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Students debate banning books

By BRIANA HERNANDEZ

Staff Writer

SJSU students and faculty gathered in the Student Union Amphitheatre at noon on Tuesday to discuss the national issue of schools, at all levels, banning and challenging books.

James Schmidt, a library sciences professor at SJSU, said that a book usually becomes challenged or banned from public use if it is deemed to have sexually explicit language, violence is deemed inappropriate at a certain age level.

Schmidt said, however, "Requests to withdraw or limit access to books rarely occur at academic libraries,"



JENNIFER SKIDMORE // Special to the Daily

Don Davis, in favor of the banning of certain books, waits to respond to the argument made by a student in the crowd during yesterday's Banned Books Debate.

Russia."

While some believe that the student body would protest a ban on particular books, others also believe that people on the administrative level would contest banning as well.

Karla Aleman, a library sciences graduate student and reference intern at the library, said universities are "more apt to fight" possible banning of materials.

Rebecca Feind, an information literacy coordinator at the King Library, said, "To my knowledge, nothing here has been challenged in the collection."

If in the event a parent, student or citizen

See **BOOKS**, page 2



SANDRA ARROYO // Spartan Daily

Suzi Poston, a senior child development major, reads to the afternoon workshop children in the Central Classroom Building on Tuesday, Sept. 25.

Center provides hands-on experience

By CODY HAUETER

Staff Writer

Jazmyn Febarretto, a shy 4-year-old, started to clean up her toys as other children scurried around the lively room looking for things to put away. It was nearing "circle time," when the teachers and children sit together to read a story and do one more fun activity at the end of the day.

Located in the central classroom building in the middle of campus is the child development lab, a place where student teachers receive hands-on experience before graduating from their majors.

Jazmyn is just one of the many children enrolled in the daycare program. Her mother, Maria Febarretto brings her young daughter to SJSU four days a week for the afternoon's two and a half hour sessions.

"She's been through two preschools and she likes this one," said Febarretto. Jazmyn is timid and not very familiar with spending a lot of time with kids her own age her mother said. At home she is often in the company of adults.

Febarretto found the child development lab through an advertisement in

a local San Jose magazine. She signed Jazmyn up in early September and has been very pleased with the outcome.

"The staff is nice," Febarretto said.

The daycare is for student-parents and non-student parents. Because the lab is run by student teachers, very close attention is paid to each child. The teachers track what the children do during the day and can report to the parents about the child's day.

The program has done wonders for Jazmyn's self-esteem, her mother said. "She was so shy before," she said. "But now she knows how to say 'hi.'"

Febarretto has been able to watch her daughter's everyday progress in the viewing room, a large rectangular room with one-way mirrors.

To the children it looks like one side of the room is covered with mirrors. Little do they know, on the other side of the mirrors, their parents can sit and watch them play, interact and even misbehave. Febarretto said the tuition is inexpensive at \$265.00 a month. But one thing she wishes they would do at the daycare is prepare her daughter more for kindergarten. She would like them to work with her daughter more in regards to reading and numbers.

Socially, Jazmyn is thriving. It's

her other study skills that Febarretto wished were focused on more.

The student teachers at the child development lab spend a lot of time working with the children. According to the staff, they spend about seven hours a week in the lab.

Lab instructor Joy Foster supervises the student teachers and works with the children. She is also in charge of grading the students' observation papers at the end of the semester.

Foster said the child development lab is a course that students take after spending nearly two and a half years in the classroom learning theories.

"It's where they put the theories to the test," Foster said.

The students spend a lot of their time in the lab.

"It's really the only opportunity at the university to do hands-on activities," said Amanda Pavlos, a senior majoring in child development.

Most of the student teachers spoke fondly of the program. The only thing they would change would be that they want SJSU to offer more classes like the lab.

The program is one-of-a-kind, Foster said.

See **CHILD**, page 2

SJSU, city discuss campus land use

By SARAH KYO

Staff Writer

SJSU and the city of San Jose are drafting a plan for the development of the university's South Campus and its surrounding areas.

Since last year, the university and the city have considered creating more athletic fields, which is one of the land-use ideas for South Campus, said Tony Valenzuela, associate vice president of Facilities, Development and Operations.

SJSU and the city had previously collaborated on the construction of the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library.

Part of South Campus is Spartan Village, located near the corner of 10th and Humboldt streets.

Built in the mid-1980s, Spartan Village was a former apartment for students, including student athletes, due to its proximity to athletic facilities, Valenzuela said.

South Campus is the home of Spartan Stadium as well as a football practice field, an intramural sports field, a baseball diamond, a softball diamond and a track.

Spartan Village closed after the spring 2005 semester, Valenzuela said, due to the opening of Campus Village, the apartments and suites located on the main campus.

The Spartan Village buildings, with their boarded-up windows, still remain at the site.

Austin Carter, a junior sociology major, said he

See **VILLAGE**, page 3



MICHELLE HORTON // Special to the Daily

Officials are studying what to do with the boarded-up Spartan Village on South Campus.

