Attemted censorship turns ugly

Stein refused, however, to re­lease the names and telephone numbers of the Pacifican. Kozina said, “I felt the Pacifican lied and that it should not be read.”

Meanwhile, University President Donald De Rosa refused to talk directly with a Pacifican reporter about the censorship issue, and instead told the newspaper in a letter that it should “work with your faculty advisor and the Office of Student Life,” to resolve the matter.

The Pacifican was allowed to have a brief telephone interview with John Stein, De Rosa’s executive assistant, who told that the university wanted the Pacifican to follow the student handbook, Tigertale, to resolve the dispute.

The Pacifican requested this financial information because Olson earlier threatened to investigate how the Pacifican spends the money given to it by the university to publish.

In response to Olson’s threat, the Pacifican reprinted its annual budget in last week’s issue. “We have nothing to hide,” said Editor-in-Chief Amber Prochaska.

As a result of Olson’s efforts to force the Pacifican to bend to the authority of ASUOP, the Pacifican sought the university’s financial information so that it could independently examine how the university allocates money to support student activities.

In recent days, students and faculty members have told Pacifican reporters that under Olson, ASUOP has been difficult if not impossible to work with to obtain funding for such student events as a charity drive, the rugby team, and the debate team.

“Matt Olson would veto resolutions to give organizations funding based on his own personal views,” Matthew White, a 2002 graduate of Pacific said. “[Olson] is completely unrepresentative of the student body, he always sides with the administration. He is aristocratic and very conservative.”

Sources have told the Pacifican that Olson’s “conservative views” may be the real reason that the Olson-led ASUOP is attempting to censor the Pacifican, because he disagrees with the occasional liberal viewpoints expressed in the newspaper.

In a letter to the Pacifican, the ASUOP called the newspaper’s contention “absurd.”

Olson, who accepted an invitation to attend the Pacifican Publication Board meeting last Thursday, did not show up. Instead, he sent an email to the Pacifican asking editors to meet privately with him and Julie Sina, Vice President of Student Life.

But because of the seriousness of Olson’s attempt to censor the newspaper by revoking its charter, the Pacifican told Olson it would be better if the two sides met to discuss the issue in a public forum.

The Pacifican again invited Olson to publicly address his concerns, but he has so far failed to respond.

“[Olson] tries to push his weight around this campus,” said Pacific sophomore Amanda Chaves.

Chaves was one of the five students who witnessed the attempt to shred copies of last week’s Pacifican, according to the newspaper.

See UGLY page 4
By Liz Thompson, M.A.
Staff Therapist
Counseling Services

If you are reading this article, then chances are you are concerned about the eating habits, weight or body image of someone you care about. That someone may be you. Maybe it is a relative, teammate, roommate, your girlfriend or boyfriend (yes, approximately. One million males struggle with eating disorders); or possibly you are concerned about a friend.

We understand that knowing and caring about someone who may be struggling with an eating disorder can be difficult. You are doing a great thing by looking for more information and learning more about eating disorders!

It is no surprise that 91 percent of women surveyed on college campuses have attempted to control their weight through dieting. But did you know that 35 percent of “normal dieters” progress to compulsive dieting. Of those, 20-25 percent progress to partial or full anorexia or bulimia.

An eating disorder is a complex physical, emotional, and psychological struggle. An eating disorder is often a person’s method of coping with or avoiding events or feelings that they are not ready to deal with.

She may be trying to distract or numb herself from pain or fear. Even if your friend does not struggle with bulimia or anorexia, she may be wrapped up in disordered eating.

Disordered eating means that your friend’s attitudes about food, weight, and her body may be causing her to have very strict eating and exercise habits that jeopardize her health, happiness, and safety.

Disordered eating may begin as a way to lose a few pounds or get into shape, but these behaviors can quickly get out of control and become eating disorders. Here are a few WARNING SIGNS:

- Does she avoid eating meals or snacks in social settings?
- Does she think or talk a lot about calories and fat grams?
- Does she talk or worry about her size and shape?
- Does she participate in “fat talk” 24/7? For example: “Oh, my butt looks gross in these jeans.” Or, “I need to lose five inches around my waist.”

1) Use “I” statements.
- Does she weigh herself often?
- Does she exercise because she feels like she has to, not because she enjoys being healthy?

- Has your friend lost or gained a significant amount of weight recently?

If you are worried about someone’s eating behaviors or attitudes, then it is appropriate for you to express your concerns in a loving and supportive way.

Honesty and respect are key in discussing eating issues with a loved one or friend. You may be thinking, “What should I say?”

In a calm and caring way, talk to your friend about specific behaviors you see and how you feel. Try to do this in a supportive, non-confrontational way. Here are three suggestions:

1) Use “I” statements.
2) Avoid accusations.
3) Encourage a session at the Counseling Center, We have counselors at Pacific that are trained to help you; there is an eating disorders support group, would you like me to talk you over to the counseling center for an appointment?

Whether you are concerned about a friend, yourself or you are just reading this article for information, you can take part in preventing eating disorders. Here are some ways:

See TIPS page 5

Rules of democracy

By Alex Wagner
Managing Editor
Perspectives Editor

In the prim and panzy-printed living room of the Kappa Alpha Theta sorority house, Pacific students, faculty, and members of the Stockton community engaged in a discussion on the rules of democracy.

The last in the three-part panel discussion series entitled, “Journey Toward Democracy,” co-sponsored by the Jacoby Center and Division of Student Life, moderator Dr. George Condon opened Wednesday evening talk by asking, “What is it about the political system that turns people off?”

After briefly discussing their roles in the democratic system, each panel member tackled the question and then engaged the audience in the discussion.

Former Stockton City Council member and keynote speaker, Beverly McCarthey attributed voter-apatathy to the feeling that individuals cannot make a difference. On the contrary to this belief, she stated, “Individuals can make a difference; never miss an election because one vote does matter.”

McCarthey discussed her experience in the local political system and shared her lessons on the rules of democracy and how to get elected to public office. “Openness and accountability are the rules of our democracy,” she stated, “Moral authority is your greatest source of strength.”

McCarthey advised the audience to never let one branch of government or one person in an elected office gain too much strength because that would hinder compromise; an element essential to democracy.

Next to speak was Dr. Matt Weinstein, a political science professor at Delta Community College. According to him, the most important rules of democracy uphold the tradition of representation in government. He is against the referendum system in California that allows ordinary citizens to vote on a number of propositions dealing with complicated issues.

“It’s a crazy idea for you to ask me to vote on requisites for dentist licenses,” he stated.

For the rest of the night, dialogue between the audience and panel took place on a number of issues pertaining to the political system and civic participation. Condon closed the discussion by thanking the sponsors of the “Journey Toward Democracy” series and informing the audience that this program is currently being installed on a number of other college campuses around the country.

DENIED From page 1

one of the most popular student activities.

Although Campus Recreation receives $30,000 from ASUOP, it is still not enough to fund all outdoor athletics.

Pacific Rugby has been suffering tremendously due to a lack of funding.

“ASUOP is difficult to deal with,” Team Captain and President Andrew Trapani said. “They seem resistant to give us money like it is their money that they raised. It is ludicrous as far as I’m concerned.”

Rugby currently lacks athletic tape, padding and jerseys, as well as other equipment needed to play safely and effectively against other teams.

“We pay all of this money to attend Pacific, but do not have proper equipment,” Co-Captain and Treasurer Josh Kawahara said. “We are going to have to raise player dues just so we can play.”

In order for an organization to receive funding from ASUOP, it must fill out a funding request form and then make a 10-minute presentation in front of Olson and seven other ASUOP representatives.

Approaching ASUOP for money was very intimidating,” Kawahara said. “The people on the board do not care about our sports program because they aren’t involved,” Kawahara said. “Funding really depends on how they feel about your organization. You’re left in their hands.”

DEL
There are so many faiths and cultures that exist in a college campus community. There are also many cultural-based organizations that are supported on our campus. If you are one of the many believers of Islam here at Pacific, there is just the right club for you.

The Muslim Student Association, also known as MSA is made of dedicated members. All are welcome to partake in the activities and to learn about Islam. Although there are about 100 members listed on the Web site, few participate consistently.

The co-presidents share a concern for the continuation of their association. Sammar Miqbel a co-president will be graduating this year. Rayhana Khan, also co-president will be a club next year. If everyone would be a dedicated member, there would be no problem with numbers.

These ladies make it clear that all are welcome to attend their meetings and events. The meetings are held in WPC 131 from 12 p.m. until 12:30 p.m. every other Thursday. That means that there is a meeting today!

By Kristin Stern
Business Manager

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If you have any questions you may contact the association through e-mail at UOPMSA@hotmail.com.

Pamela Parvez, a converted Muslim of eighteen years, stressed the importance of MSA. “It is nice to have something to associate with. Open forums are held that deal with problems which might arise.”

Last week was Islam Appreciation Week. Many group events were planned and ran successfully. Events included speakers and a booth outside McCaffrey Center.

