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Seniors

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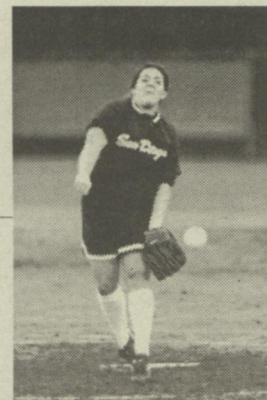
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University of San Diego Student Publication

April 27, 2000

Volume 38, Number 10

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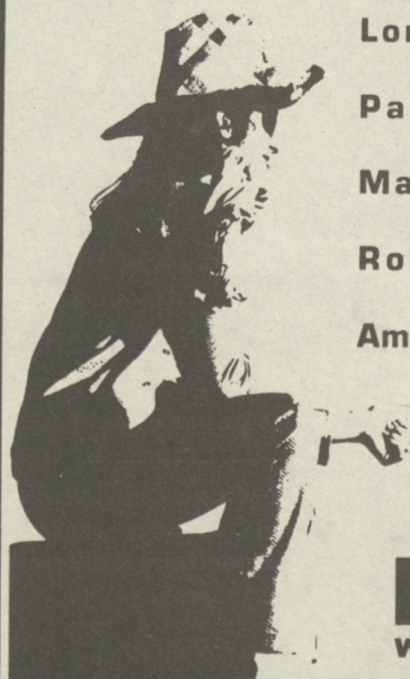
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Letters *to the editor*

Taking the Urban Plunge

Kara Braniff • Staff Writer

Junior Michelle Low feels that being involved in Urban Plunge has changed her outlook on life. During her experience, she befriended a young girl while volunteering at the Salvation Army last semester. The 13 year-old girl was older than the rest of the children, and had grown accustomed to acting as a mother and mentor to the younger children. Low said the girl was overjoyed to finally have someone she could look up to.

Low listened to the young girl, hearing her hopes for a college education and a brighter future. The memories of her encounter stayed with Low days after the visit, and she could not stop thinking about this young woman with high hopes. She later returned on her own time and brought a gift for the young lady.

During this later visit to the Salvation Army, she met the girl's father. Low was pleased to hear that the small amount of time she had spent with the girl greatly impacted his daughter's life. The man said his daughter had been talking a lot about her conversations with Low and really looked up to her.

From this experience, Low realized how important a program like Urban Plunge is in the San Diego and Linda Vista community. Low said the experience made her realize how much we take for granted and how gratifying it is to extend yourself from the usual.

"When you have to say good-bye though, all you can do is hope the best for them," she said.

Urban Plunge is one of 17 community service projects organized by



AS COMMUNITY SERVICE

Helping out: At Urban Plunge, USD students and faculty visit and work with San Diego youth at the Salvation Army, disabled children at the Children's Convalescent Home and senior citizens at Care with Dignity in Linda Vista and downtown area. Natalie Johnson is assisting children making masks on a recent Urban Plunge to Children's.

the AS Community Service Director and lead by Junior Crescentia Thomas. In 1989, the AS Community Service Director introduced the program that she had seen featured at a national community service conference.

Urban Plunge is an exchange that occurs 2-3 times each semester between the USD community and the urban population of San Diego. It immerses students and faculty in an unfamiliar side of American life while offering the opportunity for social change.

In the evening, typically Tuesday or Wednesday nights from 5-9 p.m., USD students and faculty visit and work with San Diego youth at the Salvation Army, disabled children at the Children's Convalescent Home and senior citizens at Care with Dignity in Linda Vista and downtown area.

San Diego is the 6th largest city in America, and like the rest of the nation's urban centers is plagued by

hunger, unemployment and indigence. USD is not far from the ills of downtown San Diego and Linda Vista and has the opportunity to reach out to the problems of urban life through Urban Plunge.

"By participating in the Urban Plunge, it gave me the opportunity to reflect on my community service experience and also share with others that learning experience," said USD student Tammy Otero. "The common goal we all share in volunteering is that we help those who help themselves."

Urban Plunge hosts a week-long recruitment in the fall called Community Plunge.

Each day of the recruitment period focuses on a specific project, such as bandAIDS, or issue, such as disabilities.

"Urban Plunge is a growing experience, don't be afraid to do something like this," said Low. "We gain from experience, so keep an open heart."

Dear Editor:

Your April 13 piece on alleged censorship at USD regarding "Hair" were very disappointing. There apparently was no effort to interview the director of the show or me before jumping to conclusions. Had there been such an effort, you and the staff writer may have discovered that the matter was only secondarily, at most, about censorship but rather primarily about my reliance on what I considered to be the resolution of a complaint several months ago from the parent of a theater student about "Hair" and nudity. When I briefly spoke to the director about this potential issue, I was told that there were no plans for nudity. Apparently, the dynamics of the production of the play led to experimentation. I have absolutely no doubt about the integrity of the director. The director, Dr. Bennett, is one of the finest faculty in the College and the epitome of professionalism. When I reminded her of my reliance on her earliest statement, she immediately understood the implications and agreed to assert her role as director consistent with her earliest statement regarding plans for nudity.

While some people may still want to conclude that there was "censorship," I think most thoughtful persons will realize that the dimensions of this case are far more complex and that the main issue was reliance on earlier statements. A discourse about what is appropriate in an undergraduate theatre program at this University should not be precluded by either such reliance or easy allegations of "censorship." However, the Vista article did little to advance this important discourse.

Sincerely,

Patrick Drinan, Ph.D.
Dean of the College of Arts
and Sciences

Write for the Vista.

Carpool permits available for fall 2000

Tom Tarantino • Special to the Vista

The Associated Students, in reaction to the large number of complaints regarding parking on campus, recently proposed and passed legislation to create a new Carpool parking permit for the fall semester.

Dave Epstein, assistant director of public of safety, is heading up the project to make changes for commuters.

Carpool permits are one such solution, and Epstein believes that with student cooperation, parking could become more convenient.

"The idea seems reasonable, especially because the cost of a parking permit would go down," Epstein said.

The price begins at \$70.00 for two students purchasing the permit together (\$35.00 per student). This is a significantly smaller amount than the \$120.00 cur-

rently charged for a Commuter permit that is otherwise required to park in these areas. With three students buying the permit together, the price drops to \$30.00 (\$10.00 per student).

Four or more students buying the permit get it for free.

Honesty is a potential problem, though.

"I think everyone's schedules are so different and everyone seems to be in such a hurry that carpooling may be too hard to accomplish," Epstein said.

Everyone involved in buying the permit does not have to be in the car at the same time.

In fact, not even two people need to be in the car at the same time.

The only requirement is that only one of the cars regis-



KATIE OLIMPIA

Special parking: Carpool permits will be available in the fall, utilizing new reserved spaces. The permit price is on a sliding scale.

tered to that permit be on campus at any time. Thus, the number of cars coming onto campus will be reduced, thereby opening more spaces.

There will be only as many Carpool permits as there are Carpool spaces, but the buyers

essentially have a reserved parking space on campus from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. every weekday. After 5 p.m. on weekdays and all day Saturday and Sunday, Carpool permit spaces will be open to any other applicable permit.

In order to obtain a Carpool permit, everyone buying the permit must be present at the time of purchase and present his or her student ID card and present their current, valid car registration in either their or their parents' names at the time of purchase.

Each of group will be assigned tone permit number. Thus, if you sign your name as one of those buying a Carpool permit, you will not be eligible to purchase any other type of permit.

The permit itself will be

similar to the current type that hangs from the rearview mirror. The permit must be moved to whichever car is coming onto campus.

Fines for violating the rules of the Carpool permit will be steep.

"We want to get this service started, but without drivers, we can't make any real progress," Epstein said.

The Carpool permits will initially be sold on a trial basis.

Student interest in and reaction to then will determine their future, but here is one more perk: AS proposed the selection of a number of prime parking spaces around the campus to be reserved for the new permits.

There will only be a limited number of permits available, on a first-come, first-serve basis. Further details will be available as the fall semester approaches.

Let the celebration begin

Brandon Richards • Staff Writer

Most students dread the month of May because it means finals, papers, deadlines and reports. If you are a senior, the month of May is a time for parties and celebrations. It is a month devoted entirely to seniors courtesy of the Senior Senators who have put together a calendar of events guaranteed to be most memorable.

The senior events include a Progressive Party, a Senior Banquet, a Senior Class Appreciation Day, a Faculty/Staff Appreciation Day, a Senior Class Last Supper, Happy Hour, a Garage Party, a Last Chance Happy Hour and a Graduation Night Celebration.

The Progressive Party is May 4th and involves taking double-decker party buses to three bars in Pacific Beach. This night will most likely involve some serious festivities as well as the oc-

casional cocktail or beer

The next night (May 5th) involves a cocktail reception at 6:30 p.m. followed by a dinner at 7 p.m. This year's senior banquet is at the Hyatt Regency Downtown and will involve awards, a slide show presentation and dancing.

