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'Paranormal' delivers low-budget thrills
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Grace Branch (right), shows a customer one of the magazines from her shop.

[Dave Cabebe / Spartan Daily]

Local businesses face challenges

By Jill Abell
Staff Writer

The state of business in downtown San Jose is survival.

Rick Jensen, communications manager of the San Jose Downtown Association, said businesses such as Asqew Grill, Johnny V's, A.P. Stumps Chop House, Blake's Steakhouse and Bar, and Lowry's Irish Coffee

House have all closed this year.

One business that will soon close is Branch's Gift Items, where a 75-year-old SJSU alumna is closing up shop.

Alumna Follows Passion

Grace Branch is the owner of Branch's Gift Items, a custom doll making shop on 77 N. Fourth Street.

She said her shop will be closing this December.

Branch said she was the only

student of John Leary, a ceramics instructor at SJSU, who opened her own business.

The store has been open since 1973 — right after Branch graduated from SJSU, where she said she has been teaching and selling her artwork for the last 36 years.

"It's always nice to hear when a student goes off and follows (his or her) passion, especially in the arts, and finds success,"

said Angelique Geiger, a double major in behavioral science and anthropology.

When Branch's Gift Items moved to Fourth Street, SJSU professors sent ceramics students having trouble to take private lessons with her, she said.

When Branch and her husband purchased their first house, she said she thought she

See BUSINESS, Page 3

Bursar can offer emergency loans to students

By Ryan Fernandez
Staff Writer

Students experiencing financial hardships can count on the university to help them through hard times, said a Bursar's Office official.

Bursar Marlene Anderson said the Bursar's Office is involved in two loan programs designed to help students who are in need of emergency funds.

The programs are called the Deans' Emergency Loan Fund and the Emergency Loan.

Anderson said that while the loans are available for students to use, they are not well known.

This semester, she said about 10 students have used the Deans' Emergency Loan, while about 500 have used the Emergency Loan.

Anderson said the Deans' Emergency Loan could be used to immediately loan a student \$50 to use in emergency situations, such as for buying food or obtaining transportation.

"Even if students don't use financial aid for housing or tuition, they can still fall on hard times, even have their wallet stolen," she said. "The university does not want our students to be without funds for basic survival."

Sophomore business major Brandon Bolton said the Deans' Emergency Loan is a good idea, especially when students experience financial hardship.

"Losing your wallet, that's difficult," he said. "You can't go to class, you can't eat. It would save a lot of kids."

In order to receive the loan, Anderson said a student would first have to go to counseling services in Administration building Room 201.

After explaining their situations, Anderson said students would be given an approval form to take to the Bursar's Office where they would each receive a \$50 loan, which would have to be repaid by the end of the semester.

Emergency Loans is the second program Anderson said is available for students in need of funds, and is available through the Bursar's Office Web site.

The Bursar's Office Web site states that this loan can involve amounts ranging from \$250 to \$500, but the loan must be repaid within 60 days or by the end of the semester, whichever date comes first.

Senior sociology major Akesa Pomee said she used an emergency loan earlier this

See BURSAR, Page 2

Gay Israeli soldiers are asked and do tell

By Dominique Dumadaug
Staff Writer

Twenty-one people filled the Almaden Room in the Student Union on Thursday to listen to a talk about gay rights in Israel.

"We're a pro-advocacy group for Israel on campus, and we want to teach the campus community that there's more to Israel than just the conflict," said Michelle Salinsky, a senior political science major and president of Spartans For Israel.

The groups Spartans For Israel and Queers Thoughtfully Interrupting Prejudice worked together with Hillel of Silicon Valley to bring Moshe Alfisher's story to SJSU, according to the Hillel of Silicon Valley Web site.

"Israel is sometimes perceived as a very Orthodox, or old-style

country in terms of gay rights," said Nadav Shem-Torv, an Israel fellow from Hillel of Silicon Valley. "We just thought it can be a great story to bring."

Alfisher said he is a gay Israeli man who also served in the Israeli army.

He said he has been working as the Israel program director at Hillel in The Jewish Resource Center at UC Santa Cruz for two years.

He gave a PowerPoint presentation that was separated into two parts.

The first part explained the history of gay rights in Israel, a state established in 1948.

The first gay rights organization, Society for the Protection of Personal Rights, was established there in 1975, but it was still hard for some gays to "come out," Alfisher said.

See ISRAEL, Page 3

Signed, sealed and delivered to state Senate

By Mauricio Garcia
Production Editor



[Kirsten Aguilar / Spartan Daily]

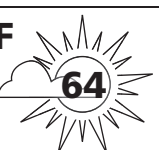
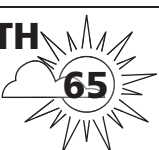
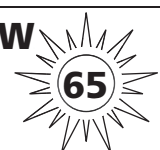
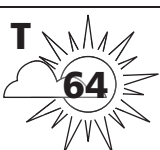
One of the stations provided by Students for Quality Education offered students the material to write letters to their state Senators' offices. Holly Rude, a junior social work major, stops by a table to write a letter Thursday.

Students gathered in the Campus Village quad Thursday evening to write letters for a campaign designed to address California State University budget cuts and fee increases.

"We're trying to get students to write to their senators about their own experiences," said Julian Rosenberg, a senior political science major and president of Students for Quality Education. "This way the people who are making the decisions know who it is affecting."

The group organized the event, along with the Resident Hall Association, said Quacy Superville, a junior business marketing major and vice president of the Resident Hall Association.