Thursday there was a Ramadan Potluck dinner after sunset, in the Bechtel Center. There was a good turn out of over forty people. Members of the club, other Muslim students, community supporters, and many other friends of the club came to eat together for a Ramadan feast.

Ramadan is one of the five pillars of Islam. There are actions expected of believers, including briefly: Shahadah, profession of faith; Salah, daily prayers; Zakah, payments to the mosque, The Hajj, pilgrimage to Mecca, and Ramadan.

Ramadan includes a one month out of the year of cleansing and prayer. Muslims fast during the daylight hours, and refrain from things such as smoking, drinking, and sexual activities. After sunset families usually get together and have a feast called Iftar.

Member Ashraf Madian explains that Ramadan is a holy month in which the Prophet Muhammad. The month is focused on prayer and following God’s rules, and this is how people should act all year. This month helps increase their faith in God.

Alumni Nosheela Saleem says, “Ramadan is a month to get in touch with yourself, and to understand those less fortunate.” Although Saleem has finished school, she still wants to show her support to MSA.

The Ramadan Potluck was a friendly environment following the rituals of Islam. At 4:55 p.m. the call to prayer was made. Then followed the sunset prayer where people rose to perform their prayer before dinner. There was plenty of food to go around and a lot of enthusiastic conversation. Events will continue throughout the month of Ramadan, and the school year.

By Shawn Batt
Director of Pacific Speech & Debate Society and Assistant Professor of Communication

The Pacific Speech & Debate Society (PSDS) is going strong and the future holds great promise. We have a number of competitive successes already behind us this year, including second place in debate at the Santa Rosa tournament, third place in Prose at Hayward, and second place in poetry at Wyoming.

Jacki Evans (’06, Pol. Sci.) and Cynthia Parrish (’05, Business Law) just returned safely from an eleven day trip to England where they participated in the Oxford and Cambridge tournaments on back-to-back weekends. Their story will be available soon on our Web site.

Controversy seems still to be flourishing in the world, which is good for us since we are in the business of engaging and sustaining space for public discourse. With an election coming up next year, Americans will be more interested in debate and discussion. Here on campus, the alcohol policy revisions and the more recent conflict brewing between the student government and The Pacifican have generated an opportunity for us to attract more attention to what we do.

In a few weeks we are hosting a college tournament on campus with over 30 Pacific students participating in debate and individual speaking events.

Nevertheless, one of the challenges we are facing is how to keep a critical mass of students participating. Since forensics is a co-curricular activity, it’s easy for it to become second priority for busy students at Pacific. I would like to be clear about the opportunity we offer though. The PSDS is a university-wide organization, and students from all majors where welcome and encouraged to participate. Without greater student involvement, we are at a competitive disadvantage against the bigger schools around us like Cal, SFSU, and Chico State.

We need more Pacific students to make the commitment. It doesn’t take that much time, and all experience levels are needed. There are numerous ways to get involved with the PSDS.

Making the speech and debate society a routine part of your life can yield dramatic benefits for your academic and professional careers. Here is a short list of these benefits: dramatically improved thinking, speaking, and research abilities, sharp increases in confidence, opportunities to travel and meet people from around the country and the world, and a chance to compete directly with other schools at an academic and intellectual level.

Contact Shawn Batt at 946-3049 or visit our Web site at psds.uop.edu.
An unprecedented series of attacks hit computers connected to the Internet in the past four months. These attacks affected computers on the campus network as infected computers attacked other computers on the network. Infected computers created so much traffic at times that the connection to the Internet was swamped, causing slow connections. At a few points the traffic completely blocked Internet access. This affected universities and companies worldwide. The effect was so great that Microsoft has just instituted a five million dollar new program of rewards for arrest and conviction of the perpetrators. They have specifically offered $250,000 rewards for the authors of the “Blaster” worm and “SoBig” virus, two of the major problems this Fall.

Blaster and SoBig are two examples of “Malware”, software designed to affect your computer in ways you would not appreciate. This column is intended to be the first of series of columns to help you understand the very real threat to your ability to use your computer safely.

I had intended to write a general lead column to introduce the series, but just before writing this I received an email purporting to be from PayPal, the online payment service associated with Ebay online auction service. It started out: “Dear PayPal member, PayPal would like to inform you about some important information regarding your PayPal ac- count. This account, which is associated with this email address will be expiring within five business days. We apologize for any inconvenience that this may cause, but this is occurring because all of our customers are required to update their account settings with their personal information.”

The email looked entirely legitimate. It had an attached program to run to update the personal information. But... it was bogus. It was an attempt to get me to “update my personal account information” which would be sent to someone entirely unknown. In other words, it was an attempt to steal my personal information, to commit identity theft. I called PayPal and confirmed the email was indeed bogus. Whenever you get email from a company with which you have an account or someone trying to solicit your business, that email may have been forged. Unfortunately forging email is trivially easy. If the email asks you to update your personal information, you should not use any links in the email. Someone may be “phishing” for your information, trying to steal your information from you. Instead call the company or go directly to their website with your web browser.

If something looks at all suspicious, if it asks you for personal information or directs you to a website or to run a program to update your account, be very wary. If you have questions about computer security or ideas you would like addressed, you may email to itsecurity@pacific.edu.

The Pacifican

The best thing about going to the NationalACP/CMA
College Media Convention was realizing that we are not alone. There are dozens of other college newspapers that deal with the same issues and problems that we do.

The Pacifican took eight editors to Dallas, Texas earlier this month, where we not only did a presentation on civic journalism to 45 other student journalists and advisors, but we attended helpful seminars and mingled with editors from other schools. We were with thousands of other starving writers and editors searching for ways to make their paper and campus better.

It was exciting and fascinating to be with other students as passionate about journalism as we are. We found it refreshing and re-viving—just what we needed to cure those mid-semester blues.

We discovered what a truly great thing it is to have a student newspaper and to be a part of it. We will never again have the opportunity that lay before us.

We are not the only ones who have editorial goals. We cannot possibly deal with all of the problems; there are just too many. And we learned that we shouldn’t be expect-ed to. Plus, fixing does not take care of the problem. We need to take care of the cause.

UGLY From page 1

Kozina and Mortiz ripping up copies of the Pacifican last Saturday. She described the incident as “really bizarre.” Chaves had a run-in with Olson last weekend when she arrived at the Bechtel Center for an event she had scheduled since September. When she arrived to set up for her event, she discovered Olson and his Theta Chi brothers conducting their own event.

Chaves said she told Olson that she reserved the room and asked when Olson and his fraternity would be fin-ished. Olson replied, “I’m the president of ASUOP. I guess that’s just tough luck.” Olson was unable to be reached for comment at press time.

CARD CORNER

Pacific Cash, as well as Employee Pacific Cash, can now be used at Baun Fitness Center.
Fraternity goes homeless

Members of the Pi Kappa Alpha (Pike) at Pacific will be going homeless in the name of charity from Dec. 3-5, 2003. Pi Kappa Alpha calls this event “Hit of Reality” at Pacific. During that time, the fraternity members will be abandoning their daily lives, going homeless for 50 straight hours, by giving up their money, house, and car keys, while relying on handouts in order to eat. They are determined to raise over $10,000, which will provide food for those less fortunate in the Lodi, Tracy, Manteca, and Stockton communities.

So come and help contribute and support a great cause!

TIPS from page 2

• Be aware of the ways our society and culture has influenced your beliefs and attitudes about yours and others’ bodies
• Avoid making negative comments about your body or anyone else’s. Words DO hurt. Be a good role model about food, body image, and weight.
• Take care of yourself, which includes eating healthy, getting plenty of rest, enjoying some exercise, and interacting with people you enjoy.
• Learn more about the dangers of dieting.

Remember:
You cannot force someone to seek help, change their habits, or adjust their attitudes. You will help your friend or loved one by honestly sharing your concerns, providing support, and knowing where to go for information and professional help.

There IS help available:
Cowell Wellness Center Counseling Services
(209) 946-2225

A big bash for positive aggression

By Kristin Stern
Business Manager

This past Thursday afternoon beginning at 3 p.m., members of Pi Kappa Alpha held their second annual Car Bash recruitment event on the Hand Hall lawn. The event was open to everyone.

The event included a BBQ and a chance to legally tear apart an old car. Music blaring, the good smell of meat cooking on the pit, fresh cookies, and cold soda, were topped off with the chance to be destructive.

Citywide Towing apparently donated the car to member Eric Hartman, who commented, “Know the right people, and get the right results.”

Senior Iain Patterson, who spent his time at the BBQ pit cooking tri-tip, organized the event. He said that the event “gives students a positive environment to get their aggressions out due to school stress.”

With safety goggles on and a sledge hammer in hand, everyone was encouraged to take a swing at the old, beat-up Honda Civic. Even a high school cross-country member jogging by took a swing. The car was not recognizable by the end of the event.

One member who wished to be unnamed, said the event would, “Show people what their car will look like after you drink and drive.”

Looking at it that way, is a good deterrent from driving under the influence.

The Car Bash lasted until shortly after 5 p.m. If you missed it, be sure to catch it next year.

