

**Weather**



Chance of Showers  
**Hi**  
 73°  
**Lo**  
 57°



**SJSU MAKES THE RANKS**  
 PAGE 2



**'ART' SHINES AT CITY LIGHTS THEATER**  
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 PAGE 6



**PHENOMALLY FEMINIST**

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# SPARTAN DAILY

#SJSUAVIATION

## Self-funded aviation team returns to regional contest



Abraham Rodriguez | Spartan Daily

Co-captain Zack Shaffer checks his Cesna 152's tires before taking off from Livermore Municipal Airport. Shaffer is part of San Jose State University's Precision Flight Team.

By Abraham Rodriguez  
 @A\_Rodriguezzz

If not for the black strips of runway staining the terrain, New Jerusalem Airport looks like everything else in the Central Valley. The agrarian landscape is broken up by two stretches of pavement, the destination of Zack Shaffer and his Cesna 152.

Shaffer, a junior aviation operations major, is co-captain of San Jose State's Precision Flight Team. The flight team is the aviation department's club for licensed pilots aiming to qualify and compete at the National Intercollegiate Flight Association's competition.

"We have a bunch of new people that are coming to practice ... we're going to have tryouts in about a month," Shaffer said.

Tryouts will be held at New Jerusalem where the flight team practices maneuvers for the regional competitions in November.

The team will be facing six other aviation colleges in what the National Intercollegiate Flying Association called the "southwest region." The competition will take place in San Diego.

Last year, the team ranked 2nd place in regionals, earning them an invitation to national competitions at Ohio State.

The team currently has eight members returning after last year's success at nationals. They only take 12 members

to compete and usually take eight of their returning pilots plus four recruits.

"There's a lot of new pilots at our school ... this year we had a huge interest in the team," Shaffer said.

In the past, the team barely had enough members to fill spaces, Shaffer said. Now they'll have to choose the best members to compete.

"Normally the people we cut out are by [levels of] dedication. This year we have to do it by skill," he added.

Half the competition will be focused on air events. The team will have to perform precision landings where they aim for a box painted on the runway. The box will have lines painted within a couple hundred feet from each other and a broad line marking the center.

To achieve maximum points, the pilot must land their plane as close as possible to the center line. Points are given the closer they are to the center line. The lower the score the better – the higher number means the competitor missed by that same number of feet.

One landing, called the "power-off landing" requires the pilot to land with the engine idling but not generating any power, essentially gliding it in.

There are also navigational events where a navigator and pilot must navigate waypoints (coordinate markers) and identify ground targets.

There are a dozen scheduled events on Nov. 12-15. The team will leave the week prior to the competition and return the day after.

Xavier Warren, an aerospace engineering transfer student from Southern California, said he was excited to be part of the aviation department and enjoys the practice runs.

"It seems they're all into aircraft as well. I definitely want to be a part of it," Warren said.

Warren, like the rest of the new members, arrived at New Jerusalem to practice his aviation skills. Those that don't have their licenses yet stood on the sides and watched, testing each other on the basics. Only licensed pilots can compete in regionals. The aviation team has nine licensed pilots.

Last spring, the team was invited to national competitions after placing 2nd in regionals, losing the top spot to Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, one of the top aviation colleges in the country.

The trip to the national competition took 20 hours, the team said. Eight members flew to the competition at Ohio State using their own planes while four others took airliners.

SJSU finished ranking 17th in the nation. Sixty other colleges participated in the national competition.

Treasurer Chloe Raymer said reaching the top 30 percent was a significant victory for the flight club. Their facilities and airplanes are maintained using donations and alternative means of funding, largely provided by the members.

"Compared to other schools that have full funding from the school that provide the planes, provide full time coaches, we're self-run for the most part and we're able to keep up with the other schools," Raymer said.

The planes used by the team are owned by The Flying 20, a non-profit organization and SJSU club.

Abraham Rodriguez is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

#SJSUSUPREMECOURTJUSTICE

## Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor visits next month

### Anticipation for first Hispanic serving United States Supreme Court

By Sonya Herrera  
 @Sonya\_M\_Herrera

Social sciences professor and undergraduate adviser Maria Luisa Alaniz and her husband, a federal judge, worked on devising a suitable invitation.

"He was saying it has to be something really special ... it has to be something that stands out," Alaniz said.

So she wrote from the heart: "When I watched you swearing in with your mother standing next to you it brought tears to my eyes.

Your accomplishments mean so much to everyone who strives to make a better life for themselves, but your life trajectory is especially important to the Latino community."

These are a couple of the many heartfelt statements in Alaniz's invitational letter to Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor in early March.

Alaniz said the decision to invite the Supreme Court Justice was "very spontaneous," and the result of a casual dinner with her

husband's friend, who is also a friend of a friend of Justice Sotomayor's.

"I just kind of blurted out without even thinking – 'Oh, ask her if Sonia Sotomayor would come to San Jose State,' thinking it won't happen," Alaniz said.

Alaniz completely forgot about the invite until a few weeks later.

"I received an email [from her husband's friend], saying, 'My friend said she would personally deliver your letter to Justice Sotomayor if you send her a letter,'" Alaniz said.

"I was just shocked. I didn't think that she would do it. I thought she would forget," Alaniz said.

