

this one's dedicated to the pabst-drinking carnies. love.

artswEEK



another film issue

dig in.

THEATER: REVIEW

'NSYNC, ABE+LSD

THE COMPLETE HISTORY OF AMERICA, ABRIDGED TELLS IT LIKE IT COULD'VE BEEN ... BUT SHORTER

thank you | lindsay farmer

History majors, pay attention. Non-history majors, pay even more attention to Santa Barbara City College Theatre Group's production of "The Complete History of America (Abridged)." This creative spoof on American history takes the audience on a face-paced and multi-directional trip from the crossing of the Bering Strait to 'NSync and bits and pieces of everything in between. But unlike those history classes that become an excuse for catching up on sleep, this lesson is well worth the effort. The audience never stops laughing. Small changes on historical events, alongside commentaries on pop culture and media, mix up a crazy night not to be missed.

The talented cast of fourteen sing, dance, bump, and crash their way through 50,000 years of American history, with some twists along the way. Beginning with naming the new world Vespuchiland (after the famous mapmaker, Americo Vespuchi), many timemarks are explored, such as Chief Auto Parts demonstrating the creation myths, the comedic stylings of Lewis and Clark (back from their Western tour of the Louisiana Purchase), a slide show of the Civil War (without the civility or the slides), and the running joke of the shooting of Abe Lincoln (with the head of Jack-in-the-Box). And that's just the first act.

Along with taking a few "creative liberties" with historical events, the play interweaves commentary on American policy towards itself, its people and everyone else. As one character notes, "How can we fight Germany's land invasion, concentration camps, and discrimination in Europe during World War II, when we've been doing the same thing to the American Indians, Asian Americans, and

African-Americans?" The satirical response: because we got away with it and they didn't.

Although thought-provoking "Complete History of America (Abridged)" is full of humor to soften the blow of social and political commentary, especially with prevalent word play in every scene. A character's name or place, which seems harmless when first introduced, becomes the punch-line for jokes to come. The private detective, Space Diamond searches for Lucy Ricardo, who is in disguise. In other words, Lucy's in disguise with Diamond (Hint: it's a Beatles song, sound it out). Every scene flows beautifully into the next, a credit to the playwrights (Long, Martin, and Tichenor). Events flow forward across time, backwards to fill in a few spots, then forward again, but never breaking the continual flow of satire.

In addition to the outstanding writing of the play, the delivery is amazing. Every actor performs every character superbly and keeps up the fast pace. To keep a solid flow of action, a center curtain is set up to split the visible stage into a front and

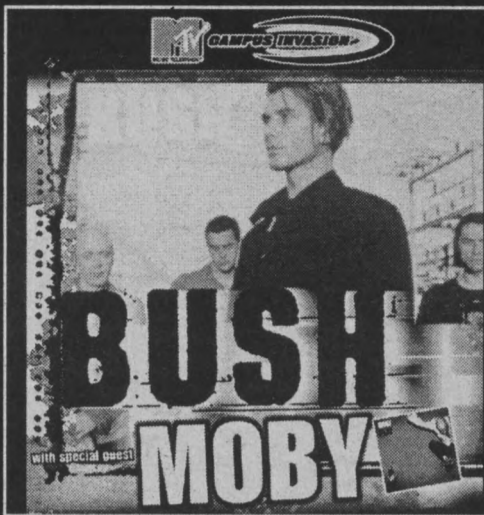
back. While action is going on in front of the curtain, sets, props, and performers are being set up behind the curtain. So when one scene finishes, the next is ready to go. And the show went, full speed and full force through the night of history.

"Complete History of America (Abridged)" performs Tuesday through Saturday at 8:00 p.m., April 21 through May 6 at the Studio Theatre at SBCC West Campus. \$16 (Friday and Saturday evenings)/\$15 (Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings, and Saturday and Sunday matinees) general. For tickets and more information, call 965-5935.

“FROM THE CROSSING OF THE BERING STRAIT TO 'NSYNC”

Santa Barbara Bowl

Budweiser CONCERT SERIES



This Saturday
April 29
6:30pm

Student Discount available with a valid College Student ID at the Bowl box office only

BECK!

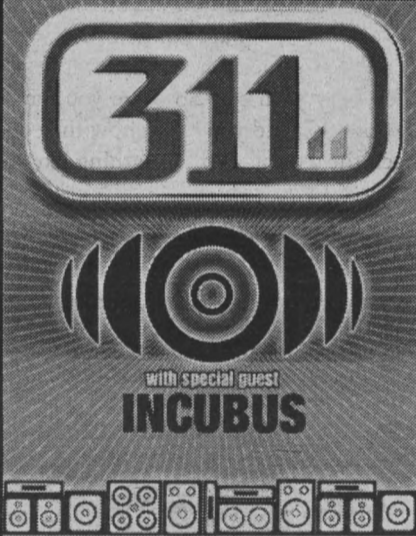
Midnight Vultures

With Special Guests

CAFE TACUBA

Thu. May 4 • 7pm

92.9 KJEE MONTICITO • SANTA BARBARA



Friday
May 26
7pm

92.9 KJEE MONTICITO • SANTA BARBARA

JAMES BROWN



with special guests THE B-SIDE PLAYERS
Friday, May 12 • 7pm

REGGAE at the BOWL 2000

GREGORY ISAACS
ISRAEL VIBRATION & THE ROOTS RADICS
THIRD WORLD
PATO BANTON & REGGAE REVOLUTION
INNER CIRCLE AND MORE...

