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University of the Pacific

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Breaking Records and Setting Standards

Sachi Takahashi-Rial
Pacifican Staff Writer

This year has been groundbreaking for Pacific’s Office of Admissions and the university if general. Just under 15,000 high school seniors applied to Pacific: a university record. The amount of applicants caused the enrollment staff to make some tough decisions and set new standards for the academic quality of next year’s incoming class. Only 39% of applicants were accepted, setting another record in Pacific’s history.

Profile Day is often an essential piece of the admission experience. This year’s Profile Day will continue in the mode that Associate Provost for Enrollment, Robert Alexander, has set for this entire year: aggressive. Alexander stated that the reach-out tactics of his team were more aggressive this year than any before, visiting more regions and making a strong effort to keep in touch with admitted and interested students.

This approach has paid off. Admitted high school senior Britanna Juhernden stated that she has already confirmed her enrollment to Pacific for next year and is excited to get involved on campus. She is a Powell Scholar, in the Honors Program, and looks forward to participating in Pacific Crew and the Tennis Club. She has already bought out the bookstore, walking out with an orange fuzzy pillow, a Tigers decal, and of course, a sweatshirt. She chose Pacific for its tight-knit community and the opportunities it holds for relationships with faculty.

For current freshman Ken Chang, Profile Day sealed the deal in his decision to attend Pacific. He had been accepted into numerous UCs, but the small campus and attractive student/teacher ratio outweighed his desire to attend a university that offered classes in impersonal lecture halls.

Profile Day is a time for current Pacific students to shine. According to Alexander, “The campus sells itself. Prospective students are able to hear the Pacific story straight from its current students.” Ambassador Karen Darden echoed Alexander’s words, “I am excited for Profile Day because I get to share my love of Pacific with prospective students.”

This day also highlights the tremendous work of the enrollment staff. With the increased workload that goes along with 14,000+ applications, Alexander noted the “staff have worked late nights and weekends, and given up time with their family and friends to make this year a success.”

Pacific has continued growing and strengthening its national reputation, even during difficult economic times. Two new buildings were opened this year (the DeRosa University Center and the new Biology building.) and more are under construction. Pacific’s continued growth in prestige benefits its current students directly: our degrees will be worth more to potential employers as the quality of our institution increases. Our successes and personalities help draw in more accomplished high-schoolers and we all work together to shape the future of this campus.

To prospective freshmen: a great big Tiger welcome!

Grade Averaging New Policy at Pacific

University Registrar Cecilia Rodriguez said the decision was what the faculty wanted. “That’s what the policy is: you go from grade replacement to grade averaging.” The process of changing from grade replacement to grade averaging began two years ago when “the assistant and associate deans went out to their chairs and were able to get information and come back and start taking it forward.”

By the time it reached the Academic Council for a formal vote it appeared to some of the members that the real thrust of the policy change was to simply make GPA calculations easier for the Registrar’s Office. As explained by Dr. Susan Sample, Associate Professor of Political Science at the School of International Studies, “For grade replacement to work, someone in the Registrar’s Office has to go in and manually remove the old grade so it doesn’t count in the GPA.” Grade averaging would not require this additional task.

As a defense and reason to push for grade averaging consider the time constraints placed on the Registrars Office between semesters due to Pacific’s lengthy academic calendar. Grade averaging eliminates the need for this and allows for official grades to be posted more promptly. In a letter to the Provost following the vote Dr. Bill Ford, Professor and Chair of the Computer Science Department, stated that the Registrars Office was “willing to continue maintaining the policy.”

Professors on the Academic Council also had real concerns regarding the policy of grade replacement. namely whether a student repeating a course to improve their grade was taking advantage of the system.

Brian Klunk, Associate Professor and Chair of Political Science, argued that grade replacement could be used to encourage students “to make repeated unsuccessful attempts to pass courses or earn grades high enough to meet admissions requirement for professional schools.” Students attempting to enter the pre-Pharmacy programs were noted by all those interviewed as excellent examples of this problem.

“With any number of cases,” Klunk continued, “it was thought that students who did not have a reasonable chance to pass science and math courses used the grade replacement policy to repeat courses. As a counter to this argument of grade inflation, Ford pointed out that the grade replacement policy only allowed students to use it three times. "Replacing three grades certainly is not grade inflation.”

Other reasons brought up by the Academic Council included fairness to students who successfully pass a course the first time and students wasting financial aid resources while attempting to pass a course. Klunk mentioned a student he was very familiar with that after attempting to pass a course failed... see GRADES, next page
it on purpose with the intention of using the grade replacement policy. Unfortunately, the student’s GPA fell below the eligibility level for financial aid.

“Questions came up like that,” Rodriquez said, “and then the issue about students trying to get into the course for the first time, but now find they can’t because someone else has taken the spot.”

