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University of the Pacific

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Compelling Speaker Dr. Dyson Visits Campus

“I am an oppositional African American cultural critic. Such criticism revels in black culture’s virtues, takes pleasure in its achievements, laments its failed opportunities and interrogates its weaknesses.”

Sandy Goldberg
ASuop liaison

On February 18, Dr. Michael Eric Dyson spoke to the Stockton community and Pacific campus about a variety of topics. He has been hailed as “one of the nation’s most inspiring African Americans” and has no fear in discussing his thoughts on current popular culture.

A special invitation dinner came prior to the lecture that was given in Faye Spanos Concert Hall free of charge. In his speech, Dr. Dyson eloquently fused scholarly insight with hip hop and rap lyrics, much to the crowd’s delight. However, he also hit on issues that they found controversial.

Dr. Dyson covered the topic of Is Bill Cosby Right? Or Has the Black Middle Class Lost its Mind? looking at the controversial statements previously made by Bill Cosby about the Hurricane Katrina situation.

As he states, “I am an oppositional African American cultural critic. Such criticism revels in black culture’s virtues, takes pleasure in its achievements, laments its failed opportunities and interrogates its weaknesses.”

Of course, with his ideas and criticism came unique ideas and criticisms from the students in attendance.

“He was very knowledgeable about the situations but I felt he was very one sided with his opinion on Bill Cosby. It felt more like an attack on Bill Cosby’s character and career. However, I agree with his view on Katrina about the incompetence of the people in authority to react to the situation,” noted Raoul Hotchandani.

The topic certainly stirred emotions and provoked interesting thought with those in attendance.

This was certainly a unique speaker to bring on to the Pacific campus during Black History Month that hit home with the students.

As student Jon Kenyon said, “I feel that the more views people are able to hear, the more aspects to an issue that they will be able to diagnose. When students at Pacific and people in this country listen to different voices and opinions on controversial issues; they will be able to more accurately access situations and they will be able to decide which side of the issue they should stand for.”

Lori Best Sawdon named to Board of Regents

Pacific AP
Guest Writer

(Stockton, Calif.) — University of Pacific President Donald DeRosa and Board of Regents Chair Dianne Philibosian announced the election of Lori Best Sawdon as a Regent of University of the Pacific. The Board of Regents is the University’s governing board.

“We are so very proud to welcome Lori Best Sawdon to the Board of Regents,” President DeRosa said. “As a responsible and compassionate leader in her profession and her community, Lori represents what makes a Pacific education truly distinctive.”

Lori Best Sawdon is pastor of the Lafayette United Methodist Church in Lafayette, Calif., a position she has held since July, 2004. Between 1999 and 2004, she was lead pastor of the United Methodist Church of Merced in Merced, Calif. She grew up in Sparks, Nevada.

Sawdon earned a bachelor’s degree in religious studies at University of the Pacific in 1981 and completed her master of divinity degree in 1986 at San Francisco Theological Seminary in San An-

Continued on page 2
“Color Me Dark”

By Courtnee Coburn
Staff Writer

Tonight “Color Me Dark”, a Kennedy Center Play, opens at the Faye Spanos Concert Hall. Posters around campus and other advertisements have many students excited and curious to see the performance.

Freshman Avery Hochhalter said, “I’m really curious to see the play. I have heard that it should be a great show.”

“Color Me Dark” takes place in 1919, a time when racism was rampant. Twelve year-old Nellie Lee and her family move from rustic Tennessee to Chicago. Surprised the North is still an incredibly racist place the Lee family must rely upon each other for support. The show begins tonight at 7pm Pacific students are urged to attend the unique event seeing as there has not yet been a show quite like “Color Me Dark”.

Continued from page 1 selmo, Calif.

“The liberal arts education I received at Pacific provided an excellent foundation for my life and career,” Sawdon said. “I appreciated the personal attention from professors and enjoyed living on campus. As a regent, I will be honored to play a role in continuing the Pacific tradition of excellence.”

Rev. John Corszor of Bakkersfield, Calif., a member of the Board of Regents, said, “Lori’s election to the board re-affirms Pacific’s Methodist roots and the historic importance of a liberal arts education. Lori has a vital interest in higher education and campus ministry and a strong commitment to Pacific. She will be an outstanding Regent.”

University of the Pacific is an independent, co-educational university serving more than 6,000 students on three campuses in Northern California. It was established by pioneer Methodist ministers in 1851 as California’s first chartered institution of higher learning. Pacific has earned widespread recognition for its student-centered approach to education, its many innovations, and the accomplishments of its 80,000 living alumni.

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Grace Covell Hall
4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
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REPORTED BY PUBLIC SAFETY WEEKLY REPORT
February 12 to 18, 2006

1*ARREST PACIFIC AVE
Officers stopped a vehicle at 5:30 AM for traffic violations and discovered the driver was under the influence. GHP called and processed the driver for driving under the influence. Passenger was transported home.

