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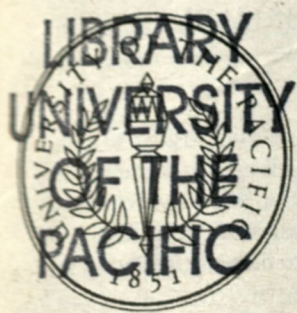
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The Pacifican

University of the Pacific's Newspaper since 1908

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Thursday,
February 19, 2009

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S.F. Mayor Gavin Newsom Stirs Up Mixed Feelings

Abby Liao
Pacifican Staff Writer

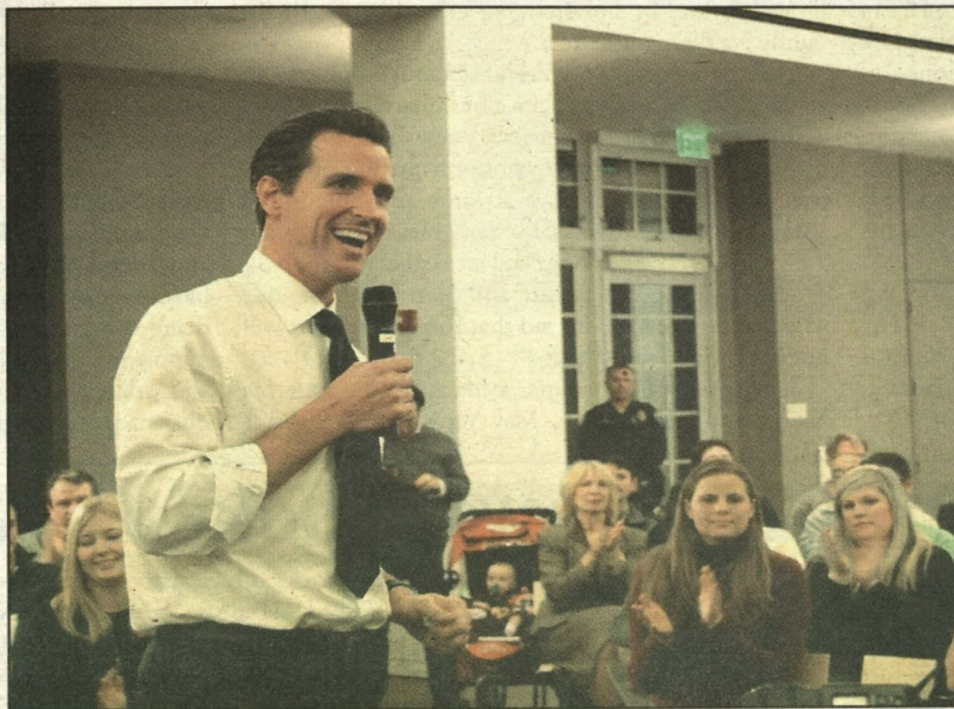
San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom was greeted by over 350 Pacific students and supporters seated in a town hall-style gathering at the University Center last Thursday, Feb 12.

Stockton was Newsom's first gubernatorial campaign stop outside of the Bay Area. Newsom hoped to gain a better understanding of the needs of San Joaquin County and the rest of California.

With Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's second term ending in January 2011, several Democrats are eyeing the position, including Lt. Gov. John Garamendi, former Controller Steve Westly, and Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa.

Newsom spoke for an hour before handing off the discussion to his audience. Newsom began his speech insisting that San Francisco is not so different from Stockton. "The issues in Stockton—issues in San Joaquin County—are remarkably familiar to me," he said. "The more I travel around the state, the more familiar the issues are because they are not dissimilar to the issues that we face an hour away by car."

He proceeded to talk about the many programs he put into effect in San Francisco, such as the state's first



Mayor Gavin Newsom discusses the successes he has had in San Francisco at Pacific

Jessica Lucas/Pacifican

universal healthcare program and universal preschool programs, and the Care not Cash program, which relocates the homeless from the streets to city-assisted living facilities.

Surprisingly, topics specific to region were not addressed, neither during Newsom's speech nor during the question and answer portion.

In a personal interview, Newsom was asked if his plan was to take the policies implemented in

San Francisco, and expand it to the statewide level. Newsom responded, "If it works in San Francisco, I'm positive it would work on a larger scale. And just as each district (in San Francisco) is unique, each city and county is unique with their own needs; so the plan is scalable."

Allen Huang, senior, and a San Francisco native, said "Being a first-hand witness to his local policies, I believe Mayor Newsom would deem extremely successful on implementing his proven strategies on a state level to revive the California economy."

However, Newsom also had his critics.

Tommie Ware-Muhammed, 62 and lifelong San Joaquin resident, was cut off before he could finish asking his question about why are black residents leaving San Francisco and where they are going. Newsom cut in to talk about the steps he's taken to retain minority population. Ware-Muhammed said, "He's

a slick politician. He talked a lot of politics."

"Winning over San Joaquin County is possible, but it may not be easy for Newsom for several reasons," said Bob Benedetti, executive director of the Jacoby Center for Regional and Community Studies. "There will be questions about someone from San Francisco being a governor. Other areas worry that a person from San Francisco won't understand them, won't lead them to a state they feel comfortable in."

Honoring Alumnus Koob Vang

Ann Mazzaferro
Pacifican Staff Writer

The Pacific community was left stunned and saddened by the untimely death of Koob Vang, a 2004 alumni of the Thomas J. Long School of Pharmacy and Health Sciences.

Vang was a passenger in a car accident involving two current Pacific students, just off of Hwy. 99 outside of Elk Grove near Grant Line Road on Saturday, January 31. At this time, it is believed that excessive speed on the part of the driver, Jia Hui Chen, caused Chen to lose control of the vehicle, whereupon it struck a tree on the side of the road. The car was split in half due to the force of the impact.

Chen was not injured in the crash, and the other passenger, Christine Sun, was treated for minor injuries at UC Davis Medical Center. Vang, however, sustained a massive head trauma and was ejected from the car in the crash. Vang was pronounced dead on the scene. Neither alcohol nor drugs are believed to have played any role in the accident, according to the CHP.

Vang's death has sent shockwaves of grief through Pacific's campus, as students remembered a cheerful, kind, brilliant young man whose future, now cut short, had held so much promise.

Koob gave so much back to the Stockton community and everyone he knew. I know he was going to save the world someday, and I looked up to him the most

for this reason," said Chienyen Yang, a junior Geology major who knew Vang through the Hmong Students Association. "Koob was the most generous and helpful person I knew. He made everyone feel like they were important," she said.

Having graduated with his Doctorate in Pharmacy Studies at the age of twenty-four, Vang was fast becoming a respected and distinguished pharmacist throughout the Central Valley. In 2008, he became the youngest elected President of the Central Valley Society of Health Systems Pharmacists. Under his leadership the organization experienced a dramatic increase in membership due in large part to his undeniable enthusiasm and passion for the

See VANG, next page

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Artist Rights Workshop This Weekend

Ben Holley
Pacifcan Staff Writer

In an era where the Tower Records is being outsold by iTunes, performing artists need to become more aware of the protections available to their work. That is the goal of the Artist Rights Workshop on Saturday, February 21 in the Library Community Room from 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

The workshop is being presented by University of the Pacific's Conservatory of Music with additional funding from Undergraduate Task Force on Research and the Dean of the Library. Music Management major Bryce McLaughlin came up with the idea for the event.

"I was inspired to organize the Artist Rights Workshop by the horror stories I heard professional musicians," McLaughlin stated. "Each of their horror stories came down to essentially the same problem: musicians with wonderful talent but very little knowledge of how to protect that talent."

San Francisco based entertainment attorney Michael Aczon will be facilitating the workshop. Aczon, who has represented a variety of musicians from unsigned to multi-platinum artists over the past 26 years, is well suited for conducting the workshop. Aczon has distilled his experience in the The Professional Musician's Legal Companion and was a contributing writer to The Independent Working Musician by Mary Cosola.

As technology has progressed the issue of protecting an artist's work is not as easy as simply filling out a copyright form. Considering the expanding culture of remixing and mash-up that has raised in the past decade any aspiring DJ's and producers would also gain from the workshop.

On this issue McLaughlin said that, "expression is born both from wholly original thoughts and ideas as well as from the exchange and mixing of imaginations." The fundamental key, McLaughlin noted is communication since "misunderstandings breed lawsuits."

The workshop is free and open to all students, faculty, staff and other interested members of the community. A brief reception and book signing with Michael Aczon will follow the event.

PINK, from page 2

students can come out as well- not only will this be a wonderful cause, it's also going to be a really great basketball game!" Roberts said.

While Pacific Plays Pink is a fundraiser for the Breast Center and an awareness event, it is also Pacific's senior night. The Tigers will be saluting their senior players: Karen Dawkins from Colorado Springs, Colorado, Whitney Price from Las Vegas, Nevada, Amber Simmons from Chico, California, Amy VanHollebeke from Carlsbad, California, and Janae Young from Sacramento, California.

The Lady Tigers have supported fourteen wins over only ten losses, with a six to four win/loss ration in the Big West standings. As of now in the 2008-2009 season, Pacific ranks number four in the Big West Conference. Immediately preceding Pacific in the rankings is Cal Poly, making this upcoming game a big game for the Big West Conference.

"[Our seniors] are the identity and

core group for us and even though we will greatly miss them, all five of them can be proud because they have left the program in better shape than when they came," Roberts said.

According to the United States National Cancer Institute, 126.1 per 100,000 women per year are diagnosed with breast cancer. While a cure for breast cancer is still unknown, prevention of breast-related illnesses is available to the public through St. Joseph's Medical Center, among other resources.

Tickets for the Pacific Plays Pink event can be purchased at the Pacific Box Office, however Pacific students have free admission and Pacific staff may enter at a discounted rate of three dollars. Adults may purchase tickets for six dollars and youth under seventeen as well as seniors are admitted at a four dollar rate.

Come out and support your Pacific Tigers and an honorable cause!

UNIVERSITY OF THE PACIFIC DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY WEEKLY REPORT FEB 8- FEB 14, 2009

SUSPICIOUS PERSON

MONAGAN HALL

02/08/09

Officer responded to a report of a male and female going through the dumpster. Both subjects were contacted, interviewed and revoked from campus.

TRAFFIC CITE

PACIFIC AVE

02/10/09

SPD reported a male subject spotted on the fence line. Subject appeared to be dancing possibly intoxicated or mentally ill. Officers made contact and subject cited for loitering on the median.

