The Festival of Lights

**FORECAST**

**Thursday**
High 60, Low 48

**Friday**
High 53, Low 35

**Saturday**
High 52, Low 33

**Sunday**
High 51, Low 29

**INSIDE...**
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Nick Hansen's Column  Page 5
Freshmen Column  Page 5
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Rebuttal to Killgore Trout column "Stockton is a very safe place"  page 6

**EVENTS**
Pacific Student's Dance Performance
Friday at 6:00 in the Dance Studio

Cover Photograph by Steve Whyte
The Pacifican meets weekly on Thursdays at noon. We are in the Spruce Room in McCaffrey Center. Everyone is invited. We want to hear from you!
ASuop: Shaking our money makers

By Giovanna Arieta
Guest Writer

I’ll admit, despite my tantalizing title, there is nothing even remotely sexy about this article. Well, I guess that’s up to personal opinion, but it is important so now that you’ve started reading you might as well continue.

I want you to close your eyes and think very hard about your favorite thing about Pacific. Is it the large grassy lawns? Is it the lack of football? Perhaps it’s the highly popular and exciting video games that you can play at the student lounge? No, no-who am I kidding? We all know the one thing everyone loves about being a Pacific student - the fact that you are ALWAYS being asked for more money. What a sheer delight it is to look forward to our futures as the leaders of tomorrow who are up to our necks in debt.

Due to our forever-thinning checkbooks, you may not be excited about the current senate bill in ASuop. Bill 06-07-02 ASuop Fee Adjustment Act, proposes a $50 (33%) increase to the ASuop membership fee, raising it to $200 per student. The purpose of this bill, directly quoted, states, “To improve the financial security of ASuop, to compensate for the increased costs associated with the upcoming minimum wage increase, and to support pre-existing, expanding, future services and programming.”

Now, while this may not sound appealing, think about what this fee increase could do for you. Many students are part of some club or organization on campus and have had to petition for funds from ASuop at some time or another. It sure is disappointing when you get less than a third of the cash that you asked for, isn’t it? But there’s a very good reason for that - ASuop can’t give you more money because we don’t have more money to give you. So if you’d like more money delegated to your club, a fee increase is the only way to do that. Also, how else do we pay for Tiger Nights and other large scale events? Dane Cook and Green Day are both in the running for our spring performance. We can’t get you great performers without money.

Also, relatively, is $200 really that much money? If you consider inflation and the rising costs of everything around us, the ASuop fee is relatively cheap. If the fee had kept off with the increase of our tuition, it would have already been at $552 in 1999. If it had kept up with the 2006-2007 tuition increase, it would be $137,947. So with those figures in mind, $200 really isn’t much to ask, now is it? Keep in mind that this fee increase will suffice for years to come.

On a final note, we at ASuop care what you think about this bill. Come by the office any time to give us a piece of your mind. We’d love to hear it! And just remember - while no one likes to dish out more money, if you don’t, the members of the Senate just might have to start sharking their money makers to get some extra cash to pay for Tiger Nights and such. We wouldn’t want to be the ones who’re stuck in the ditch.

Questions on medical waivers answered

Cuest Writer

By Giovanna Arieta

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Festival of Lights spreads holiday cheer

By Andrew Mitchell
News Editor

The cold night air enveloped the crowd as it gathered around the stately pine tree. People attempted to keep their candles lit, cupping their hands around the struggling flame, as they waited for the countdown to commence. The moment arrived. Students, children, community members, and faculty members all counted in unison. At zero, the tree lit up, bathing the crowd in its seemingly warming glow and proclaiming the celebration of the season.

The spirit of the season came alive Sunday night when University of the Pacific held its annual Festival of Lights.

"It's a wonderful time at Pacific," University President Donald DeRosa said, opening the multi-faith service that preceded the lighting. "We begin, I think, with this festive occasion which reminds us of all the things we hold dear."

Morris Chapel echoed with the angelic vocals of the Pacific singers and the noises of toddlers. Representatives from each faith addressed the audience, explaining what their respective events or holidays meant.

Student Nicholas Grainger, who describes himself as a progressive Christian, spoke on the Christmas holiday. "No matter what the religious tradition, hope seems to underlie each message," Grainger said. "And hope is what this season is about."

