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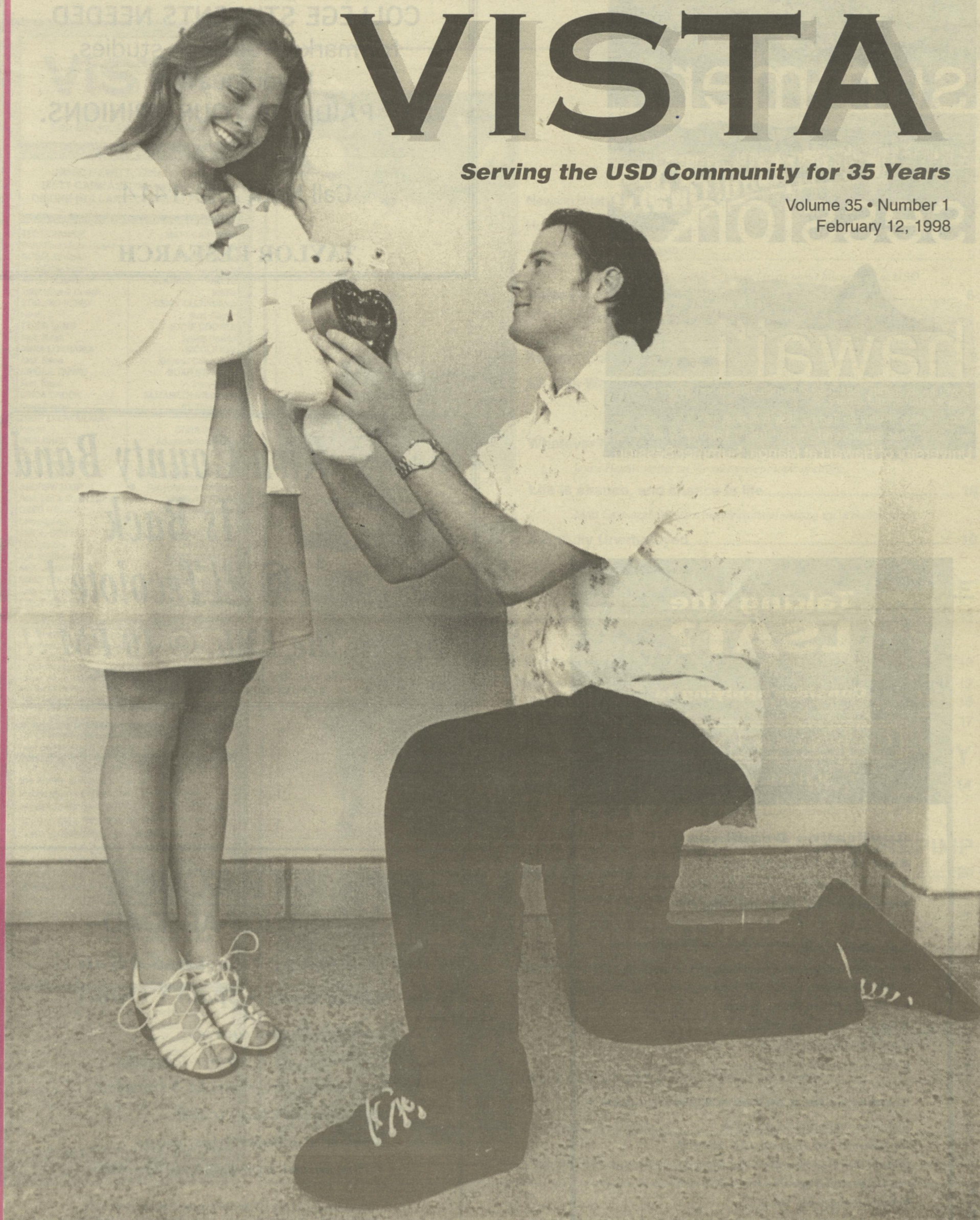
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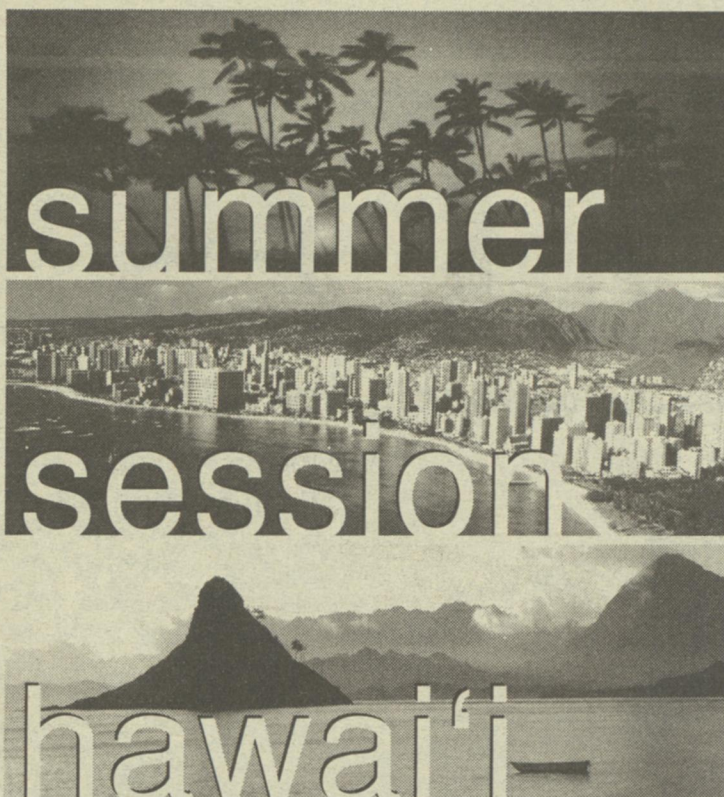
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February 12, 1998





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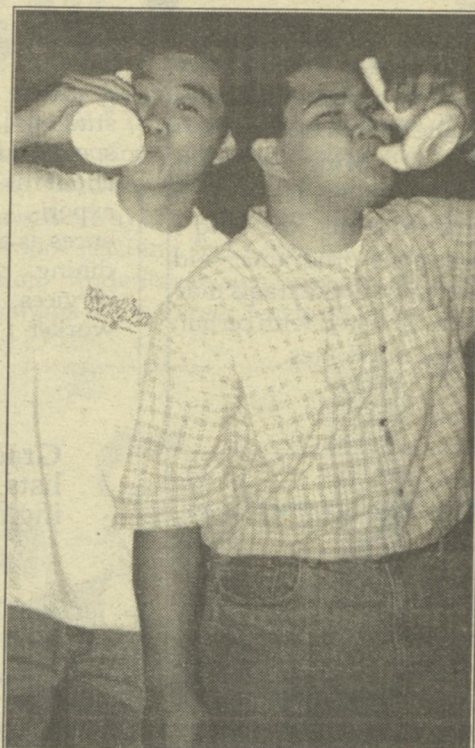
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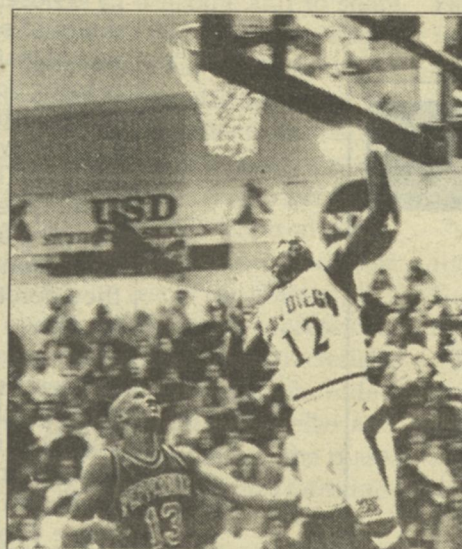
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Iraq gives okay to search for weapons

WORLD



BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — After a week of intense talks, the United Nations and Iraq agreed Saturday that UN experts will dig up sites where Baghdad says it buried chemical weapons and missile warheads once loaded with chemical and biological agents.

The excavations may help clarify the number of warheads that UN experts cannot account for. But it is still unclear how they will help prove Iraq's claims it has destroyed all its chemical weapons, given the volume and diversity of chemical agents with which Iraq experimented.

Iraqis say that there are many weapons-burial sites scattered across the country. Oil Minister Amer Mohammed Rashid, a mastermind of Iraq's weapons programs, said he feared some Iraqis may have tinkered with certain unguarded sites.

Origin of AIDS virus detected to be earlier

NATION



CHICAGO — A new analysis of blood preserved from the oldest documented case of infection from HIV-1 shows that the disease might have occurred in people in the late 1940s and early 1950s.

With the help of a phylogenetic analysis, a family tree that documents changes in the AIDS virus, the 1959 viral sample seems to indicate the advent of when the first development of the disease occurred. The 1959 sample came from

a Bantu man living in Leopoldville, Belgian Congo. Under the care of Dr. Toufo Zhu of the Aaron Diamond Research Center in New York, the quest for determining the origin of the virus is one step closer.

The Divorce War on Gas

STATE

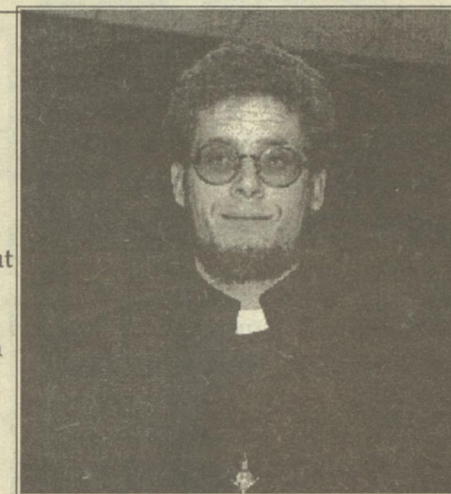


SAN DIEGO — A survey by the Lundberg firm found that San Diego County residents pay an average of \$1.4013 per gallon of unleaded gasoline while in Los Angeles the average price was \$1.2325.

This spurred legislation that passed in a unanimous vote by the San Diego City Council that seeks to restrict oil companies in the way they operate their service stations. In an attempt to lower the price of gasoline by decreas-

ing the central control of their stations, the "divorcement" legislation will require oil refiners to sell their corporate-operated stations in San Diego County by January 1, 2000.

Editor's note: The VISTA News In Brief is compiled from newswire reports



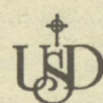
TED DONVON/VISTA

A USD graduate student speaks out about his experiences as a dining services worker.

Graduate Student Jamison Painter lists his top 5 pet-peeves about working in dining services

Jamison Painter's official position in Dining Services is Casual Worker A but unofficially he, "...does what [they] need me to do." Painter is a graduate student in History and he plans to join a monastery after receiving his graduate degree. We asked him what his biggest pet-peeves are in dining services:

- 1) If students leave a mess. If you leave a little mess, that is okay but people will leave their trays, they would spill milk, and a variety of things, and never call anybody to clean it up then it dries on the floor and becomes an even greater problem.
- 2) Somebody being deliberately rude and nasty. Main Dining has a certain number of rules we enforce, not to create a bad experience, but to allow for the highest quality of food and to reduce costs. But when a student becomes irate, it just doesn't help. The reason these requirements exist is to provide, for every person, the best meal at the lowest price. If people take things out of the dining hall, we have to replace it and then we may have to raise prices. The money that we make... goes back into the university to make your lives better. We run our own dining services, we are completely a private organization, not run by a corporation. The cafeteria is one of the best in the nation, we have received a number of awards. I've eaten in other college facilities and they don't compare to this.
- 3) Students who bring backpacks into the dining hall. We don't allow backpacks into the dining hall to prevent students from taking things thus forcing us to raise prices. This regulation is clearly placed... it would save us a lot of time and concern if they would just leave [backpacks] outside. If you want to bring your books in, that is fine. The ring is there to lock articles into the cubby.
- 4) Those who come in with bare feet or in their stocking feet. This is not permitted, it is for the protection of the student. There is always the danger of stepping on glass... there is always the sanitary considerations. It's not that they're stupid, it's just that they don't think about it. They consider this their kitchen....
- 5) ID cards. Particularly borrowing your neighbor's or friend's. Most cashiers don't check but as a cashier I check every card. If someone uses a different ID, it is our job to confiscate the card and then return it to the owner. It is not to annoy our customers but for the protection of the owner of the ID card. Some people get annoyed at me for checking the cards while there is a line. It is possible for one to bring a friend and use both a meal and cash plus for such a friend.



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Career Services Welcomes a Familiar Face

MALIA LANGEN

Staff Writer

Dr. James Tarbox is back at USD, but now students can find him in the Career Services Department. The former visiting assistant professor to the Communication Studies Department has been named assistant director of Career Services. Tarbox is taking the job after three years at USD teaching many Communication Studies classes and a semester's absence.

"I am really, really happy to be back at USD for the fact that I can see students again," Tarbox said enthusiastically about his new position. "My absolute favorite part (of teaching at USD) was the students. I loved going into the classrooms."

And students are glad to see Tarbox return to USD; the class of 1997 voted him as Outstanding Faculty of the Year.

"I was glad to see he was back on campus," said senior Amy Willman, a communications studies major and former student of Dr. Tarbox. "He really loved what he was doing. Having him here is a definite asset."

Working with students is a central part of what Tarbox's newly created position entails. One of his primary responsibilities is helping students develop personal statements for graduate school admission and construct resumes.

"I run workshops on Tuesdays and Thursdays during dead hours on topics of resume writing, interviewing

and Jobs 101," Tarbox said. He says these workshops, along with one which addresses searching for career information on-line, are ways he can incorporate his classroom teaching skills into his new position. Students can sign up for these workshops in the Career Services Office (Hughes 110).



TED DONOVAN/VISTA

Dr. James Tarbox has come back to USD as Asst. Director in Career Services.

Tarbox said he wants to let students know that Career Services is much more than just a job placement center. Students can go there to get help with anything, from exploring career options to strengthening their interviewing skills. Working with students is not the only responsibility the assistant directorship

entails, as the USD's Career Services Office is one of the only centers in the country that opens their services to alumni of the University.

"One of the primary responsibilities is working with faculty. It is very important to make sure every school and department on campus knows we want to work with them," Tarbox said. His experience as a former USD faculty member gives him a head start in forming these partnerships.

His other responsibilities include forming partnerships between businesses and organizations with regards to internships and jobs. One such partnership being formed now is between USD and Sea World. Tarbox's experience working for Penn State's Master of Business Administration (MBA) Program and management development at San Diego State University helps in forming these business links.

Tarbox serves as the director of marketing on the board of directors of the San Diego chapter of the American Society for Training and Development. He sees this as an asset to his position at USD as assistant director of Career Services—he wants to market their services to everyone on and off campus.

see **TARBOX** on page 25

The Road to Financial Aid

CHRISTINE HOLMAN

Staff Writer

Financial aid deadlines are quickly approaching, and when applying for either outside or inside aid, deadlines are a priority.

The Office of Financial Aid is the students' source for acquiring about and applying for financial aid, in addition to advisement, counseling and planning workshops. The office also publishes guides which provides student and families with a comprehensive plan of the processes involved.

"It is the intention of the Office of Financial Aid Services to provide as much information as possible without making the financial aid process appear unnecessarily complicated," said Judith Lewis-Logue, the director of Financial Aid Services.

Lewis-Logue said she urges students to research several different areas to find financial aid. Various financial aid programs and the descriptions of each are available in the Undergraduate Bulletin. Scholarships, work-study, grants and loans are all classified as financial aid, as well as outside sources of scholarship or grants which may replace loans.

Searching for financial aid begins with research, time and dedication. USD offers financial aid workshops (see side box) to provide information to students who need help in filling out the necessary financial aid applications.

According to Lewis-Logue, the workshops are one attempt to make financial aid simple and more understandable. Knowledge of the intricacies of financial aid programs is not necessary for all of the different types of scholarships, loans and grants when applying. USD determines eligibility and gathers information explaining what the student is entitled to receive.

If students want to apply for outside scholarships in addition to, or instead of loans and grants, the sum of the 1997/1998 outside

see **AID** on page 8

USD opens its heart at the All Faith Service

CHRIS LOBUS

Staff Writer

Drums pounded in the distance. Then the sound of bells chimed. A man dressed in an outfit made up of a fir skirt, with feathers attached to his head and back, and beads adorning his whole body danced a Native American dance of hospitality down the middle isle of the Immaculata last Friday to begin the fifth annual USD All Faith service.

