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University of the Pacific

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Women's Message: New Club at Pacific

Pacific University will once again open its arms to a new club on campus with the recent birth of Women's Message: A Global Women's awareness Organization. The mission of the club is primarily to educate both the students of Pacific and the local community by raising awareness and exposing the problems and injustices that females face in the international world such as sex and drug trafficking, abuse, female circumcision, breast cancer, and aids.

The inspiration stemmed from a junior at the university, Neda Raheen. A child of Afghanistan natives, Neda read a book called Meena: Heroine of Afghanistan. The book talked about the life of a woman named Meena and the Revolutionary Association of the Women of Afghanistan (RAWA) which this woman founded and was assassinated due to her belief for women's rights. It was this very novel that inspired Neda to take the initiative to inform the public about the situations that are rare in the U.S. but common in the third world.

"I feel so lucky to be here especially as a girl from Afghanistan, because in my own country I would not have the basic rights I have here, such as the opportunity to pursue an education and get a good job, and have access to proper healthcare," said Raheen.

The novel motivated her to start this club and so she set right to work asking members to join. The club officers include Neda - President, Venus Sharifi - Vice President, Nicole Barkhordar - Treasurer, Anna Nguyen - Secretary, Michelle Chan - Public Relations/Marketing, and Monika Verma - Club News writer. Currently the club is accepting new members.

The main upcoming events for the club will consist of covering various global issues. The first event they will be focusing on this semester will be drug trafficking. "Marie Full of Grace", a movie about a woman caught up in the dangerous world of drug trade. Other upcoming events will focus on issues closer to home such as breast cancer awareness which Venus Sharifi, Vice President will be heading. Sharifi, who currently works with a national charity organization as a financial manager, desires to devote a week to inviting oncologists, various physicians, and cancer survivors to speak on the dangers of breast cancer and the importance of having regular mammogram check ups. She stresses the importance of having these check ups for even ladies who are in their early twenties, hoping to erase the misunderstanding that they should only be done when in one's 40s. Sharifi also will arrange direct referrals from the physicians to the students for these checkups.

One of the other main interests of the club is also to have a co-conference with RAWA, in which the organization hopes to invite a young woman in Afghanistan and the struggles of fighting for their rights, which we sometimes take for granted. The organization will also hold an event based on the issue of female genital mutilation.

"We have a lot of goals for this club and we can't emphasize enough how different we are from other feminist clubs on campus. We're not about female boldness but instead about having united organization solving problems by raising awareness about the disadvantages females face today in faltering socioeconomic conditions", states Sharifi. “It's not that the women who are involved in sex trafficking are unaware or naive, they've just put into the situation for money due to the lack of opportunity in their country. Many of the females involved in the sex trafficking are girls ranging from the ages of 8-12 years old who have to sell themselves to prostitution without even knowing the significance and value of sex. Males are not the ones to bash or blame in this situation because it all comes down to poverty and their economic situations” explains Sharifi.

"We all go through breakups, loss of loved ones, or simply have a bad day, but ultimately we have our friends, family, loved ones, and the privilege of our rights that we sometimes take for granted. It's so amazing to see ourselves get carried away and not appreciate our blessings" says Sharifi.

"With this club we're not directly volunteering our physical aid but raising awareness and this is nothing but an act of charity directly, too. Educating is a good way to help out a growing problem and we hope that people really understand when considering joining," said Raheen on an end note.

Women's Message will conduct their meetings in the Bechtel Center on Tuesdays at noon. The upcoming meetings that have been confirmed are April 5th and April 26th.
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AUSTIN, Tex., Nov. 5 (AP) - The Texas Board of Education approved new health textbooks for the state’s high schools and middle schools on Friday after the publishers agreed to change wordings in the texts to depict marriage strictly as the union of a man and a woman.

The decision involves two of the biggest textbook publishers and is another example of Texas’ exerting its market influence as the nation’s second-largest buyer of textbooks. Officials say the decision could affect hundreds or thousands of books in Texas alone.

On Thursday, a board member said that proposed new books ran counter to a Texas law banning the recognition of gay civil unions because the texts used terms like “married partners” instead of “husband and wife.”

