

UC Facing Cuts in Next State Budget

The boom times are over for California, at least for the time being, and budget cuts are apparently on the way.

The state's once-mighty surplus has melted away, primarily due to energy costs, and the state is facing a budget deficit estimated anywhere from \$8-14 billion. California is attempting to get \$9 billion in refunds from oil companies, but it is anyone's guess how that will come out.

University of California President Richard Atkinson has asked the chancellors of individual campuses to be cautious about spending money, whether in hiring permanent staff or making major financial commitments.

The events of September 11 and their aftermath have brought increased security costs as well.

Governor Gray Davis has warned all state-funded programs to be prepared for major budget cuts. On October 23, the governor

signed two executive orders: one imposing a hiring freeze and another directing the Department of Finance to identify General Fund savings from all state agencies and departments. These executive orders will remain in effect through June 30, 2003.

The governor has asked the University of California and the California State University to trim their budgets "to a level that will not interfere with meeting their educational mission."

UC officials say they will comply but do not yet know how severe the budget cuts will be and are working closely with the Department of Finance on this issue.

At UCSF, the Chancellor's Executive Budget Committee is beginning the process of dealing with the economic issues. Planning for the 2002-03 budget cycle is under way.

A Visit From the Class of 2020

Halloween means children, and UCSF had its fair share of small visitors on October 31. Above,

Associated Students Executive Vice President

Lawrence Li greets a crowd of trick-or-treaters in the Student Activity Center. Below left,

Thomas Avila shows off his costume at the Halloween party in Millberry Union gym.

Photos by Brad Morikawa and JoAnn Lopez.

commentary

Breast Cancer — What Men (and Women) Should Know

by Robert Johnson

I have asked myself a number of times why I should be the one writing this article. I am not a journalist, an epidemiologist, or a doctor—I'm a Programmer/Analyst here at the medical center. The closest I ever get to patient care or research however, is when I am called upon to fix a computer in one of those areas. Isn't it somewhat presumptuous, then, for me to be writing on such an important subject, out of my area of expertise?

I may be overstepping the bounds of my professional capabilities, but after speaking with Beverly Lyne, the breast cancer coordinator for the Marin County Department of Health and Human Services, I decided I was entitled to write this article

because, as she pointed out, I am a "stakeholder" in breast cancer. In the parlance of community health care workers, a stakeholder is one who has a vested interest in a health care issue. Stakeholder status, however, is very broad, and can range from being the person who is afflicted with a disease or condition, to one who merely has a personal interest. I am a stakeholder because my dearest friend is a breast cancer survivor.

The revelation that men could actually do something to reduce the risk of breast cancer in women came during an Internet search. I happened across a research paper that talked about the "modifiable risk factors" of breast cancer.

continued on page 9

health & science update

by Dustin Mark

Finally, something positive to report about bioterrorism

I have been holding out on devoting any *Health and Science Updates* to the topic of bioterrorism out of disgust with American popular media. With that said, I have finally come across some encouraging news that is worth summarizing for the *Synapse* readership.

Anthrax

The boon comes in the form of research conducted over a year ago by R. John Collier of Harvard University. Collier's research, published last spring in *Science*, proposes a two-in-one vaccination and therapy approach to anthrax infections. A review of the molecular pathogenesis of anthrax infection must precede explanation of this approach, so bear with me for a moment.

Briefly, anthrax has three main proteins that it uses to kill cells. They are: lethal factor (LF), edema factor (EF), and protective antigen (PA). Protective antigen is so named because it is an effective vaccination agent. Lethal factor lives up to its namesake by killing cells through proteolytic activity, and edema factor essentially immobilizes host immune cells, preventing them from eating up the anthrax bacteria. Protective antigen plays a central role in the pathogenesis by forming a pore in the host cell membrane, through which EF and LF pass on their way to conduct business. Without the pore, EF and LF are ineffective as toxins, thus the effectiveness of vaccines that target PA.

Collier, focusing on PA as the weakest link in the toxic cycle, decided to try making mutant PA as an antidote of sorts. He injected mice with the mutant PA protein, along with wild-type EF and LF toxins. These mice did not go on to develop disease, but others did when wild-type PA was used instead of the mutant form. Collier believes that the mutant PA may be effective as a competitive antagonist drug of sorts, getting in the way of the wild-type PA made by the infecting anthrax bacteria and at least slowing down the infection process, allowing the immune system a chance to fight back.

continued on page 11

UCSF announcements

Financial Aid Announcements

Winter fee vouchers will be available through December 11, the mail-in registration deadline. Students who want a fee voucher need to check on-line for the amount of winter fees due. Bring your check to the Student Financial Services Office, on or before December 11 and complete the fee voucher form. If you cannot come to campus to request a fee voucher, contact your financial aid adviser. Winter quarter check hold notices will be mailed out next week. Winter aid cannot be mailed to students on check hold. Remember to update the OAR website as needed. 2001-02 financial aid applications are still being accepted. Students who

submit applications now will only receive Stafford loan funds. Entrance interviews are required of all first-time aid recipients at UCSF. You cannot receive your aid until this requirement is fulfilled. Entrance interviews are given each Wednesday at 12:15 p.m. in MU 201. The sessions last about 45 minutes, so students are welcome to bring their lunch. Student Financial Services (MU 201, 476-4181) is open Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Drop-in advisers are normally available to answer brief questions. Students can visit our website (<http://saawww.ucsf.edu/financial>) to obtain detailed financial aid information and see current news.

Open House for Nurses

The Career Center is holding an Open House for the School of Nursing community in the Medical Sciences Building, Room S-140, over three days, November 13-15, between noon-1:30 p.m. We'd like to invite nurses to drop in for 10 minutes to discover the location of the Career Center, learn about new resources specifically targeted for them (including books, sample résumés, future workshops, etc.), and share their thoughts in a two-minute survey about how we can meet their professional needs. A light, take-away lunch is available to anyone who fills out the survey, as is a career calendar and resource guide specifically for nurses.

Tuesday, November 13 Dept. of Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Reproductive Sciences

HSW300, 9-10 a.m.
Second Annual Edward C. Hill
Endowed Lectureship
"Telomeres and Their Cellular
Growth Effects"
Elizabeth Blackburn, PhD

Wednesday, November 14 Dept. of Endocrinology

Langley Porter Auditorium (LPP
190), 8:30-9:30 a.m.
"The Short-Term Effects of the HIV
Protease Inhibitor Indinavir on Glu-
cose Metabolism and Insulin Sensi-
tivity in Healthy Men"
Mustafa Noor, MD

Dept. of Surgery

Toland Hall, 7-8 a.m.
Title TBA
Jeffrey Arbeit, MD, and Thomas K.
Hunt, MD

Thursday, November 15 PGIM Primary Care

400 Parnassus, 4th Floor A455, 9
a.m.
"Updates in Urgent Care Medicine"
Paul Nadler, MD, and Thomas Bau-
dendistel, MD

Dept. of Pediatrics

N217, 8-9 a.m.
Title TBA
Jonathan Strober, MD

arts & entertainment

Impact! Presents©

Parnassus Players: "Confusions"
Preview: November 8, noon
Millberry Conference Center, 500
Parnassus Avenue
Shows: Nov. 9, 10, 16 and 17 at 8
p.m.
Toland Hall, 533 Parnassus Avenue
\$7 for admission.
Don't miss the Parnassus Players
and their presentation of Alan Ayck-
bourn's comedy "Confusions." Call
(415) 476-2675 for more
information.

Gospel Choir Fall Concert

Wednesday, November 14
6:30 p.m., Cole Hall. Admission: \$8
Impact! Presents and the Perform-
ing Arts Fund invite you to experi-
ence an inspirational and joyous
night of gospel music featuring The
Gospel Choir at UCSF. For more
information, call (415) 476-2675.

Impact! Presents

The Chancellor's Concert Series
Fall 2001 Season: Note changes to
schedule
Thursdays, Oct. 4 through Dec. 13
Seating: noon to 12:15 p.m.
Concert: 12:15 - 12:45 p.m.
Cole Hall, Admission is FREE.

November 8

Julie Ann Giacobassi, English horn

Mark Volkert, violin
Geraldine Walther, viola
Jan Volkert, cello
Francaix: Quartet for English horn
and strings

November 15

Concert Canceled

Impact! Presents©

Cole Hall Cinema
Fall 2001 Season
Admission: \$2-3.50
Located in the Medical Sciences
Bldg., 513 Parnassus Avenue
\$1 Validated Parking in the UCSF
Millberry Parking Garage
Tickets available at the door only.
Box office opens approximately 1/2
hr. before show time.
Note: All films subject to change
Call the cinema hotline at (415) 476-
6932 before coming to the movie.
Open to the General Public!

Foreign Film Night!

THE KILLER (1989) • NR
Thurs. Nov. 8 5:45 p.m. & 8 p.m.
Fri. Nov. 9 6:30 p.m. & 8:45 p.m.

Caper Night!

THE SCORE • R
Thurs. Nov. 15 5:45 p.m. & 8 p.m.
Fri. Nov. 16 6:30 p.m. & 8:45 p.m.



So You Want to Get Something Printed in Synapse ...

Synapse is pleased to print announcements about campus events. If you have an event you wish to publicize, you can email us at synapse@itsa.ucsf.edu or call us at (415) 476-2211. Synapse comes out every Thursday during the school year. Because the paper is printed off campus, we must wrap up each week's production by Wednesday morning. The earlier you get your announcement to us, the better your chances are of it getting into print. Page Two is put together on Fridays, with some additions being made on Monday. Tuesday is our proof-reading day. Announcements received after Monday do not have a chance of getting into Thursday's paper. We want to accommodate any and all who wish to publicize their event in the paper. If you can get the information to us by the Friday before we publish, we'll do our level best to get news of your event into Synapse. Thanks!

events & speakers

Student Enrichment Series

Tuesday, Nov 13, noon-1 p.m.,
N225
Mindfulness: Reducing Stress and
Enhancing Life
Mindfulness meditation has been
used in many settings to enhance
healing and restore health. Learn
about the practice of mindfulness as
a way of working with stress and
increasing your sense of well-being.
Presented by Kevin Barrows, MD,
Assistant Clinical Professor, UCSF
Osher Center for Integrative Medi-
cine.
Co-sponsored by the Student Activi-
ty Center and the Integrative Medi-
cine Network at UCSF

Brown Bag Lecture

Wednesday, November 14, noon-1
p.m., HSW300

"Alzheimer's Disease: Past, Present,
and Future"
An overview of the neurology,
behavioral aspects, and latest treat-
ments of Alzheimer's Disease. Pre-
sented by Bruce L. Miller, MD,
Professor, Neurology, UCSF

Susan Love, MD: The Doctor Is Out

Thursday, November 15, noon-1
p.m., Cole Hall
The renowned physician who wrote
Dr. Susan Love's Breast Book visits
UCSF to talk about her experiences
as a woman and an "out" lesbian in
medicine. What prompted her to
become one of the "founding moth-
ers" of the breast cancer advocacy
movement? What was it like to be
one of the earliest female breast
surgeons? How did it feel to be

"out" as a lesbian mother in *People*
magazine? Dr. Love will discuss
these and other aspects of her
career. For information, contact
UCSF LGBT Resources at (415)
502-5593 or
[ssnowdon@genderequity.
ucsf.edu](mailto:ssnowdon@genderequity.ucsf.edu).

FOR YOUR HEALTH

November 16-17, San Francisco
Herbal Therapies conference
UCSF & Stanford faculty, student,
resident fee: \$100
For details phone: (415) 476-5208

HIV/AIDS Seminar by UCSF- GIVI CFAR.

