

# CERRITOS COLLEGE TALON MARKS

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## Chief Bukowiecki proposes parking fee increase

VIVIAN AGUIRRE  
Staff Writer  
Vivian.Aguirre@talonmarks.com

The Cerritos College campus police proposed a \$5 parking fee increase to the Student Senate, on Wednesday.

Chief of police Richard Bukowiecki presented the proposal to the Senate. If passed, students may expect changes in their parking fees effective summer 2010.

Parking permit fees will be \$35 in the fall and spring semester, and \$20 in summer session.

There have not been any significant changes in the

fee since 1997. However with a declining economy, the resources are becoming limited around campus.

"We are exploring the option of presenting the increase to the Board of Trustees and trying to get comparable rates to other colleges of our size," said Bukowiecki.

The increase in parking fees will compensate for lack of funds in maintenance and increase campus safety.

The majority of the campus' safety and maintenance budget comes from the parking fees. This increase will benefit the students because the funds will

be used toward the restoration of parking facilities, the re-enforcement of campus security and the emergency alert system.

Campus security will remain efficient and will continue providing its escort services, as well as the emergency alert system, via text message at AlertU. Students will be alerted in case of any emergency, with just a simple text message.

James Trazo, biology major, stated, "\$5 isn't too much to ask compared to all the other fees we have. If it benefits the students, it's to our advantage. If they don't like it, then they can ride the bus."

Other students had an opposing view. Brian Lozano, undecided major, stated, "\$35 is a lot. They already raised tuition, and now five more bucks for parking, it's too much!"

For the students that are eligible for the Board of Governors Grant, waiver the price will remain at \$20 regardless of the new proposal, due to the educational code and state law.

Isaac Adako, economics major stated, "The Cerritos campus parking is one the fairest in price, compared to all of the other campuses. Five dollars will not be a significant amount in comparison to our safety."

## Cerritos Green with funding

ASHLEY AGUIRRE  
Multimedia Editor  
Ashley.Aguirre@talonmarks.com

Cerritos College has received a \$100,000 grant from Southern California Edison as part of the company's \$1 million Green Jobs Education Initiative. Cerritos was one of ten community colleges selected to receive the grant designed to support green education and job training.

"Southern California Edison looked for colleges that had a strong green curriculum," said Tammy Tumbling, Manager of Community Involvement at SCE, "we wanted to ensure that the colleges supported students who were enrolled in degree apprenticeship or certificate programs."

The grant will allow Cerritos to make scholarships available to students who are enrolled in green job workforce preparation and demonstrate financial need. Students who are awarded the scholarship will receive \$2,000 each.

Cerritos can choose to invest the SCE grant funds in the California Community College Scholarship Endowment to receive an additional \$50,000 match from the endowment's lead benefactor, The Bernard Osher Foundation.

Green jobs education subject areas include renewable energy, energy generation, system installation and storage, green building and energy efficiency, water, wastewater, and waste management, transportation, alternative fuels, biofuels production and farming, environmental compliance and sustainability planning.

"Our goal is to empower students to focus on the green workforce and to support programs which prepare them with marketable skills and training" said Tumbling.

