

TALON MARKS

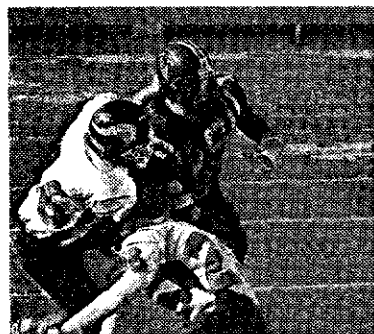
CERRITOS COLLEGE

WEDNESDAY September 26, 2007

WWW.TALONMARKS.COM

Volume 52, No. 5

First issue free, additional copies \$1



Falcons reclaim Crosstown Cup

See Sports page 3

ONLINE EXCLUSIVES

- Podcast: Dennis Falcon laments about students' first amendment rights
- Coming soon: Video of Jazz Ensemble

See talonmarks.com

Theater dept. begins new play

See Arts page 5



Woman escapes potential kidnap

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An attempted kidnapping took place at 6:35 p.m. in parking lot C-11, last Wednesday.

A young woman was standing outside in parking lot C-11 when she was approached by a man in a dark van who attempted to force her into his vehicle.

The perpetrator was described as a dark six foot male, muscular build, that appeared to be in his late thirties early forties, brown hair, balding at the top of his head.

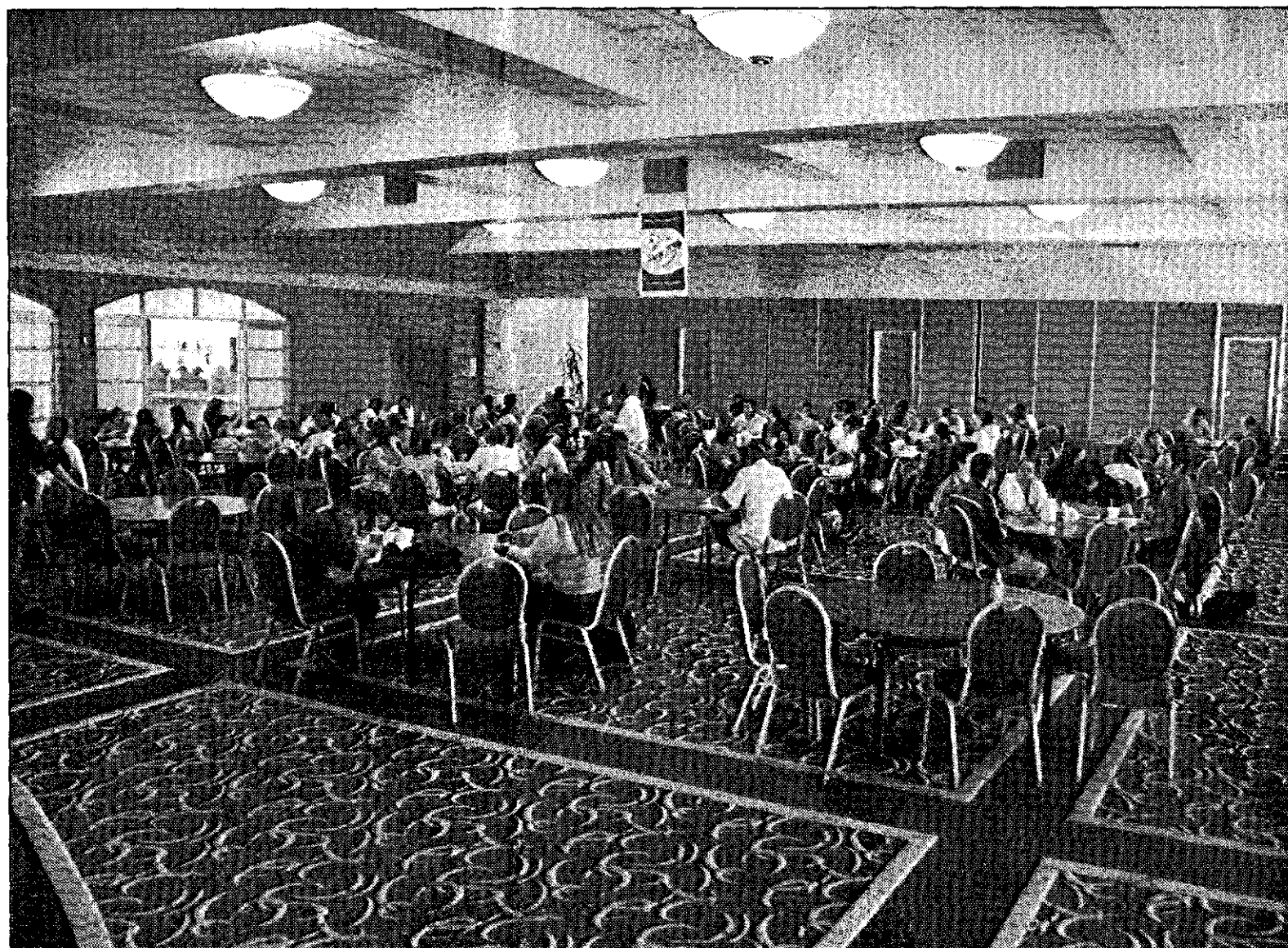
He was driving a black commercial van and pulled up next to the victim, and had asked her if she needed a ride four or five times.

The victim refused and on the fifth or sixth time the suspect got out of his van grabbed the victim and tried to force her in his vehicle.

The victim was able to break free of his grasp and fled to the community education center where she contacted the local police department and submitted a police report on the event that took place.

Luckily the victim was not harmed physically, and was able to

See Kidnapping page 2



MICHAEL AGUDO/TM

Refurnishing: Students enjoy their last hours in the Student Center before the carpet is refurbished. The center will be closed from Sept. 26 to Oct. 1.

