

ASCC's new face



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY WERNER GOMEZ AND SCOTT WATKINS

Barrita, Shodiya win ASCC elections

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Michael Barrita, political science major, and Shola Shodiya, mass communications major, won the presidency and vice presidency of 2008 with 198 votes.

Last Wednesday and Thursday, stu-

dents voted for the next ASCC President and the majority of the student body kept Barrita in the ASCC.

The total students that voted were 364, with six voids in the presidential election.

Although not many students had the chance to hear the candidates talk in the forum that took place two weeks ago, they

all went around the campus and left fliers by offices of different departments.

A number of students also supported their candidates by wearing shirts that advertised and influenced other students to vote for either ticket.

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Macias, Doung run-off for trustee

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Andy Duong, pharmacy major and Jason Macias, current ASCC president, continue in the run for the new student trustee.

The reason that there will be run-off was because neither candidate reached the minimum amount of votes, 175 votes.

This Wednesday and Thursday students will have another chance to vote for either candidate in the Falcon Square from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

The result for the Student Trustee Elections were:

- Andy Duong - 116 votes
- Jonathon Galvez - 11 votes
- Brian Kochems - 56 votes
- Jason Macias - 144 votes

• Jorge Ramirez - 34 votes
With three candidates eliminated Duong and Macias have another chance to influence the students of Cerritos.

Duong is promising to learn much if he has the opportunity of taking the seat while Macias having not much to say other than his experience backing him up.

Duong, after a Book Exchange Committee meeting, had a few minutes and spoke of his strategy in his operation to get the Student Trustee position.

"I walked up to them, talked to them, explained to them, was real with them and was honest of what's going on.

"The purpose I am doing this is to represent the students and to get experience to (see) what it is like to work with the Board of Trustees."

See Trustee page 2

English instructor given Most Outstanding Faculty Award for 2008

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Susanna Clemans, English instructor, was awarded the Most Outstanding Faculty Award at the Faculty Awards last Thursday.

"I love teaching (at Cerritos College)," Clemans said. "I hope it's apparent."

"You're not getting rid of me yet," she joked.

Tips on how to be more like Clemans were given by Beverly Whitson, English instructor.

Among her tips were to travel a lot without bragging about it, try new things and not to be afraid to disregard things too, be creative and be fully engaged in life but at the same time, reliable and on time.

"She deserves (the award)," Whitson said.

ASCC President-elect Michael Barrita said, "She goes above and beyond." After going to UCSB and Orange

Coast Community College, Clemans transferred to Cal State Fullerton where she got her bachelor's and master's degrees.

She became a full-time professor at Cerritos College in 1986.

At Cerritos, she established the "novel in common" project where English instructors use a common novel to teach in their classes from semester to semester.

In her time at Cerritos, she has been on the Faculty Senate, taught for Puente, been involved with Women's History Month, co-produced the Shakespeare's birthday celebration, chaired the Novels as a Work of Literacy Merit Committee, participated in the "Banned Books" event, worked with Project H.O.P.E. and Scholars' Honors and chaired the Sabbatical Leave Committee.

Clemans teaches English 100, 102 and 103.

She has also taught in Cambridge, England, for two fall semesters.

Quinn lectures about 'The Feminist Thinker'

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The Philosophy Club learned about the relationship between feminism and philosophy in a lecture entitled "The Feminist Thinker," presented last Thursday by Kathleen Quinn, philosophy club president.

She opened the lecture by pointing out the highly respected philosophers who are rarely viewed as sexist and unequal to women.

To Quinn, the philosophy of feminism is "that both men and women have an equal right to be whoever they want to be.

"If you're opposed to it, you

probably don't understand it."

She went on to mention philosophers that (feminists) are not proud of like Nietzsche, Russo, Kant and Aristotle, who believed that "Women lay somewhere in between human people and animals."

Afterward, Quinn went over these theories and how they apply to feminism:

- existentialism,
- utilitarianism,
- subjectivism,
- relativism,
- Marxism,
- egalitarianism,
- absolutism,
- pragmatism,
- phenomenology and

• dualism.

The "Feminist Thinkers" that she brought up were:

- Simone de Beauvoir,
- John Stuart Mill,
- Judith Butler,
- Donna Haraway,
- Mary Wollstonecraft,
- Shulamith Firestone,
- Jane Duran and
- Shannon Sullivan.

Beauvoir, author of the book "The Second Sex," held the philosophy that no woman should ever be labeled.

Butler, known for her Women's Studies, applied subjectivism and relativism and explained the reason for male and female roles.

She wrote the book, "Gender Trouble" in 1990, which created

the term "gender performativity."

Haraway, a professor at the University of California, Santa Cruz, applied Marxism and compared big business at the top of a pyramid in a capitalist system as men over women in a capitalist economy.

Wollstonecraft, writer, philosopher and feminist, fought for equal rights of education.

"It is unfair to infer that her virtue is built on narrow views and selfishness, who can caress a man, with true feminine softness, the very moment when he treats her tyrannically," she said.

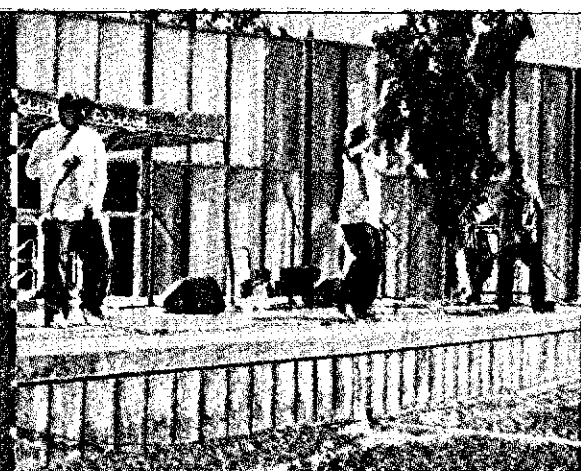
See Quinn page 2

The other outstanding honor roll award recipients:

- Gary Cain, health instructor, basketball coach,
- Michael Farina, finance instructor,
- Dr. Amy Holzgang, sociology instructor,
- Dr. Adolph Johnson, Jr., counselor,
- Mary Knowlton, nursing instructor,
- Vykk Morgan, court reporting instructor,
- Kathy Ninomiya, dental hygiene instructor,
- Jack Swanson, English instructor,
- Julie Trager, art history instructor,
- Monique Le Blanc, dental hygiene instructor,
- Glen Myers, water polo coach.

