


ON THE RIGHT TRACK

Playwright Dijorn Moss pushes himself to make his passion a career. The result: His first play, 'The North Train,' opens in February

A&E 5

PRACTICING TROUBLEMAKER

San Jose's lack of a cohesive creative class will cost its future

OPINION 2

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Provost suggests fee increase to combat cuts

By Kristin Schwarz
Daily Staff Writer

San Jose State University Provost Marshall Goodman addressed budgetary concerns and proposed an "academic excellence fee" Wednesday in the first of two provost budget forums this academic year.

The fee is an idea which was embraced by California Polytechnic State University at San Luis Obispo,

he said.

As the fee increase is just the provost's suggestion, it is unclear how it would work.

Alice Tsai, an academic senator and board member of Associated Students, said she was uneasy of the idea.

"One big thing will be what they want out of the academic excellence fee," she said. "I am nervous about the fee because a lot of students on this campus are not for fee increases."

According to Tsai and Associated Students Vice President Lorenzo Deveza, the way the fee could work would be that the students would pay the fee when they register, but not all at once.

Students would pay for the fee over a period of time, similar to the way the Student Union referendum Measure V was proposing to do.

Tsai and Deveza speculated that the monies would go directly to the department or the college of a student's declared major.

"I think it is a good idea because we need to be focusing on our academic departments," Deveza said.

In Wednesday's forum, Goodman focused on the budget of the Academic Affairs Division, which he oversees.

Goodman spoke to an audience of more than 100 people including SJSU faculty members, department chairs and students.

He started the forum by telling the audience that he had no more information on the state's budget cuts than anyone else in the room.

In his four years as provost, Goodman said this is the third year in a row he was faced with budget cuts.

Among other issues, Goodman spoke about how SJSU may be able to avert possible class section cuts in the Spring semester schedule.

As President Caret stated in November, there will be cuts next semester.

The money funded by the state, for 1

percent enrollment growth, will be used to soften the blow of those cuts.

Goodman said, "the campus released \$900,000 so that the Spring semester we could increase the number of sections because we are hearing that the students are having trouble getting enough sections to graduate."

He said \$830,000 is from the amount received for the enrollment growth

See **BUDGET**, page 3

Future of online courses discussed

Technology key to budget cut relief

By Karen Imamura
Daily Staff Writer

Don Reed, who was recovering from knee surgery, and Provost Marshall Goodman, who was sporting a tie that had pictures of \$50 bills on it, led a discussion about the future of online courses Wednesday.

Reed, professor of geology and the faculty-in-residence for technology, appeared in a good mood as the room filled to capacity, even though he had to sit with his leg elevated.

"Glad there's a group," Reed said. "You don't want the provost coming and there's only three people."

Goodman said online courses was a difficult topic to talk about.

"It's also one of the reasons my hair is falling out," he said, jokingly.

Being in the heart of Silicon Valley, San Jose State University is technologically advancing, but Goodman said it could evolve into much more.

Goodman used the University of Maryland as an example. A "port-per-pillow" is the standard for computer connections in Maryland's dorms, and there are more than 35 workstation labs across campus, according to Maryland University's Web site.

"We could move the campus to Kansas, and by and large we wouldn't skip a beat," said Goodman. "It's how students will use all of this new technology to remove any walls on university campuses."

Goodman said that in the next decade, 200,000 more students were going to enter a California State University system that was already overloaded.

Technology is the answer to handle the overflow, he said. "Things are going to get tougher. We have to figure out how to do more with less — it's a CSU motto by now," he said. "We need to think outside of the box."

Collaborating with other universities and helping faculty members improve their skills to be able to manage alternative classroom ideas is a step that Goodman is currently working on.

Goodman also spoke about the possibility of cable classes.

"We're negotiating right now with Dish Network to have our own channel," he said.

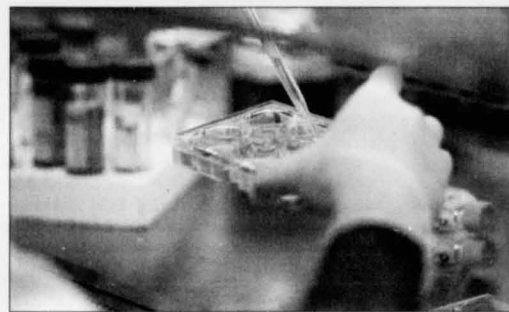
Having previously taught online courses, Kurt McMullin, an associate professor of civil engineering, said he hoped that online teaching would be more interactive.

"I'd like to progress to the level where we do real time broadcasting," he said. "You could be at home watching the class in real time, and if you had a question, you would be able to call me on my cell, and I'd be able to answer it."

