ASUOP candidates prepare for election

Ricky Peterson and Jessica Grimes

Kristine Nethers  
Staff Writer

Ricky Peterson, sophomore, and his running mate, Jessica Grimes, junior, are looking to continue another year of working with UOP students for a better campus and student life. They are running for ASUOP President and Vice President.

Peterson is campaigning after one year of serving as ASUOP President. He sees his best qualities for running for president as, "Knowing the ASUOP system, ongoing connections to students, my association and good working relationship with the administration, and the ability to put students' needs as no. 1 priority."

Peterson's main goal is to continue the effective things that were done in his administration this year as well as continue to add projects that enhance the college experience of every UOP student. Both he and Grimes are referring back to ASUOP's Mission Statement and Priorities that was established this past summer.

ASUOP's mission is, "To increase student involvement to serve as an official channel for the free exchange of ideas and opinions of all at UOP, and to enrich student activities through social, cultural and educational aspects of University Life."

Peterson and Grimes have five priorities, which they think are most important to address in the campaign because they see these things as most pressing issues for students. They are as follows: strengthen communication, better represent all groups, allow for a wider range of student services, provide for more community involvement opportunities and better equip all of ASUOP to work efficiently.

This past year, Peterson saw a lot of improvement in the communication on campus, yet he still sees room for improvement. He was proud to oversee ASUOP's work of implementing the use of the campus directory, and e-mail pipeline services to all students, as well as ASUOP's bi-weekly article in The Pacifican. Next year he hopes to extend communication to off-campus students, and make the pipeline a more efficient tool for students to use.

Peterson is also hoping to start a commission of which all student club leaders would be involved, as well as producing a monthly "Tiger's Newsletter" to keep all students informed about ASUOP and the Senate's work.

Both Peterson and Grimes see representation as one of many major focuses if elected to another term. Peterson said, "If you've been convicted for drugs, you won't be eligible for financial aid."

See Peterson & Grimes, page 5

Matthew Olson and Jon Johnson

Jennifer Zhang  
Staff Writer

After the controversial race in the U.S. presidential election more than two months ago, UOP is preparing its own presidential election for the ASUOP student government. Presidential candidate Matthew Olson, sophomore, has teamed up with sophomore Jon Johnson as his running mate for vice president.

Both candidates have a diverse background of service for UOP. Last school year, Olson was a member of the John Ballantyne Community Council, Academic Regulations and Admissions and Financial Aid Committees. This year, while still serving on the Admissions and Financial Aid Committee, Olson is also involved in the Student Computing Committee. He is a Resident Assistant of John Ballantyne and also the President of Ritter House Association. Last year he was vice president of John Ballantyne and its RHA Representative of the Year. Being the coordinator for RHA, Olson represents UOP to other campuses across the nation.

Both candidates have been to RHA conferences to address issues concerning students on campus such as how residence halls are run and what improvements are needed.

They perceive the presidential office as an important leadership position. Olson said, "[The president] is like a spokesman for the students by advocating for change and improvement in university life. Through the president's leadership, he/she encourages others to become involved with the government and allows them to grow as leaders themselves."

Olson feels that the current administration has not done a satisfactory job. It "talks a lot, but doesn't do much." The running mates agree on several problems with the current administration and have designed their platform to resolve these problems.

The first component of their platform is to streamline the club funding process. The candidates think that the current funding process is inefficient because the funding form is confusing to fill out and there is no guidance with the process. They want to simplify the process by revising the form and creating a training institution for club presidents and treasurers who can then..."

See Olson & Johnson, page 5
Peace activist speaks to UOP's concerned students

KATE SALDIN
Staff Writer

In the wake of the most recent and highly publicized U.S. and British bombings of Iraq, nationally acclaimed peace activist and Director of the Peninsula Peace and Justice Center Paul George spoke and answered questions on Friday, Feb. 23 at UOP.

In an event sponsored by UOP’s Muslim Students’ Association (MSA), George’s “War and Sanctions” presentation addressed U.S./Iraqi relations since the Gulf War, and decried the economic sanctions and bombings carried out by the U.S. government and the U.N. in 1991. “We’re destroying an entire civilization,” George said, quoting ex-U.N. humanitarian coordinator Dennis Hallaway. “It’s as simple and as terrifying as that.”

George focused on several key points during his speech. Primarily, he addressed economic sanctions as a destructive war crime against Iraq. Originally put in place to persuade Iraq to withdraw from Kuwait in 1990, and later imposed to coerce Iraq to disarm itself of “weapons of mass destruction”, George maintained that sanctions deny citizens access to necessities such as food, water and medicine and have caused over one million civilian deaths since 1991. He also states that sanctions do not discourage Iraqi leader, Saddam Hussein’s, regime and that they are more likely to turn Iraqi citizens against the U.S. than against their own leadership.

Also speaking out against U.S.-imposed “No Fly Zones” in Iraq, George said, “No fly zones serve as a symbol that the U.S. can and will bomb where it wants to... they provide no protection to the Iraqi people.” No fly zones, originally enforced to observe human rights violations, are now being used by the U.S. to drop bombs in Iraq, often times as frequently as every few days. George states that these U.S. and U.N. policies, according to their own statistics, are wreaking havoc on the people and economy of Iraq and solving none of the problems they were intended to address.

McGeorge School of Law

News, notes and upcoming events

JAGDIP DHILLON
Guest Writer

The McGeorge team won the Texas Young Lawyers National Trial Competition Regional held in San Diego. Kerry Glen, Betty Julian, Adam Towers, and Jamie Weaver were the members of the team that defeated teams from the University of San Diego, the University of California, and Hastings College in the preliminary rounds. They then went on to defeat UC Davis and Loyola Law in the championship round.

The McGeorge team is coached by alumnus Tim Balcomb from the Sacramento law firm of Duncan Ball Evans & Ubladi who will now move on to the nationals in Dallas, Texas, which are scheduled for March 22-24. Another team from McGeorge, composed of John Barnes, Karoleen Mito, Sarju Naran, and Brian Taylor, defeated Pepperdine, Chapman, and Whittier to gain the semifinals before dropping a narrow decision to Loyola.

The prestigious Witkin Award winners have been announced for the 2000 Fall Semester and McGeorge had many award winning students. The Witkin Legal Institute, in cooperation with the West Group, honors California law school students who attain the highest grade in certain elective courses.

The McGeorge winners include: Harlee Branch 2D, Administrative Law (Weber); Maria E. Dryden 3D, Advanced Torts (Culhane); Adam S. Towers 3D, Advanced Trial Advocacy (Leach); Troy R. Szabo 3E, Bankruptcy (Nakagawa); Natalie M. Edwards 2D, Advanced Property (G. Scully); Jennifer D. McMahan 2D and Melissa A. Mikessell 2D, Decedent’s Estates and Trusts (Rein); Jill V. Beckett 3E, Family Law (Kaplan); Adam A. Grable 3D, Labor Law (Hawley); Andrew R. Nelson 3D and Stephanie A. Ward 3D, Remedies (Jacobs); Carolee D. Gevertz, author of several international business articles; Stephen McCaffrey, former chairman of the International Law Commission; Michael Malloy, an authority on international banking and former SEC special counsel; Claude Rohwer, former advisor to the government of Vietnam; and Kojo Yelapa, a consultant to several foreign governments.

Congressman Robert Matsui (D-Sacramento) will be the keynote speaker at McGeorge’s 20th Annual International Law Symposium on Saturday, March 3.

“Transnational Business Law in the Twenty-First Century,” a seminar which is free and open to the public, will feature leading international legal experts in a series of panel discussions exploring transnational law and governmental regulation of transnational business.

Panelists will include Ambassador Alberto Szekely, former advisor to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mexico, and Michelle Leighton, Natural Heritage Institute.

McGeorge professors who will participate include: Frank Gervirtz, author of several international business articles; Stephen McCaffrey, former chairman of the International Law Commission; Michael Malloy, an authority on international banking and former SEC special counsel; Claude Rohwer, former advisor to the government of Vietnam; and Kojo Yelapa, a consultant to several foreign governments.

The program will begin at 10 a.m. in Classroom D.

Among students present at the presentation, George’s propositions were embraced by some and rejected by others as a discussion broke out in the audience. While all students who spoke acknowledged and expressed regret for civilians suffering in Iraq, some students supported sanctions to some extent as a protest against Hussein and his threat to the security of other nations. Throughout the discussion, students grappled with ways to alleviate suffering while maintaining some kind of policy that ensures protection to Iraq’s neighbors and other countries, including the U.S. In response to these pro-sanction arguments, George said, “I would never defend Hussein... but it cannot be worth a million deaths to carry out any policy.”

Though opinions differed, MSA Treasurer and UOP Sophomore Faizal Meghani thought that the event was a success. He said, “We are just trying to raise awareness of this issue...despite the debate, we are still hurting people who aren’t at fault [Iraqi citizens].”

The FAFSA priority filing date has been extended to March 2. Send in your FAFSA to receive financial aid.
Community Leader Feature

Martin works to bring community life to Pacific

BRAD FRANCA
Guest Writer

Upon entering University of the Pacific, as either a student, member of the faculty or as an employee, a person becomes what is considered part of the UOP community. What many forget, though, is that they also become part of the Stockton community. Students, especially, seem to forget about this part of the deal. Stockton has long been looked upon as a city which offers very little to the UOP community, therefore students do not put any effort into discovering what this city has to offer. Leslie Martin would like to see these attitudes change, and she is now in a position to make a difference. Leslie Martin was recently elected to the Stockton City Council, the first African-American female to hold this position in Stockton's history. Her expertise in dealing with people will make her a valuable asset to the council, and upon meeting her, it is plain to see how much energy and action she is ready to bring to the Stockton community. Martin is also currently a deputy District Attorney for San Joaquin County, a position she has held for five years.

