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NICK ZAMORA | SPARTAN DAILY

Hundreds of San Jose community members gather in mourning on Tenth and Reed streets Friday evening to memorialize Camdan McWright, an 18-year-old SJSU freshman football player who died that morning at the intersection. McWright was struck by a school bus while riding an electric scooter and was pronounced dead at the scene.

SJSU freshman football player Camdan McWright dies at 18

McWright struck and killed in collision with school bus while riding electric scooter

By Bryanna Bartlett
PRODUCTION EDITOR

Editor's note: this story has been updated since it was first published on <https://sjsunews.com/publication/spartan-daily> Friday.

Camdan McWright, San Jose State freshman football player, was struck and killed by a school bus Friday morning while riding an electric scooter, according to a Friday Mercury News article.

McWright, 18, was pronounced dead at the scene.

California Highway Patrol (CHP) Officer Ross Lee told the Bay Area News Group in its article that the San Jose Unified School District bus was carrying 14 students, none of whom sustained injuries, at the time of collision.

Lee said the bus was heading eastbound on Reed Street while McWright was traveling northbound on Tenth Street, where the collision occurred at 6:51 a.m., according to the Mercury News article.

According to a traffic surveillance video posted on Twitter Friday afternoon by Damian Trujillo, NBC Bay Area News reporter, the school bus was passing through the intersection of Reed and Tenth streets with a green light at the time of the collision.

The area was blocked off for several hours as San Jose Police Department (SJPD) officers asked civilians to avoid the area. It was cleared at 11:22 a.m. Friday.

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He was a beautiful soul and he will be dearly missed. He had a beautiful smile and always made everyone happy and always made everyone smile, thank you everyone for showing up.

Diane Kabukuru
SJSU student and best friend of McWright

Community members gather in mourning at accident scene, 2 blocks from SJSU

By Nick Zamora
STAFF WRITER

A candlelight vigil was held Friday night for Camdan McWright, an 18-year-old San Jose State football player who died earlier that morning in a traffic accident on Tenth and Reed streets.

McWright, who was from Los Angeles, was on his way to a workout at South Campus Friday when he was struck by a school bus with 14 kids on board at 6:51 a.m., according to a Friday NBC News article.

McWright was riding a Lime electric scooter northbound on Tenth Street through a green light, when he collided with the San Jose Unified School District bus, according to a Friday Mercury News article. He was pronounced dead at the scene.

Diane Kabukuru, SJSU student and best friend of McWright, attended the vigil in mourning along with several of McWright's teammates and coaches to say goodbye.

"He was a beautiful soul and he will be dearly missed," Kabukuru said. "He had a beautiful smile and always made everyone happy and always made everyone smile, thank you everyone for showing up."

Soon after news broke of the fatal incident, Director of Athletics Jeff Konya announced in a statement that the scheduled away game against New Mexico State in Las Cruces Saturday would be postponed.

VIGIL | Page 2



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SJSU | STUDENT AFFAIRS



PHOTOS BY NICK ZAMORA | SPARTAN DAILY

Freshman linebacker Justin Stearns (right) puts his arm around Diane Kabukuru, SJSU student and best friend of McWright, as she addresses the media on Friday evening.

VIGIL

Continued from page 1

Konya stated in light of recent events the game will be rescheduled for later in the season and thanked New Mexico State's football program for being accommodating at this time.

The vigil started around 6 p.m. with hundreds of attendees gathering on campus.

The crowd then marched down Tenth Street, escorted by a San Jose Police Department vehicle, toward the site of the incident.

Attendees gathered in a circle around about 30 prayer candles and memorabilia in honor of McWright.

SJPD closed down the intersection for two blocks in all directions to accommodate the crowd.

The collection of candles that the crowd faced was on the southeast corner of the intersection with the closest circle of people around the candles being predominantly teammates and those closest to McWright.

Several football players declined to speak to the Spartan Daily.

Engineering freshman Khoa Nguyen said he remembers seeing McWright around his dorm floor. After and after he received a text from his father about the vigil, he felt he should go.

"I was just shocked," Nguyen said. "I didn't know him personally but a lot of my friends knew him, I knew his face and I'd seen him on my floor."

The SJSU athletic community was a large portion of those in attendance, which included Jeff Konya and Interim President Steve Perez.

"I think it's very important



Candles, flowers and wooden letters "CAM" could be seen around a tree on the southeast corner of Tenth and Reed streets Friday evening.

for the community to come together and assist the grieving process," Konya said. "I think it's a show of solidarity and shows just how close-knit San Jose State is as a community."

McWright's death was one of many pedestrian deaths this year in San Jose.

This year is on pace to be a record year for pedestrian

deaths in San Jose with SJPD tallying 28 pedestrian fatalities so far, according to an Oct. 14 KTVU article.

Since 2015, the city has been addressing pedestrian and bicycle collisions and injuries through its Vision Zero Network, which aims to eliminate traffic deaths by enhancing roadway safety with

new measures, according to the Vision Zero Network website.

As many as 30 people died in pedestrian or bicycle related traffic collisions in 2021, according to Vision Zero's Maps and Data webpage.

Despite legislative initiatives, communities are left to deal with the loss of loved ones.