Faculty receive stipend for public transit

By MARK ASPILLERA

Staff Writer

A new commuter check program implemented last semester allows staff and faculty to deduct stipends from their paychecks to use toward select Bay Area mass transit systems, said Andy Chow, A.S. Transportation Solutions commute specialist coordinator.

The Parking, Traffic and Transit Advisory Committee created the program, the "SJSU Pre-Tax Public Transportation Deduction Plan," Chow said.

It allows applicants to defer up to \$110 per month and \$1,320 per year, before taxes, on a monthly basis.

The checks are mailed directly to applicants' homes to be used for the transit system of their choice.

Chow said individual requests from professors and staff members coming to the Transportation Solutions office was the advisory

committee's main motivation for the program. Michaux Burchard, human resources representative on the advisory committee agreed, but added that the advisory committee had its own reasons for having the program.

"We were approaching it from an environmental standpoint," he said, referring to the advisory committee, "but it was really the commuters themselves and their desire to have a program like this."

The commuter check program is available only to official university staff and faculty, excluding employees of auxiliary offices like Associated Students, Spartan Shops and the Student Union.

Chow said auxiliary employees are on a different payroll from staff and faculty. Implementing a program for auxiliaries would require a new approval process.

"I want to make a promise that there is a possibility to include auxiliaries," he said.

Kerrie Curtis, a junior art education major, did not see why some employees would need to

have a commuter check program.

"To work at Spartan Shops you need to live close by anyways," she said.

Burchard said negotiations to implement the program took about a year.

Chow said there was no opposition to the program. Instead, the long implementation time was the result of the approval process.

"It was just a lot of jumping through the hoops," Burchard said, adding that the advisory committee had to work in coordination with many groups, including the president's office, administrative finance, the CSU chancellor and the state comptroller's office.

President Don Kassing praised the program and A.S. in a press conference on Tuesday, saying that A.S. deserves the credit for being the "center of energy" in establishing it.

He described SJSU as one of the "most progressive employers downtown" for provid-

See **CAL**, page 2

Coalition to perform Allen Ginsberg's 'Howl'

By SAMANTHA SALAS

Staff Writer

SJSU's Poets and Writers Coalition, the university's first student-run writing community, will publicly perform "Howl" by Allen Ginsberg.

Today 10 students, faculty members and poets will come together to perform this poem — originally banned in 1957 for its obscenity — in its entirety, completely uncensored.

Coalition Secretary TJ Flores said this event will illustrate the "sheer culture shock-and-awe" this poem brings and its validity across generations.

"To perform this has been a dream of mine ever since I realized I enjoyed performing poetry," Flores said. "'Howl' is just as socially and politically relevant today as it was when initially released."

Kate Evans, Center for Literary Arts co-director and "Howl" performer, said, "The 'Howl' reading is a great opportunity to draw people's attention to the ways in which literature is and has been banned and censored."

"This is not just an historical reality — it's a current reality," she said.

When describing "Howl", Flores said each line is long enough

See **HOWL**, page 3

NEWS

DOROTHY ALLISON TO SPEAK, SIGN BOOKS

"Bastard out of Carolina" author and winner of the 2007 Robert Penn Warren Award for Fiction will speak at the library and Music Concert Hall.

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SPORTS

WOMEN'S SOCCER TEAM MIDSEASON REPORT

At midseason, the women's soccer team has just one win with two games left before the start of conference play.

PAGE 6

STUDENT LIFE

SUPERSTITIOUS MINDS

The SJSU men's and women's soccer teams dish on all their pre-game rituals, on and off the field.

PAGE 4

OPINION

I WANT REAL REALITY TV!

The Discovery Channel set-up "reality" show, "Man vs. Wild," and sports editor Kris Anderson is mad.

PAGE 5

TOMORROW

SPECIAL HOMECOMING AND SPORTS EDITION

Look for our pull-out section highlighting a history of Homecoming at SJSU and Fall sports.

UPCOMING

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CHILD // Few male students enrolled

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It's the only opportunity the students have to actually work with the children directly, and for some students, it's their first time experiencing a daycare atmosphere.

The students enjoy spending time with the children and getting to know each other as fellow teachers and students.

"It doesn't really feel like school," Pavlos said.

Regina Aguirre, a senior child development major, said that out of all the classes she's taken, the lab is one of the most enjoyable.

The students spend seven hours a week together so they really learn to rely on each other, she said.

Another less-serious complaint some students have is that there are very few male students in the course. They counted only three that they could think of, one of them being football player Justin Paysinger.

Paysinger began SJSU as a liberal studies major but soon switched to child development after taking one of the Child and Adolescent Development courses.



SANDRA ARROYO // Spartan Daily

Joann Zhang, age 3, takes a break after musical hour in the Central Classroom Building on Tuesday, Sept. 25.

The children seemed fond of Paysinger, especially Jazmyn, who sat on his lap during story time.

At the end of each session, Foster sits down with the teachers at the child-sized tables to discuss what they learned and if they had any troubles

with the children or the parents.

Many of the student teachers are passionate about their work and plan on working in the child-care in the future.

"We all want to work with kids in some capacity," Aguirre said.



