President to Retire in June 2009

DeRosa announced his plans to Board of Regents Friday

Devon Blount
Managing Editor
Nadia Mahallati
Editor-In-Chief

President Don DeRosa on Friday, April 25, 2008 announced his plans to retire in June 2009. For 13 years, DeRosa has served as the twenty-third president of the University of the Pacific— and only the fifth president since Pacific has moved to the Stockton campus.

From the time of his hire, DeRosa knew he would have to notify the Board of Regents of his plans at least a year before the expiration of his contract, which is due to expire in June 2009.

“If things were going well,” DeRosa carefully stated, “and I felt the University was in very good condition and shape, those things would lead me to make a decision that was best for me and the family.” His family is elated to hear the news. While DeRosa has resided in Stockton for the last 13 years, a large majority of his family lives in North Carolina. They were happy to hear that they will see more of DeRosa and his wife, Karen. After his retirement, DeRosa and his wife, Photograph courtesy of Richard Rol

Doctor Donald DeRosa, University of the Pacific’s President for the last 13 years, will retire next year after a transformative tenure at Pacific.

Pacific Students Debate the Existence of God

Jessie Lucas
Staff Writer

As long as history has been recorded, human beings have pondered the existence of a god, or gods. As language progressed to express these views, debates arose, with one side claiming the absolute existence of a divine power, the other claiming its absence.

One such debate was held Tuesday April 22 in the Pacific Theater. The audience of 100 was comprised of students, faculty, and staff, religious and non-religious, all waiting to hear the speeches.

Supporting the theist side were Andrew Summers and Katelyn McGhee. Representing the atheist side were Drew Gorham and David Johnson. The mediator was Religious Studies professor Alan Lenzi.

Professor Lenzi asked each side questions, which they had five minutes to answer.

One question, was posed to the theists: the necessity of invoking God. McGhee called upon morality to explain the existence of God. “From an objective standpoint,” she began jokingly, “Does anyone dispute the fact that Stalin was kind of a douche? No. We have a concept of good and evil, but having such a concept implies that there is a standard for good and evil. One way to explain it is that God created a standard for universal morality. The only way to believe that there exists an absolute system of right and wrong is to believe that said system came from a being that has the authority to impose it.”

Johnson rebutted “Saying that something is good because God said so is not a definite way of ending our moral questioning. If I want to know why something is good or bad, saying ‘God says so’ is not satisfying to me. I want to know further why God thinks it’s good.”

He also mentioned the research being done in Evolutionary Psychology. “If moral ideas are beneficial to societies and individuals,” Johnson said, “it is possible that moral tendencies like compassion could be passed on genetically.”

The next question was for the atheist side about the origins and the importance of values. Gorham answered, “People will differ on their values insofar as they differ on what they grant moral consideration and the degree to which they grant it.”

Gorham added, “The value

“The one thing I find attractive about Pacific,” DeRosa clarified, “is that we’ve stayed committed to bringing in students of all economic backgrounds to gaining a Pacific education. Many times a first generation student may not be able to take that step, and Pacific has a wide range of individuals from different economic backgrounds. That, to me, has made Pacific stand out.” And that is partly because of DeRosa’s actions.

Under his presidency he has managed to more than quadruple external funding for research, scholarship and public service to $38.3 million. And since 2001, Pacific has been consistently ranked in the top 40 by U.S. News and World Report as a “Best Value” among the top 250 doctoral universities in the U.S.

During his presidency, DeRosa has truly been committed to improving Pacific for its students and showing potential students that Pacific has plenty to offer. Eighty-three percent of alumni have been “very” satisfied with their education at Pacific, and DeRosa’s dedication to that satisfaction will be missed.
GOD, continued from front page

of human life and all other forms of value comes from our finite lifespan. The notion that at some point we will cease to exist drives all of our decisions and shapes what we value.

Summers responded, "I don't believe that our limited life span is what makes us put value on everything. If I lived for infinity, I would still have likes and dislikes. And let's not forget the billions of people who believe that they will live forever and still do place value on many things."

He continued, saying, "We believe that God put special care into making humans that he didn't put into other forms of life. It is from there that humans derive their value."

The next question was for the theists about their definition of faith. Quoting Christian scripture, Summers said, "'Being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.' In short, it is trust."

He went on to say, "Faith is an essential component of our everyday lives. For example, when one is choosing a spouse you can date for years and not know your marital compatibility. Your decision is based on faith."

