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University of the Pacific

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Letter from the President

To the Pacific Community,

I write to inform you of a personal matter. During my annual physical examination in Sept., my PSA was elevated. Subsequent biopsies revealed that I have prostate cancer. The good news is that it was detected very early, and I am confident of an excellent outcome.

I will be having surgery [today] at UCSF. As most of you know, we have a great team supporting the President, and I am confident we will continue to make progress on all fronts during my absence.

I take great comfort from being a part of this supportive community where I have observed many faculty and staff effectively dealing with serious health challenges. Also, I urge all of you to be sure to get cancer screenings appropriate to your personal circumstances.

Sincerely,

Don DeRosa
The Pacifican Staff wishes President DeRosa and his family the best in his recovery.

Pike becomes homeless to raise money for food

by Arthur Murillo
Staff Writer

Nearly 70 members of the Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity (Pike) voluntarily became homeless in the McCaffrey Center. They faced 37 degree temperatures during their “Hit of Reality” from Dec. 4 until Dec. 6 in order to raise awareness and needed funds for Second Harvest Food Bank, which provides food for needy families in San Joaquin and Stanislaus Counties.

Kyle Clark, Pike's Co-Community Service Chairperson said, “We spend 50 continuous hours without shelter and showers to raise awareness and money for homelessness in the surrounding communities.”

Clark, wearing multiple articles of clothing in an attempt to stay warm last Thursday night said, “It’s really cold, but fun to hang out with my frat bro’s for such a good cause.”

Pike members raised money by obtaining donations from the Pacific community, family members and area businesses. All funds raised this year will be donated to the Second Harvest Food Bank.

Second Harvest’s website, www.ashfoodbank.org/bottomline.html says, “At Second Harvest Food Bank, we are again preparing to

Festival of Lights

By Angela Richards
Staff Writer

On Sunday, Dec. 8, Pacific had their annual festival of lights. The festival is a series of events to get people ready for the holidays. It is not just for the Pacific community, but it is open to people all around Stockton.

The tradition is not very old, but it is known throughout Pacific and the city as a whole. This year it drew a fairly big group.

The evening started at 4:30 p.m. with an open house at the president’s house for Pacific faculty and staff. People brought gifts for adults and children that will be passed out to the community by St. Mary’s Interfaith Dining Room.

Then at 6:30 p.m., there was a service in the Morris Chapel. At the interfaith service, the audience was introduced to the various holidays from different cultures and how each of them celebrate on campus. The service ran a little long, so the tree lighting that was suppose to be at 7 was delayed for a few minutes.

When the crowd came together, the DeRosa family (President DeRosa's wife Karen and two sons) all joined at the front and lit the tree together. After the band played a little bit of holiday music, everyone was then invited to the president's room for a reception. Nicely heated, the room was filled with holiday candles and decorations. There were plenty of sweets and drinks to go around. There was even a piano player in the corner playing Christmas carols.

What seemed to be members of the choir quickly gathered around and started to sing. The whole front end of the campus was lit up. There were candles in bags all along the walkway from Burn’s Tower to the President’s Room. Lights from the tree by the tower were shining and from all the way across the street the Pike house was drawing major attention.

At about 7:45 p.m, after people socialized for a while in the President’s Room, the Greek houses presented their lights. Starting with Alpha Phi and ending at Tri Delt, each house displayed their lights in order. The crowd was quite impressed.

Although there were many people from the Stockton community in attendance, Pacific students gradually came out of their dorms to join the festivities. Davy Larson, a senior said, “It’s nice to see everyone gather for the holidays.

It is a nice way to start off finals.”
The Pacifican.

By Angela Richards
Staff Writer

On Thursday Dec. 3, Pacific's School of International Studies (SIS) presented a lecture by former President of Ireland, Mary Robinson. Held in the Faye Spanos Concert Hall, Robinson's lecture was the first out of the David Gerber lecture series.

David and Laraine Gerber are two very active Pacific grads. David graduated in 1950 and while both have had successful careers in the film and television industries, they continue to be influential in the Pacific community. More specifically the two are both members of the Advisory Board of SIS, and have kindly invested in the David Gerber Lecture Series.

As their first guest, the lecture series chose Robinson to speak about her passion: ethical globalization. Robinson has been extremely successful in politics. She was the youngest professor of law before she became president of Ireland in 1990.

Inaugurated exactly 12 years before the day of her lecture, Robinson was the first woman president of Ireland. In her position, she focused on human rights around the world. She often traveled to places like Rwanda and Somalia to help with their issues of hunger and even won the Care Humanitarian award in 1993 for all of her support. In September of 1997 Robinson became the United Nations' High Commissioner for Human Rights and continued her efforts as she continues to travel to countries like China and Cambodia. In September of this year, she stepped down from her position with the United Nations and is currently still working for the UN, but not under the same position. She is also the honorary president of OXFAM where she is happy with their right based approach to issues.