"I voted for Matt Archibald for Outstanding Senior Man," said senior C.J. Stos.

Senior month also offers discounted meals, free wine and cheese celebrations, and a Last Supper meal.

On May 8th (Senior Appreciation Day) the seniors will get discounts all over campus including a discount on one of their last meals in the Cafeteria.

On May 9th there is free wine and cheese for Faculty/Staff Appreciation Day. This offers the seniors the chance to toast their favorite professors and to chat outside of the classroom. A Senior Class Last Sup-

per follows this on May 10th with an elegant meal enjoyed amongst fellow seniors.

After the meals and discounts, the seniors will be back in the mode of a party frenzy with an array of happy hours and parties. On May 11th and May 25th there are happy hours dedicated to the seniors.

These happy hours have no cover with a student ID and will involve an enormous amount of alcoholic beverages.

"I would like some COCKTAILS, and some YOUNG FRESHMAN GIRLS to show up," senior Brad Lisotto said.

On May 12th there is a garage party for the seniors, which is on the last days of classes, in the parking structure. This garage party includes a free BBQ, live music and great prizes.

Last but not least is a Graduation Night Celebration on May 28th. This is the last chance for the seniors to party



TED DONOVON

The senior banquet is at the Hyatt Regency Downtown on May 5th and will involve awards, a slide show presentation and dancing.

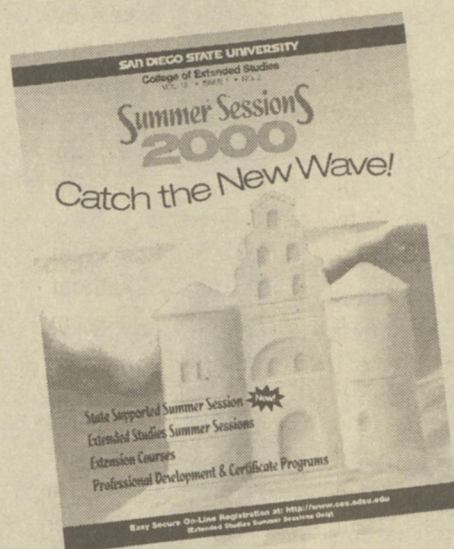
before entering the world of work and stress.

"I'm going to take advantage of these senior events be-

cause it is my last chance to party out of the old parents wallet," senior Erica Swenson said.

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Sex at Alcala Park

Jason Kerkmans • Insight Editor



There are many things here at USD that are seen as a form of taboo. Talk about them is left to the individual groups that students associate with. Sex is one of them.

There are speakers and events that different campus organizations put on which seek to present topics either directly related to or associated with sex. However, the quiet "Don't ask, don't tell" form of discussion about sex is something that still lingers in the air around USD.

It is obvious that this is a Catholic university, and certain topics may not make it in this newspaper because of that. However, the bond between sex and college life is an important topic to students, and by ignoring that, we are leaving the topic in a juvenile state.

A recent study published on Intercampus.com of 1,700 college students suggests an interesting

trend.

According to the study, more females (81 percent) than males (80 percent) said they were not virgins. Although the difference in the statistic for women and men is minimal, the number of non-virgins is alarming. They further go on to highlight the fact that 51 and 42 percent of males and females respectively have had a one-night stand in college.

This leads me to believe that sex is no longer considered a sacred bond to be shared by two mutually consenting people who actually feel an emotion stronger than lust for each other. Apparently, the study supports this because only half of the people surveyed believe that people should be in love if they have sex.

It is interesting to think what these numbers might mean here at USD. It can be argued that USD's results

would not stray very far from the results of the larger study. That claim is impossible to make, however, without actual numbers. What can be claimed is that people are having sex here. Further, they are not always having sex because they are in love with the other person.

But, is it wrong for two people to have sex with out love? There are the obvious possible consequences; STD's and pregnancy are the most popular arguments against premarital sex. But many students still do it, so what is the motivation?

The truth is that college is a community of young adults. We are able to manipulate most of what happens in our lives to fit our growing perspective on the world. Of course, the traditional teachings about the consequences of life in general that are manifested in everyone by parents and school officials may shape the moral values of individuals, but in the end it is each student who decides what is right or wrong for him or her. Sex is no exception to this.

What confuses me is the contempt sexually active people endure by those who chose not to have sex. If one's personal ethic allows for premarital sex in any capacity, who's to judge them? In many ways this contempt is a hindrance. It simplifies the choice of having sex to an attitude, not an ethic. If this were accurate then the moral correctness of sex would be no different than the moral correctness of eating ice cream, and that is absurd.

Divorcing sex from love or marriage is a dangerous thing, even for not-it-all college students. Notably, it is not received well by people who feel sex should only happen if there is love.

However, the consequences run deeper. Simply

read recent headlines in pop-culture magazines such as *Talk*.

Not just college students are having sex. Ten and eleven year old's are experimenting with sex more and more often, and whose responsibility is it to direct these young teenagers?

The truth of the matter is that today's college students will eventually be the parents of these teens. Arguably, most won't encourage such young children to decide about sex on their own even though they currently support that choice for themselves.

Aside from all of the disagreements that can be made towards this subject, the hope is that, if nothing else, the people about to engage in sexual activity do so responsibly.

Condoms may never be sold in the bookstore, and you may never be able to confront your parents when it comes to sexual advice. That is unfortunate, but, it is not an excuse for poor judgement.

Nor is it expectable to criticize the school, church or absentee parents for not doing more to provide the appropriate education, protection and distractions from sex. That is just a desperate excuse too buffer the truth.

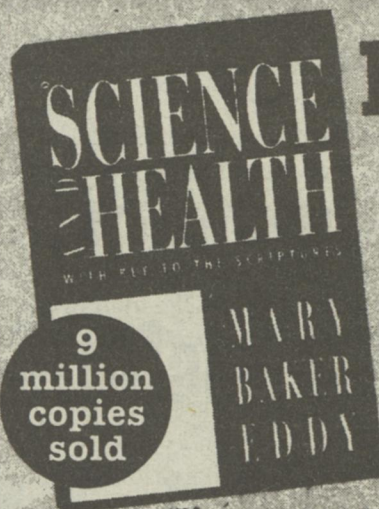
When two people decide to have sex, they are the only two people in the world that are responsible for the outcome regardless of where they come from, what they believe or if they even know each other. That is the bottom line.

The growing numbers of sexually active students suggests that the society as a whole is changing its attitude on the taboo of sex. What must never be forgotten is that it is no one's right to judge the actions of fellow classmates. They are adults, and they have the right to be responsible for adult consequences.

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Fly away for the summer

Brooke McGillis • Staff Writer



PHOTOS BY TED DONOVON

If you are thinking of traveling this summer, now is the time to start looking for your ticket. The airlines begin their summer season at the end of May, when the price of tickets goes up. Right now there are some great deals, and most of them can be found on the Internet.

For instance, at *travelocity.com*, tickets to Europe are still around the \$500 mark. Round trip to London is \$448, and if you would like to head off to Ireland from there it will cost you an extra \$62 round-trip from London. The flight to London goes from Los Angeles to London Heathrow

with British Airways, and available flight dates include June 4 and returning on July 4. Travelocity also has tickets to Paris for the same price as to London. Available trips leave and return on the same day.

If you are willing to deal with some restrictions regarding the dates and times you travel, then you can save a lot of money.

Travelocity also has a ticket to Madrid, Spain for \$466. From Madrid you can take a train to Portugal for \$150, round-trip. Portugal is the least expensive country in Europe, and has some of the most beautiful beaches as

well. From southern Portugal you can take a short ferry trip down to Morocco for much less than it would cost to fly directly into Morocco.

It is important to remember that because flights are very expensive within those countries, it is recommended that travelers use the train while traveling between cities.

One of the best ways of getting around Europe is by train. The Eurail Pass must be purchased in the United States before you leave.

There are several types of passes you can buy, and are priced by the day and by class. They range from five-day to 15-day use, and are limited to

two months. The five day first class ticket is \$348, and the second class five-day pass is \$233. Remember that the Eurail pass is available in the U.K. but can not be used on the mainland. If you want to go by train in both the U.K. and Europe, you will have to buy separate train vouchers.

"The Eurail Pass was the best purchase I made before my trip," senior Cheryl Hamilton said. "I traveled through Spain and France during Spring Break. My Eurail Pass allowed me to travel in both countries without the extra expense of buying separate train tickets for each single trip I took."

If you did not save enough money on your plane ticket and find yourself on a budget while you are traveling, hostels may be where you sleep in Europe. Hostels usually have bunk beds with several people sharing a room.

