



Klaudia Boczova puts SJSU on the tennis map
 Sports, P. 4

INSIDE



P. 4 Sports: Male student athletes make the cup choice

P. 5 A&E: Authors Susan Straight and Susan Steinberg come to SJSU as part of 'genre-bending' series

P. 6 Opinion: Campus battleground: bicyclists versus pedestrians

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REGISTRATION

Returning students to have enrollment priority

By Rochelle Beckel
 @rochellebeckel

Beginning Fall 2014, former SJSU students wishing to return to campus and complete graduation will have priority over first-time transfers pending their department's approval.

This resolution to grant former students returning priority over first-time applicants wishing to transfer.

"We have to know who departments want to bring back (and who) to accept before we go through the admissions process, so we need to know by mid-

January essentially, because at that point we're determining who comes in as a new student," said Sharon Willey, associate vice president for Administrative and Enrollment Services

Former students returning will then be put into their own application pool that will be considered before any of the applicants for transfer admission, according to Willey.

"We had an Academic Senate policy which guides the reinstatement or returning of former students who were disqualified," Willey said. "But we didn't have anything that spoke to former students enrolling who were either on probation or

who left on good standing and they now wanted to return. So they were treated just like every other applicant, even though they had already been in a department."

Bekah Gher, a junior behavioral science major, said she doesn't think the policy is a good idea because it seems unfair.

"I think that everybody should get the same opportunity to come to school here," Gher said. "I think that dropouts shouldn't get to come first when transfers and new students haven't had the opportunity to come here and show what they can do here for the school."

According to Stephen Branz, associate dean for curriculum and director of general education, what many people don't understand about students who leave SJSU before graduating is that most of them are required to leave for reasons that are irrelevant to their GPA, such as having a baby or being relocated to another region for a job.

"I think the perception with certainly a lot of faculty and maybe even students is that if you left the university you must have 'flunked out,'" Branz said. "Well that's actually not the case. Most stu-

SEE TRANSFERS ON PAGE 3

CAMPUS

Students have to wait for textbooks



Eva Vong looks for a textbook amongst the books that are left at the Spartan Bookstore Wednesday. Carolyn Seng / Spartan Daily

SEE CAMPUS ON PAGE 3

ENERGY

Battery technology group leads charge

By Bryan Delohery
 @Bdelohery

Energy storage innovation accelerator CalCharge has teamed up with SJSU's College of Engineering to create "Battery University," a program designed to train students in battery storage technology.

CalCharge, a partnership between Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and the California Clean Energy Fund (CalCEF), aims to accelerate the growth of California's energy storage market and make the Silicon Valley the leading authority on alternative energy storage.

According to Doug Davenport, CalCharge lead program manager at LBNL, SJSU's College of Engineering, is producing graduates with the proper skills to enter the workforce.

SEE TECH ON PAGE 2

GROUP

Acceleration campaign raises funds for various departments

By Vince Ei
 @Vince_the_Ei

A total of \$179,826,834 has been raised by the Acceleration campaign, according to the 2011-12 Tower Foundation annual report.

According to Rebecca Dukes, the vice president of University Advancement, Acceleration began in 2007 and had a goal to raise \$200 million by the end of the 2012-13 fiscal year on June 30.

Dukes said the campaign continues to raise money and gave a more provisional sum of \$198,395,251 at the end of January 2013.

Pat Lopes Harris, director of media relations, said Acceleration is a comprehensive fundraising campaign and that it was the first time SJSU has ever embarked on such a campaign.

"It's like a very intense sales effort," Harris said. "Instead of sitting here and waiting for people to walk in the door, we're going out there and meeting hundreds of people and trying to share with them what we're doing."

She said colleges have always been accepting donations and went out looking for do-

nors, but Acceleration intensified and consolidated the whole process.

"... we were doing it all over the place, so there were a lot of individuals trying to manage the money on their own and there came a point when the university president said we probably need to centralize all this in one place and be more organized about how we approach this," Harris said. "Rather than having 40 people out there with expertise, let's bring it all into one office and manage it."

According to Harris, all the money raised from corporations, foundations and individual donors goes to a nonprofit organization called the Tower Foundation, whose sole purpose is to manage funds for SJSU.

Dukes said through December there were 12,134 alumni donors and 11,527 non-alumni donors.

She also said despite the small difference in donors, alumni gave over \$48 million more than non-alumni.

"We did a quick assessment and realized there was huge opportunity there because almost all 8,000 of our annual graduates end up working here right in the valley, so it just made sense to

go out there ... and see if we can bring some of that revenue back to San Jose State," Harris said. "Acceleration started because we knew that there was a significant source of revenue out there that we were not tapping into, that we were not doing what we could to really bring that money into the university."

Constance Moore, chairman of the Tower Foundation board, said the goal was originally \$150 million to correlate with SJSU's 150th anniversary and was raised to \$200 million because of the rapid success of the campaign.

According to the annual report, gifts range from just one dollar to \$3,038,000.

"Usually donors have really specific requests for how the money is used. So sometimes they say, I'm going to give you a cash donation right now so you can use it and go out to start up this specific program, so we would then spend it like cash," Harris said. "Other donors will say look I'm going to give you this batch of money and I want you to put it in an endowment."