THEFT

BANNISTER HALL

02/11/09

Victim reported his locked bicycle stolen. Suspects cut the cable lock. Officer initiated a report.

VEHICLE ACCIDENT

KENSINGTON & SONOMA

02/13/09

Officers responded to a report of a vehicle that hit a bicyclist. Officers reported no injuries and both parties denied need for medical attention.

VANDALISM

LOT 10

02/14/09

Officers responded to a report of a vehicle driving erratic on the grass area near Monagan. Officers located the owner of the vehicle who reported her brother and his friend were driving the vehicle. Officers made contact and initiated a report due to the damage on the lawn.

SUSPICIOUS INCIDENT

KNOLES HALL

02/14/09

Officers responded to a report of an open window with muddy footprints in the bathroom. Officers reported nothing appears to be disturbed.



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Seventh Season for Music: SoundMusicSound

Kate Casey
Pacifican Staff Writer

Raindrops. Keyboards typing. Escalators. Nintendo games. These aren't sounds that many stop to listen to on a regular basis, but they were the sounds of Music Beyond Performance: SoundImageSound VI, a multi-media production.

SoundImageSound is a production of video and sound pieces that Robert Coburn, Conservatory of Music professor, has directed for seven years now. Coburn first decided to create this annual event as an outlet here in Stockton for a medium of art that is only found in certain places around the globe.

"It's new and different," Coburn expressed about the unusualness of this combination of visual and audio mediums to convey emotion or a message.

To create this work, Coburn put out an open call across the globe for artists to enter original pieces. "Usually I get a lot more pieces, but this year there was generally a better quality to the one's I received relative to the number," Coburn said.

This year's production displays works from artists as close to Pacific as Oakland and as far as France and Germany.

Bonnie Mitchell and Elaine Lillios began the night with the playing of their computerized world of "2BTextures," followed by "Sisyphus," a piece by Francis Dhomont and Ines Wickmann from France. Thirdly a work by Frank Niehusmann and Karl-Heinz Mauermaier from Germany was played, entitled "Autung! Future a Science Fiction Movie."

For audience members not used to such creative and different works, the first few pieces

from a production like this may seem to act as "bumpers" for the works to come; an ease into the imaginations of inventive artists.

The mood of the night progressed into a meditation-like sequence of beautiful images of nature and colors reminiscent of sunset. Moon YoungHaandDennisMiller's entry, "Amorphisms," depicted dancing colors in a comforting sea of lullaby music. "Liquid Amber," by Maggie Payne continued the lulling notes as natural images let the audience through a meditating atmosphere.

"Dispersion," by Samuel Van Ransbeeck and Piotr Nowak from Portugal, was a piece of frantic flight both in image and sound. This perplexing work was followed by an equally intriguing and more complex piece, "A sudden change in the consistency of snow," by Peter V. Swendsed with guest saxophonist Kevin Baldwin, junior Conservatory student.

It wasn't until the finale of this production that a piece of childhood and the "technology generation" was deliberately shown. "Boop Boop Beep" by David Morneau is piece created completely with a Nintendo Gameboy and Nanoloop 1.3. In the artist's words, "This music exists at the nexus between the Credo of John Cage and the Legend of Zelda...between the electronic world of Kraftwerk and the mushroom-fueled world of Mario."

Needless to say, this medium of art is both fun and deep. Every audience has the ability to retrieve something of meaning from one of these pieces. While SoundImageSound is only produced once a year at Pacific, these types of shows are shown in centers of art in Oakland, San Jose, and San Francisco.

Pacific Gets Color Struck

Nathan Wenger
Pacifican Copy Editor

Students who are eager to take a break from their studies to relax, laugh, and consider serious social issues have a treat in store for them at 7:30 pm next Wednesday, Feb. 25 at Pacific's Faye Spanos Concert Hall. Donald E. Lacy is performing his one-man show "Color Struck," which examines institutionalized racism with humor. Lacy is a comedian, actor, director, and the father of Pacific student Anwaar Lacy.

The show will have free admission, and is part of Pacific's celebration of Black History Month, which brought Danny Glover to campus to perform "An Evening With Langston and Martin," a collection of speeches given by the late Langston Hughes and Martin Luther King Jr.

Mr. Lacy has been in a number of feature films including "Jack," directed by Francis Ford Coppola, and "Blood In, Blood Out," directed by Taylor Hackford. He has also been a part of T.V. shows such as ABC's "Hangin' With Mr. Cooper," and "Wolf" on CBS. Mr. Lacy is a San Francisco State University alumni who holds a B.A. Degree in Theater Arts, with a film minor.

Lacy has also directed a great deal of work including his interpretation of Langston Hughes' "Montage of a Dream Deferred." He also directed and starred as Carlyle in "Streamers," and wrote and directed "The Loudest Scream You'll Never Hear," a riveting play about the Atlanta child murders in the early 1980's.

Donald Lacy was the first runner-up in the 1993 Bay Area Black Comedy Competition, and has appeared on shows such as BET's "Comic View" and HBO's "Def Comedy Jam." He has toured around the world, headlining acts from the Bay Area to New York, to Germany and back. He also traveled on a 75-city tour with the Harlem Globetrotters as "The Voice."

Donald Lacy has released two comedy CDs, titled "Uncensored," and "Free Speech Costs Plenty." His show next week should be hilarious, honest, and eye-opening. If you are looking for something to do on Wednesday, this is the place to be. For more information please contact the Pacific Multicultural Center at 209.946.7707.

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PERSPECTIVES

EDITORIAL

Prevent Premature Pacific Deaths

It is quite a tragedy that the recent death of 2004 graduate Koob Vang could have been easily averted.

On Jan. 31, a car accident killed this young alumnus. Vang, in the back seat, and two other students were driving back from Elk Grove.

This was not a case of DUI. Nor was it due to text messaging or talking on the phone. Instead, according to Pacific's news release, "The CHP has said it was a street racing incident and that it is searching for a second car. The driver was engaging in a street race."

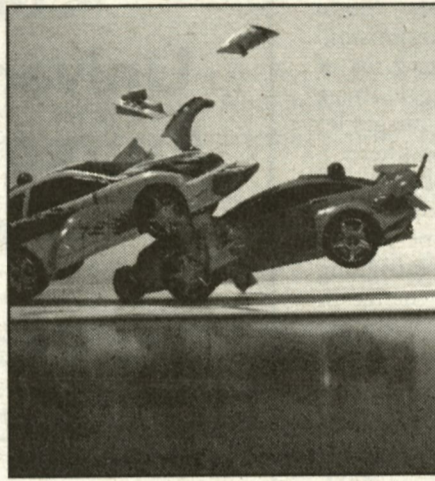
Some would say street racing is more stupid than getting behind the wheel intoxicated. Others would argue that at least the driver's judgment isn't impaired, and therefore they can maintain control of the wheel. Apparently, the student driving that night lost control of their vehicle, though it's possible the other car was the one at fault.

"They were toying with their lives," said Alejandra Aguilar, a freshman Bioengineering major. "The driver was merely playing around, while there are people on their deathbeds wishing they had longer to live."

No matter who is to blame, engaging in street racing was an idiotic choice. The last time we checked, the California Highway Patrol (CHP) had no plans to make I-5 the newest NASCAR racetrack.

According to the CHP's website, www.chp.ca.gov, speed was the Primary Collision Factor in 29 percent of fatal and injury collisions in 2005.

The other two deaths last month, of former Board



Firfox10.com

of Regents member Robert Monagan, and professor Dr. Joseph Levy of Pacific's Dugoni School of Dentistry, resulted from old age and a heart attack, respectively. Vang's death, at 28 years of age, was not just untimely—it was avoidable.

Pacificans, a car crash occurs every 30 seconds in the U.S., according to www.idrivesafely.com. Most of us have

enough common sense to not get behind the wheel buzzed or with a cell phone in hand. However, speeding, even not to the extent of street racing, may not register as clearly in terms of the danger involved. Many people speed, believing they can control how fast they drive. The truth is, the harder you press on that gas pedal, the longer it takes to perceive an obstruction, react to it, and brake in time.

Even if you're lucky enough to avoid a crash, you can get arrested and have your vehicle impounded for 30 days if caught street racing or driving too fast.

We can't prevent deaths resulting from old age or sudden heart attacks. But we can reduce fatalities on the road by not driving recklessly.

America's Stupidest Home Videos?

Andrea Soto
Pacifican Staff Writer

In a time when many Americans see television as an important means of entertainment, one can't help but wonder if some shows are really worth watching. America's Funniest Home Videos (AFV) is one of these shows.

For the past 18 years, many viewers have questioned whether or not the show has lost its popularity. The show started with 38 million weekly viewers and has now dropped to an average of nine million as of last season. Despite this decrease in numbers, the show is currently on its 19th season and has released 407 episodes ever since its 1990 debut on ABC.

Today, we have to ask the question of whether the show's videos have gone from funny to stupid. Some viewers argue that the videos shown on AFV are genuinely funny. Among many of these videos is one of a little boy pretending he's like his dog or a couple absentmindedly tripping as they walk down a runway.



There's the surprised reaction that leads to an accident or the overdramatic dog that howls every time a refrigerator door is closed.

Carmen Ebbink stated, "I have seen the show for years and I find the entire show just as funny as I did the first time I watched it."

However, others believe many of the videos reflect more stupidity than humor.

There's a video where two men are taking rotting food out of a refrigerator and backing away from it every ten seconds. Are we supposed to find this amusing? There's also the girl making faces on a web cam while she's picking her nose. No matter the deed, there are countless videos that make many of us wonder why anybody bothered wasting film.

Other videos are neither funny nor stupid, but just painful to watch. Well, this probably does make them stupid. There are so many showing people attempting

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SPRING 2009**

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dangerous stunts, but instead end up hitting a house, fence, or pole. It's almost as if they want to be on JackAss. There's also a video showing a small toddler being hit on the face by a cat. Student Samira Rodriguez said, "I don't enjoy watching the show so much because I oftentimes find myself cringing from what I'm seeing."

Other viewers find both the stupid and dangerous videos to be funny. "I think that the show is more than just funny," said student Elizabeth Areola. "The hilarious videos help many to escape from today's economic stress. It gives me something more lighthearted to think about even if it is for just one hour."