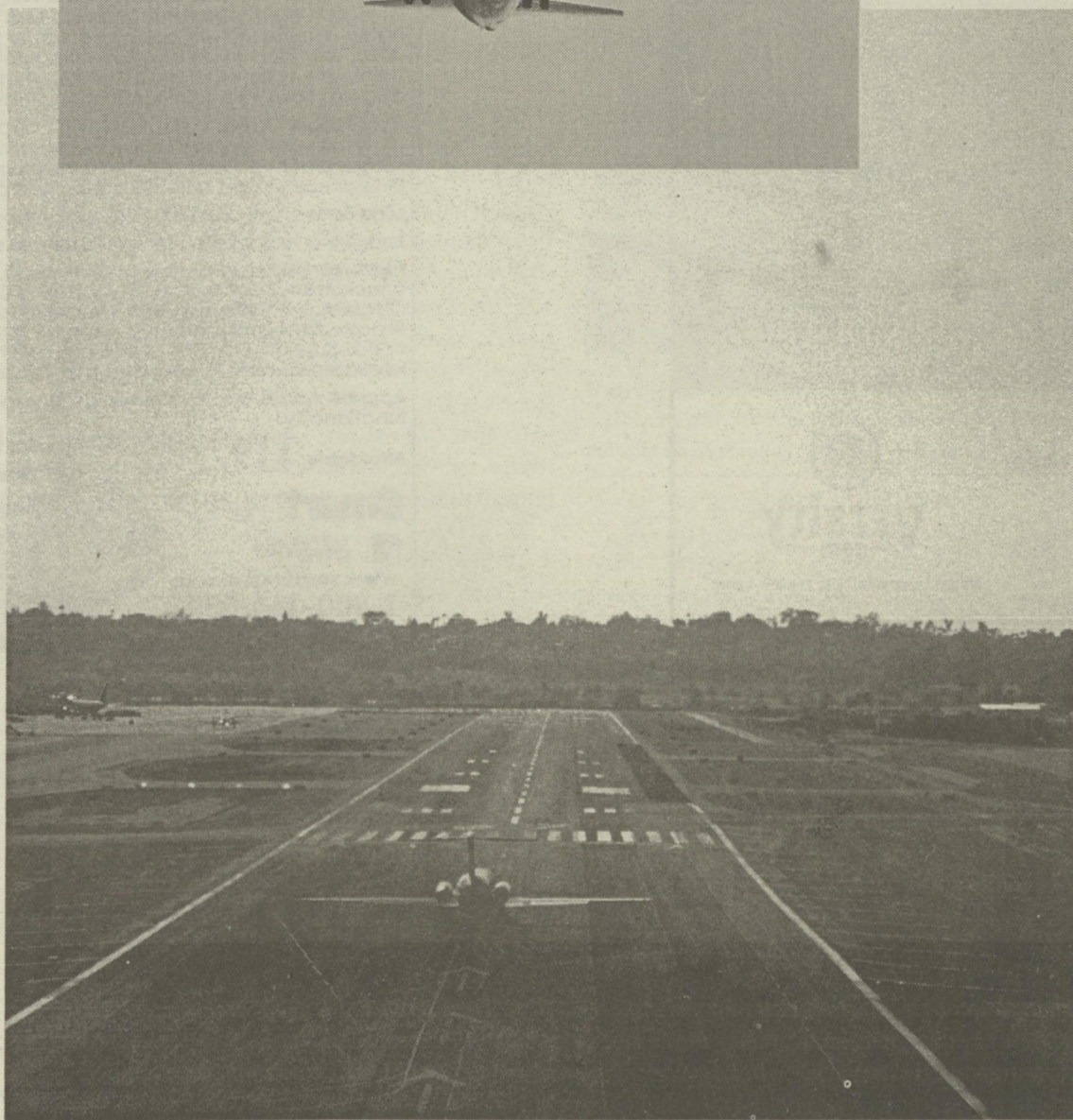
There are two different types of hostels: privately owned hostels and the American Youth Hostels. The American Youth Hostels have curfews, and sometimes you must do chores during your stay.

Another negative aspect of the American Youth Hostels is that they house many of the European high school



My Eurail Pass allowed my to travel without the expense of buying separate train tickets.

— Cheryl Hamilton



your arrival at the airport or the train station. Hostels send people to look for travelers with backpacks in order to convince the traveler to stay at their hostel, but often times the only good part of that hostel was the person you met at the airport. Usually, hostels are a great way to meet a lot of people and have a lot of fun in Europe. You can go on-line to *hostels.com* and shop for yourself.

"Europe is an amazing place to travel," junior Matt Wheeler said. "I can't imagine a better place to experience culture, especially when your on a budget."

If you are looking for a more exotic destination, Travelocity has a ticket to Thailand from Los Angeles for \$550. This seems to be one of the best deals for the international flight. This reduced fare may be because of the mon-

eling alone this summer, there are tickets to New Zealand available for \$747. The trip leaves from Los Angeles on May 31 and returns on June 29. New Zealand is one of the safest countries in the world, and poses less risk for a woman traveling alone. The hostels in New Zealand are all less than twenty pounds a night. New Zealand is famous for the friendliness of its people and natural beauty.

If you are on a tight budget New Zealand is one of the last countries that it is reasonably safe to hitchhike. Although it isn't recommended that travelers hitchhike, but if you must, New Zealand is the place to do it.

USD student Michael Dondanville, went to Europe two years ago, and is going again this summer. He stayed in privately owned hostels and said the only difference between a hostel and hotel is that there are more people in the room that you sleep in. He also offered a couple of recommendations.

"Do not buy a new pair of shoes to break in while in Europe, and bring conversational dictionaries for the countries that you will be visiting." Dondanville also said that the Eurail pass is a wise investment.

If you would like information about Eurail Tickets, membership to the American Youth Hostels, or agencies giving travel advisories call Council Travel at 858-270-6401.

groups that travel through Europe, which creates the possibility that the entire hostel could be full of screaming high school kids. On the flip side, security is much better at the American Youth Hostels, and they are often cleaner. It is important to bring your own padlock and a sleep sheet (that can be bought at the Travel Store Downtown.). If you are going to stay in the American Youth Hostels, then it is recom-

mended that you pay the \$25 to become a member so that the price per night is less expensive.

"Hostel are the only way to go when you are on a budget," junior Diana Walery said. "I studied abroad, and I did a lot of weekend travel. I stayed in hostels on every trip because there were the least expensive lodging.

"But more importantly, they allowed me to interact with people who were also traveling. I learned about hot

tourist attractions, good restaurants and local scenery that I would have otherwise never found."

A night at a hostel in London will run you anywhere from \$20 to \$30 a night, and in Dublin, Ireland a night in a hostel will cost you less than \$20.00 a night. In Paris a hostel will cost you \$87 to \$127 a night. For Europe, this is inexpensive!

One suggestion is that you decide which hostel you would like to stay at prior to

soon season due to hit this time of year.

However, if you stay to the north, you should not run into too much rain. There are hostels in Thailand as well, but it is not nearly as expensive to get a hotel room there as it is in Europe.

This time of year a traveler can head north go jungle trekking on elephants, and after the monsoons are over head south and enjoy the coral reefs of southern Thailand.

For the female that is trav-



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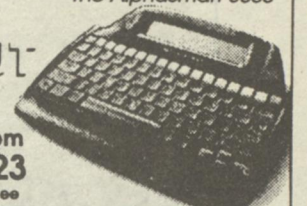
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Mass murder and memories

Mike Amundson • Staff Writer

American Psycho's music is a direct reflection of the main character in the film. Being as we are not interested in the film (this is a music review) what we hear is some really cool remakes and popular 80's hits from bands like The Cure, The Tom Tom Club and Information Society.

Also intertwined with the songs are assorted sound bytes from the movie itself featuring the main character, Patrick Bateman, and his rantings.

If you are into soundtracks, this is basically The Wedding Singer soundtrack on really powerful stimulants.

It is a good blend of music and if you have some extra change lying around in the crevices of your home furniture, stumble on down to your local, mass-produced, corporate-America music mega-store and pick yourself up a copy. Some of it is good party music.

I remember sitting at my desk in the fifth grade working on my state report

and hearing the sounds of Information Society coming over the airwaves. "What's On Your Mind" has that timeless sound that so many of the 80's hits captured in their music.

This may not exactly be the case but at least I have the guts to admit that I liked that music when it was popular, and I still like it. Even though MTV tried its hardest to unite us all against popular 80's bands such as The Cure and David Bowie at the beginning of the nineties, for some reason they have once again emerged onto the pop culture circuit.

Sorry MTV, but you know you tried to kill the eighties and everything cool about that era.

Forgive me for being nostalgic and a little juvenile in my review but that was one



Psycho sound: If you are into soundtracks, American Psycho is basically The Wedding Singer soundtrack on really powerful stimulants. It is a good blend of music and if you have some extra change lying around in the crevices of your home furniture, stumble on down to the music store and pick yourself up a copy.

of the points of the eighties: to be a kid, to have fun and to dance in a rather strange, soulless manner.