An argument for grade averaging was presented by Sample: “Grade replacement is nice because it lets you ‘let bygones be bygones,’” Sample explained. “But grade averaging makes more sense in some ways—you actually have to accept the consequences of your own behavior.”

An extension of this argument was brought up by Klunk who noted that grade averaging more honestly reflects the academic record of a student. “Graduate and professional schools, potential employers, and others will be able to have more confidence in the integrity of a Pacific transcript.”

While this policy may be more in line with how real life is, it is very different from the majority of universities around Pacific. Stanford, UC Davis, Marquette University, Willamette University, Sacramento State, San Jose State University, and UC Berkeley all have policies of grade replacement. Ford noted that “Pacific is supposed to be a ‘student-centric’ University. This change in policy is not student-centric.”

Rodriquez said, “Some professors think it’s okay for a student to repeat a course and there are some that do not want that to happen. It seems each professor has their own stories to back up either side.”

In appealing to the Provost, Ford stated, “I feel very strongly that this was an extremely bad decision for the University. As an advisor, I have worked with students who may never have graduated without grade replacement.”

Under grade replacement, students were only allowed to use it three times during their time at Pacific. Ford noted that within the course of a four-year degree this would only accounts for 12.1% of their entire academic career at Pacific.

Rodriquez said that returning to the policy of grade replacement would need to begin with requests from the faculty. Noting that the policy had been in place for twenty years before slowly being revised into elimination. “It may be an issue to come back to again. Who knows?”

Barbeque an Opportunity to Network

Sachi Takahashi-Rial
Pacifican Staff Writer

Because the College of the Pacific (COP) is such a large school with many varied majors, often it is difficult for COP students to find that perfect internship or research position that will skyrocket their careers after college. The College of the Pacific Association (COPA) barbeque is a chance for students to meet COP alumni and be exposed to career paths they may have never considered.

The COPA barbeque will take place Thursday, April 9 at 6 p.m. on WPC lawn. Not only will COP alumni be in attendance, but university faculty and administrators as well. The event will include food, mocktail drinks, and valuable mingling and networking.

According to Association president Veena Vaidyanathan, the purpose of the event is to give College of the Pacific students an opportunity to explore career plans and get career advice from people who, not so long ago, were in the same shoes. “For many COP majors, there’s no go-to job after college. This networking event will give students a chance to explore what it is they want in a career.”

The Phantom Toll Booth

University of the Pacific and the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts are performing a musical version of the children’s book, The Phantom Toll Booth.

Milo, a boy who spent a good amount of time in boredom, finds a magic toll booth one afternoon and is transported into a world of magic. With the help of friends, he must save the Princess of Rhyme and Reason, and learns several life lessons along the way.

Where: Faye Spanos Concert Hall
When: April 7, 2009, 7 p.m.
Cost: $15 for adults, $10 for students and seniors, free for children 12 and under.
**Vice President of Student Life Takes Life-Changing Position**

**Sachi Takahashi-Rial**
Pacifican Staff Writer

Pacific's Vice President of Student Life, Elizabeth Griego, has accepted the honor of becoming the President of the National Organization for Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education (NASPA). Griego will be the second administrator from Pacific to serve in the position. Judy Chambers, former Vice President for Student Life, served as NASPA president from 1987 to 1988.

Griego expressed her excitement at the opportunity to "learn more about and contribute to issues facing higher education nationally." In this position she will work hand in hand with the Department of Education under the Obama administration. She will serve on the executive board of NASPA for three years (as president elect, president, then past president).

Pacific has already been commended for some of the innovative student life initiatives that it implements. For example, Pacific was one of six universities selected to feature exemplary practices in student affairs at the NASPA national conference earlier this month. Pacific illustrated its creativity and collaboration in a video about faculty/staff partnership in the First Year Experience program.

Griego also mentioned that Pacific may undergo some changes as a result of her NASPA presidency. "Pacific will benefit from having up-to-date, informed perspectives on issues and trends that will help us learn how to serve students even better," said Griego. She hopes to get some of Pacific's Student Life leadership more involved in national initiatives.

Chambers stated that the NASPA presidency definitely changed her life and the way she viewed Student Affairs. It gave her a well-rounded view of the issues that confront Student Life, not just at Pacific, but nationally. "I gained a much deeper understanding of the profession, of it similarities, of its differences, of the great diversity that exists not only within members of NASPA but within schools and colleges."

In order to be a successful president of NASPA, a leader must have in-depth knowledge and communication skills. According to Chambers, "the year a person is NASPA president he or she is a spokesperson for the entire Student Affairs Profession as well as the NASPA organization." With so much pressure and many new responsibilities on her plate, Griego will be relying even more on her Student Life team here at Pacific. However, she will continue to teach her Leadership Pacific Seminar class and cherish the time she gets to spend with students.