Alaniz drew from her personal experiences, both as a farm worker in the Central Valley and as an educator, to send a meaningful message to Justice Sotomayor.

"I told her that our students are so hardworking, and their story is your story," Alaniz said. "They're first-generation college, like her, and they're just working so hard to move from working class to middle class."

After Alaniz sent the letter, she said she was shocked when she received Justice Sotomayor's response in the same week.

Since the time Justice Sotomayor said "yes" back in March, Alaniz and other members of the event's planning committee have worked hard to ensure Justice Sotomayor's visit is what Alaniz calls a "student-centered event."

"I didn't include any of the VIPs on campus, like the top-level administrators," Alaniz said. "What I did was I had people that I feel are really committed to students: EOP, the sociology department, women's studies, Mexican-American studies, campus reading program."

Alaniz said she received backlash for her decision to orient the event toward students.

"I basically said this is not going to be a VIP photo-op event; it's not an event for politicians, because they want me to make appointments with politicians with her. I said, 'She didn't come here to meet with politicians, she came here to meet with students,'" Alaniz said.

Mexican-American studies professor Magdalena Barrera said she happened to be in

Alaniz's office when Justice Sotomayor's visit was confirmed.

"We all screamed like teenagers in the 1960s seeing the Beatles for the first time," Barrera said.

Barrera said while the technical aspects of planning have been smooth, "thanks in large part to Debra Griffith, director of EOP," she wishes there hadn't been so much resistance to the decision to make Justice Sotomayor's visit a student-centered event.

"There's some folks associated with our university – donors and local politicians and the like – who would really like to have VIP one-on-one meetings with Sonia Sotomayor," Barrera said.

But she thinks that Justice Sotomayor is more eager to "share her experiences with students of a similar background." It was that pitch that really made her want to commit to coming to San Jose State.

SEE FIRST GENERATION ON PAGE 2

#SJSURANKINGS

# San Jose State ranks high in education ratings

By Brian Stanley  
@BStanleyPhotos

San Jose State University ranks fourth for affordability in the western region of the United States, according to the website Great Value Colleges.

“San Jose State’s mission is to provide access to all kinds of students,” said San Jose State’s media relations Director Pat Lopes Harris.

Great Value Colleges ranks colleges and universities based on the net price as well as the data collected from eight quality indicators.

“One important way to do that is to make sure the cost of attendance is affordable to as many qualified students as possible,” Harris said.

The eight indicators include freshmen retention rate, the student-to-faculty ratio, average entrance ACT score and the six-year graduation rate.

San Jose State’s net price is estimated at \$11,138 per semester, according to Great Value Colleges.

“When they’re looking at finances from their perspective, they aren’t exactly gaining the perspective from the students,” said recreational therapy major Kim Lucero.

California State University estimates the cost of attendance at SJSU for the 2014-15 school year at \$25,414 for students living on campus and \$25,180 for off-campus living.

The cost of attendance includes tuition and fees, books and supplies, housing and meals, personal expenses and transportation.

The net price is the total cost of attending at the institution after subtracting the average

financial aid package value. eighth in the west regional rankings of Top Public Universities.

Lucero said SJSU’s rankings made her proud to attend the university.

“Sometimes you have to be reminded you are going

to rise in the U.S. News and World Report rankings of Top Public Universities in the West.

SJSU’s ranking improved one spot from ninth in 2013. San Jose State was ranked tenth in 2012.

California Baptist University and San Jose State are tied 38th overall in U.S. News’ rankings of universities in the west that offer a full range of undergraduate programs, “some” graduate programs and “a few” doctoral programs.

Charles W. Davidson College of Engineering at SJSU received top honors for public engineering programs in the nation offering bachelor’s and master’s degrees.

The College of Engineering is tied for third with California State Polytechnic University, Pomona.

Topping the engineering rankings is California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo followed by the University of Colorado, Colorado Springs.

“Once again, San Jose State was very highly ranked by its peers,” Harris said.

The ranking of engineering programs are based on a survey of engineering deans and

senior faculty at programs accredited by ABET.

Surveyors are asked to rate programs they are familiar with on a scale of one, being marginal, to five, being distinguished.

The rankings do not include service academies.

“We are proud of how we’re ranked and we strive to improve that moving forward,” said Jinny Rhee Ph.D., associate dean of the College of Engineering.

The engineering department maintained its ranking from 2013 and increased from seventh in 2012.

Rhee said the long term goal for the engineering department is to be number one.

San Jose State earned the top spot in computer engineering programs at public universities over Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo.

