

# TALON MARKS

CERRITOS COLLEGE

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## Extended parking confusion leaves some in the dark

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Cerritos College students experienced confusion when the regular two-week period of free parking at the beginning of the fall semester was shortened, then extended a week later.

While the second week is typically also free, this semester, due to the availability to purchase parking passes online, the free period had been shortened.

Chief of Cerritos College Campus Police Richard Bukowiecki, stated that, "The policy is that we allow free parking the first week of each semester.

"This semester we have extend-

ed that one [extra] week (the second week of the semester)."

Bukowiecki added, "We are giving students an extra week to buy the parking permit."

Bukowiecki stated that the extension to the free parking was made some time Tuesday, although he was also unable to give an exact time of when the extension was made.

Tuesday there were tickets distributed to students who were parked illegally. Some students who were unaware of the newly enacted policy were then ticketed, with no official announcement that the policy had been changed.

Stephen Johnson, vice president of student services and assistant superintendent said, "Staff was no-

tified of the change," but is unsure if there was any notice put out to students. He said, "I know we did not put out any type of electronic notice."

Bukowiecki was unable to be reached for further comment and will not be available until after Labor Day.

Michelle Dawkins, the parking and rideshare facilitator, was unable to comment on the situation because she claims that she cannot be interviewed without clearance from Bukowiecki.

It is still unknown if or how the Campus Police attempted to advise students of the free parking extension.

Johnson explained the reason for the extension on the free park-

ing by stating, "We did not have a supply of parking permits for online sale in Admissions and Records."

It is also unknown the time that Admission and Records had run out of tickets.

Students such as Alberto Loaiza, English major, claims that he knew nothing about the extension.

Loaiza said that sometime last week he bought a parking permit at the dispensary and the ticket did not come out.

He went to another dispensary and the same thing occurred.

Loaiza's proposed solution was, "They put a sign up the first week of school on the in big red letters to let people know that there was free parking. They could have left the sign on to let people know."



STEPHANIE ROMERO/TM  
**Confused:** An undisclosed amount of tickets was distributed on cars last Monday and Tuesday. Many students received tickets before the free parking period was extended to the end of the week, late Tuesday afternoon.

## Students battle for positions

Many find that the job market holds competition from misplaced workers

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Competition for internships this fall will be tough as experienced or mature workers and entry-level college students vie for a way to get their foot in the door.

A study released in August by Careerbuilder.com shows that nearly 23 percent of employers report getting applications from experienced workers (more than 10 years of experience) and mature workers (50 years of age and older) for internships at their respective organizations.

While there may be many different reasons why more than 2,500 employers report the recent surge of applicants into entry-level positions, some have used the country's recent budget issues as a leading factor for the surge.

"The last 18 months have reshaped internships as more than experience-builders for college students. Now, they're also a way for experienced workers to explore new opportunities," said Rosemary Haefner, vice president of human resources at CareerBuilder. "Internships can act as an extended, full-time job interview and potentially lead to more opportunities for college students and for more seasoned employees."

While the application floodgates have seemingly been opened, more than 27 percent of employers

**See: Entry level Page 2**

## FATHER OF FOUR KILLED ON THE 105 FREEWAY



COURTESY OF FREDDY SIORDIA

**Gunned down:** Cerritos College student Juan Pacheco worked at the Jiffy Lube off of Woodruff Avenue and Alondra Boulevard until he was shot Friday night. Pacheco was married and had four children, two of which were in the car at the time of his murder.

## Cerritos student dead at 28

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Twenty-eight-year-old automotive student, Juan Ramone Pacheco, was shot and killed Friday afternoon around 6:30 p.m. after a verbal altercation occurred on the 105 Freeway between him and an unidentified individual.

The city of Downey issued a press release the same day stating that Pacheco was merging eastbound onto the 105 Freeway from Lakewood Boulevard when the altercation occurred.

According to the Downey Police Department, the assailant shot a single gunshot into Pacheco's upper torso causing him to pull over onto the shoulder of the freeway.

It was also noted that once Downey PD arrived on scene, Pacheco had exited his car

and collapsed onto the pavement.

He was then rushed to the hospital where he was pronounced dead.

Leonela Pacheco, wife of Pacheco, recalled the fatal incident that caused the death of her husband who she has known since she was 14 years old. "We got on the 105 Freeway and he (the suspect) cut us off and almost hit us."

"My husband continued to merge and the guy kept messing with us, and that's when he (Pacheco) rolled down the window to tell him that he almost hit us. At that moment is when the guy pulled the gun and shot one single shot."

After Pacheco was wounded, he managed to pull over to the shoulder. "He got out of the car and collapsed onto the floor. My kids were crying and saying, 'Daddy got shot,'" she said.

When news of his death hit campus, many of Pacheco's classmates were shocked and surprised that their fellow comrade would

not be returning to class.

"I couldn't believe it, I thought he was in a coma. I didn't think he was dead," automotive major Emmanuel Luevanos stated.

He continued to describe his classmate as a "passionate, funny, hardworking guy" and "eager to learn."

Carlos Lopez, automotive major, said, "It's hard to believe that I just saw him Thursday and now he's not here."

Automotive instructor Leonard Glick was taken aback when he found out that one of his students had been murdered.

"It was devastating; I was hoping it wasn't true at first, but then I called his work and [his co-workers] confirmed his death."

"You hear and read about this type of stuff in the newspaper but you're so detached that you don't think that it will happen to someone you know."

**See: Pacheco Page 2**

## Incoming students vie for fall classes

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Alejo Torres, an undecided major, wasn't able to get into his Japanese class for this semester due to his enrollment date.

Torres says, "The day I could enroll in my classes, I tried adding the (Japanese) class, and it was closed." He couldn't get the class because when he showed up for the class, it was overpopulated with students trying to get the class.

He added, "I didn't want to waste my time."

Students at Cerritos cannot get the classes they need, due to non-payment of the health fee, or the enrollment date being after the class has been filled to capacity. Other reasons may include a hold

on a student's record, or a pre-requisite not being met by the student.

Stephen Johnson, vice president of Student Services, says, "We put out a notice to students about the fact that many things will be crowded and full this year."

Jose Regosa, a kinesiology major, had a chance to get into all of his classes. He was on the waitlist for one of his classes,

**See: Crowds Page 2**

NEWS PAGE 2



### Hygiene

Students question cleanliness of buildings

ARTS PAGE 5

### Rock the Bells

Thousands flock to Rock The Bells festival



SPORTS PAGE 8

### Locked out

Wrestling and volleyball are misplaced after gym construction begins





CERRITOS COLLEGE  
CALENDAR  
EVENT

SEPTEMBER

1 Club Information Day at Falcon Square 10:00 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

7 Red Cross blood drive begins in Falcon Square 8:00 a.m. to 8 p.m.

9 Homecoming kick-off luncheon 11:00 a.m.

13 Homecoming applications available at 8:30 a.m.

29 Homecoming court elections begin

30 Homecoming court elections end

OCTOBER

25 Homecoming Activity Night in the Social Science building patio 6:00 p.m.



LAURA CHAU/TM

**Unsanitary?:** The sink in a campus restroom represents the type of hygienic renovations that Sparks and Hanks are campaigning for. Plans are currently being made to clean up the school's facilities.

