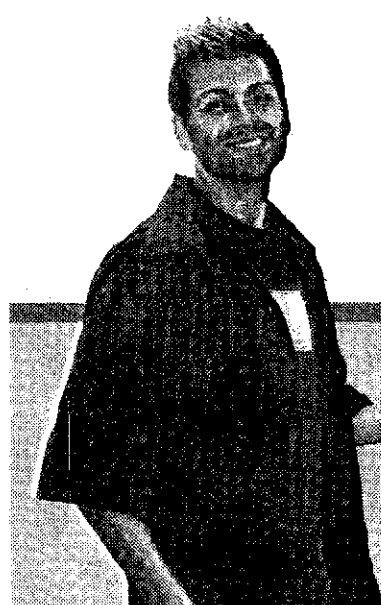


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Graduate cuts loose

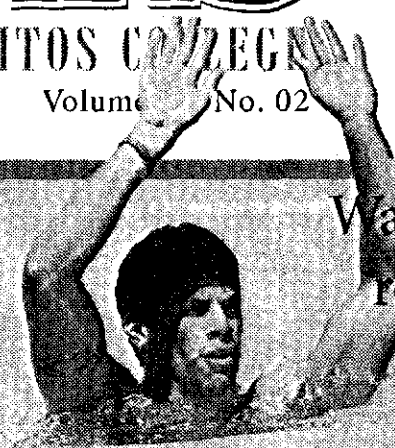
See ARTS page 5

Politically correct; gone too far!

See Editorial page 4

Student Health Center provides stress reliever

See NEWS page 3



Water polo teams ready for new season

See SPORTS page 6

Four new deans hired

ARLEEN VALDEZ
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The Cerritos College Board of Trustees filled four management positions this past July.

The Board appointed Linda Rose as dean of Liberal Arts, Dr. Lucinda Aborn as dean of Disabled Student Programs and Services, Renee DeLong Chomiak as dean of Counseling Services and Kimberly Westby as interim dean of Student Support Services.

Linda Rose was a re-entry

See Deans page 2

ASCC hits the airwaves

NORMA PALACIOS
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A new program titled "Meet Your ASCC Member" was introduced by Ashley Armendariz, commissioner of public relations, at the ASCC Cabinet on Monday.

Also, ASCC Vice President Alex Armendariz said that there will be an available police escort program for students at night.

According to the commissioner, Armendariz, the idea behind "Meet Your ASCC Member" will give students the opportunity to get to know ASCC members on a

See Cabinet page 2

ISA Club members have a meet and greet

STEVEN MARTIN
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The Student Center resembled the United Nations last Wednesday, as the International Student Association held an orientation for returning and prospective group members.

Students who attended were originally from countries such as Nepal, South Korea, Philippines and El Salvador. All were notified of the event by invitation via mail.

Damita Kuntz, ISA advisor and coordinator of the International Student Center told the students, "We're pleased that you've chosen

See ISA page 2



BRINGING MIDDLE EASTERN CONFLICTS HOME

PHOTO COURTESY OF JAMES ROBLES

STEVEN MARTIN
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Since the ending of World War II in 1945, the countries that make up the Middle East region have been at the center of the world's attention, though its existence dates as far back to seventh century AD.

The region is the world's leading supplier for crude oil and is the birthplace of three of the world's major monotheistic religions: Islam, Judaism and Christianity.

But along with its share of contributions, the Middle East is infamously known for its numerous conflicts. Many of these ongoing conflicts, such as the one going on between Israel and Palestine, stem back to the days before World War I, yet students at Cerritos College seem to not understand the happenings and impact of the region.

"If students want to understand what's going on now, then they have to understand the history of these countries. It's very complex," said Dr. John Haas, history instructor.

Many of these conflicts are between countries in the region, such as the more recent battle between Israel and Hezbollah, a militant group from Lebanon.

Others have directly involved the United States, such as the ongoing wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Though the overseas conflicts may have an affect on some U.S. citizens, some Cerritos College students say that they don't feel a direct effect.

"It's not changing the daily lives of students because it isn't happening in front of them," said Jim Elliot, undecided major.

However, there are some Cerritos students who have experienced and lived through Middle Eastern conflicts. They have spent their childhoods in some of these countries and have immigrated to the U.S. to study at Cerritos.

Among these is Nancy Khalid, undecided

major, who is from Palestine. Khalid grew up in Palestine during its conflict with neighboring country Israel and has been attending Cerritos for two years.

"(The US and Palestine are) two different worlds," Khalid said. "(In Palestine) when moving from city to city, it can take two hours sometimes, because there are soldiers posted every few blocks and they set up borders and they constantly check you."

"It's difficult to study or sleep. You can hear the bombs dropping overnight and we are prevented from going outside," she said. "We are told that we will be killed if we go outside."

In the midst of internal conflict between Middle Eastern countries, the United States has decided to intervene in some of them.

Since 2001, U.S. soldiers have been deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan as part of the Bush administration's current war on terror.

However, students and faculty members are worried about how current U.S.

**see related
Life story
online**

www.talonmarks.com

Pieces of the Middle East

- **Iran:** Long standing epicenter of state terrorism
- **Iraq:** War with U.S. since 2003
- **Israel:** In conflict with Palestine for land
- **Lebanon:** Serves as battle ground for battle between Israel and Hezbollah
- **Syria:** Accused of murder of Lebanese leader

www.wikipedia.org

See Conflicts page 2

Psychology Club brings back national award for fundraising

VETTA BOGDANOFF
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The Cerritos College Psychology Club was honored with the title of Outstanding Chapter of the Year.

The Psi Beta National Honor Society for two-year colleges presented the club with the title, a plaque and a check for \$300, for being chosen out of 127 chapters nationwide.

Todd Gaffaney, psychology instructor and faculty advisor, said that the award is given on the basis of scholarship, research and community service such as volunteering.

"It's a prestige thing," he said.

Mario San Juan, English major and presiding president when the honor was bestowed, said, "It was a big deal that we won, because over 100 applied. It was such an achievement for us."

The award came as a source of encouragement that the club was back on the right track. The semester before, the club had gone through a dry spell, as it lost guest speakers, members and money.

"This year (was) good, and we were very happy

and excited (for the recognition)," he said.

As president, San Juan had worked with vice presidents Cynthia Gomez and Jessica Torres to bring the club back up to par.

"We worked good together, counted on each other, and we did it!" he said.

The club leaders wrote an essay on why the Cerritos chapter was the best. "We were a little doubtful about applying, but it's a tradition," he continued.

Student activities paid the way for Kimberley Duff, psychology instructor/faculty advisor, Gaffaney and the 3 club officers to attend the Psi Beta award ceremony at the American Psychological Convention in New Orleans on Aug. 12.

