Chai and Chat connects students

By Bonnie Lucero
Staff Writer

On Thursday, January 27, 2005, the International Club hosted its third Chai and Chat gathering, at the Bechtel International Center.

"Chai and Chat is an event that the International Club holds the last Thursday of each month where students can get together and speak in foreign languages," stated is the place to be," claimed Nick Ballagh, a senior seeking to practice his Spanish skills.

This event gives our diverse student population an opportunity to form new friendships. Paula Burt, a native Spanish speaker from Paraguay, attested to the value of this opportunity.

"The language tables united people from different areas and [they] were thus able turn out with approximately 90-100 people in attendance. "It was really fun. You get to meet interesting people and share experiences, I really enjoyed myself," stated Gus Medina. He was one of many that stayed past 10pm. Many lost track of time, and continued conversation even after the event was over.

Many also came for the great food. There were a variety of foods and beverages from around the world that were enjoyed by students and faculty. Freshman, Michelle Castle, agrees. "There was a lot of good food!"

According to organizer Atlanta Jordan, "It keeps getting better!"

Josh Mitchell, a freshman at Pacific, and a member of the International Club.

At this event, there are tables at which Spanish, French, Portuguese, Chinese, Japanese, Russian, and German, are spoken. Often a mix of native speakers and language students, this makes for a unique learning experience.

"If you are learning a second language, Chai and Chat is the place to be," claimed Nick Ballagh, a senior seeking to practice his Spanish skills. This event gives our diverse student population an opportunity to form new friendships. Paula Burt, a native Spanish speaker from Paraguay, attested to the value of this opportunity. "The language tables united people from different areas and [they] were thus able to share their respective cultures. Spanish was spoken in at least nine different accents." Paula also shared stories about Paraguay and illuminated aspects of Latin American culture." Chai and Chat continues to be extremely popular, showing that people are ready for international events," remarked Fran Murphy of the Bechtel International Center. The event had a tremendous turnout with approximately 90-100 people in attendance. "It was really fun. You get to meet interesting people and share experiences. I really enjoyed myself," stated Gus Medina. He was one of many that stayed past 10pm. Many lost track of time, and continued conversation even after the event was over.

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Tiger Tidbits

Career Resource Center

Career Planning for Your Freshman Year:

If you have declared your major:

Consider getting a part-time job on or off campus that relates to your career field or that will help you develop essential skills. Try to find a job in a department that you will want to keep for the duration of your college career. Three to four years in the same department with increasing responsibilities each year will demonstrate commitment, stability and responsibility to future employers.

If you have not declared a major:

Visit the Career Resource Center. Seek career counseling and testing to begin the process of exploring career paths and selecting a major. Consider getting a part-time job that will help you develop essential skills.

Obtain a Summer Job

If you have not yet declared a major:

Visit the Career Resource Center (CRC). The CRC staff provides career counseling and assessments that will assist with the selection of a career path and choosing a major. Consider getting a work-study position of part-time job that will help you develop essential job specific skills.

If you have declared your major:

Consider obtaining a part-time job that will complement your career goals. The sooner you start to develop skills that relate to your field of interest the better. It is a good idea to find a job that you will want to keep for at least one year. This will demonstrate commitment and stability to future employers.

Develop a Resume and Learn Effective Interviewing Skills

Visit the CRC for assistance with your resume and interviewing skills. Participate in a mock interview with a CRC Career Counselor. Do not wait until your senior year to begin preparing for the world of work.

Obtain a Summer Job

This will allow you to develop the essential skills that employers want. A summer job also provides an opportunity to network with employers who can provide you with a reference for future employment.

Considering Graduate School?

Start researching the schools that specialize in your field(s) of interest. Visit the websites of these schools for information about admission requirements. Ask your professors for suggestions and work with your Advisor. The CRC can help you choose classes and co-curricular activities that will help you become a competitive applicant.

Career Planning for Your Junior Year:

Part Time Job Relating to Your Career Field

This will help you to develop job specific skills. Try to obtain a job that you want to keep for at least one academic year. This will help you build a resume that reflects dependability, commitment, and stability. The CRC has part-time job postings for both on and off campus jobs.

Internships & Experiential Learning Opportunities

To be competitive in today's job market, it is important to have experience in your career field before graduation. You should complete at least one internship during your time at Pacific. This may be done in the fall and spring semester, or even in the summer between your junior and senior year. Participation in an internship will show employers that you understand the importance of professional preparation. More importantly, it demonstrates to employers that you can make a successful transition from college to the world of work. For assistance in finding an internship visit the CRC.

Use the summer between your junior and senior year to develop essential job skills. If you have not obtained an internship, obtain a summer job related to your field of interest. If finding a job in your field isn't possible, obtain a job that will provide opportunities for you to develop transferable skills.

Make Time to & Real Job Search

It is a good idea to think of finding a job as a "job search". It takes time and effort to find a good job that meets your career objectives and pays well. You can schedule an appointment with a CRC Career Counselor who will help you develop a job search plan.

Graduate School

If you are considering graduate or professional school after graduation you should have already started researching the schools that specialize in your areas of interest. Depending on the program deadlines can be as early as November or December of your senior year. Visit the websites of schools you are interested in to learn about their requirements for admission. Find out what tests are required and begin studying well in advance. There are books and prep courses that can help you prepare. Make sure you work closely with your academic advisor to choose classes and co-curricular activities that will help make you a competitive applicant.

Career Planning for Your Senior Year:

Graduation is right around the corner so make sure you have met all the requirements to graduate!

