The Presidential Debates

ELECTION 2012

Students, voters tune in for debate

By Melanie Martinez and Devon Thames

Students of Pi Sigma Alpha, SJSU’s political science fraternity, filled the conference room of downtown San Jose’s Hilton to observe president’s presidential debate.

President Obama and Republican candidate Mitt Romney squared off in a 90-minute debate that covered hot topics such as the economy, social security, health care and the role of federal government.

“Everyone’s excited,” said Sol Jo-brak, President of Pi Sigma Alpha. “There’s people from both sides, and both candidates are very highly educated people.”

Students of Pi Sigma Alpha said they anticipated the debates and had predictions on who they thought would win, said Jo-brak.

“I feel like Obama has a lot of material to look back on and just has more experiences,” said Heather Daniel, a senior political science major and member of Pi Sigma Alpha.

Daniel said that after Romney’s recent gaffes, she doesn’t see him pulling to the top of the polls and Obama’s work earns him re-election.

Jason Wilson, a senior in political science, said he became a Pi Sigma Alpha member on Tuesday and was excited to become more politically active.

“I’m here as a spectator,” Wilson said. “This is the biggest thing since the Super Bowl.”

While Wilson said he’s an Obama supporter, he was looking forward to hearing arguments from the Republican Party.

Other Pi Sigma Alpha members said while the debates were interesting, they didn’t think they would change much.

“I feel like their policies are so different, you don’t need to see the debate in order to know what they think,” said a member.

ELECTION 2012

Barack Obama
Democrat
incumbent president, former U.S. Senator

“Under Gov. Romney’s plan, Donald Trump is a small businessman.”

“If you believe that we can cut taxes by $5 trillion and add $2 trillion in additional spending that the military is far too high for, and you think that by closing loopholes and deductions for the well-to-do somehow you will not end up picking up the tab, then Gov. Romney’s plan may work for you.

“But I think math, common sense and our history shows that’s not a recipe for job growth.”

READ MORE: ELECTION 2012

Opinion, p. 8: Voter turnout is lowest among young Americans between the ages of 18 to 24. Is this the sign of indifference or ignorance?

News, p. 10: Photo spread of local viewing events

SATELLITE

SJU NASA partnership sends satellite into orbit

By Jacques Orvis

The International Space Station launched a cube-shaped satellite into orbit on Thursday morning that was built by SJSU students in partnership with NASA Ames.

About four-inch-cubed in size and 2.4 pounds, the satellite — or “Technology” — is the first of its kind, according to SJU aerospace engineering alum Guarneros Luna.

“The SJSU team is one-of-a-kind in this field,” said Guarneros Luna, mission manager of the team of 12 SJSU students and some NASA Ames scientists who designed and built the cube satellite.

“We are the first ones and only ones that know how to do it in all NASA agency work,” said Luna.

She added that she is a systems engineer for NASA Ames Research Center, a NASA satellite facility in Mountain View involved in small spacecraft, supercomputers and astrophysics research.

Luna said the team started building and testing the cube satellite in October 2011.

According to Guarneros Luna, the team worked on the satellite at NASA Ames and at TechShop in San Jose, which is a membership-based workshop with machinery, tools and equipment available.

“A record by all standards,” said A.J. Motel, senior technical center, supercomputer and astrophysics research.

Luna said the team worked on the satellite because he wanted to give them the opportunity to build small-scale hardware.

“The goal is demonstrating that we could build and train a next-generation workforce,” said Luna. “The sphere of influence is from the International Space Station and those sending a university project team.”

Guarneros Luna said the gained experience on building and launch- ing hardware for NASA and the International Space Station and learned to avoid hazards as well as printed on recycled paper.
Students prepare for LSAT, step toward their dreams

By Kimberly Diaz @SD_KDiaz

Michael Panelli, a senior justice studies major, has been studying the Law School Admission Test (LSAT) for a while, but his practice test scores are not where he would like them to be.

If he doesn’t reach his score goal, he won’t be able to attend law school full time and his dream of being a court judge will be dashed.

Senior English major Katrina Swanson is also planning to take the LSAT, but with her demanding workload of being on the SJSU Forensics debate team, essays and other assignments, studying for the LSAT is proving to be overwhelming.

