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OUTSIDE



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Thursday, September 23, 2010

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Activist to speak at SJSU tonight



PHOTO: CINTIA RODRIGUEZ | SPARTAN DAILY ARCHIVES

Activist and United Farm Workers union co-founder, Dolores Huerta poses in front of the Cesar Chavez Memorial Arch with its creator, Judith Baca on Sept. 8, 2008. A mural of Huerta appears in the background.

See full story on **HUERTA** Page 3

Health center restocks flu shots for fall

AMARIS DOMINGUEZ
Staff Writer

The Student Health Center just received its first shipment of the flu vaccine in preparation for flu season, according to the medical chief of staff for the health center.

"We are currently updating our website regarding the flu and how to prevent it and when to seek medical attention," Cecilia Manibo said. "We have signs posted in the Student Health Center year-round regarding limiting spreading germs."

The health center has noticed a drop in the number of flu cases, she said.

"The drop is partly due to the summer not being flu season and because there are fewer students utilizing the Student Health Center during the academic breaks," Manibo said.

She said students can visit the health center by appointment and receive a flu vaccination that will last for nine months. There is a \$15 fee per dose, she said.

"It is never too early to get the flu shot," Manibo said. "This year's vaccine will protect against the 2009 H1N1 virus, seasonal flu and the new H3N2 strain."

According to the Santa Clara County Health Department website, the 2010-2011 seasonal influenza vaccine will include the Influenza A (H3N2) and an Influenza B strain.

"I'm always getting sick so I think it would be wise for me to get my flu shot before it's too late," said undeclared sophomore Lucia Gonzales.

According to the health center website, the flu vaccination is still recommended for those who received the H1N1 vaccine last year.

Roger Elrod, director of the health center, said the medical and wellness promotion staff for the health center have been updating in-house materials so SJSU students have ready access to information about what they can do to stay healthy during cold and flu season.

"It comes down to some pretty common sense behaviors that we all have heard about, but can often have a hard time applying for ourselves like getting adequate rest, relaxation, nutrition and treating ourselves well," Elrod said.

He said our bodies have amazing defenses against germs,

See **FLU** Page 3

Two groups earn A.S. funding at board meeting

KENNY MARTIN
Staff Writer

At the Associated Students meeting Wednesday, the members of the committee voted to approve funding requests for two groups, voted members into and out of positions and listened to a student's advice on how to represent themselves better.

The A.S. granted \$2,168 to the Akbayan Pilipino-American Organization of SJSU, which Lauren Tabora, the organization's cultural chair, said is the only Filipino-American group on campus.

"We need the money to cover professional performers' talent fees, publicity and advertising, and equipment," Tabora said.

The organization, she said, consists of 300 to 400 members and is focused on raising money for other groups dedicated to providing global aid.

One example of Akbayan's work is the "Ma'boo'hay" event held in honor of Filipino American History Month, which Tabora said will be celebrating its 10th anniversary on Oct. 7.

Kevin Trieu, the director of community and environment affairs for A.S., said he decided to vote against the funding even though he thinks it is a great event, mainly because the organization was late in submitting its proposal for the donation.

"Due to the types of performers, we had trouble getting in all of the information because we

were waiting on cost estimates from the artists," Tabora said.

Kevin Starks, the director of external affairs, said he was one of the members who voted in favor of Akbayan's request for money.

"It has always been a successful event," he said. "To end their legacy would be bad for the students."

The A.S. also voted to approve the Public Relations Student Society of America's request for funding.

Last week, the society made an appeal for \$885, but because of a misunderstanding between the A.S. and the society concerning the registration date for a trip to Washington D.C., the A.S. denied the request, said Monica Padilla, chapter president of the society.

The mission of the society is to allow public relations students to network with professionals in the field, and Padilla said the trip to Washington D.C., which will consist of panels and workshops, will give students that opportunity.

John Sepassi had asked to resign from his position on the A.S. Finance Committee.

Richard Kelley, director of student involvement and main adviser for the A.S. board, said that Sepassi was interested in the position, but would have had to drop a class in order to fill the role.

In the end, he said Sepassi decided not to

See **MEETING** Page 3

FEATURE

The new Student Union: Examining the issues

CALLI PEREZ
Staff Writer

The California State University Board of Trustees, at a conference on Sept. 22, decided that construction of the new Student Union would continue.

The board voted on whether to move forward with SJSU purchasing bonds to build the new facility, said Cathy Busalacchi, the executive director of the student union.

Pat Lopes Harris, director of media relations for SJSU, said the California State University Board of Trustees provided approval for the "pursual of bond financing for the project."

New and Improved
Senior Spanish major Ju-

lie Zowzall said she had reservations about the Student Union's construction.

"I don't like to see how much money is going into construction on the campus when classes are being cut right and left," she said.

"Even though that money comes from different sources, I just think that the priorities should be having more classes, having more professors, and I do not think it is fair that money to be used to be rebuilding places that were fine to begin with."

"The budget for the new structure is \$65 million," said Daniel No, the architect and construction manager of the project. "As of right now, the expected completion date is June 2013."

No said there are no current problems that should cause any delays to push that date back.

"I feel like it is really slow and pretty delayed," said senior physics major Johnny Vu. "They need to speed up with it."

No said the current structure will be retrofitted and expanded by creating a new structure containing a food court, ballrooms, offices and other resources for students.

"From what I understand the construction is being done in phases, so the existing construction where the Market Café and University Room was has been torn down," said Cheryl Vargas, the executive director of associated students. "The plan is the first floor will be

See **UNION** Page 8

Layoffs, furloughs may have caused scholarship delays

KELSEY LYNNE LESTER-PERRY
Staff Writer

Furloughs and reductions in staff last semester could explain why some students have not yet received the funds from their scholarships, a financial aid counselor said.

Felicity Jimenez-Howard, a scholarship coordinator and counselor, said in an ideal setting a department may have an awards banquet in May and the student would get the money that fall.

"The department would send their check request to us sometime in late July or early August, so that we can have the funds ready to disperse to students during the first week of the semester," she said. "That doesn't always happen. Staff cutbacks during the summer have affected the flow of this ideal situation."

She said a ripple effect from last semester's furloughs have caused some departments to be short-staffed, and departments have been trying to get their footing since the end of furloughs in July.

Layoffs in the May and June time period resulted in the loss of 75 qualified staff members, faculty not included, said Pat Lopes Harris, director of media relations for SJSU.