"What I'm exceptionally

proud of is the coming together of the community to support each other," Perez said. "That's the only way that we get through times like this is leaning on each other and this is a special community where people care about each other."

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INCIDENT

Continued from page 1

McWright was in his first season for the Spartans and was previously a running back for St. Genevieve High School in Los Angeles, near Sylmar – his hometown.

Sky Kerstein, SJSU assistant athletics director for communications and broadcasting, stated in an email Friday morning that the university will continue to work cooperatively with

SJPD, CHP, UPD, SJSU Student Affairs and SJSU Athletics in the aftermath of his death.

Head coach Brent Brennan was quoted in Kerstein's statement, in which he spoke on McWright's death.

"Camdan had a bright future ahead of him and everyone in this community that had the opportunity to spend time with him knew that," Brennan said. "We are still trying to deal with the news of this tragedy, and appreciate everyone's support during these difficult times."

He said the team's thoughts and prayers are with the McWright family.

"I want them to know we are all here for them," Brennan said. "Camdan will always be in our hearts and he will be profoundly missed."

Kerstein said counselors will be available to students and student-athletes through Counseling and Psychological Services in the Student Wellness Center to assist them in dealing with McWright's death.

The football team was expected to leave Friday morning around 11 a.m.

for its game in Las Cruces, New Mexico Saturday, but Kerstein stated in a Friday afternoon campuswide email that the game had officially been postponed.

The game is expected to be rescheduled sometime this season.

Members of the SJSU community held a candlelight vigil Friday evening at the scene of the incident starting at 6 p.m. to honor and pay respects to McWright.

Follow Bryanna on Twitter @brybartlett



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Pizza sauce, mozzarella cheese, pepperoni, italian sausage, bacon, & ham
- Combination** P \$9.50 / S \$15.99 / M \$19.99 / L \$23.99
Pizza sauce, mozzarella cheese, pepperoni, italian sausage, bell peppers, mushrooms, & olives
- Pesto & Veggies** P \$9.50 / S \$15.99 / M \$19.99 / L \$23.99
Basil pesto, mozzarella cheese, artichokes, zucchini, bell peppers, mushrooms, onions, & tomatoes
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Marinated pork, mozzarella cheese, onions, cilantro, & salsa
- Carnitas** P \$9.50 / S \$15.99 / M \$19.99 / L \$23.99
Pork carnitas, salsa, mozzarella cheese, onions, jalapenos, & cilantro
- Chicken, Bacon, & Ranch** P \$9.50 / S \$15.99 / M \$19.99 / L \$23.99
Mozzarella cheese, marinated chicken, bacon, & onions
- Chicken Spinach** P \$9.50 / S \$15.99 / M \$19.99 / L \$23.99
Mozzarella cheese, marinated chicken, bacon, & onions
- Margarita** P \$9.50 / S \$15.99 / M \$19.99 / L \$23.99
Mozzarella cheese, marinated chicken, white sauce, artichoke, & basil
- Shrimp Arugula** P \$9.50 / S \$15.99 / M \$19.99 / L \$23.99
Mozzarella cheese, marinated chicken, bacon, & onions
- Caprese Chicken Pesto** P \$9.50 / S \$15.99 / M \$19.99 / L \$23.99
Mozzarella cheese, marinated chicken, cherry tomatoes, & basil
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Mozzarella cheese, salami, black olive, yellow peppercorn, red onions, parmesan

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 - 20 Pc (3 Flavors) \$29
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 - 100 Pc \$120

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SJ mayoral candidates talk with SJSU

Politicians debate hot-button issues including housing and crime

By Alexia Frederickson
STAFF WRITER

SJSU Votes! held a forum between mayoral candidates Matt Mahan and Cindy Chavez remotely through Zoom Sunday.

The forum, which had about 100 attendees, mainly concerned issues regarding the SJSU community and the greater downtown area.

SJSU Votes! says it's a student-led organization that encourages students to register to vote and participate in elections. It works with organizers on campus and within the city to mobilize voters.

Discussion questions on a wide array of topics were posed by both members of SJSU Votes! and students.

The candidates were introduced by political science junior Sabrina Nabizada. That was followed by Q&A discussion led by Mary Currin-Percival, director of SJSU Votes! and the Institute for Public Affairs and Civic Engagement.

Each participant was given a two-minute time frame to answer each question and were allowed to make one objection when the other participant was speaking.

Housing

The discussion of creating new housing, as well as finding solutions to the ongoing houselessness crisis in San Jose, was one of the most prominent topics of the forum.

In response to a question about the ongoing housing crisis in the city, Cindy Chavez said, "One of my concerns is, frankly, that the city of San Jose has not been permitting housing at a quick enough pace."

Chavez is a lifelong San Jose resident and obtained her bachelor's degree in political science at SJSU.

"There are a couple of other pieces of property that are proximate to the university that I think the university should consider for housing and perhaps even for expanding some teaching space off campus to make the footprint slightly bigger," she said.

Chavez said she wants to focus SJSU's budget on making sure that students have better access to affordable housing, on and off campus.

Matt Mahan said there are not enough



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY BRYANNA BARTLETT; SOURCE: SPARTAN DAILY ARCHIVES

new housing developments in Downtown San Jose and barriers to building high-rise apartments should be removed.