Go get this CD. It's better than The Crow soundtrack from last week's review. I now have this soundtrack in my collection, and I believe

it may be the first movie addition to my repertoire since the Caddy Shack II soundtrack. I will not review the Caddy Shack album at this time but I can say that this was also an outstanding collection of eighties influenced songs.

Remember you're past

for the good and the bad. Don't listen to MTV when they talk about the eighties because it was that era that put them on the map. Maybe MTV has forgotten that little tidbit of information, but I have not and neither should you.

Afro-Peruvian mood music

Dean Woodward • LAME Editor

Lately, I've been craving some Afro-Peruvian songs that I could groove to. Ironically, Susana Baca's latest release, "Eco de Sombras" (Echo of Shadows), found its way to my CD player. I actually never knew that Afro-Peruvian music existed, but the Susana Baca CD still found its way to my CD player. Regardless, I was drawn in by the idea of Peruvian songs being sung by the Latin singer, and I was transported to a house full of spirits.

Baca introduced her sounds to North American listeners on "The Soul of a Black Peru," and followed it

up with her Luaka Bop debut, entitled simply "Susana Baca." Since then, she has been praised by such reputable news institutions as The New York Times.

"Although the African Peruvian tradition may have created Ms. Baca," observed The Times, "her cool, distinct voice, as beautiful as any in working pop, has the strength to create its own tradition."

During the recording process, Baca invites all her musicians to her airy house just south of the equator, on the coast of Peru, to eat, laugh, and write songs while she cooks for them and tells them stories. A bond of this sort can

only contribute to the solidarity and unity of a group of musicians.

The standout song on this album is written by one of Susana Baca's live-in musicians. Wilfredo Franco Laguna wrote "El Mayoral" (Slave Driver), which starts out with a nylon string guitar playing what sounds like the tune that comes before "Charge!!!" on the organ at the baseball game. Quickly though, the songs leaps into a melodic tribal beat, complete with small percussion instruments like bongos.

"El Mayoral" recounts the somber story of Peruvian slaves' daily life in the scorching heat of the summer sun.

Baca almost wails as if she were a matriarch of the poor slaves: "A las cuatro e' la manana, cuando el sol se va asoma', el mayoral con su reto, no no' deja descansar" (At four in the morning, when the sun's ready to shine, the slave driver with his scolding, doesn't let us rest).

The most gripping part of the song comes at the end when Baca seems to hypnotize the listener with her constant cry "Saca tu machete Cipriano, afila tu lampa Jose (Take out your machete, Cipriano, sharpen your shovel, Jose) which takes us to the conclusion of that song, leaving the listener with an erie fear of an

imminent slave revolt.

I would classify "Eco de Sombras" as "mood music" because it doesn't seem like anything that you would pop in to your car stereo (unless you're reviewing it for an upcoming article). Rather, it seems like you would listen to it if you were trying to give your house that glowing Afro-Peruvian feel for some reason.

Other standout songs are Reina Mortal (Mortal Queen) and Los Amantes (The Lovers). If you are in the mood to hear some Afro-Peruvian grooves, check this CD out, or visit www.luakabop.com.

High Fidelity

Caley Cook • Staff Writer

Do we listen to pop music because we are miserable, or are we miserable because we listen to pop music?

One may begin to wonder what appears first on John Cusack's daily written priority list. Is it "find romantic comedy to write, produce and star in?" Is it "write sister Joan into my newest script endeavor?" Or is it "be one of the most talented actors in my generation?"

Most likely it is the former, but Cusack accomplishes all of them with such a flourish that one may ponder whether he even has to write it down anymore.

Cusack's uncanny knack for pushing the "I-have-felt-that-way-before" button for each person in the audience of his movies will make his newest attempt "High Fidelity" one of the best films all year. Cusack's pouty-eyed, thirty-something character Rob Gordon turns camera side and croons, "Did I listen to pop music because I was miserable, or was I miserable because I listened to pop music?" And so the epic (of Rob's inability to maintain relationships with the opposite sex) begins.

Rob is the owner of a struggling record store called Championship Vinyl in the not-so-good part of Chicago (read: struggling because he and his coworkers are snobby record store geeks who may kick you out of the store for not knowing the difference between an original copy and re-release of an obscure Frank Zappa album, depending on their mood). Rob and his two co-workers, Barry (Jack Black) and Dick (Todd Louiso), spend their unhappy days making Top 5 lists that span every musical genre available, including Top 5 Best Death Songs.

Rob spends the film recalling his all-time Top 5 most memorable break ups, ending with his current obsession, Laura (played with surprising talent by Danish actress Iben Hjejle). The resulting relationship is both dysfunctional and complicated. In other words, it's American.

The film is virtually a Kevin Smith tribute, with cameos by many well-known actors in today's Hollywood. This includes an agonizingly

short cameo by Lisa Bonet, an oh-I'm-glad-that-was-short appearance by Tim Robbins, two painless scenes with Lili Taylor, and a character by the sophisticated Catherine Zeta-Jones-Douglas. In addition to Natasha Gregson-Wagner, Sara Gilbert and a surprise musical guest dance across the screen.

The only difference between Smith's films and director Stephen Frears' ("The Hit-Lo Country" and "Dangerous Liaisons") directing attempt in "High Fidelity" (besides wasting the talent of several able actors) is that Frears takes longer to develop the social confusion and irony of the characters. It is easy to see why Smith is the god of these clerk-type films.

"High Fidelity's" most surprising positive element is Cusack's direct narration. Many films, ("Down to You" and "The Story of Us") have attempted narration but ended with a broken film and a detached audience. The key to "High Fidelity" is that after the first two minutes, one didn't notice that Cusack was talking

directly at the camera, it simply fit into the rhythm of the movie.

For any John Cusack fan, "High Fidelity" will quench the need for his comedic-romance and dry wit. Yet to any Cusack follower I ask if he has ever diverged from the same stomped-on character?" High Fidelity furthers my quandary.

This isn't necessarily a bad thing, considering that almost everyone knows what it feels like to be dumped, to lose your long time love, or to be the socially confused outsider, looking in. You, yes, YOU, just admit it. You have been dumped, stepped on, and cast with your own self-declared "love hex" in this lifetime, and Cusack has been portraying your autobiography (along with Molly Ringwald) for the past 15 years!

That may be why there are so many underground John Cusack fanatics in the world. But I digress.

Music fans will also reap the benefits of "High Fidelity's" witty commentary. Much like the movie "Empire Records," music and record

store life provides a perfect backdrop for the trials of these Generation X'ers. Obscurities from the 13th Floor Elevators, The Velvet Underground, and The Beta Band are only some of the contributions to this soundtrack. Rob's know-it-all comments on this music, and more, allow him to spin a web around his character, and provide the illusion that he really is smarter than he appears on the surface. Or is this an illusion?

Taking the time to read the best-selling novel by Nick Hornby (same name) from which this movie was taken may leave a person pleasantly surprised with the way that the movie was done.

The movie was saved by Cusack's offbeat character, plain and simple. As unfortunate as it may be, Cusack's Rob may have stumbled upon some romantic truth somewhere along the way. "High Fidelity's" commentary on romantic life is a must see and a recommended pick for everyone.

Looper leaves its' tree

Katie McDonald • Staff Writer

When one thinks of abnormality, one thinks of something contrived off-key, lightly illogical, and decidedly foreign. Stuart David encompasses all of these traits—tapping into a well of obscurity so deep that it seems extraneous. Looper is the result of such emotional fusion—its sound and attitude so distinct from the rest of the music world, it is hard to call it music.

The brainchild of David, the bass player for the Indie group Belle & Sebastian, Looper reaches a

new level of oddity. It is a developmental test in sound—a mixture of electronic what-have-you's and futuristic gurgles, Scottish vocals and nonsensical poetry. It is an experiment in which the breadth of music is tested.

Along with David, Looper is comprised of Karn David (David's wife) and her brother, Robbie Black. Both Karn and Black are the visual additions of the group—their mod squad visual displays adding an extra dimension to the already multi-faceted band.

Looper's latest album,

The Geometrid, is set to be released on May 9. Much more tentative than Up A Tree (their first album), Looper presents a diversified bunch of songs on the CD.

"Mondo '77," the album's first song, is somewhat like Underworld—a varied mix of electronic beats with accentuated background noise. The overall result is somewhat diversified—as how often do you hear a solitary Scottish man spin his own version of house pop music?

A messy version of a Rentals song, "Uncle Ray"

takes a different turn from the rave noise of "Mondo '77." Relentless chantings of "heyyy, Uncle Rayyy..." sound over and over, with xylophones clunking to keep the beat. Anything but normal, Looper attempts to create a sound that is a show—each track a piece of art in itself.

