

SERVING SAN JOSE STATE UNIVERSITY SINCE 1934 partan ISSUE 36 VOLUME 129

OCTOBER 30, 2007 // TUESDAY

Balderamos suspension upheld

Officials continue to decline comment on hearings

By MICHAEL RIZZO Staff Writer

University officials still decline to comment specifically on the judicial hearings of Alfredo Balderamos and Nathan Oliveira, two students suspended from campus on Oct. 8 after accusations of threatening behavior.

The university's final decisions were handed of counseling could not be determined.

down Thursday morning and some students now believe that a statement from the university is needed.

Officials proposed that Balderamos be denied access to portions of campus property, including his residence hall; put on disciplinary probation for the rest of his time at SJSU; and attend 12 counseling sessions. The specific type

not yet signed the university contract and that he had until yesterday to do so. He remains on interim suspension for now.

"It just doesn't seem fair," he said.

Oliveira was allowed back on campus and in Lou Henry Hoover Hall after accepting the university's proposed sanctions. He said he was put on disciplinary probation for a year, has to write a four-page essay on why ethical develop-

See **HEARING**, page 2

Chavez to explore a bid for county supervisor

Announcement came during a lecture on women in politics

By SARAH KYO Staff Writer

Former Vice Mayor Cindy Chavez announced Monday she will possibly run for a seat with the Santa Clara County board of supervi-

The current SJSU Leader-in-Residence, who lost a Leader-in-Residence bid for the San Jose mayor's office in 2006, said within the next month she will organize an exploratory committee.

Omar Torres, a senior political science major, said he lives in District 3 of San Jose, Chavez's former district. Torres said he has known Chavez since he was 11 years old.

"I thought she did an incredible job as a District 3 councilmember/vice mayor," Torres said, "and I've been telling her since she lost her race for mayor to run for the board of supervisors because we need more people like her to be elected and representing us."

Torres said Chavez's an-

nouncement was the first time the public heard from her about her possible candidacy.

"That's awesome that she might be running," he said.

Chavez said the amount of encouragement from people influenced her decision.

After her semester as SJSU, Chavez is scheduled to be a fellow at UC Santa Cruz's Center for Global, International and Regional Studies, specializing in land use and sustainability in California.

Chavez's announcement came during a panel discussion in the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library.

The overall theme of the evening was women in politics, with Chavez joined by former Santa Clara County Supervisors Susanne B. Wilson and Dianne McKenna.

"Because these women paved the way, I thought it was only respectful to invite them to participate," Chavez

See CHAVEZ, page 3



Former San Jose Councilwoman Cindy Chavez addresses the audience at yesterday's lecture in the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library.



A crowd piled into the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library on Monday to hear former City Council member Cindy Chavez, along with other officials, speak about women in politics. ERIC AUSTIN //

Special to the Daily

SJSU graduate starts Web site for textbook swapping

By BRIANA HERNANDEZ

Staff Writer

An SJSU alumnus has created a new option specificly for SJSU students for buying and selling used textbooks.

SJSNetworking.com is a textbook- and school-supply-trading Web site created by SJSU engineering graduate Lucas Campbell-Rossen and his friend, MIT graduate in computer science, Robert Kwok.

The site, which went live in August of this year, is now active with SISU student members who can post advertisements on what they are selling or what they are looking to buy.

Some SISU students said they already use

Web sites for buying textbooks. Dominic Reyes, a senior business major said he often uses Amazon.com and Half.com, both of which are worldwide trading sites, for purchasing his books because he feels it is less costly.

Nick Marshall, a sophomore graphic design major, said he would consider using a site like SJSNetworking.

"If it were local, I would use it," he said.

Co-founder Campbell-Rossen, who graduated in 2005, said the idea for SJSNetworking came from his experiences in the engineering department at SJSU. He said he would often trade books with students within the department and always thought someone should make a Web site exclusively for SJSU.

Another factor, he said, was the low buy-back costs students had to tolerate.

"I just noticed that every time I bought books," he said, "I would sell them back and they would give me, like, five dollars. It was really annoying."

The site itself is not an entirely new concept. Another site, Textswap.com, does have exclusive services for specific campuses including SISU and operates in much the same way. The only difference is that SJSNetworking has not yet expanded to other campuses.

Robyn Lee, manager of Roberts Bookstore on 10th Street in San Jose, said she does not feel

See BOOKS, page 3

ONLINE

MULTIMEDIA: VIDEO 'LEARN FROM AFAR'

A look into the journey of three study abroad students who went to Asia and returned with new perspectives on politics, tolerance and efficiency.

THESPARTANDAILY.COM

SPORTS

DO YOU STILL

BELIEVE?

After reaching the playoffs for the first time in 13 years, are the Golden State Warriors are primed for a return?

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OPINION

EVERYONE HAS AN OPINION ON ABORTION

She supported her friend when she had an abortion, and now Student Life Editor Felicia Aguinaldo will be emotionally involved forever.

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STUDENT LIFE

EXPERIENCING

ASIAN CULTURE

Three students share their adventures while studying abroad in Thailand, Japan and Hong Kong.