Concert
to save
The Hill

See Arts page 3



ONLINE
EXCLUSIVES

- Review: Gnarl's Barkley's new CD "The Odd Couple"
- Results from the run-off elections for Student Trustee



Track
ready
for
SCC Finals
See Sports page 5

High schools invade Cerritos

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Cerritos College held Senior Preview Day 2008 last Friday.

"Senior Preview Day is a way to introduce high school seniors to Cerritos College's campus and expose them to our variety of programs," explained Shirley Arceo, coordinator of school relations public affairs.

"Senior Preview Day started 10 years ago, everyone in Cerritos College gets involved including counselors and faculty," she said.

The day started with a welcome rally held in the basketball gym from 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

The rally consisted of welcoming students to Cerritos College with a little fun and games and contests.

The day also consisted for the seniors to attend four sessions.

Each school was chaperoned by someone from Cerritos College.

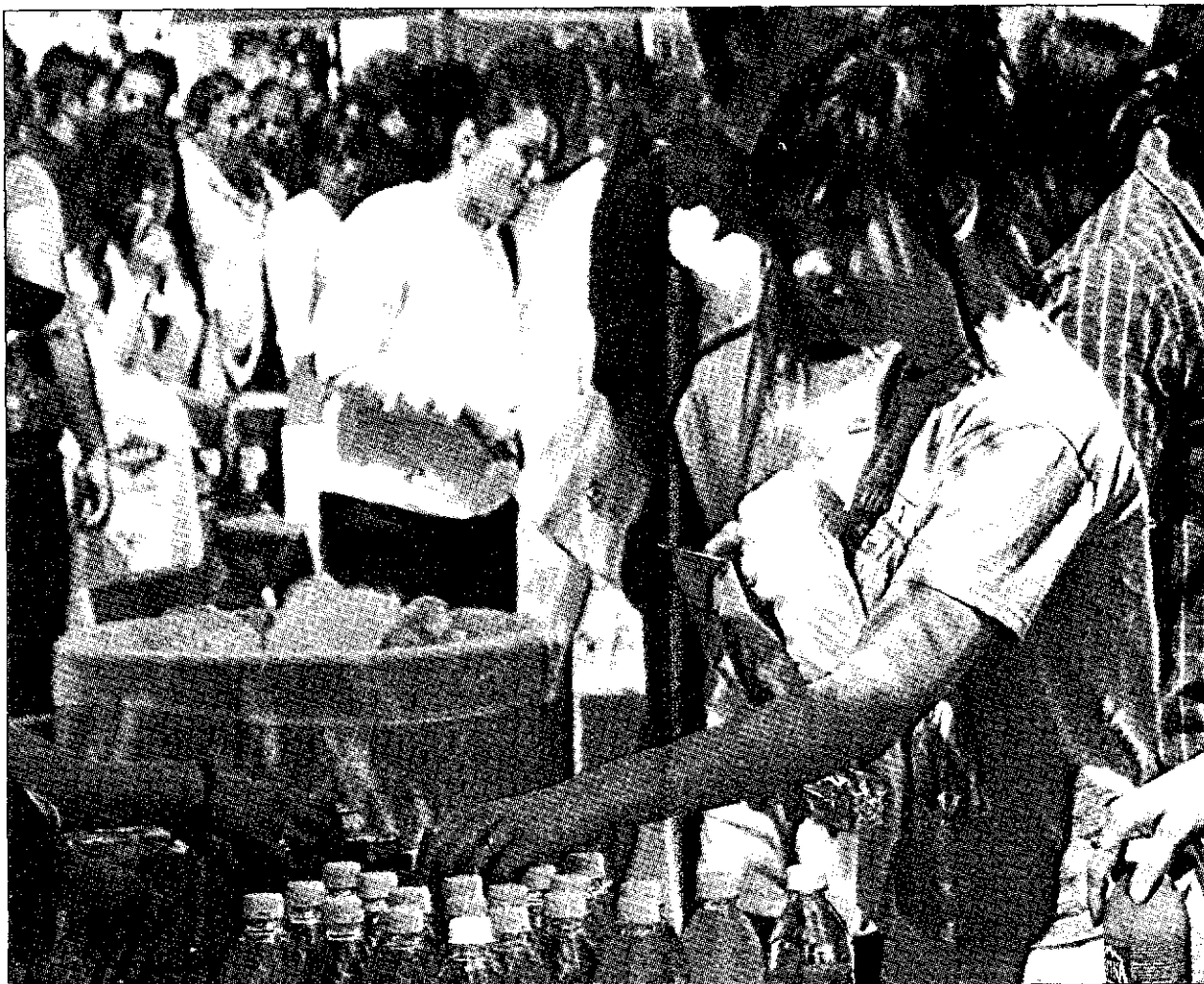
"We have 27 presentations on campus and each group gets to attend four of those sessions," Arceo added.

There were about 20 schools that participated in this year's event.

After attending the four sessions the students went to Falcon Square where they got to learn about the variety of clubs Cerritos College has to offer.

There were more than 10 clubs that participated in this event.

Among them were Campus Police, Student Health Services,



A long hot day for high schoolers: A high school student grabs a bottle of water at lunch during High School Preview Day.

Cosmetology, the Filipino Club, Chicanos/Latinos for Community Medicine, FMLA, the Black Student Union Club, Career Services, Speech Language Pathology, Court Reporting and the Transfer Center.

Bell Gardens High School Senior, Nathan Mata, 17, wanted to check out the campus to see how college feels like. "I wanted to see the campus and classes. The school

is okay but its kind of far from where I live."