# Campus looks to improve

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The awareness of hygiene issues in Cerritos College campus buildings has brought a lot of attention to the Board of Administration, which in return started a health and safety project, which will take place this fall semester.

Two years ago, Cerritos College speech professors Bill Sparks and Wendell Hanks decided to make a short movie by filming inside all of the campus sites and buildings that were neglected from serious maintenance work.

What they recorded brought a lot of attention toward students and school faculty, showing how the administration is not taking enough effort in keeping our school in a presentable manner for the community and for the students.

Shortly after the short film was released, the head of administration had a very significant reason to take action of the unsanitary conditions that the school was in, by having some buildings and restrooms repainted and remodeled. But what was much to the surprise of Hanks and Sparks was that when they took recent pictures of the facilities and restrooms, they did notice some change, but not major.

The impression that Cerritos College gives is hard to follow compared to major four-year universities that get thousands of applicants each year. Hanks believes that the way a school is preserved reflects on the students. "I've visited 37 schools in one year, purposely to see how they're set up, and the schools that are immaculate don't have a problem with graffiti, because the students won't permit it." He also adds, "Name-brand schools like USC, UCLA are immaculate because they know facilities dictates the perception of the school."

Bill Sparks, who has been a part of Cerritos College since 1995, has seen how the quality of the campus buildings progressed into an unhealthy problem. "The rooms were a little bit more presentable when I first came here and it seems like every year that I've been here, it's gotten a little bit worse" Sparks added.

"In Cerritos College, unkempt facility management promotes the idea that the school doesn't represent a respectable attitude for its students, and possible applicants will decide to go to another college."

"The constant negligence of the proper care for the school's campus makes custodian workers' janitorial services hard to maintain the normal hygienic care for the buildings."

mal hygienic care for the buildings."

Sparks and Hanks, along with full support from Cerritos College President Dr. Linda Lacy, are now making strong repercussions by creating an awareness about the hygiene issues of what most of the buildings contain graffiti, dirty stains on the walls, floors, ceilings of the classrooms, restrooms, even the outside buildings, which haven't been fully asserted with complete attention.

Lacy, who has noticed the hygiene problem herself since she came onto the school board September of last year, has a plan to expedite with a health and safety project, to take care of the unfit conditions, starting this fall.

"One of the things I wanted to look at was to figure out how with the existing staff we could still accomplish the goal of hygiene and making presentable restrooms for our students," Lacy said.

As the project starts this fall, some buildings are already being reconstructed. The entire hygiene process could take up to two years for complete success. But the main goal for Dr. Lacy and faculty staff members is to promote a healthy, safe, environment for Cerritos College students.

# Study abroad program's chances look good

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Dean of Humanities and Social Sciences Bryan Reece has started discussing with a few faculty members a new opportunity for students at Cerritos College to enhance their education by studying abroad.

Although Reece was sure to mention that this is not an actual

launch of the program, some preparation has already begun on the new project.

"This is an update on a discussion that is going on that may end up launching a program," he said. Reece met with Danita Kurtz, director of the International Students Program and a vocal advocate for the study abroad program, as well as with Cerritos College president Linda Lacy.

Lacy recommends that the program proceed and be offered to help with the development as well as suggests a curriculum be established.

Reece has partnered with CAPA International Education, which will help set up housing and other arrangements necessary to keep the students safe and accommodated.

Another faculty member that has been consulted is Sunday Oba-

zuaye, Director of Global Studies, and Bill Farmer, Vice President of Academic Affairs, who has had experience with the study abroad program in Pasadena.

Also available is assistance with program travel, administration, and housing. This program will be an eight-week program and it allows faculty and students to fit the program into a nine-week session, and continue their classes upon their return to the U.S.

Expenses will be between \$5,000 and \$8,000 per student and financial aid and scholarships will be available

"We have already established a scholarship program set up through another program that should gener-

ate \$40,000 to \$60,000 a year that we could use to help offset cost for students," Reece said.

Faculty will have its expenses covered, except for entertainment purposes.

As far as housing, faculty will be set up in apartments while students will either be set up in apartments or with host families.

The curriculum will be in accordance with Cerritos College and credit and one faculty member will be assigned to every 20 to 30 students.

## Crowds: Students fill up the admissions office inquiring about their fall classes

*Continued from Page 1:* classes, but people not showing up allowed him to get in.

"I wanted to add other classes, but I wasn't signed up for any of them. I'm happy with the classes that I did get," Regosa said.

Students like English major Jose Gonzales were upset about the Admissions and Records Office messing up their classes, because they had paid all their fees and they were still dropped from their classes.

Gonzalez stood in line at Admissions and Records to try to get information on why he was unable to get into his class.

Gonzalez says, "I wasn't able to get into the class because something happened with the system. Even though I'm number two on the waitlist, there are three spots open, but the teacher can't add me."

Candice Lopez, an accounting major, has the majority of the classes she enrolled in, but was unable to add an English or math class.

She said, "I'm taking four classes and a lab, but I was trying to get five. I tried getting the other classes I wanted, but there [were] a lot of kids on the waitlist, so I did not want to waste my time. I'm satisfied with the classes I have now."

This semester Cerritos saw a lot of new students unable to get the classes they need.

Madison Vierstra, an english major, was dissatisfied with her schedule.

Vierstra says, "I enrolled in five classes and I only got into two, mainly because of being [on] the waitlist. [Having] too many people in the class makes it a rougher learning environment for myself."

Johnson, also said, "Students get priority for enrollment based on either a point system or because they are in a specific category that under California law gets priority enrollment."



# Social Science building undergoes renovations set for next year finish

Plans are currently underway for the renovation of the school's building.

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The Social science building is being upgraded under the support of the General Obligation Bond, and with the help of the woodworking department, which is supplying the students studying in that department.

The Cerritos College employees in charge for the upgrade are Bryan Reece Dean of Humanities and Social Sciences, Robert Riffle, Director of Physical Plant Facilities, Jerry John, campus architect and Anthony Fortner of the woodworking department.

Although the idea was already passed by voters, it was still being processed but the upgrades had not started until last year.

Some renovations that students may not have been aware of include new desks and chairs, fire alarms, new benches and the addition of a wheelchair ramp.

The main purpose for the renovation of the building is to make every class a smart and professional room which includes good projectors and a good internet connection, according to Reece.

As the whole nation is going through the economic crisis, it is not affecting the building renovation.

Every woodwork of the building is being done by the students of the woodworking department, by which the capital is saved as the student does not need to be paid as it is a part of his or her studies.

"The new kinds of chairs and desks seem quite fascinating and comfortable to move in," says Mariam Ramirez, another student majoring in computer engineering.

Robert Lopez says, "The upgrades are really cool and we like it."

Another student enjoys sitting on the new types of benches, which are located on the ground floor for students who are waiting for a ride.

"Though it's comfortable, I am having a problem with the chairs,

which are too far from the desks and it's kind of hard for me to grab books while sitting," says Nadia Jurado, architecture major.

