Welcome to college, welcome to Mentor. I...
Grace Covell
Continued from page 1
Grace Covell dining hall should be a welcome addition to the building.
Grace's community council is working towards "changing the image and focusing the energy of the residence hall community," said Smith. They intend to continue renovating the building by purchasing new televisions for the lounge and updating equipment available at the front desk. Speakers for the social lounges may even be a prospect in the future.
Returning residents to Grace Covell are very optimistic about their new building. Senior Brandie Borges lived in Grace Covell her freshman year and has now returned as an RA.
"Compared to what it was, the improvements are equivalent to a five star hotel. Everything here is brand new! There is a totally new atmosphere, although I don't think the freshmen quite understand just how much Grace has changed," Borges commented.
Matt Maurin, senior, who has worked the front desk of Grace Covell since his freshman year is also enthusiastic about the new building. "It's not the facility. It's the people. We have more respect for our surroundings."
This appears to be a shared mentality among Grace Covell residents. Caution is now shown when allowing a stranger or nonresident to enter the building from any of the eight entrances into the main portion of the residence hall.
In the past, doors were observed propped open for easy access. Now, residents of Grace Covell are on the lookout for anyone that does not belong.
Despite any past reputation, a new atmosphere and feeling of community are what Grace Covell residents are enjoying during this new school year. A committed staff and roster of strong programming will ensure a long and successful year for all those at Grace Covell.

Mypacific aids UOP students
CHELSEA SIMS
Senior Staff Writer

One small step for mankind, one giant leap for UOP students. Some may say that Pacific technology has been a few paces behind in the past, but with the onset of a new webpage, UOP students will finally be able to jump into the technology of the new millennium.
Mypacific.uop.edu promises to enhance and improve students' use and navigation of the web. Through the new webpage, students are able to access a variety of handy, user-friendly features.
In a matter of minutes, one can perform a variety of useful tasks: get directions to your favorite restaurant, access the Library of Congress, read the country's top headlines, find an apartment, buy concert tickets in Belgium and check your phone bill. And this is only the beginning.
Other options at mypacific.uop.edu allow students to check their university statistics, such as accessing school schedules, contacting professors via e-mail and dropping or adding classes.
Each student is also assigned a personal e-mail address, replacing the previously used Groupwise server; to assist in communication both in and out of the classroom.
Peggy Kay, program manager for mypacific, identifies the banner services and personalization of the new system to be very beneficial.
Jennifer Coon, a sophomore at Pacific, had mixed feelings about the new system. "I think that the new website is more detailed and has more information, but it's harder to navigate. Perhaps an online tutorial guide would be beneficial," Coon said.
"I think I dropped a class online, but I'm not quite sure. I think that's part of the confusion of the online system," she added. "It said that I had the same number of units so I went and dropped the class using the traditional forms because it just seemed more official."
Kay assures that the kinks in the program will be worked out in the future. "We're going to have to keep adding to it or it won't be successful," said Kay.
According to Kay, lack of speed and clarity in the program are due to the server that the school is currently using on loan; which will be replaced shortly by a speedier server.
After the minor problems are solved, the goals of mypacific are clear: "To let the students access everything in a single secure login," explained Kay. "Basically, what we want to do is build up our community and promote communication across the UOP campus."
"Above all," Kay finished, "we think it's going to be really great for not only the students, but the faculty as well."
Still a great time to be at Pacific

Dr. Keith Hilton
The Pacifican adviser

The following are excerpts from a presentation that Dr. Keith Ornlando Hilton made on Thursday, August 24, 2000 at Pacific's New Faculty Orientation.

Dr. Hilton is a third-year professor in the communication department and adviser of The Pacifican.

It is now two years later and I can still say that overall my first two years at Pacific were very good ones. One of the reasons that I can say this is because of many of the administrators, faculty, and staff that are assisting with this year's orientation.

These administrators, faculty and staff were invaluable, and I am sure that my other junior and senior colleagues will second this point.

