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# Talon Marks

Cerritos College

Since 1956

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## Swine flu strikes California

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Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger declared a state of emergency Tuesday over the spread of the swine flu that's affecting the country.

According to an e-mail sent out by Nancy Montgomery, coordinator of student health services, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has provided information regarding the swine flu.

Swine flu is a respiratory disease of pigs caused by type A influenza.

It's not known to infect humans, but that information has changed since March and April 2009 when cases of human swine flu cases have been reported.

The CDC states that swine flu is contagious and can be spread from person to person through coughing or sneezing of people with the influenza.

Typical symptoms of swine flu are fever, body aches, runny nose, sore throat, nausea, vomiting or diarrhea.

There is no vaccination for the flu, but there are certain tips and steps that any person can take to protect themselves:

- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Trash the tissue immediately.
- Wash your hands with soap and water frequently and after you cough or sneeze.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth. Germs spread this way.

The incubation period from contact with swine flu and when you become ill is approximately seven days.

Recently on the news today there have been two deaths that are being investigated with swine flu being the cause of them.

A 33 year-old man from Long Beach died Saturday at a Bellflower hospital with suspicions of swine flu symptoms.

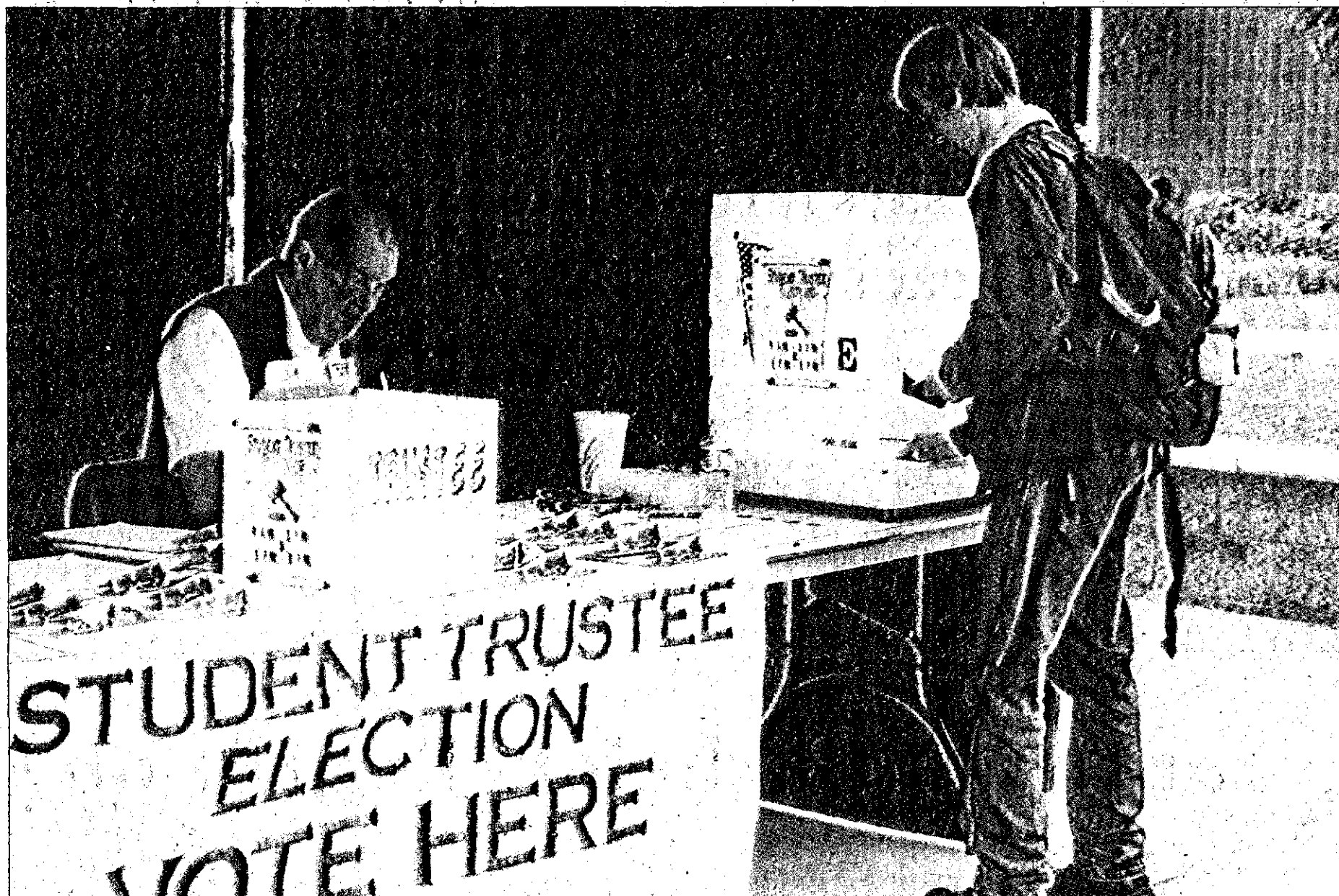
The other death was a 45 year-old man from La Mirada who died April 22 in Norwalk.

According to Contra Costa Times, the death of the La Mirada man was from causes of pneumonia, but the Long Beach case is still being investigated.

Mercurynews.com have reported that there are 13 confirmed cases of swine flu in California alone, but the flu remains deadliest in Mexico with 149 death cases and 2000 who have been sent to hospitals with flu-like symptoms.

Schwarzenegger's office made this statement that, "While there is no need for alarm, it is the governor's top priority to limit the swine flu's spread as quickly and effectively as possible."

## Election results are in



Student elections: Kevin Brown, undecided major, makes his decision on who to vote for the new Student Trustee. Grimaldo won the position in last week's elections which were held on Wednesday and Thursday. MARIA MORALES/TM

### Franco, Castaneda run unopposed, are new ASCC President, Vice-President.

SCOTT WATKINS  
Editor-in-Chief  
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Oscar Franco, commissioner of student outreach, and his running mate Rosa Castaneda have been elected ASCC president and vice president in elections held last Wednesday and Thursday.

The team of Franco and Castaneda received 222 of the possible 303 votes.

"I feel nervous and I am very conscious of the responsibility I have," Franco said. "I am a servant of the students."

Franco has many plans that he would like to implement as president.

See PRESIDENT Page 2

### Presidential Result

Oscar Franco/ Rosa Castaneda 222

### Student Trustee Results

Brian Kochems 177  
Tiffany LaShawn Woolfolk 67  
Felipe Grimaldo 237  
Rosa Castaneda 214

### RELATED STORY

Students turnout shows enthusiasm

See NEWS Page 2

### Grimaldo defeats Castaneda by 23 votes to become new Student Trustee.

SCOTT WATKINS  
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"I don't make promises, I am about showing what I am about through my actions," newly elected Student Trustee Felipe Grimaldo said.

Grimaldo beat four other candidates during the ASCC elections last Wednesday and Thursday.

Grimaldo received 237 votes of the near 700 others receiving votes were Rosa Castaneda with 214, Brian Kochems with 171 and Tiffany La Shawn Woolfolk with 67 votes.

According to Holly Bogdanovich, director of Student Activities, the number of votes this year nearly doubled the turnout from last Student Trustee elections.

See TRUSTEE Page 2



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY DANIELA GUZMAN

## MyDemocracy contest canceled

CELIA LIRA  
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The MyDemocracy awards ceremony for this semester was canceled.

This is what Kate McLaughlin, journalism professor, learned just a few days before students were supposed to turn in their entries.

"My students have been working hard on the MyDemocracy contest all semester," McLaughlin said. "To call the contest off at the 11th hour, after students have been holding up their end of the bargain, is irresponsible

and unfair. It's a disgrace."

Jean Rodriguez, journalism major, said, "I'm doing my project on students that undocumented and get through college with out papers. It's disappointing, I don't mind doing the work but I was hoping to do the contest to help spread the word."

The awards ceremony was going to be held on May 12.

This was going to be the fourth semester that the contest was going to be hosted by the Political Science Department and Journalism Department.

The reasons that the awards ceremony was cancelled were the quality of the entries and the lack of enthusiasm from students and faculty.

"The quality of the videos was just not there, we would get 10 good videos of 1500 students in the program," Bryan Reece, faculty senate president and political science professor, said.

Victor Obasohan, political science professor, said, "The quality of work (isn't there because) students are duplicating the same topic. How many times can you do (it on) abortion?"

See MYDEMOCRACY Page 5





Michael Barrita attends one of his final cabinet meetings: The ASCC Cabinet will meet only one more time this semester. SCOTT WATKINS/TM

## ASCC Cabinet says farewell to Barrita as he heads to UCLA

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With only one more meeting left, the ASCC Cabinet discussed the end of the year matters on Monday.

The cabinet informed that even though the Student Center reflection pool project has been delayed, it should still be installed in time for the Spring Awards.

The fountain is already on cam-

pus, although it is still in pieces. It will be rededicated to the students of Cerritos College by the 2008 ASCC.

The pseudo-credit card plan that was proposed previously was put on hold until next year.

It was a plan that would allow students to use their Cerritos College ID card as a credit card at participating merchants on campus.

The meeting was also full of congratulations for its members.

Holly Bogdanovich, director of student activities, congratulated ASCC President Michael Barrita on his acceptance to UCLA.

The cabinet congratulated Felipe Grimaldo in becoming the next Student Trustee. The voter turnout for that position was exactly 700 votes, up from around 400 last year.

It also congratulated Oscar Franco and Rosa Castaneda on becoming the next ASCC President and Vice-President.

