



Presidential candidate Suzanne Grijalva



Vice-presidential candidate Brian Kochems

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Presidential candidate Michael Barrita



Vice-presidential candidate Shola Shodiya

## ASCC President, VP candidates announced

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Students competing to claim the positions of ASCC Presidential and Student Trustee showed up to an orientation Tuesday in BK111/112.

In the orientation, the Election Board, made of members of the ASCC Court who supervise elections and handle complaints, read from the ASCC Publicity and Election codes.

Most of the orientation was

about the basics:

- polling areas,
- campus relations,
- presidential responsibilities,
- eligibility standards and
- the appearances in meetings of the student trustee, president and vice president.

The students that were present for the presidential orientation were Suzanne Grijalva, engineering major, running for president with Brian Kochems, business administration major, as vice president.

The competitors are current

ASCC Vice President Michael Barrita, who is running for presidency with his partner, Shola Shodiya, mass communication major, running for the vice president seat.

Grijalva, having joined the Senate this semester, does not have much experience, but her running mate, Kochems, has two years of ASCC experience, serving as a senator since Fall 2006.

Kochems has also taken the seat as Senator Minority Leader during Spring 2007 and Sergeant-at-Arms this semester.

Grijalva wants to bring in programs that will make the campus more environmentally friendly.

She said that her main goal as president is to "listen to the students and figure out how to make experience at Cerritos more fulfilling."

On the other hand, Barrita and Shodiya have different plans on their minds.

Barrita also has two years of experience with the ASCC, first starting in Fall 2006 as Commissioner of External Affairs, then ran for Vice President and won for Fall 2007.

Barrita has attended faculty meetings, was present in all the ASCC Senate meetings, was in several projects in the school, tried to open several contracts with outside companies and is still working toward his plan to get free water for ASCC student body free water.

"We have to get the Students to UCs and CSUs," Barrita said.

He hopes to do this with:

- more scholarships for students to help them transfer,
- another attempt at a book exchange programs to resolve any

money issues and

- a student services program to pin point student services.

Shodiya has been a senator for the past two semesters.

She was seated as Minority Leader, later to become Senate Clerk this semester.

"She has been the most active senator and we need somebody like that in our team," Barrita said. She was seated as Minority Leader, later to become Senate Clerk this semester.

## Café gets grade changed

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The Culinary Arts Café received a "C" grade on its last inspection but after a voluntary closure and a re-inspection, it received an "A."

"The rules for Los Angeles County changed in July of 2007 and we never got the new rules," said Michael Pierini, head culinary arts instructor.

The reason for the "C" grade was a combination of things that the café was doing wrong and repair work that need to be done by Facilities.

The Culinary Arts Department teaches the nation food safety standard and with the changes to the rules Los Angeles County has another standard.

"The 'C' was not because of an infestation problem," Pierini said. "It was because of bunch of little things and in my opinion we deserved a 'B'."

The Culinary Arts Department had work orders in for the structural problems it had and Facilities had not fixed those problems before the inspection took place.

The problems were the paint was peeling off of non-food preparation areas and small holes in the walls of the kitchen.

Pierini said, it wasn't because of any big thing. It was a lot of little things that combined added up to the "C."

