

SPORTS:

ABL Pro Women's
Basketball dribbles
to SJSU

pg. 8

Tuesday

October 15, 1996

Weather:
Sunny with light
breezes



Highs in the 70s
Lows in the 50s

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Health coordinator battles racism



Oscar Battle, health coordinator for student health services, says his major accomplishment has been the emphasis on preventive health care.

By John Louis
Spartan Daily Staff Writer

Oscar Battle, Jr., shattered racial stereotypes in the 1970s and became the first African-American health education coordinator at SJSU.

"As far as I know, I was the first African-American staff member at the student health center," Battle said.

An SJSU alumni, Battle received the first of two master's degrees in school health education before he began his career teaching in 1968.

After his brief tenure at Cherry Avenue Elementary School in Tulare, Calif., Battle said he was drafted into the service and served in Vietnam in 1970. Following his experience in Vietnam, he said he decided to enroll as a full-time student at SJSU in the fall of 1971.

"I wanted to be in a setting where they were preparing teachers to nurture creativity and address societal issues in a very serious, rather than a superficial, way," Battle said in reference to his enrollment at SJSU.

Before completing his first of two master's degrees in public health, Battle said he was hired for his position at the student health center in 1974. He finished his second master's degree in 1975. Subsequently, Battle completed his doctorate, with emphasis in health care and personnel administration, at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles.

"There were numerous African-American employees on campus: some as teachers, others as staff members. But there were no African-American department heads in any area," he said.

Battle expressed his support for affirmative action by saying, "People misunderstand how African Americans have to qualify for employment opportunities as well. It's an equal opportunity rather than handing jobs over to them on a silver platter. There is a lot of misinforma-

"As far as I know, I was the first African-American staff member at the student health center."

Oscar Battle
SJSU health coordinator

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PHOTO BY DARREN PHILLIPS — SPARTAN DAILY

See Battle, Back page

Spend the spring abroad in Bath, England

By Cassandra Nash
Spartan Daily Staff Writer

SJSU announces the 1997 Spring Semesters Abroad in Bath, England.

"I don't have words to explain it," said Patricia Bolanos who visited Bath, England in spring 1995. "I would recommend it to any students. It opens doors to opportunities."

In Bath, students can complete 12 units of upper division general education courses, including the writing workshop, film and literature, intercultural communication, complete an area studies minor, do an internship in government,

"I would recommend it to any students. It opens doors to opportunities."

Patricia Bolanos

"

media schools, business or the arts.

The itinerary includes overnight trips to London and York, as well as weekly field trips to ancient stone circles, the Roman Baths, castles and cathedrals.

Lou Lewanowski, associate dean of graduation and international studies, said, "The program

is ten years old as of this year. It happened as a consequence to a London program. SJSU decided to put together this trip in England because a lot of people go to London or Paris all the time.

"The reason why we choose Bath is because, number one, it is very close to historical sites and it is

a place students can visit where history actually happened. Number two is that Bath is considered the most beautiful city in the world. It is a heritage city," said Lewanowski.

Professors Ron Sulek, Political Science, Stanley Baran, Radio TV, and Dennis Jachne, Communications Studies, will participate by teaching classes.

According to Lewanowski, students do not have to be in any of the above major's to apply. Anyone is welcome and will receive credits for making the trip.

The cost per student is \$4,949 plus student fees. The cost includes air fare, all field trips, liv-

ing with a British family, two meals a day and transportation. All students will need money for lunch and personal items, said Lewanowski.

Bolanos said, "You get an opportunity to visit London and learn about Medieval History or how people live in a Roman city. If you compare San Jose with Bath, San Jose does not have Roman Baths or Wales' Cathedrals. You can't go to Italy, Rome or Venice. San Jose is San Jose. Students have an opportunity to live with a British family and share with them their culture and ways of life. I stayed two months after the program was over, I went to Spain and Portugal.

I came back to San Jose with a different perspective. I believe this also gives students an opportunity to do internships."

"The British people are very surprised about how interested our students are," said Lewanowski.

Details:

- Students who are interested in going on the trip and want to attend meetings, call 924-5931.

- Students can visit the Study Abroad Office in the Administration Building Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

Band to perform symphonically

Spartan Daily Staff Report

Students, faculty and staff are invited to attend the performance of SJSU's Symphonic Band, with Vernon Read, Conductor, on Tuesday, at 7:30 p.m. in the Concert Hall.

"The band is made up of students from the school. The band performs at least five or six times a year. They even play for commencement," said Jim Thomes, staff person in the music department.

According to the flyer, the concert will include music of Grainger, Creston, Holst and Persichetti.

Admission is free. For further information, contact the Music Office at San Jose State University 924-4673.

Ice rink to grace downtown again

By Cassandra Nash
Spartan Daily Staff Writer

The San Jose Downtown Association is sponsoring for the second year Netcom's Downtown Ice outdoor skating rink in November.

"It adds a little more to downtown during the holidays. People like to have a white Christmas," said Miguel Salinas, spokesman for the association.

Construction of the rink will begin in early November. The estimated opening date is Nov. 15.

The rink will be located at last year's site — the corner of Market and San Carlos streets, next to the Convention Center and across from Plaza de Cesar Chavez Park.

"The ice rink is a complement to 'Christmas

in the Park' because it is just across the street," said Salinas.

The rink will be open from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. weekdays and until midnight Friday and Saturday nights, with special hours during the holidays.

Admission is \$5.50 for one 90-minute session. Skate rentals are \$3, but free for children 10 and younger.

For 10 weeks last winter, approximately 33,000 skaters and 100,000 spectators enjoyed Downtown Ice, a 65-foot by 152-foot rink capable of accommodating 250 skaters.

This year, the rink will feature a special public viewing area and exhibitions by professional skaters. Special features include private parties and group rate promotions.

Fifty cents of every adult admission will benefit the San Jose Downtown Foundation, a local nonprofit organization dedicated to programs and activities that help make the city center a better place to live and work.

"San Jose Associations will be managing the rink this year but will have different contractors — one who will build the rink, and one who will provide the skates," Salinas said. "This year we are having a general manager who will take care of all of this."

"Netcom is our title sponsor this year," said Salinas. "The joint operating procedure with Dorothy Hamill last year resulted in the San Jose Association filing a lawsuit for incompetence of management of the rink."

Spartan Speed Read

Israel mollifies

Ezer Weizman, the Israeli president, came to Cairo to smooth rocky relations with Egypt.

Staying slim

Researchers are exploring the secrets of the determined few who maintain their weight loss.

Madonna's baby

The Maternal Girl gave birth to a girl Monday. The baby was named Lourdes Maria Ciccone Leon.

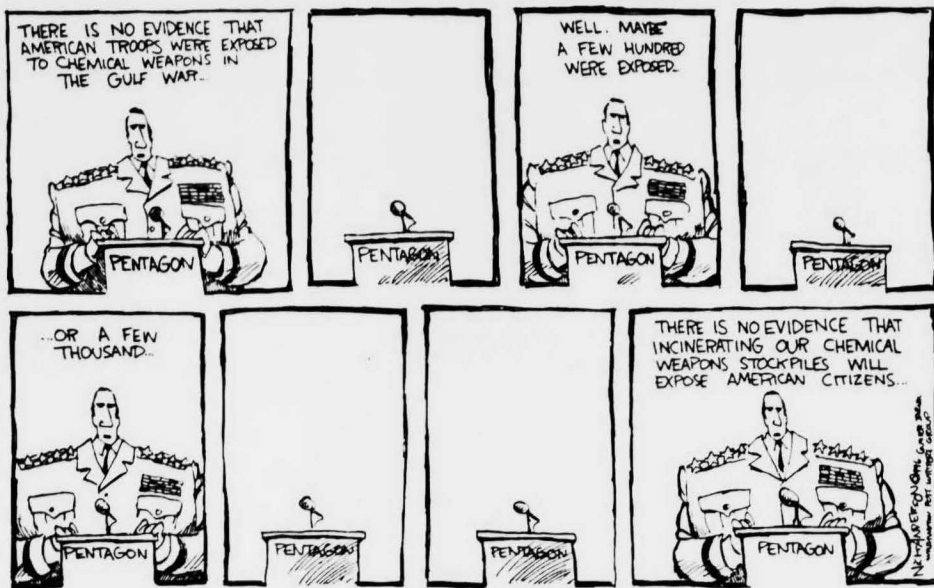
SJSU Dateline

Million Man March Anniversary
**Wednesday,
October 16**
Joe West Hall, 8 a.m.

