



In Forum...

Is abuse a legitimate defense for homicide?

See story on page 2.

In Sports...

Senior guard Lossie Mitchel makes the little plays that win big games.

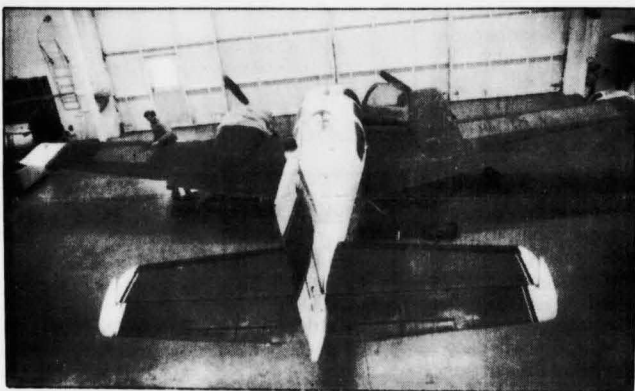
See story on page 4.



It's not just for pilots anymore



ABOVE: SJSU senior Eric Grimsby, an aviation major concentrating in maintenance management, works on a Baron 55B aircraft Monday. He is required to inspect the plane and determine how its mechanical systems work, including the fuel system, emergency systems and the control panel.



LEFT: The SJSU aviation department is located at San Jose International Airport.

Photos by Ken Statham

Commuting alternative may be free

By Larry Barrett
Spartan Daily Staff Writer

Relief may be in sight for SJSU faculty and students who commute to campus for work and classes if the Transportation Access Program is approved by the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors.

The proposal, which would allow SJSU students and faculty to ride the county's light rail system for free, is still being developed and will be discussed before the Transit Commission tonight at 7:30.

The meeting will be held at the Santa Clara County building in the Supervisors' chambers. SJSU students are encouraged to attend and voice their opinions on the proposal.

"The Transit Commission will make its recommendation to the Supervisors on Feb. 15 based on tonight's meeting and then vote on the proposal," said Bruce Kosanovic, a representative for the Board of Supervisors. "The exact details of this item are still incomplete, but tentatively, San Jose State would reimburse the county."

"As I understand it, the money to reimburse the county would come from the parking revenue fund which collects parking fines on campus. It is recommended that these funds go toward alternative transportation," SJSU President J. Handel

Evans said. "I believe this would come about as a result of a referendum that would be voted on by the students."

"We think this is fantastic. The parking situation is so bad that people buying parking passes will never, in their wildest dreams, be able to find spaces in the parking garages," Glen Evans of the SJSU Environmental Resource Center said. "This gives students an option and reduces the number of cars on the roads."

Since it's free, there will be no excuse not to ride the light rail."

According to Alfonso DeAlba of the Associated Students Board of Directors, information is still being put together for the Commission meeting.

"We don't have anything concrete at this point, but we plan to have the entire history and actual figures for the commission. We're hoping to get as many students there as possible," DeAlba said.

According to the Transit Agency, the number of light rail passengers has been declining and this program may spur increased usage.

"I think it's a great idea. I'm moving to the Almaden Valley and because (light rail) is free and parking is so bad here, I'd take advantage of it," senior marketing major Joel Christensen said.



English professor shares poetic desires

By Deana Smith
Spartan Daily Staff Writer

"Comedy of Desire," featuring the love poems of SJSU English professor Nils Peterson, hits the book stores in March.

The book, along with creative writing classes and Shakespeare classes, are all part of his academic contributions.

Before coming to SJSU, Peterson received his master's degree in English at Rutgers University

in New Jersey. At Rutgers, many of his friends were poets, so Peterson decided to give it a try.

"It came to a point when I figured what the hell, I am as good as they are so I started writing poems," Peterson said.

This interest in poetry has led to the publishing of Peterson's second book, "Comedy of Desire." The book focuses on

See **PETERSON**, page 6

Dancing their way to the top

By Heather Hayes
Spartan Daily Staff Writer

The University Dance Theatre will be performing in concert at the San Francisco Dancers' Group at Footwork, a contemporary dance venue.