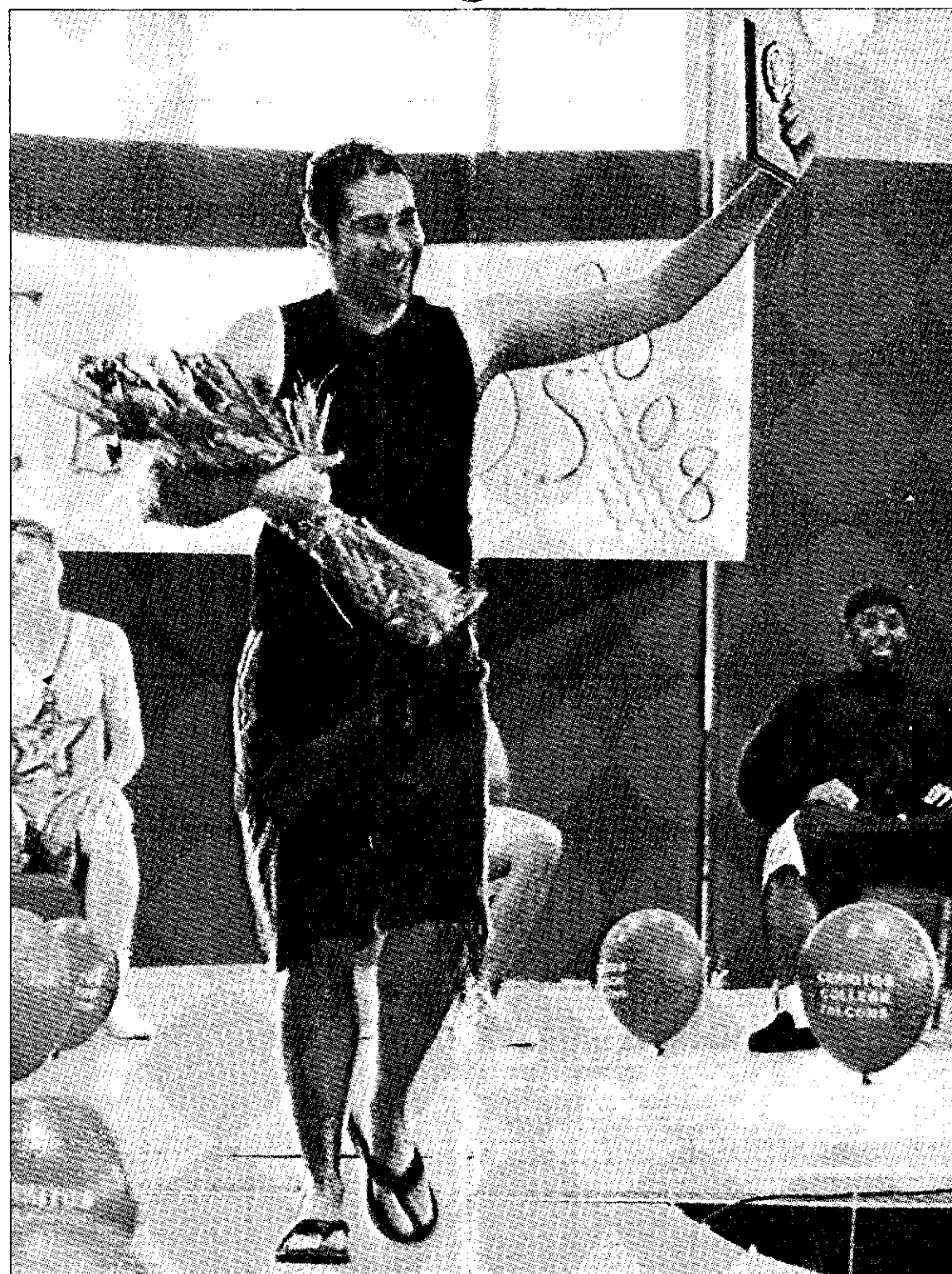
The little things included utensils in serving dishes and other equipment out of place.

This was the first time in two years the Culinary Arts Café had been inspected for two years.

Also, this was the first time that this inspector inspected it.

## Hernandez gets 'Loco', is new Mr. Cerritos

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MICHAEL AGUDO/TM

Here he is, Mr. Cerritos: Dennis Lara Hernandez, Culinary arts major, became the new Mr. Cerritos on March 12. The Mr. Cerritos contest was one of the events during Hoe Down Days.

Dennis Lara Hernandez, who was sponsored by the Culinary Arts Club, won the Mr. Cerritos Contest that was held March 12 in the Student Center.

The runner-up was Brian Kochems, sponsored by the International Students Association.

There were six participants who participated in this year's Mr. Cerritos Contest.

The men were judged on personality, attire, speaking skills, poise, appearance, intelligence and audience appeal.

The first contestant was Kochems, who was the first candidate to walk the runway. His talent was dancing to the song, "I'm a Flirt," by R. Kelly.

The second contestant was Robert Anderson, who was sponsored by the Black Student Union and is currently vice president for the club.

For his talent, he did stand-up comedy.

"I was nervous about the stand-up comedy part, the reason I did it was because I'm always making my friends laugh so why not try it out," he said.

The third contestant was David Martinez, business administration major, who was sponsored by the Board of Accountancy.

He wowed the crowd with his singing and dancing to "The Anthem," by Pitbull.

The way Martinez prepared for the contest was by working out ev-

ery day.

"I was nervous. I have never done anything like this, plus I had a one week's notice because someone else from the club was going to do it but wasn't able to come," he said.

The fourth contestant was Hernandez, culinary arts major and a Panama native.

He danced and sang, "Living La Vida Loca," by Ricky Martin.

He charmed the judges by giving each judge a bag of cookies compliments of the Culinary Arts Department.

This Panama native comes from royalty.

"My youngest sister won Miss Panama so when my club told me about this contest, I immediately called her and told her about the Mr. Cerritos contest," he said. "I'm very excited to have won."

He moved from Panama to Atlanta, Ga. as an international student, and later came to California and has been here for a year.

His favorite dish is Panamanian tamales which are different from Mexican tamales because they are wrapped in banana leaves.

The fifth contestant was joker Aaron Alvarez, who was sponsored by the Court Reporting Club.

For his talent, he sang and danced to "Bidi Bidi Bom Bom," by Selena.

And last but not least was the sixth contestant, Christoffe Sato, who was sponsored by the Cosmetology Club.

For his talent he sang a capella to the song "Valerie," by Amy Winehouse.