Josh Olstein, a Pacific student, spoke briefly on what the Jewish holy day of Yom Kippur signifies to him. "This day is somber and reflective," said Olstein. "It's about becoming a better person."

Asra Amal explained the Islamic holy month of Ramadan and what it means to her. She used personal testimony to describe her experience. Ankit Pachal covered the Hindu holiday of Diwali. Diwali celebrates the victory of good over evil. Each day of the holiday has a different meaning. Kwanzaa was also represented by Shellyne Allen. Kwanzaa's seven-day run stresses family, community, and culture. Its roots came from Africa.

The choir performed several times interspersed through the service. Some of their works were rehashed from the Christmas at the Cathedral event that happened December 1 at the Cathedral of the Annunciation.

In closing the ceremony, Joyce Preisser spoke a few minutes on the Pagan holiday of Solstice or Yule. During the winter solstice, when the night is at its longest, Preisser said the people who celebrate have a large feast while enjoying the company of others.

The style in which the service ended was ceremonial and symbolic. Preisser said she loved the dimming of the lights, alluding to the world going into darkness and coming out in the light.

As she spoke, the lights in the chapel were darkened one by one. Candles from the speakers were lit and they scattered around the congregation lighting candles in the audience. The audience was led in a peace song as all in attendance began to walk outside, gathering at the holiday tree at the foot of Burns Tower.

A reception was held immediately afterwards in the Grace Covey Dining Hall which had karaoke, cookies, cocoa, and holiday cheer. "I appreciated more about others' traditions on various holidays," said Taylor, a senior psychology major. "It was especially for the religious people. It provided an opportunity for further conversations between the service."

This is the first year that Student Activities President Elizabeth Grieser had a chance to attend this event.

"The focus that led me to learn about and appreciate other faiths and different religions is that we all share the good model for us for how the world at large today," said Nicole Harris, a sophomore. "It's more."

As the reception was winding down, Nicholas Garvey offered these fitting for the season.

"Like the lone rose poked through the snow in December, like the rose, as long as there is life, there is hope," said Nicole Harris. "It's as if he watched the other side of the shrub and the food is pear. There is life! There is hope!"

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Housing continued from page 3

academic year is allowed to reserve his spot. Exceptions to this are in the freshmen dorms of Southwest, John B., Carter, Ritter, Eiselin, and Wemyss. This phase one operation allows the Housing and Greek Life office to use spring break determining the available space for the rest of the student body.

Upon returning from break, students who are signing up for open space have the week of March 19 through March 22 to do so. Appointments will be determined by units accredited, those with the most going first on Monday or Tuesday.

Mail notifications, digital and paper, will be dispensed to students during the next few months. The theme for next year will be "Catch the Wave," featuring a surfer on the outside of the letters.

In addition, the Residential Learning Communities will again be John B., Carter, Southwest, Ritter, Eiselin, and Wemyss, the freshmen reserved communities. Housing will again not be guaranteed to students who have 56 units or more at the end of the Spring 2007 semester. Those students are available to sign up for Monagan Hall, the Townhouses, the McCaffrey Center, and Manor Hall.

Brookside, once again, is reserved for pharmacy, dental, and graduate students.

Dan Shipp gave detailed previews of the University Center.

"We want to make this box inhabitable," said Shipp. He said the center will be more encompassing. Right now the McCaffrey Center is the student center with limited venues and space, Shipp said. The McCaffrey Center will yield to the new University Center with more use for organization workshops, and academic powwows.

Shipp helped walk RHA through the $30 million project. He said the features of the center were created with student input.

Upon entering the building and floor of the center, visitors will find themselves in the lobby and information center of the campus. To the left will be the dining facility and servery.

Shipp emphasized the new features for student dining. It will become more of a social center, where students can come and go as they please. Shipp estimated that the dining hall, to be renamed the Pacific Commons, will be open on average 17-18 hours a day.

"We're not just replicating the space we have," Shipp said. That means the hall won't consist entirely of large round tables. Themed venues, such as a Taqueria Station and Salad and Sandwich Station, will be added.

Diners will also have the option of eating outside on an exterior deck. Televisions will be inside the center. The Barnes and Noble Bookstore will move into the center with over 3,700 square feet of room. A coffee shop, run by Almond Coffee Company, will fit right next door to the store.