Complete an Internship

If you have not completed one yet, it's not too late. An internship demonstrates your ability to apply your academic knowledge in a practical manner. Contact the CRC for assistance if you are unsure about your career choices.
Feb. 3, 2005

Erin's trip to JAZZ @ the Summit

By Erin Birmingham
News Editor

I love the Brubeck Institute Jazz Sextet. When I first saw them at the Summit last semester, I sat on the closest couch and starred up at them like a puppy dashboard ornament. When they graced my general session, in Mentor I, the fact that I forgot to put my contacts in, I was late (again) and had no homework done really didn't matter. So, naturally, when I got word that The Summit would re-unite me with my new favorite musicians, I was thrilled.

Ryan Forrester

The sound of rustle and bustle filled the summit air. The audience awaiting the music style of Ryan Forrester became calm.

Silence overcame the small dimly lit area, and then the show began. Like pouring water into a glass, the first note rushed through the venue striking every ear.

Starting slow, Ryan progressed into all levels of jazz, encompassing slow tempo melody and in the blink of an eye switching over to hardcore off the wall picking, wowing the crowd with his fast as lightening fingers. Forrester kept the crowd in a phantasmal reality, snapping them to the edge of their seats with familiar songs like Michael Jackson’s “Man in the Mirror,” and the ever popular “Peanuts Theme Song.”

I spoke with the Ryan “the Ryan” Forrester after the show, asking him what he thought of his performance. He commented on the show he played last year. “There were technical difficulties; the sound came out all wrong.” When asked how this show compared to the last show, he simply stated, “Like night and day.”

Wednesday night exceeded this fan’s expectations. Bassist Christian McBride, who is amazingly talented and funny, joined the regular sextet. The place was packed. I felt intellectual, inspired, and it would appear, slightly hungry. Luckily, yummy goodies were only a 10-foot walk from my seat. With my Klondike Bar in hand and large Diet Pepsi [my 2nd of the night] I settled back into my ‘yeah-that’s-the-good-stuff’ head bobbing and enjoyed the music. Extra perk, I got some pictures!
ASUOP Elections

By Suzie Mangum
Guest Writer

If you have ever wanted to be a part of student government at the college level, here is your chance. Student Stockton campus, including clubs and student organizations with valuable funds.

Pacific students can run for the position of President, Vice President, or Senator. There is a senator representing each of the seven schools on the Stockton campus, including Pharmacy, Health Sciences and three at-large senate seats. Beginning in mid-February applications will become available for cabinet positions.

Election packets for the 2005-2006 school year are available in the ASUOP Office (2nd level McCaffrey Center).

Elections this year will take place on March 15-17 and this year we are putting the election online, which means that you will be able to vote from your room, the library, or even the polling places where we will have computers. We hope that this will increase the voter turnout.

Election packets are due on February 16th, but there is a candidate orientation meeting on February 3rd. If you are interested in getting involved in student government here at Pacific, come by the ASUOP office to pick up an election packet or an application. You can also call Suzie Mangum, ASUOP Elections Commission at 946-2233 if you have any questions or concerns.

Annual Giving, every penny counts

By Ryan Tedords
Copy Editor

What does it mean to be a Pacific alumnus? How, in any way, are former students connected to the University after the diploma has been framed and hung on the wall? Is it merely waiting for reunion notices or visiting the campus when one has the time?

In actuality, there are many ways that former students can stay connected to Pacific. The University most certainly will notify all alumni of reunion dates, as well as keeping an open door to visits year round. But, the University also needs your help. Giving annually to the University, no matter the dollar amount, is a way for the University to show pride in Pacific, but also assist the University in gaining the national prestige it deserves.

Initially following graduation, it may be difficult for Pacific alumni to justify giving money to Pacific. Many graduates will have student loans to pay off, not to mention the everyday cost of living. Recent graduates may even want to give, but feel that their contribution is not enough to matter. Janet Dial, Director of Annual Giving at Pacific, is getting the word out that the University is not concerned with the dollar amount of a gift. "A 20 dollar gift is super. We thank every donor no matter the size of the gift."

Pacific is far more concerned with the number of alumni who give, not the amount of money received. This may seem strange logic, but there are reasons why a gift of one dollar means as much to the University as a gift of ten thousand dollars.

Every year, U.S. News and World Report rank schools all across the country. Many factors contribute to the ranking formula the magazine uses. One of the top criteria that goes into the ranking formula is the percentage of alumni who give to their former school. Last year, Pacific set a school record with 3,094 alumni who contributed financially to the University. Whether an alum gave one penny, or one million dollars, their contribution was counted the same by U.S. News and World Report.

In the most recent U.S. News and World Report rankings, Pacific ranks in the top 50 "best values." Over all, Pacific shares 111 place with much larger research institutions, University of San Francisco, Catholic University of America, Florida State University, Loyola University of Chicago, and University of Utah.

Increasing the schools percentage of annual givers will undoubtedly elevate Pacific's standing in the rankings. Dial, in her fourth year as Director of Annual Giving, notes the short and long term goals for Pacific. "We would like to end this fiscal year between 15 and 16 percent. In the future, 20 percent would be good."

Rankings aside, giving to Pacific is a way to show pride in the school. Every person has a unique experience while at Pacific. These experiences can be both good and bad. One important factor when giving to Pacific is deciding where the money will be allocated. That choice is up to the donor, not the University. Gifts can be directed to any department on campus, any scholarship fund, any college, and any athletic team. The decision is up to the donor.