Conceived in 1993 by the late Monsignor Brent Eagen, USD's first vice president for Mission and Ministry, USD dedicated this mass to him with the purpose of celebrating hospitality.

The All Faith Service is held once a year in efforts to respond to the USD's mission of accepting all cultures into their community. Leaders from various religions,

including Catholicism, Hinduism, Buddhism and Serbian Orthodox gathered at this mass to welcome and to share expressions from their respective faiths.

The Founders Chapel Choir, which was directed by Annette Welsh, set the mood of the service prior to the Native American dance with a song voiced in a foreign tongue and accompanied by a steady drumbeat. The choir also performed songs with a piano and flute throughout the rest of the mass.

The opening and closing processions, led by four large banners characteristic to the Immaculata Parish, included USD's own Father John D. Keller and all those who spoke during the mass. Keller led the welcoming and introductions.

Keller went on to introduce Rabbi Wayne Dosick of the USD Department

of Theological and Religious Studies, who spoke of the virtue of hospitality. Father Bozidar Drascovie of St. George's Serbian Orthodox Church and Hindu priest Swami Sarvatmand of the Vedanra Society of Southern California followed Dosick with sermons that continued to emphasize the virtue of hospitality.

"All of them had thoughts of hospitality," said USD sophomore Lorenzo Gutierrez. "The different views from different religions was nice."

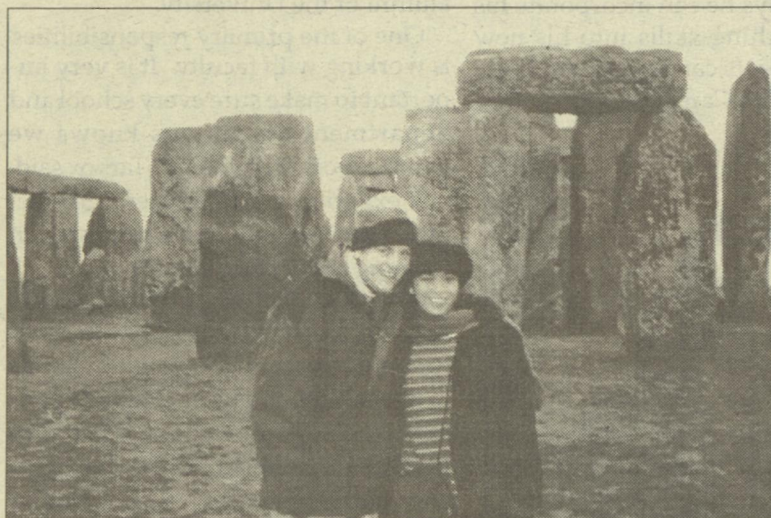
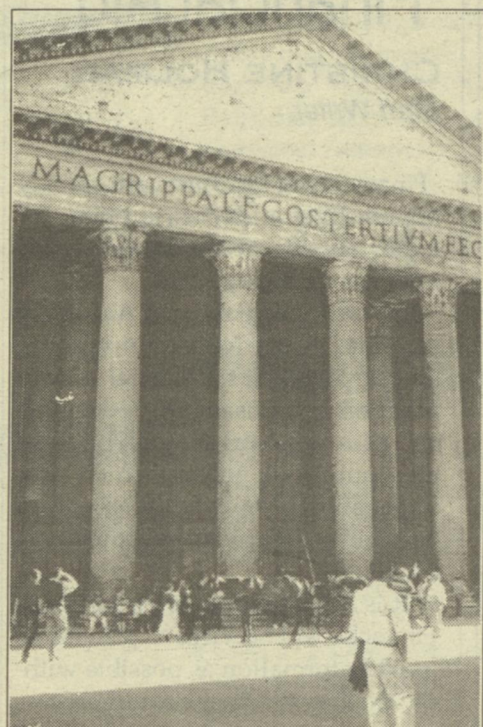
The All Faith Service included quiet meditations, wisdom sayings from world religions, a Hindu prayer with a sacred dance and a Buddhist meditation on hospitality.

"Each culture has a slightly different view," said USD freshman Megan Lujan, when asked about her views on

see **SERVICE** on page 25

The positives and perils of studying abroad

RODEL DIVINA
Chief Copy Editor



FILE PHOTOS



From France to Oxford to Guadalajara, USD students want to experience studies in a once in a lifetime opportunity.

A female student is allegedly raped in a host home in Japan. A bus in India swerves and careens into a ditch, instantly killing four American students. In Ecuador, the wife of the tour director for a group of University of New Mexico students is gunned down by bandits. Five college students on an educational tour of Guatemala are raped after their bus is ambushed by four gunmen.

Within the past two years, these high profile accidents are among a string of deaths, injuries and illnesses that have forced many universities to re-evaluate the logistics of their study abroad programs, placing a specific emphasis on safety and liability.

With an estimated 100,000 college students planning to study abroad this year, there is an emerging debate brewing within legal and academic circles over how much protection a school should provide young adults it educates on foreign soil.

"Our No. 1 concern is the safety, health and life of our students," said Judith Turnbull Muñoz, director of USD Human Resources. "For activities that we control, we will do everything we can."

According to David Larsen, who heads a task force for educators spearheading a campaign to improve safety for more than 1,000 travel programs operated by 350 American colleges, "the whole question of liability has become a front-burner issue. My gosh, do we lead or put students into situa-

tions that turn out to be dangerous?"

Two legal cases in which American schools have been sued for injuries or deaths that happened during overseas programs are being closely watched.

In one, an Earlham University student who says she was raped in 1996 by her host father in Tokyo is suing for \$3 million.

In the other, the families of four students killed in a bus crash in India in March 1996 are suing the Semester at Sea program for an undisclosed amount.

"Every parent shudders at the thought of the loss of a child," says John Amato, a prominent lawyer in New Orleans who is representing one of the families from the Semester at Sea accident. "But it's an experience you wouldn't wish on an enemy."

Munoz said she is not aware of any lawsuits against the University surrounding its study abroad programs.

At the core of many of these lawsuits is a clash in the understanding between schools and families over how much responsibility for students' safety the schools must bear.

The families contend that their children are entitled to a special measure of protection and supervision during the course of the programs.

But many schools insist their charges are informed adults who are given sufficient warning and guidance on avoiding mishaps overseas.

"Students need to be realistic and to accept the fact that there are risks associated with traveling into foreign coun-

tries and the US for that matter," said Martha Ponce, coordinator of the USD Summer Guadalajara Program. "Students need to recognize that since they are in a foreign country, they need to take more precautions in what they eat and what roads they take."

To affirm these caveats, most schools require students or parents to sign waivers absolving sponsors of liability when tragedies occur.

But many lawyers say a written waiver does not release the school from responsibility.

Robert Lee Brown, USD risk manager, said all USD students are required to sign waivers before participating in any USD-affiliated foreign programs.

"Waivers do not provide total immunity to the University," Brown said. "Waivers are written to educate and to inform students that there are risks associated with participating in these programs and signing a waiver merely means that you are aware of those risks and will conduct yourself accordingly."

According to Ponce, USD students must attend a series of orientations which stress the fact that a positive experience depends on the student.

"Students need to be prepared, to take responsibility and to use their common sense," Ponce said. "Otherwise, they will increase their risks."

The effort to ensure student safety has taken on a greater urgency as more students travel to less-developed and rapidly changing nations once considered too risky because of terrorism, politics

or diseases.

Consequently, many educators say it is harder to predict what dangers may await students.

According to New York-based Institute of International Education, which surveys the industry each year, Western Europe is still the top destination.

But because of costs and accessibility, increasing numbers of young people are choosing countries once considered politically off-limits or otherwise dangerous, raising the odds for trouble.

According to the Institute of International Education, the number of students who went to Latin America in 1996 increased 18 percent over the previous year. In Africa, the increase was 10 percent, in Asia 5 percent. All are records.

"What's happened is that this has shifted as American has awakened to the fact that Europe is less important to our well being and future than Latin American and Asia," said Bill Hoffa, an Amherst, Mass.-based consultant to colleges developing overseas programs and author of a soon-to-be-released book for parents sending their children abroad.

The concern is greatest in relatively poor nations such as Ecuador and Guatemala, where the State Department cautions visitors about a "plague of vio-

see ABROAD on page 7

Do your homework before going abroad

Courtesy of USA TODAY

If you are planning to study abroad, experts and guidebooks suggest:

1. Ask for details on crime, illness, accidents and other perils encountered by students in the past, and ask what has been done to avoid reoccurrences.
2. Find out how host families are screened and whether you can move to a different family if a problem develops.

3. Be clear on what is covered when you sign a release form. Conversely, know when and how to blow the whistle if you feel safety or health is being compromised.
4. Find out which staff member on site is responsible for safety, health and security, and find out what procedures are in place to handle emergencies.
5. Ask about health and safety standards applied to providers of transportation, tours, cultural programs and housing.
6. Get in writing how your study will

be credited.

7. Be absolutely sure about insurance coverage away from home, regardless of what the school offers, requires or recommends. Understand how and to what extent costly medical evacuations are covered.
8. Invest in a student ID card issued by the Council on International Education Exchange. The \$20 charge identifies the bearer as a student and entitles the carrier to health and accident insurance. \$25,000 toward medical evacuation (in which cases students must be trans-

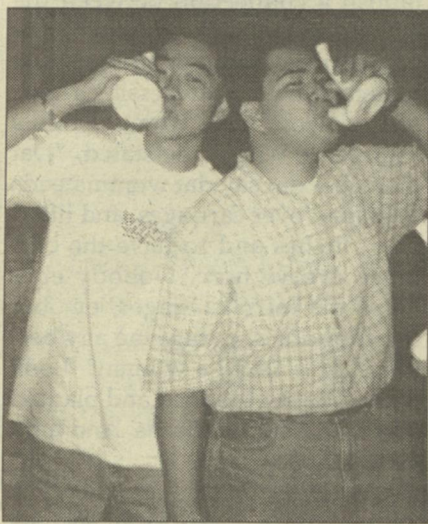
ported elsewhere for treatment) and \$7,500 toward repatriation of remains.

Check out these Web sites for more information:

www.usc.edu/dept/overseas/main.html, the University of Southern California's site.

www.horizon-web.com/asirt, which has country-by-country highway fatality data.

travel.state.gov/travel_warnings.html, the State Department's travel warnings.



Guadalajara

by Brian Delacruz and Richard Trang, juniors

1. How was your study abroad experience in Guadalajara?

Going to Guadalajara was one of

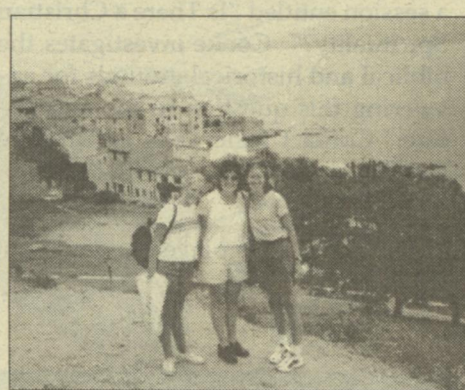
the best decisions we ever made. Being immersed in the language is the best way to learn it.

2. Were you ever put in a dangerous situation while studying abroad?

Like all cities, there are bad areas. One time we got kicked out of a taxi and ended up in a bad area. We believe that because we speak Spanish, it helped us get out of a possible situation. Other than that, there's no reason why anyone can't have the time of their lives in Guadalajara, especially with clubs like Rock-Co-Co and Kaoz.

3. What advice would you give for people who plan to study abroad?

The thing that people sometimes forget is that they're not in the U.S. anymore, and that Mexico has different laws and cultures. What really helps is having someone who speaks the language with you.



France

by Sandy Stoutenberg, junior

1. How was your study abroad experience in France?

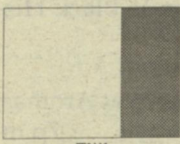
I enjoyed it very much. It was a lot of fun. Anyone who wants to study abroad should do it. It was one of the best experiences in my life.

2. Were you ever put in a dangerous situation while studying abroad?

Basically, France is a lot like the United States. You have to be cautious — equally cautious as you would be here. Walking around late at night in Paris was scary. I lived in a small town in France, which was safer.

3. What advice would you give for people who plan to study abroad?

Definitely live with a family. It gives a real cultural aspect to the experience. Try to be involved with a French school. I went through USD, but I wish that I went through a French school. That way, I could have met more French students. I spoke French through living with a French family, but I went to school with English-speaking students. I wish I had gone to school with French students, so I could have spoken more French. Also, travel across France — but not too much. Experience the culture as much as you can.



Italy

by Jen Kohnen, senior

1. How was your study abroad experience in Italy?

It was amazing — a life changing experience. It's more than just traveling. When else in your life can you live for four to five months in a different culture, language, in the middle of the Renaissance (Florence)? I learned so much about art, language, people and myself. It opened my mind to another part of the world.

2. Were you ever put in a dangerous situation while studying abroad?

Never. In the United States we avoid walking down dark alleys, especially alone. In Italy I lived in an alley, walked alone often, but never felt I was in danger. The only crime I ever noticed was pickpockets. Luckily, I never had a problem. The more you blend in, the easier time you will have.

3. What advice would you give for people who plan to study abroad?

Go with a plan of what you want to do, where you want to go, but be flexible. The best part about traveling and studying abroad in another country is going with the flow and learning about their culture, while accepting a new way of looking at life. It's an experience you will never forget. It is life changing, if you take advantage of it.



Japan by Peter Sengenberger, junior

1. How was your study abroad experience in Japan?

Fabulous. It exceeded my expectations in everyway. I have always had an interest in Japan's culture, people and language, so everyday was a learning experience that I enjoyed. I learned a lot besides language, like how Japan and America are different, how we communicate and what salmon liver tastes like.

2. Were you ever put in a dangerous situation while studying abroad?

No. Japan is far safer than America

crimewise. Riding a bike to the subway station on a crowded street every morning was a bit scary, but I was never in harm's way. We had a few small earthquakes, but so does California.

3. What advice would you give for people who plan to study abroad?

When you go to a foreign country, don't expect it to be America. Pretend it's Mars. It get frustrating at times, but you have to remember that you're a foreigner and an observer, so try not to pass judgment on the local people and culture. Lastly, get out while you're there. Do as many cultural activities as possible and interact with the people. It's like being a minor celebrity.

ABROAD

continued from page 6

lent crime, including highway robbery and assaults on tourists who visit Mayan ruins and hile the picturesque volcanoes."

In Ecuador, the wife of the study tour

director from the University of New Mexico was murdered by thugs in a region that the State Department specifically warns travelers to avoid. Her two children and 12 university students watched in horror as she was gunned down.

The rapes of five American college stu-

dents in Guatemala will likely spearhead a growing movement to hold universities liable for the safety of its students studying overseas.

"We are afraid programs that are extremely and quite safe won't be supported by institutions because they're afraid of the threat of lawsuits," said Len

Clark, provost of Earlham College in Richmond, Ind. "This is no time for America to become isolationist."

"Studying abroad is an important piece of our education system," Muñoz said. "Higher education would be doing a disservice if these programs were

see **ABROAD** on page 25

WeeklyCalendar

Compiled by Abigail Quinio

Thursday, Feb. 12

The Manchester Conference Center Auditorium will host a town hall meeting on the topic of the Values Survey Results. 11:15 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Contact Larry Gardepie at 260-4882.

AIDS prayer vigil in Founders Chapel; for more information call 260-4735.

Friday, Feb. 13

USD Institute for Project Management presents "Fundamentals of Project Management" in the University Center. Contact Katy Peterson at 260-4822.

Women's tennis vs. UC Irvine. USD West Courts, 1:30 p.m.

USD Rugby vs. Arizona State University. West Point Field, 2:00 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 14

Women's basketball vs. St. Mary's College. 7:00 p.m. in the sports center. Contact information: 260-4745

Men's Tennis vs. Air Force Academy. West Courts, 12:00 p.m.

Sunday, Feb. 15

USD Rugby vs. University of Arizona. West Point Field, 2:00 p.m.

