

the other side

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Pitzer College

February 14, 1984

Director of Admissions Resigns

by Eric Kyner

Quietly during the first weeks of the semester, Martin Tucker began informing his staff. Then on January 23, President Ellsworth sent out a memo — "I regret to announce that Martin Tucker has resigned as Director of Admissions".

At the ensuing College Council Meeting, Werner Warmbrunn, Chairman of Faculty Executive committee, proclaimed that the situation in admissions had placed the college in its worst crisis since its founding days.

In the past two weeks, the excitement and drama over the admission's problems have lessened considerably as the perception has moved from an awareness of a crisis to an awareness of a need to come together to solve the college problems. However, Tucker's resignation brings up questions over Pitzer's admission goals, its policies and possibly more importantly how Pitzer perceives itself.

At the heart of Tucker's resignation is faculty dissatisfaction over the quality of students being admitted and the policies used in attracting and accepting them.

Tucker had problems dealing with the faculty. When asked if he felt he had the support of the faculty, Tucker quickly said "No". In discussing his resignation, Tucker speaks of the tension that exists between himself and key faculty members. It was in part, due to his tension, that he felt it was in the best interest of the college and himself to resign.

As Tucker put it, he wouldn't be

leaving if he didn't "feel uncomfortable".

From the faculty perspective, their concern and anxiety over admissions stems from a natural desire to have bright students. However this year's freshmen class had a drop in SAT scores of 50 points, and after one semester about one-third of the class is in jeopardy of being placed on academic probation. In general there have been "in the hallway" complaints from faculty over the quality of their students.

Whether it is a valid or just a convenient indicator, the quality of the student body is inevitably judged by their SAT scores and generally when efforts are directed toward improving the student body, they take the form of an effort to improve their SAT scores.

It is a mindset which frustrates Tucker as he feels it is unfair to judge a class by one factor when they were admitted on a number of factors including their GPA, course selections, background, essays and recommendation.

In light of studies showing both a decrease in the number of potential students and in the SAT scores of those students, there are serious questions even over whether efforts to raise SAT scores are feasible.

Commitments to diversity often entail a willingness to absorb low statistical scores and one of Tucker's concerns in leaving Pitzer is that as a result of putting too much emphasis on SAT's, there will be a narrowing of diversity. Diversity not only in the sense



photo by Wes Tanimura

of racial and ethnic groups, but also in terms of white students.

In discussing Pitzer's admission situation Linda Davis, the Dean of Admissions of CMC, urged that Pitzer be very careful about sacrificing individuality. She feels that you need to ask yourself what more can you realistically do and what happens if you sacrifice diversity in the pursuit of higher SAT scores and then lose out totally — ending up empty handed.

The concern over diversity is complex. On the one hand is minority diversity.

In talking to admission officers at Pomona and CMC it was generally acknowledged that one of

Pitzer's strengths is the quality and quantity of its minority students. As the director of Admissions at Pomona put it, the other Claremont Colleges often turn to Pitzer to find out how Pitzer does it.

Under Tucker and his predecessors Pitzer had apparently been able to create an environment where minority students not Michael Teahan, put it "the college doesn't have to write a blank check for minorities. We can admit to quality, not color. We don't only feel welcome, but relatively comfortable. It has created a situation where, as a student member of Executive Committee,

have to be like Pomona which rejected only 2 blacks and 2 chicanos last year."

On the other end of the diversity issue is the diversity of white students. Here concern is voiced over Pitzer's willingness to take a chance on students who although they demonstrate the potential to make it at Pitzer are somewhat questionable usually due to low SAT or high school GPA. These are termed high risk students.

Proponents of accepting such students not only argue that they often develop into some of Pitzer's finest students, but that school's willingness to take chan-

Continued Page 3

Effectiveness Of Student Participation In Governance

By Jenna Reich

The student representatives, here at Pitzer, sit on the many committees which form the community governance system. They have the ability to influence policy-making, ranging from curriculum to faculty personnel decisions. Although the student representatives perform their job well, there are factors which hinder their ability to accomplish goals.

One element which detracts from the efficacy of student representatives is a reluctance on the part of some faculty to accept students as equals on a committee. Dean of Faculty, Ron Macaulay attributes aversion to student participants in the College Council to "some faculty members who feel the quality of discussion suffers as a result of student presence. Many faculty members share a knowledge of previous issues from which the context of discussion is drawn, with the presence of students much repetition is necessary and some faculty feel little is accomplished and others do not feel they can openly discuss certain issues with students and thus

feel their presence constraining." Professor Werner Warmbrunn is a faculty member who is in favor of eliminating student involvement in the College council and re-acting a "faculty only" meeting because, "the nature of discourse changes with growing numbers whereas with small groups you work towards consensus with larger groups you tend towards debate and confusion." To combat this problem John Landgraf, student convenor, has proposed a student representative training program which would better educate students representatives about the governance system.

A lack of consistent involvement, becoming involved only when the fire is hot, reflects a lack of commitment and responsibility. Michael Teahan, a student representative on the College Council and Faculty Executive Committee, feels it is essential to have commitment and responsibility in order to achieve student respectability. Michael feels student respectability is a key factor in the democratic functioning of the gov-

ernance system. Micael says the only way it may be achieved is, "responsible power, not just a showing of force. This what John (Landgraf) is trying to do by looking into a constructive investigation of admissions recruitment. We need to make a responsible effort to say, this is who we are: intelligent, caring, capable, and in many cases more concerned than faculty, as our education is at stake!"

In order for the student body to gain greater efficacy in the governance system students must take the initiative to inform themselves and commit themselves to involvement, thus gaining greater respectability. John welcomes all students with questions or concerns to come to him; he will either help them with their questions or direct them to someone who can. John emphasizes that, "One must take responsibility for his or her own education." One may start by attending the College Council meetings which are held every other Thursday at 4:15 in the Founders room.

Gemayel Faces Test

by Victor Rivera

As Shiam Muslim and Druze militiamen continued their seige of West Beirut, President Reagan ordered the phased withdrawal of all US Marines from their Lebanese airport positions to US ships offshore. The withdrawal of US troops from the besieged country signalled another twist in a trying series of days for Lebanese President Amin Gemayel that began with the announced resignations of his entire Cabinet.

On 5 February, Lebanese Premier Shaffik Wazzan and his eight-man Cabinet resigned after Muslim Militia leader Nabih Berri stated his belief that the resignations would help to end the bloody civil strife that has plagued the country in recent months. Premier Wazzan and 3 other members of the Cabinet are Muslims.

On the following day Muslim militiamen seized the mostly Muslim section of West Beirut, with artillery support from Druzed militiamen in the mountains southeast of Beirut. Berri predicted at this point that the "battle is about to end." With the Gemayel regime facing its most severe tests, President Reagan reaffirmed the US

commitment to Gemayel in a speech calling for all sides to sit down and begin the process of rebuilding the country with a "unity regime". Reagan also called for Syria to stop supplying "instruments for terroristic attacks" to the Muslim militiamen.

On 7 February, however, amidst reports that the Lebanese Army had broken along sectarian lines, President Reagan put into effect a contingency plan for a phased pullout of all Marines in Lebanon to withdraw them from immediate danger. Reagan did not intend on abandoning the Gemayel regime at this critical time, an assumption that was proved by a concurrent presidential order to initiate naval and air bombardment of any hostile positions in Beirut.