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Democracy needs to be utilized Voters can bring changes to nation

By Ed Oberweiser

It's less than a month until the elections and, if we listen to the corporate media, we have the "choice" of voting for either Bill Clinton or Bob Dole to become the next U.S. president.

The only issues we heard in the "debates" on television during the last week were vague generalities with little substance. Commentators were judging the candidates on their images, not their issues.

We can only blame ourselves for this sad state of affairs. We have abdicated our responsibilities as public citizens of a democracy. We let politicians operate without scrutiny and make decisions harmful to us as individuals and as a nation. Harmful unless you are in the upper two percent of the economic order. We did not listen to Thomas Jefferson when he said, "Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty."

U.S. democracy is in dire straits because we let that two percent wage class warfare on the rest of us without fighting back. We let them buy our elections and influence legislative decisions that are eroding our democracy on the installment plan.

From the 1950s to the 1980s, according to Internal Revenue Service figures, the corporate share of the federal taxes dropped from 39 percent to 17 percent. Today, according to Ralph Nader, it is between seven and nine percent. The wealthy elite also orchestrated tax cuts on their personal income tax rates.

The elite achieved these changes by buying influence with massive contributions to sympathetic political lackeys' campaigns. Their corporations now receive welfare in terms of subsidies, bailouts, giveaways, inflated government contracts, tax loopholes and forgiveness of corporate debt to the tune of more than 200 billion dollars a year!

The results have been disastrous. In 1980, the U.S. was first in wages in the world. It's now eleventh. Hundreds of thousands of U.S. jobs have been exported to countries where workers have few rights. In 1980, the U.S. was the greatest creditor in the world and now it's the biggest debtor. Today, we are 17th in the world in infant mortality, 23 percent of our children live in poverty. Our air, water and workplaces have become horribly polluted. Our sources of information are owned by corporations determining what issues are fit for consumption and our educational system has deteriorated.

What can we do about this? Are we not facing overwhelming odds? Not necessarily! The few who started the civil rights movement in the South in the sixties were brave African Americans who faced lynching and hatred, but they prevailed. The Vietnam War was stopped against overwhelming odds by citizens exercising democracy. Six women started the fight for women's voting rights.

We can start a movement by voting yes on Prop 212 — the campaign finance reform initiative. I invite everyone to join the Green Party and vote for Ralph Nader for president. Inform yourself and

**We can only
blame our-
selves for this
sad state
of affairs.
We have
abdicated our
responsibili-
ties as public
citizens of a
democracy.**

read Nader's acceptance speech at The Green Party's national convention at the Internet site: <http://www.rahul.net/cameron/nader/naccept.html>. Or you can call Project Vote Smart at 1-800-622-7627 and find out who financed what politician or what their voting record was. Next, check out the web site: http://mojones.com/mother_jones/MJ96/klein.jump.html to learn about Dole's tobacco connections. We should all get involved in our communities by attending city council and board of supervisors meetings and join community organizations working to improve life here we live.

Yes, we are all overworked and it's hard to be a public citizen, but we have a responsibility to leave a world worth living in for the coming generations of sons and daughters. We'll feel better about ourselves when we struggle to preserve democracy and life on Earth.

Ed Oberweiser is a Spartan Daily Staff Writer.

Ruminations of a Masculine Milquetoast

From ISO 9000 to WEJ 20,000, the mathematics of certification

As anyone who works with computers will tell you, consistency is comforting. If you're going to work with one type of computer, be loyal by upgrading regularly and buying programs written specifically for it.

Currently, I find myself in a workplace quandary. Half my workday is spent in the Spartan Daily newsroom where I work with obsolete Macs to write assignments and wax poetic for this column. The other half is spent temping for an electronics firm where I work with Windows 3.1 and wax Dilbert.

Fortunately, it is in the morning that I work with Bill "He Who Must Be Obeyed" Gates' operating system so when I get to the newsroom my afternoons are less of a hassle.

Ironically, it is at my temp job that I get most of my income. Over the months working in the corporate environment, I've observed the employee nervousness and the manager stress that comes with a corporate phenomenon, that if applied correctly, just might make me the real money I've always wanted to make. That phenomenon is the European Trojan horse called ISO 9000.

Apparently, around 1989, a bunch of pasty-faced Euro-corporate trash (a co-worker's words, not mine), got together and took it upon themselves to compile a list of criteria that companies world-



WILLIAM
JESKE

wide must adhere to if they want to do business with Europe.

It's kind of like in high school when all the popular people would conspire to compile a list of unrealistic characteristics, material possessions and social status you need to have to be considered cool.

The International Standard of Organization is a list of items on how to run a particular business, usually industry, to what the ISO guys consider to be THE way to run the business. If your company passes all the tests: All employees wear smocks and I.D. tags, assembly lines run at a certain rate, coffee is lukewarm, caffeinated and carcinogenic, then you can be certified and brandish on your company's advertising, and on the headquarter's broadside, that you are, indeed, ISO 9000 qualified.

There's some discrepancy about what the 9000 part represents. Some say it's how many criteria your company needs to meet. Others say it's how much in unmarked bills you need to shove under the table when the ISO

auditor visits. Still, other's say it's the I.Q. needed to know why being ISO 9000 certified would be in your best interest.

"Hmmm," I think, "how can I turn this scam to my advantage?"

I tried taking it upon myself to compile a list of items you'd come across in any given column so you'd know within a few words if the five minutes you'd have spent reading it were going to be wasted.

It fell through. The newsroom was polarized over it. Some said it would have been a great asset to the reading public. Others said it was too mean-spirited and would only make the staff look like they could not write. Actually, the idea just would not make me any money.

So, instead, I have decided to try to draw on my two years of hosting a poetry reading to evaluating today's open writer's forums. I call it WEJ 20,000.

The Oct. 10 issue of the Metro profiled the South Bay's more established open mic's, in which I was briefly mentioned. By using this as a springboard, I intend to charge these forums a hefty fee to have me attend their readings and evaluate them. Those who meet my discriminating criteria may have the pride of declaring themselves WEJ 20,000 certified.

Such criteria could be ambiance; is the place quiet and conducive to performers or are

the employees screaming orders and the espresso machine scorching a Bronx cheer?

Is the host a control Nazi or a laidback, happy-go-lucky kinda guy?

Is the material performed enriching, like at the Agenda and the Blue Rock Shoot or unfocused, angry dreck like San Francisco's Paradise Lounge?

The potential backlash of this scam will be that I have set myself up as some sort of poetry police force. But, that can't be. The Palo Alto Waverly Writers have taken that role already.

No, I am not bitter. Just because I have never been asked to be a featured reader, why should I hold a grudge?

Come to think of it, this scam may not work all that well. I would rather have my poet friends' respect than their money. Besides, poets are already poor.

It's enough to make a guy's tie curl.

William Jeske is the Spartan Daily Assignment Editor. Currently, the only person WEJ 20,000 certified is William Jeske, though he had to bribe himself to get that achievement. His column appears every Tuesday.

Same-sex article receives vehement response

Writer has right to voice opinions

By John Louis

In the aftermath of my column, "Same-sex marriages are immoral," I have encountered a gamut of reactions from my colleagues, students and staff at SJSU. These reactions range from hostility to shock, including disbelief, indifference and support.

