



21st Century Digital Boy
Protesting against war ...
and fee increases?
OPINION 2

SPARTAN BASKETBALL NOTEBOOK

IN THE PAINT
SPORTS 7

PLAY REVIEW

CHOO ... CHOO
SJSU playwright's 'The North Train' chugs into
University Theater for audience amusement
A&E 6



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Students nationwide protest possible war

Associated Press

Thousands of students around the country walked out of class Wednesday to protest a war with Iraq, joining rallies that ranged from a few quiet demonstrators to crowds that erupted into shouting matches.

Manon Terrell, a 19-year-old sophomore, missed three classes to take part in a rally at Stanford University attended by about 300 people carrying signs bearing slogans such as, "It's the Middle East, not the Wild West."

"This is a personal thing for me because my friends are going to fight this war," said Terrell, a civil engineering major. "It's not going to be Bush and his cronies in business suits on the front lines. They're going to take people of color and poor people."

It could not be determined Wednesday night how many students participated across the nation, and the National Youth and Student Peace Coalition had no immediate estimate. The group said earlier that tens of thousands of students at more than

350 high schools, colleges and universities had pledged to join.

"If we don't come out, then our opinion isn't heard by the White House, by anyone," said tenth-grader Bernard Mantel, 16, who gathered with classmates at Union Square in New York City.

Thousands of students also rallied for peace in Britain, Sweden, Spain, Australia and other countries. The U.S. protests were also geared to call attention to the effects of a war on education, health care and the economy.

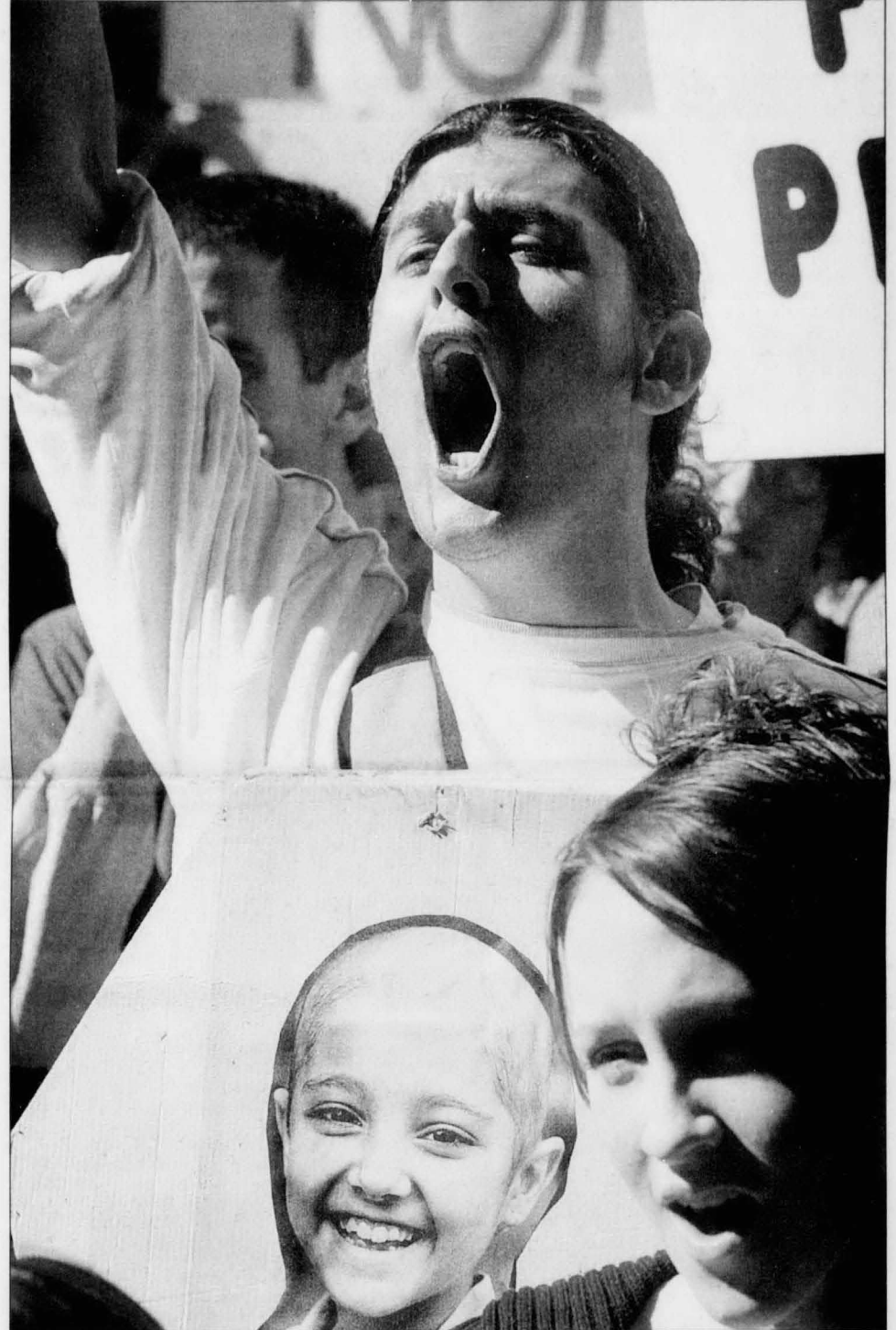
Students attended by the hundreds at some campuses around the nation; at others, attendance was light. Some were met by groups calling for support of the Bush administration.

In Madison, Wis., organizers estimated 5,000 students rallied, though police put that figure at 2,000. In Milwaukee, 40 students lined the sidewalk in front of the Marquette University student union during an

See **NATIONAL**, page 3



Saori Yoneda / Daily Staff
Craig Clouded, a senior majoring in history, held a card to protest the potential war against Iraq on Wednesday afternoon at SJSU.



Autumn Cruz / Special to the Daily
Jassin Ubaid, a junior majoring in computer science, and Karyna Fraser, a sophomore majoring in music, shout in protest of the impending war with Iraq during a student walkout at San Jose State University.

Some at SJSU walked out of classes

By **Carrie Mattingly**
Daily Staff Writer

Students and citizens protesting the war gathered in the Art Quad at San Jose State University on Wednesday to participate in a student strike. SJSU was one of 230 schools involved in the organized walkout protesting the war.

Anti-war fliers were passed out and picket signs opposing the war were held up. Students pounded on drums while chanting slogans. At 9 a.m. as the chanting grew louder, the crowd of nearly 150 people grew bigger.

Miniature, white-colored cardboard coffins were placed along the perimeter of the gathering place. Most coffins, no bigger than two feet long, had black and white paper photographs attached to the front. Some children smiled in the photographs while others were pictured naked and crying. Most of the children's pictures used for these coffin displays were malnourished, exposing their thin, bandaged skeletal bodies.

Muslim Student Association member Muhammad Abu-Haneefa, a sophomore communications major, led the start of the talks while randomly breaking out in chant. Some of the more popular chants were "No justice, no peace," "The people united will never be divided" and "Books not bombs."

Some spectators became active participants when the megaphone was opened up to the crowd. Most voiced their opinion on the war. Initiating a new chant, Ahmed Al-Sheikh, a sophomore English major, said, "Drop Bush, not bombs."



Vicki Thompson / Daily Staff
Annie Sayo, a senior majoring in social science, leads protesters in a chant outside Tower Hall.

To the side of the growing crowd, wearing a shirt that read, "Stop the war against Iraq, act now to stop war and end racism," graduate student of education, Anna Lawrence stood beside her fifth grade son.

"(I want to) get my son into peaceful movements and direct action," Lawrence said.

Instead of wearing clothing that boasted anti-war sentiments, other students used creative, humorous signs to draw attention. Senior Lisa Maiffret, a major in comparative religious studies, expressed that President Bush was going to war for personal reasons and that he is "finishing up what daddy did." Her sign read, "Drunk frat boy drives country into

ditch."

"This is supposed to be a democracy, but (Bush) ignored the protests," Maiffret said. "He said he doesn't care about the American people."

Thin black bands showed up on arms of individuals who opposed the war.

"War is not a way to solve things," said William O'Connell, 67, while cutting up a black shirt. "It's a mourning color. We are mourning the people that will die in war."

