

SPARTAN DAILY

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REMINDER:

A.S. elections are today and Wednesday. Polling places open at 9 a.m. and close at 8 p.m.

Mixed report backs Greek life

Comprehensive review also finds alcohol abuse

By Zakk Jones
Daily Staff Writer

The Greek Life Task Force Report, a 60-page document discussing the strengths and weaknesses within San Jose State University's Greek life system, was released to the public Monday.

The report examines the current state of the Greek system and presents a list of seven recom-

mendations addressing the "needs and challenges" of the Greek system, including:

- Preserve and enhance the Greek system.
- Establish a high-profile Presidential Advisory Council.
- Create a comprehensive relationship statement that defines the mutual expectations, responsibilities and accountabilities between the Greek system and its chapters and the university.
- Restructure the current Greek governance model to make membership on recognized councils mandatory while ensuring consistency, continuity and accountability of leadership resulting in increased cooperation within the Greek

system.

- Conduct an audit/assessment of all Greek organizations around alcohol use, academics, hazing and their community relations activities through the establishment of an on-campus status committee.

- Create a mandatory Greek leadership/education program that includes an annual Greek leadership summit and an intentional community-building program.

- Hire a minimum of one additional full-time staff member, one graduate assistant and two undergraduate interns to assist with council advising, managing the governance logistics, developing the educational/leadership program

and overseeing the ongoing audit process for maintaining university recognition status.

Jeff Batuhan, an adviser to the Sigma Chi fraternity who is also an SJSU alumnus, said the report is a necessary step to improve the Greek life system.

"I think it's important that everyone understands really the role the university plays as well as the value to student life," he said.

According to the report, these recommendations will be implemented over a period extending through Spring 2005.

see GREEK, page 4

Cuba trip offers rare look at culture

By Carly Roden
Daily Staff Writer

Despite the fact that economic sanctions have prohibited travel to Cuba for nearly half a century, 15 San Jose State University students had the rare opportunity to spend three weeks on the island in January and experience communist society firsthand with full permission from the U.S. government.

"It was a very positive experience," said Luz Ramirez, a senior double majoring in Spanish and speech communication. "I feel grateful and privileged to have been there because not everyone can go."

The trip was a three-unit course in contemporary Cuban culture offered by the department of foreign languages and was the first university-sponsored visit to the country, according to Anita Fountain, a lecturer of Spanish who taught the course.

The economic sanctions are a part of the larger Cuban Assets Control Regulations, which were issued by the U.S. government in 1963 under the Trading With the Enemy Act, as stated on the U.S. Treasury Department Web site.

The basic goal of the sanctions is to "isolate the Cuban government economically and deprive it of U.S. dollars," and according to the

see CUBA, page 4

Making an Olympic effort ...



Daniel Miranda / Daily Staff

The U.S. Olympic Synchronized Swim Team practices its routine at the San Jose State University Aquatic Center on Thursday afternoon. The team is practicing for a qualifying meet in three weeks in Athens, Greece.

Senate ponders cuts to athletics

By Jenny Shearer
Daily Senior Staff Writer

The Academic Senate heard recommendations about the amount of general-fund budget support the athletics department receives during Monday afternoon's meeting and also got an overview of the findings of the campus Greek Life Task Force.

One recommendation concerns establishing a guiding principle for reducing the percentage of the athletics budget that comes from the general fund, said Michael Katz, a professor of secondary education.

The second involves establishing a principle of budgetary decision-making through a shared governance body, such as the Resource Planning Board or Academic Senate Executive Committee, Katz said.

The final recommendation is that cost savings from athletics be allocated to other defined university budget priorities.

Katz was a member of a three-person committee charged with updating a 1993 Academic Senate report about what percentage of the university's general fund budget should go to athletics.

The two other committee members are Annette Nellen, chair of the Academic Senate and a professor of accounting and finance, and James

see SENATE, page 6

Academic journals to be sacrificed in library cuts

By Claudia Plascencia
Daily Staff Writer

With all of the financial uncertainty because of the state's budget crisis, departments on campus are having to deal with budget cuts, and the university library housed in the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Joint Library is no exception.

The university library is expecting to cut about 18 percent of its total collections budget, and an estimated \$300,000 to \$400,000 of those cuts will be primarily to printed subscriptions such as the printed academic journals, said Jo Bell Whitlatch, associate dean of the San Jose State University library.

"It's really going to be a significant reduction in our ability to meet the needs of the students and faculty," Whitlatch said.

The current budget for printed subscriptions is \$600,000.

The University Library Board plans on sending out a memo sometime this week to department chairs and library liaisons for each department to make them aware of the cuts and give them an opportunity to request any exceptions to the cuts, Whitlatch said.

"If the cuts take place, which we think is most likely, it will tell them how much total money we estimate they have to work with," Whitlatch said.

She said the memo will explain the budget situation and will include a list of journals the university library board thinks will most likely be cut.

Departments will have until May 7 to submit names of journal subscriptions they would like to be exempt from the cuts, Whitlatch said.

Whitlatch said the University Library Board started prioritizing cuts by taking a look at a list of all the printed journal subscriptions and cut-

ting any for which there is a duplicate electronic subscription. Then they cut journal subscriptions to those the board says are not frequently used, based on a semester-long study done about two or three years ago.

"We are preserving electronic resources, because those are the most in demand by faculty and students and tend to be the most heavily-used," Whitlatch said.

She also said the number of electronic subscriptions would not be increased.

Edith L. Crowe, art and humanities librarian at the King Library, said she thinks electronic journals are not equivalent to printed journals, specifically in the area of art, because sometimes they don't have images at all, and if they do, she said, they are not usually nearly as good as the ones in the printed magazines and journals.

She said she has been using that argument for a few years now to avoid cutting printed journal subscriptions, but it has become increasingly difficult for her to make that argument now.

"The problem is I have kind of run out of ammunition now because the journals are not being used, and that is just as true with the art ones as any others," Crowe said.

