

since 1934 Volume 139 / Issue 16 Wednesday, September 26, 2012 Back A Yard serves Caribbean fare

INSIDE

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Online SOTEs possible

Academic Senate decides after 7-year deliberation

By Melanie Martinez @meltinez

In an effort to cut costs and improve efficiency, the Academic Senate unanimously voted to convert traditional paper student opinion of teaching effectiveness surveys (SOTEs) to an online module.

Students will likely conduct their end of semester SOTEs that are used to rate teachers' performances via online module by the fall semester of 2014, according to the senate on Monday.

The issue of converting the current method of scantron SOTEs to an online format has been hotly debated in the Academic Senate for nearly seven years, said Winney Du, senator and director of the robotics and manufacturing lab.

"The university has been talking about the online SOTE since 2005," she said during the meeting in favor of moving forward with the online version.

Du presented the online SOTE policy recommendation to the Academic Senate on Monday to pass the resolution that has been involved in controversy and talks for years, she said.

According to the resolution, the Office of Institutional Research would create an online instrument where students would be directed to evaluate their courses and teachers for the semester.

The resolution states the online SOTE conversion would save SJSU an estimated \$50,000 per semester by reducing the amount of staffing for grading and distributing the paper SOTEs along with saving on the cost of paper for traditional SOTEs.

However, some members of the Academic Senate were skeptical if students would actually willingly utilize the online SOTEs or simply ignore them every semester.

"When people do online SOTEs, you have good students and students who didn't really like the course filling them out," said Shannon Bros-Seemann, chair of the curriculum and research commit-

Bros-Seemann said when students are given the option to fill out an online SOTE, there is a gap between those who earned top grades in the class and those who perfomed poorly and perhaps wanted to give the professor a bad review.

The students who received average grades avoided filling out the online SOTEs, which provides unbalanced feedback for professors,

Online SOTEs are now administered to students in the school of library and information science classes, since those classes are online, Du said.

The Office of Institutional Research compared the feedback from these online SOTE responses to the response rate of traditional paper SOTEs in 2010.

After review of both methods, the 2010 report found that online SOTEs receive a 31 percent response rate compared to a 73 percent student response rate from the commonly used paper SOTEs.

False alarm locks down Duncan Hall

By David Wong @davidleedwong

The university police department received an anonymous TipNow message that there was the possibility of a man with a gun in a classroom on the fifth floor of Duncan Hall early this morning, according to an unofficial press release by the department provided by Sgt. John Laws.

According to Laws, the TipNow system is a confidential reporting system that is used for providing information or evidence through anonymous text or email, rather than being used to call for emergency services.

The university police department engaged the S-2 security management system, and officers responded to the incident, according to the press release.

The S-2 system secured Duncan Hall, so no more people could enter the building until it was determined to be safe, according to the press release.

Officers identified the potential suspects and secured the scene, removing two students from the classroom, who accompanied officers back to the university police department and are cooperating with investigators, according to the press release.

The university police department was in the process of completing an Alert-SJSU for the community when officers on scene determined that no threat existed, a follow up Alert-SJSU notification was sent out at 10:30 am to inform the community of the incident and to notify the community that no threat existed, according to the press release.

Alert-SJSU is the campus' emergency communication system used to inform subscribers to the potential emergency situations, according to MySJSU.

"I invite all community members to immediately report all suspicious activity to the university police department by calling 924-2222 or using the police services blue line phones, and those wishing to remain anonymous can send a text message or email to sjsu@tipnow.org. In an emergency, please call 911" Laws said.

Several students present in Duncan Hall when the building was put on lockdown were confused by the police presence and security measures.

"The only reason I found out about it was because my friend texted me the building was on lockdown ... all of a sudden Duncan Hall was surrounded by cops ... it was pretty scary," said Melissa Lombardo, a graduate student in molecular

Gagandeep Singh, a senior microbiology major, said he was on the second floor of Duncan Hall when the University Police entered the

"My teacher came inside (the classroom) and said 'I'm going to lock the door (while the police entered the building)," Singh said.

Laws said that the incident was a misunderstanding by the students and a learning experience for the department that could be applied to

David Wong is a Spartan Daily senior staff writer. Follow him on Twitter at @davidleedwong.

VOLLEYBALL

Pacific Tigers maul Spartans



SJSU middle blocker Mary Alice O'Reilly (left) and left setter Samantha O'Connell (right) block a shot by the Tigers' Kimmy Whitson during the Spartans' loss to the University of the Pacific Tuesday night. Photo by Raphael Kluzniok / Contributing Photographer

SEE **SPORTS** ON PAGE 4

Occupational therapy major eliminated

@camillediem

Former occupational therapy major Celestine Urbano received a shock last summer when she was informed of the severance of her major department's bachelor's-tomaster's program weeks before the fall semester began.

Similar to SJSU's pre-nursing curriculum, the occupational therapy bachelor's-to-master's program guaranteed undergraduate students the opportunity to receive a master's degree after completing

acceptance into the three-year undergraduate and graduate course

Now a child and adolescent development major due to the department's decision to eliminate the course of study, Urbano said that she had spent the past two years working on the occupational therapy prerequisites only to have to start all over again.

While the termination of the program may seem abrupt to some students who were only notified a few weeks before school started, the

two years of prerequisite work and idea had been floating around the department for two or three years, according to occupational therapy department chair Pamela Richard-

> "(The staff and I) weren't entirely happy with how that program worked," she said, going on to say that a bachelor's degree in occupational therapy was not worth much when applying for jobs.

> According to the Occupational Therapy Practice Act, students who have completed the required courses and fieldwork, as determined by the American Occupational Therapy

Association, can apply for licenses to become occupational therapists.

However, in California, it has become a norm for occupational therapists to have earned at least a master's degree before pursuing a license — a factor that added to the department's decision to end the program, Richardson said.

"We felt that it was better to devote our energies to really beefing up and making the master's program very strong and then supporting students to complete

SEE **OT** ON PAGE 2

Business students work to integrate new technology

By Thyra Phan @ThyraPhan

In an effort to enhance student life on campus, business students from the Gary J. Sbona Honors Program are working to implement the use of near field communication technology for campus clubs and event posters.

Near field communication (NFC) is a wireless technology that enables data to be exchanged within a distance of five centimeters through the use of tags, according

to Jannice Tu, a senior business marketing major.

She said tags are computer chips that are readable by NFC-enabled cellphones and tablets.

Tu and three classmates are working alongside their sponsor, Kovio, a company known for printing near field communication tags, to implement the technology.

"Near field communication tags aren't meant to be bought by consumers," Tu said. "It's great for

SEE **NFC** ON PAGE 2



Senior business marketing major Megan Lomazzi demonstrates how to read a Near Field Communication (NFC) tag using a Samsung Galaxy S3. Photo by Thyra Phan / Spartan Daily

SEE **SOTES** ON PAGE 2

NEWS

SOTES: San Diego system serves as example

FROM PAGE 1

Yet, after taking quality into consideration, the report concluded that there was "no significant difference" between the methods of evaluation.

If SJSU brings the online SOTEs into action, Du's resolution states it is to be modeled after San Diego State University's system, which was implemented in 2008.

According the the resolution, San Diego State has seen an 80 percent response rate with students since the online system took effect.

However, the resolution states San Diego State's success came, "by requiring students to complete SOTEs in order to obtain early access to their grades."

San Diego's current online SOTE policy makes students complete their teacher evaluations online in order to have an early look at their grades,

Additionally, the resolution states San Diego now requires all students to rate all of their professors for the semester online, while SJSU students typically evaluate one or two professors each semester.

The Academic Senate debated both issues and, while witholding early grades and forcing students to evaluate all classes is not out of the question for SJSU students, the opportunity for both remains.

Du's original resolution called for online SOTE implementation to begin in Spring 2013, but the Academic Senate voted to push the date back to Fall 2014 to fully develop a system that was fair to both students and professors.