See LETTER, Page 3



Spartan Daily Blogs

thespartandaily.com

• Audio Slideshow: SJSU students teach kids about a safe Halloween

spartandailynews.wordpress.com

• Cal State Sacramento student allegedly attacked and killed roommate

spartandailyphoto.com

• Branch's Gift Items faces reality of bad economy

Correction

The correct name of the event in the Oct. 22 issue of Spartan Daily should have been 'Up 'til dawn,' and the event took place Oct. 8.



[Kirsten Aguilar / Spartan Daily]

HALLOWEEN SAFETY: SJSU students spent afternoon teaching children about Halloween safety. See an audio slideshow online at thespartandaily.com.

Video shows police beating of SJSU student

SAN JOSE, Calif. (AP) — A cell phone video that shows police officers repeatedly hitting an unarmed university student with batons and a Taser gun has prompted a criminal investigation into the officers' conduct, a San Jose police spokesman said.

The video, posted by the San Jose Mercury News on its Web site late Saturday, shows one officer hitting 20-year-old Vietnamese student Phuong Ho with a metal baton more than 10 times, including once on the head. Another officer is seen using his Taser gun on the San Jose State math major.

The final baton strike in last month's incident appears to take place after handcuffs have been attached to Ho's wrists.

"It takes me back to the day I saw the Rodney King video on TV," said Roger Clark, a police expert and a retired lieutenant with the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department.

The last baton strike ought to bring a felony charge, Clark said.

Officers arrested Ho on suspicion of assaulting one of his roommates. He was not armed when police arrived and he told the newspaper he didn't resist arrest.

The confrontation began Sept. 3 when Ho's roommate, Jeremy Suftin, put soap on Ho's steak. The two scuffled, and Ho picked up a steak knife, saying that in his home country he would have killed Suftin for do-

ing what he did.

Police were called, and four officers responded.

Officer Kenneth Siegel encountered Ho in the hallway, but couldn't understand the student's accent, police reports said. Ho then ignored a police command to stand still, reports said.

When Ho tried to follow Siegel into his room, officer Steven Payne Jr. moved to handcuff Ho. Payne wrote in his report that he pushed the student into a wall and then forced him to the floor when he resisted being handcuffed.

Ho, who weighs more than 200 lbs., said his glasses fell off. As he went to pick them up, the officers struck him, he said.

Another one of Ho's roommates, Dimitri Masouris, captured the events on his cell phone. An officer can be heard on the video shouting, "Turn over!" Ho can be heard moaning and crying as he's struck.

"In philosophy, they call it 'dehumanization,'" Ho told the Mercury News. "So when they think me a dangerous guy, they don't treat me like I was human. They hit me like an animal or something."

Masouris said he considered the police response excessive. He sold the tape to San Jose lawyer Duyen Hoang Nguyen, who is representing Ho.

The Mercury News obtained a copy of the video and showed it to Daniel Katz, San Jose's assistant police chief. The police

department is taking the matter very seriously, he said.

San Jose Mayor Chuck Reed said the incident would be investigated by the internal affairs division of the San Jose Police Department and the results forwarded to the Santa Clara County district attorney for possible criminal prosecution.

"Both investigations must respect the constitutionally guaranteed right of due process, which belongs to all parties to an investigation," Reed said Sunday in a statement.

The city's large Vietnamese-American community is already angry over the police shooting of a mentally ill Vietnamese man in May, the newspaper said in an editorial about Ho's beating. The lack of public disclosure in the investigation that followed was also a problem, the paper said.

Police experts said the grainy, shaky video is difficult to view and may not show actions by Ho that justified the officers' response. Nevertheless, several said the video raises serious concerns.

"Once he is handcuffed, then he is helpless," said Frank Jordan, a former San Francisco police chief and mayor. "If you can show that his hands are behind his back, and he is handcuffed, that is where you get brutality. That would be excessive force."

Siegel and Payne didn't respond to written requests for comment sent through department officials and their union.

BURSAR

From Page 1

year, because her financial aid was slow to arrive.

"It was helpful," she said. "I used it for my books, and used some to pay my rent."

According to the Bursar's Web site, to be eligible for this loan, a student must have no outstanding fees, be enrolled in at least six undergraduate or four graduate units, and have a verifiable means to repay the loan, either through financial aid or a job.

"These are for when times are

tough and not just for academic purposes," Anderson said. "It can be used for books, groceries, rent, even car repairs."

Senior psychology major Xiaomu Ou said she thinks the larger loan should have a longer repayment period because of the greater amount of money given out, while the Deans' Emergency Loan can be repaid sooner.

"If it's hard for you to pay for your car or rent, how can you pay that and the loan in 60 days?" she said. "The smaller amount of money, you can get that from friends or relatives."

Anderson said the Bursar's

Office was taking a more active role in letting new and current students know about the help that is available to them.

"We take part in every orientation for freshmen and transfer students," Anderson said. "There are handouts available. We send five payment reminders within 10 days of a deadline, and we conduct comprehensive, weekly updates to our Web site."

"Our mission is to see our students through to graduation successfully, without unnecessary obstacles from the Bursar's Office due to financial hardships."