Public Safety Report
November 2-8, 2003 prepared by Officer John Alfred

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Where</th>
<th>When</th>
<th>Loss</th>
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<tr>
<td>Grace Covell Hall</td>
<td>11/2</td>
<td>Stolen exit signs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rudkin Way</td>
<td>11/7</td>
<td>Theft of bicycle</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lot #10</td>
<td>11/7</td>
<td>Theft of 30 CDs from unlocked car</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McCaffrey Center</td>
<td>11/3</td>
<td>Unknown suspect spray painted Men’s restroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wendell Phillips Center</td>
<td>11/3</td>
<td>A woman’s wallet was found and turned over to Public Safety, owner was located and wallet returned</td>
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<tr>
<td>Morris Chapel</td>
<td>11/3</td>
<td>Non-student was arrested for trespassing and possession of University property</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stagg Way</td>
<td>11/4</td>
<td>Non-student was arrested for possession of narcotics and outstanding warrants</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lot #8</td>
<td>11/5</td>
<td>Non-student was arrested for trespassing after being seen pulling on car door handles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lot #8</td>
<td>11/8</td>
<td>Two non students were arrested for possession of drug paraphernalia</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Did You Know....

During this time Public Safety provided:

* 13 Hours of foot patrol
* 46 Unlocks
* 7 Motorists assisted
* 10 Suspicious persons interviewed
* 18 Escorts

Public Safety had:

* 215 Calls for service
* 32 Reports taken
Metro-phobic

By Suzanne Vvborney
Staff Writer

What is a metrosexual? Last week, the term was defined by Pacifican staff writer Robert Christianson as a "tart." However, when we go to Urbanictionary.com, we find 43 different definitions. A "gay who takes care of himself in ways society classifies as feminine pursuits," a "modern man who has now adopted what was traditionally perceived as feminine traits" and "a male or female that is heterosexual (straight) and has tendencies of the opposite sex," are the most neutral and least snide of the definitions. As far as the history on the Internet dates, this term was coined by British columnist Mark Simpson as far back as 1994, but has been reintroduced in the past year.

I remember first hearing this word early this summer when my housemate Bob, an avid reader of The San Francisco Chronicle, read me an article about it. I remember him exclaiming with joy that it was finally cool to be the sort of guy he is. Bob, who has a steady girlfriend and who has in fact courted girls for years, fits without any objection, into what we think of as "metrosexual.

He dresses well (though not expensively), bakes cakes, is well informed about entertainment and trends, and is always surrounded by girls. People have often thought he was gay simply because he is very genuinely kind and nice. He also fixes his own car, tracks baseball scores, and can put back the Rolling Rock like the best of them. As you can see here, we tend to divide people by their "masculine" and "feminine" characteristics, and as far as anyone can tell, the "metrosexual" is just a blurring of these gender lines.

I honestly don't see anything wrong with this new sort of "gender," but those who spend their lives constantly trying to categorize people and their behavior obviously do. Quite frankly, those such as Christianson who object to metrosexuals are annoyed because (1) long as metrosexuals exist, he won't know who the homosexuals are anymore, since behaviors attributed to them are not so easy to label now (it'd be much easier if each gender just stuck to their stereotypical behavior, so we could tell them apart, dammit!), and (2) how dare anything homosexual be assigned to that which is "straight," that's just insulting!

As expressed in his article, Christianson sees the emergence of the metrosexual as an "agenda" promoting all the vices of society: narcisism, consumerism, superficiality. In fact, he implies that to condone metrosexuality (as if it was a behavior that needs stifling) is tantamount to the decadence and complacence which ignores global diseases and world hunger.

First, there are many problems with Christianson's argument. All of his complaints with the metrosexual movement are ones which apply to society as a whole, and he erroneously identifies the metrosexual movement as the leader or embodiment of such societal ills. He claims that the metrosexual movement is "birthed neither in reason, nor virtue" (since all the stereotypes we have about men, women, and gay people so obviously are) and that it is "a slavish acceptance of contemporary culture."

Wait, stop! Considering that the majority of advertising is targeted at heterosexuals and heterosexual couples, isn't it more than just metrosexuals who are slaves to contemporary culture? Just about every car, toothpaste, liquor and clothing ad is aimed at making the viewer feel that the possession of that object will make him or herself more desirable, obviously do. Quite frankly, those such as Christianson who object to metrosexuals are annoyed because (1) long as metrosexuals exist, he won't know who the homosexuals are anymore, since behaviors attributed to them are not so easy to label now (it'd be much easier if each gender just stuck to their stereotypical behavior, so we could tell them apart, dammit!), and (2) how dare anything homosexual be assigned to that which is "straight," that's just insulting!

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The danger in supporting enraged music

By Paioe Elisha
Staff Writer

"We'll put a boot up your ass, it's the American way!" This is one of many lines that remained lodged in my mind well into the evening last night, long after I had left the arena where I had heard Toby Keith, a prominent country musician, play before a crowd of enthusiastic fans. They stomped their cowboy boots against the cement floor, yelled at the top of their lungs and held plastic cups of cold beer as high as they could.

And no, I wasn’t there against my will. This was a concert that I had willingly paid to attend, one that I was excited and happy about seeing. I like Toby Keith and even though I never thought that I would say it, I like country music. Only a few years ago, I scoffed at anyone who would listen to it, but now I find myself adamantly defending the genre against the jeers of my friends.

My reasons? I like country music because it tells a story, it has a catchy beat and best of all, it doesn’t use the swear words or talk about the violence and gratuitous sex that music like rap is characteristically known for. I realize now, how inappropriate these assumptions were.

Country may have some great stories but it is also offensive on many levels. Since the events of Sept. 11, country musicians have led the drive to support American aggression. Supporting the good old 'US of A' is one thing but blindly supporting pent up anger is another. Secondly, while I had formerly looked down on rappers for emphasizing their gangster side, I realize now that country similarly relies on its white trash appeal. Before the music began, a brief video clip that portrayed Keith as a dog, to promote his new album, Unleashed, pre-viewed the concert. Aside from many obscene sexual innuendos, the piece made multiple references to white trash America and why we should be proud of it. At the end, I was shocked and dismayed to see the stadium of fans stand and cheer as they watched the dog wash down some "repulsive" French Champaign with a good old American drink, water from a toilet bowl.

I respect the choice that every individual makes regarding their own behavior and entertainment. I do not put myself above anyone. I like rap and I like country. The problem is that I am having problems defending them.

Maybe I am having problems defending what they represent. Are they a true representation of American society? Is this music what people are, what they believe and what they want?

It is safe to say that music of any type can only be said to pertain to a limited group of the populace. Every person will choose to listen to something different and allow what they listen to affect them differently. However, the problem with music is its popularity, its influence, and its control.

I am afraid of what will happen when everyone cheers for America being represented as toilet bowl water. Music and entertain-
the average American SUV owner complains about our unresolved issue of oil dependency, when in fact it is the average SUV owner who has contributed to this problem. If Americans were more conscious about our actual transportation needs instead of our wants, we could easily erase the issue of Middle Eastern oil dependency.

When SUVs were first introduced to the American automotive market, they were largely appreciated by outdoor enthusiasts who bought the vehicle for an array of uses. It was the Ford Explorer in 1991 that skyrocketed the sales of SUVs. Today, the SUV has essentially replaced the classic station wagon and accounts for 25 percent of American car sales, with 73 different models to choose from. Most people choose to purchase an SUV for its massive size and higher profile because it gives them an advantage in traffic and increased safety. However, it is these very attributes—the higher center of gravity and heavier weight—that makes these vehicles more dangerous.

Some critics believe that Americans will continue to purchase SUVs because they feel safer in them. At a time when we are fighting an unknown enemy against the war on terror, people feel safer driving down the road in an Expedition instead of an Accord in case of a terrorist threat. Overall, it’s a pretty messed up phenomenon.

We as Americans have a moral duty to conserve energy. America consumes 25 percent of the world’s oil and we sit on three percent of the world’s known reserves. Eventually Americans are going to have to give up this craze for a vehicle that while keeping us safer on the road, actually makes us more prone to dispute amongst other countries due to our reliance on foreign oil reserves. The cars we buy today represent the single, largest expenditure with imaginable impact that we will ever make. Purchasing an SUV not only makes us more reliant on foreign oil reserves, but also is an important moral issue due to the drastically increased fuel consumption. Yet why won’t Americans begin to realize that every time they purchase an SUV or truck, it makes a bigger dent in the ozone layer? We buy SUVs for safety, yet that is the last thing they do for us. To keep us safe on the road, they destroy the surroundings of that road because they trash the environment. It’s that simple.

OK, I admit, I drive a SUV too. It gets terrible mileage, getting 15 miles to the gallon on average. To me, the insurance costs more and shell out way too much money on gas. Yet I represent the minority of American SUV owners, I drive to the mountains with six other people and our ski gear. It gets me and my friends to the beach with our boards, and I take it off-roading with my cousins. I transport items for my sister’s business and during the upcoming holidays, my Durango will be the selected vehicle for getting the turkey and the tree.