Other community colleges

See GREEN Page 2

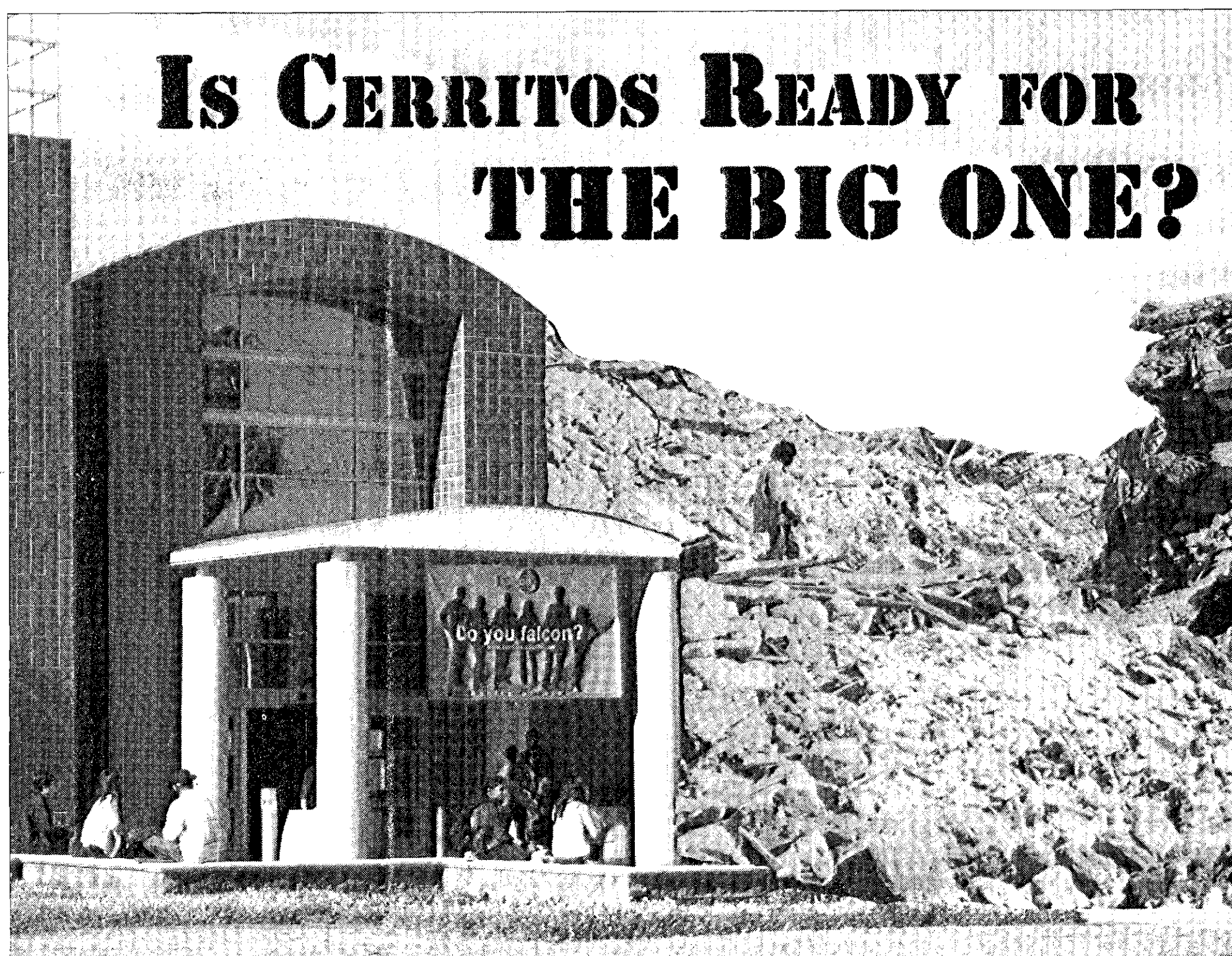


PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY ASHLEY AGUIRRE AND ORLANDO DOMINGUEZ

JOEY BERUMEN  
News Editor  
Joey.Berumen@talonmarks.com

The recent Haitian earthquake and consequential 33 aftershocks, ranging from 4.2 to 5.9, that have left an estimated three million people in need of emergency aid, countless thousands feared dead and essentially ravaged the country's infrastructure, it has many Cerritos college students in fear of the dreaded 'big one.'

"I think it is a possibility of having a big earthquake since we have little ones all the time. I am definitely scared of having a big one," said business and administration major Melanie Villarreal.

To help disseminate useful information in case of an earthquake, Cerritos College has developed an emergency information Web page. This web page functions entirely independent of the main Cerritos College site and can still be accessed if there is any type of damage to the campus and the campus page is down.

Using "In case of an emergency" posters that are posted around campus and in every occupied classroom, the

safety committee has utilized another way to give students important information regardless of where they may be on campus.

The posters clearly give an evacuation plan and directions on how to find your designated assembly area in case of an earthquake. The designated meeting places can all be recognized by a yellow sign that features three people meeting on them.

Through the CCCCCA disaster preparedness training, Cerritos College has implemented specific systems that are also used worldwide.

This system has an elaborate team of building marshalls and team leaders that are designated employees, whose main job is to make sure their building is clear of injured people and note if there is anything of major concern, like a gas leak or trapped people.

In the event that there is an injury it is the building marshalls responsibility to communicate over radio to the Emergency Operations Center (E.O.C.) This will ensure that help can reach the specific place in the shortest amount of time.

"Something that we are doing is using common termi-

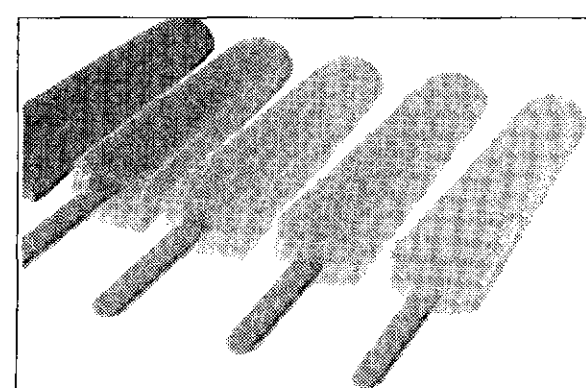
nology that first responders use, that way we standardize our emergency response," said Dr. Stephen Johnson, Vice President of student services.

"I think throughout the years we have had adequate training on how to deal with earthquakes," said nursing major Christina Black.

While there is a clear cut plan of what to do in the event of an earthquake on campus, there are many different outlets that can help prevent total disaster from happening. "I urge everyone to sign up for AlertU and read the posters that are around campus, that tell students what to do in case of an earthquake," Johnson added.

While there seems to be many precautions in place to help avoid disaster on campus, not all students are convinced.

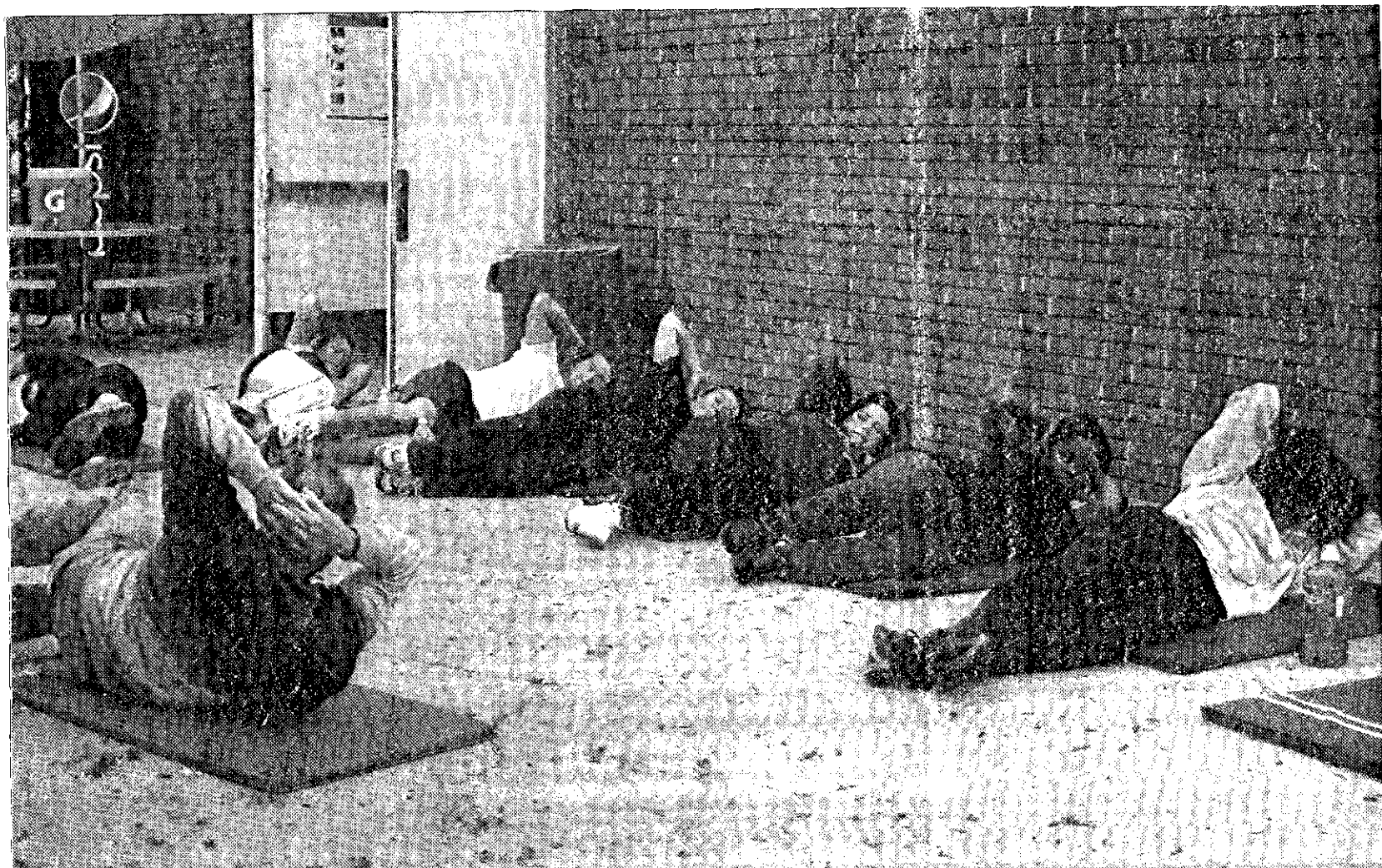
"I don't think Cerritos College is ready for an earthquake. I think students know what to do, but I don't think the buildings are strong enough," said Stephanie Zuniga, undecided major.



