



**The Mad Hatter
wins the contest**
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TALON MARKS

CERRITOS COLLEGE

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ASCC lashes out in Faculty Senate meeting

ELIETH KOULZONS
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"I am embarrassed, ashamed, and disappointed to be hearing the ridiculous and pathetic answers and explanations that are coming from this faculty," said Dean Mellas, "these students are our future. One day they are going to be opening our hearts and flying our airplanes; how dare we say 'Do all that but don't be on my hiring committee?'"

The faculty senate member and associate profes-

sor of computer information science ended the faculty senate meeting held on Tuesday at 11:05 a.m. in the Board Room with a round of applause from those who attended.

The Associated Students of Cerritos College has come to learn that human resources composed a full-time faculty employment selection procedures draft where it excludes and eliminates a non-voting student representative appointed by the ASCC.

The draft states that the non-voting student representative is now considered optional, meaning it is up to the first level committee (the committee that interviews

the candidates first) of the department that is hiring to determine whether or not the non-voting student will be allowed to be part of the committee.

After attending the faculty senate meeting to voice their opinions on the matter, students, like ASCC president Oscar Franco, found that Mellas' quote was inspirational and exactly the kind of support the ASCC is hoping to receive from the rest of the faculty senate, as well as anyone else who is opposed to allowing a student from ASCC be part of the full-time faculty selection committee.

Though the full-time faculty employment selection

procedures draft was the main topic of the faculty senate agenda, it was the selection committee composition part of the draft that was clearly the most anticipated and controversial topic of the meeting.

Franco stated, "(Faculty senate) spent most of its time discussing other subjects of the draft when it knew that all the students that showed up for the meeting were there for one reason and one reason only and that was to talk about the student voice being eliminated from the hiring process."

See ASCC Page 2

Project remains hopeful

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Title V Project H.O.P.E. (Health Operations and Pipeline to Education), allowing Latino students to become leaders in academic excellence, began Oct. 1, 2002 and continued through Sept. 30, 2007.

From that ending date, began a rough path for Project H.O.P.E. and its supporters, but as of July 1, Project H.O.P.E. became permanent on Cerritos College campus.

The two-year battle for the program to become permanent began on Oct. 17, 2007 when public Presentations were presented at a board meeting by students, alumni, faculty/staff and the community.

That resulted in a unanimous vote by the Board of Trustees to use reliable money sources like Avalon to keep Project H.O.P.E. going for one more year.

During that year, Cerritos College students and the community held a silent protest in support of permanency of Project H.O.P.E.

They also went before the Board of Trustees with public presentations to make Project H.O.P.E. permanent after the year was up.

See H.O.P.E Page 2

CRIME ACT COMES OUT THE CLOSET

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Twelve years after it was introduced before both houses of Congress, the Hate Crimes Prevention Act, was signed into law last Wednesday expanding upon the 1969 Federal Hate Crimes Law to add crimes motivated by hatred against sexual-orientation, gender, gender identity and disability to the list of punishable federal hate crimes.

See Equality Page 5

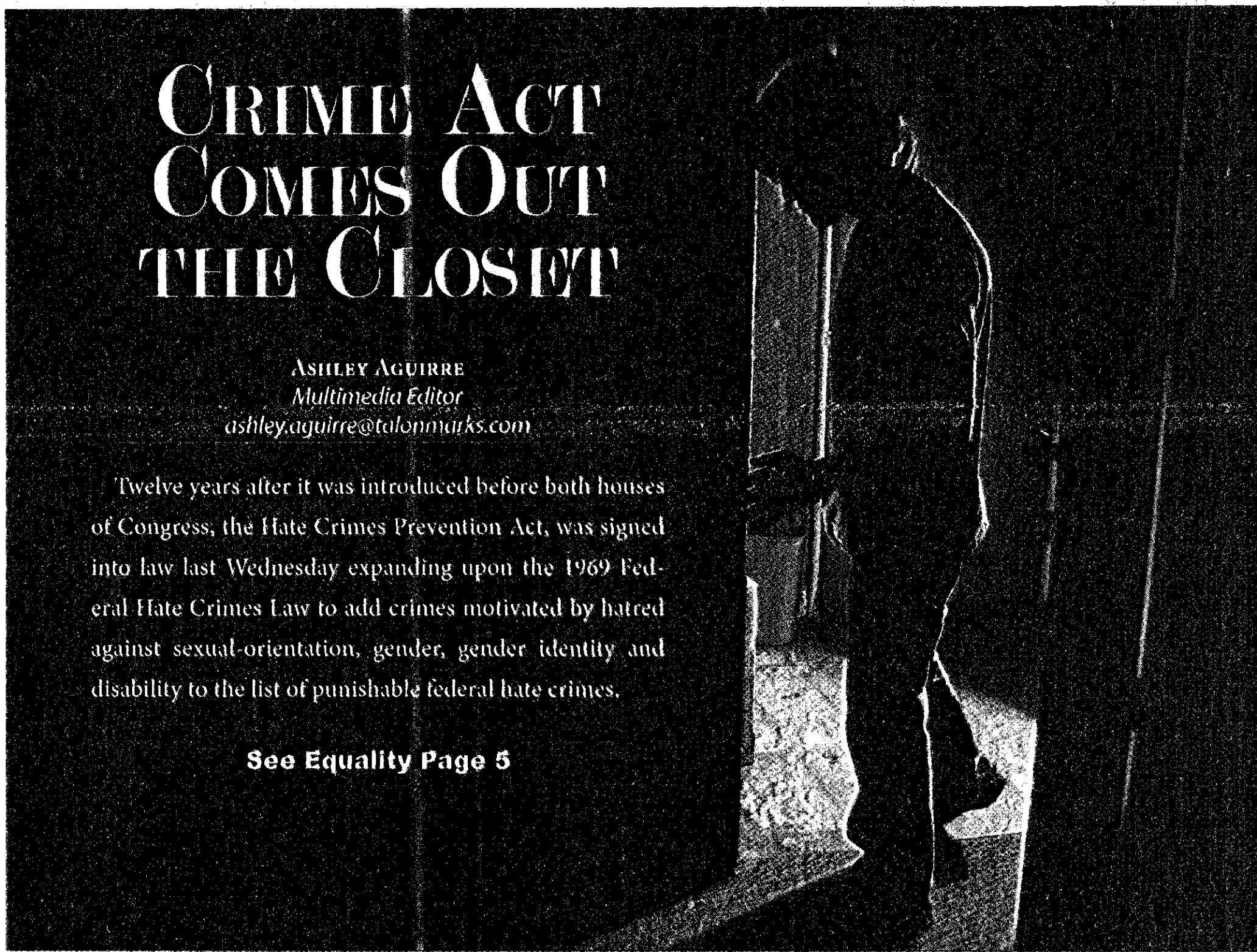
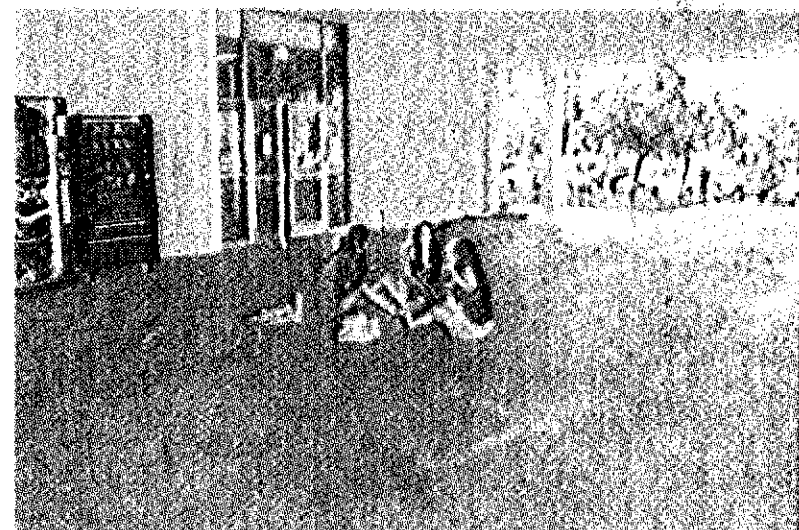


PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY MICHAEL AGUDO AND RICK GOMEZ



Got tables? Students Stephanie Pinto, Stephanie Vargas and Yazareth Gutierrez sit at the site that was home to their afternoon lunch-time meetings.