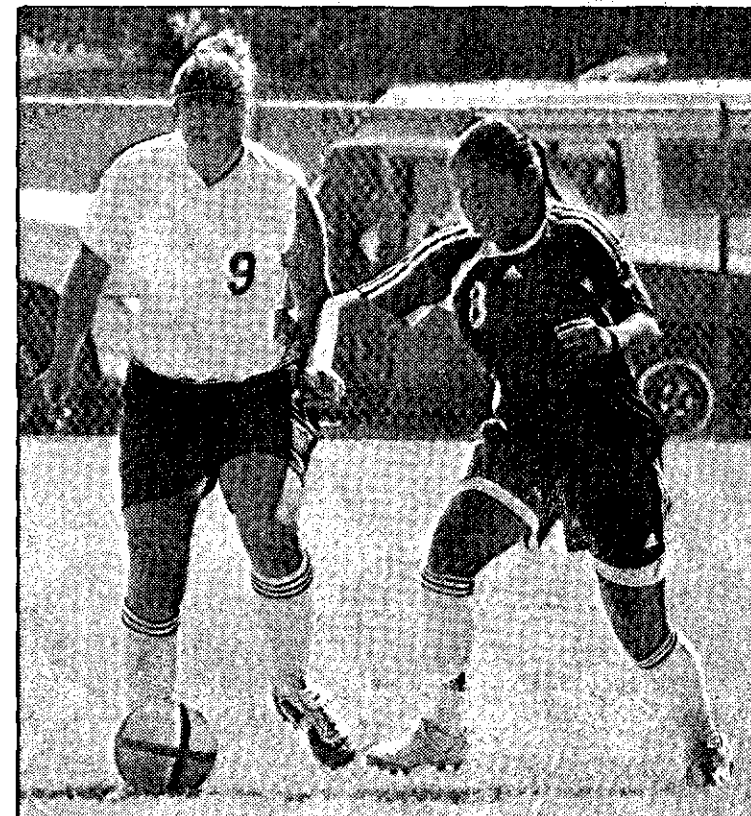
The location of the ceremony showed that the events of the past year were not lost on the group.

San Juan said that in the aftermath of the devastation caused by Hurricane Katrina, for which the group had raised money, the New Orleans experience was mind-blowing. However, the club's achievement didn't set in until he was in New Orleans.

As psychologists from around the country

See Award page 2

SCRIMMAGE GAME

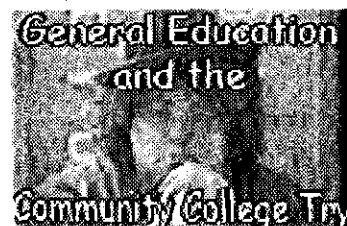


ROSE NORIEGA/TM

During the first women's soccer scrimmage game played on Tuesday, Falcon Monica Cedillo, forward, attempts to make a steal against Golden West.

ONLINE

- Blog: A look at the struggle to find your true calling
- Life: A look at the history of the conflict in the Middle East



Deans:

Cerritos gets some new faces in the administration

Continued from page 1

student at 34-years-old.

Rose has a bachelor's degree in interdisciplinary studies and a master's degree in English from Cal State Dominguez Hills.

She expects to complete her doctoral degree from UCLA in June 2007.

She has been a faculty member at Cerritos since 1994 and served as interim dean of the Liberal Arts Division in 2005.

As Dean of Liberal Arts, Rose oversees English, ESL, Foreign Languages and Speech.

"My first responsibility is to ensure that students are successful in classes," Rose said, meaning she is in charge of making sure that

there are enough courses available for students to take.

"Scheduling is an art and a science," she continued.

"I love it because it's a challenge!"

One of Rose's main goals is to collaborate with faculty in the division and to those across campus like the nursing and cosmetology departments.

She also hopes to create well-rounded students.

"I want to work with the division so we can stress the importance of (liberal arts) courses and to convey how valuable these skills are," she said.

Dr. Lucinda Aborn is the new dean of the Disabled Student Programs and Services.

She holds a bachelor's degree in sociology from Southwest Texas State University, a master's degree in education administration from Cal State Northridge, and a doctorate in Human Rehabilitation from the University of Northern Colorado.

Prior to becoming a staff member at Cerritos College, Aborn worked 10 years at the National Center of Deafness at CSU Northridge and served as director of disabled students at El Camino College.

She also serves as president of the California Association for Postsecondary Education and Disability.

Part of Aborn's responsibilities include ensuring that there are

enough services for students with disabilities, such as having interpreters, note takers and aids inside and outside the classroom.

"We are not looking to put these students at an advantage, rather, we want to give them equal access," she said.

"I was lucky to come into this department that has such a strong reputation and foundation."

One of her main goals is to continue providing cutting edge opportunities for disabled students especially with technology.

"I am happy to join Cerritos for its long reputation to serve students with disabilities and for its leadership to integrate," she said.

Renee DeLong Chomiak is the newly appointed dean of Counseling Services.

She holds a bachelor's and master's degrees in psychology from Cal State Los Angeles.

She is also completing a joint doctorate at UC Irvine and Cal State Long Beach in educational administration and leadership.

Chomiak was manager of Cerritos College CalWORKs, prior to being promoted to dean.

She also worked with victims of domestic violence in Su Casa in the city of Artesia.

She served as executive director of the non-profit organization.