Pacific alumni have many opportunities during the course of the year to give support. Twice a year, Pacific sends out letters with information regarding annual giving. Once a year, former students will receive a phone call from a current Pacific student in regard to giving. Graduates who wish to donate electronically, can log onto Pacific's website and contribute financially using a credit card.

What does Pacific do with all the money collected from generous alumni? Currently, Pacific is in the midst of a campaign seeking to raise 200 million dollars. Beginning in 2000, Investing in Excellence will achieve its ambitious goals on or before June 30, 2007. According to Dial, to date Pacific has received over 150 million dollars in contributions from alumni, parents, and friends.

At 30 million dollars, a new University Center is the largest project in Pacific's 200 million dollar campaign. The spacious two-story building will be at the heart of campus. Its features include a bookstore, a 24 hour student cafe, a business and mail center, and an atrium which will serve as a welcoming center for the University. At 46,000 square feet, think McCaffrey Center stepping into the 21st century. Internationally renowned design firm Gensler is the architect for the new building set to break ground in 2006.

In addition to the new construction happening on campus, a large portion of the 200 million dollar campaign is designated for academic advancement. Every school will receive money to enhance the learning experience at Pacific. Some highlights include the purchase of Pacific's goal to raise 20 million dollars.

J. Long School of Pharmacy and Health Sciences is the most respected program throughout the country, has a goal of 20 million dollars.

The Stockton not the only site to benefit from the Excellence campaign. Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry in San Francisco has a goal of 10 million dollars. In Sacramento, the George School of Law has a goal of 10 million dollars. By 2007 will help the University continue its excellence.

Current Pacific alumni have a unique opportunity to give to the school. Senior Class Gift is a standing tradition at Pacific. The Class of 2005 has decided to support raising funds for the new University Center as its class gift. This years class is in need of 3,000 dollars and is in need of 150 plus donations. Making a contribution to the senior class is a way to show pride in the school. Look for orange gift light installed at various spots on campus. Or, stop by the second floor of Harris Library, where the Office of Annual Giving is located. Gifts can be directed to any department on campus, any scholarship fund, any college, and any athletic team. The decision is up to the donor.
Upcoming concerts

Fillmore
San Francisco, CA

9. Apr 9 2005
9:00PM
Atmosphere

Berkeley Community Theatre
Berkeley, CA

11. Wed, 03/02/05
Duran Duran

HP Pavilion At San Jose

San Francisco, CA

For those Pacific students looking for something to do, there are always alternatives to sitting around in Podunk. Here is a short list of some upcoming concerts and comedians coming to the Bay Area. Buy your tickets as soon as possible, because they are sure to sell out. If any of you are going to the Hot Hot Heat concert or the Sage Francis concert, look for me in the crowd.

All tickets are available at www.Ticketmaster.com and www.tickets.com

1. Mon, 02/07/05
07:00 PM
something Corporate

Warfield
San Francisco, CA

4. Tue, 02/15/05
08:00 PM
Bright Eyes

Warfield
San Francisco, CA

8. Wed, 03/02/05
08:00 PM
Sage Francis

2. Fri, 02/11/05
08:30 PM
Dave Attell

Fillmore
San Francisco, CA

5. Wed, 02/16/05
08:00 PM
Mos Def

Fillmore
San Francisco, CA

6. Thurs, 02/24/05
08:00 PM
Hot Hot Heat

7. Sat, 02/26/05
08:00 PM
Him

8. Wed, 03/02/05
08:00 PM
Sage Francis

3. Mon, 02/14/05
08:00 PM
Interpol

12. Thu, 02/10/05
Jill Scott

9. Apr 9 2005
9:00PM
Atmosphere

10. Sat, 04/02/05
09:00 PM
Handsome Boy Modeling School

11. Wed, 03/02/05
Duran Duran

Paramount Theatre-Oakland

12. Thu, 02/10/05
Jill Scott

Write a note or publish your poems

First Line: $1, Second Line: $1
Additional Lines: $.50 each
10 words max per line

*Expletives will be altered, but not censored
Valentine’s Dance

Friday
February 11, 2005
9pm to 1am

Tickets $5
buy them in the Dining Hall

Each person can bring a guest, everyone must buy a ticket to get in

Free Limo Service Provided

How to Advertise
• Display—We accept national and local display advertising. For more information, contact our advertising staff at (209) 946-2114
• Classified—Classified advertising can be purchased $1 per line for Pacific staff and students, $2 per line for all others. Please call (209) 946-2115

How to Subscribe
• A one year subscription to The Pacifican costs $32 ($17 per semester)

Send check or money order to:
The Pacifican
3601 Pacific Ave., Stockton, Ca 95211 attn: Subscriptions

How to Contact Us
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pacificannews@pacific.edu
Perspectives: (209) 946-2255
pacificanperspectives@pacific.edu
Lifestyles: (209) 946-2193
pacificanlifestyles@pacific.edu
Sports: (209) 946-2062
pacificansports@pacific.edu
Mail: 3601 Pacific Ave., Stockton, CA 95211

New House for Rent
Available Immediately
776 W. Bianchi Rd.
Stockton 95207
4 Bed, 2 Bath, Central Air & Heat
2 Car Garage, Close to Pacific Campus
Contact Francisco Ho
at
(408) 712 - 0483
or
FHO1806@SBCGLOBAL.net

Aquarius
1/19-2/18
Everyone is not on your side. Don’t betray your secrets too.

Pisces
2/19-3/20
Stay by yourself if you like, alone time could be good for your soul.

