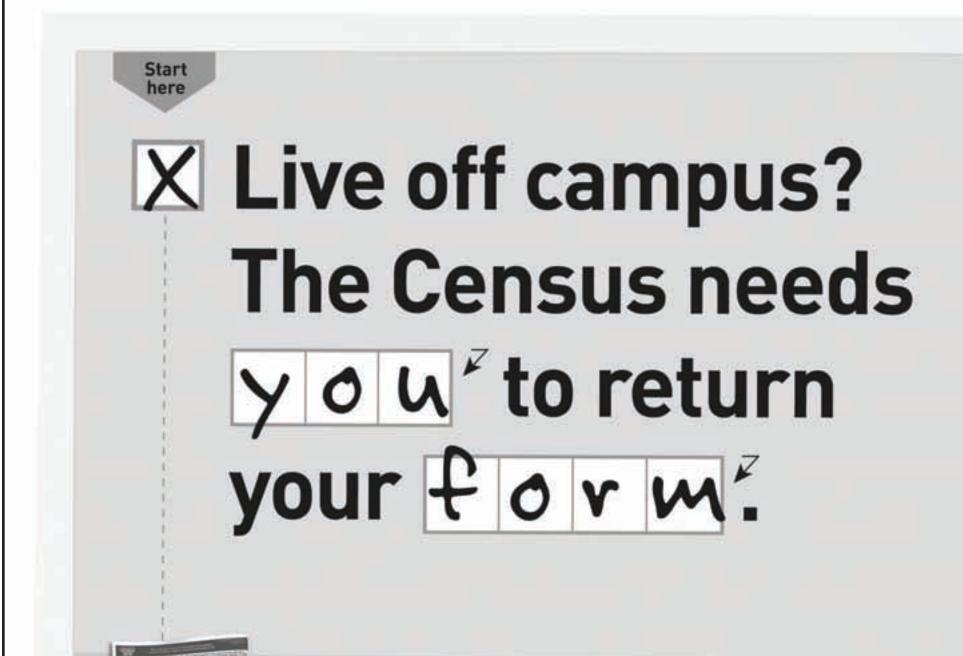
A great way to improve the drink is to add more pomegranate flavor. Otherwise, you are drinking nothing more than champagne with food coloring and an orange slice.

The most entertaining parts of the beverage were the color and bubbles that drifted and attached themselves to the piece of orange.

The bright color was the only reason this drink would be considered a morning drink.

At the same time, its eyecatching shade of fuchsia can allow it to do some work on the side and go on the nightly cocktail menu — just replace the orange with a lemon slice and it has a night job.

Next time, I think I will go for another drink or stick with a mimosa to heighten the chance of having a morning beverage I will enjoy.



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## The insanity of our military spending

On April 4, 1967, exactly one year to the day before he was assassinated, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. gave a speech titled "Beyond Vietnam," and called the U.S. government "the greatest purveyor of violence in the world today."

That statement remains as true today as it was back then.

end of World War II, our government has created a war economy.

Salman Haggi

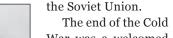
Staff Writer

The U.S. spends almost as much on the military as the rest of the world combined, and spends roughly six times more than China, the secondlargest spender.

According to Global Issues, a defense spending watchdog, even as the U.S. was sinking under increasingly crippling levels of debt over the last decade, defense spending rose at a steady

That explosion occurred even as overall military spending in the rest of the world decreased, and the U.S. military budget was 29 times as large as the combined spending of the six 'rogue' states (Cuba, Iran, Libya, North Korea, Sudan and Syria) who collectively spent \$14.65 billion.

Since the 9/11 attacks, the United States has been on a spending spree on wars and weapons that have little, if anything, to do with combating terrorism, nothing to do with the imaginary threat from China and everything to do with sustaining an enormously bloated defense industry threatened with declining profits because of the demise of



War was a welcomed development for everyone except those people in the defense industry whose profits and jobs, as President Eisenhower famously warned, are rooted in every congressional district.

At present, the enemy we face, in

Over the past half century, since the the form of al-Qaida or other terrorist groups, possesses no army, no navy and no air force, yet our government keeps spending billions of taxpayer dollars on advanced aircraft, submarines and weapons systems that are of no use.

Even with the superiority of our military, we remain bogged down in two wars that are creating more enemies than defeating them, and the solution does not lie in bigger bombs.

This isn't a left or right issue because politicians from both parties are complicit in the waste of taxpayer dollars.