"Don't you think this kind of writing would encourage discrimination against homosexuals and lesbians?" one editor asked with some apparent hostility in his tone. Of course, I did not intend to promote discrimination against people because of their sexual orientation. Neither was I trying to stir up any controversy. I was simply expressing my opinion on an issue that I consider essential. Although I oppose same-sex marriages, I harbor no animosity toward those who believe differently than I.

Despite the hostility, the U.S. Constitution allows me to articulate my views under the First Amendment which states, "Congress shall make no law... abridging the freedom of speech or of the press." Therefore, the responses my column had generated constituted an overkill, prompting me to pit the constitutional right to free speech against political correctness.

Inspired by political correctness, another columnist was even more vociferous about my article that condemned same-sex marriages. Clutching the newspaper with her hands, she said, "I am very disappointed in you, John, for writing something like that. Did you read what he wrote (citing the paragraph where I propose that 'marriage remains strictly a union between

Adam and Eve, and not Adam and Steve')? I am appalled. I am really shocked."

My position on this controversial subject might have shocked her. Nevertheless, we must not abridge or reduce the scope of the supreme law of the land, even the Constitution, regardless of how inflammatory the language. This rendition reflects the view of some Constitutional scholars and absolutists who believe that the First Amendment right is unchangeable and immutable.

"Do you really feel that way about same-sex marriages? Or did you just write that article to debate the issue?" another colleague at the Spartan Daily asked with a degree of indifference. Certainly! Why would I write a column that did not reflect my own conviction? Therefore, the reason I oppose political correctness is because it prevents people from expressing their beliefs, thereby stifling meaningful discussion. When used to silence the opposition, political correctness becomes a liberal, hypocritical euphemism. It's anti-democratic and unconstitutional.

A professor of mine minced no words, reminding me that dealing with contested issues, such as same-sex marriages, would stir up controversy. His intent was to forewarn me of the ruckus a conservative approach would create at SJSU.

Finally, there was a letter in which the writer praised my taking a strong stand against same-sex marriages. It is about time that someone takes on this absurdity — to paraphrase the respondent, I certainly appreciate his support

in this fight for moral correctness.

With the exception of this support, the preceding reactions suggested that SJSU was no place for the marketplace of ideas. This democratic ideal is mandated by the Constitution, theorized in our curriculum, taught by our instructors and embraced by our students.

Yet, the different reactions indicated that the proponents of political correctness do not really want truth and error to grapple in this institution of higher learning. They would prefer that I remain silent because my view contradicts prevailing opinions and exposes the hypocrisy of political correctness.

Unfortunately, the right to express prevailing opinions or remain politically correct is no test of the First Amendment. However, when we permit opponents as well as proponents to address issues without hostility, then the First Amendment is passing the litmus test of a democracy with flying colors. The concept, embodied in John Milton's "Aeropagitica," has become indeed a marketplace of ideas.

In this free marketplace of ideas, we may offend each other with words deliberately and rock the ultraliberal wing of the campus occasionally. To intimidate the opposition, however radical, from voicing its views would violate a more fundamental principle, particularly — the democratic right to free speech.

Therefore, long live the constitutional right to free speech and down with the hypocritical notion of political correctness.

John Louis is a Spartan Daily Staff Writer.

Letter to the Editor

Same-sex unions no threat to society

In case your readers do take John Louis's Oct. 8 article on same-sex marriages seriously or agree with it, I want to point out some of the errors I found.

It is wrong that President Clinton and our legislators are allowing their religious beliefs to mandate laws. The founders of this country were deists, not Christians, and believed very strongly in the freedom of religion. They safeguarded this belief by creating the separation of church and state; religion should not inform our laws and dictate to others how to practice their own religions and lives.

It is also a mistake to think that those of us who are gay will bring about the extinction of all humans, or that we are "unnatural." Our numbers are so few compared to the numbers of people who do procreate that our childlessness will not have any greater effect than it ever has. As for being unnatural, the Harvard biologist E.O. Wilson provides a sound model of a genetic basis for the selection for homosexuality in his

book, "On Human Nature." Both biologists and anthropologists are reasonably certain that homosexuality has been a part of all cultures and societies.

I think John Louis' greatest error is that he takes our present, Western understanding of gender and marriage as a timeless, natural norm. Were he to take an historical and cross-cultural perspective, he would then see myriad examples of men doing "women's work," and vice versa. As for marriage, its traditions and laws also vary widely both historically and culturally. One example is from his own Judeo-Christian tradition: In his research John Boswell found evidence that during the Middle Ages the Church sanctified same-sex unions. These were even regarded as more spiritually based than heterosexual unions, which involved the exchange of property.

As for my lovely girlfriend Lyvne and I, right now we stand outside the law, although I know that soon we will not.

Suzanna Kruger
biology

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All Spartan Daily readers are encouraged to express themselves on the Opinion page with a Letter to the Editor, which should be 300 words or less.
Letters or viewpoints must be typed and may be:
• put in the Letters to the Editor box at the Spartan Daily office in Dwight Bental Hall, room 209
• faxed to (408) 924-3237 or
• mailed to the Spartan Daily Opinion Page Editor, School of Journalism and Mass Communications, San Jose State University One Washington Square, San Jose, CA 95192-0149.
Submissions become the property of the Spartan Daily and may be edited for clarity, grammar, label and length.
Submissions must contain the author's name, address, phone number, signature and major.
Editorials are written by, and are the consensus of the Spartan Daily editors, not the staff.
Published opinions and advertisements do not necessarily reflect the views of the Spartan Daily, the School of Journalism and Mass Communications or SJSU.

SPARTA GUIDE

SJSU's Weekly Calendar

TODAY

SJSU Counseling Services
Asian student discussion group; 2:30-3:30 p.m.; Administration building, room 201

School of Art & Design
•Student galleries art exhibits reception; 6-8 p.m.; Art and Industrial Studies buildings
•Tuesday night lecture series: Dr. Arthur Kao — The national splendor of Imperial China; 5 p.m.; Art building, room 133
•call Sarah 924-4330

Career Center
Interviewing for Success; 2 p.m.; Almaden room, Student Union; call Career Resource Center 924-6033

Catholic Campus Ministry
•Daily mass; 12:05 p.m.-12:30 p.m.
•Pizza & faith discussion; 7-9 p.m.
•John XIII Center, across from the SJSU theater; call Ginny 938-1610

Student California Teachers Association
Bake sale; 9 a.m.-12 p.m.; Front lobby of Sweeney Hall; call Lizza 369-1370

Library Donations & Sales Unit
Ongoing book sale — donations welcome; 10 a.m.-3 p.m.; Wahlquist Library North, room 408 & Clark Library lobby; call Acquisitions Dept. 924-2705

Department of Nutrition & Food Science
Body fat testing; 1-3 p.m.; Central Classroom building, room 103; call Kim 924-3110

90.5 KSJS Radio
General meeting; 5:30 p.m.; Hugh Gillis Hall small theater; call 924-4549

Le Cercle Francais
•Weekly meeting and conversation hour; 5 p.m.; Jazzland Cafe, MacQuarrie Hall
•Film, "Tatie Danielle"; 7 p.m.; Sweeney Hall, room 100
•call Jacquelin 972-5865

WEDNESDAY

Asian Student Union
General meeting — come make new friends! 3 p.m.; Costanoan room, Student Union; call Danny 297-0667

A.L.M.A.S.S.
Meeting; 3:30-4:30 p.m.; SPX #30; call Alma 924-5760

Ballroom Dance Club
Int. Tango; 7:30-9:30 p.m.; SPX 89; call 924-SPIN

A.S. Campus Recreation
Intramural Whiffleball
Deadline; 4:30 p.m.; A.S. business office; call Mike 924-6266

History Dept. & Jewish Studies Program
Lecture: "Masada: Myth and Reality," by Dr. Jonathan Roth; 7 p.m.; Washington Square Hall, room 109; call 924-4440

Catholic Campus Ministry
Daily Mass; 12:05-12:30 p.m.; John XIII Center (across from SJSU Theater); call Ginny 928-0101 or 938-1610