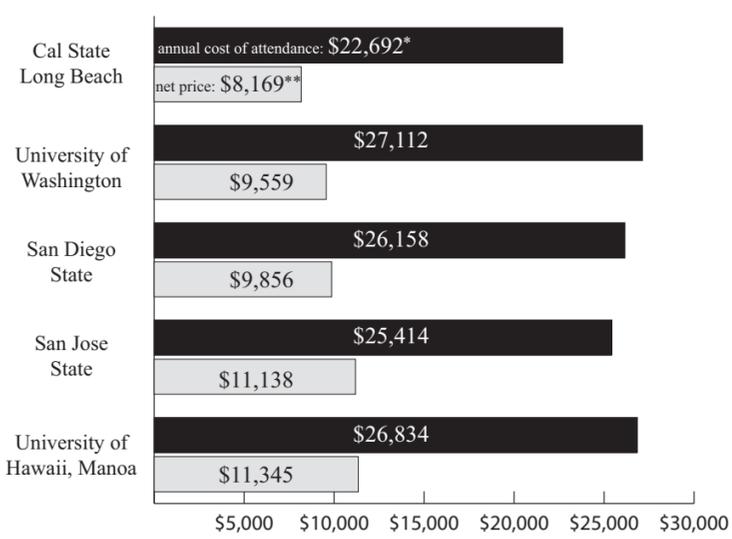
“We would like to get more of the departments on the rankings list for their own disciplines,” Rhee said.

Harris said the release of the U.S. News rankings is the most popular story on SJSU’s website.

“Thousands of people click on the link and thousands more will in the course of the year,” Harris said.

Brian Stanley is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

## Top five ‘Great Affordable Colleges in the West’



Infographic by Brian Stanley

Lucero said when you really look at the costs, it gets really expensive for students.

U.S. News and World Report ranks SJSU as

to a really good school,” Lucero said. San Jose State continues

# First generation: Students court Justice Sotomayor

According to the University Police Department, police patrol Captain Alan Cavallo said the event’s security has yet to be arranged.

“Her protection detail is actually handled by the marshals office, and they typically do an ‘advance’ where they come out to the location and they look at the situation and they try to figure out what are the security risks,” Cavallo said.

The Federal Marshals then send a detailed request to UPD for support.

“Generally speaking, on any type of dignitary protection, the local jurisdiction provides resources, whether it’s radios, telephones, hard rooms, vehicles and bodies,” Cavallo said.

He is confident Justice Sotomayor’s visit to San Jose State will be a safe one.

Justice Sotomayor will speak at the new Student Union on Oct. 20 at 4 p.m. Tickets to the event are sold out, but according to Alaniz, there will be an overflow room in Morris Dailey Auditorium with a live stream of Justice Sotomayor’s discussion with UC Berkeley law professor Melissa Murray.

Sonya Herrera is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

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SAN JOSE DIRIDON STATION/ALMADEN BLVD



Sonya Herrera | Spartan Daily

Adviser and professor Maria Luisa Alaniz poses for a photo in her office located in Moorhead Hall. A painting of Alaniz sitting at a desk with a photo of Justice Sonia Sotomayor superimposed in the background sits on her bookshelf.

Justice Sotomayor will visit San Jose State University and speak at the new Student Union on Oct. 20 at 4 p.m.

# Sparta Guide

SEPTEMBER	EVENT	TIME	LOCATION
<div style="background-color: #ccc; padding: 5px; border-radius: 5px;">THURS</div> <div style="background-color: #ccc; padding: 10px; border-radius: 10px; font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">18</div>	Air Force Birthday Barbecue	12:00 p.m. 4:00 p.m.	Associated Students Lawn
<div style="background-color: #ccc; padding: 5px; border-radius: 5px;">THURS</div> <div style="background-color: #ccc; padding: 10px; border-radius: 10px; font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">18</div>	New Music Concert for Saxophone, Piano and Electronics	12:30 p.m. 1:15 p.m.	Music Concert Hall
<div style="background-color: #ccc; padding: 5px; border-radius: 5px;">THURS</div> <div style="background-color: #ccc; padding: 10px; border-radius: 10px; font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">18</div>	Deconstructing Gender	5:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	MOSAIC Cross Cultural Center Mod A
<div style="background-color: #ccc; padding: 5px; border-radius: 5px;">TUES</div> <div style="background-color: #ccc; padding: 10px; border-radius: 10px; font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">23</div>	Jazz Trombone Concert	12:30 p.m. 1:15 p.m.	Music Concert Hall

Visit <http://events.sjsu.edu/> for more campus events.



#SJTHEATER

# City Lights Theater Company showcases 'Art'

By Kristen Wirtz  
@KristenWirtz2

"Art," a Tony Award-winning French play by Yasmina Reza and directed by Virginia Drake will be showcased by City Lights Theater Company in San Jose with a soft opening on Sept. 18.

The play, both a comedy and a drama, is about three guys: Serge (Jeffrey Bracco), Marc (Kit Wilder) and Yvonne (Max Tachis), whose friendships are challenged after one of them buys an all-white painting for a lot of money.

"The play is called 'Art,' so we see the art within the first two minutes of the play," said Drake. "And we think it's about this painting, but as the play evolves it's really a play about the art of friendship."

Drake, who has been directing shows for 40 years, said she decided to choose "Art" because of the excitement of having only three actors in the performance.

Kit Wilder, the actor who plays Marc, said the smaller the cast, the easier it is in some ways and more difficult in others.

"All three [of us] bear the weight of the show's success which is terrific, but it also demands a great deal from [the performers]," Wilder said.

The cast says it has been working to make sure it meets that demand.

Max Tachis said, "We've been rehearsing for the last four weeks, four to five days a week."

Drake said she can see this work paying off already.

Every rehearsal, the three actors make new discoveries about the play, Drake said.