Aries
3/21-4/19
It may be a material world sometimes it’s the immaterial things that matter the most.

Taurus
4/20-5/20
Finally the break you have been waiting for is finally here. Make the most of it.

Gemini
5/21-6/21
Being open to new experiences is not enough. Sometimes you need to seek them out.

Cancer
6/22-7/22
Suddenly, you are the talk of the school. Sit back and enjoy the spotlight.

Leo
7/23-8/22
Someone from your past will come back into your life. Forgive and move on.

Virgo
8/23-9/22
Sometimes you need to slow down and retrace your steps to know where you are going.

Scorpio
10/23-11/21
Sometimes you have to throw all your ideas in a pile and see which one sticks.

Sagittarius
11/22-12/21
This decision will be a whole lot easier if your let your heart lead and not your brain.

Capricorn
12/22-1/19
If you are dreaming of that far away, far away place, allow yourself to go where ever your dreams will take you.
Fashion File

By Jennifer Murphy
Editor-in-Chief

Springtime means dress time. Of course the warmer weather makes even the palest person want to break out in a leg baring frock. Although Spring is still two months away, the time is now to start thinking about our love/hate relationships with dresses.

This time of year brings about many an occasion to wear a dress. Whether it is the upcoming Valentine’s Day dance or one of the many fraternity and sorority formals, girls, you are likely to hit the department stores soon.

For each occasion, there are certain rules and guidelines to follow when deciding on a dress. Even though an event may say formal attire recommended, this doesn’t mean you must buy a fluffy, puffy, princess ball gown. I actually discourage anything that puffs.

Big, puffy ball gowns may look elegant and fun on the hanger but will only make you look back at your high school prom. We are in college now, stop thinking prom and start thinking classy elegance.

Every time there is a dance a staple is common; the short, black cocktail dress. C’mom ladies, a little creativity. Color is our friend. If you are unsure, bring a friend. Just be sure this friend is honest and will give you an honest opinion.

The hot colors this season are oranges, greens and bright blues. Please ladies, if you want to make your date weak in the knees, don’t wear the same color dress 20 other ladies will be wearing.

There is a common myth that formal means long. This could not be any further from the truth. Long and sleek is very elegant but you can achieve the same look with a short dress paired with the appropriate accessories. But remember not to go over board. If you wear long earrings, an absence of a necklace is flattering.

The last thing to remember is your figure. Find a dress that flatters your figure. Even the most gorgeous, red carpet worthy dress can look hideous on the wrong body type. You have to look and especially “feel” comfortable in your dress.

Anheuser Busch Inc. wants to remind you of a few important tips to help may your Super Bowl party the best party! If your celebration includes alcoholic beverages, remember to enjoy good food with your drinks. Space your drinks throughout the evening and if you’re the party host, serve one drink at a time to help your guests pace themselves. Never force drinks on your guests, and stop serving alcohol an hour before the party ends.

Finally, help your guests get home safely by encouraging them to designate a driver. According to a national survey, 122 million Americans have either been a designated driver or been drive home by one. That’s a game-winning plan no matter what team you’re cheering for. For more information on hosting a fun, safe party, log on to www.desiganteddriver.com. Remember, Responsibilities Matters.
Attention Club Officers!!!

The PACIFICAN is now offering FUNDRAISING opportunities. Take advantage of the offer while it's still hot!

* We've got over 300 companies to call back, but no staff to do it!
* Help the Pacifican and we promise we will make it worth your time!
* Your Club gets 20% of whatever you sell!!!
* Sign your club up today!
* Only a brief training session!
* Call Businesses with our Pacifican Staff!

Contact Alex Lu-Pon @ 946-2155
Caste bias affects tsunami relief

By Shane Cipris
Perspectives Editor

The massive tsunami that devastated many countries along the Indian Ocean on Dec. 26 came at a huge human cost. At last count, the casualties numbered well over 150,000 with upwards of an additional 100,000 victims missing and presumed dead. In the last month, there has been an international outpouring of financial support for the survivors of this tragedy, with relief aid being raised on a national, local and even individual level. Just this morning I received an email offer for a “Tsunami Relief Band,” whose advertising copy assured me that 100% of the net proceeds will be donated to charity. Efforts to shelter and feed displaced refugees and rebuild the damaged infrastructure of the affected countries are well underway. However, it may be the case that in certain tsunami-ravaged countries, financial aid and resources are being allocated in discriminatory fashion due to reprehensible age-old social castes.

According to a recent statement by the Human Rights Watch organization, it has received “credible reports of discrimination in tsunami-stricken-areas against Dalit (so-called untouchables) communities by the authorities as well as some aid groups and local communities.” Some readers are no doubt familiar with the plight of the “Untouchable” class in the social hierarchy of India. The Untouchable class encompasses several distinct groups of sub-castes that are not represented in the caste system, and includes over 250 million people. The name for the untouchables, Dalit, is variously translated as “the oppressed” or “broken people,” and both terms describe their social standing very accurately.

A 2001 report by HRW entitled “Caste Discrimination: A Global Concern” noted that members of the Dalit caste “may not cross the line dividing their part of the village from that occupied by higher castes. They may not use the same wells, visit the same temples, or drink from the same cups in tea stalls. Dalit children are frequently made to sit in the back of classrooms.” The Dalit are literally untouchable; their very touch is thought to be ritually polluting to a member of the Upper Castes. In a sense, the concept of the ‘polluting touch’ is very reminiscent of the United States during its post-Civil War system of social segregation, in which African-Americans were forced to use separate restrooms and water fountains than Caucasian people. However, the frequency of mass attacks and atrocities against Dalit communities by Upper-Caste mobs distinguishes the inhumane institution of Untouchability even from American slavery at its worst.