Monday, November 19, 3:30-5 p.m.
"Hepatitis C/HIV Co-infection and
Vertical Transmission" by Terry
Wright and Brandee Pappalardo in
Toland Hall.

outdoors and recreation

Outdoors Unlimited General Info, (415) 476-2078

Thanksgiving in the Redwoods
Not sure what to do on Thanksgiv-
ing? Come with us and share a back-
country feast and adventure in the
beauty & splendor of the redwood
forest. For experienced
backpackers. Pre-trip November 14,
trip November 21-25. Cost:
\$57/70/82. For more info call (415)
476-1469 or e-mail
efenster@casmil.ucsf.edu.

Free Seminar - Light Backpacking

Stop lugging around that big ol'
pack! Learn how to get your back-
pack down to 25 lbs. or less, in
order to take faster, longer journeys
in the backcountry. David Worton,
an OU volunteer for 6 years, will be

teaching this seminar. November 15,
7-9 p.m. at 610 Parnassus. For more
info call (415) 502-2121.

Tahoe Snow Cabins on Sale

Rentals for the Tahoe cabins are
ongoing at the OU center. Visit dur-
ing open hours (Mon-Fri 5-8 p.m.).
We have lots of mid-week availabili-
ty. Mid-week means less traffic, less
crowded slopes & even better
prices! For more information or
availability call the rental center dur-
ing open hours. (415) 476-2078.

opinion

War on Terror Begins at Home

by Tom Rutkowski

In the war on terrorism, "we will not tire, we will not falter, and we will not fail."

OK, if this is a war, let's remember priority number one: defend the home territory. Forget for a minute the recent exploits of our military in peace-keeping, nation-building, or even domino-from-falling-into-communist-hands-preventing, and think back to the purpose for which we (or any other country) needs a military—to protect its citizens. Yes, our military strength must also be used to protect our interests abroad, make the world safe for democracy, and other such high minded principles, but the core duty of the military should be the protection of the American people. After all, our military is currently organized under the Department of Defense—not the Department of State or any other governmental agency.

Our military is currently busy trying to root Osama bin Laden and his network out of Afghanistan and replace the Taliban with a less hostile regime. I can accept that, I suppose, although I do have very deep misgivings about whether the current strategy will truly accomplish this goal, or simply breed a whole new generation of terrorists. However, what I cannot accept is our woeful unpreparedness on the home front. That 19

maniacs armed with only box-cutters can kill 6,000 people attests to how much must change before we as Americans can begin to feel secure again.

Let's focus on perhaps the most disturbing and immediate threat we face: the use of biological weapons. Clearly, some person or group of people in this country has anthrax at their disposal, the expertise to make it deadly, and the proclivity to use it. The fact that only four people have so far died of anthrax (that we know of) is cold comfort considering the FBI seems to have no idea who is making the stuff, and readily admits that whoever is responsible seems to be quite proficient.

More alarming, however, is the apparent lack of a plan to respond to future attacks. We hear the government trumpet that 300,000,000 doses of smallpox vaccine are on the way (certainly a good idea), yet we hear surprisingly little about an anthrax vaccine. Let's face reality—if a terrorist decides to spread anthrax over a large city, 100,000,000 doses of Cipro (recently ordered from Bayer by the government) could protect all of New York City for two weeks or so, far less than needed — and

continued on page 11

Chipping Away at the American Dream

by Michele Wang

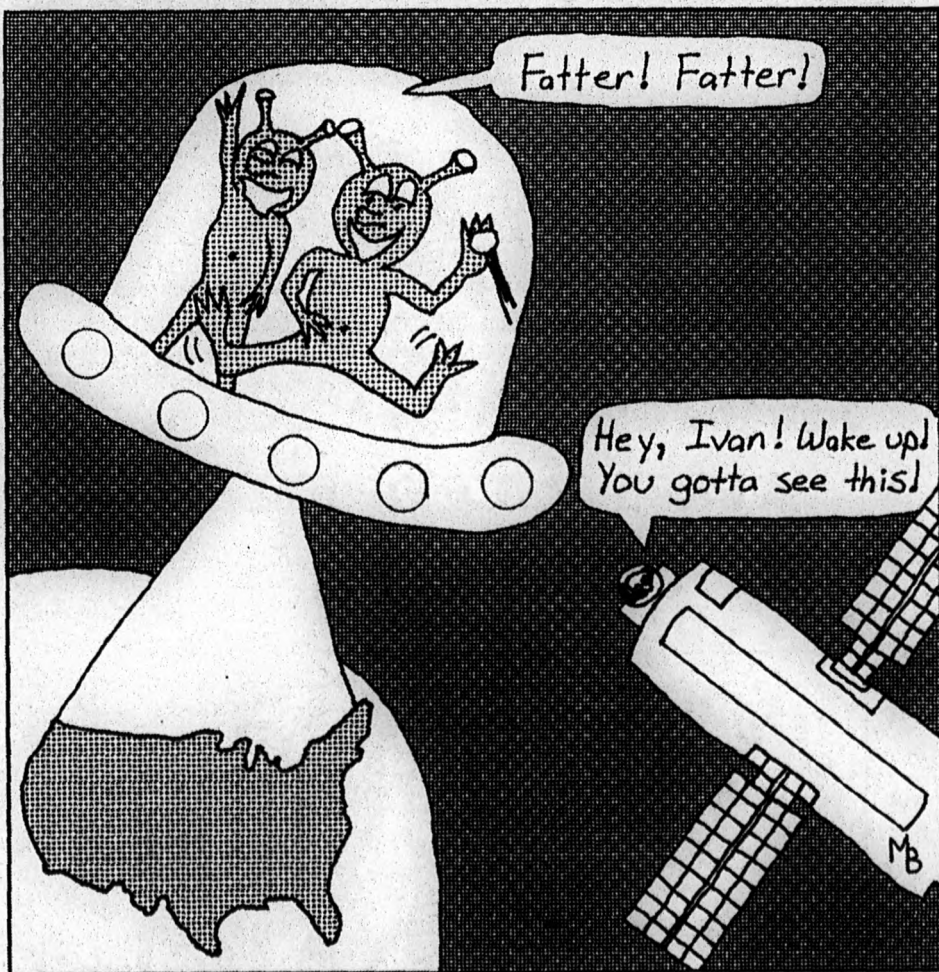
One of the things I love about America (and one of my mottos in times of need) is that one can always count on the quality of customer service. I think that this concept of dependable and satisfactory customer service puts the "first" in the word "first world country." It's the luxurious feeling of knowing that beyond all of the comforts and conveniences of the American lifestyle, we as consumers are actually pampered, being recognized as the life force of the free market economy. This is one of the largest differences I have found between our country and others: the customer is always right. These presumptions are the reasons I was so completely let down and disillusioned with the events that occurred to me as a customer purchasing a laptop computer.

my mother and I both thanked him. He stalked off with a dirty look on his face. Then we were told that we had to come back the next day to buy the machine because 24 hours were needed to clear the transaction from our credit card. My mother was completely incensed at this point because we had already been waiting so long simply to purchase the computer, only to be told to come back tomorrow. After discussing the matter with three managers, the store was finally able to find someone competent enough to manipulate the sales computer so we could use the credit card.

After bringing the computer up to San Francisco and starting school, I realized that it often stalled in the middle of basic applications and programs, so I called T— tech

Naturally, I was upset by the absurd concept of paying to return a defective item.

Quack by Melinda Burnett



Opponents of the International Space Station quieted down after the discovery and destruction of the elusive alien "fat ray."

I am only going to identify the store and the computer firm by their initials. It won't be hard for the reader to figure out, but the point is not the individual stores' failing — it is the need for any store to treat consumers with the respect they deserve.

Over Labor Day Weekend, I went down to Glendale to buy a laptop computer. After shopping around extensively, I had decided to buy a T— computer at B— B—. After a long wait, we were finally able to get the help of a sales representative. I pointed to the model that I had decided on and he went to retrieve it. He then cajoled me into purchasing the pricey B— B— protection plan, assuring us that we would be covered in case there were any problems whatsoever. I was about to find out how wrong he was.

Immediately following this, the employee placed the computer behind the counter and left without a word. After waiting 45 minutes for another clerk to ring up the one single customer ahead of us, we finally were able to make our purchase. After the purchase was completed, and my credit card had already been charged, I was finally able to see the box behind the counter. I instantly realized that it was the wrong model. We relocated the employee who had originally retrieved the computer, and my mother asked him to bring the correct one immediately, because we had already been waiting for so long. He angrily did so, banging some things around along the way. After he brought the correct model to the sales desk,

support. I was told that this particular model had some "internal problems"—which T— would not be doing anything about. My only option was to restart the computer every time it stalled. They helpfully added that the problem may or may not go away in six months. As this was obviously below my expectations for a new computer, and not trusting that the problem would "just go away" after six months, I decided to return the computer.

I went to B— B— in Marin City near San Francisco, where the concept of the "restocking fee" introduced itself to me. Throughout the various conversations with the employees at the B— B— in Glendale, it was never once explained to us that returning the computer would entail a 15% restocking fee. I was told the fee would be about \$200. Naturally, I was upset by the absurd concept of paying to return a defective item. Before leaving the store in Marin City, I was given the B— B— customer service number. When I returned home, I called the customer service line and voiced my complaints. I thought it was only reasonable that if they had such a stringent policy on restocking fees, they should at least sell products without known defects. The response was not an apology or an attempt to make amends, but an accusation that I should have researched the product better before I made a purchase, thus

continued on page 4

synapse Millberry Union 123 W • University of California, San Francisco • (415) 476-2211 • Fax 502-4537 • synapse@itsa.ucsf.edu

Editor-in-Chief: Mukesh Sahu **Associate Editor:** Jennifer L. Lee **Arts Editor:** Darren Tayama **Features Editor:** Rita Ng **Food Editors:** Alice Fang & Alex Lee **On-Line and Technology Editor:** Wender Hwang **Opinion Editor:** Corey Long **Photo Editor:** Brad Morikawa **Politics Editor:** Kat Vo **Science Editor:** Dustin Mark **At-Large Editor:** Julian Asher **Managing Editor:** Tim Neagle **Production:** Chris Clarke **Advertising Manager:** Lucia DeLeon • Synapse is a student-run weekly with offices in Millberry Union 123W. The paper appears on Thursdays during the academic year and monthly during the summer. All UCSF students, faculty, and staff are invited to contribute. • Announcements and letters should be submitted six days before publication. Email submissions to synapse@itsa.ucsf.edu, or mail to Box 0376, UCSF, San Francisco CA 94143. All material submitted is subject to editing. • Subscriptions cost \$20 per year (\$40 outside the U.S.). • Synapse seeks to serve as a forum for the campus community. Articles and columns represent the views of the authors, and not necessarily those of the Board of Publications or the University of California. **Ad Policy:** Paid advertisements do not necessarily reflect the views of Synapse. Synapse and its editorial board reserve the right to decline advertisements promoting false or misleading claims, known health risks, or content deemed by the editors to be antithetical to the interests of UCSF students or the UCSF community. Synapse does not accept advertisements from tobacco or alcohol manufacturers, or sexually oriented personal ads. Synapse reserves the right to run any ad with a disclaimer.

opinion

The Best Laid Plans of Mice and Jerry Brown...

by Corey Long

I began gambling at a very young age. I think it all started with a little game I used to play with my little brother: "I'll bet I can hit you softer than you can hit me, you go first." While I never won that bet, I was well paid in other ways.

I did eventually develop quite a liking for gambling, whether on cards, dogs, or how long it would take a friend to get slapped silly while haplessly hitting on women. By the age of 16 I was regularly taking a 3-hour drive to a casino on a Native American reservation in central Michigan. Security at the door was usually pretty lax, plus my friends and I would grow out our thin, patchy teenage beards, so we obviously had no trouble getting in.