The main reason for the delay is that before doing any new upgrades, the ideas need to be passed by the bureaucracy which moves slowly, and that is what worries the dean about not finishing the work on time.

Not only is the Social Science Building being renovated, but the Liberal Arts and other buildings are also under the plan for renovation.

By the end of the next year the work with the Social Science Building will be completed, according to Reece.



**New Look:** New desks and chairs are being placed in the classrooms of the Social Science Building. Renovation of the building should be finished by the end of next year, according to Bryan Reece.



**Strive for diligence:** Sunday Obazuaye teaches his political science 101 class. Ever since his childhood, Obazuaye's main goal has been to improve his education.

# Teacher tells his journey

Cerritos College professor strives to make education better for himself as well as his students.

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The story of Cerritos College political science professor Sunday Obazuaye is something that many people may consider to be somewhat unusual.

Obazuaye is a native of Nigeria, where he spent his high school years in before leaving the country in search for academic prosperity.

"In any society, there is the good, the bad and the ugly. The society I grew up in Nigeria had a drive for education," Obazuaye said.

"Many people wanted to go to college after graduating high school but there weren't enough universities to go to.

"When I left Nigeria, there were only 12 universities and at the time, there were 19 states in the country."

Obazuaye also went on to mention that tribal discrimination, as well as the political situation at the time made it harder for Nigerian students to attend college.

He pointed out that things did not seem to turn around for Nigerians until 1978 when a

new civilian government was placed in the country, replacing the previous military regime.

According to Obazuaye, this made it easier for students, such as himself, to resume their academic careers.

This allowed him to attend a teacher's training college after six years of not being able to attend any university.

At the same time that he applied for teacher's training, he also applied for admission at Alaska Pacific University, which was granted to him.

"After one term in the teacher's college in Nigeria, I weighed the advantages and disadvantages and decided to come to the United States," he said.

Upon arriving in Alaska, Obazuaye learned that Alaska Pacific was becoming an ethnically diverse school.

"The institution was going through reorganization, and the new president wanted to have a campus that had a very integrated student body," he said.

He also mentioned that Alaska Pacific was the home for other students hailing from Asia, Africa and Europe.

Obazuaye brought up the fact that when he tells people of his experience in Alaska, many eyebrows are raised.

"All I was looking for was the opportunity to get my foot in the door of any university that would let me in," he said, "So when people ask me, 'Why Alaska? Why not California?' I say it was because I had a sense of adventure, that's where the opportunity was at the time."

After leaving Alaska, Obazuaye arrived in California, teaching at Chaffey College in 1998 and Cal Poly Pomona from 2000 to 2008, teaching

political science and public administration before arriving at Cerritos.

Obazuaye considers himself to be a "great encourager of education."

"I see education as the key to many doors in life. I see education as a tool that anybody can use to succeed in life," he said.

"Education does not necessarily mean being within the four walls of an institution. You can be educated without attending a university system or a community college."

Another thing that Obazuaye enjoys is reaching out to students of various cultures. "One of my satisfactions in teaching is the fact that I can teach students from diverse nationalities," he said.

"That gives me great satisfaction because I see myself as an international person."

Bryan Reece, dean of humanities and social sciences, has found his time working with Obazuaye to be a positive one.

"As a colleague, he's great to work with," Reece said.

"He's the kind of colleague that is very dependable, never flaky at all."

Some of his students also consider Obazuaye to be a good educator.

"So far, he's kept the class interesting, and it's a hard subject to keep interesting," said computer science major Javier Corrales, who is also a student in Obazuaye's economics class.

Ana Baltazar, nursing major, said, "He makes it so those who don't understand economics understand it.

"I understand it, and I never thought I would."

# Pacheco: Student slain on 105 freeway

Continued from Page 1:

Right before his death, Pacheco purchased an old car to restore.

Glick recalls that Pacheco would come early to class to tell him about all the progress he was making with his new project; on occasion they would both work on the car to restore it.

"He was a really good student--the type of student you're happy to have in your class," Glick said.

Pacheco was "Right now, it's hard, but it's going to get harder when we see him again." —LEONELA PACHECO Victim's wife

completing the program. Freddy Siordia, manager at the Jiffy Lube where Pacheco worked at for two years, only had kind words to say about him.

As he searched for the words to describe Pacheco, he repeatedly said, "I still can't believe it!"

Once he found his train of thought, he said, "Juan was a great guy [who was] always positive and had a lot of energy.

"What made it worse was that he was getting his act together for him and his family and it was unfortunate that it had to end the way it did."

Pacheco leaves behind a wife and four children.

"Right now it's hard but it's going to get harder when we see him again," Pacheco's wife said.

There are plans on having a car wash to raise funds for funeral expenses on Saturday at Simms Park located in Bellflower on Clark and Oak.

Lieutenant Phil Rego of the

Downey Police Department said that investigators do not have any additional information about the suspect other than what is included in the press release.

The assailant's car is described as a 2002 or 2003 four-door blue Honda Accord with tinted windows and chrome rims.

Leonela and the police are urging anyone who has information about the whereabouts of the suspect to come forward and call the Downey Police Department at (562) 904-2308.

"He's gone and I want this person to know that you did something horrible to us, horrible," she stated to ABC News.

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•EDITORIAL•

Classes are our responsibility

With jobs becoming harder and harder to find in these harsh economic times, more people are looking to higher education to give them an edge in tomorrow's job market.

This puts more pressure on colleges, impacted majors, students and enrollment.

It's becoming easier to blame the school system for not getting into the classes one would want, but in the end it's the students' responsibility to pay attention to enrollment dates and even contact professors if they need a class.

Students must not only rely on the My Cerritos website to do all the work for them.

We all know different groups get different enrollment dates that seem almost arbitrary and without reason, providing a handicap for students in certain groups.

But what happened to contacting professors yourself and fighting for a class you didn't get, maybe even on the same day you were allowed to enroll?

Although a student's enrollment date is one of the most uncontrollable hurdles in the way of his semester schedule, the largest problem seems to be students not making school their top priority.

Most of us don't look for all of our classes until our enrollment date, but we can start to fill our schedules until the day we are able to click "proceed to step two of three" in our shopping carts.

The overpopulation of our campus makes it harder to receive direction as to what classes we should take next.

We've all experienced the long lines to see a counselor, and those who haven't seem almost allergic to waiting more than an hour.

The fact remains that if we don't wait in every line available to us to receive help, we cannot complain that the help is not available or that the system has failed us.

With so many students on campuses all across California, only the most proactive have the right to begin questioning the system.

If you are in the minority of proactive students and feel victimized even still, then realize that it's not the system's fault.

For the most part we can attach blame to the ambition of everyone around us trying to get back to school this semester, whether it be due to economic fluctuations or the competitiveness of returning alumni.

When put into perspective, we must take responsibility for ourselves and realize that when the chips are stacked against us, we must attempt to stack them just as high or accept the loss knowing we didn't do enough.



ILLUSTRATION BY JIMMY EDWARDS-TURNER/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](mailto:editor@talonmarks.com).