The caste system in India was originally a means of distinguishing social status according to labor: the Brahmins were religious teachers, Kshatriyas were rulers and warriors, Vaishyas were merchants and traders, and Shudras were artisans and laborers (i.e. servants to the Brahmins). The great humanitarian Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar, a Dalit leader and the main architect of India’s Constitution, has proved that the Untouchable class derived from the ancient Buddhists who were reviled and persecuted by the Brahmins, the leaders of the Hindus. Religious persecution was the origin of Untouchability. The concept is not unique to India; Dalits are found in other countries including Sri Lanka (also ravaged by the December tsunami), Nepal and Pakistan.

Over time, these social classes including the Untouchable caste became hereditary, inflexible determinations of one’s social standing, as the concept of caste by birth became directly linked with the spiritual concepts of karma and reincarnation. The Untouchables are still assigned the most dangerous and dirty work available, work that is considered ritually polluting for a member of the upper castes. A 1999 report by Human Rights Watch titled “Broken People: Caste Violence Against India’s Untouchables,” notes that “[at] least one million Dalits work as manual scavengers, clearing feces from latrines and disposing of dead animals with their bare hands. Dalits also comprise the majority of agricultural laborers who work for a few kilograms of rice, or 15-35 rupees (less than US$1) a day.”

Although the upper-caste Indian government tried to block discussion of the politically embarrassing topic of caste-based discrimination at the 2001 U.N. World Conference Against Racism, efforts by Dalit activists ensured that their cause was firmly embedded in the international human-rights agenda. There are also many grassroots movements and NGOs that have been formed to address this pressing concern, including the highly respected National Campaign on Dalit Human Rights (NCDHR), the International Dalit Solidarity Network (IDSN) and the National Federation for Dalit Women.

In 2002, a group of intellectuals and activists at the ‘Bhopal Conference on Charting a New Course for Dalits for the 21st Century’ laid out a 21-point program to guide the Indian government in the establishment of basic human rights for Dalits, including among other things the right to own land for cultivation, the right to share in rural and urban common resources, and the right to receive an education. The Bhopal Declaration, which was unanimously adopted by the Bhopal Conference, quotes Dr. Ambedkar: “A democratic form of Government presupposes a democratic form of society. The formal framework of democracy is of no value and would indeed be a misfit if there was no social democracy.”

Despite the still-blighted situation of the Untouchables in the 21st century, there is room for cautious optimism as they are closer now to attaining basic human rights than they have been in hundreds of years.

DALIT ACTIVISTS have made important strides in recent years.

Dalit Women.
National Resources Defense Council report reveals Bush’s poor record

By Suzanne Vvbornev
Guest Writer

While some out there might be able to describe President Bush with a variety of positive adjectives, ‘environmentally friendly’ isn’t one of them. The President’s poor record is embarrassingly apparent in the January 2005 release of the National Resources Defense Council's 40-page report on President Bush’s first-term environmental record. The National Resources Defense Council is a national non-profit environmental action organization. They use the knowledge and services of scientists, policy analysts, lawyers and environmental specialists in order to protect the earth, its natural resources, its wildlife and, of course, its humans. Aside from being a charity, the NRDC is a powerful lobbying and litigating force which aims to protect endangered areas and species. According to the San Francisco Chronicle, “NRDC is one of the most effective environmental litigators on the globe.”

Titled, “Rewriting The Rules, Special Edition,” the report is divided into eight chapters, reviewing Bush’s record on the following issues: energy, air, global warming, water and oceans, toxic chemicals and public health, forests, parks, grazing, wetlands and wildlife and lastly, nuclear weapons and nuclear waste. Not only has Bush allowed for the rewriting of laws, “formally solid environmental protections [have] been tossed aside (tompaine.org).” Scanning page five of the report, a number of alarming numbers and percentages pop out. Apparently, 6,000 scientists, including 48 Nobel laureates, 62 National Medal of Science recipients, and 135 members of the National Academy of Sciences, warn that the Bush administration’s overt anti-science bias undercuts scientific integrity. The EPA identifies an alarming 75% decline in lawsuits filed against companies violating federal environmental laws in the first three years of the Bush administration. Compared to the last three years of the Clinton administration—lawsuits are down 152 to 36, and a 57% decline in civil citations issued to polluters since 2001 (with civil penalties assessed against polluters in 2004 at the lowest since 1990).

In the report’s first paragraph, it states “Last year alone, Bush administration agencies made more than 150 actions that weakened our environmental laws.” On page six, the report summarizes the worst of Bush’s 2004 anti-environmental actions. Just a month ago, the report states, “the EPA was working to ‘finalize’ a policy that would allow the routine release of inadequately treated sewage into waterways as long as it is diluted with treated sewage.” I certainly don’t rest easier knowing that the waterways that I indirectly use are being contaminated by sewage. Also a month ago, President Bush apparently decided enough progress had been made in “[improving] habitat on public and private lands.” Enough so that it would be justifiable for the U.S. Forest Service to formally invalidate basic wildlife protections dating back to the Reagan administration. Other offenses include allowing the utility industry to draft a mercury proposal (hint: those creating mercury emissions aren’t going to be very staunch enforcers of mercury emission regulation) and a refusal by the EPA to listen to the National Academy of Sciences recommendations about a variety of substances in drinking water not yet listed under the law. Further, Bush is poised to give away beautiful public lands to the deep pockets of oil and gas drilling companies. Think this is a perspective shared by hippie, liberal, radical Democrats alone? As time wears on, Bush is being criticized increasingly by his fellow Republicans. This is evident in a quote from a Fall 2004 newsletter released by Republicans for Environmental Protection which stated “[O]ver the last four years, the Bush administration has compiled a deliberately anti-environmental, anti-conservation record that will result in lasting damage to public health and to America’s natural heritage.”

