SPARTAN DAILY

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Serving San Jose State University since 1934

FRIDAY, APRIL 15, 2005

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Bookbags cause back strain **Students**



Being a woman has its perks



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Ask Ryan The war in Iraq, expired milk are just some of the questions the Thrilla answers online



weight you can carry." Vargas said.

Improper use can lead to future pains

By Ashley Little Daily Staff Writer

Day after day students carry backpacks full of notebooks and textbooks, which may develop into back problems in the future. Researchers disagree whether backpacks are to blame for back problems.

Peggy Plato, assistant professor of kinesiology, believes that any student who uses a backpack improperly will develop back problems.

Students who carry backpacks and other loads properly and maintain good muscle strength and flexibility will minimize their risk of back problems." Plato said.

The American Chiropractic Association disagrees. It said that the use of overweight backpacks despite proper or improper use is a contributing factor of back pains.

Consumer Product Safety The Commission estimated that more than 6,500 injuries in 2000 were because of the use of heavy backpacks.

Kyla O'Hara, a senior majoring in social science, has seven classes and carries four books every day.

Although she does not have a back problem, she believes that carrying a heavy backpack may eventually cause back pain.

The American Chiropractic Association states that a backpack should weigh no more than 10 percent of a person's body weight.

Someone who weighs between 100 to 130 pounds should carry no more than five to 10 pounds in a backpack, someone who weighs between 130 to 150 pounds should carry no more than 6.5 to 13 pounds, and someone who weighs more than 150 pounds should carry no more than 7.5 to

opt for summer classes

By Lauren Bosch Daily Staff Writer

Sand, sun and road trips all contribute to a successful summer break. As budget cuts continue to cut classes on California State University campuses, however, some students are forced to forego summer dreams to sit in a classroom and stare wistfully out the window at what could have been

During past years, finding enough classes to fill a schedule during the Fall and Spring terms has become a challenge to most full-time students, said Janell Lessing, a senior majoring in kinesiology.

To some students, the schedule of classes seems to shrink with each semester, which has forced some to use the summer as a way to continue their quest for graduation.

During the past three years, summer school enrollment has averaged between 5,000 and 8,000 students, said William Nance, vice provost for academic planning and budgets.

Nance said that summer course offerings are typically based on student demand.

Bottleneck courses - areas of high demand in Fall and Spring — are offered to make it easier for students to enroll in classes that might be required prerequisites for their fall schedule

The courses that are offered are based on the demand," Nance said. "For those students that want to advance themselves toward a degree, it gives them another option they might not have if they wait until the Fall. Since it's not mandatory students can gain from the courses being available if they want to take it.

Some students also agree that summer courses offer an easier way to do things on a campus with nearly 28,000 students in Fall and Spring

"I take them to get ahead and/or to stay on course," Lessing said. "It is so hard to get some of the classes I need in the semester. It's also faster and a little bit easier because the teachers are more one-on-one with the students.

One thing taken into consideration by some students is the level of education that can be maintained during summer courses and is whether summer courses can help or hurt a GPA, be

see SUMMER, page 4

College literacy low, dean says

violence cases

By Peter Clark Daily Staff Writer to find a piece of information for a school assignment, but search engines pick their pages by pop-

Dance-a-Thon rocks ballroom

with students the statistics and stories behind the various cases

Anyone that will hit you will kill you," Pierre-Dixon said.

Pierre-Dixon started working in the District Attorney's of-

We went from having 50 cases a year to having 50 cases a

fice in 1981 when there was no official unit that handled do-

mestic violence cases. By 1991 she created and supervised a

see ABUSE, page 4

of domestic violence in South Bay.

There is no excuse for domestic violence

unit designed to handle domestic violence cases

Event features raffle, trivia

Daily Staff Writer

By Erin Caballero

Jennifer Seigal / Daily Staff Steven Vargas, a senior majoring in kinesiology, is a fitness trainer for Club One at Santana Row. "Wearing backpacks can be a plus or minus depending on how much see BACKPACK, page 3



By Traci Newell Daily Staff Writer

When Rolanda Pierre-Dixon attended San Jose State University, she woke up one night to crying friend's phone call. Just past midnight, her friend had called to say her husband had just battered her.

Pierre-Dixon, the current district attorney of Santa Clara

Pierre-Dixon held a lecture titled, "Domestic Violence:

County, was inspired to start a career working on domestic

As the beats of the hip-hop group Feilonious rang out from the speakers in the Student Union Amphitheater, the dean of the San Jose State University library gave a lecture in the Spartan Bookstore on Thursday titled, "Getting to the Cutting Edge: Information Literacy at SJSU."

