

Opinions: Affirmative action, SPF dedication, and Texas woman gets ready for last round-up

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Spartan Daily columnist tackles Elway, Niners and Cheeseheads.

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# SPARTAN DAILY

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## Bar ban may go up in 'smoke'

By Leah Bower  
Staff Writer

Bars in downtown San Jose and throughout California may be able to welcome smoking patrons again.

The California Assembly passed AB 297 extending the suspension of the smoking ban for bars, taverns and gaming clubs Wednesday. The bill will continue on to the Senate.

Existing law prevents smoking in a place of employment. The law has an exception for bars, taverns and gaming clubs, but the exception expired on Jan. 1. No further extension was given because neither the Occupational Safety and Health Standard Board or the Environmental Protection Agency

had adopted standards for reducing exposure to environmental tobacco smoke.

Assembly member Jim Cunneen, R-San Jose, voted for the extension which he said better represented the intent of the original ban by eventually allowing only bars with adequate safety equipment to allow smoking.

"This legislation represents a win-win situation because we finally have OSHA standards with some real heat," Cunneen said. "I think it was a balanced piece of legislation."

OSHA is the Occupational Safety and Health Administration that regulates safety concerns in the workplace.

The bill would extend the exception from Jan. 1, 1998 to Jan. 1, 2001 with

smoking allowed only in bars that adhered to a standard for the reduction and control of exposure to environmental tobacco smoke.

To make it possible for bars to comply, the California Occupational Safety and Health Standards Board is required to adopt a standard for bars to follow before Jan. 1, 2000.

AB 297 will now go to the California State Senate for review and possible amendment. If it passes there, it will be reviewed by Gov. Pete Wilson.

"We haven't seen any language on the bill yet," Lisa Kalustian, spokesperson for the governor, said.

Kalustian said the governor's office will probably wait to review the bill until the Senate is finished in order to

assess any changes.

According to Assembly member Mike Honda, D - San Jose, opponents of AB 297 hope to find other ways to prohibit smoking in the workplace through the EPA and OSHA.

"The smoking ban is a health issue for employees. I voted against the suspension," Honda said.

Cunneen said that while he had consistently voted against the tobacco industry in the past, he didn't feel that it was fair to take the public's anger out on small businesses.

At least one bar owner in downtown San Jose agrees with him.

"We tried the smoking ban for the first three weeks, but they just went to bars that still let them smoke. Once

they change their habits it's hard to get them back," Cinebar manager Jeannie Faulkner said.

The Flying Pig Pub, which has some outdoor seating, has not felt the same pinch as Cinebar despite their close proximity.

"We didn't mind the ban either way. We didn't note a difference in business because of the ban, although some of our customers didn't like it," co-owner Marjory Seremetis said.

Students shouldn't expect to light up tomorrow or even in a few months.

"It could take a year to go through the legislative process in order to get to the governor," said Terry Christensen, chair of the Political Science Department.

## NOFX primes the pit in Palo Alto

By Doug Burkhardt  
Senior Staff Writer

Bodies were flung into and over the sweaty crowd like limp rag dolls, as curious spectators disregarded the violence to help the beaten and battered off the ground.

This was not a political uprising in some third world country or a work-force labor riot in China and it wasn't even another police brutality case in Los Angeles.

Simply put, NOFX played at The Edge in Palo Alto.

"Those guys tore this place up tonight," said 18-year-old Andrew DeBartelo. "They have an original style which sets them apart from other bands. Plus, the pit was killer and there was a total positive vibe."

"The pit" is the swarm of bodies, energized by music, that swells up into one mass, traveling in a clockwise motion. Some people quietly watched the band, others took a few stage dives, but everyone was focused on the pit.

"Some big-ass bald guy came up and decked me for no reason," said Dallas Leford as he held his lower lip which was bleeding profusely. "I almost fell over, and I was blacking out. On a scale of one through 10, I would rate the pit a nine."

The sold-out crowd got a little edgy waiting for NOFX to play, but the band was happy with their reception.

"Any crowd is cool as long as they're not throwing shit and being dicks," said drummer Eric Ghint. "Last night in Petaluma I was hit in the head with a CD case," he said as he pointed to the bump on his forehead.

Ghint said he likes a good rowdy crowd as long as everyone is having fun.

"It's a trip to see the kids whip into a frenzy when we start up," Ghint said. "When I was a kid, I was in there from the first band until the last. It's a cool feeling and there is nothing like it in the world. Sometimes, I wish I was a guitarist so I could see the action up close."