Macias  
makes  
big  
splash

See News page 4



Yee Haw!  
Hoe Down  
Days  
photos

See News page 2



ONLINE  
EXCLUSIVES

- Hear audio of Dr. Vela and the Faculty Senate
- See a slideshow of Hoe Down Days
- Read review on FMLA's performance of "The Vagina Monologues"



# HOE DOWN Yee

## Day 1:



**Hoe Down Days:** Gabriela Tovar, medical assisting major, eats her In-N-Out while listening to the Jim Gibson Band.



**Band:** The Jim Gibson Band starts off Hoe Down Days by performing for students and faculty.

## Day 2:



**Mr. Cerritos:** Brian Kochers, ASCC Sergeant-At-Arms was runner-up at the Mr. Cerritos contest.

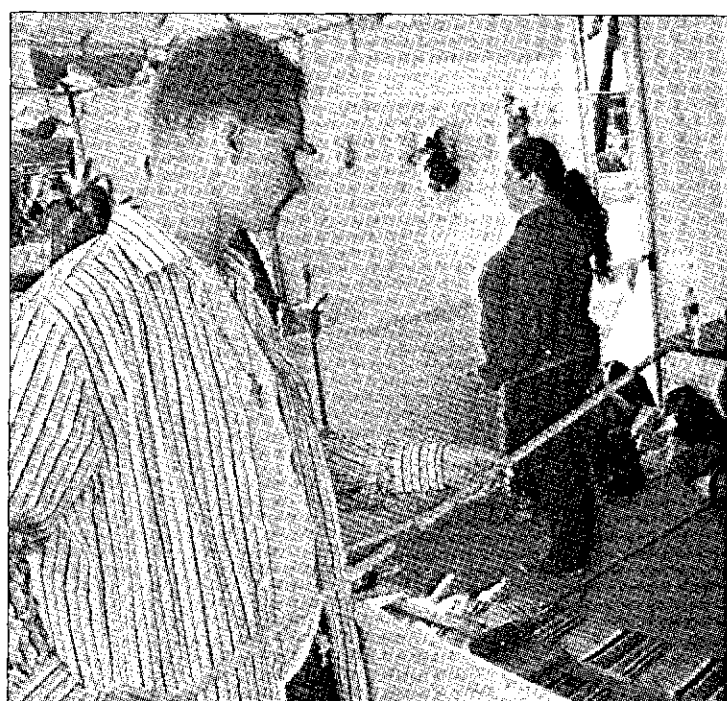


**Mr. Cerritos:** Aaron Alvarez, sponsored by the Court Reporting Club, struts his stuff in front of the crowd at the Student Center.

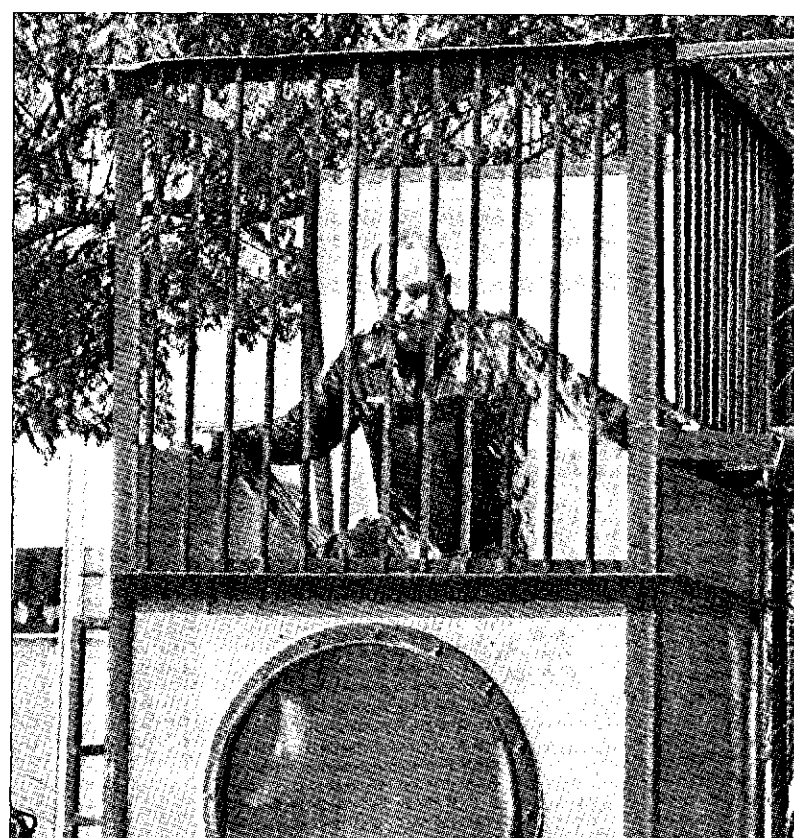


**Mr. Cerritos:** Dennis Hernandez, culinary arts major, was crowned Mr. Cerritos on March 12.

## Day 3:



**Gone fishing:** Albert Wilimousky, child development major, tries out his skills at the bottle up game provided by the Psychology Club.



