Thursday, January 23, 2014

FACILITIES

Mid-semester opening expected for Student Union

By Jenny Bennett @JennyDaily_

The new west and east wings of the Student Union are going through the final stages of completion.

Christopher Brown, associate vice president of Facilities Development and Operations, said he hopes the new wings of the Student Union will be open mid-semester.

"We don't have an exact date because there is complications with the project – with design errors and other things with the architect we're hoping this semester," he said. "Mid-semester is the goal."

Brown said there are a lot of small things and some big things that need to be completed.

"It's typical with a large construction project there's a list - it could be 500 items even - (because) what we do, we send an

SEE **CONSTRUCTION** ON PAGE 6



Basil Sar | Spartan Daily Construction workers continue work on the expansion of the Student Union which is set to be completed mid-spring semester.

ADMINISTRATION

Junn moves south, Feinstein named as interim provost

By Jenny Bennett @JennyDaily_

The Academic Senate is calling for self-nominations to serve on the search committee for the new provost and vice president for academic

Dorothy Poole, President Mohammad Qayoumi's chief of staff, is managing the search for the new provost.

Poole said the search committee will work with the firm R.H. Perry & Associates and will post the job announcement in various places

The Senate office issued a call for

nominations Wednesday, and sent the notice to faculty, students, staff, administrators, local alumni and other community members, Poole

The announcement calls for nominating forms and statements of interest and qualifications to be turned in Jan. 29.

Poole said applications for provost are due Feb. 24 for priority consideration.

"The search committee reviews written applications and selects up to eight semi-finalists for telephone interviews," she said. "Based upon those interviews, they select three to four finalists for on campus in-

Poole said the telephone interviews will take place in mid-March and the on-campus interviews in early April.

Andy Feinstein, formerly the deputy provost, is serving as the interim provost and vice president of academic affairs.

Feinstein said he has not decided if he will apply for the position of provost yet.

Oavoumi announced on Dec. 10 that Ellen Junn had accepted an offer to serve as provost at California State University Dominguez Hills.

Junn served as provost and vice president of academic affairs for two years, beginning in January 2012.

At a farewell reception for Junn on Jan. 17, administration and faculty members spoke about Junn's lasting impressions and friendships.

Junn said that she decided to leave SJSU and move south to be closer to her family.

"She's just been a pleasure to work with, she's incredibly energetic," William Nance, vice president for Student Affairs, said about Junn. "She's been here for two years, and in two years its really brought a bunch of issues into the discussion, a lot of topics that at least need to be addressed and discussed and a level of energy and a level of creativity and insight that's really been a pleasure to be around and to see.

Jenny Bennett is the Spartan Daily Managing Editor.

CAMPUS

No winter break for campus crime

By Jenny Bennett @JennyDaily_

Several incidents took place on campus during winter break that elicited Alert-SJSU text messages to be sent out to students.

Jenny Gaxiola, University Police Department, temporary public information officer, said there is more potential for crime with fewer pedestrians walking around, but that these crimes were not necessarily correlated to fewer people being on campus.

Gaxiola said that the UPD maintained its normal staffing level during the break.

On Dec. 20 an incident occurred on South 10th Street by East San Salvador Street.

Gaxiola said the victim was approached by two suspects who revealed a firearm and took the victim's purse.

The suspect was last seen running southbound on South 10th Street away from the campus.

Students were alerted again Dec. 23 of an armed robbery that occurred by the Spartan Complex

breezeway. Gaxiola said two suspects approached the victim, displayed a knife and demanded his wallet.

One juvenile suspect was apprehended and taken to juvenile hall

and one suspect fled the scene. Jerry Li, a freshman computer engineering major, said the crime on campus is "pretty bad for the morale around our area. San Jose is a really interesting and fun place

On Jan. 4, a text was sent out stating there was a "robbery at the A.S. House at 12:20 a.m."

to be, but the robberies are making

SEE **POLICE** ON PAGE 6

(morale) go down."

CAMPAIGN

Welcome stations provide information for students

By Rochelle Beckel @RochelleBeckel

San Jose State's Division of Student Affairs is hosting its Ask Me campaign for students today and tomorrow, according to Demerris Brooks, University Ombudsperson and co-chair of the VISION 2017 Helping & Caring Committee that organized the campaign.

The Ask Me campaign is designed to be a resource for students who have questions throughout the first few days of school, Brooks said.

