

CAMPUS

Blue wall removed, art saved for future use

By Jessica Schlegelmilch
@jessieschleg

San Jose State students now have a clear view of the new Student Union that was, for months, partly concealed by expanses of blue plywood.

The Dirty Brushes, a group of artists on campus, painted renditions of famous paintings on the face of the wall.

Colton Rauenbuehler, a senior business management major, said the murals on the blue wall “made a not so good looking thing look very personalized and showed our diversity that we have amongst San Jose State.”

Freshmen Janet Amador and Madeline Llya said they noticed and were saddened by the fact that the murals are no longer on display.

“We would always walk by and talk about (them)... one of them looked like our friend so we’d always make jokes about (that),” Llya said. “They were very interesting.”

“I didn’t notice it was gone, but I did like it,” Tallyn Reed, a freshman accounting major, said. “Some of them were really good.”

The sections of the blue wall with portraits on them have been stacked near the spartan bookstore.

Christopher Brown, associate vice president of facilities, development and operations, said that the blue wall has not been destroyed, plundered or auctioned off. It will be back up and ready to be painted entering phase two of the Student Union project.

Brown said phase two, which will renovate the old Student Union, is scheduled to begin

around March.

Brown said he estimates that after phase two begins, it will take an additional 14 months before the Student Union project is finished and the painted faces of the blue wall will no longer be on display.

Kurt Salinas, current president of the Dirty Brushes, said the club fully intends to continue painting works of art when the blue wall is back up.

Brown said that the blue wall technically belongs to the contractor in charge of the project, which means the wall will leave with the construction workers.

Salinas, a senior pictorial arts major, said he and the other members have no intention of letting the murals go with the construction site.

“I feel more comfortable if it just stayed within the school,” Salinas said.

Salinas said he is open to other options, like possibly displaying the works on campus in a gallery setting or auctioning them off in a fundraiser.

“There’s been quite a few people who are interested in buying them,” Jordan Gonzales, a senior studio art major and member of the Dirty Brushes, said. “The construction people love them too.”

Gonzales said that the workers have made an effort to protect the murals between phase one and two of the project.

Salinas said that the mural project was initially intended to encompass the entirety

SEE CONSTRUCTION ON PAGE 6

CAMPUS IMAGE



Brandon Chew | Spartan Daily

From left to right: Alpha Sigma Phi members, Ben Galeana, Cory Ryan, Brandon Zaya and Andre Galang, get ready to play a game of football on Tower Lawn Tuesday evening Feb. 4, 2014.

COMMUNITY

Students, companies rave over minimum wage increase

By Colton Seike
@Colton_Seike

As President Obama continues to fight the battle to raise minimum wage nation wide, the city of San Jose beat him to the punch and increased the hourly pay again.

On Jan. 1, San Jose increased the minimum wage from \$10 an hour to \$10.15 an hour for an estimated 40,000 workers, according to Dr. Scott Myers-Lipton, a sociology professor at San Jose State who helped get the minimum wage initiative on the ballot in 2012.

Philz Coffee in downtown San Jose is one of the companies that has been impacted and increased their wage.

“I think it is a good thing,” said Komiel Mohsen, manager at Philz Coffee in San Jose. “We are giving people better wages. It’s not really hurting your bottom line as much as everyone says it is.”

Some business managers, like Mohsen, are not concerned about the raise because of how well they are doing and he believes that good business will continue into the future.

“We stay consistently busy,” Mohsen said. “Giving them better wages, it gives them a sense of ownership for their jobs.”

Mohsen said that they are not afraid of hiring more people in the future, but they are comfortable right now with 24 workers on payroll.

“We are constantly hiring people and bringing them on,” Mohsen said.

According to Myers-Lipton, unemployment in San Jose is at a five-year low, at below seven percent and is in the midst of the highest job growth in recent years.

“Every year we are going to look at (the minimum wage),” Mohsen said. “We do not want our company to be a place that gives minimum wage.”

Minimum wage is not only affecting the business owners across Silicon Valley. Myers-Lipton said that it is affecting the entire working class in San Jose, such as students here at San Jose State.

“The impact is what we expected,” Myers-Lipton said. “It is giving minimum wage workers \$4,000 a year more it is stimulating the economy.”

As the minimum wage increased in San Jose, some businesses and companies in neighboring cities, like Campbell and Cupertino, are starting to match San Jose’s wage, according to

Myers-Lipton.

Junior communications studies major Giuseppe Scarpino, who currently works at the Cypress Hotel in Cupertino, continues to work hard for pay just under \$10 an hour and will continue

SEE MONEY ON PAGE 6



Colton Seike | Spartan Daily

Danielle Simmonds, a barista at Philz Coffee in Downtown San Jose, brews a customer’s coffee. San Jose raised its minimum wage from \$10 to \$10.15 an hour effective Jan. 1 because of the annual cost of living.



