

Problems at UVA

BY AMANDA JOHNSON
Pride Staff Writer

False alarms, mold, and flooding are a few of the problems the University Village Apartment (UVA) residents have faced since student housing opened last year.

Fire alarms, located in each apartment near the stove and restroom, have been the major disturbance at the UVA. There have been 65 false alarms since the beginning of the semester.

"The fire alarms are sensitive, they have to be, to avoid fires," said Brian Dawson, director of UVA. "They go off more frequently in the beginning of the year as students have to understand where the sensitivity level is at."

The majority of false alarms on campus are from cooking. Only two false alarms this semester are from something else, one from steam and one from a blow dryer.

"The first day I moved in I made pizza and it set off the alarm," said resident Robert Bothmer. "Since then every time I cook it seems they go off, but I gotta eat."

Every time an alarm goes off a police officer is sent to make sure there isn't a fire and the Resident Assistant (RA) on call goes to

See UVA, page 2

Moore info, Moore tickets

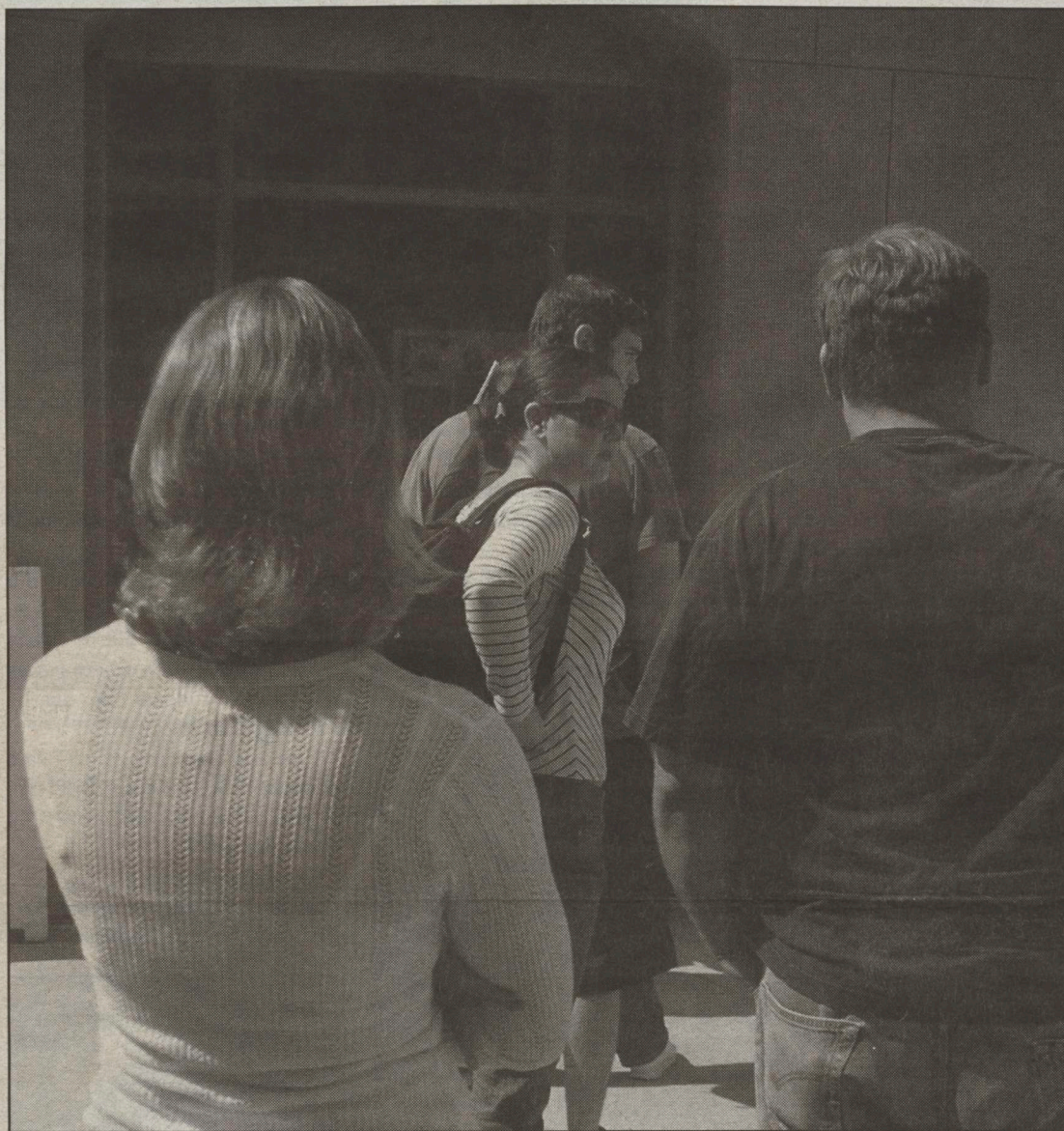


Photo by Jason Encabo / The Pride

Students wait in line to receive their free ticket for Michael Moore's October 12 appearance at the Del Mar Fairgrounds. Tickets were recently limited to only students due to the overwhelming response in ticket sales from the community.

ASI, Moore decide to halt ticket sales to community to avoid early sellout

BY LINDSAY RIEDEL
Pride Staff Writer

Michael Moore's scheduled tour stop at the Del Mar Fairgrounds on October 12 has created such an overwhelming demand for tickets that sales to non-students have been discontinued until October 7.

Since Wednesday, September 29, distribution of tickets has been reserved for students, and each student is allowed only his or her one free ticket. Any additional ticket purchases must be done when regular ticket sales resume on Thursday, October 7 at 8:30 a.m.

On the morning of September 29, it was agreed between Moore's representatives and ASI that priority would be given to students in regards to the distribution of tickets.

According to Manal Yamout, president of ASI, this decision is due to the fact that on the first day of sales, 4,000 out of a total of 10,000 tickets were distributed, and a large majority of those tickets were sold to the community. ASI and Moore representatives felt it was necessary to give students priority in the ticket sales to make sure all students have the opportunity to get a ticket before the supply runs out. The tickets are not limited to CSUSM students but are available to all students with valid identification.

The decision to hold off all sales has sparked unrest with community members who were told tickets would be available as of Tuesday, September 28. Because of the sudden decision and the

See MOORE, page 2

New CoBA space, no new classes

BY MARIBEL MAYO
Pride Staff Writer

The business building currently under construction comes with guarantees of more space for students and faculty, but no assurances of additional class sections.

