

WEATHER

SUNNY
High: 81
Low: 46

OPINION



'Ozmosis' tries to get something fixed only to find that sometimes you don't get what you expect.



'My Journal' reaches across the country to give comfort and support to a friend in need.

— Page 2

A & E



Incubus' new album, 'Morning View,' is destined to make a huge impact on the saturated music scene.

- Page 4

SPORTS



The San Jose State University judo club won six medals at a recent tournament in Las Vegas, and looks forward to winning more gold and glory this season.

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Readership program keeps SJSU informed

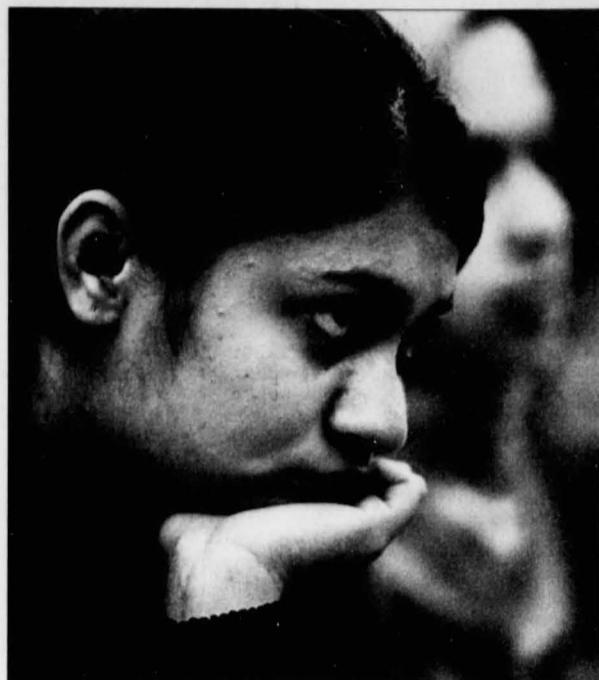
By Todd Hendry
DAILY STAFF WRITER

Not all students have a television to get the news, said Natalie Nguyen, a sophomore marketing major who does not have a TV. Nguyen said she picks up the newspaper three times a week and obtains all of her news by reading. At 7 a.m., the USA Today newspaper is delivered for students who live in the Residence Halls. "It's easily available to all residences," said Diana Tran, interim community relations coordinator for University Housing Services. USA Today has had a partnership with San Jose State University

for the past two years to provide news service to students, according to Craig Elliott, assistant director of Organization and Planning. "It's about getting people to read the newspaper," Elliott said. "Not all students could afford to subscribe to a newspaper, and delivering in the Residence Halls is difficult because of the locked door." Each day SJSU receives two bundles of newspapers per paper, per hall, and sometimes getting a copy of the newspaper can be difficult for students, Elliott said. "In most of the halls, by midday most of the newspapers are taken," he said. "If you don't get a paper by 11 a.m., forget about it."

SJSU has been in the newspaper readership program since 2000, which is distributed to resident students only. Nguyen said the free newspapers are an incentive for students to be more up-to-date with current issues, because they're free. "It's nice that it's free and it's convenient, because in the dorms they have it in the lounge area where it's easy to pick up," said Kiran Kaur, a sophomore biology major. "I think the USA Today strategy to encourage students to read the newspaper is effective." "For me it's really important because I don't have time to watch the news, it's much easier and faster to figure out what's