"Many of the concerns are legitimate," said Kenneth Peter, professor of political science. "I don't want our teachers evaluated on flimsy feedback."

After debate and discussion the resolution passed a unanimous vote for the Office of Institutional Research to begin development of an online SOTE tool similar to San Deigo State's since development may take a couple semesters.

"If you think we can actually get started on ironing out the details we should pass this resolution today," Peter said during the meeting.

Despite the concerns of accuracy and potential lack of student involvement with online SOTEs, Peter told the Academic Senate that nothing would be accomplished if the issue were to be tabled for a later date.

After passing through the senate, the resolution needs

to be approved and signed by President Mohammad Qayoumi before the Office of Institutional Research begins work on the module, said Eva Joice, senate administrative operations analyst.

"It isn't official university policy until he signs it,"

Qayoumi will likely sign the resolution sometime next week, she said.

While the debate of online SOTEs may finally come to an end by becoming a reality, Wendy Ng, professor of sociology, said she isn't so sure the conversation will wrap up quickly.

"It was controversial before," Ng said. "And even when passed, it's still controversial."

Melanie Martinez is a Spartan Daily staff writer. Follow her on Twitter at

<u>SpartaGuide</u>

Green Talk Speakers series: Ray Wong, Santa Clara Valley Water District

College of Engineering **Today, Sept. 26**

12 to 1:15 p.m.
Engineering Room 189
Topic: Bay Area Regional Desalinization
Project

What are the Elements of a Spiritual Life?

SJSpirit

Today, Sept. 26

3 to 4:15 p.m. Pacifica room, Student Union

Chemistry Department Seminar: Dr. Melody Esfandiari

Chemistry Department

Today, Sept. 26

4:30 p.m.

Duncan Hall 135

"Lights... Camera... Chemistry! Single-Molecule Imaging Tools for Studying Reaction Mechanisms One Molecule at a Time."

Let's Take Action for Sustainability! Yeah!

Environmental Club **Today, Sept. 26**

5 to 6:15 p.m.

Montalvo room, Student Union 3rd floor

SpartaGuide is provided to students, staff and faculty, free of charge. The deadline to submit is at noon, three working days prior to desired publication date. Entry forms are available in Spartan Daily, DBH 209. Send emails to spartandailyeditorial@sjsumedia.com titled "SpartaGuide." Space restrictions may require editing or exclusion of submissions. Entry is not guaranteed. Entries are printed in order of which they are received.

OT: Some students find advantages despite cut

EDUM DVCE

their pre-requisites while they were undergraduates in whatever degree program they chose," she said. "It was actually something that we had been planning and thinking about for a long time."

In spite of the confusion and anger felt by students such as Urbano, other occupational therapy undergraduates found the change advantageous.

"In my case, the discontinuation has actually been somewhat beneficial," said Kristin Wong, a senior occupational therapy major.

She said it would have taken her a total seven years to receive both a bachelor's and master's degree in occupational therapy, had she been accepted into the program. Now that it is discontinued, she would get her bachelor's degree in four years, start the master's program next fall and graduate with her master's degree in another two years, meaning she could receive her degree in six years, instead of seven.

Richardson said that students were given two options upon notice of the program's discontinuance. "We've been setting up advising sessions and doing a lot of advising for the students," she said. "They can complete the occupational therapy degree — they have the right to that — the students who have declared (occupational therapy) as a major and they can do it based on substitute courses."

The second choice for students, which she said department staff have been recommending to freshmen and sophomore students, is to switch majors and complete the prerequisite courses, mandatory volunteer work and the Graduate Record Examinations for application to SJSU's occupational therapy master's program.

"They can still really set themselves up to be ready, if they want to — I mean they don't have to immediately apply for the master's program – but if that's what they want to do and get through more quickly, we're giving them advising to support them doing that," she

Camille Nguyen is a Spartan Daily staff writer. Follow her on Twitter at @camillediem.

NFC: New communications tech

EDOM DAGE 1

advertisements placed in magazines — NFC makes advertisements more interactive."

One of the ways to implement the technology is by placing NFC tags on club posters, according to Jasmine Rezai, senior business marketing major

She said students can hold their phone up to the tag, and it will bring them to a designated website where they can get more information about the club.

For campus event posters with near field communication tags, Rezai said after using a phone to read the tag, students may save information to their calendar as a reminder to attend the event.

"NFC tags come in different sizes, making it easy to put them in labels or behind posters," she said. "You can't see the code, unlike a QR code."

A specific application to read near field communication tags isn't necessary — a chip inside a phone detects the tag, according to Megan Lomazzi, senior business marketing major.

She said a handful of phones currently have near field communication technology, such as the Samsung Galaxy S3 and HTC Droid Incredible

She said students may confuse NFC tags with QR (quick response) codes.

QR codes are different from near field communication tags, according to Troy Wolverton, a technology columnist for the San Jose Mercury News.

"A QR code is basically a new kind of bar code that requires a camera application on a phone," he said.

He said once a quick response bar code is scanned, a webpage linked to a QR code will pop up on the phone.

Although near field communication tags work similarly to QR codes, he said the technology works in a variety of different ways.

"(NFCs) are used to gain access, like to board a bus or train," Wolverton said. "It's also used as a payment mechanism, where users can put their phone against an NFC reader to accept the payment."

The students from the Gary J. Sbona Honors Program said they had some ideas for future uses of near field communication technology, such as having NFC-enabled cards for laundry payment or adding NFC tags outside every class-

room on the first day of school.

"When students are trying to add classes, they can tap on the tag to see what classes are held in that classroom throughout the day," Lomazzi said. "This will allow them to check which classes may be possible to add."

Another potential idea for the future is to have Tower Cards enabled with near field

communication tags.

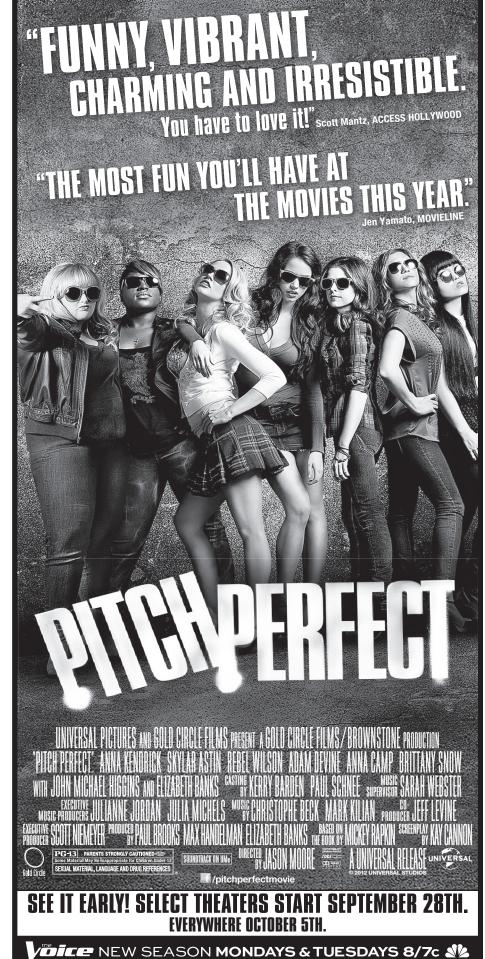
"Every cash register could have a device called a reader,"
Lomazzi said. "Students can just tap their cards to a reader and it will deduct gold points."

Robert Vitale, the coordinator of the honors program, said turning SJSU into an NFC-enabled campus is "good exposure for this technology and a huge advantage for SJSU."

"We are the university of Silicon Valley," he said. "We should be leading the pack in terms of technology."

The marketing students said a booth for a scavenger hunt will be held at Fire on the Fountain on Oct. 11, where students will learn how to use near field communication technology to progress to the

Thyra Phan is a Spartan Daily staff writer. Follow her on Twitter at @ThyraPhan.





INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Obama defends Arab Spring efforts, condemns violence

By Kathleen Hennessey McClatchy Tribune

UNITED NATIONS — During an appearance at the United Nations on Tuesday, President Barack Obama condemned the deadly anti-American protests that tore across the Middle East and North Africa and asked for patience during a "season of progress," as he sought to defend his strategy for supporting fledgling democracies across the Arab world.

Speaking before a meeting of the General Assembly, Obama asked world leaders to reject intolerance and violence and to resist the temptation to crack down on dissidents. He touted his support for the shift to democracies in Tunisia, Libya and Egypt, and decried government violence against the people of Syria.

"We have taken these positions because we believe that freedom and self-determination are not unique to one culture," Obama said. "These are not simply American values or Western values _ they are universal values. And even as there will be huge challenges that come with a transition to democracy, I am convinced that ultimately government of the people, by the people and for the people is more likely to bring about the stability, prosperity and individual opportunity that serve as a basis for peace in our world."

"True democracy – real freedom – is hard work," Obama said.

The protests and riots that rattled cities across the Arab world two weeks ago over an anti-Islam movie produced in California have put the president unexpectedly on his heels, defending his foreign policy six weeks before Election Day. His annual trip to the U.N. was aimed at providing reassurance to the world

on the progress of the "Arab Spring" while also deflecting attacks from a Republican election opponent who has sought to portray the president's policies in the region as weak and confused.

GOP presidential candidate Mitt Romney also traveled to New York on Tuesday, to deliver remarks at a meeting of the Clinton Global Initiative, former President Bill Clinton's foundation. Romney flatly declared the attack on the U.S. Consulate in Benghazi, Libya, a "terrorist attack."

Obama was slated to address the group later in the day.

Though the White House insisted the speech to the General Assembly was not political, the trip has had the pace and focus of a typical campaign blitz through a swing state. In a 24-hour span, Obama attended a private reception and was slated to deliver two speeches before heading back to Washington at day's end. He is to return to the campaign trail on Wednesday.

In a sharp departure from past years, Obama had no bilateral meetings scheduled with foreign leaders, most notably Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who had sought a meeting this month as he stepped up pressure on the Obama administration to take a harder line against Iran's nuclear pro-

In his speech before the General Assembly, Obama offered some tough words for the Tehran regime but did not shift away from his position that there remains time for diplomacy to prevent Iran from developing a nuclear weapon.

"But that time is not unlimited," Obama said. "Make no mistake: A nuclear-armed Iran is not a challenge that

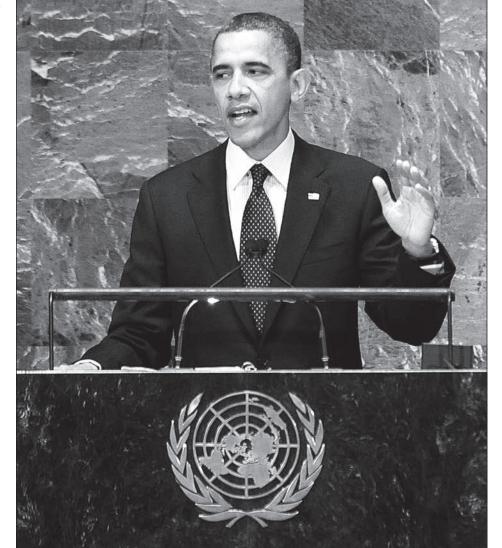
threaten the elimination of Israel, the security of (Persian) Gulf nations and the stability of the global economy. It risks triggering a nuclear arms race in the region and the unraveling of the nonproliferation treaty. That is why a coalition of countries is holding the Iranian government accountable. And that is why the United States will do what we must to prevent Iran from obtaining a nuclear weapon."

Obama called for a "different vision" in Syria, where a savage civil war rages and the peace process is in tatters. Obama sought to lend conditional support to forces fighting Syrian President Bashar Assad's rule, urging them to embrace an inclusive democracy and suggesting that U.S. support would follow.

"That is what America stands for; that is the outcome that we will work for — with sanctions and consequences for those who persecute, and assistance and support for those who work for this common good. Because we believe that the Syrians who embrace this vision will have the strength and legitimacy to lead," he said.

The spate of protests and eruptions of violence in fledgling democracies have put a new focus on success for the president's Arab Spring strategy. The death of the U.S. ambassador to Libya, J. Christopher Stevens, during the Sept. 11 attack on the consulate in Benghazi - an assault that U.S. officials say may have been carried out by al-Qaida affiliates - threatens to undermine Obama's campaign claims about progress defeating terrorists. Meanwhile, the continued turmoil in Syria has no clear end.

In his defense of American foreign policy, Obama offered



President Barack Obama speaks at the United Nations General Assembly yesterday in New York. Photo by Photo by Olivier Douliery / MCT

a eulogy of Stevens, describing him as a man who loved and respected the people of the region and worked to help them confront dictatorship and build a new society in its wake.

Stevens' death was not merely an assault on America, Obama said, but an attack on the very ideals on which the United Nations was founded.

He decried the anti-Islam video that inspired outrage and violence in the Middle East, but also offered a spirited defense of the concept of free speech and urged others to embrace it.

"There are no words that excuse the killing of innocents. There is no video that

justifies an attack on an embassy," the president said. "There is no slander that provides an excuse for people to burn a restaurant in Lebanon, or destroy a school in Tunis, or cause death and destruction in Pakistan."

The right to free speech means that people speak ill of him every day in the U.S., but "I will always defend their right to do so," Obama said, arguing that repression of free speech "can quickly become a tool to silence critics and oppress minorities."

Some diplomats at this week's gathering are unhappy with the fly-by treatment they believe Obama is giving the

proceedings. In the cavernous assembly hall, Obama received a subdued response to much of his address.

But people laughed at his line about defending the right of opponents to criticize him and applauded when he declared that the future should be written by the hopeful people of the world and not those who would oppress that hope

"I remain ever hopeful about the world we live in," he said, about the "common heartbeat to humanity" and the shared longing for free-

"A rising tide of liberty will never be reversed," he said.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Muslim nations seek curbs on anti-Islam statements

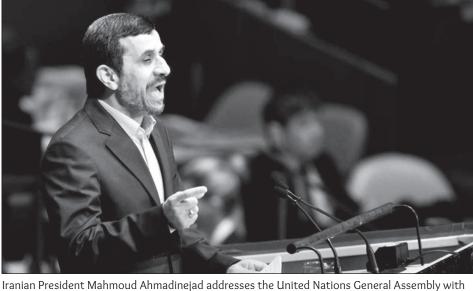
By Paul Richter McClatchy Tribune

UNITED NATIONS — The annual U.N. General Assembly meeting, which is intended to celebrate the world's common values, this year is exposing instead the gulf between Western and Islamic perspectives on freedom of expression, posing an unexpected challenge for President Barack Obama when he speaks here Tuesday.

Prompted by the anti-Muslim video produced in California that has stirred deadly riots around the world, delegations from major Muslim nations have arrived at the U.N. prepared to demand international curbs on speech or media that they believe defame their religion or the Prophet Muhammad.

Western leaders say they won't give ground on free speech, but the clash is souring the mood at a gathering that diplomats had hoped would yield new collaboration on Syria, the dispute over Iran's nuclear development and the challenges newly elected governments face a year after the "Arab Spring" toppled authoritarian rulers in the Middle East and North Africa.

The demand for limits on anti-Islamic expression is coming from leading Islamic groups such as the Organization for Islamic Cooperation, and leaders as diverse as Turkish Prime Minister Tayyip Recep Erdogan, Egyptian President Mohamed Morsi, and



opening remarks on Monday in New York. **Photo by Carolyn Cole / MCT**

Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadineiad.

Erdogan, who Obama views as a key ally, has declared that all 57 Islamic nations "should speak forcefully with one voice," and has called for "international legal regulations against attacks on what people deem sacred."