Previously, the campaign had only been held during the Fall semesters, according to Brooks.

"When (VISION) 2017 was first rolled out, the idea for these tables came out of one of the Student Affairs subcommittees," Brooks said. "This is the first time we're trying it out in the spring, but we still have new students and students who are



Basil Sar | Spartan Daily Faculty and staff volunteer at booths located around campus offering information for current and new students.

SEE **Transfer** on Page 6





P. 2 Sports: Men's basketball fall to Aztecs P. 3 A&E: Sci-Fi meets dramedy in "Her"

P. 5 Opinion: No means no!

P. 6 News: President and students talk diversity



Sunny







SPORTS

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Spartans continue to struggle in Mountain West play



Jason Reed | Contributing Photographer

gish to start the game, miss-

ing the first seven shots of

the game until SDSU senior

forward Josh Davis snapped

the streak by making the

first bucket a little under

three minutes into the first

Wilson put up the first

points for the Spartans and

junior forward Jaleel Wil-

liams tied it up with a shot

from beyond the arc, but

an 8-0 run by the Aztecs

gave them a 13-5 lead until

Wojcik called a timeout with

SDSU pushed the lead up

to nine points, but a small

11:57 on the clock.

San Jose State senior forward Chris Cunningham lays flat on his back during the second half against San Diego State.

By Juan Reyes

@jmreyes831

The San Jose State men's basketball team looked to snap a six-game Mountain West Conference losing streak at home, but a fierce San Diego State University team had a streak of their own they wanted to continue.

Riding a 14-game win streak, the Aztecs (17-1, 6-0) added one more win to the ongoing stretch with a 75-50 win over the Spartans (6-13, 0-7) on Wednesday in a night full of silly mistakes and costly turnovers.

"We came out and we played hard," said Spartan freshman guard Jalen James. "We came out strong and then we hit that little wall, we just couldn't put it together."

Despite having a crowd of 4,117 at the Event Center, the largest in 10 years, the stands were decorated with SDSU's blood red and black colors and at times it seemed more like an Aztecs' home

Aztecs senior guard Xavier Thames finished with a game-high 15 points

along with two assists, three rebounds and two steals.

For the Spartans it was junior guard Devante Wilson with a team-high 14 points, four rebounds, one block and one steal.

"This was a great stage for them (SJSU)," said Spartans head coach Dave Wojcik. "A great opportunity, and as I told them all, this is the reason why you came here (MWC). This is the reason why we went to this league.

I don't want to beat them down because they played

Both teams looked slug-

by freshman guard Rashad Muhammad's three-point shot, pulled them within four points at 16-12. The second ranked Az-

5-0 run by the Spartans, led

tecs' defense responded and forced SJSU to turn the ball over on their next two possessions.

Those turnovers quickly turned into four points and another small run just before the half had the Spartans trailing 29-19. SJSU constantly shot the ball but only made 20 percent of their shots and made six of 29 attempts.

"When we play it happens all the time," said James. "Coach Woj always tell us to keep shooting, keep shooting, keep shooting. We know we miss a lot of shots but we got to keep our heads up, stay positive and that's what we did in the first half."

SJSU came out of the break with some intensity and drove down the lane on their first five possessions, something that they didn't do during the first half, to cut the lead down to 35-30.

However, that would be as close as the Spartans would get to the Aztecs, and a 16-0 run gave SDSU their biggest lead at the time, 51-30, with 12:41 left in the

"I think the other glaring thing was we had opportunities to score at the free throw line and we didn't score there," Wojcik said.

The Spartans were outscored 32-5 in a nine minute span and their losing streak in conference play extended to seven games with the 75-50 loss to the Aztecs.

"We'll just learn from our mistakes," said Wilson. "Whenever we were fighting we were in the game. We just got to look back and see what we were doing to be in that position and learn from what we did wrong."

Juan Reyes is the Spartan Daily Sports Editor.

Upcoming games:

at Boise State January 25 at 4:05 p.m.