◆ See USA, Page 5

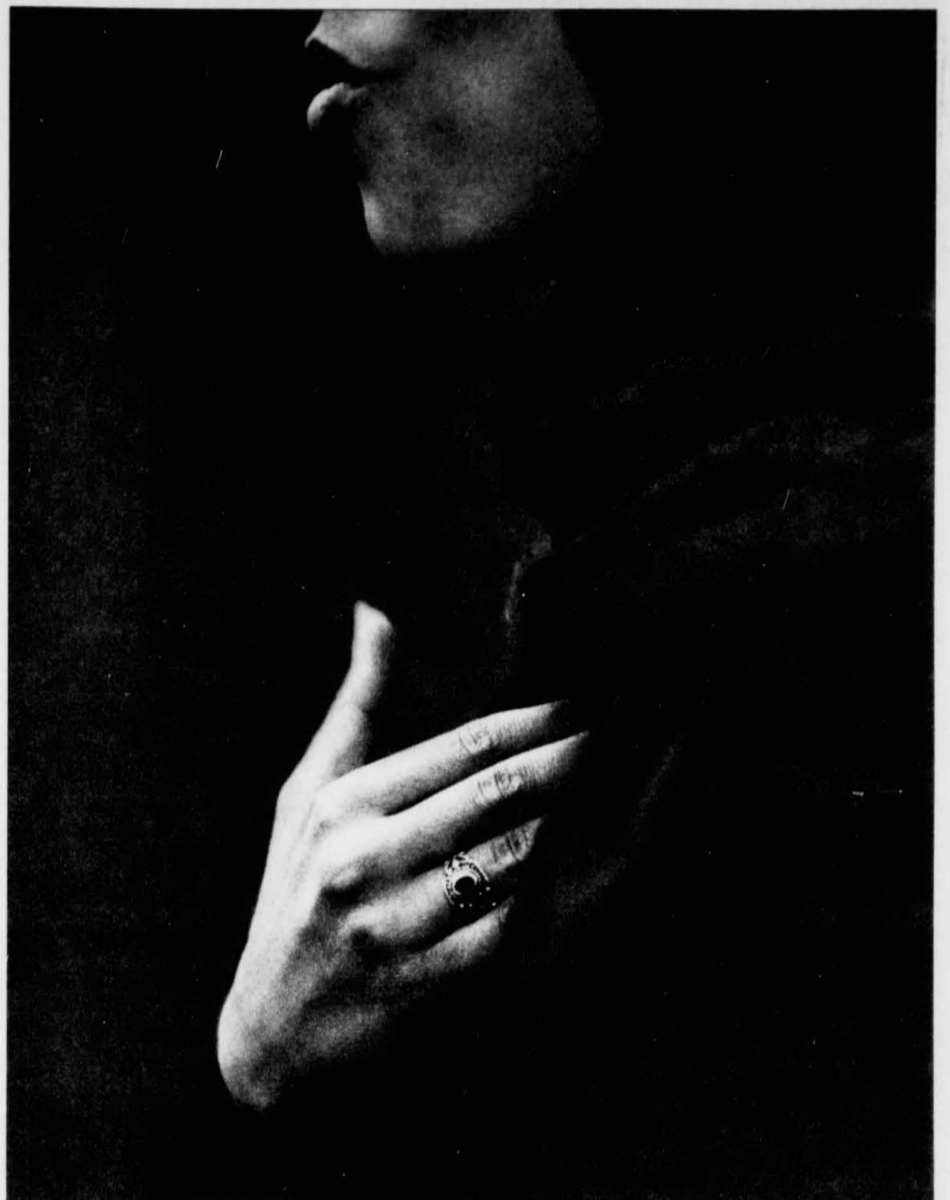


Striving for an
UNDERSTANDING
of jihad

By Colin Atagi
DAILY STAFF WRITER

Though the guest speaker for the Muslim Students Association's presentation on the meaning of jihad was not able to attend Tuesday, students still stopped by to listen to members of the association inform others on the meaning of the word. A forum was set up instead of the originally planned workshop because Hatim Bazian, the guest speaker, could not participate because of a family situation, said Mohammad Naaman, vice president of the association. The presentation will be rescheduled, Naaman said. Students, staff and faculty

members sat in the Umunhum room in the Student Union as they listened to members of the association discuss the meaning of jihad. Rimi Khan, the event coordinator for the association, defined jihad as a holy war that doesn't have to be fought on a battlefield, but within one's self. It's an opportunity to allow Islam to shine and preserve the being within us, she said. The purpose is to fight against oppression, she said. Jihad is not about fighting and killing like the media has led people to believe, members of the association said. It is only OK to take violent action against someone if it is a form of defense, Naaman said.



Top left: Somiya Rahman, watches a discussion about the nature of Islam and the word "jihad" put on by the Muslim Student Association on Tuesday. Above: Faten Hijazi talks about how Islam must come from the heart, during a workshop about the nature of "jihad."

Though taking revenge is justified, choosing not to continue the violence is looked highly upon. When choosing to fight, though, the actions must lead to a legitimate goal and must be ordered by a leader, not any individual, members of the association said. One cannot harm innocent

bystanders or other living things, such as plants and animals. Action cannot be taken for personal gain, either, Naaman said. Tyson Amir-Mustafa, the president of the association, said he was impressed by the group's job of discussing jihad even though Bazian could not attend. Amir-Mustafa said he felt that

family is very important, so he wasn't disappointed that Bazian helped a family member instead of attending the presentation. Amir-Mustafa said he saw Tuesday's forum as a way to prepare for the actual presentation. Khan said she agreed the

◆ See JIHAD, Page 5

Lunch links volunteers

By Fernando F. Croce
DAILY STAFF WRITER

Students had a chance to grab a free bite to eat while learning how to help their community during the barbecue held by City Year on Tuesday afternoon near the Paseo de Cesar Chavez. Project leader Jeremy Raines said the main goal of the event was to make San Jose State University students aware of what the organization offers. "We hope to get people together, introduce ourselves to them and hear their points of view," Raines said. "Hopefully, this gathering will get students interested and point them in a direction they might want to follow." Activities at the barbecue included the distribution of informational pamphlets about the organization and signing up students interested in upcoming volunteer activities. City Year is a nonprofit AmeriCorps organization that hopes to raise civil consciousness among Silicon Valley students with the promotion of community service programs, Raines said. Raines said the organization

aims to integrate its projects with other student faculties, rather than impose its views and objectives on them. "It's important for us to make clear that we are not just coming in for our own agenda, but that we want to get along with other campus organizations and work together with them," he said. Colleen MacDonnell, a member of the college initiative team for City Year, said future plans for SJSU include setting up a student-run umbrella organization that would engage students in community services. "We want students to want to become involved in services, to want to do them rather than feel they have to do them," she said. MacDonnell said the results from a recent campus poll conducted by City Year showed that the areas in which students showed the most interest included homelessness, university living conditions and talking to youth. "A large part of learning is just experiencing life," she said. "That's the sort of experience they rarely are able to get in class."