I, especially, wish to say "Great Job," to Dr. Heather Mayne and the team in the Provost's Office.

Before coming to the university I had many questions. I wanted to know about university's commitment to multicultural diversity within its administration, faculty and staff. I also wanted to know about the Student Center which was being built. I wanted to know about the university's provost, the Provost's Office, and senior colleagues that would see me through the first two years at Pacific.

One excellent source on the history of the University of the Pacific is Dr. Kara Brewer's book, "Pioneer of Perish: A History of University of the Pacific during the administration of Dr. Robert E. Burns - 1946-1971." It still fills in a lot of blanks for me.

Another book that I found beneficial was "Good Start: A Guide for New Faculty in Liberal Arts Colleges," by Gerald W. Gibson.

Other constant highlights during my first year were our monthly new faculty luncheons. These luncheons were opportunities to connect intellectually on several levels. Besides, it was also good to know that I was not suffering alone.

As a result of the luncheons, I am currently doing research and interdisciplinary projects with colleagues in history, education and philosophy. In some ways, it is largely up to the imagination and creativity of new faculty.

I also encourage new faculty to be active participants in public intellectualism. One way is to submit periodic think pieces to local and regional newspapers.

The Pacifican is a great source to contribute your thoughts and ideas to our campus newspaper - and periodically contribute to the weekly forum. The Pacifican (online version and print) is an excellent source for understanding the Pacific student culture.

This year we will continue to do an even better job of covering all three campuses: Stockton, Sacramento and San Francisco.

COP COMMUNICATION DEPARTMENT: Under the new leadership of Dr. Qingwen Cavanaugh, the department will continue to move forward. In my opinion, the nation's communication faculty occupies a strategically important place in contemporary society because the central skills of a media professional - the ability to systematically gather, analyze and communicate information - are also central to higher education.

CLOSING WORDS: We second and third year professors and administrators are still learning about the university's history. Between bouts of anxiety, stress, uncertainty and embarrassment, I have had lots of fun. I am still having fun. Welcome to Pacific.
EDITORIAL

MENTOR: THE BIG QUESTIONS

"The direction in which education starts a man will determine his future life."

— Plato

Welcome to college, welcome to Mentor

By now all you freshmen have had your first few meetings of Mentor Seminar, and have undoubtedly heard horror stories about the course from older students. You’ve heard about the “general sessions” where hundreds of your fellow freshmen pile into Faye Spanos Concert Hall to hear exhaustive lectures on sometimes bizarre and random topics. You’ve heard that you’ll have a five-page paper due almost every other week. You’ve heard about numerous lengthy readings on subjects like religion, philosophy, and politics — which you may very possibly have little-to-no interest in. Not to mention the fact that these readings are by pretty scary-sounding authors, like Galileo, Voltaire, Freud, and Aristotle for example.

You hear your friends and classmates complaining. You want to join them. I am writing to inform you that if you do, you will be (perhaps heretofore unknowingly) participating in a general campus-wide malaise towards the institution of Mentor Seminar. Now you do not really want to do that do you? That’s right, it’s called a malaise. I believe former President Jimmy Carter popularized the term during his presidency in the 1970s. In this case it refers to the negative and apathetic attitude towards Mentor Seminar that a large percentage of UOP students seem to harbor. The typical reason given for this attitude is “Mentor has nothing to do with my major.” By that rationale, neither do any other of the general education requirements given by the University.

Just like science majors have to take humanities classes and humanities majors have to take science classes, Mentor exists for the general education of college students. If you only take classes that are pertinent to your degree, you are getting a one-sided education, which defeats the purpose of education itself.

General Education is explained in the University general catalog as “preparing the student for a lifetime of reflection and for the application of knowledge to everyday life.” Jon Schamber, UOP’s Director of General Education, also heads the Mentor program, and believes Mentor is essential to General Education.