PAGE 4

ONLINE

TRAVELING TO INDIA ON A SCHOLARSHIP

Four engineering students received the Louie Barozzi Study Abroad Scholarship and will travel to India in preparation for a 'globalized society'.

THESPARTANDAILY.COM

Councilman proposes library porn filters

Debate on 'complex issue' continues

By JOVANNI COLISAO

Staff Writer

A San Jose Councilman decided last week that he would like to put an end to the multiple complaints regarding pornography in San Jose public libraries.

Last Wednesday, City Councilman Pete Constant announced his proposal outside of SJSU's Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library to restrict public access to pornography in public libraries.

On Oct. 24, Constant said in a news conference streamed online by ABC News that viewing pornography while in the presence of children is unacceptable.

"You can be walking with your children or grandchildren

through our library right behind us and on your way walking to the stacks of books be subjected to people who are viewing pornography right in your presence," Constant said. "And that, I believe, is wrong."

One student thought Constant's proposal was a good idea.

"Different age groups go in there, and it wouldn't be appropriate if someone is looking at porn and there's kids walking by," said Frances Ualat, a junior nursing major.

Pat Harris, media relations specialist at SJSU, said the University Police Department reported 37 calls for disorderly conduct of

See LIBRARY, page 2

More than 2.5 million people visited King Library between July 2004 and June 2005.

2 million: The capacity of volumes in King Library.

More than 750,000 people used the electronic database between July 2004 and June 2005.

More than 3.4 million: The number of combined University and City collections.

1997: The last time the council voted and agreed not to use filters in public libraries.

The Dr. Martin Luther King 7r. Library 2004-2005 Fact Sheet; Lorraine Oback, marketing communications director of King Library

Student wins design awards for stove

Idea conceived in SJSU classroom

By MANDIE MOHSENZADEGAN

Staff Writer

When SJSU graduate Russell Henning created a portable backpacking stove for a senior project in the spring of 2006, he had no idea that the environmentally friendly cooker would go on to garner international recognition and become an award-winning design.

BraunPrize and Red Dot, two international organizations dedicated to finding and acknowledging innovative designs, selected Henning's design as part of their exhibitions. The latter also presented a 2006 Red Dot award to Henning for his backpacking stove.

The Phoenix, as it is called, was

See **STOVE**, page 3



Russell Henning's backpacking stove, the Phoenix, includes a stove, stand, fuel and a wind screen, which can be assembled into one piece or taken apart.

PHOTO COURTESY OF RUSSELL HENNING

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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 submission. Entries are printed in order in which they are received.

TODAY

School of Music and Dance: "Live Music" Listening Hour Concert Series
From 12:30 to 1:15 p.m in the Music Building Concert Hall. "A Potpourri of Song" presented by the vocal graduate students of professor Erie Mills. For more information, contact Professor Joan Stubbe at 924-4649.

Dr. Peter C. Lee Inaugural Memorial Lecture

Dr. C. Peter Magrath, senior presidential advisor, The College Board, speaks on *Urgently Needed: Internationalized Universities*, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. in the Engineering Building, Room 189. All are welcome. For more information, contact Judy Rickard at 924-2619 or mail to: judy.rickard@sjsu.edu.

Salzburg Fellow MUSE Workshop

MUSE students will present slides on international themes from 12 to 1 p.m. For more information, contact Judy Rickard at 924-2619.

Oct. 31

Study Abroad Fair and Panel

From 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Koret Plaza, the campus side entrance to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library. Find out your options for studying abroad in another country at the fair. There will also be a study abroad panel, where you can learn about the value of the study abroad experience, from 3 to 4 p.m. in the King Library Rooms 255/257. For more information, contact Judy Rickard at 924-2619 or judy.rickard@sjsu.edu.

Belly Dance Performance

Learn about belly dancing's history and techniques. From 1 to 2 p.m. in the Student Union Amphitheater. For more information, contact Judy Rickard at 924-2619.

Flag Talk

Learn about flags of the world — their national importance, the symbolism embedded in them and more from Dr. Scot Guenter, a recognized leader in the science of studying flags. From 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. in Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library Rooms 255/257. For more information, contact Judy Rickard at 924-2619.

The Spiritual Roots of Halloween

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At 4 p.m. in the Montalvo Room in the Student Union, Chaplain Roger will take a look at this ancient spiritual tradition and what it means to Christians today. For more information, contact Chaplain Roger at 605-1687 or chaplain@sjspirit.org.

HEARING // Students asking for official statement

Continued from page 1

ment is important, and must attend two counseling sessions.

"It seemed kind of stupid," he said, "but whatever — I signed the contract."

On Sept. 29, a resident of Hoover Hall reported Balderamos to housing officials, accusing him of threatening to "go Virginia Tech" on a fellow resident. Oliveira was suspended because he was later reported to housing officials for a verbal exchange with the accuser after the report was made.

A resident adviser for Hoover Hall, who asked not to be identified, said that since the first of several accusations against Balderamos were made, "there's so many people not feeling safe in the community. People are scared it was true."