2*CASUALTY SPANOS CTR.
Officers responded to a call of an injured child. An eleven year old was injured while tumbling at the center. Subject was transported to Dameron Hospital.

3*THEFT LIBRARY
Victim had a cell phone stolen when it was left unattended on a table at the library.

4*MISSING PERSON EISELEN HOUSE
Dispatch received a call from a parent who had not heard from their daughter. Officers located the missing person who had traveled to Southern California and returned. The parent was advised.

5*FIRE GRACE COVELL
Subject had left a lamp on and it caused a foam object to smolder. Fire responded and assisted in removing the smoke from the building.

6*CASUALTY KHOURY HALL
Subject suffered a seizure and was transported to St Joseph’s Hospital for treatment.

7*THEFT QUADS KITCHEN
Staff reports finding a subject inside the area of the bakery taking bakery goods. Subject fled prior to officers arrival.

8*ARREST MENOCINO AVE.
Officers were conducting radar enforcement on Mendocino when a vehicle was stopped for speeding. The officer learned the driver’s license was suspended. The driver was cited and vehicle towed.

9*ALCOHOL INCIDENT ART BUILDING
Dispatch reported that the emergency phone was activated near the building. STAFF unit observed the subjects and reported they were throwing rocks at their unit. Officers made contact and arrested one subject for under the influence.

10*DISTURBANCE TAC CHI
Small fight broke out between two females attending a dance. Public Safety responded and took a report of the incident.
America’s Dad,” Bill Cosby, taken to task

Dr. Michael Dyson’s talk continues tradition of exceptional speakers at the university

By Shane Cioris
Perspectives Editor

On Saturday, February 18, Dr. Michael Eric Dyson took the stage of Faye Spanos Concert Hall to deliver an inspiring talk entitled “Is Bill Cosby Right? Or Has the Black Middle Class Lost its Mind?” Dr. Dyson, a nationally-recognized author and professor at the University of Pennsylvania, spoke at length of the apparent social chasm between upper-middle-class African Americans, and ‘poor blacks.’ This gulf was expressed in a speech delivered by comedian Bill Cosby at an NAACP dinner in May of 2004, a speech in which Cosby launched into an ideological attack against the American poor, specifically the black poor, and in essence blamed them for most of their own socioeconomic problems. Dyson argued that Cosby’s recent acceptance of the role of racial spokesman (or browbeater) was ironic, and morally inappropriate, in light of Cosby’s pointed refusal to address racial issues during most of his comedy career—the start of which coincided with the fledgling Civil Rights movement in America.

While the talk centered on the divide between (what Dyson termed) the ‘Afristocracy’—black professionals, entertainers, civil rights leaders, athletes, and the like—and the ‘Ghettocracy,’ the black poor who are unemployed or underemployed, Dyson also took time to speak about the devastation wreaked in the Gulf Coast by Hurricane Katrina. Referring to rapper Kanye West’s infamous remark that “George Bush doesn’t care about black people [affected by Katrina],” Dr. Dyson offered his own perspective on the comment—or as he said, “Allow me to Dysonize his Westian view, ‘George Bush’ can be understood to embody the generational divide in America...” In Dyson’s view, ‘George Bush’ can be understood to embody the federal government, while the accusation that the government ‘didn’t care’ was perhaps better expressed in the notion that certain safeguards and emergency measures (that should have been in place in a high flood-risk area like New Orleans) were not utilized in a timely and effective fashion.

Dyson darkly noted that New Orleans mayor Ray Nagin (who, as Dyson pointed out, is enough of a conservative to have earned the nickname “Ray Reagan”) waited three days to evacuate the city, time taken to assess the impact of evacuations during most of his comedy career— the start of which coincided with the fledgling Civil Rights movement in America.

What are we really paying for?
Defense costs disproportional to domestic concerns

By Jeff Swartz
Guest Writer

Isn’t it funny when you get caught up in your life of class, sleep, eating and hooking up? Everything that happens outside of school just seems to pass you by at times, doesn’t it? We begin to obsess over “reality” TV, video games, drinking and casual sex.

Last week, I stopped obsessing and read the paper. I mean, really read the paper. And guess what I found out? The United States government has around $2.77 trillion to spend this year and of all that cold hard cash, 45% came from our pockets. No joke. That’s around a $1,096 billion profit the feds made off us last year.

Hmm, quite a nice pile of cash; are you wondering what they are going to spend it on? Well, according to President Bush, “we have given our men and women on the frontlines of the war on terror the funding they need to defeat the enemy and detect, disrupt and dismantle terrorist plots and opportunities.” In laymen’s terms this basically means that Bush is giving all that money to the “war on terror,” $439.3 billion exactly, to be spent on defense. At the same time, he decided to cut funding for education and Medicare (which in theory would grant the government a higher monetary sum on taxes considering the opportunity costs of an education, etc.).