The University Dance Theatre is under the direction of Fred Mathews, a former dancer for the Jose Limon Dance Company. Mathews began his direction of University Dance Theater in 1989.

"We are a well-known, reputable dance company," Mathews said. Dancers are students of

SJSU majoring in dance. They give over 20 performances a year.

The purpose of the University Dance Theatre, according to Mathews, is to give dance majors experience in performing, to expose more people to the art of modern dance and to make SJSU more visible.

The dancers make a year-long commitment to the company and practice every day. They are prepared, at any time,

to give a full performance, Mathews said.

Freshman Bridgette Loriaux, who dances with University Dance Theatre, enjoys being with the company.

"It pushes you to work harder and improves your strength as a dancer, performer and person," Loriaux said.

Loriaux said dancing in the company feels like dancing with her family. Sophomore dancer Emily

Rosenthal appreciates the fact that the dancers are treated as professionals and taken seriously.

In San Francisco, University Dance Theatre will perform three pieces.

The first is "Choral Stance," choreographed by Kristin O'Shee.

"This piece is a very important statement about femininity," Mathews said.

"Choral Stance" is a matriarchal piece about the strength of women. O'Shee researched East-

See **DANCE**, page 6



Teaching activism

By Michelle Lau
Spartan Daily Staff Writer

Tucked within Washington Square Hall, behind the door of room 115, the Environmental Resource Center (E.R.C.) provides the public with a gem of environmental knowledge.

The E.R.C., which was founded in the early 1970s, houses a small environmental library filled with large volumes of environmental books, pamphlets, Environmental Impact Reports,

See **E.R.C.**, page 3

Black filmmaker seeks actors

By Marc J. Spears
Spartan Daily Staff Writer

Many entertainers and rappers have been influenced by the original mack daddy, Max Julien.

Julien, best known for his role in the movie "The Mack," will host Wednesday Night Cinema in the Student Union Feb. 16, when his popular film will be shown. Along with the screening, Julien will also have an in-depth discussion and

be looking for people for an upcoming film.

Julien in the 70s and early 80s was one of the black filmmakers who paved the way for the likes of Spike Lee and John Singleton.

The black-exploitation film cost \$450,000, showed a net profit of \$10.3 million and was critically acclaimed at the Cannes Film Festival in 1983, years after its release. Along with these accomplishments, Julien is a screen writer, director, novelist and artist who is internationally

See **FILM**, page 6



New rink piques skating interest

By Michelle Lau
Spartan Daily Staff Writer

The warm weather of spring is creeping around the corner, but for some students the crisp coolness of a winter wonderland will remain all year long.

Located on the corner of 10th and Alma streets, the San Jose Ice Centre has become the new home for SJSU's beginning ice skating classes and other related ice sports. The Ice Centre, part of SJSU's south campus, opened during the winter break.

According to James Bryant, chairperson of the human performance department, ice skating classes have been held for the last 20 years. Before the Ice Centre was built, classes were taught at the Eastridge Ice

Arena.

"The ice is much better here (the Ice Centre) than at Eastridge," said senior business major Serena Kim, who has taken the ice skating class before.

"The classes are great, and they're much bigger," she said.

Bryant said there are about 100 students who are currently enrolled in the beginning ice skating classes. In previous years, only one section of the class was offered, but beginning this semester another section has been added.

"We have (40) more people because it's (the Ice Centre) closer, and it's a brand new facility," Bryant said.

See **SKATING**, page 4

'The classes are great, and they're much bigger.'

Serena Kim
business senior



JEANETTE L. HANNA—SPARTAN DAILY
Laura Galindo, right, helps Roya Nasraty skate.