“The Mentor Program provides students with a core general education experience at the University. These are the only courses that all entering students take in common. It provides them with a common forum in which to grow together academically.” In response to the common complaint that students do not want to be forced to take a class not pertinent to their major, Schamber supplies this analogy, “General Education is the car, whereas your major comprises the options that you load onto your car. Mentor provides the foundation for critical thinking, research, writing, and speaking — skills that will benefit all students regardless of their major.”

I would even propose that Mentor is one of the most important G.E.’s that you take. In addition to providing you exposure to several important writings from the canons of great literature, science, and philosophy, it prepares you for college reading and writing expectations.

It proposes questions for discussion of such relevance that I would argue are more universally important than, for instance, the so-and-so’s economic model or chemistry formula. (Economics and chemistry professors may direct their complaints to my box “Hand Hall, or they may secretly agree.)

This is college. You are here to be educated, not simply pass classes to get a degree and get out. My advice is, don’t follow the crowd and fall into the Mentor Malaise. Take advantage of UOP’s unique offering, the Mentor Seminar, and fully participate in your education.
First Amendment getting trampled yet again

SCOTT SWITZER
Managing Editor

A lawsuit is being filed against Shawnee County in Kansas for violating the first amendment. The suit, filed in U.S. District Court in Topeka, accuses County Treasurer Rita Cline of using "public money to mail religious doctrine, including Bible verses, to citizens." The suit was filed by the American Civil Liberties Union of Kansas and Western Missouri. It also claims that the motto "In God We Trust" has been hung in county offices.

Dick Kurtenbach, executive director of the branch of the ACLU filing the suit, claims that all of these are violations of the first amendment, violating a person's right to freedom of religion. Kurtenbach said at one point, "There is a line there established to protect religious freedom and she has clearly crossed it."

The ACLU is absolutely correct in this allegation, and were these violations perpetrated, it is absolutely ridiculous.

Cline, who did not immediately respond to the suit, later accused the ACLU by letter of engaging in the "persecution of Bible-believing churches and preachers" and further, of opposing "the true and living God."

Well, I am proud we cleared that up, the ACLU is clearly to blame, never mind the fact that many people in this country are not religious, or agnostic, or do not share the Christian faith. What about their persecution, and their deity, or lack thereof? If a Treasurer had been sending messages of pagan faith, or atheist lack of faith, this same Rita Cline would surely be involved in persecuting them.

"With her own comments, Cline shows us exactly why everyone should have the right to their own belief, without fear of being sought out and attacked for it."

Christian holidays were borrowed and altered from Pagan origins. The ACLU is merely protecting the first amendment. Counterattack Cline targets their religious base, accusing them of persecution.

Napster Mp3 sharing network at UOP: Access denied

JOSH GEBEIN
Guest Writer

Napster v2.0 Beta 7 is now available! This highly controversial site has broken into the top of list of top 50 US. digital media and Web properties during the month of July with more than 20 million active users trading mp3's. Right now the University network administrators have planned to block Napster access by the end of the fall semester. Napster itself may be shut down next month anyway due to litigation and court orders. Why block this perfectly legal forum from us?

The situation is one of deep pocket record labels trying to protect their upper hand from competition in the marketplace. In reality Napster is perfectly legal under the Audio Home Recording Act -- the same law that makes it legal for anyone to record music from the radio and use it for private use. Napster does exactly that, it takes us back to the days of swapping tapes of our favorite songs with friends and making mixes for parties. The only significant difference is that it's digital, the music is CD quality, and our friends can be anywhere in the US and Canada.

Another argument against the legality of Napster is that free trade of songs will cheat artists out of deserved royalties. I admit that artists should get paid for their work, but again Napster is no different from radio, cable, or streaming audio. It allows you to find and listen to nearly any artist and capture the song for future play.

The benefit of Napster is being able to search and find most songs on request. It allows us to find obscure artists, old songs you can't remember who played, or even songs that aren't sold in the local music shops can be quickly reached. Personally I have been able to find some great new artists, and have bought several CD's solely from Napster finds. Before Napster I would never have even heard their music, or have been able to track down band names to songs I liked so easily.