Refreshments were offered during Patricia Breivik's 45-minute presentation to an audience of 20 as she gave numerous examples, and cited a multitude of studies, that pointed to a lack of information literacy among college students

A UCLA study conducted in 2002 reported that 52 percent of college students believe that most of the information on the Internet is accurate, but in fact Breivik said, anybody can create a Web site under any alias.

Most students go directly to a search engine when they want

ularity, not reliability, Breivik said.

Popular search engines only register 16 percent of information that is indexed and only 6 percent of that information is scholarly or scientific, Breivik said.

A study conducted at UC Berkeley found that five out of eight graduating seniors failed an exam assessing their research competency.

Though SJSU students are required to attend a one-hour tutorial on the basics of library research in their 100W classes, covering information on how to use databases and perform smart Internet searches, Breivik does not think this is enough to equip students with good researching skills. She would like to see a required term paper in one of the general education courses that utilizes these skills so students are forced to do

see BREIVIK, page 5

To insure a good "head start" for the next generation of American youth, the Lambda Sigma Gamma sorority and other Greek organizations hosted the seventh annual "Dance-a-Thon" in the Barrett Ballroom of the Student Union.

Lambda Sigma Gamma, along with the Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity. Iota Phi Theta fraternity and the Independence High School varsity cheerleading squad, performed heartpounding dance routines to raise money for the local Head Start chapter.

Head Start is a national program helping underprivileged children get a developmental advantage.

"Last year we raised \$300 - the money goes toward supplies like colored pencils, paper, scissors - whatever the teacher needs, said Cynthia Villagonez, a Lambda Sigma Gamma sorority member and junior majoring in Spanish and sociology. Villagonez said that the teams were judged on the number of members performing, the creativity of their posters and the performances themselves

Money was raised selling \$1 raifle tickets. Associated Students contributed funding, as well as private companies. Among some of the MTV show "Total Request Live." Several



Neal Waters / Daily Staff

Ezekiel Staples, center, a junior, hushes the audience while Chris McCants, far left, also a junior, dances into a frenzy at the seventh annual Dance-a-Thon put on by Lambda Sigma Gamma sorority Thursday in the Loma Prieta room of the Student Union. Michael Bradley, left back, a freshman, and Keith Reynolds, right back, a junior, look on. The Dance-a-Thon raised money for the San Jose chapter of Head Start.

which were snapped up by the cheerleaders. The fraternity ran up to try to win the card that would sorority sisters asked the audience trivia from

4

the prizes were \$5 Starbucks gift cards, many of cheerleaders and a member of the lota Phi Theta

see DANCE, page 5

OPINION

PAGE 2 - SPARTAN DAILY

VIEW FROM THE EAST Perks for being a woman outweigh the lows

Ah, to be a member of the "weaker" sex. The advantages far outweigh the disadvantages.

Among the downsides is cash flow. In terms of spending, being a woman can be a fiscal burden.

The budget the average woman requires to be "pretty" costs a pretty penny. This expense comes out of a woman's pocket.

Do the math. Add up the prices for hair products, make-up, manicures and clothes. Throw in jewelry, spa appointments and bags. The budget for shoes is in a category by itself.

The total comes to a number that's worth forgetting.

Hey, splurging is necessary every once in a while. Which, for a woman, is all the time.

Not all is bleak though, for a woman's wallet is supplemented by a second income - her boyfriend's. A woman's upkeep for her physical appearance costs money in order to impress her boyfriend. Her

money is spent on herself though. On the other hand, her boyfriend must buy her

gifts in order to impress her. The more expensive and showy the gift, the more impressed the woman will be

While a man spends virtually nothing on his personal upkeep, he must shower his girlfriend with presents

Being on the receiving end of someone's attentions, after working to look good, can be extremely gratifying.

Look at it this way. When going on a date, women get ready for two hours, while men get ready to blow two month's worth of salary.

Being a member of the fairer sex is definitely worth it.

While the situation may not be equal by numbers, both parties engage in this economic inequality gladly

And women are grateful. Grateful LING-MEI WONG for the chance to get all dolled up, to enjoy a date and to share the company

of a generous man. It's not often that someone will pick up the check or buy something for a woman after she points, pouts

and whines It's not like women are shallow or anything.

Being a woman is so enviable that some men seek



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 Art and Design

An art exhibition featuring student galleries will take place from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Art building. For more information, call the gallery office at 924-4330

Counseling Services

A GBTQQI group meeting will take place from noon to 1:20 p.m. in Counseling Services of the Student Services Center. For more information, call 924-5910.

Catholic Campus Ministry

Daily Mass will take place at 12:10 p.m. in the Catholic Campus Ministry chapel. For more information, call Father Mike Carson at 938-1610.