Lutheran Student Fellowship
Bible Brown Bag; 1:30-2:30 p.m.; Montalvo room, Student Union; call D. Hawkins 272-5404

Phi Alpha Theta, History Honors Society
Weekly meeting; 2:30 p.m.; Dudley Moorhead Hall, room 134; call Ethan 297-5760

Library Donations & Sales Unit
Ongoing Book Sale — Donations welcome; 10:30 a.m.-3 p.m.; call Acq. Dept. 924-2705

Re-Entry Advisory Program (REAP)
•Brown-Bag Lunch — "Taming the Deadline Monster," Dr. Steve Randall; Noon-1:30 p.m.; Paccoco room, Student Union;
•Evening Advising; 5-6:30 p.m.; Assessment Center - WLC; call Jane 924-5950

Akayan Club
General Meeting; 4-6 p.m.; Almaden room, student union; call 534-1140

Career Center
•Holiday Job Fair; 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; Umunhum room, Student Union
•Cadence Design Systems Employer Presentation; 12:30-2 p.m.; Almaden room, Student Union
•Resume Critique; 2-3:30 p.m.; Guadalupe room, Student Union; call 924-6033

Student California Teachers Association
Bake Sale; 9 a.m.-Noon; Sweeney Hall, front lobby; call Lizza 369-1370

Delta Sigma Pi
Human Relation Skills — A Business Seminar; 7:30 p.m.; Student Union, Pacheco Room; call Heather 229-5266

Society of Latino Engineers & Scientists
Meeting; 6:30 p.m.; Engineering Building, room 358; call M.E.P. 922-2287

Department of Nutrition & Food Science
Body Fat Testing; 3-4:30 p.m.; CCB 103; call Kim 924-3110

Marketing Club
Special Meeting: All Marketing majors should attend; 4:30 p.m.; Guadalupe room, Student Union; call Michael 262-5654

Pre-Law Club
Meeting; 5:30 p.m.; Hugh Gillis Hall, room 215; call Chris 985-9713

Asian American Christian Fellowship
Gifts of the Spirit w/Victor Quon; 7:30 p.m.; Guadalupe room, Student Union; call Peter 365-9361

Associated Students Program Board
Penny Dreadful's Concert; Noon; Student Union Amphitheatre; call Events Line 924-6261

Gay Lesbian and Bisexual Alliance
Meeting; 3:30-5 p.m.; Costanoan room, Student Union; call Beth 441-7206

M.E.Ch.A.
Meeting; 3 p.m.; Chicano Resource Center, Wahlquist N., 3rd floor; call Rene 295-8129 or Julie 297-7740

Lambda Phi Epsilon
Service Auction; 7-10 p.m.; Spartan Memorial; call Chris 292-8004

PEOPLE

King talks; Cole unaffordable

King wants your life

ORONO, Maine (AP) — Horror master Stephen King wants to do more for his fans than leave their spines tingling.

"I don't want to just mess with your head. I want to mess with your life," King said at a weekend conference at his alma mater, the University of Maine. "I want you to miss appointments, burn dinner, skip your homework. I want you to tell your wife to take that moonlight stroll on the beach at Waikiki with the resort tennis pro while you read a few more chapters."

King was keynote speaker at a conference on his works. Among the topics covered were censorship and student choice. King's books are banned in some schools.

"What I tell kids is don't get mad, get even," King said. "Run, don't walk, to the first library you can find and read what they're trying to keep out of your eyes. Read what they're trying to keep out of your brains. Because that's exactly what you need to know."

Coach star to quit

BENTON, Ark. (AP) — The two-minute warning has sounded for Jerry Van Dyke.

The co-star of the sitcom "Coach" says he'll leave the show after this season.

"I won't be retiring — nobody in this business ever retires — but I'll be sort of semi-retiring," Van Dyke told The Benton Courier newspaper. "I do plan to do a movie maybe, but I'm planning to come back to Benton and get involved in community life there."

Van Dyke, who owns a home 10 miles from Benton, says he will buy the Royal Theatre and turn it into a community theater. He also said he is negotiating to buy land for a theater where first-run films will show at affordable prices.

"It's a nostalgic thing for me," Van Dyke said. "I was raised in a town the size of Benton. There are so many theaters around the country that are boarded up. They're really becoming a thing of the past."

Cole's song unaffordable

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (AP) — Nat King Cole's music is more than unforgettable. It's unaffordable.

State tourism officials wanted to use the Alabama native's "Unforgettable" as part of a new tourism campaign, but an advertising executive said Monday it cost too much to get the rights to the song.

Instead, the state will use the words "Alabama. Unforgettable," minus any reference to Cole and with an original tune.

"The bottom line is the music was too expensive," said Ross Mitchell of Townsend, Barney & Patrick Inc., the state tourism bureau's advertising agency.

Cole was born in Montgomery, but never performed in the state after he was attacked by racists during a show in Birmingham in 1956.

Hubby won Hill with cookin'

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — The way to Faith Hill's heart is through her stomach.

The country singer says she was won over by the culinary skills of fellow performer Tim McGraw, who became her husband last week.

Romance blossomed after McGraw invited her over for some home cooking.

"I was thinking, 'Yeah, right, homemade...'" Hill told The Tennessean. But McGraw surprised her with the quality of his chicken, dumplings and corn bread.

"It tasted just like my mom's," Hill said.

Octuplets buried

LONDON (AP) — A woman who conceived and miscarried octuplets buried them in a simple service on Monday.

Mandy Allwood, 32, and the babies' father, 37-year-old Paul Hudson, followed as pallbearers carried the eight tiny white coffins, each just a foot long, into a chapel in south London.

Miss Allwood gave birth prematurely to the two girls and six boys two weeks ago at King's College Hospital in London. She had disregarded doctors' advice to abort some of the fetuses to give the others a better chance.

A divorcee who already has a 5-year-old son, Miss Allwood was criticized for hiring a publicist who helped her hawk the story for a reported six-figure sum to the mass-selling tabloid News of the World.

The publicist, Max Clifford, said he did not know whether the News of the World covered the cost of the ceremony.

Miss Allwood, he said, "knows she did the right thing for her and her children and in the same circumstances she would do the same thing again."

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Yankees return to World Series after 15 years

NEW YORK (AP) — The World Series, once nearly an annual event for New York Yankee fans, is coming back to the Bronx after 15 years.

"When I was a kid this happened every year," said Mayor Rudolph Giuliani. "These are a lot sweeter now."

The Yankees beat the Baltimore Orioles 6-4 Sunday to win the American League Championship Series four games to one and return to the World Series for the first time since 1981.

"I've been a Yankee fan forever," said Luis DeSouza. "We were too young to enjoy the last series. This is like our wedding day... better than our wedding day."

The Yankees have won 22 World Series — the first in 1923. During a 29-year span ending in 1964, the Bronx Bombers missed the World Series just seven times. In major

pro sports, only the NHL's Montreal Canadiens can boast more championships, with 24. But for the past 14 seasons, the Yanks

have made more headlines for their frequent managerial changes and clubhouse acrimony than for postseason success.

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"I described the situation as one where we are on the brink of the abyss," said Hussein.

Attending the fund-raising dinner has been widely described as a careless move, although legal opinion is split on whether it merited his dismissal from the case.

"I am afraid of no one," she said, stroking the head of a tiny boy. "How will I answer to God if I leave these small children, who have no one? They can't run away. They are helpless."

He was convicted of agitation against the government and served four years in prison. After he was released in 1993, Wang again worked for political reform. Police took him into detention last year after he organized the signing of a petition calling for freedom and tolerance. The New York-based group Human Rights in China said the charges against Wang were for criticizing the Chinese government.

The IRA ended its 17-month cease-fire with a fatal bombing in London on Feb. 9.

In the 1990s she worked as an actress, appearing in soap operas and films.

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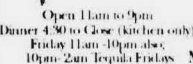
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Keep off that weight: diet and exercise

BRECKENRIDGE, Colo. (AP) — Every dieter knows the hard part is keeping it off. In hopes of finding the formula for success, researchers are exploring the secrets of the determined few who maintain their weight loss.