It is a disease that has afflicted our political system for the past few decades.

George Washington warned in his farewell address that once a nation embarks on the path of imperial adventure, the irrationality of false patriotic appeals would trump reason. Similarly, Dwight Eisenhower's

farewell address warned that "in the councils of government, we must guard against the acquisition of unwarranted influence, whether sought or unsought, by the military-industrial complex.

The potential for the disastrous rise of misplaced power exists and will per-

In a time where our education system is teetering, unemployment levels are hovering near 10 percent and people are losing their homes every day, it's time we re-evaluated our priorities.

At the risk of sounding trite, the fact remains that all the weapons systems in the world will not save us from the perils that we face in the years to come. In fact, they will most likely be responsible for our unmaking.

The U.S. spends almost as much on military as the rest of the world combined, and spends roughly six times more than China, the second-largest spender.

If we are to live up to the model we claim to be for the rest of the world, we have to tackle the dire issues that exist within our borders.

That means we need to start redirecting our precious resources toward educating our youth, combating climate change and developing clean energy sources, just to name just a few of the vital issues we face.

## From autism with love

What if you were told that you would never be able to hear the words "I love you" from your twomonth-old baby, for as long as it lives?

If you knew your child wouldn't be able to have a best friend in school, or go to college or find a soul mate for marriage, would you do anything to change his or her kind of future?

National Autism Awareness Month began on April 1. According to the Autism Society of America, autism affects an estimated 13 million families in the U.S. alone.

In other words, the number of children diagnosed with AIDS, diabetes and cancer combined does not exceed the number of those who will be diagnosed with autism per year, according to Autism Speaks, an international organization raising funds and awareness for the autistic community.

What makes medical researchso different for this particular condition is the fact that not one individual case of autism is identical to another. Some are more severe than others, and different aspects of each person's social behavior

Autism affects the very nature of a person's social behavior and ability to communicate.

And it affects one of my friends.

The first time I met Jeremy, he hardly said a word. He appeared to be like any other five-year-old boy playing with mostly anything he could get his hands on. He just didn't interact with other people.

His mom had shared a past parental experience with me when they had found him walking out on the street with a car moving toward him. She told me this was just one of the many situations in which an autistic person may find himself, something I imagine a parent of a severely autistic child may relate.

While other people can con-

Kirsten Aguilar Burstin With Kirsten

sciously think about how the driver of an incoming car would react to them walking across the street, Jeremy wouldn't be able to "think what they're thinking," as his mother told me.

Therapy sessions fill my friends' family's weekly schedule as she drives Jeremy from school to one therapy session after another.

With his dad being the only one employed in the family, Jeremy's therapy sessions, which cost nearly \$140,000 per year, are just one of the many sacrifices made by a family with an autistic member.

Language, behavior and speech therapists study and teach Jeremy in order for him learn human interactions that may seem very basic to us yet completely elude him. Just the action of walking side by side with a friend or family member is considered a form of social interaction — something that must be taught to someone like Jeremy.

Although Jeremy's non-autistic brother Justin is nearly four years younger, their ages seem to be reversed. It's as if Justin had taken over the role of being the older brother.

Jeremy's family knows they may never see the day when he acknowledges what they have done for him.

"Burstin With Kirsten," appears biweekly on Thursday. Kirsten Aguilar is a Spartan Daily multimedia editor.

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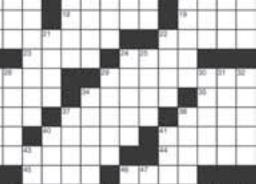
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## Learning lessons about driving the expensive way

The eve of my spring break could not have started off on a more sour note.

As I was making my way down Santa Clara Street toward campus, I glanced at the clock in my car trying to map out exactly how much time I had to park my car, rush across campus and somehow manage to make it to my 9 a.m. class.

Then all I saw were brake lights in

Annoyed, I signaled and gassed it to the next lane and was greeted by a police officer waving his hands at me, yelling for me to pull over.

"F' my life," I muttered under my breath as I was asked to turn off my car and roll down the window.

"Haven't I pulled you over before?" said the police officer, who told me I looked like someone he pulled over recently even though I explained that I had never been pulled over before. I hastily replied "No," and bitterly handed over my license and registration.

With ticket book in hand, he asked me if I knew the speed limit.