AFV has remained a popular show for viewers of all ages. Although many of them admit that some videos do cause the initial "What the hell were they thinking?" reaction, overall, the show does provide genuine humor. We have to understand that what we may find stupid, others may find to be hysterical. Whether a video is stupid or funny lies in the eyes of the beholder.

The Java's Aroma

The black man speaks of rivers.

Christine Le

Pacifican Poetry Columnist



Jessie Lucas/The Pacifican

"My soul has grown deep like the rivers," said Langston Hughes.

What makes a soul profound, to the extent that it flows like a river? Its willingness to express real emotion. Its strength in enduring hard times. In other words, its immersion in a heritage rich with history—black history.

From the Atlantic slave trade to Obama's presidency, African Americans have been the characters of a story filled with hardship, courage, and success. As with all the world's peoples, they have left their mark on humanity. Langston Hughes would say they have left



rivers of marks. In honor of Black History Month, let's find out more in his poem, *The Negro Speaks of Rivers*.

I've known rivers

I've known rivers ancient as the world and older than the flow of human blood in human veins. My soul has grown deep like the rivers.

I'm still in awe of how he compares the African soul to "rivers ancient as the world." A beautiful analogy that makes me think of Australopithecus. It is, after all, the first hominid, before we homo sapiens came along. And of course, the species had developed in all parts of Africa. So Hughes is right even to the physical extent: Africans, evolutionarily, are like the rivers that are "older than the flow of human blood in human veins."

I bathed the Euphrates when dawns were young. I built my hut near the Congo and it lulled me to sleep.

I looked upon the Nile and raised the pyramids above it.

I heard the singing of the Mississippi when Abe Lincoln went down to New Orleans, and I've seen its muddy bosom turn

all golden in the sunset.

Notice how Hughes uses specific, famous rivers to make his point. We see him build a hut near the Congo, and raising pyramids above the Nile. These actions stand for black strength—beyond the physical sense that is conveyed. Rather, look at them as symbolic of black strength and advancement through slavery, the Harlem Renaissance, and the Civil Rights movement.

Then when he gets to the Mississippi river, there's joyous singing because Lincoln has shown concern for abolishing slavery. Then we see the sunset, a sign of a new day to soon come for the African American slaves. Moving on,

*I've known rivers:
Ancient, dusky rivers.
My soul has grown deep like the rivers.*

Poetry writing tip of the week: repeat a certain image. Listen to how Hughes uses "rivers" in each line. Hear the music of it. It's his way of emphasizing the rivers of African Americans. The rivers of their blood, their heritage, that have flowed for centuries through injustice and all the way to distinction.

The Pacifican wants your poem featured in The Java's Aroma! Email submissions to pacificanperspectives@pacific.edu.

False Memoirs: When does the Truth Matter?

Ophelia Turner
Pacifican Staff Writer

Many people may remember Oprah's fury when she learned about how James Frey, author of *A Million Little Pieces*, lied about his experiences as an addict and his criminal activities, among other things.

Frey is not the only author to have published a false memoir. JT LeRoy, Margaret Seltzer, Misha Defonseca, and others are guilty of fabricating stories to publish books. An article published by the Washington Post, called *The False Memoir*, cited some authors and incidents concerning false memoirs.

What compels people to publish lies about their lives and experiences as truth? I think it is perhaps for attention. No one bats an eyelash if someone writes a powerful novel where a character goes through difficult experiences. Yet when people learn that the author truly did suffer those experiences, reading the novel becomes so much more emotional.

When people find out that they've been, as Oprah puts it, "duped," they feel as though their feelings have been taken advantage of.

Even after these authors have been found out, do they get the punishment they deserve? Frey published another so-called memoir, *My Friend Leonard*, after publishing the first one, and that novel was hailed as a false memoir about time he supposedly spent in jail.

MSNBC.com said that after everyone found out he lied, he still wrote another novel, *Bright Shiny Morning*, which received attention because it came out right after the controversy.

I suppose that even though one really can't trust Frey anymore, at least his name is very well-known now. However, is it worth lying to the world just to get your name known?

Sophomore Evelyn Zucker's answer to that was, "I think those authors adhere to the idea that all publicity is good publicity despite financial repercussions."



Another story of false memoirs is about JT LeRoy, a character fabricated by American author Laura Albert. LeRoy is supposed to be a young male ex-prostitute who had been through harrowing experiences as a child. Albert wrote about these experiences in an extremely popular novel called *Sarah*. She even asked friends to pretend to be LeRoy in public so no one would find out that he was a hoax.

According to a post on the JT LeRoy "blog," Albert was sued in 2007 by Antidote International Films Inc., whose reason for suing her was that she committed fraud after giving them the rights to turn *Sarah* into a film. The problem was that she had given the rights to them as JT LeRoy, and not herself. In the end, she was found guilty and paid a large amount of fees.

Other stories of authors who've conned the literary world include Misha Defonseca and Benjamin Wilkomirski who've lied about being in an internment camp during the Holocaust.

This is unfair. There are still people who actually experienced the Holocaust and internment camps, so for others to draw attention to themselves by saying that they experienced that time in history is disrespectful to the true survivors.

Sophomore Mary E. Paduano said, "Though interesting to read, I feel ripped off after finding out that the author is a fake." Zucker added, "If they market it as truth and it gets discovered as a fake it would make me think twice about taking everything at face value. I would still read their books if well-written. It's a good publicity stunt though it may damage fan bases."

Freshman Andrew Leong believes that "people shouldn't take everything as truth. Even though it was marketed as truth, people need to be wary of what they believe."

The right thing for those authors to have done would have been to publish their novels as fiction; if the novels are truly well-written and interesting, then they would have been popular no matter what. However, lying to get fame and sympathy from people is the wrong thing for an author to do. Fiction is a way of masking the truth about life in well-worded lies.

Laptops in Class: Useful or Distraction?

Andrea Soto
Pacifican Advertising Manager

You walk into class and you see a person sitting down with their laptop opened up to Facebook. You wonder why they even bothered coming to class if all they were interested in was chatting with their friends. Today, we see this type of misuse has led many students and professors to wonder if laptops should even be allowed in class.

There has been an increasing debate on whether students are using the laptops strictly for academic purposes or simply for distraction. We see that the much larger lecture classes are full of students who bring their laptops to class to take notes. However, you always find that amidst all these students, several of them tend to get lost doing something else.

Some professors believe that laptops should be kept in the classrooms only if they are used for class purposes.

"Laptops provide a good resource for good students," stated History Professor Jennifer Helgren. "But if they are not used purposefully, it only leads to a modern day version of passing notes."

Other professors are annoyed that some students attend class and waste their time on laptops. They believe that if they are interested on other things rather than lecture, they should just stay home.

Several students believe laptops should be allowed in every class.

"I think that laptops should be kept because there are many students who are

see LAPTOS, next page



THE DEMOCRAT

Allyson Mengarelli
Pacifcan Staff Writer

It seems that the suffering economy and Obama's stimulus plan have completely overshadowed other issues that so desperately need attention.

This is kind of ironic, don't you think? We are finally focusing on our own internal concerns, which have become increasingly difficult in the last eight years. This is due to the dishonesty and greed infiltrating the American market, as well as the government's focus on "liberating" other countries instead of focusing on issues at home.

Well, guess what? Now we've got even more problems to encompass on both sides of the spectrum—and they're bigger than ever.

For example, it seems we have forgotten about the Iraq War. There are still U.S. troops and Iraqi civilians displaced and suffering from the consequences of this atrocious war. The fighting, which has been ongoing for over six years now, has resulted in awful postwar executions and attempts by Al-Qaeda to provoke a Sunni-Shiite civil war, turning Iraq into a battleground with U.S. troops caught in the middle. Adding to the proof of how horrific this war has become are the number of veterans from the Iraq war protesting to end the violence.

As of now, Obama is "inheriting" an Iraq with much difference than Bush's. He is facing one where we must begin withdrawing our troops, as we are now committed to do so by treaty. Yet, depending on how Obama deals with such matters, the outcome can ultimately change the way the Arab-Muslim world views America, which could propel the Middle East to tilt in a different direction.

This stated, I'm positive that Obama will play this out extremely well. He will avoid giving Iraqi leaders the arrogant attitude that Bush did. He will not follow Bush's idea that American troops will remain fighting Iraqi civilians for as long as it takes for them to magically sort out their ages-long politics. Instead, Obama will work to find a healthy compromise that will jumpstart diplomatic relations and a healthy democracy in Iraq.

To ensure that Iraq is less likely to begin stockpiling weapons, Obama will assign overseers to ensure our influence is not completely withdrawn, and that democracy is implemented.

By ensuring that he will withdraw troops at a steady pace, all the while maintaining peaceful ties and making negotiations with Iraqi leaders, Obama and the Democratic Party could potentially gain something positive: setting an example for other Arab countries. As a result, a better relationship between America and the Middle East is likelier to be established.

With the Iraq War finally reaching its ending point, it is imperative that Americans know the facts. We must know that not only are American citizens now angry with the invasion of Iraq, but protests to end the war have now been exhibited by countless dismantled Iraq veterans. It is time to withdraw, and Obama will do so with responsibility and competence—something that Democrats have been craving for the past six years of destruction and violence.

Now vs. Then: World Awareness

Kelly Volkar
Pacifcan Staff Writer

When I was in high school, I never paid much attention to what was happening outside of my own life. Besides my small hometown, what could possibly be of any real importance to me, right? I have now come to realize how extremely short-sighted this view is.

Since attending college I have found that everything premiering on the news and being reported in the prominent newspapers affects me gravely. I was once blithely unaware, assuming that ignorance was bliss. However, this ignorance only truly limited my experience of the world at large.

A fellow freshman, Bryan Lam, also feels this way.

When asked why he now pays more attention to the news than he did before, he replied, "In high school I didn't have teachers who expected me to listen to the news, but now I have teachers who expect me to know what's going on. I'm also just more interested in college, I guess I feel like I've moved out and I'm an adult now, so I need to start paying more attention to what's happening all around me."

I've now realized that paying attention to the news is not only extremely important, but also particularly interesting. This last presidential election was also the first one I was eligible to vote in. Through trying to learn more about the issues and all of the stances the candidates took on them, I became invigorated by the pressing problems facing not just our country, but also the world at large.

For instance, I learned more about the rapidly declining state of the economy, and how our country is viewed by foreign countries abroad.

Travis Wu, a freshman, feels like he now pays more attention to global news, like the Iraqi conflict and the Gaza Strip crisis.

