

Search for new SJSU president on track

Matthew Gerring
Staff Writer

SJSU's search for a new president is underway. Closed meetings of the two search committees are currently taking place and candidates will visit the campus in forums open to the SJSU community starting in March, according to the SJSU presidential search website.

"It is a process that is going to be done very consistently and fairly, as with any other recruitment that we do," Advisory Committee member Julie Jimenez said.

Two committees are responsible for the search. The Trustees Committee, made up of California State University trustees, the CSU Board of Trustees chair, and the CSU chancellor, will make the final selection of the new president.

The Advisory Committee to the Trustees Committee is made up of SJSU faculty, students and alumni and representatives from the City of San Jose, and reports to the Trustees Committee.

Advisory Committee member Lynda Heiden, an associate professor of psychology, said committee members "need to stay conservative" about publicly voicing their preferences about presidential candidates to avoid biasing the selection process or the applicants.

Some members of the committee are automatically chosen by their position.

"University policy states that the chair of the Academic Senate shall be one of the three faculty members on the Advisory Committee," Academic Senate Chair Michael Kaufman said.

The other faculty members are elected by the Academic Senate from nominees from each college, said Kaufman, a professor of physics and astronomy.

Both Jimenez and Heiden were nominated and elected to the committee.

Faculty members are nominated by their peers, and may be nominated anonymously.

Jimenez said of the reason for her nomination, "It was something along the lines of, I've been on campus for more than 25 years, I have a good understanding of the recruitment process, and I'm interested in finding the ideal candidate for president."

Associated Students President Tomasz Kolodziejak was chosen for the committee by the A.S. board of directors and approved by the CSU chancellor.

"Number one, students are concerned about the budget cuts," he said, and as for skills he's looking for in an applicant, "the main one ... is understanding the California State University system."

Anthony Kane, a sophomore international business major, said he wants "someone who has experience, who can kind of control all these fee increases that are going on."

"Whoever the person is should be responsive to the SJSU culture," Kolodziejak said. "We're one of the most diverse universities in the system."

The length of time the candidate can stay at SJSU is also a concern, he said, given the relatively short terms of the last few SJSU presidents. Since 2003, SJSU has had four presidents, including two different interim presidents.

Kolodziejak said the field will be narrowed to three candidates who will visit the SJSU campus in March but couldn't say exactly how many applicants were being considered.



Photo: Jesse Jones / Spartan Daily

Sean Martin a junior right-handed pitcher for the Spartans, pitches during a six-inning intersquad scrimmage at Blethen Field on Tuesday.

A look inside SJSU baseball

Lyell Marks
Staff Writer

The ping of spring is back again as the college baseball season gets underway this weekend around the nation. SJSU is coming off of a rebuilding year in 2010 that produced just 23 wins but revealed a solid core for the Spartans to build around. The 2011 team has the talent to return to the form of the 41-win squad from 2009 that was deep in pitching and tough outs in the lineup. Check out the Spartan baseball preview to see how SJSU measures up on the diamond going into the 2011 season.

see **BASEBALL** page 2 & 3

Donated wings lift SJSU fliers' spirits

Ron Gleeson
Staff Writer

The SJSU aviation department received an aircraft from an anonymous donor, causing the new-look department's morale to soar with confidence, said the president of "The Flying 20," an SJSU flight club.

"This new aircraft is in a sense the new symbol of the department," said Randy Baudendistel, a senior aviation operations major. "It shows the department building back up, and it is a good image of a truly revitalized department."

The aircraft is a 2007 Lancair IV, a four-seat single-engine plane that Baudendistel said will be put to use by students in the aviation department.

"During the downsizing, we were forced to sell off many of the aircraft that we had previously owned," he said. "This donation means a lot because it gives us a working aircraft that students can work on and practice what they have been learning."

The department was forced to move from its previous location at the Mineta San Jose International Airport to Reid-Hillview Airport because the lease ended on its previous hangar, and the property value at San Jose International Airport rose since it was a municipal airport years ago, Baudendistel said.

However, he said the largest benefits the department will reap from the donation is what has been left in the wake from the change of location — a reduced supply of aircraft.

Luca Vezzuto, a senior aviation operations major, said the move will not only benefit the aviation department but Reid-Hillview Airport as well.

"It will be a great place for us to meet people within our own field," he said. "Our industry is a really tight-knit community. Meeting more people and networking is vital for success in the job market after we graduate."

While the aircraft will not be able to leave the ground because of insurance policies and restrictions applied by the risk management department, Baudendistel said the Lancair IV will bring more to the department as a whole.

"Students will be able to use the aircraft to take it apart and put it back together again," he said. "They can run it up, make instrument engine checks and use it for many other lab opportunities. It allows the department to be very flexible with the way students learn the material."

Working on the Lancair IV will give students the opportunity to understand how an aircraft works and runs, Bau-

see **AVIATION** page 4

Jeopardy proves elementary for Watson

Ron Gleeson
Staff Writer

Students stared in amazement at a broadcast in the Engineering building as Watson, an IBM supercomputer, outwitted the species that created it in the Jeopardy IBM Challenge.

Kshitij Shah, a master's software engineering transfer student from India, said it was his first time watching

Jeopardy, but he was thoroughly impressed with the show Watson put on.

"The aspect I was most interested in was the measurement of confidence that the computer displayed, when or when not to respond to a question," he said. "IBM showed that the technology is out there, and it showed that it is time for people to take leverage of it."

Watson is an analytical computing system that specializes in ana-

lyzing natural human language and provides specific answers to complex questions at rapid speeds, according to an IBM Watson fact sheet.

The computer won a total of \$77,147 over the three-day challenge, accumulating more money than the two highest-winning Jeopardy champions of all time, Ken Jennings and Brad Rutter, combined.

Students were able to see this advancement in action during an event

hosted by IBM in the Engineering building Wednesday. There was a brief introduction about Watson by Martín Moreno, director of sales at STG microelectronics, a branch of IBM.

"Watson is a leap forward in question-answering technology versus just simple searching," he said. "Ques-

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WEATHER



High: 52°
Low: 38°

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Invasion of the 'Techlationship'

Social networking has taken the romance out of relationships.

A&E, PAGE 6

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BASEBALL

Piraro, Spartans gear up for hopeful 2011 season

Lyell Marks
Staff Writer

In 2009, the Spartan baseball team ended a historic season accumulating 41 wins, a 9-0 start and the highest team batting average (.339) in school history.

The NCAA Tournament Selection Committee was not impressed come selection day.

SJSU was left at home despite its 41-20 overall record and Western Athletic Conference regular season crown just a year after Fresno State had won the national title out of the WAC.

Only 13 teams in the field of 64 that qualified for the 2009 tournament had more wins than the Spartans' 41. Fifty-one of the teams that were included in the bracket had less wins than the absent Spartans.