According to a few online polls, the general consensus is that most people who download mp3's don't change their CD purchase habits. There is no 'real' reason when I say real, I mean moral and ethical-to limit the use of Napster. The real reason is a corporate, cash focused one for the record labels, and to a smaller extent, the University.

The University may be concerned about the possible illegality of Napster -- but most likely they will cut off the students' access simply because of the amount of network traffic it may cause. I inquired at our Office of Information Services and Resources why specifically Napster was targeted and had been blocked, and director of Enterprise Services Robert Paulson answered, "I believe Napster has been blocked since the firewall was tightened down in May or June. The concern was with the amount of bandwidth that was being used that others on the network were adversely affected. The policies approved last year stated that the network is primarily for academic reasons, and provided for all to use. One person's use of the network will not be allowed to affect the performance of the network for others."

Paulson mentioned other universities that have enacted the Napster ban. Would students using Napster significantly clog the network, or is UOP simply taking note of decisions made by other universities, and following suit?

My concern is that the University starts policing the availability of information and transfer of data by the students, it may continue unchecked to control any content that is deemed unfavorable by the administration. The proposed shutdown by the University lacks justification to the student body, and should cause concern among student leaders.

I, for one, am concerned about the students' wishes not being given a forum in this decision - a decision that denies their access to an otherwise free and unregulated medium.
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John Speck, Manager
April Potesta & Katie Pidanick, Asst. Managers
Wyclef's new solo album gets 'Ecleftic'

Wyclef Jean shows 'em how its done with his second solo album 'The Ecleftic-2 Sides II A Book.'

The shimmying "Run-away" is a fun, Studio 54-worthy track, complete with backup vocals from Earth, Wind and Fire and a slick story-teller like Notorious B.I.G.

"Rashomon" (1950). The film takes place in ancient Japan where a woman has been raped and her husband killed. The film explores the incident from four different viewpoints to try and find the truth. However, the question arises - what is truth?

"Sanjuro" (1962). Toshiro Mifune stars as a Samurai who happens upon a group of idealistic young men who are set to end the corruption in their town. Mifune aids them as a teacher, as they find that the scruffy, cynical Samurai shatters their prior concept of a noble warrior.

The last of the foreign films is "Yojimbo" (1961). This film has been an inspiration in street life to truthfully relate to Diallo's death. His Bob Marley "Social Consciousness 101" training is still a little lacking.

With "Ecleftic," Jean is a little kid spinning the LPs of his idols - rehearsing their rhymes and bouncing to their beats - trying to assimilate their styles into his own. He's pretty close to getting things right.

"911" featuring Mary J. Blige has none of the poignancy of vintage Wyclef like "Gone Till November." Instead, it lapses into the tired, "love sucks" routine.

Thankfully, his efforts are much more successful than Pat Boone's try at an old country fogie, after all.

"Yojimbo" (1961). This film has been an inspiration in working journeyman who can create rap music with Kenny Rogers, Earth, Wind and Fire and WWF's The ROCK while still clenching his street credibility.

"American Beauty" is just one of many films showing during the ASUOP Fall Film Series.

"I'll never get sick of eating at The Summit! There's so much selection!"

"Boy, these purple, sparkly parking permits go great with ANY color car!"

"This weekend I need to study...everyone there is so nice to me!"

"Wow, Grace Covell is such a nice dorm!!! This place called a fraternity...everyone there is so nice to me!"

"Hmmm...maybe science isn't the subject for me. I think I'll try Communication."

"Honey...I PROMISE I've been faithful my first week away at college!"

"I know...my parents think it's a dry campus too, but since I've gotten here, I've packed seven times! Isn't that cool!"

"I know...my parents think it's a dry campus too, but since I've gotten here, I've packed seven times! Isn't that cool!"

"The shimmying "Run-away" is a fun, Studio 54-worthy track, complete with backup vocals from Earth, Wind and Fire and a slick story-teller like Notorious B.I.G.

 logarithm of Jean's tracks are refreshing.