Mahan said he is "very concerned" with the direction the city is heading in on affordable housing, houselessness and crime.

"We have a number of policies that are actually barriers to building housing faster [and], to reducing street homelessness to improve public safety," he said.

Mahan said the city needs to streamline the process for both residential and commercial permits.

Crime policies

Throughout the forum, talks emerged about ensuring public safety in the city without the need for police intervention.

Chavez answered that she wants to increase the availability of after-school and late-night programs for teens.

She said programs including recreation centers lead to a "drop in crime" of up to 30%

compared to communities that don't have them.

"When I served on the [city] council, we had a deep partnership with our schools that allowed us to invest in after school programming and evening programming and also summer programming," Chavez said.

In response, Mahan said when he was a public school teacher in East Side San Jose, he saw the challenges that young people face and the risks of falling into a bad path everyday.

"I also think that we have to, in some cases, rethink our 911 response. There are plenty of emergency calls that don't require an officer with a gun," he said. "So whether that's a trained clinician, or mental health professional, or it's a community service officer who doesn't have a gun."

Closing Remarks

After the Q&A, Chavez and Mahan were given one minute each to give their closing remarks.

"If we can get all of our parties working together, we can make San Jose safer, cleaner, build more affordable housing and do even more to address homelessness," Chavez said.

She made mentions of her work on keeping hospitals open under her role as Santa Clara County supervisor.

"I am convinced that if we are working more closely together, that we really can do all of the things that we know are necessary for our community," Chavez said.

In his final statement, Mahan said, "We need to focus, we need to set public goals, we need to measure our performance and we need to be more accountable for the outcomes."

He remarked again on his goals of improving affordable housing, public safety and mental health support.

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San Jose State students say no US intervention

By Shruthi Lakshmanan
STAFF WRITER

Students for a Democratic Society, a San Jose State group, held an anti-war protest on Seventh Street Plaza Monday with other student activism groups in attendance.

Students for Democratic Society is the SJSU chapter that's dedicated to progressive issues, according to its Instagram account page.

The student group was answering a call to action raised by the United National Antiwar Coalition, an organization dedicated to anti-war movements and unifying "collective action against a major perpetrator of war and injustice: U.S. government," according to its website.

David Almeida, history senior and the Students for Democratic Society first secretary – a term coined to stray from a title that establishes executive power and pursues a more collective leadership – said one of the group's founding principles is opposition against any U.S. war.

"We think they're usually unjust and that they bring economic woes and devastation to people abroad," Almeida said. "[Instead,] they can use the

resources and money to help people here."

The U.S. also has an extensive history of military and political intervention including overthrowing several regimes as seen in Hawaii, Cuba, Iran, Guatemala, Congo, Chile, Nicaragua, Afghanistan and Iraq, according to a June 7 History Channel article

While the protest objected to all U.S. intervention in foreign wars, it was predominantly focused on the U.S.'s current trade embargo on Cuba.

The decades-long embargo was introduced by then-President John F. Kennedy in 1962 in response to "certain actions taken by the Cuban government," according to the U.S. Department of State Cuba Sanctions webpage.

According to an Oct.19 Reuters article, then-President Donald Trump implemented stronger sanctions in 2017, which has been retroactively eased by President Joe Biden.

However, many foundational elements of the embargo still remain unchanged, which is complicating "financial transactions and the acquisition of goods and services by the Cuban government," according to the Reuters article.

"Look at Cuba right now," said

John Duroyan, history junior and Students for Democratic Society member. "It's facing these economic difficulties despite their great strides in social programs because of this blockade and it's utterly ludicrous."

Duroyan said he was tasked as a speaker of the event, in which he shared the history of the trade embargo and advocated for the removal of U.S. military involvement in Cuba and other countries.

He was joined by members of the SJSU group Young Democratic Socialists of America, including Sam Bigelow, the group's president, who came out to support Students for Democratic Society because of their shared beliefs.

"I thought it would be nice to focus on other left-wing groups and support them," Bigelow said. "Whether or not we think it's pertinent to our current situation, these ongoing conflicts are just gonna end up impacting us whether we like it or not, whether we pay attention or not."

David Almeida said despite the groups' main goal to bring attention to the cause, the protest did not rally a large gathering because of timing and location issues.



SHRUTHI LAKSHMANAN | SPARTAN DAILY

Students for a Democratic Society member holds up a sign during a protest on Seventh Street Plaza Monday afternoon.

"More people need to know about what the U.S. exactly is doing abroad, because in the media, they paint a picture like we're doing something good for people," Almeida said. "But in reality, it doesn't. So hopefully people can look more into that."

Almeida called for students to learn more about U.S. intervention and take action by voting for politicians with anti-war platforms.

"Part of the strategy is to vote for politicians that are anti-war, vote for representatives that are supporting any sort of aid to Ukraine for example," he said. "And of course, organizing is the best way to get a movement going, to get attention and to get changes."

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MEN'S SOCCER



PHOTO COURTESY OF SJSU ATHLETICS

Gaku Nishimura, San Jose State freshman midfielder, jumps up for a header during a game against California Baptist University Friday at the Spartan Soccer Complex.

