



Victory for CyberRays is a franchise first

—Sports, page 5

'Bad Sign' thanks his mom this week

—Opinion, page 2



Complete coverage of the Blues Festival in tomorrow's paper

—A & E, Tomorrow



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Joint library pounds into next phase

By Karen Kabling

DAILY STAFF WRITER

After pushing back the first deadline, university officials said the pounding from the construction of the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Joint Library would stop by mid-April.

And it has. According to Art Heinrich, the San Jose State University campus architect, the pile-driving portion of the construction has been complete for more than one week — the last pile was completed April 25.

"It's (the pounding) less abrupt

than in the middle, when things were going crazy," he said.

Jessica Smith said she has noticed the difference.

The junior geography major said she has some classes in Dudley Moorhead Hall and no longer feels the vibrations that were causing the incessant pounding

from construction.

"Even if I hoped it stopped, it's not going to end — they have two more years to go," Smith said. "It doesn't bother me that much, but it's kind of funny when your classroom is shaking because of construction."

Yet there is one thing she likes

about construction: the wooden barriers.

"I like the graffiti," Smith said. "It's kind of cool."

In the meantime, Heinrich said construction work is running on schedule.

Work will continue on the foundation by building the

perimeter walls up to ground level, which should last until the end of July to early August, when steel erection will begin.

"In terms of disturbance ... what you see and hear right now is pretty much what will continue

◆ See LIBRARY, Page 4

Language classes suffer low turn out

Erik Anderson

DAILY SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Declining enrollment in his department has Jose Cerrudo, chair of the language department, looking at a variety of ways to draw in students, including moving away from five-days-a-week courses whenever possible.

He is also looking into rebuilding a forgotten minor waiver program, as well.

"It's been a gradual loss over the last eight to 10 years," Cerrudo said of the declining enrollment.

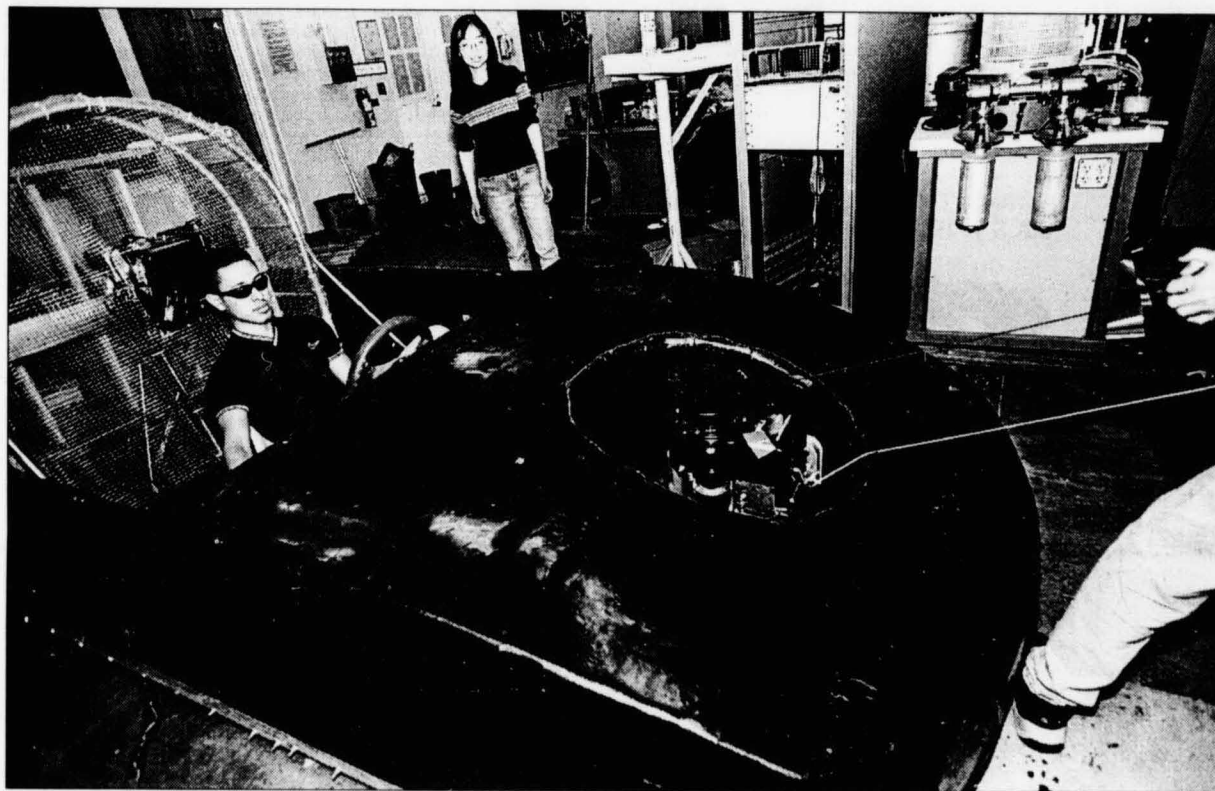
According to published university statistics, the highest figure since 1995, was in the fall of 1997 with 48 majors enrolled.

That same year there were 140 students enrolled in the English department.

Enrollments for the engineering and business departments, meanwhile, were at 1,131 and 1,145 students, respectively.

◆ See LANGUAGE, Page 4

Holy hovercraft, Batman...



David Royal / Daily Staff

Test pilot Ricardo Olvares, left, and Lily Li prepared for the liftoff of their miniature hovercraft as teammate Charles Fourcade pulled the starter cord in the Engineering building, Room 164 on Thursday.

The senior engineering project was put together by five San Jose State University students. After moving the hovercraft outside, it was driven around the courtyard in the center of the building.

Scholars banquet helps needy

By George Moore

DAILY STAFF WRITER

The fifth annual McNair Scholars Banquet was held Saturday evening at the Park Crown Plaza Hotel honoring San Jose State University students, alumni and faculty members involved with the program.

The program was designed to increase the number of low-income, underrepresented people into doctoral programs.

Congressman Mike Honda became involved with McNair this year and was presented an award for his help representing the program.

"The reason I gravitated toward it is because my life is similar to what the program is all about," Honda said. "I was the first in my family to graduate from college."

To qualify for the program, students must have a low-income and be the first generation entering college, according to Joe Canton, the resource coordinator.

Canton said the McNair program began in 1996 after a government-funded grant, and up to 30 students from SJSU are recruited per year.

The program, involving 156 universities across the nation, was named in memory of Ronald E. McNair, an African American astronaut who died in the 1986 Challenger explosion, Canton said.

McNair was from a low-income community in South Carolina and dreamed of becoming a scientist and an astronaut.

Carlos Sanchez, who completed his master's degree at SJSU and is pursuing a Ph.D. in philosophy, was one of four scholars who made brief motivational presentation speeches during the banquet.

◆ See MCNAIR, Page 6

Local politician to be given honorary doctorate

By Yesenia Santana

DAILY STAFF WRITER

Norm Mineta was 10 years old when he and his family were forced into the Hearths Mountain Internment Camp in Wyoming.

It's a desolate camp in the middle of the high plains, almost a desert area, where the wind always blows. It was dusty and cold in the winter and hot in the summer, said Rod Diridon, the executive director of the Norman Y. Mineta International Institute for Surface Transportation's policies at San Jose State University.

"...He was told he was put in camps for his protection," Diridon said, "but he always wondered why the guns were pointed in (instead of out.)"

Mineta, now 69, is scheduled to receive an honorary doctorate from SJSU during the annual commencement ceremony on May 26, said SJSU President Robert Caret.

"He's just the kind of person who has done so much for the community, directly and indirectly, that I'm really pleased to be in the situation where I can give him such an award," Caret said.

He said that the award was a way for him to express his gratitude.

Caret added that he is not giving an award, but the awardees have earned it, and he's just there to say "thank you."