I continued to take this drive, well into college, until a closer casino opened in Windsor, a Canadian city across the river from Detroit. With a 19-year-old age limit for both gambling and drinking, as well as money which seemed like it just came out of board game box, this place was popular for Michiganders (really, that's what people from Michigan call themselves) of all ages; in the parking lot, it was difficult to find a

century America. I can't wait to see the look on the faces of the Native Americans as clumsy white people jumped off boats and kissed the grainy East Coast sand. I'm sure they went back to the chief and told him that a bunch of harmless gringos were setting up camp on the coast, but that it was no big deal. Right now, there's about a 50 percent chance that, accepting the horribly remote possibility that they weren't exterminated, the chief's descendants are on a tiny reservation. While infertile and dilapidated, these reservations do possess one attribute which has caused some a great deal of jealousy: sovereignty of law and legislative regulation.

Sophism

The old army base mayor Jerry Brown wishes to raze to build this spectacle upon must first be declared a Native American reservation by the US Department of the Interior before gaming will be allowed, according to a proposition passed by California voters a few years ago. I think it's safe to say that the only thing indigenous about that base is the dried blood which may lie

Laptop ...

from page 3

implying that it was my fault that I had bought a defective computer.

Finally, on the receipt, I noticed the following: "A 15% restocking fee will be charged on returns or exchanges of any opened: notebook computer, camcorder, unless defective." When attempting to return the computer in Marin City, the question of how to prove whether my computer was defective never came up; instead, I was adamantly told that I must pay the 15% restocking fee unless I exchanged the defective computer. This leads me to believe

that all of the employees that I talked to, including store managers, were unaware of their store's own policies on the return of defective items.

I use this article as a source of self therapy for my complete loss of faith in the American way of life that this experience has left me with. Given the recurrent pleas by our government to support our ailing economy, I cannot help but see irony in this turn of events.

You've seen the sign on many stores: America is open for business. American business needs to remember that being open isn't enough; the consumer must be treated with respect for a business to succeed.

American business needs to remember
that being open isn't enough.

turning tricks because mom lost her lunch money by repeatedly doubling down on 14 against a dealer 8.

Loose Slots Sink Ships

I like gambling. When I do indulge myself, more often than not, I walk away with more money than I came with. Most importantly though, I play with money I can afford to lose, money which would otherwise be spent on movies, beer, or new

next house payment. Playing card games, or with machines which are inherently designed to keep much more money than they pay out, is dangerous, and, sadly, many people think they see the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow rather than the storm which just devastated the land. Donald Trump is not Donald Trump the Billionaire because he parades around like Santa Claus.

I think it's safe to say that the only thing indigenous about the Oakland Army Base
is the dried blood which may lie under its foundation.

Canadian license plate.

1.21 Gigawatts!!

Soon, the good folks governing the murderous heap of Detroit decided that they needed a cut of the action, and so approved the construction of Vegas-backed casinos downtown to compete for the millions in tax revenues which were finding themselves in the land of Mounties. This was a stellar proposal, a plan promising to "revitalize" downtown. You don't need to visit Detroit for me to tell you that, well, that you still don't need to visit Detroit. Following in these visionary footsteps, the city of Oakland is currently in the midst of bringing a fine gambling establishment to an abandoned area just off the Bay Bridge. I'm not sure I have enough fingers on which to count the reasons why this is a huge mistake.

When I eventually complete my time machine (I lack only the Flux Capacitor) one of the first places I'll visit is late 15th

under its foundation. Political maneuvering and loopholes like the one for which the city is gunning give me that same creepy, rage-filled nausea which overtakes me whenever Jerry Falwell opens his obese face in an inept attempt to lecture and enlighten.

Further, let's consider the casino industry generally. The Detroit casinos each pull in over \$1 million per day. Granted, the city takes about 8 percent of this amount, but they end up having to give it right back in the form of increased gambling dependence programs, crime patrol, and welfare rolls. The lion's share of this money is not coming from tourists or well-to-do suburbanites, but rather poor people in the city who are already struggling to stay afloat week-to-week. For every one job such an enterprise creates, numerous families are destroyed in a longing search to become the guy in the advertisement tossing money in the air like it's confetti in Times Square after the big ball just dropped. Maybe they should start building billboards depicting a 14 year-old

blades for my hockey stick. Compulsive gamblers make a very blurred distinction, if at all, between money they can afford to lose and that which is earmarked for the

Join the GSA and the ASUCSF for
A FREE SLICE OF PIZZA
and A DRINK...

STUDENT
PIZZA DAY!



November 14
Noon – 1 PM
Saunders Court
Bring Student ID



Grand Opening Celebration!
Featuring the latest fashion rage...
Italian charm bracelets.

Grand Opening Special:
Buy four charms, get the base bracelet free.

carina
231 West Portal Ave. (near 14th Ave.)
San Francisco
Tel. (415) 753-2274
Largest charm selection in SF
Offer expires 11/15/01-UC

food

No MSG, No Problem in Samila Thai Restaurant

by Alex Lee and Alice Fang

Have you ever wondered what makes Asian food so palatable? A lovely crystallized compound called MSG adds magic to the dishes served in Asian restaurants. So, when we ventured across the "No MSG" sign at the modest-looking Samila Thai restaurant, we became alarmed of the potential disaster.

Alice: Almost immediately, we were seated by a very friendly Thai waitress, dressed in traditional clothing. The restaurant was crowded on this Friday night, but fortunately we got the last of the 13 tables in this place. The restaurant is adorned with a few pieces of Thai paintings, along with the prominent altar reserved only for the sacred Thai royal family. Although there was not much décor in the restaurant, we both liked the comfortable feeling the small restaurant provided.

Alex: I personally felt that the lighting was a little bright for a romantic dinner. The Kenny-G-ish elevator music was mildly annoying, but it was easily drowned out by the din of conversation. Overall, I felt that the restaurant's ambiance was warm and clean.

Also of note was the fact that the restaurant is owned and operated by actual Thai people. Far too many Japanese and Thai restaurants are run by Chinese people, leading to a very distinctive Chinese taste to all dishes. This was not the case with Samila.

Alice: We looked at the menu, and were pleased to find an inexpensive list with a huge selection to choose from. The 20 types of appetizers ranged around \$5, while the 70 different dinner entrees were in the range of \$5.95-\$7.95, inclusive of seafood dishes. Very reasonably priced in this expensive city.

Despite the crowd, our appetizers came within five minutes, followed by the main course five minutes after that. Admittedly, we were a little alarmed: Images of metallic bins full of pre-made food under heat-lamps inevitably crossed our minds. We sank our teeth into our appetizer — Yum Moo Yang, or garlic pork salad in Thai herbal sauce. In an instant, our previous apprehension was dispelled by the pleasantly refreshing taste of juicy and well-marinated pork. The unique Thai herbs, combined fresh cucumbers dipped in a tangy sauce, really made this appetizer atypical.

Alex: Usually when we order appetizers before meals, we get some greasy finger food or a wimpy, overpriced salad. I'm happy to state that this appetizer was easily entrée-sized. I have never had a salad in which every bite contained warm meat. Very refreshing for a carnivore such as myself. For vegetable-oriented people, there are Papaya salad (a personal favorite of mine) and Vegi Spring Rolls on the menu, equally good options to start off the meal.

Alice: For dinner entrees, we selected Duck Curry, boneless roasted duck in spicy red curry with tomato, pineapples and coconut milk, and Pad Ma Keur, or sautéed young eggplant with prawns and chicken. Both dishes were visually pleasing, the reds, greens, yellows and blacks glittered and danced in various sauces, making the dishes quite inviting. We first tested Pad Ma Keur. All ingredients tasted fresh; the eggplants were at the right texture, not too mushy and the prawns were marinated

well. Unfortunately, the chicken was a bit overcooked, and the sauce was a little thick and syrupy.

Alex: Luckily, the restaurant was redeemed by the Duck Curry. I am a wimp when it comes to spicy food, so we requested that the curry was made mild. That turned out to be a good choice, because it allowed the subtle flavors of duck, pineapple, coconut milk and saffron to emerge distinctly. In fact, this was probably the best Thai curry that I have ever had. In the absence of MSG, excess salt, sugar or spice, the delicate flavors of the sauce were the highlight of our meal. Thai curry is far different than its Indian counterpart. Indian curry tends to be thicker and spicier, while Thai curry tends to be sweeter and more soupy.

For dessert, we shared an order of sweet sticky rice with mango. A scoop of warm Japanese style sticky rice was topped by small serving of mango and syrup. Surprisingly enough, this simple concoction of warm and cold, starchy and sweet was delicious.

Overall, I thought this restaurant was pretty good, and certainly was an excellent value (total cost for two: \$30). Most striking was the huge variety of authentic appetizers, soups and entrees. Most Thai restaurants offer 15 different dishes, plus the ever-present Pad Thai. Samila offered nearly 100, all MSG-free.

Hugely important to a big eater such as myself, Samila offers generous-sized portions and unlimited rice refills. Parking was ridiculously simple and cheap. There is a huge parking lot a block away on Geary in the Ross Dress for Less complex. Parking after 5:00 is only a dollar per hour.

You will definitely get your money worth at this low-key and friendly restaurant. Add in quick service, great selection and easy parking to this mix. What more can you ask for in San Francisco?

Samila Thai

5336 Geary Blvd (Between 17th and 18th Ave)
(415) 752-4310

Price: \$

(Buy 1 get 1 free coupons are available through the Entertainment book)

Ambiance & Service: ★★ ★
(Plain but comfortable)

Food Quality ★★ ★ 1/2

Overall Review ★★ ★ 1/2
(Great value, selection)

Park at the Ross parking lot on Geary

As food editor, my first task will be to attempt to standardize the rating scale and information box to accompany each food review. The restaurants will be reviewed on 3 scales:

Price: The total price for a full course meal for 2: 2 drinks, 2 appetizers, 2 entrees and 2 desserts.

\$ = Under \$30

\$\$ = \$31 to \$60

\$\$\$ = \$61 to \$90

\$\$\$\$ = \$91 and up

Ambiance & Service: Overall atmosphere and quality of service.

Food quality

Overall rating: Not necessarily a direct average of the other ratings. The gut reaction of the reviewer.

1 to 5 stars, with 3 being average

— Alex Lee

4211 Judah St. at 47th Ave.
Near Hwy. 1 (19th Ave.)
San Francisco, CA
415-681-6618



1-2 persons
1 Queen Bed
\$55 + tax
Sun-Thurs
Weekends
Higher

Free Limited Parking
Free Cable TV and HBO
2 Blocks to the Beach and Golden Gate Park
Transportation to downtown by trolley car from doorstep

FIX 1-800-878-9986
Costa Rica **CHECK OUT** New York
\$199 **OUR CHEAP** \$259
RATES
Rio / Brasil **\$259** London **\$229**
BEST DEALS ON VACATION PACKAGES!
www.victorytravel.com

Open 7:00 am
Slides by e-mail?
marsvisuals.com
Mars Visuals, Inc.
552-5331 or 552-4450
One Day Service pick-up/delivery

It's Back... Only at Council Travel
AMAZING SALE
Student / Youth / Teacher
5 Days Only! Nov. 6-10! 20 European Cities Available.

LONDON \$150	PARIS \$168	MILAN \$191
MADRID \$215	ATHENS \$235	

FARES ARE ONE WAY, ROUND TRIP FARES ALSO AVAILABLE.
Tickets are subject to availability and must be paid in full at time of booking. Tickets are non-refundable. Taxes and fees are extra. Additional restrictions and blackout dates apply. I.S.I.C. ITIC and IYTC card required. Valid for departure through March 2002.

225 W Portal Ave.
415-566-6222
530 Bush St. - San Francisco
415-421-3473
Shop Sale Hours T - F 9a to 8p / Sat 10a to 4p
1-800-2COUNCIL
Call 24 hrs 8am (EST) Tues Nov 6 - 12am (EST) Fri Nov 9 & 10am - 7pm (EST) Sat Nov 10
www.counciltravel.com

the arts

Stereolab at the Fillmore

by Dylan Bartley

“Cheepa cheepa cheepa pa cheepa cheepa che.” Can anyone translate that? I didn’t think so. But it doesn’t seem to matter much because the happiness and catchiness of Stereolab’s music came through even stronger live than on their albums. Part of the confusion stems from the fact that as a band with members from England and France, they write half of their songs in a language for which I have no ear. But whether they are singing in English or French, you can still have a ball singing along to the “do de do das” which fill most of their songs.