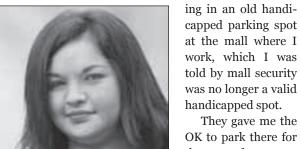
I told him 35 mph, but I was wrong.

He informed me the speed limit was 25 and cited me for going 39, then handed me my first speeding

ticket ever and sent me on my merry way, late to class, to say the least.

I knew there was great reasoning behind my lack of desire to learn how to drive and never wanting to get my

Just a few months before, I had to pay a \$308 parking ticket for park-



Staff Writer

They gave me the **Amaris Dominguez** 

OK to park there for the past four years that I had worked there. It wasn't until one long night at work, when I was

looking forward to a coffee date with a friend, that I saw the citation.

Having to pay the city money never leaves a sweet taste in anyone's mouth, let alone my own.

I challenged that parking ticket with photographic proof of the disintegrating no-parking lines and nonexistent

handicap sign or blue curb, but the city of San Jose still said I had to pay up.

Even if I were to take it to court, I would still have to pay the fine, and only if I win will I be reimbursed.

Having to pay the city money never leaves a sweet taste in anyone's mouth, let alone my own.

Either way, I fail at this game of

I just got the official ticket in the

mail saying that I need to pay \$221 for speeding and an additional \$264 for

traffic school. I know I am not the only one guilty of speeding at one time or another, but I just happened to be one out of every six licensed drivers who will receive a

speeding ticket this year. I know we may get caught up in our busy lifestyles and stress and that every minute counts, but staying alive and driving the speed limit and getting to our destinations safely is more important.

Talk about an expensive lesson to learn.

I am now a paranoid driver, being overly cautious about absolutely everything on the road, not wanting to add more to my running total of \$793 this year in citations, and it's still early in the year.

## Some elders just don't deserve my respect

Everybody is told from a young age, "Respect your el-

For me, that's a difficult philosophy to follow, considering my family.

I've never been close to my father's side of the family. It's hard to get close to them considering the way they were when I first met them.

My grandmother suffered from a stroke before I was born, so she was bedridden and could

never form complete sentences, only moans and incoherent sounds.

She could only move her left arm. She gained sweet moments of bliss when family would visit and she could hold her grandchildren's hands be-

She must have felt terrible that she could not do more than lay in bed.

It was hard for me to get attached to her, someone I knew nothing about and who I couldn't even carry a legitimate conversation with, and who has been confined to her bedroom since the first time I met her.



Leonard Lai An Honest Lai

My grandfather, a man whom I do not wish to be related to at all, took care of my grandmoth-

He was a selfish person who only wanted things done his

He was loud, demanding and held his interests as his priority.

My family needed to visit him at least once a week, and it was torture every time we went.

We would usually go out and eat at a restaurant of his choos-

ing, meaning the same restaurant over and over again, for the years we kept in contact with him.

He would talk and eat at the same time, often chewing with his mouth open, speaking loudly in case we couldn't hear him over him gnashing on

I guess being a jerk runs in the family, because I see it in my father, and most likely I have some of that in me as well.

I wasn't the most well-behaved kid. During the visits to my grandparents' place, I caused as much havoc as an 8-year-old could at the time.

The thing was, as much stuff as I would get in trouble for, I would receive none of the blame, and my grandfather would pull my mother aside and yell at her for my mistakes.

I've never been close to my father's side of the family. It's hard to get close to them considering the way they were when I first met them.

I felt that wasn't justified. If it was my own fault, why should my mother get the blame and not have my grandfather tell me directly what I did wrong?

When my grandmother died, my grandfather cried a lot during the funeral, and yet none of my other relatives seemed to cry much. My five aunts, my uncle and my father all didn't cry. It seemed everybody just agreed we kept her alive long enough, and she finally gained rest.

It was hard for me to cry for someone I didn't know. The only thing I knew for sure was that we were blood-related, and that was pretty much it.

The next couple of years, we needed to make more frequent trips to visit my grandfather to keep him company because my grandmother was

I had to bite the bullet harder and endure spending more time with him.

I wouldn't have to endure for long, because he

His funeral was a bit different compared with my grandmother's. I knew who he really was, and instead of having no emotion like I had for my grandmother, I had a satisfied grin on my

We still visited their graves afterward, and it still feels like torture knowing that even in death we still spend time together.

"An Honest Lai," appears weekly on Thursdays Leonard Lai is the Spartan Daily opinion editor.

## Your dog doesn't know what you're saying

I work at a dog wash.