Mineta, who served as mayor of San Jose 30 years ago, was in the U.S. House of Representatives and served under two presidents.

"Today, he is one of the first individuals ever to serve actively in two different political presidential cabinets (first under President Clinton... as secretary of commerce and now under Pres-

ident Bush, as secretary of transportation," said John McLemore, an SJSU alumnus and city council member of Santa Clara.

McLemore said he has known of Mineta since 1968.

McLemore serves on the Metropolitan Transportation Commission in Oakland and represents the cities of Santa Clara County.

He said Mineta visited Oakland two months ago and brought with him an \$85 million federal check to assist the costs of the Bay Area Rapid Transit extension to San Francisco Airport and

presented it to the Metropolitan Transportation Commission.

McLemore and Mineta last saw each other in October when they both were on the same airplane flying from San Jose to Los Angeles, when Mineta was secretary of commerce, McLemore said.

"With his ever-sincere warm personality, he greeted me in the waiting area, moved away from his security men, and we spoke together for ten minutes."

During those 10 minutes,

◆ See MINETA, Page 8

Stepping away from the mat

By Tiffani Analla

DAILY STAFF EDITOR

After losing in the 1996 Olympic trials he was devastated because he didn't achieve his lifelong dream. He was depressed. He wasn't sure what he wanted to do for the rest of his life. But if there was one thing assistant judo coach Dave Williams knew, it was that he wanted to give back to San Jose State University.

"My whole life for 30 years had come up to that one day. You think you did everything right — you did the running, you did the lifting, you did the training overseas, you did the winning of the medals,"

Williams said. "Everything comes up to that one day, and that one day goes south. It was very difficult to come back off

◆ See WILLIAMS, Page 6

Judo assistant coach Dave Williams competed in the Judo World Tour in 1993. He has been coaching at San Jose State University since 1996 when he was an alternate for the Atlanta Olympics in 1996.

David Royal / Daily Staff



Essayists debate existence of God

By Jena Torres

DAILY STAFF WRITER

There is only one reality, and it is God, according to Randall Studstill, winner of a campus essay contest co-sponsored by the departments of English, humanities, philosophy and physics.

"Only God exists," Studstill said at the awards presentation Thursday, yet it is a mystery that "no word, concept or symbol comes close to defining."

A proven God is no longer God at all, he said, at least not in the religious sense.

The topic of the essay contest was the question: Can God be defined in a way that allows for the possibility of empirical confirmation of God's existence?

Studstill, a student at the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, who also teaches a Survey of eastern religions course at San Jose State University, was awarded a \$400 prize for his answer.

His answer to the question, taken literally, was "Yes." Studstill stated that he could define God as his cat.

He interpreted the question to be refer-

ring to religious depictions of God, however, his answer became "No."

"The question presupposes that a standard, theological definition(s) of God can't be proved — God has to be redefined in order to be confirmed," Studstill stated in his essay. "But a God redefined to the degree that he becomes potentially verifiable is no longer God at all. God in any religiously meaningful sense is necessarily undefinable, and the soteriological value of God for the believer depends on this undefinability."

He said he based his answer on what he believes is logically sensible.

"The basic point is, God cannot be empirically confirmed," Studstill said. "I think God is absolutely real but can't be empirically confirmed."

Although he doesn't consider himself a member of any one religion, Studstill, who was raised a Methodist, said he is attracted to Advaita Vedanta, a Hindu sect, and the teachings of Meister Eckhart, a German mystic and theologian of the 13th Century.

Eckhart said God could be experienced when the individual's ego stops being fed,

◆ See GOD, Page 4

Letters

Thanking a mother who's been through a lot

Criticizing Davila for unprofessional, impolite behavior

What a punk! It's so nice to see former (yes, that sounds sweet) Associated Students President Leo Davila showing his true colors as he unscrupulously let esteemed members of the San Jose State University faculty have it with both barrels.

I might expect such immature action from my 3-year-old, but not someone in a leadership position of a major metropolitan university.

But I don't know why I am so surprised. Leo has been thumbing his nose at the very people he was elected to serve from day one.

His blatant disregard for students and his unprofessional manner of dealing with tenured professors, who have most certainly earned the right of respect from a 20-something student, just show what a colossal mistake the students of SJSU made.

He has tried to bully his way into stacking the deck with his lackeys so he can push his agenda upon SJSU. When people opposed him, they were crushed by the machine he was able to assemble or they were blown off as unimportant.

Guess it is true that absolute power corrupts absolutely.

Let this be a lesson to those faculty members he lambasted. You need to take action to make sure another A.S. president doesn't have enough power to overstep his or her bounds again.

I have contested for years that A.S. should not run like a corporation, but rather the government it was designed after.

Allowing Davila to act as CEO gave him unnecessary power, which he parlayed into a dictatorial role over SJSU.

No student should have the power to so heavily influence the hiring and firing of an employee of the state. As students, we are there in a learning capacity not to make personnel decisions, especially if that person has personal vendettas against the people he is reviewing.

I think it would do SJSU justice if the president, the Academic Senate and the faculty as a whole reviewed every action set forth by Davila and his staff, I mean cabinet, during his two-year reign of terror.

They should rescind the \$18 fee illegally imposed on students for the computer lab. They should look at recent changes in the bylaws of A.S. and do whatever is necessary to adjust them to make sure the student government runs as that: a student government.

Finally, a more hands-on approach by the faculty needs to be taken concerning A.S. They are students who are supposed to be using their A.S. experience as a learning one. It is up to the faculty to foster them in their learning, lest we get a repeat of Davila.

Aaron Williams
alumnus
journalism

"You know ... I really considered getting an abortion when I was pregnant with you."

That's one of the most disturbing things I've ever heard.

No, I'm not a pro-life activist. What made it disturbing was that it came from my mother's mouth, not in spite, but as matter-of-fact.

I often think about what my mom had gone through, leading up to that.

She was born and raised in Santa Monica, a poor, red-headed girl living in Brentwood. The only poor Jewish household anybody knew, people often joked.

My grandfather disappeared a few years after she was born. My grandmother wasn't a nice woman, and my aunt and my mother never got along. My mom preferred living with her grandmother, who soon fell out of her life when she died in a car wreck.

When she was 14, my mother got pregnant with my oldest brother and was kicked out of the house by my grandmother, circa 1958.

She dropped out of high school, hooked up with her boyfriend and worked until I was born. She never got a high school diploma.

From 1958 to 1976, she worked long hours, had three more boys, nearly died while giving birth to her fourth son, who was born in poor health. She divorced and got married again, had another divorce, then married my dad, who, despite being eccentric and tempestuous, has been her husband for 25 years.

D.S. PEREZ

BORN UNDER A BAD SIGN

Then she gave birth to me. After considerations, of course. Years later, I can see why.

After all, her boys have been a mixed lot. A gay son who betrayed her trust. A wild, hell-raising jailbird. A promising but fiery son who threw away numerous opportunities, including professional baseball, became addicted to drugs and gambling and spent some time in jail. A hot-headed but sickly son who ran off to live with his dad for several years, came back to the house, got into trouble here and there, fought drug addictions, then died.

Nothing is more painful than having your child die before you. My brother's funeral was the only time I remember seeing my mother, a quiet, strong woman, break down and cry.

And then there was me. The promising one, a gifted kid she decided to raise. She quit work, bought me an entire encyclopedia set and a Speak 'N Spell machine to take advantage of an early reading skill.

Not that I was an easy one to raise. I got into fights all the time in school and was probably the most suspended "A" student the world ever saw. I was

always late for everything or got her late for something. I got into trouble a lot. I nearly killed myself. I almost gave up academics in high school and barely graduated.

Now I'm the only one in my immediate family who has a college education.

There are so many memories — good ones and bad.

And even though there are times I hate this existence, I admit, I'm thankful of the decision she made in giving birth to me and raising me.