Art of Living Club

An art of living course will take place from 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at the Mosaic Cross Cultural Center. For more information, call Sachin at 772-5050.

SATURDAY

Art History Association

A symposium will take place from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in room 189 of the Engineering building. Speakers will deliver scholarly presentations with visual images

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Joint Library

A talk featuring Yxta Maya Murray will take place from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. in rooms 225 and 229 of the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Joint Library. The talk is part of the Writer in Conversation Program.

Art of Living Club

An art of living course will take place from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Mosaic Cross Cultural Center. For more information, call Sachin at 772-5050.

SUNDAY

Catholic Campus Ministry

Mass will take place at noon and 5 p.m. in the Catholic Campus Ministry chapel. For more information, call Father Mike Carson at 938-1610

Art of Living Club

An art of living course will take place from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Mosaic Cross Cultural Center. For more information, call Sachin at 772-5050

MONDAY

Reed Literary Magazine

The Reed 2005 Kick-Off Party will take place at 7 p.m. in the Spartan Memorial. Contributors will read selections and the event will include a raffle for an iPod and other prizes.

to emulate women The economic inequality has tipped the scales to favor women.

A woman spends money on herself to impress a man. The man, in turn, spends money on the woman. In this equation, the woman gets all the

money spent on her.

Hence, witness the rise of the "metro-sexual." The metrosexual is essentially a man

seeking to be a woman.

His finances are spent on grooming himself. By doing so, he hopes to have money lavished on him by others.

Metrosexuals mimic the behaviors of women. They get manicures, go to the spa and have their hair done every six weeks, rather than waiting until they resemble

Chewbacca. They try to be more feminine than women in terms of maintaining their aesthetic ideal. Careful grooming means careful dressing, which entails shopping trips

to high-end clothing stores. Having a man look presentable is a small miracle

GUEST COLUMN

Unfortunately, men can't expect to attain the level of spoiling that women enjoy.

FRIDAY - APRIL 15, 2005

David Beckham epitomizes the ideal of the metrosexual. He's ripped, impeccably dressed and has presentable, if unusual, hair.

He also has to financially support his equally ripped, impeccably dressed and presentably coiffed wife, Victoria, better known as "Posh Spice."

He's not being treated to special favors despite his attention to his appearance.

Metrosexuals vainly attempt to have others spoil them, to no avail.

So for now, being a member of the female gender means special treatment from men.

It's worth being ineligible for the papacy.

Ling-Mei Wong is the Spartan Daily opinion editor. "View from the East" appears every Friday.

driver and start chatting with him or her. To add to it,

the quieter ones always seem to get off sooner than the

co-passengers quickly squeezed a dollop of tooth-

paste, and brushed her teeth after she finished her

came back to make sure that I heard his problem, sure

The harmless waft of menthol odor as one of my

But a man who served in the Army in Spain, and

There are examples of interestingly annoying

One gentleman criticized the police

for arresting him wrongfully and called

Boarding the bus a journey to discovering other passengers

did.

people.

Undoubtedly, the Express 180 is the place for ruminating over thoughts. And that is why, stepping inside the Express 180 with a flash of my student ID card, I surrender myself to strangers and their strange talk. run to catch it, I hate if I miss it and I miss it when I don't use it.

Paula Howard, a bus driver and my companion, complained about loud talkers in the bus who render her announcements annoyingly inaudible. Howard is a person whose voice bellows from the pit of her stomach like a sergeant hollering at troops.

Carrie Bradshaw, the columnist from "Sex and the City," might have written a juicier piece

Neverthless, here comes my two cents. Bussed to school and back home for the last four months. I have lent my ears, and then thoughts, to conversations of co-passengers. Loud conversations in the bus, I protest - otherwise, I love my

would not be wrong to add bus rides as

gabfest on the Express 180 from Fremont to South Second and Santa Clara streets.

If it were the annoying fuzz on the face, it could be ripped off. But bus commuters are a special breed, not to be exhausted by the waiting and walking. These champion-talkers rev up as the driver shifts the gear. I have tried to divert my attention and watch the

chariot with seven horses. But people chat. They chat with friends, chat on



incoming noisy ones

meal, doesn't bother me.

A particular conversation between a man and a group of boys that he befriended on the bus was striking.

"You know there is no God, only the supernatural exists," he said. He told them he started believing in the supernatural when his dead grandma visited him, dressed in white.

Just when my ears were tuned to his discourse, he soon got off, leaving the bus rattling with a heavy air, dismissed by the laughter of the boys who said, "What the f--- was he talking about?"

The traffic of human thought became a pointer to the bigger question — why can't people say what they truly feel? It would help in my bus.

Vaishali Kirpekar is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

Letter: Decision by A.S. director regrettable

Dear editor,

I would like to commend Mike Nguyen for accepting responsibility for his "personal mistake" and not making excuses.

