



# TALON MARKS

CERRITOS COLLEGE

WEDNESDAY, August 25, 2004  
Volume 50, No. 1

www.talonmarks.com

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## The Welcome Wagon

❖ Fall semester officially begins, and to celebrate, Cerritos College recognizes a time-honored tradition: free IN-N-OUT burgers.

### ASCC serves free lunch to Falcons

SUNEM RIVAS  
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With music and a free IN-N-OUT meal, the Associated Students of Cerritos College welcomed returning students and freshmen into the school year.

Welcome Back Day was held last Wednesday in front of the Student Center where a line of hungry students stretched out to the front of the Arts and Crafts Building.

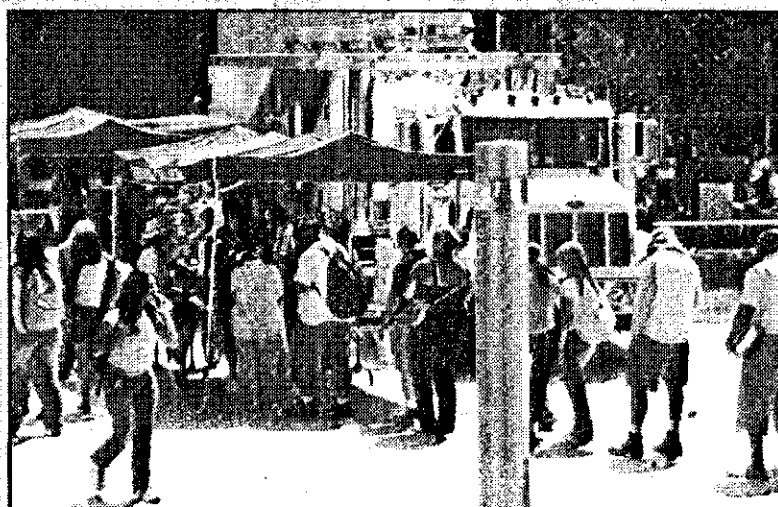
"Free food is good," Robert Perez, Art Design, said. "It makes me feel like the school cares about their students. It is a great idea to bring (IN-N-OUT) out on campus."

"To receive the free meal, students presented their current campus identification. Therefore, Welcome Back Day is also a way to reinforce the importance of students to obtain their school IDs," said, Dean Ackland, Coordinator of Student Activities.

See DAY, page 2



**Life cycle of a free meal:** (Top left): Stacks of boxes line the tables in Falcon Square. Each box contained one burger and a bag of chips. (Top right): Students get their ID cards ready while waiting in line. (Bottom left): Falcons pick up their burgers and drinks. (Bottom right): After waiting in line, a student enjoys a well-earned lunch. Bon Appetit!



DANIEL MENA & MARIA GUTIERREZ/TM

### Festivities continue for night students

ERICK GALINDO  
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For one night, Cerritos College did not go hungry. Those students that paid the required fees, and got the print out of their schedule, given the sticker on their identification (I.D.) card and stood in line, did not go hungry that evening.

Once again, the school welcomed back its students by offering free IN-N-OUT burgers, chips, and a soda on the second night of school. The event was held right in front of the food court, which now has become a hallowed ground to the broke and the hungry.

There was only one simple requirement to the free feast: Any current student could get a burger simply by showing some identification with the proper red sticker.

Despite the demands for IN-N-OUT at any of their locations, the line at Cerritos moved fluidly throughout the night.

See NIGHT, page 2

## Board member's death creates vacant seat

JANINE TORRES  
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Longtime Cerritos College Board of Trustees member Cheryl Eppler, died unexpectedly of a suspected heart attack July 5, creating a vacancy in her post as secretary to the Board of Trustees.

"Cerritos College has lost a significant friend," John Grindel, Vice-President Academic Affairs/Provost, "Cheryl Eppler carried out the importance of Cerritos College into the community."

On Aug. 18, the Board of Trustees unanimously appointed former board member and former California Assemblyman Robert Eppler, attorney at law, to complete the term of Cheryl Eppler through Nov. 2005. He will be sworn in at next Wednesday's board meeting.



MEDIA RELATIONS  
Cheryl Eppler, 1951-2004

The Board of Trustees avoided a costly special election at Cerritos College's expense by choosing the option of appointing an individual to fill the open seat.

Fifteen applicants sent letters of interest and qualifications for the Board's review in response to a July 20 announcement that the Board would appoint a member to the vacant seat.

"The Board had a tough decision," Dr. Noelia Vela, President/Supervisor, "There was a tremendous amount of talent in the applicants."

Cheryl Eppler began her service on the Cerritos College Board of Trustees when she was first elected in 1993, twice holding the position of president.

Eppler served on several community organizations including the La Palma/Cerritos American Association of University Women, the Battered Women's Shelter of Whittier and Soroptimist International of Artesia-Cerritos.

"Cheryl Eppler was an example of the thick level of commitment a person can give," Josh Franco, ASCC President, "Her passing raises the bar of that level."

## Grindel bids farewell to presidency

CHRISTOPHER OLIVARES & JANINE TORRES  
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Cerritos College welcomed a new president on July 12 and thanked our current President John Grindel, who served as our Interim President since July 1, 2002.

Grindel is the only interim president who served two years and this was because the Board of Trustees had difficulty choosing the "Right" president for Cerritos College. The most digitally advanced college, after a long search has found her and she is Noelia Vela.

After stepping down as interim president, Grindel will return to his vice president position of academic affairs and will continue to serve students and staff at Cerritos College.

"I have worked together with everyone here at Cerritos. Together, we have accomplished many things, but the most important would be to bring stability back to the campus and surviving the financial crisis of the state."

Grindel talked about how the stability had vanished and it was an uproar due to the resignation of the former President, Jane Harmon. "All of the mistrust was high, since then the campus has dealt with it well and communication is everything."

The G.O. Bond was a successful effort that was supported by everyone on campus, includ-

### FAST FACTS: John Grindel

- Only interim president to serve two years in office.
- Helped pass the General Obligation Bond (G.O. Bond), which brought in \$210 billion for infrastructure.

ing all faculty, students and classified employees. The most support of the issue came from Grindel himself and from the new ASCC President Josh Franco.

Finally, Grindel discussed the issue of the financial difficulty that has occurred during his term as interim president.

"We have been able to weather the storm," Grindel said, "We have financially survived it. No current layoffs of permanent employees is highly crucial."

See VELA, page 2

## Construction worsens student parking

### ❖ Parking goes from bad to worse

CATHY LOZANO  
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Students often dread the beginning of a new semester, which means leaving your house extra early, circling the lot for a good hour, or perhaps even getting into arguments with other drivers because they took the space you been waiting for all morning.

After all this trouble you end up parking in the last row by the strawberry field and you still have to walk to class.

As enrollment goes up, the parking situation worsens. It has

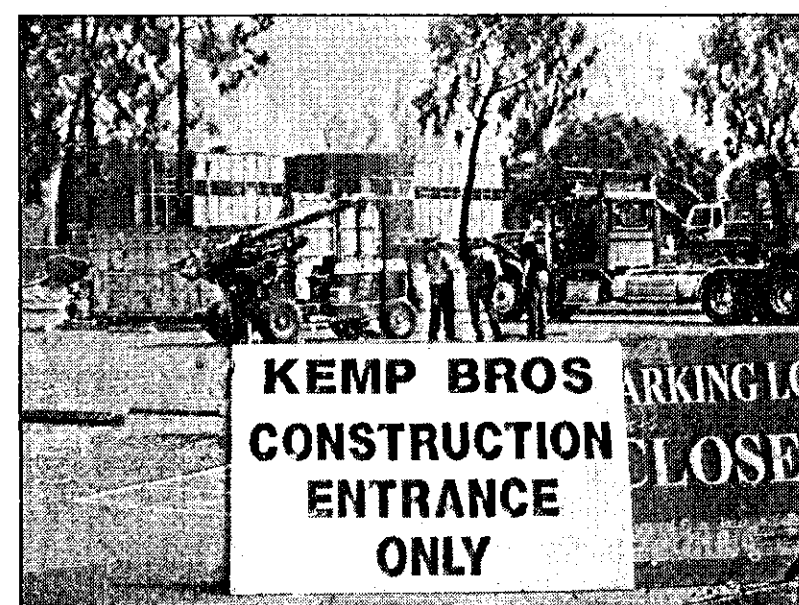
gotten to the point where it's not about finding the nearest space but finding one to begin with.

Students who start school at 11 a.m. know arriving to school means they have to park far, but what they don't expect is not finding a space.

"I think this is ridiculous. The school should build a structure and end this madness", Eddie Garcia, undecided.

On the first week of school, a driver was waiting for students to come out of class when he saw a student walking up to his car, which happened to be parked one car away from him. He put his car in reverse and didn't notice the

See PARKING, page 2



CATHY LOZANO/TM

No cars allowed: Parking lot C-5 is closed due to construction.





Relocating: Mandarin Palace owners come to clean their business out.

RAUL MONTE/IM

## Mandarin Palace closes down after expiration of contract

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Hungry? Why wait? Well for those students who come to Cerritos College strictly on the diet of great Asian cuisine, you may have to wait, at least 30 days.

A possible victim of Schwarzenegger - nomics the Mandarin Palace is no longer in operation on campus.

If you are wondering what in the realm of Hades is the Mandarin Palace is, the Chinese restaurant that had about as many customers as

complaints. Now it's in the future home of what Director of Student Activities, Holly Bogdanovich believes to be, "Somewhere along the realm of Japanese food."

According to Jenny Ho, Purchasing, it will be the Tokyo Garden. The Tokyo Garden will feature Japanese Food such as rice bowls, sushi, and teriyaki.

So what broke down the palace? Nothing really. Their contract was simply not renewed. According to Ho, "The decision was made last fall by the former director of purchasing."

The Mandarin Palace was told they could

reapply in the spring as a new vendor for a new contract, according to Holly. The Mandarin Palace did not apply for a new contract.

The Tokyo Garden should be planted by the end of next month, but for those who cannot wait to see what is cracking with the Japanese cuisine, the Tokyo Garden is available for sampling (for a fee of course) at their current location in Downey.

They are currently operating out of their restaurant on Stewart and Grey Road and on Paramount Blvd. They will remain open once the Cerritos College location goes up.

## Night celebrations

Continued from page 1

"The free food really kicks in tight, around this time when everyone has just paid their fees. Everybody's kind of broke," commented freshmen Jesse Chaldez.

From the looks of the Financial Aid line, Chaldez may have a point, but there are those students who might be broke and still cannot afford the free food.

To many students, time is precious and for some students that night, instead of enjoying endless chatter with friends while showing down on free burgers, their

minutes were spent listening to lectures or taking notes. The school, however cannot afford the time or money to have the event last all 14 hours that students are on campus.

"I appreciate the effort, but I wish they could have this all day. I mean, I'm in class all night and all morning," said sophomore Carlo Marini as he showed up late for his free dinner.

The school does offer a "Welcome Back Day" for students who attend during the day. Same burger place. Same burger channel. Different burger time.

## Parking worsens

Continued from page 1

vehicle waiting behind him, unfortunately, leaving a nice scratch on the bumper. It was a minor fender bender, but the point is, students get impatient and frustrated and they need to watch their surroundings.

Other students curse at other drivers. "I was waiting for an empty space and I began to get really frustrated and late to class. I was ready to pull into an empty space when a car cut me off, taking my spot. I was so mad, so I cursed

at him, telling him to move or else. "Stacy Kim, Business major.