Utah qualified that year with a 26-29 record after an automatic bid and Baylor's 29-24 mark was apparently enough to deserve the nod over the Spartans.

"I'm a believer that any experience is good for you," head coach Sam Piraro said. "Adversity doesn't knock us out of the box. We learn something from going through it."

A driving force behind the 41-win season was the relentless offensive assault that shattered the school's record for team batting average set in 1993.

The old mark of .319 set in 1993 was eclipsed by the '09 Spartans by 20 percentage points and featured a lineup crowded with gaudy batting averages.

While most of the pitching that contributed to the WAC regular season title has departed, a number of bats remain on the 2011 roster that were instrumental to the success of the '09 team.

"I have had about seven or eight no-brainer NCAA Tournament teams in my years here," Piraro said. "After Fresno's championship season, their coach (Mike Batesole) called me and told me that our group in 2009 was just as good if not better than the teams Fresno State had knocked out of the tournament the year before."

Perennial baseball powerhouses such as Long Beach State, Rice, North Carolina and finally Georgia all fell to the Bulldogs of Fresno State during its improbable 2008 tournament run.

"Mike isn't a guy that blows smoke either," Piraro said. "He wasn't joking when he said that."

Cinderella stories weren't enough to garner the WAC an additional bid in 2009, as Fresno State was the only team granted a birth for winning the WAC Tournament.

"When Fresno State won it all, it showed that our conference isn't as weak as other people think it is," senior center fielder Jason Martin said. "It kind of hurt not getting selected the next year. I really didn't understand why."

Martin returns with a proverbial chip on his shoulder after a season which yielded just 23 wins in 2010.

"Last year we learned a lot of hard lessons and we were rebuilding," Martin said. "Our pitching this year will be a lot stronger and our bats are starting to wake up."

Martin enters his senior year as the catalyst and table setter of Piraro's lineup. His .373 batting average led the team a season ago, marking the third straight year that Martin has hit .300 or better while wearing blue and gold.

Martin's success in the leadoff spot has translated into several SJSU school records and he is quickly approaching more milestones.

Fifty-four times Martin has been hit by a pitch as a member of the Spartans. Those

bruises have earned him the top spot in school history in that category and bolstered his team-leading .444 on-base percentage. Martin is also third in runs scored (148) and fifth in school history with 225 hits.

Sophomore Zack Jones will solidify the middle of the order after showing as a freshman that he is not only a weapon on the mound.

"The ball sounds really different off of his bat," Piraro said at Bay Area Media Day. "It's like a cannon shot."

Jones finished 2010 at the plate with a .310 batting average, four home runs and a .529 slugging percentage. His dual-threat ability earned him the 2010 WAC Freshman of the Year and notoriety from major league scouts.

Joining Martin and Jones in the lineup will be fellow seniors Kerry Jenkins and Danny Stienstra who were both contributors with the stick last year.

Jenkins enters the season as one of two returning Spartans with more than three home runs a year ago, and he will be sandwiched

somewhere in the middle of the lineup to utilize his power.

He blasted four home runs and finished with 24 RBIs for the year in 2010 in only 111 at-bats. Now that Jenkins has found a place to play every day in the outfield, look for his productivity to go up with increased opportunities.

Stienstra was a large part of the 41-win team two years ago as he hit .337 as a sophomore playing primarily first base. His average declined a year ago as Stienstra managed to hit just .265 to follow up his

sophomore campaign. A bounce back year for Stienstra will give Piraro another tough out in his lineup.

Added protection in the lineup comes from senior Craig Hertler and sophomore outfielder Tim Quiery. Quiery hit .344 a year ago in 157 at-bats while Hertler is versatile on defense and hit .322 in 2009.

A pair of impressive freshmen also brings new life to the 2011 lineup, as Matt Carroll and Caleb Natov have both looked good at the plate and are youngsters Piraro said he is excited about.

"Carroll probably has the most pure power on the team," Piraro said. "He gives me the option of going with an all-offensive lineup if I choose to."

Junior college transfer Michael DiRocco will do the majority of the catching duties this season but depth is an issue at the position for Piraro.

"I think catcher is kind of like the quarterback position in football," Piraro said at Bay Area Media Day. "You're only as good as your backup."

Junior Anthony Bona and freshman Trevin Craig are the only other catchers listed on the Spartans' roster going into the season.

"Behind DiRocco, we are inexperienced," Piraro said. "I am going to have to speed up the learning curve of the other guys and keep him (DiRocco) healthy."

Sophomore infielder Tyler Christian and junior infielder Michael Reiling round out the lineup and are both looking to find their role with increased playing time in 2011.

"We're still competing for positions in the infield," Piraro said.

Reiling had 12 RBIs a year ago and hit .615 with a runner at third and less than two outs. Christian finished with two home runs a year ago, primarily as a pinch hitter.

SJSU returns experience and talent up and down the lineup in 2011 to complement the crop of promising freshmen.

Unlike last year, the bats won't have to do all the work as the Spartans have a formidable rotation and deep bullpen that will take the pressure off of the lineup.

SJSU opens its season Friday with a three-game series against Saint Mary's. The first pitch for opening night is scheduled for 6 p.m. at Municipal Stadium.