Student center to get new look

BRITTANY COOPER
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The Student Center will be closed for the installation of new carpet, from Sept. 26 to Oct. 1.

Robert Riffle, director of physical plant, understands that this will be a draw back for some students.

"It will be an inconvenience," he said, "as are all construction and modernization projects."

Riffle stresses that this is all to benefit the students and that, because the Student Center is student funded, he is putting their money to good use.

This was a collaborative effort between Riffle, former ASCC president Joe Cobarrubio, Holly Bogdanovich, director of Student

Activities, Stephen B. Johnson, vice president of student services and Jo Ann Higdon, vice president of business services.

Other key players include TBP Architecture and Bovis Land Lease.

A prior concern, according to Riffle, was the Culinary Arts Cafe. "We didn't want to close them down and take away their revenue," he said.

The café saw the benefit in installing new carpet and agreed to shut it down for one day.

Michael Pierini, culinary arts instructor, is taking it as it is.

He says that because this a student run business, closing it down, even for one day, is going to hurt.

"But, there's no use complaining. What can you do?" he said.

To some students, this will be a major annoyance and to others, it will just mean finding a new spot to hang out and study for a week.

Rodolfo Contreras, computer graphics major, feels that this isn't such a big deal.

"My class doesn't start until 3 p.m. I'll just go to the library to study, instead."

Other students weren't as open to the idea of finding another location to spend their spare time at.

Janay Campry, undecided major,

believes that installing new carpet is a waste of time.

"I think that they should keep the carpet," she said. "It's fine."

Campry believes that it is too cold in the mornings and too hot in the afternoon to be waiting around outside for her class to start.



"It will be an inconvenience to students, as are all construction and modernization projects."
- Robert Riffle, director of physical plant

ASCC appoints new members

TIM DICKERSON
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The ASCC senate ratified many new members during its meeting, last Wednesday.

Five new students were appointed to the ASCC Court, which are:

- Ariadna Sanchez, culinary arts major
- Jorge Ramirez, network engineer major
- Alyssa Huerta, psychology major
- Rebecca Cuatrecasas, political science and history major
- Sukhpreet Kaur, biochemistry major

New commissioners were also appointed to the Senate, which are:

- Ana Castro, English major, as Commissioner of Night Activities
- Jonathan Alvarez, English major, also as Commissioner of Budget and Finance
- Jiang Jiang, business major, as Assistant Commissioner of Budget and Finance
- Rosa Vega, business major, as Commissioner of Convocations and Fine Arts
- Evelyn Young, social psychology major, as Commissioner of Daytime Activities
- Jose Alvarez, business major, as Commissioner of Disabled Students
- Raymond Abudeye, English major, as Commissioner of External Affairs
- Nadia Flores, sociology major, as Commissioner of Inter-Club Council
- Joseph Trajano, health science and physician major, as Commissioner of Public Relations

See ASCC page 2

Football fans feast before game against Long Beach

JEAN-PIERRE GIAGNOLI
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The Cerritos College Student Center was set up and decorated supporting the football team last Saturday night for the annual pre-game dinner.

Attendees to this free dinner were provided with hot dogs/chilli dogs, nachos, baked potatoes, soda and ice cream from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

The DJ provided some of today's most popular hip-hop and R&B while people ate their food.

The event also recognized members of the Board of Trustees who attended and then the cheer squad performed two numbers from their routine.

Once the cheer squad finished the pep band set up and played songs that they do during the game and even got attendees to interact with certain songs.

The women's basketball team volunteered its time to serve food that night and enjoyed the atmosphere as much as the guests did, even dancing on stage toward the end of the dinner.

Pamela Ho, daughter of Leslie Nishimura, special program assistant for Community Industry and Technology Education program, said, "It is good,

we come every year." She and her family stay for the game as well.

The event was filled with family and friends of the team, cheer squad, pep band, faculty and staff.

Everyone was allowed to have as much of anything as they wanted, firsts, seconds and thirds.

The hot dogs, nachos, baked potatoes and ice cream had plenty of toppings to choose from adding a little spice to the classics.

Lynn Smith, music major, said, "I think it's great and the pep band is great. It's good the school supports it." She was there to support her friends in the pep band.

There were signs all over the Student Center supporting the team from "Go team go" to "Beat the Beach." The tables were also decorated with pom-poms and plastic bullhorns from the college.

Marilynn Ortiz and Jennifer Ortiz were also there to support the pep band. Their brother Hector Ortiz plays the cello in the band.

Marilynn, medical assistant major, said, "I thought it was cool and nice they did it for the band."

Jennifer, a Bellflower High school senior, said, "I thought it was very entertaining and the food was good, I got seconds of everything."

Board awards employee

SHOWNADE GARNER
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Esther Cho was presented with the Employee of the Month award for the month of August during the Board of Trustees meeting, last Wednesday.

Cho was commended for her loyalty, reliability, and excellent service provided in assisting students, staff and faculty.

This award is usually awarded every other regular board meeting, which is held twice a month.

Bill Farmer, vice president of Academic Affairs, did the Accountability Reporting for Community Colleges Presentation.

This report gives rates of

See Board page 2

ICE CREAM IN THE SHADE



MICHAEL AGUDO/TM

Cooling off: Marijoe Awaia, graphic design major (left), and Michelle Rincon, animation and illustration major (right), enjoy their ice cream provided by the Sociology Club, sponsoring the Walk for AIDS Foundation.

Students informed about scholarships

ARTURO FLORIAN
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Students were able to get tips on filling out scholarships during a scholarship workshop hosted by Esther Choi, re-entry resource specialist, in SS 116, Monday.

The workshop concentrated on the availability of scholarships here on campus and off.