Mommy was wrong about playing games

It is without a doubt that video games have the ability to affect our minds. Even if you don't believe it, there are more than a few people that do, with the countless studies conducted on the possible links between video games and negative behaviors, such as aggression and addiction. Although some say these effects are purely negative, there is a strong case for the benefits to be gained from video games.

It's 1996 and my mom just got me a Sega Genesis and "Sonic the Hedgehog 3". Since the time I took that kidney-bean-shaped controller in my hands, I have never stopped playing video games.

As a kid in Brooklyn with little access to other hobbies or activities, video games became my primary means of entertainment, and throughout my many years of playing, I, and anyone else that loves video games, have only come across one big problem with my favorite medium: the huge amount of negative news and opinions that has been following video games.

Ever since the first Mortal Kombat's unique brand of mega violence hit arcades in 1992, there has been a steadily increasing amount of complaints and controversies surrounding video games, with violent video games being the main target.

Although not every video game is a violent one, it seems these are the only games that get any sort of attention from the mainstream.

Does anyone remember Tetris? You know, the old



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puzzle game created in 1984 that now, 26 years later, is included in almost every cell phone's game library?

This game has been a part of some of the most groundbreaking cognitive and brain physiology research.

In 1992, the same year "Mortal Kombat" came out, a neuroscientist at UC Irvine named Richard Haier, conducted a study using the game "Tetris" to see how, if at all, it would affect the brains of the players.

Using the limited brain-scanning technology available at the time, Haier discovered that players used less glucose in their brains as they became more skilled at the game over time.

The more they played, the easier it became for them to solve these spatial puzzles and thus, their brains used less energy by exercising it.

But that was not the end of Haier's research. Seventeen years later, in 2009, Haier decided to conduct the same study but with magnetic resonance imaging, or MRI, scans-- higher end technology that wasn't available to the neuroscientists of the '90s.

Out of 26 adolescent girls, 15 were tasked with playing Tetris for an hour and a half every week for three months, while the other 11 girls were told to avoid video games altogether.

Once they were brought back in for monitoring, Haier found the girls that played Tetris showed an increase in efficiency in areas of the brain linked to critical thinking, language, reasoning, and information processing.

Not only that, but these girls also showed thickening of brain tissue in areas linked to planning of complex movements and coordination of sensory information. Where's the big news story on that?

Tetris isn't the only game that possesses this capacity for improving brain power. As a matter of fact, the number of games that can strengthen one's mind and increase its efficiency is quite vast.

Another benefit comes from the repetitive nature most games have, what with the formulaic system of completing objectives and goals; solve the puzzle, find the key, defeat the boss, and on to the next level.

According to Dr. Douglas Gentile, head of media research at Iowa State University, this repetition makes anyone that plays video games inclined to long-term potentiation, or LTP.

So you can actually gain a heightened sense of vision, an increase in learning abilities, improved dexterity and more efficient memory usage. Looks like mom was wrong about games rotting your brain.

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How difficult was it to enroll in your classes this semester?

COMPILED BY: MARTIN REYES  
PHOTOS BY: MARTIN REYES



**PABLO HERNANDEZ**  
history major  
"I had to get on the waitlist due to the fact that when [I got] the enrollment date most of the classes are filled up."



**YURI ANDRADE**  
undecided major  
"It was difficult this semester. Classes were super packed and I really didn't know how to get them."



**LESLIE DEHARO**  
business major  
"This semester, it was kind of easy for me to get my classes. I got all the classes I needed to get."



**MIRNA RAMIREZ**  
undecided major  
"I had to go through every single one in the book just to get the class and I didn't even get the class I really wanted."



**MANPREET DOLE**  
undecided major  
"They don't have the budget so it was hard for me to get into my classes."



**BRIAN BEDOLLA**  
anthropology major  
"I enrolled the second day I was allowed to enroll, I got all my classes so, fairly easy."



# ‘Rock The Bells’ too hot for fans

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Staff Writer  
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Guerilla Union hosted Rock The Bells, a yearly hip-hop event held in San Bernardino, on Aug. 21.

This year, 25,000 fans braved the triple-digit heat to see hip-hop forefathers, such as Snoop Dogg, A Tribe Called Quest, Wu-Tang Clan, Slick Rick and DJ Premier, take the stage.

This year’s festival featured selections from three classic hip-hop records: A Tribe Called Quest’s “Midnight Marauders,” Wu-Tang Clan’s “Enter the 36 Chambers” and Snoop Dogg’s “Doggystyle,” all released in November 1993.

“We are all celebrating our birthdays,” Q-Tip of A Tribe Called Quest said.

Despite an all-star lineup guaranteed to please hip-hop fans, this year’s Rock The Bells left many event goers dissatisfied.

The main cause of frustration was the heat.

“The event was horribly organized,” says Chad Casillan, a nursing major at CSU San Marcos. “[Organizers] made it difficult to get water. I couldn’t enjoy the first half because I was so frustrated.”

Guerilla Union did, in fact, try a new system this year.

Instead of vendors accepting cash, people had to pay via pre-paid event cards, purchased on site.

“We had to wait in one line to get a card, then another long line to get water, all in the sun. It took us more than an hour,” added Casillan.

Stage layout also contributed to the many reports of heat exhaustion.

The Paid Dues Stage, which

hosted newcomers such as Murs and 9th Wonder, Wiz Khalifa and Street Sweeper Social Club, was put indoors.

Shaun Pamintuan, a kinesiology student at CSU Long Beach, attempted to enter the indoor stage, but quickly left as soon as he felt the heat and humidity from the hundreds of people packed into the poorly ventilated room.

“If [people were] interested in Bikram yoga, they had a fully functional sauna at the back of the venue. Oh wait—my mistake—that was the Paid Dues stage. Making that stage indoors was a horrible idea.”

Pamintuan, who has attended Rock The Bells three times, also had difficulty enjoying the event because of the extreme heat.

“The first-aid stations were overcrowded with people experiencing heat exhaustion. I also felt dizzy most of the time and I witnessed a handful of people pass out right in front of me.”

Although this year’s lineup was to die for, fans agree Guerilla Union should have done a better job of organizing the event, especially in 101-degree weather.

“The venue this year [was] good, but not for Rock the Bells,” said Casillan.

“The heat was expected. It’s the one thing that actually goes hand in hand with this annual festival, so it’s just good to be prepared for the worst.”



BILLY TURNER/TM

**Writers Block:** Peter Catania’s film “Writer’s Block” has received many awards at several film festivals. His film will be sent to the SoCal Film Festival in Huntington Beach on Sept. 26– Oct. 3.

## Students’ film is acclaimed

MAYRA SALAZAR  
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Cerritos College film student, Peter Catania, has been moving closer to becoming a filmmaker, which he expressed to be his “ultimate goal.”

His short film, “Writer’s Block,” received an honorable mention at 3C Media Solutions Fifth Annual Student Film and Video Festival and was chosen as an official selection at the Action On Film International Film Festival 2010.

The film is about an author, who, in an attempt to get rid of his “writer’s block,” travels to the middle of a park to write his story.

As the author begins to type, he hears musical notes with the tap of each key of his typewriter. Soon thereafter, a song emerges.

