



What do you mean the chemistry is right!? New chem professor Dr. Jane Raymond discusses Chem 3 with a student. Photo-Joe DiGiorgio

Kurosawa's Seven Samurai

By Mike Kurilla

This week, Cinematech is offering Akira Kurosawa's massive epic *Seven Samurai*. To fully appreciate this film, some background into Japanese cinema is required, as the basic attitudes and themes going into these films is many times foreign to the Western viewer. Japan has a set of native aesthetics that are firmly built on tradition. This coupled with foreign film styles and techniques gives a texture to Japanese films that is not found in too many other countries. One obvious example is the continued use of black and white long after color had come into vogue. Its use goes back to early art forms that maintained that allusion was more effective than explicitness.

Japanese art is influenced by a sense of anti-realism, realism being reserved for the imitation of appearances. The purpose of the art form is to "create a special order of heightened experience." Film as an art form is well suited for this purpose. The camera's eye is very literal, while the use of editing and special effects can break that unity and order, to be put back together in another order, more effective than reality. It is interesting to note that most Western directors began in the theater, many of the Japanese directors had their beginnings as painters. This has a direct influence on their films in that they begin with expressive images and their frames tend to be highly involved combinations of placement and movement.

One rather confusing aspect of the Japanese cinema is that it calls heavily on history to provide a background for much of the settings and themes of the films. To most Western observers, Japanese history may seem very bland as to definite periods; however, the history can be segmented into definite eras that are easy to grasp. The setting of *Seven Samurai* is at the end of the 16th century, near the end of the "age of the country at war." This was a bloody time for Japan, an era that saw only 16 years of peace in three centuries. The land was overrun with feudal lords whose lifetime goals were to rule all of Japan. This left the country in a type of free-for-all civil war. It was also during this

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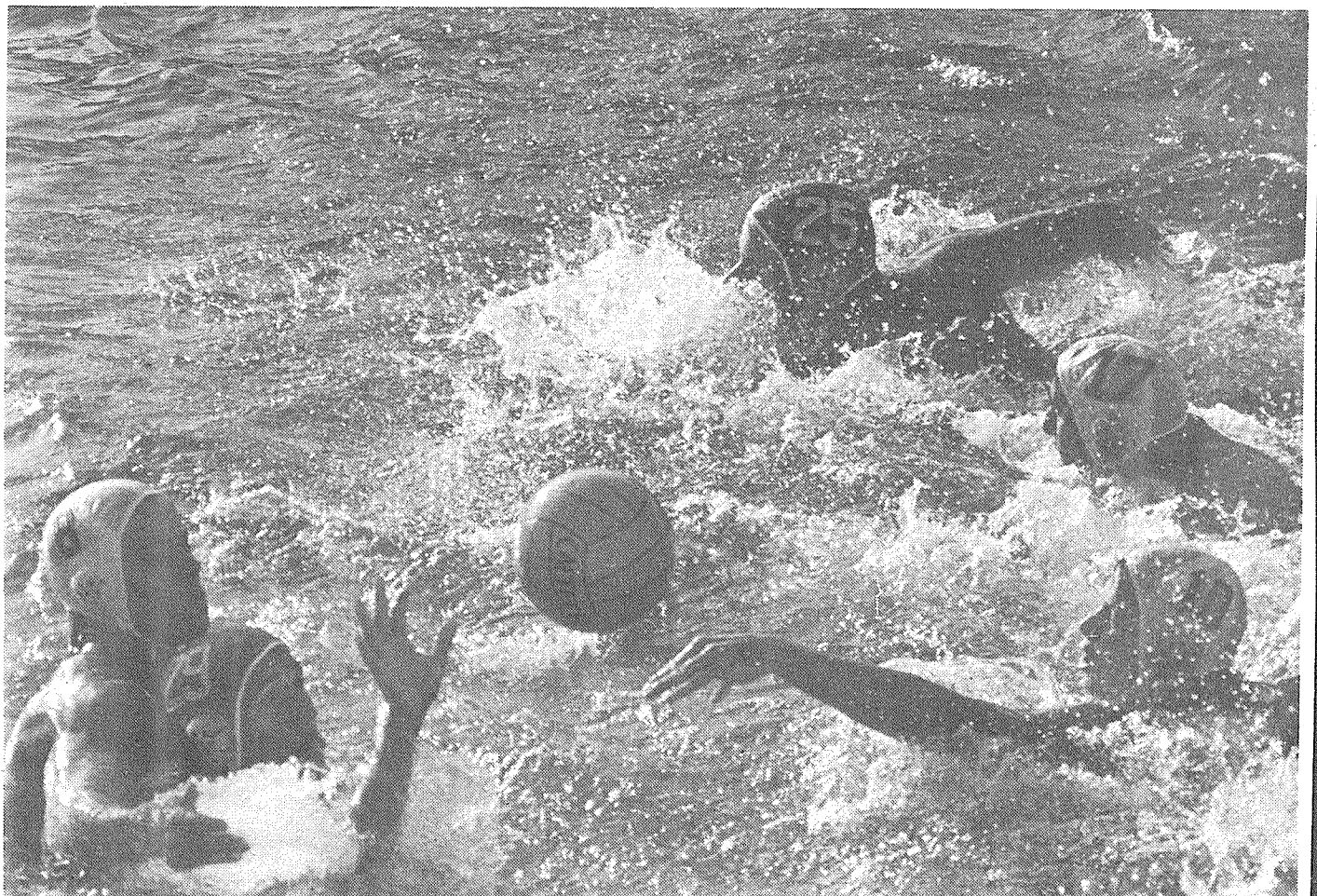
Maxon Gives Nose for Water Polo Team Again

