

# TALON MARKS

CERRITOS COLLEGE

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 3, 2010

First issue free, additional copies \$1

WWW.TALONMARKS.COM

VOLUME 55, NO. 09

## Car thefts on the rise on campuses

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

Colleges in Southern California have, across the board, seen increases in motor vehicle thefts on campuses in the past three years.

This information comes from an annual

report, compiled by the individual police departments, that among other things, tallies the amount of motor

vehicle thefts, burglaries and assaults.

While car thefts on the Cerritos College campus have nearly doubled in the past year, from 16 to 28 incidents, Cerritos College Police Chief, Richard Bukowiecki, has a larger scope on the problem.

"If you look at our statistics from 10 years ago, we were sitting at about 40 a year, consistently, so we are still below what we were before we got the [security towers]," Bukowiecki said.

Nursing major Dianna Garcia said, "I think Cerritos College has a large campus and it is hard to cover all the parking lots, but I am shocked that the theft rate is so high."

While the department saw a significant decrease in car thefts when the towers were implemented to the parking lots on campus, the towers have since been up and down according to Bukowiecki.

"They are about 10 years old and have basically outlived their lifespan; we're looking into purchasing a new one and it is a priority with dealing with the increase in parking lot crime," he said.

"Every time I pass by the towers there is never anyone in them. We pay for secure parking, we might as well park off campus," said computer science major Louis Meza.

While more cars are stolen from Cerritos College than almost any other surrounding college, Bukowiecki said, "A large quantity of

**See Theft Page 3**

### VEHICLE THEFTS IN 2009

Orange Coast	11
Mt. SAC	12
Pasadena	7
Fullerton	11
Cerritos	28
Long Beach City	41

\*According to the U.S. Department of Education. <http://ope.ed.gov/security>



## Election options vex students

REBECA VEGA  
Managing Editor  
managing@talonmarks.com

Cerritos College mathematics major Frank Gonzalez speculates that a one-track mind gets in the way of students hitting the polls.

"College students don't think it's sexy to vote. People are young and social and voting isn't social. People get together in groups to go to the movies; they don't get together in groups to go to the polls."

Despite the lonely wait at his local polling station, Gonzalez made sure to cast his vote for this year's Statewide General Elections on Tuesday.

"I like to be a part of the political system. If I don't vote, I can't complain about things that suck."

Earlier that morning, The Field Poll predicted that 9.5 million Californians would cast their ballots for the 2010 Statewide General Elections, while the Public Policy Institute of California estimated that only 19 percent of registered voters between the ages of 19 and 34 would participate in the event.

Nineteen-year-old graphic design major Chris Larroque was not surprised by the statistic and admitted he feels college students are apathetic when it comes to making decisions that can affect their future.

"Right now, I see us as the generation that doesn't really care," Larroque said.

President Barack Obama tapped in to that sentiment and set out to change it during several trips last month to universities and concerts meant to encourage college-age citizens to visit the polls.

"You can defy the conventional wisdom, the kind that says you can't overcome the cynicism of our politics," Obama told young voters.

To statistics major Dike Ezene-kwe, the lack of appeal is not in fulfilling his civic duty, but in having to choose between the lesser of two evils—this term's gubernatorial candidates—Republican Meg Whitman and Democrat Jerry Brown.

"I know they're both promising different stuff, but I just don't feel like either one is going to make a huge difference—so I don't think the decision is that important."

Accounting major Diana Melgoza admitted she needed more time to decide on the propositions, but would likely not vote for California's next governor.

"I think I need to find someone I agree with and can relate to—

**See Vote Page 3**

## Senate discussion continues

VICTOR DIAZ  
News Editor  
news@talonmarks.com

Cooler heads prevailed at the Nov. 2 Cerritos College Faculty Senate meeting, in which members continued the discussion of the college's reorganization plan.

However, the change in the members' attitudes did not take away from the many concerns placed by the school's faculty.

History Professor Walter Fernandez began the discussion with his concern as to why the alternatives that were brought

forward by the Humanities/Social Sciences Division were not looked at by college President Linda Lacy.

"We're wondering why the measure to improve our academic support group requires a new deanship or a new division. Is it not the responsibility of the dean of Academic Affairs to do this kind of function?" Fernandez said.

He also suggested that a new position of both academic affairs and support could be used as an alternative to the current plan.

**See Senate Page 3**

## CSULB opens doors to spring transfers

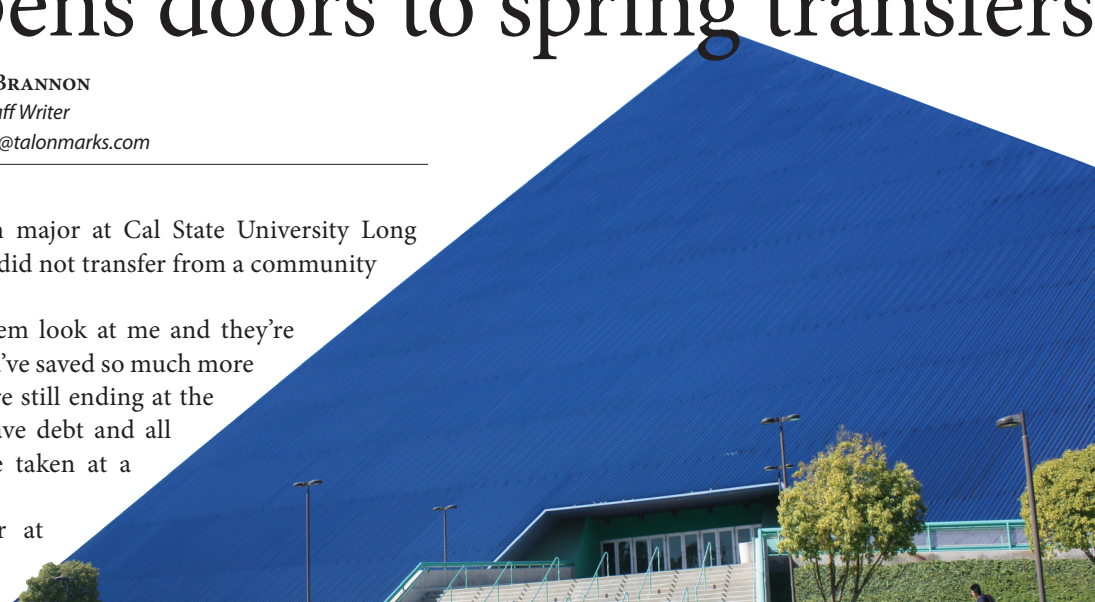
JIM BRANNON  
Staff Writer  
jim.brannon@talonmarks.com

Walter Mendez, fashion design major at Cal State University Long Beach, is the envy of his peers who did not transfer from a community college.

"In my experience, some of them look at me and they're like, 'I should've done that... I would've saved so much more money...' At the end of the day we're still ending at the same point and you know they have debt and all these classes that they could have taken at a community college."

Mendez, in his first semester at

**See Long Beach Page 3**





# Gays being bullied: Does Cerritos feel it?

MICHELLE MORENO  
Staff Writer  
michelle.moreno@talonmarks.com

The rise of suicides among homosexual teens and young adults who were victims of attacks by school bullies struck America with the attention of how seriously the problems of bullying have affected the lives of young homosexuals.

Queer Straight Alliance Club adviser at Cerritos College, Joey Ear, feels that the one problem with bullying among young homosexuals is the need for the school and family members to settle the problem before it gets worse.

“First of all, the parent needs to get involved and, second, school authorities need to get involved and interject immediately if a kid is being bullied.

“If you don’t care and don’t do anything about it, that kid is going to get killed,” Ear said.

Social discrimination in America against homosexuality has resulted in the suffering of many gays who feel forced to hide their identity, especially in the 42 states that haven’t established an actual law to protect lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender rights for equality.