It provided resources such as helpful tips on how to apply for these scholarships and disposed the availability of help here on campus.

Choi had a presentation prepared with a six minute video introduction to give the students there an idea of what the re-entry program had to offer in a nutshell.

After the video was over, she

covered:

- Scholarship search strategies
- Application guidelines
- Personal statement, and recommendation tips
- And also resume tips

Beside the possibility of being granted a scholarship through links, the workshop focused a lot on students on re-entry here at the college.

It provides specified programs and scholarships for students trying to return to college after taking a break from school, whether it's one semester or 10 years.

According to Choi, the mean age for community college students is 30 years old, with 37.1 percent of Cerritos College community being 25 years or older.

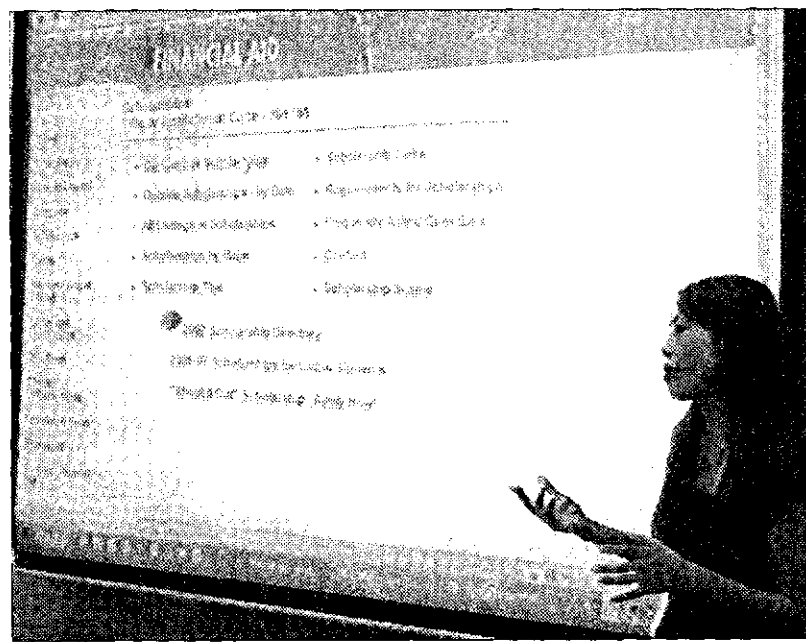
Another thing this workshop

did was expose scholarships which are so specific. Only a few people can apply to them, making it more likely for them to get rewarded with one.

An example of a specified scholarship is the Jean O. Michael Scholarship which offers \$500 to students who are re-entering women that are attending full-time and are declared business majors.

One of the stressed points was, "do in ahead of time," such as letter of recommendation, resumes, interviews, etc.

As fellow student Angelica Ornelas, mathematics major, would agree, the workshop has helped prepare and make students aware of what to expect when applying and how to become better prepared when these applications are due.



Scholarships: Esther Choi, re-entry program specialist, informs students of the cerritos.edu/re-entry website to learn more of the program.

ASCC: New members

continued from page 1

- Cynthia Duran, business management major, as Commissioner of Financial Aide
- Melvi De La Cruz, psychology, sociology, and nursing major, as Commissioner of Student Outreach
- Yuri Martinez, sociology major, as Commissioner of Student Services

Martinez says she is right for the position because she, "sees what students need."

Luis Aguilar, new ASCC member, was appointed as Senate Clerk.

Young wasn't pleased to announce that Water Day was cancelled because of the drought and the need to conserve water.

"I forgot about that," Young said.

She continued by coming up with another activity, a volleyball game in Falcon Square with a huge volleyball.

Duran expressed, "I want to get more students aware of financial (matters)."

She wants them to know about scholarships among other things.

A scholarship workshop took place on Monday.

Holly Bogdanovich, director of Student Activities, announced the pre-game reception for the football team that was held on Sept. 22.

"It's a great opportunity to hang out and have a good time," Bogdanovich said. "You can't beat free food."

For more information, log onto the ASCC website at www.cerritos.edu.



Early bird: Takami Kawahara, business major, receives a donut and drink last Wednesday at the Falcon Square.

Early birds get donuts

JEAN-PIERRE GLAGNOLI
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Students that attend early morning classes may notice that sometimes there is a Cerritos College canopy in Falcon Square.

This is not the health center, someone recruiting for clubs or a company selling things on campus. This is the college giving back to the students.

There were 10 boxes full of donuts, one gallon of milk and orange juice on Sept. 19. There was plenty for the hungry and thirsty students that morning.

They usually have donuts, milk, and orange juice ready for students to pick up on their way to classes.

Many of the new students aren't aware that they can get free food at certain times during the semester.

The returning students seem to know exactly where to go when they see the table with boxes and cups.

Dean Ackland, coordinator of Student Activities, was letting students know that he was not there to sell them something and there was no catch for a free donut and drink.

He also said many students are tired in the morning and it gives them a boost of energy to have a donut and milk or orange juice.

There were a variety of donuts from sprinkles to bear claws. Students who got donuts and a drink seemed really happy with them.

Many other students passing by didn't know what it was and when

they found out, they said they had already eaten.

Andrea Dorado, undecided major, said, "It is cool, I was really hungry."

Dorado also said that she wouldn't mind seeing this more often and she will always take free food.

"It's cool, free donuts and drinks," Victor Caceras, biology major, said.

Julio Mendoza, teaching major, said, "I like that there's no catch." There were also many students that just came to school early that day and by chance, passed the canopy.

Many students asked before they took the donuts and drinks and thanked Ackland for the services.

Kidnapping: Attempted abduction foiled by student

continued from page 1

escape her attacker.