These leaders consider anti-Islamic material a kind of "hate speech" that should be banned around the world. They are expected to demand those regulations when debate begins Tuesday in the General Assembly.

"This has exposed a huge fault line in political philosophies," said Stewart Patrick, of the nonpartisan Council on Foreign Relations. "It may be irreconcilable."

The dispute puts Obama in a difficult position in the closing weeks of the presidential race. While the president will stand firmly for First Amendment values, he needs to be careful in condemning the anti-Muslim video not to sound an apologetic note that would draw political fire from his adversaries.

The White House was hoping Obama could use his U.N. address to show how his administration's support for democratic movements in the Arab Spring, and greater engagement with the Muslim world overall, have improved America's international standing after a decade of war in Muslim nations.

Instead he faces a jarring reminder of the anti-American riots in some 20 nations, and the storming of the U.S. Consulate in eastern Libya that killed U.S. Ambassador J. Christopher Stevens and three other Americans on Sept. 11. The White House last week

described the heavily armed assault in Benghazi as a terrorist attack.

The controversy is expected to breathe new life into efforts by the Organization for Islamic Cooperation, which pushed unsuccessfully for a dozen years for the U.N. Human Rights Council to pass a resolution making anti-blasphemy laws a matter of global human rights.

A battle at the U.N. for such a standard, even if it doesn't pass, is a setback for U.S. policy on several levels.

Experts say it helps legitimize efforts in parts of the Islamic world to enforce tough anti-blasphemy laws that may be used to target moderate politicians and permit harsh treatment of minority groups and religions. It also could make it harder for missionaries seeking converts, and West-

ern nongovernmental groups pushing for democratic governance.

"This could justify tough crackdowns on religious minorities," said Patrick. "This does touch on American values. ... U.S. officials have been very worried in the past that this effort would catch on."

In Pakistan, it is a crime to insult the Prophet Muhammad, the Quran or Islam, a law that critics say can be used to settle scores against adversaries or persecute minorities.

In Egypt, Coptic Christians have said they worry that the anti-Islam video, called "The Innocence of Muslims," could unleash a wave of violence against them. A pair of men reportedly involved with the video are Egyptian immigrants tied to conservative Christian causes.

The demand for limits on supposed hate speech reflects, in part, new political realities since the "Arab Spring."

In countries like Egypt and Tunisia, previously outlawed Islamist parties are competing openly for votes and power. Their leaders are seeking to outflank more moderate political rivals, who feel increasing pressure to back down on free speech amid the broader public

Morsi, the Egyptian president, was slow to respond when protests broke out over the anti-Islamic video. The Muslim Brotherhood, now a dominant force in Egyptian politics, wants to maintain its legiti-

macy on the streets, and it took two days after crowds stormed the U.S. Embassy for the new Egyptian leader to publicly condemn the attack.

Rachid Ghannouchi, leader of the moderate Islamist Ennahda party in Tunisia, is widely respected in the West, for example. But he has joined the calls for international criminalization of anti-Muslim speech, and his party has introduced a draft law in Tunisia's legislature that would make such behavior illegal.

On the far end of the spectrum, Hassan Nasrallah, head of the militant Shiite militia Hezbollah in Lebanon, has also called for international rules to ban insults against Islam, as well as insults against Christianity and Judaism. His comments are viewed as a sign of the popular appeal of the issue since Nasrallah rarely concerns himself with international diplomagy.

Ahmadinejad, the Iranian president, told reporters in New York on Monday that Israel is only a short-lived presence among the ancient civilizations of the Middle East and would eventually be "eliminated."

Meanwhile, the situation in civil war-ravaged Syria "is extremely bad, and getting worse," Lakhdar Brahimi, special envoy for the United Nations and the Arab League, told reporters in New York. The violence there "is a threat to the region and a threat to peace and security in the world."

SPORTS

SJSU 0, UOP 3

Spartan volleyball team falls to Tiger attack

By David Sheffer

@SD_DSheffer

The SJSU women's volleyball team was shut out by the University of the Pacific Tigers and lost 0-3 last night in Spartan Gym.

The Spartans entered last night's match with a 6-7 record and 2-2 Western Annual Conference (WAC) record, while the Tigers held an overall record of 11-2 and 0-1 in the WAC.

"Going into the game, we knew it was going to be more of a mental challenge for us than a physical challenge," said Oscar Crespo, SJSU head coach.

The Spartans took an early lead with a kill by sophomore middle blocker Mary Alice O'Reilly.

Neither team led by more than a point for the first half of the set.

The Spartans managed to continue to go toe-to-toe with the Tigers, but did not manage to take the lead until 15-14. The Tigers came back and began to extend its lead near the end of the set, and closed it out with the Spartans losing the first set 21-25.

The first set had 15 tie scores and nine lead changes, with O'Reilly leading the team with five kills and six points.

"We kept calm and composed even though the parts that we were down we didn't get frantic," O'Reilly said.

The Tigers started the second set with an early lead, which it managed to keep until the Spartans tied at 4-4, but the Spartans recorded eight errors and six serving errors in the second set.

The Tigers took a double digit lead at 6-16 and managed to hold on to close out the Spartans.

"They had a run, and we let it get away from us which led to a disorientation on the court," O'Reilly said.

The Spartans lost the second set 17-25, tying once and trailing for the rest of the set.

"We have the skill sets to be successful," Crespo said. "I thought we lost that in the second set, we had service errors we shouldn't have."

The second set had only one tie score and no lead changes.

"Our serving was a little weaker than it usually is, and we had a hard time keeping the ball away," O'Reilly said.

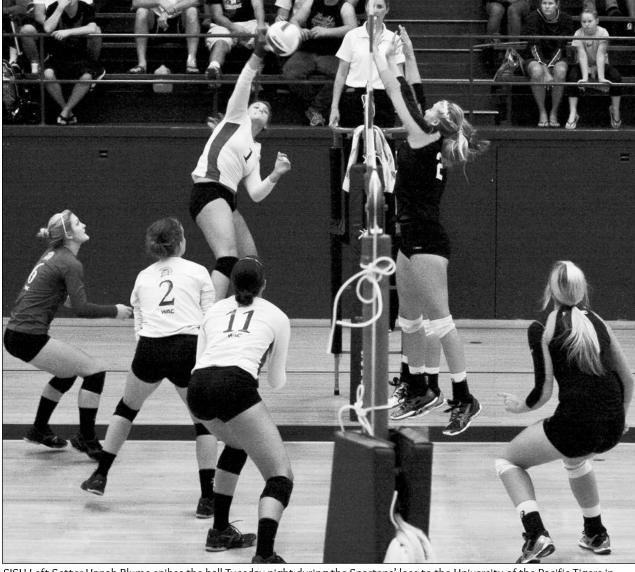
We have the skill sets to be successful.

Oscar Crespo, SJSU volleyball head coach

O'Reilly and senior right setter Krista Miller tied for the most kills in the second set with four apiece.

"Going into the third set it's hard enough with the ten-minute break in between, and it's even harder starting off in that hole," said senior middle blocker Alex

The Spartans took the lead in the third set with a serving error from the



SJSU Left Setter Hanah Blume spikes the ball Tuesday night during the Spartans' loss to the University of the Pacific Tigers in three straight sets. Photo by Raphael Kluzniok / Contributing Photographer

Tigers' senior middle blocker, Gabby Cowden.

The third set started off similar to the first set with nine tie scores and five lead changes.

"In the third set our statistics were very high we hit over .270," Crespo said.

The tie changes kept up until the Tigers took a three point lead at 8-11. The Spartans manged to tie the game back up at 17-17, but the Tigers took the lead back and held on, winning the set 20-25.

"I've got to be proud of our team that's able to make a change in a tough match and really bring it back on track," Crespo said.

The Spartans ended the match with 18 errors, nine serving errors and four blocking errors.

"We proved ourselves that even in a hole we can pick it up and gain confidence in ourselves," Akana said.

