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THE PACIFICAN

University of the Pacific's Newspaper Since 1908

www.thepacifican.com

Volume 94, Issue 10

April 8, 2004

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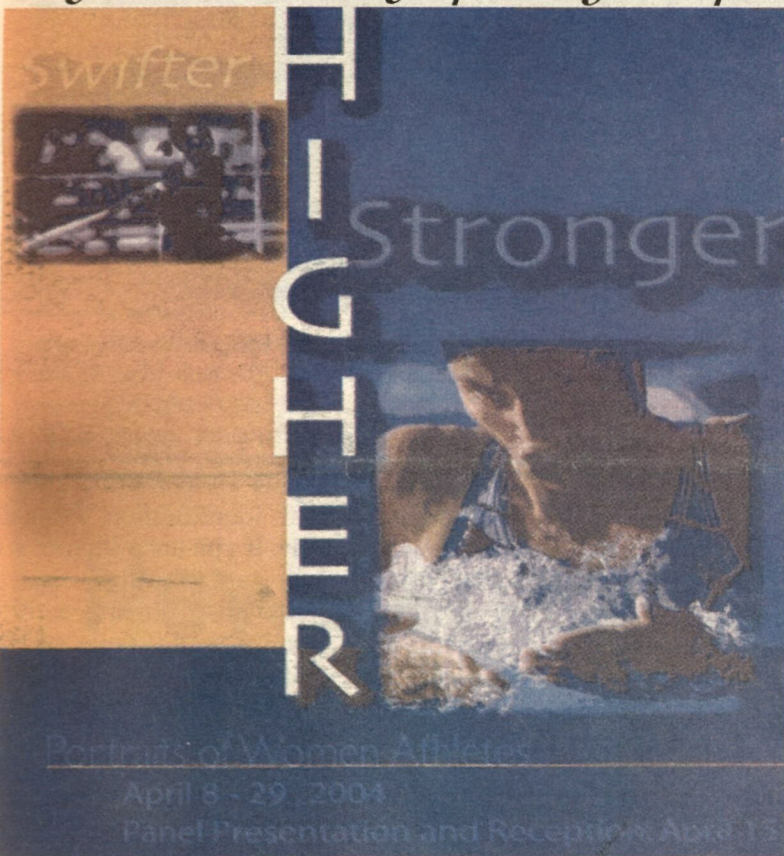
WEATHER

Mostly Sunny

High: 78
Low: 52

Female sport celebrities get artsy at Pacific

Reynolds Gallery opening reception brings athletes to discuss women in sports



By Jaimi Corona-Flowers
Guest Writer

The Pacific Reynolds Art Gallery and Jeannette Powell Art Center will team up and put on their "game face" today as they kick-off the exhibit "Swifter, Higher, Stronger: Portraits of Women Athletes."

This is the exhibit's only appearance in Northern California.

Rico Reyes and Cynthia W. Weick, the curators of the exhibit, combine the two nationally acclaimed collections, "Game Face" from the Smithsonian Institute and "The Sporting Woman: Insights from Her Past" from the Women's Sports Foundation, to look at the contributions women

have made to athletics.

Although the exhibition will be open for display, the opening reception will not be held until next Thursday, April 15 at the Jeannette Powell Art Center from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. where there will be a panel presentation featuring local women sports celebrities.

The panel will be comprised of Pacific's women athletes from the '40s to the present, such as our own Director of the Pacific Humanities Center and Assistant Professor of English/Film Studies, Dr. Courtney Lehmann.

Lehmann is a four-time national champion as a former member of the UNC-Chapel Hill Women's Soccer Team.

The panel will discuss women's progress in athletics, including Title Nine--the Federal law that requires women's sports teams to be treated equally to men's at any school, including colleges that receive Federal funds.

The Exhibition will be held on Pacific's South Campus at the Reynolds Gallery and will end Thursday, April 29.

This event is sponsored by the Reynolds Art Gallery, Pacific's Gender Studies Program, the Office of the Provost, Pacific Athletics, and Kaiser Permanente of Stockton.

For more information, call (209) 946-7323 or send an email to reynoldsgallery@pacific.edu.

Wild heritage

Raven Avalos
Guest Writer

On March 27, 2003, Representative Mike Thompson (D-Napa) and Senator Barbara Boxer introduced the "Northern California Coastal Wild Heritage Wilderness Act of 2003," to protect many pristine and remote stretches of federally owned land in Del Norte, Humboldt, Lake, Mendocino, Napa and Yolo counties. The bill proposes to designate close to 300,000 acres of public land as wilderness, and 21 miles of the Black Butte River as a wild and scenic river, where dam construction is prohibited.

Congressman Mike Thompson first introduced the bill in 2002, amid great

fanfare from an array of local political leaders, businesses, conservationists and recreationists. Just in the last month, this legislation has gained the support of California's Senior Senator, Dianne Feinstein.

Wilderness designation protects wild places so campers, hikers, backpackers, equestrians, birdwatchers, rafters, canoeists, and others may enjoy them, and it also ensures that at least a few of our federally-owned wild places are not logged and consumed by roads and other developments. When this legislation passes, we will preserve a remarkable corner of California containing the

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EVENTZ EXTRAORDINAIRE: 1-800-343-8868 Great weekend job \$10 per hour, enthusiasm necessary to hold signs to direct buyers to new homes; Hiring immediately.

VACATION: Hawaii only \$129 one way; Mexico/ Caribbean \$125 each way, all taxes included; Europe \$234 one way; Other worldwide destinations cheap; Book on-line www.airtech.com or (212)219-7000.

WILD from page 1

last undisturbed stretches of California's coastline, wild ancient Redwood forests, habitat for some of our most imperiled species, and beautiful groves of oak woodlands.

The Northern California Coastal Wild Heritage Wilderness Act of 2003 must now pass through both the House of Representatives and the Senate before it can be signed into law by President Bush. In 2002, similar legislation introduced by Representative Sam Farr (D-Monterey) was passed and signed into law, so support-

ers are optimistic that Senator Boxer and Representative Thompson can pass this legislation as well.

A slideshow of these majestic wild places will be presented at 12 noon on Thursday, April 15th. The event will be held in the WPC room 140 from 12-1 p.m. There will be free food and drinks. Everyone is encouraged and invited to attend this event. Look for the flyers around campus.

Dave Westman is a conservation organizer for the California Wild Heritage Campaign. He can be reached at dave@californiawild.org

**Computing Safely:
Identity Theft**

David Lundy
Interim Security Officer

The fastest growing crime is identity theft. Many readers might ask, "I am a student and I don't have much of anything that can be stolen. Why should this matter to me?" Identity theft can saddle you with debt and seriously damage your credit rating. And it is your responsibility to repair the damage and re-establish your good name and credit if it happens.

Students are particularly at risk. A recent national survey revealed that nearly half of all students receive credit card applications on a daily or weekly basis. Nearly a third of all students rarely or never balance their check books or review their credit card bills.

According to the Office of Inspector General (OIG) activities that put you at risk to identity theft include: using your personal computer for online banking transactions;

using your personal computer to buy merchandise or purchase tickets for travel, concerts or other services; discarding credit card offers without shredding them; storing personal information on your computer; using a cell phone; using social security number for identity; and having a student loan.

What is identify theft?

Identify theft occurs when someone impersonates another by using their personal information. The impersonator may charge items, get regular or wireless phone services, obtain loans or mortgages, get a job, commit fraudulent or criminal acts, all leaving the victim with the responsibility. The thief uses driver's license number, Social Security number, other account numbers along with names and addresses to get products and services in the victims name.

Reducing your risk:

The way to reduce risk is to guard and keep close tabs on your personal informa-



Photograph by Kristen H

TUTU SPEAKS: Archbishop Desmond Tutu addresses students and community members last Thursday. The event was sponsored by ASUOP and the School of International Studies. The main focus of Tutu's lecture was about unity, nonviolence and peace.