Some students don't want to park far because they just don't want to walk. To other students, parking far away is just a safety issue. For Karina Garcia, Biology major, "It's about finding a decent space since my class ends at 10 p.m. I don't want to walk far in the dark."

Parking situation can be minimized if people would take turns driving to school with friends, getting dropped off, or arriving at school an hour prior to class.

## Cerritos welcomes Dr. Vela

Continued from page 1

A warm welcome set the stage for Dr. Noelia Vela's tenure as Cerritos College's new president. Vela, has been part of the California Community Colleges for 20 years. Vela returned to California after spending several years at Pima College in Arizona, where she was recruited to help them change the school as a result of a G.O. Bond passage.

"Cerritos College has a long history of excellence and I'm delighted to be back home with the California Community Colleges," said Vela.

Dr. Vela plans to focus on the implementation of the G.O. Bond planning of new and old facilities. By gathering information on the needs of the community, faculty, administration and students, she'll be able to develop a plan to be responsive to campus needs.

"Analysis will drive future plans," explained Vela. And a strong foundation of Cerritos's existing programs let's us know how we're doing."

Students are Vela's priority. Her background in education has given her a firm belief in students' ability to succeed and the need for educators to communicate with their students that they are available to assist students in reaching their goals.

"I want students to feel welcome and know that we are glad that Cerritos College is here for their education," said Vela.

Dr. Vela stresses the importance of students making the most of the college experience through involvement, encouraging students to join a club or work on campus to enhance their ability to succeed.

"Statistics show that students who are involved have a higher probability of succeeding," said Vela.

Dr. Vela is looking forward to a long career and exciting future at Cerritos College. She appreciates the community support and positive learning environment available to Cerritos students. "Cerritos College is a great college and this is a great time to be here," said Vela.



RICARDO RAMIREZ/IM

**New President:** Dr. Vela is excited about the future of Cerritos.

## Students enjoy freebies during Welcome Back Day

Continued from page 1

Student IDs are required to receive benefits from the health center as well as to check-out books from the library, among other things, Ackland said.

From the Burnight Center Stage, Josh Franco, ASCC president, welcomed students back to school and encouraged everyone to get involved in school activities as students munched on their free meals.

Franco also introduced the

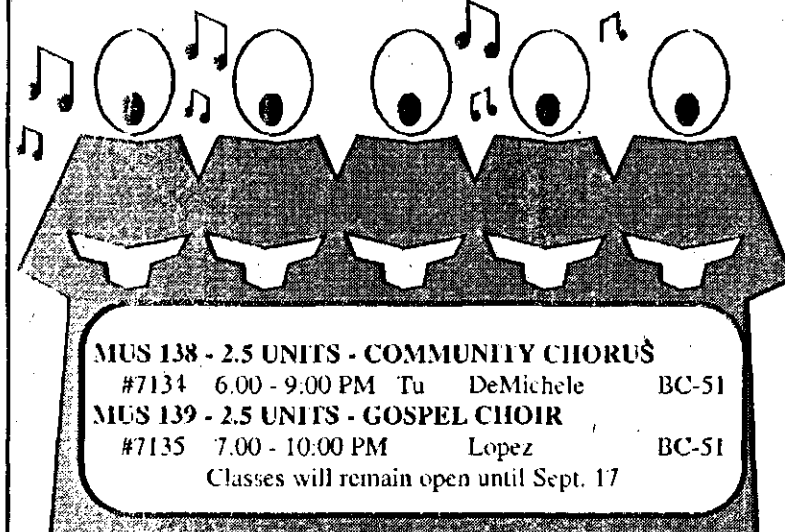
school's new president, Dr. Noelia Vela, who offered her support and wished students and staff the best for the new semester.

"It is great seeing the school full of people. It is like being part of new beginnings, and watching them dance to the music is a lot of fun," Cory Newman, owner and disk jockey to DJ Party Pios, said.

If you missed out on the music and a free meal, you need not worry. Welcome Back Day comes around at the beginning of every semester.

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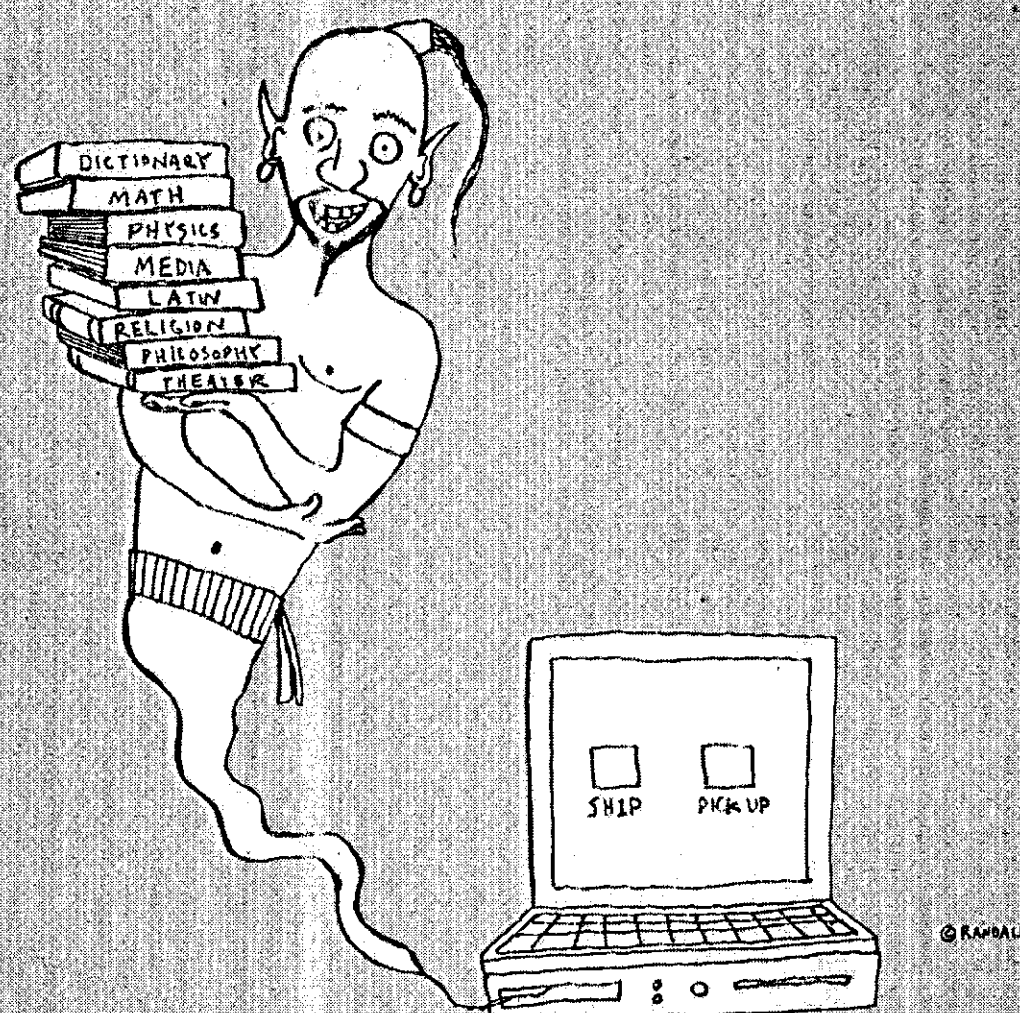
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Lecture Hall prior to its demolition

CHRISTOPHER OLIVARES/IM

## Speechless

Bond to pay for new construction.

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On Aug. 16, the first passing of the end of the Lecture Hall at Cerritos College was finally put to rest, as a newer building will replace it in 2006.

After the passing of the General Obligation Bond on March 4, Cerritos College received new bond money of \$210 million. This included the Lecture Hall as the most historical building on campus, which will be replaced by a new high tech Mathematical/Science Engineering complex. The complex will include a lab, which will take place over the next few years.

The Lecture Hall was built back in 1959, when the last bond of \$6 million was given to build the campus. Such a building as the Lecture Hall has given homes to the science and literary areas on

campus. What will happen when this amazing building of its time will be demolished at the beginning of the fall semester.

"It's a good idea. The school should have done the construction in the summer with all that parking taken," said Maria Hernandez, Liberal Arts.

If you haven't seen the Lecture Hall it looks like a round giant spider with its legs just standing there. The Lecture Hall will be remembered for its circular shape, its stadium seating, and access for instructors to travel from room to room without leaving the inside of the building.

Tom Richie, Director of Operations and Facilities, said, "The Lecture Hall was built back in the late 1950s and in its time, it was planned to look like a futuristic building almost like a flying saucer. It was strange for a building to look like that during that time."

"It's kind of weird, because we hardly ever have lecture classes. It will be nice to have a modern building, but it will be the same problems as the Social Science Building: crowded," said Heleen Nop, Psychology.

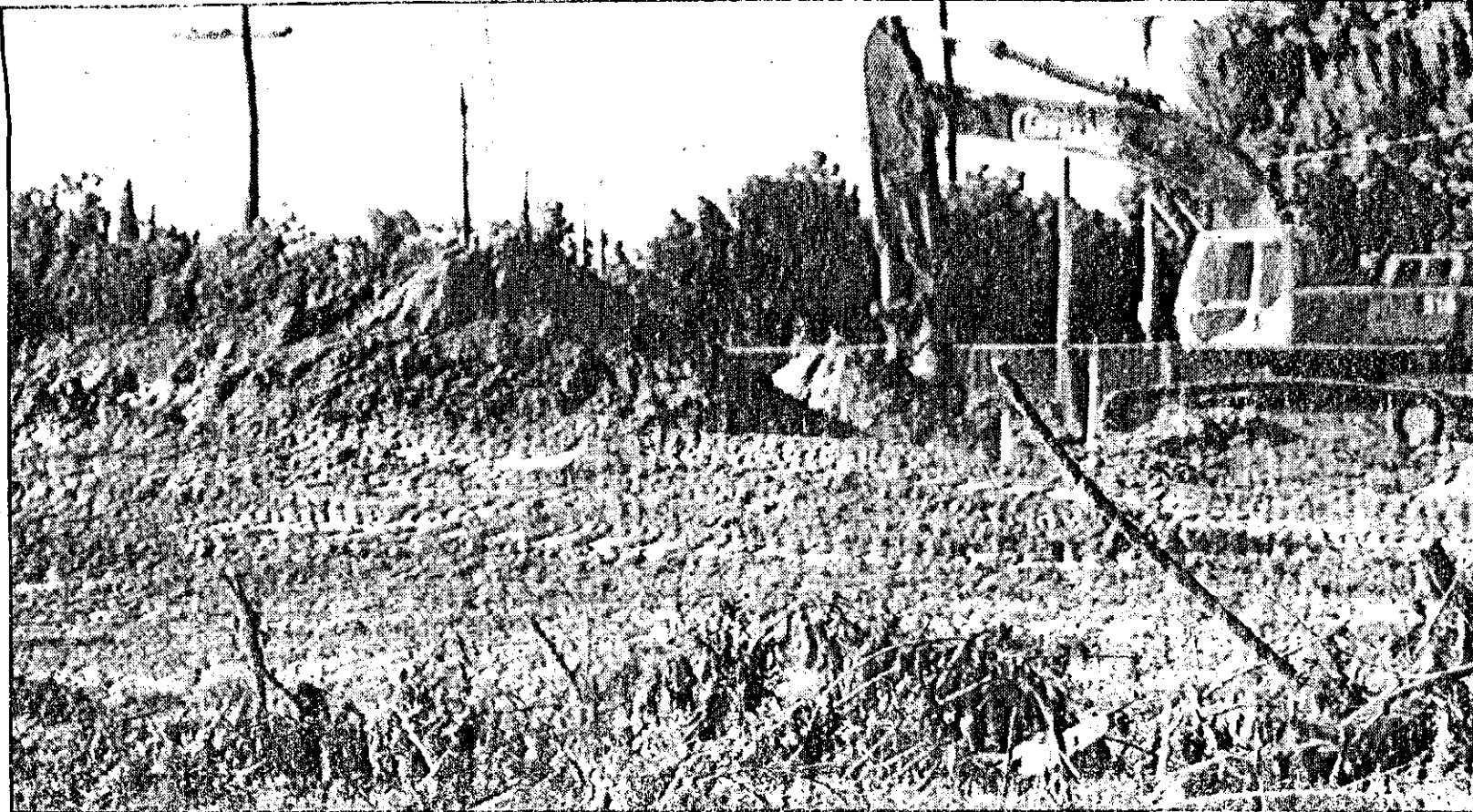
The Talon Marks has many versions of what the Lecture Hall looked like during its time at Cerritos College. Some of the main functions or changes in the building were the seats. Seats were more comfortable and now they are hard, falling apart, metal desk chairs.