Wu thinks one reason he now pays more attention is because, "Pacific put on a whole panel about the Iraqi conflict, and showed it over in the Pacific Theatre. It was an informal debate that served more to inform people like me, who didn't know what was going on, about what was happening and the different view points on the situation."

National—as well as global—affairs affect our future, especially as college students. With reflection I see how oblivious I was in high school, and now truly appreciate how I've changed!

THE REPUBLICAN

Ruben Moreno
Pacifcan Business Manager

The highly controversial war in Iraq is still raging on. The strategy of former President Bush and former Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld was highly contested and unpopular. Even the surge, a strategic victory layout of the war, was opposed by most of the liberals in Congress. The surge as of today has been a success and is now being praised by some who even opposed it. Since the beginning, John McCain supported the surge and supports victory not withdrawal from defeat in Iraq.

The Iraq war plan can be seen on Obama's website at barackobama.com. Within the guidelines he prescribes it says

"As president, Barack Obama will help rebuild and strengthen our aging infrastructure so it can withstand disaster and, at the same time, spur the economic growth we need. An Obama-Biden administration will provide the nation with a robust homeland security policy that works to make us safer, that is fiscally responsible, respectful of America's civil liberties and that will prevent, confront and defeat 21st century threats."

Let's examine what he means. Obama is willing to take loans out from our citizens, allowing creditors like China buy up the bad debt, to "build" our infrastructure. Sounds okay, except the part where we will be entering into an 11 trillion dollar deficit.

As for our Vice-President had it all wrong and still does. Back during the presidential campaign, he time and time again stated the surge was bound to fail. The Washington Post reported in an article in 2007 stating, "Delaware Sen. Joseph R. Biden Jr. (D) said today that the Bush Administration's surge strategy in Iraq is doomed to fail and criticized Army General David Petraeus for offering what he called an overly optimistic assessment of the situation on the ground. Biden, in an attempt to distinguish himself from the crowded Democratic presidential field, also asserted that none of his principal rivals for the nomination has offered a viable plan for success in Iraq."

The war in Iraq has been one of the most controversial topics around the world. Although some of the early strategic operations had, in my opinion not been carefully constructed, I think we did what was right for the Iraqi people.

Now some may ask who are we to determine what is right and wrong for Iraq that is a good question. Well, my answer would simply be that the United States has long ago taken initiative to oversee what is good and bad around the globe. Why stop now? I mean, really. We liberated a large group of people. Just a few years back, innocent people were murdered on the street. All that has come to a stop and justice has spread throughout the country of Iraq. Think about it, classmates. The war that Congress (Democrats and Republicans) approved has been a success in that we protected basic rights of a generation.



LAPTOPS, from previous page

able to take notes faster and more efficiently than if they were writing them by hand," states student Samira Lopez. "If other students choose not to pay attention, that's their problem."

Students like Lopez have accepted the fact that some peers will use their laptops appropriately, but others will not. There will always be the student that doesn't find interest in what's being taught in the classroom.

The increasing use of laptops to surf the web or play games during class has made many students agree that they should just be left at home. "I especially believe that laptops should not be allowed in discussion-based classes," stated Student Liliana Quintero. "All students have learned some method of taking notes that can be placed on paper."

No matter what the opinions are, whether laptops should be allowed or not continues to be a decision made by the professor teaching the class. Many will continue to argue against laptops and others will never stop defending their value in the classroom. Every game, conversation and distraction has its time and place. We have to understand that the focus should always be placed on what's going on in class, because ultimately that's what we came here to do.

LIFESTYLES

Mayan Prophecy--The End of Days or A New Year?

Allyson Mengarelli
Pacifcan Staff Writer

On the Eastern Coast of Mexico, there are still ruins of the Mayan culture complete with ancient writings and drawings covering the caves. Perhaps the most striking of all images is the drawing exhibited on one cave wall, which portrays in Mayan and English, a foretelling of something incredible and life-changing that will occur in December 2012.

Although this mysterious message leaves much to be questioned, it has become widely speculated that it is something more ominous than what the Mayans actually predicted. With people becoming increasingly overwhelmed with the economic crisis and the changes in the environment, perhaps they are simply losing faith in humanity and are letting their fear motivate them to imagine the worst scenario possible. People also find something extremely eerie in the notion that similar prophecies have been made, both past and present, and have all named the same date as to when the apocalypse would occur.

The different prophecies concerning the date of Dec. 21, 2012 consist of many: "The Orion Prophecy," the 1997 "Bible Code," and those made by notable prophet Nostradamus.

Yet the prophecy that seems to hold the most verisimilitude stems from the Mayans, whose "long count" calendar, which was composed by studying the planetary movements, ends on the twelfth baktun: on the exact date of December 21, 2012. Because the Mayans were able to build incredible structures single-handedly, were spiritually united with the Heavens and one another in ways history has yet to comprehend, were without technology and were still able to predict certain events that proved accurate in modern society, the fact that the calendar ends on December 21, 2012 has caused increasing amounts of concern.

One student at Pacific responded to the theory by saying, "Honestly, I believe this is just another hoax. I mean, how many times has this happened, with crop circles and Y2K...it sounds like it's a way to scare people into buying into something. If it happens, it happens, you've got to live your life no matter what."

The Mayans studied planetary movement by observing the skies and, without technology, organized many separate calendars that accurately followed the procession of time.

Most significantly, the ancient Mayans knew that the Sun synchronized with the central galaxy every 5,125 years (which occurs on—surprise!—Dec. 21, 2012). From this, they gathered that the central galaxy received a "spark" of light, which causes the sun to shine more intensely, (scientists now identify this phenomenon as "solar flares") and produces changes in the solar magnetic field. This causes a displacement in the earth's rotation. As a result, catastrophic events may transpire, causing some to believe that because the calendar also ends on this date, that an apocalypse will occur.

Also lending to the notion of the apocalypse,

the Mayans prophesized that beginning in 1999, the modern world would have 13 years to realize the impact modern civilization has made on the environment, and that it was in our ability to deviate from this path of self-destruction (which could be mirrored by issues concerning global warming, world wars, genocides, etc.). They hoped that we would instead move towards a path that would open our collective consciousness by uniting with the environment and one another to achieve a sense of harmony and realization.

Sounds pretty hoaky right? Well, it does and it doesn't. With global warming finally taking its toll on the earth and its inhabitants, it seems that the Mayans may have had a point in predicting that catastrophic events would occur as a result of our abuse of the earth. The late 90's and the beginning of a new millennium also sparked the beginning of global warming awareness and the Green Movement. This could be the beginning of the "prophesized" 13 years the Mayans predicted.

On the more reliable scientific aspect, there have also been speculations that in 2012, the Sun will be approaching the peak of its 11-year cycle, called a "solar maximum." Thus, lots of solar activity can be expected, just as the Mayans predicted. Perhaps the Mayans simply understood how the Sun's magnetism undergoes polarity changes every 12 years.

According to universetoday.com, the Earth is actually very well-protected during a solar flare, although some satellites are not. The worst that can happen is that satellite damage would occur and injury would be inflicted on unprotected astronauts, and that blackouts may happen. However, such a solar flare will not have enough impact to destroy the earth. It may be somewhat dangerous and may cause changes in the environment, or secondary problems such as GPS loss (which could potentially disrupt air traffic control). National power grids may also be overwhelmed by auroral electrojets, but there really is no need to fret over the end of days.

Another reaction many scholars have had to the calendar ending on the Dec. 21, is that just like our calendar ends on Dec. 31, that a new cycle will begin, just as January 1st does every new year. This does hold some truth, but judging that the Mayans used dates in close significance with symbolic, important events, it seems that this is not the case.

Skeptics of the prophecy also believe the date foretells a spiritual awakening, that the end of this calendar simply means the end of an era and the entrance into another era complete with changes that will affect how we live and perceive the world.

Perhaps the calendar ends because the Mayans could predict the planetary movements after studying the heavens. As a result, they foresaw that 2012 marked the year when the placement of planets would have a dramatic effect on the earth. Or maybe the Mayan's calendar really does simply end and a new cycle will begin, just as our calendars do as well. Or perhaps we really will all die on Dec. 21, 2012 and there's really nothing we can do about it.

guilty pleasures

movie

The Reader

Post-WWII Germany: Nearly a decade after his affair with an older woman came to a mysterious end, law student Michael Berg re-encounters his former lover as she defends herself in a war-crime trial. 124 min.

book

Dog On It, by Spencer Quinn

Meet Chet, the wise and lovable canine narrator of *Dog on It*, who works alongside Bernie, a down-on-his-luck private investigator. Chet might have flunked out of police school, but he's a detective through and through.

music

"Poker Face,"
Lady Gaga

"Sex On Fire,"
Kings of Leon

tv show

Knight Rider

Series that follows the 1982 TV series of the same title and the 2008 television movie. The story takes place 25 years after the original *Knight Rider* series. Mike Traceur, son of the first Michael Knight, has become the driver of the next generation KITT (Knight Industries Three Thousand). NBC at Wednesday 8:00 PM (60 min.)



Vivian Lee/The Pacifican

carpe diem
will return next week.

To keep up online, check out her blog at
www.pacificancarpediem.wordpress.com

WIZ KID'S CORNER

Group Dynamics



Luis Ceballos
Pacifican Staff Columnist

Luis Ceballos/The Pacifican

Group work has given society some of the best contributions over time. Looking back in history, we realize how many discoveries and lasting legacies have come along through means of teamwork. However, not all group dynamics produce favorable results. As Pacific students, we have all suffered through the tedious engagement of group work, and have probably had few times in our experience when it leads to any good. Most of the time we're forced to convene with groups, only to produce an assignment that seems more like pulling teeth than educational.

It seems like every first day of class, also known as "syllabus day" to some, has allowed discussion of a future group assignment, one that yields a significant amount of points, and will require a joint effort. When the assignment comes around, the work load is placed as a burden on a few individuals while the other team members completely neglect their responsibility.

One of the few interesting facets of group work is the assortment of individuals in a group, when placed randomly. Altogether, this collection of students will not be as complacent because of these motivation differences. Sometimes, you get placed with an individual who loves to hear themselves talk, yet contributes nothing but noise to the group. Or, you have the individual who never does his/her part and is simply along for the ride. If you're lucky, you get placed with an overachiever who understands what group work really means. Ideally, we want someone who takes control and distributes work equally with lack of embellishment.