Snoopygift.com

tion. The OIG recommends these steps:

Memorize your Social Security number and passwords, don't record your password on papers you carry with you, don't use your date of birth as your password, shred pre-approved credit applications and other financial documents before discarding them, order credit reports every year from each of the major credit reporting agencies and thoroughly review them for accuracy, never give personal or financial information over the phone or Internet unless you initiated the contact, don't carry your Social Security card or birth certificate with you,

report lost or stolen credit cards immediately, check your monthly credit card and bank statements for unusual activity, use a firewall program on your computer, especially if you leave your computer connected to the

Internet 24

hours a day, and do not download files sent to you by strangers or click on hyperlinks from people you don't know. Students applying for or using student loans should also: Use caution when using commercial financial aid services over the Internet or telephone. U.S. Department of Education services are free and password-protected. Before deciding to use a for-fee financial aid advice

service, visit the Looking for Student Aid site. Apply for federal student aid at www.fafsa.ed.gov. After completing the Free Application for Federal Student

Aid (FAFSA) electronically, remember to exit the application and close the browser. Don't reveal your PIN to anyone, even if that person is helping you fill out the FAFSA. The only time you should use your PIN is on secure ED systems. Shred receipts and copies of documents with personal information if they are no longer needed. Review your financial aid award documents and keep track of the amount of student aid you applied for and have been awarded.

Report all lost or stolen student identification immediately. If you are a Victim, it is important to act immediately if you discover any signs of identify theft. Keep careful written records of each step you take, each communication and each conversation you have in dealing with the theft. The OIG recommends the following three steps: FIRST, contact the fraud departments of each of the three major credit bureaus: Equifax: www.equifax.com, Experian: www.experian.com and TransUnion: www.transunion.com.

SECOND, close the accounts that you know or believe have been tampered with or opened fraudulently. THIRD, file a police report with your local police or the police in the community where the theft took place.

If you become a victim of identity theft involving federal education funds or suspect that your student information has been stolen, contact: U.S. Department of Education, Office of Inspector General Hotline: e-mail oig.hotline@ed.gov.

Campus stadium

By Todd Merz
Guest Writer

Coming soon to Pacific is going to be an on-campus baseball stadium. This new addition to our school should be breaking ground by the end of the school year. It will be located at the present site of Zuckerman Field.

The plan is to have the field ready before next season, so that the 2005 Pacific baseball team will be able to play its home games there.

According to head baseball coach Ed Sprague Jr., "We should hopefully be playing in the new stadium next season."

Presently, the baseball team plays its games at Billy Hebert field, which is located about two miles off campus. Billy Hebert field is also the home to the Stockton Ports.

The new stadium's ca-

capacity should be around 3,000. Layout and field dimensions have not been finalized. Player locker rooms and lights are being planned in future phases, according to Sprague.

Ryan Amos, junior catcher for the team stated, "I think that this will be a great addition to the program. It will give a lot of the students a chance to walk to the games from their dorms, and hopefully draw more support to the program."

Senior shortstop Octavio Amezquita added, "I won't be around for the stadium, but it is going to be a good addition to the program."

The Tigers will be hosting Cal State Fullerton this Thursday at Billy Hebert Field.

Applications are now available for 2004-2005:



Business Manager

Editor-in-Chief

Managing Editor

News Editors

Perspectives Editors

Lifestyles Editors

Sports Editors

Applications are available at the Pacifican
For more information, call (209) 946-2115

News analysis: ASUOP finances

The Pacifican

Last week, *The Pacifican* reported that ASUOP makes secret deals for performers to come and sometimes pays them in cash. For many, this practice is concerning because it prevents financial oversight and does not allow students to be sure the money they pay for student activities in fact used to that end.

Equally concerning, is the fact that the University uses student activity fees to pay for the salaries and benefits of its employees.

Upon discovery of three reserve accounts that are funded by left-over student activity fees, the *Pacifican* has asked to see detailed records of the withdrawals from those accounts and how those withdrawals were used.

For continuing coverage of this issue, the *Pacifican* asked Vice President of Stu-

dent Life for help getting the following documents:

1. A complete accounting of all funds into which student activity money flows. Please provide me for the past two years and this year to date:

a) Beginning and ending balances of all ASUOP-related accounts.

b) All deposits and withdrawals (or credits and debits) to all accounts, including the three "reserve accounts" identified by Jason Velo.

c) All approvals and justifications for all expenditures.

d) A copy of the last audit of ASUOP funds and accounts, including any work papers prepared in the course of that audit.

e) Any "exceptions" or "variances" or "material questions" raised by any University accountant, auditor or other officials about ASUOP funds and accounts

and how such issues were reconciled or corrected.

f) Written procedures or guidelines regarding the debiting or crediting of monies to ASUOP related accounts, a chart of accounts, security policies and procedures to prevent misappropriation. If these do not exist, how does the University know whether student activity money is properly accounted for?

2. The *Pacifican* would like to ask the University to issue a formal response as to why the University allows ASUOP to enter into secret contracts and to pay performers and speakers in cash when the University itself has restrictions against such a practice.

3. The *Pacifican* would like a copy of any contract entered into involving student activity funds in the last five years.

4. The *Pacifican* would like to know whether middlemen, brokers or other in-

termediaries received any ASUOP funds, how much and when they were paid, who approved their payment, and who approved the practice -- in order to bring speakers and performers to the University. If any of these middlemen, brokers or other intermediaries were paid in cash, the *Pacifican* would like to know when, how much, who approved it and whether the University was aware that this had happened.

The *Pacifican* would also like to know whether anyone from the University who has arranged for speakers and performers who have made demands for secret contracts and cash payments has been approached to provide or obtain "kickbacks" for making such agreements.

5. The *Pacifican* would like to know whether funds spent for ASUOP "office renovations," the "One Card System" and other expendi-

tures from the reserve accounts were reviewed first by students, whether competitive bids were obtained and if not, why not? What specifically was spent on the renovations?

6. How long has the University used student activity fee money to defer the cost of University staff salaries and benefits? Was this discussed with the Board of Regents? If so, when and what was said. If not, why not?

What is the rationale for charging off University-related costs against funds collected for students believe is the sole purpose of providing student activities? How is this practice not dishonest?

7. For what other expenditures, does the university use student activity fees? If so, who approved the other uses? Were students informed?

Blessed by Rev. Tutu



Photograph by Kristen Hess

"Desmond Tutu's lecture was warm and inviting - emphasizing unity and love." www.rsa-overseas.com

By Kara Buchanan
Staff Writer

Pacific was nothing short of blessed by the presence and words of Desmond Tutu this past Thursday evening. For me, his chuckle was the most poignant aspect of the special event; it made him real. Someone as accomplished and admirable as Nobel Prize winner Desmond Tutu seems like a distant hero until he is physi-

cally before you, chuckling and saying good evening. His slow deliberate voice captivated the audience, and he enlightened us about the 'truth about love's ability to conquer all.' He says prayers from all around the world contributed to the astounding success South Africans have had against apartheid. That success is testimony to the fact that people are truly good and that there are universal rights and wrongs

which govern our world.

We can know this by the feelings that we all have inside of us - an innate tendency to gravitate towards good rather than evil. Rev. Tutu said "No one ever stands up and proudly claims 'I am a child molester!'...No dictator has ever stood up and proudly said, 'I violate civil rights!'". They do not say those things because those are inherently evil things, and human nature does not allow them to bring us pride. By the same token, our human nature is attracted to what is genuinely good. Rev. Tutu used Mother Teresa as an example of one achieving ultimate success in the area of goodness. American society's standards for success are usually defined materialistically, and determined by being very focused and competitive, or as Rev. Tutu put it - "(measured by) how young someone is when he gives himself an ulcer." Mother Teresa didn't live her life that way, and yet there is not a soul who was ever

See TUTU page 5

Traveling tribulations



google.com

Trotro's such as the one pictured above are the most economical and uncomfortable ways to travel in West Africa.