I call her every few days. She takes care of my dad and the grandkids now. She's content, but she still worries about me and the family budget. She's still a poor girl in mind, but she's got a heart of gold.

I'll admit to y'all, I want to write about other subjects for my last column of the semester. Stuff like French people rioting because they can't stand a "Survivor"-style show, only to be stopped by riot cops and tear gas.

I want to mock two Alaskan twins who were on their way to a model competition in China when they got drunk and started a fight because they wanted to step outside the plane and smoke a cigarette.

I want to laugh at the letters we've received in the past weeks, attacking people for having an opinion on the Opinion page.

I want to rip on Phoenix, where I'll be enslaved, er, interning for 11 weeks this summer.

But I can't. It wouldn't be right. Like the way she used to give me

guilt trips, I can't get my mom off my mind. Hell, it's an apt day anyway — right now, as I type, it's Mother's Day.

And being 350 miles away, I can't just drive up and get her a present or dinner right away.

Guilt trips. I can hear her right now. She'd be going off on me spending \$15 on a video game for the office — "Like your father, your fun comes first," — when I've got a report and late paper due tomorrow, and the fact that I'm going off on tangents about something else. Sorry, Mom, but there are 20,000 other people reading this column right now. I have to keep them amused as well.

As I end my final column for the semester, I reflect. You know, I've gotten criticism for not being the same dark, edgy, funny columnist I was two years ago.

I've heard that I'm writing to amuse myself. I've lost the edge. I've gotten too personal. I've lost touch with my audience.

But for now, all that is none of my concern.

Just this once, I'm more worried about writing for an audience of one.

Happy Mother's Day, Mom.

And ... thanks. You know for what.

D.S. Perez is a Spartan Daily Senior Staff Writer. "Born Under A Bad Sign" will be a sportswriter in Phoenix this summer. He will grudgingly return for what he hopes is his final semester and will do his best to amuse you sorry asses as usual.

"...AND THIS IS JUST FOR STARTERS FOR COMMITTING SUCH A HEINOUS CRIME AS NOT WEARING A SEAT BELT"



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Joys in life come from a strong human spirit

Well, this is it. I wasn't sure I'd make it through the semester, but I did.

Sure, now I have some stress wrinkles, a little more weight and an absurdly critical eye for comma splices under my belt, but along with these things, I have a lifetime of memories.

And, for those, I have people to thank.

Human beings are powerful — not solely in their physical strength, but more because of their actions, their words and their touch.

We don't notice that power too often, however.

We don't notice until much later how much of an impact one person can make. Sometimes we don't even believe it.

But the fact is that for centuries, human beings, whether they are strangers or friends to us, have helped make our lives richer.

After all, it was a human who, more than 500 years ago, invented the printing press and gave the masses an opportunity to read, learn and grow.

It was a human who fought for civil rights when she courageously refused to give up her seat on a Montgomery, Ala., bus in 1956.

It was a human who walked on the moon.

And it's been humans who have led this nation, enriched it, represented it and helped to make it the most powerful country in the world.

But it's not just the great leaders who deserve credit for making a difference in one's life. Because a person doesn't have to be wealthy, famous or worldly in order to positively affect another.

Their offerings, while they seem minor and inconsequential, are the things that mold us and give us hope.

Look closely, and you'll find these individuals.

It's the high school student who stays after school and tutors geometry to his peers and teaches them how the Pythagorean theorem works.



MINAL GANDHI

UNRAVEL

It's the retired lady who now spends her free time working at the neighborhood food pantry to feed the underprivileged.

It's the young man who made a girl feel wanted when he asked her out on a date.

It's a friend.

So often I find myself thinking how and why I meet the people I do. And I'm amazed when I realize that a little part of them has made its way into my own existence.

Fifteen weeks of life experiences, the good and bad, have unraveled in this newsroom.

Thankfully, I was able to share them with a group of intriguing, admirable, hilarious and intelligent individuals.

Some fed me tons of food (sushi, mostly) when I was hungry and broke. Some made me laugh so hard I doubled over. Some made my heart flutter.

Some enlightened me on a new world of music that I never had the chance to appreciate before. Some played catch with me. Some consoled me. Some showed me how similar we all could be.

But all of them were my family.

I'm not ready for the end of this semester and moving on. Because moving on means that I may lose touch with these people, who have taught me that every human being has the capacity to make an impact, to pass on joy, to offer a hand and touch a heart.

Minal Gandhi is the Spartan Daily Opinion Editor. She'll probably never use the word 'unravel' in a piece again.

Letters

SJSU administration should keep students safe on campus

I read with interest the article regarding the proposed law to require sex offenders to register with campus police. Legal ramifications of the bill aside, I don't believe that much is done on the campus to create a feeling of safety.

I have seen or read about the annual campus safety tours, led by President Caret, but haven't felt any safer afterwards.

Yes, we have blue phones that are directed to the University Police, and we have a campus escort program, but it's not enough.

The parking garages are still dark as caves, and many of the areas around campus are poorly lit, particularly near the Clark Library.

Some of the men's restrooms on campus are a hotbed of sexual activity and are mentioned in Web sites as recommended places to cruise.

The article also mentions a low number of sexual assaults included as crime statistics on campus. Sexual offenses that are reported to the Counseling Center, Health Center, Women's Resource Center or other

departments still need to be included in the statistics to accurately reflect the number of sexual crimes on campus.

There is often the perception that a sex offender is a transient, one who can be easily identified and therefore avoided.

The arrest of Patrick McNaughton and other executives who have been apprehended for suspected sex crimes shows that perception to be false. I feel that proposals put forward by the administration to create revenue, such as building a

hotel and having private corporate offices being housed atop classrooms, have been made without considering the safety ramifications.

In closing, I hope that the administration can address these concerns, not merely providing lip service to the idea of campus safety, but actually implementing programs that can prevent violence.

Terry Applegate
senior
occupational therapy

SPARTAN DAILY

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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 Bentel 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.

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Letters

Power crisis could get worse with use of electric vehicles

California's electric power crisis does not appear to have dampened the enthusiasm of environmentalists for electric cars, but it should have. The April 26 Spartan Daily story on Earth Day quoted Rod Diridon, "Everyone should be using our public transportation system, and those who can afford cars should be driving electric cars."

Southern California Edison has tested some electric vehicles on a real-world route that included 50 stops and two 5-percent grades in the Los Angeles area. The vehicles tested ranged from a General Motors electric vehicle to a Chrysler Epic and included a Ford Ranger pickup and a Chevy S-10 pickup. No full-size pickups or SUVs were included in the test. The average of the vehicles tested was 0.42 kilowatt-hours per mile.

In 1998, there were 16.2 million passenger cars, two million vans and minivans, 2.3 million SUVs, and four million pickups and other light-duty vehicles registered in California. Most of these vehicles are much heavier and would require far more electrical energy than the average of the vehicles tested in the SCE study.

Nevertheless, if we use the national average of 12,000 miles of travel per year by each vehicle and apply the 0.42 kw-hrs/mi. from the SCE study to the 24.5 million vehicles, we find that California motorists would use 124 billion kw-hrs/yr to power their vehicles. This would require approximately 23,000 megawatts of additional base-load generating capability operating, on average, at 70 percent of capacity, which is the national average for coal-fired plants. To put this in

some perspective, the total installed generating capacity in California at the end of 1999 was 53,200 megawatts.

Fueling 23,000 megawatts of new generating capacity with natural gas is out of the question, since we do not have either the availability of gas or the infrastructure to deliver that much gas.

Therefore, this additional generating capacity would probably be coal-fired.

At the present time, there is not a single coal-fired electrical generating station in California.

In 1999, about 31 percent of the electrical power consumed in California was imported from outside the state. Some of this power came from coal-fired generating units in Arizona, New Mexico and Nevada.

