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FREE

CSUH Theater Festival Thrills, Challenges Participants



CSUH's Own: The cast of the Cal State Hayward production of "Ubu Roi" included (from left) Joseph Midyett, Brandon Harrington and Tonya Glanz.

Photo/Svetlana Dubenko

By Svetlana Dubenko
Staff Writer

Cal State Hayward transformed into a theater boot camp as more than 1,300 students from colleges and universities all over the West attended the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival (ACTCF).

ACTCF and Region 8 Director Tom Hird, chair of the CSUH Theater Arts Department, invited students to the annual competition last month to watch performances and to participate in various competitions and scholarship auditions.

During the festival dozens of students milled around campus with white badges hanging from their necks, identifying them as festival participants. Inside the theater these same students decorated the stage with items ranging from soiled diapers to hair salon dryer chairs to sex toys. Each item was used during a drama production.

Cal State Hayward's production, "Ubu Roi" by Alfred Jarry, a shocking parody of Shakespeare's Macbeth, was very loosely translated by the cast and crew. Although the objective for the play's main character, Pa Ubu, is to usurp the throne of Poland, the crowd is distracted from any story line by the outrageous characters who visit the stage.

With Ma Ubu's stuffed bra, Pa Ubu's visible privates and Captain MacNure's (pronounced manure) no-seat chaps, the costume design proved quite provocative. Throughout the "historical" play, characters broke into contemporary song, including musical quips from "The Phantom of the Opera" and "Finian's Rainbow," and performed a brash, five-minute choreographed flatulence session. They borrowed dance moves from N-SYNC

and wove in and out of the audience, seemingly at random.

When the actors stepped out of character and called each other by their real first names, the audience tried to figure out if the wise cracks were premeditated or if the cast had really broken out of character. The audience witnessed harsh dialogue, including Pa Ubu's demand to Ma Ubu, "Shut your gum, you clownish female."

The end of Act I requested audience participation for a battle scene fought outdoors. As the entire audience stood in the courtyard outside the Studio Theater to watch volunteers hurl grapes at one another, Ma Ubu drank herself to oblivion and Pa Ubu and Captain MacNure played chase and mimicked dinosaurs from Jurassic Park.

"It was utterly hilarious," said Matt Anderson, a CSUH business major. "It's not your average play. How many other shows get their audience involved to this extent?"

The theater program at CSU San Bernardino brought its invited show, "Resa Fantastiskt Mystisk" to ACTCF. Described as a stunt show, the real story lay not in the play performed on stage but in the commentary made by the directors in the control room above the theater stage.

The "Resa" audience wore headsets that enabled them to hear the conversations that took place away from the cast. Staged interaction between the players on stage and the managers and directors in the control room overwhelmed listeners with simultaneous dialogue.

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CSU, CFA Give Details Of Tentative Bargaining Agreement

By Sareth Dy
Staff Writer

The California State University System and the California Faculty Association have agreed on terms for a tentative, three-year agreement after nearly a year of bargaining.

"We are very pleased to have reached an agreement that is mutually

acceptable and continues to provide competitive salary increases and benefits for faculty as well as part-time lecturers," said Chancellor Charles B. Reed. "The trustees and the administration very much wanted to compensate faculty for the outstanding work they do in providing high-quality education to CSU students."

The tentative agreement came after a three-day fact finding hearing, completed in mid-February, and continued negotiations after that date that concluded in the early morning hours of March 2.

If the agreement is ratified by the CFA membership, it will be presented to the CSU Board of Trustees for

approval in May.

A statement released by Susan Meisenhelder, president of the California Faculty Association, acknowledged that the contract by the California State University administration and CFA reflected an important turnaround after months of bargaining.

"It is a historical milestone for CFA

in our representation of instructional faculty, librarians, counselors and coaches at the world largest institution of higher education," said Meisenhelder. "It is a victory for all Californians who are concerned about maintaining the quality and accessibility of the CSU."

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CSUH Officials Uncertain About Budget Impact; No Definite Plans Formed at This Time

By Zachary T. Honeycutt
Staff Writer

In the face of a state budget deficit that could total \$12 billion, Cal State Hayward officials remain wary and uncertain about possible university budget cuts.

Although in January Gov. Gray Davis proposed a 4.5 percent increase in the CSU budget for the 2002-03, university officials, including those at Cal State Hayward, are planning for the worst.

Kris Erway, Cal State Hayward budget officer, said CSUH faces cuts this fiscal year and next.

"The precise amounts of the cuts are not yet known," he said.