By Paige Elisha
Staff Writer

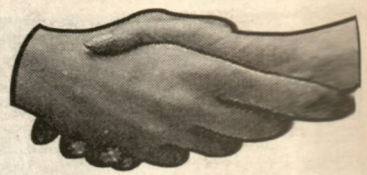
The other week, I wrote

about an experience that I regard as one of my most incredible-my three week trip through Ghana, Togo, Benin,

Burkina Faso and Mali. In my article, I attempted to present a glimpse of what traveling

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SOCIAL JUSTICE WEEKLY



NAFTA and its unfortunate children

By Suzanne Vyborney
Perspectives Editor

In the new book "The Children of NAFTA" by labor union organizer and associate editor of the Pacific News Service, David Bacon, he addresses the cost of success for the workers of maquiladoras, assembly-line factories-the border industry in Mexico. Known not only for the series of frightening murders of female workers (as many as 137 women have been victims of sexual homicide according to Amnesty International), the border industry represents the saddening byproduct of the trade barriers that were removed in NAFTA.

According to Bacon who has studied and traveled to Mexico for over 15 years, a million, one tenth of Mexico's permanently employed workers struggle to make ends meet in the border industry. Maquiladoras suffered heavily from NAFTA's requirement that favorable tariff rates be ended to countries not in the NAFTA agreement, so basically, anyone outside of the U.S., Mexico, and Canada. Unable to compete with Chinese and Indian exports, hundreds of thousands have lost their jobs and the entire border industry has experienced a severe recession. Since taxes and customs fees have been virtually nonexistent thanks to NAFTA, corporations have benefited greatly. While American investors and businessmen have seen their profits triple, Mexican workers whose wages average less than \$1.80 an hour, have suffered from a deeper and more invasive poverty.

Agreements like NAFTA has increased pressure on

growers to keep overhead costs low and they accomplish this by cutting costs where it hurts works most sub-poverty wages and intolerable working conditions with little to no room to organize and retaliate. While at NAFTA's outset, it promised to maintain workers' rights and healthy, safe, and environmental working conditions, we can see in the decade since its creation, this has not been the case. This year marks NAFTA's 10-year anniversary and books like Bacon's highlight that while productivity may be up, human rights are down. In his book, Bacon includes a telling quote from a labor official who reveals the stark truth: "It was hypocritical for the president [Clinton] to promise such protection during the debate on NAFTA. The whole reason for the treaty was to guarantee cheap labor in Mexico." A UCLA Labor Center study has revealed that any attempt to protect workers' rights has never moved beyond consultations among American, Mexican, and Canadian labor secretaries.

You might wonder, how does all of this possibly affect me? Well unless you know or are related to migrant farm workers, it probably doesn't. However, and more importantly- you affect it. Every time you buy one of the many cheap products assembled by overworked and underpaid workers in maquiladores, you are further ensuring that their rights are violated. Books like Bacon's will educate you on not only how NAFTA has failed the workers who make trade possible but also on why workers' rights advocacy must become a vital and consistent position in democratic institutions.

TUTU from page 4

graced by her presence that would deny the fact that she attained an even higher degree of success than the stereotypical American businessman.

Audience member, Danny Ender (a history major at Pacific) was touched by Desmond Tutu's perception of what it means to be successful, and also felt moved to follow the example South Africans have set for the rest of the world. Ender said, "They truly know what it means to appreciate freedom. They don't take it for granted as most Americans do. Desmond Tutu mentioned that South Africans stand in line for miles on election day. Here, everybody claims to be patriotic but fails to show up to vote. They slap an American flag on their BMW and say 'I'm patriotic and free and blah blah blah...' but don't do anything to celebrate the

freedoms that we have in this country. We need to learn from their example! I love how he talked about the fact that South Africans wake up each morning with a smile on their faces because they are free! It is also so important to follow their example of peace instead of dropping bombs on the world as a solution to what we view as a problem. These people have so many valuable lessons to teach our apathetic and violent nation."

A truly exceptional speaker has the ability to touch his audience personally and on multiple levels. Archbishop Desmond Tutu did just that. He blessed Pacific with a message of love and acceptance, a message of peace, a message of morality, a message of God's unconditional love, and lastly, left us with a genuine, whole-hearted, and infectious chuckle.

What is there to hide?

By William Grove
Guest Writer

President George W. Bush recently reversed his stance of confidentiality on the war on terrorism and approved National Security Advisor Condoleezza Rice's testimony before the 9/11 investigation panel under oath, and in public.

Before Bush's approval, Rice adamantly argued that she did not have to testify. "It's been a long standing principle that sitting National Security Advisors do not testify before Congress," pleaded Rice. By appearing publicly and fervently opposing her need to testify, Rice unintentionally made the public yearn for her testimonial. What do Rice and the White House have to hide? It is a general assumption that if someone refuses to answer questions, then there must be

some information they do not wish to yield.

President Bush and Vice President Dick Cheney will have a closed door meeting with the 9/11 panel. President Bush originally said he would only meet with the 9/11 panel's chairman. Why is the public left in the dark on this testimony? The people of the U.S. are the ones at risk when it comes to matters related to terrorism and all knowledge should be made available to them unless it endangers national security.

President Bush recognized the growing concern of the public and opted to have Rice testify, a decision that left unmade, could have potentially hurt his chances of being re-elected. The White House originally stood by the principle that advisors to the President should be able to communicate ideas freely without those ideas being

made public; this principle is known as the "executive privilege." However, given the unique circumstances of 9/11, President Bush relented and is allowing Rice to testify.

Matters relating to terrorism directly concern the voting public. All knowledge that could sway voters' opinions about government officials, response and preventative measures in regards towards terrorism should be shared. What does the White House have to hide and why was this testimony so difficult to procure?

The citizens of the U.S. are the ones who put these people in power and they have a right to know what the government knows as long as it does not jeopardize national security.

TRAVEL from page 4

in West Africa is really like. I realize now however, that the story would never be complete without fully describing an integral part of travel-transportation.

This diary entry from Apr. 16, 2003, describes the experience of traveling in a "trotro," a minivan converted into a bus by way of jamming as many people in it as possible.

It is 7.11 p.m. right now and Julie and I are in the back of a packed trotro. However, we have discovered that it is fruitless to worry about which seat you get. Firstly, because you are not given a choice and secondly, because the second you sit down you are immediately so surrounded by other people that the option of movement, even to push your shoulder back against the seat back is gone. There may be just enough room to pack four or five pairs of thighs in these traveling pieces of junk metal, but shoulders blades are never taken into account. And so, we go to the "every other" technique; one person leans

forward as the other leans back. Maintaining posture has become a distant memory. I find my upper body so hunched over that I am sure that one day soon, my shoulders will be parallel with my belly button. It is terrible for the body but everything here is.

My lower body, tail bone, knees, and ankles will all take months to forgive me for the long hours (days really) of being wedged or bent up against a seat back, someone else's knees, or a heavy bag. I noticed last night, while taking my bucket shower, that my ankles had lost their shape. The swollen skin is stretched tightly over an unrecognizable region where my legs disappear into my filthy feet without so much as a remnant of anklebones or a visible line of my Achilles tendon.

Again, I digress. As I was saying, there are no good trotro seats. Sitting in the back is like climbing on to a runaway roller coaster but it isn't the whiplash that gets you in the end. Ultimately, it is the speed bumps, the potholes, which are too expansive to avoid, the poor

engineering of the road, the difference in elevation between cement and the dirt that cause you to swerve off the paved area in order to avoid on-coming traffic, and the occasional accident which really get you.