At the present time, President Reagan has ordered the removal of all non-essential embassy personnel and has embarked on a review with other members of the multi-national peace-keeping force that has occupied Lebanon since September of 1982 of the feasibility of keeping the force in the country.

Friday Film Program Shows Promise

By Sam Poser

The Spring film program on Friday evenings at the School of Theology is the best and most diverse film series being shown at the five colleges.

February 10: *THE BIRDS* (1963); directed by Alfred Hitchcock, and starring Tippi Hedren. Birds take over a small resort town and create a chilling stream of events. Mixing ironic humor and suspense, the movie is a true Hitchcock masterpiece. Through distinct

camera angles and excellent special effects of the birds attacking, the film reflects Hitchcock's disdain for anything that interferes with nature. Pay special attention to the seemingly unresolved ending.

February 17: *CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE THIRD KIND* (1977); directed by Steven Spielberg. In this humanitarian science fiction epic Richard Dreyfus becomes obsessed by the landing of extraterrestrials on earth and tries

to befriend them. Spielberg uses color and sound in a playful yet striking manner. His artistry in this respect is most beautifully illustrated when the space visitors finally converse with the earthlings. The film was clearly influenced by the 1950s sci-fi classic *THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL*. *CLOSE ENCOUNTERS* is a very moving and exciting film. Also stars Teri Garr.

February 24: *SNOW WHITE AND THE SEVEN DWARFS* (1937); directed by Walt Disney. This is the

first full length animated feature film. It is a retelling of the classic children's story done with such a precision that everyone who sees it becomes part of the magnificent make-believe world created in the film.

March 2: *BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES* (1946); directed by William Wyler. Winner of many Academy Awards, including best picture, the film poignantly captures the readjustment process of returning World War Two veterans. The performances of Frederick march

and Harold Russel (who actually did lose his hands in a war) are excellent. By the end of the film you have a true understanding of the consequences of war on soldiers and their families. The film also stars Dana Andrews and Myrna Loy, both with excellent performances. One suggestion; bring a handkerchief—it is a tear jerker.

These films are all of the highest caliber and should not be missed. The remainder of the School of Theology's film program will be reviewed in the next issue. All performances begin at 7:30.

Does Tom Wolfe's Film Have "The Right Stuff"?

by Ellen Ringler-Henderson

It was another witty *tour de force* by Tom Wolfe: the book, *The Right Stuff*, and one hoped against hope that Hollywood might capture his irony, would dare to question, as the book had, the absurd machismo underlying the heroics of the

desire to "beat the Russians to the moon." The insistently phallic thrust of those rockets blasting off (innumerable

space age. One wasn't entirely disappointed, though perhaps it was too much to ask that the film really challenge the puerile aspects of America's cherished

rockets, it seemed) tended to dominate the view so thoroughly that one was dazzled by the power, even as one felt the lunacy of the enterprise itself.

The real hero of *The Right Stuff*—the man who is most 'righteous'? best stuffed?—is, of course, the test-pilot, Chuck

Yeager, who controls his own stick (and fate). Unlike the astronauts, those white Anglo-Saxon Protestant monkeys who form a rosy-cheeked boy-scout troop when they are not being literally stuffed, one by one, into the capsules, Chuck is a loner. He rides his horse and remains the unsung John-Wayne

cowboy, daring the skies (and the enemy sound-barrier) and exemplifying what the right stuff is all about.

See the film, by all means; but do read Wolfe's book; and don't, even for a tempting moment, remove your tongue from its proper position in your cheek.

Evita Continued

Perón lasts three more years with a brief comeback as president in 1973. Unfortunately this does nothing to solve Argentina's dire political and economic situation. Perón's third wife, Isabel, succeeds him as president after his death in 1974. She has no role in this musical. The story ends in 1952 with Eva's death and the announcement by Che of the mysterious and bizarre disappearance of her body.

One of the most interesting aspects of the musical was the use of audio-visual props. Authentic news clips of crowds in front of the Casa Rosada, the military parades and Eva at various states in her life added an historical ele-

ment to the musical. Also impressive were sound and visual effects, used whenever there was a scene that demanded a crowd of some sort, i.e., the charity concert, or any of the crowds of demonstrators. The use of recorded shouting and clapping, often too melodramatic for stage performances, was, in this instance, very well done. Additionally, the waving of banners and torches created a very dynamic and wild effect. The combination of such effects, the historical and political setting and the memorable music and lyrics made this musical a unique hit on Broadway and an unforgettable event at The Claremont Colleges.

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Nuclear Anxiety

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pales. It appears that little by little more and more people are scared by this distinct possibility of extinction.

Hopefully higher education enhances our ability to learn from the past, analyze situations, and to improve our lot. I hope this is the case, but I am not optimistic, given that we are in this current anxiety-ridden situation for a variety of reasons, stemming from our "rational" abilities honed in higher education. If we become more knowledgeable about world issues in college, and we take the time occasionally to reflect on the state of affairs, I have difficulty understanding those who do not feel anxiety over our current world situation. Perhaps ignorance is preferable to anxiety in this situation!

There is an optimistic side to all of this. This anxiety is generating action, preventative and ameliorative action. For example, it

wasn't long ago that the Reagan Administration was trying to con us into believing that a nuclear war was winable. Virtually all rational minds have rejected this, to the point where Reagan was recently quoted as saying that a "nuclear war was unthinkable." This is progress. Moreover, many church leaders are becoming active in the anti-nuclear armament movement and speaking out for the freeze as a direct result of the nuclear anxiety, or as some may call it, a moral imperative.

What to do about this is very difficult to decide. Each of us makes decisions either by commission or omission with regard to the things in our lives that bother us. A start is to redefine our social problems, specifically the nuclear threat we all feel, on a less massive scale. Our attempts to bring about huge social changes have met with only partial success at best. We could begin with one small step. We must first change ourselves rather than trying to change the world. Though it may not seem like

much, if each individual made some small commitment, either in terms of personal involvement in the peace issue or by simply being more loving and accepting of others, then we have done something concrete and productive. Perhaps it is the only thing we can do in the final analysis. This is the scale of events which just might ease our nuclear anxiety and bring the world a step away from the brink.

The anxiety is real; the issues are real; yet there is hope. Anxiety is a motivator. Let's hope each of us can figure out what to do. One thing is certain: unless there is a change in consciousness regarding war and aggression or the we-them mentality, there is little room for optimism. Further, we must all realize that we are all interconnected. We are like separate and unique cells in one organism. What hurts one cell harms us all. We must care for the earth and each other regardless of national boundaries, as though our very life depended on it. It does! •

Student Governance

Continued from page 7

community governance system is flawlessly egalitarian. Such a statement would be false. Nevertheless, students have an unusual opportunity to influence the decisions which guide the college. The more enthusiastically and intelligently students participate in governance, the more respect and consequent decision-making power they gain. Participation in the Pitzer community governance system can be a tremendously valuable learning experience, but such involvement demands self-directed effort and confers little prestige.

As Convenor of Students I have tried to improve the clarity and efficiency of the governance system (which is undeniably complex, confusing, and slow). I have tried to act as an ombudsman for those who have grievances, and as an educator for those who have questions. Making Pitzer gover-

nance effective for students has proven a difficult task, for the system often demands that students educate themselves and take the initiative to change what they do not like.