SEE DONATIONS ON PAGE 3

COMMUNITY

Anonymous gun buyback offers cash

By Bryan Delohery
 @Bdelohery

In response to the recent rash of gun violence across the nation, the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors announced a plan to host an anonymous gun buyback to offer cash to those willing to turn in their firearms.

The buyback, scheduled for March 2 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Santa Clara County Fairgrounds, is completely anonymous and is a drive-thru event; participants are not allowed to exit their vehicles and must arrive with their guns in the trunk, which will be unloaded by Santa Clara County Sheriff's Deputies.

The event is being coordinated by the county's Office of Public Affairs and the District Attorney's office in conjunction with the Sheriff's Department.

In his 2013 State of the County address, Ken Yeager, president of the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors, said "the horrific, senseless shootings we have seen over the past year highlight a particular need to focus on this issue (gun violence)."

Gwen Mitchell, Director of Public Affairs, said the county has provided a total of \$150,000 to of-

fer potential gun donors with an additional \$10,000 provided by the District Attorney's office.

"We are working with different agencies within the county government to get the word out," Mitchell said. "We gave 1,000 fliers to the mayor's gang task force and the Sheriff's Department will be distributing fliers to high crime areas."

According to Sean Webby, media coordinator for the District Attorney's office, recent Bay Area gun buyback events have been very successful.

"(The buybacks) literally have run out of money," Webby said. "This is a very rare buyback in the sense that it is using public funds as opposed to private funds."

Webby said the buyback is a publicly funded effort to get guns off the streets and he hopes the money will pay for a lot of guns.

Senior nutrition major Aileen Trujillo said although she had not heard about the buyback in San Jose, she had heard of some of the others around the Bay Area.

"I don't own a gun, but if someone is motivated to do something, they will do it no matter what,"

SEE FIREARMS ON PAGE 3

CAMPUS

Students struggle to find books for classes

Spartan Bookstore places orders based on previous enrollments



Business textbooks sit on the shelf in the SJSU bookstore while a student purchases books at the beginning of the Spring semester. Raphael Kluzniok / Spartan Daily File Photo

By Tessa Terrill
@twentybirdtt

If you have ever gone to the Spartan Bookstore and had trouble finding what you need, you are not alone.

Some students said they had to go elsewhere to find their books.

Senior accounting major Leslie Lam said she had trouble getting a book from the bookstore for one of her classes.

“(The bookstore) just said they ran out of stock and said they would get some later,” she said.

According to Lam, she had to go through the extra effort of borrowing a book from a friend while waiting for the bookstore to restock, but she did not miss any homework.

Biology major Khushdeep Grewal said she also had a problem once when a book she needed was out of stock, so she ordered it from the bookstore and it came a week later.

There are a number of reasons this could happen, according to Spartan Bookstore department manager Cindy Nimrod.

The bookstore places its orders from publishers based on previous class enrollment unless a professor makes a special request, she said.

According to Nimrod, the bookstore received such requests from two SJSU professors this semester.

Sometimes the bookstore has to go to the wholesaler because there are issues when the publisher runs out of books and sometimes books go out of print, making it harder for the bookstore to obtain them, she said.

If the bookstore runs out of stock on a book at the beginning of the semester, they will order more, Nimrod said.

“A lot of times students are assuming we don’t have the book,” she said.

But they scatter books in different areas because some different types of classes need the same books, Nimrod said.

“I’ve never actually had an issue with books being out of stock,” said April Deoliveira, a senior design studies major. “I think I visited Robert’s, but I’ve never

actually had to buy a book there.”

Robyn Lee, manager of Robert’s Bookstore, said students usually choose Robert’s because the Spartan bookstore is out of stock.

Both the Spartan Bookstore and Robert’s run out of stock during the fourth week of school, approximately, she said.

According to Lee, Robert’s hasn’t had any more customers than usual looking for books.

Art history lecturers Christy Junkerman and Marilyn Wyman said they have not had complaints from students about book availability this semester.

“(The bookstore) tend(s) to buy fewer books than we ask for,” Junkerman said.

Wyman said when students go online to buy books, the Spartan Bookstore has a hard time estimating the number of books needed.

“They can’t order enough books when people order online,” she said.

Tessa Terrill is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

Tech: Program to lead students in training on energy storage

FROM PAGE 1

“We felt that SJSU was a great choice to partner with us to launch Battery University,” Davenport said, “because they’re really focusing on engineering and science at the level that enters the workforce, (SJSU) are the perfect partner for us.”

At the Battery University launch event Feb. 12, Venkat Srinivasan, head of the Distributed Resources Groups and Energy Storage at Berkeley Lab, said energy storage technology is developing so rapidly that constant innovation is required in order to maintain leadership in this sector.

Ahmed Hambaba, associate dean of the College of Engineering, said the market for all kinds of batteries is currently around \$45 billion, and is going to double in five to 10 years.

He said if California does not get on board now, they will miss the train.

“Our goal is to create a synergy – to pull everyone together and train individuals to develop the skills to bring battery storage technology up to date,” Hambaba said.

According to Hambaba, the battery technology has been developed here in the United States, but the manufacturing has gone overseas.

“We have the ability to create our own manufacturing here and once you have the manufacturing, there are innovations,” Hambaba said.

Jeff Anderson, managing director at CalCef and interim executive director of CalCharge, said the purpose of the launch event was to announce their intention to develop the curriculum for Battery University.