"I can't exactly say that students will be

able to get more classes," said Regina Eisenbach, a member of the building committee, "it isn't a direct relationship."

As a growing campus, class availability is an issue for students. The new business building will not necessarily help with the increase in number of classes for business major students, but it will provide more space.

"It's great that they're opening a new business building because more and more people are becoming business majors on campus, but it would seem logical for them to increase the number of classes," said Raquel Regno a business major.

Slated to open during the spring of 2006, the building will have a gross square footage of 75,765 feet, will include a mix of 33 tiered and flat classrooms, 88 faculty offices and hold 6 department chair offices. It will consist of four floors and will be located west of the Palm Court and east of the Academic Hall.

"The building will help by providing space to accommodate out growth," said Eisenbach.

On the first floor there will be both undergraduate and MBA advising areas to make it easier for students to get their questions answered. The communication, economic and political science departments will all call the new building home.

The design incorporates new ideas such as "case study rooms" to facilitate discussion in a "U" shaped arrangement.

State funds are being used to construct the new business building, which will cost \$26.8

See BUSINESS, page 2

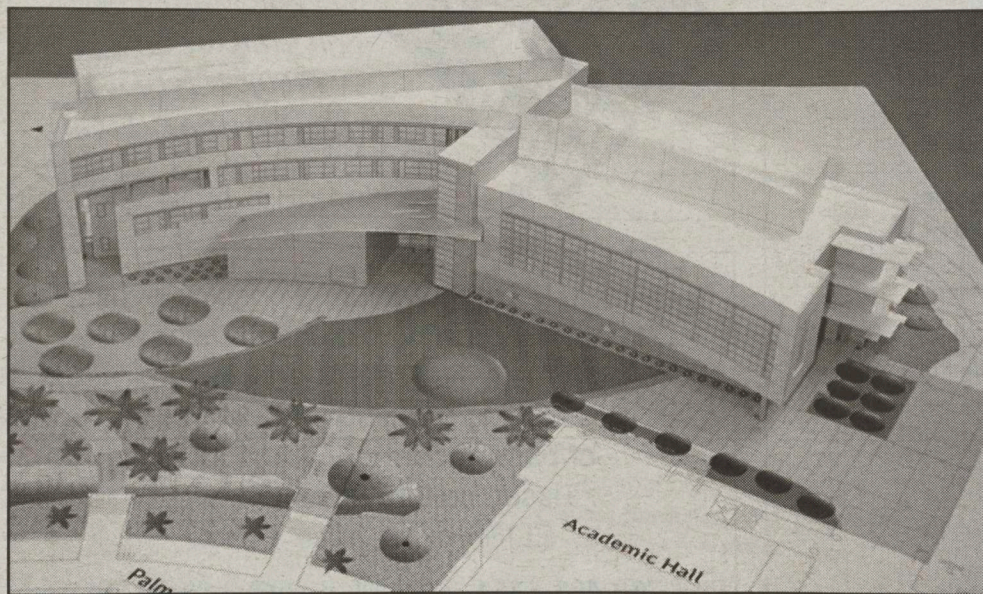


Photo courtesy of <http://lynx.csusm.edu/cba>

INSIDE

Variety

Get stoned again.....pg 3

Sports

Did Josh jinx the Padres?..pg 4

Opinions

O-Man sounds off.....pg 5

Don't rock the VOTE.....pg 6

A & E

Climb "Ladder 49".....pg 7

Pay your "RENT".....pg 8

Calendar of Events....pg 7

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MOORE, from page 1

lack of organization immediately following this decision, the new policy frustrated potential ticket-buyers.

Professor John Halcon waited in line for 45 minutes before he was told that tickets were reserved for students only.

"There was a sign on the window but no sign toward the end of the line. You aren't going to walk up to the window, then go to the back of the line," said Halcon. "I'm irritated, not mad; I don't know if I'm going to go now, I don't know if I'll be able to get in line next week when they're ready to sell to people."

Shortly after Halcon reported his experience, ASI displayed signs at the end of the line.

By creating a time period for only students to receive tickets, students are not able to purchase tickets for family and friends at the same time.

"I feel it's an unfortunate turn of events," said John Gehris, executive vice president of ASI. "People called yesterday and I told them to come buy tickets tomorrow and I feel bad because it wasn't wrong information then, but it is now."

BUSINESS, from page 1

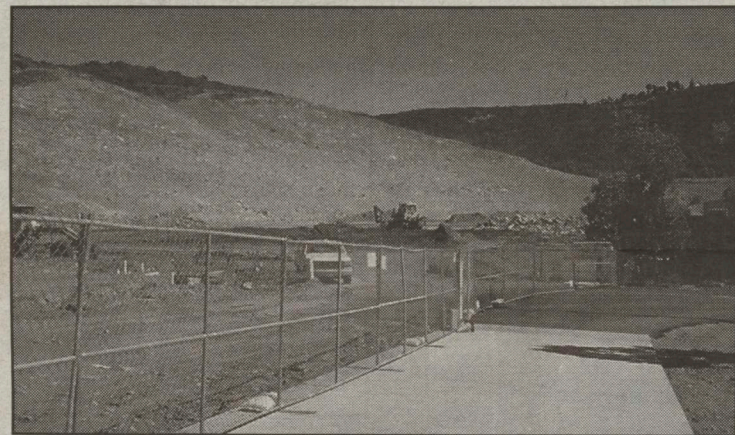


Photo by Chezare Milo

million. Back in 2002, Governor Gray Davis passed this project. The building committee is also seeking outside donations for building enhancements. On Wednesday October 20, the College of Business Administration will have a "Beam Signing" ceremony from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. in

the Palm Court Plaza. All that attend will have a chance to sign a building beam. More information about CSUSM's new business building can be found at http://lynx.csusm.edu/cba/cba.asp?ID=237&BFile=general_new_business_building.htm.

Concerning Moore's appearance, there are mixed feelings, but most students are passionate in their position on the subject.

"I've been raised as a Democrat, I've read his books and seen his movies," said Emily Broedling, senior communications major. "I know he's one-sided but it's good to hear that side because you usually only hear the other side."

Tenzin Peling, first year liberal studies major, also describes herself as a supporter of Michael Moore.

"He's voicing his opinion and that's his right. He's just trying to open people's eyes," said Peling. "Everyone will be biased no matter what; I know it's his opinion and I can either agree or disagree."