On the opposite side of the first floor will be a 6,000 square foot event center for performances and events.

The second floor consists of six new conference rooms. "That's a big deal to student groups," Shipp said. The current Redwood Room will be located upstairs with a new name: The Board Room. The anticipated is that the second floor will be similar to the Student Center with a stage and an 82 drop down screen.

"This is common especially in California schools," Shipp said. Televisions will be available to watch on screen for an ultimate viewing experience.

"It really gives our students a little room to flex their muscles," said Shipp. University Center is scheduled to be done by late spring of 2008 with full use by August, 2008.
A New Beginning A Semester In Review For Freshmen

A Few Final Words

By Nicole Van de Star - Silver Columnist

A New Beginning For it's hard to believe that the semester of our college career is already over, and I am sure most of you are not broken up at all over this. You have been keeping count, then I am absolutely positive that you know there is only 1 day left until Christmas break. It seemed that this day would never come, and now that it has, I can't stop jumping for joy. Well, I'm sure you know here is a catch to this whole thing: that's right, it's called finals. Classes may be over on the 15th, but starting on the 18th is the "all-stressful" final exam; the one they say not to worry about until you come to find out that it is worth 50% of your final grade. The one thing that I love about finals is watching students perform their studying methods. You always hear from your parents or professors, "Get a good night's sleep, don't forget to eat breakfast, start studying early." Yeah right! This is reality, and this is how it really works out. You start studying the night before starting around 1000p.m. You stay up all night, drinking about five gallons of coffee, and when you finally go to bed your alarm goes off five minutes later, only for you to find you missed breakfast. You race out your door in pj's and slippers and hope you do all right. Now, of course you know this is an over exaggeration, but I am sure you have seen at least one of two of these people during midterms. At least you have something to laugh at before you begin the exam. Before I go on, I would just like to wish all of you good luck on your exams. I know it is a pain to study for these things, because I too have to take them. My advice is, don't stress out too much about it. It is just an exam, and if you relax you will do much better then you think. And remember: just breathe. Now, after this whole mess is over, it's time to throw snowball fights, sledding, and whatever else crosses your mind. It is time for Christmas shopping and decorating. And for those of you that are a little outdoorsier, it's time for skiing and/or snowboarding.

Nick Hansen Columnist

This fall semester started in the middle of August for me. After a summer of work creating a Wikipedia-like website for a company in Benicia, I was able to show up to Pacific a week early. From moving into the townhouses and preparing for an incoming party filled life and most importantly the classes I had to attend to be on course for graduation, I had plenty to think about. If there is any advice I can ever give anyone, have 2 classes a day without any class on Friday. It possible, take classes at night or classes once a week. This semester I pulled off 16 units with only 5 classes a week. This gives you the chance to sleep more, and spend more time learning about yourself. Or others may take it as the chance to party more and work more often. It seems like this fall semester has flown by; having covered many topics on partying that I never thought I could have written about. It all started with disgruntling my RA's and learning that Pacific will enforce the party registration form. Playing their game and following their paper-work rules is what became of "Partying at Pacific Isn't The Same." Then I got in this mindset of "Hey! Let's follow Marcell's advice and write about partying in the Pacifican for the "all-stressful" final exam; the one they say not to worry about until you come to find out that it is worth 50% of your final grade. The one thing that I love about finals is watching students perform their studying methods. You always hear from your parents or professors, "Get a good night's sleep, don't forget to eat breakfast, start studying early." Yeah right! This is reality, and this is how it really works out. You start studying the night before starting around 1000p.m. You stay up all night, drinking about five gallons of coffee, and when you finally go to bed your alarm goes off five minutes later, only for you to find you missed breakfast. You race out your door in pj's and slippers and hope you do all right. Now, of course you know this is an over exaggeration, but I am sure you have seen at least one of two of these people during midterms. At least you have something to laugh at before you begin the exam. Before I go on, I would just like to wish all of you good luck on your exams. I know it is a pain to study for these things, because I too have to take them. My advice is, don't stress out too much about it. It is just an exam, and if you relax you will do much better then you think. And remember: just breathe. Now, after this whole mess is over, it's time to throw snowball fights, sledding, and whatever else crosses your mind. It is time for Christmas shopping and decorating. And for those of you that are a little outdoorsier, it's time for skiing and/or snowboarding.