Students for Justice held a white banner at the front of the crowd, ready to march. The group of students marched away from the Student

See **SJSU**, page 3

Thousands line up near Event Center for career fair

By **Falguni Bhuta**
Daily Staff Writer

More than 3,500 students visited the Event Center on Wednesday for "Expo 2003: Job and Internship fair," with the hopes of finding a job, organizers said.

"We had a long line all the way from the Event Center to the Seventh Street plaza to enter the fair," said Irene Peck, employer relations consultant at the San Jose State University Career Center and co-coordinator of the event.

Only students who had attended

workshops at the Career Center last week were given special passes to access the event at 10 a.m., said Margaret Wilkes, career consultant and job-fair coordinator at the Career Center. The rest of the students could enter after 11:30 a.m.

She said about 119 companies were

participating in this year's job fair, and that it was a great response considering the poor economy.

"Having so many employers attend this fair tells that they have had good success here, and they are looking back to see where they have hired people that have been good for them," Wilkes

said. "And in checking with many other campuses in the area, we really have many more employers coming here than they have had."

Although the fair was exclusively for SJSU students, Wilkes said she wouldn't be surprised to see students from the outside community because

of the current economic downturn.

Tower Cards were checked at entry points. However, some students from other universities managed to sneak into the event.

Tod Lewis, who graduated from San Diego State University in 2002 with a

See **CAREER**, page 5

Ash Wednesday shows similarities between religions

By **Janine Stanhope**
Daily Staff Writer



Vicki Thompson / Daily Staff
SJSU Chaplain Roger Wharton of sjspirit.org uses ash to mark a cross on the forehead of junior accounting major Lalanie Lagsob in the Spartan Memorial in observance of Ash Wednesday. Sjspirit was one of several organizations to celebrate the holiday.

Some students at San Jose State University said they feel comfortable practicing their faith while on campus and took the time to celebrate Ash Wednesday at Mass at the Catholic Campus Ministry.

Patricia Santiago, a sophomore social science major, said she schedules her days so that she can attend church on a regular basis.

"I feel safe even though I don't come here a lot," she said after receiving the ritual of the ashes on her forehead. "I go to church on Sunday for Spanish mass downtown. I come here from home or work, take classes two days a week, Tuesdays and Thursdays, and work on Monday, Wednesday and Friday."

Ash Wednesday is celebrated as a symbolic preparation with repentance, fasting and prayer to remember and celebrate the Holy time of Lent,

according to the New Testament in the Christian Bible.

Elma Amboy, a senior computer engineering major and student minister with the Catholic Campus Ministry, described the need for service with faith-based projects that are dedicated to help the students on campus as well as people who live in the neighborhood and around the world.

"SJSU has many different religions," she said. "I enjoy participating in events that help to serve the community."

Lisbet Perez, a junior television, radio, film and theater major, said San Jose is a diverse area and that she has no problem with the differences in how others practice their faith on campus.

"I feel safe practicing my Catholic religion here," Perez said. "I don't feel that people on campus have anything to fear."

See **ASHES**, page 8

Mardi Gras celebration ugly; not as wild as last year

By **Sunita Vijayan**
Daily Staff Writer

Despite the anxiety some businesses harbored during Mardi Gras celebrations Tuesday night, the San Jose Police Department had this year's festivities more or less under control.

San Jose police spokesman Sgt. Steve Dixon said the atmosphere in downtown San Jose wasn't quite as bad as last year.

"We didn't have an organized event outdoors like last year where there were more people outside," Dixon said.

Although not as severe as last year's fat Tuesday, some businesses did not take any chances when it came to the safety and well-being of their stores.

Jorges Gonzalez, owner of George's Jewelers located on South First Street, said he did not approve of the Mardi Gras celebrations in San Jose's

downtown area because it promotes a negative image and draws the wrong crowd.

"I made sure everything was properly secured before I left," Gonzalez said.

Bill Granch, restaurant manager for Agenda Restaurant, Bar and Lounge, also located on South First Street said they had decided to close completely for the night, as they did not want to deal with any hassles.

Jose Jaquez, manager of Stratta Grill and Cafe, said he had expected a much larger crowd like last year's. Jaquez said although his establishment closed at 11:30 p.m., because of the large crowds, it was not until 1 a.m. that he and some of his staff were able to go home.

Damages sustained include broken windows in some businesses and vehicles, Dixon said.

See **MARDI GRAS**, page 8

21ST CENTURY DIGITAL BOY

Protest all you like, but differentiate the issues

There was a protest on campus Wednesday. I was finally able to be proud of the student body here at San Jose State University.

When I first walked out to observe, I noticed a large number of people marching around campus chanting and carrying signs, protesting the possibility of war in the Middle East.

It was a refreshing change to see familiar faces interspersed with the folks I call "professional protesters" (the ones who just go from protest to protest for the sole purpose of protesting).

I was amazed to see the number of SJSU folks who were genuinely into the anti-war aspect of the protest. What I did find funny, and what I usually find funny about these types of massive multi-group protests, were the varying and often conflicting messages among the protesters.

Many people were there specifically to protest impending war, but as with any protest, there were other groups and individuals who were there with their own agendas.

I saw one guy with a sign that said "Bomb Iraq." Several others were there to protest California State University fee increases.

The organizers of this protest somehow thought it would be a good idea to combine anti-war protests and anti-fee increase protests into one.

Hmm...these issues have nothing to do with each other.

As glad as I was to see an anti-war protest, the war has nothing to do with the fee increases.

Get your issues straight people. The CSU system needs to raise student fees because if it doesn't, we will lose our only affordable four-year college option.

There were speakers talking about how the government spends too much on military expenses and not enough on education, and while I agree with that in principle, it's not that simple.

The federal budget pays for the military. The state budget pays for the CSU system. There's a huge difference.

Speakers were suggesting the billions of dollars to be spent on a possible war be rerouted into education and we could all go to school for free.

Sorry to burst your bubble, but that will never happen.

First of all, there is no money being spent on the war or on the military build-up in the Middle East. In fact, there is no money at all.

The federal government is racking up huge debt by spending money it doesn't have in the first place.

You can thank Ronald Reagan and his policy of deficit

spending for that one. So rest assured, your tax dollars are not going toward military spending. Actually, if you look at President Bush's tax strategy, there isn't enough tax revenue to pay for much of what his administration is planning.

The state is in its own financial crisis that can be traced back to the bungled handling of the power crisis a few years ago that sucked up our massive budget surplus.

No money in state coffers means there's no money in CSU coffers, which means, in turn, if we want to maintain the level of education and not lose more services and classes, we as students will cough up the money to keep the system going.

You think it's bad now? Just wait. If the CSU doesn't get the money it needs, things will only get worse.

The CSU is the largest public university system in the country and also one of the most affordable.

Imagine fewer classes, even bigger sections and absolutely no summer classes.

Think what it would be like if we began losing our faculty too. The professors here still get paid far less than their private school counterparts, yet we expect the quality of our education to rival that of major private schools.

That's where the CSU system and, in particular, SJSU students are headed.

In a press conference last month, SJSU president Robert Caret made it clear the small fee increase we saw this semester didn't even make a dent in the budget shortfall, and major fee hikes like the proposed 25 percent increase for next year may be unavoidable.

People bitch and complain that services are unavailable or that services suck, but then they don't want to pay for them.

I'm sorry, but if you want something, you have to pay for it.

Education is not free, nor is it cheap.

SJSU is in the Bay Area, not only the most expensive place to live but also one of the most expensive to do business in, and make no mistake, educating nearly 30,000 students with more than 1,200 faculty members is a business.

So if you don't want the fee increases, fine, but you can't complain if there are no classes for you to sign up for next fall.

Protest against war all you want. Just keep your issues straight.



MIKE CORPOS

Mike Corpos is the Spartan Daily Executive Editor. Digital Boy appears Thursdays.

SPARTA GUIDE

Sparta 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 in Dwight Bentel Hall, room 209. Space restrictions may require editing of submissions. Entries are printed in the order in which they are received.

TODAY

SJSU Catholic Campus Ministry
Daily Mass will be held at the SJSU CCM Chapel located at 10th and San Carlos streets next to Robert's Bookstore. Mass times are 12:10 p.m. Monday-Friday and at 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. on Sunday. For more information contact Sister Marcia at 938-1610.