At the end of the match O'Reilly led the team with 11

kills and 12.5 points.

The next two games for the Spartans will be back on the road playing against the University of Texas in Arlington on Thursday and Louisiana Tech on Saturday.

David Sheffer is a Spartan Daily staff writer. Follow him on Twitter at @SD_DSheffer.

Largest Fair in 5 years. Over 175 participating employers!

JOB AND INTERNSHIP FAIR

Meet with employers to discuss job and internship opportunities.

THURSDAY, September 27

12:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

Event Center (enter via stairs next to box office) and Paseo de San Carlos Plaza

Early admittance @ noon with Early Bird Pass to the Event Center. General Admission to the Event Center 2:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. No Early Bird Pass needed for Paseo De San Carlos 12:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. All SJSU Students Welcome

*Last admittance at 4:30pm

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COMPETITIVEDGE

CALIFORNIA NEWS

Schwarzenegger gives lecture on post-partisanship

By Thomas Curwen McClatchy tribune

LOS ANGELES - Charisma counts. Former President Bill Clinton proved it at the Democratic National Convention, and former Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger proved it Monday at the University of Southern California.

He received a standing ovation as he stepped onto the stage in an auditorium on campus for the start of a daylong symposium _ the inaugural session of the augustly named USC Schwarzenegger Institute for State and Global Policy.

Gone was any evidence of the disaffection that he had accrued after seven years as California governor. Gone was the shadow cast for his commuting the murder sentence of a friend's son. Gone was the outrage over the news last year of his affair - and fathering a child - with a member of his household staff.

"I stand here today full of hope," he said to the auditorium of nearly 750 people.

Forgiveness is sometimes easy in the face of hope, and the hope, as often is the case with Schwarzenegger, is that he can bring his Alpha-Dog personality to bear on the stickiest problems of the

He did it in the 1991 "Terminator 2" movie as a cyborg assassin assigned to protect the human race. He did it in 2003 when he defeated Gov. Gray Davis in a recall election, and now he is back ready



Former California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger addresses the inaugural Schwarzenegger Institute for State and Global Policy at the University of Southern California on Monday in Los Angeles, Calif. Photo by Gary Friedman / MCT

to take on the environment, health and wellness, education, fiscal and economic policy and political reform.

On campus, Schwarzenegger will be known not only as the chair of the institute's board of advisers, but also as a professor. The school recently named him the Gov. Downey Professor of State and Global Policy. The position was named for John Downey, who in 1860 was elected governor of California, and like Schwarzenegger, was an immigrant to this country.

As grandiose as his new title is, the institute is equally ambitious. After committing \$20 million to the institute from his own wallet and the wallets of others, Schwarzenegger hopes to bring politicians and Hollywood movers and shakers to the table to discuss bipartisanship, or as he's calling it, "post-partisan-

"We see the institute as a way to move ahead with a lot of the important initiatives that he continued or began as governor," said longtime associate Bonnie Reiss, the institute's director.

USC President C.L. Max Nikias introduced Schwarzenegger and praised his financial support and vision. Afterward, a short video played featuring a photograph of the former governor overlaid on a waving American flag and the words from his 2007 inaugural address:

"One of the great lessons I learned as governor of California was that the best solutions to common problems

could only be found when each side was willing to engage thoughtfully and respectfully with each other."

He spoke for 20 minutes. The audience — students and invited guests - occasionally interrupted him with applause as he laid out his goals in the form of a critique of politicians today who play it safe, more willing to fight for an ideology than find a com-

"If a soldier can risk his life for his country," he asked later in the session, "why isn't a politician willing to risk his office for making the right decision?"

In evidence was his trademark enthusiasm ("fantastic") and his ability to be blunt. "Words without action is just poetry," he said.

The event, divided into three panels, brought together politicians such as Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., and former Democratic Sen. Tom Daschle of South Dakota to diagnose the problems in Washington. An afternoon session featured record producer Jimmy Iovine and movie producer Brian Grazer to talk about innovation in industry.

Waiting in the stand-by line was junior Lindsay Rapkin, 20, who was intrigued at the prospect of seeing McCain and film director James Cameron, who had to cancel at the last minute.

"You don't have to agree with his policies or how he ran the state in order to hope it does good things for USC and the School of Public Policy," Rapkin said.

Graduate student, Laura Martinez, 23, signed up immediately upon hearing about the event. "This is not about Schwarzenegger," she says. "It's what he's going to do. He's started something bigger than himself."

Media from about 40 outlets, including the Wall Street Journal, "Inside Edition," the Daily Telegraph and Kleine Zeitung from Austria, were covering the symposium.

"Entertainment has become an important part of the news coverage," says Barbara Gasser, a reporter for Kleine Zeitung. "This is what L.A. is known for, and we haven't heard from Schwarzenegger since 2011. This is the first time in the limelight. No one thought we would see professor Schwarzenegger."

One of the great lessons I learned as governor of California was that the best solutions to common problems could only be found when each side was willing to engage thoughtfully respectively with each other."

> Arnold Schwarzenegger Former governor of California

After the morning session, USC history professor Kevin Starr praised the panelists. "It is important to acknowledge how a university environment brings out sides of our nature that is not seen in normal political discourse,"

Afterward, people stepped outside and strolled to an open tent where lunch was being served. In the bright autumn sunlight, the campus was alive with skateboarders, bike riders and students oblivious to the gathering.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Militias challenge Libyan government's disband order

By Mel Frykberg

McClatchy Tribune

CAIRO – The Libyan government said late Saturday that all of Libya's militias would be brought under government control or forced to disband within 48 hours, but was quickly challenged.

"We are disbanding all armed groups that do not fall under the authority of the government," said Mohammed Magarief, president of the General National Congress. "We are also banning the use of violence and carrying of weapons in public places. It is also illegal to set up checkpoints."

Within hours, however, the government faced its first challenge from some of its insubordinate security forces and the extrajudicial

On Saturday afternoon Libya's Tripoli Rixos hotel was stormed by members of the Supreme Security Council – an amalgamation of security forces under the jurisdiction of the interior ministry – who threatened to blow it up. The Rixos Hotel is a de facto headquarters for the Libyan government.

The SSC men were angered by a lack of support from the Defense Ministry after fierce between the SSC and alleged Moammar Gadhafi loyalists in the town of Brak in central

Clashes between the two groups started Wednesday after SSC members tried to arrest a number of Gadhafi

sympathizers who had been celebrating Gadhafi's "Fateh Revolution Day" on Sept. 1.

Many of the SSC members are Salafists and the group is said to be sympathetic to the Muslim Broth-

In the arrest attempts, they shot dead the sister of a sympathizer as they tried to arrest her brother at their family home. During the fighting, six people, mostly SSC members, were killed. There was a lull in the fighting on Thursday but on Friday deadlier clashes broke out again with the death of 16 SSC members and the wounding of 50.

During the week preceding the bloody confrontations, tensions had been building in the town after the alleged mistreatment of locals by the SSC.

After running low on ammunition, the SSC men withdrew from Brak and returned to Tripoli with the bodies of their comrades. They then stormed the Rixos Hotel after claiming that Interior Minister Fawzi Abdel Al and Defense Minister Osama Juwaily had refused to provide them with weapons, more ammunition and ambulances despite promises made by the defense

The two men had also ignored their repeated requests for a meeting.

The incident ended without casualties.