Evelyn Bell, a lecturer of art history in the school of art and design, said she thinks the cuts will cause a great impact, particularly on art students.

"The images for art students are essential, and if you are going to have electronic sources, then the images are usually not included," Bell said. "I usually ask my students not to use electronic sources."

Bell said the cuts will also have a

see LIBRARY, page 3

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

SJSU women bring change to their fields

By Colin Kutch
Daily Staff Writer

March is Women's History Month, an opportunity to recognize the accomplishments of women throughout the world. Closer to home, there are a wide variety of San Jose State University women — including faculty, students and alumnae — who are currently making an impact on campus as well as abroad.

Belle Wei, the dean of the College of Engineering, is one of the few female engineering deans in the country, according to the American Society for Engineering Education.

"Basically, I feel this is a life journey," she said in response to her proudest personal achievements. "It's a continuous thing."

Out of the nearly 350 schools with an engineering program in the United States, Wei became one of only 18 female engineering deans when she was promoted last year.

She said making a positive impact on the SJSU community and its students fuels her desire to succeed.

Wei became an assistant electrical engineering professor in 1987 and then became the department chair in 1998, according to a College of Engineering information page.

"I'm forward-thinking and solution-oriented," she said.

This mindset, she said, enables her to make an impact.

Wei said the College of Engineering has the daunting task of evolving at a rapid speed to keep up with the ever-changing Silicon Valley. Some people would give up on trying to maintain the pace, she said, but Wei finds the challenge exciting.

"Paralysis inhibits action," she said. "That's not me."

Patricia Watkins, a senior creative arts major, has made an impact at SJSU through many outlets. She is the president of the Disabled Student Association as well as the master of community service for the co-ed scholastic honors and service fraternity Tau Delta Phi.

Watkins also helped create a scholarship for Disabled Student Association members, the Donna Ellis Honor Scholarship.

Watkins, a mother of four, said she is driven to create change despite living with constant pain in her body.

"I can take the issues at hand and fly with them and make things hap-

see WOMEN, page 3



Nicholas R. Wright / Daily Staff

Helen Wilmot, who graduated from San Jose State University in 1985 with a nursing degree, helped Kaiser Permanente's California division turn a profit in 1999 after the organization struggled through two years in the red. Wilmot is currently the senior vice president of strategy and business development at Sensitron, Inc., a San Mateo health care company.

OXYMORON

Current generation of 'barbarians' annoys females

With summer approaching, women's wardrobes have been reduced to half of what they were in the winter. And now that they are walking around half naked, many men have come to the conclusion that women dress to impress them and their horny, sex-wanting natures.

Our responses as a society condone it. A classic example that I experience daily happens while walking to school. Unwanted catcalls, whistles and "Daaaaamn, girl!" remarks are constantly made.

It's for this reason I walk, biceps flexed, head down, huge frown. Every time I hear those remarks, I want to flip these idiotic guys off. Fortunately, there are some women who actually do make a response. Two months ago, outside a local downtown bar, I saw a guy grab a girl's ass. So, she turned around and hit him.

Bravo. I've wanted to do this for years.

A cop also saw this scene. Instead of siding with the young lady, however, the cop told her that she couldn't just hit a guy for doing that. She asked, "Well, what should I do? Just let him touch me?" The cop replied, "Just walk away."

And we, as women, have been told to walk away, to basically endure the harassment, from men who can't control themselves.

Other women have responded too. Muslim women in

America, who have the choice not to be veiled, veil themselves to not only make a religious statement but to also preserve their sexuality and deter men from giving them unwanted gawks and stares. But the implication that the less skin that shows the less attention men will give to women is even more aggravating.

Why can't men just learn to control their urges, shut up, turn their heads and not stare?

It was custom for Christian women to veil themselves in the early Byzantine history because their sexuality was seen as a means to control men. Veiling became a way for men to prevent themselves from being tempted by the seductive and malicious women, according to San Jose State University history professor Jonathan Roth.

Similar assumptions are made today, and men assume that the fewer clothes the woman wears, the more attention she wants and, thus, the more attention she will get because she is asking for it. If she gets attention and doesn't want it, men seem confused and say, "But she's wearing a skirt and a tank top. She is asking for attention." Guys never seem to make the jump to, "It's 80 degrees

outside. Of course she's wearing a skirt and a tank top. It's hot."

Essayist Terry Moore compared many young men today to barbarians in his essay "Wimps and Barbarians: The Sons of Murphy Brown." Moore describes the barbarians today, young men, by comparing them to the ancient barbaric Germanic tribes.

"The ancient barbarians did little except fight and hunt. The modern barbarians do little besides play sports and pursue women," Moore writes. While the barbarians today do have hobbies, they include mindless activities such as drinking excessively, playing video games and watching movies. Moore goes on to describe the barbarian manners that are apparent in so many young men on campus and in our society.

"They shout out to each other in public as though the world were a playing field or rock concert," he writes. "They slouch in their seats. They spit wherever they go. A particularly annoying barbarian habit is not looking you in the eye."

But what is most appalling, and displayed most often, is how they treat women as pawns in their sexual games.

"In no other aspect of their conduct is barbarianism more apparent among a large number of young men these days than their treatment of women," Moore writes.

And I couldn't agree more.

Women, have you ever walked on the outskirts of campus with a group of girlfriends and received yells, screams and beeps?

Women, have you ever gone to a club and had some disgusting, appalling pick-up line such as "Hey girl. Are you pregnant? No? Would you like to be?" whispered in your ear?

Women, have you ever feared "Is this the night I'm going to be raped?" as you walked home at night?

These happen on a daily basis to women, and yet we are asked to accept it.

But, young barbarians, what I wish you would do is, first, stop watching MTV and idolizing people like Snoop Dogg, Kobe Bryant and Hugh Hefner and, instead, read some books. But most of all, I wish you would realize you are a menace to women.

Jennifer McLain is the *Spartan Daily* arts and entertainment editor.

"Oxymoron" appears every other Tuesday.



