# THE DAIIY AZTEC 

## Test Makers Respond to Bias Charges

## by Donna Marie Branton

Daily Aztec staff writer
The nation's two leading makers of standardized college admission tests are changing o considering changes in the tests, which are taken by nearly two million high school students per year.
Next fall, the American College Testing Program will reveal a new ACT Assessment which is the result of five years of research and planning.
Over the next three years the College Board will conduct an extensive review of the Scholastic Aptitude Test and make necessary revi-
sions to the SAT.
In recent years educators have labeled both tests as biased against women and minorities. However, both test-makers contend the revisions and studies are a response to the changing needs of students, not to the charges of bias leveled against them.
Janice Gams, a public relations exccutive for the New York- based College Board - which publishes the SAT - said the proposed threeyear study may provide no changes at all to the current test.
"The SAT is not put in concretc," she said "We try to meet the current neeas of our students whicheet the current neeas of our stu-
charges of bias."
David S. Crockett, ACT's vice president for public affairs, said the revisions stemmed from the need for a more accurate measure of reading ability, comprehension and reasoning skills. Crockett added the changes in the ACT had not been made in response to complaints about possible bias in the test against women and minority-group members, who tend to have below-average scores.
"We don't think our current test is biased," he said. "We think both are valid measures of students' educational development."
However, an educator who recently co-wrote an exhaustive critique against standardized
tests said the testing services are clearly responding to pressures placed on them by legislators, teachers and students.
James Crouse, a University of Delaware sociology professor, and Dale Trusheim, associate director of the Office of Institutional Research there, took six years to write and research the book, The Case Against the SAT. According to Crouse, the publication of their book was a major factor in the SAT's decision to initiate research.
"A growing number of educators and users of the tests are raising questions about its fair ness to minorities and women," he said.

Please see TESTS on page 6

## Ex-Cop Attempting to Regain Old Job

by Ted Bliss<br>Daily Aztec staff writer

A former San Diego police officer, fired from the department six months ago on allegations of being overly aggressive while apprehendirg an SDSU student, is currently trying to regain his job on the basis that he acted according to procedure.
The decision to fire Richard D. Draper, 39, was made after Police Department officials reviewed the findings of an internal affairs investigation. The investigation, was spaiked by a lawsuit filed by student Scott McMillan against the city.
According to Draper's attorney, John Heisner, McMillan was apprehended after he ran Draper off the frecway in February. Draper, who was off duly and driving a civilian car at the time, chased McMillan at
speeds of up to 100 miles an hour until the 20 -year-old student pulled over.
Heisner said McMillan, who was not available for comment, testified in court that he had cut Draper's vehicle off, but that it was an accident. Heisner also said that McMillan testified that he did not know the person pursuing him was a police officer, and had increased his speed to avoid a confrontation. He was returning from the desert with his girlfriend that night.
Heisner described McMillan's testimony of what happened, when Draper pulled him over:
"He didn't say that Draper had 'pistol whipped' him," Heisner said. "He said he felt the pressure of the gun barrel at the back of his head and later felt a trickle of blood run down his back.

Please see COP on page 12.

## Salinity May Doom Mono Lake Wildiife

## by Al Diaz

Daily Aztec staff writer
Each ycar approximately 200,000 ourists gaze in awe at the spectacular Lourists gazc in awe ar the spectacular tufa towers that at one time were hidden by the placid mirror of Mono Lake's surface for more than 700,00 years.
However, the phenomenon that uncovered the tufa towers (deposits of calcium carbonate forming from the lake bottom) may also result in escalating the salinity level and destroying the fragile ecosystem. in and around the lake; said Paul Little, an SDSU biology graduate student, who is doing a study of the lake concerning the brine fly population.
Mono Lake is located about 300
miles north of Los Angeles, just 30 miles north of the Mammoth skiresort area. It is an unusual lake in that it has no water outlet and as the lake water evaporates, salt and other minerals accumulate.
Since 1941 the city of Los Angeles, which has water rights over the 1,000 -square-mile Mono Lake basin, has been diverting fresh water from the streams that feed the lake.

