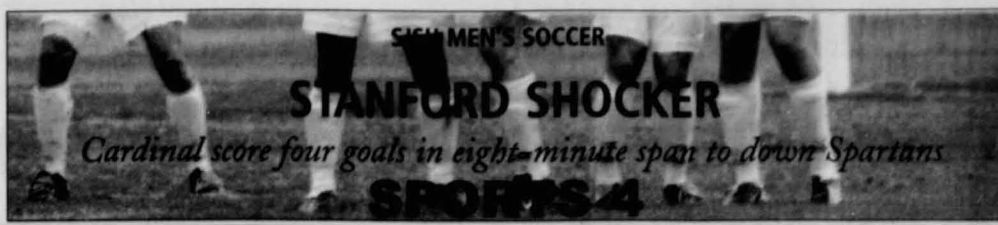




THE THRILLA ...
Climbing the leader-ladder
can be gratifying but lonely
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Dilbert creator
speaks at
Tech Museum
NEWS 5

SERVING SAN JOSE STATE UNIVERSITY SINCE 1934

SPARTAN DAILY

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FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2003

Washington Square Hall receives facelift

*Outside staircase, walkway
deemed 'trip hazard'*

By Ian Ross
Daily Staff Writer

The Fourth Street side of Washington Square Hall was covered in scaffolding and being attacked by tractors, circular saws and jackhammers on Wednesday afternoon.

Construction workers from Pacific Structure were busy destroying a stairway entrance to the building to replace it next week.

Mario Rogel was using the circular to break up what was left of the stairs while Pete Mestic operated a tractor, tearing up the ground in order to put in a new walkway.

"We're taking out the old stuff and putting in the new concrete," said Pacific Structure foreman Dustin Barclay. "It's for visual improvement. The old concrete was getting cracked."

The job is expected to take about a week to complete.

"We started (Tuesday) and hopefully we'll be done by next Wednesday, depending on the weather," he said.

Barclay said the stairway would look identical to the other Washington Square Hall stairway just north of the construction site.

The concrete for that stairway was laid down last week. Rudy Zeledonchong and Jose Rios of Brian's Welding were putting the finishing touches on welding the new, longer railings.

Jim Zavagno, the associate director of Facilities Development and Operations, said the stairs were beginning to settle and crack, creating a trip hazard.

"You don't really fix it up, you have to tear it up," he said. "It requires ongoing maintenance to keep the campus hazard free."

"People won't notice because they won't trip or fall and that's a good thing," he said.

Some people inside Washington Square Hall can't help but notice.

Environmental Studies professor Lester Rowntree's office happens to be room 115 of Washington Square Hall, just inside the doorway where the construction is taking place.

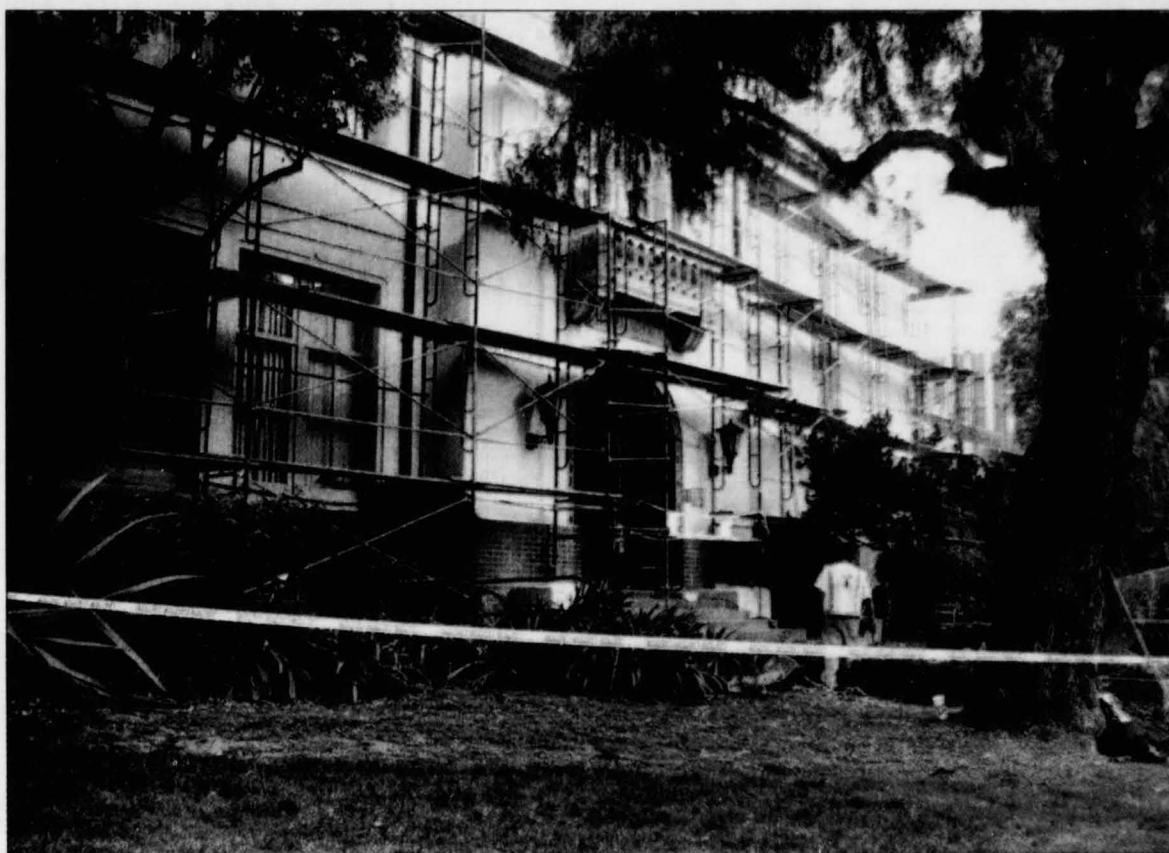
"It just started being disruptive when they started jack hammering," Rowntree said. "I'm counting the minutes until I can leave my office and go use someone else's."

"They go on for about 30 minutes then they pick up their stuff," he said. "Yesterday I got a headache and had to leave the building."

Rowntree said he thought a warning before the noise began would have been in order.

Jean Bosser, who works in the Center for Development of Recycling also in room 115, was also disrupted by the jackhammers.

"I do mostly phone work, which is really distracting when jack hammering is going on outside," Bosser said.



Photos by Yvonne Pingue / Daily Staff

Right: Piles of dirt, caution tape and construction equipment barricade the Fourth Street entrance to Washington Square Hall.



Above: Construction workers from Pacific Structure work on a new staircase for the Fourth Street entrance to Washington Square Hall on Wednesday. The completion is scheduled for next week.

Right: Rudy Zeledonchong, a welder from Brian's Welding Co., welds stair railings on the Fourth Street entrance to the Science building.



What's that smell?

Trees provide fruit, shade but students complain of odor

By Janet Pak
Daily Staff Writer

Eunice Park was walking when a strong odor made her wrinkle her nose.

"It smells like dog poo," said Park, a freshman biology major, as she walked past the trees between Uchida Hall and Washington Square Hall.

The rancid smell comes from the fruit of the female ginkgo biloba trees scattered around the San Jose State University campus, said Robert Andrews, associate director of Facilities Development and Operations.

Andrews said the smell occurs during the fall and lasts a maximum of two months.