SANDRA ARROYO // Spartan Daily

Child Development student teachers gather around after the afternoon workshop and discuss their observations in the Central Classroom Building on Tuesday Sept. 25.

SPARTA GUIDE

Write letters to the editor and submit Sparta Guide information online. Visit our Web site at www.thepartandaily.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 submission. Entries are printed in order in which they are received.

TODAY

Africentric Theology Seminar: Famous African Cities and their Links to Biblical History

From 12 to 1 p.m. in the Cultural Heritage Center in the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. library. For more information, contact Dr. Oscar Battle Jr. at 924-6117.

Oct. 4

Letter Writing Campaign for St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital

From 4 to 10 p.m. on the Tower Lawn, Up 'Til Dawn will be having a letter writing campaign for St. Jude's, so bring 50 addresses! For more information, contact Jenny at (714) 329-4979.

Weekly Catholic Feminist Mass Begins

At 5:15 p.m., Spartan Chapel Weekly Catholic Masses will continue at this time throughout the semester. All are welcome at the table! Victoria Rue, professor of Women's Studies and Comparative Religious Studies, will preside. For more information, contact Rue at victoriarue@cruzio.com.

Students with Disabilities - Weekly Discussion Group

From 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in room 604 of

the Student Services Center. A supportive environment to share, discuss and explore personal experiences. Bring your own lunches. Drop-ins welcome. For more information, contact Sybille Ulrike and Carolyn Rittenbach at 924-5910 or mail to: georgette.gale@sjsu.edu.

Bible Study

Acts 2 Christian Fellowship has weekly Bible studies every Thursday at 7 p.m. in the Guadalupe room. For more information, contact Justin at jfoon1@yahoo.com.

The 186 Small Jazz Combo

The "live music" Listening Hour Concert Series is from 12:30 to 1:15 p.m. in the Music Building Concert Hall featuring Professor John Shifflett. This event is free and open to the public. For more information, contact 924-4673.

Oct. 5

Myanmar Student Association

"Peace for Burma" protest, march and prayer vigil will happen from 2 to 6 p.m. This event begins at the Chinese Consulate at 1450 Laguna Street in San Francisco. For more information, contact Wai Phyo at 314-402-1255 or Yan Linn at 408-476-8983.

CAL // SJSU second CSU to offer program

Continued from page 1

ing alternative means of transportation to employees.

Chow and Burchard estimated about 35 staff and faculty have applied for the program.

Burchard said SJSU is the second school in the CSU system to implement a commuter check program.

Robert Hyde, an associate professor in biological science and a Caltrain commuter for 15 years, said he could see the sense behind the program, but added that it

would not work for him.

"I usually take the 10-ride passes because my schedule changes," he said. The 10-ride tickets allow him to adjust how much money he spends on his weekly commute, something a monthly stipend could not do.

Chow said that Transportation Solutions would only include auxiliary organizations in the program if he heard of a large demand for it, which, he said, is not the case.

Chow's office handles all of the applications and management for the commuter check program.

Burchard believes managing the program is compatible to Chow's office.

"It's a good fit over at Transportation Solutions," he said.

As commute specialist for Transportation Solutions, Chow said he did not mind the extra work of handling the program, but, he said, the job fell to his office because UPD and parking services did not want to do it.

"Our goal here now is to try to streamline the application process," he said.

BOOKS // Event to continue today

Continued from page 1

of San Jose wanted to challenge certain materials being available at the library, Feind said, "They would be welcome to have a conversation with the librarians on the fact that we don't censor materials, and that it's our job to make information available to anyone on any topic."

She added, "In a university setting, there is always going to

be information that people find challenging."

Jordan Rosene, a junior communications major, said if books were banned from the library, she wouldn't be affected by it and would go somewhere else to check out what she needed.

Regarding controversial books such as William Powell's "The Anarchist Cookbook," which includes instructions for making make napalm, Rosene said, "I don't really

think that should be in a library, but, at the same time, I don't think books should be banned."

Yesterday's event was hosted by SJSU business Professor Annette Nellen as part of Banned Books Week.

Banned Books Week is also scheduled to include a performance of Allen Ginsberg's controversial poem, "Howl," by SJSU's Poet and Writers Coalition. The performance should take place near the Smith-Carlos statue at 11:30 a.m. today.

After the debate, Nellen said it was important for SJSU students to ask librarians how they choose books for the library and why certain materials are not available to them.

However, Dominic Garcia, a business professor who assisted Nellen with the event, said she would be surprised if there were any books that were banned at SJSU "because the purpose of a university is freedom of intellectual thought and discourse. It would kind of go against that."

Library Coordinator Feind said the criteria for selecting books for the library involves SJSU curriculum, publishers' catalogs and money allotted by the library budget.

"We work hard to support the curriculum of the university so that we have materials to support the things that students are studying," Feind said.