Second year student Bryan Davis feels differently on the subject.

"Everything (Moore) says is unbalanced and he takes everything to an extreme," said Davis. "I'm not supporting him. I feel he's a threat to national security by trashing our president."

Mark Wilson, first year business major, feels Moore is deceitful.

"He's trying to sell his view-

point by twisting the facts," said Wilson.

A large majority of the cost of Moore's appearance has been covered by donations from the community, businesses and individuals. One of the substantial donations was made by the Herring Broadcast Company.

Chris Moore, director of programming for Herring Broadcast Company (no relation to Michael Moore), facilitated and supported the decision for the donation made by President of Herring Broadcast Company, Robert Herring Sr.

"Young people should be encouraged to involve themselves in the political process. As a member of the media, it is our responsibility to promote free speech," said Chris Moore. "It was a way to make a statement of our support for the students' apparent passion and helping students do something. (CSUSM) students made a strong statement,

a bold move, and I applaud it."

Chris Moore also said the decision to fund the speaker was not influenced by political affiliation.

"Regardless who the speaker is, as long as the speaker promotes and provokes political discussion and debate," said Chris Moore. "I am a strong believer that apathy is lethal in terms of the political process; I would encourage anyone regardless of their political affiliation to be involved in the political process."

The Herring Broadcast Company will be filming Michael Moore's speech, and they will also be making a documentary on students in the political process. Camera crews can be expected on campus sometime in the next couple of weeks to film the documentary.

For up to date figures on ticket distribution, call the ASI front desk at 750-4990 or visit their website at www.csusm.edu/asi/.

UVA, from page 1

investigate. If the alarm is triggered from a stove a call is made to University Police who will then reset it, said Lt. Doug Miller of University Police.

Although the alarm only sounds in the room where it was triggered, students in nearby units are still affected.

"I haven't had any go off," said resident Erik McLeod. "But I can hear other alarms going off right down the hall."

But not all students have had a problem with false alarms.

"They haven't bothered me,"

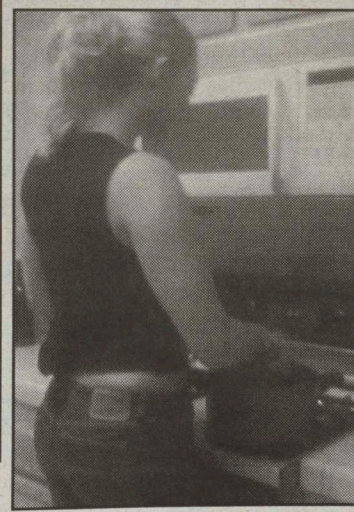


Photo by Amanda Johnson
Senior Nicole Bailey cooks in her UVA unit.

said resident Seth Gretlien.

Some students have also encountered problems with mold. Several apartment residents have found mold growing in their carpets, window seals and showers and even in ceilings.

Olivia Roldan discovered her mold problem when she noticed a "funky smell." Caity Ries found mold growing inside her window seals. In both instances they called the front desk and the problem was fixed immediately.

"The majority of mold problems come from the air conditioner. If residents leave it on really low temperature for a long time then it (the A/C unit) will freeze," said Sonya Maestas, an RA. "When it starts to thaw out it drips and can cause mold."

"But if someone calls about mold, we (RA's) call maintenance and they fix it right away," said Maestas.

Cassie Johnson had a different problem. She went into her bathroom and noticed the light above was dripping and a large puddle covered the floor. The shower in the unit above had leaked and flooded her bathroom below. She called the front desk.

"They came right away and cut out a part of the ceiling and replaced it with plaster," said Johnson.

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Stoned, again

BY SCOTT PHILLIPS
Pride Staff Writer

When it hits your lips, it tastes so good. If you're a beer enthusiast then you definitely recognize the difference between quality beers and stank beer. Stone Chief Executive Greg Koch and co-founder/brewmaster Steve Wagner set out seven years ago to produce beers with character that could be enjoyed by all.

"The first year and a half, Stone Brewery was seeing substantial losses," said Koch. "It's hard to know if you're making a mistake by continuing production." Yet, Greg and Steve had a vision and the guts to push forth with production, even when things were looking down.

Another aspect of the stone culture is the representation of gargoyles. "All of our beers feature a gargoyle on the bottle because they symbolize the big character of our beers," said Koch.

Two of the largest user-based rating websites ratebeer.com and beeradvocate.com have both rated Stone Brewery as the number one American brewery out of 3400 breweries.

Stone really put their name on the map when they first released Arrogant Bastard Ale (7.2% Ale/Vol) in November of 1997. Other beers that have received much acclaim are Stone Ruination IPA (7.7% Ale/Vol), Stone Levitation Ale (4.4% Ale/Vol) and Stone IPA (7.7% Ale/Vol).

Coming this November, Stone is releasing their Double Bastard Ale (10% Ale/Vol). Caution, the

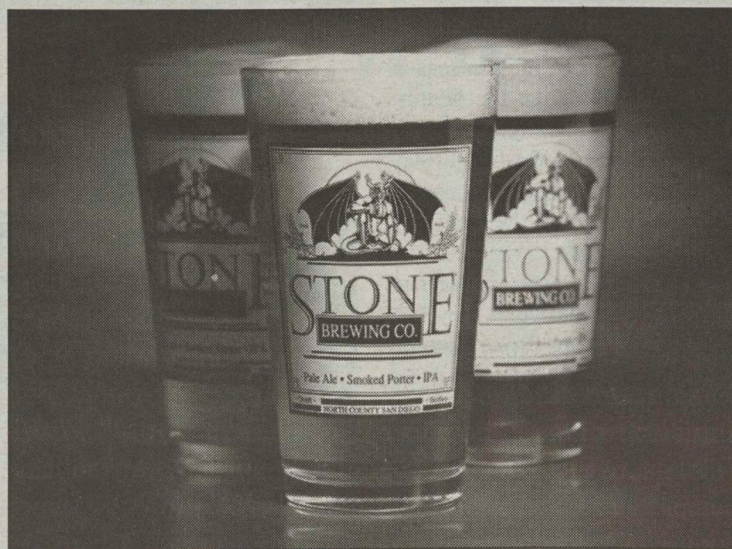


Photo courtesy of Stone Brewing Co.