Monday, Feb. 16

Dr. Bernard Cooke explores the question of whether we can speak of a spirituality that is distinctively Christian in a session entitled "Is There a Christian Spirituality?" Cooke investigates the biblical and historical grounds for answering this question in the affirmative. Contact Josie Vella or Dr. Jane Gordan at 260-4784.

"Men in Black" is played in the UC at 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 18

"Hot careers for the class of '98" Contact the career services office.

AID

continued from page 6

outside scholarships are expected to reach \$700,000.

Sophomore Jenny Carmell said that she applied for many scholarships outside of USD. Because a lot of scholarships are based on maintaining a certain GPA, there is pressure to keep grades at a certain level. "I already have set high goals for myself, so a scholarship is an added benefit rather than a burden."

To look for outside scholarships as well as grants and loans, there are a variety of resources here on the USD campus. Going to the Financial Aid office is the first step. According to the Financial Aid newsletter, the process is expedited by completing a Student Scholarship Questionnaire, looking at scholarship resource boards and using the USD Guide to Outside Resources of Financial Aid as well as computer programs that do scholarship searches in the library. Lewis-Logue said her advice is to plan ahead and use all available resources.

In addition to the Office of Financial Aid, information may be found on the USD Web Page. Lewis-Logue said she advises students to be cautious of information received via the Internet because of scholarship search company scams. These scams mislead

students into paying money for scholarship information that students could obtain for free on their own. But don't be put off by all Internet sites, as there are many decent, free services for students searching for financial aid.

Overall, Lewis-Logue said she feels fortunate that a web page was created that puts all of the information in one place. Besides the web page (www.acusd.edu/financial_aid/), USD provides pamphlets and currently produces bookmarks to counteract bad scholarship service advertisement.

"The best way to get information is by exhausting all of the guides produced by USD because it is a free and reliable source," said Lewis-Logue.

How To Apply for Financial Aid for 98/99

Thursday, Feb. 12 - Serra 211
Thursday, Feb. 26 - UC 107
Thursday, March 19 - Serra 211
Tuesday, March 24 - Serra 211

How to Apply for Outside Scholarships

Tuesday, Feb. 24 - Serra 211
Friday, Feb. 27 - UC 107

* All workshops are scheduled from 11:30 a.m.- 12:30 p.m.

BeyondColorLines

Compiled by Nicole Kim

"Being aware of differences is key in today's society" NK

Welcome!

Welcome to "Beyond Color Lines!" This section is specifically designed to address the needs of all students by encouraging participation from all members of the USD community. The section is an opportunity to share and to express cultural experiences and practices, beliefs and opinions.

Most importantly, the section serves as an important tool to continually increase awareness and appreciation about the richly diverse backgrounds of each USD community member.

All students, faculty and staff are highly encouraged to submit articles celebrating culture, differences and increasing awareness. Please note that all materials must be presented objectively, respectful in nature and subject to editing.

An informational meeting for anyone interested in submitting articles will be held on Wednesday, Feb. 18, 7p.m., Harmon Hall Student Lounge.

Any submissions or question may be directed to Nicole Kim in UC 161 or at X4206.

Black History Month

February is Black History Month. There are many prominent African and Black Americans who have greatly contributed to all facets of our society.

Chemurgist George Washington Carver, Jr., developed synthetic products such as adhesives, cheese, shaving cream, instant coffee and mayonnaise. A park near Diamond Grove, Mo. is named in his honor. It was the first designated national monument to an African-American in the United States.

John Mercer Langston was the first Black American elected to public office in the United States and was suggested twice to be a candidate for vice-presidency for the Republican party. Langston's dedicated involvement in politics helped shape the Republican Party and its relationship with Black Americans during the 19th century. He organized black political clubs, led the recruitment of black soldiers in the Civil War and actively pursued voting rights for blacks.

Mary Ann Shadd served as the first black woman newspaper editor in the United States and as an activist for racial integration. She also organized a school for children of color in Delaware and lectured to many groups regarding the Ku Klux Klan, women's suffrage and the Republican Party. In 1885, Shadd was the first

woman to speak at the National Negro Conference.

During the Civil War, Sojourner Truth actively fought for the desegregation of public transportation in Washington, D.C. She also challenged the Jim Crow laws on street cars which institutionalized segregation between people of color and whites. During her lifetime, Truth spoke before Congress and two presidents fighting against injustice and in favor of abolition. She was also the first person to establish a connection between the oppression of black slaves with the oppression of women. Truth is best remembered for addressing rights of black women at a women's rights conference where she stated, "Dat man ober dar say dat womin needs to helped over carriages, and lifted ober ditches and to have the best place everywhere. Nobody eber helps me intro carriages, or ober muddpuddles, or bigs me any best place. And ain't I a woman? Look at me. I have ploughed and planted and gathered into barns. And ain't I a woman!"

Information taken from Michael Cottman's *Million Man March*; 1996 Original Blackfax Calendar; Multicultural and Educational Children's Books and Resources.

Celebrating Black History Month

The United Front, located in the University Center 128 and the Black Student Union, have prepared several events to celebrate Black History Month.

- Feb. 12 Poetry Night at Aromas, 7p.m.
- 19 Reverend Smith Cooper, Ancestral Storyteller Shiley Theater, 7p.m.
- 21 Black History Trivia Bowl UC Forum AB from 1:30p.m. - 5:00p.m.
- 24 Kellmar, Ancestral Storyteller Shiley Theater, 7p.m.
- 26 "History of Negro Spirituals"
- 28 Video Presentation, "The Color of Fear" 11:15 a.m., with panel discussion

Upcoming issues will feature: "What is Culture?," Ethnic Studies Minor, Occidental College Model and Cultural Competency at USD.

This Week

AS-sponsored events scheduled for Feb. 12 to 19

Concert: Lambdapalooza Music Festival and barbecue will be Saturday at 11 a.m. on the Valley Field.

"Ladies Night" is Saturday for the women's basketball game at 7 p.m. in the Sports Center.

Movie: "Men In Black" will be shown Monday on West Point Field at 9 p.m. In case of rain, it will be shown in Salomon Lecture Hall.

AS Day is Tuesday from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in front of the UC. In case of rain, it will be in the UC Forum.

AS Election Informationals will be held on Tuesday and Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. in UC107

Hot Careers for the Class of '98 will be on Wednesday at 7 p.m. in the UC Forum

Pick up your free Spring Calendar at the following locations:
Aromas,
AS Directors
and Senators
Office (UC161),
the Bookstore
and Copley
Library

Are you a future student leader?

Students can run for several AS leadership offices

ELIZABETH HIMCHAK

AS This Week Editor

Are you a future leader? If so, your chance to show your leadership skills is approaching.

The AS primary elections will be March 18 and 19, with the general elections on March 25 and 26. During these elections the student body will elect the 1998-99 AS president and vice presidents of academics, AS relations, finance, programming and student issues. The sophomore, junior and senior senators, and secretaries of athletics and clubs and organizations will also be elected.

Anyone interested in running for these positions is required to attend one of two informational meetings on Tuesday and Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. in UC 107. At these meetings prospective candidates will find out what the positions entail and election rules.

"Anyone interested in student government or [getting involved] in AS should attend," said Kristi Bell, director of elections.

According to Bell, students might decide not to run, but may find out about another position they are interested in.

"It's best to find out what we have to offer, rather than not show up at all," Bell said.

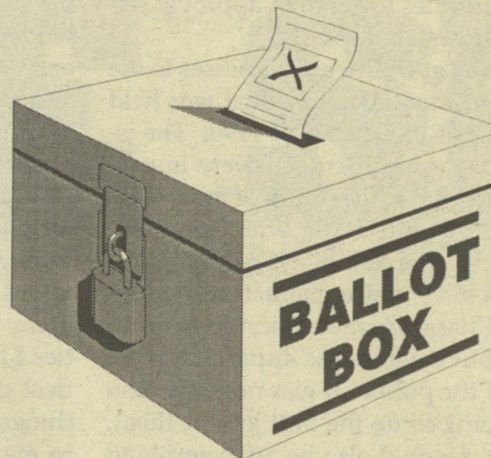
The candidate meetings will be February 23 and 24 at 5:30 p.m. in UC 103.

Candidates are required to attend the informational and candidate meetings. If they cannot attend, they can send a representative.

Bell said students should run for office.

"Student [leaders] are the only way to voice what everyone thinks and feels," Bell said. "It's important they

run so we have people to help other [students] share how they think the school should run."



AS Day is informative and fun

USD celebrates the 25th anniversary of AS

JESSICA WINGETT

Special to the VISTA

"Celebrate 25 years of AS" is the theme for this year's AS Day, which will be on Tuesday from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in front of the UC.

Besides celebrating AS' 25th anniversary, AS Day is an opportunity for students to volunteer for committees, learn about upcoming events and to find out about the AS Leadership Team positions for which they can run or apply.

"AS Day is meant to be informative and fun," said Director of Public Relations Elizabeth Himchak, chair of this year's AS Day. "There will be many activities for the students to participate in."

Some of the activities planned include giving students key chains with their photo in them, providing ethnic food, listening to music and taking pictures of students on the Wave. Students can also enter a raffle to win various prizes.

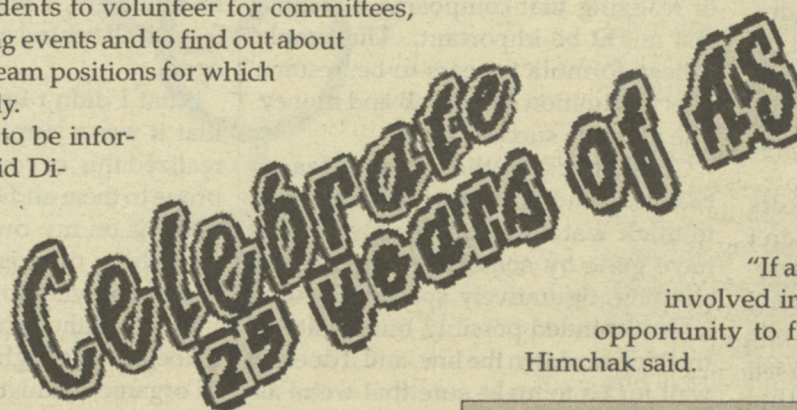
USDtv will also be on hand to interview students and

AS directors. It will Dr. Tom dent of

also broadcast the speeches of Cosgrove, associate vice president of Student Affairs and Michael Corrales, AS president. Both will speak about the past 25 years of AS and where it is headed for the future.

A show about AS will air in March with coverage of the day's events.

"If anyone is interested in getting involved in AS, then AS Day is a great opportunity to find out what we're about," Himchak said.



Attention all USD clubs
All club photos and
descriptions are due in the
yearbook office by Feb. 18.
Call x4710 for more information

Whatever happened to a thing called character?

JAMIE HEWITT

Editor in Chief

With the recent polls telling us that lying does not matter in regards to the current presidential scandal, it may behoove us to examine where our sense of integrity, truth or honor has gone. To be honorable and to have integrity were intricate parts of society from early recorded history. If these polls are true, times have changed. There are still people who hold honor true to their hearts, but apparently there are many who really do not give it too much thought.

Ethics was always about right or wrong and how you were perceived by others. Old phrases like "your word is your bond," or just a handshake on an agreement were considered as solid as the written contract. But, today some people do whatever it takes to reach the highest wrung on the ladder. It does not seem to matter who gets stepped on or who gets hurt, as long as the goal is reached.

What has gone wrong? Again, let us

review the person who is leading our country. The President of the United States continues to make headlines, whether it concerns Whitewater, coffee meetings with the Chinese, the Paula Jones suit or the most current scandal—the infamous White House intern, Monica Lewinsky. Statistically, the polls tell us Americans believe he lies, yet he still continues to get high approval ratings. How can that be?

Students at USD were witnesses to the final presidential debate that was held on campus in October of 1996. The issues that were discussed were important and vital to the future of the United States; but one issue was never addressed by the candidates or their questioners—Why was character not an issue? Character and ethics go hand in hand, but it was not as important in the eyes of the public. It was not only who was going to do the best job for them, but who would also be an example to their children as well. It is the children

who imitate and idolize people who are in the limelight, and they learn from observation. With ethics and character not as important or being taught by example, the future leadership of America is in trouble.

Integrity and honor were at the forefront of my upbringing. They were what my mother and father instilled in me since I can remember. My father attended the United States Naval Academy where ethics, integrity, character and pride were stressed. From widespread cheating to sex scandals, even now it seems the lack of ethics has invaded even the most prestigious military academies. I was always taught wrong from right and in handling situations to be fair and just. As I look back at my upbringing, it is one of the qualities I hold true, and as I get older, I reflect on as one of the most important things my parents could have instilled in me. I do not understand why it is not important to all Americans. Every-

one wants the truth, but it seems easier to lie or to accept lies.

I had dinner with one of my roommate's friends and he said something about the ethical scandals of today that seem to encompass all of America. "If you can admit your worst secrets to your mother, as bad as they are, then the people won't care." My question is "Why?" Why do the people of this country tolerate and accept leaders who are unethical?

Everyone is put to the ethical test in one way or another. Take this scenario, a professor adds your score incorrectly on your test, and the score is actually lower than the total on the front. Would you race up there like you would if your professor had forgotten some points? Some would, many would not. What about the 'smart' student sitting next to you during a test. Would you glance

See CHARACTER on page 13

Life is chance, and chance is life

MATT CARMAZZI

Managing Editor

Another day has come and gone, and I'm not quite sure if I'm any more the wiser. Here it is the beginning of a new semester. We're all ready to jump right in for another round of "time flies so you better catch your chance or it's gonna pass you by." I can't believe that the year has progressed so quickly. One day it's O-week, the next I'm taking finals and sometime in between, I turned another year older. Hell, I remember when I showed up for the first day of kindergarten with bright blue cords and a Dukes of Hazard lunch box thinking school was cool and girls were gross.

Don't get me wrong, the last 22 years have been outstanding. I wouldn't change a day. Being a bit on the overconfident (cocky just doesn't have a nice ring to it) side, I don't regret one thing either. However, I find myself wondering if I ever missed that chance. And what chance is that, you might ask? I could only respond...the chance to be successful!?

Personally, I think success is overrated. And, anyways, who decides what success really is? Your idea of gold just might be my pot of coal and vice versa (for the sake of being open-

minded and fair). Graduation is all but upon the senior class. Everyone seems to be excited, even a bit leery, but mostly focused on the pursuit of a job after college...the ultimate success, or maybe not (just blame it on semantics). This, of course, is for those people who already haven't hooked up a sweet deal of promised future employment. Me, well I fall somewhere around the point of realizing that composing a resume just might be important. The simple college formula appears to be: resume plus graduation equals job and money. The ultimate success, right?

Going back to the whole idea of chance, I find it somewhat distressing to think that "the opportunity" might have gone by sometime while I was sleeping, figuratively speaking. Adolescent-minded possibly, but life keeps trucking on down the line, and it doesn't wait for us to make sure that we're all on the same page, ready for the next day. Life doesn't brush our teeth and put our shoes on the right feet. We do.

The way I look at it is that I get a chance to wake up each morning and do some-

See CHANCE on page 13

Gainfully Unemployed

DAN SENGENBERGER

Special to the VISTA

When I graduated in December, I had a plan. I was going to use my English major and my experience writing for the VISTA to pursue a career in writing. Then, when I got bored of that, I would try to get into medical school, my dream since high school. Plus, I wanted to stay in San Diego at least until graduation in May, because this is where my life has been for the last four and a half years. In hindsight, I wasn't quite ready to leave it all behind and move back to Oregon.

What I didn't know at the time was that it was a stupid plan. My parents realized this, of course. But I wanted to prove to them and to myself that I could make it on my own. I wanted to try something different and adventurous before applying to medical schools.

You see, although I have wanted to be a doctor since high school, poor grades in organic chemistry and physics have forced me to put my dreams of medical school on the back burner until I can retake those classes and try for better grades. In the meantime, I wanted to see what life was like as a professional writer.

It turns out that it is not that easy getting a good job straight out of college.

Sure, the bakery that I worked at last summer would have taken me back, but I wanted something that would use the skills I have developed at USD. As I looked for work, I discovered that employers want experience. And I had no serious, professional, real-world work to show them. An editor at a local newspaper called my VISTA articles "thumbsuckers." All my hard work over the last year and a half at the VISTA was now categorized as "thumbsuckers."

