

INSIDE



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CAMPUS

Animation/illustration students still awaiting dept. status

By Kimberley Diaz
@SD_KDiaz

Animation/illustration students are still waiting for access to art galleries and department status for its continuously growing program.

On Sept. 10, animation/illustration students marched to Tower Hall and Washington Square Hall in hopes to speak with President Mohammad Qayoumi and Lisa Vollendorf, dean of the College of Humanities and the Arts.

Katie Heckey, a senior animation/illustration major and Shrunkheadman president, said she was proud to have her fellow animation/illustration classmates march alongside her.

"I felt like the response was excellent," Heckey said. "We've had people run into professionals in Burbank, in LA and people from San Francisco coming up to us and saying, 'you're from San Jose State. I heard about what you guys are doing, I support your cause.' It's really wonderful."

Currently, the animation/illustration program is under

the television, radio, film and theatre department.

According to Heckey, the animation/illustration program currently has 566 students enrolled and is only allowed to use three classrooms and two labs in the art building when the other classrooms go unused after class hours every day.

After the march was over, Heckey said she feels like the issues that they were fighting for are now being noticed by other officials on campus.

"I feel like, if nothing else, at least these issues are out in the open," Heckey said. "They are definitely under discussion right now, which is what we want to see."

Heckey said that immediately after the march, the students were able to get their figure-drawing space back, the class caps for the Spring semester figured out and a huge student-morale boost was noticed among the program.

"Involvement in the club (Shrunkheadman) has skyrocketed," Heckey said. "We can't even fit in Washington Square Hall for our meetings anymore. People are just really engaged and fired up about their education, which is super awesome to see."

Despite some of the positive outcomes of the march, animation/illustration professor Alice Carter said that nothing has happened yet beyond getting the figure-drawing rooms back and solving class caps.

The program is still denied access to the galleries and display cases in the art building they need to use for their senior show, where students show their work to potential studios, according to Carter.

Carter created a PowerPoint, that she presented it to Dean Vollendorf, on what the program needs to help it continue to grow.

After their case was presented, nothing happened

"When we did present it to the dean, she did listen to it very attentively," Carter said. "We all felt hopeful that she (Vollendorf) would do something."

Vollendorf was unavailable for comment, but stated in an email that she "will continue to examine our (College of Humanities and the Arts) programs, departments, schools, and

SEE **A/I** ON PAGE 2

SPORTING

Archery outing hits the mark



Senior occupational therapy major Tinny Tan practices her archery skills at an event held by Outdoor Adventures in Santa Cruz. **Photo by Jessica Olthof / Spartan Daily**

SEE **SPORTS** ON PAGE 5

EDUCATION

History class takes studies outside the typical classroom

By Jonathan Roisman
@JonRoisman

One class at SJSU wants to show history majors they don't all have to be teachers.

History lecturer Margo McBane's History 197 Introduction to Public History course attempts to make a comeback this spring after the class was canceled in 2011 and 2012 due to lack of enrollment.

"The reason we have this class is because it seems that it would be interesting to a lot of different students," McBane said. "Public history is the practice of history outside of the university."

The class incorporates visiting museums, public parks, archives and studying other local historical interests, McBane said.

McBane, the former director of oral history at the University of Texas, El Paso, said students work on a particular topic piece-by-piece all semester long before they pack-

age it together in a PowerPoint presentation that is put online.

"The class is driven by components," McBane said. "Each assignment is a component of their bigger project."

Topics from past students have included the history of the 1930 Anti-Filipino riots in Watsonville, early flight in the Santa Clara Valley and the Alameda Naval Air Station, she said.

Students switch off every week from studying in the classroom to researching their projects on their own out in public, she said.

McBane said Hollywood films and documentaries were a form of public history, as are the line of American Girl dolls.

Past students spoke highly of the class.

Karen Clementi, a 2007 history major graduate of SJSU who took McBane's class in 2006, said the course opened her eyes to the

SEE **PUBLIC HISTORY** ON PAGE 2

CITY CULTURE

Bike party pumps up cycling community

By Stephanie Barraza
@SD_SBarraza

As Andoni Bundros rode his bike back home from dinner one Friday evening in San Jose, he found himself riding back with nearly 2,000 other bike riders.

"It was like a parade," said Bundros, a senior music major. "Like you can pull up a chair and watch it for a couple of blocks."

Bundros took part in last month's San Jose Bike Party, a nonprofit biking event that takes place in and around Santa Clara County the third Friday of each month.

The 100 to 200 volunteers behind San Jose Bike Party work behind their motto to "build community through cycling."

According to San Jose Bike Party volunteer Katie Heaney, the group estimated there were about 3,500 bike riders for their fifth anniversary ride last month.

"I like being part of an event that makes our city more vibrant and cool," said Heaney, who is also

the group's bicycle information resource director.

Heaney began volunteering with the group in 2008 after she heard her friends talk about the rides.

"Like most people, I was amazed by the spectacle and uniqueness of the event," Heaney said. "I've been going to monthly rides every since."

Heaney said the group has been garnering more people each month since its formation in 2007. Many of the original riders of the group filtered through other bike party groups, such as Critical Mass in San Francisco and Midnite Ridazz in Los Angeles.

"It is common for our riders to hear about Bike Party through word of mouth," Heaney said.

The group took different components from each city's bike party culture, such as promoting sustainability, the structure of each ride, as well as maintaining a positive lifestyle in the local community. With these different ideas, San Jose Bike Party has

come to find its own identity in the bike culture in San Jose.

"I like riding San Jose Bike Parties a lot," said Jason Biteng, a bike enthusiast. "I find Critical Mass (of San Francisco) is a little too militant for me."