Hansen, stood centerstage and they took care of the vocals as well as some guitar, keyboards, and best of all, the magic suitcase of percussion. They would dig into the suitcase for a new toy to make noise for each song. Some of their instruments reminded me of the sticks and recorders from 3rd grade music class. Sadler even threw in a little trombone here and there.

Together Stereolab produces quite a unique sound, reminiscent of ’60s French pop artists like Serge Gainsbourg, but slightly more progressive. Tim Gane, who usually plays guitar and keyboards, is cred-

Cheepa cheepa cheepa, pa cheepa cheepa che.

The majority of their set came from their new album which is very layered—some songs sounding like two at the same time. Occasionally their older material can come across repetitive and annoying, but at a recent San Francisco concert, they were much more engaging.

The band has been around for quite a while but they remain very elusive. None of their albums have pictures of the band, and seeing them in concert for the first time, I had no idea who was going to walk on stage. Two women, Laetitia Sadler and Mary

ited with providing the creative impetus. They are heavily influenced by experimental composer John Cale. Albums have dipped into the genres of “bubblegum” pop, dance music, and indie rock. Their songs are full of moog keyboards, clavivets, vibes, and something called a farfisa. What really makes their melodic music come together is the harmonizing of their vocalists. Although they looked nervous and gloomy at times, they definitely put me into a good mood.

Support our Advertisers

Vision Youthz

Founded by a team of UCSF students and physicians and incarcerated youth, offers a youth-designed, research-based innovative model for Violence Prevention. VisionYouthz is building an inclusive, diverse mentoring community dedicated to holistic youth development of at-risk youth.

Please join us for the 2001 Field of Dreams Benefit Dinner, hosted by baseball legend HANK AARON, with special Emcee PAM MOORE, KRON 4 NewsAnchor on November 17, 7 p.m.-11 p.m. at the Fort Mason Conference Center, S.F.

Tickets are \$100 each to benefit youth programs. Buffet dinner with S.F. finest restaurants, Harris', Asia de Cuba, Paragon, Gordon Biersch, and Galaxy Desserts, wine pairing by Canandaigua Wine Company. Special thanks to our sponsors, Schering Urology, Foley & Lardner, S.F. Giants, and Meritage Homes. To be included in this meaningful event, please call (415) 641-4850, or email visionyouthz@earthlink.net

www.visionyouthz.org

Its Time to Celebrate With The Dead

by Dylan Bartley



Alice Cannon and Patricia Kilgariff in James Joyce's *The Dead*.

The American Conservatory Theatre's production of Richard Nelson's adaptation of James Joyce's *The Dead* is a wonderful celebration of Irish music, traditions, and hospitality. It comes to San Francisco at no better time with the holidays ahead. It also serves well to remind us of the importance of taking solace in family and friends in a time when we are haunted by terrorism.

The musical is adapted from Joyce's acclaimed short story of the same title from his 1914 collection *Dubliners*. It does well to reflect the original narrative and tone. The story is told from the viewpoint of Gabriel (played by Sean Cullen) who takes the role that Joyce would have at the party. In his monologues and scenes with his wife (played by Kate Kearny-Patch) he reflects on the meanings of true love and marriage.

The Dead deviates from your traditional musical format because you are actually treated to a seat at the Morkan family's yearly Christmas gatherings where they gather around the piano and sing to each other.

It worked well to have several musicians on stage performing as characters in the story. Of course, there was a small ensemble beneath the stage accompanying them for some of the songs. The music was written specifically for the play by composer Shaun Davey. It borrows from traditional Irish ballads, bar songs, jigs and reels but displays a more contemporary form and fits in well with the ebb and flow of the plot. The music ranged from poignant ballads of lost love to the rousing “Naughty Girls”

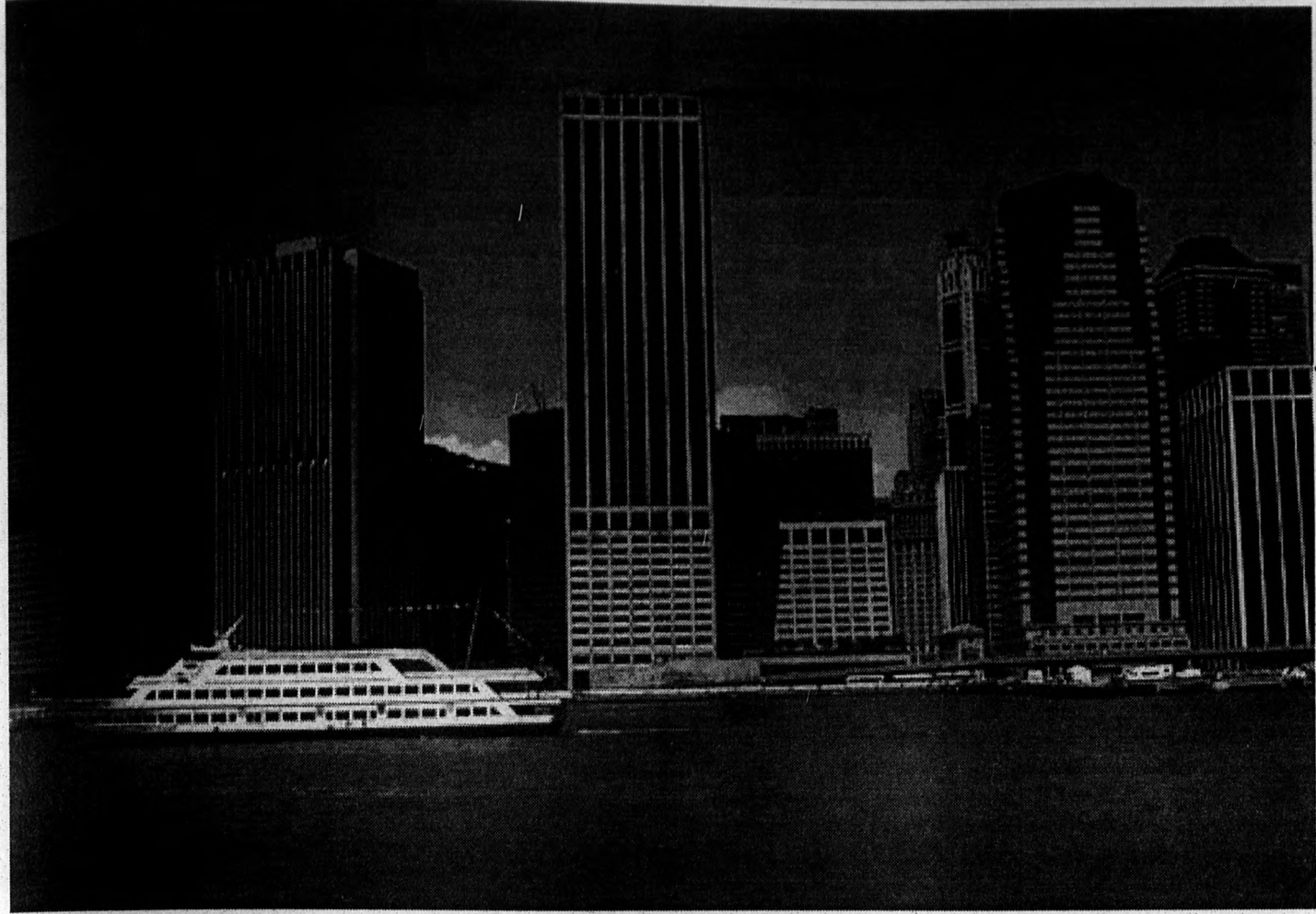
sung by the three gray-haired hosts. There is also some lively traditional Irish dancing by the young and the old at the party.

Aging is, in fact, one of the main themes of the play. Joyce was fond of puns and cynicism. With the title of *The Dead* he was likely referring to the scenes where Aunt Julia Morkan (Alice Cannon) deals with her waning health. But he also had a little social commentary in mind for his old Ireland: he was sick of the stagnant culture and blind nationalism of his countrymen—to Joyce, the Irish were “The Dead.”

The play only gives this facet of the story minimal attention as Gabriel groans when the party decides to sing a patriotic tune about the Irish revolutionary leader Parnell. Nelson and Davey added even more play on this theme with the song “Wake the Dead.” The guests, caught up in the jubilation of the evening (and also suffering from a little post-Irish Whiskey rowdiness) shout out, “who cares if the singer wakes the dead!”

The play premiered on Broadway last year and won a Tony Award but didn't tour much due to the difficulty in finding the right atmosphere. It's not a big production musical with elaborate set changes, flashing lights and hundreds of actors onstage crooning their hearts out. Nelson was looking for a more intimate setting and he found it at ACT's Geary.

James Joyce's “*The Dead*” plays at American Conservatory Theater's Geary Theater, 415 Geary St., San Francisco from Oct. 25-Nov. 25. Tickets: \$20-\$66. Call (415) 749-2228 or visit www.act-sfbay.org.



New York Journal

48 days and 6 hours after

by Anna Meyer

I have never smelled death before. I have been with many dead bodies for long hours at a time, but these were permeated by the stench of formaldehyde, an odor distinctly emblematic of the effort to preserve as much as possible the semblance of life. I have had relatives die and I attended their funerals, but either I was too afraid to go close enough to them or they were doused in so much perfume, that I have no memory of any other smell but my mother's own *eau de toilet*. In the hospital, I have been aware, more often than I have wanted, of the pungency of the dying, but they have always been carted away to the morgue or hospice or home before their rooms could be filled with the feter of the dead.

New York is still rampant with the usual smells of city life, from dog dung to the multi-fragrance of garbage piled high on the curb. But when the wind changes and an electrical, smoky, decaying malodor enters and exits your nostrils quickly, you cannot ever be certain if it is the smell of burnt body or burnt building or both. People speak of this smell often, they ask you to notice it as soon as you are in the city. If you haven't, they encourage you to step outside again and breathe deeply or to walk further downtown until you are close enough to Ground Zero that it does not matter which direction the wind is blowing. When you are overpowered by a particularly strong whiff, you begin to wonder whether these tiny molecules that have landed upon the delicate mucosa of your nose are safe or not.

Should you be breathing in this city at all? Should you join the hundreds of others who have marched down to the Army-Navy in Soho and purchase a gas mask, not for fear of anthrax, but for fear of the city air in general? And what of the dedicated people working to excavate Ground Zero? Are they adequately protected, not just from the deleterious effect of the air on their lungs, but from the toxicity of the concentrated and continuous stench on their psyches? This is when you begin to understand on a physical as well as cognitive level what it means to be a "dedicated worker." You also realize that the alteration of the smells of the city (the olfactory apparatus is the most directly linked sense to memory) is a subtle aspect of why people can just transiently push the events of September 11 from the forefront of their minds only when the wind blows south.

The Flag

In my adolescent and adult life I have prided myself on seeking a distinctly liberal but well-informed view of most political, social, and economic issues. When Desert Storm occurred in my early college years, I was quickly swept up in a fervent bout of government protest and pseudo-sixties marching, mostly because I wanted to believe in something as strongly as my own parents had believed in the anti-Vietnam war movement. But when the World Trade Center towers were destroyed and flags appeared everywhere, I faced a personal

quandary as to whether or not I would put one up in my car. For those of us born in the seventies and later, those of us who did not know a time before the turmoil of the sixties, our relationship to this symbol could never be simple. As an emblem of a government that could be fallible, the flag also represented an unprecedented amount of freedom, a freedom that allowed us to question it as a symbol at all. For me, especially in San Francisco—a town that holds the idealism and counter-culture of the sixties closest to its modern identity—the display of the flag might have expressed an unquestioning and blind belief in the decisions and actions of the current government. Alternatively, I was not convinced by the rhetoric espoused at the numerous anti-war protests which congregated steps away from my house in the Mission neighborhood. I certainly felt a profound alteration in my personal patriotism, a return to thankfulness for the astounding liberties we are afforded in this country and a pride and awe at the solidarity being expressed between very different peoples in reaction to the attacks.