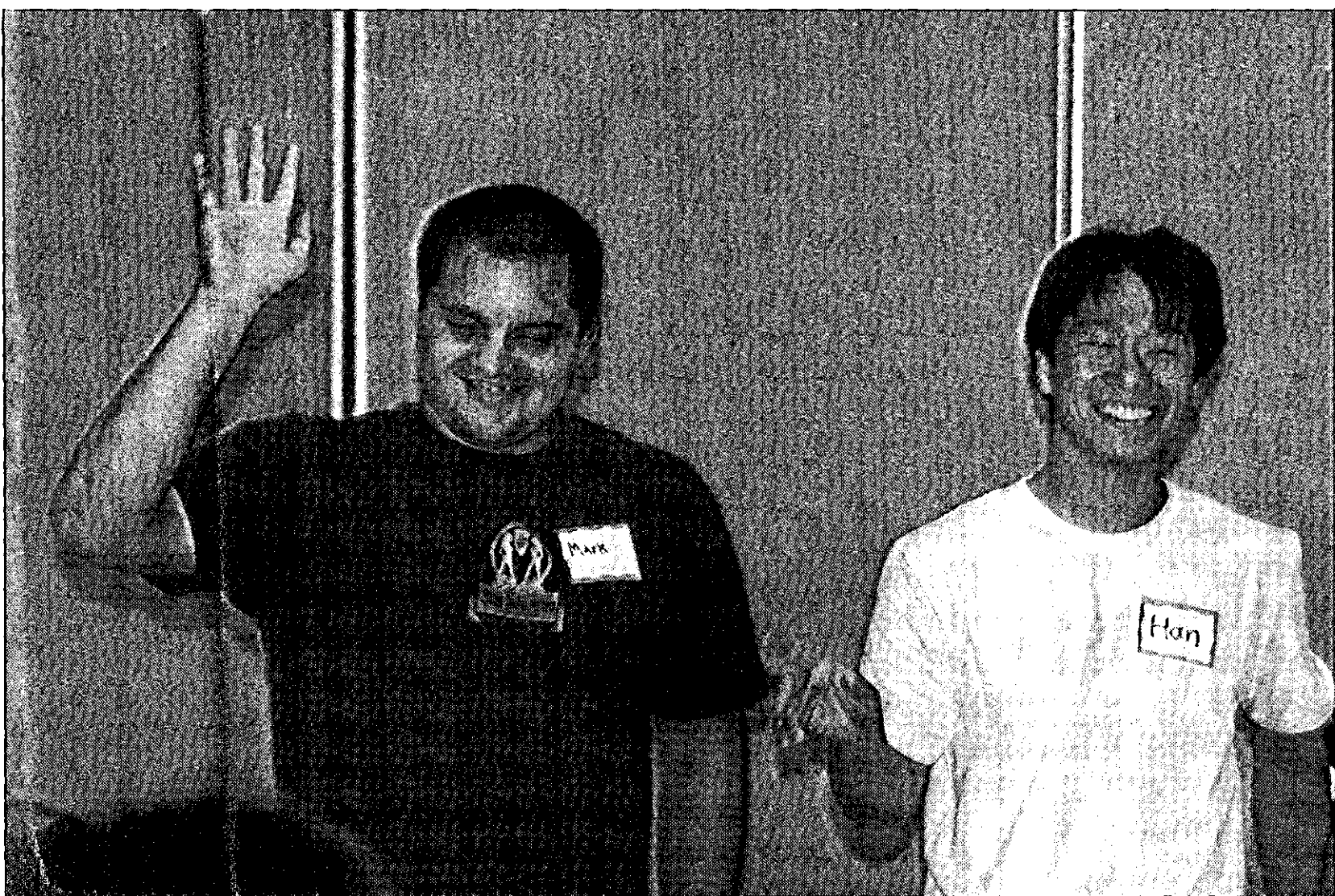
Kimberly Westby is the newly appointed interim dean of Student Support Services and will begin her duties Sept. 1 up until next June.

She will be stepping in for Dr. Phillip Rodriguez, current dean of the department, while he's on sabbatical.

Westby is a former Cerritos College student and has worked in financial and academic affairs for over 24 years.

She holds a bachelor's degree from CSU Dominguez Hills and a master's degree in educational counseling from the University of La Verne.

Also, Westby currently serves as representative in the California Community College's Student Financial Aid Administrators Association Executive Board, as a member of region eight.



TANYA BERMUDEZ/TM

Hola: During the first international student association orientation students like Mark Topp, business administration major, and Han Lee, nursing major, sat in a randomly assigned group, where they met and introduced a partner. ISA will hold its first meeting on Sept. 6.

ISA:

Students from all over the world are greeted at Cerritos College

Continued from page 1

to study at Cerritos.

ISA President Abraham Cendejas started the event by asking the members to move from their seats and introduce themselves to someone they didn't previously know.

Also present were representatives from the Student Insurance Agency. This agency provides insurance for international students who are new to the U.S.

"Where many international students come from, the country provides socialized medicine, where

the government provides insurance. The U.S. doesn't have that, so we provide insurance," said Monique Palmieri, account representative for student insurance.

International students who attended the orientation found it to be very informing and fun.

"I met new students and I also found out information about the health services that this school offers," said Othmane Rachid, engineering major.



"This club sets the bar when it comes to getting involved on campus. Continue to be involved with this organization, because it will make your life better."

- ASCC Vice President Alex Armendariz

Yannick Nga, nursing major, arrived late to the meeting, but when he got there he enjoyed himself. He has been in the United States for seven months and is originally from Cameroon.

"I'm looking forward to meeting students from other African countries," he said.

In 2005, the club submitted a float for the Homecoming activities and was the winner. The group also gives a scholarship based on activities within the group and also other campus organizations.

"This club sets the bar when it

comes to getting involved on campus," said ASCC Vice President Alex Armendariz.

"Continue to be involved with this organization, because it will make your life better."

Cendejas has been a member of the club for two years.

"It is a club based upon international students, but not only international students can join.

"I myself am not all the way international, but I joined," he said.

The ISA will hold its first meeting on Sept. 6 at 3 p.m. in the International Student Center.

Award:

Members of the Psychology Club are honored for their efforts

Continued from page 1

praised the efforts and accomplishments of the Cerritos group, the importance of what they had achieved became reality.

Gaffaney said that the students spontaneously stood before the multitude of psychologists and professors and shared their feelings on the honor they had received.

San Juan said that he came to appreciate how great the Psychology Club of Cerritos College was

when professors from other schools gathered around and questioned the officers as to how they had succeeded in doing so much.

The 3 club leaders provided the



MARIO SAN JUAN

professors with tips and came away realizing what an active campus they are a part of.

Ironically, while the Psychology Club is mainly comprised of psychology majors, none of the 3 officers are.

Although San Juan is working toward a double major in English and psychology, his intent is to focus mainly on English.

Conflicts:

Students lament on the struggles of the Middle East

Continued from page 1

involvement in Middle Eastern affairs will affect all countries involved.

"What people in the U.S. need to consider is the possibility that it is not our job or our right to decide how the nations in the (Middle East) work out their destinies," said Dennis Falcon, political science instructor.

"We would not respond well if other nations took it upon themselves to directly intervene in our internal and external affairs to the degree that we do in theirs.

"In fact, I believe we would start bombing people if that were to happen."

Falcon feels that the U.S.'s involvement in the current war of terror isn't leading to the results that all were hoping it would.

"Unfortunately, we are now en-

gaged as a nation in a number of bloody, costly conflicts that we had a major role in creating.

Our resources--people, money, credibility--are being expended with little to show for it and even less to expect down the road."

Waleed Nueirat, economics/English major, was born in Iraq and immigrated to the U.S. five years ago.

Nueirat is half Palestinian and half Iraqi.

Although he has not been to Iraq since immigrating to the U.S. five years ago, he does have plans to go to Palestine in the near future.

He feels that there is only one solution for the ending of the Middle East conflict.

"The answer is simple. All countries must disarm," he said. "An eye for an eye



makes everybody blind."

But other students don't see a solution presenting itself soon enough.

"I don't think there's any resolution," said Heriberto Pena, business marketing major.

"There are too many people in these countries trying to push their own weight around."

Nesrine Sleiman, international economics major, is from Lebanon and feels that only through a personal experience, can students really know what's going on in the Middle East.

"(Students should) visit Lebanon and make sure to see that we have more democracy than the whole world.

"They can never tell what democracy is until they visit Lebanon, believe me," said Sleiman.