Tables in Social Science building are removed

Vandalized tables by Frantone's Pizza in the SS building have been removed.

ALNAS ZIA
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Students walking past the Social Science Building patio may have wondered about the disappearance of the tables by the food vendors.

It has been decided to remove all the tables from the area so that they can be repainted by the Facilities Department and relocated to a different area.

Director of Student Activities Holly Bogdanovich said that this decision is a result of a plan initiated by the student government last year to have more seating by the game room and the food court.

She said that in the process the student government was receiving complaints from the students about the vandalism and the indecent material scribbled on the tables located

by the Social Science Building patio.

Students were also concerned about trash being pushed down the hole in the middle of the tables.

Members of the student government met with the Facilities Department to discuss this issue and came up with the plan to have the tables repainted and moved to a new location by summer.

However, this decision had to be stalled due to budget and time constraints.

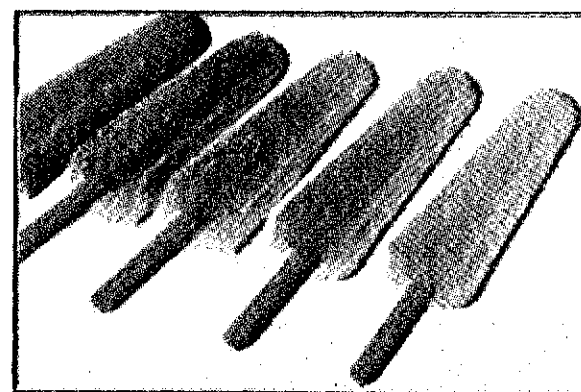
Bogdanovich said that there is no plan at present to put new tables by the Social Science Building be-

cause in the past multiple efforts to keep them clean have gone in vain, therefore the tables are being relocated where they will be treated well.

"Currently there are no plans to put new tables, but if the students express the need of having a sitting area, we will definitely consider it," she said hinting at a slight possibility.

She also pointed out that if a decision is indeed made about putting new tables by the Social Science Building,

See Tables Page 2



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ASCC: Students' privileges are deprived

Continued from Page (1)

The ASCC vice president Rosa Castaneda and student hourly Jessica Cos were the ones who displayed the students' anguish and anticipation when they interrupted the meeting by asking if the faculty senate was going to continue skipping around to other subjects or where they going to go in order and finally address the seventh topic in the draft, which was the selection committee composition.

After several other issues with the draft were discussed, the topic the ASCC had been waiting for was finally addressed.

Castaneda began by saying that the school has clearly stated that its mission is to promote student success, therefore, it is suppose to encourage and support circumstances and opportunities that allow students to not only grow, but also learn and succeed.

How is it then, she said, that it is excluding the student voice and depriving student participation in the hiring process, if that is a experience that clearly helps promote student success.

"You want us to succeed yet you don't give us the opportunity to participate in something that will help do so and you limit our chance to grow," she said, "we know what kind of teachers we want and what

kind of teachers we don't want. Because we know what we want, we know what we are looking for and will try to seek those qualities in the possible candidates. After all they are going to be serving us, the students."

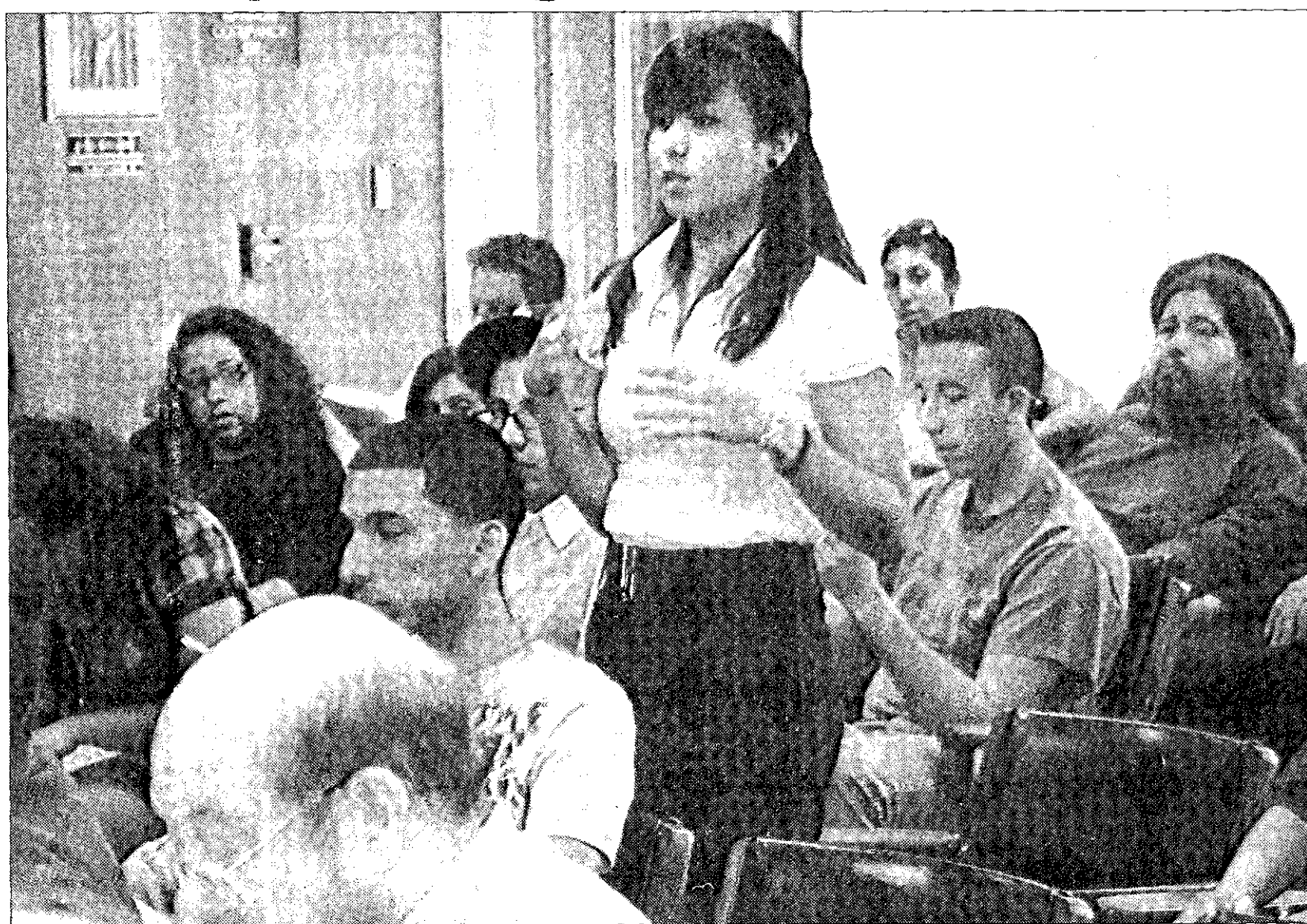
ASCC cabinet member Archy Posada added to Castaneda's comments by comparing Cerritos College and its students to parents and their children.

He said, "(Faculty members) are like parents and students like their children. For parents to make a critical and important decision and ignore and not take into consideration their children is completely inconceivable and inconsiderate. I don't believe there is any logical justification to that."

Though the faculty senate continued to answer questions that were asked by students and other concerned guests, it was Tim Juntilla's response that gave somewhat of a relief to the ASCC.

The English professor stated that if it takes the "we are never going to be allowed on the selection committee" attitude, it is not going to get it anywhere.

"You are going to have to demonstrate what your role in this committee will be and that you are going to be responsible enough to be part of it," he said.



Hear us out: Associated Students of Cerritos College vice president Rosa Castaneda tried to voice the opinions of the school's student government at the faculty senate meeting held on Tuesday at 11:05 a.m. in the Board Room. She desperately requested that the school reconsider its decision on excluding the non-voting student representative in the selection committee in the full-time employment selection procedures draft. After all, she said, "(The candidates) are going to be serving us, the students."