In 2010 alone, the suicide of Rutgers University freshman Tyler Clementi, who killed himself after his classmates exposed him over the Internet, added to the trend of suicides among LGBT teens and young adults who commit suicide due to bullying.

Thirteen-year-old Asher Brown, and 15-year-old Justin Aaberg, both also committed

suicide from the harassment of bullies at their school. All three deaths occurred in the month of September.

LGBTs who suffer from the abuse of bullies in school are more prone to the risk of attempting suicide, due to the consistent stressors of having to deal with the harassment because of their sexuality.

Culinary arts major, Damon Springer, commented on the incidents of the three suicides of young students who where tormented until they decided to take their own lives.

“I don’t think people should be bullying others for their beliefs or for the commitment of their lifestyle, I think its just completely wrong,” Springer said.

According to 365gay.com, 30 to 40 percent of LGBT teens are at more of a risk of attempting suicide compared to their straight peers. One of

the main reasons leading to this statistic is the fear of acceptance from friends and family.

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the annual rate of suicide in the country is between 35,000 and 40,000 per year.

Experiencing the apprehension of coming out with his sexuality to his parents, QSA Club member Daniel Schaper knows what it’s like being in a position that LGBTs must go through when being open about their homosexuality.

“Coming out to certain people was very difficult for me because I didn’t know if my mom or dad would kick me out, so when the time came, they didn’t take it so well.

“They didn’t kick me out, but they gave me drama and problems about how I was going to go to hell.

“They didn’t help me out and I started to become very distant from them and pushed them away because I didn’t want them near me. I felt isolated and became very secluded.

“

As the media created awareness of the attacks from bullies on young homosexuals, schools are now battling the surging rate of teen suicides from bullying. Gay right supporters insist on programs that talk about anti-gay bullying, which are expected to decrease teen suicides and help LGBTs who need someone to openly talk to.

**PREPARE TODAY  
TO LEAD FOR A  
LIFETIME.**

What do you need to succeed in today’s climate? You need to **START STRONG.™** In Army ROTC, you’ll do just that. While attending college, you’ll gain strength, character, and unmatched leadership skills to lead the most well-trained individuals in any field. And when you graduate and complete Army ROTC, you can be commissioned as a U.S. Army Officer. Plus, to help pay for your education, you can earn a full-tuition, merit-based scholarship. ROTC will give you strength for a lifetime of success. There’s strong. Then there’s Army Strong.

For more information, visit [goarmy.com/rotc/startstrong](http://goarmy.com/rotc/startstrong).



**ARMY ROTC** **ARMY STRONG.™**

©2009. Paid for by the United States Army. All rights reserved.



TALON MARKS is a First Amendment publication.
Editorials express the views of the Executive Editorial Board.
Other opinions express the view of the author and are not to be considered opinions of the publication's staff, the Editorial Board, the advisers, the Cerritos College Associated Students, the college administration or the Board of Trustees.
Production and printing of TALON MARKS is partially funded by the Associated Students of Cerritos College.
Facilities and academic supervision are provided by the Journalism Program. Newsroom offices are located in the Fine Arts Building, Room FA42.
Cerritos College is located at 11110 Alondra Blvd., Norwalk, CA 90650
Telephone numbers: (562) 860-2451, ext. 2617
FAX (562) 467-5044
Vol. 55
© 2010 Talon Marks

Fall 2010 STAFF

Editor-in-Chief & Online Editor
Joey Berumen

Managing Editor
Rebeca Vega

News Editor
Victor Diaz

Arts Editor
Andrea Mora

Opinion Editor
Daniel Sandoval

Sports Editor
Steven Quintana

Production Manager
Gregory Horsey Jr.

Multimedia Editor
J.B. Witron

WPMD Editor
Wendy Solorio

Staff
Carlos Blandino
Jim Brannon
Alex Caldwell
Laura Chau
Aastha Dhakal
Orlando Dominguez
Paul Greer
Marquisha Hames
Jeremiah Jakes
Michelle Moreno
Pete Moye
Philip Okoli
Juan Ramos
Martin Reyes
Stephanie Romero
Mayra Salazar
Gonzalo Saucedo
Arianna Smith
Cherelle Tisby
Billy Turner
Megan Winters

Cartoonist
Jimmy Edwards-Turner

Faculty Adviser
Rich Cameron

Instructional Aide
Alicia Edquist

JACC Pacesetter Award
2009-2010



EDITORIAL

To vote or merely complain

The applause of last night's statewide celebration has been replaced with the sound of student dissatisfaction echoing in the halls of California's community colleges.
Today, the state's college students will sit in their overcrowded classrooms, shaking their heads, grumbling under their breath at the next four years of the same old story, without taking a good look at the big picture:
Those who didn't vote missed their chance to raise their hand and speak up for the future of California's students.
The Public Policy Institute of California estimates that only 31 percent of registered voters with some college education made the trip to the polls for this year's statewide General Elections.
The other 69 percent was waiting for someone to come along and convince it to take a stand, or wasn't registered at all.
Those who didn't seize their chance to make a difference in California's future now need to assume the responsibility and help clean up the mess that could have been prevented, and should be prevented for future generations.
Students should not spend the next four years pointing fingers at those who failed them, but should instead come together and think of a plan to increase voter turnout in their age range.
While the Economics Club at Cerritos College took a step in the right direction by hosting debates on the propositions and the gubernatorial candidates, indifference and cynicism toward political issues are still widespread among students.
Community colleges need to embrace their role as learning communities and increase voter education, taking place weeks prior to the elections.
They should also consider opening classrooms and gyms to student voters for future elections.
If the college can find space for a bloodmobile to visit campus every few months, it can definitely find a way for us to cast our votes as educated citizens once every four years.



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.

Quit spending green and just go green

Incorporating solar panels to Cerritos College to utilize the sun as an alternative source of energy would be a really great idea, but has anyone thought of doing it?
The plans to install solar panels in the White House by spring 2011 will not only heat water and supply electricity to the First Family, but it will serve as an example for the utilization of solar energy.
In today's world of new technology and scientific inventions, everyone is really motivated to make planet Earth "green" and save its natural resources, and a great way to do so is with the use of solar power.
The use of renewable energy sources is important due to the inevitable scarcity of fossil fuels in the near future.
Wow, isn't that a praiseworthy idea? Whoever invented solar panels was a mastermind.
However, Cerritos College isn't using solar panels or solar energy to save the environment.
It sounds so weird and awkward to say that a school that teaches students to use alternative sources of energy and keep the planet green doesn't follow the system in reality.
It is so dramatic to just teach and not apply the lesson in real life.
However the reason for not using solar panels, as explained by administrators, is that during the eco-

TALON MARKS
AASTHA DHAKAL
Staff Writer
aastha.dhakal@talonmarks.com

mic crisis, our school can't afford solar panels.
Furthermore, administrators claim that solar panels don't provide a proper solution to saving energy.
It is hypocritical to use budget cuts as an excuse to avoid the use of solar panels when the school is spending money on new buildings, new furniture in classrooms and in staff lounges, which are not as important as the use of solar energy.
We are aware that the cost of establishing the plan is tremendous, requiring a huge budget and it may seem impossible.
Due to budget cuts, classes are being cut, students are being dropped from the classes and the number of teachers is decreasing.
During such a situation, we should be open to exploring the positive effects that might come about from incorporating solar panels into the school's buildings.
If the government wishes to encourage adopting a new system with the use of solar panels, then

it must carry out some helpful plan, such as lowering the price for establishing solar panels, allowing some INGOs and NGOs to invest in the plan to decrease the price.
Instead of implementing solar panels in the White House, they should be used in public places so that the general public can make use of them.
It's easy to give examples and show models, but when it comes to their use in homes, the system really is not affordable.
Rather than just giving a demonstration and investing for their use in the White House, it would be a really good idea if government used some technique to make solar energy affordable to the public.
Greg Spooner, philosophy instructor at Cerritos College, has found a way to incorporate solar panels in his home.
"They work really well and have decreased my electricity bill. They are reliable and produce more energy than necessary."
From Spooner's data, what can we conclude?
Is it that our school is really concerned about establishing solar panels, or is it just trying to avoid the topic by using budget cuts as an excuse for not taking advantage of solar energy?
We should stop avoiding the issue and just solve the real problem already.

