

FORUM

Current traffic problems a "Bad Sign" for the future of freeway travel in the Bay Area
—Page 2

SPORTS

Basketball seasons start, football season ends
— Monday

SPARTAN DAILY

Friday

One Washington Square
San Jose, CA 95192-0149
SDAILY@jmc.sjsu.edu

Volume 113, No. 58

Serving San Jose State University Since 1934

November 19, 1999



Music bridges cultural gap

By Ryan McCrossin
Daily staff writer

Ahmad Waraich drifted back to his homeland Thursday in Spartan Complex Room 219 as he listened to a piece of South Asian music. It reminded him of his own struggles to live in the American culture.

Waraich's feelings synchronized with the purpose of the event, which was to show how people from different cultures feel and express themselves through art. The music opened the Personal Perspectives of Diversity event.

"I was deep inside the music — it gave me a boost. I looked inside myself and saw another world of peace and hope," Waraich said.

Waraich, a San Jose State University computer science major, came to the event alone just as he came to this country from his native Pakistan two years ago. When he first came here he didn't have any friends from Pakistan, but he said he was prepared to dive into a foreign culture.

"I didn't feel that lonely," Waraich said. "I made up my mind to go on and make new friends."

Although Waraich's transition into American culture was fairly smooth, he said for others it is not so easy.

This struggle for assimilation was evoked through a powerful mixture of dance, music, theater and visual arts put together by the education equity committee in the College of Humanities and Arts. The purpose of the event was to open people's minds through art.

See Diversity, page 4



Gladys Mondala / Spartan Daily

Aimee Lam, a University Dance Theatre member, performs a Southern Indian dance Thursday as part of the Personal Perspectives of Diversity performance sponsored by the College of Humanities and the Arts. The program showcased a cross section of music and dance from South Asia and Africa, emphasizing personal growth through culture.

Conference helps SJSU, Russia relations

By Liz Cloutman
Daily staff writer

At the end of a two-hour teleconference Wednesday, the 16 Russian and San Jose State University political science students who participated agreed that, despite the disagreements between their two governments, they shared many opinions in common concerning the future of

US-Russian relations.

"It was a good experience. I got to see Russians aren't much different than Americans," said Leo Davila, a political science major and president of the Associated Students at SJSU. "It's a shame our political leaders don't see that."

The eight SJSU teleconference participants — Davila, Karim Kahwaji, Heather Cook, Jason

Weinstein, Stephany Baker, Genevieve Lapham, Andrew Sims and Mikela Babayan — were chosen from Sharyl Cross's Russian politics class.

The eight Russian participants — Sergey Likhoshervov, Pavel Iliev, Victoria ("Vika") Smirnova, Sergey Baev, Anya Kornilevskaya, Nikolai Kolashnikov, Pavel Volosov, and Semyen Lomazov — are students

at Moscow State Institute of International Relations of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation. They also have been Cross's students. Cross, an SJSU political science professor, spent six months — from February to late July — teaching and conducting research at the Institute as a Fulbright scholar.

See Russia, page 4

NASA, SJSU join forces

By Erika Coron
Daily staff writer

NASA will plan future research, development, and educational partnerships with San Jose State University according to a memorandum the two signed.

Nancy Bingham, associate director for system management and planning at NASA / Ames Research Center, said this is not the first and probably will not be the last agreement NASA makes with SJSU.

"Our goal is to develop this land into a world class shared research facility," Bingham said.

NASA wants to develop about 200 acres left by the Navy at Moffett Field Federal Air Force Base in Mountain View.

SJSU, just one of numerous institutions NASA will be working in partnership with, was the site of a provost forum Wednesday in the engineering department at SJSU.

"This is an opportunity for the university to become involved in a rather formal way with NASA in something called Ames

See NASA, page 4

Questioning answers



Chad Pilster / Spartan Daily

Jennifer Perez (left) and Stephanie Marinelli (middle left) are two of the three people to host Slightly Moldy Parsley Genetic Jeopardy in their Science 2 class, Thursday in Duncan Hall. The project was to present disciplines of the College of Science using different and innovative methods.

Depression

Students learn to deal with emotions

By Cindy Arora
Daily senior staff writer

Editor's note: We're college students. Many of us sleep less than we should, drink too much and eat anything and everything bad for us. This is the last installment of our five-day Health Series. JO.

