

2-28-2019

The Santa Clara, 2019-02-28

Santa Clara University

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Recommended Citation

Santa Clara University, "The Santa Clara, 2019-02-28" (2019). *The Santa Clara*. 88.
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The Santa Clara

Thursday, February 28, 2019

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U.S. education needs schooling



NICK KNIVETON

LIVE FROM SANTA CLARA: Students performed at Igwebuike's "Love Jones: Friday Night Live" on Friday, Feb. 22 in the Locatelli Student Activity Center. Participants performed various acts including different dances, musical numbers and a dance-off that occurred between audience members.

OPINION

Noah Sonnenburg

PETA Disturbs the Peace

Feb. 22, 2019 would have been Steve Irwin's 57th birthday. In honor of that, Google displayed an illustrated image of Irwin wrestling a crocodile in their logo. PETA made quick work of this sweet nod to the Aussie's life with an official Twitter statement.

"#SteveIrwin was killed while harassing a ray; he dangled his baby while feeding a crocodile & wrestled wild animals who were minding their own business," read the tweet. "Today's #GoogleDoodle sends a dangerous, fawning message. Wild animals are entitled to be left alone in their natural habitats."

Rightfully, the internet—myself included—responded with a largely unanimous, bombastic "no thanks." PETA's comments were tone-deaf, unintelligent and, perhaps worst of all, done solely for the purpose of ruffling feathers.

For those readers who didn't religiously watch Animal Planet, Steve Irwin was an incredible inspiration. As a television presenter, he spoke to adults and children alike about the value of ecological awareness and taught the people all about the vast array of creatures that walk the Earth. He wrangled crocodiles, nurtured animals, ran a conservation-focused zoo and journeyed across Australia while chronicling the wonders of his world. All the while, Irwin raised a family of his own who carry on his work today.

On Sept. 4, 2006, on a dive in Queensland, Australia, Irwin was stung in the heart by a stingray. His death stunned fans and he was remembered by various media worldwide. His youngest fans who grew up watching his program lost a hero that day. My parents woke me up and told me the heart-wrenching news before I went to school. I still have the obituary clipping that the Los Angeles Times ran for him. So as you read what I have to say, keep in mind I take this whole affair very personally.

I was, of course, incensed by PETA's comments. It seemed that their words, which are broadcast to quite a large audience, were a personal attack on one of my childhood heroes. Naturally, I was angry and wanted nothing more than to berate the cut-rate team that manages their media presence.

But I'm a man of reason. I know PETA has done quite a lot of good in the world and pursues a clear message of goodwill toward all animals. They have fought against abhorrent acts carried out by institutions like the Yulin Festival and Tyson Foods. I respect that work. I respect activism that is done tactfully, forcefully and intentionally. What I have no patience for is idiocy.

PETA has historically been guilty of an immense number of idiotic offenses that would make members of the 1960s activist movements groan in despair.

This comment, and comments like it, seem to

Support Does Not Come Easy

Senate approves campus club despite student concerns

Perla Luna
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The chartering of Students in Support of Israel (SSI) has instigated student criticism of Associated Student Government (ASG) for approving their club status due to concerns over SSI's potential threat to Palestinian students and supporters on campus.

At the Feb. 14 senate meeting, ASG granted Registered Student Organization (RSO) status to SSI, an international organization that supports Israel as a Jewish Democratic nation-state.

During discussion about the club, some senators mentioned not feeling informed enough about the issue to vote while others talked about the importance of including a

diversity of voices—especially since there is already a Students for Justice in Palestine (SPJ) club.

First-year Valerie Rutenburg, president of SSI, saw a need for SSI at Santa Clara because she noticed there was no club for the Israeli viewpoint at Santa Clara.

"It was alarming that the Israeli perspective wasn't being represented on campus because there is a complexity behind these tensions," Rutenburg said. "Not having both sides doesn't reflect our democratic values."

Senior Noor Darwish, co-president of SPJ, and other SPJ members felt the Center for Student Involvement (CSI) had not done its due diligence in informing them beforehand that SSI was attempting to get chartered.

But CSI is only responsible for initially deciding whether or not a club will cause physical harm, and it was deemed SSI would not.

"Our safety and well-being is at risk here," Darwish said. "We don't stand for this club and we also don't think Santa Clara should either."

After the Diversity and Inclusion Forum on Feb. 20, questions were also raised about ASG's handling of the situation and why it was approved. This is in addition to concerns about SSI's advisor and their lack of acknowledgement of human rights violations against Palestinians in Israel.

"We purely want to raise awareness about the human rights violations that are happening to the Palestinian people," Darwish said. "There are about 65 laws that discriminate against Palestinians, therefore we label it as an apartheid state. When you hold Israel accountable to the human rights violations, then we can have a conversation."

Rutenburg, however, does not feel equating apartheid in South Africa with the Israeli/Palestinian conflict is fair.

For her, the human rights question is still up for debate.

"There is ugliness on both sides, there is good on both sides and there is bloodshed on both sides," she said.

See REFERENDUM, Page 3

See PETA, Page 6

CAMPUS SAFETY

Information Report

Feb. 21: A Kenna Hall elevator was reported malfunctioning with a staff member trapped inside. Campus Safety and a technician responded.

Feb. 21: Four unattended commercial electric scooters were impounded on campus.

Feb. 21: Graffiti was found painted on the north fence of the Park Avenue apartments. A work order for cleanup was completed.

Feb. 22: A bicycle tire was reported stolen from a secured bicycle at the Shappell Lounge bike racks.

Feb. 23: Non-affiliate rugby team members were seen smoking marijuana on the Casa Italiana Residence Hall patio. They were admonished by a Campus Safety officer.

Feb. 24: Bicycle tires were reported stolen from a secured bicycle at the Nobili Residence Hall bike racks. A review of video cameras revealed a male suspect removing both wheels from the bike. SCPD was advised.

Feb. 24: A light pole located on Santa Clara Street parking was found leaning and not fully secured to the ground. A work order was completed and barricades were placed around it.

Feb. 25: A Bon Appetit salad bar weight scale computer was reported displaying pornography when turned on. An investigation is being conducted.

Feb. 25: A security contractor for a construction site was taken into custody by SCPD for outstanding warrants and for possessing methamphetamine.

Feb. 25: A rental car was reportedly found damaged at the Jesuit Residence parking lot. It is unknown if the damage was sustained on campus.

Feb. 26: A suspicious male was reported inside the restroom of Mission Church for an extended period of time, possibly smoking. Campus Safety was able to contact him, but he fled and boarded a bus. SCPD was notified and responded. He was identified and arrested for being drunk in public on the bus.

Feb. 26: Graffiti was found spray painted on the exterior cinder block wall at Schott Stadium.

Medical Emergency

Feb. 20: Two students collided and banged heads while playing soccer at Bellomy Field. They were evaluated and assisted by SCU EMS. One of the students was transported to O'Connor Hospital by an Uber.

Feb. 22: A student fell off his skateboard and injured his ankle. Campus Safety & SCFD responded. He was transported to O'Connor Hospital by paramedics.