The diversion of the streams has caused the lake volume to decrease 50 percent since 1941. As a result of less water, the salinity level has risen from about 40 parts per thousand (before 1941) to 90 parts per thousand, said Timothy J. Bradley, professor of developmental cell biology at U.C. Irvine.

## Journalism <br> Be Impacted



## by Lori Kern <br> Daily Aztec staff writer

The Chancellor's Office is expected within the next few weeks to declare SDSU's journalism department impacted beginning next semester, department officials said.
The move would establish new requirements - possibly higher Grammar, Spelling and Punctuation Test scores and. accredited references - for future students who declare themselves journalism majors.
The department must first receive impacted status from California State University officials before it can determine new requirements, department chairman James Buckalew said.
The department requested impaction in June because there are not enough faculty and funds to accommodate journalism students, Buckalew said

Currenly, there are 12 -full-ime faculty members in the ceparment and 1,082 journalism majors and minors. There are also 17 part-time faculty members.
Alhough the department has received informal word from the Chancellor's Office that it can initiate impaction proceedings, Buckalew said official word has not yet been granted.
"We definitely qualify," he said. "We have a problem and mpaction will solve it."
Buckalew said the telecommunications and film department and the business department will serve as role models for methods of accepting students into an impacted department.
The TCF department has been impacted for 17 years and requires students to petition the department for entry. Leiters of recommendation and a personal statement also have to be submitted.
In addition, students have the option of sending creative portolios - videotapes, photographs and slides - to enter the TCF
program. Incoming freshmen however, are excluded from this option.

A department committee reviews petitions and makes entry recommendations to the faculty. The TCF department does not have a set cut-off point for grade point averages.
The business department, on the other hand, requires students who wish to become business majors to first declare themselves pre-business students and take nine lower division business pre-bus
classes.

Pre-basiness students are required to pass a competency test when they finish the first nine units, as well as possess at least a 2.6 SDSU GPA and 2.2 overall average.

A census of journalism students conducted by the departmen last week will determine whether the department qualifies fo impaction status, journalism Professor Lee Brown said.

Please see IMiPACT on page 3

## WORLD NEWS

## Japan's History Debated Over Korean Find



## USSR and Vatican Are Working Together










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Steroids Are Bad News






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THE DAILY AZIEC WEDNESDAY ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT


Actor Joe Mantegna Quietly Asserts Himself in David Mamet's Things Change.

## BY MAURY CHAUVET

ommand of the big screen - to do a character people can understand before that character breathes a line of dialogue - is something actors like Sylvester Stallone or Arnold Scwharzenegger must buy. It's something Robert DeNiro or Jack Nicholson owns. The refinement - the craft - of acting separates true actors from just movie stars, pointing out that there are elements no performer can truly learm. The intangibles of being suble go beyond the conscious, and they separate the good from the great.

When Joe Mantegna appeared in a seedy pool hall in David Mamet's House of Games, he brought an undeniable presence - an aura - to the screen with him. Walking up to Lindsay Crouse as Mike, a New York con man Mantegna hadn't said a word before the audience could grasp Mike and wanted to know what made him tick. It is something few American actors short of Nicholson and DeNiro are capable of, yet with Mantegna it just seemed to flow.
Please see MANTEGNA on page 5 .

## WHAT IT IS



Isinviling applicationstor posiblestaffwiter openings next semester. Journallsm mojor and/or background is not a must, but witing ability and knowledge of the arts ore. Come by The Daily Atec in PSFA 361 or call 594 -679 before December 9 for detalls.

 Ex-SDSU Teacher Takes Part in Satiric Success

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Battered Blonde Hits the Road, Sleeps on Floor


by Kelly Francis
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Sushi Gallery Holds Auction for Artists
by Lisa Estrella
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## Super-hip Stars Can't Save Super-lame Movies


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