However, a personal mistake is not shoplifting. A personal mis-

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POSIMASII R: Send address changes to the Spartan Daily, San Jose State University, One

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CA 95192-0149

birthday; this in fact was a lapse in judgment that will now be on a criminal record for the rest of Nguyen's life. And all for less than \$20.

take is forgetting your mother's

Nguyen is an elected official and should know better. Forgetting

your wallet means returning the merchandise, not putting it into your pocket and leaving the store. Shame on him.

and me,

mail

rtan

Clodoaldo Barrera Junior Journalism

about it.

public. Its natural habitat is the house yard, marketplace and town square. One

the fourth habitat.

passengers Anthropologist Clifford Geertz said that human thought is both social and

Regular commuters like me watch the ongoing

hills, the rising sun and even tried to imagine the sun

the phone and grab the unguarded in their perimeter. If nothing else works out, they plop right next to the Guest columns appear periodically

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Production Editor		
Production Editor		
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SPARIAN DAILY

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NEWS

APRIL 15, 2005 -FRIDAY

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Drumming to the beat ...



Tommy Shepherd, left, plays the drums while performing the uman beat box next to Jon Manahan of Ionious" Thursday in the Student Union Amphitheater.

SPARTAN DAILY - PAGE 3

Astronauts, cosmonaut begin journey to international space station from Kazakhstan steppe

BAIKONUR, Kazakhstan (AP) – A Soyuz-FG rocket lifted off from Russia's base at the Baikonur Cosmodrome at sunrise Friday, launching two astronauts and a cosmonaut strapped into a crammed space cap-sule on a two-day journey to the international space station.

Russian cosmonaut Sergei Krikalev and American John Phillips were headed for a six-month stay on the ISS, while their colleague from the European Space Agency. Italian Roberto Vittori, was due to return to Earth in 10 days with the current station crew.

Russian Salizhan Sharipov and American Leroy Chiao have been on the orbiting lab since October.

Jets of fire and billows of smoke accompanied the liftoff, which was being monitored at Russian Mission Control outside Moscow. The three-stage rocket system was to bring the Soyuz to a speed of 13,420 mph within 7 1/2 minutes of the launch.

A main task for the new crew will be welcoming a U.S. space shuttle to the station after a two-year absence.

Since the space shuttle Columbia disintegrated as it returned to Earth on Feb. 1, 2003, killing all seven astronauts on board, shuttle flights have been suspended, leaving the Soyuz as the only way of getting astronauts to the space station.

NASA aims to revive flights as early as May 15, with a mission by Discovery to the space station.

The Columbia disaster was caused by a chunk of insulating foam that fell off the tank during liftoff and gashed the shuttle's wing.

In Cape Canaveral, Fla., NASA on Thursday successfully tested a redesigned external fuel tank, which underwent major modifications after the Columbia disaster.

NASA removed foam from some places on the tank and applied the insulation differently to prevent big chunks from breaking off.

Heaters also were installed to prevent the formation of ice at spots that no longer have insulation.

A key task for Krikalev and Phillips will be to observe the condition of the insulating tiles as the Discovery approaches the space station

"Our particular part will be conducting photo survey of the exterior of the shuttle while it is maneuvering immediately below us prior to docking," Phillips said Thursday at Baikonur, in the windswept steppes of the Central Asian nation of Kazakhstan.

"I think the eyes of the world are going to be upon the shuttle crew at that moment, and will be a little on us, too, and I'm really proud to be a part in that.

Krikalev said he expected to be moved by the shuttle arrival.

When the shuttle comes it will be a big celebration. They're not only bringing material for experiments, material for the station, food, water, gas, but they're bringing emotions," he said, speaking like the others from behind glass in a separate room to avoid contamination.

Vittori, although he will not be aboard for the shuttle arrival, expects to spice up the space station's cuisine.

"One of the particularities of this mission is that we also have some food coming from Italy," he said. "The idea is to bring a little flavor of Italy to the international space station."

Krikalev, at 46, is one of the most experienced space flyers, having made missions both to the space station and the Russian space station Mir. At the end of the new mission, he will have spent more time in space than any human - more than 800 days

continued from page 1

15 pounds.

"If the load causes you to lean forward, it is too heavy," said Harold Benich, certified back specialist at Optimum Performance Through Movement, a physical therapy center in Los Gatos.

Causing students to alter their posture is one of the signs to look for, according to the American Chiropractic Association.

Studies indicate that carrying a heavy backpack definitely contributes to back pain and back problems," Daryl Canham, associate professor of nursing.

