

Vela fails Faculty Senate survey

SCOTT WALKINS
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The results of the Academic Leadership Outcome Survey were released by the Faculty Senate during its meeting on Tuesday.

It also voted to put the vote of no confidence for Dr. Noelia Vela of the agenda for its next open meeting on Feb. 26.

"It is time to call the question to a vote," said Dr. Bryan Reece, Faculty Senate president.

There will be three options that the Senate to vote. The options are:

- Vote of Confidence in the Cerritos College President,
- Vote of Concern in the Cerritos College President or
- Vote of No Confidence in the Cerritos College Pres-

ident.

"The process began when the Fine Arts Division voted on no confidence for Vela in late October, early November," Reece said. "Since then, four other divisions voted for no confidence."

The Senate began putting together the survey after two divisions, Liberal Arts and Science Engineering and Math asked it to do so late last semester.

All together, 230 official surveys were passed out and of those 134 were completed and returned.

There were 91 surveys submitted by the faculty, 19 by administrators, eight by staff, six by students and 10 submitted surveys by individuals that declined to indicate what group they represented.

The survey was broken up into five sections:

- college community,
- constituent organization,
- decision making and governance,

- academic agenda,
- specific initiatives and projects and
- overall.

The survey is available in the Faculty Senate office located in the administrative quad.

The people that took part in the survey had a rating scale that scored from one, meaning never meets expectations, to five, meaning consistently meets expectations.

On average, administrators scored Vela the lowest and students scored her performance highest.

The results will be distributed throughout Cerritos College and a copy will be sent to the Board of Trustees.

If the result of the vote is in favor of no confidence, Reece said that, "I hope the Board takes the action of the Faculty Senate seriously and I expect it will."

The Health, Physical Education & Athletics Division

was one of the divisions that voted no confidence in one of its divisional meetings.

The main reason that the division cast the vote was because of the change to the Master Plan.

Some of the changes include changing four tennis courts and the school's current soccer field into a parking lot.

Mike McPherson, health instructor, claims that by imparting the document, the HPEA department will be losing instructional space.

"We are just disappointed in the lack of communication between Vela and the HPEA division in the changes she made," he said.

But adding the vote of no confidence to the next meeting's agenda does not mean that it will happen.

"If anyone comes and presents new evidence about the matter we will be able to push back the vote," Reece said.



Voting time: Last Wednesday and Thursday Cerritos College took part in a special election to decide whether or not to split the president and trustee position.

MICHAEL AGUDO/TM

Students vote, president gets split

HECTOR COLCHADO
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The majority of the students that voted last week were for the separation of the ASCC President and Student Trustee positions.

Election booths were placed in front of the cafeteria, Elbow Room and the Health Science building.

A yes vote supported two separate positions for the president and student trustee. A no vote supported

one person filling both positions.

The results were in on Thursday night and 72 percent of the students voted yes.

This special election was confusing to some, "because of the complexity," said Pat Powers, election clerk. "Many students were confused."

Out of an estimated 19,000 students, only 118 cast votes in this election.

"We had more people voting in

past elections," said Linda Nelson, electoral clerk. But being a special election, "There were not many (students) informed."

This election was special because students had the power to tweak the rules of Cerritos College's student government.

"Other elections are for voting for somebody, but this time it was for by-laws," said Nancy Bonilla, student affairs tech for Student Activities.

The adjustments to the by-laws include a new section for the Student Trustee and his position's role. The student trustee represents the student body and also has a seat on the Board of Trustees.

"I do not want anyone with a 2.0 representing me," said Eric Logan, computer animation major.

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Reece speaks to ASCC Senate

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Dr. Bryan Reece, Faculty Senate president, opened the ASCC Senate meeting Wednesday with some new and fresh ideas that are designed to help the student community here at Cerritos.

During the meeting, the Senate also discussed the upcoming Faculty Senate meeting concerning what vote it will give college president Dr. Noelia Vela.

Also, new commissioners were appointed and further developments in the free water bottle refills for students were announced.

The main ideas that Reece stressed were to make Cerritos College a great institution, to help students achieve their goals, and to have an ongoing commitment to student success. To do that, the college has to keep improving on:

- student learning,
- teaching expertise,
- instructional support and
- academic support.

"Students actually think they can pass the class without reading the book," Reece said.

With that main concern in mind, a campaign for student success is in creation to see if it will help the student body.

The campaign will help teach students how to learn and to bring them into an academic lifestyle that will be easy for them to understand and use.

"I want a campaign that engages with the students," Reece said.

The campaign will be accessible to all students and one main goal is to help all Cerritos College students achieve their goals and make them successful and independent for the future.

A Faculty Senate meeting will

be held on Feb. 26 to decide among three votes against Vela:

- Vote of Confidence-which states that she is performing well here at the college,
- Vote of Concern-she needs improving and
- Vote of no confidence-which states the president is performing at a low level and not meeting academic standards.

As Reece explained, "There are negative and positive factors to this matter. On the negative side all focus will be on Vela, but the good thing that comes out of this is we will be able to define what we expect from the president."