Chambers added, "I think Dr. Griego will be an excellent President. I also believe her life will be changed forever as a result of the experience."
EDITORIAL

The More the Merrier?

Fourteen thousand. That's how many freshmen applications were received for the upcoming fall semester. 5,900 have been admitted. Who knows, perhaps all 5,900 will visit our campus this Saturday for Profile Day.

"This is a new record for Pacific," said Robert Alexander, Associate Provost for Enrollment. "While some other schools have seen increases in applications this year, I haven't heard of any others coming close to what we've experienced."

The number of applications has more than doubled, with last year's count being 5,450. So, it could be that there will be a higher freshman enrollment for fall 2009. With nearly 6,000 accepted—there is a chance that there will be a higher enrollment. But will Pacific have enough space to accommodate all these new freshmen, if so happens that many will choose Pacific as their college?

"We're going to allow sophomores with more than 40 units to apply for apartments," said Silvina Sousa-Ranford, Associate Director for Facilities and Administrative Operations. "We're also revisiting some rooms, and might have to turn some lounges into rooms."

If more than the expected 890 freshmen enroll for next semester, then logically, more juniors and seniors will need to find off-campus places to live in. This is because more sophomores will be occupying on-campus apartments such as Monagan Hall and Brookside Hall.

The Housing and Greek Life Office sent out a campuswide email to students who will be living on campus, stating, "Spaces are not guaranteed for students with Junior and Senior class standing."

Pacific needs to spend its money, then, on building more residence halls and parking lots to accommodate all its students, in case there is a larger mass of incoming freshmen. Instead, why have we recently spent $90,000 on a Social Emotional Competency Initiative?

This initiative will fund research, assessments, classes, workshops, and training sessions that will nurture students' self-awareness and self-motivation, developing their social emotional competency.

"Housing has a solid plan in place to accommodate a larger incoming class while ensuring the quality of our residential experience that we promise to lower division undergraduates," said Joanna Royce-Davis, Dean of Students. "An important component of this plan is preparing students to participate in the growing Pacific community through a purposeful focus on social and emotional competency development."

While we appreciate the school looking out for our social and emotional development, the most basic needs should come first. Sufficient housing needs to happen before "a purposeful focus on social and emotional competency development."

"Instead of spending money on projects I've never heard of before, the school should invest in accommodating all students if they're going to increase the student population," said Ryan West, sophomore.

Yes, before improving our mental aspects, Pacific needs to make sure our physical needs are taken care of. Whether it be expanding the current dormitories and/or building more parking lots, construction is bound to require much funding—which that $90,000 could've been used toward.

Now vs. Then:

Getting Married

Ben Holley
Pacifican Staff Writer

As another line of graduates heads out the door I want to impart the following advice as someone who has been there and almost done that: Do not get married. At least not now.

Growing up, we are fed the line that our path should be education, marriage, career, and children. If you are in a relationship longer than two years, people start to ask, "When are you guys getting married?" It is a social norm that is pushed upon us everywhere.

When I graduated high school I was blindly following that path for a few years. She was a high school friend who became much more after we graduated. At one phase I really did want to marry her. After a lifetime of being told and shown examples of how life was supposed to run its course, it made sense to me. Find a girl. Get married. Settle down and have kids. My friends and family members were following that pattern, so it made perfect sense. It was a tangible desire that was slowly beginning to manifest into reality.

Within the couple of years of talking and planning, it became apparent that we really wanted different paths for our lives. She wanted a house in the suburbs. I wanted a loft in New York. It was those extra couple of years that made the difference. My attitude towards the suburban lifestyle I was surrounded by had changed drastically. My fiancé's had not. Getting out of that situation was a lengthy, challenging, and painful process. It could have been worse. I could have been one of the many friends I saw go through actual divorce proceedings.

The one exception to this is a friend of mine who has been married for over ten years. She wanted different paths for our lives. She wanted a house in the suburbs. I wanted a loft in New York. It was those extra couple of years that made the difference. My attitude towards the suburban lifestyle I was surrounded by had changed drastically. My fiancé's had not. Getting out of that situation was a lengthy, challenging, and painful process. It could have been worse. I could have been one of the many friends I saw go through actual divorce proceedings.

The haters out there will think this is a rant against commitment. Let me assure you that this is not the case. Commitment is a healthy and necessary part of life. Without committing to ourselves and to the world around us, civilization would fall apart. For you to get to the point where you are graduating takes dedication. Unfortunately, marriage does not always equal commitment. This is where the problem lies. Marriage takes commitment, but not everyone can commit to marriage. Especially right after graduation.
"destroyed" in stem cell research do not have neurons, let alone brains. Therefore, there is no reason to believe that these cells can suffer any destruction at all. When a person's brain has died, the law deems that person legally dead and deems it acceptable to harvest and donate his organs to someone in dire need of such parts.