So basically we are now working hard as ever only to see all of our wages being taxed to finance the highest amount of money for defense since the Korean War. Wow. Put the lip gloss down, put your cell phone in your pocket and think real hard about this. All this money, tons and tons of it. More money than you could ever conceive of, just for one year of government spending, and it’s mostly all going to the war. Maybe you have never lived amongst poverty; maybe you’ve never known what it is like to go all day without eating because you can’t afford it. Half of the world’s population lives on less than $1 per day; meanwhile, we are spending hundreds of billions of dollars on defense. Not social services, diplomacy, or humanitarian aid; cold hard defense.

It gets worse. The government took money from funds for vocational education to prepare poor and minority students for college. Well, that makes it a lot easier for all those decent army recruits out there. On top of that, $36 billion was taken from the Medicare budget over the next 5 years. Bush doesn’t have to worry about all those old folks voting anymore, so why give them anything?

And poor, sad, disappointing NASA. You only get $724.4 million but your military buddies get over $400 billion to play with. Good luck on getting us to Mars, p.s.
Tech support

By Brandon Savoae
Tech Writer

As a Mac user, I’m mostly able to avoid the viruses that plague Microsoft’s Windows operating system. So imagine my surprise when I discovered this week that not one, but four viruses had been found targeting Mac OS X.

After all, I spend most of my time fixing computers that run on Windows, so I figured that a Mac was my best bet to avoid the crap that I deal with every day.

But yes, it’s true—Mac’s operating system is the subject of several new Trojan attacks. Although the attacks, according to F-Secure, are designed to be tested in a laboratory under specific conditions, the concern is that they will mutate into new threats from real malware writers, and threaten the Mac OS X platform.

So much for impervious to attack!

The lesson in this story is that a good antivirus program is essential for every computer user. In addition, running regular scans and conducting Windows Updates is essential to the protection of your system.

It’s a good idea to obtain an antivirus program if you don’t already have one. The University provides an antivirus solution, made by Symantec (the makers of Norton). It’s free to all students, and you can contact OIT at (209) 946-7400 if you want to obtain the antivirus.

Probably the best antivirus out there, though, is a program called NOD32. Though it only runs on Windows (Mac users don’t despair: the University has a Mac version of Symantec), it uses heuristics, which looks through a set of rules to help find new, unknown viruses. The program costs $39.00, but is well worth the money. And if you want to try the antivirus program for 30 days, you can do so for free by downloading it at http://www.nod32.com/.

In addition, all Windows AND Mac users should update their operating system on a weekly basis. This can be done in Windows by clicking Start -> All Programs -> Windows Update and following the instructions. A Mac user can do so by clicking the Apple in the upper left, and selecting ‘Software Update’ from the menu. Microsoft offers patches that help protect against threats on an almost weekly basis; for Mac users it’s a bit less frequent but still just as essential.

And of course, run a scan of your system each week with your antivirus and anti-spyware programs. Doing so will help keep your computer in tip-top shape.

A beer at lunch?

Was Cheney unfit to shoot?

By Felipe Ordonez
Guest Writer

“Did our vice president Dick Cheney have a beer for lunch?” is the latest allegation that the mainstream media have been putting on the butcher table. “Exercise caution when operating machinery, driving a vehicle, or doing anything considered hazardous [like shooting a shotgun]” are just some of the warnings that are found on the prescription labels of medications prescribed to heart patients.

Is our Vice President not a heart patient? Now you mix these prescribed medications with a beer for lunch, like Dick Cheney admitted to when being interviewed by Brit Hume on Fox; the warnings on the labels then become exacerbated by mixing alcohol with prescription drugs.

Dick Cheney is a heart patient and was consuming alcohol while under the influence of a cocktail variation of prescription drugs, and on top of that was carrying a loaded shotgun. A drug investigation by law enforcement over the incident should be implicated.

The investigating officer on charge of the case negligent to visit the site of the incident; instead he picked up the phone, called the police, wrote where the supposed incident occurred and a statement over the phone. Based on the account of the police officer and the fact that the owner, and a few guests answered by the house party which witnessed the incident, the investigating officer signed Dick Cheney as not being liable.

Now is there something wrong here? A man who is operating a loaded shotgun (which is considered a weapon) was under the influence of prescription drugs (which state warnings not operate machinery if hazardous), had a beer for lunch, then went out and shot a man in the face with a loaded shotgun, and is declared not guilty of all charges? Dick Cheney did not.

The Epicurean

Restaurant review

By Jeffrey Morgan
Epicurean

What can one say about this all night Mexican cornucopia called “Viva Burrito” other than it is amazing. This brilliantly placed drive-through at West Lane and March Lane is a perfect pitstop for any pacific student in urgent need of a study side of guacamole.” Though the place looks humble and modest one should not be fooled by the exterior. Within those simple walls, burrito artists whose culinary genius rivals the best chefs in all of Stockton work tirelessly to satisfy the many different patrons who roll up through the drive-through at all hours of the night. The Carne Asada Burrito and the California Burrito have always been favorites of mine. Going there even at three in the morning there is often a line of cars waiting to taste what could be described as the most fulfilling burrito California has to offer. In these times of stress and tiredness that come with school and want of solitary moments that come with having a roommate and never getting a second alone, I urge all pacific students to let yourself relax a little after that midnight cram session or that insane party and take a trip down to “Viva Burrito” and discover just what a burrito should be.
DYSON from page 3

In addition, Dr. Dyson railed against those who have suggested that the people who did not manage to evacuate the city had themselves to blame for their subsequent predicament. Noting that a high percentage of New Orleans citizens were second- or third-generation natives who live 'hand-to-mouth' with barely a dollar to spare and shelter was simply impossible for the unemployed emergency transportation there and there.