Spartans on track to WAC tourney

Cal Baptist breaks SJSU's six-game winning streak

By Alessio Cavalca
STAFF WRITER

San Jose State's men's soccer team suffered a disappointing 1-0 loss Friday night to California Baptist University at the Spartan Soccer Complex, snapping their six-game winning streak.

As a result of the loss, the Spartans dropped to third place in the Western Athletic Conference (WAC).

However, Friday night was a different night for sports at SJSU.

Before the game, the stadium stood silent as the two teams gathered in the center circle and held a minute of silence to remember SJSU freshman football player Camdan McWright, who died that morning in a traffic collision.

Simon Tobin, SJSU men's soccer head coach, said Friday had been a tough day for the whole university athletic community.

"We are in a slightly different place tonight," Tobin said. "Our thoughts are going out for Camdan's family, all the football players and the staff."

Junior defender Joel Garcia said hearing about the death of McWright broke everyone's heart.

"We went into the field to honor him and his family," Garcia said. "It was very emotional stepping inside the pitch, but we had to play for him that night and we honestly did."

Despite the defeat, SJSU showcased good ball possession and high-quality plays during the game.

The Spartans' defense, composed of Kasper Poulsgaard, Josh Redfield, Eduardo Miranda and Gaku Nishimura, managed to solidly break the Cal Baptist's offenses on several occasions.

However, senior goalkeeper David Sweeney exhibited phenomenal saves that denied Cal Baptist's offensive opportunities.

At Minute 32, a defensive clearance from Cal Baptist's box reached its striker Bryan Iliohan on the left wing.

Iliohan had enough space to pass the ball to the other Lancers striker Luis Mueller, who delivered a powerful shot with his left foot.

What followed was an exhibition of Sweeney's skills.

The Spartan goalkeeper quickly went down reaching Mueller's shot saving the goal and reactively pushed out the second tap-in from one of the Lancers players, conceding the corner kick.

Teammates cheered around Sweeney for that save before getting into position to defend the upcoming corner kick.

The ball was launched into the

18-yard box from the corner in Minute 33 and Lancers defender David Cortes escaped from the Spartans' defense.

Cortes jumped for a header and directed the ball from the air to the back of the net, breaking the tie.

Spartans striker Riccardo Scarafia, who entered the pitch during the second half, said the team conceded very few goal opportunities to the Lancers.

"They scored the goal from a dead-ball," Scarafia said. "It can happen to lose the marking and concede space in the box."

Although Cortes's goal set the definitive result, the Spartans tried hard to obtain the equalizer.

At Minute 57, Spartans striker Isaac Lomeli, who received a pass from the defense, managed a great dribbling between two opponents and delivered a shot blocked by the opponent defense.

It was right after that block that Spartans midfielder Finlay Wood managed a well-coordinated volley outside the 18-yard box that flew a few inches above the upper-ninety portion of the crossbar.

During the last minutes of the game, the Spartans constantly tried offensive plays to get a late equalizer.

At Minute 89, Scarafia showcased a quick dribbling on the right lane between the Lancers' defense, bringing the ball on the right edge of the opponent's box.

Scarafia crossed the ball in the middle of the box where Spartans midfielder Beau Leroux delivered a clean shot that smacked the side post.

That was the last opportunity to tie the game.

Leroux said it was not the first time that the post denied a goal for him this season.

"It was just unfortunate to have hit the post at the last second," he said. "I think after the defeat, I do feel a bit upset and disappointed."

Although the Spartans (4-1-1) dropped to third place in the conference, they still have important games ahead that could determine their seat in the conference tournament.

The Spartans won 1-0 Sunday at the Spartan Soccer Complex against Utah Valley (2-4) and are expected to play on the road against the leading-conference-team Air Force (6-0).

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SJSU bounces back, retakes second place in conference

By Alessio Cavalca
STAFF WRITER

After Friday's defeat against California Baptist University, the San Jose State men's soccer team was able to get back in second place in the Western Athletic Conference (WAC) after its 1-0 win against Utah Valley University at the Spartan Soccer Complex Sunday.

The Spartans showcased an entertaining victory, which spotlighted freshman forward Anthony Guzman, who scored the game-winning goal, and senior goalkeeper David Sweeney, who neutralized the Wolverines' offenses multiple times.

SJSU head coach Simon Tobin said it was a well-played game by both teams.

"Nice technical teams, and we squeaked out when Sweeney had to make a couple of big saves," Tobin said.

It was a physical game where three players on each side received yellow cards.

Among SJSU, Guzman, freshman midfielder Gaku Nishimura and senior defender Josh Redfield received yellow cards.

In addition, Utah Valley forward Ben Ortiz received a red card during the last ten minutes of play.

Despite the physical game and the numerous interruptions, both teams delivered good offensive possessions the whole game with several goal opportunities on both sides.

After 10 minutes of play, the Spartans showcased good offensive actions, but it was after Spartans freshman striker Riccardo Scarafia dribbled up the left wing of the pitch that the team built an important opportunity.

Scarafia's back passage in the middle of the box was well-calibrated and it was SJSU sophomore midfielder Beau Leroux who shot the ball toward the goal.

The shot got blocked by the Wolverines' defense, but the ball ended up in proximity of SJSU striker Isaac Lomeli who managed a flirty coordination to kick the ball into the goal.