This is one of the keys to participatory democracy, and I believe, ultimately to life. Find constructive ways to change what you do not like. Ask questions of myself and the student representatives, of the faculty, and of administrators. Get involved in directing that which determines in some measure the quality of your life. Neither life, nor college, nor any political system presents itself in perfect form. Perhaps the best situation one may hope for is a chance to participate in the amelioration of any system which decides one's fate. Pitzer's experiment in community governance gave each segment of the community the power to participate in the determination of the institution's destiny. •

Summer External Studies Programs

by Danny Berman

Students interested in going abroad this summer will be glad to know that after a brief hiatus the External Studies Office has re-emerged in Fletcher 108. As part of an administrative reorganization President Ellsworth has appointed Professor Ruth Munroe to the newly created position of Associate Dean of Faculty. Munroe will be responsible for External Studies at Pitzer.

"We hope to develop external studies programs that grow out of, and that are an integral part of, the curriculum," Professor Munroe said. As a member of the Faculty, Munroe is in a position to encourage programs that are an extension of the academic program at Pitzer. The new Associate Dean will be building on a strong foundation of Pitzer-sponsored programs, two of which are scheduled for this summer.

Professor Harry Senn will accompany a group of students to Brittany, which lies in the extreme northwest of France. The students will have the opportunity to explore the Breton culture, which closely resembles French civilization prior to the Roman Conquest.

The study of Breton folk tradition will begin in Paris at the Museum of Popular Traditions. Professor Senn will teach a course on Breton Folklore and Breton Literature. In Brittany participants will live and study at the International Center in Saint-Brieuc. Three or four days a week will be reserved for independent and group exploration. The revised prerequisite for the program is two semesters of college French or the equivalent.

According to tradition, Professor Harvey Botwin begins the *Summer in London Program*, in Paris. First participants visit the world headquarters for the Organ-

ization of Economic Cooperation and Development. They then travel to Brussels and explore European Economic Community Headquarters. From Brussels Botwin takes the students to Britain, where they study at the London School of Economics.

"Being immersed in European politics gives you a chance to understand cooperation and interdependence," said former participant Marian McNamee. Seemingly, the American perception of relative isolation and independence is sharply challenged, when students compare American and British political and economic realities.

In addition to these established programs Professor Dan Ward is considering a Nicaragua program. If approved by the administration and External Studies Committee the program would include a seminar in Claremont and travel in Nicaragua.

Horowitz Addresses Convocation

by Anthony Villar

Irving Horowitz, recognized as the country's leading authority on C. Wright Mills, presented a revealing look at the controversial sociologist last Tuesday, January 24, during Pitzer's Spring Convocation. Horowitz, who is presently the Hannah Arendt Distinguished Professor of Sociology and Political Science at Rutgers University, recently completed what many have called the definitive bibliography on Mills, a work entitled *C. Wright Mills: An American Utopian*.

In completing this work, which spanned over 21 years, Horowitz identified some of the problems that faced him throughout his writing, namely, "the separation of the man from the myth." In addressing Mills' impact on American culture during the 1960's, Horowitz acknowledged the fact that Mills' writings were widely read and sometimes even acted upon. But to portray Mills as their "intellectual mentor," according to Horowitz, "was simply not true," nor was it appropriate. Horowitz explained that Mills was apolitical, citing, for example, the fact that Mills never participated in any political demonstration, nor claimed affiliation with any party, nor did he ever register to vote.

Most of the criticisms of Mills that have developed over the years have focused on his apolitical orientation. According to Glenn Goodwin, Professor of Sociology at Pitzer, many of the criticisms of Mills during the '60's by minority leaders were due to the prevailing attitude of the time which stressed "If you're not part of the solution . . . you're part of the problem." With this in mind, many people came to believe that Mills had a strong disdain for minorities. But as Goodwin points out, "He wasn't opposed to their movements, but rather, his stand was part of his apoliticalness."

Horowitz, described by many as a maverick in his own right, received access to Mills' entire literary estate at his death in 1961. Out of it came his book *The New Sociology*, which contained a tribute to Mills. In between his present work, Horowitz has gone on to become Editor-in-Chief of *Transaction-Society*, while expanding his works on contemporary social theory. Horowitz was also instrumental in exposing, in Millsian fashion, Project Camelot a CIA-funded program that attempted to identify the Latin American insurgency movement in the early 70's.

Alcohol Policy Under Scrutiny

by Keith Merryman

What is the current alcohol policy at Pitzer? How and when is the policy enforced? The answers to these and other pertinent questions continue to elude most Pitzer students, but not solely because of apathy or indifference.

The non-concreteness of the policy was criticized by Student Representatives Bryan Beak and Dennis Smith at a recent Student Rep. meeting. According to Beak and Smith, the obscure nature of the policy was only confirmed when they failed to receive a clarification of the policy that they expressly requested from Jane Holcombe, Dean of Students at Pitzer; whereas members of the

Community Relations Committee, the Student Activities Committee, and the Inter-Dorm Council were sent copies. Claims Beak, "Not only is the policy vague, but there is a non-concreteness in regards to enforcing it."

Current clarifications in the policy deal with the prohibition of drinking in public places and at public events. Perhaps the most controversial change is an added clause that switches the onus of enforcement from the Judicial Council to the Inter-Dorm Judicial Council and the Office of the Dean of Students. This and other changes, were stated in a position paper to IDC, SAC, and CRC for their consideration.

At the moment, the highly ambiguous nature of the policy needs to be clarified. How can students be penalized for breaking a policy that has not been clarified to the student body? John Landgraf, Student Convenor, is calling for a Town Meeting in which the alcohol policy will be brought under fire. Those concerned about the future course of the policy are urged to attend.

Editor's note:

After this article was written, John Landgraf announced at a meeting of the Student Reps that the proposed Town Meeting to discuss the alcohol policy of the college was being postponed temporarily. -VR

Intramural Sports: Activities Abound!

by Alfred Shine

With the coming of spring, students are more at ease with their academic schedules and increasingly turn their attention to extracurricular pursuits. This factor leads the director of intramural sports, Greg Popovich, to speculate the coming of a "good intramural season." The intramural sports offered are basketball, volleyball and softball. In addition, there are a number of club sports, including bicycling, women's soccer, rugby, lacrosse, and ultimate frisbee. In all of these sports there is a need for more student participation.

Intramural basketball commenced A and B division competition February 1. There are six teams in the A division and twenty in the B division, which are split into two groups. The top four teams in the A division will go to the playoffs as will the top two teams in each of the two groups in the B division. The winner of the playoffs will meet the CMC-HMC basketball playoff winner in a 5-college championship series at the end of the season.

Sign-ups for intramural volleyball and softball are still open. The last day to sign-up for volleyball is February 17 and for softball, February 24. Scheduled play for these two coed sports will begin Febru-

ary 21 for volleyball and March 1 for softball. For more information on intramural sports call Coach Popovich at Memorial Gym, ext. 2247.

The Claremont Colleges lacrosse team has already played two games, winning over Brigham Young University 10-9 and losing to Occidental College 13-12. Lacrosse is a sport in which each team has ten players on the field, and is a cross between soccer and hockey.