To start out her speech, Robinson complemented SIS program by saying that she thinks it is great that the students must take a semester abroad. Robinson feels that it is very important to have travel experience before developing a career in international studies.

Then she spoke of her main issue: ethical globalization. She tackled many issues about human rights from women's protests to starving children. She also addressed the fact that although many countries are not promoting basic human rights, others are having tremendous progress. Overall, she feels that one is not a complete person unless he realizes that he has duties to his community and fulfills them. The lecture inspired many of the attendees. Robinson received a standing ovation after her lecture.

The Pacifican.

By Amber Prochaska and Georgette Rudnak
News Editors

According to the Pew Center for Civic Journalism, "Journalism can help empower a community or it can help disable it."

This semester has been one of the most controversial semesters for The Pacifican. We have had problems finding an editorial staff and staff writers willing to commit themselves to the tasks of being a journalist and have had many disagreements with organizations on campus due to article content.

Civic journalism is something The Pacifican has practiced weekly. Civic journalism is about conflict and consensus. It is not, however, reporting two sides of the story. It is reporting all sides, and every one who is affected by a problem has a voice with The Pacifican.

As editors we have to be unbiased. Nevertheless, just because we publish one thing and not another does not mean that we disagree nor agree, it is our job to report what we feel students will read or need. Being an editor has not been easy this semester. We have to make decisions that are not always going to please certain people, however we cannot please every one.

There is "safe news," such as festivals, speakers and fairs, but we at The Pacifican pride ourselves in practicing civic journalism. Many have confused some of the articles published this semester as "tabloid news" (as some have called it), however we can assure you that the things published in The Pacifican are quite factual.

The Pacifican is of, for and by the students of Pacific and we encourage all to voice their opinion and concerns through this outlet. We hope that next semester will be a fresh start to recording renewing and stabilities with Pacific as a whole. "Journalism can help empower a community or it can help disable it." It is our hope that The Pacifican can empower our small community and make it even greater than it already is. We would like to thank all of our readers, the lication board, the production crew, Pacifican and our advise Dr. Keith O. Hilton for their support throughout the semester.
San Joaquin Valley who are most at risk of going hungry. Our goal is to share the Valley's bounty with over 2,000 local families and individuals who are in need of our care. "It's an eye opener just to know the little things that we can't take for granted anymore."

Pike's "Hit of Reality" fundraiser will make an impact on the lives of those suffering from homelessness on a daily basis in our community. The Stockton community has several community-based organizations that are also working to make a difference in the lives of homeless people.

Bill Mendelson, Executive Director of Central Valley Low Income Housing (CV-LIH) and a Pacific Alumnus said, "At any given time there are between 2,200 and 2,700 people who would meet the definition of homelessness in San Joaquin County." CV-LIH provides housing assistance to people facing a housing crisis.

Uyen Do, Administrative Assistant for the Gospel Center Rescue Mission in Stockton, said, "For the month of October, we had a daily average of 58 men who stayed every night in our Emergency Lodging Facility and a daily average of 30 adults and 24 children per night in our family shelter (New Hope Family Shelter)."

In 2001, the Gospel Center Rescue Mission provided shelter to people over 23,000 times and served over 52,700 nutritious meals to people.

Also, St. Mary's Dining Room in Stockton received the "Blue Ribbon Practices in Community Development" award from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for providing "school for homeless children," according to HUD's website http://www.hud.gov/ptw/docs/ca31.html.

Pike's commitment to demonstrating a caring attitude towards people in need is evidence of Pacific's status as an educational institution striving to instill leadership qualities in students.

Career Resource Center Events for Spring 2003

Internship Orientation
Etiquette Dinner
Resume Review Day
Preparation for the Career Faire
Career Faire
Experiential Learning Showcase

Feb. 13, 2003
March 26, 2003
April 1, 2003
April 2, 2003
April 8, 2003
April 24, 2003

Pike spends a cold winter night in the McCaffery Center.
Dear Mr. Olson,

I am writing in regards to your letter to the editor. First of all, I would like to express that when Amber Prochaska wrote the letter to the editor, even though she is the news editor of our publication, her opinion does not reflect the views, sentiments, or feelings expressed by The Pacifican. Her article on ASUOP was based on her personal experience with the clerks at the front desk and ASUOP's new publication Tiger Tracks. Calling her remarks libel is outrageous, unless you have a detailed report on every call made to the ASUOP office ensuring that all calls are answered in a polite, courteous and helpful manner.