The prospect of arranging out that many people who were stranded in the city had on the city's businesses.

In fairness to Bill Cosby, in

his book (of the same title as the lecture) Dyson discusses the few instances when Cosby has addressed racial issues, most notably in a Playboy magazine interview from 1969, in which Cosby is surprisingly candid about certain aspects of race relations in the United States: "Freedom, for any man, is a need like food and water. The black man needs his fre-groviest society the world has ever seen." Dyson also pointed out that Cosby is well-known as a philanthropist, having given millions of dollars to African American colleges and charities. But as Dyson noted, simply giving money to a worthy cause does not make a black leader; or "Bill Gates would be one of our greatest black leaders."

“Allow me to Dysonize his Westian perspective.”

Dr. Dyson’s speaking manner was as engaging as the content of his lecture. Ranging in tone from a hushed, reverential whisper to an impassioned roar of indignation, at times Dyson had audience members spontaneously shouting their approval. As Dyson is an ordained Baptist minister, his sermons must be equally rousing, if not more so. In addition to his impressive oratory style, Dr. Dyson also spoke a mellifluous version of Black English, in which he freely used slang (such as the word “ain’t”) and variations on the verb ‘to be,’ as in “we be doing...” Of course, these are only two examples of his use of stylistic black vernacular. As Dyson wrote in his most recent book, “Black English captures the beautiful cadences, sensuous tones, kinetic rhythms, forensic articulations, and idiosyncrasies of expression that form the black vernacular voice. Bad grammar does not Black English make.”

Befitting his nickname of the ’hip-hop intellectual,’ Dr. Dyson referenced rap lyrics at several points throughout his talk. While Dyson mentioned in a caveat that he felt much of contemporary popular music (including rap) is mediocre or downright bad, he had high praise for certain artists who dealt with significant issues in a realistic manner. In addition to a somewhat surprising foray into country-western music in which he sang a few bars in a country-style yodel-twang, Dyson also praised the rapper Common (who will play Pacific in May), calling his most recent album “genius.” His appreciation of the contemporary music scene no doubt helps Dyson connect with the young people that he works with in outreach programs.

“Dr. Dyson spoke a mellifluous version of Black English...”

Despite his affectionate image as “America’s Dad,” Cosby has had some harsh words to offer the black poor in America. sippi) who spoke on campus in September 1963, as well as Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., who was slated to appear on Pacific campus in December 1964 but ultimately, unfortunately, had to cancel his speaking engagement due to scheduling conflicts (truly a shame; it would have been great to be able to say that King was part of the school’s history in some small way). In recent years, the appearance of speakers such as Michael Moore, Dolores Huerta, Bishop Desmond Tutu, and now Dyson have continued what I feel is a tradition of exceptional, thought-provoking guest speakers here at the university.

Dr. Michael Eric Dyson’s appearance at the University of the Pacific was sponsored by the African American Student Union (AASU), ASuop and the Division of Student Life. Kudos.
Monologues this upcoming weekend, the Take Back the Night Rally — a program to stand against violence on women — and a variety of films showing in the Pacific Theatre in the coming weeks.

These events have one thing in common: women.

Sarah Wibe, co-organizer of Pacific's Take Back the Night said, "I love Take Back the Night because it brings activism and rallies to the college campus, it literally breaks the silence on a campus and sends the message that we will no longer be victims."

Hosting several events is the CARE Center, Pacific's first official women's center on campus which opened just last fall. Through the efforts of this project, awareness of women's issues has become more apparent on Pacific's campus. Likewise, a new club entitled W.O.W. - Women Of the World - focuses on women on a more global scale. W.O.W's next event will be held on March 7th in the CARE Center.

This year, the Women's Leadership Conference Committee made sure to include Pacific's male population in the stand for women. David Adams, who organized the entitled "No More Program" that was held last Friday, said: "this specific program was chosen because the WLC committee wanted to include something specific for men to attend that is associated with the WLC...When the committee heard about "No More," we decided to book them because it deals with men showing men how to help victims of sexual assault...I personally think that this program has a lot to offer and will have a positive impact on the attendees."

Char Wilson, who is heading the Women's Leadership Conference said it "was an amazing men's event."

"I became part of the committee because I think the WLC has the potential to positively impact college students (men and women) on a grand scale," explained Adams. From graduate stu-
Tiger Profile: Wibe focuses on female activism

February 23, 2006

Mortell Gibson
Staff Writer

The Townhouses. For some, they are the Wild West of Pacific. For others, they are the wastelands. Whatever the opinion, the Townhouses have come a long way under the 2 time sheriff of the apartments.