She also said the actors will use monologues that break the "fourth wall," connecting directly to the audience.

This is when the characters will talk about their thoughts or feelings without the other character hearing.

This method of dialogue is commonly seen in other plays like Shakespeare's "Romeo and Juliet," "Macbeth" and many more.

Audience members should also be on the lookout for small details in the actor's performances.

Details such as a head turn, sitting upright or even a silent moment are all small gestures that have a lot of subtext in the performance.

Drake said one reason she loves this play is because of the actors' ability to incorporate their personalities and the relationship between the three of them into their work.

Taking full advantage of the stage's space the stage provides, the actors draw attention toward them and are able to shape the journey for the audience, Drake said.

As they near opening night, the actors say they are feeling both excited and nervous.

"If you don't get excited and aren't a little daunted by the challenge, then a project isn't worth doing ... and this is definitely very rewarding to work on night after night," Bracco said.

The film's opening night is on Sept. 20, where Drake and the actors will be ready to share their rendition of "Art."

Following the Oct. 2 showing, City Lights Theater will have a post-show after party, Drake said.

He also said audience members will meet



Kristen Wirtz | Spartan Daily

Kit Wilder(left) and Max Tachis(right) rehearse their lines for the play "Art" on Oct. 11 at City Lights Theater Company.

the actors, ask questions and talk about the personal experiences they had with the play.

Following the Oct. 5 matinee, the San Jose Institute of Contemporary Art will be hosting a talk-back about art collecting.

"We're thrilled that the ICA is not only joining us for a discussion about art collecting, but also using one of our theater

walls to display reproductions of artworks from the gallery's Annual Art Exhibition and Auction," said Rebecca Wallace, the marketing director.

Tickets can be purchased online at [cltc.org](http://cltc.org) or through the box office by phone.

Kristen Wirtz is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

## Nothing subtle about premises for 'Red Band Society' and 'Mysteries of Laura'

By David Hiltbrand  
McClatchy Tribune

The new TV season stumbles out of the gate with two ambitious but flawed series opening on Wednesday night.

"Red Band Society," slated for 9 p.m. on Fox, is a teen sobber about the live-in pediatric patients at Ocean Park Hospital in Los Angeles.

They're in there with a variety of grave diseases, including one boy (I kid you not) in a coma.

And he has the best lines in the show (again, not kidding!)

A screaming Octavia Spencer plays the Nurse Ratched of the wing, but underneath that gruff exterior, you can just tell she has a heart of butter.

Certainly discipline seems a bit lax.

The kids smoke cigarettes and marijuana on the floor. Some even go on a beer run

in a borrowed BMW (even though the oldest of them appears to be about 15).

But you have to cut them some slack.

Did we mention they're really, really sick?

One refers to his upcoming amputation as "a real conversation-killer."

You'd never know they were ill from the snarky and defiant way they talk.

And though they're too cool to show it, these little troupers are super-loyal to each other.

"Red Band Society" (the name comes from their hospital bracelets) aims for the poignancy of the runaway teen bestseller "The Fault in Our Stars," but the TV project is too transparent in the way it goes about tugging on your sympathies.

Then again, did you really expect a show about sick kids to be anything but emotionally manipulative?

"The Mysteries of Laura," which debuts

at 10 p.m. on NBC, also piles the premise on a little thick.

Debra Messing plays an NYPD homicide detective who is crazy calm — almost flip-pant — in a shootout.

The only thing that puts her on DEFCON 4 is when her boys' preschool calls, because she knows what kind of wanton destruction her twins are capable of. They're Dennis the Menace squared.

But cartoonishly bouncy music is playing constantly to let us know we're not to be taking any of this seriously.

Hmmm, a female cop comedy/mystery? What is this supposed to remind us of?

The script conveniently makes the connection for us.

Upon meeting our plucky detective, a snooty matron trills, "A middle aged police-woman. Just like Rizzoli. I love that."

Of course — TNT's popular "Rizzoli & Isles."

We knew the mood seemed familiar.

It's hard to figure out this cop's jurisdiction, though.

She shoots a perp on the Brooklyn promenade, but her first case is a locked-room murder at a mansion in the remote suburb of Bedford.

Where exactly is the Second Precinct?

NBC seems determined to make Messing ("Will & Grace," "Smash") a star, even if it kills us. But she's utterly unconvincing in both modes of Laura's character: the cop with a mean left hook and the frazzled mom.

To make matters worse, Josh Lucas ("Stealth") plays the other lead, Laura's on-again, off-again husband who also happens to be a homicide officer.

Honestly, to find two actors less believable as an NYPD couple, NBC would have to have held casting sessions off-planet.

On the plus side, "The Mysteries of Laura," which assumes its regular 8 p.m. slot next week, has really snappy writing.

It's good enough, in fact, to make this hour quite entertaining, but only if you can put aside the show's overt artificiality, which sits there like an elephant in the precinct house.

## 'Eleanor Rigby' segments examine a relationship from several angles

By Steven Zeitchik  
McClatchy Tribune

More than most movies, romantic dramas are defined by point of view.

Are we seeing the film through the lens of a man or woman?

The jilted or the jilter?

Or does a filmmaker seek to avoid specific vantage points entirely, keeping us at arm's length?