CSUH President Norma Rees stopped short of guaranteeing cuts in staff. She said that while officials would prefer not to cut staff in any areas, it is a likely possibility.

"Most of the money is in the people," said Rees. "We do everything we can to

avoid impacting employees, but more than 80 percent of our budget is in salaries and benefits," said Erway.

However, she emphasized that nothing concrete was being planned regarding staff cuts or any other budget-related issue, due to the uncertainty surrounding the California state budget.

"We don't have any plans on the table," said Rees.

Chancellor Charles B. Reed also has

recognized the possibility of an increase in student fees.

Rees, citing the fact that student fees have been reduced over the past few years, also said that a raise in student fees would not be a surprise, although not enough was known to bring about such a measure. Erway agreed an increase in student fees is a

possibility. "Without knowing the magnitude of the effect on our budget, it's difficult to predict impacts," said Erway. "An increase in fees is a possibility, but we don't know if it's a probability."

The university president said that

See Budget, page 3.

'No Room For Racism' Taken to Congress

By Kiely Sexton
Staff Writer

Rep. Pete Stark has taken Hayward's "No Room for Racism" policy to a national level.

The signs have been seen all around the city of Hayward, in storefront windows, at churches and more recently on the campus of Cal State Hayward.

In March, Black History Month, Stark addressed the House, urging adoption of a resolution in support of the campaign.

Bringing the "No Room for Racism" campaign to the national arena was brought about in part by the events of Sept. 11.

"During this time of heightened

tension, we must be particularly vigilant to protect the rights of all Americans, regardless of race or creed," said Stark, in his address to Congress. "I applaud my constituents in Hayward, California, for their campaign against racism and I am pleased to introduce this resolution on their behalf."

Over the past two decades Congress has passed various resolutions condemning discrimination. However, Stark believes his resolution was distinctive.

"This isn't Congress doing it, this is Hayward, California, doing it," said Stark.

Demos Democratic Club of Hayward members Jim Forsyth and Mike Kessler created the 12-year-old campaign. More recently the campaign has found a newer role in the face of the war on terrorism.

"Since the horrific attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, our country has come together in remarkable ways," said Stark. "Citizens across the nation have donated blood, volunteered time, and contributed money to help those who were victimized by the ruthless attacks. During this difficult time, America's true colors have been displayed to the world."

"Unfortunately, despite this unity, some of our citizens have misplaced their anger at the terrorists by discriminating against their fellow Americans."

"Discrimination against anyone in America is simply not consistent with our heritage or our laws. In order to combat discrimination, all Americans must work for tolerance and social justice."

Career Center Staff Member Says Grads Have Room for Optimism

By Kiely Sexton
Staff Writer

The economy and job market are not as grave for graduating seniors as once thought.

Spring graduation filing deadlines passed last week. With this came a sense of concern among seniors who will be entering the job market soon.

Before Sept. 11, the economy was fragile and the terrorist attacks seemed to push it over the edge. The Bay Area has seen the devastating effects of the lackluster economy.

However, things may be looking up. College graduates still have a plethora of possibilities available to them, according to Joanne Daniels of Cal State Hayward's Career Development Center. "It is a positive picture," Daniels said. "There is still a good volume of opportunities."

Daniels did add that employers were looking for a more targeted audience and the end of the dot com boom had slightly weakened the once thriving job market.

The CDC will hold its annual Career Expo on April 10.

Daniels has indicated that the number of employers attending will be about the same in past years. This is good news to those who will be looking for a job come spring.

In addition to job placement after graduation, a number of college undergraduates are turning to graduate school. Rather than face a tough fight for a job, many will be taking advantage of the sluggish economy by furthering their own education.

Grad school application are up from 80 to 100 percent at some institutions, according to a report by the New York Times.

Services Scheduled For Former CSUH Employee, Student

CSUH News Services

A memorial service will be held for former Cal State Hayward employee and student Raymond Burton at 2 p.m. today at C. P. Bannon Mortuary, 6800 International Blvd., Oakland.

Mr. Burton had worked for two years as a night and weekend supervisor in the Student Technology Service Center,

training students and overseeing database management. As a computer science major, he had been a student assistant in that department in 1996-97 while living at Pioneer Heights.

Notes of condolence may be sent to his grandparents, Robert and Mildred Pigg, 2915 Delaware St., Oakland, CA 94602.

Make Over For Library



Grand Re-Opening: The facilities across from the library have been closed since Winter 2000. Fire repairs and retrofit are expected to be completed by 2003.

Photo/Heidi Welch