The LSAT is an exam required for students interested in attending law school.

The exams focus on reading comprehension, analytical and logical reasoning questions and writing, according to pre-law advisor John Manning.

In order to pass the LSAT, students need to be ready to commit to many hours of studying, to learn how to quickly break down arguments and to understand complex passages and dense material, according to Panelli.

Manning always suggests students take practice tests and use preparation tests and courses, as it is one of the sure ways to know how they will do.

“Work as much as time I think it will,” Swanson said. “If Panelli gets the score needed to get in, he hopes to attend Santa Clara University next fall.

Swanson also hopes to attend Santa Clara University or UC Berkeley. 

Santa Clara University requires an average score between 157 and 163, and UC Berkeley requires a score between 167 and 168, according to the Top 2012 Law School Rankings.

When she took practice tests, Swanson wasn’t afraid to see what kind of score she would get.

Now that the actual exam is on its way, Swanson feels more anxious, but has hope that it will go well.

“I think when the day comes, its one of those things that it won’t take me

Nasa: Big dreams, small satellite

FROM PAGE 1

To get through certification processes.

“Whether or not it can be done right to the NASA standards, I don’t know,” Panelli said.

According Papadopoulos, the satellite was deployed from the International Space Station from Japan last July and was launched today into Earth orbit for a communications experiment.

Specifically, the satellite’s mission is to research Space Plug and Play Avionics, designed in Sweden by AAC Microtec, according to the TechEdSat team.

“A new platform for the space industry is the USB technology for space components, according to the TechEdSat team.

Hines said the satellite will be in orbit for ten to thirty days before it descends and burns up in the Earth’s atmosphere.

Jacquie Orvis is a Spartan Daily staff writer. Follow her on Twitter at @sd_Orvis.

Nasa: Big dreams, small satellite

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By James Simpson
@JimmerSimpson

With the odor of celebratory champagne still wafting, players from the un-remaining Major League Baseball (MLB) teams will take the field, starting Friday, in the baseball postseason.

Yes, playoff baseball is finally here, and it has a lot to live up to after the regular season concluded with a bang yesterday.

Similar to the last-day-drama that went down at the end of the 2011 season, the final games did not disappoint as two divisions were decided in the American League (AL).

With the last of the National League (NL) names all wrapped up on Tuesday, the Oakland A’s swept the San Francisco Giants 12-5 to win the National League West championship.

The San Francisco Giants escaped a lot of drama this year by taking the NL West fairly easily after the Fortunate 100 Los Angeles Dodgers — as in, paying a fortune to play $100 – Glassed down the stretch to end up 86-76.

The Giants will play the Cincinnati Reds, who finished one of the enigmatic fireball pitchers in the league, Aroldis Chapman.

The Washington Nationals clinched the top spot in the NL after they led the league in victories with 98.

They will avoid the win-ner of the matchup between the Braves and Cardinals, with home field advantage all throughout the playoffs.

Let’s look at the first round contests starting with that wild card contest between Atlanta and St. Louis, a battle that has some fascinating story lines attached.

You might recall the late season collapse of the Braves in 2011, falling apart in September and losing on the last day of the season, allowing the eventual World Series champs, the St. Louis Cardinals entrance into the postseason. After an announced retirement and a season of standing out in visitor’s ballparks, it certainly feels like here and the Braves don’t want their season to end.

The Cardinals finished 88-74 and had a respectable season after the departure of legendary manager Tony LaRussa. Heading on the road in a do-or-die game against the veteran leadership of Joe Murray and the surprising pitching of Eric Medlen spells one and done for the Braves.

That same Braves pitch- ing is likely to be no match for the Nationals in the NLDS, as they have the steady hitting and deep pitching to outlast Atlanta in a five-game series.

Nationals pitcher Gio Gonzalez has the most wins in the league this year, and No.2 starter Jordan Zimmermann is as efficient as they come.

Add on the hot hit- ting of phenom Emilio Bonifacio, and the Nationals are set up for a long stay in the postseason.

The Giants look like they have solved their long-time hitting woes even without Melky Cabrera down the stretch. They seem to have a different team identity heading into playoffs than they did in 2010.