The jump seats (fold out seats that fill the isle to ensure that every car is filled to capacity) are also, by rule of thumb, very undesirable. Because I am usually pushed to one side of mine, they have the tendency to tip and rock, nearly sending me into someone's lap. Jump seats only stay unfolded, rusted and stuck in place when one is stuck behind them, trying to hurriedly climb out of the trotro.

Julie and I thought that we had discovered a secret the other day in the middle [row of] seats, but were soon brought back to reality. [We soon learned that they mean] climbing in and out of the car, clutching your various possessions while others load and unload at stops along the way. Finally, I reach the other too-good-to-be-true trick of a seat-the first row (not the far-front with the driver which I will dis-

cuss momentarily). The front row means one of two things and sometimes both. First, you could be sitting face to face with someone who has piled in to sit on the hump of the engine (just behind the driver) and is ridding backwards with their legs and knees jammed into yours. The last trotro ride to Ouagadougou the other night was the perfect example of this torture. The man sitting across from me was huge, with thick long legs and knees that protruded deeply into my thigh muscle. We were sitting with my legs on one side and his shoved against the other after I had firmly established the fact that I was not straddling any part of him-leg, knee, shin, etc. Next to me, Julie was having the same problem, exacerbated by the fact that the man in front of her had managed to curl himself into a partial sitting ball and was beginning to use her lap as a pillow. I could, at this time, address the problem of other passengers falling asleep on you (lap, shoulder, etc) but since I am talking about seating, and I too am often guilty of this crime, I will save it for another time.

The second and perhaps

deepest drawback of the front row is its proximity to the engine (if that twisted hunk of metal that runs off mysterious dark liquid from wine bottles and other jars sold along the road can be called an engine). Although it does somehow manage to move the vehicle from point A to point B, stopping at points C,D,E,F, and G and often an unknown point along the way, at times, I feel the engine would more appropriately be labeled the oven, due to the unbelievable heat which it produces. The legs and toes bear the brunt of this almost unbearable heat but the baking process is also detrimental to one's belongings and I have often worried about my things- camera, film, etc. as they have sat, as protected as I could manage, on my lap.

The last option of seats in the trotro need not even be discussed-I try to avoid it like the plague. I will only mention that I call it, as it is aptly named, the ejection seat.

Santa Cruz sends worries to the waves



montereybayprop.com

Santa Cruz makes for a fun day or weekend trip all year round.

By Kara Buchanan
Staff Writer

Carefree smiles greet you around every corner in Santa Cruz. Golden brown tans,

even in the beginning of May, bear witness to the fact that Santa Cruz locals know how to take advantage of every ray of sunshine possible. A love of fresh air in a naturally

pristine coastal town inspires walking, jogging, biking, hiking, surfing, camping, and horseback riding. Someone simply lying out on a random boulder jutting out of a cliff or soaking up the sun's rays is not an uncommon sight. Neither is a man playing his guitar in the back of a pick-up, precariously close to the edge of the cliff or businesswomen sitting on park benches breathing in salt air and enjoying their lunch hour to the fullest degree.

Appreciate life for all of its natural beauty, and throw your worries to the wind; that is the Santa Cruz mentality. In order to allow the Santa Cruz spirit to expand your horizons, take a day trip to

the little stretch of coastland less than 2 hours from Pacific Ave. From a home base at the well-known Boardwalk, the wealth of options easily makes it worth the drive.

A walk or run along the coast is mandatory. You must take in the views from atop the cliff, over the purple and yellow blossoms in the ice plant along the path, down the gold boulders, and across the glistening waves. To fully appreciate the culture of this local exchange you must give genuine salutations to everyone on the path and wave to the cars that will graciously wait for you to cross. Between the Boardwalk and Natural Bridges State Park, you will find park benches on which to recline, picturesque picnic spots, the Lighthouse Field State Beach, a surf museum, and the head of Monarch Trail. You might

spend all day exploring at the top of the cliff.

Should you choose to go down to the sand, sunny weather may inspire you to play some volleyball, toss around a Frisbee, lay out and read a good book, or people watch for adorable sights such as fathers with their baby girls on surfboards. Very sunny weather may inspire you to actually enter the water yourself. For a bite to eat, go exploring the blocks surrounding the Boardwalk; you'll stumble upon a few fun delis and little restaurants scattered there. An evening of bumper cars, arcade games at Neptune's Palace, and a roller coaster ride on the Giant Dipper at the Boardwalk would be a great way to end your fun-filled day. You will return to Pacific with a light heart guaranteed!

Mayor Podesto, a man of true character

By Mara Title
Pacific College Republicans

The College Republicans had the privilege of listening to Mayor Gary Podesto speak to us last Wednesday night in the Regent's Room. He's certainly a busy man; the next night he was one of the speakers welcoming Archbishop Desmond Tutu to the city of Stockton.

The audience noticed his affectionate, teary welcoming, as he handed Tutu a city key of gold.

Podesto said that standing on the stage with Tutu was one of his greatest moments as the mayor of Stockton. Podesto's genuine warmth toward the

Archbishop came as no surprise, considering his own long-time service to this community.

Although he's become a well-known active political figure in Stockton, he didn't originally intend to be involved with politics. After selling his family-owned grocery store, Food-4-Less,

friends encouraged him to serve the city of Stockton: "Politics should not be a career, but a service," he stated emphatically.

"If there's a need, then I'll run—and there's certainly a need right now for better leadership in California."

His decision to run for senator stems from his concern about California spending more than it can take on in needless government programs: "Everyone pays high worker's compensation, which is killing non-profit organizations.

California is the marketplace, as it's a competitive state to conduct business in; unfortunately, businessmen just can't afford to live here, because of worker's compensation."

Why would Gary Podesto be a good choice for senator? Within the long list of his admirable services to Stockton, he helped start: "Crime Stoppers," with the Stockton Police, along with the "Racial Harmony Task Force," which was

nationally recognized in

Washington, D.C.

Here at Pacific, he has served on the Board of Regents (implementing the Cal-Grant), as well as served as Chair of Student Life.

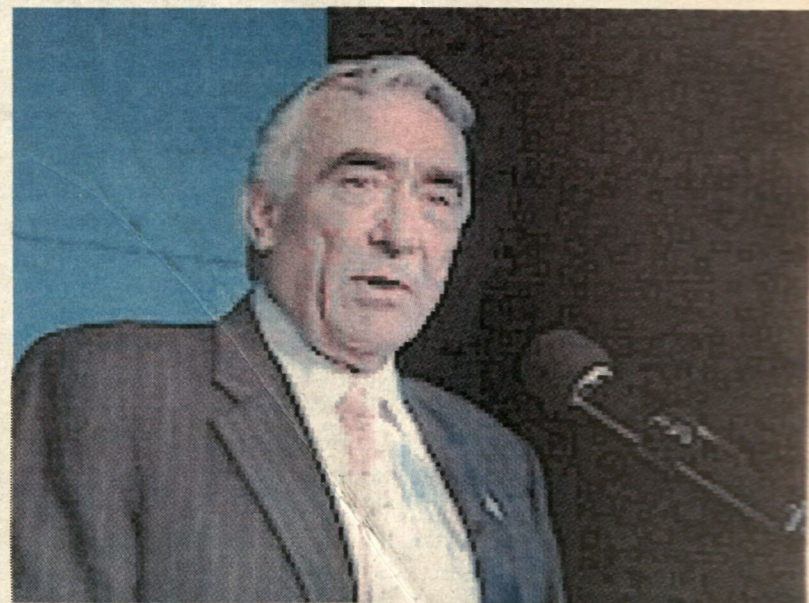
As I sat listening to the mayor, I couldn't help but be overwhelmed by this man's dedication to helping people he didn't even know.

The knowledge garnered from his years serving as mayor proves his passion for enhancing the state of California, for struggling farmers, and businessmen trying to pay for high worker's compensation.

I've heard a lot of politicians answer questions, merely touching the surface. With Mayor Podesto, he gets to the nitty gritty; having dealt with the challenges faced by city government, he's now ready and willing to deal with the state.