◆ See BBQ, Page 3

SJSU students connected to library through e-books

By Lisa Butt
DAILY STAFF WRITER

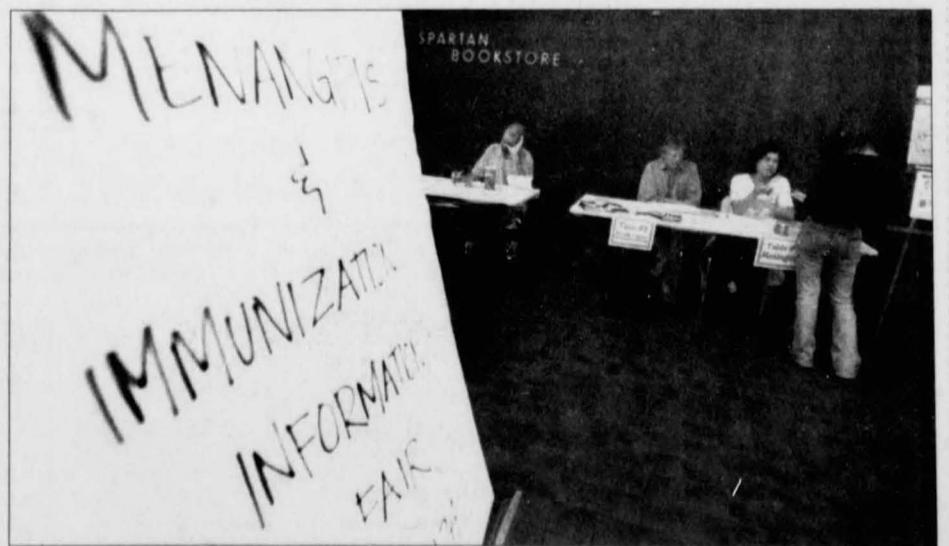
Libraries in San Jose, including San Jose State University, have joined the information superhighway by implementing e-books. "We wanted to bring new technology (to the library)," said Clark Library reference librarian Sue Kendall. According to Marcia Schneider, public affairs director for the San Francisco Public Library, an

e-book is an electronic version of a printed book and can be checked out from a library's Web site at any time of day. Salem Starks, a junior majoring in history, said he would find e-books useful since he sometimes can't check out books during the library's hours. "It's available there right when you need it," he said. Schneider said there are a variety of subjects offered in e-book format such as literature, technology and American history.

She also said encyclopedias, college catalogs and test preparations are available. "They are primarily used for reference work," she said. She added that there are limited copies of e-books, just like printed, so there is a risk of having to wait. Kendall said there are various features of e-books such as being able to copy and paste. According to Lorraine Oback,

◆ See E-BOOKS, Page 3

Asking for health ...



Sandra Yee of the San Jose State University Health Center discusses meningitis with a student. The Meningitis Fair took place in the Student Union on Monday and Tuesday. The purpose of the fair was to provide facts and answer questions for students.

Ben Liebenberg / Daily Staff

Letters

Burning American Flag should not be tolerated

This is in response to Alma Aquina's letter, "First Amendment privileges at risk" on Oct. 15. In her letter Aquina discusses the issue of a teacher who is in danger of losing his job due to a "demonstration" of the First Amendment. Americans should not have the "freedom" to burn an American flag, and that is the bottom line. As a demonstration the teacher decided to burn the flag of the United States of America. What? It is the symbol that represents this country's greatness and freedom to its people. If you don't like this country, don't burn down our flag; instead go to another country. How can someone express his or her freedom by burning the symbol of freedom.

I view the act of burning the United States' flag as an act of terrorism itself. It's like blowing up the twin towers and saying you were practicing your First Amendment. That is just inexcusable. If you have a problem with something or someone, then talk about it and express yourself, but do it without violence and destruction. Aquina contradicts herself when she says, "everyone should have the liberty to express his or her beliefs in a civilized manner and should not be reprimanded for it." The key word being civilized — I just don't see anything civilized with the act of burning the American flag.

Pablo Velasco
freshman
aerospace engineering

Bonet letter not deserving of space in college paper

The Romeo Bonet Viewpoint letter of Oct. 22 presents a repulsive amalgam of ignorance, lies, bigotry and incitement. My quarrel is not, however, with the author. Responding to such people invariably does no good and just serves to perpetuate their pernicious, paranoid perspective. Instead, I question the editorial policies of the Spartan Daily. Anyone reading Bonet's letter can discern its hysterical tone, its blatant lies and its calls for vengeance. What disturbs me even more are racist statements that are the embodiment of hate speech: "They (Zionists) ... have

money and have blue eyes." and "... (they)... always use names such as Mohammed whenever they want to frame Arabs or Muslims." and "... Zionists ... control most media."

Such false and defamatory utterances should not be given a platform by your newspaper. While Bonet may have the right to spew his wretched vomit in the public square, your newspaper has a greater responsibility to our society, especially in light of recent tragic events, to not offer him a microphone.

Dr. David Milgram
computer science

Viewpoints

Readers' letters about the Sept. 11 attacks make no sense to those trying to understand

Here's the latest idiotic commentary from Ted Rudow. In his Oct. 19 letter, Rudow states, "For all we know, the government could just be framing those people, Osama bin Laden and all his cohorts." I must admit; I'm a little disappointed. Why stop there? Nothing really happened at the World Trade Center. In fact, the story on the East Coast is of a hijacked plane crashing into the Hollywood sign. Oddly enough, they're celebrating in Time Square.