Action was definitely a good way to put it, as the crowd was very involved.

"It's a bonding experience," DeBartelo said, referring to the pit. "It's the energy you get from the music. It's the same thing you get with dancing, whether it's swing dancing, ska or even hip-hop."

However, not too many hip-hop fans walk away with bloody lips or black eyes.



Grayson/Spartan Daily

**NOFX's lead vocalist and bassist Fat Mike** points toward the crowd during their Wednesday night concert at The Edge night club in Palo Alto. The Edge was packed to full capacity with enthusiastic fans for the concert.

"That's because of the skinheads," Leford said. "They're always pricks. I've been to over 30 shows and this is the first time I got hurt. We're here to have fun, not to kill people."

Even Ghint admitted that skinheads can pose a real problem at shows.

"Six years ago in Albuquerque while we were getting ready to play, some skin head showed up and started stabbing the opening band," Ghint said. "But for the most part the kids maintain themselves."

However, not all skinheads were there to cause problems.

"Some skins are just stupid," said Tom Isbell, who was sporting a shiny, clean-shaved head. "I'm from the old school, but I'm mellow and tonight everyone was picking each other up. I've been to shows where everyone leaves bloody, but I like these ones a lot more. I didn't see too much trouble out there."

The club employed four bartenders and 13 bouncers to maintain the crowd.

"Generally security gets to trouble before it starts," bartender Michael Reppucci said. "We

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## Students paid for diarrhea vaccine study

By Susan Shaw  
Staff Writer

Students studying abroad can now get paid for the inconvenience of being inflicted with the condition intimately known as "Montezuma's Revenge."

Johns Hopkins University, in cooperation with AmeriSpan Unlimited that offers study abroad programs, will give scholarships to students who participate as research subjects in a two-stage trial of a new vaccine for traveler's diarrhea.

Participants can make a significant contribution to science while becoming conversant in a foreign language.

Students enrolled in AmeriSpan's Spanish language school in Guatemala can receive \$200 for the first stage of the trial that begins in February in which participants are not vaccinated, but are closely monitored.

A \$400 stipend will be given to students participating in the later stage of the trial in May in which they will be given an oral vaccine.

"Sounds interesting, and the study's worthwhile, but it's not something I'd do," Spanish major Jennifer Jackson said.

"I think it's a great idea," Spanish Professor Celia Zapata said. "Many students do go to study (abroad) during summers because they need the immersion. Sooner or later, though, 'Montezuma's Revenge' strikes. It's not a deterrent, however. Students will still go." Zapata said she was impressed with the amount of money being paid.

Traveler's diarrhea is a familiar downside to travel in foreign countries, especially for visitors to Guatemala where the incidence of the illness is as high as 70 percent, according to Johns Hopkins University spokesperson Janet Shimko.

"Even travelers who are careful have a good chance of developing traveler's diarrhea when in Guatemala," Shimko said, adding that the most common culprits are drinking water and poorly washed fruits and vegetables.

"People usually get it when they travel abroad," AmeriSpan Language Travel Consultant Jeffrey Snyder said.

He admitted the ailment is not exactly something they advertise in their program brochures, but shrugged it off, saying, "I actually got sick that way

See Study abroad, page 4

## De Alba appointed new director for Associated Students

By Nicholas Boer  
Staff Writer

Alfonso De Alba wants students to know they are getting their money's worth.

As the new executive director for Associated Students at San Jose State University, De Alba will be overseeing a \$3 million budget. Most of the money comes from the \$53.50 A.S. fee students pay each semester as part of their tuition.

"My number one priority is that students get the feeling they are getting every penny they put in right back," he said.

Making students more aware of A.S. programs will be a big task for De Alba. Many students are unaware of what they're getting for their money.

Asked to name some A.S. services, Theresa Ellerbruch, a junior majoring in social work, was stuck.

"I can't think of any," she said.

Nick Terzich, a finance major who returned to SJSU after a five-year hiatus, wants to get involved with A.S., but describes its lack of visibility as odd.

"You have to go up four flights of stairs to get there," Terzich said. "You don't find any info about (it) unless you go there."

De Alba is planning to create a brochure that

“He plays the devil's advocate for us. He's helped me go beyond the 'Jeffrey Batuhan box of thinking.'”

— Jeffrey Batuhan  
A.S. President

includes all of the services A.S. provides.