"It's honestly a beautiful tree and just gorgeous in the spring," Andrews said about the tree's bright yellow leaves. "We don't get a lot of fall colors on our trees in this part of California. It enhances the campus and adds an element we don't get to see."

Andrews said his staff tries to power wash the area weekly to reduce the odor and clean the fruit that's been crushed by foot traffic.

Long Mei Tong said she and other elderly residents come to SJSU often to collect the fruit.

Tong said she peels off the skin, washes and dries the fruit before having it with rice porridge. Underneath the soft orange layers is a small tan yellow shaped fruit.

She said the leaves can also be brewed as tea and the fruit can improve memory retention.

"It's very delicious," said Letao Wu, an elderly man who was picking the fruit Wednesday morning.

Wu said he collects 50 to 60 pieces a day because they usually cost \$6 a pound at grocery stores.

Andrews said last week he saw some elderly men and women who brought 30-foot-long poles to knock the fruit down.

There was a strong push from students who didn't like the smell a few years ago to cut the trees down, Andrews said.

Andrews said there are a limited number of trees that provide shade in the summer and they serve an educational purpose, which is why the facilities department was resistant to cutting them down.

Carol Selter, a botany technician in the biology department, said she teaches students to recognize the tree as an uncommon gymnosperm, such as firs and pines. Selter said the plants are native in China and were once considered to be extinct.

Andrews said there are several female ginkgo trees on campus including one located by the Art quad, 10th Street and another tree located in between Uchida Hall and Washington Square Hall.

The female trees produce the fruit, Andrews said, and the males don't.

According to a Stanford University Web site, ginkgo biloba is a type of tree that has existed for more than 200 million years.

Rene Lemus, an SJSU alumnus, said the trees smell bad and he tries to be cautious when walking by.

"I don't want to have it stuck to my shoes and carry it to classrooms," Lemus said.

PoMoSexuals look to lose society's labels

Author discusses various modern sexual preferences

By Mark Cornejo
Daily Staff Writer

There was more discussed Thursday night at the Almaden room in the Student Union than a book.

Carol Queen, author of "PoMoSexuals: Challenging Assumptions about Gender and Sexuality," discussed her thoughts on how society labels sexuality as well as

stories in her book.

She said the term "PoMoSexuals" derives from the post-modern way of thinking that describes a philosophy that challenges the modern theory.

Queen, who said she herself had at least 14 sexual preferences, said the artificial binary terms people use to define sexuality, such as gay, straight, woman and man, leave out several other sexual preferences.

She said her book is a collection of stories from people dealing with labels such as transgender and bisexual.

"It is a group of personal essays by people who find being identified as gay or lesbian doesn't quite include what they are," Queen said.

It was Queen's first visit to San

Jose State University, and she used the opportunity to share some of her own stories as a way to relate to the crowd of about 60.

She said she came out as a bisexual in the 1970s and was not accepted by the homosexual community.

"People in the 70s thought bisexuals were just experimenting, and they would eventually choose a side," Queen said.

Queen also read selected essays from the book as a sample of the sort of ideas expressed in "PoMoSexuals."

One of the stories was by a man who described himself as gay but went to California in search of a woman to have sex with.

Queen said the story was an example of someone who felt they had to

choose between homosexual and heterosexual, but who were still unsure.

Another story she read was from a woman who said she was bisexual, but that lesbian women did not accept her because she looked like a heterosexual woman.

Queen said she took the stories on the basis of trying to incorporate all kinds of sexual preferences such as the story of a woman who became a man and would answer personal ads by gay men.

Queen also discussed the Internet's role in PoMoSexuality.

"The Internet is the biggest pmo toy," she said.

She told the story of a gay man who would go into Internet chat rooms as a woman in order to have sexual experiences with straight

men, and warned about being careful about who they are interacting with online.

"You never know who you are having cybersex with," Queen said. "But in my world that's exciting."

The event was sponsored by the Feminist Majority Leadership Alliance and the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Allies.

Kristen Levin, co-chair of GLBTA, said the club was proud to sponsor an event that would promote the fact people do not need labels.

She said it was also a way to promote understanding at SJSU.

"We want the campus to be a safer and more welcoming environment," Levin said. "No matter who you chose to date."

Students find refuge at Pomegranite

Editor's note: Every other Friday, the Spartan Daily will profile a local coffee house. — F.B.

By Sunita Vijayan
Daily Staff Writer

There's something to be said about a coffee shop that is as refreshing as its namesake.

Subtle, gentle music is immediately apparent upon entrance and the wooden rustic columns strategically placed inside contrasts with the metal light fixtures and granite countertops—in perfect accord to the aroma of cooking drifting from its stainless steel kitchen.



FRIDAY ESPRESSO

With the hectic pace of downtown San Jose, Café Pomegranate, located on 221 E. San Fernando St. is a slice of undiscovered heaven just waiting to wel-

come its passersby with open arms.

Chinwe Onyenegecha, a senior with a double major in art history and economics said she was looking for some breakfast while walking to school one day when she found the café.

"It's a nice alternative compared to the other places," she said. "It's cozy and for a reasonable price, you get full."

Ray Robertson, a senior with a double major in electrical and chemical engineering, said Onyenegecha had brought him to the café and, as a first timer, he really liked his experience.

"The minute I walked in I knew I'm going to come back. It reminds me of Berkeley and the food's tasty," Robertson said.

Annie Balasingh, a senior computer science major, said what keeps her coming back is the atmosphere and the customer service.

"I like the ambiance," she said. "I've never had Persian food before, and the people here are very friendly."

Affie Mahini, proprietor of the café, said although she was Persian, she did not limit her menu to only certain kinds of dishes, living up to the café's motto — "A modern twist

on rustic eats."

"It really means we do foods from different ethnicities, which is the rustic part of it," Mahini said.

As for the modern twist, she said she never cooked her meals like how it is supposed to be, instead adding her own healthy ingredients.

Mahini said she had come up with the name, Café Pomegranate, for its originality and because of her family's everlasting love for the fruit itself.

"This is the place where I'm going to be at and why not name it after something I love," she said.

In addition, Mahini said for most of her dishes, she uses pomegranates as an ingredient.

For an affordable price, Mahini said she had envisioned her café to be a place for the people of downtown San Jose, especially San Jose State University students.

"I wanted an alternative place for kids to have home cooking. Everything is done from scratch," she said.

See CAFE, page



Autumn Cruz / Daily Staff

From left, Soumida Vannasing, a junior majoring in television, radio, film and theatre, Mary Baynes, a senior majoring in television, radio, film and theatre, Jan Soltys, a senior majoring in theatre arts, and Pierre Johnson, a junior double majoring in English and theatre arts, socialize while eating at Cafe Pomegranate on San Fernando Street Thursday.

THE THRILLA FROM MANILA

The path to becoming a leader can be a lonely one

Being a leader is a hard and thankless job. Most of the time, people who are chosen to be leaders aren't the ones who normally want the job.

For me, most of my life has been lived by being very high on the totem pole.

It all got its start back when I was a Boy Scout during my youth. At that point in my life, it helped shape the person that most people see today.

During the scouting days, most of my leadership roles were to be responsible for a group of other scouts. It is a scary thought that a boy who is only 15 years old is in charge of a troop of 20 boys. There was one important lesson I learned during my one-year post as a senior patrol leader; one man cannot do it all alone.