In New York, there is no question about what the flag now means. It wordlessly and

continued on page 11

classifieds

AUTO REPAIR Maintenance and repair. Japanese and other makes. House calls possible. Any questions, Larry (415) 731-2218.

BOWLINGSHIRT.COM. — Retro wear for the new millennium.

ESSENTIAL LAPTOP ACCESSORY Ultimate comfort and cooling device for your Laptop. www.e-leg.cc

HATHA YOGA CLASSES. Svaroop (a.k.a. "bliss") Yoga is great for stress relief! Two convenient San Francisco locations. Free yoga newsletter upon request. 415 - 210 - YOGA. www.blissinaction.com

HEAVENLY MAIDS. Commercial, residential and vacancies. 415 - 239 - 0561

NEW SMILE CHOICE DENTAL PLAN (includes cosmetic) \$ 69.00 per year. SAVE 30-60%. Call 1 - 800 - 655 - 3225 or www.studentdental.com or www.goldenwestdental.com

WEB ENABLED CELLULAR PHONE Free "Web Enabled" cellular phone.
* No Money Upfront
* Free Delivery
* 2200 Free Anytime Minutes Per Month
* Free - Long Distance - Nationwide
* \$150.00 Sign Up Service Credit
1 - 800 - 652 - 3587

NATIONWIDE CAMPAIGN. Immediate openings: Earn \$5,000.00/month. Flexible hours. email: netgo@netgo.com

SHARE NANNY. Looking for a family to share our great nanny Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays with our 1 year old. Sue (415) 665 - 7462.

SF School of Bartending



REAL TRAINING FOR *real* JOBS

Guaranteed Lowest Tuition
415-362-1116

Job Placement Assistance Included

The Best Thai Food In the Sunset!

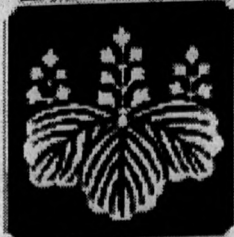


Sukhothai
Thai Cuisine
Seafood & Vegetarian

lunch & dinner everyday
Sunday-Thursday 11 am - 10 pm
Friday & Saturday 11 am - 10:30 pm

1319 9th Ave at Irving
564-7722
www.sukhothai.citysearch.com

Hotei



Japanese Noodle Cuisine

NOODLES!
NOODLES!
NOODLES!

SOMEN, UDON, RAMEN & SOBA
TRADITIONAL JAPANESE CUISINE
OPEN DAILY FOR LUNCH AND DINNER

BRING THIS AD IN FOR
A 10% DISCOUNT

1290 9TH AVE. @ IRVING
415/753.6045
www.hoteisf.com

LET US CATER YOUR NEXT EVENT FEATURING EBISU SUSHI!!!

books

No Room for Error in The Corrections

by Tim Neagle

The Corrections
A Novel
By Jonathan Franzen
568 pages
Farrar, Giroux & Strauss

The literary naysayers are coming out of the woodwork, brandishing their knives at Jonathan Franzen's novel, *The Corrections*. (See James Wood's snippy essay in *The New Republic* as an example.) Lavishly praised by critics, the current #1 fiction bestseller in America, *The Corrections* is a tempting target for the green-with-envy crowd. Especially since Franzen, in a now-famous essay in *Harper's* a few years back, proclaimed the need for a big American novel, and then proceeded to write it.

Well, as Muhammad Ali once said, "It ain't braggin' if you can do it." And there is no question that Franzen has produced a magnificent novel, one of the best work of American fiction in years. Prepare yourself: This is one of those can't-put-it-down books, one that the reader doesn't want to see end.

(Franzen has not helped himself in his recent, silly squabble with Oprah Winfrey. *The Corrections* was designated as a choice for the Oprah Book Club, something that Franzen has let it be known he is uncomfortable with, apparently feeling contact with a television show detracts from his work and status as an artist. Oprah, show-

her children face the prospect of spending a few days in their native city of St. Jude (the hamhandedly symbolic name is one of Franzen's few slips), with all the enthusiasm of a visit to Death Row. Edith's struggles to get Al to live happily in retirement, and to get her children back home, provide many of the hilariously funny/heartbreakingly sad moments that are the novel's trademark.

Failed academic Chip, awash in debt and unable to hold a steady job, clings to the hope that a screenplay he has written will hoist him out of the abyss he currently occupies. Through a series of comic twists and turns, he ends up going to Lithuania in partnership with a former Baltic politician turned aspiring mob boss.

Eldest son Gary, locked in his depression and his deep need to control his wife and three children, regards his brother with disdain. Safely ensconced in his job at a Philadelphia bank, Gary copes with large helpings of alcohol as he battles with his wife over control, a war in which he will ultimately raise the white flag of surrender.

Deniece, on the surface the most successful of the three siblings, has just received her big break: a man newly wealthy from selling his tech company wants to start up the trendiest restaurant in Philadelphia, with her as chef. The project flourishes on Deniece's ability as a chef; it founders on her emotional and sexual instability, as she

When you get out-dignified by a TV talk-show host,
you know you're in the wrong.

ing more dignity than the author, quietly canceled Franzen's appearance on her show and contented herself with expressing her disappointment. When you get out-dignified by a TV talk-show host, you know you're in the wrong. Franzen has apologized, but the whole incident left him looking more than a little silly. This is yet another case where Flaubert's dictum, the man is nothing, the work is all, definitely applies.)

The Corrections follows the path of an American family, the Lamberts: Al and Enid, the aging parents; Gary, the depression-wracked eldest son who seeks to control everyone else in the family; Chip, the middle son who blew up a promising academic career on an affair with a student and is finding life in the non-academic world to be well beyond his ken; and Deniece, the baby sister, a beautiful, accomplished chef, whose outward success hides a wasted emotional life.

Al is suffering from Parkinson's disease and his mind is rapidly losing its grip on reality. His long career with a Midwestern railroad has ended badly when corporate raiders take over the company and swiftly lay waste to its assets. Bewildered by his failing body and mind, deprived of the daily working existence that defined him, Al trails in his wife's wake, unable to find any meaning in his retirement years.

Enid struggles to keep Al going while relentlessly pursuing her Holy Grail: to have all the family return to the Midwest for one last Christmas. Unfortunately for Enid,

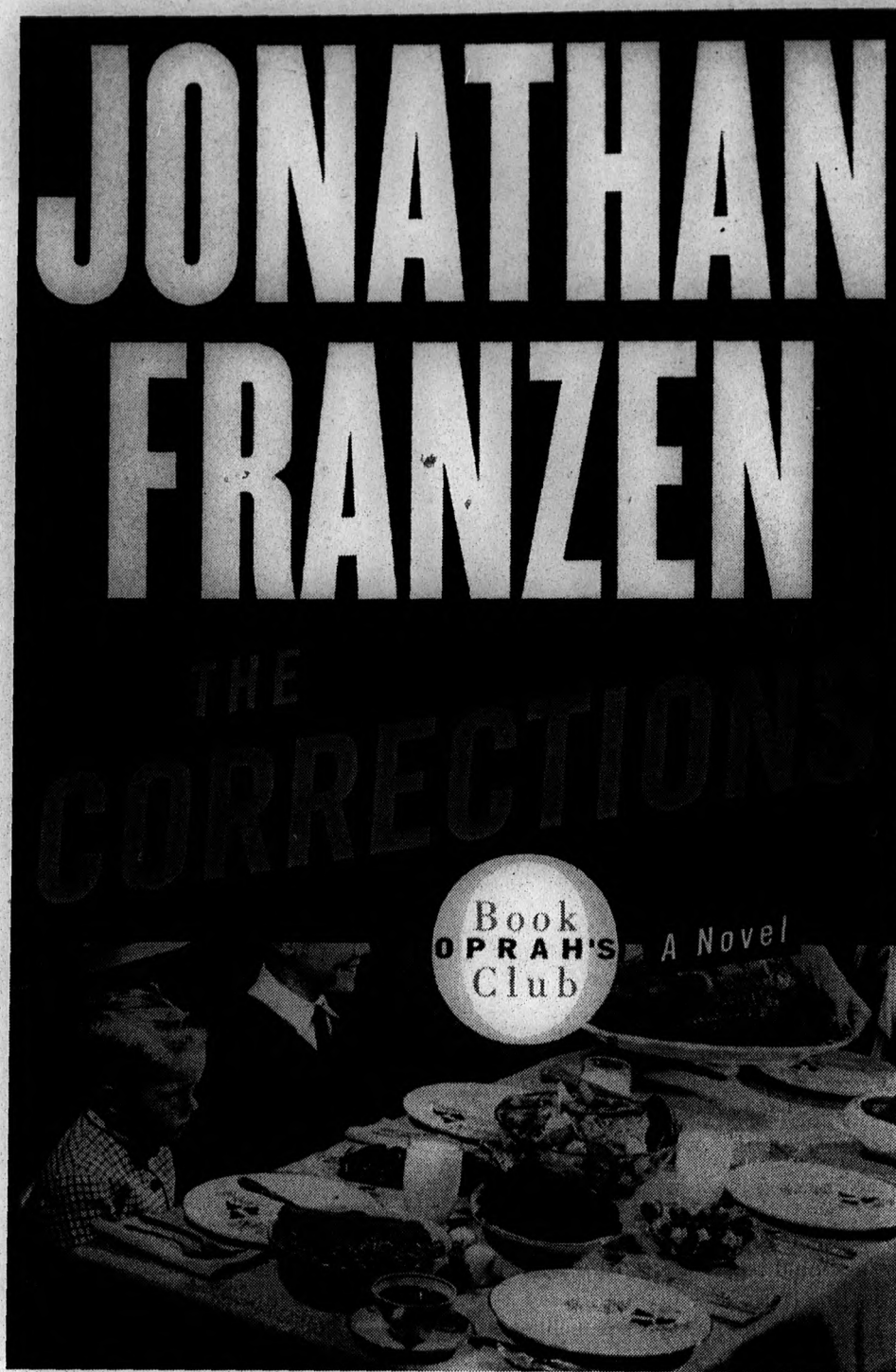
conducts affairs with her patron and his wife.

Frazen weaves these plot lines with skill as the book builds toward its crescendo, the

family Christmas. The author's literary talents have never been on better display than during these scenes. Anyone who has ever struggled through the peculiarly American

ritual of going home for the holidays will recognize everything on display here: the embarrassments, the petty squabbles, the painful memories. Out of all this Franzen fashions an ending that is true to the novel yet which carries a measure of redemption that packs a surprising wallop.

The Corrections pushes Franzen into the upper echelon of American writers. As with Charles Frazier's *Cold Mountain* of a few years ago, *The Corrections* reminds us of the large rewards that are to be afforded from great fiction. His readers owe Mr. Franzen a debt of thanks.



UCSF Vietnamese Students Assoc Invites
You To Join Us For One

"Sweet November"

Semi-Formal Banquet and Dance

Live DJ mixing it up into the night.
Join us for fine dining and dancing

Saturday, November 17, 2001
7:00pm-12:00am
UCSF Millberry Union Conference Center
500 Parnassus Ave., San Francisco, CA 94143
Tickets: \$50 per person
For more information, contact:
Phong Nguyen at UCSF

Breast Cancer...

from page 1

These are distinct from those known risk factors that are unavoidable, such as age, family history, and genetic pre-disposition.