If you think Bush’s poor environmental record only affects beautiful landscapes and not obscure species that aren’t relevant to your everyday life, you’re wrong. If you’re a beach lover, and since you are currently residing in California, you might be interested to know that there has been a 36% increase in annual beach closings due to unsafe water quality since 2001. Sewage contamination is a major part of the problem and dirtier water means fewer beaches for you to surf, swim and play.

Are you enjoying the air you breathe? Once you learn that after years of consistent decline, toxic releases into our air, water and land have increased by 5% you may think twice. From data collected in June 2004, industrial facilities alone account for 4.8 billion pounds of toxic releases. Do you like to eat fish at all? Well in 2003 alone, a total of 2,348 fish consumption advisories for mercury contamination were issued in 45 states. Know any babies or have one of your own? Thanks to the Bush administration, each year more than 600,000 newborns may have been exposed to mercury levels exceeding EPA standards—still in the womb! Think twice about enjoying a nice, tall, cold glass of water because you might be one of the 20 million Americans affected by perchlorate contamination—a toxic rocket fuel additive released from military dumps. I also wouldn’t breathe too deeply if I were you since you could be one of the 159 million Americans (55% of our population) who now live in areas with hazardous smog levels.

Working actively to weaken the Clean Air Act (established by Republican Richard Nixon) and endanger the Endangered Species Act, the Bush administration does not seem prepared to listen to anyone. Having crippled the powers of the EPA so much that it has been rendered almost utterly ineffective, it is apparent that we can’t count on President Bush to protect anything; not other creatures, not our land, not even us.

If you’d like to read this entire report for yourself, visit http://www.nrdc.org/legislation/rollbacks/rr2005.pdf and read the truth yourself.
Gaining a sense of Manchurian wonder
A study-abroad student encounters curious stares and a difficult question

By Jeff Swartz
Foreign Correspondent

I left Beijing for Manchuria by train a week ago. It took me 13 hours to get to Harbin, the provincial capital of Heilongjiang province in the northernmost region in China. It borders Russia, Korea and Mongolia. My train left Beijing at five p.m. and by the time we arrived in Harbin the next morning, the entire shell of the train had frozen over. It was impossible to see out of the windows. The conductor blasted into the loudspeaker at five a.m. that it was currently negative 15 degrees Fahrenheit outside. It was a harsh wake-up.

I came alone to Manchuria to speak as much Chinese as possible and to not speak English with anyone. We have had two months of vacation time and I still have two weeks left. I need to practice Chinese. I came to Harbin because of the Ice Festival. There is no other reason to travel to this remote, industrial region except for the Ice Festival and to ski. Harbin has an average year-round temperature of 32 degrees and in the winter, the streets are frozen over for four months straight. Artists from all over the world come here to build gigantic ice sculptures. This year they ice-sculpted an entire scaled-down replica of the imperial Forbidden City and a gigantic rooster to symbolize 2005, which is the Year of the Rooster in the Chinese Zodiac.

Traveling alone in China is not easy. It is rewarding and difficult all at once. I walk down the streets and every single person gives me the stare treatment. When one first comes to China, the stare is impossible to ignore. You feel like there is something physically wrong with you. It’s not just a glance at your face. It is a ‘stop in the middle of the street, turn the head 180 degrees’ stare. It took me three months to overcome this. They hardly every see or have seen Westerners like you before; you are different and you must have some odd reason for being here. But still, when people stop in the street to stare at you, it gets you all worked up and you want to just scream at them but you cannot.

Eating here alone is different as well. In Hong Kong, I would eat alone and it would be the saddest experience of my life. But in Manchuria, if you speak Chinese and are a foreigner, the entire restaurant stops eating and listens to you speak their language. They are amazed that you can speak their language and even further amazed if you can comment on the food.

Sometimes things get a little out of hand. For example: this afternoon I went into a standard noodle shop and ordered a bowl of noodles. Except there were no other customers, and the owner’s entire gang of friends decided to come eat lunch at the same time. So there I was, in the corner of a dilapidated restaurant with 10 burly Manchurians pounding me with questions. “What is the best sport in your country?” “Do you have eggs with your noodles in your country?” “Do you like the way we Chinese play your country sport?” Question after question, your mind begins to spin and you can’t help but laugh when they stop asking you questions and refill your cup with tea. Eventually, a hard question arrives—the owner pulls out currency, a five-yuan bill, and points at the picture of Mao on the front of the bill. He says “He is the best, ever.” I sit and stare back. “He is the best, do you think so?” Now, my conscience tells me to scream ‘No!’ but I must sit back and reply, “I don’t know, I guess.”

Ah, the life of a foreigner in China. A life where you can answer every question with, “I don’t know.” And your inquisitive company shakes their head benevolently and backs out of your face. I sit back, eat my cold noodles, look out the window at the snow-covered pagoda and let the waiter pour me another cup of hot tea.
Follow me home... to the Islands of Hawai’i

Spring Break in Hawai’i! Rolling surf. Warm sunshine. Hot nights. And Hawaiian Airlines can get you there. Check our web site for the very lowest fares available.