## Choose your own flavor

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- **Talon Marks Online** - Get the first look at our full stories and multimedia add-ons
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**Pound by Pound:** Program participants Ramiro Flores, Unique Bouste, Karen Hernandez, Caitlyn Amayo, Jason Vaughan, Krystle Palabrica and Board of Trustees member Bob Hughlett do crunches for results.

## Pound by Pound returns

SAMANTHA ROBINSON  
Opinion Editor  
Samantha.Robinson@talonmarks.com

Cerritos College will be a little lighter by the end of next semester if the Pound by Pound challenge has anything to do with it.

The Pound by Pound challenge is a free 16-week weight loss program offered to students and faculty at Cerritos College.

While no credit is offered for joining the program, a free physical and nutritional training is provided.

Participants start with a physical and fitness test to determine their health and abilities.

Then they are required to go into the school's fitness lab at least twice a week to exercise and

must see the certified nutritionist a minimum of twice a month.

"Step up and stay active together" is the program's slogan and the "3 P's" are incorporated into all the activities: Proper nutrition, proper training, and positive motivation.

How to eat and exercise properly is also stressed in the program. Trips to the grocery store are planned to teach what foods should be bought and which shouldn't.

Monica Chora, a nurse at the Student Services Center at Cerritos College said, "It's just a good program to teach you weight management and the best part of it is it's all free (for students and faculty)."

Estimated enrollment is projected to be around 250 for the semester.

Coordinator of Student Health Services and of the weight loss program Nancy Montgomery stated, "Making their health a priority (is a must). Things are mandatory in the program for a reason. Someone who isn't serious about getting healthier isn't going to benefit from the program."

Orientation for new and returning participants was held on Jan. 14. The program is set to begin on Jan. 19.

Dr. Ni Bueno, health education department chair, said, "Participants will leave this program with much higher energy and better self confidence. And that is what we wanted."

For more information please visit: <http://cms.cerritos.edu/shs/PoundByPound> or call 562-860-2451, ext 2341.

## Fee payment service available

JOEY BERUMEN  
News Editor  
joey.berumen@talonmarks.com

The Cerritos College Web site is now accepting credit card payments, ending an over two week period of students not being able to pay their fees over winter break.

"I have been trying to pay my fees for weeks. I check online every day to see if I could. I even went to campus and nothing," said frustrated psychology major Magaly Zamora.

Students that have outstanding fees will be sent an e-mail today to inform them that the system is once again working and that they can ei-

ther pay their fees online or in person at the Admissions and Records office in the Administration building.

It is recommended that students pay their fees online to avoid long lines that tend to come with the beginning of the semester.

With the payment system back online, this still leaves many with questions. On the top of that list is, "When will students be dropped from their classes for non-payment if their seven-day deadline has already passed?"

Lee Krichmar, Director of Information Technology, said, "Students must pay their fees by midnight on Jan. 18."

## Students strategize for parking spaces

SHEILA OLAIZ  
Staff Writer  
Sheila.olai@talonmarks.com

Don't take any candy from a stranger, but take a ride instead? Anita Karaboghian, campus promoter, did just that.

Karaboghian was struggling for a parking spot for over 20 minutes. She eventually pulled up alongside a student walking and inquired about her parking location.

Because the spot was conveniently close, Karaboghian wanted the spot. She told the student, "Hop in my car and I'll take you to your car, as long as I can have your spot."

Cerritos College offers the first week free for parking, and according to Karaboghian, "this is the

only campus that I have visited that offers free parking on the first week."

Angelina Gallegos, business accounting major in her second year, wakes up early to get a decent parking spot.

She said, "I'm here two hours before my class starts. I have a three hour break between my classes, but I stay here on campus so I don't lose my good parking spot."

Gallegos suggested that there be less staff parking.

Micaela Garcia, liberal arts major in her second year, can relate to Gallegos and is also very frustrated with the ritual she has to go through every day to park her car just so she can receive an education.

"I'll do anything to have a close parking spot. I'm here two hours before my classes start," she said.