Beginning in the late 1960s, some California utilities joined consortiums to build coal-fired generating stations in the desert southwest largely because environmentalists had made the siting of any large central-station generating plant in California virtually impossible. Consequently, for the past 30 years, Californians have enjoyed the benefits of relatively cheap power from these coal-fired units while the desert southwest has received the pollution.

It will be interesting to observe the reaction of these environmentalists when one of the power producers proposes construction of a 2,000 megawatts coal-fired generating station on the Santa Cruz boardwalk to power electric vehicles.

Donald F. Anthrop
professor
environmental studies

Spartan Guide

Today

Child Development Club
Meeting for Winter 2001 graduates, 4:30 p.m. in the Central Classroom building, Room 118. For more information, call Santina Melandu at 807-2940.

Catholic Campus Ministry
Daily Mass, 12:10 p.m. at the Campus Ministry Chapel, located at 10th and San Carlos streets. For more information, call Sister Marcia at 938-1610.

Leopard Circle African Music Society
Learn African and Caribbean drums

and songs, 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. in the Music building, Room 186. For more information, call Julian Gerstin at 924-4660.

sjspirit.org
Meditation — guided and instructional. All meditators welcome, 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. at the Campus Ministry Chapel, located at 300 S. 10th St. For more information, call R. Wharton at 605-1687.

Nurses Christian Fellowship
Support group, 11 a.m. in the Montalvo room, located in the Student Union. For more information, call Diane Stegmeir at 279-6385.

School of Art and Design
Student art galleries, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Art and Industrial Studies buildings. For more information, call John or Nicole at 924-4330.

Tuesday
B.A.S.E.
Meeting, 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the Engineering building, Room 248. For more information, call Dariek Cooper at 924-7910.

Nurses Christian Fellowship
Support group, 11 a.m. in the Montalvo room, located in the Student Union. For more information, call Diane Stegmeir at 279-6385.

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Spartan Guide is provided free of charge to students, faculty and staff members. The deadline for entries is noon, three working days before the desired publication date. Entry forms are available in the Spartan Daily Office. Space restrictions may require editing of submissions. Entries are printed in the order in which they are received.

Letters

Addressing that a correlation does not equal a causation

I would like to agree with John Wilhelmsson's May 3 letter to the editor that supported Christina Lucarotti's assertion linking the recent rape of the 7-year-old girl with our violent society.

Where I part company with him, however, is in his faulty logic linking the violence in American society with safe and legal abortions.

He asserts that 40 million children have been violently killed in their mothers' wombs since 1973 and then goes on to imply a causal relationship between that and an alleged skyrocketing increase in child abuse. He finishes by asserting that "until each child is welcomed as a precious gift, from conception to completion" (by which one assumes he means birth) "the slaughter will continue both inside and outside of the womb."

While I respect his right to be pro-life/anti-choice, one assumes that our graduate students in philosophy learn something about logic and critical thinking, and about not letting their personal, religious and moral convictions blind them.

He may believe that an embryo

is a child, but this does not make it so. If he believes that human zygotes possess souls, then how does he explain the fact that in the absence of elective abortion, 50 percent of human conceptions do not make it to implantation, and a third of the ones that implant fail to make it to the second trimester?

Humans, for reasons that are not understood, have a 10-fold higher rate of embryonic loss than do other primates. Human zygotes are just so sacred, aren't they?

As for his other contention, correlation does not equal causation.

Sweden, Denmark, the Netherlands and virtually every country in Western Europe have legal abortions, but have levels of societal violence — including child abuse — that are fractions of our own. Interestingly, this was also the case when abortion was illegal in the United States. I'm afraid he'll have to look elsewhere for a simple explanation for American violence.

Jonathan Karpf
lecturer
anthropology department

Health of students is at risk when tripling up in dorms

I am a freshman here at San Jose State University. I live in the dorms, and I am very unsatisfied with the conditions that I am living in.

I live in a triple where the occupancy is only for a double. I am very limited in space, and I also see other students complain about how they live. By living under these conditions we are exposed many germs.

We could be exposed to meningitis and other germs that might affect our learning abilities and our way of living. We as students need as much space in order to feel comfortable and do our studying. The space that we have in a triple is not enough for a student to feel comfortable.

Also another problem is the privacy that we do not get. I get

less privacy because I live in a triple, and sometimes one needs less noise and more time alone in order to study.

Building new dorms would be a good idea only if these dorms weren't going to be torn down.

If these dorms would be torn down, there would probably be a lot of students who would not attend SJSU because they are not providing enough dorm space.

All I can do is give a suggestion and try to help the students of SJSU as much as possible. I hope there is a solution for this problem as soon as possible.

Erika Martinez
freshman
social work



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OPEN LETTER TO SAN JOSE STATE UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

FROM THE CALIFORNIA FACULTY ASSOCIATION

The faculty who teach your classes are worried about the future of the California State Universities. We are increasingly alarmed about how educational policy decisions are made, and how resources for your education are used.

35,000 NEW STUDENTS, ONE NEW FACULTY POSITION

Between 1994 and 1999, the CSU added 35,000 students. That is like adding an entire new campus bigger than CSU's largest, San Diego State. During the same time it added only ONE tenure-track position!

All the other faculty who were hired to teach that huge student increase were hired on a temporary, usually part-time basis. These faculty lecturers are paid less than permanent tenure-track faculty and get few benefits.

BIGGER CLASSES; LESS TIME FOR EACH STUDENT

Along with fewer permanent faculty, many classes are getting bigger. You have a harder time finding faculty available to help you individually. That's because temporary lecturers are paid only for hours teaching in the classroom and often have to work on other campuses to make a living.

BALLOONING ADMINISTRATION

Rising administrative costs mean less money for your instruction. Over the last five years, the number of administrators increased by 24%, but the number of students increased by 14% and the number of instructional, tenure-track faculty went up by only .001%

Soon, our union, the California Faculty Association will begin bargaining a new contract for faculty. We hope to address issues that directly affect you, the students, as well as the faculty. For that reason, we are writing to share with you these concerns. We expect the coming contract negotiations with the CSU administration to be tough.

WE NEED TO STICK TOGETHER

Students, faculty, and the support staff who work on our campuses, need to stick together. After all, our working conditions are your learning conditions. We believe you deserve a great education. We are committed to that goal.

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LIBRARY: Next phase of joint ventures construction to make site look like an 'erector set'

◆ continued from Page 1

until August," Heinrich said. Dan Johnson, the associate vice president of faculties, development and operations, said he knew that pile driving would cause a disturbance.

"We cannot do construction without disruption — we try to minimize it," Johnson said. "It looks as though we can go on without driving piles."

By April or May of 2003, Johnson said he hopes SJSU will be more visible with the erection of the new joint library.

SJSU is the oldest university in California, and Johnson said he hopes that it will become the flagship of the Cal State system with the library.

"A part of the campus is the physicality," he said. "We're really pleased to have the opportunity to bring this library on board."

Many universities have some kind of distinct landmark, and Johnson said the library will attract students both nationally and internationally.

Trac Chung, a computer science junior, said construction doesn't bother him too much. However, he said that a university should accommodate the needs for all students.

He said he plans to attend the fall semester and that he hopes the construction plans will be in place.

"I hope it's quiet," he said. "It's a school environment."

By the time students begin the fall semester, Heinrich said, students will be able to see at least part of the building.

"It will be more than a hole in the ground by late August," he said.



Mark Kocina Daily Staff

Friday construction workers poured cement at the site where the new Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Joint Library will be Friday. The project is scheduled to be completed by December 2002.

Visitors outraged about execution delay

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — Tom Kight thought of his 8-year-old granddaughter Sunday as he strolled near a rippling pool where Timothy McVeigh once parked a truck bomb.

The little girl can't spend Mother's Day with her mom, one of the 168 people who died in the Oklahoma City bombing. Kight placed a flower on a bronze chair representing Frankie Merrell at the Oklahoma City National Memorial.

"I don't believe in saying goodbye," he said.