INSIDE 

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FORECAST

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OCEAN

Castaway washes ashore 5,700 miles from Mexico after 13 months adrift in Pacific

By **Tim Johnson**
McClatchy Tribune

MEXICO CITY — It was a daylong fishing trip that went seriously bad, setting a shark fisherman adrift on an apparent 13-month odyssey from Mexico across the Pacific Ocean.

The fisherman washed up last week in the Marshall Islands, bedraggled, wildly bearded and dazed, barely able to communicate.

"He said he was on a fishing trip with another guy and somehow the north wind blew them and they got lost," Gee Bing, acting foreign minister for the Marshall Islands, told Radio Australia.

Early reports of the castaway's journey said he was Mexican. But Mexico's Foreign Secretariat said in a statement Monday that its ambassador to the Philippines had spoken with the man and determined that he is from El Salvador. He had apparently lived in Mexico for more than a decade.

The fisherman was identified in press reports from Majuro, the capital of the Marshall Islands, as Jose Salvador Alvarengo. Other reports had his surname as Alvarenga and Alvarengo.

The castaway told diplomats that he set off with a fellow fisherman from the Pacific coast of the Mexican state of

Chiapas 13 months ago for a daylong shark fishing excursion.

"But he was blown off course by a storm and he's been at sea since Dec. 21, 2012," Thomas H. Armbruster, the U.S. ambassador to the Marshall Islands, told CNN after speaking to the man in his native Spanish. "It did sound like he had a young man on the boat with him, and he was lost at sea."

Photos showed medical personnel helping the castaway shuffle off a vessel that had picked him up from Ebon Atoll, a sparsely populated coral atoll of 22 islands that is the southernmost part of the Marshall Islands, an archipelago halfway between Hawaii and Australia. The islands are more than 5,700 miles from Mexico's Pacific coast.

Armbruster said the Salvadoran fisherman was recovering.

"He's talked about joint pain," Armbruster told CNN. "I know he'd like a haircut. But he looks very good. I'm no medical professional, but I think he's in much better shape than one would expect after such an ordeal."

None of the fisherman's immediate family could be contacted.

The castaway told Mexico's ambassador to the Philippines, Julio Camarena Villasenor, that he has "not a single relative in Mexico, only in El Salvador," the secretariat's statement said.

Gee Bing told Radio Australia that he did not know how

the castaway survived for the time he said he was adrift.

Britain's Daily Telegraph newspaper said its reporter spoke to the fisherman in the Majuro hospital, saying the man's 15-year-old fishing companion, who he named only as Ezekiel, died four months into the ordeal after he refused to eat further raw food. The man said he survived off of birds, turtles, fish and small sharks, sometimes drinking his own urine during periods without rain.

"I didn't know the hour, nor the date," he told the Telegraph. "I only knew the sun and the night. ... I never saw land."

Pure ocean, pure ocean. It was very placid only two days with big waves."

If the fisherman's story proves true and not lifted from a Hollywood script, he will certainly face many questions about how he endured such a long ordeal under the elements.

In a similar case in 2006, three Mexicans who said they drifted for nine months in the Pacific evoked as much suspicion as admiration upon their return, including demands that they submit to lie detector tests.

The fishermen said they had been blown out into the Pacific from their port of San Blas in Nayarit state, and their twin engines eventually conked out. They said they survived on rainwater, raw fish and sea birds. Two of their companions died on the high seas.

Upon their return, though, some Mexicans voiced suspicions that the fishermen were drug traffickers and had disappeared for months to avoid criminal charges. The suspicions died down, however, when the Roman Catholic Episcopal Council of bishops declared the men to be "examples of faith."

SOCIAL MEDIA

What's in Facebook's new app name? For rival iPad app Paper, a lot.

By **Jessica Guynn**
McClatchy Tribune

SAN FRANCISCO — Imitation may be the sincerest form of flattery for some. But not for FiftyThree, the maker of a popular app called Paper.

The startup is spitting mad that Facebook on Monday rolled out a new app also called Paper.

Facebook should get, well, more creative with the name of its new mobile news app, Georg Petschnigg, chief executive and co-founder of FiftyThree, said in an interview.

His company's iPad app is all about the human need to create, he said. The drawing app lets tens of millions of people share their ideas all over the Web and on Facebook.

FiftyThree's Paper app was released in

March 2012. It was such a big hit that Apple named it the best iPad app of 2012.

So Petschnigg said it came as a shock to find out last week that Facebook planned to roll out an app with the same name.