Another item that has changed are the light fixtures. The Lecture Hall changed from decade to decade such as the first circular lighting, in the 1970s, it was English lampposts and in the 1990s to the present, it has square boxed lights. The one thing that is still the same is the color of the building.

Farewell to the Lecture Hall and hello to the new Mathematics/Science Building. Hope to make the future of Cerritos College a better place for the students to learn in a good environment.

### Historic Facts on the Lecture Hall

- \*Built in 1958.
- \*Looks like a spider.
- \*Odd structure for its time.
- \*Supports Biology courses.
- \*Easy access for instructors.
- \*Futuristic look.



The aftermath of the construction of the Lecture Hall this semester.

RICARDO RAMIREZ/TA



The Lecture Hall in the 1970s.

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MARIA GUTIERREZ/TM



SCULPTURE: STEVEN PORTUGAL "ALCHYMIA (TWO POUNDS)", 2004

**RAYMOND GALLEGOS**  
staff writer  
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The Annual Art Faculty Exhibition will be showcased at the newly restored Art Gallery on campus for the duration of one month from next Monday to Sept. 30. The opening reception for this event will take place on Tuesday from 6p.m. to 8p.m. Both the exhibition and opening reception will be held at the Arts and Crafts/Gallery Building, AC-50, behind the C-10 parking lot off of 166th Street.

Students are encouraged to attend both events by the new Art Gallery Director, Andrea Bronte. Bronte, who has been working late for the past two weeks in preparation of the exhibit, starts her new position this semester. "It is important for the students to acquaint themselves with different cultural activities on campus," Bronte says. The exhibit within itself will contain several different kinds of art as well. Everything from graphic art, paintings, and sculptures will be included at the exhibit.

Bronte goes on to comment, "Both two- and three-dimen-

sional art work pieces will be presented by the art faculty." One three-dimensional art piece was done by John Ahr, the Metal class Professor. Ahr's enormous pillar, made of hard paper material, is composed of many bricks, which contain words or quotes from Ahr telling a story about a person he has encountered in his life. The burned in

**"The Students should see what the teachers are doing and their work can inspire the students."**

- Art Gallery Director,  
Andrea Bronte

quotes and words range from things such as, "lent me socks, locked the door, made an offer lied", to other words like, "drank too much, died, got stoned, died, got wasted."

The work diversifies from Ahr's metal piece of art to acrylic paint on canvas. Just like Rebecca Guzak's painting. The digital painting instructor dis-

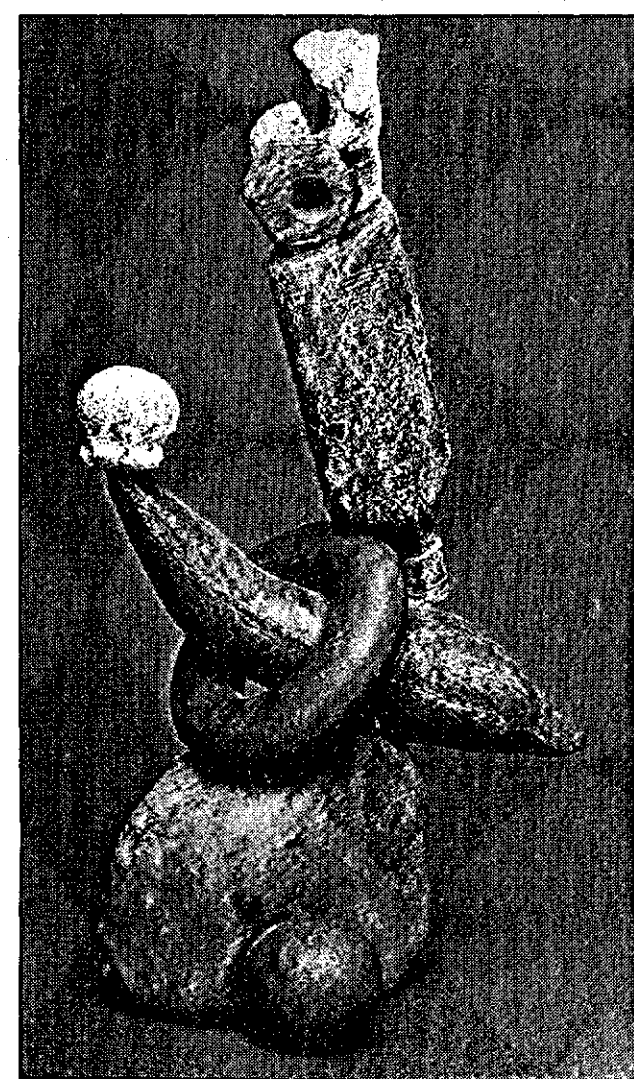
played a huge canvas painted with everything from flowers to a female nude silhouette in the sky.

Bronte says, "Students should see what the teachers are doing and their work can inspire the students." Steven Portugal, Art Department Chair, is very proud of his faculties work. He feels that it is good for the community to see such talented artists.

There will be refreshments and music at the opening reception. Regular gallery hours are Mondays through Thursdays from 11a.m. to 4p.m. and Tuesdays through Wednesdays have late hours from 6p.m. to 9p.m. Even without the refreshments and music, the faculty exhibit is worth a look.

Flyers have been sent out all over the community along with posting on campus identifying the annual exhibition. "There will be six to eight future art exhibits opening up on campus this academic year," Bronte says. This exhibit is dedicated to faculty only and there will be art dating back from as long as five years.

For more information, please visit the art gallery or online at [www.cerritos.edu/gallery](http://www.cerritos.edu/gallery).



SCULPTURE: STEVEN PORTUGAL "ALCHYMIA (TWENTY)", 2004

## Upcoming Campus Events:

**DANCE**  
Faculty Concert  
Nov. 4, 5, 6,  
Time: 8p.m

**JOURNALISM**  
JAAC Conference  
Cal State University,  
Fullerton  
Oct. 15, 16

**MUSIC**  
Jazz Exchange Concert  
Student Center  
Sept. 29, Time: 7pm

**MUSIC**  
"The President's Own"  
United States Marine Band  
Gymnasium  
Nov. 13, Time: 7:30pm

**PHOTO**  
Photo Exhibit - TBD  
  
**RADIO**  
Radio Fest - TBD

**THEATER**  
"Charley's Aunt"  
Oct. 8, 9, 14, 15, 16  
Time: 8pm  
Oct. 17, Time: 2pm  
Film Fest - TBD



# Aliens vs. Predators...The battle that ends nothing

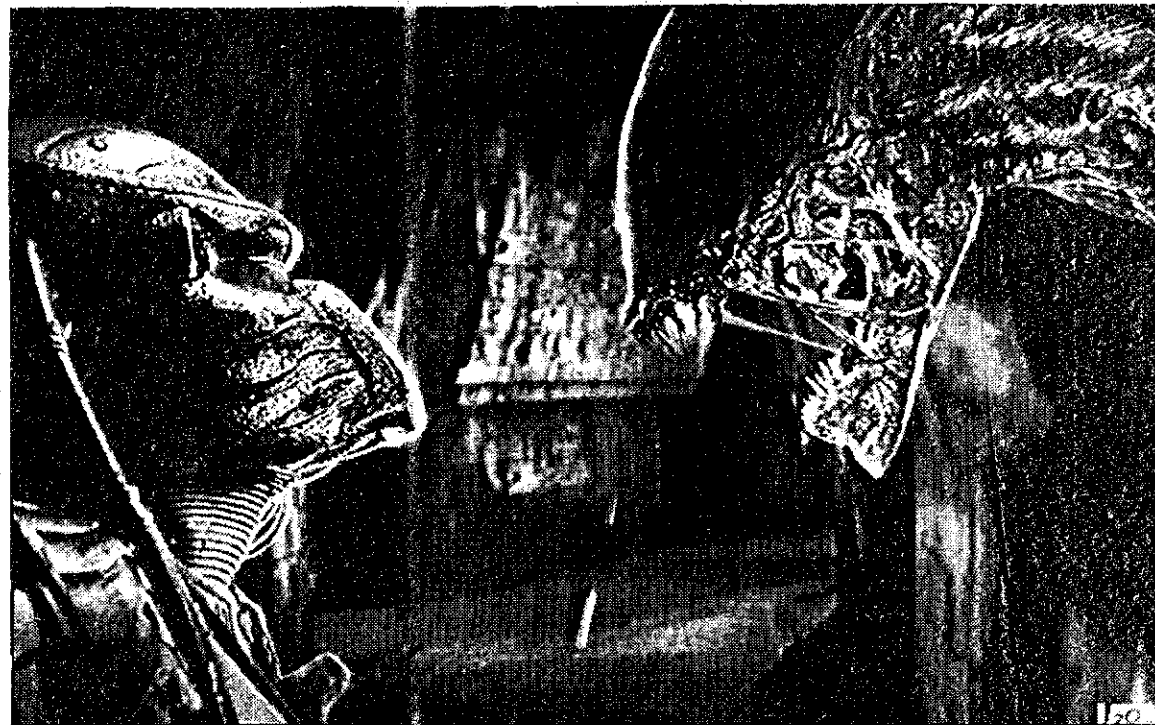
**HERSSON PRECIADO**  
Editor in chief  
editor1@talonmarks.com

Alien vs. Predator, the movie bent on settling it once and for all. Who is the best and who will assume supremacy of earth. Well not really, that is what the movie hype and advertising leads you to believe and promises to deliver.

Suffice it to say that the 1 hour and 26 minute movie would have made a better DVD feature to the real movie, about how the war between the Predators and the Aliens.

The movie never really allows you to pick a side like the ads say you should and could. The plot centers over the fact that billionaire Charles Bishop Weyland (Lance Henriksen, takes the partial name-sake of his Alien android character) and puts together a team of experts to explore a pyramid that his satellite spotted buried under Antarctica.

The team - which consists of determined adventurer Lex (Sanaa Lathan), archaeologist Sebastian (Raoul Bova), and other obvious dead weight- discover a hunting arena where the Predator race train their young warriors by pitting them in a battle against the ultimate prey, the Alien queen and all her offspring.