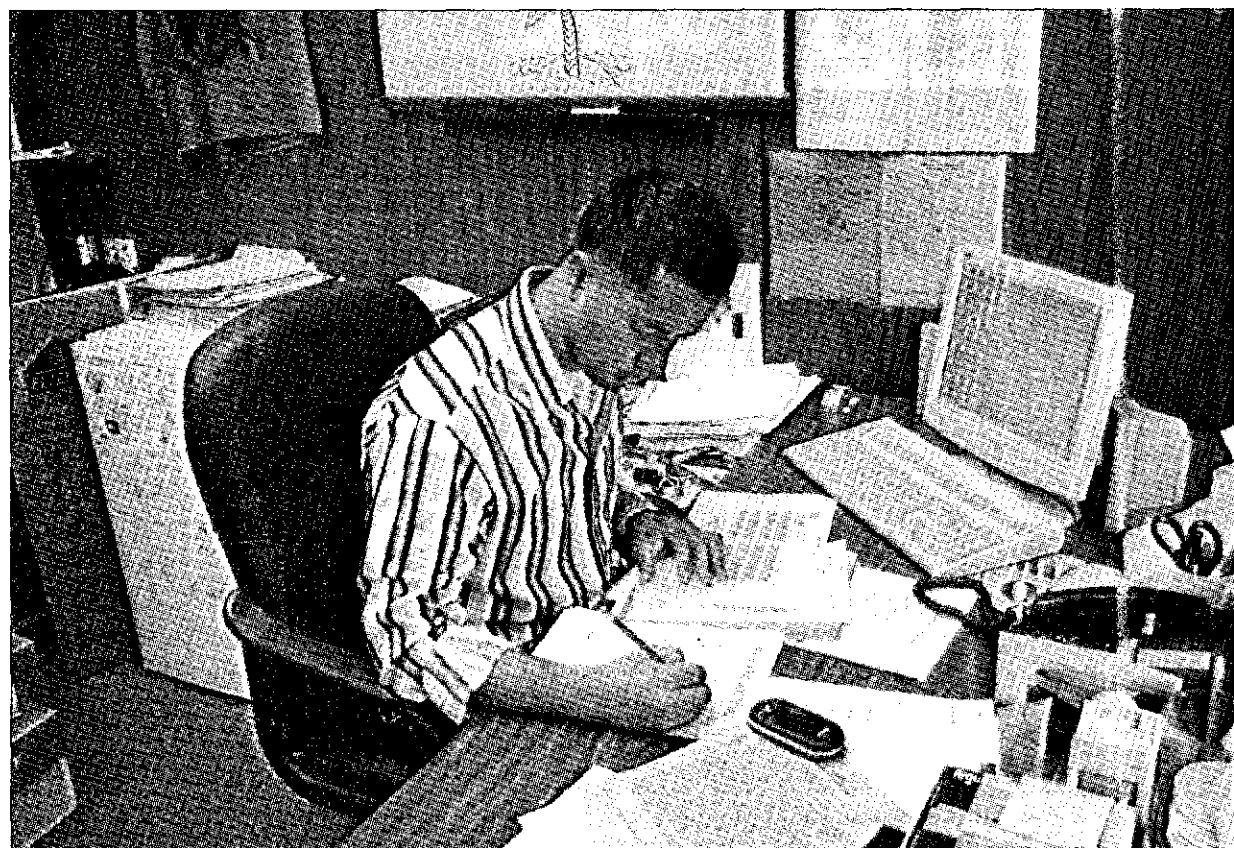
But, John Garcia, 17, Downey High School Senior had another reason of coming to view the campus.

He said, "I wanted to check it out before I enroll for summer. And I like it so far."

With so many clubs to check out in Falcon Square, Warren High

School Senior, Sarai Leon, 17, said, "My favorite part of the day was the club booths, because it gives you a lot of information about the things the clubs have to offer especially the nursing program because it gives you hands on experience."

She also added, "The most interesting club that I like is FMLA, I think its going to be an eye opener to me."



Back to work: Michael Barrita, current ASCC vice president, is hard at work, making plans to help students.

Elections: ASCC winners announced

Continued from page 1

Barrita ran out of shirts to hand out.

"We gave out 60 shirts and there were still a lot of people asking for more."

Barrita, who is the current ASCC Vice President, will not feel much pressure with his new seat since he has been watching the actions of Jason Macias, current ASCC President.

"As vice president you kind of understand who is who on campus and what (are) the most effective ways you can get things done for students."

Suzanne Grijalva, current senator and her running mate Brian Kochems, current seargent-at-arms

were given 160 votes.

"It was a close election. We'll see what happens next year," Grijalva said.

"They had a really good platform, I saw that (they're) really more active students here on campus," Barrita said. "I tip my hat to both candidates."

"It's not like we were running against two people that were not qualified for the position."

Kochems, although disappointed, was present in the Senior Preview Day being active and helping the future students of Cerritos College.

Shodiya was glad to have gained a stronger power than being a senator.

"Now I feel like I can get things done," Shodiya said. "I feel like I have a lot of say now in what goes on the lives of students here on campus."

She cited the platform that was on their flier;

- a book exchange program will initiate this summer semester,
- increasing the amount of scholarships for students,
- doing as much as possible replace the Falcon Amphitheater,
- "Getting the students get to the next level."

"(I want to get) students to unite together and getting the faculty here to unite with the students to getting student success," she said.

Trustee: Run off for Student Trustee

Continued from page 1

Duong is trying to be a pharmacist and hopes to gain some experience from the position.

He explained that pharmacists need effective communication with patients when explaining the doses of certain medications.

"This will help me with my communicative skills," he concluded.