# From Marine to Trustee

## Student Trustee: Continued From Page 1

This is the second year there was a separate election for Student Trustee.

Last semester, the student body voted to separate the ASCC President and Student Trustee positions.

Grimaldo served in Marines for four years, spending two tours in Iraq.

He said that the Marines prepared to work hard in school because it is instilled that when you a Marine, you are held to higher standard. And he still holds himself to a higher standard.

There are many things that Grimaldo wants to do as Student Trustee.

"There needs to be more security on campus, because you have to be prepared if something happens," Grimaldo said.

One way he wants to increase safety on campus is by pushing to add security station around the school so people can push a button to contact the police in case of an emergency.

He also wants to make sure that he is fully aware

of what is going on in both the ASCC Senate and Cabinet.

"I want to make sure that I attend all the meetings the ASCC have so I can make sure I know exactly what are the issues facing the students," he said.



## Meet your new president

### President: Continued From Page 1

"One of the things I want to do is make sure senators get out there more. I want them to work in different areas of the campus so the students know who their senators are," Franco said.

Other areas he has concern for are:

- organizing student government,
- providing free wifi on campus,
- fixing the iFALCON Web site and
- implementing the pseudo-credit cards for the Culinary Arts Café.

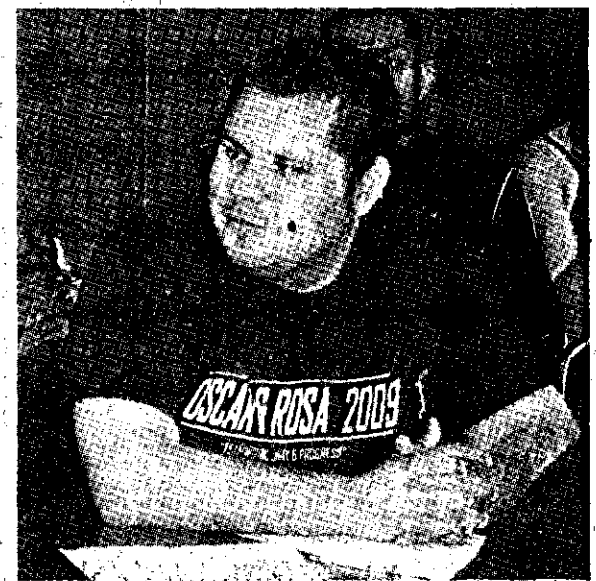
Franco and Castaneda met in school last year when they served

on the senate together.

Franco decided to run after another member of the student government suggested he would make a good president.

"After I thought about it, I decided I really wanted to do it," Franco said. "Rosa and I had a good relationship from our time on the senate together and had many of the same ideas of what we wanted to change so it was an easy decision to run together."

The one thing that Franco wants all students to know is that, "I am here for the students, I want to hear from them, I want to know what their concerns are."



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## Saving money in this economy

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In this tumultuous economy affecting the country, many people are looking for ways to save money to maintain them afloat.

There are many simple things that can be done to more frugal in everyday life.

Some students are just saving money the old-fashioned way, while others are looking to invest it and hope for profits.

Loai Hussein, undeclared major, is doing both. "I'm working and saving money. I'm looking to invest in stocks also."

Other students are actively bargain hunting for the best deals. Kyle Edquist, business major, says, "I just find sales. I've been shopping at Wal-Mart. They have 8 sodas for \$2."

It also congratulated Oscar Franco and Rosa Castaneda on becoming the next ASGC President and Vice-President.

With the economic situation going on, students are left with little money and left on a tight budget.

Students across campus find that the economic crisis is hitting them in different ways because

they are struggling to pay for classes and to pay for food.

College students spend their money on tuition and books and are left with little money after the first week of school.

Paralegal major Sandra Mayoral finds the food at the food court to be expensive because she watches her money carefully.

"I think the food is expensive," Mayoral said. "I spend about \$20 on food each week."

Mayoral decided to bring her own food to school to cut back on her food expenses and save money.

Eunice Park, cashier at Chicago Harv's, said, "I think the food is kind of expensive but that's my boss's orders."

However, Steller Cho, cashier at Oh! No! Tokyo, thinks that the price at the restaurant she works at has reasonable prices, even with the economic status we have been facing.

"I think it's the right price because it takes time to prepare the sushi rolls," Cho said, "so it's right."

ADDITIONAL REPORT BY  
GUILLERMINA CERVANTES

**The Getty**  
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## Cheap places to get your grub on

### Menu

#### Tom's Burger's

Family Pack: 4  
Burgers, fries &  
Drinks. \$14.95.

Bargain Level: 8/10

### Menu

#### McDonald's

Dollar menu. Fast,  
unhealthy, but cheap.

Bargain Level: 7/10

### Menu

#### Subway

\$5 footlong subs.  
Fresh, cheap and  
good selection.

Bargain Level: 8/10

### Menu

#### Little Ceasars

\$5 Large Pizzas.  
Nice and hot. Good  
for lots of people.

Bargain Level: 8/10

### Menu

#### Hole Mole Tacos in Long Beach

Rhymes with roly  
poly. Plus 50 cent ta-  
cos!

Bargain Level: 9/10

### Menu

#### AM/PM

Chicken sandwiches.  
Delicious, but eat at  
your own risk.

Bargain Level: 8/10





**Spinning the Wheel:** After gathering all the required stamps, students can go to the central Financial Aid tent to spin the Wheel of Financial Aid for a prize.

## Financial Aid helps students

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The Financial Aid Office, in conjunction with CalWORKS, EOPS, C.A.R.E. and LINC held an event on Tuesday "to inform students of different resources available," said Yesenia Ramirez, financial aid specialist.

"It's not just money, it's also services (the school provides)," she said.

She also wants to remind students to fill out their FASFA forms before the fall.

Students can apply for financial aid on [cerritos.edu/financial-aid/](http://cerritos.edu/financial-aid/) by

filling out a free FASFA application.

The office will receive a student's information within two to three weeks.

To encourage students to participate in this event and get information about the services on campus, there were prizes given out.

Students were given cards to have stamped at all the different tables.

"They ask questions (presented on the stamps) to get stamps on the cards," Ramirez said.

After students got stamps from all the different tables and filled out the survey on the back of the cards, they got a tote bag and a silicon wristband, both with the canaf-

fordcollege.com logo on them.

They also got to spin a wheel for the chance to win prizes such as T-shirts and USB drives.

One of the tables that stayed open to the end was for Leaders Involved in Creating Change.

Gustavo Romero, financial aid intern, said, "LINC provides services for current and former foster youth."

He said the reason for a special program geared toward foster youth is "foster youth have different needs."

According to LINC's Web site, its services includes

- assisting students with completing FASFA, Chafee Grant appli-

cations and other financial aid forms,

- linking students with services on-campus and off-campus,
- providing hands-on financial aid guidance,
- providing college materials,
- a peer and professional mentor program and
- network opportunities with other foster youth.

The event was from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

## Math Club raises \$300 for victims of domestic abuse

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During tough times, it is a great to show that people are trying to take care of one another.

On Monday to Thursday, the Math Club held a fundraiser to help with Su Casa in front of the library.

The club members volunteered on days they could best help.

Su Casa, according to Ana Garibay, the club president, is a community organization that helps women and children from domestic abuse.

"It's a good event. We're not get-

ting any money for this," stated Peter Choi, the vice president of the math club.

The club sold all sorts of books from adventure stories to romance novels.

There were also stuffed animals for a reasonably low price.

"The books were pretty much donated to us," Garibay shared.

The club earned at least \$300 for the fundraiser.

Choi shared that the Math Club has been helping Su Casa for years.

"Hopefully, we'll do more fundraisers like this one to help others," Choi says.

## Student turnout shows enthusiasm

Student cooperation helps voting polls run smoothly.

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Everyone that voted had to sign in on a numbered sheet that the clerks were in charge of.

By the end of the first day, two out of three stations were working on their third sheet.


"Students are actually involved this year," Joan Thiel added.

"Everyone has been so cooperative, there have been no problems which is wonderful," stated Betty Walczak voting poll clerk.

As students approached the poll booths they were either greeted by the candidate's assistants or no one at all.

Some candidates gave out fliers to tag onto your book bags others passed out all sorts of candy.

Voting polls closed at 8 p.m. on last Thursday, votes were tallied and announced on last Friday.



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The University of Values



# Piorkowski wins Most Outstanding Faculty



Faculty Awards: Marijean Piorkowski of Health Occupations won Most Outstanding Faculty at the 2009 Faculty Awards ceremony.

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The distinguished faculty awards ceremony was held on Thursday at 11 a.m. at the Student Center where members of the Cerritos College faculty enjoyed lunch with their colleagues and students.

Bill Farmer, acting president and supernatant, started by saying that, "A day to celebrate the faculty of Cerritos College is a great day."

The most outstanding faculty award went to Dr. Marijean Piorkowski, health occupations professor.

She is retiring this year after 32 years at Cerritos College.

Her colleagues are working on a scholarship in her honor for the health occupations students. They are looking for donations.

Piorkowski said, "I'm very honored to be celebrated and I feel very appreciated for my service to the college. It has been a very big part of my professional career. The scholarship I think is wonderful, students can really benefit from that."

Now that she is retiring as a professor, she will go the Long Beach Memorial Hospital as a physical therapist and she is also wants to travel.

Dr. Marilyn Brock, interim vice president of academic affairs, said, "This is one of the most exiting days of Cerritos College, your (faculty) mark has been made in hundreds of students."