Not only does it take what seems like more than half the movie to arrive at the "climax", but the predators motives are reactionary. They seem more concerned about protecting their temple than killing the Aliens. The fighting scenes are at first chaotic and very

unexciting, but they get better. The only thing that makes this movie even worth renting and only when it's not a new release for the price of \$2.50

This movie managed to kill years of blood and carnage-filled set up that went into building the image of both races in this vile display of commercial opportunity taking.

The predators especially get a dressing down with noble gestures and almost romantic scenes.

It is sickening to see that even predator got politically corrected to "fit the times"

One would think that after seeing the first real champion of a genre versus the other champion of the genre, i.e. Freddy vs. Jason they would have noticed a need for a real plot.

The only apparent thing they got from it is a leading ending that explores the premise for the sequel.

The very ending leads to a good movie in which case all of this garbage endured serves only as the eventual flash back history to the real movie Aliens vs. Predators.

- 20 minutes in line for tickets -awful
- The commercial fest right before a movie-terrible
- Having the projector for AVP burn and blow up- priceless.

## Sequel with less charm, more class

**SONIA SAENZ**  
Community Editor  
ssaenz1@talonmarks.com

Most Americans don't know what it's like to have an arranged marriage, or a 30-day deadline to do so. In 'The Princess Diaries 2: Royal Engagement', returning leading lady Mia (Anne Hathaway), is forced to find a husband in 30 days otherwise she forfeits the Genovian crown to another.

Many cast members' return to reprise their roles such as Mia's parents, Queen Clarese (Julie Andrews), Joseph (Hector Elizondo), and spunky best friend Lilly (Heather Matarazzo).

In the movie, Mia returns to Genovia after college only to discover that by Genovian law, princesses must be married before taking the crown.

The parliament gives Mia 30 days to find a suitor, or in this case, a husband. Heartbreaker

Lord Nicholas Devereaux (Chris Pine) melts Mia's heart until she realizes that he's the one who's trying to take her crown. And even through hate, will Lord Nicholas himself be enough to make Mia turn away other suitors to lose the crown?

In a sweet attempt to revive the same audience and charm of the first film (The Princess Diaries), Director Gary Marshall, throws in lots of humor, drama and of course comedy. And much of it is sure to win its audience over, if they're under 17.

Cheesy lines, predictable situations and "mattress surfing" are sure to make anyone who has a drivers license consistently roll their eyes. Not to say that these moments won't escape a chuckle, they certainly will, but at times, they are forced. Mia squeals things like 'I have my own mall,' and really, who celebrates their 21st birthday/ bachelorette party with a

bunch of 10 year olds?

I must admit, although this movie was obviously made for a younger audience, I did enjoy it. Yes there were lots of cheesy moments, yet, what else is to be expected for a film aimed at pubescent girls? For those of an older age, the movie's not a complete waste of time. It does provide nice costume design, light comedy, and of course a message to all growing girls to stay true to themselves.

Hathaway does a good job reprising her role as Mia. There is an obvious transition in not only her looks, but also in her demeanor, that wasn't there in the first movie. She, along with her character, has blossomed into a beautiful woman.

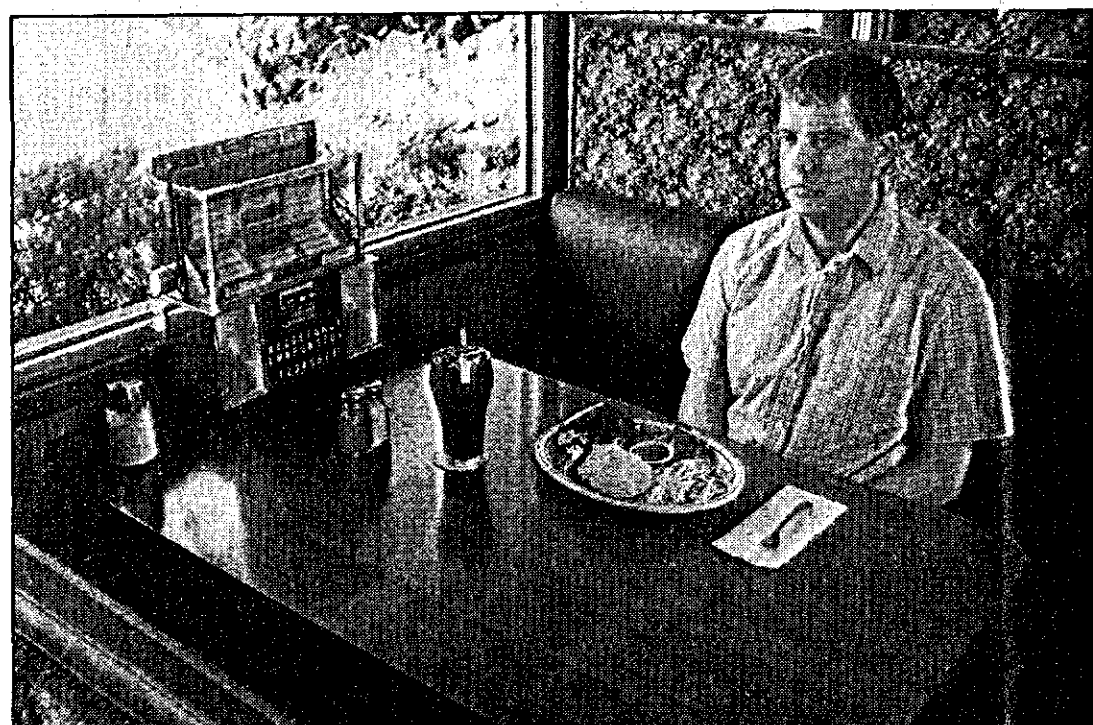
I recommend this movie to anyone looking for a lighthearted movie. It has a steady plot, little laughs, and of course, romance. And well, girls, Chris Pine is a real sight for sore eyes.



PHOTO COURTESY OF BUENA VISTA

## Area college student dating self

THINGS ARE REALLY STARTING TO HEAT UP



Eric Peterson, top, has one of many romantic dinners with himself at their favorite restaurant.

By LISA CHENEY

Local college student Eric Peterson recently announced that he's entered a committed relationship—with himself. Peterson vehemently denied rumors that the two were dating other people. "We're totally committed to each other. We've never been happier." When asked what prompted the campus heartthrob to take himself off the market, he chalked it up in large part

to his current financial situation, claiming that monthly fees from his checking account were making it too expensive for him to date around. "It was partly a cost-effective decision

on my part, but it's been really nice for us to spend more time together." Peterson was apparently unaware of Free Checking from Washington Mutual. It's an account with no monthly fees and the option to add Deluxe services like free online bill pay. And he could have gotten Free Checking just by visiting a Washington Mutual Financial Center, then signed up for online bill pay at wamu.com. "Dang," said Peterson, "if I had known about Free Checking Deluxe, my current dating situation would be different. I probably wouldn't have settled down with someone so soon."

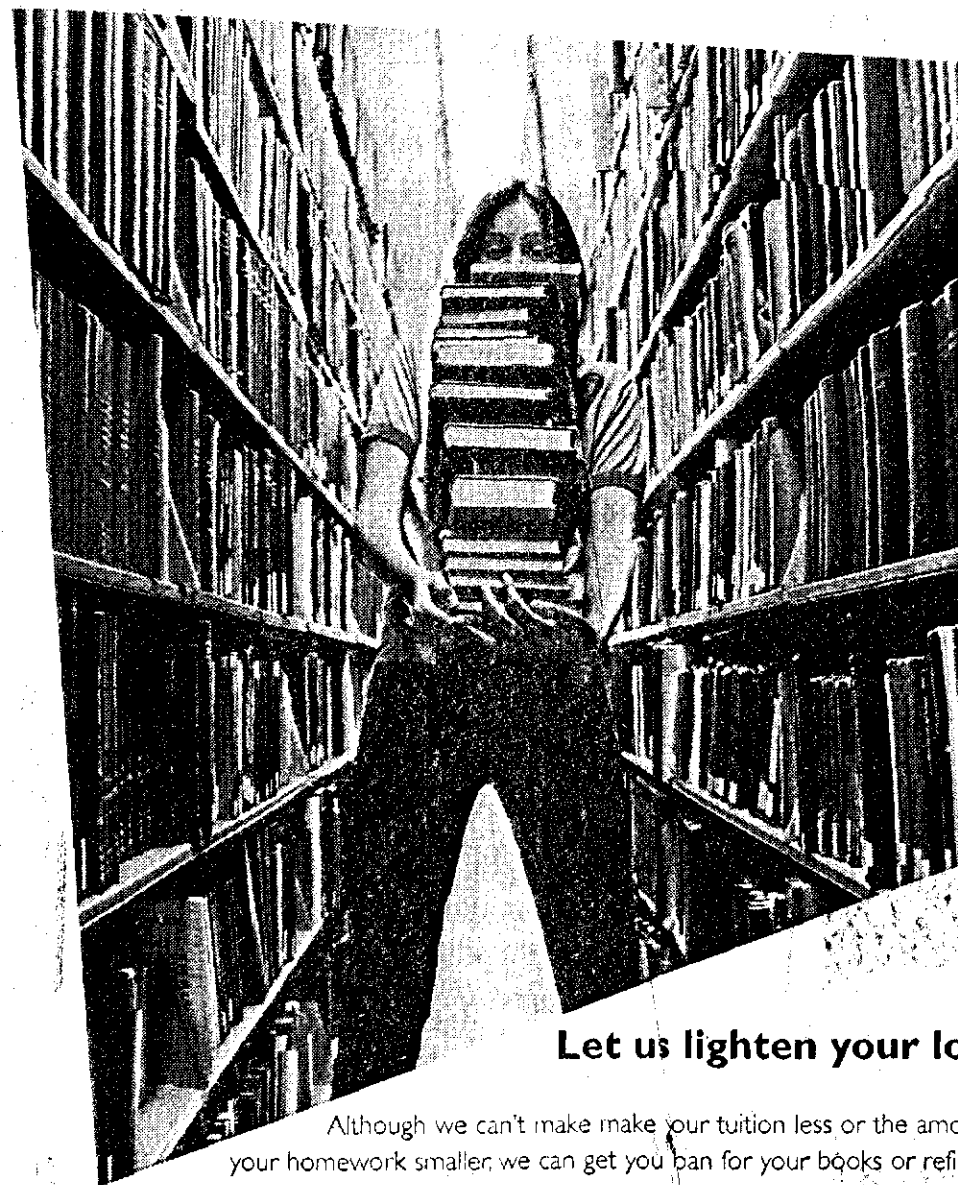
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# COMMUNITY

TALON MARKS, CERRITOS COLLEGE

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 25, 2004 • PAGE 7

## Come Together: Farmers invite neighbors for a day of food and a little bit of the good life

**PATRICIA ALARCON**  
staff writer  
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Do you know where the nearest farmers are at? Cerritos citizens do. The Cerritos Towne Center held their weekly Farmer's Market from 8 a.m. to noon last Saturday where certified farmers came and sold their crops to the public.

Customers who are new to the Farmer's Market will experience surroundings that are beautiful and will have plenty of parking to choose from.

Immediately upon walking up, there is an aroma that leads you to "Gourmet Tamales."

The customers who tasted the tamales were pleased and as time went by, the line got longer for what seemed to be everyone's favorite treat.

The Farmer's market offers a variety of products from vendors. There are many things to choose from such as fruits, plants, flowers, cookies, baked goods, kettle popcorn, and music.

The "Old Town Baking Company" offers blueberry, chocolate, carrot, banana nut cakes, pies.