"Go ahead, ask me anything you want," he said after his speech, "I've got all the time in the world."

It was this kind of individual attention that he gave to everyone at the meet-



www.kxtv.com

Stockton Mayor Gary Podesto spoke to the College Republicans last Wednesday.

ing. You could tell that he thoroughly enjoys what he does—helping improve our standard of living.

Politics shouldn't be a career, but a service. Sure, there are politicians who lie and cheat, but we can see this in every vocation.

There are also good people in every line of work, and Gary Podesto epitomizes this notion within

politics.

He does care, and he wants the best for people. This might seem trite, unless of course, it's the truth—in this case, the city of Stockton should be very proud to have such a man of character serving the community.

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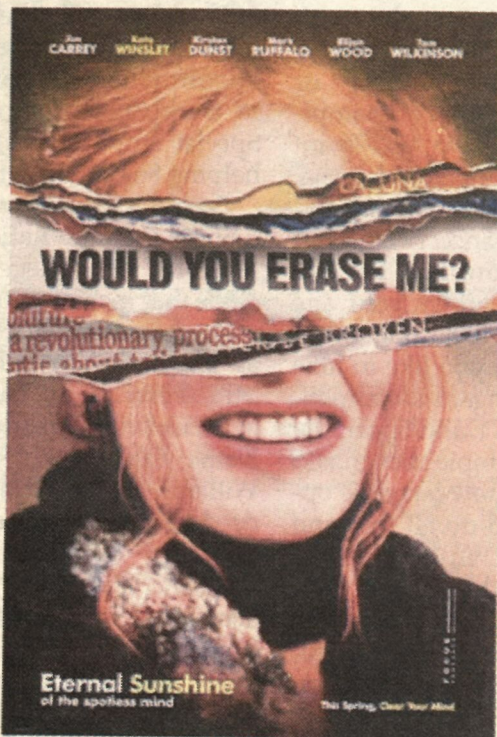
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Eternal Sunshine, spotless film



By Suzanne Vyborney
 Perspectives Editor

“Drink up young man, it’ll make the seduction a little less repugnant” is one of the many memorable lines uttered by Clementine, a free spirit with a penchant for dying her hair bright colors like orange and blue. Played artfully by Kate Winslet, Clementine is a candid and endearing bookstore employee who catches the eye of Joel Barish (Jim Carrey), a weary, serious, and neurotic young man.

Named after a poem by 18th century intellectual Alexander Pope, *Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind* is an intelligent, philosophical, amusing, and surprisingly romantic study of loss of memory and love.

Directed by Michel Gondry (known for his aesthetic and well-edited music videos for artists like Radiohead, Björk and

the White Stripes), *Eternal Sunshine* showcases his excellent cinematography and abstract style.

Screenwriter Charlie Kaufman (off *Being John Malkovich* and *Adaptation* fame), exceeds our expectations once again with a darkly humorous, thoughtful, creative and witty script.

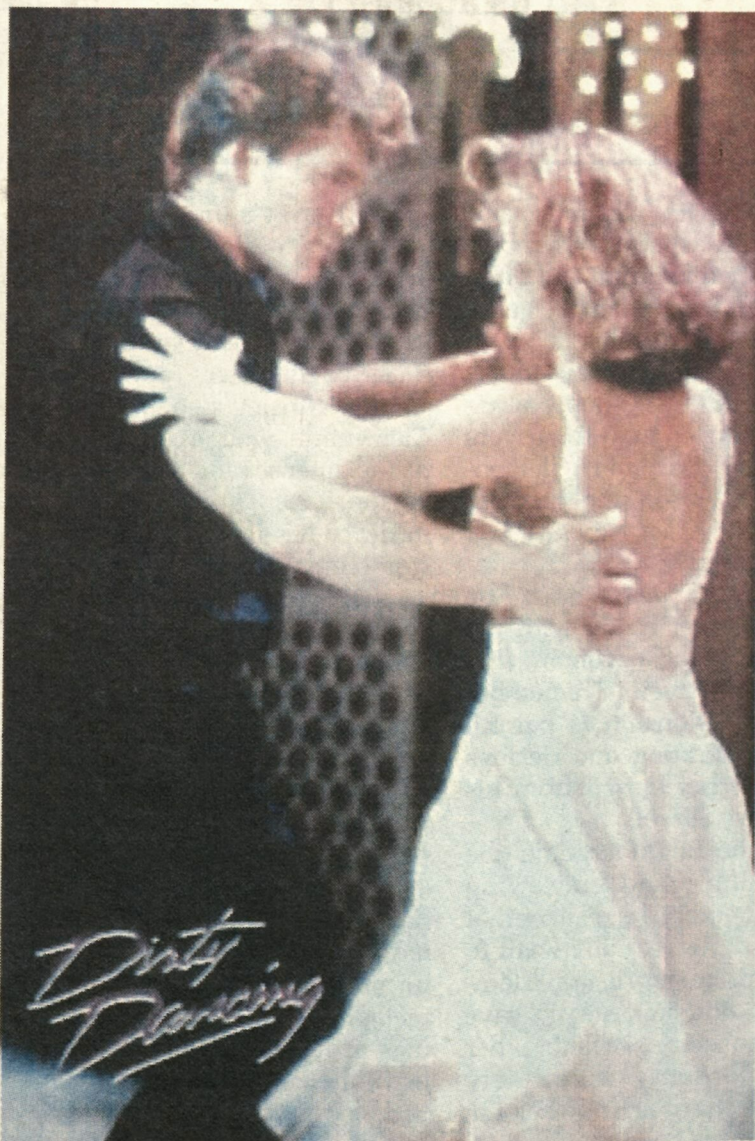
The cast is rounded off by strong performances with doctor Tom Wilkinson, receptionist Kirsten Dunst and lab technicians Elijah Wood and Mark Ruffalo, The film also features a cameo by comedian David Cross whose hilarious line “I’m building a birdhouse!” still rings in my head.

At the very surface, *Eternal Sunshine* is a romantic comedy. However, it proves to be far more than that, not just for the well-developed characters, but also for the audience who will follow the complex and interesting storyline with bated

See “SPOTLESS” page 8

Pacific Ballroom Dance Club

Your fantasies about being Jennifer Grey or Patrick Swayze in *Dirty Dancing* can come true... read how you can get involved in a Pacific Ballroom Dance Club on page 8.



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Apply for a *Pacifican* position today!
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JUMP from page 7 "SPOTLESS"

breath. Its romantic and comedic aspects are unpredictably rewarding and often exceed or challenge genre stereotypes.

Joel Barish is an understated and self-deprecating "nice guy" who discovers that his girlfriend, Clementine has erased him from her memory in an experimental procedure.

Shocked and hurt, he decides that living with the memories of a woman who doesn't even remember their relationship is painful and frustrating and decides to have her erased from his memory as well.

As he is undergoing the procedure and reviewing each memory, he realizes that he does not actually want to lose his memories of Clementine and in order to save her, he starts sneaking her off to portions of his memory where she does not belong, such as his childhood.

Jim Carrey's trademark goofiness surfaces only briefly in the film and he does an excellent job of portraying a vulnerable and sensitive character.

Kate Winslet also plays Clementine well as a dynamic, intense, and sensual person. *Eternal Sunshine's* intricacy lies in its reverse-storytelling method and its dialogue portrays characters who think uniquely and feel profoundly.

Unusual cinematic effects and well-crafted scenes make this film not only a beautiful movie to watch but also thought-provoking and smart.

Nothing short of brilliant, *Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind's* daringly unconventional plot and metaphoric, abstract musings on love and loss will leave the viewer very satisfied.