Happy New Year!
PERSPECTIVES

Pacific is a very safe place

By Patrick Giblin,
Media Relations Coordinator, University of the Pacific.

There is no doubt in our minds that crime in Stockton is bad. But is it as out of control as stated in an anonymous piece published by “Killgore Trout” in last week’s edition of the Pacifican? Well, not exactly.

Crime, as it turns out, has been falling nationally for over a decade. Stockton leads the nation in several areas of crime, but it is not like the uncontrolled, “Sin City” portrait painted in the anonymous column.

Had Trout contacted public safety or University relations, he would have been presented with publicly available reports and statistics that are readily available to anyone.

For example, The Killgore Trout piece claims that there was a gun fight between campus police and “townies,” a slang term for natives of the area, during a rugby game at Gardemeny Field a few years ago.

Not true, according to both public records and eye witnesses who still attend Pacific. There was gun fire on campus, but it had nothing to do with campus police. Instead, it was an incident between two groups of youths who were on the street in front of the Cowell Wellness Center. One youth shot the other as they were running from the street to the strip of land between the center and Broldde Hall. The shooting had nothing to do with a campus rugby game. There were no students or campus police involved.

Trout also claims that every weekend, 34 cars are broken into on campus and have their stereo ripped out. That would mean that every year, there would have to be a minimum of 156 to 208 burglaries reported on campus, one for each of those incidents. Yet a quick search of police records show that only 27 burglaries were reported on campus last year — everything from laptops being stolen from dorm rooms to items being taken out of cars. That’s barely over two a month, not three to four every weekend.

But Trout brings up this and other versions of campus incidents to bolster the idea that Pacific is hiding the truth about how dangerous the campus. Yet Trout’s own newspaper, the Pacifican, publishes the campus police log in its paper. The log also is available online for everyone to see on Public Safety’s Web page.

According to Trout, Pacific officials ordered students involved in a recent off-campus shooting to not discuss what happened with anyone. Trout then asks “why would Pacific try to hide the facts?”

Nothing was hidden. The real fact is this: Pacific sent an e-mail to every student, faculty member and employee of the Stockton campus telling them a student had been shot during an early-morning robbery. The e-mail even had a link to The Record’s story about the shooting.

Trout’s column acknowledges several paragraphs later that a campus-wide e-mail was sent, but he then misquoted the e-mail, claiming that Pacific officials were calling the break-in an isolated incident. In actual fact, the e-mail said the shooting, not the break in, was isolated.

The author goes further and claims that Pacific purposely hides all crime incidents from students and the public. Here is the fact: Every call to the campus police department is recorded and logged into the computerized Automated Reporting System. This information is documented and sent daily to several university sites and to the Stockton Record, as well as the Modesto Bee. The information also is reported online in the Clery Report on the Pacific Public Safety Web site.

Trout then attacked the Public Safety system on campus. Trout claims that Pacific does not enforce restraining orders.

Simply not true.

All restraining orders issued by the court are enforced. Officers are subject to criminal penalties for not enforcing a court order.

Public Safety keeps the restraining orders on file and sends a copy to the Stockton Police Department in case the plaintiff is in the city when a violation occurs. Officers are notified when new ones are filed with the department.

Trout also claims that campus police refuse to enforce the public intoxication laws.

Also not true.

Incidents involving alcohol, where a student was referred to Judicial Affairs or arrested, have increased by 9.3% when compared to the same period last year. The number of drunk-driving arrests by campus police have also increased over the previous two years.

Trout overlooked several other facts about Pacific’s safety. Pacific has numerous emergency telephones located across campus that are used day or night to report any incidents of crime, a feature that’s not found on many other large campuses.

Pacific has S.T.R.I.P.E.S., a service that offers students rides to anywhere on campus from 6 p.m. to 2 a.m. every night of the week.

Pacific is one of only two private universities in the State of California that has a police department that’s actually part of the city police force. Our officers are sworn in by the city and work closely with local law enforcement agencies to coordinate crime prevention and share information. In fact, many of Pacific’s neighbors call campus police to report incidents instead of the city police department because it is often the fastest response times to emergency calls in the entire county.