Local bike shops have also been feeling the effect that San Jose Bike Party brings to the surrounding community.

Karen Clifford, co-owner of Bicycle Express in San Jose, said their shop becomes really busy the day of the party, with last-minute tuneups and rentals.

"I think the bike business gets busier because of the economy," Clifford said. "I would say Bike Party plays an important role in (the bike business) because the fact that it's an activity that people want to join and makes them get their bike out of the garage, fix it up and join the Bike Party."

The group posts its routes the night before the event on its website, which includes a start point

SEE **PARTY** ON PAGE 3

A/I: Growing art program still remains in limbo over recognition

FROM PAGE 1

majors and to work together in collaborative ways to serve our students well.”

President Qayoumi has also stated that the dean is looking into the issue and that the idea of the program becoming a department is not ideal at this time.

“Creating an additional department basically adds a lot more fixed costs and that fixed cost has to come from somewhere, which means it has to come from some of the departments,” Qayoumi said. “The creation of any separate department for any program is quiet unrealistic under our financial situation.”

Carter disagrees with Qayoumi, and said that to have the program become a department really wouldn’t cost anything at all.

“We’re not asking for anything right now,” Carter said. “They could just give us department status and a seat at the council of chairs at the dean’s office when she says what’s going on. We have no voice and we are the largest single major in the college.”

Carter says currently they do not have enough Full-time Equivalent Student (FTES) to be able to get their majors through the program.

A number has been given for the program to hit, but it would only allow students to take about six units, therefore making students finish in about six years.

It also doesn’t help that the program only has three dedicated classrooms they can use.

“They (the college) have to realize that our majors are not going to graduate on time,” Carter said. “Meanwhile, they are yelling at us saying, ‘why aren’t your people graduating on time?’”

Animation/illustration professor Courtney Granner said he feels as if the administration and the president’s comment on being apart of a budget issue is a way for them to ignore their issues and set them aside to solve later.

“Now, the administration likes to look at the current budget crisis as a way to side step our emergency, because they refuse to do it for a long period of time,” Granner said. “Like what Professor Carter says, it’s not a budget issue. Ignoring an emergency has nothing to do with the budget crisis.”

Carter said that the program has the highest admission standards with a GPA of 3.75 needed, compared to marketing majors who only need a 2.60 GPA and software engineering majors who need a 2.40 GPA.

Carter said that she wants to know if SJSU is really serious in wanting to help the animation/illustration program, or do they really want the program to

just go away?

“If we were to go away, where would we go?” Carter said. “You just can’t pull the plug on 600 kids. Some of them aren’t going to graduate at the rate it’s going. We have to stay at least to get them through. What do we do? Do we go to some other campus?”

If the program was to move out of SJSU, it would not only be inconvenient to students who are at nearby studios such as Dreamworks and Lucasfilm, but students would have to go to an art school, where many charge tuition up to 20,823, according to the Academy of Art tuition website.

Despite the negative issues still concerning the program, Heckey said she still remains positive for the future.

“Although we’ve been met with reluctance on the part of the university, I am pleased to see how willing they are now to work with us to sit down at the table and even discuss the issues,” Heckey said. We need to hear what the constraints the administration are facing, at the same time they need to listen to our suggestions and ideas on how we can work around those constraints and work within them.”

Kimberley Diaz is a Spartan Daily staff writer. Follow her on Twitter at @SD_KDiaz.

Public history: New course moves learning outside typical class setting

FROM PAGE 1

world of history outside of teaching.

Clementi said she initially wanted to become a history teacher but was turned off by it after she got to SJSU.

“I still wanted to follow this history degree, but there weren’t that many options that I knew of once I graduated,” she said. “What Margo was putting out there was that there were other options for doing history, especially recent history.”

She said guest speakers from museums and state parks came to speak to the class about preserving local history.

Clementi took her knowledge from McBane’s class and is currently working on her master’s degree in public history at Sacramento State.

She said she would like to be a state historian one day soon.

“The history department at SJSU might want to

consider opening up other classes that lead into public history,” she said. “I would highly recommend the class, because even if you don’t decide to take it further there’s still a lot you can learn.”

Another SJSU graduate, Margarita Garcia, said she learned more than she could have imagined from the class.

“It’s all very practical,” Garcia said. “I learned so much for (SJSU’s) history department, but I particularly liked this class because it was more hands-on.”

Garcia said McBane was very attentive to students’ needs and concerns.

“She’s my mentor now,” Garcia said, saying she has worked on public history projects with McBane outside of class. “She has all this wealth of knowledge. She’s very caring for the students.”

McBane said she hopes to get involved with the

school’s television, radio, film and theatre department in the spring if the class makes the cut of 20 students.

“My dream is that if we can get it to go this semester I was going to approach Radio, Film, and Television to work with one of the documentary film producers there to film the class and create histories that we could put on public television,” she said.

McBane said that many non-history majors took the class in the past.

She said it had broad appeal to people who enjoy learning history outside of the classroom.

“It is unique,” McBane said. “I think for that reason that people should know people can do more than just teach history.”

Jonathan Roisman is a Spartan Daily staff writer. Follow him on Twitter at @JonRoisman.




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Party: Mass cycling event provides entertainment for all kinds of riders

FROM PAGE 1
and end point spanning between 25 and 30 miles. These routes are planned and tested by volunteers about two weeks before the event.

On the night of the event, groups of bicyclists begin to arrive to the starting point. The diversity and customization of each bike is endless, much like one would see at a car show, which includes anything from “fixies” to cruisers and from “low riders” to mountain bikes.