Martin grew up in the bay area, and attended college at the University of California-Berkeley where she earned a Bachelor's degree in Industrial Engineering. The combination of dealing with people and actual engineering processes led Martin to realize that her skills could be used in a social environment. Law seemed to be an avenue in which she could effect positive changes in a public atmosphere, and Martin felt that she had found her passion in life. After spending five years with Hewlett-Packard as an engineer, Martin went to law school at the University of California-Hastings.

It was during these three years that Martin met one of her mentors and inspirations, Jayne Williams. It was the first time Martin had worked in a law office that was headed by an African-American woman. The staff was very diverse and Williams was well liked and respected throughout the firm. Martin looked up to Williams and followed in her footsteps which led to her becoming a leader in the Stockton community.

Martin is very eager to keep Stockton growing in a positive way, and wants to do what she can to bring UOP and the city closer together. At Berkeley, Martin saw a community that had a diverse campus merging with a diverse town. It is surprising to Martin that UOP has been here for so long and still there is not a strong relationship with Stockton.

"Stockton should be an asset to the UOP community, not a barrier," said Martin. UOP is quite different from Berkeley, but Stockton is a diverse city which embraces a wide range of different cultures and people. UOP is part of this diverse group, and Martin encourages UOP students to express their opinions and ideas on what they would like to see as part of the development of Stockton. The city is willing to hear their voice and would love to have UOP play an active part in the revitalization process.

Martin is a very hard-working woman, who has established herself as a person who can be seen as an inspiration. Besides the city council position and her job as a district attorney, Martin is also married and has two children. Martin balances these roles superbly, and her energy and dedication to all three allow her to enjoy each and every day of her life. Martin's advice to students is simple, "always look at all your opportunities." Martin feels that her relationships with professors and fellow students in school were invaluable to her success in life. With the help of these relationships, Martin found her passion for life, and is still in contact with these people who are special to her. It is quite apparent that Martin is taking full advantage of the opportunities presented before her, and her value to the city is priceless.

If you have any questions for Martin, or would like to express your opinion on the relationship between UOP and Stockton, feel free to email her at: leslie.martin@sjcda.org

GIVE US TIME TO REPAY YOUR LOAN.

After just three years in the Army, your college loan could be a thing of the past.

Under the Army's Loan Repayment Program, each year you serve on active duty reduces your indebtedness by one-third or $1,500, whichever amount is greater, up to $85,000 limit.

This offer applies to Perkins loans, Stafford Loans and certain other federally insured loans which are not in default.

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www.goarmy.com
events added to schedule

**The Pacifican**

The Career Center wants to notify students of the following:

**Upcoming Events:**

- Wed, Feb 28: Lattice Semiconductor Interviews: Lattice Semiconductor is looking for talented BS/MSEE and CS graduates to join our world class engineering team! Our company designs, develops, and markets high performance Programmable Logic Devices (PLDs) and related development system software. We have numerous positions open in San Jose, CA, Hillsboro, OR, Austin, TX, and Colorado Springs, CO.

**School of Dentistry Students Involved**

**Bob Bjareke**

*Guest Writer*

Since 1984, UOP's School of Dentistry has offered three honors programs for pre-dental students. Every student participates in a five, six, or seven year program that leads to a Doctor of Dental Surgery (D.D.S.) degree.

- The School of Dentistry in San Francisco.
- The six year program offers students the opportunity to obtain two degrees at both the Stockton and the San Francisco campuses. Those enrolled major in Biological Sciences or Chemistry and obtain a Bachelor of Science or Arts in Biological Sciences or a Bachelor of Arts in Chemistry after three years in Stockton and one year in San Francisco. The D.D.S. degree can then be obtained in three years at the School of Dentistry.

- Dental students also have the option of completing their education in a seven year program. A bachelor's degree can be completed in four years and can be obtained in any major. Students are evaluated for Dental admission after completion of a series of science courses.

- But Pacific dental students don't just study. "Students are very involved in community service," said Dr. Eddy Hayashida in a phone interview.

- The School of Dentistry leads a conscientious and active social life in the San Francisco community. According to Dr. Hayashida, "Students travel to elementary school to give dental information and are very active in the surrounding community."

**An Open Apology**

I am writing to apologize for the "Spirituality at UOP" insert that went out in the February 22 issue of *The Pacifican*.

- While the numerous errors were not intentional, they were offensive to many and an apology is owed.

To the Muslim Students Association and the Pacific Christian Fellowship for being left off of the Directory of Members of the Interfaith Council.

To Wicca, the Muslim Students Association and Anderson Y for your articles and photos being left out.

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**Scholarship News**

**The Pacifican**

Every spring, the Lena Barnum-Everett Endowed Scholarship is awarded to students at Pacific for the following school year. The award is $1,000 extra money and is applied to your financial aid package. It is awarded through application only.

Applicants must include two letters of recommendation from professors and an unofficial transcript from the Registrar's office. Four copies of your application, recommendations, and transcript are needed.

Return this to the Financial Aid office as soon as possible as the applications must be in by mid-March.

Applications may be picked up in the lobby of Burns Tower from 7:30 a.m. until 5 p.m. or at the Financial Aid office in Hand Hall.

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**March 1 is the Beginning of Women's History Month.**

Mark your calendars.
Peterson & Crimes Continued from page 1

“I want students to ask themselves, ‘What has ASUOP done for me lately?’”

He and Grimes have a goal to increase the ways in which students can make their voice heard. This year they have met their goal of having one student forum per semester and this semester’s topic will be the Tuition and the Mission Statement for the university. Peterson and Grimes hope to have at least two student forums per semester by next year.

Peterson was happy to see all of the work done by ASUOP this year when it came to the various student services that they did perform.

He mentioned how they were responsible for relocations of the electric store from the Annex to the McCaffrey Center, and for creating fun and enriching trips and performances throughout the year.

Next year Peterson wants to see at least two student-produced television programs on the campus TV network in correlation with RHA. Peterson also saw reviving the K-PAC radio station as a major priority.

Peterson and Grimes are also committed to many behind-the-scenes workings as to make ASUOP more efficient and easier for student use. They want to implement a Financial Training Program to teach different groups how to fund their various programs to be the most efficient, and how to work with the president and the Finance Center.

They are also looking to a sweeping change of turning ASUOP into an Incorporated System in which ASUOP would be virtually independent from the university and better serve students’ needs without a lot of red tape. Peterson mentioned that this plan, although drastic, has support from the Board of Regents.

Finally, Peterson and Grimes hope to increase community involvement both in providing entertainment for students as well as providing for student service in the Stockton area. Peterson hopes to have a community service event planned for every month, as well as meetings with other university programs to share the wealth of information and resources available to students.

Peterson admits that ASUOP did have some mistakes this year, yet he doesn’t want that to shadow the many successes of the administration and the first-time events and programs that ran very successfully. He noted that experience has taught him well, and will keep his focus on the students and their wants and concerns.

When asked why students should vote for Ricky Peterson and Jessica Grimes for ASUOP President and Vice President they said without hesitation, “Experience.”

Peterson & Crimes Continued from page 1

Peterson & Crimes Continued from page 1

Olson & Johnson Continued from page 1

Olson & Johnson’s second goal is to create a campus technology taskforce. Currently there are several different Student Computing Committees that are responsible for technology related issues.

The candidates think they are unnecessary and propose to turn them into one unit to improve technology service on campus. Johnson said, “It turns the spider web of computing committees into a single group that will handle everything from the voicemail to the Ethernet. It would be easier for everyone involved and give students a louder voice in technology on campus.”

Unifying the student government through cooperative leadership is their third goal. Olson feels that division within the student government has been a major problem. They want to improve relationships between officials within the government and on campus by exploiting existing communication channels for better understanding.

Finally, they want to change the way the Programming Board works. They believe that by putting fewer people with more responsibility on staff will free up money, which they can spend in turn on bigger and better programs. Their slogan summarizes their goals — “We’re thinking students, we’re thinking progress, we’re thinking BIG.”

Olson and Johnson are confident that they are better qualified for the presidential office than their opponents because they have confidence in each other.

Johnson said, “Matt is more qualified because he has experience, he has character and he can work with people extremely well... I think that if he’s elected, he will be a natural source for people to go to and get things done.”

“One of the vice president’s main jobs is chairing the Senate and Jon has a lot of experience in this procedure because of his positions now in NCC and RHA... If there is a problem when I have to go to class, I would feel comfortable to pass it on to Jon because I know he will take care of it,” said Olson in return about his running mate.
Got a drug conviction? No aid for you! The war on drugs has new ammunition

You were young. You were stupid. And you got caught. Perhaps it was your first time. Or maybe you had been using drugs for a while. Now, you want to go to college with the help of federal aid.

You are out of luck.

If you look at your FAFSA, one question asks if you have any past drug convictions. If your answer to this question is yes, you are now ineligible for federal financial aid.

For many people, this means that they are now unable to go to college. This policy is neither fair nor effective.

I understand the government’s motivation for this policy. Drug use is a federal crime.

For many people, this means that they are now unable to go to college. This policy is neither fair nor effective.

I understand the government’s motivation for this policy. Drug use is a federal crime.

People who have been convicted will figure, “Well, I have nothing better to do with my life than work at Wal-Mart and no reason to stop doing drugs. I might as well light up another joint.” People who have been convicted will figure, “Well, I have nothing better to do with my life than work at Wal-Mart and no reason to stop doing drugs. I might as well light up another joint.”

The war on drugs has new ammunition through high-profit activities such as - you guessed it - selling drugs, their law-breaking behavior is merely perpetuated.

Instead, the government should provide people with the opportunity to better their lives by getting a college degree and a better job.

Then, the people will probably be less likely to use or sell drugs. And so will their children.