Even though the number of online classes is most likely going to increase, some students are apprehensive about participating.

"There's so much room for error when taking an online class," said Chris Marr, a junior majoring in engineering. "I really need to be in class to be able to clearly understand what's going on."

RESEARCHING CANCER AT SJSU



LEFT: Goonewardena transfers live cell cultures to a six-well petri dish with a pipette under a fume hood.

BELOW: Goonewardena sterilizes containers that used to hold live cell cultures. After sterilization, the containers are disposed.

PHOTOS BY STANLEY KAO / DAILY STAFF



By Bob Meredith
Daily Staff Writer

A research program funded by the National Institutes of Health in the Department of Biological Sciences at San Jose State University has discovered a cancer connection for genes

Harris Goonewardena, Ph.D., broke apart clumped cells under a fume hood in the Wilbur H. Swanson Microbiology Laboratories in Duncan Hall Thursday.

normally involved in the regulation of cell migration.

This research into tumor cells that have the potential to develop into lung cancer is assisting the scientific effort to combat the deadly disease.

Harris Goonewardena, Ph.D., has been at SJSU for three years investigating how to redirect lung tumor cells from the path of uncontrolled cell division and cancer onto a path of self-destruction.

Goonewardena's research has shown that in the more than 95 percent of small cell lung cancers, two genes, Semaphorin 3B and 3F, potentially

control unregulated cell growth that allows the cells to become cancerous.

"The 3B and 3F genes stimulate apoptosis and stop unregulated cell division," Goonewardena said.

David J. Matthes, assistant professor of biology, said cancer is the unregulated growth of cells with the ability to break away from home tissue and populate other tissues. He said Goonewardena's research has shown that when the Semaphorin 3B and 3F genes are reintroduced into tumor cells, they stop unregulated cell division and begin the process of cell suicide, also known as apoptosis.

Jam session



NIKI DESAUTELS / DAILY STAFF

Denis Ryman, left, a senior majoring in guitar, and Eric Johnson, right, a junior also majoring in guitar, practice songs for their recital at the Spartan Memorial Chapel Wednesday night.

Prom revisited in professor's work

Research reveals social, economic roles in high school tradition

By Allison M. Foley
Daily Staff Writer

What began as a dissertation has resulted in critical acclaim and an award for San Jose State University sociology instructor Amy Best.

Best's book, "Prom Night: Youth, Schools and Popular Culture," became available to the public in June 2000 and has since

received the Critic's Choice award from the American Educational Studies Association.

"(The award) means it has been recognized as a meaningful contribution on the scholarship of education," Best, an assistant professor, said of the acknowledgement.

Best said she began writing the book by interviewing people who participated in proms, prom after-parties and, in some cases, prom fashion shows.

Through the interviews, Best said she discovered issues concerning race, gender, class and sexuality that surrounded prom. She said this discovery led her to believe that high school proms dealt with

much more than what met the eye.

Best asked questions in her interviews to determine "what proms tell us about schooling in America today, and how kids' identities are tied to popular culture," she said.

Through her exposure to a variety of prom and pre-prom activities at high schools of varying social class and ethnic majority, Best found the central role played by the prom in a high school student's life is more than just one night of dancing.

Best said she set out to explore

See **BEST**, page 3

Drinking trends of Latinas presented

Survey covers certain groups' higher alcohol consumption

By Saadia Malik
Daily Staff Writer

Findings from a study that looked at the correlation between Hispanic women and alcohol consumption were presented at the Steinbeck Center Wednesday afternoon.

Laurie Drabble, an assistant professor in the College of Social Work, analyzed data from a survey of women in California from all different ethnic backgrounds. Drabble, former executive director of the California Women's Commission on Alcohol and Drug Dependency, was part of a collaborative that conducted the survey over the course of three consecutive

See **ALCOHOL**, page 4

Fall walk



Susie Wang, a graduate student in theatre arts, walks across campus at dusk on Wednesday.

NIKI DESAUTELS / DAILY STAFF

ALCOHOL | U.S.-born Latinas at higher risk

continued from page 1

years, beginning in 1999. Using this data, Drabble looked at Latina drinking trends because, while working as a health educator, she came across people in health education who said this population was not at high risk for alcohol consumption.

"National studies often neglect to report differences by subgroups of women," Drabble said to an audience of about 20 people, which consisted of mainly faculty members and some of her students.

But Drabble suggested there would be a difference in findings between U.S. and foreign-born Latinas.