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"American Beauty" is just one of many films showing during the ASUOP Fall Film Series.
Final Film Series Fall 2000

October 31
Costume Party Surprise Halloween

September 2-4 (Labor day)
"Blade Runner"

September 8-10
"Citizen Cane"

September 23-25
"Rashomon"

September 15-17
"American Beauty"

September 29, 30 Oct 1
"Alien"

October 6-8
"American Psycho"

October 27-29
"Evil Dead Trilogy"

Movie Review
Continued from page 7

American cinema with such films as "Fistful of Dollars" and the 1996 film starring Bruce Willis, "Last Man Standing." Mifune happens upon a town divided by two dueling gangs. He chooses to play each side against the other teaching them a well-deserved lesson.

These three films will give the viewer a taste of another side of Akira Kurosawa, with a flare of Samurai action and a dash of comedy. These films are sure to delight everyone.

Classic films were also in demand so this semester there are three films by one of the most innovative men in cinema history, Orson Welles. Widely considered the greatest American film ever made, "Citizen Kane" is the Welles film in the line up. It is a story of a powerful media Tycoon and his loss of himself and the reason behind his success.

The search for "Rosebud," amazing cinematography, riveting dialogue, and an outstanding performance by Welles, makes this film a classic of classics.

"Lady from Shanghai" starring the beautiful Rita Hayworth is the second in the series, taking the audience on a trip of murder and desire. Mike (Orson Welles) is a sailor caught in the deceitful world of the wealthy as he finds himself falling in love with Rita Hayworth. She uses his feelings to lure him into her murderous plot.

The funhouse scene climax is a piece of cinema history as Welles once again breaks the barriers of cinematic representation.

"The Trial" (1963) wraps up the classics with a story based on the Franz Kafka novel. Starring Anthony Perkins, of "Psycho" fame, Welles embarks on a look into the American Judicial system, as Perkins finds himself on trial for an unknown reason. This Kafkaesque nightmare illustrates the individuals lack of freedom in the hands of a government machine. One of his lesser-known films, it is now available for you to enjoy.

All you Sci-Fi, horror and mainstream fans out there, you were not forgotten. There is "Blade Runner," "Alien," the "Evil Dead" Trilogy, and "Halloween," and for the mainstreamers there is "American Beauty," "American Psycho," and the timeless "Reservoir Dogs."

The series is sure to satisfy the tastes of all moviegoers on campus, and to stimulate an observation of the variety of films in the world of cinema. Not only will the choice of movies be fantastic, but also the events taking place during this run. Be sure to catch one of these classics showing for the Final Film Series Fall 2000.

The A&E and Sports sections are now hiring writers. To apply, come up to The Pacifican and pick up an application.
The office of Student Activities, Residence Hall Association, & Greek Council present...

THE ESSENCE OF SUCCESS *

9:30am - 3pm Saturday, September 23. McCaffrey Center

A day dedicated to achieving your potential for now and the future.

Featuring Lenny Dave, “Creativity, the Essence of Success!”

“Creativity, the Essence of Success!” emphasizes that the fundamental concepts of creative thinking can, in fact, be learned and put into practice immediately in campus organizations, in a career search, in the workplace, in the community, and personally. Creative thinkers move organizations forward! But, what exactly is creativity? What kills it? What are some tools we can use to enhance our creative thinking? And, perhaps most importantly, how can we apply this information? In “Creativity, the Essence of Success!” Lenny challenges students with new ideas and the kind of relevant real world information which they don’t get exposed to in the classroom...information which can positively impact their lives.

*A division of Student Life Program

ALSO...

Success and the City
What does it take to make your 20's and 30's a road to personal success- on your own terms.