Since the event is held in the evening, bikes are often encouraged to use lights on the front and back. Some riders take full advantage and decorate their bikes with bright and multicolored lights.

David Naufahu of San Jose customized his mountain bike with bright red and blue lights that he weaved through the spokes of his front and rear tires.

“I found out about (Bike Party) online and basically through word of mouth,” Naufahu said, a first-time San Jose Bike Party rider who went with a group of friends. “I actually just got this bike because of the Bike Party. We know it’s like 30 miles but we’re expecting a good time.”



A rider dressed as popular gaming icon Luigi, from the Super Mario Bros., rides with other bicyclists during the Bike Party’s 5th annual Halloween ride. **Photo by Basil Sar / Contributing Photographer**

The start and end points of each route also have many rest points in between. These checkpoints also serve as a hub of activity that creates a party-like atmosphere, with several food trucks, booths, music and stations to tune up bikes before the ride.

After about half an hour at each rest stop, a group of on-ride volunteers called “BIRDS” will use a whistle

blower to signal that it’s time to move to the next checkpoint. While on the route, some cyclists attach a customized boom box and loudspeaker to their bikes, which continues the party atmosphere while on the road.

However, one thing that the San Jose Bike Party does not condone is “bad behavior.”

Some riders at the event have been known ride under

the influence of either alcohol or drugs.

“Since Bike Party is a public event that anyone with a bicycle can join, we get a large variety of riders and unfortunately not everyone follows our ‘How We Ride’ rules,” Heaney said.

Heaney is referring to the Bike Party’s set of eight rules on their website that they encourage cyclists to follow

in order to provide a safe environment for both cyclists and car drivers, as well as pedestrians. One of the eight rules is to ride sober.

“Riders may witness others riding intoxicated or not following the rules of the road,” Heaney said. “We do not condone this behavior and these are issues that volunteers are working hard to address.”

The San Jose Bike Party also strongly urges riders to abide by the law in terms of biking on the road, including wearing helmets, stopping at red light and stop signs, staying on the right lane and picking up up trash that’s left behind. Although the organization knows the dangers of riding on the road, they advise people to ride at their own risk.

With the popularity that group has garnered each month, the overall bike culture has been acknowledged by the city of San Jose with city projects such things as the addition of more bike lanes and bike workshops held by the Department of Transportation.

“I do think cycling is increasing in the region in general,” said Libby Dresel, a volunteer who helped put together a bike workshop at City Hall late last month. “I hear more and more buzz, and I think Bike Party has gotten a lot of people excited about being on a bike again.”

The next San Jose Bike Party event will be Friday at 8 p.m.

Stephanie Barraza is a Spartan Daily staff writer. Follow her on Twitter at @SD_SBarraza.

NATIONAL

Conservatives in US House open to additional disaster relief for Northeast

By Herb Jackson
McClatchy Tribune

WASHINGTON — Some U.S. House conservatives who unsuccessfully fought last year to require budget cuts to pay for the disaster aid needed after Hurricane Irene now say they are open to helping the Northeast rebuild from super-storm Sandy.

One difference between now and then is the reputation built by New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie among Republicans — including those he campaigned for this year.

Damage estimates are still being compiled, but as Congress returned for its first full session after Election Day, members from both parties were talking to colleagues about the need for additional money to rebuild what Sandy destroyed.

But the push for what is likely to be tens of billions of extra federal dollars comes as Congress is grappling with larger questions tied to the fiscal cliff about how to cut long-term deficits by trillions. And some Democrats and Republicans — even some from New Jersey — remain far apart about whether rebuilding could be accommodated through the normal federal budget, or if a major public-works effort needs to be approved on an emergency basis.

Rep. Steve King, R-Iowa, has railed against past disaster bills, arguing that millions was wasted after Hurricane Katrina in 2005 on flawed housing trailers and even divorce lawyers’ fees. He repeated those complaints at a “conversations with conservatives” news conference Wednesday, saying there should be detailed budgets provided to Congress and the House should seek to offset

added spending with cuts elsewhere.

But King also had Christie come to Iowa to campaign for him this year. And King said it would not be a “deal breaker” if the Democratically controlled Senate refused to offset spending.

“I have great compassion for the people in the Northeast and I’m very confident that Governor Christie is going to come up with a very responsible plan,” King said. “You look around the country at who would be among the most responsible governors in utilizing what might come from the federal government for Sandy, he’s first on my list. So I have great confidence in his sense of fiscal responsibility.”

Sen. Bob Menendez, D-N.J., said he learned Wednesday that Housing and Urban Development Secretary Shaun Donovan would play a major role in the recovery that extends beyond his department’s normal boundaries. Details are expected to be announced in coming days, he said.

The federal government has spent \$1.5 billion responding to Sandy already, Sen. Frank Lautenberg, D-N.J., said after a briefing with Craig Fugate, administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

FEMA has enough money to meet current needs for food and temporary shelter, Lautenberg said, but there is only about \$6 billion in reserve and that’s not nearly enough to rebuild.

Lautenberg compared the scope of the damage to Katrina, which he said cost the federal government more than \$100 billion. And he urged his Democratic colleagues at a closed luncheon to be ready to help the region.

“One of the pleas that I made in our lunch just now is to remember our hurricane is not different than another state’s volcano, drought, (or) flooding, and it is likely every state that’s here is going to at some point or another feel the violence of nature as we continue to abuse it and ignore the fact that global warming is here, is real and we have to get on with preparing for it,” Lautenberg said.

He said “the stage is set” after voters rejected a government-is-bad message to upgrade Eisenhower-era infrastructure to face the more frequent severe storms predicted from climate change.

“You have to be prepared for these things,” he said. “We’ve ignored the ravages of environmental abuse.”