Feb. 26: A campus resident was reported having flu-like symptoms and possibly lost consciousness. SCFD was contacted and responded. The resident was transported to O'Connor Hospital by paramedics.

Student Behavior

Feb. 21: Campus Safety investigated a report of a student hazing incident in the pool. A review of video coverage showed students wearing water polo team uniforms in the pool area. Nothing unusual was observed.

Feb. 21: Campus Safety responded to a noise disturbance coming from students in an off-campus residence on Bellomy Street. One of the students was contacted and advised to keep the noise down.

Feb. 22: A student was observed driving at an excessive speed through a stop sign on Palm Drive. He was contacted by a Campus Safety officer at the Main Parking Garage and was cautioned about hazardous driving.

From Campus Safety reports.
Email news@thesantaclara.org.

Check out the Campus Safety Report online:

facebook.com/scucss
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Racks Reorganize Transportation

New project to improve safety on campus

Anthony Alegrete
ASSOCIATE REPORTER

A walk through Benson Memorial Center reveals a minor change at either entrance: skateboard storage racks available for student use.

Due to the relatively small size of campus, skateboard and scooter travel has become commonplace.

Because of the space's high foot traffic, Benson has become littered with these transportation devices.

"It's such a hassle to carry around boards in buildings, so having this form of organization would be ideal," junior Matteo de Suduiraut said. "This will also help keep the walls clean since people won't prop their boards up on them."

Director of Planning & Projects Don Akerland was one of the leaders behind the idea to bring these racks to Benson.

"There is a need to find a way to provide skateboard storage and security within the various campus buildings," Akerland said. "We have several buildings that we are wanting to try out these skateboard racks and there was a request to have one installed at Benson."

The functionality of these racks allows for a safer alternative to skateboard and scooter storage.

While these racks are being piloted in Benson, there is an interest in these storage devices throughout campus, according to Akerland.

"We have a couple of additional racks and we are looking at Heafey [Law Library], Alumni Science and the Art and Art History Building as potential locations for racks," Akerland said.

These racks feature several shelves large enough to fit an average longboard or skateboard as well as some scooter models.

Additionally, each rack features a metal ring so one can

lock the transportation device in place.

While the appearance of these racks may be arbitrary to some, Akerland addresses the possible threat that illegitimately stored skateboards can pose.

"In some areas, loose skateboards can present a safety issue and the racks provide a more appropriate way to store the skateboards," Akerland said.

With Benson being just the pilot location for these racks, more are bound to appear throughout campus in the near future.

Contact Anthony Alegrete at aalegrete@scu.edu or call (408) 554-4852.

News in Brief

Global

- On Tuesday, Feb. 26, Australian Cardinal George Pell, a former adviser to Pope Francis, was convicted of sexual abuse. Pell was found guilty of sexually assaulting two underage boys in December, but a judge barred journalists from publishing the verdict.
- Tensions in Venezuela escalated on Thursday, Feb. 22 after President Nicolas Maduro closed the border between Venezuela and Brazil in order to stop opponents from delivering humanitarian aid into the country. At least two civilians were killed and more than a dozen wounded in a confrontation with security forces along Venezuela's border with Brazil.



National

- On Wednesday, Feb. 27, Michael Cohen, a former lawyer and aide to Donald Trump, testified before the House Oversight and Reform committee. Cohen had previously pleaded guilty to making false statements to Congress regarding the Russia investigation and was sentenced to three years in prison for crimes including tax evasion and campaign violations during Trump's 2016 campaign.
- On Wednesday, Feb. 27, the House of Representatives voted 245-182 to block President Trump's effort to declare a national emergency and build a wall at the United States-Mexico border. Thirteen Republicans voted for the resolution along with House Democrats.



Santa Clara

- Opening week of the musical "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee" begins on Friday, March 1 at 8 p.m. and will conclude on Saturday, March 9. Hosted by the Department of Theatre and Dance, the musical by William Finn is reminiscent of middle school and features eccentric spelling bee champions as the main characters.
- The Ethnic Studies Department is hosting the Resistance and Renewal Conference in conjunction with the National Consortium for the Study of the Politics of Race, Immigration and Ethnicity on Friday, March 1 from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- General auditions for "Romeo and Juliet" will be held during week 10 on Monday, March 11 and Tuesday, March 12 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Callbacks will be held Wednesday, March 13.



The Santa Clara

Since 1922

Volume 98, Issue 16

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OUR POLICIES

The Santa Clara is the official student newspaper of Santa Clara University.

The Santa Clara is written, edited and produced by students once weekly, except during holidays, examination periods and academic recesses.

The Santa Clara welcomes letters to the editor from readers. Letters can be delivered to the Benson Memorial Center, room 13; mailed to SCU Box 3190 or emailed to: letters@thesantaclara.org.

Our letters policy:

- Submissions must include major and year of graduation and/or job title, relation to the university and a phone number for verification.
- Letters should not exceed 250 words. Those exceeding the word limit may be considered as publication as an article or in some other form.
- Anonymous letters will not

be considered for publication.

The Santa Clara reserves the right to edit letters for grammar, clarity and accuracy, or to shorten letters to fit the allocated space.

All letter submissions become property of The Santa Clara.

The deadline for publication in Thursday's edition is the prior Saturday.

Nothing on the opinion pages necessarily represents a position of Santa Clara University. Letters, columns and graphics represent only the views of their authors.

The Santa Clara has a minimum newspaper circulation of 2,000.

One free copy. Additional copies are 25¢. Contact the editor for additional copies.

Referendum Evolves

Continued from Page 1

There was confusion over the advisor appointment because it appeared that SSI had an ex-Israeli soldier without Santa Clara affiliation acting as their advisor.

RSOs are allowed to have non-Santa Clara affiliate advisors, but SPJ was concerned because the individual they identified as the advisor was someone who, along with other pro-Israel activists, harassed them on May 15.

This was when the club's apartheid wall was up near the Learning Commons as part of Palestinian Awareness Week.

In their intent to charter, SSI had no official advisor listed.

SPJ intends to announce a referendum motion to revoke SSI's RSO status at tonight's senate meeting.

This would give SPJ 10 to 15 days to get 5,520 written students signatures (10 percent of the student body) calling for a referendum election.

If a referendum is approved, 20 percent of the undergraduate population would need to vote either way in order to consider the election valid.

Assuming at least 20 percent of students do vote, then SPJ would still need a supermajority (two-thirds plus one) in favor of the referendum.

The ASG bylaws officially state it must be a supermajority of the entire student population but that was deemed not feasible. As of now, SPJ needs a supermajority of all those who vote in the election.

Concerns over a club's presence on campus and their corresponding national organization's watchlist is a situation all too familiar for ASG.

Two years ago, similar issues were raised when Turning Point USA (TPUSA) was approved as an RSO.

TPUSA is a branch of a right wing, nonprofit organization that maintains a watchlist of professors who allegedly

discriminate against conservative students and advance left-wing propaganda.

"TPUSA is not me," Rutenburg said. "I am not TPUSA. No way are we linked. I think it's very important to allow my group objective scrutiny and not confuse it with prior instances."

The national SSI does have ties to Canary Mission, a website which lists student activists, professors and organizations it considers anti-Israel or anti-semitic.