Emergency Loans for Students

According to Bursar Marlene Anderson and the Bursar's Office Web site

Loan Name	Amount	Repayment Period	Requirements
Deans' Emergency Loan Fund	\$50	By the end of the semester	Approval form from counseling services
Emergency Loan	\$250-\$500	Within 60 days or by semester's end, whichever comes first	All fees paid in full and on time, enrolled in at least six undergraduate or four graduate units, no account holds, no returned checks, must have a definite and verifiable means of repaying (financial aid or a job)

SJSU groups hand out costumes, advice to needy families



[Kirsten Aguilar / Spartan Daily]

Randy Tuank, a senior health science major, helps manage a booth at the "Safe & Green Halloween" event at Martin Park in San Jose on Friday.

By Ryan Fernandez
Staff Writer

SJSU students spent Friday afternoon teaching child-sized ladybugs, living M&M's, and ambulatory crayons about celebrating Halloween in safe and environmentally friendly ways.

The third annual "Safe & Green Halloween" event, sponsored by the community group CommUniverCity, was held in San Jose's Martin Park along S. 22nd St. and lasted from about 3:30 to 6 p.m.

Political science professor Terry Christensen said he estimated that about 2,000 people attended "Safe & Green Halloween" this year, slightly less than the turnout for last year's event.

SJSU students staffed tables and booths at the event, engaging

children and adults with games and lessons.

"We're helping underprivileged children show off their creative skills by helping them make their own costumes," senior recreation major Lexi Hyatt said.

Hyatt and a group of her classmates were wearing costumes drawn on sheets of white butcher paper.

She was dressed as a playing card, while other students in her group were dressed as a hippie, a cat and Superman.

Selena Gallagher, a graduate student in urban planning, said she was helping children create artwork out of recycled and reusable materials such as corks, plastic bottle caps and egg carton cups.

"This is just to show kids they can make art out of anything,"

very well," he said. "They have to interact through their kids."

Timothee Castagna, a representative from Pulse College Ministry, a campus Christian group, was tending one of three tents where donated costumes hung, waiting to be picked out by children.

"Batman is pretty popular, and so are the vampires," said Castagna, a senior public relations major. "It's like all the boys want to be Dracula. With the girls it's harder to tell, because there's more variety in what they pick out."

Other costumes included witches, scarecrows, princesses, various types of Power Rangers and Pokemon, a Milk Bone dog treat, the Statue of Liberty, Optimus Prime from the "Transformers" movie series and Sully from the Disney Pixar film "Monsters, Inc."

When the event began to wind down, the costume tents were among the last exhibits to close, with children and parents still coming by to pick out costumes while volunteers cleaned up.

"We've given out about 850 costumes, so we're really happy about that," Christensen said.

SJSU AmeriCorps Coordinator Jeff Russell said SJSU students and members of the community donated some costumes while others were purchased using donated funds.

"We started collecting cos-

tumes in late July," he said. "Last year, another group helped collect costumes for CommUniverCity, but they had years to do it."

Ricardo Agredano, one of CommUniverCity's project coordinators, said the leftover costumes would be distributed at the nearby McKinley and Olinder elementary schools for children who weren't able to come to Friday's event.

Local resident Martha Rico was at the event with her son, Diego, and said this was her second "Safe & Green Halloween."

"It's really interesting, there's a lot of information," she said. "We'll definitely come again."

Christensen said this event was an effort to bring the community

together, and let community organizations give out information to residents.

"It's an outgrowth of the results of an earlier survey done by CommUniverCity, where people said they wanted more community events," he said.

CommUniverCity Executive Director Dayana Salazar said the event was a way for her organization to show local residents how to make their neighborhoods safer and be more environmentally sustainable in their lives.

"This is a neighborhood that can use what the students provide and appreciate what they bring," said Salazar, referring to the area surrounding Martin Park and McKinley Elementary School.



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With: Eric Hutchinson, Parachute
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BUSINESS

From Page 1

had to find a job and applied to IBM.

Branch said she completed a manual dexterity test, which tests for eye-hand coordination and motor skills.

She said she received an unusually high score, so IBM offered her a job as a salesperson.

"IBM was just three letters to me," Branch said.

She said her brother-in-law tried to persuade her to take the job.

Her husband told her to go back to school and find something she enjoys, so she enrolled at SJSU, she said.

After completing all of her general education requirements at SJSU, Branch said she needed to declare a major.

As IBM had discovered, she was skilled in working with her hands, so she tried some ceram-

ics classes, she said.

"I just loved the smell of clay," she said.

Branch said she knew that she enjoyed ceramics, but she had doubts about finding a job.

"Who the hell hires a ceramist?" she said.

After she graduated in 1973, her husband knew she would procrastinate, so he told her to get in the car, because they were going to drive around until they found a hole in the wall, Branch said.

She said she moved around the Bay Area from shop to shop with the help of her husband and students, teaching ceramics and selling her work, until she landed at her final shop on Fourth Street, which is set to close this December.

"I'm 75," Branch said. "I need more work like I need a hole in the head."

She said after she closes the doors of her business, she wants to further her education.

"I want to take a class, maybe get my master's," she said.

She will continue to teach ceramics at the Gardner Community Center, Branch said.

"Going to work there is like having 25 grandmas," she said. "I get fed cookies and veggies. They pick my brains, and I just pour it on them."

On neighboring streets near Branch's shop, new businesses have managed to crack open their doors in downtown San Jose.

Opening Up Shop

Although several businesses have shut down, Blue Mango, Carl's Jr., Picasso's Tapas & Restaurant, Loves Cupcakes and Philz Coffee have all opened this year.

Ross Dress for Less will be moving downtown into the previous furniture store, Black Sea Gallery located on First Street, said Rick Jensen, communications manger of the San Jose

Downtown Association.