HawaiianAirlines.com
Pacific defeats UC Davis

By Allison March
Staff writer

The Spanos Center was exploding with noise Monday night as the Pacific men's basketball team was victorious. Pacific beat division two team UC Davis.

At the tip off, the ball went to Pacific as Guillaume Yanggo made the first two points of the game with a beautiful slam dunk. From this time until the middle of the first period the crowd was nervous as Davis held the lead. Finally, at the midpoint of the first half, Pacific took back the lead 17 to 16.

Johnny Gray had a good game with a steal and a great rebound at the end of the first half and also had a tip in at the beginning of the second half.

With seven minutes left in the game, Davis started to come back. There was only a two point difference. Finally, with only a couple of minutes left Pacific started pulling away.

As the clock ran down to the last minute, Guillaume Yanggo made another awesome slam dunk as the crowd taunted "the bus, the bus, its time to start the bus." The final score was 70 to 64.

A look back at Pacific basketball

By Ryan Tedards
Copy Editor

I have seen a lot of Pacific men's basketball in my life. Being a native of Stockton, going to Tiger basketball games was a big part of my childhood.

My earliest memory is meeting Pacific all-time great Dell Demps before a game in 1990. I remember he smiled and shook my hand. From that point on, I was hooked. In 1993 I was the teams' ball-boy when current assistant coach Adam Jacobsen was a freshman for the Tigers. I was there in 1995 for an October scrimmage where I saw an awkward 7'1" center named Michael Olowokandi begin to learn the game of basketball.

Three years later, I was near tears when the Los Angeles Clippers selected him first overall in the NBA draft. In my 15 years of watching Tiger hoop, head coach Bob Thomason has been pacing the sidelines. I have grown to love the way he coaches. I love the fact that when a player commits a silly turnover, or takes a bad shot, Thomason is immediately looking toward his bench for a substitute. I also love that when a player succeeds, Thomason is the first person to give praise.

The past two seasons of Tiger basketball have been two of the best in school history. I remember staying up late and watching Pacific lead off Sports Center, over and over, after its win over Providence in the first round of last season's NCAA tournament.

Talent wise, this years Tigers are the best Pacific team I have ever seen. They are deeper than the 1997-98 Olowokandi led team and more experienced then last seasons squad. It appears the rest of the nation is also aware of the basketball being played here. The Tigers are currently ranked 27 in the ESPN/USA Today college basketball poll. The student body has caught on as well. Attendance at the past three home games has been remarkable. The energy at the Alex G. Spanos Center is like I have never seen. Even in 1997-98, when Olowokandi was the best player in the country, did the Spanos Center feel as alive as it has recently.

This season will be memorable for me no matter where the Tigers finish. I was fortunate enough to travel and see three Tiger victories at U.C. Davis, Fresno State, and Long Beach State. I am aware that in the future, I may not be able to keep up with Tiger basketball as much as I have in the past 15 years. One thing is for certain; no matter what success or failures the team has, I will always be a fan.
Pacific beats Northridge but falls to UCSB

Ryan Tedords
Copy Editor

Pacific men's volleyball team (7-3, 3-2) swept past Cal State Northridge (3-5, 1-4), Wednesday January 26. The battle between the nation's number 8 and 10 teams was dominated by the Tigers three sets to none.

Hopefully, the members who vote for the USA Today /AVCA men's top 15 poll were watching. The Tigers, ranked 10 in the country, handled the eighth ranked Matadors 30-26, 31-29, 30-28.

Tiger coach Joe Wortmann was pleased with his team's effort following the win. "We really grinded it out, playing each point one at a time. Northridge is a very good, well coached team."

The Tigers played much of the game without star middle blocker Nils Dauburs. While Dauburs was suffering from an injury, his teammates were busy filling the void on the court. Senior Brian Zodrow led Pacific with 18 kills while the energetic Bryson Metz notched 13 kills.

Coach Wortmann knows that any win without the 6-6' Dauburs in the lineup is a bonus. "If we can beat a team the caliber of Northridge without him [Dauburs] that is a great win. Each guy collectively has to play at or near his best in order for us to be successful."

CLEAN SWEEP: The UOP Men's Volleyball team swept Northridge in three games

By Bonnie Lucero
Staff Writer

On Friday, January 28th at 7pm, the Pacific Men's Volley Ball Team faced UC Santa Barbara at Alex Spanos Center. Pacific's loss to UCSB brings them down to 7-4 overall, with a three win, three loss record for the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation.

After a win in the first game by a margin of 11 points, the Tigers were defeated decisively by UC Santa Barbara in the remaining three games. For Game One, the score was Pacific 30, UCSB 19.

The first game suggested a strong overall performance to come from the Tigers, with excellent plays by senior Bryson Metz of Aiea, Hawaii, who obtained seven points from his serves. Throughout the game, Metz remained strong, making 10 kills out of 21 attempts.

Another player that stood out was Freshman Simon Chen-Byerley of Northfield, Illinois who managed a career-high with nine blocks which included eight block assists.

Pacific played a strong first game, with outstanding performances by all the players showing exceptional team work skills.

But as UCSB picked up the pace, Tigers could not keep up, and were defeated the last 3 consecutive games of the match scores of 22-30 for game three, and 23-30 for game four.

Although defeated, Pacific's strong defensive efforts were not enough to stop UCSB.

