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DAY NIGHT
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Faculty union fights evaluations of teachers

By Ryan Sholin
DAILY STAFF WRITER

San Jose State University students accustomed to filling out end-of-semester evaluations for every one of their instructors might be able to give their No. 2 pencils a rest.

The rules for administering Student Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness forms, commonly known as SOTEs, are changing as a result of a grievance filed by a faculty member.

"The Academic Senate took it upon themselves to have more SOTEs than the contract stipulates," said Elena Dorabji, a lecturer in political science who serves as the California Faculty Association lecturer representative at SJSU.

Dorabji said the faculty union's contract with California State University calls for instructors to offer students the chance to evaluate a minimum of two classes per year. Beyond that, Dorabji said, the question of how often to collect student evaluations is left up to each department to decide.

An independent arbitrator decided on Feb. 22 that SJSU Academic Senate resolution S03-3, which governed the administration of the evaluations, contradicted the faculty's contract.

The office of university President Don Kassing issued a notice in March that the resolution, passed in 2003, had been rescinded.

At a recent press conference, Kassing said his performance as a teacher had been evaluated in every course he taught at a college in Illinois.

"I always found that very useful," Kassing said.

Jessica Arruda, a junior majoring in English, said the evaluations are a "hassle," but should be collected every class.

"A lot of students have opinions about professors," Arruda said. "At least you feel like you're making a difference if your teacher sucks."

Shannon Bros, who chairs the professional standards committee of the Academic Senate,

said a vote on a new student evaluation policy should take place at the next meeting of the full senate on April 24.

"The union and the arbitrator were absolutely right," Bros said.

Bros, a professor in biological sciences, said the proposed new policy would allow each department to vote on how frequently to collect evaluations. Bros said she expected the Academic Senate to "encourage" university departments to evaluate every class.

Dorabji questioned the wisdom of putting too much emphasis on student opinions when it comes time to evaluate faculty.

"There's a real concern among faculty today that 18-year-olds aren't sharp enough to make these judgments," Dorabji said.

Lecturers who are not guaranteed employment from one year to the next have it the hardest, according to Dorabji.

"They pretty much live and die by SOTEs," Dorabji said.

Another change in the way students evaluate faculty members could be on the way. In April 2005, the Academic Senate resolved to investigate the possibility of moving to online evaluations, utilizing the MySJSU database system provided by PeopleSoft.

Andrea Whittaker, an associate professor of elementary education and chair of the Academic Senate's Student Evaluation Review Board, said the university has plans to launch a pilot online evaluation program next semester in the school of library and information science.

Whittaker said the board has already surveyed faculty members on the issue, and another survey will be sent out to students in the Fall semester.

Andrea Puljiz, a junior majoring in social sciences, said she doubts the online evaluations would be more efficient than filling them out by hand in class.

"No one would do it," Puljiz said. "I definitely wouldn't do it."

1906 EARTHQUAKE

100 Years Later



PHOTOS COURTESY OF SJSU SPECIAL COLLECTIONS AND ARCHIVES

Above: A photo of the main building of the San Jose State Normal School taken before the 1906 earthquake. The 7.8 earthquake shook San Jose and other northern California cities at 5:12 a.m. April 18, 1906 and damaged the main building of the normal school and caused it to be demolished.

Top right: For three years after the 1906 Earthquake, students of the San Jose State Normal School studied in temporary buildings referred to as the "Shacks." The cornerstone of the new building was laid on June 23, 1909. That building would later become Tower Hall.

CSU lobbies Congress for funds

By Jill Rae Seib
DAILY STAFF WRITER

San Jose State University is awaiting approval for funding from Congress for several programs that would give students the opportunity to enhance their education with access to new and improved technologies.

University President Don Kassing traveled to Washington D.C. in March to meet with the lobbyists who represent the California State University system and the members of Congress whose areas of responsibility include SJSU.

"We have some good friends up there that really help us out and can get things done on (Capitol Hill)," Kassing said.

There are seven initiatives that the CSU Board of Trustees has identified as important.

According to a press release from the CSU Office of Federal Relations, federal support for these programs would enable the CSU to enhance the work being done in the following areas: agricultural research, biotechnology, coastal research, language programs, enhanced security, civic programs and digital media.

SJSU could potentially receive funds for pro-

grams relating to the fields of digital media, coastal observation and research and biotechnology.

According to Jim Geld, assistant vice chancellor for the CSU Office of Federal Relations, it really helps when the presidents of the universities go to Washington and meet with the members of Congress who represent their interests.

"We had a very good visit, it's a good chance for the presidents to thank (the members of Congress) for their support, and it's always a positive experience for everyone involved," Geld said.

The visits help to keep the relationships between the lobbyists, members of Congress and university presidents strong.

"This is an annual process that we go through where we determine how to allocate the funds," Geld said.

One area where the CSU requested several million dollars' worth of funds was digital media.

Students would get the chance to learn new technologies in the areas of broadcast, cable and satellite television, music recording, and digital cinema, just to name a few.

SJSU would be involved in a multi-campus laboratory for new digital cinema technologies

SEE CONGRESS • PAGE 4

Book covers 1906 quake

By Annette Andre
DAILY STAFF WRITER

Simon Winchester, a spring 2004 Laurie Professor at San Jose State University, is appearing in a one-hour documentary film about his latest book, "A Crack in the Edge of the World."

"Seeking 1906," which premiered at 9 p.m. on KQED public television, will take the viewer along with Winchester as he embarks upon a journey to uncover the full story of the California earthquake of 1906.