Harris said she was unable to state which departments are having problems awarding scholarships in a timely fashion, but confirmed that a vast majority of the scholarships went out on time.

"Students are just getting frustrated with the lack of timeliness," Jimenez-Howard said.

Sarah Nadeau, a graduate student in psychology, said she doesn't receive financial aid but she takes out loans, and the Charles Telford Memorial Scholarship she received this year was helpful.

She said there haven't been any problems in receiving her awards so far.

"I can see how that would be a huge problem for people who rely on that money," she said.

She said she remembered being worried about her Frances Payne Scholarship coming later than expected last year.

Junior engineering major Cassandra Acosta said she was awarded a Silicon Valley Engineering Scholarship her freshman year.

She said she got \$5,000 from it, but ended up getting over-awarded since she was on financial aid as well.

She said she bought a computer with the extra money.

"I completely relied on scholarships," she said. "Loans just kept piling up, it's a huge hassle. If people are promised money, they should receive it."

One major problem that departments are facing is that most of the laid-off staff were union members, which allows for "bumping," Harris said.

"Bumping" allows staff with seniority to oust coworkers with less experience, she said.

Unfortunately, the job that the staff member retained might not require the same skills as before, and paperwork was only halfway completed, waiting for the old staff to finish, she said.

This lag in the basic administrative duties could be the reason for the delay in the scholarship process, she said.

Jimenez-Howard said students might also have been over-awarded if there is a delay.

She said she specifically works with students to re-budget, and make the most out of the unused money by putting that extra cash toward a payment on a loan, or recirculating it into the pool of unused scholarship funds.

Another reason for a lag in receiving scholarship funds could be that not all of the funds are held within the Financial Aid Office, she said.

Sometimes the department sends a check request to the Financial Aid Office, the financial aid employees then have to request money from the Tower Foundation and then the student is awarded, she said.

"It's just an extra step to the process, which would cause delays," she said. "It can add up to a week of time with that being processed."

With scholarships awarded simply through a specific department, the department analyst would complete a check request and send it to the scholarship office, she said.

"We process all the scholarships

their initial financial aid established. And sometimes scholarships just build upon the financial aid award."

The turnaround time is getting quicker — just a couple weeks into the semester, she said.

"We are a lot more on top of things," she said. "You can imagine scholarship check requests coming in from all these different agencies into this office. It can get kind of hectic, but we do get it done."

She said she understands that students are upset, but still wants to defend the hardworking staff.

"If you were to go into anybody's job and ask, 'Why isn't this being done?' people are going to get touchy about it," she said about the criticism departments sometimes face.

The Financial Aid Office has the student's best interests in mind, she said.

"We wouldn't be here if we didn't," she said. "But at the same time there is a lot of work on this campus that needs to be done. We have gone through a lot of change in the last full academic year, if not just this summer, and that doesn't directly flow into someone completing a scholarship check request, but the overall effect (does)."

Charles Bullock, dean of the College of Applied Sciences and the Arts, has talked about scholarships being a top priority in all of the departments, said Barbara Conry, the associate dean of the college.

Students who are awarded scholarships deserve to receive that money, she said.

"It's a little bit more challenging," Conry said. "We want to respect the donors, they give this great privilege to the students."

Despite the challenges the departments have been confronted with, Jimenez-Howard said she thinks they are doing a good job.

"I think it's great that the deans have made scholarships a top prior-

ity," she said. "And it will help our students."

All of the scholarship funds are set up with an agreement, called memorandums of understanding, at the university in which the donor stipulates what the money is to be used for, she said.

"In these, it's detailed what department gets the money," she said. "How much the gift is to start it out, how much the department is supposed to get, and those are legal documents, so we are bound by those documents."

As of Sept. 15, any check or check request that the Financial Aid Office had received within seven business days has been processed, according to Jimenez-Howard.

““
Students are just getting frustrated with the lack of timeliness.
””

FELICITY JIMENEZ-HOWARD
Scholarship coordinator and counselor

we receive," she said. "Once they've been awarded, we have that processed, we have those wheels going, nobody never gets their scholarship."

The Financial Aid Office also does its own awarding, she said.

Harris confirmed that there have been no layoffs in the Financial Aid Office.

The office has the same constraints as every one else, Jimenez-Howard said.

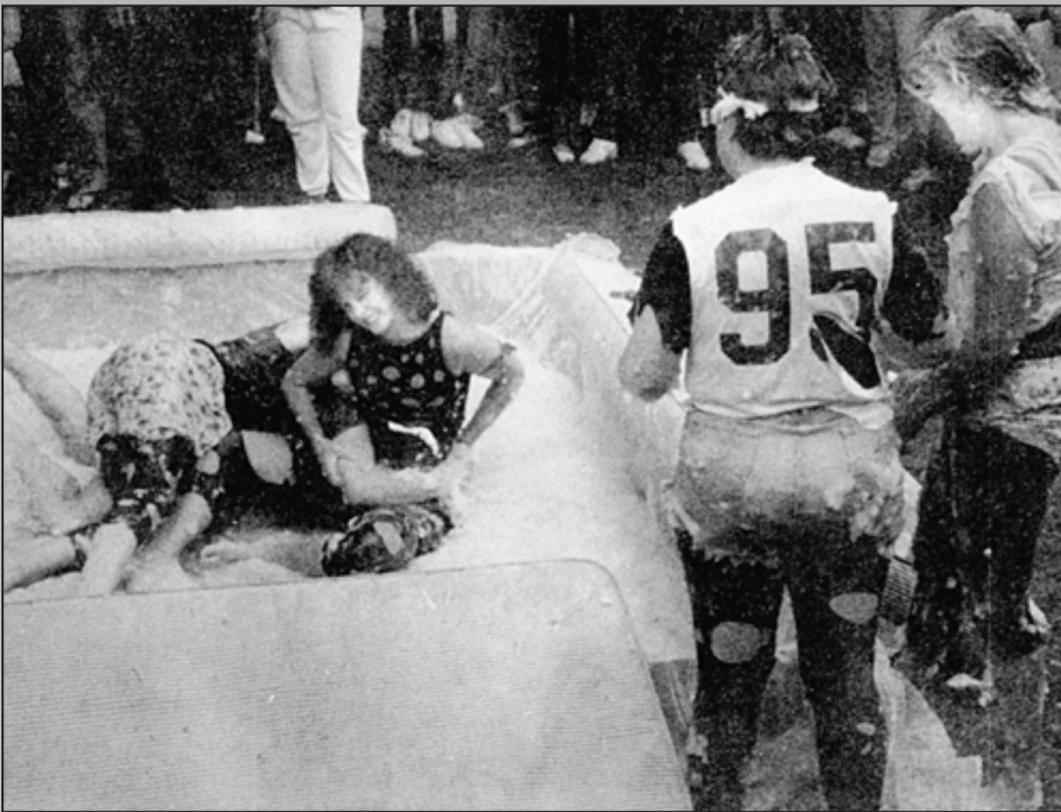
"We try to award our scholarships as quickly as possible," she said. "But at the same time, since we are under the financial aid umbrella, we are trying to help as many students get

