Budget cuts impede transfer prospects

KELSEY HILARIO

Budget cuts and impacted majors are making it tough for students trying to transfer to SJSU, according to the university website. Admission to SJSU from another college is based on several factors — GPA, choice of major, units taken and the location of the college. The student is transferring from, according to the SJSU website, and the majority of majors require an average of 2.4 cumulative GPA based on all transferable courses taken at the time of application.

Ricardo Jimenez, a senior justice studies major, said he was able to transfer to SJSU from the College of San Mateo after only two years. He credits this to only taking courses that were transferable to SJSU.

“It was actually kind of easy,” he said. “I always went to my counselors meeting and stuff and my advisers meeting so they actually pointed me in the right direction.”

Because of budget constraints, SJSU is currently accepting only upper-division students for Fall 2011, according to the website. Thesis students must have 60 transferable semester units or 90 quarter units, 30 semester units of general education or 45 quarter units, good standing with their last college and completion of four basic skills courses by Spring 2011, according to the website.

Senior photo major Stephanie Adams said she transferred from Diablo Valley College, and had to submit her request for a transfer three times, since SJSU lost her first two requests.

“Make copies of everything,” she said. “Don’t have any special meaning, said Pauley.

“I wish the shop was a little closer to the Engineering building from scratch on open land.”

“Kettle chips or ‘Food Should be Good’ chips sell a lot,” she stated.

“People buy chips for a snack or alongside their sandwiches, so these brands and products go the fastest.”

Yaelin Corpuz, a junior business management major, said she spent a lot more time at the old Spartan Shops location in the Student Union, although that was partly because she worked there during her freshman year.

“I liked the other one because it had more food choices,” she said.

Pauley said most of the people who worked at Spartan Shops previously are now employed at the food court inside the Student Union. Kushal Vora, a graduate student in science computer engineering, said he has walked past Just Below a couple of times while exploring the campus.

“It looked very busy, and that is impressive, though. It’s more authentic.”

Pauley said the reason MacQuarrie Hall was chosen as the site of the new eatery was because of simplicity. “There was space on the first floor,” he said. “Spartan Shops needed to relocate. It was an easier project than building from scratch on open land.”

Melissa Neuman, who works as a student lead for both the deli and Port’s Coffee at Just Below, stated in an email that more than 1,000 people visit Just Below on a daily basis.

“Kettle chips or ‘Food should be Good’ chips sell a lot,” she stated. “People buy chips for a snack or alongside their sandwiches, so these brands and products go the fastest.”

Students supplied with assorted snacks in store ‘Just Below’ MacQuarrie Hall

A new store opened on campus this past June to fill the gap created when restaurants closed as a result of construction on the Student Union, said the senior director of retail services for Spartan Shops.

While there is no longer a Burger King, Market Pizza or Market Cafe, students can now visit Just Below, located on the first floor of MacQuarrie Hall, said Pauley.

“There they will find a Port’s Coff ee, a Jamba Juice, a sandwich shop and a breakfast station, which primarily offers bagels. In addition, there are shelves of food items for sale, representing a selection similar to what is found in the Village Market in Campus Village Building B, such as juices and bags of chips and an assortment of other snacks.

Just Below is open Monday through Thursday from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m., and Fridays from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., but are closed on the weekends, according to its hours of operation. Nolnda Tap, a senior computer engineering major, said she hasn’t been a frequent customer of Just Below, but has a favorable opinion of it.

“It’s great,” Tap said. “I wish it was closer to the Engineering building. I’ll be broke, though.”

Senior engineering major Arnold Bajaj said he also wishes the shops were in a more central location.

“I don’t go [to Just Below] often because my choices aren’t near MacQuarrie Hall,” he said. “It looks impressive, though. It’s more authentic.”

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“It looked very busy, and that is what gained my attention,” he said. “I definitely plan to go there.”

The name “Just Below” doesn’t have any special meaning, said Pauley, but the store is located on the first floor of MacQuarrie Hall.
Professor’s love of nature fuels her passion for studying the starry unknown

AMÈRE MCLendon

When Natalie Batalha calls out for a guest in her unit at King Library, she talks about how the aroma of apple blossoms as she runs toward the river.

And as she looks up at the expanse of stars and the crescent moon she is in awe. 

That is where the physics and astronomy professor from SJSU began her journey to the stars, which led her all the way to NASA.