And what about that Holocaust thing (Letters, Oct. 19)? Does anyone honestly buy that anyone? Our government has made up all of this.

Silliness aside, when it comes between putting faith in my country's leaders or in Rudow's paranoia, I'm going to choose my leaders. What they say makes more sense than a

man who jumps at his own shadow. If our government wanted to fabricate evidence against Osama bin Laden in order to quench our "lust" for war, they could have done that with the Oklahoma City bombing.

However, Rudow does make one valid point, and that is the young generation is handed the decision of those in charge. This does not make the decision of our leaders any less valid. Sadly, war is a young man's game, and as a young man I have to prepare myself for possible enlistment if not drafting, depending on how events pan out.

But before we bemoan the unfairness of it all, every person in power was young once, too, and many of them had to accept the same facts of life. For example, President John F. Kennedy served in WWII.

Furthermore, the sacrifice of our troops is not

the same as the sacrifices of children made to the ancient deity Molech (Lev. 18:21), which Rudow outrageously conveys, attempting to sound righteous.

We are not sacrificing young Americans to some god in a ritual. Rather we are accepting the possible sacrifice of some as a result in our goal to bring about justice.

Of course, Rudow's not the only one using apathetic religion to oppose war. There's also Todd Hendry, who states in "Opposing Views," Oct. 17, "We should just leave everything in the hands of God."

Well gee, what a cop-out excuse to do nothing.

Jonathan Dekle Reagan
junior
English

Resorting to Utopian ideals is not the proper response to put a permanent halt to insane incidents of terrorism

Reading Todd Hendry's piece on the war against the Taliban in the Opposing Views section, Oct. 24, really got me thinking.

Either Hendry was handed the assignment, and truly does not personally hold the views he puts forth in the text (which is not unheard of, right?) or he really has not thought through his position, possibly due to a girlfriend or other buddy who holds some Utopian ideals about how things work here on Earth.

Afghanistan, like many other nations in the world today, is a geographic area tightly controlled by a governing body not chosen by the residents of that geographic area. The Taliban is the governing body, and it wields its power over the citizens of Afghanistan by restricting the dissemination of information into and out of its borders, as well as restricting information to the citizens themselves.

It is not entirely out of the realm of possibility that the Taliban government, in seeking

to portray itself, Afghanistan and the people who live there as innocent victims, has purposely NOT told common citizens of the extreme danger of the ongoing strikes by the multi-nation, U.S.-led contingent. This, even though the U.S. had warned the Taliban several times that there would be strikes if Osama bin Laden was not turned over to the U.S. Doing this would cause civilian deaths, to be sure, and make the air strikes look sloppy and cruel, which would suit the Taliban nicely and help paint the U.S. as morally wrong and anti-Muslim.

The type of religious extremism that holds the complete LACK of value for human life has already been demonstrated. Four hijacked planes on kamikaze missions sold me on that one.

I personally have never been blindly patriotic, and certainly enjoy picking apart our bloated, corrupt, top-heavy government whenever possible.

But sometimes, you just have to believe

what you are told. I have to believe that the true focus of the current military mission is to first render Taliban (not the same as Afghani) military abilities useless, then the search for Osama bin Laden - with the purpose of trying and convicting him of the horrendous acts he and his disciples are accused of - can start.

Once these complicated tasks are achieved, the U.S. can take the high ground and examine the aggressive, overbearing and religiously ignorant foreign policy, which sounds like it may have been the impetus for the attacks on Sept. 11, only magnified through the mind of a madman.

The U.S. is not "trying to tell the world that the United States won't tolerate terrorism" it is taking the lead in STOPPING terrorism, starting with the most recent and insane incident of terrorism.

Jason Stull
alumnus
journalism

E-BOOKS: Clark Library has access

◆ continued from Page 1

1,355 users as of June 25, 2001.

She added that all San Jose public libraries have e-books.

SJSU's Clark Library, however, has had e-books since March, Kendall said.

"Usage has been rather light compared to other CSUs," she said. "However, it's going up."

E-books are still in a testing phase at Clark library, Kendall said, and a survey is being offered for students to fill out when they check out e-books.

Schneider said one of the perks of e-books is that users don't need to be at the library.

"They can be viewed from any personal computer," Schneider said.

She said the user must go to the library's Web site and click on the link for e-books.

Then the user can perform a search by typing in keywords, author's name, title, etc, she said. Before checking out, she said the user can preview the book for 15 minutes.

After the users find the e-book of their choice, they can check it out using their account.

The free account consists of a user name, password and library card number.

She added that the account is safe and won't share information

with any companies.

"It doesn't profile," she said. "The record (of which books are checked out) will be erased after check-in. It's state law."

After an e-book is checked out, Schneider said it will stay on the user's computer for a 24-hour period. The e-book then checks itself back in to avoid being returned late.

She said there is no threat of viruses spreading because the e-books are not downloaded.

Instead, the e-book is posted on the user's desktop, she said.

Reference librarian, Sue Kendall said there are still license and copyright issues with e-books.

"Only portions can be printed because of the federal government's fair use law," she said. "You can only print one page at a time and 10 pages total."

Kendall said she has heard "a whole spectrum" of comments from students.

"Some say they really love it," she said. "Others say using it from a dial-up takes too long."