"Bug Rain" has to be the best song on the album, the most likely to become hideously over-popularized by radio play, and the most probable to make Looper a more well-known name. "Bug Rain" is a soothing mix of sultry vocals, pixie fluting,

pompous trumpets and, of course, the odd electronic induction.

Looper has presented a quasi-Scarlet Letter test with The Geometrid. They have placed it out on the shelves as a test to see how the general audience will react to its eclecticism, its standoffish, standout sound, and to the vibrancy with which it presents itself. As Stuart David's grandmother so often says, "Wha's fur ye will not go by ye." English transition: "If Looper if for you, then go out and get it fool!"

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It's starting to come together

Softball team wins four in a row with two victories over St. Mary's

Jeff Seeker • Sports Editor



COURTESY OF SPORTS INFORMATION

Shutout No.5: Pitcher Amy Lopez recored her fifth shutout of the season by deafeating St.Mary's in game one of last week's doubleheader.

So far this season the Toreros have been unable to put together a complete game. On any given night, they can be either outstanding offensively or defensively, but can never seem to do the two simultaneously.

USD used a balanced attack in two wins against the St. Mary's Gaels at the USD Softball Complex last Thursday night for their fourth consecutive victory. After a 5-0 win in the first game, the Toreros came back for a 5-1 triumph in the nightcap to improve their record to 24-23 on the season.

"We've been playing really good defense lately," said senior pitcher Amy Lopez, "but we haven't been hitting very well. Our offense and defense just finally came together."

Lopez was the pitcher of record in the first game in earning her 17th complete game and fifth shutout of the year. Lopez evened her record at 14-14 while lowering her E.R.A. just below 1.30. She also came on in relief of starter Jade Quentin in game two to preserve the Torero win.

Offensively, USD was led by junior right fielder Cristina

Byrne. Byrne had a combined five hits in the doubleheader, two of which were triples, and scored three runs giving her a team-high 24 for the year.

Byrne got things going for the Toreros in game one by leading off the bottom of the first inning with a triple to right-center field. Catcher Shaunna Collo knocked Byrne in with a sacrifice bunt to take an early 1-0 lead.

USD padded their increased that margin in the fifth inning as second basemen, Anne Skidmore, led off with a single. A Jennifer Bridges walk and a Nicky Geis sacrifice bunt gave the Toreros runners on second and third with only one out.

Byrne took over from there as her RBI single scored Skidmore and moved Bridges over to third. Third basemen Kristy Clarke, who just returned from a hand injury, was hit by a pitch to load the bases.

Collo came through again by singling to score Bridges and Byrne giving her three RBI's on the evening. Clarke would later come around to score on an error by the St.

Mary's shortstop to take a 5-0 advantage.

Game two began with a superb pitching duel between Gaels starter, Jenn Pick, and Quentin. USD had a 1-0 lead going into the sixth inning of play when Lopez, who came on in relief, got into a bit of trouble.

St. Mary's freshman, Tiffany Redding, was brought in as a pinch runner fro Laura Connors who reached base on a fielder's choice. Redding advanced to third on junior Holly Ferreira's double down the right field line giving the Gaels two on with only one out.

Pinch hitter, Serena Nevarez, hit a sharp grounder to second base that Skidmore fired home just in time to get the speedy Redding. Lopez battled back to strike out Catherine Hallada looking, to end the inning.

"I wasn't really nervous at all," said center fielder Katy Morrison of St. Mary's

see **Softball** on page 20

Toreros hit string of bad luck

USD drops four of last six and looses Reese for the season

Mike Amundson • Sports Writer

Spring is upon us. The flowers are blooming. Love is in the air and the Toreros are battling out on the baseball diamond.

Unfortunately for USD, the baseball team has had a rough time in WCC competition losing four of the last six games. On top of that the club will finish the season without outfielder Kevin Reese.

Reese injured his thumb while trying to rob a homerun from Gozaga's Adam Stokey.

Although Reese did not exit the game at that point, after the game X-rays revealed he had torn the Ulnar Collateral Ligament in his left hand requiring season-ending surgery.

The operation was completed successfully at Sharp Hospital, no staples or screws were needed.

Loyola Marýmout is the most recent conference foe to knock the Toreros around with a potent combination of outstanding pitching and timely

hitting.

The Lions are presently ranked #17 and are in first place in the Coastal Division in the WCC. USD seemed to cope with the loss of Reese in the first game by scoring eight runs. But they could not hold down the high-powered Lions who scored 11 runs and took a 1-0 lead in the series.

There were several highlights in game one, sparked by two homeruns from Joe Lima, and solo shots from David

Bagley and David Wright as well.

After a day off to observe Good Friday, USD again took the field to battle with LMU. Senior Ryan Hamilton started game one for the Toreros and fought his way into the eight inning, scattering eight hits and allowing four runs.

In the ninth inning, USD mounted a two out rally to take a 6-4 lead. The come-from-behind win was again sparked by a solo homerun from Joe

Lima, and followed by back to back to back singles from S.C. Assael, Bagley, and Josh Harris.

Patrick Lucy came on in the ninth inning and retired the side to earn the save.

Game two saw USD jump out to an early 4-0 lead, but ended with a disappointing 8-5 loss after being called due to darkness.

see **Baseball** on page 20

Spotlight on David Lembo

David Lembo does his best Renaissance man impression

Danielle Papageorgiou • Sports Writer

Playing two sports throughout college is a hard feat to accomplish, but junior David Lembo, has mastered it quite well.

Being the only athlete in the school to play both baseball and football, Lembo has managed to enjoy every day that he has been able to play each sport.

After overcoming a major injury about a year ago, he has bounced back and continues to be a successful athlete at USD.

Lembo has been playing baseball since the age of five and has been playing football since the fifth grade. He has loved both sports all of his life and has excelled in them all throughout high school.

During his senior year, Lembo was awarded all-state, all-conference, and was a team captain for his football team. Lembo was also a team captain for his baseball team and received other awards as well.

Lembo was recruited from high school by several Division I colleges to play baseball, but he decided on USD because he wanted to get the best education possible.

He had the opportunity to walk-on the baseball team and even though he still had to tryout, he decided it was the best overall decision for him.

"My father wanted me to go to USD, so that was a huge reason why I decided to come here," Lembo said.

Another factor was his chance to play football. Lembo had been recruited to USD by the football program and was excited to have the option to play both of his favorite sports.

"I didn't want to give up either sport so I was glad to be able to play both," Lembo said.

After finishing the fresh-

man football season, Lembo had only one week to tryout for the baseball team after missing their tryouts in the fall.

He was the only freshman that made the team and has been playing both ever since.

Through fall of 1996 to spring of 1998, Lembo excelled in both football and baseball.

His luck, however, ran out in August of '98 when he had returned for fall football practice.

Lembo tried to make two quick cuts, a simple sweep, and ended up blowing out his knee. Ironically, it was a non-contact injury and took an entire semester for it to heal.

Lembo had to return home to Arizona in mid-September to endure a 4 1/2 hour long knee surgery. The doctors said he had major cartilage damage and would have to have his ACL replaced.

After surgery, Lembo would have to undergo rehabilitation six days a week due to his massive injury.

Overall, he was unable to walk for about eight weeks. By the time January rolled around, he could finally walk one hundred percent, but he still could not run very well.

Upon returning to USD in February, he found things had changed. There was a new baseball coach, Rich Hill, who he immediately introduced himself to and told him about his injury.

Lembo explained to him that he was still interested in playing baseball.

"Coach Hill was really understanding about my situation and told me not to worry," Lembo said. "He told me that when next season came around, he would give me a fair look."

When Lembo was at home in the fall doing rehab, he had kept in contact with Coach McGarry, USD's Head Football Coach.

"When I got back, Coach McGarry was really under-

standing as well and kept me motivated for the following fall," Lembo said.

Throughout the spring of '99, Lembo continued to do rehab with some of the trainers at USD.

His personal trainer from home, Jay Schroeder, also wrote and sent him programs to follow to get back into shape.

"I knew that he had the talent, he just had to train and work hard toward his road to recovery," Schroeder said. "It was only a matter of time."

By end of that spring, Lembo could run at his full speed.

Lembo's thoughts on coming back from an injury were ones of fear, but then ones of confidence.

"One can train all they want, but its returning that first time back that really matters," Lembo said.

"You're always kind of scared until you are back in that same situation and until you've taken that hit on that cut and you see that everything is fine. That is when you feel confident and you forget that fear and you are just in that moment."

The '99 football season rolled back around and began with a great start.

In the first part of the season, Lembo was needed primarily for blocking and in the second half, he began carrying the ball more. He rushed for 454 yards and had five touchdowns last season.

"I was glad to be back but some days my knee would kill, but I would just play through it," Lembo said.