Her summary of the findings showed that drinking "varies significantly between U.S.-born and foreign-born Latinas." Specifically she found that U.S.-born Latinas were five times more likely to have had five or more drinks within a 30-day period and seven times as likely to have been drunk in the past year. In addition, factors that contributed to heavier drinking were age, marital and employment status. Latinas who were of younger age, single, unemployed and in college were likely to drink more as were Latinas who had no children, which made drinking six times more likely.

Further summary of her study concluded that the rate of drinking, in this case defined as five drinks within a 30-day period, does not significantly differ between white women and U.S.-born Latinas.

Drabble said that surveys of this magnitude can influence policy and program planning.

"There aren't enough culturally specific programs tailored toward Latinas and alcohol consumption," she said.

Someone in the audience commented that if nothing else, the findings could be construed as "further hypothesis generating."

The survey, titled the "California Women's Health Survey," was conducted by phone using a random phone survey of 12,000 women. Each subject answered 200 questions in 28 minutes. Funding for the analysis came from different branches of the Department of Health.

"It was an innovative project and exciting to have state-specific data which has been lacking," said Drabble.

She has been working on the analysis throughout the Fall semester, receiving funding entirely from the College of Social Work.

"There aren't enough culturally specific programs tailored toward Latinas and alcohol consumption."

Laurie Drabble,
assistant professor,
College of Social Work

Limitations of the survey included those people who do not have access to a phone. Furthermore, the survey did not reach institutionalized women and women who spoke neither Spanish nor English.

Drabble's findings were presented as part of the Provost's University Scholars Series, in which faculty members are invited to give a lecture every first Wednesday of the month. "The purpose of the series is to showcase faculty research and books they've written," said Lavonne Simpson, special events coordinator for the provost's office.

The University Scholar Series will continue next semester starting in February.

Drabble said the next step in her process is to write up the analysis and submitting it to a journal for publishing.

Israeli forces kill three Palestinians in West Bank, Gaza

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israeli helicopters blasted a Gaza City building with missiles on Wednesday, killing a suspected militant, one of several violent incidents on a day also marked by Israeli statements about Palestinian statehood.

Prime Minister Ariel Sharon said that as part of the U.S.-sponsored "road map" for Mideast peace, Palestinians could set up a temporary state in part of the West Bank and much of Gaza. But Foreign Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said that even before peace talks, Palestinians would have to give up their demand to relocate millions of refugees in Israel.

In Gaza City, the pair of Israeli helicopters fired several missiles at a cinderblock hut used by security guards at a Palestinian government complex, killing the uniformed guard, Mustafa Sabah, 35, Palestinians said.

According to the Israeli army, Sabah was involved in three powerful roadside bomb attacks against Israeli tanks in Gaza that killed seven soldiers from February to September of this year.

Hours later, about 10 Israeli tanks backed by helicopters moved into Gaza City early Thursday and raided a house, witnesses said. There were no immediate reports of casualties and the Israeli military had no comment. The incursion was in the Sheikh Ajlin neighborhood in the southern part of the city, the witnesses said.

Israel has carried out dozens of targeted killings against suspected Palestinian militants during the past two years of Mideast fighting.

The Israelis say the operations are self-defense, but Palestinians and human rights groups object to the practice. Palestinians charge the Israelis are killing their leaders, and human rights groups complain the operations are summary executions without judicial process.

In the West Bank village of Tufah, Israeli troops searching caves for members of the militant Islamic Jihad group came under fire, the army said, and soldiers shot back, killing two men.

Also, Israel said it detained an American doctor for two weeks on suspicion he was linked to al-Qaida, before releasing him without charge. The U.S. Embassy said there was no evidence linking him to any terror group.

Dr. Khaled Nazem Diab, 34, arrived in Israel on Nov. 14 on a mission for the Qatari Red Crescent to train Palestinian social workers, said Ferek Hussein, director for the Palestinian Red Crescent.

Diab was detained at the airport and held until his release last week, then deported to Jordan, Hussein said.

"We have no evidence that he was involved in terrorist activity," said U.S. Embassy spokesman Paul Patin. "He's a qualified doctor. He's been in and out of the (Palestinian) territories doing humanitarian work with children."

A week after his deportation, Israel's government press office released a statement Wednesday saying Diab was suspected of funneling money to al-Qaida and other unidentified terror groups.

Diab worked with an Islamic charity group, al-Najda, which has been investigated and shut down in the United States, the statement said. Israel claimed Diab lived in Afghanistan and was in close contact with groups that identify with the Taliban. The statement also said Diab had contacts with activists connected to the militant Hamas.

Israel did not provide evidence to support the claims.