SpartaGuide

The San Jose State calendar

Today

AKBAYAN CLUB: First General Meeting, 3-5p.m., Engineering Building 189, Call Rich or Mel 534-1140
ART HISTORY ASSOCIATION: Meeting, 11a.m., Art Building 110A. Call Betty 924-4351
BETA ALPHA PSI: Pledge Orientation, 3-4p.m., BC 004. Call Jennifer Parry 249-3919
CAMPUS DEMOCRATS: First General Meeting, 2p.m., Costanoan Room, SU. Call George Gonzales 345-7033
CAREER PLANNING AND PLACEMENT: Co-op Orientation, 6p.m., Almaden SU. Call 924-6033
DELTA GAMMA: BBQ, 6p.m., 360 E.Reed St.(at 8th st.). Call Kathryn 947-8412
COMMUNITY HOMELESS ALLIANCE: March to Redevelopment Center, 12:30p.m., First Christian Church 80 S. Fifth St. Call Scott Wagers 294-2963
DELTA SIGMA PI: Meet the Chapter, 7:30p.m., Engineering Auditorium 189. Call Sandy Lam 629-7032
DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES: Seminar with Dr.

Ronald Stecker "The implications of Africanized 'Killer' bee to U.S.," 1:30p.m., DH 135. Call 924-4900
FANTASY AND STRATEGY CLUB: Meeting on Rifts, AD&D, magic, 5-10p.m., Guadalupe Room, SU. Call 924-7097
MATH/CS CLUB: Macintosh Programming and Organizational Meeting, 1:30-2:30p.m., MH 233. Call Chris 857-1488
PRE-LAW ASSOCIATION: Meeting, 6-8p.m., Pacheco Room. Call 977-1320
PSI CHI: Thomas Coates, Ph.D. "AIDS Prevention Around the World: What have we learned? Where do we need to go?," 3-4:30p.m., Student Union Ballroom. Call 924-5600
PSI CHI: 37th Annual Spartan Research Colloquium, 11-6p.m., SU. Call 924-5600
RE-ENTRY ADVISORY PROGRAM: Brown bag lunch for students over 25, 12-1:30p.m., Pacheco Room, SU. Call Virginia O'Reilly 924-5930
SIGMA THETA PSI: Ice Cream Social, 5:30-6:30p.m., Ben & Jerry's Ice Cream. Call 223-9814

SpartaGuide is available to SJSU students, faculty and staff organizations for free. Deadline is 5 p.m., two days before publication. Forms are available at the Spartan Daily, DBH 209. Limited space may force reducing the number of entries.

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E.R.C.: Students pick up trash

From page 1

magazines and videos.

The E.R.C. is a nonprofit, student-operated environmental activity center. It is staffed by students enrolled in Environmental Studies 181, which serves as a vehicle for students to apply textbook knowledge to hands-on training.

"Environmental Studies 181 is a class in activism. You learn how to get involved in your community. We learn a lot of theory in the department (environmental studies), so it's a place to put that theory in practice," Jennifer Cole said.

Cole serves as part of the executive staff in the E.R.C. and is president of the Student Affiliation for Environment Respect (S.A.F.E.R.).

"The E.R.C. gives people the opportunity to get involved. People want to get involved, but they don't know how. So, you have to give them a place where they learn how to get involved. Show them how to make a difference," she said.

Although there are roughly 27 students involved in the class, the events planned for this semester are far from limited. Events scheduled for this semester involve an Indigenous Awareness Series and the annual Earth Day.

Included in the upcoming events is the Coyote Creek Cleanup on Feb. 19 from 9 a.m. to noon. Coyote Creek crosses Santa Clara and San Carlos streets.

The E.R.C. has an annual

beach cleanup every fall semester and a creek cleanup every spring. According to Kristi Swensson, managing director of the E.R.C., past creek cleanups and beach cleanups have been successful.

"From past beach cleanups, we've collected 15 bags of trash. With creek cleanups, we've also cleaned up the creek at Alum Rock Park before. It is just loaded with trash. It's amazing. People think that we don't litter anymore, but it's so untrue. People still litter all the time, unfortunately," Swensson said.

She recalled earlier that day she had to remind an SJSU student not to litter when she saw the student throw garbage into a bush.

She suggests that students who wish to participate in the creek clean-up bring waterproof shoes, a light jacket, a change of shoes and socks as well as rubber gloves.