Maybe it’s practical for me maybe, and I admit, some SUV’s are the nicest ride you can buy. But for all those soccer moms and rich kids with their Hummers and Escalades, the next time you fill up could be your last.

PHOBIA from page 6

funny, happy, cool etc. If you look at celebrities like Tom Cruise or Ben Affleck (the epitome of the man to be nowadays) who are always dressed to the nines, you could definitely accuse them of the narcissism that Christianson lambasts metrosexuals for.

Christianson also claims that “makeup... is a tool for deception” and that “hair products are without worth” and “jewelry is without need.” While an obsession with one’s looks or brand names is definitely obnoxious, Christianson seems to be endorsing a very ascetic lifestyle, and while it does not leave room for mindless self-indulgence, it also does not leave room for art or personal expression.

Mankind will always be craving, burning with self-expression, this projection of the individual is not something which can or should be stopped. I bet even Christianson has a favorite shirt or sweater or hat which he easily could exchange for a basic, plain Salvation Army find, but which he likes because it looks good on him, or he likes how it looks and it is worn for more than “necessity and comfort.” Christianson also criticizes metrosexuals for wearing Abercrombie and Fitch and wearing hair gel and working out when this is a behavior practiced by at least 50 percent of the guys I see every single day who don’t otherwise fit into the “metrosexual” standard!

Despite the underlying homoeroticism of some of Abercrombie and Fitch’s photo layouts, the image they mostly project is of a Neo-Aryan, neo-heterosexual (as seen in the ads with half naked women) world. And isn’t there already a lot of pressure on guys to be buff, look at our current Governor, ahem, Governor. People of all gender persuasions, have always and will always be competing based on outward appearances.

Christianson implies that to be “metrosexual” is to succumb to the perpetuation of a “false identity.” The way I see it, metrosexuality is not a false identity but simply a label making guys who already act in gay-qualified behaviors feel accepted by society. Originally people might exclaim, “What, you watch Sex and the City, know what foie gras is AND you like women? What are you, an alien?”

In his original article for online magazine Salon.com, Mark Simpson, founder of this popular new term metrosexual, identifies David Beckham, the famous soccer player, as the perfect metrosexual. Though Simpson also argues that metrosexuality has emerged simply as a hot new press item for the media, it does seem that “metrosexual” is a term we are using to label certain kinds of men who already exist, whom we previously did not know how to categorize. Furthermore, as evidenced by Christianson’s condemnation of metrosexual behavior, many of those who object to the term seem to be leery that they too, may be identifying with homosexual behavior if they act “metrosexual.” This new form of homophobia can be seen in a quote from that same Canada.com article where a lawyer who admits to his appreciation of the finer things in life, says “Neither I nor anybody I know would want to be identified as a metrosexual, by implication being more than a joking way.”

This quote demonstrates that metrosexuality has on one hand made a whole sector of male society feel better about their less than hegemonic comportment and test tendencies, and has also sharpened the sentiments of the other anti-gay section of society. If anything, metrosexuality should hopefully empower men who can say, “Listen. Just because I happen to like women doesn’t mean I have to be a lazy, insconsiderate, uncultured slob.” Basically, metrosexual is a term, which may fade soon but those who identify themselves that way will not. The metrosexual demographic will most likely increase, and if the creation of such a term is needed to help people figure out their personal identity, then all the more power to them. It also makes us realize that we cannot so easily just put people into boxes and that by concentrating less on what we call people and more on who they are, we can change the very American phobia of what we consider gender.
Student notices racism is still a problem

By Norris Cooper
Staff Writer

Today I was approached by a fellow Pacific student who insisted upon having an open conversation regarding race relations. He somehow arrived at the conclusion that racism is an issue of the past. My counterpart suggested that the turbulent waters of race relations and racial hatred in the United States had somehow settled or subsided.

As I began to listen to this gentleman, I thought that his single voice may be representative of thousands of people who harness the same or similar views. So, I was prompt to respond.

What is racism? It is the combination of racial prejudice and power. Certain groups in our society are without the power to set the stage to enact it. Being African-American can be tough at times because of the undercurrent of racism that almost invariably exists. Governmental, political and social institutions have become the devices which racists use to carry their actions out.

We have two wounded service women, Shoshana Johnson (African-American), and Jessica Lynch (European ancestry). Both of these women were psychologically traumatized, prisoners of war in the Iraqi conflict, and suffered serious injury in an effort to protect our freedoms. Lynch was possibly raped, and suffered broken bones, while Johnson was shot in both of her legs and had various other injuries.

At the end of the day, Jessica was the only war hero with a book deal and TV mini series, along with receiving 80 percent of her medical disability award. Johnson has barely been present in the media, and is only scheduled to receive 30 percent of her medical disability award.

In the Florida presidential election in 2000, great masses of voters in Florida, primarily black, Jewish, and elderly people of color were denied access to the ballot. Some were intimidated, others were sent damaged ballots. Minority student absentee ballots were not counted timely as received, many precincts that traditionally vote the democratic ticket were redistricted and told they were not registered or the voting was closed, law-abiding voters were placed on an ineligible felons list, polling places moved without notice...the list goes on.

If one is truly interested in the way Florida has historically treated its Black populace, a key word search will provide concrete documentation. The laws and policies in regards to crime and voting ensure that people of color, especially Blacks, gain no power through the vote.

In 1997, 75 percent of the motorists stopped and arrested on the New Jersey turnpike were minorities. While minorities were only 15 percent of the speeders, and totaled only 46 percent of the overall drivers, they were still stopped more frequently. Driving while black or brown should not be a crime.

On July 23, 1999, the small town of Tulia, Texas was rocked by the arrest of 43 Black people on drug charges. Thirty-eight of these Black men and women were convicted and given sentences of up to 434 years in prison. On Aug. 22, 2003 Governor Perry pardoned 35 of the 38 defendants due to lack of evidence. This was truly a racist roundup.

Our great nation has cast centuries of oppression on people of color (especially Black), but cannot handle 30 years of affirmative action? White males have been given an unearned privilege (some work hard and earn their way). Why is there a complaint when someone else wants a seat at the table?

The power brokers wouldn’t let us in the door whether we were qualified or not! So, a policy was created to help them do the “ethical” thing. Why are we engaging in deliberate racial gerrymandering in Texas to create a Republican majority to skew the number of representatives to Republican favor?

Then we have the issues surrounding double standards for crack cocaine versus raw cocaine sentencing, the Rush Limbaughs, the Trent Lotts of the world, etc.

Racism is definitely a problem and has rippled at the heart and soul of our nation’s people of color. And as one can see through the illustration of example, one needs power to enforce policy.

I understand the struggles of all the people of color. However, I think that black people have a unique situation, as we did not come to this country by choice. We were brought by force and have never been allowed to completely overcome white oppression. Like Chris Rock exclaimed, “Not even a poor white man wants to trade places with me, and I’m rich.” Rock went on to say in comedy as he portrayed a white respondent, “Nah that’s okay buddy, I’m going to ride this white thing out and see where that takes me!”

The other side of the political spectrum

Submitted by The College Republicans

Greetings, from the newly established republican club here at Pacific! We held our first meeting earlier this week, openly discussing conservative views, without having to watch our backs. All of us are just like many of you reading this article: Pacific students who are afraid to state that they’re republican—on campus, that is. It’s no big mystery as to why we’d rather lock ourselves up in a closet, than oppose a professor’s argument debasing George Bush.

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"It's no big mystery as to why we'd rather lock ourselves up in a closet, than oppose a professor’s argument debasing George Bush."

Many students have asked what the differences are between republicans and democrats. Here are some of them:

In a nutshell, democrats are more in favor of government programs, and government intervention, whilst republicans opt for less government interference.

Republicans want tax cuts because they’re tired of seeing a huge chunk of their paychecks go toward programs that don’t always have the desired results.

Let’s take the issue of welfare, for example. If someone desperately needs help, they might need a handout to get back on their feet. However, when that person takes advantage of the help, and becomes dependent on the government, that’s when it becomes a problem.

Republicans are angered, and rightly so, when they see money they work hard for go toward someone abusing the system.

Believe it or not, there are people of all races who are republican. The belief that arduous work develops character remains the basic premise behind conservatism. Most republicans have worked hard to achieve what they have, and this fact repeatedly goes unnoticed.

This article’s sole intention lies in educating the students of Pacific about “the other side” of the political spectrum.

It’s unimportant whether or not you agree with the republican position; the relevance lies in your ability to decipher for yourself where you stand, based on the knowledge you choose to acquire.

Agreeing with a professor with whom you respect is one thing, but agreeing only to please is quite another.
“Words have the power to both destroy and heal. When words are both true and kind, they can change our world.”

~Shakyamuni Buddha

The Bush Administration will stand out among all others in future American History textbooks. Its fame, however, will not be credited to its greatness. Rather, the Bush administration will be infamous for the unprecedented levels of governmental secrecy and intrusive violation of the civil liberties of its citizens during its reign.