There were students that attended the awards ceremony to support their favorite professors when they received the outstanding faculty awards.

Rhiannon Medohnalm, dental hygiene major, said about Dani Carroll, dental hygiene professor, "She is a supportive teacher. I see her as a friend and as part of the family."

Carroll said, "It is fantastic. It is hard to describe. I'm really lucky to have a great faculty and the students are the best ever."

Anthony Heredia, biology major, said about Cheryl Shimazu,

Chemistry Department Chair and chemistry professor, "She is a great teacher."

ERNESTO GOMEZ/TM



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## Award ceremony cancelled

**MYDEMOCRACY:** Continued From page 1

Terrace Mullins explained on e-mail sent to faculty, "I know your students put a lot of effort and time into their Spring 2009 video projects but this cancellation is another casualty of the current economic crisis."

Obasohan said that the funds for the awards ceremony came out directly of the Faculty pockets.

Students will still get academic credit for their entries; just no awards or ceremony.

The Journalism Department will judge them and we will give awards at the Media Awards Night on May 13 for Journalism students only, said Rich Cameron, chair of journalism

department.

The MyDemocracy contest was an idea of Dr. Bryan Reece, Faculty Senate president and political science professor.

The two departments were in a partnership to give political science students an opportunity to be creative and have an alternative to writing assignments, and journalism students to learn multimedia reporting.

Political science faculty would give the choice to students.

Obasohan, said, "I would give students 75 points, an exam's worth, if they would enroll on Journalism 106 to do their MyDemocracy proj-

ect."

Students had to choose a political science issue in the community and make a video to report on that issue.

Political science students did not respond to the possibility of producing a video.

Obasohan, said, "I teach six classes and not one student enrolled on Journalism 106. They would ask if they can just do it on their own but that would beat the whole purpose, we wanted to encourage the students, we believe students can do better."

## Funds help expand Early Childhood Education

COURTESY OF  
CERRITOS COLLEGE PUBLIC RELATIONS

Cerritos College has been awarded a Career Technical Education Teacher Preparation Pipeline grant in the amount of \$225,000 from the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office, benefiting its Teacher Training Academy Career Technical Education Pathways Program which provides services to future CTE educators.

The focus of the grant is to recruit and prepare qualified CTE teachers and to train faculty to prepare and counsel students pursuing a teaching career.

The funding will be used towards program expansion in the area of Early Childhood Education, professional development for faculty and continuation of courses in math, English and science for CTE students.

It will also support internships and enhanced student development through math and science tutors, counseling and mentorships.

"I am tremendously excited to receive this grant," said Sue Par-

sons, director of Teacher TRAC. "It will allow us to build new partnerships, enhance existing partnerships, and add a new career sector, Early Childhood Education, to our Teacher TRAC CTE Pathways Program."

"During the past two years, it has been a true privilege to get to know my CTE colleagues and their valuable work for our students in Auto, Woodworking and Welding," added Parsons.

"I look forward to continuing our work together to recruit and prepare new CTE teachers."

Created in 2007 to address the statewide need for CTE teachers at the secondary and community college level, Teacher TRAC CTE Pathways Program has successfully developed six pathways for CTE teacher preparation for prospective high school and community college teachers in automotive, welding and woodworking.

The program's partnerships have expanded to include the University of La Verne, ABC Unified School District, Downey Unified ROP, and Head Start State Preschool, Nor-

walk/La Mirada School District, in addition to the continued partnerships with CSULB, CSULA, Southeast ROP and the Southland Motor Car Dealers Association.

"It has been an honor to assist the CTE Teacher TRAC Program continue growing during 2008-09 as a CTE Project Manager," said Carina Huynh, CTE Pathways grant project manager.

"We have recruited 258 students that have shown interest in this program, and ten students are currently doing the CTE Teacher TRAC internship program."

Teacher TRAC CTE Pathways Program is a grant-funded component of the Cerritos College Teacher TRAC that provides services to future CTE educators in the areas of Automotive, Technology, Welding and Woodworking.

CTE Teacher TRAC is offering various opportunities for students to explore and prepare for the teaching profession.



# OPINION

•EDITORIAL•

## ASCC president has a lot on his plate

With so many budget cuts coming left and right and students losing the chance to obtain educational opportunities, now more than ever does the next ASCC president need to show a firm hand in decisions that will be made.

Though his power may be limited, his will to fight and persistence to take a stand for student rights is not.

What he must make a priority, above anything else, is to stop the useless spending of the money the ASCC has.

With it struggling to provide more iFALCON scholarships, instead of wasting money in new carpeting for the Student Activities office, it should use those hundreds of dollars in the scholarships it is trying so hard to offer.

The next thing the next ASCC president must enforce upon himself is to improve the communication and his relationship with the students of Cerritos College.

After all, everything he will be doing will hopefully be for their benefit.

Students need to be aware of what is going on on campus, as well as the issues that are currently being discussed and what the president's position is on these issues.

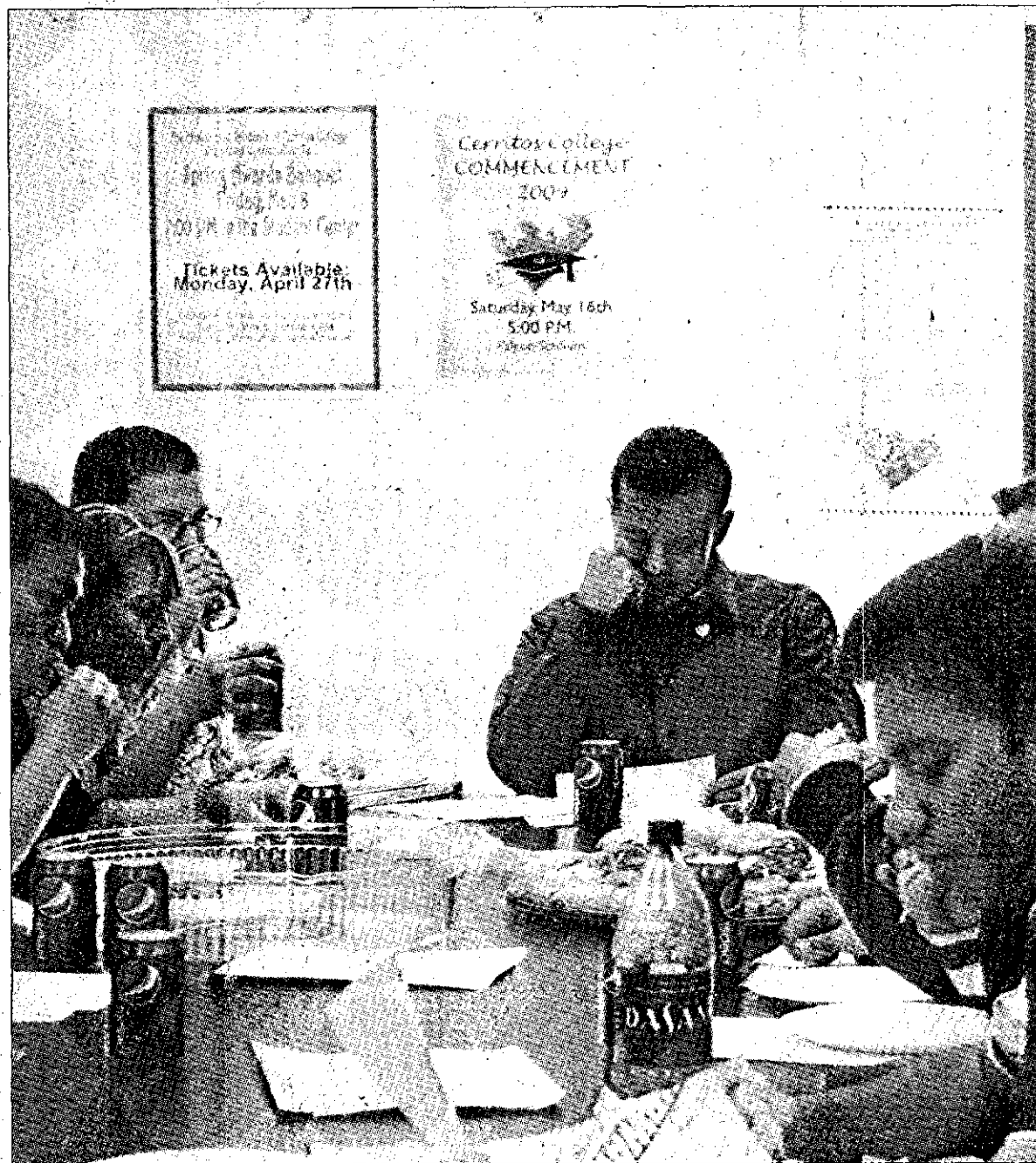
The president must establish this communication in order to prevent future misunderstandings or conflicts with students.

Lastly, he must hold up to the promises he makes. If one cannot execute the promises one makes, then one must learn to keep his mouth shut.

This way, students are not overwhelmed with disappointment when he does not live up to what was expected and only professed empty promises.

The next ASCC president has a lot of work to do and after being elected by the students, it is obvious that they believed he was the right person for the job.

Stop the useless spending, establish a better communication and do not boast empty promises.