There are some classroom settings where group dynamics do have potential. Creative writing courses, for example, are helpful in the sense that every class member is there for a reason. Students in said courses can create quality work and in turn, help their peers do likewise. Constructive criticism, whether it is a class devoted to it or peer review, can help the student develop better formulated work or ideas. Notice that these settings are not really forced upon the individual and it is rather geared towards improvement.

Clubs and on campus organizations have also shown the effectiveness of generating positive outcomes when convening together. Part of their success lies in the fact that these groups are composed of likeminded individuals without the pressure of being graded for their efforts. Coming up with ways of promoting their purpose, whether it is academic, social, or community service derives directly from a healthy group effort. People are motivated to generate ideas and then carry them out through group dynamics in settings where they do not feel pressured.

In many aspects, group dynamics should be viewed positively as opposed to a chore in college classes. Ideally, they are a way of helping students prepare for real world. Many job situations include working with other peers or co-workers in order to come up with ideas for new products or ways to market them. Some business students actually find group work stimulating when given the opportunity to be placed with productive members. Then again, groups are part of almost every discipline in undergraduate studies.

The idea of working in a group may either be positive or detrimental to the functioning of a class. Professors will have to assess the pros and cons of forcing their students into groups, and if they deem it necessary, then should give them the freedom of choosing their own members.

Elaine Campion
Pacifican Staff Writer

"I will look for you, I will find you, and I will kill you."

These chilling words, from a father threatening the people who have put his daughter's life in danger are not spoken lightly. The absolute conviction in these words leaves no doubt in the viewer's mind that somebody is going to pay for what they've done wrong.

Produced and written by Luc Besson (*The Transporter* series, *The Fifth Element*), and directed by Pierre Morel, *Taken* is a fast-paced movie that is packed with suspense and non-stop action.

Bryan Mills (Liam Neeson) is an ex-government agent trying to reconnect with his now-seventeen-year-old daughter Kim (Maggie Grace), after missing out on much of her childhood because of his job. Trying to make up for lost time, Mills goes against his protective instincts and gives his daughter permission to go to Paris with a friend for the summer.

While in France, Kim and her friend are seduced by an attractive Parisian who invites them to a party. They wind up kidnapped, drugged, and sold into prostitution in an underground human trafficking organization. Mills wastes no time and shows no mercy in his mission of finding his daughter, making the kidnappers pay for what they did.

From the moment Kim is taken, the film launches into back-to-back action scenes that pull the viewer into this heart-pounding story, and doesn't let go until the end. Once the action

movie review taken

starts, there is hardly a moment to think, with one intense action sequence after another.

The most frightening aspects of the film are the reality of the dangers of young people traveling abroad, as well as the terror of having a loved one taken away from you. These are just young girls on a trip to Europe, looking forward to a fun summer, and suddenly their lives are in danger.

While the storyline is somewhat weak at times, there is no doubt that this is one of the better action movies to be released in a long time. The action scenes are not too over the top, and even the dialogue-driven scenes are filled with the same feelings of intensity as the faster-paced parts of the film.

One of the great scenes that kick off the film is right after Mills arrives in France, on the search for his daughter, not willing to let anyone stand in his way. There is no slow lead up to finding the kidnappers and confronting them: he just recognizes one man and starts kicking his ass, with no hesitation or condolence. This sets the tone for the ruthless attitude Mills has in finding his daughter, and making the bad guys pay the price.

Taken is now playing in theaters everywhere, and is playing locally at both Regal Holiday 8 theater on West Lane and the Regal City Centre Stadium 16 & IMAX in downtown Stockton on El Dorado Street.

Abby Liao
Pacifican Staff Writer

book review everything is illuminated

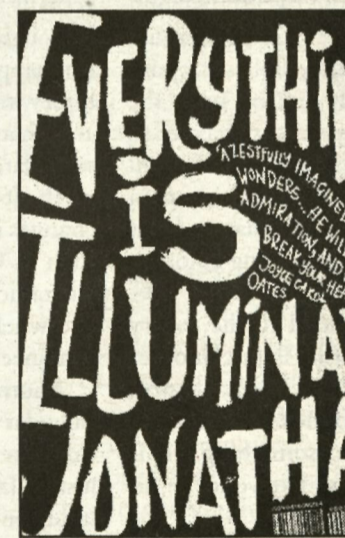
Jonathan Safran Foer, 24 years old at the time of publication, has claimed his stake for literary greatness with his first novel *Everything is Illuminated*.

Illuminated is a different kind of novel. The ingenuity of Safran Foer's wordplay and the structure of the story is the main attraction of the book.

The novel disguises itself as a story about the quixotic journey of a young man, who shares a name with the author, in search of a woman who allegedly saved his grandfather from the Nazis. Accompanied by Alex Perchov, a Ukrainian native, Alex's "blind" grandfather, and their "seeing-eye bitch," Sammy Davis, Jr. the characters explore themes such as love, history, memory, narrative, and death.

As their journey progresses, so does the development of its characters. The novel starts off with Alex giving a narration about himself, which gives way to his quirkiness, such as his ownership of a thesaurus but no dictionary.

"My legal name is Alexander Perchov. But all of my many friends dub me Alex, because that is a more flaccid-to-utter version of my legal name. Mother dubs me Alexi-stop-spleening-me!, because I am always spleening her. If you want to know why I am always spleening her, it is because I am always elsewhere with friends, and disseminating so much currency, and performing so many things that can spleen a



barnesandnoble.com

mother."

Safran Foer's play with Alex's broken English gets to be obnoxious as you finish the chapter. But you can't help but wonder how Safran Foer came up with this linguistic ingenuity. With every turn of the page, Alex's English becomes less inhibited and gains dignity.

The novel contains two stories, both elaborately intertwined. Alex retells the story of his and Foer's journey to Trachimbrod, a fictional Ukrainian shtetl (town).

While in between chapters, excerpts of Jonathan's novel-in-progress recount the history of Trachimbrod from its birth in 1791 to its death in the 1940s. These chapters are filled with famous monuments and excerpts from books written by inhabitants of Trachimbrod from its time to certify the existence of the shtetl.

The novel was adapted into a film starring Elijah Wood in 2005; however, it does not do justice to the book. The film presents itself in a manner lost in translation. The alterations of the plots change the meaning of the book altogether, abandoning most of the major themes.

With the wittiness of its verbal exchange and the humorous antics, *Illuminated* seems like a big joke. However, "everything is illuminated" by the time you reach the last word.

“Always the Women” Gives Voice to the Silent

Heather Breen
Pacifican Copy Editor

Seats were sold out on January 31 for Nina Thiel's presentation of "Always the Women." Students and Stockton residents noisily clamored outside of the Long Theatre, hoping to score an empty seat so they too could see Thiel's performance. Indeed, this lucky reporter snatched a seat only because a kind gentleman gave up his seat.

Those who watched "Always the Women" were surely not disappointed by Thiel's simple performance or her interpretation of the female experience in the Bible. Many spectators commented on Thiel's down-to-earth nature, stating that it made them feel engaged in the story rather than mere bystanders to the action.

Thiel's play took excerpts from the Bible and embellished the stories with emotions and action. Her presentation thus shattered many peoples conceptions of the Bible being dull, sounding monotonous, and using archaic language that makes the stories hard to relate to or understand.

Since women are largely absent from history and only appear in few places in the bible, Thiel's performance gave women such as Martha, Mary Magdalene, and The Mother Mary a voice they previously lacked. For instance, Martha was portrayed as a mildly neurotic housewife while Martha's sister, Mary Magdalene was performed as a more relaxed follower of Jesus Christ.

Sophomore Harrison Westbrook stated, "I thought the performance was absolutely amazing. [I especially enjoyed] hearing the many stories of Jesus interacting with women, the transformations from that, and her interpretations of the stories in a modern context."

"Always The Women" was co-sponsored by Pacific's Department of Theater Arts, Pacific Humanities Center, Pacific Christian Fellowship, Social Justice Coalition and Stockton Covenant Church. All ticket proceed went to the international nonprofit organization International Justice Mission in their fight against human trafficking.

For more information about Thiel as well as a list of her upcoming performances, visit her website at: www.ninathiel.com.

restaurant review fuzio international bistro

Lindsay Ball
Pacifican Staff Writer

Fuzio Universal Bistro just opened its doors February 5, and so far the turnout was not what they had expected. On Saturday night, the dining room wasn't busy at all. However, the opening of the restaurant did not seem very well publicized, much like the rest of Stonecreek Village, and there is strong competition from Boudin SF and BJ's Brewhouse. Nevertheless, you feel welcome and comfortable in the cozy, yet trendy atmosphere of the quaint bistro-style restaurant.

The hostess and servers were warm and inviting and ensured that we felt at home. They immediately brought out beverages and we never once had to ask for a refill. The overall service was organized and accomplished with ease; neither I nor my guest had to ask for anything. Of the service, everything was on the mark.

The cuisine is an innovative mix of Asian and Italian dishes ranging from \$9 for pasta and \$15 for fish and chicken entrees. The menu ranges from classic Chicken Marsala to Lettuce Wraps, filled with their famous firecracker chicken.

We started off with the Firecracker Lettuce Wraps, which came with two different sauces, both spicy and sweet and very good. The chicken tasted as if it had



been marinated for hours, certainly not lacking in flavor. For my entrée, I ordered the Cambazola Rigatoni. The pasta seemed pretty dry with very little sauce, but the creamy Cambozola cheese sauce was tasty.

For dessert, we ordered the strawberry apple crisp—a very unusual take on a typical Apple Crisp dessert. Unfortunately it was not good, due to the mascarpone cheese "topping" that tasted like plain yogurt. Instead of the baked apples in a typical crisp, the strawberries and apples were raw and topped with amaretto cookies. I suppose the cookies were supposed to be the "crisp" in the strawberry apple crisp. The concept was good, but the execution was not.

All in all, Fuzio Universal Bistro is a work in progress hardly lacking in great customer service. For the most part, the food could use a little TLC (tender loving care), but the "famous" firecracker chicken is famous for a good reason and is highly recommended.

*Interested in sports
and have work-
study??*

**Come work for the
Pacifican!**

**Staff meetings are open
to the public, Thursdays
Knoles 212, during the Pa-
cific Hour!**

Sudoku (More Pg. 15)

Fill in the blank squares so that each row, column, and each 3-by-3 block contains all of the digits 1 through 9.