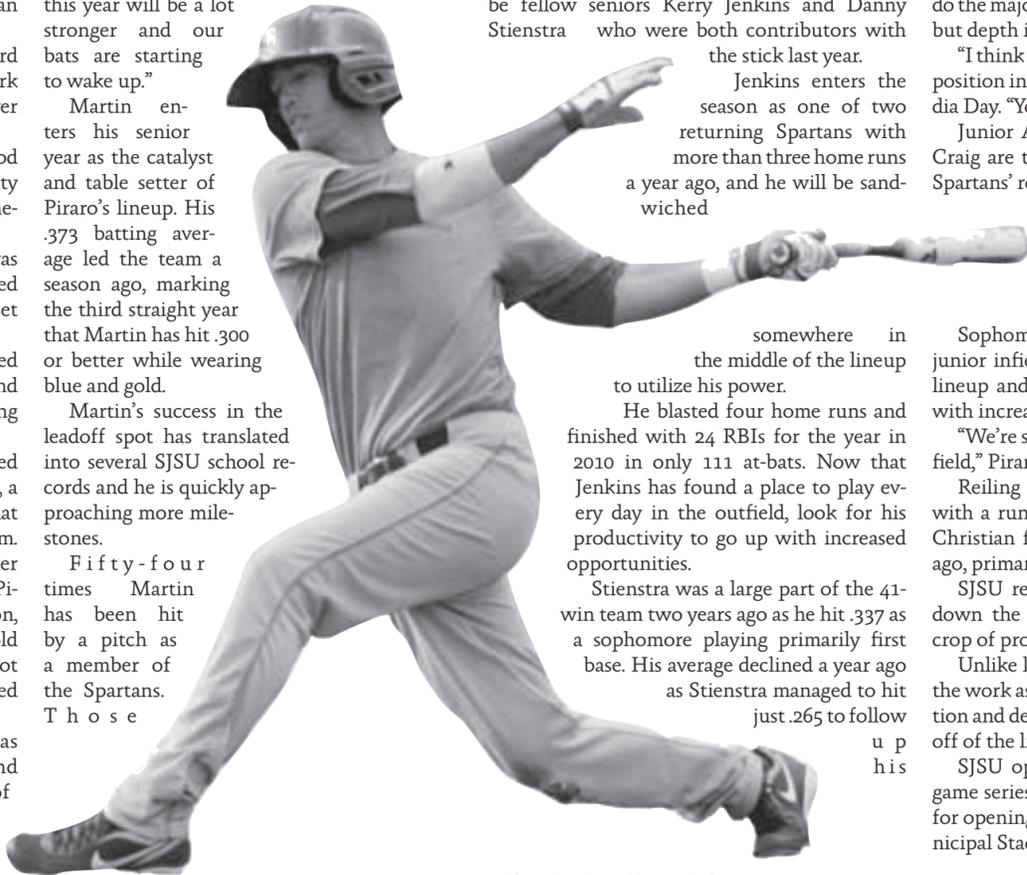


Photo: Jesse Jones / Spartan Daily

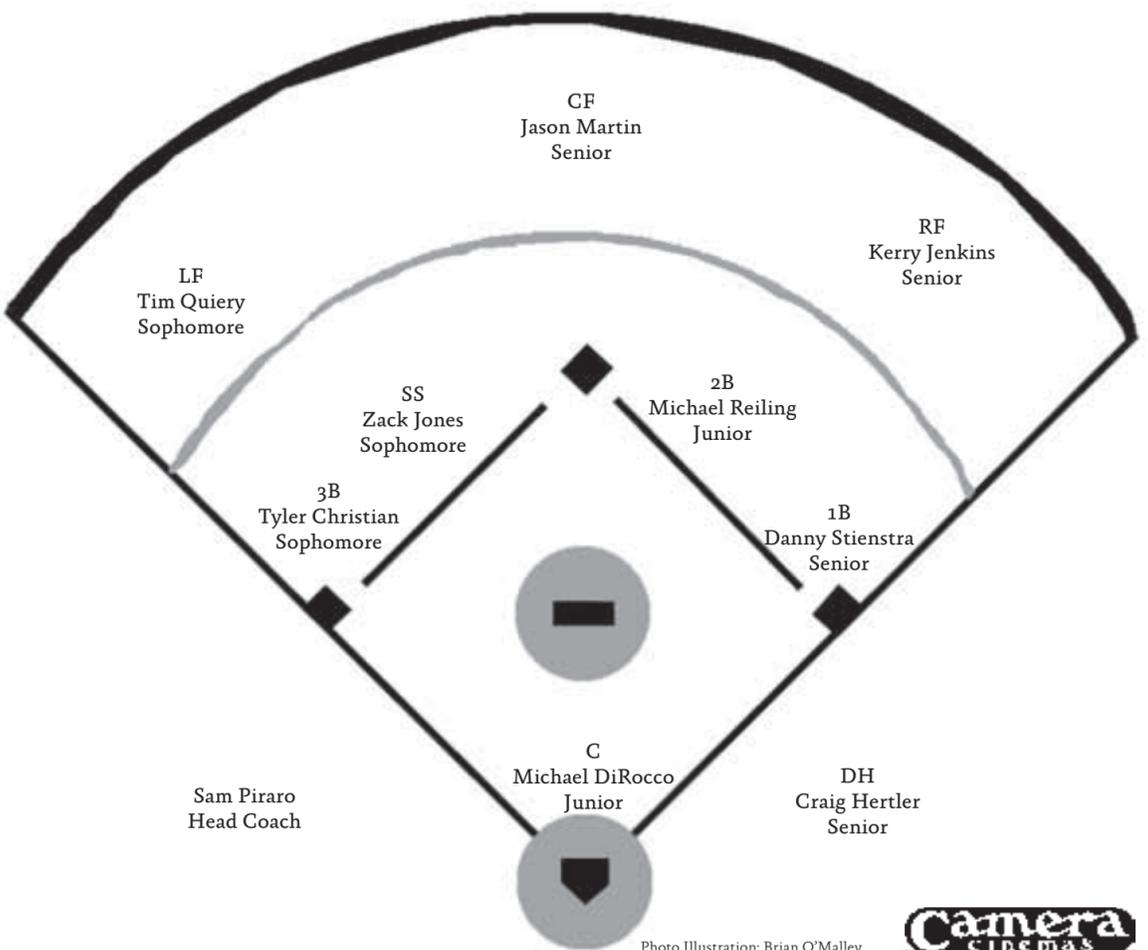


Photo Illustration: Brian O'Malley



Photo: Jesse Jones / Spartan Daily

Spartan baseball players line up at the fence to watch during the six-inning scrimmage.

2011 Projected Lineup

1. CF Jason Martin (SR) (4-year starter has hit better than .300 in each season with SJSU)
2. LF Tim Quiery (SO) (Ended last year with a .344 batting average as a freshman.)
3. SS Zack Jones (SO) (Piraro must find a way to utilize Jones' versatile talent which is a nice problem to have.)
4. RF Kerry Jenkins (SR) (JC transfer from Chabot hit four home runs a year ago and added 24 RBIs in just more than 100 at-bats.)
5. DH Craig Hertler (SR) (Hit .322 in '09 but saw average drop to .217 in 2010.)
6. 1B Danny Stienstra (SR) (Hit .337 as a sophomore on the 41-win SJSU team, but average slipped to .265 in 2010.)
7. C Michael DiRocco (JR) (Transfer from nearby Ohlone College will start immediately but needs to stay healthy.)
8. 3B Tyler Christian (SO) (Trying to establish himself as a starter in 2011 after showing pop in 2010.)
9. 2B Michael Reiling (JR) (Versatile infielder can play anywhere and is a reliable contact hitter.)