SCOTT WATKINS/TM



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

### •LETTER TO THE EDITOR•

## Vandals continue threats at Cerritos

Greetings and salutations once again our many friends at TalonMarks. Me (Lazarus Long) and The Yank are now in the 11th hour and still ready to open our exposition: The Cerritos College Open Campus Graffiti Gallery. We are expecting this to be a massive failure of both preventive measures and an even more ghastly catastrophe of artistic merit. Before we do, we'd like to address the legal issues of our works. The following is a reproduction of California Penal Code 594:

594. (a) Every person who maliciously commits any of the following acts with respect to any real or personal property not his or her own, in cases other than those specified by state law, is guilty of vandalism:

(1) Defaces with graffiti or other inscribed

material.

(2) Damages.

(3) Destroys.

Now first let us deal with the word "malicious". It is defined as "intending to do harm." As we have said before, none of our works is designed to do harm to either property or the mental state of any possible persons within viewing range of our works. If anything, we are attempting to entertain and make the public think about what "vandalism" really is. Plus, how can you identify malice? If malice is a crime, we ask that everyone within the United States of America is placed within prison.

The next three words, "deface" "damage" or "destroy" all means roughly the same

thing but are placed in by lawmakers so that a common man attempting to read this penal code will be confused.

As stated before, our graffiti works are specially designed so that "defacement" "damage" and "destruction" do not occur. Any of these 3 D's though can occur if you do not remove our works properly. If any of the 3 D's do occur while you are removing our works, then legally speaking you are held accountable as we are not involved in the removal of our product.

We shall also point out that our graffiti works specialized system that allows this respectful vigilance of property, is environmentally friendly. California Penal Code 594 is quite daunting, and in our reading of

it, we have found that our works do not fall into any possible method of prosecution of it because we are not malicious organisms out to deface, damage, or destroy property. If we can be proven wrong and a means of communicating this to us effectively can be done, we do solemnly swear to stop our campaign of as benevolent organisms out to renovate, refurbish, or reinvigorate property.

Once again we'd like to thank you, TalonMarks, for so graciously acting as a distributor of our notes to all possible outlets here on campus and wish you would continue your distribution so that our legal reasoning is known campus-wide.

-Lazarus Long, and the Yank



TALON MARKS



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## Free Speech Zone?

What do you do to save money?

COMPILED BY CELIA LIRA  
PHOTOS BY MARIA MORALES

KELLY ADAMS

art major

"I don't buy expensive things, and I bring food from home."



GEORGE TONY

nursing major

"I ride my bike instead of using my car."



TONY LOPEZ

paralegal major

"I recently open a bank account I put \$50 to \$75 to save, I cut down on going out, I used to go out every single day."



JOSE ESCOBAR

art major

"I put my money in the bank, waste money on smart things, I only buy stuff I need."



BRENDA AVILA

undecided major

"I don't go out as much as before, and if I do we take one car, we find ways to get in for free in places that we want to go to."



LIZ

RODRIGUEZ

anthra major

"I give my money to my mom to save it because I'll spend it."



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What do you want of the next ASCC president?

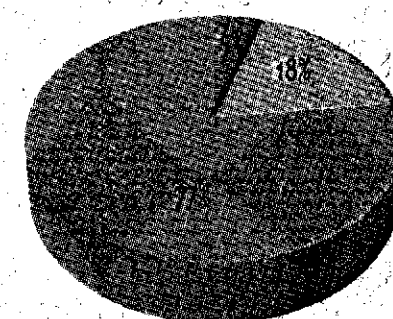
- More funds for scholarships
- Free water, and subway
- More activities
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- Other

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Why don't many people run for ASCC president?

Requirements are too high	5%
Not enough people are involved	18%
The ASCC is a joke	77%





# SPORTS

## AT A GLANCE

### Thursday

Baseball  
vs. LA City 2:30 p.m.  
  
Tennis  
Men So. Cal Regionals @ LBCC 9:00 a.m.  
Women So. Cal Regionals @ Cypress All Day

### Friday

Baseball  
LA City @ Griffith Park 2:30 p.m.  
  
Tennis  
Men So. Cal Regionals @ LBCC 9:00 a.m.  
Women So. Cal Regionals @ Cypress All Day

### Saturday

Softball  
So. Cal Regionals 2:00 p.m.  
  
Tennis  
Men So. Cal Regionals @ LBCC 9:00 a.m.  
  
Track  
Men So. Cal Regionals @ Mt. SAC All Day  
Women So. Cal Regionals @ Mt. SAC All Day

### Sunday

Softball  
So. Cal Regionals 12:00 p.m.

## RESULTS

### Last Thu. 4/21

Softball  
vs. Pasadena City W, 17-0

### Last Fri. 4/24

Track  
Men SCC 247 Team Points (Champions)  
Women SCC 394 Team Points (Champions)

### Last Sat. 4/25

Baseball  
vs. LBCC W, 7-3  
  
Swimming  
State Championship 11th place (129 Points)



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# Women capture the SCC title

COURTESY OF THE  
SPORTS INFORMATION OFFICE

For the third time in the last four years, the Cerritos College women's track and field team has won the South Coast Conference Championships.

Backed by 13 first placed finishes, the Falcons easily won the title with 394 team points at the finals on Friday at Compton College.

The team easily outdistanced Mt. SAC, who came in second place with 119 team points.

The Falcons qualifiers will now advance to the Southern California Preliminaries, which will be held next Saturday at Mt. San Antonio.

The top six from each event advance to the prelims, while there will be a selection of automatic qualifiers that will be decided at a seeding meeting.

Jessica Barfield was a three-time champion in individual races, while she also ran a leg of a relay race that came in first place.

Also winning three individual championships was sophomore Karen Guravska.

As for Barfield, she won the 100 meter, triple jump and long jump, while running the third leg of the 400-meter relay team that posted a time of 48.31. Joining her in that race were Michella Crab-

tree, Cyntrail Pierce, who won the 200 meters and freshman Blair Allen, who won the 400 meters in 58.24.

Guravska picked up her conference championships in the pole vault, high jump and javelin with a throw of 134' 8".

Cerritos also took the top six spots in the hammer throw, led by freshman Arianna Lugo, who won the event with a distance of 156' 6", with Whitney Ashley capturing

the discus with a toss of 143' 3". Other champions included Erin Straughter in the 400-meter hurdles with a time of 1:04.76, while sophomore Sarah Muniz won the 3000-meter steeplechase in a time of 11:31.50, setting a new school record. Straughter was also on her way to winning the 100-meter hurdles, but fell. However, she was already an automatic qualifier.



Listen Up: Shortstop Cassandra Godoy and the rest of the Cerritos College softball team look on as they wait their turn for batting practice.

DANIELA GUZMAN/TM

## The road to the state title begins

The Cerritos College softball team will open up the postseason at home versus Ventura on Saturday.

RICK GOMEZ  
Sports Editor  
sports@talonmarks.com

It was a just a young freshmen team in August and now it is one of the top ranked softball teams in the state. The Cerritos College softball team will enter the postseason as the No. 2 ranked team in the South as it hosts No. 15 Ventura in the first round of the playoffs on Saturday at 2 p.m.

The best of three series will run from Saturday through Sunday with a double-header if necessary.

The Falcons played Ventura earlier this

season and handed Ventura a 11-7 loss.

Head coach Kodee Murray believes this match-up differs from the match-up earlier in the season.

"We're not the same team, Ventura is not the same team," Murray said, "Ventura is a well coached program."

The Falcons entered the season with a roster consisting of 15 players. Of the 15, 12 were incoming freshmen.

Murray said they had a lot of lessons learned throughout the season.

"Of the nine losses, we thought we can just show up, but we learned we have to show up and be accountable for what we do on the

field," Murray said.

Among the nine losses, there were close defeats as the Falcons dropped eight of the nine by three runs or less.

"I have no concerns," Murray said "we can't worry about the what-ifs in the playoffs."

Cerritos finished the season with an overall record of 34-9-1 and a conference record of 17-1.

The Falcons closed the season with a ten-game winning streak and won 13 of the last 15 after losing three in a row.

Murray will have the luxury of placing a starting line-up consisting of All-SCC players.

**See Softball Page 8**

## Peng wins second in state

MICHAEL GONZALEZ  
Staff Writer  
michael.gonzalez@talonmarks.com

The regular season for the Cerritos College women's swimming team was filled with wins and broken records.

"This past season has been the most successful season since I have been a coach here, and the most successful the school has had," head coach Sergio Macias said.

A piece of the success came from standout swimmer freshman Natalie Peng.

Since she has been with the team she own thirteen of eighteen school records and was considered as one of the top swimmers in the team by coach Macias.

"She is a talented athlete, she is one of the quiet teammates of the team, but her performance in the water speaks for her actions," Macias said.

Peng owns three individual records and five coming from relay events. Along with being undefeated in conference and being a state finalist in the butterfly event.

"It was a fun season, the hard work really paid off," Peng said.

Peng not only had a successful season in the swim team, but also helped the polo team win a conference championship.

Peng was named on the All-American team for water polo, and coach Macias was named the Conference Coach of the Year.

"The coaching staff put high expectations on all swimming teams, and we all maintained focus all year," Macias said.

"I'm looking forward to next season, we are already talking about it," Peng said.

## Sports Briefs

### Track and Field teams win SCC titles

#### Women

With 13 first place finishes, the Cerritos College women's track and field team was crowned SCC champion on Friday.

Jessica Barfield and Karen Guravska each won three events in their respective competitions. Barfield laced first in the 100-meters, long jump and triple jump.

Guravska finished first in the pole vault, high jump and javelin.

#### Men

The Cerritos College men's track and field team won the SCC title after Mt. San Antonio won it 13 consecutive years. Qualifiers will advance to the Southern California preliminaries at Mt. SAC on Saturday.