But Rep. Scott Garrett, R-Wantage, came away from the same briefing with a different impression. He said the Office of Management and Budget was still determining what kind of reconstruction needs there would be, and projects could take years to complete and therefore would not need funding all at once.

Some projects could have been scheduled for repairs or replacement already since they were older and worn out, so they might be able to access regular federal or state funding for those types of projects, Garrett said.

“Once we know what we need, the answer may not be what everybody’s already been sort of chiming about, more money to FEMA, more money to FEMA. The answer may be if you need a long-term project for ‘X’ building or something like that, the money should come from (Housing and Urban Development Department) housing program.

“And so just throwing the money as some people have been calling for into FEMA is inappropriate. You should be looking to see is there enough money in ‘X’ and do you need to up that,” Garrett said.

Garrett was the only member of the House delegation from New Jersey to decline to sign a letter Nov. 5 to House Speaker John Boehner and Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi calling for swift and bipartisan action if additional funding

for recovery is needed. He said he would wait to see what the administration proposed before deciding whether to support additional spending.

Rep. Frank LoBiondo, R-Ventnor, N.J., circulated that Nov. 5 letter among

Republicans. Since then, the need for additional funding has become clearer because of the scope of Sandy’s damage, spokesman Jason Galanes said.

“Exact final numbers are not known at this point, but ... we envision a need for ad-

ditional federal support from Congress,” he said. “Congress has worked together in a bipartisan manner to respond to earthquakes in California, tornadoes in the Midwest. New Jersey should not be treated any differently.”

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President Barack Obama speaks during his first news conference since winning re-election in the East Room of the White House yesterday in Washington, D.C. **Photo by Olivier Douliery / MCT**

NATIONAL

Obama discusses fiscal cliff, Libya

By Kathleen Hennessey and Christi Parsons
McClatchy Tribune

WASHINGTON — In his first news conference since winning re-election, President Barack Obama on Wednesday showed himself ready to go toe-to-toe with Republicans over fallout from the deadly attack on the U.S. Consulate in Libya, even as he left open the door to compromise over year-end tax increases.

Speaking in the East Room, the typically cool Obama displayed a rare flash of anger in defending Susan Rice, the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, whom some Republicans have accused of spreading inaccurate information about the Sept. 11 attack on the diplomatic outpost in Benghazi. Rice is a potential pick for secretary of state in Obama's second term, although some GOP senators have sworn to block her nomination.

Sens. John McCain, R-Ariz., and Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., were picking on an "easy target," he said. If they "want to go after somebody, they should go after me."

The tough talk was a clear contrast from Obama's core post-election message: He's ready to deal with House Republicans to avoid the tax hikes and spending cuts that are scheduled to take effect in the new year, which could smack the economy back into a recession. Obama sought to pressure Republicans to act now on a Senate bill that would extend the current lower tax rates for most taxpayers, but suggested that he was willing to bend on one of the key sticking points: how high to boost rates on wealthier taxpayers.

"With respect to the tax rates, I just want to emphasize: I am open to new ideas," he said.

Obama offered hints about his strategy for pursuing immigration reform, which he said would come early in his second term, and suggested he could improve his outreach with Republicans, including his vanquished opponent, Mitt Romney, whom he awkwardly praised for doing "a terrific job running the Olympics."

He also weighed in on the scandal involving former CIA Director David H. Petraeus and Gen. John Allen, commander of U.S. and international forces in Afghanistan, which has become an enormous distraction just as Obama had hoped to focus on the federal budget. "I have no evidence at this point from what I've seen that classified information was disclosed that in any way would have had a negative impact on our national security," he said.

The president's remarks, and shifting tone, reflected the mix of issues that await him. As Obama lays the groundwork for his second term, he will look to a familiar cast of characters on Capitol Hill for aid with legislation, a potentially legacy-making tax and budget deal, and nominations to replace Cabinet secretaries.

The fight over one post is brewing even before Obama names his choice. Graham and McCain have pounced on talk of Rice's possible nomination and used it as a cudgel in the fight over when the White House knew what prompted the Sept. 11 attack that killed four Americans, including the U.S. ambassador to Libya.

Republicans have accused the administration of downplaying the incident for politi-

cal reasons when U.S. officials initially described it as a spontaneous reaction to an anti-Islamic film, rather than a terrorist attack. Rice was among the first administration officials to make extended comments on the matter.

"To besmirch her reputation is outrageous," Obama said. He understood the debate over whether the Benghazi compound was properly secured, he said, "but when they go after the U.N. ambassador, apparently because they think she's an easy target, then they've got a problem with me."

McCain took to the Senate floor to respond. "This president or this administration has either been guilty of colossal incompetence or engaged in a cover-up," he said.

Obama will have to try to keep the heated rhetoric from souring his first order of business — negotiations with Republicans to avoid the so-called fiscal cliff, the tax increases and spending cuts scheduled to take effect in the new year unless the White House and lawmakers compromise.

Halting middle-class tax hikes would limit the threat, Obama said, adding, "We could get that done by next week." The Senate has already passed legislation that would preserve current rates for income up to \$250,000 for families and \$200,000 for individuals.

Obama is scheduled to meet at the White House on Friday with congressional leaders from both parties.

Lisa Mascaro, Paul Richter and Brian Bennett of the Tribune Washington Bureau contributed to this report.

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OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

Students take a shot at archery in Santa Cruz

By Thyra Phan
@ThyraPhan

With straight posture and an eye on the target, Jessica Fitz drew the string of her bow past her ear and sent an arrow flying into the heart of a bale of hay.