The lacrosse team considers this a rebuilding year after losing some key players to graduation. It is a young team with seven freshmen starting, but it is a very talented team and is well coached by Gerry Eyrich. The team's goal is to return to the West Coast Lacrosse League playoffs.

The rugby team officially began play against California State University at Fullerton on February 4. It is a veteran club that needs even more players. The highlight of the rugby season is a tournament of about thirty teams at the University of California Santa Barbara. The team practices Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays at 3:30 at Merritt Field. For more information call Brian Brady at ext 3745.

The bicycling team will not start racing as a team until early March.

The captain of the team is Steve Wheeler and the captain of the women's team is Elizabeth Grassi. The men's team has ten members; however, the women's team has only five prospects and needs more cyclists. The men would like more participation also.

The team has exclusive access to the Live Oak Canyon Reservoir, which is a 1.3 mile flat track. They train there once or twice a week and go on informal roadrides four to six days a week. The team will race on mostly criterion type courses, i.e. one to three kilometer loops of tight turns and hills approximately twenty to thirty miles in length.

Women's soccer is a sport in flux at the moment, as the intercollegiate league they competed in moved to the fall. Their coach Othan Castillo says they may be able to play in the Claremont city league, however. The team has had a good turnout this season, but it still needs more players. No experience is necessary.

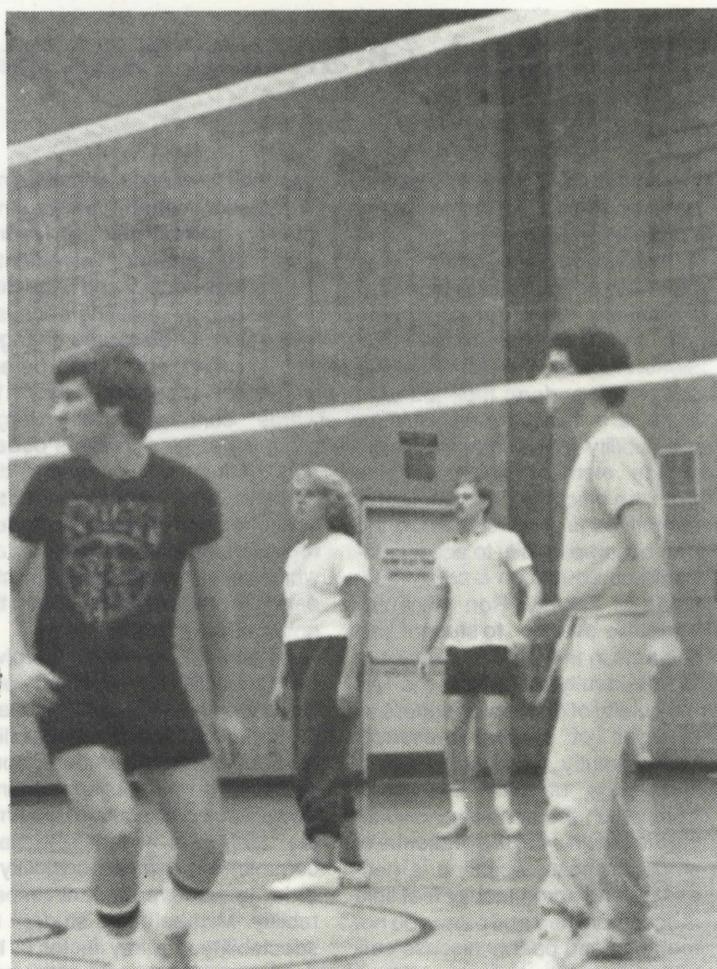
The Braineaters, Pitzer's ultimate frisbee team is practicing hard at the moment, but is finding it hard to really get things going, according to team member Vern Barrows. Nevertheless, the team's first test will be in the Winter Crystal Tournament on February 18, in San Diego.

VOTER REGISTRATION

Any student who would like to register to vote in the upcoming presidential election is encouraged to fill out a registration form. Forms are available in the office of Pitzer professor Glenn Goodwin, Avery 209, or in the room of Anthony Villar, Sanborn B-231.

TUTOR HELP AVAILABLE

Peer Writing Tutors are now available to help any interested Pitzer students with their writing skills. The service is of no charge and any interested students can make appointments for tutorial help by contacting Betsy Emerick, Administrative assistant for Student Affairs, either in her office, Scott 127, or by telephone, Ext. 3132.



The Platform

STUDENT GOVERNANCE AT PITZER:

Is it something of value?

by John Landgraf

Critiquing the effect of student governance at Pitzer is a difficult task, because there is no coherent system of pure student governance at this school. There are aspects of college life, such as dorm social events, which are primarily controlled by students. However, the majority of students involved in governance work with faculty and administrators to shape the present and future of Pitzer. This is what we like to call community governance. I will devote this editorial primarily to clarifying the distinction between student governance and community

governance. Having made such a distinction, I will be able to critique the governance system more lucidly in a second editorial.

"Perhaps the best situation one may hope for is a chance to participate in the amelioration of any system which decides one's fate."

Most students, including those at the other Claremont Colleges, have an associated student body. Such free-standing student governance organizations handle their own financing, internal structure, and staffing. They provide

many services, such as film and concert series. The Associated Students of the University of California at Berkeley, for example, is incorporated and has an annual budget of approximately \$10 million.

In contrast, these kinds of services are handled more informally at Pitzer with the help of administrators, faculty members, and students. The students get creative input from, and share some of their power with faculty and administrators. These sharing transactions are made of such committees as the Student Appoint-

ments Committee (which partially replaces elections) and the Community Relations Committee (which makes financial allocations to student organizations). What do the students of Pitzer College get for relinquishing exclusive control of the traditional functions of student government?

The students are given creative input and voting power on committees which decide important aspects of college life such as who teaches (Faculty Executive Committee), what is taught (Curriculum Committee), what the academic standards of the school

should be (Academic Standards Committee), and who is admitted to the college (Admissions and Financial Aid Committee). One of the more unique aspects of Pitzer College is that the Faculty shares the power of decision making with students on all committees, and even in the College Council. At other colleges the College Council would have a name such as "Faculty Senate," and would be closed to attendance by students - voting of students would be out of the question.

This is not to say that the Pitzer
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COMMUNICATION

Realism vs. Superficiality

by Sean McCrary

The Twentieth Century has witnessed a dramatic acceleration of the speed with which an individual can communicate with another. In this age of high-speed communication and almost immediate subsequent reaction it is imperative that all communication be clear and accurate. The competitive brinkmanship that exists between the superpowers, coupled with the ease and dispatch with which we can destroy our planet, should sufficiently underscore the importance of clear communication in the modern world.

There is an absence of real communication in our society. By "real" I mean communication that is complete, entirely honest, and accurately explains one's true feelings. I am convinced that it is the absence of this type of com-

munication which leads to conflict in relationships between nations or private individuals.

There are many things that contribute to the breakdown of personal communication, the most prevalent of which is embarrassment stemming from social stigma, real or imagined. Often people will avoid discussing an important issue because they feel that it is controversial, and, rather than risk a potentially embarrassing situation, they choose not to clearly explain their opinion about the issue. The price we pay for avoiding this immediate risk is a great deal of unnecessary anxiety surrounding how we really feel.