Associated Students Campus Recreation
ASCR is offering fitness classes at the Event Center. Classes running today: Body Sculpting, Weight Training, Yoga, Aerobics, Advanced Step, Butts & Guts, Body Sculpting, Beginning Step. For more information and class times, contact Matt McNamara at 924-6217.

SJSU Catholic Campus Ministry
Join the Alpha Omega group for food and fun from 8:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. every Thursday in the Omega Lounge at the CCM. For more information contact Orshi Fejer at 938-1610.

SJSU Catholic Campus Ministry
Scripture reflection every Thursday from 7 p.m. to 8:15 p.m. in the CCM Chapel. For more information contact Sister Marcia at 938-1610.

Nurses Christian Fellowship
Community building at 2:30 p.m. in the Pacheco Room of the Student Union. For more information contact Diane Stegmeir at 248-2997.

Career Center
Drop-in from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Career Center. For more information call the Career Resource Center at 924-6031.

The Listening Hour Concert Series
The department of foreign languages presents an international music festival celebrating world cultures through singing, dancing and martial arts. Event runs from 12:30 p.m. to 1:15 p.m. in the Music Building Concert Hall. For more information call Joan Stubbe at 924-4631.

Associated Students Campus Recreation - Adventures
Belly dancing from 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Event Center Aerobics Studio. For more information contact Matt at 924-6217.

Associated Students Campus Recreation - Adventures
Introductory Yoga class from 8:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at the Student Union. Cost is \$30 general, \$25 student. For more information contact Matt at 924-6217.

Associated Students Campus Recreation - Adventures
Salsa dancing from 8:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at the Event Center Aerobics Studio. Cost is \$30 general.

eral, \$25 student. For more information contact Matt at 924-6217.

Department of Nutrition and Food Science
Body fat testing is back: Bioelectric Impedance from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. every Thursday or by appointment in Central Classroom Building, Room 221. For more information contact Sherry at 206-7599 or sherrbutler@netscape.net.

Women's Resource Center and Feminist Majority Leadership Alliance
Tickets are on sale now for today's performance of "The Vagina Monologues" by and for SJSU students and staff. Tickets are available in front of the Student Union from 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. or at the Women's Resource Center in ADM 249.

Proceeds will benefit YWCA Rape Crisis Center and Support Network for Battered Women. Students (w/ID) \$5, general \$7. For more information contact Erika or Lindsey at 924-6500.

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

Movimiento Estudiantil de Aztlan M.E.Ch.A.
Weekly meeting today at 6 p.m. in Mosaic Student Union. For more information contact Adriana Cabrera-Garcia at 250-9245 or sanjosemecha@yahoo.com.

Associated Students Campus Recreation - Adventures
Banff film festival from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. at the Student Union. Cost is \$10 student, \$12 non-student. For more information contact Matt at 924-6217.

National Association of Working Women, 9 to 5
The National Association of Working Women is inviting all college working women to dial the 9 to 5 job survival hotline at 1 (800) 522-0925 for help with workplace problems.

Students for Justice
Weekly meeting from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. in the Multicultural Library (modular building A). For more information contact Christine Madore at (650) 533-1735 or 971-1070.

Recl 97 Students
Mardi Gras Carnival, free participation, free prizes today from 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Volleyball area in front of the Spartan Complex East building. For more information contact Kevin McCann at (650) 349-6621.

SJSU School of Music and Dance
Wind Ensemble concert starting at 7:30 p.m. in the SJSU Concert

Hall. Tickets are \$5 general admission, \$3 for students and senior citizens. Proceeds benefit the School of Music and Dance Scholarship Fund. For more information call (408) 924-4673.

College of Engineering
Symposium on leading technologies. Dr. Steve Shladover, Institute of Transportation Studies, UC Berkeley, will be speaking on vehicle-highway automation from noon to 1 p.m. in the Engineering Auditorium (ENG 189). For more information contact Professor Hambaba at 924-3959.

Asian Baptist Student Koinonia
Bible study at 7 p.m. in the Guadalupe room of the Student Union. For more information contact Bryan at 234-0763 or visit the Web site at www.absk.org.

FRIDAY

SJSU Catholic Campus Ministry
Daily Mass will be held at the SJSU CCM Chapel located at 10th and San Carlos streets next to Robert's Bookstore. Mass times are 12:10 p.m. Monday-Friday and at 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. on Sunday. For more information contact Sister Marcia at 938-1610.

Associated Students Campus Recreation
The ASCR is offering a Spin class at the Event Center from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. For more information contact Matt McNamara at 924-6217.

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

Career Center
Internship workshop from 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the Career Center workshop room. For more information contact the Career Resource Center at 924-6031.

SUNDAY

SJSU Catholic Campus Ministry
Daily Mass will be held at the SJSU CCM Chapel located at 10th and San Carlos streets next to Robert's Bookstore. Mass times are 12:10 p.m. Monday-Friday and at 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. on Sunday. For more information contact Sister Marcia at 938-1610.

MONDAY

SJSU Catholic Campus Ministry
Daily Mass will be held at the SJSU CCM Chapel located at 10th and San Carlos streets next to Robert's Bookstore. Mass times are 12:10 p.m. Monday-Friday and at 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. on Sunday. For more information contact Sister Marcia at 938-1610.

WOULD YOU...

Aging gracefully in mind, or looking forever young?

As days go by, we all get a little older. We realize that the 19-year-old is long gone. That baby face and mentality is long gone.

Coming close to a decade later, we forget things. We stare at our planners for too long trying to remember what or whom we had to do or see next. There are also an endless amount of Post-its stuck to it too.

We end up reaching for the volume control to turn the music louder. It is not because we want to hear it blare but because we cannot hear it as well as we used to. Squinting also becomes second nature to us. We dare not wear glasses and swear that we have 20/20 vision.

We quietly turn to a kind looking person whom we hope will not judge us and ask them about what we cannot see.

Slowly over the years, our minds and bodies deteriorate. We never saw it coming. We did not think this stage in our life would come so quickly. You mean, we don't stay young forever?

Facing growing older is here though we may not want to admit it or even see it in ourselves. Today we have to make a choice.

What do we value more, physical or mental beauty?

If you had one choice,

Would you rather age well physically or mentally?

Before I go on, I must share a memory. It was a typical day in fifth grade. We just got in from lunch. People were still carrying on their conversations.

I remember one of the girls asking another girl, "Would you rather be smart but fat, or skinny but dumb?" So it may not have been worded exactly like that but you understand the gist.

The majority of the girls that overheard and answered said they would rather be skinny but dumb, because even though they were dumb they would be able to get a job as a model.

I look back and laugh at this remembering that one girl in class was a "Barbizon" model.

I was new to public school. I never heard a conversation like this at private school. I was interested as all the other girls were, but my answer was the only one that differed. No one heard the fat girl though. As you may have guessed, I said I would rather be smart but fat. What would I have to lose? I was already there.



CARRIE MATTINGLY

I figured being smart was better than being dumb for any reason.

In fifth grade it was so clear. Social issues were not a big deal to me. They still are not. However, from being ridiculed at a young age about my weight I can honestly say that I have a problem with being minutely obsessed with my weight.

Most days I realize that what makes me happy is what I should do. I have never really been one to care what others thought. Back then, I really couldn't afford to. If I did, I would have been an extremely depressed child.

Today, it is all about aging well mentally. If I stay in school, go further and learn as much as I can absorb, somewhere in there a life lesson will surface. It will be obvious to me that mental beauty is far more important and healthy to have than physical beauty.

Physical can only last so long. Mental can go so much further.

I think people are more respected when they have something intelligent to say rather than being judged on the way they look. It all depends on the recipient too.

My stepmother is a fine example of a woman who has aged beautifully mentally. Her mind is open. She accepts all. She gives every thought her full attention. Intelligently, she picks apart situations that some wouldn't a second thought to. She finds the good in the people that don't even deserve it half the time. When I speak of her, people want to meet her. She is that much of a positive woman. She is a woman I aspire to be. Nancy is a wonderful addition to my life.