Some people think that it can all be handled with one person at the helm of a large ship. In reality, that ship will sink or be stranded in the water without a crew to help man all the important parts. Can you imagine trying to set up the mass sails and steering the ship in the right direction?

At first, it took me a while to figure this one out because most of the little tasks were easy enough to do all by myself. Then someone taught me about a skill that I've yet to tap into: delegating authority to others.

Once this skill was introduced to me, it just made doing

the small and large tasks more efficient.

This role of being a leader eventually grew on me for a little bit, only because the group usually volunteered me for jobs of responsibility that no one else wanted. High-ranking positions like senior patrol leader or an instructor were some of the jobs people didn't want.

After much groaning and complaining, the troop sent me off to brush up my skills at a national leadership instructor camp in New Mexico.

The camp was fun, but spending almost two weeks without modern technology to keep you occupied can drive a normal man insane.

The camp was out in the middle of nowhere, and the buffalo still roams the countryside. Aside from the breathtaking sunsets and wonderful thunder and lightning shows, the place was boring. Out of all that boredom, the camp managed to instill another leadership value in me: to be a good leader, you must first be a good follower.

This is another skill some people at the top don't understand.

The basis for a good leader is a good follower reference comes from the Golden Rule. That rule is to treat others like you would like to be treated. Most of us don't want to be treated like crap, but some bosses treat their employees like that sometimes.

It might sound like a simple thing, but for most of us on the top, it can be difficult. The drive to always want to get things done quickly tends to cloud the mind of rational thought. I have to admit that this has happened to me a couple of times where in the good of the job at hand, the people under me have suffered a bit. There has to be an understanding of the different roles that people play.

All of these skills helped me to land my first paid job at a candy store/gift shop at the mall. Working at a candy store was sweet because there were some benefits to working your tail end off. Some of the perks were getting discounts on stuff in the store and sampling the new candy that came in.

After a couple of months, the manager and owner promoted me to an assistant manager. During the two-year adventure at that post, it taught me that sometimes being

in management could be a bit lonely.

It is like when a person sets out to climb the top of a mountain. When you are at the base of the mountain, there are a lot of people still around you to help out. Then as you keep on trucking up the hill, there are fewer and fewer people to see. Finally, when you are at the top, it tends to just be you and maybe that hill monster.

Another lesson learned at the store about being a leader is that you will share all the rewards and praise, but you will also receive all the blame.

This lesson was a hard one to digest because everyone wanted to get good credit for something being done. People don't want to get yelled at for something bad that happened.

Overall, being a leader can be fun, but a lot of work. People under you will either love you or hate you. Though without followers, there won't be any leaders.



RYAN BALBUENA

Ryan Balbuena is the Spartan Daily photo editor. 'The Thrilla From Manila' appears Fridays.

Viewpoint | The Supreme Court needs to maintain the Bipartisan Reform Act

Dear editor,

Recently the Supreme Court heard oral arguments in a case about campaign finance reform. The Court has been asked to decide whether the Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act is constitutional. The reform act implements the restriction in the use of "soft money" (or unregulated money), and non-candidate campaign expenditures, among other reforms.

Soft money can be raised in extraordinary sums of money to be used in various ads during the campaign. The reform act also regulates how much an outside party can spend on ads in a campaign. The Court must uphold the reform act to reduce the power of interest groups in our elections. It is imperative to regulate soft money to allow a better campaign.

Since the 1970s, there has been a sense of corruption in national elections. Before the reform act, soft money allowed interest groups a louder voice in elections than the American people. The amount of money that an interest group funnels into a campaign dwarfs the amount of money the average citizen could give to a campaign.

As a result, campaigns tend to have two candidates

whose platform is recycling the views of interest groups. The American people are choosing their leaders based on the views of interest groups even if those groups do not hold the views of the voters.

By restricting soft money the reform act will shrink the influence of interest groups on elections. Without the money coming from interest groups, candidates will be less beholden to please interest groups. Because the candidates will be less beholden to interest groups, they will be more likely to run on their own ideas.

We must allow politicians to return to a time when all that mattered in a campaign was their stance on the issues, to a time when Americans felt that their voice mattered.

In order to achieve this goal, the Supreme Court must uphold the Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act.

Abmad Chapman
Junior
Political Science

FLOWER CHILD

Increasing crime statistics are easily blamed on others

Why am I not surprised that the crime statistics in Santa Clara County have gone up when the crime rate in California for the first six months in 2003 has gone down?

I'm not sure about the psychological rationale to explain why we are experiencing such a dramatic increase in crime, but the numbers are doing the talking today.

The California Attorney General's Web page shows that rape has gone down 4.1 percent, robbery has gone down 2.2 percent and aggravated assault has gone down 4.5 percent statewide.

Meanwhile, the increase in the total amount of violent crime in Santa Clara County is 27.5 percent.

That includes the categories of homicide, rape, robbery and aggravated assault. OK, Yes, homicide has gone down 50 percent in Santa Clara County.

But where do the numbers come from to show such a difference here than everywhere else?

The 2003 crime data comes from the crime counts for January through June 2003 when compared to the same period in 2002.

The report is a preliminary report called "Crime in 2003."

Rape and robbery have both increased by more than 50 percent.

Aggravated assault has increased by 16.9 percent. Does this make sense?

Does this sound like something we need to change? We all know the definitions. We're all adults, right?

The office of Attorney General Lockyer defines forcible rape as "the carnal knowledge of a female forcibly and against her will."

Assaults or attempts to commit rape by force or threat of force are included in the report as well.

Aggravated assault is defined as "the unlawful attack or attempted attack by one person upon another for the purpose of inflicting severe or aggravated bodily injury."

This type of assault is usually accompanied by the use of a weapon or by means likely to produce death or great bodily harm.

Oversimplification of the problem is to encourage training to prevent violence, hate crimes and offensive speech.

But the question is, do we believe that hate crimes and hate speech lead to violence?

Does the ability to have self-respect translate into the ability to treat others with respect as well?

Some academic researchers might argue that it does. What are we teaching and learning here at San Jose State University that we might find useful to give to our

community?

We can't just dismiss it with an "oh, well" comment to defend any in-your-face way that we live or treat others.

Again, I do not have the answer. I only have the need to ask the question.

And we need to defend our rights to free speech and privacy as well.

Maybe we could start somewhere.

A return to courtesy, respect for privacy and a "howdy neighbor, how's the weather" might be reasonable.

No, that's too simple, too.

For some reason, we need to make our answers to questions about numbers more difficult.

Some might blame it on the local police department for a lack of protection.

But the numbers don't show that the perpetrators aren't being arrested because then we wouldn't have the data.

Should we blame it on someone or something else?

Academic researchers have also studied that TV viewing has had an impact on the behavior of children.

The results of the studies about violence on television aren't always positive.

On the other hand, we have hoped that the children in our society will eventually choose to grow up.

Yet, we continue to grieve the tragic deaths of the students who were shot by their fellow students at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colo.

Yesterday, a news story on CNN.com reported that five high school football coaches did not get a new contract because three football players from Mephram High School at a Wayne County, Pa., football camp allegedly sodomized several other students to promote team loyalty.

But we shouldn't look at team sports in a bad light because of this negative story.

The decision-makers who schedule daytime TV programs usually respond to viewing statistics when they study information about what shows to schedule and at what time during the day.

I thank God for Oprah. She's on in the late afternoon.