On the other hand, what can be considered libel are the comments that you make in your letter. Comments like, "What strikes me is that The Pacifican does not take the initiative in seeking out stories." If what you claim is correct Mr. Olson, then The Pacifican would not be in existence. As you may have noticed this semester, the majority of the articles featured in our publication are written by students. To me that explains that the students do not at all have the initiative in seeking out stories. Another comment that worries me is, "The Pacifican seems to be more interested in creating stories and attacking the student organizations of this University rather then reporting the news."

I find it increasingly that the only reason students call us up and read a copy of The Pacifican is to make sure that that organization that they are part of has not been defamed. With this in mind it is not difficult to understand why so many students compare The Pacifican to tabloid newspaper like the National Enquirer. This comment disturbs me because I do not believe that you have taken a poll of the student body and instead have individually made this claim. I know no one on the staff "creates stories" or "attacks student organizations." The articles I believe you are referring to have been written by concerned students and not members of our staff. If a Letter to the Editor is a one year subscription to The Pacifican costs $32 ($17 per semester). Fact #2: Pi Kappa Alpha contributed over 2,500 hours of community service over the course of the event. Fact #3: Since the beginning of "Hit of Reality" in 1997 Pi Kappa Alpha has made it clear that "we are not trying to recreate actual homelessness, but rather to raise awareness for the growing problem in our society." Fact #4: "Hit of Reality" has succeeded in its goal to raise awareness for homelessness. By "taking over" the McCaffrey Center, the students and faculty of UOP are forced to think about homelessness. It is not just turning away like most Americans would do when they walk down the streets.

Fact #5: When I went to downtown Stockton and talked to homeless people on the streets the response was the same. They were college students weeping a taste of what it is to be homeless, and I dedicate the large donation to the Second Harvest Food Bank is larger than any other charitable donation made by other UOP organizations.

Ms. Prochaska's letter here at The Pacifican was greatly appreciated. The money that is contributed to us by Pacificans through the Arts Fee is one way in which students may feel that the $48.20 they pay each semester is put to good use, for ASUOP uses the money to host a number of events that the majority the students do not attend.

In regards to ASUOP, I would like to express that we would do a full story then posting of an even our paper. I have been communication with Ms. Prochaska's letter.
December 12, 2002

Letter to the Editor: ASUOP President Responds

Dear Editor:

I was greatly disturbed to hear about a letter that was published in the November 21, 2002 edition of The Pacifican from Amber Prochaska attacking a newsletter published by ASUOP, Tiger Tracks. After reading Ms. Prochaska’s letter, I was struck by some inconsistencies and realized that Ms. Prochaska was really the author of an editorial veiled as a letter to the editor.

At the beginning of this academic year the ASUOP Public Relations Commission requested space for a weekly column in The Pacifican, as did many of her predecessors. After initially being told yes, The Pacifican changed its mind and decided that ASUOP should rather send information to The Pacifican so that a staff writer could then follow up. ASUOP has followed through on this request, frequently sending press releases...inviting coverage of upcoming events and important pending matters.

I am also disturbed by the libel that Ms. Prochaska committed in her article. Our front desk staff would never turn individuals away. They may not have the answers to your questions, but they are always more than happy to take a message or direct inquiries to the appropriate individuals.

I do not agree with Ms. Prochaska’s characterization that by “not supporting The Pacifican, [ASUOP is] not supporting the students.” First, ASUOP supports The Pacifican to the tune of over $20,000 a year, one-fifth of The Pacifican budget. Second, I feel that it is The Pacifican that is cutting ties with ASUOP, and not fulfilling its role as the primary medium for communicating news to students. While there have been several articles about ASUOP events, and we appreciate those articles that are factual and informative, The Pacifican seems to be more interested in creating stories and attacking the student organizations of the University rather than reporting the news. I find increasingly that the only reason students pick up and read a copy of The Pacifican is to make sure that an organization that they are part of has not been defamed. With this in mind it is not difficult to understand why so many students compare The Pacifican to tabloid newspapers like the National Inquirer.

If The Pacifican is unwilling or unable to fulfill its role as the medium for communicating news to students, I have no choice but to direct ASUOP to begin to do that job for The Pacifican. Tiger Tracks is a newsletter, similar to many that are published by different departments of the University. Its purpose is to communicate directly with the students of the University of the Pacific so that they know what their student government is doing to improve their college experience.

ASUOP is not trying to separate itself from its constituents. ASUOP, always makes its decisions in an open and democratic way inviting way inviting input from the students and often times actively seeking it. MS. Prochaska’s claim that ASUOP is separating itself from the students is preposterous. ASUOP’s mission is the ensure that the voice of the students is heard in the decision-making process at Pacific and to enrich the academic, cultural and social aspects of university life. To this end, ASUOP appoints students to all University committees, officers meet regularly with the University administrators and advocates for the students, which results in changes in University policy, including the allocation of over $140,000 in University funding for additional lighting and blue light phones on campus. In addition, ASUOP allocated over $200,000 for student events and activities, producing quality events that rival those produced by the schools ten times the size of Pacific. It seems to me that rather than attacking ASUOP, The Pacifican should learn from the successes of ASUOP and be a real advocate for the students of Pacific. Quite frankly, I consider $6.30 that every student contributed to The Pacifican this year was wasted.