Johnson rebutted, "We should know by now that hoping that something is true is no ground whatsoever for believing it to be true. Also, there are an infinite amount of things we do not 'see' from the flying spaghetti monster to all of the dead gods of Greek mythology. Using this definition of faith, it seems, one can justify believing in any one of these 'unseen' entities. If that is the case then faith is arbitrary."

He continued, "I don't need faith to know that I will love my spouse in the future. I have lots of good reasons to know that I love her now and that I will in the future. The reasons can move us to act ourselves without a special appeal to 'faith.'"

Lenzi then asked the atheist side for their opinion on the billions of believers in the world. "Are they all just crazy?"

Lenzi joked.

Johnson replied, "The number of people who hold one belief is not evidence. See GOD, page 3"
Asparagus Festival
Featured Good Food, Entertainment

Lindsey Ball
Staff Writer

Last weekend San Joaquin County celebrated its 23rd annual Asparagus Festival in downtown Stockton. The festival has been honored over the years with several awards. In 2000, the festival was named the Best of the West Food Fest by Sunset Magazine. It has also been named the number one best event in the nation by Destination Magazine, American Bus Association and Events Business News. The festival contributes over $19 million to the San Joaquin County economy.

On Sunday the cover band, War, played good old American classics such as “Sweet Home Alabama” and “American Girl.” Friday featured a performance by Greg Kihn Band. Joan Jett and the Blackhearts performed on Saturday. Most importantly, the six dollar price tag. The fried asparagus is known to be the best in the country, measuring up to a foot long.

The festival had several activities and places to eat. There was a fine array of different foods from sushi to jumbo tacos and all things asparagus. The event had 600 different booths, with products ranging from Cookie Lee fine jewelry to knock-off sunglasses. The type of vendors ranged from large businesses to small family businesses.

The highlight of the festival was the World Deep Fried Asparagus Eating contest that took place Saturday at noon. Pat Bertoletti and Joey Chestnut were the contenders up for the title. Chestnut barely beat Bertoletti with a shocking 8.8 pounds of fried asparagus consumed. Bertoletti shorted at 8.1 pounds, still miraculous. The festival primarily draws people from California and Nevada, but tickets were sold to several from around the world.

The festival was promoted by large companies like Bank of the West and Sheraton. Center Street was closed two weeks before to prepare for the massive event. Typically, 80,000 to 100,000 people attend each year.

GOD, continued from page 2

for the truth of that belief. Often evidence for God's existence arises out of lack of explanation."

As an example, he referred to ignorance of plate tectonics. "Before humans had the knowledge, it was common to believe that the eruption of a volcano was due to the anger of a God. They lacked an explanation and posited the existence of an angry God to explain it. This is clearly insufficient a claim based on insufficient evidence."

In response to Johnson's argument, McGee said, "Andrew and I are both very skeptical people. We don't tend to just automatically believe in something because it makes us feel good. By investigating into these things with an open mind, we ultimately found that they are reasonable!"

Her closing comment was, "You said that someone simply believing something doesn't make it reality. Simply not believing something doesn't make it untrue, either."

ATTENTION PACIFIC STUDENTS:
The Pacific Fund is pleased to announce its new Grant Program! Applications available May 1, 2008

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The Pacifican staff meets every Thursday at noon. Meetings are in Knoles Hall, Room 212. Everyone is invited. We want to hear from you!

Perspectives
Letter to the Community

To All Those Concerned:
As students of the University of the Pacific, we ask that you give us the opportunity to learn Arabic. Representing almost all schools on campus, we ask that the Arabic language program be continued. As you very well know, Arabic is a very important language in our increasingly globalized world. Concerning conflict or the economy, Arabic has become critical language to learn in order to be effective and progressive in today's world. The University offers many diverse languages, but the impending absence of Arabic will leave a gaping hole in that program.

The students of the School of International studies had already shown a dedicated commitment to learning Arabic before the program was even offered. After last year's Arabic teacher was unable to come, students formed an Arabic language club to teach themselves. Many students bought books with their own money and began to study Arabic in addition to other academic obligations. It is unprecedented to see this kind of effort from students who were already double-majoring and participating in numerous clubs. Having students this eager to learn a language as difficult as Arabic only to be given and then denied academic guidance by a school that is renowned (and advertised) for its progressive international program is outrageous and sad.

What is most particularly shocking is that even when compared to other languages offered on campus, Arabic is the language with, possibly, the most potential for student interest and growth. The very first semester Arabic was offered (in spite of having a late start in registration), sixteen students signed up for the class. This was more than the students who signed up for the German, Russian, French, Spanish, Chinese and Japanese first year language courses (using the Fall 2008 class search option in Inside Pacific). That is every other language offered at Pacific.