However, one of the linesmen raised his flag: it was offside and the goal was not valid.

"I watched the replay of my goal and I was clearly onside," Lomeli said. "It was a tough call from the ref, it would've been a great goal."

Although it was offside, the Spartans did not stop its offenses and SJSU's efforts eventually paid off at the beginning of the second half.

At Minute 48, Leroux received the ball in proximity of the center circle and when

two Utah Valley players closed in on him, he made a sliding pass in the direction of the Wolverines' goal post.

The ball was perfectly calibrated and Spartans striker Anthony Guzman had to control it to be one on one with the goalkeeper.

He kicked the ball with his left foot and the Wolverines' goalkeeper did not reach it, making it a 1-0 game in favor of SJSU.

Guzman, who was happy with his goal, said coming into the game after Friday's defeat was fundamental in terms of mental approach to the game.

"It made us hungrier and pushed us more to get a win," Guzman said. "Overall, I felt really good and happy that we got to bounce back."

However, before the end of the game, Utah Valley was able to manage another important goal opportunity.

When one of the Wolverines' players intercepted the ball at the edge of the Spartans' box, he delivered a powerful shot toward SJSU's goal, which was neutralized with a dive by David Sweeney.

"Utah Valley was a good opponent and they showed what they could do and we struggled for a bit," Guzman said.

SJSU managed to keep second place in the WAC behind the leading team, Air Force Academy (6-0).

Tobin said it was important to come out with a "big win" to ensure three points to the team.

"We would have probably the three toughest games of the conference all coming up as the final three games," Tobin said in a post-game interview.

The Spartans will play away against the Air Force Academy on Friday, Grand Canyon University (2-2-2) on Sunday and Seattle University (4-2) on Nov. 4.

Guzman said the team is aware of the complexity and how important the next three games are.

"We know that the next game will be a tough opponent and we just have to prepare to give what we have and show what we can do on the road," Guzman said. "SJSU is looking great but we just have to prepare for training this week so that we can be ready for the next weekend."

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ESPORTS

Spartan esports smashes competition

By Jeremy Martin
STAFF WRITER

Spartan Esports held its annual esports showcase on Thursday, in the Student Union Ballroom.

The showcase featured other clubs like Spartan Gaming, as well as vendors and food. The tournament included a Super Smash Bros. tournament that was complete with prizes.

Junior business marketing major, Blaire Chua, Spartan Esports club president, said that the esports club is always trying to expand its community on campus.

“We’re always trying to expand our community,” Chua said. “Right now, we’re very lucky and thankful to have the support that we have already.”

Chua said that she transferred to SJSU, with the esports showcase event being at the end of her eighth week at the university.

The club receives a lot of support from their club adviser, students who attend their events, and on their Twitch stream that they use to stream competitions, Chua said.

She said the club streams esports competitions, such as the Red Bull Campus Clutch event, a global Valorant collegiate tournament, complete with casters who provide commentary during matches.

The biggest thing featured at the event was the Super Smash Bros. tournament, put on by the SJSU Super Smash Brothers club and Spartan Esports. Any SJSU students can participate in the tournament.

Super Smash Bros. is a platform-based fighting game, created by Nintendo, where players battle as some of the



San Jose State students Ali Suleiman (left), Bryan Pham (center left), Kaitlyn Bui (center right) and Khin San compete against one another in Super Smash Bros. at the annual esports showcase on Thursday afternoon in the Student Union Ballroom.

JEREMY MARTIN | SPARTAN DAILY



We’re very lucky and thankful to have the support that we have already

Blaire Chua
Spartan Esports president

most iconic characters in gaming.

The main objective of the game is to knock opponents out of the stage until the last player is standing.

Sachin Kaul, treasurer of the smash brothers club and a sophomore computer science

major, says that Super Smash Bros. is a captivating game.

“Everyone can see a Nintendo character and they can immediately know that’s Mario,” Kaul said. “It has a massive appeal to everyone and it’s a little bit less complicated to get into than some of the other esports or fighting games.”

He said that the showcase is also a great way for the greater SJSU community and the esports club to connect as it is also a way to find like-minded people and make new friends.

“If you’re into esports, it’s also great for honing your competitive edge and trying to be the best at something,” Kaul said.

The tournament was held in

a double-elimination format, with each player having to win the best of three matches. Once a player has lost twice, they’re eliminated from the tournament.

The tournament went on until the top eight players emerged. Once the tournament reached the top eight players, the matches switched to best of five.

The semifinals determine the third and fourth-place players, while the grand finals determine both the first and second-place players.

In all, there were 48 players in the tournament.

Third place was awarded to Patrick Yen, a psychology senior, who played as Robin and Pichu.

Second place went to

Nick Do, a business sophomore, who played as Diddy Kong.

Sonam Choegyel, a molecular biology freshman, won the grand finals of the Kalos Pokemon League with Link from Zelda.