In other news, Nelson Aguilar was appointed commissioner of athletics. Even though he's not currently playing a sport at Cerritos, he has played football in the past. He will be ready to help out coaches and players.

Jasmin Gonzalez was named associate justice.

"I've had experience in this job before and I am available for every meeting all the time," she said.

Ending the meeting, ASCC Vice President Michael Barrita once again announced that the free water proposal was all good to go.

Some facts he announced about the proposal were:

- hit will cost the college \$93 a month,
- 35 gallons of drinking water will be provided a month,
- 16 oz per service and
- students need an updated student I.D.

**Lasers
burn
Falcons**

See **Sports** page 4



**ONLINE
EXCLUSIVES**

- News: In depth results of the ALO survey
- Read blogs from the Talon Marks staff
- Check for breaking news and updates twice a week at www.talonmarks.com



**Students
bleed
from their
hearts**

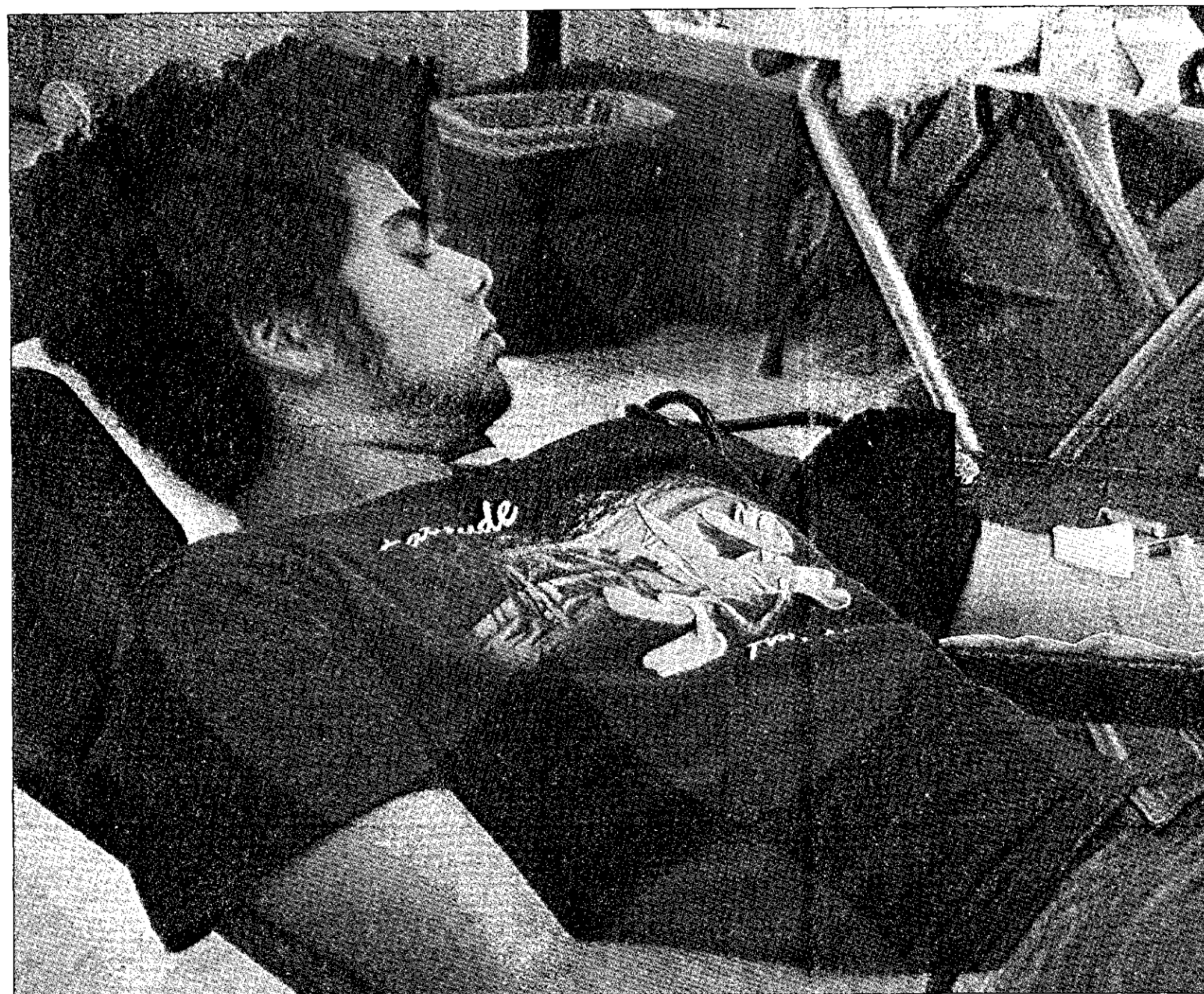
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Blood Drive: Evan Hernandez, psychiatry major, patiently donates blood to the Red Cross.

PHOTO COURTESY OF JOSE DE JESUS GOMEZ

Donating blood for Valentine's

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Valentine's Day at Cerritos College means that the Red Cross is back in the Student Center for three days.