“Energy storage is a critical component to reaching sustainability and

making renewable energy more reliable,” Anderson said. “The sun doesn’t shine all the time and the wind doesn’t blow all the time, we need to be able to store energy from those sources when they do occur.”

Although current energy storage technologies have made monumental leaps over the past decade, the technology is not quite where it should be, he said.

“We need batteries and other energy storage techniques that can store twice as much energy at half of the current price,” Anderson said. “The ability to create (energy) has exceeded our ability to store it.”

Anderson said CalCharge was set up specifically to connect everyone in the alternative energy sector, accelerate innovation and create opportunities for professional development.

“Battery University is one of CalCharge’s first public initiatives because it takes an incredible amount of skill sets to be professional in the battery storage industry,” Anderson said.

Davenport said Berkeley Lab has one of the largest and best qualified battery science teams in the country.

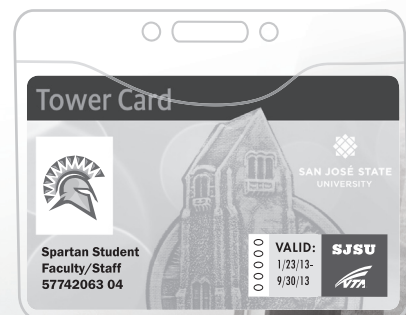
“We have a great opportunity to link some of the best minds in battery science,” Davenport said, “and some of the best facilities in battery development within this growing field of (battery storage) companies.”

Davenport said he feels they can do this by bringing in new technologies from the private sector and training the workforce these companies need.

Bryan Delohery is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

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Donations: Monetary goals were reached but many graduates do not participate

FROM PAGE 1

Harris said an endowment is similar to a savings account and the interest and investment earnings from the account go to the school.

According to the annual report, the College of Engineering has the most money so far with \$32,341,455.

The College of Business is second in earnings with \$29,232,010 and Athletics earned the third most with \$28,146,646, according to the report.

Harris said the first step was to work with each college to address any needs before hiring staff members who do marketing, manage databases and finances, and a group called development officers.

There are 20 development officers, according to Dukes, who actively reach out to potential donors.

"They spend a huge portion of the day on the phone calling people, making appointments, getting ready to go out there and talk to them so we can get to that 200 million dollar level," Harris said. "We've gone from a small, lean operation to a slightly bigger operation that is much more professional than it ever has been in the past. Of course all the while, we need to make sure that we

raise much more than we cost the university."

Cynthia Lazares, the campaign chair of Acceleration, said she was confident the campaign would reach its goal, but because there are so many more graduates in the area not contributing, there is more to be done.

... We've gone from a small, lean operation to a slightly bigger operation that is much more professional ...

Pat Lopes Harris
Director of media relations

"We've just touched the tip of the iceberg on this one ... there is still a long way to go in terms of possibilities," Lazares said.

According to Harris, some of the larger donations go to scholarships and the hiring of teachers.

Some buildings bear the namesake of major contributors. The College of Education and the College of Engineering are eponymous to Connie L. Lurie and Charles W. Davidson respectively because of their donations.

Dukes said there will be "think tank" meetings at the end of the campaign where students, faculty, local business leaders, politicians and others will help determine where the next campaign will be headed.

"What we'll have is kind of an intermission and we'll close this campaign down, do a critique, what worked, what didn't work, what do we want to do differently next time," Harris said.

Dukes said one reason the campaign was started was because state support could no longer cover the needs of SJSU and the university took the initiative to find its own funding.

"The purpose of a comprehensive campaign is to raise funds for a public institution ... in order to enhance, grow and improve all kinds of programs and capital projects to accelerate the institution into the new millennium," Dukes said.

Vince Ei is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

Transfers: Former students will be granted priority for impacted major admittance

FROM PAGE 1

Students who are former students trying to get readmitted are in good standing, which is a real eye-opener to people, because it's not what you would have expected."

Jephrey Rodriguez, a graduate student majoring in biomedical engineering, said he sees both sides to the issue and is unsure whether or not he supports the new policy.

"It's partly fair and partly unfair because the people who are readmitted already have the qualifications to get into this school, but it's unfair because it doesn't give a chance for new students to prove themselves," Rodriguez said.

Students who left SJSU on academic probation or in good standing are only required to reapply for enrollment, but students who dropped from probation status to disqualification are required to apply for reinstatement into the university through the academic department in order to be CSU eligible, according to Branz.

"You go onto probation if your SJSU cumulative (GPA) drops below 2.0," Branz said. "You can stay on probation if your term GPA is at or above a 2.0, even if you're below (cumulatively). Once you're on probation, if you have a bad term below a 2.0, then you get disqualified."

Former disqualified students who are successfully reinstated will then be granted the same priority status as students who

left in good standing or on academic probation over first-time transfers, according to Willey.

Willey said this new policy also states that because former students returning have priority, they still have a chance of being accepted into their departments even if their GPA falls below the minimum requirement.

"We were finding that students who had been here who were already admitted and maybe were eligible to be admitted two years ago, now they don't meet the requirements because we've gotten more impacted," Willey said. "But that student has already been here, that student has already made progress to a degree, so some departments want those students to finish out the program because they started with us ... but it's at the department level to make that choice."