							6	
2	8							4
		7			5	8		
5			3	4			2	
4			5		1			8
	1			7	6			3
		5	1			2		
3							8	1
	9							

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Hint

26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34
10	19	08	3	53	62			
30	12		41	24	40	28		
29	17	32	20	7	6			
9	18	16		27	36			
11	31		30	4	14			
13	6	21	06		45	51		
44	47	46	48	5	49			
20	1	42	15	43	34	35	20	

Answer

1	5	3	4	9	8	7	6	2
2	8							4
		7			5	8		
5			3	4			2	
4			5		1			8
	1			7	6			3
		5	1			2		
3							8	1
	9							

Courtney Wood
Pacifcan Staff Writer

cd review fearless, taylor swift

Taylor Swift's second album, *Fearless*, whips up a personalized, country feel that is sprinkled with a bit of pop.

Anyone who listens to pop radio has no doubt heard Swift's hopeful, daydream-like single "Love Story," which is featured on her new album. However, many people don't realize that "Love Story" and every other song on *Fearless* are written or co-written by nineteen-year old Swift.

Unlike many teen stars of today, Swift has the ability to write lyrics which are heartfelt and vulnerable. Tracks like "White Horse," "You're Not Sorry," and "Breathe," clearly demonstrate her songwriting abilities. Swift also uses acrostics so that each song has a "hidden" message, reminiscent of a high school love note. For example, capitalized letters in the lyrics to "Love Story" spell out: "SOMEDAY, I'LL FIND THIS." Along with her intimate lyrics, the rawness of Swift's voice gives her album a fresh stamp of originality.

Much like the songs on Swift's first album,

the tracks of *Fearless* are primarily about boys, broken hearts, and romance. Each song feels as though it is a tale told straight from Swift's diary. Contrasting with the love/break-up songs is "The Best Day," which was written about Taylor's mother. The track "Fifteen" also differs from the norm: it explores the bond between Swift and her real-life best friend Abigail as they experienced the growing pains of high school.

On most of the tracks, Swift's soft voice is accompanied by violins, banjos, and guitars, which hint at her country roots, but other tracks, such as "Forever and Always" and "Change" have more of a pop style.

Fearless's sensitive lyrics and down-to-earth quality present a pleasantly refreshing kind of music. Since the album walks the borderline between country and pop, it is an enjoyable choice for fans of either genre. For those who are already Swift fans, like myself, this CD is an indication of even more great things to come.

EVENTS CALENDAR

February 19

Poetry Reading by Wanda Coleman
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Wendell Phillips Center, room 140

February 20

GospelFest with
Marvin Sapp & Deon Kipping
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

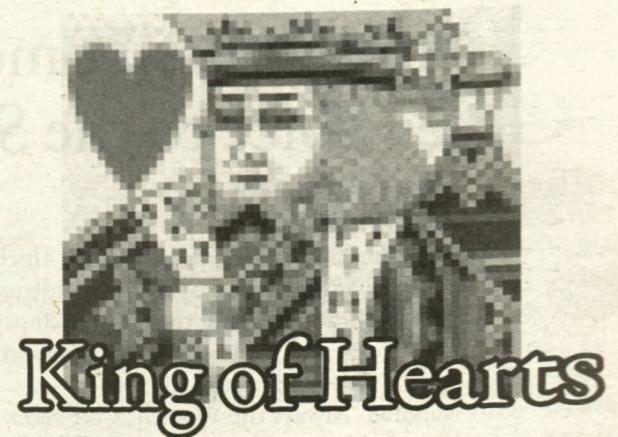
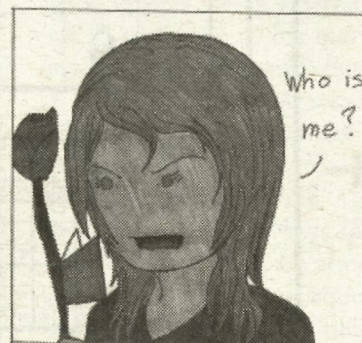
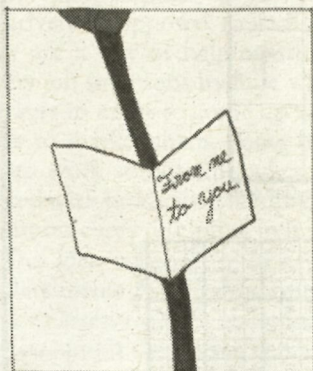
Tickets can be purchased at the Pacific Box Office at 209.946.2474 or online. For more information contact Pacific Multicultural Center at 209.946.7707 or ASuop 209.946.7745.

February 20

Pacific Soccer's 11th Annual Wine Tasting Benefit
6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Delicato Vineyard, Manteca, California. Off of Highway 99, just south of French Camp Road.
\$20 per person

For more information: visit <http://www.pacifictigers.com> or call Michelle Coleman at 209.946.7301 or by e-mail at mcoleman@pacific.edu.

The Tragedy of the Commons
Valentine's Day edition
Title Concept by Joanne Kuan
Comic by Jennifer Sese



Rachel Freeman
Pacifcan Sports Editor

On Thursday, Feb. 12, Alpha Phi hosted their first annual King of Hearts philanthropy event. This new philanthropy raised money for the Alpha Phi Foundation which funds programs that "support women's cardiac health...and assist members of Alpha Phi in need" among other things. King of Hearts was a male pageant with contestants from all four fraternities, as well as some of the men's athletic teams.

Kaleena Weltz, Alpha Phi's Director of Philanthropy noted that "we made just under \$1400 and that's double what we normally make for our spring philanthropy."

The contestants were Hayes Martens from Pi Kappa Alpha, Marcus Chin from Delta Upsilon, Chris Rehm from Sigma Chi, Joshua Paul Thomas from Theta Chi, Kevin Pratte from men's volleyball, Hunter Carnevale from baseball, Shane Mahoney from water polo and Stephen Quinn from swimming. Each contestant was accompanied by an escort from a sorority or sports team.

"This philanthropy is a lot better than our previous spring philanthropy because we got a lot of people involved, especially because we got athletics involved. I have only heard good things about the events," Weltz added.

Throughout the week, people could find an Alpha Phi and tell them a heart-related fact or say something nice and receive red beads. The beads were then given to the man they were rooting for to win. The pageant started off with all of the guys wearing the beads they had collected. Rehm took an early lead, accumulating a total of 59 beads. Chin followed him closely with 55 beads.

This was followed by a display of the men in formal wear. Each pair added their own flair to the attire, as the volleyball pair of Pratte and Masha Vaysburg came on stage with Rastafarian hats and sunglasses. After the formal wear came the talent part of the pageant. Talents ranged from playing guitar to lip syncing N'Sync to dancing like the JabbaWockeeZ. This part of the contest was the most entertaining and funny, as the guys were able to add their personality to their talent. There was even a guest appearance by Zac Efron...well not really, but Rehm made a pretty good impression of him by singing "Breaking Free" from High School Musical.

Swim wear came next. Some guys came out with board shorts, others in Speedos. Yet again the volleyball pair played comedians with Pratte wearing a floatee around his waist and pretending to drown and Vaysburg wearing a lifeguard shirt and pretending to give him mouth-to-mouth.

The question and answer portion of the contest was the most serious part of the night when MC Jessica Safir asked each guy a question about heart health and then a fun, random question. Safir asked Thomas, "What are some ways to reduce the risk factors of heart problems?" To which he responded, "Eat more cheerios!"

Finally, the crowning of the King of Hearts took place. Hunter Carnevale took third, Marcus Chin placed second and the winner of the pageant was Chris Rehm. Mr. Congeniality went to Carnevale.

Sophomore Rachana Kode commented that King of Hearts was, "very entertaining and very well organized. I had a lot of fun."

Alpha Phi also hosts a fall philanthropy event, the Red Dress Gala, which is typically for family and friends. This upcoming semester, Weltz is hoping to get more of the campus involved.

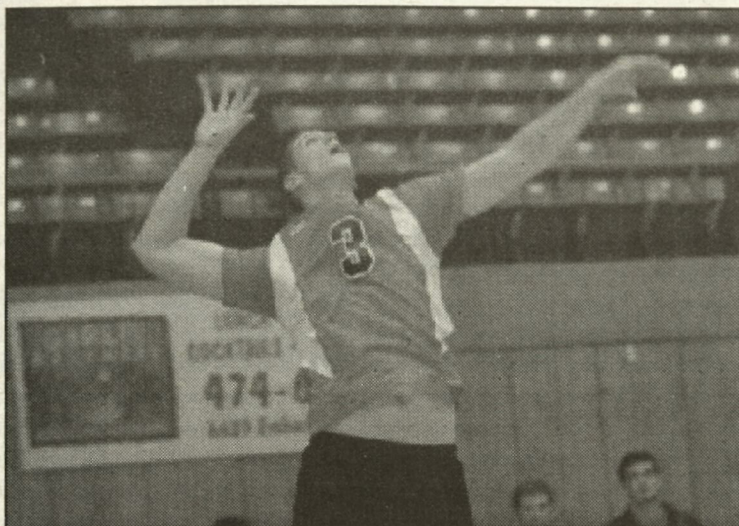
Overall it was a great night for a great cause and hopefully it will be even better next year!

SPORTS

Athlete Profile: Joe Forbes

Nathan Wenger
Pacifican Copy Editor

As his fifth and final year here at Pacific begins to come to a close, men's volleyball team captain Joe Forbes is ready to go forth in the real world. Standing at 6'7", Forbes towers over most of his peers. Watching him serve aces on the Volleyball court, you would never guess that he hadn't played before coming to college.



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Last year Joe got married to the love of his life, Susan Forbes. At 6'7" and 6'3" the couple is not hard to spot in a crowd. Forbes has found that marriage has made him a much happier and more focused person; having such strong support has also boosted his GPA.

Susan also played volleyball here at Pacific, and is now getting her masters here. The couple are the first men's and women's volleyball players at Pacific to get married to each other.

Forbes walked onto Pacific's volleyball team as a freshman with no fundamentals. Many of his teammates at the time wanted him cut from the team but the coach would not give up on him. After practicing with the team as a red shirt freshman, he has played out his four years of NCAA eligibility with the team, serving as captain in his final year.

This year has been a difficult one for the

Pacific's men's volleyball team, with a number of players leaving for various reasons. Forbes was disappointed when he found out that a group of his teammates were giving up on the team, but ultimately he feels that their departure leaves the team better off in the long run.

