A $10 million commitment by real estate developer and San Diego Chargers owner Alex G. Spanos and his wife, Faye, will serve as the cornerstone donation for the remodeling of Hornet Staduim and the construction of a planned $73 million Recreation, Wellness and Events Center at Sacramento State.

President Alexander Gonzalez made the surprise announcement of the gift during his inauguration address on Oct. 4 (see story below). “Today, I want to tell you that Mr. Spanos believes in this University and in each and every one of us that are a part of it,” Gonzalez said. “He knows we can achieve what we set out to do and knows our plan, Destination 2010, is our destiny. To that end, he has committed to provide $10 million to launch the renovation of our stadium and to provide the lead gift for the construction of the Recreation, Wellness and Events Center.

“We thank you, Mr. Spanos, for your confidence and generosity. We won’t let you down.”

Spanos is known throughout the state for his philanthropy. He has previously given Sacramento State well over $1 million for upgrades to the stadium and track facilities that helped attract the 2010 and 2014 U.S. Olympic Track and Field Trials. His latest gift is the largest gift ever to Sacramento State and among the 10 largest gifts ever given to a CSU campus. It is also the largest gift given to any of the Northern California CSU campuses.

The University’s largest prior gift was the Tsakopoulos Hellenic Collection, which includes books, art and archival materials valued at nearly $3 million. It was given to Sacramento State by philanthropists Angelo Tsakopoulos in late 2002.

The plan for the Recreation, Wellness and Event Center passed a referendum vote of the students in April 2004 with a pledge from Gonzalez that he would raise $23 million to launch the renovation.

See SPANOS, Page 2

MEMORABLE DAY—Under sunny skies, the campus community celebrated the inauguration of Alexander Gonzalez as the University’s 11th president last week. At right, emeritus professor Alan Wade carries the University flag to the ceremony itself but for Gonzalez’ announcement near the end that Alex G. Spanos and his wife Faye have committed $10 million as the cornerstone donation for the remodeling of Hornet Stadium and the construction of a planned $73 million Recreation, Wellness and Events Center.

One-pound gladiators from throughout the West will seek robotic glory at “Smackdown in Sactown!”—the second Ant Weight Robot Challenge and Engineering Expo at Sacramento State Sunday, Oct 17.

The event takes place at the University Union from noon to 5 p.m. The main event—robot battles—will feature robotic creations fighting it out with wedges, blades and anything else competitors have dreamed up. Entries will come from local and out-of-area teams.

The event will also feature displays by student groups from throughout Sacramento State’s College of Engineering and Computer Science, including projects such as a hovercraft and a mini-Baja off-road racer. And there will be tours of engineering and computer science facilities.

More than 1,000 spectators are expected.

The second Robot Challenge and Engineering Expo is presented

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Inauguration marked by pageantry, optimism

In a day of academic tradition, touching moments and a surprise gift announcement, Alexander Gonzalez was officially inaugurated as Sacramento State’s 11th president.

The Oct. 4 event at the Outdoor Theatre drew university representatives from throughout the state, including CSU presidents, CSU Trustees and CSU Chancellor Charles Reed.

Gonzalez told the crowd of hundreds of visitors and members of the campus community that he was committed to improving Sacramento State by helping its people achieve their potential—to pursue “self-actualization.”

“The people here need to be encouraged to and allowed to thrive if this University hopes to be its best,” Gonzalez said, adding later, “A clear sense of purpose, a clear sense of identity and a rising tide of excellence and creativity will indeed lift us all.”

He tied his commitment to helping students, faculty and staff achieve their potential to the University’s Destination 2010 initiative. He said Sacramento State was already a great regional institution, but that it would become a premier metropolitan university with planned improvements such as the recreation center and new residence halls, and a commitment to improving academic programs and the University’s overall reputation.

“You’ll hardly recognize it five years from now,” he said.

Gonzalez, who arrived at Sacramento State last July, also thanked the campus community for making him and his wife Gloria “feel right at home over the past year.”

