CERRITOS COLLEGE

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A study by the Institute for Higher Education Leadership & Policy at Cal State Sacramento claims 70 percent of students attending California's community colleges did not manage to attain degrees or transfer to four-year universities within six years, concluding that the state's junior colleges are "failing" its students.

ASCC Vice President Luis Ong says not true.

Ong speculates that the results are too general to apply to any one campus, especially Cerritos

"I don't think we should categorize ourselves in this, because we're better than this," he said.

"This is data from

A cut above the rest?

community college, and how many do we have here in California?"

Authors of the study, Colleen Moore and Nancy Shullock, collected data by tracking 250,000 students from 2003 to 2009, compared to the 2.8 million students currently enrolled in the state's 112 community colleges

Moore and Shullock have come to a dangerous conclusion regarding California's junior colleges.

Students are not obtaining the degrees nec-

Despite recent study, Cerritos College faculty believes students are succeeding.

essary to maintain the state's economic competitiveness, especially Latino students who are estimated to make up 50% of the working-age population by 2040. Data collected by California's Postsecondary Education Commission show that 807 Cerritos

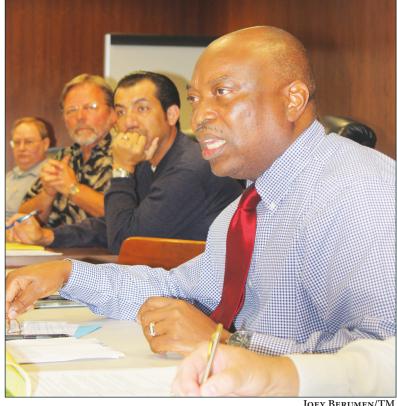
College students trans-







Rolling the dice: Students like psychology major William Mckenzie have aspirations of one day transferring and earning a degree. With the recent study some are questioning if community colleges will help get them there.



Steaming mad: Polictical science professor Victor Obasohan voices his concern at the faculty senate meeting on Tuesday. A majority of the meeting consisted of a heated discussion between faculty reguarding the new dean position.

Things turn ugly at senate meeting

VICTOR DIAZ News Editor news@talonmarks.com

"You guys are nothing but a bunch of whiners."

These were the words said by English professor Tim Juntilla at the Oct. 26 Faculty Senate meetences Division following a heated discussion.

The discussion was on the topic of Cerritos College's reorganization plan, in which a new dean of student success will be created, thus leading to the merging of both the Humanities and Social Sciences and Business Divisions. This plan will move current Dean of Humanities and Social Sciences Bryan Reece to the new position and leave Business Division Dean Rachel Mason in charge of the new

unified division.

However, according to Political Science professor Victor Obasohan, the problem the HSS division has is in the process in which the move was made, not the end prod-

"Our division has never been opposed to student success. If ing directed toward members of this issue was brought to the senthe Humanities and Social Sci- ate in the first place, if there was no secrecy involved and if there was transparency, we wouldn't be wasting our time today," Obasohan said at the meeting.

In regard to the issue of transparency, Cerritos College President Linda Lacy said, "When I approached both the Business and Humanities/Social Sciences Divisions, I approached them and said, 'Let's have open dialogue. Do you have any solutions?"

She went on to say, "This was

See Senate Page 2

Campus club walks for AIDS

MEGAN WINTERS Staff Writer megan.winters@talonmarks.com

Cerritos College Library Club took part in a 10k (6.2 mile) walk in West Hollywood in support of the 26th annual AIDS Walk Los Angeles on Sunday, Oct. 17.

Over 30,000 participants showed up to the event which started at 10 a.m. in memorial of those who have past due to the vi-

Although not all club members participated in the event, nine members, along with club co-advisor Monica Lopez and a few family members walked through the rain for a charitable cause.

For most members, the event was to help bring the club together, but some, like club president Enrique Siliezar, did the walk with other intentions in mind.

"I personally know someone, a family friend, who has passed away because of AIDS. She left two daughters behind who I know

"In part of doing this club event, because one of the club members brought it up, that was also the reason. The walk had a little bit of a sentimental value."

The club is raising funds to contribute to the AIDS foundation. Together members have raised \$50 thus far and have until the beginning of November to raise additional money.

Lopez, a first time AIDS walk participant, explains her experience with the club and doing the

"Doing things like this when you're fundraising and when doing it with a group just means a lot

She adds, "As a club, one of our goals is to give back to the community so we are going to start to do that a lot more in the next year

See AIDS walk Page 2



Correction of a previous story

VICTOR DIAZ News Editor news@talonmarks.com

In the Oct. 13 issue of the Talon Marks, a story was run in which the writer stated that Cerritos College had laid off 261 employees.

Since then, it has been brought to Talon Marks attention that the fact that Cerritos had laid anyone off is incorrect.

According to Cerritos College President Linda Lacy, the employees in question were not laid off, but rather, The employees were not re-hired by the school.

Bake sale helps out graphic arts club

JIMMY EDWARDS-TURNER Staff Writer javon.edwardsturner@talonmarks.

The Cerritos College graphic design club sold baked goods and candies in front of the library last Thursday, Oct. 21, to raise funds for individual memberships to the American Institute of Graphic Arts.

Club President Jose Estrada hopes it will become a permanent addition to the college's clubs.

He believes anyone pursuing graphic design deserves to have a chance to join the AIGA and increase his or her opportunities to succeed. A fee must In order to become a member of the AIGA.

Costumes set to be shown off

STEPHANIE ROMERO Staff Writer stephanie.romero@talonmarks.com

There will be a Halloween costume contest on Oct. 28 at 11 a.m. at the Falcon Square stage, which will feature DJ entertainment, food and prizes.

Students who show they have a fall semester sticker on their ID will receive

Chick-fil-A will be served on a first-come, firstserved basis.

Participants can earn awards in many categories , including scariest, funniest, and best group costume.

ASCC begins sign-ups for conference

JIM BRANNON Staff Writer jim.brannon@talonmarks.com

Applications for the ASCC Leadership Conference will be available at the Student Activities Office Nov. 1 at 9 a.m.

The conference will take place at the Catamaran Resort Hotel in San Diego from Jan. 4 to 6.



Eager for work: Students and community members visited the Cerritos College Job Fair on Oct. 19. Representatives from several organizations were on hand to recruit

Job fair helps students find work opportunities

VICTOR DIAZ News Editor news@talonmarks.com

Students and members of the community flocked to Cerritos College in search of future employment opportunities.

The Cerritos College Job Fair was held on Oct. 19 where 28 organizations were present, recruiting those who showed interest.