After hearing the debate on Thursday, one publisher, Holt, Rinehart and Winston, agreed to include a definition of marriage as a “lifelong union between a husband and a wife.”

The definition, which was added to middle school textbooks, was already in Holt’s high school editions, Rick Blake, a company spokesman, said.

The other publisher, Glencoe/McGraw-Hill, changed phrases like “when two people marry” and “partners” to “when a man and a woman marry” and “husbands and wives.”

“The board expressed an interest in having us make the change, Mr. Blake said. “We thought it was a reasonable thing to do.”

But Mr. Blake said the publisher did not plan to add its definition of marriage in books to be sold outside Texas. A spokeswoman for Glencoe/McGraw-Hill did not immediately respond to questions.

A list of the books that were approved by the board, as well as those that were not, is sent to school districts for guidance when they choose books.

One board member, Mary Helen Berlanga, a Democrat, asked the panel to approve the books without the changes, but her proposal was rejected on a 10-to-4 vote.

“Marriage has been defined in Texas, so it should also be defined in our health textbooks that we use as marriage between a man and a woman,” Ms. Leo said.

Texas legislators enacted a law last year that prohibits the state from recognizing same-sex civil unions. The state already had a ban on gay marriage.

Neither publisher made all the changes that Ms. Leo initially sought. For instance, one passage that was proposed to be added to the teacher’s editions read: “Opinions vary on why homosexuals, lesbians and bisexuals as a group are more prone to self-destructive behaviors like depression, illegal drug use and suicide.”

Randall Ellis, the executive director of the Lesbian/Gay Rights Lobby of Texas, said the board had overstepped its bounds in suggesting and adopting the new wording.

“Their job is to review for factual information and instead what we see is the insertion of someone’s ideology and agenda into the textbook of middle schoolers,” Mr. Ellis said.

The board’s approval caps months of debate over health textbooks. Much of it had centered on how much sex education should be included.
Your 2005-2006 ASUOP President is Mindy Kreitzman

Allison March
Staff Writer

On March 18, the Friday before Pacific got out for spring break, Mindy Kreitaman waited patiently to hear ASUOP election results. At 12:15 Mindy was happy to hear that she and her Vice President Adam Ellison had won.

Mindy said, “I knew that I wanted to run for ASUOP since I got here. It’s been my goal.”

Mindy is a sophomore this year and is also currently Senator of COP and the President Pro Tempore. When Mindy decided to run for presidency this year she asked Adam to run as her Vice President, because she had seen his dedication.

Adam is also currently a part of ASUOP as the Deputy Commissioner of Campus Affairs.

The campaign started off with lots of publicity and attending many upon many club meetings. This is how they attained 14 endorsements. With this support and “Adam and I have experience to get things done next year will be amazing” as Mindy puts it.

Mindy and Adam are looking forward to next year as they put forth efforts to better the Dining Hall, The Wellness Center and to just bring the focus back to students. They plan on more pep rallies, more multi-club events and homecoming events during basketball season.

THE ARLEN J. HANSEN WRITING CONTEST AND SCHOLARSHIP

In 1993, John Valentine, COP ‘74, established a scholarship prize of $2000 for a writing contest to honor Arlen J. Hansen, long-time professor of English. Hansen set up the rules for the contest and judged the entries the first year. The generosity of Valentine’s family enables us to continue the contest in his memory and in honor of Hansen, again with an award of $2000.

DEADLINE
FRIDAY APRIL 1, 2005 3:30 P.M.

FOR MORE DETAILS
CHECK WITH THE ENGLISH DEPARTMENT
Located in WPC Humanities Wing 151

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English Department Secretary
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3601 Pacific Avenue
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Fax (209) 946-2002
Email: nsnider@uop.edu
Fear and Loathing on a College Campus: Part 2

By Mikey Vo
Lifestyles Editor

As Spring Break comes to an end, many young college students budding careers in film will be starting with starring roles in Girls Gone Wild. From the infamous debauchery that is associated with New Orleanians to the hedonism indulgences in all parts of Mexico that would make Bacchus blush, spring breakers are known nay a piece of clothing off their bodies, and anything goes. From the infamous debauchery that is associated with New Orleanians to the hedonism indulgences in all parts of Mexico that would make Bacchus blush, spring breakers are known nay a piece of clothing off their bodies, and anything goes.