Sarah Nicole Wibe, the GRD of the townhouses, would be the first to say how far the townhouses have come. As Sarah puts it, "They basically handed me the townhouses, and we have been able to lower the number of judicial incidents and alcohol transports, and have established a positive relationship with Public Safety."

The Townhouses are a little old, so they have a little added character to them. It's a price some tigers are willing to pay for excellent RA's and great neighbors who live a little every now and then.

"I like the townhouses. They are very active and are the funniest place to be on campus. They're incredibly high energy and people like to hang out here, go to the pool, play volleyball together, go off campus, or have barbecues at 1 o'clock in the afternoon on a Tuesday. And I love that. I couldn't be anywhere else on this campus," said Wibe.

Wibe is just as dynamic as the apartments she heads. A GRD who bathes with the hard metal gods, she proudly proclaims her love for rock, saluting bands like Rage Against the Machine and Alice in Chains though she claims one band over all other. "I can listen to System of a Down any day, any time, and I'll be in a better mood."

This metalhead has another side that very few ever get to know. She is an artsy-fartsy, with her paintings all over her apartment. "It's the Martha Stewart in me," she said. She also has a little James Hetfield too, as she plays the guitar and dabbles in the piano, organ, and flute.

This talented metalhead hails from Cal State Northridge where she studies broadcasting, determined to become the next Barbara Walters. However, after a life changing event, she reevaluated many parts of her life, and refocused on activism. Currently Wibi is one of eight women under thirty on the Young Feminist Taskforce and is part of the larger National Organization for Women.

"Social justice and activism is huge for me. That will be something I do at a university probably for the rest of my life. I kind of always had a sense of my place in the world. I grew up with two lesbian moms, so I understood the areas of power and privilege in society and how that effected me. From a young age, I wanted to do something about it."

So who wins, Cal State Northridge or Pacific in the battle for better school? It's a tough question, no doubt. She claims that Cal State Northridge is where she figured out what she wanted to be, but Pacific is where she became that. So, Pacific wins.

Here, she's been able to organize events like Take Back the Night, and is directing the Vagina Monologues, amongst other programming intending to keep women's issues on the forefront. However, she claims her favorite moment at Pacific was last semester's Halloween Party.

"I have a couple of great moments here. On Halloween we had a band playing, and over 300 people showed up, sober and having fun. We had people in Halloween costumes, too. It was just really positive for the townhouses. And I had fun."

Why not Cal State Northridge? Perhaps because over there, while being an RA, she witnessed a grotesque site during room checkouts. Some students left their room littered with huge trash bags filled with fast food, and a wonderful pot of pasta on the balcony which mold a little every now and then. "That was the worst I had ever seen. If something tops that, then I might consider not working in housing. I'll move on to judicial affairs or careers, or something. It was bad."

To keep Sarah, and her good graces, those living in the Townhouses have thus been warned to keep their apartments clean. The occasional mess isn't intolerable, but to get back on her good side chocolate or mocha ice cream is her favorite.

Sarah Nicole Wibe, a Tiger.

March 7, 8 PM
Women's Message Dinner, Afghani stan's women
Regents Room

March 4, 6:30 AM
Women's Leadership Conference
Pacific Theater

March 6-8
Around campus

March 7, 7 PM
Women of the World
CARE Center

March 7, 8 PM
Leslie Heywood Poetry Tuesday
CARE Center

March 8
International Women's Day

March 21, noon
Pacific Women Connect
TBD

March 23, 4 PM
Women's Health
CARE Center
Fear and Loathing on a College Campus

Angels Cry Over Lost Game of Jenga

By Mikey Vu
Lifestyles Editor

Over the past three-day weekend, many of you headed off to the lovely wasteland that is home, while others sent their brain cells packing with nothing else to do at UOP. I, on the other hand, had the wonderful opportunity of embarking on one of nature’s most enigmatic social phenomena: Family Trips. The reason that they are so curious lies in the fact that all of the things that should usually happen on family vacations such as rest, relaxation, and quiet, well…usually don’t.

I don’t know what it is about family trips, perhaps it’s being cooped up in a car/airplane/submarine/whatever with your family for prolonged periods of time, but it tends to cause a ridiculous high level of argumentative behavior. Personally, I think the argument intensity, if measured, starts out relatively low when the kids are young, and then grows exponentially. I mean when you’re five and your parents are arguing over which exit to take, you don’t really think anything of it.

But when you’re fifteen, an argument that may have started out with your parents over which exit to take will somehow escalate and shift towards how you’re not adding to the conversation because you’re too busy listening to your hippity hop music on your headphones. Don’t think you’re safe if your sibling is with you either, oh no, because chances are that when they’re getting yelled at, you will inevitably get sucked into a drama vortex of shouting that can only be rivaled by your intense urge to gouge your eyes out with a plastic spork.