Sophomore April Coffey hasn't decided on a major yet, dreads going to school every day and is overwhelmed by the future.

"What if you don't have what it takes to make it in the real world?" Coffey asked.

Normally, Coffey considers herself to be a happy person, but lately she's been feeling unmotivated by the routine at San Jose State University and is unhappy.

In hopes of finding the root to her unhappiness, Coffey attended the depression workshop sponsored by counseling services Nov. 9. One of six who attended the workshop, Coffey's sentiments were echoed by the other students.

According to Wiggys Sivertsen, director of counseling services, students need to pay attention to emotional

symptoms as they do physical symptoms.

"If you have difficulty sleeping or are not sleeping enough and the rest of your life sucks ... then maybe you need to look into that," Sivertsen said. "But nobody should wake up and say 'I'm depressed.' If you're sleeping too much your psyche has a fever — go check it out."

Mercedes, a student at SJSU who asked that only her first name be mentioned, attended the workshop because she was feeling the classic symptoms of depression: lack of motivation, a change in sleeping patterns — either sleeping too much or too little — and feeling tired and unhappy. All can be signs of depression or something going on in a student's life that could be relieved with counseling.

"There is something going on with me and I want to figure it out. But I've been so busy so I just focus on school," Mercedes said.

Sivertsen said often when people become bored with

See Depressed, page 4



NEWS

San Jose State University



Gladys Mondala / Spartan Daily

Choreographer Mythill Kumar leads the University Dance Theatre company in a special bow backstage before taking part in the Personal

Perspectives of Diversity performance Thursday in Spartan Complex Room 219. The bow is performed before any traditional sacred dancing.

Diversity

Continued from pg 1

The greatest struggle was evidenced in the Asian artwork, which was shown to the audience in a slide show presentation toward the end of the event. Through their work, the artists expressed their feelings of isolation, stress and depression when they came from their homelands to America. A sculpture with exam papers pasted all over it was an expression of how driven one artist was to get good grades and achieve success.

The performance by the African / Afro-Caribbean dancers showed how a foreign culture

could be embraced. Women from various ethnic backgrounds dressed in wrap skirts danced in unison to African drums. Afterwards, some of the dancers came out and talked about their personal feelings about the dance they had performed. One dancer said she had learned a lot about African culture, and how much it had influenced the American culture, through her study of African dance. A dancer from Brazil told the audience how important it was for her to be able to share her music with people and learn about American culture.

Many of the professors have done research in cross-cultural studies and wanted other people to experience the enrichment they felt, said Katharine Cartwright,

who is the coordinator of improvisational and music studies in the school of music and dance.

"We wanted to stimulate dialogue across cultural barriers and find ways of communicating with each other and highlight what an enriching and rewarding experience that can be," Cartwright said.

When the show ended, the organizers stationed themselves in front of the audience for a question-and-answer session. Ethel Walker, a theatre arts professor, stressed the importance of arts education in schools. She said it is a way for children to learn about and familiarize themselves with people who are different from them.

Preetha Sheshadri, who led the

southeast Asian dance segment, said she was happy to share her own culture and learn about others.

"When I came here today I didn't know there were so many other styles (of music and dance) like the African drumming," Sheshadri said. "I have never seen that before. It was a very good experience for me."

Sheshadri shared her culture in a very personal way with her music and dance colleague last summer. When Cartwright decided to go to India in the summer to study music and dance, Sheshadri suggested Cartwright stay with her parents there.

"It was a great experience," Cartwright said. "I want to go back next summer."

Russia

Continued from pg 1

Iliev, who is majoring in international economic relations and international finance at the institute, had a positive reaction to the teleconference.

"Even though we live great distances apart, we're not very different," Iliev said. "We share opinions. Government officials could learn from us."

The teleconference was broadcast from Room 302 of the Instructional Resource Center to the rest of the Russian politics class and invited guests in the Almaden room of the Student Union and the Engineering building Auditorium. The technology for the broadcast was provided by Global One Russia, a corporation formed by Russian Central Telegraph and Global One, an international telecommunications company.