"That was an interesting way to wake up in the morning to see the name of our application Paper all over the media and associated with another company," he said.

FiftyThree heard from the media, developers and users, all of whom were confused about why Facebook was using the name, Petschnigg said. And that confusion, he said, could cause damage to FiftyThree, which has built up a lot of value in its Paper brand.

"The full extent of the damage is unknown at this point," he said. "There's little room to coexist with an organization as large as Facebook."

Over the weekend, Paper's lawyers sent a letter to Facebook asking the giant social network to pick another name for its app.

Facebook declined to comment.

It's a bit ironic for Facebook to have lifted the Paper name. The giant social network has aggressively gone after any company using the word "book" in its name.

But this is likely the way Facebook sees it: The Paper name most accurately conveys the new app — a combination of Facebook and news consumption that has a very tactile feel.

So far, Facebook's version of Paper is only available on the iPhone (although if successful, it's likely that it will expand to other platforms). There are already a number of apps called Paper. And FiftyThree has a trademark on the Paper by FiftyThree, not just Paper.

"All technology and consumer product

companies must be careful about how they name their products, and this is no different," said Gartner Research analyst Brian Blau. "In most cases, the companies involved work out their differences without much fanfare."

Petschnigg said he's an optimist by nature and "we are remaining hopeful we can find a solution. We are keeping our options open."

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Cristina García

THE MARTHA HEASLEY COX LECTURE

February 6 | 1pm, In Conversation with Andrew Sean Greer



Cristina García is the author of six novels, including *King of Cuba*, published in 2013; *The Agüero Sisters*, winner of the Janet Heidiger Kafka Prize; and *Dreaming in Cuban*, finalist for the National Book Award. She has written three books for young readers and a collection of poetry, *The Lesser Tragedy of Death*, and edited the anthologies *Bordering Fires* and *Cubanísimo*. Born in Havana and raised in New York City, García is a former bureau chief for *Time Magazine* and the winner of a Whiting Writers Award, a Guggenheim Fellowship, a Hodder Fellowship, and the Northern California Book Award. She lives in Northern California.

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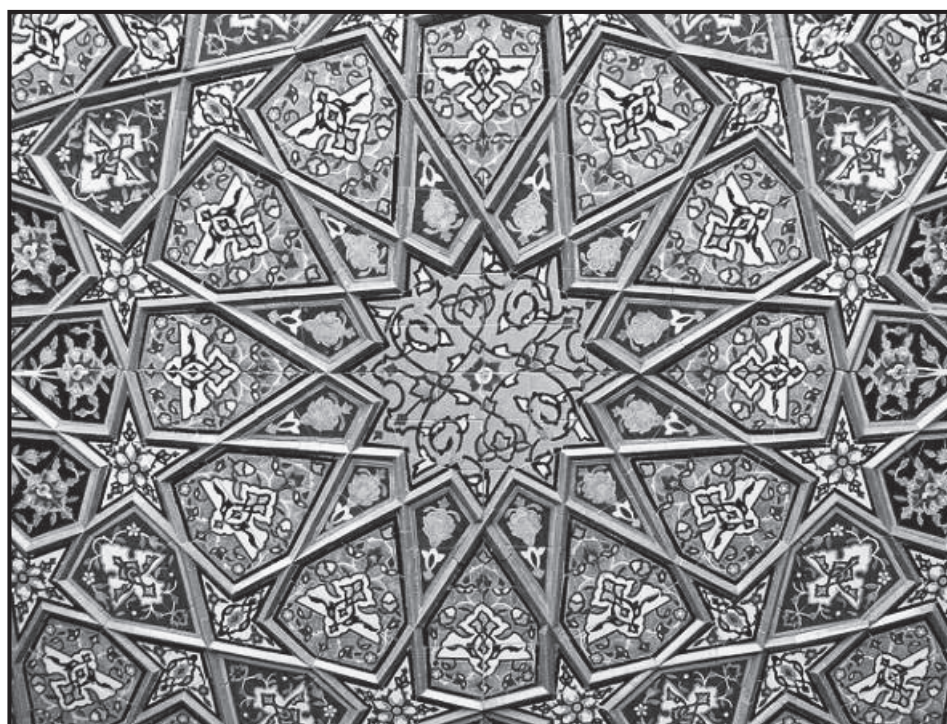












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GOLF



Photo courtesy of SJSU Athletics

Former Spartans women's golf coach inducted into Hall of Fame

Staff Report

Former San Jose State women's golf coach Mark Gale was inducted into the Northern California Golf Association (NCGA) Hall of Fame on Tuesday at the Inn of Spanish Bay, according to SJSU Athletics.