Double Bastard Ale is reserved for serious beer connoisseurs. Stone has reached the ranks of

"The new brewery will allow us to brew will over 200,000 barrels a year"

one of the fastest growing companies in the US, according to Inc. Magazine. This growth has forced Stone Brewery to relocate into the rolling hills on Escondido's west side.

They will be moving from a building that is 7100 square feet, to a 50,000 square foot building. The new digs will allow them

to brew 6 times the amount of beer. With tenant improvements, brewery equipment and installation, the total cost of this move is nearly ten million dollars. In addition, the tasting room will be open 6 days a week compared to the restricted Friday and Saturday hours.

"The new brewery will allow us to brew well over 200,000 barrels a year," said Wagner. In contrast to the 34,000 barrels that will be manufactured in 2004. The new brewery will not be in operation until fall of 2005.

Stone Beers is available at most San Diego stores or you can head on down to the brewery for their tasting room hours: Fridays 3 - 6p.m. and Saturdays 11 - 3p.m.

Vending machine steal your money?

Where and how to be reimbursed

BY CHRIS KING
Pride Staff Writer

For students in frustration resorting to beating campus vending machines in hope of freeing your Doritos or Coke, know that you are entitled to a hassle free refund.

"When students lose money or encounter a problem with the vending machines on campus, you simply go to Cougar Corner and ask for a refund," said Pam Edmonson, director of Commercial Services. "They will only ask for

the location of the machine so that they can alert maintenance personnel, who will show up usually within 24 hours."

There are several vending machines on campus to satisfy those unexpected snack attacks.

They're located on both floors of the University Commons and in Academic Hall, Arts Annex, Foundation Classroom and University Hall Buildings.

Every machine has contact information available on either the top left-hand corner or just above where money is inserted. All snack machines have North County Vending contact info, but they are still reportable at Cougar Corner.

Malfunctioning vending machines

are part of life's inconveniences, but know that the next time one is giving you trouble that you can at least get your money back.

For vending machine problems or questions call (760) 750-9061 or visit Cougar Corner.

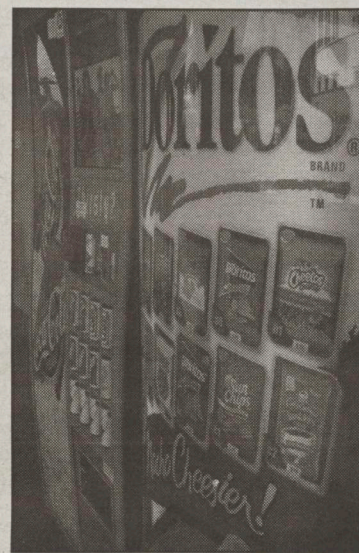


Photo by Jason Encabo / The Pride

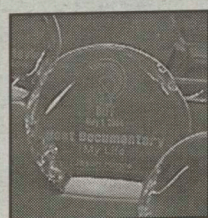
Culprit of vending machine shafting located 1st floor of Academic Hall.

Award-winning Alumni

Director receives praises for his documentary

BY ALLISON SANBURY
Pride Staff Writer

As opposed to the typical movie star idol, Jason Hinkle represents a natural idol by staying determined and focused everyday. Hinkle doesn't believe in giving up and he proves it with his award-winning movie, "My Life".



Hinkle's award for best documentary.

Hinkle's film is an autobiographical documentary that shows the audience who Jason Hinkle is. Hinkle has already graduated from Cal State San Marcos with Bachelor of Arts degrees in History and Visual and Performing Arts with a minor in Film Studies. As well, holds an Associate of Arts degree in Radio and Television.

He also has a Masters of Fine Arts degree in Film Studies. In addition, Jason is also a published author.

Recently, Hinkle won an Award of Excellence from the 2004 Accolade Competition in Escondido, California. Previously, he also won the top prize for Special Documentary Award from the Goldie Film Awards Festival.

Hinkle is a regular guy that values his friendships and has a great perspective on life. His documentary is an autobiographical account of the challenges that he must face on a daily basis due to his disorder, Frederick's Ataxia.

According to Merriam-Webster's dictionary ataxia means, an inability to coordinate voluntary muscular movements that is symptomatic of some nervous disorder. Frederick's Ataxia is just one of the untreatable and incurable diseases existing today.

Awareness is vital because maybe one day there will be a cure to relieve the immense suffering that people diagnosed with Frederick's Ataxia experience on a daily basis.

Presumably fearless, Hinkle faces life's challenges on a daily basis and he does it by creating awareness now. He strives to create a better future for the unborn children in the world that will inevitably inherit Frederick's Ataxia.

"I would love to do it again," said Hinkle, when asked if he would show his film again. In the future, Jason wants make another movie possibly about transportation.

For more information on Frederick's Ataxia visit www.mdausa.org.



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Jock Talk With Josh

BY JOSH SANDOVAL
Pride Staff Writer



The baseball regular season is over and the Padres narrowly missed the playoffs.

Going into this inaugural season in the new Petco Park

most Padres fans were expecting a winning season, including me. If you save all my previous columns like I know you do then you can go through your scrapbook all the way back to a previous Jock Talk that came out on March 16, 2004 where I wrote, "San Diego baseball fans are more hopeful than usual for the start of the 2004 season...fans also expect a winning team after five long years of losing."

The Padres turned my hopes into a reality by producing their

first winning season since 1998, but as great as this season was it still ended up being a disappointment and I am part to blame.

I went to 10 Padres games this year and not once did they send me home a happy Padres fan, losing all 10 games while I was in attendance.

With the Padres narrowly missing the playoffs I can't help but realize the amazing coincidence that the Padres did not win while I was in attendance. But, was it just a coincidence or was I a jinx?

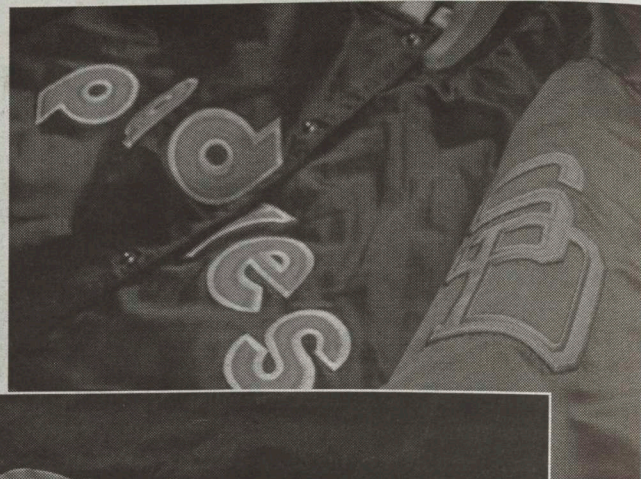
I have never thought much of jinxes or curses. That is just something that ball players believe in like stepping on the chalk lines will affect the way you pitch or that a Billy goat is the reason why the Cubs haven't won a world series since 1908.