Memorial Day
May 29 • 4pm

An Evening of Comedy with
Ellen DeGeneres



Friday
June
23rd
8pm

natalie merchant

live in concert
Sun. June 25 • 7pm

Chris Isaak

Baby Did a Bad Bad Thing Tour

Sunday
July 2 • 7pm



GOLDENVOICE GOLDENVOICE.COM

THE WAREHOUSE / ROBINSONS • MAY ARLINGTON THEATRE / TOWER RECORDS and BOWL BOX OFFICE • CHARGE: 805-583-8700

ARTISTdirect.com ticketmaster

COME TO AN INFORMATIVE ORIENTATION ON

PROFESSIONAL WRITING

The UCSB Writing Program offers this minor to prepare students for careers in today's communication and technology fields.

Get information and your questions answered on

Friday April 28, 2000 from 3 - 4
South Hall • Room 1432

visit our site : <http://www.writing.ucsb.edu>

UCSB's LOS CURANDEROS presents
The Annual Minority Pre-Health Conference



DIVERSIFYING HEALTH CARE

Saturday, April 29th

8am, at the Multicultural Theater

There will be a health careers panel, a medical student panel, workshops on pre-medical planning, and a pre-health student forum.

Everyone is welcome!
And it's free!

Learn what it takes to become a health professional. For more information, please contact Rosemary Flamenco at drrosy@hotmail.com

HIP HOP COLUMN : IT'S CALLED LOUD STATIC



STRAIGHT BEATS FOR BEAT HEADS

90210 PREDICTIONS IN LOUD STATIC

pseudonymus maximus | robotsex

What do studies of non-human primates provide in the way of information concerning human evolution? It's OK if you don't know the answer to this question - human evolution is a tricky subject. But it's nearly May, interest rates are at an all-time low, "Beverly Hills 90210" is three episodes away from being cancelled (and from the way it looks, David is going to get back together with Donna) and Robotsex is back. He's no longer on injured reserve, parading around campus in a Lamar Odom rubber mask and a bad Men's Wearhouse three-piece suit. The most poignant effect of all of this: I am now living proof that power corrupts and that additional radiation makes you a real ass. So, if you are planning on marching across campus conquering everything and everyone in your path, as I am, I suggest that you: a) find a better game plan because if you ain't on my side you'll get thumped, and b) if you still decide on that course of action, remember -

If you are like me you already have acquired most of the Shapeshifters tunes somehow (I can vividly recall the day when Circus a.k.a. Kid Zelda the Neanderthal Elf gave me dubbed recordings of recordings of a recording made directly from the 4-track he recorded on). By now

the horse has been flogged to hamburger, but still, *Know Future* by them Way Too Funky Shapeshifters is a best buy now that it is available on CD. A double CD collection of extra radical underground hip hop smash hits (and ones that aren't so popular), the stand outs are "Brain Fish Oner," "Gotta Be Understanden," "Joy 2 da World" and my all time favorite, "Surf en Tsunamis." Then again if you are not like me, you have never heard of the Shapeshifters, and may need some thing to break your current musical tendencies.

**“POWER CORRUPTS+
ADDITIONAL RADIATION
MAKES YOU
A REAL ASS”**

Of course, if you've already had enough of L.A. underground hip hop then *Monostereosis: the New Victrola Method* from Live Human may be your chosen

path to enlightenment. This is a group that receives the highest of kudos from me for their mellowed-out fusion of turntables, bass and drums. It's a simple formula and one in which they succeed. These aren't new jams, but since they were previously only available on the UK's Fat Cat Records, it's likely that most folks don't have them sitting around in their collection. "Orangebushmonkeyflower" and "The E Pod" are my personal choice picks.

Last but not least, I choose to inform you about Tosca. Written and produced by Richard Dorfmeister and Rupert Huber, *Suzuki* is straight beats for all beat heads. Exactly what that means is up to you to decipher, but all I can really say is that I enjoy the album very much. Yes, very much. "Honey," "Annanas," "Orozco," are fresh (in my sub-standard opinion), but the real kicker is that I was told by the ultimate holder of all wisdom that, although I have not yet tried it, the music is great to have playing when busy with sex. So there you have it, straight from G-stone/k7, and you know how they do it; music to help reach the g-spot ... or something like that.

Robotsex is really a fembot with machine gun jubbies.

Come Fuel Up At

THE Java Station
COFFEEHOUSE

with the Freshest Coffee in Town

BUY 1 COFFEE GET THE 2ND FOR 1/2 PRICE
(with this ad only)

We offer:

- ☉ Fresh baked pastries from Arlington Cafe
- ☉ Yummie Fruit Smoothies
- ☉ Fresh Sandwiches by Mission Grocers
- ☉ Beautiful Santa Fe Fireplace
- ☉ Comfortable couches & wingback chairs
- ☉ View of SB mountains
- ☉ Latest technology in coffee brewing systems
- ☉ Plenty of Parking!!