### Softball

The Cerritos College softball team will open up the postseason at home against No. 15 Ventura on Saturday at 2 p.m. in a best of three series.

Game two will be played on Sunday and if necessary, game three is scheduled on Monday.

The Falcons faced Ventura earlier in the season at the Glendale tournament where Cerritos scored ten runs in the first inning and won, 11-7.

The Falcons are entering Saturday's game on a ten-game winning streak.

### Women's swimming

Natalie Peng had the best outing as the Cerritos College women's swimming team finished in eleventh place at the state championships.

Peng finished second in the 100-yard butterfly recording a time of 57.29 seconds.

Peng also competed in 50-yard butterfly where she finished in fifth place.

### Tennis

#### Men

No. 1 doubles team, Jason Wall and Doug Edwards, won the Ojai Valley tournament as it defeated Mt. Jacinto's doubles in the final.

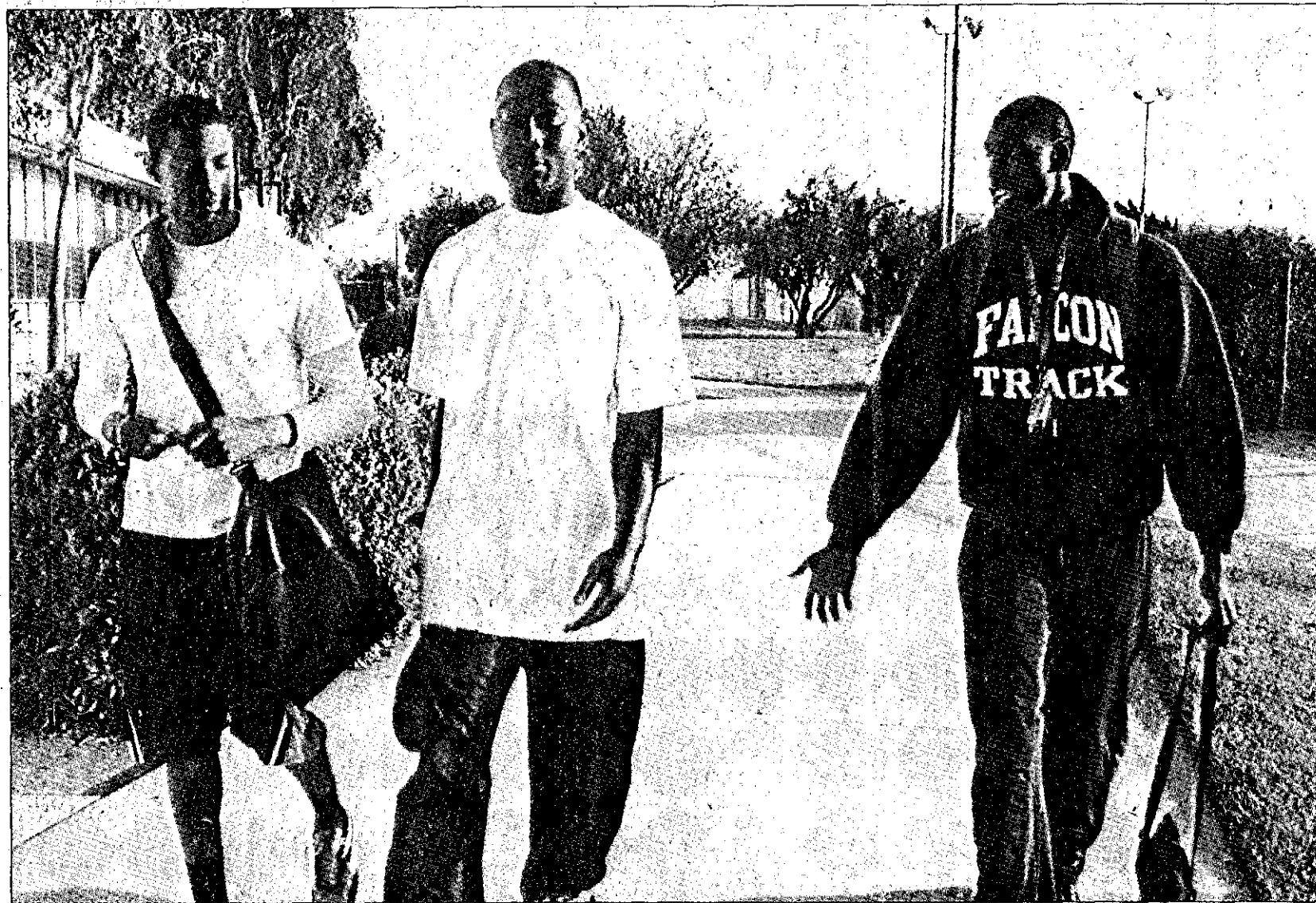
The tournament championship marks the first for a Cerritos team.

#### Women

Samantha Nades was the last player to be eliminated in the Ojai Valley Tournament in the semifinals.

The Falcons will now transition their focus to the Southern California Regional playoffs beginning on Thursday.





Student-Athlete: Brandon Dickson, Marlon Austin and Dominique Kilgore head home to do school work after track practice.

MARIA MORALES/TM

# No. 1 doubles wins Ojai tournament

COURTESY OF THE SPORTS INFORMATION OFFICE

Last year, Cerritos College men's tennis doubles team Doug Edwards and Jason Wall felt that they played well enough to win the Ojai Valley Tournament, but were eliminated in the semi-finals.

On Sunday, the duo started the tournament as the No.1-seeded team and proved that they deserved it by easily defeating Richard Tetteh and Taylor Witt of Mt. San Jacinto College, 6-0, 6-1.

The tournament championship was the first ever by a Cerritos team and it sends the duo into the Southern California Regional Playoffs brimming with confidence.

"At the trophy presentation, the tournament director noted how many times College of the Desert had won the event, but that it was the first time for Cerritos to be in the finals.

He said that he thought Cerritos would be taking over from now on," said a very excited Alvin Kim, the Falcons head coach.

The Cerritos duo eliminated the final College of the Desert team in the semi-finals, by defeating Bruno Araujo and Alonso Leon, 6-3, 6-2.

Throughout the four-day tournament, Edwards could only use

a one-handed backhand due to an injury, as Kim taught it to him prior to the start of the tournament.

After waiting two hours past their starting time until they were the final match on the court, a crowd came over to see what all the noise was coming from the court. What they found was a very motivated Edwards and Wall, who not only defeated their opponents easily, they won the final 11 games to show their dominance.

After Edwards started the match by winning the first four points, the duo broke Witt, while Wall held at love.

They finished off the first game by breaking Tetteh to shut out their South Coast Conference foes. The trend continued in the second set, and Edwards and Wall achieved what they thought they would do last year.

"After we won the first four points of the second set, Tetteh whispered to me during a change-over, 'coach, they're on fire.' I could only smile because he was right," added Kim.

## From the field to the classroom

RICK GOMEZ  
Sports Editor  
sports@talonmarks.com

What's harder than maintaining good grades when you are taking more than 12 units? Maintaining them while you are hitting a .944 slugging percentage with a record-breaking 15 home runs in a season.

It's her first year at Cerritos College as well as her first season with its softball team and catcher Samantha Vaalu has already become a member of the student-athlete family.

Vaalu expressed the struggles of being a student-athlete and adjusting to the transition from high school to college.

"It's hard to get used to," she said. Fortunately, she said, she has the help and encouragement from her mom who was also a student athlete.

Other athletes such as forward Jeremiah Barnes of the Cerritos College basketball team believes being a student-athlete in college is difficult.

"Your teachers don't care about your sports and your coach doesn't care about your classes," he said.

Another problem facing student-athletes is the pressure to perform on and off the court.

"There is a lot more pressure to perform in college," Barnes said, "in high school you don't have to worry as much."

Although a 2.0 is the grade point average athletes are required to maintain, he maintains a 3.2 GPA.

There is much sacrifice given while being a student-athlete he explained.

"During basketball season, there is no Playstation, there is no girlfriend," he added, "there is no social life at all."

During his freshmen season, besides going to classes and playing on the basketball team, he also worked the graveyard shift at Federal Express.

"During my breaks all I would do is study," he said. "This past year I had to quit my job and concentrate on school and basketball."

Barnes is transferring to Dixie

State in Utah after this semester.

A life outside of school and sports is difficult to find when trying to balance a good performance on the field and in the classroom said the defensive back of the Cerritos College football team Eric Russell.

He elaborates, "If your friends are not on the football team, then you don't see them."

Head coach Teplitzky stressed a lot on the academics, said Barnes.

"If you didn't go to class, you didn't play," he said.

ADDITIONAL REPORTING BY  
SCOTT WATKINS  
CELIA LIRA

## 10 softball players receive SCC honors, Perez Ashley wins pitcher of the year

Softball: Continued From Page 7

Recently, ten players from the Cerritos were awarded South Coast Conference honors including 6 first team All-SCC selections.

In addition, Pitcher Hillary Perez-Ashley won the pitcher of the year award and was named to the first team All-SCC.

Perez-Ashley, along with catcher

Samantha Vaalu and second baseman Lindsey Marquez were also added to the All-State ballot for voting.

Perez-Ashley recorded a 14-1 conference record with an unprecedented 1.27 ERA in 88 innings. Perez-Ashley also pitched 11 complete games.

Vaalu set school's single season record with 15 homeruns while hitting .463 with a .944 slugging percentage.

Outfielder Jennifer Salas, third baseman Desiree Miera and outfielder Lauren Castellon also joined the first team selections.