Canary Mission has been used by the Israeli government and border security officials to interrogate and deny entry to those boycotting Israel.

Rutenburg said the purpose of her club is not to put anyone on a watchlist.

"My ultimate goal is to shed light on the complexity of the issue and engage in dialogue," she said.

Going forward, SPJ hopes it can raise awareness of the Palestinian perspective. Rutenburg likewise hopes to increase conversation around the Israeli/Palestinian conflict without posing SSI as a threat to anyone on campus.

At-Large Senator Eduardo Ruano and three other ASG senators have written an apology letter that will be discussed in a closed senate meeting after Thursday's general meeting.

ASG senators are also considering making changes to the bylaws or procedures to prevent future problems from arising.

"Some students in senate do not feel like there are opportunities to learn from this whole process and maybe add more to our procedure to help prevent further problems in the future," ASG Senate Chair Alex Perlman said. "One such idea I have heard is to post our agenda a day or so before the senate meeting."

Both SSI and SPJ will further discuss the situation at tonight's senate meeting.

Contact Perla Luna at pluna@scu.edu or call (408) 554-4852.

Diversity Works Winners

Students share stories and businesses show promising interest

Sasha Todd

THE SANTA CLARA

Six students were awarded prize money for sharing their experiences with diversity, how they have overcome adversity and how their identities have shaped their career development. Winners delivered speeches to the crowd at the Diversity Works Awards and Expo, held in the Locatelli Student Activities Center on Feb. 20. It was sponsored by the Career Center to celebrate and provide opportunities for marginalized students.

This was the second year the Career Center held this program, with six students winning a \$200 prize as opposed to five recipients last year.

Applicants submitted an elevator pitch describing how their experiences with diversity affected their identities in their careers. This year, the option of submitting a video response in addition to or in place of a written submission was added.

The event was split into three parts, the first consisted of the awards ceremony and presentation of winning speeches.

"I think it is important for companies to be intentional about diversity and inclusion because societal change is only going to happen when lots of individual groups buy into the value of diversification," award winner and junior Analia Anaya said.

The second part of the event consisted of the Diversity and Inclusion Industry Panel, which intended to discuss the role of diversity and inclusion in the workplace.

The panel featured Noel Kreidler, a disability advocate at Kreidler Solutions; Michelle Park, an equal employment opportunity manager for San Mateo County; and recent alumna Natalie Simmons, who works in diversity and inclusion programming at Zendesk.

The panel was run by students and moder-

ated by the award winners. Each award winner had prepared a question to ask the panel. Senior and award winner Shikiko Washington asked how panelists continue to create environments where they celebrate and uplift the diversity of thought and identities within their companies.

This query sparked insightful advice from the diversity and inclusion professionals.

Ariana Rivera, a graduate student career coach at the Career Center, had some advice for students who are planning their careers and have not yet thought about diversity.

"You should care about diversity if you want to work in an environment that is going to be nontoxic to you," Rivera said. "I mean working long hours, you want to think about diversity in the terms of what does the board and the top look like, are they diverse, and how are their experiences impacting my work standards and expectations."

Other award recipients were first-year Remi Schreder, juniors Joycelyne Cardona and Kimberly Dong and senior Alexander Moran.

"Even if you are not thinking about diversity, it is everywhere."

The final part of the event included a career fair with more than 40 employers that feature diversity and inclusion in their companies.

There was a range of companies in different industries, which included Accenture, Oracle, Gap, Boys and Girls Club of San Francisco, International Rescue Committee and Symantec.

"Even if you are not thinking about diversity, it is everywhere," Rivera said. "We need to be thinking about how we can create safe spaces for people to work in."

Contact Sasha Todd at artodd@scu.edu or call (408) 554-4852.

Topics Tackled at Forum for Campus Inclusion

Students and administration discuss issues

Emma Pollans

THE SANTA CLARA

The room was tense as students listened to administrators' updates about campus life and then voiced their own concerns.

The Diversity and Inclusion Forum took place on Feb. 20 in the de Saisset Museum auditorium.

It was co-hosted by the university and the Student Council on Inclusive Excellence.

The evening consisted of short presentations from various groups on campus that updated students on initiatives and project that intend to make Santa Clara a more diverse and inclusive place.

The topics discussed included undergraduate admissions, retention data, wellness initiatives, next steps following the Campus Climate Survey and the #BroncoPosi movement.

Time was allotted at the end for questions and discussion from the audience.

The goal of the event was to provide the university administrators the opportunity to engage with students and ask them important questions about the current campus climate surrounding diversity and social justice issues.

The first presentation was from

undergraduate admission officers, who presented a profile of the early admission class of 2019-20.

They announced an increase in the number of early applications received, as well as an increase in the overall academic achievements of the class.

The number of admitted students of color also increased by 8.4 percent.

Paola Garcia-Vega, assistant director of admissions, took the opportunity to promote "Unity Night," a program that brings admitted students of color to campus for a day.

She encouraged students to RSVP as ambassadors and informed students that in previous years, 75 percent of attendees committed to Santa Clara.

Provost Dennis Jacobs, vice president for academic affairs, presented retention figures for students after their first year on campus. Santa Clara has an average 95 percent retention rate and is currently tied for the second-highest retention rate with Boston College among Jesuit schools in the United States.

"We can always continue to do better," Jacobs said. "But these are really good metrics for students to say when they come here that this is a place where they can thrive and succeed."

The following presentations focused on increasing the quality of student life on campus with presentations from the Cowell Center, the Wellness Center and the Education for Violence Prevention group.

Jill Rovarious, director of the

Cowell Center, introduced efforts the health center is making to help students handle issues like stress and anxiety.

She discussed the diverse group of counselors available to students as well as the support group for women of color launched this year in conjunction with the group Together for Ladies of Color.

Tiger Simpson, the assistant director of the Wellness Center, discussed the center's goals which include building bridges with off-campus communities and working with students in off-campus housing, neighborhood units and Greek life.

"We can always continue to do better."

Students from the Violence Prevention Program also presented and discussed their membership growth as well as efforts they have made on campus including requiring all first-years to go through the One-Love Escalation Workshop during orientation.

Vice Provost for Academic Affairs Elsa Chen informed students about campus initiatives.

Following the results of the Campus Climate Survey, various groups on campus established a list of 10 priorities to address. Each priority has a specific goal, as well as coordi-

nators to manage them.

Following the updates about changes and improvements being made across campus, students had questions regarding other issues they felt the university had failed to address.

Students had the option to submit questions anonymously with note cards throughout the event.

However, due to time constraints, only a few questions were actually answered directly by administrators that night.

The issues brought up included how Santa Clara would actively work to make the campus welcoming and open to Native Americans and indigenous people, given the land the university currently occupies once belonged to the Ohlone tribe.

The answer came from university President Michael Engh, S.J., who said Santa Clara is currently forming a working group of staff, students and members of the Ohlone tribe to address the issue of recognizing the people and their tribe.

Another issue students raised concerned the Associated Student Government (ASG)'s approval of a pro-Israel club, Students Supporting Israel.

The question described the club as purely political and asked how this group was allowed on campus and given RSO status.

