

More Movie Memories

Editor's note: The summer issue of *Pacific Review* looked back at the 1969 filming of Stanley Kramer's "RPM" on the Pacific campus. The story sparked many memories for Pacific alumni. Below are excerpts from your letters. For more go to www.Pacific.edu/PacificReview.

'Extra' Special

Thank you for the flashback to 1969. I was one of the football extras in "RPM." It was great money for the time and a lot of fun. I was also the Chairman of MEChA and one of the founders of the organization that year. We (The Black Student Union and MEChA) marched on Burns Tower and held a demonstration to bring attention to the lack of diversity, particularly Latino and African American (although we called ourselves Chicanos and Blacks then), on campus and "encouraged" the university to rectify the situation. I spoke on behalf of MEChA and John Stanton '71 spoke on behalf of the BSU. After a meeting with the administration, the Community Involvement Program was founded. I am very proud that I was able to play a small part in helping the university leap ahead of other institutions in supporting student diversity.

— *Regent Victor F. Ornelas '71*

Recording Artist

When I flipped to the last page of the *Pacific Review* I was immediately taken back 39 years to the filming of "RPM" during my freshman year. I can remember the film crew giving the gardening staff fits by trying to make the quad [between Knoles Hall and Burns Tower] "grittier" with leaves and debris. The quad was the pride and joy of the gardener — you messed with his roses at your peril!

I am also on the sound track album cover of students "occupying" the Hudson administration building as a sit-in. We were hanging out the windows of the second floor classrooms in Knoles Hall. My head is out of the upper center window.

Thanks so much for a quick trek back in time!

— *Mike Phillips '73*

Dazzled Freshman

I have a great story about the filming of the movie "RPM." I was an incoming freshman and came to campus a few days prior to start of class. I checked in to my new dorm and met one of my neighbors. We set out to walk the campus to see how things

were laid out. As we walked across the quad we passed a most beautiful woman. We quickly decided it was Ann-Margaret. We ran back to the dorm, found my camera and ran back. She graciously posed for a photo with us. Picture two freshmen, dazzled by the presence of this star and absolutely beside themselves with happiness. This all happened within my first hour on the Pacific campus. It gave me reason to believe college was going to be just great, and a good story to tell all these years later.

— *Ed Epperson, '73, '74.*

Exciting Memory

I remember it like it was yesterday. While I did see the "paid to riot" scenes filmed in front of Knoles Lawn, there was something else I saw which was much more indelible. I stood outside my apartment on the sidewalk across from the library, no more than three feet away — and watched Ann-Margaret climb onto the back of a motorcycle driven by Anthony Quinn, who drove her into one of the scenes in "RPM!"

Thanks for flashing back the past.

— *Bill Watson '71, '74*

Part-time Actor

Thanks for the article about this movie made at Pacific. I was a sophomore and many of us were paid extras. I remember getting paid \$15 bucks a day and a hot meal.

They did a National Guard scene and I was issued a uniform and a rifle. The director wanted me to be the master sergeant and they added stripes to the uniform. I was told to act real serious and act tough. It was hard to do, as I was surrounded by my pals, and they were all laughing when I was given the order to yell out commands.

— *Alonzo Karr '72*

We'd like to hear from you!

Pacific welcomes signed letters of 200 words or less from readers.

We reserve the right to edit all letters. Please send correspondence to:

Mail: Pacific Review
University of the Pacific
3601 Pacific Avenue
Stockton, CA 95211

Fax: 209.946.3111

E-mail: pacificreview@pacific.edu