### San Jose State University

From the SelectedWorks of Marjorie R. Freedman

October 22, 2007

### Weighing in on the Freshman 15



Available at: https://works.bepress.com/marjorie\_freedman/44/

## STUDENT LIFE

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# 'eighing in on the 'freshman

**By KRISTIN FURTADO** Staff Writer

For many freshmen, college is an exciting new venture. It's an opportunity to meet new people, adopt liberal ideologies and above all else, experience freedom: freedom to eat whatever your heart desires.

It's called the "freshman 15," and if you're not careful, you could find yourself relating to this oftquoted campus demographic.

"They typically do not gain 15 pounds," said Marjorie Freedman, assistant professor of nutrition and food science. Research, she said, shows that students gain more like two to five pounds.

But for students who think weight gain starts — and stops at the freshmen level, they may be sorely disappointed.

"It goes beyond the freshman year," Freedman said, adding that over the course of four years, twoto-five pounds really starts to add up.

Michael Love, a sophomore radio, television, and film major, said he thinks freedom is the number one reason students start to gain weight in college. Add stress, alcohol consumption and frequent allnighters, Love said, and you've got yourself a little conundrum when it comes to maintaining weight.

"The most common reason is it's very typical for any individuals to gain weight during times of extreme change," said campus dietician Jennifer Waldrop. She added that access to food in an all-youcan-eat setting — and at all hours

— creates an environment conducive for gaining weight.

"Right now, I'm subsisting on pickled green beans and hot sauce," Love said, having retired from the dining commons.

Waldrop, who offers free oneon-one nutrition consultations for students, said that one of main reasons students come to see her is to lose weight. But they often come with wildly unrealistic expectations, she said.

"Students come in sometimes believing that they can lose really large amounts of weight in a short period of time," she said. "Often that's not healthy or true."

Waldrop said she works with students to set realistic goals - focusing less on weight and more on creating healthier habits.

Freedman said she thinks gaining weight during the freshman year comes down to whether students are eating more or exercising less.

A few years ago, a study by the SJSU nutrition department looked at weight gain in freshmen and concluded that students who gained the most weight were the least physically active, Freedman said.

"A lot of times it's hard to actually get out there and have the selfmotivation, because here you're on vour own about everything," said Veronica Vidrio, a freshman music education major.

Last year, Freedman also did a survey of 1500 upperclassmen, where she found more male students on campus are overweight than females.

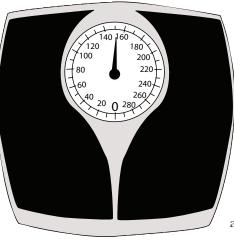
"It showed about a third of our students are overweight or obese," she said.

She said she thinks being away from home combined with increased food availability are some of the main reasons behind a student's weight gain.

"I think there are some healthy foods on campus, but I would like to see more," she said.

For freshmen, the dining commons is often the main source of food, and some students find the food options limited there.

"It's the same thing everyday," said Vidrio, who wants more variety offered at the dining commons.



"You have all that food in front of you," she said, adding that at home, you're basically limited to what's in one's fridge.

But Freedman doesn't think the dining commons should shoulder all the blame for poor choices students are making in terms of what they eat.

"I personally think the food in the dining commons is good," Freedman said. "I've eaten there, and I have no problem eating healthy foods there."

Since SJSU is often labeled a commuter campus, do students who live on campus tend to gain more than those who don't?

Freedman will be trying to answer this exact question in a study she's doing later on this year. The study will compare the weight gain of freshmen who live on campus to those who don't.

Freedman said increased alcohol consumption is another culprit when it comes to student weight gain.

> "There's a lot of hidden calories that people don't pay attention to, and alcohol is one of them," Freedman said, adding that the averaged mixed drink can have anywhere from 100 to 200 calories.

"Also you're in college so you're going out more, so that means more late-night bingeing," said Munique Martinez, a freshman nursing major. "It all adds up."

Freedman said the mass con-GRAPHIC BY NICK VERONIN // SPARTAN DAILY sumption of "so-called" energy drinks among college students is another big problem when it comes to students gaining weight.

For college students, trying to maintain energy levels for that allnighter is important, but Waldrop said students should be choosing foods rich in whole grains such as granola bars to stabilize your energy. Popular drinks such as Red Bull,

Rockstar and Monster can have hundreds of empty calories, Freedman said.

Freedman said students no longer want a boring cup of black cof-

"They want to have a frappuccino," she said.

Skipping meals, Waldrop said, which is also common among college students, increases your chances of gaining weight.