Although, backpacks may be a contributing factor, some believe that students' bad habits when carrving a backpack are a main cause. Benich said most students al-

ready have bad posture, and if someone with bad posture carries a heavy load, it is too much pressure for the back.

Sitting in front of a computer is a daily ritual for some students.

"For college students, the most common pattern related to back problems is often related to remaining in one position for an extended period of time when studying or working on the computer."

Canham said.

think that there is a problem with backpacks

"I definitely think that carry ing a heavy load hurts students' backs," Hackett said.

Studies have shown carrying a backpack on both shoulders does not make a difference for some students, Canham said.

The American Chiropractic Association said some students may like to use only one strap on their backpacks for fashion reasons, but this practice puts more stress on the backs and spinal cords.

'There are studies that indicate back pain in students may be caused by a number of fac tors, including sitting and reading, computer work, poor posture and minimal exercise," Canham said.

Improperly carrying backpacks may also contribute to back problems but also excess body weight and poor body mechanics play a role, Plato said

Peter Papadopoulos, a graduate student in biology, said he does not have a back problem.

Instead of having a regular backpack, he said he uses a wheeled backpack.

Canham saw a wheeled backpack as a preventive measure, but studies prove that it may not be an effective measure. ing breaks from hours of sitting "I think that possibly carrying or standing.

According to the Consumer Product Safety Commission, an empty roller bag can weigh about 80 percent more than an empty backpack

The commission said that there is a tendency to throw more things into a roller bag since it is on wheels, making it weigh up to 50 pounds more than a backpack would.

Experts estimate that one third people older than the age of 18 had a back problem painful enough to seek professional help.

To stop the numbers from rising, there are ways to prevent or help back problems.

Carrying a lighter load, using both straps, being physically fit and working on core strengthening are some ways to help the problem, said Rosie Cheng, athletic trainer at OPTM.

Students can reduce the risk of back problems by doing the opposite of what causes it, Plato said.

These include carrying loads properly, good posture, good body mechanics, maintaining a healthy weight, participating in physical activity, maintaining good muscle strength and flexibility, and tak-

THE TUNNEL OF OPPRESSION 2005



HOMELESSNESS MEDIA TRANSGENDER IMMIGRATION **RACIAL & SOCIAL DISCRIMINATION**



BACKPACK - Bad posture to blame as well, experts say every day. Although she was born a heavy load will hurt student's with the back condition, she does backs," Papadopoulos said. "This is not necessarily why people have bad backs. It can also be due to work."

Zach Beecher / Daily Staff

Angela Liu, a junior majoring in graphic design, said she does not experience back pain.

She does believe that a heavy backpack could cause back pain, however. She believes that this is not the only reason.

An American study was done at the John Hopkins School of Public Health which showed that 74 percent of students who said they experienced back pain from backpacks, actually suffered pain for other reasons.

These students had poorer general health and less physical activity than others.

Researchers showed that tiredness and stress-related headaches were more to blame for back pains.

Sara Hackett, a senior majoring in social science, was born with scoliosis, a condition that makes the spine curve abnormally.

Having seven classes requires her to carry five books



MID EASTERNERS & MUSLIMS IN POST 9-11 AMERICA ACTIONS & PROACTIVE MEASURES

DATE: APRIL 18th (12PM - 8PM) APRIL 19th (SAM - IPM & 4PM - 8PM) APRIL 20TH (SAM - IPM) FREE TO EVERYONE Cost: LOCATION: STUDENT UNION BALLROOM NFQ: MOSAIC @ 924-6255









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NEWS

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continued from page 1

Adam Pintek, a sophomore majoring in animation and illustration, performs a stunt on his BMX bike in front of the Event Center on Thursday. Pintek is a professional who has competed in several events, including the X-Games trials in Florida, where he placed third.

SUMMER - Classes cost \$205 per unit

"It is kind of

ridiculous to

continued from page 1

cause of the pace and level of intensity that many summer classes require

"I think it varies on the stu-dent," Nance said. "A student

who is dedicated in any term will be able to get good grades, regardless of how the course is offered. A student who needs a time to focus on something can have a really positive experience because they don't get distracted and can focus on the course, because they're not being torn in 20 different directions.

However taking a course to improve upon

a GPA can be risky as well, said Mel Brown, academic adviser at SJSU

"I think that it really depends on the situation," Brown said. "If a student who has a low GPA is hoping and thinking that taking two summer school courses will be a quick jump start to their GPA. I think there's a danger to that. This is especially there if they didn't do well with a regular Fall or Spring scheduled class, because it's a quicker pace and there's greater room for failure. But

bring it more similar to Fall and Spring as well. We're moving toward a more clearly defined summer term.