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## Falcons cruise to SCC championship

COURTESY OF THE SPORTS INFORMATION OFFICE

For the first time in the last 13 years, a school other than Mt. San Antonio College has won the South Coast Conference Men's Track and Field Championship.

The Cerritos College men's track team, winners of five events, dethroned the Mounties, while compiling 247 team points, with Mt. SAC a distant second place with 180.5 team points.

The Falcon qualifiers will now advance to the Southern California Preliminaries, which will be held next Saturday at Mt. San Antonio.

The top six from each event advance to the prelims, while there will be a selection of automatic qualifiers that will be decided at a seeding meeting.

Sophomore Kelsey Caesar was involved in three first place finishes, as he won the 200 meters, 400 me-

ters and ran the anchor leg of the 1600-meter relay team that won in a time of 3:15.29. The other three members of that relay team also combined to qualify in five other events.

Joining Caesar in winning the race were freshman Torion Bailey, sophomore Brandon Dickson and sophomore Marlon Austin.

Both Austin and Dickson qualified in the 400 meters, while Dickson also placed fourth in the long jump.

Other winners for the Falcons included sophomore Qualaun Reed in the 3000-meter steeplechase with a time of 9:57.87, while two others finished in the top four. Sophomore Kristen Joseph won the long jump at 23' 6", while freshman Jeramey Cutler won the discus at 152' 3". Cerritos will be well represented in the throwing events and jumps, as well.



MARIA MORALES/TM

Swing and a miss: Catcher Jacob Eaton takes a swing at the Vikings, though he falls short without a hit.

## Falcons miss opportunity

SOBUKWE RAMSEY

Staff Writer

sobukwe.ramsey@talonmarks.com

The Cerritos College baseball team has had some what of a whirlwind week as of late. As Cerritos chases its chances of a playoff birth, the Falcons have gone through convincing wins and disappointing losses in the process.

Its latest test on the playoff quest would come in a series with the cross town rival school, in Long Beach City College.

"Beating the Falcons to try and take the SCC title will definitely be sort of icing on the cake for our program", were the hopeful words of Viking coach Casey Crook.

That title hope would be out of the question,

at least that at the end of Saturdays game at Long Beach City, as Cerritos won 7-3 and put their conference title hopes in to a near reality.

However, Tuesday afternoon's game would turn out to be in the favor of the Vikings.

The game stayed tight through the fourth inning until the Falcons scored two runs, thanks to an RBI triple by second baseman Joe Terry, allowing shortstop Max McEleney to score from first base. In Saturdays game as well, Cerritos jumped out to a nice early lead with six runs scored compared to the Vikings zero through the fifth.

"If we plan on making a serious playoff run, we have to play the entire game like we do in the first four or five innings", said assistant coach Jack Brooks.

The Falcons youth has shown just that this season both negatively as well as positively.

First baseman Josh Bryan hit a single home run in the bottom of the ninth inning, edging Cerritos closer to tying the score but, Max McEleney struck out with two outs and the Falcons fell 4-3.

On a positive note for the Falcons, a personal achievement by Joe Terry was accomplished when he hit his thirteenth triple of the season, tying former Falcon Ron Ewart, who set the record in 1985.

The Falcons will finish out the season Thursday and Friday against Los Angeles City College at home to try for its playoff birth.



DANIELA GUZMAN/TM

Running ahead: Freshman Adolph Parks practices the 400 meter dash.

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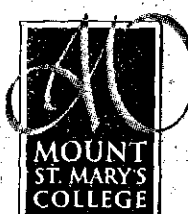
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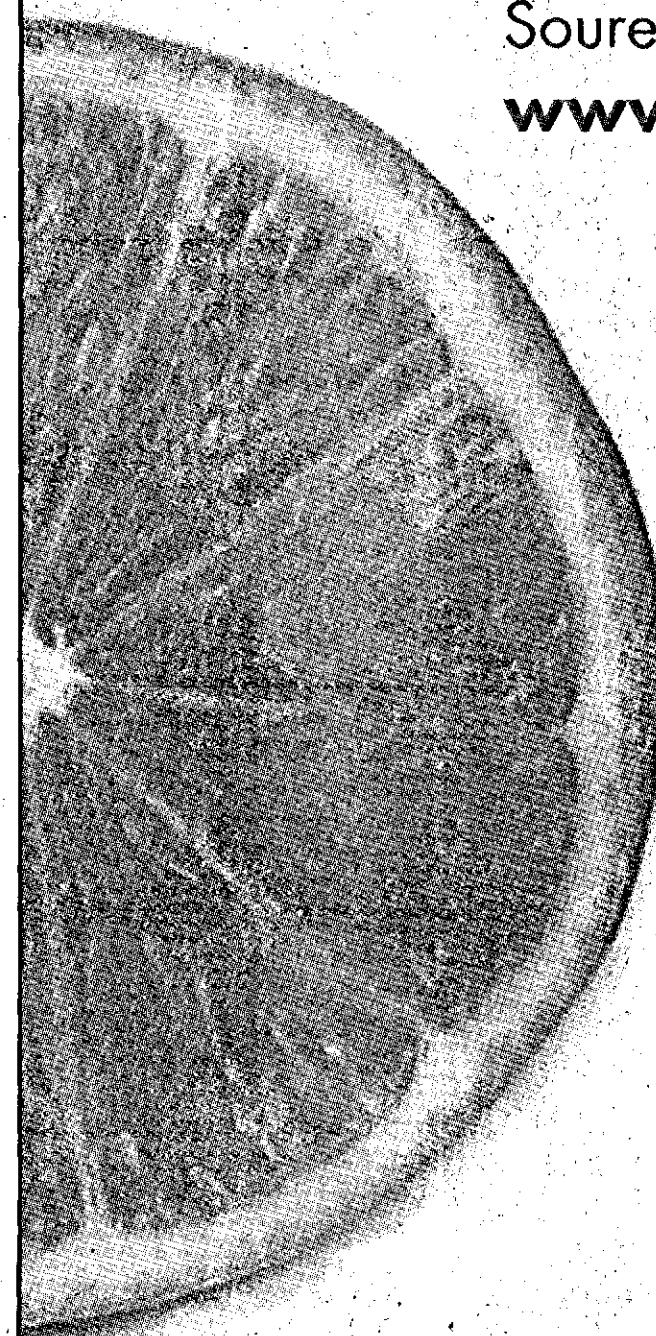
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# ARTS

## Runway showcase by cosmetology



**Fairy Dust:** Runway model showed off her fairy-styled hair last year. MICHAEL AGUDO/TM

**GUSTAVO RANGEL**  
Opinion Editor  
gustavo.rangel@talonmarks.com

The Cosmetology Department will host its annual Runway Showcase and Student Networking that will take place on May 4 in the Student Center.

Admission will be \$1.

This will be a student-run-and-operated show, and will be completely voluntary; to present hairstyles they have done to their models.

Every model will have their hair cut, dyed, braided and have added extensions.

Each student will have a maximum of two models.

"I've been planning this for two months, it's the first of its kind here at Cerritos," explained Bryan Griffith, cosmetology major.

Themes for the runway will be: Past, Present, and Future.

This will be a non-competitive showcase; it will be just simply to show off what they can do to local hair salon owners so they can be recognized and possibly get jobs.

"I'm looking forward to it, we're pumped we have a chance to showcase our work" exclaimed Cindy Alvelo, cosmetology major.

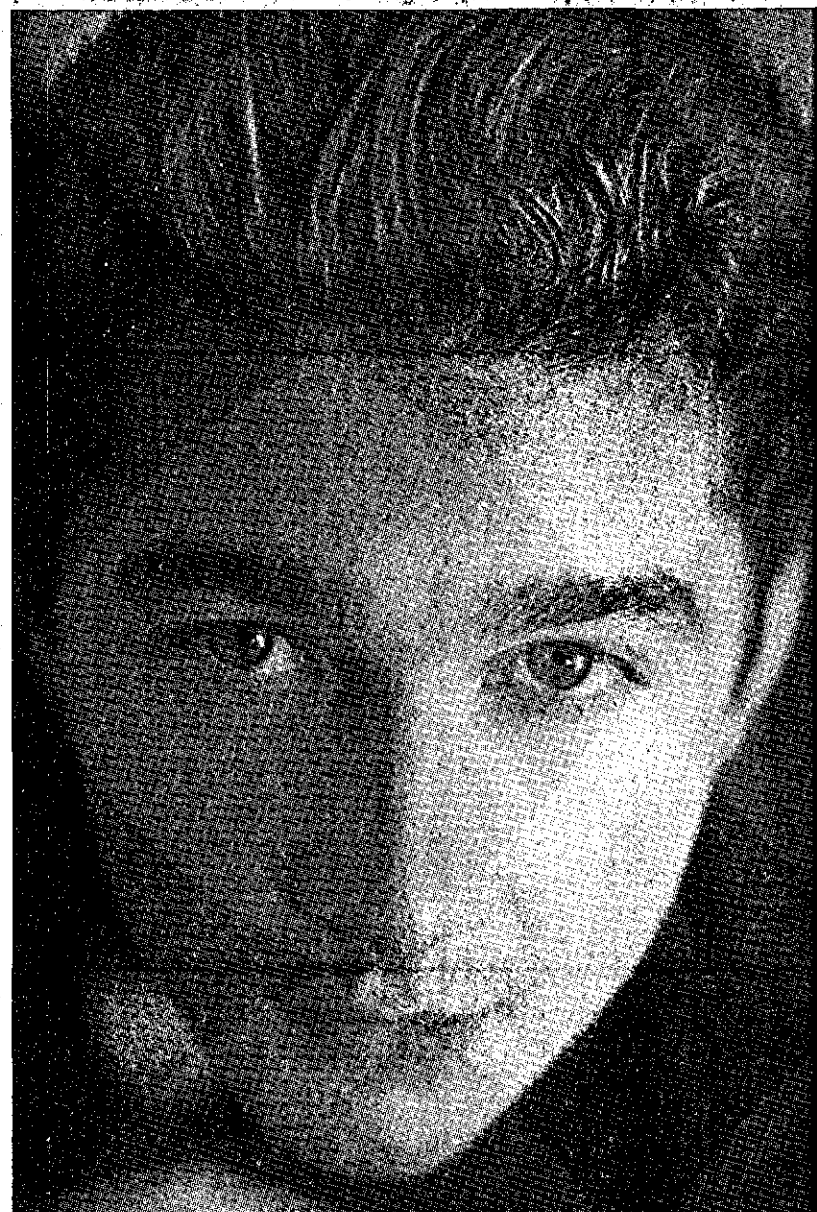
After the presentations of the models, guests will be invited into the back to discuss hair techniques and have the chance to communicate with each other.