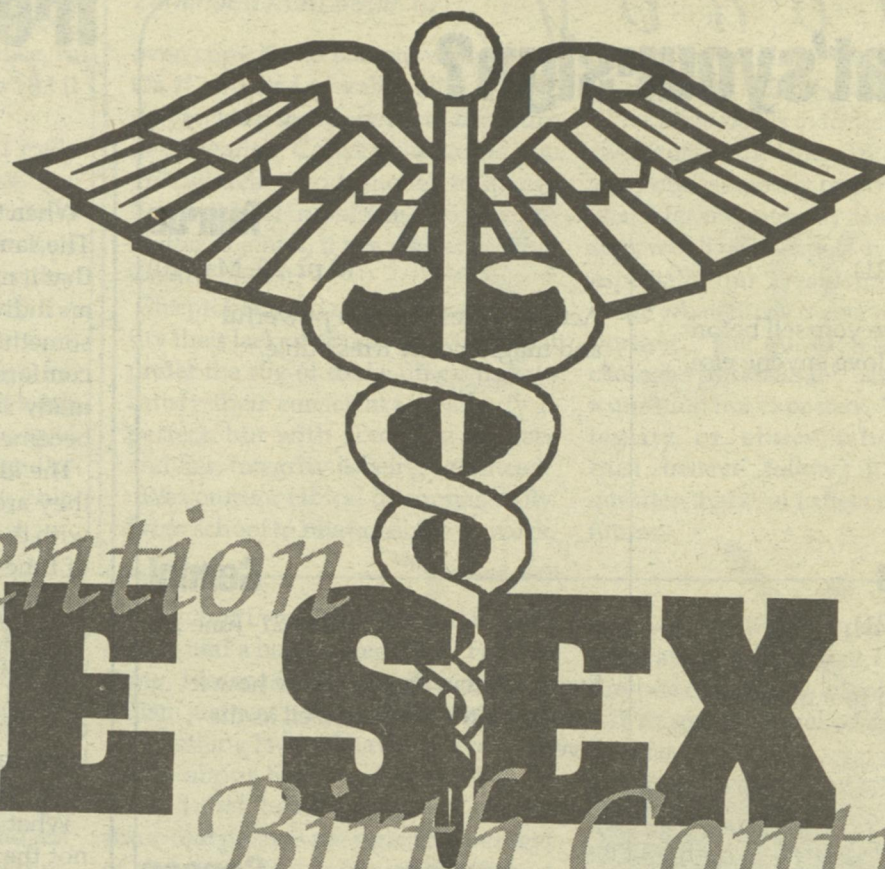
And I was soon discovering that it truly comes down to who you know, not what you know. And, unfortunately, I didn't know anybody. Sure, I got a couple of "contacts" so that I could begin "networking," but I wanted to get a job because of what I could do, not because I knew somebody who knew somebody. "That's the way the job market works," I was told. And I'm sure that my lack of desire to "press the flesh" left me out of some great opportunities.

Like my parents said, I probably should have spent more time in the ca-

See UNEMPLOY on page 13

L&S

LIFE & STYLE



Disease Prevention SAFE SEX Birth Control

ONDY SWEETMAN & ERIN CHRISTIE
Life & Style Editors

Denying the fact that sex is an activity practiced by many USD students does nothing to help prevent unplanned pregnancy and the rapid spread of sexually transmitted diseases. USD students are challenged with a moral dilemma. If they are Catholic, they are faced with either upholding their religious beliefs or succumbing to sexual pressures. Regardless of religion, USD students are faced with the reality of sexually transmitted diseases, pregnancy and the chance of being infected with the virus that is rampantly infecting today's youth, HIV, which leads to AIDS.

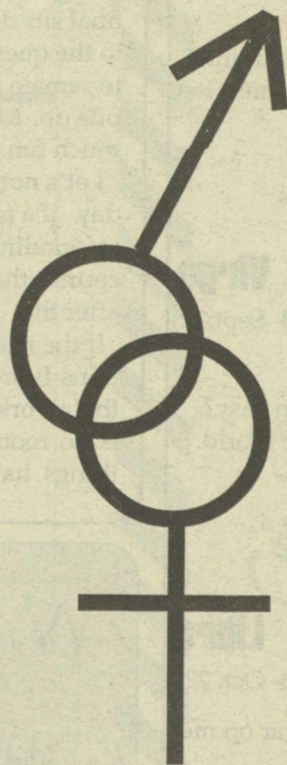
Ironically, the week in which we celebrate Valentine's Day is also AIDS Awareness week, sponsored by the office of Drug and Alcohol Education. With AIDS Awareness week in mind, it is necessary to raise the question of safe sex on our campus. If safe sex is no sex, is it realistic to assume that every USD student will abstain? Is it safe for the University not to offer protection to those students who choose to engage in the act of sex? Furthermore, would providing the means of protection to those students who need it condone the frowned-upon act?

Given that USD is a Catholic institution upholding the laws of the Catholic church, it seems that our campus may never provide the necessary services to help prevent the spread of STDs, HIV, AIDS and even pregnancy on our campus.

The Health Center in Camino Hall, although equipped to treat STDs, does not offer any form of birth control, whatsoever. Gynecological exams are not given regularly, but only in the case of a student suffering from a gynecological problem. Kathleen Longmire, USD Health Center nurse, was unable to say if birth control would be offered to students in the future. There are currently no plans to provide it. If every student practiced abstinence, there would be no need for

these services, but not everyone decides against sex.

In the same light as USD, Santa Clara University does not provide any forms of birth control for its students. Loyola Marymount University, another



Catholic institution, would not even discuss whether or not they provide birth control over the phone. They recommended that we set up an appointment to speak with a counselor.

San Diego State University provides services that promote safe sex, recognizing the reality of its students who have sex. Some of

SDSU's services include birth control ranging from \$2 to \$5 a month, free services for everything that does not require a lab test, HIV pre-test seminars, gynecological orientations and pregnancy counselors. There is even a pharmacy on a campus that sells condoms for \$3 per dozen. In providing these services for its students, SDSU is simply promoting safety from the consequences of being sexually active.

Ohio Wesleyan University, a private Presbyterian institution, offers full services that aid in the prevention of STDs, pregnancy, HIV and AIDS. They provide birth control pills, condoms and even raise another moral issue in providing the "morning after pill."

Colorado College, another private school offers all forms of birth control including depo-provera and the morning after pill.

Surprisingly, Liberty College, a fundamental Christian university founded by Dr. Jerry Falwell, even provides all forms of birth control, STD screening and AIDS tests for its students.

For those sexually active students at USD who need the services that our school does not provide, a good option is Planned Parenthood, which offers these services at low costs depending on your monthly income and whether or not you have medical insurance. Counseling is also offered, if you need someone to talk to regarding sexual issues. They are conveniently located in Pacific Beach and in Mission Valley.

The decision of having sex and what to use while your having it has become more than a question of morality, it has become a matter of life and death. Abstinence is the only way to stay safe from STDs, HIV, AIDS and unplanned pregnancies. Although this is the method that USD chooses to promote, we must not close our eyes to the fact that not all of our students are abstaining from sex.

hey baby what's your sign?

Scorpio

(Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)

You need to love yourself before you attempt to love anyone else.

Sagittarius

(Nov. 22- Dec. 21)

Demand a good foot massage.

Capricorn

(Dec. 22- Jan.20)

Steer clear of that special intern that you've had your eye on.

Aquarius

(Jan. 21- Feb. 18)

An intimate relationship is one that allows you to be yourself.

Pisces

(Feb. 19- Mar. 20)

Scratch and sniff lingerie is now available at a department store near you

Aries

(Mar. 21- Apr. 19)

Your emotions arouse only two sensations — pleasure and pain. Avoid the pain and pursue the pleasure.

Taurus

(Apr. 20- May 20)

Action makes you feel powerful and magnetically irresistible.

Gemini

(May 21- June 20)

Every woman should know how it feels to be the lover as well as the loved.

Cancer

(June 21-July 22)

Don't mix business with pleasure.

Leo

(July 23 - Aug. 22)

Broke? Don't worry, red jello cut into heart shapes will surely make him/her melt.

Virgo

(Aug. 23- Sept.22)

Trying to let them down easy? Take them to see "Spice World."

Libra

(Sept. 23- Oct. 22)

Pour some sugar on me.

free refill

ANDREW MARTIN
Asst. Life & Style Editor
andrewm@acusd.edu

When things come to an end, they can be both saddening and exhilarating. The same emotions can apply when things begin. The advantage to one is that it means the other may or may not be on the horizon. As something in an individual's life comes to an end, it affords them the chance to begin something else anew. After something has begun, its end can be a source of comfort (i.e., this past semester). As a new year and a new semester begins, many simple opportunities, which can easily be taken advantage of, will become available.

The idea of New Year's resolutions sounds cliché to many. The fact that they are always associated with the New Year may have something to do with that. The fact is, the New Year is, for anyone who recognizes any form of time-keeping system, the most basic and consistent of new beginnings. In turn, it becomes easy for many to wait until then to place challenges in front of themselves for what lies ahead in the year to come. Because of this, everyone and their mother is making these grand resolutions on New Year's day. "I will quit smoking. I will stop drinking coffee. I will start working out. I have got to quit drinking out of the toilet." Too many people fail to keep such promises and, as a result, they come to see the idea of making them year after year as being trite.

What people should recognize, however, is that the New Year holiday is not the only new beginning that is given. Every new day, every time the sun rises in the east, anyone who decides to get out of bed is given a fresh, clean slate with which to work. Therefore, it is on any given day that one can resolve to somehow improve themselves.

For students, each semester brings new challenges and obstacles. Throughout the course of the scholastic year, there are several occasions when the last thing one wants to do is get out of bed at 7 a.m. to go to class. Students lead busy lives, and it is important that they stay on top of all aspects of those lives. As the semester develops all too quickly, it becomes very easy to let things slip away, leaving oneself with too little time to do *way* too much.

As a result, one can hear others saying things such as, "Next semester, I'm keeping track of my work, setting aside time every night to do it, and not going out on weeknights any more!" Of course, such things are said as a final sits directly under one's eyes — the only markings not being answers to the questions, but tears. That "next semester" begins and students vow to remain faithful to their new study habits. Then, slowly, things begin to pile up. More reading, more papers. Things begin to slip away. There's too much fun to be enjoyed, and too much school in the way.

Let's not forget that a resolution can be made at any time, on any given day. If a few of us should falter this semester, falling off that wagon with a resounding "thud," there is always the next day. The danger here is, of course, that the next day will turn into the day after that and then the day after that ... There's a way to get through all of it.

If the reasons behind those promises to do better are remembered, deviations from them become more difficult. As students begin to slack off on their work, as long as that tear-covered final is tacked above their bed, there is no room to forget the pain that slacking can cause. So keep on top of things, have fun and good luck in the days ahead ...

Write for the VISTA!

HAVE YOU EVER BEEN PUBLISHED? IF NOT, HERE'S YOUR CHANCE. COME AND WRITE FOR A SECTION IN THE VISTA AND SEE YOUR NAME IN PRINT!

CHANCE

continued from page 10

thing with that 24 hours. Sure I could shower, sleep, eat, walk or plain old drink right through it (and occasionally I do). However, most days I hit the door running just dying to get a chance to meet that person, see that place or play that game and make an impact. Some people will never realize what a profound effect you have had on them until you're gone. I find myself thinking that sometimes too that I never really knew what I had until it was gone...it had passed me right by. I guess that's why I sit here rambling, not only to warn the seniors who are graduating soon, but

all of you. We only get so many chances, if not just one, to make a difference, to make an impact. Grab it and don't let it go.

Now, you might ask me how I *really* feel about the meaning of success. For me, success is the chance to make a difference...an impact on someone else's life. It is to know that with every day that comes and goes, I have done the best I can. Simply meeting you and changing both our lives is enough for me to say that I am successful (and I will always be), semantics or not. So take that chance everyday and change the lives of everyone you meet. You only get one chance to live.

CHARACTER

continued from page 10

over, copy it and somehow justify it? Or, if you find a wallet with money, do you keep the money and then turn in the wallet? Conversely, would you give someone your money to invest, if you did not trust them? We face the matter of ethics, it is a matter of what we do about it.

The problem today is that people justify their lack of ethics. They sweep it under the rug or make up excuses to satisfy their conscience. Nobody is perfect, but with accepting excuses and lies, integrity is being sacrificed.

We confront ethical dilemmas daily. From school to relationships to work,

we have to make decisions and choices that will test our character. Our nation needs to focus not only on the future of the United States regarding politics, money or power, but on character and integrity as well. Therefore, we all must expect everyone and especially our President to demonstrate what ethics is and why it is important. The question of "Why is character not an issue?" should not be a question but expected. Without integrity or ethics who do you trust...believe...follow? It is a crucial question that could affect our nation's future.

UNEMPLOY

continued from page 10

reer center. I had a polished résumé and compelling cover letters, but I didn't know anyone and was too afraid to call up some random alumni at a company I was interested in. Plus, I didn't have an internship, something which surely would have gotten my foot in the door at many places to which I applied. But

all I had to show was my work from USD, and that is not what interests employers. And I should have started all of this before graduation, rather than after.

What I discovered in the end, after a paltry freelance shtick and a succession of fruitless interviews, was that I did not really want to be a professional writer. I want to be a doctor. So now I am moving back home to Oregon to pursue my

dream. But I would hardly call the last month and a half wasted time. For one thing, I learned that professional journalism just was not my thing. And that is something I would have always wondered about had I never tried it. I learned that, believe it or not, studies show that parents are right 95.6 percent of the time. But most importantly, I learned that I needed to stick with my dream. My dream is to practice medi-

cine. And with the proper focus and motivation, I know that I can do it. Anyone can. Just don't allow yourself to get sidetracked from your dreams.

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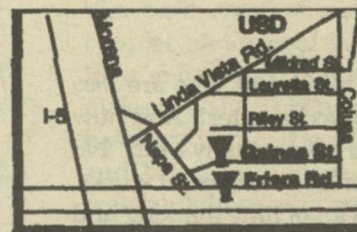
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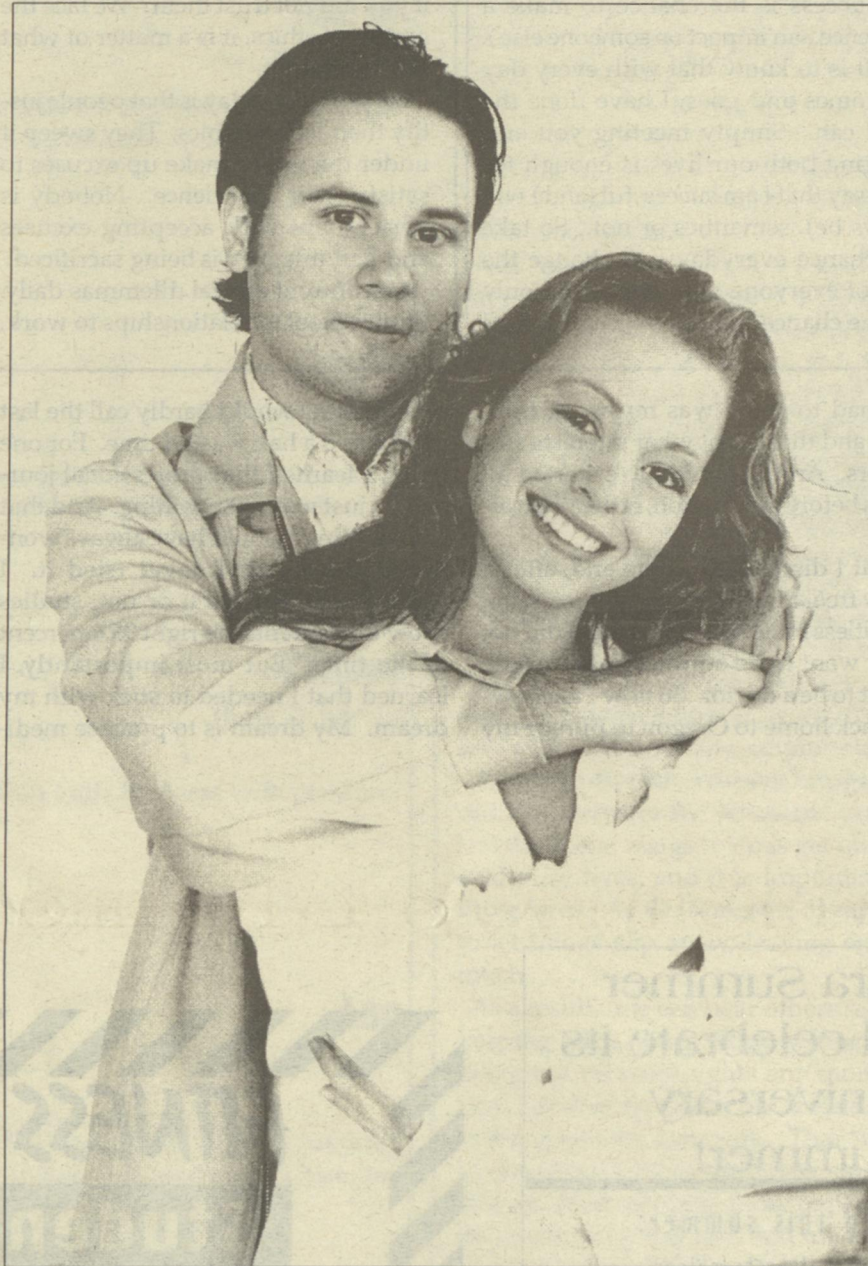
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Lovin' is Valentine's Day



TED DONOVAN/VISTA

MIKE ROZAK
Staff Writer

They say that love is blind, but who are *they* anyway? Who is this love character? And how did he lose his sight? Or is *he* actually a *she*? No matter what you think of love and how it works, the fact is we all spend a lot of time thinking and talking about it. I'd even like to think I've had my brushes with the blind bastard, but I guess his arrows hit a little off the mark.