This year, we were very grateful to be taught by our wonderful professor from Morocco, Mounir Bennouya. A group of students representing majors from International Relations, Psychology, Communications to Pre Dentistry and more, participated in what has been one of the most interactive and enriching classes on campus. From trips to San Francisco to meeting other native Arabic speakers on and off campus, we have been immersed in Middle Eastern and Maghreb culture. We have sampled its food, discussed its sensitive politics and learned more than we could have imagined. We have been exposed to a culture that many Americans think they know about, but are actually interested in learning Arabic, which opens doors to jobs in a myriad of fields and in many regions of the world. Arab influence is expanding and to be ignorant to its language is to be on the sidelines.

We know that this is not just an issue of Pacific not wanting the program. We understand that there are other factors, yet the relevance of those factors and the importance of having an Arabic program are immensely unbalanced. We know the University has tried a number of times to establish an Arabic program, but we are asking it to try harder. We need Arabic, and now we are lucky enough to have a very qualified, enthusiastic and willing Arabic professor.

We, as the next generation, will be the ones that make decisions impacting everyone. Our education is the most important tool we can obtain for the future. Arabic will enhance our education and foster our ability to interact with people from other

See LETTER, pg. 5
That's What She Said

Over the years, I've developed many defenses against creepers. I'll say my name is Katie, give a fake phone number, or tell them I will be right back but never return. Once I even used all three on a 34-year-old man at a Las Vegas club (after I got a few drinks out of him). However, when you actually know the creeper, you can’t use any of these; you are stuck.

Everyone has a creeper in his or her life. It could be the weirdo who likes you and calls several times in the middle of the night. It could be some obnoxious underclassman. It could even be the townie you see in the parking lot every day. Mine is known as Creeper Dude and I do my best to avoid him at all costs.

My most recent encounter with Creeper Dude occurred the other day as I was peacefully walking to class. Suddenly, he was 20 feet in front of me. I quickly hastened my pace and looked around for someone I could talk to. Finding no one, I became overly interested in a bird on the ground to avoid eye contact. Though he passed me without so much as a nod in my direction, I was still flustered. What if he turned around and shouted my name?

I met Creeper Dude at a party two years ago. Some mutual acquaintances introduced us, and we had a polite conversation for several minutes and then parted ways. I thought our relationship would peak at Facebook friends and maybe a smile on the way to class. Oh, how naïve I was.

A friend gave Creeper Dude my number and he called and texted me repeatedly. He always invited me to do things with him, and I always (a little too politely) declined. Several months later he apologized for never having dated me because I am a very nice girl. First, I’m not even very nice at all. Second, when had he ever turned me down to justify his apology? He was always begging to take me out. The extreme awkwardness and creepiness of the situation has caused me to freak out whenever I see him. I simply refuse to talk to him for fear of him proposing or something.

There is an old book from the 80s called “The Rules.” It explains how to get the guy of your dreams to propose. The book suggests being aloof, not returning phone calls, and turning down date offers, pretty much everything I did to Creeper Dude. Maybe I was just sending him the wrong signals, I know he won’t be the last Creeper Dude in my life, so next time I’ll have to try a different approach.

Question Mark Café

Susan Kelly-Dewitt was born in San Francisco but was raised in Oahu in Hawaii on an artist's estate. The natural as well as cultural setting of her early life influenced her and her writing. Later, in 1960, she moved to Northern California where she has lived since then. It was in high school that she was first encouraged by an English professor to write. Although discouraged from pursuing a career in writing, Kelly-Dewitt began working with other students who were serious about writing while pursuing her bachelor's degree.

She was first published in 1980 locally and then in journals around the country. In the mid-nineties she was published in anthologies. She is also a visual artist but feels that her visual art informs her writing more than her writing informs her visual art. The creation of her visual art, which she began to show and sell in 1985, has taught her a lot about process and given her the ability to notice and appreciate shadow, shape, and space.

Her recently published book The Fortunate Island is her first book published with a press nationally and really shows her to be a soulful and versatile poet with a strong eye for imagery as she has an ear for the music of words. Another interesting characteristic of this book is the individuality and uniqueness of each poem. Poems like “Question Mark Café” show experimentation with the tradition Ghazal form from classical Persian poetry while poems like “How Will My Soul Get Free” show a less experimental structure with unique and powerfully expressive images. This is truly a book worth reading if you can devote the time to savor these poems.