Who was there?

The companies at the job fair included Avon, the Automobile Club of Southern California and the City of Pico Rivera Parks and Recreation De-

According to Veronica Robledo, a representa-



tive for the Parks and Recreation Department, the department was present to recruit "someone who has a specialty or some kind of hobby that wants to come out and teach a recreation class to the community."

Robledo said that the types of classes the prospective worker would be teaching included "Mommy and Me" classes, youth classes and senior citizen classes.

Another organization that was involved in the job fair was "Ready Study Go!" an afterschool education program.

According to Program Director Suyan Soni, the organization is a tutoring program, which is located on the grounds of Cerritos Elementary

Soni also said she came to recruit at Cerritos cializes in tasks such as package delivery, docubecause of the school's reputation.

"I felt this would be a good place to look for student tutors. It [Cerritos College] has a Teacher TRAC program, which means that hopefully, I can find some students that are interested in pursuing a career in teaching," Soni said.

Students also had the opportunity to pursue potential self-employment opportunities, such as PartyLite, a direct sales company that specializes in party-planning.

"This company gives you the opportunity to start your own business. It has flexible hours and you can do it whenever you want," Unit Leader Ana Teran said.

Teran said, "It's your own schedule. It's something you can do part-time or full-time.

"It just depends where you want to take it."

Big businesses at the job fair

Despite the presence of small businesses at the job fair, larger businesses were on hand as

Representatives from Target attended the fair, hoping to find people interested in seasonal

Christopher Hoouie, human resources representative for the company, said, "A lot of our seasonal positions work around the schedule of college students, so we come out here to try to get some really well-focused students who just want to work hard."

Hoouie also described the process that applicants will have to go through, which includes applying online or at the kiosk at any Target store.

fair was Instant Tax Service, a company that spe- he said.

ment shredding and tax preparation.

Instant Tax Service was at the job fair with the hopes of recruiting students who are business and accounting majors.

Cerritos' planning

Cerritos College Student Placement Specialist Christina The said that the reason behind Cerritos holding the job fair is in order to bring the job market to students.

"Instead of going to different sites and such, they [students] can talk to and network with employers," The said.

"Networking is a very important thing as a part of finding a job and at least you can see face to face and make a good impression with recruiters and after that, they can follow up after the job fair," she said.

The mentions that the job fair also serves as a tool for students to find what career options are available for students and their corresponding

What do students think?

Students like kinesiology major Jose Rivera found the job fair to be a good way for youths to break away from the negative connotations of today's economy.

"I think it's really great because it helps other students realize that there are many jobs out there," Rivera said.

"It's also good exploration to know what you Another company that participated in the job really like and what majors you want to head to,"

AIDS walk: Library Club enjoys taking part in event

Continued from Page 1:

Because the walk was such a rewarding movement for members, the club is now eager to partake in more activities similar to the AIDS

"Our club is still really new and we're still working on what we want our club to be like but most definitely it felt good going out and helping out," Co-Treasurer Jessica Soster said.

"We've talked and would like to volunteer for the next AIDS walk but if not we're definitely looking forward to going back again, I think it was an awesome experience," Siliezar said.

Senate: Faculty members argue over reorganization

Continued from Page 1:

brought forward by faculty. Members came to me and said, 'Can you help us implement this plan?' and I said, 'Okay.'"

History professor Walter Fernandez felt that faculty actually had a minimal role in the decisionmaking of the plan.

"The tone that was sent by the President's Office in terms of openness was that according to this list [list of people who were consulted by Lacy], the faculty members are someplace toward the bottom," Fernandez said.

"We didn't have the opportunity, nor was there an intention, to get us to speak about these things or to get us to discuss these items."

The moment in the senate meeting that increased the level of conflict came about when a comment was made by Juntilla when he claimed that the discussion of the faculty's concerns was a waste of

"The process problem that we're addressing doesn't seem to be a very productive time of the senate," Juntilla said, later saying that the senate's time should be more focused on what he called, 'the nuts and bolts" of the plan.

Upon hearing Juntilla's comments, Obasohan rebutted, "When you merge two divisions, aren't there some academic concerns from both sides? Does this institution have a responsibility to talk

"We waited for a long time to talk about it, and now some of you pretend to say, 'We are wasting time, we should move on,' the process is key!"

Following the meeting, Reece compared the style of the discussion to topics he speaks about in his political science classes.

He said, "We often talk in political science about big policy issues, like abortion, the PATRIOT Act or same-sex marriage, and the thing that makes these issues so difficult is that both sides are right. Here we have one of those issues play out."

Students get help with their UC applications

Counselors assist students who are looking to transfer.

> PHILIP OKOLI Staff Writer philip.okoli@talonmarks.com

The University Appeals Workshop that took place on Oct. 20 was for students who are looking to transfer to a University of California for next fall and may need assistance in filling in their applications.

In this workshop, Brittany Lundeen, a transfer counselor here at Cerritos College, was helping by walking the students through the application process by filling

out a fake application on university of california.com. The 14 students that were in attendance received all the help they needed.

"This is my first time applying, so it was very helpful," business administration major Grace Ginto said.

One of the items Lundeen used to help students was assist.org, so they can find the schools that have their majors and the classes that are transferable.

Another helpful tip that was given to students was

the fact that up to four applications can be sent for free.

"Depending on you, your family income or if you're an independent student, you may have a chance to get an application fee waiver for four applications," Lundeen said.

Students were so eager to start on their application, they started while Lundeen was still showing them

After the quick visual way of doing the applications, three staff members walked around to help students that still may need help with it.

"It helped me a lot, I also came here last year for the Cal State Workshop. It was very helpful. The teachers are great, so I would come here next time if I have questions," business economics major Vit Ram said.

"I think the workshop is here to help students do the most accurate application possible. The information provided is what the universities are looking for admissions. In other words, it went well," Lundeen said.

Those who didn't get a chance to stop by for help on their applications will have a similar opportunity at the California State University application workshop on Oct. 25, and the University of California application workshop on Oct. 26.



STEPHANIE ROMERO/TM

Looking to apply: Students like undecided major Grace Ginto (left) took advantage of the University Appeals Workshop on Oct. 20. Many students found the workshop to be helpful when looking to transfer.

ASCC club food drive underway

Arianna Smith Staff Write arianna.smith@talonmarks.com

The Board of Accountancy Club is gearing up for this year's food drive club competition.

After successfully collecting 12,000 food items last year, Club Vice-President and math major Frank Gonzalez expects to increase that number.