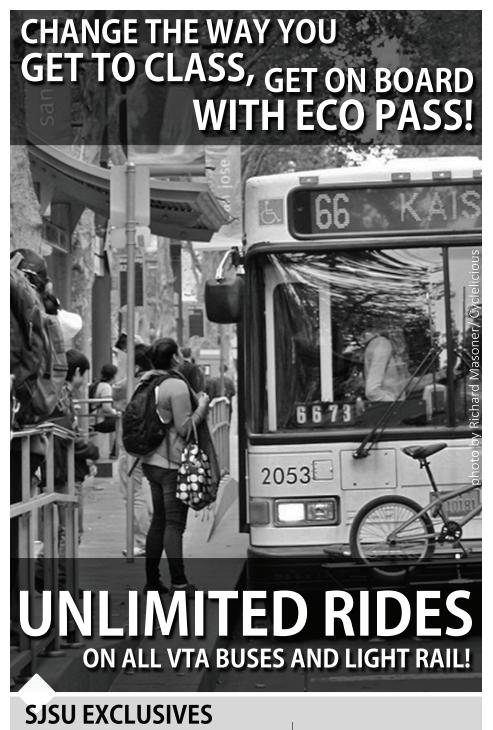
vs UNLV

January 29 at 7 p.m.



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MOVIE REVIEW

Sci-fi romantic drama-comedy 'Her' proves to be success

By Rochelle Beckel @RochelleBeckel

It's no secret that technology is rapidly developing and transforming the way we interact with one another — from social media sites such as Facebook, Twitter and Instagram to our dependency on text messaging instead of making phone calls, our interaction with others often relies on a heavy use of technology.

But could technology one day advance to the point that it replaces human relationships?

Although technically just an O.S., Samantha is anything but a mindless, emotionless machine.

Spike Jonze's "Her" explores this idea by following the romantic journey between an operating system (voiced by Scarlett Johansson) and its owner, Theodore Twombly (Joaquin Phoenix), a single, introverted man avoiding the finalization of his divorce from his successful, critical ex-wife, Catherine (Rooney

It doesn't take long to realize that although Theo-

dore's profession is to write beautiful, personal love letters for couples to give to each other, he struggles with loneliness and an inability to come to terms with the fact that his marriage to the woman he was once so in love with has failed.

The technology that surrounds Theodore's world makes it clear that the film is set during sometime in the future, although it doesn't seem to be very dis-

The power of the technology of the time is especially apparent when Theodore purchases an operating system (O.S.) that was created with artificial intelligence designed to allow the system to speak and think like a human being.

When given the option to choose a male or female voice for the O.S., he decides on a female one and almost immediately hits it off with "Samantha", the voice behind the O.S.

Although technically just an O.S., Samantha is anything but a mindless, emotionless machine.

She asks Theodore about his day, why he seems to be so sad, offers him advice and encouragement, tells him jokes and shares her thoughts about the world. She encourages him to go on a date with a woman his friends set him up with and even gets offended when he points out that she doesn't know what it's like to lose someone close to her.

Before long, Theodore friendly,

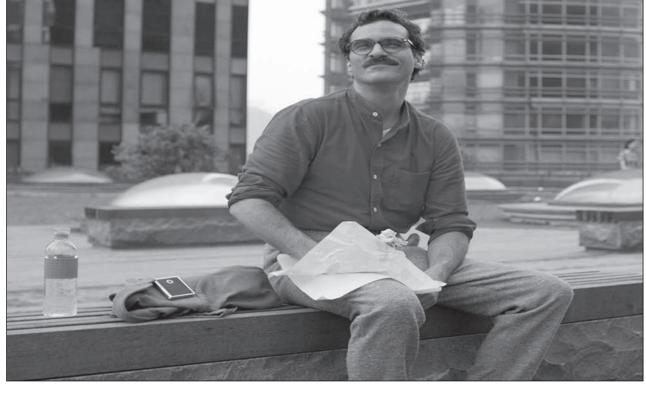


Photo by Warner Bros. Picture

Joaquin Phoenix stars as Theodore Twombly, a man that writes touching and personal letters for others.

begins to tell Samantha everything on his mind, from his feelings toward Catherine and his divorce to his desire for her to have a body so he can actually touch her, a feeling that Samantha shares as well.

Against all odds, they begin a romance that you begin to believe – the way they seem to understand and support each other, make each other laugh and even turn each other on actually seems to work as Theodore finds himself feeling genuine happiness and love for Samantha.

Samantha's ing, comforting voice and understanding

demeanor make it easy to forget that she is a piece of technology that needs software updates and has abilities that no human could ever have, both intellectually and emotionally.

Although he initially keeps his relationship a secret from his best friend, Amy (Amy Adams), he confesses his love for Samantha after Amy tells him about how well she bonded with her own O.S. and how strong the friendship between the two has become.