Veril Phillips, vice president of student affairs, said that the university would only alert the student body about the details of a particular hearing if the campus community's health or safety were in jeopardy. He cited the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act, a federal law that protects student education records from public release except on certain grounds.

With residents of Hoover Hall reporting that they don't know what to believe because they have nothing to work with except rumors, some students who live on campus said such a statement from the university is necessary.

"I don't want to go to a school that's unsafe," said Jeziel Castaneda, a sophomore nursing major.

"The university needs to put out some statement as to what they're thinking," said Joseph Kozina, a sophomore psychology major. "That way we have an idea if it's true or not."

Drew Spitzer, a sophomore aerospace engineering major, said, "I think they should definitely let us know what's up."

Laretha Griffin, a sophomore liberal studies major, said, "I think (the university) should explain the reasons for what they're doing. I don't want to be hit with something I'm unprepared for."

Terri Thames, interim director of counseling services, said that in situations such as this, where access to official information is restricted, students are left "to figure it out for themselves."

"That kind of uncertainty can increase anxiety," she said. "Students have to trust their gut. What's their gut telling them about

what's going on?"

Kathy Van, a junior business management major, said now that students outside of the residence hall are aware of the accusations against the two, more information is needed.

"We have to know," she said. "Students can't make a judgment call right away without knowing if we should be scared. They should tell us

Some students said the university should comment for the sake of the accused.

"Now their reputations are on the line," Spitzer said.

Griffin said, "The way they are viewed will change"

Oliveira said that returning to the residence hall has made him feel uncomfortable.

"I don't really want to be in housing," he said. "I kind of want to move out and into a apartment. I feel like they're going to try and pin something on me. So, I'm just going to stay

cool for the rest of the semester."

Thames said students should take comfort knowing that the Division of Student Affairs is "taking this very seriously" and "not taking this lightly."

"You have to have a little bit of trust in the people taking care of the university," she said.

LIBRARY // Some concerned about filter limits

Continued from page 1

soliciting lewd acts between Jan.1 and Oct. 19.

Harris said that out of the 37 calls, 26 were related to computers, 17 resulted in an arrest or citation and two possibly involved child pornography.

Harris said that there have been 720,000 annual sessions or log-ons and 2.6 million visitors in the King Library this year.

Harris said that even though the ratio of calls to the amount of annual sessions or visitors in the King Library is small, one call is one too many.

She said that these types of matters require more thought.

"It is a very complex issue,"

aid Harris

Harris said that she was pleased that the rules committee decided to take a step back and think about all of the different factors that need to be considered.

"We want to make sure we're doing everything we can to ensure that the campus is safe," Harris said.

Lorraine Oback, marketing communications director of the King Library, said that she and her staff met with the rules committee on Oct. 24 to discuss Constant's proposal.

Oback said that the city manager recommended the library staff be given three weeks to investigate options and come back to the city's rules committee with their findings.

The results would give the committee a framework to go forth with a decision.

"There were people who came up to testify in favor of the filters, but no action would be taken at this point until after the research comes back," Oback said, "and then they decide whether the council is going to actively consider this proposal or not."

Ruth Kifer, University library

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dean, is skeptical of Constant's proposal.

"Filtering is not real precise," Kifer said. "We need to provide open and free access to information in order to permit students and faculty to conduct research."

Kifer said that if you put filters on the Internet, it will weed out information that some people want to access.

Another student said people should already know what limitations they should have in terms of exploring the Internet, especially in public libraries.

"I don't think they should put on filters," said Bjorn Ramleth, a freshman civil engineering major. "People should have the common decency not to look at porn in public."

Oback said that this is an important issue to consider.

"We are extremely concerned about preserving public safety in this building," she said, adding that there is a misconception in this subject.

"What many community members don't understand is that adult pornography is not technically illegal," she said.

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l," she said.

Oback said that Constant's pro-

posal is simply to put filters on all library computers that would review and block "objectionable graphic

The staff agreed to see what filters are out there and if the technology has improved since the council last agreed the city didn't want filters 10 years ago, Oback said. Michelle McGurk, public infor-

mation officer for the mayor of San Jose, said mayor Chuck Reed is in favor of Constant's proposal.

"The mayor is supportive of

looking at options for filtering the Internet in the libraries," McGurk said. "He's concerned about the reports that we've received about access to pornography."

The mayor wants to get more details about the types of incidents that have occurred in the libraries and see what options are available for filtering technology, McGurk said.

She said that the mayor has certainly expressed his concerns about the access to pornography in the libraries, especially when it relates to children.

The decision of the city council 10 years ago was to not employ the filters because it would not only block pornography but would also block very important health information about things like breast cancer, or AIDS, McGurk said.

She said that since then, San Jose has built a number of local branch libraries that have upgraded their design to improve safety.

"The safety of children in our libraries is a high concern, and it's something we want to ensure," said McGurk.

McGurk said that the mayor is looking forward to the next meeting with the rules and open government committee on Nov. 14, to hear from staff and the city attorney, and from there a decision will be made regarding what process needs to take place.

careercer



Right next to Togo's, and Quickly's across the street from o





STOVE // Henning awarded 'Best of the Best'

Continued from page 1

the project that Russell created as a requirement for his industrial design major.