Also, "The Sconeage Bakery," offers a great selection of granola products.

The market manager is an environmental conscious person who speaks with excitement on the topic of farmer's markets.

He said this farmer's market was held on the street the first year, and now they are located in the Towne Center.

"I personally enjoy the interaction of the vendor and buyer, the social & learning experience," Whitney said.

In the past, he attended the San Pedro Chamber of Commerce, and at this meeting he would introduce himself and say, "Fresh and tender, juicy and sweet, farmer's markets can't be beat."

The members of this meeting would clap and cheer. His manager's booth provided information on the local farmer's markets and explained the availability to purchase with

EBT-Food Stamps, but you need to see Dale the manager directly when using this method of payment, not the vendor. Other than that, cash is accepted and you will be happy with the high quality products offered and good prices.

You may also want to stop by

Bloomfield Nursery, where workers are knowledgeable in bedding plants and selling locally grown.

Peanut Dudes Gourmet purchases the raw seeds from our ex President Jimmy Carter's farms in Georgia then cook and package the product and sell it here at the market.

There are a variety of peanuts such as plain, spicy and mixed. The vendors are certified and some travel from Fresno, Fontana, Long Beach, and Anaheim.

A young lady asked the Tenerelli Orchard's vendor who comes from Little Rock, CA, "Why do these peaches taste so good and fresh?"

The vendor replied, "Because they are fresh from the farm, and they are not frozen, refrigerated, or stored away like at the super-markets."

She bought two pounds of peaches which were offered at \$1.25 a pound and left happy.

There are different types of peaches to choose from and tastes vary, but the samples provided will satisfy your curiosity.

There is also music

for sale and the vendor has a display with a brochure which states its "John Sherman" a singer, songwriter, and a poet.

His music is quite enjoyable and the vendor at the booth informs buyers of the importance of becoming aware of our environment she says, "The farmer's market product comes straight from the farmer to the consumer."

Then explains it is a more personal business with the satisfaction that it has not been frozen, refrigerated, or imported from the great beyond and possibly involved in illegal child labor.

Customers would learn so much just by talking to Lindy, and listening to John as he explains to me his use of solar energy to power his music.

He says, "I feel great about performing with a solar powered generator..." John mentions about the concerns for the environment and his green micro-business called, "Solar Sound" is a way to use clean renewable energy.

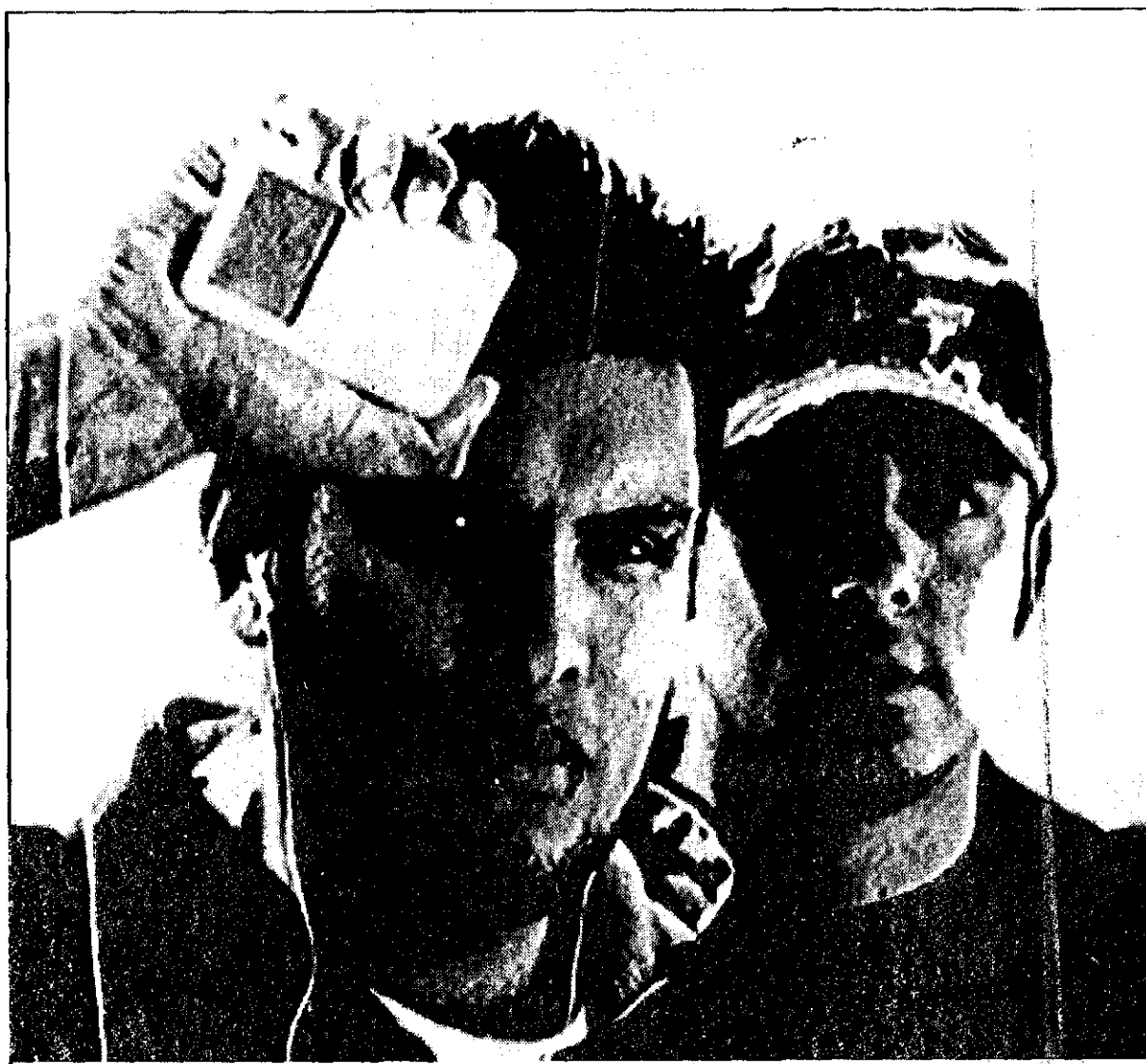
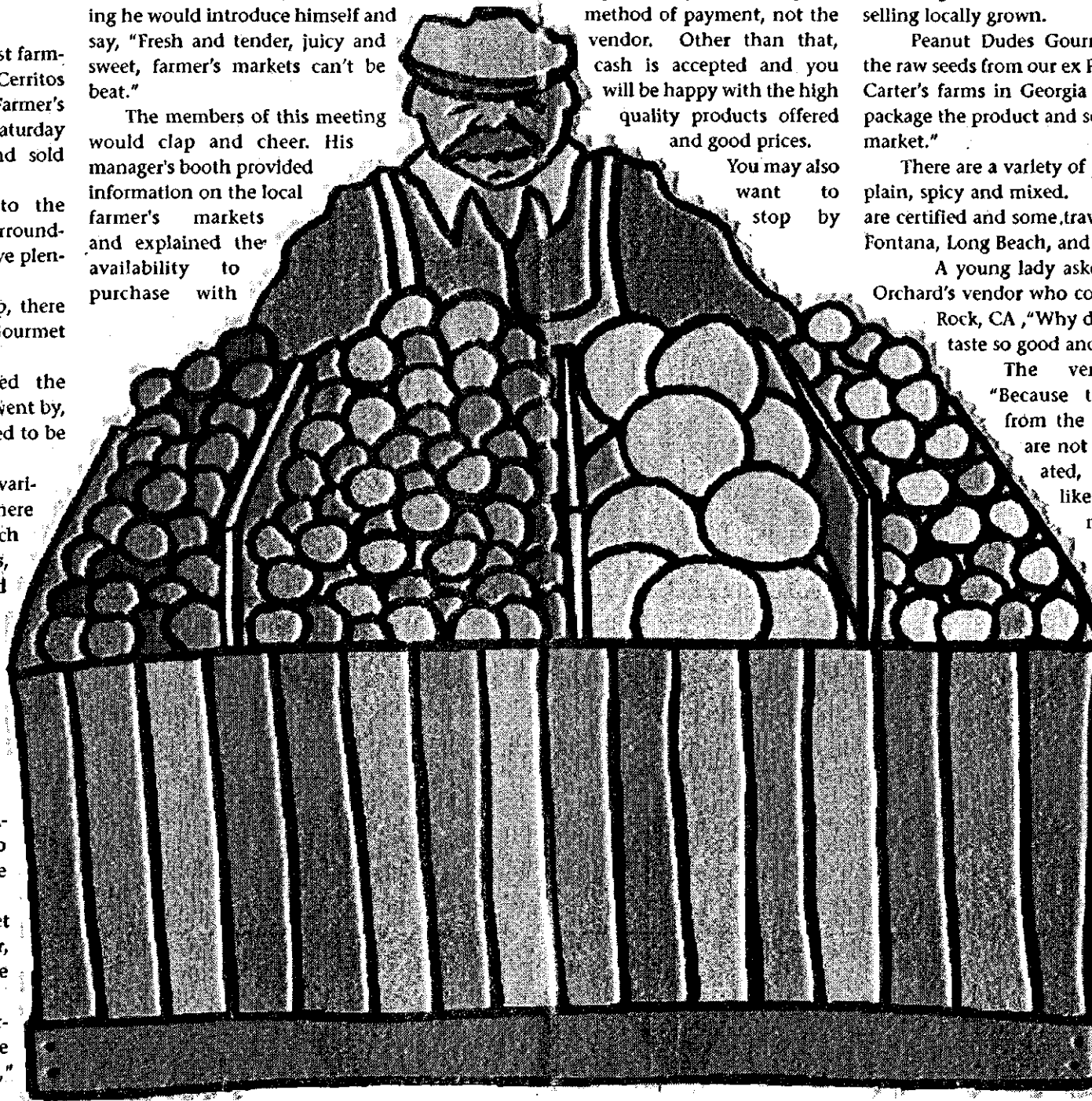
He has been at this farmer's market for a year and you can feel his passion towards environmental concerns, and the importance of how small business interacts directly with the consumer in the community.

Don't miss out on the Cerritos Farmer's Market, where it offers you fresh quality products at great prices.

It's a place where you can make new friends, to choose from a variety of fresh and tasty products.

It must be the natural process of an early morning, gathering with people from the community. The interaction from the customer and vendor is interesting. The customer seems to always leave happy and satisfied with their purchase.

The Farmers Market is held every Saturday morning at the Cerritos Towne center from 8 a.m. to noon.



## iPod: Get Yours

The Talon Marks will give away a free 10MB APPLE IPOD (tm) Oct 1, 2004 to one lucky Talon Marks online subscriber. Enter each week through September to qualify.

See [www.talonmarks.com](http://www.talonmarks.com) for details.

## Downey prepares for election

Residents of Downey get ready to rock the vote this November

**ERICK GALINDO**  
Sports Editor  
egalindo1@talonmarks.com

This November, the residents of Downey will get a chance to rock the vote at the most local level.

While the nation might not have much of a choice, Downey has more than a choice to elect candidates to the three district seats up for reapproval.

One of which belongs to the Mayor Kirk Cartozian.

The first district ever created in Downey, District 1, has had at least three hats thrown into the race by the chairmen of the Downey Planning Commission David Gafin, business owner Mark Vasquez, and Los Angeles city house inspector Jose D. Trujillo.

They are all racing in a Phelps speed for the seat left vacant by Keith McCarthy who served out to term limits.

