

TALON MARKS

CERRITOS COLLEGE

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Tuesday Night
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Bouquet given to the man

BRITTANY COOPER
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Quinn Montgomery, member of the Black Student Union, exposed his poetic side and his 'six-pack' and in the process won the title of Mr. Cerritos at the Mr. Cerritos Contest, last Wednesday.

Paul Manuel, mass communications major, was voted runner-up.

ASCC Vice President Jason Macias disagrees with Manuel being voted as runner-up for Mr. Cerritos, although he feels that Montgomery was good.

Macias believes that all of the contestants had interesting talents, but Manuel had what it took to get the women.

There were five contestants in all, they included:

- Senator Jaime Sandoval, psychology club
- Senator Paul Manuel, International Students Association

See Day2 page 3

Burgers and music to end Hoe Down

BRITTANY COOPER
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Students spent the morning waiting in line for In-N-Out hamburgers and listening to the Jim Gibson Band play live classic rock, blues and jazz.

"Hoe Down Days, we're wrapping it up," ASCC President Joe Cobarrubio told students, March 15, "this is the last day and I hope you enjoyed it."



"Hoe Down days, we're wrapping it up, this is the last day and I hope you enjoyed it."

- Joe Cobarrubio
ASCC President

Although the two friends had a good time during day three of Hoe Down Days, their favorite was day one during the carnival.

"There was popcorn, snow cones and really simple games," Paul said, "I even won a teddy bear."

Luis Valdez, music major, did not necessarily stay to mingle, but for the music instead. "I like jazz and blues," he

See Day3 page 3

STOP THE WAR IN IRAQ

3,000 soldiers dead
21,000 serving
and more than 50,000 protesting citizens flood the streets of LA



TANYA BERMEDEZ/TM

A march in March: People met on the corner of Hollywood and Vine to protest the war in Iraq. Sponsored by A.N.S.W.E.R., it marks the four-year anniversary of the Iraq war, which began in March of 2003.

Protests takes over the streets of Hollywood

ROSALI CASTILLO
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Coffins draped in American flags were being carried down Hollywood Boulevard; but it wasn't part of a scene in an upcoming movie, it was a part of a movement to stop the war in Iraq.

More than 50,000 people filled Hollywood Boulevard on Saturday afternoon and it wasn't just in Hollywood where protesting took place, but also in Washington D.C. and in San Francisco.

Protest to Educate

Some showed up because they felt the war that America is fighting is wrong and the troops should come home. Others came to support because they have lost a loved one due to the war.

People like Peggy Woodward and Harry Roberts, both of Long Beach, came to protest the war.

Woodward came to support because a friend of hers' son is going back to Iraq and the son found out that one of his best friends had been killed in Iraq two weeks ago.

There were many students that participated in the march as well. High school students spoke about how they feel the war is wrong and how students are fighting to get recruiters off of their campuses.

Members of the Youth and Student contingent of the political coalition Act Now to Stop War and End Racism were also in attendance and spoke as well.

Cerritos College students were also in attendance in support of the protest.

"(The protest) is important because people need to be aware of what's going on in the world," Natalie Gonzalez, psychology major, mentioned on the why she attended the protest.

Taking in the moment

Adriana Cervantes, humanities major, attended but not only to support the cause, she attended to see everyone come together and unite.

"We're all fighting the same problem and the same system," Cervantes added.

She noticed that after attending and supporting so many protests, she began to see familiar faces and

it's good to know that you're not alone in the fight.

Ernesto Ramirez of Newhall, who had red and black face paint, explained that he was there to take in the whole experience of participating in a protest.

The face paint didn't have a specific meaning, he said it meant whatever people wanted it to mean.

"This whole experience of getting people together, it's a trippy thing and it's an amazing experience," Ramirez added.

However, Cuate of Hollywood said he was there to help put an end to the war.

"It's a senseless war. There are innocent lives being wasted," Cuate stated.

During the protest, tons of flyers were being handed out.

Some of them were about the war and others were about what really happened at the World Trade Center and tried to explain how 9/11 was an inside job.

Some even had huge posters hanging from their bodies with images of whatever they were trying to tell other protesters.

And other flyers were promoting the next protest for undocu-

mented workers.

Time for some entertainment

At the end of the march, protesters were led to a stage in the middle of Hollywood and Highland, in front of the Kodak Theatre.

The stage was surrounded by photographers, who were trying to get shots of those who spoke on the stage.

Some of the speakers included U.S. Congresswoman Maxine Waters, actor Martin Sheen and Jim Lafferty, Director of the National Lawyers Guild, just to name a few. To get a full list of the speakers visit www.answerla.org.

The stage wasn't only for the speakers, but some performances as well. Ben Harper, Jackson Browne, and Ozomatli performed.

But it wasn't for the sake of performing or promoting themselves.

Wil-Dog Abers, bass player of Ozomatli, explained, "Being here is our continuing effort to be a part of this movement and to make it bigger and better."

Abers went on to explain how it's really going to take everyone to come together in order to see a change.

Many organizations helped in putting this protest together and it went without any major confrontations or riots of any sort.

The Anti-Protesters

Despite the peaceful protest there were people on the sidewalks of Hollywood Boulevard opposing the anti-war protest.

Paul Mitchell, counter protester, was there to communicate with the protesters, he claimed.

"I'm here to set the record straight, they think America is junk," he added.

He was there to inform the public about how the Islamic religion is wrong and how people of the Islamic religion are trying to take over.

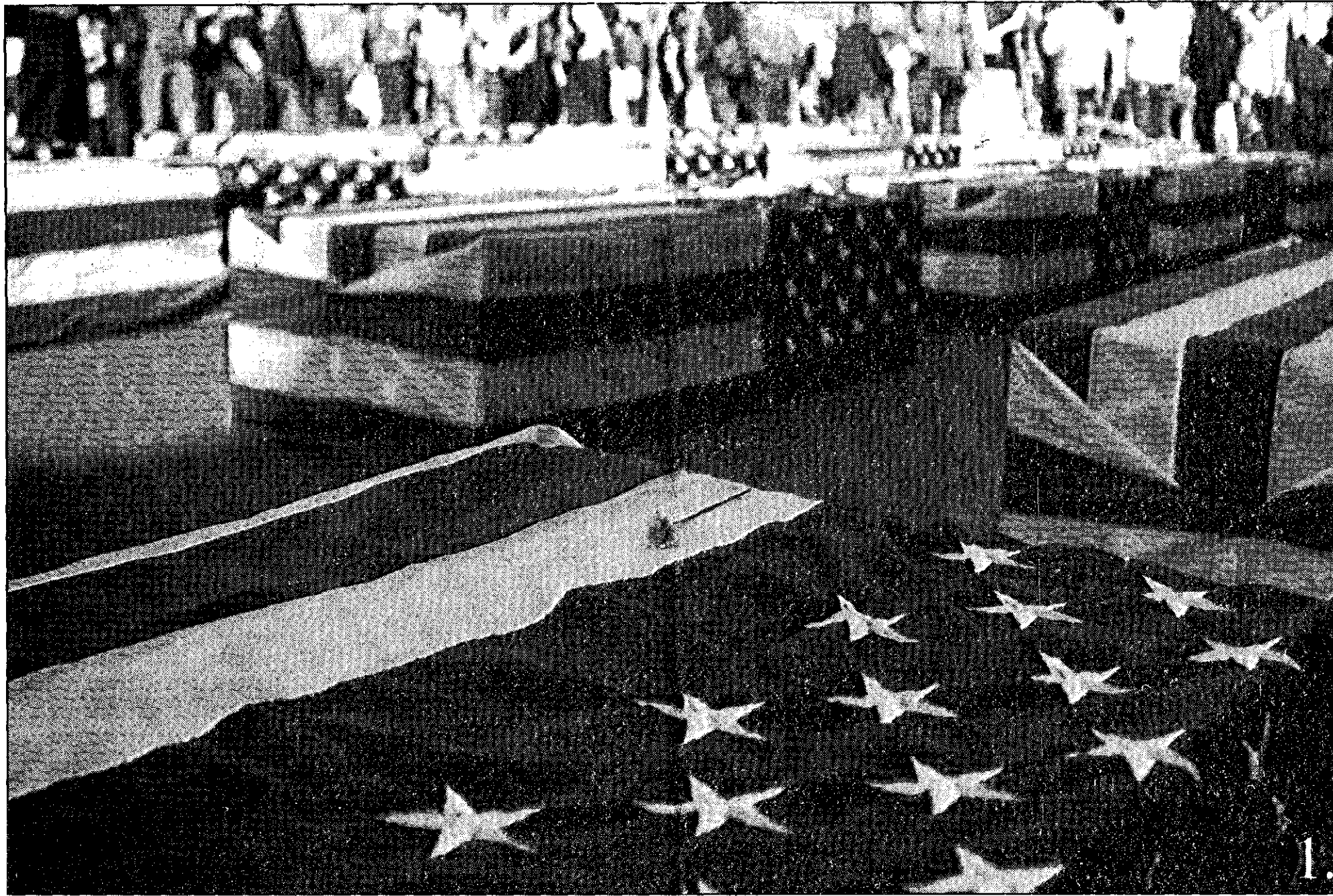
One of Mitchell's colleagues had a small confrontation with a protester and they both raised their voices but things still remained under control.