The suspect got away, but there is a description of the suspect on the safety alert sheets posted all around campus.

Richard Bukowiecki, campus chief of police, stated, "I will look further into this case and try to figure out ways to prevent situations like this from occurring. I want this campus to be a safe environment for students to attend."

Some students who found out about the attack was surprised and some even question their own safety on campus.

Melissa Ferrer, nursing major, was shocked that this happened.

She says that she usually walks alone to her car and feels safe, but, after hearing about the assault, she is going to take extra precaution in acknowledging her

surroundings.

Latavia Smith, business major, said that she never would have expected that to happen here.

She said now, when she is here or anywhere else, she is going to make sure to never be alone or to ever be in a deserted area. She still feels that Cerritos is a safe campus, but she says we do need security guards to do walking patrols during hours of operation.

"These types of things happen all the time and it's terrible," Karam Chung, liberal arts major, said.

"But it is up to people to protect themselves as much as possible and not make yourself vulnerable to situations like this."

She also states that there is a need for more security here on campus to ensure that Cerritos is a safe place to attend.

For More information contact the Cerritos College Police Dept. at extension 2327.

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Football team beats Long Beach

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"It feels really good to get the win against Long Beach and get that cup back," Benjamin Smith, linebacker said.

The Falcons came out firing on all cylinders to win the Crosstown Cup against rival Long Beach City College, 22-12, behind a stout defense Saturday night.

"This was a big win for the program and recruiting because we recruit a lot of the same players as those guys," James Wicks, defensive backs coach, said.

The Falcons scored off their first drive of the game when A.J. Toscano, quarterback threw a 31-yard touchdown pass to wide receiver Sheldon Smith, but the extra point was partially blocked.

On their first defensive series, the Falcons looked tough, highlighted by defensive tackle Johnny Tivao's tackle of a Long Beach City running back for a big loss.

Wide receiver Ryan Pettys made a one-handed behind-the-back catch on third down to keep the drive alive for the Falcons.

The Falcons scored on that drive when kicker Jesus Ochoa kicked a 39-yard field goal to put them up, 9-0.

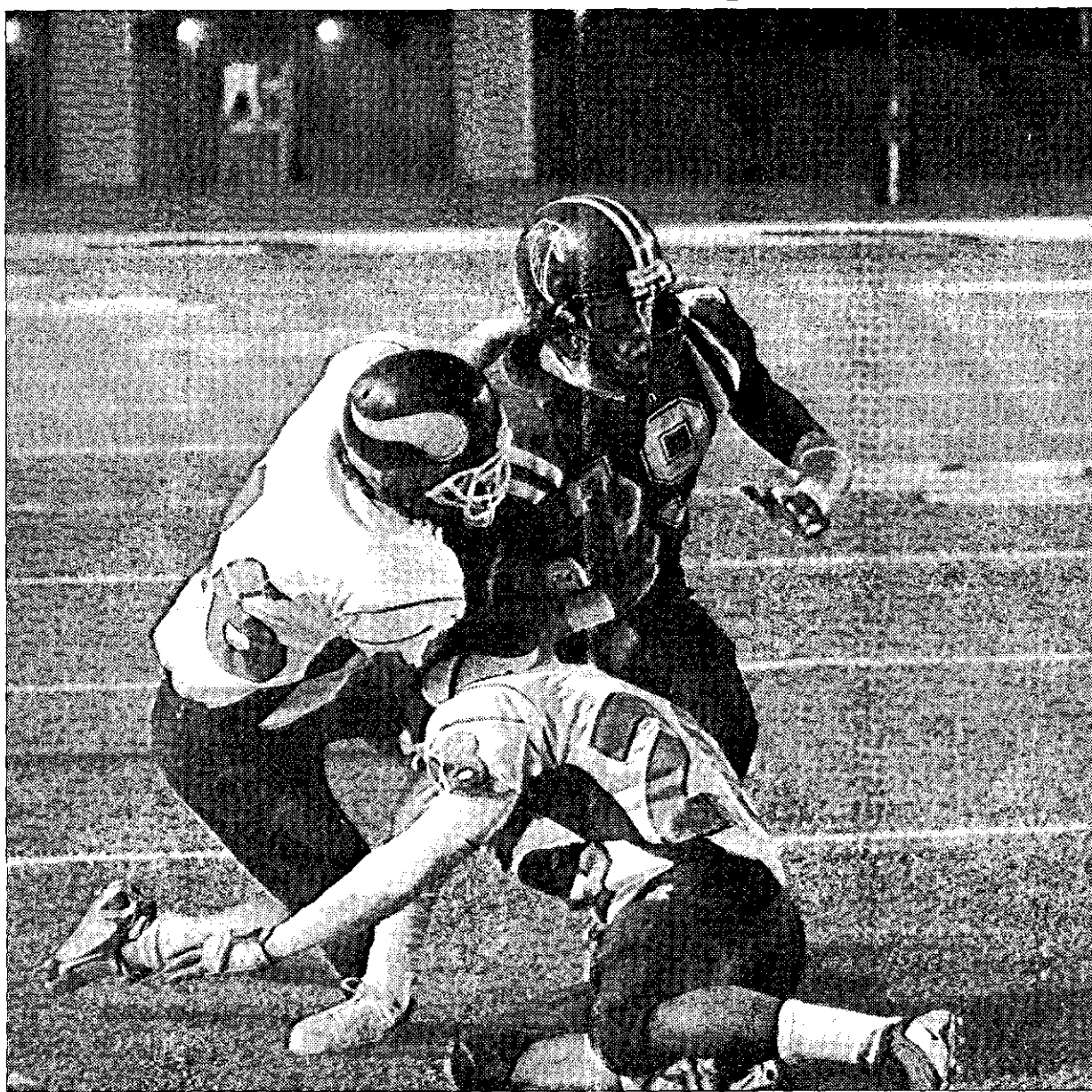
The second quarter began with the Falcons unable to convert on fourth down, but again the defense was able to hold down the Long Beach attack forcing three and out.