JOEY BERUMEN/TM

H.O.P.E.: Program receives \$57,000 further funding

Continued from Page (1)

With the year up in summer 2008, Bill Farmer became an impacting component in this situation.

Farmer states, "Project H.O.P.E. had many recommendations about how it could be made permanent into the fabric of the college. I accepted all the recommendations of the Task Force, except for one."

"I could not give them the entire budget they requested for their faculty."

In doing so, that cut Graciela Vasquez's position as

director of Title V: Project H.O.P.E. to a reassigned position of Director of Adult Education / Diversity Programs, but it also started paving the road for Project H.O.P.E.'s permanent residency on campus.

In Jan., Farmer announced the plan for Project H.O.P.E. and its permanency.

It was to be effective July 1 and would operate under a Faculty Coordinator under the Division of Science, Engineering and Mathematics.

The adopted plan includes a budget of \$57,000 for salaries of the faculty.

As of September 1, the program for Project H.O.P.E. has been placed into full effect.

Although it appears to be settled with the program being in a stable position, after a two-year battle, there are still so many unanswered questions that the Project H.O.P.E. students, parents, faculty and alumni have.

Project H.O.P.E. stated, "The money is here. The program is now permanent. Let's see what's going to happen now."

“

The money is here. The program is now permanent. Let's see what's going to happen now.

— Project H.O.P.E.
Cerritos College program

”

Tables: Mesh tables are answer to vandalized SS tables

Continued from Page (1)

they will probably be mesh tables, similar to those by the Elbow Room, so that they cannot be easily damaged or vandalized.

Shaun Peak, in charge of the Zebra Coffee Company located at the Social Science Building patio, was surprised to find out that the tables will not be put back.

"I can't believe it. Students wait here all the time for their classes or to be picked up, and when it rains they need a place to sit under a shelter. There definitely needs to be a sitting area here," he said in disbelief.

He also said that recently he has had students complaining about the removal of the tables from the area.

Armando Garcia, philosophy major, was also taken aback and wondered why there would be food vendors in an area with no place to sit.

"We need to have tables here otherwise there is no point of having food vendors out here. They should at least put mesh tables here," he said.

Bogdanovich said that the date to relocate the old tables to the food court and game room area has not been set yet, but the Facilities Department is probably looking for a time when there will be less people around the area, as it is an intricate process to place the tables at their new location.

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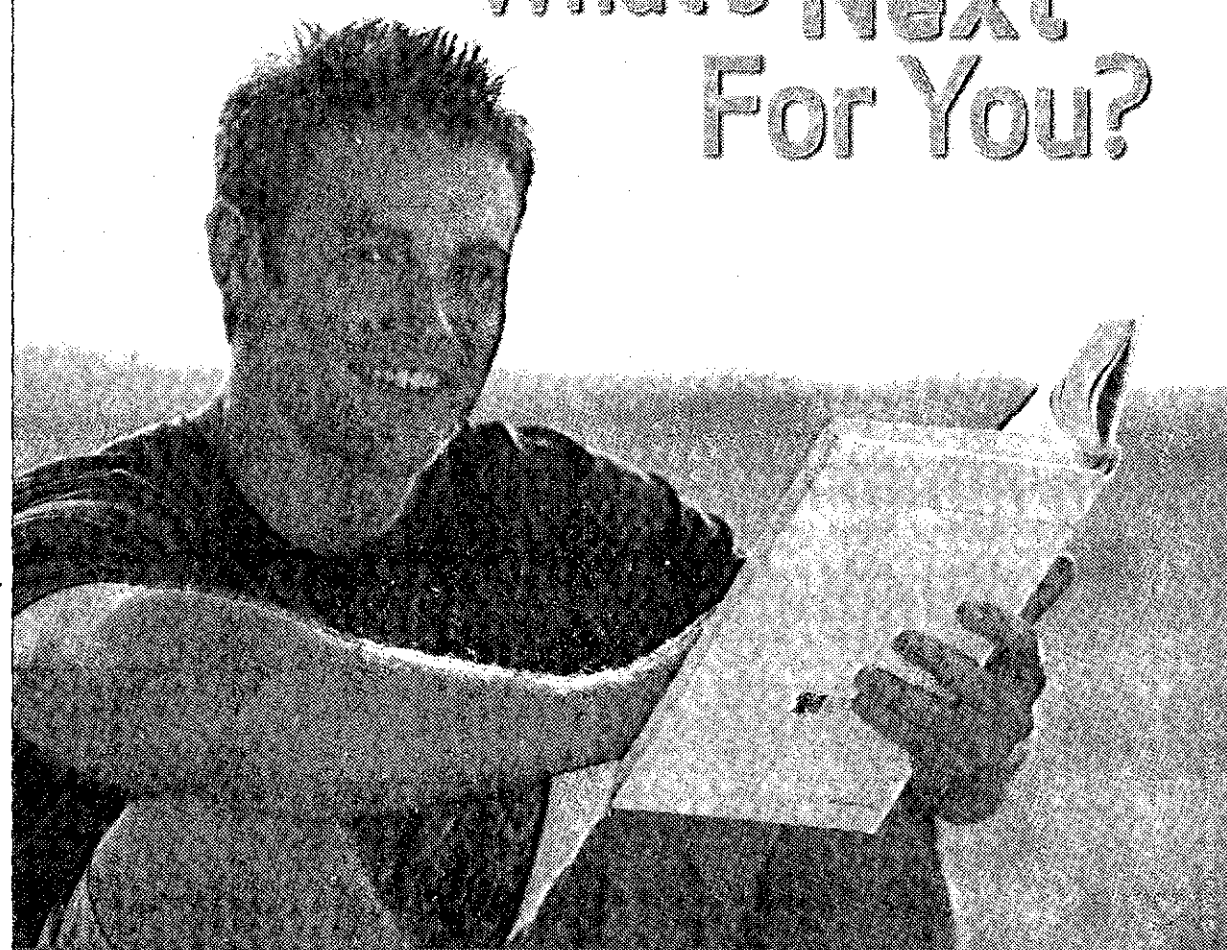
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Costumes, pumpkins GO

'Mad as a hatter' The Mad Hatter won the annual Cerritos College costume contest

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The Cerritos College costume contest was held on last Wednesday on Falcon Square, in the hunt to find the most unique Halloween costumes.

It all started with few contestants showing up at the sign-in table but as the time progressed, the number of contestants signing in increased.

The spectators didn't have a problem waiting, for they had their hands full with snacks provided from Student Activities.

"We get free food and a hell of a good show, what more can we ask for?" said Joshua Murillo, one of the spectators.

The contests were divided into three different categories, starting with Most Creative Costume, along with Group Costume and finalizing with Scariest Costume.

There was an even match quality of costumes and participants containing:

- * cartoon characters
- * military people
- * a group of "Cholas"
- * a Christmas tree
- * a robot
- * a clown and many more.

But as the contestants started walking onto the stage, there was a costume that caught everyone's attention.

It was the costume of the Predator, as soon as the spoke person pointed at him the crowd started cheering and showing its love toward him.

"I believe that I speak for everyone when I say that this is by far the best costume here, and it has to win the first place for sure," stated Jaime Martinez, a spectator.

After the contestants showed their stuff it was time for the judges to make their decision and evaluate in order to decide who would win on what category.

Coming as the winner on Most Creative Costume category was David Kerr dressed as a robot.

The winner of Group Costume was the Veterans Club dressed as GI Joe characters.

As many spectators predicted, the winner of Scariest Costume was Ernie Veloz dressed as the Predator.

To conclude the contest, the judges also awarded the costume that they thought it was the most original, the winner of the most original costume was Gabe Carrasco dressed as the Mad Hatter.

"It was a pretty close contest so nobody had the first place assure but luckily we won on our category," stated a Veteran's Club members.

"This is probably my fourth time wearing this \$1,500 costume, and even though I've been everywhere like San Diego Comic-Con, Long Beach and a couple of other places, I have never had so much love shown by the fans," Veloz said.



The Nightmare: Jack Skellington and Sally take stage as a couple.