There were also workers of a tattoo parlor who were standing outside, but not to support the protest but to oppose it.

They had a sign that said "We love George Bush" and as the protesters passed they would tell them things but they didn't respond to any of what they were being told.



How many more will die?



For the thousands of lives lost in the Iraq war and the 21,000 soldiers called to serve, thousands of people gathered to protest against the U.S. war machine.

Meeting on Hollywood and Vine, students, families, veteran soldiers and social activists, joined to march against the four-year war.

With performances by local bands Craddle to the Grain, Nomad, Ozomati and solo artists Ben Harper and Jackson Brown, music brought the masses together with one common phrase.

U.S. Out of Iraq Now!

Streets were closed down as marches walked down Sunset Blvd. making their way to Hollywood and Highland.

As people made their way to the center stage on Hollywood and Highland, booths selling anti-war clothing and stickers, lined up to promote awareness about the war.

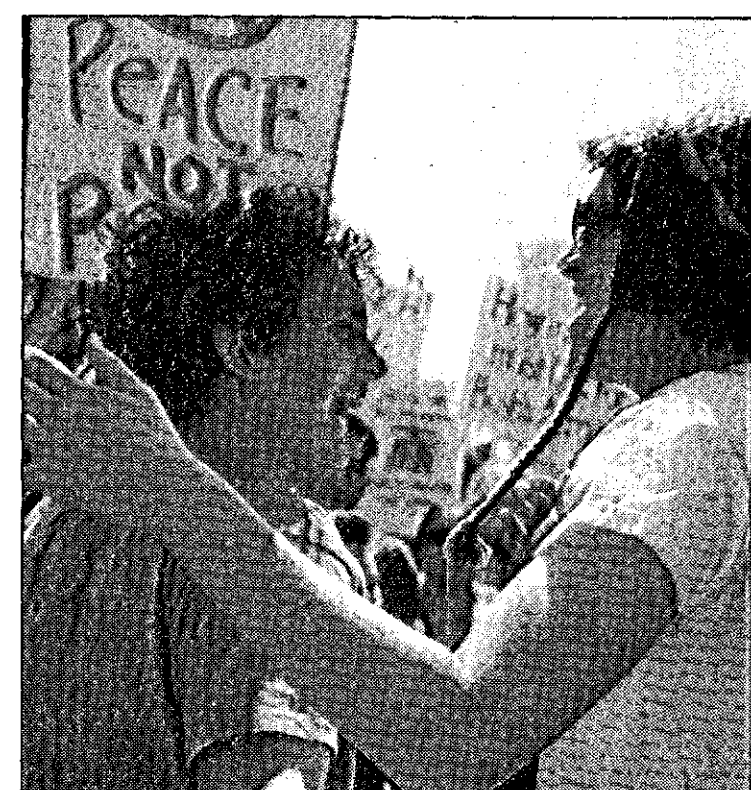
Sponsored by the Act Now To Stop War & End Racism organization, the March 17 protest hosted 50,000 people in LA and 40,000 in San Francisco.

For more information and upcoming events visit answerla.org.

PHOTOS BY: TANYA BERMUDEZ

1. Veterans for Peace assembled and placed 40 flags over boxes during the March 17 protest in Hollywood to represent the loss of soldiers.
2. Moments before the march began, Amir went on stage to pump up the crowd.
3. Cerritos College student Adriana Cervantes, was one of many students who joined in on the protest in Hollywood on Saturday.
4. Marine Veteran Jeff Key stood in front of the Gay & Lesbian Center showing his support for equal opportunity in the military. Key was there with other fellow veterans who sported T-shirts that read Veterans Against the War.
5. Two attendees embrace the peace and not war circle during the protest. The march included cultural dances and instrumental chants.

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Proposition AB 262 Clothesline gets hung

may prevent debt

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It seems like legislation has finally been proposed to dethrone the credit card companies' dominance of advertising toward college students.

A proposition entitled "AB (Assembly Bill) 262, The College Student Credit Protection Act" was proposed by Joe Coto of the 23rd Assembly District in San Jose.

The bill would require the state's public universities to release information on exclusive credit card marketing arrangements with the banks that are on those campuses.

It would also prohibit credit card companies from offering gift incentives to students who would complete their credit card applications on the campus.

Lastly, the bill's objective is to persuade the UC regents to change its 2004 policy that excuse many of the banks from the many of the universities restrictions.

"Many California public university students, of all incomes and backgrounds, are graduating into severe credit card debt.

AB 262 will help to protect the students who represent the future of California's economy," Coto said in a Greenlining Institution press release.

The Greenlining Institution released a study entitled "Aggressive Credit Card Marketing to College Students Under Scrutiny," which focused mainly on the tactics of very aggressive credit card marketing to college students.

The press release continued by pointing out the fact that a large

number of college students seem to own at least one credit card already. It observed that some of those college students even own at least four credit cards.

David Garcia, machine tool technology major, agrees with the proposition. "(Credit card) marketing should be done (solely) outside of the college campus."

Simau Tuiali'i, anthropology major, said, "I think that is a good idea. Sometimes students don't want to deal with credit card marketers and just want to do their own thing, like studying or going to a certain place at a certain time."

According to student leader Nellie Mae, in 2004, more than 75 percent of college students nationwide had credit cards, and more than 40 percent of students had at least four credit cards.

