Sikh group seeks to soften transition from India to America

By Kyle Syzmsnki
Staff Writer

Sometimes when Sikh students come to the United States from the Punjab region of India, they initially find themselves without the means to survive, said a Sikh Students Association member.

"This is when the work of the Sikh Student Association begins," said Deepinder Sandhu, a graduate student in electrical engineering.

"We help them get settled, and we help bridge the gap between the community and the students," Sandhu said. "It's really important that Sikhs support each other and they are.

"Today, approximately half a million Sikhs live in the United States, according to Pluralism Project Web site.

The word Sikh, which literally means "follower," is the same come here.

During this brief period of adjustment for newly arrived students, the Sikh Student Association helps them set up a bank account, register for classes, find housing, and procure all legal documentation, Sandhu said.

"I really enjoy helping these students who have just arrived here in the United States," said Dprender Khara, a graduate student in electrical engineering and Sikh Students Association member.

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By My Nguyen

Opinion

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Buses would be a good idea, but Ghotra said a dedicated lane to make more educated decisions.

Agus Pratama, a graduate student co-authored the report, along with Master’s student Aman Preet Singh. Singh said most of his knowledge of how to practice safe sex. «Everyone obviously enjoys it, but it’s important to know the types of protection and how they can help when you don’t use protection,” said Tsao.

Ghotra said that in his home country, (sex) is definitely noticed activity by a lot of students on campus. So it’s better that everyone who are going to do it, they can be educated so they can prevent things such as unplanned pregnancies from happening. Sexual jealousy was reported by five resident advisors, including Gena Lee, a senior child development major, Tanaka Hoyt, a junior bachelor of fine arts major, Ellie Harris, a freshman psychology major Ashley Dowson, a first-year chemistry major, and senior Vicente Zevon. Zevon said they hope they can continue with the event for years to come.

The Sikh Students Association has been around for about 20 years, Sandhu said. He said the organization has many goals. The main goal of the organization is to share and promote Sikh culture, history, and heritage with an objective to achieve an understanding and friendship through knowledge, according to the Sikh Students Association constitution.

The culture and history is expressed in events such as National Sikh Day, when all Sikhs at SJSU were asked to wear turbans and to express their significance to the campus community, Sandhu said. “We also want to promote understanding between Sikhs and non-Sikhs on campus on and off campus,” Sandhu said. “We want to learn the problems that Sikhs face, and find solutions for them.”

The Sikh Students Association is currently trying to gain support from the Sikh student population at SJSU, in regards to which problems the students face when they arrive in the United States from their native region, Sandhu said. Once the problems are determined, the group will try to find solutions to the far-reaching problems, he said.

Sandhu said he expects no major problems to be revealed, but he expects other problems to surface such as difficulty choosing classes, finding a place to live and finding a job. “I’m just lucky to be in the right place in the right time,” he said.

Tsao said he got the idea for the project when he was driving behind a Valley Transportation Authority bus and there was traffic. “I’m not sure how to be in the right place in the right time,” he said.

Tsao said that in his home country, (sex) is definitely noticed activity by a lot of students on campus. So it’s better that everyone who are going to do it, they can be educated so they can prevent things such as unplanned pregnancies from happening. Sexual jealousy was reported by five resident advisors, including Gena Lee, a senior child development major, Tanaka Hoyt, a junior bachelor of fine arts major, Ellie Harris, a freshman psychology major Ashley Dowson, a first-year chemistry major, and senior Vicente Zevon. Zevon said they hope they can continue with the event for years to come.
Artists weave emotion into colorful quilts

By Jill Abell

"Life is like a thread," artist Geri Patterson-Kutras said. "You must know when it's going or where it's going to take you." Patterson-Kutras, fiber artist and an artist quilt, will be exhibiting her work Monday through Thursday in the Art Building at SJSU in gallery three, she said.

Quilt art is a rare way of looking at a traditional medium and bringing life to a dying art, said Michelle Felix, a senior art major and art quilter, who will be exhibiting her work Monday through Wednesday in gallery four.