The ceremony began with the ringing of campus bells and a procession of regalia-clad faculty and guests from the University Union to the Outdoor Theatre. Economics professor Stephen Perez narrated the event. Emeritus Sacramento State professor Alan Wade led the procession with the University Flag, while Faculty Senate Chair Crisfty Jensen followed with University’s new ceremonial mace.

During the event, Gonzalez’ younger brother Francisco Gonzalez, who has been called one of the best American-born harpists of the Mexican tradition, presented a musical selection titled “Cuatro Milpas.”

There were also numerous speeches by representatives from the University’s core constituencies—students, alumni, faculty and staff, and the community—as well as Chancellor Reed and other visitors.

Among them was Sacramento State Student body President Joshua Wood, who said that, “We gather to inaugurate a President who will not be satisfied with fulfilling the status quo, but will reach beyond with ambitious goals for a better future for our institution.”

CSU Board of Trustee Chair Murray L. Galinson, the President that he and board “look forward to many more years of working with you and watching this university reach new heights of accomplishment.”

The occasion will be remembered not only for the ceremony itself but for Gonzalez’ announcement near the end that Alex G. Spanos and his wife Faye have committed $10 million as the cornerstone donation for the remodeling of Hornet Stadium and the construction of a planned $73 million Recreation, Wellness and Events Center.

“Although (Spanos) has supported our efforts in the past,” Gonzalez said, “this latest gesture is one of the clearest expressions of affirmation for what we do and what we hope to achieve.”

—Frank Whittall

Robots geared up for battle

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See ROBOTS, Page 2

Experience the music of Mexico
Sacramento State's WINTER SPORTS program has been invited to the University of Nevada-Washington State in February for a two-day invitational event. The program features a variety of sports, including tennis, volleyball, basketball, and baseball. Sacramento State's WINTER SPORTS program has been invited to the University of Nevada-Washington State in February for a two-day invitational event. The program features a variety of sports, including tennis, volleyball, basketball, and baseball. 

The Bulletin welcomes student and staff members to submit their work for publication. Submissions should be sent to bulletin@csus.edu or faxed to 278-5290. 

In the news

DOUGLAS TOWNEN, management, was interviewed by the Ventura County Star on Sept. 22 about the economic impact McDonald's restaurants have on local communities. 

CHRISTOPHER BURNETT, economics, co-authored a book titled “Belief Change and Coalition Stability in San Francisco Bay-Delta Water Policy 1953-1996” and chaired a roundtable discussion at the American Political Science Association annual meeting in Chicago, Sept. 4. 

SEAN CORCORAN, economics, co-authored a book titled “Belief Change and Coalition Stability in San Francisco Bay-Delta Water Policy 1953-1996” and chaired a roundtable discussion at the American Political Science Association annual meeting in Chicago, Sept. 4. 

BILL LEACH, director, Center for Collaborative Policy, co-presented a paper titled “Belief Change and Coalition Stability in San Francisco Bay-Delta Water Policy 1953-1996” and chaired a roundtable discussion at the American Political Science Association annual meeting in Chicago, Sept. 4. 

Continued from page 1

The student-run Competitive Robots club, sponsored by faculty member Dr. Akihiko Kumagai, is dedicated to recruiting new members and providing a supportive environment for students interested in robotics. The club competing in the American ROBOTIC CHALLENGE at NASA's Ames Research Center in Mountain View, California, has been recognized for its innovative designs and successful performances.
Biology professor still on the job after 50 years

When biological sciences professor Lee Kavaljian first joined the Sacramento State faculty, he recalls that the fewer than 1,500 students and his 100 teaching colleagues shared the campus with “jacksrabbits and burrowing owls.” That was a half century ago, a year after the school moved to its new campus from temporary quarters at Sacramento City College.

Kavaljian and his 100 teaching colleagues probably样 name from Sacramento State, but there’s no cause for alarm.

The University will send secure e-mail to all students who have valid e-mail addresses to make the information available to them, and will send postcards to all students who do not have valid e-mail addresses.