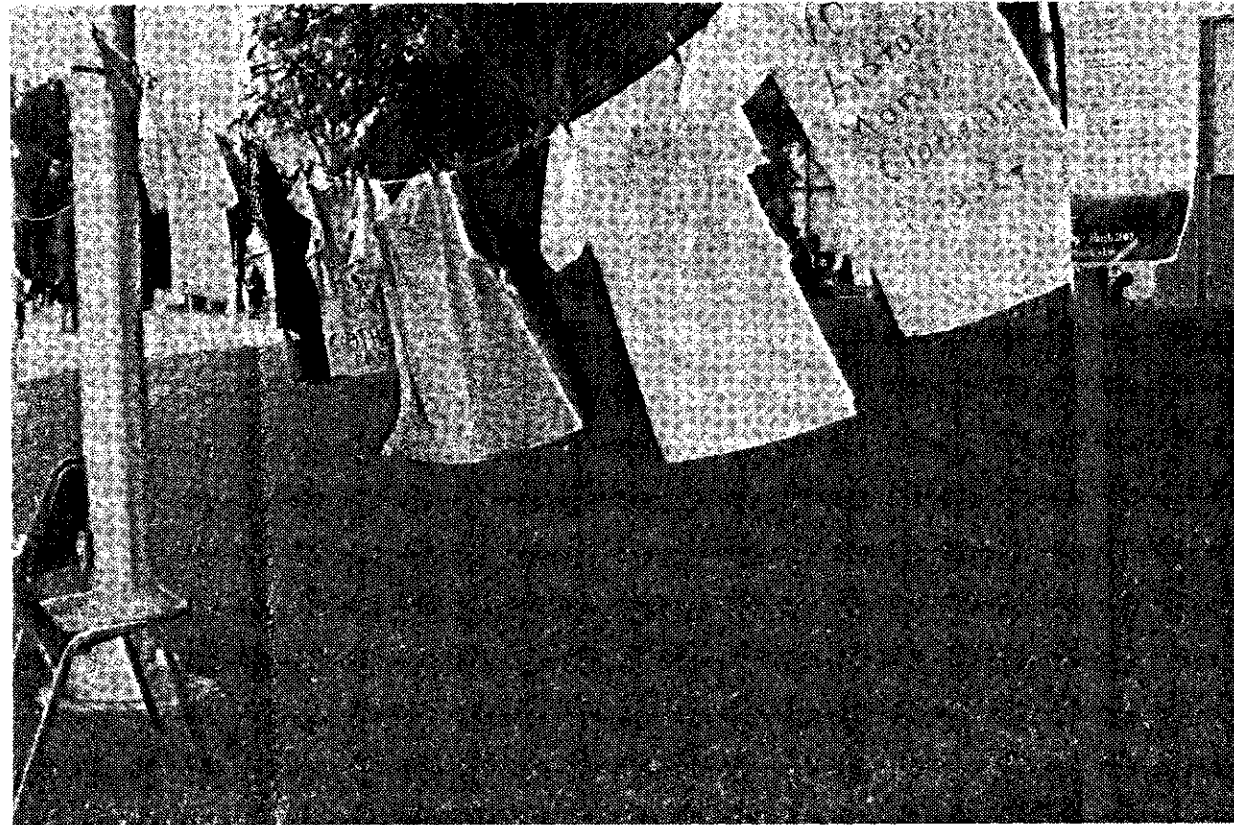
Student credit card debt increases significantly over college years; on average, senior college students owe nearly double that owed by freshman students in credit card debt.

The credit card applications that students fill out, as noted by the press release, are high-interest credit card applications.

Yasarbio Cobian, English major said, "I think (the assembly bill) is good, (since) it's trying to protect the students, because they have limited financial income and they're in college."

Jennifer Gonzales, undecided major, stated that she has been approached by credit card marketers and that they were indeed very aggressive.

But, she noted that many people don't really mind their persuasive talk and allow themselves to be taken advantage of.



Project: The Clothesline project is a part of the Women's History events, which was suppose to happen Tuesday but got postponed for Wednesday.

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"Silence Kills" and "Stop the Violence Against Women" were just some of the words written on more than 20 shirts during the Clothesline Project on Tuesday.

Despite being originally scheduled for Wednesday, the Clothesline Project was held in Falcon Square.

The reason is because there was a rescheduling with a representative from the Sexual Assault Crisis Agency.

The Clothesline Project empowers survivors of abuse to speak out. The Feminist Majority Leadership Alliance, the Re-entry Program and the Women's History Month Committee presented the event.

The shirts were represented by the following colors:

- White represents women who died because of violence
- Yellow or beige represents battered or assaulted women
- Red, pink, and orange are for survivors of rape and sexual assault?
- Blue and green t-shirts represent survivors of incest and sexual abuse
- Purple or lavender represents women attacked because of their sexual orientation
- Black is for women attacked for political reasons
- Esther Choi, re-entry student specialist, said that it was important to educate students about the issue of domestic violence.
- "The reason is because there might be someone who knows a neighbor who has gone through domestic violence, and it is important to note that domestic violence still exist in the world."
- She added that the way in which the shirts are effective is because it gives those who have gone through some type of violence a voice. It is also a powerful way for women who know what its like to be survivors to get the message that there is a way to end it.
- Students said that it was important to know about violence against women.
- Victor Robles, math major, said that the reason he stopped by to look at the shirts was because it was important to education himself about it.
- Although he said that he has not personally seen abuse that it was important because he thought about his mom and if she'd ever would face abuse.

Day 2: Contestants put on a show for the audience

Continued from page 1

- Onkatir Onvara, Culinary Arts Club
- Christian Casillas, business major
- Quinn Montgomery, Black Student Union

The contestants entertained the audience by singing, playing the piano, dancing and reading poetry. Sandoval lip-synced a song in Spanish, initially sung by the Soda Stereo Band.

"I don't really know what the song is called," Sandoval said. "I only know the lyrics."

Sandoval said that, at first, he wanted to sing an opera, but felt that the Spanish song was more appropriate for the crowd.

He had fun participating in the Mr. Cerritos contest and admitted to being nervous.

"I had to walk in front of all of these females," he said, "but then I heard a lot of screaming and I really got into it."

Sandoval is not disappointed and knew that once Montgomery ripped his shirt off and showed all of his muscles, that he was going to win.

"I had fun, but I don't think that I would do it again," he said. "First I would have to practice all of the good moves."

Casillas enjoyed competing for the title also.

"It is good to participate with the school," he said, "it is always great to be involved."

Casillas showed off his dance moves as his talent and says that he got his inspiration from clubbing and messing around with his friends.

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Day 3: Sound of old rock and roll was what the crowd needed

Continued from page 1

said, "it's inspirational music." Nicole McClain, geography major, stayed for the same reason.

"I love the style of the music, old rock and roll," she said.

McClain explained that Bob Dylan, one of the artists that the Gibson Band emulated, was one of the best artists of the 1960s and that he is still very influential.

"This music is classic," she said, "I'm digging it!"

Senator Joon Kyu Kang stayed solely for the In-N-Out burger, but appreciated the live music.

"I really like Korean food," he said, "but sometimes I just need a change."

"This is a good time to have this relaxation."

Kang said that although this was the perfect time to sit down, talk and relax with peers, students weren't taking the time to try to get to know one another.

"It's perfect weather and everyone is doing their own thing," he said, "no one is trying to talk to each other, maybe the music is too loud."

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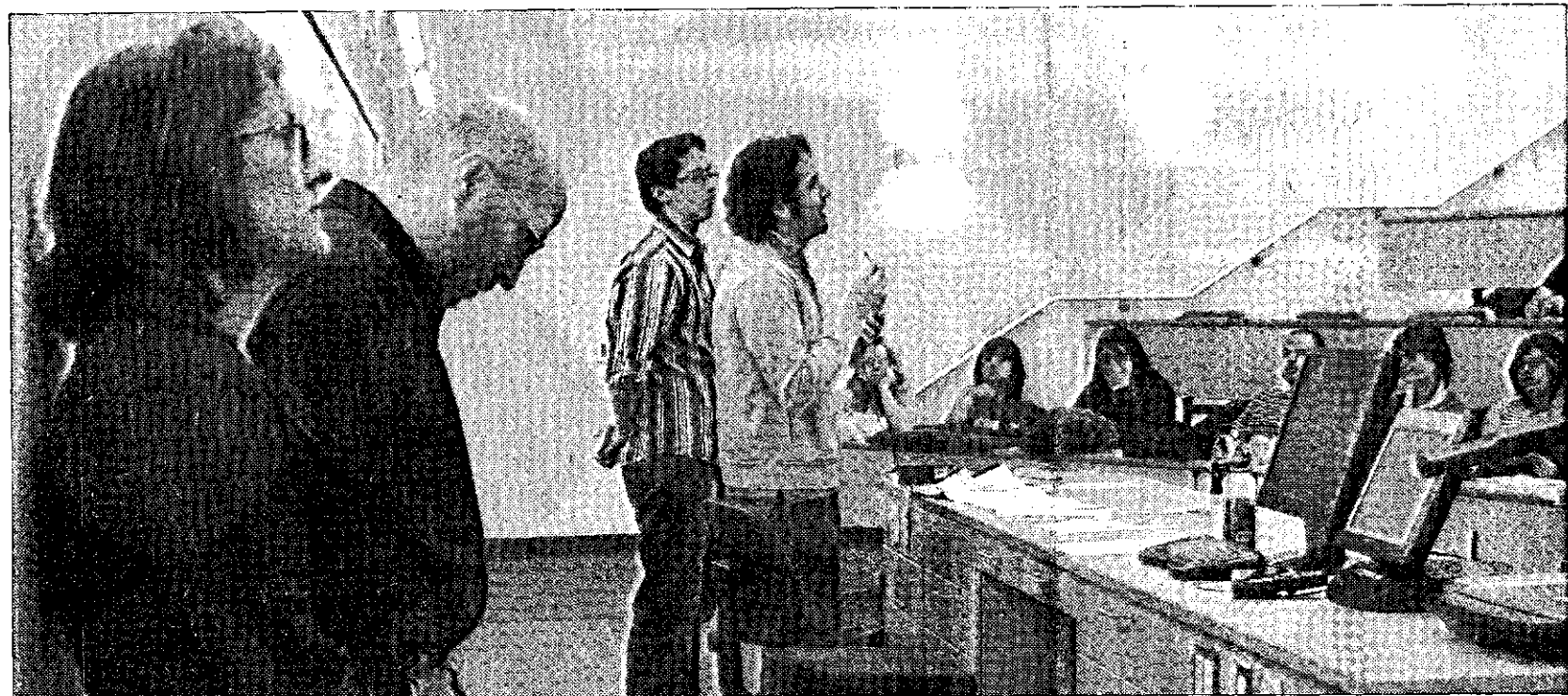
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HOE DOWN DAYS