In the West Bank city of Nablus, Israeli troops shot and critically a 15-year-old Palestinian youth after he pointed a toy gun, Palestinians said. The Israeli military said sol-

diers fired at armed Palestinians.

In Gaza, a 12-year-old boy and his father were killed in a clash between rival Palestinian groups arguing over who would write graffiti on a wall, witnesses and doctors said.

Addressing a security conference north of Tel Aviv, Sharon and Netanyahu said the Palestinian leadership must be replaced.

Sharon said a three-phase peace plan presented by President Bush, with the backing of the European Union, Russia and the United Nations, "can be implemented."

The plan calls for a provisional Palestinian state before agreement on main issues like Jerusalem, refugees and borders are settled. Netanyahu said the Palestinians must drop their demand to give millions of refugees from the 1948-49 war that followed Israeli creation and their descendants the right to return.

Sharon said, "Israel will not return to rule territories from which we withdrew under political agreements." Israel turned control of most populated Palestinian areas under the accords, but in recent

months Israeli troops have reoccupied many of them in response to suicide bomb attacks in Israel. In his address, however, he said the areas would make up a Palestinian state in the second phase of the Bush plan.

However, he said that the first steps must be an end to Palestinian violence and a change in the leadership.

A Palestinian leader jailed in Israel has been sent to solitary confinement for five days because he gave an interview to *The Associated Press*, his lawyer and a prison services official said Wednesday.

Marwan Barghouti answered questions through his lawyer, Khader Shkirat. In the interview, published Tuesday, Barghouti called for replacing the Palestinian leadership and expressed support for violent resistance against Israeli occupation of Palestinian areas.

Prison Services spokeswoman Orit Messer-Harel said Barghouti was punished for violating a ban against giving interviews without permission. Barghouti is on trial for his alleged role in attacks that killed 26 people.

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Snoop Dogg
Paid Tha Cost To Be Da Bo\$\$
Capitol Records

It was 1993 when Snoop Doggy Dogg released his first CD, "Doggystyle," and boy, were those simpler times. Uncomplicated, enjoyable songs such as "Gin and Juice," "Ain't No Fun (If The Homies Can't Have None)" and "What's My Name?" effortlessly became hip-hop anthems for those looking to escape the grunge-soaked music scene. Nine years later, Snoop has dropped the Doggy from his moniker and is all about getting respect, even if it's at the expense of his own music. Snoop's latest offering, "Paid Tha Cost To Be Da Bo\$\$," is a 20-song disc, complete with an insert advertising Snoop Dogg action figures. What's missing, however, is the innovative trademark sound we've come to expect from Snoop. The only two tracks that sound close to the Snoop of yesteryear are "The One And Only" and "Pimp Slappd," the latter of which is classic Snoop. The song combines condensed rhymes, infectious beats and clever wordplay on DJ Quik's "Tonight." Tracks such as "From Tha Chuuch To Da Palace" and "Beautiful," both helmed by The Neptunes, come close to Snoop's traditional sound, but they ultimately fall short. "Stoplight" piggybacks off of its blatant sample of Parliament Funkadelic's "Flash Light," failing to effectively establish its own identity. "I Miss That Bitch" is surprisingly endearing, exhibiting a heartfelt reflection on love (or something like that) lost. Snoop's self-proclaimed dance song "Hourglass" hardly lives up to that expectation, as only its up-tempo beat makes it so. Could this be the beginning of the end for Snoop? If he continues to churn out songs such as those on "Paid Tha Cost...," it could be. Even his 1999 release, the Master P-produced "No Limit Top Dogg," was a disappointment, generating only one radio-friendly song, "B Please" with Xzibit. Maybe Snoop should hook back up with Dr. Dre for his next album — it worked on "Doggystyle" and Dre's influence is sure working for his newest protégé Eminem.