"You never know what you'll find in there (in the creek)," Swensson warned.

Swensson encourages anyone to participate in the activity. She feels the creek cleanup is productive for the community.

"Because there is no actual funding for rangers to clean up the creeks, we are performing an important service," Swensson said.

The objective of the creek cleanup is to become hands-on

environmental activists.

"In the department, (environmental studies) we do a lot of book reading, but we don't really do anything. This is the chance to do something, to get out there right now and make a change today," Swensson said.

Not only do members of the E.R.C. want students to participate in the creek cleanup, they want to help the community realize that the overall environment is a precious necessity.

"The environment directly affects everybody," Cole said.

"Each of us has had a hand in the destruction of the environment, whether we believe it or not. Things are only going to get worse, unless we take baby steps to make it better. Baby steps

include cleaning the immediate environment around us. There's not one person on the planet who could say they didn't help (cause) the environmental problem. I don't think there's one person on the planet who has an excuse not to help," Swensson said.

People who wish to be involved in the creek cleanup can meet members of the E.R.C. on the corner of Fourth and San Carlos streets at 9 a.m. on Feb. 19.

The E.R.C. is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and is accessible to the public.



Skeletal remains of child found

YUCCA VALLEY, Calif. (AP) — The skeletal remains of a child were discovered in a remote desert Tuesday, and investigators tried to determine whether they were the body of an 11-year-old boy missing since November.

The body was found about 100 miles east of Los Angeles by a man searching for cans to use as target practice.

The body was not buried and was badly decomposed, said San Bernardino Sheriff's Sgt. Tony Allen.

The remains were found several miles from the site 15 miles north of Yucca Valley where the body of Arthur Leftwich, 14, was found on Dec. 16.

He had been killed by gunshots, and sheriff's officials called it murder.

Leftwich and Robert Martinich, 11, ran away together from their Yucca Valley homes on Nov. 19, sheriff's officials said. The two allegedly committed burglaries before disappearing, they said.

Sheriff's officials have been searching for Martinich ever since, and Allen said authorities immediately thought the body could be his.

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Peterson

From page 1

Desire." The book focuses on Peterson's trials and tribulations with love. Robert Bly, a contemporary poet, has edited and written the introduction to the book.

Peterson and Bly have been friends for a long time and trade poems often.

When Peterson came to SJSU 31 years ago, he revived the creative writing program.

"When I arrived at SJSU, none of the older teachers wanted to teach creative writing. Since I had some experience in it, I taught some of the classes," Peterson said.

Peterson became the coordinator of the creative writing program once it became a larger part of the English department. Now, a creative writing emphasis for both English majors and the graduate program are being offered.

"He is one of the best-loved

professors in the department. He has inspired students for decades," Jack Haeger, chairperson for the English department, said.

Peterson participates in many other activities that focus around his creative writing and poetry. He teaches creative writing workshops for the San Jose Center of Poetry and Literature, Foothill College and the Mendocino Writers Conference.

He also does poetry readings during the year.

He has an event on Valentine's Day at the d. p. Fong Gallery on S. First Street. He will be reading his own poems as well as those from other poets.

"The Valentine's reading is a tradition that we would sorely miss. He reads beautifully and is an outstanding poet," Lou Lewandowski, associate dean of graduate and international studies, said.

'He is one of the best-loved professors in the department. He has inspired students for decades.'

Jack Haeger
English department chairman

Dance

From page 1

ern Europe's primitive matriarchal society and ancient goddess figures for the piece. From this, she developed what Mathews calls a "ritualistic, primitive piece."

"Solaris," the next piece, was choreographed by Mathews and was premiered in 1976 by the Limon Company. Mathews said this piece is from the male point of view. It is a very visual piece for which he used his "images of

a lifetime" as a male.

The third piece in the repertoire is "Exile," choreographed by Jose Limon in 1950.

"Exile" is about people being torn from the familiar and forced to face the unknown," Mathews said.

University Dance Theater will be performing Feb. 17, 18, and 19 at 8 p.m.

Tickets are \$7. For information and reservations call (415) 824-5044.