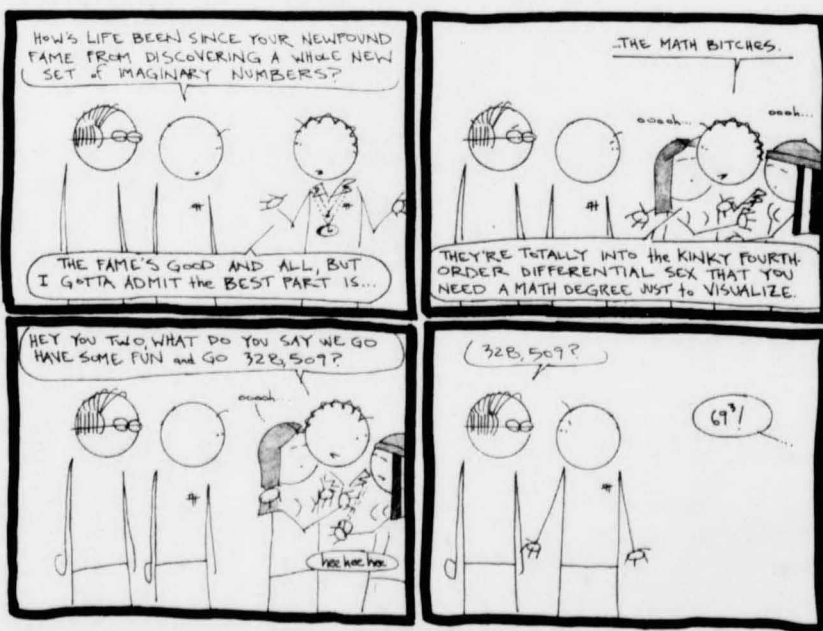
To make a long story short, there is nothing wrong with forgetting. Sometimes, I just write it down. Loud drum and bass is not a problem for me — just wear earplugs. And squinting? I am calling Kaiser tomorrow to set up an appointment for an eye examination.

Realizing something and sticking to the truth is what counts. I understand that I am becoming older. I look forward to it. I am tired of being in my 20s and all the phoniness that follows in with the people in this age bracket.

Choosing to age well mentally shows maturity. Who would have guessed that I am proud to say that I still think the same way I did when I was 10 years old?

Carrie Mattingly is a Spartan Daily Staff Writer. "Would You..." appears every other Thursday.

ANOTHER DIMENTION | JONAH PTAK



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Readers are encouraged to express themselves on the Opinion page with a letter to the editor. A letter to the editor is a 200-word response to an issue or a point of view that has appeared in the Spartan Daily.

A viewpoint is the same as a letter to the editor, except it is a 400-word response to an issue or point of view that has appeared in the Spartan Daily. Submissions become property of the Spartan Daily and may be edited for clarity, grammar, label and length. Submissions must contain the author's name, address, phone number, signature and major.

Submissions may be placed 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 spartandaily@casa.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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Published opinions and advertisements do not necessarily reflect the views of the Spartan Daily, the School of Journalism and Mass Communications, or SJSU.

Santa Clara University takes part in movement

By Huong C. Pham
Daily Staff Writer

Students at Santa Clara University gathered outdoors in front of their Student Union Tuesday to rally against a possible war in Iraq.

With less than a dozen protest signs, about 150 Santa Clara students stood in front of a stage, listening to speakers, poets and musicians as a projector presented still images on a six-by-six foot screen — displaying peace rallies that were held worldwide and the destructive results of war.

In addition to the speakers, the messages of peace and information about the result of war, Neil Ferron, a sophomore English major at Santa Clara, recited three poems that he wrote in reaction to the war on Iraq. "Our rockets, glare red. Our blood, runs blue. And our flag, flies white," Ferron said, as he continued to recite his poem, titled "Homily." "Never mind the fact that Jesus, probably looked a lot more like Osama bin Laden than Charleton Heston."

By sending out his message through art and poetry, Ferron said he hoped to help spread understanding that this war is not just.

More than 230 schools across the country joined this national movement yesterday according to the National Youth and Student Peace Coalition.

Among the hundreds of other schools to join the national anti-war protest were Chico State University, the University of Arkansas, the University of Utah and Evergreen State College in Washington, according to the coalition.

"The Santa Clara University's rally was organized by the Peace Action Committee," said Jennifer Bevard, a member of the committee. "We've

been planning this for a month."

The Santa Clara Peace Action Committee is a group that is not officially authorized by the University — rather it is a "collection of individuals with various political beliefs, formed after the United States began bombing Afghanistan in October of 2001," according to a handout that was part of the event's press kit.

Speakers who delivered speeches about the impending war in Iraq were students such as Patrick Ishizuka, a sophomore philosophy major who broke out in tears as he talked about a child whose life was devastated by one of Iraq's past wars.

"Democracy is by the people," he said. "You can't impose a democracy." Senior Rose Broome, a campaign management major had similar views about how the U.S. government is being run.

"I don't think it's right for a leader of one nation to go against the people," she said. "It's like he's acting out of ulterior motives."

Toward the end of the rally, as students began to gradually disperse into the student union, Broome said she was pleased with the size of the gathering considering that Santa Clara University isn't known for being politically active and outspoken.

Broome said that although the University isn't known for its candidness, she felt that not many students and young adults are active in protesting against the war because of apathy.

"(Although) college students have easy access to resources, we're more focused on the media that is controlled by corporations," said Bevard, a Peace Action Committee member. "Students are in their comfort zone, and we don't have that perspective of suffering."

SJSU | Students missed class to take part in protest

continued from page 1

Union toward the library, stopping in front of Tower Hall.

While in front of the building, Associated Students President Maribel Martinez read a letter addressed to President Caret to a cheering crowd.

Soon after the reading the march continued but hit a minor bump in the road when pro-war activist Thomas Wilkenson, 40, spoke out against the protesters. He said that war was necessary to stop Saddam Hussein.

"If America is willing to lay down its life for the sake of freedom of the world, then we will gain the respect that these people think that we are losing," Wilkenson said. "Freedom is always paid for in the price of blood."

Taking a break in front of the Event Center, even louder cheers came from the group of 200 as Abu-Haneefa marched in front of a group of San Jose High Academy students.

The march continued around the rear of the Event Center, past the health services and in front of the Art building finally stopping in front of the barbeque area outside of the Event Center.

A stage and sound system were set up waiting for the protesters, speakers and performers.

Vanessa Nisperos, senior sociology

major and member of Student for Justice's planning committee member and Abu-Haneefa emceed the event speakers included anthropology Professor, Roberto Gonzalez, Akubundu representing the All African Peoples' Revolutionary Party among many others.

In the crowd of people a "Bomb Iraq," sign weaved in and out through the protesters.

Freshman aviation major David Anderson said, "They are a bunch of followers, liberals. War has always helped our economy."

Some students said that missing class was more important, that class happens all the time but protests do not.

Missing two German classes and one choir class to attend the event, Morgan Chivers, a sophomore German major, said "It's just class. This is life."

The protest also aimed at informing students about potential fee increases that may be implemented into the California State University system as a result of recent budget cuts.

The protest ended with Maribel Martinez stating that CSU system is the people's university and that many students who attend are either people of color or first generation college students. Education needs to be affordable, she said.

High school students join in protest

By Daniel Hartman
Daily Staff Writer

There were five people in a U.S. History class at San Jose High School on Wednesday. The rest of the students joined in an anti-war protest at San Jose State University.

"We don't want the war to go on," high school junior Ruby Hernandez said. "We are the future of America and (the government) is taking our money and using it for their own selfish interests."

High school student Madai Alarcon said San Jose High students joined the protest when it started at 9 a.m. at the SJSU Student Union and rounded the Spartan Complex Central and Spartan Complex East. He said their participation was respected by some San Jose High faculty.

"I don't see how we are supposed to learn our subjects when there is a war going on," said senior Brian Flores who participated in the event. "Saddam (Hussein) is definitely a threat, but I still don't think (the United States) should go (to Iraq)."

"My parents have (taken out) a loan already," said Ramin Nawabi, freshman majoring in biology. "If tuition

High school junior Ben Martinez said that he supports the idea of students getting involved because he felt their voice should be heard. He said, "Bush is just an ignorant, fascist pig that should not be representative of the entire country."

Joyce Carrasquillo said that she attended the protest because of the unfair reasons given for dropping bombs on innocent Iraqis not properly informed by their media of accurate foreign relations.

"(The U.S. government) should help more with intelligence rather than always opting to go to war after Iraq doesn't comply to demands," high school freshman Sean Kelly said and added, "(The United States) needs to mind their own business."