JENNIFER MCLAIN

Huy Tran demonstrates skills fit for A.S. president position

This week, students at San Jose State University will be asked to make some choices.

These choices are a right granted to every student at SJSU. In order to effectively express these rights, students must get out to the polls this week and vote for next year's Associated Students government.

EDITORIAL

The top position in A.S. has three people vying for president. All have credible backgrounds with good intentions and experience.

The trait separating the candidates lies in the different visions as to what direction they would like to see the university go.

With each direction going down a different road, students must ask themselves which candidate is the best fit for SJSU.

Huy Tran, an Independent Party candidate, has stated in his platform that he will fight tuitions hikes and the loss of programs, most notably the Educational Opportunity Program.

Tran possesses the leadership ability and hands-on ap-

proach needed to take A.S. to new levels and that is why the *Spartan Daily* has chosen to endorse Tran for A.S. president.

Tran served as Director of Governing Affairs this year, as well as being an active member of countless student organizations. He also led a campaign against the failed Proposition 54 and proposed a resolution that passed in A.S., opposing the deportation of the Cuevas family.

He has said he will not be afraid to speak up for students' rights, which he has already proven.

He attended all three presidential search meetings last semester, being outspoken, asking the candidates the tough questions that needed to be asked.

Tran has also emphasized that he will not let politics and special interest groups get in the way of what he claims is his only allegiance, that being the students of SJSU.

Tran's biggest strength is that he recognizes what really matters at SJSU, including lobbying against fee increases and getting more students involved in important campus groups, such as the presidential search committee.

With Tran, SJSU has the ability to become a more active and vocal school in the California State University system.

As Tran stated in his platform, he is "an independent in heart as well as mind" and this is the kind of leader A.S. and the students of SJSU need.

NO MUSIC, NO LIFE

Capture of Iraqi leader not an end of terrorism

Where is Saddam Hussein?

Ever since his capture on Dec. 13, 2003, the news coverage of his whereabouts have come to a major halt.

I've spent the majority, if not all, of my adulthood learning why I should dislike this man and reasons why the United States should interfere in Iraq's affairs.

Yet, I am not fully convinced the United States had enough reasoning to ambush a country with a tyrant as its dictator. There are many tyrants ruling countries, and it is not up to the United States to police them.

In 1999, the U.S. Department of State wrote in an executive summary, "As long as Saddam Hussein is in power, we are determined to contain the Iraqi regime and prevent it from threatening the region or its own people. We will also continue our efforts to increase humanitarian relief for the people of Iraq, over the obstruction of the regime."

OK, it has been two different wars with Iraq (same family, i.e. Bush), and we got him. Now what?

This weekend's protests marked the first anniversary of the war in Iraq, and it was not only felt nationally but globally.

According to ABC News on March 21, "Hundreds of thousands of people marched in Rome on Saturday demanding that Italy pull its 2,600 troops out of Iraq. ... In Belgium, about 1,000 people braved rain and blustery wind to carry coffins labeled with oil company logos."

I want our troops to come back too, but if we are mighty enough to think we can interfere in another country's affairs, we need to, respectfully, finish what we started.

The recuperation period for Iraq will be a long and tumultuous one, and unfortunately, I think this is only the middle stage of our relations with the Middle East.

On Sunday night, CBS' "60 Minutes" aired an interview with Richard Clarke, who is President Bush's former terrorism adviser.

In the interview, Clarke said, "Frankly, I find it outrageous that the president is running for re-election on the grounds that he's done such great things about terrorism ... He ignored terrorism for months, when maybe we could have done something to stop 9/11. Maybe. We'll never know."

Clarke, who has also written a book that tells what happened behind the scenes in the White House before, during and after Sept. 11, said, "Once the president returned

after the White House evacuation on Sept. 11, he and his top advisers," including Clarke, "began holding meetings about how to respond and retaliate."

Clarke said he expected the administration to focus its military response on Osama bin Laden and al-Qaida and was surprised that the talk quickly turned to Iraq.

"The president dragged me into a room with a couple of other people, shut the door and said, 'I want you to find whether Iraq did this,'" Clarke said. "Now he never said, 'Make it up.' But the entire conversation left me in absolutely no doubt that George Bush wanted me to come back with a report that said Iraq did this."

"He came back at me and said, 'Iraq! Saddam! Find out if there's a connection.'"

According to CBS, Clarke kept pursuing al-Qaida and bin Laden, and for good reasons.

Clarke said during Clinton's presidency, Clinton ordered his Cabinet to go to battle stations — meaning, they went on high alert, holding meetings nearly every day.

That, Clarke said, helped thwart a major attack on Los Angeles International Airport, when an al-Qaida operative was stopped at the border with Canada, driving a car full of explosives.

I don't remember hearing a thing about this in the news.

It seems there have been hints of bin Laden before Sept. 11, and it also seems as though President Bush was out to (stop me if you heard this one) finish what his father started.

So, we have him. Why do I feel more nervous about things to come?

Why do I feel like our country's leaders are imposing in other countries' affairs when our country has affairs of its own?

On March 14, ABC's "Nightline" said, "Any credit or praise for the U.S. is heavily tempered; roughly 8 in 10 Iraqis told reporters the Americans have not kept their promises and they blame the United States for problems in their lives."

Rebecca Villaneda is the *Spartan Daily* associate production editor.

"No Music, No Life" appears every other Tuesday.



REBECCA VILLANEDA

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@casa.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 Music
"The Listening Hour" concert series will be held from 12:30 p.m. to 1:15 p.m. in the Music building Concert Hall. This week's performance will feature a musical potpourri, with highlights from Mu Phi Epsilon. For more information, call 924-4649.

School of Art and Design
Art exhibitions featuring student galleries will be on display from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Art and Industrial Studies buildings. For more information, call 924-4330.

SJSU Catholic Campus Ministry
Daily Mass is offered at the SJSU Catholic Campus Ministry chapel located on the corner of Tenth and San Carlos streets at 12:10 p.m. For more information, call Sister Marcia Krause at 938-1610.