I was quite stunned by this revelation — why had I not heard of such risk factors before? True, I had not done any in-depth research at that point, but I did read everything about breast cancer that came out in the press, and I get the quarterly Marin Breast Cancer Watch newsletter. I had read about exposure to polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons and ionizing radiation, but modifiable risk factors? That I had to answer “no” to this question was the impetus for more research on breast cancer, the

tracting breast cancer. Certainly the size of your bank account, or years of schooling, per se, could not cause breast cancer. One important area of research has shown that women with a high SES rating tend to have similar reproductive behaviors, and some of these behaviors have been shown to be risk factors for breast cancer.

According to a paper by Kelsey and Bernstein of the Department of Health Research and Policy at Stanford University, entitled “Epidemiology and Prevention of Breast Cancer,” among the known reproductive risk factors for breast cancer are: parity (bearing fewer than four children); age at first full-term pregnancy (having first child after age 30); age at ANY full-term pregnancy (after age 30); early onset of

production of undifferentiated (stem) cells in a woman’s breast, and because such cells are much more vulnerable to the effects of environmental carcinogens or other unknown cancer inducing agents, any “over exposure” to estrogen may simply leave more cells at risk over a longer period of time. According to this theory, a full-term pregnancy is protective against tumor development because undifferentiated breast cells become terminally differentiated into milk-producing cells, which are less vulnerable. It is also theorized that abortion may contribute to an increased risk because the massive influx of estrogen initiated at conception produces great numbers of undifferentiated breast cells, and these cells are left vulnerable with the death of the

and thus do not currently translate into the degree of risk of contracting the disease for any particular woman. Beverly Lyne reinforced this point, and also stated that she was not aware of any assessment tool available today that would help women determine their individual level of risk for breast cancer. Her best advice was to consult a gynecologist. I would agree, especially if you have a family history of breast or ovarian cancer. Certainly do not believe anything you have read here unless it is confirmed by a medical professional. I would add a caution of my own, however: if your doctor tries to diminish the importance of any of the risk factors mentioned in this article, you might want to get a second opinion, preferably from an oncologist. I find there to be great differences of opinion in this field.

The emphasis today in breast cancer treatment is on early detection through regular mammogram screening. Mammograms are of course necessary and effective lifesavers, but this is still after-the-fact screening, after a tumor already exists. In a recent article in the Marin Independent Journal, dealing with the known genetic risk factors of breast cancer, Devra Davis, a cancer epidemiologist at Carnegie Mellon was quoted as saying, “...why aren’t we doing more to identify [and, I would add, publicize] avoidable risk factors for cancer...? You can’t choose your parents. What you can do is control your exposures in your environment.”

I have written this article to provide a glimmer of hope and a degree of empowerment to us men, in our efforts to come to grips with the menace that breast cancer has become for women. As a volunteer for the Marin Breast Cancer Watch’s annual fundraising event several years ago, I was privileged to hear some beautiful testimonials from courageous breast cancer survivors. The anguish I felt in their stories, as well as the stories they told about those who have not survived, touched me deeply, as did my experience with my friend’s fight with cancer. Men should no longer remain standing on the sidelines in this war, for I feel strongly that our involvement can make a difference.

I wish to thank Christina Clarke and Sue Brown of the Northern California Cancer Center and Beverly Lyne of the Marin County Department of Health and Human Services for their gracious help in clarifying some of the complexities of breast cancer for me, and for checking the basic facts of this article. I also want to thank all the men and women doing cancer research. Until a cure is found, it is their dedicated efforts that may some day help women avoid breast cancer altogether, which obviously is best cure of all. The opinions expressed here about what men (and women) should do about breast cancer remain my own.

Synapse welcomes your comments
on this or any other article.
Email us at synapse@itsa.ucsf.edu

Men should no longer remain standing on the sidelines in this war, for I feel strongly that our involvement can make a difference.

results of which became part of the reason for this article. Another part was that my friend had been taking estrogen supplements for many years to alleviate her menopausal symptoms, yet she was never told that it would increase her risk of getting breast cancer — that is, not until she got it.

It should be clarified at this point that risk factors are not necessarily causes of breast cancer, but are rather qualities that people who get breast cancer seem to have in common. Depending on which journal article you read there are quite a number of such risk factors. One that stands out in the San Francisco Bay Area, and which seems to be an umbrella (or proxy) of sorts for many others is socioeconomic status (SES).

Epidemiologists measure SES in a number of ways, the most common of which use the variables of educational level and/or household income. The more years of schooling you have and/or the higher the household income, the higher your SES rating. Researchers have determined that SES has a direct relationship to the incidence of breast cancer, meaning the higher the SES rating of a population, the greater the incidence of cancer you can expect to find.

Marin County is a prime example of the relationship between SES and breast cancer. From the period of 1993 through 1997, an average of 154 women per 100,000 of population in Marin contracted invasive breast cancer each year. Some sources cite this rate as being the highest rate in the world. As a comparison, in San Francisco, 100 out of every 100,000 women contracted breast cancer per year for the same period. In Marin however, the SES of women is also above average. In fact, a study of census block data, conducted by Doctor Angela Prehn of the Northern California Cancer Center, has shown that the incidence rates of breast cancer for block groups in Marin County are comparable to rates in other areas of California that have similar racial/ethnic and SES characteristics. This study would thus seem to indicate that the rates in Marin are relatively high due to the demographics of the county, and not to any unique environmental factors. This relationship between SES and breast cancer may also hold true for any female population with such a reproductive pattern. The Prehn study does point out however that “possible environmental causes of breast cancer could be contributing to breast cancer rates in all geographic locations.”

What is not completely clear is why women who are better educated or have higher incomes are at greater risk of con-

tracting breast cancer. Certainly the size of your bank account, or years of schooling, per se, could not cause breast cancer. One important area of research has shown that women with a high SES rating tend to have similar reproductive behaviors, and some of these behaviors have been shown to be risk factors for breast cancer. According to a paper by Kelsey and Bernstein of the Department of Health Research and Policy at Stanford University, entitled “Epidemiology and Prevention of Breast Cancer,” among the known reproductive risk factors for breast cancer are: parity (bearing fewer than four children); age at first full-term pregnancy (having first child after age 30); age at ANY full-term pregnancy (after age 30); early onset of

menses (age 11 or earlier); late age at menopause (55 or over); long-term use of oral contraceptives and long-term use of estrogen replacement therapy. Some studies also suggest that induced abortion is associated with breast cancer, although this association is hotly debated. In an analysis of 23 independent studies published in the Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health, entitled, “Induced Abortion as an Independent Risk Factor for Breast Cancer: A Comprehensive Review and Meta-analysis,” it was found that induced abortion increased a woman’s chances of getting breast cancer by 30 percent. Doctor Joel Brind M.D., author of the study, states that, “Although the increase in risk was relatively low, the high incidence of both breast cancer and induced abortion suggest a substantial impact of thousands of excess cases per year currently, and a potentially much greater impact in the next century, as the first cohort of women exposed to legal induced abortion continues to age.” It should be noted that while the association between breast cancer and oral contraceptives, estrogen replacement therapy, and abortion is found in many studies, some uncertainty still exists concerning these associations, which warrants further investigation.

Another important, if not crucial factor in determining risk is the influence of two or more risk factors operating together. Generally, the presence of a family history of breast cancer combined with one or two other recognized risk factors could place a woman in a “high risk” category. For example, a study published last October in the Journal of the American Medical Association found that sisters and daughters of women who have had breast cancer and who are also users of oral contraceptives were up to eleven times more likely than nonusers to get breast cancer. Although this study suggests that the risks are associated with older, high estrogen formulations of the pill, an accompanying editorial states that women using newer, low dose formulations are not yet in the age range of greatest risk. In a study by J. Daling of the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center in Seattle, it was found that if a woman had a family history of breast cancer, and had an induced abortion after age 30, her risk of contracting breast cancer went up 270 percent.

fetus. Research is currently being conducted to determine if there are environmental hazards unique to women with a high SES, such as exposure to dry cleaning chemicals and lawn care products, that may compound the risks associated with the reproductive patterns of high SES women.

Of course, there is nothing you can do about many of these risk factors, but what about the “life style” or modifiable risk factors that men and women CAN control? In case you men out there have forgotten, many aspects of reproduction require our cooperation as well as our testosterone, which means we can or should have an equal say-so in these areas, at least in the context of the family. A man’s most direct influence in promoting “safe breast” behavior would be in the areas of timing of the first child, the number of children, the methods of birth control and, to be safe, the avoidance of induced abortion. Indirectly, we can encourage our wives to breastfeed, keep off excess weight, and exercise regularly, all believed to be protective against breast cancer.

Sound familiar? To those of us old enough to know, we are talking about the lifestyles of the “Leave it to Beaver” era, before breast cancer became an epidemic. I am not suggesting, however, that we should all begin having earlier and larger families just to avoid breast cancer. I am only emphasizing what the data is telling us, that the predominant reproductive lifestyle of women with a high SES may be bad for their health.

As Doctor Christina Clarke, Research Scientist for the Northern California Cancer Center cautioned however, risk factors for breast cancer are group level associations,

- Dry cleaning
- Finished laundry
- Expert alterations
- Wash and fold
- Draperies
- Ski garments
- Leather and suede cleaning
- Millberry Union 1 Level
- Open Monday - Friday, 7 a.m. - 6 p.m.
- Closed Sat. Sun. and University holidays
- 415-50-CLEAN

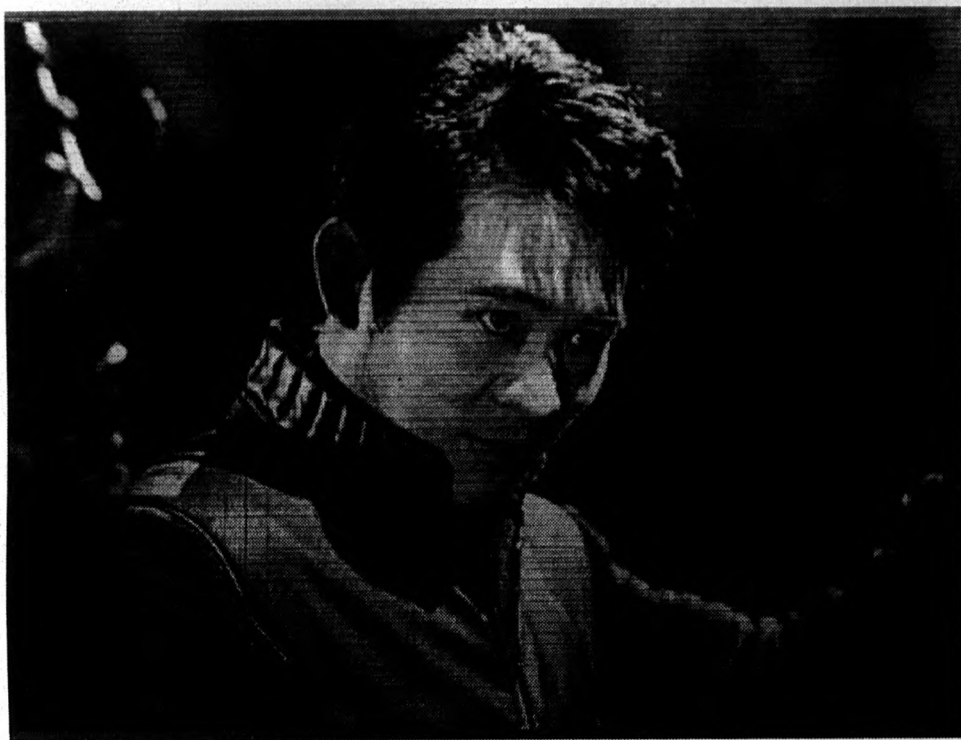
UCSF
University of California
San Francisco

DANNY'S
CLEANERS

15% off

Dry Cleaning only
limited to new customers only
Expires 12/01/01

film



Definitely Not "The One"

by Alex Lee

I admit that I had high hopes for *The One*. I've grown up watching Jet Li's amazing speed and acrobatics, and I expected nothing less from Li's first venture into Science Fiction. To make a long story short, this *Time Cop*/*Matrix* rip-off is arguably the worst movie to be released this year, even beating out *Tomb Raider*'s cartoonish idiocy for this distinction.