By denying these people the chance to better their lives and get out of their self-destructive cycles, the government forcing people even further down the wrong path.

Once the crime is committed, it cannot be undone. People who have been convicted will figure, “Well, I have nothing better to do with my life than work at Wal-Mart and no reason to stop doing drugs. I might as well light up another joint.” Working at Wal-Mart is reason enough to make anyone want to do drugs!

The government needs to give these people the power to change and the chance to create a life that does not need escaping through mind-altering substances.

If the “War on Drugs” is going to be even moderately successful (which it has not been thusfar), the federal government needs to wake up and smell the weed.

Being ineligible for financial aid because you got caught using or selling drugs does not work. It is not fair. It needs to be changed.

Quote of the Week

“To offend and to judge are distinct offices and of opposed natures.” — William Shakespeare

The Merchant of Venice
The Iraqi people need the U.S. to be involved

**Justin Buchanan**  
Staff Writer

For the last several months the Iraqi Government has tested the United States. Iraq has fired at U.S. planes patrolling the no-fly zone over Iraq more than a dozen times, more than they had in all of 2000. Iraq has begun building new radar stations with possible aid from China, a fiber-optics network that could easily target U.S. and British aircraft. After the tacit consent of the Clinton Administration to Iraq’s failure to abide by the restriction placed on them after the Gulf War, a clear message had to be sent that this administration was not going to put up with it.

This message came in the form of an air attack on Iraqi military targets near the no-fly zone. The military attack was very successful despite what the opposition may claim. The attack took place on the Muslim day of Sabbath to ensure that civilians would not be present at intended targets. Though some bombs did miss their targets, the act served to open the eyes of the Dictator, Saddam Hussein.

Some have criticized the existence of the no-fly zones, but let me assure you that the zones are key to stability and protection.

Further, I am sure that the number of Iraqis who showed up in support for Hussein does not get close to the hundreds of thousands who remained in silent support of the US for fear of their lives and the lives of their families. Hussein is an evil man who gains consent and support through terror and intimidation. Let us remember that this is the same man who ripped babies from their hospital beds and used his own people as human shields. We must not bow to the tyranny of public pressure and give up our quest to free the Iraqi people. We must be willing to show support for Iraqi opposition and not give up our quest for right.

The sanctions also haven’t prevented Hussein from building up his stash of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons, which has occurred unchecked since he expelled U.N. weapons inspectors in 1998. The positive aspects of the sanctions remain elusive. This is not to say that the United Nations should pull out of Iraq completely. The need still exists for the embargo on weapons of mass destruction; few would want to see Hussein heavily armed. But trade restrictions are at the very least unnecessary and ineffective, if not detrimental. At least other countries have the sense to realize this.

President Bush and British Prime Minister Tony Blair met on February 23 to discuss streamlining the sanctions, but in any action they take, the support of Iraq’s neighbors and other key countries is imperative. Without their approval, any program will be doomed to the same failure as the last, and Hussein will continue to gain unprecedented access to weapons materials.

After a decade, it is time we remember who the victims are, and stop taking our revenge on them.

She Said

The U.S. isn’t helping the control over Iraq

**Karaa Cloward**  
Staff Writer

Ten years after the end of the Gulf War, Saddam Hussein still reigns supreme in Iraq.

The U.S. and British air attacks on February 16 serve only to remind us that our past efforts have failed to hinder, and have possibly even aided, the Iraqi president’s control over the nation of 25 million. The strikes were a particularly aggressive action at a time when other U.N. member nations have urged a reevaluation of involvement in Iraq. Not only did our forces retaliate within the no-fly zones they are patrolling, but four of the five targets lay outside the zones.

All of this leads to a much broader issue - the pressure from many of the U.S. and Britain’s U.N. counterparts to relax or possibly end the economic sanctions placed on Iraq a decade ago in response to its invasion of Kuwait. China, Russia and France, currently the three other members of the U.N. Security Council, have voiced concerns recently about the sanctions’ effectiveness, and with good reason.

As with the Cuban trade embargo, the U.S. seems to think that punishing a country’s people will somehow thwart their leader’s actions. Instead, what results is a nation of sick and starving citizens who worship Hussein or Castro for attempting to protect them from the evil outsiders.

Iraqis are sick because they can’t find medicine and starving because they can’t find food, and we are sending them straight into the arms of the enemy, because they have nowhere else to go. Hussein’s popularity is at its peak, a far cry from the apparently broken leader our troops left behind in 1991.

Lacking international support, the sanctions are crumbling. Commercial planes now fly in and out of the Baghdad airport, and Iraq just opened an oil pipeline through Syria. The pipeline falls outside the so-called “oil for food” program, which is monitored by the United Nations and sends a large percentage of the oil revenue to the war’s victims.

The sanctions also haven’t prevented Hussein from building up his stash of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons, which has occurred unchecked since he expelled U.N. weapons inspectors in 1998. The positive aspects of the sanctions remain elusive.

This is not to say that the United Nations should pull out of Iraq completely. The need still exists for the embargo on weapons of mass destruction; few would want to see Hussein heavily armed. But trade restrictions are at the very least unnecessary and ineffective, if not detrimental. At least other countries have the sense to realize this.

Question of the Week

**Compiled by Lauren Vang**

Should the U.S. be involved in peacekeeping in Iraq?

"Tell the government to deal with their own business."

-Jimmy Wang, Sophomore

"I'll support it as long as if there's a crisis here and Iraq would help us."

-Iain Peterson, Freshman

"No, because oil prices will increase and we should work on our own problems."

-Amanda Tucker, Freshman

"I don't think we should, it hasn't seemed to work in the past."

-Jill Andrews, Junior

"Yes we should because we know what's going on is wrong and that we can do something about it."

-Michelle Stagi, Senior
Senator John Ashcroft, A wolf in sheep’s clothing

NATALE CORIEL
Staff Writer

I, along with four other UOP students, was given the opportunity to participate in the 2001 Presidential Inauguration. I was able to attend one of the official balls in which the President, Vice-President, and various cabinet members were scheduled to appear.

As I was watching the “wild” republicans “boogie on down,” I noticed that Attorney General John Ashcroft was standing about two feet away from me. I was disappointed that I didn’t get a chance to really speak to Ashcroft considering there was a swarm of people surrounding him.

I think that it was a good idea for his sake because he probably would not want to hear me, as I thought he was a “wolf in sheep’s clothing.”

This is a pretty strong accusation to make, but there are strong facts that back up my belief. During his trial, Ashcroft tried covering his past of unfair rulings. He, along with his fellow republicans, tried to change his image in a short matter of time. Despite the fact he was appointed as attorney general on a close 58 to 42 vote, his negative record still continues to haunt him.

There are many important social issues Ashcroft takes a very controversial, conservative stand on. For example, when dealing with the hate crimes issue, he voted against expanding hate crime laws which would make it easier for federal prosecutors to try these cases. Ashcroft’s rulings are frightened when we live in a society where people are killed because of their sexual orientation, like in the case of Matthew Shepard.

Ashcroft also lost points when dealing with racial issues. He has been known to praise the “neo-Confederate” magazine, Southern Partisan, which supports the view that slavery was beneficial to the slaves. It is scary when the attorney general of the U.S. accepts an honorary degree from Bob Jones University, which had a ban against interracial dating and sent anti-Catholic statements. During his trial, he was asked if he would continue speaking at Bob Jones and stop contributing comments to Southern Partisan. Ashcroft said he would not stop either one.

Ashcroft receives even stronger resentment when the abortion card comes up. Despite the fact that he says he will not turn Roe vs. Wade, he continues to try to make it harder for women to choose. For example, as governor he signed a law affirming abortion bans in public medical facilities. And he only feels an abortion is necessary when the mother’s life is in danger. He does not oppose situations of rape and incest.

It is extremely disappointing Ashcroft is our attorney general. With his type of mind set, he is pulling America behind instead of having an open mind for social issues. This wolf in sheep’s clothing will continue to serve our country, but it is important to realize what kind of person he really is and the type of beliefs he plans to infringe on our country.

Elton John and Eminem: Art doesn’t always imitate life

LISA HOFFMAN
Staff writer

For those of you that didn’t watch the Grammys, you missed an awesome performance by Eminem and Elton John. They performed “Stan,” a haunting track on The Marshall Mathers LP. This was the most anticipated event of the night for many fans and foes of Eminem.

After seeing Eminem perform this song at the Anger Management tour in Sacramento last November, I noticed quite a difference. Eminem was much more alluring this time, savoring every lyric in this tragic song and his intensity showed during the Grammy performance. Elton John’s powerful vocals supported this song as well with his passionate rendition of the chorus.

I was surprised to hear on the news that organizations like GLAD along with other people were protesting the duet outside of the building during the award ceremony. To them, Elton John performing with Eminem is similar to a black guy joining the KKK, however I fail to see the similarity. Rather it seems that these two artists have a mutual respect for each other and obviously worked hard in order to give their audience an amazing and unforgettable performance. Although I am a fan of Eminem, there are many people who are disturbed and disgusted by him.

I guess if I was an irrational person and took every word he said literally as do his adversaries, I would hate him too. After all, not only does he abuse and kill his wife on both of his albums, but he slanders people and even kills Dr. Dre as well.

But then, if I actually thought that Eminem was serious about everything he said on the album, I would have to look at the rest of the entertainment industry in the same way. The same goes for directors who produce twisted movies glorifying violence, along with authors who write disturbing novels, such as Stephen King.

Why is it that some people fail to see the difference between art and the person who creates that art? To claim that Eminem endorses violence against women and homosexuals is absurd. To do this takes what he says on his album completely out of context. An analysis of Eminem’s music would show that he uses his artistic talent to explore different aspects of his psyche, as do other artists and entertainers. But until Eminem acts on the violent and abusive things that he has said on his albums, he is simply another artist expressing himself, and not a criminal as so many people are quick to believe.