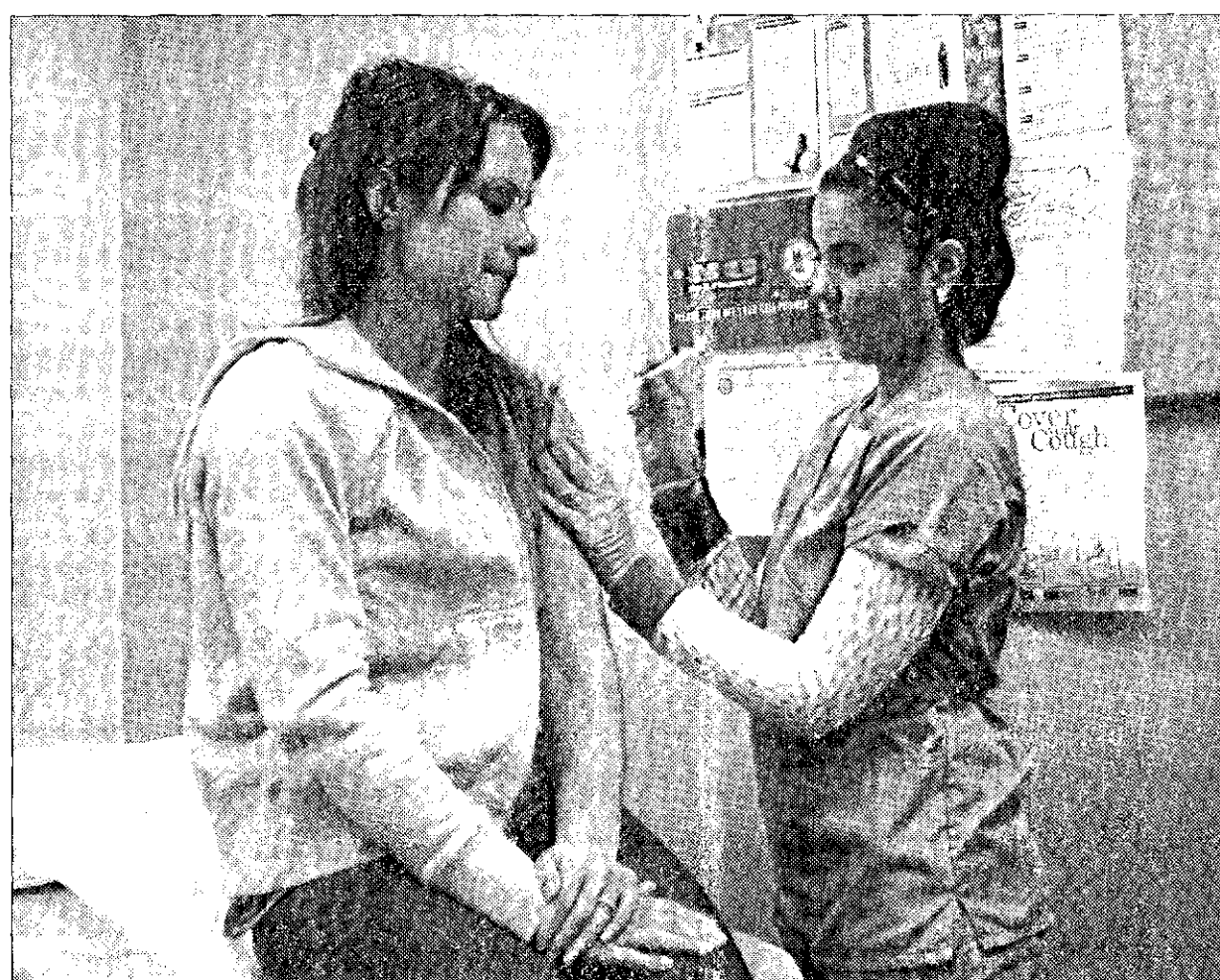
## Green: Cerritos selected to go green

Continued from Page (1)

that also received the grant are

- Cerro Coso Community College, Ridgecrest;
- El Camino College, Torrance;
- Golden West College, Huntington Beach;
- Long Beach City College, Long Beach;
- Los Angeles Southwest College, Los Angeles;
- Los Angeles Trade-Technical College, Los Angeles;
- Rio Hondo College, Whittier;
- San Bernardino Valley College, San Bernardino;
- Ventura College, Ventura.

## H1N1 vaccine is now available at Cerritos health center



**Getting Vaccinated:** Medical assistants Amber Hackert (left) and Alida Corrales (right) demonstrating H1N1 vaccination shots at the health center.

MEGAN WINTERS  
Arts Editor  
megan.winters@talonmarks.com

A free immunization clinic will be available for the H1N1 vaccine on Wednesday.

The services will be provided by the Student Health Services and will be offered to the students and staff at Cerritos College.

The clinic will be held in the gym from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

600 vaccines will be distributed.

Nancy Montgomery, Health Services Coordinator plans for another clinic for the next week if more vaccines are needed.

The H1N1 vaccines are provided by the LA Department of Health Services.

So far, 400 injections have been given in the Health Services Center.

The community at Cerritos College is at high priority for the H1N1 vaccines because the H1N1 flu targets young adults.

Pregnant women are at higher risk for obtaining the Swine flu and are advised to get the vaccine.

Most people have no immunity

to the H1N1 flu, and if contracted, their bodies are not prepared to fight the virus.

In order to fight against the flu, an inactivated (dead virus) vaccine is injected.

The Center of Disease Control urges everyone to take three action steps to protect against the flu, those are: Take time to get vaccinated, take everyday prevention actions, and take flu antiviral drugs if recommended.

Nurse practitioner and Clinical Supervisor of Student Health Center, Debbie Binning said the swine flu has been around for many years, now it is just a different strain and it is highly recommended to take the necessary precautions.

"I have a lot of young people who come in and who are afraid of the side effects that come along with the shot, but no side effects have been evident this time around," said Binning.

If students miss Wednesday's clinic, walk-ins at the Health Services Center are welcomed and will still be free of charge.

