

THE PRIDE

The Student Newspaper for California State University, San Marcos

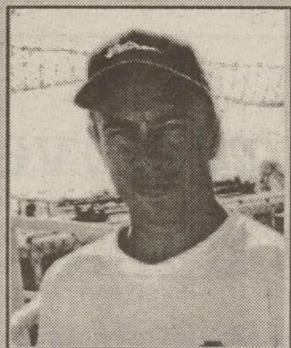
Volume IV, Number 13

Thursday, April 24, 1997

This Week

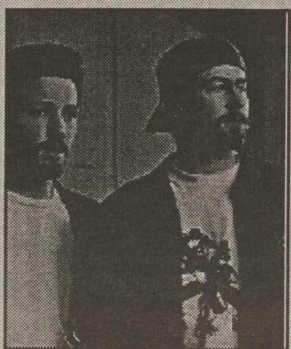


Endowment fund established in teacher's name
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Student seaman studies while at sea

Page 3



Video release 'Basquiat' shows colorful art world

Page 6

A.S. presidential race goes on

By Tony Barton
Editor-in-Chief

The race 1997-'98 Associated Students presidential race will continue, as neither candidate received the required 50 percent plus one vote necessary to take office at student body elections the past two days.

Run-off elections will be held May 7 and 8, in conjunction with a special election that

was scheduled to put an A.S. fee increase of \$10 to student vote. The current A.S. fee is \$20.

Polls closed yesterday with Joe Faltaous

See complete election results, page 2

posting a slim margin over Jack Burke, 316 votes to 310. The required number of votes needed to take office was 342.

A total of 681 students went to the polls over the two-day election period.

The fee increase will require a two-thirds vote to pass. It was pulled from this week's ballot when A.S. board members failed to get President Bill Stacy's approval a required 10 business days prior to election day.

Event goes on, despite threat

By Michael B. Miller
Pride Staff Writer

The April 21 campus celebration devoted to unity through cultural diversity went smoothly, despite bomb threats from an anonymous e-mail sent by white supremacists.

The event was held on the 6-month anniversary of the October 21 "Teach In." Its purpose was to provide an opportunity for the campus to "live the mission statement" — to bring the campus community together in order to perpetuate diversity and unity.

Trio Program Director Calvin One Deer Gavin opened the day with a blessing, filling in for Native American Elder Henry Rodriguez, who cancelled.

The event's keynote speaker was Tim Wise, a nationally known speaker, self proclaimed radical, and trainer specializing in race relations, political movements, and diversity. He started out on a humorous note pointing out punctuation and spelling mistakes in the anonymous e-mail message, which threatened a bomb would be placed on campus if Monday's event took place. Wise went on to speak about affirmative action and illegal immigration.

See Wise, pg. 7



Photo by Michael B. Miller/ The Pride

Speaker Tim Wise addressed students in front of The Dome cafe Monday as a part of the celebration of unity commemorating the six-month anniversary of the October 21 "Teach-In."

Arts & Lectures Series

Taiko drummers fuse cultural sounds

By Jennifer Talak
Pride Staff Writer



The Japanese Taiko drumming group San Jose Taiko will bring its multicultural musical presentation here next Thursday.

Drums, drums and more drums are coming to campus with the group San Jose Taiko — which takes traditional Japanese music and incorporates contemporary American, jazz, African and Latin styles into it.

P.J. Hirabayashi, founder of the group, explains its music as traditional Japanese drumming that can be understood and appreciated in today's multicultural world.

Taiko has its roots in the daily life of the common people; priests used drums to dispel evil spirits; samurai used taiko to instill fear in the enemy and courage in themselves; peasants used taiko in their prayers for rain, in festivals and in thanksgiving for a bountiful harvest.

San Jose Taiko has taken the essence and voice of the traditional taiko and infused it with the vitality and freshness of their American spirits to create a dynamic and new compelling art form. They use the power and beauty of the Taiko to transcend cultural barriers and foster greater understanding of Japanese American culture.

The resulting sounds are contemporary, exciting, new and innovative, bridging many styles, while still resonant of the Asian soul in America.

Traditionally, Taiko was an exclusive male tradition and originally the group consisted primarily of men. But, over time, more women have

See Taiko, pg. 7

WHAT'S NEWS

Gratefull Dead lecture set

A free lecture on the Grateful Dead by author Sandy Troy will be held from 6 to 9 pm Tuesday in ACD 102.

The presentation is part of a class — Music and Culture in the United States - and will include rare audio and video clips, artwork and collectors' tapes.

Call Steve Wiener, 750-4363, for information

Submit to Guts publication

The Literary Society is accepting written works or reproducible art for its May 5 'Guts' publication. Submissions must be in by April 25.