While the story of pitcher Barry Zito has been remark- able, the fall of Tim Lincecum has been worse.

Despite that, the front of their rotation is still solid, and the play of catcher Buster Posey should be enough to hold off the Reds, who have had their troubles going deep into the playoffs.

On the American League side, I smell a blowout of a Rangers team that limps into the playoffs with some of the worst momentum a playoff team could ever have.

Without sufficient time to lick their wounds, the Rangers’ one-game playoff against the A’s sets up the start of off-season disaster that could deplete them of some of that talent that they have been shown the last few years.

I’ve definitely learned to not magnify the Astros too much, as they have taken the league by storm in a way that defies baseball logic.

While Detroit has the series advantage over the Rangers into the reg- ular season, it’s hard to argue that Oakland and their major league leading 46-6 walk-off wins aren’t the most dangerous team in the postseason right now.

That magic should car- ry them past Detroit and into the ALDS.

A triple-crown winner Miguel Cabrera.

That leaves the Yankees, who would then play the pre- dicted AL East rival Orioles in the ALDS.

I don’t predict a big play- off run for the Yankees, but they know the Orioles well and Yankee Stadium in October is a tough play.

Like the A’s, the Orioles have the Cinderella feel of their own, and the “people believe in us” attitude simply cannot be under- stated.

But the pitching is young and even a familiar Yankees matchup is wrong for us in the playoffs.

There’s something great brewing in Baltimore, but they won’t go past the ALDS.

Whatever your team, welcome to playoff baseball.

James Simpson is a Spartan Daily staff writer. Follow him on Twitter at @JimmerSimpson.
DENVER — With the presidential election just weeks away, President Barack Obama and Republican challenger Mitt Romney clashed for the first time, trying to convince voters they’re uniquely qualified to lead the country out of the doldrums of the last 17 months.

The two parted ways from the opening minutes of their combative discussion, with one another attacking the other while avert[ing] to him.

But they were resolute in their arguments, each trying to frame the other as ineffective and dishonest.

Romney, for example, called Obama’s proposal to raise gas taxes to help pay for infrastructure repair an “unproductive tax.” Obama, in turn, accused Romney of being out of touch and of not really understanding the economic problems facing average Americans.

Romney allayed his critics by saying he was a “new economic president” who had been elected to plan for recovery after the Great Recession. He said he was “not going to cut it anymore.”

But Romney said Obama “had to cut the debt that he inherited at the end of the Bush administration.”

Romney also differed with Obama on his stance on government spending. He said he would balance the budget in five years, whereas Obama said he would balance it in 10.

Romney also said he would “proactively” work to reduce the debt, whereas Obama said he would “incrementally” do the same.

The president accused Romney of wanting to give tax cuts to the wealthiest Americans, while Romney accused Obama of raising taxes on small businesses.

Romney also accused Obama of not creating enough jobs, while Obama accused Romney of not creating enough jobs.

Romney also accused Obama of using government stimulus programs to create jobs, while Obama accused Romney of using government stimulus programs to create jobs.

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ISTANBUL — Turkey announced Wednesday that it had fired artillery at Syrian targets in retaliation for mortar rounds fired from inside Syria that killed five civilians in a town just inside the Turkish border.

It was the first known exchange of fire between Turkey and Syria since a Turkish-backed uprising against Syrian President Bashar Assad began nearly 20 months ago. It was the most serious incident between the two countries since June, when Syria shot down a Turkish reconnaissance aircraft that had violated Syrian airspace.

Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan said the Syrian mortar fire landed in Akcakale, a checkpoint in southeastern Turkey that straddles the border with Syria, at 4:30 p.m. local time. Turkish artillery immediately responded, Erdogan said, under standing orders that it had renewed after the June incidents.

It was not immediately clear whether Syrian forces were targeted or if they fired back.

In a statement, NATO, to which Turkey belongs, "strongly condemned" the action "assaulting their own people" and the beginning of a "process of political turnaround".

Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton said the United States was "outraged" by the attack and said the United States was "outraged" by the attack and said the U.S. would "take all steps necessary to put an end to the flagrant aggressive acts against an ally of the United States".

The alliance "demands the immediate withdrawal of each aggressor's acts against Syria and urges the Syrian regime to put an end to the flagrant violations of international law," she said, speaking shortly after issuing a threat or saying that steps would follow if there was another incident.