It's something first-time director Ned Benson thought about a lot about when he was developing his new relationship tale, "The Disappearance of Eleanor Rigby."

And it's something audiences might find themselves thinking about if they see the film or, more accurately, the films.

In telling the New York-set story of the young married couple Eleanor and Conor (Jessica Chastain and James McAvoy) who split up after a tragic event, Benson actually made two movies. Subtling one "Him" and the other "Her," he describes the same events in each but distinguishes them by their perspectives.

In one, we largely follow the path of the title character in realms the other is not likely to know or see — say, Conor as he navigates a difficult relationship with his father (Ciaran Hinds) in "Him," or Eleanor and how she interacts with her sister (Jess Weixler) after the breakup in "Her."

In scenes common between the two movies, we see the same moments, but shaded differently. Each of the films also has a tone, and even a look, befitting its namesake.

This would be no small ambition in any event.

But after the two films premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival last year and were acquired by the Weinstein Co., Benson and Harvey Weinstein agreed to make a new cut that synthesized the two films into a single feature that would be a little more release-friendly. Earlier this year, Benson and his editor, Kristina Boden, set about doing just that.

That creation, called "Them," arrived theaters this past weekend, where, though reviews have been mixed, it averaged a solid \$17,000 on four screens in Los Angeles and New York; it will widen to about 150 screens this weekend. "Him" and "Her" will open as a double bill (sold as one ticket) on Oct. 10.

"I wanted all three films to have their own identity but be under the umbrella of a trilogy," Benson said.

"Rigby" — the title is only loosely related to the Beatles song — is more than just a nifty formal trick.

By playing with perspectives, Benson is able to break free of the shackles that bind many linear two-hour movies and even to furnish an equivalent of sorts to television, in which multiple episodes and seasons allow for a far greater range of viewpoints.

More broadly, Benson's movies raise questions relevant in this era of selfies and Vines.

For all our interest in visually documenting our lives, the films implicitly ask, can we ever fully capture them?

Or, as Chastain observed: "What's that old line?"

There are three sides to every story — his side, her side, and the truth?"

Benson, a longtime Hollywood screenwriter, decided to make "Rigby" because of his own feeling that relationships were more slippery than many stories about them acknowledged.

He would hear a friend talk about a significant other and realize what a fractured view he was getting of their relationship.

It was also a personal project for him in other ways.

Benson and Chastain were in a long-term relationship — they arrived in Hollywood together from New York more than a decade ago — and though the movies are not autobiographical, Benson allows that the relationship and its dissolution found its way into the work.

"You draw on your experience all over again while you're making something like this, because you're trying to articulate part of yourself in it," he said. "I don't think love goes away, it just manifests itself in different ways."

He and Chastain — the two are now good friends — encountered skepticism as they went out to producers and financiers; cost-minded types kept telling them they liked the idea, but couldn't it just be one movie?

Which, they insisted, was exactly the opposite of the idea.

They eventually found some private backers for the modestly budgeted films, shot over a total of 40 days.

The Weinstein Co. understands that it has an unusual challenge on its hands in getting

consumers to buy a ticket for a romantic drama, then buying another for two more movies with the same characters a month later.

"We really want to event-ize it," said the company's head of marketing, Stephen Bruno. "The uniqueness of the release brings attention to it." Weinstein also is working with companies like Fandango to target people who bought tickets to "Them" for the release next month of "Him" and "Her."

Chastain noted that, like some fans of the experiment, she was initially skeptical of a compression, imagining it would squeeze out the delicacy of the thing.

"I thought, 'This is going to be a disaster. Why do we need one version?'" she said. "And I was wrong."

Still, she said, "I really hope people see 'Her' and 'Him' too."

Benson noted that since "Her" and "Him" began screening last year, he has found that people's views on the fictional couple were influenced by a host of factors — their own baggage, gender and relationship status, and even the order in which they saw the two films.

The second movie usually won viewers' over to that character's side, regardless of whether the film was "Him" or "Her."

"My point with this project is that there really is no right or wrong," he said. "I had no interest in making assumptions about how characters cope with something. How different personalities approach the world is what brings them together in a relationship. And in a weird, ironic way, it's what could make them end that relationship."



Phenomenally  
Feminist

Recently, a hashtag titled “#WhyIStayed” trended on Twitter.

The hashtag’s purpose was to bring awareness and put a face to victims of domestic violence.

My personal tweet read, “I didn’t know I could leave, I didn’t think anyone cared.”

I am a survivor of child abuse and neglect.

This topic is difficult for me to write about because it triggers many bad memories from my childhood.

It is also something personal but I feel it is important to talk about.

There is an ongoing debate about the difference between spanking and abusing a child.

My personal experience with child abuse was more a form of control, which showed that simple disciplining of a child could lead to something a lot worse.

I cannot speak on the subject of raising children because I am not a parent.

But I can remember the exact moment when being spanked turned into a beating and me

emotional abuse, according to dosomething.org, most children become victims of abuse and neglect at 18 months or younger.

More than likely, these children’s parents believe it is their right to hit and even beat their children to earn respect.

Now that I am an adult, I have absolutely zero respect for my abuser and I know a lot of my issues are connected to the abuse.