Having one's heartfelt ideas and values accepted, respected, and agreed with is one of the most profound joys man knows, and is

a major cornerstone of human happiness. I find this sadly ironic, because for the most part, people don't express their deepest per-

"People often compromise honesty for popularity."

sonal feelings and ideas. They are often afraid that their peers may not accept, respect, or agree with them, and consequently they become superficial, echoing only already established opinions. People often compromise honesty for popularity.

Having one's innermost thoughts ridiculed by a person one admires can be intensely painful, usually stirring doubts about one's self worth. This painful experience, in turn, makes one

self-conscious and reluctant to reveal anything very valuable for fear that it will be stepped upon again. When others let down their buffers of superficiality and express their deepest feelings, one should not feel threatened or confused, and for these reasons react sarcastically. Instead, one should take responsibility for that person's well-being and build their confidence by giving them support. Often people are callous and cruel towards others on a very casual level, not considering how deeply one's offhand remarks can penetrate and hurt.

I think that there is a natural human desire to share with others. To fulfill this desire one must take incalculable risks. Many people avoid this, living instead in purely material worlds of tangible proba-

bility and outcome. But at the ends of their lives, these people feel frustrated and realize that the overall benefits of saying what they really held to be true would have outweighed any adverse effects that that expression could have had in the long run. On the contrary, speaking their minds would have lessened anxiety and generally improved the quality and increased the depth of their personal relationships.

I am sure that if communication becomes more honest and complete, the world will be a much healthier and more productive environment in which to live. Through this process we will find a less anxious and less frustrated society that is better equipped to deal with its problems and its future. •

NUCLEAR ANXIETY

by Dave Phillips

nōō'kli-ēr an-zīe-ti. A household term? Well, if it isn't yet it soon will be. Nuclear anxiety is a feeling of uneasiness or apprehension about the possibility of a disastrous nuclear war. Recently, two movies, *Testament* and *The Day After*, have reflected the growing concern over the possibility of a nuclear holocaust. This concern is apparently accelerating and is appropriately the greatest with the young. Nuclear anxiety is the term that has been given to this fear of the unthinkable.

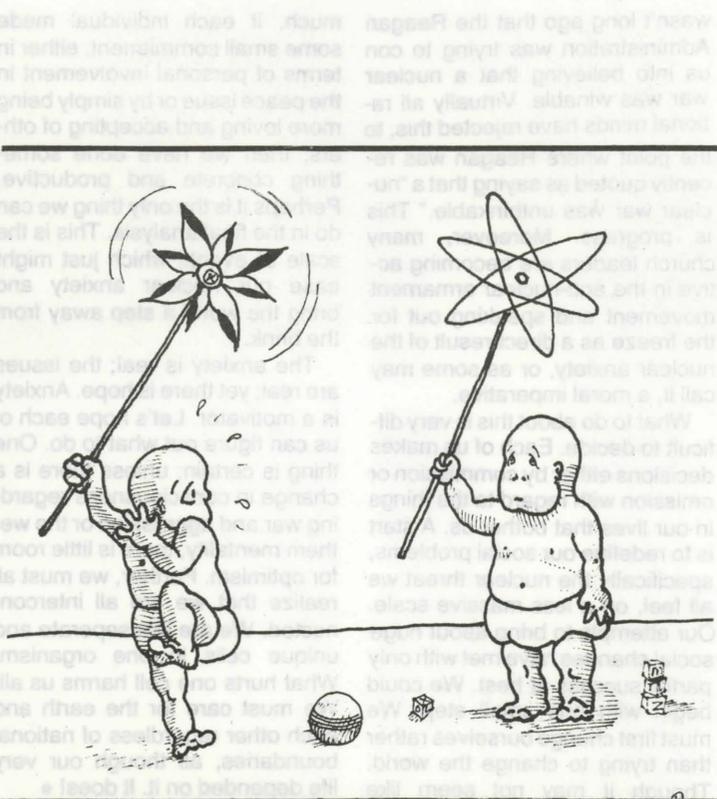
Recently, while having lunch with a friend, a graduate art professor, spoke of an assignment he had given to his students in a class on creativity. The assignment was to create a piece of art that would resemble art in the year 2500. All of the students made post-nuclear war presentations. All of them! In particular, one of

these graduate students made a series of grotesque mutant dolls, radiated distortions of human babies, resulting from what they perceived as the inevitable nuclear war.

As we all know, genetic mutations are only a small part of the consequences of a nuclear war. In

"With this reality as our backdrop, almost everything else in life pales."

the recent past scientists have described the more "short term" effects such as a nuclear winter of many months, where the sunlight will not penetrate the dust in the air resulting from the explosions, thus plunging the earth into an endless night with sub-zero temperatures. When the atmosphere does clear, the ozone layer



will have been shattered, thus exposing life, if there is any left, to the damaging effects of unfiltered sunlight, causing cancer in humans and equivalently horrible results in all life forms. The earth, water and food will be radiated. Anyone unlucky enough to survive the war will be doomed to an agonizing future demise. I won't describe it further, as others have already done so with more precision and detail; however, it doesn't take long to understand why nuclear anxiety exists. This frighteningly close possibility has moved even closer in the last few years. The doomsday clock, arbitrarily set by a group of esteemed scientists, has been moved forward to two and a half minutes before Armageddon.

With this reality as our backdrop, almost everything else in life
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Maintenance Enters Rooms Over Break

By Charlotte Whiteley

As students return from winter break, they may wonder who has been in their rooms and for what reasons. When Maia Lawrence, a junior, returned from vacation she found that the bourbon she had left had been drunk and an empty Coke can (which she had not left) was on her desk. The thought that some unknown person may have been lounging on her bed or looking through her room while drinking her bourbon bothered her a great deal. Maia said, "I feel as though my privacy has been invaded. My room is my only private place here on campus, and when somebody violates my privacy they violate me."

The only people associated with Pitzer College normally authorized to enter rooms are the maintenance and custodial staff. Maintenance personnel enter rooms only when they have received specific work orders, or when other maintenance jobs are

deemed necessary. Custodians are authorized to clean only those rooms which are undergoing a change of occupant. In addition, Rich McColl, director of maintenance, personally checked each room for fire hazards. He can recall hundreds of cases since he has worked at Pitzer of "... refrigerators, hot plates etc. being plugged in, which creates a fire hazard for the whole dorm."

Rich was disturbed when he found out about the missing liquor, but he has complete confidence in his workers. He stated "... They are wholesome and trustworthy people." McColl offered the possibility that one of the temporary workers he hires through an outside agency went into Maia's room. He thinks, however, that this is unlikely since "... theoretically the agency screens their personnel before hiring them." But McColl and Georgina Garcia, head of custo-

dial services, emphasize the fact that their employees have been working for them for long periods of time, and are certain that none of their permanent employees would risk losing their jobs by stealing.

Daria Shockley, assistant dean of students, sent a memo to all students before break on the college policy towards personal belongings. Maintenance procedures are clearly stated and so is the fact that "Pitzer cannot assume responsibility for the loss or damage of any personal belongings left in student rooms over the break."

Pitzer is not a totally sheltered community, and its members cannot expect to be spared from all outside forces. They can, however, refuse to provoke such actions as theft, by being very secure with property of high monetary or sentimental value.

