Save & fair elections.
See Page 5

Five Halloween movies.
See Page 5

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Pacific students vote from China
By Jennifer Murphy
Guest Writer

How often does a Vice Presidential candidate visit Pacific? If the question that came to mind was not very often, that would be correct. Peter Camejo, Vice Presidential running mate with the independent presidential campaign of Ralph Nader, spoke at the University of the Pacific on October 25.

Camejo is the first Latino candidate, descending from Venezuela, on a major presidential ticket and spoke directly to the Latinos in the Stockton and Pacific community, as well as all people, on issues concerning labor rights, affordable healthcare, and peace and protection of the environment.

In an exclusive interview with Pacifican staff members, Camejo talked about the major issue facing college students today: rising costs of tuition. Camejo talked of a plan to ease the financial strains on students in the California State University system. “If the wealthiest 10 percent of the population paid the same taxes as the poorest 20 percent, we would have a surplus.”

Currently the lowest 20 percent of the nation’s population pay 11.3 percent in taxes, while the highest one percent pay only 7.2 percent. “We could cut back tuition and still have a surplus if everyone paid the average.” The average on taxes that would be paid is 9.2 percent.

Not only was Camejo concerned with the wealthiest one percent paying the same taxes as the poorest 20 percent, he hoped to crack down on corporate America as well. “There are about $3 billion dollars in uncollected taxes from major corporations,” Camejo stated. Camejo touched on the common myth that the rich pay higher taxes then the bulk of the nation. “This is not true. As the percent’s show, the richest are paying less.”

The Nader/Camejo presidential campaign supports issues such as universal health care, drivers’ licenses for undocumented immigrants and gay marriages. The campaign, on the other hand, opposes the Patriot Act, the war in Iraq and the Apartheid Wall and Israeli settlements in Palestine.

Camejo talked about the war in Iraq and the Patriot Act, stating that the act “is violating the law and the Supreme Court is not doing anything about it.” Both John Kerry and George Bush support the Patriot Act.

He also discussed the issues with oil and even went as far as to accuse President Bush of going into Iraq because of oil. “We are at our peak. We’ve used half of the oil that is available. Because of this the price will raise inevitably.” Camejo urged the audience to get educated about oil alternatives and the preservation of the oil supply left.

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The Flu

Information provided by msn.com

Short of getting the flu vaccine, there are many steps you can take to lower your risk of getting the virus.

The Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations has joined with a raft of other medical professional groups to recommend three easy steps to prevent infection with the flu especially during a time when there is a shortage of flu shots:

- Clean your hands for 15 seconds. Soap, warm water, and a period of vigorous rubbing will wash viruses down the drain. Do this every time you sneeze or cough and especially before meals. Those alcohol-based hand cleaners are also good to have around the house or in a pocket or purse.
- Cover your nose and mouth when you cough. Use a tissue, rather than a cloth hankie, or cough into your sleeve in the crook of your arm. Then wash your hands.
- The advice may be aimed at keeping viruses off your hands, Vincenza Snow, MD, director of clinical programs for the American College of Physicians, tells WebMD.

What to Do With the Flu

Most healthy people will recover from the flu in seven to 10 days and luckily, the worst symptoms go away within four days. Most drugstore regimens aim to lessen these symptoms. If that’s not enough for you, consider an antiviral medicine.

Most people are unaware of four antiviral medicines (Amantadine, rimantadine, Relenza, and Tamiflu) available from your doctor, which can cut the severity of flu and shorten the duration of symptoms. But these only work if you start them within two days of contracting the flu virus.

The hottest remedy this year is called oscillococcinum (os-sill-oh-cox-sin-um).

This is a homeopathic remedy, in which vanishingly small amounts of a disease are given to make the body turn against the cause. Sometimes, such preparations are so diluted not a single molecule remains. Recently, it was at the top of Drugstore.com’s list of top sellers.

Once you get the flu, most experts recommend bed rest, plenty of fluids, over-the-counter fever reducers and ache alleviator, a light diet, and good old chicken soup!

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University welcomes U.S. Ambassador

By Bonnie Lucero
Staff Writer

On Monday October 25, Pacific students learned about potential internships and careers with the US government when Ambassador Janet Sanderson spoke about her experience as a prominent member of the US Foreign Service at George Wilson Hall.

Life in the Foreign Service is not just a career, "it's a lifestyle," Sanderson claimed as she paced across the front of her podium. "We get to do the stuff that most people watch on television," Sanderson exclaimed reflecting on her many years abroad.

"But its not all glitz and glamour," Sanderson remembered when her embassy was bombed by Iraqis in 1983, and shared that she sighted missiles flying over another of her embassies in the Middle East. Sanderson told of her experience as an important official who was protected by a dozen or more heavily armed bodyguards when out and about town. This is one thing, she said, that was great upon her return to America. "There is a certain anonymity that is comforting," and that is lost when you have the high status of an ambassador. "You get used to it," she told her audience. She explained about the philosophies of the people of the Middle East and their view of America. "The people of the Middle East think that they understand Americans and how foreign policy decision are made," Sanderson told.

The question "Why do they hate us?" comes up a lot, especially today with the War in Iraq in full swing. Sanderson explained that "They do not hate us," but they just "Violently disagree with our policy." Aside from giving an overview of her exciting years as an ambassador to such countries as Algeria, Jordan, and Cairo, Sanderson encouraged students to apply for an internship with the Foreign Service or the State Department.