I give this film an A+

Pacific Ballroom Dance

Have you seen the movies *Dance with Me*, *Strictly Ballroom*, *Dirty Dancing*, or the DanceSport champions on TV? Do you want to learn to swing, cha cha, tango and other exciting and romantic dances? Do you already know hoe but are looking for others your age who share the same interest? Would you like to take your dancing to a competitive level in DanceSport, the newest Olympic recognized sport? You now have the opportunity to do all that and more.

The Youth College Network (YCN) has announced that Pacific is one of the colleges selected for initiation of student extra-curricular ballroom dance clubs this school year. The YCN is a division of the United States Amateur Ballroom Dancers Association (USABDA), the non-profit charitable and educational organization that is recognized by the United States Olympic Committee as the National Governing Body for amateur ballroom dancing and DanceSport in the United States.

The club will offer dance lessons, social dances and opportunities to participate in DanceSport competitions. Special emphasis will be on helping beginners get started.

Pacific students will participate in the nation-wide network of college dance clubs that include most major colleges and universities such as Harvard, Yale, Princeton, MIT, Penn State, University of Maryland, Purdue, Notre Dame, Ohio State, Stanford, William & Mary, and hundreds of others all over the U.S.

Pacific Club members will acquire social skills that will be of great value all of their lives, meet dancers in other colleges and make friendships for a lifetime with others who share the same interest.

For more information on ballroom dancing in colleges, including links to clubs in other colleges, students are asked to check out the Youth and College Dancing web pages at www.usabda.org.

Students who are interested in helping organize a Ballroom Dance Club at Pacific are asked to e-mail

YCNCollegeClubs@aol.com giving their name, address, and phone number. YCN volunteers will provide guidance and assistance starting the club. The USABDA Chapter will provide assistance.

Submitted by:
USABDA YCN College
Support Office
9040 Diascund Road
Lanexa, VA 23089

STOCKTON CITY
CENTRE CINEMA
16 SHOWTIMES—
4.9.04 To Thu 4.15.04

SNEAK PREVIEW
SATURDAY, 7PM ONLY
"13 GOING ON 30"

"Ella Enchanted" (PG) NO PASSES
12:25, 2:35, 5:00, 7:15, 9:25

"The Girl Next Door" (R) NO PASSES
11:30, 2:20, 5:10, 7:40, 10:05

"Johnson Family Vacation" (PG13)
Two Screens! NO PASSES
11:20, 12:25, 1:45, 2:50, 4:10, 4:55, 6:30, 9:15, 9:55

"Hellboy" (PG13) On Two Screens!
PASSES
11:10, 11:40, 1:50, 2:15, 4:25, 4:50, 7:35, 9:35, 10:10

"Walking Tall" (PG13) On Two Screens!
NO PASSES
11:50, 12:30, 3:10, 5:30, 6:45, 7:50, 9:10, 10:15

"Home On The Range" (PG) On Two Screens!
NO PASSES
11:00, 12:20, 1:00, 2:30, 3:15, 4:45, 5:20, 7:20, 9:20

"The Prince and Me" (PG) NO PASSES
11:25, 1:55, 4:30, 7:10, 9:45

"Scooby-Doo 2" (PG)
11:00, 1:30, 3:50, 6:40, 9:00

"The Ladykillers" (R)
11:45, 2:25, 5:05, 7:45, 10:15

"Jersey Girl" (PG13)
11:35, 2:05, 4:40, *7:25, 9:50
*No 7:25 Saturday!

"Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind" (R)
7:05, 9:30

"Taking Lives" (R)
6:50, 9:40

"Starsky & Hutch" (PG13)
2:10, 4:20

"Hidalgo" (PG13)
12:10, 3:30

"The Passion Of The Christ" (R) On
Big Screen For Easter!
12:00, 3:00, 6:30, 9:10

Pacific Theatre
Cinema One

"21 Grams"

4/8-4/10

@ 8 p.m.

Shows are FREE to students with a Pacific ID.

Call (209) 946-2233 for more information.

TOON IN PACIFIC

THIS WEEK:
"A SMALL PROBLEM"

BY: MARTIN CROWNOVER
TOONINPACIFIC@HOTMAIL.COM



HOROSCOPES

By Sally Nichols
Galaxy Guru

ARIES

Gowns are being bought and announcements are being sent; it is graduation time! Kick up your heels and get your career search in full gear! I know it is scary, and I see that you have a tendency to become shy and ignore things when they need attention the most; but don't do it! Jump on it and take charge of the rest of your life!

TAURUS

Money troubles? Can't find the bank statements that show the they owe you the money? Maybe it would be wise to invest in a financial broker, someone who will write down check numbers after you write them. The point is, be careful! You are about to go under, have at least \$4 in your account at all times!

GEMINI

Your friends are not trying to ruin your life, they are only trying

to help you. I see that you have made some bad choices lately; they may be related to any facet of your life. Your friends are only trying to protect you from the evils in this world. Start listening to them and to your inner voice and you will be at peace with yourself.

CANCER

You are in the home stretch, only five weeks until freedom! Yahoo, the wicked witch is dead! Remember that these are the most crucial and the most likely time for you to think you don't need to study as much! The home stretch is always a bummer! I see you slipping, pick your britches and carry your grades all the way through!

LEO

Oh la la! April is showering you with the love. Bring on cupid and his arrow! This may be the one! Remember to keep your cool, you Leos are known for ruining something good by being anxious. Stay calm and enjoy the time that you share with that sig-

nificant other. Don't fret over what you will do this summer, be patient and things will work the way they are supposed to.

VIRGO

It is time to emerge as a social butterfly and take advantage of the time that you have left this school year. I know you don't like being in crowded situations, but go to small things like Wednesday nights in the Summit. You will become saddened and hardened very easily if you don't learn how to mix in at social functions. Go party! This is an order!

LIBRA

Courage is something that we all strive for, including the lion in The Wizard of Oz. It is an attribute that conquers all trials and tribulations. You are working very hard to achieving your goal of courage but it looks like you need some motivation. Know that when you have courage, you can defeat any task given to you, whether it is large or small.

SCORPIO

Your knowledge will only increase when you realize that knowledge is infinite. There are geniuses out there that only know a sliver of what is possible to even be able to understand. Accept this idea when trying to quadruple major, become intelligent in one area and it will help you see the rest of the world.

SAGITTARIUS

It is now time to stop and smell the roses. Spring is here and is budding right before our eyes on the beautiful Pacific campus. It is lovely to know that you, one who often gets anxiety attacks, has your own personal place to relax. Retreat in the rose garden and try to recollect your thoughts so that they rest of the week may be more at ease.

CAPRICORN

I see that your artistic side is lacking in the grandest way. This may explain why your significant other says you are never creative with gifts or special holidays (they still have not forgot

about Valentine's Day)! Embrace the chance to go to a museum or check out a book on Renaissance Art paintings. You may be so inspired that they completely forget Valentine's Day!

AQUARIUS

Did you know that once you graduate you will actually sleep? I know it is a strange concept for most of us but it is true. And it is something that you should be thinking about right now because your body is about to crash from being over run. Go take a nap!

PISCES

Just because you are stressed does not give you any right to treat your family and friends badly. They love you too and are trying to understand what is going through your mind right now. Take a step back and see how it would make you feel if they were treating you like you have been treating them. Open your arms with love and show them how honest and loving Pisces can truly be.

This Week In...
Pacific

Intramurals

By Jason Meija
Sports Writer

With the baseball season underway, the NBA finals approaching, and the NHL playoffs starting, we here at Intramurals pay these great sports their due respect.

Our Basketball season concluded last week with the Ballaticanz topping the Tightly Whities in the Men's AA Finals.

In the Men's A division, Intentional Grounding put Bubba Rubb to rest, and Price House ousted Kappa Psi for

the Men's B title.

In the basement league, Men's C, James Naismith beat Phi delta Chi.

Hey, a championship's a championship.

In the 6-ft. and Under Napoleon league, the Street Ballaz flexed their muscle as they trampled P\$ Franchise.