I have selected “Question Mark Cafe” for this week's poem because of its use of ghazals. Secondly, using the word café to describe a state of being is a nice play on physical verses cognitive or emotional geography. The poem is one that deserves contemplation and a second reading. I hope you enjoy this week's selection and the last poetry article I am writing for The Pacifican. It was truly been a pleasure to write for those few individuals who actually read my articles, and to those of you who don’t read my article I ask only that you give poetry a chance it can change your ear, your heart, and your life if you let it.

Shukran,

Hunter Tanous
School of International Studies
Matt Brady
Humor Columnist

While walking through campus, I saw a friend with a young woman I'd never met before, but whose acquaintance I immediately wanted to make. With a "Hey, wait up!" I tightened the straps on my backpack and accelerated my pace until I was abreast of the duo.

I introduced myself to the young woman and extended my right hand, thumb up.

The practice of squeezing another's hand as a sign of agreement or respect is really quite singular. It was probably originally intended as a defensive maneuver, but today is a common ritual exchanged between friend and foe alike.

Our hands made contact. We clasped. And just like that the squeeze was over.

"You have very soft hands," she said as we returned our respective appendages to their comfort zones.

"Thank you," I replied for lack of a better retort and to cover for a quick rush of adrenaline.

What did she mean by "soft hands"? Was she making reference to my obvious skill at ball sports, most of which require dexterous fingers, an eponymous attribute of "soft hands"? Did she mean that my hands lacked strength and intend her comments as not-so-subtle hint to encourage amity with the weight room? Was she implying that I moisturized frequently, a euphemism for another behavior entirely? Was she forcing me to come to grips (note the pun) with my soft hands?

While my mind was doing its gymnastics, my mouth remained mute, leaving an awkward void in our dialogue.

"Is that a good thing?" I asked, at last filling the silence. I wanted her to say "no" and give me a pumice stone to use on my palms or some acid for the skin around my nails. I wanted a rebuke for failing to maintain manly calluses or a lecture on the value of manual labor. At least then I would have a benchmark for improvement and a way of escape.

Instead she answered with a "sure," followed by a shrug and a giggle that left me feeling lonelier than a broke supervisor after a failed facelift.

I was dejected, but quickly drew the conclusion that I would have to stop using soap, find a splinterly wooden board to rub against or, maybe, just accept my soft hands.

Matt Brady
Humor Columnist
**The Final Countdown**

*Seema Ghatnemar*  
*Staff Writer*

With less than a week of class left, it has now come down to crunch-time. Finals are coming up, and with so much weight on these upcoming exams, it is easy to feel stressed and exhausted. But it is important not to get too nervous during this time, as these last scores have a great influence on overall class grades. Here are a couple of tips to get you through this hectic period:

1. Stay organized—keep binders and folders to separate every subject. Try to file notes with these as well, to keep everything in the same place.
2. Plan out enough time to study all the material that needs to be covered.
3. Make schedules! It is much easier to stay on task when you have a daily schedule. More importantly, stick to them.
4. Eat well. Make sure not to skip meals, as you need all of your energy to study. Take snack breaks while studying as well.
5. Get plenty of rest every night.
6. Do not plan on only studying all day. Take a few breaks in between.

The key to studying for finals is to stay focused. Let your mind relax, and do not get too exhausted. But it is important not to get too nervous during this time, as these last scores have a great influence on overall class grades. Here are a couple of tips to get you through this hectic period:

**Sudoku**

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

**Recommendations of the Week**

**Movie:**  
*Forgetting Sarah Marshall.*  
After a devastating break-up with his girlfriend, a heartbroken and depressed Peter heads to Hawaii for a little vacation to try his best to forget every detail of his relationship. Rated R for sexual content, language and some graphic nudity. 112 min.

**TV Show:**  
*Battlestar Galactica.*  
Cylons launch a massive attack against the humans and wipe out the Twelve Colonies, sending the 47,000 survivors on a desperate search for the fabled 13th colony—Earth. SciFi at Friday 10:00 PM (60 min.)

**Music:**  
"Hey Now," Augustana  
"Concrete Angel," Martina McBride  
"College," Lil’ Mama

**Books:**  
*The Nightmare Club: #1 The Headless Paperboy* by Howard Hopkins.  
When October Williams moves to the town of New Salem, Maine, it hardly expects to be chased by the headless paperboy. Together with a band of misfit kids who chase down the supernatural, he must get the eerie apparition’s head back with its body before it vanishes for another year or he loses his own!