A blastocyst is no different. If such individuals are so concerned with the suffering in the universe, than killing a fly should present them with much greater moral difficulty than killing a human blastocyst.

As embryonic stem cells can become any tissue within the human body, the research regarding this medical breakthrough could save millions of lives that have been threatened by diseases that, so far, have no known cure. According to Harris, stem cell research is essential to further understanding and finding more effective treatments and cures for cancer, AIDS and other life-threatening diseases.

Coincidentally, Harris also states there is no other research or medical breakthrough even compares to the benefits of implementing stem cell research, as no other medical discoveries even come close to sharing the benefits such research would entail.

The fact is that stem cell research has already turned over potential cures and treatments for life-threatening diseases that no other research has found advancement for thus far. It is absolutely ridiculous to deny such research simply because fundamentalists believe that human life begins at conception. There is, after all, no scientific evidence to support such religious beliefs. There is, however, scientific evidence that proves that stem cell research could save lives and further turn out cures for such diseases that no other research has grasped yet.
Is April Fools’ still Funny?

I think it’s fun, so long as the pranks aren’t too bad. One time, my friends and I forked our favorite teacher’s lawn!

-Kayla Millar, sophomore

I’m not a huge prankster, though I have pulled some good ones in the past—usually on my brother and sister. If I were to pull a prank it wouldn’t be on April Fool’s Day. People expect that!

-Shellynne Allen, second-year graduate student

The only time I played an April fools joke on any one was when I was when I was 17 and I told my dad that I was pregnant.

-Robin Heath, Morris Chapel Office Assistant

The Java’s Aroma

Everybody plays the fool.

That’s right, who doesn’t play the fool every now and then? Most of us performed this role superbly yesterday, on April Fools. But probably not as superbly as the character in this little poem you’re about to enjoy.

Most of us know Shel Silverstein as the man who wrote The Giving Tree. That touching children’s story our kindergarten teachers read to us, remember? He was also a children’s poet, famous for such silly poems about one-inch tall people, a girl eating a whale, and the famous Sarah Cynthia Sylvia Stout, who wouldn’t take the garbage out—until it was too late. In celebration of April Fools, enjoy his poem, Smart.

My dad gave me one dollar bill
’Cause I’m his smartest son.
And I swapped it for two shiny quarters
’Cause two is more than one!

And then I took the quarters
And traded them to Lou
For three dimes—I guess he don’t know
that three is more than two!

Just then, along came old blind Bates,
And just ‘cause he can’t see,
He gave me four nickels for my three dimes. And four is more than three!

And I took the nickels to Hiram Coombs
Down at the seed-feed store,
and the fool gave me five pennies for them,
And five is more than four!

And then I went and showed my dad,
and he got red in the cheeks.
He closed his eyes and shook his head—
Too proud of me to speak!

Clearly, there’s not much to analyze here. We just have a laughably deluded fella. But that’s what Silverstein’s poems are for—amusement. Childhood innocence seeps from his writing, and this poem is no exception.

That’s all for this week, folks. No deeper meanings, no reading between the lines. Once in a while, we need to enjoy a simple poem and just chuckle over it, and not think so much. After all, it’s the day after April Fools—and especially in these somber economic times, we need to absorb some light-heartedness every now and then.

RATE, continued from page 5

bitter, and just realize I’ll have to dedicate time to the class.”

Personally, I’d rather find out about my potential professors face-to-face, from a friend who has actually taken the course. Wouldn’t this be more legit than believing an anonymous user?

“There’s a tiny percentage of students who are going to post vindictive comments about how big some teacher’s butt is,” said English professor, Amy Smith. “But students with good judgment know how to weed through that stuff and get an overall sense of how fellow students are evaluating a professor’s teaching.”

Ultimately, RateMyProfessors.com should be taken with a grain of salt. It’s a good reference to use when one is getting ready to choose classes—but it’s not your only reference.

$6 PITCHERS OF THUNDER ALE

During the month of April, Valley Brew will be featuring $6 pitchers of THUNDER ALE everyday of the week, while supplies last.

WEEKLY WEDNESDAY
FOOD SPECIALS!!