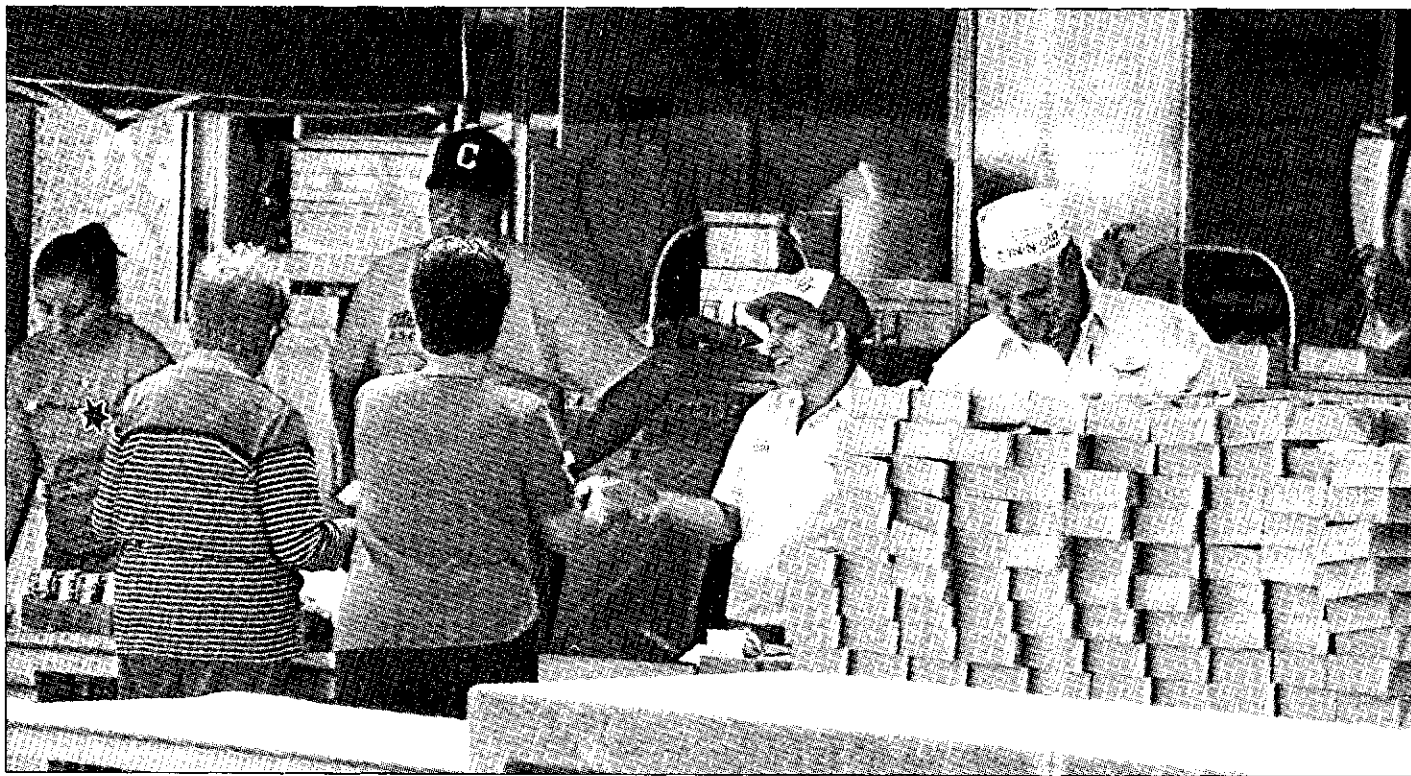
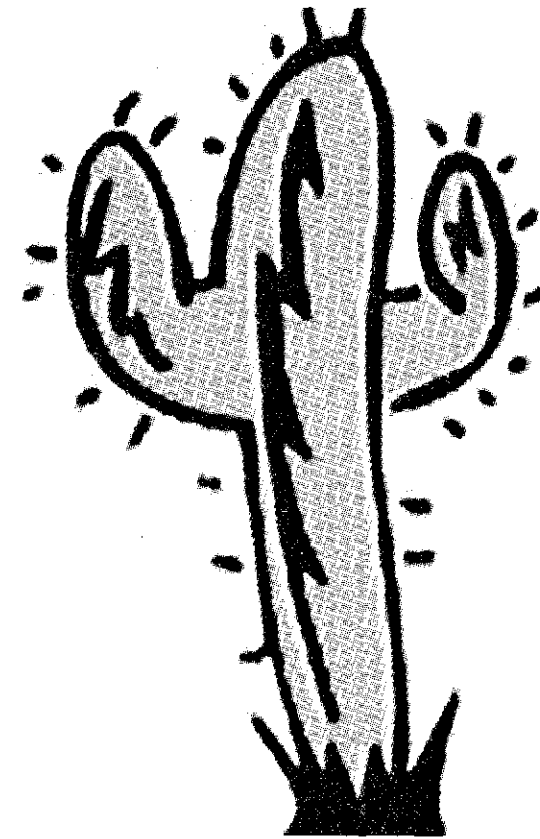
**Dunk tank:** Richard Bukowiecki, chief of police, is taken down by a student at the dunk tank.