John McClusky, industrial design associate professor, assigned a project called "Designing for Our Future Selves," which he said required students to come up with "the idea to design something that would accommodate our needs as we get older."

He added that Henning's idea of the stove originated from his own hobby as an avid backpacker, and his interest was to design a stove that would target gripstrength and dexterity problems that could arise as he ages.

McClusky said Henning deserves the awards and he feels very proud of his former student for his recent achievements.

"To excel in these types of competitions, you have to meet a lot of levels," he said. "You have to meet appropriate function, appropriate usability and superlative aesthetics."

Henning, who also has a degree in mechanical engineering, explained that his idea for the stove was to focus on its accessibility and usability. "I wanted to design it from the ground up, and was concentrating on making it efficient and lightweight," he said. "Everything about the stove is with an emphasis on environmental sustainability. I felt a strong responsibility as a designer to push those kinds of things forward in society, because I think we have a lot of responsibility to create trends that are morally sound."

The Phoenix comprises a cooker, stand, gasoline and wind deflector, according to the BraunPrize Web site. It described the stove as a "reliable solution for an outdoor gasoline cooker" and also stated that it "offers a high degree of robustness and is easy to operate."

Henning said that it is important to emphasize that the Phoenix is a design, and not an invention. "I was using technology that already existed, and the work I did was the design," he said.

BraunPrize, a biannual competition that was created in Germany

in 1968, describes its purpose as promoting the work of young designers, according to its Web site. Henning was the only finalist from the United States to have his design in the BraunPrize exhibition, a ceremony held in Kronberg, Germany on Sept. 12.

Red Dot, which is also an international competition, groups its recipients into three different award selections: product design, communication design and design concept. Henning won two awards under "design concept," for his stove, along with another design project he created at SJSU called the Grasshopper, which is a tractor that uses grass as fuel and is designed for rural villages in Africa.

His stove won in the "Best of the Best" category, which is the most prestigious Red Dot award, and is given to only 18 members in the competition.

Red Dot Award 2006 received almost 6,000 submissions from 52 countries, according to its Web site.

Henning said that he suffered many sleepless nights while working on his project, but that the end result made it all worth it.

"He put a lot of pressure on himself," McClusky said. "His biggest concern was that the most revolutionary backpack stoves on the market were developed over a 10-year period by multiple people, and he was looking at 15 weeks as one individual."

Eduardo Solis, another former industrial design graduate and a close friend of Henning, described him as "very studious" and said, "Russ was very well known for his hard work, successful projects and great personality."

Despite the large amount of recognition he received, Henning said he believes the stove "has to serve a purpose."

"If I can use the exposure to push the idea that designers have a responsibility to the environment, to shaping trends and the higher cause, that would be what I would want to convey," he said.

To current industrial design majors at SJSU, he offers the following advice: "Listen to McClusky. He knows what he's talking about."

ASILOMAR, MONTEREY BAY

BOOKS // Site has options for selling or trading

Continued from page 1

that sites like SJSNetworking have much impact on her store's business.

"Competition simply allows a business to get better," she said. Additionally she said, "I don't see a lot of people who have successful transactions online."

Lee said that because textbook prices are outrageous, a site like SJSNetworking has potential. Yet, if anything impacts the business of Roberts Bookstore, Lee says it is the changing editions of textbooks.

"If I don't have used books," she said, "I am not bringing students in."

As a result, Roberts Bookstore does offer bargain editions, which are used, previous editions. Lee said she does not often recommend them to students, however, out of concern that more current material would be best.

Tony Sanjume, associate director of books at Spartan Bookstore, agrees with Lee on the impact of book-trading sites.

"These kinds of sites don't usually have that

much of an impact," he said, "just because they are not used by a lot of students."

Sanjume said Internet book sites as a whole impact 10 to 15 percent of his sales and that Spartan Bookstore has a few advantages over book trading sites.

"We are sure that the book we have on our shelf is the correct book for the class," he said.

He said other advantages include security in refund policies and direct billing to students' financial aid, both of which Spartan Bookstore offers.

Sanjume agrees that changing editions impact business and that the bookstore tries to get as many used books as possible but "there aren't many out there." He said, however, he does not think it is possible for students to avoid using the bookstore since it has the newest text-book editions.

ing major, said that convenience is often a factor in why students continue to use the bookstores despite high buying costs and low sellbacks.

Karen Martinez, a senior business-market-

"A lot of time," she said, "people wait until

the last minute to get their books anyway."

SJSNetworking has an open option for trading, which means that once students correspond on the site to exchange, sell or buy books, they can make their own arrangements to make the exchange and can avoid shipping costs.

Campbell-Rossen said that the site is functioning but he is still working on it.

"We're still waiting for a lot of feedback," he said. We've shown it to a lot of people to get suggestions. Everyone kind of wants to see it a different way."