As creative as “Writer’s Block” may be, Catania had no initial intent to pursue a career in

filmmaking, yet his film is now entering its third film festival.

“Writer’s Block” was recently accepted into the SoCal Film Festival in Huntington Beach, which will be held from Sept. 26 to Oct. 3.

“I have to tell you, it’s pretty surreal. I feel like I’m living in a fantasy,” Catania said of his film’s success.

Catania graduated from Cerritos College in 2009 as a liberal arts major planning to become a screenwriter.

“I took screenwriting with Roger Ernest and he suggested I take Hirohama’s production class if I was serious about film,” he said.

Under the instruction of film professor Steven Hirohama, an experience Catania described as being “phenomenal,” is where he said he “fell in love with the art form of filmmaking.

“The film program at Cerritos is amazing,” he continued, “I had nothing but great experi-

ences.”

Hirohama recognized Catania’s talent and potential, explaining that he possesses the “passion, focus and ‘stick-to-it-ness’” required to go far in any industry.

“He’s building on his success,” Hirohama continued, sure that his student is on his way to “bigger and more ambitious projects.”

Catania is currently in pre-production of another short film as he awaits the SoCal Film Festival, in which “Writer’s Block” will screen at 2:15 p.m. on Oct. 1.

“The award nominees have not been announced as of right now,” Catania said, urging his fellow Cerritos College students to “keep those fingers crossed!”

## The arcade: A bright sub-culture headed to a dim future

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JIMMY EDWARDS-TURNER/TM

**Justice is served:** Aly Douangphachanh, kinesiology major, saves the world in “Time Crisis II.” This cabinet is one of the more popular games in the game room.

At Cerritos College there is a diverse mix of students coming from many different backgrounds.

It is visibly apparent how heterogeneous the student body is, but there is one niche in the population that does not show itself so easily.

That niche is with the arcade, its patrons being people that spend their time playing coin-op games and developing an intricate and subtle culture within these designated areas of amusement.

This is a real culture, as defined by The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language, that provides a “set of shared attitudes, values, goals, and practices that characterizes an institution, organization or group.”

The very first video arcade game in the U.S. was “Galaxy Game”, a coin-operated version of the “Spacewar” computer game, that students at Stanford University set up in 1971.

From then to the early ‘80s, video arcade games began to pop up in malls, movie theaters, grocery stores and restaurants. The latter spawned some chain restaurants and franchises

we know today, such as Chuck E. Cheese’s and Dave and Buster’s.

With the arrival of fighting games such as “Mortal Kombat” in 1992, “Killer Instinct” in 1994 and “The King of Fighters” in 1994, arcades were being frequented more and more. The only difference this time was the player.

The fighting games brought the truly passionate and enthusiastic patrons of the arcade, and with them came the beginnings of the arcade culture.

What these two-player fighting games did was add the human-against-human element of head-to-head competition and provide a real social atmosphere.

The atmosphere created is a unique one, not unlike Cerritos College’s game room.

Albert Suafa, engineering major, states, “[Street Fighter III: 3rd Strike] is the most popular game in the game room because there’s so much competition.”

The game creates a contest-like environment that lets skilled players test their abilities against each other, and forces new players to “watch how people play and adapt,” says Suafa.

Observing the other players in the arcade is one part of the social atmosphere the arcade

creates, and it’s true even in the school’s game room.

If you can’t figure out a certain move, there is always someone that can. You can ask players for help, too. It’s rare for good players to refuse their help to newbies.

Currently, this social aspect is less visible than it was in the past. Randy Nunley, computer science major, says, “Nowadays, people just go to YouTube and watch videos to learn how to play.”

Before the arrival of the internet, you were taught and guided by your fellow arcade patrons. Now, with YouTube videos, “people can show you something, but they’re not actually there,” Nunley noted.

There are only a few dedicated arcades left here in the U.S. that aren’t franchised restaurants or bars.

One such establishment, Arcade Infinity, is a prime example of a good arcade gradually going extinct. With around \$400 in electricity bills each month, A.I. only brings in about \$250 monthly.

For anyone interested in experiencing this unique environment and helping a dying subculture, visit Arcade Infinity at 1380 Fullerton Road in Rowland Heights.

## Poppin’ Play Festival brings the drama with showy talent

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The third Annual Long Beach Poppin’ Play Festival continued this past weekend with more of Alive Theatre’s unique plays.

The festival is a showcase of the company’s one-of-a-kind productions.

This year the festival, held in Lafayette Ballroom in Long Beach, spans Aug. 19 to Sept. 11, presenting a separate lineup of plays three nights a week over those four weeks.

This year’s event consists of 11 new plays, all radically variant from one another and never before seen.

The types of shows being presented range from expressionist pieces, original musicals, commedia dell’arte pieces, and everything in between.

“[The plays were] really entertaining, and I found myself still thinking about them hours after I left,” said Jaime Agredano, a Cerritos College graduate, after attending a Friday

night show.

“I’ve never seen anything like the plays I just saw,” Agredano added.

January 2008 marked the creation of the company, which was brought on by CSULB graduates and artistic standouts, like Danielle Dauphinee and Jeremy Alumam, along with a wealth of help from their peers.

The company has since amassed a profound number of aspiring artists from Long Beach’s art scene, forming a coalition of performers, writer and directors.

These young artists independently produce these plays for the public’s appreciation, without gaining a penny of profit.

“The actors here are doing it for free. They’re just doing this because they love the art,” Alive Theatre’s artistic director, Scott Lennard, said.

Lennard heads the company’s current board of executive members and has been working with Alive Theatre since the company’s inception.

“I have been working for the company going on three years now, and this has been the best experience I have ever

had,” said Lennard.

He notes that a lot of people striving to break into the industry today do it for the wrong reasons. “Sometimes you see people just trying to get into this business to become an actor or something, and [they] forget about the art.

“Everyone here cares about the art and the quality of what we put up, and that has been really fun to watch.”

Alive Theatre wants to establish a place where a new generation of people can come and experience the power of the theater in an exciting and new entertaining way.

On their website, part of the mission statement says that Alive Theatre “strives to strengthen bonds among artists in the community of Long Beach.”

The Long Beach Poppin’ Play Festival progresses on Thursday at 8 p.m. in the Lafayette Ballroom with a fresh new array of plays for audiences to enjoy.

“I’ve never seen anything like the plays I just saw.”

—JAMIE AGRELANO  
Cerritos College alumnus

*TM Trivia*

What novel contains the longest sentence in literature?