Tera Thow, a freshman majoring in business, said although she said she hadn't heard of e-books, she would find them convenient and useful.

"It's good because you can check out from any computer and from home," she said.

BBQ

◆ continued from Page 1

They can get tons of experience by participating in these services."

The joining of civil experts at both SJSU and City Year is part of the reason AmeriCorps hopes for a strong relationship between the two organizations, said Amy Sousa, a City Year Corps member.

"I believe there are many university people who could provide resources to help us engage students in civil services," Sousa said. "Hopefully, both organizations can connect instead of being separate unities, and then help each other."

City Year member James Krenzle said he thinks that an organization based on civil services would hold great interest for students.

"Depending on your major, a few classes actually require stu-

dents to do some community service, be it painting buildings or helping the handicapped," Krenzle said. "By giving (students) the opportunity to work with them, City Year can save the day."

MacDonnell said signing up at the barbecue is the first step of a selective application program to become a member of City Year. Interviews, essays and letters of recommendation follow applications.

Some students gave their opinions on the organization.

Nathan Harris, an undeclared

freshman, said he might consider becoming a member of City Year after reading some information about it.

"I'm starting to get into it," he said. "Some of the programs sound like pretty interesting experiences."

Raines said he was not disappointed with the event despite the low student turnout.

"That's OK, we are a new organization," he said. "We met a lot of good people, and we made our presence felt on campus. That's more than worth it."

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Band on the horizon

Incubus returns and churns out another great album

By Tiffani Analla

DAILY SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Artists usually wait a few years before holding themselves up in a studio to make another album.

They seem to do this because they possibly want to hide from their newfound fame.

REVIEW

Maybe they even want the public to forget about them.

And sometimes the public does forget, because times and musical tastes are ever-changing.

The follow-up albums for Weezer, the Wallflowers, No Doubt and Alanis Morissette were commercial flops compared to their initial successes.

Well, Incubus doesn't want to be forgotten.

The band's sophomore album came out in 1999; however, 2000 was the year it began to gain steam with the hit cut "Pardon Me."

In 2001 music listeners found themselves pumping up the volume on the hit single "Drive."

Incubus was on fire.

Then Incubus announced it would be releasing its third album, "Morning View," when it could still be mooching off the success of its sophomore effort, "Make Yourself."

And it's safe to say that "Morning View's" 13 tracks are an improvement from the previous album's 13 songs.

"Morning View" explodes with the first track, "Nice to Know You."

Frontman Brandon Boyd wails away, "Goodbye/ Nice to know you."

All the while, the drums thump and guitar riffs blast away.

The third track, "Wish You Were Here," however, is one of those few throwaway cuts.

"Wish You Were Here" offers nothing sonically new and is reminiscent of "Stellar" and "I Miss You" combined.

However, "Warning," "Under My Umbrella," "Have You Ever" and even

the laid-back sounds of "Are You In?" and "Aqueous Transmission" demonstrate the eclectic sounds of Incubus.

This variation of sound is what helps set this quintet apart from other standard groups.

"Warning" is one of those songs that begs for the repeat button to be smacked.

Boyd blares, "When she woke in the morning/ She knew that her life had passed her by/ And she called out a warning/ Don't ever let pass you by."

Boyd keeps it coming with the positive lyrics "I suggest we learn to love each/ other before it's made illegal."

Moreover, the album's tracks swing from thrashing guitars to tranquil and relaxed sounds to a combination of the two.

It's safe to say that Incubus has the inside track to super-stardom.

The group is about to enter another stratosphere of fame.

The "Morning View" is pretty clear - Incubus won't be fading from the music scene any time soon.