Despite the benefits of sum mer courses, the cost can be a deterrent for students wishing to

enroll. The cost of classes is \$205 a unit and doesn't allow for many units at that price. spend \$600 for a "It is so expensive. Lessing said. "I couple of weeks, think it breaks down to like but it's like pay over \$100 a day for a class or the money or close to it. It is kind of ridiculous to spend \$600 for a couple of weeks, but its like pay

> your educational plan." Nonetheless.

ing costs, enrollment numbers don't seem to be fluxuating, and probably won't see a decline any time soon

"It's hard to forecast because the CSU system is expecting more students to enroll period, not just in the summer," Nance said.

month," Pierre-Dixon said. The creation of the unit created an trict attorney's office in Santa outlet for victims of abuse. "Abuse is also about being she said. unit has seen a rise threatening and intimidating."

in reported cases and Pierre-Dixon sees this as a good thing. She said the people who call in are the

The

people who make it out of an abusive rela-

range from assault cases to stalking cases

a student or if you are old - it

The Facebook adds SJSU to its online network directory

By Traci Newell Daily Staff Writer

Connecting with other San Jose State University students just got easier

In February, SJSU was added to an online directory used to connect students through social networks at different universities.

Mark Zuckerbert, a student at Harvard University, told Current magazine he created the Facebook when he decided it would be good to have an online directory of students at his university.

The Facebook quickly gained popularity and was added to sev-eral other Ivy League universities. Today, barely a year old, the Facebook has 300 schools and more than a million student users in its database

"Our users (use) the Facebook to find information on their peers, to make connections with friends and acquaintances and to communicate with one another," said Chris Hughes, spokesman for the Facebook.

What sets the Facebook apart from other networking Web sites is that the only way people can get an account is to register with their

Rolanda Pierre-Dixon,

district attorney

Clara County received 5,337

domestic violence cases in

"Abuse is also about being

Pierre-Dixon said she gave

threatening and intimidating,

Pierre-Dixon said.

lence

school e-mail address.

You can only create an account with a legit e-mail address from the school showing you are actually a student or (graduate) of the school," said Mark Hsieh, a freshman majoring in mathematics.

Valerie Pagtakhan, a junior majoring in nursing, said that there is less of a stalker factor because the only people who can view profiles are other students from the same university.

"I like the Facebook because there are no dirty, grungy strangers trying to hook up with you," Pagtakhan said.

A Facebook account allows students to post pictures, provide contact information, send messages, list classes and majors and start or join various interest groups. Once people create a profile, they can search for other students at their university with the same interests or characteristics.

Many SJSU users have connect ed through groups titled "SJSU Parking Sucks" or "SJSU Spartan Pride." There are also interest groups for students living in resident halls, fraternities and sororities and fans of particular sports.

"The Facebook has a nice de sign," said Erik Chang, a junior majoring in corporate financial

management. "It separates people by schools which makes it somewhat easier to find people, especially old high school friends

FRIDAY - APRIL 15, 2005

The Facebook also has a feature where one can search for other people from his or her graduating high school class.

"(The Facebook) is a reference tool and a means for communication," Hughes said. "I think that combination, and the fact that it's fun to use, keeps people coming back."

"I would have liked to use it as a resource to connect people in current classes and arrange study groups," said Argie Guinto, a senior majoring in computer technology. "But it hasn't been around long enough at SJSU."

Meredith Schwarting, a freshman majoring in psychology, found out about the Facebook from her friends who had it at Stanford University.

"I e-mailed (Facebook) nearly every day, begging them to add SJSU," Schwarting said.

"Our criteria for choosing which schools to add is pretty simple," Hughes said. "The more requests we receive from a school to be added to the network, the higher likelihood we'll add it.

HULTZE GETS THE BLUES

ABUSE - County receives 102 reports weekly I've know people in violent rethe lecture in hopes that she

could teach some students what domestic violence is.

"I want people to talk about domestic

violence all the time," she said. "The more we talk about it, the more people will come out for help." The JSU Women's

Resource Center put the lecture together as a part of "Sexual Assault Awareness Month."

Lindsey Bynum, the Women's Resource Center program coordinator, said the center provides a place for women to talk, though it is not certified to provide counseling. The center also provides a gender-fo-cused library and films, as well as events on campus.