“Never before in my 65 years of life experience has our country been closer to the ‘Big brother’ style government that Orwell predicted in 1984, than we are right now,” former Stockton City Council member Beverly McCarthey told Pacific. “I have been checked for radioactive materials and had my house entered and searched by government agents without cause. They have the power to investigate any persons without having to show any probable cause that you’ve done something wrong. This is always wrong, whether it’s done by a federal, local, or even student government. Nobody’s right to exercise their liberty should be compromised due to one individual’s desire to investigate them without reasonable cause.”

Terrorism is a real threat. Nobody can deny that. But many people will admit they do not feel any safer based on these laws, especially when incoming cargo carriers are still not checked for radiation and搜查 of the lives of its citizens during its reign.

President Bush interpreted the attacks of September 11th as a blank check to pursue an irresponsible foreign policy agenda and repressive domestic agenda. “Rather than leading with a call to courage, this Administration has chosen to lead us by inciting fear,” former Vice President Al Gore said during a speech earlier this month.

Not every law or decision made by the Administration should be supported without thoughtful questioning or criticism simply because it was made in the name of fighting terrorism. Nor should people fear the government’s watchful-eye since the nation’s founding, government’s watchful-eye the federal government can secretly enter and search your home with no warning or warrant. They have the power to investigate any persons without having to show any probable cause that you’ve done something wrong. This is always wrong, whether it’s done by a federal, local, or even student government. Nobody’s right to exercise their liberty should be compromised due to one individual’s desire to investigate them without reasonable cause.

Security policies of certain nuclear weapons facilities have failed to be reviewed.

“The American way”—whatever it might be.

MUSIC from page 7

Artists and the public alike need to understand the importance of their actions and decisions, realizing that while fun is fun and sometimes a song is just a song, this is an important issue.

It is a frightening thought that music and other forms of entertainment are left to influence the ideals of society instead of the ideals of society creating entertainment. One thing is for certain, whether we realize and change the situation or not, they will continue to affect “the American way”—whatever it might be.
Delivery service serves students

The Pacifican

Thought you could only get pizza delivered? Think again.

Eight restaurants are participating in a new delivery service called Food to you: Tony Roma’s, Chili’s Grill and Bar, Dragon Express Chinese Deli, Straw Hat Pizza, Marie Calender’s, El Torito, Stockton Joe’s and Gordito Burrito.

Food to You requires a minimum of $15 per order and charges a service charge of $4.99 per restaurant.

You may pay by cash or credit card (prices are 4% higher for payments made by credit card).

Food to You delivers lunch Monday through Friday from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and dinner Sunday through Thursday 5 to 9 p.m. and Friday through Saturday from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m.

After dialing 1-800-951-FOOD(5663) and placing an order from their extensive, delicious menu, Food to You will deliver your meal within an hour.

To obtain a menu go to www.foodtoyou.com.

Differences in scent preference

A survey conducted by a Pacific student explores which popular scents are preferred by each sex

FRAGRANCES: Some women’s scents may be pleasing to some while others find it to be revolting.

By Kristen Hess

Photo Editor

Picture yourself in an elevator with seven other people. The air is getting heavy and you still have 10 more floors to go. As the feelings of claustrophobia set in, another fear consumes you: the overpowering perfume coming from the 80-year-old granny is starting to make your eyes water.

This situation could be solved if only this lady knew that her perfume was too strong.

Women know what they like to smell. Some love wearing perfume, others love the natural goodness of their sweet-smelling shampoo and soap. Either way, they like how they smell. But on the other side, eyes water.

This study was intended to shed light on differences of opinion and if there was a pattern of preference followed by the two sexes.

Unknown to the participants were the names of each of the 15 different perfumes they smelled:

1. Estee Lauder - Beyond Paradise
2. Tommy Girl
3. Clinique - Simply
4. Escada - Sentiment
5. Marc Jacobs - Perfume
6. Clinique Happy - Heart
7. Ralph Lauren - Blue
8. Calvin Klein - Eternity
9. Dolce & Gabbana - Light Blue
10. Vera Wang - The Fragrance
11. Dolce & Gabbana - Sicily
12. Jennifer Lopez - Still
13. Bulgari - Omnia
14. Chanel - No 5
15. Clinique - Happy

Upon smelling each number, the participant gave their truly unbiased opinion. The responses were entertaining. Everyone had something to say about the perfume they absolutely detested.

"Number 9 is the funk! Nasty! That's the one that stinks up the whole magazine and you can't read it without getting a headache," said junior Rocio Gonzalez.

"Number 9 is awful. Dead awful," agrees senior Jen Joines.

Despite some gags that Dolce & Gabbana Light Blue got, five people (four women, one man) rated it as their favorite scent.

"Number 5 smelled like an overpowering old lady," said freshman Sadie Stone.

Another student, who was on the survey, Marc Jacob's Perfume was sophomore Valerie Moreno. "Number 5 stinks. It's too strong."

See SCENT page 14
Speculation on current events in the media

By Georgette Rodarokis
Lifestyles Editor

Limbaugh Back on Air

Conservative radio host, Rush Limbaugh, returned to the air on Monday, after being rehabilitated from his addiction to pain-killers. Limbaugh has yet to be formally charged regarding allegations that he illegally purchased large quantities of prescription drugs.

I would just like to express my utter disgust with our society’s status discrimination. While many so-called “criminals” sit in prison cells on drug charges, we turn around and watch the five-week rehabilitation of an eight-year, rich, white addict, and put him back on air to annoy the he/she gets your number so you can hook-up later, even after you have politely rejected any interest in continuing any sort of contact. Well, you can always give in and write down the Rejection Hotline number. That is, (415) 356-9833. Call it! It’s a guaranteed laugh. (I am aware that I Delivery available both location;)

Women of Wal-Mart

In order to attract more readers, the people at Playboy conjured up a cheap tactic. They called upon “The Women of Wal-Mart” to pose for a new spread that features women that are more attainable to the everyday man.

Executive at Playboy plan to propose other methods for gaining readership such as featuring naked drug users serving middle-aged white men prescription pain pills to appeal to aforementioned hypocritical media figures.

Brilliant Spears Cries, Raps — equally pathetic

Last week, Britney Spears broke down in tears as Diane Sawyer questioned her about coping with her past year’s hardships which included her feelings about Justin Timberlake’s controversial “Cry me a River” video.

This has to be one of the most pathetic moments in recent television history — after every episode of MTV’s Rich Girls series.

To add to her questionable actions, Spears also makes a ridiculous attempt to rap on her latest album, In the Zone, which was released earlier this week. Even more disturbing was her collaboration track, “I got that Boom Boom” with the Ying Yang Twins. Apparently, she wanted to show Justin up by becoming more of a “ wannabe” than he is.

Hello, You’ve Been Rejected

Finally, someone has created as useful a hotline as POPCORN. I’m sure all of us have had the dreadful experience of being put off that annoying admirer from the club. The one who insists he/she gets your number so you can hook-up later, even after you have politely rejected any interest in continuing any sort of contact. Well, you can always give in and write down the Rejection Hotline number. That is, (415) 356-9833. Call it! It’s a guaranteed laugh. (I am aware that...)

Sierra Leonean Novelist and poet, Syl Cheney-Coker will be doing a reading in the Humanities Center @ 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 3. The Gender Studies and Ethnic Studies departments would like to invite the students of Pacific to come participate in this special occasion.

If you have any questions please contact Camille Norton at cnorton@pacific.edu.
Theatre Etiquette: Two thumbs down

By Tora Cuslidge
Staff Writer

There’s something about going to a movie that was once really exciting. A movie always meant mom would buy expensive candy, dad would put on his best pair of jeans, and my brothers would act civil for at least three hours.

In fact, it was those acts of sudden etiquette that made me enjoy the movies. Every single person in the theater was polite; there was no worry about a baby crying or someone answering a cell phone three rows behind.

Today’s movie-going experience isn’t quite the same as those childhood memories. No longer can a person go to a flick expecting to be entertained by the silver screen without interruptions. The modern experience is just plain horrible.

This realization occurred to me last weekend during my screening of “The Matrix: Revolutions.” My naïve innocence told me that going to a show at 11 p.m. would be different, that parents and their children were already in bed. No one would interrupt my peace, I thought.

The first sign of contempt came after walking through the doors of a Stockton movie theater. A long line of loud Pacific students stood waiting, chatting as if the following Saturday was the last day before a long summer break. My boyfriend stood behind me, annoyed but dealing. The night was still, to say the least, young.

After being let into the theater, this group was continuously loud. Though I won’t speculate if they were all from campus, I did recognize a few from classes.

Then the throwing started, as pieces of paper became airborne for the two guys sitting next to one of these obnoxious moviegoers asking them to stop, the throwers would have probably kept doing it. Oh, and the student-type fellow sitting behind my boyfriend thought it was cool that he was talking on his cell phone to a friend (only three rows away).

This all happened before the movie even started.

Once the celluloid started rolling, the two guys who saved the crowd from the flanks of paper-throwing Pacific students started getting loud. Those students, did shut up, but the two “hushers” became the real problem.