"Surprisingly little is known about weight maintainers, perhaps because they are so rare," said Dr. Mary Klem of the University of Colorado.

It turns out the answer is pretty simple — and it's probably not what you wanted to hear: Keep doing whatever you did to lose weight in the first place.

Permanent weight loss is not something you start and then stop. Rather, successful losers almost universally keep on watching what they eat and exercising regularly.

One sad reality of dieting is that most people put back everything they lose, usually within a year or two. Some even end

"Surprisingly little is known about weight maintainers, perhaps because they are so rare."

Dr. Mary Klem
University of Colorado

up fatter than when they started, while others yo-yo up and down.

"We are better at getting people to lose weight than to maintain it," concedes Dr. Robert Jeffrey of the University of Minnesota.

To see what the successful few are doing right, researchers from Colorado and the

University of Pittsburgh have started the National Weight Control Registry, which has enrolled 784 men and women who have lost at least 30 pounds and kept it off for at least a year.

Klem reported the results Monday at a meeting of the North American Association for the Study of Obesity.

Almost all of them said they had tried and failed to keep weight off in the past. This time they said they simply put themselves on stricter diets and exercised more vigorously.

For these people, the initial diets worked extremely well. They dropped an average of 66 pounds and kept it off an average of 5 1/2 years.

Most of the volunteers had been fat since childhood, which makes their success even more remarkable. While there were plenty of differences among the peo-

ple, the researchers looked for the things they typically did to keep from regaining weight.

They found that 88 percent said they continued to both diet and exercise. All but 7 percent restricted their food intake in some way, and many said they watched their portion sizes, counted calories and avoided fat.

They admitted eating fast food less than once a week. Average daily calories was 1,297 for women and 1,725 for men.

Exercise was an important way of burning up calories. For women, it consumed an average 2,667 calories a week, and for men 3,489. Walking was by far the most common exercise, followed by aerobic exercising and competitive sports.

Many believe that getting people to exercise — and to keep exercising — is one of the toughest challenges in weight

control. Half of those who start exercise programs give them up within three to six months.

"People would rather have their jaws wired or their stomachs stapled than exercise," said Rod Dishman, an exercise physiologist from the University of Georgia.

The successful losers seemed to be motivated by many things. One-third said they lost weight for their health, while another third said they were triggered by some emotional setback, such as a cutting remark about their size. One in 10 the women said it was just looking in the mirror or seeing photographs of themselves.

Virtually everyone was pleased with the results. At least 90 percent said they had a higher quality of life and enjoyed more mobility, better moods and greater self-confidence.

Smugglers cash in on air conditioner chemical

SANTA ANA, Calif. (AP) — Americans who lost their cool have become profitable targets for smugglers.

Freon, which destroys the world's crucial ozone layer, has been finding its way across the U.S. border by the ton. Customs officials say they have been catching as many as six people a week trying to smuggle the chemical across the border from Mexico.

"Unlike drugs, the end users of Freon generally aren't criminals. That's really the only big difference," said Jeff Casey, a U.S. customs special agent in San Diego.

Freon was used in air conditioners in an estimated 30 million cars and trucks until 1993, when a non-

polluting chemical was substituted.

However, older models cannot use the substitute, known as 134A, and retrofitting can run \$70 to \$1,000. So many consumers stick with Freon, which is illegal to make or import into the United States.

There are legal stockpiles of the chemical but a perceived shortage pushed the jump from \$1 a pound in 1989 to \$40 a pound this year. That has created a market for cheap, foreign-produced Freon.

A canister costing \$160 in Tijuana is valued at \$600 in Santa Ana.

This year, authorities estimated, smugglers will bring in an estimated \$500 million worth — making it a bigger trade item than illegal

guns.

Violence may enter the trade as it becomes more lucrative, Casey said.

"So far, it's just a dollars-and-cents type of crime," Casey said. "But it's growing very quickly. There are definitely more cases this year than there were last year."

A federal task force set up last year to investigate Freon smuggling resulted in at least a dozen prosecutions.

The largest involved a Florida ring that allegedly sold \$52 million worth of Freon manufactured in India. In July, Bruce R. Burrell was extradited from Costa Rica, where he had been held since December on charges he conspired to import

Freon, which destroys the world's crucial ozone layer, has been finding its way across the U.S. border by the ton.

more than 19,000 30-pound cylinders of Freon.

He pleaded guilty and awaits sentencing. An accomplice, Casey Raja, was sentenced to one year in prison and fined \$100,000.

At least two criminal investigations are under way in the Los Angeles and Orange counties region, said Greg Doss, a spokesman for U.S. Customs in Los Angeles. He declined to provide details.

Under an international agreement, most industrialized nations

no longer produce Freon. But it is legally manufactured in India, China, Mexico and a few other countries.

The smugglers are rarely prosecuted, and then usually only on misdemeanor charges.

In one of the few felony cases, the owner of a San Diego air conditioning repair shop was sentenced in 1994 to probation and a \$1,000 fine for smuggling 200 30-pound canisters of Freon.

But consumers who use the smuggled Freon may find them-

selves with more than they bargained for. The foreign-made supplies usually are cut with a condensed, industrial-strength version that is too powerful for the typical auto air conditioner.

"It'll blow 'em right out," said John Miller, a mechanic at California Auto Refrigeration Distributors in Anaheim. "It can get expensive."

Consumers have another option, though: roll down the windows.

"If you don't have a lot of money, that's what you might want to consider," said Christine Dibble, a policy analyst with the EPA's Stratospheric Protection Division in Washington, D.C.

Pepper spray debate: Benefits questioned

BERKELEY, Calif. (AP) — Four citizen commissions here recommend that the city stop police from using pepper spray until more is known about the health effects of the substance.

The move follows growing debate over whether pepper spray is safe.

In San Francisco, a burglary suspect died after being subdued with pepper spray.

"The whole issue of pepper spray is a work in progress, not only in Berkeley but in other communities," said Michael Sherman, chairman of Berkeley's Peace and Justice Commission, one of the four recommending a moratorium.

But Berkeley Police Chief Dash Butler said pepper spray should remain available to officers, describing it as "another arrow in the quiver" that is used sparingly.

He said Berkeley police have never had an injury from the spray and it has proved useful.

For instance, a few months ago a man broke into a church and began breaking windows.

When confronted by police he grasped shards of glass and told police to shoot him or fight him. Officers tried talking to him, but when that didn't work sprayed him twice with pepper. The second time the man sat down and began crying and was taken quietly to a hospital as is standard in such cases.

Pepper spray has been banned in Australia, the United Kingdom and Thailand. The San Francisco district attorney's office has stopped investigators from carrying it, although police still do. There are efforts in Los Angeles and some other cities to ban the spray.

For now, pepper spray can be bought over the counter without a license.

The main ingredient of the spray is oleoresin capicum, a natural oil of pepper. When a person is sprayed, the eyes close and the throat and nose membranes swell. Coughing, gagging and a sensation of suffocation follow.

Arrested for shoplifting, boy leads police to murdered mom

Father sought for questioning

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — An 8-year-old boy caught shoplifting food led police to his home, where he and his sister had spent nearly two weeks alone while their mother's body decomposed in a bedroom, authorities said.

Police were searching Monday for the children's father, who was suspected of stabbing his wife to death.

Arrest warrants for murder and assault were issued for the children's father, Robert Castorena,

38, who abruptly quit his teaching job last month, said Sgt. Bob Mitchell.

Janice Castorena, 38, probably was killed on Oct. 1 and Castorena left within two days, investigators believe.

"As he left he said 'I'm going to find the enemy,'" Mitchell said. "If he has a fixation on an 'enemy,' he could harm anybody. He's got a 10-day start and he could be anywhere in the United States by now."

Mrs. Castorena had been stabbed in the upper body and beaten, and her body was found in a closed bedroom, police said. The children apparently never saw the

body although the boy told officers he thought his mother was dead.