The conference covered many issues such as the U.S. monetary loans to Russia to aid its economic reform; the need for both the U.S. Congress and the Duma, the Russian legislative assembly, to have a better understanding of U.S.-Russian relations; Russia's conflict with Chechnya and the democratization of Russia.

"We want to punish terrorists who have committed severe crimes. The conflict is internal."

— Sergey Likoshervostov
Russian participant

Several students agreed the United States should consider foreign aid rather than loans to Russia because its economic recession makes loan repayment difficult.

"In time of economic crisis and recession, the United States shouldn't be giving out loans, but assisting Russia," Davila said. "It's (the loans) making problems worse."

Likoshervostov, an internal law major, emphasized how Russia's domestic problems can affect foreign policy.

"I really believe our foreign policy is determined by the internal problems of Russia — especially the recession," Likoshervostov said.

Kornilevskaya, a major in international economics, compared Russia's economic situation to the unpredictability of California's earthquakes.

"It's (the situation) almost like living in California, where you never know when an earthquake will come," Kornilevskaya said. "We don't know the next step of the government. Changes come very quickly."

Kahwaji, a senior majoring in political science and president of the SJSU International Relations Association, stressed the importance of the U.S. Congress and the Duma having a good working relationship, similar to that of presidents Clinton and Yeltsin.

"We need to get beyond propaganda," Kahwaji said.

Likoshervostov and Kornilevskaya both said they believed the Russian-Chechnya situation was a domestic one, and disliked the United States' negative reaction to the problem.

Chechnya is attempting to secede from the Russian

Federation, Cross said.

"We want to punish terrorists who have committed severe crimes. The conflict is internal," Likoshervostov said.

Smirnova, an international relations major specializing in U.S. history, economics and foreign policy, said she thought the young people of Russia wanted to continue the process of democratization.

"The fact we are at our second conference (with SJSU) shows the younger generation is against the return to the Soviet era," Smirnova said.

Baev, an international law major, said he believed the majority of the Russian population supports human rights and democratization.

At the end of the conference, Smirnova added a light final comment to the American participants.

"We're (the institute participants) not 30 years old. We're 20 years old," Smirnova said. "We don't spend all our time cramming in books or preparing for an international relations conference. We like to go out and have fun. We want to know what all of you do for fun."

The next conference between SJSU and the Moscow State Institute of International Relations is planned for May, Cross said.

40-foot pyramid of logs collapse, kills six, injures 28

COLLEGE STATION, Texas (AP) — A 40-foot pyramid of logs being assembled for Texas A&M's annual bonfire collapsed early today while dozens of students were climbing on it. At least six students were killed and 28 injured.

In the hours after the 2:30 a.m. collapse, rescuers pulled four students from the rubble alive, said Bart Humphreys, a fire department spokesman. One student wasn't pulled free until more than six hours later.

Even after that, Cynthia Lawson, a spokeswoman for the university, said crews using sound detectors could hear "moaning and tapping sounds," leading them to believe one or more students were still trapped.

At midmorning, cranes were removing logs gingerly, one by one, in the search for more students.

"Every piece of wood in that

pile is unstable and every piece of wood that moves affects other pieces of lumber," Humphreys said.

Students who had been looking forward to the huge bonfire, a tradition since 1909 to get fans ready for the football game against archrival University of Texas, were instead in mourning.

"The scene right now is a scene of disbelief," said Sallie Turner, editor of the Battalion, the student newspaper. "A lot of the students just feel it's surreal."

University President Ray Bowen gave the death toll as six dead, all men, and 28 injured. At least three people were in critical condition.

Officials conducted head counts at residence halls in an effort to account for everybody who may have been working on the structure. Some 60 to 70 students were believed to be on it when it fell.

Rusty Thompson, assistant director of the Memorial Student Center and the bonfire faculty adviser, said students told him "there was just a sudden movement. Five to seven seconds and it was on the ground."

Gov. George W. Bush choked up when he discussed the accident in a CNN interview. "I just can't imagine what that means to have that happen to them," he said.

"It's sad, it's tough."

The bonfire tradition, which draws tens of thousands of spectators, began when Texas A&M was still an all-male military academy. The only year the bonfire was not lit was 1963, following President Kennedy's assassination.

This year's bonfire was scheduled for Thanksgiving night, the eve of the game. The event was canceled after the accident.