The internship offers student a space either in Washington to examine the complexity of how the decisions are made in the US or in a foreign embassy which allows interns to understand the purposes and functions of a US embassy. Most people get a lot out of these internships, and they are convinced to go into the Foreign Service.

A career in the Foreign Service is "the type of job that will excite you and enthrall you," Sanderson stressed, but ended with, "sometimes it can be unsettling."

The deadline for applying for a Summer internship with the Foreign Service or State Department in November 1, 2004. Apply online at careers.state.gov.

Facts you should know before you vote

By Laurel Hoover
Managing Editor

Department of Homeland Security-considered to be the most comprehensive reorganization of the Federal Government in a half-century.

-To protect America's homeland.
-To synthesize and analyze homeland security intelligence from multiple sources.
-Types other equipment for first responders.

Health Care:
-List of Proposals:
-First responders: reduce drug prices if sponsored by government research.
-Medicare prescitions covered under universal healthcare.

-Restrains on drugs; limit profiteering.
-Proposes assisted suicide laws for the terminally ill.

Foreign Policy:
-List of Proposals:
-Redefine national purpose to solve third world scourges.
-Advised on economic justice across the globe.
-Advise Russia & Israel in moving towards better governments.
-Selling arms is not a good way to conduct foreign affairs.

Homeland Security:
-List of Proposals:
-US military could be cut by $62 billion without unduly harming national security.
-An effort to cut waste, fraud and redundancy from the military budget is long overdue, says Nader.

Health Care:
-List of Proposals:
-3.5% payroll tax to fund universal healthcare.
-Enforce fair drug prices if sponsored by government research.
-Medicare prescitions covered under universal healthcare.

-Cut your premiums: reduce prescription drugs.
-Cover all americans with access to the range of high-quality, affordable plans available to members of Congress and extend coverage to 95% of Americans.
-Overhaul the Medicare drug plan.
-Ensure low-cost drugs.

Homeland Security:
-List of Proposals:
-New security strategy that has five major components.
-Track and stop terrorists: improve our ability to gather, analyze, and share information so we can track down terrorists before they hit.
-Protect our borders and shores: make our airports, seaports, and borders more secure without intruding upon personal liberties.
-Harden vulnerable targets: plan to put our safety ahead of big business interests.
-Improve domestic readiness: plan for our first defender to respond to any attack with courage and heroism, but they also need the equipment and manpower to do the job.
-Guard liberty: will protect our personal liberties as well as our personal security.

Health Care:
-List of Proposals:
-Cut your premiums: will cut family premiums by up to $1,000.
-Cover all americans with quality care: will give every american access to the range of high-quality, affordable plans available to members of Congress and extend coverage to 95% of Americans.
-Cut the cost of prescription drugs: reduce drug prices by allowing re-importation of safe prescription drugs from Canada.
-Overhaul the Medicare drug plan.
-Ensure low-cost drugs.

Foreign Policy:
-List of Proposals:
-Redouble our information-gathering efforts to respond to threats.
-Advanced communications.
-Long-range air power.
-Defense ground forces.
-Force us to acknowledge that "unilateralism" is just the American way.
Farewell to emotive artist
From a basement on the Hill, a sad goodbye

By Mikey Vu
Lifestyles Editor

On October 21, 2003, we lost one of the most emotional singer/songwriters of our time to two self-inflicted knife wounds to the chest. Now nearly a year later, Elliot Smith's final CD, From a Basement on the Hill, serves as a bittersweet farewell to a musician who will be sorely missed by all who enjoyed his music.

For those not familiar with Elliot Smith, he was an indie singer/songwriter whom most might recognize as the artist who was heavily featured on the Good Will Hunting soundtrack. Most notably was the song Miss Misery, for which he received an Oscar nomination. He was a heavily emotional artist who had the unique skill of taking the most painful experiences and weaving them into infectious songs with luscious pop/folk melodies. For those of you not familiar with his work, I deeply suggest you pick up any of his albums.

Elliot Smith's entire discography can be summed up as poignant. He used sadness as an art form and throughout his career painted his songs with broad strokes; his signature strumming, heartbreakingly angelic voice, and ironic sweetness were all staples of his music. As his sixth and sadly final release, From a Basement on the Hill, on the surface, is a relatively typical Elliot Smith album. It starts off with a classic Smith rocker, "Coast to Coast" that will have you humming the chorus for days. The lyrics "I've got no new act to amuse you/I've got no desire to use you/I've got no new act to amuse you" as sung over his classic strumming gave me hope that his last album would be his best. The third track, "Pretty (Ugly Before)", epitomizes what Smith is about. When you hear him sing, "Sunshine, been keeping me up for days. There is no night time, only a passing phase and I'll feel pretty, another hour or two" yet make it sound so happy, it brings on a bittersweet feeling and you can't help but feel the suffering in his voice. The best track of From a Basement on the Hill is easily "Fond Farewell." While people will read into the lyrics ("A little less than suicide") as if there was some sort of foreshadowing to his death, just remember that most of his music was somber and a lyric like that wouldn't have been out of place on any one of his other albums.

While not as good as Either/or or XO, From a Basement on the Hill isn't a bad record, it's simply just not one of his best. Whereas XO had perfectly constructed chord changes, progressions, melodies, counter-melodies, and the two beautiful "Waltz's", From a Basement on the Hill doesn't have anything that particularly stands out as amazing. Wishing for any artist's final work to be their chef d'oeuvre is like hoping that Michael Jordan's career ended after his dazzling 1998 season, instead of a disappointing return to the Wizards. Elliot Smith's legacy will remain long after his death, as people will hopefully discover the power of his music.