"I know a lot of American people who visited Lebanon and stayed

"They can never tell what democracy is until they visit Lebanon, believe me. When all of the (conflicts) finish, everybody in the world will know (the truth)."

- Nesrine Sleiman, international economics major

there for a long time, because it is so enjoyable."

Sleiman was born and raised in Lebanon.

She has been in the United States for almost two years.

"I come from a village called Yaroun in South Lebanon. It's so close to Israel, that I can stand next to the border (between the two countries)," she said.

Sleiman, Nueirat and Khalid are just a few Cerritos students of Middle Eastern descent who are waiting to see how the conflicts end.

The rest of the world watches and waits along with them.

"When all of the (conflicts) finish, everybody in the world will know (the truth)," said Sleiman.

"(The current situation) won't stay like it is, because for every story there is an end."

Cabinet:

ASCC prepares for its new radio show on WPMD

Continued from page 1

personal level.

The first airing of the program will be on Sept. 11 and will be run on Cerritos' radio station WPMD.

Students were also open to the concept of the program because they wanted to know what those involved with student government do but also find solutions to student parking and the cost of books.

"The Senate, Court, and Cabinet members are perceived as nerds," Armendariz said, "but that is not true because those within the ASCC are representative of the students."

Subsequently, she says that the "Meet Your ASCC Member" is a pilot "because it will be fun and educational for the students."

Also she would like to collaborate with members on additional programs to inform future students.

Sample questions that will be asked are "what club is the certain member involved with?", "what inspired him or her to join student government at Cerritos?" and "what issues are being dealt with?"

Billy Lopez, criminology major, said that he would listen to the program in hopes that issues such as parking and lowering the cost of books would be addressed.

"I think that the books should be for free because the prices are too high," he said.

Furthermore, Lopez said that mirrors should be placed on the men's restroom because there aren't any available.

"I can't look at myself in the mirror," he added jokingly, "and flex (my muscles) in the mirror."

Afterward, the vice president said that there would be a police escort program available for students.

The program will be in use in early October, according to Armendariz.

And for students like Christina Figueroa, art history major, the program seems like a good idea.

"It will make those who do take classes at night feel safe," she said, "and if I ever need to use the program I will."

Guest talks about wood

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Having just returned from Norway, Ashley Eriksmoen spoke to the Cerritos Students Association of Woodworkers on Sunday about what she learned during her stay.

Eriksmoen, who studied fine working with James Krenov at the College of the Redwood before earning a masters in furniture Design at the Rhode Island School of Design, displayed her latest work during a PowerPoint presentation that also displayed what she walked away with during her two month trip.

"I first went to Orange Coast College," she said, "and wanted to be an engineering geologist but I wanted a career that was technically competent."

She said that when she transferred to College of the Redwood she did want major in woodworking and that unfortunately ended up doing only three projects.

During her recent trip to Norway, Eriksmoen said that one of the things that she learned was what's called loft building in which wood material is cut with an ax that included buildings and homes.

For Carl Stammerjohn, woodworking instructor, it was important for her to speak to the members of the Woodworking Club.

"Eriksmoen brought something to share with the students," he said.

However, for Carlos Sanchez, woodworking instructor, it was more than just an artist sharing what he or she has gotten out of woodworking.

"This was an appreciation," he commented, "and being able to express oneself through nature in a piece of furniture."

In addition, Sanchez said that he hopes that with the presentation from Eriksmoen it will promote ideas within the Cerritos Students Association of Woodworkers and to promote the club on campus.

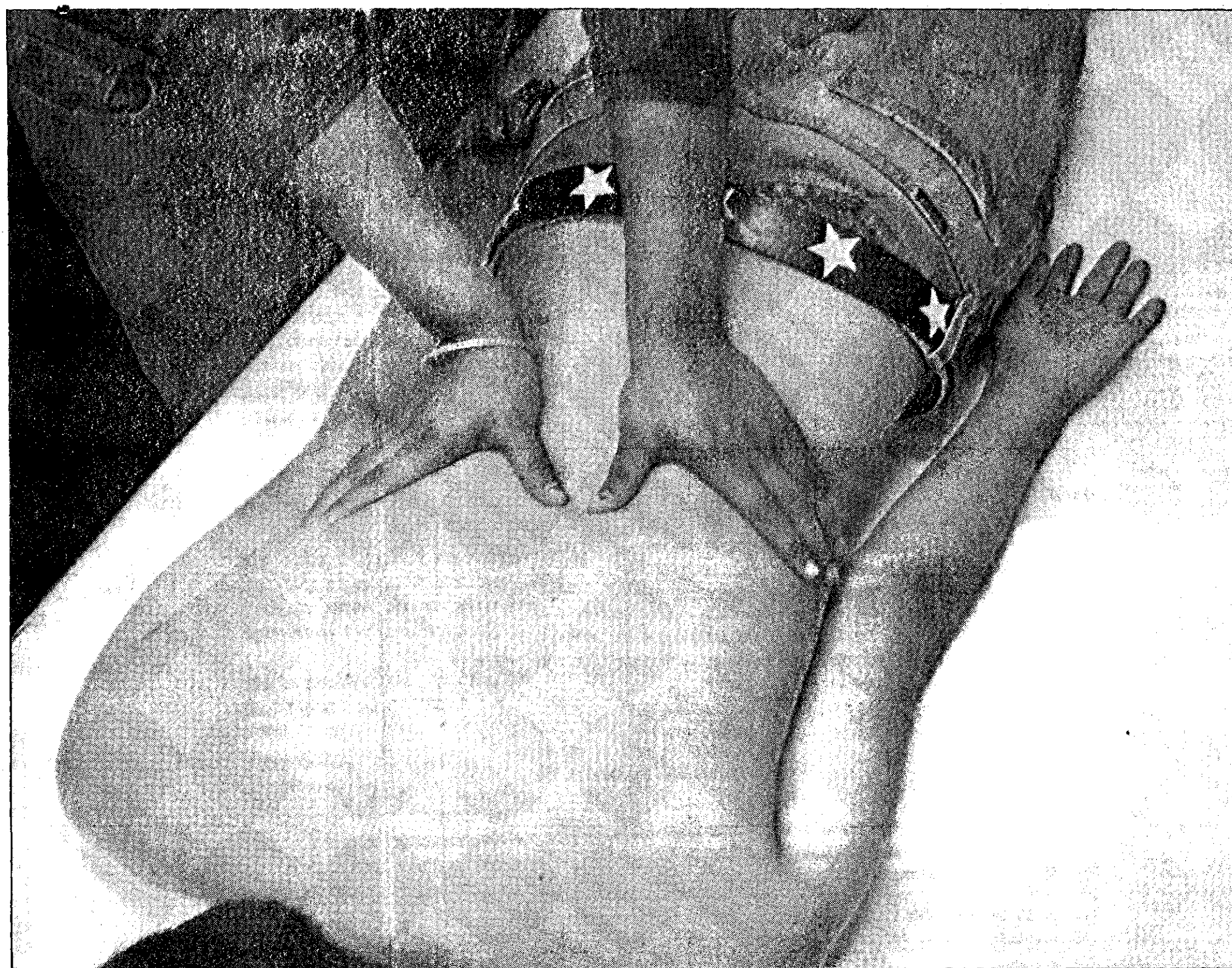


PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY JOSIE DURAN

Health Center relieves back pains

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Students, faculty and staff with back problems, look no further. Cerritos College's Student Health Services are currently advertising their bi-weekly chiropractic services; services that are extended to all individuals of the College community.