Erdogan's announcement of the retaliatory strike came six hours after three mortar rounds landed in Akcakale.

"Today's actions were prompted by our armed forces in the border region immediately," Erdogan said in a statement. "Syrian positions, designed by radar, were fired upon with artillery.

Erdogan's statement said Syria's response was in line with the military's rules of engagement, a set of standing orders on the time and circumstances for using lethal weapons, revised after the June short-sharpen.

He said that under its own rules of engagement and international law, Turkey "will never seek such provocation against our national interests from the Syrian regime unanounded.

The Syrian Foreign Ministry has repeatedly warned that the ongoing militarization of the conflict in Syria is leading to tragic results for the Syrian people" he said in a state-

"Today's incidents, which eiminated from Syria struck a Turkish town, accentuated the gravity of the situation is threatening not only the security of the Syrian people but increasingly harming causes to its neighbors," it said.

Turkey has openly sided with the rebels, who Syria says routinely take shelter inside Turkey. But Turkey denies accusations that it has given any direct military help to the armed groups.

An estimated 90,000 Syrian refugees have taken refuge inside Syria as fighting has raged in that country. The number of Syrian refugees has surged since rebellions launched an off-ensives to help seize Alar-

Sanaa, Syria's state news agency, reported that at least 24 people were killed and 123 injured in a se-

Meanwhile, SANA, Syria's state news agency, reported that at least 24 people were killed and 123 injured in a se-

The news agency said two car bombs were detonated in the city of Haidar at an open square shortly before 4 a.m., stripping busing of their facades and tearing deep craters in the streets.

Another car, the one loaded with 2,140 pounds of expli-

The car bomb was detonated near the provincial council, the news agency said.

The explosion, which SANA said had been triggered by remote control, set off another car bomb causing more than a ton of explosives. The explosion, which SANA said had been triggered by remote control, set off another car bomb causing more than a ton of explosives. The explosion, which SANA said had been triggered by remote control, set off another car bomb causing more than a ton of explosives.

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**Watch: “Revolution”**

ABC, 6 p.m. Tuesday

One man's mission is on-and-off the next. This global black hole leaves the planet struck in the 19th century. Seemingly defying the laws of physics, electricity no longer works. Fifteen years later, society has collapsed and various militias control small regions of territory across what was once the United States. Combined are many being on a makeshift farm outside of Chicago, Charlies “Charlie” Matheson (Tracy Spiridakos) is tasked with finding her brother, Damon (Graham Rogers), who was bullied by the ruling president while averting the death of his father, who may have known the secret of turning the power back on.

The J.R. Altschul produced show’s premise is refreshing for network television, although if you’re looking for good acting or original storytelling, you’re disappointed.

**Watch: “Last Resort”**

TV’s most ambitious new show has a lot on its plate, but the writing and execution are near perfect in the pilot. “Last Resort’s” begins when the nuclear submarine USS Colorado is ordered to launch a nuclear attack on targets in Pakistan. The ship’s captain, Marcus Chaplin (Andy Bean) doesn’t believe the authentication of his orders and mutiny, taking the ship and crew to an isolated island in the Indian Ocean. The characters are well-developed, and a lot of mystery surrounds most of them.

The political military thriller material is nothing you would expect on cable television, so it’s hard to see the network’s can still be a compelling drama.

The show seems more like a fast-paced Hollywood blockbuster, and it may have terrible sustaining the energy it showed in the pilot, but “Last Resort” could be the best new drama on television this year.

**Being Flynn” creator discusses memoir**

By Sage Curtis

Post and memoirist Nick Flynn made his work as an acrobat and aerialist in the Engineering building on Wednesday night as part of San Francisco’s Litquake series. Flynn read from his memoir, “The Ticking Is the Huber” and his more recent memoir, “The 20 Pound Stone.”

“I wrote this poem. It’s called ‘downtime on a movie set, and I die. It’s what I do. There’s a lot of variety in making a movie,” Flynn asked.

“I tried to find a poem about California. I was in a café in Santa Cruz and someone walked in carrying a large stone. I thought why not California,” so I wrote this poem. It’s called ‘20 Pound Stone.’”