**Tiger Nights Blowout:**  
**End the Year with a Bang!**

*Nicolle Matthews*  
*Copy Editor*

For some, this upcoming weekend will be one of the few remaining times available for relaxation before a mass of final research papers and exams. For others, midterms and exams will be over, but either way, Tiger Nights Blowout is a great way to celebrate another year completed toward a college degree. A night filled with free food and entertainment brought to you by ASuop? Yes, please!

The final Tiger Nights of the year will be taking place on Saturday May 3, from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. on Archley Way between the library and Southwest Residence Hall. The event has a semi-Mexican theme in honor of Cinco de Mayo, featuring tacos, churros, and margaritas to snack on. Basketball. Like previous Tiger Nights this year, there will be lots of surprises and plenty more to do than what has been mentioned here.

**Sudoko**

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

**ANSWERS**

**intermediate:**

```
 2 6 9  
 1 5 3 7  
 8 7 4  
```

**challenging:**

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 2 6 8 7 5 9  
 4 3 9 1 6 2  
 1 7 5 4 8 3  
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**ANSWERS**
Fun In The Sun

Heather Breen
Staff Writer

Thursday, May 1, 2008

Summer is just around the corner. For those of you looking for some fun things to do, consider the following:

If you are stuck in Stockton:
Do your best to stay cool! Hit the pool or whip out some cheap plastic water guns for a summer-friendly fight.

The San Joaquin Film Festival opens June 4th at the Bob Hope Theater.

On June 14th the Get Fit! Stockton Fitness Festival will take place from 9 a.m. to 12 noon at the Weber Point Event Center.

Shows of Interest:
Comedian Eddie Izzard is touring California from mid July to Early August. Catch his shows in Hollywood, San Francisco, and San Diego ticketmaster.com

RadioHead will appear in Southern California during the month of August.

The Great Outdoors:
Kayaking on the Elkhorn Slough is an inexpensive and cool way to get away from the heat.

Investigate California campsites for open spots. And remember that camping doesn’t have to mean “roughing it in the dirt.” Look for locations near beaches, near the redwoods, or in Northern California for a less typical camping getaway.

Traveling Abroad:
Websites such as StudentUniverse.com and STAtravel.com offer travel packs for Europe at your own risk—the exchange rate is poor. Two American dollars will score you just one Euro.

Summer Fashion Alert

Cristy Yadon
Staff Writer

Thursday, May 1, 2008

Every year the theatre arts fraternity, Theta Alpha Phi, put on a show to raise money for their philanthropy, Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS—the nation’s leading industry-based HIV/AIDS fundraiser. The show is put on 100% by the students with the background support of the theatre department. The show is a revue—a compilation of scenes, songs, and dances revolved around a certain theme. This year the show is entitled “All Things Dark and Deadly: A Celebration of Villainy”.

The show is co-directed by seniors Pamela Campi and Krista Perkins—both also make appearances on stage during the show. Perkins said, “The show represents that villains are essential and sometimes forgotten.” The audience will see villains who are as comical as “Beauty and the Beast’s” Gaston to a dark story about a rape victim and her decision to murder her attacker. Campi has been working on this particular concept since a year ago October and she and Perkins have been collectively developing the theme of the show since last June.

The co-directors are not the only ones putting in effort for the show. Kristen Bloom is the stage manager, Ryan Shull is the vocal director. Mauriello wrote an original overture for the start of the show. The cast is comprised of 30 students from all over campus—not just the theatre department.

There will be performances for three nights only: Thursday, May 1, Friday, May 2, and Saturday, May 3 at 8 p.m. each night. Also, there is a show at 11:59 p.m. on Friday night. The show is free with a suggested donation of $7. All proceeds from the show are donated to the fraternity’s philanthropy: Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS. The cast of the show encourages anyone who attends a performance to donate anything they can—even a dollar will make a difference.

College Palhellenic Council’s April Woman of the Month

Gina Polana not only incorporates Greek life into her art projects, but she also brings her creative talent back to her sorority chapter. Last semester, she decorated cakes and pastries for Tri Delta’s philanthropy event, Delta Desserts, an event that raised money for the St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital. This outstanding woman is a Panhellenic favorite, because of the way she brings her creative abilities to Greek life, and vice versa.

Polana’s exhibition opened on April 22, and is available for viewing until the end of finals across from the Reynolds Gallery, in the art department. There will be a reception on May 16.
Restaurant Review: Pho Saigon Bay

Christine Le
Copy Editor

If you are in the mood for some Asian cuisine, Pho Saigon Bay, a fairly new restaurant in town, is a great option.