"I am honored to work in a group that Bryan has set up, and for the networking to help me get a job," said Carmen Peralta, Cosmetology Club representative.



**Hannah Montana:** Model struts on runway impersonating performer Hannah Montana. MICHAEL AGUDO/TM

## LaBeouf gears up for Transformers sequel



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**ELIETH KOUZONS**  
News Editor  
news@talonmarks.com

With the upcoming debut of "Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen" nearby, Talon Marks caught up with the star of the motion picture. Although the movie's release is not until June 24, he was more than willing to give spectators a preview of the movie.

**Q & A:**

**Talon Marks:** The first Transformers movie received a lot of good reviews. How will the second part top the first?

**Shia LaBeouf:** It's bigger, better, faster and stronger. There is definitely more speed, more explosions, more stunts and more humor. The Decepticons are amazingly fast and the story line itself is mind-blowing. Not to mention the cast is spectacular.

**TM:** Are there any new elements in the movie that will captivate the audience?

**SL:** The explosions. The special effects from director John Frazier completely went balls-out on one of the bombs. He worked on the bomb for the movie for seven months. The making of the bomb took way longer than the actual making of the movie and let me tell you, that is one tremendous explosion!

**TM:** Was this movie more physically demanding than the first?

**SL:** Well I had to perform a lot of my stunts with my broken hand, among other injuries, so yeah, it was definitely more physically demanding. It's hard to place stunt doubles during a scene because there are so many cameras taking like eight different shots all at the same time and you can't really have the actor in one

shot and not in the other. It's fun for me because I feel like a bad ass doing my own stunts. But at the same time, I have to make sure I don't kill myself because there is a lot of money riding on me finishing the movie. The physical exertion this movie required was much more demanding than the first.

**TM:** Is there anything in particular that you liked better from this movie as opposed to the first movie?

**SL:** The story line is much more exciting. The heroic Autobots and the evil Decepticons are much faster. The explosions are bigger and better, the cast is amazing, and the stunts were much more difficult. I would have to say I liked everything better.

**TM:** How does Sam Witwicky evolve in this movie?

**SL:** The movie starts off two years later with Sam going to college and trying to live an independent life. He just saved the world from the evil Decepticons trying to take over, so things have definitely changed for him. He's no longer just a regular guy. Now he's known as "the guy that saved the world." But as if that wasn't making it hard enough for him to live an independent life, he's got his parents always on his case and he has Bumblebee as his guardian in his garage disguised as his car. So there is a more mature approach to his decision-making and him wanting to better himself by going to college. However, things like Decepticons trying to take over the world again keep getting in his way and they don't allow him to do what he wants to do.

**TM:** Do you relate to Sam in any way?

**SL:** Yes I definitely do. I actually was all set to go to college. I had all

my little colorful erasers and those pop-up pencils and stuff, when I got a phone call from this guy named Steven Spielberg asking me to make a movie, I'm not completely insane, you know? I wasn't going to tell him, "No, Steven, I can't be in the movie because I have to go to school." Of course I said yes. I haven't gotten my head wrapped around this whole college thing so in a way I feel kind of lame whenever I talk to someone who is going to college. I feel like they are superior because unlike me, they are excelling in their education and bettering themselves. I think that's kind of how I can relate to Sam because we both want to continue our education but something is always getting in the way.

**TM:** Many of the Transformers comic book fans were not so pleased with the first movie. Do you think this one will not only appeal to them but also please them?

**SL:** You are never going to do something that is going to please everybody. You can't cater to one specific group of people and expect the entire world to like it as well. You can't put on a screen everything that everyone likes. It's ridiculous to even think you can. The comic books don't have all the details that a movie requires. I mean, come on, they are Transformers. If they can transform into anything, why can't they transform into something the majority of the audience will like?

**TM:** What would you say to spectators that would encourage them to see the movie?

**SL:** It's an explosive movie! The stunts, the special effects, the Autobots, the Decepticons, the explosions, the cast, the story line; everything will make you think you got your money's worth.

### New Releases DVDs

**The Curious Case of Benjamin Button**  
PG 13  
Drama

**Last Chance Harvey**  
PG 13  
Drama

**Geisha Assassin**  
NR  
Action

### CDs

**The Last Kiss**  
Jadakiss  
Hip Hop

**Unstoppable Rascal Flatts**  
Country

**21st Century Breakdown**  
Green Day  
Pop Punk

### Books

**The Lost Symbol**  
Dan Brown  
Mystery

**The Last Olympian**  
Rick Riordan  
Fantasy

**Dean and Gone**  
Charlaine Harris  
Fantasy

### Opening in Theatres May 1

**The Ghosts of Girlfriends Past**  
PG 13  
Comedy

**Battle for Terra**  
PG  
Fantasy

**Limits of Control**  
R  
Drama

**The Last Lullaby**  
R  
Thriller



# Renaissance Pleasure Faire



Jousting: Hanlon-Lees jousting knights competed in a bold full-contact competition for honor.

TIM DICKERSON/TM

## People travel back in time to the Renaissance.

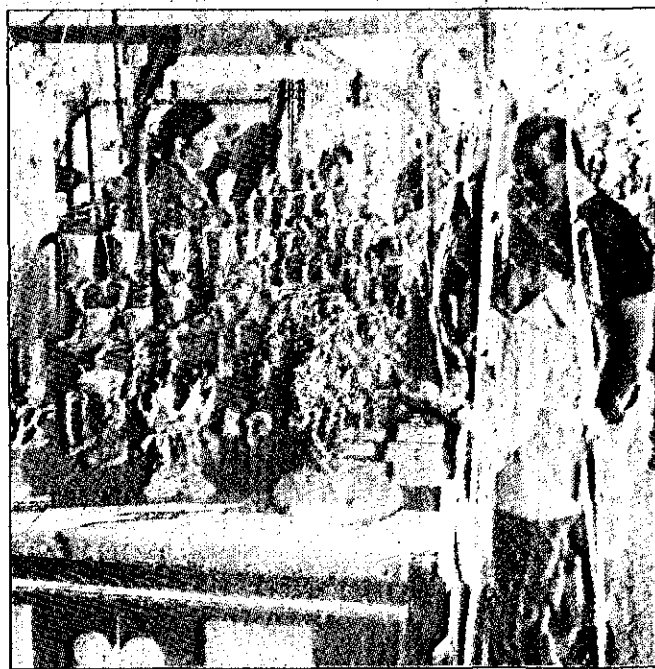
The 47th Annual Renaissance Pleasure Faire is being held at the Santa Fe Dam Recreation Area in Irwindale.

It started on April 4 and is being held every weekend until May 17.

People dress up in costumes ranging from knights to pirates.

There are many shows such as the joust, Moonie the Magnif'Cent and the Washing Well Wenchies.

There are plenty of shops where people can buy ye olde-style souvenirs.



TIM DICKERSON/TM

Handmade pewter: People gathered around to buy pewter goblets, statues and pendants.



TIM DICKERSON/TM

Romeo, O Romeo: William Shakespeare had a humorous show where he told crude jokes and had forced volunteers act out scenes from "Romeo and Juliet." The scenes were modified because Shakespeare is allowed to do that.



TIM DICKERSON/TM

God save the queen: Paths were cleared for when the queen passed by as everyone stopped to wave to her.

Cerritos College Theatre Department and ASCC Present

## COMPANY

Music & Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim  
Book by George Furth

Original Music Direction by Harold Prince

Directed by David Roman  
Set Design by Christine Hogue  
Musical Direction by Steven Shill  
Costume Design by Anne Quinn

May 1, 2, 7, 8, 9 @ 8 pm  
and May 10 @ 2 pm

With a little help from his married friends, confirmed bachelor Bobby weighs the pros and cons of married life.

\$15 general admission  
\$12 student (w/proof of ID), staff, faculty  
senior, middle and high school  
\$10 age 5-12

Buy tickets online at [www.cerritos.edu/theatre](http://www.cerritos.edu/theatre)  
more info: 562.467.5050

## Don't obsess over 'Obsessed'

ROGER MOORE  
MCT

### Movie Review

#### Obsessed

**Starring:** Idris Elba, Ali Larter, Beyoncé Knowles  
**Director:** Steven Shill

**Rating:**

"Obsessed" is a thriller built around the married woman's worst fear, the office blond after her husband.