Mosaic Cross Cultural Center
Come meet author Aundrea Lacy at the Mosaic Cross Cultural Center at 5:30 p.m. For more information, call 924-6255.

School of Art and Design
Tuesday night lecture series will be held from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. in the Art building, room 133. For more information, call Jo Hernandez at 924-4328.

Feminist Majority Leadership Alliance
General meeting with guest speaker will take place in the Pacheco room of the Student Union at 5 p.m. For more information, call Erika Jackson at 924-6500.

WEDNESDAY

Peer Health Education Program
Learn how to avoid getting sun-burned and to make mocktails, learn safe sex tips and win free prizes at an event in the Art quad from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information, call Leslie at 924-6404.

Cultural Heritage Center
Book signing and discussion by professors Lou Holscher, Iris Jerke and Steven Millner from noon to 1 p.m. in the Cultural Heritage Center in the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Joint Library in room 525. For more information, call 808-2645.

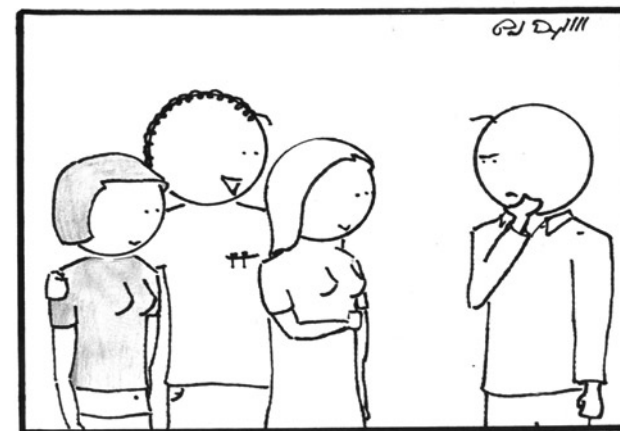
THURSDAY

Hip-Hop Congress
A general meeting will be held at 4 p.m. in the Pacheco room of the Student Union. For more information, call Wes Kuruwara at 476-6397.

International Youth Fellowship
Bible study and youth fellowship will be held from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the Ohlone room of the Student Union.

SJSU Catholic Campus Ministry
Alpha Omega college student fellowship night will be held from 8 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. in the Omega Lounge at the SJSU Catholic Campus Ministry Center. For more information, call Kay Polintan at 938-1610.

ANOTHER DIMENTION | PAUL DYBDAHL



"THE AVERAGE HUMAN MALE STOPS GROWING AT AGE 18 AND STARTS LOSING HIS HAIR AT AGE 26, AND I'LL BE DAMNED IF I FRITTER AWAY THOSE EIGHT PRECIOUS YEARS IN A MONOGAMOUS RELATIONSHIP."

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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, libel and length. Submissions must contain the author's name, address, phone number, signature and major.

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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.



Photos by Nicholas R. Wright / Daily Staff

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

TOP: Maureen Evans, the former scholarship coordinator for San Jose State University, helped create an automated, online scholarship application form, which simplified the process for students.

ABOVE: Patricia Watkins, a senior creative arts major and president of the Disabled Students Association, helped create a scholarship for members of the Disabled Students Association. She is also the master of community service for Tau Delta Phi.

LEFT: Belle Wei is one of just 18 female engineering deans in the country. She was promoted to her position last year after working with the San Jose State University department of engineering for 16 years.

WOMEN |

continued from page 1

pen," she said. Religious faith and strong family values, she said, are central to her positive attitude. "Never giving up — that's one of my mottos," she said.

Helen Wilmot graduated from SJSU in 1985 with a degree in nursing before obtaining her master's degree in business administration at UCLA.

"The biggest challenge is moving people to change," she said.

As senior vice president and chief turnaround officer of Kaiser Permanente's California division, she was responsible for a \$300 million turnaround in 1999, leading to the health maintenance organization's first profit in two years, according to the San Francisco Business Times. She said it was one of her proudest professional achievements.

Wilmot co-founded eHealth-Contracts, a Hayward-based health care software company in 2000, according to the SJSU College of Applied Sciences and Arts Web site. She is currently the senior vice president of strategy and business development at Sensitron, Inc., a San Mateo health care company she's been with for about a year.

She said she takes on new projects quickly, averaging nine months per job before moving forward.

Wilmot said she is driven to contribute value to her customers and to solve problems.

"Empathizing with the customer helps to make their environment better," she said. "You have to understand the issue so that the solution meets their needs."

Maureen Evans, the scholarship coordinator at SJSU, has helped students navigate through, what she said, can be a difficult scholarship application process.

At SJSU, she worked to automate the scholarship system by bringing it to the Internet. The Web site, scholarships.sjsu.edu, aims to cut down time spent on repetitive paperwork.

"We've taken it into the 21st century," she said.

Evans has worked for SJSU for the past three years but is leaving her position this semester to move to Canada to be closer to her family.

She said her personal philosophy is, "Never look back."

Evans said she embraces the opportunity to learn new things.

"I've been very fortunate to get to know the people behind the faces," she said.

Working with students, Evans said she aims to empower them through personal interaction.

"Overall, I think the communication between the students, faculty and staff could be a little better," she said. "I just like to treat people how I'd like to be treated."

LIBRARY |

continued from page 1

terrible impact on graduate students who are writing their theses, because the newest scholarly articles usually appear in printed journals first and it may be difficult for students to access the newest information online.

Bell said she thinks students may have a hard time judging which Web sites are reliable when researching online.

Crowe said she is expecting to lose more than half of her art budget and added that in the 30 years she has been a librarian, most of which has been at SJSU, this is the absolute worst she has seen the budget.

"What pitiful amount I have left is going to have to stretch for all of the books and any journals that I want to keep or the faculty want to keep in print," Crowe said.

"Most of who will be affected are art history majors, and there is just not enough of them to make a big difference in usage," Crowe said.