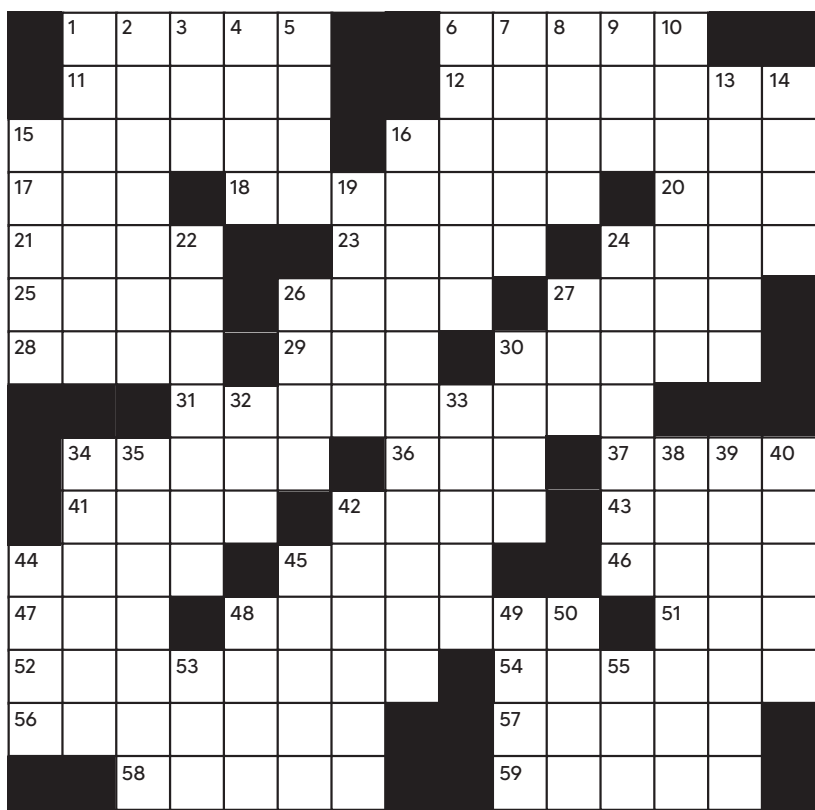
“Personally, with Link, no stage is super good for Link. Everything just works well with Link,” Choegyel said. “There’s no special advantages, it’s all just raw and neutral.”

The final six competitors won various prizes, including a choice between an electric bike or, for the 1st place winner, a brand new Dell monitor as the grand prize.

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CLASSIFIEDS

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



ACROSS

- 1. Rosary components
- 6. Eye infections
- 11. Skylit lobbies
- 12. Flourish
- 15. Trousers
- 16. Golfing group
- 17. Witch
- 18. Take up the cause
- 20. Staff
- 21. 1 1 1 1
- 23. Once, long ago
- 24. Cultural doings
- 25. Beige
- 26. Out of harm’s way
- 27. Scottish hillside
- 28. Observed
- 29. Anger
- 30. Veers
- 31. Combative
- 34. Offering little or no hope
- 36. Can
- 37. Ammunition
- 41. Towards the back
- 42. Lather
- 43. Genuine
- 44. Crease
- 45. Arid

DOWN

- 1. Equilibrium
- 2. Knickknack holder
- 3. Circle fragment
- 4. Water barrier
- 5. Back talk
- 6. Husband or wife
- 7. Reliance
- 8. Bygone era
- 9. S
- 10. Highlander’s pouch
- 13. Is melodramatic
- 14. Scarlets
- 15. Footwear
- 16. Penalties
- 19. Necklace item
- 22. Ray of light
- 24. Past-due debts
- 26. Type of fabric
- 27. Public transit vehicle
- 30. Units of 2000 pounds
- 32. Hearing organ
- 33. Apple-based alcoholic drink
- 34. Security lapse
- 35. Not followers
- 38. Wander aimlessly
- 39. Social skills
- 40. Not younger
- 42. Boil
- 44. Narrow opening
- 45. Hitches
- 48. Essence
- 49. Distinctive flair
- 50. Expunge
- 53. Type of snake
- 55. American Dental Association

SUDOKU PUZZLE

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

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

SOLUTIONS 10.20.22

C	A	R	S	S	T	R	I	P	E	R	G	O	
O	L	I	O	A	R	E	N	A	N	E	O	N	
D	I	S	S	A	T	I	S	F	Y	O	P	A	L
E	V	E	G	R	A	T	E	B	U	L	L	I	
C	E	N	T	R	A	L	R	O	U	G	E		
H	E	P	F	R	I	G	H	T	E	N			
S	C	R	E	E	P	A	I	N	S	I	R	E	
P	O	E	M	D	R	I	N	K	L	O	S	T	
A	N	D	W	R	O	N	G	C	E	N	T	S	
S	E	A	C	O	A	S	T	A	R	E			
C	R	A	T	E	A	D	O	R	A	N	T		
E	C	T	A	D	C	A	R	D	S	F	E		
R	U	I	N	S	U	C	C	E	S	S	I	V	
O	B	O	E	E	T	H	E	R	A	R	E	A	
S	E	N	D	W	E	E	D	S	P	E	R	K	

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

JOKIN’ AROUND

“What did one traffic light say to the other?”

“Stop looking! I’m changing!”

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Our office has reopened at **DBH 213!**



SHRUTHI LAKSHMANAN | SPARTAN DAILY

ISSS global leaders talk to other people about the history of Diwali while students paint rangoli stencils at the ISSS booth on Seventh Street Plaza Monday afternoon.