"You never know where it's going to take you," Patterson-Kutras said. "It's the getting there. That has been a wonderful process, and I think you have to follow your heart and what you're going to do in this life."

Another quilt featuring large orange poppies contrasted with a dark blue background toured the United States in the 1970s with a famous quilt, Ricky Tim's, she said. According to the Ricky Tim's Web site, Tim's is known in the United States with a famous quilt during the tour, and now his Quilter's Society saw that same quilt art. "It's huge to take the reigns of the textile medium," said John Loomis, director of the school of art and design. "It's bringing life to a dying art, said Wijas said."

Quilt art is a new way of looking at a traditional medium and bringing life to a dying art, said Michelle Felix, a senior art major and art quilter, who will be exhibiting her work Monday through Wednesday in gallery four. "I think you have to follow your heart and what you're going to do in this life."

Another quilt featuring large orange poppies contrasted with a dark blue background toured the United States in the 1970s with a famous quilt, Ricky Tims, she said. According to the Ricky Tims Web site, Tims is known in the international world of quilting as an enthusiastic and encouraging teacher and an award-winning quilt artist. Tim's began designing and making quilts in 1991 and was recently selected as one of "The Thirty Most Distinguished Quilters in the World," according to the Ricky Tims Web site.

A woman from American Samoa said of quilt art, "It's huge to take the reigns of the textile medium," said John Loomis, director of the school of art and design. "It's a world-wide phenomenon," Patterson-Kutras said of quilt art. "It's huge in Australia, France, England, Northern regions of Sweden. It's been coming on for the last 30 to 40 years."

By Oct. 9 11:59 p.m. For more information, contact Veronica Mendoza at veronica.mendoza@sjsu.edu.
The students of Professor Ethel Walker will challenge stereotypes this weekend in the SJSU television, radio, film and theatre department’s first play of the semester. “The Colored Museum” will open at 7 p.m. Friday in Hal Todd Theatre under Walker’s direction. The production will take the stage Saturday and Sunday evenings, then Oct. 14 and 17.

“This play is about how blacks are stereotyped, and the facts and fiction about the African-American community,” Walker said. “It’s about identity, and the contradictions of the African-American population.

“The play does this creatively with humor and wit by forcing people of all races to take look at their own identities, and by diminishing common misconceptions about different cultures and backgrounds.”

The play was written by George Wolfe, an African-American playwright known for “Bring in ‘da Noise, Bring in ‘da Funk.” “The Colored Museum” is about all of the different portrayals of African-American society, Walker said.

Junior theatre arts major Jenna Cual, who acts in the play, said, “I just want people to laugh and also think. This play will make you do both.”

Walker said she thinks that with the play, Wolfe is trying to express that no one can be defined by one person or one trait.

“We are made up of multiplicities of things and elements, and sometimes these elements can contradict each other,” Walker said.

Oluchi Nwokocha, a junior theatre arts major, said, “This is our first African-American play in four years, and I feel that this will be beneficial to the community. Students should want to watch this play to experience the diversity of it.”

Cual said this play is not only for African-Americans but also for people of all ethnicities to see, because stereotypes exist in all races.

“‘The Colored Museum’ is about all of the different portrayals of African-American society,” Walker said.

Nwokocha said students should also come to gain some experience in theater and to do something that’s outside of the box.

“‘The Colored Museum’ sets out to expel racial myths”

By Jhenene Louis

Theater review:}

Freshman theatre major Anaseini Katoa plays Lala in “The Colored Museum” on Tuesday.
Samoans plan new lives away from the sea

LAKOMANU, Samoa (AP) — Samoans who fled to the hills as a deadly tsunami raged through their villages last week began searching for materials to build new homes far above the sea as they worked away their disappearances and many loved ones.

The tsunami claimed another life Monday as a woman who had been rescued from the raging wa- ter died from her injuries in Sa- moa’s Apia Hospital, police said. The death toll now stands at 178, with 137 in Samoa, 13 in American Samoa, and six in nearby Tonga.

Nearly a week after the disas- ter, hundreds of Samoans remain huddled in the hills above the coast — and none appeared ready to return to life on the beach.