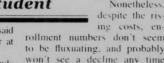


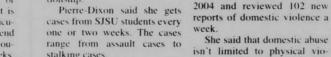
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fall behind in your educational plan." the money or fall behind in

Janell Lessing, student





"You have to be prepared," Pierre-Dixon said. "Domestic violence doesn't care if you are

happens regardless. She spoke about the different punishments that perpetrators receive. She also spoke on the warning signs and the different stages of abuse

"I didn't know how prevalent it was in Santa Clara County," said Olivia Casaje, a senior majoring in history "I'm not really surprised

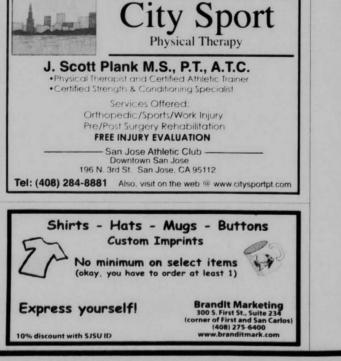
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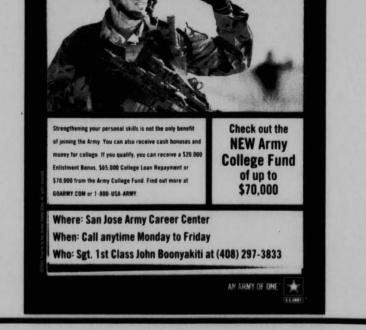
again, it really depends upon the student and whether he or she is prepared and what kind of sacrifices they're willing to take during summer.

This summer, classes will be structured in a slightly different manner. Instead of two sessions that intersect, there will be two sessions that start at the same time. One session will be six weeks in length, the other 10.

Nance said this change is due in part to the needs of different programs and a shift in scheduling needs.

"It's changing toward a more consistent, predictable scheduling for students. It gives students a better time to plan their summer schedule and overlapping classes." Nance said. "As we move to summer being more similar to Fall and Spring, you have to





NEWS

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Brian Connelly / Daily Staff

Patricia Breivik, dean of the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Joint Library, gives a speech in the Spartan Bookstore on Thursday. Breivik's speech was about information literacy, which is the subject of the "Critical Thinking, Information Literacy, and Lifelong Learning: Bringing it all Together for Student Success" seminar Wednesday at the King Library.

continued from page 1

research outside of the classroom.

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DAYCARE TEACHERS: K-8th

While taking Introduction Art Tutorial: Introduction, Tony Patane, a junior majoring in digital media art, was given the one-hour course on how to use the library's services. Although Patane thought that the tutorial was

sufficient and feels he has a good understanding on how to look up scholarly and scientific journals, he noticed that a lot of people in his class did not show up.

"A mandatory assignment would force people to learn how the system works," Patane said

Breivik posits the notion that the lack of information literacy among college students is

because of the librarian- tostudent ratios in California is one librarian per 5,342 students, more than five times the national average. Diane White, a librar-

ian on the third floor of the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Joint Library, said besides practical questions, such as where the copy machines are located, students mainly ask for help with computers and databases. In many cases, White said, they have not had much experience with these technologies, but they have been given an assignment and ask for help instead of learning how to look things up themselves.

Breivik's presentation was given as part of the University Scholar's Series, a venue where students can learn about the research faculty members have completed, said Nancy Freeman. outreach coordinator for the King Library.

Breivik's next book, which she co-wrote with Vanderbilt University President Gordon Gee, is titled "Information Literacy: Revolution in the Library. and will be out in early 2006.

Jury awards brothers \$2 million in abuse case

HAYWARD (AP) – A Hayward jury has awarded nearly \$2 million in damages tory damages and no punitive damages were to two brothers who claimed they were molested by a priest more than two decades ago

The case involving Bob and Tom Thatcher was closely watched because it is the first in a series of sex-abuse lawsuits to seek punitive damages.

Bob Thatcher was awarded \$875,000 in compensatory damages and the same amount in punitive damages. His brother tory damages and no punitive damages were sought in his case.

SPARTAN DAILY - PAGE 5

The former altar boys said they were molested at Saint Ignatius Catholic Church in Antioch by the Reverend Robert Ponciroli more than 20 years ago.

Lawyers for the Oakland Diocese do not dispute that the abuse occurred. But they disagreed that the diocese was responsible for the anxiety, relationship and drug and al-cohol problems the men suffered later.

DANCE - Event also showcases belly dancing

continued from page 1

fund a latte or macchiato.

"It takes a few weeks to pledge, but a lifetime to be a brother," said Ezekiel Staples II, a junior majoring in kinesiology. He was one of two lota Phi Theta fraternity members trying to help a fellow fraternity member with "Total Request Live" trivia regarding Britney Spears music videos.

The "Dance-a-Thon" included a belly dancing act from the "Isoceles Troop," a private group that teaches and performs belly dancing. One of the dancers. Renee Allen, is both an SJSU alumna from the class of 2000 and a former Lambda Sigma Gamma. Now a social worker, Allen has done the "Dance-a-Thon" with the sorority since last year.