All students transferring, regardless of former student returning status, are required to have passed the four basic skills classes with at least a C, maintained at least a 2.0 GPA in their department and completed at least 60 units, according to Branz.

Branz said by Fall 2012, all majors at SJSU were impacted, but if a CSU eligible student was competing for enrollment in a major with a GPA requirement higher than what they had earned, they could still be admitted under the "assigned undeclared" major.

"What happens for Fall 2013 is that we are now placing an impact criterion on assigned

undeclared (majors)," Branz said.

According to Branz, since every major has become impacted, a higher number of students are required to compete for enrollment under assigned undeclared majors, which means the only people obtaining those spots under assigned undeclared are students aiming for majors with very high GPA thresholds.

"My personal view is that we owe something to students who have been here in the past, particularly if they are in good standing," Branz said. "The trouble is admissions doesn't look at the SJSU GPA or whether the department wanted you and what we wanted to do was to have a policy that recognized departments that wanted students back in their major from before, that's what this is all about."

Cami Geyer, a sophomore justice studies major, said she believes transfers should all have the same opportunity to come to SJSU and that former students returning should not have priority over new prospective transfers.

"Even if they had a baby or whatever, I think that's a responsibility thing and if you drop out, you show, no matter what the circumstance, you can't keep up with the college life," Geyer said. "New students coming in should start fresh and be able to have that opportunity, so I think it should be equal coming in."

The resolution was passed by the Academic Senate on Dec. 10 of last year.

Rochelle Beckel is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

Firearms: Safety is top concern

FROM PAGE 1

Trujillo said. "Taking guns off the street may make them safer, but people that want to do harm will do harm no matter what."

While the office of public affairs is in charge of community outreach and awareness, the Santa Clara County Sheriff's Department is overseeing the buyback to ensure safety and manage large numbers of people if necessary, according to Mitchell.

Sgt. Jose Cardoza, public information officer for the Santa Clara County Sheriff's Department, said their biggest concern is providing the safest possible environment for those participating in the program and the surrounding community.

"For persons who no longer feel the need to possess their firearms, we are providing a safe event so they can do so and not have to worry about the gun falling into the wrong hands or possibly being used in a crime," Cardoza said.

Mitchell said all guns turned in will be checked to make sure they are not stolen and subsequently destroyed, if stolen guns are received the rightful owner will be contacted and given the opportunity to claim their property.

Junior marketing major Brian Tang said he feels the crime rates, especially in San Jose, are increasing and taking guns off the streets will play a role in crime rates increasing or decreasing.

"With fewer guns to cause violence, people might find other ways to get what they want, but still less violent than using a gun," Tang said.


"We (the Office of Public Affairs) want to get weapons off the street," Mitchell said. "It is important to the overall well-being of the community. We feel the community would be a lot safer."

Senior finance major Don Vo said he thinks it is good the county is doing a gun buyback.

"It shows that people are really taking into consideration what happened in Connecticut," Vo said.

Bryan Delohery is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

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PROFILE

Slovakian smasher backhands competition

By **Christiana Cobb**
@christianacobb

Sophomore tennis player Klaudia Boczova is making tennis history at San Jose State.

Lawrence Fan, SJSU Athletics information director, said to the best of the school's records, the business major is the first women's tennis player to win the Western Athletic Conference player of the week three weeks in a row.

She fights through all the matches...

*Sabastiani Leon Chao
Junior tennis player*

Boczova said this is her first season playing for the team and she has won many of her matches, going 8-2 in singles play and 6-3 in doubles, and is pleased with her accomplishments.

"I played some really good matches where I won against good players and I hope I'm going to play the same way and beat better players," Boczova said.

All three of her player of the week awards came in singles play.

Boczova is ranked 58th nationally in the Intercollegiate Tennis Association rankings, according to SJSU Athletics.

Teammate and junior international business major Sabastiani Leon Chao said one of Boczova's biggest moments this season was against the University of Santa Clara in a non-conference dual match.

Chao said the score was 3-3 and SJSU needed one more win to win

the match against Santa Clara, something SJSU hadn't done in 15 years according to SJSU Athletics, and achieved one of their goals for the season.

She said Boczova went for the win and beat her first ranked player, No. 26 ranked Katie Lee.

"She fights through all the matches, even if she loses the first or second set, in the third set she pulls it out," Chao said.

Chao said this was a big boost for Boczova as well as the team.

"It inspires everybody," Chao said. "It says) that anybody can do it."

Boczova grew up in Slovakia, a Central European nation landlocked between the Czech Republic, Austria, Hungary, Ukraine and Poland.

She came to the U.S. last year after she was recruited to play tennis.

"I came here for school and for tennis," Boczova said. "This school gave me a great opportunity to get a scholarship where I can study and represent the school in tennis as well."

Boczova said as a student athlete there is very little time to hangout with friends between practices and classes, but she doesn't mind making sacrifices.

"It's not easy to be athlete, but I really enjoy it," Boczova said. "We don't have so much spare time for things which regular students have, but I really enjoy being on the team, and I would not change (it)."

Teammate and sophomore kinesiology major Jessica Willett said Boczova has brought a lot of confidence to the squad thanks to her experience and leadership she shows on and off the court.

"She has brought that confidence of like 'We are the best and we can do whatever we want as long as we put the work in,'" Willett said.