SJSU celebrates festival of lights

By Shruthi Lakshmanan
STAFF WRITER

Booths filled with vibrant garlands and mini lanterns known as deepams lined up outside the Student Wellness Center to celebrate the Indian festival of lights on Oct. 19.

The Indian festival of lights, called Deepavali or Diwali, is celebrated by Hindus, Jains and Sikhs.

Deepavali, also known as Diwali or Divali depending on the region, is the celebration of light over darkness that takes place during the Kartika month in the Hindu Calendar, which occurs between October and November every year.

“Diwali is a beautiful festival of lights, the festival of good over evil. So it portrays a very beautiful message to non-Desi people who don’t know about our culture.”

Sarthak Chauhan
computer science freshman,
global leader for International Student and
Scholar Services

The event was hosted by SJSU’s College of Professional and Global Education and global leaders from the International Student and Scholar Services Department as an early ode to Deepavali, which took place on Monday.

Shanivi Gupta, a graduate student and global leader with International Student and Scholar Services, said she hoped the event would bridge a cultural gap between others and Indian students.

“It’s important [that] we spread more information about our culture [because] then [people] feel more open to have that conversation with you,” Gupta said. “It increases their knowledge, and also their willingness to accept you.”

Many of the International Student and Scholar Services’ global leaders were international Indian students, who used their role to share their individual experiences celebrating Deepavali back in India.

The College of Professional and Global Education booth was adorned with colorful garlands as seen in many households of those who celebrate the festival.

The booth reimaged rangoli, which are powdered mandala designs created on floors, by having stencils that attendees could paint.

“I’m going to hang the [rangoli paintings] up. I made two and I [will] give one to my sister,” said Tuyen Nguyen, an attendee and non-matriculated student with the International Gateway program at SJSU.

Sarthak Chauhan, computer science freshman and global leader with International Student and Scholar Services, helped organize the event hoping to share aspects of his culture with other students.

“We thought that Rangoli is something that is very unique,” Chauhan said. “Rangoli has its own significance and I think talking to people about that is wonderful.”

Students could also take Indian sweets and biscuits including the well-known Parle-G biscuit packets, which are milk and wheat cookies produced by Parle Products.

And though the celebration’s origin story varies across India, the country is lit with lights and small clay oil lamps, known as deepams or diyas, as people gather with family, friends and sweets.



SHRUTHI LAKSHMANAN | SPARTAN DAILY

Student Emma Su paints Rangoli designs at the Diwali Celebration on Monday afternoon.

In South India, deepams are lit to celebrate Lord Krishna’s defeat of the devil king, Narakasura, according to a Nov. 9, 2012 New Indian Times article.

In Northern India, Deepavali celebrates Lord Rama’s return to his birth city, Ayodhya, after being exiled for 14 years. To help Rama find his way, people place lights to welcome him home, according to a Monday NPR article.

This is the second year the College of

Professional and Global Education has celebrated Deepavali and they hope to continue commemorating it in the future.

“Diwali is a beautiful festival of lights, the festival of good over evil. So it portrays a very beautiful message to non-Desi people who don’t know about our culture,” Chauhan said.

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SPARTUNES

SPOOKY TUNES

“I Want to be Evil”
Eartha Kitt
(jazz)
Selected by Bojana Cvijic
Executive Editor

“The Witch Queen of New Orleans”
Redbone
(rock)
Selected by Carolyn Brown
Opinion Editor

“Calling All the Monsters”
China Anne McClain
(dance-pop)
Selected by Asia Tugbenyoh
Multimedia Editor

“Dance of Death”
Iron Maiden
(metal)
Selected by Mike Corpos
Production Chief

“Moth to a Flame”
The Weeknd & Swedish House Mafia
(r&b)
Selected by Kyle Tran
Sports Editor

“Spooky Scary Skeletons (remix)”
Andrew Gold
(electro swing)
Selected by Sam Dietz
A&E Editor

“Haunted”
Evanescence
(rock)
Selected by Bryanna Bartlett
Production Editor

“I Put a Spell on You”
Nina Simone
(soul)
Selected by Saumya Monga
Associate Editor

“Sneakin”
Drake ft. 21 Savage
(rap)
Selected by Nathan Canilao
Managing Editor

Taylor Swift explores confession

Singer-songwriter disappoints with generic pop sounds and dull musical narratives

By Saumya Monga
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Nowadays, everything is in excess. We buy in excess. We consume information in excess and we listen to music in excess.

There was a time when musicians did not rush in producing albums for their audiences. It was deliberate, calculated and planned.

Singer-songwriter Taylor Swift, an artist who usually takes her time in creating projects, released her latest album “Midnights” on Friday, one year after her re-release of “Red (Taylor’s Version).”

Swift is rerecording her previous albums after a dispute with her previous record label Big Machine Records according to a March 25, 2021 Time magazine article.

“Midnights” is produced by Jack Antonoff, singer-songwriter and record producer, who has helped produce several of Swift’s albums including her 2020 sister records “evermore” and “folklore.”

Antonoff is a highly sought-after producer who has worked with pop artists including Lorde and Lana Del Rey.

His production is synth-heavy and relies on distorted audio samples. It’s nothing new or exciting and is generic because synths are pretty much used in every popular pop song on the Billboard Global top 200.