Gonzalez also mentioned that the club would be repeating the strategy that earned it second place last year.

Club members are going to business, economics and finance classrooms and asking students to donate food items for use in the competition.

The club is also offering a pizza party as a reward for the top donating class.

"We're going to put together a contest together and the top class will get pizza." He said.

He also said the incentive really helped the club to raise a lot of donations.

"It really got people motivated so by the end of the food drive, we were able to bring in 12,000 food donations."

He also mentioned a new amendment to the strategy. This year the club would increase the number of classrooms targeted for the donation contest and the increase of the goal.

"Last year it was 39 classrooms, we've bumped it up this year to 70 classes. That's almost twice the students so we expect twice the donations. Our goal on campus this year will be 25,000 food items," he said.

The Board of Accountancy Club isn't just focusing on campus but it is asking businesses to help also, which would bring its total goal to 50,000 items donated.

The club also plans to do what it calls "supermarket visits," where each club member donates an hour or two of his time to sit outside of a supermarket and ask for donations.

The club competition began Oct. 18 and ends Nov. 18, but according to ASCC Vice-President Luis Ong, people can still donate until Dec. 3 despite the club competition being

ASCC Office Receptionist Nancy Bonilla offers an alternative for clubs who may have some trouble getting food donations.

"People can donate money if they want to, so like a dollar would count like a can," she said.

The Norwalk Chamber of Commerce will come in December and pick up the donations which will be distributed amongst local needy families in Norwalk.

Clubs that would like to participate in the club competition you can see Nancy Bonilla or Holly Bogdanovich in the ASCC office located next to the bookstore.



Which one to pick?: The Economics Club listens to an audience member's question during the Q&A segment of the Brown vs. Whitman presentation. They explored each

Brown vs. Whitman discussed

IIM BRANNON Staff Writer

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In anticipation of Election Day, economics major Jit Singh shared his thoughts about Meg Whitman's platform Tuesday with vigor.

"Ironically, there's a Whitman commercial out saying how in the late '70s, When she came to

Scan to listen

California, it was such a prosperous and great state. So, essentially, she's also endorsing Jerry Brown 'cause he was doing such a great job," Singh said. The Economics

Club held the presen-To audio tation at the Teleconference Center, breaking down the numbers and

highlighting promises of the two candidates for governor of California: Democrat Brown and Republican Whitman.

Singh said that Brown wants to decrease pris-

on spending.

"For every \$1 that we spend on students, we're spending eight times that on prisoners," Singh said, which refers to all students in the California public system from K through 14; including community college students.

Although club president Marco Tolento, noted that the presentation was envisioned as an informative lecture, right out of the gates the two pairs defended their respective candidates in what transformed into a lively discussion.

Singh and Lalo Mancilla represented Brown's policies while Jessica Ayunani and Vineet Jain did so for Whitman; the moderator and all panelists are members of the Economics Club.

Rosalinda Diaz, moderator, presented information pertaining to state funding, with a special focus on each candidate's plans for education.

According to Diaz, the goal of proposition 25 is to end the requirement for a two-thirds vote and replacing it with a simple majority.

Jain said that Whitman plans to invest \$1 billion in the CSU and UC systems and she opposes

"She thinks that... it's just going to give [Sacramento] a license to pass and increase taxes for us," Jain said.

Voting yes on prop 25 will end the two-thirds requirement for the state legislature, which led to a gridlock for 100 days of California operating without a budget and Cerritos College students losing Cal Grant funding until November.

Whitman wants to outsource prisoners to other states as well as increase tax incentives for universities, according to Ayunani.

"I was really excited that there was a little passion on both sides and the crowd interacted very well with the question and answers segment," Tolento said.

Singh said that 50 to 60 people turned out for the Economics Club's prop 19 debate, which took place a few weeks ago.

"The crowd difference had to do with the fact that we really didn't make flyers and didn't promote it as well as I think we should [have]," Singh

Students: Study shows Cerritos students succeed in transferring

Continued from Page 1:

-ferred to Cal States during the 2008-'09 school year, counselors are working on increasing transfer rates by as opposed to 832 students during the 2007-'08 school notifying students early on about the process.

The PEC also observed that 158 Cerritos students transferred to a University of California during 2008-'09, 11 more than the previous academic year.

Marvelina Barcelo, Transfer Center co-coordinator, explains that a dip in transfers does not necessarily mean that students are unprepared, rather, unaware.

"The problem is students are not coming soon enough. Sometimes we get students in the spring that would have been ready to transfer but it's way too late to apply, so they're forced to wait another year to transIn an effort coined "transfer push," Transfer Center

The Transfer Center's latest project is getting instructors involved in the effort by including a "T" as an indicator on class rosters next to names of students who are already eligible, or close to being eligible to

Instructors, like English professor Steve Clifford, are encouraged to reach out to students and discuss their educational goals.

"I think this study and the research behind it can actually empower students to think: here's the trend. Do I fit in that trend or am I going to find a way to buck that trend?"

Project gives Christmas gifts to children in need

Aastha Dhakal Staff Writer aastha.dhakal@talonmarks.com

"Project Love is the organization which provides children who can't afford to buy their own gifts and really live a poor life," Marla Burns, the person in charge of Project Love II, said.

For the past 19 years Cerritos College faculty, staff, students and community members have provided Christmas gifts for Native American children, who

I feel really happy for getting involved and sending gifts to

BARBARA MUELLER

the children.

live on Navajo and Hope reservations in Arizona through Boeing Corporation's Project

Barbara Mueller, English instructor, said, "It is really fabulous work what Cerritos College is doing, and I feel really happy for getting involved and sending gifts to children."

The Dineh or the "The people", as the Navajo call themselves, migrated to the

Southwest from the north around the 15th century. The Navajo culture today encompasses over 20,000 people. The Navajo language was once used as U.S. Army code to disguise military transmission from the Japanese during World War II.

Project Love provides scholarships to students and also takes children to visit different places in Southern California.

Every donor who is ready to provide gifts to the

children must fill out a form and choose the children whom they want to send gifts to.

They have to buy a gift, ranging from \$10 to \$20 or more and wrap it in a gift box with their name, address and name of the children they are giving the

"It is really good to help the needy ones, but right now, I can't afford to help and have not thought of that," Alexander Peralta, computer science major,

The gifts sent to the children are arranged according to the school, class and graduation date. The gifts are identified with a tag the donor has attached to the

The children wait for their name to be announced to receive the gift they have been waiting for a year.

A visit from Santa Claus makes the event more exciting, when he delivers their gifts.