“We don’t want to go back down,” said Fefa Feleka, whose family is living in a tent. “This is the safest place for us.”

Feleka and survivors urgently need more water, the last deliv- ery to her area was three days ago. Staff of South Pacific Water, Samoa’s bottled mineral water ex- porter, made a third trip into the hills Monday to deliver another 400 cases of water.

Some survivors of the Sept. 29 tsunami, which was triggered by a 8.5-magnitude underwater earth- quake, were also asking for build- ing materials, as they began plan- ning their new homes high above the coast.

“We don’t want to live in our usual place because it brings back sad memories of the disaster," said Pasa Tianaoloa, who is camp- ing with his family on a hillside at Samoas village. The family is considering relocating to the area from the coastal village of Aloita- ta, which was virtually wiped out by the tsunami.

Chief executive of Samoa’s Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Taulauleumai Lavasaimalie, said the govern- ment will provide support for fami- lies who want to rebuild inland. Tsunami-devastated villages had previously been identified as being at risk from flooding, he said.

But while those who have lost their homes are not discouraged in rebuilding along the coast at the moment, Malua said it will be a challenge to convince them in the longer term to settle inland.

“We’re always working with the villagers, telling them they are in a risk area, and when they rebuild they should prob- ably think about rebuilding per- manently inland,” he said. “But people’s linkages to their land and their heritage is not easy to be just abandoned like that.

Meanwhile, the U.N. children’s fund was preparing to begin a mass measles vaccination program for 11,000 children in Samoa later this week.

“Measles is always a threat to children in disaster situations — because children do not rec- overy,“ Dr. Dennis McKelay, UNI- CEF’s New Zealand executive di- rector, said. Lack of safe water and the potential for disease to spread rapidly was "the main risk fac- tor" for the Samoan community, he said.

Up to 4,000 children have been displaced from the tsunami area, and that’s quite a concern," he said. Children orphaned by the tsunami or who lost family are being targeted by the agency as part of a child protection program UNICEF has run in Samoa for some years.

Seven people reported missing in Samoa after the tsunami, but still not been found, a senior police officer told The Associated Press on condition of anonymity as he was not authorized to speak on the matter. The search may be ended in the next day or two, he said.

In American Samoa, authori- ties said Monday that the tsunami had damaged the visitors center, washed away some artifacts inside and forced workers to relocate to a two-bedroom apartment.
3 of a kind

By Angela Marino

If Taylor Japhet, Kylie Miraldi and Sarah McAtee look like they have been playing together for years, that’s because they have.

“All three of us are really well together,” Japhet said. “In high school, Kylie and I were in the same room, and Sarah was in the outside. We learned how to play off one another.”

Freshman Japhet and sophomores Miraldi and McAtee, who currently play on the SJU women’s volleyball team, have kept a close friendship since playing together on their high school teams.

During their time together on the Nevada Union High School volleyball team, the three girls quickly played in the state championship game, which McAtee said she and Miraldi, No. 7, have been friends since preschool, adding that they are each other’s second family.

“McAtee is the hardest worker you will ever meet,” Miraldi said. “Whether it is in the classrooms, on the court or in the weight room, she is a perfectionist, and she knows how to go about doing it.”

Japhet said McAtee is a player to coach and is a talent worker. “She is very mentally strong and a balanced individual,” she said. “It has a very good outlook on everything.”

Japhet, No. 2, who had a game-high 14 kills in the game against Utah, said that in order to break our kills, the team works together to set a point.

“If didn’t get those passes and the assists from the rest of the team, I wouldn’t be able to get those kills,” she said.

Japhet, who leads the team in kills with 126, can jump well, and her biggest strength is her athleticism, McAtee said.

“She is extremely coachable and determined,” Miraldi said. “I remember at one point in the game against Utah she turned to me and said to the server, “Just give me the ball.”

One of all the girls, Taylor is the most physical,” Crospi said.

“Japhet is very athletic,” he said. “She doesn’t know how good she is going to be.”