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Greg Lehr, Asst. Director of Student Activities

$5 Registration
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Info @ 946-2174

150 SEATS...REGISTER EARLY!
Women's Volleyball

We're No. 1

After starting the season ranked No. 1 in the nation for four weeks the Pacific women's volleyball team lost a heartbreaker to Penn State in an NCAA Championship Semifinal match, falling 16-14, 5-15, 6-15, 15-7, 12-15 on Thursday, Dec. 16, in Honolulu. The Tigers finished the 1999 season with a record of 32-3 as well as a slew of individual accomplishments.

Senior Elsa Stegemann was named as the Big West Conference Co-Player of the Year as she took AVCA All-American honors as well as a place playing professional volleyball. Stegemann was also named the NCAA Tournament East Region Most Outstanding Player after averaging 7.64 kills and 3.64 digs per game in the Tigers' four East Region matches. At Boise State, she clubbed her 1,486th career kill to surpass two-time Olympian Elaina Oden and claim the Pacific career kills record.

Head coach John Dunning was named the Big West Conference Coach of the Year for the third time in his career (1986, 1996, 1999) after guiding Pacific to the top as well as serving as the interim athletic director.

Seniors Tracy Chambers (Hacienda Heights, Calif.) and Jennica Smith (Forestville, Calif.) were selected to the All-Big West first team along with Stegemann. The selections marked Chambers' second and Smith's third career first team bids. Senior setter Tanja Dimitrijevic (Belgrade, Yugoslavia) and junior middle blocker Danielle Shinn (Arnold, Calif.) each received their second career second team selection.

Baseball

It was a season of ups and downs for the UOP baseball team who finished with an overall record of 22-32, 5-25 in the Big West Conference after a melodramatic run at Billy Hebert Field.

The baseball program's rocky season of wins and losses was capped with a ten game losing streak.

Pacific would rise again in the summer draft. Tiger Steve Fisher was picked by the Oakland Athletic's in the 24th round of the Amateur Draft.

Men's Water Polo

Pacific concluded its 1999 season with a 14-15 record and a fifth place national ranking after placing fourth at the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation Tournament in late November. Senior Gabe Esposto was selected to the All-America first team after receiving Pacific's lone All-MPSF first team selection after leading the Tigers with 43 points.

Esposto was ranked 10th in the MPSF with an average of 1.65 points per game.

Women's Basketball

The Pacific women's basketball team (18-11) fell in the semifinal round of the Big West Conference Tournament with an 80-68 loss to No. 8 UC Santa Barbara to conclude their season.

Sophomore Selena Howard led the team in three-pointers, free throws, assists and total points to make the Big West second team.

Allisha Johnson was named to the All-Freshmen team and senior Eden Palacio received an Honorable Mention.

Golf

The Pacific golf team finished in sixth place at the Big West Conference Tournament in April after a successful season for the seniors and standout freshman Troy McKinley.

Jason Preeo, Brian Dillon, Florian Bruhns and Wes Widmer all concluded their time as Tigers. Coach Ted Balmer is helping the program rise in his fourth season as head coach.

Softball

The Pacific softball team finished with a 31-25, 15-9 Big West record. Following the conclusion of their winning season, Cindy Ball and Adrienne Rataczak were named to the All-Big West Conference team.

Led by coach Brian Kolze, the Tigers garnered National recognition including a mention on NBC's West Wing.

Men's Tennis

The Tigers ended their season ranked No. 48 in the nation.

A loss to No. 43 New Mexico State in the semifinals of the Big West Conference almost stopped their post season hopes until they receive an at-large bid to the NCAA Tournament later that week.

A 4-1 loss to the University of Southern California in the first round of the NCAA tournament ended the program's season.

Women's Swimming

Freshmen Kristy Matthews and Shawna Winters both made significant contributions to the Tigers this season setting new school records left and right.

Winters posted school high times in the 100 backstroke, 200 backstroke as well as contributing to the record setting 200 and 400 medley relay teams.

Matthews also contributed to the 400 medley relay time as well as posting school record times in the 200 individual medley and 200 breast stroke.