Stop complaining, there is hope for Mypacific

MICHELLE-ELIZABETH VALLE
Staff Writer

Can you live without your computer? Can you go for one day without surfing the web and downloading games and music? Is e-mail part of your daily vocabulary?

If so, you must be suffering from Internet obsession. It’s not uncommon for Pacific students to be glued to their computer screens late on a Wednesday night.

Then you must know of that annoying web interface mypacific. Several students find this UOP service to be somewhat annoying, while others can’t live without it. And that are the few who don’t even know that mypacific exists.

Okay, maybe you think that mypacific gives you more problems that any other web interface you’ve come across. You’d rather have a Hotmail account than go through the slow process of accessing your school account. And maybe going to the registrar’s for grades and add/drop services can be a lot faster than waiting for one page to load.

Several students I spoke with about the service have complained about the problems they’ve encountered with RTAs (resident technical assistants), the Office of Information Services, or the website in general. Junior student, Jenna Tompson explains, “When I first started to use it, I’d lose e-mails that I was writing.” However, when I asked whether she would change any part of mypacific she said she liked it the way it was.

Thuy Nguyen, senior, finds mypacific annoying. She tried a couple of times to get an account started last fall, but no one at OISR (Office of Information Services and Resources) seemed helpful. “I don’t think it’s really that efficient, because I’ve never used it, don’t know what it’s about and it seems that no one really even cared that I had it.”

However, those people in charge of mypacific are working diligently to improve the website. Here is a little something to clear your preconceived notions of the evil mypacific and show you that the people in charge of the web interface aren’t ignoring our Internet demands.

Firstly, the mypacific was launched to cater to the needs of UOP students and faculty. It allows students access to UOP e-mail, campus announcements, and links to various school web sites.

Peggy Kay, project manager of mypacific gave me a little insight as to the importance of security to each individual account. “Mypacific provides a security lair that encrypts the information that is provided.” Kay said.

Kay also said that there are indeed problems faced when using mypacific. Surveys were conducted with students from the School of Pharmacy and the school engineers may have found that their account has become disabled. One quick trip to OISR to reactivate an account is worth the tight security.

Peggy Kay and her team of RTA’s and OISR staff are working hard to improve the young mypacific and to quiet our frustrated complaints. With a little patience and perseverance, mypacific will live up to our expectations.
Crying over expired milk at Tiger Grocery Store

Scott Switzer
Managing Editor

A little understanding can often times go a very long way.

On the other hand, no understanding can also get you a very short lease.

What am I talking about? Well, among other things, being a clerk at a grocery store.

Customers love to complain to the clerks about everything, whether it is within their control or not.

Compliments abound from that of why the store doesn’t carry certain candy, to the weather and climate inside the store. It’s too hot, or too cold, but the clerk can do nothing about it, and has to endure the incessant bitching and moaning.

The worst however, are the customers who insist on causing a fight. No matter what you do to appease them, they want a confrontation.

Take for instance last Friday. A worker from the UOP help desk came in and bought chocolate milk. It was expired, and no one realized it. Until she came back. She received her money back, and an apology, and then left.

Now, that should have ended the problem, but she came back, and continued to berate the clerk and store. At which point I pointed out, as tactfully as possible, that she could have paid attention to the expiration date as well. Continue with a few more unpleasantities upon the poor grocery clerk, then she left for good (or until she reads this article).

This is only part of the problem. When the manager of the store gets a call from the annoying customer, he only gets the shaded truth, that the clerk was rude and told her to check the expiration date herself. Forgotten was the fact that this was after an apology and refund, and on the second visit as well.

When you start forgetting the whole story conveniently to make yourself look better, maybe you should question the intrinsic value of your complaint.

Yes, I was rude, but only after getting fed up with being complained at while trying to be nice. If anything, I held my tongue, which is an exercise in restraint in itself.

But to flat out lie, and lets not mince words, leaving integral parts of the story out because they don’t help your case is indeed lying, is silly. Particularly over expired milk.

Yes, it is gross, and unforgivable, but it can happen. Live with it, move on. Life is too short to worry about every little thing.

You think someone who works at the help desk would understand being complained to for things over which they have no control.

It seems at least one would rather take all out all her frustrations on a clerk, because it happens at her workplace.

If that is the case, then I have just one message for anyone with this complex: get over your arrogant self, stay away from me, and if you can’t then prepare to deal with the consequences of my tongue (or keyboard)."

Manager Ricky Peterson looks for student support

Dear UOP students,

Just under two years ago, I came to this school as a bright-eyed freshman, eager to take advantage of all the opportunities college life at Pacific has to offer. From the very beginning, I became involved in my community council, groups like AASU and the UCC, and was able to serve as a student representative on some university committees.

Last spring, I was even able to become one of the only freshman students to be elected to the position of student body president.

Since being overwhelmingly elected by the students, I have strived to be the best student advocate I knew how to be. I have devoted the past year of my life to representing what I perceived to be the wishes of the students in every way I could, learning the culture of administration, building a political power base, and uniting people for common causes. This sometimes cost my free time, sleep, and, though not intentionally, my academic. In the face of occasional attacks on my integrity, motives and even my legitimacy to serve as president, I have never allowed the voice of the students to be heard.

In every endeavor I have undertaken as your president, I have always based my actions on what I believed to be in keeping with the desires of you, the students.

As many of you may have noticed, over the past two weeks I have been campaigning for the position of ASUOP President once again, and, along with my opponent, have been handing out flyers, putting up posters and presenting my platform to my peers. During this time I have continued to advance my purpose of representing the wishes of the student body.

This semester the ASUOP team, under my leadership, has brought you great trips like white water rafting and Disneyland. We've never had as many big names like Bill Maher, Mark Curry, Jaime Escalante, and two sold out shows of Wayne Brady. This year we were also able to bring you the first student phone directory, fight for a working campus-wide recycling program and new bike racks on campus.

As I complete my term as your president I will continue to fight for student issues - for the approval of new bike racks on campus. As many of you may have noticed, over the past two weeks I have been campaigning for the position of ASUOP President once again, and, along with my opponent, have been handing out flyers, putting up posters and presenting my platform to my peers.

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We can learn a lot from the Crocodile Hunter

VIRGINIA CIDDENS
Staff Writer

A couple of Mondays ago, I had the rare pleasure of seeing one of my favorite shows, The Crocodile Hunter, on network TV. I don’t have cable, so I’m not able to watch him regularly on Animal Planet but since those of you who live on campus do have cable, I thought I would take advantage of this opportunity to tell you about the TV personality I most admire.

Steve Irwin is the Crocodile Hunter’s real name and he’s actually a conservationist, not a hunter. When in his native Australia, he’s often involved in alleviating conflicts between crocodiles and humans by relocating the crocs. He moves them to more remote areas or simply to the crocodile park at his home.

At first, Steve has a tendency to come across as completely crazy. After all, he calls huge, ugly-not to mention dangerous-crocodiles “lil’ beauties,” and constantly sweet talks the animals he handles more exuberantly than most of us would a baby or a lover.

But, as I have seen more and more of him, I have grown to truly admire the enthusiasm with which he approaches his work. He loves animals passionately and puts their well-being before his own. Once he was moving a snake out of the road and it’s possible that some nut would that ever happen legally? No! There are bans against cloning humans isn’t the goal at all. The technology to clone a human exists already, and it’s possible that some nut with a lab and a few embryos in a petri dish is cloning himself at this very moment. But would that ever happen legally? No! There are bans against cloning living, breathing human beings. I’m sure that social conservatives take great delight in scaring their followers, telling them that the atheistic scientists are striving to usurp God’s role and won’t stop until they’ve created a human being from scratch.

After a small return voyage to reality, however, it is clear that cloning humans isn’t the goal at all. The technology to clone a human exists already, and it’s possible that some nut with a lab and a few embryos in a petri dish is cloning himself at this very moment. But would that ever happen legally? No! There are bans against cloning living, breathing human beings. I’m sure that social conservatives take great delight in scaring their followers, telling them that the atheistic scientists are striving to usurp God’s role and won’t stop until they’ve created a human being from scratch.

In this article, Valle mentioned that “to have a cloned body part would take away a piece of who we were.” That may be fit for reflective poetry or philosophy, but tell that to a child with failing kidneys. And when someone gets an organ transplant from another human, are they any less than who they were?

The only possible objection I can see coming from the results of this research comes from the definition of what human life is. Sure, it’s possible that the embryo could, under the right conditions, grow into a baby. But then, under the right conditions, could a sperm cell. Do we classify that as human life? Besides, the only embryos used are those that are left over from in vitro fertilization, and those would have been thrown into a waste container anyway.

The only downside I can see coming from the results of the research would be that the death rate would drop, and overpopulation would be even more of a problem. However, I’d much rather deal with that problem.

Sincerely, Paul Geurts

Cloning organs won’t lead to cloning babies

Dear Editor,

This letter is in response to the article Stem cell research takes a step forward, not back by Michelle-Elizabeth Valle in the Feb. 1 issue. I think she was doing her best to be journalistically neutral, and in the end I couldn’t tell if she was for or against the research. I, however, have no such limitations.

First, using embryonic stem cells for research is a far cry from cloning living, breathing human beings. I’m sure that social conservatives take great delight in scaring their followers, telling them that the atheistic scientists are striving to usurp God’s role and won’t stop until they’ve created a human being from scratch.

The difficulty for some may come from the way the word “cloning” is used. In this context all “cloning” means is taking a cell from an embryo (a ball of undifferentiated cells), removing the genetic material and replacing it with a specific patient’s genetic material. It doesn’t mean literally cloning the patient and harvesting organs. Instead, the research’s goal is to force those altered cells to grow into a new heart, lung, or even neutral tissue. The organs would be genetically identical to the patient.