In front of the Boccardo Business Complex, high school freshman Victor Nguyen said he agreed more money should be spent on education. Nguyen said the crowd's chanting of "books not bombs" might have made high school students, "angry because (the U.S. government) is taking money from (the U.S. taxpayers) pockets."

goes up, I might have to go to community college or drop out of school and get a job."

California students ditch classes to protest possible war in Iraq

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Throughout California, where the student protest movement was born in the 1960s, high school and college students skipped classes by the thousands Wednesday to join worldwide rallies against a possible war with Iraq.

Other demonstrators blocked traffic in downtown Los Angeles for almost an hour. Nineteen people were arrested for failure to disperse and other misdemeanors.

Student rallies were staged from San Diego to Stanford where about 60

professors endorsed the actions by canceling classes or saying there would be no penalties for being absent. About 300 people protested at the campus, carrying signs reading, "It's the Middle East, not the Wild West," and "The majority of us didn't vote for

this war." "The drive toward war has been an appalling failure of democracy," said student Adrianna Hernandez, 21, who missed a seminar to join the rally. "There's been no referendum on whether to go to war."

NATIONAL |

continued from page 1

hour-long protest.

"It's good to let people know students have a say in what happens in the world," said Abir Chaudhry, 19, who carried a sign at Marquette that read "God Does Not Bless America Only."

Dozens of Stanford professors endorsed the rally there, either by telling students there would be no penalties for leaving class or by canceling class. Nearby in Oakland, at least three people were arrested at a demonstration held downtown.

In Los Angeles, 18 demonstrators were arrested for blocking an intersection during an interfaith protest as several hundred people cheered. Hundreds of students at Santa Monica City College rallied and about 500 Venice High School students left class for a protest on the school's front lawn, waving signs and chanting "No more war, no more war."

"As a 16-year-old student, I have little license to do anything but I reserve my right to be idealistic, to see the good in the future and to see the evil of war," said Margot Goldberg at a rally in Pittsburgh. High schoolers there cheered when one protester said they likely would be suspended for cutting class.

At the University at Buffalo in Amherst, N.Y., a group calling itself the Radical Cheerleaders led raucous

anti-war chants. In Washington, peace activists clad in pink and bearing flowers held quiet rallies at the embassies of France, Russia, Turkey, Mexico and Chile to thank them for opposing a U.S. war with Iraq.

At San Antonio College, Melissa St. John, who favors an Iraq invasion, got into a nose-to-nose shouting match with a young man who argued no positive link has been made between Saddam Hussein and Osama bin Laden.

St. John later said she doesn't like the idea of war, but diplomatic efforts to rein in Saddam have failed. "None of us like it, but it's time," she said. "Our country is under attack."

Sporadic rain fell hundreds of protesters — and a small number of Bush administration supporters holding a counter demonstration — gathered at Penn State University. The protesters later presented the mayor with petitions asking the borough council to oppose war with Iraq and resist elements of the USA Patriot and the Homeland Security acts.

Two sisters, Kate and Allie Dunn, traveled to a New York City anti-war rally from suburban Westchester County to express their support of the Bush administration. "Remember 9-11?" asked a sign carried by 18-year-old Kate.

Farther north, around 100 people rallied at an Albany, N.Y., shopping mall to protest the arrest of 61-year-

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Don't call me a hacker



Dan Herrera, a senior photography major, passed the foot bag to Michael Gower, a junior computer science major, while Garry Belinsky, a sophomore majoring in photography, waited for his turn Monday in front of the Seventh Street barbecue area near the Event Center.

Vicki Thompson / Daily Staff

Bus explosion kills at least 16 in Israel

HAIFA, Israel (AP) — A bomber blew himself up aboard a bus filled with students in this northern Israeli city Wednesday, killing at least 16 people and injuring 55. The blast ended a two-month lull in suicide bombings.

About 10 of the victims were high school students — among them 14-year-old Avigail Leitner, a U.S. citizen, authorities said. Two soldiers were also killed.

Police said the suicide bomber, Mahmoud Hamdan Kawasme, 20, of the West Bank city of Hebron, was carrying a letter praising the Sept. 11 attacks. No group claimed responsibility for the bus blast.

In a first response to the attack, Israel's Security Cabinet ordered the closure of the West Bank and Gaza Strip until further notice, banning all Palestinians from entering Israel, the Israeli military said early Thursday.

Later, about 50 Israeli tanks accompanied by helicopter gunships moved deep into the Jabaliya refugee camp next to Gaza City. Two Palestinians, a 60-year-old Palestinian — night

watchman and a 25-year-old gunman, were killed and 11 other people wounded in exchanges of fire, hospital officials said. Israeli helicopters also fired three missiles at a target, but gave no further details.

Israel's new hard-line government had pledged earlier to step up strikes against militant strongholds in the Gaza area. Dozens of Palestinians have been killed in more than two weeks of raids, including at least 10 civilians, some of explosives.

Bus No. 37 was packed with students from Haifa University when it stopped in the hilltop neighborhood of Carmelia at 2:17 p.m. to let off passengers.

"I suddenly heard an explosion," said bus driver Marwan Damouni, an Israeli Arab, who was being treated at a hospital. "I didn't feel anything. I didn't hear anything. I opened my eyes after a minute and saw blood all over my arms."

The explosion blew off the bus roof, shattered all its windows and toppled nearby palm trees. Floodlights cast an eerie glow on the

scene, illuminating the charred skeleton of the vehicle.

The bomb was laden with metal shrapnel for greater deadliness, according to Police Commissioner Shlomo Aharonishki. Initial reports said the blast was caused by 130 pounds of explosives.

Ovadia Saar, who was driving another bus just behind the one that was attacked, said he saw "the back of the bus fly into the air, and the windows blew out and a great cloud of dust covered the bus."



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Bomb rocks downtown shopping center in Colombia city, kills at least 7

BOGOTA, Colombia (AP) — A bomb set off by suspected rebels ripped through a shopping center in northeastern Colombia on Wednesday, killing seven people, injuring at least 20 and setting the complex on fire.

Television images showed shocked survivors wandering around the shopping stalls, blackened Ash Wednesday marks still on their foreheads.

Government officials said the attack in Cucuta, on the border with Venezuela, was part of an attempt by guerrillas to bring the nation's long-simmering war to Colombia's cities.

Defense Minister Martha Lucia Ramirez said the urban offensive is a response to government offensives in the countryside. "Unfortunately, that is the risk we have to run," she said.

Cucuta Mayor Manuel Guillermo Mora said seven people were killed in the blast.

Police Gen. Luis Alfredo Rodriguez said the National Liberation Army, or ELN, was responsible for the attack. The bomb was left next to a car in the basement parking lot, police said.

Firefighters, rescue crews and police officers hustled through the smoke into the shattered complex as frigh-

ened passers-by looked on. Family members of shopping center employees gathered nearby waiting for word of their relatives.

The ELN and the nation's largest rebel group, the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, are battling outlawed paramilitary groups for control of Cucuta. The city has one of the highest murder rates in Colombia.

Colombia is torn by a 38-year civil war that pits the leftist rebels against the government and right-wing paramilitary groups. About 3,500 people, mainly civilians, are killed in the fighting each year.

Acting S.F. police chief reassures citizens

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — The city's new police leadership on Wednesday reassured San Franciscans they are safe, despite a shake up from charges that the department's top brass derailed a probe into a street brawl involving off-duty officers.

Officers are still fighting crime and emergency calls are still being answered, promised Heather Fong, who took over the department's daily affairs when Chief Earl Sanders abruptly went on medical leave.

"There's no need to fear the police department is not performing its functions," said Fong, the first woman to lead San Francisco police. The public "should have no fear that they don't have a police department."

Sanders and six of his top staff were indicted last week on charges of conspiracy to obstruct the investigation into the November street fight involving the three rookie officers.

The three officers, including the indicted assistant chief's son, were indicted on felony assault charges for allegedly beating up two men who refused to hand over a doggie bag of steak fajitas. All those charged have pleaded innocent.

Sanders appointed Fong shortly

after he was charged.

Sanders, who suffered a stroke six years ago and has high blood pressure, went on paid medical leave Monday. The other officers have been suspended without pay.

"I want to assure all of you that this are difficult times, but the San Francisco Police Department is here and will continue the level of service to ensure that the citizens and visitors and the business people of this city are safe," Fong told reporters.