It turns out that their innocent water bottles sneaked through the unknowing ushers were actually filled with an alcoholic beverage. By the end of “Revolutions,” both were drunk and almost stumbling as the credits rolled.

Add these incidents on to the “talkers” sitting in front and the kissing couple a couple rows down and the night was just filled with ridiculous fun. This has happened on numerous occasions. It seems like there is always someone ready and willing to make everyone else mad.

Ask the ushers for help, and they’ll come in and wave a flashlight around a couple times. For the most part, the employees at area movie theaters are young, impressionable and scared of the guy with a water bottle full of vodka.

This is the stuff the critics don’t tell the masses about. No focus is ever placed on the conditions of the theaters, rather just the movie quality or stupidity. It’s the viewer’s problem if the floors are sticky or the baby in back won’t shut up.

Even with the wide-ranging variety of movies that have come out in the past five-years, it’s become pointless to venture to the theater. Do something more constructive with that $8, and wait until the movie comes to Hollywood or Blockbuster.

Going to the theater just isn’t worth losing your sanity.

My Grade: B

Documentary shines new light on Tupac’s life

By Hilary Virza
Movie Critic

Isn’t it strange to think it has been about seven years since two of hip-hop’s champion rappers were murdered in violent drive by shootings? In case you had forgotten, Tupac: Resurrection takes us back into the tumultuous year that was 1996.

Tupac: Resurrection is an autobiography of sorts in which Tupac recounts and narrates his life from early childhood raised in the Black Panther movement up until his Las Vegas murder. There are heavy implications that the Panther movement was the source of Tupac’s message, but perhaps the biggest revelation made is that he spent a large part of his teen years studying theatre and ballet, far from the gangsta world he spoke of.

In the brief moments that we see the articulate, intelligent, and extremely eager Tupac in this environment, it becomes abundantly clear that despite the fact that he came from a broken home without any parental guidance, his whole thug persona could have very well been an extremely calculated career move. His drive and ambition are abundantly clear, and his charisma alone keeps the documentary interesting.

If you’re one of those people who is wary of going to see Resurrection simply because you do not listen to rap or Tupac, I recommend that you go see it anyway. If anything Resurrection opens eyes and informs society of things that they are still probably not aware of. Things like the ways he tried to change the world, and how he tried to help his community. They tell his side to a story that is often lost amidst his image of a violent thug.

What will surprise most people is how sincere and down to earth his charisma is. Did you know that his favorite song was folk writer Don Mclean’s “Vincent”? Who would have thought that he and Mickey Rourke were the greatest of friends? One of the lighter moments of the film comes when Tupac admits that his greatest supporter when he was in prison was none other than Tony Danza.

If Resurrection accomplishes anything, it shows us a caring side that only the ones closest to Tupac ever saw.

In probably the most poignant and eerie scene of the film, we see Gene Siskel praising Tupac an his performance in John Singleton’s Poetic Justice, stating “I hope to see him again real soon.”

Tupac: Resurrection can be described in a nutshell as the chronicle of an articulate and intelligent young man whose genius was only outweighed by his penchant for self-destructive behavior. What pains us more than watching him get involved with the wrong crowd, is watching his hunger for life suddenly cut short by his bad choices.

One thing that bothered me about Resurrection was the overly dramatic editing, such as the opening and closing shot of clouds used to suggest that Tupac is an angel flying through the air. We all understand that he is dead, but I don’t think that we are stupid enough that we need to be shown clouds to get that point across. As most documentaries go, the editing is very manipulative. The director takes Tupac’s voice out of context from interviews, and juxtaposes them in a way that we are supposed to think that he was prophetic and clearly saw his impending death.

With all of this said, Tupac: Resurrection is a worthwhile movie. Director Lauren Lazin does something special with this film, and that is to catch Tupac in the process of growing and discovering himself. From the charismatic teen who studied ballet, to the thug who released “All Eyes On Me,” seeing him mature on screen is a sight to behold.

My Grade: B
Roxy’s Revelations:
What’s the deal with Pacific chicks? I thought Pacific was going to be a place to find ladies and hook up. Help me understand!

-Dazed and Confused in Stockton

I think the problem is that you’ve been going about finding ladies the wrong way. After reading the letter you wrote me, it seems like you are looking for a girl to have a good time with. Although this is the 21st century, there are still many girls that won’t settle for a one night fling; they can’t handle it emotionally. The truth is, no matter how hard women try, they end up getting emotionally involved. It’s possible that the ladies that you’ve been talking with are aware of your intentions and don’t want to get hurt.

I have two suggestions to your dilemma. First, if you’re not interested in finding someone to have a relationship with, put yourself out there. Go to the Frat parties/events and have a good time. Chances are you’ll find someone who wants to have a good time with no strings attached. Secondly, if you are interested in a relationship, give it time. You have to ease yourself into it, don’t force it. If you rush things, girls will get the wrong impression, and you’ll be back to ground zero. Good luck.

The dorm hall that I am currently staying at is affecting my study habits because of all the loud noise and parties. Should I hang around for one more semester, or leave before my studying habits get worse?

-Crisis

Unfortunately, no matter which dorm you live in, you’re going to be challenged with distractions that accompany college life. These distractions from academics, however, are not completely negative. By dealing with the different schedules and the ins-and-outs of students in your dorm, you will adapt to future environments with ease. For example, living on your own, or living with your significant other, once married.

I suggest you stick it out for the rest of the year. Moving would be a hassle, and no matter how hard you think you have it, it could always get worse. You might end up with a roommate you despise, and still be having difficulties with respect to studying. In addition, I suggest you relocate your study sessions. I’ve found that the library can be a great place to do this. In addition, classroom building study halls and student lounges can be good places to get away from the noise.

Now if you’re thinking, “But I pay thirty-thousand plus to go here, and I’m not even able to study in my room,” you should try to think about the big picture. If you remain studying in your dorm, your study habits will continue to decline and you could begin to suffer academically. On the other hand, by giving up a little, you can gain a lot. By changing the location of your studies, you can be more productive and can regain those dwindling study habits. There’s hope for this crisis, yet.

Revelation cans are located in South/West and Grace lobbies, and the library and dining hall. You can also reach me at m_brink@pacific.edu. Hope to hear from you soon!
Sally Nichols
Galaxy Curu

A week is a time to make a strong decision in your life that will affect all aspects. This may mean to take a job offer or to tell someone the way you feel. A change is greatly needed to help keep your mindset stable.

Sometimes I get the feeling that you are allowing too many people to bring you down when they are saying things that are not always nice to be sympathetic to a friend, but just remember that sometimes being empathetic can leave you feeling lower than you intended. Know that there is a time to help and a time to step away so that your own happiness will not be diverted. Keep smiling Leo!

I think it is about time that you gave yourself the credit that you deserve. Your creative side should be shown to all those around you. You never know what opportunities will land in your lap when you open yourself up to new and interesting things. Keep the creative juices flowing by reading that Ayn Rand book that you have always wanted to read.

Taurus

Libra

Like most Libras do, you have found yourself yet another 'health kick.' As we all should know, beer and coca-cola are not the answers to living the healthy lifestyle, but don't forget that one must eat to attain greatness in health and strength. So when you are start getting up early to do your morning exercises (which I know you will do religiously!) don't forget to eat your Wheaties!

Scorpio

Take the leap and know that the destination you have dreamed of is right at your fingertips! Maybe the next time you check your email, you should open up the file labeled as you just won a get away to Hawaii! You never know what could be hidden behind doors that are usually never opened! If there is no Hawaii, at least there will a free Big Mac!

Sagittarius

Try to start holding the tears back; nobody likes a crybaby! Is there a reason you have been so emotional lately? Look deep inside yourself and see where this turmoil is coming from.

There are so many great things in this world, do not let yourself get down!

Capricorn

As the leaves are changing, maybe you should try and see how you could change yourself to be a better person as well. There is nothing wrong with Capricorns, but you always have room for improvement. UOP is really trying to get students involved with the Stockton community, pick up something new!

Aquarius

Before you know it, the holiday season will be right around the corner! Now is the time to start thinking about presents for friends, significant others, and family members so that you won't have to hit the mad dash! Try to conserve money this year, you never know when you may need it!

Aries

Have you thought about studying abroad? There are unlimited possibilities of what you could do. Pacific offers a great opportunity for all of their students to experience living in another country. Go check it out and you would be amazed at how much you will find out about yourself!
The Pacifican

NBA Season Preview: How the west is won

By Arash Behnom
Columnist

Outside the New Jersey Nets and Detroit Pistons, the Eastern Conference has a better chance replacing Arnold in the next recall than winning a National Basketball Association championship. With that said, the Nets and Pistons will be lucky to win a game, let alone the league championship.

With Kobe Bryant, the Los Angeles Lakers have the inside advantage of bringing home another championship. Without Kobe, the Sacramento Kings, San Antonio Spurs and Dallas Mavericks will have the advantage. The only certainty in this NBA season is that the NBA champion will be one of the top four teams in the West.