In the women's division, Fockers beat the Drug Dealers for the Women's A title, and Theta overcame a tough W.E.R.D. team for the Women's B championship.

For Co-Rec A, P\$ Franchise defeated Staff Infection,

etching themselves into the record books.

The M-Units took Wemyss to the house in the Co-Rec B Final and Jessie B. held off a tough BFC team for the Co-Rec C championship.

Congratulations to all of this years basketball champions!

Softball is in full swing, and already talks have begun.

Pike All-Stars suffered an unprecedented defeat at the hands of their arch rivals, Phi Delt.

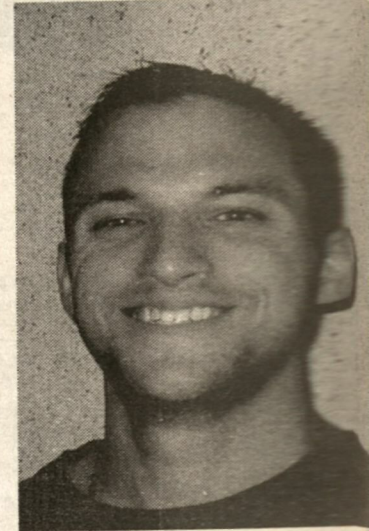
Don't expect that to hap-

pen too often this season. A fair warning to all the Co-Rec teams out there, keep your eye out for PT.

They have come and come strong this year, seeking out a championship, and they've pulled out all the stops.

Floor hockey has also begun this week, and so far it looks like it will be a clean sweep by the Phi Delt.

However, keep an eye out for P\$, who always seems to find a way into the play-offs, where anything can happen.



Photograph by Arash...

Men's volleyball improves season record

Despite their losing record, players continue to work hard and recruit fans

By Ha Tran
Guest Writer

For the 23rd consecutive time, Pacific's men's volleyball team defeated the UC San Diego Tritons. At the time, UC San Diego was ranked 14 in the nation.

The Tigers are now 7-16 overall and 3-13 in the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation.

With a slow, but steady start to the game, they allowed UC San Diego to get a quick six-point lead in the game. Finally catching up, they dominated the game, then finished with a strong victory.

Junior Mauricio Brizuela knocked down four kills on six attacks and helped give the Tigers with a game high .520 hitting percentage.

Senior Sean Rodgers had back-to-back kills and stood the offensive ground for the team, ending with 13 kills. Junior Brian Zoderow added 10 kills, along with a match-high three aces.

Senior Adam Catania held down the defensive side with four blocks.

The men's volleyball team entered its 12th season as a Division One member and

has a very positive outlook for the upcoming games.

Though they lost five key players from the 2003 team, they are returning with Sean Rodgers, who has a career .430 hitting percentage, and juniors Mike Gawlik, Nils

Dauburs and Brian Zoderow.

They have trained hard in the off season to prepare for an outstanding 2004 season.

Volleyball is a quick paced, competitive sport and with the team playing so well, students, as well as people in

the community, have a reason to catch a game.

"The guys are great. I try to make it out to their games as much as possible. Too bad not many people go," Pacific junior Quoc La said,

That's sad, yet seems to be true about campus sports. Teams don't get a lot of support from students and the community with the volleyball team.

La said, "People are either busy or they just don't care. If they bothered to come, they'd get a glimpse of how competitive the sport is and how hard they work."

The next home game will be a Mountain Pacific Sports Federation Conference match against USC on April 9 at 7p.m. at the A.G. Spanos Center.



Pacific Athletic Department

DIG THIS: Senior Sean Rodgers puts away 1 of 13 kills against UC San Diego Tritons.

Home Games of the week:

Thursday, April 8

BSB vs. CS FULLERTON, 6 pm

Friday, April 9

BSB vs. CS FULLERTON, 12 pm

MVB vs. USC, 7 pm

Saturday, April 10

BSB vs. CS FULLERTON, 12 pm

MVB vs. USC, 7 pm

Free Agent Status

By Jesus Hernandez

**ROBBED!
ROBBED!
ROBBED!
ROBBED!
ROBBED!**

There aren't any other words I can use to begin this weeks column off with. Why robbed you might be wondering, well for those of you who weren't at Archbishop's Desmond Tutu's lecture last Thursday were probably watching Pacific's Myree Bowden participate in the 16th Annual Mountain Dew College Basketball Slam Dunk Championships.

Picked as the early favorite to win the contest Myree came out flying with his first dunk.

He threw the ball off the backboard, caught it in mid-air and did a windmill which drove the crowd wild; he then proceeded to autograph a tiny basketball and gave it a lucky lady in the stands. In his second dunk he was assisted by fellow teammate

Tyler Newton who held the ball in the air in one hand and a cowboy hat in another. As he glided in the air and took the ball out of Tyler's hand and dunked it.

What made this dunk spectacular was that as he jumped it seemed as if time was frozen and he was in the air for several seconds before he dunked the ball through the hoop.

As he landed he proceeded to grab the cowboy hat out of Tyler's other hand, put it and danced

around, once again the crowd loved it. For his final dunk in the championship he used another teammate in attendance, Miah Davis as a prop. 6'1 Myree Bowden jumped over six-foot Miah Davis.

His competitor Texas Tech's Andre Emmett, lacking originality and creativity did the exact same dunk, but he used several kids from the stands, none being over five feet.

Myree was robbed! Robbed because he's a Californian and the event was being held in the state of Texas. Everyone who saw it knows who really won, Emmett only won because there were two Texas football players and they couldn't vote against their own. Everyone watching knows who won and that was Myree Bowden.

NCAA history

Going on to other basketball news, University of Connecticut defeated Georgia Tech in the men's NCAA tournament final. Led by the Stud Center Emeka Okafor UConn dominated Georgia Tech for most of the game. But tonight history could be made if the lady huskies of UConn can defeat Tennessee for the women's NCAA championship.

It will be the first time in basketball history that one school wins both the men's and women's basketball championship in the same year. History in the making.

The season of sports

There's no other time of the year better than the month April. NCAA championships, professional hockey and basketballs post season about to begin, the NFL draft and the beginning of America's pastime, baseball of course.

This by far will be one of the most very interesting baseball seasons in the past few years. With so many big name players moving from teams, the division races will be exciting to watch, with the most exciting division being once again the American League West that includes two-time defending division champions Oakland Athletics, the Seattle Mariners, the Anaheim Angels and the Texas Rangers.

As usual the Yankees have bulked up again on stars adding Alex Rodriguez, and ace pitchers Kevin Brown, Javier Vasquez, and set up man Tom Gordon.

Their arch-rivals the Red Sox have also added one the most dominating pitchers in the past few years to their rotation, Curt Schilling. With that addition they have the lethal dose of Pedro Martinez and Schilling, similar to that of Johnson and Schilling in Arizona the past few years.

“So, go out with your boys and girls to a game, enjoy some brews and watch time just fly as baseball season gets under way.”

MLB preview

By Arash Behnam
Sports Editor

The baseball season is here and it could not have come at a better time. Baseball is long over due and unlike football it is easy to predict the outcome of the season.

Or is it...

American League East

1. New York Yankees

The evil empire was at it again this year adding a few "above average" arms to help ease the loss of Andy Pettite and Roger Clemens. Gary Sheffield will help the best offense in baseball brake the all time run record this year.

Keys to success: Alex Rodriguez at third. You take the best ever shortstop and move him over in his prime but how will he respond to it in the long run?

Player to watch: Rodriguez might not be happy at third but he will have another MVP type year with the bat.

2. Boston Red Sox

Oh those poor Sox, so close to the World Series. They went from almost having Rodriguez only to lose them to the hated Yankees. How tragic must it be to be a BOSOX fan? Maybe the Sox can sign Aaron Boone. The Sox are made for a short series. This could finally be the year of the curse but let us not get to hasty; after all it is the Red Sox.