Mitchell said the stench of the decomposing corpse was obvious to anyone near.

"When I first arrived, I could smell it without our car windows being down," he said.

Mitchell said the boy was afraid to approach police directly because his father had threatened them at knifepoint and ordered them not to tell authorities.

"We think he may have been shoplifting because he wanted to get arrested and bring the police in," Mitchell said.

The 8-year-old boy and his 14-year-old sister, whose names

weren't released, were in good physical condition, Mitchell said.

"They were fed and clean and they were taking care of themselves," he added.

Officers found a loaf of bread on the kitchen table and other food in the house in a middle-income neighborhood about five miles from the state Capitol, he said.

Castorena quit Sept. 16 after four years as a social studies teacher at C.K. McClatchy High School, and had worked for several other schools in the Sacramento school district, said district spokesman George Medovoy.

Opening arguments begin in talk show slaying trial

PONTIAC, Mich. (AP) — A man who learned during a talk show taping that another man had a crush on him then began planning the killing of his admirer, prosecutors said Monday.

Defense lawyers said during opening statements that Jonathan Schmitz didn't intend to kill Scott Amedure, but was a victim of manic depression and other health problems.

Amedure was killed by two shotgun blasts on March 9, 1995, several days after the videotaping of a segment for the nationally syndicated "Jenny Jones Show."

A 15-member jury, including three alternates, was seated Monday to hear the trial. If convicted of murder, Schmitz would face a mandatory life prison sentence. The trial is expected to last several weeks.

Oakland County Prosecutor Roman Kalvniak told jurors that Schmitz, a heterosexual, planned the killing after he was told during

the taping that Amedure had a crush on him. The show never aired.

Kalvniak said Schmitz bought a shotgun and shells, then drove to Amedure's home and shot him.

"You cannot kill another human being for words spoken by the human being," Kalvniak said.

The first witness, sheriff's Detective Craig Stout, said he questioned Schmitz after the slaying and found him serious and calm.

"He told me he was very angry, he was very humiliated" at Amedure's revelation on the talk show, Stout said.

Defense attorney Fred Gibson said Schmitz's intent wasn't to kill. The defense says that in addition to manic depression, Schmitz has Grave's disease, a thyroid gland disorder that can cause irrational and violent behavior.

"Each one of us is a culmination of all of our yesterdays," Gibson said. "We can't take those

few days in March of 1995 and single those out."

The prosecution says Schmitz, of Lake Orion, went to Chicago for the talk show taping believing a woman would be revealed as his secret admirer, and that he was humiliated when the admirer turned out to be a man.

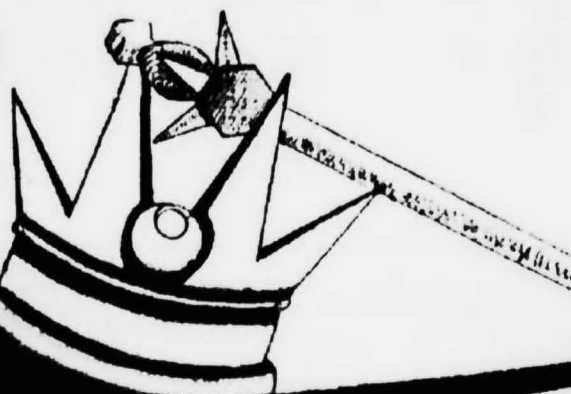
Police said that three days after the taping, Schmitz found a suggestive note from Amedure and went to the other man's house.

On Friday, a state appeals court panel overturned Oakland County Circuit Judge Francis X. O'Brien's order prohibiting journalists from interviewing witnesses or conducting interviews in the courthouse, except for a small media area.

During jury selection, O'Brien had closed the courtroom to media, the public and to relatives of Amedure and Schmitz, citing space limitations.

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Firefighters surround Big Sur forest fire

LOS PADRES NATIONAL FOREST (AP) — Firefighters Monday had surrounded the majority of a forest

fire that charred 14,300 acres of steep terrain in the scenic Big Sur.

The 2,100-member fire crew was able to use helicopters and planes to bring the blaze to 80 percent containment this morning, with full containment by fire lines expected Tuesday evening.

Fog and low visibility had hampered earlier efforts, forcing firefighters to rely on ground crews in the hilly region of the southern Big Sur. That fog cleared Sunday.

"This has been a really progressive day," fire spokesman Steve Kliest said Sunday.

At least six firefighters have

been injured, including one who was stung more than 25 times after knocking over a beehive.

Five single-family homes were destroyed in the Wild Cattle Canyon area along with nine outbuildings and a travel trailer, officials said.

Investigators believe the fire, which began a week ago today, was started by an arsonist.

U.S. Forest Service spokeswoman Juanita Freel estimated that the fire will burn about 20,000 acres by the time it is controlled.

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Basketball practice begins, fans welcome

Spartan Daily Staff Report

The SJSU basketball teams will officially start their seasons tomorrow at 3:45 p.m. in the Event Center by inviting students, faculty and staff members to participate in "Mid-day Madness."

Most college basketball teams scrimmage on the first day they are legally able to hold organized practices, but Spartan Coach Stan Morrison said his team is going to do it differently this year.

"It's going to be held when we're supposed to practice, but this is going to be strictly for the fans to enjoy," Morrison said. "We're not even going to practice."

Morrison added that "Mid-day Madness" will benefit his team as well as the fans who show up.

"Any activity involving the energy of the team, student body, faculty, staff and friends of SJSU is positive," Morrison said. "This is motivating stuff. Our players run faster, shoot better and jump higher when there are people in the seats."

"That's why we're doing this, to get checks in the seats."

"Mid-day Madness" is an event put together by the athletic department which allows fans a first look at this year's basketball team and offers prizes to those who can shoot a basket.

"The first people to walk in the door will be taken straight to the free-throw line," Morrison said. "The first 100 people to make a free throw will win a t-shirt."

More elaborate prizes will be given to fans lucky enough to have their raffle number drawn and skilled enough to make a basket from half-court.

Morrison said there will definitely be a winners for the two trips to the WAC tournament in Las Vegas, but only 10 people will have a chance to win one of two semester tuition scholarships offered.

Once the prizes have been given out, Morrison said there will be an introduction of the men's and women's basketball teams, a ring and banner ceremony, and a three-point and slam dunk competition.

Madness schedule

- ♦ 3:45 p.m. - 4:05 p.m.
Free throw shooting contest
- ♦ 4:08 p.m.
Women's team introduced
- ♦ 4:13 p.m.
Drawing for halfcourt shot to win tuition.
- ♦ 4:16 p.m.
Men's team introduced
- ♦ 4:28 p.m.
President Caret presents Championship rings to team
- ♦ 4:36 p.m.
Championship banner raised
- ♦ 4:49 p.m.
Dunk Contest
- ♦ 5:12 p.m.
Three-point shooting contest
- ♦ 5:25 p.m.
Halfcourt shots for Vegas trip

Stanford stars shine for Lasers

By Rowena T. Millado
Spartan Daily On-line Editor

Stanford Cardinals Jennifer Azzi, Sonja Henning, Val Whiting and Anita Kaplan playing at San Jose State University?

Well yes, but they aren't playing for the Spartans.

These former Cardinals and six other women constitute the San Jose Lasers who will tip off their inaugural season in the American Basketball League. The Lasers' first game will take place at the SJSU Event Center Oct. 18 against Teresa Edwards and the Atlanta Glory at 7:30 p.m.

"I think (Bay Area fans) are ready for a pro league," said Laser head coach Jan Lowrey who coached 20 years at Tarleton State University where she earned an overall record 403-225.

There hasn't been a women's professional basketball team in the Bay Area since the late '70s when the San Francisco Pioneers played in the defunct Women's Professional Basketball League (1978-1980).

Azzi, 1996 Olympic gold medalist for the women's Olympic Basketball Team, said, "The Bay Area is the best place for women's basketball."