4447 Hollister Avenue
(805) 681-0202

thursdays NO COVER

\$2 drinks

all well cocktails/shots/domestic beers
from 9pm to close

fridays NO COVER

THE FUNK COLLECTIVE (a.k.a. the Madhouse Posse)

hip-hop • house • trance • ambient • old skool funk

DJs: Calvin • Johnnie • John • Level • Q • Jesse + guest MCs

Big Mad Teas \$4
the Big Gulp of Long Island

saturdays NO COVER

THE NEOBEATNIX
a dj collective

underground electronic culture

\$2 drink specials
from 9pm to close

UPCOMING

THE CANNONS
wed may 17

Advance tix @ Madhouse only \$5 this week

madhouse
434 STATE

put it on your fridge



Has anyone heard that rumor that Joel Schumacher is capable of making films that aren't complete dreck? Don't believe it! It's not true! Gossip relies on plausibility in order to be perpetuated, and no one would ever believe that an individual in possession of the slightest amount of filmmaking competence could be responsible for such atrocities as "Batman and Robin" and "8MM."

Although Schumacher did not direct the college thriller, "Gossip," as he originally planned, he did serve as the executive producer. Davis Guggenheim, who did, has no previous narrative film experience. It is easier, for the sake of this review, to hold Schumacher culpable.

"Gossip" takes place on a strange, nameless college campus, where students all dress in hip black clothing, drink blood-red cocktails out of martini glasses and listen to experimental techno. Three friends, played by James Marsden, Lena Headey and Norman Reedus are taking a class on what appears to be a blend of sociology, communication and being really intellectual. Still, it's taught by Eric Bogosian, so that makes it hip just like everything else in this movie. When they are told to write a paper on gossip (you guys all remember that gossip paper you had to do for Writing 50, right?), they decide to conduct an experiment by planting a rumor, then tracking it to see how it moves and transforms over a period of time.

Up to this point, the movie is not terrible. As unlikely as the plot is, it is a little interesting. Other than the "Sweet Valley High: The Series" acting and the pretentious, dark art direction, the first 15 minutes of "Gossip" aren't that bad. Once they plant the rumor — that preppy virgin queen Naomi Preston (Kate Hudson) finally gave up the booty to her bad ass boyfriend Beau (Joshua Jackson) — the movie starts to fall apart. Within a day, the rumor changes: Now the story is that Naomi got really drunk at a party where she passed out, and Beau raped her.



FINALLY GAVE UP THE BOOTY TO HER BAD ASS BOYFRIEND BEAU"

After that, everything happens according to the "A Simple Plan" cut-and-paste story line. The rumor's originators test their friendship as they debate the moral obligation to come clean; one of them says yes, another wants to play the manipulation game some more and the third, for no real reason, starts to go crazy. By the time the obligatory gruesome background story pops up, "Gossip" has deteriorated completely.

Without wanting to give anything away (for some reason, you might still want to see this movie), I should tell you this: "Gossip" has a surprise ending. Surprise endings have become very popular lately, but the writers of "Gossip" need to realize that there is more to making a surprise ending successful than simply shocking the audience. A surprise ending should completely rework the entire movie, leaving people thinking about the film for days, reinterpreting all of the characters' actions throughout the course of the movie. In "Gossip," this is impossible. According to the revelation of the film's last two minutes, 90 percent of the characters' actions during the rest of the film make no sense.

The only good thing about "Gossip" is Edward James Olmos and Eric Bogosian. Neither actor has more than a few minutes onscreen, but both manage to dominate most of the movie. Even Bogosian's poorly written character becomes tolerable thanks to the indisputable coolness of the actor himself. It's a shame that they both demeaned themselves by taking part in this film.

"Gossip" is pretentious and boring. It is essentially "The Game" for teenagers. It pretends to be making some huge statement about morality and human nature, but once you dig past all of the artistic posturing, the only real message this film carries is that rapists are bad. Thanks for the insight, Schumacher.



SUBTITLED ECSTASY

AUTUMN TALE IS A FRENCH STORY OF THIRTYSOMETHINGS

It always feels like an exercise in futility to recommend a foreign film to American audiences, but here I go again — see "Autumn Tale."

As light as any Hollywood romance, the French film finds its accomplishments in writer/director Eric Rohmer's unerring ability to observe. Watching his characters is often a grand and sublime experience where one has the eerie feeling they're eavesdropping. Scenes unfold as we feel they really would, and are acted to absolute precision by its cast.

It's simple story, as Isabelle (Marie Riviere) tries to find a man for her lonely widowed friend, Margoli (Beatrice Romand). Not wishing to upset Margoli's timid nature, Isabelle secretly places an ad in the person-

als, eventually finding Gerald (Alain Libolt) in one of the most charming and convincing performances I can remember. Also on a mission is Rosine (Alexia Portal), who wants to set Margoli up with her ex-boyfriend and teacher, Etienne (Didier Sandre). And that's it.