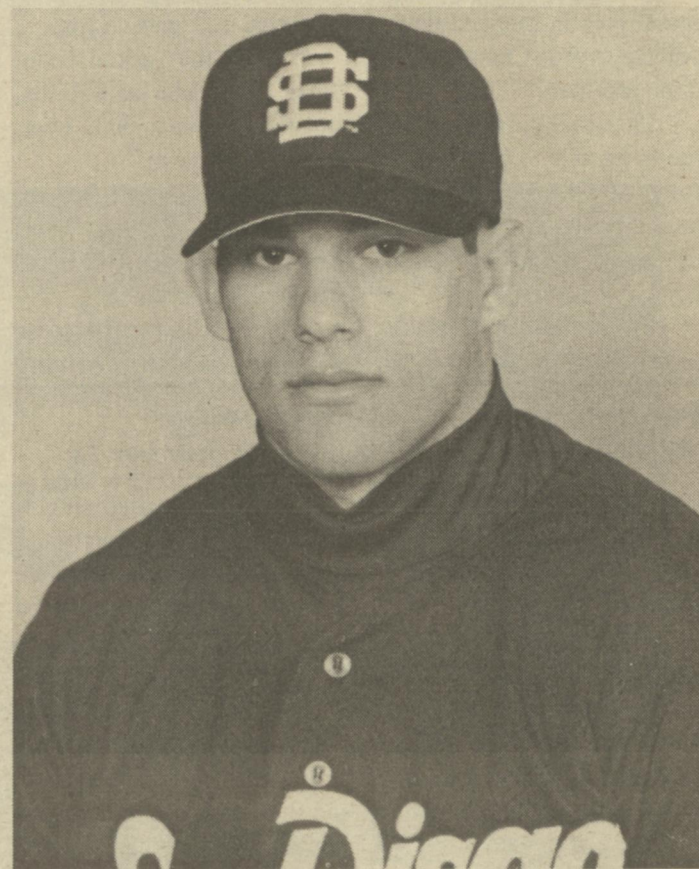
This spring, the baseball season has been good so far as well. Lembo plays mostly right field and is enjoying being back to playing baseball.

"I understand that after an injury there are good days and bad days and I know that I have

to play through it all anyway," Lembo said.

For Lembo, balancing both sports academically has

see **Lembo** on page 20



PHOTOS COURTESY OF SPORTS INFORMATION

Ching heads north

Torero receiver moves from San Diego to Saskatchewan

Dominic Mucciaccito • Sports Editor

Senior Dylan Ching is definitely going places. He just didn't know how far or how soon.

After four stellar years of catching passes in a USD uniform Ching hoped that he had earned the right to play professional football somewhere.

When the Canadian Football League Saskatchewan Roughriders used their third-round pick in last Tuesday's college draft on Ching, he had done just that.

"It's really exciting for me to be able to play a little longer," Ching said. "It's something a lot of people don't get a chance to do after college."

Fortunately for Ching his numbers did not have to

speak for themselves. The Saskatchewan Roughriders employ an assistant coach by the name of Bill Dobson.

Dobson, if you don't recall, was the offensive coordinator here at USD for Ching's first three seasons. So he knew a thing or two about what happens when you aim a pass Ching's way.

"We like to call the college coaches about the players we're interested in," Dobson said.

"When they asked about Dylan's character and ability, they didn't have to dial. I was sitting in the room."

Guess it doesn't hurt to know people. It doesn't hurt to be the most prolific receiver in school history either.

Ching, who is a business major, set school receiving

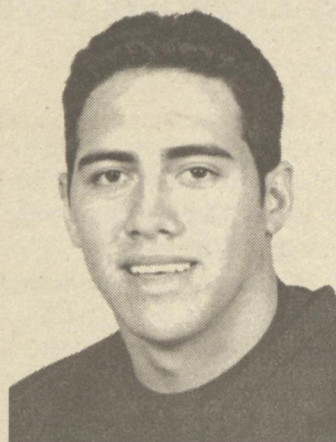
records for catches (189), yards (3,111) and touchdowns (32).

Hailing out of USD, Ching knew that his professional window of opportunity was a slim one.

"The draft had been on my mind because I thought I had a chance to show people that I can play," Ching said. "Coming from a small school, you need to get a chance somewhere."

"When I get there, I want to show people I can play. I can play," Ching said pausing for effect. "I know I can. Canada's a great place to play. I've heard what a passing league the CFL is and I hope it's good for me."

Although Ching is a native of the Hawaiian island of Maui and choose the sunlit climate of San Diego to attend college, he



has previously ventured north of the border. He spend five years living with grandfather in Coquitlam, B.C.

"But, to tell you the truth, I don't know much about Saskatchewan," he said with a smile. "I like the name!"

Dylan Ching likes the opportunity even more.

Lembo

continued from page 19

been a tough lesson.

"For the first two years, it was kind of hard for me, but once I got into a routine and worked things into my schedule, things got better," Lembo said.

Jeb Doherty, a USD alumnus, has been Lembo's mentor and role model because he was another athlete that played both baseball and football in college.

"Jeb helped me with all my problems like missing school and keeping things balanced," Lembo said. "He kept me motivated and related to me because he had the same experience that I was going through."

With the support from Jeb Doherty, his trainer, and mostly his family, he has made it through the past few years the best he could.

"I actually manage my time better now and don't fall behind as much as I used to," Lembo said.

Lembo does not regret anything at all.

"What I learned most from the injury is to never hold anything back and to play every play like its my last play," Lembo said.

He realizes that it has been his own choice to play two sports in college and has had to deal with the consequences.

"I don't have a favorite and would not know which to choose if I had to," Lembo said. "I love playing both sports because they have so many different aspects."

As far as plans for the future goes, Lembo claims if he had the opportunity to play sports at a professional level, he would definitely love to go for it.

But if an opportunity does not arise, at least he will have a good education with a good degree.

"I am also thankful for the friendships that I have made and the experiences I have been part of and I am grateful for all my opportunities that I have been given," Lembo said.

Softball

continued from page 18

sixth inning. "But I would've been very upset if they would've scored and tied the game."

Morrison got things going for USD in the bottom half of the inning with her team-high fifth home run of the season. The two-run shot scored Lora McBay to give the Toreros a 3-0 lead.

Left fielder, Stephanie Bisera, singled home Geis later in the inning and scored a run of her own on Clarke's sacrifice bunt to provide some additional insurance.

St. Mary's lone run came on a Trisha Dean sacrifice fly that scored Jen Price in the seventh inning, as Lopez closed out the win for the Toreros.

Baseball

continued from page 18

The Toreros used singles from Harris and freshman Mike McCoy to set the table for Greg Sain who delivered with a RBI double. Senior Marty Hayes would later single to score Sain.

The Lions climbed into the lead in the fourth inning, scoring five runs off of Amundson and never looked back.

USD rallied again in the ninth inning, loading the bases for clutch hitter, Sean Skinner. The umpires, however, took the game into their own hands and ended the contest due to darkness.

LMU starter Mike Schultz went the distance to earn the victory despite the late inning heroics.

The previous weekend the

Toreros played a three game set against the Gonzaga Bulldogs.

In game one of the series, Bulldog pitcher Steve Bennett fired a seven-hit complete game surrendering only one run. Bennett struck out eight while walking only one.

McCoy was the only Torero with multiple hits in the 11-1 loss. USD scored its lone run in the eighth inning on a fielder's choice from Josh Harris.

Saturday's doubleheader was more of the same story when Gonzaga lefthander, Barry Matthews, tossed a six-hit complete game and gave up only two runs in the seventh inning.

Despite the loss, both Reese (2-4) and Hayes (2-3) had multiple hit games.

In the second game of

the doubleheader the Toreros had to go into extra innings to secure the win. Hayes laid down a squeeze bunt to score Harris from third base in the bottom of the 11th inning.

In game three, Amundson took a perfect game into the fifth inning before Bulldog Adam Stokey smacked a solo home run.

Amundson pitched into the eighth inning before giving way to reliever Ricky Barrett. Lucy came on in the ninth to close out the game. Both freshmen relievers delivered solid pitches with Lucy earning the victory.

USD hung on to win the final game of the series but lost their offensive standout, Kevin Reese.

Upcoming Games

***All home games are in bold letters.**

Baseball

Apr. 29
Apr. 30
May 3

St. Mary's (2)
St. Mary's
Long Beach St.

12 p.m.
1 p.m.
7 p.m.

Softball

Apr. 29

SDSU (2)

1 p.m.

Crew

Apr. 29
Apr. 30

UCLA Miller Cup
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Big Splash!