"We know we receive our gifts every month. Also we are super excited; Think of the children of the Hope Reservation who receives gifts once a year, they probably can't wait to tear right in," as stated in the Project Love catalog.

"It brings a tear to my eye to see children receiving their first football, basketball or special dolls that they really wanted, but never expected to receive. One who receives gifts every week won't understand the meaning of the gift, but for the one whose each and every gift is the first one, always values the price of the gift," Burns said.

Anyone interested in helping these children can contact Marla Burns at (562) 860-2451, x2808.

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CLUB EVENTS

Library Club Open Mic Poetry Night

Wednesday 6-8 p.m. Teleconference Center LC155

"BITE-SIZE PAYMENT PLAN"

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• EDITORIAL •

Counseling reform needed

Frustration is appropriate when realizing that the vast majority of students here at Cerritos aren't getting a two-year degree or transferring out, as most should.

With the exception of casual class takers, the 70 percent of us not achieving success within six years

Blame could be put on students, professors and faculty, but in the end, it's a matter of availability of resources, especially counseling.

Students here at Cerritos College are effectively consumers of education; paying money for services in order to get ahead in their careers.

Aside from the many things that need to be done to contribute to student success, we need to listen to the students, the consumers.

What students want is more help in educational planning, not long lines that last for hours coming from the counselors on campus.

Universities have much higher success rates because they have more tailored follow-through plans for their students.

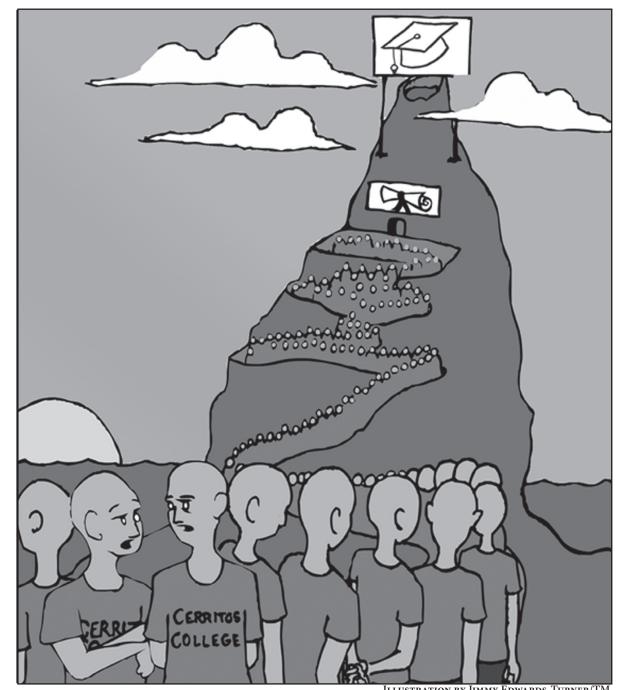
The counselors here at Cerritos do a phenomenal job considering they are understaffed and doing what they can to meet the needs of all 23,000 of us.

The reality is that we need more counselors and advisors to help us with transferring out to the right schools, getting a degree at the end of two years, and choosing the major and education plan that best fits our career goals.

It's nearly impossible for most counselors to know every piece of information that will fit specific majors.

We need to have this information available, but also avoid searching vainly for superhuman coun-

A system of advisers, faculty or otherwise, that know the information students need about individual majors and the schools that are directed to them needs to be created.



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.

Graffiti is art, the world is a canvas

"Graffiti is one of the few tools you have if you have almost nothing. And even if you don't come up with a picture to cure world poverty you can make someone smile while they're having a piss."

These are the words of the infamous Banksy, a famous graffitti artist.

He, along with other street artists such as Robbo, Shepard Fairey, Space Invader, Jef Aérosol and Blek Le Rat, proudly proclaimed different views to the streets of Europe and to the world on issues such as war, poverty, hypocrisy and government.

This spontaneous sharing of differing opinions should be promoted, not looked at as criminal.

Popular opinion labels these graffiti artists as hoodlums, scoundrels and vandals.

But their work breeds too much emotion and meaning to be degraded into a term with such a sim-

plistic and encompassing meaning as vandalism. It is a transposition of our culture's youth and the problems they face.

The avenue of expression this youth prefers takes place not on a canvas, but on the streets all over the world where life takes place -- high on walls and where ever else one can reach.

This artistic style of exhibitionism can be felt and



heard by everyone who happens to come across it.

Similarly, our school's bathroom stalls breed a plethora of amateur artwork and scribble, a primitive form of art and expression tailored to our breed of people and dictated by the issues that we, as a cam-

According to a recent study, today's college students twice as likely to be depressed and three times more likely to be suicidal than they were a decade ago.

One look and you can feel the spirit of our school in its most raw form. The lure of anonymity gives great strength to

those who don't have a voice, maturing in an age of recession and depression. What started out in Greece and Rome as advertisements for prostitution, morphed into the early

1960s as a way for political activists to make statements and street gangs to mark territory. Even early Renaissance artists like Pinturicchio,

Raphael, Michelangelo, Ghirlandaio and Filippino Lippi carved, painted and printed their names on

In today's world, and more specifically, our campus, it is a look into the mind of the everyday person. Even Cal State University Long Beach can appreciate its students need to express themselves.

On it's campus, some bathrooms are equipped with blackboards and chalk.

This gives students the opportunity to anonymously doodle away while on the toilet, without ruining public domain. While most times you won't find any work worthy

of Van Gogh's ear, it's a clever way for stressed and depressed students to 'let it out,' so to speak.

Many people want to combat graffiti because they believe that it opens up doors for crime and mischief.

Others just think it looks ugly. In reality, graffiti doesn't breed crime, it is present because of the problems we face in society. Instead of trying to fix our walls, we should be working to fix

There's value in something so raw and heart felt that it has to be more than just vandalism.

This is the voice of our culture, a heartfelt shout

"In reality, graffiti doesn't breed crime, it is present because of the problems we face in society. Instead of trying to fix our walls, we should be working to fix our world."

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How helpful have counselors been to you?

COMPILED BY: LAURA CHAU PHOTOS BY: MARTIN REYES



JACKIE BUSTOS international business major

"The counselors have not really been that helpful because I don't know much information."



TORRANCE TAUALII

"The counselors are as helpful as you want them to be. It depends on you."



SANDY RAMOS

"They are really helpful but they have to manage their time with everybody so it makes it hard."



ALONSO JIMENEZ

"I just went yesterday. It was really helpful. He looked over my classes and talked to me about transfer options"



ELIZABETH MWNSA accounting major

"The first guy wasn't helpful at all and just gave me a paper to read. The next one I saw was helpful though."