While these services have been offered for several semesters now, Student Health Services are pushing to get the word out that these chiropractic services are available not only to students, free of charge, but also to staff and faculty for a fee of \$10.

A chiropractic service generally includes an evaluation and care for neuromusculoskeletal conditions such as back pain, neck pain, headache and joint sprains and strains.

Other commonly treated conditions include: arthritis, Carpal Tunnel Syndrome, frozen shoulder, knee pain, stress/tension and tendonitis.

These services, offered Mondays and Wednesdays from noon to 4 p.m., are compliments of Southern California University of Health Sciences/Los Angeles College of Chiropractic.

Dr. Brad Smith, a licensed chiropractor of 15 years and the man behind this program, sees the services as nothing but beneficial.

"The whole purpose of the program is to train interns during their last year of education (before they get licensed).

They use this facility as a training center, offering chiropractic services to students, faculty and staff. It's a win-win situation for everyone involved - both the interns and the individuals receiving the care."

And with the rising costs of health care, many individuals are seeing such services as a relief.

"These services are free to students," Smith said, "and with the cost of health care being so expensive these days, such services are convenient for the students attending the College."

"Who has the money to go see a (private) chiropractor? This center is so close, it's on campus...I don't understand why more people aren't accessing it."

The lack of student and community involvement could partly be due to the fact that there has been minimal advertising for these chiropractic services.

Many students remain in the dark about many of the free services that they are entitled to through their health fee each semester.

Daniel Kim, criminal justice major, believes more advertising needs to be done in order for students to fully understand what services are available to them.

"(The Student Health Services) need to actually announce it to people. They need teachers to tell students, flyers, bulletins...MySpace even. Having a booth during the first day back to school isn't promoting it."

Julian Montana, nursing major, wasn't aware that the school provided these services. However, he sees them as a

"stress reliever for students" - especially athletes.

"After a long day's work out, these services should compliment [the athletes'] hard work," Montana said.

Students are not the only ones feeling oblivious to the services the Student Health Services provide; professors and staff are also lacking in the information department.

June Edmonds, adjunct art instructor, was unaware that chiropractic services were also made available to staff and faculty.

"Half the college community isn't even aware that such services exist for them. But they're designed to help the college population, and that's a good thing," Edmonds said.

"Any services you offer the entire college community are great, wonderful freebies, especially for working students."

"I think that when you're going to school, you're not really thinking of your health between your classes and work. More students should be encouraged to take care of themselves."

Likewise, Nairi Najarian, a visiting student from Glendale Community College, found that colleges offering such services to students should be seen as beneficial in helping to maintain a healthy lifestyle.

"The majority of students don't have time to take care of what needs to be taken care of, because they're so busy with school and work. If an institution did offer those services, like Cerritos College, maybe it would be a good idea for students to think about it, since (the services) are free and through the school."

Faculty kicks it at Burnight Theatre

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Cerritos College faculty and staff "kicked off" the new academic year last Thursday morning with a

presentation and luncheon at the Burnight Center Theatre.

College President Dr. Noelia Vela and Faculty Senate President Dr. Bryan Reece led the event.

Much of the presentation was to introduce and welcome the Board

of Trustees members as well as the new faculty and staff joining Cerritos this semester, as well as discuss the upcoming "Show Pride in Our Campus" campaign.

There are nine new faculty members, 14 new tenured faculty

members and 20 new classified staff members. Also, 12 staff members were recently promoted and seven new administrators and managers were appointed.

A recurring theme of the morning was student success and leadership.

"There are over 20,000 students this year," Reece said, "all as diverse as ever, coming from different backgrounds."

He encouraged those present to use these assets to build as educators.

"(Cerritos) is best in the state, in fact, best in the nation when it comes to student leadership," Vela stated. "This success is due to faculty and staff promoting that leadership to the students."

Other achievements highlighted in the presentation were those obtained by the faculty union leadership. The president of the union, David Fabish encouraged the "what-if spirit" when it came to negotiating benefits for Cerritos College Faculty.

The "Show Pride in Our Campus" campaign was also introduced.



TANYA BERMUEZ/TM

Leading off: Cerritos president Dr. Noelia Vela talks to new and returning faculty members for the annual kickoff luncheon.

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EDITORIAL

If it is not broken, don't fix it

We have come a long way as people. Maybe too long, as we continue to cross the line of decency and blur it with political correctness.

Now we have so far as to go way back in time and change the history books to reflect our own obsession with a pseudo p. c. world.

In the past decade our textbooks have changed to reflect a "nicer" Gregorian calendar, by changing the historically recognized AD and BC to CE and BCE, respectively. The term CE for "Common Era" is believed to be more religiously sympathetic, yet is historically inconsistent and not widely accepted.

Though the change has occurred gradually throughout the end of the last century, it has more recently swept into many college textbooks and has instructors and students alike struggling to accurately portray history today without using the original terms of the past.

It is just another attempt to be politically correct, when in true virtue would have today's world accept and respect the peoples of the past. Textbooks should accurately display the widely recognized and historically accepted notations of AD.

The critics of the Gregorian calendar, which has historically used AD, cite it as religiously biased and inaccurate, since scholars suggest Jesus might have been born anywhere between AD 4 and AD 7.

While the most widely accepted calendar does have its roots in Christianity, the days of the week, such as Monday, and months, such as March, have ties to pagan gods.

Granted, Anno Domini is Latin for "In the Year of our Lord," but the annotations were accepted throughout time by atheist and pagan nations, such as Korea, China and India.

In the U.S. and other parts of the world, the BC/AD annotations aren't necessarily considered religious.

In fact, the true meanings of the abbreviations is not always understood, as religion is not widely taught in school. Many misconstrue the term AD to refer to "After Death."

Politically correct consistency tells us that we shouldn't celebrate Christmas nor Easter, since both are marks of religious ideology. Yet, both are significant to our social fiber.

The change to CE merely marks the change toward an ignorant society. The term itself will still mark the same historic shift in the calendars of the world that AD does, yet we will remain ignorant to the true meaning of the shift.

It is one thing to be tolerable of one another's religion, it is another to be ignorant to the meaning of something just because you don't believe in the Christian God.

Anno Domini refers to a historical

change in beliefs, practices and documentation of the people of the past, even if you believe they picked the wrong reason to do so.