The ABL was founded by Bay Area basketball enthusiasts who felt the need for a women's professional basketball league. Steve Hams, one of four ABL founders, said the ABL was born from the lack of professional opportunities for women in the United States and envisioned.

"There were a lot of indications in women's basketball to establish a professional league," said Hams who also acts as the chief operating officer for the ABL. Hams said that attendance at women's college basketball games, which has increased from 1.5 million in 1982 to 3.6 million in 1995, coupled with the popularity and success of the 1996 Olympic National Team as an indicator to the viability of a professional league.

San Jose Mayor Susan Hammer, who is a member of the San Jose Sports Authority, proceeded to call mayors of 12 prospective cities which were chosen by the ABL. Hammer proceeded to inform those mayors of the ABL and that "the city of San Jose is in total support of a women's basketball league."

After five months, eight teams and two conferences were formed.

Stanford Connection

Bay Area fans may remember Azzi, Henning and Whiting in 1990 as the trio played their way to Stanford's first-ever NCAA title. Unlike their male counterparts, Azzi, Henning, Whiting and Kaplan had to travel to foreign countries to play professionally. Most players travel to Europe which has 20 different women's basketball leagues.

Some women who wish to continue their hoop dreams at home, venturing into the amateur traveling basketball leagues



Kimberly Woods gets shut down by Anita Kaplan. They are two of the 10 players that make up San Jose's first women's professional basketball team, the Lasers.

"I am looking forward to be with my Stanford teammates again," Henning said. "I am looking forward to going up the floor and looking for familiar faces to pass the ball to."

Sonja Henning
San Jose Lasers' player

may be the answer. But for others, giving up the dream is the only option.

Henning, who played for one year professionally in Sweden for Uppsala, returns to the parquet floor after a four year hiatus. Henning said she thought her basketball career was over as she pursued a law degree at Duke

University and subsequently worked for a law firm in Los Angeles.

After hearing of the ABL from former Stanford teammate Kristie Hegepatch, Henning said she "became more and more excited" of the prospects of coming back to basketball.

It was rewarding to be (work-

ing) at a law firm," Henning said, "but it's not like playing basketball."

"I am looking forward to be with my Stanford teammates again," Henning said. "I am looking forward to going up the floor and looking for familiar faces to pass the ball to."

Building fan base

Players are expected to play for teams located near the universities they played collegiate basketball, which is expected to build and sustain a fan base Lowrey said.

Although the ABL hopes to capitalize the popularity of area women's basketball teams, the Lasers will define their own identity said Shana Daum, spokeswoman for the Lasers.

Each team will play 40 regular-season games between October and February, the Lasers will play

20 home games at the Event Center. The Event Center was specifically chosen because of its "intimate" venue with a 4,550 capacity, second smallest to Atlanta's Norcross Arena which seats 3,000.

The Lasers will play in the Western Conference along with the Colorado Xplosion, Portland Power and Seattle Reign. The Atlanta Glory, Columbus Quest, New England Blizzard and Richmond Rage make up the Eastern Conference.

The ABL may expand to 10 teams within the next year, and to 12 thereafter according to Hams.

Individual tickets are available at all BASS ticket outlets and the Event Center Box Office. Ticket prices are from \$5 for general admission to \$45 for court side seats. Season tickets are also available from \$100 to \$700 court side.

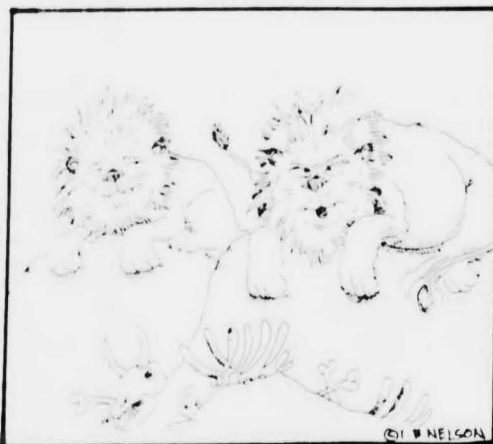
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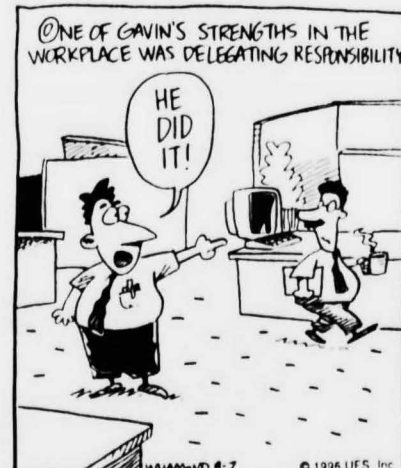
ABNORMAL PSYCHOLOGY

B NELSON

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"SWALLOWED YOUR PRIDE, EH?"



BOUND AND GAGGED BY DANA SUMMERS



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Battle: Health educator sees positive movement on the horizon

From page 1

tion about people of color receiving positions unfairly and without qualifying for them. That's not a fair characterization of the program."

Battle talked about the changes he has seen at SJSU.

"About six years ago, the campus was going backward in equality, nurturing and human relations," he said.

For the past three years, however, Battle said, he has seen "positive sightings on the horizon."

"There has been a movement toward inclusion of different people and various ideas rather than intellectual rhetoric. The emphasis has shifted toward collaboration, open discussion about problems and issues on campus, toward meeting the needs of students more than at any other time since my 22 years of service to SJSU," he said.

"Although we have made gradual progress in race relations, the challenge is where do we go from here? How do we take a diversity of students and employees, such as we have at SJSU, and energize the environment in a manner that would benefit all people without regard to creed, race, color and sexual orientation? How do we eventually become a team, regardless of who we are, to benefit from one another's talents," Battle asked rhetorically.

"Because America wasn't built by any particular group, we must live up to the historical perspective of America in the context of contemporary times," Battle said.

About his proposals to combat racial acrimony and better unify the climate, Battle made three specific suggestions.

First, develop a set of principles that implement a diverse program that reflects the racial diversity noticeable throughout campus.

Second, empower the different departments to address issues, whether racial problems, sexual harassment and discriminatory treatment of employees, in a prompt and forthright manner.

Third, take the data generated from a recent survey on campus climate that indicates "there is indeed a racial problem at SJSU and use it as a basis to address issues instead of pretending that we don't have such a problem."

"I have been representing and serving all SJSU's students, regardless of race, color and creed," Battle conceded. "Equal justice and equal opportunity is part of my philosophy," he added.

Battle acknowledged that his major accomplishment at SJSU has been the emphasis on preventive health care.

"I have made preventive health care a reality and a priority not only at SJSU but throughout the California State University System,"

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"When you are developing your potentials, your first priority should be to compete with yourself rather than with other individuals. As long as you compete with yourself, you will always win. Then, your past and potential successes become the benchmarks beyond which you strive."

Oscar Battle
SJSU health coordinator

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Battle said.

He also cited a few examples of the impact he has had since his tenure at SJSU. Such changes include: the implementation of a program called weight control for life that encouraged behavior patterns lasting for a lifetime, a multifaceted peer-education program to meet the diverse needs of students, and an HIV-AIDS prevention program that teaches students how to

avoid risky behaviors that lead to HIV infection.

Battle's involvement in the community, nevertheless, extends beyond SJSU's borders. He also serves on the advisory committee of the Santa Clara County African-American Infant Health Project, the board of directors of the American College Health Association and of SJSU Campus Christian Ministry. He is chair of

George Washington Carver Memorial Committee.

Battle synthesized his philosophy as follows, "When you are developing your potentials, your first priority should be to compete with yourself rather than with other individuals. As long as you compete with yourself, you will always win. Then, your past and potential successes become the benchmarks beyond which you

In search of the miracles of the 'Lily of the Mohawk'

FONDA, N.Y. (AP) — For the Rev. John Peret, defining a miracle isn't as easy as looking it up in the dictionary.