"It is hypocritical to use the budget cuts as an excuse to avoid the use of solar panels when the school is spending money on new buildings."

Do students feel safe on campus?
COMPILED BY: MICHELLE MORENO
PHOTOS BY: JIMMY EDWARDS-TURNER
DAVID MONTANO, philosophy major: "You can't always have enough security but at the same time you can't have too much."
VERONICA PICERO, psychology major: "There are campus phones so I feel confident with that. I like the fact they have lights all around campus."
TIMOTHY MCKINNEY, art major: "Personally, I leave at 9pm so it's pretty dark. I've never felt scared, like there's a protective zone on campus."
ANA CERVANTES, psychology major: "This semester I'm taking a really late class and I'm shocked to see a lot of people here. I feel safe about it."
JUAN PINEDA, undecided major: "I trust my fellow students not to steal from me and I feel safe. There's always security watching."
MANMEEN KAUR, electrical engineering major: "Not at night, but during the daytime, it's good because there are students around, and the campus police."

TALON MARKS online

Multimedia Video
See videos online at talonmarks.com
Thompson "Quangstuh" Tran, Victor Diaz, News Editor
SCAN TO VIEW VIDEO

Multimedia Audio
Hear audio online at talonmarks.com
QSA Club Interview: Daniel Schaffer, Michelle Moreno, staff writer
SCAN TO LISTEN TO AUDIO

Book Rentals: Robin Lee, Michelle Moreno, staff writer
SCAN TO LISTEN TO AUDIO

Multimedia Slideshows
Watch multimedia online at talonmarks.com
Norwalk Halloween Festival, Orlando Dominguez, photographer
SCAN TO VIEW PICTURES

Campus News Hour
Listen and subscribe online at www.talonmarks.com/wpmd
QR code: Scan this code with most barcode readers, or a QR code-specific reader app on smart phones, to listen right from your mobile device.
SCAN TO LISTEN TO CNH



## Senate: Humanities faculty left unhappy with process

*Continued from Page 1:*  
Other concerns he expressed included the issue of who the new dean would answer to and whether or not Dean of Humanities and Social Sciences Bryan Reece would maintain the new position on a permanent basis. Both sides of the affected merger were represented, as Business Instructor Barbara Soden gave her concerns over the urgency of the process. “I don’t understand how you can move an interim dean to a dean’s position, and I don’t understand how you can create a new division without going through the process,” Soden said. She mentioned her concern for the plan’s long-term effects and how it would affect the potential creation of other divisions. Computer and information sciences Instructor Susan Fuschetto claimed to have had an issue over the rapid decision-making of the plan. “My concern is that we don’t have enough details yet. I think we can work on getting something done, but why does it have to be Jan. 1? Why can’t it be the first day of summer? Let’s take our time and do it,” Fuschetto said. One member who managed to keep calm throughout the meeting was political science professor Victor Obasohan, who elaborated on his concerns from the previous meeting.

Obasohan asked, “Is there a new precedent where you [President Lacy] can reorganize any time you like and you inform the faculty and stakeholders, but you don’t bring them up from the bottom up?” He later referred to the process as an “arranged marriage,” referring to the way he felt that both divisions were being merged together without prior notification. Nearing the conclusion of the meeting, Fernandez, feeling that his argument was not being understood, said, “Today, it’s pretty obvious that Humanities and Social Sciences lost. We witnessed a new phenomenon called, ‘the emergency de-division-izing of a division.’

“So, I will take my flag and retire.” Despite his actions to leave the meeting unsatisfied, he later said, “We will approach the new dean in an amicable manner. We will work with our colleagues in Business Education and we will make sure that as a result of this merger that we make our expectations clear to the new dean and tell her what has worked in our division.” Following the meeting, Reece explained what he felt were the differences in the way concerns were met as opposed to the way they were met in the Oct. 26 meeting, which ended in various shouting matches among faculty.

He said, “We’re starting to make some progress, the emotions aren’t as raw as they were last week. “I think the concerns are shifting to, ‘next time that some decisions need to be made, let’s make sure we have an open process.’”

## EOPS club takes part in Norwalk Halloween activities

GONZALO SAUCEDO  
Staff Writer  
gonzalo.saucedo@talonmarks.com

“While lots of people were dressed up in their costumes partying, we were out helping the city of Norwalk on Halloween night.”

Daniel Frago, president of the EOPS Club spoke these words after volunteering at the 2010 “Creepy Creatures” Halloween Festival on the Norwalk Civic Center Lawn last Sunday.

Members of the EOPS Club, along with select recruits from other Cerritos College clubs such as the iFALCON Club and the Child Development Club, helped manage several game booths while passing out candy to children during the annual event outside of Norwalk City Hall.

The festival, aiming to provide a fun and safe Halloween environment for families in the community, ran from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. and was free and open to all ages.

It consisted of live music, five food booths, 30 game booths, in which children played games to win candy, and a large stage to hold costume contests for different age



**Rentals rising:** Bookstore worker Andres Alegria helps undecided major Beatrice Merino with questions about book rentals. According to Bookstore Manager Robin Lee, 2,900 books have been rented to students this semester.

# Book rentals see results

MICHELLE MORENO  
Staff Writer  
michelle.moreno@talonmarks.com

The textbook rental program at Cerritos College saw a spike of rented textbooks by 34 percent of purchases from students since the beginning of this semester. “For fall, since the program began, we have rented 2,900 books to students this semester,” bookstore Manager Robin Lee said. Although the significance of the number is relatively low with 23,000 Cerritos College students enrolled, Lee is looking forward to higher numbers for the spring semester. “For the first semester, it usually starts out a little low from what we’ve seen at colleges, but then as you go further with rentals, more titles become eligible for rent,” Lee added. As the book rental program has been made available at Cerritos College, students are able to rent certain books that are eligible. Titles that are for rent allow a reduction in price by 50 percent. Some students at Cerritos College who have used the program, such as Brittani Robles, have reportedly experienced the ease of renting books on campus and saving money. “It’s helped me

save money because, instead of buying books, I can rent them and it’s easy because it’s right here on campus,” Robles said. With the increase of students renting textbooks, Cerritos College receives a portion of the money that is being purchased when students rent books. “What is really cool about the book store is that we give a portion of our sales back to the campus. We pay a portion of our sales to the student body (ASCC). “Putting rentals on campus and getting students another avenue to purchase books will not only give them the tools that they need to be successful but also bringing students into the book store where we’ll be able to give more money back to the campus,” Lee said. Textbooks that are rented are under a four term commitment that professors have to agree in contract with before the title of their book is eligible for rent. Comparing the purchasing of text books from the previous semesters, Adrian Macias, history major, was able to save money from renting books instead of purchasing the textbooks at full price. “My receipt came out to be \$52 and I remem-

ber last semester I had bought a book and paid \$100, and when I brought it back, I didn’t get anything for it and I used the book only a couple of times.” Macias and Robles, who have taken advantage of the book rental program are one the 23,000 Cerritos College students that experienced the privileges of renting textbooks at half price. The anticipation of the book rental program in its first semester was underestimated according to Lee, but as she sees the rise in the numbers of students renting books, the bookstore is preparing a new list of textbooks that will be eligible for the Spring semester. “We don’t have all the adoptions in yet, we haven’t gotten all the choices that the professors are making for the spring and with the adoptions we’ve gotten so far, we’re already at 34 percent, so we already gotten up four percent just from the little group of adoptions that we have. “I’m really optimistic that this number is going to go up with the more adoptions that we get in, the more text books we see that are chosen, the more we can determine which ones can be rental-eligible and which can’t be.” Lee said.