Fong said nearly 4,000 calls for emergency service are received and handled by the department each day.

The mayor-appointed police commission canceled the portion of its

meeting late Wednesday in which they were to discuss Sanders' fate. Instead, the commission, which is the sole body with the power to suspend the chief, listened to about 45 minutes of public comment, which ranged from calls to oust the chief to shows of support for him.

"I'm sad to say that it appears, in another form, the practice of lynching has been born in recent days," said Amos Brown, president of the San Francisco branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Van Jones, executive director of the Ella Baker Center for Human Rights, took exception to the comparison.

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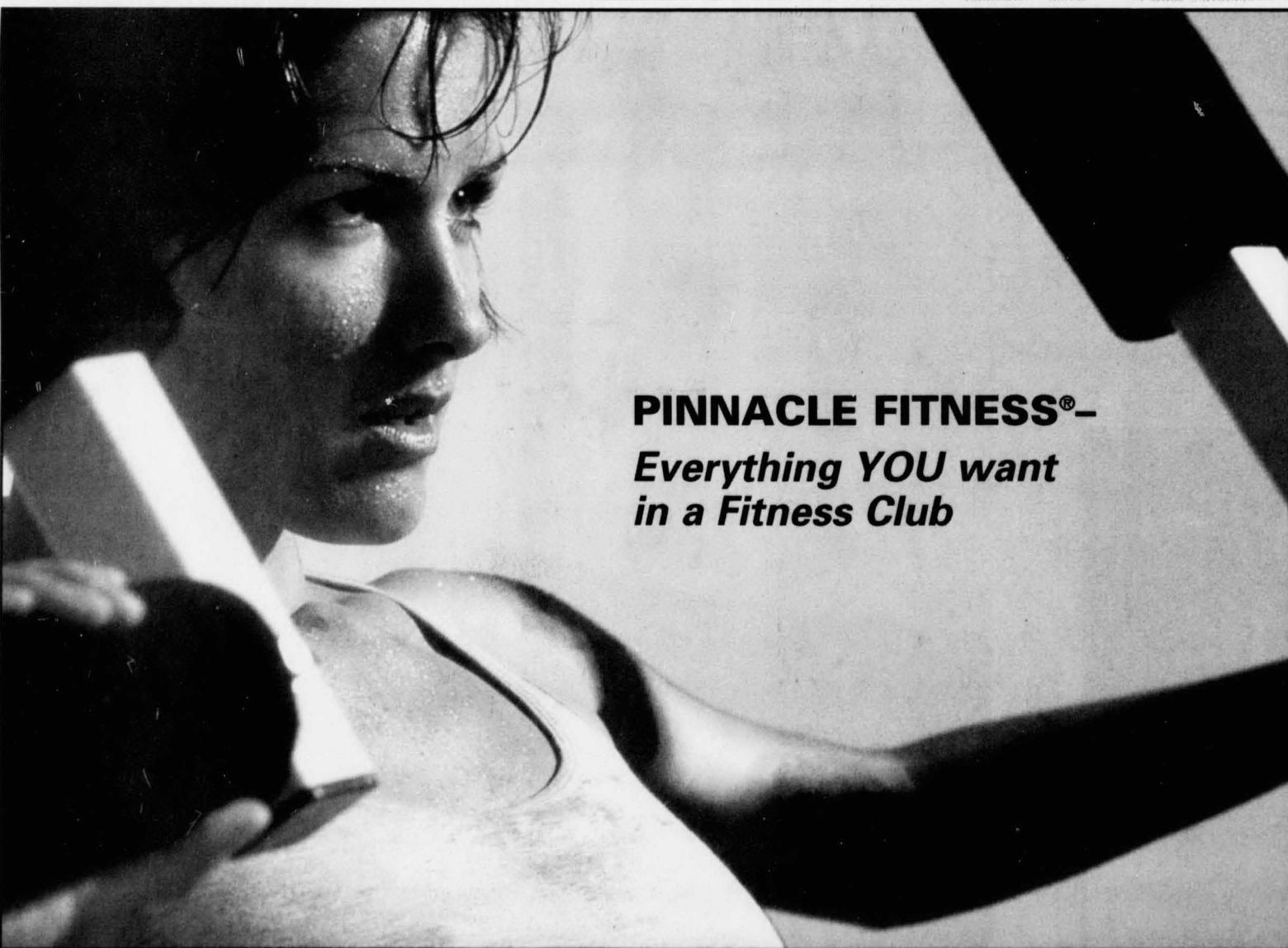
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CAREER | Fair offers opportunities in time of country's economic uncertainty

continued from page 1

degree in mechanical engineering, was waiting in line to interview with PG&E.

"It's doing well," he said about the event. "There are so many long lines here."

Lewis said he had a positive experience at the fair. Out of the six companies he applied to, he said he received a positive response from four or five. He said applicants had about five minutes to present themselves to the interviewers by talking about their qualifications, experiences and abilities.

Carleen O'Halloran, a senior in behavioral sciences at SJSU, said she had attended a career fair at SJSU three years ago, and that there were a lot more people at the event this year.

O'Halloran, who plans to graduate in May, said her goal was to work with the elderly as an activities director. However, she said she wanted to expand her horizon toward the business end of her field because she is minoring in business.

"One of the main reasons for keeping the options open is mainly the low

pay in my field," she said. "I am not expecting to find a job from this fair, but I am just being open."

Chakravarthi Madaboosi, a graduate student in electrical engineering, said a lot of companies didn't necessarily want to hire right now but that they were just looking at the potential.

"Many of the companies are asking to apply through the Web Site which I could have done at home," he said.

Peck, the fair coordinator, said the employers participating in the fair had identified excellent students and that they were very satisfied with the quality of the applicants. She said the companies that got the most response from applicants were Lockheed Martin, IBM, PG&E and Citibank.

Sarah Khan, staffing manager for Citibank West, said employers from the bank specifically chose to attend the job fair at SJSU because they're always looking for top talent.

Khan said Citibank is expanding after their acquisition of Cal Fed Bank and is hiring aggressively to meet the new demand. She said Citibank is interested in all majors as long as the candidates have good retail and sales work experience and the right quali-



Ryan Balbuena / Daily Staff

San Jose State University students and alumni wait for their turn to enter the Event Center Wednesday for the Career Fair. The line to get inside reached from the Event Center entrance to the Spartan Complex Building on Paseo de San Carlos.

fications.

"We have had a great response today, and the quality of students applying

has been excellent," Khan said. "The candidates have a lot of work experience that can be transferred to the

banking industry."

Wilkes said this year's event had a very different group of employers. She said there were more health care related employers this year than they have ever had, and that the field is predicted to grow.

"It's not just high-tech," Wilkes said. "You see a lot of health service and community services organizations, government agencies and public accounting companies."

Wilkes said a couple of years ago this fair was mainly a business and technical job fair, but this time around, it is a job fair for the entire campus.

Katrina Nietes, college relations consultant with PG&E, said the company received about 300 resumes at the fair, mainly from computer science, engineering and management information systems majors.

She said students had been waiting in line for more than an hour to be interviewed by the representatives.

PG&E does not sponsor work visas for foreign students currently, Nietes said. This was because most of the jobs it was offering were at the basic skill level, which didn't justify sponsorship of visas.

Shari Dutra, a representative from Lam Research and an SJSU alumna, said she had also received an overwhelming response from applicants.

"Out of the 700 fliers I carried today to hand out to students, I have only one left," she said. "SJSU has a really great business and computer science school and that's why we're here."

Irene Peck from the Career Center said students who attended the fair should be congratulated for being courteous, patient and professional.

"They were prepared for this and were very well-dressed," she said.

Peck said she found there were as many students applying for internships as there were for full-time jobs. She attributed this to the weak economy and said students were willing to take anything they could find.

Wilkes said a candidate who will graduate in the near future probably may not start with a dream job, but whatever he or she starts with will probably be a logical step toward the future.

Each year, the Career Center organizes the job and internship fair once in the fall and once in the spring, Wilkes said.

Three powers vow to stop any U.N. backing for war

PARIS (AP) — In a blunt warning to the United States and Britain, the foreign ministers of France, Germany and Russia said Wednesday they will block any attempt to get U.N. approval for war against Iraq.