(Signed) Letter to the Editor: ASUOP President Responds

Sincerely,
Matthew J. Olson
President ASUOP

’Tis the season to give thanks

I would like to take a moment to thank the entire Pacific community for helping to make this a great semester for The Pacifican. It is my hope that this newspaper reflects the student body at Pacific. In a perfect world The Pacifican would be a perfect paper, but it isn’t a perfect world and The Pacifican isn’t a perfect paper. But that can’t stop the editors from trying to make this paper the best it can be.

It is the goal of The Pacifican to improve upon this semester and I look forward to working with the staff next semester. The Pacifican is eager to recruit more staff writers for next semester and have tons of new ideas for the spring.

Perhaps many of you aren’t aware that The Pacifican also has its own radio show, “The Pacifican News Hour” hosted by Corey Peterson and Staci Carmon. This energy-filled show exposes students to articles that were run in the paper, special guests such as Mayor Podesto, and gives students a chance to call in and voice their opinions of The Pacifican. The Pacifican thanks both Corey and Staci for their efforts in expanding student involvement with the paper.

I also want to thank Jessica Wakefield for her hard work and dedication in putting together the Tiger Paw, an online magazine. The Tiger Paw is not only an extension of The Pacifican, but it is much more flexible and allows for much more creativity. Not only can you find selected Pacifican articles, you can also find moving poetry, vivid photographs and art that are contributed by Pacific students. Jessica Wakefield is graduating this semester and she will be missed sorely by The Pacifican. Congratulations Jessica!

I would also like to thank Dr. DeRosa, Dr. Sina, Dr. Gilbertson, Dr. Miller and Dr. Lehr for their suggestions and dedication to help make The Pacifican a better paper.

Lisa Hoffman
Editor-in-Chief
OPINION

PACIFICAN from page 4

I believe the problem has been resolved (there was a problem with sending press releases and other information to the wrong address). The sentiment here, at The Pacifican, was that by giving ASUOP a column we would then have to provide all student organizations the same privilege. Like ASUOP, The Pacifican is also a place where student voices can be heard. To silence the opinion of Ms. Prochaska we would be breaking her constitutional rights.

In order to better inform the Pacific community, I ask ASUOP to work more closely with us and not limit our communication to impersonal e-mails or press releases. We invite an ASUOP representative to our staff meetings Tuesdays from 12-1 p.m. in The Pacifican office. Furthermore, I will make it a point to attend the meetings of the Senate in order to be more involved with what events ASUOP is coordinating. I hope this convergence will help unite students here at Pacific and improve the operations of ASUOP and The Pacifican. For we, at The Pacifican, strive for a better newspaper everyday.

Sincerely,
The Pacifican Staff

THE PACIFICAN

Question of the week
Where would you like to spend your New Year's?

“Las Vegas would be so much fun!”
— Stacey and Britney, Juniors

“Surfing the shores of Hawaii!”
— Chad Pickrel, Freshman

“With my friends at home.”
— Kimberlee Wong, Freshman

“In Jennifer Love Hewitt’s arms.”
— Zack Hylton, Junior

“In Las Vegas on the Strip.”
— Clarence Henderson, Senior

“Yeah, Frisco!”
— Lawrence Henderson, Senior

Enjoy your holiday break. Don’t break any of your bones flying high on those slopes.

Photo of the Week

The Pacifican office.

Photo of the Week

The Pacifican office.

Photo of the Week

The Pacifican office.
Fantasy is more dominant in recent films

By Paula Kreuqer
Staff Writer

As the mass of people began to take their seats in the theater, the lights dimmed and the excited children applauded as the movie started.

According to box office returns, "Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets" has already accumulated $203,885,000. Its story of wizards, witches, and monsters seems to attract adults and especially the children, who are the target of author's J.K. Rowling's novels about the young, but talented wizard.

It seems that there is an increased interest in this day and age, for people to watch these types of fantasy movies. Just look at the box office records for December 2001. In the fourth week of December, "The Lord of the Rings" was the number one movie in America.

As for the past, this interest was not as easily seen. Americans tended to watch movies that were a little more down to earth. According to "The Greatest Films" website, the Disney film "Lady and the Tramp" was the top movie viewed in the 1950s. "The Lady and the Tramp" did involve some fantasy seeing as the animals talked. However, the storyline is set in a common environment we are all familiar with in our own lives.