Although surprised, Amy supports Theodore's new relationship, saying that life is too short to say no to happiness.

As romantic drama-comedies alwyas entail, Theodore and Samantha stumble upon their fair share of relationship issues as time passes by, but the way they are handled is remarkably human-like and familiar.

They argue the way any typical couple would and bring joy, pain, sadness, comfort and more to each other's lives.

The questions remain, however - how satisfying can this relationship be in the long run, and how long can it really last?

At one point in the movie, Theodore is accused of choosing to be with Samantha because he is emotionally unequipped to handle the struggles of a human relationship.

That may be, but all Theodore knows for sure is that he wants to be happy and feel a connection to some-

Phoenix, Johansson and Adams give powerful, heartfelt, relatable performances as the nature of human relationships and the extent to which technology can replace human interaction is explored in this original, beautifully written Spike Jonze film.

Rochelle Beckel is the Spartan Daily A&E Editor.

Movies Opening February 2014

Friday, 7

- -The LEGO Movie -The Monument's
- Men
- -Welcome to the Jungle
- -Nurse 3D
- -Cavemen
- -A Fantastic Fear of
- Everything -The Last of the
- Unjust

Wednesday, 12

-Robocop

Friday, 14

- -Winter's Tale -Adult World
- -Date and Switch
- -Girl on a Bicycle -Jimmy P.

Wednesday, 19 -Child's Pose

Friday, 21

-Pompeii

- -Welcome to
- Yesterday -In Secret
- -Barefoot

Friday, 28

- -The Son of God
- -Non-Stop
- -Stalingrad
- -Repentance -The Lunchbox

Source: movieinsider.com

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EXPERIENCES

The Mercury News

Exclusive presale for SJSU students, faculty, and staff from January 23 to January 25

ayoumi, students continue diversity discussion

By Jenny Bennett @JennyDaily_

President Mohammad Qayoumi met with students from the Black Unity Group on Tuesday to provide updates and discuss actions that are underway regarding a list of improvements submitted by students to campus administration.

Students submitted a list of improvements to Qayoumi, Associated Students President Nicholas Ayala and former provost Ellen Junn, in November 2013 in response to allegations of a racially motivated attack on an African-American student in the residence halls.

Dorothy Poole, Qayoumi's chief of staff, said that the meeting discussed current actions, including a fact-finding investigation, special task force on racial discrimination, changes to housing practices and an African-American Student Success Task Force.

Myron "Mike" D. Moye, a partner at law firm Hanson Bridgett LLP, will inform a special task force of his independent fact-finding effort and produce a report by Jan. 31.

Poole said the students also shared an updated version of their suggestions.

Gary Daniels, a senior political science major, said they also discussed the suggested improvements and plans for February's Black History Month.

"I feel like some level of understanding has been reached," Dan-

iels said. "I feel like they understand the importance of African-American studies as an independent department, after we fought so hard to keep it for the entirety of Fall

One of the suggested improvements is a black culture and community resource center.

The list of improvements describes the resource center as a place to offer services and programs aimed to improve graduation and retention rates of African-American students.

"There's some confusion as to the difference between our proposed resource success center and Mosaic Cross Cultural Center." Daniels said. "Essentially Mosaic Cross Cultural Center is exactly that, a cross cultural center that creates awareness."

He said the success center is different and that he believes he explained the difference clearly to

Daniels said that one of the greatest things Junn did before leaving SJSU was implementing the African-American Student Success Task Force, and the Latino Student Success Task Force.

"Those task forces were created specifically to address the retention and graduation rates of African-American and Latino students, as well as the campus climate," Daniels said. "The African-American Student Task Force, the one that I attended, and can only speak for, has only been so successful in its

Daniels said that by building a resource center, a dedicated staff will be available to help students, rather than having people work part-time on the task force.

Daniels said he would like to see events for Black History Month

"There was nothing done during February 2013 during Black History Month," he said. "The African-American student organizations have created an entire calendar of events that we want to be hosting for the campus."

Poole said all of the suggestions are being taken seriously.