It's not like I don't want to fall in love, everybody does. It's just that it seems like he's always on vacation when I come calling. On the other hand, when I'm through with the opposite sex and I want to be content with my companionless existence, he comes knocking at my door like those annoying Jehovah's Witnesses. Come on, sometimes you just need to turn down the TV and pretend you're not home. Maybe he and I should work on our timing a bit more.

Although we spend so much energy (and money) trying to find love or lasso that perfect

mate, it still seems as though the end prize may not be as shiny as you first imagined.

Late night arguments, jealousy toward every girl/guy in your life (depending on your preference, of course) and constantly having to be together are just a sample of the fun that is often in store. Don't forget the worst of all ... pet names! Why do we feel the need to rename people we care about? If we care that much, then why don't we just name our kids snookums and kitty and save everyone else the trouble.

So now the day to celebrate love is finally here, for those of you who are single like me are either eagerly trying to find a valentine, or are running to the local pub for a little liquid love.

If you happen to see me there, don't mind as I whisper and caress my drink, it's perfectly natural. As for those of you who actually have a "significant other," now you know how I feel when I see you doing the same thing.

Why is it that Valentine's Day is such a big deal? All you girls know that if a guy asks you out on Valentine's Day it's a big crisis and it's somehow different than if he did it on the 13th or 15th. Where did all this hoopla come from anyway? I'm still convinced it's just a holiday designed for florists, candy makers, and Hallmark to make a few more bucks. Not to mention restaurants and Victoria's Secret.

Ok, maybe I've been a little too hard on the poor old saint, but I'm tired of being the nice guy. I'd still like to think I'm an optimist and that there's still a chance I could be someone's Valentine (which would render most of the above obsolete). Who knows? Love and I might bump into each other in the next week, but chances are he'll still be in the Bahamas and I'll still be loving that distilled spirit. So as we part company, remember the sage-like wisdom of Jerry Springer ... "Until next time, take care of yourself and each other."

Love Comes Quickly

RYAN LUJAN
Staff Writer

*Happy the man whose soul is lost,
who searches for love at any cost.
Not knowing where to look,
not knowing what he'll find,
only love will bring him peace of mind.
Prepared to travel to the ends of the earth,
in time will he know what it's all worth.
Striving to find an answer to his prayer,
often left to suffer in utter despair.
Through times of darkness, all is lost it seems,
rise up above and follow your dreams.
Never lose hope, keep the fire burning,
love is what keeps this world of ours turning.
Dreams come true as his angel appears,
to fulfill their destiny and wipe away his tears.
At the very sight of her beautiful face,
his heart is taken to a far away place.
Listen to her voice, his name she is calling,
love comes quickly, you can't stop falling.
Filled with emotion and such sweet bliss,
united in love by a passionate kiss.*



TED DONOVON/VISTA

Valentine's Dreams

ANDREW MARTIN
Staff Writer

In just two days, the festival of lovers will be upon us. The annual day of hugs and kisses, candy and flowers, and hearts and valentines always stirs up some excitement (in one form or another). The very word, "valentine," is one which is commonly associated with love. In turn many figures throughout history have taken it as a name. Rudolph Valentino (as he was known to the public), the Italian-born US film star of the 1920s, was known as the "Great Lover." Four Roman emperors took the name as well. While the commercialization that is associated with many holidays is in full force around Valentine's Day, its history goes further back than the invention of those little candy hearts with "Kiss Me" written on them.

The origins of the day of love can be traced back to the ancient Roman festival of Lupercalia (Feb. 15). During this festival, men would run around the city streets with thongs cut from the skins of sacrificial victims and use them to slap any woman they saw in order to make them fertile. While it isn't unusual to see such occurrences in some small, southern towns (on any given day), the true connection between the Roman festival and the modern holiday is a bit more understandable.

During Lupercalia, men would draw the names of young women from a box. The woman they drew would then be their, uh....date for the rest of the day. The drawing is what many believe

inspired today's tradition of exchanging valentines (another theory deals with the mating patterns of birds in medieval England, but we'll leave that one alone).

Valentine's Day cards, as they are now recognized, have been distributed since the 16th century. Many believe them to be the first form of greeting cards the world ever saw. Although they are usually referred to as Saint Valentine's Day cards, the holiday actually has no formal affiliation with either of the Saint Valentines (both martyrs) or any incidents in their lives. The only connection is that on Feb. 14, in the year 278, one of those St. Valentines was beheaded.

In addition to valentines, candy and gifts are, of course, also given. Interestingly enough, exchanges of heart-shaped boxes of chocolate aren't the only transactions which color the history of Feb. 14th. On Valentine's Day in 1859, Oregon became a US state. Arizona followed suit in 1912, becoming the second state to be annexed on the day of lovers. Hawaii, temporarily annexed on Feb. 14, 1893, is the third US state with a Valentine's Day association. This is particularly ironic in light of the happenings of Feb. 14, 1779. On that fateful day, Capt. James Cook, the first European explorer to land on the Hawaiian islands, was killed by Hawaiian natives.

Regardless of these interesting bits of useless information, Valentine's Day is a holiday of love and friendship. "I like that I have a valentine even

when it's just my friends," says Mia Gutierrez, a USD junior. "I also like getting all the goodies," she concedes.

Ever since those elementary school days when every boy had to give every girl in class a valentine, the holiday has been one marked with that tinge of excitement, that expectation of the "goodies" one will receive throughout the day.

On the other hand, Valentine's Day can be viewed in more of a chagrin manner. "All the couples come out of the woodworks. I try not to let it annoy me," says Jackie Foster, a business major at USD. That type of association, however, has some merit. It is, after all, the "Day of Love," and being left valentine-less while having to watch all those who aren't can be disheartening (or "annoying"). In general, however, one always gets a cheery "Happy Valentine's Day!" as they walk through some door during their day.

Feb. 14 is also a good day to use as an excuse to profess one's love to that long-time interest. It's a day where all the inhibitions and reservations that someone may have can be thrown out of the window. On no other day of the year is it possible for someone to give another a box of candy or a bouquet of flowers and not have to be concerned about the intentions behind it all. "I like the spontaneous things," Gutierrez says. Face it, there is no better nor a more romantic day in which to do something nice for someone you care for.

What's the worst possible Valentine's gift you could get?



Gretchen Schneider
junior

"Black roses."



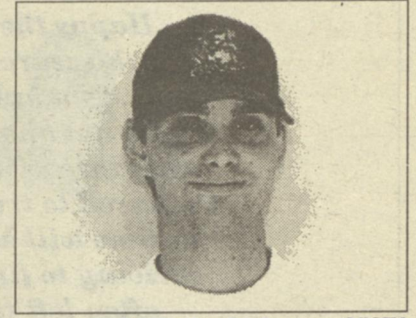
Rory Olsen
freshman

"An I.O.U."



Lisa Peacock
sophomore

"Champanties.
Those cheap thong
undies inside a
champagne
bottle."



Photos by Ted Donovan/VISTA
Hendrick White
freshman

"Bikini under-
wear."

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UC 104

Yes, I believe it's finally here. The last semester for Allyn, Doug and I to sit on the Offbeat throne. I hear that they've already lined up a troop for next year's funny section. The group has a movie, an accent and no good songs, but I'm sure that the Spice Girls will do just fine.

Last weekend, I was in Vegas, and I pretty much lost my soul. Sin City was at its best taking everything I own with the exception of my diapers. Hopefully, that'll be the last time I ever pay 300 bucks for a 12 pack. I would now like to take the time and personally congratulate a genius at Wells Fargo. The other day (right before I lost my cute little bunny slippers in Vegas) I was at the drive-thru ATM making my usual banking transactions when something caught my eye. To the left of the teller were instructions in Braille for the vision impaired. Well hmmm...something just isn't right here (that's exactly what I said). Do they anticipate a possible Stevie Wonder drive-by or Helen Keller reincarnated? Maybe we should all wear really, really dark sunglasses and rub our fingers all over the machine just for kicks. Not to make fun of blind people too much, but c'mon, can we please be serious?

And one more thing, you know what I love? Long winded phone messages. If you haven't ever left one, you still know exactly what I'm talking about. It's those messages that are 20 minutes long, take up all the tape and drain the battery to the point that your outgoing message sounds like a Kiss album played backwards. Usually, I just call and break into my rendition of "Kum Buy Ya," that way all of my two friends know it's me.

Well, that does it. I'm pretty much out of everything. Vegas left me with no personal assets (only the diapers, but their resale value isn't all that great) so I had to rent a secretary with the recycling money I made from all the "6-4's" Offbeat drinks, and I dictated the section to her. Anyhow, may Lady Luck shine on you, or at least ask you out seeing that the "gee I love chocolate, wait why didn't you just give me flowers instead of Herpes, it almost looks like a real cubic zirconia, let's watch a movie and eat cheezy poofs" day is bearing down upon us. Me, well, that's a very, very long story. So until next time, eat smart, drink heavily and try not to foam at the mouth when the woman of your dreams walks by with another guy. Oh.

Boyant IDEAS

by Allyn Boyance

Well, it's time to start a new semester as we have now entered the final stretch. It sure seemed like a small hop, skip and a flush and the Christmas break was over. I sure did miss you all. Yeah, about as much as I miss that irritating batch of boils that made it almost impossible to sit on wooden bleachers, but I guess you didn't need to know that. As far as the break goes, I went home to the tropical paradise of Bakersfield. Bako's (only to be called this by true citizens of the great All-American City) idea of a "White Christmas" is dense fog with visibility of zero. Yep, and that's when the fun starts. Then you get to play "Hit or Miss." Here, everyone goes outside when the fog is so thick that you can't even see the car on blocks in the front yard, and picks a spot. You all run in a straight line as fast as you can and the person who makes it the farthest without running into something wins. I don't suggest playing this though if you live near a busy street.

Seeing as there is so much to do in Bakersfield, I had A LOT of time to sit around and think and talk to myself. Isn't it odd how the only bodily function that incorporates religion is the sneeze. When someone sneezes, it's as if everyone in spitting range becomes

an ordained priest or one of those long-winded evangelist. One "Achoo" and it's "Bless you!", "Bless you my child!", or "HOLY COW WHAT JUST DIED!" (wait that last one is for a different bodily function).

I love the little mind games the producers of anti-persperant play with consumers. You put it on and after a couple of hours you sweat right through it. But then, when you get in the shower later that night, you try to wash your pits and the water just bounces off and it's as if you've got Thomson's Water Seal on under there.

Seeing as Valentine's Day is right around the corner, let me give you all some insight into some of my past experiences on this day of love and passion. Well actually let me put it this way, if I had a dollar for every V-day that I stayed home without a date, I would have 21 dollars. To give you a little hint as to how many that is out of the total number of Valentine's Days I have experienced, I turn 22 in October. So if you're like me, and I know you aren't, curl up on the couch with a 6-4 of Old E, a 16 pack of Strawberry PEZ, and pop in your copy of "Teen Wolf II". This should cheer you up, but if it happens to fail, be sure to have a full supply of Lucky Lager on hand. The puzzles under the cap should keep your mind off of things for at least the next four days.

Well that's all for now, Silver Spoons is on in five minutes and I haven't even started the Hot Pockets yet! Now remember, don't go see the movie "Spice World", you'll only be supporting the problem, go rent "Benji The Hunted" or something.

PS. Chlorophyll, more like Borophyll

newspaper just to get a few laughs. This man did!

Before I go any further, I would like to address an issue of semantics. For many of the true student body, and what a fine looking body it is, the eating establishment downstairs in the U.C. is known as THE GRILLE. To others, it is known as "Traditions". Now what the heck is "traditional" about pumping your body full of cow and chicken parts that have been swimming in grease all day. If you see someone calling this eatery "Traditions," tell them their heart is going to explode, and they might as well call the damn place THE GRILLE.

Because Saturday is Valentine's day, and I am lucky



IT'S OFFBEAT

(Not Oblong Booty, ya ding dong!)

Top 10

Conversation Hearts
Offbeat would like to see:

10. Cybersex anyone?
9. S.W.F. (Single, Wasted and Fat)
8. Be my hermaphrodite
7. Can you hum a tune for me?
6. Vibrate my pager
5. U.S.D. (Use Somemore Deodorant)
4. Plunge me!
3. U, Me, Tonsil Hockey
2. To anyone with a pulse: I'm desperate, lonely and seriously out of shape. I have an extremely retched stench and a very hairy back. I am willing to do anything for a date even eat a bucket of Oscar's Beef Stroganoff. How about you come over for Valentine's Day and we'll watch the Porky's trilogy drinking "Old E" big mouths serenading each other to Meatloaf's "I'll do anything for love" (But i won't do that).
1. How dya' like dem' apples?

