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SJSU sports legend Lawrence Fan dead at 67

By Bojana Cvijic & Gio Gaxiola
NEWS EDITOR & STAFF WRITER

Lawrence Fan, a fixture of the San Jose State athletics programs, died late Monday night, SJSU athletic director Jeff Konya announced Wednesday.

“We are in the process of dealing with this sad news in real time,” Konya said. “Lawrence was a Hall of Famer in life and work.”

Fan, 67, worked in sports information and media relations at the university beginning in July 1980. In 2019, he was named associate athletics director for football communications and special projects through the 2021 season and worked 501 consecutive SJSU football games.

Interim President Steve Perez said in a Wednesday campuswide email that Fan’s death comes as a shock to the campus community.

“His detailed recall of team and player statistics was legendary, earning him an unofficial title as historian of SJSU sports,” he said.

Members of the campus community said Fan was often at the center of the athletics department, connecting with many journalism students and student athletes throughout his career.

Shaun Fletcher, assistant public relations professor and former SJSU cornerback said when he joined the football team in 2001, Fan was one of the first people new student athletes met.

“He was the one who needed to really understand everything about us, from our bios, our backgrounds, to the media, and everything that we were being asked to do,” he said. “He was our guide through a lot of the onboarding process.”

Boogie Roberts, former SJSU defensive lineman from 2014-2018 said Fan was the “ultimate Spartan.”

“This news breaks my heart,” Roberts said in a Twitter message. “There was nobody who brought more energy and knowledge to the Spartan nation more than Lawrence.”

ATHLETICS | Page 2
Experts discuss forest abatement

By Eva Martin

Russell said forest thinning

A hill burns bright during the Saddle Ridge fire in the early morning hours of Oct. 12, 2019 in Sylmar, Calif. on the west side of freeway 5. (Photo Courtesy of Daron Birkhart / Modern Reports.)
It definitely makes everything, especially being for five years, I’m glad I got to be such a big milestone, and I just need to stay in it for my team. Just keep attacking the basket.

The Spartans kept the score close during the first three quarters. While the Spartans did trail the majority of the game, they kept it in a one-possession game with timely stops and shots by players including Gaulden and junior point guard Stephanie Torres. Spartan senior forward Cydni Lewis hit a career milestone in the final minutes of the game as she became the 18th player in SJSU history to hit 1,000 points at minute 4:56 in the fourth quarter.

“It definitely made everything, especially being for five years, I’m glad I got to be such a big milestone, and I just need to stay in it for my team. Just keep attacking the basket.”

While Lewis played well individually with a 17-point, 11-rebound double-double to complement her accomplishment, the Spartans failed to close the game in the fourth quarter. The Spartans offense outpaced the Falcons’ Wednesday afternoon but the careless handling of the basketball and their poor defense in the fourth quarter ended the team’s chances of winning the game.

The Spartans face New Mexico State Friday at 6 p.m. in their final home game of the season at the Pavilion.

By Don Le
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

San Jose State women’s basketball lost to Air Force Wednesday afternoon in a 68-59 loss at the Pavilion.

Four years ago,核定

Don Le
STAFF WRITER
SJSU athlete finds balance in yoga

By Jennifer Schlidge

Sarah Smevog, San Jose State environmental studies senior, women’s volleyball libero and certified yoga instructor, aims to help people find peace and balance with the study of yoga.

Smevog is in her fourth season at SJSU and a two-time Mountain West Scholar-Athlete. In 2020, she played 14 matches and 64 sets.

Smevog completed her yoga training, which took about six months, in the city of Corona in southern California during her senior year of high school. She started casually teaching her roommates and friends, but when the coronavirus pandemic hit she started a yogagram page and used it as a community outreach outlet.

“I just wanted to share my yoga and meditation practice with people that I feel like could benefit from it,” Smevog said in a Zoom interview.

Smevog first started teaching at the Yoga Den, a studio in Corona. During the lockdowns in March and April 2020, Smevog was asked by attendees to continue her yoga classes over Zoom.

Her yoga Instagram page, @shakti.sarah, has more than 500 followers. Smevog said she has a strong support system in San Jose and San Francisco. “I think it shows her good work and that she’s a good person,” Smevog’s friend and SJSU nutritionals science graduate student, Amelie Triepke, said.

“I reintroduce [yoga] back to my morning routine and set alarms for myself for five minutes of meditation, that’s all you need, even one minute, and slowly build back into the practice,” Smevog said.

Sarah Smevog, SJSU volleyball player, practices yoga on Tower Lawn. She teaches yoga to students. PHOTO COURTESY OF SARAH SMEVOG

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Sarah Smevog lines up to serve during a SJSU volleyball match. She is a four-year athlete and two time Mountain West Scholar-Athlete. PHOTO COURTESY OF SARAH SMEVOG

Smevog said every movement in practice, “Smevog said.

“Meditation and connecting back to my breath help me find calm in very intense and competitive environments and helps me center myself to be able to focus on one point at a time,” Smevog said.

“When you inhale you extend and when new people come make me really happy and fill my cup, [which] helps me continue to help not only myself but her team by hosting yoga sessions,” Smevog said.

The people that consistently go to my classes and especially those who attend her classes support system in San Jose and San Francisco. “I think it shows her good work and that she’s a good person,” Smevog’s friend and SJSU nutritionals science graduate student, Amelie Triepke, said.

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