When asked about the situation, Joe replied, "They were all great guys but their hearts weren't in it, and now we have a talented group of players dedicated to our team and its future."

Forbes is a computer science major from Westport, Connecticut, looking forward to moving away from Stockton to either the Bay Area or Southern California upon graduation. He hopes to work in technology sales or as an IT consultant. In his leisure time he loves to watch movies and hang out with his wife.

RecSports At Pacific

Elaine Campion
Pacifican Staff Writer

A great way to get involved with athletics on campus is RecSports, Pacific's intramurals program. RecSports is open to athletes of all levels, and has a variety of activities from which to choose. Some RecSports teams include softball, basketball, soccer, flag football, and ping-pong, among many others.

Participation in RecSports has set records each of the past two years, with 1,400 unique participants involved and just under 4,000 total participants. However, the number of team entries this year has had a small decline.

Bryan Lenz has been involved in Pacific's RecSports program for four years – two as a Graduate assistant and two as a full-time staff member.

"We have been accustomed to seeing 12-15 teams sponsored by Residence Halls, whereas this past season that number dipped to around 5 teams," he stated, citing external costs to the Housing Office as a possible reason for this drop.

Lenz also says that the amount of female Greek participation has been on the decline, and hopes to see higher and more consistent involvement from the sororities on campus.

In their plans to procure higher numbers, RecSports has several venues of marketing and advertising, including tabling outside the DeRosa Center, attending Greek chapter and student organization meetings, as well as visiting Residence Halls.

To become more involved in RecSports, students should head over to the Baun Fitness Center to sign up for an event. If you need help forming a team, RecSports offers free agents meetings before each season to assist in finding enough people for each team. "All of our events cater to novice players, advanced players, and those in between," said Lenz, "so students of all skill levels are welcome to join."

Another way to participate is to become a RecSports official. The final season of RecSports will be starting in March, with the earliest entry openings on March 2, so if you are interested in competing in RecSports, head to the Baun Fitness Center today for more information.

Athletic Training
Tip of the Week

Muscle Cramps

Brought to you by the Pacific Athletic Training
Education Program Students

Do you ever get cramps in your legs, arms, abs/core in the middle of a workout or after a workout? Here is a tip from your University Pacific Athletic Trainers for you. First of all don't freak out it's normal to get cramps for those training for sports, marathons, triathlons, or any various athletic activity. Stay calm. You will be able to work out again. Your muscles need the following to disperse the aggravation: electrolytes, hydration, and/or stretching.

Hydration. Make sure you are hydrating yourself throughout the week not only the day of your workout, main event, game, etc. You need at least 64 fluid ounces of water each day that is for those who are sedentary. Athletes, actives, etc should be drinking more than that due to how much they are expending during their workout. Keep in mind that recent studies have proven that the H2O from the fresh produce that is hopefully in your everyday diet counts as PART of your daily water intake necessity; however, it does NOT count for ALL of it. If you are just one of those people that don't like water, at least eat fresh produce, drink juice (100%), or some type of sport drink.

Stretching. Whatever muscles are cramping stretch them. Do NOT massage them. Massaging will only temporarily alleviate the pain, it will NOT give the full affect of remedy your bodies needs during the your muscle cramping experience. Stretching is much better for you.

If you are running and are experiencing cramps in your abdominal region take in your breath on the opposite side's foot during your cadence and exhale on that same side you are inhaling. For example, if your right side is cramping take in your breathe as the left foot hits the ground and do NOT exhale until the next time the left foot hits the ground again. If it is the left side cramping inhale/exhale on the right foot. Eventually the cramping will disappear.

Electrolytes. There are electrolyte strips you can ask your athletic trainers for or even purchase at a local sports store. They do not taste the best however they will help with recovery during your cramping experience. Pickle juice is great. Sounds disgusting but everyone who has taken Care and Prevention for Athletic Injury course will affirm that pickle juice has the electrolytes that you will need. Of course Gatorade or any other sports drink will also help with electrolyte replacement.

Keep up the great work with your workouts. Don't give up. Hydrate. Stretch. Give your body electrolytes and nourishment it needs. Those simple steps will help you.

Have Questions? Email k_burnett1@pacific.edu

Spirit at Pacific: Where Have You Gone?

Andrew Carrillo
Pacifican Staff Writer

When ESPN came to Pacific to broadcast the mens' basketball game against UC Santa Barbara, the Spanos Center was a sea of orange and black, to say the least. It was a challenge to find a seat among the students and families that

filled the rows, and many were reduced to the aisles and walkways. The womens' soccer team made signs, wore colorful outfits, and used noisemakers, fitting in on the court next to the always enthusiastic Pep Band and Tiger Dancers. In addition, the mens' water polo team cheered in their speedos and orange body paint. Many students in orange, black, or other Pacific gear filled the student section and the surrounding seats on the home cheering side.

This kind of enthusiasm is not always to be expected. Sure it was an ESPN broadcast, and honestly, who wouldn't want to make an appearance on television? But, Pacific sports teams deserve this over-the-top



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spirit at all matches, and would appreciate larger turnouts during the week and without a doubt on Friday and Saturday nights.

With the spring 2009 semester well underway, Pacific students are finding themselves either overwhelmed with work or in control now that they are adjusting to their classes. Studying does require a lot of commitment, and I can understand if this commitment takes up the week, but

more students should honor the commitment of their athletes at their sports contests. In fact, getting out for a few hours to a match can serve as an outlet to take one's mind off studying.

There is no clear explanation to why spirit at Pacific is lacking, but it can be easily turned around. It only takes a few phone calls or texts to get a group of friends together and root for any of the several teams playing this semester. Mens' and womens' basketball, womens' water polo, swimming, softball, and baseball are all either in the peaks of their seasons or just starting competition. A lot of these teams have been training in the off season and putting in many hours to compete

at their best, as well as in the classroom, so it is obvious these athletes should be commended for their effort.

In the time before the next big games, here's a really easy solution to this problem: Get some friends together, go to a thrift store in town, and pick up some orange and black gear. A orange t-shirt can go a long way and attending games in groups of orange and black can boost spirit at Pacific tenfold. Noisemakers and other items are a bonus and, coupled with more chant involvement, can add to the excitement of cheering for our Tigers.

Pacific swimming, softball, and tennis all have away contests and tournaments on the horizon, but there will be plenty of home games and more opportunities to support our hungry Tigers. Tonight the womens' basketball takes on UC Santa Barbara in the Spanos Center, starting at 7:00 p.m. and on Wednesday, Feb. 25, the mens' basketball hosts UC Davis in the Spanos Center at 7:00 p.m. Spirit at Pacific can always improve and it's in the hands of the students, families, and friends to make it better. So come out to more games in orange and black to support our hard-working Tigers.



Hats off to you!

Calling all 2009



Graduates!



Would you like to speak at commencement?

Apply to be a Commencement Speaker by February 23, 2009!

Visit www.pacific.edu/x27177 and download an application! Turn them back in to the Office of Student Life, Hand Hall, Suite 135 or if you have any questions email Denia Andersen at dandersen@pacific.edu.

Two Hundred and Six Career League Victories for Coach Thomason

Men's basketball recovers after their last two losses with a win against Cal State Fullerton 70-51 on Feb 12 and returned on Valentine's Day to beat UC Irvine 65-55

Elizabeth Croisetiere
Pacifican Staff Writer

Pacific started out against Fullerton going strong. Junior Joe Ford gave Pacific the lead with the first 2 points of the game and Fullerton trailed the rest of the game. The Tigers started out with a 9-2 run with 6 points from sophomore Terrell Smith. The Titans were able to cut Pacific's lead to 15-10 but Pacific responded with a pair of three-pointers from junior Lavar Neufville and senior Bryan LeDuc for a 21-10 lead. The Titans recovered with a 6-2 run to which Pacific responded with an 11-0 run featuring a pair of three-pointers from senior Michael Kirby. With Pacific's lead at 34-16 at 3:15 the Titan's were able to score 4 points on the Tigers. The half ended with the Tigers in the lead 37-22.

In the first half the Tigers shot 50 percent from the field and 70 percent from the free-throw line, while the Titans shot 36.4 percent from the field and 44.4 percent from the free throw line.

The Tigers continued their lead into the second half again with Ford shooting the first 4 points of the second half. A three-pointer by Kirby put the Tigers up by 22 points for 44-22 at 17:55, their largest lead of the game. During the next 10 minutes of the game the Titans outscored the Tigers by 9 points; however, they were not able to take the lead. The Tigers brought their lead back up with a 10-3 run for 66-47. Pacific's



Sophomore Terrell Smith takes a shot at a home game.

the free-throw line. Kirby led the team with 14 points. Sophomore Sam Willard scored 13 points and led the team with 9 rebounds.

The team "played hard and played good defense" Willard shared, although Coach Thomason felt there was room for improvement. It "seemed like early in the game we were slow offensively, Kirby didn't have that pep in the step." Although Thomason admitted, "We did a better job matching up on zones than last time."

After their win against Fullerton the Tigers were excited for their match-up against UC Irvine. According to Willard the team was "looking for revenge" against Irvine and that is what they accomplished. This win was a milestone for the Tigers; it was coach Thomason's 206th career league victory which makes Thomason the Big West's winningest coach in league games.

The game did not start out well for the Tigers. They

lead did not fall below 16 points for the rest of the game.

Pacific shot 51.2 percent for the game and 77.8 percent from the free-throw line; Fullerton shot 36.4 percent for the game and 59.1 percent from

fell behind after a 6-0 run. Senior Chad Troyer and Smith tied the game up with a pair of three-pointers, but the Tigers quickly fell behind again with an 8-2 run. With the Tigers behind, neither team scored for the next 5 minute. The Tigers recovered with 5 points including a three-pointer by senior James Doran which put them in the lead at 17-16. The Tigers picked up momentum and kept their lead through the rest of the first half ending at 26-22.

The second half started out with a three-pointer from the Anteater's Michael Hunter, but in a 7-3 stretch featuring 5 points from Troyer, Pacific was able to keep its lead with 33-28. The Anteaters cut Pacific's lead to 40-37 at a three-pointer by Patrick Rembert but Pacific responded with a jumper by Willard and a three-pointer by LeDuc for 45-37 at 11:04. The Anteaters matched the Tigers with another three-pointer by Derrick Strings and Pacific responded with 5 points with a lay up by LeDuc and a three-pointer by Smith. The game ended with a lay-up by Kirby at 1:07 for a double-digit lead and victory by 10 points.