"To some, the best opportunity comes from the biggest challenge," Jensen said.

Philz Coffee is taking advantage of the economic situation, he said.

Since the pool of employees has grown and there are less jobs available, businesses can be more selective in the hiring process, Jensen said.

Loves Cupcakes is another family business that recently opened on San Fernando and Third Street, said Vanessa Zarazua, manager of Loves Cupcakes.

Her mother, April Zarazua, is the head baker of Loves Cupcakes and has been baking for 26 years, she said.

After her mother graduated from culinary school in 2004, she said she decided to open a cupcake shop, despite the tough economic situation.

She said her father was working on construction across the street at The 88, condo residences, and saw the "for rent" sign and encouraged his wife to open a shop.

"It is a little tough downtown," she said. "During the week business is better, but on the weekends it's kind of slow."

Zarazua said she thinks there needs to be more clothing stores to bring customers to downtown San Jose on the weekends.

Hammer and Lewis is a thrift shop and family business on First Street and Santa Clara Street that has been in business for 40 years, owner Mary Velez said.

"In these times we have to work harder to get the same results, and most times less results than before the economy went bad," Velez said.

She said downtown San Jose needs something to encourage people to spend money instead of going to work and then going home.

Oliver Dunbar, a shoe shiner

and shoe repairer, said he hangs out at Hammer and Lewis, because it reminds him of a different time.

"I remember when First Street was the main drag," Dunbar said. "Before the light rail, (First Street) was multiple

lanes, and it was hopping. There were tons of people spending money.

"Downtown was the place to be. Then they built the malls outside downtown that dragged people out, and they started shopping there instead."



[Dave Cabebe / Spartan Daily]

Grace Branch, owner of Branch's Gift Items, is an SJSU alumna who has been in business for more than 30 years, but will shut her doors this December.

LETTER

From Page 1

"RHA is working with SQE to get students riled up and more concerned about where the money is going," said Superville, who was also the disc jockey and microphone controller for the event. "Fees affect residents directly, and RHA wants to facilitate something for the residents to express themselves."

He said this was the first time the Residence Hall Association reached out to Students for Quality Education, but said he was considering working with them in the spring.

"I feel we wouldn't really do it on our own," said Hayley Buchanan, a junior speech pathology major. "If we have someone guiding us and giving us the opportunity, we're more likely to do it."

Sophomore kinesiology major Khalilah Tanter said she hopes students receive feedback.

"It's one thing for us to get together a bunch of opinions," she said. "It's another for them to respond."

Harris Mojadedi, a sophomore political science major and member of Students for Quality Education, sat at one of the phone tables with an iPhone and directory of state offices.

He said he would be enabling calls until 7 p.m., though the Senate offices closed at 5 p.m.

Messages would be recorded into the general mailbox, he said.

They will then be forwarded to the Legislative Constituent Management System, to which every office in the state has access, he said.

For every letter students wrote or phone call they made to a senator's office, they each received a free slice of pizza, Superville said.

"This event in particular we wanted to cater to residents by bringing the event to them," said Andre Macapinlac, a se-

nior political science major and member of Students for Quality Education.

He said the event was supposed to happen last week, but because of rain it was postponed.

Carol Ellen Parker, a second year nursing major, said she would be writing in order to express her frustration with delayed graduation dates, tuition increases and class cuts.

"There are classrooms that could fit, like, 80 students and there are seats available," she said. "It sucks how teachers can't add you, because if they do, they'll be penalized."

Maria Makarian, a junior social work major, said she hopes the event will help spread awareness of the effects of the budget cuts, and inspire students to become more involved and "step up as a student."

"Maybe one letter won't make a difference," Parker said. "But maybe a whole bunch of letters will."

different about him.

He knew he didn't like girls, he told the audience.

He said that after graduating from a university with a computer science degree, he entered the Israeli army for his mandatory three years of service.

Alfisher said it was in the army where he became more comfortable with being gay.

"In my unit, which was one of the best computer science units in the army, many officers and soldiers were open about being gay,

and they were treated like everyone else," he said.

Alfisher told the audience that he "came out" while in the army, and his commander knew he was gay before his family did.

"It was a total shock for them," he said about his family. "They were OK with me as a person, but they kept asking me, 'Are you sure you're gay? Is there something you can do to change that?' Once they realized, 'OK, this is it,' our relationship (has been) normal."

ISRAEL

From Page 1

In 1992, Israeli governing body Knesset made it illegal to prohibit employment based on sexual orientation, and the Israeli army rescinded its regulations against discriminating against gays in 1993, he said.

The first victory for couples' rights happened in 1994, Alfisher said.

The Israeli Supreme Court ordered El Al Israeli Airlines to give free flights to partners of gay flight attendants, which is the same treatment the airline had been giving heterosexual couples, he said.

Same-sex marriages from other countries are recognized even though gay couples cannot marry in the country, he said.

In 2005, the Supreme Court ruled that gay couples could formally adopt each other's children, Alfisher said.

"There's some rights in Israel that they (the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community) enjoy that you can't get here," Michelle Salinsky said. "They accept someone's civil marriages, and they get the same rights as married couples do."

The second part of the presentation focused on Alfisher's experiences as a gay man in Israel.

"My family is modern Orthodox," he said. "It means that they're living a normal, modern life, but they keep the Jewish halakhah (Jewish law). They kept Shabbats (Jewish Sabbath day of rest), they kept kosher (Jewish diet), and for them also, same-sex relationships are against their beliefs."