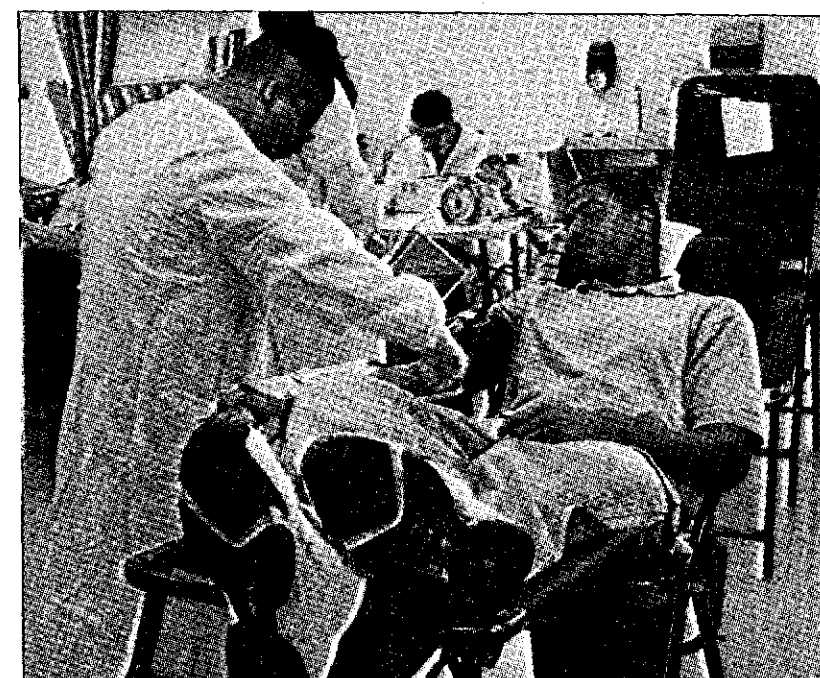
Macias was studying when he had the chance to say a few words about what he did to reach the students and gain their vote.

"I have a lot of supporters, (Barrita) and I have made a lot of friends, among students."

Macias has been partnered with Michael Barrita, current vice president, and has been involved with several students in Cerritos.

Macias' platform is not much different that of Barrita's and he plans to back Barrita up in every change.

"Helping Mike (Barrita) with the book exchange as well as advocating for the Hill, making sure that students' needs are actually heard in the Board of Trustees meetings."



It's blood time: Last Tuesday David Briggs, business major, gave blood.

The gift of life given by students

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The American Red Cross is at Cerritos College from Tuesday to Thursday between the Health Science Center and the Campus Police from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Rob Torrez, field manager and coordinator, said, "We strongly urge for people to come and donate blood."

The Red Cross receives about 100 pints of blood and on a good day, it receives about 300 pints.

The Red Cross is at Cerritos College at least four times during the school year and once during the summer.

The requirements for participants are that they have to be at least 110 pounds, in good health,

must be at least 17 years of age, have been living in the U.S. for three years and must present a photo I.D. or an American Red Cross card.

This means this blood drive is open to the public.

Riley Schnitz, a student who has become a regular donor, said "It's nice to give to everybody in a way."

Only 20 to 30 people actually come to the event and that is still not enough.

Armondo Garcia, student, says this is his human contribution and we may all be different on the outside but yet we might all have the same blood.

Torrez says this is will be the last blood drive for all clubs and organizations here at Cerritos to donate blood and to win a pizza party and an award for their generosity.

Quinn: Feminism in philosophy explored

Continued from page 1

A Vindication of the Rights of Woman (1792).

Duran, pragmatist, wrote to debunk dualism in gender.

"She believes absolutes are nothing but simplistic platitudes and that drawing lines where there weren't any over simplifies very complex theories," Quinn said.

Sullivan, professor of philosophy of Women's Studies, African and African American Studies at Penn State University, commented on the phenomenology of women and blamed the media of the construction of sexuality and envy.

Students such as Mary Love, anthropology major, asked questions such as "Do you think the evolution of feminist in western philosophy is somewhat ethnocentric in regard to other cultures attempts in egalitarian society maintenance?"

Tracy Garcia, co-president of FMLA and sociology major, was also present.

"I learned that there are feminist philosophers, which was somewhat surprising for me," she said.

"I don't really connect the two together though. That's the first time I ever heard anyone relate feminism and philosophy."

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'Smart people' not smart enough

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"Smart People" is a smart movie, but it's not smart enough.

So much effort was put into the snappy dialogue that no one noticed the story falls apart in the final 20 minutes.

The big brain of the film is Lawrence Wetherhold (Dennis Quaid).

He's one of those college professors who is so in love with his own voice he does not realize it has a sleep-inducing affect on students.

He's so disconnected with his classes, he cannot identify a single student by name.

A medical condition leaves Wetherhold in need of help from his adopted, and less cerebral, brother Chuck (Thomas Haden Church). This all proves to be an annoyance for Wetherhold's overachiever daughter Vanessa (Ellen Page).

Either she is in deep need of therapy for her obsession with pleasing her father or she's just a social jerk.

This new family dynamic unfolds like a French farce.

Misunderstandings, thwarted love and tons of too-hip-for-the-room patter move the plot to its

eventual demise.

That end begins to unfold when one of Wetherhold's former students, Janet Hartigan (Sarah Jessica Parker), finally reveals she once had a crush on the socially stupid teacher.

Here's a bonus: Hartigan's got a destructive personality. That throws one more log on the emotional fire.

Mark Poirier's script is a series of moments where the characters collide, talk in smug tones and then drift away into their own self-absorption.

The witty banter comes across as being far more important than any connections by the players.

And that disconnect drifts off the screen to engulf the viewer.

Quaid does his best in playing the socially inept professor. But there are occasions when he seems like he is channeling his role in "Great Balls of Fire."

Church does little with what has become a safe role for him: a character who is smarter than he looks.

Page is the most effective. Her role is the opposite of her street-smart lead in "Juno," but Page brings the same power to the screen.

It is amazing that an actress so young can command so much attention.



Legendary Icons: The group performed Tuesday in support of the Hill and against its destruction in the plans of the Fine Arts and Administration Buildings.

'Save the Hill' rally interrupted

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A "Save the Hill" rally was held at the Amphitheater by the ASCC and the Music Department featuring four music groups and a student who tried to disrupt it.

The rally was inspired by the Master Plan which is the school's renovation project. Under its current layout, it replaces the grassy area with building.