In this article, Valle mentioned that “to have a cloned body part would take away a piece of who we were.” That may be fit for reflective poetry or philosophy, but tell that to a child with failing kidneys. And when someone gets an organ transplant from another human, do they any less than who they were?

Sincerely, Paul Geurts

The Pacifican is now hiring advertising representatives.
Need work experience, or just a paycheck? (You get commission!)
Apply at The Pacifican office on the third floor of Hand Hall.
Amy Tan’s latest novel wraps up a little too neatly

The Creamery specializes in more than ice cream

Amy Tan’s newest work sure to entertain readers.

The novel's main symbols and themes are wrapped within another: they're layered, context within context like those Russian dolls you unscrew only to find another beneath it. Ruth is her mother's interpreter like LuLing interpreted her mother's signals.

"In an odd way, she now thought, her mother was the one who had taught her to become a book doctor," Tan writes. "Ruth had to make life better by revising it."

Intertextualities drive the narrative, resulting in the best parts of "The Bonesetter’s Daughter".

Still, the novel seems too similar to all of Tan’s other books about mothers and daughters. That’s probably what happens when writers use their own lives as inspiration.

Tan also wraps up too neatly at the end of the story. It seems unlikely LuLing would take so nicely to a nursing home, considering how crabby she’s been through the novel. The random stock picks Ruth made when she was small translate into a small fortune, and, of course, Ruth figures out her grandmother’s true name.

It’s a little too lucky for a story that explores such hardship. Maybe Tan couldn’t dig deep enough in her family history to find an unresolved ending, so she decided a little deus ex machina was the way to go.

Book Review

The Creamery specializes in more than ice cream.

The Creamery, a blend of old fashioned ice cream parlour and diner, is located conveniently down the street from campus. The Creamery caters to tired mall shoppers, high schoolers, and ice cream lovers alike.

The restaurant offers tempting gourmet sandwiches, enormous burgers, pasta and filling salads. This place isn’t exactly junk food heaven, but it is a place that will feed any appetite.

For the salad lover, The Creamery has an array of various salads to choose from. An unusual yet delicious salad is Marge’s Mandarin Chicken Salad ($6.25). This dish comes in a large salad bowl filled with fresh romaine lettuce and topped with chow mein noodles, mandarin oranges, sesame seeds and grilled sliced chicken, all in a tasty mandarin dressing.

If it’s a good old fashioned burger you’re looking for then a recommended special would be Hondo’s Special ($8.25), which comes with a burger, a large helping of golden fries and any flavored milkshake of your choice.

If you want a lighter meal go for a half or full order of any featured deli sandwich. A popular sandwich is the Pilgrim’s Pride ($5.75 half order/$6.75 full order) which comes with a succulent breast of turkey. Each deli meal comes with your choice of soup or side salad.

Those at The Creamery will constantly remind you that it offers excellent ice cream, and little samples of the day’s featured flavor will come with any meal. In fact, dessert is highly recommended after a meal.

So when you’re in the neighborhood, drop by The Creamery for a quick dessert or light meal.

Local restaurant, The Creamery, offers great food in an old-fashioned setting nearby campus.

If you have never heard of The Creamery or dined there, this is the place to start your dining experience in Stockton. Located conveniently down the street from campus, The Creamery caters to tired mall shoppers, high schoolers, and ice cream lovers alike.

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So when you’re in the neighborhood, drop by The Creamery for a quick dessert or light meal.
Hit production team, Neptunes, to release album

GREG THOMPSON
Staff Writer

"Give you bling, like The Neptunes sound!" An excerpt from Jay-Z’s club hoppin’, col­lar poppin’, radio knockin’ sin­gle, 'I Just Wanna Love You,' off his current album entitled, 'The Dynasty Roc La Familia.'

The Neptunes, which Jay-Z refers to in that particular verse, are non-other the production team of Pharrell Williams and Chad Hugo, who are responsible for orchestrating the somewhat psychedelic, yet thuggish beats and rhythms that have ignited the talents of an extensive list of artists over the past five years. Such artists include, Mystikal and hip-hop's chart topping sin­gle, 'Lap Dance,' will be available in late March/early April. The Neptunes will release their debut album, entitled "IN SEARCH OF...", through Virgin Records, which is set to hit the stores in late spring/early summer, but the preceding single, 'Lap Dance,' will be available in late March/early April. The Neptunes will release the album under the disguise of N-E-R-D, which is an acronym for "Nobody Ever Really Dies." Williams explains the connotation, 'People’s en­ergies are made of their souls. When you die, that energy may disperse but it isn’t destroyed. Energy cannot be destroyed. It can manifest in a different way but even then it’s like their souls are going somewhere.' "The album," as Williams puts it, "is like a life sound­track. It’s a diary of our—We’ve been through over the last year or two. We’re just trying to express ourselves as colorful as possible, as musical as possi­ble."

Williams and Hugo, who’ve known each other since the seventh grade, were influenced by an array of artists ranging from Stevie Wonder to Steely Dan, Lynyrd Skynyrd to Kool & The Gang, and the classic rock of Queen.

It is evident in their music how they blend not necessarily the old, but the classic, with the new, which creates a sound appealing to almost anyone. As if 2001 Mercedes Benz SL 500 collided with a 1969 Oldsmobile Cutlass Supreme. Their talents are not only displayed in the production booth, but both, Williams and Hugo, are vocally brawny as well. Many may not be aware that Williams is the ice cold male magnet singing the hook on Mystikal’s ‘Shake That Ass.’

In addition to the completion of their album, The Nep­tunes are busy laying the groundwork for upcoming projects, which include artists such as Janet Jackson, Brandy, No Doubt, Redman, Black Thought from The Roots, and for those compulsive boy band fans, N'Sync.

Summer serenade ‘Girls Dem Sugar,' Kid Rock and the remix of his hit single ‘Cowboy,' and most recently, The Neptunes have spent time producing new material by Michael Jackson.

Some may wonder: When are The Neptunes going to re­lease an album of their own? Williams and Hugo have been asking themselves that question since being discovered by Hip-Hop and R & B mogul, Teddy Riley, at a high school talent show in their native state of Virginia.

The time has finally come. The Neptunes will release their album, entitled "IN SEARCH OF...", through Vir­gin Records, which is set to hit the stores in late spring/early summer, but the preceding single, 'Lap Dance,' will be available in late March/early April. The Neptunes will release the album under the disguise of N-E-R-D, which is an acronym for "Nobody Ever Really Dies." Williams explains the connotation, 'People’s en­ergies are made of their souls. When you die, that energy may disperse but it isn’t destroyed. Energy cannot be destroyed. It can manifest in a different way but even then it’s like their souls are going somewhere.' "The album," as Williams puts it, "is like a life sound­track. It’s a diary of our—We’ve been through over the last year or two. We’re just trying to express ourselves as colorful as possible, as musical as possi­ble."

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N-E-R-D, whose music is as intriguing and mysterious as the "nerds" who occupy the "nerdy" nether world of "IN SEARCH OF...". For more information regarding The Neptunes, more specifically N-E-R-D, and to hear snippets from their forthcoming album, visit their web site at www.N-E-R-D.com.

Star rapper, Jay Z, just one of the many The Neptunes work with.

Pharrell Williams of Neptunes.
Tragic artist unable to find joy in life in movie, Pollock

[U-WIRE] SAN DIEGO - The tragic artist is a cliche we constantly find in film, theater and literature.

The image is so commonplace it almost seems archetypal. Despite the talent to express things in a beautiful way, the tragic artist is unable to get along financially or find joy in his life which is constantly overburdened by self-doubt. Soon the only joy comes in the form of self-destruction and the only fame is posthumous.

Whether this is life reflecting art or vice versa is hard to say. In the film "Pollock," however, we are given an artistic reflection of a true life tragic and important artist.

One of Roger Ebert's picks for the 10 best films of 2000, "Pollock" is the directorial debut of Ed Harris, who also produced and starred as the title character.

Based on the book Jackson Pollock: An American Saga, "Pollock" examines the rise and fall of American artist Jackson Pollock, one of the most important (and perhaps the single most scouted at) painters of the 20th century.

The film's strong performances have managed to garner Oscar nominations for best actor for Harris and supporting actress for co-star Marcia Gay Harden.

Pollock was at the forefront of the abstract expressionist movement, particularly action painting that involved free moving and spontaneous brush strokes across the canvas to create non-representational imagery. Pollock is best known for his "drip painting" technique in which he would drip or splatter paint from a brush without making physical contact with the canvas. The result was spontaneous art entirely free from traditional, social and aesthetic values.

His personal life was mired by constant battles with alcoholism that wound up ruining his marriage to artist Lee Krasner and destroying his artistic ability. He died in a car crash in 1956, at the age of 44.

Pollock's detractors, who criticize his supposedly arbitrary nature, should avoid this film, for it takes an appreciation of Pollock's work in order to become engaged in the story of his life.

"Pollock" is a nearly decade-long labor of love by Harris. To play Pollock, Harris spent his time reading and thinking about the artist's life and work. Harris even tried his hand at painting in order to understand what it is, emotionally, to be a painter.

Harris' obsessive research results in a convincing performance. Harris, who bears an eerie resemblance to the late artist, does a good job of portraying the secretive, silent artist as well as the manic, drunken madman that was Jackson Pollock. Indeed, he was a gifted artist, but at the same time he was a desperate, hopeless, perhaps irredeemable, man.

There's a similar duality to Pollock that Harris pins down in that he was not an articulate or academic man, yet he was expressively explosive and artistically gifted.