Brain farts by Dougee

Well I'm back (as in hair) and I've decided to continue to write for Offbeat because I was dreaming last night that the little dog was chasing me saying "YO QUIERO OFFBEAT." My article will be short and sweet this time, like Punky Brewster, because the establishment keeps putting me down. Remember every man dies, but not every man is forced to dress up in a diaper and jump in the fountain for the school

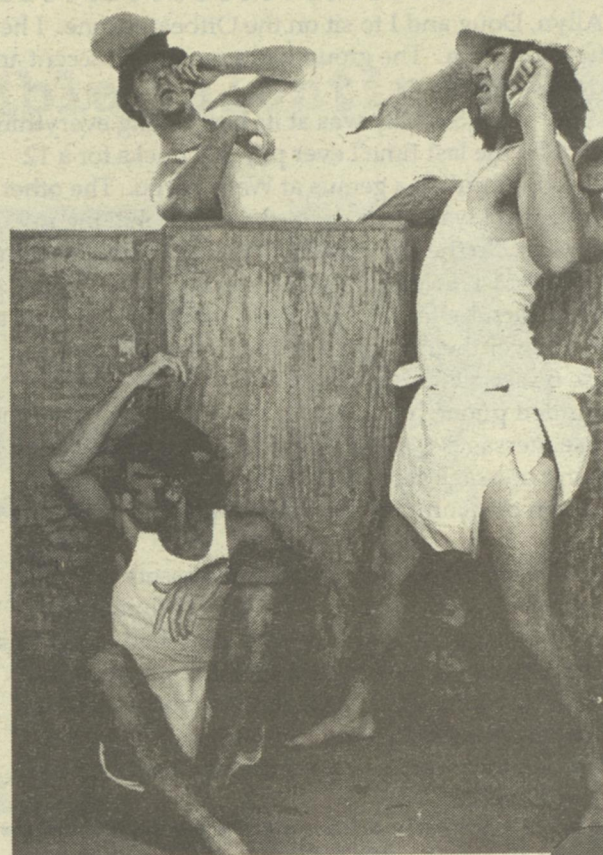
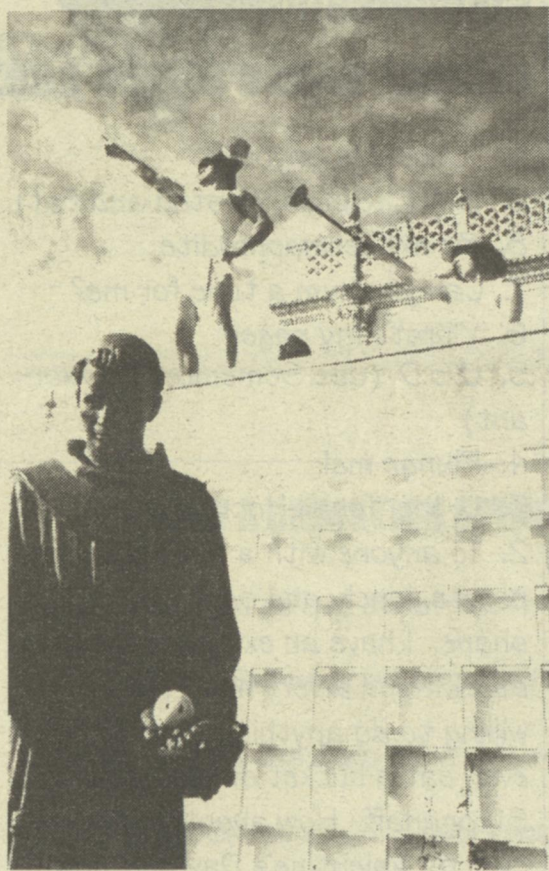
enough to have a Valentine (sorry Matt and Allyn but you don't count), I will dedicate the remainder of this article to the day for lovers. I have some advice for any young Romeo or Juliet who wishes to impress their significant other without the use of inflatables. Avoid cheesy traditions. Here's a poem to help you remember this lesson:

Chocolates give acne and
Roses have thorns,

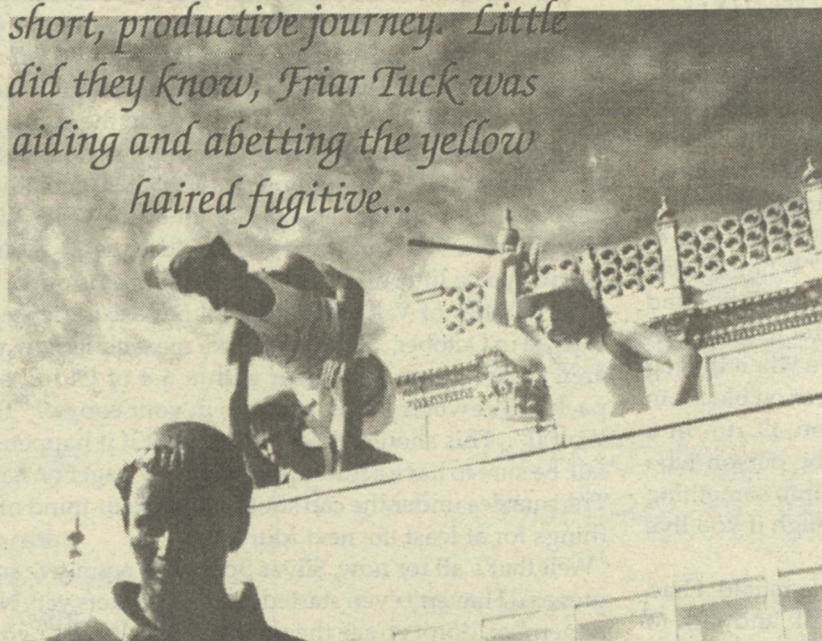
Stay clear of the Spice Girls and soft core porn.
I'll leave you with this. Hip hop hip a hippity
to the hip hop you don't stop.

Scent of a Woman

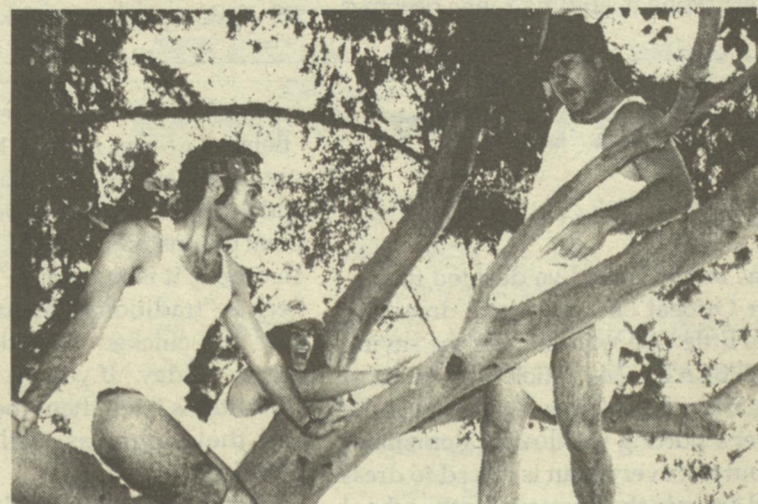
After a Valentine's Day Eve cocktail fest, the diaper-clad trio set out to find the love of their pitiful lives. A little bit of stretching and a couple of cotton mouth yawns and they were off...



...A yellow faced pixie, let's call her Clyde, was the object of their search. Ozzie, Tweedy (a.k.a. Chemo Kid) and Melvin anticipated a short, productive journey. Little did they know, Friar Tuck was aiding and abetting the yellow haired fugitive...



...They searched high but to no avail. Only a few uncomfortably misplaced branches to show for their efforts...





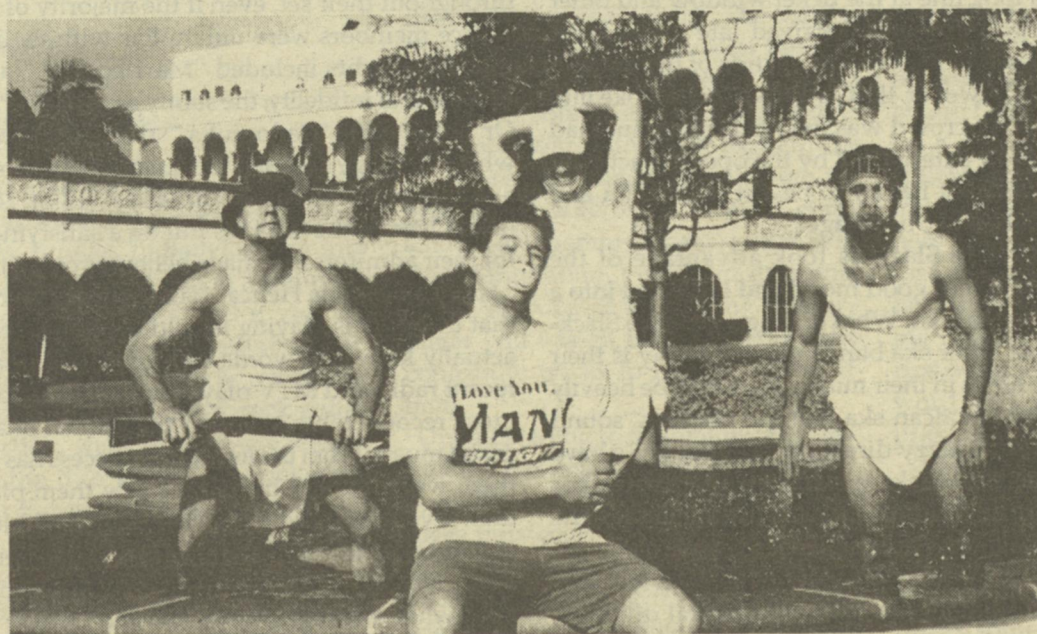
...Through the forest, across Marian Way, out of Maher, over the grassy knoll, the trio had finally set their sights on Clyde...



...Ozzie cornered little Ms. Sunshine with his semi-automatic sharp shooter, while Tweedy and Melvin serenaded Clyde to Marvin Gaye's "Let's Get it On"...



...But as usual, the Offbeat love match was foiled by some ex-sponsored beer man who was still bitter about losing his job to a bunch of frogs. THE END



(A special thanks goes out to all our sponsors including Dr. Scholl's Odor-Eaters, Huggies Diapers, Smith and Wesson, and Jack Daniels. Without which none of this would be possible. We love you man!)



Leisurepimp

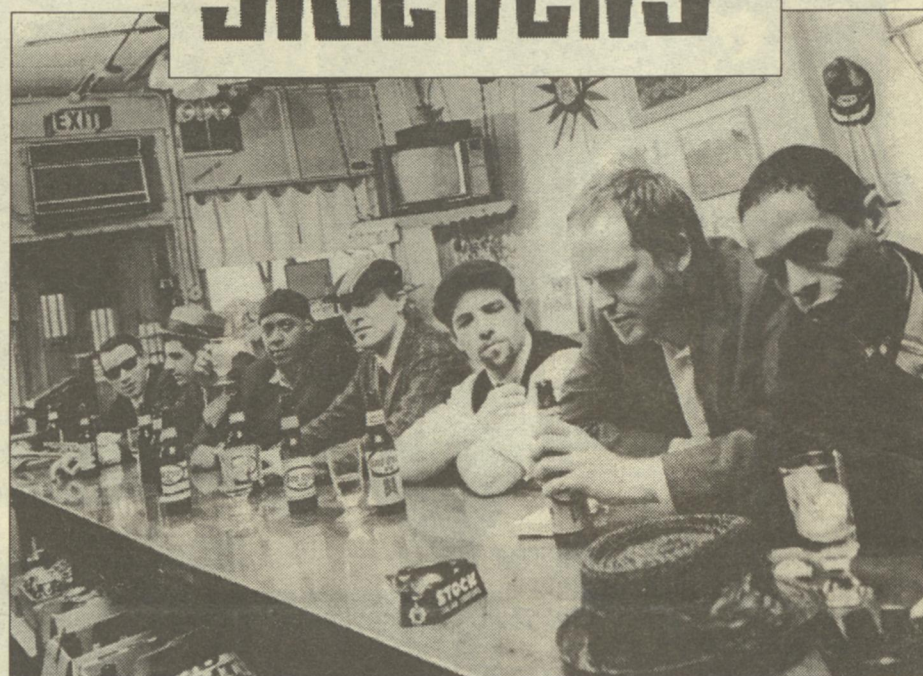
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IT'S A SKA PARTY: HEPCAT, THE SLACKERS AND THE GADJITS UNITE



COURTESY OF HELLCAT RECORDS

the SLACKERS



COURTESY OF HELLCAT RECORDS

Above: Brooklyn's very own ska septet, the Slackers, are currently supporting their sophomore work entitled *Red Light*.

Left: Nine-piece reggae/ska band Hepcat, hailing from Los Angeles, headlined a solid show at the Belly Up Tavern in support of their third release, *Right On Time*.

It takes more than a horn section and an off-beat bass line to play ska. Yet, pseudo-ska bands like Save Ferris and Reel Big Fish have utilized this very formula to dominate the airwaves with pop ditties that resemble pop-rock more than ska, which, in its original form, fused American R & B with island rhythms. This new pop-ska sound has lead many to dismiss ska music as a passing trend that has overstayed its welcome. In reality, more traditionally influenced ska is still very much alive. If you had the good fortune to catch Hepcat and special guests the Slackers and the Gadjits last Saturday night at the Belly Up Tavern, you may have already realized that these bands sound very different than their popular counterparts.

Saturday's show marked the San Diego debut of the first ever Hellcat Records tour, which featured three of the labels most exciting young talents. Hellcat, formed last year by Rancid's Tim Armstrong and Epitaph Records' Brett Gurewitz, boasts an impressive roster of ska and punk bands. Despite its recent conception, Hellcat has already released albums by the likes of the Pietasters and Dropkick Murphy's as well as pre-release compilation called *Give 'Em The Boot*, which featured songs from upcoming Hellcat releases. It seems that this ambitious young company is determined to become

the label in ska music, a title that in the past was reserved for New York's Moon Records, who released the debuts by both Hepcat and the Slackers first two albums.

Now I will admit, because of an unexpected heavy rainstorm, a long line at the ticket window and other mediating circumstances, I arrived late to the Belly Up and missed the happy pop sounds of the Gadjits. It did appear, however, that as the Slackers broke into their set, that the crowd was in jovial spirits and had been adequately entertained by the opening act. Perhaps they were just happy to be out of the rain and armed with alcoholic beverages.

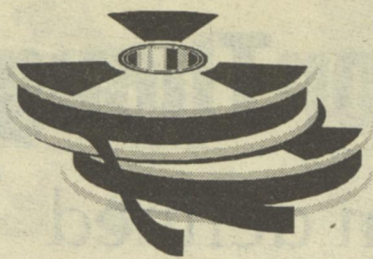
At any rate, the Slackers took advantage of the audience's apparent good mood and launched into a solid set of soulful ska. What distinguishes the Slackers from most other ska bands playing today is their refusal to set limits in their music. They may be heavily influenced by Jamaican ska, but the Slackers' sound reflects their own jazzy direction. The Slackers have a healthy respect for ska pioneers like the Skatalites — *Red Light* opens with a dedication song to the Skatalites' Tommy McCook — but would rather explore their own territory both musically and lyrically.

The Slackers also stand out with musical diversity. The band's tendency to switch vocalists and employ guest musicians is in fact more reminiscent of a jazz

group than a ska outfit. Each of the band's seven musicians displays amazing individual proficiency and, together, the Slackers operate as a tight musical unit. All while still having a hell of a time. Their love of playing could be seen clearly on their faces throughout their set, even if the majority of the audience members were unfamiliar with their material. Highlights included "Married Girl," a tale of murder and infidelity, the subtly aggressive "Sooner Or Later" and "Pedophilia," the closing number which vocalist/organist Vic Ruggiero prefaced with a comment about those attractive "13 or 14" year olds. Overall, the Slackers put on a satisfying show for their admirers and made believers out of the rest.

For Hepcat, this Hellcat tour marks the first time that the band is playing to sold-out audiences who actually know the words to their songs. Thanks to recent radio and MTV play, Hepcat has become the most recognizable name in traditional ska-influenced music. From the looks of it, success has treated them well. The last time that I saw them play, less than a year ago, their live show was still blossoming and co-lead vocalist Alex desert was absent. This time, Hepcat presented a very professional and somewhat choreographed show and Desert's croon-

see **HELLCAT** on page 25



Music Reviews

ROCK

Pearl Jam
Yield
Epic Records

Pearl Jam is the most misunderstood band in the world.

It's not enough that these five guys enjoy making music together. It's not enough that they have released four certified platinum albums largely without the worldwide exposure of MTV. For once, a band had refused to make videos in order to protect its songs from being played to death. Suddenly, the critics' love for Eddie Vedder and his seldom recognized bandmates transformed into malice, and Vedder was deemed misguided and self-righteous for standing up against industry mogul Ticketmaster. It seemed that everyone had somehow forgotten what had initially propelled them into the spotlight: the music.

Zero videos and four albums after *Ten* rocked the world with a potent mix of infectious music and deeply personal lyrics, Pearl Jam proves on *Yield* that they have not lost their artistic focus amidst life's distractions. I confess that when I first listened to *Yield*, I panicked. After *No Code*, the group's critically underrated previous album, I expected something that



Pearl Jam's latest effort, *Yield*, once again proves that the band is a step ahead of its critics.

would sound more "experimental" or, at the very least, a move away from the guitar-driven rock and roll that first made PJ famous. My second time listening to *Yield* left me much more satisfied, and I recognized that Pearl Jam has continued to evolve, much the same way REM has weathered the storm of criticism from the fickle media.

I also realized right away that this album would receive very good and very bad reviews. The good ones would say that Pearl Jam is finally back to their successful "formula of rockin'" that helped make them a household name. The bad ones would say that *Yield* is a "sell-out" album that fails to follow in *No Code*'s more risky footsteps. But both types of review would be inaccurate.