The joy of watching "Autumn Tale" doesn't come from watching a plot unfold but from the flawless way in which the characters interact. "Autumn Tale" has that distinct feeling that someone has made something terribly difficult look really easy. Like Henry Jaglom or Mike Leigh's films, "Tale" is a delightful film where we are reminded that films are first and foremost about people, and how undernourished we are in for that in our own cinema. [John Fiske]

thingstodo >> calendar

today | **thursday**



Thursdays are always marvelous, aren't they? First, an arts and entertainment section rich in culture, life and wit lands in your lap for free. Second, Arts & Lectures almost always screens a culturally acclaimed, emotionally rich flick at Campbell Hall. Tonight, check out "Autumn Tale" (see review, above) at 7:30. \$5 students; \$6 general. Afterwards, proceed downtown but avoid the generally noxious collegiate atmosphere of the lower State Street bars by venturing to SoHo. There, you'll experience the sultry lounge and contemporary music of Rifka. With rich moody vocals, live and sampled trip hop beats and enchanting vocals, Rifka shall make you go absolutely, completely, utterly wild. 1221 State St., 8 p.m. For information, call 962-7776.

tomorrow | **friday**

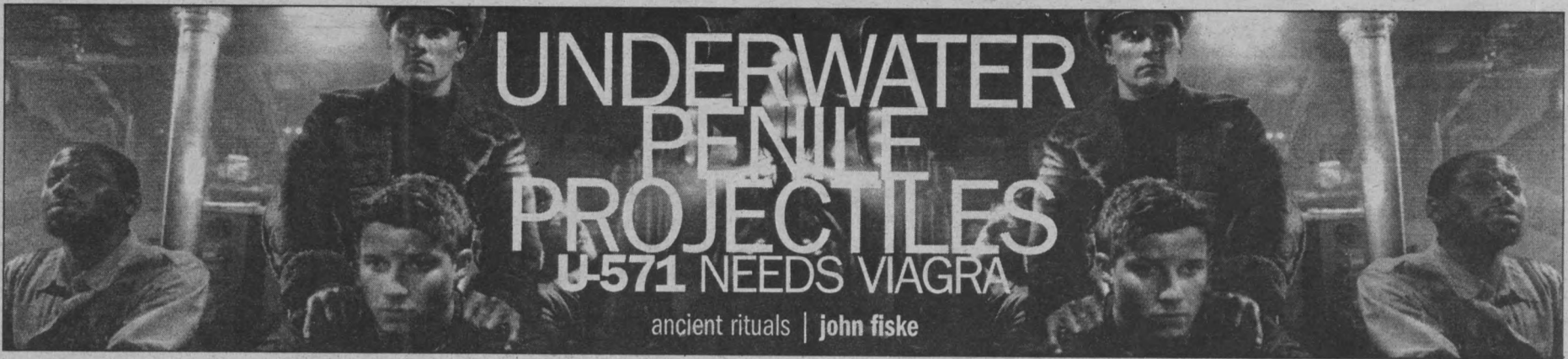


True, Friday night is always filled with a plethora of keg parties lining the streets of Isla Vista. But there are, of course, other options. First, you could throw your own bash in secluded region with an exciting new theme. Or, you could continue with the trash-meets-class theme oh-so-prevalent in your Guide to Hipness. Don the Prada sundress in the back of your closet, a pair of aviator sunglasses and a vintage cowboy hat and make your way to the Santa Barbara County Fair. Preferred means of arrival: in your boyfriend's old Ford. Chill with the ponies, enjoy a Sno-Cone and go for a spin on the ferris wheel with your cowboy lover. Go for the Cotton Candy, stay for the carnies. It's located, of course, at the Santa Barbara County Fairgrounds.

weekend | **saturday**



TRL fans, listen up: This Saturday brings Bush invading territory previously considered Gwen Stefani's 'cuz Bush don't play no ska-pop-punk. Instead, they play post-Nirvana (read: grunge-pop-rock). Whatever. If you must go over to the Santa Barbara Bowl, at least go for Moby, a figure who's helped to bring electronic music to a mainstream audience in both England and in America. From his visceral, breathtaking musical soundscapes to his galvanizing stage presence, Moby continues to garner rave reviews from critics and audiences alike. This whole deal is all apart of MTV "invading" (read: marketing to) Santa Barbara City College over the weekend as part of some "Campus Invasion Tour." Whatever. 6:30 p.m., \$26. 583-8700.



Let me first get my biases for "U-571" out of the way.

I'm claustrophobic; My worst fear is drowning to death; "Breakdown," co-writer/director Jonathan Mostow's debut film, impressed me greatly; Matthew McConaughey has consistently been a capable and charming actor; co-star Jake Weber ("Meet Joe Black," "Pushing Tin") is quickly becoming one of my favorite character actors.

Honestly, "U-571" is a weak film, quite literally a constant string of obstacles, big and small, with no characters. The fact that I enjoyed myself is similar to why I liked "The Phantom Menace": though it's a terrible film, I brought more than enough baggage in favor of the film to enjoy myself.

"U-571" actually works as an interesting gauge of what Hollywood films get right and wrong. It has a great production cast, from a well-composed script to a wholly impressive sound design, but lacks any depth or resonance due to its weak characterizations.

"U-571" follows the crew of the S-33, a vintage WWI submarine set out to capture a damaged U-boat stranded in the middle of the Atlantic (supposedly "based on a true story" but historically inaccurate). According to the film, the U-boats were what kept America from winning WWII. Onboard is Germany's famous Enigma Machine, their encryption device that kept us from knowing their communications. The mission is simple: Pose as a U-boat sent to retrieve U-571, hijack it by force, steal the Enigma Machine, destroy U-571 so that it appears it sank, and take the crew hostage. They manage their attack successfully, until the U-boat really

sent to help U-571 appears and sinks the S-33 while some of its crew is still on board the U-571.

This sort of did happen, though to a British naval sub, but because Universal Pictures apparently feels that American audiences won't spend money to see the Brits win WWII for us, a huge chunk of the film's credibility has been lost. In the wake of the controversy over the recent film "The Hurricane," "U-571" has the same foul taste of commercialized B.S.