Diplomats say the Europeans have concluded they cannot stop the United States from launching a war but are determined to resist to the last moment rather than see the Americans dominate world affairs. As the diplomatic end game entered what could be its final stage, U.S. and British chances of gaining U.N. backing for military action appeared to be slipping.

"We will not allow a resolution to pass that authorizes resorting to force," French Foreign Minister Dominique de Villepin said at a news conference with Russia's Igor Ivanov and Germany's Joschka Fischer.

The Europeans may already be looking beyond war for when they expect the United States will need their help to rebuild Iraq, clearing the way for the rift in trans-Atlantic relations to be repaired, some diplomats suggested.

U.S. and British officials refused to concede defeat, insisting they remained confident of getting a majority on the U.N. Security Council and portraying the European opposition as last-minute posturing.

"Don't leap to conclusions about the final vote. You will continue to hear various statements from people around the world," said White House spokesman Ari Fleischer.

Secretary of State Colin Powell, who will travel to the United Nations on Thursday to lobby Security Council members, accused Iraqi leader Saddam

Hussein of maneuvering to divide the council and "split us into arguing factions."

Powell declared Saddam's effort would fail. "No nation has been taken in by his transparent tactics," he said in a speech to a foreign-policy group.

But Powell conceded that key differences remain among council members on using force. And in a sign of sagging confidence, the United States, which had been confident of Russian support, warned Moscow on Wednesday that a veto would damage relations. A council vote is expected as early as next week.

With a battle raging behind the scenes for votes on the 15-member Security Council, European diplomats were resigned to the United States taking military action regardless of what the council decides.

Powell said Washington must "reserve the option to act with a coalition of willing nations if the council does not act."

U.S. officials said American forces would hit Iraq with 10 times as many bombs in the opening days of an air campaign as in the initial days of the 1991 Gulf War in an assault meant to "shock and awe" Iraqi defenders.

Despite Washington's talk of war, some European diplomats indicated a deal was still possible, possibly involving watered-down wording on a resolution approving some form of action against Iraq. The United States has said it would oppose this.

British diplomats, desperate for a U.N. resolution because of domestic opposition to their government's support for war, hinted that the weapons inspectors could be given a bit more

time under a tight deadline.

Turkey's failure to clear the way for U.S. operations from its territory against Iraq had created a possible window, they said. Turkey's powerful military said Wednesday it supported letting in the U.S. troops, boosting pressure on legislators to reconsider their rejection of a measure allowing the American deployment.

But diplomats said it was increasingly likely that France and Russia would veto a second resolution to assert their independence and show that other powers must have influence in global affairs. Backing down now would be a major humiliation and politically costly because of strong public opposition in their countries to war.

Acknowledging defeat was possible, German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder said in a speech Wednesday. "We may lose this argument." "We will advocate to the last — along with our partners in Europe and beyond — that the disarmament of the Iraqi regime be achieved by peaceful means," Schroeder said.

Paris, Berlin and Moscow are gambling that Washington, after defeating and removing Saddam Hussein, would need help to police Iraq, a process that could take years. The Europeans could provide peacekeeping troops and aid, helping to mend relations with Washington.

Hinting at this, de Villepin said that even if Washington and its allies strike Iraq without U.N. backing, they would need international support in the aftermath.

"If one country imagines that it can win the war alone, we can only build

peace together," he said.

Both sides are hoping chief weapons inspector Hans Blix will give them ammunition to bolster their case Friday when he presents his latest report on Iraqi compliance.

Blix appeared ambivalent Wednesday, saying Iraq had made real progress on destroying missiles and was providing "a great deal more of cooperation now" with inspectors — but that major questions remained on chemical and biological weapons.

A strong condemnation of Iraq by Blix could clear the way for France and Russia to back military action at the last moment. Paris has never ruled out force if Iraq fails to disarm.

France believes U.S. and British diplomats cannot gain the nine Security Council votes they need to get a resolution. This would save Paris and Moscow from having to veto a resolution and bear the full brunt of American anger.

France, Russia and China, as permanent council members, would all veto the resolution if it gets nine votes, claimed one diplomat, who spoke on condition of anonymity. But for now, French officials think the resolution has just four backers: the United States, Britain, Spain and Bulgaria.

Dog mauls second-grader

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — A 50-pound dog ran onto a school playground and ripped off a second-grader's left ear while friends watched in horror.

Daniel Decembre, 8, was in critical condition Wednesday, a day after he suffered severe face and head injuries during the attack.

The dog, a 7-year-old pit bull-Labrador mix named Solomon, was euthanized Wednesday with the owner's consent. The body was being tested, but his owner said the animal was up-to-date on his shots.

Witnesses said the dog came tearing across the school grounds and latched onto Daniel as he was running to get

away. Several teachers beat the dog with umbrellas to free the boy.

"The kids were crying and hysterical," said Marlene Magee, a school-staffing coordinator.

The dog lived at a home next to the school. Owners Clyde and Gloria Salle said the dog usually is chained in the back yard, but on Tuesday bolted out the open front door.

"I don't know how to tell (Daniel's) dad and mom I'm sorry," Clyde Salle said. "I would never intentionally have left that dog out. It was an accident."

An investigation will determine whether criminal charges will be filed, said Carla Fraser, a detective with the Orange County Sheriff's Office.

Federal appeals court stays enforcement of its Pledge ruling

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Public school officials in nine western states may still lead students in the Pledge of Allegiance after a federal appeals court that ruled the recitation was unconstitutional put its decision on hold pending a review by the Supreme Court.

Judge Alfred T. Goodwin issued the order Tuesday, giving the Elk Grove Unified School District 90 days to ask the high court to review the ruling by the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

The Elk Grove district was the target of a lawsuit that brought the pledge into federal court. Michael Newdow, a Sacramento atheist, sued the schools, alleging that his daughter shouldn't be subjected to collective recitations of the pledge.

In a case that bitterly divided the nation and the federal judiciary, the appeals court ruled in Newdow's favor last summer, declaring that use of the pledge in public schools violates the Constitution. It said use of the words "under God" amounts to a government endorsement of religion. On Friday, the court refused to reconsider its ruling.

Without Tuesday's stay, public schools in nine western states would have been banned — beginning next Monday — from reciting the pledge. Those states are Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Nevada, Montana, Oregon and Washington.

A Justice Department spokesman said the government had no comment on Tuesday's order, and said the Bush administration was still considering whether it would also appeal.

California law requires schools to conduct a patriotic observance at the beginning of each school day. Elk Grove officials had said they would have students sing the national anthem instead of the pledge if the appeals court did not delay its ruling.

Tuesday's ruling was "very good news, because we want to see the matter heard before the Supreme Court, and we want our children to keep say-

ing the pledge as written until such time as the Supreme Court rules," said Dave Gordon, superintendent of the Elk Grove district.

Newdow said he did not object to Tuesday's order. "I'll let it play itself out," he said. "There's no question I am going to win."

Ruling in similar cases, the Supreme Court has barred sectarian prayers in public school graduation speeches and said schools could not punish students for refusing to recite the pledge. But the high court has allowed state legislatures to open their sessions with prayers.



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'North Train' pulls into SJSU for another weekend



By Kimberly Lapham
Daily Staff Writer

All aboard for singing, dancing, boozing, poetry, music and...murder?
"The North Train" transports its audience, which was nearly full on Saturday night, to The Underground club in Harlem when it was experiencing its renaissance — a time of blossoming creativity

in the African American community of Harlem from the end of World War I through the 1930s.

REVIEW

The musical is titled for the train that brings its lead character, Anthony, to Harlem, where he has come in search of his ex-fiancee, Gayle.

Gayle, who had left Anthony without a word a year earlier, is found working as a singer at The Underground. Anthony pleads with Gayle to return home with him, but she is tortured by secrets from her past that she struggles to keep buried. Gayle has since become the girlfriend of The Underground's powerful and feared owner, Michael.

Michael is in debt to a blind liquor-supplier-come-gangster called Colorblind,

who has difficulties hitting anyone with bullets when attempting to kill his enemies.

Colorblind and Michael plot to kill each other, but Gayle and Anthony get tangled in their schemes, which combust in the play's final scene.