Many colorful characters keep us in eat soap.

gaggle of sad-eyed women, a handful of persnickety pensioners and a lone Elvis impersonator who moonlights as a mail

The latter likes to sing show tunes to his dog, replacing all pronouns with the dog's name, "Rusty."

Thus, we are treated to delightful renditions of "I'm An Ordinary Rusty," "Hello Rusty" and everyone's favorite, "Suddenly, Rusty."

Another customer, one of the sadeyed, persnickety women, likes to sing to her dog — but nothing commercial.

All of her songs are impromptu numbers, most notably, "Big yellow eyes and a little brown nose and a love-ly lit-tle taaaaail!"

particularly interesting, though, because she encapsulates my main point.

She gives her dog very specific instructions that he can't possibly underFor example, she once told him not to pretty much no way

"It gives you diarrhea for days, you the person is saying. Among the families and single peoknow that," she said. "And who has to le who come into our shop, we have a clean up after you? Me, that's who. I'm a day, I hear people not doing it again, no sir. So unless you're going to clean up your mess, little man, you'd better not eat soap again."

The dog just stared at her.

Then he licked at the soap.

I don't mean to imply that humans and animals don't share deep bonds they most certainly do.

It's more that I think that people overstep the line between how they would like to communicate with their companion animals and what's actually possible.

Case in point, a woman was telling a fellow customer the other day about a wonderful conversation she had with her dog.

Unless her dog is the only one on Earth with the gift of speech, I have a feeling it was less of a conversation and more of a monologue.

Possibly a soliloquy.

Whatever it was, it highlights my point — people talk to their dogs beyond trained commands and expect comprehension, despite the fact that there is

the dog will know what

At least seven times asking their pets questions and genuinely looking as though they expect their pets to give them a detailed answer.

Some people try to barter with their dogs, as if the dogs have any idea what is being wagered.

For example, the other day a man was trying to convince his dog to stop barking by telling the dog that he would make him waffles and take him shopping.

Amazingly, the dog kept barking.

Another curious thing I often encounter at the shop is people projecting very specific feelings onto their pets.

A standout example is a woman who was explaining to me that her dog, Black Jack, worries.

"He worries," she said. "Black Jack worries."

Kathryn McCormick Staff Writer

> but I hear so many different things, I can't tell what to think. And the economy's in the toilet - how will we ever pay off our debt to China? I'm getting old. I'll die in a few years. I've

never been to Paris. I'm so empty."

I don't doubt that

"Black Jack" occasion-

she made it seem as

though he lies awake

at night, tossing and

turning in his doggy

bed thinking things

like, "I don't know

where I stand on uni-

versal health care. It

seems like a good idea,

ally feels anxious.

Another example of an owner projecting her own feelings onto her dog comes from this woman -65 years old with bleached hair, tight skin and a smoker's rattle, wearing a velvet tracksuit and big sunglasses.

Her dog, Popcorn, was a tiny thing, and remarkably well-behaved. Placid, even.

Despite his visible calm, the woman insisted that her dog was having a panic attack and needed to be soothed by her From the way she Harvey Fierstein foghorn voice.

was going on though, "DON'T BE NERVOUS. DON'T BE NERVOUS," she yelled at the dog. "THIS WILL BE FUN FOR YOU. DON'T BE NERVOUS, FOR CHRIST'S SAKE. JESUS CHRIST, POPCORN, CALM DOWN."

> The dog was fine, the owner was not. I think that can be said about a lot of the cases I'm talking about here.

In spite of almost everything I've said above implying otherwise, I don't really mean to be judgmental of people who project human qualities or abilities onto their companion animals.

While those people are certainly very interesting specimens, it's more the practice of ascribing human traits to pets as a whole that I find curious.

I can understand why people do it, but at the same time I'm stuck on how unreasonable it is to expect an animal to comprehend words that aren't commands or aren't weighted by tone.

Whatever.

It's a mystery or something.

## Spartan Daily

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## Sharks potential playoff foes present a mix of talent

### COMMENTARY

Marlon Maloney

Staff Writer

It's getting near playoff time in the NHL again, which means it's time for the Sharks to begin tying up fans' stomachs in more knots than an Eagle Scout.

For the past four seasons, the Sharks continue to raise expectations only to deliver the same result - a two-win, four-loss exit in the first or second round of the playoffs.

Last season had to sting the

The Sharks delivered their first ever Presidents' Trophy, the award for having the best overall record in the regular season, and then were promptly ousted in the first round by the hated Anaheim Ducks.