I recently read about this new fangled widget in one of the latest copies of Popular Science (laugh it up, hardy har har.) Apparently, Spirit Partners has introduced the AWOL (Alcohol Without Liquid), a machine in which liquor is vaporized into a breathable mist. It is being billed as the next “ultimate party toy”, and although the device is supposed to deliver the same great buzz but with less calories, it still doesn’t change the fact that it looks like you’re using a crack pipe to smoke out of a hookah. Can you imagine what would happen if there really became the next big thing? Dude, I was AWOL’ing like crazy last night, it was inhaling so fast that I totally sneezed all over everyone. I swear I’m never going to breathe like that again. How inconvenient it would be to lug around this big respiration every time you wanted to get a buzz? What if the Pope was really just AWOL’ing all this time? Boy would we look silly.

Oh the hilarity that would ensue if you were trying to use the AWOL in public and a cop saw you. “Drop the pipe crack fiend!” “But officer I was just AWOL’ing...” “I don’t care if you were shooting heroin with a PEZ dispenser, drop the crack pipe now!”

I would like to pose a question to the people who make the executive decisions on our school regarding those godforsaken trees that have been planted all around school. For one thing, they really smell. No, I mean they really smell, to a point that when I’m walking from Monagan over the bridge I feel like I’m being bombarded with bad sex from all sides, because honestly that’s what they smell like. It’s really quite vomit inducing. As I continue my rant, how many of you have taken that walk over those stairs that lead to the bridge? You know the ones I’m talking about. They are easily the most awkwardly sized set of stairs I have ever had the chance to meander on. They are too long to walk down them like a regular person, instead you have to resort to a stilted one two step motion, that just makes you feel like you’re doing some sort of rain dance. To the engineering alumni who donated those stairs, I salute you in pulling off the most expensive prank this school will ever see.

How often is it that you find that when you go to the dining hall that the food is recycled and reused in a “fun and creative” way? I can’t even count the amount of times that I’ve seen various dishes served Monday - Thursday, only to see it be used in a nacho bar, fry bar, or my personal favorite the chefs “jambalaya” which roughly translates to “mix all the leftover crap you can find and throw it into a pot.” They should just label the dish as an unmarked colloidal dispersion.

But you can’t hate on the dining hall all of the time, I mean you can always rely on food being there, your dishes always being cleaned, and that you’re always being greeted by nice people in hairnets with tattoos. And if all else fails, you can always grab the one thing that is always consistent in quality on their menu, water.
**2004-2005 Pacifican Staff**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Editorial Staff</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Editor-in-Chief</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty Adviser</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>News Editor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Perspectives Editor</td>
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<td>Production Manager</td>
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<td>Copy Editor</td>
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- Advertising Designer: Katie Workinger
- Distribution: Jennifer Hite-Smith

**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**
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**"Donate Life a Thon"**

**By Monika Verma**

**Staff Writer**

On Monday April 4th, California launched its first statewide online donor registry: Donate Life California. More than 18,000 Californians wait for an organ transplant. That's nearly 20 percent of those waiting across the country. With the commitment of a donor, one person can save up to eight lives through organ donation and help 50 other people through tissue donation.

In 2001, California joined 33 other states when the state legislature signed the bill SB 108 into law, authorizing an official state Organ and Tissue Donor Registry leading to the establishment of "Donate Life California".

Pacific's Alpha Phi Omega will be promoting the launch of this project with on site registration and information booths to help raise awareness of the need to become an organ donor and encourage the campus community to register. Registration procedures take place at www.Donatelifecalifornia.org.

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**Horoscopes**

**Aquarius 1/20-2/18**

Change is on the horizon. Change of the most major kind. Watch out for career opportunities or future forever spouses.

**Pisces 2/19-3/20**

Have you examined your every crevice? There's a clue you are missing here.

**Aries 3/21-4/19**

You may not know what to do 'til the time comes. That is no reason to worry.