ONLINE

- FMLA and SACA's clothes-line project
- Anti-war protest in LA



Speaking up: Alex Armendariz, psychology major, and Guillermo Tellez, sociology major, discuss the role of a male feminist with students while philosophy instructor Ted Stolze and sociology instructor Amy Holzgang act as moderators.

Male feminists unmask their strong side

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"Are males oppressed by patriarchy?"

That was one of two questions raised during the second "Unmasking the Male Feminist" forum held last Thursday in the Science Building.

The Philosophy Club and Feminist Majority Leadership Alliance sponsored the event.

More than 25 students and faculty heard a response to the question, "Why should a male be a feminist?"

The four panelists who answered the questions were: philosophy instructor Ted Stolze, sociology instructor Amy Holzgang, philosophy and sociology major Guillermo

Tellez and psychology major Alex Armendariz.

Stolze began the discussion of what was believed to be the role of a feminist, as it being gender roles in society, but said that there is something else that is important to end with it.

Patriarchy in a society is when the man is the authority within a family, but Stolze said that something needs to end and noted that feminists are not who they seem to be.

"There must be an end to physical abuse, violence against women and society must be able to be gender-free."

He also added that there are feminists whom are pro-life.

In regard to personal relationships, Stolze said when it comes to what is referred to as "maternity

leave," the Cerritos faculty manual regards it as a temporary disability. That is where he disagrees.

"This is totally unacceptable to me because it is not about having a disability."

There needs to be a press for enlightenment with regard to what a disability is, according to Stolze.

As for the gender role in society, he commented that there has been a gender reconstruction.

Holzgang said that as far as she's concerned, nobody in society is living in a free market and that there is no equality among men and women.

But economics instructor Diane Keenan questioned the fact that women have been faced with inequality in wages.

"When a woman has the responsibility of child care she is consid-

ered less committed," she said.

In another point, masculinity is also something that patriarchy has a narrow point of view, Holzgang said.

As an example, she said that in toy stores everything is separated by gender and the same is for clothing at a department store.

Why, she asked, can't you expose children to both genders?

That is, if a child wants to have toys for a girl or a boy or both that they can. Ultimately she explained, "Children are exposed to gender from the moment of birth."

Another of Holzgang's points was the consideration of the romantic patriarchy. Holzgang said that having patriarchy in society hurts.

Armendariz said that it all leads back to the education people get.

Abortion talks rally up student opinions

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The Psychology Club held a discussion entitled "Pro-life, Pro-Choice" that focused on educating students about the conception of abortion on Tuesday in the Social Science Building.

More than 25 people attended who were questioning the difference between pro-choice and pro-life.

Being 'pro-life' is being opposed to abortion and believing in the right for the unborn child to live. In addition, it is also advocating full legal protection of human embryos or fetuses.

Being 'pro-choice' is supporting or advocating the legalization of abortion.

During the discussion, Mario San Juan, English major, said that it is important not to impose opinions on others.

"If I were a woman, I would have to say that nobody knows your body like you do." Moreover, he said that people tend to input philosophical spin on what women should do to their body.

Tracy Garcia, undecided major, agreed but there was also something else of importance about learning about who is pro-life and pro-choice.

"We as a society have to be well-educated about both pro-choice and pro-life as well as Plan B which, is contraception."

She added that currently in high schools there are no sex education classes and urged that students

write to representatives and officials to have those classes.

Stem cell research was also another topic of discussion.

Afterward, students such as Cecilia Morales, business administration and psychology major, said that in hearing about the difference between both pro-choice and pro-life, she's for life itself.

"That's what I believe in," she said, "and there are people who do need to be educated about what it means to have an abortion."

Also, she said that the government has no right to tell a woman when to have an abortion.

She was referring to Proposition 85 that was defeated last November that would have given parent notification of a child who will have an abortion.

Morales said that women have the right to terminate the pregnancy if they want to.

Mayra Gutierrez, psychology major, said that for her it was about the fact that there are people who have a double standard with pro-choice and pro-life.

"There are people out there that say that they believe in having a baby live but are for the death penalty and that's not right."

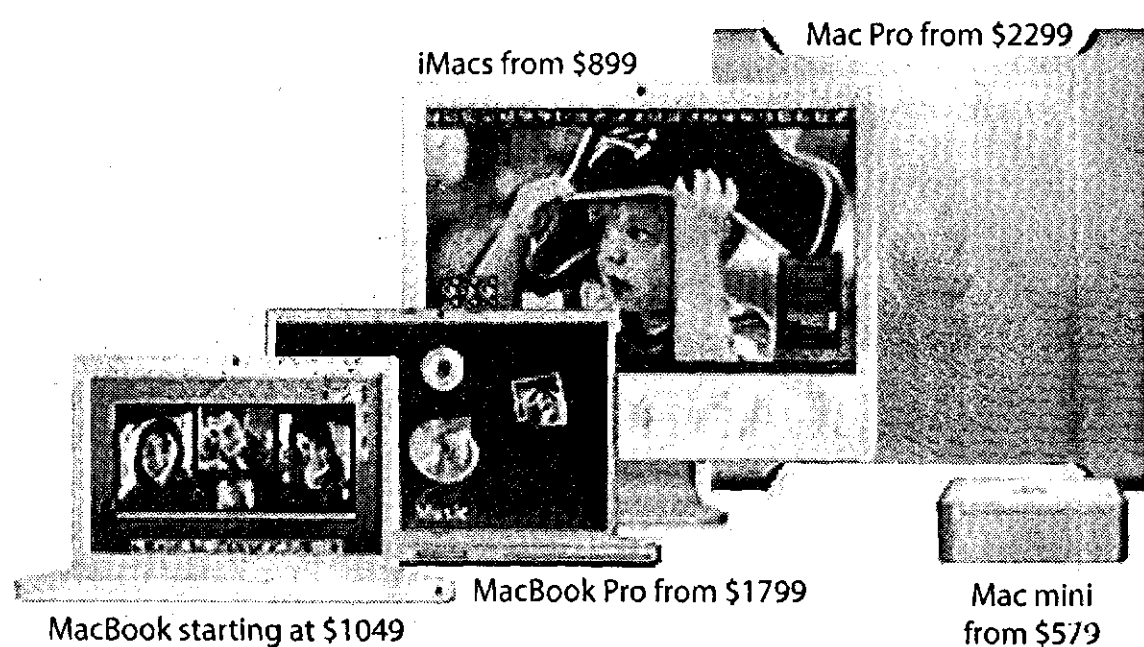
It was either one or none of both for her.

Many of those in attendance feel that women who decide not to keep their babies also tend to think that adoption is the only option.

