

THE MAKINGS OF A PRESIDENT

If I were president

COMPILED BY DAVID PEREZ & DIANA CARILLO



"I would make sure that the campus was safe and that people weren't getting raped."
Aubrey Simons-Araya
art major



"I would try to fight to lower the fees. We are poor people trying to make something out of our lives. Education should be the main thing."
Brian Huelzo
graphic design major



"I would put a tram in the parking lot. It could take them (students) to their car and make sure they get in their car securely."
Derrick Womack
undecided major



"If I was president, I would give more publicity for clubs on campus. The campus is plain."
Francisco Javier Arteaga
undecided major



"More student activities. Make students want to come to school and have more fun. Night school is less social. It is not lively."
Isalah Espiritu
nursing major



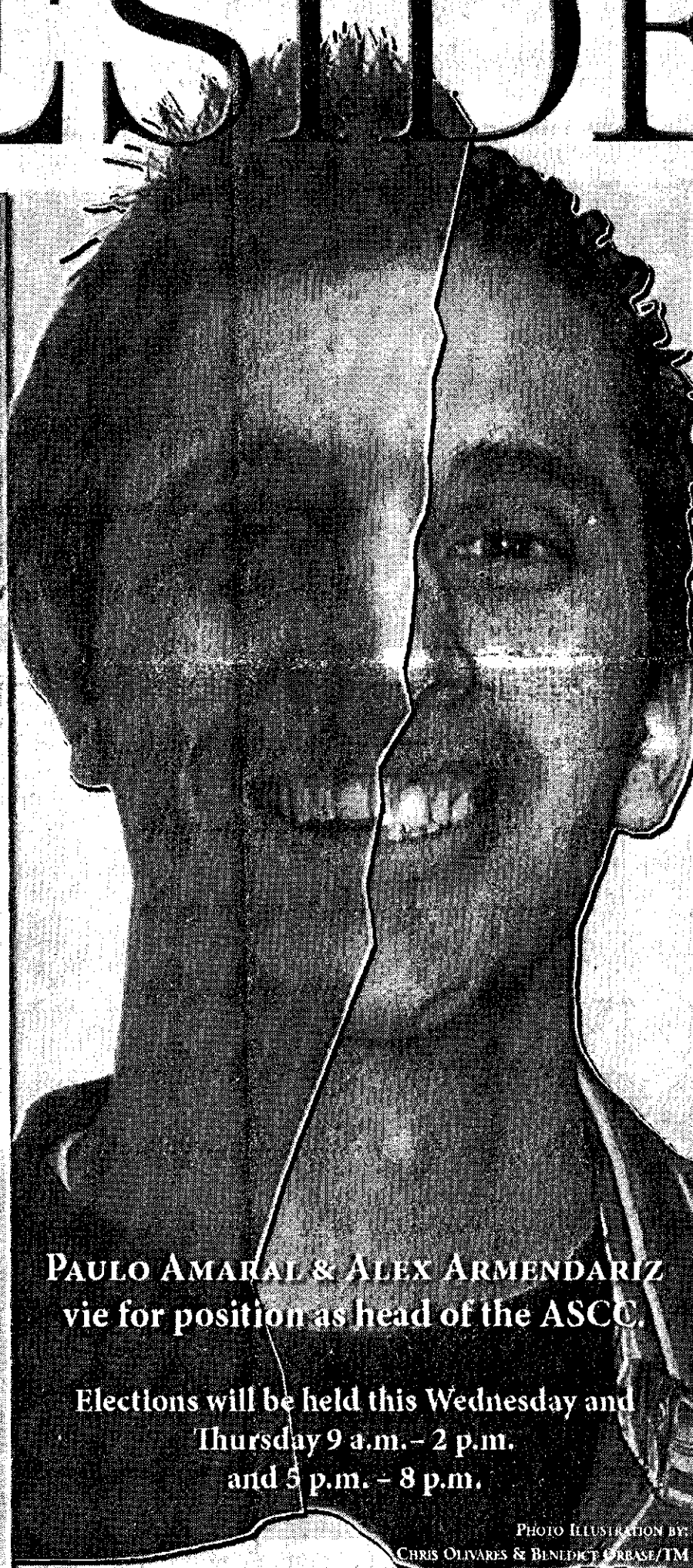
"I would have a better variety of food at the food court. Something more healthy instead of junk food."
Rick Espindola
music major



"There are no police on bikes at night. Make security equal, night and day."
Jad Khalil
physical education major



"The ASCC prepares the tutoring system for English and math. They don't have any other subjects. I would make more programs."
Kazuki James
business major



PAULO AMARAL & ALEX ARMENDARIZ
vie for position as head of the ASCC.

Elections will be held this Wednesday and Thursday 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. - 8 p.m.

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY:
CHRIS OLIVARES & BENEDICT DREASE/TM

Candidates' views expressed to forum

WERNER GOMEZ,
Co-Sports Editor
sports@talonmarks.com

Candidates for the ASCC presidency had one last chance to speak to students last Tuesday, before the elections on Wednesday.

During the presidential forum, candidates gave a little insight into their reasons for running and what they plan to do in order to improve Cerritos College.

Alex Armendariz, ASCC party whip, and Paulo Amaral, ASCC president pro-tem, (opposing can-

didates) had different views on what the most important issues were.

Armendariz feels that the \$210 million G.O. Bond is the most important issue facing the school. "The G.O. Bond is the future of this college," he said.

He also feels that the lines of communication between students and student government need to be improved.

He said that holding student forums once a month would vastly improve communication from

See FORUM page 3

ASCC Presidency 101

Responsibilities of the ASCC President

- The President must preside over all Executive Cabinet meetings every Monday at 2 p.m. The Executive Cabinet, consisting of the President, Vice President and 16 commissioners, is responsible for organizing and directing student activities and programs.
- The President is also the Student Trustee and must attend all Board of Trustees meetings on Wednesdays at 5 p.m. on a bi-weekly basis. The Board of Trustees, consisting of seven individuals who are elected at large by the college's district, is responsible for maintaining direct public oversight and providing direction to the college administration.
- The President must attend all Cerritos College Foundation meetings on Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. on a quarterly basis.
- The President must appoint fellow students to the Executive Cabinet, to vacancies within the Court and Senate and to Cerritos College Shared Governance Committees.
- The President must hold regular office hours in the Office of Student Activities.
- As the presiding ASCC representative, the president may be asked to attend certain community and campus events.

Five principles of the ASCC that the President must uphold

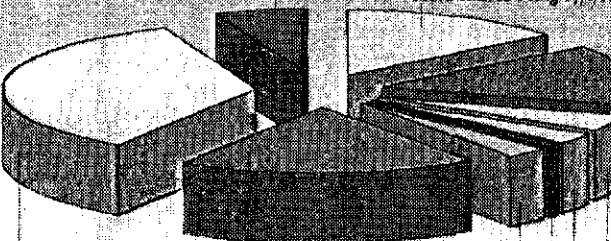
- We, the Associated Students of Cerritos College, must strive to be an effective, efficient and equitable organization with the fundamental purpose to improve student life;
- We, the Associated Students of Cerritos College, as the voice of over 20,000 current and an untold number of future students must never forget the individuals we represent;
- We, the Associated Students of Cerritos College, must meet the surpass what students expect, demand and require of the organization that represents them;
- We, the Associated Students of Cerritos College, must maintain a positive, productive atmosphere within the student government and throughout the entire college community; and
- We, the Associated Student of Cerritos College, must continue to ingrain the fact that education is critical to the progress of our world. In other words, education is and always should be number one.

SOURCE: CERRITOS.EDU

Counting the issues

COMPILED BY HILSON PRECIADO

More free food events
More classes being offered



Fight against tuition increases
Trans for night students
Eliminate senate appointing
More ASCC night time activities
Technology upgrade
Safer campus, lighting, phones
Control and lower book costs

220 Cerritos College students voice their opinions on what they feel are the most important issues facing the next student president.

In retrospect

ASCC Presidents of the past 5 years

Nasrin Bonyadloo (2001-2002)
Infamous for her explicit comments about campus security.



Sara Mayorga (2002-2003)
Removed from office due to her being academically ineligible.

James Towns (2002-2004)
Replaced Sara Mayorga. Helped promote G.O. Bond.



Josh Franco (2004-2005)
Implemented gocerritos.com and operation outreach. Helped promote G.O. Bond.

FRANCO

NEWS

Expo offers students opportunities

RAYMOND GALLEGOS
Staff Writer
rgallegos1@talonmarks.com

The Career Expo in the Student Center presented career and job opportunities to the students in attendance at Cerritos College last Thursday.

For students looking for a job while they attend school, the Career Expo offered many outlets.

Beth Packman, undecided major, said, "Costco and FedEx have a lot to offer in benefits and starting pay."

Packman went on to say, "It's really informative."

All 52 booths offered pamphlets and business cards to better explain their job opportunities.

Others, like Elizabeth Vera, liberal studies major, found just what she was looking for regarding her major.

Vera said, "The expo was very helpful; it was a great opportunity to meet great companies. Project Reach gave me helpful tips regarding my major."