Harry Potter, on the other hand, is quite different. At first, he lives like most human beings, he is residing in his aunt and uncle's home. However, when he attends the school for wizards and witches, the place is quite foreign to us with its flying cars and revolving staircases. Among this society, there is even new vocabulary, which replaces words that are common in our world. For example, witches and wizards tend to refer to non-magic humans as muggles, which is not a flattering name. Some of these witches and wizards despise non-magic humans and think they are of lower status.

What is remarkable, however, is that "The Lady and the Tramp" and "Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets" are children movies. Children movies still tend to gain popularity among Americans. Perhaps, it is the desire among adults in our society to "be a kid again" and retrieve from the responsibilities and difficulties that come with being an adult.

On the contrary, not everyone believes this is the case. Some people feel that it's not so much of an increase in the attraction of fantasy movies. "What has changed is the degree of violence and sexuality that is permissible on screen," says Dr. Courtney Lehmann.

As a result of this increase in sex and violence, Lehmann feels that this serves for a different purpose than escaping the difficulties of the real world.

"Since the 60s, censorship has shown a marked lapse, and the movies now can represent just about anything. I tend to think that the upshot of all this is not that society goes to the movies to escape for its own sake, but rather, to escape from cultivating their own fantasy-relationships to reality."

"The Lady and the Tramp" and "Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets" both do exemplify this change, particularly regarding the increase in violence. In "The Lady and the Tramp", there is barely any blood or other type of violent behavior that would scare children. It is

“Friends” may take their final bows this season

By Alyson Dodell
Guest Writer

People look forward to being couch potatoes on Thursday nights at eight, when the new episodes of NBC’s hit show "Friends" begins.

It is a show that has come a long way, and people have enjoyed tuning in to see the six friends go through their comedic lives for over seven years. Ever since Rachel entered the Central Perk coffee house in her wedding dress, fans have been glued to the show’s plots and story lines. The six friends have been through a lot of drama, with relationships, jobs, and family. They have built their relationships both on and off screen through the shows success.

We have been through the audience’s favorite relationship on the show, Ross Geller and Rachel Greene. Fans remember when Rachel stood with the flowers at the airport where she met Julie for the first time. They were overjoyed when Ross broke up with Julie and confessed to Rachel that he could not be with anyone else but her. The audience cried at their passionate kiss in the coffee shop and was saddened over their break up scene. But through it all, the two have remained close and have a special connection with each other, which showed in the much anticipated birth scene of their daughter Emma.

When Rachel found out about the secret crush Ross has had on her for years, she was unsure how to react, but when she decided she shared the same feelings for Ross, fans knew this would be one of the greatest story lines in "Friends" history.

"Friends" history.

We have also seen the start of Chandler and Monica’s romantic relationship, which developed in London and was a spontaneous moment for both of them and completely unexpected by many fans. In addition, we have seen the many sides of Phoebe and her commitment issues with men, as well as her unique personality and wardrobe.

When Chandler was looking for a roommate he did not know he would end up with a friend like Joey. The friendship between the characters of Joey and Chandler has been absolutely hilarious.

Audiences will miss their “Friends” after it completes its final show at the end of the season. They are taking their final bows this season, contrary to what many critics believe, which is going to be an emotional good-bye for both fans and the cast. We witnessed their acting and friendships grow stronger through the years, and it will be hard to watch the show shut its doors.

The end of “Friends” is
Nothing beats good ol’ Spaghetti

By Jemilyn Ancheta
Guest Writer

Tired of cooking at home but you want to go to a place with food your whole family will surely eat? Head down March Lane past the overpass and to the Old Spaghetti Factory where the meals are a deal!

Each meal comes with bread, with the choice of soup or salad, and a drink choice of hot tea, iced tea, milk or coffee.

The restaurant has a choice of 5 different sauces, tomato, meat, mushroom, clam, and mizithera cheese, which is a combination of Ricotta and Romano cheese. Not only can you have plain spaghetti but you can also mix and match spaghetti sauces. And if you want to get a taste of all them all try the Potpourri. It has a little sample of every sauce and I have to admit it is delicious!

There are larger dishes like chicken parmesan, which is a baked chicken lightly topped with marinara sauce and a side of spaghetti with tomato sauce. The chicken was juicy and hard to resist even on the last bite. If you like chicken but prefer mushrooms or another sauce, they have the chicken marcela, which is baked chicken topped with a brown mushroom sauce and a side of spaghetti topped with mizithera cheese. The sauce is a little sweet but it goes great with the mizithera cheese.

For those who want to stick to the more familiar, they have lasagna, fettuccini, chicken fettuccini, and tortellini and for those who are vegetarian there is spinach and cheese ravioli.