The Literary Society volunteers at the Women's Resource Center in Oceanside from 6 to 7:30 pm Wednesday evenings. The group sponsors writing circles from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Tuesdays in the Dome and from noon to 1 pm Wednesdays in FCB 105.

Contact club president Denise Lampman at litsoc@mailhost1.csusm.edu or 598-8027 for information.

Housing advisors needed

Community living advisors are being sought for the campus housing at the Islands apartments. Applications, available in the Housing and Residential Education Services Office, 120 Craven Rd, Suite 102, must be turned in by May 1. Call April Sellge, 750-4958.

Final leadership seminar

-A seminar on "Leadership from a Woman's Perspective" will be held at 2 pm Wednesday, April 30 in Commons 206. Speaker is Lura Poggi, resident director at the University of San Diego.

Eye Crisis seeking volunteers

Eye Crisis Program is pursuing volunteers to answer crisis hotline telephone calls or work with medical and law enforcement professionals on sexual assault, domestic violence or suicide calls.

Those available in the evening and on weekends and Spanish speakers are desperately needed. Training begins May 1. Call Linda Courton at 747-6281 for more information.

Clear immunization holds

All students born after January 1, 1957, are required to present proof of measles and rubella immunizations before they are allowed to register for a second term. If unable to obtain acceptable proof of immunization, stop by Student Health Services on the following dates and times to receive the immunization at no cost. No appointment necessary.

Clinics are offered at the following days and times.

Monday, April 28, 9:00 - 11:00, 1:00 - 4:00

Thursday, May 1, 9:00 - 11:00, 1:00 - 4:00

Tuesday, May 6, 9:00 - 11:00, 1:00 - 4:00

Friday, May 9, 9:00 - 1:00

Monday, May 12, 9:00 - 11:00, 1:00 - 4:00

Thursday, May 15, 9:00 - 11:00, 1:00 - 4:00

Tuesday, May 20, 9:00 - 11:00, 1:00 - 4:00

Student Health Services is located on the corner of Craven Road and Twin Oaks Valley Road, in the Palomar Pomerado Health System building, Suite 100. Call 750-4915.

A.S. election results

Winning candidates are bolded. Number of votes received follow each name.

A.S. President

Joe Faltaous 316

Jack Burke 310

Resulted in a run-off

Vice President — Internal Affairs

Raul Roberto Ramos 316

Joy Moore 281

Vice President — External Affairs

Alex Ramirez 376

Gerald Davis 205

Secretary

Erik Dawson 465

Treasurer

David Alimi 461

Programming Director

Vanessa Delacruz 248

Stacy Jackson 227

Alice Taroma 57

Recreation Director

Erik Hartung 463

Child Care Representative at Large

Terra Beauchamp 482

Undergraduate Representative at Large

Ginger Reyes 271

Najwa Nasser 167

Melissa Johnson 149

Samantha Cahill 89

College of Arts & Sciences

Kathleen Clay 236

Debi Murphy 207

College of Business Administration

Earl Hearvey 101

Edrey Velasquez 100

The offices of College of Education Representative (2) and Post Baccalaureate Representative (2) are empty.

College of Education receives donation in teacher's name

By Pamela Sivula

Pride Staff Writer

An anonymous donor has given CSUSM \$500,000 in the memory of California elementary school teacher Virginia Hansen. With the donation, the school will set up an endowment fund, using the interest to enhance the education of primary grade teachers.

The fund, which will be called the Virginia Hansen Endowment Fund for Excellence in Primary Education, will be an ongoing resource for CSUSM and the College of Education. CSUSM President Bill W. Stacy said, "The Hansen professorship will help the university continue to improve our preparation of primary school teachers. It will provide even more resources to develop, enhance, and promote high quality programs for educators who have the important task of educating our elementary school children."

Hansen taught elementary school for 35 years in Pomona and Los Angeles. She often worked with professors at CSU Northridge to enhance her teaching skills.

Steve Lilly, Dean of the College of Education said, "This professorship will continue the vision, the spirit, and dedication exemplified by Virginia Hansen. Her commitment to collaboration, innovation, and preparation of elementary school teachers will live on through this endowment."

"The Hansen professorship will make a tremen-



Elementary school teacher Virginia Hansen taught in Pomona and Los Angeles for 35 years

dous difference in the quality of education for young children in North County, and will influence our teacher education programs at CSUSM for generations to come."

The criteria the College of Education will use for choosing candidates for the professorship was not available at press time.

FEATURES

The Pride, Thursday, April 24, 1997

Putting an end to 'feeling' in the classroom

Guest Columnist

Patti Seleski

First things first: I don't care how you feel.