Jimenez-Howard's checklist for scholarship success:

- I. KNOW WHAT THE NAME OF YOUR SCHOLARSHIP IS.
 - A. When you are researching scholarships, take note of the name and how much it is worth.
 - B. Know the term that the award will be given, when it's going to pay and when the agreement is.
- II. COMMUNICATION IS KEY.
 - A. Get a timeline from the department as to when you will see the funds.
- III. SAY THANK YOU AND WRITE THANK YOU NOTES.
 - A. When you start with money, you attract a lot more bees!
 - B. Say thanks to staff members, and donors and you will be met with a lot more work-ability.
 - C. We remember when people are polite!

COMPILED BY: KELSEY LYNNE LESTER-PERRY | SPARTAN DAILY

THIS DAY IN HISTORY



ON SEPTEMBER 23, 1986
THE SPARTAN DAILY REPORTED THAT ...

- A Jell-O wrestling match was held in Royce Hall to promote a dormitory dance (above).
- SJSU Career Counselor Lina Melkonian walked around as a package to promote the "Packaging Yourself for the Successful Interview" event.
- More than 170 teenagers were turned away from a concert in Morris Dailey Auditorium because of a new policy banning non-students under the age of 18.
- The Associated Students lost \$499 on 294 unsold 1985 homecoming T-shirts as the '86 version was ready to hit the racks.

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Student Union, Inc. Fall Events

| | |
|---------|--|
| SEPT 25 | Adelita! The Women of the Mexican Revolution 8 PM \$40-\$125 (Res.) Event Center |
| OCT 11 | Alice in Chains w/Deftones & Mastodon 7 PM \$39.50 (Gen. Adm.) Event Center |
| OCT 13 | Dalai Lama Teaching 9:30 AM \$35 (Res.), \$20 (Student) Event Center |
| OCT 14 | Michael Moore 7 PM \$25 (Res.), \$15 (Student) Morris Dailey Auditorium |
| OCT 29 | Lady Antebellum w/David Nail 7:30 PM \$34.50 (Gen. Adm. & Res.) Event Center |

Fraternity hosts barbecue to give back to SJSU faculty members

MICHIKO FULLER
Staff Writer

The smell of charcoal and grilled meat drew student attention to the grill pits on Paseo de Cesar Chavez on Wednesday afternoon, but the members of the Delta Upsilon fraternity turned them away.

From 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. SJSU faculty members ate for free as part of the fraternity's Faculty Appreciation Barbecue, said Delta Upsilon's vice president of public relations Steven Gallardo.

“The burgers were perfectly grilled and really juicy.”

ERIC FREEMAN
Junior criminology major

“We won top GPA and top fraternity last year and we felt like we needed to give back to all the teachers,” Gallardo, a junior business marketing major said.

Delta Upsilon was picked for academic prowess over the 10 other fraternities in the San Jose State Interfraternity Council, Gallardo said.

By 1 p.m., the fraternity had served about 55 people

burgers, veggie burgers, cheeseburgers, hot dogs and strawberry lemonade, Gallardo said.

Gallardo said the faculty came in waves between class times and he appointed sophomore communications major Matt Collins the grill master to prepare for the upcoming break in classes.

Collins said operating the grill is fairly easy and involves lighting the briquettes, letting them burn till they're white-hot and letting them heat evenly.

“Don't burn it,” he said.

Capt. Marianne Alvarez of the University Police Department stopped by after the chief had told the office about the barbecue.

“It's nice to be appreciated,” she said. “I'm going to have a hot dog and go all out.”

Alvarez enjoyed her plate of food with Adriana Poo from Library Security, who came after her lieutenant told her about the event.

“I'm picking up food for a coworker who's stuck at the gate,” she said.

Poo decided to take both a hot dog and a burger for her coworker.

The most popular items served at the barbecue were the burgers and the lemonade the fraternity members mixed themselves, Gallardo said.

“The burgers were perfectly grilled and really juicy,” said junior criminology major Eric Freeman.

Gallardo said they also had the veggie burgers to convince vegetarian faculty members to attend the barbe-



PHOTO: JENNA BARJAM | CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

Senior economics major David Bay grills burgers for Elizabeth Ramos and Kevin Dguyn, student assistants for the UPD, at the faculty and staff barbecue on Sept. 21. The event was put on by the Delta Upsilon fraternity and located at the Seventh Street barbecue pits.

cue as well.

Members of the UPD, professors and maintenance workers came to the event, Gallardo said.

“I tried to get the guys on the cart to let me drive, but they wouldn't let me,” he said.

Delta Upsilon's vice president of philanthropy Eric Freeman said the fraternity plans to continue the barbecue for faculty every semester.

Freeman said the fraternity has multiple philanthropic events planned for this se-

mester, from a haunted house for kids to a weeklong fundraiser for Beacon of Hope, which benefits those in New Orleans affected by Hurricane Katrina.

The fraternity had a leadership retreat to New Orleans over the summer and the members were touched by what they saw there, Freeman said.

“It's definitely a good thing to do for freshmen and pledges so they know Delta Upsilon and the things we stand for,” he said.

HUERTA

From Page 1

JOEY AKELEY
Senior Staff Writer

Civil rights activist Dolores Huerta, whose image shares the Cesar E. Chavez Memorial Arch on campus, will talk about her experiences tonight at 7 in the Morris Dailey Auditorium.

“It's an honor for us to have her come,” said Phillip Tabera, a Mexican-American studies lecturer.

Richard Gonzalez of National Public Radio will moderate the discussion with Huerta; Thomas Saenz, president of Mexican American Legal Defense Education Fund; and three members of the activist band Ozomati.

From the late '50s through the '70s, Huerta helped Chicanos across the Silicon Valley fight for their rights and get jobs, said Maribel Martinez, the program manager for the Associated Students community action center and host of the event.

Martinez said a Chicano is a cultural and political term for people of Mexican heritage fighting for rights of people with color.