My Grade: B+
Five Halloween movies to entertain you

By Mikey
Lifestyle editor

With Halloween right around the corner, don't you think it's time to entertain yourself with some oh so delightful movies to keep your weekend interesting? I know people will be decked out in their Rocky Horror Picture Show garb, but honestly I was never able to jump onto that bandwagon. I still cringe whenever I hear someone play "Time warp." Anyway, this rather short list of movies is not necessarily the scariest, they're just here to entertain you.

5. The Ring
I remember seeing this movie on opening night not knowing a single thing about the film. Now in retrospect after seeing the Japanese movie that it was based on, I can say that the remake is the one that makes it onto the list. I know there's going to be a huge backlash for this choice with comments like, "Oh the original was so much scarier." Or, "It wasn't even scary at all, it was actually hi-larious." I don't care what any of you say, this movie made me want to crawl into a corner, unplug my television, hug my teddy bear and sleep with the lights on. Shut up.

4. Bride of Chucky
This is easily one of the greatest "horror" movies you will ever see, and I use that term very loosely. I don't care what any of you say, this movie enters into the new realm of comedy. With a pre-coitus question like, "Shouldn't we use a rubber?" To which Chucky, the psychopathic doll responds, "I'm all rubber baby," how can you not be entertained?

3. Halloween
Who knew that a spray painted William Shatner mask could be so scary? It's the movie that served as the springboard to Jamie Lee Curtis' career, and proved that a synthesizer could produce scary music outside of the Eurotrash dance music they play in Abercrombie. The movie does a fantastic job of building suspense, with its climax at the closet scene utilizing a swinging light bulb as the back light. Halloween serves as a reminder of what John Carpenter was once capable of, and how his skills have deteriorated to Ghosts of Mars caliber.

2. Clueless
Ah, my favorite, the Jane Austen inspired satire of the 90's. Does anyone really recall how scary the 90's really were? I haven't seen a celebrity rise up to fame and disappear as quickly as Alicia Silverstone since Steve Gutenberg of Police Academy...fame. If you looked at that last name quizically, then my point is proven. The only thing more terrifying than that disgustingly catchy "Supermodel" song, is remembering the clothing styles of that decade. From the pedal pusher pants to the miniskirts, Cher and Tai had so many different flip flops that John Kerry himself would cry.

1. The Thing
John Carpenter makes it onto my list once again, with The Thing topping the charts as number one. It rests comfortably in this position because of the one effect that can never be improved upon with any Hollywood CGI, suspense. Even with the crazy dog mutants and the walking spider head, John Carpenter creates an atmosphere of paranoia and terror that shows ambience is his true forte.

Scorpio
10/23-11/21
Bowing out is sometimes best. You don't have to prevail at every battle.

Capricorn
12/22-1/19
Sing badly if you have to, but just sing.

Aquarius
1/19-2/18
There are so many things to do, but that doesn't mean you have to finish them today.

Pisces
2/19-3/20
Self-examination can be illuminating, but don't let it become self-involvement.

Aries
3/21-4/19
Some people just like to hear themselves talk, but are they really saying anything?

Taurus
4/20-5/20
You are surrounded with flighty people. Don't get carried away in their dramas.

Gemini
5/21-6/21
If you want a garden, you'll have to dig. Be willing to get your hands dirty.

Cancer
6/22-7/22
Why should you live in a shambles? Spitting the place up is easier than you think.

Leo
7/23-8/22
The answer may be obvious to you, but try to be open to second opinions.

Virgo
8/23-9/22
Stay honest, and you'll never have to keep your stories straight.

Libra
9/23-10/22
You aren't committed yet. You can still say no. Walk away if that's what you want to do.

Libra
9/23-10/22
Stay honest, and you'll never have to keep your stories straight.
By Tara Cuslidge  
Staff Writer

With the wet weather the past two weeks have brought us, it's becoming more obvious that fall is here. Umbrellas are coming out of car trunks and coats are finding their way out of closets. Soon it will be chilly enough to wear knitted scarves and gloves.

But before Jack Frost bites, there are still a couple more weeks of manageably cool weather left. With the leaves falling from trees, it's a good time to check out a Stockton park.

There's many too chose from, but among the many are a couple close to home: Victory Park, American Legion Park and Oak Park.

Each location has something to offer the college student who just wants to get away from campus for a couple hours.

Victory Park seems to be the most populated of the three locations. Sitting on Pershing Avenue right off of Interstate 5 — many Pacific students pass it when making their first trek to school — it's in a prime residential location. The activity starts early as dog walkers and joggers make the almost mile-long trek around the perimeter.

On the weekend, parties abound with blow-up bouncers and children running around. The park offers gracious picnic areas, but don't expect to just show up and take a spot over. Those wanting to get the prime spot for a picnic often have to get to the park really early to stake a claim.

A cute little pond sits in the middle of the park, right in front of the Haggin Museum. The museum, which offers a discounted price for students who show their identifications, showcases the history of California and the San Joaquin Valley as well as offering occasional traveling exhibits. Its three stories include beautiful paintings, precious artifacts and even a real mummy. There's also a gift shop.

The museum is open Wednesday through Sunday from 1:30 p.m. to 5 p.m.

During the summer, Victory Park also boasts a nice size pool with relatively cheap rates.

If venturing down toward Victory Park isn't really doable, American Legion Park isn't quite as far. Nestled in between Pershing Avenue and Pacific Avenue to the west and east, as well as Tuxedo Avenue and Harding Way to the North and South, the park is a hidden gem. The raised mounds of nicely cut grass surround a beautifully glistening lake.