Dosomething.org states that 80 percent of 21 year olds who were abused as children met the criteria for at least one psychological disorder.

For me, it is depression, anxiety and a definite lack of self-esteem.

According to childhelp.org, there are more than 3 million reports of child abuse in the U.S. involving more than 6 million children, since a report can involve more than one child.

Amongst industrialized countries, the U.S. has one of the worst records when it comes to this topic.

**My experience has made me both a stronger and cautious person.**

**A childhood shaped in violence**

hiding under my bed from my abuser.

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Follow Jerica on Twitter @thehellajerica

Humanium is an international child sponsorship, non-governmental organization dedicated to stopping violations of children’s rights throughout the world.

Their website states that the League of Nations, now the U.N., adopted the Declaration of the Right’s of Children on Sept. 16, 1924.

Commonly known as the Geneva Declaration, it was the first time specific rights for children were recognized.

The international treaty also detailed the responsibilities of adults.

Every time I think back to my childhood, I am utterly disgusted by the way I was treated.

And what makes my situation worse is the fact I was a ward of the state living with a legal guardian.

Basically, my abuser was not my actual parent.

Growing up, I felt like no one cared about me, especially since my mom died when I was five years old and I never knew my dad.

I felt as though I somehow deserved the treatment I received.

Every day I was physically abused, told I was worthless and had many racist words said to me.

I am honestly amazed I am alive and not mentally deranged.

Everyone has a story.

I want everyone to stop putting the blame on the victim when it comes to topics like abuse, domestic violence and rape.

Everyone has some sort of history that shapes who they are as adults.

My experience has made me a strong and cautious person.

I escaped my living situation and I am still working on “fixing” the 16 years of abuse I experienced.

It takes a lot for me to trust people, especially men, but I am constantly surrounding myself with people who love and care about me.

For those who and survived child abuse, in any form, you are capable of doing so many great things.

Your abuser does not dictate how you live your life.

The only person stopping you from doing good in life is yourself.

Jerica Lowman is the Spartan Daily Opinion Editor. “Phenomenally Feminist” usually appears on Thursday.

**ONE WORD WISDOM** BY WES MOOTS

My fist seared with the whip-crack, burning sensation of a split knuckle as it collided with the sharp cheekbones of a man ... a man who thought there was no one else on the dark street but him and the woman he’d just assaulted.

The sudden, knee-buckling impact of a fist to my kidney from the man’s friend, who I failed to notice before deciding to be a hero, thrust me to the ground.

Newton’s third Law of Motion states for every action there is an equal and opposite reaction.

At its heart, violence is not immune to this law.

Suddenly my eyes couldn’t open wide enough to see, my ears could hear everything all at once and my entire body was consumed with two needs – equal and opposite.

**Violence: Strength without discipline destroys**

I couldn’t let myself get hit a second time, but I also needed to hit back.

Violence begets violence, and pain leads to more pain.

A man who has strength but lacks control is nothing more than a beast, and he deserves no more respect, privilege or providence than is given to wild animals preying on the weak.

For some, it is natural to be violent.

There are those who are born with a high-pain tolerance, broad shoulders, heavy muscles, barrel chests and a hunger for physical conflict.

Yet if we are to call ourselves evolved beyond the most basic of animal instincts, we cannot consider this genetic predisposition as an excuse for violence.

From a young age I was taught that violence is never the first solution a man seeks.

“Fast fists often only prove slow wits,” my father said.



Follow Wes Moots on Twitter @Stevewes

Look into the past of any abuser and more often than not, you will find abuse.

From unlucky circumstances, a victim’s concept of reality twists as he or she churns into a new monster.

The most fearsome monsters were once scared children who didn’t care about monsters in the closet or what lurked

under their bed as much as who was down the hall.

The problem with violence is its systemic nature.

Few who are on the receiving end of violence deserve it and too many will survive only to become the monsters.

No matter how hard someone hits the attacker, it cannot undo the pain that was caused.

Last week I wrote about war being the greatest proof of our societies’ imperfection,

and if a person can be born to violence then it could be proof of our imperfect nature.

To err is human, but to live with that as an excuse for behaviors and flaws is worse.

As we move forward in efforts to expose and condemn domestic violence, we must remember the uncounted number of spouses, partners, children and loved ones who are still unsung victims. While we cannot condone the actions of the abusers, we may need to sympathize with the abuse that made them monsters.

Discipline is key. It is not enough to teach how to avoid violent encounters.

We must teach our children, students, peers and friends that strength without control is a storm.

Anger, rage and violence are forces of our nature, but with trials, adversity and outside interventions, we all must learn to overcome those forces.

Wes Moots is a Spartan Daily staff writer. “One Word Wisdom” usually appears every Thursday. Tweet a single word to his Twitter handle with the tag “#OneWordWisdom” and your word could be covered in a future column.

**Domestic violence in NFL reaches new heights and trembling lows**

The rising numbers of domestic violence cases in the NFL are quite harrowing.

Greg Hardy, Ray McDonald and Ray Rice are only some of the recent athletes who had physical assault allegations made against them within the past year.

President Barack Obama issued a statement about Rice’s incident and said “hitting a woman is not something a real man does and that’s true whether or not an act of violence happens in the public eye or, far too often, behind closed doors.”