Martinez said Huerta often used the statement “Si se puede,” to encourage Chicanos.

“Yes it can be, yes we can come together, yes we can make change – that's kind of the background for that statement,” Martinez said. “It was about the farmworkers movement to change the laws, which they were able to do, and get relief for unemployed workers.”

Tabera, who refers to himself as a Chicano, said farmworkers were rarely ever organized before Huerta and Cesar Chavez in 1962 co-founded what eventually became the United Farm Workers union.

“I come from a family of farm workers from Salinas Valley working in the fields,” Tabera said. “And the United Farm Workers, with Dolores Huerta and Cesar Chavez, came to Salinas Valley to organize farmworkers in 1970s. That meant a lot for our lives.”

Salvador Barron, a Mexican-American majoring in chemistry, said Huerta has affected thousands of people's lives.

“The civil rights she fought for were for farmworkers all across the country,” he said.

Barron said having Huerta speaking on campus is a big deal.

“It's huge because she's someone who actually experienced it,” he said. “She was involved in the struggle. Just to have that experience is motivating and inspiring.”

Senior kinesiology major Natalie Stull said Huerta will give a unique perspective to people who attend tonight's discussion.

“This area is very diverse, and to have a woman who fought for rights of farmworkers, it's great to have her come to campus,” she said.

Martinez said Huerta's picture on the mural shows two distinct roles she played in her life.

Martinez said that in the mural, “If you notice one hand is open, and she was a very nurturing person. She was a wife and a mother of several children, which she would pack all in her stationwagon and go several places.”

“The other hand was a fist, and she was very strong,

very determined. She was one of the key negotiators in all of the contract settlements with the farm workers.”

In 1988, Huerta was beaten by San Francisco Police Department officers during a nonviolent protest, Martinez said.

She said the event led directly to laws being changed about police officers using force at protests.

The conversation will be enriched, Martinez said, by Thomas Saenz, who has a long history of advocating for rights in the legal system, and the Ozomati members, who use visual arts to express their view points.

“The discussion is a multicultural interdisciplinary conversation about how do we stand up for people's rights and how do we as a community address what's going in the world today,” Martinez said.

The general admission cost of the event is \$15 and \$10 for students.

FLU

From Page 1

but if we aren't taking care of ourselves those defenses weaken.

He advises students to develop habits of frequently washing their hands, avoiding touching their nose, mouth and eyes to prevent infecting themselves with the cold and flu virus that might be on their hands.

“Hand washing, vampire coughing and sneezing also helps us not share with others the cold and flu viruses we might be carrying,” Elrod said.

He described vampire coughing and sneezing as coughing and sneezing into your arm to prevent the spread of germs that can live on your hands.

Elrod said there are various PDFs on the health center's website for students to reference on how to stay healthy, flu symptoms to watch out for and when to get treated.

Junior business major Daniel Smith said he sees people coughing and sneezing into their hands when he is making his way across campus every day.

“I get a flu shot every year because I hate being sick,” Smith said. “I can't afford to miss school or work just because people contaminate everything because they can't wash their hands or cough into their arms.”

Elrod said that between seasonal and H1N1 flu shots, the health center administered over 600 influenza vaccinations last year.

Manibo said viruses are always changing and advises anyone who is sick to stay home to prevent spreading germs to others, and those with a prolonged fever or worsening symptoms to seek care.

“It is difficult to predict when flu epidemics will happen,” Manibo said. “Everyone needs to be vigilant about not spreading germs year-round.”

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Spartans face No. 13 Utes

Back on the road, MacIntyre and the team face another ranked school and the second of three football teams from Utah

PREVIEW

MELISSA SABILE
Sports Editor

After losing to two nationally ranked teams and winning the SJSU football home opener, the Spartans will travel to Salt Lake City to face No. 13 Utah.

Saturday will be Utah's homecoming and the team has won its last three homecoming games.

"It's a tough place to play," head coach Mike MacIntyre said. "I hope that our experience at Wisconsin and Alabama has prepared us for this. I feel good about going into the game."

The Utes, who stomped New Mexico State 56-14 last week, have the longest home-game winning streak in the history of the Mountain West Conference and the third longest in the country, MacIntyre said.

"We need to get going better in the first half," he said. "(Last week) we were closer to the possibility of having a fast start than we have had, so that's a positive. We just have to take advantage of it."

Senior quarterback Jordan La Secla said the team feels good about the upcoming game.

"We're prepared," La Secla said. "We know what they do and we know we can score against them. We're just going to try to be more efficient than we were last week."

He said the offense has been focusing on ball security during practice.

"We're taking out a few things that caused us to have some fumbles last week," La Secla said. "We don't want to put ourselves in that situation again."

The team had a total of three fumbles that were recovered by Southern Utah, two of which resulted in a field goal and a safety for the Thunderbirds.

La Secla only completed 24 of 35 pass attempts for 193 yards, though there were no interceptions.

"We were shooting ourselves in the foot," he said. "A lot of it was me not taking what the defense was giving me and taking the easy throw. I'm trying to concentrate on that this week and making the easy plays."

La Secla said they will try to run the ball this game, as well as aim for the long passes.

"We're going to mix it up, but it will probably be pretty even," he said.

The Spartans' biggest challenge, however, will be dealing with the loss of senior safety Duke Ihenacho, who is out for the remainder of the season because of an injury he suffered during last week's game against Southern Utah University.

"It's tough on us," MacIntyre said. "But we've got young men stepping up."

Freshman cornerback Bené Benwikere, who made the interception to seal the win for the Spartans last Friday, will be taking the place of Ihenacho.

Additionally, freshmen defensive ends Foloi Vae and Cedric Lousi will be replacing senior defensive end Mohamed Marah, who also had a season-ending injury.

"They've been playing well, so this will just be another test for them," MacIntyre said about Benwikere, Vae and Lousi. "Each week, I see them get a little bit better and better. We're going to keep playing those guys and going with it."

Junior cornerback Alex Germany said the team has been working on getting in sync.

"We've been working on communicating with each other so we're all on the same page," Germany said. "We know what they want to do and we know what we have to do to stop them. We just have to communicate it before every play."

MacIntyre said Utah's

multiple offense and effective defense will be a challenge the Spartans are ready for.

"Defensively, they do a lot of stunning and blitzing, so we've been having to prepare for that," he said. "We're just trying to get better at some of our situations in the game that we didn't execute as well the other night and hopefully we'll improve on those."