Pitzer Keeps the Faith

by Victor Rivera

In front of a distinguished gathering of people that included the mayor of Claremont, several members of the Board of Trustees, and other members of the Pitzer Community, Pitzer College held its second of a series of conferences on "Keeping the Faith" in conjunction with the college's 20th anniversary celebration. This conference, entitled "... On a Truly Liberal Education", brought several former members of the administration and the faculty, including former Pitzer President Robert Atwell, back to the college to talk about the prospects for the brand of liberal education that has characterized Pitzer since its conception.

Discussing the first question, "What has Pitzer done?", former professor of sociology Inge Bell pointed out that Pitzer has managed to keep alive the "increasingly rare ... democratic community where students have a say in their education." However, Professor Bell criticized what she considered to be the increasing tendency for Pitzer to concentrate on book-learning instead of using the experiences of the world around us to teach.

In contrast to Professor Bell, President Atwell maintained that Pitzer should concentrate on fostering a sense of "academic excellence" through more conventional teaching methods. He stated that a recent meeting of educators had led him to believe that the field of liberal arts will flourish again in the near future, and that human values, not technical ones, would be looked for in graduates in the next few years. Atwell pointed out, however, that in order to achieve the academic excellence that was

needed there might need to be minimum learning requirements and the introduction of more discipline into the academic side of the college.

Werner Warmbrunn challenged this view somewhat, stating that what was needed was for students to open their minds more to ideas. This, he said, would reduce the need for compulsion in education. Professor Warmbrunn also pointed out that the single most important goal for any liberal institution is to remain true to the ideas that formed it. As Professor Warmbrunn put it, "A truly liberal education concerns itself with values that remain constant."

Perhaps the most interesting aspect of the conference was the sharp disagreement that characterized the points of view of Professor Bell and President Atwell. Bell called, at one point of the conference, for professors to take students out of the classrooms and into the world at large. She said that confining students to classrooms and endless reading lists was substituting book knowledge for the wisdom that can only be gained through experience. Atwell, now the president of the American Council on Education, stressed the need to become more academically oriented, stating, at one point, that "excellence is what (Pitzer) must be all about." The type of excellence that Atwell referred to was the academic excellence that could be achieved only through the classroom.

The final "Keeping the Faith" conference will be held on April 11, at 8PM in Avery Auditorium. Though the speakers have not been finalized for the event, the tentative topic of discussion will be "... For a Better Society." All are welcomed to attend.

Tucker Resigns

continued from page 1

ces on people is part of the specialness of Pitzer. Opponents, however, point to the need to pursue academic excellence and feel that student's test scores are becoming so low, that they must be brought up even if it means sacrificing risk taking.

One of the complaints raised against Martin Tucker was that he was too prone to taking risks, but Michael Teahan feels that "Martin saw a human value in more than what was just on an application... He would put himself on the line, he took chances on people, people like me; some succeeded, some didn't... (there were) brilliant successes and blinding failures."

Editor's Box

Where Administrators Should Not Mingle

by Eric Kyner

The role of the press in society seems such an abstract and pointless subject that I would naturally leave it to those who like to indulge in such things. However in researching Tucker's resignation what thoughts I had on the subject were challenged and forced to harden as I was frustrated by a secrecy I found unreasonable, hampered by fears I knew were irrational, and brought to emotional anxiety by what can be termed mild harassment and attempts to manipulate the press.

The role of the press and the role of government are fundamentally different. Governments concern themselves with questions of public good, the concern of the newspaper is to provide information. It is not the newspaper's role to be concerned with how people react to that information or whether obtaining it is in their best interest.

Complaints of harassment and manipulation and appeals to the



Leah Light teaching in new Physio-Psych Lab

photo by Wes Tanimura

New Lab on campus

by Jim Fisk

Pitzer has a new addition to its facilities, namely the Physical-Psychology Laboratory in the basement of Scott Hall. The lab, primarily the brainchild of Professors Karen Gaston and Leah Light, will be in use for the first time this semester.

Built from rooms once housing computers and the boilers for the school, the lab consists of many different study areas. There are four rooms for long term experiments and three smaller rooms for individual demonstrations. One of these rooms features a one-way mirror. "The mirror," said Gaston, "allows us to expand on our observations. If a child development class wants to observe a child's reaction to stimuli, they can put the child in the room and observe without being seen."

Also included in the lab is a classroom for large demonstrations. From the classroom there is access to the animal surgery room, where experiments are done. There is an animal shelter located near the classroom. The shelter, as Al Yeck, a Pitzer technician, describes, "is fully automatic. It has timers that automatically turn the lights on and off. This way the animals feel like they're in more natural surroundings."

The lab itself was made possible through funding from private grants. The equipment that will be used was purchased with money from the college. More money is needed to expand upon the equipment. However, Gaston isn't complaining. "Just to get a place like this is wonderful. I'm very happy with everything that's been done. The lab is magnificent!"

sanctity of the press seem rather presumptuous for a paper which struggles just to come out every two weeks. However they don't seem so presumptuous when you've been berated by both the Dean of Faculty and Governor of Students, received urging from the leader of the faculty not to dwell on the past, been asked to delay your article two to four weeks, heard rumors that the President is distressed by the questions you're asking and learned that your article has been discussed by the colleges most powerful committee.

Concerns over whether an article will sidetrack the college into a controversy when it needs to unite on whether it will only serve to embarrass Martin Tucker are valid and certainly well-intended.

However it is not a reporter's role to judge or be burdened by whether his article will or will not start a controversy or whether it should. A reporter's role is not dictated by personal judgements, but rather by a complex and es-

established code of ethics. In reading a news article one should expect to gain information not judgements about that information.

Behind any concern over embarrassing Martin Tucker is the knowledge that the Director of Admissions is an important, well-known public figure. His successes, failures and policies profoundly affect the direction of the community and as such he is under public scrutiny. It is a scrutiny which can attack, but which can also be allowed to protect.

The potential power of the press is significant and because of that a newspaper's writers should be aware of the responsibility that power entails and the ethics that have been established to guide them.

It is perfectly justified and even commendable for those who govern to remind a newspaper of its responsibility and code of ethics, it is not justified for them to actively try to influence what a newspaper should cover, how it should cover it and when it should print it.

Arts

CGS Student Shows The Other Side Of The Wall

by Mark Boguski

A confrontation, according to Webster's Dictionary is a face to face meeting, a clashing of facts or ideas. Such a term might be useful in describing the recent exhibit of Claremont Graduate School art student Adi Fu Yekutieli. His show, "The Other Side of the Wall" was in the East Gallery of the art department building.

Upon immediately entering the usually expansive space, the viewer is forced to turn aside and walk parallel along an immense brick painted wall made of canvas. Almost thirty-five feet long and thirteen feet tall, the wall takes up one entire side of the room. Once around, the scene becomes infinitely more puzzling as

what might be expected to be more brick has metamorphosed into a mirade of form, color, line illustration and texture. The rest of the gallery is blank; all attention is focused on the wall.

Yekutieli primarily uses oil on canvas in a variety of small and large frames, some as small as one foot by three feet, others up to seven and one half by eleven and one half feet. Additional materials include ripped canvas, glass, chicken wire and weathered wood.