"We are a service organization as well as a government," he said. "You can enroll in an aerobics class for free. You already paid for it."

De Alba wants to create a positive, as well as visible, image of A.S. He said new students either don't know about student government or have negative impressions from bad previous experiences.

"They think it's a bunch of kids just fooling

around," De Alba said.

A.S. president Jeffrey Batuhan was part of the Executive Search Committee that narrowed the field from 108 applicants to five candidates. De Alba was the only candidate from SJSU and was ultimately selected by the student board of directors.

The A.S. organizational chart places Batuhan above De Alba, the board of directors above him and the student body over everyone.

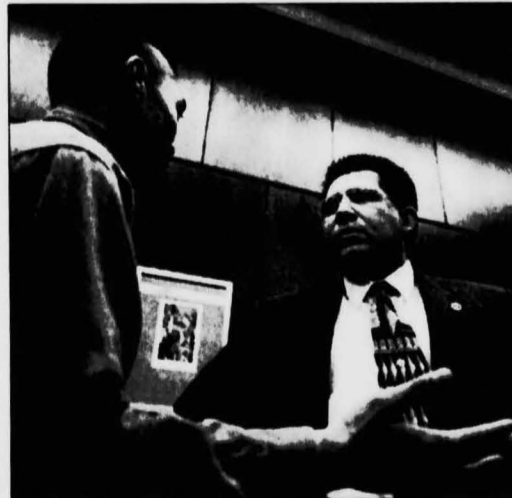
"We look at students as our customers," said Batuhan. "De Alba's role is to work with managers and make A.S. services visible."

De Alba, who has been acting director for the past seven months, gets Batuhan's praise as a personal mentor and guiding force for the board of directors.

"He plays the devil's advocate for us," Batuhan said. "He's helped me go beyond the 'Jeffrey Batuhan box of thinking.'"

De Alba's appointment in December follows a five-year period when A.S. operated without a permanent director and comes shortly after last year's A.S. centennial celebration. De Alba said his job is to build a foundation for the next 100 years — something the past three interim directors weren't able to do.

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Jeff Niese/Spartan Daily

Newly appointed Associated Students Executive Director Alfonso De Alba talks with A.S. President Jeffrey Batuhan after a recent meeting.

## 'Born again' killer deserves to meet her maker now



**Yvette Anna Trejo**  
STAFF WRITER

In Texas, one of the busiest execution chambers in the country is preparing for the next in line. Fourteen years ago Karla Faye Tucker made a decision that sealed her fate forever. She became a murderer and she shouldn't escape her sentence.

After admitting she was involved in the gruesome pickax murders of two people, Tucker was tried and sentenced to death by lethal injection. Almost a decade and a half later, Tucker is still alive.

On Feb. 3 Tucker is finally scheduled to take her last breath. She will become the first woman in 135 years to be executed in Texas. Or will she?

Tucker has somehow managed to gain support in her efforts to avoid execution, despite the fact that she has admitted to taking two lives and forever damaging several others.

This death-row inmate has caused a much-heated debate among those who feel the sentence is just, and those who feel that execution is barbaric. But is that all there is to it?

The bigger picture may be a little more complicated. Much of the controversy is focused on the fact that Tucker is a woman and that she has "found God." Should either of those facts have any bearing on her fate? The answer is definitely no.

She should have found God when she was a prostitute and before she decided to kill. Just because she has found religion doesn't mean she didn't commit a crime, and it doesn't mean she deserves a second chance.

Tucker should read up while she can and learn some more about religion. An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth, there is nothing more simple.

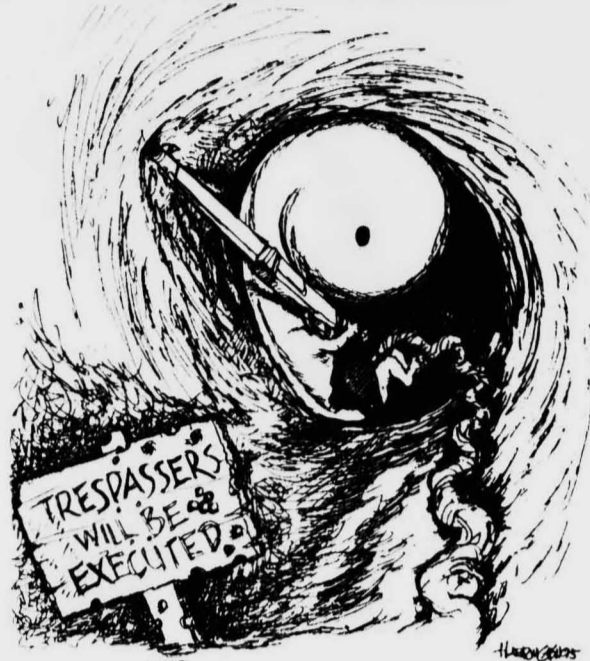
Tucker's supporters need to really understand the heinous crime that was committed before they continue to fight for her life. The woman that now counsels others on death row is the same woman that boasted in her trial that she experienced an orgasm with each swing of the axe.