Currently, the founders of the site do not

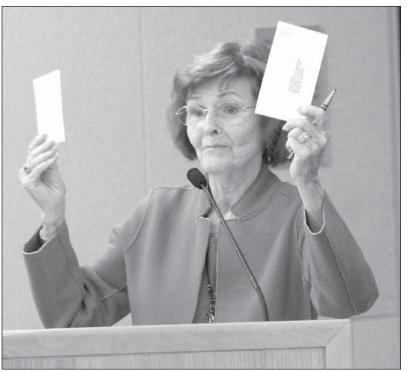
generate profit from the project. Campbell-Rossen said he might use advertising on the site in the future for revenue but will never charge users.

Among other future plans for the site, co-

Among other future plans for the site, cofounder Kwok said the site might include other resources for SJSU students such as ways to organize study groups, personals ads and local entertainment.

Kwok said, however, "We're keeping it simple for now."

CHAVEZ // Women in politics theme of lecture



ERIC AUSTIN // Special to the Daily

Former Santa Clara County Supervisor Susanne B. Wilson holds up envelopes during yesterday's lecture, asking for donations to benefit SJSU students.

Continued from page 1

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Wilson, McKenna and Chavez each talked about the challenges they faced while running for office and as politicians.

"My belief in having this kind of discussion that is open is that you start to change hearts and minds," Chavez said. "That you help people reflect on how we do what we do better and for the common good."

Among the people in attendance included former mayor of San Jose Susan Gray Hayes, who was the first woman mayor of a major U.S. city, and Ken Yeager, a county supervisor who was part of the San Jose City Council with Chavez.

There were also students from Mount Pleasant High School at the event.

Melo said she thought the guest speakers inspired women in the audience, including herself, to possibly run for office.

Marisa Melo, a junior political science major, volunteered to help out at the event and collected donations from audience members afterward. Chavez said the donations will go toward helping students pay for things such as a trip to Sacramento to visit the state capitol.

Melo said she thought the guest speakers inspired women in the audience, including herself, to possibly run for office.

Upcoming Events

at The Event Center

Nov. 2

Brand New

Tickets: G. A. \$23.50

Kelly Clarkson & Jon McLaughlin

Tickets: Reserved Seating \$39.50

Saturday, 7:30pm

Evanescence & Sick Puppies

Wednesday, 7:30pm

Tickets: G. A. \$35.50

George Lopez

Tickets: \$49.50 - \$54.50

Nov. 24 & 25

Saturday, 8:00pm

Fall Out Boy

& GymClassHeroes

Thursday, 7:00pm

Tickets: G. A. \$30

& CUTE is What We Aim For

& Plain White T's

Nov. 29

Friday, 7:30pm

Nov. 10

Nov. 14

& Julien-K

& Thrice & mewithoutYou

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2-wednesday

3-thursday

4-friday

7-monday

8-tuesday

9-wednesday

10-thursday

11-friday

14-monday

15-tuesday

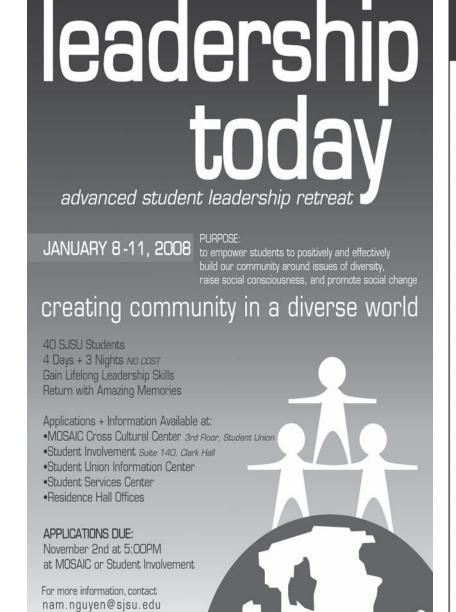
16-wednesday

17-thursday

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4

Asian persuasion

Students see what the other side of the world has to offer

By LEAH BIGELOW

Staff Writer

Some students at SISU decide to further their education by studying abroad. Three students decided to see what life is like in an Asian country, where they said they were able to learn about life in another country and about themselves.



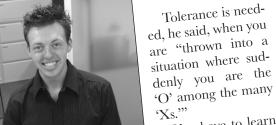
Reed Baird, a senior Japanese major, said he felt it was necessary to study abroad because of his major.

"It was a good chance to not only improve upon my language skills but get myself out there and experience a different society, culture and world," he said.

Baird said he learned a lot about himself during his year-long stay in Tokyo.

The biggest difference, he said, was getting used to the big-city life as well as learning that some of the culture and mannerisms don't necessarily apply to the rules of that society.

Baird said he learned to be more tolerant of others during his time abroad.



You have to learn to abide by their rules, he said.

Baird said he would recommend studying abroad for anyone.

"A lot of people

think you have to speak the language to go there or it's too expensive to do," he said.

Because the cost of living in Silicon Valley is so high, Baird said, it is almost always cheaper to study abroad anywhere, not just Japan.

Baird said he is currently applying for a job in Japan to be a translator and interpreter.

Reed Baird

PHOTOS BY ERIC AUSTIN // SPARTAN DAILY

Jason Maki, a senior international business major, said he decided to study abroad in Thailand so that he could add more experience to his degree.

STUDENT LIFE

"I wanted to get out and travel," he said.