— Laura Buckingham

Playwright's 'North Train' chugs into theater

By Therese Bratberg
Daily Staff Writer

Making the most of college is only a concept for some students. It is not to San Jose State University senior Dijorn Moss. Writing a play titled "The North Train" has only been one of Moss' many accomplishments since he entered the university in the fall of 1999 as an English major. The play, which he started writing when he was 16, was finished this year after a three-year process of rewriting and revisions. Moss said he took a playwriting class for the first time at SJSU after entering the play in a competition and with the help of professors and mentors he was able to bring the play to life. "I titled my play 'The North Train' because the main character, Anthony, follows a train to New York, which is his destiny," he said of his play, which is set in the heart of the Harlem renaissance. "I am really fascinated with that time frame because that was a vital time in which African Americans were being respected as artists, not only by their own community, but also by Caucasians." Moss said the play starts out by focusing on the main character, Anthony, in his search for a lost love who left to follow her dreams in New York. "The North Train," which will be playing in the University Theatre on Feb. 28, is not the only piece Moss is working on. He said he started a novel and a second play last spring, which he feels has a lot of potential. "I believe that this (new) play will demonstrate my growth as a writer with the subject matter, with my style of writing being more developed and just with being in a position to have the right amount of people that I trust and respect to help me better convey my ideas," he said. "I feel everyone I have come in contact with have helped me, from my mentors to my professors, my friends and my family." Scott Sublett, a professor in the radio, television, film and theatre department, continued to believe in him and to push, "The North Train," by putting it in the hands of different people, Moss said. "He has a unique voice as a writer," said Sublett, who first met Moss as a freshman in his playwriting class. "He (writes) romantic, dramatic and a little bit innocent." Sublett said he commented on draft after draft of his first play because they were so enjoyable to read. "He wants to learn, and he does learn," he said. "He's the sort of person who people want to support and mentor because he's such a sweet guy and never has an attitude." Moss is not only an exceptional student,

Sublett said, but he also has great people skills necessary to be a playwright. Being on the SJSU speech and debate team was another way Moss said he was given a chance to explore his talent as a writer and communicator. He participated in speech competitions to win scholarships in high school, which escalated in college and took him to more than 20 competitions in places like Prague, Rome and across the United States. "I've been able to travel, develop my skills in speaking and had a lot of fun," Moss said, who placed sixth out of more than 80 competitors.

"I can honestly say that when I went to school, I did the things I was most passionate about,"
Dijorn Moss,
student playwright

in Prague. "Those years I spent on the speech and debate team really stand out as far as my college experience." But his successes were not always a given before he came to SJSU. Dijorn said he was placed in a special education program in high school after being diagnosed with a learning disability, which turned out to be a mistake. He said he was behind because he easily got distracted in class, but his dream of becoming a writer finally forced him to catch up. "Because I loved to write, I knew I had to go to college if I was really serious about my writing," he said. "I did not meet the requirements to get into a university, but I kept on praying, kept on believing in God that if this was a gift he gave me, then he would make a way. And that ended up happening. Looking at it from a technical standard, there was no way I would get into college because of my background. There was so much stacked up against me." Moss said he has never regretted pursuing his talent, which was discovered early when his third grade teacher told his mother that he had a unique ability to tell stories and to write. "This has been the best experience of my life," he said. "I can honestly say that when I went to school, I did the things I was most passionate about." After he graduates, Moss said he hopes to get accepted into a credential program so he can teach and write, which is what he is most passionate about. "Dijorn will continue to develop as a writer