Members of ASG in the audience responded by saying that senators are expected to do research and their due diligence before voting to approve a club's RSO status.

Senate Chair Alex Perlman noted that ASG meetings are vid-

eo recorded as well as transcribed and students are able to view the discussion senators had during the meeting as well as each senator's individual vote.

Questions were also asked regarding Bon Appetit and the treatment of the workers. Robin Reynolds, associate vice president of Auxiliary Services, informed students that multiple meetings have been held with workers of Bon Appetit.

"My staff regularly meets with Bon Appetit," Reynolds said. "Both the management group that works here on campus, as well as the corporate folks that work regionally and nationally. We're also touching base with them on issues [raised] by the Labor Action Committee and we meet with them regularly as well to hear the concerns that workers feel comfortable going to them with."

Annalia Anaya, director of the Multicultural Center, believes that events such as the Diversity and Inclusion Forum are important because they discuss issues that are not always priorities.

"Having a space where students and other SCU stakeholders can vocalize issues or questions they have about D&I is important in ensuring we are continually progressing forward," Anaya said. "It is immensely dangerous to ever believe that we have solved the issue of diversity. It needs to be an ongoing conversation."

Contact Emma Pollans at epollans@scu.edu or call (408) 554-4852.

SCENE

Thursday, February 28, 2019

“You Complete Me, Ho”

Standup comic jokes about race and gender in Netflix special

Azariah Joel
THE SANTA CLARA

Comedians are particularly obsessed with limits—especially how far those limits can be pushed. In his first-ever stand-up special, Ken Jeong crosses racial thresholds and relies on familiar, crude humor that uses the Asian stereotypes that made him famous.

One of the most trending specials on Netflix, “You Complete Me, Ho” is brimming with jokes at the expense of the Asian culture.

The special lacks substance and has received backlash about how this approach to comedy is ruining what little representation Asian-Americans have in the media.

There is an unspoken rule about how comedians are granted the excuse to make jokes that rely on racial stereotypes as long as it's about their own culture. Since these comedians are given the invisible right to laugh at their people, they give the audience permission to laugh with them. Less than

seven minutes into “You Complete Me, Ho,” Jeong begins mocking Vietnamese culture and justifies his slander by saying he is married to a Vietnamese woman, Tran Ho.

Jeong goes on a rampage about ways to laugh at Asians and defeminizes women by using the common Vietnamese surname to riffing repeatedly about his wife, last name “Ho.”

Jeong gets the crowd started by saying, “I married a Ho, I can say anything the f*ck I want, and it's street-legal. Get in the car, Ho. Make me some rice, Ho.”

When the camera shifts to show Jeong's wife sitting in the back, she flashes a forced smile and blows him a kiss. What a great way to introduce your wife, right?

A few minutes later, Jeong randomly asks a girl in the front if she's Vietnamese and then proceeds to ask her last name. Not only is her last name Ho, but her first name is also Tran.

The crowd goes into a roar of laughter but Jeong stands there looking annoyed. When the audience calms down, Jeong yells to the girl, “Don't you ever upstage me, Ho! Don't you ever be funnier than me, Ho! How dare you, this is my Netflix special, Ho!” Whether this was improvised or staged, I would hate to be in her position

because of the joke's level of disrespect.

This type of behavior allows the audience to enjoy problematic jokes without having to feel guilty. Jeong challenges the idea of using self-deprecating humor as a tool, thereby pushing his fans to consider the price of making comedy at the expense of the Asian community.

Though the audience was predominantly Asian in “You Complete Me, Ho,” Jeong's comedy didn't feel authentic and some jokes left a bad taste in my mouth.

Some of the most talented comedians do this to push their audience to think about stereotypes critically, however, Jeong misses the mark and perpetuates the stereotypes that he is trying to dismantle.

In a time when Asian Americans are finally being recognized in the media, Ken Jeong is one of the most famous Asian actors in Hollywood. He became well known from his recurring role in “The Hangover” and his television show “Dr. Ken,” along with other achievements.

If one of our most accomplished and beloved Asian American comedians is still making jokes at the expense of Asian American experiences, this indicates that stereotypes about Asians are still commodified in

Hollywood. It's also contradicting for Jeong and his recent interview with TIME, in which he says that “Comics like Hannah Gadsby or Ali Wong exemplify how you can do deeply personal work in a stand-up format. It wasn't like that 20 years ago. It's definitely for the better because you can only tell so many d*ck jokes. You need something deeper to say.”

Jeong is right. Comics like Wong define Asian comedy more substantially while still being funny. Wong has supplied the demand for comedy rooted in Asian-American-centered experiences—like the extremes of motherhood or being part of an immigrant family. She promotes femininity and her Asian-American identity. But there is hardly anything deep in “You Complete Me, Ho” and the message Jeong gives is a reiteration of ways to make jokes about Asian people. Instead of showing authenticity, Jeong whitewashes Asian identity and normalizes “idiotic” traits by adapting them to his personality.

He degrades women and race to gain acceptance and popularity from fans. Jeong will need a different approach if he wants to become a household name.

Contact Azariah Joel at ajoel@scu.edu or call (408) 554-4852.



FACEBOOK

An Oscars with No Host is No Oscars at All

The Santa Clara's resident film critic shows disdain for the most recent Oscars

Brandon Schultz
THE SANTA CLARA

Where is our “Schindler's List”?

While the Oscars have certainly never lacked heated competition, they've also never felt as passionless as they have in recent years.

Yes, Grace Kelly upset Judy Garland in 1955, and Harvey Weinstein's concerted, game-changing Best Picture campaign in 1999 deprived Spielberg of another deserving Oscar. But the movie industry—and the general public—still rallied around these surprise winners.

Last Sunday's fractured 91st Academy Awards proved that those days are over. Thrilling films with intensely personal visions no longer win—victors must appeal to the widest audience possible.

Perhaps the blame rests on the Academy itself, whose infamous 2009 decision to expand the number of potential Best Picture nominees from five to 10 continues to infect ceremonies more than a decade later.

The decision in itself, while undoubtedly positive in its hopes for including—at least on the surface—a more diverse range of films, failed

to live up to its promise. The Academy's dream of drawing larger audiences with more diverse and commercial offerings barely materialized. Voters still gravitated toward their old preferences, choosing 10 Oscar bait films instead of just five.

However, the most insidious element of the change involved the accompanying switch to a preferential ballot voting system for Best Picture, denying films with focused, passionate followings that generate broad esteem, such as “Schindler's List” or “Titanic,” from securing wins.

Today, each nominee for Best Picture comes with too much baggage in the form of haters. Someone will always find something wrong with your movie.

The path to a trophy often lies in being as safe as possible, so that the most voters put your film in the middle of their list.

The effects of these decisions were on disastrous display at last Sunday's Oscars, where no one film truly emerged from the pack. “Black Panther” won some awards, “Roma” earned others and “Green Book” snatched the top prize despite not boasting the best director (an amusing yet too-frequent occurrence).

Fittingly for a rudderless show with no host, the ceremony plodded along with little personality. Like the nominated movies, various celebrities enjoyed their 45 seconds of screen-time, contributing to the boring sameness of the broadcast.