Pacific’s police department is headed by a former police detective with more than 20 years of experience in law enforcement.

However, we are willing to admit that there is crime on campus. Just like any other community, sometimes people with misguided or ill intentions will penetrate the campus community and do things such as break into cars, steal personal items and occasionally threaten students. But that can happen anywhere, as was unfortunately demonstrated with the shootings at Pennslyvania earlier this year.

Are we doing something wrong about crime? Yes. Besides constantly reviewing public safety on campus, administrators regularly meet to discuss ways to handle issues. But it isn’t as easy as simply creating a police state, as Trout’s column seems to suggest. Campus officials must constantly balance trying to maintain an academic environment, student freedoms and Constitutional right with attempts to crack down on wrong doing.

Go too far, and the campus could find itself on the opposite end of community outrage. Just take a look at the recent incident at the University of California at Los Angeles where a student was tasered several times in the campus library simply because he had a student identification card on him.

While we would like to create a world in which no one ever had their lives taken, we could not allow our doors unlocked to the world in reality.

But that doesn’t mean Pacific is a dangerous place as stated in Trout’s column. Pacific is incredibly safe, and we are always working to make it safer.

Freshman cont. from pg.
Fear and Loathing on a College Campus

“Review a Book by its Cover: Part I”

by Mikey Vu
Lifestyles Editor

Welcome once again to Fear and Loathing on a College Campus brought to you by Mikey Vu. This week, I have decided to debut a brand spanking new feature to my column that I will be using from time to time, and that is “Review a book by it’s cover.” For the first installment of this feature I will be reviewing the New York Times Best Selling Book, Running With Scissors based solely on its cover. Ahem.

Running With Scissors, from what I can best guess, is a coming of age story about a child named Little Billy that was born with a crippling genetic defect. Little Billy struggled through his childhood with a rare condition known in the medical community as Boxisus, a birth defect in which a child is born with a cardboard box for a head.

The story takes place in a little Midwest town where apparently the grass is red and everything else is a varying shade of orange, a dramatic literary choice by Augusten Burroughs used to depict Little Billy Boxhead’s struggle to see the outside world through his box with no eyeholes. The initial part of the book largely spends time dealing with Little Billy’s struggle to fit into his school, and how he overcomes the teasing from his peers like being called “Boxy McBoxface from Cardboardville” or having them put postage stamps on his face telling him to “return to sender.”

The title, Running with Scissors, comes from the climax of the novel where Little Billy’s is in an art’s and craft’s store with his mother looking for decorative stickers for his head when she says, “Billy! Be careful! You can’t go skipping around the store with sharp objects!” To which he responds defiantly, “No mom, I’m not skipping, I’m running. Running with scissors.” Dramatic, yes I know.

The story also follows Little Billy through his tumultuous teenage life, in which he attempts to commit suicide by overdosing on packaging peanuts and bubble wrap, which in combination may seem harmless, but with Billy’s condition prove near fatal.

The huge twist in the novel comes when Billy is approached by the CIA, and offered a job as a spy because he is said to be the man with “a thousand faces” due to his uncanny ability to look like anyone with only the help of a printer, scotch tape, and a black felt sharpie.

Running With Scissors gets an enthusiastic 8 out of 10 from me, and although I have no idea what the actual book is about, I’m sure that my version would have made the New York Best Seller’s list as well.

Producing mildly provocative and wickedly funny tones, Under Milk Wood is an enormous success for the Theatre Department and all involved should be proud of such fine and artistic work. Also be on the look out for upcoming productions at Pacific, including Ichabod Crane and the Headless Horseman in early January and L’incoronazione di Poppea in late March.

“No mom, I’m not skipping. I’m running. Running with scissors.” —Dramatic, yes I know.

Theatre under Fire

“A Play for Voices”

by M. Tremont
Columnist

Pacific Theatre Arts Department was recently proud to present Dylan Thomas’ Under Milk Wood. Set in the sleepy coastal village of Llareggub (lair-eh-gib), the production allows us a brief twenty-four hour glimpse into the lives of the town’s many inhabitants.