## ASCC treats Cerritos students to free In-N-Out burgers at Welcome Back Night

REBECA VEGA  
Staff Writer  
rebeca.vega@talonmarks.com

Students gathered in Falcon Square on Tuesday night to receive free In-N-Out burgers and listen to music provided by DJ Cory in celebration of Welcome Night for the 2010 spring semester.

The In-N-Out truck, parked across from the Instructional Support Center, began serving food to students who have the current spring 2010 sticker on their school ID at 5:30 p.m.

After students picked up their meals, consisting of a burger, bag of chips and a cup of soda, some rushed off to evening classes while others were able to stay and listen to

a compilation of popular songs currently heard on the radio.

"It's awesome," Juan Pineda, paralegal major, said. "You're rewarded for how hard you work and no one should take that for granted. The music's not bad either."

Other evening class students, such as cosmetology major Aura Spencer, expressed gratitude for being given the chance to take part in the Welcome Week festivities.

"I think it's a really awesome event—especially for night-time students who feel excluded from college life."

DJ Cory, a familiar face at Cerritos College, also expressed appreciation for the school's services to students.

"I've been doing this for six or

seven years now and it's a great way to start the new year. Students here are very blessed to have a college that does so much for them. Obviously, I'm a little biased to say I like the music," he joked.

Welcome Night and Welcome Day have become a tradition at Cerritos College hosted by the ASCC during the first week of every semester.

Even after several times attending the event, many students are still glad and even surprised to hear the In-N-Out truck and DJ Cory will be back.

"This is the best time of school life and they should do this more often. I didn't know they were coming. It was unexpected," nursing major Charlie Path said.

"I always dig the free food. A free burger after class is always appreciated. If anything, it encourages people to get the sticker," added undeclared major Kimberly Camargo.

Even though the only reason some students purchase the ASCC sticker simply to enjoy a free In-N-Out burger for Welcome Week, they inadvertently provide financial support to Cerritos College's student organizations.

"By them paying and buying the sticker, they help support activities across campus," Holly Bogdanovich, Director of Student Activities, said.

"The reason we do Welcome Night and Welcome Day to thank people. They support us, we give them back something they can see," she added.



**Eating for Free:** Cosmetology majors Denise Prieto (left), Amber Kaykendall (white) and fellow cosmetology majors take advantage of free In-N-Out.





# EARTHQUAKE

## are you prepared?

TYTO BENAVIDES  
WPMD Editor  
tito.benavides@talonmarks.com

A mere 3 days after a 6.5 magnitude earthquake roused the northern coast of California, causing an estimated \$21.9 million in damage in the quiet town of Eureka, a 7.0 earthquake altered and ended thousands of lives in the island of Haiti's Port-au-Prince region causing a destruction so complete, that it has been described as the end of the world by those who survived it.

As expected, the people of our local communities, our state and country have stepped up to the plate by amassing disaster relief aid for the desperate situation in Haiti. President Obama has promised the full support of the United States in the urgent effort to save those trapped beneath the rubble and to deliver the humanitarian relief of food, water and medicine, which is desperately needed in the moments after any catastrophe. One week later, these efforts are only beginning to reach their destination.

People from all walks seem to know what to do and how to help after the event of a disaster.

Yet, even though we've all witnessed the tragic, there's a lot more we can do to be prepared.

menous and completely unnecessary suffering in the township of Port-au-Prince and surrounding regions, it seems that hardly anybody lives in a household that is prepared in anyway for the eminent Southern California earthquake, also known as the "The Big One."

Students were randomly asked if their household was ready to be cut off from society following a 7.0 magnitude earthquake, an earthquake with enough force to knock out water supplies, electricity and communications for at least a week.

"I don't think so," administrative justice major Richard Alvarez answered to his own bemusement.

Auto major Edgar Marchan also admitted his family wasn't prepared to sustain itself after such a disaster, but believes being prepared is a good idea.

Graphic design major Johnelle Hipol isn't so worried. "Earthquakes happen all the time and Haiti does have a poorer economy. It might be different for us here since we have modern technology."

Psychology major German Sanchez's family actually buys months worth of food and water at a time. His mother is a nurse with a professional first aid kit in the house, but the supplies are stored in the garage, "scattered around."

Sanchez also admits, "If the garage collapses, we won't be able to reach those supplies. So we're not all that organized."

Animation major Jonathon Vanderlinden knows exactly what should go into an earthquake preparedness kit:

First aid medical kits, canned food rations and tools to shut off the gas and water.

A person so knowl-

**Tools:** You should keep vital tools available, such as crescent and pipe wrenches to shut off gas and water valves. Also, a utility knife and a fire extinguisher that can put out all types of fires. Make sure to keep some cash around as well, as banks might not be operational.

**Flashlight:** Keep a pair of working flashlights with fresh batteries and extra bulbs. Also keep battery-operated lanterns for evening hours.

**Water:** Store at least three gallons of water per person. Keep regular, unscented household bleach to make water from other sources potable by adding 8 drops of bleach per gallon of water and sealing it tightly.

**First Aid Kit:** Keep a well-stocked first aid kit on hand. It should include essentials such as Band-Aids, latex gloves, surgical masks, gauze and medications such as antibiotics, eye drops, allergy medication, aspirin, and prescriptions for everyone in the household.

self. The American Red Cross has an online store with kits available for purchase. This and other informative Web sites can be found at [www.RedCrossStore.org](http://www.RedCrossStore.org), [www.QuakeKare.com](http://www.QuakeKare.com), or [www.cert-kits.com](http://www.cert-kits.com).

The problem with not being prepared is not going away on its own and it may be swept under the rug at one's own peril. Due to the information overload on the Haitian disaster, other significant seismic activity is being overlooked;

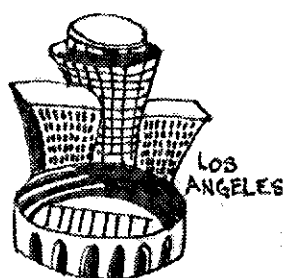
•On January 15th, only 4 days after the Haitian quake, a 5.7 earthquake hit Venezuela near the coastal town of Carupano, which is just 813 miles from Port-au-Prince, Haiti.