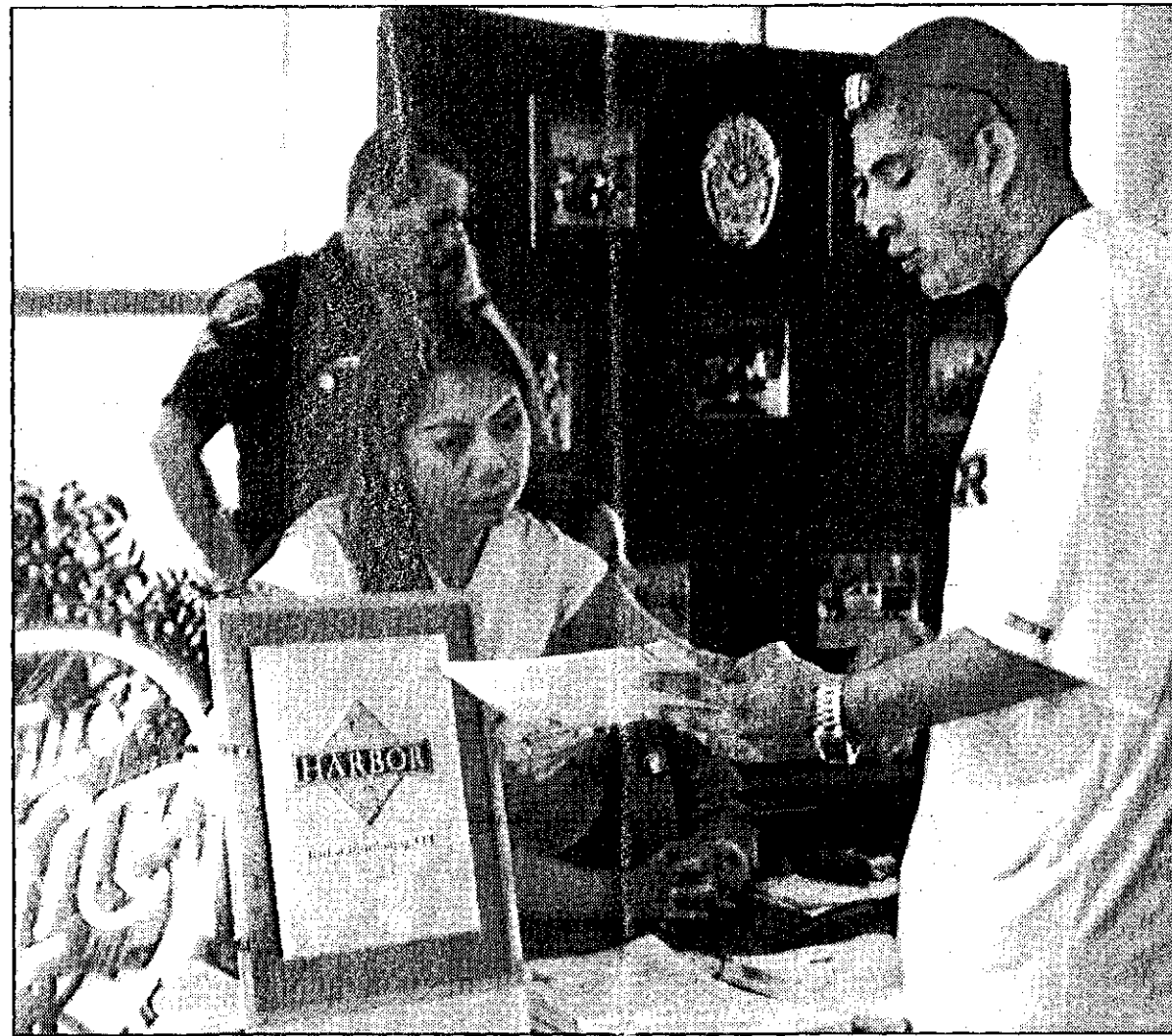
Erica Tafolla, teaching major, also found help with her major.

"The University of Phoenix and child care interested me because it had to do with my major," she said.

The Regional Occupational Program was in attendance promoting its services.

Carmen Lizarraga, ROP coordinator, threw light on the ROP program.

"We offer affordable job training programs. We have medical,



Getting the 411: Wynnie Nguyen, Harbor Distribution representative, (left) informs Jonathan Ramirez, business major, on career opportunities in the industry during Career Expo day last Thursday.

computer, business, graphic design, industrial, basically a huge variety."

Lizarraga also said that, "We offer students job placement as well."

On the way into the Student Center each individual was given a

www.monstertrak plastic bag to fill with pamphlets and business cards. Monstertrak is another way to find a job, or a career.

Avon can either be a full time career, or a part time job to anyone interested.

"Avon allows women or any-

one open to start their own business for \$10. You get flexible hours for students, plus we offer discounts; it's a win, win situation."

Another company that can also provide a career, or offer part time and full time positions, with benefits for the students on campus is

UPS, Matt Skeen, UPS recruiter explained.

"The guy on the 'King of Queens' is supposed to resemble a UPS employee.

"But if he really was a driver, he'd be hustling every day and would be in better shape.

"He does have a nice house though, goes to show," Skeen jokingly commented.

A student can also make a career out of an entry level position," Wynnie Nguyen, Harbor Distribution representative explained.

Harbor Distribution mainly ships beer.

The Miller Lite and Corona neon signs attracted students.

On holidays the employees get a few free cases of beer.

"Now there's a company perk," Nguyen pointed out.

Greg Lambeth Residential Security Manager of ADT, said "You will be keeping America safe, but we won't send you off to Iraq."

Lambeth went on to say "ADT is a great opportunity to enter a growing industry.

Ever since Sept. 11, the interest in security has gone up."

The CHP, FBI and an assortment of armed forces and other police departments were in attendance as well.

The participants in the career expo were also treated to bagels, doughnuts, danishes and fresh fruit.

Cabinet attempts to raise awareness

ROSALI CASTILLO
Staff Writer
rcastillo1@talonmarks.com

Summer school schedules are now available on the school web site, ASCC President Josh Franco announced at Monday's Cabinet meeting.

Night Student Awareness and upcoming elections were also discussed at Monday's rather short ASCC Cabinet meeting.

He also suggested that if a student hasn't received an appointment date, he should go to the administration office and find out when to register.

Another event discussed at Monday's meeting was the Night Student Awareness event that will be taking place Wednesday.

"The main focus is to notify students about student elections as well as pass out food," said Jacqueline Benavides, sociology major.

ASCC members will also be there to answer questions students have about the elections or student government, Benavides added.

Elections will be held Wednesday and Thursday.



Cerritos College

Fitness Specialist and Athletic Trainer Aide Certificate Programs

Students interested in the following areas may want to consider our new certificate programs:

Sports/Recreation, Fitness, Aerobics, Athletic Training, Kinesiology, Exercise Science, Sports Medicine, Athletic Injuries and Sports Nutrition

Completing either of these certificate programs could lead to career opportunities such as:

Aerobics instructor/group exercise leader, personal trainer, athletic trainer aide, physical therapist aide, wellness consultant, fitness coach and recreational leader

Possible Transfer Areas:

Kinesiology, Exercise Science, Physical Education, Health and Wellness, Preventive Medicine, Pre-Medicine, Pre-Physical Therapy, Pre-Chiropractic, Massage Therapy and Emergency Medical Technician training

What is a Fitness Specialist?

A fitness specialist understands the components of fitness, has a basic understanding of human physiology, anatomy and human movement, and has a basic understanding of how food affects an individual's performance and health. Effective communication of realistic health and fitness goals as well as providing motivation and encouragement to the client are essential for this specialty. A fitness specialist assists individuals with achieving their goals, living healthier lives and recommends specialists when clients seek advice beyond their scope of practice. "The hallmark of ACE certified personal trainers is their ability to work safely and effectively in promoting better health through physical activity for a wide variety of individuals" (Personal Trainer Manual by American Council on Exercise, 1997).

What is an Athletic Trainer Aide?

The athletic trainer aide functions as an aide in a clinical setting or in a high school, college or professional athletic training center. The aide assists the certified athletic trainer or other healthcare professionals in the prevention, care and rehabilitation of athletic injuries. This includes assisting in the assessment and documentation of athletic injuries, acute and chronic injury management, treatment protocols, principles of conditioning and management of return to competitive activity. In addition, effective communications skills with athletes and patients as well as medical professionals are required.

For more information, please contact

Dr. Carrie Gleckner
Cerritos College, HPEA Division
11110 Alondra Blvd.
Norwalk, CA 90650
(562) 860-2451, ext. 2876
www.cerritos.edu/HPEA



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NEWS

Summer classes and blocking are nearing

JONATHAN JORDAN
Life Editor
life@talonmarks.com

It's that time of year again. Time to pull out the pocketbooks and credit cards.

Time for summer registration. Now, for the first time, prerequisite blocking will be used while registering for classes.

Some students are worried about how this will affect them while registering.

"I think it is a terrible idea, because it's going to take people longer to transfer," Analise Mancillas, medicine and chicano studies major, said.

"It's going to take up time and time is a valuable thing that many of us students don't have," she added.

Her sister, on the other hand, has a different opinion on the idea of prerequisite blocking for summer registration.

"It's a great idea; however, any-

thing involving computers scares me," Angie Mancillas, political science and chicano studies major, said.

Students have some ideas for alternatives for prerequisite blocking.

"It's unfair to the students, because if they feel they're capable of taking the class they should be given the opportunity. It (prerequisite blocking) should be eliminated overall," Cynthia Paredes, nursing major, said.

"It's already going to hold me back."

Summer registration will be the first time the system will be given the opportunity to show its potential.

It is argued by school officials that the new system will help teachers by eliminating the paperwork and time required to check for prerequisites themselves.