Alfisher, who attended private schools while growing up, said he always knew there was something

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A bird's eye view

By Leonard Lai
Staff Writer

One moment a feather bird is moving more than 100 mph over the net, the next it's slowly sailing through the air, just barely making it over.

The badminton club practices these shots at Spartan Complex 44A on Fridays from 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. where Michael Cabebe, a senior biological science major, is the club president.

"The club is open to anyone who enjoys the sport," Cabebe said. "You can be a beginner or expert and still have fun playing."

Badminton club adviser Gong Chen said the club originally started in 1994.

"Classes at that time didn't offer a lot of training time," kinesiology Professor Chen said. "So I told students that they should form a club and train there."

Cabebe said he loves to play badminton because of the people he has met.

"It's a fast sport — keeps it from being boring," Cabebe said. "You

need to be both fast and delicate."

Terry Wang, a graduate student in industrial systems engineering, said he enjoys playing in the club.

"People here are great," Wang said. "You get to play people of all skill levels. It's really fun."

He said he hopes to meet new people and improve his own skills through the club.

"The club has helped me improve my smashes and clears, shots that are sent to the back of the opponent's court," Wang said. "Playing here is more organized."

"Michael is very responsible and helpful, and I'm definitely going to be in the club next semester."

Cabebe said he has been playing badminton since high school, and has played on the club ever since he got to SJSU.

"I prefer to play men's singles," Cabebe said. "I've played it all through high school, and all my favorite international stars play singles as well."

Playing badminton has shaped his confidence he said.

"If I wasn't playing badminton



Luong Ha, a freshman computer science major, returns a serve by club teammate Pratik Talole, a graduate student in electrical engineering.

[John Sebastian Russo / Contributing Photographer]

and not meeting people, I would definitely be an introvert right now," Cabebe said.

He said any new expert player who joins the club will be matched up with other expert players if they are seeking a challenge.

The club is part of the Northern California Intercollegiate Badminton League, and it travels to other schools to compete, he said.

He said some of the schools the team competes against are

UC Berkeley, UC Davis, UC Santa Cruz and Stanford.

Club fees are \$20 per person, and the funds go toward buying feather birds, gas for travel, uniforms and insurance, he said.

Chen said he plays badminton,

writes books about badminton and organizes tournaments.

Nothing has really changed since the club started, Chen said.

"It may be a different generation, but students are still students," he said.

Women's soccer moves into first place

By Suzanne Yada
Staff Writer

The SJSU women's soccer team continued its school record-breaking unbeaten streak this weekend with two victories, one of which secured SJSU's place at the top of the Western Athletic Conference.

The Spartans won 2-1 over the Idaho Vandals on Friday at Spartan Stadium.

On Sunday, the Spartans brought their record to 10-4-3 (4-0-2 WAC) in a 2-0 win over Cal State Bakersfield at an away non-conference game.

Sunday's win extended SJSU's

unbeaten streak to 13 games in a row. The previous school record was five.

The Spartans clamped down on the top WAC spot Friday after conference leader New Mexico State fell to Louisiana Tech 2-1 earlier that day.

Louisiana Tech was winless for six years in conference play before beating the previously undefeated New Mexico State, knocking them out of the No. 1 position.

SJSU is now guaranteed its first winning season since 1999, and it faces only two more games in the conference.

"This is a group that I know can

do it," senior forward Emmy Belding said. "It's such a great feeling that our hard work is paying off and putting us in the place I think we deserve."

Senior forwards Belding and Roxy Kamal continued to lead the way Friday night.

In the seventh minute, Kamal delivered a free kick, and Belding headed it in for the first goal of the night.

The duo struck again in the 25th minute. Kamal delivered a ball to Belding and Idaho keeper Liz Boyden ran out to block Belding, but she shot low past the keeper and into the net.

The scoring duo nearly became a trio during the final seconds of the game.

Kamal had possession of the ball and slid into Boyden. Freshman

"We have a three-headed monster up top."

- Jeff Leightman
Head Coach

forward Kelsey Lord had the last touch on the ball as it rolled into the net with just three seconds left in the game. But the whistle blew and a foul was called on SJSU, negating the goal.

Lord reclaimed an opportunity Sunday night in Bakersfield with a header goal, and both Kamal and Belding were credited with assists, solidifying the trio.

"We have a three-headed monster up top," head coach Jeff Leightman said. "It's tough for defenses to key on one or even two people, because as soon as you do that, the third player is going to beat you."

Belding said she, Kamal and Lord gelled this season.

"We're dangerous," Belding said. "We connect really well and I wish we had more years together. But they've got her for

three more seasons, so they're lucky."

"I don't know what I'm going to do next year," Lord said. "I'm going to be sad that Roxy and Emmy are leaving, but it's been fun to play with them. They're great players and they're inspirational."

The last home game of the season will be Friday against rival Fresno State. On Sunday the Spartans face Boise State for the last regular game of the season.

"Fresno and Boise are going to be critical, and they're both very good teams," Leightman said. "We need both results."