Klaudia Boczova prepares to hit a ball during practice at the Spartan Courts Monday. Carolyn Seng / Spartan Daily

Head coach Sylvain Malroux said this year the team has higher expectations, especially after beating the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, the No. 58 ranked team in the nation at that time, Feb. 15.

"I think all of them are really believing in each other, they are believing in themselves, and they know that their goal is to win the world championship and to make it to the NCAA tournament this year," Malroux said. "I think they are realizing with the way they're compet-

ing and the way they're playing they have a very good chance to achieve that goal."

Malroux said although Boczova did not start the season off on a positive note, when she lost her first match, she continues to get better and gain confidence.

"Last week when she played the No. 19 (ranked player) in the country ... I've got to say she probably didn't play her best tennis, but she's pretty confident and she's playing better and better and she knows she can do it," Malroux said.

Boczova earned her second victory of the season against a top-30 ranked opponent by defeating UNLV's Aleksandra Josifoska, ranked No. 19, according to SJSU Athletics.

Boczova said she is only thinking about her current challenges.

"For me (this season) is important and I think (the future) would be too far, I don't look too far," Boczova said. "I'm trying to do my best right now."

Christiana Cobb is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

EQUIPMENT

To cup or not to cup? That is the question for some athletes

By **Tommy McCormick**
@mccormickdaily

Sporting events can be hectic and violent, which makes protecting the body necessary.

Athletes wear all types of equipment to protect their body from injury, but a lot of them dismiss the athletic cup, according to Amar Nijor, a junior advertising major who plays for the school rugby club team.

"I don't wear a cup because it's not very comfortable when you run," Nijor said.

According to Nijor, he doesn't know of anyone on the rugby team who wears one because it's too constricting and it's not often that people get hit in their groin.

"It happens, but it's not a frequent thing, at least not for me," he said. "I play a position that doesn't have as much contact. I play back."

According to Nijor, other positions such as forward involve more contact, and may be more exposed to a hit below the belt.

One of his teammates was hit in the groin, but he "walked it off on the sideline," according to Nijor.

Rohit Krishnan, a junior computer science major and member of the SJSU ice hockey club team, said all of his teammates wear a cup to practice and games.

"Everyone is required to wear a cup," he said.

With a sport where athletes are flying around on the ice and a small, dense rubber puck is being slapped around, Krishnan said there are countless times where a cup has protected him from injury.

You often find yourself in the path of a 85 to 105 mile per hour shot. Getting tagged in the nuts with one of those would be too much.

*Ethan Oydna
Lacrosse player*

"Hockey is a fast and physical sport and I want to preserve my minerals," he said.

According to Krishnan, he has never had an injury to his groin, and he has the athletic cup to thank for that.

Senior sociology major Ethan Oydna played for the SJSU lacrosse club team for three years, and said he started wearing a cup in his senior

year of high school when his coach made them mandatory.

"(Our coach) told us a story from when he was trying out for the USA (World Lacrosse Championship) team and got tagged by a 95 mph shot," Oydna said. "He said his testicles swelled up to the size of grapefruits and he almost lost one of them. From that day on I would not step on the field for practice or a game without one."

Even if the athletic cup is restricting to an athlete during the sporting event, Oydna said he is definitely glad he wears one.

"As a defenseman you'd be crazy not to," he said. "You often find yourself in the path of a 85 to 105 mile per hour shot. Getting tagged in the nuts with one of those would be too much."

Although Oydna wears a cup, he admits that he has teammates who don't wear one, due to the restriction and comfort issues that other athletes brought up.

Oydna has never taken a serious shot to the groin, but he said he has had a few incidental shots land right in the not-so sweet spot, and has seen teammates who weren't so lucky.

"I've seen one of my teammates get hit," Oydna said. "I didn't really see it happen, but I watched him throw up for like five minutes on the sideline."

Tommy McCormick is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

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PREVIEW

Authors prep unusual works for reading at King Library

By **Christiana Cobb**
@christianacobb

SJSU's Center for Literary Arts will host a joint book reading and signing for two authors the center describes as game changers, tomorrow, in the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library rooms 225 and 229.

"For the first time we sort of chose a theme for our season," said Andrew Altschul, assistant professor in the English department and director of Center for Literary Arts. "We called it game change and that's because when we started to plan it, we realized that everybody we had invited so far were really unusual writers (or) literary pioneers of some kind."

Authors Susan Straight and Susan Steinberg are wonderful examples of how to be different or artistic chameleons in the literary world, according to Altschul.

He said the authors invited have distinguished themselves by publishing more than one genre, an uncommon practice, or have been experimental in their writing.

He said Steinberg is a short-story writer whose stories are interesting and experimental.

"(I'll) start with a theme or what I think (the story is) going to be about and (the work) presents a whole new story to me," Steinberg said. "I go towards the new things and do away with any preconceived notions I had about the piece."

Steinberg said the end results of her stories are always a surprise and that the writings that make up her third collection entitled "Spectacle" came to her while she was trying to write a novel.

She said she had a difficult time writing the novel but began writing short stories in order to complete something.

Steinberg said when she was on a sabbatical from teaching in 2008-2009 she had more time to work on the short stories that came to make up her third collection of stories.