FLU VACCINES
Three flu vaccination clinics will be held on campus in October and November. They will be from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday, Oct. 19 in Library Quad; 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 26 in the Library breezeway; and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday, Nov. 8 in El Dorado Hall 1005. There is no cost for the vaccines for students with augmented campus health coverage. The cost for other students is $7, and for faculty, staff and others the cost is $15.

The clinics are sponsored by the Sacramento State Student Health Center, the University’s nursing program and the Sacramento County Influenza Coalition. Details: 278-9355.

Proposals are being accepted for a campuswide reading and writing conference that will be held Friday, Feb. 18 in the University Union.

The event is being presented by the University’s Writing Across the Curriculum Program. Any full-time and part-time teachers, administrators and staff may propose an individual presentation or panel for a half-day conference on successful approaches to reading and writing across disciplines. Topics could include effective writing assignments or approaches, successful departmental initiatives or projects, using technology to improve reading and writing, dealing with plagiarism, research or theory relevant to reading and writing, or other subjects related to improving student reading and writing.

Individual presentations will be given 15 minutes, and panel presentations will be given 45 minutes.

Proposals should include a 150-200 word abstract and presentation title, along with the presenter’s name and department. They may be submitted to wac@csus.edu. The deadline is Dec. 20.

More information on the Writing Across the Curriculum Program is available at www.csus.edu/wac. Questions may be sent to wac@csus.edu.

HELPING WITH DISABILITIES
The Center for Teaching and Learning will host a faculty teaching strategies brown bag discussion on “Working with Students with Disabilities,” noon to 1:15 p.m., Friday, Oct. 15 in Library 4026.

Staff from Services to Students with Disabilities will lead the discussion and offer strategies for working with students with disabilities. Topics will include faculty, staff and student rights and responsibilities; reasonable accommodations; strategies and procedures; and legal mandates.

Details: 278-9845.

The Ski and Snowboard Club is holding its annual Ski and Snowboard Swap from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 24 in the University Union Ballroom.

The popular event, held to raise money for the club, will feature more than $1 million worth of new and used merchandise for all ages. All new gear will be offered at 30 to 60 percent off retail prices. The goods will include skis, snowboards, boots, bindings, clothing and accessories. Season pass specials to ski areas will also be available.

For individuals who plan to sell their own skis, snowboards or boots, the club will accept items from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 23 in the University Union Ballroom.

For further information, visit www.skiclubatscsus.com.

LIBRARIES AND PATRIOT ACT
George PagnANEL, curator of the Tsakopolous Hellenic Collection at Sacramento State, will discuss how the Patriot Act affects the university’s collection at the next “Soundings” event, 8:30-9:30 a.m., Tuesday, Oct. 19 in the University Union. The room has yet been determined.

The event is part of the monthly “Soundings” series hosted by a faculty of a number of courses that usually related to higher education and religion. Brief presentations are followed discussion.

Details: Jeffrey Brod at 278-7703 or jbrod@csus.edu.

When he came to Sacramento, the main buildings were administration, now Sacramento Hall, and the library in what is now Lassen Hall, Douglass Hall and part of what is now Kadema Hall. Sciences were in three one-story buildings now gone long.

Kavaljian is happy that teaching became his lifetime work. He teaches a class in introductory biology, and an upper division class, “Plants and Civilization,” which deals with the global impact of plants on cultures. Besides all this, Kavaljian takes the month between fall and spring semesters to travel to the Far East in search of additions to his extensive art collection. His trips are often to Thailand, Burma, Laos, Cambodia and Vietnam but he has traveled to China three times and went frequently to Japan in the past.

He has also been a participant in one, and co-director of three, Fulbright-Hays Group Projects Abroad. All were in the summer, three in India and one in China. How good is his art collection? Sacramento’s Crocker Art Museum occasionally borrows pieces from him for display. When will he be totally retire? He answers the question with a question.

“Why leave?” he answered. “I find it stimulating and it keeps the cobswebs out of the brain.” —Rand Lembo
Theatre, dance, ticket packages available
The Department of theatre and dance is premiering money-saving ticket packages for its 10-production 2004–05 season. For the first time, University audiences will be able to purchase blocks of tickets good for 10 performances, eight performances or, for students, five fall or spring performances. Savings can be more than $25 compared to individual general admission ticket prices.