When I tell students that on the first day of class, I see them recoil in disbelief. Some seem ready to bolt for the president's office to protest the presence in their classroom of a cold, uncaring faculty member who is not committed to their personal self-development.

And then I say it again: "I don't care how you feel. In this class, I care how you think."

But, students start to say, "You have to care. You're supposed to care how we feel."

Let me explain. It's not that I don't have feelings myself or that I don't care about my feelings or the feelings of others. But I'm not interested in feelings as a way of knowing and learning history.

What I am interested in is understanding how and why people in the past created the world we have today. And I'm interested in what actions we can take to change that world.

The kind of understanding I'm talking about and that I'm interested in requires critical thinking — not critical feeling. There's no such thing as critical feeling, although if there were, you can be sure that the state of California would require you to take three units of it.

Feelings are beyond criticism. They merely are. They can't be argued with, they're hard to talk about with any precision, and they can't be felt by anyone else in the same way.

It's true that feelings are important. They are a powerful way of motivating oneself and others to action. But action itself requires thinking. It requires develop-

See Saleski, pg. 7



CSUSM student Jason McCormick has continued his senior year as a liberal studies major aboard the S.S. Universe Explorer.

Student-seaman studies while sailing

By Heather Phillips-Graham

Pride Staff Writer

Experience the world, travel the open seas, expand, explore...and go to college. Jason McCormick, a senior Liberal Studies major is doing just that. He is the first CSUSM student to participate in the Semester at Sea program offered through the University of Pittsburgh.

The program combines the adventure of a lifetime with fully transferable lower and upper division credit. More than 28,000 students have studied and traveled to 60 countries around the world under the program, which was es-

tablished in 1963.

The 23,500-ton ship, the S.S. Universe Explorer, enrolls 500-600 students each semester. The Explorer is equipped with classrooms, a library, theater, student union and cafeteria, a swimming pool, basketball and volley court and a weight room.

While at sea, students attend classes daily. When in port, they participate in travel excursions, field study and home stays with host families. The program encourages students to visit places of historic, cultural and religious significance.

The Fall 1997 voyage departs September 14 and returns December 23. Countries on the itinerary include: Canada, Japan, Shanghai, Hong Kong, Vietnam, India, Egypt, Israel, Turkey, Greece, and Morocco.

The Spring 1998 voyage departs Feb. 6 and returns May 17. The itinerary includes: Venezuela, Brazil, South Africa, Kenya, India, Malaysia, Vietnam, Hong Kong and Japan.

The cost for one semester, without financial aid, is \$12,580 for standard accommodations. This fee includes tuition, room, board, and passage fare.

Financial aid is available for students who qualify.

The program combines home campus aid with program grants. It also offers some non-tradition forms of aid, to make this unique experience a reality for as many students as possible.

If you would like more information call the University of Pittsburgh at (800) 854-0195.

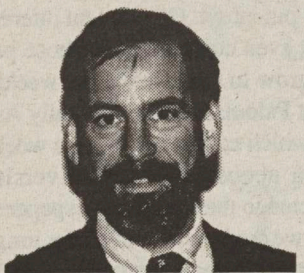
Crisis can be learning experience

I recently came across an interesting report from the *Journal of Personality*

about research at UC Davis. A large sample of ordinary people were interviewed and 80% felt that their major life

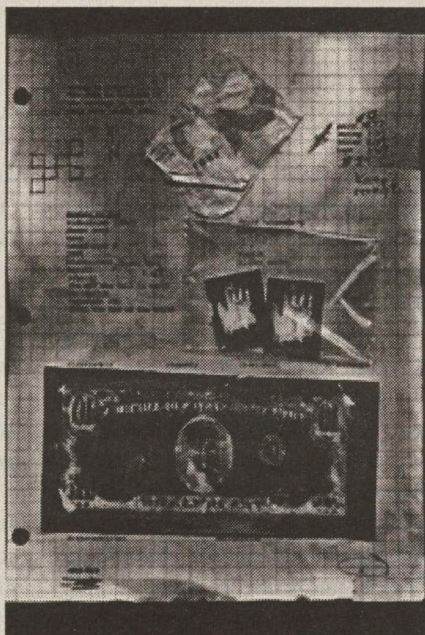
crises (such as divorces, job losses, etc.) were useful in teaching them about how to deal better with later situations. An even

See Kreisler, pg. 7



Dr. Fritz Kreisler

Web site preserves human uniqueness



THE PLACE web site takes its viewers into a world of postmodern graphic design. Handwritten and typewriter-set text adds an element of of humanism and uniqueness that the world wide web has for the most part abandoned.

Web Stuff
Your Cyber-Guide
David Johnson

If you're feeling adventurous and in the mood for an ephemeral journey into the world of visual metaphor and postmodern graphic design, I highly recommend THE PLACE website.