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Spartan Daily

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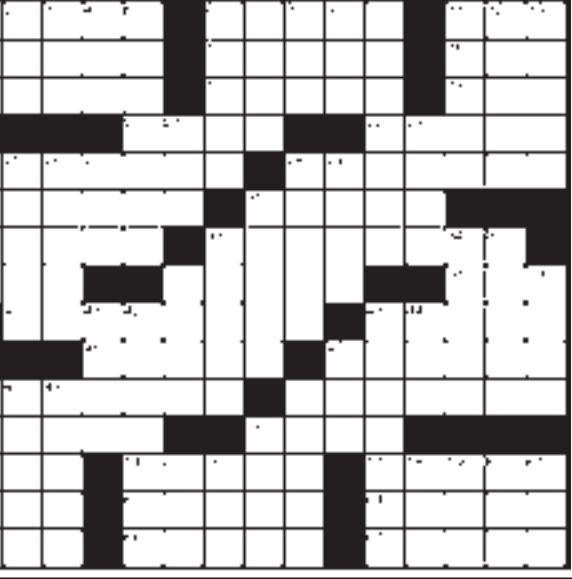
ACROSS

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- 16 Musical Band
- 17 Numbers
- 18 Sea animals
- 19 — Magna
- 20 Spill nearby
- 22 Fragrant compound
- 24 Painted sounds
- 26 A sump or surge
- 30 Conscience
- 31 Theater offering
- 32 Family man
- 33 Milk cheese
- 34 Game downhill
- 37 Hidden as usual
- 38 Travel guide
- 40 Straight ahead
- 43 Page for a girl?
- 44 Gambling stakes
- 46 Computer's bit
- 47 Auto frame
- 50 Conductor's attachment
- 51 Swallow's art
- 52 Hayfork or Fuzier
- 53 Rolling out
- 54 Sides of summus
- 57 Daily positions
- 58 Born up
- 63 Hook proposal
- 64 To be sure
- 65 Game warning
- 66 Rugged players
- 67 Wood train

PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED

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- 4 2-ohm resistor
- 5 Briskets
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- 10 Dinosaur tales
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For the love of Bollywood: gateway into Indian culture



Husain Sumra
Staff Writer

The only way for them to feel attached to our culture was Bollywood.

When I walked out on our weekly Bollywood family movie night, I wouldn't understand their disappointment.

I didn't understand why they would force me to watch silly movies where the songs featured 300 plus people dancing in perfect synchronization.

I never thought I'd ever come to love the cinema of the country my grandparents were from, which showcased its backward traditions and cheesy plot lines.

But I did. All of a sudden, I preferred this music to western music.

I had never disliked the music. I got used to it after being forced to listen to it on many eight-hour drives to Los Ange-

les, in between bouts of "The Lion King" and "Aladdin."

Then, it was the beauty of the actresses — er, I mean wondrous backdrops and costumes.

Finally, it started to click.

I started to learn the language and took an actual interest in what parts of culture the films were showing.

The random song and dance stopped being annoying and became entertaining.

Even rolling around in the snow with no shirt on has become appealing.

It may not represent the culture of India all the time, but it's

a good window into what I was missing when I was a kid.

Through that window I've been able to walk into a whole other world of films beyond the standard Bollywood-like Hindi films that the world knows.

I never thought I'd ever come to love the cinema of the country my grandparents were from, which showcased its backward traditions and cheesy plot lines.

Hard-nosed and gritty, they show the underbelly of India, where the standard Bollywood film doesn't.

I've never been to India, but these gritty films

give me a better idea of what it's like. Bollywood tends to show the lives of the affluent.

The largest problems in Bol-

lywood movies tend to be the same as those in soap operas, there's no mention of poverty or lack of infrastructure.

These other gritty movies, without the song and dance, show underbelly well.

Most of my family has moved to South Africa, so we've never had an excuse to make the trip to India.

Indians were brought to South Africa as slaves and fled there to avoid the British rule of India.

Despite assimilating well in both South Africa and the United States, I still don't feel like they're our own.

The country of my grandparents is still foreign to me, but Bollywood and Hindi films allow me to feel for what's never been.

Did you know ... ?

...17 million Americans are compulsive shoppers or spenders?

The average credit card debt for a U.S. citizen is close to \$10,000 — mostly accumulated from unnecessary purchases.

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Ruminations

illustration by Carl Evans



Midterm malaise medicine

What women want in male dominated sports



Angela Marino
Staff Writer

I am guilty of eavesdropping.

I overheard a male student complain about women's sports, and he doesn't agree that women can play sports.

I am sure he is not alone in his way of thinking.

Like the student, many other men are overwhelmed by a powerful woman, so in these men's defense they rely on their muscles to do the rationalizing.

Women's sports are not as popular as men's sports, because many of the games are not broadcast on TV.

Women's sports aren't broadcast on television as much as men's sports, which give society the illusion that women athletes are not accomplishing anything significant.

Women on the court have removed the testosterone and still play with the same determination as men, but they still aren't as idealized as men athletes have become.

This is not male athletes' faults.

Few female athletes have the opportunity to become as famous as Serena Williams.

A woman who is endorsed and watched

by millions must work twice as hard as a male athlete to gain recognition for her accomplishments.

Sue Bird from the Women's National Basketball Association earned a maximum of \$87,000 from 2005 to 2006, compared to Shaquille O'Neal from the NBA who earned \$20 million, according to the Ask Men Web site.

A woman athlete is not only competing against competitors during games, but she has to combat the entire male dominated sports media to receive its respect and get adequate coverage.

I have experienced this first hand.

I began playing golf when I was 10 years old. I was surrounded by older men who were more than a little skeptical of my presence on the course.

Today, when I go to the driving range I still receive awkward looks as I set up on my mat.

Male golf players stare at me as if I should have spent my Saturday afternoon shopping.