Ironically, these celebrities impulsively feel like “real men” when they have laid their hands on a woman.

Obama added, in his statement made by White House Press Secretary Josh Earnest during a press conference, that “stopping domestic violence is something that’s bigger than football – and all of us have a responsibility to put a stop to it.”

People tend to forget everyone has power over his or her actions.

So why are the defendants allowing someone else’s actions or words affect them to the point they have to punish and beat them?

Domestic violence clearly shows lack of

self-esteem. Hitting someone should not equate to superiority.

NFL football player Ray McDonald played in the opening 49er’s game after being arrested last month in his San Jose home.

The owner of the team, Jed York, defended McDonald because there was no evidence

revealed.

On the contrary, Baltimore Ravens’ owner, Steve Biscotti, made an unanimous decision to suspend Rice from the team when footage of the incident leaked.

The TMZ footage leaked two videos showcasing the terrible incident. The first shows Rice dragging his unconscious fiancé, Shanay Palmer, in an elevator.

The second, which the Ravens’ owner and team were aware of, shows Rice punching her hard prior to the first video.

A month after the incident, Palmer, now Rice’s wife, defended her husband at a press conference.

They said they moved forward after marriage counseling.



Follow Beverly Ukpabi on Twitter @cheerbev09

Domestic abuse survivor and writer, Beverly Gooden, started a hashtag on Twitter titled “#WhyIStayed” and “#WhyILeft” and they have since been used over 40,000 times in response to Palmer’s decision to continue her relationship.

The responses included destroyed self-worth, hoping for change from their partner, prioritizing children over themselves, finding happiness and deserving abuse.

I cringe when women are so willing to stay in these relationships.

I often wonder if being put in the public eye is the main reason a small amount of convictions are against public figures.

It boils down to the fact these women, who claim to stay or to leave, all have a vast range of moral values and standards.

Despite the values men grow up with, I don’t think there is any excuse to lay hands on a woman.

The famous song, “This is a Man’s World,” by James Brown comes to mind because he sings “it wouldn’t be nothin’ without a woman or a girl.”

According to the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, one in four women experience domestic abuse in their lifetime. It is one of the most chronically under-reported crimes.

Only about ¼ of all physical assaults, 1/5 of all rapes and ½ of all stalkings are reported to the police.

Although the NFL’s arrest rate is only 13 of the national average, their cases of domestic violence have reached 55.4 percent with a total of 83 arrests in NFL history, according to Benjamin Morris in the article “The Rate of Domestic Violence Arrests Among NFL players.”

Other athletes accused of domestic violence include Denver Broncos’ Rod Smith (2000), Dallas Cowboys’ Dez Bryant (2012) and Minnesota Vikings’ A.J. Jefferson (2013).

From Gooden’s hashtags, each victim chose his or her own life’s journey whether it meant having pain before joy, learning from mistakes or having strong, altruistic faith.

People don’t have the right to threaten someone’s life verbally or physically because they think they have entitlement.

A woman has to truly respect herself before and during a relationship in order to love someone else.

The good news is SJSU offers programs against domestic violence, such as the Public Health Nursing Club, Men Creating Change, Students Against Violence Everywhere (SAVE).

Students need to be fully aware of their resources and utilize them when necessary.

Beverly Ukpabi is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

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## #SJSUGOLF

# Cody Blick: Dedication and drive pushes him to top

By Rigoberto Gomes  
@AskRigo

Spartan golfer Cody Blick is familiar with being awarded different honors and becoming a better player at San Jose State.

Blick, a junior communication studies major, has been playing golf since he was 10 years old.

His passion for golf began when he tagged along with his father and grandfather at the links on weekends.

Blick, who has been competing in golf since middle school, was honored during high school at San Ramon Valley High School.

During the summer season, Blick's normal practices range from eight to 14-hour days, averaging about 50 hours per week.

This past summer, Blick had surgery due to a sports hernia and had to take a couple weeks off from his practices and daily routines.

"The doctor first noticed it in high school, so it was always there," Blick said.

Before signing his letter of intent to play golf at San Jose State, Blick searched for universities on the West Coast that had a head coach who would make him a better player.

Blick found the kind of head coach he was looking for when he found John Kennaday.

"I love the way he went about coaching and how he taught the game," Blick said.

After San Jose State, Blick said he aspires to become a professional golfer.

Blick said he follows Tiger Woods and Adam Scott, two highly regarded professional golfers, as role models for his own golf game.

Blick said that Woods' competitiveness and drive, along with Scott's golf swing, are just a couple reasons why they are his favorite golfers.

Blick's dedication and drive has pushed him to receive the 2014 PING All-West Region Honoree.

"I honestly didn't know I got it until the certificate arrived in the mail and my coach told me," Blick said. "It's a great honor ... I'm really proud of it."

During his freshman year, Blick was awarded Western Athletic Conference (WAC) Freshman and Player of the Year, along with being a First Team All-WAC player.

"I truly believed because I talked to coach coming into freshman year and those tasks he gave me during that summer, I was just really able to get off to a good start," Blick said.

Kennaday does not take credit for any awards Blick has received.

"He's earned every single one of those through his hard work and dedication," Kennaday said.