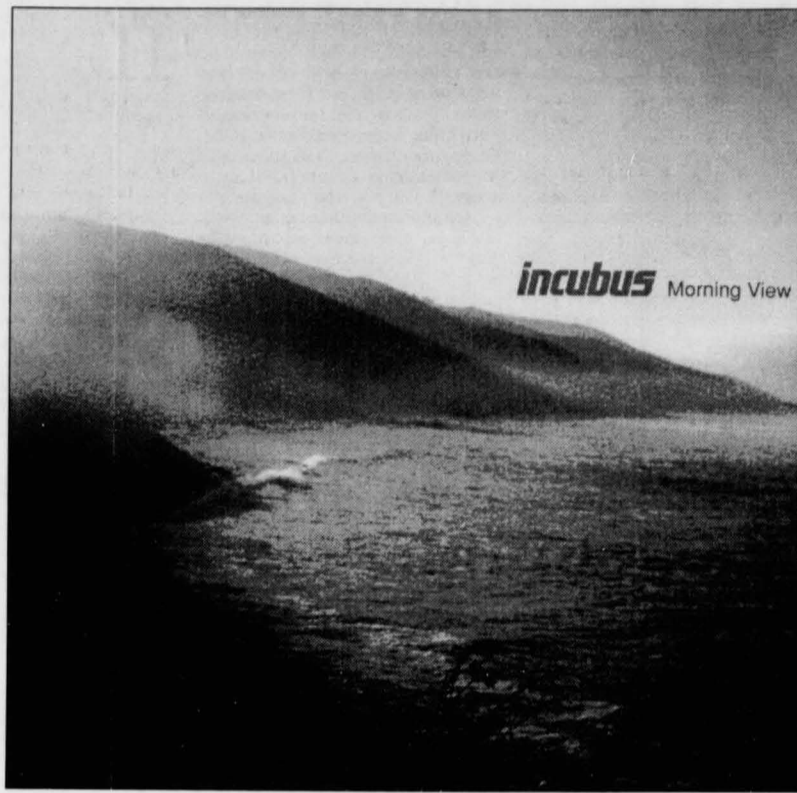


Photo courtesy of Epic Records

Q & A with Babek Sarrafan, a SJSU film professor

By Erik Anderson

DAILY SENIOR STAFF WRITER

A designer and visual-effects artist for the Red Group and a premier post-production company in Los Angeles from 1994 to 1998, Babek Sarrafan helped edit shows such as "Law and Order" and "3rd Rock from the Sun," as well as the feature films "Independence Day" and "Stargate."

In 1999 and 2000, as a new professor at San Jose State University, Sarrafan won awards for writing, directing and editing the music videos "Surprise Package" (starring Beastie Boys member Mix Master Mike) and "Skin Tight" (by the Donnas).

The Spartan Daily sat down with Babek Sarrafan last week to discuss his views on "Babek Sarrafan" and the craft of filmmaking.

Enclosed is part of that interview, edited for clarity only.

SD: Spartan Daily: In 1989, while an undergraduate student at San Jose State University, you made the short film, "Surec," that was recipient of an Academy of Television Arts and Sciences College Student Award (student Emmy). The category was music video. What can you tell us about that film?

Babek Sarrafan: "Surec" was my first fast-paced project that I cut to music. I composed the music myself. It was a 60-second piece about the San Jose Recreation Center - an advertisement for them.

SD: How did the project go?

BS: I shot that in two weeks with just a one-man crew. I had terrible equipment at the time, but I still made it work.

SD: What was your secret?

BS: Dedication, I guess. That was my first major project, so I was really fascinated by the whole medium. I really worked hard to make it work. By that time, I had done a lot of photography ... and I did music before.



Sarrafan

This was the first time that I married both my music and my visual backgrounds together.

SD: After "Surec" and another 60-second promotional short for Lockheed, you made the 25-minute dramatic short "Doosteh Hamishegy" (Forever Friends). It won more than 14 awards, including your second student Emmy, this time in the drama category. It gave you a chance to tour many of the film festivals. What can you tell us about that film?

BS: That one taught me about having a story. A good story really makes it work.

SD: Which of the 14 awards are you the most proud of?

BS: All of them.

SD: Your next project was "The Magician," a 15-minute documentary that was a finalist and honorable mention for the California State University Rosebud Award. Do you want to do more documentaries?

BS: No, I don't like documentaries that much. It takes a different person to do them. You have to be more of a reporter and investigate it, and then work from there to put it together. I like the creative control of a (fictional) project.

SD: Even so, how did the project go?

BS: I did a really good job on it. I think it's good ... but if I have a choice of doing a comedy or a documentary, I'll take a comedy ... You have to specialize in something. If you're too spread out then you can't concentrate on your art as much.

"Everybody needs to experiment in their own field in different formats to get that 'edge.'"

- Babek Sarrafan

SD: Which do you prefer, drama or comedy?

BS: Either one. I have more fun if I do music videos and comedy. I prefer to do those.

SD: Rank them.

BS: Music video, comedy and commercials.

SD: You have done several commercials professionally. Are finances a reason?

BS: Money is always a reason. But as an artist you need to extend and learn from the other boundaries of that medium ... If I do a commercial, I try to bring a sense of a comedy or a sense of grace that you might see in a music video. If I do a music video, I like to bring a sense of drama into it, a story line, some kind of loose story line, some kind of comedy in there, and some kind of selling, a commercial, so I could sell that idea to people. Everybody needs to experiment in their own field in different formats to get that "edge." If you are a mechanic who normally works on a bus, you should work on a Jaguar just to see how it is.

SD: In 1997, you shot the 108-minute dramatic feature "Sting of Chance." It received modest recognition compared to earlier efforts, and the reviews were mixed. What is the main difference between it and the more successful, but far shorter, "Forever Friends"?

BS: It's longer and more dramatic. "Forever Friends" is a silent movie talking only with voice-overs and music. "Sting of Chance" is a dramatic piece

where you have a regular dialogue and use the same elements with the voice-overs. So it's a step further as far as the minutes go and the style. The first one is more poetic.

SD: One of the reviews suggested that there were many unnecessary scenes at that end that could have been cut.

BS: It had ... a video music section to it. You can either say it bluntly, "I feel badly today," or in art you have a language to say how "I feel bad" in different ways. Musicians can make a sad song, a love song, or a painter would make a sad painting, dark painting or a bright painting ... What I try to do as an artist, instead of just saying the word, that I feel "good" or "bad," is to make a music video of that section. If it seems long for that person (the reviewer) to watch, yes it might be, because it's not a short sentence, that says, "I feel bad," but it goes on to have people experience that feeling. That's the reason why you have art. You have a three-minute song about someone loving somebody, where all they have to say, "I, Y, love X."

SD: Given that "Sting of Chance" has these musical sections to it, is it really a movie?

BS: The style of it is not the style you get in Hollywood. It's not a linear story. It's not a movie that you get from Disney ... that was the whole purpose. If you want to see a Disney movie, then you have to go see a Disney movie.