Registration for summer classes begins Thursday.

Dean recognized for commitment

DAVID GOMEZ
News Editor
news@talonmarks.com

Dean of technology training, staff development and distance learning, M.L. Bettino was honored at the Technology in Education International Conference and Exposition April 5 for his commitment and service.

Bettino was one of four honored at the TechEd conference for their commitment during the 10 years it has been in existence.

He is currently a board director and has also been chair of the conference committee.

Bettino stated he greatly appreciated the fact that the College President Dr. Noelia Vela attended the conference also.

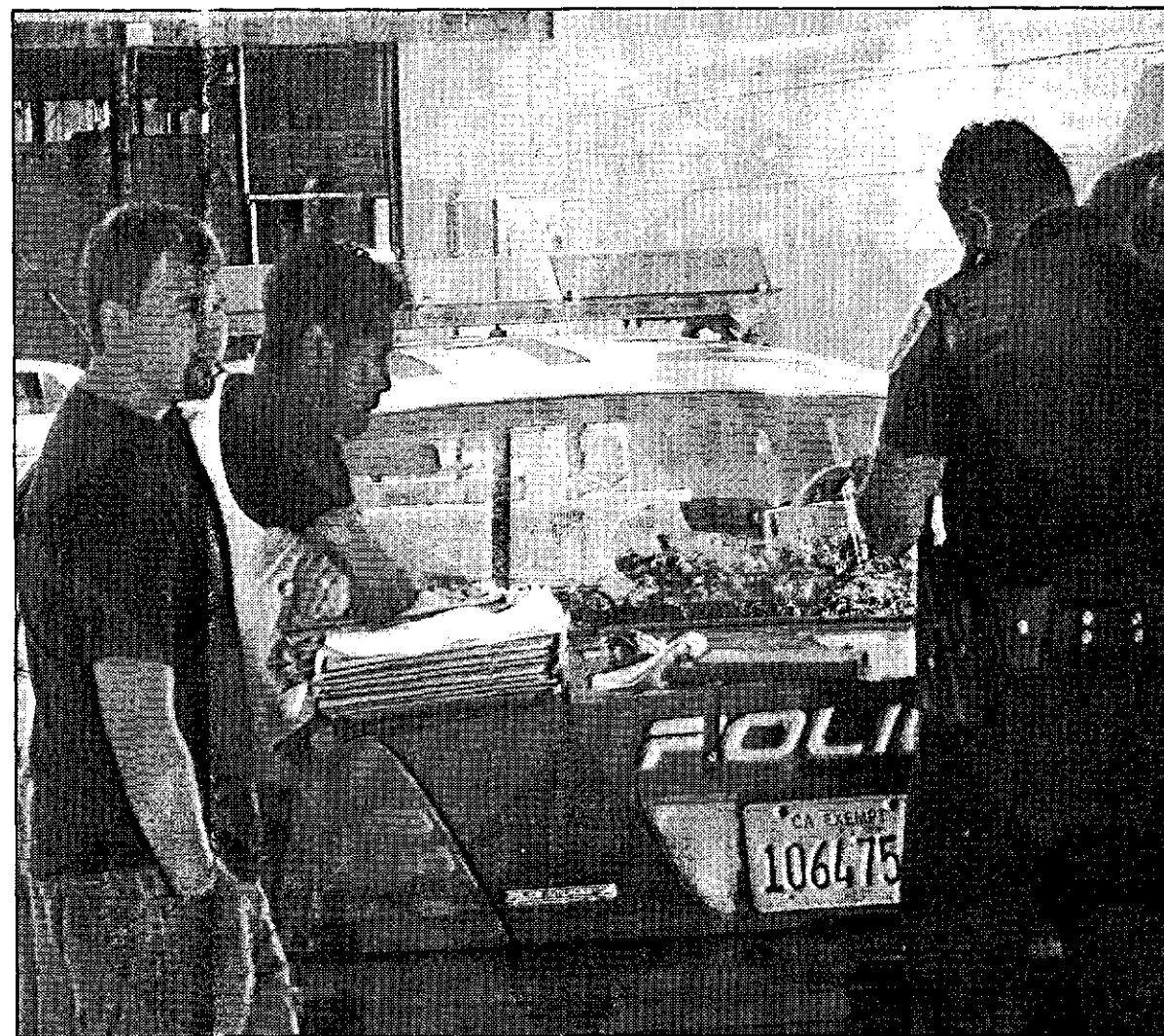
"People came up to me and told me that I was really lucky to have that kind of support from the president," Bettino commented.

Vela, however, has not been the only other person to attend TechEd, as a show of support.

Bettino stated that Cerritos College board members have also attended and volunteered.

"Cerritos College always has a booth showing off the stuff from all departments," Bettino stated.

Officer cites petitioners



Busted: Mark Jacoby, YPM owner, and Karlo Gomez, YPM employee, are detained and cited by officer Angel Castillo for "unorderly conduct" after a discussion over a permit to be on campus, April 11.

SUNEM RIVAS
Copy Editor
srivas1@talonmarks.com

Two petitioners were cited by campus police for unorderly conduct after a discussion over a permit to be on campus April 11.

It was the first time they had been at Cerritos College, according to Mark Jacoby, owner and supervisor of Young Political Majors, who was one of the individuals cited.

YPM is a company based out of Florida that travels across the country organizing protests, working for politicians on campaigns

and putting initiatives on ballots, among other things.

Some students are not pleased with petitioners being allowed on campus.

"Sometimes you are in a rush to get to class and you get there late because they make you sign a lot of papers," Betty Velazquez, undecided major, said.

But others think it is a good idea for people to petition.

"It's important, because most students here are not informed about laws and it may take people asking for your signature for them to be informed. You are not forced to sign; you have an option, you

make an educated decision," Angel Moreno, music major, said.

Jacoby explained that, "Each campus is different and we know that. We work in a lot of states; last year alone we worked in 17 states. We usually go on campus and if they ask us to get a permit, then we do, and if they don't ask us to get a permit we don't."

Campus police refused to comment on the subject, but according to Karlo Gomez, YPM employee who was also cited, officer Angel Castillo approached him saying the group needed to get a permit in order to petition on campus.

"He misunderstood the officer

and we figured we had to get the permit at the Student Center; we didn't know we had to get it at the police station," Jacoby said.

"We walked to the Student Center and a lady there told us the person who could give it to us wasn't there, so we went back to work."

About an hour later, the group was approached by Castillo again, who according to Jacoby, asked him for a permit and then threatened to give him a ticket saying he had already warned them and could put them in jail.

"I guess I made him kind of angry, because he really didn't have a reason to give me a ticket; I told him that normally they give me a trespassing ticket and usually we beat it because that is our first amendment right," Jacoby said.

"And he said, 'okay, I'll get something you can't beat,' he added.

According to Jacoby, Castillo kept them next to his patrol car for about an hour while he called through his dispatcher asking for things he could charge the group with.

"He also wanted to give me a ticket for not having my driver's license on me. My wallet is thick and very uncomfortable, so I leave it in my car a lot. But it turned out he couldn't give me a ticket for that unless I was driving," he said.

"Finally, he came up with unorderly conduct on a school campus."

The petitioners are scheduled for court on July 11.

"We just took the tickets and are letting my lawyer take care of it," he said.

YPM was back on campus last Monday, with a permit, petitioning to lower prescription medication to a 95 percent discount for anyone who makes less than \$30,000 a year without raising taxes.

FORUM:
Candidates answer questions from audience.

Continued from page 1

both sides.

He also stressed that gocerritos.com could be used more effectively to inform students of upcoming projects and sports events.

Amaral, on the other hand, thought there were three issues that he felt affected students more.

"The most important issue is safety. We can never be too safe," he said.

The other issues involved the way the school restrooms and water fountains are being kept up.

"(We have to) have clean and updated facilities that will allow us to focus on learning," he said.

Amaral said he plans to start a recycling program for the school.

"Be environmentally clean, recycle our resources and with the money give back to the students," Amaral said.

Amaral believes that the money gained from the recycling program can be used to create scholarships.

The candidates also took questions from the audience. Questions were submitted to associate justices who reviewed the questions before they were asked; not all questions submitted were asked.

One question asked of the candidates was concerning their past experience with authoring or co-authoring legislation.



Anticipation: Alex Armendariz, presidential candidate and Joe Cobarrubio, vice-presidential candidate await to speak at Forum.

As party whip, Armendariz has his name put on all legislation, but stressed that he played a big part in the creation of the legislation.

"I've pushed forward for these legislations and co-authored some," he said.

But Amaral saw it as an opportunity to stress that he will work on the issues and not be concerned with who gets credit.

"I've been influencing," he said. "It's not about me having my name on a piece of paper...it's about completing a task."

Vice presidential candidates Charlene Angsuko (running with Amaral) and Joe Cobarrubio (running with Armendariz) were asked by the audience what they would do that the current president has not.

Angsuko directed her concern toward the clubs here on campus.

"We need to network our clubs and organizations more," she said.

She also went on to say that all clubs should plan out their events for the year so that the ASCC and the administration can better accommodate them.

Cobarrubio wanted to continue on the path that Josh Franco, current president, is on of making the ASCC more accessible to everyone.

"Keep that friendly atmosphere in this office. Even though you (the student body) do have opposing viewpoints you can come to us," he said.

Another issue raised was the appointment of senators. An audience member asked if either presidential candidate would consider having senators be elected rather than appointed.