As the deputy science team leader for NASA’s Kepler Mission, Batalha said she has come a long way since she wrote her first research paper.

Batalha’s love for nature, exploration and teaching, Batalha said the discoveries made so far in her field are consistent with the mission.

She said that is where research, such as studying what information is that may have life, begins. 

Batalha said, it’s a matter of laying out a plan. 

“First we header into the Earth,” she said. “Where does it exist? Where doesn’t it exist? Where do we expect to find planets like this?”

From there, Batalha said scientists form a model to define what characteristics they are looking for, such as water in liquid form, which is required for life on Earth.

While the mother of four works 14-hour days analyzing data from the satellite telescope orbiting the sun, she said she is not about having enough time to teach at SJSU this summer. Although her blood, sweat and tears are now distilled into the Kepler Mission full time, Batalha said her heart remains at SJSU.

“IT’s not uncommon to walk in her office and see five or six students around her desk working a problem,” said Michael Kunian, an astronomy and physics professor at SJSU.

Kunian, who has been working in the same office as Batalha since 2003, said Batalha is passionate about her students.

“Who’s so enthusiastic about the mission and teaching, she really does care deeply about her students,” he said. “It is with the same spirit of discovery and passion that Batalha said she approaches her own life.”

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Kim Bui, a senior nursing major, said she likes the new website because she can easily navigate to what she is looking for more quickly.

“It’s so much more interactive than it was before,” she said. “I think a lot of research must have gone into this.”

Wenner said a lot of research went into the redesign, as the library purchases together the Website is a force that included employees from SJSU and from the San Jose Public Library system.

The project was led by a success consultant to determine how to make the website user friendly,” he said.

“We did testing with 47 different library users including faculty, graduate students, undergraduate students, disabled users, teens, children and adults,” Wenner said.

Batalha explained that the library’s website is still undergoing transformation with plans to integrate SJSU’s digital library website with the San Jose Public Library website, which will describe the resources and services available to all San Jose residents at all 19 branches of the San Jose Public Library Portal, which will provide information about the library’s relationship with SJSU and the San Jose Public library system at King Library.

“I don’t really care for the new website because I feel like there is so much going on that I don’t know what’s going on,” a junior engineering major Mike Tran said. “I like to be able to find things quick and easy and not have them disappear on me for days looking for something.”

The website is happy to get feedback about the website from anyone at SJSU and that there is a form on the website where people can submit comments.

Generally, the feedback has been very good, but there have been some suggestions for improvements that we are considering,” he said. “During the semester, a usability class in the School of Library and Information Science will be analyzing the site, and I believe that we will get some good feedback from them.”

The University website within King Library launched a new gateway for students and faculty members to access academic resources, according to an SJSU news release.

After having an unchanged website for five years, the library decided it was a time for an update and has been force that included employees from SJSU and from the San Jose Public Library system.

The library has approximately 300 online databases with over one million books and articles, Wenner said.

“Just given the vast number of stars in the sky, I’d be surprised if we are unique,” he said. “My hunch is that Earth-sized planets the right distance from the sun are probably common.”

Batalha said the discoveries include 706 stars with candidate exoplanets around them.

“Discovering stuff on human being has ever seen before — that’s exhilarating,” she said. “To know you are here on this earth to do something that impacts people who are still discovering themselves — that’s really something.”

The habitable zone is the “sweet spot” where a planet is close or far away from the sun.

“The core mission of Kepler, which was launched in March 2009, is to discover whether Earth-like planets are real,” Wenner said.

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Associated Students inducts new members

High school school designed to give students an edge

KELSEY LYNE LESTER-PERRY Staff Writer

Eight new members were appointed to the Associated Student government and a representative from the United States Census Bureau presented an award during a board meeting yesterday afternoon in the Student Union. Transfer student and marketing major Kristen Konopath was the first to be appointed, as the director of business affairs by a unanimous vote.

A.S. President Tomasz Kolodziejak said that Konopath is a very organized and outspoken person who would be a good match in the government’s team efforts. Kolodziejak said Konopath was also the vice president of finance for the honors society at Mattoon Community College, managing a budget of $200,000.

As director of business affairs Kolodziejak said that he will be serving on financial committees. Konopath said he wants to help all the students around the budget crisis to figure out how they can allocate the funds in A.S. more efficiently, in order to promote better student life on campus.