The abbreviations serve the simple purpose of separating years for historic and scientific purposes.

It is egotistical of our generation to go back into the history books and change everything that might offend someone.

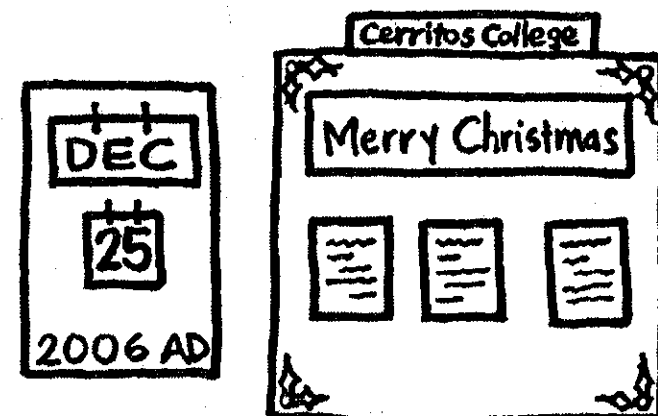
It is just as dangerous to become a society that values political correctness over true virtue and fairness.

Instead of going back and eliminating any ideas that we deem offensive, we should look at the present and see how we can learn and grow toward a fairer world.

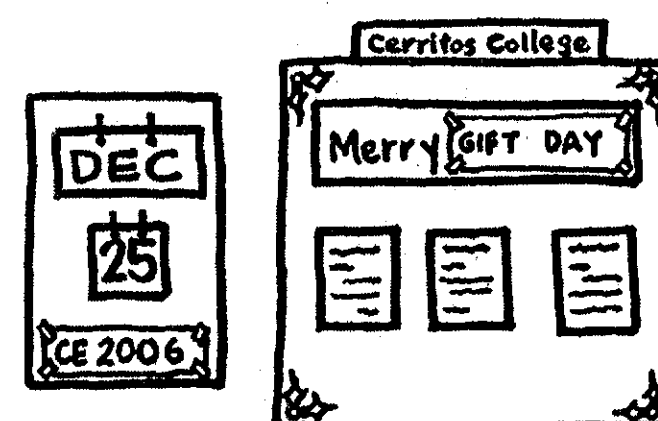
It is a shame that we cannot look at the real problems of the past that may be reoccurring.

If we could just examine the history books, for example, and look at the ongoing turmoil in the Middle East, then maybe we can lean on a stronger solution.

If we continue to examine the past for petty qualms that may or may not be offensive today, then we are no better than historical crooks, who choose to fabricate facts and rewrite the fabrics of time to fit our cookie-cutter correct world.



BEFORE, CHRISTMAS EXISTED
(B. C. E.)



NOW, "CHRIST" - EXCLUDED
(C. E.)

ILLUSTRATION BY JONATHAN SANCHEZ



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.

Taking freedom for granted

Freedom of thought is one of the most valuable rights we have as human beings. To formulate your own ideas without external pressure or interference is priceless.

It seems that with every passing day, this valuable freedom of ours is being eradicated, slowly but surely.

As Americans, there is no doubt that we have made significant strides in our society. Slavery has been abolished; people of all colors and women are able vote.

The question is, "Are our ideas and feelings being manipulated and controlled by the mainstream media and our political leaders?" I believe so.

Just watch TV, tune in to your radio and listen to these politicians.

These large corporations tell us what to buy, eat and watch.

They make it seem as though only material things will fulfill our lives.

We are made to believe that without the latest



commodity, we are somehow "different" or left behind. Fear happens to be one of their favorite tools.

The corporate elites have even invested their time and money to study us. They gather information about us, in order to maximize their profits.

Exploiting our feelings of fear and want has garnered them great wealth, all this while imposing their ideology and culture, that of profit and consumerism.

Our political leaders are not much different. Think about it.

Do you really see anywhere in the near future a president who isn't a Republican or a Demo-

crat? Will there ever be a majority party in Congress other than the Republicans or Democrats? Pigs are more likely to fly before any of this happens!

The Democrats and Republicans are so much alike; they have probably created the worlds most perfect one-party system.

They are both pro-business. Let us not forget that the large corporations are the big time lobbyists in Congress, and make American interests abroad a priority.

They give the illusion of two different parties, yet it really doesn't matter which party wins.

God forbid we ever publicly speak out against American policies.

We are condemned as traitors, unpatriotic, terrorists, freedom haters, etc... but it really doesn't matter what they call us, as long as they manage to discredit and slander those who don't march "locked in step" with them.

We must always question and never have fear.

Only through critical and analytical thinking can we formulate our own independent ideas and as a whole find our own solutions.

People such as Martin Luther King, Jr., and Malcolm X took this route.

Maybe it's time that we think outside the box and follow their example.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK



**DNA SAVES
MAN FROM JAIL**

Seth Temin is the lawyer of John Mark Karr, who was being investigated for the killing of Jon Benet Ramsey.

"We're deeply distressed by the fact that they took this man and dragged him here from Bangkok Thailand..."

Temin discussing the charges being dropped on Karr because of the lack of DNA evidence.

"... with no forensic evidence confirming the allegations against him and no independent factors leading to a presumption he did anything wrong."

How does the chaos in the Middle East affect your life as an American?

COMPILED BY: TANYA BERMUDEZ
PHOTOS BY: JESSE MUNOZ



BENJAMIN FLORES
math major

"I don't really have anything to say about that. I guess one: gas prices are high and two: there could be another draft. It affects everybody in different ways."



CHRISTIAN CRUZ
biology major

"It makes me feel unprotected. How safe can you really be when you have all those things happening? Even though you hear the president saying we're doing the best things we can do."



LA SHANDA BOWERS
political science major

"It gets our U.S. government involved in stuff that they shouldn't be involved in!"



ELOISA CARRETE
art & design major

"(It) affects the relationship with the Middle Eastern people that live here because it's their countries. It really makes me cry when I see all the killing and suffering."



KENNY PARK
chemistry major

"Gas prices! (Also) education. Money for education is cutoff, like financial aid for college to pay for the war."



ZOEY LEON
criminal justice major

"I've never really thought about it. I think it's unfair. I have family and a boyfriend in the military, (so) I'd rather not know about it. I don't like to think how close I am to losing them."