"It's not always the option because there are children who never get adopted," Gutierrez argued.



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Wednesday, March 21, 2007 • www.talonmarks.com

Student performers receive awards

OSCAR CATZIN
 A & E Editor
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After a whole season of plays, the Cerritos College Department of Theater Arts hosted its second annual awards show Friday at the studio theater.

Twenty students received awards and other prizes to recognize their hard work during this past season.

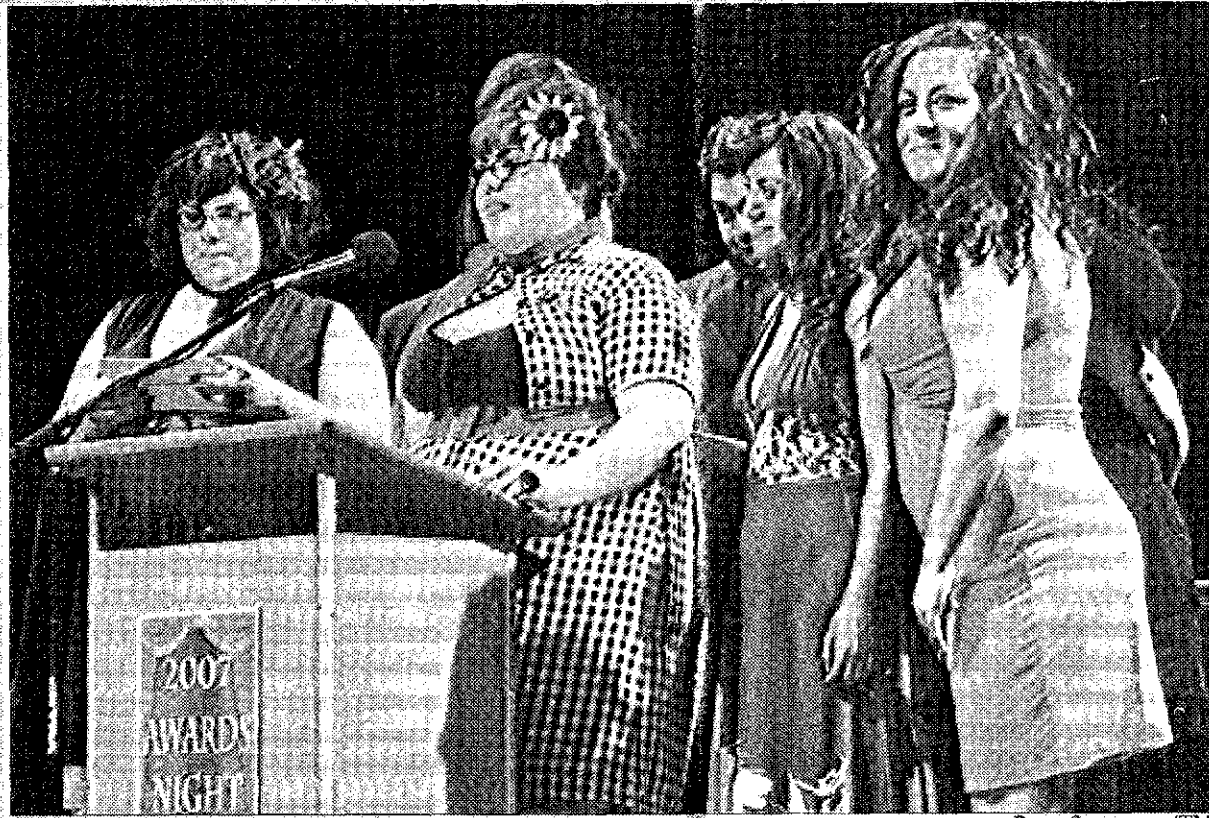
Gustavo Ruiz, winner of "Best performance by a male in a supporting role" for his role in "Grease," "Best 2006 season by a male" and two tickets to a McCoy/Rigby show at La Mirada Theater for the Performing Arts said, "I think it's great that the theater department acknowledges what the students do here."

The faculty members and some students introduced the award nominees and then the winners.

The night also had a lot of video footage that was put together by Tony Bartolone, winner of The Kevin Hoggard \$200 scholarship, and four tickets to any show at Improv Olympic.

"I was kind of mad because I was nominated for four awards and I didn't win, but when I got the Kevin Hoggard scholarship, everything seemed worth it."

"I want to dedicate this award to Dave Rathel," Bartolone said. Bartolone also handed an award



Winners: Maria Lopez, theater arts major, and some of her peers enjoyed presenting and receiving the awards on the glamorous night full of deserved recognition.

that was named after a character he had in a previous play where he was just the gate keeper.

Michael Timoney was the winner of "The Keeper of the gate" award, and won four tickets to any show at Improv Olympic, for his small role in "Hamlet."

"It was an honor to receive 'The Keeper of the Gate Award' from Tony," Timoney said. Not all the winners attended the ceremony to receive their awards.

Bill Blush, winner of "Best playwright" for "Between Iraq and a Hard Drive" and of two tickets for "Pirates of Penzance" at the Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts, couldn't attend the event but he sent an email to be read in case he won.

The 'lovely assistant' Silvia Cervantes, also the winner of "Best student director" for "The Box and Between Iraq and a Hard Drive" and 2 tickets for "Pirates of

Penzance" at the Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts, said, "It's a neat event. I think it is a great idea that the staff recognizes what we do here. We're all starting and they're very supportive."

One of the most important awards of the night was the "Most Valuable Theater Student 2007" award and it was given to Barbara Lopez and she also received \$500 donated by the theater department.

Blood and guts makes '300' a hit

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The movie "300" was a success at the box office, making \$70 million on its opening weekend.

Zack Snyder delivered an outstanding film based on the novel by Frank Miller. It was the exaggeration of strength and bravery that made this film exciting and an adrenaline rush.

The story is based on the Battle of Thermopylae which took place in the year 480 B.C. It's a legend that tells of an army of 300 Spartans who fought off an army of what is believed to have been over two million Persians. The Spartans were led by King Leonidas, played by Gerard Butler, while the Persians' leader was King Xerxes, played by Rodrigo Santoro.

With much of the story being based on legend and not historical facts, Snyder focused on making the film a story of strength and brute violence, not of historical accuracy.

The easy-to-follow plot and the typical characters did not take anything away from the film.

The story of the strong leader, the powerful woman and the evil

enemy, along with their men, although very common in films of war, were original and unique among other similar films, like the 2004 film "Troy."

One thing it did not lack either were the perfect physiques. The men constantly displayed their bulging muscles, while the women showed their sensual curves.

Although the display of almost-naked bodies was a bit overdone, it added to importance of strength and perfection that existed among these people.

The strength the Spartans were bred to have is obvious in every scene. From a young age, the men are taught to be strong, and rejected

by their society if they are believed to be weak, or even with the potential to be weak some day.

The visuals of the film are amazing, with much similarities to films like "Lord of the Rings," almost unreal.

The battle scenes, although gory, showed much talent from the actors as well as the director, as they made it easy to get lost in the movements.



MEDIA CREDITS: WARNER BROS.

'Concrete Underground' displays local musicians

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The Cerritos Music Department and the ASCC hosted a series of rock showcases called "Concrete Underground" on Tuesday, behind the BC building.

Cory Salomone, music major, said that this event is put together at least once a semester.

The first band on the stage was Anything After, consisting of three members: Jason Ayala, guitar, Bryan Dale, guitar, and his twin brother, Brad Dale, drums.

"We've been together as a band for about three years," Ayala said.

The members of this band are not Cerritos College students, but they are friends with Jesse Barron, music major, who is part of the music program here at Cerritos.

Barron said he brought the demo of the band to school and students here liked it and voted for it.

"The sound was cool, but I couldn't hear the vocals of the band," Patty Sanchez, health science major, said.

"It sounds good. The beat is catchy but I can't hear the words," Maria Lopez, teaching major, agreed.

Hights and Lows was the last band to perform. Jesus De Andas, guitar/keyboard, Edgar Ruiz, bass, David Ochoa, drums, and Rosalio Serrano, guitar, are the members of the band. Serrano is the only one from the band that is not a student at Cerritos.