I thought nothing of me being

a jinx when I saw them lose on the first Sunday of the season to a great team like the Giants. Nor did I think anything of it when they lost on the first Friday night home game against one of the best pitchers in the league in Randy Johnson.

I started to get concerned around mid June when they lost to the lowly Devil Rays. Then on July 9th the Padres reliable closer Trevor Hoffman blew a save versus the unassuming Colorado Rockies. The final straw for me came on the first of August when the Dodgers came from behind in 12 innings to beat the Padres.

Who knows if there really are curses and if the curse of Josh was the reason why the Padres didn't make the playoffs, but this baseball season was an absolute blast and I can't wait till next year to catch the Padres...on T.V.



Photos by Jason Encabo / The Pride

If you have any topics for discussion, praise or criticism, send an E-mail to Sando026@csusm.edu.

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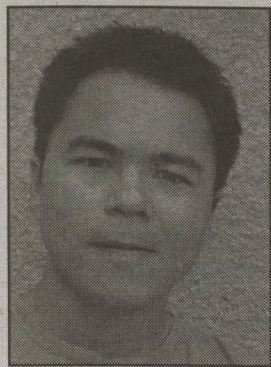
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ON CAMPUS
OCT. 18

OMBUDSMAN'S notes

By JASON NICHOLS
Pride Ombudsman



"Smelly cat, smelly cat, what are they feeding you?"

I'm sure you'd noticed the slight change in presentation of last week's issue. The Pride's editors grew a wild hair and had some fun. You got to read about "bureaucratic manipulation." Now you get to read the other side.

Mr. Poullard, the Associate Vice-President for Student

Affairs and Dean of Students, and a man with a title longer than my years in the Navy (amongst other things) contacted me the day the 'unique' issue came out. Now, you should know that he informed me after I received his email/letter "I did not necessarily want this (his email/letter) to go in the paper." But, like I said in my first article, "I WILL QUOTE YOU."

I wish I had the space in this grey box to give you the whole thing, and I did advocate for this puppy to be printed in its entirety, but was denied. So, here are the better parts:

"Since I have been here, August 2000, students Editors have complained about needing more space and finally the University Space Committee (on which I sit) was in a position to

get them more space, and now I learn that they were manipulated into moving."

"The article also had serious omissions/misinformation. If this was an editorial why is it on the front page? As a lead article where was the objective reporting? Why were there no statements from IITS, the dean of students or the budget manager of the Pride? Why didn't the article include the fact that the dean of students in collaboration with the vice president for student affairs secured \$5,000.00 to add computers for The Pride? Why was there no mention of the fact that the dean of students worked with IITS to reduce the cost of the refresh program for the new computers because of The Pride's limited resources?"

"As an administrator I would never interfere with free speech/ expression of a student newspaper, but I must say I am troubled by this week's edition which lacked journalistic objectivity and printed direct lies. Students deserve better from the Editors of The Pride."

Well, pinch me, bite me, and slap me upside the head! Two sides of a story, and lots of finger pointing. Sort'a reminds me of the Ross/Rachael 'break' incident. Though not as funny, and there's no Ms. Aniston to watch.

Were the Editors loyal to you when they conspired and executed their dastardly deed last week? I believe they were. Or rather, I believe they believed they were.

Were they objective? Sure they were, and Ross was on a 'break,' and cigarettes are good for you.

I believe last week's issue was ingenious, effective and took a ton of work. But when the mechanic can't get the parts to fix your car, do you run over her/his toes?

I believe the Editors in their passionate expression of free speech forgot that this collection of tree-skins is not theirs. They have a job to EDIT, hence their titles. They're leasing the Pride, with no option to buy, and they definitely shouldn't be running over toes with it.

"Smelly cat, smelly cat, it's not your fault." nicho028@csusm.edu

Resurrecting "The Birth of a Nation"

BY ALFRED CHU
Pride Staff Writer

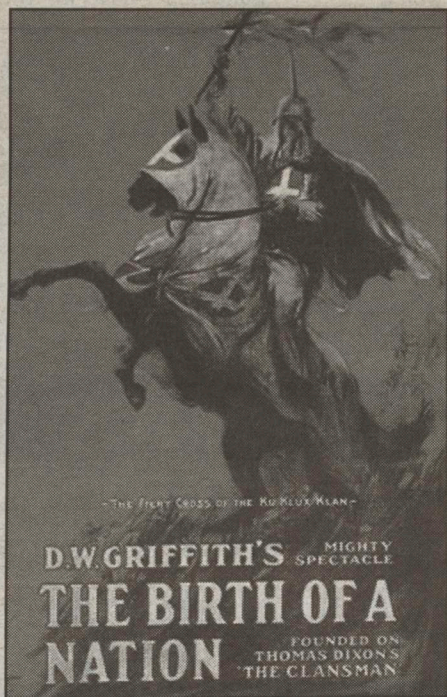
Director D.W. Griffith's "The Birth of a Nation" has been resurrected and is now for sale at chain electronic stores. Released in 1915, the silent film accounts the friendship between a northern family, the Stonemans, and a southern family, the Camerons during pre/post Civil War era, President Lincoln's assassination and the rise of the Ku Klux Klan (KKK).

I used the term "resurrected" for three reasons. First, it was made before Hollywood existed, and now it's been released on DVD. Second, we see first hand of the roots of filmmaking. And thirdly, it's possibly the first film to use political ideals onscreen.

I admit this was the first silent picture film I've seen. But we've all heard the phrase "A picture is worth a thousand words." And from these pictures, anyone can learn Griffith's own prejudices and the racism during the film and the controversy that sparked after the film.

As a movie critic, this is one of the rare occasions that the plot is not important in a critique. It's what symbolized, portrayed and surrounds the film is important. But I'll be fair for those that would like to know the plot. The two families, the Stonemans and the Camerons, were friends until the Civil War erupted which caused the sons of each family sent to fight each other on the battlefield.