Make the married woman black and you take that to another level, the black woman's fear of that skinny white blond chasing her man.

But whoever thought remaking "Fatal Attraction" as a PG-13 thriller was a good idea earns much of the blame for this laughably arch dud.

As they stumble through the minefield of racial-sexual politics, the filmmakers strip the heat and most of the guilt away from a story that was salable in seven short words, "Beyoncé and Ali, third-act cat fight."

Idris Elba is Derek, the boss of a financial planning firm with a new temp.

"I think you'll find I'm not your typical temp," Lisa (Ali Larter) purrs as she shows a little leg and Derek notices.

He may be a Boy Scout and devout husband (and new father) now, but time was when Derek was the office hound.

He spends the entire movie avoiding Lisa's increasingly aggressive advances.

"Temp? Tempress," a politically incorrect

colleague (Jerry O'Connell) growls.

But Derek has the stunning Sharon (Beyoncé) at home. He's paranoid because he knows his old reputation.

And she's paranoid because she got her man the same way she sees Lisa trying to get her man, scheming, batting her eyes.

Things escalate instant message flirting, drinks at the office Christmas party.

It's all big, strong Derek can do to fend off this cat-eyed wisp of a temp.

The Brit director of this, Steve Shill, also directed lots of episodes of Showtime's sexed-up "The Tudors."

But he is at a loss at how to create heat be-

tween Larter and Elba.

The actor seems uncomfortable with the whole idea, and the actress struggles to keep a straight face as she hurls herself at him in comically unsexy underwear or in the men's room at their office.

Knowles gives a performance of big hair, big heels and big eyes until things turn all Glenn Close in the third act.

I've liked every one of these performers in other films, but this reduces them to broad gestures, eye-rolling one-liners and ridiculously stiff and over-the-top good husband vs. evil vamp situations.

Even the office environment seems tone deaf and out of date, from Derek's confidence in "hedge funds" to the Christmas party and sexist banter among men (Bruce McGill is the big boss) that companies now avoid in order to dodge harassment lawsuits.

The whole movie feels like something from about 1984.

It may turn out to be a crowd pleaser (if unintentional laughs count).

It could have been more. "Obsessed" has can't-miss hot-buttons built into it.

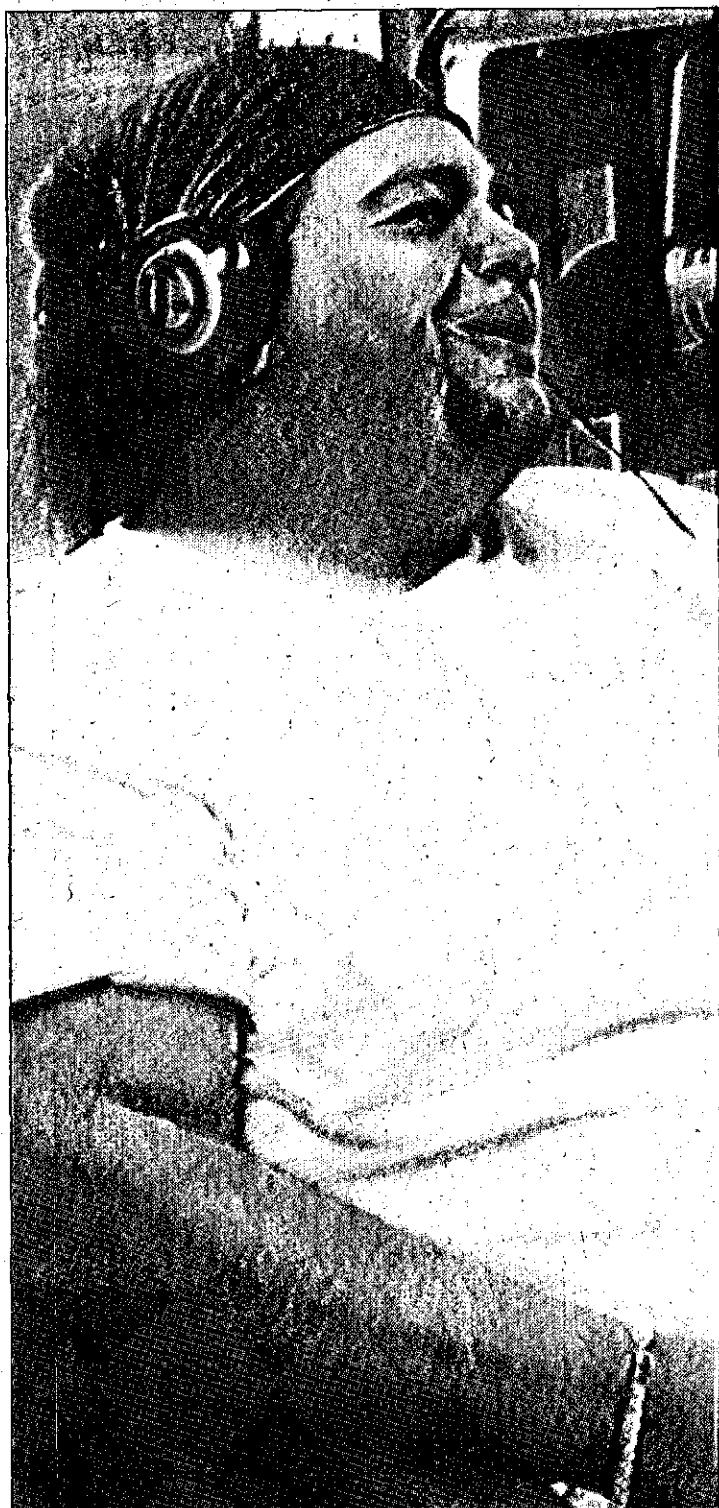
But cast and crew keep fumbling around and hitting "pause" instead.



# AUDIO BRAINTRUST

## SPOTLIGHT: Shaun Barnes

## Record Report Card



ELIETH KOULZONS  
News Editor  
news@talonmarks.com

After being diagnosed with bipolar disease at the age of 11, Shaun Barnes has learned to overcome many obstacles in his life in order to get to where he is now.

As a radio host of the Cerritos College's WPMD show, "Afternoon Block Party" on Tuesdays from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., he feels this disease has made him grow up too fast but also broaden his horizons.

"There were a lot of things I was forced to deal with and overcome," he said. "Most of the time, I was just confused."

Barnes confessed that as soon as he hit puberty, he began to gain a lot of weight and grew to be very unhealthy.

There were days where he woke up in an extremely happy mood and then there were days where he woke up sad and did not know what to do with himself.

He states, "It was obvious that I was different, that I was changing. The old Shaun was gone."

However that did not stop him from pursuing his goals. After being released from the group home he lived in at the age of 14, he aspired to become a social worker.

His career interest completely changed when he moved to Texas and began listening to "a new and fresh style of radio."

"Growing up, Big Boy from Power 106 was my idol," he said. "But then in Texas, I started listening to all these different DJs that

had such a different style of radio that was so new and fresh. I got inspired and compelled to see what I could do with music."

Barnes believes he has a lot to offer to listeners and could bring a fresh new sound that has not been heard on the radio for a long time.

Because many of the radio stations now are corporate-owned and force the radio hosts to be too proper and are not allowed to say what is on their minds, he believes listeners deserve someone who is not afraid to speak about politics and controversial issues.

"I love politics and watching channels such as CNN and MSNBC. When controversial issues like Prop. 8 present themselves, I'm always the one that is more than willing to talk about them and allow listeners to tune in and express their opinions as well instead of just avoiding the issue," he claims.

After receiving his Associate's Degree in Radio Broadcasting, he hopes to become a host at a larger and more well-known radio station or better yet host a satellite radio show where he can "keep it as real as possible."

Although he tries to incorporate everything he has learned throughout his life into his show, he believes he still has a lot more to learn.

"I am a really humble guy. There are a lot of people out there with worse diseases that are doing much more than I am," he said. "A lot of people have helped me get to where I am and I just hope to one day be able to give listeners a new and fresh sound they will enjoy."

### NOFX "Coaster"

NOFX goes back to basics; loud, fast and in your face, making this one of its best releases in years. Lead singer, "Fat Mike," spent most of the last decade using his music as a political agenda fighting against Bush. Now that we have a new president, it's back to some good old-fashioned punk rock.

Grade: B+



### Ben Lee "The Rebirth of Venus"

In an album that Ben Lee dedicates to Venus, the goddess of love and beauty, Lee brings a positive vibe for the negative times.

This album keeps a smile on your face from beginning to end. And don't be surprised if you are reminded of Bob Dylan after listening to this album.

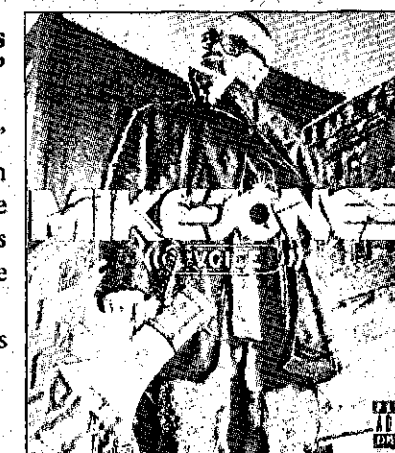
Grade: A-

### Mike Jones "The Voice"

Why is this album called "The Voice?" Jones does not say anything on this album that could make him stand out as "The Voice." His "schtick" is overly using his name as to remind you of who you are listening to.

If we need to hear who he is on this album, does it have to be on every song?

Grade: D-



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