April 1 - Mexican Buffet
April 8 - Pasta Bar
April 15 - Burger Bar
April 22 - Pizza & Salad Bar
April 29 - Mexican Buffet
May 6 - Pasta Bar
May 13 - Burger Bar
May 20 - Pizza & Salad Bar

157 W. ADAMS STREET
STOCKTON, CA 95204
PHONE: (209) 464-2739
carpe diem

Sweet tweets

"Walking to class and I see a squirrel, that’s just nuts," may be just one of the many entries, or tweets, one can find on the micro-blogging, social networking website, Twitter. Or, if you’re Ashton Kutcher, you’ll post a link to a picture of Demi Moore bending over in her bikini. Sucking in your classmates will be just that much easier with Twitter. In 140 words, anyone can express their emotions for their current situation, advertise an upcoming event, or interact with other Twitter users. Twitter, the brainchild based on other social networking sites, such as Facebook and Xanga, features the same social capability and networking, but without all the annoying applications and long-winded journal entries.

Blogs, short for web logs, have been an overall Internet phenomenon that still attracts new interested authors each day. They are found in personal and business web sites, as well as on Facebook, MySpace, and other social networking sites, or can stand alone, such as LiveJournal, WordPress, or Blogger. With so many online users interested in writing about their lives, it’s a surprise to find that not many Pacific students have personal blogs or their own Twitter pages, especially since many do not hesitate to update their Facebook status every five minutes.

Twitter allows for updates on several mediums—obviously, through the actual website, through text messaging, and through certain specific platforms such as the iPhone and the BlackBerry. Just think, you can

Vivian Lee
Pacifican Lifestyles Editor

text about your anxiety about a test or a date, right when it happens! The beauty of allowing so many platforms is, that way, you won’t have to worry about others not being updated about what’s going on right that second. But seriously, text messaging from your own phone instead of on a computer gives the user more chances to share their antics with the world.

Because users are limited only to so many words, it is entertaining to see how much information is supplied in just one update. Personally, the word limit gives me an opportunity to play with my words, challenging myself to make my tweets as short and sweet as possible. Sometimes, saying that you’re irritated by the neighbors next door in one sentence is more powerful than saying the same thing in a paragraph.

Nonetheless, Twitter is not just for blogging. Members have racked their creative minds to provide a series of interesting activities, such as using their site to display their art, poetry, and humor. Hopefully more students will see Twitter as an interactive site that can bring people together and make them smile. There are many celebrities who have public Twitter pages, and even the University has its own Twitter page! (twitter.com/UOPacific). Follow me on Twitter: twitter.com/the_vister.

carpe diem

Sweet tweets

movie

Hamlet 2

In this irreverent comedy, a failed actor-turned-worse-high-school-drama-teacher rallies his Tucson, AZ students as he conceives and stages politically incorrect musical sequel to Shakespeare’s Hamlet. Rated R, 92 min.

book

Nurse Matilda, by Christianna Brand

A novel about a hideously ugly nursemaid known as Nurse Matilda who has been highly recommended to Mr. and Mrs. Brown by several agencies. Nurse Matilda arrives at the household of the Brown family and becomes a nanny to the innumerable Brown children.

music

"I Love College," Asher Roth

"The Fear," Lily Allen

tv show

The Big Bang Theory

Hyperintelligent roommates/physicists Sheldon and Leonard meet Penny, a beautiful woman moving in next door—and realize they know next to nothing about life outside of the lab. Monday 8:30 PM on CBS

Sudoku

Fill in the blank squares so that each row, column, and each 3-by-3 block contains all of the digits 1 through 9.

Answer

7 9
8 5
6 4

2 7
3 2
9 3

1 8
4 2
6 5

3-by-3 block contains all of the digits 1 through 9.
movie reviews

Watchmen

Andy Lee
Pacifican Staff Writer

Watchmen is yet another one of many endeavors to revive comic-book superheroes into bankrolled blockbuster hits like Spiderman and The Dark Knight. Directed by Zack Snyder, who directed 300, and derived from a comic book by Dave Gibbons and Alan Moore, whose V for Vendetta also reached Hollywood, Watchmen is a star cult hit in the comic book world. It will certainly excite those fans who wonder whether it is capable of carrying the action from ink to big screen. Action movie fans of 300 will immediately be excited with Zack Snyder’s current film, and will notice how Watchmen inherit traits from 300.

From the beginning, one of the biggest inherited traits from Snyder’s previous movie, 300 is the unrealistic special effects. From bullet-time tricks a la The Matrix and dark, moody colors similar to the world depicted in V for Vendetta, the movie instantaneously doesn’t seem like one’s normal trot through the superhero realm. In other words, this isn’t Clark Kent’s farmhouse.

Taking place in a gritty, alternate 1980s, where Nixon remains president, superheroes are down to mankind, and the world is facing possible nuclear annihilation, the movie kicks off with an assassination of one of the Watchmen, the second generation of vigilantes who formerly fought crime. The film focuses on the subsequent investigation by Rorschach, played by Jackie Earle Haley.