Maki said one of the biggest differences in Thailand's culture is that the country has more of a collectivist society.

He said students will go through school with the same group, and they all work together.

Maki said he was able to visit some of Thailand's surrounding countries as well. He said he visited Vietnam, the Philippines and saw all of Thailand.

"I'm definitely more internationally aware," Maki said of his experience.

He said he is now more aware of international news and politics as well as how the U.S. is represented around the world.



"It expanded my global perspective a great deal," he said.

Maki said he definitely recommends going to Thailand.

"The country's great, and the program that the study abroad office has is a great program," he said.

Maki, who is a study abroad student assistant in the Boccardo Business Building, said the trip to Thailand is probably one of the best programs that SJSU offers.

7 0 n **a**

Thailand

Ken Chan Hong Kong

Ken Chan was inspired to go to China because both of his parents are from Hong Kong, but he had never been there.

Although he said the city was very similar to the Chinatowns we have in the U.S., Chan, a senior art major, said it was a little bit of a culture shock. He said things such as the food are very similar.

Hong Kong is "like Chinatown times a thousand," he said.

Chan also said the city is fairly bilingual, so he saw a lot of English as well as Chinese

"It's a good mix of both," he said.

Chan said that in Hong Kong, the people seem to be doing a lot better than we are.

He said that the city is much cleaner and much more developed than the U.S.

"It's a pretty big eye opener," Chan said.

He also said

that in Hong Kong, things are faster and done more efficiently

than they are here. Chan said that although he is currently trying to find a job here in the U.S., he does plan to return to

Hong Kong some day. He said that his parents live there most of the time now and that he has other family that lives there, too.

Chan said the study abroad program is a good experience no matter where you go.

"I wish I had done it earlier," he said. "I could have been to more places and experienced more."

Classified Classified Classified Classified

assites

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extra charge up to 20 spaces. A minimum of three lines is required. Deadline is 10:00 4 2 7 3 3 9 2 6 5 4 8 5 4 7 3 6 8

A friend's choice: the lasting impact of abortion



FELICIA ANN AGUINALDO

Let's Be Honest

If you were to get pregnant today, within 24 weeks you could feel your baby kick, watch your uterus expand and even go into

And according to California state law, you could also obtain an abortion up to 24 weeks into your pregnancy.

I'm not going to tell you that a 24-week old fetus should be considered a human. I'll leave that up to your personal opinion.

What I will tell you, though, is that according to the National Institutes of Health, a 24-week-old fetus has a heartbeat, fingers, toes, bones, hair and a brain. It has a face with eyelashes and eyebrows; its sex can be determined; and it develops footprints and fingerprints.

If a woman were to choose to abort this developing fetus inside her, it would be her own decision. What she should know, though, is that when she makes this deci-

sion, she is not alone. Her decision affects everyone whom she involves.

Before I continue, I want you to know I am not entirely opposed to abortions, and I am not trying to change your opinion about whether they are right or wrong. I am simply stating my opinion, which I developed after being a part of a friend's decision to abort.

When my friend asked me to support her about 20 weeks into her pregnancy, I didn't ask any questions. I didn't tell her what she should have done or what she should do, and I didn't judge her for her

> Although my friend was the only one directly affected by the pregnancy and decision to abort, it still affected my life.

decision. I simply believed that only a woman could decide when it is the right time to have a child.

I support my friend's decision because I feel like no woman should have to explain

herself to anyone.

There is no way of knowing what another person goes through, no matter how close you are. You know your body better than anyone else and no matter how much you try to explain to another person what you're feeling, he or she will never truly know what you're going through.

When a woman involves other people, though, she has to understand that she is no longer the only one going through with the decision.

It doesn't matter if you agree or disagree with the decision or to what extent you do or don't support it. What matters is your involvement.

Although my friend was the only one directly affected by the pregnancy and decision to abort, it still affected my life. I couldn't stop thinking about the little baby swimming inside her, its heartbeat synchronized with her own.

And as silly as it sounds, I couldn't get over the fact that it was growing hair. With everything we were going through, I was concerned with its hair. For some reason, it just made the situation even more real

I tried to go about my daily routine, but I was surrounded by her decision.

And no matter how hard I tried to sup-

press my opinion about the issue, it was the toms of pregnancy. only thing on my mind.

Was I doing the right thing by being there for her? Or was I ending this child's life by supporting her through this deci-

I have a million questions, but I'm not

I never let my friend see me cry (and believe me, I cried a lot)...

sure I'll ever truly find the answers — if there even are any.

I'm not saying abortion is wrong, because I don't believe that. I believe a woman should be able to get an abortion, but only under certain circumstances.

herself during the act should be able to choose to continue or terminate her pregnancy, but this opinion also has its limita-

A woman who does nothing to protect herself from pregnancy should not have woman who ignores or denies the symp-

I have never been pregnant, and I'm not trying to imagine what it would feel like.

I do imagine, though, that a woman would be able to tell whether she is pregnant well within 24 weeks. But, that is not the point of this column.

When a woman involves other people in her decision, she is not the only one who goes through it.