BRANDON RAPHIEL undecided

"I haven't been to a counselor but it could be better by the counselors reaching out to you more."



Sexy is just unoriginal

Halloween is for showing of your ingenuity and creating interesting costumes.

It is not for wearing as little as possible and looking like a specialized prostitute.

There's no problem with wearing a red thong and yellow tube top for Halloween; just don't say you're dressing up as a firefighter.

Honestly, if you don't dress as provocatively on the other 364 days of the year, then you only make yourself seem an unoriginal, attention-seeking, bore.

Couldn't you come up with something better than a black miniskirt, a broom and pointy hat?

When someone puts a lot of time and effort into his zombie costume, making the gory flesh and tattered rags believable, it shows true imagination and personality.

Who would you rather take with you on a cross-country road trip, the 17th 'princess fairy angel' you've seen in Toys'R'Us wings, or the awesome person in the homemade Optimus Prime robot suit?

There are a vast number of theories to why dressing as skimpy as one can for Halloween has become the norm.

Some say it's the only time one can dress like a harlot without being called out on it.

Others attribute it to a bursting out of societal or cultural norms,

Jimmy **Edwards-**Turner Staff Writer

much like the Amish's rumspringa.

There's also the "it's-my-body-I'll-do-what-I-want" argument.

It's fine to dress however one likes. This is a free country. However, one should always practice discretion

Just because I can put on a bonnet and walk around naked on Oct. 31 doesn't mean I can say, "I'm a newborn baby for Halloween."

The real reason for all the scantily clad party-goers has nothing to do with cultural pressures or social

It's because no one can bother to come up with a good idea anymore. Showing off a lot of skin has be-

come a viable substitute for showing off a little creativity.

You don't know what to be for Halloween? That's okay, just strip to your underwear, slap on a pair of cat ears and now you're a "Sexy Kitty."

The really sad part is you know someone that's done just that.

It's a shame how no one cares either.

College kids are fine with any

excuse to see borderline obscenity in their daily lives. People over 34 years old generally don't care.

The only group left with the brunt of this depressing situation consists of children between ages 10 and 15 and their parents.

What happens when 13 year olds feel the best choice for a costume depends on how little they put

There's already a demand for sexy teen costumes in department

This is not a moral dilemma in the sense that we're contributing to sexual dishonesty.

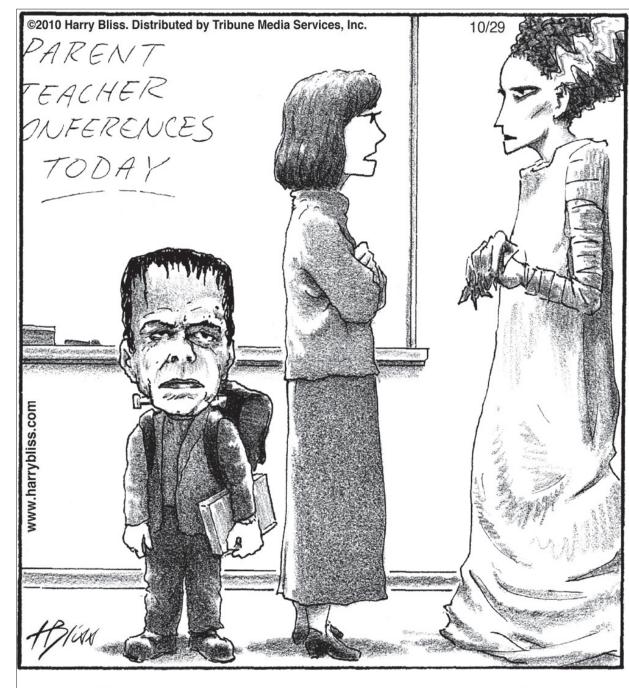
The issue at hand is this encouragement of hackneyed, unimaginative behavior that is spreading among the young people.

It has been a problem for some time and Halloween is just the great gathering of boring people with boring ideas, simply following every cliche in the book.

There's no problem with wearing a risqué costume for Halloween; just make it an interesting one.

How about dressing up as all the trite 'sexy' costumes you've seen over the years? Wear a short pink tutu, fishnet stockings, black and white wings, green face-paint, a halo and devil horns and carry a wand.

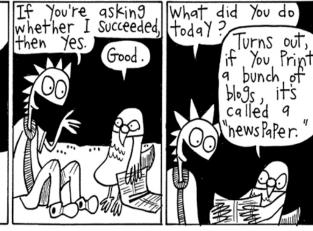
Now you're a "Sexy Demon Angel Witch Princess."



"He's not working to his full voltage."

Welcome to Falling Rock National Park by Kid Shay







GIRLS AND SPORTS



When sexy is appropriate

ing scared is fun and adventurous, an annual holiday when people get to dress up in their costumes and pretend to be whatever or whoever they choose to impersonate.

Although Halloween has its perks for kids, dressing up and celebrating the holiday is just as much entertainment for adults to participate in.

Halloween has no age limit, adults and children alike can celebrate the way they want to and dress up however they prefer

As long as it's all in the interest of having a good time, then it should be ok.

Adults can feel the excitement when it comes to playing a part in the holiday, it can give spontaneous actions toward individuals with the obligation if they want to dress revealing depending on their personal desire.

The excitement of Halloween can make some adults act spontaneously, leading some to prefer a more provocative costume.



There shouldn't be any discretion when it comes to adult costumes.

Adults are smart enough to know if an outfit is revealing and are mature enough to be responsible in using them.

I'm not condoning and revealing too much when it's inappropriate.

Females and males both have the tendency to dress in unusual clothing that shows off their bodies around Halloween, yet women tend to get most of the negative criticism.

Men are hardly ever perceived

The standards for females to dress in costumes that are too sexy should have no limitation, especially since adults that choose to dress risqué usually celebrate Halloween in parties, where children are not

So children seeing adults in these costumes shouldn't even be happening if the adults are responsible enough.

Females don't deserve to be seen as different from males and should be allowed to do whatever they see as fun and appropriate without criticism from others.

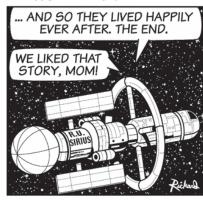
This yearly holiday allows people to the freedom to explore different types of daring costumes.

The focus shouldn't be put on how women dress too "skanky," since the holiday is usually based on all sorts of types of costumes that are extreme in other ways.

Some are obviously gruesome, violent, bloody, and disgusting.