Both Amaral and Armendariz agreed that it would be impractical for senators to be subjected to an election process every year.

JACC issues Talon Marks General Excellence award

DAVID PEREZ
Co-Sports Editor
sports@talonmarks.com

The Talon Marks newspaper received its first General Excellence Award, one of the most coveted honors for a college journalism program, during a conference April 7-10, recognizing the

staff's efforts for last year.

The Talon Marks staff also garnered 14 other awards in various related categories at the Journalism Association of Community Colleges' 50th anniversary state conference, held at Sacramento's DoubleTree Hotel.

As one of only six General Excellence winners in the broad-

sheet category, Cerritos College took home its first such award for the print version of the newspaper. Bakersfield College, Contra Costa College, El Camino College, LA Valley College and Southwestern College accounted for the five remaining recipients to place in the unranked category.

Event falls short of expectations

SUNEM RIVAS
Copy Editor
srivas1@talonmarks.com

Free lunch was provided for students and faculty in an effort to promote a new web portal designed specifically for Cerritos College students.

However, the event did not completely serve its purpose.

Guadalupe Melendrez, auto technology major, was in line to receive his free meal, but was not aware of what the event was about.

"They gave me a bookmark," he said. "But I haven't read it yet."

Those who received the free lunch were given a bookmark with a brief description of mycerritos.com.

But many felt the bookmark did not provide enough information about the web portal.

"I thought I was going to get more information about the portal, instead of just a bookmark," said Tom Jackson, Board of

Trustees member.

Students agreed.

Even some of the culinary arts volunteers, who made enough food for 1,200 people and cut onions, lettuce and tomatoes for two hours, were unaware of what the event was about.

"I just volunteered for our program instructor," said Panayotis Lazaridis, culinary arts major.

"I'm not sure what it's (the event) all about," he added.

According to Josh Franco, ASCC president, planning for the event started over five weeks ago.

"Promoting portal awareness is what matters," Franco said.

Paulo Amaral, ASCC senate president pro-temp, said that the website will help students add classes to their schedule, make payments, and create an agenda, and is a way to keep yourself organized.



Free food: Betty Delgado, teaching major, receives patty for her buns at the mycerritos.com portal launch

DIONA CARRILLO/TM

OPINION

EDITORIAL

Speaking out against censorship



The Talon Marks is a First Amendment publication. Editorials express the views of the Editorial Board. Other opinions express the view of the author and are not to be considered opinions of the publications staff, the Editorial Board, the advisers, the Cerritos College Associated Students, the college administration or the Board of Trustees.

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STAFF

Editor-in-Chief
Erick Galindo

Online Editor
Henson Preclado

Managing Editor
Christopher Olivares

News Editor
David Gomez

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Jeff Linares
La Tasha Marks
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Instructional Aide
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2005 JACC
General Excellence
award winner



If a journalism program is cut and eliminated without a fight will anybody know it? No, because there will be nobody there to report it.

It seems that student news and student voices are an unnecessary asset for community colleges in the eyes of the Ventura County District's administrators and board of trustees.

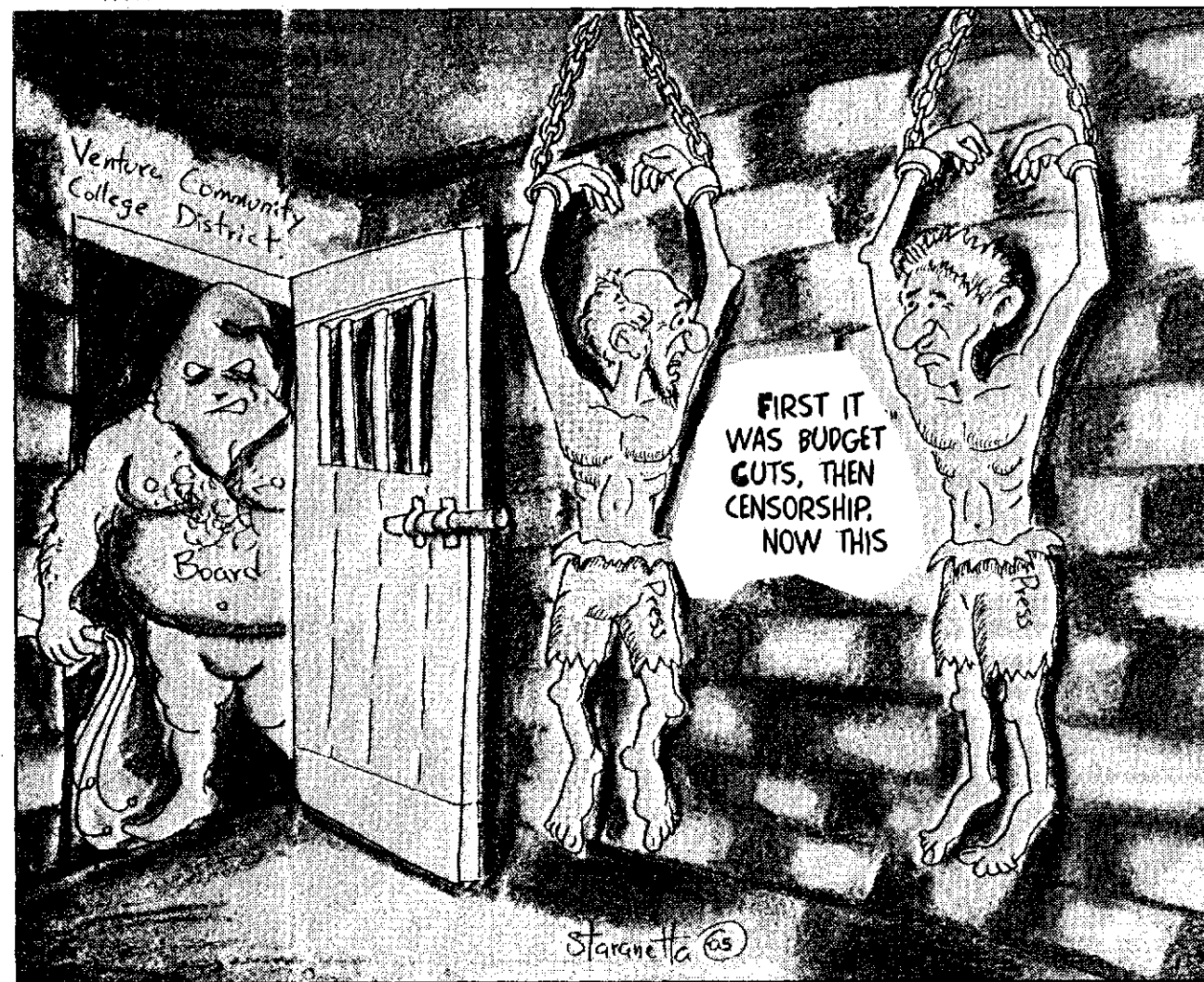
The district heads, in March, asked each of the three schools in the district (Moorpark, Oxnard and Ventura) to trim \$4.5 million from the journalism program budget.

As a quick fix, the presidents of Ventura and Oxnard College decided to consolidate the three campuses' newspapers into one by making Moorpark's journalism program and its paper (Moorpark Reporter) the working center of all three.

What the administration fails to understand is that the student newspaper is the voice of the students on each campus. A decision authorizing one campus to put out a paper for three campuses, which are more than 30 miles apart, is like refusing to hear the voice of each individual student body.

Moorpark will have its instructional courses in news writing and production, and it will be able to put out a newspaper. Meanwhile, Oxnard and Ventura will have no instructional programs and students who wish to write for the paper will have to do it on their own time.

One cannot separate a newspaper from instruction. Students aspiring to become journalists or those who want to become part of the journalism program will fall behind when it comes to learning the tricks of the



ROBERTO ESTARANETTA/TM

trade.

Skills obtained in journalism/communications programs cannot be taught through textbooks, like English or Math can; these talents can only come with the program experience, and as a result of the programs, students become experts on different topics and deadlines which are both

valuable in any career field.

With that being said, communication programs are not only necessary for students who wish to continue on in the discipline as a career, but students also learn valuable life skills through working on their school newspapers that will serve them well as they go to other fields.

Cognitive and research skills, such as devising concepts, determining what to ask and who to interview and gathering background information, taught in communications supplement every other business or profession.

Another important issue is that it's really about more than just the media

and reporting.

It is the voice of the students reflecting the community around them and explaining what is happening in the world to other students.

If the administration turns its back to students who wish to excel in the communication fields, then the entire society will be affected by it.

Journalists are like modern day historians. Journalists are people in the world who choose to observe and report to others what events are life changing and why people should care.

A great passion comes with journalism. Journalists are not here to just report the news, but in some idealistic way they are trying to change the world one story at a time, because there is hope for change.

The administration cannot take away our voices, our history of events. They cannot take away the stories of people in our schools and our communities. They cannot take away the passion in a journalist's heart and mind. And with that, we cannot let them take away our programs.

We cannot let them be silenced. The Ventura County District's administration needs to hear our voice.

It needs to understand that we will not let them silence their students and take away the futures' "newspaper historians" without a fight, but most of all, they need to understand that they must look elsewhere when deciding on how to make budget cuts.

If we let them stop the Ventura County district, who is to say they won't come after Cerritos and silence us next?