Yosemite Lake, in the middle of the park, is the end point for Smith's Canal that starts at the Stockton Deep Water Channel. The large trees surrounding the park make for nice shade in the middle of the day or late afternoon. This park may also become a destination for the avid jogger on campus.

On Alpine Avenue right down the street from Pacific's South Campus, Oak Park is a good place to go for a lot of variety. The park is home to the Oak Park Ice Arena and Billy Hebert Field — which served both the Stockton Parks minor league and Pacific Tigers baseball team up until recently. There are also many baseball diamonds where little leaguers and Babe Ruth teams play during the not so cold seasons.

Oak Park is also a nice place for a picnic with many tables ready for the taking and lots of spacious grassy areas. Plenty of parking is also available, which is a big plus for this always used location.

These parks are only a sample of the many Stockton has to offer and should definitely be considered next time the bored student is thinking about making a trip to a local hot spot. However, any location — in any town — after dark isn't as safe as its daytime version. Use common sense and be careful when walking in a park towards the evening hours. No place is ever safe enough to not be on guard.

But again, there's always the spacious Hand Hall lawn right behind its namesake building for those students who want to visit a green area. Try out a local park; one of them could become a favorite place during residence in Stockton.

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New Pacific club brings the noise

By Jennifer Hite-Smith  
Sports Editor

BUNCHO! Last Friday, October 22 admission was free to a very memorable show held in the Static Attic, compliments of ASUOP's Club Static. The show included funk, latin, rock, and jazz music that called to the rythum inside many of the people who attended the show, thankfully the dance floor was open to any and all interested parties. Static Attic is the nickname for American Legion Park and Oak Park.

Each location has something to offer the college student who just wants to get away from campus for a couple hours.

The show wasn't about the dancing crowd, it was about the music. A combination of so many soul grasping musical instruments playing loudly together was definitely the most amazing part of the night. With members such as Anthony Coleman, who is a first generation Brubeck Institute trumpet player, and special surprise guest Christian McBride, the night was tidelevelys of talent.

Audience members such as trumpet preformance major, Senior Nick Knoles, were very excited to have McBride there. "Christian McBride is a badass base player," commented Knoles. McBride began playing base at the age of nine and is currently playing in the Christian McBride Band ("CMB").

Along with his claim to fame in the base playing world, McBride is also the associate director of the Brubeck Institute on campus. The Brubeck institute is an ensemble that currently has six young aspiring male musicians. He is even the one who gets to chose the new Brubeck Institute band. He recognizes that it is no easy task, "it is an honor to be chosen."

His colleague, David Chase is the assistant Dean of Pacific's Conservatory of Music, an academic advisor for music management majors, and a teacher for Mentor. He has a large role in the creation and construction of the Brubeck Institute.

McBride talked about the progress of other previous Brubeck members and explained that many move on to bigger horizons, such as living in New York City. He is very pleased to be a part of an opportunity-giving program. He noted that he "get[s] a sneak preview of all the up and coming great musicians before they hit the international sence."

McBride enjoys returning to Pacific's campus to watch performances. He enjoys the overall appreciation seen on a college campus that might not regularly be seen in instrument concerts and/or Jazz clubs. "I like it when people dance," he said. "The college atmosphere is a big part of it; Freedom of expression is taken seriously in college. As you get older, you lose it and you think you've matured."

The Christian McBride Band will be playing next in Half-Moon Bay at the Bach dynamite society on November the seventh.

The Brubeck Institute's band will be seen playing at the next Mentor General Session in Faye Spanos Concert Hall on November nineteenth.

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Writer's Needed

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Do you want to get paid for it?
Contact The Pacifican at:  
www.pacificaneditors.edu  
946-2115

Retraction

The Pacifican would like to apologize for the author errors in the October 21 issue.

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Pacific host symphony was written by:  
Rachel Placer
Pacific ties Riverside 1-1 was written by:  
Bonnie Lucero
Think about it

Change takes time and effort

By Carole Lewis
Guest Writer

Election time is growing nearer every day now. Those of us who plan to vote (and mostly us “first-timers”) have no doubt about it. We’ve watched the debates, we bought John Stewart’s book, we’ve made up our minds, and now there is only one thing left to do. Right? Wrong.

You may be the most devoted spectator in this year’s election pre-game countdown. After all, you read the New York Times every week for poli-sci and you even went to see Ralph Nader speak in Berkeley last week. Even if you’re absolutely sure how you feel about abortion, gay marriage, or that little thing called war, I urge you to keep thinking about the kind of world you want to see around you. I’m not talking about the Pacfic bubble that blinds us from reality everyday, with its pretty brick buildings, red rose gardens and green grass fields. What I am talking about is the responsibility we have as students of higher education to realize that we live in a city that needs our help.

When you go to the voting booths this year, think about something different. Think about the last time you were able to go buy a forty ounce at 7-11 on a ‘thirsty Thursday’ without being asked for change by at least one person off the street. Or maybe you could think about the two homeless guys you saw under the footbridge when you were stumbling home from the townies at four a.m. Don’t forget about the garbage bag full of beer bottles you decided to give to a man and his little girl who were collecting them from a dumpster outside the quad. Although I can’t be sure, I don’t think that these people are following this year’s polls. It seems to me that they may have other priorities at the moment.