The reality is that *Yield* is a powerful, cohesive and nearly flawless collection of tracks that reflect the band's own

sound. It may be more marketable than *Vitalogy* or *No Code* because of its straight-forward and ostensibly simple melodies, but it would be a gross error to call *Yield* a simplistic album. From the aggressive opener "Brain of J." to the irony-laced "Do The Evolution," *Yield*'s complexity lies in the perfect meshing of lyrical and musical elements. Vedder delivers quiet sincerity on "Wishlist" and "Faithful" and then embraces the third person with ease on "Given To Fly" and "MFC." It is also quite obvious that the band had a great deal of fun making this record — they shared the song writing responsibility — and the quality and diversity of perspectives on *Yield* reflect this collaboration.

The result of Pearl Jam's shared efforts is refreshing and not at all formulaic. *Yield* exemplifies Pearl Jam's most noble quality: the ability to legitimately identify with a large audience on multiple levels without sounding trite. It is refreshing to know that, like a fine wine, Pearl Jam is getting better with age. Maybe if the critics spent less time deconstructing their songs and examining the band members' personal lives and more time *feeling* the music, they might finally understand Pearl Jam's real motivation: to make good music. No more, no less. Perhaps this explains the band's choice of an album title — a warning to stop, listen and feel the music before making any judgments.

— GREG GRASSI

TRIP-HOP

Mono
Formica Blues
Mercury Records

Is it Portishead? Maybe the new James Bond soundtrack? Judging by the first few tracks of this UK-based duo's premier effort, you might be strongly reminded of such works. However the weight of the entire album leaves a more fulfilling taste in its wake. Vocalist Siobhan De Mare's smooth, fragile voice projected sensuously over strings, Trip Hop beats and meandering synth rhythms set a dreamy, relaxed, nearly decadent mood. The feeling could even be described as sexy when taken seriously, which is how it is intended to be. It should be said again that her voice is beautiful. It is a shame we haven't heard it before, due to the fact that she initially was as an actress in straight-to-video British horror films.

It feels like Mono's self-described style as "Retro-futuristic" is a great alternative to classic relaxation music like Bob Marley, Enya or most any R&B album. In fact, the Retro-futuristic style (apparent on their first track, "Life in Mono") was adopted for the title song on the soundtrack to the 1998 remake of "Great Expectations." In the end, *Formica Blues* is like a good B-movie; you remember it being fun and enjoyable, but for some reason can't remember any details.

— PETER
SENGENBERGER

FUNK/ROCK

Nicklebag
Mas Feedback
Iguana Records

If the absolute media madness that accompanied the legendary Rolling Stones' Bridges To Babylon tour into San Diego still has you in a complete rock and roll frenzy, and if you are sorting through your dusty albums in an attempt to find some howling lead vocals and a bit of classic rock guitar distortion, then the newest release from the duo known as Nicklebag might just satisfy your craving. Just when you thought it was safe to turn on your radio again, thinking that classic rock and roll's invasion of the airwaves had left as an extra passenger on the Rolling Stones plush tour

bus, Nicklebag gives us their sophomore effort entitled *Mas Feedback*.

Mas Feedback follows the band's 1996 debut, *12 Hits and a Bump*. The band is fronted by respected vocalist Bernard Fowler who is a key player in the Rolling Stones sound, as he backs world renowned front man Mick Jagger. The band's second album is built from the ground up with Stevie Salas' (George Clinton and Sammy Hagar) guitar as its clear foundation. Pearl Jam drummer Dave Abbruzzese and Living Colour/Sugar Hill bassist Doug Wimbish also contribute tracks to round out the album.

Upon listening to the album *Mas Feedback* for the first time, it becomes obvious who has significantly influenced these musicians. In the first few songs of the album, the band seems caught in an attempt to duplicate the unmatched sound of Lenny Kravitz. This tendency to rely on influences continues in "Hit

It and Quit It" where lead vocalist Fowler sounds less like himself and more like Van Halen's ex-vocalist Sammy Hagar. The album reverts to past influences heavily, which is a bit disappointing, especially in "I Will," where I felt as if I had accidentally put on a "Soundgarden" CD instead of "Nicklebag." In "Dope Fiend," the band initially seems to find its niche with the help of some ample backup vocals by Lisa Fischer. Yet this identity seems to fade with the cheesy imitation of clicking lighters and someone taking bong rips, which is well, how can I say it, in a word, whack, and should be left to Cypress Hill.

This album does shine in certain places. If you are a huge fan of late 80's rock like Van Halen and Soundgarden, you may truly enjoy this work. Guitarist Salas, though at times repetitive, produces some hard, whiny solos which may be pleasing to any rock and roll

fan's ear, and lead vocalist Fowler has a great rock and roll voice when he is doing his own thing. Simply put, he's a good singer. Ironically, the best song on the album is a cover of Garbage's brilliant song "Only Happy When It Rains." The band's interpretation of this hit is cool. Its funky guitar track gives this song a new life and balances the album out well.

— JESSE T.
SHAMSHOIAN

Jasmine restaurant reviewed: Dim Sum defined

JAN A. SOKOL

Whipping Boy

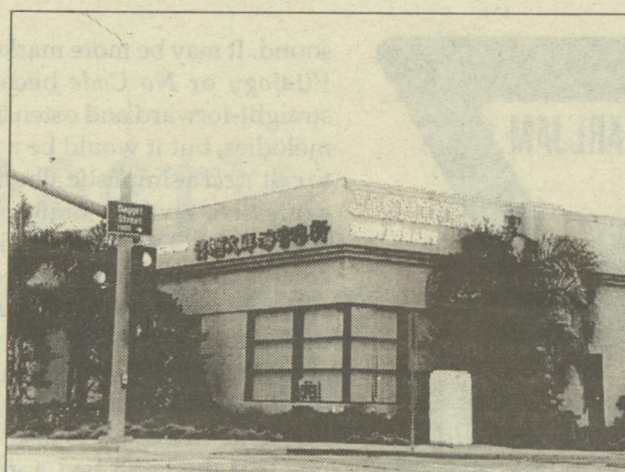
— Chinese —

4609 Convoy St. San Diego

I have been on a quest now for the better part of my life to seek out and devour the most outstanding dim sum luncheon on the planet. Dim Sum is a particular kind of southern Chinese lunch served in tea houses and is comprised of tiny little bite-sized morsels of stuffed savory meat or sweet dumplings—either deep-fried, baked, or steamed. Unfortunately, my meager stipend as the VISTA's humble aspirant to restaurant criticism does not allow for even the briefest of sojourns to China. Thus, I scour San Diego.

After asking numerous waiters at various Chinese restaurants in the city where they go when they eat dim sum, I found that the most frequent response was an emphatic "Jasmine!" I had little choice but to try Jasmine out for myself.

My party and I were seated in a massive, warehouse-sized room (read meadhall) which was easily servicing the needs of at least a hundred other groups of diners. Amusing (to me anyway) anecdote: while deciding what to eat, I mentioned to one



TED DONOVAN/VISTA

Waiters from around the San Diego area claim Jasmine is a must-eat.

of the guys I was with how much I wanted to give Cantonese cuisine a try. He responded by assuring me that it was not very good. Now, as I sit here writing this and going over a little treatise on dim sum I happen to have, it comes to my attention that dim sum is in fact Cantonese cuisine, and it is one of the furthest things from "not very good" that I have ever tasted. Aren't you glad that these reviews are entrusted to such an erudite bunch as we?

Anyway, all around the restaurant were waitresses with carts full of dim sum which they just wheeled over to the tables and the diners could simply "order by pointing" to what was in the cart. Lunch is served from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. So in order to get the best selection of food, it's best to go early (we went at around 2 p.m. and before we'd finished eating, they had already stopped serving dim sum, though you could still order entrees from the menu). As was expected, the meal was served with a pot of tea from which to slurp. The first cart that came our way deposited an order of meat dumplings (Sui Mai: \$2.50), spring rolls (Chun Guen: \$2.50) and shrimp bonnets (Ha Gow: \$2.50). The dumplings were good but not spectacular, and since they're served as appetizers in almost all Chinese restaurants they're really nothing out of the ordinary. The spring rolls, on the other hand, were easily the most spectacular little cylinders of joy I have ever tasted. Sheer heaven. The shrimp bonnets, small balls of minced shrimp, steamed in a transparent wonton skin, were quite tasty; they were better than the dumplings, but not as sensational as the spring rolls. For round two, we went with two orders of steamed, barbecued pork buns (Cha Siu Bow: \$4), medallion mushrooms (Gum Chin Doan Goo:

see JASMINE on page 25

A new breed of killers

VARTAN P. MESSIER

Staff Writer

"The Replacement Killers" is a very fast-paced, action-packed thriller starring Asian superstar Chow Yun-Fat (John Woo's "Killers") and Academy Award winner Mira Sorvino (Woody Allen's "Mighty Aphrodite"). It also marks the directorial debut of Antoine Fuqua, better known for his work as a music video director, who won an MTV Award for Coolio's "Gangsters Paradise."

Chow Yun-Fat plays the part of John Lee, a professional hit man hired by Chinatown crime lord Mr. Wei to settle a deadly vendetta against detective Stan Zedko, the man responsible for the death of the gangsters son. However, John is not a cold-blooded killer, and he is unable to carry out his assignment. Given that he is being pursued by Mr. Wei, John seeks out the help of Meg Coburn, a document forger played by Mira Sorvino, who can secure a fake passport that will enable John to return to China and protect of his family from the wrath of Mr. Wei. The chase begins here with John Lee and Meg Coburn, now a personal problem of Mr. Wei, who decides to use every resource necessary to eliminate their annoying presence and pursue his deadly will for revenge.

Skeptical at first, I must admit that "The Replacement Killers" is indeed a very good action thriller. It properly delivers what audiences of such movies

are on the look-out for nowadays and is guaranteed to grab their attention from beginning to end, leaving them begging for more. It stands out from the pack of machine-processed Hollywood movies of this type, thanks to the encouraging talent of director Antoine Fuqua, the skillfully twisted photography of the various locales, and the overwhelming presence and charisma of Chow Yun-Fat.

The action is brilliantly orchestrated and superbly choreographed in a distinctively stylish manner. In the midst of violence-induced chaos, guns appear to have a sword-like quality on screen, revealing hidden beauty in the coldness of their steel. Bullets are fired by the thousands in a loud and thunderous sound, sending corpses and other inanimate objects flying across the sets. These predominantly violent events take place in a wide array of very peculiar settings including a night-club, a dark room and a car wash, adding to the depth and the originality of the seemingly never-ending martial arts-like gunfights.

The only flaw is that by privileging the action sequences in such an obvious manner, "The Replacement Killers" remains entrapped into the limitations of its kind. There is unfortunately very small room



COURTESY OF COLUMBIA PICTURES

Chow Yun-Fat and Mira Sorvino star in Antoine Fuqua's directorial debut.

for serious character development (although Chow Yun-Fat is very convincing in the limited space he is given) or any context and subtext to even be remotely taken into consideration. Nevertheless, the Replacement Killers is set to establish a new trend in action thrillers which, thanks to its overall quality and freshness, is certainly welcomed in a movie genre that has been plagued by a ridiculous amount of force-fed, mindless and extremely deceiving productions in the last couple of years.



SPORTS



Mens' basketball has ups and downs heading into tournament

GENO VILLANUEVA
Assistant Sports Editor

Everyone enjoys roller coaster rides, especially when they are in places like Magic Mountain. But for the USD Men's Basketball team, their roller coaster ride is far from an amusement park.

With four regular season games left to play, Head Coach Brad Holland is striving to pump up the team and get them ready for what should be an exciting and surprising post season. While their road game record is less than satisfying at 2-8, the Toreros have managed to do well at home with an 8-3 record. With an overall 11-11 record, anything can happen come Feb. 28, when the Toreros head to Santa Clara for the WCC Tournament.

"It's very frustrating," said junior forward Ryan Williams of the teams road record. "We know we can win every game."

League play began over a month ago, and it wasn't even until everyone was back in school when USD won their first league game of the season. It's not like they've been unable to compete. They've been in everyone of their league games, losing by either two or three points. Their only huge league loss was when they visited LMU and lost by 23 points.

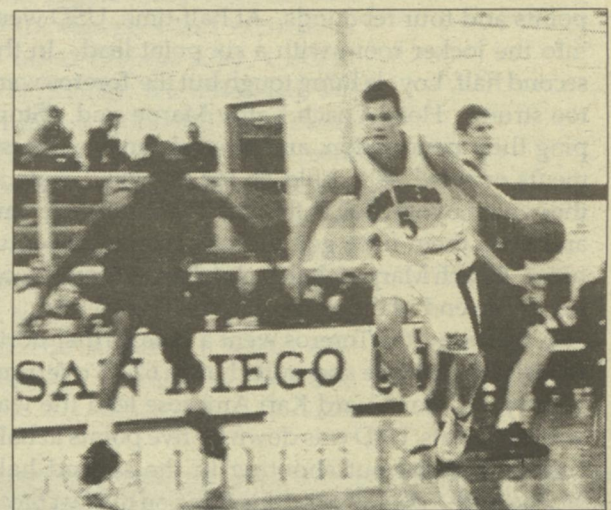
"It is one of those 'what if' seasons," said senior guard Alex Parker. "There is only so much that each individual can control."

Despite their record on the road, the Toreros showed that they can beat just about anybody when they beat No. 1 Gonzaga in the final seconds of the game at the Sports Center. After losing on the road to Pepperdine, the Toreros hosted the Waves in their very next game at home and this time came out with the victory. On Saturday, the Toreros hosted LMU and the first few minutes looked like it would result in a game similar to the last weeks game at LMU. Instead, with the home crowd behind them, the Toreros rallied to come back and win 81-76.

Senior forward Brian Miles, who led the Toreros in scoring, is back again this year. He also leads the team scoring and the WCC in field goal percentage and three-point accuracy. Williams, after missing all of last season with a knee injury, is back in full form leading the Toreros in rebounding and is second in scoring behind Miles.

A dark spot for the Toreros for the remainder of the season will be the loss of junior guard Lamont Smith who, after battling a stress fracture in his leg all season long, has been placed on the injured reserve, causing him to miss the rest of the season. This has put some added pressure on guards Parker, Brock Jacobsen, Jim Brewer and Dana White.

The bright side, though, has been the exciting play of White in the past couple of games. White, a freshman, scored the winning basket in the win over Gonzaga. He has also played a key role in the wins over Pepperdine and LMU.



STEFANA GOMEZ/VISTA

Brock Jacobsen brings ball up the floor and controls the offense.

There is no other place to look but up for the Toreros. The WCC Tournament is just around the corner and with an 11-11 record, they have some high hopes.

"We have 100 percent confidence," Williams said. "If we come out ready to play like we did against Pepperdine and LMU, then we will win."

Rain doesn't drench softball's optimism

KATY CARNES
Staff Writer

Youth is the word of the day for the USD's women's softball team.

According to Head Coach Lin Adams, there are only four upperclassmen out of a group of 17 players. For most coaches, this would be a rebuilding year, one of learning and struggle. But for the Torero softball team, the new players provide fresh and effective new combinations on the field and in the lineup.

With two new freshmen pitchers, the bullpen is strengthened and has room to grow. New infielders and outfielders created many possibilities for effectiveness in the field. Still, the majority of the team is young or brand new to the program.

In response to this Adams says, "This is a talented

group, but we aren't looking at this year as one of building because of the talent level of the incomers. I see us being very strong, and I expect these freshmen to come in and take on starting roles."

One such player is freshman Trisha Tucker, a graduate of Grossmont High School in San Diego.

"I think I can do it if I work hard enough, but I have to try. I'm going to put in all my effort," Tucker said on stepping in as starting second baseman.

Returning Toreros are expectant as well.

"We're excited about the season. It's a huge team with eight new girls. It's a really good team, and the freshmen have been awesome," said hopeful senior pitcher Colleen Norman.

Norman is one of the two seniors on the team and is a leading catalyst as is center fielder Jeanne Beauchamp, the other senior on the squad. The leadership of these two players is integral in the pulling

together and solidification of the team. "If we try our hardest, we can do it," Tucker said "But our hearts all have to be in it."

The home opener weekend for USD against California Lutheran and San Bernardino, was completely rained out. The rain did not drown the Torero's desire to start the season though.

Norman says, "We're looking forward to our first game, but because of the rain, it's been a little disappointing."