But it also looks like other viewers in the afternoon would like to see what they talk about on the Jerry Springer TV show.

I guess that's why I'm not surprised.

Janine Stanhope is a Spartan Daily copy editor. 'Flower Child' appears every other Friday.



JANINE STANHOPE

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. Entries can also be e-mailed to spartandaily@cas.sjsu.edu titled "Sparta Guide." Space restrictions may require editing of submissions. Entries are printed in the order in which they are received.

TODAY

SCHOOL OF ART AND DESIGN
Student Galleries will be presented today from 8 to 6 p.m. in the student galleries Art building. For more information, call Sam or Bill at 924-4330.

CHINESE CAMPUS FELLOWSHIP
A Christian fellowship that shares faith in Jesus Christ with others takes place every Friday from 2:30 to 4 p.m. in the Almaden room of the Student Union. For more information, visit www.sjsucf.org or e-mail jefflieu217@yahoo.com.

ISLAMIC STUDIES GROUP
Jummah Prayer takes place every Friday at 1:15 p.m. in the Costanoan room in the Student Union. For more information, contact Yasir Rao at 286-1217 or e-mail msalaison_sjsu@hotmail.com.

SJSU CATHOLIC CAMPUS MINISTRY
Daily Mass takes place every weekday at 12:10 p.m. in the SJSU campus Ministry Center. For more information, call Sister Marcia at 938-1610.

SATURDAY

SCHOOL OF ART AND DESIGN
Student gallery reception including all galleries will be held today at 6:30 p.m. in the student galleries. For more information, call Sam or Bill at 924-4330.

SUNDAY

SJSU CATHOLIC CAMPUS MINISTRY
Sunday Mass take place every Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. in SJSU Campus Ministry Center. For more information, call Sister Marcia at 938-1610.

MONDAY

PUBLIC RELATIONS STUDENT SOCIETY OF AMERICA
Julie McHenry, the president of Communications Insight, will speak today at 6 p.m. in Dwight Bentel Hall, room 202.

GOLDEN KEY INTERNATIONAL HONORS SOCIETY
An introduction of new members will be held today from 6 to 8 p.m. in the Barrett ballroom of the Student Union. For more information, call Dave Becker at 813-5301.

SJSU CATHOLIC CAMPUS MINISTRY
Daily Mass takes place every weekday at 12:10 p.m. in the SJSU Campus Ministry Center. For more information, call Sister Marcia at 938-1610.

DEPARTMENT OF NUTRITION AND FOOD SCIENCE
Body fat testing using cutting edge analyzer will be held every Monday from 9 to 10:30 a.m. in the Central Classroom building, room 221. It costs \$5 per student. For more information, call Sherry at 924-3362.

SJSU GRUPO FOLKLORICO LUNA Y SOL
Folklorico dancers from various regions of Mexico perform every Monday from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Mosaic CrossCultural Center in the Student Union. Beginners and advanced students are welcome. For more information, call Malenda Wallin at 247-1220.

SCHOOL OF ART AND DESIGN
The art exhibition "Our Valley, Our Stories" will take place today in the Art building, gallery three. The show is curated by the Museum and Gallery Operations Class, Art 182A and features works by SJSU artists both native and new to Santa Clara County. The content of the works range from social and environmental commentaries to very personal stories experienced while living here in the "Valley of Heart's Delight." For more information, e-mail anna@pressdarling.com.

TUESDAY

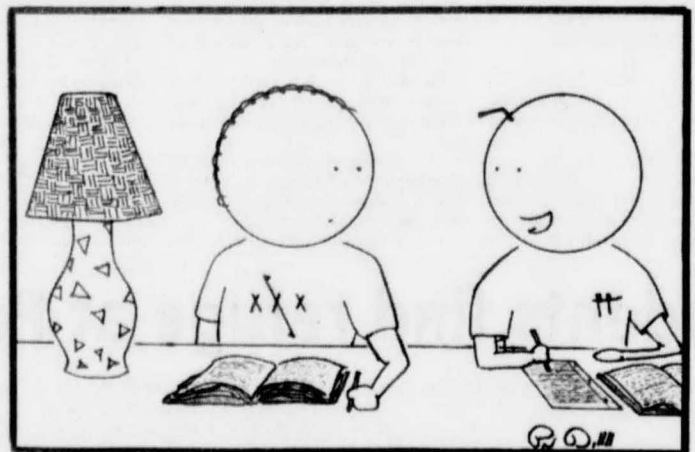
GLOBAL STUDENT NETWORK
A general information meeting will take place today at 2 p.m. in the Study Abroad office in the Administration building, room 223B. For more information, call Jimmy Gordillo at 924-5931.

VIETNAMESE STUDENT ASSOCIATION
A general meeting will take place today from 4:30 to 6 p.m. in the Pacifica room of the Student Union. For more information, call Huy Tran at (510) 579-4689.

ALPHA KAPPA OMEGA
Brothers of Alpha Kappa Omega will present "Vision" today at 6:30 p.m. in the Barrett Ballroom. Pre-sale tickets cost \$5 and tickets at the door cost \$8. There will be performances, DJs, poets and philanthropy. For more information, call Eric at (510)386-7127 or e-mail prime134ever123@aol.com.

SCHOOL OF ART AND DESIGN
An art reception will be held today from 6 to 7:30 p.m. outside of Gallery three. Everyone is invited to attend. It will be open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and the show closes on Nov. 13. For more information, e-mail anna@pressdarling.com.

ANOTHER DIMENTION | PAUL DYBDAHL



"SHANNON AND I HAVE REACHED THAT COMFORTABLE POINT IN A RELATIONSHIP WHERE WE JUST LIE TO EACH OTHER ALL OF THE TIME."

SPARTAN DAILY

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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@cas.sjsu.edu or mailed to the Spartan Daily Opinion Editor, School of Journalism and Mass Communications, San Jose State University, One Washington Square, San Jose, CA 95192-0149.

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

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



Rina Ota / Daily Staff

The San Jose State University Concert Choir warms up during a rehearsal before their performance for the Listening Hour Thursday in the Concert Hall.

Choirs join forces for concert

By Ron Pangrac
Daily Staff Writer

In the first of three performances, the San Jose State University Concert Choir presented well-known opera choruses and other works in the Music building Concert Hall on Thursday.

About 150 people attended the free concert, which was part of the school of music and dance's weekly series, The Listening Hour.

The 40-member Concert Choir, comprised mostly of students, was accompanied by piano on opera selections that included the "Anvil Chorus" from "Il Trovatore," and "Habanera" and "March of the Toreadors" from "Carmen."

Throughout the rich vocal performance, the choir projected clear tones.

On "Dido's Lament and Chorus" from "Dido and Aeneas," the sad mood was movingly expressed by the choir and by soloist Kristi Hubble, a sophomore vocal performance major.

On "Habanera," soprano Jillian Boye, a freshman majoring in vocal performance, delivered an impressive turn as Carmen.

The audience applauded enthusiastically after each number.

The two remaining performances will be scholarship fundraising events and will feature an expanded list of selections and performers.

The Concert Choir will perform tonight and Saturday at 8 p.m., joined by the Mission Chamber Orchestra and the 90-member SJSU Chorale, which consists of SJSU faculty and alumni as well as people from the community.

A flute ensemble, Tutti Flutti, will

also appear.