MICHAEL AGUDO/TM



Hallows eve: The Mad Hatter (Gabe Carrasco) performs on stage before being named the most original costume.

MICHAEL AGUDO/TM



•EDITORIAL•

Gay rights finally recognized

It's been 41 years since legislation was passed that made it a federal crime to target individuals because of their race, religion or national origin.

It's now been a week since the Matthew Shepard Act was signed by President Barack Obama, extending hate crimes protection to sexual orientation, gender, transgender, as well as individuals with a disability.

Why has this taken so long? Homosexuals and transgendered individuals have constantly been a target of harassment, discrimination and physical harm.

In 2007, the FBI reports nearly 16 percent of reported hate crime victims were targeted because of "a bias against a particular sexual orientation."

All persons that are the targets of violence because they are "different" in some way from the white, heterosexual male norm in our society deserve protection and to be treated equally.

To be fair, prior to this new legislation, 32 states included sexual orientation in its hate crime laws. However, it took until 1998 for this issue to even gain national attention.

In Oct. 1998, this new act's namesake, Matthew Shepard, was robbed, beaten, tortured, tied to a fence and left to die.

Shepard, who was targeted because he was openly gay, died from his injuries a few days after he was attacked. Finally, 11 years later, the fight to recognize such vicious acts under the federal umbrella of hate crimes has ended.

Although the new legislation is reason to celebrate for all those in favor of gay rights, it's not nearly enough.

Labeling attacks based on sexual preference as hate crimes helps, but does not necessarily protect the victims.

It simply increases the punishment for such attacks.

Also, not only has it taken entirely too long for this first historic milestone to be reached, but

much more needs to be done to create a society in which equality truly exists.

During his presidential campaign, Obama made promises to repeal the "don't ask, don't tell" policy that applies to the U.S. armed forces. The policy, which bans homosexuals that are openly gay from serving in the military, is outdated and needs to be repealed immediately.

Obama has yet to make good on those promises to repeal the policy. He did promise, once again, to do just that in a speech on Oct. 10, but refused to provide a timetable or specifics.

The president is no longer on the campaign trail, and it's no longer the time for promises; it's time for action.

Now is the perfect time to act, and keep up the momentum which has been initiated by the Shepard Act.

Across the country, more and more states are accepting gay couples and finally allowing them to marry, or at least form civil unions, within their borders.

In fact, less than a year after passing proposition 8, which made it illegal for gay couples to marry in the state, California joined Rhode Island, New York, and District of Columbia in recognizing gay marriages performed legally in other states.

Whether some people like it or not, the members of the gay community are eventually going to become (at least in the legal sense) equal members of society.

Obama even promised to help bring about this type of change. So, why delay the inevitable?

If he has the good sense and audacity to sign and celebrate the Shepard Act, then the next logical step is for Obama to rid this country of the joke that is don't ask, don't tell.

Then maybe, just maybe, the endgame of equality for all will arrive sooner rather than later.

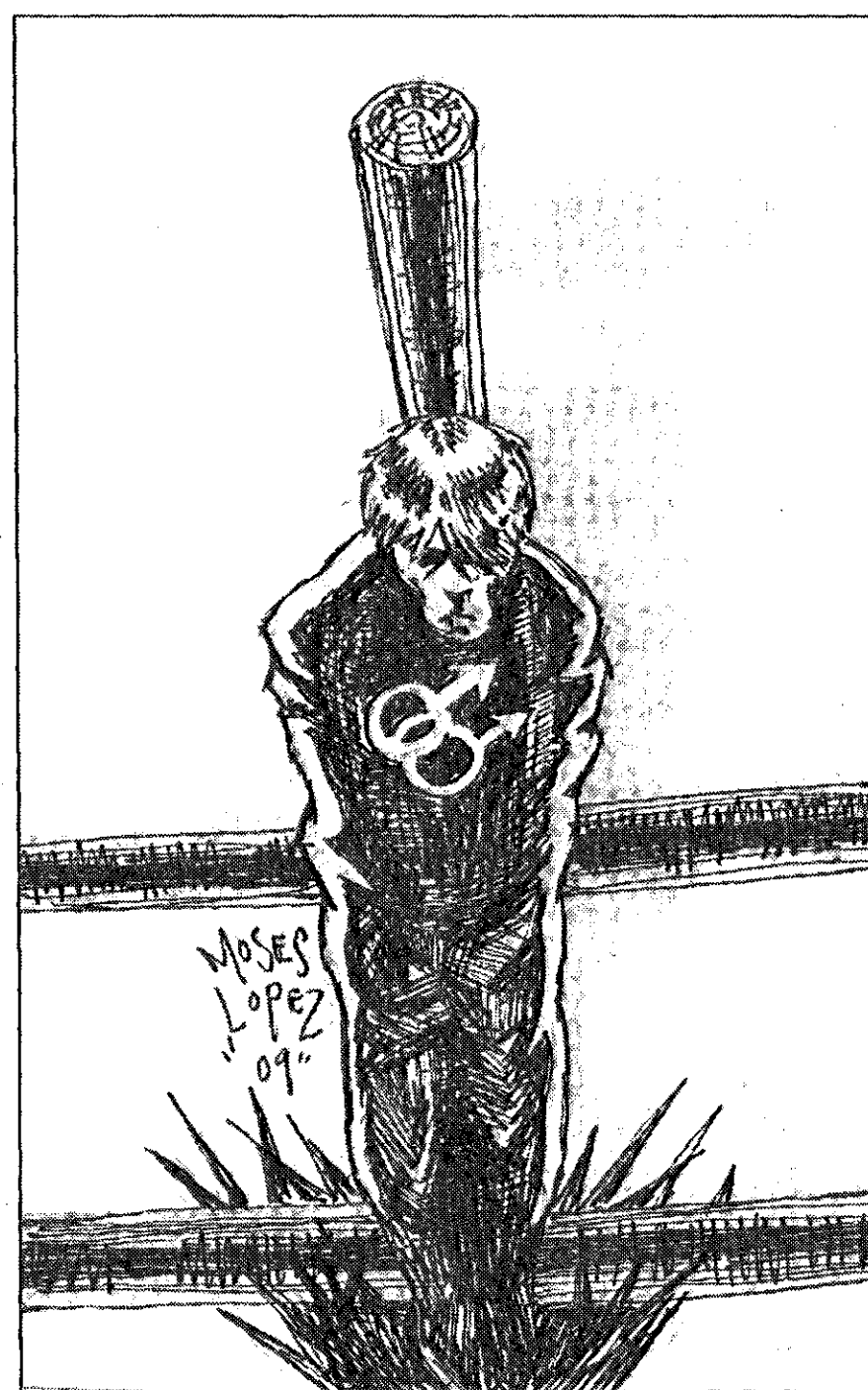


ILLUSTRATION BY MOSES LOPEZ



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.

An organic world is a hungry world

Eating organically is not a healthy choice

Everybody knows that when it comes to food, organic is better, right?

Well I wanted to play devil's advocate and looked into the popular trend of organic farming being embraced by people across the word as an alternative to modern farming techniques.

I now believe that organic farming is just a fad whose followers base their views on very romantic environmentalist ideals and not fact.

Nobel Prize winning agricultural scientist Norman Borlaug is one of the most seemingly unlikely opponent to organic food



growing, but he openly opposes it anyway.

He states that organic food is not efficient enough to sustain the population. "You couldn't feed more than 4 billion people," he says.

If you're for organic food being adopted by the world, you're unknowingly for a form of population control called starvation.

Organic foods need more than twice the area of genetically modified foods to grow.

Scientific tests have proven that organic

food doesn't necessarily taste better, doesn't have more nutrients, and isn't any safer.

A recent comparative study from the University of Minnesota testing both organic and genetically grown foods actually proved that organic food had more human damaging contaminants than genetically modified food grown using modern techniques.

E. coli was found on 9.7% of organic foods tested while only 1.6% of conventionally grown foods tested positive. Salmonella was also only found on organic samples of food and not conventionally grown foods.

Organic foods being grown so naturally are very susceptible to fecal waste because of all the natural fertilizers among other things.