At around 5 a.m. on April 18, 1906, San Francisco was hit by a 7.8 magnitude earthquake that left the entire downtown area in ruins. The earthquake lasted for one minute and it was

followed by three days of destructive fire that consumed all that stood in their path. Thousands of lives were lost and thousands were left homeless.

Winchester said it was while he was writing his bibliography for his last book, "Krakatoa," which is based on the 1883 volcano on the island of Krakatoa, that he got the idea to write a book about the 1906 earthquake.

"Some of the books that I used for the last book were about great disasters of modern times, most notably the 1906 earthquake," he said in a phone interview.

Winchester said he phoned his publisher after he realized that this year would mark the 100-year anniversary of the earthquake.

"After I told him that, he said, 'Don't

say another word, the contract will be in the mail tomorrow,'" Winchester recalled. "So it came out of the clear blue sky, thanks to my last book."

Winchester, both a best-selling author and Pulitzer Prize nominee, taught two writing courses at SJSU while earning his teaching professorship through the Laurie Author-in-Residence Program.

Toward the end of his stay at SJSU, Winchester was involved in judging a student writing competition and awarding the winner the prize of an Oxford Dictionary set.

"At the end of the day, they gave me a geological hammer as a sort of going away gift," Winchester said. "When I was a student, I had an Estwing hammer

SEE QUAKE • PAGE 4

Virgin promotional event brings carnival atmosphere to SJSU campus

By Jeremy Brousse
DAILY STAFF WRITER

The Virgin College Mega Tour rolled into San Jose State University Monday with busloads of activities for students.

The Plaza de Cesar Chavez was filled with students wandering through tents and buses full of attractions and prizes from tour sponsors.

According to tour publicist Andrea Kramer, the tour is a promotional event for Virgin Megastores, a subsidiary of Virgin Entertainment Group and Integrate Marketing.

The 18-campus tour, which is in its third year, features a lineup of pop-punk bands Yellowcard, Mae and Over It.

"Our goal is to present fairly new artists to an audience who could eventually be long-term fans," Kramer said.

The tour has featured artists Michelle Branch, the Lovehammers, and Tyler Hilton in past years.

An important function of the tour, according to Kramer, is to get the artists involved with the stu-

dents on campus.

"During the tour, we hang out on the bus but we usually come out to play ball with students," Mae guitarist Zach Gehring said. "We pitch balls to them and they have a chance to pitch to us. It's fun."

The tour also has a Web site that features a video diary that follows the bands from city to city and their participation around the sponsor tents.

The tour's presenting sponsor, Dentyne Sofchew, had a tent where Mae sat down to sign autographs.

The tent also had a karaoke booth where students lined up to belt out their favorite tunes.

Another key sponsor, Major League Baseball, brought a mobile bus with its music-marketing program "Access to the Show," which showcased the MLB Authentic Collection line of apparel, which includes baseball's most exclusive jerseys, headwear and outerwear of all 30 MLB teams.

The showcase, which moves around in a 53-foot mobile bus, is complemented by a dozen plasma TVs where students can play the popular PlayStation 2 game "MLB 2006."

MLB also set up a batting cage where students could hit baseballs from a pitching machine and

throw for speed at a designated tent.

"It's funny to see kids trying to throw their hardest and seeing kids laughing at them," said junior business management major Brian Koren. "There needs to be a lot more things on campus for students to interact with each other. As a commuter school, there needs to be more activities on campus for students. I just wish they had a better band than Yellowcard out here."

Pontiac, who is another key sponsor for the tour, was hosting a drawing for a free car.

The 2006 Pontiac G6 GTP and Pontiac Torrent were on display as possible vehicles to win.

Monster Energy Drink had a tent with a raised Chevy where employees were handing out free full cans of the drink.

KSJS, the campus radio station, had a tent where station employees handed out flyers and free CDs.

Some SJSU students said they were surprised to see the turnout of students for the event.

"Today I've seen more friends than I've seen all semester," said Nima Khaki, a freshman business marketing major. "We were just talking in class last week about how the campus needs more activities for students."



CHANTERA GUNN / DAILY STAFF

Rayland Asuncion, freshman liberal studies major, left and Sara Luna, freshman business major anticipate their turn to sing in the Dentyne Recording Studio as Jodi Andry, right, a member of the Yellowcard Virgin staff gives them directions.

ERIN OUT THE DETAILS

America is super-sizing and we need a 'War on Obesity'

My friend Mohammed once told me this quip he heard about America: "Only in America do people order a Big Mac with large fries and a Diet Coke. What's the point?"

I thought about that when I first saw the recently introduced "Husky" car seats for overweight tots by Britax. What happened to our commitment to the "War on Obesity?"

I can only imagine the moms who buy these products: so concerned about their little Michelin Man's safety in the car, but when they get inside the door, they cave in to demands of nonstop TV and fruit juice.

Is it just me, or is there a serious disconnection here? You're making an irrational distinction between short-term and long-term safety. It is just as important to feed your child a healthy diet as it is to keep your child from being maimed or killed in a car accident.

We talk ad nauseum about the "War on Terror" and the "War on Drugs," but there seems to be little, if any, mention of the "War on Obesity." According to the Center for Disease Control, approximately 300,000 deaths per year "may be attributable to obe-

sity." Think about it: about 300,000 Americans tragically lose their lives every year and no one appears to be fazed by it.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services estimates that 60 percent of Americans 20 years of age and older are overweight. Of those, 30 percent are obese. True, some people are trying to ban soda in schools and they are making a noble effort, but they're basically trying to push back the tide with soup spoons.