"This is the biggest event the school of music and dance has been putting on for many years," said Elena Sharkova, assistant professor of music and conductor of the Concert Choir.

An annual event since 1976, the scholarship concerts are held in a larger venue — the Cathedral Basilica of St. Joseph at 90 S. Market Street.

"The cathedral seats 1,000 people, and we usually have 1,000 attend," Sharkova said.

The orchestra will accompany the combined choirs. Sharkova said she expects to enjoy conducting the orchestra.

"As a choral conductor, I don't get to do much with orchestral music," she said.

Although the selections on Thursday were chosen from the expanded program, Sharkova said she knew the Listening Hour concert would be different than the other two.

"It was a smaller scale vocally, since there were not 100 people on stage," she said.

The Concert Choir was joined Thursday by a few members of the Chorale — a total of 45 singers.

Boye said she is looking forward to performing with the combined choirs.

"I've never performed in a group with so much musical talent in it," she said. "There are so many really beautiful voices, and the blending is fabulous."

Nicole Yazolino, a freshman majoring in vocal performance, agreed.

"These are people who are teachers or business people but who still want to be performing," she said.

The scholarship concert has been held in December in previous years. It was scheduled a month early this year

because Sharkova is expecting a child next month.

Having the concert in November allowed her to change the program, she said.

"I have always wanted to do a program of opera choruses. This is music that has (been popular) for two, three hundred years," she said. "Usually the concert has more of a holiday tone to it."

Sharkova said there is a difference between opera music and choral music.

"Opera music is a larger sound in general, using voices fully. You had to project from a huge stage and over an orchestra," she said. "Choral music is often performed a cappella. You need to subdue it a bit to be stylistically correct."

She said students need to know opera choruses if they're going to be professional singers.

The concerts teach students other skills as well, Sharkova said. They are the ones who coordinate and advertise the concerts.

"If you come out of the university only knowing how to sing, you will sink," she said.

"Students need to know how to promote themselves, how to write a press release. All of that is what they're learning."

The scholarships will go to student leaders in the choir, Sharkova said.

"It's not necessarily for the best voice," she said. "It's for being leaders in their field."

Tickets for the scholarship concerts will be available at the door each evening.

Prices range from \$15 to \$50. However, tonight's tickets for students and seniors are \$10.

Gala celebrates local filmmaker

By Alexandra Proca
Daily Staff Writer

Fighting prejudices against HIV positive people in Ethiopia, legalizing abortion in the United States, teaching in alternative programs and recovering from a spinal cord injury are just some of the social subject matters illustrated in Dorothy Fadiman's documentary films.

Fifteen of them will be shown this weekend during a gala film festival at Spangenberg Theatre in Palo Alto. Fadiman said this gala celebrates her 25 years of filmmaking.

"I felt I reached the point in my career when I wanted to do a retrospective of my work," Fadiman said.

She said the gala is a tribute to numerous members of the community who gave a hand in the producing the documentaries.

"I work with many people from the community who help us," Fadiman said.

She said people in the South Bay and mid-peninsula helped her with either donations or work.

The documentaries will be shown during three programs on Saturday and two on Sunday.

One of the films, "Why do these kids love schools?" which is scheduled on Sunday in the 10 a.m. to noon time slot, takes a close look at alternative ways of teaching. The film shows teachers and students in a non-conventional learning environment and how they offer experimental teaching methods, based more on practice than on theory.

The documentary focuses on several schools in the country but started with the Peninsula School in Menlo Park.

"It began with my kids going to Peninsula," Fadiman said. "I loved the approach to education, and I wanted to make a film only about that school."

Fadiman said she ended up documenting eight schools in the United States.

Saturday's programs focus on abortion rights in the United States and AIDS in Ethiopia.

"From Danger to Dignity," an Emmy Award-winning film, is scheduled for screening in the 10 a.m. to noon slot. The film is part of a series of pieces focused on legalizing abortion in this country. It contains valuable archival footage showing pivotal characters in the fight for legalizing abortion, such as first abortion rights activist Patricia Maginnis, from Oakland.

Like a lot of her documentaries, Fadiman said, the idea for the abortion series came from her personal experience.

"When I was a graduate student in college I became unintentionally pregnant, and I went to the back alleys," Fadiman said. "It was a terrible, humiliating, painful, dangerous, expensive experience."

She said she decided to include her illegal experience in the 1991 documentary "When Abortion Was Illegal."

In 1991, the Supreme Court justices were moving toward overturning the 1973 decision that had legalized abortion, Fadiman said.

The documentary, that contains first person accounts of illegal abortions, received an Academy Award nomination and won several other awards.

In "Breaking the Silence," which is shown on Saturday in the 3 p.m. to 5:15 p.m. program, several HIV positive men and women tell their heart-breaking experience of confronting their illness with an unforgivable society that blames them for getting sick. Although the personal stories are as tragic as a deadly illness can be, the film draws a positive conclusion: These people have learned a lesson the hardest ways possible, but they have become some of the most committed advocates of protected sex in Ethiopia.

"Breaking the Silence" is followed by two other documentaries on AIDS in Ethiopia, both premiering this weekend.

One of the highlights of the festival, "Moment by Moment: the Healing Journey of Molly Hale," tells the story of a woman recovering from a spinal cord injury. Contrary to most medical authorities, Molly Hale decided to use

any resource available, such as horse-back riding, swimming and massage, to get her on her feet again.

The documentary doesn't necessarily strike the audience by the plot itself, but by how those affected are dealing with a dramatic situation in their lives.

With honesty and a sense of humor, Hale and her husband reveal first their concerns and then their solutions to going on with their domestic life — sex included — under the new circumstances.

Tony Levelle, who worked as intern for "Moment by Moment" and who is also shooting documentaries now, said Fadiman's genre is called social change documentary.

Levelle said Fadiman is a master of interviewing.

"She gets the best interviewing... She has a sense of the mechanics of interviewing and filming at the same time," Levelle said.

"One of her key characteristics is unflinching honesty," Levelle said. He added that Fadiman knows how to make people feel safe so they start revealing themselves.

Fadiman holds a master's degree in speech pathology and audiology from Stanford University. She said she started making documentary films after she had a revelation.

"I felt the presence of God as a light. I learned that in almost every faith in the world, light is associated with God and with spiritual exposure," Fadiman said.

She said by the time she was considering writing a book about her experience, a film maker suggested that she tell her story in a documentary. This how "Radiance" was born.

At the first screening of "Radiance" in 1978, the public paid \$1. Today, the entrance to each of the programs of films at the Palo Alto gala is also \$1. Fadiman said she decided to charge the public the same amount they were charged in 1978, as her way of saying "thank you" to the community.

The festival will be held this Saturday and Sunday at the Spangenberg Theatre at Gunn High School in Palo Alto.

CAFE | 'I want it to be a homey place'

continued from page 1

Serving full meals from skewers and platters of grilled chicken and steak with a variety of sauces, soups, salads, sandwiches and even vegan meals, the café also serves pastries and coffee for its patrons.

Mahini said she wants her shop to be known not just for her healthy meals but also for her coffee.

"It took me 10 months to research my coffee," she said.

After much exploration, Mahini said she finally chose Viggala, a San Jose based micro roaster, which provides her all the coffee she needs.

"They're very picky about coffee like me, so we fit perfectly fine," she said.

Joe Biagini, a television, radio, film and theatre lecturer at SJSU, said it's more than the coffee that keeps him coming back since the first time he had walked in.