Living in a city like Stockton gives us a huge obligation to really think about what we are voting for this year — not only who we are voting for, but on whose behalf. In a city that has little but its own unique vibrancies to carry it through a time of recession, think about whose lives you may be effecting other than your own when you cast your vote. That is of course if you decide to vote. And I understand if you don’t find the time; you’re pretty busy with your college lifestyle and all. But maybe you could fit it into your schedule, somewhere in between playing four hours of Halo and the six hour Seinfeld marathon that started at noon on TBS.

CLOSE SCRUTINY: An election official examines a contested ballot during the 2000 Florida recount.

By Paige Elisha
Staff Writer

When you hear the phrase “free and fair elections,” what immediately comes to mind? Most likely instead of thinking of elections that are carried out without fraud or intimidation, you think of the opposite. Nowadays, the phrase “free and fair elections” brings to mind suspicious and contested proceedings.

If you are keeping up on international news, you might think of recently disputed elections in Venezuela, Afghanistan, or Romania. Or you might think of anticipated elections in the Ukraine and of course Iraq, where the freedom and fairness of both elections will be highly contested. However, there is no need to look beyond domestic affairs of the United States to find dissent and confusion.

With U.S. elections less than a month away, fears loom large that our elections will hold no greater credibility than the disputed contests that I have just listed. Not only was the United States ridiculed worldwide after the 2000 elections, but U.S. citizens also responded with outrage at its corrupt and irresponsible handling.

This year, various parties are rushing to ensure that the results of 2004 U.S. elections will not be disputed as they were in 2000. Both national and international bodies are getting involved. The Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), for example, will publish a report on its observations of the U.S. elections. Although it will not evaluate the overall fairness of the vote, the organization will concentrate on concerns over machines used, voter eligibility regulations and the prevalence of intimidation of ethnic minorities.

So, I have to ask: Why is it so difficult for the U.S. to hold truly free and fair elections? How on earth are the rest of the nations around the world going to do the same? The U.S. not only has a historical precedence of practiced democratic process but possesses large resources and expertise for enabling a “free and fair” process. Still, it fails miserably.

While some individuals might be quick to point out that the ability to contest elections is central to the democratic process, in which opposition is free to voice concerns, today’s elections are being disputed for other reasons. Some sore losers may be slandering the notion of “free and fair” but the simple truth remains; the institutions and attention necessary to ensure free and fair elections are not being properly cultivated.

In the U.S. and around the world, democratic hopeful societies are taking their opportunity and right to determine leadership for granted, and are accepting faulty institutions. It is unacceptable that “free and fair” elections remain so elusive. The United States must take the lead in ensuring that higher standards are met.

Venezuela, Afghanistan, Romania, Ukraine, Iraq... The list goes on and it will continue to grow unless, perhaps, populations around the world become fed up with the nebulous system of democracy that the U.S. itself champions. Now that could be interesting.
Save the seals

By Jennifer Murphy
Editor-in-Chief

What Canada is doing makes me sick. Many people, especially Americans, have believed Canada's seal population to be safe from slaughter for years now. This could not be further from the truth. Actually, the seal hunt in Canada is the largest commercial wildlife slaughter in the world. The Canadian government support the inhumane hunting of these innocent seals, they fund it. The Canadian government funds the hunting with the taxpayers money. Between 1995 and 2001, the government used nearly $20 million from the taxpayers.

Canada's Department of Fisheries and Oceans officials designed the hunt in hopes of reducing the seal population. They state that the seals prevented the recovery of the cod stocks; however, there is no evidence that it was in fact the seals that destroyed the recovery plan. Some believe that the failure in this plan is due to the government's mismanagement of the fishery for years.

Currently, if a hunt kills over the quota set by the government, the government does not punish these hunters; rather, they raise the quota. In 2002, the government allowed for 32,000 seals to be slaughtered. The actual number of seals killed that year was reported at 286,238. This was just the reported number of seals killed.

These seals need our help to stop this horrific killing. We need to send a message to the Canadian government. We need to let them know that the murder of innocent animals is wrong and we will not stand for it. U.S. Senator from Michigan, Carl Levin has introduced S. 269, a resolution asking Canadians to stop the killing. He cannot do it alone. These seals need our help! Please write to our senators and ask them to support S. 269. You can reach them through U.S. Capital switchboard at 202-224-3121, or visit www.senate.gov to send an email.

The Canadian government wrongly declares that this hunt is humane and well regulated. I beg to differ.

Changing Chinese reality

By Jeff Swartz
Foreign Correspondent

38,000 feet above the Pacific Ocean I continued to fall asleep and wake up again. It wasn't the turbulence, or the bright lights of the plane, or the strange Korean food that was suddenly making me regret each bite. I finally realized I was crossing the ocean which taught me so much. Growing up near the beach in L.A. I used to go to the beach more than church. It was a place of refuge and relaxation. I grew up always thinking about the world on the other side of those waves; which taught me so much. Thirty years have passed and I am ready to embrace and accept the fact that this country resembles the Chinese identity. China will be at the very center of the next 50 years. Its economy and its people are moving forward with a more confident stride. They may pray to all directions-north, south, east and west but the latter is what fuels the cycle of life here.

For the Chinese, everything Western means money and the disappearance of life's harshness. As I walk the streets of Beijing on my way to class everyday, I get intense stares and whispers. I represent the future of China, the future of what will be. I represent the future of Chinese culture, the future of what will be. I came to Asia to learn a new language but also to learn of a new culture.