By Ed Bielecki

Water polo's been busy lately with one game on Friday and a three game tournament on Saturday. The Friday afternoon game against UC Riverside was a 13 to 8 loss, with the team hampered by some questionable referee's calls, and by a run of bad passes that went to foes almost as much as to friends. In the first game of the tourney, against Redlands, the team still wasn't quite able to pull everything together, and so went down 4 to 2 in a game that they should have won. Next doing battle with San Bernadino, the tournament's host, and a good water polo school, they lost again 14 to 5, but still felt encouraged by the way the team was starting to work together and in general felt it was a good game. The questionable calls on Friday were as nothing to those on Saturday, and by the third game against LA Harbor the team had incurred the referee's wrath. Despite this added handicap, the team won 9 to 7. The victory was made sweeter by the fact that LA Harbor had easily beaten Redlands earlier in the tournament.

In all, the tournament afforded the team a chance to polish its game as well as give the new team members experience. The team's fitness will face a severe test this Wednesday when they go against Oxy, one of the real power-houses in the league.

Lloyd Maxon suffered a rebroken nose during the tournament from an over-enthusiastic kick by an opponent, but will, most likely, be back in the water for the Oxy game. Come by at 4 o'clock and cheer him on.



Beavers on the move during recent water polo action. The team has met with some recent success.

Photo-Ed Bielecki



Commentary

Bakke Is Wrong

By Kent Daniel

The Supreme Court of the United States has now heard the arguments for the case of Bakke vs. University of California. The minority admission programs that have become so much a part of every college admissions program are now being tested in one of the most controversial cases of the decade.

Bakke claims that he was discriminated against in his attempt to matriculate at the University of California at Davis Medical School. He feels that without the admissions quotas for minorities, he would now be enrolled in the medical school. He seems not to realize that those with high scores and high GPAs do not necessarily make the best students. The admissions committee at Davis realizes this, but Bakke does not. Nine medical schools other than Davis also rejected Bakke, but he does not question his belief that he would have been accepted but for the sixteen places reserved for minorities. He fails to see that there are considerations other than academic taken into consideration when selecting students and he may very well have been lacking in these other areas.

Despite the fact that Bakke's case is fallacious, there still remain the questions about minority quotas on a more general level. Are these special programs discriminatory against whites? Do they violate the fourteenth amendment?

Some argue that minority members with virtually no qualifications are allowed to enter medical school while non-minority members with impeccable credentials are turned down. This is not the case. Even for minorities an acceptance letter from a medical school is a rare thing. Only ten percent of the minority students applying to

the UCD medical school are accepted. Although this is somewhat better than for non-minority students, it is not as though they are accepting every minority member who applies. Rather, only those who are extremely well-qualified are accepted. Although the minority GPA and test score averages are somewhat lower, these people are by no means unqualified.

Despite all of this, some claim that the fourteenth amendment is being violated. It is easier for minority members to get into medical school, therefore the special programs are discriminatory as they give minorities an advantage.

These people are forgetting the short amount of time that has passed since Brown vs. The Board was decided by the Supreme Court. It has been less than 25-years since the Supreme Court ruled segregation illegal. Many people currently applying to medical school once attended a segregated school, one that the Supreme Court decreed was not on the same level as the white schools. The people who once attended these schools have obviously not had the same chance as those who attended white schools. They have not had the same educational advantages because of their color.