FALL '07

SJSU's 150th Anniversary
Deans' Speaker Series:
Silicon Valley Leaders Symposium

The Global Technology Ecosystem:
Challenges and Opportunities

04
OCT



Jen-Hsun Huang
Co-founder, President, & CEO
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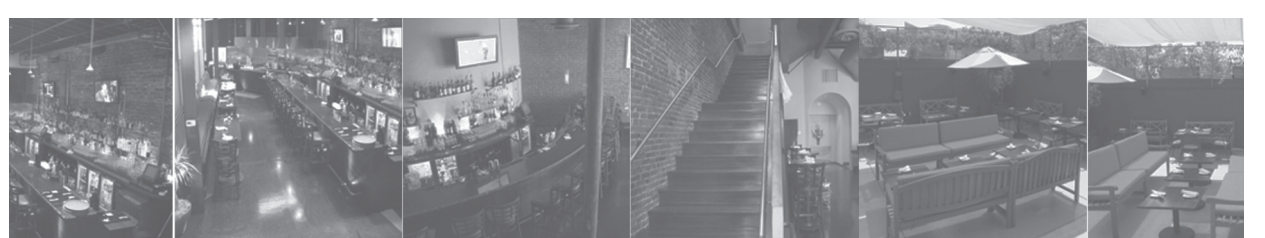
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Dorothy Allison to speak, sign books today on campus

By SAMANTHA SALAS
Staff Writer

"Bastard Out of Carolina" author Dorothy Allison will be speaking on campus at two free events today, one at 3 p.m. in the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library, and the second at 7:30 p.m. in the Music building Concert Hall.

"Many people recognize her work before her name," said Kelly Harrison, co-director of SJSU's Center for Literary Arts. "But with a heart of gold, and as easy going and down to earth as she is, students can take a lesson or two from Dorothy Allison."

Professor Susan Shillinglaw said even if students haven't read Allison's work, they should still attend the reading just to hear her speak.

"She is very forthright and honest — very clear and no nonsense," Shillinglaw said. "Students would really appreciate her as a voice. She is such an engaging story teller."

According to the center's press release,

Allison is a National Book Award finalist and the 2007 winner of the Robert Penn Warren Award for Fiction, in addition to being the author of the bestselling novel "Bastard Out of Carolina", which has been translated into more than a dozen languages.

"Dorothy is not only a great model because of her work and her experiences in her life," Harrison said, "but she is simply amazing. She starts to speak at her readings and magic fills the room."

Harrison, who went to one of Allison's readings last year, said Allison has a great way of incorporating readings of her past and current works and speaking about writing in general, what it means to her and how it has transformed her life.

"She speaks to her audience like a Baptist speaker," Harrison said. "She is just so passionate about what she believes in."

Kate Evans, also co-director of SJSU's Center for Literary Arts, agrees and said if she is like a Baptist speaker, her religion is humanity.

"Dorothy is an amazing speaker, and she really believes in the reading and writing of literature," Evans said. "She advocates literature's connection to humanity, and I think that is so necessary in our world."

As for plans for her readings today, Evans thinks she'll be talking about her connection with writing and humanity, in addition to her own readings.

"She always goes beyond herself, into the world of literature and why it matters," Evans said. "It is always incredibly inspirational."

Assistant Professor of English Nick Taylor said he plans to be at the reading and is excited to meet Allison.

"I lived in Virginia for 13 years, and my upcoming novel is set there, so I feel a cultural kinship with her, as most of her fiction is set in the South," Taylor said.

Evans said Allison isn't afraid to write about things people in our world struggle with thinking about. She strives to give a voice to people who have suffered from

child abuse, who don't fit into society's standards or who are often discarded for whatever reason.

"She is very real," Evans said. "She often testifies to people who might either be ignored or pushed aside."

Harrison said Allison has such an interesting style of writing, where there is so much tragedy, like in "Bastard Out of Carolina", yet the character overcomes all of that in the end.

"Allison's life was so similar," Harrison said, "that she becomes a great role model for using writing as a way to overcome her own struggles growing up."

And another struggle she faced, Evans said, was becoming an icon in the lesbian community.

"She is an unabashed feminist," Evans said. And even though she is a lesbian, her work has become mainstream.

"And that has been exciting for other lesbians," she added. In June of 1999, Allison wrote an article

called, "Every book is a lesbian book."

In her article, Allison tells of her poor, violent upbringing, focusing purely on survival and her sense of being a self-labeled lesbian, a raped child, a poor white Southerner and an embattled female.

And even without her labels, Allison writes that everywhere she looked she saw a world that held her in contempt.

"At the age of 13 I was always calculating how to not kill myself or how not to let myself be killed," she said. "That tends to stringently shape one's imagination."

The Center for Literary Arts will also be hosting a public event at Mt. Pleasant High School in San Jose on Thursday. The center brings major authors to local high schools about three times a year to give the students a Q-and-A format reading, similar to the ones at SJSU.

"There is usually about 200 to 300 students and community members at each of these events," Harrison said.

HOWL // Poem is 'visceral,' reads like a 'machine gun,' Flores says

Continued from page 1

to make the reader run out of breath.

"It's like a machine gun," Flores said. "It's a visceral experience, and 10 different voices doing it is going to make it come alive."