Now think about it, that’s three times the chance of getting caught in a verbal crossfire! If the other parent says something wrong you’re screwed, if you’re sibling says something wrong you’re screwed, and lord have mercy if you yourself say something wrong. Hell hath no fury like an Asian mother (I love you, mommy.)

Although families are supposed to stick together, there has always been something rather peculiar about the chairs that sit on the Summit patio above the Student Bookstore. The chairs are all locked together. Really close together. So close that trying to get more than one person to sit at the table results in something that I can only describe as a human game of Jenga. Each person pulling the chairs out, attempting to find the perfect equilibrium in which both parties can sit. If you’re feeling super adventurous, try to seat three people. I promise you, the results will be enthralling.

Anyone who has happened to be in the vicinity while watching three people play human Jenga on the locked chairs will be familiar with one of my favorite human phenomena, and that friends is the mysterious silent laugh. We’ve all seen it, we’ve all done it, but the mystery lies in the fact that we don’t hear.

You know what I’m talking about, when your drug friend walks into a parked car, someone drops the funniest joke you’ve heard all day, or maybe just maybe you’ve found your self reading certain columns. The Pacifican *ahem,* and you just keep on in a fit of laughter that transcends even the human ear. Your face shows all signs that you’re laughing, your body movement dictates the same but for some inexplicable reason the gods have taken away your ability to laugh. But who do they give you is a chance to your friends to see how their laughing face looks. Just remember, every time you experience a silent laugh, an angel gets its wings.

Hollencomium Music Reviews

Richmond Hollen
Music Reviews

I like to think that my praise of music reaches to the far ends of the world, or at least to Sweden, the United Kingdom, and Cuba. Coincidentally our featured artists this week are from those countries.

Jens Lekman
Julie RMX
"Oh You’re So Silent Jens"

We start of this week’s world review in Sweden with Mr. Lekman. This Morrisseyish singer-songwriter recently released a sort of greatest hits with his compilation Oh You’re So Silent Jens. For being only 24 years of age Jens has released a ridiculous amount of material. “Juliie RMX” is a sappy coming-of-age love song. The nominal ballot is classic Jens so if you like it you should probably go get the album.

Arctic Monkeys
Fake Tales of San Francisco
“Whatever People Say I Am, That’s What I’m Not”

I would not be at all surprised if you have heard this band on your local alternative radio station, assuming that you still pay attention to that dead technology. The band is very big in the United Kingdom and they are starting to catch on here in the states. The dance-punk band members are also very young, averaging about 20 years of age. Their energy and British wit carry them more than their musical talent. “Fake Tales of San Francisco” is one of their slower songs, but to hear their upbeat single “I Bet You Look Good On The Dance Floor” check out the Pacifican’s podcast (thepacificanonline.com).

Originality: 5.3
Catchiness: 7.2
Personal: 8.9

Buena Vista Social Club
Chang Chan
“Buena Vista Social Club”

This group of thirteen musicians was assembled by American producer/musician Ry Cooder. Before the recording of Buena Vista Social Club they had all been part of the private musical club in Havana Cuba of which their group was named. The recording of the album created quite a buzz among American and European listeners and in turn popularized Cuban music throughout the world.

These Cuban Casanovas average about four time the age of the previous two bands reviewed: about eighty years of age. While the band is quite old they are still quite sharp and will probably continue producing music individually until the day they die.

Originality: 6.8
Catchiness: 9.0
Personal: 8.7

Check out thepacificanonline-line for a weekly podcast of the songs reviewed on the Hollencomium Music Reviews.
HOROSCOPES

By Dan Cammarano
Astrological analyst

Aquarius 1/20-2/18
Many political questions plague you this week. Aquarius, from domestic spying to whether our ports should be controlled by a foreign government. Relax Aquarius, you’ve got front row seats to the apocalypse and if you play your cards right, you’ll be driving the bus. Tonight, watch more Ch. 2.

Pisces 2/19-3/20
What’s done is done, and what is, is. For you and for all of us, change comes slow like a fat kid on a treadmill. Try not to focus on the past or things out of your control and work on the things that make you happy, like cake. Tonight, walk the line.

Aries 3/21-4/19
You are plagued by visions of sheep this week, Aries. Sheep may be a metaphor for what you’re really feeling; for example you may feel cold, or maybe you don’t make “baa” noises enough. Think over it with a furry friend and get back to work. Tonight, make someone laugh.

Taurus 4/20-5/20
Violence is never the answer, unless it’s like on a trivia game as an answer to what it is to hit someone. If in fact violence is the answer, then be careful not to take it too far. Work on being simpler and do as little as you can. Tonight, read a book.

Gemini 5/21-6/21
You may feel like someone is getting the best of you this week. Don’t take crap from ass monkeys Gemini, after all, you are Gemini. Next time someone tries to take advantage of you kick them in the shin and say something mean about their mother. Tonight, lift weights.

Cancer 6/22-7/22
Ever feel like wearing a blue shirt? I get the feeling that you feel this all the time. Remember that life is short and you do not know how many chances you have to wear a blue shirt so seize the day. You may also think about other things you don’t do enough of, like planting flowers. Tonight, put on your shiny shoes on.