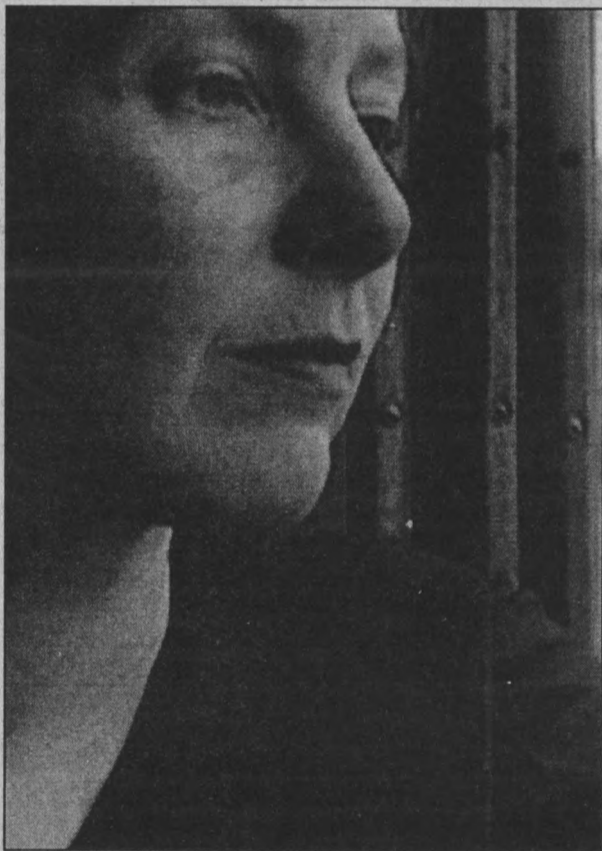
That aside, on its own merits, "U-571" barely stands up to any real scrutiny, though in the moment it turns out to be a passable "guy film." The pace is relentless, throwing in problem after problem at the crew, and it's to Mostow's credit that none of it seems contrived. The three separate depth charge scenes are handled perfectly, holding on the worried expressions of the crew as the approaching explosions get louder and louder, and then move into utter chaos that makes you believe a blast wave from one of these things could knock the teeth out of your mouth.

Unfortunately, the script is the film's own worst enemy. Actors like Bill Paxton and Harvey Keitel have to juggle lines like, "She's old, but she'll hold," and "This sea dog needs some salt." It's a wonder they even bothered to name the crew members; the collective title "The Crew" would have sufficed, because it's not like anyone cares, let alone notices, when someone dies.

Mostow said that he wanted to remake the old WWII action/adventure films from the past. As that, "U-571" works. Then again, as I said in the beginning, I'm biased.

"'U-571' HAS THE SAME FOUL TASTE OF COMMERCIALIZED B.S."

”



MELANCHOLIC MEMORIES

REGRET TO INFORM EXAMINES WIDOWED VETERANS OF VIETNAM

The people of Vietnam still talk of the war that ravaged their country in the late 1960s/early '70s and its effects are still felt today. The war which they call ... the American War. This little detail comes a few minutes into "Regret to Inform," indicating what this film is finally all about: There is more to a war than what we know — or what we think we know.

Just after the 20th anniversary of her first husband's death in Vietnam, filmmaker Barbara Sonneborn began work on "Regret to Inform," which chronicles the effects of the Vietnam War on women who lost their husbands, as well as the effects on the countries involved. Sonneborn traveled to Vietnam, where she toured the countryside where her husband died and interviewed Vietnamese women widowed in the conflict. Back in the States, she interviewed a diverse group of American widows as well. The film brings all of this material together, along with news footage of the war, old photographs, military documents and Sonneborn's own reflections.

"Regret to Inform," nominated for an Academy Award and winner of Independent Spirit and Sundance Film Festival prizes for Best Documentary, is not with-

out its flaws. It tends to get melodramatic at times, which is not entirely unexpected for a film based mainly on testimonials from war widows. At only 72 minutes, the film may have been more effective by stretching some of the conversations and moments of contemplation longer.

As a whole, though, "Regret to Inform" has a real power that comes from its attempt to avoid taking sides and let the women speak for themselves. As one woman says of the war, "It starts when it ends," and many are still struggling with their own actions and those of their husbands. Sonneborn does an admirable job of creating a certain distance between the emotional, instinctive reactions many people still have to the war and the more deeply considered meditations of these women. Over and over again, we're shown the faces of young women in old photographs, before seeing them in the present day, still working out their feelings on the events of 25 or 30 years ago. Rather than the clear-cut answers she was originally seeking, through the course of the film, Sonneborn finds that everybody seems to be asking the same questions. **[Adam Abrams]**

weekend | **sunday**



If this weekend is as luxuriously pleasant as the last few days have been, it shall prove necessary to soak in the sun during the day and replenish via culture at night. So, spend Sunday sun-bathing, at the beach or otherwise, and get your work done. At night, **Artsweek** recommends that you visit Campbell Hall for another one of Arts & Lectures fine film-going experiences. Set in the ultra-Orthodox Jerusalem neighborhood, Mea Shearim, "Kadosh" examines the devastating impact of untempered religious zeal on the human heart. "Kadosh" has been praised by the Toronto Film Festival, who said it was "developed with impeccable clarity and a simplicity that is rich in detail." 7:30 p.m. \$5 students; \$6 general.