Crowe said that although she thinks printed journals have many advantages over electronic journals, there is no doubt that online is more convenient for students.

"The kind of student body we have is almost all commuter students, a lot of them are working as well as going to school, and I just think that the No. 1 thing is convenience," Crowe said.

Aleli Grimares, a senior majoring in business finance, was doing research Friday in the lower level of the King Library, where the printed journals are kept, and said although electronic journals are more convenient for students, she thinks cutting printed journals will have a negative effect.

She said she had been looking for a journal article online but she couldn't find the whole article and only found the abstract.

"I still have to go down here and look for it myself," Grimares said.

Melody Mayor, a senior majoring in nursing, said she likes the idea of having only electronic journals, as she searched through the journal stacks Friday in the lower level of the King Library.

"I think it's a good idea, because it would save space and it's easier access on the Internet," Mayor said.

Gloria Pham, a freshman majoring in nursing, was searching for a journal with Mayor and said journals only available online may create problems for some students.

"For those who don't have Internet access at home, they still have to come to the library anyway," Pham said.

Whitlatch said she thinks electronic subscriptions are superior in various ways.

She said with electronic journals many users can access the same journal at the same time, electronic journals don't go missing and they can be accessed from home at any time of the day or night.

"From a student point of view, it's much more convenient," Whitlatch said. "It's really 24/7. If you want to do it at 3 o'clock in the morning, no problem."

Stephen Branz, professor of chemistry at SJSU and chair of the University Library board, said he thinks electronic journals can be just as beneficial to students as printed journals.

"Most students prefer to use electronic," Branz said. "Electronic is more affordable and gives us better access to more of a larger collection."

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GREEK | Crowley endorses report

continued from page 1

In a statement issued Monday, interim President Joseph Crowley endorsed the report, saying, "I have reviewed and highly endorse the report submitted to me by the task force, which discusses the results of its research and provides written recommendations to support and improve SJSU's Greek Life system."

In the statement, Crowley said he agrees with the task force's assessment that the Greek system "encompasses many positive aspects that make it a valuable asset to the campus and community, and that, at their best, Greek organizations can strongly support the goals and mission of our university."

Among the problems listed by the 21-person task force were alcohol abuse and poor academic performance.

"One of the biggest problems was alcohol," said Cynthia Cobb, Alumni President of Zeta Phi Beta, who was on the task force. Several organizations have recently become "dry," restricting the use of alcohol to certain places and certain times "because everyone's being held more accountable these days," Cobb said.

Other Greek organizations, Batuhan said, have begun educating their members more about the use of alcohol.

"Each chapter is addressing that in their own way," he said.

According to the report, on average Greeks drink more than the typical college student, and the abuse of alcohol and its consequences were "of greatest concern."

In spite of the task force's recognition of the problem, Batuhan believes Greek organizations should not be unfairly associated with alcohol abuse.

"Greek letter organizations should not be singled out when it comes to alcohol abuse," he said. "It takes place on a campus community."

The report also mentions academic performance as one of the weaknesses of the SJSU Greek system, which Batuhan said was often a result of "overcommitment."

"One of the challenges that we had is that students get overwhelmed with activities," he said.

According to Batuhan, members are faced with other extracurricular obligations, including jobs.

Sigma Chi, he said, emphasizes academic achievement as part of the requirements for membership.

Cobb said Student Life and Leadership will examine the grades of the Greek organizations in the fall. Those that do not have a cumulative GPA of 2.3 will receive a warning.

In addition to the Greek system's shortcomings, the report mentions many of the positive aspects of Greek life at SJSU, particularly the diversity of the system, which according to the report is one of the most diverse in the nation.

The Greek community, the report states, also deserves credit for helping build the campus community, in addition to the high participation in campus activities and philanthropy.

Batuhan says that membership in Greek organizations helps build leadership skills, provides a support network and teaches people how to interact with the community.

"For some, I think it brings needed camaraderie," said Charles Whitcomb, executive assistant to the provost and task force member. "It brings an

opportunity to develop that type of familial experience that ... they would not have necessarily engaged in whether they lived in a dorm or just lived in an apartment."

According to the report, SJSU's support of the Greek system has been "insufficient," and Batuhan said many SJSU Greek organizations do not feel that the university has provided them with enough resources.

He believes that the creation of a "relationship statement" will improve the situation between the university and the Greek system, defining what the Greek system expects of the university and vice versa.

"It should be a two-way street," he said.

Former SJSU President Robert Caret appointed the task force in June 2003 after an off-campus brawl in January 2003 involving members of Lambda Phi Epsilon and Alpha Phi Omega resulted in one student being fatally stabbed. The two fraternities were subsequently suspended indefinitely.

The task force was made up of campus officials, students, faculty members, Greek organization members, alumni and community members. It met regularly during the Fall 2003 semester.

A statement by Caret in the report charges the task force "to engage in the complete review and examination of the social Greek System at San Jose State University."

SJSU Greek life coordinator Angela Harper said although the stabbing was the primary catalyst for the forming of the task force, plans had been made to form one before the incident occurred.

"We recognized that the system was growing. It needed more support than it was given," she said.

According to Harper, 4.3 percent of the undergraduate students on campus belong to a social Greek organization. She said the low percentage of Greek students on campus puts more pressure on student leaders, who have to take on more responsibility sooner than do members of Greek organizations at other campuses.

"They have so much more to do to stay viable at a campus that it's very hard to exist at," she said. "It's tough to be Greek here."

Crowley concluded Monday's statement by reiterating his belief in the importance of SJSU's Greek community, saying, "the university is committed to its Greek Life system. Its unique role and benefits to campus life are well-documented. Therefore, we will continue to communicate and work together to solidify our relationship."

CUBA | '... everyone has a political opinion, from ages 12 and up'

continued from page 1

U.S. State Department Web site, the sanctions were reinforced by the 1996 Helms-Burton Act, which seeks to bring democracy to Cuba and end what is viewed by the American government as "oppression by the Castro regime."