Leo 7/23-8/22
How many Virgos does it take to screw in a light bulb? Who cares, you can screw in your own damn light bulb! Start taking more responsibility for your life, maybe you could even try taking responsibility for others, wouldn’t that be fun? Tonight, pay a bill.

Virgo 8/23-9/22
A Leo told me yesterday that all Virgos are stupid, don’t you think you should do something about that? Well regardless of how you feel, try and go to the gym tonight, and if you see an RA shake their hand — confused faces are funny. Tonight, look at your housing packet.

Libra 9/23-10/22
Doing anything fun this weekend? The stars say this will be one of the most fun weekends ever! Do not disappoint the stars, they are no one to mess with, little you versus giant burning gas ball, yeah you’d get your ass kicked. Tonight, play monopoly.

Scorpio 10/23-11/21
Oh Scorpio, do I have a horoscope for you. Unfortunately I forgot it so this will have to do. You feel a need to eat everyday, and this is normal, though perhaps life would be better if you felt this way about other things. Try feeling the need to do kind deeds and if something works for you let me know. Tonight, don’t have a care in the world.

Sagittarius 11/22-12/21
You really need to get off your lazy ass and do something, you may be hotter and cooler than all the tea in China but no one will know if you don’t show them. Work on putting yourself out there more and walk the delicate line of cool and looking like a jerk. Tonight, hit the town.

Capricorn 12/22-1/19
This week has not been your week; it may have been that exam or maybe just getting up in the morning. The position of Uranus tells us that all Capricorns should try to do three good deeds before sunset tonight. Tonight, do something for yourself.

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An Olympic Disappointment
American performance not up to expectations

Arash-Scott Behnam
Sports Editor

Oh, America, what has happened to our athletes? Welcome to the new-age athlete, a product of “I am the team” attitude that has transgressed from professional sports to our Olympic athletes. Our beloved Olympians have gone beyond the call of duty in showcasing the fine American spirit in which we expect our pro sports to castrate its dearest fans.

Yes, we know Allen Iverson does not believe in ‘practice,’ and we know laterally Sprwell has to feed his family, but for argument’s sake we will adamantely deny the use of steroids (yes, he is Cuban but for argument’s sake we will want him to relax before the Olympics and milk any small performance). The list goes on from DUIs to puff puff, pass, unless you’re in the circle with Ricky Williams or playing next to Stephen Marberry.

The American mystique started with beloved skier Samuel Bode Miller and 60 Minutes. Miller, whose reckless style on the mountain has already added to his James Dean persona, improved his chances to join the elite group of the new-aged American athletes with his lackluster performance in Turin. Miller drew the “hey look at me” spotlight on 60 Minutes, commenting on the aspect of skiing drunk and compared it to driving while intoxicated or in laymen’s terms, drunk driving. It is one thing to make politically incorrect comments and bring your country a gold, hell even some silver or bronze would do at this point, but it is another to make such off-the-wall comments while favored to win five medals (the most by any U.S Olympian) and as of this moment be zero for four. Maybe Miller needs to throw a couple back or face the fact that the American bad boy who made history winning a race in each of the four standard disciplines in skiing in 2004-2005 has completely choked. Choking is essential to the success of the “I am the team” athlete, as winning solves all issues, but losing, oh losing is intertwined to the new aged athlete.

The American Olympic Federation should be thankful for the ratings and NBC. NBC’s horrid job of covering the Olympics and milking any small story into General Hospital has helped bring down the ratings to an all-time low. The most horrid job of all has to be the men’s basketball performance, a product of “I am the team” attitude. Winning is intertwined with the new-aged athlete.

An indoor race is not a game. According to many insiders, it targets the entire body, as opposed to the traditional competition, because it targets the entirety of the athlete. According to many insiders, the athletes are positioned in the race to cheat on them. Rowing is the ideal sport according to many insiders because it targets the entire body, as opposed to some sports, which target only specific areas.

Approximately 20 Pacific students arrive at the Stockton Rowing Boathouse ready to start rowing every morning. After making a few minor adjustments, the crew sets out into the delta. Having an organized team and boathouse will allow for an early departure and further distance capabilities, allowing for the student-athletes to return to the main campus by 7:25 A.M.

“We are concentrating on pulling a strong, competitive men’s team together,” said Lee.

Right now the men’s team will be competing in a four seat boat, but are looking to fill an eight seat boat for this season. If you are interested in rowing, the Pacific Strokes will be taking new recruits for the next two weeks. No experience is necessary and everyone is welcome.
excitement for America thus far in the Olympics has been the heartbreaking losses on a last second heaves by Finland, beating the men 4-3 and the Switzerland women scoring 3 points in the last round to beat the U.S. by 1 in the last inning in curling. That is right, curling! Although U.S.A. is in second in the medal count, it has been nothing but disappointments for the Americans. The Americans are falling far short from the projected medal count at this point and the blame rests solely in the gme-first attitude of our treasured Olympians. Sure, the whole U.S. team is not filled with a bunch of Carl Lewises, but who's counting?