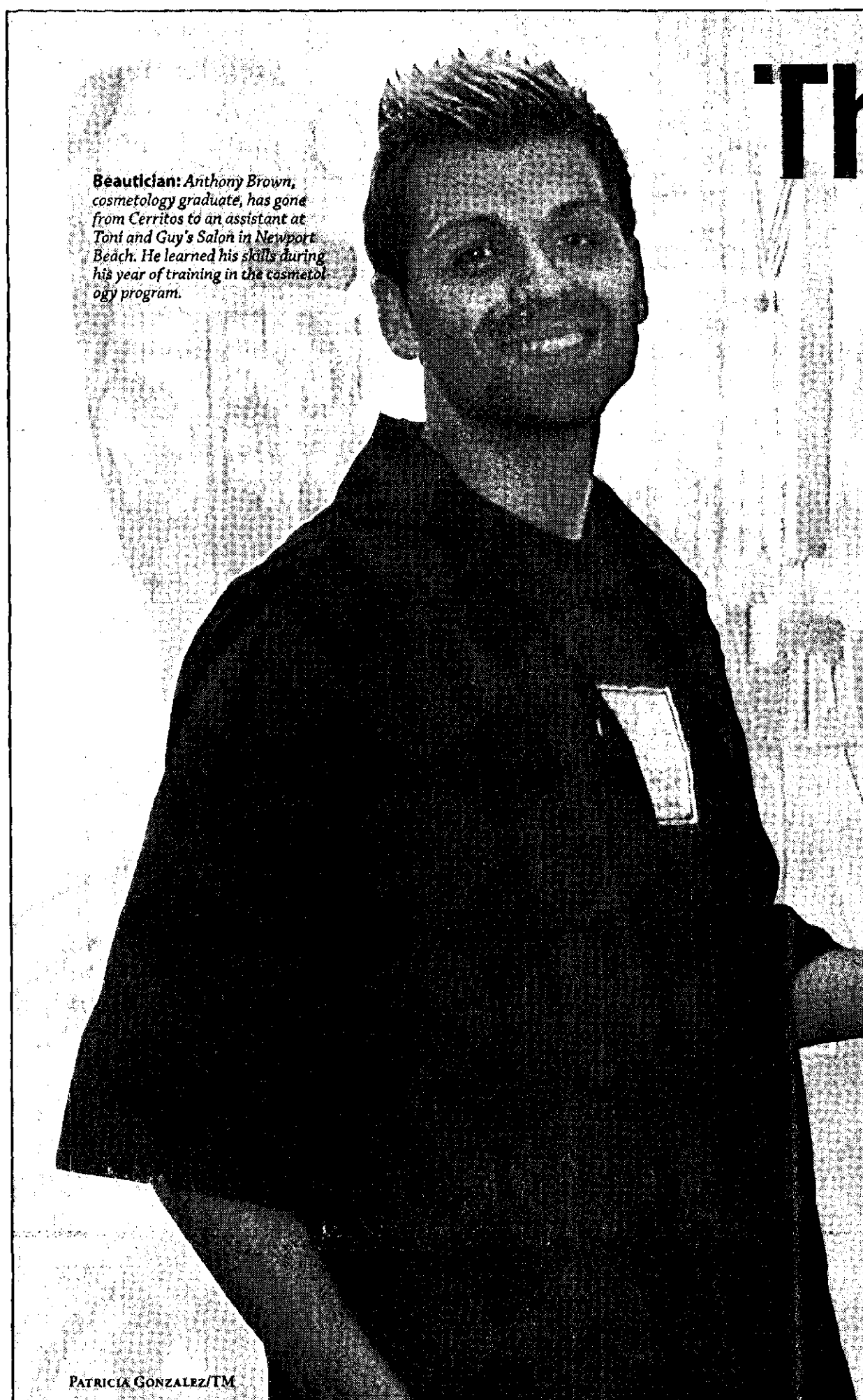


ONLINE

- Mano Chao's music returns
- Air-wave: Stefy gives the color 'Orange' a try

ARTS - 5

Wednesday, August 30, 2006 • www.talonmarks.com



The Hairdresser

Beautician: Anthony Brown, cosmetology graduate, has gone from Cerritos to an assistant at Toni and Guy's Salon in Newport Beach. He learned his skills during his year of training in the cosmetology program.

NORMA PALACIOS
A & E Editor
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For cosmetology graduate Anthony Brown, being in a room full of women isn't such a problem.

For Brown, cosmetology wasn't just a career, it was a lifestyle. Brown was one of three men in cosmetology, but said that the women in the class didn't treat him any different than if he was a woman.

"All of my friends are women, anyway," Brown said, "and having been in the cosmetology program has taught me a great deal."

One thing that he has learned is that making "people look beautiful (makes) them feel happy."

After graduating last Wednesday, Brown said that he hoped to get his license and will be an assistant at Toni and Guy's salon in Newport Beach.

Those who were classmates of Brown said that the one thing they will miss the most is his energy and enthusiasm for what he does.

Kristina Miloslavich, president of the Cosmetology Club said, that although the cosmetology classes at Cerritos is predominately women in the business world of cosmetology men can survive.

"There are famous male cosmetologists in this field," she said, "but like (Brown) men are the minority."

As for Brown's attitude for cosmetology she said, "You can see the passion he has for what he does."

Cosmetology instructor Jeanne Johnson said that Brown was a "wonderful" student and that she will miss him.

Wendy Scofield, vice president of the Cosmetology Club, agreed.

Despite the fact that there are more women Scofield said that Brown "blends in well because he loves what he does."

Furthermore, to students who believe that cosmetology is not an art Scofield said that is not true, due to the fact that students have opportunity for practice and improvement in their craft.

Miloslavich said that Brown had a big heart and said that he was willing to help those who were not sure what to do.

Leticia Zamora, cosmetology major, said, having known Brown since last October, that if you had a problem "he would not leave until you understood it."

PATRICIA GONZALEZ/TM



Feedback is good for Jurassic 5

ROSALI CASTILLO
Online Editor
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In the past couple of years hip-hop has changed and not necessarily for the better.

A lot of what is being played on hip-hop radio stations is garbage.

It's a good thing Jurassic 5's latest album Feedback is full of really good hip-hop music. Everything on this album is great, from the beats to the lyrics.

The group samples music from 70s soul, but it adds its own twist which gives the music its signature Jurassic 5 sound.

The feel of the album is classic, old school hip-hop.

This is one of those albums that you can listen to every song without skipping one here and there.

These emcees show that they have talent and that they don't need to speak about killing people or having sex with numerous women.

This has to be one of the first hip-hop albums that I've listened to without every other word being a curse word.

It's nice to know that there are entertainers that can come out with really good music without using a massive amount of profanity.

It had been three years since

Power in Numbers its most recent album had been released.

In an interview with Power 106 radio personality Big Boy, group member Chali 2na explained the reason of Feedback as the album's title by saying that in a way the group was asking for feedback from its fans.

Its latest single "Work It Out" featuring Dave Matthews Band is not only getting airplay on the hip-hop radio stations, but the rock radio stations as well. This shows how diverse its music has become.

However, the collaborations didn't stop with the Dave Matthews Band.

The group also worked with Mos Def and Brick & Lace.

It also worked with producer Scott Storch, who is responsible for many of the hits like "Candy Shop" by 50 Cent and has recently worked with Paris Hilton in her debut album.