First and foremost, this is a racist film. It's filled with racism even before *racism* was added to our dictionary. The slaves are seen as hostile and horny, but only to Caucasian women. The KKK is seen as heroes and always to the rescue when townspeople are attacked by slaves. Interestingly enough, with some make up, Caucasian actors and actresses portray the slaves. This could be a clue into Griffith's prejudices. Or given the time period, there weren't many African American actors and actresses. Even if there were, how many of them would want to take part in this film? Simple. None.



I don't know why anybody, including Griffith, would want any part of this film. Maybe they thought they could tell a story the way it really happened. Or maybe they thought they could be the first to use political ideals in a film. Or maybe they thought the best way to be remembered is being the villain. Or maybe they thought to sell a film is to sell controversy. I agree that controversy sells. Take a look at the rapper Eminem and how many albums he sells or the recent film, "The Passion of the Christ," which is now the highest grossing independent film of all time. "The Birth of a Nation" managed to gross \$18 million during the 1913 release. I believe this is the only reason why Griffith was able to find projects after this one. This film will be remembered. Possibly as being the first film to run over a hundred minutes. Most silent pictures during that time were less than thirty minutes. This film was well over two hours. I must admit the film went into a lot of detail for the events before, during and after the Civil War.

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As a film, this isn't bad. As a propaganda effort, it fails miserably. Why? Because I'm not simple minded. Given the technology during the time period, this film is in black and white (color tint was added to newer versions of the film). Ironically so

are the politics within the film. There was no gray area. I'm glad society has evolved into the gray area. There is no right and wrong anymore. It's what you believe and don't believe.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Pride, I am very proud of what the students at CSU San Marcos did last Thursday, voicing their support for free speech on campus. However, the issue over free speech was won by the CSUSM administration, not the students. The funds to bring Michael Moore are all private and to put it lightly, if we didn't have support from the community the administration could of still walked all over us. I praise the community and students for all the support to bring Michael Moore. Free speech is about discourse and about opinion; everyone is going to have their fair share. We now live in a society that tells us to "shut up." A society that says criticizing a president, governor, or official of a certain political persuasion is wrong, partisan and un-American. If we continue to live as we do, it could lead to an authoritarian society. This is not Democracy. Personally I think some change is needed in our government to save these values. I salute the College Republicans for all the work they do to get George W. Bush elected, that is their mission. Free speech

is not owned by one party or political persuasion and I hope everyone understands that. Free speech is a luxury that all Americans have and that many people in the world want. Should they (CR) try to get a speaker to lecture the campus who is conservative, I would not try to block them. However, if an administrative official or group on campus tried to censor them I would make a point for their first amendment rights. Censorship should not happen in academia. Granted, I probably would not agree with the speaker, but I would definitely want to hear what they have to say especially since the school funds are being used.

That said, I encourage all students conservative or liberal or see Michael Moore next month. He will bring discourse, controversy and discussion, which are all goals of the University's mission. I also encourage all students to come out on Tuesday, October 26 @11:15 to see a debate between PAN and the CR's on presidential issues, a debate, which is "fair and balanced."

Felipe Robinson-Zañartu

Being an Alumnus from Cal State University San Marcos, I have to tell you that I first heard about Michael Moore's visit with the campus through 790 AM radio. They stated how this man should not be paid through federal funds, etc. To be totally honest, it embarrasses me that I am an Alumnus from a school that supports this man, not to mention would even consider him to be legitimate enough to express his anti-American views to our newest students at CSUSM. It makes me ill to think that

someone who speaks so viciously against our own president is not only going to speak to the students, but he was INVITED to do it! It was bad enough that I had to tolerate Liberalism at its worst with most of our campus professors when I attended CSUSM, but now it seems that we are instructing these kids in name-calling along with trash talk that is not intellectually honest, and that's saddening. I could only hope that you would have the film debut of "Michael Moore Hates America" when it

is released (<http://www.michaelmoorehatesamerica.com>) and promote that film as much as you seem to be promoting the people who hate our country. I've always been proud to wear my CSUSM Alumni attire... until now. I hope that someone over there realizes that we live in America and need to come together as one nation. We should not let people like Michael Moore divide us as a nation.

Sincerely,
Kevin C. Lavin, Class of 2001

Don't rock the VOTE

BY MICHELLE ROBINSON
for The Pride

It's obscene. The liars are everywhere on campus. I know this because I'm one of them.

Disgusted with myself, I nod when people ask me if I'm going to vote. "Hell, yes!" I say as I scurry in the direction of my class. Yet I know I won't.

The funny thing is, I take a sick pride in knowing that I am not alone. On this campus, I have run into likeminded folks who smile at the student protests, get loud at the indecencies of government, perhaps shake a fist in the air saying, "Fees, fees we can't pay these!" You know who you are. We are the ones who silently stand by and listen very carefully

until we make eye contact. Then we out each other, carefully so as not to make a scene, though. I can feel it now, the comfort of the knowing stare and smile that says, "Yes, friend, you may seek refuge with me and the other big-talking-no-voting villagers." Please don't mistake my tone for pride. I hate the fact that the gumption I have for voting dissipates as soon as I park my car in the dirt and walk up that jerk of a sidewalk. Lazy? So what. As available as registering is, I have never even come close to "rocking the vote."

Some students have legitimate reasons. Tomy Gysi, a Literature and Writing senior, who is in fact registered to vote, doesn't feel either candidate is worthy

of his vote. I can't sit at Tom's lunch table because he has actually heard from both sides, taken it all in, and has come to a well informed conclusion. Good man. Joe Inixingina, a Business major, simply feels that choosing is losing since it would be the "Same old, same old." More my style.

My favorite voter immunity is Liberal Arts student Alanna Colepietro who lashes out, "I'm Canadian." These are just three non-voting students I have come across. Where's our protest against voting in general? Why should we be ashamed or hide in the darkest corners of Craven? Where's our red, white and blue bumper stickers that say, "Don't blame me, I voted for me!" While I truly do understand the history making election that is upon us, I can't seem to muster up and sustain the urgency to vote. I'm busy avoiding the credit card people. I'm busy picking up dog poop. I'm watching the heavy rotation of the MTV Music Awards. Simply put, if Andre 3000 dressed in his political best can't get me to vote, I doubt anything can.