Keys to success: The Sox need to forget about last year. Manny Ramirez needs to keep up his numbers and stop being a distraction. Curt Shilling and Pedro Martinez are the best two pitchers in baseball. In a seven-game series you could be talking about-facing the dynamic duo five more times.

Player to watch: If Derrick Lowe has a year like he had two years ago, then the Red Sox might be able to catch the Yankees.

3. Baltimore Orioles

Three big free agent signings will help the O's be competitive, but a title shot is nearly impossible. The of-

fense is above average but the pitching and bullpen will be the Achilles heel of this team. Jay Gibbons looks like the real deal but the same could not be said about Melvin Mora whose numbers are misguided.

Keys to success: If the pitching staff can somehow manage to keep the O's in games Baltimore has a chance to finish above 500 percent. Most likely, this is too much to ask, as the pitching staff will be hurt with the loss of Joe Johnson-last year's best pitcher.

Player to watch: Javy Lopez. How does a catcher put up the kind of numbers Lopez put up last year? He does not. Therefore, last year was a fluke; however, Lopez can silence his critics by coming close to those numbers in hitter-friendly Camden Yards.

4. Toronto Blue Jays.

The Blue Jays have three super stars and not a whole much more.

Keys to success: As long as the Blue Jays can get on base before Carlos Delgado bats they will have a chance to score some runs.

Player to watch: The A's were high on him but had Eric Chavez. The Blue Jays thought he was the next Kelly Gruber but Eric Hinske has not matched his hype due to injury. Time is running out on the young slugger and needs to brake out of his shell if the Blue Jays have any chances in the east.

5. Tampa Bay Devil Rays

Lou's boys are improved but when you are the Tampa Bay Devil Rays improving is not saying much. The Rays have a good core of youngsters to build around and a bunch of no names that have put up descent numbers. The outfield, first base and bullpen are solid but everything else is a question mark.

Keys to success: Keep developing guys like Rocco Baldelli and Carl Crawford.

Player to watch: Aubrey

See MLB page 12

PACIFIC TIGERS

Noteworthy in men's basketball...

The Pacifican

Davis first 'tiger trotter'

Pacific senior guard Miah Davis--two time Big West Conference Player of the Week and 2004 AP All-America Honorable Mention Selection--played in the NABC All-Star Game last Friday against the Harlem Globetrotters as part of the Final Four weekend festivities.

The Globetrotters had an impressive veteran line-up including guard Keiron 'Sweet Pea' Shine, forwards Alex 'Big Ticket' Sanders and Charles 'Bubba' Wells, as well as Anthony 'Pig' Miller, Lazarus Sims, Eugene Edgerson and Brandon Dean.

The Globetrotters were coached by Rod Baker, who guided the team to a 7-1 re-

MLB from page 11

Huff. Do not be surprised to see Huff hit 40 home runs, as he is a sleeping power hitter.

American League Central

1. Minnesota Twins

The Twins will not triumph with power pitching or home runs, but they will do what they have done in the last couple years to be successful: small ball.

Keys to success: The Twins



cord in the 2003 Fall College Tour, including victories over Syracuse and Michigan State.

Davis led the Tigers to the Big West Conference Championship and to the Round of 32 in the NCAA Tournament. The Big West Conference Player of the Year, Davis had a team-high scoring average of 14.7 points per game, adding 100 assists and a team-high 40 steals. After suffering a concussion in Pacific's only conference loss at Utah State, Davis returned after missing the next game to lead the Tigers to wins in the 15 of the last 16 games.

Over those final 16 games, he averaged 17.4 points per game, shooting 51.3 percent from the field and 42.7 percent from three-point range.

He was the only player in the Big West to rank in

the top 15 in eight statistical categories, including sixth in scoring, third in free throw percentage and seventh in assist-turnover ratio.

the top 15 in eight statistical categories, including sixth in scoring, third in free throw percentage and seventh in assist-turnover ratio.

Bowden 'slam dunks' championship

Also part of the final four festivities, Pacific senior guard Myree Bowden placed second at the 16th Annual Mountain Dew College Basketball Slam Dunk Championships.

Bowden was selected from a nationwide pool of 65 applicants, including Winston Davis (Lafayette College), Julius Page (Pittsburgh), Andre Emmett (Texas Tech), Bobby Carter (Western Illinois), Sylvester Willis (Southern Illinois), Cardell Butler (Utah State), and Tony Allen (Oklahoma State).



2004 BIG WEST CONFERENCE CHAMPIONS: The Pacific men's basketball team advanced to the second round of the NCAA Big West tournament after upsetting Providence. Unfortunately, Kansas State University edged past the Tigers after a close game. Well done men's basketball!

chose to sign Shannon Stewart over closer Eddie Gaurdado. If Joe Nathan can do what Gaurdado did then the Twins will look like geniuses.

Player to watch: Not since Sandy Alomar Jr. has a catcher come with so much hype. Joe Mauer has the potential to be the next Jonnie Bench or the next A.J. Hinch.

2. Chicago White Sox

The White Sox lost more than they got, but still have Magglio Ordonez. Frank

Thomas, Esteban Loaiza, and Carlos Lee had great years and need to produce sequels in order for the Sox to catch the Twins

Keys to success: The Sox have good starting pitching and enough hitting to compete but how the bullpen fares will be a big factor in where the Sox end up in the standings.

Player to watch: Billy Koch and Paul Konerko. Horrible years last year now need a redemption song.

3. Cleveland Indians.

The Milton Bradley trade was unexpected but the Tribe have a nucleus of good young hitters and Jody Gerut is looking for a brake out year. The Indians will be the surprise team in the Central.

Keys to success: The Indians have quite a few unknowns in their lineup and if these unknowns make a name for themselves the Indians will win some ball games.

Player to watch: It is time for C.C. Sabathia to take the next step and become part of the handful of elite pitchers in the league.

4. Kansas City Royals.

The Royals made a nice little run last year but this year they will get a taste of reality.

Keys to success: The Royals need their starting pitching to eat up innings, as the bullpen is thin and weak.

Player to watch: Mike Sweeny had an injured filled season last year and if healthy will give the Royals a consistent guy on the bases.

5. Detroit Tigers.

This team is much improved with five quality pick-

ups. The Tigers will be up and down but they at least they were not as bad as last season.

Keys to success: You heard it here first, the Tigers could finish the season above 500. The keys will be the corners. If Tony Pena ever reaches his potential and Carlos Guillen needs to add more than just a salary.

American League West

1. Oakland A's.

The A's will always be in hunt as long as they have Tim Hudson, Mark Mulder and Barry Zito. Shortstop Bobby Crosby has big shoes to fill. The A's need help offensively.

Keys to success: The fourth and fifth spots of the pitching order. Both Rich Harden and Mark Redman have the stuff to be aces.

Player to watch: This is now Eric Chavez's team. How will he react to the big contract?

2. Anaheim Angels.

Money well spent and a solid team. Will battle for the wild card and conference championship. Do the Angels have enough pitching?

Keys to success: The guys need to be worth contracts signed. Team needs to stay healthy.

Player to watch: Jose Guillen can jack 40 home runs. Guillen can also be a headache.

3. Seattle Mariners.

The M's have the talent to win the west but face a steep hill in the Angels and A's. The lineup is consistent and the bullpen is strong.

Keys to success: The Mariners need to stay healthy and their pitching staff needs to give the bullpen the lead.

4. Texas Rangers.

No Alex Rodriguez and that might be helpful. The Rangers have Hank Blalock and Mark Teixeira two aces. But it is the Rangers and their pitching. The Rangers have absolutely no pitching.

Keys to success: No pitching, no pitching, and no pitching. Oh, and by the way, the Rangers have no pitching.

Player to watch: Alfonso Soriano got lost in the A-Rod fiasco. He is a great player who will score over 120 runs this year.