•On January 18th, a magnitude 5.8 earthquake strikes the coast of Guatemala.

•On January 19th, a magnitude 5.8 quake centered in the Caribbean Sea rattles the Cayman Islands.

Will an earthquake strike southern California? Unfortunately, its not 'if' but 'when'.

Will we as Californians be ready? 'If' we



**Clothing:** Keep spare comfortable clothing and footwear near your bed, at work and in your car. You never know where you'll be when you need it.

**Bedding:** Keep extra blankets or sleeping bags and pillows in case you're not able to stay at your home. Most likely, hotels will be full, and you might have to sleep in your car. You can also keep a tent big enough for your family which may also come in handy.



## Baseball gets new head coach, goals and season vision

Scott Watkins  
Staff Writer  
Scott.Watkins@talonmarks.com

Jack Brooks, who has served as the assistant coach of the Cerritos College baseball team for the past three seasons, takes over as head coach this season for Ken Gaylord, who led the team for the past 17 seasons.

"This year to compete in batting is not what we are looking for," Brooks said. "We are here to dominate."

For the third consecutive year the Falcons were bounced in the first round of the state playoffs last season.

"One of goals this year is to get out of the first round of the playoffs, that has been our nemesis the past three seasons," Brooks said.

Last season also saw a first for the Falcons, they were swept for the first time in the schools history by South Coast Conference rival Compton College.

"Compton beat us up a little last year. We overlooked them, but this year that won't happen," Brooks said.

One key returner for the Falcons is second baseman Joe Terry, who was named the South Coast Conference player of the year last season.

Terry hit .417 last season and was drafted by the Seattle Mariners in the 17th round of last June's amateur baseball draft, but decided to not sign with the Mariners.

## Cerritos women's softball not so soft for next season

Ricardo Garcia  
Staff Writer  
Ricardo.Garcia@talonmarks.com

The Cerritos College softball team sets its eyes on another conference championship and post season birth for the upcoming 2010 season.

Head coach Kadee Murray says the team is pretty talented and she expects to remain in contention for another championship and competitive in post season events as well.

Seven of the 10 starters will be returning from a successful last season who had a record of 41-11-1 and captured a South Coast Conference title for the second year in

He believes he still has much to improve on the field.

"This off-season I worked on conditioning, getting slimmer and faster," he said. "Also I have been working on my defense because that is the biggest weakness in my game."

Terry doesn't see much difference in the style the Falcons will play this year, but says that the coaching style of Gaylord and Brooks are slightly different.

"Gaylord was much more intimidating than Brooks," he said. "Don't get me wrong if you mess up Brooks will let you know, but he will also sit down and talk about what you need to do next the next time out."

Another returning player is pitcher Chris Villalobos, who started last season in the bullpen, but because of injuries was forced into the rotation and finished with a 9-3 record and an ERA of 3.55.

Villalobos also hasn't seen much of a change in the style the Falcons will play but the difference is in the attitude the team has this season.

"Practices have been more intense so far this year, but everyone seems looser," he said. "Last season we all were freshmen and didn't know what to expect. This year we come in here knowing what to expect and know each other's strengths and weaknesses."

The Falcons will start the season at home on Feb. 4 at 2 p.m. against Fullerton College.

a row.

Among the returning seven starters some were All-Americans: catcher Samantha Vaalu, pitcher Hillary Perez-Ashley, and Lindsey Marquez, second base.

Vaalu was also named the Diamond Sports Catcher of the Year by the National Fast Pitch Coaches Association for last year's season.

Sammy Garcia is also an upcoming talent and is hailed as an all-star center fielder and a solid player according to Coach Murray.

Garcia said, "I think we're going to do good. We hit pretty good," expressing her thoughts on the teams offensive abilities.



Coach of the Year: Coach Doug Wells is examining the technique of state track champion Torian Bailey in preparation for the upcoming track and field season.

STEVE KIM/1M

## Wells wins coach of the year

Steven Quintana  
Staff Writer  
Steven.Quintana@talonmarks.com

The California Community College Cross Country & Track Coaches Association named director of Track and Field Doug Wells the Track Coach of the Year for 2009.

Wells was presented with the award Dec. 19 in Las Vegas, Nevada and it's the fifth time he has received the award.

"They know I'm one of the few full time coaches here and most of the others are part-time," Wells said.

"It's a great honor because it's voted on by all the other coaches in the state," said Wells.

With 20 years coaching track and field events at various levels, it's no wonder why he's so accomplished.

Wells also has several state championships to his name as he competed in many track and field

events as a younger man.

Even though he is so heavily decorated personally he remains humble and thankful for those who have helped him and now enjoys working with others to bring out the best in his athletes.

"I have great assistant coaches," Wells said. "They're very good at what they do and you can't do it alone."

The Cerritos College women's track team has won the state championship two years in a row and three state championships in the last four years.

Though the men's track team finished No. 2 in state unlike the women, both teams finished No. 1 in the South Coast Conference this season.

Wells has no predictions for next season, but despite losing some people to drafts and transfers, he still believes he has a very talented team.

"Every year we're sending five or six out of here," Wells said.

"We run our program like a division I pro-

gram," Wells added. "They know they're getting ready for the next level here, that's big."

He keeps coaching to help athletes achieve similar athletic goals as he once did while watching them grow.

"I've got my ring and I've got my championship, but they haven't," Wells said. "To see that and feel that is like coaching to win the Super Bowl."

Freshman Brandon Henderson has been working with Coach Wells since his sophomore year in high school.

"I've been practicing with him since I was a sophomore in high school and his workouts are good," Henderson said.

"He runs the hell out of us," he added, "and he's always timing us no matter what."

Even in these last spells of rain, Wells can still be seen training athletes even before the season starts.

## Cerritos college men's basketball starts off 1-0 in conference

Daniel Sandoval  
Sports Editor  
Daniel.Sandoval@talonmarks.com

Jumping off to a surprising lead, men's basketball pulled off a 62-61 win last Friday in a struggle nearing the end of the second half.

