

PRIDE_{POST}

Volume II, Issue 5

March 2006

Upcoming Events

- April 13—Annual Pride and Excellence Scholarship Dinner 6-9pm, Kellogg West
- June 1—Lavender Graduation Celebration, BSC-Ursa Major, 6-8pm
- Lavender Graduation Applications are due by May 12, Applications available at the Pride Center, Rm. 26-107
- Scholarship applications are due by March 22

Meetings & Gatherings

QSAFE Meetings
Tu 12-1pm @ Pride Center

Lavender Grad Planning
Committee Meetings
Thu 12-1pm @ Pride Center

Women's Rap Group
Thursdays 6:30pm @ Pride
Center

Co-ed Rap Group
Tuesdays 5:30pm @ Pride
Center

Pride Student of the Month



Chris Ramos, Second Year

Food Marketing and Agribusiness Management major

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U.S. Votes Against LGBT Orgs in U.N.

By Kori Bennett

On Monday, February 1st, the United States supported an initiative to refuse the United Nations consultative status to GLBTIA rights-protecting organizations (www.hrw.org). According to the Advocate, the United States, along with Egypt, Cameroon, China, Zimbabwe, and Iran, voted against the admittance of the International Lesbian and Gay Association (ILGA) and the Danish Association of Gays and Lesbians both of which had applied for positions on the Economic and Social Council in May of 2005.

The Council, according to the United Nations' website, "serves as the central forum for dis-

cussing international economic and social issues, and for formulating policy recommendations addressed to Member States and the United Nations system." Additionally the Council claims responsibility for "promoting higher standards of living, full employment, and economic and social progress; identifying solutions to international economic, social and health problems; facilitating international cultural and educational cooperation; and encouraging universal respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms."

Many constituents who feel that the queer community is both underrepresented within

the U.N. and desperately in need of its advocacy and protection against worldwide discrimination and hate crimes consider the United States' recent decisions to be incompatible with the Council's "human rights"-oriented intentions. Scott Long, director of the LGBT rights program at Human Rights Watch, expressed his surprised reaction towards the Bush administration's choice to join what he termed "a coalition of the homophobic." While United Nations' officials and the members of the Bush administration have clashed on several occasions throughout the past few years, events such as those taking place recently may serve as reminders highlighting

LGBT Films Goes Mainstream

By Chester Lagmay

With groundbreaking feature films like *Brokeback Mountain* and *TransAmerica* receiving so much public attention, it is easy to assume that there will be a new wave of LGBT related films breaking onto the

big screen. These are a few upcoming highlights of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender films to come.

Imagine Me and You: Now in theaters. a story about a girl

who falls in love on her wedding day. Rachel, played by Piper Perabo, is a young blushing bride who catches the eye of an unexpected guest, Luce played by Lena Headey, at the church. She

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**United Nations
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the important role of the U.S. federal government in the U.N.'s decision making processes.

This development, along with a number of other longstanding issues relating to marriage and adoption reinforces the ever-present doubt that the Bush Administration will move towards a model of inclusion and equality for the LGBT community. We must address these issues from a local and global perspective if we are to make significant progress. Inform yourself so that you can make a difference!

Reserve your seat NOW!

***Pride and Excellence
Scholarship Dinner***

Thursday, April 13th, 2006

6:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.

At Kellogg West

\$40 for staff/faculty & \$28 for student sponsorships

(All proceeds benefit student scholarships)

**LGBT Films
cont'd**

quickly realizes that the man she is about to marry might not be the one for her, but of course they'll never know unless they give it a shot.

Coming Out: Currently in production. Catherine Zeta-Jones and out actor Alan Cumming both star in this movie about a gay cabaret performer. Cummings is left with the burden to lead a struggling Welsh rugby team to victory after his father, who coached the team, passes away.

The Dreyfuss Affair: Currently being negotiated. Peter Lefcourt's best selling 1992 novel may

make it to the silver screen. The story is about Randy Dreyfus, a handsome shortstop for the Los Angeles Valley Vikings, who is married with children to his high school sweetheart. It comes quite a shock to Randy when he realizes he is attracted to, and then falls in love with his second basemen.

Capote: This film tells the story of how Truman Capote, played by Phillip Seymour Hoffman, was inspired to write his 1966 book "In Cold Blood," which is based on the 1959 murders of a rural Kansas family. Much of the movie focuses on the development of a strange relationship between Capote and one of the murderers.

Rent: Recently released on Video/DVD. The hit Broadway musical recently hit the silver screen, and though it coasted through theaters with meager box-office sales it does touch upon several issues of living with AIDS/HIV. A good portion of the characters is played by the original Broadway cast, and though it has been slightly adapted from the original musical, it still is a favorite among its cult-like following.

As you can see, a good number of movie-watching possibilities are available, or soon to be available. Keep a look out for these upcoming titles, and support LGBT visibility!

Term of the Month: Gender Binary

The idea that there are only two genders—male/female or man/woman—and that a person must be strictly gendered as either/or. As many sociologists have stated, gender is a socially constructed system that determines how a person should behave due to his/her biological sex. There is very little room for deviance in a gender binary system, and anyone who does not fit into a category is considered an "other."

The LGBT community is living proof that there are more than two genders present in the world today, and it is this very strict and unforgiving ideology that many activists, especially from the transgender community, are protesting. Biological sex should not determine who you are allowed to love, how you should behave, or how you should identify.

**Pride Student Of The Month
cont'd**

Chris Ramos states, "The pride center is important because it provides a safe environment for LGBT students to spend time and not worry about being discriminated on the basis their sexual orientation."

After Graduating, Ramos plans to open up his own specialty food store. His favorite book is "The Girl Who Owned a City" and his favorite class at Cal Poly Pomona has been FMA 330.