"It's conveniently located and the people here are really nice," he said. "I kind of like my coffee too."

Mahini said besides offering the public a friendly place to hang out, she also uses her shop the second Friday of each month to showcase the art of local artist, including SJSU students.

She said she allows the artists featured in her café the freedom of choice of art and music as long as it's appropriate for the children who also frequent her shop.

Mahini said past events that have been put together were live jazz music and graffiti art showcased just last month.

There will be an upcoming art show by Los Angeles based Syndrome Studio who will be featuring digital art, design and video on Friday, Nov. 14, she said.

Mahini said, although she has her hands in every aspect of the café's functions, she also has a cook and two

other people who assist with the cooking every day.

With 90 percent of her vegetables handpicked, Mahini said she uses only the best and healthiest ingredients in her cooking and has decided to use non-expensive pricing so students can afford her meals.

"That's why I'm here—to cook good meals for them," she said.

Balasingh, a patron, said she liked the café for the inviting atmosphere.

"It's very clean, well-maintained and it tastes like homemade food," she said.

Mahini said her plans for the future are for her café to continue being the place she has envisioned for it to be since she first opened.

"I want it to be a meeting place

where everyone can feel comfortable, have some food and coffee to relax," she said.

Unlike certain cafés who are strict with their store policies, Mahini said one doesn't necessarily have to purchase items in order to hang out.

"You don't have to buy stuff to be here. I have customers who bring their own food or books to study," she said. "I want it to be a homey place."

Robertson, a patron, said he thought the café was definitely a cool place to be.

"This is the spot," he said as he looked over toward Onyengecha and Balasingh. "This is our spot."

Café Pomegranate is open Monday to Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Fridays from 7:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Peterson's alibi takes center stage

Associated Press

MODESTO — Scott Peterson told his mistress he was a widower the same day he bought the boat that provided his alibi when his pregnant wife vanished two weeks later, a police officer said Thursday.

Detective Allen Brocchini testified that Scott Peterson bought the fishing boat Dec. 9. Peterson's mistress, Amber Frey, said she had asked Peterson that day whether he was married, Brocchini said.

While Brocchini did not link the two events, he provided the pieces of a puzzle prosecutors are assembling to show Peterson was plotting

the demise of his wife Laci weeks before he returned from a Christmas Eve fishing trip and reported her gone.

Brocchini testified on the sixth day of a hearing to determine if Peterson will stand trial on murder charges in the deaths of his wife and unborn son. Peterson, 31, could get the death penalty.

The officer also testified Thursday that officers found a loaded .22-caliber gun in Peterson's pickup truck, providing the first hint that Peterson owned a weapon.

Police have not disclosed how Peterson's wife and unborn son were killed, and the autopsy results are sealed.

Detectives said they took the gun from Peterson's pickup on Christmas Eve before taking him to police headquarters for an hour-long videotaped interview. They said Peterson called police on his cell phone an hour after he was returned home, asking if they had taken the gun. Brocchini said police confirmed that they had.

Before Brocchini's testimony, defense attorney Mark Geragos told Judge Al Girolami that he recently discovered the FBI conducted closed-circuit TV surveillance of Peterson's home after his wife disappeared. Geragos said he will subpoena the FBI for copies of the tape.

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Stanford University 5, San Jose State University 1

Stanford stuns SJSU men's soccer team

By Ian Ross
Daily Staff Writer

The Spartans and the Stanford Cardinal men's soccer teams came into Thursday's games as two teams going in decidedly opposite directions. By the end of the game, the directions of both teams had changed dramatically.

Stanford (3-14-2) entered the match on a nine-game losing streak but walked off Spartan Soccer Field with a 5-1 victory, overcoming a 1-0 deficit by scoring three goals in five minutes to start the second half.

San Jose State University (10-5-2), who won the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation regular season title this past Sunday, left the field victims of their first home loss of the season.

"We had a tremendous meltdown in the back in the first 10 to 15 minutes of the second half," said Spartan head coach Gary St. Clair. "That's something we haven't done all year long."

Stanford, who had struggled scoring goals all season long (13 goals in 16 games), had no problem finding the back of the net against the Spartans.

"It's kind of funny," said Stanford head coach Bret Simon. "We've been frustrated for a long time. We've been working on our attack and that's how goal scoring works. They come in spurts."

The teams battled in a scoreless tie for the first 40 minutes of the game before the Spartans struck first.

In the 39th minute, SJSU midfielder Frank Mata took a throw in deep in Stanford territory.

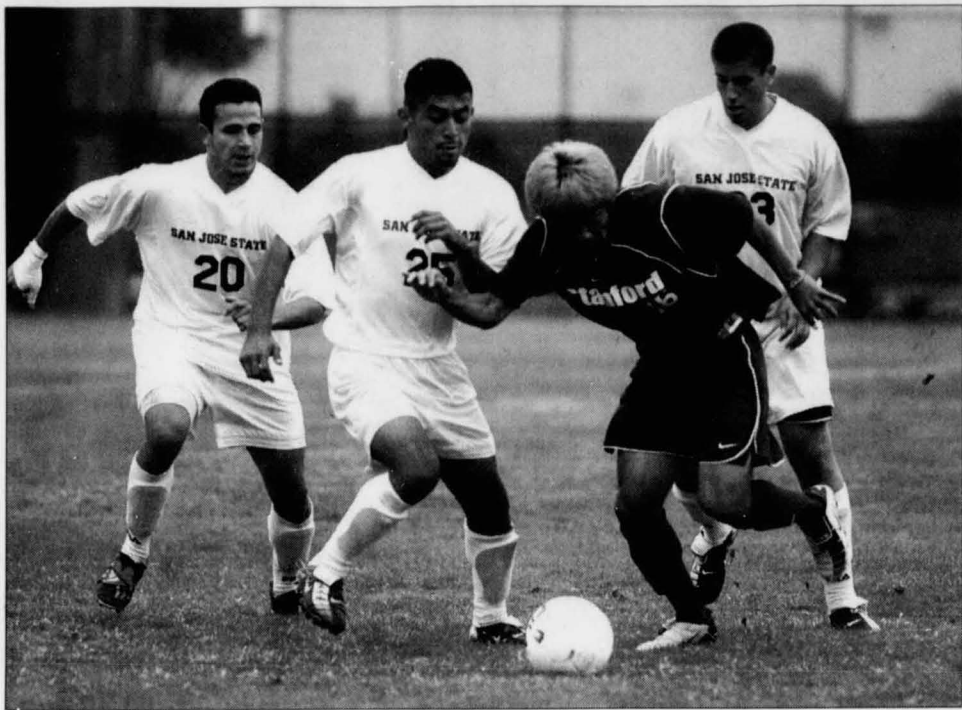
Mata hurled the ball into Stanford's goalkeeper's box where forward Tim McKinney won the ball in the air. McKinney flicked the ball back toward the far post with his head, finding teammate Dylan Pender, who headed the ball into the net for a 1-0 Spartan lead.

"I was going up and saw Tim was going to win the header," Pender said. "So I went back post and that's how it happened. I had an opportunity at goal, and I finished it."

The goal was Pender's first of the season. Mata was credited with his first assist of the season. McKinney was credited with his team-leading seventh assist.

The Cardinal struck for the equalizer shortly before halftime.