“We begin in the wee hours, and the characters we are about to meet are asleep. The first thing we learn about the characters is the thing that no one ever knows about another person: we meet them in their dreams. We learn of their longing for love and life, their internal struggles, their secret dreams. Then they awake. And we follow our characters throughout the day.”

—An Excerpt from the Director’s Note

Director Lisa A Tromovitch, the cast, and the crew faced the monumental obstacle of presenting such a wide array of voices and character traits with so few performers.

Each member of the cast portrayed a number of different characters, each character bearing traits ranging from the elderly and bitter to the young and joyous. Although they admit it was difficult at first, they transitioned between characters seamlessly when performance time came.

Incorporating interpretive movement and small doses of song entranced the viewer’s senses while the small size and design of the black box theatre, coupled with the collage like staging, created an intimate and welcoming feeling to those in attendance. It also made it possible for the actors to interact with the audience members, as they passed poetry, written by Thomas himself, to those in the front row.

“No mom, I’m not skipping. I’m running. Running with scissors.” —Dramatic, yes I know.
On Sunday morning, Tony and I were craving something good for breakfast but didn’t want eggs and potatoes from the dining hall. So, we decided to head on down the road to Alberto’s Mexican Restaurant for one of our favorite breakfasts, breakfast burritos. Who doesn’t love eggs, cheese, potatoes, and meat all rolled up in a tortilla?

Tony went for the chorizo burrito which is like a spicy sausage mixed with eggs, cheese and potatoes. Being full blooded Mexican, Tony commented, “This is some dang good chorizo.”

I stuck to my usual breakfast burrito from Alberto’s, which is the sausage burrito. The small cut up sausage just has the perfect flavor when mixed with the other essential burrito items.

Alberto’s has a huge selection of breakfast burritos. Other popular burrito choices include, bacon, pork, bean, and carne asada. Also, the burritos are served with a hot sauce on the side for those who like a little kick to get them going in the morning. We recommend taking your burrito back to your room, turning on some football and making some coffee for the ultimate breakfast burrito experience.

The breakfast burritos served at Alberto’s are pretty big and are under $3.50. Alberto’s is great because it has a drive thru which makes it a quick, easy and cheap breakfast.

To find your way to Alberto’s head north on Pacific Ave. Make a right on March Lane and then a left at El Dorado St. and Alberto’s will be on the corner of El Dorado and Yokuts Ave. Tony and I give Alberto’s breakfast burritos 10 “fingerlicks” for the great Sunday breakfast. So, if you are tired of the breakfast burrito bar in the dining hall, where they just give you the breakfast items in a tortilla, try Alberto’s.

The general chicken sauce is mixed with your rice for an enjoyable rice eating experience. Tony went for the fried rice with his meal and described it as, “Not too good, not too bad.”

The great thing about Wok Inn everything is served in lunch or dinner specials. The lunch or dinner special is served with entrée, rice, spring roll, and soup. The meal turns out to be a lot of food for a great price. Another recommendation is go for some of the hot tea. Just add in a little sugar and it makes a perfect little after meal drink. For those of you who like to laugh a little bit, when you eat your fortune cookie play the “In Bed” game. If you do not know the “In bed” game just add the words in bed to the end of your fortune. So my fortune would read, “An attractive visitor will bring joy to your home... in bed.” It will always make you laugh.

Wok Inn is a Restaurant that campus you can walk right across the street and I give Wok Inn “fingerlicks” for the variety of food we had. If you to cross the street, turn on some football, and play the “In Bed” game while you eat your fortune cookie. It will always make you laugh.
Pathways
Christmas Tree!!!
8/23-9/22 Virgo
Most areas of your life reflect a positive, healthy outlook. Duties that nobody but you can perform will need your personal touch now. Take care that you do not become too strict with yourself—perfection may not be the idea here. There could be a new job direction, change or a step up the ladder, if that is what you desire.

9/23-10/22 Libra
This is a good day to get things done. Your emotions may take on seriousness as you work to meet the clock on a special project today. Take care—you may hurry too much and end up with more problems than you wanted. Emotions are very present but within control.

10/23-11/21 Scorpio
Intellectualism and the exchange of ideas with the idea of being smart as a fox is the special appeal and importance just now. You and a friend may get quite a lot of shopping done this afternoon. Wonderful conversations with a loved one this evening will bring you closer together.