"We've been playing together for eight months," Ruiz said.

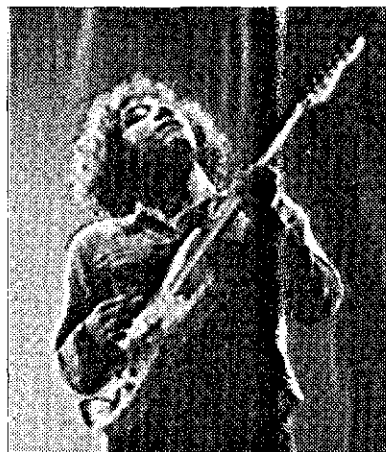
Luis Segovia, business major, said, "It's a pretty cool event."

'Strokes' member releases solo album

ALEX RODRIGUEZ
 Staff Writer
 jrodriguez7@talonmarks.com

Albert Hammond, Jr., guitarist for the band The Strokes released his solo debut album "Yours to Keep" earlier this month.

The album was actually available



MEDIA CREDITS: NEW LINE RECORDS

since early October when it was released in the UK.

You can also listen to the entire album on Hammond's MySpace page.

The band is made up Josh Latanzi on bass, Matt Romano on drums and Hammond providing the vocals and guitars.

With "Yours to Keep," Hammond strays away from the heavy garage rock that is synonymous with the music of The Strokes.

Instrumentals and melodies are found throughout this album.

Lyrical the album has some flaws, as some of the songs are focused on subject that should be a part of this album.

Other songs are lyrically great, centered around relationships, friendships, and life in general.

The album feels as if it was just put together. It feels as if the mem-

bers of the band selected the best songs and just threw it together.

There is no centralized theme, however this factor doesn't mean the album doesn't have its bright spots.

The song "101" has a great guitar hook.

The song has the feel of a mix of pop/rock, however, Hammond's vocals make it great.

The song also features Sean Lennon on piano and providing backup vocals.

The song that reminds me most of a Strokes song is the "In Transit."

Having a great beat mixed well with melodies, make this one of the best sounding songs on the album.

Probably the funniest thing about this album is its covering.

It's painted like a sort of cartoon

world, complete with the sappy sunset.

So, should the other members of the Strokes be worried that one of their founding members will pursue a solo career?

Well, I wouldn't jump to that conclusion yet. "Yours to Keep" is a great album, and it shows the true talent of Hammond as a vocalist and musician.

The album does take some time to grow on you. It is also a bit short and gives you the feeling of wanting more tracks to listen too.

But, like I said the album has its bright spots and is one of the best album I've heard this year.

"Yours to Keep" is an album deserves a listen. Albert Hammond Jr. is currently on tour, and will soon be supporting Bloc Party on its tour.

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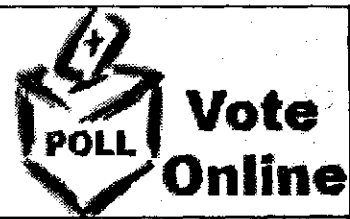
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EDITORIAL

Free wireless solves lab problem

For three years now, Cerritos College has had a contract with AT&T that provides wireless Internet service on campus.

While some chosen to pay the fees that come with the use of the service, others have refused to dish out the money and who can blame them?

AT&T should do the right thing and provide free wireless Internet for Cerritos students, faculty and staff to use.

On the surface, the fees of \$1.99 per month for AT&T members and \$19.95 per month with a one-year agreement for non-customers may look trivial.

But added up with the other fees that students have to pay, such as tuition, books and parking costs, there should be no need to shell out extra money just to make AT&T happy and get them a quick buck.

Having to pay for this "service" is an unnecessary inconvenience for all.

The company should make things easier for the people whom it is claiming to serve. Free wireless Internet will be a way that the company can give back to the community.

It is true that when one signs up with AT&T, Internet access is not just limited to the school. Nevertheless, one less cost out of the students' pockets, the better off it will be.

If the AT&T makes the right choice and decides to give free Internet, it will benefit everyone.

Free wireless internet will reduce traffic in the computer labs. Students will be able to use their own laptops for personal things such as MySpace, instant messaging and e-mail for free.

That way, the computer labs can be put used specifically for school-related work.

The end result will be that students will

not complain that there are not computers in the library and computer lab that aren't available. Complaints have not stopped because of the popularity of MySpace.

Furthermore, even with the indirect effects of the MySpace ban in 2005 and with a survey former commissioner of information technology and current ASCC Vice President Jason Macias, students will still continue to find ways to use a social web site that in all honesty doesn't advance the education of students.

When the survey was conducted, 89 percent of the 155 students who participated said that they had a MySpace account.

In addition, students said that the main reason for the use of MySpace was to keep in contact with friends.

A person will be able to do that through free wireless Internet without the hassle of taking up space in the computer labs.

If you as students, faculty and staff are tired of having to pay this unnecessary fee, then take your concerns to ASCC Commissioner of Information Technology Alex Alvarez and Information Technology Director Lee Krichmar.

Stop saying that wireless internet doesn't appeal to you as a student because if you say that then you are not a good liar.

The school's administration and I.T. department should consider the interests of students first and negotiate a deal with AT&T that would provide the service for free.

The contract expires in 2008, and if AT&T will not budge, the school's administrators and I.T. department should cut its ties with them.

Because students shouldn't have to go down to the Los Cerritos Center just to use free wireless Internet.



ILLUSTRATION BY AXAYACATL NEVAREZ



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 FA 42 or contact the editor by e-mail at editor@talonmarks.com.

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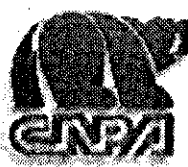
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WINNER General Excellence 2005/2006 State Conference Journalism Association of Community Colleges



Race issue returns to schools

After all these years, segregation is still taking place in the United States



Norma Palacios News Editor news@talonmarks.com

It appears that segregation has returned to the classroom and there is nothing that people can do about it.

Recently a district judge in Little Rock, Arkansas had ruled the district supervision end for Central High School and that the city plans to keep segregation going on.

This is a disgrace to not only the public school system, but to the nation as a whole. How dare a city in Arkansas support segregation in addition to, unknown high schools in Louisville, Kentucky and Seattle, Washington.

The landmark 1954 ruling of Brown v. the Board of Education ended segregation and paved the way toward integration in public schools.

But with this recent development is it sad to say that segregation still exists on this planet.

I however disagree that there is nothing that can be done; there is. It is called educating ourselves.

What I don't understand is why teachers from a high school would allow segregation to happen.

Aren't people who have had a career in edu-

cation supposed to be leaders? So, my question is why teachers from an Arkansas high school would support this.

These are the teachers that students depend on as an example of leadership.

Those teachers should put a stop to supporting segregation in the first place. This is not just a black and white issue anymore.

According to Racial Transformation and the Changing Nature of Segregation, in 1991, 39 percent of black students in Southern states attended schools that were majority white; in 2003, only 29 percent did.

In Arkansas, home to the historic integration effort, the percentage of white students in schools attended by black students decreased by eight points from 1991 to 2003.

Also, Kentucky, Delaware, West Virginia, Maryland, Missouri and Oklahoma, 69 percent of black students attended majority non-white schools in 2003; in 1991, only 59 percent did.

The numbers don't indicate the fact that there

is still anger over the 1954 court ruling that ended it. Society as a whole needs to wake up.

Let me put it this way. Imagine that segregation exists at Cerritos.

Imagine that a court just called integration among everyone unjustified.

What would you do if a community college such as this had its court upheld a ruling to allow only one race to be admitted into the college?

How would you react if you were looking into a college that had only white students or either of the other races allowed?

These are questions you have probably asked yourself but don't have an answer to.

What sets me off is the fact that education is not enforced to have an understanding as to why segregation was and is wrong in the first place.