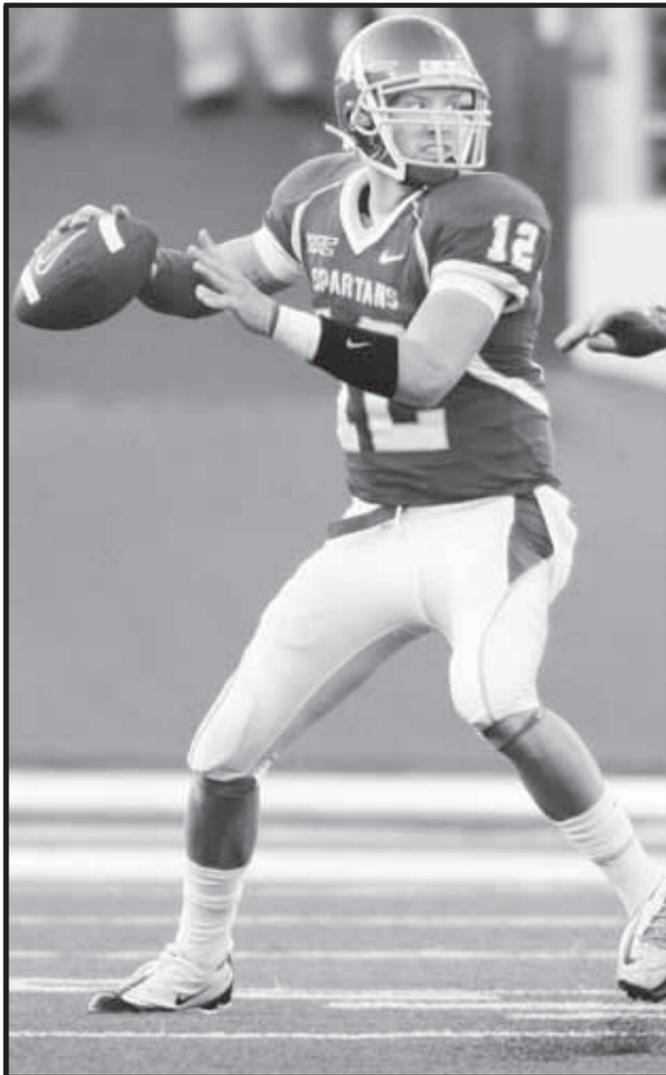
Whether the Spartans can hold off another loss against yet another high-ranked team will depend on La Secla's accuracy and ability to score enough points and the young defensive line's ability to push the Utes back, but MacIntyre said to expect the same good, hard effort the team has been displaying these past three weeks.

"We'll be able to hold up just fine," Germany said. "We're excited to step up to another big task and we'll be ready."



Freshman defensive end Foloi Vae pushes back Brandon Beddes of Southern Utah University during Saturday's game. Vae will be replacing injured Mohamed Marah.

PHOTO: CLIFFORD GRODIN | SPARTAN DAILY



Senior quarterback Jordan La Secla looks for an open player during last Saturday's game against Southern Utah University. La Secla completed 24 of 35 passes and had no interceptions for the first time this season.

PHOTO: CLIFFORD GRODIN | SPARTAN DAILY

SEASON STATS

| TEAM | SJSU | UU |
|-----------------|--------|--------|
| Win-Loss | 1-2 | 3-0 |
| Scoring | 33 | 121 |
| First Downs | 36 | 54 |
| Passing Yards | 531 | 738 |
| Rushing Yards | 201 | 433 |
| Touchdowns | 4 | 16 |
| Fumbles-Lost | 5-3 | 7-6 |
| Penalties-Yards | 20-177 | 24-234 |

An Evening With

Dolores Huerta

"By the Time We Got to Phoenix: SB 1070 and the New Chicano Civil Rights Movement"

A conversation with legendary civil rights activist Dolores Huerta, MALDEF president Thomas A. Saenz, and three members of the activist band Ozomatli; moderated by Richard Gonzalez of NPR.

September 23, 7:00 PM
Morris Dailey Auditorium

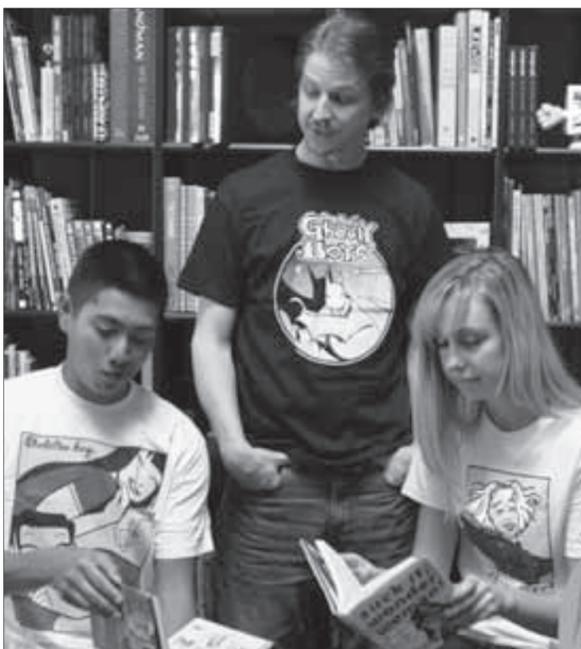
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Dancers ignite Broadway San Jose stage with 'Burn The Floor'

JAIMIE COLLINS
Staff Writer

Summer may be over, but things are still heating up in San Jose.

In addition to a season of classic productions, Broadway San Jose is now hosting a sexy ballroom dance performance titled "Burn The Floor."

From what I had heard about the show before seeing it, my first impression was that it focused on Latin dance.

While the majority of the pieces contained a basic Latin rhythm, there was a range of styles, including the waltz, foxtrot, quickstep and jive.

I attended the show with a friend on opening night and found the theater full with an audience of all ages, from children to senior citizens.

Broadway San Jose general manager Ruth Pangilinan said she expects audiences to love the show.

"It's a great show," Pangilinan said. "There is eye candy for everybody."

Our usher led us to our front-and-center orchestra seats, located a mere eight rows away from the dimly lit stage.

As the house lights went off, a large disco ball lowered over the stage, casting white and pink-tinted light over the audience while spotlights illuminated the dancers as they shimmied down the aisles toward the stage.

Fans of the hit Fox TV show "So You Think You Can Dance" got an extra treat when watching this performance since several members of the cast starred in the show.

The biggest names showcased were Mary Murphy, a long time judge on the show, Pasha and Anya from season three and the married couple from season six, Ryan and Ashley.