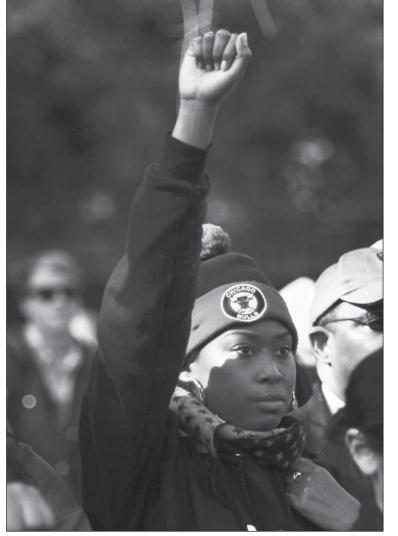
"The president will be working with his cabinet to look at the operational implications," she said. "The group decided to meet again in March for another update."

Daniels said that the University of California Student Association recently passed a resolution condemning racism and discrimination in the UC system.

The University of California Student Association is a "coalition of students and student governments that aims to provide a collective voice for all students through advocacy and direct action," according to the association's website.

Daniels said he hopes that the California State Student Association (CSSA) will pass a similar resolution this weekend.

The CSSA is "a non-partisan,



Raphael Kluzniok | Special to the Spartan Daily Melvina Bryant, a senior health science major, raises her fist in solidarity during the Black Thursday rally to protest last semester's hate crimes at San Jose State University, Thursday Nov. 21

membership-based advocacy organization governed by a student board of directors composed of the officially recognized representatives of each of the 23 CSU campuses" according to the web-

Daniels said students are also meeting with California State Assembly Speaker John Perez on Jan.

Jenny Bennett is the Spartan Daily Managing Editor.

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DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★☆

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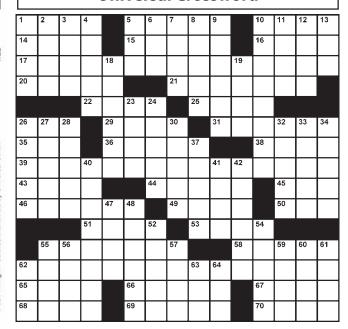
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Welcome back students

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Today's Crossword Puzzle **Universal Crossword**



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_ Monte

(food giant)

ing hammer

(put trust

49 Lunar val-

51 Stake-driv-

ley

55 Tilted

58 Like por-

granola 62 Tooth-

ridge or

cleaning

65 Fifties au-

66 A fine play-

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burden

68 Oil cartel

69 Did a cobbler's

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letters

70 Big name

1 Place for

2 "By gosh!"

4 The first "M" in M-

5 "A Bridge

legend

"Master

6 Giant

3 As well

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purchase

50

53

ACROSS Closure for loose cloth-

- ing 5 Movie theater yell 10 Coin hole
- 14 Eye lasciviously 15 Make up for, as sins 16 Well-drawn

character?

- **17** Traveling at 186,500 miles per second **20** Add
- bells and whistles 21 Baltimore's nine
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- gloominess 26
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- 31 Make account
- 35 Bobby, Bruins' #4
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- 38 weight (precious metal
- ment) **39** How

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 - Melvin" 7 Silver salmon 8 Divest of munitions

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59 Add a little

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60 Vanity case

62 One of the

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63 Donned the

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(1998 film)

64 "Waking ___ Devine"

61 Costner

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56 Term for

- house box 12 and aahs 13 Dangerous
- 18 Make enemies of 19 Carefree gait 23 Whirring
- sound 24 Peevish states
- **26** Automaton of Jewish legend 27 It lures people to
- the kitchen 28 Tree worshiper
- 30 Poe's doomed house 32 Went the
- wrong way 33 Skier's
- 34 Household antiseptic brand
- 37 Fleshysnouted beast
- 40 Striking in appear 41 Shade
- of green 42 Rejoice in
- **47** Long, heavy hair 48 Buddhist
- sermons 52 Set free **54** Web
- company 55 Liner or

OPINION

All the ladies, single ladies

Independence is an interesting concept, espe-

cially for women.
For instance,
it isn't good to be
too dependent
or else you're
seen as needy
and controlling,
but too much
independence
brings negative
connotations of

connotations of aloofness and promiscuity.

I'd say I'm a pretty independent person. I work hard for what I want, I like to pay for myself and I am equally happy going somewhere alone as I am with a friend.

Yet, in a lot of conversations that I have, the topic of my relationship status comes up as if it's the most important thing people need to know about me.

At family gatherings, my aunts and uncles always ask if I'm in a relationship. I know it's out of the goodness of their hearts, but there is more to life than dating, especially for a girl in her early 20s. There is a career to start and places to travel.