WES T

1. Los Angeles Lakers Shaq and Kobe are still feuding, so what's new? Question mark: Kobe Bryant. With legal battles and issues surrounding Kobe, can Shaq keep his focus on winning and Kobe on playing? Keys: Shaq's health. Questions: Kobe Bryant's decisions.

2. Sacramento Kings Injuries and bad luck have helped the Kings remain underachievers. This year is no different as star forward Chris Webber who has missed 43 games in the last two years, starts the season injured. Center Brad Miller was a huge pick up giving the Kings a big body to help Vlade Divac battle Shaq and Tim Duncan of the Spurs. Question mark: With Jim Jackson and Hinko Tipolu gone, is third-year man Gerald Wallace ready for heavy minutes off the bench? Keys: If they can stay healthy, and Kobe remains in trouble, this could be the year.

3. San Antonio Spurs The defending champions will have their work cut out for them. Replacing the retired David Robinson is no easy task for Rasho Nesterovic, who will be asked to control the middle. Even though Tim Duncan will call the load and Tony Parker has another year under his belt, losing Speedy Claxton will hurt. Question mark: Everyone knows what Robert Horry can do, but can Hedo Turkoglu and Ron Mercer fit into Greg Popovich's system. Keys: As long as the Spurs play through Duncan, and do what they do best, play as a team, they will be fine.

4. Dallas Mavericks The Mavs are going to try to outscore their opponent every game. They have the willingness to shoot, but at a rate that average more than fifteen points a game. Question mark: How newcomers Antawn Jamison and Antoine Walker accept dimensionless roles. Keys: The Mavs need to be able to play defense and have a better chance of being able to make a series run.

5. Minnesota Timber Wolves The Wolves loaded their roster to help Kevin Garnett but will ultimately end up with the same result. Question mark: Having a backcourt of Latrell Speedwell and Sam Cassell. Keys: UOP product Michael Olowokandi needs to give the Wolves a productive inside presence.

6. Phoenix Suns The Suns have the right amount of experience and athleticism to make a run in the playoffs. Question mark: Will the sophomore jinx catch up with Amar'e Stoudemire and can the Suns stay healthy? Keys: Rookies Jason Kapono, Dejon Kotevovic and Zarko Cabarkapa will have to contribute.

7. Houston Rockets Yao Ming and Steve Francis pack a formidable one, two punch. And point guard Cuttin’ Mobley is underrated. Question mark: Can anyone outside of Mobley, Ming and Francis contribute? Keys: Coaches Jeff Van Gundy and Patrick Ewing.

8. Memphis Grizzlies Jerry West knows how to build a team. Question mark: Can their young guns play major roles? Keys: Jason Williams needs to improve every year.

9. Portland Trail Blazers The Blazers are still dysfunctional and with less talent. Question mark: The whole organization. Keys: If the Blazers keep a good head on their shoulders, they might make the play-offs.


11. Golden State Warriors The Warriors dismantled the most talented team they have had in years. Question mark: Nick Van Exel, the owner and general manager. Questions: Is Mike Dunkeley going to show why the Warriors traded Jamison.

12. Los Angeles Clippers When the owner does not care about his own team, why should anyone else? Question mark: Having a backcourt of Latrell Speedwell and Sam Cassell. Keys: UOP product Michael Olowokandi needs to give the Wolves a productive inside presence.

13. Orlando Magic The Magic have come close the last two years by getting past the first round of the play-offs, which just might make this their year. Question mark: Can Ron Artest mature and play controlled without losing his head? Keys: Guys like Austin Croscere and Kenny Anderson playing big roles on the bench.

14. Atlanta Hawks The Hawks have two proven players in Jason Terry and Shareef Abdur-Rahim and that is it. Question mark: The health of Theo Ratliff and Al Horford. Keys: A healthy club, whose underachieving role players need to step up and produce.
NFL Week 12: Chiefs can’t match 72’ record

John Alfeareh
Staff Writer

San Francisco at Green Bay

The Packers (5-5) pulled off a must-win against the Packers last week in Tampa Bay, and now are back in the play-off picture because of another Vikings loss. They’re only one game out of the NFC North. The 49ers (5-5) also pulled out a must-win game last week over the Steelers, and now put themselves into the hunt for a playoff spot. QB Tim Rattay has been solid in his two starts while filling in for Jeff Garcia, and there has been some controversy as to who should start once Garcia is healthy. This is Jeff Garcia’s team, so he deserves a shot to win his job back. But he knows that if he doesn’t play up to the level he is capable of, Rattay is sitting in the wings. This should be a close game between two desperate teams, and Green Bay has not been playing well at home.

Oakland at Kansas City

The Raiders (3-7) finally pulled themselves out of the gutter last week to upset the Vikings 28-18. Although their season is done, it’s good to see that they haven’t given up altogether (their QB is Rick Mirer). The goal of this season should be to develop players like RB Justin Fargas and WR Jerry Porter for next season. The Chiefs (9-1) were shocked last week as they lost for the first time this season to no other than the Cincinnati Bengals. It was unrealistic to expect any team to go undefeated, considering the widespread parity that has overtaken the league the past few years. The Chiefs are still the best team in football at this time, and are my pick to make it to the Super Bowl from the AFC. Priest Holmes should have a huge day against the Raiders defense this week.

New Orleans at Philadelphia

The Saints (5-5) trailed the Falcons last week for nearly the entire game, but scored twice in the second half to send the game into overtime. In the OT, a John Carney field goal won it 23-20. Deuce McCallister has been the most consistent player on the Saints, having rushed for over 100 yards in six straight games. They will have a tough time making the playoffs though, as they are three games behind Carolina in the division, and two games back from a wild-card spot. The Eagles (7-3) have won five straight games and have caught up to the Cowboys in the NFC East. They beat the Giants 28-10 and QB Donovan McNabb seems to have bounced back from a rough start. They are still my Super Bowl pick for the NFC.

ALL THE WAY: Bengal Peter War Rick sees daylight on the way to the end zone.

**BRONCOS**

N.Y. Giants at Tampa Bay

The Buccaneers (4-6) lost a must-win game last week to the Packers, and now are in serious trouble if they want to make a playoff spot. It looks like the post Super Bowl exile is for real this year at the Raiders. In a shocking move earlier this week, the Bucs deactivated WR Keyshawn Johnson for the rest of the season. This just doesn’t make any sense. Sure he has been disrespectful to his coach and been a greedy player, but he is an All-Pro, and losing him only guarantees that they will not make the playoffs. He will be traded in the off-season, possibly to the Cowboys. Johnson is a big fan of Bill Parcells. The Giants (4-6) are also full of problems. They lost TE Jeremy Shockey for the rest of the season, and have played terribly the past two weeks. Head coach Jim Fassel is going to have a tough time keeping his job this offseason.

**BUCCS**

Tennessee at Atlanta

The Titans (8-2) didn’t score 30 points for the first time in six weeks, but their defense kept it together for a 10-3 win. QB Steve McNair hasn’t been as dominant the past three games as he was at the start of the season, but other players have been stepping up. If you saw the catch by WR Justin McCourrains last week, you know what I’m talking about. Atlanta (2-8) has been playing better football lately, nearly upsetting the Saints last week for their second straight win. Week 14 is the only thing to look forward to in Atlanta, when Michael Vick makes his first start of the season.

**TITANS**
Pacific Sports Briefs

The Pacifican

Women's Cross Country

The Pacific women's cross-country team finished their 2003 season with a 31st overall finish at the NCAA West Regional Championships on Saturday, Nov. 15. The Tigers were led by freshman Jessica Daly, who completed the 6K race with a time of 23:45 to place 152nd overall.

Men's Tennis

The Pacific men's tennis team closed the 2003 fall season at the Cal Poly Invitational on Sunday, Nov. 16. Sophomores Lennart Maack and Arnar Sigurds­son each earned three singles wins, while Maack and teammate junior, Niclas Otte, teamed up to claim two doubles victories. The Tigers will open the 2004 spring season at Washington in January.

Women's Basketball

The Pacific women's basketball team pulled out a 65-62 victory over Alaska-Anchor­age last Friday. The Tigers started the game on a slow start, but managed to mount a 17-4 run with freshman Michael White adding all six of his points in the six-minute span. However, the second half didn't come much easier for the Tigers, with both teams spending much of their time on the free-throw line. Led by junior Tyler Newton who successfully hit five of his eight attempts at the line. Newton finished the game with 16 points and six rebounds, while junior David Doubly added 14 points, five rebounds, and two assists. The Tigers will be back in action tomorrow night to take on the San Jose State Spartans in the opening game of the 2003 season.

Men's Water Polo

Unfortunately, the second half was taken over by the Gauchos. Both Wisniewski and Gonzales had three goals each, and senior Chris Lancellotti added the final goal. Pacific net-minder, freshman Jennifer d'Hondt who compiled 20 saves each.

Women's Volleyball

The Pacific men's water polo team ended the MPSF regular season play with a 12-7 defeat from No. 9 ranked UC Santa Barbara. With the loss, the Tigers finished the season at 6-17.