**Hot dogs:** The Medical Assisting Club was selling hot dogs during the t



# DAYS 2008 Haw



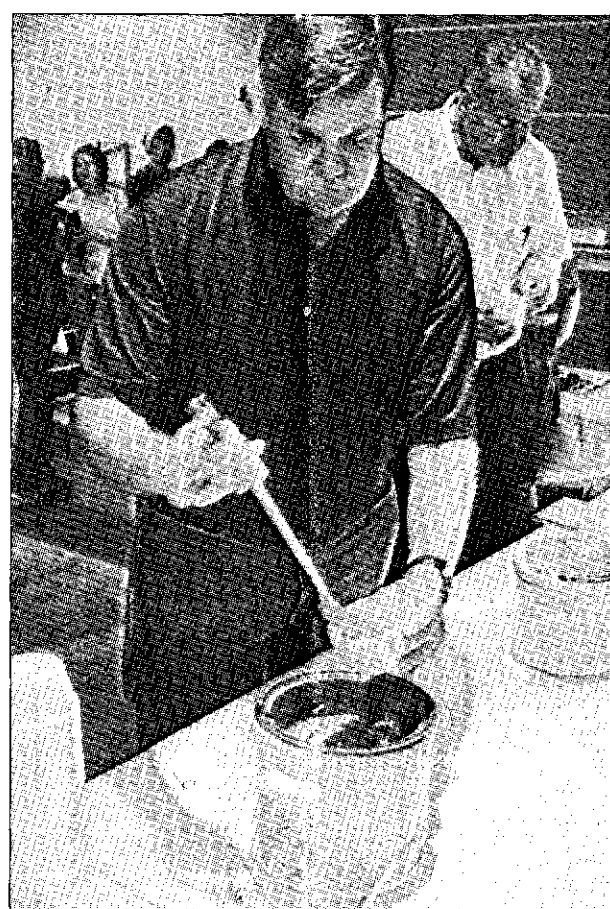
**In-N-Out:** The famous In-N-Out truck greets the students with its burgers, drinks and chips.



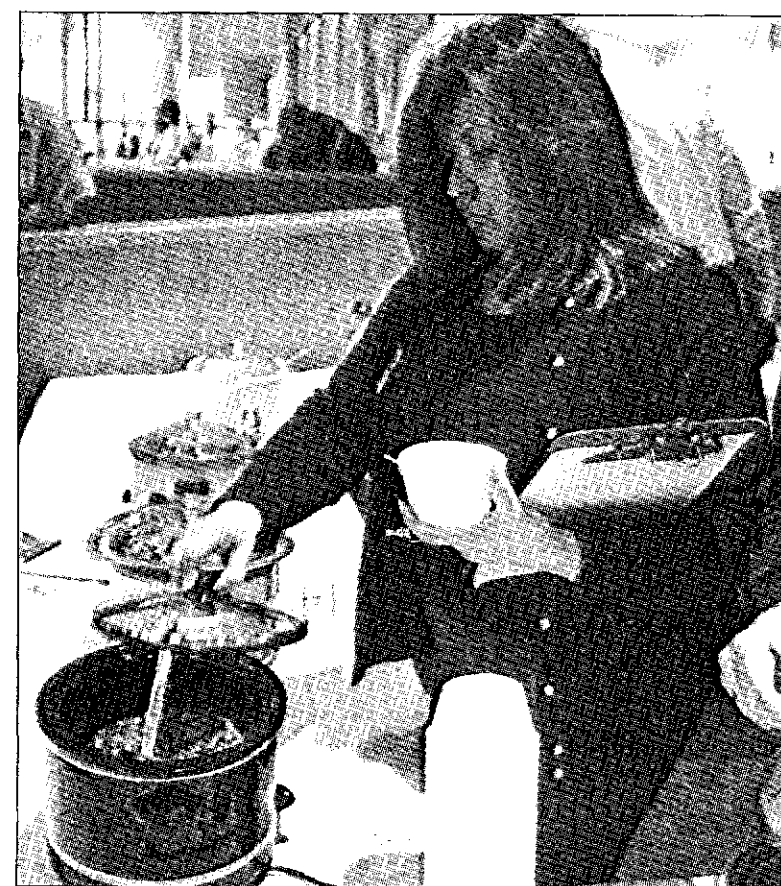
**Watching the show:** Marcela Avela (right), architecture major, and Francina Urias (left), undecided major, take in the nice weather while enjoying some good music.