The culture I have found is richer than any I know of, but it is also disappearing faster than any other. The Chinese love their customs, their holidays and their rich 5000 years of history but today it seems that they love foreign money, entertainment and culture more than any old Emperor or his 9,999-room palace.

Of course, this may be somewhat of an exaggeration but by no means is it inappropriate to say that the foreign dollar and the foreign capitalistic culture are embraced overwhelmingly by most Chinese. All across the rice and corn fields that once skirted Beijing, large-scale housing developments are springing up just as quickly as Starbucks'.

With names like "Palm Springs" and "88 Mansions," the concept of American sub-division housing is as popular as the Big Mac. Just yesterday I witnessed the grand opening celebration of a McDonald's. Massive chaos ensured and thousands of people threw away a day's worth of salary just to have at some processed frozen pancakes and deep fried hash browns.

McDonald's breakfasts have always been quite the experience, but never before did I actually believe one would push, shove while losing their entire sense of dignity just for a lousy Muffin.

McDonald's breakfasts have always been quite the experience, but never before did I actually believe one would push, shove while losing their entire sense of dignity just for a lousy Muffin.
After having seen at least two articles written to the editor regarding various content issues in the Pacifican, we feel the need to voice a somewhat different point of view. While it is for the most part true that there have been numerous spelling and structural errors in the Pacifican, we do not feel that these issues should be the focus of student attention. Rather than concern oneself with spelling critiques, one should recognize the overall incredible job that the Pacifican staff is doing. It is, after all, not an easy task to produce a weekly newspaper of some value while still taking part in the numerous extra curricular and academic endeavors that staff writers most assuredly do. There are fewer than fifteen individuals who write for the Pacifican on a regular basis and their challenge is not a small one. While taking large amounts of time to research and write on relevant topics, they must also navigate what seems at times an overwhelming tide of student apathy and (ironically) criticism. Make no mistake; there is no excuse for not editing thoroughly. We however, as readers of the Pacifican, should appreciate the effort that has gone into its production. One should also be aware of the markedly improved job that the staff has done this year. Readership is up, levels of advertising have increased, and the variety of stories being published has grown. Though the letters of our fellow Pacific students do express valued concerns, we must understand that it is our Pacific friends and peers writing stories, interviewing people, and publishing an important student resource. For that reason alone we commend their work and suggest that if non-staff writers are prepared to critique the publication, they also be prepared to make an even more meaningful contribution by sending in a story on some matter they feel is important.

Respectfully,
Eddie Richardson,
Mark Quijano,
Trish Nealy
Class of '05

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Letter to the editor: review offensive

Not in any of my four years here have I been so concerned for the state of our school newspaper than this last week. Through my career here at Pacific reading the Pacifican has been part of my weekly endeavors (well except for that fall semester a few years ago when the paper had no funding). Usually articles have made poignant detection towards details and things happening relative to the students and lifestyles here at Pacific; however, lately reading the newspaper has made me, in all literal and figurative forms, want to cry. Before anyone reading this jumps to any conclusions, please let me refer to one recent article that the Pacifican recently published.

Contained on page four of last week's edition, volume 94 issue 4, there was a full page spread dedicated to the Team America: World Police, a new movie from those cuss but loveable creators of South Park, Trey Parker and Matt Stone. Anyone who has seen the show could possibly identify the glaring inaccuracies in the preceding quote from the article. The boys are from Colorado. While attending the University of Colorado the two met and started animating shorts for gigs such as Spike and Mike's Twisted Animation Festival. Doing some research on Google, of all places, it took me literally 2 minutes to find a Canadian paper referring to Parker and Stone's home state of Colorado.

In the article from Toronto Sun writer Natasha Stoyonoff titled, "South Park Boys Don't Hate Everyone," Stoyonoff briefly describes the feelings they have about Barbara Streisand and their home state. According to the boys, who are Colorado natives, Streisand was instrumental in starting the movie-star invasion and such in Aspen when she began bringing the likes of pretty boy Ben Affleck around during their romance over a decade ago. So in regards to research, do some and the article shines, do none and you look like a fool. But I digress.

The glaring laziness to edit was not my only concern of this article. The author’s basic disregard for human decency is also apparent by an unneeded and very unfunny reference to wooden actors and the disabled: "...this movie consists of nothing but wooden actors, and no, I'm not talking about Keanu Reeves or Ben Affleck. Watching him act is like watching a retarded kid playing with a Rubik's cube. You feel bad for him, but at the same time you have to give him credit for trying." Seriously, what is wrong with you? There are students on this campus, studying for degrees that have disabilities, there are those of us, myself included, that have family members who have disabilities...and I feel you have offended us all. Seeing how I am a musician, I am all for the liberal use of the one's first amendment rights. However, I feel that the writer of this article did a poor job choosing his audience for this article and ultimately insulted the intelligence of anyone reading the article by referring to anyone as " retarded."

So after glaring inaccuracies, attempts made at humor that comes across as blindingly offensive, and an overall article that basically, well, blows what can we learn from all this? All other critical references in this letter aside, be proud of your work and we will be proud to read it. Anyone writing for any paper has a responsibility to those reading it. I feel you have failed us miserably. Slapping together an article about some movie you go see with your friends on the weekend probably won't cut it. It didn't cut it when I was a guest writer for the lifestyles section a few years ago.

Take some time; get someone to proof read your work. Get an editor to edit it. If you are an editor get a colleague to read it. Having quality work not only will give the paper a good name, but it will give you something in your portfolio as you move on in your career.