Holidays are always hard for those who lost loved ones in the April 19, 1995, blast. This one, though, seems worse because it comes two days after victims' families learned McVeigh will not be executed on Wednesday as scheduled.

Attorney General John Ashcroft on Friday postponed the bomber's execution until June 11 after learning that the FBI had withheld thousands of documents from McVeigh's defense team.

Kight won't speak about McVeigh as he stands near his stepdaughter's memorial chair, especially not on Mother's Day. He visits the memorial about twice a week and sometimes brings his granddaughter.

"This is Frankie's ground," he said. "It's very moving, very spiritual. I'm not going to tell you I don't shed a tear a two."

Even those who did not lose loved ones in the explosion are moved as they walk the grounds.

Vincent Ciano and Carlos Herrera, truck drivers traveling through Oklahoma City, kneeled at the memorial to cry Sunday.

"I can't believe God allows us to do something like this to each other," Ciano said.

Marshall Shoptese, clutching a pink rose and a Mother's Day card, took a few minutes to reflect before asking a memorial ranger to place the items on a friend's chair. He could barely speak as he stared across the field of empty chairs, located where the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building once stood.

LANGUAGE: Department to make classes three days a week instead of five to draw students

◆ continued from Page 1

Starting this fall, the French language program is scheduled to open the cork on three three-unit classes for the Fall 2001 semester, replacing the two five-unit courses that are currently being offered.

Instead of being required to meet daily for an hour — five hours per week — students would meet three times a week under the new arrangement.

"We would lose one unit," said Cerrudo, of the transition away from two five-unit courses for the French program.

There would be no change in course material covered in the year-long sequence, he said, only in the manner it was covered.

Cerrudo said he was hopeful for the change from five-unit courses.

"We would probably attract a large number of students," he said.

All three new courses would be at the intermediate level and would cover a specific skill area such as listening and comprehension, speaking as well as reading and writing.

The courses could be taken one at a time, or all at once, said Dominique van Hooff, an associate professor and coordinator of the French program.

Students find it difficult to make in on a daily basis, she said, especially for those who commute long distances. Often, it is their only class for the day, she said.

Although the classes are also offered in a twice-for-week format, with classes one and a half-hour long, the format is less effective, she said.

Cerrudo said there would be no change for the first-year sequence.

"At the elementary level there is no pedagogical reason for changing," he said.

Instead, daily contact is needed to help reinforce several new skills and concepts that must be learned at the same time. For the intermediate level, there is less need to do that, she said.

However, other programs in the language department already offer second-year sequences in a varied format.

The Spring 2001 schedule of

classes lists the Chinese program as offering Conversational Cantonese (three units), Advanced Chinese (three units) and Chinese Culture (three units) for its second-year sequence, while Hebrew offers a single three-semester sequence of elementary, intermediate and advanced Hebrew, each three units.

Regarding the waiver program, Cerrudo said he was still investigating.

The Business College used to require that all its students obtain a minor, he said. Many of those students would obtain that requirement through a language minor.

In an attempt to encourage participation, the language department had offered an

agreement that students could fulfill the minor requirement with completion of any 18 language units.

A regular minor program required 21 units, which 11 must be upper-division courses.

Many students took all 18 units as lower-division. "That was acceptable as a minor waiver," he said.

Atamjit Singh, a lecturer of Punjabi at San Jose State University, stressed the importance of language for the university experience.

"If you become multi-lingual or multi-cultural, you can contribute much more to the wealth of a culture than just speaking English," he said.

GOD: Essayist beat nine other contestants for \$400 prize

◆ continued from Page 1

Studstill said.

The ego is fed mostly by the thinking mind, he said, by ongoing thoughts of oneself, others and the perception of separate identities.

Until experienced, Studstill said, God is a mystery.

He said except for a few mystics in the world who have experienced God, for most people, God is in the realm of the unknown.

Studstill said he was an atheist when he was about 18 years old.

After visiting a church in a small village in the Soviet Union where he witnessed peasants praying, he said he began to reconsider his disbelief in God.

"I thought, 'There's definitely something going on here,'" Studstill said.

His essay was chosen out of nine submitted into the contest, which was open to all SJSU stu-

dents, faculty and staff members.

The essays were judged by four faculty members, one from each of the sponsoring departments.

Richard Keady, a professor from the humanities department who was one of the judges, said Studstill's essay was chosen, among other things, for its clarity.

"His essay is an example of clear thinking about a very difficult subject," Keady said. "It's well-written, and it manifests a knowledge of both philosophical and religious issues. It's a deep analysis of a complex question."

The question was written by SJSU philosophy lecturer James C. Lindahl, and the contest was funded by Emilio "Chick" D'Arpino, a student in the Over 60 program at SJSU.

D'Arpino is enthusiastic about the contest, now in its fifth

semester.

Joseph Becker, chair of the physics department, said SJSU was lucky to have D'Arpino.

"He gets disparate departments to come together, and I don't know if anyone else could do it," Becker said. "(The contest) is a good idea. We need more open discourse between departments of different disciplines."

Chris Jochim, chair of the humanities department, agreed. "The important thing about this particular activity is that it crosses several departments," Jochim said. "It's very unusual. I, myself, am in areas where we have very little interaction with the faculty and college of sciences."

Both Jochim and Becker said they were pleased by the interaction between the sponsoring departments that occurred as a result of the contest.

Researchers try to make 'scents' out of tangled Web

PALO ALTO, Calif. (AP) — How do people find what they're looking for on the World Wide Web? Most simply follow the call of the wild.

The same theories that describe how animals behave while sniffing for prey also can predict how people ferret out information in the jungle of cyberspace, researchers say.

Foraging theories, developed by ecologists decades ago, are now being applied to Internet usage in an attempt to understand how Web sites can be made more intuitive and less like a maze.

Ultimately, researchers hope to develop a program that automatically determines a site's usability, said Ed Chi, a computer scientist at Xerox's Palo Alto Research Cen-

ter.

The key, he said, is understanding Web surfers' basic instincts, so searching for information becomes more intuitive.

"We discovered people don't like to think. They'd rather have the thinking done for them," Chi said.

Usability is more important than ever, as both Internet usage and the number of sites soar.

Many people have always found it easier for some reason to buy groceries, books and dog food at actual stores.

To find out why, computer scientists and psychologists are working together on the project at PARC, where such technologies as the computer mouse, laser printers and Ethernet networking first saw light.

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Softball team defeated, not deflated

By George Moore

DAILY STAFF WRITER

Saturday was a day of mixed feelings for the Spartan softball team.

It was the last home games for seven seniors, and it didn't help that the team lost its final two games to the Portland State Vikings, 2-1 and 4-2.

Saturday's Scores	
Game 1	
Vikings	2
Spartans	1
Game 2	
Vikings	4
Spartans	2
End of season	

Still, pride flourished as some of the Spartan players decorated the field with blue and gold balloons, and signs hung on the outfield fence had the names of the seven players who played their final game on San Jose State University field that day.

Senior Sabrina Quintero, who pitched a complete first game and two innings of relief in the second, said it was an emotional day, and that it got tougher as the end came near.

"I was all right in the beginning, but I really had to hold back my emotions in the second game," she said.

Quintero struck out two batters and walked away with a total of 455 strikeouts during the four seasons she pitched for the Spartans.

After the game, the seven seniors took turns running the bases for their final time, stopping and hugging players, who were stand-

ing on second and third.

The seniors who are departing are Christine Akin, Asia Easley, Kirsten Foster, Katie Gomes, Sabrina Quintero, Gina Saldana and Heather Sindlinger.

Quintero dove headfirst into home plate when it was her turn to round the bases, and when the dust cleared, she gave head coach Dee Dee Enabenter a big hug.

It was a tearful farewell for the players, and although it was Enabenter's first year, she was just as choked up as the players.