Yes, those are possible in a relationship. There's nothing wrong with being in a relationship in your early 20s, but a relationship is not the end all, be all.



Follow Allison Williams on Twitter
@all3ybobally

self discovery and personal development that should happen before you throw yourself into a relationship.

There is a lot of

You can't depend on someone to support you if you can't support yourself, whether it's financially or emotionally. If you don't know

who you are as an individual, can you really figure it out in a duo?

No one seems to care about what a woman accomplishes in her career. Rather, there is a ridiculous amount of attention paid to whether she's single, dating, married or a mother.

As if a woman should wait for a man or child to come along to give her life value.

A woman who puts her career or independence above a relationship is cold-hearted.

However, women who marry young aren't looked at with much more respect.

A young marriage is followed by comments such as "why would she get married so young" and "she knows so little of the rest of the world."

So what's left for a woman to do but date?

Well, as long as they don't date too many people, right?

Can a girl catch a break? Apparently not.

It's a lose-lose situation. Whatever you do will most likely be criticized, if not aloud then silently.

There's a whole lot of attention given to how a woman lives her life. As if the only way to ever live a complete life is to be married (at an age society arbitrarily gives women permission to wed) and start a family, to work, but not be too powerful or the bread-winner, and to always be concerned about other people.

I think it's about time we stop giving women flack for pursuing their ambitions.

There shouldn't be any behind-the-back whispering about why a woman is single or in a relationship, because it concerns no one but herself.

Women should no longer be expected to put themselves second to another person.

So women, take your lives into your own hands. There isn't anything wrong with being single, or focusing on school or your career.

And everyone else, find something else to worry and talk about.

Women are more than just their relationship status on Facebook, and we need to learn to embrace that.

Allison Williams is the Spartan Daily Executive Editor.

Letter from the editors

Hello Spartans!

Welcome to a new semester!

The Spartan Daily staff looks forward to a new semester with new reporters and editors.

As you may know, last semester was the start of the converged newsroom. The Spartan Daily, Update News and Access Magazine worked from one newsroom to deliver news that was timely, honest and relevant to the San Jose State community. Shift Magazine will be this semester's magazine while Access is in an off-semester.

Last semester, staffs that were used to functioning independently adjusted to working as a cohesive unit. This semester, we hope to continue and improve upon the successes of last semester.

The Spartan Daily will continue to be online Monday through Friday and in print Tuesday through Thursday.

This semester we plan to expand our online presence on spartandaily.com, as well as our social media sites. By this we mean more multimedia content on our website and more content and interaction on our Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and Tumblr.

At a student-run newspaper, each issue is a learning experience. An error is an opportunity for staff members to learn and improve their skills before the end of their time at SJSU and starting their careers.

This semester is bound to have some unforeseen bumps in the road, but we are confident that we can conquer these

problems with good communication and teamwork

We will continue to produce a paper that keeps our readers informed of campus and community issues and events.

Reporters are encouraged to investigate story ideas that are compelling not only to them, but to the campus community. They are also required to write for every section to expand their skills.

Photographers are tasked with capturing a moment and conveying the meaning behind it.

Photographers and reporters are encouraged to use visuals to represent and enhance the story.

This semester, we hope to have more visuals in print and online.

Reporters are encouraged and given the opportunity to voice their opinions on issues they find important. Be it movies, music, sports or hot-button political issues, the opinions that appear on the opinion page are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Spartan Daily or the department.

The community can submit letters to the editors that will appear on the opinion page, as well as opinions and story ideas at spartandaily@gmail.com.

The Spartan Daily staff wishes everyone a great semester and looks forward to hearing from you.

This special message is from the Spartan Daily Spring 2014 staff.

'No' is not Spanish for 'not yet,' you don't even speak Spanish

A couple of years ago this guy in my classes was talking about picking up women.

He joked that if a girl ever said no to him he would reply: "'No' is just Spanish for 'not yet,' baby."

Everyone laughed. No one thought about what the joke really meant.

meant.
"No" is just Spanish for

"not yet."

He wasn't explicitly saying rape is OK and funny, but he was still making light of a heavy and very serious topic.

According to a study President Obama cited in a speech he gave about rape on university campuses, 20% of college girls get sexually assaulted during their educational career.



Follow Jeff Gonzalez on Twitter @jeffvgonzalez

That's one out of every five women in college.

Obama created a task force to raise awareness and help prevent sexual assault on college campuses where it is most common, according to an article by The New York Times.