Despite helping the show move along smoothly and without major controversy un-



FACEBOOK

After controversial tweets made by Kevin Hart surfaced this year, the 2019 Oscars was stripped of a host.

til the very end—this pizzazzless impersonality stripped the show of genuine excitement. Passion lost out to inoffensive generality, and so did its viewers.

And that is why, for many, Lady Gaga and Bradley Cooper's performance of their Oscar-nominated hit “Shallow” marked the best moment of the broadcast. For the first time that evening, tension filled the theater (especially with Cooper's girlfriend, model Irina Shayk, watching the utterly enraptured duo from the front row).

For a few brief moments, Gaga and Cooper brought their intensely personal visions to the stage. With eyes locked, they ignored everyone but each other. This riveting passion captured

what the Oscars have lost. Rather than desperately scream for our attention like so many of the other performers that evening, Gaga and Cooper invited us to share in their own riveting personalities.

Like great winners of the past, you might not like them or their music, but you can't help but respect their passion.

And it's this type of authenticity and genuine excitement that led to what is arguably one of the best moments in Oscar history: Olivia Colman winning Best Actress.

Although the category initially seemed competitive, the driving narrative in recent weeks positioned frequent-nominee Glenn Close as the obvious winner. So when Colman's name rang out through the Dolby Theater, the audience basked in genuine surprise—Colman noticeably included.

In her heartwarming acceptance, she forgone the canned, generic speeches that we have come to expect of winners. Instead, she let her simultaneous tears and giggles guide her speech.

When she admitted that, as a cleaner, “I did spend quite a lot of time imagining this,” she demonstrated the brutal honesty and off-the-cuff spontaneity that the show no longer produces.

At one poignant moment, the obviously flustered Colman emitted a raspberry. Although her speech was a knockout moment of passion, the dull ceremony surrounding her deserved it.

Contact Brandon Schultz at bschultz@scu.edu or call (408) 554-4852.

Senior Soloists Hitting All of the Right Notes

Santa Clara senior students to serenade this coming Saturday

Erin Fox
MANAGING EDITOR

Four Santa Clara senior students will take center stage this Saturday night as winners of the Music Department's 2018-19 Concerto and Aria Competition.

The March 2 performance, titled "Mission Excellence," will feature the soloists alongside the University Orchestra at their annual winter concert. Ashley Ahn will play the Wieniawski Violin Concerto No. 2; Anne Hsia will be featured in Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto No. 1; PJ Hummelt will be performing the Horn Concerto by Santa Clara orchestra conductor John Kennedy; and Garrett Woodford-Berry will be the soloist in Elgar's Cello Concerto.

Auditions for the competition, which occurred in November of last year, are open to any student at the university, no matter their major. Each year's competition varies and may result in anywhere from one to several winners. Hsia, Hummelt and Woodford-Berry won the same competition in 2017. Students are not allowed to compete two years in a row.

"It becomes very evident when we do the competition [auditions] who has been preparing for a long time," Kennedy said. "The solo repertoire that people have won with, they're really difficult pieces and they take months of familiarity, not just weeks. Those students who have dedicated themselves to learning such dif-



ERIN FOX—THE SANTA CLARA

From left to right, seniors PJ Hummelt, Ashley Ahn, Anne Hsia and Garrett Woodford-Berry. Three of the students were winners of the 2017 Concerto Competition, pictured below. The March 2 performance, titled "Mission Excellence," will feature the soloists alongside the University Orchestra at their annual winter concert.

ficult repertoire over a sustained period and having the technique to actually play the pieces well was very obvious to the judges."

The judges are always two people outside of the university who are familiar with music, whom Kennedy advises by answering questions about the players' ability and dedication. Twelve students auditioned in total.

In a unique circumstance, this year's winners are all members of

the University Orchestra during the academic year. Several soloists will participate in the playing of other pieces in this concert, in addition to their respective concertos.

Ahn didn't decide to audition for the competition until two weeks before the audition due date. She decided to give it a try for the first time with the Wieniawski piece, which she has been practicing with her violin teacher at Santa Clara, Motoko Toba, since early junior year.

"I really liked how it sounded," Ahn said. "I love it when pieces have a slow, melodic line to it and then it goes into this very difficult, technical part of the piece. It also incorporated a lot of bowing techniques that I wanted to work on throughout the year."

According to Kennedy, Wieniawski was a virtuoso violinist, meaning he only wrote music for violin, which was known to be difficult and showy.

"It's another example of a student learning something for their instrument that's really at the highest level," he said.

Hsia, who is the orchestra's principal violist, decided to play the Tchaikovsky Piano Concerto after Hummelt recommended it.

"Two years ago, Garrett, PJ and I all soloed together [in the competition] and since we're only allowed to audition every other year if we win, we were like, 'What are we going to play in two years?'" Hsia said. "That's why I'm playing that piece now, due to our musicianship camaraderie."

She started practicing the piece fall of junior year, when she studied abroad in Australia.

"I brought the music with me and I went through the hassle of finding a practice room in the university," Hsia said. "It was rough because I had to convince them that I was really serious."

She describes the concerto as a very passionate and powerful piece.

"There's a lot of moods and different emotions," Hsia said. "I feel like I'm not super emotional, but through this piece I explore different realms and it takes you somewhere, like a novel."

Hsia started playing the piano at age 5, but described it as a "love-hate relationship" throughout her youth. She started violin when she was in fourth grade, and picked up viola in high school.

Hummelt was first introduced to Kennedy's Horn Concerto in spring 2017.

"When the concerto competition came up again this year, I wanted to play it because I thought it would be fun to play something by a living composer, especially one who I'd get to work so closely with," Hummelt said. He has been practicing the piece since late summer 2018.

"It's thrilling to me that he's doing it," Kennedy said. "The solo is very hard, and he's the first student musician to have learned it. It's an incredible accomplishment for him to play it as well as he's doing."

According to Woodford-Berry, the Elgar Cello Concerto is one

of his favorite pieces. Kennedy described it as a meditative piece that is a "wonderful contrast" to the other pieces being performed due to its emotional depth.

Woodford-Berry is proud to play in the competition as a senior, calling it a good ending to his music experience at Santa Clara.

He noted that it feels different from winning as a sophomore student, in that he's more confident to play the music the way he thinks it ought to be played.

"What I find sort of extraordinary about all of these players is that they have majors in other fields and yet they play at a level that is first-class," Kennedy said. "As a whole, the [senior class] is the most talented that I've seen at my time here. This group has set a standard that we hope will inspire others."

Contact Erin Fox at efox@scu.edu or call (408) 554-4852.



COURTESY OF ERIN FOX

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SJSU SAN JOSÉ STATE UNIVERSITY

OPINION

Thursday, February 28, 2019

Sahale Greenwood

America is Getting Schooled in Teacher Quality

There are serious flaws in our education system as we fall behind in global standards.

We have been lagging behind both Asian and European countries in important educational measures. Both South Korea and Finland are far above the U.S. in international testing, with the most important international test being the PISA (Programme for International Student Assessment).

The PISA is the most relevant measure of intelligence because it tests critical thinking skills by asking students to give their opinion on articles, read fine print of health care plans and work out math problems for which the formulas are provided.