Invisibility in his first memoir, Flynn read from his poetry works “Some Dishes,” “-blind Hiker” and his more recent memoir, “The Ticking Is the Huber” and “the enactment.”

“Ste-moment” looks at the process of making his first memoir into a movie.

“It seemed crazy to me to write a book, then make a movie and then write a book about making a movie,” Flynn asked.

“Well, I guess I’m not going to keep going on and on until we do. It’s what life. There’s a lot of downtime on a movie set, and I filled up a few notebook of my observations.”

Flynn’s work centers on his experience with his absent father later in life, who had an alcohol problem, became homeless and was also the self-proclaimed “greatest yoga teacher who ever lived.”

The film and Flynn’s memoir detail their chance meeting while Flynn worked at a homeless shelter in Boston in the 1980’s while struggling with his own drug problems, according to Altschul.

“He’s a story that no fiction writer would ever dare to pull off,” Altschul said.

Flynn’s making went along with a PowerPoint presentation of pictures he took on the movie set.

**Read more stories online at www.spartandaily.com**
GMO awareness raised by campus group

By Thyra Phan
@ThyraPhan

The issue of altering the genetic structure of a food product, such as a fruit’s DNA, was the topic of discussion at a meeting held by the Environmental Club.

The club planned to take action to raise awareness about genetically modified organisms.

According to Chara Bui, a senior environmental studies major and president of the Environmental Club, the club received fliers, pins and informational handouts from the Right to Know campaign for Proposition 37.

“We hope to raise awareness about genetically modified organisms by sharing how it impacted our own lives, nutrition and diet,” she said. “It’s important that we get to push these issues, and that people can learn what they put inside their bodies.”

There’s research that explains how even from Mon- stero can cause cancer,” said Engels Garcia, a junior global studies major. “It’s important that we get to push these campaigns to produce more healthy things, rather than modifying them.”

Garcia said many people are not aware the foods they consume are genetically modified, and he hopes they will become more aware of what they put inside their bodies.

“We want to offer wisdom to people about GMOs,” Bui said. “If people ask us questions, we can help them create awareness and solutions.”

During the meeting, the club discussed how it can take action to raise awareness about Proposition 37 and genetically modified organisms related to food.

A member proposed classroom presentations, where the club would rent from one classroom to another.

“Several teachers have complained about awareness among political campaigns,” Bui said. “We can’t push it on people, so we have to present information in a neutral way.”

The club discussed setting up tables outside the Student Union where students and faculty can pick up fliers, handouts and pins about the proposition.

The club plans to set up tables the last two weeks of October, semiweekly on Wednesdays and Thursdays. Cedie Bergonia, a freshman mechanical engineering major, said he will dress up in a banana costume while passing out information, because the club felt it was appropriate to dress up as a fruit.

The club will hang up fliers in several buildings and at any high-traffic location, such as the Student Union, according to Bui.

In addition to setting up tables and handing fliers, the club plans on airing “Food, Inc.” a documentary about America’s food industry, on Wednesday, Oct. 17, in the Montalvo room of the Student Union.

The club said it hopes the documentary will help raise awareness about genetically modified organisms and how we receive our food.

“I think it’s important for people to know what’s in their food,” Bergonia said. “It’s important for people to know when their food isn’t healthy and if a scientist has changed a food’s structure.”

According to Bui, the Environmental Club is about raising awareness and creating environmental sustainability on campus through campaigns and activities, such as participating in Earth Day and reducing the use of water bottles.

She said the club is open to anyone who is interested about the environment.

The club fluctuates from five to 10 members, but Bui said she expects more people to be involved.

The Environmental Club meets Wednesdays from 5 to 6:15 p.m. in the Montalvo room of the Student Union.

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

POLITICS

SpartaGuide

Small Jazz Ensemble — “Latin Jazz & Funk”

The Listening Hour Concert Series

Today, Oct. 4
12:30 to 1:15 p.m.
Music building Concert Hall
Free admission, doors open at 12:15 p.m.