BASEBALL HOME GAMES

| Opponent | Date/Time |
|---|------------------------------|
| Saint Mary's | Friday, Feb. 18 - 6 p.m. |
| Saint Mary's | Sunday, Feb. 20 - 1 p.m. |
| UC Davis | Tuesday, Feb. 22 - 6 p.m. |
| Albany | Wednesday, Feb. 23 - 6 p.m. |
| Santa Clara | Friday, March 4 - 6 p.m. |
| Santa Clara | Sunday, March 6 - 1 p.m. |
| Jack Gifford Memorial Tournament | |
| Wisconsin-Milwaukee | Thursday, March 10 - 6 p.m. |
| UC Davis | Saturday, March 12 - 1 p.m. |
| Utah | Saturday, March 12 - 6 p.m. |
| Wisconsin-Milwaukee | Sunday, March 13 - 1 p.m. |
| UC Davis | Friday, March 25 - 6 p.m. |
| UC Davis | Sunday, March 27 - 1 p.m. |
| Brown | Tuesday, March 29 - 6 p.m. |
| Brown | Wednesday, March 30 - 1 p.m. |
| Fresno State* | Friday, April 8 - 6 p.m. |
| Fresno State* | Saturday, April 9 - 1 p.m. |
| Fresno State* | Sunday, April 10 - 1 p.m. |
| USF | Tuesday, April 12 - 6 p.m. |
| Louisiana Tech* | Thursday, April 21 - 6 p.m. |
| Louisiana Tech* | Friday, April 22 - 3 p.m. |
| Louisiana Tech* | Saturday, April 23 - 1 p.m. |
| Stanford | Tuesday, May 3 - 6 p.m. |
| Pacific | Tuesday, May 10 - 3 p.m. |
| Nevada* | Friday, May 20 - 6 p.m. |
| Nevada* | Saturday, May 21 - 1 p.m. |
| Nevada* | Sunday, May 22 - 1 p.m. |

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*JUST GO WITH IT (PG-13) | *THE FIGHTER (R)
*TRUE GRIT (PG-13) | *THE KING'S SPEECH (R)

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*BIG MOMMAS: LIKE FATHER, LIKE SON (PG-13)
*JUST GO WITH IT (PG-13) | *THE EAGLE (PG-13)
*GNOGNO & JULIET (In 2d) (G) | *BITTIFUL (R)
*NO STRINGS ATTACHED (R) | 127 HOURS (R)
*THE ROOMMATE (PG-13) | *THE KING'S SPEECH (R)

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*2011 OSCAR NOMINATED SHORTS (NR)
*THE ILLUSIONIST (PG)

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BASEBALL

New core pitching group aims to strike fear in opponents

Lyell Marks
Staff Writer

Last spring, SJSU head baseball coach Sam Piraro was desperately searching for ways to solidify a pitching staff decimated by graduation and the draft.

"Our pitchers went through the school of 'hard knocks' last season," Piraro said at Bay Area Media Day. "I told them that last year we got our degree. Now let's go get our masters."

Unlike a year ago, the 2011 Spartans are fortunate to have a surplus of arms that will give Piraro confidence regardless of who is on the hill.

Blake McFarland, the Western Athletic Conference Preseason Pitcher of the Year, enters the season as the ace of the staff after establishing himself throughout the conference with a stand-out 2010 campaign.

McFarland, a senior, posted a 7-4 record with a 3.62 ERA and three complete games in just less than 100 innings pitched last year. After transferring from Santa Barbara Community College, McFarland accomplished all this in his first year of Division-I baseball.

"The experience alone helped me a lot last year," McFarland said. "It was my first year playing at this level and I feel so much more comfortable going into this season knowing what to expect a little more."

McFarland will have another highly touted arm to join him in the Spartan rotation in 2011, as Junior Col-

lege All-American Roberto Padilla turned down the MLB draft to pitch for SJSU this spring.

Padilla was taken in the 23rd round by the Arizona Diamondbacks but chose not to sign when his asking price was deemed too high by the team who drafted him. Arizona's frugality turned into a pleasant surprise for SJSU as Padilla was ticketed for the minor leagues.

The 6-foot-3-inch southpaw was exactly what Piraro was looking for to shore

"Our pitchers went through the school of 'hard knocks' last season. I told them that last year we got our degree. Now let's go get our masters."

Sam Piraro
Head Coach

up the pitching woes that plagued SJSU last year and contributed to a 23-37 record.

"Roberto has tremendous stuff," Piraro said. "The ball moves a lot and if he ever fully masters his breaking pitch it will take him a long way."

McFarland and Padilla look to be a formidable 1-2 punch to head the Spartan rotation, but what has Piraro most excited about this year's team is the pitching depth that has been a trademark of his good teams in the past.

Juniors Sean Martin, Estaban Guzman and Andy Hennessey are all hurlers who Piraro is comfortable handing the ball to, giving him a great deal of flexibility that was nonexistent go-

ing into last season.

"All three of those guys showed periods last year where they could be very effective," Piraro said. "To their credit, they are much more confident this year."

Piraro flirted with the idea of putting the flame-throwing sophomore Zack Jones in the starting rotation, but believes the dual-threat talent helps the team the most when he comes out of the 'pen.

"Once you have established a lead, preserving it is very important to me," Piraro said. "Zack is a guy who gives me a great deal of confidence late in a game."

Jones has been clocked at a glove-popping 95 mph and helped the Spartans find some stability out of a shaky bullpen a year ago.

The most intriguing part of Jones' game is the fact that Piraro believes he is a better hitter than he is a pitcher.

"Scouts tend to be more curious of the pitching talents Zack possesses," Piraro said. "But his marketability goes way up with how versatile he is."

Piraro plans on using Jones at shortstop to get his bat in the lineup but is also able to bring him into the game to pitch if needed to close out a game.

In 2010, Jones was also in his first year of Division-I baseball like teammate Blake McFarland and made an equally impressive adjustment coming out of high school.

"I feel like I have matured and was able to see the competition," Jones said. "It was