In the 43rd minute, Cardinal forwards Matt Janusz and Darren Fernandez started a break at midfield. Fernandez crossed the ball into the goalkeeper's box where Cardinal mid-



Stanley Kao / Special to the Daily

Stanford University midfielder Bret Shimizu attempts to get past San Jose State University midfielders Frank Mata, Daniel Perez and Chad Gleave on Thursday at Spartan Soccer Field. The Cardinal defeated the Spartans 5-1.

fielder Marcus Ryan shot the ball on the ground toward the far post to tie the score.

Simon said scoring before the half was huge for his team, and he told his club at the half that they needed to step up and not be happy with a 1-1 tie.

In the opening minute of the second half, Stanford struck for a second goal.

Fernandez made a run into the center of the box off a Spartan defensive turnover. The defense parted, and Fernandez shot the ball to the left side of the goal to give Stanford its first lead.

"Scoring an early goal in the second half gets everyone feeling that we can win this game," Simon said.

Fernandez would rack up two more assists in the following minutes.

The first assist came in the 49th minute on Ryan's second goal of the game. One minute later, Fernandez

assisted on Janusz's first goal of the game, and the Cardinals suddenly led 4-1.

Stanford added a fifth goal in the 79th minute off another Spartan turnover. Janusz scored his second goal of the game, his team-leading fifth of the season.

The loss put a damper on Spartan senior day, the final home game for five players on the team.

Midfielders Frank Sanfilippo and Artin Rodriguez played the final home game of their SJSU careers.

"I'm sure they are deeply disappointed they didn't win their last home game," St. Clair said. "They've had tremendous careers and one day isn't going to spoil that."

"We're probably sadder because we're going to lose them soon," he said. "Frank Sanfilippo is certainly a generation player, who only comes around once in a coaches career."

Seniors goalkeeper Daniel Benton and midfielder Francisco Martinez did not play because of injuries. Back-up goalkeeper Eddie Dominguez did not play in his final home game.

St. Clair said it was possible that the Spartans might have Benton and Martinez back next year because they lost most of the 2003 season with injuries. The Spartans will appeal to the NCAA for a red shirt season for both players.

The Spartans will try to regroup in their final regular season game of the year, on the road Sunday against Cal Berkeley.

"The real key is to challenge the players," St. Clair said. "We can set all the tactics but the players have to play."

St. Clair gave his team credit for all they have done during the season. "This team has maxed themselves out all year long with injuries and overcoming adversities."

Fresno State University def. SJSU
30-25, 26-30, 30-18, 30-26

Spartans inconsistent in loss to Fresno State

By Daniel Lopez
Daily Sports Editor

FRESNO — The Spartan volleyball team's roller-coaster season continued Thursday night at the North Gym on the Fresno State University campus.

This time around the San Jose State University took another dip falling 30-25, 26-30, 30-18, 30-26 to the Bulldogs.

The inconsistency that has plagued SJSU throughout the season was evident again.

"We played great for two games," said Craig Choate the Spartans head coach.

The two games to which Choate was referring to after the match were games No. 1 and 2.

It was in the final two games where the Spartans inconsistency reappeared. "Sometimes we weren't there mentally," said SJSU outside hitter Carrie Nash.

Nash was the Spartans top hitter in the game finishing with 19 kills while hitting .264.

The most apparent breakdown might have been in game No. 3 where the Spartans allowed the Bulldogs to run away with the match.

With the game knotted at 8-8, SJSU was unable to fend off Fresno State, and the Spartans never saw a lead or a tie again.

"We just let them get too many runs," said SJSU outside hitter Kimberly Noble who ended the game with 18 kills. "It was just a lack of focus."

The Spartans again allowed another scoring run by the Bulldogs in game four.

Leading 21-18 in what would be the final game, the momentum shifted away from the Spartans.

"One call changed the game," Choate said.

The call in question was a ball Choate said was out and was called in giving Fresno State a point.

"That absolutely hurt us," Choate said.

Choate said he felt that from that point on his team looked to have lost its focus and committed several net violations throughout the match.

The Spartans had 32 attack errors in the match, and they proved costly.

"It was up and down," Nash said. "We just needed to be more consistent."

Across the floor the Bulldogs limited their attack errors to 25.

The Bulldogs were led by senior middle blocker Carrie Hartt who recorded 17 kills while hitting .225 on 40 attempts in the match.

The Bulldogs also had three other players recorded double-digit kills.

Junior outside hitter Kristen Fenton led the Bulldogs with 16 kills.

For the Spartans, only Jessica Woldarczyk joined Nash and Noble with double digit kills.

Woldarczyk recorded 13. "Some of us showed up to play, some of us didn't," Noble said.

With the loss, the Spartans fell to 8-15 on the season, 6-5 in the Western Athletic Conference.

The Bulldogs, who haven't lost a match to SJSU since Nov. 1, 2002 — a span of four victories — improved to 19-5 overall and 9-2 in the WAC.

SJSU's next game is Saturday at the University of Nevada-Reno. Match time at the Virginia Street Gym is slated for 7 p.m.

Arrest made in baseball murder

Associated Press

PHOENIX — A man found driving a vehicle that belonged to slain Cincinnati Reds outfielder Darnell Stenson was booked on a charge of possession of stolen property, police said Thursday.

The man, Kevin Riddle, was arrested and jailed Wednesday night about two hours after Stenson was found dead in the Phoenix suburb of Chandler, police

said. No other charges were filed against Riddle, whom police called an "investigative lead." Police said they didn't know if the two men knew each other.

Stenson's body was found Wednesday by police responding to a report of shots fired. He appeared to have been shot and run over by the SUV, authorities said.

Stenson, 25, made his major league debut this season and played 37 games.

FBI director checks Olympic security

Associated Press

ATHENS, Greece — FBI Director Robert Mueller arrived Thursday in Athens to review Olympic security plans and is expected to discuss Greece's refusal to allow the U.S. team's security force to carry weapons.

Mueller also will likely discuss concerns about terrorist snipers and preparedness for a biological or chemical attack during this week's meetings with Olympic security officials.

The decision on the weapons, confirmed by the head of an U.S. Olympic Committee delegation, came as American involvement in Olympic security expanded to involve the U.S. military — a sign of the growing concern over safety at the world's premier sporting event following the Sept. 11 attacks.

Within hours of Mueller's arrival, a series of firebomb blasts damaged three banks in central Athens, police said. There were no reports of injuries. The motive for the attacks was not immediately clear. Protests were also held shortly before the blasts to demand the release of anti-globalization activists jailed in June.

Greece's law enforcement minister, accompanied by senior intelligence, police and military officials, have just completed a two-day planning exercise organized by the United States at its European command headquarters in Germany.

"We have close cooperation and there are a group of officers from the FBI here. We are cooperating closely in the framework of preparing

Olympic security," Greek police spokesman Col. Eleftherios Economou told The Associated Press.

He said Mueller will be briefed "on the course of Olympic security planning" during his visit. On Friday, Mueller will honor Greek law enforcement officials for their role in the breakup of November 17, Greece's deadliest domestic terror group.

Besides concerns about snipers and chemical and biological attacks, Mueller's agenda also is expected to include talks about the danger posed by the constant flow of illegal immigrants into Greece through its porous northern borders and by sea from the Turkish coast to the east.

There are fears terrorists could use immigrant smuggling networks and routes to enter Greece ahead of the Olympics.