Freshman pitcher Jade Quentin agrees. "I can't wait until our first game because I want to win. Things are going well right now."

The Toreros travel to Whittier and Azusa Pacific for two doubleheaders this weekend. They will return for home games against Point Loma Nazarene and California Baptist the following weekend.

Toreros complete weekend sweep of WCC opponents

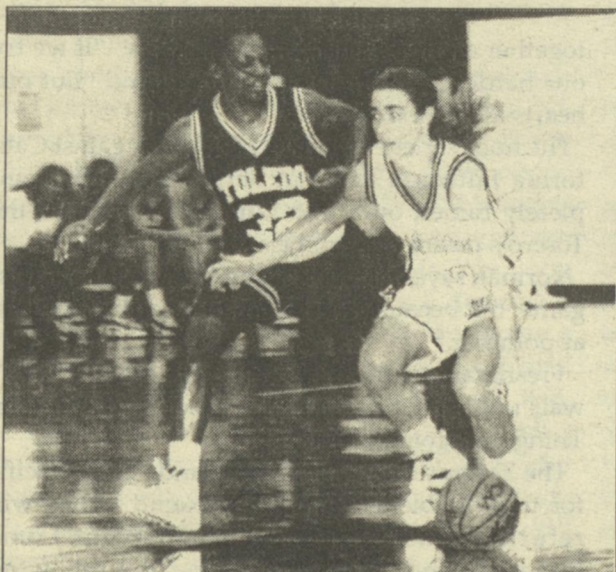
CHRIS WEERTS
Sports Editor

Loyola Marymount and Pepperdine were the most recent foes to find out how tough USD women's basketball is and to see why they have only lost two league games this season.

On Friday night the Toreros faced Loyola Marymount and were lead to victory by freshman Guard, Jennifer Tuiolosega, with her 15 points and four rebounds. Senior Nailah Thompson added 10 points and four rebounds. At half-time, USD went into the locker room with a six point lead. In the second half, Loyola hung tough but the Toreros were too strong. Head Coach Kathy Marpe said, "Stopping their penetration, and other defensive adjustments enabled us to hold on for the win." Late in the game Loyola tried to foul the Toreros to save time and keep them from getting easy scoring opportunities. Coach Marpe felt that clutch free throw shooting at the end of the game secured this victory.

On Saturday, the Toreros went a little farther north to visit Pepperdine and pulled out a 67-58 overtime victory. Junior Guard Kari Ambrose lead the way with 16 points. USD was down by five points at half-time and came out shooting in the second half. Marpe said, "We came out attacking on the fast break and made some three pointers in transition." Junior Forward Maggie Dixon turned in a phenomenal all-around performance with 14 points and eight rebounds. Defense was the key in the second half. Pepperdine was frustrated by the pressure that was on them every time they tried to put up a shot. The Toreros second half momentum carried them through the overtime period where they outscored the Waves 11-2.

These two victories improve the Toreros record to 13-9 overall and 8-2 in the WCC. USD is now tied with Santa Clara for first place in the WCC. Santa Clara will be coming to San Diego on Feb. 19 for a first place showdown. The Toreros have four WCC games left this season and then it is off to Santa Clara for the WCC tournament and a chance to go to the NCAA tournament. USD will be back at home on Saturday to face St. Mary's at the USD sportscenter.



TED DONOVAN/ VISTA FILE PHOTO

Susie Erpelding leads a fast break.

Toreros bats will be on fire this season

STEVE EMERY
Staff Writer

The USD men's baseball season is well under way, and the outlook seems promising. Despite coming off a disappointing weekend, dropping all three games against the Arizona Wildcats, the Toreros bounced right back against the the USD alumni team, winning both games with solid pitching and explosive hitting.

In discussing the upcoming season, Coach John Cunningham said he is very anxious to get the season going. "We have an exciting young team with strong hitting, and they're going to hit the ball all over the field."

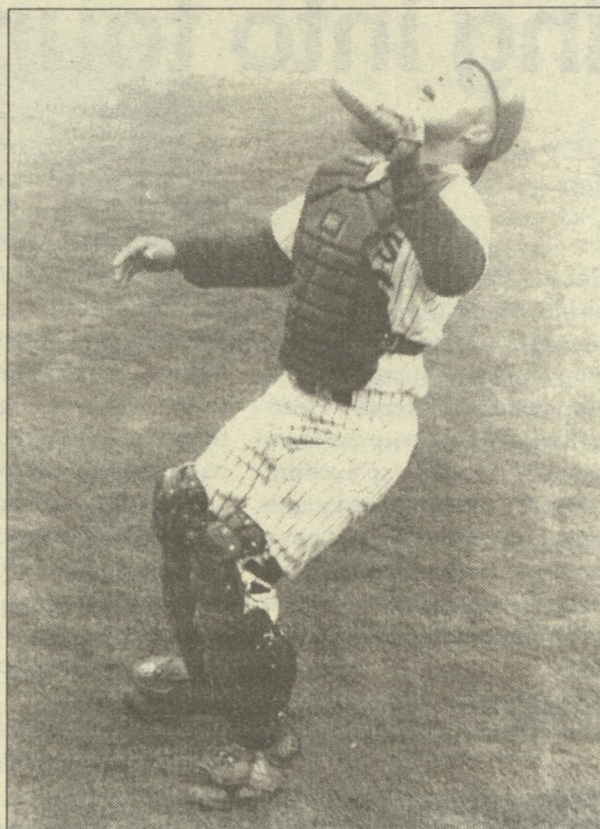
The Toreros made the alumni feel old, winning the first game 6-5 after only playing four innings. They won the second game 7-2 in typical Torero fashion - letting their bats do all of the talking.

"This Torero team has a lot of talent offensively and will be very successful and a strong team if they play good defense consistently," said recent graduate Jeb Dougherty, who homered in the first inning of the second game and is currently playing for the Anaheim Angels minor league ball club in Idaho.

The Toreros will play a very tough schedule this year. According to Cunningham, who is in his 35th season at the helm of the USD baseball program, it is among the top 10% of non-conference schedules in the country. Not to worry though,

because the pitching staff can handle it. Last year they were ranked No. 2 in the country in team earned run average and are now lead by Brian Mazone. "Mazone is projected to be one of the better players in the conference and possibly WCC player of the year," Cunningham said.

Others to watch out for include Jeff Powers, whose name says it all. Despite the losses to Arizona in the opening weekend, Powers hit .500; with three doubles, four runs batted in, and one home run. Tony Betancourt also had five hits, a home run and



TED DONOVAN/VISTA

Tony Betancourt fields a pop-up from former Torero standout Jeb Dougherty.

three RBIs.

Upcoming games include a four game series at Hawaii-Hilo, and then it's back to the mainland to play in the SDSU Baseball Classic (Feb. 17-2).

Upcoming Games

Mens' Basketball

St. Mary's Sat. Feb 14

Womens' Basketball

*St. Mary's Sat. Feb. 14

Baseball

Hawaii-Hilo Sat. Feb. 14
Hawaii-Hilo Sun. Feb. 14
San Diego State Wed. Feb. 17

Softball

Whittier Fri. Feb. 13
Azusa-Pacific Sat. Feb. 14

*denotes home game

Last Week's Scores

Womens' Basketball

Feb. 6 LMU W 57-51
Feb. 7 Pepperdine W 67-58

Mens' Basketball

Feb. 5 Pepperdine W 78-70
Feb. 7 LMU W 81-76

Baseball

Feb. 7 Alumni W 6-5
Feb. 7 Alumni W 7-2

HELLCAT

continued from page 20

ing baritone was back in the line-up.

The release of *Right On Time* marks Hepcat's third reggae and Caribbean influenced album to date and offers more of the same mellow sounds that helped the band ingratiate themselves in the hearts of ska fans. Even more so than the Slackers, Hepcat's brand of ska resembles the original Jamaican format, a slower tempo and much more groovy style compared with the pop-punk ska that currently dominates alternative radio. Much of their success has occurred by way of charisma — a charisma that acts as the foundation for Hepcat's recordings and as fuel for the band's live endeavors. Watching Desert and Greg Lee, his vocal partner-in-crime, on-stage is entertainment in itself. They dance and play with the audience, sustaining lyrics and feeding off each other. Lee, whose unique voice provides most of the island sound, moves the crowd with infectious word-play while Desert complements Lee with a more smooth and soul-backed voice that is perfect for interjecting short lines doo wop style. But Hepcat is by no means a two-man show. The band's remaining seven members hold their own, especially on the many instrumental Skatalite-style (and some-

times Skatalite cover) songs that Hepcat includes across their three releases. During their set, these instrumentals also give Lee and Desert a much needed vocal rest and also give them the opportunity to dance.

Live, Hepcat employed the perfect strategy, concentrating on their new material at the beginning of the show and saving crowd favorites and tried-and-true gems for later. They jumped into "I Can't Wait," their best song to date, and then followed with other new tunes with occasional songs from their debut *Out of Nowhere*. By the end of their set, Hepcat seemed to have outlasted their audience in energy level. But this did not prevent the band from coming out for two hard-earned encores which featured "Country Time" and "Bobby & Joe," both from *Scientific*, the latter inspiring Greg Lee to teach the crowd "The Rambo," a dance characterized by waving an imaginary gun to the sky.

When 1:00 AM finally rolled around and we were forced to go back out into the torrential downpour, I wasn't sure if I could muster the energy for the drive back home. Exhausted and satisfied, I managed to brave the storm. Seeing great bands like the Slackers and Hepcat made it well worth the effort.

— GREG GRASSI

JASMINE

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\$2.50), and pot stickers (Kuo Teh: \$2.50). The pork buns were unparalleled—a tasty, slightly sweet, doughy bun filled with dripping, saucy, fatty pork. Unfortunately, I missed out on the medallion mushrooms because I was too slow in grabbing them. However, my friends assured me that they (shiitake mushroom caps toothpicked together with assorted vegetables and chicken drumettes) were excellent. Once again, with the pot stickers, we had another dish which is hardly unfamiliar to any semi-regular eater at Chinese restaurants and therefore, although not bad, lacked the newness and excitement of the other dishes. Also, I might mention (though it's obviously not Cantonese) we ordered the Peking Duck (Peking Duck: \$28) which I was surprised did not have to be arranged a day in advance. Any serious attempt on my part to articulate what this sweet and tender fowl tasted like would be almost sacrilegious due to my pathetic caliber as a writer. Suffice it to say, I recommend The Duck.

SERVICE

continued from page 5

hospitality" But it all comes down to respect, being gracious to others and respecting others' views."

Laboni, Shibani and Shalini Patnaik, which were directed by Manoranjan Pradhan, a leading Odissi dancer and teacher, participated in a composition of classical Indian dance forms. The dancers started with a salutation to Mother Earth, called Mangalacharan, that pays respect to a mother goddess and ended by welcoming the audience to a three-fold salutation of their verses recited in the ancient language of Sanskrit.

Two Buddhist monks, wearing black robes and orange sashes, followed by six women, performed a Buddhist meditation on the theme of hospitality to the audience. They started chanting by getting in tune with a chime that one of the monks held and stayed in rhythm with the assistance of a hallow wooden block being hit by the other monk. To end the mass, the choir from St. Stephen's Church of God in Christ, sporting navy blue pants and skirts with white shirts, sang the recession song.

In a Catholic University, the All Faith Service is the way in which USD encourages and perpetuates the Christian, and universal, ideal of loving every person and accepting the differences throughout the human race.

The VISTA
staff wishes
you and yours
some lovin' on
Valentine's Day

ABROAD

continued from page 7

to become eliminated.

"Danger is part of human experience," said Jorge Rogachevsky, a professor traveling with the group of St. Mary's College of Maryland students and faculty during the ill-fated Guatemala trip. "Part of education is to reach out and expand. Tragedy should not derail us from reaching out to the word and creating bonds of understanding."

TARBOX

continued from page 5

"The position itself allows for a lot of opportunity for professional development and to contribute to USD by doing interesting things for the students," said Tarbox, who is eager to take on his new responsibilities at USD.



Intramurals and Sportsmanship

Gary Becker

Director of Intramurals and Recreation

This semester more than ever before the IM/Recreation department is tightening up its sportsmanship policies. In fact the word around the Sports Center is zero tolerance for offenders. The past five years sports in general have become more volatile in nature. Much of it is a result of media hype such as smack talk radio sports shows, however, some of it is a direct result of an overemphasis to win.

Wherever one looks today there seems to be some type of violence being perpetrated in sports. The ear biting episode by Mike

Tyson, or the throat throttling of a basketball coach are just two of many over publicized incidents in professional sports. It has been said that sports are a mirror image of the society in which they are a part of, and in many instances this is a proven truth. In reality sports are less of a mirror image and more of a trend setter in society, especially with

the amount of media exposure given to sports today. The media has such a strong influence on society that a few negative incidents become the norm instead of the exception. The ultimate truth today in sports is win through antagonism instead of effort and sportsmanship.

Recreation leaders around the country have recognized the problems that are arising in sports at all levels. A national

"The many positive roles that sports play in our society must again be brought to the forefront..." - Becker

effort has just begun to put the fun back into sports and remove the negative perpetrators from recreational programs. The positive benefits from sports for many years was perpetuated through example, it has become apparent that it is time to return to those examples. The many positive roles that sports play in our society must again be brought to the



If the weather holds up, men's and co-rec softball will begin this Sunday!



Tonight Only!



Missed out on 5x5 Basketball? Well, here's your chance to get in on some hoops action! One night only, USD IMs presents the Schick's Superhoops 3x3 Basketball Tournament! There are men's and women's divisions, and dunking is allowed! Each team is put into a three team bracket and guaranteed two games. After that, the top two teams from the bracket will advance to single elimination playoffs. The last team standing wins! Last year's men's tournament had almost thirty teams, but you know we're anticipating more teams tonight!

Sign-up in front of the UC at lunch time, or come up to the IM/Rec office until 6pm to get in on the action. It's \$4 per team and play will begin at 7pm. Don't miss this opportunity, sign-up now before the tournament closes!

A special shout-out goes to the women of USD. We know you like to play basketball, and we know you can hoop-it-up. Well, we want you to come and show us! To increase female participation all women's entries will be placed into a hat and the team that is drawn will receive this week's Subway Game of the Week Platter! On the real tip! For us to have a women's division we need at least six women's teams. Now don't fret, cause if your name isn't picked you can still win the tournament and receive our champions prizes!

Oh, ya'll want to know about what the champion gets? Well let me lay it down for ya. The champion of both divisions will receive:

**-Schick's Superhoops Shirts
-Paid Entry and Gas Costs
for the 3x3 Regionals at USC**

We want to see everybody at the USD Gym Tonight! If you're not playing, then come and see what this spectacle is all about! It's quickly becoming one of the biggest events of the year!

3 IM Leagues Are Still Open!

Most of our leagues were filled to capacity this semester! Congratulations to those of you who signed-up and paid on time. For those of you who didn't make it into the league of your choice there are plenty of Domino's Special Events throughout this semester, or you could sign-up for one of the leagues that are still open! In an effort to increase the number of teams participating, the following leagues are still open!

**Women's Volleyball
Men's Floor Hockey**



Co-Rec Innertube Water Polo

The IM office will take entries for these leagues until Friday, 13 at 5pm. Information about these leagues is available in the Campus Recreation Magazine, or you may call us at 260-4533. If the number of teams in these leagues increase, schedules will be available Monday, February 16th

Subway
Game of the Week sandwiches



Subway has come through again! As they have the past seven years, Subway will be sponsoring our Game of the Week! Each week we'll look at the upcoming schedule and chose a game that looks like a headliner! It could be a rematch of last year's title game, or a battle for last place! The winner of the game receives a fabulous Subway Platter. The loser, well they probably headed down to Subway for some sandwiches, chips, cookies and more at a great price!

Again, special thanks to Subway for making the game of the week a lasting tradition in USD IMs. Note: The only way you can get a chance at a free Subway Platter is to play Intramural Sports. So, get out there and have some fun!

Happy Valentine's Day!

All Leagues
start next week!

Captain's need to pick
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Final Call for Championship T-Shirts

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Personals	Wanted
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Rental & Roommate	Announcements
Employment	Greeks

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1-3 Insertions	\$7.00 each
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- Refunds are not issued for cancelled ads
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