Coalition Treasurer Peter Bosel wrote in an e-mail that the coalition was created in part to put on events like this one.

"We try to support the literary arts whenever we can," Bosel said, "whether that means inviting an outside speaker to read from his or her own work or just setting up a mic and having everyone share a little something."

Coalition members said they expect the reading to attract a large crowd.

"The interest is out there," Bosel said. "Banned books usually possess a kind of sexy appeal with a literature audience."

Kevin McGee, vice president of the coalition, said while he isn't performing, he is excited to be attending the event.

"The struggle to ensure its publication needs to be remembered," McGee said. "It's an opportunity to remind students that censorship isn't some relic of the past."

"Just look at how some folks can get riled up even about 'Harry Potter,'" McGee said. "If we are going to have free speech as a living reality, instead of a vacuous platitude, we need to fight censorship."

Evans said it is ironic that banning and censoring literature, in an attempt to abort free speech and dialogue, often ignites the very thing it is attempting to stifle.

"Restrictions often lead to a backlash of loud voices and our public 'Howl'ing emphasizes just that," Evans said.

Alan Soldofsky, Master of Fine Arts program director and master of ceremonies for the event, wrote in an e-mail, "Howl" is one of the essential works of modern American poetry. Soldofsky also said he knew Ginsberg, who died 10 years ago.

"I knew Allen since I was a student at the Iowa Writer's Workshop in the 60s," Soldofsky wrote in the e-mail. "I knew Allen as a poet and cultural figure. His knowledge of poetry was encyclopedic. He knew thousands of lines of poetry by heart."

Soldofsky would classify Ginsberg as a real person who had much self-doubt despite all his fame.

"When I saw him over the years, even when he was ill toward the end of his life," Soldofsky wrote, "he had tremendous energy and commitment. He was a devoted friend to those who were close to him and a passionate teacher."

Ginsberg's energy and commitment brought great force of his personality to his teaching and his interest in the work of younger poets, Soldofsky wrote.

"He was always trying to learn something new," he wrote. "And he was always trying to figure out what the truth was in a media-saturated culture whose primary products were death and lies."

While it has been hard to get all of the poets together to practice, Flores said everyone has their specific part, and everything should fall into place at the performance.

The reading of "Howl" will take place from 12 to 1 p.m. in between Clark Hall and the Tommie Smith and John Carlos statue.

VILLAGE // Students hope for parking

Continued from page 1

sees Spartan Village regularly, since he uses the Park and Ride shuttle, which drops off people at South Campus. Carter said he also lives in a nearby apartment.

"I think they bring down the property value around there," Carter said. "They need to do something immediately."

Carter suggested that the residences should either be demolished to make room for more parking spaces or reopened for incoming students.

Valenzuela said there aren't any plans to reopen Spartan Village.

During summer 2005, though, Spartan Village was used to house students before the opening of Campus Village, he said. Valenzuela also said people displaced by Hurricane Katrina were housed in Spartan Village during that summer.

President Don W. Kassing, while in a news conference, said a South Campus proposal he is interested in is to build more faculty housing.

Campus Village Building A houses some faculty and staff members.

Carina Orozco, a junior marketing and sociology major, said she drives past Spartan Village "once a week — once in a blue moon."

She suggested that the area should be made into "something that the students can use," such as a sports facility or a parking garage.

While he has received input from Associated Students, the kinesiology department, Spartan Athletics and intramural sports, Valenzuela said it has been difficult to decide how to communicate plans and receive input from students.

"That's something, frankly, that we're struggling with," he said.

He added that students can e-

mail suggestions to him.

Chris Fortier, a senior marketing major, said he works in construction, and when he passes by the buildings, he often thinks to himself, "I could level that."

"If they're not going to do anything, they should level and expand the parking lot," Fortier said.

Valenzuela said increasing the number of parking spaces, in addition to constructing new athletic fields, has been considered as one of the scenarios, but, he said, "In terms of priority, there's a higher need for fields than parking."

The city is looking into building fields in nearby Kelley Park, located at Story and Senter Roads, he said.

Kassing said he had "mixed feelings" about the joint venture for the athletic fields "because land is so valuable and so scarce in this area."

TIED HOUSE COLLEGE SPECIALS!

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SPARTAN DAILY

SPECIAL

EDITON

THURSDAY 10/4

From spectacular goalie saves to total rushing yards - we're bringing it all to you, everything you need to know about your favorite SPARTAN athletics and athletes. Our HOMECOMING EDITION will be your playbook to all your fall sports favorites. Look for it in Thursday's paper - use the pullout poster at Saturday's game.

We've got our game faces on, let's see yours.

2007 FIRE ON THE FOUNTAIN

SJSU'S HOMECOMING BONFIRE AND PEP RALLY

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4 TOWER LAWN

4:00 - 10:00 P.M. : UP 'TIL DAWN

BRING 50 NAMES AND ADDRESSES FOR ST. JUDE CHILDREN'S RESEARCH HOSPITAL'S LETTER WRITING CAMPAIGN AND YOU'LL RECEIVE A FREE T-SHIRT AND RAFFLE PRIZES.