What's tragic is that this is a war we need to win, but what's even more tragic than that is that this is a war we can win.

Car seats and fast-food orders aren't the only things super-sized in America. Everything from clothing to coffins is being made larger to accommodate the growing numbers of overweight and obese patrons.

The online business "Amplestuff" sells stuff like sponges with handles attached to them to make shower time for the heavier-set crowd easier, as well as larger versions of everyday items (i.e. bathroom

scales going up to 500 and 1,000 pounds, umbrellas with wider diameters and so on).

Accommodating obesity by super-sizing everything is like putting ashtrays in cars — it's condoning a lifestyle that's killing people. We've made tremendous strides in raising awareness about smoking and car safety; today, "smoking or non-smoking" has become "non-smoking only" in most places and more people are wearing seat belts than ever before. Why can't we do this with obesity?

I need to stress something here: I don't believe in making life miserable for overweight and obese people, because to do that would violate all human decency. However, making it easier for someone to continue that lifestyle would be even crueler.

We need to accept overweight and obese people, but we cannot accept their obesity. Yes, the two can be separated because people are not their weight. More often than not, it takes the humiliation of being unable to fit into a single plane seat or the sheer terror of being diagnosed with Type-II diabetes

to make someone wake up and lose weight.

It's an oft-repeated tale: people need to hit rock-bottom to change.

The "War on Obesity" really hit home for me, an overweight American at 5'4" who used to weigh 185 pounds. Even though I'm down to 165 pounds now, I still have a long way to go. What finally made me change was, yes, having to hit

rock-bottom by experiencing the humiliation of having a relative of mine say to me, "You'd be so pretty if you lost weight." It hurt like hell, but it was the truth, and I know she wouldn't have said it if she didn't love me. Trust me, it would be crueler if she had said nothing at all and let me live such an unhealthy lifestyle.

America, it's time to return to reasonable portion sizes and to stop super-sizing everything.



ERIN CABALLERO

Erin Caballero is a Spartan Daily co-opinion editor. "Erin out the Details" appears every Tuesday.

SPARTA GUIDE

Write letters to the editor and submit Sparta Guide information online. Visit our Web site at www.thespartandaily.com. You may also submit information in writing to DBH 209.

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. Space restrictions may require editing of submissions. Entries are printed in the order in which they are received.

TODAY

Public Relations Society Chapter Meeting
The PRSSA will be holding "Professional Development meeting: PR agency Life" at 6 p.m. in DBH 117 student and faculty lounge. For more information, e-mail reese18@rocketmail.com.

Career Center
The Career Center will be holding "Employer Table: Vector Marketing" from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Ninth St. Plaza. For more information, contact Evelyn Castillo at 924-6031.

Career Center
The Career Center will be holding an interview workshop from 12:30-2 p.m. in the Career Center, Modular F. For more information, contact Evelyn Castillo at 924-6031.

School of Art and Design
The School of Art and Design will be holding "Tuesday Night Lecture Series - Oliver Jackson: Drawing The Incised Line" from 5-6 p.m. in the Art building, room 133. For more information, contact the gallery office at 924-4330.

School of Art and Design
The School of Art and Design will be hosting "Student Galleries Art Exhibitions" from 6-8 p.m. in the Art building and the Industrial Studies building. For more information, contact the Gallery Office at 924-4330.

School of Art and Design
The School of Art and Design will be hosting "Student Galleries Art Exhibitions" from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Art building and Industrial Studies building. For more information, contact the gallery office at 924-4330.

Counseling Services
Counseling Services will be holding the "Cage the Rage" workshop series from 3-4:20 p.m. in the Administration building, room 201. For more information, contact Kell Fujimoto at 924-5910.

Every Nation Campus Ministries
"The Source" is held every Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. at the Spartan Memorial. For more information, contact Thai at (510) 773-9392.

Queers Thoughtfully Interrupting Prejudice
Come learn about thoughtfully fighting prejudice in the Constanoan Room of the Student Union from 5:30-6:30 p.m. For more info, e-mail DwayneLudwig@gmail.com

Hip-Hop Congress
General meeting in the Student Union Pacheco Room from 6:30-8 p.m. For more information, contact Dave Manson at 386-5073.

Spartan Memorial Chapel
Come worship with Victoria Rue, Roman Catholic womanpriest. From 1-2 p.m. For more information, e-mail victoria@victorianue.com.

School of Music and Dance Concert Series
Come listen to a student showcase "Songs and Arias Through the Ages." Free admission. In the Music building concert hall from 12:30-1:15 p.m. For more information, call 924-4673.

WEDNESDAY

Presentation/Book Signing by Author Susan Shillinglaw
Shillinglaw will discuss her new book, "A Journey into Steinbeck's California." At 6:30 p.m. in the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Joint Library, room 550. For more information, e-mail steinbeck@email.sjsu.edu.

Innovative Design
Innovative Design will be hosting "Outdoor Revolution" from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. in front of the Career Center and the Event Center. For more information, contact Ronny Tsang at (510) 750-2137.

Career Center
The Career Center will be holding "Employer Table: Vector Marketing" from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Ninth St. Plaza. For more information, contact Evelyn Castillo at 924-6031.

Counseling Services
Counseling Services will be holding a "Relationships Process Group" from 12-1:20 p.m. in the Administration building, room 201. For more information, contact Lynda Yoshikawa at 924-5910.