Tucker made a life-altering decision when she chose to be a part of that grisly murder. The victims will never get their lives back, so Tucker should lose the rest of hers.

Texas Gov. George W. Bush feels that the death penalty should be applied evenly to both genders and doesn't seem to be backing down because of all the controversy over religion. At least he is in his right mind.

Her religion may have made her a better person and some may think she deserves clemency, we must remember that there is a separation between church and state. Texas said she should die, and so it shall be.

Yvette A. Trejo is a Spartan Daily staff writer.



## Affirmative action outdated, passes the racial buck

**A**ffirmative action is an act that should be described as reverse discrimination. It allows institutions to "act affirmatively," or to discriminate against one group of people in order to avoid discrimination toward another group of people. Affirmative action has only replaced discrimination against women and minorities with discrimination against white males.

This policy may have been necessary 30 years ago when outright discrimination in employment and education was frequently practiced, but it is not necessary now.

Affirmative action advocates feel that the policy should remain in order to state that in today's society, discrimination will not be tolerated. There are already laws for that.

Affirmative action policies encourage hiring based on ethnicity or gender instead of on individual merit. Such actions lead to less than top quality service.

Employees in specific public safety jobs such as firefighters, paramedics or police officers should be required to meet the height, weight and strength requirements of the employers. These standards give the public a sense of safety and do not prevent women and minorities from being hired if they can meet the qualifications.

Qualifications such as physical ability and special training should be deciding factors in hiring for these positions.

Imagine a successful surgeon who has acquired a variety of skills. Years of medical school have molded these skills to precision. What would happen when a hospital is forced to adopt an affirmative action plan. The hospital's capacity to hire on merit will be seriously compromised if it cannot find a sufficient number of highly qualified minority surgeons. If a hospital is forced to hire on the basis of race or gender, someone who may not have demonstrated the appropriate level of experience and ability may be hired. The lives of patients could be endangered.

The risks of downplaying individual qualifications are clear. Even the ardent believers of affirmative action wouldn't fly on an airplane if they had doubts about the pilot's qualifications or abilities.

The goal of affirmative action was to make up for decades of discrimination, but the process has changed so that some people have not only equal rights, but more rights than others.

Affirmative action proponents meant well, but racism would be lessened within a generation where kids grow up in a society where all members say racism is wrong and act accordingly.

Mindy Griser is a Spartan Daily staff writer.



**Mindy Griser**  
STAFF WRITER

## Ban DeSoliel tan not worth dying for

**I** have an engraved picture in my mind of what I think beautiful is for me.

Everyone does. You know the one. The image that borders on unattainable and certainly isn't the one you see when you look in the mirror every morning.

In my fantasy, I am tan. And not just any tan.

TAN tan. I have been fed a steady stream of bronzed magazine models since I was a wee one.

The beaches of Los Angeles where I was raised were the breeding grounds for us mere mortals who strove to attain the same look.

I am Irish, Scottish and German and I inherited my mother's fair skin. It was a "curse" I shouldered in high school by doing everything I could to turn it beach bunny brown.

My friends and I spent countless summer days laying prone on the sand, worshiping the sun.

We baked.  
We broiled.  
We basted.

We baby oiled and Crisco'd (that's a Southern California secret) and made damn sure, if nothing else, that we hit the beach during the sun's peak hours.

And, of course, we all had lifeguarding jobs. I ignored my mother's warnings and the magazine articles on skin cancer that she taped to my bedroom door and put on the refrigerator. I told her time and time again not to worry.

It didn't matter that 1 million Americans annually are diagnosed with skin cancer, I wouldn't get it (such is the thinking of a teenager).



**Terri K. Milner**  
LETTERS HERE...

Recently, I realized a small growth I had on my left hand had gotten larger and changed colors.