Waldrop is also the coordinator of the Nutritional Education Action Team, a student organization that holds presentations and various campus events promoting healthy lifestyles on campus.

The team, which won Student Organization of the Year for 2007, also holds free nutritional counseling in the sport club as well as "Wellness Wednesdays," where presentations are given by students one Wednesday per month in the aerobics rooms of the sport club.

So how critical are the college years for forming good or bad habits?

"Right now, I end up drinking a pot of coffee, eating dinner and staying up really late, and then waking up early," Love said.

"At any point in your life change is possible," Waldrop said. "But there's certainly something about the college years that tends to have just a lasting effect."

"My habits are pretty bad right now, but I think it's just kind of normal to have bad habits in college," Love said.

He added that he'll probably carry "remnants" of these habits throughout his life.

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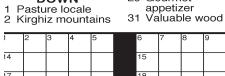
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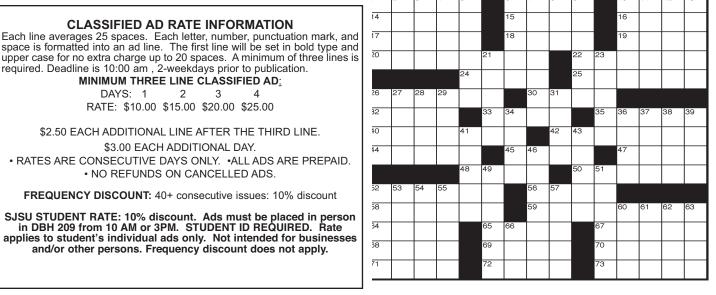


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**SPARTANS SQUASHED 30-0 // Shut out for the second time this season** SPORTS // PAGE 6

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ISSUE 31

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THESPARTANDAILY.COM

# **MovieFest Grand Finale** hits Bay Area

VOLUME 129

Six films from SJSU awarded honors

> **By SARRAH S. NGUYEN** Staff Writer

Robbie Benson, a freshman radio, television and film major, said his team got the concept for their short film, "Bobby's House," which won Best Picture at the Bay Area MovieFest Grand Finale, through experience.

"We were all home-schooled when we were younger," Benson said. "That was basically a memory of all our experiences."

Benson, his brother Jeff, Jon Magram, a junior animation/illustration major and friend Robert Krakower created a five-minute film about a boy named Adam and his awkward experiences at Bobby's house.

"Strange, we weren't expecting it at all," Magram said about winning

Out of the 600 teams that participated in the Bay Area, 16 top short films from SJSU, U.C. Berkeley, U.C. Davis, Sonoma

See FILMS, page 2

### AND THE WINNERS ARE ...

### FILM AWARDS (SJSU)

Best Picture – "Bobby's House"

Audience Choice/Best Comedy – "Love Struck"

Best Soundtrack – "I Need You Back"

Best Use of Mobile – "Charly and Estella"

## MICHELLE HORTON // Special to the Daily Students held a candlelight vigil to honor Filipino World War II veterans on Thursday. **Campus groups honor veterans**



### **Recognized World War II Filipino veterans**

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OCTOBER 22, 2007 // MONDAY

### **By TRUTH ESGUERRA** Staff Writer

"The people united will never be defeated," chanted marching participants of Thursday's annual candlelight vigil in San Jose, which honored Filipino veterans who served in World War II.

"We just want to let them know that they're recognized for what they fought for in their struggles," said Karen Tanquilut, a junior engineering major and a member of Akbayan Pilipino Club, a Filipino-American organization at SJSU. "We're still fighting for them to have their full equity and to have recognition." The event was a collaboration of members from Akbayan, Alpha Kappa Omega, Kappa Psi Epsilon, Sons and Daughters of the Archipelago and Mabuhay Cultural Club of Independence High School, Tanquilut said.

"I feel empowered," said Phil Temple, a sophomore nursing major who participated in the event. "We got to get our voice heard."

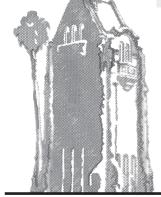
Daniel Agcaoili, a sophomore biology major and member of Alpha Kappa Omega, participated in the event.

"It's always good getting in touch with your roots," he said. "It brings back the pride in your culture within yourself."

John Hom, a sophomore illustration major and also a member of Alpha Kappa Omega, said he felt great about the event.

"It makes me feel proud to be Filipino," Hom said. "I wanted to start yelling at the end."





GOLDEN TRIPOD AWARDS" (SJSU)

Best Costume/Makeup – "Love, Hope, Ninjas"

Most Awkward Moment - "Go Bathe"

MICHELLE HORTON // Special to the Daily

Students marched from the Student Union Amphitheater to the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library on Thursday.