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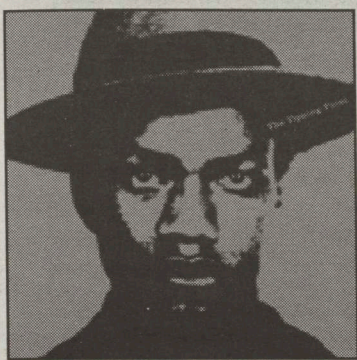
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Looking back at:

The Roots: The Tipping Point

BY PATRICIA GUEVARRA
Pride Staff Writer



The jive is fresh through the hip-hop beats of The Roots with soul and funk scratched into their July 2004 released CD, *The Tipping Point*. It takes music to another level with incorporations of electronica, drum and bass, rock, etc. The lyrics speak of analogies of everyday life and struggle and social consciousness, a different turn from the bling-bling and the fast-paced life of mainstream hip-hop.

The album opens up with a rendition of Sly and the Family Stone's, *Everybody is a Star*, which they titled *Star*. The Roots reminds us in *Star* that it's human nature to strive for individuality and self-confidence with lyrics like: "To all my peoples, the Stars, it is our time to shine."

As you listen to the tracks,

Climbing the "Ladder 49"

BY ALFRED CHU
Pride Staff Writer

I walked into the theater expecting to see "Ladder 49" as a movie that makes firefighters seem like heroes to the point that Superman couldn't measure up to them even on his best day a firefighter. I got what I expected and even more. In addition, "Ladder 49" also projects the image that firefighters are everyday people dealing with everyday problems.

The film stars Joaquin Phoenix as Jack Morrison and John Travolta as Captain Mike Kennedy. The story revolves around a response to a burning 20 story warehouse. They are told that there are still people missing inside, but the grain dust could



Joaquin Phoenix as Jack Morrison. Photos courtesy of Touchstone Pictures.

explode at any minute. Morrison saves a helpless man, but the grain dust blows and he falls through several floors. Injured, alone and partly unconscious, Morrison recounts a series of flashbacks.

Morrison's flashbacks start with his first day joining Baltimore City Fire Department's Engine 33 and putting out his first blaze. He then recalls meeting his future wife, Linda (Jacinda Barrett), in a supermarket, their wedding, the day they realize their pregnant

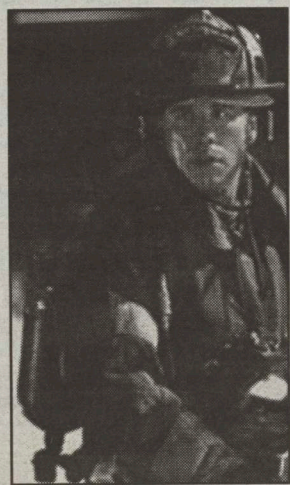
and the birth of their children. Morrison also remembers the loss of fellow firefighters and saving the lives of many people.

The film centers around Morrison. He loves the job and is loyal to his station. He sees Kennedy as a father figure and regrets the worry his job puts on his family.

The most effective scenes are not the battling the blaze but the interaction between Morrison and his co-workers and his family. I assume the reason why director Jay Russell chose real fires instead of the cheesy CGI fires is because the added effect makes the situation seem more real.

Phoenix and Travolta are convincing as complex characters. The other firefighters, Lenny Richter (Robert Patrick), Tommy Drake (Morris Chestnut), Dennis and Ray Gauquin (Billy Burke and Balthazar Getty), Tony Corrigan (Tim Guinee), Frank McKinny (Kevin Chapman) and Don Miller (Kevin Daniels) work so well together, that it seemed like these men have spent months, if not years, together.

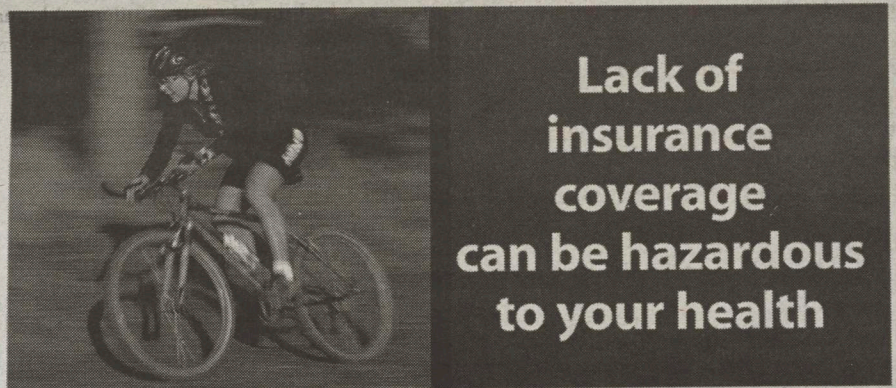
I consider this a movie with a good and bad ending though that doesn't make it a bad movie. But if it was me, I'd change the ending. I won't give it away, but it was so heart felt and touching that I almost cried.



John Travolta as Mike Kennedy.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 10/5**
"Fahrenheit 9/11 Screening
6 p.m. Arts 240
Michael Moore's take on President Bush and the war on terrorism. Rated R. ADMISSION \$2.50 for students, \$3 for faculty, staff and community. Tickets may be purchased day of event.
- Human Development Club Rock the Vote
10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Library Plaza
- PAN Weekly Meeting
1 p.m. to 5 p.m. UNIV 444
- College Republicans Club Meeting
2 p.m. to 6 p.m. UNIV 422
- 10/6**
Free HIV Anonymous Testing
12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Student Health & Counseling Services
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- Human Development Club Rock the Vote
10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Library Plaza
- Accounting Society General Meeting
11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. LIB 3010
- 10/7**
Priority Christian Challenge General Meeting
6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. Arts 240
- Panhellenic Meeting
7 p.m. to 9 p.m. ACD 301
- 10/7-8**
Luna Film Festival
Thursday @ 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., Clarke Field House 113.
Friday @ 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., Arts 240
The Luna Fest film festival encourages women to come together to share experiences through film. These films are by women, for women or about women, spirituality, inspiration, challenges, sexuality, relationships and breaking barriers. Proceeds benefit the Breast Cancer Awareness Fund.
- 10/8**
Anime Project Alliance Meeting
4 p.m. to 10 p.m. UNIV 100
- 10/11**
College Republicans Club Tabling
11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Library Terrace
- PreHealth Society BiMonthly Club Meeting
4 p.m. to 6 p.m. ACD 406.