11/22-12/21 Sagittarius
Do some writing on a story that would be good for a sitcom on television. You have the idea, as well as the sense of humor. It is OK to have fun and participate in activities that do not contribute to your security. The extra curricular activities that you become involved with now will give you insight into your personal self.

12/22-1/19 Capricorn
Power struggles are possible this week, although, not beneficial to anyone. Pace yourself and insert some BIG Chuckles into your day. This is a time of ambition, responsibility and learning new techniques. Working hard is smart, but working smart is better. You may be coming to the aid of a friend or a stranger this afternoon.
NFL Guru

By Adam Nofflett
NFL Guru

San Francisco 49ers at Seattle Seahawks

The last time these two teams met, the Niners upset the Seahawks in San Francisco. At that time it looked like the Niners had possible playoff hopes. Since that win, they are on a three game losing streak and are out of the playoff picture. Quarterback Alex Smith has an average of two interceptions for the last 4 games and wide receiver Antonio Bryant has been quiet as well. Running back Frank Gore and tight end Vernon Davis were the lone bright spots for the Niners last week as they both scored touchdowns against the Packers. The Seahawks are coming off a tough loss to the Cardinals, even after though quarterback Matt Hasselbeck had three touchdowns and zero interceptions. The Seahawks are looking to win the NFC West and cannot afford to lose to a struggling Niners team. At the end of the day the 49ers have no defense which will help Seattle get back on track.

Seahawks 28 49ers 10

Dallas Cowboys at Atlanta Falcons

What a difference two weeks makes. After the great performance on Thanksgiving, Tony Romo was being built up to be the next Troy Aikman. Those thoughts are now gone after throwing two costly interceptions against the Saints. Luckily for Dallas, the loss did not affect their first place standings in the NFC East. They now face an Atlanta Falcons team who needs to win at least 2 out of their final 3 games to even think about a playoff spot. Last week against Tampa Bay, Atlanta received a surprise contribution from fullback Justin Griffith. He had 60 yards rushing and a touchdown, which is impressive for a fullback who rarely gets to run. This week’s match up should be interesting with Terrell Owens going up against the best defensive backs in the league in D’Angelo Hall. When Owens was with the Eagles, Hall shut him down and will look to take him out of his game.

Falcons 24 Cowboys 17

St. Louis Rams at Oakland Raiders

Don’t worry Raider fans, the season is almost over. Last week against the Bengals, the Raiders gave up 300 passing yards and 140 rushing yards. On the bright side, Raiders secondary did intercept Carson Palmer three times. Quarterback Aaron Brooks is still not doing great, but at least he tries to find all his receivers. Last week he threw for 200 yards and connected with 9 different receivers. The Rams are coming off a Monday Night loss where they learned the hard way how good Chicago’s defense is. The Bears defense sacked Marc Bulger three times, and forced him to fumble twice. While everyone knows the Rams can put up points, it’s their defense that makes them an under .500 team. Against the Raiders, they will not have to play too much defense but will need to make stops in the fourth quarter. Wide receiver Torry Holt is having another Pro Bowl season and should light up the Oakland defense.

Rams 31 Raiders 13

Kansas City Chiefs at San Diego Chargers

The title of this article could as well be the Kansas City Chiefs versus LaDanian Tomlinson. NFL fans were treated to a spectacular performance last week as Tomlinson broke the single season touchdown record. What was just as impressive is how San Diego made the Denver Broncos look like they should be in the XFL. With the Colts slipping, the Chargers are the top team in the NFL and look like they should clinch home field advantage. The Chargers have not lost since week 7, except that loss was to the Chiefs. Trent Green is back at quarterback, and Larry Johnson is still putting up top 5 running back numbers. Green likes to stay in the pocket as much as possible and has a hard time avoiding fast linebackers. This fairs well for San Diego and Shawn Merriman, who caused a late fourth quarter fumble to give L.T. his chance to break the record. Even though the Chiefs will play San Diego tough, there is no way coach Marty Shottenheimer will let his team slip up this late in the season.