The doctor removed it and told me he'd get back to me in about two weeks.

Of the 1 million annual diagnoses of skin cancer, 38,000 cases will be malignant, according to the American Academy of Dermatology.

7,300 Americans will die every year of malignant melanoma.

Skin cancer is the most prevalent form of cancer.

It attacks one of every seven Americans.

This is a death that is preventable in many cases. Breast cancer isn't. Prostate cancer isn't. But skin cancer is.

My growth turned out to be benign, but the whole experience scared me enough that I took a new tack on tanning.

I have bought out the market supply of sunscreen from Drug Emporium.

I used to only buy SPF 8. And that only to humor my mom. The thought of actually slathering it on my skin was horrific.

Today, I am a reformed woman.  
Coppertone 30.  
Hawaiian Tropic 30.

Water Babies 30.  
Banana Boat 30.

I'll horde them all... and use 'em.

I have vowed to be butt-white for the rest of my days... and happy about it.

Just like a beacon in the night, baby.

Terri K. Milner is a Spartan Daily co-executive editor.

### Sparta Guide

**Today**  
**A. S. Campus Recreation**  
The intramural basketball and outdoor soccer registration deadline is 4 p.m. in the A. S. business office. For more information, call Jeff Stinson at (408) 924-6266.

**Chinese Christian Fellowship**  
Join us for Welcome Day from 2:30 - 4:30 p.m. in the Student Union's Almaden Room. For more information, call Esther Mar at (408) 298-4693.

**Chinese Mandarin Bible Fellowship**  
Enjoy the welcome party at 1:30 p.m. in the Student Union's Costanoan Room. For more information, call Linda at (408) 298-3249.

**Monday**  
**Alpha Kappa Delta Phi**  
Info Nite II - Come meet the sisters of the largest Asian American sorority in the nation at 8 p.m. in the Student Union's Guadalupe Room. At 9 p.m. join the fun with pizza and pool with Lambda Phi Epsilon in the Student Union's Billiard Room. For more information, call Angela at (408) 932-0933.

**Catholic Campus Ministry**  
Daily mass is held from 12:05 - 12:35 p.m. at the John XXIII Center across from the SJSU Theatre. For more information, call Ginny at (408) 938-1610.

**Chicano Commencement**  
Attend the weekly meeting at 7 p.m. at the Chicano Resource Center in Wahlfquist Library Room 309. Deadline for applications and money is Feb. 23. For more information, call Pedro at (408) 274-

8000 or Xochilt at (408) 295-4318.

**Nurses Christian Fellowship**  
Come to a Bible discussion about caring for the depressed at 11 a.m. in the Student Union's Montalvo Room. For more information, call Diane Stegmeir at (408) 279-6385.

**Tuesday**  
**Catholic Campus Ministry**  
Enjoy pizza and a discussion about "Our Catholic Identity" from 7 - 8:30 p.m. at the John XXIII Center across from the SJSU Theatre. For more information, call Ginny at (408) 938-1610.

**Delta Sigma Pi**  
Meet the chapter at 6:30 in the Student Union's Almaden Room. For more information, call David Boeker at (408) 995-5596.

**Gamma Zeta Alpha**  
Meet the brothers at the information table in front of the Student Union from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. or call Abelin Anaya at (408) 297-1796.

**Nurses Christian Fellowship**  
Come to a Bible discussion about caring for the depressed at 2 p.m. in the Student Union's Montalvo Room. For more information, call Diane Stegmeir at (408) 279-6385.

**SJSU Student Health Center**  
Register for the Weight Management Program from 12 - 1 p.m. in the Health Building Room 208. For more information call Nancy Black at (408) 924-6118.

Sparta Guide is provided free of charge to students, faculty and staff. The deadline for entries is noon, three days before desired publication date. Entry forms are available in the Spartan Daily Office.

### Opinion page policies

Readers are encouraged to express themselves on the Opinion page with a Letter to the Editor.

A Letter to the Editor is a 200-word response to an issue or point of view that has appeared in the Spartan Daily.

Submissions become the property of the Spartan Daily and may be edited for clarity, grammar, libel and length. Submissions must contain the author's name, address, phone number, signature and major.