After this first conference game Cerritos climbed to 11-9 while the Seahawks fell to 8-11.

The Falcons unexpectedly dominated the first half because Harbor

gave up too many fouls.

The Falcons went on to finish the first half in the lead 33-26 which was not expected.

The Falcon lead increased to 13 before Harbor began playing the game that was expected from them all along.

"We came out to an early lead," said head coach Kenneth Shyne, "but later the game went its natural course and the Seahawks wouldn't stop battling."

The Seahawks went on to surpass Cerritos, making three shots in a row, but the Falcons managed to come back and beat out Harbor by one point in a last minute scramble.

The Falcons had a long vacation in between semesters and they felt it going into the game against Harbor's tough team.

"We had to get some dust off," Shyne said, "they're probably the highest competition in the league."

Freshman Gregory Pope led Fal-

con scoring with 12 points, while sophomore Ken Brown had a disappointing performance with only 5 points but managed to grab 7 assists.

"I felt a little rusty after coming back from vacation but I tried to do the best I could do for the team," Brown said.

"I have a great team, but what we really need to focus on is our defense," he added.

# COLLEGE NIGHT

Ride from 5-10pm  
for only \$20  
(w/college ID)

**BULLWHEEL BAR & GRILL**  
Live DJs, \$1 Hot Dogs,  
Hookups From Active,  
Fuel TV, Transworld, S.W.A.T.,  
Vendor Booths and  
3 Rail Jam's with prizes.

**THURSDAYS:**  
• Jan 21 Rail Jam #1,  
• Feb 4,  
• Feb 11 Rail Jam #2,  
• Feb 25,  
• Mar 4 Rail Jam #3

**mountain HIGH**

WELLY FIND FINGS, elm company, nikita omoto, VANS OFF THE WALL

## TM CLASSIFIEDS

### Apartment For Rent

**Woodcliff Residential Apartments in Bellflower**  
Rent: \$1495 / 2Bedroom/1.5 Bath -  
Move-In Special:  
\$500.00 off first month's rent. Only \$1000.00 security deposit required.

A cottage-style apartment community protected and gated away from the traffic and main streets. Charm is the operative word in describing this living environment. New energy efficient double-pane windows all around.

Spacious living room, large eat-in kitchen, private patio, vertical blinds, air-conditioning, new dishwasher, fresh paint, new carpet/floors and covered parking highlight this truly unique cottage home located in a quiet neighborhood.

Only a 3-mile commute to awesome Cerritos College!

Common area amenities include a huge pool and picnic area, convenient laundry facility, soda and snack vending machines, electronic gate and security surveillance. Perfect for roommate sharing.

Have a look-see.  
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For Spanish-speaking: Contact Alicia at (562) 866-8075.  
-----Se Habla Espanol

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# Ronan stars in 'Bones'

ELIETH KOULZONS

Editor-in-Chief

Elieth.Koulzons@talonmarks.com

After being nominated for an Academy Award for Best Supporting Actress in the film "Atonement," Saoirse Ronan stars in yet another recently released film called "The Lovely Bones."

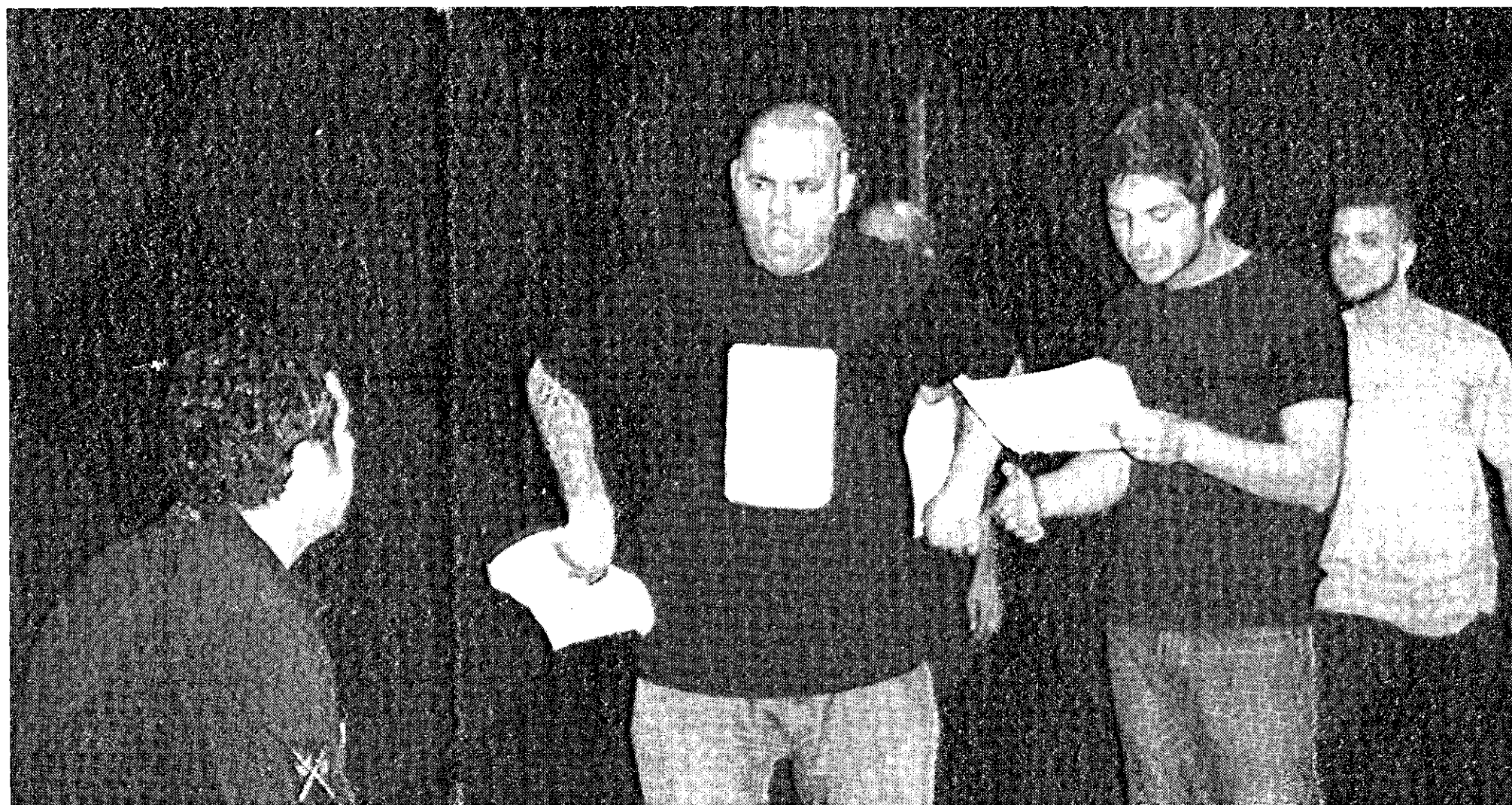
The young Irish actress plays Susie Salmon, a teenage girl that is raped and murdered. After her death, she refuses to move on to the "after life" and resorts to looking after her family and her murderer.