At sometime in the future, special admissions programs will have to be taken out of service. But that time is not here yet. Only when all have had equal chance up to the point of applying to these schools can these programs be rescinded. At this time, Johnson's allegory that you can not release a man who has been chained for hundreds of years, put him in a foot-race and expect him to be anywhere near the finish still holds true. This man still needs a head start. This is what the special programs give him.

KUROSAWA

Continued from One

time that the ideals of killing and dying for glory emerged. In short, it was a dangerous time to live in Japan and throughout the film, the fear and anxiety of the people involved is very evident.

The director, Akira Kurosawa, is sometimes described as the most Western of the Japanese directors. However, both his values and technique are definitely Japanese. His Westernness is due to his choice of themes which are usually universal. Many of his films were later remade by Hollywood into popular westerns. The American version of *Seven Samurai* was called *The Magnificent Seven*, with gun-fighters taking the place of samurai and pistols being used instead of the sword. The story is unchanged. Besides historical dramas with lots of action, he has made many medical stories and crime thrillers. Kurosawa's interests lie in examining people on the verge of a decision between painful growth or passive retreat. His use of imagery and excitement to set the pace, and his timing and editing abilities all blend to create very powerful films.

Seven Samurai is concerned with a small village that is being attacked by bandits. The peasants hire a group of samurai to protect them. There is a natural hostility between the peasants and the samurai that must be overcome. During the film, Kurosawa zeros in on each of the samurai, until the audience begins to personally feel each death as the loss of a friend. Tishiro Mifune, a superstar of the Japanese cinema, plays the part of a peasant turned samurai with comical effects that allow him to be on both sides of life styles. The confrontations with the bandits take place in a series of small scale battles that keep the excitement high. The final battle takes place during a driving rainstorm and is heightened with the use of telephoto cinematography.

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Calendar

The Integrated Circuit Revolution is Only Half Over, Beckman Auditorium, Caltech (793-7043). Dr. Ivan E. Sutherland professor of computer science will speak on current and future IC technology. Part of the Earnest C. Watson Caltech Lecture Series. Wednesday, October 19 at 8 pm.

Phillipe Entremont, Pianist, Beckman Auditorium, Caltech (793-7043). Program includes: Partita No. 1 in B-flat major by Bach; Sonata No. 15 in D major, op. 28 by Beethoven; Nocturne No. 8 in D-flat major by Chopin; Scherzo No. 1 in F-flat major by Chopin; Sonatine and Gaspard de la Nuit both by Ravel. Friday, October 21 at 8 pm.

Electra, Ramo Auditorium, Caltech (793-7043). Spectrum Production No. 15—*Electra* by Sophocles. Plays Fridays and Saturday from October 21 through November 5 at 8 pm.

Pasadena Area

Woody Guthrie, Thorne Hall, Occidental College, 1600 Campus Road Eagle Rock (259-2737). Songwriter-poet Woody Guthrie portrayed in a one-man show by Tom Taylor. Today only at 8:15 pm.

Van Cliburn Competition Winner, Ambassador College Auditorium 300 West Green Street, Pasadena (577-5515). Winner of the fifth Van Cliburn International Quadrennial Piano Competition will make his or her first appearance after winning the competition at Ambassador on Saturday, October 15 at 8:30 pm.

Greater L.A.

By-Line: Ernie Pyle, Royce Hall, UCLA, Los Angeles (825-2953). William Windom brings back to life Ernie Pyle, depression era and wartime journalist famous for some of his "just plain folks" human interest stories about young servicemen. Tuesday, October 18 at 8:30 pm.

California Chamber Symphony, Royce Hall, UCLA, Los Angeles (658-8944). Ruggiero Ricci will give the Los Angeles premiere of a violin concerto by Eugene Ysaye in his first appearance with Henri Temianka and the California Chamber Symphony on Sunday evening, October 16. Ricci will also perform a concerto by Fritz Kreisler and Paganini's *Moto Perpetuo*. The Symphony will be featured in a Vivaldi Concerto for Strings, the Pachelbel Canon in D, and Mozart's Symphony in A.

Chapter Two, Ahmanson Theatre, 135 North Grand Avenue, Los Angeles (972-7211). A romantic comedy that portrays the second chapter in the life of a widower and a divorcee. Opens today and will continue through November 26.

Chorus Line, Schubert Theatre, 2020 Avenue of the Stars, Century City (553-9000).

Purse Strings, La Mama Theatre, 1276 North Van Ness Avenue in Hollywood (995-0248). Presented by the Public Works Improvisational Theatre Company. A comedy dealing with the confusion of today's society in dealing with money, power, self-esteem and love. Sunday and Monday evenings at 8:30.