But, be warned, this place is not for the faint of heart, nor for those who use the Internet as a mindless excuse to put off homework and/or abandon the outside world.

THE PLACE, located at <http://gertrude.art.uiuc.edu/ludgate/the/place/place2.html>, is a wonderful example of how art and life can coexist on and through the electronic media. In fact, its purpose is to explore the so-called "information age," and bring to light (and mind) the many, if not infinite ways, we as individuals use and perceive the world around us.

Plus, it's simply a cool place to hang out and marvel at the depth and breadth of creator Joseph Squire's imagination and vision.

My favorite feature of THE PLACE, is a section called "Urban Diary," where Squire chronicles and dissects the nuances, issues and themes that compel us in everyday life. Using images as metaphors (not similes) he beckons us to follow him through the complexities of his world so that we might come to understand the complexities and banalities of our own.

"Urban Diary" is a compilation of images, animate and inanimate, set against the backdrop of graph paper — yeah, the stuff you used in fifth-grade math that lets you make cool three-dimensional boxes and mazes. And, most of the text presented on each page is actually hand-written or typed via typewriter onto the paper background.

He does this in order to present a sense in "work" of "individuality," which unfor-

See Web Stuff, pg. 7

OPINION

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The Pride, Thursday, April 24, 1997

THE PRIDE

Serving Cal State San Marcos since 1993

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West Coast Community Newspapers

Letters to the editor are welcome.

All letters must be signed by the author and include his or her name, mailing address, major and phone number. Send letters to: The Pride, Cal State San Marcos, CA 92069. The Pride's mail box is located in The office of Student Activities, Commons 203. Letters may be edited based on content and space limitations

The Pride is on-line.

The Pride student newspaper has an on-line edition available on the World Wide Web. Readers can call it up by typing the following address:

<http://www.csusm.edu/pride>

E-mail us with your letters and suggestions to:
pride@mailhost1.csusm.edu

Advertising information is available.

Ad rates and deadlines, demographics and production schedule are available upon request. Call The Pride office at 750-4998, or request one using the above e-mail address.

The Pride is published every two weeks for the California State University, San Marcos community. It is distributed on campus, as well as at local businesses. The Pride is a student-run publication. Any opinion expressed in The Pride does not necessarily reflect the views of CSUSM officials or staff, the Associated Students or any other campus organization. Unsigned editorials represent the views of The Pride. Signed editorials are the opinion of the writer and do not necessarily reflect the views of The Pride editorial staff. The Pride reserves the right to not print submitted letters if they contain lewd or libelous comments or implications. Letters will not be published if their sole purpose is to advertise. The Pride also reserves the right to edit letters for space. Submitted articles by students and contributors are also subject to editing prior to being published. Offices are located on the third floor of the Academic Hall, room 14-324. Our phone number is (619) 750-4998 and faxes can be sent to (619) 750-4030. Our e-mail address is pride@mailhost1.csusm.edu. Contents ©1997, The Pride. Please recycle this newspaper

Student beliefs deserve respect

Michael B. Miller

Last year, at this university based on diversity and understanding, I was insulted because of my beliefs. My ideals were reduced verbally to being ridiculous.

So why am I bothered? What should I care about what one individual thinks of me?

Well, I didn't walk away because I was in class. And the individual insulting me was the professor.

The class topics for the day were sexually transmitted diseases, relationships, AIDS statistics and homosexuality. At one point, the professor asked if anyone disapproved of homosexuality.

I have been raised a Christian since birth. And my beliefs are based on the morals and ideals expressed in Biblical scripture.

I was the only student in class to raise a hand in answer to the professor's question. And I responded that homosexuality was deemed wrong in several areas of the Bible. I had no qualms in expressing that opinion, since this institution of understanding and shared knowledge prides itself on the fact that it is acceptable to voice beliefs without being looked upon as an ignorant deviant.

In my answer to the professor, I did not refer to homosexuals in any derogatory manner. And I did not, and do not, advocate the persecution of homosexuals.

But the professor found what I had to say disturbing and questioned whether I was sure the Bible said that homosexuality was wrong. He added that his brother was a homosexual.

The professor dedicated his next class to re-

futing what I had said. He did extensive research and even brought overhead projector transparencies to class to help illustrate his points. He capped it off by citing examples from the Bible which he said clearly disproved its validity. Finally, he added, "The Bible cannot be taken literally."

He did not say this was his opinion. Rather, he stated it as fact. I later learned that he gave this same lecture to other classes.

To me, such a statement insults the very core of what I believe in, not to mention also insulting all those who believe in the Bible. It was a terrible thing for a professor to do.