The Red Cross will be at Cerritos College from Tuesday to Thursday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Donors will be rewarded with a \$10 gift certificate for Mimi's Café. "Valentine's is the best time of the year (for the Red Cross)," said

Rob Torrez, Red Cross field manager and coordinator. "(Cerritos College) is the No. 1 college at Valentine's Day."

Torrez said the Red Cross, as of Tuesday, signed up about 450 people. He is expecting between 200 and 300 walk-ins on top of that.

He said it "started a little sluggish" but it had picked up nicely.

"People like to give from the heart (and) Valentine's Day touches the hearts of many people," he said.

Alvina Vallejo, technology ma-

jor, said, "My niece is always in and out of the hospital."

Her niece is 10 years old and has gotten at least two blood transfusions.

Vallejo went in on Tuesday, it was her first time giving blood.

"Most of my family gives blood," she said.

Vivian Pena, business major, has an O positive blood type, but she doesn't feel it's her duty to give blood.

"I just do it," she said. "I do it ev-

ery time (the Red Cross) is here."

Pena was on her sixth time donating blood.

Alberto Mata, pharmacy tech major, said he donated blood last time for the free Warped Tour backstage pass, which he never used.

This time, however, he didn't come for the gift certificate.

"I used to work at Mimi's so I don't really care (about the gift certificate)," Mata said. "I'll probably spend it on booze or something."

ASCC Cabinet draws up proposal

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ASCC President Jason Macias and Vice President Michael Barrita discussed the furthering of the water proposal, the Master Plan for remodeling the campus and the guide entitled "Tips by Students for Students" at the Cabinet meeting on Monday.

Macias also announced that the Budget Committee will be meeting two weeks before originally scheduled.

Also during the meeting, Fine Arts Commissioner Sun-Hee Kim had some words about the Talon Marks.

A draft has been made for the water proposal.

"We're looking at \$93 per month for 35 gallons (of water)," Barrita said.

Barrita emphasized that funds shall not exceed \$1,500 in a given year.

Any student coming into the Student Activities office for free water must have a student I.D. with a current sticker.

The water dispenser will be located in front of Secretary of Student Activities Trudy Foster's desk.

Barrita said someone will not be checking every student for I.D., "It doesn't add an extra duty (to a staff member)."

"We're going to run a three-month trial," Barrita said.

Macias brought up the Master Plan at the meeting, mentioning that it is not set in stone.

He said the removing of the area known as "The Hill," located near the Amphitheater, is not in the plan.

"We definitely want to keep the hill," Barrita said.

"There are currently 12 tennis courts," Macias said. "The Master Plan holds for eight."

Macias added that, "We wouldn't be able to hold regional tournaments (anymore)."

Regional tennis tournaments require 12 courts.

The Master Plan also adds 970 more parking spots.

As the campus is now, there is one parking spot for every seven students.

The Cabinet took a vote and decided it doesn't want more parking.

In other business, Barrita passed out an outline of "Tips by Students for Students."

Things that will be in the guide for new students are:

- academics,
- economics,
- student support,
- student life
- and student activities.

The economics portion would have included a tip on using www.half.com as an alternative to buying textbooks.

However, Holly Bogdanovich, director of Student Activities, said the contract with the bookstore says that portion cannot be included.

However, if the book exchange is established, it will be included there.

Also, Kim updated the Cabinet on what her friend, who has a BA and an MA in English, had to say about the Talon Marks.

Originally, Kim quoted her friend, saying that, "It looked like someone who doesn't know how to speak English."

Kim now said her friend says, "It sounds better."

Voting: Students vote to split the president's position

Continued from page 1

Presidential candidates' requirements remained the same:

- a 2.25 GPA,
- sophomore status,
- no prior failures of classes and
- an I.D. with the current semester's sticker.

"Maybe that was important," added Bonilla, "to keep the G.P.A. at 2.25, it's the same as all ASCC members."

Although the separation of positions happened, one candidate still has the chance to run for both seats.

"It can be stressful economically, meaning the amount of money and

time for the campaign," said Michael Barrita, ASCC vice president.

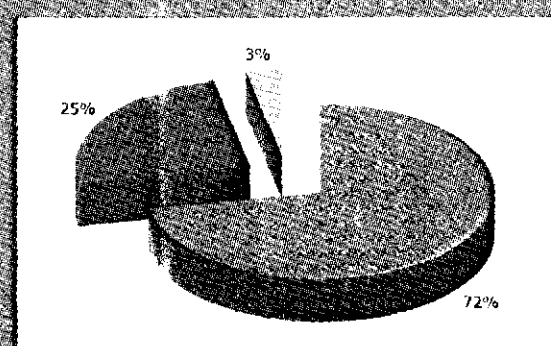
"But I am glad that the legislation left it open (for students) to run for both positions."

The Student Trustee is not an officer's position within the ASCC, but the trustee must attend at least two Senate meetings a month per semester.

The application and election location for the Student Trustee information was in the agenda in Tuesday's ASCC Court meeting at 11:00 AM in BK-111/112.