next week | **mondāy**



Ooh! Ooh! A double feature of documentary films awaits you at Campbell Hall this fine first day of May, so hop on your bicycle and go! "Regret to Inform" is about the long-term effects of war on Vietnamese and American women who lost their husbands during the Vietnam War (see review, above). 7:30 p.m. "On the Ropes" chronicles the personal struggles and triumphs of three athletes who train at Brooklyn's famed Bed-Stuy Boxing Center. Three amateur boxers aspire to professional boxing careers as a way to escape poverty and gain respect, along with their trainer, who earlier lost his own boxing dream to drugs and an attempted murder conviction. 9 p.m. \$5 students; \$6 general.

next week | **tuesday**



Suddenly, Tuesdays have been dubbed "Arts Tuesdays." No matter — they intend to showcase the University's vibrant cultural offerings, and May 2 brings us the University Art Museum Grand Reopening with six new exhibitions and live performances from a variety of on-campus performing arts groups. At 5 p.m., artist and critic Christopher Miles speaks at Isla Vista Theater. Afterwards, there are four exhibitions on campus you can check out: Gallery 1434, the CCS Gallery, the Women's Center Art Gallery and the MultiCultural Center. At 8 p.m., Muzikás and Márta Sebestyén perform traditional Hungarian music and dances. "Sounds from the Heart of Eastern Europe," at Campbell Hall. Whew. What a day. \$16 students; \$20 general. For information, call 893-3535.

SOUND- SOUNDSTYLE*



Sonic Sum | *The Sanity Annex* | Ozone Music

You know how they should pick presidents? Arm wrestling. Have all the candidates arm wrestle each other, and let the strongest one be El Presidente. Money, time, blood, sweat and tears would be saved. Sound good? To some, an idea like this may sound like madness, but however ravingly idiotic I may sound, *The Sanity Annex* by Sonic Sum just may be beyond that. However, this is only for the "uneducated in the ways of future music" hip hopper to think. *The Sanity Annex* is a mix of spoken word rhymes with weird beats. With this group, the message is not hidden in the lyrics, but the entire effort is a bit camouflaged in a way to make the listener think. Of course, the assumption is that the listener wants to think. So, let me help you if you think you like music like this, but don't want to think about covert messages in the music. You do not have to use your intellectual power tools. Just listen, it works that way too. "Eratika" is fresh, but you don't have to listen to it and think about what they're saying. If you find yourself thinking, all the better, especially if you think about how dope the

song is, because the song is dope. "Anesthesia Make Believe" and "Skypirate" are dope as well, but *The Sanity Annex* is not the run-o-the-mill underground hip hop-esque jive for the mind, so don't expect too much from the CD. Although how to do that, is beyond me ... well, ok, it's not beyond me, I completely understand — I may have even done it myself initially. Anyway, this is recommended for those hip hop heads who are into artists like Mike Ladd and Mikah 9, or just those looking for something new and innovative. [Robotsex is the leader of the turbo-charged cyber punk genre, according to his mom]



Hot Snakes | *Automatic Midnight* | Swami

Indie-cest. Scenesters love it, audiophiles love it, presumably the musicians love it — 'cuz they keep on doing it. The San Diego scene isn't foreign to the concept (c.f. the entire Gravity Records catalogue), but, hey, if inbreeding is what you know, then by all means inbreed! Hot Snakes is Rick Fork (Drive Like Jehu), Jason Kourkonis (the Delta 72) and John Reis (Rocket from the Crypt).

The music is spared-down Jehu, dark

and heavy (an achievement, seeing as there is no bassist), with Kourkonis' rock 'n' roll sensibilities keeping the songs short, punchy, and 4/4 rhythm. The keyboard work adds welcome layers, and Fork's "desperation" voice contrasts well with Reis' burlier shouts (and Kim Thompson's guest yelping). "Mystery Boy" comes off like an RFTC throwaway, but otherwise these three scene sluts are big, bad and beautiful. [DJ Fatkid wonders if he can trade in 10,000 points of cred for the Thurston Moore plush doll]



Getaway People | *Turnpike Diaries* | Columbia

Everybody is trying to make the party album these days. Recent albums by Beck and the Jungle Brothers are heavy into sing-a-long choruses and booty-shaking beats designed for people to nod their head to as they clink drinks. The Getaway People's second release, *Turnpike Diaries*, is a weak attempt to get on the scene as they ramble through boring jams, bone-head lyrics and G-Love pretenses.

There are two reasons why *Turnpike Diaries* is not a party album. First, every song sounds exactly like the one before it. I want variety when I'm at a party, a slow

song here, a fast song next, and a maybe ballad or a killer guitar solo in between. I do not want the same lame guitar fuzz, uppity drum beat and gimmicky vocals over and over again. This band has so little grasp of song structure, not to mention melody, it's all but impossible to resist the temptation to press the fast-forward button when that third chorus drags on yet again.

The second reason is because I like music with lyrics that are somewhat interesting, maybe even a little intelligent. Maybe it's because this quintet is originally from Norway and haven't acquired that Yeatsian feel for the English language just yet, but there are few albums with more boring and unoriginal lyrics than this one. While lead singer "Boots" can carry a tune somewhat, he cannot resist throwing in an "oh yeah" or "love me baby!" every thirty seconds. Without the thick, meaty grooves of the bassist in the background, there is little on this album to celebrate.