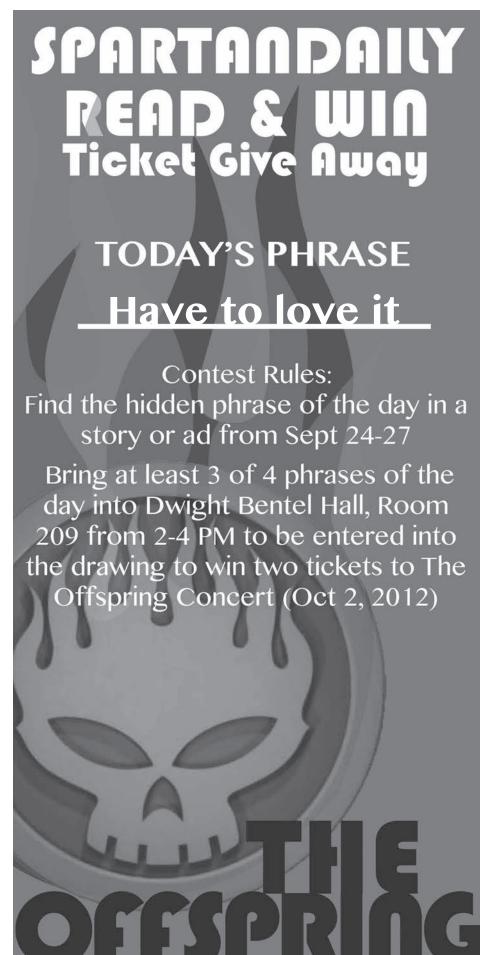
However, at least 14 people were killed and more than 70 wounded following the storming of several militia bases in Benghazi by thousands of unarmed, angry Libyans on Friday.

Libyans have been angered by what they see as government complacency and even collusion in a number of milita attacks, including the targeting of Sufi shrines and mosques in several Libyan cities. However, the killing of U.S. Ambassador Christopher Stevens and three other Americans allegedly by Islamists from the Ansar Al-Sharia Militia, during the storming of the U.S. Consulate several weeks ago was a trigger.

Unarmed, thousands of protesters set the headquarters of Ansar Al Sharia ablaze, forcing the gunmen to flee. They then moved on to several other militia bases that were not connected with the Islamists and forced the gunmen there to

The reprisals began early the next morning when the bodies of five soldiers from the defense ministry were found on the outskirts of Benghazi. They had been shot in the head and their hands were tied behind their backs. A sixth member remains in critical condition in hospital.

The killing of the five soldiers, who were not related to any militia or Salafist group, was thought to have been carried out by militia members in revenge for what they said was the involvement of the army and police members in helping to orchestrate Friday's protests that targeted them.



This ad is not the phrase of the day



EDUCATION

Romney vs. Obama on education

Candidate, president have differing strategies

By Renee Schoof McClatchy Tribune

WASHINGTON - Should money for federal student grants for college be cut

Should parents be able to spend local tax dollars to pay for private schooling if they don't like their public schools?

Mitt Romney and President Barack Obama agree that a good education for all Americans is essential for democracy, individual success and the national econ-

The areas where they disagree – such as on school choice and federal spending - make education another of the stark public policy choices in this presidential campaign. Their divide was evident Tuesday at NBC's Education Nation Summit in New York.

In an interview for the summit, the president said that the big difference between them on education reform was paying for it.

Romney and his supporters "talk a good game about reform," Obama said, "but when you actually look at their budgets, they're talking about slashing our investment in education by 20 to 25 percent."

Romney, speaking at the summit, said he would not support more federal spending for education but would leave that to the states.

"I think we all know what it takes to improve schools invest in great teachers," he

Romney has said during the campaign that a "worldclass education" for American students was paramount to boosting the economy. His top reform would be a dramatic expansion of school choice.

Obama has called education a "gateway" to the middle class, saying the United States must be able to "out-educate and out-compete" every other

He wants Congress to approve more spending for his key reform, Race to the Top, a competitive grant program that rewards schools that im-

The nation's needs for education improvement are

Federal data show that a quarter of all high school students fail to graduate in four years, low-income students lag academically, and many students are struggling in reading and math.

Romney wants to restrict Pell grants, the main source of federal financial aid for college, to just the poorest students. "Flooding colleges with federal dollars only serves to drive tuition higher," a Romney campaign education policy paper says.

But campaign spokeswoman Amanda Henneberg declined to provide details about where Romney would set the limits.

Under Obama, Pell Grants have more than doubled, from \$16 billion in 2008 to \$36 billion last year. The size of the grants increased, as did the number of recipients, from about 6 million to 9

In addition, Congress passed an Obama-backed effort to remove commercial banks from the federal student loan business. The savings, in the form of subsidies that had been paid to the banks, paid for the increase in Pell Grants, Obama has

Romney, however, has said he'd let commercial banks back into the student lending market.

"America is fast becoming a society where education is unaffordable, a government loan is an entitlement, default is the norm, and loan forgiveness is the expectation," a campaign policy paper stated.

Neal McClusky, an education expert at the libertarian Cato Institute, questioned the premise of Romney's

"The wording . . . and the way many Republicans talk about it is to say this would return to loans grounded in the free market," he said. "But that's not at all the case."

McClusky said the federal government still would guarantee the loans, meaning that taxpayers – not the banks - would take nearly all

Romney and Obama also have different ideas about K-12 education.

The federal government provides about 10 percent of the money spent on K-12. State and local governments pay the rest.

The Obama administration has used money and waivers from the requirements in the 2002 No Child Left Behind education law to influence what happens at the state and local level.

The grants and waivers provide incentives for states to agree to improve school, like raising standards, rewarding good teachers and removing poor ones. They amount to less than 1 percent of what the nation spends on education, according to the Obama campaign.

Romney would urge Congress to revise the No Child law to eliminate the federally required steps designed to improve failing schools. Instead, he'd require that states grade the schools so that parents could easily tell how they're doing.

Romney also would push Congress to change legislation to give parents of lowincome and special-needs children the ability to decide how tax dollars for their children's educations should be spent. Under his plan, parents could use their child's share of public education funds to send their children to public charter schools or apply it to private-school

On education issues

Where the presidential

Romney

Pell grants

Restrict only to poorest students: no details on how much he would cut

Obama spending

Increased from \$16 billion

to \$36 billion, grants are bigger, more students receive them; says expansion paid for with savings from moving student loans from private banks to Dept. of Education

Federal role

Would want Congress to revise the education law to eliminate the federally required steps that failing schools must take to improve: instead, he'd require that states grade the schools so parents could easily tell how they are doing

School

Would allow parents of low-income and special-needs children to decide how tax dollars for their children's educations should be spent

Cost of Wants to return student college lending to private banks

Has used money and waivers from 2002 No Child Left Behind law to provide incentives to states to do such things as raise standards. reward good teachers and remove poor ones; says costs are less than 1 percent of total U.S. education spending

Supports school choice within the public school system; has encouraged investments in public charter schools but opposes vouchers

Wants student borrowers to be able to cap loan payments at 10 percent of income: started tax credit for low-, middle-income families paying for college; wants incentive plan to get colleges to hold down costs

tuition in states that permit

Grover "Russ" Whitehurst, a Romney education policy adviser, but who was not speaking for the campaign, said that while Obama supports regulations, waivers and incentives, Romney favors a market approach to school reform.

"Give power to consumers of the service, in this case parents, and put them in a position to reward effective schools and teachers and punish the opposite," said

Whitehouse, director of the Brown Center on Education Policy at the Brookings Institution, a nonpartisan research organization.

Obama supports school choice, but only within the public school system. He has encouraged investments in public charter schools but opposes vouchers.

"They drain resources that are needed in the public schools - where the vast majority of students will always be," said Obama campaign spokeswoman Lis Smith.

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UNIVERSAL

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

		4	9				6	
				2		3		
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8								2
7			2		5		4	6298
			2 5					8
		9		6				
	1				2	4		

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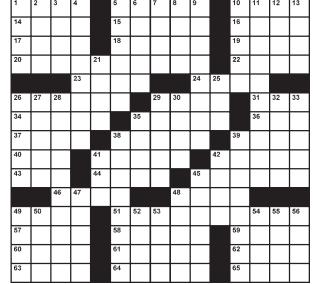
How To Play

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3 by 3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively. Check back daily for new sudoku puzzles and solutions.