The citywide race is for District 5 which belongs to the city's Mayor Cartozian.

Cartozian face stiff competition from L.A. Unified's Xavier Reyes and business owner Gary DeRemer.

The incumbent mayor is not ready to give up his seat. According to the Downey Patriot, Cartozian is running for reelection because "I honestly care about the city of Downey."

He also stated to the Patriot that "I have the ener-

gy and drive to continue making the city as great of a living and working environment as possible."

Cartozian can boast that he has no ties to any groups or organizations. While other candidates boast service affiliations with several of the communities groups.

DeRemer has been involved with the Chamber of Commerce, the Holiday Lane Parade, Boy Scouts, and the Rotary.

While David Gafin is the President of Gangs Out of Downey.

The other seat up for reelection belongs to the one time mayor Rick Trejo, who at the moment not only owns the seat, but also has the greatest chance for reelection.

He is currently running unopposed and in the history of any election unopposed candidates win 100 out of 100.5.

The election polls open Nov. 2 at 8 a.m. and for at least two of the seats. The residents of Downey do have a choice.

"I honestly care about the city of Downey" - Kirk Cartozian

## Community Information

### Norwalk

City Council Meeting, next Tuesday @ 6 p.m.

### Downey

City Council Meeting, Sept. 6 @ 7p.m.

### Cerritos

City Council Meeting, Sept. 6 @ 7 p.m.

\* For more community information, log on to [www.talonmarks.com](http://www.talonmarks.com)





The Talon Marks is a First Amendment publication. Editorial expresses 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 advisors, the Cerritos College Associated Students, the college administration or the Board of Trustees.

Production and printing of the TALON MARKS is partially funded by the Associated Students of Cerritos College.

Facilities and academic supervision are provided by the Department of Journalism. Newsroom offices are located in the Arts & Crafts Building, RM AC42, Cerritos College is located at 11110 Alondra Blvd., Norwalk, CA 90650. (562) 866-1451, ext. 2617. FAX (562) 467-5844.

Volume 50  
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## Campus Comment

What would you like to see replace Mandarin Palace in the food court?

COMPILED BY: CANDICE LEE AND SONIA YE SEUL LEE

PHOTOS BY: RICARDO RAMIREZ



"Panda Express is the bomb. I would only get chow mein...."

GABRIEL BAYEGI  
BUSINESS



"IN-N-OUT. Has good food.. A lot of people from Cerritos go to IN-N-OUT when the school is out...."

ONEISHA MCNEIL  
ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE



"Soul food.. I'm a custom eater...."

RICARDO SIMON  
PHYSICAL THERAPY



"Low carb food that's affordable... I would never eat something where you can see the grease seeping out of the paper...."

MALYNA HAK  
FASHION MERCHANDISING



"Subway because it's healthy...."

CHRISTINE HOANG  
UNDECIDED



"Mexican Food. I'm bored of hamburgers and pizza."

ADALBERTO ARRIAGA  
CRIMINAL JUSTICE



Victor Martinez  
ONLINE EDITOR  
vmartinez1@talonmarks.com

It's that time of the year again. That's right. Back to school time. You spent some valuable time thinking things out. The classes you need. Working your school and work schedule out to perfection, among other things.

But WAIT!!! The most important class you need is closed. You put yourself on the wait list. How far along could it be? You registered with three weeks left until school starts. You show up on the first day and there's a good 75 people standing outside of your class. "This can't all be for this class," you tell yourself. "With a crowd this big, it must be Burt Reynolds or something."

Then reality sets in and you realize you would have a better chance of winning the lottery than getting into that class.

Alas fellow students, it's sad but true. You're number 47 on a list of 83. Speaking because this exact thing happened to me on the first day of

## EDITORIAL

### Student guide for surviving school

Well kids, Summer's over and its time to put away the beach towels and surf boards in exchange for a calculator and a notebook.

Most students stress about a lot of school related things. These things can make or break your semester.

•We the Editorial board have come up with a few suggestions that might help students survive this semester.

•Don't schedule classes back to back. Give yourself a break. You can burn yourself out if you're running from class to class without a break.

•Take time out for yourself and check out places on campus. Use your break to get a bite to eat or walk over to the game room and play some video games.

•Become involved in student activities like government or a school club. Find a club that caters to your interests or special skills. You'll find school a little more enjoyable when you spend your free time doing what you love with people who love doing the same things.

•Break bad habits early. Don't start skipping class. The first few weeks can be a little overwhelming. Don't start skipping class because you're going to miss a lot of vital info. Also, you know those absences add up and then your grades start to suffer.

•Take all your general education classes first. Don't just take all the fun classes. Get all the general ed. classes you can and throw in a couple of fun ones. The sooner you're done with them the sooner you can transfer.

•Just because they're semi-independent and online, it doesn't mean they're easy. All classes are actually classes they just run on different formats.

•Pay your fees early otherwise you may be dropped. Then you will have to go through the tedious process of paying your fees getting a readmit slip and then have to go and talk to your teachers and plead your case to hi or her. Maybe you'll get lucky and he'll let you in, but...don't bet on it.

•If you're going to drop, drop yourself. Don't just stop showing up to class because the teacher might not drop you. Then you will get a



Illustration by Oscar Rodriguez

bad grade and you'll have to take the class again to make it up anyways.

•Shop around for your textbooks. The school might not always have the best prices. Look online or at other bookstores. You don't want to over pay for a book you might only use once. Remember what the sticker says, "Used Saves."

College is hard. The responsibility, the homework, the tests, and the long hours in class will get you... if you let it.

#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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 editor1@talonmarks.com

## No one appreciates the finer things anymore



Jonathan Garcia  
STAFF WRITER  
jgarcia1@talonmarks.com

I am a musician. I write songs as well as compose them. I find myself often times thinking with the abstract part of my brain.

I am so grateful to be able to connect with the universe in a different dimension than most normal people. People see black and white, I see Technicolor.

I know what your thinking, your probably saying "why is this guy telling me all of this, I don't care," but by you making that statement, your proving my point.

The number of people who cannot appreciate the finer things in life bothers me. I mean seriously, am I the only one who appreciate art, life, or community anymore? Oh, just saying that word makes me feel good inside, "community"...the union of people in

It just bothers me to see so many people uninterested with the finer things in life.

a family setting. Community offers love, support...encouragement.

What could be better than that? What's better than the sacred realm of community? I volunteer at the local YMCA. Once a year we go to camp. What's better than volunteering at a YMCA camp and feeling the unity? I go to camp every year as a counselor. I'm given 10 kids, and for a whole week, we live in a cabin together.

In essence, for a week we become a family. It's the best man. Just the feeling of belonging, and more importantly being able to not only be loved, but being able to love back.

To offer love to someone who may not normally get it in a normal circumstances. Am I alone here? It just bothers me to see so many people uninterested with the finer things in life.

Community is a fine thing in life. Unity is a fine thing in life. Family is a fine thing in

life. I mean, you don't have to volunteer at the YMCA, you don't have to be a camp counselor at Y-CAMP, but wouldn't you too like to experience the wonder, the magic, the sanctity...the marvel that is community?

Hey people just cannot appreciate anything these days, but this one just gets to me.

People just do not understand what they are missing. Believe me, it's a good thing coming home to a loving family at the end of the day. It's a good feeling when you know you are loved, when you know you belong. It's good to be able to come home, and unload with the people you love. Don't take my word for it. Don't volunteer at the YMCA. In fact, don't even go home and tell you mom that you love her tonight, but do one thing for me, investigate the true meaning of community, I guarantee it'll change your life. You'll never look at things the same. Community is powerful man, I'm telling you.

## REJECTED! The waiting list makes everyone bite the dust

The only thing you can say about the waiting lists at Cerritos College is: A big waste of time.

school this year. I was left in awe, anger, and disappointment as I began to think about this. This is freakin' ridiculous.

Why would they place this many people on a wait list, knowing full well that maybe six people on that wait list will actually be added to the class? Even six is wishful thinking.

I understand it's first come, first serve but c'mon. At least half of the people in that class aren't even going to finish the class let alone be there by the time October rolls around.

Now, I didn't get my class and there's nothing I can do about it but wait for next semester and try again. I think to myself, why did they let me get my hopes up in the first place? Why in the name of Jesus H. Christ would they place 83 people on that wait list?

All that those who are in charge of registration aren't really thinking about what is best for the student. They're thinking, "What can we do to keep the barely conscious hordes of meaningless faces happy thinking they have a chance?"

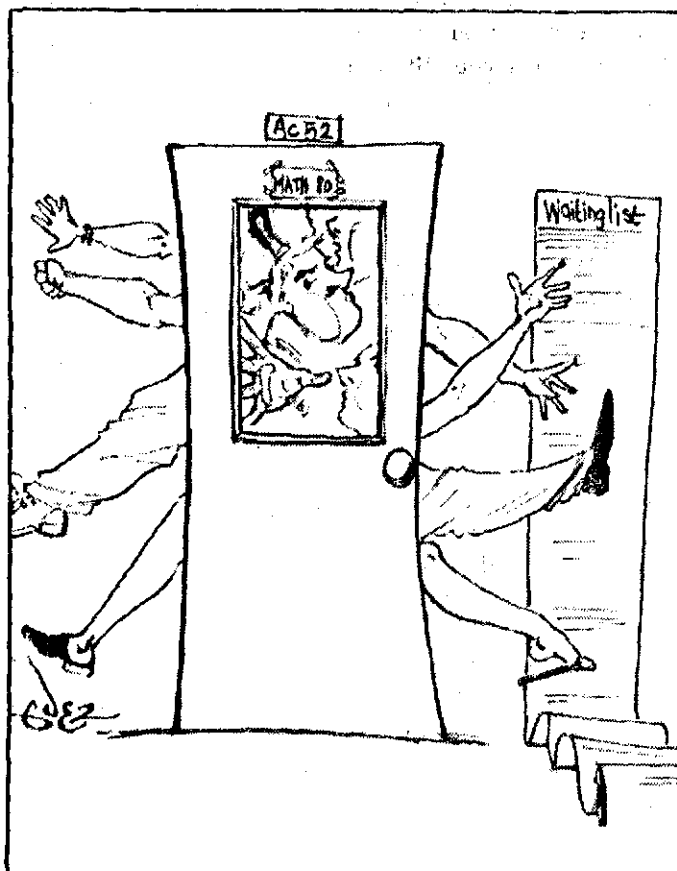
Well if students were more to them than just

a student number with a bright red sticker on an ID card, then maybe we would all have a good chance of getting these classes.

Maybe if they stuff our faces with some free IN-N-OUT Burger we'll chew long enough to keep our mouths shut and not complain about all the classes being closed.

It's brutal out there. It's every man for himself. Whether you're a student who has been at Cerritos College for years or you're the new guy who doesn't speak any English, you have to hope and maybe even pray you get a prime registration appointment or it's tough luck for you.

Either offer more classes or stop admitting so many damn students. And they wonder why it takes people forever to transfer.





## Music works as 'Chicken Soup'



**Jonathan Garcia**  
STAFF WRITER  
JGarcia1@talonmarks.com

It's often been said that music has the ability to heal. I know what you're saying, "did he just say heal"? Yes you read correctly, I said heal.

Close your eyes and picture this theme with me: music, the universal language; the remedy for the broken hearted, and far departed.

That's right, I'm talking about music as being therapeutic, music as being as good as chicken soup.

I'm talking about music being the only language that you don't have to understand to appreciate. Isn't it funny that you can listen to something in another language and not understand one word they are saying, yet know one thing for certain, and that's that you can definitely groove to that beat.