Packages prices start at $29 for student admission to five fall or spring semester shows, and top out at $125 for general admission to one performance of each of the 10 productions in the season. The package choices are:

• Ten shows, general admission....$125
• Eight shows, general admission....$99
• Ten shows, seniors $70
• Eight shows, seniors $60
• Five fall shows, students $29
• Five spring shows, students $35

Ticket packages and more information are available from the CSUS Ticket Office located on the main floor of the University Union or by calling 278-4323.

Ticket Office hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday to Friday. A $5 convenience fee will be added to all package purchases.

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DANCE PIECES
Opening its 11th season at Sacramento State, Sacramento/Ball Art of Dance presents Quilt: Diaspora Tapestry, at 8 p.m. on weekdays and Saturdays, and 7 p.m. Sundays. Oct. 21 to 24 and 27 to 31 in Solano Hall 1010.

The performance, developed by S/BAD associate director and longstanding company member Nathan Jones, brings together choreography by Jones and other S/BAD members including Nicole Manker, Noah Hayes, Nzinga Woods and Eric Vianette. The show explores different aspects of African-inspired movement, piecing together personal narratives that represent principles of unity, faith and self-determination.

S/BAD was founded in 1993 by Sacramento State professor Linda Goodrich as a concert dance company that employs the aesthetic traditions established by modern dance pioneer Katherine Dunham. The dance company celebrates the movement and music of African culture.

Tickets are $15 general admission, $13 for students and seniors, $12 for Sacramento State students and $9 for children 12 or younger. Tickets are available from the CSUS Ticket Office at 278-4323.

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Workshop, “Improving Cross-Cultural Relations,” Elaine Mayumi Whitefeather, employment consultant, trainer and author, includes lunch, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., Alumni Center, $25 general/$10 students. Registration required. (916) 278-6943.

President and vice president debate and discussion, final debate between President George Bush and Senator John Kerry, 6 p.m., Mariposa Hall 1010. (916) 278-6693.

Music, Strange Party, noon, Serna Plaza. (916) 278-6997.


Exhibit, “Mexican masks, Hispanic Heritage Month, Mendocino Hall, first and fourth floors. (916) 278-6067. Continues to Nov. 12.


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sunday, oct. 17
Theater, Goodnight, Desdemona (Good Morning, Juliet), by Ann-Marie MacDonald, directed by Sacramento State professor Gina Kaufmann, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m., Playwrights’ Theatre, Shasta Hall, $15 general/$8 students and seniors. Tickets at CSUS Ticket Office at (916) 278-4323 or at Tickets.com. Performances Oct. 15-17 and 21-24.

Athletics, Women’s soccer vs. UC Davis, 4 p.m., Soccer Field, $5 general/$3 youth ages 2-17, tickets at gate. (916) 278-2222.

Music, “Les Deux Amis,” Richard Savino, guitar and guest Jim Schneiderman, guitar, Sacramento State faculty recital, 7:30 p.m., Capistrano Hall 151, $8 general/$5 students and seniors. Tickets at CSUS Ticket Office at (916) 278-4323 or at Tickets.com.

“Smackdown in Sactown: Ant Weight Robot Challenge and Engineering Expo,” robot battles, student project displays and tours, noon-5 p.m., University Union. $5 general/$3 students/free for children 10 and younger, tickets at door. Free parking in lots 4 and 5. (916) 278-6809.

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monday, oct. 18
Music, Sacramento State Music Student Scholarship Benefit Concert, 8 p.m., Music Recital Hall in Capistrano Hall, $15 general/$10 students. Tickets at CSUS Ticket Office at (916) 278-4323 or at Tickets.com.

Pre-football game party, live music, food, children’s activities, visits by Sacramento State Marching Band, and more, hosted by CSUS Alumni Association, 4-6 p.m., Alumni Center. (916) 278-6295.