**Taurus 4/20-5/20**

What's the point of rehashing a mistake? How is that going to make anything better?

**Gemini 5/21-6/21**

Today, declare your independence from a bad habit. All you need is a little willpower.

**Cancer 6/22-7/22**

It is fine to shop around, but don't put it off forever, the sale may soon be over. Try to get some sleep!

**Leo 7/23-8/22**

Courage is your greatest asset. Show them what you got! And do not let them tigers roar!

**Virgo 8/23-9/22**

You don't have to lower your standards. Just give others a chance to meet them.

**Libra 9/23-10/22**

No one is going to force you to take some time off. Pencil in some relaxation. Smile more!

**Scorpio 10/23-11/21**

The winds are going to shift, so don't get too accustomed to your current course. Believe what your friends tell you.

**Sagittarius 11/22-12/21**

Sometimes you lose the ones you love. It is never too late to show you still care, but people will admire you for your dreams.

**Capricorn 12/22-1/19**

Cultivate a quality of openness, especially where relationships are concerned.
Mike Dolgetty
Associate Director of Athletic Media Relations

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla. - Pacific head softball coach Brian Kolze has been selected to the 2005 Women's National Team coaching pool, as USA Softball today announced the selection of 16 coaches who have been chosen for coaching consideration for events during the 2005 Women's National Team seasons. These individuals were chosen from a pool of applicants that make up the 2005-2008 quadrennial coaching pool.

"We are excited to announce our pool of coaches for the 2005 events," said Director of National Teams Ronnie Isham. "Our goal is to maximize the opportunities for coaches within the pool and utilize a larger number of qualified coaches for USA Softball events."

Each of these 16 coaches will be considered for appointment to a coaching staff that would lead a U.S. team into international competition during the 2005 season.

The selection of coaches will be handled by the Women's National Team Selection Committee and will be announced at a later date.

Women's National Team's Program head coach Mike Candrea, who led the USA to the gold medal at the 2004 Olympic Games, also serves on the selection committee.

The following eight coaches have accepted an invitation to work the June 13-17, 2005 National Team Selection Camp. This camp will be used to select the 2005 USA Women's National Team and the 2005 USA Softball Elite Team.

* Ken Eriksen (Temple Terrace, Fla., head coach at University of South Florida)
* Carol Hutchins (Ann Arbor, Mich., head coach at University of Michigan)
* Brian Kolze (Linden, Calif., head coach at University of the Pacific)
* Jay Miller (Starkville, Miss., head coach at Mississippi State University)
* John Rittman (San Jose, Calif., head coach at Stanford University)
* Karen Sanchelli-Johns (Gainesville, Fla., head coach at University of Florida)
* Scott Whitlock (Marietta, Ga., head coach at Kennesaw State University)
* Teresa Wilson (Lubbock, Texas, head coach at Texas Tech University)

The following eight coaches have also been chosen from the coaching pool for possible appointments to 2005 National Team events.

* Suzy Brazney (Buena Park, Calif., head coach at Golden West College)
* Chuck D'Arcy (Sacramento, Calif., ASA Hall of Famer, Founder and former manager of Sacramento Rush Girls Softball Team)
* Gordon Eakin (Sandy, Utah, head coach at Brigham Young University)
* Stacy Iveson (Tucson, Ariz., head coach at Pima Community College)
* Barbara Jordan (Northridge, Calif., head coach at Cal State Northridge)
* Cheri Kempf (Antioch, Tenn., Owner/Instructor, Club K Fastpitch Softball Training Facility)
* Mike Larabee (Bellbrook, Ohio, head coach at Wright State University)
* Mark Lumley (Waco, Texas, assistant coach at Baylor University)

The Amateur Softball Association, founded in 1933, is the National Governing Body of softball in the United States and a member of the United States Olympic Committee. The ASA has become one of the nation's largest sports organizations and now sanctions competition in every state through a network of 88 local associations.

The USA Softball Women's National Team is one of the only two women's sports involved in the Olympic movement to capture three consecutive gold medals at the Olympic Games since 1996. The U.S. women have also won seven World Championship titles, including the last five consecutive.
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