Depressed

Continued from pg 1

school and feel unmotivated, it's because they're depressed but don't know it.

According to Holly Hopkins, a counselor intern, depression can often be more than an emotional problem. The mental health research resources for students point out that clinical depression or mood disorder can be detected with the classic signs and symptoms of depression, but a much more severe reaction.

Steinberg said there are cases of depression called dysthymia, which is chronic long-term depression, bi-polar disorder, which is extreme moods of either euphoric happiness or intense depression. These are clinical disorders that need to be addressed by psychiatrists.

Hopkins said clinical depression can be treated if people will forgo the stigma of medications for depression.

"I know there is a common misconception on medications for depression or any other emotional problem," Hopkins said.

According to Jill Steinberg, a psychologist for counseling services, people who are suffering from depression tend to keep themselves busy to avoid focus on the problem.

Katie Dashtban, an intern for counseling services, was one of the speakers at the depression workshop last week. She said counseling services offers individual and group therapy.

"The reasons for referral (students who attend counseling) are so broad — a lot of people come in for relationship issues," Dashtban said.

According to Sivertsen, group therapy or counseling tends to be more difficult to arrange because SJSU is a commuter school. Workshops, such as the depression workshop held last week, are being used to see if students will attend.

NASA

Continued from pg 1

Research Center," Provost Linda Bain said.

She said the agreement will allow the university to get involved in research projects and engage in some of the educational projects and activities that NASA envisions as forming part of the center.

The memo includes educational programs, a teacher institute, graduate and credential programs at SJSU, extended education and science, math, engineering and technology programs for kindergarten through twelfth grade.

The forum was sponsored by the Office of Graduate Studies and Research and SJSU Foundation.

The programs were briefly outlined at the forum, but were not

discussed in any detail. The partnership was described by Bain as more of a vision that is still in the planning stages.

"We are inventing it as we go," Bain said.

Funding for the center was not described in detail either. Bain said they are looking at the possibility of funding with one or more legislators.

"This is probably a great opportunity, not only to market our students, and open more opportunities of jobs for them, but also to upgrade our facilities," said Nabil Ibrahim, associate vice president for graduate studies and research at SJSU. This would provide both teaching and research facilities, which would make undergraduate research activities available to students and faculty, Ibrahim said.

The Spartan Daily.
Never missing
a press day
since 1934.



HEADS WILL ROLL

TIM BURTON FILM

Sleepy Hollow

JOHNNY DEPP CHRISTINA RICCI

PARAMOUNT PICTURES AND MANDALAY PICTURES PRESENT

SCOTT RUDIN AMERICAN ZOETROPE PRODUCTION A TIM BURTON FILM JOHNNY DEPP CHRISTINA RICCI
"SLEEPY HOLLOW" MIRANDA RICHARDSON MICHAEL GAMBON CASPER VAN DIEN JEFFREY JONES
DANNY ELFMAN KEVIN YACHER FRANCIS FORD COPPOLA LARRY FRANCO
WASHINGTON IRVING KEVIN YACHER ANDREW KEVIN WALKER ANDREW KEVIN WALKER
RICHARDSON RUDIN SCOTT RUDIN ADAM SCHROEDER TIM BURTON
www.sleepyhollowmovie.com

STARTS TODAY

CENTURY THEATRES CENTURY 16 MTH. VIEW 960-0970	CENTURY THEATRES CENTURY BERRYSSA 10 SAN JOSE 926-7091	CENTURY THEATRES CENTURY 22 SAN JOSE 984-9610
CENTURY THEATRES CENTURY 23 SAN JOSE 984-9610	CENTURY THEATRES CENTURY CAPITOL 16 SAN JOSE 972-9276	AMC THEATRES MERCADO 20 SANTA CLARA 918-0248

CENTURY THEATRES
CAPITOL 6 DI
SAN JOSE 226-2251

SPECIAL ENGAGEMENT - NO PASSES OR DISCOUNT TICKETS ACCEPTED

CALL THEATRE FOR SHOWTIMES

www. BargainVillage.com

SJSU Marketplace (free)

BargainFinder-Get the Lowest Price

Net Forum - 3,000 Research & Study Topics...

SchoolEmail Always Free Services for Students!