Even though the group did collaborate with other artists it still said what it wanted to say.

The majority of the songs are just consisting of group member's vocals.

Nothing gets more irritating than listening to an artist's album filled with collaborations.

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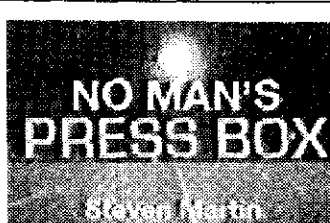
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6 - SPORTS

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ONLINE

- No Man's: Sports blog
- Coverage of men's Soccer
- Coverage of women's Soccer

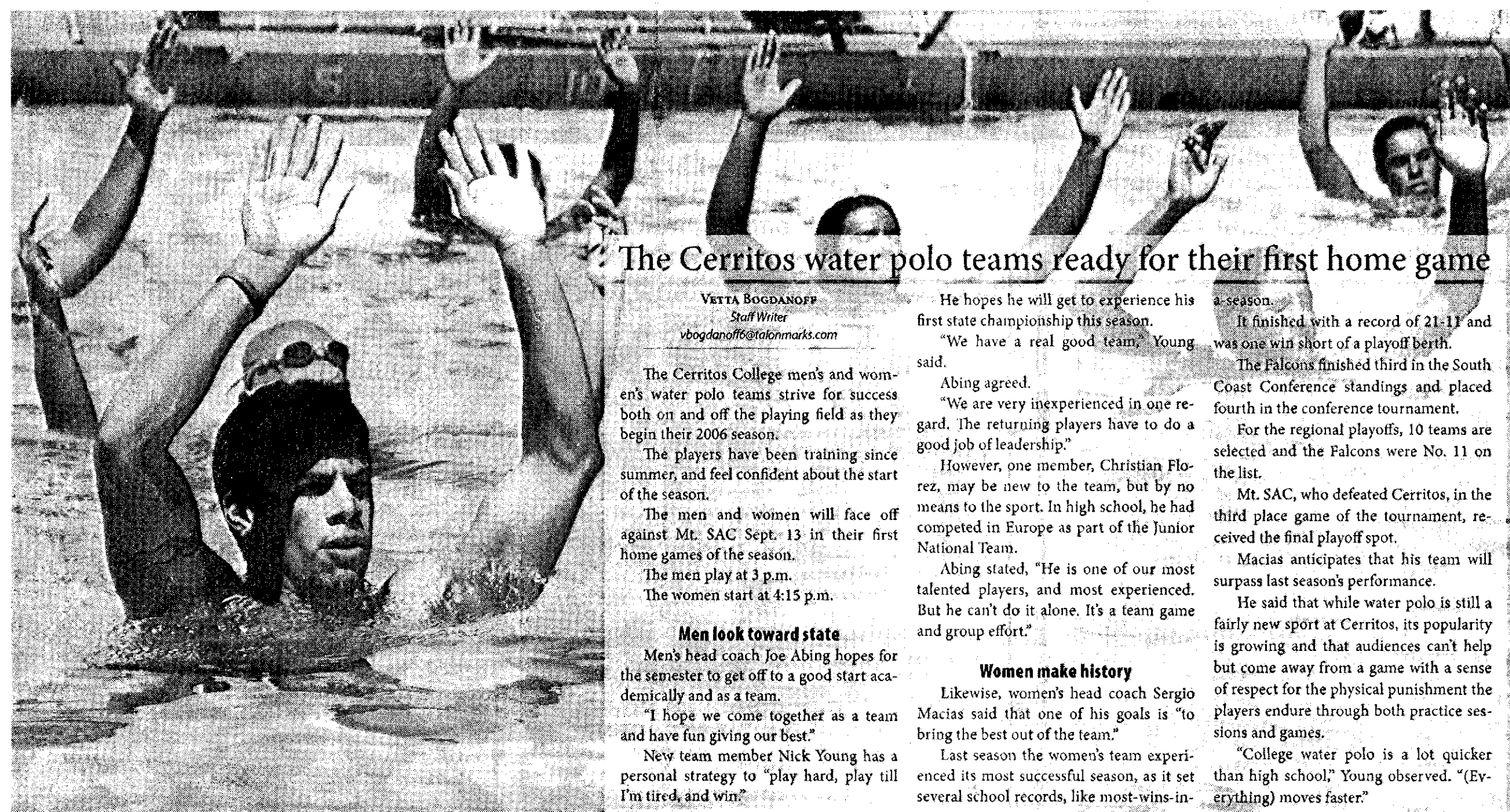


PHOTOS BY
JESSE MUNOZ

Left: David Correa looks to make a pass during an inter-squad scrimmage last Thursday in the Cerritos College pool. Correa is a utility player in his first year with the team.

Below: Erick Mireles swims for a pass, avoiding the defender during an inter-squad scrimmage last Thursday. Mireles is a utility player in his first year with Cerritos.

Bottom: Chris Pasos and his teammates run an endurance drill during the men's water polo team practice, last Thursday. Last year he rotated between the goalie position and the open water, making 10 saves in five games.



The Cerritos water polo teams ready for their first home game

VETTA BOGDANOFF
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The Cerritos College men's and women's water polo teams strive for success both on and off the playing field as they begin their 2006 season.

The players have been training since summer, and feel confident about the start of the season.

The men and women will face off against Mt. SAC Sept. 13 in their first home games of the season.

The men play at 3 p.m.
The women start at 4:15 p.m.

Men look toward state

Men's head coach Joe Abing hopes for the semester to get off to a good start academically and as a team.

"I hope we come together as a team and have fun giving our best."

New team member Nick Young has a personal strategy to "play hard, play till I'm tired, and win."

He hopes he will get to experience his first state championship this season.

"We have a real good team," Young said.

Abing agreed.

"We are very inexperienced in one regard. The returning players have to do a good job of leadership."

However, one member, Christian Flores, may be new to the team, but by no means to the sport. In high school, he had competed in Europe as part of the Junior National Team.

Abing stated, "He is one of our most talented players, and most experienced. But he can't do it alone. It's a team game and group effort."

Women make history

Likewise, women's head coach Sergio Macias said that one of his goals is "to bring the best out of the team."

Last season the women's team experienced its most successful season, as it set several school records, like most-wins-in-

a season.

It finished with a record of 21-11 and was one win short of a playoff berth.

The Falcons finished third in the South Coast Conference standings and placed fourth in the conference tournament.

For the regional playoffs, 10 teams are selected and the Falcons were No. 11 on the list.

Mt. SAC, who defeated Cerritos, in the third place game of the tournament, received the final playoff spot.

Macias anticipates that his team will surpass last season's performance.

He said that while water polo is still a fairly new sport at Cerritos, its popularity is growing and that audiences can't help but come away from a game with a sense of respect for the physical punishment the players endure through both practice sessions and games.

"College water polo is a lot quicker than high school," Young observed. "(Everything) moves faster."