# Long Beach: CSULB is making transfers easier for students

*Continued from Page 1:*  
CSULB, transferred from El Camino College in Torrance. “The overall transition from applying went pretty well, right now the transition into getting my classes was a little bit tougher to figure out but I’m working on it,” Mendez said. Cal State University Long Beach has extended the application deadline to Nov. 10 for community college transfer students applying for the spring 2011 semester. Students must apply online through CSU Mentor. David A. Dowell, vice provost and director of strategic planning and professor of psychology at CSULB, said that restoration money from the state made the extension possible. Dowell’s message to students at Cerritos? “Apply now. CSU Mentor is open. We have an unprecedented number of spaces available.” Cerritos College is high on the list of the highest influx of community college transfers to CSULB. Jordan Fuller, biology major at CSULB, is

one of the students adversely affected by the high influx of transfers. “It’s been hard getting into classes because the transfer students come in with like a hundred units. It’s pushed me back for registration dates. “I’m always like the last one to register, ‘cause I have to compete with these transfer students,” Fuller said. Marvelina Barcelo, counselor and Transfer Center co-director, said the extension benefits students denied for fall 2010 due to a 3.5 GPA minimum requirement. “Because CSULB will be implementing what it refers to as, ‘unusual flexibility’ in the admissions criteria, this extension will also benefit students who will have the minimum CSU admissions requirements completed by the end of fall 2010. Normally, these students would not meet minimum admissions requirements,” Barcelo said. The minimum CSU admissions requirements include 60 transferrable units and a 2.0 GPA, and it will be used for all non-impacted academic programs at CSULB. CSULB is also still accepting applications from prospective students looking to attend CSULB in fall 2011; that deadline is Nov. 30. “We hope that CSUs begin to open their win-

ter/spring terms every year. CSUs have a common practice to change things at the last minute. For now, let’s just say this extension is positive and could be a trend,” Barcelo said. The next CSU application workshop held by the Cerritos College Transfer Center is on Friday, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in room BE 17. Students can bring their unofficial transcripts to be guided through the application process. Jasmine Rubalcaba, nursing major at CSULB, said that she thinks community college students have the upper-advantage when it comes to classes. “Considering they already have most of their major requirements out at a JC and for that I am pretty much jealous considering I went straight from high school to a four-year. “I wish I would’ve done it.” Oswaldo Escobar, intermediate clerk for the Transfer Center, outlined the sort of students aided most by the extension. “[Students] who already basically have their 60 units and, for Cal States, their ‘golden four,’ which are the two English 100 and 103, a math [course] higher than math 80, and a speech course are eligible.”

## Theft: Police, administration plan improvements of lot security

*Continued from Page 1:*  
vehicles stolen from campus are recovered from local areas and they usually aren’t stripped or damaged.” In an attempt to battle the problem Campus Police with the help of Cerritos College President Linda Lacy, is making changes in the Campus Police department. “They are going to revamp the towers and add more emergency phones, and adding a sergeant,” Lacy said. Along with the revamped towers, campus police is also trying to find traffic control officers, and according

to Bukowiecki the amount of traffic control officers, especially during the night shift is low and are currently accepting applications. While Bukowiecki believes revamped towers and more traffic control officers would improve the situation, Emily Otero, a pharmacy technician major, thinks the added resources wouldn’t do much to help. “Instead of worrying about giving out so many tickets, they should worry about security in the parking lots,” Otero said.

groups. “The EOPS Club volunteered for this event because we wanted to give back to the community. “[It] was better than I was expecting it to be. It was very cool,” Frago said. Many parents opted to bring their children to the festival as opposed to participating in traditional door-to-door trick-or-treating. Jennifer Trujillo is a mother that attended the event with her husband and two sons. “It’s good to know that there’s a place you can bring your kids to on Halloween where they can be safe and have fun at the same time,” she said while escorting her costumed children to a game booth. “I think it’s great that the young people would volunteer at something like this. It really shows their dedication to the community,” Trujillo said of the Cerritos club members helping out at the festival. “It felt good giving back to the community,” Frago said.

## Vote: Students hope for an easier voting system

*Continued from Page 1:*  
someone with the same values.” Aside from expressing dissatisfaction with the state’s next leader, Cerritos College students expressed interest in possible virtual ballot boxes. “No one wants to go to the place and stand in line. A lot of people already vote through absentee ballots,” an estimated 55 percent for these elections, according to The Field Poll, “if it was online, a ton of young people would vote,” Ezenekwe said.

DENTAL PAIN - WALK-IN

Weekdays 8am-6:30pm / Sat 8am-1:30pm

➔ WISDOM TEETH

➔ DECAYED TEETH

➔ SPORTS ACCIDENT

➔ GUM INFLAMATION

➔ BAD BREATH

Dr. Brown (562) 924-4401

11635 E. South St., Cerritos / walkindds@aol.com

“BITE-SIZE PAYMENT PLAN”



# Abortion over a bad life

If it is to be believed that mothers are the ones who nurture the children who in turn inherit the earth, what becomes then of the women who never wanted to be mothers, and the children who no one wanted to be born?

The role of a mother involves far more than simply carrying a baby and delivering it. It involves a lifetime of care and nurturing in order for the child to grow and be a functional member of society, which a mother may be unwilling to give if she is not ready to be a mother.

This is a fact that most anti-abortionists seem to forget. But which is the greater evil, the death of a fetus, or a possible lifetime of suffering? It is an issue that must be determined on a case-by-case basis. Society should only allow abortions for women who are victims of rape or incest.

"If you expect people to be responsible for their children, you have to give them the right to choose whether or not to have them," states Dr. Larch, an abortion doctor in the book "The Cider House Rules."

In the book, pregnant women come to Dr. Larch looking for an illegal abortion or to give their baby up for adoption. As the director of the orphanage, Dr. Larch encounters first hand the tribulations of the orphans. He respects the women's right to choose whether or not to have a child.

When it comes to abortion, 60 percent of Americans are opposed to them. The common belief is that



killing the unborn fetus is immoral. But what happens then when a child is conceived through a violent or undesirable way? Is it moral for us as a society to force a woman to have an unwanted baby?

Many of those opposed to abortion may easily cite adoption as an option. This may seem like a lofty plan, considering that approximately 250,000 children are adopted annually.

But unfortunately each year, 14.5 million other children grow up as orphans and age out of the system by age 16, according to a study conducted by UNICEF.

That means more than 14 million children reach maturity each year without a home, without a family and without a sense of identity.

Consider then the psychological turmoil and negative impact that some of these orphans cause on society. UNICEF also cites that 60 percent of orphan girls become prostitutes and 70 percent of the boys become hardened criminals.

*"If you expect people to be responsible for their children, you have to give them the right to choose whether or not to have them."*  
— "THE CIDER HOUSE RULES"

Consider, as well, the rise of underground abortions. Not all women come from healthy, loving and balanced homes, and having a baby out of wedlock is not an option for them either.

If abortions are forced into an underground scene, the procedure will not be regulated, and there is an increased chance of the woman dying as a result.

A quick look at prohibition in the 1920s can attest to the fact that if the public wants something, it will get it.

It is not a debate on whether or not abortion is murder - it is. But a woman should have the right to decide if she wants to keep and raise a baby that is conceived from rape or incest.