Miraldi said sports have always been part of her life.

“My mom played volleyball at Pepperdine for four years and then UCLA from there on, and she loved it,” Miraldi said. “My dad played in the NFL, so sports is something that was thrown on me at a young age.”

Miraldi said she would love to play professionally overseas.

“Those previous SJU volleyball players are now playing in Sweden and Denmark,” she said. “Their experiences over there sound so exciting. I would love to continue to play volleyball after college.”

McAtee has a determination that she has never seen in anyone.

“She was out all spring due to an ankle injury,” McAtee said. “She came back this summer and has amazed me and everyone else because of how hard she has worked. She really carries our team, energy wise.”

Crospi and McAtee are an extremely driven player and is one of the team captains, as a sophomore.

“She is extremely committed to our goals and our goals for the program,” he said. “She is very aware of what it takes to be a division-one athlete versus just an athlete.”

Japhet said McAtee, Miraldi and herself work together as a family and rely on each other to get the job done.

“Everyone who ever played against her definitely compliments our team on how hard they fight and how we go through a game,” and don’t give up,” Miraldi said.

“We are playing against experience, and you can’t teach experience, but we will get them.”

Players from same high school bring instant chemistry

By Angela Marino

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BYANGELA MARINO

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### Ruminations

Illustration by Carl Evans

**Leonard Lai**

Staff Writer

When I was 7 years old, I remember going to Toys"R"Us, browsing the video game aisle looking for my next game.

When I bought a game and got home, I would angrily rip open the shrink wrap, rip the back art off, flip through the instructions manual to learn what I could about the game while my parents drove home — a ritual I grew to love as I researched the games for the next month.

I would then alterate buying games, because we knew we could stop them and our parents could sell them to a value game store.

The games I would now, with onset of the ability to buy games and download them digitally online.

This means no box, no instruction manual and no physical copy of the game — nothing for my hands to hold, war, rip open, or flip through.

Some people will think that having none of this allows games that are missing the proper context and without distraction taking such as opening the packaging and perusing the game into a console such as PlayStation 3, Wii, or even handheld devices such as Nintendo DSi, and PlayStation Portable.

I miss that connection — looking at the box art, reading the information on the back.

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Digital games are usually marketed at the same price as their physical counterparts.

When you pay the same price for a game, especially since game companies don’t need to pay for production of the format, packaging, and shipping.

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I would use to spend even extra dollars to buy PlayStation Portable games because at least at that time.

Australian Gamelabs had a wave of the PlayStation Portable, because they believed it was the wave of the future because of lack of sales.

Many of the physical PlayStation Portable games are still taken out and touch products, instead of browsing a nonphysical object of equal value as if the game made sense.

A lesson was learned. That toy store taught me something I would never have seen under the support of the people that sold me the game to begin with.

The prison charges should be dropped. In the end it was an accusation and a mistake that the family can never take back.

Loosing a child is punishment enough for the parents, who undoubtedly blame themselves for their negligence.

The prison term caused more harm than good for what little this family has left.

This boy must not only deal with accidentally killing his son. Th e court to have firearms access to the law to have firearms access to the law to have firearms access to the law.

This lesson is undoubtedly against the law to have firearms access to the law.

We can never forget that this was a day in the life of a young boy.

I have an overwhelming sadness for what I have done.

This is a lesson that will be with me forever.

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How can San Jose public transportation be improved?

John Le
Sophomore, Business

“They can improve in more areas around state, so students who don’t live in one particular spot can just go outside and go where they want.”

Tommy Alvarado
Freshman, Art

“The buses could come more frequently to the stops.”

Gagandeep Singh
Graduate Student, Electrical Engineering

“The bus that goes to (Campus) Village only comes once an hour. It needs to increase its frequency.”

Julia Lang
Junior, Sociology

“People can improve public transportation by taking their bikes.”

Parminder Dhaliwal
Graduate student, Electrical Engineering

“They need to figure out when rush hour is. Then, increase transportation at that time.”

Dan Kouba
Senior, Photography

“I don’t think it is an issue, because we get free transportation.”