Long Beach was able to drive down the field on its next drive but the defense stepped in the red zone.

Safety Thomas Mahoney stepped in front of a pass by Long Beach quarterback Andrew Defelice that was headed toward the corner of the end zone.

But after the play, Mahoney spiked the ball and was given a penalty for unsportsmanlike conduct.

Pettys made another big play when he caught a short pass and



The show down: Wide receiver Ryan Pettys (19) fights for yards during the Falcons win over LBCC.

ASHAKA MATHEWS/TM

turned up field for 41-yards to set up a 33-yard field attempt that was wide left.

Later in the second quarter, running back Junior Tivao rumbled his way for a 4-yard touchdown run.

The Falcons went into halftime up, 15-0 and had 273-yards total offense while only giving up only 97.

The Falcons brought in back-up quarterback Jeff Fisher for the couple of series of the second half because according to head coach Frank Mazzotta to give him a few reps in a game situation.

Cornerback B.G. Walters caused a Long Beach fumble as it was driving down the field.

"We are really athletic on defense and we get caught out of position at times but having really good athletes saves us," Mazzotta said.

Tivao was helped out by a block from his brother defensive tackle Johnny Tivao and ran into the end zone to put the Falcons up, 21-0, and with a good extra point try they led by 22.

Long Beach made some noise with around 12-minutes left in the

game when Defelice found wide receiver Johnny McNeil for the 40-yard touchdown pass.

Long Beach went for the two-point conversion and looked as it would get it when Askew came across the field to make the tackle right at the goal line.

Long Beach scored again with 17 seconds left to make the score look closer than the game ever was.

"All these guys played either together or against each other in high school and they came out fired up tonight," Wicks said.

Mission conference standings

American Conference

| Team | Division Record | Overall Record |
|--------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Palomar | 0-0 | 4-0 |
| Fullerton | 0-0 | 3-1 |
| El Camino | 0-0 | 3-1 |
| Orange Coast | 0-0 | 2-2 |
| Golden West | 0-0 | 2-2 |
| Long Beach | 0-0 | 1-3 |

National Conference

| Team | Division Record | Overall Record |
|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Saddleback | 0-0 | 4-0 |
| Pasadena | 0-0 | 4-0 |
| Cerritos | 0-0 | 3-1 |
| Mt. SAC | 0-0 | 2-2 |
| Riverside | 0-0 | 2-2 |
| Santa Ana | 0-0 | 1-3 |

Source www.missionfootballconference.com

Last Week's Scores

Cerritos 22 Long Beach 2 Palomar 34 Riverside 17
El Camino 31 MT. SAC 26 Saddleback 24 Fullerton 17
Pasadena 34 Golden West 0 Santa Ana 21 Orange Coast 17

This Week's Schedule

7 p.m. Fullerton at Cerritos 1 p.m. Orange Coast at Mt. SAC
1 p.m. Pasadena at Palomar 5 p.m. Riverside at Long Beach
5 p.m. Santa Ana Golden West 6 p.m. Saddleback at El Camino
Source www.missionfootballconference.com

Individual Leaders

| Rushing | Passing | Tackles |
|---------------------|--------------|------------------|
| Lorenzo Goode | A.J. Toscano | Kupona Kawwa |
| 406 yards | 612 yards | 39 total tackles |
| per carry 5.3 yards | QB rating | 12 solo |
| 1 touchdown | 144.61 | 27 ast. |

Source www.cerritos.edu

Southern California football poll

1. Bakersfield
2. Saddleback
3. Palomar
4. El Camino
5. Pasadena
6. Fullerton
7. Citrus
8. Canyons
9. Moorpark
10. Desert
11. Mt. SAC
12. Glendale
13. Cerritos
14. Allan Hancock
15. Antelope Valley

Source: www.coasports.org



ASHAKA MATHEWS/TM
Midfielder Brian Alvarez

Men's Division III Soccer Rankings

1. Union County
2. SUNY-Cobleskill
3. Mt. SAC
4. Fresno City
5. Richland
6. Cerritos
7. Nassau
8. Chabot
9. Ulster County
10. Suffolk County
11. L.A. Harbor
12. Santiago Canyon
13. Madison Area
14. Herkimer Co.
15. Taft

Source: www.nscac.com

A tired women's squad beats San Bernardino, 4-1

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After a tough weekend in Florida, against Division I opponents, the Cerritos College women's soccer team defeated San Bernardino Valley College, 4-1, Wednesday afternoon.

"We did not play very well in the first half but toward the end of that half and into the second, we began to play our game," head coach Ruben Gonzalez said.

The Falcons scored within the first five minutes of the game when Monique Cisneros' shot went just

out of range of the diving San Bernardino goalkeeper.

Then off a penalty kick, San Bernardino answered to tie the game.

Toward the end of the first half, Gonzalez was given a yellow card for arguing calls.

"The referees were not very good today," Gonzalez said.

"There were no refs until around 2:30 today, so we got the leftovers."

The first half ended with the score 1-1, but the Falcons were gaining momentum.

"During that first half we were trying to get some fresh blood in there in hope that we could find some kind of energy out there,

Gonzalez said.

"We all were tired and slacked off in the first half," forward Martha Covarrubias said.

The Falcons came out in the second half with more intensity and it paid off quickly when Corina Villegas, midfielder, scored on a penalty just six minutes into the half.