I never let my friend see me cry (and believe me, I cried a lot), and she still doesn't know my opinion about the matter.

A woman may never realize the extent of her confidants' involvement in her decision, but they are involved regardless of whether it was her intention.

I do not consider my friend to be a bad person for choosing to abort, and I don't judge any woman who chooses to terminate her pregnancy.

Whether a woman is looking for sympa-A woman who responsibly protected thy or support for her decision, everyone she turns to is involved whether she likes it or not.

Felicia Ann Aguinaldo is a Spartan the right to an abortion, nor should a Daily student life editor. "Let's Be Honest" appears twice a month.

'Burma' or 'Myanmar'?

When human rights are being abused in the country, is the distinction that important?



By MARK ASPILLERA Staff Writer

Bloody sandals lay scattered across the pavement, to be swept clean with the pass a similar street, struggling to take more photographs despite his wounds and the gun pointed at him.

"Burma," some headlines state. "Myantency and brevity. mar," others say.

When the police of a country strike down monks and civilians under state sanction does it really matter what we call that nation?

The military junta that took control of the country in 1962 changed its English name and often is, as relevant as the explicit. from Burma to Myanmar in 1989. The change was part of an effort to phase out the

In language, though, the implicit can be, and often is, as relevant as the explicit.

English spellings of native words used during the time of British colonial rule.

The name change was made without the approval of any legislative body and is not universally recognized.

Kingdom use "Burma."

In the media, the discrepancies are even more pronounced.

The Associated Press, whose style guide the Spartan Daily follows, and the New York Times refer to the country as Myanmar. In contrast, the BBC, Reuters and The Guardian, a British newspaper, use Burma in all

It's easy enough to chalk such differences up to leftover colonial sentiment for the Britof a fire hose. A Japanese journalist lay on ish, which may not be without merit, but the San Francisco Chronicle also uses Burma.

All news services follow some sort of style guide in the way they write and report what In this case, a picture is worth more than they have written. This extremely prescriptive approach promotes readability, consis-

> Tightness of syntax and vocabulary are supposed to provide a near-airtight seal against any opinion or bias leaking through into the reporting.

In language, though, the implicit can be,

Does using Burma mean a news service disregards the relevance of the United Nations? That they condone years of British colonialism?

Likewise, does reference to Myanmar show apathy toward the plight of a country oppressed by its own military? Does saying Myanmar imply a willingness to give legitimacy to a junta that overthrew a democratic republic?

In linguistics, one of the first things I was taught was that language represents the immaterial ideas people hold in their minds about things, not those physical things them-

It's an esoteric concept. A plane flying a The United Nations uses the name Myan- few thousand feet above the country today mar, while the United States and United would not see "Myanmar" or "Burma" float-

ing over it the way it would be on a map.

"The first step towards wisdom is calling things by their right names," states an old Chinese proverb. But even ancient philosophers struggled with the relation between the name of a thing and that thing itself.

There is no definitive source in nature to say whether the name's really Burma or Myanmar. The only real source is the country's people themselves, and as of right now, they're not exactly in a position to speak.

It's strange to write this article knowing that making any direct reference to Myanmar by any other name would be corrected by the editors or switched out in the copy-

In the end it makes little difference. Minc-

"The first step towards wisdom is calling things by their right names," states an old Chinese proverb.

ing words does not change or hide the fact that people have died, and are still dying, in that country.

Newspapers may editorialize in the way they use language, but so what? Newspapers editorialize every day in choosing which stories they report and deciding which to omit.

An injustice by any other name is still an injustice. Everything else is just semantics.

Guest columns appear Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

Journalists need federal protection

The following editorial appeared in Sunday's Washington Post:

The moment of truth has come for the Free Flow of Information Act.

After passing the House with a veto-proof majority this month, the bill that would extend protection of the relationship between journalists and their sources to the federal level awaits a decision on a course of action from Senate Majority Leader Harry M. Reid, D-Nev. Judiciary Committee Chairman Patrick J. Leahy, D-Vt., has placed two options

THE OPINION OF THE WASHINGTON POST

on the Senate calendar for Mr. Reid's consideration; he needs to pick one.

The House bill that passed 398 to 21 would compel the disclosure of sources in federal court only to prevent bodily harm or death, to identify a person who unlawfully revealed a business trade secret or "nonpublic personal information," or to prevent a terrorist attack on the United States or harm to national security.

The Senate bill applies to confidential sources except if they were eyewitnesses to crimes or if disclosure would prevent a terrorist attack or bodily harm. While there are other distinctions between the two proposals, we support both of them.

The Washington Post Co. continues to lobby actively for a shield law.

In recent years, more than 40 reporters have been taken to federal court and questioned about their sources, notes and reports in civil and criminal cases.

Journalists have had to lawyer up after stories on steroid use in baseball and the Wen Ho Lee spy

Currently, 49 states and the District of Columbia have shield laws or court decisions that protect journalists from being compelled to reveal their sources.

There's no such protection at the federal level. Attorney general nominee Michael B. Mukasey's contention that tinkering with internal Justice Department guidelines is the way to go is a non-starter.