Team Poop crushes all competition

Scott Bergen • Ultimate Frisbee

Team Poop won the 2000 IM Ultimate Frisbee League in a dramatic fashion this semester. The Final was the most one-sided matches in Ultimate history and Poop wound up leading every team offensive and defensive list after their complete dominance of the rest of the league. In fact, in the play-offs, only two teams scored a combined goals total of more than what Poop averaged over their three games. Check the Ultimate Frisbee Stats link online for final updated statistics.

The first Semifinal game matched the #2 seed, 5-0 Jah Love vs. the #6 seed, 2-3 Voulez. Harmonica John was unable to attend because he was still incarcerated after last week's outburst, and it may have cost Voulez another upset. But Captain Geoff "In the Air Tonight" Corkum would not let his team get too down about the absence of their star.

But Jah Love came to play, struck first, and jumped out to a 3-1 lead. Voulez battled back to a 3-3 tie with about 10 min-

utes to go in the first half. That was the last time it was close. Jah Love's Steve "Charity is a Virtue" Sloan led his boys to a 6-0 run and ended the half with 5 assists and a 9-3 lead. Jah Love saw 6 players score in the first half, including Drew Stewart, Joey Raycraft and Ryan Smuskiewicz, each with 2 goals.

The second half was more of the same as Jah Love won going away, 14-5. George "This ain't no one pony show" Zabrowski had two assists to go along with Corkum's two. A different Voulez player scored each of their goals, but it wasn't enough to pull off their second huge upset. So Jah Love took a break to await the winner of game two between Team Poop and Scarface.

Last year, Team Poop Captain Scott "Just Poo It" Bergen suffered a concussion and a broken bone in his foot in a game against Scarface. Poop won both matches last year including a tight semifinal game. This year, Scarface was as close to beating Poop as any-

one had come with a 16 point loss in week 3. No one was expecting this one to be as many as 16 points but with Scarface's AJ "Shoes are for the Weak" Moyer missing, Poop had an inside track.

Poop scored first and keyed in on Scarface's Rusty "Dan Marino is right, it is the receiver's fault" Davis holding him without an assist in the first half. Seven of eight Poops scored and six had at least one assist in the first half. Poop went into the break up 11-5 after a 3-0 run to end the half.

Poop never looked back though. They outscored Scarface 9-4 in the second half and Mike "Why am I never in the articles" Baylor stepped up finishing with 6 goals to lead the Potent Poops. Bergen led all players with 7 assists. Brian "The New Silent Killer" Kiffe was held scoreless but was instrumental in shutting down Davis.

So the stage was set for the final between #1 ranked Team Poop and #2 ranked Jah Love. Both teams were undefeated.

They were top two in every statistical category. Sloan and Andy "It is in giving that we receive" Marchi were battling it out for the assists lead. Bergen and Carlos "It is in receiving that I receive" Pineda for the scoring lead. Poop was trying to get some revenge on Jah Love for the Poop Friendly: Les Girls, Scarface, Scooper and Voulez. Jim "Drop 'em like Rich Aurelia" Britt was trying to not get socked in the face. Would Poop be tired after having finished their semifinal match only minutes earlier? How would Jah Love hold up against their first team with a record better than .500 this season? Could Poop erase last year's embarrassing Championship loss? Would Bergen have to be carried off of the field and take home by Public Safety again? Would Jamie Lucia show up with Gatorade and Powerbars this year?

Unfortunately, we ran out of space in the Vista so, you'll have to finish reading the article online at the Ultimate Frisbee link. Just point your browser towards www.intramurals.com/acusd/



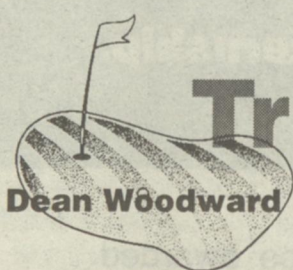
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Contest

Find this logo online, and click on it! The logo is hidden somewhere on one of our active pages. After clicking it, send us the email. All entries will be entered into a drawing for a large Domino's pizzas! Entries close next Monday night!

Last week's winner was announced online at www.intramurals.com/acusd/



Dean Woodward • Special Events

Assuming that the reliable Vista comes out on Thursday (and providing that you are reading it on the day it comes out), the Annual Tri-University Scramble Golf Challenge is tomorrow! You should have signed up a few days ago in the IM office if you were interested. If not, then keep reading to find out what you're gonna miss!

El Cajon, the agrarian heartland and communications center of San Diego County, is the city that won the bid to host this yearly clash of academic heavyweights/novice golfers. "El Co," as the ERG affectionately calls it, won because of its stellar golfing accommodations. I am speaking of the majestic 18-hole Cottonwood Rancho San Diego Golf Course. Ironically, this is where the event will be held. We will invade the premises just before our 1pm shotgun tee off time. At that point, we will be issued carts and positions on the holes.

We will then commence our battle royale with golfers from UCSD and SDSU for an excruciating 18-hole scramble bonanza! Prizes will be given away for the longest drive and the shot that lands closest to the pin from the tee. If this sounds way too advanced for you, no worries- we'll also be giving you raffle tickets as you check-in so that later we can raffle off some of our less impressive prizes.

If you think that you still can't win, then you probably can't, but let's not dwell on that. The overall winner (best score after the round between the three schools) will be considered the grand champion and will receive a generous prize that is in no way related to golf. By this I mean that the prize will be in the vein of a gift certificate to a restaurant that is so nice that your parents wouldn't even take you to if they came to visit. Here's the skinny that I made you wait for until the end of the article:

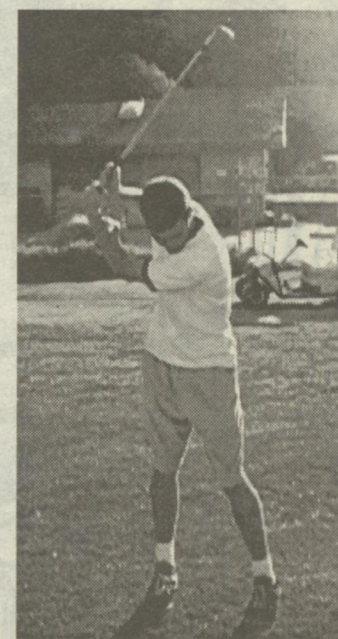
* 4-man Scramble means that you need four golfers to a team.

* Scramble means that, out of each of the four individual tee-offs, your team picks the best placed ball and shoots the subsequent four individual shots from that particular spot.

* For a mere \$37 per person, your cart, green fees, 18-hole round, prizes, food and drinks are taken care of. All you need to do is show up

* If you currently play intercollegiate golf competitively, you are not allowed to play because that's not fair.

* More information is available at intramurals.com/acusd/



IMREC

Kevin Malady prepares to tee-off in last year's scramble golf tournament.

Installment nein

Back to his roots, rating team names

ERG • The ERG

It was rough deciding which league of teams I wanted to rate based on their names this week. I had pressure coming in from all sides. I even found out that I, the ERG, made a mistake. It seems that last weeks' Delt's names were inaccurate. Not that I care, but I thought of a funner (I know it's not a word) thing to do. So Delts 1 are now called the "Playas," while Delts 2 are the "Boozas." So, in English they are the Delts Beaches and the Delts Boozas. Apparently they couldn't use the term "boozers," but that only makes it easier for me to cap on. Anyway, I chose to rate the Co-Rec softball league.

1. Marie's Mafia (1-2) Only a year ago I capped on this team so bad that they forfeited all of their subsequent games out of fear that I would be there heckling them. You may think that the ERG is a really mean guy, but I had to cap on them - they were called Marie's Mob. Although the two references (Mob & Mafia) ultimately point at the same syndicate of underground crime, "Mafia" sounds way better. This team wins the award for going from worst to first in the ERG polls. They are like the '87 Minnesota Twins, only without Kirby Puckett.

2. Hard Dogs (0-3) Not only does the name completely suck, they also can't win a game to save their lives! Having been outscored in two games by a combined score of 50 to 19 (that's a 16.7 to 6.3 average game score), the ERG feels no need to delve into the personal lives of Captain Marissa Post or even her sophomore counterpart Beth Milligan, although I will say that I find it very peculiar that you never see the two of them together at the same time. The saddest thing about this team is that IM Legends, the Felber brothers, are on this team. They are famous for always naming their team "Fat Attack." So why is "Hard Dogs" so appropriate now? ANSWER: It is not... You messed up.

3. Hard Liners (2-1) Larry "You dig my initials?" Linscott has successfully fielded a team of

people I don't know. This makes it harder for me to cap on them, but in the end it is easier on my conscience knowing that no one is going to hunt me down and shoot me after they read this. Two of their star-studded players come from SDSU. The commissioner has formed a committee to investigate the probable illegal recruiting that may be going on, but the ERG just thinks that Larry felt bad for them because they are aged 27 and 29, but are still only sophomores at State. I think they transferred from Mesa. Hard Liners is a dumb name, regardless...I'm surprised that I didn't think of it.