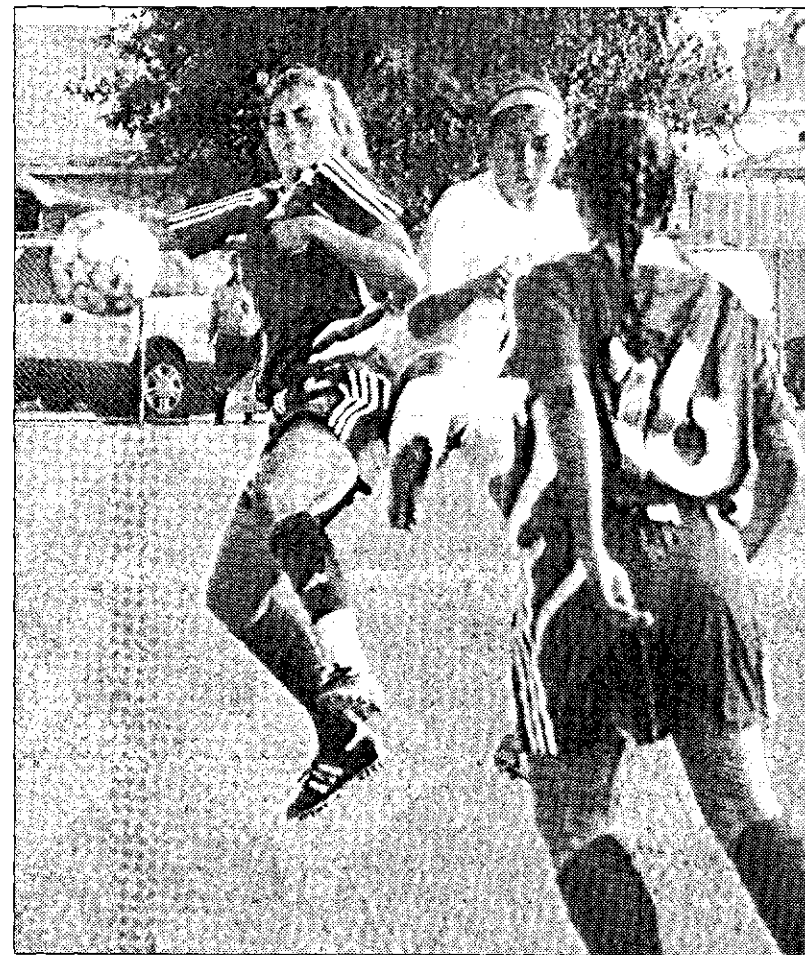
The Falcons continued to apply pressure and scored another goal when Villegas headed the ball just over the outstretched fingertips of the San Bernardino goalkeeper assisted by forward Desiree Cardenas.

"We were not as focused as we should have been but we fought through that and found a way to win," Cardenas said.

Women's Division III Soccer Rankings

1. Santiago Canyon
2. Modesto
3. Broome County
4. American River
5. Rochester Tech.
6. Cerritos
7. Ocean County
8. Brookdale
9. San Diego Mesa
10. Herkimer County
11. Cypress
12. Howard County
13. Long Beach
14. Springfield
15. Santa Barbara

Source www.nscac.com



LIZETTE CASTRO/TM
Women's soccer: Defender Brianna Carlos (No. 20) fights for the ball.

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Production and printing of TALON MARKS is partially funded by the Associated Students of Cerritos College.

Facilities and academic supervision are provided by the Department of Journalism. Newsroom offices are located in the Fine Arts Building, Room FA42.

Cerritos College is located at 11110 Alondra Blvd., Norwalk, CA 90650.

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Vol. 52
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EDITORIAL

Understand the Bill of Rights

Many students are unaware of their first amendment rights here in the United States.

This issue and reality has come about, due mainly, to the events that have occurred at the University of Florida to a student named Andrew Mayer and also because of a study that has been given.

The study suggests that "despite increases in the number of First Amendment classes from 2004 through 2006, nearly three-fourths of students still don't know how they feel about the First Amendment, or take it for granted," according to www.firstamendmentfuture.org.

In the event of the Florida student, the main issue is whether Mayer was being censored and limited by the security's "precautions" to attain him and silence his voice.

His freedom of speech was being violated, even though his remarks seemed to be unrealistic, with his accusations of John Kerry being in a secret society and winning the 2004 election.

The issue is not about his reaction or whether his remarks were accurate, it's the principle of the matter.

Everyone has the right to speak freely about whatever he or she wants.

The surprising issue is that it rose drastically around the time the terrorist attacks occurred and until this day, has decreased in general, to a new low.

What does this show us?

It displays the fault of the educational system of how it does not encourage or teach the first amendment freedoms in schools.

These freedoms are:

- Freedom of Press
- Freedom of Religion

- Freedom of Speech

- Right to Assembly and Petition.

This untold truth scares those who are unaware of what a privilege it is to be able to have these under-appreciated rights.

As Americans, freedom is what we symbolize; that's what our flag stands for, freedom and the ability to express without remorse.

Another threatening factor of the importance of the first amendment is the Patriot Act.

The Patriot Act is condemned as an act of an invasion of privacy and as an infringement upon our freedom of speech.

It is an example of how the government is allowed to monitor communications between federal detainees and their lawyers; thus forth, destroying the attorney-client privilege and threatening the right to counsel.

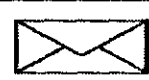
The Patriot Act has crippled the importance of amendments by giving the government the right to evade our privacy in order to preserve peace against terrorist attacks.

There are numerous attacks on our freedoms frequently, and our call to action is for U.S. citizens to be aware of their rights as citizens and become more involved with upholding the purity of the first amendment, by exercising the rights that it guarantees.

That's the simplicity of the statement, "be aware and involved."