Over the next two hours, I watched as the 24 dancers of the cast swiveled their hips while dancing from one side of the stage to the other, doing flips, swirls and a variety of other tricks.

The speed of the performances ebbed and flowed as the

dancers switched from fast-paced foxtrots to a slower waltz and then back to an energetic salsa number.

The show had the perfect combination of acting and dancing, evoking humor, sensuality and romance that had me itching to jump out of my seat and start doing the cha-cha step.

Live music gave the performance an extra edge as two extremely talented vocalists sang classics such as "Proud Mary," "It Don't Mean A Thing (If It Ain't Got That Swing)" and "Sway."

Two percussionists were on stage providing rhythm and music ranging from a slow-paced Viennese waltz track to the quick Latin percussion of a rumba.

My favorite piece was a Latin contemporary dance that used the basic steps of salsa while incorporating contemporary moves and techniques, accompanied by a vocalist singing Sting's "I Burn For You."

After watching the spectacular performances, I came to the conclusion that "Burn the Floor" is one of the best on stage dance shows I have seen in years.

While the \$200 price tag for orchestra seating doesn't fit a college student's budget, students can purchase orchestra rush seats for \$26 when they go to the box office two hours before show time.

Hosted by the San Jose Center for the Performing Arts on the corner of Park and San Carlos streets, the performance runs approximately two hours, including a 15-minute intermission.

It is showing at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, 8 p.m. on Friday and Saturday and 6 p.m. on Sunday, with a 2 p.m. matinee on Saturday and a 1 p.m. matinee on Sunday.



PHOTO COURTESY OF BURN THE FLOOR

Broadway San Jose presents 'Burn the Floor', fresh from its successful run on Broadway.



PHOTO COURTESY OF JOAN MARCUS

The cast performs a fast-paced dance called "The Dirty Boogie."



PHOTO COURTESY OF DAVID WYATT

Dancers Karen Hauer & Artem Chignevstev of the original Broadway cast.

'Dexter' season five won't disappoint

AMARIS DOMINGUEZ
Staff Writer

America's favorite serial killer is making his way back to the TV screen with the season premiere of the hit Showtime network series "Dexter."

Michael C. Hall will reprise his role as Dexter Morgan, the blood spatter analyst for the Miami Metro Police Department and secret serial killer.

The end of season four came with a series of twisted events, where Dexter played an intense game of cat-and-mouse with Arthur Mitchell (John Lithgow), dubbed the Trinity Killer because of his routine of killing in threes.

Dexter became fascinated with Trinity's unique killing methods and his ability to evade capture by the police for three decades. However, his fascination came with a price.

The big shock came at the end of the last episode when Dexter heroically conquers Trinity on his signature plastic-wrapped table, slashing Trinity across the cheek with a scalpel.

In the last couple of minutes of the show, before Trinity was killed, he struck again, and this time, where it would hurt Dexter the most.

Dexter arrives home, pleased with ridding society of one of its most sought-after serial killers, only to be welcomed with cries from his son, Harrison, who is sitting in a pool of his mother's blood on the bathroom floor — and Dexter's wife, Rita (Julie Benz), murdered in the bathtub.

Season five will pick up right where season four left off, with Dexter trying to pick up the pieces of his life as a doting father and now a widower, while trying to satisfy the Dark Passenger, an inner voice that urges him to kill, and maintain his innocence in Rita's murder.

"The husband is usually the No. 1 suspect in the murder," Detective Joey Quinn (Desmond Harrington) announces to his team, about an emotionless Dexter whom he believes might be hiding a dark secret.

In addition, season five is expected to revolve around Dexter's identity as "Kyle Butler," the disappearance of the Trinity Killer and the circumstances surrounding Rita's death.

Dexter's sister, Deb Morgan (Jennifer Carpenter), tries to help her brother maintain his composure by offering help with his son while trying to stand up for her brother's innocence in the murder of his wife.

Dexter will be going through a lot of emotions he's never had to deal with before.

One of the biggest changes for this upcoming season is that there will not be a main villain to taunt Dexter throughout each episode — there will be several.

The fifth season of Dexter will also include guest appearances by Julia Stiles (Bourne Ultimatum), Chris Vance (Prison Break), Peter Weller (24), and Maria Doyle Kennedy (The Tudors).

Dexter season five will debut on Sept. 26, exclusively on Showtime.

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Small town girl, big city mindset

I remember being a teenager and thinking my hometown was the absolute best place to be.

Though I had traveled much and seen some of the most beautiful places in the world, I thought that nothing compared to Stenungsund, Sweden, the town in which I spent the first 19 years of my life.

I swore I would always live there — back then I loved small town life.

I used to revel in the fact that everyone knew who I was and what I was doing at every moment of every day.

It was almost as if I were addicted to the gossiping that took place in my hometown. Like the air I breathe, I needed the gossip to survive.

Then there was the safety of Stenungsund. It didn't matter if it was three in the afternoon or three in the morning, walking alone was never a problem.

This place was almost too safe, and because of that I became naive — something I would only understand the danger of later in life.

Let's not forget about the people in my hometown. Aside from a few rebellious souls, they always did the same thing every day, and they were happy with that.

So was I, because I didn't know any better.

It was as if we lived in a bubble where nothing else in the world mattered.

For the most part, I enjoyed the bubble. But I eventually reached a point where I grew tired of living that life.

So I moved to Snarøya, Norway, to get away for a while.

I was convinced it was only a temporary feeling of discontent that I was experiencing and that I would soon snap out of it. But that didn't happen.

About eight months later I moved back to Stenungsund.

At first I was excited to be home, but it wasn't long before the excitement turned into panic. I felt like I didn't belong there anymore.

While I had been busy living life outside the bubble and collecting experiences, the people in my hometown hadn't changed one bit.

Instead of appreciating the familiarity, it now drove me crazy. It seemed like time in Stenungsund had stood still while I had changed too much to fit in.

So I left again.

This time I ended up in San Jose, Calif.

My original plan was to stay for one year and then return home.

However, things didn't quite happen that way. I stayed for four years, earning myself a degree.

At first, I must admit it was strange not knowing anybody. Even worse was the fact that no one knew who I was.

In my hometown, that means I have no value — that I'm a nobody.

But I eventually learned to enjoy the anonymity.

I also learned to love big-city life and to take advantage of all it had to offer.

In the big city, knowledge is everywhere — all one has to do is collect it.