Red Pin Plus Bowling
Win free games when you strike on a red, yellow or green headed pin. In the Student Union Bowling Center from 7-10 p.m. For more information, call 924-6400.

Study Abroad
Professor Bill Shaw presents an information meeting on the study-abroad program in Bath, England, for the 2007 Spring Semester. From 4-5 p.m. in Dudley Moorehead Hall, room 135. For more information, e-mail wshaw@email.sjsu.edu.

THURSDAY

SJSU Student 8-Ball Tournament
At 2 p.m. in the Student Union Bowling Center. For more information, call 924-6400.

Earth Day at SJSU
Celebrate the environment at the main quad on campus with Environmental Resource Center. From 12 a.m.-3 p.m. For more information, call 924-5467.

GUEST COLUMN

The unfortunate truth: Terrorism sometimes works

In a February speech to the New York Council on Foreign Relations, Donald Rumsfeld, secretary of defense, acknowledged that America was losing the propaganda war for the "hearts and minds" of the Muslim world. He spent the majority of his time talking about possible solutions to the problem, with the primary conclusion being that we needed to beef up our public relation efforts.

The complex and ongoing "War on Terror" thing has apparently been reduced to figuring out how to control the spin.

What Rumsfeld didn't talk about was the legitimate grievances that fuel the violence in the Middle East, such as America's long history of changing regimes that don't support the U.S., our continued support for oppressive dictatorships, our history of oil exploitation, and — number one with a bullet — our support for the state of Israel.

He also didn't talk about the biggest dirty secret of all: sometimes terrorism works.

In 1946, Menachin Begin, a future prime minister of Israel, was part of a Zionist terrorist group known as the Irgun. On July 22 of that year his group planted explosives in the King David Hotel in Jerusalem and leveled the seven-story building to the ground, killing 91 people — men, women and children.

Shortly after the explosion, the British gave up their United Nations mandate to govern Palestine and left the country.

In 1983 a truck loaded with explosives driven by a member of the terrorist group Hezbollah drove up to an apartment building used to house American forces trying to stabilize a crumbling Lebanon. The truck detonated, leveling the building and killing 243 Marines.

Two months after the explosion, the Marines evacuated Lebanon.

In 1976, a stylish young female Sri Lankan smiled and placed a wreath around the head of Rajiv Gandhi — then the prime minister of India — and triggered a belt-bomb that blew his body to pieces.

Shortly after, Indian peacekeeping forces left Sri Lanka, and its government got on with its war with the Tamil guerrillas.

Terrorism has also worked to change political re-

gimes. In 1916, the Easter uprising lead to the formation of the Republic of Ireland and the Madrid bombings of 2004 helped change the ruling party of Spain.

In America, we tend to see terrorism as a great evil inflicted upon us, but from the terrorist's point of view it's a way of waging war against something too strong to attack directly. It keeps strongly felt positions from being ignored and can, in the case of Palestine, give a sense of identity to a stateless people.

In times of war it has always been a tradition to make the enemy less than human, to color their motivations with black and white shades of evil. We find ways to objectify and depersonalize those we are at war with. It's easier to fight demons than people; it's less real and easier to get up for.

But the "War on Terror" is different. We are fighting an enemy without soldiers; only "enemy combatants" without legal rights or standing. We are not fighting on a piece of land. We have no fixed assets to target with our military. The only real measurement of progress in this war is found in a negative: If nothing bad happens, we win. Unlike most wars, it's hard to see any endpoint where we can say it's over and get back to "normal."

Rumsfeld has it wrong; it's not about spin or media bias, it's about what we have done and how that has been perceived by the rest of the world.

We launched a preemptive war in Iraq with all the responsibilities that entails. That's a fact, and any discussion about our faulty intelligence, our historical motives, and our long-term goals are all legitimate items for discussion. The fact that people violently disagree with us does not make them demons or evil, and the more we bring that fact into the light of day, the faster we can find a compromise in diplomacy that allows us to be safe in our own country.

Or we can build a 20-foot barrier wall around our interests and hope for the best. Israel could help us with any technical difficulties in its erection; they should have their wall up in the next year or so.

Michael Brady is a Spartan Daily staff writer. Guest columns appear every other Tuesday.



MICHAEL BRADY

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Only letters between 200 to 400 words will be considered for publication.

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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Peking Acrobats overwhelms with superhuman tricks

By Zeenat Umar
DAILY STAFF WRITER

A miraculous and unearthly performance by The Peking Acrobats left a full-house audience gasping in wonder as the apparently impossible came to life right before their eyes in Saturday's art show held at the San Jose Center For Performing Arts.

PERFORMANCE REVIEW

The talented acrobats from China twisted their bodies with such balance and coordination that they appeared to be surreal. The high-art performance involved an unrealizable challenge to the human body as the acrobats displayed acts of precision by tumbling, juggling, balancing on approximately 15 feet-high chairs, spinning plates on sticks, and performing contortions.

"They're defying gravity with their bodies," said spectator Pam Jones.

The feats of the young-adult acrobats received continuous passionate applause from the audience with a live traditional Chinese orchestra heightening the sensory experience.

"I really enjoyed the instru-

ments," said Robert Jones, who was seated in the audience. "I felt I was visiting China without buying a plane ticket."

The energy-packed art show, accompanied by smoke, fog and lighting effects on stage, was presented with a comedy routine earning packs of laughter from the crowd of all ages.