Previous Sudoku Solution

4 3 2 8 5 1 9 7 5 4 6 9 8 3 2 8 2 9 3 7 1 6 4 3 8 2 9 1 7 4 5 1 4 8 3 6 7 6 7 5 4 2 3 1 8 3 1 6 5 8 9 7 4 96124583 4 5 8 7 9 3 2 6 1

Today's Crossword Puzzle



DOWN

1 Supper for

swine

2 "Oh, my

5 Stops

6 Mutt's

malady 7 Participating

America's

аиЭ

8 Thailand

9 Picked

.10 Prepared

to hear

Banner'

.11 It's hit out of

the park

Me" (Sam

Cooke)

.25 "Walk, don"

.26 "He ___ got

a chance'

.13 "You

.21 Digs in

"The Star-

goodness! 3 Twice-

monthly tide

prematurely

as a rocket

Previous Puzzle Answer



.37 Backtalk

partner

section

.40 The highest

degree

.41 Jennifer of

dance'

.42 United rival

.45 Like Twinkies

aerosol scent

.49 Way around

teammate

found," e.g.

London

.57 Mickey's

.58 "File not

.59 White,

.46 Work hard

.38 Safe's

(harmonious) 5 Accumu late, as a

fortune "... for children of

.14 "In of flowers' .15 Count of

.16 Tug-of-war .17 Milky gem

Shaquille .19 Golf

tournament warm-up exercise

.22 Backyard .23 Give two thumbs up

Indian

.24 Canadian .26 Customar ways

island

.34 Borders on

.31 St. roads

.29 Aleutian

.61 Alternative to purchase .62 Shakespeare's rive

brown or basmati .60 Entre __

with "out")

.64 Bob and

.28 Baseball minors .29 As ___ (gen erally)

.27 Ease off

.30 Billfold fillers

Caesar

George, Flaine and Kramer

message of old Shivery

sound .42 Merrill of "BUtter field 8' .45 Threads, to

a Brit .47 Out of order .48 Ordinary writing

.49 Actress Daly .50 Corner

piece in .52 Cookie

favorite .53 Russian river or moun-

.54 Collapse under pressure

.55 Supply and

demand subi. .56 Rip apart

.32 Hackneyed .33 Waldorf or .35 World Cup

OPINION



Learning to love by example

My parents celebrated their 32nd wedding anniversary last Thursday.

Thirty-two years is a long time and quite impressive, considering the number of people who get divorced these days

According to the 2009 Census, in California, more than 16 percent of 2,000,000 married men and women divorced.

That is a large number, considering the Census is only measured over a 12-month period.

Think about all the people you know that are divorced. I bet you need more than one hand to count.



Julie Myhre's column appears every Wednesday.

Knowing that my parents have been together for so long makes me very

Long marriages seem to run in my family. Both sets of my grandparents celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary during my life.

I remember dancing and having a good time at both of the parties, but since I was young - ninth grade or younger - I didn't realize what it meant to be married for such a long

I didn't understand any of that until I got into a serious relationship more than four-and-a-half years

Once my boyfriend Frank and I started getting serious, I began to practice the necessities to a successful relationship - open communication, trust and

Open communication is the most difficult for

That is true love. It could have been so easy for him to abandon us, but he didn't.

people to practice.

Frank and I worked on it for years before we were completely able to communicate how we feel, and we've learned even if it is something silly, we still need to let it off our chests.

All three of these necessities work together because if you can't trust your partner, then you most likely feel comfortable being honest with them, which will result in a lack of communication.

I know you're probably reading this and thinking "Four years is nowhere near 50 or 32 years, dummy."

Yes, I'm aware that my relationship is not nearly as long as my grandparents or my parents, but these are traits I've seen in every successful relationship that I've been surrounded by my whole life.

I know what it feels like to love someone and want to do anything for them, even if you get hurt along the way.

One example of continuous love that I have constantly looked up to is my parents.

When I was around four years old, my mom was diagnosed with an incurable vasculitis disease, called Wegener's Granulomato-

She was extremely sick for the majority of my childhood, or from at least what I can remember, and my dad stuck by her side the whole time.

I am sure he probably struggled with fears of losing my mom and being a single father of three, which I think would make most men run - but my dad didn't.

He and his unconditional love stuck around to help my mom and support his three daughters.

That is true love. It could have been so easy for him to abandon us, but he didn't.

Even throughout the years when my mom has had flare-ups or side

Once in

effects from her disease, my dad is always there for

I will always have a lot of respect for my parents for working through such a hard time in their lives, and for my dad, who was always by my mom's side.

I would be lying to you if I said these past 32 years, well I can only vouch for 25, have been easy.

Yes, people fight and disagree, but I think it takes a certain person to stick it out through the struggles and move on from it - my parents were able to do that.

I see that unconditional love my parents have for each other.

Over their 32 years of marriage, my parents have taught me how to love and share that love, and showed me how to build a strong relationship with Frank.

I am forever grateful for my parents and their unconditional love. I look forward to celebrating many more anniversaries with them.

Julie Myhre is a Spartan Daily copy editor. Follow her on Twitter at @JulieVmy.



With death comes a new outlook

A woman, whom I considered to be a second mother to me, passed away

At first, I was really sad, thinking about the impact she made on my life and realizing that she was really gone.

few weeks since I found out about her death, I see with anymore or I hadn't things much differently.

Her death reiterated a really important lesson -Don't live with regrets.

I have learned this same lesson time and time again over the last several years.

It seems that we learn the most important lessons over and over.

It might sound a bit repetitive, but it's the way life is sometimes.

When I first found out about her death, I almost wasn't sure that I should go to her memorial

I knew that there would Now that it has been a be several people there whom I wasn't friends seen in a very long time.

> I thought it might be a really awkward situation.

After I learned of her death, I spent the entire day reminiscing about the time I did get to spend

Once in a while, she and I would sit in her home



Margaret Baum's column appears every Wednesday.

talking about life, about love, about the world.

At the time, I wasn't a very happy person, and I was constantly looking for reassurance from others about the decisions I was making.

I remember one con-

versation in particular - I wasn't sure about the way my life was going and I wanted more.

I felt helpless, like no one could make me feel better. But, she did. She never had to say much.

She just listened.

I don't think I've ever met such an amazing listener.

She would always look me right in my eyes and tell me that she understood, that life is hard sometimes and that she was sorry for what I was going through.

That's all she needed to say to make me feel better about the situation

of my favorite moments sitting on her couch with her, I realized that feeling awkward about going to her service was normal.

The morning of the service, I woke up, got dressed and headed out with an old friend.

I tried not to be awkward that day, but the truth is it was really awkward at first.

After I spent a bit of time there, I felt less

I heard her family stand up and talk about her and how much she impacted

I think that was the moment that I realized I made the right decision.

I went out of my comfort zone for a really

a while, she and I would sit in her home talking about life, about love, about the world.

good reason.

I sat quietly as the family talked her, until I felt the tears Thinking about some running down my face.

I am sad to know that she isn't with us anymore. but I was happy to have had her in my life.

She helped me through a really difficult time in my life and I'm just happy to have known her.

Before I attended the service, I liked to block out the life that I used to live.

The situation was really complicated because I used to be married to one of her

It's not something that I tell most people.

I used to like to pretend that part of my life never

This whole situation made me realize that it wasn't healthy to block something like this out of my life for so long.

I ended up taking my ex-husband out for a beer the night before the

It was really awkward at first and I still felt awkward the next day, but I think it helped me.

I told him that years have passed, that I wanted there to be no bad feelings between us and that I loved his mother with all of my heart. It was all true and he agreed.

I can now say that coming out of the service, I consider him and his family friends, including his current fiancee, whom I never thought I'd call a friend.

This makes me really happy.

I'm glad that everyone involved can be friends and that I don't have to pretend that this part of my life never existed.

His mother is the reason I decided to go back to school and do what I want to do in life. If it wasn't for her, I wouldn't be at SISU.