Election Results

Legend:
Yes to split 77%
No to split 23%
Voided votes 3%



SOURCE: ASCC



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•EDITORIAL•

Super Tuesday, super disappointment

Who cares about California's community college students?

After the results of Super Tuesday and the failure to pass Prop. 92, it is obvious that the voters at-large do not.

Prop. 92 could have helped community college students, but it was voted down on Feb. 5, with 52.41 percent voting no and 47.59 voting yes, according to www.lavote.net.

There are several reasons as to why the proposition didn't pass.

Maybe it wasn't because people didn't care; it could have been because of poor timing due to California facing a budget crisis. Maybe people were scared that funding would have been cut from K-12 schools and other educational programs.

No matter what the reason, it is sad that the voters voted Prop. 92 down.

The voters were so worried about having their pockets affected that they couldn't see the bigger picture.

Community colleges help people get certificates and start their college careers.

People with a higher education can get better jobs and earn more money.

If they make more money, they will make a greater contribution to society and the economy, therefore pay more in taxes.

But the voters' failure to see this is not the only reason why the proposition didn't pass.

There was hardly any advertising throughout the media and most voters probably had no idea of what Prop. 92 was going to accomplish.

Even at Cerritos College, a place where Prop. 92 would have helped, there was hardly any in-

formation given to students, faculty and staff so they could make an educated decision about it.

The fault of why Prop. 92 failed is not as important as the fact that it did.

There wasn't just one specific thing that led to the proposition's defeat.

If people were more informed and weren't over-anxious about the state of the economy, maybe the outcome would have been different.

But even though it didn't pass, Prop. 92 has done some good.

It has brought community college funding to the surface and encouraged students to become more politically active.

It is up to us as students and community members to make sure that community college funding stays on the minds of the legislators.

Though there's no use in crying over spilled milk, there are still things that we can do to make this happen.

Let's get it back on the ballot for 2010. We can write to our local representatives and let them know that as community college students we feel cheated. We feel as though our voices weren't heard.

History tells us that when you get enough voices together that as a whole you can make a difference.

Recall Proposition 187 back in 1994. Prop 187 received the majority yes vote and was then later overturned after being deemed unconstitutional, in court.

If enough students, teachers and advocates for this bill get together, then maybe we could get a second chance to make up the margin difference that lost Prop. 92.