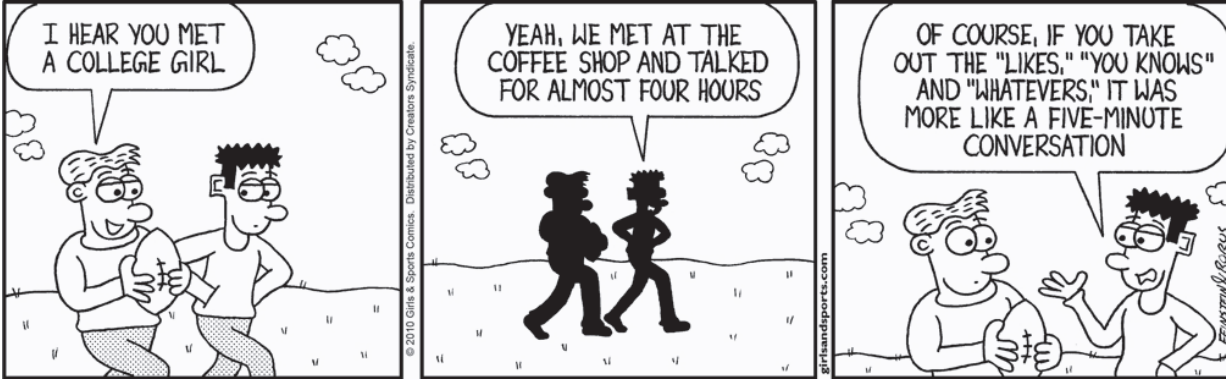
Being opposed to abortions may mean one wants to preserve a sense of morality in society, but many do not understand the moral debt of having an unwanted child is stronger than that of performing the abortion.

Two wrongs don't make a right, but, in this case, it is really a question of which is the greater evil. It is not an easy solution.

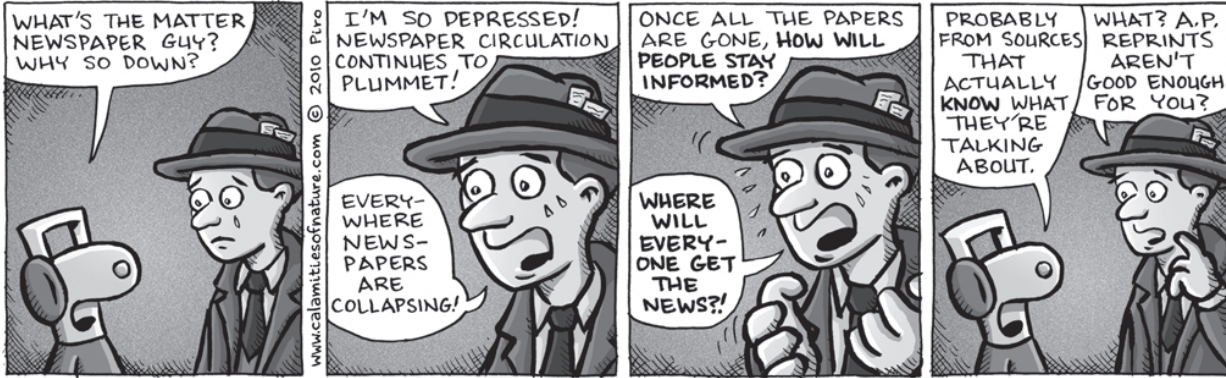
We should restrict abortions to limit them for only women who have been victims of rape and incest, and for women under special circumstances. To prevent women from using abortion as a "Plan B" in place of other methods of birth control, there should be a strict law punishing women who have multiple abortions.



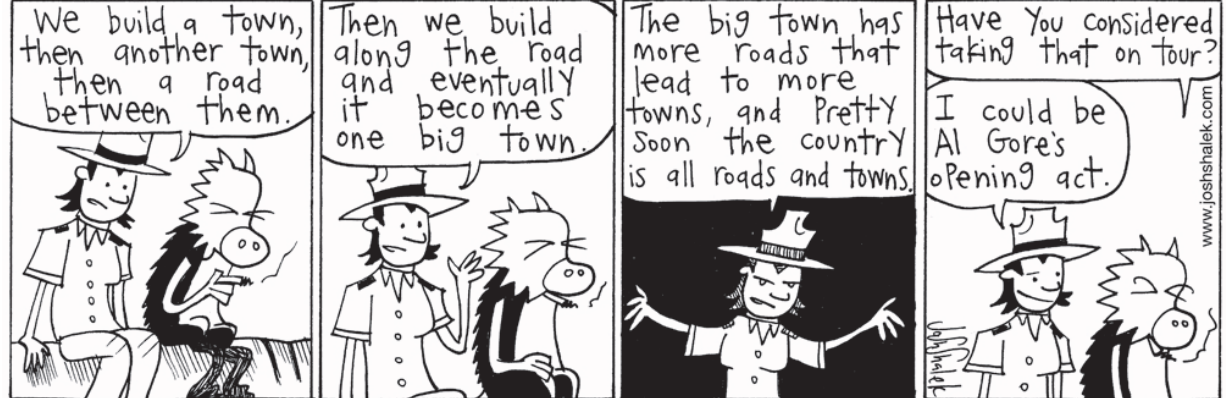
## GIRLS AND SPORTS



## Calamities of Nature by Tony Piro



## Welcome to Falling Rock National Park by Kid Shay



## BREWSTER ROCKIT



"HIGGINS! HAVE WE FOCUS-GROUPED RESTORING SANITY VS. KEEPING FEAR ALIVE YET?"

# Say no to lame statuses

"Just got up! Going to shower! Then going to school! Text me!"

Is your Facebook wall congested with unnecessary and worthless status updates such as the one above?

This confounding dilemma affects millions of Facebook users every day.

The 140 characters allowed in a Facebook status should be a medium through which friends and associates keep in touch with each other, provide relevant information and share the occasional funny picture or video with their online community.

Sadly, this is far from reality.

Countless users abuse the Facebook status with painfully insignificant reports on their mundane daily schedules and routines, extensively overused quotes and proverbs, and pathetically passive attempts of defaming others-- all cardinal sins of Facebook.

Our first type of dumb status is perhaps the most common.

This type of status, sampled at the top of the story, actually provides readers with an ample amount of information... stupid, useless information.



Unless you get a kick out of attracting online predators, no one is interested in having your every move documented on Facebook, or the embarrassing enthusiasm you display with them.

And then there are the people who fill their feeds with generic quotes and sayings they believe will motivate every one of their Facebook friends to save the world.

"Be all that you want to be," is a shining example of the type of mind-blowing statuses I've come across in this category.

Apparently, the wisest, most intellectual beings on our Earth spend the bulk of their lives on their couches, relaying only the most enlightening of messages to the masses-- messages fit exclusively for their 43 Facebook friends.

Last, but not least, are the most laughable of Facebook statuses--

the not-so-subtle "I'm talking trash about you behind your back" statuses.

"Don't you hate it when the person you loved turns out to be your worst enemy?" "Some people are so stupid!" "I've never met a meaner person in my life..."

These are priceless. Not only do these openly showcase a sad desire for attention and consolation from people who have no idea what you're talking about, it exposes the user's inability to confront his problems in person.

All the while, the status' creator secretly wishes that the person he is bashing reads it and realizes the error in his ways-- hilarious!

Given these different Facebook offenses, I am not even mentioning the poor spelling and grammar that usually accompany them.

Some of it is very poor.

The bottom line is that we must improve the filtering of our Facebook statuses. You don't need to pepper your Facebook friends' walls with ridiculous, senseless, dumb status updates.

Please do your part and help end this epidemic.





# New group helps students with stress

MEGAN WINTERS  
Staff Writer  
megan.winters@talonmarks.com

A new stress reduction and coping skills group has been formed this semester to help students manage and deal with everyday life and anxiety issues.

Erika Flesher, Marriage and Family Therapist Intern of Student Health Services, serves as the group's therapist as well as a counselor at the Student Health Center.

Currently practicing at an outpatient community clinic, Flesher has been working closely with individuals dealing with these specific issues.

"The most typical issue I saw was students suffering from anxiety-- stressed out from academics, juggling school and their personal life was giving them stress, so we thought we could better address the needs of the student population by having a group where people can learn anxiety reduction, stress management techniques and how to relax," Flesher said.

An approach used during group sessions is mindfulness, a practice that more and more research is being done on, and it has been found to be a very effective way of handling depression, anxiety and a number of other issues.

Cognitive behavioral therapy techniques are also a part of certain lessons.

Cognitive behavioral therapy is a process of keeping track of thoughts to refute negative contemplation that make people depressed or produce anxiety in a testing or social situation.