Blick said he believes golf is more than just a game.

"It feels like a lifestyle," Blick said. "Golf is my life, I love playing the game and I don't ever want to stop."

Kennaday describes Blick as a great golfer that has become a better student of the game.

"Cody is a very well organized driven player," Kennaday said. "He is incredibly mentally tough, strategic and resilient."

Kennaday said Blick is one of the best leaders on the San Jose State team.

"Cody is more organized and disciplined in practice than your average typical college player," Kennaday said. "He has set a great example with his leadership on our team."

This season, Blick's best finish was at the Wolverine Intercollegiate in Ann Arbor,



Terrell Lloyd | SJSU Athletics

Spartan junior golfer Cody Blick watches his putt head toward the cup in the 68th Transamerica/WFG Western Intercollegiate in Santa Cruz, Calif. on April 13, 2014.

Mich., where he placed 2nd.

On Tuesday, Blick finished 3rd in the Golfweek Conference Challenge in Burlington, Iowa, after shooting a four-under par 212 in the three-day tournament.

Blick and the rest of the Spartan golfers will hit the links on Oct. 13 at the Alister MacKenzie Invitational in Fairfax, Calif.

Rigoberto Gomes is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

## #SJSUFOOTBALL

# Spartans load up for Gopher hunt

By Brian Stanley  
@BStanleyPhotos

team return to the field this week and will be back on the road after a bye week, with more depth at the running back position.

The Spartans (1-1) head to the University of Minnesota for a non-conference game

against the Golden Gophers (2-1) at TCF Bank Stadium on Saturday.

"We have a good, young nucleus of running backs," said San Jose State head coach Ron Caragher at his weekly press conference.

Sophomore running backs Thomas Tucker and Jarrod Lawson plan on returning to the Spartans' lineup.

With the return of Tucker and Lawson, the Spartans will now have four running backs with game experience this season.

Tucker picked up 81 yards on 20 carries against North Dakota State, but did not play against the top-ranked Auburn Tigers due to a foot injury.

"We're really encouraged and excited to have Jarrod Lawson back joining the team," Caragher said. "He's had a good couple days of practice."

Lawson sat out the first two games of the season for unspecified reasons and will be making his season debut this Saturday.

As a freshman, Lawson played in 11 games and lead the Spartans in rushing with 788 yards on 164 attempts and scored four rushing touchdowns.

Joining Tucker and Lawson on this week's depth chart are freshmen Brandon Monroe and Limihai Hifo.

Caragher said Monroe and Hifo were each on the field for about 30 snaps against the Tigers on Sept. 6.

Monroe rushed for 55 yards on 18 carries in his first two San Jose State games.

Hifo gained 36 yards on 18 carries against the Tigers tough Southeastern Conference (SEC) defense.

San Jose State is looking for its second win against Minnesota and third win over a Big Ten Conference team in school history.

After last season's 43-24 loss to the Golden Gophers at TFC Bank Stadium, San Jose State is now down in the all-time series against Minnesota 2-1.

The Spartans' only win against the Golden Gophers came in 1992, which was played at the old Minnesota Vikings stadium Hubert H. Humphrey Metrodome.

Sophomore Golden Gopher quarterback Mitch Leidner lead the Minnesota offense after completing 26 of 54 passes for 362 yards in three games against Eastern Illinois, Middle Tennessee and Texas Christian University (TCU).

Leidner had a tough season having suffered multiple injuries the start of year off for the Gophers.

Against Middle Tennessee State on Sept. 6, Leidner sprained his medial collateral ligament (MCL) in his left knee.

Leidner suffered a foot injury late in the game against TCU on Saturday and was seen wearing a protective boot on his left foot after the game.

Minnesota head coach Jerry Kill described Leidner's foot injury as "turf toe" at a press conference on Tuesday.

Leidner has been practicing this week, but his status for Saturday's game is still uncertain.

San Jose State will make its Big Ten Network debut Saturday with a 12:01 p.m. kickoff and Spartan Radio Network coverage will begin at 11:30 a.m.

Brian Stanley is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

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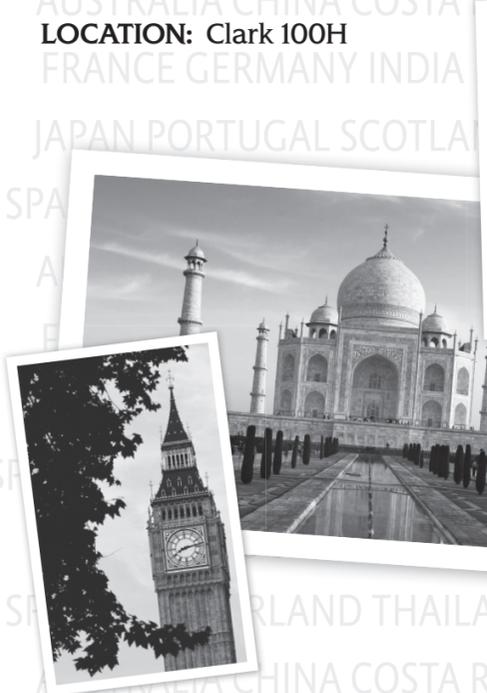
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