The plot shamelessly borrows plot aspects and scenes from several near-future science fiction movies, including *The Matrix*, *Time Cop*, *Demolition Man*, and *Fortress*, while managing to be dumber than all of them combined. How many times can the computer generated kicking and bullet dodging *Matrix* effects be repeated? Only time will tell.

This movie is based on the premise that there are a few hundred alternate universes, with only minor differences between each. Mankind has figured out how to travel between these universes, and so laser pistol toting police must regulate traffic through these portals. Enter the evil Jet Li, as a renegade portal protector, who is systematically killing off other versions of himself, and somehow absorbing their speed and strength in the process. The last remaining Jet Li is a police officer living in present-universe L.A. You can use your imagination from here, but needless to say, there is a huge climactic Good Li vs. Evil Li fight in the end, as well as several predictable Evil Li posing as Good Li non-surprises. To top this groan-inducing experience off, the movie is nicely wrapped up in a pretty bow, as the Good Li is transported to a sickeningly colorful and clean alternative universe, while Evil Li is transported to a hellish prison planet.

The Next Van Damme?

Admittedly, no one goes to see a Jet Li movie expecting deep dialogue or an intelligent plot. We go to see him kick butt. Not surprisingly, the plot is just a vehicle to showcase Li's substantial Martial Arts talent. Being a fan of Jet Li's pre-*Lethal Weapon 4* classics, such as *Bodyguard from Beijing*, *Once Upon a Time in China*, and *The New Legend of Shao Lin*, I think that Li's transition to American Cinema has had a detrimental effect on the quality of his action scenes. Gone are the fantastic demonstrations of his natural speed and Wu Shu technique. Instead, they are

replaced with computer-aided slow motion bullet dodging scenes a la *The Matrix*. The rest of the action scenes are run-of-the-mill kicks, punches and gunplay that could have been extracted straight from any Jean Claude Van Damme movie.

Notable computer-generated effects are seen in slow motion scenes where Evil Jet Li punches a hapless police officer down, and kicks him high up into the air before he hits the ground. Nice, but not worth my \$9.25 ticket. If you want to see the effect, you can watch the advertisement for free.

"Nobody's Bitch"

Although I have always been awed by Jet Li, he should not be allowed to open his mouth where dramatic acting is involved. I honestly felt embarrassed for him as he struggled with dramatic scenes, such as his ten seconds of grief over his recently slain wife. Instead, Li should be relegated to one-liners, much as Arnold Schwarzenegger is.

The one memorable line in the movie occurs when the Evil Li is transported to a prison planet on an alternative universe. As he arrives, he is attacked by a relentless horde of prisoners. "You will remember my name!" he shouts as he fights. "I am nobody's bitch!" Classic.

Jet Li currently has the best chance for an Asian to become fully accepted as a mainstream movie star. Overall, I believe that this is a large step backwards in that quest. Bruce Lee briefly pierced the genre 30 years ago. Jackie Chan has had mixed success, but he has been trying to gain acceptance for nearly 20 years, since *Cannonball Run 2* (1984). At this point in Jet Li's career, a series of flops could doom his American career and send him back to Asia permanently.

This unoriginal rip-off of *The Matrix* and *Timecop* is embarrassing for all parties involved. If you seek martial arts action, check out Li's earlier Chinese language classics, as mentioned above. Alternatively, you might want to see *Iron Monkey*, currently in theaters or on video (available at Chinese video stores).

My rating: 1 out of 5 stars (god-awful)

See it if: You're a teenage male and think that Steven Seagal and Jean Claude Van Damme are good actors.

Don't see it if: You expect plot in your movies, or you don't want to see Jet Li embarrass himself.

A Postcard "From Hell"

by Julian Asher

Why do we remain fascinated by Jack the Ripper? Even today, one of the most popular walking tours in London retraces the killer's steps, narrated by Britain's foremost Ripper expert. Perhaps it is because the Ripper case remains one of history's greatest unsolved murder mysteries — even now we remain uncertain as to whom the killer was, though a legion of Ripperologists have spun out a number of titillating possi-

decadent quality to him, heightened by his frequent forays to taste the pharmaceutical fruits of the underworld he is supposedly responsible for controlling.

Abberline is roused from his narcotic-induced stupor to investigate the first of the Ripper murders by a rather rough-edged but steadfastly loyal London police sergeant (Robbie Coltrane) whose frequent literary quotations are one of the highlights of the

From Hell doles out revelations and red herrings aplenty.

bilities. Was he an aristocrat, perhaps even a member of the royal family? A foreign seaman, perhaps even an American? Or, horror of horrors, a physician? The Ripper's *modus operandi*, which involved dissection, including the removal of organs, as well as throat-slashing, demonstrated significant knowledge of human anatomy, indicating that he was in all likelihood an educated man — the title "From Hell" comes from the note enclosed with one victim's left kidney. Or perhaps it is because there is some dreadful primal fascination with human monsters, with the notion that someone who looks just like the rest of us is capable of such horror.

From Hell, the latest cinematic incarnation of the Ripper legend, comes to us from the Hughes brothers, best known for *Menace II Society*. I have a particular interest in the film because I know Albert and Allen Hughes; they guest lectured for one of my college screenwriting seminars. Even back in the mid-'90s, they were interested in breaking out of the "black film ghetto" and making films which weren't about the 'hood, but had found that the same "street cred" which sold them as filmmakers in that genre didn't carry over to mainstream filmmaking. Indeed, many in the Hollywood establishment doubted that a pair of African-American filmmakers could make a credible movie about Victorian England, and the project was dropped in succession by a number of studios before being picked up by 20th Century Fox. They struggled with chronic budget constraints and a succession of potential leads who backed out at the last moment before Johnny Depp agreed to take on the role. The Hughes brothers no doubt feel vindicated today, as the finished product, based on the graphic novel by Allan Moore, is a dark, chilling, and uncommonly stylish thriller.

We first encounter Depp's Inspector Fred Abberline in a rather unlikely setting for a ranking officer of London's finest, as he chases the dragon at a Chinese opium den. Over the course of the film, Abberline will also call on the mind-altering effects of absinthe and laudanum to fuel his emerald-tinged visions, which some on the London police force believe are the source of his preternatural deductive abilities. In this respect he is in good company; that other famous English detective, Sherlock Holmes, owed at least some of his deductive genius to cocaine. Depp excels at playing haunted men, and Inspector Abberline is perhaps the most haunted yet; Abberline also has a

film. The sergeant is Abberline's link with reality, a touchstone in the here-and-now for a man whose visions often take him somewhere else. He's tough, pragmatic, and cynical, with a well-hidden romantic side and an even more well-hidden genuine liking for his eccentric superior officer.

This time Abberline's visions catapult him into the maelstrom of the Ripper's madness, on a quest which spans the slums of Whitechapel to the halls of Buckingham Palace, and touches on everything from protection rackets on the streets to a scandal involving the royal family. He's also drawn into the mysterious workings of the Freemasons, the secretive fraternity often associated with a shadowy behind-the-scenes power of unknown depth. What begins as a simple investigation leads him to uncover more than he ever wanted to know about the inner workings of the police force he serves and the society in which he lives. As he gets closer and closer to the truth, he encounters more and more resistance from unexpected quarters, including his own superiors.

When stonewalled by his superiors in his quest for medical advice on the killings, Abberline finds an ally in Sir William Gull (Ian Holm), a retired surgeon and medical school professor who is the only one to put credence in Abberline's theory that the methodical dissection of the victims indicates that the killer may be not a butcher or veterinarian, but an educated man — perhaps even a fellow physician. He too is an astute observer of human nature; his comment on "the surgeon's disability: want of feeling" will come to have particular meaning by the film's end. Sir William's aid proves invaluable, but he has an agenda of his own.

Abberline's investigation also causes him to become entangled with a group of the "unfortunate women" who work as prostitutes in the Whitechapel district, currently the targets of a brutal protection racket enforced by the sadistic members of a local street gang. They soon find themselves facing a much more significant threat in the form of the Ripper. Among them is Mary Kelly (Heather Graham), an Irish girl with flaming red hair who has appeared in one of Abberline's visions.

From Hell doles out revelations and red herrings aplenty, interspersed with Abberline's hallucinatory visions. Everything shown has a purpose, though it may take

continued on page 11

Health and Science ...

from page 1

Since the mutant PA is very similar to the wild-type PA in structure, it stands to reason that the mutant PA may elicit the same protective immune response as does the wild-type PA, meaning that the mutant PA can serve as a drug and a vaccine at once. Simultaneous vaccination and drug treatment is solid therapy in the face of acute infections, and perhaps should be implemented currently by those treating the victims of anthrax attacks, assuming that the vaccine is available.

While enthusiasm runs high for Collier's proposals, the hypothesis still remains to be tested. Nevertheless, it is encouraging to hear of potential advances against the storm.

Smallpox

When the WHO declared that smallpox had been eradicated in 1980, two remaining stocks of the virus were put into storage, one at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta, and one at the State Research Center of Virology and Biotechnology in Novosibirsk, Siberia. Owing to doubts concerning the integrity of Soviet scientists following the dissolution of the U.S.S.R., it is strongly suggested that the *variola* virus, which causes smallpox, may have fallen into the hands of unknown parties.

Finally acknowledging this threat in earnest (scientists warned of this possibility years ago), the U.S. government has begun to put some extra effort into stepping up production of the smallpox vaccine, a project that was begun in earnest earlier this year. The biotech companies Acambis (formerly OraVax) and DynPort have been on the assembly line for the vaccine for over a year, largely owing to efforts by Richard Clark, the bioterrorism czar under President Clinton. Clark wanted the vaccine to be provided for the Department of Health and Human Services in addition to the Department of Defense, which had been the only customer up to that point in recent history. After some shameless political roadblocks were removed (see "Vaccines for Biodefense", *Science* October 19), vaccine production was finally realized. Now the companies are planning to step up production in order to make tens of millions more doses than originally contracted. In addition, the government is considering encouraging the pharmaceutical industry to get into the vaccine business by asking the companies to make up to 300 million doses and make them available as unlicensed investigational new drugs.

Hopefully 'Big Pharm' can make a little sacrifice for the greater good. Even if the government has to break down and pay market prices instead, the extra production capacity would be gladly welcome.

New York ...

from page 7

ardently expresses a unity, an ideal, and a defiance of threat. Nearly every storefront displays one, many apartment buildings have large banner-flags hanging from windows, and any view of a parking lot is one of a sea of the colors of patriotism blowing from antennas. Doctors have pinned small flags to their white coats, lawyers have stitched them to their briefcases. When I rarely found a store without a flag, I tried to overcome feeling a little disturbed and the inclination to inquire why. This is not to say that the meaning of the flag is not still complex; but now, perhaps more than since its creation, the flag asserts the principles that provide for individual thought much more than acquiescence to the rules of the government.

I now fly this emblem of solidarity between all Americans, but particularly New Yorkers, proudly from my own car antenna.

Tears

Over a month after the terrorist attack, despite the undeniable fact that no one remains alive in the rubble, many signs which search for lost people freckle the cityscape of New York. None of the signs have been changed from "have you seen?" to "in memoriam" and this makes viewing them even more difficult. When I passed the first display I saw outside a pharmacy,

my eyes welled with tears and I quickly looked away and marched on. The next day, when I passed a fire station in the West Village with many more signs and candles and flowers strewn below the wall they were pasted on, my eyes did not well up and I stood for many minutes in front of the display willing myself, without success, to weep. How does one mourn the unfathomable? By nature of its incomprehensibility, one is left to grieve constantly and, at the same time, never.

