Pacific Students Attend Sikh Temple Fair

Erin Birmingham
News Editor

(Stockton, CA) - On Sunday, April 17, 2005, Grant Village Townhomes, Sikh Temple, and the City of Stockton, invited the community to attend a neighborhood street fair. The Grant Village Street Fair took place between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. People flooded Grant and Fifth Streets, near Grant Elementary School. There were so many people in attendance that the floats in the noon time parade were forced to come to a complete standstill.

Community organizations, vendors and exhibitors were available to share information about community resources with those in attendance.

University of the Pacific students attended and had an amazing time.

"I went to the festival to do community service for the American Civil Liberties Union, and when I first walked in they were giving us delicious Indian food, and it felt like we really were in India. It was a really great experience and the music was great too", Amanda Vargas.

The festival was an opportunity for vendors, exhibitors and the Sikh Temple to present themselves to the people of Stockton. It was a celebration of Indian culture within the United States.

All of the people involved provided a wonderful gift to the Stockton, and Pacific communities.

PERIODICAL NAME

Benedict XVI Chosen, Pacific Remembers John Paul II

Erin Birmingham
News Editor

Former Cardinal of Germany, Joseph Ratzinger, was elected Pope Benedict XVI on Tuesday April 19th. At 6:04 p.m. it was announced to the world through plumes of white smoke from the Sistine Chapel's Chimney and St. Peter's cathedral bells. Thousands of people rushed the square in front of St. Peter's cathedral to view the new Pope Benedict XVI's first official appearance. The 78-year-old leader promises to enforce conservative policies and remain, "a simple, humble worker". However, at Pacific the memory of John Paul II will live on.

On April 21, the Newman House presents Multi-Perspective Presentation on Pope John Paul II and His Legacy. The event, which will be held in the WPC auditorium at 7 p.m. will feature Pacific professors along with local religious leaders. Rabbi Gwasdoff, reformed synagogue rabbi, will speak about Jewish-Christian relations and Bishop Stephen Blaire will discuss personal reflections and memories of the late Pope John Paul II.

Dr. Miguel Novak, Newman Houses campus minister, hopes that this event will help, in John Paul's spirit, build bridges founded on eternal values.
Study Abroad With Gilman Scholarship

By Kohloud Roshed

Does the thought of an international educational opportunity interest you? If so, you may be the perfect candidate to participate in a study abroad program administered through our university’s International Program Service in the Bechtel International Center. You can be approved to choose from over one hundred programs in over fifty countries to study abroad in. No matter what your area of study is, a study abroad program is available to you. The array of programs provides students with the opportunity to incorporate an internship, fieldwork, language immersion, and volunteer work, along with their academic agenda in their program.

Once you are approved, you can begin to research from the variety of programs and proceed with the application process. Important factors to take into consideration after researching a destination and program of interest are costs. Some costs may include but are not limited to, program application fees and deposits, Pacific tuition, Pacific room and board fees, International Roundtrip Airfare, books and supplies, and last but not least, personal expenses. Although costs may discourage some students from embarking on an international educational and cultural opportunity, many find financial relief assistance through specific study abroad scholarships offered through universities and private or governmental organizations.

One featured congressional funded scholarship sponsored by the U.S. Department of State Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, is the Benjamin A. Gilman Scholarship. The Gilman Scholarship offers grants up to $5000 to U.S. citizen undergraduate students interested in international education and experience abroad. The grant can be applied to costs toward a study abroad program to help alleviate financial constraints of academic studies abroad. Students who are receiving Federal Pell Grant funding at a 2-year or 4-year college or university are encouraged to apply. For more information visit www.iie.org/gilman.

The opportunity to participate in study abroad programs worldwide can better prepare students to understand our world of cultures, ideas, and ways of life, while increasing communication on an international level. Don’t miss out on the world of knowledge available to you through study abroad programs and scholarships. For more information on Study Abroad and the Gilman Scholarship, join me on Thursday, April 28, 2005 at 12 pm in the Bechtel International Center, for an informational session on Study Abroad and the Gilman Scholarship. Students in all majors of study are encouraged to attend.