My Grade for the Team America: World Police Article: D-

— Paul Giguere

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Teacher/Aide: Parents seek experienced, creative, fun

FT Aide/Teacher for bright 9 year old CP girl. (EGUSD full inclusion).

Fax resume to 916-856-7040 or baran@spectrumevents.com
Lacrosse loses

By Jennifer Murphy
Editor in chief

Rain and even cold weather could not stop the 30th annual alumni Men's Lacrosse game from taking place on October 23. This was the first game of the 2004-2005 season. Scores also came from Junior Charles Raub with three. Senior Gary Redeker and Ryan Forrester with two and Sophomore Laura Guerin with one.

The Wombats, the alumni team, took the match with a staggering score of 20-7.

The Pacific Men’s Lacrosse team is one of the oldest in the league. The team welcomed nine new members this season and according to Junior Ken Hooten, “the team is looking very promising.” Along with the new team members, a new coach was hired. Alumna Steve Cabral, ‘99, took over the open position.

“I have high hopes for this season,” Hooten stated when asked how he thought the season may turn out this year.

Pacific fans can look forward to lacrosse game during the Spring semester. The games are usually played on Tuesday and Saturday nights. If you want more info about the lacrosse team along with game updates, visit www1.uop.edu/student/clubs/lacrosse.

Swimming with a twist

Reporter misses story, comes through in the end

By Erin Birmingham
Staff Writer

STOCKTON, California-Saturday at 11:00am. University of the Pacific faced the Florida State Seminoles, ending in a dual-victory for Florida and an upset reporter. Here is my story:

It is Saturday morning and Erin (me!) headed out at eleven o’clock with two friends to eat some breakfast before heading over to the Pacific Aquatic Center for a swim meet. While at breakfast, I noticed one of those informative orange triangles that advertises the sporting events, and under October 29, the swim meet is listed to start at 1p.m. I thought, ‘good deal, I have more time to eat now’. While leaving the dining hall I saw my chief editor and panicked, “UH OH! I’m supposed to be at the pool right now.” I tried to duck out, but she is quite tough, but I got caught. No deal, I have more time to write this story. My friends and I figured that up laps, because it was only 12:45. I asked a friendly fan how long he thought the event would last, only to find out it was over! I looked back at the pool and realized that Florida was not there- ON TIME!

My friends and I thought that we were watching the warm up laps, because it was only 12:45. I asked a friend how long he thought the event would last, only to find out it was over! I looked back at the pool and realized that Florida was not there! How had we missed it all together? Apparently it had started at 11a.m., but do not worry faithful swim fans, I got the low down from coaches Ethan Green and Lucy Eccelston lead our women’s and men’s swim teams through a tough, but exciting first meet of the 2004-2005 season.

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Sports Writers
WANTED

If you like sports and want to write about them contact:
pacificansports@pacific.edu
or
946-2115

Athlete Profile

Benjamin Loskey
Graduate Assistant of Athletic Media Relations

STOCKTON, Calif. - Sophomore Laura Guerin (Swampscott, Mass.) was named the Co-Big West Conference Player of the Week for the week of 10/18 to 10/24. During the week the Tigers posted back-to-back shutouts, knocking off UC Santa Barbara (1-0) and playing to a draw at Cal Poly (0-0, 2ot). Currently the Gauchos are No. 1 in the Big West Conference while Cal Poly is the defending conference champions and are nearly perfect at home.

Guerin came into the weekend’s action having appeared in only one other contest this season, a 2-0 shutout of Idaho on Oct. 1. In her first two starts of the 2004 season, Guerin produced two shutouts against two of the top teams in the Big West.
Congratulations Intramural Champions

Flag Football

Men's A

P$ All-Stars 20 vs. Bass Masters 19

Men's B

Malama ka Aina 24 vs. POT 0

Men's C

WERD 18 vs. Kappa Psi 0

Co-Rec A

CockBlockers 13 vs. PDT 0

Women's

TMF Bailers 13 vs. Fockers 12

Indoor Soccer

Men's A

Watch them Die 5 vs. CareBaresCare 4

Men's B

Yoshi-gyu 8 vs. PDT 0

Co-Rec

P$ Franchise 5 vs. Kelli Goya's Team 0

Women's

Tiger Cubs 6 vs. Aqua Jocks 2

Free Agent

By Jesus Hernandez
Columnist

World Series has already begun and by the time you read this the series is either 3-0 or 2-1 with Boston leading. This series is all about hitting, pitching is somewhat important but it all comes down to who can drive in the most runs. Not a fan of either team, but they both have a few ex-A's on the roster. I would rather see The Cardinals win just to see if Cardinals coach Tony La Russa will keep his word and coach for free the next season.

Everybody talked trash about Oakland when the Raiders lost the Super Bowl and the rioting occurred but nobody said anything about the Red Sox fans that did the exact same thing but the only difference is that in Oakland no one died from the rioting.

Another week, another Raider unhappy. This time it's the other Jerry. Jerry Porter. Porter is unhappy that he isn't getting the ball, and isn't as involved as before. He should sit down and think it over. He is the #1 receiver on the team so he is going to be covered by the opposing team's top cornerback. The rest of the receivers are no names so coverage on them is going to be solid, and if their running game isn't gaining yardage then how does he expect Collins to be able to throw if teams are focusing on the pass.

I've met Jerry Porter before and to tell you the truth he's a stuck up $#@$. I'm not a Raider fan so I asked him to sign a hat for my brother and this dude told me "No, I don't sign autographs." I also have to add this was when he was behind Tim Brown and Jerry Rice on the depth chart, he was a no name. That same day a few minutes later I saw group of kids approach him and ask for autographs and he told them the same thing he told me and walked away. I've met other pros who happily signed autographs but then you have these no names who think their $#@$ don't stink. I'm not being bitter, I'm being real, and it's those fans that pay your salary.