And so we wait for Mr. Reid. He could elect for a House-Senate conference committee that would hash out a single bill that would go back to both chambers for a vote.

The likelihood of that happening is small since there have been no conference committees in this Congress. Or Mr. Reid could call a vote on the House bill, which would go directly to the president for his signature. We urge Mr. Reid to move on this quickly. Federal prosecutors should turn to the media as a last resort — not as the first stop.

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Readers are encouraged to express themselves on the Opinion page with a letter to the editor. A letter to the editor is a response to an issue or point of view that has appeared in the Spartan

Only letters 200 words or less 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. Submissions may be placed in the Letters to the Editor box at the Spartan Daily office in Dwight Bentel Hall, Room 209, sent by fax to (408) 924-3282, e-mailed to spartandaily@casa.sjsu.edu or mailed to the Spartan Daily Opinion Editor, School of Journalism and Mass Communications, San José State University, One Washington Square, San José, CA 95112-0149.

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> THE SPARTAN DAILY IS A PUBLIC FORUM.

Quote of the day

"We are not the new Yankees, the old Yankees, any kind of Yankees. We're the Boston Red Sox. We're not your father's Red Sox, but we ain't ever going to be no Yankees."

LARRY LUCCHINO

President of the 2007 World Series champions, the Boston Red Sox. The Red Sox swept the Colorado Rockies 4-0.



Spartan swimming team afloat with 4-4 record



At the halfway point of its season, the SJSU swimming and diving team's record sits exatcly at .500 two weeks before the Nike Cup in Long Beach.

Led by senior Brie Marhenke, who was named the Western Athletic Conference swimmer of the week on Oct. 22, the Spartans beat the University of Idaho Saturday 176-104.

Marhenke won both the 50-meter freeystyle and 100-meter freestyle events and remains a sterling 7-0 when she races in those catagories.



PHOTOS BY ANDREW VILLA // SPECIAL TO THE DAILY

TOP: Ally Jack swims the 100-yard butterfly event at the Aquatic Center on Friday. Jack took third in her race. ABOVE: An SJSU swimmer competes in a double dual meet Saturday. LEFT: Senior Jillene Gomez cheers on freshman Hannah Tringham during the 500-yard freestyle race against University of Idaho.

FROM THE SPARTAN DAILY BLOGS:

Can the Warriors make the postseason again?



KRIS ANDERSON

Sports Editor

Thank goodness it's time for NBA season again. But more so, thank goodness I'm a Warriors fan.

After making the playoffs for the first time in 13 years, after seeing the second winningest coach of all time right the ship, after seeing Baron Davis put up MVP-type numbers in the playoffs, I believe.

I believe, that is, the Golden State Warriors will make the playoffs for the second year in a row, even with the loss of Jason Richardson to the Charlotte Bobcats.

The Warriors will not make the postseason because of the additions of rookies Marco Belinelli and Brandon Wright, or backup point guard Troy Hudson, or backup forward Austin Croshere.

The Warriors will make the playoffs because Kobe Bryant wants to be traded; because the Los Angeles Clippers lost star forward Elton Brand, potentially for the season; and because New Orleans, Memphis, Sacramento, Seattle, Portland and Minnesota can't keep up in the West.

That's it. That's my whole argument. Not one of those teams can gun with the Warriors, and, with the exception of Memphis, none has a dominant big man like Carlos Boozer to exploit Golden State's lack of low-post defense.

Warriors fans should be asking themselves a more important question than "Will we make the playoffs again?" They should ask, "What seed will the Dubs take?"

Obviously the Dallas Mavericks, San Antonio Spurs and Phoenix Suns will arm wrestle for the top three spots, but below those three it's a grab bag.

I'll throw the Nuggets into the fourth seed, merely because Carmelo Anthony averages 28 points per game, can rebound his position with the best in the league and get his teammates involved.

Allen Iverson can still light it up, especially in George Karl's offense, and Kenyon Martin is coming back from a knee injury to bolster an already scary frontcourt.

If the Nuggets get into a groove early in the season and put a couple of winning streaks together, and might be the step-child to the Western Conference's "big three" teams.

That means the Warriors can't touch anything above a fifth seed.

Which brings us to the Utah Jazz — or the Utah Carlos Boozers as they should be called after dismantling the Dubs in five games in the second round of last year's playoffs.

The Jazz will take fifth seed if Boozer and point guard Deron Williams remain healthy, and don't forget that Mehmet Okur was an all star last season.

The Houston Rockets rely too heavily on the oft-injured Tracy McGrady and Yao Ming, and brought back the even more oftinjured Steve Francis to play point behind the street-ballin' Rafer Alston. Houston does, however, have enough talent to win 45

The Warriors, on paper, are the seventh best team in the West, but if they stay healthy and Baron Davis plays like the MVP he's setting out to become, Golden State can easily leapfrog either Houston or Utah.

Winning Team Walks

Away with

RNAM



what The National Guard is hosting a free paintball tournament open to students. All equipment including markers, paintballs, and safety gear will be provided for free.

> 1st place team will win \$1,000 and additional prizes will be given to the 2nd and 3rd place teams. Free lunch provided to all tournament participants.

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when this saturday!

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