U.S. Speed Skating odd couple Chad Hedrick and Shani Davis have been in the front lines and their feud is symbolic of what is wrong with our athletes. Davis’ accomplishments have been overshadowed by the feud and his comments show the ideals of our new-aged athletes. Comments like “I didn’t come here to skate the team pursuit” are mild compared to other statements literally stating that team pursuit is for chumps and Davis got himself to where he is and not his teammates so he does not owe anyone anything. Hedrick fired back “I’m not going to beg Shani. If he feels it’s not right for him to do it because of other goals, that’s his prerogative.”

Maybe Davis is a big Bobby Brown fan but had a hard time showing it as Davis fired back through the media; Hedrick rebutted and the mind games continued. In the men’s 1500m, which was considered both Hedrick and Davis’ strength and the primal scene of their quarrel, was nothing short of disappointment as it was Italy’s Enrico Fabris that won the gold, followed by Davis, and Hedrick took the bronze.

The gods of Olympia continued to get laughs from the Jerry Springer guests that made the U.S. speed skating team as after the race Davis and Hedrick were put in the same room, next to each other as the media asked questions. Davis and Hedrick did not speak but at the end of the press conference it was reported that the real cat fight was because Davis was upset with Hedrick for not congratulating him on his gold medal and Hedrick was upset with Davis for not congratulating him on his gold. Oh, those self-conscious American athletes.

Disappointment does not end there. Sex symbol and bad boy Apollo Anton Ohno, who won the gold and silver in Salt Lake in the short track, has an asterisk around his gold medal in the eyes of the Koreans. The Koreans legitimized their case when Ohno finished behind Ahn Hyun-Soo and Lee Ho-Suk taking the bronze. The Koreans believed in a conspiracy four years ago as Hyun-Soo who had won the gold was disqualified, giving the medal to Ohno. The Koreans took their revenge and all Ohno could say was gOh well, they beat me.

Getting beat is one thing but performing the way both men’s and women’s hockey teams have is plain ridiculous. Sure, the men’s hockey team is known for failing and taking it out on the rooms, but words can not describe this years team. Thank god for Latvia, as

the U.S. would not even make it to the quarterfinals if it were not for countries like Kaskhaniztan.

Then there is Lindsey Jacobellis. Jacobellis had the gold medal wrapped up and all she had to do was just cross the finish line. Yet if there is one thing we have learned from NFL wide receivers, it is that a touchdown is not a touchdown unless there is an outrageous celebration. Jacobellis took a page out of T.O., trying to grab her board on her second-to-last jump. Jacobellis did not need any trickery; she just needed to land her jump, but you know nothing is that simple for these crazy Americans. Jacobellis fell and the gold slipped through her hands. “I was caught up in the moment,” Jacobellis said. Apparently so is most of the U.S. Olympic team. Hey look at the bright side; at least we are not Austrian.

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Women's Tennis
Pacific 6, Portland 1
Singles:
1. Natalia Kostenko (PAC) def. Cristin Sammis (POR) 6-4, 6-3
2. Vana Mrazovic (PAC) def. Lindsey Griffin (POR) 7-5, 6-1
3. Jolanta Twarowska (PAC) def. Jenna Tanzer (POR) 7-5, 7-5
4. Carla Tamborini (PAC) def. Jaclyn Solystik (POR) 6-2, 2-6, 7-5
5. Clara Schuhmacher (PAC) def. Katie Kennel (POR) 6-3, 6-2
6. Helen Schneider (PAC) def. Laura Leoni (POR) 6-1, 6-1

Doubles competition:
1. Griffin/Kennel (POR) def. Mrazovic/Twarowska (PAC) 8-6
2. Kostenko/Tamborini (PAC) def. Leoni/Solytisk (POR) 8-4
3. Gullickson/Tanzer (POR) def. Schneider/Schuhmacher (PAC) 8-5

Men's Tennis
Pacific 6, Saint Mary's 1
Singles:
1. Arnar Sigurdsson (Pac) def. Julien Tizot (SMC) 6-2, 6-1
2. Jorgen Vestli (Pac) def. Martin Marechal (SMC) 6-1, 6-4
3. Vladimir Zdravkovic (Pac) def. Adam Fauvre (SMC) 6-0, 6-0
4. Tim Koniariski (Pac) def. Yuri Platonov (SMC) 6-2, 6-2, 11-9
5. Achim Christers (SMC) def. Alan Kelly (Pac) 6-2, 1-6, 10-7
6. Moritz Starke (Pac) def. Alp Ozpinar (SMC) 6-2, 6-1

Doubles:
1. Vestli/Zdravkovic (Pac) def. Marechal/Fauvre (SMC) 8-2
2. Sigurdsson/Koniariski (Pac) def. Platonov/Christers (SMC) 8-0
3. Kelly/Starke (Pac) def. Tizot/ozpinar (SMC) 8-3