Submissions may be put in the Letters to the Editor box at the Spartan Daily Office in Dwight Bente Hall Room 209, sent by fax to (408) 924-3237, e-mail at SDAILY@jmc.sjsu.edu or mailed to the Spartan Daily Opinion Editor, School of Journalism and Mass Communications, San Jose State University, One Washington Square, San Jose, CA 95192-0149.

Editorials are written by, and are the consensus of, the Spartan Daily editors, not the staff.

Published opinions and advertisements do not necessarily reflect the views of the Spartan Daily, the School of Journalism and Mass Communications or SJSU.

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## NOFX: No frills punk puts South Bay moshers to the test at The Edge

Continued from page 1

have the best security in the state. We want people to enjoy themselves, but the times they get too rowdy, the bouncers can always calm the situation down."

According to spectators, the situation was under control and The Edge put on its usual great show.

"This place gets the best bands around, and it's all ages," DeBartelo said. "I've been here over 15 times and I have never had a problem. If it was not for this club, we would have to go all the way to San Francisco to see a good band."

Ghint said they like playing in front of the young crowd at The Edge and he has never had a problem there. However, he said he likes seeing some older people, too.

"It's cool playing the 21 and over crowd, because the band has been together for 15 years," Ghint said. "So these people grew up with us. They listened to us when they were younger and they listened to us now."

NOFX opened with a song titled "Kids of the K-hole," but halfway through, singer/bassist Fat Mike abruptly stopped and slammed his bass to the stage. He stared out into the crowd.

"Hey, we're not Green Day and this isn't some Offspring video," Fat Mike said. "So stop spitting on me."

"Hey, we're not Green Day and this isn't some Offspring video. So stop spitting on me.

— Fat Mike,  
NOFX vocalist

Then he grabbed what was left of his Foster's Lager and poured it all over the young schmuck's head who was spitting.

Halfway through their set NOFX played "Liza and Louise" which erupted the crowd into a punk-rock volcano.

It was the pinnacle of the night as bodies swarmed like bees into a mass frenzy. Stage divers were cleared for takeoff and NOFX launched the entire gathering into one swirling body in motion.

At the end of the set, Fat Mike held up a few miscellaneous sneakers and said, "So long and thanks for all the shoes."

It happens to be the name of their new album. As far as their future goes, Ghint said there are no expectations.

"Five years ago, I thought we were through," Ghint said. "Now we're just having fun with it. We're taking a ride and enjoying life."



Grayson West/Spartan Daily

A NOFX fan surfs the crowd with attitude during the band's Wednesday night concert in Palo Alto.

## Drug related hospital visits on the rise in San Fransisco

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Some show up in handcuffs, screaming, jittery and looking for a fight. Others — groggy and blue faced — arrive at the emergency room on stretchers, brought in by paramedics or worried friends who tried unsuccessfully to snap them out of a drug-induced haze by slapping them or putting ice on their nipples or testicles.

It's happening more and more in San Francisco, a city long known for its drug scene and that — 30 years after the Summer of Love — is seeing a reemergence of overdoses and drug deaths, especially as the price of heroin has dropped and its purity increased since the early 1980s.

San Francisco has a reputation in the world among all people that epitomizes Timothy Leary's "Turn on, tune in and drop out," says Darryl Inaba, director of the Haight Ashbury Free Clinics detox programs. "The belief is that you can get any drug you want..."

The resurgence is at odds with recent reports from some parts of the country. A preliminary federal report compiled by the Drug Abuse Warning Network (DAWN) says that, in 1996, overall drug-related hospital visits leveled off in much of the country, compared with 1995.

But not in some urban areas, including San Francisco, where heroin and methamphetamine, also referred to as speed, and LSD are leaving emergency rooms swamped. Other cities, such as Baltimore, Newark, N.J., and Boston, have similar problems with heroin, while speed continues to vex West Coast cities such as Phoenix,

San Diego and Los Angeles.

Doctors say San Francisco hospitals also are seeing more overdoses of the newer "rave," or party, drugs, such as ecstasy and GHB, or gamma hydroxybutyrate, which has become popular in clubs for its alcohol-like effect.

One of the hardest hit hospitals is city-run San Francisco General, which handles much of the city's under and uninsured and, thus, the bulk of the fallout from the city's drug trade.

"Can you hear me? Do you know where you are?" Dr. Karl Sporer, an ER physician, asks several groggy patients who lie on gurneys in crowded, often stinky hallways. Sporer presses his fingers into their sternums, gently but firmly rocking them back and forth until he gets a response. "Talk to me, and I'll leave you alone. Come on, talk to me."