I'm glad the president is doing

something to show that America is paying attention and actually cares for the women of our society.

But how sad is it that we need a presidential administration to slap our country's universities on the wrist and tell them rape is a serious issue?

It wasn't until I heard Obama speaking about rape on college campuses that I remembered the guy from my class making the joke about not taking no for an answer. He said the joke to get laughs, but what it really did was proliferate the notion that a woman saying no is just a minor obstacle that can be overcome with a little coerciveness.

Usually when we think of rape, we imagine violent acts of forced sex like we see in movies.

But in college, when everyone is experimenting with drugs, alcohol and sex, rape in reality isn't so clear cut black

SHENEMANTRIBUNE MEDIA SERVICES

and white

That is why we have to clear up these "blurred lines" and, as men, begin respecting a woman's "no" as a solid cease and desist order.

We have the idea that our job is to do everything in our power to convince women that they really do want to have sex with us, even if they already told us no.

The notion that they are wrong for not accepting our

advances creates this delusion that we are doing them a favor by persisting and coercing them, by any means necessary, to change their minds about it.

These increasingly aggressive persuasions start getting into that grey zone of whether or not your Friday night will turn into a rape case.

If we began to teach young men that no means no, not "not yet," not "maybe," not "when I'm passed out," then we could actually do something to prevent rape instead of just raise awareness that it happens.

You are not Prince Charming and the passed out drunk girl isn't your sleeping beauty awaiting your kiss, she's just a drunk girl waiting for the alcohol to pass through her

Jeff Gonzalez is the Spartan Daily Opinion Editor.





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Construction: Future plans include new dorms, recreation facilities, dining hall

inspector through to inspect everything and anything that is not to our satisfaction, we put it on what is called the punch list, and the contractor has to get it to our satisfaction before we pay him." Brown said.

He said construction on the east wing is further ahead than construction on the west wing.

The flooring in the ballroom in the west wing needs to be put in, along with work in the new dining area, he said.

"One of the challenges in the west is the dining area because there's a lot of other agencies that weigh in on it – there's the fire marshal, there's the health inspector, there's all kinds of other agencies that they have to sign off on it as well," Brown said.

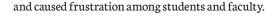
Renovations to the original Student Union building cannot begin until people are moved into the new wings, he said.

Brown said new cement walkways and patios were put in between the Music building and the west wing of the Student Union over winter break.

Construction fences will be pulled back closer to the buildings to widen some of the walkways, he said.

"What we try to do is keep as much open as possible and we recognize that with all the construction going on on campus we've got about five major projects going on at once — on such a small land mass, there's a lot of obstruction," Brown said. "We know it's a challenge for everybody trying to navigate on campus."

Construction fences around campus have blocked walkways



"Hopefully when it's over it's awesome," said Sajay Shah, a freshman computer science major. "But right now it's a little annoying, cause like walking around and stuff. It's okay."

YUH, Spartan Complex & Student Health Center

Renovations to Yoshihiro Uchida Hall are on schedule to be completed this summer, Brown said.

"While we expect construction to be done this summer, it won't be open probably for summer classes," Brown said. "The goal is to be open for fall classes."

He said that once renovations are complete, people will move back into Uchida Hall, and work will begin on Spartan Complex.

Brown said the new Health Center is expected to be completed in December 2014 or January 2015.

"That contract is going great actually it's a little ahead of

schedule," he said. "It went up lightning fast." That project uses a different type of fabrication, where all the

"The majority of the fabrication is done at a factory, rather than on-site with welders up on the structure," he said.

steel is put together off-site, Brown said.

Future Projects

Brown said a new student housing project and recreation and Aquatic Center is planned for the future.

The new housing project is for an 850-bed dorm building at the corner of Ninth Street and Paseo de San Carlos, Brown said.

"If everything goes as planned... we'll actually break ground this summer," he said. The building is expected to be 10 stories, similar to the Cam-

pus Village buildings, he said. "We want them to look like it's a planned development,"

Brown said. "They're not going to look the same, but we want them to look like cousins." Brown said the new student housing is a two-year project. After the new building is completed, "we'll tear down

the bricks, which will then open up the land we intend to build the rec and Aquatic Center on," he said. Brown said new Dining Commons are also being planned for

"So yes, there's going to be lots of construction fences everywhere for the foreseeable future on campus," he said.