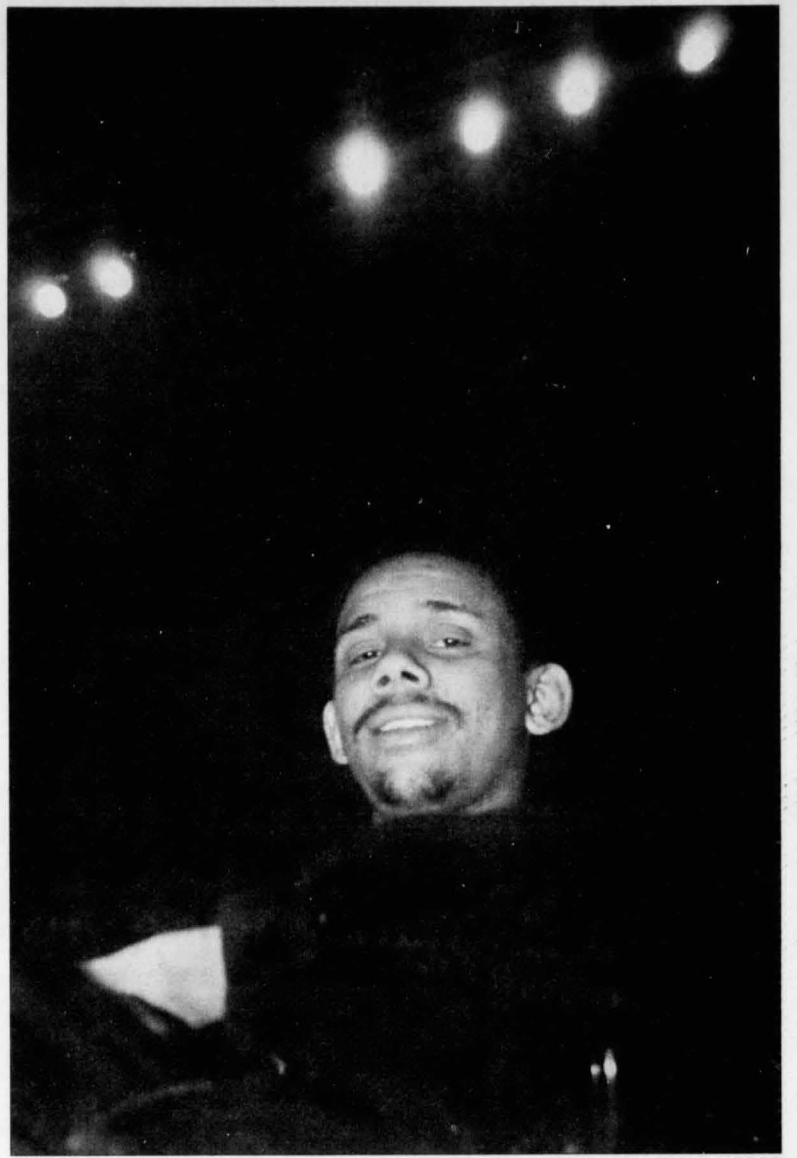


PHOTO BY ANTHONY REGINATO / DAILY STAFF

Dijorn Moss, a senior at San Jose State University, will present his play "The North Train," which opens Feb. 28, 2003 in the University Theatre.

after he graduates because he understands that language is a powerful tool and that he can be a strong influence with his ideas," said Linda Mitchell, a professor in English and comparative literature who serves as his mentor and teacher. "He isn't focused only on himself and his goals. He wants to contribute something with his talent."

Weston Wear founder lectures about fashion experiences

Julienne Weston answered questions to students interested in fashion and design

By Saadia Malik
Daily Staff Writer

A small audience of 13, mainly art students, was treated to a fashion slide show and lecture by Julienne Weston, a San Francisco-based fashion designer, on Tuesday evening inside a lecture hall in the Art building. After she finished speaking, almost every audience member had several questions to ask. "She's a real go-getter. She's admirable," said Adam Ellyson, a spatial arts graduate student. Ellyson said he came to the lecture because he was interested in learning how Weston ran her operation. Weston discussed how she developed her 22-year-old fashion label, "Weston Wear," and the ups and downs of running a small design business. "It seemed like it takes a lot of hard work and constant thinking on your feet," Ellyson said. Weston made her first dress when she was in the second grade, a costume for her dance recital.

Skipping forward to more than 10 years later, Weston said that while she was attending UC Davis as a design major, she took a room at the university that wasn't being used and converted it into design space. Weston said this was about the time she discovered cotton lycra material and thought it was the "fabric of the future" because of its comfort and versatility. A dancer from a very young age, Weston used the material to design dance costumes. Dance costumes were fun and creative, she said, but because there was a wider market for women's fashion, she switched to making clothes, particularly women's dresses. Weston said her fashion label started by way of "Weston Wear parties," like Tupperware parties, where she displayed her clothes and designs for friends and friends of friends to buy. She marketed herself this way for five years, beginning in 1980. At a party in 1984, Weston met a woman who offered to temporarily partner up with her and sell her designs. A short while later, the woman approached her with \$5,000 worth of orders. "Strategic alliance in business is so important," Weston said. Through more networking like this, Weston was hired by Nordstrom and received \$50,000 worth of orders within six weeks.

Weston said she still heavily used cotton lycra in her clothes but toward the end of the 1980s the fabric was going out of style. In 1990 she began incorporating

Suddenly (Weston) began to see her clothes being worn by characters on "Friends," and Madonna was photographed walking through a park in Los Angeles sporting Weston Wear.

nylon mesh fabric in her designs, which at this point were almost all dresses. Weston got a great publicity break when a fashion writer for Details magazine was looking for young designers from San Francisco to profile for a feature story. Details then offered her full-page ad space in their magazine. The increased business allowed her to advertise in LA Style

and Movieline magazines. Before she was able to reach the masses with her ads, Weston said she got loans from friends and acquaintances in order to run her business, in addition to using "a lot of creative financing." "It's important to have people around you who believe in you and will give you the support you need," Weston said. But when the recession hit in the 1990s, business began going down, and Weston considered filing for bankruptcy. However, Mervyn's came forward with a \$1 million order.

"We're not Mervyn's type fashion," Weston said, "but it paid the bills." Back in business, Weston was able to market her product widely and therefore gained more exposure. Suddenly she began to see her clothes being worn by characters on "Friends," and Madonna was photographed walking through a park in Los Angeles sporting Weston Wear. "You have no idea where your product will show up," Weston said. For a while, Weston Wear was selling clothes through the Victoria's Secret catalog. Because of the enormous success of the operation, Weston recently outgrew her small studio and moved into new digs in the Potrero Hill area with a small staff. "The last seven years have been very strong," Weston said. "The hardest thing has been to step back and let others do it." Weston said she takes interns under her wing and often gives students tours of her studio.