Let's say I were to dispute the validity of the Koran, issuing daily flyers calling it barbaric, ignorant and nothing to be taken seriously. Instantly, I would be branded a bigot, and perhaps even kicked off of the university for actions that ran contrary to its mission statement.

If I were to send e-mail messages to the Associated Students, Inc., criticizing the choice of a Native American to bless last week's celebration of unity on campus, I certainly would have been called a racist.

If I were to set up a booth in Founder's Plaza and pass out literature describing reincarnation and karma as absurd concepts upheld only by backward cultures, at the very least I would be considered ethnocentric.

But the professor who insulted my religious beliefs several times in front of dozens of students continues to be viewed as an open-minded, non-biased individual.

That's wrong. In this school based on diversity, it's only right that traditional beliefs and morals should be given the same respect as those of minority cultures.

It's easy to point out flaws

Tony Barton

If there's one thing I've learned about this campus, it's that most everyone is good at pointing fingers, yet few are strong enough to do anything to support their accusing digits.

How many times I've gotten the rude e-mail from some misbegotten soul criticizing The Pride's spelling errors or lack of coverage for some event they deem important. Such complaints are often enjoyable to reply to.

Take one recent criticism for example.

I received an e-mail chastising The Pride for failing to report on the A.S. fee increase that was originally planned for this week's ballot. Somehow this keen-eyed critic missed the three-column banner headline draped across the front page of last issue, which read "A.S. fee increase off ballot."

Did I miss something? Perhaps we should have replaced The Pride's flag with one reading: "THERE IS NO A.S. FEE INCREASE ON THE BALLOT." It may have taken most of the front page, but perhaps it would have saved me the energy of typing up a cynical reply.

Another e-mail came criticizing my opinion column which suggested April 21 focus more on unity than diversity. This person felt that the day had been sufficiently publicized as a day of unity; that I hadn't done my homework and was making a redundant point.

She was entitled to her opinion, of course, so I replied with my opinion of her opinion (in a polite, explanatory manner), thanked her for the comments and asked if she'd like them printed as a Letter to the Editor.

I was not even granted the courtesy of a reply declining the offer.

One of the most amusing criticisms came from the mother of a student, who said The Pride was not even comparable to the San Diego State Daily Aztec — and that we should be ashamed of that.

After I agreed with her and did a resource comparison for her, (when my boss at the North County Times worked at the Aztec, they had a staff of 10 full-time reporters, making \$8 an hour), she quickly recanted her statement.

It seems that everyone from students to administrative vice presidents are very quick to pull out the Aztec or the UCSD Guardian and a copy of The Pride with its misspelled headlines (which usually occur as a result of my caffeine induced rage at 2:30 am), sit back, and say "I can't believe this! The Pride is pathetic compared to these papers!"

My answer to them is this: you get out of something what is put into it. Our student interest and funding is not even comparable to those papers. We need to grow to the level of the weekly Telescope paper at Palomar before the Daily Aztec, or Guardian, which comes out twice a week.

But complain about a lack of university money being directed to the student newspaper is pointless. Indeed, we could whine until our lungs shrivel — the campus is simply strapped for cash. Until the students get serious about wanting a good paper, The Pride won't grow.

To those pointing those wavering fingers towards The Pride's office with shame: I challenge you to come make this newspaper better. If you truly have ideas that could make an impact, why not act on them. Talk is, as we know, cheap.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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The Pride, Thursday, April 24, 1997

Media ignored Waco anniversary

I was appalled by the one-sided coverage in today's news and am convinced the media is extremely biased and not objective. Today is April 19th, the anniversary of the Waco massacres and the Oklahoma City bombing. Herman and Chomsky's propaganda model, as described in their book "Manufacturing Consent," has played itself out perfectly in this instance.

Because the Waco victims were viewed as "unworthy," they are given little or no coverage by the media. But because the OK bombing victims were seen as "worthy" victims, the media drools over their deaths.

Murder is murder. In both cases, dozens of innocent men, women and children were murdered. So why does the media "obsess" over OK bombing anniversary but not the Waco Massacre? Could it be the media is stupid and simply forgot? Perhaps the government does not want to be reminded of its destruction and murder of a religious group by federal FBI and BATF agents. However, the media loves glorifying dead bureaucrats — those people who live off other people's taxes. In simple terms, the message I get is that the media thinks government can do no wrong while religious groups are better left dead and forgotten. Although I profess no religious inclinations, it seems to me that this is a matter of propaganda, not truth seeking.

Nonetheless, wrongdoing was done in both cases. However, I have yet to see the killers of the Waco massacre indicted or brought to justice yet (Janet Reno, Bill Clinton et al.). Why aren't the media asking those questions?