According to Altschul, Steinberg will read from her third collection of short stories "Spectacle," which came out in January.

Altschul said Straight has written children's books, young adult books and many adult novels.

Straight has written about many African-American communities in Southern California, Altschul said.

He said although Straight is not African-American, her works reflect the Riverside community in which she lives.

Author Susan Straight said she will read from her latest book "Between Heaven and Here" as well as the first two in a trilogy: "A Million Nightingales" and "Take One Candle Light a Room."

"Between Heaven and Here" is an adult fiction novel about a character who is murdered and others who need to find a place to bury the murdered character.



Susan Straight (left) and Susan Steinberg will be at King Library tomorrow. Photo courtesy of Andrew Altschul.



While writing the piece, Straight said she experienced some of the emotions expressed in the novel.

"I had a young cousin murdered during the time I was finishing the novel, and it was eerie and frightening, and I still think about it all the time," Straight said.

She said she wants to write something the reader won't want to put down.

"I make up fiction to lose myself in imagination, but I still have bad dreams sometimes about my imagined landscapes," Straight said.

Altschul said at the reading each author will read from their works for about 20 minutes and their books will be for sale in the

Spartan bookstore and available for signing.

He said Straight will also visit Mt. Pleasant High School the afternoon before the 7 p.m. reading.

Altschul said the Center for Literary Arts is an organized research unit of the College of Humanities and functions as a literary nonprofit organization that has hosted author readings since 1986.

He said all of the Center

for Literary Arts programs require fundraising and donations in order to run.

"This isn't a university that can afford to present (a) topnotch season of literary celebrities," Altschul said. "We have to raise that money from grants and donations and without that there would be no Center for Literary Arts."

Altschul said it is an interesting and challenging experience to run a literary orga-

nization in San Jose just 50 miles away from the biggest literary hub in the western U.S., San Francisco.

"We have the advantage of being the most prominent reading series in the south bay with the best list of authors coming in every year," Altschul said. "We are constantly working to expand our audience by presenting diverse and exciting writers."

Christiana Cobb is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

Exclusive Cinequest coverage begins tomorrow in the A&E section of the **Spartan Daily**

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Some Odd Afternoon
Sally Ashton

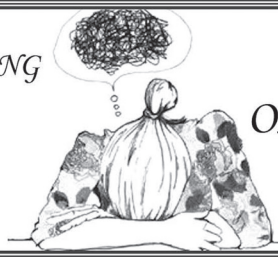
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WHAT'S GOING



ON UP THERE?

By: Sydney Reed

People can be beautiful no matter their shape

As a child, body image wasn't something I thought about. I had friends of all shapes and sizes, but every one of them was beautiful to me. The way they looked wasn't something that defined our friendship; it was all about the chemistry. I had to be in love with a person's personality. It's the same for me today when it comes to the friends I make.



Sydney Reed's column appears every other Wednesday

asked if I was purging or anorexic. It made me very self-conscious.

When I first gained weight I didn't notice, so it didn't bother me. It wasn't until I visited home after months of not being around and my mother brought up how I was getting "big." After that it seemed like every time I seen my family they had to mention how big I was.

All the clothes I was wearing, as well as buying, no longer fit. Worst of all, the weight went to the last place I wanted it to and that was my stomach. I no longer found shirts flattering and jeans became super uncomfortable. I'd rather put on sweatpants and hoodies these days.

Just like many girls with body image issues, the media has played a role in how I feel about myself. There are rarely full-figured women portrayed in the media, and the celebrities that were have lost tons of weight. Video girls, supermodels and music artist are the poster girls of what females should look like. Females who don't look like these women are constantly being judged and belittled by those who think they are better.

I can remember sitting in my room thinking of the fastest ways I could lose weight — looking at different diet pills and cost of liposuction and tummy tucks. Yea, I was desperate, but then I realized those aren't the smartest or safest ways to go about losing weight. I'd be putting myself in harm's way and the results would most likely be temporary.

I don't want to be that girl on television, but I want to be someone I'm happy with daily when I look in the mirror.

It took me a while to realize that if I want things to change I can't sit there and expect it to magically happen. Instead I need to get up and make things happen on my own and that goes for every woman and man out there who have body image issues. If you aren't happy with what you see in the mirror, go out there and make that change and for those who love how they look don't let anyone influence you into changing it.

Focusing on my health and getting back in shape is something I'm going to have to do on my own and no one can force me.

Every time I have one of my episodes the more I push myself to get things done. I need to start eating better and exercising. Once I make that change I also need to make sure I stay dedicated. It'll take time but I know I can do it, and so can you.

Sydney Reed is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

Don't let confidence trump safety

Better safe than sorry. We've all heard the phrase plenty of times. Whether it's doing homework ahead of time, putting on that extra layer of sunscreen, or bringing a jacket just in case, it's nice to think you're stopping unfortunate situations before they happen.

Yet, in some cases, we refuse to believe that "sorry" could happen to us. As a female in her early twenties, I am guilty of having an "invincible" mentality from time to time. I like to think that I am a strong, unintimidated girl and can take care of myself.

But the truth is, thinking that all 115 pounds of me could defend myself in a threatening situation, say while walking alone to my car at 1 a.m. after leaving work, is completely ludicrous. Not to mention that size and strength become rather invaluable in the face of a weapon.