Located just ten minutes from campus at 5756 Pacific Avenue, Pho Saigon Bay offers a variety of Vietnamese and Chinese dishes at affordable prices ($7 to $11). The Vietnamese menu ranges from the well-known pho noodle soup, the thinner vermicelli noodle soups, egg noodle soups, and rice dishes with your choice of meat. The Chinese section includes chow mein and chow fun, which are respectively the thin and thick noodle dishes, and fried rice dishes, meat dishes and seafood dishes.

Beverages are also diverse, including shakes in an assortment of fruit flavors, hot and iced coffee, sweet bean drinks, and sodas. For those of you over 21, Pho Saigon Bay also offers a menu of wine and beer beverages.

I ordered the rice plate with roasted pork, accompanied with shredded pork strands balanced with some lettuce and tomato. My dining companion had a similar dish, but with beef. Both dishes were served on a large and semi-formal square ceramic dish, which provides plenty of space to manipulate the food.

For a beverage, I had the mocha shake, which was perfect now that the weather is warming up. A lot of the sweet-flavored drinks make great desserts as well.

Aside from the food, Pho Saigon Bay is visually appetizing. Pho Saigon Bay is half enclosed in full windows, allowing customers a more spacious and comfortable feel. The walls are adorned with colorful artwork, some of which represent landscapes in Asia. Orange lights hang from the ceiling, and a plasma screen television is positioned where all can view. The tables are clean and shiny, with contrasting wooden colors that stand out. A fish tank stands in the center of the restaurant, adding to the aesthetics of Pho Saigon Bay.

Background music includes the 90's. Orange lights hang from the ceiling, and a plasma screen television is positioned where all can view. The tables are clean and shiny, with contrasting wooden colors that stand out. A fish tank stands in the center of the restaurant, adding to the aesthetics of Pho Saigon Bay.

Relieve Stress with Pogo.com

Abby Liao
Staff Writer

Unfortunately for us, finals are coming up in less than a week. With all the cramming, your brain will be yearning for a break. Let Pogo.com, a casual gaming destination, help your brain relax. Pogo.com provides a myriad of free puzzle, word, casino, classic card, and board games.

Pogo.com recently joined up with The Stress Institute to raise awareness among college students about the positive impact that game-playing has on stress management. According to The Stress Institute, students who take a break from studying and clear their mind with activities such as playing casual games are less likely to experience stress during tests.

Symptoms of chronic stress are not only limited to emotional and relationship problems, but physical symptoms such as headaches, gastrointestinal problems, insomnia, fatigue, and weight problems, can also arise, leading to more serious problems in the long run.

Beatrice Spaine, Vice President of Pogo Marketing, recommends playing Poppit! Stress Buster as a mental break from studying, and Word Whomp and Tumble Bees as a ‘brain warm-up’ prior to taking an exam.

In addition to the fun games from Pogo, The Stress Institute advises having a close friend, coworker, or family member provide support when dealing with stress and depression. Be aware of what factors that trigger your stress, what makes you feel energized and what zaps your energy. Make healthy choices to de-stress the body by being aware of your stress triggers, and you will experience energy that will have you feeling happier and healthier.

Pacific’s Guitar Hero: Brad Roan

Jessie Lucas
Staff Writer

It is Pacific hour and Brad Roan sits on the same bench in front of WPC lawn and pulls out his guitar for tuning. The weather is sunny and people are walking all around. Some people listen to him as he hums along to his first tune. Others pass by without much notice. Roan begins to sing as if he were in front of a full audience, a rich sound coming from his guitar.

Roan, a sophomore studying mechanical engineering, has recently taught himself to play the guitar. He began playing in sixth grade, and with a few basic lessons he grew to love his instrument. Now, Roan relies on his own experience to read tabloids and chords he finds online.

He has become known as “The Guitar Guy,” but Roan is more than that. He is a bass guitarist and back up vocalist in a rock band called Aldia with his friends Nick Gillett and Dave Vanoll. Roan has written enough original tracks to fill two solid albums. All he is waiting for is the right recording company to sign with.

“I don’t take time to make stuff rhyme. It’s arbitrary.” Roan commented. “I could write a bunch of crap that rhymes or I can write something that means something to me.”

Roan doesn’t mind the attention he gets from passersby, He rather enjoys it, saying, “It makes me happy when people enjoy my music,” He said. “I’m a performer, that’s what I do.”