Many students consider the Hill to be a popu-

lar hang-out spot and don't want to see it demolished.

The groups that performed were Mary Love, Legendary Icons, Rio and R Crew.

The rally was going according to plan, until Gabriel Guzman, co-commissioner of public relations, had some words to say after R Crew finished its fourth song.

"He lied to two senators and said he had a poem," ASCC President-elect Michael Barrita said. "I didn't know he was going up."

"He went on a tangent and started rambling,"

Guzman asked questions like "What is col-

lege?" and "What is money?"

He gave some insight to the students in the audience with words like "You wanna do something you're not doing right now."

At the end of Guzman's performance, he said, "Destroy the Hill."

He went off stage and Barrita went up to give a closing statement to the show, saying, "Disregard that last part."

Barrita said, "(The bands were) trying to get (the message, 'Save the Hill') out through their music."

Backflips inspired by 'Forbidden Kingdom'

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"The Forbidden Kingdom" has wild martial arts, an errand-like adventure, clichés, random comedy, basic Buddhism, tragic drama, beautiful scenery, Jackie Chan and Jet Li all in one.

Once leaving the movie theater, I was hyped up. I wanted to jump off the walls and watch the movie again just to get that rush from the great fighting scenes.

The movie starts in the sky as a mystical monkey man with a golden staff looks about through the clouds on a mountaintop when soldiers try to kill him.

Michael Angarano ("Lords of Dogtown," TV's "Will & Grace") who plays Jason Triptaka, a martial arts nerd, wakes up to realize that was only a dream.

Angarano later finds the same golden staff from his dreams in the back room of an antique shop.

"Once leaving the movie theater, I was hyped up. I wanted to jump off the walls and watch the movie again just to get that rush from the great fighting scenes."

When Angarano is on his way to his home, five bullies force him into helping them rob the shop.

After Angarano leads the bullies inside the shop, the old man tried to fight them off with the staff, only to be shot.

Angarano picks the staff and runs off avoiding the bullies.

Once cornered on the roof of a building, the staff begins to move on its own, dragging Angarano off the building towards the floor and it went black.

The threshold of Angarano's journey begins when he awakes 500 years in the past, resting in a small town in Ancient China.

A Jade warrior sees the golden staff in Angarano's hands and orders

them to get the staff.

As Angarano tries to escape from three Jade warriors, an intoxicated Lu Yan (Chan) lying on a donkey, startles all of them.

Chan is awestruck by the staff and as soon as they attack him, he begins to fight them.

The story goes on to explain that in that time Collin Chou's character, the Jade warrior, controls all China after the mystical monkey man, Monkey King/Sun-Wukong.

The Monkey King gets turned into a statue after being fooled by the warlord in a battle but before he was completely stoned, he sent his golden staff as far as possible.

Chan then tells Angarano the cliché, he is the chosen one that

must fulfill his destiny and return the Monkey King his staff.

Much action later, Angarano and Chan meet Liu Yi Fei, Golden Sparrow an orphaned warrior and Jet Li, the silent monk.

The highlight of the movie is the fight scene between Chan and Li.

Li seemed as if he was light as a hair fighting Chan through the Buddhist temple over the golden staff of the Monkey King.

Most of the people that know both of these actors may expect a large sequence of fights between them, but do not be fooled. They do not "kill each other when this is over," as Chan says in the movie.

Although "The Forbidden Kingdom" is rated PG-13, this movie kicks butt in a mixture of kung-fu moves, supernatural beings, magical powers and drinking.

This movie made me really excited and pumped up. I really wanted to do backflips.



Choir: The Cerritos College Community Choir sang songs like "The Willow Song."

Choir is wonderful in Spring Sing showcase

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The Cerritos College Community Choir "shouted glory" at the second annual Spring Sing Concert presented by the Music Department, last Tuesday in the Student Center.

The concert was a wonderful showcase of the many talents of Cerritos performing arts students.

The concert was directed by Anna DeMichele, who in addition to teaching here on campus, is also a performer. I also had the pleasure of observing DeMichele as a performer in this year's Faculty Gala.

"The Spring Sing is a concert that I started last year because we have so many students that are talented soloists," the proud director explained.

And shine, these students did. The students performed together as a choir, as solo acts, duets and even a trio act.

Stand-out performer Mary Ann Zacarias delighted the crowd with several performances including an opera solo, a duet, and the only trio performance of the evening.

The well-polished music major aspires to be an opera singer.

"I like 'The Willow Song' (from The Ballad of Baby Doe), where I'm telling a story and sharing a part of myself with the audience," the well on her way talent contended.

In the mix of gospel, opera and theatrical performances many students from varieties of genres within the music department shined as well.

Student Tiffany Christian performed her own originally composed song, entitled "Castle." The artist conceived the idea of the song while playing a role-playing game on the internet.

The premise of the piece is the idea that even when fantasizing, an element of reality is taken into the fantasy world and vice-versa.

Christian was joined by Josue Orozco playing the guitar. Also accompanying the choir were Derek Gordon and pianist Anne Shin.

"It's been really enjoyable. All the singers were great. Baby Doe was my favorite performance," Voice 1 student and business major Quante Garner remarked.

The last chance to catch this talented bunch this semester will be at The Choral Exchange Concert on May 13 in the Burnight Center Theatre at 7 p.m.



teaching tip #9

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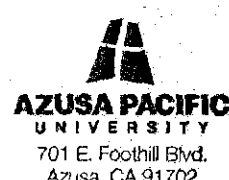
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•EDITORIAL•

New administration brings new hope

First and foremost, congratulations to the new ASCC President elect Michael Barrita and Vice President elect Shola Shodiya.

Now that they have been elected, it is up to the student body to make sure that the administration does the things that it said it would do.

It is also up to the administration to take the time to listen and not be afraid of outside suggestions.

The plans on their platform are:

- A book exchange program which is planned to be implemented during the summer session.
- Increasing the amount of scholarships for students.
- Fighting to stop the Master Plan's relocation of the Amphitheater, a.k.a. "The Hill"

This platform is a good one;

it's much more feasible and less overly idealistic than that of the previous administration.