Journalism

When you live in San Francisco, you think about the terrorist attack. When you live in New York, you think about and live it. When you are a journalist in New York you think, live, and dream it. My closest girlfriend from college reports for the New York Times. I had dinner with her last week in the city and I have never seen her more exhausted. Since September 11 she feels she has not had a conscious moment and rarely a subconscious one away from the attacks. Every story somehow relates to them. From reporting on patriotism in the polyglot neighborhoods of Queens and the Bronx, to assessing the numbers of people going to the Met this month, she cannot escape the topic. To process its content and emotional impact at night, when she can sleep, she dreams about it. Just as I worry about breathing in the NY air, I fear how much these events have been incorporated into ourselves. I tell her to take a vacation. I ask her to visit me in San Francisco, if just for a weekend in one still-mostly-whole city.

Terror ...

from page 3

leaving none for the rest of the country. The only practical way to either discourage the use of anthrax as a bioweapon or protect the population if used would be a safe, effective, easy to administer vaccine that provides lasting protection.

Unfortunately, the current anthrax vaccine does not fit the bill.

The vaccine as it exists currently requires six doses, plus yearly boosters; results in substantial side-effects; is virtually nonexistent for use outside the military; and is not even being produced right now. This glaring inadequacy comes despite literally decades of knowledge that anthrax could be readily developed as a bioweapon (and the fact that the United States was actually likewise developing it until the cessation of our offensive biological weapons program). It is appalling that our government has known about this threat for so long, yet done so little to prepare in the event that someone actually decided to use anthrax against us.

The current situation now demands and immediate and vigorous response in terms of our national preparedness. Front and center in that response must be a better plan to deal with biological threats. A safe, effective, and available anthrax vaccine must be developed now. In conjunction, the government must aggressively pursue the development of therapies which stymie the progression of anthrax disease during later

ation vaccines against anthrax are already being developed, but they must be accelerated. Likewise, peptide inhibitors that block the action of anthrax's lethal toxins have already been identified. Clearly these biological threats can be neutralized. However, it will take a more concerted effort than the government has thus far demonstrated.

During World War II, the entire American economy mobilized for the war effort. Manufacturers began making weaponry; raw materials were rationed; the Manhattan Project was convened. In short, after the wake-up call of Pearl Harbor, the government gave its full attention to the war effort, and to defending America and its allies.

During this war on terrorism, the government and the American people must similarly respond—not necessarily by churning out tanks by the dozen, but by dedicating the resources required to keep America safe. So far, the government has been remarkably reactive, rather than proactive, in its response to the events of September 11. Planes are hijacked, so airport security is tightened, even as terrorists plot other mayhem that likely does not involve commercial jetliners. Someone sends anthrax through the mail so the postal service considers irradiation. These and other measures make much sense, but they are responses to what has already taken place, rather than what is to come. It will undoubtedly require an enormous marshalling of resources to foresee the plans of terrorists and defend against as many of these plans as possible. However, America rose to the occasion in World War II, and

A safe, effective, and available anthrax vaccine must be developed now.

stages, when antibiotics are ineffective. Likewise, the government must push therapies for other likely biological agents, such as smallpox, botulinum toxin, Q fever, tularemia, etc., to the forefront. And the government must assure that there is an adequate supply of simple pharmaceuticals, including antibiotics, to cover all worst-case scenarios. Are these challenges daunting? Absolutely. Are they insurmountable? Absolutely not. As an example, next gener-

so can rise to the occasion again. But the first step must be the acknowledgment that what we are facing is no trivial harassment, but a profound threat to our national security. Losing six thousand lives because we were caught off guard by terrorists is unacceptable. Losing more lives because we fail to respond appropriately would be unforgivable.

From Hell ...

from page 10

more than one viewing to determine the nuances of every scene. The audience is kept guessing until the very end, and the Ripper's final fate is nothing short of poetic justice.

The Hughes brothers also show an uncommon sensitivity to something many American writers and directors miss: what race is to America, class is to England. The fine gradations of class and sensitivity to it are reflected in the subtle differences between Depp's soft, low-key Cockney accent and the broader accents of the sergeant, the street gang members, and the prostitutes, and in the characterization of Abberline as "a man of the lower classes with a certain crude but effective cunning" at a meeting of the Masonic lodge. He is one long step up from those below, but an equally long step below his plummily accented superiors. Class also guides the assumption made by his superiors that the killer must be someone from the lower classes — or a Gypsy, Jew, or foreigner — and their stubborn refusal to contemplate that he might instead be one of their own.

From Hell shows a fascination with the medical arts, from the use of lobotomy via skull-piercing to treat "intractable mental illness" to the many frames spent dwelling upon the gleaming steel surgical instruments cradled in the red velvet interior of the Ripper's case. The "elephant man," John Merrick, appears as a medical curiosity at a hospital fund-raiser. (Merrick, long believed to have suffered from an unusually severe case of neurofibromatosis, is now believed per an NIH study completed in the 1990s to have suffered from proteus syndrome, a much rarer disorder which causes an overgrowth of bone and tissue.)

One of the challenges of making a film about some of the goriest murders in history is the gore quotient: how much to show? While little is seen of the killings themselves, both they and their aftermath are shown in increasing detail as the film progresses. While intense, gore is used very effectively and is never gratuitous. However, while the exposures are brief they may still be too much for the faint of stomach.

For the rest of us, a brief journey to the Hughes brothers' London makes for a haunting two hours. Halloween may have come and gone, but this film, like its subject, has an appeal beyond that of a particular time and place. Rated R.

vision correction

for nearsightedness, farsightedness & astigmatism

UCSF Vision Correction Center surgeons are ranked among the nation's best*, and provide personalized treatment and follow-up care using the most advanced surgical techniques, including LASIK, PRK, and Intacs™. Courtesy rates are available for faculty, staff and students of the University of California, San Francisco.

Call (415) 476-2561 today for a free brochure, or to reserve a place at an upcoming seminar.



Free Seminars (6 pm - 7 pm)

(415) 476-2561
www.ucsflaser.com

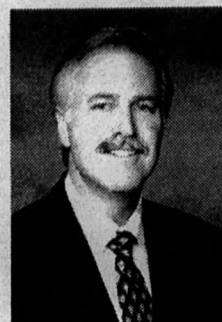
UCSF Vision Correction Center
UCSF Medical Center

* America's Best Doctors, 1998-1999 edition, San Francisco Magazine, "Bay Area's Best Doctor's List", April 1999 issue



LOTUS
CONTEMPORARY CAL-ASIAN CUISINE

1355 NORIEGA ST @ 21ST AVE., SF (415) 661-0303
WWW.LOTUSSF.COM OPEN TUES-SUN 5:30-CLOSE



John K. Beeson, CFP, MBA
Fee-Only Financial Planner

- Former UCSF Director of Financial Planning and Benefits.
- Consultations at UCSF and Petaluma office
- Specific and objective investment recommendations
- Expertise in UC retirement and benefit programs

707.762.1902 jkbeeson@home.com
www.acadfinancialplans.com

Great Highway Inn



- Ocean views
- Public transportation nearby, with easy access to Pac Bell Park
- Shuttle Service to UCSF Medical Center
- Free Parking for Patrons

415-731-6644 * Fax 415-731-5309
Toll Free 1 - (800) 624 - 6644
www.greathwy.com

Laddas Thai Dinner House
Seaview Coffee Shop

Adjacent to Great Highway Inn
Room Service Available
1234 Great Highway, SF

Food - To - Go / Free Delivery
with minimum purchase

Phone: (415) 665 - 0185



Featuring naturally-raised, chemical/hormone free, organic-grain-fed meat products from Nieman Ranch and free-range turkey from Diestel Farms. Organically grown beans and corn from Sun Ridge Farms.

Premium-quality Cal-Mex foods made fresh daily.

BURRITOS, TACOS, TOSTADAS, TAMALES AND MORE

STUDENTS' SPECIAL

any day after 2 p.m.
Basic Bean & Rice Burrito
with a Large Fountain Soda
\$4.00 including sales tax
regular price \$5.57

LOCATED IN MILLBERRY PLAZA • 500 PARNASSUS AVENUE

Balboa Dental Care

- We welcome UCSF staff and students
- Preferred provider for Delta Dental
- Saturday, evening appointments available
- Free exam & X-rays for students
- Teeth whitening special \$189, cleaning \$49

Douglas Lee, DDS
3544 Balboa Street (cross street 37th Ave.)
Call for appt.: (415) 387-8810

Histology Slides for Research



- ♦ Full service tissue processing
- ♦ Slide preparation and interpretation
- ♦ Frozen Sections
- ♦ Routine and Special Stains
- ♦ Immunohistochemistry Stains
- ♦ Professional Consultation


BIOPATHOLOGY SCIENCES MEDICAL CORPORATION

393 East Grand Avenue, Suite 1
South San Francisco, CA 94080
Phone 650-589-7410
FAX 650-589-7550

QUALITY

CONVENIENCE

PRICE



NOKIA
CONNECTING PEOPLE
3390

Downloadable & programmable ringtones

Changeable color covers

\$1999*
With Activation

Rate plans starting at \$19.99 per month - just one of many choices to fit your life.

\$19.99 plan includes

- 50 anytime minutes
- unlimited nights
- unlimited weekends

cingular™
WIRELESS

What do you have to say?
1-866-CINGULAR

For jobs that rock, visit us at www.cingular.com

It's your life, choose accordingly.

Cingular Wireless Stores

SAN FRANCISCO
101 California St., (415) 743-3180
MOBILE SYSTEMS WIRELESS
SAN FRANCISCO 3251 20th Ave.
(415) 504-9800



SAN FRANCISCO 15 Kearny St.
(415) 248-1040
2300 Lombard St., (415) 474-8211
1549 Sloat Blvd., Ste. B
(415) 682-2300

PCS SmartMart

SAN FRANCISCO
311 California St. #620
(415) 362-7900
658 Clement St., (415) 750-4300
520 N. Columbus Ave.
(415) 955-8500
425 Market St., (415) 495-2220
2258 Market St., (415) 437-1600
2812 Mission St., (415) 695-7077
244 W Portal Ave., (415) 682-2500
2102 Union St., (415) 931-4300

Authorized Dealers



Shop by phone for delivery,
call 1-866-CINGULAR.

Phone price and offer
may vary by location.

Service offer available to
new and existing customers.

Limited time offer. Credit approval and activation of service on 1- or 2-year contract for eligible Cingular calling plans required. *Promotional phone offer requires a two-year agreement. Phone models subject to availability. Offer cannot be combined with any other special offers. \$150 early termination fee and \$36 activation fee apply. Weeknight hours are 9PM to 6:59AM, and weekend hours are 12:01AM Saturday to 11:59PM Sunday. Long distance charges apply unless you have also chosen the long distance option. Nationwide Long Distance applies to calls originating from our CA/NV/WA/ID network and terminating in the U.S. Airtime charges apply. Anytime minutes are available on the Cingular CA/NV/WA/ID network. Calls subject to taxes, long distance, roaming, universal service fee or other charges. Package minutes and unlimited night and weekend minutes apply to calls made or received within CA/NV/WA/ID network. Airtime in excess of any package minutes will be charged at a per minute rate of \$.15 to \$.50. Digital phone and Cingular Wireless long distance are required. Airtime and other measured usage are rounded up to the next full minute at the end of each call for billing purposes. Unused package minutes do not carry forward to the next billing period and are forfeited. Optional features may be cancelled after initial term of the service contract. Other conditions and restrictions apply. See contract and store for details. ©2001 Nokia Inc. Nokia, Connecting People and the 3300 series phones are trademarks of Nokia Corporation and/or its affiliates. Cingular Wireless, "What do you have to say?" and the graphic icon are Service Marks of Cingular Wireless LLC. ©2001 Cingular Wireless LLC. All rights reserved.