**Chili Cookoff:** Dr. Noelia Vela, president/superintendent, judges a pot of chili.



**Chili Cookoff:** Dean Ackland, coordinator of Student Activities, judges the chili to see who has the best.



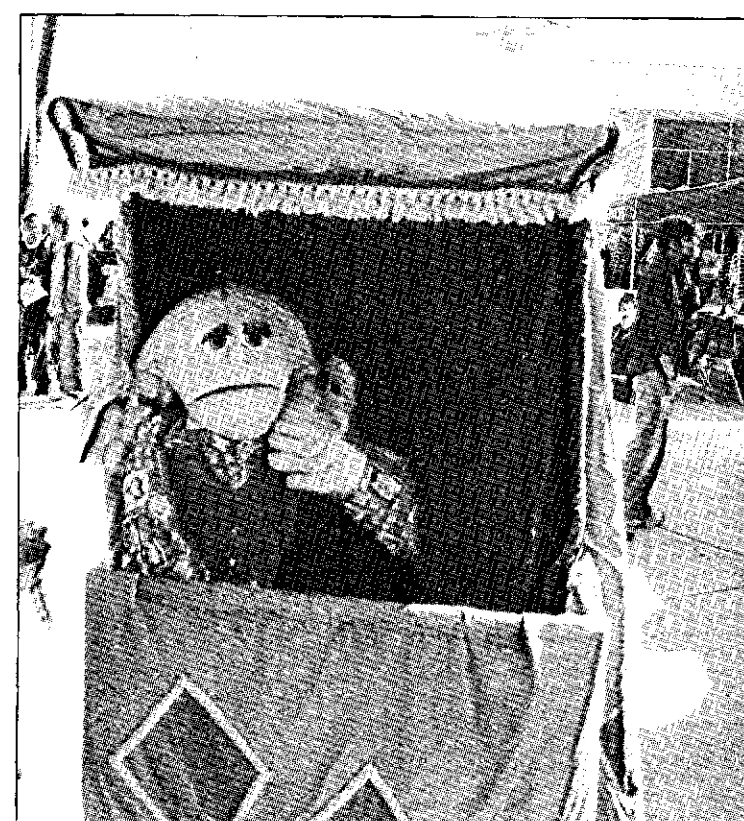
**Chili Cookoff:** Terry Lopez, assistant dean of career services, goes around the table to see who has the best chili around.



Third day of Hoe Down Days.



**Cosmetology:** On the third day of Hoe Down Days, the Cosmetology Club were showing off their skills to the students.



**Puppet show:** The puppet show was in town and greeting all the students down the aisle.

ALL PHOTOS BY MICHAEL AGUDO



# Falcon Square hosts Job Fair

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Cerritos College had its 38th annual Career Expo and Job Fair March 6 on the library sidewalk.

The event was put out by Christina The, student placement specialist, who said, "We believe students need to have an outlet.

"This is a great opportunity to practice how to talk to employers and to seek employment to find out what skills they need to have and hopefully have a job when they graduate."

There were more than 38 employers that participated in this year's event.

Among them were:

- the Disney College Program,
- UPS,
- Checker Schuck's Kragen Auto Parts,
- Avon,
- Los Angeles Police Department,
- Hilton Anaheim,
- AFLAC and
- Robert Wayne Footwear

Most employers were looking for a sociable personality because most jobs deal with customer service.

"We want someone that has a flexible schedule, a wonderful personality and an open mind," said In-dira Hernandez, a Hilton Anaheim recruiter.

Jeff Mayer, human resource specialist from Kragen's Auto Parts, wanted someone who came prepared.

"When we come to school job fairs we expect students to be pre-

pared, have a resume ready, smile, make eye contact with the person you are speaking to, ask questions about the job and what type of area will you like to work in and be dynamic," he said.

"Don't throw an attitude because the business did not have the position you wanted to apply for, because when you get interviewed for another position the employer will remember you and not hire you."

For students who are seeking a job with LAPD, Bruce Borihahn, senior recruiter for LAPD, said, "We are looking for smart, courageous, courteous people who are looking to make a difference.