Sharon Ito to Speak at Symposium

By Alexis Louie

(Stockton, Calif.) - Well-known Sacramento TV personality Sharon Ito will be the keynote speaker at University of the Pacific’s 2nd annual Communication Symposium on Thursday, April 21. The free, day-long event is open to the public and will take place at the Health and Sciences Building of Pacific’s Thomas J. Long School of Pharmacy.

High school and college students from throughout the region are invited to attend the event, which includes various multi-conference panels and a career and internship faire. The panels will take place from 10 a.m. to noon, 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., and 3:45 to 5:45 p.m., and will feature such presenters as Dave Frederickson and Kelly Huston.

Mr. Frederickson is a Senior Official for the Bush Administration, serving as Communication Counselor for the U.S. Small Business Administration. Mr. Huston is currently Deputy Director in the Governor’s Office of Homeland Security and a former Modesto law enforcement officer who handled the media relations for several high profile cases, including the Laci Peterson and Chandra Levy investigations.

The evening events include a reception from 6 to 7 p.m., followed by Sharon Ito’s keynote address and communication department awards.

“This is a wonderful opportunity for students interested in the communication field to learn more about the career path they’re choosing and meet with some potential employers,” said Dr. Qingwen Dong, chair of the Communication Department at Pacific. “It is also a great opportunity for industry professionals and the community as a whole to hear from one of our prominent graduates, Sharon Ito, as she shares her experiences.”

The Communication Symposium is an annual showcase of the University of the Pacific Communication Department’s nationally recognized programs in public relations, broadcasting, and speech and debate. The all-day event includes a multi-panel conference, career and internship faire, graduate and undergraduate research poster session, and an awards ceremony honoring top seniors in the Department.

With more than 160 students enrolled in Pacific’s Communication program, the Department has been recognized as a “center of excellence” and “area of distinction” by the dean of College of the Pacific.
Antioch Perspective

By Shane Cipris
Perspectives Editor

On Saturday, a car bomb took the life of 28-year old peace activist Maria Ruzicka, who was in Iraq on behalf of the organization she had founded, Campaign for Innocent Victims in Conflict (CIVIC). Ruzicka was in Baghdad, tallying civilian casualties of the war, a subject that the U.S. military prefers not to document. She did more than simply count the dead and wounded; she truly empathized with the Iraqi civilians who had lost family members in the chaos of war. In the television news reports on her death, several video clips of Ruzicka were shown. One clip that stayed in my memory was of Marla comforting a weeping woman who had lost seven family members when a U.S. missile hit their house and flattened it. In another clip, Ruzicka apologized to a man who had lost two sons, also due to the aerial bombings.

Her courage and dedication were admirable, even though detractors called her naive. Perhaps she was idealistic, but that is a different thing than naivete. Ruzicka was based in Lakeport, CA, but instead of continuing her anti-war activism from the safety of the U.S., she chose to travel thousands of miles in order to witness and document firsthand the tragic involvement of innocent civilians caught in a war they had nothing to do with.

Although some of Ruzicka's critics maintained that her tally of the innocent dead and wounded would further increase anti-American sentiment, I believe the opposite to be true. I feel that by demonstrating that there were in fact Americans who sincerely cared about the plight of innocent victims of war, Marla Ruzicka performed an invaluable service. She showed the world, particularly the Muslim world, that not all Americans were mere sheep who either supported the war or compacently accepted it while distracted by decadent materialism.

Although she died far too young, it is remarkable what Ruzicka accomplished in her short life. I don't use the word lightly, but Maria is what Ruzicka accomplished too young, it is remarkable. Her courage and dedication were admirable, even though detractors called her naive. Perhaps she was idealistic, but that is a different thing than naivete. Ruzicka was based in Lakeport, CA, but instead of continuing her anti-war activism from the safety of the U.S., she chose to travel thousands of miles in order to witness and document firsthand the tragic involvement of innocent civilians caught in a war they had nothing to do with.