Collectively, this makes PISA a test about problem solving and creative thinking. A memorization test could show a difference in a country's course materials, but this critical thinking test shows that the U.S. is falling in the ability to work out complex problems.

These differences in scores are not because the U.S. isn't spending as much on education; they are

spending more. According to the National Center for Education Statistics, Americans spent on average \$12,509 per pupil in primary and secondary school in 2016, compared to Korean spending of \$7,652 per pupil. This shows that more money does not guarantee better scores, as the U.S. is spending close to twice the amount as South Korea, yet not seeing superior results.

Additionally, U.S. spending on public schools is unequally distributed in different parts of the country, especially suburban versus urban schools.

Since many public schools are heavily funded by property taxes, the \$12,509 per pupil is not being distributed proportionally because both the portion of property taxes used to pay for education and the value of property taxes vary greatly throughout the country. PISA reported that this inequality in funding results in a 15 percent socioeconomic variance in their test scores.

South Korean students score much higher on the PISA, but their model is not ideal for us to follow. Their system is harsh, unforgiv-

ing and demanding as students go to school for long hours, stressing about testing performance.

If we want our students to compete better in this race, we need to improve the coaching.

Within Korea, there is a constant effort to reform their educational system in an attempt to reduce stress for young students. But Korea, as well as other Asian countries, have fallen into an arms race to see who can improve test scores the most. It is a race that countries and their students cannot get out of easily once they have begun.

The United States, when looking for ways to improve their education

model, should consider models like Finland. Finland raised their test scores by improving the quality of their teachers in the public school system by making teaching a high-paying and respected job.

By improving the quality of their teachers, they have systematically improved the quality of their entire educational system. This is significantly different than the Korean model, most importantly because Finland employs better teaching as the mechanism to increase scores and overall education as opposed to increased hours of work and pressure placed on students. Finland is improving their education in a healthier way that allows the country's education system to flourish without jeopardizing the happiness or health of students by applying unnecessary amounts of stress and work.

While South Korea is outperforming the United States in education, their PISA scores keep dropping while their stress keeps growing as the education standard continues to rise. Because improving education is an equifinality process that

can be achieved in multiple ways other than extreme pressure and copious amount of time studying, the U.S. should adopt the Finland model and raise the quality of teachers by making graduate school acceptance mandatory and more exclusive, having higher expectation both in terms of schooling and natural skills for their teachers and by increasing teachers' salaries.

Finland's education system has improved because they emphasized an important variable—educators. By improving the quality of their teachers, they improved the entire system.

The U.S. is a hegemony and if it hopes to hold this standing in the future, especially in regard to education, we will need to improve our educational system to compete against these other countries who are currently leaving us in the dust. If we want our students to compete better in this race, we need to improve the coaching.

Sahale Greenwood is a sophomore political science and communication double major.

PETA Attacks Steve Irwin On His Birthday

Continued from Page 1

come with little to no prompting. This was no landmark anniversary in the legacy of Steve Irwin, nor was it in response to some recently-surfaced animal abuse scandal involving him. Instead—simply in response to a Google Doodle—the petulant minds of the PETA public relations team decided to throw a hissy fit.

The situation just isn't that serious. Yes, situations that animals face are dire and often are overlooked by us heathenous omnivores. However, between my sinful mouthfuls of animal carcass, I still keep an ear out to see what meats are sourced ethically and what is being done to raise the standard of life for animals around the world.

While PETA's voice is strong in these arenas, they seem to revel in picking fights and waging wars that just aren't worth the time. With the resources and audience they have at their disposal, you would expect them to engage in something more worthwhile than attacking the reputation of a deceased television personality. There are animals out there that need our saving and if PETA is as righteous as they proclaim, they should be mobilizing themselves and addressing these issues instead of disrespecting a



COURTESY OF GOOGLE

For his 57th birthday, Google created a Google Doodle in remembrance of famous Australian explorer and television star Steven Irwin. PETA, in turn, took this opportunity to defame his name and critique his work.

man who arguably did far more for the natural world than they ever have or will.

It's important to note that PETA is notorious for their pugnacious, impish actions throughout the world.

As with everything, controversy sells more than erudite commentary. As an example, Aus-

tralian PETA members shocked the world a number of weeks ago when they staged a protest at which they grilled a dog on a city sidewalk and posited to viewers that eating a dog is the same as eating a lamb.

Their actions were appalling but convincing. Later it was revealed that the dog was an

incredibly lifelike prop and was simply meant for theatrical effect. But the absurdity of the action remains the same. To groups like this, nothing is holy. To be obscene is to be right in their eyes, and they repudiate any and all tactful behavior. My point is simple. Activism both here in the states and globally has left quite a wonderful mark on the world.

From the liberation of nations suffering under colonial powers to the civil rights movement in the U.S., many campaigns have been effective and have provided people with a precedent of civil disobedience that they can pursue in their own unique ways.

This enlightened approach to change is something that I am at once humbled and inspired by. But as I said before, I have no patience for idiocy—neither should you.

Our present world is plagued with moral, social, political and economic strife at every turn. But what should light a fire under your ass more than anything are the groups and the people who rebuff tastefulness and embrace sensationalized, ineffective “activism.”

Noah Sonnenburg is a sophomore communication major and is the Scene Editor.

Joshua Raymundo

Jussie Smollett Fooled America, But Not for Long

In arguably one of the strangest criminal cases of the past decade, actor Jussie Smollett has been arrested. Indeed, strange does not begin to describe the circumstances that have snowballed into an irreversible situation with negative implications for the now disgraced “Empire” actor.

The debacle began in late January, when Smollett supposedly received a threatening letter composed of cut-out magazine letters, reminiscent of those seen in classic horror movies.

According to the Chicago Sun-Times, Smollett's case was fabricated. He was found to have the magazine from which the threatening letter was

composed.

Videotapes show his attackers, Nigerian brothers Ola and Abel Osundairo, buying the supplies on a local surveillance camera. Investigators found the check he paid the attackers to stage the crime.

Smollett capitalized on a divided nation that often jumps to the “guilty until proven innocent” conclusion. Smollett knew that the incident would receive high media ratings because he is a gay black man and thus was confident that the media would cover a hate crime.

Smollett also took advantage of the stereotypes regarding Trump supporters, as the media often portrays

them as racist and bigoted.

He painted the image that he, a gay black male, was beaten on the streets by racist, MAGA-supporting white men.

Smollett is playing a dangerous game that needs to be recognized. His fraudulent scheme perpetuates the stereotypes surrounding race-based issues that fracture American society.

Hate crimes are a heinous problem caused by sickened and evil souls that attempt to divide our country, and it is imperative they end. However, staging a hate crime to one's advantage, knowing that it is an extremely sensitive subject in the public eye, is a blatant abuse of celebrity power

because it discredits and disrespects a real dilemma.

Smollett's attempt to capitalize on these racial divides and amplify the effects on a national stage for his personal benefit further distances unity from coming to fruition.

What our country needs to understand is that people must prioritize others before themselves—something Smollett could certainly take note of.

Joshua Raymundo is a first-year undeclared business major.