The film is held together by Harris's portrayal of Pollock's wife Lee. Lee is perhaps the only stability in Pollock's world. Even when the ability to paint leaves Pollock and is replaced by alcohol, Lee does her best to support the man she loves and often suffers for it under a barrage of Pollock's drunken acts and insults.

She is the smarter of the pair and helps bring her husband's art into recognition, sacrificing her own artistic career in the process. In every scene in which Lee and Pollock interact later in the film, Lee's longing glances suggest her undying adoration for someone too emotionally distant to love her back. Harden may be a long shot to win the Academy Award, but her sold performance at least validates her nomination.

Harris does a good job for his directorial debut. Avoiding gaudy visuals, he opts for a more restrained style, an appropriate approach to telling Pollock's story.

The opening scenes when Lee and Pollock first become a couple have a soft-spoken, yet lyrical, quality to them. Here Harris allows silence to fill in the awkward interactions between an introverted Pollock and extroverted Lee.

The most memorable scenes Harris creates, however, are those which portray Pollock in the act of painting. Intense, energetic camera movements are coupled with a score that sounds as moving and spontaneous as the art Pollock created.

"Pollock" is a well-made and well-acted biopic that no doubt paves the way for Harris to pursue more directorial projects. Primarily, though, the film is also bound to bring more attention to Pollock's art, as well as that of other abstract expressionists. Hopefully, inspiring a second wind in Pollock's popularity will cause his detractors and critics to better understand his influence and brilliance.

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Dr. Ray's Joke Corner

Beijing Games

China is seeking the 2008 Summer Olympic Games. The opening ceremonies would be unique. A torch bearer would light Falun Gong members.

Darryl Duty

The Yankees have hired Darryl Strawberry as an advisor to their minor league clubs. The veteran outfielder can speak to young players about drugs in sports. He has a nose for that kind of thing.

Military Might

President Bush wants to increase military spending. The Navy needs to upgrade its fleet to combat its nemesis in the ocean. The stealth fishing boat.

Puff Dud

The trial of Sean Puffy Combs lingers. Lawyers for the defendant refute the bribery charge. If he wanted to pay off someone to go free, he would have contacted Bill Clinton.

Bush Bargains

President Bush is stump­ ing for his education plan. He's pushing the three K's, Readin', 'riting, and geogra­ phy.

Oscars Noms

The Oscar nominations are out. Russell Crowe will no doubt be recognized for his role as a cold, hardened warrior who brought down an empire. The marriage of Meg Ryan.

FBI Spy

An FBI agent is accused of spying. Taking money from foreign countries for information about the U.S. is not something to be taken lightly. His colleagues have labeled him a Democrat.
Top Ten things to keep in mind when taking an exam or a midterm

10. Do not write in answers other than true or false on the true and false portion of the test.

9. If you don’t know the answer to an essay question, instead write in your favorite recipe. Your professor will appreciate your knowledge and grade your test much easier.

8. You can never ask too many questions. Especially questions of when and where this test information will be used in the real world.

7. Always clarify confusing parts of the test. Make sure your definitions of words like “the” and “and” are similar to the professor’s definitions.

6. Adding drawings and doodles to scan-trons may confuse the grading machine, but will be a delightful touch to anyone else who sees your answer sheet.

5. Finishing first on a test shows your professor how smart you really are. Try and finish within the first five minutes of class time.

4. Good nourishment is important for any test taker. Don’t be afraid to have pizza and drinks delivered to your class if your test is really long.

3. Pointing out mistakes on neighbor’s tests is a sure sign of intelligence. It will also help the professor speed up the grading process.

2. Always add a few questions of your own at the end of each test. Be sure and answer them correctly in order to get full-credit.

1. Don’t stress out or study too hard for your exams. Instead, save up energy for pummeling the person who messes up the curve.

Compiled by
Brad Franca

Top Ten

March 3
MESA Concert
Faye Spanos Concert Hall
8-10am & 2-4pm
946-2415

March 3
Violinist Joseph Gold
Hillel Student Group
Faye Spanos Concert Hall
5-7pm
Tickets: $10/students $20 & $30 others
946-2867

FILM REVIEW:

New Elvis flick bombs

[U-WIRE] FORT COLLINS, Colo. - I’ll give “3,000 Miles to Graceland” credit for one thing: It has some great action sequences. Other than that, it suffers from a lack of good plotting, characters you can cheer for and humor (the kind that’s intentional anyway).

The movie starts out with an inventive idea, charging a gang of crooks led by Kevin Costner to pull off a $3 million heist in a Las Vegas casino. This plot has been done before (see “Reindeer Games” - or better yet, don’t!), but the twist to this time is the crooks dress up as the King himself and commit the crime during an Elvis impersonator convention.

Most of the actors fair fairly well as the King (Kurt Russell once played him in a TV movie), but the movie almost abandons the Elvis theme completely once the violent crime is done.

After that, becoming like most other crime movies, the movie descends into a purgatory of double crosses and misunderstandings as the crooks decide how to split the windfall, before descending even further into the hellish, yet action packed, finale.

Along the way, the film introduces Courtney Cox Arquette as a single mother stranded at one of those abandoned highway motels that exist only in movies. She and Russell’s character have a relationship of sorts (read: raunchy, aggressive sex), and later she runs off with his money leaving her 11-year-old son (David Kaye) behind.

The movie, unfortunately, never really gives her a motivation for her actions.

Meanwhile, Costner’s character, Murphy, does little to change the audiences impression of him as a despicable and evil villain. A better movie would have given Costner something to make us like him rather than presenting him as overly cold and calculating.

Christian Slater and David Arquette were just OK as other members of the Elvis-impersonating criminal team.

Director Demian Lichtenstein has a background in music videos, and it shows. Expect to see a lot of camera tricks, quick cuts and other stylistic flourishes. Don’t expect to be impressed by them. Many have been done before, and most have been done better. Anyway, many do little to further the plot, looking instead like the director was just trying out ideas.

The action scenes, however, do look impressive even though they suffer from being a tad too graphic. The action is mindless, the kind where it seems that both sides have a small arsenal at their disposal, and the explosions are big and loud. Impressive and fun to look at, yes. Worth the price of admission, probably not. You have to sit through too much movie to get to them.

March 4
Symphonic Wind Ensemble
Faye Spanos Concert Hall
3 pm
Small chamber pieces, saxophone quartet, and more!
946-2415

March 6
MSA Eid Potluck Dinner
Bechtel Center, 7pm
email UOPMSA@hotmail.com 946-2326

March 8
Tiffany Concert
McCaffrey Center Stage
12:00, Pacific Hour
946-2233

March 22
Jo Dee Messina
Kat Country Listener
Appreciation Concert
766-5000

Celebrity chat

Well, after a week on hiatus, I’m back with some late-breaking news of our favorite celebrities.

Recently, as always it seems the music and music industry is always booming with exciting announcements.

Two of Hollywood’s most powerful movie directors, Steven Spielber and Ron Howard will debut selected animated short films produced by amateur filmmakers online at www.CountingDown.com.

Sigourney Weaver will reprise her role as space-freighter-navigator-turned-aliens-hunter Ellen Ripley for a new film in the Alien franchise. She will also executive produce the movie, which is set to be released in 2004, the 25th Anniversary of the original film.

The Devil is planning a comeback in Hollywood with a sequel of “The Exorcist.”

For all of you who are interested in finding out with what went on “at band camp last summer?” Natasha Lyonne and Tara Reid have already agreed to reprise their roles in American Pie 2.

In honor of Black History month, the late and great reggae legend Bob Marley was honored a star on Hollywood’s Walk of Fame last week on his would be 56th birthday.

Also in music news, Britney Spears has signed a global marketing deal with Pepsi Cola, so look out for the debut of her first television commercial during the American Awards on March 25th.

Two major touring acts are planning spring and summer outings. N’Sync begins a 45 day North American Stadium tour on May 12th and Dave Matthews will start his tour on April 21st.

For all of you Survivor fanatics, now is your chance to get on the next show. CBS will be posting applications for Survivor 3 on their Website, so hurry up because the deadline is on April 13th!

Well that’s it folks! Until next week, this is Kelly O signing out.
The Point After
Continued from page 20
more recently with their in-state rivals Oklahoma when the team's plane was struck by lightning over the weekend. Fortunately for the Sooners, they managed to get down without anyone suffering serious injuries.

Now I'm not a member of the NCAA Selection Committee, but I'll play one here and throw out some numbers that might help those of you out there in cyber-gambling land plan your brackets for the Tournament.

Over their last ten games, Seton Hall is an anemic 2-8, while Tennessee isn't far behind at 3-7. Over their last ten games on the road, St. John's is 3-8, while bubble team UConn is just 2-8. Knowing that the selection committee puts substantial stock in a team's road record, the Johnny's and Hall may both already be too late into the season to turn things around. Even strong conference tourney showings won't help their cases, and making it into the NCAA's as a 10-seed or worse, leaves a long road ahead.

More positively, Stanford boasts a perfect 13-0 road record, and over the last ten total games, Gonzaga's riding a 19-0 streak, with Iowa State and Big West leaders UC Irvine right behind at 9-1.

Now anyone who drinks Pepsi or Mt. Dew around this time of year knows that it seems like half the bottles you buy with a March Madness game cap on them have Hofstra listed as the team with which you are to place your hopes on to win it all. Well this might just be the year all those Hofstra caps pay off. Over their last ten games, Hofstra is 4-1, and boast a 13-2 road record, second only to Stanford in that department.

On the women's side, it should certainly come as no surprise that the top ten conferences are led by Tennessee at No.1, UConn at No.3, Georgia at No.5, or Louisiana Tech at No.6, though I wouldn't expect many of you to have predicted Notre Dame to be holding fast to the No.2 spot.