"I always get emotional at the end of a season," Enabenter said. "I really didn't get the chance to know these girls. They weren't my seniors, but this is about their day. I told them there are so many things they can take away. The memories and friendships last a lot longer than the records and trophies."

In the first game, the Spartans were unable to get clutch hits with runners on base until the bottom of the sixth inning.

Catcher Roxanne Staniorski got to first base on a fielder's choice, but second baseman Amy Walter flew out to center field. With two outs, third baseman Veronica Ramos doubled to the left center field gap, just out of reach of Vikings' left fielder Kiauna Anderson, bringing in a hustling Staniorski from first base.

But the Vikings played spoiler, rallying for two runs of their own in the top of the seventh, making the score 2-1.

In the bottom of the seventh, the Spartans threatened after left fielder Jackie Jimenez started off with a solid single to left.

Jimenez advanced to second on a ground out, and a pinch-hit single by Kirsten Foster moved

her to third.

With runners on the corners and only one out, Vikings pitcher Morgan Seibert held out for the 2-1 victory.

In game two, senior Christine Akin made her last start for the Spartans. She said, however, that she was hoping to go out on a better performance for the day.

"I was pretty emotional, especially because I didn't do so well," Akin said. "But we had a better year than last year, and I was glad to be part of it."

Both teams had trouble scoring runs early in the game, but the Spartans put the first run on the board in the bottom of the fifth inning.

Shortstop Becca Baldrige led off the inning reaching first on an error by Vikings' second baseman Megumi Hackett.

Right fielder Katie Gomes advanced Baldrige to second base, but Gomes was thrown out at first.

Saldana hit a slow grounder and reached first.

With runners on the corners, Ramos singled to right field, bringing home Baldrige as the Spartans took a 1-0 lead.

But the Vikings' bats woke up in the top of the sixth inning.

After Vikings' third baseman Annie Pecchia singled up the middle, pitcher Nicole Ivie smacked a homer over the left field fence.

Two more base hits and a bloop single to right field made the score 3-1, in favor of Portland State.

The Spartans scored a run in the sixth, but it wasn't enough as they lost 4-2. SJSU left nine runners on base in the final game.

SJSU finished with a record of 26-41 and was 5-15 in Western Athletic Conference play.



Chad Pilster / Daily Staff

During the first game of a doubleheader, San Jose State University's Veronica Ramos (13) tags out Monica Martellat of Portland State as she tries to steal second on Saturday. The Vikings swept SJSU in both games, winning by scores of 2-1 and 4-2.



Mark Kocina / Daily Staff

Bay Area CyberRay goalkeeper LaKeysia Beene dove to make a save Sunday at Spartan Stadium. The CyberRays defeated the Carolina Courage, 2-1.

CyberRays earn first victory

By Clarissa Aljentera

DAILY STAFF WRITER

The Bay Area CyberRays can finally take a breath of relief. They defeated the Carolina Courage 2-1 Sunday at Spartan Stadium, notching their first win ever.

The CyberRays were handed two losses this season, losing to the Washington Freedom and Philadelphia Charge.

Sunday's Score	
Courage	1
CyberRays	2

Thursday - CyberRays vs. Breakers, 7 p.m.

LaKeysia Beene, the CyberRays goalie, said Sunday's win was a turning point for her team.

"I think it is a bit of weight off our shoulders," Beene said. "We kind of wanted it so bad we were kind of forcing it and forcing it. I think we might be a bit freer when we play."

The CyberRays are now 1-2-1. Carolina is 0-4-0 for the season. Carolina's offense established

a quick pace in the first half, scoring in the sixth minute to take an early lead.

The score came off Carolina midfielder Hege Riise. Riise put the ball in front of forward Danielle Fotopoulos, who headed the ball past Beene.

But the quick pace turned into a lull in the first half, until Carolina scored for the CyberRays.

In the 42nd minute, Carolina's Wen Lirong accidentally headed the ball past Carolina goalie Bente Nordby.

Venus James, a CyberRays midfielder, shot the ball toward CyberRays forward Julie Murray, who was standing next to Lirong in the penalty box.

When the ball came across, Lirong turned and put the ball in the net.

Through a translator, Lirong said she was focusing more on Murray and not paying attention to the action in the goal.

But the CyberRays turned the intensity up a notch in the last 45 minutes, outshooting the Courage 9-4.

Beene said the CyberRays began to attack more aggressive-

ly in the second to get ahead.

"One of the big things was we won every first and second ball," Beene said. "Keeping those balls and winning those balls was the key today," she said.

In the second half, their tenacity paid off when an injured Tisha Venturini scored for the CyberRays.

With her left wrist in a cast, Venturini put the ball away to seal the win in the 67th minute.

Venturini, who fractured her left wrist in the CyberRays' season opener on April 14, received a pass from Sissi.

Venturini said she made eye contact with Sissi, who passed to her chest when Venturini put it at her feet and put it away in the corner.

"I remember running across the top of the box, and it was off Sissi's left foot, which means she could put it anywhere you wanted," Venturini said.

Venturini, who didn't travel with the team last week because of her injury, stayed back to practice that shot with her teammates.

CyberRays coach Ian Sawyers said the winning goal was a world-class play from the two

players. Venturini played in the U.S. Women's World Cup games in 1999, and Sissi, who prefers to be known by her first name, plays for the Brazilian national team.

"I saw Tisha make a run and take it well with the first touch," Sawyers said.

Sawyers said Sissi's nearly flawless passes are nothing new to the CyberRays.

"Sissi is a very sophisticated," Sawyers said. "She knows where the pressure is, and she knows where the defense is."

Minutes later, Sissi was part of another play that could have led to a CyberRays goal.

In the first minute of injury time, CyberRays forward Katia passed it to Sissi, who passed it to CyberRays forward Megan Horvath, who was inches away from scoring.

Horvath said she wasn't sure if Sissi was going to pass the ball when it came across at her feet, but took the chance. She came up short.

The CyberRays are scheduled to host the Boston Breakers at 7 p.m. Wednesday at Spartan Stadium.

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◆ continued from Page 1

When Sanchez was an undergraduate student at SJSU in the journalism and mass communications program, he said he was just attending classes and going with the flow of being a student.

Then one day someone from the McNair program asked him if he was going to pursue a Ph.D.

Sanchez said he asked what a Ph.D. was, and someone from the program explained that it was a way to improve his education and go on to graduate school.

"It opened an entirely different window that I had no idea even existed," Sanchez said. "I followed it through, and it's been the greatest choice I ever made."

Ignacio Ferrey, who also spoke, became involved in the program for his last one-and-a-half years of undergraduate work, where he received a bachelor's degree in sociology.

Ferrey said through conferences with McNair, he was able to visit Harvard and Columbia University.

"The program has offered me so much support and given me the opportunity to network with so many people - it really has opened a lot of doors for me," Ferrey said.

He said he hopes to be accepted into the University of California Los Angeles and begin a master's program in public health and Latin American studies in the fall.

He said there are 20 students currently in the program and more will be entering this summer.

The program tries to recruit at the sophomore or junior level, and students must have 60 to 90 units completed to qualify, Canton said.

Recruitment occurs during the spring semester through a competitive process.



Kris Ganey / Daily Staff

Joe Canton, resource coordinator for the McNair scholarship program, presented an award to San Jose State University graduate Ignacio Ferrey during an awards banquet at the Crown Plaza Hotel Saturday night.

Canton said each student is assigned a professor, who acts as his or her mentor to help guide the student through the program.

Dr. Connie Baker, director of the McNair Program, said that 100 percent of the students in the program at SJSU have received their

bachelor's degree, and 70 percent have gone on to graduate school.

She said that the 10 students in the program who graduated or who

are about to graduate this year, were offered 25 invitations for Ph.D. programs at various universities.

The central focus of the McNair program is undergraduate research, which occurs in the summer, Baker said.