“I am the next Katniss,” said the junior hospitality, tourism, and event management major with satisfaction as she released another arrow.

Fitz, along with 10 SJSU students and faculty, spent last Saturday learning the techniques of how to shoot arrows into bales of hay at an archery range, the Santa Cruz Archery Club, before proceeding to shoot real targets.

Outdoor Adventures, part of the Associated Students Campus Recreation program, held the event.

The adventures program aims to get students involved in recreational activities, primarily in an outdoor setting, according to program leader Kristine Kirkendall.

“We’re always looking around for new and different recreational activities, and this is the first time we did archery,” she said. “With the excitement around ‘Hunger Games’ and ‘Brave,’ we wanted to do something that can enhance a hobby, especially in a wilderness setting.”

Students learned the safety precautions of how to handle a bow and arrow, such as making sure the arrow is longer than their arm.

If an arrow is shorter than the archer’s arm, they can injure themselves when they pull the arrow back to shoot, according to Henry Bertram, the archery instructor.

For two and a half hours, Bertram instructed the

students on the correct stance of holding a bow and arrow: a straight posture, an eye on the target and making contact with the cheek as they pull the bow string back.

The archers learned an important set of commands before they were allowed to proceed.

The command, “archers to the line” allowed archers to approach the line where they were allowed to shoot.

However, until they heard “clear to fire,” archers may “straddle” the shooting line — with one foot on each side of the line and prepare to shoot their arrows.

“Getting the technique down is the most difficult,” said Imran Khan, a freshman electrical engineering major. “You have to maintain focus and judge how you do after each shot. If you hit a target too high, try to aim lower.”

Khan said he heard about the archery lesson during his freshman orientation and he thought it was an opportunity to meet new people and experience a new activity.

“Archery is really fun,” he said. “It’s tricky at first, but once you hit the target, you feel pretty special.”

Tinny Tan, a senior occupational therapy major, said for three consecutive semesters, she scanned the list of events offered by Outdoor Adventures and immediately signed up when she saw the archery event.

“Archery is something I really wanted to do for a long time,” she said. “I think the bow and arrow is intricate and exquisite, and I felt really powerful.”

Tan said a bow and arrow is “not a modern day

weapon that people normally see.”

According to Bertram, target archery as a sport dates back hundreds of years. However, using a bow and arrow for hunting is as old as 50,000 years.

“Target archery has become much more popular and visible,” he said. “I’m not surprised that a number of movies helped out, such as ‘Avatar,’ ‘Hunger Games’ and ‘Brave.’”

After the archers completed their lesson, they proceeded outside where they hiked to various target points and attempted to shoot arrows behind designated distances — some as far as 100 yards.

With a “Hunger Games surprise,” the Outdoor Adventures program brought various stuffed animals, such as Winnie the Pooh and a panda, as targets.

“We can’t do things in Adventures when you’re shooting people, so you can try to shoot inanimate objects,” Kirkendall said.

Fitz made many attempts to hit the stuffed animals but fell short.

“Not a lot of people are into archery, but it’s really fun,” said Fitz, who took an archery lesson in middle school. “It’s old-fashioned, and I would come back and take more lessons.”

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

Check out more pictures in the online gallery at SpartanDaily.com



Outdoor Adventures leader Emma Kelsey attaches the nock, the plastic end of the arrow, to the bowstring. **Photo by Jessica Olthof / Spartan Daily**



SJSU students learn various archery techniques while at an event held by Outdoor Adventures in Santa Cruz. **Photo by Jessica Olthof / Spartan Daily**

FILM FESTIVAL

Extreme sports Reel Rock Tour climbs to San Jose for the first time

By Jacque Orvis
@jacqueorvis

Downtown San Jose’s Studio Climbing rock gym hosted the city’s first sold out screening of the annual extreme-sport documentary film festival Reel Rock 7 last Saturday.

More than 100 guests attended the screening in Downtown San Jose’s rock climbing gym. This is the first year that Reel Rock made it to San Jose, according to the Studio’s general manager Diane Ortega.

Founded in 2006, Reel Rock features videos about

rock climbing, mountaineering and other extreme sports by documentary film companies such as Sender Films and Big UP Productions, according to the Reel Rock Tour’s website.

“They’re doing a good job this year,” said climber and attendee Daniel Lambing about Reel Rock 7. “(They’re) more in-depth incorporating the style of climbing.”

This year’s films highlighted “firsts” in rock climbing and mountaineering, including a trio’s grueling venture up a granite buttress called The Shark’s Fin.

According to the Reel Rock

website, the team was the first to successful climb the buttress that sits atop India’s 6,310-meter Mt. Meru.

Three years after turning back just 100 feet from the peak, the team successfully climbed it despite the team photographer’s major skiing accident six months prior.

The film documented the alpinists’ mental, social and physical sacrifices that accompany climbing mountains.

“You learn about yourself,” said Julie Street, adding that she took up rock climbing to train for an expedition at Zion National Park. “As you do more, you learn to trust yourself.”

The last film of the show starred Sacramento free-climber Alex Honnold.

Titled “Honnold 3.0,” the short film profiled Honnold’s consecutive sent of three Yosemite mountain faces, El Capitan, Half Dome and Mt. Watkins, in less than 19 hours.

“If anything my climbing has taught me that it’s all about following your own inspiration,” said Honnold. “I find some things really com-

elling, such a climbing really big walls by myself. So I’ve put a ton of work into following that vision.”

Climber Christina Olivera said this year marks her third attempt but first time to see Reel Rock on tour.

“It’s the perfect location this year,” she said. “I was surprised and excited for it to be in San Jose.”

She added that seeing Reel Rock on the big screen makes it more real and engaging than

watching it at home on DVD.