Mary Szterpakiewicz
Alumnus

See page 6
for fax number,
e-mail and
mailing
addresses



Give us your opinion

You can get your opinion
across on The Pride's Letters
to the Editor page.

Simply write a letter
containing what you want
printed, include your name,
grade level and major along
with a phone number and
mailing address.

Letters are subject to editing
based on length and content.

THE PRIDE
SERVING CAL STATE SAN MARCOS
SINCE 1993

ENTERTAINMENT

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The Pride, Thursday, April 24, 1997

Schnabel's 'Basquiat' a must-see

By Jennifer Talak
Pride Staff Writer

Jean-Michel Basquiat was just another New York graffiti writer until he was discovered at the age of 19. Overnight, he became a success, the darling new enterprise for the vultures of the art world. At the age of 27, he was dead from an overdose of heroin.

The movie "Basquiat" is a poignant story about a Haitian/Puerto Rican/American artist (played by Jeffrey Wright) growing up in New York City. Andy Warhol, played by David Bowie, is the first person to recognize the brilliance of Jean's art work. Dennis Hopper plays Warhol's

-On Video-

agent, a very savvy man who immediately sizes up what the Basquiat fame may have in store for him. Warhol's friendship with the artist is the one reliable relationship Basquiat believes in amidst the art world vultures.

Warhol's death is the catalyst that begins Basquiat's deterioration. Basquiat wanders, or rather shuffles, through fame not seeming to really care about much. His paintings are displayed in the world's biggest museums and hung in the homes of the most prominent collectors. He is wined and dined, but always gives the impression of being empty and alone.

He maintains a rather innocent looking smile and says very little. He has an easy way with women, but his drug habit gets in the way of any long-lasting relationship. His meeting with Big Pink, a prostitute, played by Courtney Love seems playfully innocent until Big Pink meets his girlfriend, Gina. Basquiat comes face to face reality.

At his first one-man show in New York, Basquiat's father and stepmother show up and there is no connection between father and son; it is an empty relationship. His mother is in a mental institution. In a very moving scene -- the only one in which Basquiat shows any emotion -- he arrives at the mental institution after closing hours, banging on the gate, pleading with the guard to let him in so he can take his mother home. He leaves empty handed.

At the beginning of the movie, Basquiat peers through a window to watch Warhol and friends attend an art opening. Through a small opening in the glass, he is allowed to see what he is not a part of.

Jeffrey Wright gives a brilliant performance as Basquiat in a story depicting the colorful and also tawdry side of the art world. The video features cameo performances by David Bowie, Gary Oldman, Christopher Walken and Courtney Love. It is a remarkable first film by Julian Schnabel with an excellent musical score by John Cale. If you missed this movie at the theater be sure to check it out on rental.



Jay (Jason Mewes) and Silent Bob (Kevin Smith) in a diner, offering their very different thoughts on love in "Chasing Amy." Both Jay and Silent Bob appear in all three of Smith's movies.

Smith's 'Amy' his finest effort yet

By Gabe Lundeen
Entertainment Editor

Director Kevin Smith has truly faced a rollercoaster of public opinion. His first film, "Clerks," was a low-budget independent success story, filmed entirely in black-and-white and relying on the script's biting humor to carry the movie.

His next movie, "Mallrats," was much maligned by critics, who almost immediately began dismissing Smith as immature and a "one hit wonder." It was not on par with "Clerks," but it was nowhere near the turkey the media made it out to be. The backlash was so harsh that Smith felt the need to publicly apologize for the movie.

With his new film, "Chasing Amy," Smith shows both critics and audiences that he has what it takes to make a mature movie, one that can combine somewhat juvenile humor with serious issues successfully.

"Chasing Amy" is a love story, but not in the traditional sense. Holden (Ben Affleck) and Banky ("Mallrats" Jason Lee) are best friends who create an independent comic book, called "Bluntman and Chronic." Holden falls in love with Alyssa (Joey Lauren Adams), another independent comic creator, and a lesbian. As they fall in love, friendship and sexual conflicts occur, and each is forced to reevaluate the way they feel about the opposite sex.

Dabbling in a controversial topic that more often than not seems to be preached about rather than dealt with rationally, the characters deal with homosexuality in a realistic way. Holden begins with naïve questions about lesbianism, asking about vari-

ous practices and reasons, and Alyssa responds in a forthcoming, honest way -- by saying she didn't want to eliminate half the population as a potential soul mate.

There are "dyke" references abound from the bigoted Banky, who typifies an unfortunately high portion of the population, who are afraid to face their prejudices and sexual hang-ups, and can only express themselves through name-calling.