I believe there are more people in the big city than in the small town who follow their dreams instead of just imagining them as something great but unreachable.

I believe people come to the big city to be challenged, not to be held back.

I suppose those are the reasons why I came to the big city.

It has now been about two months since I moved back to my hometown.



MIA JASMINA KOSTOVA
The Swede Life

Though I love Stenungsund and still call it home, I haven't been able to look at this place the same way I once did.

As I sit in my backyard, looking out over the ocean while typing this column, I can see that Stenungsund is as beautiful as it has always been.

Aside from the gossiping, it's quiet and calm here — nothing like the big city.

Most of the people I grew up with still live here.

I recognize them all, because they haven't really changed.

They still do the same things they did when I left.

They're still naive.

They still gossip like there is nothing more important in life — in less than two months, I've been able to catch up on the four years that I've missed just by listening to gossip.

There is a beauty in that, too.

But now I know there is a different kind of beauty that this place can never give me — the beauty of constantly being challenged, which forces people to grow wiser whether they like it or not.

I suppose what I am trying to say is that life is too short to live in a bubble.

To me, that kind of life is for visiting only — at least until I have enough knowledge and experience to last me a lifetime.

Then, perhaps, I will settle down in the bubble.

"The Swede Life" is a monthly column. Mia Jasmina Kostova is a Spartan Daily special contributor.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

This letter is in response to the opinion story 'Building Disrespect,' which appeared on Sept. 14.

If Aimee McLendon wanted to prove that opposing the construction of an Islamic cultural centre and mosque near Ground Zero in New York City ("Building Disrespect," Sept. 14), she failed. How is it not bigoted against Islam to consider Park51, Imam Rauf's proposed project, a "reminder" of the Sept. 11 attacks, as that kind of thought scapegoats an entire group of people (Muslims) for the actions of a few deranged radicals. Additionally, the passage regarding a murderer's family moving next door to the victim to "promote healing" was just plain outrageous and defeating of her point. Under McLendon's logic, where are the big anti-Catholic rallies in America in the wake of the Catholic priest child abuse scandal?

Some facts obscured in this controversy: Park51 will include a memorial for the 9/11 victims and a quiet compassion state, the 17th floor of the South Tower had a Muslim prayer room, some of the passengers of the hijacked flights and workers at the WTC were Muslims and there are already mosques a few blocks away from Ground Zero (such as Masjid Manhattan). There's been no call to close those mosques. And if Ground Zero were supposedly "sacred ground", where's the call to close down the strip clubs and bars on the block just next to Ground Zero?

Finally, would religious intolerance rather than the presence of an Islamic facility be a bigger insult to the 9/11 victims who came from everywhere ranging from the US to the UK, Sweden, Canada, Germany and Israel?

Andrew Pang

My culture precedes me



JEFF FONG
The Rio Connection

It's been about a month since I arrived in Brazil, but I often feel like I never left California.

Even here in Rio de Janeiro, I get the sneaking suspicion that I'm really in just another immigrant burrow back in the States.

Let me explain.

When I turn on the tele-

vision in the apartment, about a third to a half of the programming is in English — CSI Miami and Law & Order are popular here.

When I walk down the street, it's not uncommon to hear American pop music blaring from car radios. Case in point, I was unfortunately reminded of the existence of Ke\$ha on my way back from class last week.

Speaking of class, the impact of English-speaking authors on the curriculum is continually brought to my attention. (Gilpin and Krugman for my friends in major and minor, respectively.)

Fashion-wise, I've even run into a few people sporting the "Hope and Change" line of t-shirts.

Many of the locals here speak relatively fluent English as well.

I encounter this so often that I find myself reminding them to use Portuguese with me — after all, I'm not here to practice my English.

What I've come to better appreciate from all this is the singular position our country holds in the world, and by extension the unique position we Americans find ourselves in whenever we travel abroad.

What other country's citizens can go abroad and have their culture precede them in the way that it does for Americans?

I believe the prevalence of U.S. culture outside the nation's borders is reflective of its role, not just as the

world's main economic or diplomatic center, but of its position as a global cultural hub, as well.

The weight of the U.S. in this respect makes a baseline level of knowledge about the country more than common among the people here.

I haven't yet met a Brazilian who doesn't know of San Francisco, Chicago, New York or Houston.

Now raise your hand if you've ever heard of Florianopolis, Recife, Salvador da Bahia or Sao Paulo.

You only get half a point for Sao Paulo and you still have to point it out on a map.

Although Americans get a bad rap for being ignorant of other cultures — and this may be true in a lot of

instances — I think this is a relative evaluation.

I believe a lot of this has to do with the sheer volume of culture we export to the rest of the world. Whether through media or academia, more of the world's eyes are on us than the other way around.

It is not only the policies of our government or the activities of our businesses that matter, but also the sum total of our choices as a society. It is also the decisions we make about how to live our lives on a day-to-day basis that also makes a difference outside our borders.

I've certainly been witness to that difference here,

even halfway across the world.

There has been a lot of talk as of late of an American decline. However one might want to define such a decline, the U.S. is still the center of the world in a number of ways — not the least of which is culturally.

For better or worse, I think our society will retain its cultural preeminence for some time to come, a fact Americans would do well to remember — especially when traveling abroad.

"The Rio Connection" is a monthly column.

Jeff Fong is a Spartan Daily special contributor.

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UNION

From Page 1

all Spartan dining, including a really cool food court with a lot of different options and eating venues."

There will be an outdoor patio area with a street-level amphitheater with a pre-wired stage for the option of noontime entertainment of bands or speakers, she said.

"The second floor is the grand ballroom with a grand foyer and a balcony area, and that can be divided into smaller ballrooms or not," Vargas said. "Then there is a section as well in the front corner which is for SJSU Extended Studies."

She said there will be an east wing that will be added onto the Student Union that extends out to 9th Street, and that SJSU's general service center, Transportation Solutions, computer lab and government will move there, as well as the SJSU programming board, marketing events and directors so they have good access to students.

"There is a plan for an indoor theater that will fill up the hole where the current outdoor amphitheater is, which will become enclosed with 300 or so seats," Vargas said. "Then a 24-hour Internet café is being installed in addition to the billiards and bowling alley."

There is some gutting and remodeling being done to the existing Student Union regarding infrastructure issues from earthquakes, she said.

Maintaining Operation

"For a period of 24 months, the Student Union will still remain open during the construction time," Busalacchi said. "We will still have services from food to meeting rooms to offices, but there will be some services that will be down and we have to make do for about a period of nine months to a year."