Everybody loves a good party album, but not many people are gonna stick around the room once you insert this lame disc in your player. [Andy Sywak]

Josh Rouse | *Home* | Rykodisc

Yet again, pop has made a respectable name for itself. These pop anomalies come in discreet, subtle packages that often go unnoticed. Josh Rouse is just the kind of guy you'd pass in a bar and wouldn't think twice about. The cover photo of the album says much about his approach and attitude toward music: a subtle glance downward as he twiddles the remains of a beer in a simple glass in an average restaurant. Rouse isn't a rock star; he's your friend. His sound comes down some-

OBJECTIVE:
To work for a
company that doesn't
need to put up
motivational posters
to inspire me.

Launch YOUR Career with our new Resume Builder. Visit us at www.monster.com/campus to take advantage of faster employer matches, our multiple resume feature and the confidential resume option. Let us help you create your resume and receive a FREE* Limited Edition Monster.com Campus T-shirt.
AOL Keyword: Monster *While supplies last. See site for details.



The Daily Nexus
If you read only one newspaper this quarter,
you really should read more often.



GRADUATION!

Woody's Does Parties!

★ Banquets ★ Catering ★ Delivery ★ Party Packs To Go
BEACH, PARK & HOUSE PARTIES

GRADUATION PARTY PAKS
BBQ CHICKEN & BBQ RIBS
CAESAR SALAD, POTATO SALAD
& COWBOY BEANS **\$10⁴⁵** 
with Rolls and Butter per person
Party Pak includes plates, napkins,
utensils and condiments

Woody's

OPTIONS

- ★ Appetizers, Desserts, Beverages
- ★ Theme Parties & Entertainment
- ★ Custom Party Paks, Too!

CALL
967.3775

where between Paul Westerberg and Adam Durvitz, but tinged with more of a slow, melodic charm. Rouse never gets fancy: He sticks to simple song construction, throwing in the occasional strings, horns and wurlitzer over the traditional pop set-up of guitar, bass and drums.

The strength of all *good* pop albums comes from the words and their varied potency, a strength Rouse plays to as he sings of women and the frustrated infatuation that they often put men in. He hits a nerve on several tracks, beginning with "Laughter" as he clears an initial fog with



light-tight drum work and a meandering guitar. He moves on with the up-tempo, "Directions," commenting, "(You) stay out all night and get high with your friends/ Wonder why you don't get anything done." Can you relate? See if you haven't identified with the words of "In Between": "You and your narrow mind/ Can just go on and stay awhile/ I've got better things to fall apart." He sings as if he were your best friend talking to you late at night after you've thought things over one too many times. Rouse closes the album with "Little Know It All," a song comprised largely of a moping trumpet, depressed bass line

and lamenting lyrics like "I feel all of your shame." An appropriate ending to an album that never pretends to be more than it is: a heartfelt testament to the pains of love, life and that pervasive feeling of wanting more than you have, but compromising with what you've been given. [Josh Baron]



Bogdan Raczynski | *thinking of you* | Rephlex

Bogdan Raczynski is an odd fellow. And that's putting it in the most PG way possible. Polish-born Raczynski is making waves in the experimental, brainfuck electronic arena on Aphex Twin's label, Rephlex, with innovative 245 BPM purposefully distracted music. His bitter cynicism toward music and the world in general propels Raczynski in his quest to break all the rules with no apologies, kindly offering a gigantic "fuck you" to anyone who gets in his way. *thinking of you* is Raczynski's ode to lost love — a cold, heartless love that shattered his soul and inspired electro-Armageddon. There's nothing fluffy about this album.

Without providing the luxury of a track listing, Raczynski keeps us guessing on the song titles, and I can only imagine

ELYTSDNUOS-DNUOS SOUNDSTYLE

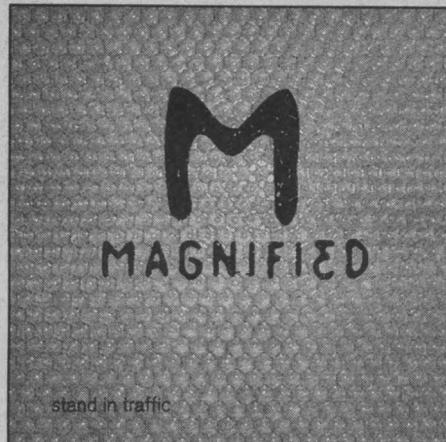
they'd be pretty dark and creepy. Fluctuating between turbo-charged jazz melodies (track 2), death-core drum 'n' bass (tracks 3 and 5) and a rarity of synth-pop sweetness (track 4), *thinking of you* actively maintains the "Braindance" mantra of Rephlex; this album forcefully creates an intellectual passage only for the abstract-minded. Track 8, however, wins the prize for Creepiest Song with demented stalker-esque lyrics vocalizing an attempt at "getting frisky," layered over dark, bass-heavy breakbeats. This album is not for the weak-stomached, nor the faint of heart; *thinking of you* is chock full of unsettling complexities and contradictions, much like the intricate emotional spectrum Raczynski explores. [DollFace is very, very frightened]

Old Time Relijun | *La Sirena de Pecera* | K

Arrington de Dionysio speaks in tongues, so does his guitar. The sound is very disorienting at first, but (and this is important) not totally alienating. That's probably because behind his strangled tenor and his discordant, free-jazzy guitar (and occasional bass clarinet) playing is the essential and sexy rock 'n' roll beat. It just happens to be sexy in a primitive dionysian goat-man sort of way. Providing this beat are Aaron Hartman (who used to be in IQU) and Phil Evrum (Microphones). They don't do too much more than that, though. This album is very short, and really much more of this stuff might be difficult to take. But maybe not, it's got a very strange attractive quality to it. It makes no sense, but who wants an explanation? Not me. It's just rock 'n' roll. Garage rock even, if the garage was in the middle of the forest somewhere, and had goats parked in it, and all the lit-

tle woodland nymphs had emphysema and never shaved and did naughty things with drunken goat-men in the bushes.