The participants of the candlelight vigil star ed their march at the Student Union Amphitheater and ended it at the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library, Tanquilut said.

As they marched the participants chanted

See VIGIL, page 3

# Museum turns away students during free college night

### Company didn't expect such large turnout

**By SARAH KYO** Staff Writer

A free event attracted college students to The Tech Museum of Innovation for a worldrenown yet controversial exhibit on Wednesday evening.

The attraction may have been too strong, since according to museum officials, The Tech Museum reached its capacity in less than two hours. As a result, some people were turned away from entering the anatomical exhibit Body Worlds 2 and The Three Pound Gem.

Alex Miller, a sophomore aerospace engineering major, said he and a few friends arrived at The Tech Museum after 7 p.m. He said there were many people waiting in a "massive" line to obtain free tickets, but they found out that the exhibit was sold out.

"The room just emptied," Miller said. "It was just a huge exodus out of The Tech Museum.'

Lisa Croel, marketing director of The Tech Museum, said 2,700 people attended the Body Worlds 2 exhibit during college night, which began at 5 p.m. and ended when the Museum closed at 9 p.m.

Peter Friess, the president of The Tech Museum, said there was a cut-off in the amount of people allowed into the exhibit because of security and safety reasons.

"We cannot let in more people than the fire and police allow us," Friess said.

More than 200 real anatomical specimens are on display in the Body Worlds 2 exhibit, including 20 real human bodies, said Lisa Croel, marketing director of The Tech Museum. Dr. Gunther von Hagens, the creator of this traveling exhibit, used a process called plastination to remove bodily fluids and preserve each specimen with injections of materials such as silicon rubber.

Croel said due to the nature of the exhibit, which will be at the Museum until Jan. 26, a maximum of 600 people are allowed to see Body Worlds 2 at a time. She said Bay Area college students with a valid I.D. received a time-

See **TECH**, page 2

• 2,700 people attended the exhibit on college night.

• 600: The maximum number of people allowed to view Body Worlds 2 at a time.

• **\$18.50:** The ticket price for a college student with ID, who is not a member of the museum.

• 1,731 free tickets were given to students on college night in San Jose.

**\$5:** The coupon amount given to students who were turned away from the exhibit on college night.

Sources: Lisa Croel, marketing director of The Tech Museum of Innovation; The Tech Museum Web site; Joe Gold, director of marketing operations for Body Worlds.

### ONLINE

### **INTERNATIONAL STU-DENTS LOOK FOR WORK**

In addition to adjusting to a new country and university, some international students add internships and part-time jobs to their schedule.

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### SHOULD SAN JOSE LIBRARIES BAN PORN?

OPINION

San Jose mayor supports legislation to censor porn to protect children's wandering eyes ... the editorial board weighs in.

**AND SHMEAR, NOW!** Students and professors explore the dreaded 'freshman 15' and discuss ways you can avoid this ugly number.

PUT DOWN THE BAGEL

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**STUDENT LIFE** 

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### **Domestic violence week begins today**

Students share personal stories of former abuse

### **By KRISTIN FURTADO**

Staff Writer

When Maria's boyfriend threatened to kill her by putting a knife to her neck, she didn't beg him to put it down.

"You know what? Do it. Go ahead. Do it," Maria told her boyfriend.

Fortunately, he didn't listen to her - he put the knife down.

Maria (not her real name) said she spent more than four years in an abusive relationship. So when SJSU peer health educator Gina Vittori were really important to students, Maria knew exactly what she wanted to bring to their attention: domestic violence awareness.

With help from the Women's Resource Center, Peer Health Education is sponsoring and coordinating Domestic Violence Awareness Week at SJSU, which will feature The Clothesline Project, a visual display bearing witness to violence against women, Vittori said.

Today marks the beginning of this week's event, which is being held in observance of domestic violence awareness month. It will be held Mon through Thurs. from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Art quad.

The clothesline, which was featured two years ago at SJSU, will display T-shirts made by survivors of domestic violence - as well as for wom-

asked her volunteers what issues they thought en who may have died from domestic violence, Vittori said.

> "It's a really powerful event and again, it gives a voice to people who've been affected by domestic violence or rape or incest or sexual abuse," she said, adding that materials will be available for students to make their own T-shirts.

> Vittori said she hopes to educate students about healthy relationships. A dating bill of rights will be posted for students to look at and volunteers will also be handing out information on relationship equality, boundaries and respect.

> According to the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, one in every four women will experience domestic violence in their lifetime, with women ages 16 to 24 experiencing the high-