For the sake of the student body, one hopes that the duo has learned and will continue to learn from the previous administration's mistakes.

The duo should take on each plan one at a time instead of making huge promises and trying to do them all at once.

Hopefully, the incoming administration has looked to see if there are any possible obstacles, or "powers that be" that may possibly stop the programs from progressing.

Also, past administrations have made plans to do a campus recycling program, but they have always fallen through one way or another.

Maybe this administration can be the one that gets it implemented.

When it comes down to it,

this could be the most important thing that can be accomplished because it can help with the problems we face a society.

The administration should also continue its plan to keep working on the book exchange program to make sure that it evolves to its full potential.

Though it might take the most work to get done and its success is still up-in-the-air, in the end it will be a great thing for the student body of Cerritos College.

Barrita and Shodiya's ultimate responsibility is to all of the students, even the ones outside of the ASCC and those who didn't vote for them.

If they keep these things in mind when trying to implement new policies, they will do just fine.

The student body will be waiting to see how this administration turns out.



New leaders: Michael Barrita (l) and Shola Shodiya (r) are the new ASCC president and vice president

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR are welcome. They may be submitted both on line 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.

Gas prices are getting too high

Gas prices are increasing with no sign of relief. Not everyone can afford the sky-rocketing prices.

Do you ever wonder why so many people take the bus to work or why so many bicyclists crowd the streets of L.A.?

Yeah, they might not have a job to afford a car, or maybe the car broke down, etc.

Yet I think the answer is simple: Gas! Gas prices today are beyond ridiculous. Filling up my V4 engine costs me \$45 a week.

No, I am not exaggerating when I say every week too. Many students like myself can't afford gas today with minimum wage paying jobs.

I know the economy is bad, but come on! How far do they think people will keep paying for expensive gas?

The day it hits \$5, I swear you will see me walking down Alondra Boulevard, because I refuse to give my whole paycheck to those money-sucking machines.

Gas used to be cheaper than a dollar per gallon.

Those were the good days, or so I've heard.

Gas has reached \$4 per gallon in some parts of California.

Some people don't mind paying for gas, because it is their lives.

As stupid as that sounds, they need their



car, 18 percent goes to taxes.

- Higher demands of oil from countries. They demand a higher price.
- The gas, ethanol will be required 10 percent in all gasoline. This will cost the oil companies money.

I know for some people they really don't care about the situation, all they know is that they want cheaper gas.

Sadly to say, I am one of them.

I want my paycheck to go to other uses than filling up my beat-up piece of junk.



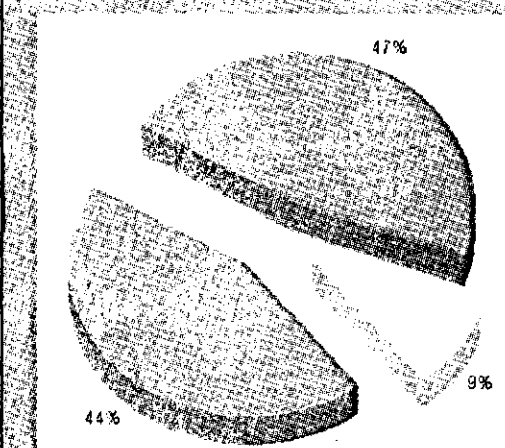
The day it hits \$5, I swear you will see me walking down Alondra Boulevard, because I refuse to give my whole paycheck to those money-sucking machines.

Let your voice be heard
leave us a comment
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STATISTIC OF THE WEEK

What's your reaction
to the recent ASCC
elections?

| | |
|--------------|-----|
| Excited | 47% |
| Disappointed | 44% |
| Apathetic | 9% |



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 ISSUES WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE THE NEW ASCC PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT ADDRESS?

COMPILED BY: ESMERALDA INFANTE
PHOTOS BY: SCOTT WATKINS



MARIJOE ARRAIZA
graphic design major
"I want him to start checking the people at the Hill, because they are smoking weed! They need to start busting them."



JULIO HURTADO
undecided major
"It's my first year here, but the water sucks. They need to work on putting better water fountains, most of them don't work."



TIMOTHY VANMEETEREN
architectural design major
"I would like to see more student involvement in campus projects. Other campuses have student involvement with the buildings they have."



MARI GARNER
esthetician major
"I want better food around here. More salads like macaroni, cabbage, a different variety. Taco Bell is good, but too fattening."