In addition to projecting the films on a temporary big screen between the climbing walls, the staff provided free beer, popcorn and candy for the guests. Staff members also raffled off climbing-related prizes during intermission to the crowd that took seat on the gym floors.

Jacque Orvis is a Spartan Daily staff writer. Follow her on Twitter at @jacqueorvis.

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Use social media with caution



Julie Tran's column appears every other Thursday.

In light of Barack Obama's second-term election, many people on the Republican side expressed their disdain over his victory, ranging from tears being shed at election viewing parties to popular social media such as Facebook and Twitter.

While some of the responses were pretty tame, most of the other ones were borderline rude and insensitive and a recent article from Jezebel , a news site targeted at the women demographic, highlights some of the nefarious comments made by teenagers on Twitter.

"About time we get this monkey out of office," tweets a user named Stehl Taylor.

"Hope Obama dies."

Another user named Michelle Brosam tweets, "Yay for the money I'm gunna [sic] lose that I already don't have because of that n----r in office."

At first I was alarmed that these tweets were published in a public forum because not only are they extremely crude in manner, they are also racist.

I get it, we have the First Amendment and everyone has freedom of speech, but shouldn't people think before they act?

At the same time, one user on Jezebel named roryroryrory decided to track down the Twitter handles of the teens and lo and behold, most of them are star athletes at their high schools or people active in community service.

According to a Nov. 13 report by the National Monitor, geographers were able to track down postelection racist tweets and the states of Alabama and Mississippi ranked on top.

Not surprisingly, most of the teens that made the racist tweets come from those two states as well as the surround-

ing Southern states.

While most of the people commenting on the Jezebel

... the teens were posting publicly on Twitter an they should have exercised some discretion ...

article applauded roryroryrory for the exposure of the kids' names, others were not so thrilled at the antic.

"You are WORSE than them. You are an adult and they are children and they are wrong, but you're malicious. Shame on you," wrote Jezebel user adt223.

While most of my friends approved of the public outing, I was on the fence about it because while the teens ac-

tions were wrong, I don't feel like it was right for an adult to track down their IP addresses and expose their personal information on the Internet.

At the same time, the teens were posting publicly on Twitter and they should have exercised some discretion before posting their comments.

Thankfully, most of the commenters used the teens' personal information to contact their respective schools and many of the principals took the issue into their own hands.

These teens are still young and while their tweets were hurtful, I hope this serves as a lesson for them to be careful when it comes to posting their comments on a public forum.

It can lead to some very dire consequences ranging from being expelled from school to even losing your job such as Denise Helms.

The 22-year-old from Turlock, California posted her thoughts on her Facebook regarding President Obama's re-election.

"Another 4 years of this N----r. Maybe he'll get assassinated this term," wrote Helms on her now-defunct Facebook.

As a result of her comment, her manager at Cold Stone Creamery fired her and what was surprising about it is that she felt no remorse from her action.

"I didn't think it was a big deal," said Helms to Sacramento Fox 40 News. "The assassination part is kind of harsh. I'm not saying like I would go do that or anything like that, by any means, but if it was to happen, I don't think I'd care one bit."

Regardless of what one person thinks, I think some things should be kept quiet, especially on social media.

Julie Tran is the Spartan Daily A&E Editor. Follow her on Twitter at @_itsjulieqt.



Religion and gay demon exorcisms



Jordan Liffengren's column appears every Thursday.

The Internet is a dark, dark place.

It offers a sneak peek into the nooks and crannies of society that do exist, but are usually overlooked or avoided.

I happen to stumble upon a lot of these disgusting and odd crevices quite frequently with the amount of time I spend on the World Wide Web every day.

For example, in less than 10 minutes today, I learned that human belly buttons harbor around 67 different types of bacterial species, and that a man in Florida is defending himself in court for having sexual relations with a miniature donkey, saying he "likes the way the fur feels" on his manhood.

While that is one of many disturbing subjects I could hash out, I will spare you, and get to what really bothered me today.

Have you ever heard of a "gay exorcism" before?

Being raised in a religious household, I have the unfortunate pleasure of being familiar with the idea.

I had completely forgotten about the concept until I was surfing the nets and a video popped up that read, "Man Possessed By Gay Demon."

It was hilarious, but it reminded me of being in church, when I would sit in the pews during a sermon, listening to the pastor repeat how bad it was "to be homosexual."

"We love them, but we do not love their lifestyle," he would say. "We love them, but we do not become close to them."

It was like hearing a public service announcement

for segregation; equal, but separate.

The only way to ridding homosexuals of their "ailment" was to free them of their "gay demons" in an exorcism -- aka calling those fabulous demons right out of those extremely attractive people!

There was another pastor in our church that had been gay most of his life, but was now straight and married to a woman.

He was always used as an example of a lost person finding "the light," but he always seemed really cold and distant to me.

Now, at the time I was just a kid, right in that prime stage of impressionability -- but even then, I never really wholeheartedly accepted the outrageous idea that being sexually attracted to someone of the same gender was wrong.

I wondered why we, as Christians, were so mean-spirited and condescending toward homosexuals, when Jesus was supposed to love everyone.

I mean, he loved Judas and he was like the Joey Greco of Jesus' Cheaters episode: Judas totally led the Romans right to Jesus when he was just chilling and turning water into wine with the sinners.

If you could love that jerk, why couldn't you love someone that had a different sexual preference than you?

It never seemed that difficult to me, nor an issue.

I await the day that every religious person is shamed for thinking this way.

In my eyes, it is no different from racism.