While travel to the country is not technically illegal for American citizens, spending money there is, thus making excursions to Cuba virtually impossible.

Fountain said she and the students were able to travel legally under the academic license granted to SJSU by the U.S. Treasury Department, they but had to follow very rigid guidelines.

Such specific licenses are issued to educational institutions by the Office of Foreign Assets Control and allow for enrolled, degree-seeking students to travel to Cuba if they are participating in a structured educational program as part of a course offered at that institution.

"We were very careful to fulfill the terms of our license with a full academic program and working with an institution there," Fountain said.

In order for the students to be prepared upon arrival, Fountain said she began assigning readings and films and bringing in guest speakers in November.

Many of the students were native Spanish-speakers, and although there were no formal prerequisites for the course, Fountain said she asked that participants be able to speak at an advanced level, which she determined through informal conversations.

The group spent most of its time in Havana attending lectures and activities at the Center for Marti Studies, which Fountain said is one of the country's premier institutions and is named after national hero and literary icon, José Marti.

In a debriefing with school officials on Monday, participants agreed that various aspects of Cuban society took them by surprise.

"We would go out looking for somewhere to eat on our lunch breaks, but there weren't really restaurants the way there are here," said Lisette Fuentes, a senior double majoring in political science and sociology.

According to Fuentes, there are a few state-owned restaurants in Havana, but more popular are "paladares," small eateries, usually eight tables in size, that Cubans run out of their homes and which are publicized through word of mouth.

Lorena Cuevas, a graduate student in education, said she was amazed by the level of intelligence demonstrated by the young children she encountered in Cuba. "There was one 7-year-old boy who could recite poetry, algebraic equations and facts of not only Cuban history, but Mexican and U.S. history as well," Cuevas said. "And everyone has a political opinion, from ages 12 and up."

Ben Parizek, a graduate student in economics, said that political considerations were what intrigued him most about the communist country.

"I wasn't convinced about how 'nice' things are," Parizek said. "I don't think they can really express their opinions, and I was kind of taken aback."

When it came to interaction with the people, the students said they found them to be very friendly and hospitable.

"I think to some extent they had an expectation of rich Americans, but more than that, people wanted to get to know us," said Olivia Corona-Soto, a graduate student in Spanish.

"A lot of people we met invited us into their homes and wanted to hang out or listen to music," Corona-Soto said. "We were sort of a novelty."

Corona-Soto said that poverty was another aspect of Cuban society that made an impression on her.

"They have tremendous shortages there," Corona-Soto said. "We would ask for a napkin at dinner, and what we didn't realize was that if you weren't given one, it's because there were none."

For Fuentes, the best part of the trip was meeting Camilo Guevara, the son of guerilla fighter and hero of the Cuban revolution, Che Guevara.

The class also visited the western provinces of Pinar del Rio and Trinidad where they saw old coffee and sugar

plantations and colonial architecture.

"I had read literature from the Cuban anti-slavery movement, but to be in the historical places where slaves worked and slept was incredible. It really brought it to life," Ramirez said.

As coordinator of Latin American studies, Fountain said she decided to organize this excursion because of her expertise in Cuba, having traveled the island extensively and maintained many contacts there. While pursuing her doctorate in Spanish American literature, Fountain said she specialized in the works of José Martí and translated numerous Cuban pieces into English.

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SJSU faces tough road test at Nevada

By Mark Cornejo Daily Senior Staff Writer

It has been more than a month since the Spartan baseball team has played a game outside of Santa Clara County, a 17-game streak that will come to an end this weekend.

SPARTAN BASEBALL ON DECK NOTEBOOK

The 12-11-1 Spartans will travel to the 11-12 University of Nevada-Reno for a three game set against the Wolf Pack beginning on Friday.

Spartan head coach Sam Piraro said the road trip could pose a problem for his young team, especially since they haven't had to travel outside of the county since Feb. 15 when they wrapped up a three-game series at UC Santa Barbara.

"No matter what I say, no matter what the returning guys say, it's a learning experience," Piraro said.

Piraro said playing at Nevada will be a tougher road game than usual.

"The way the ballpark is designed and the light air, it's a whole different ballpark from (San Jose)," Piraro said.

go to Nevada and play." SJSU left fielder Nate Corrick said some of the players may not realize how different an environment Peccole Park, the Wolf Pack's home field, is from San Jose.

"It's about as opposite as you can get from here at Municipal (Stadium)," Corrick said.

Kevin Frandsen, who has played second base, left field and, most recently, third base for the Spartans this season, said the high altitude and strong winds make Peccole Park one of the toughest places to play.

"Going into Reno is a different situation than anywhere else," Frandsen said.

Frandsen added that his teammates who have yet to play at Nevada don't understand how hard it is to perform well in that park.

"The guys that aren't experienced playing over there are going to have some trouble in the beginning," Frandsen said.

Piraro said Nevada will be such a tough opponent this weekend because they build their team to play at Peccole.

"Nevada is an offensive team and they always have been," Piraro said.

"They're an offensive monster because they practice in that ballpark every day. Average hitters become above-average hitters. Good hitters become great hitters."

Nevada head coach Gary Powers said the weather in Reno hasn't been a huge factor so far this season, but he expects that to change this weekend.

"The field hasn't been playing the way we're used to because the weather has been so good lately," Powers said.

Powers said he didn't see the weather being an advantage for anyone since neither team has yet played in such conditions.

"Our guys haven't even had to deal with it this season," Powers said.

Piraro said since the Wolf Pack has built up an offense to exploit the thin air and high winds, the Spartans may be forced to play a style of game he doesn't want the team to have to play.

"They always score a lot of runs," Piraro said.

He added that it will take top-notch performances from several players in order to take the series.