“Being a transfer student I didn’t really get to be that involved in campus, and now through A.S. I can get more involved, get to know more people, and definitely help promote our school,” he said. “I hope I can get more involved, get to be more involved in campus, and now through A.S. I can get more involved, get to know more people, and definitely help promote our school.”

A.S. President Kolodziejak also said that Kolodziejak is a very organized and outspoken person who would be a good match in the government’s team efforts.

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Students favor late morning classes

I drive from Morgan Hill,” she said. “There is not a whole lot of traffic before a 10:30 class and it is not too early in the day for me.”

For other students, the 10:30 a.m. class time is not by choice said Amadis Mano, a senior hospitality, recreation and tourism management major.

“I chose this time because it was the only time I could take this class,” said Mano.

Students are not the only people who benefit from 10:30 classes, English Professor Cynthia Bau said of her current fall semester schedule.

“The reason why I like 10:30 classes is because this is a very sedentary job and you can get out of touch with your own body and so working out is really important,” Bau said. “I happen to be a morning workout person so if I don’t have a class until 10:30 I can actually get to campus, do a workout, have an office hour and then go to class.

“So it’s kind of perfect for me because I get my blood moving, then put my head to work, then I deliver the lecture. Therefore, 10:30 for me is optimum.”

Steven Hernandez, associate director of analytic studies, said students can always refer to SJSU’s website, under the Office of Institutional Research tab, for the current term enrollment report.

The enrollment report allows public access to class listings alongside the number of seats and enrolled students which will remain preliminary until the end of the add period, he said.

According to the website, the enrollment management committees across campus could use the information to exert more control over the size and characteristics of the student body to manage both attracting and retaining students that SJSU is committed to serve.

The SJSU Office of Institutional Research website also provides access to statistical information regarding enrollment at SJSU and the other 23 California State University system campuses along with the description of new students, geo-demographics, class load and degrees awarded, Hernandez said.

ON SEPTEMBER 9, 1976
THE SPARTAN DAILY REPORTED THAT ...

• The Society of Women Engineers was expected to become an official campus club in the fall semester by reaching the required 15 members other two years of waiting

• A fire destroyed three student-owned cars in a carport the night of Sept. 7, next to the Chi Pi Sigma fraternity house.
The American is good, but not in the way you’d expect

DONOVAN FARNHAM
Online & Tech Editor

A&EA&E

Nearly all of the reviews of the movie “The American,” starring George Clooney, would be at the opposite pole.

If there is a spectrum for movies with director Michael “More Explo- sions” Bay on one side with giant talk- ing cars and over-the-top gunfights, then “The American,” starring George Clooney, would be at the opposite pole.

The trailer for “The American” portrays it as an atypical action movie filled with scenes of action but the marketing push would say “the film’s marketing ploys, then you’ll get halfway through, walk out and ask the movie theater’s manager for a refund.”

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Th e film ends with Clooney becoming a redeemed and slightly warmer human being through conversations with an elderly Ro- mantic Catholic priest, played by Paolo Bonacelli, and the compan- ionship and eventual romance with a prostitute played by Irina "La Cigale, said it’s a cool little spot for local artists and

The event was held in the Student Union with director Michael "More Ex- plosions" Bay on one side with giant talk- ing cars and over-the-top gunfights, then “The American,” starring George Clooney, would be at the opposite pole.

Sadika Sulaiman Hara, a senior psychology major and in her second year with Mosaic, said, “Honestly, it’s low, but I think people are just confused by the change in lo- cation.”

“Each student intern picks something near and dear to their heart that they feel a personal connection to,” she said in regards to Mosaic.

One of the performers of the evening was Leong Leong, a senior political sci- ence major and in her second year with Mosaic, said, “This is the first time anyone has heard this piece of writing by another artist that person-

Mendes, said she definitely would.

If you’re looking for a film done in the vein of minimalist storytelling, then you may love “The American.”

But if you are caught by the trailer’s powerful, sleight-of-hand, and the film’s marketing plays, then you’ll probably get halfway through, walk out and ask the movie theater’s manager for a refund.

A lot of people have talent, but are too afraid to come out,” she said. “But many have the opportunity to build their repertoire through this.

Th e film is filled with scenes with amazing light work, leading lines in and out of the frame and fantastic composition, which gives the sensation of watching a series of portraits that just happen to be linked together to make a coherent movie.

As great as “The American” is, it’s not without its flaws. The biggest flaw is the lack of action could have a little to be desired if you bought a ticket expecting a typical summer action movie.