Natalie Phillips and Elizabeth Wistrom were named to the GTE Academic All-American teams for their efforts in the classroom.
Men's Swimming

Pacific swimmers Piotr Florczyk and Matt Smart both traveled to the 2000 NCAA Division I Championships on Saturday, Mar. 25, at Minneapolis. Florczyk placed 20th in the 200 meter backstroke (1:57.87) in school record time, while Smart placed 25th in the 100 meter freestyle (49.57).

Pacific placed 31st in the team standings with six points, due to Smart's 11th place individual finish in Friday's 200 meter freestyle. The team finish was the Tigers' best since the 1994-95 squad led by two-time Olympic gold medalist Brad Schumacher placed 18th. Andy Nonaka was named to an Academic All-American team for his 4.0 effort.

Field Hockey

The Pacific field hockey team concluded its 1999 season with a 5-12 record after suffering an 8-7 loss to No. 5 California to end their post-season hopes. The NCAA tournament, the Tigers suffered a 5-0 loss to No. 14 UC Irvine on April 29.

For the second year in a row, the Tigers, led by Coach Randy Hale, were active on and off the court winning the Pacific Tigers Leadership Award for outstanding leadership, citizenship and sportsmanship.

Repeat Big West Champions

For the second year in a row, the Tigers earned the Big West Conference Champions title. The title came to UOP after an upset win over top-seeded UC Irvine on April 29.

The Tigers' number one singles player, Susanne Bertel, ranked in the top-100 players in the nation, defeated UC Irvine's Maureen Diaz, ranked number 62 in the nation, by a score of 6-2, 6-4 for the Big West's automatic qualifier. In the first round of the NCAA tournament, the Tigers suffered a 5-0 loss to No. 5 California to end their post-season hopes.

Coach of the Year with UC Irvine's Mike Edles after guiding the Tigers to a 15-9 overall finish and their second Big West Championship.
Christmas in July

JOSH MONTERO
Senior Staff Writer

As the July days got hotter and hotter, local football fans were again treated to something very cool. A month long dose of NFL football, courtesy of one of pro football's most storied franchises.

And like the naughty little boy who awakens Christmas morning to a new PlayStation 2 instead of a hefty lump of coal, the fair-weather and largely undeserving fans of Stockton were given another summer with the San Francisco 49ers. Though this time the jolly, old man in red bringing the gifts wasn't the guy from the North Pole, but long time 49er Bill Walsh.

After growing up in a very pro-49er household, and having amongst my earliest football memories the years of Super Bowl glory, to see the team back these days is about as prestigious as being the Tuesday afternoon DJ at a strip club across the street from the airport. But in an NFC West featuring a Carolina team with half its guys in the hospital or prison, a Falcons team just an injury away from 4-12, and perennial losers in the New Orleans Aints, the 49ers could certainly be in worse shape.

However, loved or hated as they may have been in the past or are now, the fact remains that the 49ers are just not a good team. Over the roughly five weeks they spent this summer here at Pacific, the best football of the summer still came from my Heart, the Cleveland faithful who made a football video... Fame lock Jerry Rice made the comment that it was good these guys all had numbers on so he could figure out who was who. So sure even the Coke Stud signed more autographs at camp than three-quarters of the team. And sure, being the 49ers quarterback these days is about as prestigious as being the Tuesday afternoon DJ at a strip club across the street from the airport. But in an NFC West featuring a Carolina team with half its guys in the hospital or prison, a Falcons team just an injury away from 4-12, and perennial losers in the New Orleans Aints, the 49ers could certainly be in worse shape.

Now if only Tom Enansky made a football video...

Coaches Poll

Q: "What do you remember from your college days?"

Bob Thomason
Men's Basketball
UOP Graduate, 1971

"My first year, the total cost to attend UOP was about $4,200, that included room and board. My parents would send me $5 a week for spending money."

Brian Kolze
Women's Softball
Cal State Northridge, 1984

"My team drove to Arizona for a baseball game and their leading hitter hit a stand-up triple; his name was Barry Bonds. The next day we played against Randy Johnson and Mark McGuire."