His goal is to go to Venice, Italy and see how he fares as a street performer. “Venice is like the Mecca for street performers,” Roan said with a smile.

Though he doesn’t ask for money he admits some have placed a few bucks in his guitar case. “And I didn’t even open it,” he said. “I turned around and it was propped open with some money in it!”

Roan has tried his hand at the drums but he said it was “going slow.” As for the guitar, it is his favorite instrument, he says “because guitars have no limits. The only thing that limits is your own ability and even that can be fixed with hard work and determination.”

A Weekend of Music

Courtnee Coburn
Staff Writer

There are two exciting musical events in the next few days free for Pacific students. Tomorrow night the Pacific Jazz Ensemble is playing at 7:30 p.m. in the Faye Spanos Concert Hall.

The performance will feature three small jazz combos and a big band jazz group. Each ensemble will play a few pieces, including an arrangement written for the Grammy Award winning singer Chaka Khan. Vocalist Yvette Couvson will be performing “My Romance” with the big band. Director of Jazz Studies Patrick Langham said, “It will show the variety between big band jazz and small jazz ensembles.”

On Sunday May 4, there will also be a University Choirs concert. The event begins at 2:30 p.m. in Faye Spanos, and is also free to Pacific students. Take a break from preparing for finals or writing research papers and hear some impressive musical selections right on campus.
Get A Life!

Presented by Samsung mobile and Rockstar Energy Drink and Featuring The Used, Street Drum Corps, Straylight Run, Army of Me, Lights Resolve

Pacific is about to experience a rock revolution with the announcement of the May 4th show, Rockstar Energy Drink Get a Life Tour featuring The Used, presented by Samsung mobile.

Originally planned with a combined job fair, the tour will be featured on several college campuses in order to inspire and initiate unemployed and unschooled young adults to understand the importance of an education.

Utah born boys Bert McCracken, Quinn Allman, Jeph Howard and Branden Steineckert make up the band The Used. The Used officially formed in January of 2001, but the members had played in previous bands (Strange Itch, Dumb Luck) since the early 1990's which helped lead to the formation of The Used.

The Used will be playing with Street Drum Corps, Straylight Run, Army of Me, and Lights Resolve on this exclusive campus tour promoting schools and the necessity of an education.

For more information, visit www.myspace.com/theused and www.myspace.com/getalifetour.

Tickets are on sale now! Get tickets online at timgardeapresents.com & at the following locations:


All dates, acts and ticket prices are subject to change without notice. A service charge is added to each ticket price.

“Tunnel of Oppression” Addresses Common Prejudices

Heather Breen
Staff Writer

On April 15 and 16, the United Communities hosted the second annual “Tunnel of Oppression” event in order to inform students of common types of prejudice around them. The event lasted from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. and took place in both Manor and McConchie Halls. The Tunnel of Oppression event is not unique to the Pacific campus but is rather a program featured at numerous other colleges across the United States.

Jen Pham, one of the main coordinators of the event, stated that, “The purpose of the event was to raise awareness about the five common forms of prejudice including race, religion, sexuality, gender, and physical disability.”

Pham explained, “Participants were led into rooms where they participated in or watched a scene concerning prejudice. The last stop in the event was a debriefing session with Area Coordinator Shuana Young to ensure that participants had a chance to talk about how the scenes made them feel and to ask any questions they had regarding the scenes.”

Senior Nicolle Matthews participated in the event. “I played the daughter of a lesbian married couple who was coming out as straight to my parents.” Matthews said, “The scene was set in the future on a Dr. Phil knock off show (Dr. Pam) and the norm was for people to be homosexual.” These humorous and innovative storylines no doubt made the event memorable and enjoyable for all who attended.

Pham comments that the program did not draw as big a crowd as hoped for. In order to increase student participation at next year’s event, coordinators are searching for a suitable location on the main campus where the event could take place.

Overall, Pham thinks that those who attended gained invaluable information about the damage that can result from prejudice. “There were definitely some very poignant moments in the program,” Pham commented, “Participants were shocked, amused, and deeply touched by the points and things we were trying to portray.”

Hey Everyone! It’s time to give blood again. It has been 56 days since the last blood drive, so EVERYONE who has already given blood can still give blood this time. Also if you haven’t given blood before and would like to try, then come on out!!!

Thursday, May 1, 2008
at the Great Room by Raymond Great Hall
Monday, May 5, 2008
at the Tiger Lounge in Grace Covell Hall
Time for both days is 12 Noon to 6pm.