The actors deserve a lot of the credit for making "Chasing Amy" work. Much of the dialogue has the feel of free-flowing conversation. The actors don't sound like they are reciting lines written for them, they sound like they were having an actual conversation that just so happened to be videotaped.

Unlike many movies, the homosexual characters and topics are dealt with in an honest way, defying the stereotypical, lisping image. They are just as convincing in the more serious scenes as they are sitting in a diner comparing their sexual battle wounds.

That takes some definite skill, which

the actors show they have. Jason Lee was the best part of "Mallrats," and again provides a witty dose of sarcasm. Affleck plays Holden very true to life, a self-proclaimed liberal who, once actually faced with a difficult situation, hides behind his own taboos and misconceptions. And Adams overcomes an annoying squeaky voice to infuse Alyssa with a certain wisdom and charisma.

"Chasing Amy" does a fine job at dispelling one of society's many myths about homosexuality, that any gay relationship is entirely based in sex. Because of this, homosexual portrayals in movies almost always become pathetic caricatures of a limp-wristed stereotype, like the ones in last year's "The Birdcage."

It seems that the public at large cannot accept homosexuality as a normal act, and the only time it is acceptable is when it is done in a flamboyant drag queen style.

"Chasing Amy" features a refreshingly interesting gay person in Alyssa. She has no identifying traits that would ordinarily

See Amy, pg. 7

Arts & Lectures Series

Japanese Taiko drumming group San Jose Taiko will bring its multicultural ensemble to campus at noon, Thursday May 8 on The Dome stage. See related story, page 1.

San Jose Taiko will also perform at the California Center for the Arts Escondido at 8 pm Friday, May 9. Call 738-4100 for information.

Seleski

from page 3

ing and carrying out a strategy. It requires being able to explain to others what you are going to do and why you are going to do that rather than something else. It requires a discipline that feelings by their very nature resist.

I don't exactly require my students to check their feelings at the door. In fact, I do want them to feel horrified by nine million dead in World War I, 60 million-plus dead in World War II and by the continuing genocide in Rwanda and Bosnia.

I want students to feel anger and disgust in face of war, genocide and injustice. But I also want them to acknowledge what a large role feelings — such as hatred and nationalistic passion — played in causing these events.

At the end of the day, I want students to be able to explain how and why these things happened and continue to happen. And most importantly, I want them to think about how we might avoid the same mistakes in the future.

So don't bother telling me how you feel. I really don't care.

But do tell me what you think and let's start talking and doing something about this world we live in.

Patty Seleski is the History Program director and an associate history professor

Amy

from page 6

distinguish her as gay, such as a butch haircut and a man-hating attitude. Smith abandons the obvious, and rather than feeding into the current norm, he actually takes the time to develop the character as a human being rather than a gay human being.

Kevin Smith is one of the most talented new directors working today, and is obviously just beginning to realize his potential. His previous payload of humor, while considerable, lacked a certain something, and that was a greater purpose.

They were jokes for the sake of pure amusement. While a healthy dose of that is essential to "Chasing Amy's" success as a film, the jokes are now held together by a cohesive plot and sensitive themes that are tackled in a realistic and tasteful manner. Sandwiched between dramatic moments, the jokes seem a lot funnier. He is just now honing his art, so don't expect this to be the last we hear from him.

The perfect combination of drama and comedy, a movie to both make you laugh and make you think, "Chasing Amy" is an extremely enjoyable movie that deserves to be seen. If you consider yourself a free-thinking, liberal type, it just might cause you to rethink just how liberal you truly are.

Taiko

from page 1

joined the group and presently make up the majority.

Vigorous physical training is necessary in order to build enough stamina to be able to play drums, some of which are the size of a sumo wrestler and the biggest star is a drum suspended from the ceiling that weighs 1,000 pounds. Years of training are required to help build the body into a drum-

beating machine.

Group members also study both traditional and contemporary dance with leading choreographers, producing performances that are fully choreographed, theatrical extravaganzas of musical sound.

San Jose Taiko will demonstrate its exciting musical capabilities on the Dome stage at noon Thursday, May 8. At 8 pm the following day, the group will be playing at the California Center for the Arts Escondido. Half price tickets may be available for students the day of the event. Call 738-4100.

Wise

from page 1

One of Wise's main points suggested that white men should be involved in the giving minorities equal opportunities. "(Whites) have the privilege of audience;

the privilege of being listened to," Wise was reported as saying in the North County Times.

The celebration continued with a jazz band, speakers, poetry and food sales.

It is the hope of Activating Diversity Committee that similar celebrations will be held Oct. 21 and April 21 each year.