Articles in the Opinion section represent the views of the individual authors only and not the views of *The Santa Clara* or Santa Clara University.

Bronco Victory on Senior Night

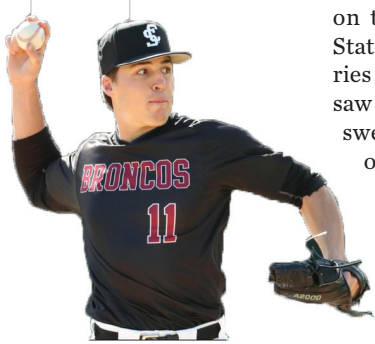
Back-and-forth contest results in close win

John Brussa
SPORTS EDITOR

On Saturday night, five seniors were celebrated before Men's Basketball took the court for their final home game of the season against San Francisco. In a game that saw 13 lead changes and 10 ties, the Broncos managed to conclude Senior Night on a positive note, winning 68-65 over the Dons.

Sophomore forward Joseph Vrankic, who has played a crucial role for the Broncos' offense this season, scored a game-high 20 points—including 13 in the first half—and pulled down nine rebounds.

The largest lead held by either team came with 4:30 left in the first period when Santa Clara pulled ahead 29-23. A majority of the second half, however, both teams were within three points of one another.



SANTA CLARA ATHLETICS

San Francisco took a 65-63 lead over Santa Clara after knocking down a three-pointer with 3:23 left to play. Then, senior forward Henrik Jadersten, playing his final game at Leavey Center, drew the teams even when he scored a layup moments later for the Broncos.

First-year guard Trey Wertz followed up with a layup of his own shortly after, putting the Broncos ahead once again. A free throw from sophomore guard Tahj Eaddy, who had 16 points on the night, would give Santa Clara a 68-65 lead.

With seven seconds remaining, the Dons managed to drive down the court but failed to get a shot off. Two timeouts later and 0.8 seconds left on the clock, San Francisco took its final shot and missed, cementing Santa Clara's win.

Men's Basketball will travel to LMU today to take on the Lions at 8 p.m. Santa Clara's final game of the regular season will take place Saturday at 7 p.m. against Portland.

Baseball

SANTA CLARA, Calif.—Taking on the Pac-12's Washington State in a four-game home series this weekend, the Broncos saw improvement after being swept by San Jose State to open the season.

During the first game of the series last Thursday night, the Cougars' pitching stole the show, allowing Santa Clara just one

hit—which came from first-year outfielder Cam Allie in the bottom of the ninth. Two Washington State pitchers combined to shut out Santa Clara while the Cougs' offense came alive to trample the Broncos 10-0.

Friday night, however, was a different story. Junior Brendan Ecklebarger delivered a strong five-inning performance for the Broncos, giving up just two runs. The next three Bronco pitchers combined to shut out the Cougs and RBI singles from junior Jason Dicochea and first-year Matt Jew put Santa Clara ahead 4-2 in the third inning. Neither team would score again and the Broncos took game two.

Saturday was a similar story. Starter Keegan McCarville (junior) led the way for the Broncos defense, allowing no runs in five innings before junior relievers Locke Bernhardt and Ethan Heinrich took over and gave up just one unearned run. Santa Clara tallied three one-run innings—including a solo homerun from junior catcher Jake MacNichols in the fourth—to defeat WSU 3-1 and give the Broncos a 2-1 advantage in the series.

In the final game of the series on Sunday, the Cougars' offense returned with a vengeance to collect 16 hits and score 10 runs. The Broncos, who gained a 5-4 lead following a home-run from first-year Blake Faddoul in the seventh, could not come back after the Cougs followed up with six runs in the eighth inning to split the series 2-2.

Broncos baseball will play its first road games of the season against CSU Bakersfield in a four-game series beginning Friday at 6 p.m.

Women's Tennis

SANTA CLARA, Calif.—Women's Tennis, who cruised by Southeastern Louisiana, 4-0, on Thursday, maintained their dominance against UC Davis on Sunday by serving the Aggies a 7-0 defeat.

The Broncos left no room for doubt in doubles play when junior Maddie Pothoff and sophomore Elvena Gevargiz paired up to defeat UC Davis' No.1 duo, 6-0. Sophomore Nadine Del Carmen and first-year Jamie Schroer secured Santa Clara's doubles point after winning on court three.

In singles play, Pothoff and Gevargiz both earned victories in their respective matches. Schroer, Del Carmen and junior Caitlyn Frankel all won in straight sets over their opponents to keep the Broncos' sweep in tact.

Sunday's contest had originally been scheduled for Feb. 3, but was rescheduled due to inclement weather.

Women's Tennis will travel north to open conference play against Portland on Friday at 10 a.m. before continuing their road trip to Gonzaga on Sunday at the same time.

Contact John Brussa at jbrussa@scu.edu or call (408) 554-4852.

STANDINGS

Men's Basketball

Team	WCC	Overall
Gonzaga	14-0	27-2
Saint Mary's	10-4	14-9
Brigham Young	10-5	18-12
San Francisco	9-5	21-7
Santa Clara	7-7	15-13
Loyola Marymount	6-8	18-10
San Diego	6-8	17-12
Pepperdine	6-9	13-16
Pacific	3-11	13-16
Portland	0-14	7-22

Women's Basketball

Team	WCC	Overall
Gonzaga	14-2	25-3
Brigham Young	13-3	21-6
Pepperdine	12-4	19-8
Saint Mary's	11-6	18-10
Pacific	10-7	17-10
Loyola Marymount	9-7	16-12
Santa Clara	5-11	12-15
Portland	4-12	12-15
San Francisco	2-14	6-21
San Diego	1-15	8-19

UPCOMING GAMES

Men's Basketball

Santa Clara @ LMU	Thurs. 2/28	8:00 p.m.
Santa Clara @ Portland	Sat. 3/02	7:00 p.m.

Women's Basketball

Santa Clara @ San Diego	Thurs. 2/28	6:00 p.m.
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Women's Tennis

Santa Clara @ Portland	Fri. 3/01	10:00 a.m.
Santa Clara @ Gonzaga	Sun. 3/03	10:00 a.m.

Kraft Charged



The "Orchids of Asia" spa where Kraft allegedly committed solicitation in Jupiter, Fla.

Continued from Page 8

situation is not as much a concern about one powerful individual doing something wrong (although this is certainly true) as it is about the larger problem of human trafficking.

These arrests were part of a six-month long investigation by Florida police. The shutdown of Orchids of Asia Day Spa and the charges brought against Kraft and 23 others in Palm Beach County represented only one of 10 other spas across the southern half of the state and hundreds of arrest warrants to occur within the same week.

The investigations included authorities gathering evidence through observation, interviews with men leaving the spa and trash bin searches. When enough information was gained in order to obtain a warrant, judges issued warrants to let officers secretly install cameras inside. From there, the raids began early last week.

The women in the spas were es-

entially trapped. They were living inside and not allowed to leave the building without an escort.

So, with more information coming to light as the story develops, the many complicated layers of the situation are also becoming clearer.

What will happen to Kraft in court next month?

Will the legal system allow him to escape with minimum punishment?

Depending on the verdict, how will the NFL punish Kraft and what will this say about a league historically criticized for giving lenient and dismissive punishments?