Jenny Bennett is the Spartan Daily Managing Editor.

Police: AlertSJSU text messages alarm campus community, UPD offers advice

FROM PAGE 1

Cheryl Vargas, executive director of Associated Students, said there was no break-in at the Associated Students house.

Please be aware of your surroundings and avoid the areas that are not well lit.

- Jenny Gaxiola University Police Department

"After speaking with UPD later that day, there was a 'burglary' of a student 'near' the A.S. house," Vargas said in an email. "In the alert they referenced the vicinity as that of the A.S. House."

"This was a(n) attempted

robbery on a person, not a burglary into the building," Gaxiola said. "The suspects attempted to rob the male victim."

Some of the Alert-SJSU text messages that were sent out also included the message template.

"The template was set up as two part messages - textand email," she said. "But what had happened in this case was that when the text got sent out, (the) template for email got sent out along with it and vice versa. The problem has been since corrected."

The Alert-SJSU system has not changed, Gaxiola said.

"We highly encourage our students and faculty/staff to utilize the services we provide like Evening Guide Escort and Shuttle and we would also like to encourage reporting all suspicious activity to UPD," Gaxiola said. "Please be aware of your surroundings and avoid the areas that are not well lit."

Jenny Bennett is the Spartan Daily Managing Editor.

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Transfer: Faculty volunteer time

FROM PAGE 1

fairly new. They only have one semester under their belt and they're still going to have a lot of questions."

The Ask Me campaign is set up by putting out welcome tables, each staffed by two SJSU faculty volunteers, in three designated areas of campus—in front of Clark Hall, the Event Center and the Ninth Street archway entrance across from the Student Services Center, according to Brooks.

She said the schedule of the welcome stations is 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Thursday and 10 a.m.— noon Friday

"We tried to log what kind of questions we received, and then I put them together and sorted them by theme," Brooks said. "It was things like 'Where are there computer labs I can use,' (and) 'Where do I have access to printing."

She said that last semester there were also many questions related to directions, housing, Tower Cards and financial aid.

She said the volunteers focused more on logging the questions students asked than the number of people using the booths.

"I think it's good to have those (tables) for new students who have never been on the university campus," said Bianca Procassini, a senior psychology major. "Especially for transfer students; you come from a community college and then you're

going to a new campus and there (are) a lot more majors, there (are) a lot more classes that are offered, so it's kind of difficult to find out where you need to go if your major has your classes spread out in different areas of the campus."

Brooks said that although campus volunteers did not issue a survey to the student participants regarding the Ask Me campaign welcome stations, 45 of the 87 volunteers were asked how helpful they thought the experience was, about the staffing of the tables, how well the timing of the shifts worked and whether or not they would be willing to volunteer again the next time.

"Unanimously they thought it was very helpful and that it was something that we should do again," Brooks said. "Every single person who responded to the survey said that they would because they thought it was helpful. They even noticed from being at the tables that even though we shut down mid-day that it was still really busy and we could have stayed open, so based on that we'll adjust the dates and hours for the fall."

Rosie Hartman, a graduate student in art history, said she had seen information about the Ask Me campaign on the school website and people wearing the Ask Me buttons to promote the welcome stations.

"I think it's good if people want the help, if they have trouble finding some (place) on campus," Hartman said. "If there's transfer students, they come in during the spring."

Brooks said the response from the students who approached the tables for assistance seemed very positive and the welcome station volunteers enjoyed the experience so much that there were more volunteers for this semester than there was space.

"We still have the three tables but we don't have as many shifts or as many days so we don't need as many people, but we know that either by previous participation or word-of-mouth that it's something that people on campus really want to be involved in," she said.

Brooks said she and the campus volunteers recommended the Guidebook app to students who came to the welcome stations, a tool that answers all of the most frequently asked questions that Brooks compiled from the questions logged at the stations in addition to other information regarding SJSU.

"We asked the volunteers to use it and to encourage students to use it," she said. "(The volunteers) were all campus employees I was working with someone from the library so between the two of us, we were able to answer most of the questions that came up."

Procassini said as a transfer student, she can relate to students who come to the

> tables, because she had trouble finding her way around campus when she began her enrollment at SJSU.

"I didn't know for the longest time when I transferred about the bowling alley in the bottom of the Student Union," she said. "I didn't know a lot of things, then people would show me and I'd be like 'What?"

Rochelle Beckel is the Spartan Daily A&E Editor.