When it comes to personal safety, there is no room for regret.

Yet, we hear about crimes against people in unsafe situations all the time.

Look, for instance, at what happened to a 21-year-old woman at UC Santa Cruz just last week as was reported by CBS News. She was walking alone through a mostly deserted campus during the President's Day holiday. While passing through a remote, wooded part of campus, she was brutally beaten and raped by a stranger even though it was the middle of the day.

I am not in any way saying that any of that horrible attack was her fault or that she could have prevented it. But by maybe choosing to take a more populated, open path on campus, even if it meant a longer route, the attacker may not have had the same opportunity to strike.

Take another example that happened just a few weeks ago in Down-

town San Jose as reported by the Mercury News. A woman was walking home alone at 10 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 11, when a man struck her from behind, hit her and repeatedly bashed her head into the sidewalk while attempting to steal her purse. After people approaching the situation stepped in to help, the attacker fled.

Again, this is not in any way the victim's fault. But had she found accompaniment on her late-night walk or an alternative mode of transportation, the attack may have never occurred.

I'm not suggesting that we live our lives in fear and paranoia, but I do think it's wise to take precautions

I'm not suggesting that we live our lives in fear and paranoia, but I do think it's wise to take precautions.

According to a National Crime Victimization Survey conducted by the U.S. Bureau of Justice Statistics in 2007, 70.1 percent of all aggravated assaults committed against 20-24 year olds are committed by strangers. Similarly, 64.7 percent of robberies experienced by 20-24 year olds are also from strangers, along with nearly half of all rapes and sexual assaults.

Young adults especially, both male and female, need to rid themselves of the mentality that this kind of stuff happens to other peo-

ple. Don't let your ego tell you that you are strong enough and in control enough to handle any situation that comes your way and therefore ignore the possibility of danger. The reality is, if a person makes himself or herself a vulnerable target, anything can happen. It doesn't matter who you are.

The National Crime Prevention Council says there are several steps that can be taken to increase personal safety.

The Council advises walking with at least one other person when walking at night. Try to park in well-lit areas, near to stores, walkways, or people. Walk with confidence and assertiveness and always pay attention. People concentrating on their phones or other distractions are easy, unsuspecting targets. Be aware if it seems someone might be following you. Cross the street and move towards a crowd. Don't ignore the red flags and don't be afraid to yell for help if necessary.

By living smarter, we can help eliminate fear altogether.

There will undoubtedly still be people that choose to walk alone on a city street at night or ride their bike through a secluded area. But in a city such as San Jose that in 2011 experienced 1,840 aggravated assaults, 1,101 burglaries and 226 rapes, according to the San Jose Police Department's statistics, I personally can't afford to ignore danger and put myself in risky situations. I refuse to be naive and become just another statistic.

While I admittedly still feel an inkling of weakness when I ask someone to walk with me to my car or pick me up from school at 9:30 p.m. instead of walking to the light rail station alone, my life and safety are worth far more to me than my pride.

When it comes to personal safety, let's not wait for "sorry."

Amanda Hochmuth is a Spartan Daily staff writer.



Submit letters to the editor to:
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SPARTAN DAILY

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MILITARY

Surfers, Marines are in a tussle over Trestles

By Tony Perry
McClatchy Tribune

LOS ANGELES — A disagreement over a well-known slice of the Southern California coast is threatening to drive a wedge between Marines and surfers, groups that had recently set aside differences and become political allies.

At issue is the 2.25-mile stretch of surf and sand known as Trestles, between the San Onofre nuclear plant and the San Diego County-Orange County line. The name comes from two train trestles that parallel the ocean.

To wave riders, Trestles represents seven of the primo surf breaks in the world. To Marines, the middle section of the 2.25 miles is an ideal location to teach grunts how to fight their way from ship to shore and inland.

With the San Clemente-based Surfrider Foundation in the lead, surfers petitioned to have Trestles listed on the National Register of Historic Places, for its role in the rise of “surf culture.” Surfers hope the listing will ensure that nothing will disrupt the site’s isolation and lack of “commercial growth.”

The Marine Corps, which owns the beach and the paths leading to it, opposes having Trestles listed, out of concern that the designation might lead to civilian oversight that crimps training.

The skirmish is not over, but so far the surfers appear to be winning.

Despite opposition from the Marine Corps and the Navy, the State Historical Resources Commission voted unanimously Feb. 8 to forward a recommendation to Washington that Trestles be listed.

The decision now rests with the civilians who run the National Register, which is part of the National Park Service.

The recommendation “does not and will not impose any additional requirements for consultation for military training and operational use,” according to documents supporting the Trestles nomination.

“This is a historic designation, it does not change the use of the property,” said Amy Crain, a state historian.

But military brass and two state senators aren’t buying the assurances that nothing will keep the Marines from using what is called Green Beach for mock assaults, or for other exercises involving heavy vehicles traveling between the beach and the open spaces of Camp Pendleton.

Military officials “believe these assurances to be unenforceable,” Brig. Gen. Vincent Coglianesse, commanding general of Camp Pendleton, wrote to the state historic preservation officer before the commission vote.

State Sens. Mimi Walters and Mark Wyland, in a joint statement, warned that listing Trestles will “put state bureaucrats and surfers in control of Marine Corps training near Trestles.”