This season, they have clinched their third consecutive Pacific Division title and are in a battle with the Chicago Blackhawks to decide the first and second seeds in the Western Conference.

The Sharks' top line is one of the most feared lines in the entire league. Dany Heatley, Joe Thornton and Patrick Marleau have accounted for a whopping 248 points so far this season.

Thornton recently returned from an injury suffered March 28 against the Vancouver Canucks and the rest of the roster is completely healthy.

All signs look normal. No one has any clue what to expect from the Sharks.

Fans have seen the team fail so many times that they struggle to get their hopes up. Goalie Evgeni Nabokov has been very shaky at times since the drubbing he suffered against Team Canada during the Olympics.

With less than a week left in the season, the eight playoff teams have all clinched playoff spots. What their seeding will be, however, is still a mystery. Here are the teams that the Sharks could possibly be playing in the first round of the playoffs:

### Colorado Avalanche

If the playoffs started today, the Sharks would be facing the Colorado Avalanche. The Avalanche are a team that has surpassed preseason expectations to make the playoffs after finishing dead last in the conference last year.

Head-to-head, the Sharks have a record of 2-1-1 against the Avalanche and have been outscored 13 to 14.



(Above) San Jose Shark's Joe Thornton shoots during a game last month. The Sharks are fighting for the No. 1 seed in the NHL playoffs. (Below) Dan Boyle fights for position with Nashville's Steve Sullivan. Spartan Daily Archives

Colorado is a young team that doesn't have a lot of playoff experience, but have caused the Sharks some problems this season. It has the sixth highest scoring offense in the league and the 16th-ranked defense in the league.

It has not been consistent lately, having gone 3-6-1 in its last 10 games. The Avs get solid production from their top two lines, but they should hardly be overwhelming for the Sharks strong defensive play.

The Sharks potent offense will be able to overmatch the inexperienced Avs and deliver first-round success in San Jose.

This looks like the best matchup the Sharks can hope for right now. The Avs are inexperienced and have overachieved this season.

## Detroit Red Wings

The "evil empire" of the NHL was looking very iffy before the Olympic break, having suffered a slew of injuries to their roster. Since the break, the

Red Wings have been the league's hottest team, going 14-3-2.

If there was ever a team the Sharks did not want to face in the first round, Detroit is that team. In fact, I would say the Wings are the team that no top seed team really wants to face. Their roster is finally healthy and they are running on all cylinders.

This is a team that has been to the Western Conference Finals each of the last 3 seasons, the Stanley Cup Finals in each of the last two seasons and won the Cup two seasons ago. Detroit is a team with all the experience in the world and clearly knows how to compete in playoff hockey.

Head-to-head, the Sharks are 1-2-1 against the Wings this season. They have been outshot and outscored in their regular season series this season, and this is against a Red Wings team that has been weakened for the majority of the season.

Look for a hard-fought series that has the distinct possibility of resulting in a repeat of last season's first-round departure.

### **Los Angeles Kings**

The Kings will be playing in the playoffs for the first time since 2002 and there has been a lot of roster turnover since then. They are ranked in the top 10 in goals for and against and have a relatively solid mix of experienced and inexperienced players.

Goalie Jonathan Quick is winless in his last six games and has allowed at least three goals in six of his last seven games. In head-to-head games, the Sharks are 3-2-1 and have once again been outscored in the series.

Every game between these two Pacific Division teams has been tough and both teams are familiar with one another. This would be a bit more difficult of an out than the Avalanche, but in the end, the Sharks should win this series.

### **Nashville Predators**

In my opinion, this is the team the Sharks should hope to face but isn't likely. Head-to-head, the Sharks are 3-1 against the Predators, and the

Predators are the only team in the bottom four seeds that the Sharks have outscored in their regular season series.

Predators goalie Pekka Rinne has been on fire since the Olympic break, posting an 11-3-1 record. But the Predators rely too heavily on their goaltending and inconsistent defense to be a true playoff contender. They are ranked 17th in the league in goals for, while the Sharks are tied for seventh with Detroit in goals against per game.

The only way I see this matchup happening though, is if the Sharks relinquish the No. 1 seed to Chicago.



### Stat Team Leader Joe Thornton **Points** (87)Patrick Marleau Goals (43) Joe Thornton **Assists** (68)Power **Dany Heatley** Play (18)Goals Short-Patrick Marleau handed (4)Goals



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