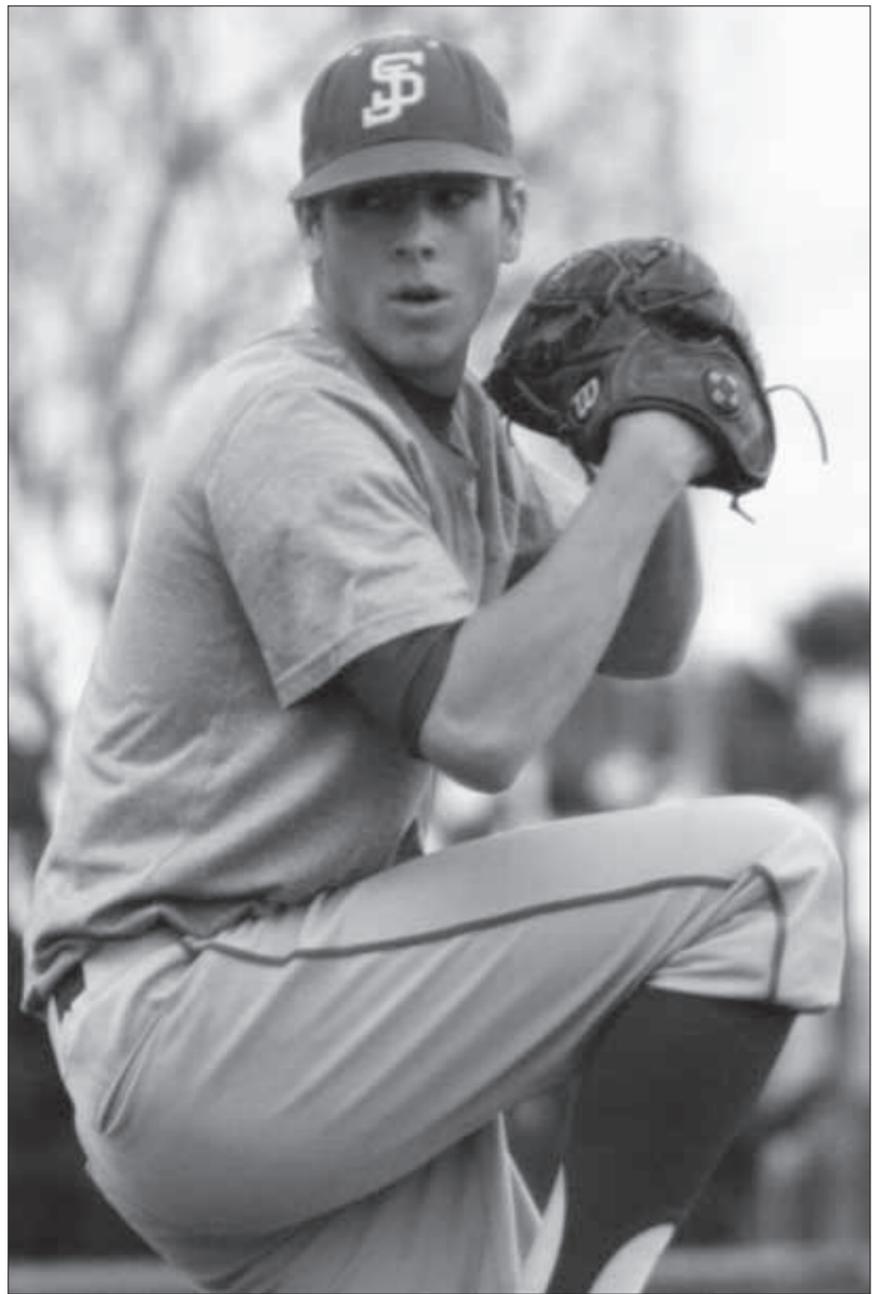


Photo: Jesse Jones / Spartan Daily

Sophomore David Wayne Russo pitches during a six-inning scrimmage intersquad at the Spartans' practice on Tuesday. Russo returns this season looking to establish a role out of the bullpen for SJSU.

an adjustment year that has given me a lot of confidence."

While Jones will likely be called on to close out games, the Spartans' bullpen has a bevy of arms whom Piraro sees as a strength that was lacking a year ago.

Senior John Austin has increased his velocity by more than five mph since this time last season and will be counted on out of the 'pen. Senior Eric LeBaron, freshman D.J. Slaton and sophomore David Wayne Russo will also help

SJSU in relief.

The old adage in baseball claims that good pitching beats good hitting just about every time. With a formidable rotation and depth in the 'pen, SJSU is hoping the adage holds true.



Photo: Jesse Jones / Spartan Daily

Updated bat model changing culture of college baseball

Lyell Marks
Staff Writer

The classic aluminum bats that have been a trademark of college baseball for decades have been replaced this season by graphite-lined models in an attempt to temper a historically offensive game.

The NCAA rules committee issued a memorandum in August 2010 that required all high schools, junior colleges and Division-I schools to adopt the standard that began in January.

With the new rule change, the traditional offensive culture of college baseball may undergo an identity crisis, according to many coaches and players around the sport.

"I love earning what you get in this game," head coach Sam Piraro said. "Ninety feet becomes much more important. To me, that's baseball." The new bats are de-

signed to hit like a wood bat and decrease the impact and velocity of contact.

The new requirement insists that all bats meet the Ball-Bat Coefficient of Restitution standard.

Coaches from programs around the nation have reported noteworthy decreases in home run totals in fall practices and into the spring, but most around the

game believe the pure hitters will still stand out.

"It's also nice not having to worry about the 120-mile-an-hour comebacker at your face."

Blake McFarland
Senior Pitcher

"The game could return to its roots," Piraro said. "From what we saw in the fall, if you are a good hitter the new bats won't hide that."

What the new bats will expose are the guys who were remaining afloat as hitters because of the ad-

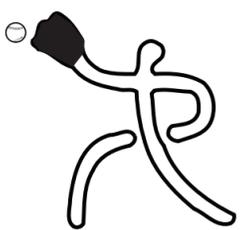
ded pop of the old, primarily aluminum, models.

"As a pitcher we're really not afraid to pitch inside anymore," McFarland said. "It's also nice not having to worry about the 120 mile an hour comebacker at your face."

Chicks might dig the long ball, but players are going to have to know how to swing it to stand out at the plate with the new models.

"From day one, we refined our swings and took an unyielding approach," Piraro said. "I believe the type of swing we teach every day in practice is tailored to the new bats."

The new baseball bat has already resulted in noticeably less "pop" among Spartan hitters in practice.



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Hidden: A Holocaust survivor's moving tale

Alex Wara
Staff Writer

There were no words to describe how liberation felt, said a Holocaust survivor as she spoke in front of a group of students and faculty Wednesday.

Hedy Rose, a guest speaker at an event put on by the SJSU Salzburg program, talked about her experience as a child in the Netherlands during World War II.

Rose, who was 6 years old at the time, was forced to go into hiding with her mother and sister, an experience similar to that of Anne Frank.

Christina Meehan, a senior child development major, said she was moved listening to the survivor's firsthand experience.

"I think you can capture more of the true emotions and feelings by body language and facial expressions whereas in a book you are reading about it," she said. "Just by hearing a tone of voice or reaction makes a different impact opposed to reading a book."

Rose told personal stories from the perspective of a child living during the Holocaust, including a story about losing friends simply because she was Jewish.

She spoke about one instance of being mistreated by one of her lone friends when she was young.

The friend called out to her one afternoon and spat on her from a balcony, calling her a "dirty Jew."

All Rose could say was how she did not understand what those words meant — adding that she lacked much understanding of the Holocaust because of her youth.

"I knew enough to realize that we were changing our environment rather suddenly and sharply," Rose said. "I knew it was some serious reason, but I did not know

why. I think if I had known the why I would have been more upset."

She shared the memory of her father being taken away by Nazis.

Rose said the men who took her father away warned Rose's mother that they would be back for her.

The last time Rose and her mother and sister heard from their father was in a letter from Auschwitz.