"It's been a long time since I've been with golf," Gale said in an interview with SJSU Athletics. "I'm glad that San Jose State's being recognized once again."

Gale was the first coach in NCAA history to lead a program to three Division I championships during his 19 seasons with the Spartans, and was one of four coaches to be inducted into the NCGA Hall of Fame.

"Whenever you have a record for a little while it's pleasing to you as to me as an individual," Gale said. "I had the

University at heart, we needed recognition and we got it."

Gale coached the women's golf team from 1987 through 1997, and led them to championship runs in 1987, 1989 and 1992.

SJSU fell no lower than sixth at the NCAA Championships with three titles, four seconds, a pair of thirds, a fourth and a sixth-place finish.

"Well it was fun for me," he said. "A fun 19 years and maybe the 92 tournaments we won helped it along. The three championships, the memory of those will never leave and I can remember the 18th hole of all three of them like they were yesterday."

Gale was inducted with the University of California men's golf coach Steve Desimone, former Stanford University men's golf coach Wally Goodwin and current Stanford men's golf coach Conrad Ray.

Desimone, Goodwin and Ray each coached their programs to one NCAA team championship.

COLUMNIST

Disabled athletes can shine in wheelchair accessible sports

By Talia Geliebter
@Tgeliebter

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to be a disabled athlete? Would the sports that you play be more difficult? Would you tire out easily and give up, or continue through the pain?

Few able-bodied people know that the disabled are capable of playing sports. Even though I am in a wheelchair, I can play as many sports as I desire.

I have cerebral palsy, a physical disability. I was born on Nov. 20, 1987, 15 weeks premature, weighing 1 pound and 9 ounces. The doctors and the nurses who delivered me thought that I would die because I was so sick.

They told my parents that I would never walk, talk, crawl or do anything else. I proved them wrong though, and grew into a beautiful, young woman. I received my first manual wheelchair at three years old. I received my first power wheelchair when I was in the fifth grade.

I didn't like sports until much later in life. My parents let me become who I wanted to be through adaptive sports. Around the age of nine, I tried out a track chair. Since I was young, my arms couldn't really reach the push rims to allow me to push the chair on the track, but it was fun.

There's freedom and independence in sports, but it takes a lot of effort and willingness to participate in a wheelchair accessible sport.

As an athlete, I have done wheelchair basketball, wheelchair rugby, swimming, sit down sledge ice hockey, sit down water skiing, wheelchair curling, dancing, wheelchair racing and bowling.

My favorite sports are snow skiing and power soccer. I like the feeling of the wind in my hair while speeding down a slope, or zooming around chasing a 13-inch soccer ball.

I started snow skiing when I was young. I downhill ski at Alpine Mead-



Photo courtesy of Joe Carrow

Members of the San Jose Steamrollers take time to pose for a picture during the introduction ceremonies at the 2010 nationals in Indianapolis, Indiana.

ows in Lake Tahoe by sitting in a bucket-shaped seat and by using special poles called outriggers that have little skis on the bottom.

I am tethered to my ski instructor and they yell out, "Left!" and "Right!" while we ski downhill. I turn the ski by shifting my weight left or right, comparable to an able-bodied person.

Skiing is exhilarating, providing me with the feeling of freedom; similar to power soccer.

A friend of mine sparked my interest in power soccer. She recommended that I go to watch a game, and I've been hooked ever since. I've participated in the sport for six years.

Power soccer is a sport for people who primarily use power wheelchairs, giving those who have cerebral palsy, muscular dystrophy or spina bifida a chance to play.

Power soccer is played on an indoor basketball court, and is played similar to regular soccer, with slight rule changes.

Similar to traditional soccer, athletes cannot use their hands to pick up the ball. In order to pass the ball, athletes must use a metal guard attached to the front of their chairs.

It involves the speed of the player's chair and the skill of the player to become a great power soccer star.

According to the United States Power Soccer Association website, "Power Soccer is the fastest growing sport for power wheelchair users."

Power soccer is played internationally, and teams from countries such as the U.S., Japan, France and England participate in international tournaments.

This past year, an under 18 Team USA power soccer team went to Paris and brought back another trophy for the U.S.

Team USA won back-to-back tournaments beginning in 2007. First in Tokyo, Japan and then again in Paris, France in 2011.

I continue to polish my skills and live my life freely on a team called the San Jose Rockets. But for my future I have the goal of one day participating on Team USA and winning a trophy for my country, shinning as a brave wheelchair accessible athlete.