"It's great for the kids," said Lavenia Martin, who came to watch the Peking Acrobats for the first time.

"We got the whole age group here, from a five-year-old to grownups" said Jamie Rapperport, who was returning to watch The Peking Acrobats for the second time.

The audience fostered a diversity of ethnicities, clearly appreciating and honoring the Chinese art form.

"It is nice to see other cultures' artistic value," Martin said.

Rapperport said the event had historical and cultural value attached to it.

"I felt very much that the entertainment had history and is coming from a different part of the world," Rapperport said.

Mana Chen, president of Dimension Performing Arts, a non-profit organization promoting intercultural understanding

through art shows, said the production was intended to draw different nationalities and age groups.

"We were happy to see the diversity," Chen said. "To foster intercultural understanding is always at the core of our mission."

The Peking Acrobats maintained inexhaustible control of their minds and bodies, stealing realistic expectations from the live viewers.

"It was beyond my expectations," said Joon Song.

Chen said approximately 3,700 tickets were sold, and the feedback from the audience was satisfying.

"The turnout exceeded my expectations," Chen said.

The Peking Acrobats, who debuted in 1986, are a troupe of jugglers, cyclists, gymnasts, tumblers and contortionists between the ages of 10 and 24, and reflect a delicate and graceful display of Chinese circus-acts. Their pyrotechnics explore the full potential of human capacity, leaving the audience spellbound.

"You feel the impact when you see it live," Song said.

The stupendous stage performance was well worthy of the seat-clattering response from the astounded fans.

Ska band debuts in downtown San Jose

By Annette Andre
DAILY STAFF WRITER

The Whiskey Avengers made an unforgettable introduction to San Jose's live music scene at downtown's Tres Gringos Baja Cantina last Tuesday night. Not even the pouring rain could stop people from being lured into the bar by the sounds of the Ska band's debut performance.

CONCERT REVIEW

Judging by how they played last week and by the audience's reaction, these four former San Jose State students have already gained some serious Whiskey Avengers fans.

"Our music is like old-style Jamaican ska with contemporary lyrics," acoustic bass player Clint Sobolik said. "We have lyrics about booze, women and low income."

Sobolik described their music as being a fusion of Johnny Cash, the Slackers, Sublime and "a bit of good reggae influence."

The entire dance floor was packed full of people dancing and bouncing around to the upbeat rhythms played by the musicians.

The energy on stage was matched by the enthusiasm of the audience. Some people could

even be seen swing dancing and singing the catchy lyrics "An Irate Life For Me," a song which changes the lyrics of the notorious song "A Pirate's Life For Me."

Sobolik said he and saxophone player Paul Riccobono both have incorporated a lot of what they learned while studying music at SJSU.

Former SJSU journalism major Kevin "The Guch" Higuchi plays drums for the Avengers. Higuchi currently coaches the SJSU drum line and plays drums for Insolence, Kid Guch, Aloha Brewed and the Lee Pardini Trio.

Riccobono's performance on sax was nothing less than brilliant. Who knew that we had sax players here in San Jose? Where have you been, buddy?

SJSU finance alumus Stefan Meissner plays guitar for the Avengers, and his vocals were in perfect harmony with Sobolik's.

The entire band has a history of playing ska music, and those who have or will have the pleasure of listening to The Whiskey Avengers will be glad that these talented musicians have decided to play ska music once again.

Opening for The Whiskey Avengers was the local band Drunken Starfighter. Talk about a band with some serious fans, Drunken Starfighter always has a good audience turnout.

"I was at their very first show, and I went to every single local show that they played when I lived here," Starfighter fan Joey Aba said.

Although Aba is currently living in Arizona, he made sure not to miss the Tuesday night show during his visit back home to San Jose.

"After being gone in a state without reggae, it was great to see them play," Aba said. "It made me really happy."

Although Aba has seen Starfighter play many times, it was his first Whiskey Avengers show.

"I liked them a lot," he said. "It's great because no one plays that type of music anymore. I loved their Slackers covers."

With the combined talent of Billy Rosenthal on guitar and vocals, his brother Bobby Rosenthal on drums, Melanie Mercer on bass and Curtis on lead guitar, these guys and gal can't help but put on a great show.

"It was great for a bunch of people we don't even know to show up on a rainy Tuesday night," Starfighter guitarist Jeremy Curtis said.

The Drunken Starfighter and Whiskey Avengers will surely get together to play again in the future, so be sure to check them out.

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Open Daily

Downtown restaurants provide online menus

By Jamie Visger
DAILY STAFF WRITER

What started out as a project one man created just for fun has become www.sjsufood.com, a Web site through which students can order food from various local restaurants around San Jose State University. Some of the restaurants even deliver.

The site's creator, SJSU MBA student Lambert Lum, used to buy food at a similar site, waiter.com, and began playing around with the idea of creating his own site.

When Lum started attending SJSU, he said he saw a need for a site that would cater to students and provide them with a quick way to order food using the Web.

On Dec. 1, Lum launched the site and has seen its student use slowly grow, he said.

"In the beginning, nobody really knew about us," Lum said. "After I began passing out flyers in March, interest began to increase and more people began visiting the site."

During the month of March, 700 people visited the site, and so far in April, 600 people have, Lum said.

With the Web site being fairly new, many students

are still unaware of it, Lum said. Of those that are aware, though, they enjoy its convenience, he said.

"I use sjsufood.com to order from Tony Soprano's Pizzeria," said Angelina Patel, an SJSU student enrolled in the credential program. "I stumbled onto it one day and I really liked it because it was so easy to use."

