

# Lady Sea Lions Travel to China

Lady Sea Lions share their love of soccer in China.  
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An unreconciled balance of about \$10,000 was discovered when ASB Finance closed the books for the 2005 fiscal year. ASB officials believe the money was not accounted for due to the improper use of and an overall lack of knowledge of the bookkeeping program QuickBooks 2002 in previous years.

Discovering the money was not a big surprise.

"My biggest thing that I want to get across is that this was not just money lying around that we

didn't know about," said Amy Swen, ASB director of finance. "It was just accounted for differently in our bookkeeping system than we thought."

Brandon Hill, director of community life, has been working with ASB on its bookkeeping for the past two fiscal years. He knew that accounting errors were probable in the ASB account after working with Jordan Sybrandt, last year's ASB director of finance, and after seeing the way Sybrandt was taught to do things for ASB by the previous director.

"It was the system that allowed

for holes," said Hill.

There was a \$6,000 to \$7,000 unreconciled balance when the books were closed for the 2004 fiscal year, according to Sybrandt.

"Previously the way I think that office was run was really elementary or basic," said Sybrandt. "It was more tracking money than actual accounting."

The QuickBooks program was set up to treat the budget like it was actual money. A budget is not real money, according to Hill. So if the ASB received more money than they budgeted for at the beginning of the year, the excess mon-

ey would be unaccounted for in the QuickBooks program.

"We have an accounting program that doesn't really fit our needs," said Hill. "But we have put procedures in place to make it work."

There are no known problems with QuickBooks according to accounting professor Carl Hammond.

"It can't happen," said Hammond. "For every debt there should be a corresponding credit. The only way you could be out of balance is if you made a one-sided entry. QuickBooks won't allow you to make a one-sided entry."

This means ASB Finance either didn't record all the transactions to the right account or they made a deposit in the bank that they didn't record, according to Hammond.

For ASB finance directors, part of the confusion may be their lack of experience with the program QuickBooks.

"[...] It wasn't necessarily an issue with the program itself, but more our understanding of a certain aspect of the program," said Swen.

Sybrandt said they used a program other than QuickBooks in his  
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## ASB Discovers Financial Surplus