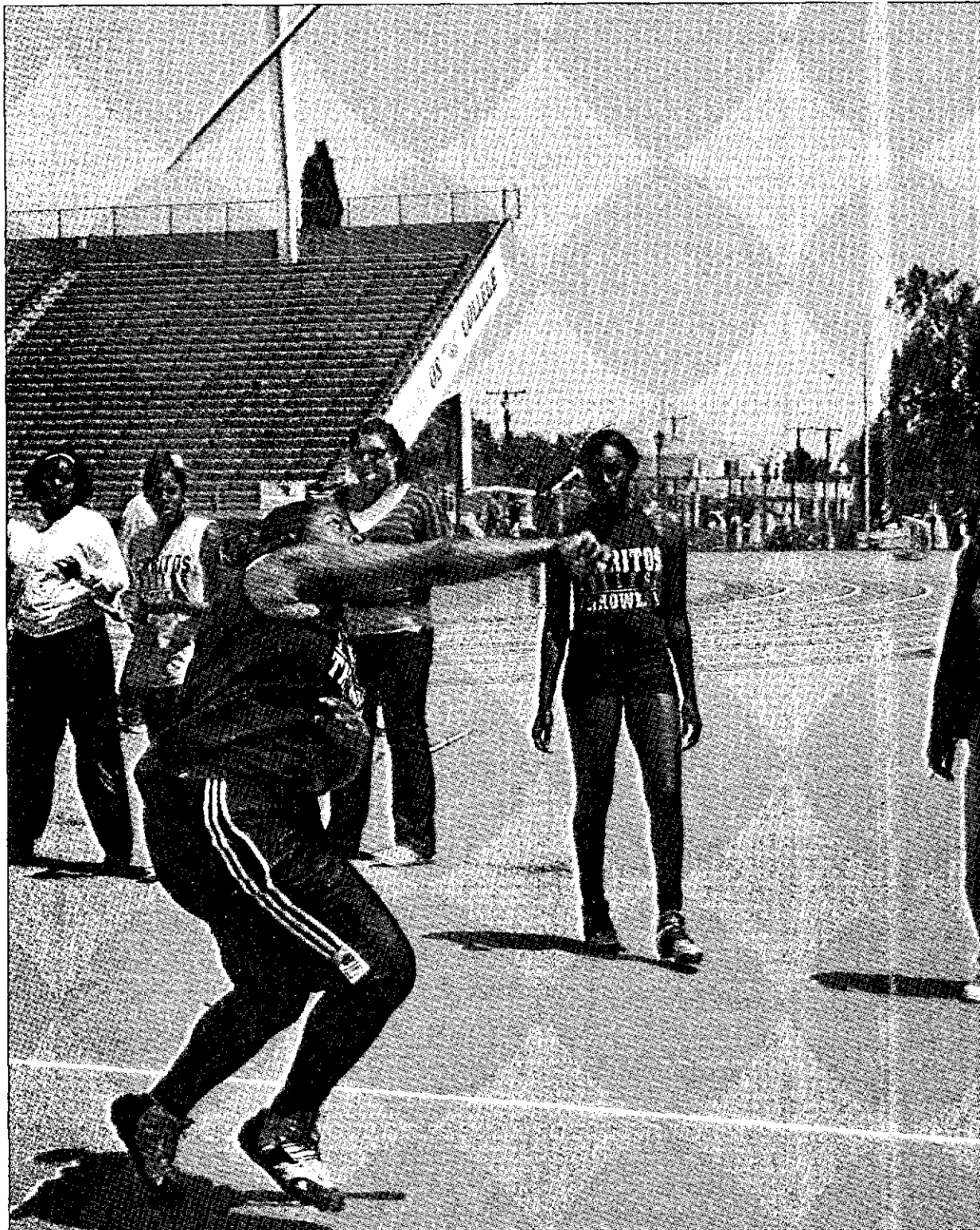


JACOB YANEZ
teaching major
"Better classrooms would be nice. I took a TV, music and radio class in the Auto Department and the room had really bad lighting. We were all cramped. Having better classrooms would make the learning environment better for students."



NICHOLAS CONTREVES
undecided major
"I would like to see more healthy food choices. Anything that will be beneficial to the school."

Track athletes to compete in SCC



Track and field: NaShawnda Grant has recovered from an ACL tear from last season and is competing in the SCC Finals Friday.

SCOTT WATKINS
Editor-in-Chief
editor@talonmarks.com

The Cerritos College men's and women's track and field teams are preparing to compete in the South Coast Conference Tournament finals at Falcon Stadium on Friday.

The Prelims were held on Tuesday.

Steeple chase runner Daniel Clifford Sorenson is one the athletes expected to do well at the tournament.

He is currently ranked No. 1 in the state in his event and has run a personal best of 9:15 this season.

"My goal is to run 8:45 during the meet," Sorenson said.

That is the time that is needed to qualify for the Olympic Trial that will be held in June.

He said that he never gets nervous before a meet and does not feel any pressure before the race begins.

His coach also believes he will do well in the meet.

"(Sorenson) is one of the top steeple chaser runners in the country," men's track and field coach John Goldman said.

Sorenson started his steeple chase career running in the Junior Olympics.

Another competitor that has high expectations is thrower Maria Rodriguez.

She is ranked No. 2 in state in the hammer throw.

She does nothing special to get ready for her events.

"Last year I was really superstitious, I would wear the same socks and underwear in every meet," Rodriguez said. "But this year I don't do any of that."

There is another athlete that is looking to make his mark during the meet.

Jonathan Dillard is entering his final season at Cerritos College and the 800-meter runner is ready to compete against the South Coast Conference's best.

"Before the race, I am extremely nervous but once that gun goes off, all the nerves go away," Dillard said.

He trains by running the pace that he wants to keep in the race so that when it is time he knows exactly how it feels to run at that pace.

NaShawnda Grant is another member of the team that is ready for the conference.

The thrower was forced to red-shirt last season because of an ACL tear.

"Being away from the sport last season is big motivation to prove myself this year," Grant said.

Another big motivation has to do with where the meet is being held this season.

"Being at home is big," she said.

"We have to protect our home field."

She wants to place all of her events that include javelin, shot put and hammer throw.

The coaches have had to slightly alter their training regimen.

"The main workouts we do are with muscle memory," Goldman said. "That means that we run at shorter distance at the same pace that the runners will keep during their races."

He expects many members of the team to do very well in the South Coast Conference Tournament.

Tennis prepares for team playoffs

COURTESY OF THE
SPORTS INFORMATION OFFICE

The Cerritos College women's tennis team spent the morning traveling to San Luis Obispo to face Cuesta College in the first round of the Southern California Regional Team Playoffs.

The Falcons, champions of the South Coast Conference, were seeded No. 7, while the Western State Conference champion Cougars (16-0) were seeded No. 2 and undefeated on the season.

Before the team could compete in doubles play, Cuesta had won five of the six singles matches to clinch the victory, which eliminated the Falcons (15-5) from team tournament play.

Next up for the team will be the Ojai Tournament, which takes place Thursday through Sunday.

The lone winner for Cerritos was Annika You, the team's top singles player.

You, ranked No. 8 in Southern California, posted a 6-4, 6-1 win over No. 3-ranked Chloe Redman.

That would be the only winner for the Falcons, who were swept in the other five singles matches. The teams did play three exhibition doubles matches, with Cerritos winning two of the three.

Softball goes for first title in 30 years

COURTESY OF THE
SPORTS INFORMATION OFFICE

After locking in its second South Coast Conference championship in the last five years, the Cerritos College softball team was looking to secure its first title all by itself since 1978.

Over the course of their existence, the Falcons have now won seven conference championships, with the last four being shared with another team.