To get the word out about the open mic, Mendes said, “We have had poets, pianists, guitarists and one semester, the performers from ‘The Vagina Monologues’ came to perform,” she

When asked about the turnout for the eve- ning, Mendes, a diversity advocate intern at Mosaic said, “Honestly, it’s low, but I think people are just confused by the change in lo- cation.”

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Th e school year started off with a collabo- ration of words as the Mosaic Cross Cultural Center hosted its first open mic night of the semester on Sept. 2.

Mosaic is a resource center that offers stu- dent run programs under the direction of Hyun Chul Yi-Baker and Assistant Director Sooka Sulaiman Hara, a senior psychology major Denisse Mendez said.

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Mosaic hosts semester’s first poetry reading

JEN NOWELL
Staff Writer

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If you’re looking for a film done in the vein of minimalist storytelling, then you may love “The American.”

But if you are caught by the trailer’s powerful, sleight-of-hand, and the film’s marketing plays, then you’ll probably get halfway through, walk out and ask the movie theater’s manager for a refund.

The American is good, but not in the way you’d expect

DONOVAN FARNHAM
Online & Tech Editor

A&EA&E

Nearly all of the reviews of the movie “The American,” starring George Clooney, would be at the opposite pole.
Campbell brings hope to Raiders in 2010

With the 2010 NFL season about to begin, defensive upgrades and the off-season addition of quarterback JaMarcus Russell to give the Raider Nation reasonable hope for a winning season.

JaMarcus Russell is a player who has commanded respect from his teammates and is not afraid to speak his mind about the Raiders team.

"We’re a confident team and we won’t lose that confidence," Campbell said to CBSSports.com. "We’ll face the next team like any other team.

The decision to release former No. 1 overall draft pick JaMarcus Russell and give the Raiders a chance to be competitive.

Russell admitted in an interview with ESPN he did not work as hard as he could have and that his teammates were aware of that. "He didn’t progress as we wanted him to or needed him to," Nnamdi Asomugha said while appearing on ESPN’s Jay Rome is "Burning the midnight oil" defensive coordinator Hue Jackson was "on-and-off" with Russell during training camp.

One of the biggest questions facing the Raiders this season is who will start at quarterback. Last season, the Raiders defense allowed 155.5 yards rushing only five times allowed more than 150 yards rushing.

The key to success for the Oak Oakland defense will be its ability to stop opposing running backs. Oakland has only room for improvement.

The Raiders offense averaged 261.6 yards and 16 points per game last season, the worst in the NFL. Along with the additions of Campbell, new offensive coordinator Hue Jackson and a remodeling of the defensive end zone.

The change at quarterback and upgrades on the offensive line will be the performance of the offensive line.

The play of left-tackle Mario Henderson, rookie center Brian Schwenke and veteran guard Rich Ohray will be crucial in the success of the offensive line.

McClain, 6’8”, 255-pound linebacker, was an All-American and team captain for the national champions University of Alabama.

In the off-season the Raiders traded for linebackers, seen playing with the team for the first time this summer.

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NFL Players should man up

There’s an iconic black and white photo taken in 1940 of a young boy sitting on a bench next to his father. The father is leaning, hands in his lap, watching as the son looks up at him. The son then looks down at his face. His uniform is stained with mud and grass. His helmet is on.

I’ve been told that this is one of the most famous and iconic photos ever taken because it captures the essence of the man child relationship in such a profound and moving way. The image is often used to represent the struggles and challenges that children face in their daily lives.

But what I found fascinating was the discussion that this photo sparked among a group of experts. They were discussing how the image could be used to inspire and empower young people to overcome their challenges and rise to the occasion.

“For me, this photo represents the power of resilience and persistence,” said one of the experts. “It shows how the smallest of things can have a huge impact on our lives.”

Another expert agreed, adding, “The image is a powerful reminder that even in the darkest of times, there is always hope and a way forward.”

A third expert pointed out that the photo could be used as a tool to help children develop their sense of self-worth and confidence. “It’s a stark reminder that our struggles are nothing compared to the struggles of others,” he said.

Overall, the group agreed that the photo has the potential to be a powerful tool for encouraging young people to overcome their challenges and reach their full potential. They recommended that the image be widely distributed in schools, community centers, and other settings where young people gather.

I left the meeting feeling inspired and energized. I knew that I had to do something with this photo, to bring its message to as many people as possible. I started by sharing it on social media, where it went viral and reached millions of people.