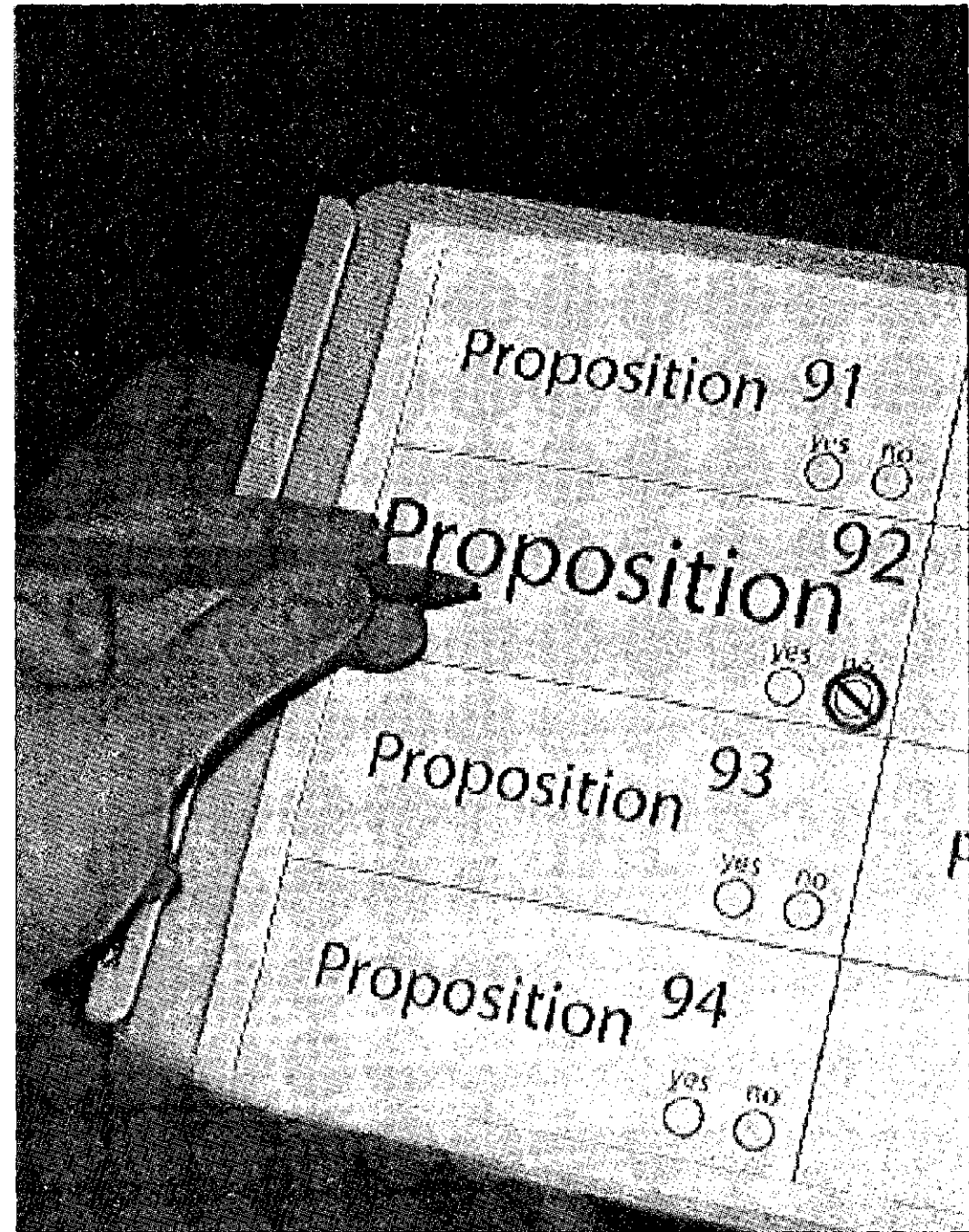


PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY MICHAEL AGUDO/TM



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.

Valentine's Day gone commercial

Do you remember what Valentine's Day was like in elementary school when students would buy Valentine cards and candies for classmates?

In our time, we rely on materials and gifts as a demonstration of love.

In addition, this is probably a result of the commercial sales we hear in the media and the satisfaction of receiving materialized love.

"America started the Valentine's craze in Michigan in the 1880s when the first Valentine's Day card was mass-produced.

"Today, Americans send more cards to celebrate Valentine's Day than any other holiday," wrote Professor B.H. Pontefract in an article for www.candywarehouse.com

There are greater stories behind this average day of dates and matchmaking that now revolves around the saint's day.

The first story being about Roman priest named Valentinus who was persecuted and imprisoned for helping Christian martyrs.

"On the eve of his beheading, he wrote a farewell note to his friend, the daughter of the jailer. He signed the note "From your Valentine," according www.toamericanantiquarian.org



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The second story was also in Rome around the year 270 after Valentine, bishop of Interamna, disregarded Emperor Claudius' II mandate that abolished marriage.

"Valentine realizing the injustice of the decree, defied Claudius and continued to perform marriages for young lovers in secret. When Valentine's actions were discovered, Claudius ordered that he be put to death," claims History.com

Leo Wierzbowski, professor of the University of Florida, goes even deeper in the origins of Valentine's Day.

"As early as the fourth century B.C., the Romans engaged in an annual young man's rite of passage to the god Lupercus.

"The names of teenage women were placed in a box and drawn at random by adolescent men; thus, a man was assigned a woman companion,

for their mutual entertainment and pleasure (often sexual), for the duration of a year, after which another lottery was staged."

"From the Church's standpoint, Valentine (or Valentinus) seemed to be the ideal candidate to usurp the popularity of Lupercus. So in the year 496, a stern Pope Gelasius outlawed the mid-February Lupercian festival.

"But he was clever enough to retain the lottery, aware of Romans' love for games of chance.

"Now into the box that had once held the names of available and willing single women were placed the names of saints.

"Both men and women extracted slips of paper, and in the ensuing year they were expected to emulate the life of the saint whose name they had drawn."

This brought on more jobs helping the entrepreneurs of many companies. Alas, more help for capitalism.

If one thing, this holiday reminds us to do is go out and fall in love or address the love you have to those who deserve it.

However, should we not all express this throughout the whole year?

"If one thing, this holiday reminds us to go out and fall in love or address the love you have to those who deserve it."

POLL OF THE WEEK

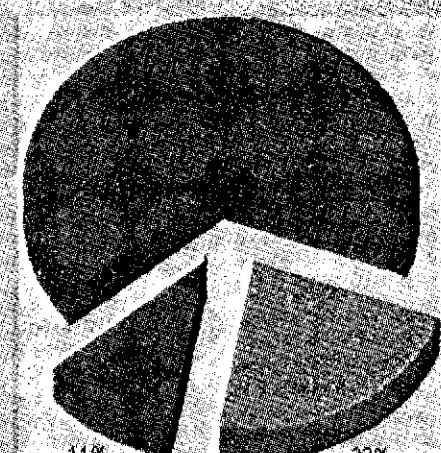
What's your reaction to last Tuesday's primary election results?

Legend:

Dissatisfied 67%

Satisfied 22%

Who cares 11%



This Talon Marks poll is not scientific and reflects the opinions of only those Internet users who have chosen to participate. The results cannot be assumed to represent the opinions of Internet users in general, nor the public as a whole.

Source: www.talonmarks.com

What are you going to do for Valentine's Day?

COMPILED BY: HECTOR COLCHADO
PHOTOS BY: SCOTT WATKINS



LUIS GOMEZ
psychology major
"I am going to school. (Then) I'm going to a single's night out."



CHRISTINA AGUILAR
liberal arts major
"(I am) going to go to a club and meet some cool guys."