4. The Seamen (1-2) This team also boasts a few SDSU people, only this time they are NROTC members. I do not claim to know what NROTC stands for, nor do I care, but I think that it looks cool when on paper. With that said: NROTC NROTC NROTC NROTC. OK now it's getting old. The ERG thanks KC Helman and Eric Wolheim for fielding a team that once again proves my theory that NROTC softball teams will never be good until we bring back the draft and get players like Joe DiMaggio and Ted Williams back on our side.

5. Chicks w/ Sticks (2-1) Man, I've been the ERG for a long time, and I've seen cool names come and go - but this name has been around since I can remember and it never gets cool to me. You know how sometimes it takes you about three or four times to hear a song before you start to dig it? Well, I've heard this name about three or four times and I can't say that I dig it. And since I am the authority on cool names, I recommend that this team gets a new one. I am shamed to say that Kristen Strough, whom the ERG knows and works with on occasion, is on this team. The next time anyone sees her, could you please tell her to change the name of her team because it is dumb? Thanks.

6. Deez Nutz (0-3) This is the best 0-3 team I have ever seen, and I've seen a lot of 0-3 teams in my day. It would be a gross understatement to call Roman "Me and Snoop go way back" Aja merely an IM Legend. He is more

of an icon. Not quite as revered as the ERG, but he's up there. He always calls his teams Deez Nuts (even though Snoop coined the phrase way back in the nine-deuce and has since gotten over it) and he participates in virtually all the IM events (except for the Hip-Hop class). To rate them any lower would be sacrilege, so I didn't.

7. SLAM (2-1) You can't make too much fun of a team that's 2-1, right? Wrong. One of their wins came via the ever present forfeit, and the second win came against the old people's team. What you can't cap on is the presence of not one but three members of our WCC Championship (and NCAA berthed) women's basketball team!! They rock!! Janeene Arendson, Melissa Glazebrook, and Robyn Fortney are hereby exempt from any trash talking I do on this team, but I probably won't do any in the interest of space.

8. Still Far From Motivated (1-2) One thing that you can't say about Dan "Stinky Hat" Ritter is that he is lazy. Sure, he is far from motivated in many aspects of his

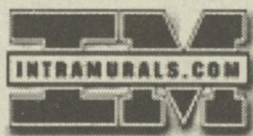
life, but you can always count on his team to be ready to play every Wednesday night. Good job, men.

9. * Long Time Since Prime Time (3-0) Wade Van Dusen, Kaeo Gouveia, Mike "Old Man" Stadler, Catherine Fontecha, Marina Cervantes, and the ERG's idol Dylan "I played in the Hula Bowl and you didn't" Ching average 19 runs a game compared to their opponents' 3.6 runs per game. Midway through any given game, children gather around Mike "Take it easy, my knee is still a little tender" Stadler and he tells stories about being drafted and playing for the Indians, what it is like to be "The Man," and anything else he thinks of between handfuls of sunflower seeds. Meanwhile, Dylan "I refuse to acknowledge the ERG's existence because his stalking scares me" Ching sits quietly at the other end of the dugout waiting for his next at-bat. The star by their name means they have been given the ERG's coveted "Team To Beat" status.

10. * Bombers (3-0) Fresh from their miracle season last year, the Bombers return an extremely strong squad, but lose the powerful Mike "I was drafted" Stadler to Wade Van Dusen's upstart group. Kris "No relation to Nicole" Eggert has hit four home

runs in a game more than once in his life, lefty Erik "Meet me in the Library Late Night" Jorgensen has proven he is a longball threat, and alum Travis Dillenger has been known to tag a four-bagger every now and again. Their strength also shines in their female athletes. Lindsay "Caminiti" Little is a stud ex-softball player. Ditto for Kylee "Release Elian" Hobb. Aimee Tangog likes scoping out the guys on the other team, which provides a nice distraction. This team is also a "Team To Beat."

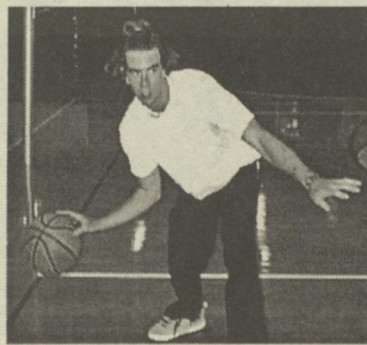
If you have no skills of deduction, I will clarify what the above mumbo jumbo says. The championship game will be Van Dusen vs. Hobb, or L.T.S.P.T. vs. Bombers, if you will. The edge goes to Van Dusen's squad because their name is cooler. A little fuel for the fire is that Kylee has called Mike Stadler a traitor for leaving her team, but Stadler has repeatedly "accidentally" referred to the Bombers as the "B o o b e r s . . ." "All you have to do is change the 'm' to an 'o,'" Stadler said.



Play IMs

Punky & Tontz

Pick the the champions for basketball this season



Punky

-Gots to go with my boss!
Punky like Kukae!



Tontz

-Um, I like Danna, she's nice. I pick Tacklers

CR Basketball
Tacklers vs Ke Kukae

Men's Basketball
Tacklers vs Peku Elemu

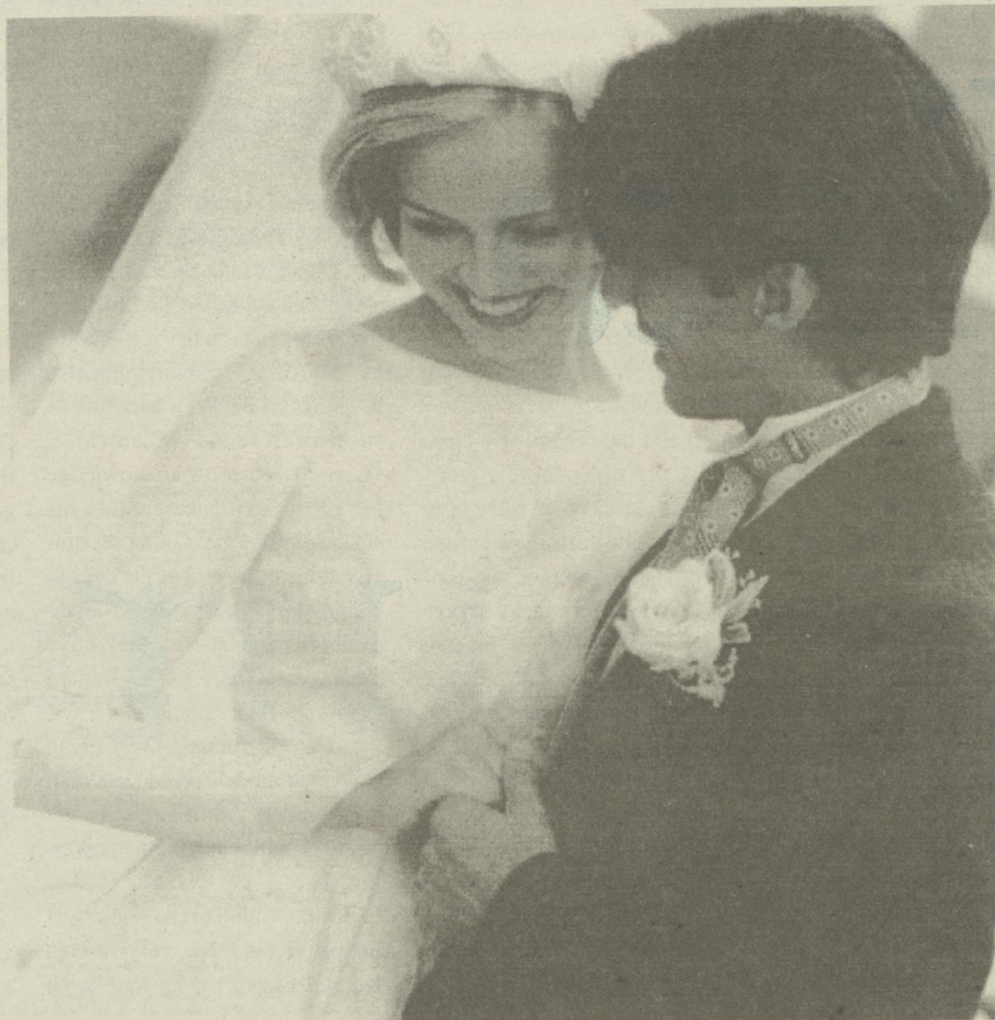
Men's Basketball
Disentary Garys
ST Defense
Pinch Gods
Team No Chance
Baby D & the Infants or
Irish Bombers

-Keysha and Kell are tough baby! Punky says Elemu!

-My favorite team of all time is Disentary Garys... it makes me feel warm inside! Punky says I'm a gonna take them!

-Um, does Danna play on this team too?

-Um, Pinch Gods sounds like that could hurt! ST Defense is my choice, they've been winning all season



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