\*Go to  
www.talonmarks.com/art  
to submit your answer

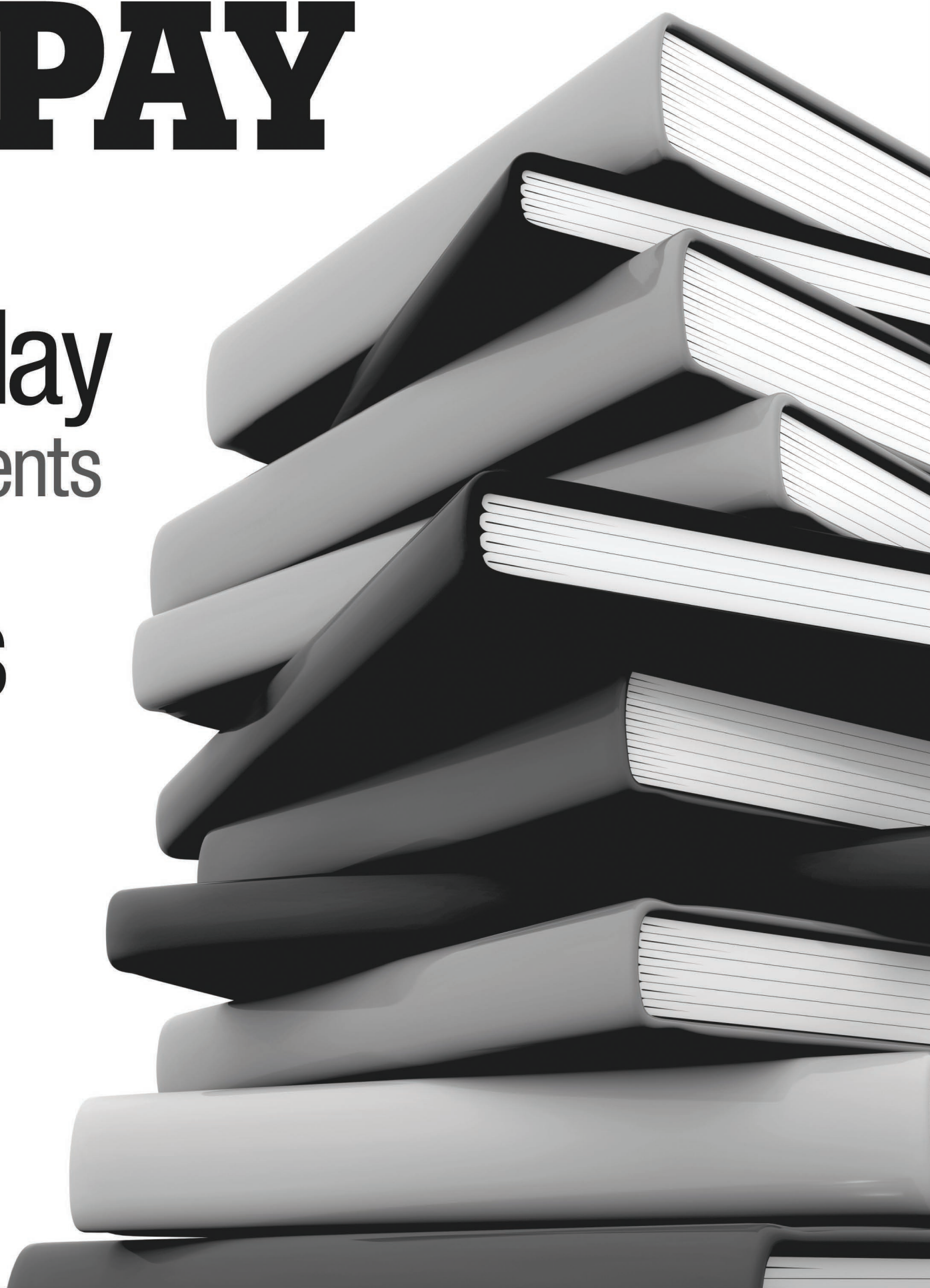


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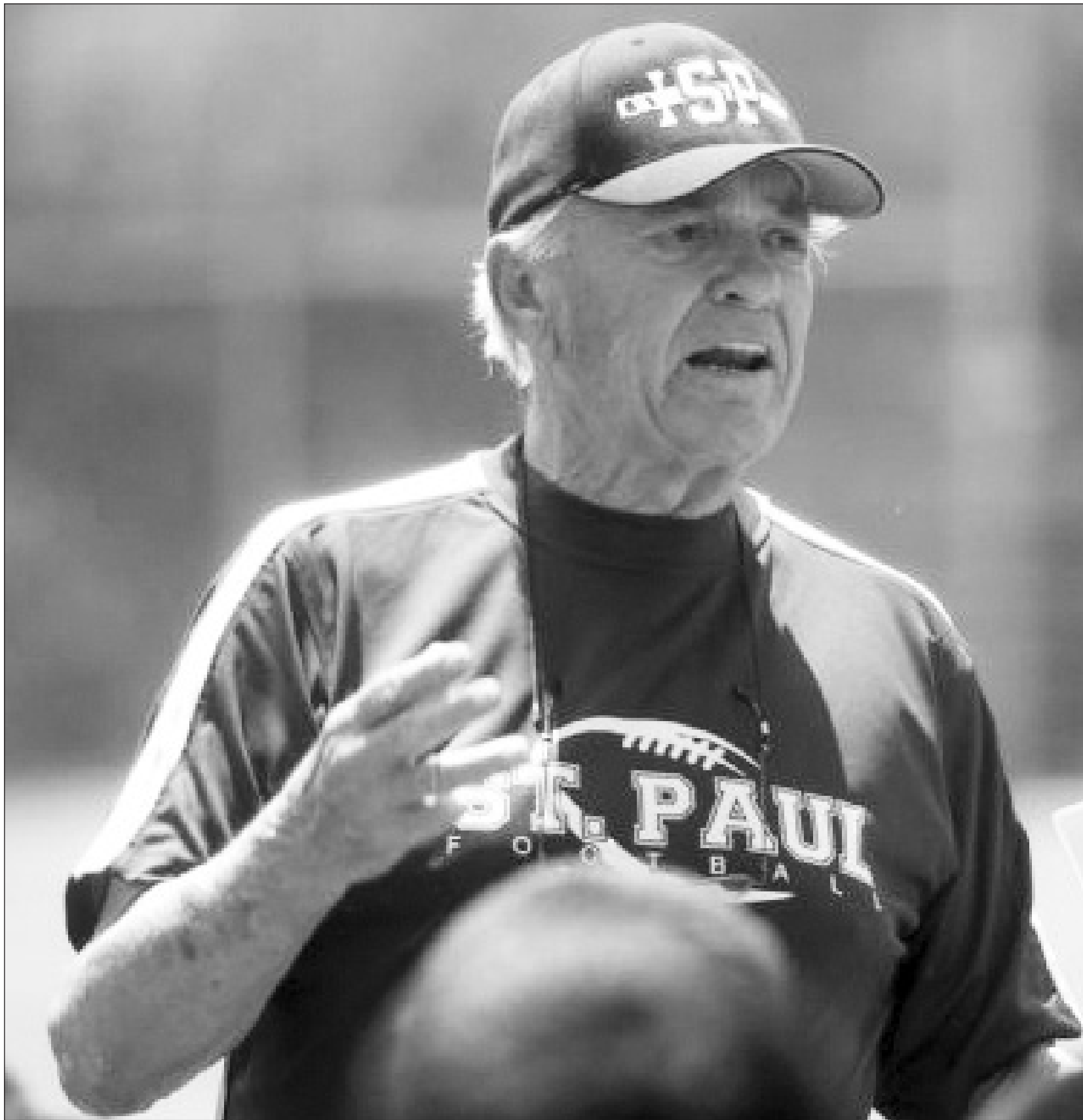
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# Local coach suspended on suspicion of hazing



**Achin':** St. Paul head football coach Marijon Ancich, who once held the title of winning more games than any other high school football coach in California was suspended on accusations of hazing. He has since returned to coach the Swordsmen.