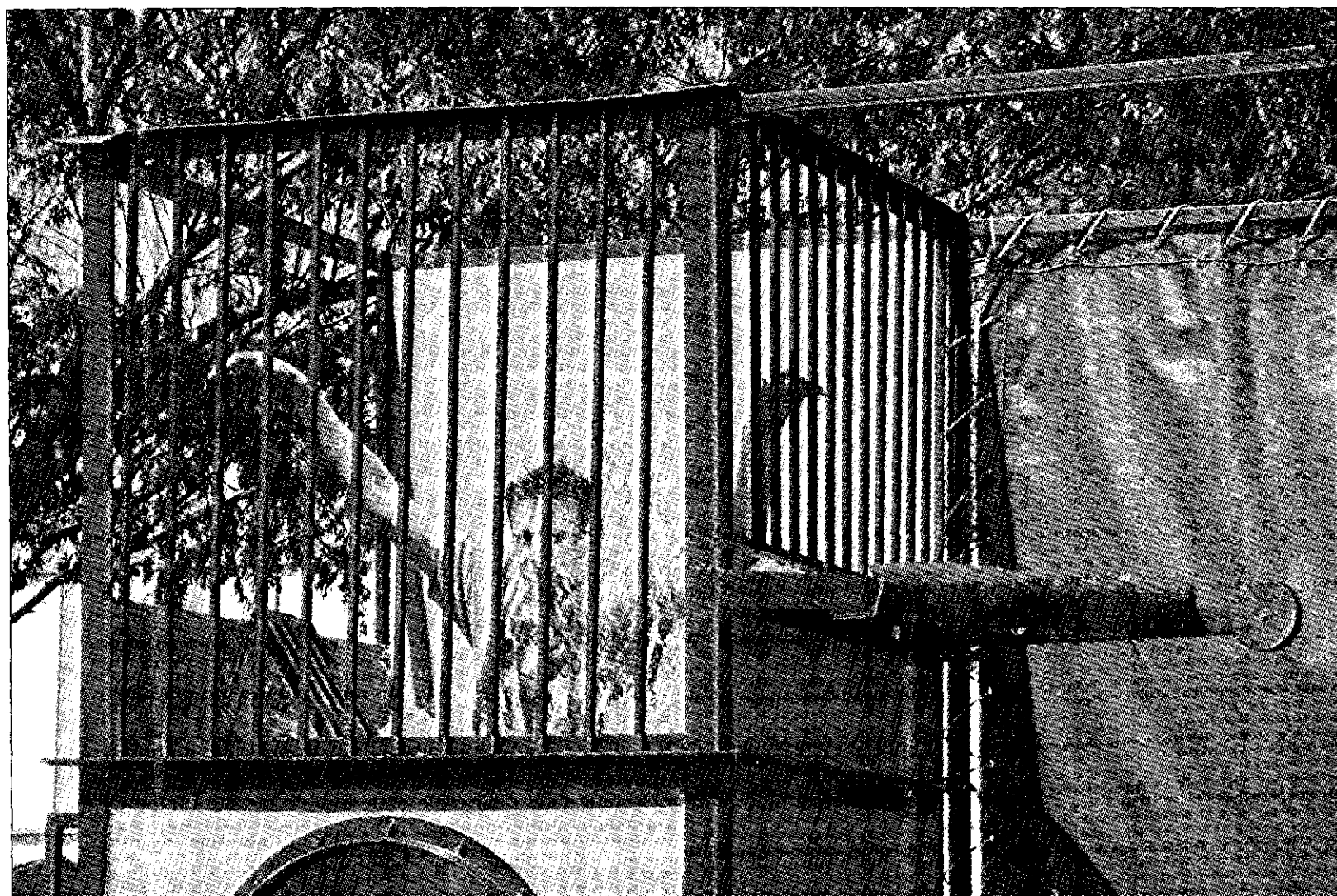
"We maintain a great relationship with the Cerritos College Administration of Justice instructors. (If you are looking for employment with LAPD) ask them any questions."

And for those students that plan to have their own business, AVON is a great way to start.

"AVON is for the person who is looking to be in business with themselves," said Rosemary Contreras, Leadership Representative for AVON.

"AVON teaches you customer service, money management, how to start your own business and an opportunity to work with flexible hours," she added.

As the job fair came to an end, The said, "It was a good day for the and many businesses came and it was a great way for students to find opportunities and get first hand experience on how to get a job."



MICHAEL AGUDO/TM

**Big splash:** ASCC President Jason Macias gets dunked in the water tank during the conclusion of Hoe Down Days.

## Macias, chief get soaked

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Several clubs and school organizations had booths open for the third day of Hoe Down Days March 13.

Some games in these booths included:

- beanbag throwing,
- spraying water at fish to race,
- darts,
- hitting a ball with a hockey stick,
- syringe the buttocks (in the style of pin the tail on the donkey),
- "Are You Smarter than a Fifth Grader" and
- dodgeball.

Campus Crusade 4 Christ had a booth for throwing balls at milk cans, where Joella Brizuela, music major, said, "Our best players have been females."

"It's a pride thing," added Jessica Vigil, CC4C

club president.

Other than games, there was a "Traveling Game Show" booth, a Chick-fil-A representative was giving out coupons for free sandwiches, a few booths selling food and a man making balloon animals.

Tom Jorgenson, professional entertainer from the city of Cerritos, liked making people "Hoe Down Hats" out of balloons.