Right now, the site contains a compilation of eight restaurants, including The Pita Pit, Tony Soprano's Pizzeria, Sa-By Thai Cuisine and Peggy Sue's.

By clicking on a link to one of the restaurants, students are directed to an online menu, Lum said.

From there, they can place an order online, making specifications for take-out or delivery and what time they would like the food, Lum said.

Then, a fax is sent to the restaurant containing the order information and the restaurant gives the student a courtesy phone call confirming the details of the order.

"Some of the restaurants deliver, but some don't," Lum said. "Those that do, though, can deliver to any location on or around campus."

This could mean delivery to a classroom, Lum said.

"When I was ordering I saw that they had a space to write your dorm number," Patel said. "I thought that was pretty sweet and something that would be

great for college students."

Another feature on the site is a point system. A user can choose to log into the system and earn 100 points for every dollar spent. These points can then be redeemed for restaurant gift certificates, Lum said.

"Right now, 40,000 points will earn a \$5 gift certificate to Peggy Sue's," Lum said.

Also, students are only able to use coupons for orders placed by logging in, Lum said.

"It's possible to order food without logging in if you don't want to give us your information," Lum said. "However, you can't take advantage of the perks if you don't."

Restaurant co-president of Tony Soprano's Pizzeria Richard Thompson chose to have an online presence through the site because they want to cater to SJSU students, he said.

"I would recommend this site to students because we have our whole menu spelled out on the site," Thompson said. "It's very straightforward."

The only stipulation is they require 30 minutes from the time you placed your order until pick up to ensure the food will be ready, Thompson said.

"Students should use this site because it will help them save time," Lum said. "They can order from a restaurant and have their food ready by the time they want to pick it up. It's a huge time saver."

A.S. begins its official budget process

By Erin Keilah Chin
DAILY STAFF WRITER

The Associated Students budgeting process has begun with a formal reading of a proposed budget last week by Controller Alex Ramos.

The reading was the first of two formal readings of the 2006-2007 budget by Ramos as it goes through a process of approval that includes being signed off by the Financial Committee.

A.S. President Alberto Gutierrez said that the process of creating a budget is extensive.

"It's a long process that starts in February and concludes in May," he said.

Ramos said he started on this year's budget in October 2005 and is also beginning to plan for next year's budget as well.

"We're supposed to present it to the (A.S.) president by (a certain) date and we're supposed to have two readings of it," he said. "It's supposed to go through the Finance Committee. It needs to go through all these different processes."

Gutierrez said the proposed budget must also go through the Board of Directors after it has been presented to him and Finance Committee.

"The Finance Committee goes through two reviews of the budget, makes their recommendations and forwards it to the Board of Directors," Gutierrez said. "The Board of Directors then also review the budget twice and make any final revisions to the budget before approving it."

If approved, students' A.S. fees will be unrestricted, meaning that all departments funded by A.S. will be able to use all A.S. fee revenues versus being allocated only a specific amount. This would help to prevent funds from being unallocated, or unused, at the end of

the year.

"The goal of budgeting is to minimize unallocated funds," Ramos said.

Ramos said that Interim Executive Director Jim Cellini sat down with the different departments and helped them to come up with their own individual budgets. Once the individual budgets were turned in, Cellini and Ramos were able to put together the 2006-2007 A.S. Fiscal Budget Request document.

After putting the budget request document together, they ask the university for enrollment numbers as well as how much money they will be receiving for the coming year, which includes determining if a department has a surplus or deficit.

"That's when the official budgeting process happens where I sit down with the executive director and we balance the budget," Ramos said, "meaning that we have to take certain items out to bring that deficit down to zero."

Cellini said that roll-forward money, unallocated funds collected over the years, is used to help bring down the deficit.

"Roll-forward money is available to pay different expenses," Cellini said. "The money remains in the (departments') accounts."

By unrestricting fees this coming school year, Ramos said that it will help them to find the true value of what each department spends.

"When we un-restrict, and the unallocated (funds) get smaller, we start finding the true expense (of each department)," he said. "And then we can use that money that's supposed to go to the unallocated (fund) for other purposes."

Ramos said explaining the budget to 30,000 students, the whole student body, would be hard.

"For somebody to see it and just be like, 'OK I understand it,' is pretty difficult," he said.

QUAKE - Former SJSU professor explores stories of San Francisco disaster in new book

continued from page 1

that I ended up losing somewhere."

Winchester said that the Estwing could be called the "Rolls-Royce of hammers." The hammer that was given to him at SJSU was also an Estwing.

"I don't think that anyone at SJSU knew how important that hammer was to me," he said. "It had a certain poetic meaning."

Winchester ended up using that hammer during his travels while conducting research for his new book. He said that he used it both in Alaska and Yellowstone.

Producing, directing and photographing the documentary "Seeking 1906," was Winchester's long-time friend Kate Schermerhorn and her husband, Matt Clarke. The team accompanied Winchester as he traveled as far as Alaska, capturing every move, every encounter and every interview Winchester had while conducting research for his book.

"We had 3,000 miles worth of Simon," Schermerhorn said. "I never expected to end up in Alaska, but Simon finds all of these unexpected tie-ins."

Schermerhorn said that from Alaska, Winchester wanted to drive to Yellowstone. "He had read something about the Gena theory that he wanted to research," she said. "This theory is that the world is interconnected. If a butterfly flaps its wings in one part of the world, it will affect something in another part of the world," she explained.