After their 3-0 loss at Nancy Kelly Field on Tuesday against Mt. San Antonio College, the Falcons (35-5 overall) finished the regular season with a 12-3 conference record with the Mounties (31-16).

That once again proved how difficult it is for a good team to beat another good team three times in a row.

Next up for Cerritos will be the Southern California Regional Playoffs, which start on May 3-4 with an opponent to be determined this weekend.

The Mounties took advantage of a couple of defensive mishaps to score their first run in the top of the second inning, while a mammoth two-run home run by Francesca Gonzales in the third inning off sophomore pitcher Jessica Navarro, finished off the scoring.

With one out in the second inning, Mt. San Antonio's Heather Ortiz, infielder, hit a high pop-up to second baseman Vanezza Martin Del Campo, who backed up to catch

the ball.

But, in the last second, she lost the ball in the sun and it fell for a base hit.

After an out and another single, Kandi Baldwin, outfielder, sent a high fly ball into the middle of the infield, with three Falcon players hovering around the ball.

But nobody called for the ball and it landed for a single, which scored Ortiz with the first run.

Alternating its pitchers each inning, Mt. SAC used both Mandy Pongs and Shelair Rowell to limit the Falcons to just three hits on the day, while they combined to strike out four.

Cerritos advanced a runner to second base in the fifth inning, as first baseman Stephanie Lomeli sin-

COMING UP IN SPORTS

MEN'S

Baseball:

4/24 @ 2:30 p.m. vs. Compton

4/26 @ 12 p.m. vs. El Camino

4/29 @ 2:30 p.m. at El Camino

Tennis:

4/24-27 - All Day - Ojai Tournament at Long Beach City

Track & Field:

4/25 @ 12 p.m. - SCC Championships

Swimming:

4/24-26 - All Day - SCC Championships at Pasadena City

WOMEN'S

Softball:

Nothing until May

Tennis:

4/24-27 - All Day - Ojai Tournament at Long Beach City

Track & Field:

4/25 @ 12 p.m. - SCC Championships

Swimming:

4/24-26 - All Day - SCC Championships at Pasadena City

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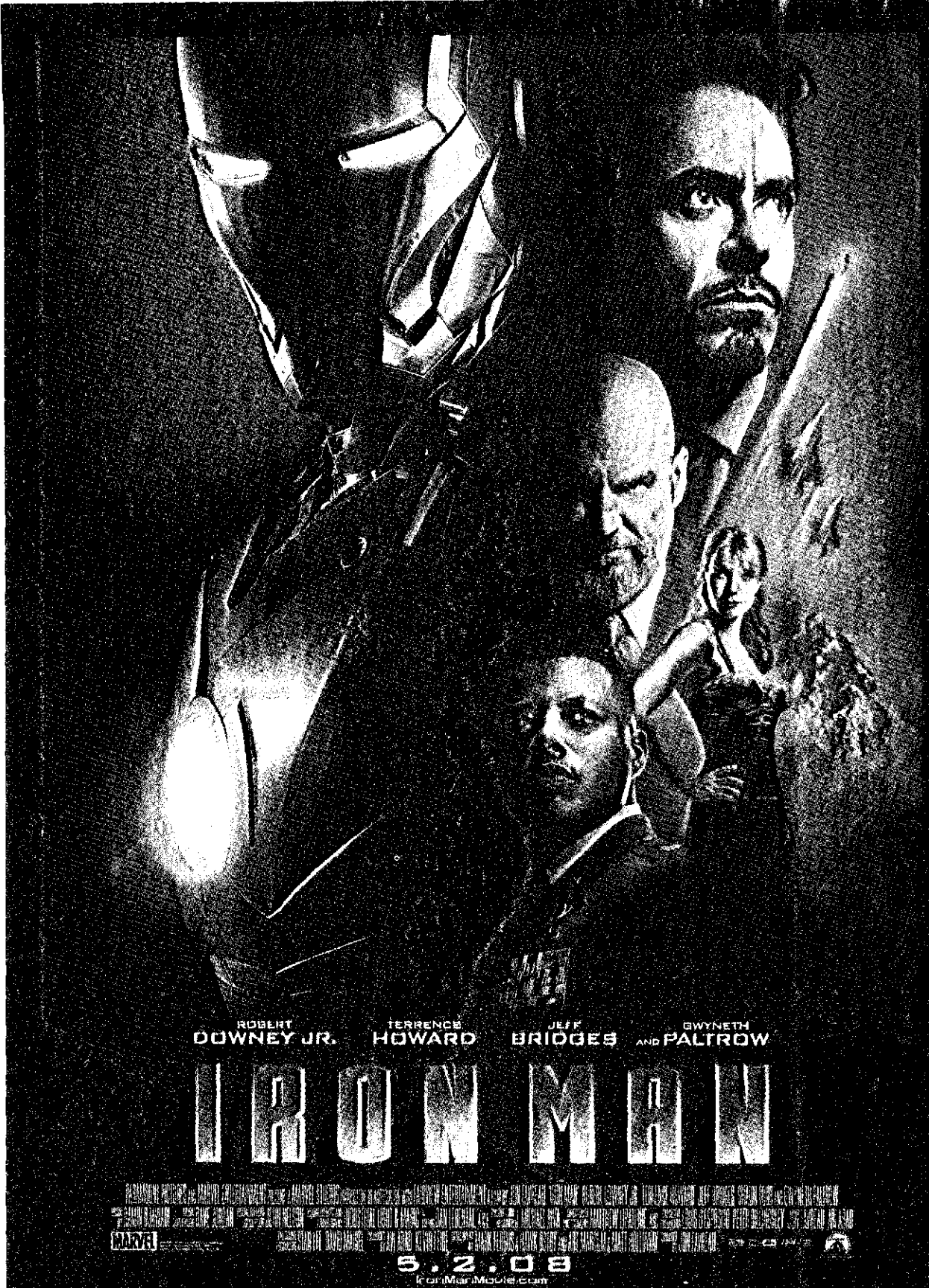
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