Some come with mimicked costume accessories of knives and plastic machetes that are dangerous in

There is no judgment passed because they aren't perceived as sexual, but maybe we have more to worry about than skin.









What's the most provocative costume you've seen?

COMPILED BY: MARTIN REYES



FREDDY GALLARDO undecided

"It would be a girl wearing a little low-cut sailor outfit with a really short skirt. You could see a lot."



ASHLEY KAEWBOONMEE

"A police costume. It had ruffles and was really short. It had a garter belt, a hat and handcuffs hanging."



Ana Montero business administration major "The most provocative costume I've seen was this Dorothy one."



HEIDI RUIZ "It wasn't really revealing but it was an outlet and someone else was a plug."



JESSICA LOPEZ "I think the most provocative one I've seen would be an Alice in Wonderland costume."



ALEX TRUJILLO "Probably the Lady Gaga one. She's wild. She's crazy. She's got a lot of them out there."

'Paranormal Activity 2' lacks in imagination

Movie Review

Paranormal Activity 2

Starring: Katie Feath-**Director:** Tod Williams

Rating:

GONZALO SAUCEDO Staff Writer gonzalo.saucedo@talonmarks.com

"Paranormal Activity 2" is, at best, a semisuccessful attempt at re-captivating the audience that helped make the franchise's first installment such a big hit.

Though the scares and suspense are moderately amplified in this film, it certainly fails to retain the acclaimed novelty and realism of "Paranormal Activity," and those negatives slightly outweigh the positives.

This prequel, largely set only weeks and days prior to the events of the first film, utilizes virtually the exact same formula and plot as its predecessor.

Whereas the first movie followed Micah Sloat and Katie Featherston, this movie takes place in the home of Katie's sister Kristi (Sprague Grayden), husband Dan (Brian Boland), teenage daughter Ali (Molly Ephraim), brand new baby Hunter and his nanny, Martine

Initially, only Martine, Hunter, and the family dog, Abby, feel the malicious presence inhabiting the

Martine tries to warn the family, but Dan instead fires her for performing her odd protective rituals.

The paranormal activity subsequently intensifies to a point where... well, you know, things get

As the extraordinary occurrences become more and more treacherous, one must ask, "What are these

If a whole family was becoming seriously endangered in a house, one would imagine it would leave, or at least stay together during the nights, when it was most danger-

But, no, our characters have nothing valuable or intelligent to say throughout the whole film.

They are merely puppets, mindlessly leading us to the cheap scares this brand of movie facilitates.

Regardless, the audience will definitely jump and be scared on plenty of occasions, and the enjoyment in that exhilaration is enough sometimes, and makes the latter half of the movie fun.

The angst and suspense delivered in these scenes make up the best portion of the film.

The lead-up to those instances, though, where we are forced to watch the family's fake social exchanges, is excruciatingly painful.

This period in the movie, along with the first couple of small ineffectual scares, lasts far too long.

These scenes garner more mocking laughs and exasperated sighs than anything, and are a large price to pay for the film's payoffs.

When the action finally ramps up and progresses into its climactic convergence, you will forget about what you had to go through to get there, if only momentarily.

There is also a neat little revelation provided that bridges this film's plot with the first's.

While the details, characters, and plot development involved in its story lack personality or creativeness, "Paranormal Activity 2" succeeds in its patented fright mechanisms, where it's supposed



Mixing it up: Howard Huang, art student, mixes colors to put onto his canvas. Trained in China, he learned skillful techniques and is now working on putting his

Student prepares art show

Laura Chau

laura.chau@talonmarks.com

Chinese artist Howard Huang came to the United States nearly two-and-a-half years ago to pursue his dream of becoming an international artist.

Huang believes coming to America was very important in reaching his goal of becoming an artist known by the whole world.

He says that living here and learning different types of art will culture him and ultimately better prepare him for international stardom.

According to one of Huang's favorite teachers, Hagop Najarian, Huang's ability and eagerness to learn are what makes him a great student.

"He's a completely sincere overachiever. The good thing about him is that he's techni-

cally a very skilled person. What makes him a great artist is that he's always trying to better himself. He's very hungry and eager to learn."

He is currently preparing an art show along with artists from eight different countries. He says the show plans to travel the world.

Not only is he preparing art shows, but his paintings have gained interest with art lovers and art collectors as well. After recently visiting an art gallery in

Huntington Beach, he met an artist who was interested in putting two of his paintings up for auction in China.

The 37-year-old graphic designer has been studying and making art since he was seven

Although his father, an aircraft engineer, was not a big fan of art, Huang says he has always wanted to be an artist.

As a child, Huang's mother loved art.

When Huang first expressed interest in becoming an artist, his mother put him in a Chinese art school for children.

Huang says that although he was bored with learning the basics, such as shapes and colors, he can see how they helped him become the artist he is today.

Najarian says that Huang's formal training in China helped him to become the artist he is today.

His only struggle now is in finding his artistic voice by translating his ideas onto can-

Huang says that due to budget cuts, it may take him up to another two years to graduate.

He is currently preparing an art show at the Cerritos College Art Gallery, set to open on Nov. 8.

Elvira creeps her way back to TV with new macabre show

JOEY BERUMEN Editor-in-Chief editor@talonmarks.com

After a long absence from television Elvira (Cassandra Peterson) is creeping her way back to TV this fall with a brand new show titled "Elvira's Movie Macabre."

The show will feature Elvira, Mistress of the Dark, screening the same campy horror films she has been screening for just under three

Peterson's Elvira became quickly known for her distinctive makeup, sexy outfits and sharp wit.

"I decided to come back to TV about 20 years ago but nobody wanted to do the show. It was just really hard; I couldn't find the movies I wanted. There were a lot of deals over the years that just weren't right, I've finally found one," Peterson



COURTESY OF COURTNEY SMITH

Trifecta CEO Hank Cohen is not concerned about Elvira's long stint away from the small screen, "Elvira is a time-tested and wildly successful brand unto herself. Elvira will be every bit as relevant as the first day she burst onto the scene, a beautiful opinionated woman who always de-

livers just what her audience expects from her."

With Elvira being a character that has lurked in homes this time of year since 1981, according to Peterson, audiences can expect the same type of show they have become accustomed to over the years.

"Many people liken my show to a car wreck: You don't want to look up but you don't want to turn away. I think anybody who is up at 3 o'clock (EST) in the morning is going to be the kind of person who wants to see it," Peterson said.

With Elvira being a iconic figure

of Halloween for the past 29 years, the big screen on an almost weekly there have been attempts to spruce up the character and the costume, over the years, especially with the scantly clad trick-or-treaters and party goers wearing less than Elvira ever has.