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR are welcome. They may be submitted both online and in person. In all cases, letters must be signed with real names before they will be considered for publication, either online or in print. Campus related issues are given priority. Letters may be edited for length, though online versions tend to include full content, as long as it is not libelous or in poor taste. You may deliver letters to AC 42 or contact the editor by e-mail at editor@talonmarks.com

Open mic gets five-second delay

There is a five-second delay on questions you can ask your ASCC president.

The FCC's influence is not limited from entering into the realm of BK-111, where this year's presidential forum was held and, as with all presidential forums, featured a fascist twist.

The presidential forum, which is a town hall meeting, should be the epitome of democracy.

It is where the constituents get a chance to exercise their First Amendment right to grill the candidates who claim to have every voter's best interest in mind.

Yet, it is censored below the surface, much like Communist Russia; potential voters are required to submit questions in advance where controversial and repetitive questions may not be asked, essentially cutting the Bill of Rights into only nine amendments.

Even here, at the community college

level, where leaders emerge from the humble and grateful, this type of censorship is allowed.

According to Holly Bogdanovich, director of student activities, audience members submit the questions and then the ASCC court looks over the questions to make sure they can be read out loud in order to eliminate questions that are asked more than once.

If this were truly a democracy, then the forum would be held with an open-mic philosophy. People should be able to approach the microphone and ask any question they feel



ROBERTO ESTARANETTA/TM

some questions are being repeated or are personal or offensive, but the candidate can simply choose not to answer them.

This is America, and the freedom to choose whether or not to answer a question is on par with the freedom to ask a question.

If we are not allowed to question our leaders with the utmost honesty, then how can we ever hold them accountable for their actions?

Ignorance has become a very acceptable excuse in America.

For example, ignoring the constitutional right of privacy in the Terri Schiavo case, or even on our own campus where students, administration and faculty alike fail to recognize a group's right to protest.

So, if a candidate is ignorant to the real controversial issues to which his constituents are partial, then he may hide from responsibility behind his ignorance.

It is ignorance that leads to fascism and is at the root of any First Amendment issue.

As far as repetition goes, why would a person ask a question that someone else already asked, except for clarity?

They wouldn't have to ask twice if the candidate already answered the question clearly.

In the case of prefabricated questions where the audience has no idea if someone else is going to ask the question, then there is more opportunity for unnecessary repetition.

Maybe that is why the framers of the Constitution made the First Amendment first, because it was of utmost importance.



Erick Galindo
Editor-in-Chief
editor@talonmarks.com

needs to be answered.

Don't get it wrong; the school president is your leader. He is the student body's voice at every Board of Trustees meeting and he gets to budget one of the biggest community college student body accounts in the country.

There is some relevance to the fact that

FREE SPEECH
ZONE?!

How do you feel about having to present your questions in advance for the presidential forum?

COMPILED BY: WERNER GOMEZ
PHOTOS BY: SUNEM RIVAS



"It takes away the audience. They (candidates) have to interact with the people."

DAVID LOUNGE
computer science major



"It would be easier on the candidates. It won't be spontaneous."

DAVID BELTER
computer graphic animation major



"They should just go to the person running for president so candidates know how the students feel."

DENNIS DIAZ
teaching major



"I just think it's a good idea. That makes it (the process) easier."

WENDY BAY HERMAN
computer programming major



"It is a good thing so people can get their questions in."

PAUL TANLOUS
biology major

Sex is natural feeling

Is America's moral fiber going down the drain? Many people seem to think so nowadays.

I've been speaking to different parents who say that they would never let their children move in with anybody before they get married.

Are parents so afraid to let their children become independent that they don't let them make decisions on their own?

On the other hand, the child needs to understand what is needed to make their lives livable.

My father once told me, "Take advantage of your opportunities without taking advantage of them."

I understand that parents feel they need to protect their children, but where are the limits? Are there even any?

Is it so wrong that their children want to be individuals and live the life they want to live?

It seems that there are still a lot of women who would not move in with someone before they get married. The reason that comes up most is not because they think it's immoral, but because their parents would not approve.



Jonathon Jordan
Life Editor
life@talonmarks.com

Have parents corrupted their children to where they're afraid to make decisions on their own?

I've been presented with the saying, "Why buy the cow, when you could get the milk for free?" It has been shown on television.

Men are presented as "players," who just want to "screw around." I have one thing to say about that.

Not all men are the same! Why is it that parents run children's lives when parents should be teaching their child how to be an individual?

I'm not saying that their views are wrong, but why do parents make every effort possible to make everyone else's views look wrong?

Shouldn't we be open-minded? That is what makes diversity a beautiful thing?

There are a lot of people who believe that premarital sex is a "sin."

Guess what? It's a natural feeling

ing that people should embrace and not feel confined because it's been deemed wrong.

There is nothing wrong with having sex, whether it is before or after marriage.

People just need to do it (no pun intended) safely.

Moral fiber: this means different things to different people.

That's what makes the world go round.

The views of different people make life exciting.

How boring would a relationship be if people didn't disagree on anything?

The problem that is arising in the 20th century is that people say they have morals when many of them cheat and do things they're not supposed to do.

Is it moral to send our young Americans to die in a war or is it moral to have "sexual relations" in the oval office?

America's view of morality is changing.

So why are there so many people that aren't changing with it?

Is this a decay of morality or an evolution of it?



ILLUSTRATION BY R. BERTO ESTARANETTA

Letters to the Editor Instructor rectifies bill position

Recently, Diona Carrillo interviewed me regarding State Senator Bill Morrow's SB 5, the "Student Bill of Rights." The article was titled "Teach or Preach."

Firstly, let me thank you for using me in your article.

I enjoyed being considered for the interview; it was flattering.

Secondly, and more significantly, I need to bring to your attention a small matter regarding how I was presented in that story. Carrillo was very professional when interviewing me, and I am sure she did not purposely misrepresent me.

However, upon reading the story, I found myself portrayed inaccurately.

The article stated that I thought "it" was great because students deserve academic freedoms.

In its context, the "it" became the bill. I want to clarify that at no time during our interview did I utter any form of support for the bill, let alone a ringing endorsement of "great."

Also, I am quoted as saying something to the effect of "the bill will not affect me at all."

Again, in its context, it sounds as if I don't feel the bill will have any sort of effect on me.

This is also not accurate.

I understand perfectly that the bill will have a profound effect on me as a teacher (and all teachers) because it is partisan, oppressive censorship.

I simply choose not to adhere to it (if passed) and will continue to teach as I do for I refuse to bend to oppression of this craven level.

As an English Instructor, I

understand semantics well.

The quote in the paper may have tried to capture my thoughts properly in denotation, but its connotation surfaced differently.

When Carrillo interviewed me, I showed her some papers with lots of typing on it.

Those papers contained my ideas about the bill, its purpose and its effects.

I wrote them down as a way to gather my thoughts for the interview.

I still have them.

If you guys read them, you will see they clarify my position perfectly.

Thank you for your time and I hope to see you soon.

Regards,
Phil Hu

Liberation theology lacks ethics

With regards to Nancy Aceves's article entitled "Bonpane Speaks on Theology and Ethics."

While Dr. Blasé Bonpane preaches an outdated Theology and Ethics, he has none.

I am appalled at the manic defensive response Bonpane gave over the issue of Liberation Theology when I questioned its relationship with communism.

His entire lecture about looking at everything with a critical mind; criticism is positive, was thrown out the window when his lecture topic was put to the test.

In a merciless, vengeance and a

spirit full of anger Bonpane attacked me and ever threaten me pointing his finger at my face and screaming, "you will hear from me!"

At that moment, I felt embarrassed, demolished, demoralized, my First Amendment Rights were violated by this erudite from U.C. Irvine.

All this happened in front of an auditorium full of students and what is even worse, this happened in front of the entire philosophy department professors, none of which moved a muscle to stop this demented attack on an otherwise

very valid question.

I am ashamed of the Philosophy Department of Cerritos College!

I have yet to get a formal apology.

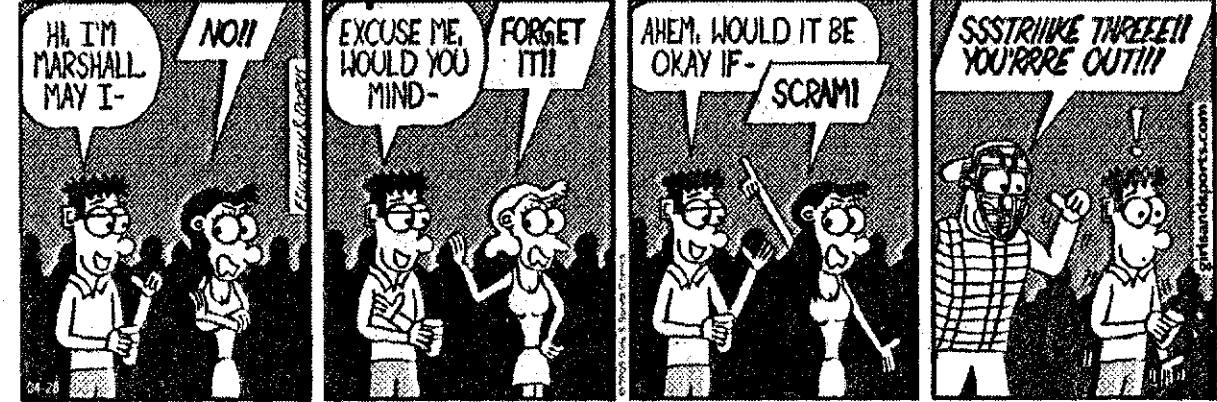
At that lecture I was only a guest and attended with no intention other than to get extra credit for one of my classes and for a my philosophy professor whom I hold with great regards and appreciation.

