

Growing up outside the norm

Women tell stories of growing up in the counterculture of America

SHELBI WESCOTT
Feature Editor

My parents, part of the baby boomer generation, were not a part of the counterculture of Hippies that developed in the 1960s. They did not participate in anti-war protests (my dad had his draft number pinned up on his bedroom wall), they were not vegetarians (my mom worked at the Dairy Queen) and they raised their children (as most parents do) to share in their values, morals and views on life.

The writers in Chelsea Cain's compilations of short stories, *Wild Child: girlhoods in the counterculture*, would define me as a "normie."

A normie is a person whose parents lived a culturally-mainstream life and brought up their children to live a mainstream life as well.

Wild Child takes a peek into the childhoods of these "non-normies." They are children who grew up in communes, attended clothing-optional kindergarten and were exposed to free love from an early age.

"By the time I was six, I began to notice that my family was different," wrote Moon Zappa (daughter of legendary

rock star Frank Zappa) in her foreword to the book. "My first clue was a television show for preschoolers called *Romper Room*. The teacher... would say goodbye to the children lucky enough to be named Susan or Kim or Debbie or Michael or Billy. No mention of a Moon

our parents by shoplifting gum from Thriftway and buying vending machine cigarettes, these kids rebelled by eating steak and becoming cheerleaders.

I found myself lost inside a counterculture that I, despite all my book knowledge, will never be able to understand. I will never know how it feels to live out of a mail-truck, or not have to go to school if I didn't feel like it, or have my organic-goat's-milk-yogurt spill out on to the floor of the school bus.

These stories capture this era through the eyes of girls who had upon their shoulders the responsibility to carry the torch of feminism and become the first generation of fully-liberated women. Their stories are funny, touching, engaging, poignant, but above all, real, well written and eloquently communicated.

An excellent addition to any bookshelf, these stories can be read again and again. "Normies" will enjoy the chance to live vicariously through these authors' memories and "non-normies" may find the hearts of their own childhoods captured on these pages.

So, sit back, put on a Bob Dylan record and enjoy.



Unit or a Dweezil."

These women talk openly about their struggle between two conflicting worlds and their love affair with mainstream ideologies.

While we "normies" balked at our parents' rules and regulations, these kids begged for guidelines and structure. While we "normies" rebelled against

Theater dept. busy with plays, one-acts

JASON LINGEL
Staff Writer

Practice is underway for the winter play, *The Homecoming*.

The Homecoming, by Harold Pinter, is a study in family relations and dependencies. After six years teaching philosophy at an American university, Teddy brings his wife home to London to meet his exceedingly bizarre family. Unfortunately, she seems to fit right in.

This classic "comedy of menace" is from Britain's master of the pause, and what goes unsaid is often more important

than what is spoken.

Note: mature themes are explored in this play; it is not recommended for children under 15.

Performance dates and times will be Feb. 24-26 at 8 p.m., Feb. 27 at 2:30 p.m., March 2-4 at 8 p.m. and March 5 at 2:30 p.m.

The play will be directed by Drama Instructor David Smith-English. The cast will include Michael James O'Connor as Max, Jason Shanafelt as Lenny, William Lee IV as Sam, Eric Moler as Joey, Tyler Currey as Teddy and Amanda Jensen as Ruth. The stage manager is Erin Adkisson and

the assistant director is Michaela Foeller. Other crew members are Jamie Anderson, Kristi McKenzie, Jeremy Ralls, Tina Ekwall, Amber Dodgson and Leah West.

End of term one-act performance dates are Mar. 7-9 at noon and Mar. 9 at 8 p.m.

Among these are a comedy improv by the Bi-Polar Bears, Clackamas' comedy improv group, and a co-staff/student play. The play is *Laundry Bourbon* by James McLure. It will be directed by Smith-English, and will include as cast Alis Nelson, Jane Rickenbaugh, Micaela Fuller, Kristi McKenzie, Tyler Currey and Josh Pollay.



Craig (Ice Cube) greets his cousin in the new sequel *Next Friday*.

Next Friday rolls in

SALENA DE LA CRUZ
Opinion Editor

It's on! Ice Cube is at it again and he'll have viewers rolling in the aisles with laughter in *Next Friday*, the sequel to *Friday*.

Craig (Ice Cube) has left the hood because the town bully Debo (Tom "Tiny" Lister Jr.) has escaped prison and he's after Craig for payback. Now, if you remember the first *Friday* you'll remember Craig whooping some Debo ass. If you haven't watched it—What are you waiting for? Get off your dead ass and rent it. For those that have seen *Friday*, you'll remember the hilarity in it, well you haven't seen anything yet. *Next Friday* has got to be the funniest movie ever released; I laughed so hard there were tears rolling down my face as I clutched my chest just waiting for a heart attack.

So, Debo comes after Craig only to find he's moved to Rancho Cucamonga to stay with his cousin 'til things cool down. His relatives moved to the suburbs after winning the lottery. His uncle's woman is an S & M fiend who is forever trying to get it on with Craig. His cousin is a different story entirely. His cousin's name is Daedae and he has got to be the biggest wimp. He's always whining about one thing or an-

other. He says he's a player and doesn't need to do this or that, however, he was highly amusing in his own right.

Also, in the flick is a group of Hispanic gangsters that are so exaggerated that you'll bust a gut just watching the way they walk and talk. A specific part in the movie where this happens is when the leader *Joker*, goes in a room with a girl and they are going to do it and he rips off his pants and is standing in a pair of thong tuxedo underwear. Oh my God, I never laughed so hard in my life. If you've seen *American Pie* and remember the strip tease done, this one's got it beat. Though, Chico, the Hispanics' pitbull, has a few minor parts he deserves an award for his acting skills.

The hilarity in this movie is non-stop. What would *Next Friday* be without a little bit of pot smoking; in a cigar, in a joint, in a brownie. In the beginning credits a doobie is lit and the credits roll in with a puff of smoke. Watch carefully because the credits were just as funny as the movie itself. It's well worth the ticket price and the drive to go to the few theatres playing it. Join the rest of us that saw it over the weekend and laugh it up for the most uproariously funny movie of the year—Hey, it's less than a fiddle.

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