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Remembering one courageous American
California-based peace activist killed in roadside attack by Iraqi insurgents

By Don Sliomin
Guest Writer

It's said that nowadays, one can hardly go about the day without being under surveillance at some point. This seems true enough; there are video cameras at the mall and convenience stores anymore. In this day and age, you can't walk down the street picking your nose, unless you want a photo of yourself with a finger up the nose to wind up in a database somewhere.

Everyone has probably noticed the video cameras on the street intersection traffic lights, but how many people knew that there's a cable channel that actually shows live video from these cameras? I don't remember the channel number offhand, but it's a Stockton municipal channel, and you can watch the live feed from the traffic cameras. Stockton being the rough-and-tumble town that it is (off-campus at least), I always expect to see some crazy crime in progress, or a car chase or something. I'm sure it happens, but not when I'm watching.

I recently read that a lot of high schools across the country are offering cash rewards for students to inform on each other. This is supposedly an effort to prevent any future school catastrophes, like some kid flipping out and going on a shooting spree. Well, I guess that's a good argument for a snitch program, except for one thing: if some kid is talking about shooting up the school, it shouldn't take a cash reward for someone to do something about it. It seems like a high school informant program would just make it easier for kids to snitch out of spite. We all know the hateful games high schoolers play. With anonymous tips, the situation is even worse, because anyone could make an accusation against someone, simply because they don't like that person. While there are some valid arguments for a snitch culture, it all just reminds me too much of those damn high school hall monitors who used to narc on me for smoking cigarettes during lunch break.
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Rock band Epicure to play Phi Delta Theta
Fraternity will host a philanthropic concert to benefit the ALS Foundation

By Reader Morrison
Guest Writer

Phi Delta Theta will be hosting Epicure this Saturday at 9 p.m. for a charity concert benefiting the ALS Foundation. “This is a huge event for our school and the Pacific community,” said Vincent Lornambe, who along with fellow Phi Delts Alex Chavez and Matt Dodson are organizing this benefit concert. Music has a way of bringing people together, and what better way to unite our school than listening to good music for an important cause,” said Chavez.

Epicure is one of the hottest new bands to come out of California. Epicure, who have been compared to Sublime and 311 for the wide range of variety in their songs and spectacular instrumentals, is stoked about playing at Phi Delt. The band is also looking forward to doing their part for the ALS Foundation. “We know some of the Phi Delts and they are good guys, and we thought it would be great to help out in any way,” said Mike, the drummer of the band. “I believe we are getting the better deal here; we get to play music, hang out with Phi Delts and help fight ALS.”

“We take great pride in doing our part for ALS”

Hall of Fame baseball player Lou Gehrig was a Phi Delt who unfortunately was diagnosed with ALS, which is also known as Lou Gehrig’s Disease. The concert is two dollars a person, with the money raised going to the ALS Foundation. Hamburgers, hot dogs and sodas will be on sale, as well as T-shirts and CDs.

“Every cent counts; this is a fun way for our school to help raise money and awareness for our philanthropy. We take great pride in doing our part for ALS,” said Matt Dodson.

“Gehrig is the face of the illness, and shows how anyone at any time could be infected with this horrible disease,” said Alex Chavez. “It shows everyone is vulnerable and therefore it should be everyone’s objective to fight this disease, not just a fraternity.”

The benefit concert will be held at Phi Delt and every student, faculty member and university employee is more than welcome to participate in a night of great music, food and fellowship.

Phi Delta Theta president Chris McDermott said it best: “We believe philanthropy is the most important part of Greek life, and we feel a concert will help open eyes to ALS. Together we as the Pacific community can make a difference.” For information on Epicure, please visit their web site at epicuremusic.com.
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