Rose's mother took her and her sister into hiding, where she said they lived hidden away for years with little food and electricity. Rose even had to grieve her mother's death during this time.

When the Allies won and she was liberated, Rose said people in Amsterdam opened their doors and celebrated for three weeks straight.

She later came to America, around the age of 11 with her sister, who was 18, to live with their uncle.

Upon arriving in America with the help of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, Rose said she was shocked to be presented with a gift of handkerchiefs by strangers from an organization that met people arriving in America.

"I thought it was so wonderful that they could be so generous to meet a perfect stranger and give them a gift," Rose said.

Bill Reckmeyer, a professor of leadership and systems and director of the SJSU Salzburg program, said Rose was the right person to speak at SJSU.

"We figured people would listen — it is a moving story," he said. "I could come in and give a lecture and it wouldn't have the same impact as coming from her."

Rose is currently doing research on her past and is considering writing a book.

AVIATION From Page 1

dendistel said.

"The engine repair classes are a great experience for future pilots to see how engines run," he said. "It is a wealth of knowledge to acquire to work on an aircraft on the ground."

Having background information on the systems within an aircraft makes it safer for the future pilots should something go awry while in flight.

"Students will have a chance to work hands on with a modern-era aircraft, which is phenomenal," he said. "This aircraft is the most modern that the department has ever owned and we are very excited to be its new owners."

The other aircraft the department owns are about 30 years old, Baudendistel said.

"This new aircraft fits well into our timeline of planes the department owns," he said.

Calen Daher, a senior aviation operations major, said he takes the donation as an educational opportunity that he will be sure to cherish.

"It is very useful understanding how the aircraft works," he said. "A great amount of pride goes into getting something to work that does not function when it is given to you. Hearing the engine run once you get



Photo: Michelle Terris / Spartan Daily

Randy Baudendistel, a senior aviation operations major, pulls the department's newly donated aircraft out of the hangar at Reid-Hillview Airport.

it started is a very exciting feeling."

Vezzuto said he knows having this aircraft to work on will make him a better student and will better prepare him for his goal of becoming a pilot.

"Everything that we learn is connected in one way or another and having this plane will only reinforce the information we are learning in our courses as well as in pilot training," he said.

The value of the aircraft, even on the used market, is somewhere in the ballpark of \$225,000 to \$450,000, and Baudendistel said there was no way

SJSU could have obtained something like this unless it was donated.

"It was a truly generous donation and we appreciate it immensely," he said. "We can only hope for more openhanded giving to further progress SJSU's aviation department."

Baudendistel said the donation is a good showing of community support, but it is not the aspect of the story that will make him most proud.

"The fact that this program is much better when I graduate than when I started at this school is what I am most proud of," he said.

JEOPARDY From Page 1

tion answering brings in a human element addressing specific words and phrases looking for an answer. This is something that a simple search on the Internet cannot do."

Watson uses real human language, rather than encoded messages designed and delivered to a computer for communication, Moreno said.

"Watson is a step out of the box," he said. "It is a result of us at IBM asking, 'How do we take computing to the next level?'"

Watson was not connected to the Internet during any portion of the competition. Instead it sifts through millions of pieces of information stored in its memory to find answers,

much like what a human does to find a Jeopardy answer, Moreno said.

"Watson is a demonstration project, which connects certain computing techniques with different algorithms," said Stephen Kwan, a professor in management information systems. "It uses the connections between concepts to associate words together to compile a correct answer."

Watson was named after Thomas Watson, the founder of IBM, to celebrate the company's 100 years of existence, Kwan said.

Moreno said he sees the technology as something that could better humanity as a whole.

"We eventually want to apply the technology Watson provides toward human needs, such as the medical field," he said. "We could also send Watson to a remote village, for

example. They could use this technology as an educational tool to answer any question that they may have."

Randolph Cabrera, a junior civil engineering major, said he is amazed at what Watson has to offer, but after watching the Jeopardy challenge said Watson still has its holes to fill.

"Watson wasn't perfect," he said. "It definitely had it moments where its answers were not only incorrect but outrageous."

Cabrera said he was most impressed with the speed that Watson exhibited.

"The speed at which it did answer its questions and just the fact that it understands human language is nothing short of amazing," he said. "This is to be huge for the computing industry, and I cannot wait to see what they have in store to come out with next."

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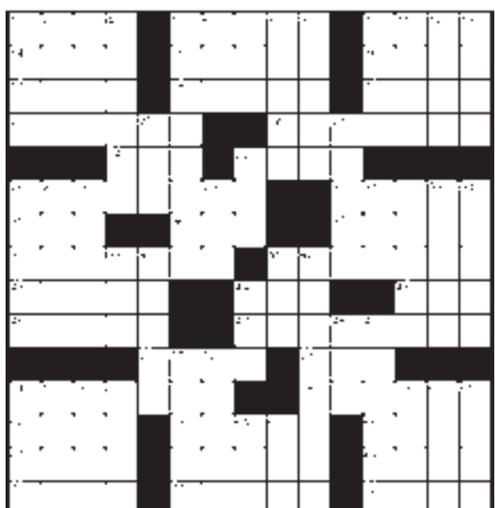
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Thumbs up for SJSU

I've had quite the college tenure.

After graduating from Modesto Christian High School in 1997, I played the transfer game from junior colleges to colleges, universities and back. I went from Sierra Nevada to Costa Mesa, Scotts Valley, Modesto and Reedley — never working more than a short school job while enrolled.

Life circumstances, family and work schedules all seemed to conspire against me, and I grew ever more skeptical about the prospects of actually finishing school. When I lost my Cal Grant, I finally walked away from school, completely numb.

Fast-forward to 2005, I met the girl I'd marry. I'd moved to the Bay Area and knew I'd have to have a degree to help support a family, so back I went.

Junior college was affordable, so West Valley, Mission and DeAnza all hosted my hunched form, laden with a backpack full of books, junk food, coffee-stained paper and inkless pens.

This time, I was shoehorning school into a full-time work schedule. Online classes and simple remedial courses weren't that bad, and I was able to make do, but it was tedious.

After what seemed like a lifetime of small schools in the sticks, or private colleges with controlled environments far from home, SJSU was the real deal for me.

Spring 2009 saw me bumbling around looking for buildings, classrooms, bookstores, parking spots and places to eat.

My work responsibilities had grown, and making time for classes during the day became a major source of stress several times a year.

I felt like the Adam Sandler character Billy Madison,



Matt Young
Staff Writer

starting my 30s in classes with most of my fellow students a whole generation younger.

As a married guy at 32 with a band, full-time job and a mortgage, being at SJSU now is both a blessing and a major headache.

There's more good than bad, though.

I have more life experience, and the loads of classes I have taken over the years make most classes easier for me than someone fresh out of high school.