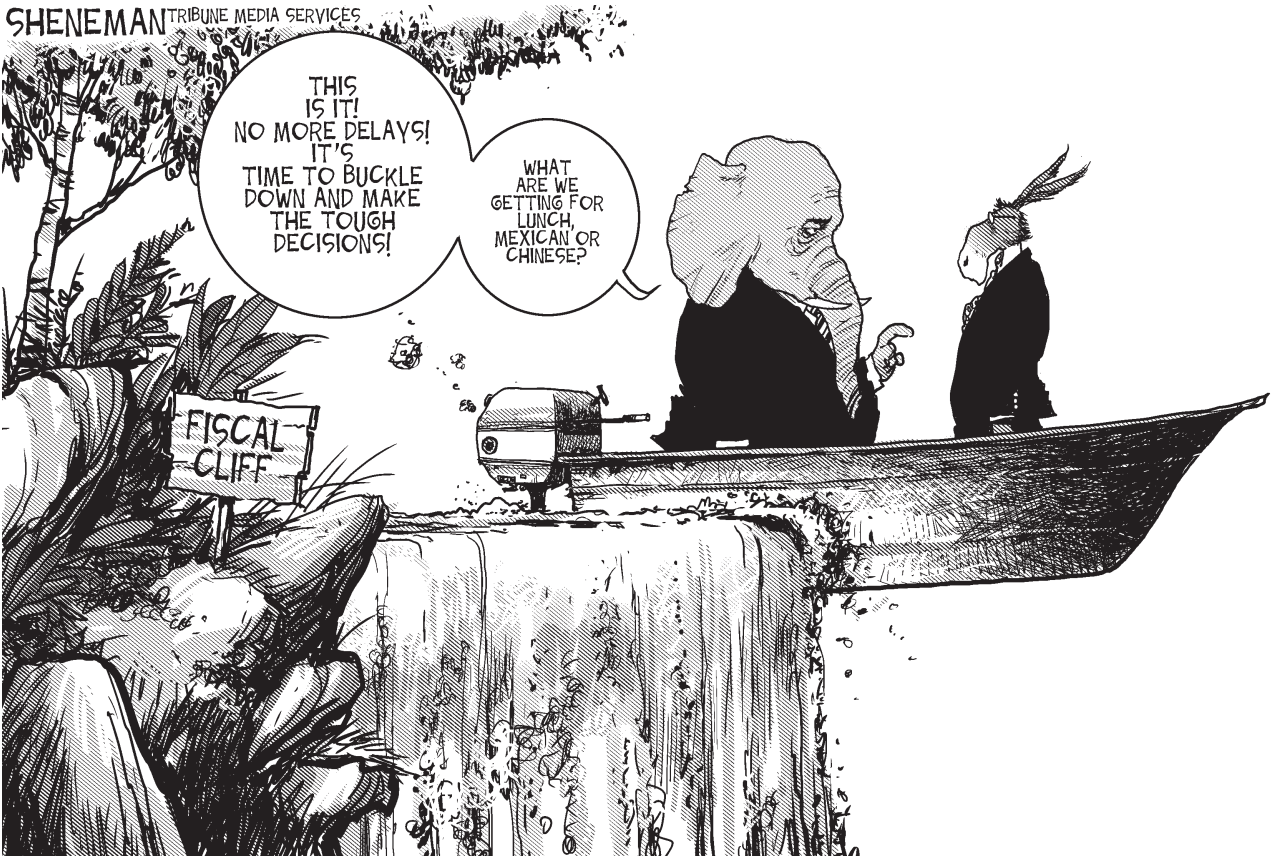
Trying to exorcise a gay demon out of someone is like trying to exorcise the McDonald's cravings from my body -- it is wrong and I will not stand for it.

Jordan Liffengren is a Spartan Daily senior staff writer. Follow her on Twitter at @JLiffengren_spartandaily.

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BAND PROFILE



Members Taylor Stover (far left) Johannes Heine (center left), Tyler Boyd (center right), Brayden Deskins (far right) and Joey Pisacane (not pictured) of A Yawn Worth Yelling share the stage during the Rock the Vote event at Morris Dailey Auditorium on Nov.1. **Photo by Jessica Olthof / Spartan Daily**

A Yawn Worth Yelling rocks out with hometown roots

By Natalie Cabral
@SD_NCabral

After a 15-hour train ride from the University of Oregon, guitarist Brayden Deskins needed an excuse to come back home to San Jose and play with his band, A Yawn Worth Yelling.

Arriving just a few minutes before performing, Deskins and his fellow bandmates played in front of a crowd of about 40 people at SJSU’s Rock the Vote 2012 event on Nov. 1, gaining cheers and recognition upon finishing.

In the midst of midterm papers, tests and studying, this young Bay Area band has managed to successfully produce music with harmonic vocals and a unique twist to alternative rock on their latest album “Hieme Bellum.”

The album, whose title roughly translates to winter war in Latin, is the first album produced by the gentlemen

since their founding back in 2010, according to guitarist Tyler Boyd.

A Yawn Worth Yelling is currently made up of drummer Taylor Stover, guitarist/vocalist Boyd, guitarist Deskins, guitarist/vocalist Joey Pisacane and bassist Johannes Heine.

With a little bit of luck the men found themselves coming into creation in late 2010 after a chance encounter at a backyard birthday party.

“I was actually a member of the band Pantheon along with Taylor and we were hired to play,” Boyd said. “It just so happened that it was Brayden’s party.”

After performing at the small function, Boyd recalled Deskins’ hesitation to approach them.

“He was so scared to ask us to join him,” Boyd said, “Especially with Taylor because it’s just so hard to find really good drummers.”

For Boyd, the decision to work with Deskins and Heine was an easy one.