**Apply to work on
The Pride**
Pick up an application in
Student Activities, COM 203

Kreisler

from page 3

larger majority felt that the crises were not altogether negative. Many interviewees believed they could turn such events to their advantage, and these were just the people who displayed fewer depression-like feelings and who had a greater sense of mastery in their lives when disaster struck.

This was an interesting counterpoint to what is a far more publicized phenomenon: crises and trauma damage us and are responsible for our shortcomings. Why are some people hurt so badly when things go wrong in life while others are so resilient?

Certainly one factor is how bad the crises are. People who are subject to more severe or violent trauma, or who are traumatized more often, are certainly less likely to emerge unscathed. Studies of survivors of childhood molestation certainly bear this out, in that later problems with feelings of dread, fear, and depression are much more likely among abuse victims whose treatment was worst or most violent. Analogously, people who have experienced long periods of severe poverty, hunger, and social discrimination are more likely to be marked by these terrible chronic experiences.

Another factor, though, that is somewhat related to these is how people understand what happens to them. An enormous amount of research has established that when people have lousy things happen to them and view these as temporary, isolated events, the consequences of those events are less damaging. What's more, people who consistently think of things in this way tend to be happier, more successful, and healthier.

On the other hand, people who tend to think of setbacks as typical, who see disasters as likely to happen to them over and over across all the areas of their lives are more likely

to be depressed, fearful, and have more illnesses and failures as well.

Of course, most of us fall between the extremes. But you might experiment with yourself: when something goes wrong for you, pay close attention to what goes through your mind about it. For example, imagine getting an exam back with a grade that is less than you'd hoped for. Why did this happen?

"This school is impossible!"

"I am too stupid to get this stuff."

"Everything is going wrong for me again."

These are all "big" explanations, and they seem to say the dice are loaded against you far beyond this particular exam. Compare them to these:

"I must have not studied properly for that test."

"That professor had a bad day! Where'd she come up with those questions?"

"Well, it's only one test."

Which of the two types are more likely to recover from this blow? Which is more likely to learn something useful from this failure? Which seems more familiar to you? What may have helped the people in the UC Davis study feel so positive about the crises in their lives was that they had learned to believe that *such events were inevitable yet temporary*. They may have come to ask themselves what they could learn from the events and their responses to the events that could be useful or helpful later and to take this asking very seriously. In this way, as the research showed, people really grew from their misfortunes.

Intrigued by these ideas? Counseling & Psychological Services can recommend some terrific books and articles that can help you change how you interpret events to become more positive and realistic. Better still, if you think this might be something you'd like to work on, stop by Craven Hall 5310 or call 750-4910 for an appointment. Our staff can be extremely helpful in this very worthy enterprise!

Dr. Fritz Kreisler is the coordinator of Counseling and Psychological Services

Web Stuff

from page 3

Unfortunately has become muddled or even lost as we become increasingly dependent upon technology — trapped within the confines of this ordered grid, or what we now call "The Web."

If all this philosophical mumbo-jumbo weighs a little heavy on your already saturated mind, then don't worry: You can still visit and even enjoy this site.

Just take it for what it is worth and remember that art, life, body and mind are just constructs — images we create and use to complicate an already complicated world. So relax, if you can.

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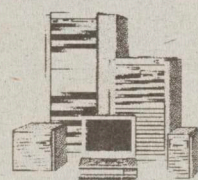
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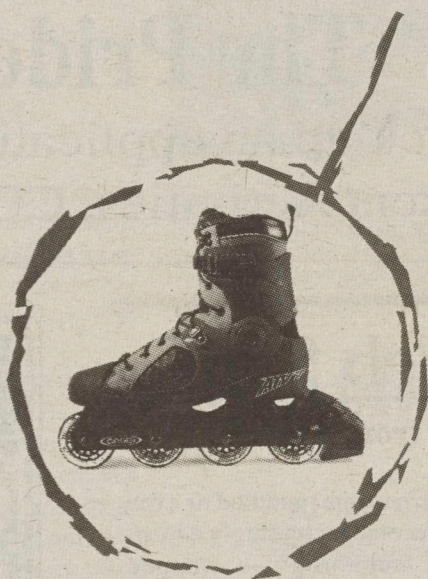
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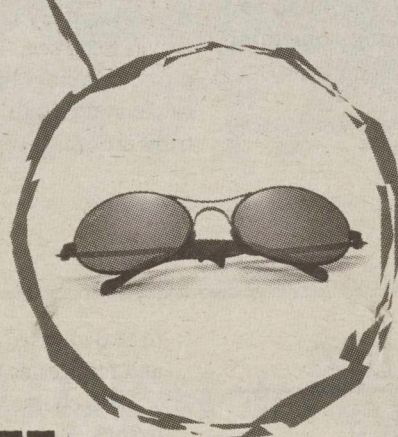
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