There are scenes of high-adrenaline battle action mixed with just a touch of the same moody, angry, internal soul-searching superheroes undergo with power. Unfortunately, those who have not read the comic book will likely get lost, though Snyder planned the film to be an exact narration of Moore’s original comic. While comic book readers and art cinema lovers may revel in the intensity Watchmen brings, others may walk out without grasping anything but the fact that they experienced another action, special effects blockbuster.

The characters themselves are presented in such a way that the audience is never really moved to care about them or their fates.

Courtney Wood
Pacifican Staff Writer

Watchmen is a slow-moving film that drags its audience through the stories of several flawed “superheroes” who turn out to be considerably less “super” than other heroes of the popular genre.

Watchmen is based on the graphic novel of the same name. However, whatever made the graphic novel so popular and acclaimed in the 80s fails to translate onto the silver screen. Although the film possesses spiffy special effects, it does not have much else. The few enthralling moments of the film are practically isolated to the opening credits, which weave through altered iconic scenes of history while Bob Dylan’s “The Times They are a Changin” plays in the background. Throughout this sequence, the filming style is captivating and intriguing as it explores the possibilities of an alternate 1986 in which Nixon is in his fifth presidential term. Sadly, the promising elements of this sequence are almost entirely absent from the rest of the film.

Broadly speaking, most of the film’s acting is only so-so; it is not convincing enough to draw the audience in on an emotional level. The performances of Malin Akerman as the “Laurie Jupiter/Silk Spectre II” and Patrick Wilson as “Dan Dreiberg/Nite Owl II” are especially flat. Jackie Earle Haley, on the other hand, does seem to be a perfect fit for his role as “Walter Kovacs/Rorschach.”

The characters themselves are presented in such a way that the audience is never really moved to care about them or their fates.

In addition to the mediocre acting,
Pike Strong in Community Service and Campus Involvement

Chris Miller
Pacifican Guest Writer

Despite midterms, and the usual rigors of university life, the members of Pi Kappa Alpha continue to foster good relations with the community through organized community service. Working closely with the Center for Community Involvement, nine Pike members volunteered for Partners in Education on March 28. Originally designed to bring children to the University of the Pacific and give them a glimpse into college life, Pike members also left the service event with a sense of good feeling after spending the day with the children. The members of Pi Kappa Alpha plan to volunteer again during future events in March and April.

In addition to the on campus service opportunities, Pike sent two active members and eleven new members to the destroyed property of Tiffany Walton and her family. The volunteers helped clear scorched debris from the scalded remains of what was once a barn. Pi Kappa Alpha was able to donate a total of over one-hundred hours of community service on March 28 alone.

Although Pike recognizes the importance of community service, they also strongly value the benefits of continuous campus involvement. Members of the fraternity regularly attended the Presidential interviews used to determine the next University President and in turn, attracted the attention of the Vice President of Student Life, Elizabeth Griego. In an email to the President of Pi Kappa Alpha, Kyle Campionotti, Griego shares the she is “impressed that [their] fraternity chose to become engaged in this way in the process that is so important to this campus”.

Giving a new meaning to blood, sweat, and tears, several members of Pike brawled the pinch of the needle to give blood to the Delta Blood Bank’s on campus blood drive. Their blood donations were sent directly to a local hospital and were used to help those desperately in need.

Pike continues to serve the community through volunteered time and is already planning their next community service events.

Reach Out Groups Competition

The numbers are in and it looks like Alpha Phi Omega continues to stand as the top contender with an outstanding 369.50! Sigma Alpha Iota follows with a total of 300 service hours. Keep up the great work!

The Reach Out Groups Competition gives university recognized fraternities, sororities, halls, and clubs a chance to be recognized for their community service dedication. Each year the competition has two winners: the organization that completes the highest number of service hours total, and the organization that has the highest average of service hours per member. Winners will be recognized at the The Reach Out Volunteer Celebration, held on April 29, at 7:00 p.m. in the University Center Ballroom. Individual volunteers who complete over 50 hours of community service will also be recognized for their hard work and dedication to our Stockton community!

We highly encourage members of any organization and individual volunteers to log their hours online. If your organization is interested in being part of the Groups Competition please contact Emma Cohen at cci@pacific.edu or 209-946-2444.

Below you will find the top five organizations within the competition at this moment and the hours of community service they have completed. Good luck to all and don’t forget to log those hours!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Hours logged on Reach Out Online (As of March 23)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alpha Phi Omega</td>
<td>369.50</td>
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<td>Sigma Alpha Iota</td>
<td>300</td>
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<td>Pi Kappa Alpha</td>
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</table>

Last day to log your hours and qualify for the Groups Competition is April 20 at 5:00 p.m. Remember to go to www.pacific.edu/reachout to log your hours!
Baseball Sweeps Davis, First Conference Series Since 2006

Vanessa Connolly  
Pacifican Staff Writer

Pacific's baseball team is now ranked second in the Big West Conference standings after winning their weekend series against UC Davis. This series marked the first conference series of the 2009 season. The team is now 10-12 on the season, while Davis dropped to 3-17. The team will return home on Tues. April 7 to host San Francisco at 2pm.