The overwhelming size, colors, shapes and images make an undeniable impression. His colors clash as well as blend to make an aesthetic whole. Images are crude: primitive line drawings show characters violently em-

bracing, screaming in agony, locked behind barbed wire, depicted in the act of seemingly beligerent, random coition. An outline of Israel (pre 1967 boundary) stays shut behind a chicken wire fence; people appear distorted; Egyptian hieroglyphics proclaim domination of pharoh and his people over the Jews.

Overall, the effect of this work is mind numbing. It leaves the viewer barraged, as if personally assaulted. Through intimidation by sheer size, contradiction in form, color and texture, the work asks us to question, to consider our daily actions, to be self-searching and self-critical. The work is not all together vulgar. It does illicit a certain negative response due to the profanities depicted, but to simply

see pure desperation would be an error of hasty judgement. Yekutieli seemingly intends to enlighten, not cause hopelessness.

"The Other Side of the Wall" communicates contradiction, aggression and atrocity. There is a frightfully realistic metaphorical depiction of events in random time and space. Yekutieli tells us that sometimes life is not pretty, that it indeed does sometimes wail and we as participants have to face up to that fact—even if we have to be forced to see it.

Adi Fu Yekutieli is currently exhibited at the Henshaw Gallery in the Grove House, as part of the Jewish Arts Festival. In this show one underlying theme in "The Other Side of the Wall," that of aggression against women, is explicitly brought out.

New Poetry

by Ari Sherman

The Bert Myers Poetry Room has been the beneficiary of a generous gift from the poet Marie Harris. Ms. Harris, who read here in December, has graciously donated the entire catalog — 43 books — published by the Alice James Poetry Cooperative with which she is affiliated. In addition Ms. Harris has promised to continue to provide the poetry room with all new releases from the Alice James Press.

The Alice James Cooperative is unique among small presses and was the subject of a video accompanied talk by Ms. Harris during her December visit. Emphasizing the publication of poetry by women — without totally excluding male writers — the poet-members of the cooperative have complete artistic control over how their books are published. Since its founding in 1973, the cooperative has earned a reputation of high integrity for publishing fine poetry and keeping all of its publications in print.

Ms. Harris is the mother of two Pitzer students, Bill and Sebastian Matthews. Her reading was well received by an audience which overflowed the Grove House living room. Her generous donation, which includes work of her own, is on display in the Bert Myers Poetry Room.

Sound In Sculpture: A New Dimension In Art

by Holly Jacobs

When glass artist Paul Seide states that his sculptures "will last forever," he is not being an egoist. He means, quite literally, that his radio light sculptures, by virtue of the materials of which they are composed, are beyond wear. They are durable, tough. They also create an amazing visual experience.

The pieces, presently on exhibit at the Kurland/Summers Gallery

in L.A., are the result of a decade of technological research on the part of Seide. He uses "low pressure ionized gases to create a mass of light on an atomic level." The neon gases are introduced into vacuumized loops of blown colored glass. A broadcast radio signal is used to "excite" the volume of gas within each loop. The effect: a brilliant glow which emanates from the interior of the glass.

Each piece is the result of an interaction between two multi-colored spirals of glass which form,

as Seide terms it, "a visual chord." The work is a visual interpretation of a style of musical composition

called polyphony: the juxtaposition of two melodies to create a harmony. In Seide's work, form and color represent melody. This sculptural synesthesia is as compelling as it is innovative. The combination of gestural forms and vibrant color produces a lyrical and mysterious harmony which is irresistible. The sculpture demands that the viewer react.

"When one steps into the gallery and encounters the series stunningly displayed on mirrored pedestals, one realizes that confrontation is unavoidable. This work cannot be ignored — nor can the artist. Paul Seide's technical achievement and conceptual scope establish him as an important influence in the art world. His daring and methodological approach provides the student-artist and professional alike with a new area of investigation; another limit to push.

Evita, In Claremont?

By Karmit Zysman

On the 26th of January, the musical that was awarded seven Tony Awards, *Evita*, came to The Claremont Colleges. This production appeared at the Mabel Shaw Bridges Music Auditorium.

Evita is based on the life of Eva (Duarte) Perón, the second wife of the Argentina dictator Juan Perón. It is the story about a girl, born in 1919, poor and illegitimate, who became the most powerful woman that Latin America had ever seen. She was the First Lady of Argentina at the age of 27. Eva's childhood experiences caused her to hate the aristocracy and favor the descamisados ("the shirtless ones").

Eva Duarte's life in her hometown, Junin, is described as mundane until she meets tango singer, Agustín Magaldi. After a brief affair she convinces him to take her to Buenos Aires, for "she wants to be a part of B.A.—Buenos Aires—Big Apple!"

Once in Buenos Aires she rids herself of Agustín Magaldi and becomes a successful model, actress and broadcaster. Meanwhile Colonel Juan Perón has become one of the top candidates for a rather insecure position, the presidency. The staging for this particular scene focuses on five high-ranking military officials teetering in rocking chairs, engaged in a game of musical chairs. The winner of this game Perón, is the future leader of the nation. He en-

ters into "politics, the art of the possible."

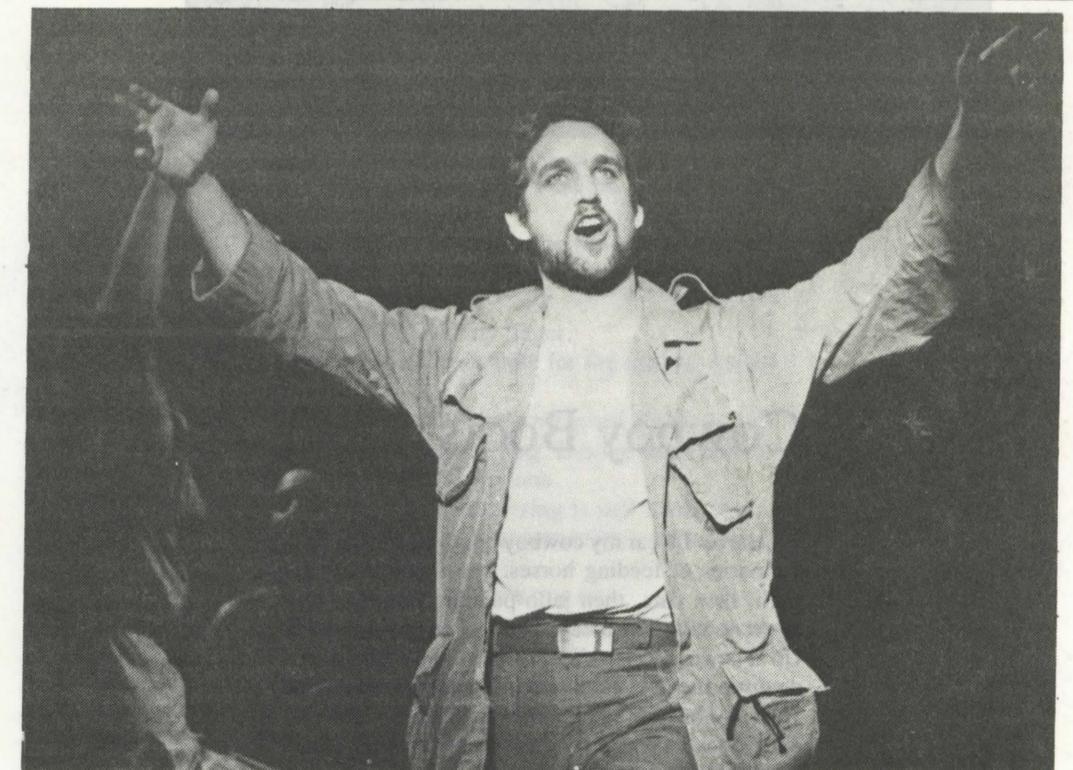
Towards the end of the first scene, Eva meets Juan Perón after a charity concert. It is at this point that Eva becomes politically connected by entering into Perón's life. The army and the aristocracy criticize her action.