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8:30 P.M. : PEP RALLY

FIGHT ON FOR SAN JOSE STATE WITH SJSU PRESIDENT DON KASSING, COACH DICK TOMEY, MEMBERS OF THE SJSU FOOTBALL TEAM, THE CHEER TEAM AND THE PEP BAND. ALSO, SEE YOUR HOMECOMING COURT GET CROWNED!

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Comments from our readers

Wait? Smoking is bad for me?

(About "Student seeks to send policy up in smoke.") I was outside smoking a cigarette the other day when someone walked by and said, "You know that'll kill

you, right?" I was so overcome with emotion at that moment. Holding back tears, I threw my arms around the person. "You just saved my life," I said. "Why didn't anyone ever tell me? Thank you. Thank you so much." Now I only wish they had given me a mint. -Michael

Dissappointed about Bush's ignorance

(About "Bush's weekend global warming summit a show of non commitment.") It is sad, but true, that Bush doesn't really

intend on doing anything about global warming, and continues to be an obstacle to any substantive action until the day he leaves office. By then, it will have been a tragic waste of eight years. - Thomas Schueneman

Check your IQ before you speak

(About "TMI: No more talking about personal issues in class.") The real issue is that rampant im-

maturity is enveloping the earth and IQs are plunging and aristocracy is fading away. Outbursts by the immature will predominate as long as they refuse to grow up and act like mature adults. -Blake Southwood

Library power outage a set back

(About "Library server out since Sunday; databases, catalog inaccessible.") Thanks for the update. I can't speak for all of the SJSU students in the SLIS program, but this has been a major

drawback for me personally. It's mainly a distance program masters so many of us are depending upon SJSU's library resources that we cannot access anywhere else. I've gone four days without accurate citations and evidence for my portfolio, and we're all going to have to do some major sprinting. -Samantha

Ignore the man in the Bear suit



KRIS ANDERSON
Return of Mojo

The show, in all its reality TV pomp and circumstance, and Bear with all his exuberance and charisma, is misleading.

some of Bear's stunts were choreographed. But why? If for some reason you're stranded in the heart of Yosemite with nothing but an empty canteen (screw filling it), the clothes on your back and a flint for fire, then Bear Grylls is your hero. If you like catching salmon with your bare (haha, pun) hands and biting into the still-living fish, or if you like plunging into glacial seas and doing naked push-ups to raise your body temperature, then Bear Grylls is a god. This is the life Bear Grylls is supposed to lead ... I think. As a former member of the British Special Forces, climber of Mount Everest and doer of other extraordinary things, it's remarkable anyone would ever have the gall to stand up to him. Which sucks for me because the coolest thing I've ever seen him do is urinate on his

shirt and tie it around his head to keep cool — and he isn't even a member of the Bush administration. Kidding ... sort of ... I think. But herein lies the fundamental flaw with reality television. It's predicated on connecting its audiences saying, "Hey, that guy in the blurry Budweiser hat could be me!" But such an attitude breeds yet another problem, we begin to think we can do what we see — which sounds oddly familiar. The point here is, as Bear masquerades around remote locations — which in one deserted island episode is actually just an island in the Hawaiian chain — audiences fantasize about surviving such a situation. We are misled to a degree. The show, in all its reality TV pomp and circumstance, and Bear with all his exuberance and charisma, is misleading. While he does pee on his shirt, or squeeze the liquid from elephant dung (sorry, but that's equally awesome), he does spend some of the harsh nights in a quaint hotel. On his blog, Bear says the press doesn't always "tell the full story, but that's life and part of being in the public eye I guess." Sorry Bear — excuses, excuses. Discovery will be putting a disclaimer at the beginning of all of next season's episodes, which begin in November, and will add it to reruns of previous episodes. Oh well, at least we can rely on "Survivorman" to get our wilderness/adventurer fix, which is to say, we can watch TV to satisfy our immutable cries for mother. Kris Anderson is the Spartan Daily sports editor. "Return of Mojo" appears twice a month.

The natural progression: Democrat to Independent to Republican?



KEVIN RAND
From the Hip

The first presidential race I can remember was in 1988. I was 7 years old. The candidate for the Democrats was Michael Dukakis. In my house it was all Dukakis. Dukakis. Dukakis. See, my father is, and was, a Democrat. His father was a Democrat. His father's father was a Democrat. So Bush Sr., no exaggeration, was Beelzebub incarnate. Those cold-blooded Republicans. "Well what the heck, then?" I thought. "I guess I'll be a Democrat, too." After all, Democrats cared about education, and my father was a teacher. They cared about healthcare. They embraced minorities. They helped the less fortunate. What's not to like about all of that?