Half a Deck, Coronet Studio Three, 368 North La Cienega Boulevard (273-7275). Runs indefinitely Friday and Saturday Evenings at 8:30.



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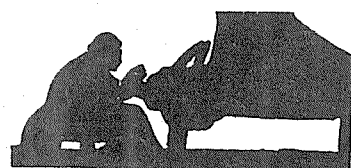
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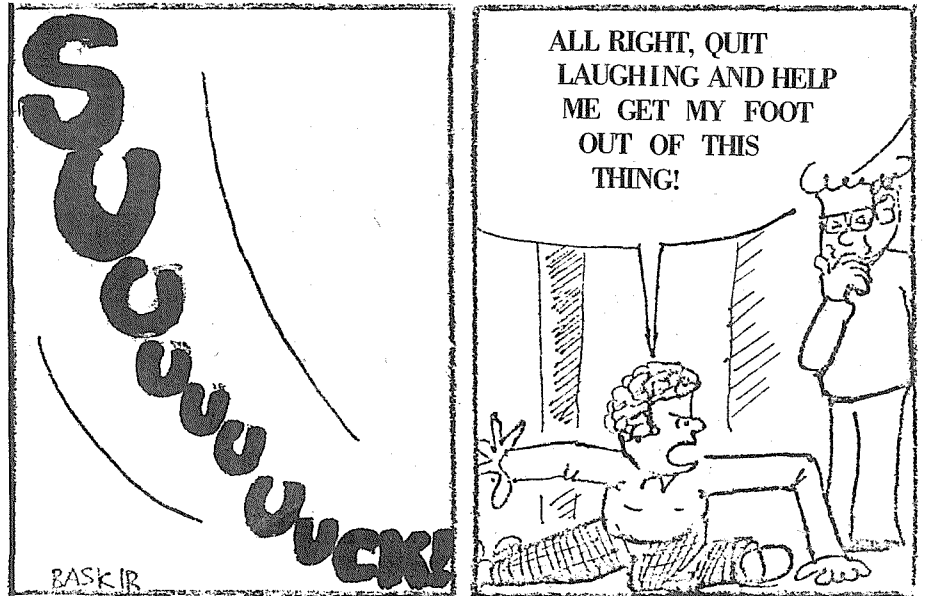
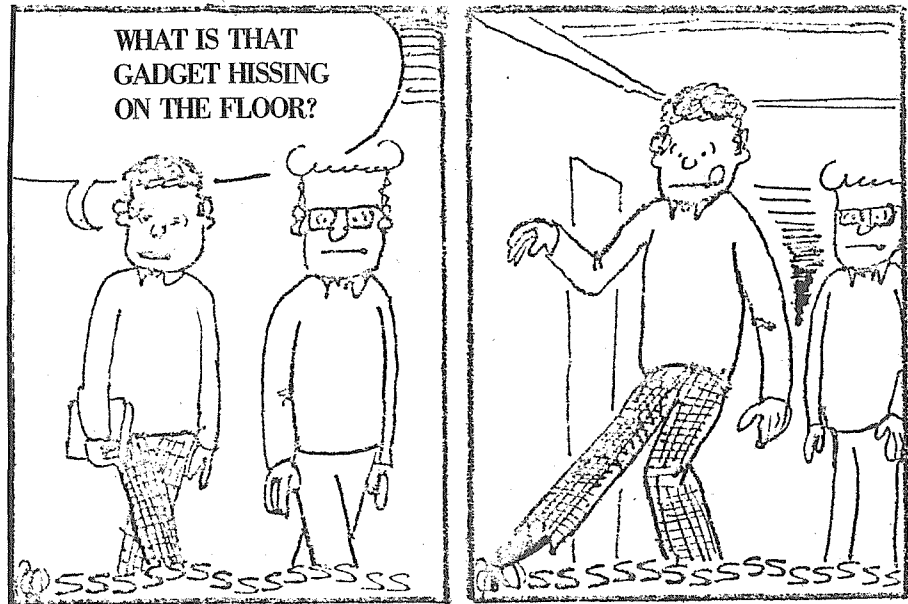
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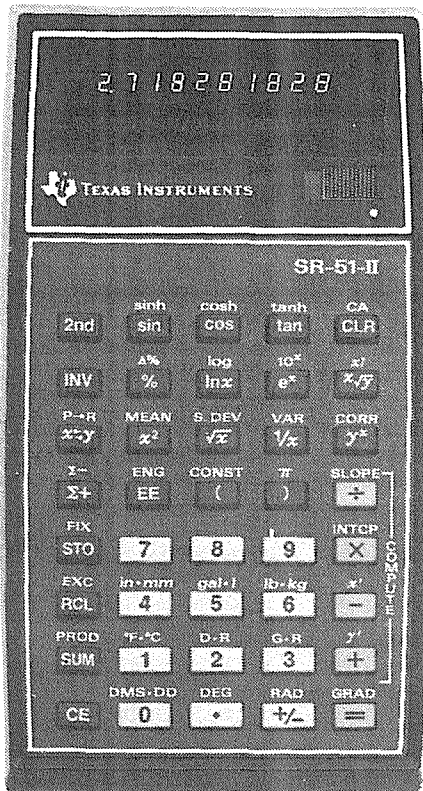
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by geoff baskir