For more information contact Mike Tennant at (209)932-7847 or at m_tennant@pacific.edu.
DeSean's Sports Update

Lance Martin  
Guest Writer

**NFL**

My three-week campaign to free Adam "Pac-Man" Jones can be considered more successful than Operation Iraqi Freedom. Pac-Man was released by Tennessee for a fourth-round draft pick from Dallas. I know all my readers were really concerned about Pac-Man and all we need now is for Roger Goodell to loosen it up and reinstate Pac-Man.

The draft was this weekend and here are my thoughts:

Raiders: RB Darren McFadden is more risky than the 4 o'clock, wearing the pink shirt pounding shots of tequila, because in two weeks your stuff is going to be smoking. McFadden might juk some people, but with no offensive line, the Raiders are going to win as many games as there were frat parties this year, you can count on one hand.

49ers: The draft for the Niners was as boring a history class. I don't care about what happened in the past, I just want them to win now (really in the future).

Saints: As predicted by Mr. Cleo, me, the Saints moved up and took Sedrick Ellis, but they have the same chance of winning the Super Bowl as A-Train is going to class tomorrow.

Steelers: A lot of defensive coordinators are going to be cringing, since RB Rashard Mendenhall and WR Limas Sweed were added to the treats of Parker, Hines and Holmes.

Titans: Why are you going to pick RB Chris Johnson, when you already have LenDale White. That's like buying a Coke-Cola when you already have an ice cold Pepsi.

**BOSTON**

Boston vs. Atlanta: Atlanta reminds me off the little engine that could, minus the ending where the engine gets over the hill, because Atlanta is climbing Mount Everest.

Philadelphia vs. Detroit: It looks like Andre Miller is finally over the Clippers after five years after playing for the, but it won't be enough to take the Pistons.

Washington vs. Cleveland: "Ask my #!&@ LeBron, so big we ain't got to respond, when you talking to a don, please have respect like you talking to your mom." —Jay-Z

Orlando vs. Toronto: Howard & Co. smoked the Raptors like a Black and Mild.

**DALLAS**

Lakers vs. Denver: I think Kobe will be finally happy to get Colorado out of his system, so no more "hotel" incidents happen.

Dallas vs. New Orleans: Looks like Josh Howard can get back to smoking marijuana during the off season faster since the Hornets are about to take the series.

Phoenix vs. San Antonio: I think I will be seeing Game 1 of this series on ESPN Classics for the next coupe of decades.

Utah vs. Houston: Probably my most underrated player in the whole league: Mr. Ronnie "People say who is that guy when I make an amazing play, but I don't get playing time because I am backing up Deron Williams" Price.

**MLB**

Barry "Zero" is officially the $126 Million Man; I bet the Giants wish they could get a refund on that deal.

Roger Clemens should be a scout the way he picks out talent. Having an affair with a fifteen year-old and then she becomes a country singer. Looks like Clemens should be talking to Hugh Hefner.
Welcome to Our Mobile Banking.
Our Mooce Banking is the newest way to get balances, transfer funds, see account history and get low balance alerts, using your cell phone with text messaging! Once you’re enrolled, it’s as simple as texting ‘bal’ (for balance) to ‘banker’ (226537), to get your balance instantly in a text from our bank!

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Aileen Shon
Staff Writer

Freshman Nicole Matson may be a new face on Pacific’s softball team, but definitely not to the sport. Every since her dad got her into the game at age six, Matson has been playing softball non-stop.

For Matson, playing for Pacific has taken softball to a whole new level.

“It’s a different experience for sure. It’s a lot more competitive now, being in a higher level. I like it, it’s fun,” said Matson.

Aside from being a fierce shortstop, Matson is also quick to bond with teammates. What she enjoys most about softball is the people that she meets while playing. Through the sport, she has made great friends that share the same passion for softball.

One of her favorite moments in the game was when she played for Valencia High School’s softball team in her hometown of Castaic, CA.

“[My team] came in first in the nation [in the National Championship], It was a big moment and it was pretty amazing,” said Matson.

Being one of the country’s best is no easy task. Matson still works hard to be the best she can be.

“I have weights on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7-8 p.m., and I go to practice everyday from 2-5 p.m.,” said Matson.

She has already mastered the tough talent of dividing her time between school and softball.

“You get used to time-management, you have to learn how,” said Matson.

Putting her team first, Matson is the ideal team player. Even when asked about her personal goal for softball, her only wish was for the team to do well and perform their best.