In his book "A Crack in the Edge of the World," Winchester explains how this theory could be used to explain the possible connection between the large 2002 central Alaska earthquake and an increasing rate of geyser eruptions in Yellowstone National Park.

"It was amazing to see the dis-

tances he will go to write a story," Clarke said. "He has a genuine fascination for the world that he lives in that is kind of infectious, and I think that we were able to convey that part of him in the film."

Winchester said there were moments when the cameras seemed to be a little intrusive.

"I had said before that I was a dog and they were my fleas, but I loved having them around," he said.

Schermerhorn said the crew went to Parkfield, Calif. where the U.S. Geological Survey was drilling into the San Andreas fault for a study.

"Simon asked if there was any chance that the drilling could set off an earthquake," she said. "All the scientists said 'no,' but right after they drilled over the fault there was an earthquake that was bigger than normal."

Winchester said there was no evidence that the magnitude 6.1 earthquake was caused by the drilling, and that it seemed to be more of a coincidence.

Throughout both his book and the documentary, Winchester encounters everyone from scientists and historians to geologists and various individual characters, each with their own story to tell.

"(Winchester) seems a magnet for drawing out stories from people," Clarke said. "He has this knack of being able to talk to everybody, from the Queen of England to a brick layer."

"The new thing that I bring to the stories of the 1906 earthquake is science," Winchester said. "This book is having the benefit of getting a second life with the film and hopefully there will be a renewed interest in it."

CONGRESS - Special projects include digital media, research and biotechnology

continued from page 1

and practices called Cinema Lab.

Cinema Lab will connect industry standards with students, enabling them to learn the new tools of digital cinema.

Belle Wei, dean of the College of Engineering, said she believes this is essential for students looking to work in the burgeoning field of digital media, which blends computer programming with media such as film.

"We are looking at the intersection between arts and technology," Wei said.

Since Silicon Valley is home to companies such as Apple, Pixar and Lucas Film, students possessing this blend of talent will find luck in the job market.

"Students who have the strength in both will be highly sought after," Wei said.

Another area where the CSU is requesting funding is for coastal research. The Center for Integrative Coastal Observation, Research and Education is an applied coastal research center that draws upon the strengths and expertise of the CSU campuses along the coastline.

SJSU's Moss Landing Marine Laboratories would benefit from the proposed funding. Director of Moss Landing Kenneth Coale believes this is a great opportunity to become part of a merging national observatory

and provide the technologies needed to maintain research.

"I think it's great," Coale said. "It is one of the types of congressionally mandated projects that is of great value to the CSU."

The coastal research program is part of a larger national effort. According to Coale, there are several coastal observatories that are springing up around the nation, but Moss Landing is the most extensive on the California coast.

"The program has been successful because of the distribution among other universities along the coastline," Coale said.

Moss Landing has been able to work well with the funds they are given even though it receives about the same amount of funding as a smaller state like New Hampshire.

"They only have 17 miles of coastline, so I think we have done pretty well in allocating the funds," Coale said.

The most important aspect, if the requested funding comes through, would be the benefit to students.

"We have students involved in every one of our field collection efforts here and they will definitely benefit from the money," Coale said. "Some of them receive graduate assistance from the program, and the idea is that the students involved will go on to get jobs."

CORRECTION:

In a Monday story titled "Greek organizations raise money for cancer institute," Alpha Omicron Pi was misidentified as Alpha Omega Pi. It is Spartan Daily policy to correct all errors.

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California Faculty Association

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This event is sponsored by the California Faculty Association. To RSVP or for more info call the CFA office at 924-6501 or email Tino Cruz tmcruz31@yahoo.com, Sue Pak spac@calfac.org or Mike Gorman emg3@sjsu.edu

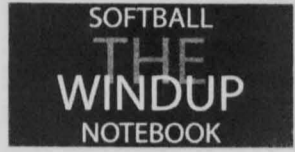
WAC Softball Standings

University of Hawai'i	First place WAC: 7-1 Overall: 23-14
Fresno State University	Second place WAC: 6-1 Overall: 28-13
San Jose State University	Third place WAC: 7-4 Overall: 18-20
New Mexico State University	Fourth place WAC: 5-6 Overall: 22-17
University of Nevada-Reno	Fifth place WAC: 4-5 Overall: 19-26
Louisiana Tech University	Sixth place WAC: 4-8 Overall: 8-2
Utah State University	Seventh place WAC: 0-8 Overall: 4-30

Familiar faces return to Spartan softball team lineup

By Greg Lydon
DAILY STAFF WRITER

With heavy hearts, the San Jose State University softball team swept the University of Nevada-Reno for the first time in school history this weekend at SJSU field.



Before Saturday's doubleheader, SJSU head coach Dee Dee Enabenter-Omidiji received a phone call from junior first baseman Tanisha Crawford's father saying that Crawford's mother had passed away. "Players took the news pretty hard," said Enabenter-Omidiji. "I was very proud of the way we battled

and focused this weekend." Crawford's mother had been ill for some time and Enabenter-Omidiji held a meeting with her team before Saturday's game to discuss the issue. "I told them that Tanisha's mom had been hurting for a long time," said Enabenter-Omidiji. "But she's not in pain any more."

Crawford did not participate in Saturday's doubleheader. The Spartans defeated the Wolfpack 6-5 in game one of the series Friday afternoon behind a complete game from senior pitcher Courtney Lewis.

"My focus is always throwing strikes," said Lewis. "I always have confidence in my defense behind me."