This year's tourney field should be tough to call with a lot of teams playing great down the stretch, but even so, my biggest question is: how many times will Lady Vols' Michelle Snow throw down a bank in the Big Dance?
**Tigers backhand Nevada, Northridge**

**The Pacifican**

The Pacific men’s tennis team improve to 4-3 on the season with a 5-2 victory over Nevada on Monday, February 26 at the Hal Nelson Tennis Courts.

Pacific won five of the six singles matches. Junior Dietrich Haug (Freudenstadt, Germany) defeated Chad Stoloff, 6-3, 6-3 in the No. 1 position. Senior Tobias Abrahamsson (Malmberget, Sweden) topped Tomas Hamrick in the second spot, 6-3, 6-4 and extends his singles record to 7-0.

In doubles, the duo of freshman Claes Lindholm (Karlskrona, Sweden) and senior Alexander Fiedler (Marburg, Germany) defeated Daniel Ericsson and Ivan Anderson in the No. 2 position. Nevada earned the doubles point, winning the No. 1 and 3 matches.

The Tigers hit the road, taking on #6 Washington in Irvine, Calif. on Saturday, March 3. Pacific then travels to UC Riverside to face the Highlanders on Sunday, March 4.

Results

Nevada vs. #63 Pacific

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Singles</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nevada</td>
<td>Pacific</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chad Stoloff (Nevada)</td>
<td>Dietrich Haug</td>
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<tr>
<td>(6-3, 6-3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tomas Hamrick (Nevada)</td>
<td>Claes Lindholm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jason Kelley (Nevada)</td>
<td>Gernot Korschbaumer</td>
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<td>(6-1, 6-1)</td>
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<td>Haug / Stoloff (Nevada)</td>
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<td>(6-4, 6-3)</td>
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<td>Ericsson / Anderson</td>
<td>Abrahamsson / Kerschbaumer</td>
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<td>Pacific</td>
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<td>Hamrick / Stoloff</td>
<td>Lindholm / Alex Fiedler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(6-3, 6-4)</td>
<td>(6-0, 6-0)</td>
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<td>Ericsson / Anderson</td>
<td>Yelley / Stearley</td>
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<tr>
<td>(6-0, 6-0)</td>
<td>(6-0, 6-0)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Abrahamsson / Neil Kadota</td>
<td>(6-0, 6-0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Pacific)</td>
<td>(Pacific)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The Pacific Women’s Tennis team fell to 2-3 on the season with a 4-3 loss to Cal State Northridge on Sunday, February 25 at the Hal Nelson Tennis Courts.

Junior Christiane Barthel (Haesfurth, Germany) and Melanie Kocsis (Budapest, Hungary) were the only Tigers to clinch victories in their singles matches. Barthel defeated Gabriella Reiner, 6-2, 6-2 in the No. 2 position. Kocsis topped Tia Kaasalainen, 3-6, 6-2, 6-4 in the third spot.

In doubles action, Pacific took all three matches, claiming the doubles point. The duo of Barthel and senior Diana D’Audney (Auckland, New Zealand) defeated Tereza Siroyan and Reiner, 8-5.

Susanne Bertel serves up a winner.

**Mother Nature rains on Tiger’s Parade, Pacific to try again this weekend**

**The Pacifican**

Pacific Baseball split a doubleheader with Portland on Sunday, Feb. 25, winning game one 8-7 and losing the second game 7-3.

In game one, the Tigers took a 7-0 lead, scoring two runs in the first inning, four runs in the second inning, and a single run in the third inning. The Pilot starter Todd Culp (Sacramento, Calif.) gave up three runs in four and a third innings of work. All three runs came in the fifth inning. Junior Ryan Jurvainen (2-0) picked up the win in relief.

Jason Walker (Ontario, Calif.) reached base four times for the Tigers, with two hits, a walk and was hit by a pitch. Walker and Moreno each had two hits in the second game for the Tigers. Wade Hickson had four hits on the day, while Matt Allen had three hits for the Pilots.

The Tigers return to action with a 7:00 p.m. game against Santa Clara on Friday, March 2 at Billy Hebert Field.

**LAST CHANCE**

**TO WALK-THROUGH COP GRADUATION CEREMONY!**

File your petition* in WPC 110

**DEADLINE TODAY**

**4:00 PM**

*You need to file a petition to participate in the ceremony if you will not have met all requirements for graduation by May 2001*
Men's Basketball

Tigers tank low, once again backing into tourney

COLIN TEDARDS
Staff Writer

The men's basketball season continued in its roller coaster fashion with a win over Boise State, and a loss to UC Santa Barbara two days later.
The Tigers jumped out to a 14-0 lead early against Boise State and never looked back. The Tiger team proved that they could hold onto leads for a change and ended up winning the game 63-53.
Junior Mike Hahn (Lincoln, Neb.) scored eight of the first 14 points of the game, and finished the game with team high 14 points and 6 rebounds.
In Saturday's meeting against the Gauchos, the game was seen live on ESPN 2. The television audience saw nothing new as the Tigers found themselves down early 7-0.
However this was a game of runs and the Tigers made one of their own to pull ahead of Santa Barbara 17-14 midway through the first half. The Gauchos didn't waste too much time putting together a run for themselves taking the lead going into the half 36-31.
The second half would prove weather or not this Tiger team has any chance at the Big West tournament. Several times this year the Tigers have found themselves either ahead or behind at the half by less than six points. In the games where the Tigers are triumphant, they are the aggressors on both ends of the floor.
In games they loose Pacific is put in check by the opposing team.
On this day the Tigers looked as if they were going to win, coming out of the locker room evening up the score quickly. However the game of scoring runs continued as the Gauchos and Tigers traded runs until eventually Santa Barbara won the game 72-63.
The Tigers will be at home one final time to face Idaho and honor this year's lone senior and team leader Peter Heizer. The game will be Thursday March 1 at 7pm in the Spanos Center.

This week in pictures

Top Left: Junior Mike Hahn learns there is no such thing as an easy basket.
Top Center: Concentration, Grasshopper.
Top Right: Nate Davis wills himself to a pair of free throws.
Bottom Right: Sophomore Mischa Clark on the receiving end of a Long Beach elbow.
Above: Thank God for astroturf!
Bottom Left: A nice swing, but I don't think this one has the distance.
**The Pacifican**

Pacific pitchers held Tennessee to seven hits in 14 innings as the Tigers defeated Tennessee 5-0 and 7-1 on Sunday, February 25 at Bill Simoni Field. The wins extend Pacific's record to 7-4 on the season, and Tennessee falls to 8-13.

In the first game, junior Cindy Bail (Camarillo, Calif.) shut out the Lady Vols, giving up only three hits and tallying 10 strike outs.

Pacific took an early 1-0 lead with senior Natalie Farmeris (Fresno, Calif.) home run to right field. Senior Adrienne Ratjczak (Anahiem, Calif.) extended the lead with a home run to left center. Senior Angele Alves (Selma, Calif.) drove in two runs and sophomore Estee Okumura (Honolulu, Haw.) batted in one to give Pacific a 5-0 score.

Pacific jumped to a 5-0 lead after the second inning in game two of the doubleheader. Freshman Boni Kading (Escondido, Calif.) started off the inning, reaching first base on an error from the shortstop. Tennessee committed six errors in game two. Pacific added one more run in both the third and fourth innings to take a 7-0 lead. Tennessee's only run came in the seventh inning off a sacrifice fly from Annie Fletcher.

Freshman Jennifer Dacre (Elk Grove, Calif.) earned the win for Pacific, allowing four hits in seven innings of work.

Pacific hits the road for the next two weeks, playing in the UCSB Gauchos Tournament from March 2-4 and the Hawaii Malihini Tournament in Honolulu, Hawaii from March 8-11.

**A break in the action, all the time outs in the world couldn't help Tennessee.**

### Women's H2O Polo starts slow

**The Pacifican**

The Pacific Tigers women's water polo team was defeated by California 15-5 and San Diego State 9-3. With the losses the Tigers fell to 1-6 on the season.

In the first match of the day, freshman Jessica Schroeder (Newcastle, Calif.) scored two goals for Pacific. However, it was not enough as the Tigers fell behind 8-3 after the first two periods, and dropped the match 15-5 to the Golden Bears.

Jessica Melcher (Fresno, Calif.), Daniilie Sartori and Cari Bertrand also had goals for Pacific.

In the second match of the day, Pacific fell to the Aztecs of San Diego State 9-3.

Pacific will be back in action on Sunday Feb. 25, when it takes on UC Irvine in the third round and the either UC San Diego or Hartwick in the fourth round of the UCSB Gauchos Tournament.

The Pacific Tigers women's water polo team split two games on day two of the UCSC 16-team tournament, placing 14th in the 16-team tournament, with a record of 1-3.

In early action Sunday, the Tigers collected their first tournament victory as they defeated UC Irvine 9-5, then later in the day Pacific lost a heartbreaker to UC San Diego 8-7 in a match that took five extra periods to decide.

Freshman Jessica Schroeder (Newcastle, Calif.) continued to shine as she scored nine goals in the two contest to lead the Tigers. Schroeder now has 20 goals on the season.

Pacific will be back in action on Saturday, Mar. 3, as they host UC Irvine at 12 p.m. in the Chris Kjeldsen Pool. Then on Sunday, Mar. 4, the Tigers host the defending national champion UCLA Bruins at 12 p.m.

### Game of the Week

Make the best of this nice weather and spend the weekend poolside. The women's water polo team would be more than happy to see you, and they play games on both Saturday and Sunday.

Break out the flip-flops, sunscreen (or umbrellas, in case the weather turns between now and then), and load up the cooler ... what you put in it I'll leave to your own discretion.

But come support the Tigers and spend the weekend in the sun!