If that doesn't leave a bad taste in your mouth, maybe Penn and Teller could assist

you. The two magicians turned comedians even had an episode of their program on Showtime spotlighting organic foods, where they included field taste tests.

They set up head to head blind taste tests between organic and conventionally grown fruits and vegetables and the conventionally grown food won almost every time.

People who favor organic food purely for the taste are likely subconsciously choosing what they think is more eco-friendly over conventional produce.

Even with all of this evidence organic foods are still pursued mainly by well-meaning "green groups" that lack factual evidence.

We must stop seeing organic farming as the best form of food production.

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Online Poll

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How was the timing on adding homosexuals to the Hate Crimes law?

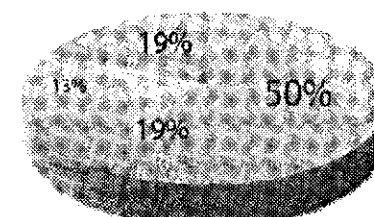
- It's about time!
- It came at the right time.
- It shouldn't be considered hate crimes.
- It doesn't matter. Hate Crimes is just a term.

Last Week's Poll

Vote online at talonmarks.com

At what lengths would you go for attention?

- I don't need it. 50%
- I can take it or leave it. 19%
- I crave it, but I won't go too far. 13%
- I keep going no matter what. 19%



TALON MARKS



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Free Speech Zone

How do you feel about sexual orientation
being added as a national hate crime?

COMPILED BY: MEGAN WINTERS
PHOTOS BY: MICHAEL AGUDO

JOHN FRANCIS
polisci major

"Any kind of violent crime I see as a hate crime. I don't necessarily agree with homosexuality."



ART BELTRAN
art major

"I think it's right. You are who you are."



NATASHA LOPEZ
theatre major

"It's unfair to judge someone. We're all humans, we should all just get along."



AMANDA MARTINEZ
psychology major

"It should be that any kind of discrimination is wrong."



NATALIE PENG
envsci major

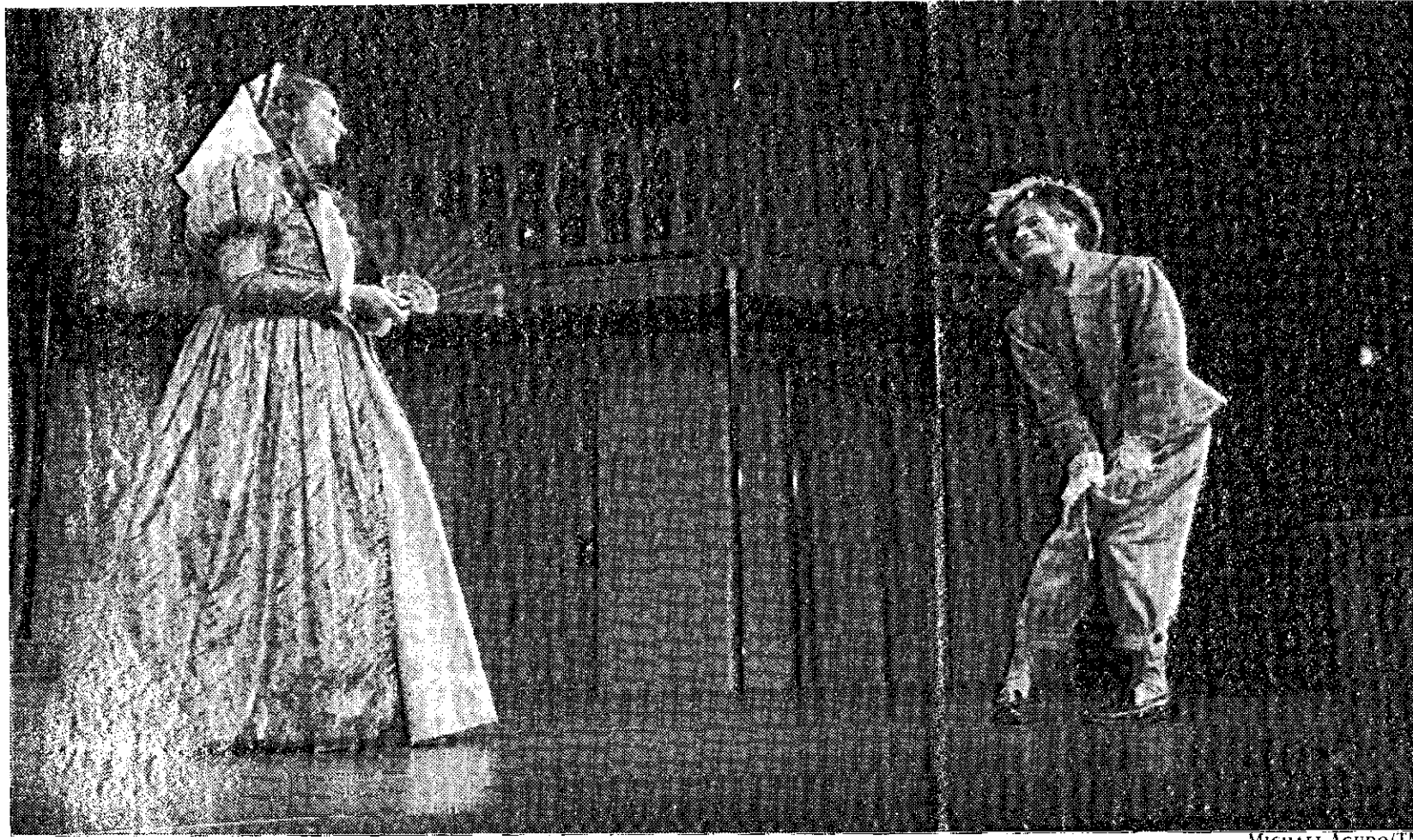
"I support Obama's decision because times have changed. It makes sense to add it."



ROBERT ALBANEZ
dance major

"With a black president we shouldn't be afraid to be different. It's a good policy."





He, he, he: Mistress Anne Page (Krystal Favrow) flirts with Master Slender (Tyler Tingley) as he blushes and trips over his own words

MICHAEL AGUDO/TM

Shakespeare's 'Wives' is a merry good time

GUSTAVO RANGEL
Arts Editor
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"The Merry Wives of Windsor," directed by Eleanor Packwood and written by William Shakespeare was epic, hilarious and dramatic.

I very much enjoyed this play, from its humor to the drama that made gasp.

The humor was a bit slapstick mixed with romance, and the drama is the same we see in our daily lives.

The storyline was very well-written, but what else can you expect from Shakespeare?

The play centers around the little town of Windsor, where a man by the name of Sir John Falstaff (Jason Falsk) enters the town low on money, so he sends two exact identical letters saying only replacing the names to two different wealthy wives courting them, and also around

the very complicated love triangle between Mistress Anne Page (Krystal Favrow), Abraham Slender (Tyler Tingley), and Fento (Brandon Gillette).

My favorite character had to be Slender because of his comic relief portions through the whole play.

The entire time watching this, all I could think of was what awesome acting was performed by all the actors on stage.

Each scene just kept my attention, there was not a dull moment, I was actually so into it that I thought it was a movie.

During intermission, I was eager to go back

Play Review

Merry Wives of Windsor

Writer: Shakespeare
Director: Eleanor Packwood
Rating: ★★★★★

in and finish watching the play, jumping and anxious much like a kid in a candy store.

Catch this play before it's too late.

Tickets are available at <http://cms.cerritos.edu/theater>, or call 562-467-5058 for more information.

Tickets are \$12 for general admission, \$10 for Cerritos student with I.D., and \$8 for ages 5-12.

Show dates will be:

- Thursday Nov 5th @ 8 p.m.
- Friday - Nov 6th @ 8 p.m.
- Saturday - Nov 7th @ 8 p.m.
- Sunday - Nov 8th @ 2 p.m.

Cerritos band 'False Witness' opens can of 'Korn'

DANIEL SANDOVAL
Staff Writer
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Who would have thought that a resident Cerritos College band would have the chance to open up for one of its biggest musical heroes last weekend?

That's what happened to fellow Falcons Christopher Griswold and David Simpson of False Witness at the annual Halos N' Horns music festival.