DEFENSE: Pacific's strong defensive efforts were not enough to stop UCSB.
Pacific Rugby takes a hit

By Jennifer Murphy
Editor-in-Chief

Over the past weekend, the Men's Rugby team had a visit from the men of Cal Maritime. Last Saturday's game proved to be an exciting show. As if the cold weather was not enough to make your bones hurt, the soaking wet field turned into a muddy slip 'n slide. The Pacific sideline was packed and fans were excited to see the first home game of the season.

The game started off with Cal Maritime reciting the first home game of the season. The first score was 47-17 Cal Maritime. Come out to Gardemeyer field this Saturday at 1p.m. to support Pacific rugby.

Raquetball Tournament

By Allison March
Staff Writer

Now that the semester is rolling into its fourth week of school intramural sports are exploding onto the scene.

This last weekend a racquetball tournament was held by Campus Recreation. The tournament started fresh at ten on Saturday morning in Baun Fitness Center.

All Pacific students, faculty, and staff members were invited to attend. The tournament started off with six participating men competing against each opponent setting them up for the playoff rounds.

Out of the six men two were Pacific staff members. Experience must have been key for this sport, because Joey Kim from Physical Planning on campus and Joe — another campus staff member — in the end beat all the younger students that were put up against them.

Spencer Lang, a sophomore at Pacific started playing in high school and just this year started playing again in college. Lang says he favors playing racquetball one on one. He said, "doubles gets crowded in that little space. Singles is a little more competitive and you get a more of a workout."

Kirim agreed with Lang saying "treadmill machines are boring. Racquetball is a workout." Kim has been playing racquetball for ten years and plays five nights a week and it shows. He beat every man put up against him except one.

Joe Sosa was the other staff/faculty player was the ultimate champion. In the winning game Joe won twenty one to six.

All together the men had a blast playing the competitive sport.

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FREE AGENT Status

By Jesus Hernandez
Columnist

I don't know how many of you are tired of ALL the T.O Talk. Everywhere I turn I have to hear people talk about Terrell Owens. If he plays he plays, will he make a difference, it will all depend on how much he can play and how many sprints and cuts his ankle can take. He is risking a lot by going against the doctor's orders. He must also remember that the only guaranteed money he has is his signing bonus, all the rest will only be received if he's on the field. Unlike baseball, NFL player's contracts aren't guaranteed unless he's on the field.

Other NFL news, looks like the Dolphins love to have running backs that sport dreads because the Colts Edgerrin James has expressed interest in returning to Miami where he played his college days and where he resides during the off-season. Maybe he wants to return because he fits in with the same in this upcoming season since he's getting older, just had surgery on his knee and doesn't have the cream or the clear to help him. If his numbers do diminish Giants fans will blame his knee and not steroids.

Why is it that we are getting snubbed in AP/Coaches voting? I think we should be in the Top 25. Our losses have been against legit competition, we are RUNNING AWAY with the Big West. We have a 3 game cushion and our intensity on the court continues to bring W's as well as fans. I have a question for you out there, do you really care about going out to games or are you just going because they are winning? Continue to go out and support both the men's and woman's hoops teams as they head into the final stretch of conference schedule.

I would like to do a Q&A with readers of my column so any of you out there who have a question for me about sports email me at chuchdogg9@hotmail.com.

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PILE UP: The Men's Rugby team fights for the ball against Cal Maritime.

By Allison March
Staff Writer

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Tigers ride the Aggies into the sunset

By Bonnie Lucero
Staff Writer

On Saturday, January 29, 2005, the Pacific women’s basketball team captured a victory over UC Davis 65-60 at the Alex Spanos Center.

The game was knotted at 20-20 after the first 12 minutes of the game. But the Tigers managed to pull ahead by going on a 13-2 scoring run. Davis attempted to catch up to the mighty Tigers in the last two minutes of the first half, scoring the last five points which brought the score to 33-27, Tigers leading at intermission.

After a short half time break, the Aggies returned to the floor to score the next several points and saw them surpass the Tigers, by two points, 42-40. The Tigers would not allow this to continue, and responded with a consecutive seven points with baskets made by Sanerivi, Moran, and Melche. With a few seconds over 13 minutes remaining, Tigers showed their prowess with a 47-42 lead over the Aggies.

With about three minutes left on the clock, Tigers pursued victory with a series of baskets that brought the game to a close. Lavender, Ruiz, and Green were key players in this series of passes and free throws.

With 30 seconds left in the game, Tigers were up, 63 to 57. Aggies brought three more points by the end of the game, while Pacific rang in two more. The Aggies were unable to shake the Tiger lead, and the game closed with 65-60, Tigers leading.

Pacific’s win brought them up to a 5-12 overall while UC Davis plummeted to a 6-13 overall.

The Aggies have been tamed. The Women's basketball team will be in action again at a Big West Conference contest tonite at U.C. Irvine.

Snow trip success

By Jennifer Hite-Smith
Sports Editor

The Associated Student body (ASUOP) in conjunction with the Pacific Outdoor Connection (POC) travelled with a number of Pacific students to the snow last Saturday. The annual ski and snowboard trip was again a success.

The group departed for the Kirkwood ski resort at 5:30 am after a brief sign-in and continental breakfast provided by ASUOP.

Weather conditions were outstanding with fresh powdery snow on the ground and the warm sunshine all day long. Kirkwood supplied outstanding terrain and adventures for all skill level participants. The POC provided both ski and snowboard instructors for beginner participants.

The group safely returned around 8 PM to campus with rosy cheeks, good stories, and ambitious appetites.

Be sure to check out upcoming trips with ASUOP and/or the Pacific Outdoor Connection such as “Moaning Caverns” on February 12.