Men's Basketball

After coming back from a 2-0 game deficit to even the series up, the Tigers would end up losing 3-2 to Cal State Northridge this past Saturday.

Senior Jennifer Joines led the Tigers rallying comeback in game three as she had two of her team high 21 assists to send the match to a fourth game. Pacific continued the momentum into the fourth game, with their best hitting percentage of the match (.326), knocking down 20 kills.

The Tigers would lose to the Matadors in game five, but were still led by great performances from Joines who finished the match with a double-double, posting 21 kills and 11 digs.

Pacific will be back in action today as they travel to Logan, Utah to take on the Utah State Aggies at 7 p.m.

Men's Water Polo

The Pacific men's water polo team ended the MPSF regular season play with a 12-7 defeat from No. 9 ranked UC Santa Barbara.

Swimming

Men and women swim teams combined to win 10 events, but still fell short against Hawaii this past weekend.

The men lost by the score of 164-127, while the women fell 172-111. The women's swim team was led by a pair of wins from sophomore Laura McDonald, as she finished first in the 500 and 1000 Free.

On the men's side, juniors Vince Martinez and freshman Kenny Yamamoto both earned two first place finishes each.

The men's team will be in Long Beach today through the weekend to compete in the Speedo Cup, while the women's team will not be in action again until Dec. when they travel to Texas for the Texas Invitational.

Pacific games for the week:

**TODAY**

- WVB @ Utah State-6 p.m.
- MSW @ Speedo Cup in Long Beach, Ca.-All Day

**FRIDAY**

- WBB vs. Wisc.-Green Bay-5 p.m.
- MBB vs. San Jose St.-7:30 p.m.
- MSW @ Speedo Cup in Long Beach, Ca.-All Day

**SATURDAY**

- WVB @ Idaho-7 p.m.
- MSW @ Speedo Cup in Long Beach, Ca.-All Day

**TUESDAY**

- WBB vs. Santa Clara-7 p.m.
The Tigers lost two hard-fought games this week endangering the team's chance at a postseason bid.

Pacific dropped games to Nevada-Reno and Cal State Northridge, both of which went to five games.

Thursday the Tigers traveled to Reno to face the team that they eliminated from the playoffs last season.

However, this time it was Nevada that would come away with the win 28-30, 30-22, 12-30, 30-28, 15-13.

On paper, the Tigers looked to be the winning team having more kills, digs, and blocks than the Wolf Pack, and even outhit Nevada on the night but unfortunately, only the numbers on the scoreboard count.

The teams traded the first two games before an eighteen point blow-out by Pacific in game three.

The game marked the most lopsided victory for the Tigers on the season with the team hitting a dominating .520 on the game. Nevada struck back, forcing a fifth game by taking game four. Pacific started game five well but ended up losing crucial points at the game's conclusion.

Senior Jennifer Joines led the team in kills with 25, while freshman Steve Mussie played an impressive game with a career-high of 17 kills and 10 digs.

Three days later the Tigers played their last conference game at home falling to Cal State Northridge in five games 23-30, 26-30, 32-30, 30-23, 12-15.

The Tigers fought hard in this one coming back from a 0-2, deficit but were unable to close the game out, losing by three in game five.

Things looked bleak after the first two games which ended in runs by Northridge.

However, the Tigers came roaring back in game three using a 3-0 late run to take the game.

Pacific took the momentum into game four and only allowed for one lead change before winning the game.

The team looked impressive with twenty kills on the game and the Spanos Center was abuzz with excitement as the teams took the floor for the fifth and final game.

The Tigers never really got the chance they needed in game five, and were the victims of a late Matador run when Northridge reeled off six of the final nine points.

The team now falls to 15-11 overall, 9-7 Big West and is in danger of missing postseason play for the first time in 22 years.

The team still does have a shot at the playoffs and meanwhile must worry about closing out the conference on the right note.

"We have to try hard to get two wins on the road. We've been working hard in practice and want to win our last conference games," Sarah Vinall said.

Athlete of the Week

Name: Gillian d'Hondt
Year: Senior
Sport: Basketball

D'Hondt led the Tigers with 20 points and six rebounds during their final preseason game against San Francisco State last Friday.
The selfishness of professional athletes is once again perfectly illustrated by none other than Barry Bonds. As if his homerun antics of slowly walking half way up the baseline to make sure everyone in the ballpark knows it's a homerun, or standing flat-footed in left field as the ball goes over his head to what he thought was a homerun wasn't enough, there's more. As of this past week, Bonds is no longer to be affiliated with the Major League Baseball Player's Association union. He will be individually licensed. A veteran like Bonds should know, that if you stand out on the field, not in a courtroom, to make an extra buck, you will be appearing as a nameless out-fielder. Players usually sign a group licensing agreement that allows companies that obtain MLBPA licenses the right to use players on their products. And of course there is an advantage for the players as well: In exchange for their rights, players get a percentage of the revenue of the products such as baseball cards and video games in which they appear. However, by taking his name out of the agreement, baseball trading card companies can no longer make baseball cards of the athlete. Instead, Bonds will be licensing his rights as an individual. Way to go Barry; explain to the young kids that go to your games why they can't seem to find your memorabilia anywhere. Now when you play All-Star Baseball instead of batting as Bonds in his No. 25 jersey, you will be appearing as a nameless out-fielder. Bonds' refusal to re-sign with MLBPA marks the first time in the 30-year history of the licensing program that a player has chosen not to sign. However, Bonds isn't the first professional athlete to do so. Michael Jordan was not part of the NBA Player's Association's group licensing agreement, and Washington Redskins linebacker Lavar Arrington has not signed the NFL Players Association's group licensing agreement. I know sports, professional in particular, are now a business, but what makes these two athletes believe they are worth more than any other individual? And I understand Michael Jordan is the best basketball player ever to play, however, it is not the league or owner who feels these repercussions, it is the fans. But as for Bonds and Lavarr Arrington, who have both combined to win a total of zero championships, they haven't proved much except the size of their ego. This is not the first instance by any means of Bonds de-claring his dominance in the baseball world. He has made it clear that he is not after his godfather Willie Mays nor the all-time homerun leader Hank Aaron's record, rather he's after Babe Ruth's at 714. With his idiotic comment that after he surpasses the Babe, we shouldn't talk about him (Ruth) anymore, shows the lack of respect, especially by someone who has generated so little good will for the game. Even if Bonds were to pass Ruth in the homerun category, Babe Ruth is still and will always be the most feared hitter in baseball history. And to consider such an athlete great, they must be able to dominate their game like Ruth did, which Bonds hasn't done. Aside from San Francisco Giants fans who believe so, Bonds has not changed the game of baseball the way Ruth did. If anything, he's made us suspicious of steroid use. We'll be left to debate about his biceps, the remarkable growth of his skull so late in life, as well as his magnificent power surge in his mid-30s. Upon Bonds' departure from baseball, he can take his home runs, RBIs, and slugging percentage, but when debating the best player, numbers won't matter. Bonds had one thing right, he admitted that Ruth is everything to the baseball world. The only thing is, this fact won't change, no matter what Bonds does in the coming years.

Ryan Hendley
Staff Writer

The Pacific men's and women's basketball teams closed out the exhibition season in style, with both teams winning their games. Women's basketball took down San Francisco State 77-53, while the men's team defeated University of Alaska-Anchorage 65-62. The women's team started the night off right with a victory over the Gators. The game did not start out easy for the Tigers as the two teams traded the lead six times in the first ten minutes. Seven minutes into the half, Pacific took a two point lead off a Brittany Crossland three-pointer and the Tigers would quickly bump the lead to seven. The Tigers went into halftime with a 43-24 lead and after a nice start by San Francisco, Pacific would pull away again not allowing the Gators to get any closer than 14.

As a whole, the game was very physical with the teams combining for 47 personal fouls. Statistically, the Tigers dominated the stats by out-shooting San Francisco 46.7 percent to 27.4 percent. Pacific was led by Gillian d'Hondt with 20 points, and Jessie Muenkens draining threes from behind the arc. The Men's team had a much closer game that evening, as they battled the Alaska Seawolves until the final seconds of the game. Pacific started slow, trailing 7-0 until a Pacific Tiger run pushed the score to 19-11. Pacific would take a 12 point lead into the second half but Alaska came back tying the game at 36 all. The Tigers and Seawolves would then trade scoring runs to a 51-50 Pacific lead.

From then on the teams entered into a free-throw shooting war, ended by Tyler Newton who hit five of eight attempts in the final four minutes. Newton would finish with 16 points and six boards, while David Doubley continued to look impressive with 14 points and two steals. Freshmen Michael White came off the bench and played solid, putting in six points in the first half. Yet again, both teams showcased plenty of ability and got quality play off the bench. The women soundly put away another opponent while the men's team showed determination and the ability to finish. Both teams open their regular seasons with a third double header this Friday, with the men continuing on next week to face Duke in the Great Alaskan Shootout. The season looks to be bright for the Tiger basketball programs as they start the regular season.