[Josh Miller]



Magnified | *Stand In Traffic* | TVT

Here is a failure to bring 1980s butt rock and new mainstream electronica together. Instead of succeeding in some kind of musical experiment, this album goes schizophrenic over synthesizer rhythms. While some of the music is interesting, overall it only goes to show that some things stay with you like a Tijuana venereal disease. The detestable '80s are one of those things.

And another thing, there's far too much sloppy "I lost my gal and now I'm feeling the fool" stuff on this album. Songs like "Is She Really Going Out with Him" are made to be sung in a big truck, with the lead guitarist standing on a keg of Millers, and the crowd of heroine cowboys doing Michael Jackson impressions on the hood. It's all just plain goofy, and not in a good way like Right Said Fred. It's more like Bob Dole becoming the poster boy for Viagra. [Mohahn Gilad Mandelbaum]

GO WIRELESS

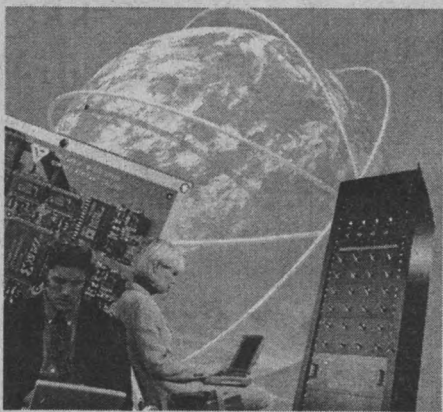
COM DEV International, the largest Canadian-owned designer, manufacturer and distributor of space and ground-based wireless communications products, has established an engineering development center in San Luis Obispo. The SLO group is focused on the development of COM DEV's wireless voice and data infrastructure product line.

We're currently looking for enthusiastic, hard-working and talented college graduates to fill several entry-level positions. If you're a quick learner, work well with others and enjoy casual dress and a relaxed atmosphere, we want to talk to you.

COM DEV is a publicly traded company, and benefits include competitive salaries, health plan, retirement plan and stock options.

Available Positions Include:

- SOFTWARE ENGINEERS
- TECHNICAL WRITERS
- MECHANICAL ENGINEERS
- DIGITAL HARDWARE ENGINEERS
- SYSTEM ADMINISTRATORS
- GRAPHIC ARTISTS



Send resumes to jobs@comdev.cc, fax to (805) 544-2055, or mail to 3450 Broad Street Suite 107 San Luis Obispo, CA 93401.

 **COM DEV**
WIRELESS GROUP

PACIFIC SUNWEARSM

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Pacific Sunwear, more commonly known as *PacSun*, is a rapidly growing and extremely successful specialty retailer of casual apparel, footwear and accessories designed to meet the lifestyle needs of active teens and young adults.

The corporate offices are located in beautiful Orange County, CA. Career opportunities are endless, we continually recruit talented, energetic individuals with a blend of education, experience and ambition looking for a career in retail management - from Accounting to Store Operations, with Merchandising, Marketing and Information Technology and others in between.

PacSun will be conducting an Info Session Thursday, April 27th from 4 to 6 p.m. in the UCen Building, 2nd Floor "Flying A" room. We'll also be conducting On-Site Interviews on Friday, April 28th. Everyone is welcome to the Info Session, and visit JobTrak online for interview sign-ups. Visit us online at pacsun.com



ASP B hotline number: 893-2833

MISSION TO MARS



Isla Vista Theatre
Tues May 2nd, 7:30 and 10pm
\$3 Students \$5 General



Coming: Thur May 4th, 2000
Lagoon Lawn Noon FREE!



Phineas

May 3rd, 3-5pm
Ucen Hub, FREE

Attention Culture Groups and Clubs!!

If you would like to promote yourselves at
Extravaganza 2000 call the ASPB office
at 893-3536

MAY 20 Xtravaganza 2000

LINE-UP AVAILABLE @ WWW.AS.UCSB.EDU/ASPB

**ASP B Applications available
for 2000-2001 Program Board
Applications available at ASPB office
Rm#1519 Ucen and are due by
NOON on **TOMORROW****



Presents

KILL THE KEG!

\$1.00 Premium Drafts
Every Thursday

\$6.99 Large Cheese Pizza



5PM until Kegs Blow!



Featuring Live Music
by

The Natty Dawgs
&
The Kinsella Band

202 State Street * (805) 962-5350

WILDCAT

LOUNGE

RED BOOTHS
PHAT GROOVES
STRONG BOOZE



\$2.50

well cocktails

sierra pints

10 1/2 OZ
wildcat
Ice Teas

every
Tues & Thurs
before 11pm
@ 15 west Ortega

Photo/Design
gabriel
963-6003