Series Recap:  
**Game One (Tigers 8, Aggies 4)**

The first run of the game came off an RBI single by sophomore Brian Martin. During the second inning, senior Kurt Wideman hit a double and scored on an RBI single by junior Mike Walker. The Aggies eventually tied the game 2-2, but the Tigers were able to pull ahead in the bottom of the sixth inning, scoring three runs. During the bottom of the seventh inning, senior Joey Centanni hit a long solo homerun to left field to push the Tigers' lead 7-3 lead. Centanni was the star of the game, pitching a complete game and victory, and hitting 2-4 with 2 RBIs from the plate. This was his first complete game since 2005.

**Game Two (Tigers 11, Aggies 6)**

With a record-breaking crowd in attendance, the Tigers needed all the support they could get. After giving up 3 runs in the top of the first inning, the Tigers responded with 6 runs on 6 hits in the bottom half of the inning. The highlight of the inning was Mike Walker's towering homerun to right field. Pacific added to their lead in the bottom of the sixth inning, scoring 3 more runs. After a scoreless seventh inning, Brown hit his second homerun of the season, giving Pacific a 11-5 lead. Junior Jamie Niley earned his first victory of the season, pitching 5 innings of relief.

**Game Three (Tigers 15, Aggies 9)**

With the win, Pacific earned its first three game conference win since 2006. Down 1-0 in the second inning, the Tigers were able to tie it up, with Martin and Wideman hitting back-to-back doubles. During the third inning, Brown hit his second homerun of the series to right center driving in Centanni, who was on first base following a walk. Between the two teams, the game featured 24 runs, 34 hits of which 11 were doubles, and 2 errors. Junior David Rowe took home the victory, the first for him of the season as he came on and pitched 2 solid innings of relief work.

Pacific's series against Davis makes the second series sweep since the March 13-15 home series against Houston.

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Dealing With Allergies

Brought to you by the Pacific Athletic Training Education Program Students

It's that time of the year, when most people start having itchy eyes, scratchy throat, sinus headaches and sneezing attacks. These signs and symptoms may mimic a minor cold but it is generally not. It is because of allergies. Allergic reactions are caused by an irritant invading the body and the immune system releasing a chemical called histamine, which causes symptoms to occur. There are many invaders that can trigger an allergic reaction, the most common being pollen, dust, specific food, pet dander and medications. Other signs and symptoms may include small or large rash, difficulty breathing, runny nose, and fatigue.

So how do you deal with allergies?

Since there is no cure for allergies, you can only treat the symptoms. One way to prevent an allergic reaction is to remove yourself from the irritant. For example, if you are allergic to pet dander avoid being around pets that shed. Another option, which is the most common option, is to take an over-the-counter (not prescribed by a doctor) antihistamine. An antihistamine is a drug that blocks the immune system from releasing histamine, which in turn decreases the allergic reaction.

If the over-the-counter antihistamine does not relieve the symptoms then it is recommended you see your physician for alternative ways to decrease symptoms.

So if you plan to go out for a run, play a game of soccer, or any other outdoor activities go for it! Don’t let allergies keep you inside.

Have Questions? Please email k burner@pacific.edu
Basketball Completes Post-Season

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Basketball Completes Post-Season

The Pacific men's basketball team concluded their 2008-2009 season after competing in both the Big West and CollegeInsider.com tournaments. After a heartbreaking 71-66 overtime loss to Cal State Northridge in the Big West championship game, Pacific returned home for the CollegeInsider.com tournament. They defeated University of Portland 82-76 to advance to the quarterfinals.

During the game, sophomore Sam Willard led the team in scoring with a career high 19 points. Willard was one of four players to score in double figures. Senior Chad Troyer posted 18 points, senior Bryan LeDuc scored 13 points, and senior Michael Kirby contributed 12 points.

During the quarterfinal game against University of Idaho, Pacific won 69-59 at home. Senior Anthony Brown and junior Joe Ford led the team in scoring and rebounds, with both guys scoring 13 points and making 6 rebounds. Willard scored 12 points and had 6 rebounds. In the first half the lead went back and forth.

The Tigers ended the first half with a 31-29 lead with the help of junior Lavar Neufville, who made a 3 pointer with 3 minutes left to go in the half. During the second half, Pacific extended the lead to double-digits after a layup by Ford with 12 minutes remaining in the game. Senior James Doran made a 3 pointer, which helped seal the victory for the Tigers.