Cogito, ergo sum.
Dagoberto Ramos

LAS HURRACAS BY ESTARANETTA

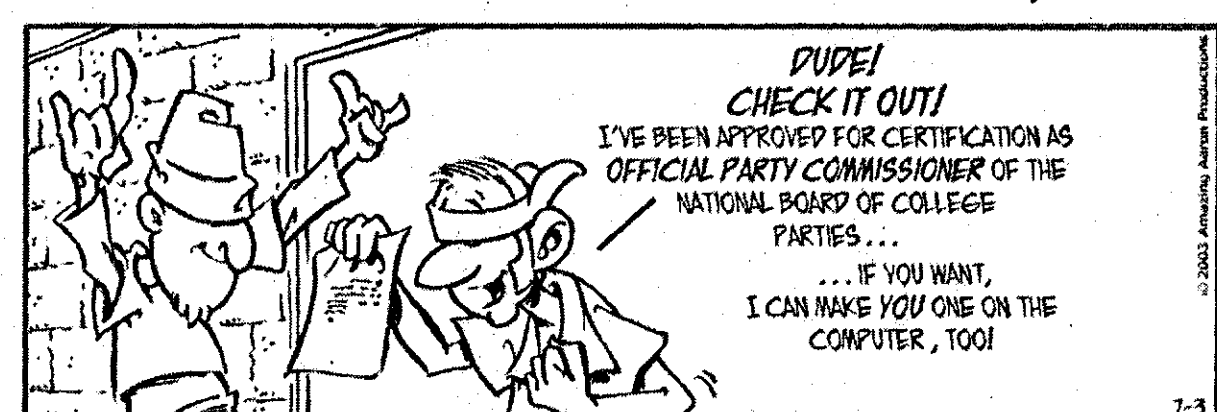


Girls and Sports by Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



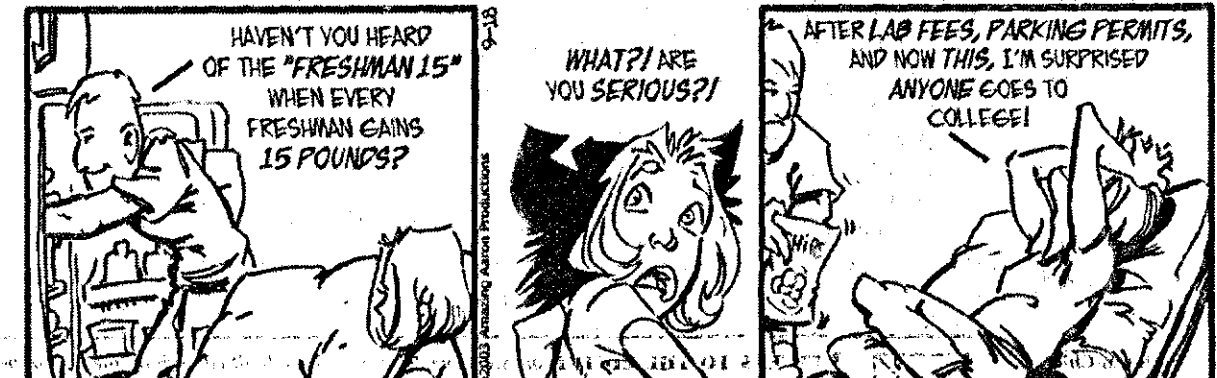
2 Dudes

By Aaron Warner



A College Girl Named Joe

By Aaron Warner



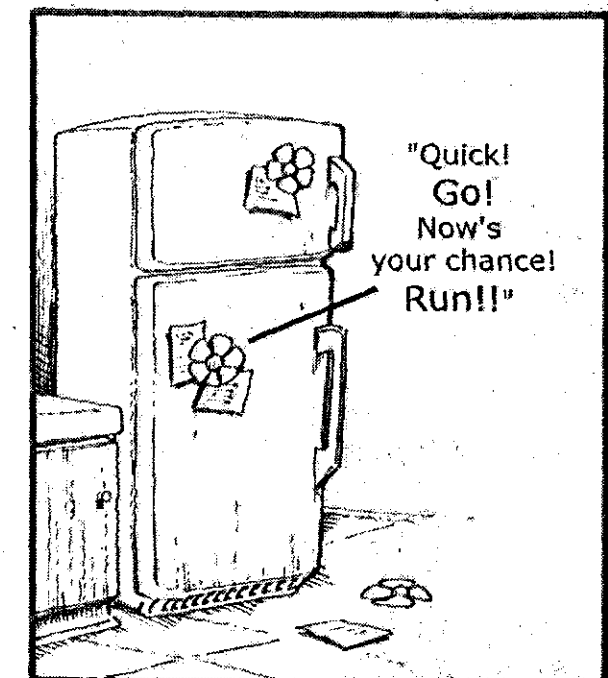
R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



You Are Here

By Aaron Warner



TRIVIA TEST

Answers online at www.talonmarks.com

- By Fifi Rodriguez
1. ANIMATION: When did Donald Duck make his debut?
 2. EXPLORERS: Who was the first European to sail into what became New York Harbor?
 3. NATURAL WORLD: What is another name for the longest day of the year?
 4. LANGUAGE: What is the common British term for what Americans call raisins?
 5. FOOD: What is the oldest known vegetable?
 6. ASTRONOMY: How many Earth days does it take Mercury to orbit the Sun?
 7. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: Which car company made the Edsel?
 8. ENTERTAINERS: Where did actor Burt Reynolds play college football?
 9. MUSIC: Which band-leader introduced The Lennon Sisters to the American public?
 10. GEOGRAPHY: About how many miles long is the Nile River?

Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phillips



COMMUNITY

Downey gives to young and old

ALICIA EDQUIST
Community Editor
community@talonmarks.com

City of Downey Mayor Anne Bayer made a proclamation and announced Fair Housing Month in the city. Also, a presentation was made to the city council, April 12, on an update of the city's Senior Paint and Fix-up program.

Bayer also presented the Downey Rose Float Association new Miss Downey and Miss Teen Downey and the princesses were honored with the city's pin.

The proclamation was tied into the presentation of the city's Senior Paint and Fix-up program.

"We are asking each resident of Downey to support efforts to put into practice the principles of freedom, justice and quality upon which this great nation was founded," Bayer said.

This year marks the 37th anniversary of the Federal Fair Housing Act, the original legislation targeting the elimination of housing discrimination in America. Since its adoption in 1968, April has been designated Fair Housing Month.

Each year, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Fair Housing Foundation organize events and activities in April to focus attention on the issue of equal opportunity housing.

In the Administrative Report, Mark Morris, housing planner for the city, gave a presentation on the Senior Paint and Fix-up program. He said the program was originally started to help maintain



Court honored: Court was recently crowned by the Downey Rose Float Association (From Left to Right) Princess Krystal Duncans, Miss Downey 2005 Robyn Guggianna, Downey Mayor Anne Bayer, Miss Teen Downey 2005 Jacqueline Mejia, Princess Lauren Casas, Princess Leslie Espin, Princess Melissa Iriarte, Princess Justine Akil, Princess Jacqueline Munoz and Princess Amanda Thoreson.

property values in the city, but has been very beneficial over the years to the senior citizen population.

Program benefits senior homeowners

The program has been running for 23 years and was started through a Community Block Grant by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

The Senior Paint and Fix-up is designed to help senior citizens who are low income and 62 years or older. It is free for residents and the resident is only allowed to participate in the program once.

Morris has talked to seniors who have participated in the pro-

gram; they always tell him that they are very hesitant when it comes to contractors working on their homes because of horror stories they have heard.

This program gives homeowners a chance to have the exterior of their homes painted, smoke alarms and deadbolt locks installed, broken windows and deteriorated screens replaced, and other minor repairs to the home free of charge.

The participants are allowed to pick the color they would like for their home, among other things to improve it.

"One lady picked out pink for her home because she loved the

color," Morris said.

Improved relations within city

Morris pointed out to the council members and residents in the audience that this program has improved relations between the homeowners and the city.

He finished by saying that this is one of the unsung programs in the city and he hopes it will start a mushroom effect by getting more people involved.

Council member Kirk Cartozian said, "We get lots of letters every year from residents who have participated in the program and they are all positive."

Emergency room shuts doors, patients left to look elsewhere

ROSALI CASTILLO
Staff Writer
rcastillo1@talonmarks.com

Suburban Medical Center closed the emergency room on Feb. 18 and turned it into a 24-hour urgent care facility in early March. For many residents in the city of Paramount and other surrounding cities that means they will have to go elsewhere to be treated.

The closing of the Emergency Room and opening of the urgent care facility took place because the Suburban Medical Center was bought by Promise Health Care in November of 2004.

Former city of Paramount Mayor Manuel Guillen agrees with the hospital's decision to change the emergency room to an urgent care facility.

Guillen also mentioned that "it's better this way, and we would have lost the whole hospital" if the change wasn't made.

Another reason why the emergency room was closed was because "the majority of the people using the emergency room had no insurance," Guillen said.

Since the patients didn't have insurance, the hospital wasn't making money.

The difference between an urgent care facility and an emergency room is that ambulances will not be able to take patients to this hospital anymore in order to be treated.

So, if someone was to get into a horrible car accident, the victim would not be able to be treated at Suburban. On the other hand, if a child was running a high fever he would be treated and sent home.