Throughout the week they also have specials, which gives a little zing to the menu. I recommend the shrimp pasta for those who like seafood, angel hair pasta for those who like light sauces and vesuvius for those who like spicy meat. Each week is different so give them a try to see which one you prefer.

Ahh! And nothing complements the meal without great tasting wine. White wine such as Johannesberg Riesling, Kendall Jackson Chardonnay and the Delicato Shiraz, which are the red wines, they go well with any of the white sauces. As for Merlot Turning Leaf, Rodney Strong and the Delicato Shiraz, which are the red wines, they go well with the mizithera sauce is a little sweet but it gives a little zing to the menu.

Finally, to complete the meal a choice of vanilla ice cream or spumoni ice cream is offered. Spumoni is a combination of three flavors, chocolate, cherry, and pistachio. It looks just like Neapolitan but is an Italian style. It is an ice cream that is rarely sold at grocery stores. So for us customers, it is a treat!

The right wine tends to complement the meal very well. Finally, to complete the meal a choice of vanilla ice cream or spumoni ice cream is offered. Spumoni is a combination of three flavors, chocolate, cherry, and pistachio. It looks just like Neapolitan but is an Italian style. It is an ice cream that is rarely sold at grocery stores. So for us customers, it is a treat!
Letter to the Editor:

Movie review missed the point

Dear Editor,

I am writing with complete disappointment regarding one of the articles in the Entertainment section of The Pacifican. The name of the article was “Requiem for a dream” offers a haunting reality.” The title should have read “Movie reviews offer a haunting reality.” There are various reasons for my disillusionment. It seems that the author of this piece offers nothing but superficial comments on the plot of the movie, rather than a review based on the predominant themes that the director is conveying. First of all, the name of the director was not even mentioned within the review. It seems as though if one were to review a film, some research as to the background of the director would be helpful in understanding what this film has to say.

Darren Aronofsky, the director, previously directed “Pi,” a film about an obsessive mathematician in the search for the ultimate equation of life. From obsession, Aronofsky moves to the theme of addiction within “Requiem,” yet it is not the sort of addiction that the author of the review speaks of whatsoever.

In The Pacifican review, Michele Arrighi, the author of the review, presents the most fundamental element of “Requiem” as an anti-drug film, which “makes one swear to never try drugs” (10). However, this is not at all what the movie is about.

Instead, it is a glance at the deterioration of the lives of four characters that fall into addiction and ultimately into a downward spiral of desperation, which leads to the depressing yet enlightening ending that the film provides.

Although “Requiem” uses the theme of drug use as a type of addiction, it is in no way a “don’t do drugs” movie. It does however, warn against dangerous habits that exist within humanity, and ultimately lead to our downfall. It is understandable how the drug use might have been offensive to Arrighi, even to the point of making her sick (10); but to me, it is more disgusting to see Sarah’s (the mother) story, where the combined obsession to lose weight, look good to impress others, and television engulfs her to the point of complete mental breakdown until she loses all ability to function.

Is this not an “addiction” in our present society that should worry us, perhaps as much or even more than drug use? Another prominent theme is the concept of the American dream. Each character depicts a particular part of this dream: Marion wishes to achieve success in the fashion industry, Harry desires financial stability, while Sarah gives in to the stereotypes of beauty so vividly portrayed in contemporary television. Ultimately, all the characters fall short of their dreams.

Do these themes not convey a significant portrayal of present-day society? Can Aronofsky’s ideas, so artistically presented within this film, not be taken as a warning sign to its viewers? Arrighi fails to address any of these points. I must say that it makes me sad that Arrighi found the main premise of this movie to be as naïve and undeveloped as her review made it seem. I am indeed sorry that she did not find any of these themes alluring in the way that I personally do.

In conclusion, I am in no way insinuating that “Requiem” is a “feel good” film, or that you will like it if you hate needles or have contempt for the drug culture. What I am saying, is that “Requiem” is a film that requires more thought and analysis than what was expressed within this particular review. If a correct approach is taken, this film will go from making you sick, to making you realize the potential of human addiction, the sad truth of shattered hopes, and the true nature of the American dream.

Respectfully,
Tatiana Forero-Puerta

Stoopid will perform again

By Stuart Krenge

Photo Editor

If you were one of the 50 people at the homecoming festival concert earlier this fall, and you enjoyed what you saw and heard, I have just the concert for you. On Thursday, Dec. 19, in San Francisco, Slightly Stoopid will be available for your listening pleasure.

The venue where they will be playing is a club in San Francisco named Slims. Slims is a really cool place to see a show. It is equipped with a huge bar and plenty of room to get crazy. There are tickets available that include a dinner where you can watch the show from a balcony above the main floor.