Basketball is right around the corner prompting ESPN to publish their Power Rankings. The top five are The Champion Pistons, followed by the Spurs, Timberwolves, Heat and Pacers. Some of you may think that the power is now going towards the east with Shaq's departure but spots 6-15 are all west teams, Nuggets, Rockets, Kings, Jazz, Mavericks, Suns, Grizzlies, Lakers, Trail Blazers and My Beloved Warriors.

Damn they ranked the Warriors higher than most teams from the East that made the playoffs last year. Keep in mind though, if the Warriors were in the East, they would be a Top seeded playoff team.

In soccer news. Manchester United ended Arsenal's 49-game unbeaten record with goals from Ruud van Nistelrooy and Wayne Rooney.

Barcelona continue their good form in Spain's La Liga after a 3-0 win over Osasuna with goals by Ronaldinho and Samuel Eto'o (2), who leads the league with seven goals. They extended their lead to 5 points over Sevilla, 8 over Valencia and 9 over Big Spending Real Madrid who barely beat Valencia with an early goal by English striker Michael Owen.

In Milan, AC Milan and Inter played to a 0-0 tie in front of 79,000 fans. Juventus blanked Siena 3-0 with goals from Del Piero (2) and Camoranesi. Juventus leads the table with 19 points followed by Lecce and Milan both with 14, Chievo Verona with 13 and Inter with 11.
By Jennifer Hite-Smith
Sports editor

The John Muir Visitor Center at the heart of John Muir Woods was the starting and joyful ending point for ten of Pacific's bravest backpackers as they trudged around 12-14 miles last Sunday, October 24.

The co-leaders of the trip, employees of the Pacific Outdoor Connection, were Janis Rowe and myself, Jennifer Hite-Smith. We spent the last several months, in conjunction with our co-workers: organizing, planning, and advertising to go to Hetch-Hetchy Reservoir.

This original plan, was supposed to be an overnight combination of backpacking and camping in the Hetch-Hetchy Valley of Yosemite National Park, was drastically changed to a day hike in John Muir Woods due to an unexpected and harsh snowfall the week prior. Accompanying the three and a half feet of snow was also an aspen fire on the same weekend.

With this unexpected and unfixable problem, the trip was reevaluated, and to secure the safety of its members, changed to a Sunday day hike (there was rainstorms all over the valley on Saturday) in John Muir Woods.

Their hike started in the woods, but their day -- and most definitely their adventure -- began back at the Pacific campus as they met at the Outdoor Center to begin their journey at the early hour of seven o'clock. The participants loaded into either of the two rented vehicles, my car was to follow and Janis' to lead the way. This plan, was suddenly challenged when I missed the exit and our caraván broken up with no cell phone in Janis' car and no map to the site in mine. Of course all was resolved, but we were set back about 30 minutes.

Around ten AM we began the climb up through John Muir Woods. The weather was quite fair, but the rain from the day before left a misty, almost sticky feeling creeping in the air. The coolness of this mist made hiking a bit easier as our body temperatures were did not incline so quickly.

And the smell -- like that of only true fresh air, a constant reminder of the freshness surrounding us (as if the greenery was not enough) After about an hour and a half on the Bootjack trail, we stopped at a small clearing that divided the trails and sat upon a huge rock to snack, rest, hydrate, and most importantly -- soak in the solitude.

It was at this point that Chris Pesse said in response to a forceful drop to the ground by John Hess that this was "extreme relaxation," 20 minutes of resting until we started again, switching trails in order to get to the the Steep Ravine Trail. It was the first of many confusing pauses spent looking at the trail map.

The Steep Ravine Trail most definitely lived up to its name, as it shot us down to sea level, and ultimately the ocean. This was our next stop, the salty Pacific on a beach swarmed with bagel loving seagulls: a lesson learned more powerfully by Ben whose lunch was no longer his own when he turned away for a single minute. Most of us fell asleep during this lunch break, too. "Extreme relaxation" comes more extremely when you're exhausted.

The trip back was via a different trail, called the Dipsea trail which was full of man made stairs that climbed up the mountain. It is also the home to a more deserty sence that stretched over the uppermost part of the mountain and overlooked the San Francisco Bay -- Golden Gate bridge and all! The final part of this trail was another decent though the glistening trees and minty pine sent of the John Muir Woods.

We were all safely back on campus by 8:30, in time to do homework before the duties of our manic Mondays... or maybe just to sleep. But, even a good 12 hours of recovery sleep, was still not enough to prevent the soreness of the next day.

The Pacific Outdoor Connection is still in its infancy at Pacific this fall. It is a program that was only just started last year but has connected more than several students with the outdoors. Feel free to stop by the center between 1 and 5:30, Monday through Friday or call 946-7607.

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**Notes:**

- Secure the safety of its members.
- Change to a day hike.
- Snowfall the week prior.
- John Muir Visitor Center.
- Pacific campus.
- Hetch-Hetchy Reservoir.
- Combination of backpacking and camping.
- Day hike.
- Snack, rest, hydrate.
- Fresh air.
- Extreme relaxation.
- Steep Ravine Trail.
- Dipsea trail.
- Deserty sence.
- San Francisco Bay.
- Golden Gate bridge.
- Pacific Outdoor Connection.