EMILIO WUNFU
undecided major
"I'm going out on a date with my girlfriend and then go to Sea World."



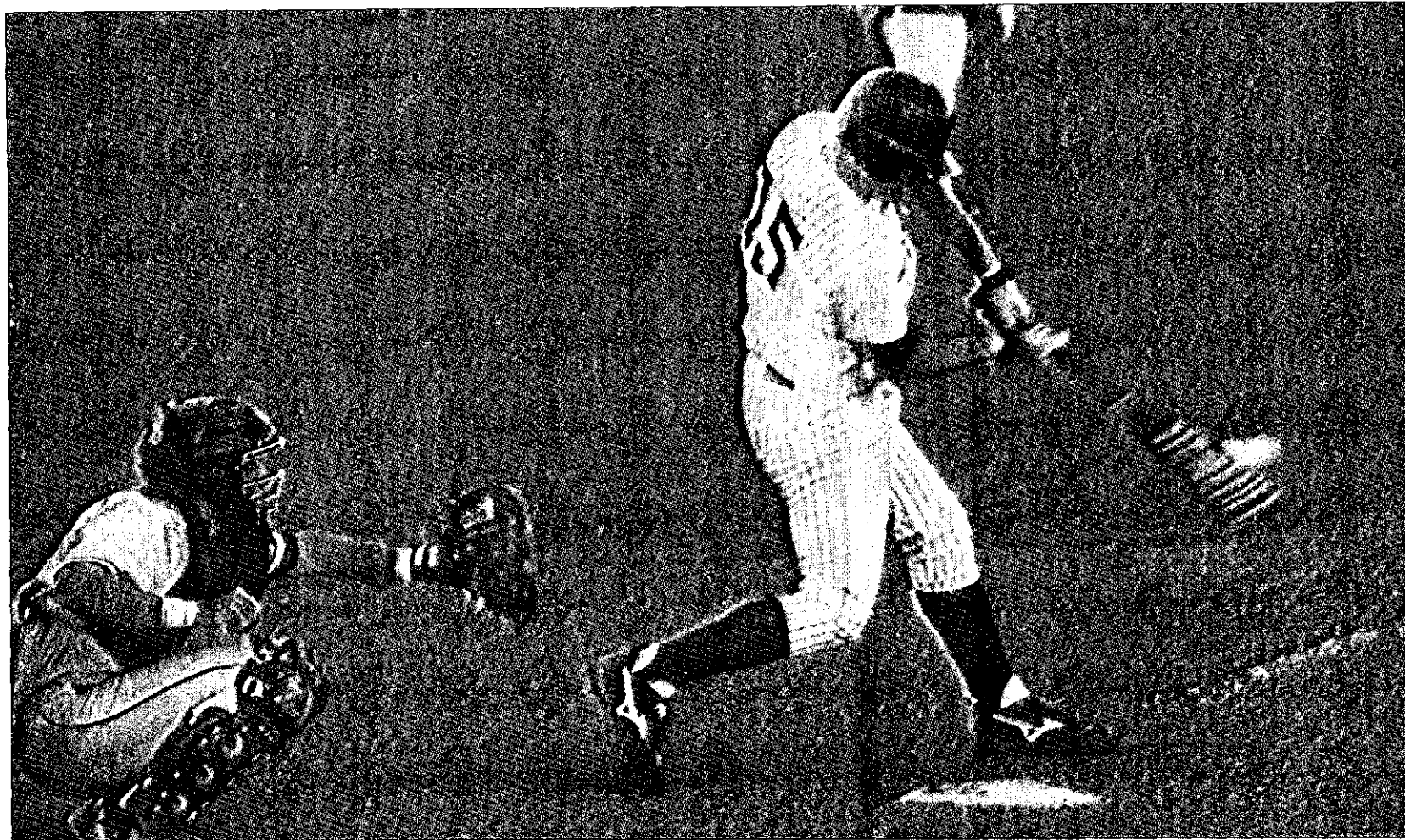
TIFFANY SMITH
art major
"My boyfriend is surprising me with some event for me."



CHRISTIAN VALENCIA
engineering major
"I'm doing nothing. Probably get laid."



ANGELA JOHNSON
education/liberal arts major
"I'm going to the movies with my sister then we're going to the club."



The ding of the bat: First baseman Trevor Blood (No. 15) connects with the ball and drives the ball into the field of play.

SCOTT WATKINS/TM

Baseball wins four, loses one

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Despite scoring four runs in the first three innings, the Cerritos College baseball team lost to Irvine Valley College, 9-5, Friday afternoon at Kincaid Field.

The Falcons went 4-1 last week and are 8-2 overall.

In other games last week, the team beat:

- Golden West, 5-3, last Tuesday,
- Victor Valley, 12-3, last Thursday
- Saddleback, 7-1, last Saturday and
- Glendale, 4-0, last Sunday.

In Sunday's game against Glendale, starting pitcher John Ortega threw a two-hitter in the Falcons victory.

The Falcons got on the board first when Chad Ostahowski, third baseman, singled in two runs in the bottom of the first.