It’s easy to listen to and works well with sparse and more hardcore instrumentation.

While it is versatile, Antonoff’s production style significantly dims down Swift’s musicianship.

On “evermore” and “folklore,” Swift also collaborated with Aaron Dessner of indie rock band The National, where he clearly balanced out the inclination that Antonoff and Swift have to use synths.

In “evermore” and “folklore,” Dessner added an acoustic touch that played to Swift’s excellent lyricism, which painted extremely vivid stories.

Swift sang in hushed tones as if she was telling the listener a secret and the music softened to elevate those secrets.

“Midnights” musically misses the melancholy that Swift excels with in her writing. Her lyrics are corny, messy stories that are filled with revenge and anger.

On “Anti-Hero,” Swift sings about her insecurities and the negative cycle of self-doubt that fills her mind.

In what could have been a fantastic song describing a relatable feeling many young people have, Swift instead writes confusing lyrics that may be some of the worst ones she has ever written.

She sings, “Sometimes, I feel like everybody is a sexy baby.”

What is a sexy baby and why are we all one?

But there are some genuinely good songs on “Midnights” including “Mastermind,” which includes those annoying synths but Swift’s lyrics save the song.

She sings, “What if I told you I’m a mastermind? / And now you’re mine / It was all by design.”

Her vocals drift over the quieter beats and the subtle orchestra during

the chorus. Her lyrics are clever and reminiscent of the vivid stories she painted in her 2020 sister albums.

Comparing love to a game of chess, she gets what she wants through carefully-planned out steps. “Mastermind” allows the listener to curate their own meaning with lyrics that are not obvious like her other tracks.

The reason why her 2020 albums were so successful was because they had a cohesive narrative: one with a beginning, middle and end. All the while, the production was soft.

It’s easy to hide behind layers of production and loud lyrics but very few have mastered the art of quietness like Swift.

Swift isn’t perfect and not every album will be phenomenal. “Midnights” was too much too soon. She disappointingly gives into generic pop sounds.

People may love it because of its listenability, especially her fans, but I want to see more.



ILLUSTRATION BY HANNAH GREGORIC

I don’t want to hear about revenge. I want to see the version of Swift who has broken boundaries by normalizing sparse production and intricate, made-up stories in music.

She excels the most when her music feels like she is telling her listeners a bedtime story, lulling them to sleep into a world where make-believe characters become real.

“Folklore” won album of the year at the 2021 Grammy Awards as listeners found solace in the calming sounds of the album.

I don’t want Swift’s midnights because they are simply too loud.

Her “folklore” scenery of quiet, enchanted forests is far more interesting.

Artist showcases self-criticism and self-exploration in her latest record

By Adrian Pereda
STAFF WRITER

As a proud Swiftie, I waited for the album that would follow up the 2020 sister albums, “evermore” and “folklore,” in anticipation.

Singer-songwriter Taylor Swift has released something much more personal than ever before on Friday with “Midnights,” breaking records as Spotify’s most-streamed album in a single day, according to a Saturday NBC 9News’s article.

“Midnights” unleashes the truth about the pop-star queen that no one was expecting in her extended version of Midnights that was released three hours after the initial album’s debut.

Swift delivers a range of lyricism from my favorite album “folklore” and mixes melodies from her previous albums including 2019’s “Lover” and 2017’s “reputation” to create something that was needed in the music industry.

is an issue and while she knows it, she can’t grow from it for some reason.

Lyrics including “I have this thing where I get older but not wiser / I wake up screaming from dreaming / one day, I’ll watch as you’re leaving because you got tired of my scheming / hi, it’s me / I’m the problem,” remind me that no one is perfect.

It makes me feel like it is acceptable to know your personal red flags and not be ashamed of it but rather own it.

Especially for someone who seems to never learn from their mistakes, it is almost like she gives a warning that being involved with her comes with a cost.

Although Swift does it in an effortless way, where she shares her darkest fears and thoughts, while being comfortable as a top selling artist in the world.

“Karma,” draws inspiration and gives the same energy from “Cruel Summer,” a personal favorite on Swift’s 2019 “Lover” album.

“Karma” gives a refreshing feeling that makes you want to be the bigger person in a situation where you decide to stay sane and then find joy in them getting their own.

It contains a fun, lively feel that changes the connotation of the word “Karma” to a sweet thing to be wished upon.

“High Infidelity” is a personal favorite but left me with a little bit of shock.

Hearing Swift admit in that song that she found herself brought back to life by someone else, while being in a committed relationship, reminds me she is just human and things happen. Even those who have it all, need a little more.

Being able to understand what it’s like to do that to the person you love but realize you are no longer in love with them is a fear of mine.

Swift’s image in my head is altered, respecting her for being able to share her truth that sometimes enough is never enough.

Lyrics including, “You know there are many different ways to kill the one you love / The slowest way is never loving them enough,” really resonated with me.

“Midnights,” an album that gives us more of her personal stories, is something that I would have never expected to come out of her. But Swift never fails.

Swift contains the magic to change her whole persona, creating a new era that many artists do not hold the power in doing, each time she has created new music and her entire look has changed, especially amid “reputation.”

She is and will forever be an iconic artist and “Midnights” is further proof of that.

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