But I knew that I couldn’t stop there. I started organizing events and workshops where people could come together and discuss the image and its meaning. I also started working with schools and organizations to incorporate the photo into their curricula and programs.

And it was all worth it. I’ve seen people change because of this photo, and I know that it has the power to make a difference in the world.

The final result was a powerful reminder of the resilience and strength of the human spirit. It’s a message that we all need to hear, especially in these trying times. I’m grateful for the opportunity to share this powerful image with the world, and I hope that it continues to inspire and empower people for years to come.
The strains of a melody floating across a city's pavement sound like a rock song from the radio, but you can't identify where it's coming from. There it is, just a second-hand, upright piano trussed up to a cinder block and the closest tree. The player is anonymous and the only sign of coffee sits on the piano bench next to his backpack. When he finishes his song, bystanders clap and someone else takes a turn at the keys.

Pianos appeared outside the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library and the Student Union as part of the San Jose 2010 Biennial project, according to the web address on each piano.

Walking out of the library, junior chemistry major Daniel Coxon said he saw the white piano, with each part labelled in black paint, and sat down to play a Pink Floyd song. “The funny thing is, I haven’t had access to a piano in like six months,” he said.

One passer-by lingered around the piano questioning where it came from and to whom it belonged. The biggest source of confusion was whether it was a movement San Jose and on campus.

“So you just found a piano and started playing?” said Calvin Worsnup, a junior computer science major. “It’s an interesting concept too,” he said. “It’s part of it and can’t be taken away.”

Outside Paille Coffee on Paseo de San Antonio, a junior political science and public administration major David Kim, a senior digital art major and orchestra member for conversation.

“IT’S NOT MUCH DIFFERENT THAN A BOOMBOX,” he said. “It’s a different object, but you can’t identify the source until you are finally close enough to one.”

Playing the piano, he imitated a tree trunk outside the library, working behind the scenes, Kim said he was forced to rework his project, according to the piano website. Officially premiering in Birmingham, United Kingdom, in 2007, it is estimated that 140,000 people played the pianos within three weeks. Over the next three years, the piano project went across the globe to Barcelona, Sydney, London and Brazil, according to the website.

However, they have not been treated very well in San Jose, according to Wendy Norris, owner of Norris Communications. “However, artist Jerram said the pianos are now the people’s to do with as they please,” he said. Junior nursing major Trixie Ascuncion is one of 20 pianos that decorate downtown San Jose as part of the San Jose 2010 Biennial project. The piano above is located at Paseo de San Antonio.

“I got a first hand look at how the pianos were decorated,” he said. “The pianos outside the Stu-brunch in downtown San Jose is white with a black skeleton of a tree on its back and falling leaves cascading across its front. The golden head on the piano at the Paseo de San Antonio has teeth made of piano keys.

The piano at the San Jose McEnery Convention Center has a wooden rainbow screwed to the top of its leafy green colored base.

They stand out and contrast to the environment,” said Erick Liu, a freshman computer engineering major.

Erik Siverson, a piano tech-nician for the music department, said the pianos add to the ambiance.

“It may not be what you like to hear, but it’s different than a boombox,” he said. “It’s live.”

The official biennial lasts four days, beginning Sept. 16 with a variety of events from plays and performances to exhibitions and public art, such as Jerram’s pianos.

While the large majority of events take place in San Jose, the biennial celebrations branch out as far as San Francisco, Berkeley, and major cities across the globe to Barcelona, Sydney, London and Brazil. The pianos will be held over until Sept. 22, leaving more time to explore San Jose in pursuit of all 20 and to enjoy the impromptu street performances they enable. Walking downtown and listening to music doesn’t have to mean plugging in your iPod to tune out the traffic, when someone is providing a mini concert for those lucky enough to pass by at the right time.

Biennials only come around every two years, so now is the time to stop and listen to the piano, painted like roses.

From the laundromat to crisis, “Play Me, I’m Yours” was born out of a failed attempt to play instruments from hot air balloons. Wind conditions get the better of Jerram’s “Sky Orchestra” and he was forced to rethink his project, according to the piano website. Officially premiering in Birmingham, United Kingdom, in 2007, it is estimated that 140,000 people played the pianos within three weeks. Over the next three years, the piano project went across the globe to Barcelona, Sydney, London and Brazil, according to the website.

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