I have my own home, so I don't have to contend with parents for work space. I have real-world experience writing for print and online publications, so college-level papers and articles are usually manageable.

I appreciate that there is a real presence to SJSU. The history of the school and accomplishments of the alumni are impressive.

The campus is large with an array of services available for students, and is better equipped with technology for teaching and student use than many other schools.

The faculty at SJSU is great, for the most part, and I seem to relate with the instructors better at this age than I did at 18.

The SJSU website, while a bit messy to navigate, has a lot of important information

accessible, and helps me plot out semesters and the overall school plan.

Online classes have been pretty smooth. The food options are decent, and there are convenience stores on every corner.

Still, there are a few flies in the ointment.

First, the process of getting important documents processed between multiple departments leaves much to be desired.

Improving the communication protocols between departments would do wonders for efficiency, as would making sure students knew all the steps they have to go through and in what order to get something accomplished.

I've been bounced from department to department like an orphan a few times too many.

Second — and this may be a general university gripe — many working students need to work during the day, particularly older returning students with families and full-time jobs. Split shifts aren't always available, and when you go part-time, you likely won't be able to afford rent, health care, or school for that matter.

The solution: Make more classes available online or after 6 p.m.

There are a good number of evening and online classes, but having work-intensive courses in the middle of the workday can put undue stress on working students, sacrificing productivity at both school and the workplace.

Considering those are my only real gripes, I'd give SJSU a positive grade.

I'm actually learning things relevant to the times and am better able to apply myself with knowledge and maybe a little wisdom.

Thanks, SJSU. I'd be proud to have my kids go here someday, as long as I finish first.

Invasion of the 'Techlationship'

Our parents and grandparents used to tell stories about how they saw that one person across the room and all of the sudden everyone else disappeared.

They would go into great detail about what the other was wearing, how he or she smiled, and how the two began to date — it was as if no one else mattered.

Most love stories aren't like that anymore.

When was the last time you noticed a guy or girl walk into the room and your whole world stopped?

Or introduced yourself to someone new and realized that you weren't already friends with that person on Facebook?

It seems technology has taken the personal out of relationships with people meeting at online dating websites and "googling" the other person to get as much information as possible without actually talking to him or her.

That old-school tradition of getting to know someone on a personal level has been demolished by the Internet.

I have seen countless people out to dinner or on a date where both people are texting on their phones and not engaging in conversation with one another.

What is the point of going on a date if you aren't going to say two words to the person you're with?

We are so consumed with Facebook status updates and updating our Twitter accounts that we are losing sight of the old courting techniques our parents and grandparents used.

Nowadays, you'd think the world were ending if you went on a date and came home to find that your date had not posted the success or failure of how the night went.



Melissa Sabile
The Real Deal

Technology and social media have taken away the human aspect of dating and relationships. We have reverted to online chatting and texting every second. Once we get together, we have nothing left to say.

To take it a step further, you can be someone completely different online than you are in real life.

Hiding behind a computer screen or cell phone simply makes the connection impersonal.

Sure, you could argue that having social networks can help maintain a relationship for couples who date long distance or that the Internet could serve as a shield when meeting someone new.

Not that those things are bad, but we rely on them more than we should.

Match.com recently did a survey that questioned the 11,000 people participating and found that of 7,000 marriages, 17 percent met online.

Is this the future of dating? If so, what stories are we going to tell to our future children and grandchildren?

"I met my partner online and just knew by looking at his/her picture and bio that he/she was the one."

Remember when we were young and always fantasized about how we would meet our future someone? Did that fantasy ever come in the form of cyber dating?

If we don't figure out a way to get back to real personal connections we are doomed to living vicariously through Facebook updates and websites.

"The Real Deal" is a biweekly column appearing on Thursdays. Melissa Sabile is a Spartan Daily Sports Editor.

Comment on or share any of these articles at: www.spartandaily.com

Politicians: Keep your clothes on and your minds on the business

A wonderful photo, bleeding all over the Internet since last Wednesday, displays a man named Chris Lee, topless and mugging himself in the mirror as though he has just discovered Myspace angles and the beauty of the camera phone.

Aside from the fact that this 46-year-old married man probably hasn't owned any pair of pants other than a pair of Dockers for the past 20 years, the leaked picture revealed a scandal he will never be able to live down.

Lee was the former U.S. Representative for New York's 26th Congressional District until his online dating obsession became apparent, causing him to step down.

Contrary to the ways of



Jordan Liffengren
Caturday Night Live

politics and good public relations people, his peers, friends, family members and Internet trolls who revel in the embarrassing mistakes of the famous won't let his infidelity die easy.

He replied to a Craigslist ad that a Maryland woman had posted under

the "women seeking men" section, with a body shot and a playful message that included the phrase, "I'm a very fit fun classy guy."

As angry as I was to read a sentence riddled with so many grammatical errors, my fury was quickly subdued by the subtle sarcasm that tinged the woman's reply.

"Are you sure that's not a photo from a JC Penny ad?" she asked.

As I read the next few exchanges of e-mails between the two, available on the Gawker website, I wondered if she would ever dabble in stand-up comedy and whether I could see her perform live.

In a later message, she specifically asked him if he was married and he told her he was divorced.

I guess a politician with dirty laundry is just another politician these days.

Public figures should obviously be held to a higher standard, and it pains me to know that decent people in positions of power are a rarity.

When you have taken on the responsibilities of public office, you can no longer lead two separate lives.

To think that you can have a personal life is nothing but a naive hope.

To be a politician, you have to throw away everything including pictures from that frat party your friends dragged you to, the parking tickets that have been piling up in your glove compartment and yes, even that band T-shirt that says "let's make out!"

What? You don't have one?

I'm sure there's something else, however insignificant it may be, that would make you and many others unfit to serve in office.

Anything questionable can hinder your chances of becoming a politician, with which I completely agree.

I feel like I'm a fairly honest and trustworthy person, but I would never consider running for a government position.

I mean, my own mother deleted me as a friend on Facebook.

The language my friends used was too much for her to handle, and she told me the things they said reflected on me.

It just goes to show that

you can even be guilty by association.

That's what makes Lee's adulterous philandering so outrageous.

Politicians can and should be crucified for the smallest mistakes because I don't want decisions that affect me and my family made by someone less than qualified, let alone some dirty old man who can't keep it in his pants.

Chris Lee, thank you for walking away from your position in office. Please save your awkward pictures for next season's "Jersey Shore" auditions.

"Caturday Night Live" is a biweekly column appearing on Thursdays. Jordan Liffengren is a Spartan Daily A&E Editor.

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PLAY REVIEW

Women steal the show in captivating 'Deathtrap'

Francisco Rendon
Staff Writer

Playgoers in search of some sure-fire scares may well wish to pay a visit to the Northside Theatre Company's production of "Deathtrap."