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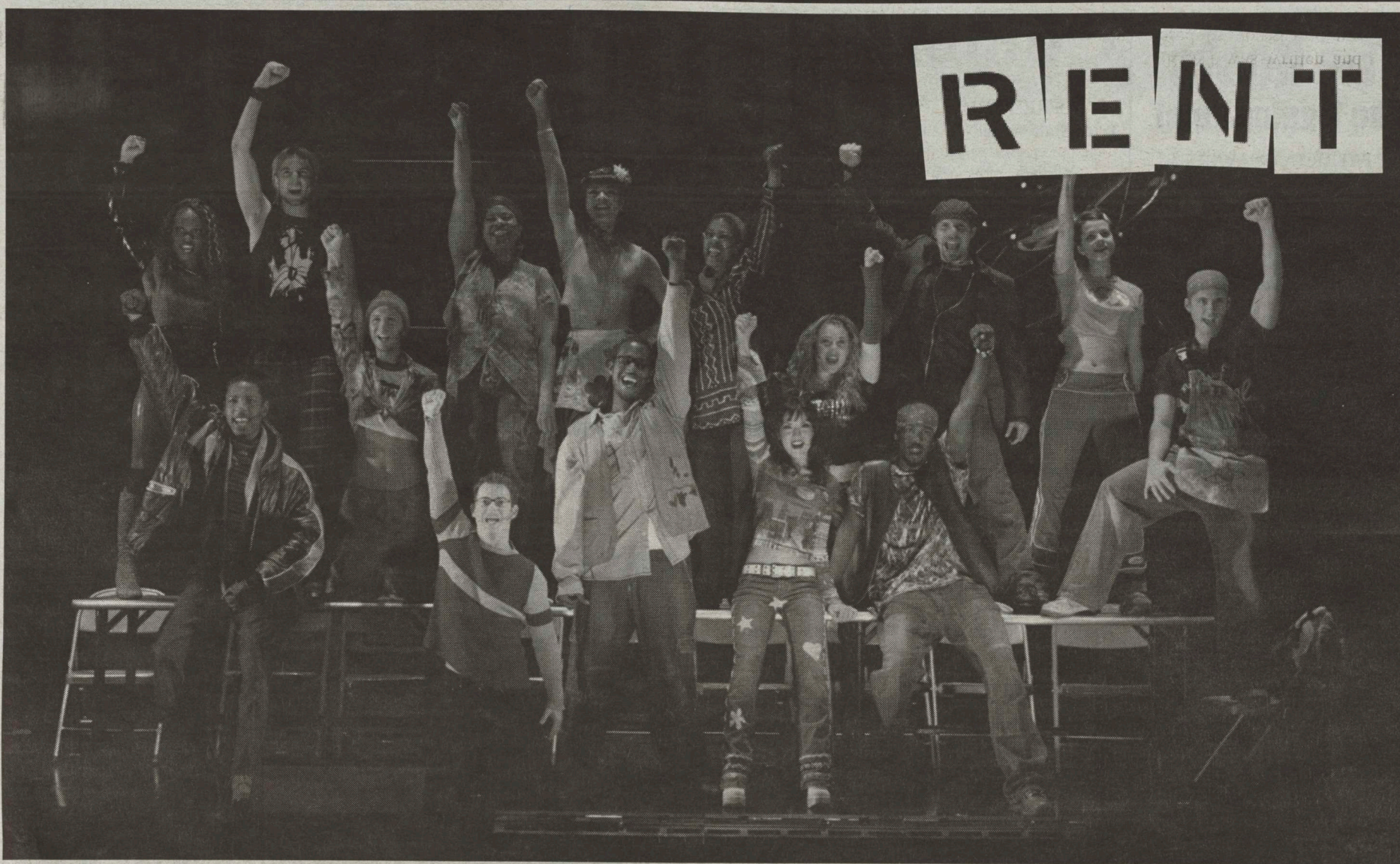
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Above: The entire cast of "RENT".

Below: Roger and Mimi gaze into each other's eyes.

Photos courtesy of Susan Chicoine.



No day like today

BY CHRISSY BALDWIN
Pride Staff Writer

The Broadway musical, RENT, is about young people, such as ourselves, who are faced with all the difficulties and hardships that come with just starting out in life. How do we stay true to ourselves against the trials and tribulations of the world and still be able to make rent each month?

RENT, the musical, is about a group of young friends living in New York City (the center of the world), and how they deal with relationships, AIDS, death and the inability to make the monthly rent.

There are eight main characters. (Try to keep up) Benny, former roommate of Roger and Mark who now owns the building they live in and is demanding rent for a full year. Mark, a young filmmaker, who lives with Roger and used to date Maureen. Roger, HIV positive musician, who lives with Mark and is in love with Mimi. Mimi, HIV positive exotic dancer with a drug habit. Collins, best friend to Roger and Mark, falls in love with Angel. Angel, HIV positive drag queen. Maureen, performance artist that dumped Mark for Joanne. Joanne, a recent law school graduate, now dating Maureen.

The story is told through music, song and dance. From the moment Roger and Mark took the stage, the audience roared with applause and cheers, and not a word had been spoken. Mark opens the scene, the band starts playing, Mark begins to sing and it feels like you're at a rock concert.

The songs are infectiously optimistic, even though they tell the tale of heartbreak, struggle and death. The underlying theme

throughout the play was sung in "No day like today". Even though the characters battle the hardships of disease, destitution and death of loved ones, the message is that there is only today because tomorrow is not guaranteed. We can't live our lives feeling sorrow or regret, we need to focus on what we do have right now and do the best we can with it.

In the beginning of the second act, the entire cast sings in unison: "Five hundred twenty-five thousand, six hundred minutes...how do you measure a life in a year?" RENT takes the audience through a year in the lives of the main characters. In that year, relationships flourish and fade. They each have a personal struggle to connect with each other and with themselves.

The entire production is a moving illustration of the trials we face as young adults living in America. We are all trying to find our place in this world, but it is especially hard when, as the cast sings, "you are what you own". If you don't own anything, does that mean you are nothing?

RENT inspires hope that our materialistic society will change and what should matter, will matter. The message is that only love matters and it is what we do with the love we are given and the love we have to give that makes us who we are.

Since its debut on Broadway in 1996, RENT has earned a Pulitzer Prize and 12 Tony Awards. It is definitely a play for all to see and experience.

RENT was written and composed by Jonathan Larson, he died days after its first opening night, but his story still lives on.