Pacific shot 52.2 percent for the game and 75 percent from the free-throw line; UC Irvine shot 34.6 percent for the game and 68.8 percent from the free-throw line. Troyer led the team with 15 points followed by LeDuc with 12 and Doran with 11. Once again Willard led the team with 10 rebounds. According to Troyer it was a "great win, we played hard and shot good free-throws."

These wins moved Pacific up to 14-9 overall. They are in third place in the Big West Conference with a 7-5 record.

Groundbreaking on New Gym

Elizabeth Croisetiere
Pacifican Staff Writer

On Dec 6 at 4p.m. the groundbreaking ceremony for the new Janssen-Lagorio Multipurpose Gymnasium commenced. The new gymnasium is scheduled to open for the 2009 fall semester. It will be a private facility and will be used for team practices and student recreational activities. The estimated cost for the gym is \$4.5 million and it will be built by Devcon Construction.

During a time of economic hardship, a gymnasium of this quality is a privilege for Pacific. The need for the gymnasium was perceived because athletics and intramurals need a facility to practice in with a greater amount of square footage. In 2001, the planning was put into action and Kathleen Lagorio Janssen and Dean Janssen were approached right away to be donors. Kathleen Lagorio Janssen is a Pacific regent. She graduated from the Benerd School of Education in 1968. Currently she is the executive officer of Ace Tomato and the Lagorio Family of Companies. Dean Janssen is the vice president for Ace Tomato and Lagorio Family of Companies and a former high school coach in Stockton. The Janssen-Lagorio family was the main donor for the gymnasium and is known for their tremendous support of Pacific Athletics. They are "extremely generous people, just the best," shared athletic director Lynn King when asked about the family.

Although the gymnasium is an athletic facility, it will benefit the entire campus. In the past few years the percentage of students in the recreational

intramural program has increased. The school needs larger facilities to accommodate and expand the program for students and free up the Main Gym for sports science majors. When asked if the new gymnasium will benefit the quality of athletics at Pacific, King answered, "I think so." It will especially help Pacific in its efforts to recruit new athletes. The gymnasium will be a nice facility to show new prospective students and athletes; it will be a "positive thing for Pacific," added King.

The gymnasium will also follow in the foot steps of the University Center. It will be LEED certified. This is the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Green Building Rating System. LEED is a third-party certification program. It is the nationally accepted benchmark for the design, construction and operation for green buildings. The system promotes "a whole-building approach to sustainability by recognizing performance in five key areas of human and environmental health: sustainable site development, water savings, energy efficiency, materials selection and indoor environmental quality," according to the U.S. Green Building Council. Currently the university is striving for green certification for the gymnasium.

The gymnasium will help students and athletes practice and exercise. It will free up needed space for sports science majors, and it will be a "really nice quality facility," King boasted.

Overall, the gymnasium is made available to students through generous donations and will be a focal point to show prospective students that Pacific is striving to improve the quality of physical activity for its students and go green.

Sudoku

Fill in the blank squares so that each row, column, and each 3-by-3 block contains all of the digits 1 through 9.

								8
				3	1	5		
			9				3	1
5				2	6			
		6	5		3	4		
			4	7				9
1	7				2			
		9	3	6				
2								

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Answer

2	6	3	7	1	9	8	4	5
8	4	9	6	5	1	2	7	
1	7	5	8	4	2	3	9	6
3	1	2	4	7	8	6	5	9
7	8	6	5	9	3	4	1	2
5	9	4	1	2	6	7	8	3
6	5	7	9	8	4	2	3	1
9	2	8	6	3	1	5	7	4
4	3	1	2	5	7	9	6	8

DeSean's Sports Update

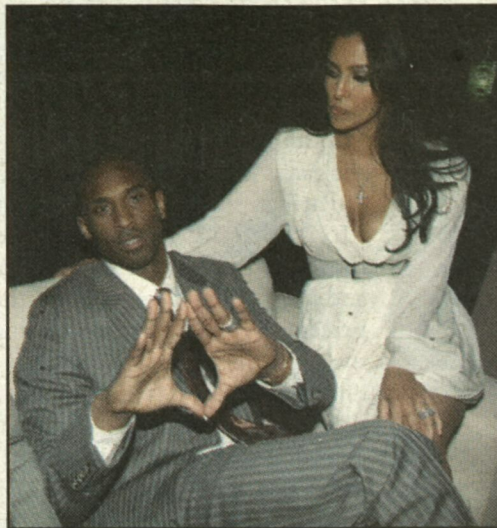
Lance Martin
Pacifican Staff Writer

NFL

Only 152 more days until Michael Vick is released from federal prison (based on his release date being July, 20, 2009).

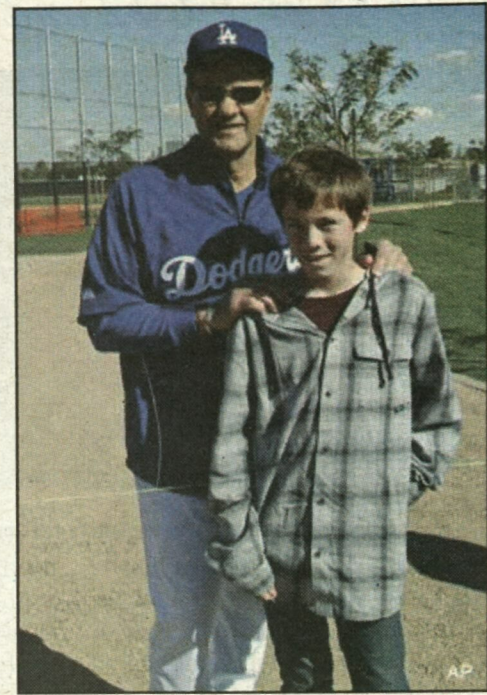
NBA

Maybe it was seeing Dwight Howard dunk on the 12-foot hoop. Maybe it was seeing 5'7" Nate Robinson jumping over 6'11" Dwight Howard to win the contest. Maybe it was seeing Gabrielle Union in that black number. It does not matter, because either way, LeBron James says he will enter the 2010 dunk contest.



I have not been this excited since McDonald's said the McRib was coming back.

By now, we have all seen Allen Iverson and his new haircut. A.I. cut his cornrows and is now sporting a fade. This haircut should drastically reduce the number of excuses he has for skipping practice.



problem is that the Mets say they are not.

College BB

Thank God the North Carolina-Duke game is finally over. I thought the Exorcist possessed Coach Krzyzewski by the way he ripped his players at the end of the game. The last time I saw Coach K this mad was when J.J. Reddick made fun of him for writing poetry.

Bob Knight claimed Gatorade is a performance-enhancing drug. Performance enhancing drugs make you bigger, faster and stronger. They allow people to recover from an injury, they destroy fatigue, and can even change your bodily structure. Gatorade is just water with sugar in it.

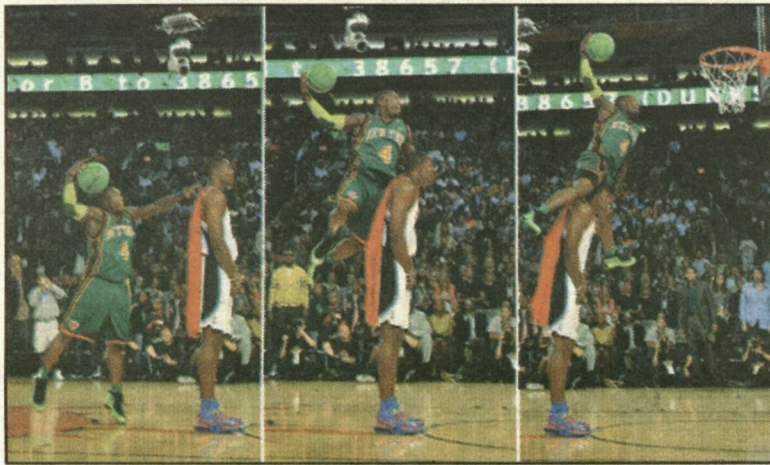
I get made whenever people begin to think that UCLA is underrated, because you actually believe that UCLA is turning the corner. Then they go ahead and lose on the road to Arizona State.

Larry Johnson and LeBron James can pull off flashing the ROC. But Kobe Bryant? Definitely not hood enough to pull it off.

MLB

Spring training started on Monday. But this kid (pictured), with Dodger manager Joe Torre, looks more nervous than a college freshman about to take his first shot of tequila.

Yankee catcher Ivan Rodriguez keeps telling everyone that will listen that the Mets are interested in him. The only



2009 Senior Class Gift

Your senior class gift of \$20.09 to the Pacific Fund will enable undergraduate students, graduate students and faculty to pursue research initiatives, hands-on learning, academic innovation, multidisciplinary collaborations and travel abroad. Be a part of this groundbreaking tradition! Help us support our faculty, strengthen our programs and prepare our fellow students to be tomorrow's leaders.

Your class gift will be acknowledged in a time capsule buried under a **Class of 2009 Stepping Stone on campus**. Inside the time capsule will be a video of seniors giving their 'shout-out/props' for Pacific posterity. Don't be the only one not in the video. Make your gift today!

Look for the Students in Philanthropy Council at these events to make your Senior Class Gift!

February 12, 2009	7:00 PM	Alex Spanos	Men's basketball vs. Cal State Fullerton
February 14, 2009	7:00 PM	Alex Spanos	Men's basketball vs. UC Irvine
February 25, 2009	7:00 PM	Alex Spanos	Men's basketball vs. UC Davis
March 7, 2009	7:00 PM	Alex Spanos	Men's basketball vs. Cal State Northridge
March 17, 2009	10:00 AM	Bookstore	Grad Faire: 10 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
March 18, 2009	10:00 AM	Bookstore	Grad Faire: 10 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
March 19, 2009	10:00 AM	Bookstore	Grad Faire: 10 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
March 19, 2009	11:00 AM	UC Ballroom	Career Faire: 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. (tentative)
May 5, 2009	All day	UC Lawn	Senior Celebration

For more information, call the Pacific Fund Office at 946-2780 or Kate Hutchinson '09, chair of the Senior Class Gift Committee, via email at seniors@pacific.edu or through Facebook.

Also, feel free to stop by the Pacific Fund Office anytime to make your gift. Hand Hall, Room 220, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.