"When my costume first came out it was pretty damn sexy. The sexiest thing besides Elvira was maybe wonder woman and I don't know if you can call that sexy. Maybe I did have something to do with (the surge

of sexy Halloween costumes). The ironic part is that my costume company is thinking about making a 'sexy Elvira' costume," Peter-With the emergence

of scary movies hitting



basis, Peterson lends her thoughts on how horror movies have evolved

"I think they left a lot more to the imagination, growing up. I think what goes on in your mind is a lot scarier than what you actually see. That's why movies like the 'Blair Witch Project' was so gigantic. It left a lot to the imagination. There really wasn't much happening in that

movie, except leaves, lots and lots of leaves. If you are afraid of leaves, then it's a scary movie," Peterson said.

Elvira's Movie Macabre appears on KDOC midnight (PST) on Saturdays.



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Theater art students get gruesome at Knott's Halloween Haunt

JOEY BERUMEN
Editor-in-Chief
editor@talonmarks.com

For many, Halloween is a time of ghouls, goblins, things that go bump in the night and frighteningly short skirts. For the Cerritos College beginning stage makeup class, it is a night filled with gelatin, prosthetics, sugar, paint and a lot of makeup.

Led by instructor Susan Wantanabe, the class heads to Knott's Berry Farm's Halloween Haunt once a year to get hands-on experience creating the monsters that have been thrilling people for the past 38 years.

"I think it is a great thing to do and an awesome way to gain experience," said theater arts major Vincent Cuevas.

Along with getting hands-on experience, students get to ask questions and shadow many of the artists who work the haunt on a yearly basis.

The opportunity comes from Wantanabe who was a prosthetic makeup artist for Knott's Scary Farm for nine years.

"Every year I would pick a day to bring my class. On that day each student would be required to apply something to one of the monsters. When I stopped working at Knott's, they (the people at Knott's) were kind enough to allow my class to continue our annual visits," Wantanabe

with more than 1,000 monsters to be painted on a nightly basis, the make up teams set a goal of finishing a monster every 20 to 30 minutes.

J.B. Witron/TM

Scared green: Cerritos College student Steven Castillo applies make up to one of the haunt workers. The theater department works at Holloween Haunt every year.

J.B. WITRON/TM

Silver screaming: Halloween Haunt regulars worked on actors at the 38th annual Knott's Scary Farm Halloween Haunt. A monster is finished about every 30 minutes.



J.B. Witron/TM **All dolled up:** Elisa Hernandez (left) works on a delirious doll behind the scenes at the 2010 Knott's Halloween Haunt.

Student by day, ghastly by night

REBECA VEGA
Managing Editor
managing@talonmarks.com

It takes psychology major Candace Rosales a little less than an hour to undergo a spine-chilling transformation every October

Prior to wandering the halls of the Doll Factory maze at Knott's Scary Farm, Rosales sits in the makeup chair for 30 minutes and takes another 10 minutes to put on her costume and emerge as a delirious doll.

Rosales is grateful that her experience in dance classes and as a part of the Repertory dance team at Cerritos College has paid off.

"I know how to move my body in a certain way, do weird things, like a character that runs around on the floor."

Rosales is not the only one that credits dance as a part of her scary success. Dance instructor, Liz Casebolt, who taught Rosales last semester, said, "She always dove in 100 percent and with a smile, she never did anything halfway."

Rosales' inspiration to audition for the part came at a young age when she first attended the annual event and became addicted to the thrill of the fright.

"I went really young and was terrified, but I really had fun and wanted to go back every year."

Her opportunity to audition for a part as a makeup position came three years ago when she asked the designer of the Doll Factory for a chance to show off her sinister skills.

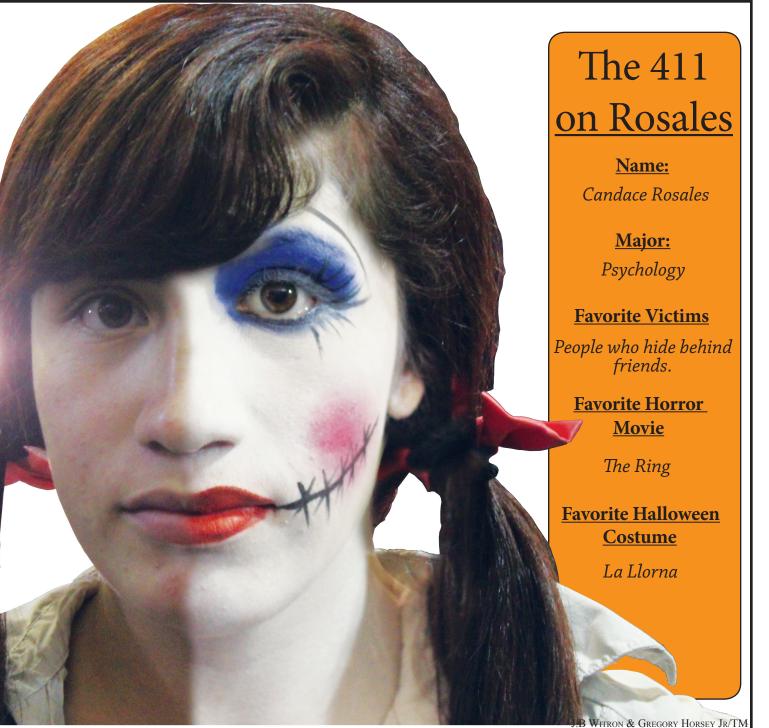
Although she loves the adrenaline of giving a good scare, Rosales admits that playing a twisted toy is not all fun

Aside from the stress that comes with working a 40-hour week and attending classes, Rosales and the other maze monsters often put up with harassment from visitors.

Earlier this month, a 13-year-old boy groped Rosales and was kicked out of the maze.

Rosales recalls, "I really wanted to grab his ear and say, 'Would you do that to your mother?'"

She ignores the comments and is willing to brave a night in the cold every year to wait in line for a rehire card that secures her spot in the event.



Title IX changes Women's **Athletics**



Laila Ali, Mia Hamm and Venus Williams are some dominant women in sports who are positive role models for the women of today.

It is good that women now have a significant role by making history in the world of sports.

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 gave women the opportunity to be invovled in athletics in schools and get athletic scholarships.

Women now have a better chance in going to colleges and pursuing careers in something other than housework.

"Title IX opened up a lot of opportunities for women to get jobs in sports," women in sports instructor, Debbie Jensen, said.