The majority of the patients — found crammed into examination rooms and hallways at any time of the day — are passed out or vomiting from the most common drug of all: alcohol. But, these days, Sporer says he and his fellow staffers are seeing three to four patients a day who've overdosed on heroin and two to four a day who come in strung out on speed, or methamphetamine.

"It's the bane of our existence," he says, noting that someone dies from heroin every third day in San Francisco.

In fact, medical examiners reported 126 heroin-related deaths in San Francisco in 1995 and 4,178 nationwide, according to the most recent statistics available from the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services

Administration, which publishes the DAWN report. There were 488 deaths related to methamphetamine nationwide in 1995.

Overall, hospital admissions for heroin — the deadliest of the drugs — have increased 66 percent in San Francisco between 1986 and 1995, according to the Irvine-based Public Statistics Institute.

Whatever the drug, nurses say there's often a rush of overdoses after the 1st and 15th of each month — the days public assistance checks arrive.

"You can see your tax dollars at work," quips one nurse, who overhears his colleagues discussing the matter as he rolls a patient into an examination room.

A few days after those waves of overdoses, the ER is filled with patients with skin infections related to "popping," or injecting the drug into skin after overdosed veins wear out — a huge reason for patient admissions, Sporer says.

Take Robert Cerda, who comes hobbling into the crowded hospital with a painfully swollen foot. The 33-year-old addict says he's never overdosed but can't really say why.

"Whatever I get, I shoot, so I guess I've just been lucky," he says.

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 Registration Deadline: Jan 30 @ 4:30 pm  
 Call 924-6266 with any questions  
 STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES NEEDING SUPPORT SERVICES SHOULD CONTACT THE A.S.B.O. AT 924-6200 IN ADVANCE OF THE PROGRAM.

## De Alba: Joins Academic Senate

Continued from page 1

"None of them were able to look at the long term," said De Alba. "They only ran the day-to-day."

Last year's A.S. president, Jerry Simmons, was also the interim executive director, a situation that created a lot of problems, according to Batuhan.

"There were no checks and balances," said Batuhan. "De Alba has good budget skills — he's strong with negotiations. He's been doing a great job."

De Alba has been a part of A.S. since 1993 and describes it as the "engine of change" for the campus community. One of De Alba's biggest projects was implementing the Transit Access Program — resulting in the pink ID card which provides SJSU students with free transit on local bus and light rail.

Watching projects develop from inception to

reality has given De Alba confidence in A.S.' ability to fulfill the mandate of the students.

Students voted in the 1993-94 school year to fund a new child care center and plans to break ground are currently set for November. De Alba wants to be sure students, who may not need the service, know why they are paying an \$8 annual fee. Students today could gather signatures and vote down the child care fee.

"If that is the will of the students," De Alba said, "then our job is to implement it."

Guiding and managing the student board of directors is a big part of what makes De Alba "excited and honored" to serve as the new permanent director.

"You don't come here to make a lot of money," said De Alba, who graduated from SJSU in 1995 with a degree in public administration.

"I know what it is all about," he said. "It's in my blood."

## Study abroad: Volunteer study

Continued from page 1

once. It's a fluke kind of thing. Most people don't stress themselves out over it, but it does happen."

He said Guatemala has other features that attract students including the fact that living expenses are extremely low compared with Spanish language study in Spain. For example, the cost of three weeks of study, including room and board is, \$525, he said.

Johns Hopkins is looking for 40 volunteers for the first mentoring stage, and another 400 for the vaccine trial, Shimko said. It currently has around 15 students signed up for the first stage, while no one has yet signed up for the second stage. Participants should be willing to spend at least three weeks because the trials require 15-21 days of observation.

Shimko said they approached AmeriSpan about

hosting the study because the University wanted to link up with a language school in Guatemala with a large student population. AmeriSpan operates 40 language schools in 14 Latin American countries.

The vaccine is made by SBL Vaccine AB of Sweden and has already been tested for safety by the U.S. Army in Egypt. "It performed exceptionally well," said Shimko. She said the vaccine is still several years away from FDA approval.

Traveler's diarrhea is caused by E. coli bacteria and is triggered by the consumption of contaminated food. The symptoms, which last from three to seven days, include frequent loose bowel movements, nausea, bloating and general listlessness, according to AmeriSpan.

Students interested in participating in the study can contact AmeriSpan at (800) 879-6640.

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