Peret specializes in investigating miracles, particularly miraculous healings. Six years ago, he took on the job of researching the claims of people who believe their prayers were answered by a 17th-century Mohawk Indian woman who converted to Catholicism.

As vice-postulator for the cause of Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha, Peret pores over medical records, interviews witnesses, and investigates the circumstances surrounding alleged miracles, all in hopes of pinning down the one miracle that would make Blessed Kateri an official saint in the eyes of the Roman Catholic Church.

"All that's left is one miracle," Peret said. "An authenticated miracle."

Authenticated is the key word.

Thousands of Catholics throughout North America have prayed to Blessed Kateri, asking her to intercede with God on their behalf. The back page of Kateri's official newsletter, published by supporters of her shrine in upstate New York, is crowded with thank-you notices from the faithful who believe their prayers to Kateri were answered.

While such testimonials are often compelling, they don't fit the mold for full-fledged miracles, Peret says. They're too easily explained as circumstance, luck, or even simple perseverance. The Vatican's standards are much higher, and its authentication process serves as its own best devil's advocate.

"It's hard these days to prove a miracle," says Peret, a small, wiry man whose frank attitude, and polo shirt, belies his spiritual duties and investigations into the miraculous.

"The process certainly errs on the side of caution."

If a miracle can be attributed to her, and Pope John Paul II agrees to her canonization, Kateri Tekakwitha would be the second American-born person to become

a Roman Catholic saint.

Called the "Lily of the Mohawk" by her devotees, Kateri in 1676 became one of the first American Indians to be baptized by the Catholic Church, and became the first to take a vow of perpetual chastity.

"She wanted to be a nun, but of course, at the time, that was unheard of — an Indian joining a European religious order," says the Rev. Kevin Kenny, director of the National Shrine of Kateri Tekakwitha, located where her village once stood.

Kateri Tekakwitha was born in 1656 along the banks of the Mohawk near the modern-day village of Auriesville, about 155 miles north of New York City. Ten years later, a war party of French soldiers and Canadian Indians destroyed her village, forcing the Mohawk band to move.

The land they chose was on the north side of the river, high on a hill and easily defensible — where her shrine stands today. Metal stakes now outline where the fortified walls and longhouses of the village once stood, and a small shrine has been constructed over the nearby spring where the Mohawk community got its water.

In that village Kateri was baptized on Easter Sunday, 1676, and took the Catholic name of Catherine. It is believed that the water for her baptism was taken from the village spring, and many visitors to the shrine consider the water to be blessed.

Kateri was persecuted by her fellow Mohawks for her conversion, and in 1677 she moved to Kahnawake, Canada, where a more tolerant group of Mohawks accepted her.

Later, in 1679, Kateri pronounced a vow of perpetual chastity.

Kateri Tekakwitha died on April 17, 1680, at the age of 24.

Kateri was made venerable in 1943 by Pope Pius XII, the first of three steps in the consideration of sainthood. Pope John Paul II beatified her in 1980, the 300th

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"All that's left is one miracle. An authenticated miracle.."

Rev. John Peret
Vice postulator for the cause of Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha

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anniversary of her death, as part of the church's effort to promote local role models for Catholics around the world.

Kateri lived a life that serves as an example to other Catholics, Kenny says, and she has an established following as a patroness of peace and ecology. But the third requirement for sainthood — a miracle — has remained elusive.

The investigative process is exhaustive. Peret, based at the nearby National Shrine of North American Martyrs, has seen dozens of cases cross his desk in the six years since he was assigned by the Vatican as Kateri's vice-postulator, a post that requires Peret to be part skeptic when it comes to miracles, and part advocate for Kateri's sainthood.

"I was first assigned to this position, but it really grows on you," Peret says. "As my predecessor put it, 'Once Kateri gets a hold of you, she doesn't let go.'"

All of the alleged miracles attributed to Kateri have been healings, Peret says. In those cases, Peret talks to local physicians who saw the results of the miracle, hoping that they'll write a statement saying that there was no known medical cause for what happened.

"That's tough to do," Peret says. "Many doctors don't like to admit that they're stumped. They'd rather continue studying it and try to come up with some medical explanation."

A local resident's amazing recovery from cancer was narrowly rejected, Kenny says. The man's doctor had cut off his treatments, and told him that his cancer could no longer be controlled.

Kenny told the man, one of his parishioners at a nearby church, to pray to Kateri while he was in California saying goodbye to his son and grandchildren. When the man went for a checkup on his return to New York, all the doctor could find was scar tissue.

"We sent the miracle to Rome, but it was not accepted because medical therapies had been applied," Kenny says.

There are other problems, too. Peret cites the case of a North Carolina boy who was blinded in one eye in an accident. During a Mass soon after his injury, a priest and two parishioners brought the boy to the front of the church and prayed to Kateri Tekakwitha, asking her to heal the boy.

At the end of the Mass, those in attendance saw the boy without his sunglasses, which masked his injury. He told the priest that he could see out of his injured eye, Peret says.

However, once Peret began investigating, the boy's father refused to talk to doctors about authenticating the miracle.

"He didn't want the publicity," Peret says. "We'd certainly keep his name confidential. We're still trying to get him to help us."

In his tenure, Peret has seen seven or eight cases that he said were "close," all of which must keep confidential. In some cases, the illness may not have been serious enough, or someone dug up a remotely plausible medical explanation.

In one case that made it to Peret's desk, which otherwise seemed like the miracle Kateri needed, the family reported praying to St. Jude — not Blessed Kateri.

However, if Peret finds a strong case in Kateri's favor, he sends it on to the Vatican, where the process starts all over again. Few cases are actually declared full-fledged mira-

cles, Peret says.

"Most never make it that far," Peret said. "Those are the rules. The pope, of course, can waive those rules, and we've asked him to do that, too."

One of the hallmarks of John Paul's 17-year papacy has been the expansion of the church's community of saints. Last December, the pope canonized St. Eugene de Mazenod, a French missionary who became the 274th saint created under John Paul.

Kateri's supporters in 1993 urged the pope to canonize her during the World Youth Conference in Denver.

"It would have been perfect," Peret says. "She was young, a woman — a good role model."

But it was not to be. So Kenny and local volunteers maintain Kateri's shrine, hoping that someone who prays there will one day have their prayers answered in a very definite way.

"We're waiting for a miracle," Kenny says.



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Meteor entered atmosphere, orbited and hit California on its return

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Breaking up is hard to do, especially if you're a meteorite.

Two scientists believe the mysterious flash of green light seen over a large portion of the West recently came from two separate death throes of a space rock.

The chunk burned through the atmosphere, creating a glow seen over Texas and New Mexico, then orbited Earth for more than 1 1/2 hours before streaking to a blazing doom northeast of Los Angeles, say John Wasson, a meteorite specialist at the University of California, Los Angeles, and Mark Boslough, a physicist from Sandia National Laboratories in Albuquerque.

"It's two events, the same object," Wasson said.

Scientists have never seen a meteorite being captured and then re-entering the atmosphere and would like to get their hands on it, the researchers said.

UCLA is offering a \$5,000 reward for the first chunk weighing at least 4 ounces, with smaller rewards for smaller samples. Wasson said small pieces could have landed anywhere that the light flash was observed — in grass, on roofs or in gutters. The fragments would look like small, matte black stones.

Based on electronic mail messages from lay observers, Wasson and Boslough have come up with the following scenario for the

meteorite's plunge:

The object first entered Earth's atmosphere at about 8 p.m. MDT on Oct. 3 east of Las Cruces, N.M. It was heading east-northeast and slowed down as it descended at a shallow angle toward the Texas Panhandle.

It came the closest to Earth's surface near Artesia, N.M., where it began breaking apart, spawning

a shower of meteors that created a brilliant sky show extending at least as far as Lubbock, Texas.

The biggest fragment then hurtled back into space. Eventually it slowed to 18,450 mph — too slow to escape Earth's gravitational field. The chunk briefly became a small moon, making a single, 100-minute orbit of the Earth.

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