You know, I'm talking about that

Spanish song that that can make you tremble every time you hear it.

Now, are you feeling where I'm coming from? I'm talking about that feeling you get when "your song" comes on the radio at the local Rite-Aid and you find yourself aimlessly strolling the shampoo aisle, pretending to be looking for the "Herbal Essence".

when all your really waiting for is that killer chorus to come on so that you can proudly sing along to it, all while pretending that you didn't even notice that music was being played at all, much less a song that you know the words to.

Don't deny it, you know that you long for those moments when you sit in your room all alone, with the door tightly shut, the windows sparsely opened, the room dimly lit, and the volume slightly high as you listen to your favorite CD.

You know which one I'm talking about, the one that makes you feel all good and tingly inside. I'm talking about the one

that will always tug on your heart. The one that will always make you ponder what the artist was thinking about when he wrote that "certain" song.

What am I saying by all this? HECK YA music has the ability to heal.

Music can reach out to you in your lonesome times and lend a practical ear. Music can reach places that you didn't know you were capable of reaching. Music can make you feel at ease in times of distress. Music can take you to the edge, and back.

The next time you go to the doctor's office, ask him to heal you.

Ask him to get inside of your brain and properly analyze what your feeling and why, ask him to search deeply in your soul for the answers to questions that keep you up at night, ask him to make you feel brand new again, ask him to prescribe a good CD for you to listen to.

Or better yet, save yourself the trouble, save yourself the cash, and let the "music as therapy theory" work wonders for you.



## WAIT... The government can't be gay!



**Erick Galindo**  
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Believe it or not, this article is not an overwhelmingly life altering experience. Although, there are several events that can lead up to the eventual perception of what your life will become, this article about the gay governor of New Jersey, James McGreevey should not be one of them.

Hopefully it will change your mind about minding your own business, but I only hope that you read this article and continue on with your life and extend the same courtesy to Gov. McGreevey.

For those not up to date with the latest homosexual intelligence recent events involving sexual preference and states rights have garnished an overall tailor-made altering event.

In February of this year, San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom started marrying homosexuals (and no I don't mean he personally married another man or a gay female he just simply granted gay couples marriage certificates.)

Just as the 4,000 gays were getting back from their honeymoons (wait are they allowed to have honeymoons or is that also a straight thing?) California's high court voided the marriages

Governor of New Jersey maybe a lot of things. But it seems like him being gay is the most important one

citing a Henry VIII like stipulation that clearly states only men and women can get married and get this, only to each other.

To add more carpe to the dlem, McGreevey is being forced (seemingly) to retire his seat because of his love for another man's seat.

McGreevey simultaneously: came out of the closet, (proving to the world that you can be gay and married) admitted cheating on his wife, (proving that you can be gay, and still be Bill Clinton) denied any allegations of sexual misconduct with an employee (proving you can still be gay and be an NBA fan) and quit his job where he could of probably done a lot for the Gay Rights Movement.

If that wasn't bad enough George Bush is still president.

Sure there are reports that McGreevey was a manipulative, inept, smooth talking scoundrel of a politician, but who the hell isn't?

Are those not the qualifications for running a city, state, or country now in days? Hear me now and believe me when you have time, unfortunately they are.

Sure he broke promises and fired who he couldn't bribe, but does that make him a bad person? I mean promises were made to be broken right?

Well according to most of his republican colleagues, as well as the right side of America's brain that does not

makes him a bad person. Don't get me wrong they think he's bad, but because he cheated on his wife and worse than that he's "a gay."

I have no problem with hating on a guy because he sucks at his job or because he sucks at being honest, but I do have a problem hating on someone because of whom he likes to cheat on his wife with.

There is credence to that whole family values argument, but who has more family values than a man who pretends to love having sex with someone he does not find attractive just to keep his family together.

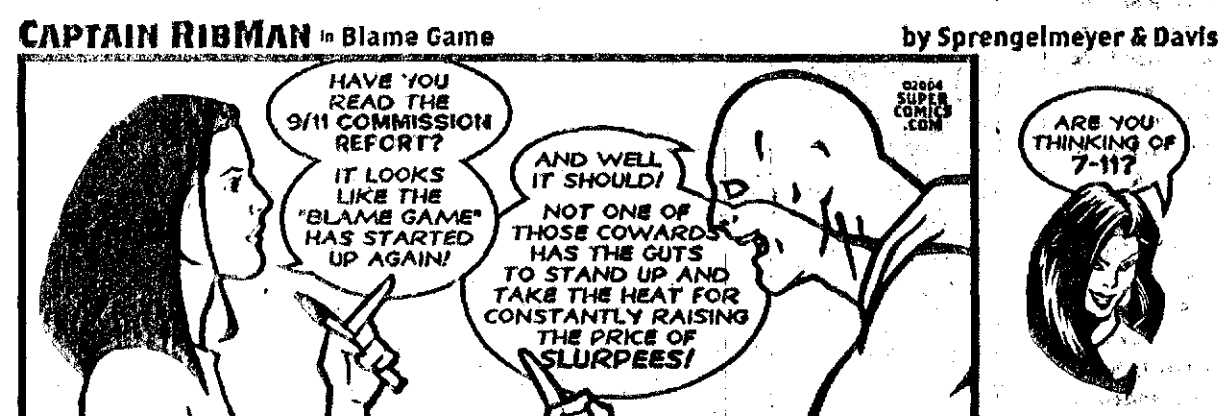
I mean more men have this in common with him than with any guy who truly wants his wife every night.

I am not asking anyone to ignore a man's actions toward his country, state, or its people. Those should always be in question and at the forefront of any critique of politicians.

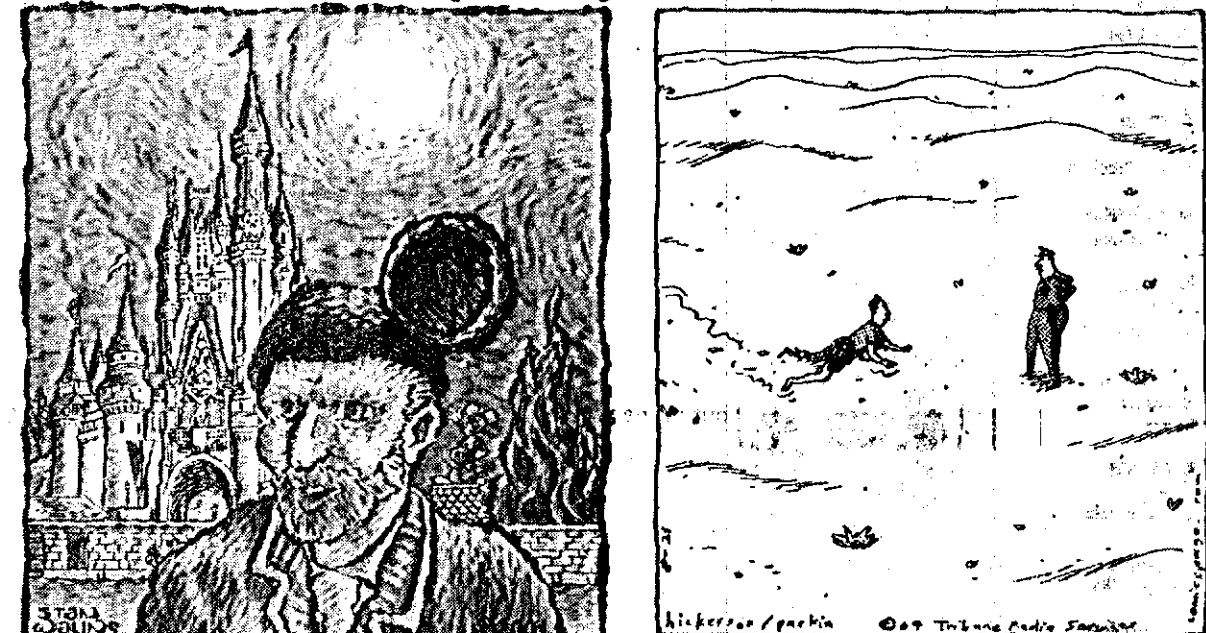
What I am asking you is to not judge a man by the things that happen to him. He is but a poor player that lives under the same rules of life we do.

Weather you believe in gay rights or not, you should believe in a man's right to privacy and if he chooses to confide in his constituents his private life than that should just be news to you and unless for some personal reason, it should not dramatically alter your life.

## Girls & Sports by Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



## DITHERED TWITS by Stan Waling



Vincent Goes to Disney World.

## Girls & Sports by Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



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# SPORTS

TALON MARKS, CERRITOS COLLEGE

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 25, 2004 • PAGE 11



SHOT ON GOAL GETS STOPPED AS THE GOALIES VIE FOR THE STARTING ROLE

## Ready, Set, Gooaall!

The men's soccer team get ready for a new

**JEFF LINARES**

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The Cerritos College soccer team is preparing to open their 2004 season, next week against Glendale College.

In charge of the team is new head coach Juan Sanchez, who was the coach at Mt. Sac.

The Falcons have four returning players from last season's squad. They are: Salvador Ramos, Robert Ramirez, Rafael Lopez, and Robert Pineda.

These four players could help a team of 20 freshmen go in the right direction.

Coach Sanchez, referring about the look of this team, said, "Well the team is looking good, we just came back from a five day workout session in Mammoth that should help the guys with their conditioning."

Regarding his status as new head coach, Sanchez said,

"I am a first year coach, but what I have seen here is a great group of hard-working guys and I am looking forward to the season."

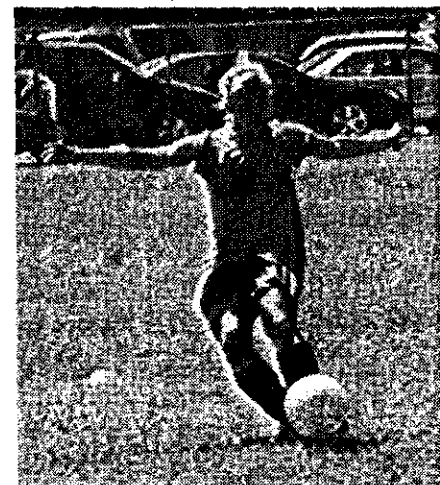
Just before practice, all the players were gathered together outside the facility here at the campus and they were talking and joking.

Freshman sweeper, Joaquin Luna, said, "Comparing the way we started not knowing much about each other weeks ago, I can say we are a team now."

The opener against Glendale College is next Tuesday at 1 p.m. at Cerritos.

## Young, fresh and ready to take on the world

The women's soccer team is back



THE SOCCER TEAM, PREPARES FOR THE NEW SEASON

**ERICK GALINDO**

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Olympics aside, your soccer team is back.

The Women's soccer team has returned from hiatus (12-6-1 last season) and is prepared to take on the upcoming season's difficult conference play.

As they prepared for their first game of the year at Mt. San Jacinto the Falcons with a little help from a former Long Beachian are ready to kick into the fifth gear.

"It's a very tough conference. We've made the playoffs two years in a row and in this conference that is a very good accomplishment."



The new Falcons' assistant coach Terry Scharlin also added that they are expecting great things from a very young team.

The new Falcons consist of 15 freshmen and have lost the very talented Grisell Ramirez to Cal State Los Angeles.

The Falcons are hopeful to make the playoffs for the third time in a row this year and are very much trying to improve on their history of first round exits.