After pitching four solid innings holding the Lasers scoreless through the first four innings, their pitching fell apart giving up five runs in the next two innings.

The Falcons had a shot in ninth with the bases loaded and one out but only scored once.

"We just didn't pitch well today," head coach Ken Gaylord said. "We

just didn't go out and compete."

Starting pitcher George Sanchez gave up three runs in four and one-third innings.

He also walked three and struck out zero batters.

John Garcia, relief pitcher, came in relief of Sanchez and didn't fair much better.

He gave up five runs, three earned, in three innings of work.

"It's hard being in the field not being able to do anything, just sitting there watching the give up run after run," said Brandon Pesante, second baseman.

Pesante went 1-5, struck out twice and scored a run.

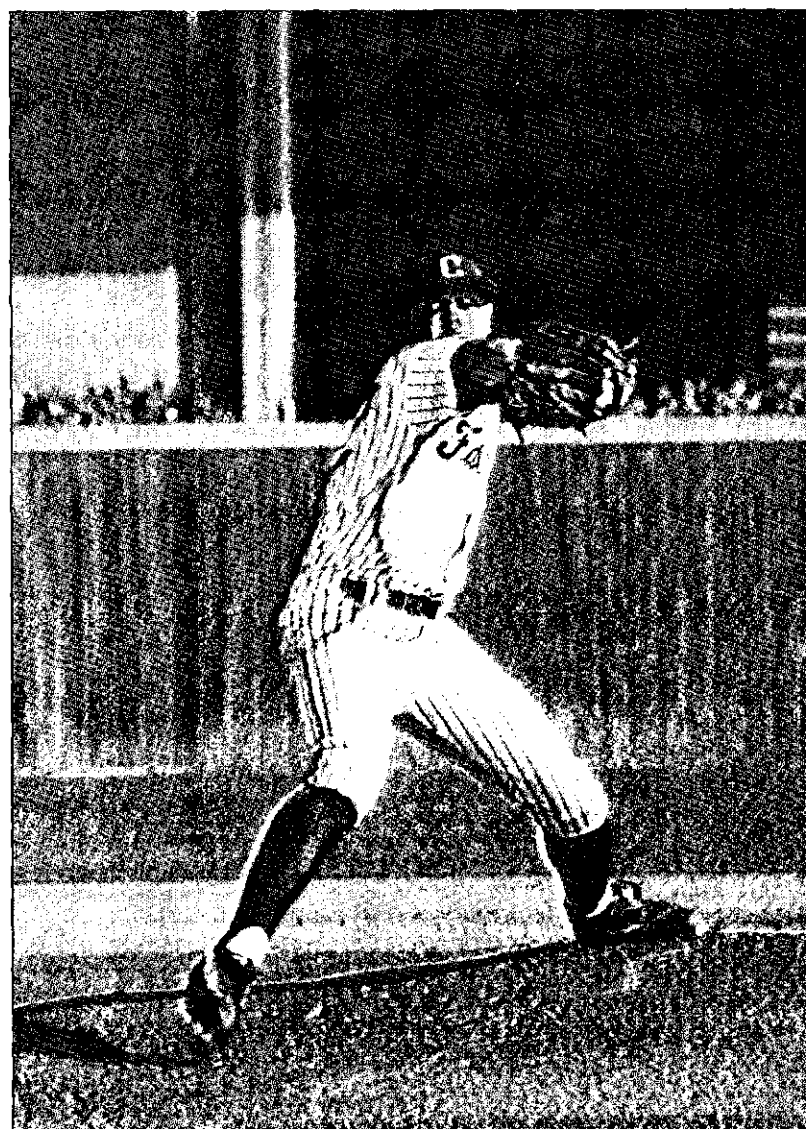
Offensively the Falcons were leading, but shortstop Jerry Pena went 3-4.

He said, "We came out tough in the first few innings but then we just sat back on our lead instead of continuing the attack."

Trevor Blood, first baseman, contributed with one hit in five at bats and he had one RBI.

Steve Blanchette, relief pitcher, came into the game in the top of the eighth and pitched one and two-thirds innings giving up one run on one hit and walked two.

"A game like this is frustrating because we are not learning from our mistakes," Gaylord said.



Here's the pitch: Starting pitcher George Sanchez throws some gas during Saturday afternoon's game against Irvine Valley College.

SCOTT WATKINS/TM

The Falcons will play Golden West on Thursday before returning home to play Fullerton on Saturday at noon.

They will begin South Coast Conference play on Feb. 23 against East Los Angeles College.