COURTESY OF WWW.INSIDESOCAL.COM

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The National Football League observes several of its own players endure several different practices of hazing during OTAs and training camps.

Most recent victims include Denver Broncos quarterback and former Florida Gator Tim Tebow, who had his hair cut in an unusual fashion, and Dallas Cowboy wide receiver Dez Bryant, who refused to carry fellow receiver Roy Williams' pads after practice in training camp.

While hazing is generally found in the higher levels of sports, it has made its way down to the high school level.

St. Paul High School's varsity football coach Marijon Ancich, who was once California's all-time winningest coach, and several members of his coaching staff were temporarily suspended after allegations of hazing, but were reinstated about a week later. Ancich's son, Visko Ancich, who is the team's offensive coordinator, was the temporary head coach.

One accused coach is believed to be Juan Gonzalez, a freshman coach from 2005-09, who was promoted to the varsity coaching staff this season. Gonzalez hasn't been able to be contacted and he did not attend the team's scrimmage last Friday evening.

Principal Kate Aceves would not confirm whether Gonzalez was the coach who was not returning, however did confirm in a letter to parents mailed on Friday that, Visko Ancich, Rich Avina Jr., Lou Cabral, Oliver Cepeida, Rich Estrella and Anthony Wilson were all reinstated.

She also confirmed that acts of hazing did occur on Aug. 17.

"Our investigation concluded

that a hazing incident occurred, in violation of the California Education Code 48900 and our school and archdiocesan policies as outlined in the Parent/Student Handbook," wrote Aceves.

Aceves said she was unable to comment on the type or harshness of the hazing or total number of people involved, due to the involvement of minors.

Reports surfaced on Aug. 20 that incoming varsity players were subject to several initiations, including running through gauntlets while objects were thrown at them. Other players also said forms of paddling and spanking were involved.

Two of the coaches were immediately reinstated after they were cleared because of non-involvement, including Ancich's son.

Tod Tamberg, the media spokesman for the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, reported that this is not a new incident.

"The football program was put on notice last year and it happened again this year," Tamberg said. "It needs to be dealt with."

While the coaches were reinstated, Aceves was firm in saying they weren't going to evade.

Aceves wrote in her letter: "As a result of the process, the football coaching staff and team will face disciplinary action. The disciplinary action will not include forfeiture of any football games."

"I don't want the community to think just because all of these coaches are back that it's just a slap on the wrist," Aceves said. "This football team will face disciplinary action."

"The suspensions were heavy-handed, but I would do them again," Aceves said. "The safety of the students is the utmost concern of mine. I did not want to take any risk."

## Women's H2O primed and ready to go

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The Cerritos College women's water polo team looks to have a great season following last year's season with a record of 29 wins and one loss, the best record in California, and winning its second conference title in a row by beating teams like Los Angeles Trade Tech College 16-0 and Mt. San Antonio College 15-5 in the first two rounds.

The question now is: Will the Lady Falcons be able to pull off a threepeat, and maybe make it deeper in the Southern California Regional Playoffs?

Head coach Sergio Macias has high hopes for this year's team. "Conditioning is going to be our biggest challenge as of right now. The only way to improve our conducting is by coming to practice and working hard."

"This year is no different than years past. If we're not seeking to win the conference championship, then we will work to defend the conference title," he added confidently.

Center Karen Aguirre, who was part of the 2008 champion team, also

agrees that this year will be another championship year.

"I think we have potential. All the girls have talent," Aguirre said. "This season started off slow, but we have enough talent to do good".

As a talented team, the athletes still have a few things to practice on. Although some of the players that helped the Falcons get far in the previous season have transferred or graduated, there are still players who Macias believes will make an impact this season.

"Without a doubt we lost some great players from last year's squad, but the returners and the incoming freshmen will definitely help in competing for a conference title, as well as being one of the top teams in the state. I honestly have several players that can help carry the team and every game can have a different star player."

Nonetheless, this year, we can expect another great season.

"We can expect the them to bring home the the championship," Macias said.

"I expect to be playing in the conference championship title, which, by the way, we will be hosting at our new aquatic facility, and to be able to surpass last year's early exit from the SoCal Regional Playoffs".

## Men's H2O looks for a good start as season opener approaches

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With a little over a week until the two-day Golden West tournament, Cerritos College's mens water polo team looks to overcome its 10-5 playoff loss to Mt. SAC at

Pasadena City College during regionals last season and improve its game.

"We are excited," head coach Joe Abing said, "we have a good team. I have a strong group of returners."

He will be looking to a combination of returners and new players

to defeat Mt. SAC this year.

"Mt. SAC is in our conference so we will definitely play the Mounties again and they are definitely one of our rivals. So [the playoff loss] left a bitter taste in our mouths so we will be excited to play them again."

"We have made it to the playoffs for seven straight years and we are

planning on continuing that [this year], and we want to be one of the best teams in Southern California."

Utility player, P.J. Gabayeron, one of the returners and 1st team All-Conference player, expects big things for this season as well.

"I think we are going to do a lot better this year," Gabayeron said.

He also showed his enthusiasm to having a rematch against the Mounties that knocked the Falcons out of the playoffs last season.

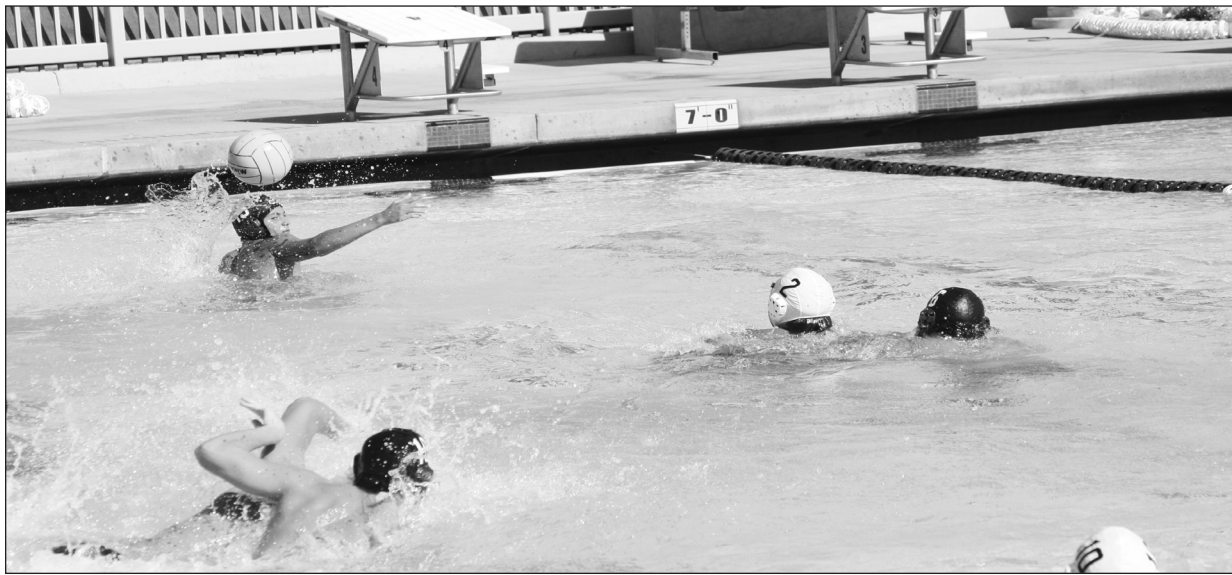
"It would be that much better if we beat them [in the playoffs] because they beat us last year," Abing said.