"The biggest obstacle is inexperience, with it comes confidence." -Coach Debbie Jensen

## Get hip. Cerritos sports are in!

The new fall sports lineup is here

**DIANA COBAIN**

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School is in session again and so are sports.

Our teams have already started all of their hard work and preparation.

The sports kicking off this fall are:

Women's volleyball with a scrimmage game Saturday the game is all day so get there early the game will be at Cuesta.

Women's soccer is another sport starting their first game on Friday at 4 p.m. located at Mt. San Jacinto.

The men's soccer team plays their first games next Tuesday at 1 p.m. home game!

Women's cross-country running their way with a new season starting Sept. 4 at 4 p.m. at Fullerton.

Men's cross-country, also racing their way in Sept. 4 at 9 a.m. at Fullerton.

Football poised to improve their season Sept. 4, 5 p.m. at Chaffey.

Men's water polo aggressively making their way across the pool Sept. 10-11 all day at Ventura.

Women's water polo just as aggressive

sive starting now and building on it for Sept. 9-11 all day at Cuesta.

Wrestling hits the mats Oct. 2, 9 a.m. at Golden West.

Sounds like we should all check out some of these games and support our teams, support our falcons.

Your first chance is this Tuesday as both soccer teams take the field here on campus.

Check them out between classes or after school.

For more info on our sports go to or visit [www.cerritos.edu/hpea](http://www.cerritos.edu/hpea).

## The good, bad, and the Superbowl

**HERSSON PRECIADO**  
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The wind begins to chill and the leaves begin to turn a burnt brown, well everywhere except So Cal.

But nonetheless the time has come, mercifully after an agonizing and disappointing basketball season in L.A. and overall in the world with a woeful showing in the 2004 Olympics, Football is here.

It begins the same way it began last year and the years before, 32 undefeated teams buying for the opportunity to participate in the world's biggest spectacle and ultimate competition, "The Super Bowl."

Although only two teams can be in the game representing their perspective conferences the AFC and the NFC, the NFL has a unique trait that allows all 32 teams have a legitimate shot at being in the super bowl.

This year's representative from the NFC was the Carolina Panthers team. Their record the year before was a sub par 7-9 and the year before that they had a league worst record of 1-15.

They along with the past six super bowl winners and contenders all had a similar 'turn' around season. Including the New England Patriots who went from 5-11 in the 2000 season to 11-5 in

2001.

So as cheesy as it may be here it is this year's teams to look out for and the trend. Also included are some awards handed out by me a life long fan of the game.

**Teams on the Up swing**

These are teams that have potential to make noise this year they won't be ready to make their move this year.

Cincinnati- They are young athletic and they have a good QB. Their Defense will only be around as a unit for three years at best so they don't have forever. Arizona- New coach new habits. If Dennis Green can turn around the Vikings he can do it to the Cardinals.

Washington - New coach, all they need is a new Owner who doesn't make really bad moves and pays out large sums to has-beens. O well they have to start somewhere and the ex Cerritos College coach and Ex NFL coach Joe Gibbs isn't a bad start.

Houston- Young and they have third year starter David Carr at the helm. They will finally come into their own this year.

**Teams on the way down.**

These are teams whose days at the top are either over or almost there.

They have two to three years of doorstep duty before they can have another shot.

Pittsburgh- Slow. That is the over all feel to the team. Their running game might be their saving point if they commit to their young backs.

Minnesota- going 8-0 and the 0-8 to finish the season can take the wind out of your sails fast and the Vikings aren't in a division where they can rest and reload.

San Francisco- No Garcia, No Owens, No Mora Jr. and no prayer. They are going downhill fast. Thy only ones to blame are those in charge.

You cant force out a front office and coaching legend in Bill Walsh and expect greatness out of your team the best they can hope for is to not be cursed.

Philadelphia- Terrell Owens is not the answer he is only the exclamation point at the of the sentence the,

"Eagles lose again in NFC championship game, TO blows up!"

St Louis- Bad defense and the worst coach on turf. No more need be said.

**Over the hump teams**

These teams are those that seem to be in it every year but have a few pieces missing or are a good miracle against or

BEST WEB SITE	WORST WEB SITE	WORST TEAM	LONG SHOTS	BEST TEAMS	BIGGEST FLOPS
f Green Bay- clean easy	f New England- very slow, complicated	f San Diego Chargers	f Houston Texans	f New England Patriots	f New York Giants
s Miami- Very news friendly, it reads very easily	s Minnesota- rudimentary, old, boring	s Chicago Bears	s Cincinnati Bengals	s Indianapolis Colts	s Atlanta Falcons
t Dallas Raiders- very classy silver & black	t New York Jets- A 12 year old- could do better	t Arizona Cardinals	t New Orleans Saints	t Carolina Panthers	t Denver Broncos

in their favor short of the super bowl.

Green Bay- This could be Brett Favre's last season with the team.

Although he has achieved what many other greats have failed to, (super bowl ring). He could go out with a bang here and make use of a team that has been on the fringe for the last three years.

Seattle- A good defense and a great WR core to go along with a great young QB in Matt Hasselback.

All the ingredients in the pie that

the Seahawks hope to serve this season.

It might be enough to give coach Mike Holmgren his second title and maybe his GM job back in Seattle.

It is time for me to give out this years, !@#\$%&'()\*+,-./:;<=>?@!

In the graph there are six categories and only the top three get awards.

The Superbowl will be Houston and Carolina.

Carolina will win by a touch down in overtime.



## Olympics get 'Seacrest Out'

### SuperSized Chew

For those fed up with low card complaints

So what's up with baseball becoming more of circus than a political convention?

First, Sammy's bat, then steroids, Bud Selig, and now pitching is taking over a sport that was brought back from strike induced death by home runs.

That's right millions of teams (well actually a little more than a dozen, but millions if inflation is taken into consideration) have recently made trades to encourage their pitching and also to catch the last precious episode of On Air With Ryan Seacrest.

God I'm going to miss the television version of his morning radio show maybe they'll come out on DVD soon.

Watch out Ry this is how it started with Rick Dees next thing you know your going to be replaced by you're 14 year old little brother.

Sorry Kerry, but if you thought the recent waves of ads were bad then your definitely not going to like the one were you get blamed for losing Michael Phelps shot at eight gold medals and give Bush all the credit for the Iraqi soccer teams success.

I'm sure Nomar's (Garcipara who was traded for pitcher Orlando Cabrera) departure from the harbor brings back very painful Ruthian tea party nightmares.

If Kerry thought beating Bush was going to be hard, beating the Yanks with pitching is going to be about as hard as



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beating them with batting.

Or just plain beating them if you're the Red Sox.

Maybe they should make the playoffs first.

In another shocking trade, Lions Gate has traded Michael Moore for Lindsay Lohan, half of Mary Kate Olson, and a skinny 17 year old girl to be named later.

They will all be appearing at the Aladdin casino singing take me out to the ball game much to the chagrin of Bud Selig.

Speaking of traders, the republicans are taking over Madison Square Garden.

I heard they tricked people into going by telling them Walt Frazier was going to box Tyson's bankruptcy lawyer at intermission of a special showing of Fahrenheit 9/11.

I think Schwarzenegger should just come out of the closet already. Aren't all governors gay?

So LA sent another star to Florida. Damn the Dodgers must have a fetish for trading away catchers to the Marlins; this time it was all-star Paul Lo Duca for some pitching and Steve Finely.

So who cares? Odalis Perez once told me Lo Duca was a turd. This just gives credence to my theory of Florida being on LA's sack.

Next thing you know the Dolphins are going to leave Miami for their original home in the ocean ala the Raiders.

Props to Danny Williams who pumpp slapped Mike Tyson harder than any of the pending law suits, criminal cases, and repossession agencies ever could. Williams knocked him the hell out in the fourth round.

So Iron Mike tore a knee ligament. That would explain why Mike didn't have a fair chance to defend himself.

He didn't get one single bite off this time.

So Iraq's soccer team one game away from golden. Lets just hope Bush doesn't show up to oversee the passing of each pass between Iraq players.

As always the Pres. Is too busy in foreign affairs to realize his own Olympic basketball team needs him. Look at the wonders he did for the Texas Rangers.

We could win a medal this year people all we need is a department of Home Court Security.

I hear they will be auctioning off spots on the roster to foreign investors next week on Aljazeera.com. How do they say Gooaall in Arabic? Saaaaddddaammnn?

So nobody is watching the Olympics this year.

So Sad. So sorry. Enough Said

Quote of the Week

**"Is this bad?"**

- Will Farrell,  
Old School



**Jonathan Garcia**  
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## Bird's Eye View

Because some things get lost in the first person

### A moment of Phelps-ication

Reflecting on American Pride

Oh Say Do You Care?

It's Tuesday night. I'm sitting in front of my computer chatting when suddenly, from five feet in back of me, my ear is teased with the opening melody to the beautiful song that is the Star Spangled Banner. I suddenly stop everything I am doing to join world-class swimmer, Michael Phelps, as he is awarded his gold medal.

An emotional few moments of silence follow as our proud national anthem is played for not only him, but for millions of more people around the globe as well, witness to this memorable moment in time, through an invention called the television.

I sit motionless, breathless...speechless through every last note of the song. As the song finishes, I return to my computer with a tear in my eye; I return to my computer with a sense of pride...joy. I feel proud to be an American. I feel proud that millions of people have just been exposed to "my" Star Spangled Banner.

For a moment I feel the unity that is the Olympics. The unity that is this country. For a moment, I feel more joy than gold medalist Michael Phelps does.

Though, this sense of "pride" and "joy" only lasts for a moment in time. A moment where unity is a reality, and happiness is filled in the heart of every man; a fantasy that only seems to exist in my head.

As I exit this dream world of happiness and longevity, I come back to a reality where the siblings are still playing with their toys.

Where cars with big engines and mean drivers still parade the streets outside in an authoritative manner, where pedestrians scale city sidewalks, seemingly, without a care, where wind blows in a manner as if to disregard the time of day and it's level of intensity.

I come back to a reality where nothing has changed, where this special "moment in time" was nothing more than a "moment in time."

With sorrow in my heart, and uneasy thoughts in my head, I think to myself, "Am I the only one

who cares about hearing the national anthem being played at the Olympics?

As I searched my school campus for answers, I found little resolution that made me feel at ease. Upon questioning sophomore student, William Alvarado on his thoughts on the Olympics he stated, "I'm not participating, so why should I care."

Upon questioning sophomore student, Juan Vargas on his thoughts on the Olympics as well as on the national anthem, he stated, "It's like whatever."

Shouldn't the Olympics be something that every American should be proud of? Judging by these statements, is one to imply that some people don't care? Is one to imply that the national anthem isn't important?

Correct me if I'm wrong, but shouldn't we look forward to hearing "our" national anthem being proudly played at

the Olympics? Isn't it a part of who we are as Americans? How can something so near and dear to some people, be so unimportant in another's book?

Apparently the very song that our nation has selectively chosen to be our "anthem" is just not as highly looked upon as it used to be.

How about these sports athletes that are laughing and joking around as our anthem is being played just before a game?

Some would say that is just a travesty that something as important as our national anthem is being overlooked; Some would say that it's just a travesty that something that describes America's freedom is often times taken so lightly.

Shouldn't the national anthem be allowed be a representation of who we are as Americans? Am I wrong in saying that the national anthem was written on all the standards that America was built on?

The next time you hear the national anthem, stop what you're doing, listen to the words, and pay your respect to all that America is...for Michael Phelps' sake.

**"A moment where unity is reality and happiness is filled in the heart of every man."**



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