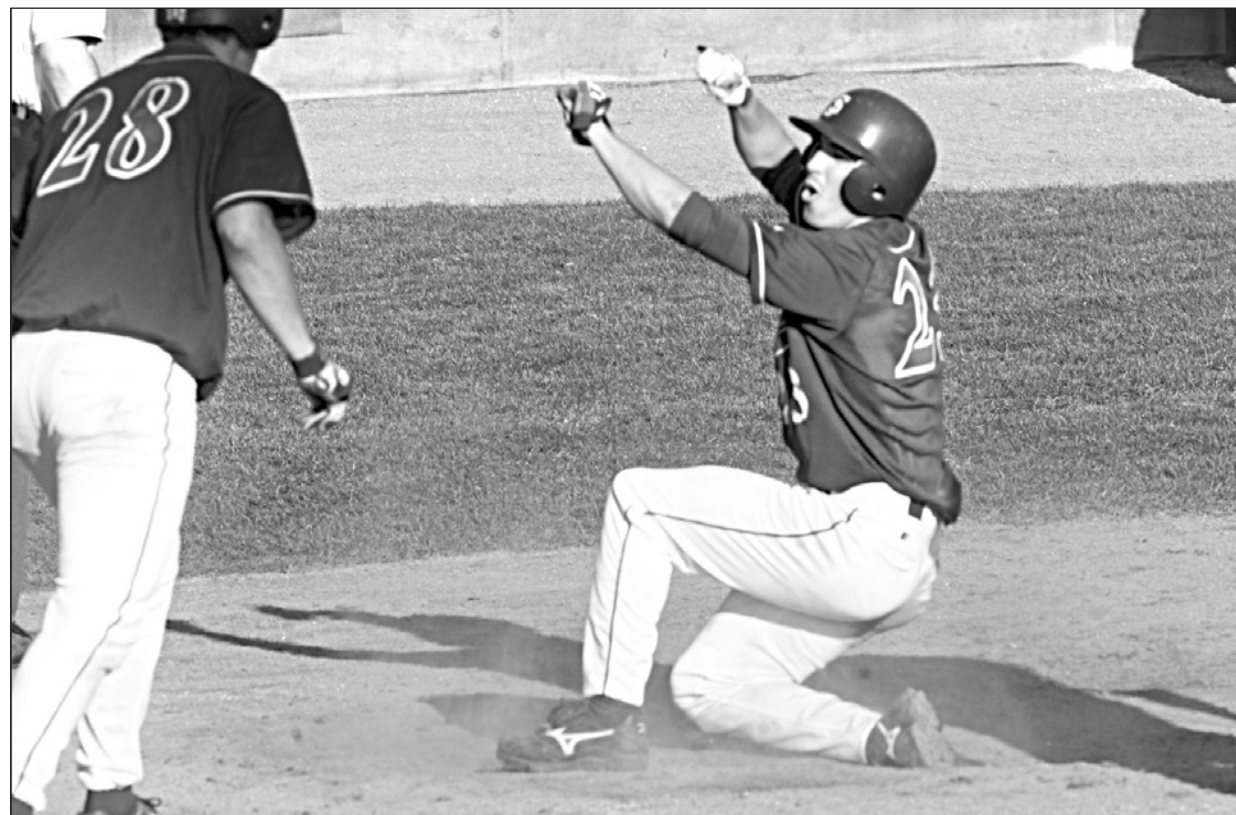
"We're going to have to pitch our butts off," Piraro said.

Corrick said it's key for everyone to be on top of their game because, at 2-4 in conference, the Spartans need to win this series.

"If we don't win two out of three, I would say it was not a successful trip," Corrick said.

Injuries

Both the Spartans and the Wolf Pack have question marks in their lineups that they hope can be resolved before they meet this weekend.



Yvonne Pingue / Daily Staff

Spartan left fielder Ryan Angel celebrates as he scores the winning run on an RBI single by Kevin Frandsen in the 11th inning against Louisiana Tech University Sunday. San Jose State University hits the road to face the University of Nevada-Reno for a three-game series starting Friday.

For the Spartans, the return of Frandsen to the lineup last weekend allowed him to take over for third baseman Josh Lansford.

Piraro hopes to have both players back for the series against the Wolf Pack but knows they may not be at 100 percent.

He said with Lansford's finger injury still bothering him, he would most likely use him in the designated hitter spot this weekend and wait until later to put him back on the field.

Frandsen said he was bothered by his ankle injury in the Spartans' last series but felt good about making it through all three games.

"The ankle's tired," Frandsen said, "but it held through the weekend, so I'm glad about that."

The Wolf Pack has bigger problems with its lineup, having lost No. 1 starting pitcher Troy Grimmer to an elbow injury before the season began.

Nevada will also be without starting center fielder Brian Gazerro, who has

not been with the team for the past 10 days, Powers said, for personal reasons.

Powers said the one bright spot for the Wolf Pack is the return of relief pitcher Darrick Cummings, who he is expecting to come back for this weekend's series since breaking his arm prior to the start of the season.

Friday's game is scheduled to start at 2 p.m., with 1 p.m. starts on Saturday and Sunday.

All three games will be played at Peccole Park in Reno.

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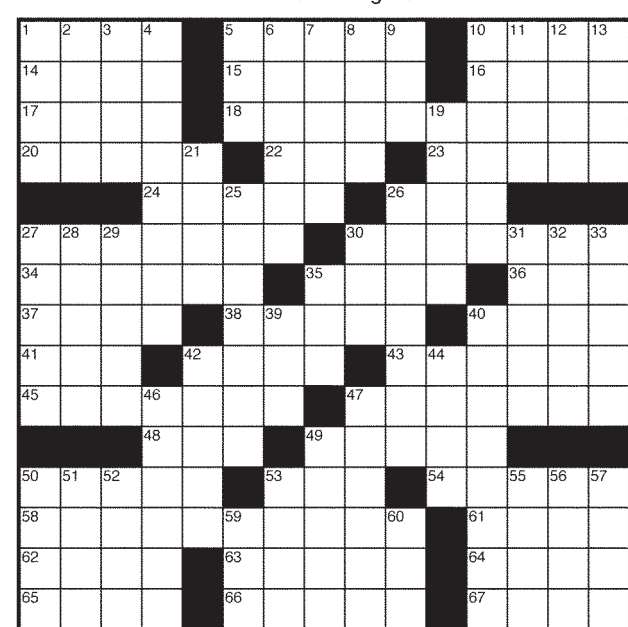
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Museum showcases Egyptian past

By Colin Kutch
Daily Staff Writer

If a spring break vacation to Egypt is out of the question, one could simulate the experience by visiting the Rosicrucian Egyptian Museum in San Jose.