On the day of Juan Perón's inauguration, Evan has reached her political climax as she joins him on the balcony of the Casa Rosada. Eva, upstaging Perón, now her husband, is portrayed as a charismatic lady as she sings the famous "Don't Cry for Me Argentina." The crowd responds enthusiastically to Eva's brilliant appearance. According to Che, an Argentine student, she is a woman who "didn't say much, but she said it loud."

Eva sets out on the Rainbow Tour of Europe, which has a glorious beginning in Spain, but which slowly diminishes in Italy and France. Upon her return, Eva decides to concentrate on domestic affairs. In spite of her claims, Che points out that she has done nothing for the working classes of the country.

She attempts to establish a foundation to aid the economic situation. Her effort accomplishes little more than to elevate her to the level of a saint. Che's cynicism is now at its apex. "There is evil ever around, fundamental."

Nearing the end of the second scene, Perón and Eva evaluate his inability to maintain control



Evita plays in Claremont

over government. This melancholic mood is intensified by Eva's discovery of her cancer. As a result, she decides to reject the position of vice-president; which she realizes she never could have won, yet aspired to.

As a reaction to her discovery, she wonders whether she would have had a longer life had she remained the simple woman she originally was, as she sings, "And how I lived! How they shone! But how soon the lights were

gone! . . ." (Lament). The closing of the story ends the way it began; *Evita's* funeral and the mourning of the nation over the death of the "goddess that has lived among us."

The character, Che Guevara, plays a diverse set of roles throughout the musical. He moves about the other actors and actresses as a narrator, or commentator especially in the scene of Eva's love affairs (Goodnight and Thank You). The musical op-

ens with Che playing the radical, who cynically condemns Eva and her faults, which so many of the mourners fail to recognize. Thirdly, he acts as the announcer for Eva's speech at the Casa Rosada. Although playing a major role in the musical, his staging depicts him as a versatile figure who cleverly adapts to the scene at hand. These chameleon-like adaptations are illustrated by his green dress.

Evita continues on page 8

POETRY

Michael Magoolaghan

Michael Magoolaghan is a Senior English major at Pitzer whose teachers have included such diverse and talented poets as Jim Simmerman, Marcia Falk, Robert Mezey, Arthur Sze, Maurya Simon Falk, and Adrienne Rich. At present he is busy working on his senior thesis; a compilation of interviews with New Mexican poets.

Self-Portrait

At 19, so many miles behind me
I resemble the diesel fumes
Greyhounds leave, or baggage
left on the overhead rack.

I am the shadows of pine branches
light throws across the basin
of my sink. I have stared
at the faucet for hours, and know
the beats-per-minute of its drip.

Like sound from a crushed
guitar, the poem escapes
my collapsing lungs.
I am its small echo
bouncing off red canyon
walls. You appear beside me,
a hard blue edge that fills the dawn
and keeps on running.

Tao ism

What the hell is a "spiritual classic" anyhow?
Sitting here in short sleeves,
mind naked to the world,
pondering Chuang
Tzu!

THE GEEK'S REVELATION

I don't need to imitate
anyone but myself, he realized, sitting
by the creek. The process, I mean
life, he says, is simple. You wait
and you watch. You become
like this tree. You step inside.
You don't murder
your numerous possible selves.
Keep the door open, he says,
I'd like the flies to join me for lunch.

The Turquoise Ring

I bought this turquoise ring because of the iron pyrite specks, which were arranged so as to resemble the eyes nose and mouth of a lion, and because of the Navajo woman whose eyes were pieces of coal and whose face reminded me of my yoga teacher's with its wonderfully wise wrinkles, its crow's feet upon crow's feet . . .

Actually, it's a declaration of love. Its teardrop shape is symbolic. Its silver border is like the brim of a cowboy hat.

I wear a stone on my finger.

Perhaps it is a substitute for the missing fingernail.

The whole southwestern United States is contained in this turquoise ring. It is the exact color of the sky in Flagstaff, Arizona.

Time goes by and the ring is still there, it only comes off when I play construction worker, which is almost never.

I take showers with this ring on.

When I sleep the ring sleeps beside me, sometimes rubbing gently against my face.

Perhaps I should tell you about what led me to this ring. There are many turquoise rings sold on the Plaza—hundreds each day—by the Navajo and Pueblo Indians. But of all the rings, only this one wanted me. I knew it wanted me because the woman who made it recognized me as her kinsman, even though I am not a Navajo, or even a Native American. She smiled and a hundred rainbows broke from her eyes. She shifted her sitting position, and her velvet black gown sparkled in the sunshine. "I have seen you hanging around," she said, "and I know you want this ring, which I would sell to most people for thirty dollars, but for you—I'll give it to you for three hundred twenty-five." I bought it, of course. But recently I discovered there's a curse on this ring: because of it, if I ever eat a live rattlesnake, I will die instantly.

Arts



Cowboy Boots

Whenever I wear my cowboy boots they bring back memories of feeding horses: one flake of hay for each, then oats, then jello pudding mix, for their sweet-tooths. The 3 days I was a cowboy I loved it. Up at dawn, black coffee, fill the trough with water, devy-up the hay, look out at the orange ridges and sigh. For once I felt at home in the juniper and piñón. I'd take walks through twisting arroyos, across black mesa tops, railroad tracks—and I'd feel perfectly at home. I was living near a ghost town at the time. But one day I went into town for a beer and the ghostly bartender reminded me that I'd bought these boots in a shopping mall in sprawling suburbia and I was just an urban cowboy imposter, after all.

Leave-taking

Morning spreads its fingers
like palm fronds
and I wake. Second day
without her eyes; already I hear
the rain scraping at my roof
like a spade unearthing

a sigh. Life is not
what I'd expected: it's a question
of thunderheads
and vanishing points.
Downtown, drunks
huddle in the door frame
of Club 66; water travels
the dark veins
of the mountainsides;
a cottontail nibbles
on the cement,
the sidewalk collapses
and she is the distance 500, in bronze.

Siesta

in memory of Abel Martin

While the fiery fish traces his arc
beside the cypress, beneath the tallest indigo,
and the blind boy disappears into white stone,
and in the elm the ivory song
of the green cicada beats and booms,
let us honor the Lord
—the black trace of his kindly hand—
who has compelled silence amidst the clamor.

To the God of distance and absence,
of the sea's anchor, the abundant sea . . .
He frees us from the world—his omnipresence—,
he opens a path for us to travel.

With the cup of overflowing shadows,
with this never filled heart,
let us honor the Lord who made the Emptiness
and has sculpted our reason out of faith.

—Antonio Macado (1875-1939)
translation by Michael Magoolaghan