The Tigers faced Bradley (Peoria, Ill.) on March 25 for their semifinal match-up of the tournament. The Tigers trailed by one point at the end of the first half. Neufville and senior Michael Kirby each made three-pointers that cut the lead to 38-36 in the second half. With less than 3 minutes left, Pacific closed the gap once again, trailing 53-49, followed by six more points from Bradley. Pacific lost 59-49, and Kirby led the Tigers with 14 points.

Pacific men's basketball finished third overall in Big West's 2008-2009 standings behind Cal State Northridge and Long Beach State. Pacific tied Long Beach State with a 10-6 record in conference games, just one win shy of Northridge. Pacific closed with an overall 21-13, the eighth most wins in school history.

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Juniors, remember to apply for graduation!
Applications are due APRIL 10 at the Registrar’s Office.

2009 Senior Class Gift: What are you waiting for?

Why should I make a Senior Class Gift?
Your senior class gift of $20.09 to the Pacific Fund will enable undergraduate students, graduate students and faculty to pursue research initiatives, hands-on learning, academic innovation, multidisciplinary collaborations and travel opportunities. Be a part of this ground-breaking tradition! Help us support our faculty, strengthen our programs and prepare our fellow students to be tomorrow’s leaders.

What is the time-capsule?
The Class of 2009 is starting a new tradition at Pacific. The Alex and Jeri Verschagin Alumni House is scheduled to break ground soon. The Class of 2009 will be the first graduating class, in the history of Pacific, to have a time capsule buried on campus. In the time capsule will be mementos of the school year and a video starring all the students who have made their Senior class gift. The stepping stone above the time-capsule will read "Class of 2009 Senior Gift" and will indicate the total amount of monies raised by the class of 2009.

Tell me more about this senior video!
The senior class video event is going to be awesome! On Tuesday, May 5th, 11:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m., the DeRosa Center Ballroom is going to be transformed into a fun playhouse. There will be music, live video streaming, costumes, stage props, and refreshments. Every student that has made their Senior Class Gift can come in, sit in front of the camera and give their "shout-out" to Pacific, family, and friends. Have fun with your 20 seconds in front of the camera. You can wear costumes, do it as team, group, or even as a couple. Feel free to dress-up or dress-down for the event. Again, it's about having fun, while acknowledging your opportunities and accomplishments at Pacific.

How do I make my Senior Class Gift?
Online at www.pacific.edu/seniors
By phone at (209) 946-2780
Hand Hall, 2nd Floor, Room 220, Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Senior Celebration on Tuesday, May 5th, at the DeRosa Center Center.
* Cash, checks, and all credit cards will be accepted at the above events

DeSesan’s Sports Update

NFL
Last week, Cleveland Browns receiver Donte Stallworth was in a car accident where he hit a pedestrian crossing the street while in Miami. Apparently, the pedestrian was not walking within the crosswalk and Stallworth reported flashing his lights, honking his horn, and yelling, "get out of the way." Even with all this, Stallworth did not hit the brakes. The accident took place at 7:15 in the morning, so Stallworth was not in a hurry; he had plenty of time to beat the deadline for McDonald’s breakfast.

MLB
T-minus 3 days until opening day.

NBA
If you’re not buying the Cavs, I think you should check your portfolio. After twelve in a row, the Cavs have a two-game lead against the Lakers for home-court advantage.

With the Spurs having Duncan, Mano and Parker, and the Hornets without Posey, Chandler, and Peja, the result of the game was surprising with New Orleans winning by 4 points. How smart is Chris Paul? He is currently working to solve cold fusion.

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This game will host probably the best match-up of the Final Four between States’ Kalin Lucas and UConn’s Kemba Walker. The Spartans might have home-court advantage, but are also a four-point underdog against the Huskies. I envision UConn by six.

North Carolina vs. Villanova: ‘Nova has eliminated UCLA, Duke, and Pittsburgh, teams that have spent a majority of the season in the top 10, but find themselves as 7.5 underdogs to the Tar Heels. I think this game is going to be closer than expected with Michael Jordan’s alma mater moving on.

After losing to Villanova, Coach Krzyzewski hit the recruiting trail and landed Liberty’s sharpshooter Seth Curry for the Duke Blue Devils. Usually, I wouldn’t make a big deal of this, but we are talking about Stephan Curry’s little brother. It’s like going after Paris Hilton and then settling for her little sister, Nicky; you would like the authentic, but a sibling will suffice.

Rumors have been floating around that Memphis coach John Calipari is moving to Kentucky. Kentucky is a tradition-rich program recruiting blue chip prospects on a national stage that has fallen into hard times. I find it hard for Calipari to turn down this offer, the same way "bros" have a hard time turning down a night of drinking, Natty Ice and playing GameCube while listening to Jack Johnson wearing a polo with the collar popped and a pre-faded brim hat.

Total raised so far by the Class of 2009 is $1,752