She said the students begin with seminars covering research topic selections with a faculty mentor who sponsors the research, and they continue their chosen project into the following year.

"The goal is that they either get the research published, or they present it at national or regional conferences," Baker said. "It helps to build the students resumes for graduate school and gives them a lot of different experiences."

She said the students also concentrate on a four-week intensive preparation for the Graduate Record Examinations Program (GRE).

"That is the biggest barrier for students going on to graduate study," Baker said. "The students take the GRE after completing their preparation."

She said students are also helped financially and given assistance with graduate school applications.

Honda said he understands, on a different level, the barriers that are out there affecting the length that students take their education.

He said his father was going to school to become a doctor but never finished because he was put in a concentration camp during World War II.

"Because of this, and being the oldest child in my family, my father really stressed the importance of getting a good education," Honda said. "Of course, he wanted me to be a doctor."

Baker said there are 15 slots available, and eligible students can pick up applications at the front desk in Student Services Center, Room 518.

WILLIAMS: 1992 and 1996 Olympic-alternate for the U.S. Judo team wants to make his students better than himself

◆ continued from Page 1

that, and I think I needed to come back here and do something. I didn't know what, but I knew that I wanted to do something for SJSU students because I never wanted another SJSU student to feel what I felt."

Judo head coach Yosh Uchida offered Williams a job to teach judo classes at SJSU and to become an assistant judo coach when he returned to San Jose.

After five years of coaching at SJSU, Williams said he will not return in the same capacity but will be around as an adviser. He said he wants to move on to another profession to earn more money and wants to referee Olympic judo competition. But what Williams said he hopes he has turned out quality individuals in his coaching process who want to give back to the community.

"If I can influence any kid coming through this program, it is that you must give back to the community," Williams said. "You must give back to some little kid. If they're in a little judo school in the middle of nowhere, you help that kid as much as possible."

Williams said he credits his father, Stanley, for influencing him to practice judo and to teach others what he knows about the

sport. Stanley has been teaching judo for 40 years and continues to do so in Minnesota.

He attributes Dave's coaching success to the time he spent at the YMCA in Minnesota.

"Judo helps young people benefit from the lifestyle element that will build self-esteem, confidence, character," Stanley said. "Dave started out at the YMCA 30 years ago, and in that environment, I'm pleased to say, Dave got the idea to relate to people of all different backgrounds."

Although Williams has a list of accomplishments, which include being an Olympic alternate for the 1992 and 1996 Olympic teams, earning a gold medal in the 1996 United States Invitational in the 78-kilogram division, and winning silver medals in the 1989 and 1990 Collegiate Judo Championships, such success did not come easily.

Williams initially came to SJSU as a purple belt in 1985 as a 19-year-old Iowa State University transfer and was discovered by the Spartans' assistant judo coach David Long.

Long said Williams was under his personal wing for three years but didn't expect Williams to reach the level of judo he has achieved.

"There were times when I first

got here, I wanted to quit," Williams said. "I was, like, I hate California, I hate judo, I hate this place. I got beat-up badly a lot. I'd call home every night and said 'I want to go home.' But my Dad said, 'You got there, you are staying there.' And I'm thankful that he did that."

Williams said his strong work ethic, and the confidence he had in himself helped him to eventually compete at the same level as the others on the team.

"He had a very high opinion of himself," Long said. "I would say to him, 'If you say you are going to beat someone and you don't - you are going to look foolish.' He won most of the time, so he didn't."

And when Williams teaches judo at SJSU he said he tries to pass onto his students and players the same philosophy he instilled in himself when he was a Spartan judo fighter: to keep fighting, to never give up and to have confidence in yourself.

"You have to think it (confidence) - it has to be internalized," Williams said. "You not only have to think it, say it, but believe it in your heart as much as in your brain and in your mouth. And me, I have to say it a lot with my mouth. A lot of people say it's arrogance. Fine. I don't mind."

Freshman fighter Casey Gam-

brel said Williams has earned the right to be confident and that his confidence rubs off on him.

"They don't teach you to be cocky. They teach you to be confident," Gambrel said. "Go out there on the mat, expect you are going to win. We have an 'SJS' on our gi (uniform), and that puts a certain fear in everybody. We have a certain reputation to keep up in the judo world. And we've got to keep up that reputation, and that's what Dave teaches us."

Gambrel said he wasn't confident when he first arrived at SJSU. He said he would continually get pummeled at practice, and he wanted to give up. Gambrel related to Williams when he said he had gone through the same difficulties when he initial-

ly arrived at SJSU.

"He said, 'It's going to take a few weeks of getting your ass kicked.' Even more, I'm still getting my ass kicked. But he said, 'keep it up buddy. Pretty soon you're going to start delivering that to everyone else.' And that's what Dave taught me. It takes a beating to give a beating. Tough times don't last, but tough people do."

Lee Heitzman was one of the first groups of people Williams recruited. Williams was the main reason Heitzman attended SJSU. Although, Heitzman said his adjustment from Colorado to San Jose was a difficult process, he credits Williams for helping him through those times.

"I was scared. I didn't know what to expect. I thought every-

one was going to be mean and beat me up," the senior judo member said. "But when I came here, it was a friendly atmosphere, we were like a family, and Dave was the first person I met, so it all started with Dave for me."

Although Williams didn't achieve his dream of making the Olympic team, he wants his students to make more of an impact than he has made.

"I don't want my students to be as good as me, I want them to be better than me," Williams said. "I want them to use me as a springboard, to get up to my level bounce off me and jump higher. Be a better teacher than me, be a better coach than me, be a better mat-side coach - I want them to be better than me in all aspects."

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MINETA: Local politician has served under two presidents, survived a Japanese internment camp and to receive doctorate

◆ continued from Page 1

McLemore said they spoke about the many local economic and transportation issues facing the Bay Area.

When it came time for them to board the plane, Mineta stepped up and boarded the plane, taking a seat in the economy section, he said.

"As if he was a regular small-business person making the daily milk run to L.A. on the plane ... rather than a distinguished national governmental leader that his rank could have demanded," McLemore said.

Terry Christensen, the political science chair at SJSU has known Mineta since he was a council member in San Jose during 1970, said he has followed Mineta's career.

Christensen said Mineta has accomplished more than any other Asian or Pacific American in politics and was the mayor, at the time of a white-majority city.

"He's always had an astounding memory for names and people, and he's still as sharp, still just as comfortable back with old friends, allies, acquaintances and opponents in San Jose."

"I'd have to cite Norm as one of the people who turned San Jose around from rampant growth to managed growth (a tough battle in the 1960s and 1970s) and who made the city much more sensitive to its growing population," Christensen said.

While Christensen has followed Mineta's political life, Jimi Yamaichi, a local entrepreneur, has known Mineta and his family since he was a youngster.

Mineta, a second-generation Japanese-American, meets Yamaichi for a meal when he is in town, Yamaichi said.

"We discuss not too much politics but community activities (He's always interested in what goes on in the community, and he's the person that puts politics second and the community first,"

Yamaichi said. "His constituents are first, always."

Mineta has married twice. His present wife's Danealia, brought two stepsons to the marriage, Robert and Mark Brantner. Mineta also has two sons from his first marriage to May Hinoki, Stuart and David Mineta, Yamaichi said.

Thirty-seven-year-old David Mineta lives in Pacifica and is a school-board member.

He said his father is down-to-earth and is the hardest-working person he's ever met.

"He's a very caring father. He has had a tough life, to balance, family and as an elected official, but he has managed to be a successful businessman," David said.

"He's a great dad who has always loved his family," he said.

For David, Mineta is a great father but for Rod Diridon Jr., the Santa Clara council member of seat four and an SJSU alumnus, Mineta is a good guy.

"He's a hard worker. He has

strong values and principles, and he's stuck to those," Diridon Jr. said.

Mineta helped put San Jose on the map nationally, he said.