When I got the e-mail to do this again, I got a big sense of pride - it means a lot to me." Allen said. She also said that learning how to belly dance is very popular with the educated women of Silicon Valley, both as a source of physical fitness and entertainment

"A lot of the ladies we dance with are very educated women who do this for fun.' she said, citing such examples as Hewlett-Packard employees, teachers and her dance partner Nancy Mize, who has a Ph.D. in

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SPORTS

PAGE 6 - SPARTAN DAILY

Women's golf team struggles with late season slump

Spartans to begin conference tournament play on Monday

> By Sarah Holcomb Daily Staff Writer

After a slump in the second half of its season, the women's golf team at San Jose State University is looking to overcome some recent tournament losses at the Western Athletic Conference tournament next week in Boise, Idaho.

"We had a good first tournament last semester in Colorado," said John Dormann, the team's head coach. "The last few for us have been disappointing."

Carmina Calle finished first as an individual in the Colorado tournament, which took place in October. The team played two rounds and Calle finished one over par in the first round, then four under par in the second round.

Calle was followed closely in the Colorado tournament by teammates Jenelle Gomez, who finished third with a final score of 145 and Johanna Lundberg who finished fourth with a score of 147.

The team took first place.

"We started off really good, we had a good season in the fall season, but we've struggled toward the end," Calle said. The team finished 13th out of 15 teams at the Peg Barnard California

The team finished 13th out of 15 teams at the Peg Barnard California Collegiate tournament held at Stanford University on April 9 and 10.

A week before the Stanford tournament, the women finished 15th out of 17 teams at the Arizona State University Invitational. "We've been playing in tougher tournaments," said Lindsey Marino,

"We've been playing in tougher tournaments," said Lindsey Marino, who will be playing in the No. 2 position at the WAC tournament. "A lot of the top 10 teams are there."

Dormann said the team may feel some pressure from the past successes of the women's golf program. Five SJSU alumnae have played on the LPGA tour in the last 25 years, among them are Juli Inkster and Janice Moodie.

"We have a long history of tremendous women's golf and I think they're struggling under the weight of that," Dormann said.

"We don't always think about it, but it's always there," Marino said. "That is the reason we have a lot of sponsorships and we have to play well to keep those."

Dormann said a large part of golf is the mental game, and that when the team's confidence is waning, it can be hard to get it back up. He thinks that is what happened at the Stanford tournament.

"In the last couple weeks, what can go wrong has gone wrong," Dormann said. "The mental part is what we need to improve so when we get to Boise, we can compete to win."

Calle agreed that the mental aspect of the game can be difficult.



Colin Underwood / Daily Staff

FRIDAY - APRIL 15, 2005

Spartan golfers Carmina Calle, front, and Lindsey Marino, are both in their third year on the San Jose State University women's golf team. Both women will be competing in the upcoming three-day tournament beginning Monday with Marino playing in position two and Calle playing in position four.

"You really have to talk yourself out of it," Calle said. "It's something you have to fight with yourself, especially with golf because it's such an individual game."

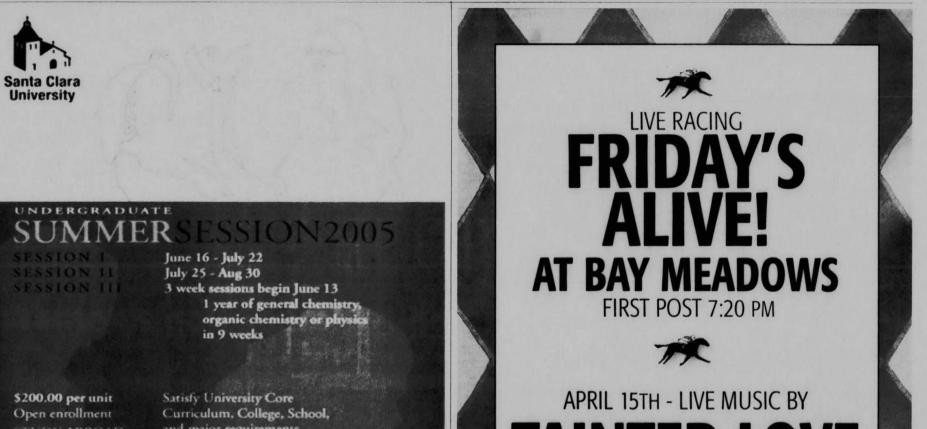
The team said its goal is to win the WAC tournament next week and go to regionals. If the team earns first place in the tournament, it will take first place in the conference and then go to the NCAA regional tournament.

We've seen the teams that are going to the tournament and I know that

we can win it as a team," Calle said. "And I think I can win as an individual."

Dorman said he also believes the team can do well in the WAC tournament.

"I feel that we can compete in the tournament," Dormann said. "If we play the way we are capable of playing, we can win this tournament. It's a matter of each player playing at their peak level and we haven't had that lately."



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