Chargers 21 Chiefs 20

Cincinnati Bengals at Indianapolis Colts

NFL fans are used to seeing the Colts dominate by putting up close to 40 points every game. Last week the Jaguars turned the tables and absolutely embarrassed Tony Dungy’s Colts. The stat that sticks out from the 44-17 score is the Colts giving up 375 yards rushing. The defensive line for the Colts is really struggling, at a time where the team should be clicking on all cylinders. They own a two game lead for first place, but the Bengals are coming in looking to extend the losing streak. As of now, the Bengals would make the playoffs with the Browns and the Bengals at least have a shot at a first round bye in the playoffs. This week the Bengals get a chance to play the Jaguars and try to get back on track.

Colts 35 Bengals 10

Holiday Decorations and Ornaments

Sponsored by KPAC, Pac2TV, Pacifican
- Take a photo and submit to thepacifican.com
- Deadline for submission is Friday, December 15th at 3pm
- First Place = $150
- Second Place = $100
- Third Place = $50

For more information, visit thepacifican.com
Contact Drew Thorne
(drewthorne@gmail.com)
**Indoor Soccer**

**Men's A**
- #1 (3) Yellow Bus Riders - Pike must have been saving themselves for playoffs
- #4 (2) Delta 9 - Pike vs. Sigma Chi was an epic championship game
- #1 La Bandera - Biggest collapse in indoor soccer
- #4 (2) The Other A Team - Only 1 Pike team could win...Good effort
- #5 (6) F.C Barcelona - It's back to the drawing board

**Men's B**
- #1 (3) Choo Goo - Quite possibly the lowest skilled soccer team to ever win a championship
- #2 (2) Kappa Psi - Team is going to come out with a vengeance in outdoor season
- #3 (3) We're Cat* - Team has to be satisfied with a 2nd place finish
- #4 (4) Right Hand Rule - So much for my predicted champions
- #5 (5) I Hart Females - Balatti owned you*How do you feel about that?

**Women's**
- #1 (2) Elementary - Harris and his teams thrive in elimination games
- #2 (3) Bulldogs - The Bulldogs came out of nowhere to vie for a title
- #3 (5) Is This Basketball? - Theta Chi had a legitimate shot at both a soccer and basketball title
- #4 (4) The Illegal Immigrants - Lackluster performance just didn't cut it
- #5 (6) Have Mercy! - At least you won 3v3 basketball

**UPCOMING LEAGUES/TOURNAMENTS:**
- **Indoor Soccer**
  - #10 (10) Who Let the Dogs Out? - Poor showing for Pike in basketball but luckily they have soccer
  - #11 (11) JBK - Wins were tough to come by in this division*Just ask these guys
  - #12 (12) Bulldogs - Hopefully you guys will do better on final exams

**3X3 Basketball**

**Men's A**
- #1 (2) Fundamentally Sound - Should be the team to beat in 5v5 if the corps can stay together
- #2 (4) Blazers - Put together a nice season without Holt
- #3 (1) Cuidado - Very disappointing playoff showing for Stiles and Wild
- #4 (4) Team Felony - Just didn't have consistent scorers
- #5 (5) Juice - I give them props for trying the A division

**Men's B**
- #1 (1) Iron Lungs - Teammates stepped up and won title when Sountha rolled ankle
- #2 (5) Rec Staff - Nobody thought these guys would be a threat*came up a basket short
- #3 (2) Kappa Psi - The shots just weren't dropping in the semis
- #4 (3) Swat Team - Good size and shooting ability but ran into hot Rec Staff team
- #5 (4) HGL Fo Life! - Rausch's squad just didn't have enough to get past Iron Lungs

**Women's**
- #1 (1) Mystics - The ladies were able to defend their title in a tough women's league
- #2 (2) Da Tita's - 1 expected a lot more fight in the championship
- #3 (3) X-treme - Team lacked quickness and a true point guard
- #4 (4) Swat Team - Good size and shooting ability but ran into hot Rec Staff team
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  - #4 (4) Alpha Phi - Highest placed team in Sorority Circle
  - #5 (5) Tri-Delta - Tri-Delt needs to get over this trend of forfeiting games
  - #6 (6) Diversity Day - Disappointment all around

**4X4 Indoor Football Tournament Results**

**Champions:**
- Pike

**2nd Place:**
- Bulldogs

**Championship Game:**
- Pike: 48
- Bulldogs: 44
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