ILLUSTRATION COURTESY OF AXAYACATL NEVAREZ



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR are welcome. They may be submitted both online and in person. In all cases, letters must be signed with real names before they will be considered for publication, either online or in print. Campus related issues are given priority. Letters may be edited for length, though online versions tend to include full content, as long as it is not libelous or in poor taste. You may deliver letters to FA 42 or contact the editor by e-mail at editor@talonmarks.com.

Iraq is our responsibility

The war in Iraq has been, for quite some time now, the most talked about issue in politics because of its ethics and the means that the United States has taken in being involved.

I would like to start off by stating that I am not a republican and that my party affiliation does not influence my beliefs.

Many liberals, and even some conservatives, argue that: we do not have substantial evidence to have even been initially involved, many American soldiers' lives are being lost for a vain cause, and that democracy in the Middle East is only a fantasy.

So many Americans have turned on their decision to be involved in the first place.

Some believe that we should have gone into Iraq at some point, slowly but surely, because Americans have been driven by their emotions, began to forget the initial purpose of us being involved and have lost sight.

This can be perfectly displayed by a previous vote in the senate in which Hillary Clinton, one of the main democratic candidates for the upcoming elections, voted for the war which gave Bush the go ahead to invade.

Now, she wants to withdraw and states that her initial decision proved to be a mistake.

It was not a mistake as much as it was reasonable decision to protect Americans and Iraqis from tyranny.

Many Americans have forgotten the ideology of the war and reality that there are outside countries who are threats.

Precautions need to be taken.

Iraq has weapons of mass destruction

Weapons of mass destruction were of the initial motives of the military because there were suspicions that Iraq was producing chemical and biological weapons with intentions to sell to terrorist groups.

The army found structures and vehicles used to produce the weapons but the weapons themselves have yet to be found.

However, Nizar Nayuf boldly states,

"(Invading Iraq) was not a mistake as much as it was a reasonable decision to protect Americans and Iraqis from tyranny."



as a reporter, that the Iraq government actually had WMD's but was aware of the United States intentions to invade, so as a precaution, smuggled them through tunnels into Syria, that is where they currently reside.

This simple explanation reasonable. The army has found the structures but not the weapons themselves. Even the current prime minister is convinced that they were there, at some point, present in Iraq.

It was no secret that Saddam Hussein had these weapons but Americans are just ignorant and choose to ignore the facts if it provokes intervention.

There is, however, proof that Iraq did produce chemical weapons and used them on their own civilians. This agent is known to have killed thousands of innocent Kurds in northern Iraq by Saddam. This agent is known as mustard gas.

Iraqi government violates human rights

They're where some means of punishment, which the established government imposed as norm.

By any standard these means would be taboo, and the UN has made regulations, which establish that, worldwide.

There are several examples of when Saddam has used "taboo" means to get rid of unwanted groups of people.

There has always been tension between the south and the north, the Kurds and the rest of Iraq, and it dates back to the Cold war.

The Russians were influencing the Kurds and the south was being aided by the British nation.

These ideological differences account for attacks on the Kurds by the south but its inhumanity defies life.

The major event, which initiated this

resolution, was Saddam's attack on thousands of Kurds with mustard gas.

About 5,000 innocent people were killed with this attack and 65,000 were crippled for life with severe burns and severe respiratory problems.

Side effects and repercussions are still being paid by the Kurds.

Mustard gas causes eye irritation, conjunctivitis, and blindness. If inhaled, mustard gas strips the mucous membrane that lines the respiratory tract, causing internal bleeding, severe respiratory distress, and death.

Mustard gas also attacks DNA within cells, causing birth defects and cancer.

This kind of treatment of Saddam's own people should be enough cause to cease the government's existence.

These violations of human rights, the genocide of innocent women and children should have moved us to take action, but it took 9/11 to realize that something needed to be done about it.

There are links between terrorist groups and Iraq

Links between terrorist groups and Iraq has always been a questionable motive, but, according to Donald Rumsfeld, former Secretary of Defense, has concluded that there were enough suspicions of the relationships between Al Qaeda and Iraq's higher officials.

These relationships have been occurring since the early 90's but since 1998 the reports of these contacts have been increasing, conveniently, three-years before the 9/11 attacks.

This is our responsibility

What can Americans expect from Iraq's government, if they attack their own people with no justifiable reason, if we are there "mortal" enemy, according to their religious beliefs?

This rhetorical question has only one answer: worse, Americans can expect worse treatment from Iraq.

This is only reason speaking to Americans with a speakerphone loud and clear. We have to protect and assure our security and invading Iraq and overthrowing their government was a means justified by its end, it is called pre-emptive warfare.

It is our responsibility to ensure and promote world peace.

FREE SPEECH ZONE !?

Why don't students know about their right to free speech?

COMPILED BY: SCOTT WATKINS AND BRITTANY COOPER
PHOTOS BY: MICHAEL AGUDO



"People just don't want to learn [about the First Amendment]. They just have a lack of interest in the subject. If they were talking about sex people would be awake."

ROBERT BEALE
criminal justice major



"[Students don't know the first amendment] because of their family backgrounds. Their parents aren't teaching them the meaning of independence."

SOFIA GALLEGOS
teaching major



"[Students don't understand the First Amendment] because we live in a materialistic society. Those types of things don't matter to us."

SCOTT BENJAMIN
undecided major



"[Students don't know the First Amendment because] they didn't take U.S. History. They also probably aren't interested in politics."

MAJANAYE ANDERSON
court reporting major



"I wouldn't say that students don't care about the first amendment. They probably went to high schools that didn't appropriately or adequately talk about it."

DENNIS FALCON
political science instructor

Pep band fires up crowd

JEAN-PIERRE GIAGNOLI
A&E Editor
arts@talonmarks.com

The Cerritos College football team is ready to receive the ball at kickoff during one of its home games.