Athens is spending an unprecedented \$775 million to protect the Aug. 13-29 games. It is also working with a seven-nation advisory task force that includes the United States and Israel.

Security planning grew this week to include the U.S. military, which ran a simulated exercise at its headquarters in Stuttgart, Germany, to help identify any gaps in Greece's preparations.

"The aim of the exercise was crisis management, on a political, strategic and operational level," according to the Public Order Ministry.

Although the United States has been working closely with Greece, the State Department plans to send at least 100 agents to help protect the 650 U.S. athletes who will take part in the Olympics.

Greece has demanded, however, that only its forces carry weapons during the Olympics.

At least two other nations, Australia and Israel, also reportedly plan to send security details, and the issue of whether foreign agents can carry weapons during the games has caused friction.

Herman Frazier, who is leading a five-day inspection visit by the U.S. Olympic Committee, said the U.S. "supplemental" security forces would have no firearms. He said it was the first time such a force was being sent to the Olympics.

"These people will not be armed," Frazier told the AP.

He said the U.S. delegation discussed security issues with Olympic organizers and U.S. officials based in Athens. He declined to give specifics.

"We feel people are on top of the (security) issues at hand," he said. "We have all the confidence in the world that these will be secure games."

Frazier said the members of the U.S. contingent have spoken with FBI officials, but will not meet in Athens with Mueller. The U.S. Olympic Committee members are scheduled to leave Greece on Friday.

Sharks deadlock Bruins 5-5

Associated Press

BOSTON — Sergei Samsonov scored with 13.4 seconds left in regulation, lifting the Boston Bruins into a 5-5 tie with the San Jose Sharks on Thursday night.

Samsonov tied it when he chopped at the puck in front of the crease and it bounced past goalie Vesa Toskala. San Jose just missed its first win in Boston where the Sharks are 0-7-3.

They have just one win in their last 11 games but are 1-0-3-1 in their last five.

Despite outshooting the Sharks 52-23, the Bruins are still winless at home (0-1-2-1).

They were shut out the previous two home games by Carolina and Montreal and haven't been winless through four games since 1965.

Jonathan Cheechoo put the Sharks ahead 5-4 with nine minutes remaining in the third when his slap shot deflected off a Bruins defenseman and beat goalie Felix Potvin.

After Mike Knuble and Wayne Primeau traded goals for a 3-2 Sharks' lead, Glen Murray tied it 3-3 when he took a feed from Joe Thornton from behind the net and blasted a shot past Toskala at 15:22 of the second.

Patrice Bergeron then scored Boston's second power-play goal of the period 1:02 later to put the Bruins ahead 4-3 and provide their first lead on home ice this season.

That was short-lived as the Sharks made it 4-4 when Scott Thornton scored his second of the night on the power play with 2:18 left in the second period.

Niko Dimitrakos and Scott Thornton each scored between the legs of Potvin to give the Sharks a 2-0 lead by the 9:46 mark of the first period. The Sharks had two goals on their first four shots.

Ian Moran cut the Sharks' lead to 2-1 when he wristed a shot over the left shoulder of Toskala with 8:59 remaining in the first period. Moran's goal was his first in 130 games.

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'Weasels' all in a day's strip

By Michael Lerma
Daily Staff Writer

After a brief introduction, a balding Caucasian man with glasses and a button-up shirt walked to the podium and asked, "Has anyone ever heard of Dilbert?"

The audience laughed in response to which the man replied, "Does anyone think I look like Dilbert?"

Scott Adams, creator of the Dilbert comic strip, spoke Thursday at the Tech Museum in downtown San Jose. The event was sponsored by the Commonwealth Club of California. Adams offered various anecdotes about corporate life, success as a cartoonist and the existence of "weasels" in everyday society.

For Adams, the concept of a weasel is summed up in his latest book, "Dilbert and the Way of the Weasel." Adams writes, "There is a gigantic gray area between good moral behavior and outright felonious activities. I call that the weasel zone and that is where most of life happens."

The concept for the weasel came about from a hypothetical question Adams asked of friends.

He wondered what they would do if his friends found \$1,000 that belonged to a rich person who would have no way of finding out it was gone or that a particular person had it. Some of his friends said they would give it back, and others said that one would have to be stupid to give it back.

The wide range of answers made him wonder if the rest of the world was so diverse. It led him to his exploration of the weasel in book form.

In his talk about how cartoonists are

created, he touched on his early career as an 11-year-old boy submitting a drawing to an art school only to be rejected. It made him give up his dream.

He later went to college and studied economics. Therefore, according to Adams, to become a cartoonist, all one had to do was study economics. The audience responded with laughter.

In reality, Adams said, his careers at corporations were limited only by his being a white male. He said that the executives were all white males and felt they had to diversify their executive boards. Adams said it happened during his first two jobs and caused him to explore cartoons as a career again.

His comic was picked up by United Media during his employment at a phone company. He was skeptical about United Media since he had never heard of them. He asked for references to other cartoonists they had published. The company mentioned Charles Schultz, who created Peanuts, and the crowd reacted with more laughter.

Adams then retorted, "I then realized that my bargaining position had been compromised."

Members of the audience were given a chance to ask Adams questions at the end of the evening.

One woman asked where he gets his ideas. He said that people often send him e-mails about plans being used in their companies and that they ask him to make fun of it. He added, "They sometimes ask if the boss can be named Ned."

The fans were of a wide range, but most in attendance appeared to be middle-aged to retired people. Some



Scott Adams, creator of the Dilbert comic strip, speaks at The Tech Museum of Innovation Thursday night. Adams discusses his latest book, "Dilbert and the Way of the Weasel," and fielded questions from audience members.

Yvonne Pingue / Daily Staff

attendees, however, had to be escorted by their parents to the event.

Zack Hoberg, 12, of Los Altos Hills, came with his mother to have some books signed by Adams. Hoberg said his parents got him interested in the author when they got him one of his books for Christmas.

"I just want to see what he is like,

what he sounds like when he talks," Hoberg said. "I wonder how funny he really is in person."

Terri Sharky came to the book signing for her own amusement but also for her brother living in France.

"My brother is just too busy to go out and get these books himself," Sharky said. "It is my care package I

always send to him."

After the presentation, Adams sold and autographed books for the audience members. Grace Lee of Cupertino said she thought the stories he told were very funny.

"I loved the story of Ratbert (a Dilbert character) and how he was just a rat in a laboratory in the beginning,"

Lee said. Hoberg wanted to tell Adams in person that his favorite character was Alice, the lone female engineer in Dilbert's office.

Lee said she wanted Adams to know one thing.

"I just want him to know how much I really like his work."

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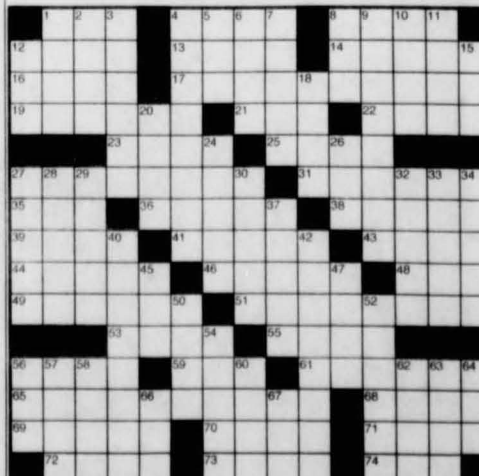
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