The cost of the show is ten dollars in advance and ten to fifteen if you pay at the door. Slightly Stoopid is a pretty popular show and I would think that getting a ticket in advance would be a safe bet. Tickets and directions to the venue along with an address are available via Tickets.com.

Unlike Pacific, Slims offers a party atmosphere. I think that Slightly Stoopid was a little reserved at Pacific considering that they were on a dry campus. But at Slims, I believe that Slightly Stoopid will give a great show and the crowd will be partying hard. Speaking from experience, seeing Stoopid at Slims will be the show of the season.

TOP TEN

By Alyson Dodell

Guest Writer

1. Answering machines
2. “90210” and “Saved By the Bell”
3. Cabbage Patch Kids and Pet Rock
4. MTV
5. Saturday morning cartoons like “The Smurfs” and “My Little Pony”
6. Madonna and Cyndi Lauper
7. The Dynasty, Dallas, and Knots Landing soap operas
8. Molly Ringwald movies like “The Breakfast Club” and “Sixteen Candles”
9. Perms and hair streaking
10. Fanny Packs and Scrunchies
The week in review

The Pacific Tigers swim teams made an impact at the 2002 Speedo Cup in Long Beach, Calif. as the women’s team won its competition by more than 700 points, while the men’s team finished second to BYU.

In the final day of action, Pacific freshman Laura McDonald got the Tigers rolling with a victory in the 1650 Free (16:42.88). Junior Robin Errecart grabbed the Tigers only other event win of the day as she won the 200 Fly with a time of 2:02.87.

For the men, senior Filip Wronski won the Tigers only event of day three with a 1:59.21 in the 200 Breast.

The women’s swim team had three other individual winners. Sophomore Sarah Houck won the 400IM with a time of 4:18.54. Junior Shannon Catalano won the 100 Fly with a time of (54.26). Robin Errecart took first in the 200 Free with a time of 1:49.58. Junior Leilani Avilla finished second behind Errecart in the 200 Free.

The men’s team also captured the 200 Medley relay and 800 free relay titles.

Senior Matt Smart won the 200 Free with a time of 1:37.88. In the 100 Breast, senior Filip Wronski finished second. In the 100 Fly, senior Peter Richardson finished third.

Pacific women set to face Stanford

By Brandon Winslow
Staff Writer

The women of Pacific Basketball will be meeting their biggest challenge of the season come Saturday evening at Alex G. Spanos Center as they face off against the No. 4 ranked team in the country — Stanford as part of a double-header with the men’s team.

Game time is set for 5 p.m. and the men will play directly following the women.

Recently, the Tigers are coming off a couple of heart breaking losses at home heading into their game against Stanford as they have lost to Northern Arizona and the University of San Diego in the final seconds of each game.

Northern Arizona defeated Pacific 59-58 and San Diego recently topped the Tigers 53-50 in a game that was close all the way until the end.

Junior guard, Nancy Dingel leads the Tigers with 19 total points, going 8-11 from the field and hitting 3 of 5 from 3-point land along with 3 steals.

Unfortunately it wasn’t enough in the end. “Team chemistry isn’t where it needs to be, but we’re still doing the little things that it takes to win.” “We’re hustling, playing good team defense and we’re keeping our heads up,” said junior forward/center Gillian d’Hondt.

Even with the recent losses at home, the Tigers remain optimistic and continue to push forward while working hard in practice and during games in preparation for Stanford.

The Tigers may be off to a slow start but they have a long season to go.

“Stanford is a solid team but we won’t be intimidated by their size or record...we’re going to step it up and give it our all. In fact we play better against more competitive teams because it raises our intensity level,” said junior guard/forward Jasmine Ewing.

So come out and support the Tigers in what could be the biggest challenge for a basketball team in the history of this school and hey, you never know, the Tigers just might upset Stanford.

FOOTBALL from page 12

College for 2 years and played water polo there as well as football for the New England Storm.

She transferred to Pacific and wanted to continue playing her beloved sport. She tried out with the Sirens and is now a wide receiver, though she says the team is a run oriented team. “It’s awesome. I wanted to play my whole life. It’s a dream come true,” said Lauren.

Her main assignments on the field are to block for her running backs. They both are extremely excited about the opportunity they have to play a sport they love that was once a male dominated sport. “If someone tells me I can’t do something, I want to do it,” said Lauren. These pioneers must have that attitude in order to succeed and gain respect from the opposite sex.

They both see themselves playing football until they can’t play anymore. Robin graduated from Pacific and is now living in Elk Grove. Lauren is currently a senior at Pacific and will be graduating in the spring with plans of graduate school and of course more football.

The Sacramento Sirens completed an undefeated season and won the WAFL Championships.
This Christmas
Jesus Is Looking for a
New Stable to Dwell In.