"Our main purpose is to study natural laws so we can live in harmony with them," said Julie Scott, president of the local chapter of the Rosicrucian Order, which owns the museum.

The museum itself looks like an ancient Egyptian palace with two large golden doors as an opening. The outside walkways are lined with papyrus, and sculptures fill the surrounding area.

Scott said the museum's new main attraction is a planetarium exhibit titled "The Mithraic Mysteries." The 35-minute program examines the ancient Mithraic religion, which was a competitor to Christianity in Rome from the first through fourth centuries, according to Scott.

"The Mithraic Mysteries" opened on March 19. The planetarium presentation explains the extensive astrological knowledge that Mithraic

followers had. Using diagrams of the stars projected onto a dome that the audience sits under, the show mixes education with entertainment.

The first showing was a fund-raiser for the museum, but now the planetarium show is free with admission.

Elaine Roseman, a director of operations at a Pebble Beach financial advising firm and a member of the Rosicrucian Order, was at the opening. Roseman said she and her husband came to the museum for the spring, or vernal, equinox. The vernal equinox is one of two times a year when the sun passes the plane of the Earth's equator, according to Dictionary.com.

The Rosicrucian Order is a nonprofit philosophical organization with more than 65,000 members, Scott said.

"It's helpful in our lives," Roseman said. "It's also very practical."

Roseman said her favorite parts of the museum are the library and the peace garden.

The museum also includes a full-size, three-room replica of a tomb, Scott said, that is based on the best features Egyptian tombs had to offer.

Gabriel Jarret, an 11-year-old from Castroville, said his favorite part of

visiting the museum was looking at the anatomy of mummies.

"It's awesome, but it's also kind of freaky," Jarret said.

There are six mummies on display, according to the museum's Web site.

The museum opened in 1966 and has collected more than 4,000 artifacts, from ancient tools to Egyptian jewelry.

The museum hosts workshops and lectures regularly. The next event is Saturday, March 27. Titled "Necessary Luxuries," it's a hands-on workshop discussing the hygiene of the ancient Egyptians as well as their use of makeup, according to the museum's calendar.

"Well, we're trying to get the word out," Scott said. "We're low-key. A lot of people don't know what we have to offer."

General admission is \$9, and \$7 for students with a Tower Card and a current VTA sticker.

The museum is located at 1342 Naglee Ave. in San Jose. Operating hours are Tuesday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday through Sunday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.



Stacey Ruesch / Daily Staff

Cyril Roseman looks at a display of rare books of the Rosicrucian library exhibit at the Rosicrucian Egyptian Museum in San Jose on Saturday afternoon. Roseman is a member of the Ancient, Mystical Order Rosae Crucis.

SENATE | Committee proposes scaling down general support to athletics over a five-year period

continued from page 1

Brent, an associate professor of political science, Katz said.

The general fund budget includes revenue from the state general fund as well as the State University Fee that students pay to enroll in a California State University school, according to information in the report.

The report states that San Jose State University's intercollegiate athletics programs are receiving a projected 58 percent — more than \$6.8 million — of their combined budget from the general fund in 2003-04. Katz said the committee recommended reducing that figure to 35 percent or 45 percent within five years.

Katz said instituting a cap on the athletics budget had come up for discussion but was not pursued initially because of concerns that such a measure would box in the new campus president.

Nellen said she expects senators will suggest spending caps at future senate meetings and that she would like to see the athletic department have incentives for fund-raising so it doesn't strictly rely on general-fund support.

Katz said the committee didn't investigate whether leaving the Division I-A level of NCAA competition would influence the athletic department's budget.

Nellen said losing the Division I-A status would be complicated.

"It's not like you get out of it, and then everything's fine. There are promises made to students, promises made to the WAC (Western Athletic Conference) that we belong to. Stepping down to a different league, who knows if a conference is going to pick us up?"

The senate also heard a summary of the findings of the Greek Life Task Force, which was formed in Spring 2003, partly in response to the stabbing death of a fraternity member, Alam Kim, earlier that year.

The task force recommends preserving Greek life at SJSU, said John Baird, a former business professor. Baird was the chair of the task force, and Meredith Moran, director of Student Life and Leadership, was an ex officio member.

Baird said the university has had a "laissez faire approach" toward the Greek system in the past.

The task force concluded that the current Greek system governance

model needs to be reviewed "in order to promote consistency, continuity and leadership accountability," Baird said.

He said the task force recognizes that although a small percentage of students participate in the Greek system, they're also very visible to the community.

Angela Harper, the Greek life coordinator, said 4.3 percent of undergraduate students are part of the campus Greek system.

Baird said once the Campus Village construction is completed, more students will live on campus and will need organized leadership opportunities.

In other senate business, the group voted to endorse several policies, including one in support of the Muse program.

The policy institutes a peer-review process to ensure that Muse courses are meeting general education objectives and restricts the number of general education

areas that may be satisfied by a Muse course, said Judith Lessow-Hurley, professor of elementary education.

Students would be limited to taking one Muse class for general education credit, she said.

The senate also endorsed budget priorities for 2004-05. These priorities include: improving student recruitment and retention, maintaining and improving the recruitment and retention of

high-quality faculty members and staff, enhancing the professional satisfaction of the faculty and staff by improving their work environment, advancing the quality of academic programs and promoting efficient and timely management of campus infrastructure and facilities.

Brent added an amendment increasing funding for the library's collection and support services.

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