Talia Geliebter is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

Season Standings and Stat Leaders

Men's Basketball		Women's Basketball		Women's Water Polo	
Team	W-L	Team	W-L	Team	W-L
San Diego State	19-1 (8-0)	Colorado State	16-4 (8-1)	UCLA	11-1
New Mexico	17-4 (8-1)	Boise State	12-8 (7-2)	Cal	9-1
Nevada	12-10 (7-2)	Fresno State	12-8 (6-3)	San Jose State	8-5
UNLV	15-7 (6-3)	UNLV	9-12 (6-3)	Stanford	4-0
Wyoming	14-7 (5-3)	Nevada	10-10 (5-4)	Arizona State	3-2
Boise State	15-7 (5-4)	Wyoming	13-6 (4-4)	Bakersfield	3-7
Colorado State	12-10 (3-6)	San Diego State	7-11 (4-4)	USC	0-0
Air Force	9-11 (3-6)	Utah State	10-10 (4-5)		
Utah State	12-9 (2-7)	New Mexico	8-12 (3-6)	Team Leaders:	
Fresno State	9-13 (2-7)	San Jose State	8-13 (2-8)	Goals	
San Jose State	6-16 (0-10)	Air Force	1-18 (0-9)	Clara Espar Llaquet	39
Team Leaders:		Team Leaders:		Rae Lekness	32
Points per game		Points per game		Timi Molnar	19
Rashad Muhammad	19.2	Ta'Rea Cunnigan	19.2	Victoria Smith	17
Rebounds per game		Rebounds per game		Kelli Leabo	16
Two tied with	5.9	Riana Byrd	9.8	Saves	
Assist per game		Assist per game		Maddie Reardon	74
Jalen James	3.0	Britta Hall	3.4		



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PREVIEW

Cinequest festival connects with movie lovers

By Ashley Bulayo
@ashleeybash

Cinequest, an annual independent film festival, will return to downtown San Jose from March 4 through March 16.

Halfdan Hussey, co-founder and executive director of Cinequest and radio, television and film professor at SJSU, spoke at a press launch Jan. 28 and revealed the festival's highlights and events the audience won't want to miss.

"The theme this year is 'connect,'" Hussey said. "We believe in the power of movies to connect us to worlds beyond ours in very, very special ways."

According to Hussey, this year will be the festival's first time presenting the Maverick Innovator Award, which honors individuals who have improved people's way of communicating and connecting with one another through media.

This first award will be handed to Martin "Marty" Cooper, also known as the "Father of the Cellphone," and the second to actor, filmmaker and technologist Matthew Modine, Hussey said.

Also new to Cinequest is the Media Legacy Award, recognizing journalists for their role of bridging the gap between the audience and films, Hussey said.

For students who are more interested in the film program, here are a few movie descriptions:

"Uneasy Lies the Mind"

This psychological thriller is shot entirely on an iPhone 5. Meet Peter who is living a normal life until secrets slowly unravel and cause him to question everything he's ever known.

"APP"

You would think "Her" would be the last movie about humans interacting with their cellphones. Nope. Main character Anna wakes up one day to find a new app on her smartphone, IRIS. What was once a helpful app soon turns against her and eventually puts her life at risk. Usually it's required to put your phone away inside the theatre to avoid distractions, but director Bobby Boerman insists you use your device to interact with the movie as events



Ashley Bulayo | Spartan Daily

From left to right: Kyle Burt, Sanam Damsaz, Allie Virgen, Taylor Danska and San Jose State University radio, television and film professor Halfdan Hussey talk about this year's Cinequest theme "Connect" on Tuesday, Jan. 28.

occur on screen.

"A Practical Guide to a Spectacular Suicide"

Tom was set on committing suicide, but failed after multiple attempts. He wanted to make sure he went out with a bang. Along the way, he develops some unintended friendships while still trying to put together a "Spectacular Suicide." Will his newfound friendships be enough to keep him from ending his life?

"The Rugby Player"

Take a look into the life of Mark Bingham who was a passenger on United Flight 93 during 9/11. Before his life was abruptly taken, Bingham was an openly gay rugby player and public relations executive who lived a life with meaning. Featuring footage shot by Bingham

himself and directed by Emmy award winner Scott Gracheff, "The Rugby Player" shows the audience how Bingham's life can inspire anyone who watches it.

"Asquared"

Ever feel like second-guessing what you post on the Internet? This movie will continue making you feel that way. Teenager Amanda Bertini is blindsided by what she believes is "love" only to have it stab her in the back. Trying to live a "normal" life as a teen is hard enough, but thanks to technology, Amanda realizes your life could be ruined at the click of a button.

"Friended to Death"

Yeah, you may have 2,000-plus friends but how many of them do you consider your

real friends? Michael, a Facebook junkie, finds himself asking this question. In an effort to find out who really cares for him, he fakes his own death to see who actually cares or just absentmindedly scrolls past the news on their newsfeed. Little does Michael know, a couple of people are onto his experiment. Now ask yourself, who do you consider your real friends?