Women playing sports in high school, increase their chances for winning scholarships, help them obtain a college degree.

With all of the opportunities and role models, there seems to be a bright future for women in sports.

A rise in the participation of sports by women, means there would be more sports teams available for women

More sports teams means more coaching and administration opportunites for women.



Gang tackled: El Camino quarterback Omar Herrera being tackled by a host of Cerritos College defenders at the end of the first half. The Falcons' defense attacked the

CERRITOS

SPORTS BRIEFS

The Cerritos College wrestling team returned to Palo-

mar College and gained a vic-

tory last Wednesday after the

Falcons won the Southern Re-

six weight classes to post a 30-

11 win over the Comets to im-

prove their record to 5-0 and

are now 1-0 in the Southern

Ana College on Wednesday.

Cerritos will face Santa

The Cerritos College wom-

en's soccer team defeated ECC

Compton Center on Tuesday,

holding the team scoreless 6-0.

work on our technique even

though it was a slow game,"

freshman midfielder Martha

up will be a Southern Coast

Conference game against Pas-

adena, at Pasadena College,

who the Falcons defeated at

home back on Oct 5. 3-0.

The Falcons' next match-

"It was a good game to

STEPHANIE ROMERO

Coast Conference.

Women's

Soccer

Rodriguez said.

The Falcons won five of the

gional Duals last Saturday.

Wrestling vs.

Palomar

Warriors' offensive line and accounted for eight sacks during Saturday's 36-20 win. Falcons get a muddy victory

PETE MOYE' Staff Writer

pete.moye@talonmarks.com

Linebacker Wilson Edwards and defensive end Fatu Utale hoisted the Milk Jug in the air in triumph at the conclusion of the game as offensive lineman Marc Gonzalez cried out, "That [Trophy] is ours, baby!"

That was the sound of the Cerritos College football team after it defeated El Camino College, 36-20 on Saturday, and retained possession of the milk jug; the annual prize for the match-up.

Edwards and Utale were part of a Falcons' defense that surged through the Warriors' offensive line throughout the wet and muddy game and sacked the opposing quarterbacks eight times.

"We couldn't let these **Scan to View** conditions affect us," sophomore linebacker David Arteaga said.

"We just kept it going, all gas, no brake. We needed this game, we couldn't lose three straight (games)."

Their physical play

back Omar Herrera and backup Lucci Dex.

Both quarterbacks were sacked four times and third string quarterback Ted Langers finished the game for the Warriors.

Defensive end Jake Peppard said the defense came out with a promise to fulfill.

"We said at the beginning (of the season), we were the best defensive line in the state and we wanted to come out and prove it," he said.

"We wanted to show the rest of the conference what we are all about."

Sophomore linebacker David Lopez posted 13 tackles and 4.5 sacks, tying a Cerritos school record set by Oscar Burgueno in 1996.

Lopez, along with the rest of the defense held the Warriors to only 56 rushing yards.

Sophomores Dion Curry and Daveon Barner remained the focal points of the offense for Cerritos. Curry scored twice on the night.

The first was a 13-yard touchdown reception from quarterback Kane Wilson and the second on a two-yard touchdown run.

Barner finished the game with 77 rushing yards and two touchdowns, including a 27-yard

led to injuries to both El Camino starting quarter- touchdown run in which he broke several tackles refused to go down, and scampered into the end

> After losing two consecutive games, several of the players said the team needed to work on its

"Today was a new day for us. Everyone was on the same page and we just kept encouraging each other," defensive tackle Lawrence Lehauli said.

"We just have to take it one game at a time."

The Falcons advance to 5-2, 1-1 on the season and they have not forgotten their ultimate goal.

"We are going to win the rest of our games, and that's just it," wide receiver Darryl Jenkins

Peppard added, "We are going to the state championship and win it all."

The Falcons were able to get the win, but they couldn't rid of their heavily penalized play. Both teams were penalized for a combined 225

yards on 25 penalties. The Warriors drop to 0-7, 0-2, after their first

four wins of the season were vacated due to an ineligible player.

The Falcons will travel to take on College of Orlando Dominguez the Canyons on Saturday.



Victorious: Middle blockers Aundrea Stovall, No. 44, and Amber Finley, No.5, celebrate after the Falcons come back to win a five-game set against rival Long Beach City College. Stovall and Finley have combined total of 51 blocks this season.

Falcons defeat Long Beach City College in a five-game thriller

Staff Writer pete.moye@talonmarks.com

The Cerritos College volleyball team rebounded to win the final three games after dropping the first two against Long Beach City College on Wednesday, then went on to sweep Los Angeles Harbor College in three games on Friday.

"[The LBCC] game was a good morale booster for us. We've had some tough losses this season," assistant coach Gay Castaneda said.

"It was a good test for us, winning a five-game set because we haven't won one all season."

The Falcons offensive attack struggled early against the Vikings

and made several costly errors. Freshman setter Lupe Garcia missed her third straight game and is likely to miss the rest of the season with a torn ACL.

Outside hitter Jessika Suesoff has since rotated to setter in her absence.

"Jessika has really stepped up and done whatever we've asked her to do this season," head coach Teresa Velasquez-Ortega said.

"We can put her anywhere on the court and she will do well."

After dropping the first two sets, Cerritos came into the third with a higher intensity level.

The Falcons would hold the lead throughout the period forcing LBCC to call a timeout.

The timeout would only motivate the Falcons even more as they came out hitting harder, and hustling to every ball to close the set.

Cerritos carried the momentum into the fourth period and, with the help of several Viking penalties, it dominated the period.

Vikings would be no match for Cerritos, as they would take an early lead and not look back.

Cerritos won the match, 20-25 14-25 25-13 25-11 15-10.

"We thought we were going to lose but we brought their energy up," freshman outside hitter Tania Medina said.

"As long as we keep our energy up we will be alright."

Middle blocker Aundrea Stovall said the team's ability to stick together was what helped in the end. "This was a big game for us. We

started out shaky but we did what we had to do to win," she said.

Following the loss, LBCC head coach Teila Robertson was disappointed in the way her team couldn't close out the game.

"We have to bring it on next time," she said.

"We have to finish up what we got started. It's a big loss because it's a rivalry and we were up two games."

In the fifth and final game, the Friday was the Falcons first game of five consecutive South Coast Conference road games.

The match against LA Harbor on

Cerritos ended the contest in a sweep (25-11, 25-14, 25-20)

The Falcons advance to 7-7, 3-4. They will play East Los Angeles

College for the second time this season, looking to win after ELAC won the first match-up.