As for the newcomers, he has high hopes for one player in particular.

"Our most exciting new player would have to be Issac Aglaben from Spain. He has a lot of experience and I look to him to make an impact," Abing said.

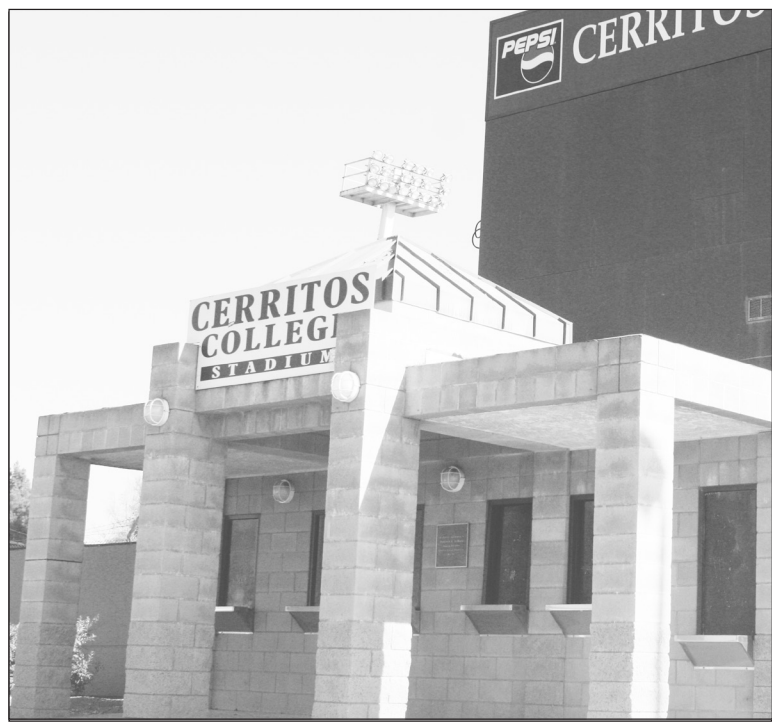
Abing also mentioned that his team knows what he expects.

"I have set the bar really high. Our practices are very intense."



JERIMIAH JAKES/TM

**Putting in work:** The men's water polo team practices are intense as it prepares for the season opener in the Golden West Tournament.



STEVEN QUINTANA/TM

**Tickets:** Season tickets for Falcon home games are now on sale.

## Falcon football home game season tickets

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Athletic director John Van Gaston has announced that season passes will be available starting now.

The passes will be good for all five home games of the regular football season and are good for up to four people. The first home game is this Saturday.

Van Gaston says that the idea for the passes came about 15 years ago as an incentive to get people to come out to more football games. "Football coach Frank Mazzotta's son, Casey, was an assistant coach on the team when he was playing at Brigham Young University. A lot of times people cant afford to come to the games so we thought: there are alot of homes in the area and we

are trying to bring more people in to the games."

Van Gaston went on to add, "So Casey and I went out and we were driving and we just drove up and down the blocks around the stadium and wrote down each one of the house address numbers. We put together a little cover letter with the passes and started mailing them out and we just do it every year now."

The passes will be good for four people and are exclusive only to the households to which they are mailed.

A one pass limit per household is allotted to be used as the equivalent of four admissions.

They are free and valid for all five home games of the regular season.

Anyone interested in getting a season pass may contact John Van Gaston, ext.2896.





**Reconstruction:** The gym is under reconstruction for a seismic upgrade and a lead abatement and asbestos abatement. This reconstruction has moved the wrestling and volleyball teams to a local high school and has moved several P.E classes out.

# Construction moves fall sports

**PETE MOYE'**  
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Due to the current renovations being done to the Cerritos College gym, the wrestling and volleyball teams were both forced to relocate their practices to Excelsior High School on Alondra Boulevard and Pioneer Boulevard.

According to general contractor Larry Sobolewski of USS Cal Builders, the gymnasium is going through a seismic upgrade, as well as a lead and asbestos abatement.

USS Cal Builders is the general contracting firm for this project, and has been responsible for several projects including renovations at Cypress College, UC Riverside, and CSU Santa Barbara.

The proj-

ect was originally supposed to be a year-long project, however it may be finished sooner.

"If you come back in a month, it will look totally different-- two months even more different than that. We are making good progress," Sobolewski says.

Several of the modernizations Sobolewski says are being added will be, "changing the mezzanine levelers on the second floor, like changing the mezzanine levelers in the new team rooms.

"There will be team rooms involving one surface now going all the way across to the elevator and new stairs. The walls will be re-done, and the floor will be the same, however it will be refinished. New bleachers will be added and the front of the building will look completely different," he says.

The temporary location change doesn't seem to affect wrestling head coach Don Garriott much.

"I like it here because we are the only people in this facility. It's

quiet and the guys can actually hear us while we teach and coach. They jog over here as a warm up, then jog back after practice," says Garriott.

While it would seem that practicing at Excelsior High School would cause the team to lose its

home-field advantage, he doesn't think it is a problem.

"We only had two home meets anyway because most of our events were tournaments on the week-ends," says Garriott.

The volleyball and wrestling teams aren't the only ones being affected by the renovations.

Several physical education classes have been relocated, including a volleyball class which has set up grass courts by the field house.



**Renovations:** The score board and basketball baskets were removed for the renovation. there will be an elevator place in the gym plus bigger team rooms

## CERRITOS

### SPORTS BRIEFS

**Men's Soccer**

On Sunday the Cerritos College men's soccer team started off its season with an away game and 3-1 win against Los Angeles Mission College.

"[ Forward ] Edwin Chavez scored a beautiful goal and it was just a nice, little welcome to Cerritos 2010, because it was a spectacular goal," Head coach Benjamin Artiaga said.

MICHELLE MORENO

NEXT GAMES: SEPT. 3-5  
HARTNELL TOURNAMENT

**Women's Soccer**

The women's soccer team opened its 2010 season with a pair of victories at the seventh Annual Sea Breeze Women's Soccer Tournament held in Oxnard.

"We played well as a team, especially on defense," head coach Ruben Gonzalez said. "I think because we have more experience than we've had in the past, the sophomores were able to help the freshmen during the games."

JERRY LUNA

NEXT GAME: SEPT. 10 V.  
MERCER COMMUNITY COLLEGE(NEW JERSEY)

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