SD: Is "Style of Chance" a musical in the manner of those done by Rogers and Hammerstein?

BS: It's not really a musical. It's somewhere between comedy, drama, music video and a regular film. It touches every direction ... and technically ... it has a different look to it too, because it uses different techniques of shooting as far as the way the angles are.

SD: What is your answer to time and budget constraints?

BS: You compromise as much as you can without losing the integrity of the film. That's all filmmaking is, making compromises and the right decisions and making it work.

SD: How does a student learn that?

BS: You plan everything as much as you can. And then suddenly the plan doesn't work, so you have to come up with a solution right away. And that's what a good filmmaker should do ... take that into consideration and come up with a new plan that works and gives the same justifications for the story. That's how I approach it.

If something goes wrong, instead of freaking out about it ... (my goal) ... is to find the solution that makes it work.

SD: What are your top priorities on the set?

BS: Getting the best performance and the just (essence) of the scene; sticking with the schedule.

SD: Where do you see yourself in five to 10 years?

BS: Probably the same thing as I'm doing right now. I am enjoying my work here. I'll keep doing it as long as I can do it.

SD: Would you object to retiring here?

BS: No. To be honest, that's perfectly fine with me.

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'Phantom Menace' DVD breaks first-week sales record

LOS ANGELES (AP) — "The Phantom Menace" has become a record force in DVD sales.

The DVD of "Star Wars: Episode I — The Phantom Menace" set a new sales record in its first week, with customers buying an estimated 2.2 million copies. That broke the previous record of 2 million set just two weeks ago by "The Mummy Returns."

Distributor 20th Century Fox would not disclose exact sales figures. But the studio said Wednesday that 65 percent of its initial shipment in North America had been bought in the first week.

The trade publication Video Business reported that Fox's initial shipment of "Phantom Menace" DVDs totaled 3.3 million,

which would put first-week sales at about 2.2 million.

The two-disc set released Oct. 16 includes audio commentary by "Star Wars" creator George

Lucas and collaborators, seven newly finished deleted scenes, a one-hour behind-the-scenes documentary and other bonus features.

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JIHAD: Absent guest speaker prompts students to hold forum about the word

forum helped prepare students. "I thought it was a good opportunity for them to open up to us," she said.

Some students who attended said they thought the association members did a good job of moderating the forum.

Qousain Ali, a freshman majoring in business, said the forum was a good way to learn about the subject and said she encourages people to attend the rescheduled presentation.

people were able to show up and showed interest in the subject. "The fact that it got a lot of people to come and get a discussion started and the fact that we got to educate some people on jihad is really good," Khan said.

USA: Housing will keep the program

going on around the world by reading the newspaper," Kaur said. Elliott said the newspaper readership program with USA Today is a nice friendship.

Association, Elliott said. Basically, the student government for the hall asked students if they were interested in the program and they were, Elliott said.

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Judo club pins down six medals

Hot start has members optimistic for tournament this weekend in Montreal

By Tiffani Analla

DAILY SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Last season, the only judo club member who returned with a medal from the U.S. Open was freshman Taylor Tekata, who is no longer with the team. He won a bronze in the 60-kilogram weight class.

This year, the judo club started off with six medals. The San Jose State University judo team hadn't come home with that many medals in six years.

The U.S. Open was held Oct. 13 and 14 in Las Vegas.

Itsuko Masuda won a gold in the 78-kilogram class. Chuck Jefferson, John Serbin and Rosi Bartkowski won silver medals, while Amy Tong and Mike Barnes brought home bronze medals in their respective weight categories.

Assistant coach Keith Nakasone was pleased with the results, to say the least. "The U.S. Open was a tournament we should have done well in," Nakasone said. "The kids trained hard all summer long. I think that was the difference, they dedicated themselves. It was a little disappointing because we had such great opportunities for more gold (medals). In that sense, it was kind of, you know, sad for me. But, overall they fought their hearts out, and that I can be proud of."

Along with the medalists, Johan Hult and Jose Bencosme finished fifth in the 66-kilogram and 60-kilogram weight classes, respectively. Lee Heitzman finished seventh in the 81-kilogram competition.

Bencosme said he was proud of his teammates.

"I don't care if they won or not. The fact that they were out there representing the university, you know, and I mean some of them lost pretty decisively, but the fact that they were fighting in the finals and lost, doesn't mean we suck," said Bencosme, who is co-captain of the squad. "They had to earn their way to the finals."

Assistant coach Dan Hatano said the team's success in the tournament is a reflection of what the coaches expect from the players.

"The results are a good testing ground, and it means we're headed in the right direction," Hatano said.

Hatano also said he expects more of the same when five members of the team are sent to compete in the Rendezvous Tournament in Montreal, Canada this weekend.



JaShong King / Daily Staff

Jose Bencosme, top, gets thrown by Johan Hult during judo club practice at Uchida Hall.

Josh Resnick, Jefferson, Tong, Shana Sigiura and Heitzman will be competing for medals.

Heitzman said he did not place in last year's Rendezvous Tournament.

This time, however, he said he expects to do well in the tournament because he competed in international competition during the summer, which helped him gain more experience and confidence.

He fought in the Benito Juarez Tournament in Mexico. Although he said he did not win a medal, he advanced into the medal round of competition for the first time in his collegiate career.