Despite her growth and success, Weston said she does not want her label to become a very big company or corporation because it would restrict her creative freedom. "She gave a lot of interesting information about the business and how far you can go if you really want to," said Ann Skiold, a graduate student in library sciences. "In that sense she's very inspirational."

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U.N. team inspects former chemical arms factory in the Iraqi desert

AL-MUTHANNA STATE ESTABLISHMENT, Iraq (AP) — U.N. monitors Wednesday visited sites associated with mass destruction weapons Baghdad insists it longer holds. Iraq, meanwhile, criticized the first inspection of a presidential palace, saying it was carried out under U.S. pressure to try to provoke a confrontation.

In Baghdad, a senior Iraqi official said Iraq will hand over its report on chemical, biological and nuclear programs on Saturday, a day ahead of the U.N. deadline. The official, Gen. Hossam Mohammed Amin, said the report will not admit to any proscribed weaponry "because, really, we have no weapons of mass destruction."

President Bush, meanwhile, dismissed reports that Iraqi weapons inspections are going well. "We've been at this five days — this is after 11 years of deceit and defiance," Bush told reporters in a brief White House exchange. British Foreign Secretary Jack Straw warned in Slovenia that it would be "wise" for the Iraqis admit that they still have weapons of mass destruction.

U.S. war planes bombed an Iraqi air defense site in the northern "no-fly" zone about 15 miles from the city of Mosul, U.S. officials said. The attack came after the Iraqis fired on U.S. jets patrolling the area, the officials said.

Among the two sites visited Wednesday was the Al-Tuwaitaha nuclear complex, where inspectors checked on new construction and other changes since their last visit in 1998, according to Melissa Fleming, spokeswoman for the U.N. nuclear control agency in Vienna, Austria.

The other site at al-Muthanna, located in the desert about 45 miles northwest of Baghdad, was formerly associated with Iraq's chemical and biological weapons programs.

Al-Tuwaitaha, 15 miles southeast of Baghdad, has long been an issue of international concern. The site was bombed by Israeli warplanes in 1981 and again by the Americans in the Gulf War 10 years later. Recent satellite photos have spotted new construction.

In the late 1990s, U.N. inspectors demolished the al-Muthanna State Establishment after finding it had been key to Iraq's production of some of the deadliest chemical weapons known: mustard gas, tabun, sarin and VX nerve agent.

The desert center operated under

the name of Iraqi State Establishment for Pesticide Production, but the Iraqis finally admitted to the U.N. monitors that al-Muthanna produced 4,000 tons of chemical warfare agent per year.

Al-Muthanna also became instrumental in the development of biological agents, apparently including anthrax.

Wednesday's searches came at the end of the first week of renewed inspections under a U.N. Security Council mandate for Iraq to shut down any continuing chemical, biological or nuclear weapons programs.

The Iraqis have until Sunday to submit a report outlining their chemical, biological and nuclear programs, including those for peaceful purposes. Gen. Amin, the chief Iraqi liaison officer, said the report will be submitted Saturday but will not include any admission of banned armaments "because, really, we have no weapons of mass destruction."

Both the United States and Britain maintain that's not true and have threatened to disarm the Iraqis by force if they do not surrender proscribed weapons. U.S. officials said they will check the Iraqi claims against their own intelligence to determine if the report is accurate.

The inspectors are operating under a new U.N. resolution which gives inspectors the power to go anywhere at anytime in search of banned weapons. To reinforce that, the inspectors paid a visit Tuesday to one of Saddam Hussein's presidential palaces, Al-Sajoud.

Amin criticized the palace inspection, saying it was performed under U.S. and Israeli pressure to goad Iraq into a confrontation. He said that if the inspectors had expected to find banned weapons, they would have worn protective gear but did not.

"We consider the entry of the presidential sites as unjustified and really unnecessary," Amin said, adding that Iraq would not try to bar inspectors nevertheless.

Disputes over access to palaces and other sensitive sites and over allegations of U.S. spies on the U.N. team led to the collapse of the previous inspection mission in 1998.

When the inspectors arrived Wednesday at the remote front gate of al-Muthanna, they were admitted quickly to what appeared to be a vast desert installation covering what seemed to be several square miles. Through the morning fog, the ruins

of scattered buildings could be seen from the outer gate.