“In Pantheon, I was just a guitar player,” he said, “A Yawn Worth Yelling was focusing on harmonies and I wanted to sing a little.”

According to Deskins, their very first gig in January of 2011 at The Refuge in Cupertino was anything but flawless.

“Joey had joined like two days before so we were just scrambling to get something together,” Deskins said. “There were a handful of people and it was hectic but we still had positive feedback.”

Since their first performance, the local band has frequented venues such as SLG Publishing Art Boutiki and Gallery on South Market Street.

According to Boyd, placing third in PinUp Productions’ Battle of the Bands contest of about 60 contestants was a huge

milestone in their first year together.

“We’re math rock and alternative indie rock but we’ve still got songs that are pretty catchy.”

Tyler Boyd
vocalist

A Yawn Worth Yelling also performed at Amador County Fairgrounds late this summer for JoshuaFest, a Christian music festival that featured

popular bands Relient K and Switchfoot.

“(JoshuaFest) is growing in size and I was just so excited that we were invited to play,” Heine said, “It was definitely a different demographic for us but that made it all the more fun.”

As for upcoming productions, given that the band members are distanced during semesters, Heine said producing new music can sometimes be difficult.

“Right now Tyler goes to San Francisco State and Brayden is up in Oregon so it’s difficult but we make it work,” he said.

According to Heine, the band members work on the same music programs and typically email individual pieces of music back and forth.

The song writing process for the band is a unique one and involves the participation of all group members, according to Boyd.

“No one’s hard headed and

fighting for lyrics,” he said, “We don’t play shows very often so during the school year we’ll just write song structures on our own and come together over breaks.”

The only thing more difficult than producing music miles away from each other, according to the band members, is placing their finger on what music genre they fall into.

“We’re math rock and alternative indie rock but we’ve still got songs that are pretty catchy,” Boyd said, “So something I recently came up with was math pop.”

After gigs and song writing sessions, Boyd said you can find the gentlemen at their nearest IHOP.

“It’s really become a tradition,” he said, “We just go to eat and be rowdy but it’s always fun.”

Natalie Cabral is a Spartan Daily staff writer. Follow her on Twitter at @SD_NCabral.

RESTAURANT REVIEW

Sama Zama brings a taste of Spain to Downtown SJ

By Devon Thames
@dtspartan

Grade

B

San Pedro Square Market has a new kiosk grabbing the attention of downtown patrons.

Shawn McKenna, owner of the new Sama Zama, has put his unconventional background in international cuisine to the test by opening a restaurant counter where the most unexpected dishes are cooked to order.

The quaint little bistro-style eatery nestled in a corner of the food court has the quiet ambiance of a café but has much more to offer in quality.

On the lunch menu, Sama Zama features a combination of sandwiches and

soups, all freshly prepared while you wait.

In the afternoon, Zama’s tapas menu of meat dishes and small appetizers take over as the perfect partner to cold beer or glass of wine.

Tapas are a traditional Spanish cuisine typically served in the form of a lengthy appetizer while accompanied by beer.

This centuries-old tradition is quickly becoming a staple showing up on plates across the country in various restaurants.

Outside of Spain, the concept of tapas has translated more into full, hearty meals consisting of various meat and side dish combinations.

Standing in line to place an order, you can’t help but notice the stacked boxes of fresh butter lettuce and whole onions sitting near the register, attesting to Sama Zama’s oath to freshness.



One of Sama Zama’s signature dishes is the grilled tri-tip tapa accompanied by mashed potatoes and a sweet grilled red pepper salad . **Photo by Devon Thames / Spartan Daily**

For \$9.50, the roasted chicken with romesco sauce, crispy onions and arugula makes for a great meal which includes a choice of soup or salad.

McKenna’s roasted chicken is seasoned to perfection and melts perfectly in your mouth with the freshly baked bread.

The sandwiches very quickly become the high-

light of the meal with it’s impactfully flavorful touch.

While the sandwich leaves a delightful memory, the side arugula salad is too simple, tossed in a sherry vinaigrette and mixed with a hint of Dijon mustard.

Customers can choose to pair the sandwich with McKenna’s New England style clam chowder.

Sama Zama’s made-to-order version, though reminiscent of what Americans recognize as the popular soup, still fails to stand well on it’s own.

McKenna takes a simpler approach to the soup, combining mussels, scallops, chunks of potatoes and leaks in a creamy, light broth that goes down easily but falls flat in flavor.

Sama Zama also offers an equally fresh made minestrone soup, as well as a Caesar salad, optionally served with anchovies.

A dinner highlight on the Sama Zama menu is the grilled tri-tip tapa, served with mashed potatoes and a chilled and sweet grilled red pepper salad tossed with basil.

The dinner fared much better with the combination of the medium rare tri-tip with the creaminess of the mashed potatoes.

The red pepper salad served as part garnish, part flavor explosion, as the freshness of the bell peppers were incredibly present.

After 12 years in the industry, McKenna’s culinary specialty is clearly the meat

dishes he serves as the tri-tip came out succulently tender and faired well with my Menabrea Birra beer.

Despite falling short in flavor, Sama Zama’s menu gives customers a chance to cross international waters for a meal and a chance to experience what it means to dine as the Spanish do.

According to McKenna, the American concept of tapas has grown both in meal size and in popularity over the years, citing that they have become meals versus appetizers.

Sama Zama is the spot where you can get a taste of freshness and a hint into international culture.

Devon Thames is a Spartan Daily staff writer. Follow her on Twitter at @dtspartan.

Sama Zama’s menu gives customers a chance to cross international waters for a meal and a chance to experience what it means to dine as the Spanish do.