Others, like Dr. Camilo Jorge, do not agree with the closing of the emergency room.

"I think it was a bad move, because the city doesn't have access to an emergency room," said Jorge.

Jorge also thinks this change will affect the community "because now they (patients) will have to travel a distance to get emergency care."

Jorge also stated that there isn't really anything the doctors can do to revert the closing of the emergency room because it is up to the city to pressure the hospital.

On the other hand, Guillen stated that the city was happy with the change.

Hospitals close

• 2200 patients seen annually in Suburban Medical Center emergency room.

• 75 emergency rooms in Los Angeles County for nearly 10 million people

• 65 have closed statewide within the last ten years

• 30 of 65 have been shut down in the last 5 years

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Don Quixote invades Burnight Theater



COURTESY OF MEDIA RELATIONS

Star: (Left) The Theatre Department's very own, Kevin Hoggard, stars as Don Quixote.

Jazz band plays the classics

JON GARCIA
ASE Editor
arts@talonmarks.com

The ambience of major seventh chords filled the Student Center Wednesday night as parents, friends and community members gathered to hear the sounds of the Cerritos College Jazz Ensemble.

The program started with a special surprise, as the Fullerton College Jazz Lab Band opened the show, making its first ever appearance with the CCJE.

"Making Bacon" was the first song FCJLB opened the show with. Along with a few other modern radio friendly hits, the FCJLB played a total of four songs, closing with Les Hooper's, "Ragtime Odyssey."

The audience cheered, as FCJLB played their last song.

"They were good," Tami Hix, a community member of the city of Whittier said.

"My husband plays jazz, my son plays jazz, and I am a spectator; it's really a love of music that brings me here tonight."

The CCJE took the stage next, opening up with the Vincent Rose song, "Avalon."

The set list featured a wide variety of genres, including a big band arrangement of Antonio Carlos Jobim's, "No More Blues."

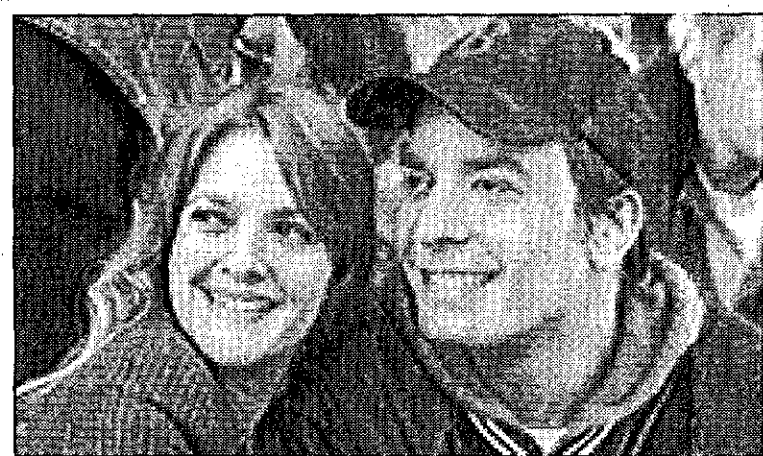
Not only did the audience have a great time hearing the classics being played, but band members also enjoyed the performance.

"When you are on stage, it feels like people want to be like you," Stacey Neacto, a trumpet player for the CCJE said.

"They see you, and they can only imagine what it's like to be in your shoes; music just brings a balance of both community and harmony to everything."

The concert went on for more than an hour, ending with a song that defines why the CCJE is so good, according to David Betancourt, director of bands and orchestras.

"We are going back to an oldie, but a goody," Betancourt announced, as his ensemble played their final tune, a Mercer Ellington song called, "Things Ain't What They Used to Be."



Romantic comedy smacks a home run

JEFF LINARES
staff writer
jlinares1@talonmarks.com

Fever Pitch, starring Drew Barrymore and Jimmy Fallon, is a rare, romantic comedy that works well for both men and women.

It shows characters that are interesting and very human, with qualities and defects that are funny and charming.

It is the story of a teacher and rabid Boston Red Sox fan, Fallon, that when taking some of his best students on a field trip meets a professional consultant, Barrymore, and falls in love with her.

During the first date, some of the most rare and funny things occur.

These events lead Barrymore to believe that the school teacher is the perfect match.

To her friends, he seems so perfect that it makes them suspicious.

Then, this leads her to try to

find out the truth about his passion for the Red Sox.

They attend games at Fenway Park, the baseball cathedral to Bostonians, where they meet some of the most amusing and unique people in the movie.

This opens some wounds to Red Sox fans about their misfortunes during the 86-year curse that caused anguish, and it explains why they hate the Yankees in a fun way.

It shows the love of a man for his team and how that love blinds him in relationship issues with women.

The movie's end had to be changed because the directors expected the annual collapse of the Red Sox, but because the team won the World Series, they decided to use the victory of the team as a part of the ending.

The performances by both actors are great, but Barrymore steals the movie with her charm and looks.

VETIA BOGDANOFF
staff writer
vbogdanoff1@talonmarks.com

The Theater Department prepares to bring a timeless classic of hope to the stage beginning on April 30, as "The Man of La Mancha" will present to audiences the challenge to dream the impossible dream.

According to Georgia Well, theater instructor and director of the show, it's a play within a play, in which the characters recreate the adventures of Don Quixote of 17th century Spain.

The show provides a glimpse through the eyes of a man who saw things as they were through the transforming powers of true love.

Through the re-enactment of the story, the Theater Department desires to impart a measure of hope to its audience.

"There's a real uplifting message in this show, to dream the impossible dream, to be able to go for what you know is right in the face of all odds; that's a quality that I think

everybody should have," Well said.

The production, just under two hours, is suppose to combine strong acting, dancing, singing, comedy and drama, intertwined with a wide range of emotion.

Well commented, "People are going to laugh; they should be surprised; I think they'll see a bit of themselves in the different characters, and I think they'll be moved."

"The show demonstrates that there are better things in life and one should never allow himself to be held down by others, but to keep reaching for the stars."

Kevin Hoggard, theater instructor who plays Quixote, said, "It appeals to the fairy tale/mythological base that we all have, this sort of unconscious yearning for life to be better than it is."

Incorporating a full orchestra, lavish costumes, scenery and lighting, Well hopes to stay true to the playwright by capturing the broad vision of the piece.

"It's been challenging, but those are the kinds of shows to do; the

kind where you go, 'I wonder if I can really do this?'," Hoggard said.

Gus Ruiz, theatre major, thinks audiences will like the show, as so many people can relate to the character of Quixote because he portrays what people feel, but are often afraid to show.

Running through May 8, the show promises to be, one of the best in regard to acting and music, according to Thomas Bedolla, theater major.

Culinary arts is collaborating with the theater department in an effort to create an enchanting evening by serving a special dinner prior to certain shows.

Students, staff and seniors can purchase tickets to see the show for \$15, and the dinner/theatre package for \$30, while general public price is \$17.50, and \$32.50 respectively.

Culinary arts will present a Mothers' Day brunch on the final day of the performances.

The Theater Department usually performs a musical every spring, as a grand finale to its season.

Mariah reinvents herself

ROSALI CASTILLO
Staff Writer
rcastillo1@talonmarks.com

It is finally here; the highly anticipated album has hit stores.

And what might I be talking about? It is none other than Mariah Carey's new album.

"The Emancipation of Mimi" hit stores April 12.

This album is something fresh and new, but also very "Mariah."

The album consists of 14 songs, and overall, it is a very good album and not a waste of money.

She mixed things up by working with different producers and other artists.

On this album she worked with rappers Nelly, Snoop Dogg, Twista and Jermaine Dupri.

As for producers, she worked with The Neptunes, Kanye West and "LA" Reid.

This album contains ballads, of course, that is what she is best known for besides her high notes, which also are included in many of her songs.

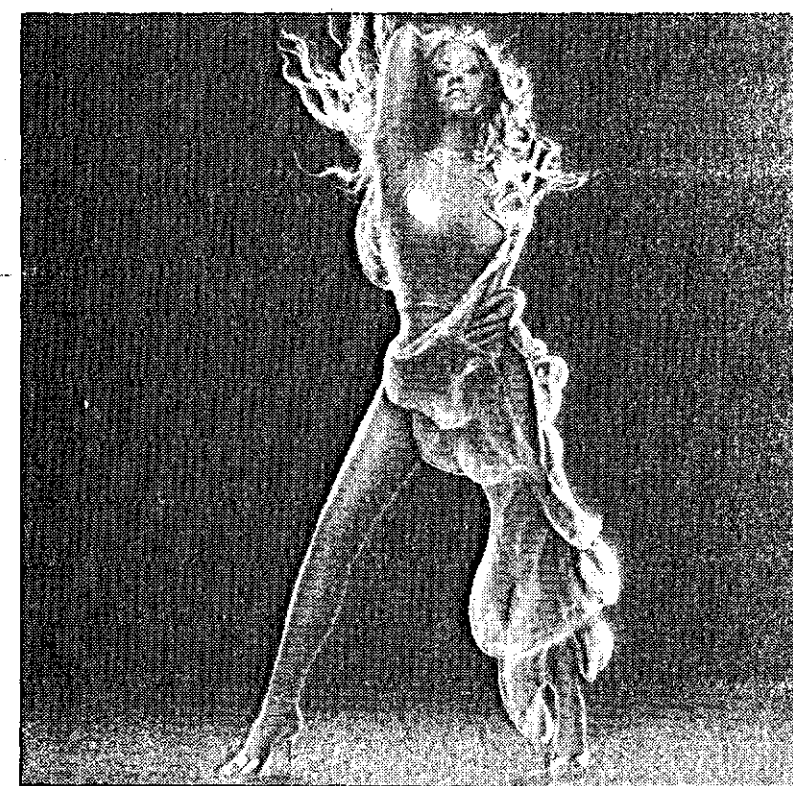
One of the best songs on this album is her latest single, "We Belong Together."