While the \$20 price of admission (with a discount for seniors and students under 18) may be a bit high for some, the actors did an excellent job of building tension and leaving the audience stunned at moments of climax.

The script, written by Ira Levin in 1978, was masterfully crafted and was released as a film starring Michael Caine in 1982. A loose introduction to the plot is that a washed-up old playwright receives a magnificent script from a former pupil, titled "Deathtrap," and seeks to latch himself onto the money train with the aid of his wife.

From there, themes of paternalism, sexism, homosexuality and the desire for "success" were all loosely explored in between action scenes that truly frightened many members of the audience.

The plot moved along at a brisk,

engaging pace and there was enough action that I could never really say that I was bored.

In the periods between action scenes, some truly delightful dialogue did an excellent job of playing with the idea that the characters feel the things they have done on stage might make an excellent play.

The actors themselves did a fine job and nobody's performance detracted from the experience. Matt Singer, the actor playing the lead role of Sidney Bruhl, did a serviceable job throughout the whole performance.

While he flubbed lines at several points throughout the production, he may have simply been having an off night and he more than made up for it in the gripping fight scenes. Jason Arias and James Lucas also did fine jobs as the young playwright and lawyer, but the show was really stolen by the women. Shareen Merriam did a superb job as Helga ten Dorp, the Scandinavian psychic whose jokes and silly accent provide relief from an otherwise cynical and dark sequence of events.

The best performance I observed though, was from Melinda Marks



(Left to right) Melinda Marks, Jason Arias and Matt Singer star in "Deathtrap," which was a Tony Award nominee for best play.

Photo Courtesy: Dana Grover

as Myra Bruhl, the playwright's wife. Her shifts between submissiveness, timidity, rage and devastation all seemed completely sincere and her presence in the first action scene made it deeply emotional.

The Northside Theatre Company is a nonprofit organization that operates in the same space year round.

The venue itself is small, but

functional. The maximum capacity of the room is 99, but on the night I attended they left 50 chairs set up, all of which were filled.

The show runs approximately two hours with a 15-minute intermission. The audience was noticeably older, but I am not familiar with whether this is representative of its regular crowd.

Overall this play may be best

suited for those seeking an intimate and comfortable setting for a date or hardcore theater fans who want to see the finer points of thriller writing and acting.

The Northside Theatre Company performs at 848 E. William St., which is about seven blocks from SJSU.

"Deathtrap" runs every Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 3 p.m. through March 6.

BAR REVIEW

Single Barrel caters to individual tastes in speakeasy atmosphere

Drink of the week



Photo: K. L. Perry / Spartan Daily

The Ginger La Raza is a mixture of sweet juice and bitter tequila.

My bartender Tomoyo asked me what I was used to drinking. I told her I usually drink wine, pinot noir. She told me the sugar content is high in wine so I would probably want something sweet, but because of the bitterness of most wines, she would make sure the drink was not too saccharine for my taste.

The Ginger La Raza is a combination of agave nectar, fresh squeezed orange juice and lime, Cazadores Blanco tequila and a dash of Angostura bitters. Tomoyo described the drink as having an even balance between liquor and the ingredients and is sweet with a high level of complexity.

The first sip of my drink was ice-cold and fresh. The nectar and fresh squeezed juices blended wonderfully with the high-end tequila to make the drink taste oddly refreshing.

I felt like I was drinking an ice-cold glass of lemonade on a hot summer day. The bitters added a hint of red color and tartness. The taste of tequila was apparent, but not overpowering.

I would definitely recommend this cocktail to anyone who regularly drinks "tequila sunrise" or any variation of a cosmopolitan. Those are my two favorite drinks, and now I can add Single Barrel's signature Ginger La Raza to my list.

K. L. Perry

Features Editor

Single Barrel is almost too cool for San Jose.

In a city filled with dive bars crowded with 20-something hipsters and ultra-lounges teeming with middle-aged soccer moms every day of the week, the dimly lit, speakeasy-style bar is truly a gem among jewels in the downtown drinking scene.

On a typical Friday night, one can count 40 to 50 heads enjoying the bar's motto — a very personal drink experience based on his or her flavor preferences.

That many bodies inside one bar may seem like a few too many, but according to regular Single Barrel patrons Angela and Gabe, it's worth the extra body heat.

Once or twice a week, you can find the couple nuzzled next to each other by red-tinted candlelight on a loveseat with their personally tailored cocktails in their hands.

In Angela's hand is usually a Booker's Sour. She describes it as being similar to a whiskey sour, with enough sweetness but a strong taste of the top-shelf Booker whiskey.

"You have a couple of these and you're good," she said. "But really, it's about the quality of the drink."

Gabe mentioned that with any drink at Santana Row, where the drinks also range from \$10 to \$12, you would be drinking poorly made cocktails with lower-end alcohol — this usually means you can expect a hangover the next morning.

If you don't want to cough up \$12 for a good drink, you can visit the bar on Sunday or Tuesday for a \$9 Bloody Mary. The bar is open Tuesday through Sunday from 5 p.m. with last call for drinks at 1:30 a.m.

Gabe advises customers to go with a small group to really enjoy the speakeasy atmosphere and get used to spending the extra money because once you try this place out, you won't want anything but top-shelf ingredients.

Included in the atmosphere is the constant line

of customers outside the bar, he said.

To maintain the vibe of a speakeasy there is always a bouncer outside — complete with cabbie hat and vest — maintaining a manageable headcount so nobody misses out on the full experience.

"Sometimes there's a line out the door," said Renee, bouncer and ultimate keeper of atmosphere for the bar. "And there are a lot more thirsty people here than there are bartenders."

Renee would personally lead first-time customers to the bar, where an in-house trained bartender would choose each patron's drink for them.

"People come in looking for the perfect cocktail," she said. "They (bartenders) make the best cocktail for you."

Renee said most new customers ask their bartenders, "What's your favorite drink?"

"This isn't a fair assessment," she said. "Because it wouldn't cater to their individual tastes."

The idea might boggle the minds of bar-hoppers who are used to an impersonal Redbull and vodka, but bartender Tomoyo urges people not to fear. She said the new, specialized drink would never be too far out of that person's comfort zone.

Upon entering the bar one might notice an intoxicating

citrus scent — this is because Single Barrel doesn't even carry mixers like Redbull.

Instead, the bartenders squeeze oranges, limes and lemons fresh for every single drink they make.

Lin, a weekly customer and SJSU alumnus, said what he likes most about Single Barrel is the way drink-making is treated like an art by bartenders.

"My second time here, they (bartenders) remembered my name," he said. "And they remember what my drink was."

Much like the process of single barrel whiskey, in which one single batch ends up in one single barrel, this bar is a unique experience that everybody should taste.

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