The Spartans took both games of the doubleheader Saturday defeating Nevada 1-0 in game one and 3-2 in game two.

Sophomore pitcher Kelly Harrison threw a two-hit shutout in game one. "It's great to be back in the mix,"

said Harrison. "I feel like my arm is getting stronger and stronger."

Harrison was out of action for over a month due to a shoulder injury that occurred March 10 against University of Iowa at the National Invitational Softball Tournament hosted by SJSU.

"Kelly was outstanding this weekend. She went head-to-head with a solid pitcher and gave us a chance to win," said Enabenter-Omidiji.

Coach Enabenter-Omidiji has also been pleased with the offensive production of several seniors over the past two weekends.

"Carlie Hill and Kristy Ballinger have been excellent," said Enabenter-Omidiji. "Danielle Fakins has the highest batting average she's ever had since being here."

First baseman Hill and third baseman Ballinger lost their regular spots in the starting lineup at the beginning of the season but have made the most of their reinstate back into the line-

"Now with them hitting at the bottom of the order and producing, our lineup is very dangerous right now."

— Dee Dee Enabenter-Omidiji, Spartan softball coach

up. "Carlie and Kristy at one time were our three and four hitters in the lineup," said Enabenter-Omidiji. "Now with them hitting at the bottom of the order and producing, our lineup is very dangerous right now."

Enabenter-Omidiji is also encouraged by the growth she's seen in freshman shortstop Sarah Taylor.

"Sarah is showing more confidence at the plate," said Enabenter-Omidiji. "She could always play small ball, but now she's got some pop in her bat."

Taylor's triple in game one on Saturday led to her scoring the only run in the 1-0 SJSU win.

The Spartans are now in third place

in the Western Athletic Conference. The top six teams in the WAC are invited to the WAC tournament in May hosted by Fresno State University and to be played in Fresno.

SJSU is now 18-20 overall and 7-4 in the WAC. The Spartans will travel to Utah State next weekend for a three-game series.

The Aggies are winless in WAC play on the season with a 0-8 record, and have only four wins overall on the season.

"I would be disappointed if we have a letdown next weekend in Utah," said Enabenter-Omidiji. "I always preach to my team to not look at the name on the jersey across the field."

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5	1	3						
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PREVIOUS SOLUTION

2	8	4	1	3	6	5	7	9
9	3	1	7	4	5	8	2	6
7	5	6	2	9	8	3	4	1
5	9	7	3	2	4	1	6	8
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8	7	9	5	6	3	2	1	4
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Each row must contain the numbers 1 to 9, each column must contain the numbers 1 to 9, and each set of 3 by 3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 to 9.

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RUG	KENYA	CHEAP
EROS	DONOR	CRICO
SCRAM	RARER	RHO
SHADE	STAYED	ODN
	DASH	ALAN
WORLD	CUP	NAVEL
AGUE	URALS	BARA
LEER	BONGO	LIAR
LESS	ANGEL	ELSA

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DOWN

- Boathouse items
- Gimmick
- Cookie man
- Starbucks order
- Important vita-
- Basic (hyph.)
- Jacket part
- Coral formation
- Heroic tales
- Girfriend of 9
- Across
- Lyric poems
- Wolf family
- Liko Rambo
- Complains
- Midterm or final
- Tombstone deputy
- Camel stops
- Spud
- Kitchen emanation
- Repeatedly
- More level-headed
- Surgeons' attire
- Old cattle town
- Generously
- boom
- Sort of number
- Basic (hyph.)
- Susannah of films
- Horses do it
- Teen hangouts
- Mary
- Dishes for cereal
- Anything but —!
- Make one's way
- Purple flower
- Tiff
- Fasten permanently
- Ms. Bombeck
- Credit card balance
- Yale grad

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Certain advertisements in these columns may refer the reader to specific telephone numbers or addresses for additional information. Classified readers should be reminded that, when making these further contacts, they should require complete information before sending money for goods or services. In addition, readers should carefully investigate all firms offering employment listings or coupons for discount vacations or merchandise.

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Each line averages 25 spaces. Each letter, number, punctuation mark, and space is formatted into an ad line. The first line will be set in bold type and upper case for no extra charge up to 20 spaces. A minimum of three lines is required. Deadline is 10:00AM, 2 weekdays prior to publication.

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... putting a smile on one student at a time

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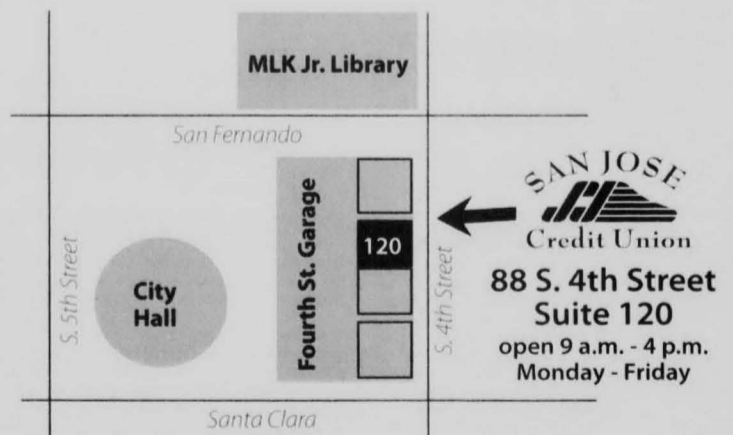


APRIL SPARTAN SPECIAL

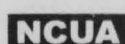
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