COMING UP IN SPORTS

MEN'S

Basketball

2/13 @ 7:30 p.m. vs. Long Beach City
2/20 @ 7:30 p.m. at Los Angeles Harbor
2/22 @ 7:30 p.m. at Los Angeles Southwest

Baseball

2/14 @ 2 p.m. at Golden West
2/16 @ 12 p.m. vs. Fullerton
2/18 @ 12 p.m. vs. Los Angeles Valley
2/19 @ 2 p.m. at Chaffey
2/21 @ 2 p.m. at Fullerton
2/23 @ 12 p.m. at East Los Angeles
2/26 @ 2 p.m. vs. Los Angeles Harbor

Tennis

2/14 @ 2 p.m. vs. Mt. San Jacinto
2/19 @ 2 p.m. vs. Ventura
2/21 @ 3 p.m. at Orange Coast
2/26 @ 2 p.m. at Mt. San Antonio

Track & Field

2/14 @ 12 p.m. vs. Saddleback/Orange Coast at Saddleback
2/22-23 @ 9 a.m. • Cerritos Invitational

WOMEN'S

Basketball

2/13 @ 5:30 p.m. vs. Long Beach City
2/20 @ 5:30 p.m. at Los Angeles Harbor
2/22 @ 5:30 p.m. at Los Angeles Southwest

Softball

2/14 @ 3 p.m. at El Camino
2/20 @ 3 p.m. at Antelope Valley
2/21 @ 3 p.m. at East Los Angeles

Tennis

2/14 @ 2 p.m. at Glendale
2/19 @ 2 p.m. at Saddleback
2/21 @ 2 p.m. at Victor Valley
2/22-24 @ 2 p.m. • San Diego Mesa Tournament
2/26 @ 2 p.m. vs. Mt. San Antonio

Track & Field

2/14 @ 12 p.m. vs. Saddleback/Orange Coast at Saddleback
2/22-23 @ 9 a.m. • Cerritos Invitational

Football players sign their Letters of Intent

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Led by offensive tackles Mike Diaz and Phillip Garcia, who signed with the University of Arizona, the Cerritos College football team had eight players sign Letters of Intent with four-year universities.

They include:

- cornerback Davion Mauldin, with San Diego State,
- wide receiver Craig Bell, with the University of Hawaii,
- wide receiver Ryan Pettys, with C.W. Post,
- quarterback A.J. Toscano, with Charleston Southern University,
- defensive tackle Thomas Locust, with North Carolina State University and
- linebacker Doncel Bolt, with Liberty University.

Mauldin was named to the Mission Football Conference All-Con-

ference Team as a kick returner and as a cornerback.

He led the team in return yards with 379, one for an 86-yard touchdown, he also compiled 56 tackles for the Falcons last season.

As for Bell, he had 275 yards receiving with 21 receptions.

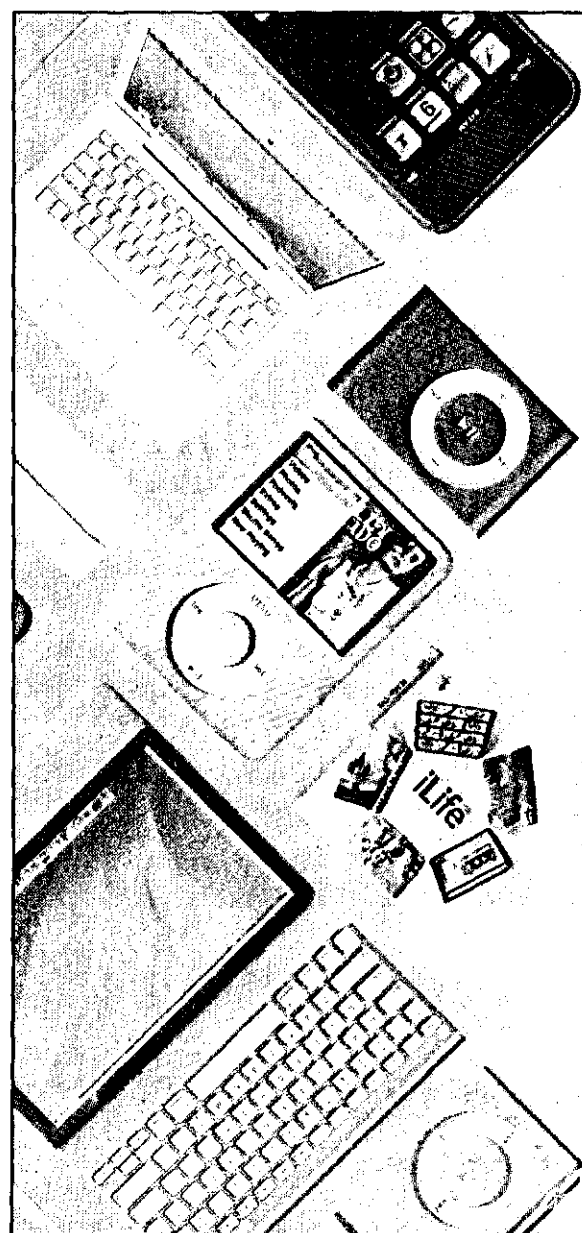
Pettys finished the season with 31 receptions and 361 yard. He also had one touchdown.

Toscano was the starting quarterback all season and finished with 1446 yards passing and a quarterback rating of 127.38. He also threw 15 touchdowns and threw only four interceptions.

Locust played every game at defensive tackle and racked up 24 tackles.

Bolt did not play the first three games of the season because of an injury, but when he returned. He had 50 total tackles, 19 solo and 31 assisted, to finished fourth on the team.

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