### Men's Volleyball drops pain

**The Pacifican**

The 11th-ranked Pacific men's volleyball team fell to 4-5 on the season (2-4 in MPSF conference action) after being swept by #4 Stanford, 30-24, 30-27, 30-27 on Wednesday, February 21.

Sophomore Geir Eithun (Forde, Norway) tallied a season-high 20 kills and hit a team-leading .444 for the match. Sophomore Martin Berntsen (Naustdal, Norway) added nine kills. Sophomore setter Chris Tamas recorded 48 assists.

Stanford's Curt Toppel also tallied 20 kills, with Marcus Skacel and Brett Youngberg added 18 and 10 kills, respectively. Josh Lukens added a match-high 50 assists.

The 11th-ranked Pacific men's volleyball team fell to 4-6 on the season (2-5 in MPSF conference action) after being swept by #8 USC, 30-21, 30-25, 30-25 on Saturday, February 24 at the Alex G. Spanos Center.

Junior Tim Gerlach (Monarch Beach, Calif.) led the Tigers with eight kills. Senior Vladimir Andric (Zagreb, Croatia), sophomore Martin Berntsen (Naustdal, Norway), and freshman Sean Rodgers (Fresno, Calif.) each added seven kills. Sophomore Aaron Wachtfogel (Redondo Beach, Calif.) tallied a team-high seven digs.

### MVP

**Pacifican MVP of the Week**

**Shannon Catalano, Swimming**

Like a hot knife through butter, Shannon made her way through the field at the Big West Conference Championships in Irvine last weekend. In addition to winning the 200 meter butterfly with a school record of 2:02.39, and being part of Pacific's winning 400 meter freestyle medley team, Catalano was named women's swimmer of the year.

She may only be a freshman, but Shannon Catalano is still a speed demon, and bona fide badass.
Long Beach spoils Senior Night

JOSH MONTERO
Sports Editor

Leprechauns were not meant to play basketball. The nearly 1100 fans on hand for the Tigers’ home finale were subjected to a halftime of mascot basketball which featured PowerCat shuffling a walking slice of pizza, and McGruff the Crime Down missing layups. Beyond the halftime debacle, fans on hand got to see 33 minutes of fantastic basketball, but unfortunately also got 7 minutes of unspectacular basketball in 91-77 loss to Long Beach State on Sunday. Coming into the game, both the 49ers and Tigers boasted 9-2 records in Big West play, good enough for a share of first with defending champs UC Santa Barbara. In their previous meeting this season, back on the 28th of January, Long Beach State handed Pacific a brutal 88-69 beating for their first loss of the conference season.

While vengeance would certainly be an understandable motivator, what the Tigers wanted more than anything was to prove to the Big West, as well as themselves, that they were capable of beating a powerhouse like Long Beach.

From the tip, both teams came out running, playing a ferocious, up-tempo game, and trying to make the best of the weapons they had. The 49ers banged their way out from downtown, hitting five first half treys. With the first half in the books, Pacific took a 41-40 lead into the break, and more importantly than the lead, the Tigers had begun to take control of momentum. Though the 49ers did dodge a bullet with less than a second remaining before halftime,

Pacific forward Millie Kimpton let go with a three attempt, and while her shot found nothing but glass, she managed to draw a foul and would get a chance at three free throws. A normally solid shooter from the line, Kimpton hit just one throw, and the Tigers’ lead at the break would be only one.

Out of the break, the feisty 49ers broke off an 8-3 run, and would make the Tigers work even harder just to keep pace. At the 12:46 mark, Pacific even managed to regain the lead on consecutive baskets, going up 56-52. No sooner had the Tigers gone back on top, than the 49ers would take it up a notch even further, dropping a 10-0 run on Pacific, never again to relinquish the lead.

After 33 strong, tough minutes, Pacific panicked the final 7 minutes, barely able to score at all, and continually sending Long Beach State to the free throw line, where they would score 15 of their final 17 points.

See Women’s b-ball, page 16

Tigers hula to 12th

WAHIAWA, HI.

In the final day of competition the Pacific men’s golf team finished 12th overall in the John Burns Intercollegiate at the Leilehua Golf Course, Friday, Feb. 23.

Jason Higton completed the tournament tied for 11th out of 100 total players with a final round score of 69. Troy McKinley had the second best score for Pacific, putting -1 for the tournament.

The Tigers are next in action at the Pacific Coast Intercollegiate, March 5-6 in Santa Barbara, Calif.

John Burns Intercollegiate
(19 teams)

Leilehua Golf Course
Wahiawa, Hawaii
Tournament Dates: 02/21-02/23
Par: 72 Yardage: 6917

After Final Round of Play

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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Auburn</td>
<td>276 280 279—837 -27</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>UNLV</td>
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<td>Stanford</td>
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Scores

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<tr>
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<td>T81</td>
<td>Jordan Scott</td>
<td>79 72 77</td>
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Campus Recreation

Grab a partner and start preparation for the Target Training And Fitness Regional competition. For more information contact Jennifer Sexton @ the Baun Fitness Center. Congrats to Alpha Phi (women’s league), and Kappa Psi (men’s league), and King Pins (co-rec league); the 2001 Intramural Bowling Champs! Also Congrats to Brandon Okaneku with a score of 607 in the men’s individual and Cindy Richardson with a score of 519 in the women’s individual. Results for intramural participation is located outside Rm. #114 in the Main Gym. Stop by and see the leagues leading teams.

Look forward to Sand Volleyball, Badminton and Softball opening up February 28. Get your teams together and sign up in the intramural office or call 946-2738. Interested in 2-Ball competition and 3-Point Competition come by and sign-up ASAP in the Intramural Office. Competition held Wednesday March 7th @ 6:00 pm.

There are no IM events during Spring Break- Have a good one, and come back in shape for spring events!
JOSH MONTERO
Sports Editor
joshmontero@aol.com

Big West Tourney comes down to the wire

Winners of a glamorous trip to lovely Irvine, California, the Pacific men's and women's swim teams spent last weekend in So-Cal for the Big West Conference Championships.

While both teams would finish second to UC Santa Barbara, both squads would record school record highs for points in a BWC championship (men - 824.0, women - 889.0). The women also felt just 10 points short of UCSB's total of 899.0, the smallest margin of victory ever in a Big West championship.

On the women's side, Pacific claimed four first place finishes on the day, highlighted by Sarah Marshall, who finished first in the 200 breaststroke with a Big West Championship record and school record time of 1:59.15. Shannon Catalano finished first in the 200 butterfly with a school record time of 2:02.39. Robin Errecart (Stockton, Calif.) was first in the 100 freestyle with a time of 51.34 in the finals. Pacific also captured first place in the 400 Freestyle Relay as the team of Catalano, Kris Willey (Lodi, Calif.), Marissa Taylor (Aurora, Colo.) and Errecart won with a time of 3:24.98. The Tigers were also highlighted by a school record time of 2:15.62 in the 200 breaststroke by Kristy Mathews (Walnut Creek, Calif.), who finished second in the race. The women's team added three B-Standard NCAA qualifiers on as Mathews (200 Breast), Marshall (200 Back), Shawna Winters (200 Back) and Catalano (200 Fly) all reached NCAA consideration marks.

On the men's side Pacific claimed four first place finishes, paced by Filip Wronski's school record time of 1:59.82 in the 200 breaststroke. Matt Smart also finished first with a time of 44.84 in the 100 freestyle, and reached in NCAA B-Standard qualifying mark in the preliminaries of the event with a time of 44.47. Piotr Florczyk (Mission Viejo, Calif.) captured first place in the 200 backstroke with a B-Standard NCAA qualifying time of 1:46.14. The 400 freestyle relay team of Todd Schwendinger (Rancho Palos Verdes), Danny Johnson (Westminster, Calif.), Ryan Jones (Davis, Calif.), Ryan Johnson (Davis, Calif.) and Errecart won with a time of 3:24.98. The Tigers were also highlighted by a school record time of 2:15.62 in the 200 breaststroke by Kristy Mathews (Walnut Creek, Calif.), who finished second in the race. The women's team added three B-Standard NCAA qualifiers on as Mathews (200 Breast), Marshall (200 Back), Shawna Winters (200 Back) and Catalano (200 Fly) all reached NCAA consideration marks.

Overall the women's team managed to grab 14 first place finishes, 13 NCAA B-Standard marks, nine school records and two Big West Championship records, while the men had 12 first place finishes, seven B-Standard marks and four school records.

Next up for the women's team is the NCAA Championships to be held in Uniondale, N.Y. on March 15-17. No one on the team has automatic NCAA marks, but the Tigers have several swimmers who have strong chance with the B-Standard marks they have reached. The men's NCAA championships take place March 22-24 in College Station, Texas. The men have not clinched any automatic bids, but also have several times that could receive NCAA consideration.

THE POINT AFTER
JOSH MONTERO
Sports Editor
joshmontero@aol.com

For sports enthusiasts, this is perhaps the worst time of year. The NFL is done, and baseball has yet to get started. With the exception of hockey, which is just barely a sport to begin with, all we have left is basketball.

The NBA is mired in the limps toward the finish with a Big West Championship, while the NCAA has yet to get started.

So what we are left with is college basketball, and though the world is in a lull, we are really the sporting world is in a lull, we are really the sporting world's best time of year. The NFL is done, and baseball has yet to get started.

This season’s Big Dance looks to be at least as exciting as any year in recent memory, particularly with the myriad of unfolding storylines nationwide. New Indiana coach Mike Davis, on the strength of Saturday’s 85-55 upset of No. 17 Wisconsin by his Hoosiers, could prove once and for all why he belongs at the helm instead of the Bob Knight. He might get his team past the second round of the Big Dance.

Off the court, air travel has become a topic of late, first with the tragic loss of 10 players, coaches, and assistants from Oklahoma State when a team plane went down, but