UAL plane forced to return to SFO after windshield cracks

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — A United Airlines flight bound for Los Angeles International Airport was forced to return to San Francisco International Airport Tuesday because a part of the windshield cracked, authorities said.

Flight 1717 returned to San Francisco about 4:05 p.m. There were 49 passengers and crew members on board.

The Boeing 737 plane apparently had climbed to 30,000 feet when the outer layer of the windshield on the co-pilot's side

cracked. The plexiglass window, which has at least three layers, did not break, said airport spokesman Ron Wilson.

The pressure inside the plane was not affected, although the pilot took the plane down to 10,000 feet where pressure is not a factor.

There were no injuries and no other flights were involved.

Wilson said that it is very unusual for such a crack to occur and authorities were investigating the matter.

Filipino-American youth with leukemia not finding marrow donor

CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. (AP) — An 8-year-old Filipino-American boy who needs a bone marrow transplant is having difficulty finding a matching donor because of his ethnic heritage.

Erik Palmer, whose father is a Marine based at Camp Pendleton, has already undergone months of chemotherapy to fight his leukemia.

Doctors have told his family that without a transplant, he has little chance of living.

"He's been getting really tired lately," said his mother, Lita Palmer.

The boy must visit the hospital every other day to receive blood platelets, which his bone marrow is not producing.

Erik's mother is Filipino and his father is white.

He can receive a transplant only from someone whose bone marrow is a close match to his.

"He has more of a chance matching a Filipino-American," said his father, Shawn Palmer. "There have been plenty of people who have donated blood that don't match."

The Palmers' search for a suitable donor has gone national and international, but has produced no results.

Now, they hope local people with Filipino heritage will come forward.

The San Diego County Blood Bank is administering tests to all prospective donors free.

Erik's leukemia was diagnosed last May after he was admitted to the base hospital for suspected pneumonia.

Film: "The Mack"

From page 1

known for his portrayals of the black community.

Julien's portrayal of Goldie Mack in "The Mack" has been remembered by many comedians and musicians since its release. Sinbad and Martin Lawrence have done "Mack" impersonations in live performances and on their popular TV shows.

On a recent episode of "Living Single," Queen Latifah had the women go "Macking" and they then went to a bar where she met a man named Goldie. Kriss-Kross' members have named themselves Mack Daddy and Daddy Mack. Bel Biv DeVoe's latest album is titled "Hootie Mack." Also, Julien will

be featured in the coming months in a Hammer video that concentrates on the two of them.

Julien will be taking information for any actors, actresses or behind-the-scenes people interested in his upcoming movie. He asks that a resume, photographs and any additional information be brought by aspiring actors to the show. There will be a reception following the movie.

Wednesday Night Cinema, along with The Associated Students Program Board, will show "The Mack" on Wed., Feb. 16. The movie, starring Julien and Richard Pryor, will be shown in the Student Union Ballroom at 7 p.m.

Look for **Etcetera** in tomorrow's Spartan Daily

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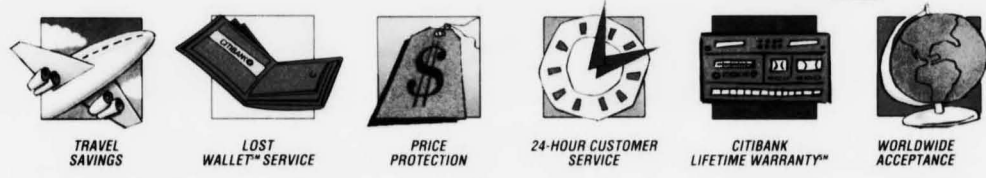
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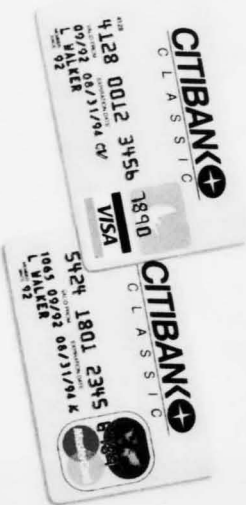
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