Although Flesher will be conducting most group sessions, she will also have guests or leaders to better



**Feeling bummed out:** Cerritos College students are given the opportunity to attend a stress relief relaxation group to deal with any problems they may be going through. The group focuses on helping students with anxiety and other issues in their lives.

assist in students' stress.

On Oct. 5, the group was joined by a guest speaker, Jordan Severs, a marriage and family therapist trainee as well as a yoga instructor. He taught effective yoga breathing techniques that better develop learning how to relax or manage stress.

"Therapy for anxiety and depression helps a great deal. This group really helps gives you the tools necessary to cope with stress and deal with some of that anxiety, which everybody had," Severs said.

Students might share what specific interest they want to learn so groups may be in sessions tailored to the needs of certain people that show up that day.

"I tell people not to share more than what they are comfortable with," Flesher said.

"Since it's a group, there is no guarantee in confidentiality; I suggest only sharing what you feel comfortable with the other people in the group knowing."

Because not all students share the same stress levels or anxiety problems, the group sessions can help any-

one.

"Other therapists I know have done these kinds of groups for CEOs, some of them do them for athletes to help them to in performing at a high level, and other people do it at universities to help students and professors handle their stress. I'm kind of going from that model and see how it can work out here," Fletcher said.

Meetings are held every Tuesday at 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. in the Health Science Building.

# Woodworking student set to carve his own future



**Cutting his future:** Woodworking student Jeremy Trapani works on a project for his class. Trapani credits his success to his family and high school instructor.

MAYRA SALAZAR  
Staff Writer  
mayra.salazar@talonmarks.com

Cerritos College student Jeremy Trapani is going through both Cerritos' woodworking and Teacher TRAC programs in hope to "pass on [his] passion."

Trapani comes from a diversely mixed background of Italian, Mexican, Irish and Native American descent. He was born on a Yavapai Apache Native American reservation, where his interest in woodworking started.

"My grandfather inspired me, he made it a part of who I am," Trapani said.

His wood shop teacher, John Mason at San Gabriel High School, helped turn Trapani's interest into a future career.

"He is an uncle to me," Trapani said of his former teacher.

During his time in high school, Trapani served as

a teacher's aide to Mason, who taught him the key to teaching and patience.

As a teacher's aide, Trapani encountered an obstacle with one particular student, who he said many would have labeled as a "problem kid," but the patience he learned from Mason helped him overcome this.

He had caught the student cheating and although the teenager was initially confrontational, Trapani helped him to recognize his potential.

"That's where I get my fulfillment from," Trapani said, "[sharing] what I enjoy doing."

Woodworking instructor Mike Jones describes Trapani as, "enthusiastic."

"Jeremy wanted to come in and do everything. He wanted to take projects and make them special," Jones said.

Trapani plans to continue to work hard throughout the semester and is "anxious to see what the future holds."

# Cerritos goes green with cartridge recycling program

MICHELLE MORENO  
Staff Writer  
michelle.moreno@talonmarks.com

Cerritos College started a new cartridge recycling program thanks to a five-year contract with Toshiba for the new copiers in the division departments.

The program started on March 1, when Toshiba offered the program as soon as the school purchased the new copiers.

"There have been students that have come up and asked how we can do more," Purchasing Department Secretary Ramona Mellgoza said.

"Before we would just throw all the cartridges away, so it just made sense to be a part of the program and recycle," Mellgoza said.

The program has the campus education departments recycle their Toshiba cartridges to the purchasing department where they will be packaged and shipped out to the vendor's company.

With the progression of this program, the facility department can accept printer cartridges from stu-

dents in the near future.

When asked about the thought of having a cartridge recycling program, undecided major Victor Hernandez was on board with the idea. "If we can actually have our own, that would help us out a lot, especially in the time we're in now," Hernandez said.

Since the program just started six months ago, the head of the facility and Purchasing Department is still on top of recycling the school's

cartridges. But it doesn't mean that the probability is out of order for students.

"We could bring it up to the Facilities Department and see if there is any possible way that we can establish an area where it can be done."

"There has to be a lot of research done as far as who will take them, or if they will even accept them," Miguel A. Arias, Inventory Control Expediter of the Purchasing department, said.

**DENTAL PAIN - WALK-IN**  
**Weekdays 8am-6:30pm / Sat 8am-1:30pm**  
➔ **WISDOM TEETH**  
➔ **DECAYED TEETH**  
➔ **SPORTS ACCIDENT**  
➔ **GUM INFLAMATION**  
➔ **BAD BREATH**  
**Dr. Brown (562) 924-4401**  
**11635 E. South St., Cerritos / walkindds@aol.com**  
**"BITE-SIZE PAYMENT PLAN"**

Right now,  
someone is  
looking up  
to you.

**Fulfill your aspirations through your education**

**We are professionals learning to explore opportunity,  
acquire fundamentals and establish expertise.**

Argosy University offers undergraduate degree programs that  
can help you reach your goals in education:

Business ■ Criminal Justice ■ Liberal Arts ■ Psychology

**Argosy University, aspire to be.**

**clickargosy.com**  
**1.877.851.9065**

**Argosy University, Los Angeles • Argosy University, Inland Empire • Argosy University, Orange County**

Locations at 5230 Pacific Concourse, Suite 200, Los Angeles, CA 90045 | 636 E. Brier Drive, Suite 120, San Bernardino, CA 92408 | 601 South Lewis Street, Orange, CA 92868  
Financial Aid is available to those who qualify. Degree programs, delivery options, and start dates vary by campus. Argosy University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission  
and a member of the North Central Association (230 S. LaSalle Street, Suite 7-500, Chicago, IL 60604-1413, 1.800.621.7440, www.ncahlc.org).



# Gaga monster mash



## Costume contest draws zombies, rockstars and cross dressers

MAYRA SALAZAR  
Staff Writer  
mayra.salazar@talonmarks.com

Lions, tigers and... Lady Gaga! Oh my!  
Feline and celebrity costumes were only some of the ensembles worn by students last Thursday for Cerritos College's annual Halloween Costume Contest.

The contest awarded prizes to four categories, which included scariest, most creative, judges' choice and best group.

Steven Castillo won scariest as a gory zombie, Daniel Schaper won most creative as Lady Gaga, Felipe Grimaldo won judges' favorite as "The Hangover's Alan Garner," and Krystle Martinez, Amanda Gomez, Belinda Escante and Veronica Khuu won best group rocking out as KISS.

Schaper's Lady Gaga impersonation, which included a musical performance, was the highlight of the event.

"I love Lady Gaga. The darkness of her 'Alejandro' [music] video inspired me," Schaper continued, "this was so fun!"

Participants may have had plenty of fun dressing up, but spectators, such as business administration major Allison Rodriguez, seemed to enjoy the contest just as much.

Rodriguez said, "The Lady Gaga costume was great. A lot of the costumes were really funny and creative."

**Feelin' good:** (Left) Cerritos College student Daniel Schaper wins most creative at the 2010 ASCC Costume Contest. (Top to bottom) Felipe Grimaldo dressed as Alan Garner from "The Hangover" won judges' choice. Steven Castillo took home scariest, for his zombie costume, and the quartet of Krystal Martinez, Amanda Gomez, Belinda Escalante and Veronique Khou won best group costume for their rendition of KISS.







# COMPLETE YOUR *Bachelor's degree*

When you've completed your associate degree you'll have many great options ahead of you and one is DeVry University. We work with community college students to make sure qualifying credits transfer seamlessly and that you have everything you need, including:

- Access to required courses
- Financial aid
- Lifetime Career Services for all graduates

**9 Southern California Locations Including**  
Alhambra | Anaheim | Long Beach

For more information on earning your bachelor's degree, please visit [DeVry.edu/cc](http://DeVry.edu/cc).

DeVry   
University

Keller   
Graduate School of Management

Program availability varies by location.