The words to this song are just so captivating. It is one of a few songs on this album that people can relate to.

Surprisingly, there are more dance records over ballads, which may be one of the reasons why this may be one of her best albums.

Another song I really liked is "To the Floor," which features Nelly. This collaboration wasn't expected, but Carey seems to surprise her fans every time.

Another thing I liked about



this album were the lyrics of some of the songs.

She talks about things that people can relate to, and that's what makes her a really good song writer.

On every album she releases she always includes a song that is somewhat inspirational.

On this album, "Fly like a bird" was the "inspirational" song.

It talks about the struggles that have come her way in the recent years; she explains how strong she needed to be to help her get through it all.

If her career was in danger of ending because of a certain movie, this album will be the one to revive it.

R&B fans, this is one of the albums to buy because it is full of good music.

MARIAH CAREY
THE EMANCIPATION OF MIMI

Track Listing

1. It's Like That
2. We Belong Together
3. Shake It Off
4. Mine Again
5. Say Somethin'
6. Stay the Night
7. One and Only
9. Circles
10. Your Girl
11. I Wish you Knew
12. To the Floor
13. Joy Ride
14. Fly Like a Bird

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SPORTS



Caught stealin': Falcons' shortstop Nicole Deel applies the tag at second base, nailing a runner from Pasadena City College during the Falcons' 4-2 home victory last Thursday. Of Deel, head coach Murray said, "She has turned into a machine."

BENEDICT ORBACE/TM

ASK THE COACH: KODEE MURRAY Falcons softball

The Cerritos softball team found itself in third place in the South Coast Conference heading into Tuesday's game with El Camino College. At 23-8 overall and 8-4 in conference, Falcons' head coach Kodee Murray reflects on closing the season and what lies ahead.

Q: To what do you attribute the team's strong play?

"On our team, everybody has the capacity to do something to help us win. No one person has to do everything if everyone contributes a little bit. We have a sense

that we can win if we are within two runs. One through nine on our team can hit the ball. We score runs. It has been an effort from everybody."

Q: What are Christina Chavez's and Nicole Deel's strengths?

"Christina made such a name for herself her freshman year that she is just adjusting to the fact that the coaches know her and the returning pitchers know her. They aren't giving her any pitches to her strengths. Christina has had to really work hard at hitting new pitches.

She has been clutch all year. When we've needed a big hit, she has come up and batted."

"This year I asked Nicole to step up and be a vocal leader on this team, and she has done that. I also asked her to slide over from third base to shortstop, probably one of the toughest positions on the field. She makes the routine and tough plays at shortstop. She has turned into a machine out there."

Q: Alex Castillo and Tricia Lee combine to make a two-headed monster on the

mound. Can you describe their styles?

"Alex throws the ball hard and hits her spots. Tricia throws with less velocity, but has a few more pitches. We are strongest with Alex on the mound. However, Tricia has won big games. Our Mt. SAC win was Tricia's, yet Alex is our workhorse."

Q: How do you think the team will finish the season?

"There is not a team left that we can't beat if we play hard."

McGregor, Falcons continue eight-game winning streak

WERNER GOMEZ
Co-Sports Editor
sports@talonmarks.com

Led by pitcher Sheldon McGregor's seven shutout innings, the Cerritos baseball team extended its winning streak to eight, defeating the Los Angeles City College Cubs last Saturday, 14-2 at Kincaid Field.

This was the Falcons' first game since April 9, in which they beat the El Camino Warriors 11-9.

The Falcons are now 17-11 overall and 12-3 in South Coast Conference play. They traveled to Griffith Park last Tuesday to play LA City once more.

They will now travel to East Los Angeles College on Thursday to play the Huskies and will play them again on Saturday at Kincaid Field.

The win kept Cerritos in pace to try and take the first place spot from Mt. SAC, who was a game ahead of the Falcons going into Saturday's game.

Michael Benavente, shortstop, believes that the team's confidence grows more with every game it plays.

"We got better today, just like every game," he said.

Although the Falcons are winning there is still room for improvement.

"Everything is pretty solid," he

continued, also mentioning that the Falcons need to work on "just polishing everything up."

The Falcons were able to score 14 runs off of 14 hits, but the three they got in the first inning were all that McGregor and the rest of the pitchers needed as they only gave up two.

McGregor, who pitched seven innings (allowing four hits, no runs, walked two and struck out seven), said that he felt good out on the mound.

"(I) felt that my fastball was working on them," he said. "They couldn't really get ahead of it."

A big key to being relaxed as a pitcher is getting early run support.

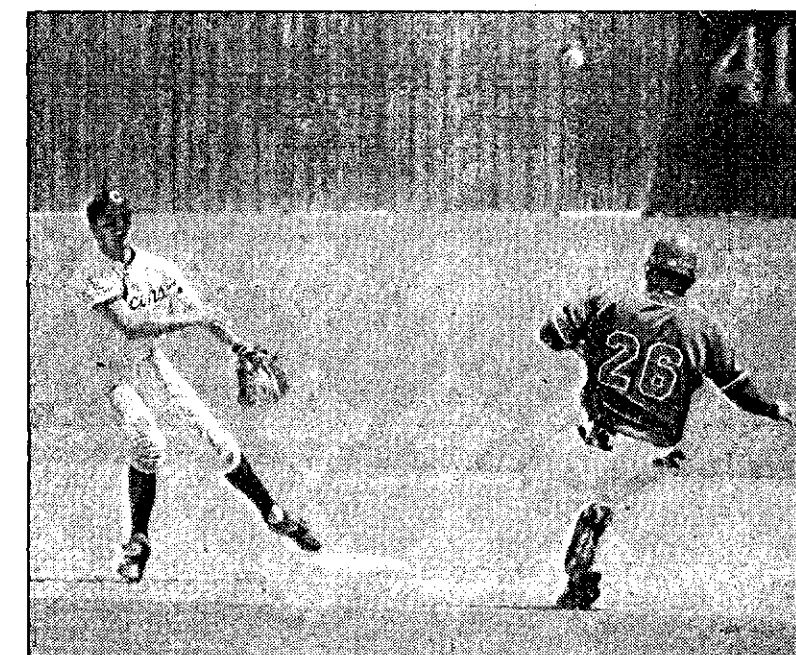
"It gives you more confidence when you have the lead, it makes it seem like it's alright for you to make mistakes."

The Falcons have eight games remaining on the schedule, this week against ELAC and next week starting April 26 against first place Mt. SAC and they say they are ready to play those games.

"You always have to be ready for a challenge," Benavente said.

"You can't take anybody lightly."

Cerritos had six players with at least two hits, with Benavente going 3-4 hitting a triple in the sixth inning, he also had one run batted in and two runs scored.



WERNER GOMEZ/TM

Twin-killing: With a LA City College runner bearing down on him, Falcons' second baseman Daniel Luyben turns the double play.

David Perez

Co-Sports Editor • sports@talonmarks.com

Enough is enough: pick a side already!

To the fence sitters: make up your mind.

It seems as if everywhere you turn it is "Dodgers this" and "Angels that." Catchy slogans endlessly fill the baseball fan's mind as both organizations grapple for control of Los Angeles County.

Meanwhile, passive-aggressive observers contemplate which of the two franchises best suit their needs for the week.

In a region notoriously famous for "bandwagoners" and the next cliché, true baseball fans are hard to come by.

Simply look around. See an Angels fan wearing a Dodgers cap? How about a Dodgers fan sporting a Vladimír Guerrero jersey?

If so, take note: the person you see is not a fan of either team. No way. How can one person play both sides in a situation where city bragging rights are up for grabs?

By no means is it rare to like two teams in a similar sport. Such is the case with many fans, myself included. What is important to stress is the lack of interconnectedness of the two teams I follow: the Dodgers and the Yankees.



ILLUSTRATION BY
ROBERTO ESTERANFETIA

What we are dealing with is a hate for the Red Sox and two completely different time zones.

Can the same be said for the "pending," noncommittal Southern California baseball fan?

Hardly. The paradox is only deepened when attending a Freeway Series game. Kids running around with both teams' gear, cheering for players of both organizations.

It is these same children who age into the very "fan" I speak of.

Please leave my stadium alone. I no longer want to attend a game at Dodger Stadium against some random East Coast team and happen to stumble across a buffoon donned in Angels garb.

Nor do I think that Angels fans enjoy watching the aimless saunter into Angel Stadium of Anaheim clothed in "Game Over" apparel when playing the White Sox.

The writing is on the wall; true Angels fans want nothing to do with Los Angeles. They have even gone as far as producing shirts boasting their intolerance of the recent name change.

Most Dodgers fans cringe at the sight of red, some even choosing to side with the hated Giants to beat the Angels during the 2002 World Series.

So let's stop the madness before we see the Anaheim Dodgers of Los Angeles or some crazy justification as to why a team in Orange County plays dress-up in order to kill a perceived Napoleon complex by leeching off another county.

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