During this final scene, the audience was booming with laughter before Pierre Johnson, who plays Anthony, could even get his last line out. Perhaps this was



Photos by Karin Higgins

ABOVE: Angel, played by Rebecca Cadman, quickly reacts to a murder attempt against The Underground's owner, Michael, played by Ricky Marshall in, "The North Train" written by Dijorn Moss.
LEFT: Anthony, played by Pierre Johnson, has a drink at The Underground while Carl the bartender, played by Jan Soltys, watches.

because the scene came off as incredibly melodramatic.

Maybe the reason for this was the directing, or even the writing, but probably an off-kilter combination.

Johnson portrays the goody-goody Anthony, who lacks chemistry with his love interest, Gayle, played by Melissa Navarre.

Navarre seems to try too hard to act, which makes her performance seem forced. Her voice, which is heard numerous times in the play's musical numbers, suffices in carrying the songs along, though.

The play is enhanced by the music of The Cool Cats, fronted by trumpet player, Eddie Gale.

The band plays on the club's stage on the set during both the play and part of the intermission, which blurs the line between the fictional world of "The North Train" and the audience.

Gale, who was named San Jose's Jazz Ambassador in 1974, has recorded many albums since the 1960s and has played with artists such as John Coltrane. His inclusion in the performance makes a

genuine and soulful contribution to the ambiance of the play.

Jan Soltys is convincing as Carl the bartender and makes the most of his small role. Colorblind is played by Robert Parker, who creates a realistic and memorable character.

Strong performances also come in the forms of Rebecca Cadman as Michael's cohort, Angel, and Ricky Marshall as Michael.

The detailed set creates a realistic backdrop that oozes character, and the costumes are also well done. They are true to the period and contribute to the visual presentation. Gayle strutted in a couple of attention-grabbing, well-cut 1920s-style dresses.

At times, it felt a bit like a high school play, but "The North Train" was written by an SJSU student with unlimited potential, Dijorn Moss. He offers an interesting night of entertainment with "The North Train."

"The North Train" plays at 7 p.m. tonight, Friday and Saturday in the University Theatre.

CD REVIEW A stark reality of wartime brings audience to 'Tears'

Grammy Nominated Artists
Grammy Nominees 2003

The Grammy Nominees 2003 CD features 17 tracks from 17 different Grammy-nominated artists. This is an entertaining and decent CD packed with quality music from many successful musicians.

Nine of the tracks are from winning artists including Norah Jones' "Don't Know Why," the Dixie Chicks' "Landslide," Eminem's "Without Me," Nelly's "Hot in Herre," Ashanti's "Foolish" and Michelle Branch's "All You Wanted."

Norah Jones won a total of six Grammy awards including Best Record, Album and Song of the Year for the album "Come Away With Me." The Dixie Chicks won four awards including Best Country Album and Best Recording Package for "Home." Eminem won two awards including Best Rap Album for the "The Eminem Show." Nelly won two awards including Best Male Rap Solo Performance for the song "Hot In Herre."

The rest of the tracks are from non-winning nominees including Vanessa Carlton's "A Thousand Miles," Nickelback's "How You Remind Me," Avril Lavigne's "Complicated," Britney Spears' "Overprotected," Sting's "Fragile" and the Dave Matthews Band's "Where Are You Going?"

This CD has a mixture of different categories of music such as rap, pop, hip-hop, R&B, country, rock and jazz. The only weakness is that it contains eight nominees who didn't win an award.

The disc would have been better if all the songs were compiled from nominees who won, because it would have showcased the best from the Grammy Awards. Unfortunately, this was an impossible task to do since the disc was created and distributed before the Grammy Awards show. A Grammy Winners CD should have been created instead. Despite this one setback, if people like the artists and songs featured on the CD, they should do themselves a favor and purchase it from their local record store or online.

—Matthew Adamski

By Paulo Hernandez
Daily Staff Writer

"Tears of the Sun" is an action, adventure film that gives viewers an in-depth look at how war can tear a country apart.

The movie's plot is simple to follow, and the actors do a good job of showing the internal conflicts their characters must contend with.

The film sets the stage effectively from the start. The democratic government of Nigeria has been over-

REVIEW

thrown by a military dictator, and the entire ruling family is assassinated by rebel troops. With no real government in place, chaos reigns.

Bruce Willis ("Pulp Fiction") stars as Lt. A.K. Waters, a loyal veteran officer of a Navy SEAL unit. Waters and his team are sent on a routine mission to retrieve a doctor, who is a U.S. citizen working at a Catholic mission deep in Nigerian territory. Dr. Lena Kendrick is played by the beautiful Monica Bellucci ("The Brotherhood of the Wolf").

Waters arrives at the mission to escort Kendrick to safety, but she refuses to leave the mission without the refugees under her care. Kendrick agrees to leave only if Waters in turn agrees to deliver the refugees to political asylum at the nearby Cameroon border. Meanwhile, Waters is under strict orders from his commanding officer, played by Tom Skerritt ("Top Gun"), to remain severed from the conflict. However, when Waters and his men witness the brutality of the rebels firsthand, they agree to escort the refugees through the treacherous jungle terrain to the border.

Unknown to Waters and his men, the sole survivor of the ruling family is among the refugees. The survivor is also a member of an old ruling tribe in the country, making him the country's rightful ruler by bloodline. This twist makes the viewer cheer even more so for Waters and his men to



Photo Courtesy of Columbia Pictures

A Navy SEAL team is dropped into central Africa and embark on a hazardous rescue mission in Revolution Studios' action adventure Tears of the Sun, a Columbia Pictures release. The film stars (l to r) Paul Francis, Johnny Messner, Nick Chinlund, Bruce Willis, Cole Hauser and Eammon Walker.

succeed in their mission. It gives the SEAL's mission a more noble purpose. For the takeover to be complete, the rebel forces must eliminate the survivor as well. The rebels, who substantially outnumber the Navy SEALs, set out to hunt down the survivor.

The best part of the film is the battle scene at the end when the rebels face off against Waters and his men. The action is fast and furious.

The romantic relationship that begins to develop between Waters and Kendrick, while predictable, in the end makes sense.

"Tears of the Sun" is a standard rescue story. Willis gives a convincing performance as a man torn by his duty and his humanity. The viewer can see Willis' character evolve from an indi-

vidual who cares solely about the mission and sees the refugees as "packages," to one who begins to see the refugees as actual human beings. He plays the hero role with ease. It is interesting to see how all of the hardcore SEAL's views begin to change as they witness more atrocities.

While Bellucci's character's situation makes her frustrations understandable, her hesitancy at times to take action gets annoying. Even so, her character's concern for the refugees seems truly authentic.

The rest of the cast members are not really anything special. They just get the job done.

The involved plot and interesting characters make the movie worth paying \$9.50 for a ticket and investing two hours of time.

Norah Jones' CDs get a post-Grammy boost

By Nekesa Mumbi Moody
AP Music Writer

NEW YORK — Talk about a Grammy sales bump — Norah Jones' debut album, "Come Away With Me," sold 621,000 copies after her Grammy sweep, almost 500,000 more than the week before — the biggest post-Grammy sales spike ever, according to her record company.

Jones' disc, which won eight Grammys, including album of the year, is the No. 1 album in the country, according to figures released Wednesday.

Its sales rose 331 percent, according to EMI Recorded Music, which owns her label, Blue Note Records. The previous week, the disc had sold about 144,000 copies.

Jones' huge sales leap knocked R. Kelly off the top of the charts. His "Chocolate Factory" placed at No. 3, while rapper 50 Cent moved from No. 3 to No. 2 with "Get Rich or Die Tryin'."

Jones, who also won best new artist, performed "Don't Know Why," which won record and song of the year, on the Feb. 23 Grammy broadcast.

So far, the 23-year-old pop-jazz singer's album has sold 4.2 million. Most in the industry didn't expect it

to sell more than 100,000 when it was released in February 2002.

Other Grammy-winning and nominated artists experienced a sales increase, though not as significant as Jones' bump. The Dixie Chicks, whose "Home" won three Grammys, saw album sales rise from 127,000 the previous week to 202,000, placing the disc at No. 4; and John Mayer, who won the best pop male vocal award, sold 97,000 copies of "Room for Squares," compared with 45,000 the previous week. It placed at No. 8.

Bruce Springsteen, who won three Grammys, saw his disc rise from No. 129 on the charts to No. 27. "The Rising" sold 36,000, compared with 11,000 the previous week.

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