Pat Dando, San Jose City Council member of district 10, has known Mineta for more than two decades. She said Mineta served as mayor of San Jose during a time of great economic changes as the valley began to shift from an agricultural community to a high-tech city.

"His early leadership prepared us for the Silicon Valley Revolution," Dando said. "As a member of Congress, he remained committed and loyal to San Jose, as he also served our nation."

According to Dando, Mineta is responsible for the federal money invested in the Guadalupe River Park, San Jose International Airport and the County Light Rail project.

"I know Norm will continue to

serve our community with great passion as the secretary of transportation," Dando said. "I am extremely proud of his accomplishments as a world leader, but he remains loyal and committed to his hometown...San Jose."

Diridon, who has known Mineta for more than 40 years, added that Mineta was able to obtain much of the funding for the expansion of the San Jose International airport.

"And more than the funding for the airport, he was able to obtain the approvals to proceed with the airport expansion," he said.

The most important attribution in Mineta's mind, according to Diridon, is probably his co-authorship of a bill which provided payment to Japanese-Americans who were incarcerated during the war, including an apology that the United States Congress made to the Japanese-Americans who were wrongly

imprisoned, Diridon said.

According to Caret, Mineta has helped Americans in several other ways, at SJSU specifically, he said Mineta helped make changes.

"He helped us when he was mayor with the planning for the closure of San Carlos Street which occurred many years later, but it took about 19 years of dialogue to actually close San Carlos Street," he said.

Caret added that Mineta has always helped the campus, as long as he believed in what the university is doing, and that's true in most cases.

According to McLemore, Mineta has always been one of the most sincere, polite and considerate politicians.

"We in the valley are so lucky to have someone like Norm Mineta working and serving across political lines to make the best possible decisions for everyone in Washington D.C.," he said.

Rare case against avowed polygamist goes on trial in Utah

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — A man who lives with his five wives and 29 children in the remote Utah desert goes on trial Monday in the state's first polygamy prosecution in decades.

Tom Green, who says his lifestyle is a God-given choice and has vigorously defended it on TV talks shows, faces charges of bigamy and criminal nonsupport. He could get 25 years in prison if convicted on all counts.

He believes the government has singled him out because he's been so outspoken.

"You stick your head out of the hole, the government will shoot it off," said Green, 52. "The state's driving this thing back underground where they want it to stay."

Green himself has been anything but underground. He has appeared on several television shows to defend his lifestyle,

including "Dateline NBC" and "The Jerry Springer Show," and held news conferences despite a judge's warning not to do so.

Juab County Prosecutor David Leavitt, Gov. Mike Leavitt's brother, has said he never would have known about Green if he hadn't appeared on television.

But Green, who insists he should be allowed to practice polygamy under the protection of religious freedom, said he shouldn't be required to keep his beliefs quiet.

"That's been the unwritten rule for 50 years in Utah," he said. "You'll pretend you don't exist and we'll pretend you don't exist."

Green also may be subject to a separate trial on child rape charges stemming from his relationship with one of his wives when she was 13, but no trial date has been set.

Only a handful of Utah polygamists have ever been charged with bigamy, and prosecutors believe the last trial was in the 1950s. The outcome of the trial will be watched with interest by an estimated 30,000 polygamists living in the West.

Critics of the practice say that the patriarchal societies in which polygamists live foster child abuse, incest and, because few practitioners can afford to support their enormous families, welfare fraud.

"It is a long journey that we have been on to get the attention of the state to get them to recognize some of the abuses that go on in these groups," said Rowenna Erickson, a former plural wife who now works with Tapestry Against Polygamy, an advocacy group for those who leave polygamy.

Polygamy arrived in Utah in the 1840s, when members of The

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints settled in the state. Mormon leaders believed the practice was required by God because some Old Testament prophets took multiple wives.

But outside the church, the practice was condemned. In 1854 the Republican Party termed polygamy and slavery the "twin relics of barbarism," and in 1862 Congress outlawed plural marriage.

The U.S. Supreme Court in 1879 upheld the anti-polygamy law. And with federal pressure mounting, the church in 1890 disavowed polygamy.

Six years later, as a condition of statehood, the practice was prohibited in the Utah Constitution.

But the long-secretive polygamous societies have endured, and members have begun to speak up. Some have agreed to interviews

with reporters or held news conferences. Most notably, 100 polygamists from various groups attended hearings at the state Legislature in February, and persuaded lawmakers to soften the penalty for arranging polygamous marriages.

"They've probably had a stomach full of negative press and have set out to say something positive," said Dave Zolman, a former state lawmaker who lost his seat in part because of his support for polygamists' rights. "They have allowed themselves to be painted into the corner with their silence and their secrecy. And I told them, how do you ever expect to get your civil rights if you behave that way?"

Erickson acknowledged that Green's prosecution could force polygamists into hiding even further.

"There's always that possibility

because they like to play the martyr role," she said. "I just think they're going to keep it more quiet, because that's part of polygamy and that's part of their addiction and their abuses."

But Mary Batchelor, who co-authored a book, "Voices in Harmony," in an attempt to draw more positive attention to polygamy, said driving the practice further underground could keep polygamists from seeking hospital treatment or sending their children to school.

"We felt that there has been a degree of acceptance in the last 50 years, where our people ... have become more open and more willing to interact in society," she said.

"They're not in hiding and I really feel that a return to the way it used to be is really harmful to polygamous families and particularly children."

Perry Como recalled as showman who never forgot his roots

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Perry Como, famous for hits including "Catch a Falling Star" and "Papa Loves Mambo," was a dedicated showman who never forgot his roots as a humble barber, his friends remembered on Sunday.

The fatherly crooner, known for his mellow style and cardigan sweaters, died Saturday at the age of 88 at his home in Jupiter Inlet Colony, Fla.

Como's daughter, Terri Thibadeau, said her father was with his caregiver when he closed his eyes and died while sitting in a chair in his bedroom. He had suffered from Alzheimer's for about two years, she said.

His fellow entertainers mourned the singer Bing Crosby once called "the man who invented casual."

"In the times I was in his company, I found him to be a man who cared about listening to other people," comedian Don Rickles said. "Perry was a special kind of guy whose charisma will never be matched."

Comic Jack Swersie, who opened for Como during the singer's last three tours in the early 1990s, said he was amazed at how active the singer was even in his later years.

"He was, simply put, the nicest person I have ever met and the greatest man I ever worked with," Swersie said.

Como almost never ignored a fan, the comedian added, even when it was inconvenient.

"One time our tour bus broke down outside of Pittsburgh, and we all took refuge in this roadside diner," Swersie recalled. "Of course, the employees all got on the phone immediately and told their friends and relatives who was stuck in their restaurant."

The diner quickly filled with local fans seeking autographs and pictures with Como.

"Perry didn't think he was better than anybody," Swersie said. "He treated everybody with respect and was always willing to give of himself."

Born in Canonsburg, Pa., one of 13 children of Italian immigrants, Como left his job as a steel town barber in the 1930s to sing with big bands. His songs became a mainstay of radio and jukeboxes in the late 1940s and he pioneered variety shows in the 1950s. In 1945, Como had his first million-selling hit, "Till the End of Time."

Rock 'n' roll eventually replaced the old-time crooners on the music charts, but Como con-

tinued performing on television in later decades, most notably with his famed Christmas specials.

His career saw a resurgence in the 1970s with songs like "It's Impossible," "And I Love You So," which was later performed by "American Pie" singer Don McLean.

In 1987, President Reagan presented Como with a Kennedy Center award for outstanding achievement in the performing arts.

Neighbors said the singer never let the accolades go to his head.


Longtime friend Harry Pezzullo, golf director emeritus at Ballen Isles Country Club in Palm Beach Gardens, said he and Como played in many charity golf tournaments.

"This was the most charitable man I met in my life," he said. "That's what people loved. He never said 'no' when it was a charity. This guy was ready to give you a helping hand."

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