And those Republicans — all they wanted was money. They were older, richer ... whiter, even. Bleeding hearts? You couldn't find so much as a golf ball behind a Republican's chest plate. So it was settled. Democrats all the way. And then Bush won. Damn. Hey, I was a passionate, politically conscious 7-year-old. But that's how I felt. That's what I believed. Then all of a sudden, we were at war. The country's economy was also in recession. I knew I was right. It was all Daddy Bush's fault. Turn the page 19 years forward. I'm a 26-year-old registered Independent. I think I'm a Liberal, but I also believe in what some would call conservative values. My heart is in favor of socialized medicine, but my mind tells me something different. The problem now is that I've grown older, and I don't think that translates into more wisdom. If anything, I'm more skeptical and

definitely more confused. But at least I'm thinking. I was watching YouTube videos the other day when I came across a clip from a debate for the 2008 presidential candidates for the Republican Party. "Ron Paul courageously speaks the truth," it was titled. OK, I thought. Click. I found out he was one of six Republicans to vote against the current war in Iraq. Now bear with me, whether you're for or against the war. Paul argued, "Have you ever read about the reasons (the Sept. 11 hijackers) attacked us? They attacked us because we've been over there. We've been bombing Iraq for over 10 years." Who is this guy? Damn he's good, I thought. "Right now we've been building an embassy in Iraq that's bigger than the Vatican. We're building 14 permanent bases," Paul said. "What would we say here if China was doing this in our country or in the Gulf of Mexico?" Ahh, what a breath of fresh air, I thought. Not only was Paul courageous,

he was believable. I actually believed he believed what he was saying, unlike most politicians. I don't know about you, but give me a politician who speaks from the heart, and I'll give him or her respect. So it was settled. Democrats all the way. And then Bush won. Damn. If Paul ran in 1988, and if I was allowed to vote, I don't think I would have voted for him because he was a Republican. It would have been against my religion. I bring up this story because I think my redeveloping political views can serve as an example. Are you a died-in-the-wool Democrat? Were you born into a family of staunch conservatives and now continue to carry on the beliefs of your loved ones? Question yourself. Don't just question yourself, question

everybody. Question those you love and those you hate. Don't believe in something because you have a better understanding of your side of the argument than you do for the other side. Listen to the other side. We're not running for office here, so you know what? It's all right to go back-and-forth on some issues. I won't hold it against you. I think it's better to keep searching than it is to think we already have all of the answers. I want to have stronger beliefs. That is why I question things. I look at it like this: I was born a Democrat, and I turned Independent to give myself a little freedom. I have conservative values, and I have liberal values. Now, I try to ignore the candidates' parties while only paying attention to their beliefs. And Ron Paul proved to me that the two might be separable. Will he get my vote in '08? Sure. For now. Kevin Rand is a Spartan Daily copy editor. "From the Hip" appears every Wednesday.

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Quote of the day

"Every life, whether American or Iraqi, is precious. I stress to the Committee and to the American public, however, that I believe we acted appropriately at all times."

BLACKWATER USA CHAIRMAN ERIK PRINCE
To the the House Oversight Committee
Tuesday morning

WOMEN'S SOCCER WEEKEND UPDATE:

Women's soccer team comes up short in two weekend contests

Team looks ahead to conference matches, coach says

By CASEY JAY
Staff Writer

Nearly halfway through the season, the SJSU women's soccer team has tallied just one win.

With two games left before the beginning of Western Athletic Conference play, the Spartans' record stands at 1-7-2 following two home defeats over the weekend.

The Spartans lost 0-1 to the Cal State Fullerton Titans on Friday and 2-3 to the Eastern Washington University Eagles on Sunday.

Spartan head coach Dave Siracusa said he was happy with how the team played on Friday.

"Fullerton's a very good team," Siracusa said. "We played awesome. It was a heartbreaker."

The Spartans took 21 shots against the Titans, but neither team was able to score during regulation time.

The game went into double overtime, and the Titans were able to score with just under two minutes left on the clock.

"We knew Friday's game would be hard," said Kristin Krале, senior defender and co-captain. "We played really well."

Krале said the team had a lot of energy going into Sunday's game against Eastern Washington at Spartan Stadium.

The Spartans took the lead against the Eagles within the first 15 minutes of play. Senior midfielder Nicole Irwin, the

reigning Western Athletic Conference "Offensive Player of the Year," who also celebrated her birthday Sunday, scored the first goal of the game, assisted by Brittany Beshore, a junior defender.

The score remained 1-0 until four minutes into the second half when senior forward/midfielder Kelly Madej, assisted by freshman forward Danielle Drago, brought it to 2-0.

Madej's goal was the first of her collegiate career.

"We have two more games and then conference. So we need to do well at those."

DAVE SIRACUSA
SJSU women's soccer head coach

"It felt so good," Madej said. "I just recovered from four knee surgeries, so it was awesome. I just hugged my teammates and said 'finally.' It was about time."

Shortly after Madej's goal, Spartan goalie Nina Butera, a redshirt freshman, fouled Eastern Washington's Cyeceta Mott. The Eagles were awarded a penalty kick, which they turned into their first goal.

The Eagles tied up the score 15 minutes later, and took the lead with a third



ANDREW VILLA // SPECIAL TO THE DAILY

Brittany Beshore, a junior defender, chases down an Aztec player on Sept. 19.

goal with just more than seven minutes left to play.

The Spartans were unable to score again before the clock ran out.