Films will be shown inside the California Theatre, Camera 12 Cinemas and the San Jose Repertory Theatre.

Students can attend regular screenings at a discounted price of \$5 with proof of student ID presented at the box office.

Ashley Bulayo is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

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Sudoku Puzzle

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

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

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

Previous Solutions

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

A	T	O	M	C	A	D	E	T	S	A	S	S		
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P	O	R	T	R	A	I	T	G	A	L	L	E	R	Y
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Crossword Puzzle

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14					15				16				
17					18				19				
20							21						
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- ACROSS**
- 1 Syllables sung while skipping
 - 6 Like the dry season
 - 10 Tailor's meeting place?
 - 14 Hulk of pro wrestling
 - 15 Comedian Carvey
 - 16 One-time Canadian major leaguer
 - 17 Any obsolete item
 - 20 Wax-winged flier of myth
 - 21 Against the rules
 - 22 Address for a gentlewoman
 - 25 Ernest, in "From Here to Eternity"
 - 26 Road Runner's remark
 - 30 Aid a felon
 - 32 Bug
 - 35 Feeling of hatred
 - 41 It may be opened at a party
 - 43 Surpassed
 - 44 Make more ef-
 - 45 Word with "heaven"
 - 47 Winter hazard
 - 48 Book with legends
 - 53 Upper-story room
 - 56 "Born Free" beast
 - 58 Portion of a mountain range
 - 63 Hit film of 1985
 - 66 Russian range or river
 - 67 Reference books?
 - 68 Hindu attire
 - 69 Man or boy
 - 70 It may lead to a conclusion
 - 71 Cast off from the body
 - 7 U.K. mil.
- DOWN**
- 1 Bangkok citizen
 - 2 Campus mil. grp.
 - 3 Turkish honorific
 - 4 Secluded habitat
 - 5 Per ____ (yearly)
 - 6 Fuss
 - 7 U.K. mil.
 - 8 By dead-line
 - 9 Willie Wonka's creator
 - 10 Art photo shade
 - 11 Right on the money
 - 12 Orbital extreme
 - 13 It may be below a crest
 - 18 Org. founded by Juliette Gordon Low
 - 19 Diminutive seasonal helper
 - 23 Statistics and such
 - 24 Inactive
 - 26 Type of lettuce
 - 27 A great lake
 - 28 Flubs
 - 29 Brad of Hollywood
 - 31 Like a Granny Smith apple
 - 33 "La," at La Scala
 - 34 Tallies
 - 36 Prefix with "classic" or "natal"
 - 37 Stoic and alcohol
 - 38 Certainly not nice
 - 39 "Render therefore ____ Caesar ..."
 - 40 Hobo concoction
 - 42 Golf stroke
 - 46 Resurrection Day
 - 48 Set of records
 - 49 Princess's crown
 - 50 Like some anesthesia
 - 51 Foot-leg connector
 - 52 Two of a kind
 - 54 World currency org.
 - 55 Partner of effect
 - 57 Achy from a workout
 - 59 For men only
 - 60 Casual affirmative
 - 61 Cornea and lens
 - 62 Ending with "slug" or "song"
 - 64 Witch Tokyo, in the past
 - 65 Tokyo, in the past



Disney reintroduces the gay debate

Let's talk about some gay stuff.

The portrayal of same-sex relationships and gay people in film is not an entirely new concept.

In a lot of cases, films

or television

shows that have shown a realistic and "normalized" view of gay couples were either independent films or movies that were given R-ratings that made it more difficult to go mainstream.

Within the last decade however, romantic relationships between members of the same-sex have made some headway in the media, especially in television.

We have programs such as "Modern Family," where a sassy gay couple with an equally sassy adopted Vietnamese daughter are one of the main attractions.



Follow Jessica on Twitter @jessieschleg

ABC Family's "The Fosters" is based around a lesbian couple who take in several foster children.

The infamous HBO series, "True Blood," notorious for its mature and sexual content, features an interracial male couple.

But when a corporation like Disney, famous for being a major influence on children across the globe, put a lesbian couple into their television series "Good Luck Charlie," controversy was inevitable.

Thankfully, there is a large body of people applauding Disney for "breaking down barriers" and "making history" with its introduction of the first gay couple on a Disney television show.

However, with all of the praise and positivity going on, there's always groups of people such as One Million Moms, a subgroup of the American Family Association, who is boycotting the show.

They condemn the show for pushing the so-called "gay agenda" onto children who couldn't possibly be ready to confront or comprehend ideas of homosexuality and sexual orientation.