Your Place Would Be Perfect.

It is no small miracle that the God of the universe was willing to leave heaven and be born in a lowly, obscure stable in a Middle Eastern town. But perhaps an even greater wonder is that this same God is willing to come into the dirt and filth of our lives. Why? To bring healing, forgiveness and wholeness. He's not waiting for you to clean up your stable or to make your life more acceptable to him. Instead, he wants to come into your life now and establish a relationship with you.

Jesus said, "Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him..."

This is what it takes to begin a relationship with God. Not perfect, holy living. A simple yet sincere invitation, and Jesus said he will enter your life. Pretty amazing. You can invite him into your heart right now. Then open to the section called “John” in the Bible and begin reading. You’ll see what kind of life he has for you. If you have some questions or want to explore this more, go to EveryStudent.com.
December Madness: NCAA Tourney time

By Blake Blockwell
Staff Writer

The women’s volleyball team concluded their season this weekend with a heart-pounding 5 game victory over Nevada in the first round of the NCAA tournament. With the win Pacific advanced to the second round where they suffered a tough 4 game loss to defending national champion Stanford.

In the first game with Nevada, the Tigers found themselves tied at 13-13. However Pacific scored 9 of the next eleven points to build a 22-15 lead before cruising to a 30-24 win.

Nevada stormed back in game two, racing to an 18-7 lead and coasted to a 30-25 win. The Wolf Pack maintained their momentum in game three. With the game locked up at 20-20, Nevada closed out the game on a 10-5 run to seal a 30-25 win.

Game four was tight throughout, with the lead changing hands five times before Pacific clinched the last two points of the game to claim a close 30-28 victory.

In game five, senior Elaine Goeders took over for the Tigers recording three pivotal kills to ensure that Pacific would see another day. Amazingly enough, she had a career-high nineteen kills to go with 7 block assists in what could have been her last game as a Tiger.

Pacific coach Jayne McHugh said, “She has the ability to do this all the time. When she’s one-on-one against the block, I’ll put my money on her every time.”

Junior Jennifer Joines pounded a team high twenty two kills, moving her past former Tiger Jennifer Joines and into second place on Pacific’s career kills list with 1,554. Sophomore Joanna Rentz recorded a career-high twenty digs.

While the Tigers narrowly escaped defeat, Joines commented Goeders after the match. “We had a Goeders chant in the locker room,” Joines said. “She played great.”

In the second round the Tigers lost to defending national champion Stanford 30-26, 29-31, 30-14, 30-21. Unlike many Stanford opponents, Pacific was in this match from the start.

Former Pacific coach John Dunning, who is in his second season at Stanford, thought the Tigers showed improvement from their previous meeting on Oct. 22.

“I didn’t know if my team knew it, but I knew Pacific would come out and give it everything they had,” Dunning said. “Chemistry-wise and everything was better than the last time we played them.”

Junior Jennifer Joines again led Pacific offensively with a team high eighteen kills and 5 blocks. Senior Elaine Goeders recorded a very respectable ten kills and 4 blocks in her final game wearing orange and black.

Sophomore Joanna Rentz recorded ten digs.

“We played hard the last game and that means a lot to me,” said Hauschild, who had 8 kills and eleven digs. “We didn’t lose playing badly.”

And another chapter in Pacific volleyball has been written as fans eagerly anticipate the bright future.

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Name: Elaine Goeders
Year: Senior
Sport: Volleyball

Elaine recorded a career high with 19 kills and 7 total blocks leading Pacific over Nevada.

Pacific students find success in pro football

By Adam Ringer
Guest Writer

Who says girls can’t play football? Pacific senior, Lauren Sherbure and Pacific graduate Robin Grove are currently members of the Sacramento Sirens while pursuing gridiron dreams in the Women’s Affiliated Football Conference.

The Sirens went 8-0 this season and won their last game 69-0 over Oakland. The ages on the team range from 16-over 40. The age requirement is 18, but with parent permission, younger girls can play as well. They have about 50 women on the roster.

Two local athletes, Lauren Sherbure and Robin Grove, teammates on the Sirens, won the WAFC championship game vs. Caliente 59-20 on Saturday December 7, 2002 at Consumnes River College in Sacramento.

Robin Grove is in her second season with the Sirens. She is an offensive tackle who describes her chance to play tackle football as a “once in a lifetime opportunity.” She didn’t play sports while studying communications at Pacific so she felt like she missed out on that part of college.

Her main objective is to block and do the dirty work so her team can accomplish their goal of putting the ball into the end zone. “I really enjoy it, because it’s so unique,” said Robin. “I like the one-on-one battles.”

Lauren Sherbure grew up playing football on the playground with the boys. She eventually played flag football while growing up in San Jose. She attended Boston