From World War II to 1971, the Marine Corps was in control of the entire 2.25 miles. But after prodding from then-President Nixon, a part-time resident of San Clemente, the military leased the property to the state to establish San Onofre State Beach.

Of course, even before the Trestles breaks — Uppers, Lowers, Middles, Church, the Point, Old Man’s and Dog Patch — were open to the public, intrepid surfers were attracted by the near-perfect waves.

“For well over 25 years, surfers carried on guerrilla warfare with U.S. Marines,” according to a California Department of Parks and Recreation history of the area. “Trespassing surfers were chased, arrested and fined.”

One of those who fondly remember those days is Bruce Johnston, later a member of the Beach Boys singing group.

“We even had to outrun 18-year-old Marines from Oklahoma trying to chase us away,” Johnston wrote in support of listing Trestles as a historic place. “... It was a great experience!”

In 1963, Trestles was mentioned in “Surfin’ USA,” the Beach Boys song that



A sign warns of limited public access to an area of the San Onofre State Beach Trestles surf area. Mark Boster / MCT

became an anthem for a suddenly surf-obsessed generation. Beach Boy Mike Love has joined Johnston in supporting Trestles as a historic site.

Trestles would be the first surf spot to be listed as such, state officials said. Before its vote, the state commission received more than 1,300 letters about Trestles — 1,235 in support, 112 in opposition, a record for any proposed historic designation.

With the opening of San Onofre beach, relations between surfers and Marines have mellowed. Surfers have enjoyed the breaks and, for the most part, have stayed away from Green Beach, which is posted with “keep out” signs.

The two sides had united in opposition to extending the 241 Toll Road south through Camp Pendleton to Interstate 5. The California Coastal Com-

mission has nixed the extension, but the proposal remains alive for possible reconsideration.

Much of the dispute over Trestles involves whether it can be considered Southern California’s pre-eminent surf spot — or whether that distinction belongs to Huntington Beach, Santa Cruz or perhaps Blacks Beach in La Jolla.

Trestles “appears to be just one of hundreds of such relative nondescript good surfing beaches around the U.S.” and thus does not qualify for historic status, wrote Donald Schregardus, deputy assistant secretary of the Navy and a federal preservation officer.

The surfers disagree, on grounds that are more aesthetic than legalistic.

“Trestles still rocks in 2013,” Johnston wrote.

FAMILY

Homeschooling and community college gave N.J. family opportunity

By Susan Snyder
McClatchy Tribune

PHILADELPHIA — Ryan Snell, 18, racked up almost enough college credits for two associate’s degrees before earning his high school diploma.

Homeschooled by his parents, the Moorestown, N.J., teen simultaneously took 30-some classes at Burlington County College for more than 100 credits.

He has applied to Wharton and a handful of other prestigious schools.

While his accomplishments are impressive, they are not unusual in the Snell family.

Both of Ryan’s older brothers, Jake and Tom, took dozens of classes at the county college while being homeschooled. And then they went on to the Ivy League, entering through the regular admission process as freshmen.

Jake, 24, graduated from Yale in 2010 with a degree in biomedical engineering and is working on a master’s in computer science at the University of Toronto. Tom, 22, is a senior at Harvard, finishing a degree in applied mathematics with a concentration in economics.

“I knew they were going to go far,” said Dotti Pursley, the county college’s director of recruitment. “They’re extremely intelli-

gent and very driven. They absolutely knew exactly what they wanted to do, and they did it.”

Charlie and Lori Snell shared responsibility for homeschooling. Charlie, an electrical engineer with a bachelor’s degree from Virginia Tech, a master’s from Johns Hopkins, and an M.B.A., taught calculus, physics, and Latin. Lori, who has a bachelor’s in chemistry from Virginia Tech and an M.B.A., handled everything else.

But there were some courses, mostly labs and other technical areas, that the couple would have had a hard time teaching at home. So they turned to the county college in Mount Laurel.

All three Snells began taking classes there when they were in their early teens. Tom and Jake were student ambassadors, giving tours, meeting with prospective students, and helping incoming freshmen with class schedules. All three were in the honor society and tutored, often helping students many years older than them.

“It was very good for them,” Lori said. “They had to apply their knowledge to help other people learn.”

The Snells said they did not envision two — possibly three — of their sons going to the Ivy League when they started homeschooling. But all three proved to be excep-

tional learners. “I accelerated them,” Lori said.

Both Jake and Tom were national Merit Scholars. Jake scored in the 97th percentile on the Medical College Admission Test.

“So exposure to material he took at BCC definitely helped him achieve a high score,” Lori said.

Charlie said they weren’t specifically seeking the Ivy League.

“The real issue is finding a good fit, and that’s what we were able to do with the older two sons so far, with academics as well as extracurriculars,” he said, noting that Jake was captain of Yale’s skeet and trap team and Tom a “walk-on” to Harvard’s fencing team.

Ryan said it was “nerve-racking” when he began taking college classes at 14. He wasn’t sure how people would react, but he quickly became comfortable. He decided to tutor, he said, because he wanted to help others.

“The students request him over and over again,” said Danielle Zimecki, director of the tutoring center.

Ryan will receive associate’s degrees in graphic design and digital media and art & design in May.

But he plans to enter college as a freshman and major in a business-related field: “I’d like to do something aviation-related.”

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