Halos N' Horns fest was Orange County's largest music festival and featured more than 100 music acts and 13 stages of tunes.

Out of all those acts, False Witness was most excited to play with Southern California's own headliner, Korn.

Both False Witness and Korn are relatively local, metal-influenced bands.

"We were all stoked when we found out we were opening up for Korn," said bass player Christopher Griswold.

"I didn't even believe it at first, I was shocked and amazed," said Griswold.

An opportunity like this was more than the band could ever ask for but it still has high hopes for even bigger shows in the future.

"I liked getting on a stage that was legit," said drummer David Simpson, "not just a backyard show."

Much like his bandmates, Simpson thought opening for Korn was a huge cherry on top of their chance to be heard by thousands of festival-goers.

"I felt like a real band... I felt ecstatic... I was on cloud nine!" Simpson

son added enthusiastically.

Griswold said, "We worked really hard on our recordings to make demos for the show."

The band spent countless hours preparing its demo, having a photo shoot, and perfecting its live set for its biggest show yet.

Griswold added that after his band got on stage, they already had a big crowd gathered and more people kept on coming.

Simpson was glad the crowd's response was positive and everyone seemed to be enjoying the heavy tunes.

"I was happy because I would like my band to go somewhere and make music people really like," he said.

Not only was the response of the audience great so was the attention it got from authoritative members of its audience.

Griswold stated that a member from KROQ contacted Simpson's mother during the festival to schedule an interview; the word "tour" was even mentioned.

"An independent music channel also came up to us wanting to feature us on its channel," he added. The band played its first song in full costumes for Halloween.

"I was Pinhead," said Griswold. "David was Leatherface, Joe was Michael Myers, Eddie was Jason, and Matt was Freddy Krueger."

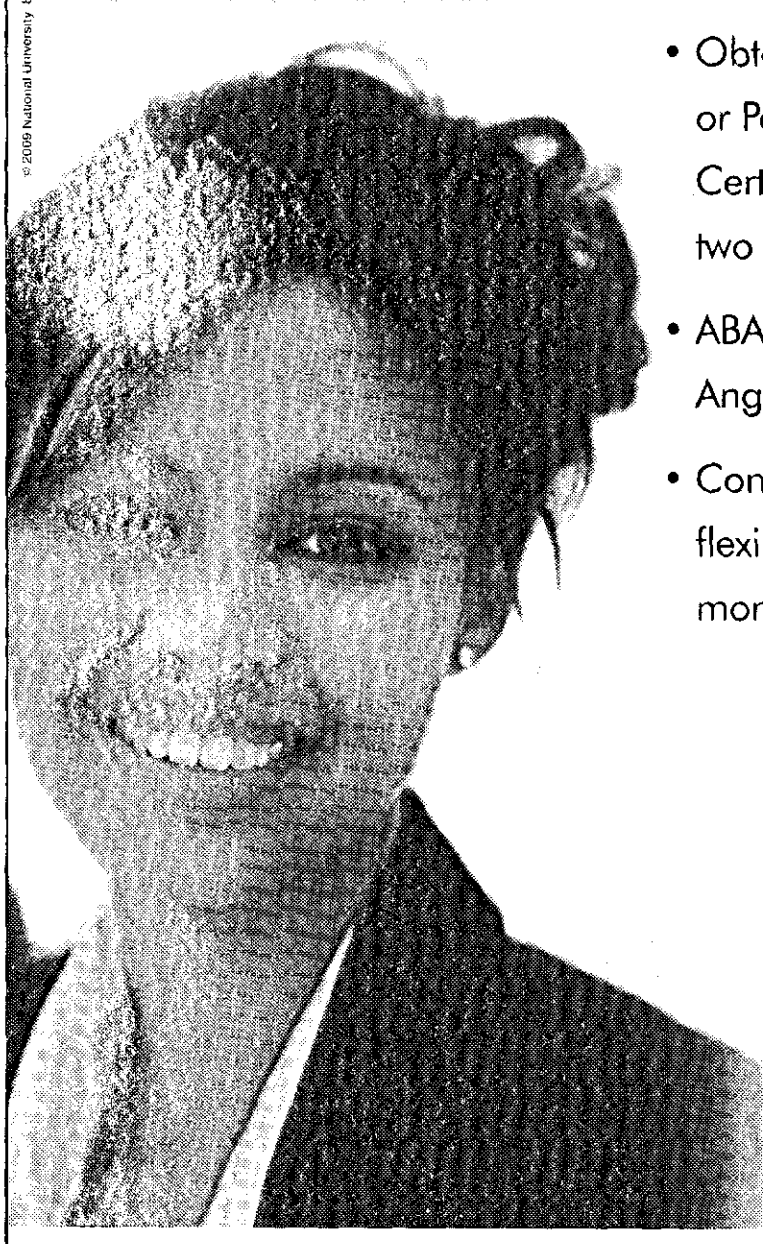
"I had to get that costume off after the first song because it was too hot and it was hard to see," Griswold added. "But it was worth it, it was dope."

False Witness never fails to mention the genre of music that they created called "dopeness on fire."


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AT A GLANCE

Wednesday

Volleyball
@ East LA 6 p.m.

Wrestling

@ Mt. San Antonio 7 p.m.

Friday

Soccer

Women @ LA Harbor 4 p.m.
Men @ LA Harbor 2 p.m.

Wrestling

@ Clackamas (OR) 5 p.m.

Volleyball

Vs. LA Harbor 6 p.m.

Saturday

Cross Country

Men @ Mt. San Antonio
(So. Cal. Championship) 9 a.m.
Women @ Mt. San Antonio
(So. Cal. Championship) 9 a.m.

Football

@ Mt. San Antonio 1 p.m.

Sunday

Wrestling

@ Mike Clock Open (OR) 9 a.m.

Monday

Volleyball

@ Pasadena 6 p.m.

Tuesday

Soccer

Men vs. El Camino 1 p.m.
Women vs. El Camino 3 p.m.

RESULTS

Last Wed. 10/28

Water Polo

Women vs. Pasadena W, 14-3

Volleyball

Vs. Long Beach W, 25-21, 22-25, 25-18, 25-21

Wrestling

@ East LA W, 37-17

Last Fri. 10/30

Volleyball

@ El Camino L, 25-17, 13-25, 23-25, 22-25

Soccer

Men @ ECC Compton L, 1-2
Women @ ECC Compton W, 6-0

Last Sat. 10/31

Cross Country

Men @ South Coast Championship, 3rd place
Women @ So. Coast Championship, 3rd place

Football

@ College of the Desert W, 27-17

Tues. 11/03

Soccer

Men vs. Long Beach W 4-2
Women vs. Long Beach W 1-0

WOMEN'S WATER POLO

IN A FAMILIAR PLACE

The Cerritos College women's water polo team will enter the SCC tournament looking to repeat as champions

MARK MURRAY
Co-Sports Editor
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BY THE NUMBERS

398

Total goals scored in the regular season

115

Total goals allowed in the regular season

19

Game winning streak

2

Rank in the state

1

Loss on the season (7-6 vs. Riverside)

For the second straight year, the Cerritos women's water polo team ended conference play and wrapped up the South Coast Conference championship by beating Pasadena City College, 14-3, on Oct. 28 at the Falcons Aquatic Center.

The win was the 19th straight for the Falcons, who improved to 7-0 in conference and 26-1 overall.

The home side made quick work of the Lancers by jumping out to a 5-0 lead courtesy of goals from five different players in the first quarter.

The Falcons extended the lead to 10-1 by the end of the first half, and cruised along from there.

The two sides traded goals in the third quarter, making the score 11-2.

Cerritos added a few more in the fourth quarter before Pasadena tacked on a final tally to end the game at 14-3.

"The starters built up a good lead for us, and the reserves were able to add on to it," explained head coach Sergio Macias.

As has been the case for much of the season, sophomore Natalie Peng led the team in scoring against the Lancers with two goals.

Also netting two goals in the match were Sharon Pedregon, Nicole Tuning, Jessie Ku and Meghan Carbajal.

Sophomore Miranda Bakke started the game and made six saves in the first half, with freshman Melissa Cedarholm coming in to play for the second half and recording four saves in the process.