These groups love to say how "neutral" they are toward the gay community, how much this issue isn't about gays but about our children and the appropriate ages we should be teaching them about "mature" topics in the "adult world."

Though homophobia has become less and less common in our society, it is important to address that it does still exist.

As long as the progressives continue being open to participating in dialogue about LGBT issues, maybe some wisdom will manage to seep its way past the thick barrier of shit that surrounds the homophobic brain.

We should not be determining the humanity of a person based on

whether they are gay or straight.

We live in a country where the government and its people cannot discriminate against us because of what race we are, what sex we are or whether we fornicate with members of the opposite or same sex.

In terms of what rights we are allocated, sexual orientation is completely irrelevant.

In that same spirit, minorities should not be banned from television plots just because some people are uncomfortable being exposed to the wide array of lifestyles that form the reality we live in.

Gay people should not hide for the sake of the close-minded who pretend that the LGBT community doesn't exist. It is the shortsighted who form these beliefs for their conveniences and misguided ideas of what should be accepted in our society and shown on our television sets.

Programs made for children whose intellect, not religiously-dictated moral compass, is essential to the development of our future.

I am tired of listening to the

idiots who say the lesbian couple in Disney's Good Luck Charlie exposes children to sex, homosexuals and blasphemy.

Last time I checked, the scene involved two respectable women who are described as the "moms" of a friend of the main character.

Seeing as how they don't enter the scene flicking their tongues suggestively between the V formed by their middle and forefinger, I don't see why the "gay agenda" and the women's sexual orientation needs to be discussed.

Children are not going to watch Good Luck Charlie and think, "Wow, Mom and Dad how do Taylor's moms do the dirty sex deed together?"

Only the "adults" with perverted minds and distorted ideas of what human sexuality is see that.

For children this isn't about sex, homosexuality or the "gay agenda."

For children, it may be about love and accepting that the definition of family is dynamic, and that in our world, you don't have to fit a specific mold to be loved and accepted.

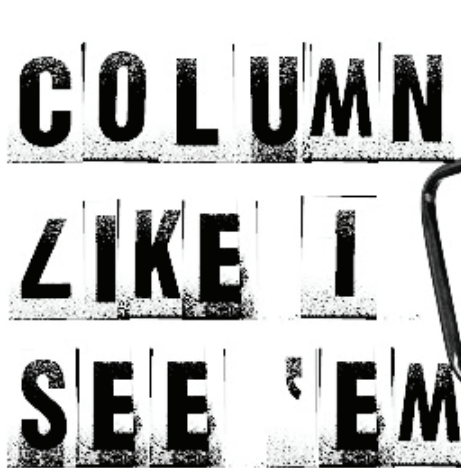
What Disney did, and what many other shows have done and will do, is normalize things that should never have been segregated from social norms in the first place.

Television shows such as "Good Luck Charlie" expose children to tolerance and the appreciation of diversity, both of which are values that are undermined much too often in our society.

Agendas do exist. They live in hearts of the hateful and the minds of those who choose to discriminate.

The gay agenda, however, is not one of them.

Jessica Schlegelmilch is a Spartan Daily staff writer. "That's What Shleg Said" usually appears every first and third Wednesday of the month.



When the unstoppable force meets the immovable object

What happens when an unstoppable force meets an immovable object?

How about when the best defense in the NFL meets the league's best offense?

If you were watching Sunday's Super Bowl, the answer became clear in a matter of seconds.

The Seattle Seahawks' aggressive defense smothered the Denver Broncos' record-setting offense in a 43-8 drubbing.

The game was a lesson in the tried and true clichés of a league that is being forgotten in favor of the no-huddle, high-flying, pass-first league we've embraced so eagerly in recent years.

As we watched Peyton Manning



Follow Austin on Twitter @AustinBelizle

throw 55 touchdowns and lead the Denver offense to "Mile-High" heights in total yardage and points scored this season, we paid little attention to the Seahawks and the "Legion of Boom" in the Pacific Northwest.

Football fans love the highlights and the "splash" plays, the deep throws downfield and the shootouts between star quarterbacks.

But what wins championships? An explosive offense that can move the ball up and down the field at will? Or is it the defensive schemes and physicality of the game that repeatedly have led to Super Bowl success?

An epic matchup of the best defense and the best offense on football's biggest stage was supposed to

be the high-flying affair we've come to expect from the NFL.

Peyton Manning was set to throw touchdown after touchdown to his multitude of receiving weapons and counter the speed of Seattle's defensive schemes.

Super Bowl Sunday is hyped as football's "best of the best," but everyone from the diehards to the casual fans were left disappointed.