©2010 DeVry Educational Development Corp. All rights reserved.





**Dialed in:** The Fall Exchange Concert presented by the Cerritos College Music Department consisted of musicians ranging from the ages of 10 to 80. Despite budget cuts the department held nine programs.

ORLANDO DOMINGUEZ/TM

# Keeping the music alive

AASTHA DHAKAL  
Staff Writer  
aastha.dhakal@talonmarks.com

The Cerritos College Music Department presented a Fall Exchange Concert, which included the Cerritos College Orchestra and Concert Band Oct. 29 at 7 p.m.

The main mission of the band exchange concert series that is conducted by the Cerritos College Music Department is to provide music for all, which aids people to enjoy and forget their sorrows and sadness.

"The budget cuts and economic crisis have negative effects on the Music Department, but the program is going on and we are trying to give the best musical education to everyone," David

Betancourt, director of bands and orchestras, said.

There were nine musical programs, five in the Cerritos College Orchestra and four in College Band. The program ended at 8:30 p.m. About 60 people were present in the program, excluding the performers.

"The college Orchestra and Band were closed for a few years. They were brought back and it's been 12 years since the college has done such a concert to make people know the value of music," Betancourt said.

The performers came up with their own theme and composition.

In today's world, where most families don't actually support the work of their children, there were some who even said that their family background and school

played a great role building their mind to be a musician.

"I grew up in a musical background family who helped me in my every steps, and I learned music in my high school, too," Daniel Saucedo, composer of "Salute To The Cinema," said.

The song made its premiere at the exchange concert.

"It's really nice to work with such good composer, Saucedo's music is really soothing," violinist, Damaris Alfaro, one of the musician from College Orchestra, said.

Students from different schools and colleges took part in the concert. There was no certain age range, but it included musicians ranging from the ages 10 to 80.

"I wish I could be the part of

the band; it has been six years since I learned to play music, and this time I came in this program so that I could apply for it. I just loved to be in this band," former violin player, Ana Cardenas, said.

Not only students but parents and friends of the musicians were in attendance.

"I am happy to see my son being part of the band. I love the program, too; it's really entertaining," Liz Huber, mother of Cerritos Concert Band musician Christopher Huber, said.

There are all together 80 concerts every year and recitals in every week. During each festival, about 95 percent of the programs are free. However, some of the programs are charged so that the department can fund for scholarships.

## 12 films to ring in the holiday season

JULIE HINDS  
Detroit Free Press

MCT-The holiday movie season is just about upon us. Starting with "Megamind" and continuing through late-December arrivals like "True Grit," there should be more than enough cinematic treats. Here are 12 for your consideration.

"Due Date" (Friday): Will the energetic comedic styles of Robert Downey Jr. and Zach Galifianakis complement each other? You can find out in this raucous road trip that casts the "Iron Man" star as a father-to-be who catches a cross-country ride with an aspiring actor played by Galifianakis. It's directed by Todd Phillips of "The Hangover," so will there be tigers and Mike Tyson? Just hoping.

"127 Hours" (Friday in limited release; expands Nov. 19): Director Danny Boyle, who triumphed with "Slumdog Millionaire," is poised for another success with this harrowing drama about a real-life mountain climber who is trapped by his arm in a remote canyon.

"Morning Glory" (Nov. 10): Think morning news shows can't get any more ridiculous than they already are? Think again. This romantic comedy follows the young producer (Rachel McAdams) of a lagging national morning show who has the bright idea of teaming a stern anchor (Harrison Ford).

"Unstoppable" (Nov. 12): Fasten your seat belts. Director Tony Scott knows how to keep an action movie running like a well-oiled machine. And the super-cool cast — Denzel Washington, Chris Pine and Rosario Dawson — has charisma to spare.

"Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 1" (Nov. 19): Can this really be the beginning of the end of the movies based on the best-selling book series? Time flies when you're attending Hogwarts, or at least it has for Harry and his fans.

"Burlesque" (Nov. 24): Cher is back on the big screen. The setting is a Los Angeles nightclub owned by the fabulous diva. Christina Aguilera also stars as a newcomer

to L.A. who dreams of being onstage in the club's glamorous musical revue.

"The King's Speech" (Nov. 24): Colin Firth is King George VI, the father of Queen Elizabeth, who became Britain's monarch after his brother Edward abdicated to marry Wallis Simpson. Geoffrey Rush is the speech therapist who helps him conquer a stammer. Firth, who was nominated for an Oscar this year for "A Single Man," could be in the running again for his performance as the man who ruled England during World War II.

"The Company Men" (December): Ben Affleck, Tommy Lee Jones and Chris Cooper star as three men who lose their jobs to corporate downsizing. Kevin Costner plays Affleck's brother-in-law, who gives him a job building houses.

"The Tourist" (Dec. 10): An American tourist (Johnny Depp) is thrown into a world of mystery and peril after meeting an alluring woman (Angelina Jolie). As in "Salt," Jolie is a stunningly beautiful action star. And Depp trades his pirate costume for a modern look.

"Black Swan" (Dec. 10): Don't expect the traditional melodrama of "The Turning Point" in this portrait of a ballerina (Natalie Portman) in the fiercely competitive world of dance. The trailer, which focuses on Portman and a rival dancer, Mila Kunis, makes this psychological thriller with tutus look elegantly stylish and scary.

"Little Fockers" (Dec. 22): The dynasty introduced in "Meet the Parents" and "Meet the Fockers" continues to provide the laughs and son-in-law/father-in-law tension as Ben Stiller reunites with a cast that includes returning actors Robert De Niro, Teri Polo, Blythe Danner, Owen Wilson, Barbra Streisand and Dustin Hoffman and newcomers Jessica Alba, Laura Dern and Harvey Keitel.

"True Grit" (Dec. 25): The 1969 original with John Wayne won an Oscar for cinema's legendary cowboy star. But expect something completely different from Joel and Ethan Coen.



STEPHANIE ROMERO/TM

**Putting it together:** The hip-hop duo prepare at the Cerritos College producing room. They insisted not to show their faces, saying, "We want to be known for our music."

## Cool 'Cat' prepare shows

LAURA CHAU  
Staff Writer  
laura.chau@talonmarks.com

The hip-hop duo named Cat hopes to pursue its dream and expose the world to its art.

Eighteen-year-old Daniel Flores, also known as Seven, and 20-year-old Christian Lopez, also known as Cat, have been making music together for two years.

The duo, hailing from Downey, uses aliases because it wants to be known for its music.

"When we perform," Seven says, "we're going to wear cat masks. We don't want to be famous or for people to know who we are. We just want people to enjoy our music."

Seven, music major, uses the producing room at Cerritos College to make his beats. While starting off as an electronic-dance-

music DJ, Seven started producing hip-hop beats to accompany the poetry he wrote.

Seven and Cat say they find inspiration for their lyrics from real situations.

One of Cat's songs, produced by Seven, highlights the negative sentiments he has toward the man who took his friends' life.

Their friend, Anthony Barajas, was gunned down last February after a confrontation.

The song "Days Like This" outlines the night of Barajas murder and the subsequent emotions Seven took out of it.

With idols such as Tupac Shakur, Jay Morrison, and Daft Punk, they wish for their music to reach out and touch people as these artists have.

They hope to reach people's emotions with their music.

## Lindy Hoppers take a classic dance, urban

CHERELLE TISBY  
Staff Writer  
cherelle.tisby@talonmarks.com

Growing up a gymnast in Peru, Marco Serena never imagined that he would be a Lindy Hop dancer and a part of a well-known break dancing crew in California.

Serena was 15 years old before he realized gymnastics just wasn't giving him the personal satisfaction that he had foreseen for his future, so he quit the team.

Before leaving Peru, he soon became fascinated with the tricks he noticed some break-dancers were performing. Shortly after he moved to California, he started to learn and appreciate break dancing all together.

He first learned how to execute some of the tricks of the dance and soon became a skillful freestyler.