Some students that have watched the film are a bit disappointed that the movie does not include the scene where Salmon is in fact raped and murdered.

Psychology major Maite Perez said, "I think a lot of people went to watch the film because they wanted to see that experience visually rather than just picture it from what is written in the book. It's kind of disappointing that the movie failed to give viewers that scene that would have provoked a lot of emotions."

Ronan seems to think otherwise. She said, "I think the scene would have made people too uncomfortable. I think the tasteful way to deal with scenes like that is by doing it the way it was done in 'Lovely Bones' and that was by leaving it up to the audience's imagination."

Ronan is extremely confident that this film will be viewed and liked by many. She strongly urged everyone to see it and said, "Anyone with a heart will definitely relate to most or at least one of the characters in this film."



Practice makes perfect: Paul Tully (center) and Paul Martinez (right) recite their lines for the upcoming play 'Grapes of Wrath'. The show will run from March 5 through March 14.

## 'Grapes of Wrath' coming soon

SHEILA OLAIZ

Staff writer

Sheila.Olaiz@talonmarks.com

A family traveling, suffering from poverty will be arriving in March to Cerritos College at the Burnight Center Theatre.

"The Grapes of Wrath", based on the novel written in 1939 by John Steinbeck, is being presented by the Cerritos College theater department, and directed by John Zamora.

It is a story of a family traveling from Oklahoma to California, and along the way they suffer many tragedies that the unfortunate heart must overcome.

Olivia Hulett, English literature major, loves to act and is very excited to be in her very first play.

"I'm playing a woman who plays the guitar and I really

do play the guitar, so not only am I able to act but I also get to embrace my musical side as well," she said.

Hulett is also a classically trained pianist and has been playing since the tender age of five.

The two day audition was held in December of 2009. It made the actors a little intimidated with the outcome of the amount of people auditioning.

Hector Garcia, undecided major, had nervous butterflies at the audition.

"I haven't been in a play in almost 10 years. I have a small role as The Proprietor. I am a Weed Patch Camp Director."

There are a few different camps that the family encounters along its journey.

Although they are more like concentration camps that the family must subject itself to due to the poverty stricken era, they require a variety of set changes.

With the play set in such a diverse atmosphere, stage hand Steven Soto, undecided major, will have his work cut out for him.

Although Soto is not in this presentation, he still wanted to stay connected with the theater. He has performed in the past and he said, "I'm not comfortable with close person-to-person contact with unfamiliar people, but I absolutely love performing for them."

Hugo Martinez, an undecided major portraying Uncle John, also loves to perform.

This is Martinez's fourth play and he is particularly a little more enthusiastic about this play. "It's a very good piece to display what could very well be. The economy is falling apart and this play is a little taste of reality," he said.



Classical-pop crossover: Kelly Becerra and Mark Governor perform Wednesday at the Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts.

## Classical music gains its edge in pop crossover

ASHLEY AGUIRRE

Multimedia Editor

Ashley.Aguirre@talonmarks.com

"When you're going to school for music you're kind of expected to write contemporary (classical) pieces. I took guitar riffs from Pete Townsend and turned them into a string quartet," recalls Mark Governor, creator/composer of Notes From the Edge, a classical-pop crossover group which is playing Wednesday at Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts.

Although most of the faculty at Harvard University initially dismissed his rock-inspired string quartet, it was his instructor, American composer Aaron Copland, who responded with positive feedback and continuously encouraged Governor and his peers to find something that was unique to their own generation.

"In some of his own music, (Co-

pland) used folk music as the basis. Our folk music, in a way, is this rock alternative," Governor said.

At the heart of NFTE rests the idea that there exists a harmony between popular music and contemporary classical music. The project features arrangements for string quartet and vocals for songs by artists such as Radiohead, Pink Floyd, David Bowie and more.

"I always try to choose songs that haven't been performed in this manner before. For Radiohead, we tried to use a song that didn't have strings in the original recording. It makes it really interesting for the string players," Governor said.

Dhana Taprogge, who will join Governor on stage, adds that working with him has taught her that a beautiful song can shine in many different ways.

"The strings really evoke a new interpretation and you get to fall

in love with some of your favorite songs all over again," Taprogge said.

"It's not just Sinatra or music from Broadway, but it's this whole other group of songs that deserves a lot of respect," Governor said.

He notes that with a song like Bjork's "Hidden Place," which consists mostly of synthesizers, samples and many voices, the real challenge lies in finding a way to present the song with four stringed instruments and one voice.

"We've been spoiled with electronic music and people take this attitude that you can do anything if you have a keyboard and guitar with boxes up there to make any sound. But to this there's a human performance element. To see the human performance happen in such a naked setting makes it very pure," Governor said.

For ticket information visit [www.cerritoscenter.com](http://www.cerritoscenter.com).

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