The win against Pasadena put the Falcons in a familiar position, the driver's seat, going into the upcoming South Coast Conference tournament.

Cerritos enters the tournament as the No. 1 seed and will begin action against LA Trade-Tech on Nov. 5.

Entering at the No. 2 spot is a familiar foe, the Vikings of Long Beach. The two teams met four times last year, with Cerritos walking away victorious in each contest.

Earlier this season, the two teams matched up at Cerritos in what was a close, physical contest, with the Falcons winning, 6-4.

"We know how they play, so beating them gives us more confidence for when we play them again," Peng said.

Besides Long Beach, the team is looking forward to the possibility of future matches against Riverside and Golden West.

The only blemish on Cerritos' record this year is a 7-6 loss to Riverside, while Golden West remains a mystery.

"We've never got a chance to play (Golden West). They have been ranked in the top three in state all year, so we want to play them," Peng pointed out.

Before it has a chance to take on the top schools in the state, the team must first take care of business in the conference tournament.

Based on the body of work they have produced thus far this season, the Falcons should

easily move on to the regional tournament.

This season, the team has outscored its opponents 396 to 115. With so few games against opponents that play up to the same level as them, the Falcons must rely on each other to stay at a high level.

"Our scrimmages are what keep us up," explained freshman Jenel Lopez. "The competition is very high in practice."

Peng added that, "(Our scrimmages) are better than half the games we play in the season."

The depth of Cerritos may be the key to its success in the run of games it will soon be playing on its way to what the players hope will be another state championship.

"Talent-wise, the team is pretty deep. We have the depth to match up against anyone," proclaimed sophomore Melinda Guevara.

Whether this depth will be enough to carry the team to another state championship remains to be seen, but the Falcons are confident they have what it takes to get the job done.

"I think we have a strong chance to repeat. Last year's returners got a good taste of (success) and the freshmen this year want it as well," Macias stated.

One thing returners like Peng learned from their success last year was the importance of never giving up.

"We have to have heart. Last year in the semis (of the state tournament) we were down by six or seven and we came back," Peng remembered.

The team will take lessons like this and put what it's learned to the test in the coming weeks.

The Falcons may have the talent and the experience to win it all, but only time (and the results) will tell whether another state championship is in the cards.

MARK MURRAY/TM

Locked and loaded: Yvonne Ruvalcaba takes aim during Cerritos' 14-3 thrashing of Pasadena on Oct. 28.



Sports Briefs

Volleyball

Cerritos Volleyball has been through a week of tests, going four games in a match versus rival Long Beach City College and then falling to No. 2 state ranked, El Camino College. The Falcons stayed competitive against the Warriors, but fell to the experience of the state champs. The Falcons will travel to ELAC Wednesday to play at 6 p.m. in a match that can decide Cerritos' playoff fate.

Soccer

Women: Women's soccer went for their ninth consecutive shut out victory versus ECC Compton Center, 6-0. Freshman Tatiana Cortes scored 3 goals in the win and Cerritos scored a total of 5 goals in the first half which, is now a new school record. Cerritos has only allowed 4 goals all season so far.

Men: With a loss to ECC Compton Center, Cerritos Men are now eliminated from defending the con-

ference title. Coach Artiga stated that with the field conditions, his team was unable to adjust, but feels confident the men will bounce back and finish positively.

Football

The Cerritos football team received big plays at College of the Desert Friday night, and eventually ran away with a 27-17 win to become 8-0 on the season. Freshman tight end Lucas Mealy had 3 touchdowns, recording 2 in the first half. Sophomore Cee Jay Harris and Jeramey Cutler stuffed the Roadrunner quarterback when he tried to run for a touchdown on fourth down at the one yard line early in the game to turn the tide of the game. Cerritos travels to Mt. SAC on Saturday to take on the fellow undefeated Mounties.

Water Polo

Women: The Falcons earned their second straight

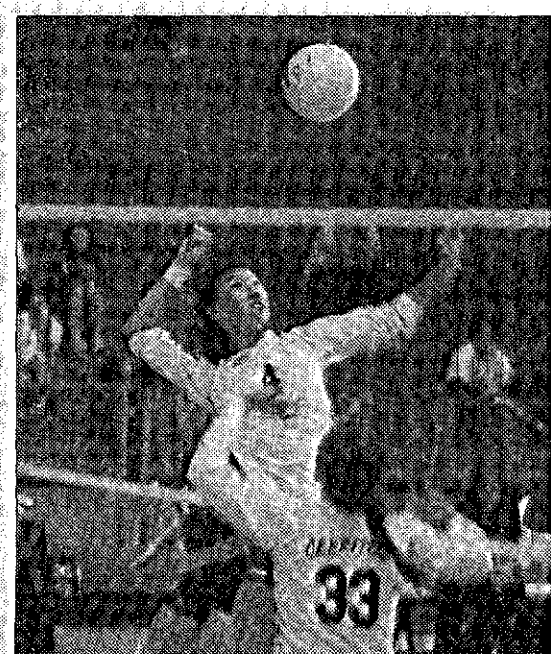
South Coast Conference title after a win against Pasadena City College. Cerritos had a lead of 10-1 in the first half and finished the game with a 14-3 win. They will play in the SCC Tournament Nov. 6-8 @ Chaffey College.

Men: The men's water polo team did not play this week, but resume action Nov. 5-7 when they compete in the Conference Championship Tournament.

Cross Country

Men/Women: Cross Country earned third place in the conference championships meet. Freshman Jason Zaplen finished in 4th place after his time of 21:05:00 in the 4-mile race.

For the women, Freshmen Erika Sandoval and Sandra Flores finished in the top 10 on the 5k course. Both the women and men will compete in the Southern California Championships at Mt. San Antonio College, Saturday.



Kill: Monique Gayton (No. 33) sets up Yawen Zahn.

Falcons remain flawless, will face off against Mt. SAC in upcoming game

COURTESY OF THE
SPORTS INFORMATION OFFICE

Big players come up big in big games. It was never more evident for the Cerritos College football team in their 27-17 National Division Central Conference win at College of the Desert on Saturday night.

The win improved the Falcons, ranked No. 2 in Southern California, to 8-0 on the year and 4-0 in conference play.

They have their two most important games of the season coming up, and will travel to Mt. San Antonio College (7-1, 4-0) on Saturday for a 1 p.m. contest. The Mounties defeated previous No. 1 El Camino, 42-26, on Saturday night.

Leading just 24-17 in the fourth quarter, College of the Desert moved the ball to the Falcon one-yard line and decided to go for a touchdown on fourth down rather than kick a field goal.

But the duo of sophomore line-backer Cee Jay Harris and sophomore defensive end Jeramey Cutler stuffed Roadrunner quarterback JD Bounantony for a five-yard loss, which gave the Falcons possession of the ball with 4:35 remaining.

On the ensuing drive, sophomore running back Demetrek Chambers broke off a 21-yard run to move the ball out to the 35-yard line.

On the same drive, sophomore wide receiver Michael Willie hauled in a 37-yard pass from sophomore quarterback Chris Morales.

The drive finished when freshman kicker

Francisco Rodriguez booted a career-long 42-yard field goal with 1:49 left in the fourth quarter to give Cerritos its 27-17 lead to end the game.

It looked as though Ricky Smith was going to put COD in great field position when he returned the kickoff 63 yards.

But sophomore Lenyatta Kiles stripped the ball from Smith and sophomore David Flores recovered the ball.

The Falcons then ran out the clock to secure their 8-0 record. Earlier in the game, freshman tight end Lucas Mealy helped give the Falcons a 14-0 lead with a pair of touchdown receptions, while he pulled in his third with 55 seconds left in the second quarter, as Cerritos led 24-7 at intermission.

He finished the day with five receptions for 74 yards, while Willie led the team with six catches for 81 yards.

Morales completed 13-of-21 passes for 178 yards, while sophomore running back Tylik Carter rushed for 96 yards on 13 carries before getting hurt early in the fourth quarter.

The defense came up with some big plays, as COD ran 19 more plays than the Falcons (70-51) and had the ball for almost 37 minutes.