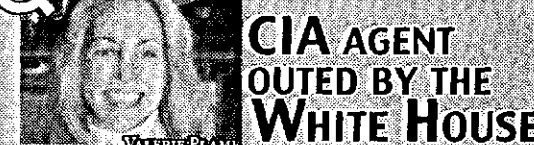
College students need to start reading again.

The majority of the more than 20,000 students on this campus don't read and that leads to asking why you don't pass your classes.

Ask yourself if you would tolerate being in a room with the people of the same race. I don't think you would.

Diversity is what makes a campus unique and it should stay that way, if it doesn't then as a human population should not exist at all.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK



CIA AGENT OUTH BY THE WHITE HOUSE

Valerie Plame, the CIA operative at the heart of a political scandal, told Congress that senior officials at the White House and State Department blew her cover in order to discredit her diplomat husband.

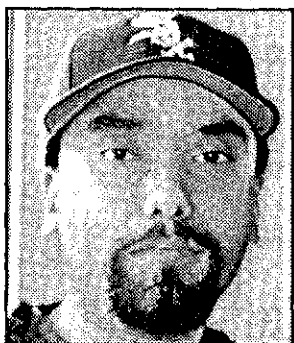
"My name and identity were carelessly and recklessly abused by senior officials in the White House and State Department."

Plame also added how the credibility of the CIA may have been tainted with what has happened.

"Future foreign agents who might consider working with the CIA and providing needed intelligence would think twice."

How do you feel about MySpace on campus?

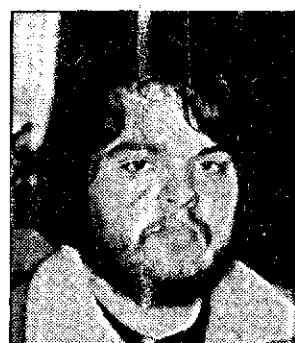
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JUAN MARTINEZ
criminal justice major
"I can't judge people because I have an account on MySpace, too. But here, on campus, you shouldn't use the computers to be on it. You could do that at home."



SHAY WHITE
undecided major
"It's dumb to prohibit the access of it because people always want to do the forbidden and students are just going to do it more."



RYAN MCDANIEL
philosophy major
"I guess the computer lab should be used for school related work because I've been there trying to use the computers and most of the people are just using them for MySpace."



REBECCA JUAREZ
undecided major
"It's okay to use it, but sometimes people want to get their work done and cannot use the computers in the lab."



JEROME BROWN
undecided major
"They should allow us to log on to MySpace because it can also be considered a learning tool."



GABBY RUBALCABA
biology major
"I agree with it not being allowed on campus, but at the same time I don't. Sometimes you have free time between classes and MySpace is a good way to kill time."

Singers pay your dues

'Idol' is producing singers not true musicians



American Idol has reached its peak. Well I hope so, for the sake of musicians.

I came to this conclusion, while I watched a half hour of the program with my older sister.

Around 98 percent of the program is unbearable and the two percent that's actually somewhat entertaining is when Simon Cowell puts down the people who can't sing.

The show is a juggernaut in the television world. American Idol averages over 30 million viewers a night.

This is where my main problem with the show lies. Thirty million people are being exposed to a really bad quality of music.

I understand that the show is very entertaining.

However, when America votes a new American Idol, the music that's produced by that artist is not

of good quality.

People need to realize, if they don't already know, is the contestants who are associated with American Idol are not musicians, they're singers at best.

If you're a musician, you're writing your lyrics, playing the instruments, mixing the beats, and you're in the studio producing.

Oh sorry, I forgot the most important thing.

Musicians pay their dues in touring to make fans and create a following.

There have been five seasons of Idol. Currently the show is in the middle of its sixth season and this is the most popular season (in terms of viewers). So that means another American Idol will soon brainwash millions.

I admit the fact that I watched the first season of the show.

However, since that time my views have been negative toward the show, the people who run it, and the Idols.

Let me make myself clear. I'm not calling the fans of the show any names or putting them down in anyway.

Hey, if you're into this type of show, and these type of singers well more power to you and I probably couldn't change your mind if I tried.

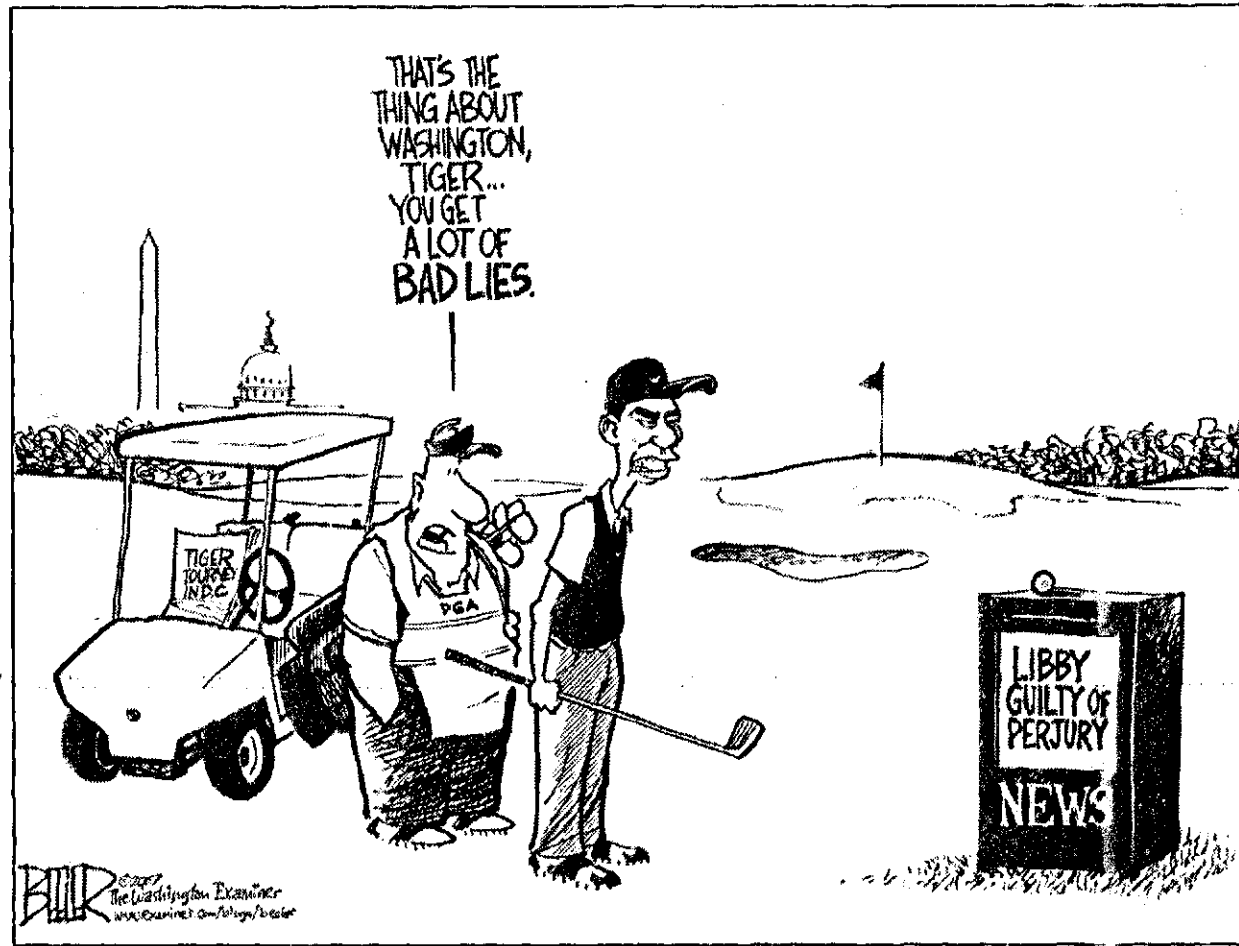
All I am trying to do present is the fact that there is great new music still being made.

However, you have to look harder for it in music scene dominated by Idol type artists.

The majority of the musicians I follow today are from International bands, mainly though from Great Britain.

All I ask is for people to explore different alternatives find what you like in music.

Don't be told what you should like because it's the flavor of the month.