"We played well the first half, but we were flat in the second. I'm not sure why," Siracusa said. "They adjusted to us after halftime and stretched us. We didn't deal with it well."

Krале said she was expecting a win out of Sunday's game.

"We've been having trouble scoring, so that was good, but we should have won," Krале said.

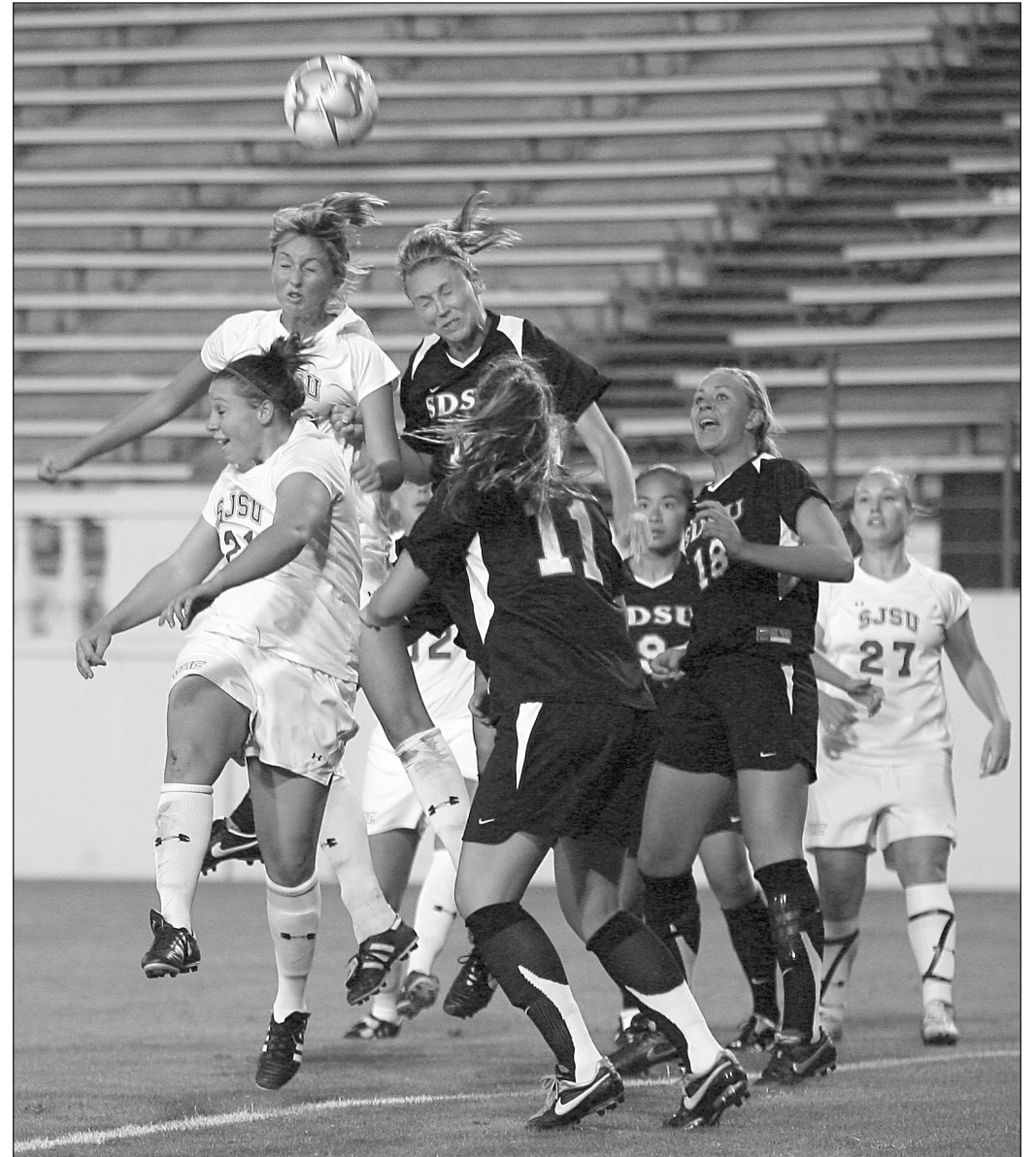
The Spartans are about halfway through their season now, and Siracusa said the team's focus is going to be on upcoming conference matches.

"We have two more games and then conference," Siracusa said. "So we need to do well at those."

Krале said the team had some work to do to prepare for the next round of games.

"We need to keep running," she said. "We need to finish running together as a team."

The Spartans continue their home-stand stretch this weekend, facing local rival Saint Mary's College at 3 p.m. on Friday at Spartan Field, and UC Irvine at 5 p.m. on Sunday inside Spartan Stadium.



PHOTOS BY ANDREW VILLA // SPECIAL TO THE DAILY

ABOVE: Senior midfielder Jackie Zabek heads the ball away from a group of San Diego State players in a game on Sept. 19. The Spartans lost the contest 1-0.

LEFT: Redshirt freshman goalie Nina Butera records one of her four saves from Sept. 19's game against the San Diego State University Aztecs.



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