Freshman linebacker David Lopez led the team with 12 stops, with Harris finishing with 11 tackles.

As a team, the Falcons recorded five quarterback sacks with sophomore Deon Goggins leading the team with 1 1/2, while Cutler posted three tackles for loss and six stops on the night.



Still up: WR Joshua Robbins slips out of a tackle.



Tackled away: Andrew Robles (No. 25) collects the ball after Eddie Valencia (No. 8) tackles it away from Albert Jimenez in Cerritos' 4-2 win.

Cerritos rebounds against LBCC

IVANHOE RAMON
Staff Writer
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After last week's surprise loss to ECC Compton Center, the Cerritos men's soccer team needed a win to keep its hopes alive of defending its South Coast Conference title.

It got just that with a 4-2 win over Long Beach on Wednesday.

Cerritos came out a little sloppy to begin the match. The team controlled the ball on its own side of the field, but continued giving the ball away to LBCC, ruining good scoring opportunities.

The first goal came in the 25th minute of play on a nice drive down the line by German Rivas who took the initial shot.

The rebound came out to Eddie Valencia, who fed Miguel Hernandez for the first goal.

LBCC had a quick response scoring

four minutes later.

To make things worse, All-American Luis Gonzalez, while going for a loose ball, was injured and walked off the field under his own power.

Cerritos rallied around its leader's injury and scored in the 38th minute. Ruben Gonzalez won a free ball, was kicked in the face, kept playing after there was no whistle, took the ball to the box and gave a low pass to Cesar Castillo for the 2-1 advantage heading into halftime.

Cerritos had the momentum going into the half, but LBCC didn't care, scoring within the first five minutes of the second half.

Eight minutes after the goal, Gonzalez returned to the match. Shortly after he returned, he took on two LBCC defenders, nearly fell, then took a great left-footed shot just inside the box and beat the keeper to the far left post, getting the go-ahead goal.

Cerritos added a reassurance goal in the 76th minute to put the game out of reach.

The win for the Falcons over LBCC improves their record to (8-2-1) in conference.

"I think they played really good. They didn't necessarily put the team away like they normally do, but the guys did exactly what we told them to do and I was really proud of that and their effort out there, said Coach Benny Arriaga.

"However, I did feel we could have played a little better defensively, specifically contesting balls in the air. We let too many of those balls bounce and it led to their first goal and it gave them life."

"I came in from Friday's match with a bruise, then there was today's hit in the first half. I'm just going to rest until this Friday and be fresh and ready for LA Harbor," said Gonzalez of his injuries in his last two matches.

Volleyball digs deep to rally past LBCC, falls short at El Camino

SOBUKWE RAMSEY
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Cerritos women's volleyball has faced probably its most important week of the season.

The Falcons hosted rival Long Beach City College and defeated the Vikings in four games.

They went on to face off versus No. 2 state ranked El Camino College, giving the defending champs all they could handle but losing the match.

Cerritos will travel to East Los Angeles College Wednesday and will look to improve upon the SCC record of 7-4.

Unlike the previous match against the Vikings, Long Beach gave Cerritos a much more competitive game forcing the Falcons to

beat them in four games.

The No. 21 state ranked Falcons trailed the Vikings in the third game 15-12 but gained momentum to win that game and they carried that energy in to the fourth game, winning 24-19.

"We went in to the El Camino match very confident, especially after the way we battled them in the previous meeting," said sophomore Kristen Trillo, who served six straight points in the third game rally versus Long Beach.

The prior serving and blocking mistakes and errors that normally plague the Falcons' matches didn't show when the games were on the line.

They took care of the ball against the Vikings, and Cerritos battled El Camino for all three games, but just could not get over the hump.

Sophomore Sarah Naranjo finished the match against the Warriors with 21 kills, three blocks and eight digs.

"The Long Beach match needed to be won in order for us to go in to the El Camino match with confidence and aggression" stated Coach Teresa Ortega.

Cerritos did just that with contributions from almost every player inserted in to the lineup.

Monique Gayton showed her experience with a total of 34 assists and 3 kills against the Warriors.

Although Cerritos played well and competed throughout every game against El Camino, the experience of the Warriors just proved to be the deciding factor in that match.

The Falcons will look to take out their frustration against East LA at 6 p.m. on Wednesday.

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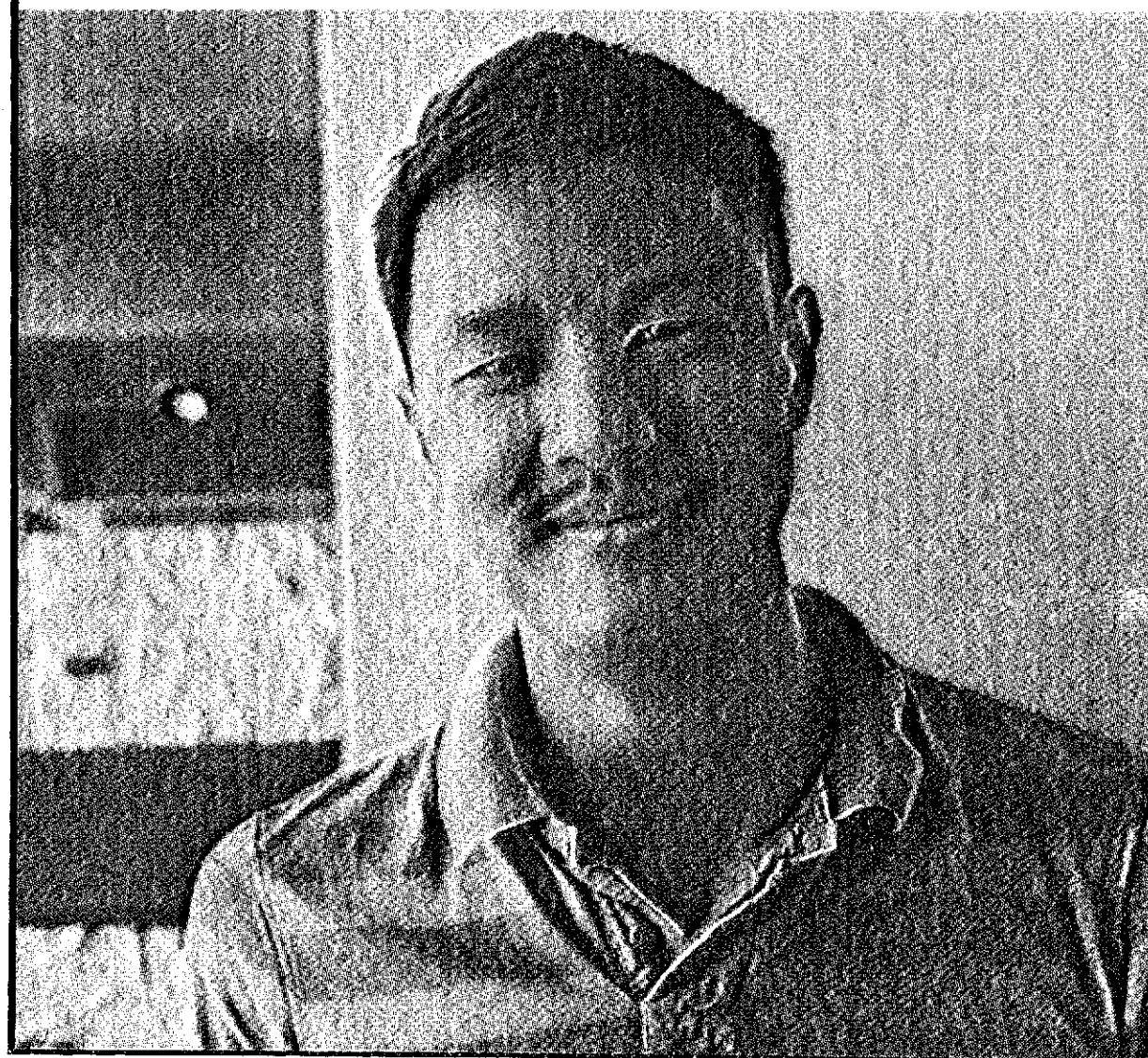
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