The world is full of hypocrites

Too many people are just not sticking to their 'guns'



I know we live in a society full of revolutionists who don't want to be told what to do, but what's with all the hypocrisy?

Lately I've been noticing that people are just not sticking to their 'guns'.

Growing up in a Christian home, I always knew right from wrong. Actually, I even made up some of my own standards of conduct.

And the same applies for any individual who grew up in a determined setting, but lately, it seems like people are just throwing what they know out the window.

A few months ago, a few members of my church decided that it was their ethical right to blabber their criticism to other members about certain people in the church.

Therein lies strike one: if I remember correctly, gossip is considered sinful.

It's not so much that I'm an enforcer of our code of conduct, but actions like that are way out of line.

In church, we learn that God is the ultimate judge, ruler of all things.

Therefore, we're not bestowed with the right to judge since we're not divine. That, obviously, is well understood but, as things are going now, only by a select few.

What probably bothers me even worse are those individuals who claim to be part of a group, or organization and allow that group's reputation to become corrupted thanks to their hypocrisy.

There's one thing we must all un-

derstand: if we say we're supposed to be or live a certain way, then do it, don't just boast about it when you probably fall short of your own 'glory'.

Ultimately, that same church member, who boasts about being 'ethical' and 'godly,' decided to act worse than those they criticize; irony at its best. So stop judging others when you're not perfect either!

And there's a whole other realm to that argument.

I've also recently come across a few people who claim to be a moral person or a revolutionary activist of some sort and act completely the opposite.

If you claim to hold certain ideals, stick to them. If anything, don't flash an ideal lifestyle you can't own up to.

There are people on campus claiming to be Christian and yet recite every vulgar word known to mankind while maintaining a lifestyle far from 'godly' and 'pure.'

There are even open-minded individuals who argue with those that oppose their opinion rather than being 'open-minded.'

Those same types of people are the ones that are making the church and ultimately God, be stereotyped as hypocritical, which probably falls under a whole other level of blasphemy.

Even worse, people who come and flash huge banners condemning others are just as wrong too.

The Bible never gives us the authority to condemn others but to

guide them into righteousness, so stop doing it and acting like you're God!

If anything, I remember reading a commandment that says "Love your neighbor."

And not only does that exist within the church, but at school as well. People on campus claim to want a better society that promotes peace and self-prosperity.

Yet, those same people are the ones who go against established law and do so by negatively influencing the same society they're so keen about changing with their irresponsibility and lack of consideration. Oh for the love of irony!

It's like people nowadays want all the privileges and none of the responsibilities.

That's just not going to cut it in the end. You either stick to what you know and work hard to do it well or be resourceful and find something else that you can do better.

Stop claiming to be a moral person when you're not.

Stop claiming to want to change the world for the better when you're making it worse.

Stop being such a hypocrite!

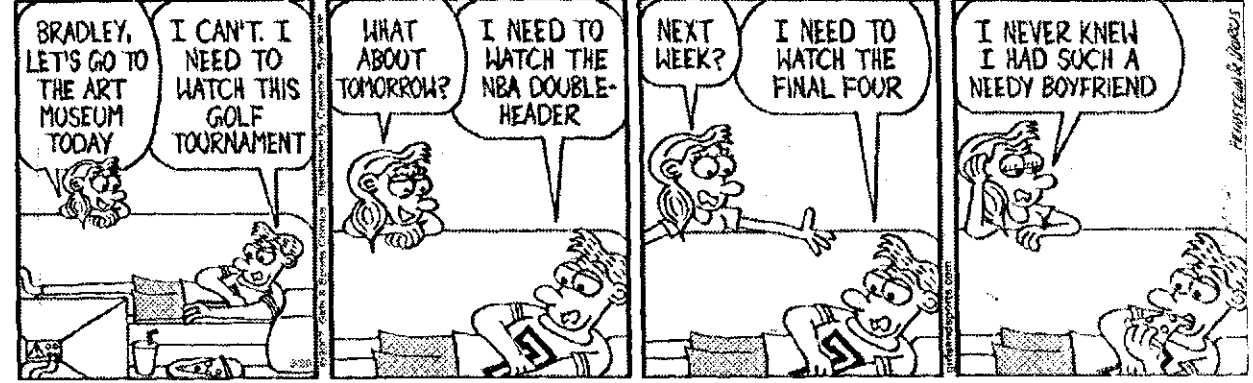
If anything, stop labeling yourself as something and deceiving the world into thinking you're that person when you know you're not even close.

If you want to be considered a Christian, maintain a 'godly' lifestyle.

If you want to be an open-minded activist, listen to the opinions of those who oppose you and accept them as valid even though they don't agree with you.

And if you want to be a good person, leave behind the hypocrisy and snap out of your fake ideal world.

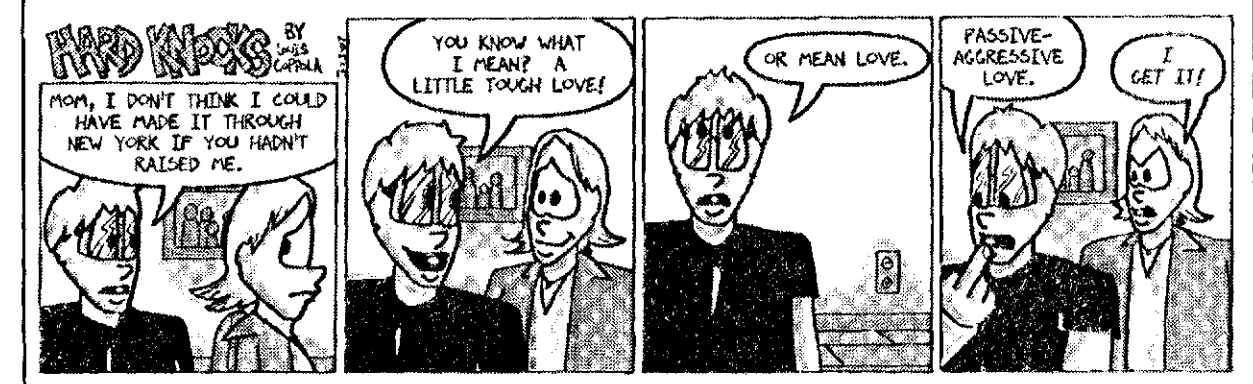
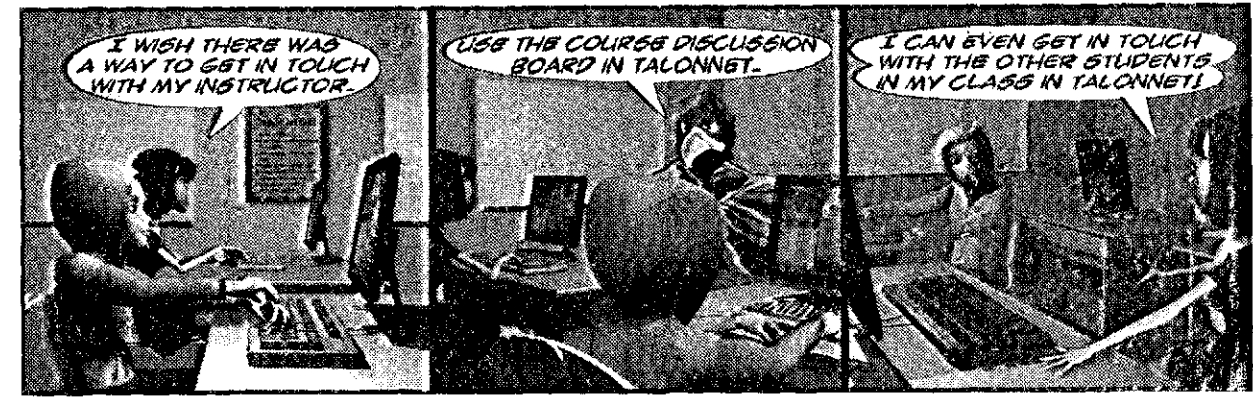
GIRLS AND SPORTS



A College Girl Named Joe



TALON MAN



Two Dudes