After the 1991 war, the facility's equipment and material were destroyed under the supervision of U.N. inspectors in the late 1990s.

The disarmament of al-Muthanna was a major achievement of the U.N. inspectorate. A recent Iraqi report said the U.N. teams at al-Muthanna had destroyed 38,500 artillery shells and other chemical-filled weapons, almost 520,000 gallons of liquid material, 150 pieces of equipment used to make chemical weapons, and four production facilities.

Inspectors left al-Muthanna without speaking to journalists waiting at the gate. However, an Iraqi liaison officer, Raad Manhal, said the arms experts had searched for signs of resumed production at the site.

"There were looking for any change, and they found no change," Manhal said.

So far, the inspectors have reported the Iraqis to be cooperative. In New York on Tuesday, U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan described Iraq's co-operation as good, but he cautioned "this is only the beginning."

Annan's comments appeared at odds with that of Bush, who said Monday that early signs from Baghdad "are not encouraging." The president held to that view in his comments Wednesday.

Secretary of State Colin Powell told reporters while en route to Colombia that the inspection process is "off to a pretty good start" and noted the inspectors have been allowed to visit sites thus far without Iraqi interference.

"I'm not prepared to say the inspections are working," Powell said. "They're not up to strength and they're not up to speed yet."

In the 1990s, inspectors eliminated tons of Iraqi chemical and biological weapons and the equipment to make them, dismantled Iraq's effort to build nuclear bombs, and destroyed scores of longer-range Iraqi missiles. The inspectors reported that they suspected they had not found all of Iraq's weapons of mass destruction.

Iraq denied Kuwaiti claims that one of its boats had fired on Kuwaiti coast guard vessels in the Persian Gulf on Tuesday. Kuwait said the Iraqi vessel fled after the Kuwaitis returned fire.

The Iraqi Foreign Ministry said in a statement that no such incident occurred.

Database to track international students

Workshop to address system's impact

By Sylvia Lim
Daily Staff Writer

International students may have to be aware of a new global student tracking system and certain immigration regulations concerning their visa status beginning next year.

San Jose State University's International Programs and Services is slated to present an information workshop about this new global database as well as related immigration information today at 3 p.m. in the Umunhum Room in the Student Union.

The U.S. State Department has officially implemented a new global electronic data sharing system to monitor international students who come into the United States. This system was created in compliance with the Patriot Act passed by Congress last October which calls for tighter border security.

According to state department officials, the government will be deploying the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System or SEVIS, in Jan., 2003. Currently, the government is using the temporary Interim Student and Exchange Authentication System which was implemented on Sept. 11, 2002, until the new system takes

over.

Louis Gecenok, an SJSU international student adviser, said the scheduled workshop seeks to give the international student population on campus a general overview of this new system.

"We've only seen the proposal for the (new system). The new rules should have been published by now but it's not," he said.

He added, however, that the rules should be out by the end of January. With the enactment of the new database system, some of the changes of school documentation procedures would include more responsibility for the university.

"When a student changes majors, or addresses, or drops out of school, the school is responsible to notify the federal Immigration and Naturalization Service department," Gecenok said. "We have to give updated information electronically of students every semester."

Besides keeping the immigration department abreast of the international student population movements, the university would have to change their way of issuing official school documents.

Previously, in order for international students to enter the United States for academic purposes, a university would issue a certificate of eligibility for nonimmigrant students. This certificate would enable international students to apply for an academic student visa from a U.S. embassy.

Beginning next year, Gecenok said, the INS will be taking over the job of issuing these certificates.

Students from some countries would have to take special steps to remain in the country.

The immigration department announced recently that students coming from Iran, Iraq, Libya, Sudan and Syria and other nonimmigrants designated by the state department are subjected to go through Special Registration.

Students or visitors from these countries who wish to remain in the United States for more than 30 days must report for an interview with the INS within 30 to 40 days of arrival.

The Special Registration list has been expanded to include Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Eritrea, Lebanon, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Somalia, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates, Yemen and North Korea, said Gecenok.

He said he thinks international students will have to be more careful to avoid violating their student visa status by attending classes or reporting changes of address with the university.

"It's more serious than it is now," he said.

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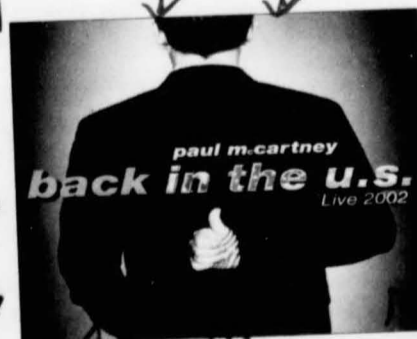
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