"That was a good step," Heitzman said. "I was glad I did it (compete in the Benito Juarez Tournament) because it made me more comfortable. It made me

feel I had a chance in the tournament (U.S. Open) last weekend and this tournament (Rendezvous) coming up. It was definitely a confidence booster."

Heitzman said he expects to battle against some of the same competition at the Rendezvous Tournament that he fought at the U.S. Open.

Tong also wants to get another chance at her competition.

She placed fifth in last year's competition.

She said she is out for revenge.

"I want to actually win. Yeah, I think I can," she said.

Facing the same competition, Tong said, is an advantage because she knows what to expect and how to prepare.

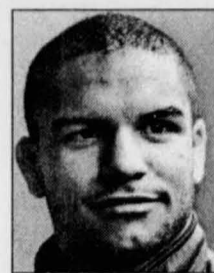
"You study and prepare yourself to

fight," she said. "This person is a lefty, this is what I do, this is what she does. So you have to watch out for this grip, or if she's good at mat work."

Although there are individuals that Nakasone said he expects to excel, the team as a whole should thrive not only at the Rendezvous Tournament but throughout the season as well.

And the coaching staff this season should push the players' development along, he said.

"Expectations are very high," he said. "To be honest, we don't have the best players in the country. They're not here. But what we've got, we've got a lot of heart, and as a coaching staff, we're going to look at that and teach them as much technique as we can."



JUNIOR

JOSE BENCOSME

CO-CAPTAIN

Weight class: 66 kilograms

Accomplishments: Won bronze medals in the 2000 Collegiate Nationals and in the 1999 Senior Nationals; won a silver in the 1999 Junior Pan-American Games. Named co-captain in May.



SENIOR

AMY TONG

CO-CAPTAIN

Weight class: 78 kilograms

Accomplishments: Member of the 2000 U.S. Olympic judo team; won a gold medal in the 1999 Senior Nationals, bronze in the 1999 Rendezvous Tournament and 1999 Pan-American Games.



GRADUATE

MIKE BARNES

Weight class: 100 kilograms

Accomplishments: Moved up from the 81 kilogram weight class to 100 kilograms and won a bronze in the 2001 U.S. Open. Won a gold medal in the 2000 Benito Juarez Tournament and three consecutive golds (1996-1998) in the Collegiate Nationals. Graduated in May with a degree in education. Currently works for the University Police Department and is training to become a police officer.

Assistant coaches' efforts making a mark on club members

By Tiffani Analla

DAILY SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Assistant judo coach Keith Nakasone barked out instructions to his players at a recent Friday practice.

The instructions were heeded as sweat dripped down from the players' faces.

Nakasone said he is pleased with the direction the team is going after six Spartans returned home with medals from the U.S. Open held Oct. 13 and 14 in Las Vegas.

Club co-captain Jose Bencosme credits Nakasone, along with other assistant coaches Dan Hatano and Mike Swain, with the improvement.

The three assistants had to step forward to make up for the

absence of Dave Williams, who was one of the team's assistant coaches. Williams has stepped away from the club, but remains as an adviser.

Nakasone, Hatano and Mike Swain are three assistant coaches the squad looks to for support and instruction, Bencosme said.

Bencosme said the team has improved greatly from the previous season because of the philosophies the coaching trio has instilled into the players.

The coaches' experience is another factor for the team's improvement as well, he said.

Each coach graduated from SJSU.

Swain is a four-time Olympian. Nakasone made the 1980 Olympic team. And Hatano made the 1991

World Championship team.

Club member Mike Barnes said he noticed the team's maturity when the three assistant coaches stepped up. Players are beginning to take charge, he said.

The coaching staff has been instrumental in the team's improvement, Barnes added.

"We have more coaches, and it's three that are very good and work well with each other," he said. "All the coaches complement each other."

Swain is known as the team's technician. Nakasone is the team's motivator. And Hatano said he falls somewhere in between the two.

The judo club members can easily identify their coaches' personalities — and their effects on the athletes.

"We have three of the best technicians the United States has, and they're all under one roof," Lee Heitzman said. "The more people we have the better it is. Keith is real loud and motivating. Mike Swain is the best technician you can get in the United States."

Swain said he and his two fellow assistants relate easily with the club's members.

"We definitely have the experience with the coaches, and we're still young enough to work out with the team," Swain said.

Although the adjustment was difficult at first, the players have grown accustomed to the coaches' philosophies, Bencosme said.

"The transition for us (the coaches), was getting to know each student's style of judo," Hatano

said. "Their level of judo is their learning curve for us, the coaches. But I think we're coming along and learning that as well."

Because of this development, the team should dominate the Senior Nationals competition in April, Bencosme said.

"I'm the team captain, I know how everyone fights here," he said. "I know who they have a hard time with. I know what everyone can do here, and I know their weaknesses. And I can honestly say the weaknesses and the flaws of this team are greatly diminishing."

However, the main goal of the coaches is for the players to make the Olympic team, Nakasone said.

"My goal is to see a Jose (Bencosme) on an Olympic team, to see Mike Barnes on an Olympic team,

to see Chuck Jefferson on an Olympic team. Hands down, that's our goal," Nakasone said.

Across the Middle

To our readers:
"Across the Middle," the San Jose State University football notebook, will appear Friday.

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