I really hope that the next time something in your life doesn't go as planned, you can look at the bigger picture and remember those that made you the person you are today.

Don't live with regrets, live your life.

Margaret Baum is the Spartan Daily Opinion Editor. Follow her on Twitter at @SD_mbaum.

Are you in a bind? Need a voice of reason? Just ask Kelsey in her advice column!

"In my Experience" runs every Tuesday. You can send in your question anonymously, and if selected you could win a prize.

> Submit your question to spartandally@gmail. com or visit Spartan Daily office DBH 209

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Back A Yard provides a taste of the Caribbean in downtown SJ

By Celeste Lodge @celestelodge

Grade



Back A Yard, a Caribbean-American grill restaurant, is a quick ten-minute walk from campus and provides a relaxing place for students to enjoy some delicious Caribbean

The fun colors and music of the restaurant made it an enjoyable environment to eat in.

"Back A Yard" means the way things are done back home and represents the lifestyle, culture, spirit, cuisine and festive mood of welcoming visitors to your home, according to the Back A Yard restaurant

Back A Yard means the way things are done back home...

This was my first experience with Caribbean cuisine and I was happy with the food, service and ambiance of the

The setting was casual with brick walls, paintings, and a color scheme of lime green and

The restaurant is more of a lunch environment than a

romantic date night out.

People order at the counter and then find their own place to sit and wait for the employees to bring them out their

It was a quiet and laid-back atmosphere with Jamaican music playing in the background making it easy to forget the troubles of the day.

The employees were friendly, personal, and helpful.

They constantly checked on me to make sure my food was satisfying and my drink was filled.

The menu provides plenty of options to choose from ranging from barbecue meals, soups, salads, seafood, sandwiches, and Jerk meals.

The Jerk meals come with Jamaican Jerk sauce, the choice of pork, salmon, steak, chicken or tofu and served with rice and beans, fried plantains and tossed salad on the side.

I ordered the Jerk Chicken Oxtail combo for \$14.75 with a side of corn festivals for \$2.50 and, for a drink, mango-passion fruit for \$2.75

The Jerk chicken combo is the most common dish, according to Jonny Rivera, an employee of the restaurant.

My fiancé ordered the Jerk pork combo for \$9.75.

The portion size of the meal was more than enough and came on a 13-by-9-inch dish.

I was a little worried about how spicy the dish would be because I am not one that handles spicy food well.

However, I was pleasantly surprised with the unique flavor of the Jerk sauce and how well it mixed with the chicken.



The Jerk Chicken and Oxtail combo (\$14.95) at Back A Yard is served with two scoops of rice and beans, salad and fried plantains. **Photo** by Celeste Lodge / Spartan Daily

It added just the right kick to my meal without leaving my mouth on fire or overwhelming the flavor of the meat.

I liked that the Jerk sauce came on the side so I could choose the amount I wanted to put on my meat.

The Jerk sauce is a style of cooking in Jamaica and it is made from habaneros and includes thyme, garlic, onions, and vinegar, according to

The chicken, pork and oxtail were all very tender and

I had never tried oxtail before and it had a delicious with a stew-like flavor. It fell right off the bone and melted in my

I could have gone without the fried plantains - the texture was too chewy and the

The corn festivals (\$2.50) are a type of fried corn fritter with a light and sweet aftertaste. **Photo by** Celeste Lodge / Spartan Daily taste was too tangy for my

The rice and beans had a nice zesty-but-sweet flavor that I enjoyed.

The corn festivals, which are like fried bread, were my favorite part of the meal.

They were light, sweet, golden-brown and flaky.

They tasted like less sugary donuts and could easily substitute for a lighter but delicious

It was a heavy meal because of the meat but the salad on the side made for nice fresh bites

The fresh fruit juice was a nice sweet treat to sip on in contrast from the spices of the

It was refreshing and mixed nicely with the heavier

I was unable to finish the meal because of how much it came with, but I left satisfied and had plenty of leftovers to chow down on later.

Back A Yard has been open for four months and is located at 80 N. Market Street.

It is open Monday through Thursday from 11 a.m. to 2: 30 p.m. and 4: 30 to 8:30 p.m., Friday from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., Saturday from 12 to 9 p.m. and closed Sunday.

Celeste Lodge is a Spartan Daily staff writer. Follow her on Twitter at @celestelodge.

MOVIE PREVIEW

'Pitch Perfect' promises laughs, music and portrayal of college life

By Camille Nguyen @camillediem

For the past few years, the entertainment industry has been abuzz with musically influenced television shows, films and just about everything

in between. From the upcoming theatrical release of Victor Hugo's "Les Misérables" to Disney Channel's "High School Musical" trilogy, Hollywood's been bitten by the musical theater bug and it doesn't look like it will be cured anytime soon, as evidenced with this month's

premiere of "Pitch Perfect." The cinematic directing debut of Broadway director Jason Moore and producer Elizabeth Banks ("The Hunger Games" stars Anna Kendrick ("50/50"), Rebel Wilson ("Bridesmaids") and Brittany Snow ("John Tucker Must Die") as a group of ragtag social misfits who form an a cappella group to compete against a team of male singers in a boys versus girls showdown at a campus singing championship.

While the premise of the film draws some similarities to Fox's tongue-in-cheek high school musical TV dramedy "Glee," according to the cast of "Pitch Perfect," the two productions could not be more different.

"My understanding of it is that 'Glee' doesn't really do a cappella," said Anna Kendrick, who plays the film's protagonist Beca, adding that while the TV show may employ instrumentals to their songs, they do not rely heavily on vocal beats and rhythms like in 'Pitch Perfect."

Penned by Kay Cannon, the producer and writer of NBC's

musical-film veteran Brittany 1993 single "The Sign," as well Snow in the role of Chloe, who as contemporary tracks such played as Amber Von Tussle in the 2007 remake of John Waters' 1988 musical-turnedmovie "Hairspray."

"Pitch Perfect" is more grounded in reality, the characters are more relatable and the songs are all justified, while 'Hairspray' had an over-the-top nature about it, Snow said.

"We don't break out into song because we feel like it, there's actually a reason (why) we're singing."

We don't break out into song because we feel like it, there's actually a reason (why) we're singing.

Brittany Snow actress

The film's cast also includes big-screen newcomers such as R&B singer Ester Dean, Broadway performer Skylar Astin and comedians from Comedy Central's "Workaholics" Adam DeVine and Hana Mae Lee, with the latter learning how to beatbox for the movie in order to portray the quiet, but aggressive, Lily.

In addition to beatboxing, "Pitch Perfect" also features a wide variety of musical selec-

"30 Rock," the film also features tions including Ace of Base's as Rihanna's "S&M" (which was co-written by Dean), Miley Cyrus' "Party in the U.S.A." and Bruno Mars' "Just the Way

> Shot primarily in Louisiana, Moore said he researched local collegiate a cappella groups, mainly from Tulane University in New Orleans, and had them audition for roles in the movie.

> "We wanted good singers to be in the movie and we also wanted some authentic groups to be in the movie," he said.

> According to Kendrick, the desire for authenticity didn't just stop at casting college students, but even went so far as cast members visiting and attending pre-game tailgates with Louisiana State University and Tulane University students.

> "It's just this epic tailgate with like 40 tents and a dance floor and like a DJ and a lot of alligator meat," said DeVine, who plays Bumper, a member of the rival boys' a cappella group, when describing his experiences at tailgates and adopting the mentality of a college student.

> "We tried to make it as close to college as possible by casting real students and having the actors go to real events," Banks said. "(It features) totally authentic college students in a movie about college - why not?"

> "Pitch Perfect" is directed by Jason Moore and stars Anna Kendrick, Brittany Snow, Rebel Wilson and Skylar Astin. It will be opening in select theaters this Friday, Sept. 28 and nationwide Friday, Oct. 5.

Camille Nguyen is a Spartan Daily staff writer. Follow her on Twitter at @camillediem.

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