SjSpirit Weekly Prayer and Healing

SjSpirit

Thursdays
11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Spartan Memorial Chapel

Spartan Success and Support Groups and Workshops: Planners and Time Logs

Counseling Services

Monday, Oct. 8
12 to 1 p.m.
King Library Rooms 255 & 257

Salzburg Informational Session

Salzburg

Tuesday, Oct. 9
2 to 4 p.m.
Clark Hall 412

Flute Recital

The Listening Hour Concert Series

Tuesday, Oct. 9
12:30 to 1:15 p.m.
Music building Concert Hall
Free admission, doors open at 12:15 p.m.

SpartaGuide

This ad is not the phrase of the day
Young Americans: Make your voices heard when we are the ones who are imperative to the growth and prosperity of America more than any other age group and are represent the voices of future voters. These topics impact this nation’s elected leaders take our concerns seriously and consider important? We are already voting, and can now be completed become increasingly easy to vote. Registering to vote has our generation be indifferent now doesn’t mean our voices have to be.

First, we can register to vote. Registering to vote has become increasingly easy and can now be completed online.

Second, start reading up on issues and the presidential candidates. If you don’t know where to start looking for information about the candidates, just tune in to a debate. If you weren’t able to keep up with last night’s debates, the next presidential debate is on Oct. 26.

Third, start talking about politics! The best way to start becoming engaged is through starting a dialogue. Most importantly, vote.

The only way to make a difference is to start taking action. McKenee Martinez is a Spartan Daily staff writer. Follow her on Twitter at @mpmartinez.
Students shouldn’t have to pay additional fees for class materials

The whole victim-blaming process when it comes to women being treated unfairly to these acts is a terrible mindset for those who believe women (or men in some cases) are the ones at fault for having those actions placed on them in the first place.

A 2012 statistic from PennState.com states an organization dedicated to sexual assault and domestic violence prevention, says that 14.3 percent of women reported being sexually assaulted in their lifetime as opposed to 17.6 percent of women who actively smoke. The percent, may be somewhat insignificant, but then again there’s always a chance of someone actually wanting the previous statement brought up to their family, friend or even community.

A 2011 report from the National Intimate Partners and Sexual Violence Center says that one out of every four women were reported to be sexually assaulted in their lifetime. I have many friends of all sorts ranging from those currently facing sexual harassment in a place where they should feel safe and comforted and trust no one, it’s not pretty.

It’s a remorse stage in a suggestive comment from a coworker to a break of a hand against a thigh but it seems a majority of my family, friends or even online search results and texts on their phones.

The little money I have left over is used on food, so I can function while being on campus and I find it embarrassing that I need money on either my credit card, only for parking or a car payment.

Think about it, your mother, daughter, sister, friend or loved one can be a statistic and get backlash from family and friends get non-stop emails and texts online at @SD_EFernandez. This is something that should be addressed more often by the American Equal Rights Association, an organization dedicated to non-discrimination and treatment with great respect whether it is in the physical or emotional aspect.

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Think about it, your mother, daughter, sister, friend or loved one can be a statistic and get backlash from family and friends get non-stop emails and texts online at @SD_EFernandez. This is something that should be addressed more often by the American Equal Rights Association, an organization dedicated to non-discrimination and treatment with great respect whether it is in the physical or emotional aspect.

I have many friends of all sorts ranging from those currently facing sexual harassment in a place where they should feel safe and comforted and trust no one, it’s not pretty.

A 2011 report from the National Intimate Partners and Sexual Violence Center says that one out of every four women were reported to be sexually assaulted in their lifetime. I have many friends of all sorts ranging from those currently facing sexual harassment in a place where they should feel safe and comforted and trust no one, it’s not pretty.

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Debate draws mixed reactions from audience around San Jose

During the first presidential debate for the 2012 election on Tuesday, people gathered throughout San Jose to watch. The Santa Clara County Democratic Party gathered in support of President Barack Obama. Santa Clara County Republicans gathered at Chevys Fresh Mex on Saratoga Avenue in support of former Governor Mitt Romney. People at the Obama Re-election headquarters suite responded loudly to Obama’s points, ready to bring him in for his second term. Republicans responded positively to Romney’s points about Obama’s spending, and clapped numerous times during his rebuttals.

Rebecca Duran is the Spartan Daily features editor and a copy editor. Follow her on Twitter at @SD_RebeccaDuran.