And lastly, will this event do anything to highlight the continued issue of human trafficking in the U.S.?

We will not know the answer until Kraft's court date, but with the video evidence released earlier this week, Kraft's lawyers might want to revise their argument from last Friday.

Contact Kyle Lydon at klydon@scu.edu or call (408) 554-4852.

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SPORTS

Thursday, February 28, 2019

Pat's Owner Kraft Named in Prostitution Ring Charges

Florida police unveil operation taking place in spas around the state

Kyle Lydon
THE SANTA CLARA

When news broke about New England Patriots' owner Robert Kraft was facing two charges for solicitation in southern Florida last Friday, a spokesman for Kraft denied he committed any crimes and stated that they would not be commenting further.

Since then, the story has developed and more information has been released about the details of the event and Kraft's charges.

The 77 year-old was one of roughly 25 men charged in this case, involving connections to a prostitution ring in Jupiter, Fla.

According to the Palm Beach State Attorney's Office, part of the prostitution ring was conducted out of a massage parlor called Orchids of Asia Day Spa. Kraft visited the massage parlor on the morning of Jan. 20—the same day as the AFC Championship Game against the Kansas City Chiefs hosted in Kansas City. By the time the game kicked off at 6:40pm EST, Kraft was in attendance.

This was his second visit to the massage parlor in the last 24 hours, as he was also seen leaving 17 hours earlier on Jan. 19. In both accounts, video surveillance recorded Kraft receiving sexual acts from a woman in the spa in exchange for cash.

Earlier this week, Kraft was officially charged with two misdemeanor counts of first-degree solicitation. A low-level warrant has been issued for his arrest but, despite being called an arrest warrant, Kraft is not going to be handcuffed and taken into custody.



In a crackdown that stretched throughout southern Florida, Patriot's owner Robert Kraft was included in an almost 200-person list of those allegedly soliciting prostitution. While the charge does not carry severe legal ramifications, the NFL's response will likely be heavily scrutinized when it is delivered following legal hearings.

Instead, Kraft received a summons in the mail instructing him to turn himself in. Through the legal process, his lawyers have since made arrangements for a court date in Florida—set for 8:30 a.m. on April 24. Kraft will not need to appear in court and has hired Jack Goldberger from Atterbury, Goldberger & Weiss firm to represent him.

If Kraft is convicted, he may face up to one year in jail along with 100 hours of community service, \$5,000 in fines and a class on the dangers of prostitution and human trafficking.

However, Florida has a "diversion plan" under its state law which usually allows first-

time offenders to avoid jail time. Therefore, many legal experts expect him to stay out of jail, even if he is convicted.

On the other hand, punishments by the NFL are almost certain. While they do not carry legal weight and are by no means as severe, possible punishments could include a fine or a suspension. Kraft may also choose to donate to causes that combat prostitution and human trafficking, but many would likely question the sincerity of this move.

"Our Personal Conduct Policy applies equally to everyone in the NFL," the NFL's official statement said. "We will handle this

allegation in the same way we would handle any issue under the Policy. We are seeking a full understanding of the facts, while ensuring that we do not interfere with an ongoing law enforcement investigation. We will take appropriate action as warranted based on the facts."

Kraft, however, is the biggest name on a list of hundreds of arrest warrants that were issued as part of a major crackdown on human trafficking in southern Florida. And in this revelation comes the bigger issue. Kraft's

See MLB, Page 7

MLB Plays Father Time with Experimental Rule

Preseason has new rules and missing stars

Lacey Yahnke
THE SANTA CLARA

The sights, sounds and smells of spring—chalk stripes, the crack of a bat and the smack of a catcher's mitt—have arrived just in time for baseball fans to emerge from the long, cold winter and fill the stadiums of their favorite teams.

The first Major League Baseball (MLB) Spring Training games kicked off on Feb. 21 in Arizona and Florida, and will continue until Opening Day on March 28. With the baseball drought finally over, MLB players are eager to get back out on the diamond.

"I'm always excited to start Spring Training," Los Angeles Angels center-fielder Mike Trout said. "I love spring. I love getting ready for the season."

This year's spring training schedule is slightly different from those in the past, as some games will be played internationally.

The Diamondbacks and the Rockies will meet for a pair of games to be played

in Monterrey, Mexico at Estadio de Béisbol Monterrey on March 9-10. This will serve as a precursor for other games to be played around the globe during the regular season. Later on, the Mariners and Athletics will play a two-game series in Tokyo to start the 2019 season on March 20-21, and the Yankees and Red Sox bring their rivalry to England's London Stadium on June 29-30.

A new rule—a 20-second pitch clock—is also being inaugurated in spring training this year before being set in stone for the regular season. The pitch clock will operate in-between pitches—the enforcement and penalties for violating the rule will become tougher as spring training draws toward its conclusion.

The average game time in MLB in 2018 was three hours and four minutes—down four minutes from 2017—but that is still a long time in speedy 21st century life.

MLB views its new initiative as a positive method of quickening the pace of games. "It's just another part of the progression of the game," Pittsburgh Pirates manager Clint Hurdle told MLB.com. "Who doesn't like being efficient with time without rushing? I'm looking forward to seeing how it plays out."



After the first pitch of spring training was thrown last Friday, the second pitch of the season followed up just seconds later. The MLB's new pitch clock has drawn protest from players like Cy Young winner Max Scherzer.

The idea of a pitch clock has faced resistance from players, especially from pitchers who work slower on the mound. Of the 468 pitchers to throw at least 30 innings last year, all but six averaged more than 20 seconds in between pitches suggesting that adjustments will have to be made to pitching styles and techniques, and the overall nature of professional baseball itself.

"Having a pitch clock, if you have ball-strike implications, that's messing with the fabric of the game," Washington Nationals pitcher Max Scherzer said to the Associated Press. "There's no clock in baseball and there's no clock in baseball for a reason."

For now, there are roughly four weeks of spring training to see if the pitch clock experiment will end speeding up—or undermining—Amer-

ica's pastime.

Meanwhile, the Bryce Harper lotto, which has riveted many fans this off-season, may finally be nearing a conclusion. Harper, a free agent, remains unsigned to any MLB team even as spring training gets underway.

However, USA Today's Bob Nightengale reported Monday that Harper is "expected to make his decision by the end of this week."

The Philadelphia Phillies remain in the hunt for the super-star free agent, reportedly setting a deadline on his decision. The Los Angeles Dodgers met with Harper earlier this week. He is searching for a contract that extends 10 years or more, but according to Jeff Passan at ESPN.com, the Dodgers have "long been opposed to very long-term deals." For Bay Area fans, there are still rumors that the Giants remain interested.

Another young talent recently confirmed Harper may still have a chance to get his wish of a high-paying, long-term contract. Last week, Manny Machado signed a 10-year contract for \$300 million with the San Diego Padres—making the buzz swell around Harper's contract prospect.

If one thing is certain, it's that Opening Day waits for no one—even superstars. And for fans in ballparks in Arizona and Florida, players are taking batting practice, the weather is warm and the beer is cold.

And, for now at least, every team has a chance to be in the World Series.

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