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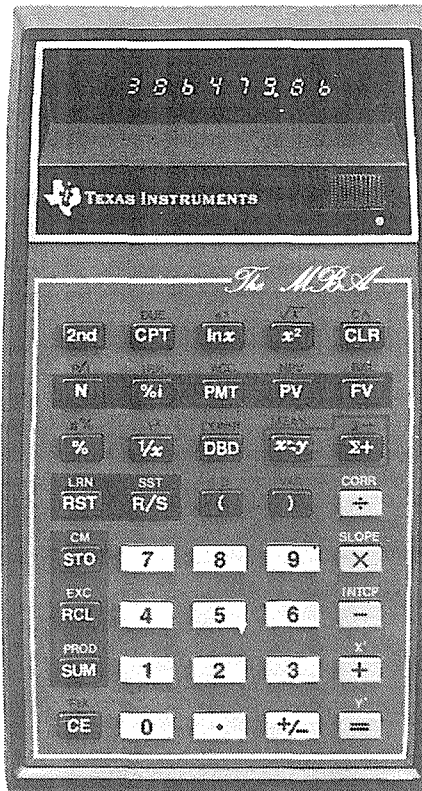
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Vegetarian Group

The Caltech-JPL Vegetarian Group is having a Get-together. They will dine out and share thoughts Wednesday, October 26th, at 5:30 P.M., in Winnet Lounge. For further information Contact: Kiran Magiwala, x1792 or 796-2113. All are welcome.

Women's Discussion Group

The first meeting of a Women's Discussion Group will take place on Wed., Oct. 19 from 4-6 pm upstairs in Winnett Student Center. All women students are invited. The discussion will be lead by Bev Pray and Barbara Fass of the Health Center. One of the purposes of this meeting is to provide an opportunity for women students to get to know each other and to talk about their mutual concerns and interests.

Student Garage

There is a garage in Holliston lot for students who want to work on their cars. Keys may be obtained for \$1.00 use fee from Marcus Henderson, 449-6504. There are also oil drums there for discarding used crankcase oil. If there is sufficient interest (talk to Marcus, or Flora in Winnett) we may fund some useful tools (like a chainhoist).

Eastman Kodak

If you are looking for a pre-professional position to gain experience in your field while learning of the permanent possibilities in a large diverse company, a limited number of summer assignments are available with the Eastman Kodak Company. Students of engineering, science and business who are within one year of completing an undergraduate program, or any level of graduate study are invited to apply. Applications may be obtained in the Placement Office, Dabney Hall, Room 8.

Phd's and R.F.'s

The following companies will be on campus to interview for possible employment during the period 24 October-31 October:
24 & 25 October-General Motors, Technical Center; 26 October-Amoco, Rohm & Haas, Sandia Labs, Northwestern University, Graduate School of Management; 27 October-Shell Development, Rockwell International; 28 October-Intel. If you are interested in signing-up for an appointment, contact the Placement Office, Room 8, Dabney Hall.

Correction to the Techie of Friday, October 14:

Northwestern University, School of Management will be on campus on October 26, not October 6.

Cinematographers

KCET, Channel 28, is currently looking for works of independent film and tapemakers, both new and established, including student productions.

Films will be shown Monday nights, starting November 28, and interested artists should contact Price Hicks, producer, or Pamela Lansden, associate producer, at (213) 663-9887 or 666-6500.

NuArt Schedule Rip-Offs

It is considered an Honor System violation to steal the Nuart (or any other) schedule off the bulletin board in Winnett. You have been warned....

For Sale

CARPETS FOR SALE—Ideal for dorm or bedroom. Green Shag 11x10, Red 10x11 and 3x7, Mongrel 6x8. Pads and scraps. Call Murray, x2692 or 792-3302.

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