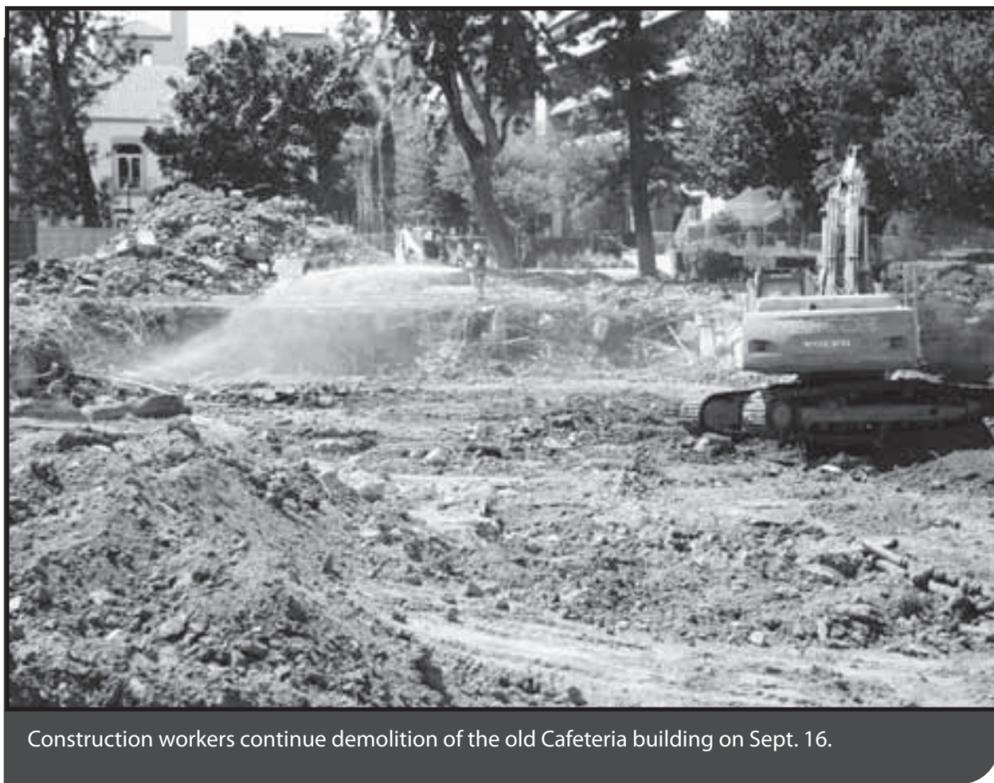
Services such as conference facilities and the bowling center will be down during construction, she said.

"As long as it has some of the same or better food options, I think it is a good thing," said Renee Chu, a senior business marketing major. "I think it is always good to remodel things especially for the students."

Chu said she will be graduating this spring so she won't be able to enjoy the new facilities.

"This existing food area for all of our students is not enough because it gets really busy now," she said. "What is going to happen when it starts raining? This place is going to be so packed and there really is nowhere to sit down in the Just Below area."

"The bookstore will still have a minimal operation going in the new portion of the building and we kind of have an idea of what



Construction workers continue demolition of the old Cafeteria building on Sept. 16.

PHOTO: CLIFFORD GRODIN | SPARTAN DAILY

What kind of legacy are we leaving for our future students and how do we make San Jose State a better place?

CATHY BUSALACCHI
Executive Director of the Student Union

Effects on Students and Teachers

Senior biochemistry major Ronald Roque said he is concerned with paying for something that he will not be able to enjoy later on.

"I know that it is something new we will have later on, but I do not think I will be benefiting from it because it is in two or three years, which kind of sucks," Roque said. "I want to get something out of it since I am helping pay for it."

Construction like this is very common, Busalacchi said. Cal State Los Angeles opened a new student union two years ago, during which its student union was completely demolished, leaving students without any kind of conference facility for two to three years.

will happen with that," Busalacchi said. "Food will be up and operating. We will work with the campus on figuring out how we can meet people's needs during that period of time."

Currently, Vargas said Associated Students facilities such as the print shop have been relocated to places such as Hoover Hall.

"The idea is if the new wing gets built, we all move into that while they gut and do the other stuff to the Student Union," she said. "The print shop will be open in the new wing during construction of the rest of the structure. There will be centers like Mosaic and other places that will need home temporarily."

"I understand that and it is difficult, but sometimes there are difficult decisions to make and it is like the current student union or the sport club or the event center," she said.

Busalacchi said the students at the time made a decision that they wanted a student union, even though they knew that it wasn't going to be there for them.

"But you have to think about 'OK, what are we doing for the future?'" she said. "Are we making San Jose State a better place for students who will be coming in the future and I think that is what we have to think about. What kind of legacy are we leaving for our future students and how do we make San Jose State a better place?"

Busalacchi said that if it was not for student decisions many years ago regarding the current Student Union, we would not have our current facilities, which an average of 5,000 students use every day.

Others feel that the construction site is causing disruption to classrooms near the construction site, said a teacher of the Music building who wished to remain anonymous.

"The construction is very disruptive," said the teacher. "We try to listen to music and convey ideas and have dialogues back and forth, and when we first started school they were just knocking down the walls and it was very thunderous, very difficult to communicate."

The teacher said that he is blaring the musical examples that he uses to teach within his class, but they still are being interrupted by the sweeping of debris and other background noises.

"I have a lot of students with gentle, soft voices and it is a large room and trying to have them speak up without screaming is frankly making education very difficult," said the teacher. "I do not know what the work schedule was or why the noisier tasks could not have been completed prior to the beginning of the school year."

The teacher said he was not aware nor was he notified of the construction that would be going on this semester prior to the first day of school.

"The classroom upstairs, I think it is 211, is the loudest one," junior communications major Victoria Arriero said of the music building. "It shakes and it is right by the window."

No said that SJSU is doing the best it can to reduce any noise.

"We were originally going to use a driven pile system, which is a pretty disruptive way of retrieving from inside of the ground and would create a large noise concern," he said.

No said the university is no longer planning on using that system.

"In the system we are going with, you drill a hole and pour concrete into it, which will create less banging noise," he said. "However, with any construction project, there is going to be noise from vehicles and equipment. It is inevitable."

Currently the construction team is still working on the demolition of the old cafeteria structure, No said.

"We will be starting the actual construction — putting up walls — in the end of October, or at least that is when we are anticipating," he said.

The demolition that is currently taking place should be the biggest noise concern, No said.

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