Instead of an exciting, back-and-forth showdown that would leave us sitting on the edge of our seats, we were forced to sit back and swallow the answer to my previous questions.

Sometimes, the best offense is a good defense and complete domination isn't that exciting when it unfolds on the gridiron.

As football fans and spectators to sporting's biggest event, we learned a tough lesson last week. Defense wins championships, and here's why: Whoever wins the turnover battle wins the game.

The Broncos turned the ball over four times.

The Seahawks? Zero. The team that controls the ball longer usually wins the game.

Denver's time of possession was 28:07.

The Seahawks? 31:53. If a team can run the ball, they

can control the pace of the game. Denver's vaunted offense could only manage 27 yards on the ground.

Seattle broke the century mark with 135 rushing yards.

The game was won in all three phases (offense, defense and special teams). Denver only scored one touchdown in garbage time.

Seattle returned the second-half kickoff for a touchdown and broke the game wide open.

After Denver's safety debacle to begin the game, the supremacy of Seattle's defense was felt as soon as Kam Chancellor flattened Denver's Demaryius Thomas with a vicious

(It) was supposed to be the high-flying affair we've come to expect from the NFL.

hit at mid-field.

Along with Chancellor, the Seahawks' secondary carried its strong play over from the regular season.

Richard Sherman, who I recently defended as the best cornerback in the league, used his physical manpress coverage to make Eric Decker a nonfactor in the game.

Chancellor, a linebacker playing safety, intercepted Manning early in the game and used his size to manhandle Denver's receivers as they ran their now-famous crossing routes.

Earl Thomas, regarded by many

analysts as the best safety in the game, roamed the back-end of the defense and gave Manning no opportunity to push the ball downfield.

As fans, we tend to forget that the game is more than just a battle between the star players or the "skinny legs." There's an element we dismiss because there's no flash and little star power: The line of scrimmage.

In the Super Bowl, Seattle's pass rush dominated Denver's offensive line in a clinic of quarterback harassment.

As a pocket quarterback, Manning likes to "stay on his spot" in the backfield and survey the defense.

When rushers push the pocket into his body, the internal clock in his head speeds up and he must throw the ball before his receivers come open or develop their routes fully.

With the likes of Cliff Avril and Michael Bennett coming off the edge, Seattle made Manning uncomfortable all night by collapsing the pocket and getting their hands in his face.

Their relentless pass rush forced Manning into two interceptions, one that was returned for a touchdown and swung the game in Seattle's favor for good.

Defense reigns supreme and always will.

I ask again, what happens when an unstoppable force meets an immovable object?

Look at the Super Bowl for the answer. The immovable object doesn't move.

But that unstoppable force? It comes to a screeching halt.

Austin Belisle is a Spartan Daily staff writer. "Column Like I See 'Em" usually appears the first and third Wednesday of the month.

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Construction: Portraits will be relocated

FROM PAGE 1

of wall that wraps around to the engineering building, but that the group started slowing down because they weren't getting enough people to do another set.

As a group, the Dirty Brushes members agreed that each portrait takes about half of a semester to complete.

Salinas said the club is not strictly open to only art students and members come from a large array of different backgrounds.

"We like everybody," Salinas said. "They just like to do it (art) because they don't have time to take an art class...that's why we have the club so people can just come in, do whatever."

Gonzales said that he encourages all students with an interest in art to get involved.

Jessica Schlegelmilch is a Spartan Daily staff writer



Kevin Johnson | Spartan Daily Archive

The blue wall, covered in portraits of famous artists, stood between the music building and the new west wing of the student union.

Money: Inflation causes rise in wages, 40,000 workers affected

FROM PAGE 1

to fight for an increased wage at his job.

"I understand that the possibility of change is not going to happen in the near future," Scarpino said. "But the flexibility of my job is the reason why I still work there."

Minimum wage at the Cypress Hotel currently stands at \$9.50, Scarpino said, and with an increase, it would make the workers much more comfortable in their daily lives.

"It would definitely help to have an increased wage," Scarpino said. "I would have more money for school, bills and other amenities."

For now, the minimum wage in San Jose will stay at \$10.15 and will continue to increase due to inflation every year, according to Myers-Lipton.

Salvatore Babones, senior lecturer in sociology at University of Sydney and inequality.org writer, said that the minimum wage should be much higher based on inflation dating back to 1968.

Babones stated that if inflation kept increasing, minimum wage would be right around \$21.16, if not higher.

For some businesses, the matter of how much money you are being paid should not matter, rather the value of the job they do should be being looked at, according to Mohsen.

"You don't have to base it on how much someone is making," Mohsen said. "But you have to look at the value they are bringing to your company."

Colton Seike is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

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