Annika Sorenstam for the Ladies' Professional Golf Association earned \$2.5 million in prize money in 2005, compared to Tiger Woods who earned \$11.9 million in prize money, according to the Ask Men Web site.

The reason for the gigantic gap between both salaries is because the U.S. Golf Association gives more funding to the PGA tour in allotted prize money, according to the Ask Men Web site.

The standard for female athletes is incredibly low, which results in a negative stigma that men can do it better and women are not as strong as men.

Until closed-minded individuals crawl out of the small box that they live in, women will always be in the background.

It is important to understand that female athletes who make a significant stance in the world of sports deserve the respect that male athletes receive.

Female athletes have the ability to be as influential as male athletes if given the same opportunities that male athletes have been given. In the 21st century, it is time to open our minds and get over the primal idea that men are the dominate source of physical strength.

Shortcuts in food: what you lose when real ingredients are replaced



Jon Xavier
Senior Staff Writer

syrup might put one at a greater risk for obesity and insulin resistance, a precursor to diabetes.

A Yale study found that high fructose corn syrup is more readily converted into fat in the liver, which can lead to a form of insulin resistance, according to a report by Diabetes Health.

And fructose doesn't trigger the release of leptin, a compound the body uses to signal it's full, which can lead to overeating.

The science on the health risks of high fructose corn syrup is relatively new. The processed sweetener itself, however, has been ubiquitous in the U.S. since the late 1970s.

Then, protectionist tariffs forced U.S. food producers to look toward alternative cures for America's sweet tooth, as the domestic price of sugar rose above the international average.

At the same time, corn substi-

ties, a throwback to a time when the economy was more solidly agrarian, kept the price of corn artificially low.

From an economic standpoint, it was a no-brainer.

Looking at high-fructose corn syrup, an inferior sweetener that grew to dominate the U.S. market, it's funny how similar it is to another related product: ethanol.

Ethanol is the most common form of alcohol.

College-aged readers are probably most familiar with it as the reason they woke up in a stairwell Sunday morning with no memory of the night before, but it's also a very important fuel additive.

With the current emphasis on greener living, there's serious discussion of ethanol as a replacement for fossil fuels. It produces significantly less pollution when burned, so it's pos-

sible that by upping the amount of alcohol in the mix, modern fuels can be made more eco-friendly. And it's renewable, unlike fossil fuels.

Some countries have already moved heavily into ethanol, most notably Brazil, where roughly 23 percent of all cars can run on a mixture that's 95 percent ethanol and five percent water, according to a story by the Washington Post.

The U.S. is also looking at ethanol as a fuel substitute as well.

But here's the rub — while Brazil's ethanol comes almost exclusively from sugarcane, the U.S. is looking to make ethanol from corn.

Guess why?

There are a number of problems with corn as an ethanol source, but what it really comes down to is the efficiency of manufacturing.

Current methods put the energy return on investment for corn ethanol at 1.34, meaning that for every joule of energy used to create it, there's a net energy gain of .34 of a joule.

Ethanol from sugarcane is much more efficient, with an oft-quoted energy return on investment of about seven to one, roughly the same as oil refining.

This leads to a problem.

One estimate cited by Bloomberg columnist John F. Wasik says that if every bit of corn produced in the U.S. were to be converted to ethanol, it would only address about four percent of the country's fuel demand.

And there would be the small problem of it creating widespread famine.

The same article went on to say that food prices have already risen 47 percent because of increases in ethanol production.

So, now South Americans look to be driving around in their eco-friendly cars, sipping their superior Coke, while the U.S. struggles with processed sweeteners and unsustainable alternative fuels. All this because of a few old tariffs and subsidies.

It's funny how small things make a difference.

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Review: Paranormal Activity

Scary film makes normal people paranoid

By Husain Sumra
Staff Writer

"Paranormal Activity" is so scary that after viewing it, a person I know couldn't go home to sleep in his bed — so, he opted to sleep in his car in a Safeway parking lot.

Yes, it's a horror film that delivers. "Paranormal Activity" is about a couple that moves into a new home in San Diego and ends up dealing with some kind of spirit. The spirit has been haunting Katie, played by Katie Featherston, since she was 8 years old, and her boyfriend, Micah, played by Micah Sloat, who tries to solve their problem.

The film, directed by Oren Peli, is actually scary, because it can be relatable.

Not only do the filmmakers treat the film like a documentary, similar to "The Blair Witch Project," making it feel like it really happened, but it deals with people sleeping in their own beds.

Most people have heard things go bump in the night, and "Paranormal Activity" attempts to explain the source of those noises in the darkness.

The film shows what the spirit does to harass the couple, but it never actually shows the spirit.

It's probably better that way too, since the movie continually taps into the fear of the unknown.

The budget was very small, and the film uses no computer generated visual effects, so everything the spirit does looks real.

I found myself sitting there and wanting to believe that it's just a movie, but I didn't know how to explain what I'd just seen on the screen.

I found myself in anticipation of the worst throughout the film, and it only got worse as I watched.