"(It's) something festive to make sure everyone knows (they're) having fun," he said.

The Medical Assisting Club had a booth selling hot dogs, Child Development was selling popcorn and Scholar's Honors was selling snow cones.

Students found their way to the dunk booth that the ASCC was holding.

One of the two main attractions in the tank was Chief of Campus Police Richard Bukowiecki.

Sometimes people would hit the target but

he wouldn't dunk.

ASCC President Jason Macias was there to run up and push the target himself.

"I enjoy it to the fullest extent," Macias said. "(This is) to get back at him for all those parking tickets."

Macias even paid a dollar to throw three balls at the target, dunking Bukowiecki twice.

The second main attracting was Macias himself.

But when someone hit the target and Macias didn't dunk, ASCC Vice President Michael Barrita was there to push the target.

"I love it," Barrita said. "I love the fact that I can keep him underwater as much as I can."

Another police officer and Dean Ackland, coordinator of Student Activities, both donated money for anyone who wanted to take a shot at Bukowiecki or Macias.

## 'Genius' author visits book club

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The writer of "Burro Genius: A Memoir," Victor Villaseñor, came to Cerritos College and signed books for fans.

On March 5, Villaseñor spoke to club members in the morning and then to open public at night.

Although not much sponsoring took place around the college of Villaseñor's special events, the rooms that the talks took place were filled with curious students.

Lynda Alvarez and Frank Gaik, founders of the club and two English professors, were very interested in promoting Burro Genius and Villaseñor's message by handing out books to their classes.

People who were Burro Genius Book Club members had the chance to:

- receive a copy of Burro Genius and a writer's journal,
- meet with faculty to discuss about Burro Genius and
- meet Villaseñor.

Steve Clifford, Ja'net Daniels, Joanna Gonzalez-Mootz, Bernadette Haney, Frank Mixon, Phil Rodriguez, all English professors, were also involved and met with students to discuss "Burro Genius."



HECTOR COLCHADO/TM

**Good vibrations:** Victor Villaseñor, author of the book "Burro Genius: A Memoir" holds hands with two students during his lecture and book signing.

Villaseñor's talks averaged an hour in which he spoke of his family, Yuki Indian ideologies, racism, sexism and common sense.

Book club members were glad to see and hear the author that touched their hearts.

"He gave hope for understanding a true way of life by being more opinionative than I thought," said Amanda Hernandez, club member.

Many of the students participated when he asked how many geniuses were present, among those who raised their hands was

Mirella Flores, book club member.

"In his book he expresses all of himself," Flores said. "He didn't give up and that's who he is now."

"He got everyone's attention by cussing and talking about his ovaries," said Christopher Gutierrez, economics major. "I thought he was very energetic."

Villaseñor is a writer, best selling author, public speaker and spokesperson. He was raised in California and has dyslexia.

He is still travelling, giving out his message of the people he was

influenced by his "Familia."

"I want you to kick your own ass, out of complacency and laziness and ignorance," he said.

"Education isn't just to learn history and science, it's to learn who you are."

Students that missed his speech will have a chance to meet him when he comes back to Cerritos College on April 22.

To get more information on Villaseñor, students can contact Professor Gaik at fgaik@cerritos.edu or Prof. Alvarez at lalvarez@cerritos.edu.

## Book exchange program revised

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The ASCC Cabinet approved to hire a dance concert production staff and discussed the new ASCC MySpace Standards Ad Hoc Committee March 24.

Also, ASCC Vice President Michael Barrita informed the rest of the Cabinet of what the book exchange program is leading to become.

Funds of \$800 were approved to hire the production staff for March 30 through April 5.

The staff hired are:

- Renee Duron, house manager,
- Ada Chong, assistant stager,
- Candice Noel, sound operator, and
- Anna Serrano, assistant stage manager.

The ASCC is planning for its MySpace page and the new MySpace Standards Ad Hoc Committee will be establishing it.

ASCC President Jason Macias said that this committee will need to make the page eye-friendly, simple and accessible.

In other business, Barrita has "simplified" the book exchange program from the UC Davis book exchange model.

This new design requires no

books or money being exchanged through the ASCC's hands.

"The exchange is between students," Barrita said. "We want to provide a source."

With this new version, students would take their books to a table in Falcon Square. The people sitting at the table would write down any information regarding the student and the books.

At a later date, students would come to the book exchange table and ask for the books they need.

The people at the table would give the students the information they need to contact the student selling the books.

Barrita said that if he is elected as ASCC president for the Fall semester, he will have the book exchange "evolve."

Since no money will be received by the ASCC, there is a question about funding.

"I would like to see it ASCC-funded," Barrita said.

He plans on requiring that students have an updated student I.D. card to participate in the book exchange program.

With funds coming in through students having up-to-date I.D. cards, Barrita wants that money to go right back to students through funding the book exchange program.