Coming from the stands, the theme from the movie, "Jaws," begins to play in the background.

As the opposite team prepares to tread down the field, the music gets louder and louder until the punter kicks the ball into the air.

Then there's silence.

The music being heard came from the Cerritos College pep band.

Every fall, it comes out to bring energy and music to everyone at the football games.

It consists of drums, flutes, saxophones, trombones, trumpets and a cello.

This group of students comes out to every home football game and supports the team and everyone involved.

It plays well-known songs, including those you would hear at major sporting events giving the game even more atmosphere.

With members faces painted the school colors they play songs throughout, from "We Will Rock You," to the theme from "Star Wars" to "Tequila," the music keeps on coming.

Alan Birdbear, biology major, said, "It's a little cheesy but good."

Children seem to enjoy the music the most, dancing around and stomping their feet to the rhythm.

However, the parents and fans alike use the music to fuel the team, chanting along and grooving as well.

The music changes constantly



Pep band: The pep band performs a few songs of encouragement for the Falcons while they play against Golden West

and that depends on what happens in the game and where the team is at that moment.

The band must always be ready because the ball can switch sides so fast that there is a lot of up and down for them, but it does it with enthusiasm.

Hector Ortiz, music education major, said, "I enjoy learning the songs and adding energy to the games."

Ortiz has been in the pep band for two years.

Last year, he played the trumpet and this year he changed to the cello.

The band must also pay attention to the cheerleaders and teams, not playing while cheerleaders perform to their music or when the coaches

want more silence.

This is worked out with the band director, coaches, and cheerleaders.

They don't want to step on each other's toes, so certain times are established as silence for the band and cheer squad.

David Betancourt, music instructor, said, "We provide a good service for the college and team and it's fun."

Betancourt has been an instructor for nine years at the college.

He also mentioned that to his knowledge the pep band has been around almost since the beginning of the college.

He has never been to a game without wearing face paint.

He conducts all bands and the orchestra on campus and also teaches

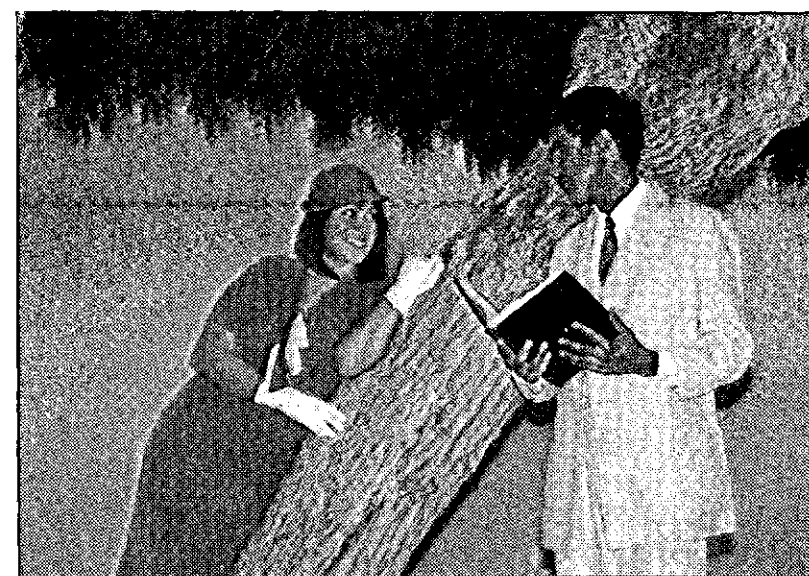
fundamentals of music.

He mentioned the support the band gets from the coaches and others to be there and bring the level of energy up.

The band plays the national anthem at the beginning and plays all the way through half time.

It not only performs at the home football games, but at many community events like:

- 50th Anniversary gala at the college
 - Cerritos Chamber of Commerce at the Cerritos Performing Arts Center
 - Store openings
 - One winter concert at the college
- See the band in action during every home football game.



COURTESY OF THE THEATER DEPARTMENT

Anna in the Tropics: Isreal Lopez rehearsing with Brenda Banda.

Play is set to begin

JEAN-PIERRE GIAGNOLI
A&E Editor
arts@talonmarks.com

The final touches are being put on the Cerritos College Theater Department's production of "Anna in the Tropics."

The play opens next week and the actors have been rehearsing since late August.

This dramatic play is set in a 1929 Cuban-American cigar factory located in Ybor City Tampa, Florida.

The cigars are still made by hand and lecturers or "readers" are employed to educate and entertain the workers. The arrival of a new lector causes problems when he reads from a book with controversial issues.

The dates of the play are: Oct. 5, 6, 11, 12, 13 at 8 p.m. and Oct. 14 at 2 p.m. General admission is \$12.00 and \$10.00 for students, staff and seniors with ID.

The cast is as follows:
• Glenn Vilar as Santiago
• Mary Sanchez as Ofelia
• Joey Perea as Palomo
• Brenda Banda as Conchita

- Isreal Lopez as Juan Julian
- Susana Batres as Marela
- Gilbert Martinez as Che Che
- Bryan Iniguez as Eliades and Christopher Baiza, Renee Duran and Melissa Centene as the workers.

The play was written by Nilo Cruz and is being directed by Patrick Pearson, a part-time instructor here. This is Pearson's first time directing at the college.

As the play approaches, the cast is busy rehearsing every single night before the play.

They have tech rehearsals for the lights and sounds in the play as well. So when the play opens they are all on the same page and things are timed out correctly.

They want everything to be in order for the play from actors to sets to the correct lighting and sounds.

These are an integral part to making the play run smooth and be great for everyone involved from the stage to the audience.

For more information, go to www.cerritos.edu/theatre or call 562-467-5058.

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