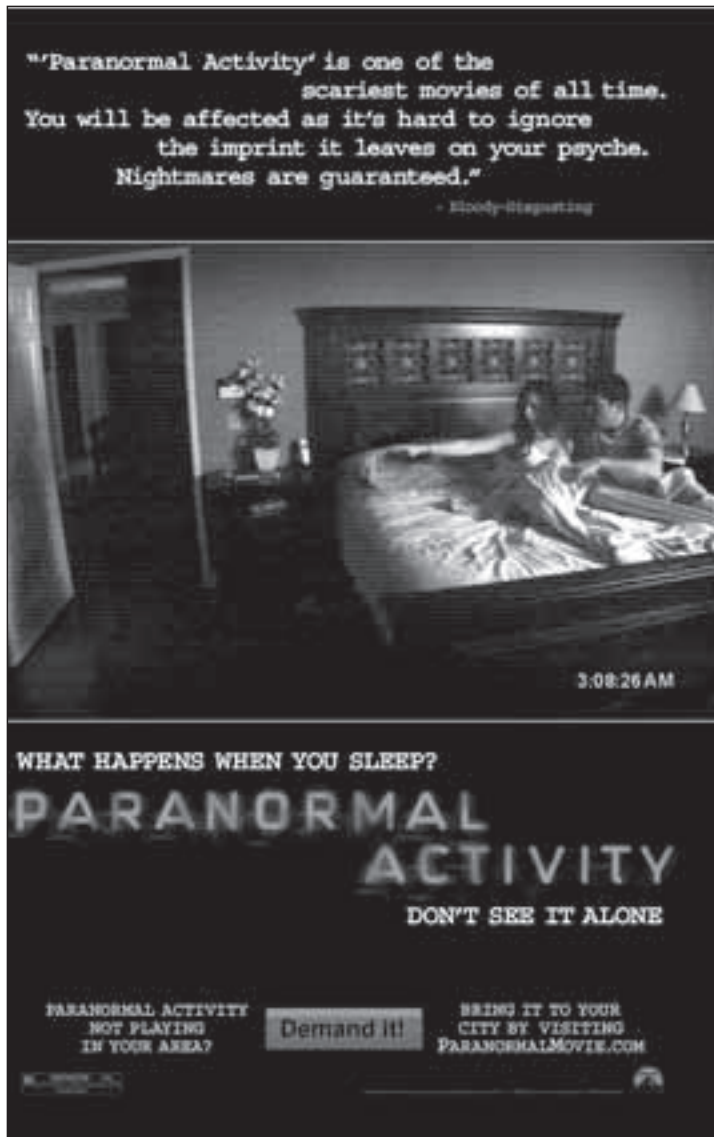
The actors are superb at making the characters seem like real people.

The first 15 minutes of the movie involve setting up the horror that follows by making you care for the characters, who reveal their relationship through humor.

It isn't all good in this film though.

If you're driven to the point of insanity by characters who make stupid decisions, that may be a problem with this film.

The film does a good job of trying to negate that as much as possible, as there is one character who makes bad decisions and one who makes good decisions.



[Photo courtesy of Latest Movie Poster Web site]

Paranormal Activity opened nationwide on Oct. 16.

Toward the middle of the film, the two often battle over what to do about the spirit, so you can digest their decisions a little easier.

What's spectacular about this film is that it's a low budget independent film.

The film was shot in director Peli's house and he used undiscovered actors.

The film was completed a few years ago, and saw a limited release on Oct. 9.

On the film's Web site, users can demand to see the film in their area and last week, a showing in San Jose was granted, after there were enough demands for it.

Paramount Pictures said that once the film attained one million demands on the Web site they would give the film a wide release throughout the country.

Since the movie has attained those million demands, people all around the country can spend their nights sleeping in their car in Safeway parking lots as well.

Sugar cane juice confuses palate

By Marcos Blanco
Senior Staff Writer

Dying of thirst for a tropical drink you might have never tasted before?

Lee's Sandwiches will try to quench it with Lee's Sugar Cane Juice.

Hailing mostly from Southeast Asia, South Asia and Latin America, sugar cane juice is a naturally squeezed beverage rarely found in the U.S.

It is made of a combination of sugars such as glucose, fructose and sucrose and is sometimes used as a sweetener for other drinks, such as Mojitos.

Since sugar cane juice is naturally sweet, it is commonly sold as a stand-alone beverage in Asian and Hispanic markets.

In Hispanic countries, canned sugar cane juice is called guarapo.

The sugar cane juice I recently tried at my local Lee's Sandwiches restaurant hails from Vietnam, according to the lady who served me.

The drink was served in a plastic cup with ice, with a plastic lid covering the top and a straw for taking sips of the beverage.

Upon taking my first sip of the yellow-colored drink, I couldn't help but imagine myself as a goat chewing on grass. That's what sugar cane juice tasted like to me at first.

The beverage was naturally sweet with nothing artificial about it. That didn't mean the drink was 100 percent and satisfied my taste buds because of its naturally grown flavor.

On the contrary, I flinched at the first few sips, because I wasn't accustomed to the almost bitter taste.

The juice had an earthy fla-

vor that I wasn't expecting, and I questioned whether it was worth finishing.

However, the sweet aftertaste of the juice opened up, and it was pure natural bliss. It was worth it to drink the rest of the juice just for the aftertaste alone.

The sweetness of the drink slowly won me over after every sip, although I have to say I wouldn't recommend this drink to everyone, especially if you're used to drinking artificially flavored beverages or if you want to enjoy every aspect of the drink.

Even though I finished the sugar cane juice, it was still a mixed bag of bitter first sips and sweet comebacks of actual flavor.

For \$2.75 at a Lee's Sandwiches, the cheap price is still worth it if you or anyone you know hasn't tried sugar cane juice yet.

It just might be your favorite tropical drink yet. Or not.

Drink of the Week



[Marcos Blanco / Spartan Daily]

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