He mastered Lindy Hop, a type of swing dancing, New Jack and old school hip-hop, within a short period of time. "Marco is one of the best dancers that I have in my class," hip-hop instructor, Amy Campion, said.

Serena is also a member of Outer Circle Crew, which is a team of talented dancers that have branched themselves to an entertainment brand.

They promote, host and DJ

events along with productions. Serena has won several awards for his outrageous dance moves.

"I like break dancing cause you can make it your own style, there is no one way to do it," he said.

Serena has had to quit working his full-time job, just to put in more time and show more dedication to his schooling and dance crew.

He says that, "If it wasn't for financial aid and loans I wouldn't be able to continue living independently."

He would like to become a dance teacher. "I know I won't be able to dance all the time, so I would like to become a Spanish teacher at a middle school or high school or maybe a translator," he said.

"My education is very important, even if I have to breakdance on the side to make a little bit of money, I know that I need a degree. If I don't go get one now, I know I won't get it later."

Serena entered a competition with another member of his B-Boy crew, Pepa, in which they won first place with a cash prize for "Rocking the Earth."

"I want everyone to see what I've got, and feel my energy. Most importantly I just want to dance I really enjoy dancing," he concluded.



ORLANDO DOMINGUEZ/TM  
**Flipping out:** Dancer Marco Serena flips his partner Angel Jenkins while dancing Lindy hop. This style of dance is a form of Swing Dancing.



# B-boy gracefully breaks the mold

LAURA CHAU  
Staff Writer  
laura.chau@talonmarks.com

Cerritos College dance major Raul Ortega is using his passion to take him places.

Ortega, has already accomplished a lot through dance in his 19 years of life.

He has been dancing since the age of 8 and is not slowing down anytime soon.

He has already received a couple dance scholarships, including one for the Lula Washington Dance School and another for a dance program called World Arts and Cultures at UCLA.

Ortega, the winner of a one-on-one hip-hop battle at Concrete Classic 2, has also been in music videos and recently choreographed a dance scene in the movie "Step Up 3D."

He currently dances with the Antics Dance Company and wishes to attend either Cal State Long Beach or Cal State Fullerton to further his career in dance.

Ortega is not only limited to the hip-hop style of dance.

He also has trained in ballet, jazz and modern.

Diana Gonzales, dance major and friend of Ortega, believes that he is using his talent in a great way.

"He has talent that a lot of people don't have. He can do things that I haven't seen other people do. He's very unique in that way.

Along with talent, Ortega is also no stranger to team spirit.

After auditioning for the TV show "So You Think You Can Dance," he made it to the Las Vegas round before dropping out of the competition in order to join his fellow dancers for the 2010 Spring Dance Concert at Cerritos College.

"I didn't want to diss my people at Cerritos College for the show. I felt that would be wrong," he commented.

In the eyes of a fellow dancer, Gonzales says Ortega did the right

thing.

"He made the right decision," Gonzales said.

"It would have been disrespectful to the instructor if he didn't show up when he said he would."

"Honestly I wasn't upset. I was just happy to come back to Cerritos College where I am accepted by friends, even though they were mad at me for not continuing the show. Yes, I feel it was the right choice, but my friends think otherwise," Ortega said.

Dropping out of the competition didn't phase him, because he still has big plans for the future.

With Michael Jackson as a role model, Ortega wants to follow the late artist's footsteps in philanthropy.

"Because of his positivity and messages in his music, he helped others worldwide with love," he said.

He also wants to one day use his talent to create a foundation to help people affected by poverty worldwide.

Ortega desires to become a positive role model for children because he believes "they are the future."

Ortega is already on his way to mentoring a younger dancer named Freshman Nelms, a dancer who came up with the jerk movement. Nelms, who is 8 years old, is already on his way to getting in to films and Ortega plans on teaching him everything he knows.

Currently, Ortega is participating in a dance concert taking place at the Burnight Theatre on Nov. 4 to Nov. 6 and is working on a Christmas show for December.



ORLANDO DOMINGUEZ/TM

**Dance it out:** B-boy Raul Ortega (center) works on his moves with teacher Amy "Catfox" Campion (right) and dancer Valeria Rivera (left).



ORLANDO DOMINGUEZ/TM

**From the soul:** Laura Moses, English major, won a cash prize of \$75 with her poem "Between You and Me." The Library Club presented its First Semi-Annual Open Mic Poetry Night.

## Library club welcomes poets

WENDY SOLORIO  
WPMD Editor  
wpmd@talonmarks.com

The room fell silent as Carl Bengston, dean of the Library and LRC, announced the first prize winner at last week's Open Mic Poetry Night.

"And the first-prize winner is, Laura Moses for her poem 'Between You and Me,'" Bengston said.

The audience cheered as English major Moses walked on stage to receive her cash prize of \$75 for her original poem.

Moses was one of many students who participated at the 1st Semi-Annual Open Mic Poetry Night on Oct. 27 at the Teleconference Center.

"I honestly didn't believe that I had heard my name," she said. "My friend, Jessica, who was sitting next to me, had to shove me out of my chair to get me to walk to the stage. It was very surreal and unexpected."

The event was presented by the Library Club and was hosted by club president Enrique Siliezar and former club secretary Elizabeth Cuauhxicali, who is still an active club member.

"We originally hoped for about 15 or so people to sign up," Siliezar said.

"But by Tuesday night we ended up having about 25 people on the bill. We were glad that many people were able to read their work," he added.

Siliezar also mentioned that a portion of the money received from the event's ticket sales would be donated to the Children's Hospital of Los Angeles.

"We want to donate money to an organization each time we do things like this," he said. "This time around, we chose the Children's Hospital of Los Angeles."

As for Cuauhxicali, she also felt the response for participants was overwhelming.

"We truly did not know what to expect since it was the first time our club had organized an event of this kind.

"It was a very successful night, I have to admit. It brought us great joy to see a small idea grow so much and become something tangible," she said.

The Library Club also expressed its gratitude toward Professor Walter Fernandez for not only helping it spread the word about the event, but also giving members some advice.

"I gave Enrique information that he probably already knew, such as tips on setting a time limit for readers, having only student contestants for prizes and a clear point

system and rubric for evaluating the poems, which should be devised by the judges," he said.

"I was very impressed with the level of organization that went into this event. I take my hat off in salute to the students of the Library Club.

"The event was very well-attended and conducted," Fernandez added.

Library Club Co-Advisor Lorraine Gersitz also took part in organizing the event as well as making sure all students had the chance to read their poems.

"The atmosphere was perfect. You could tell from the turnout it was something that Cerritos College students really enjoyed," Gersitz said. "It gave aspiring poets a chance to share their work and gave poetry lovers a chance to hear these amazing poets."

The event also gave the opportunity to audience members who were not on the program, to go up on stage and give a reading.

Professor John Hsiao took advantage of this time to give his students who attended a chance to read poetry on stage.

"I asked my students if they would like to participate, and many volunteered.

"With everything involved, it was not that much work at all!

"I am proud of my students that bravely got up on stage and read," he said.

Hsiao also read an original poem, and feels that events like these, as well as writing in general, are what life is really about.

"Good writing makes us remember that which we had forgotten and takes us for a journey, a story, if you will.

"I am a story teller, and I try to infuse my poems with emotion as well as some kernel of wisdom applicable to real life.

"I read my poetry to my students, and we talk about life because what is literature if not about life, right?," Hsiao said.

As for the event's first prize winner, Moses says she feels extremely grateful to have participated.

"This experience left me feeling surprisingly validated, yet humbled as a writer.

"I know I will spend a part of my prize money buying myself a new journal in which to record my thoughts and possibly more poetry," Moses said.

## Zealous filmmaker sets sights to produce for the small screen



LAURA CHAU/TM

**Behind the lens:** Dustin Ong (left) and fellow film student Justin Shertick (right) discuss plans for a film. Ong plans on graduating in the spring semester.

LAURA CHAU  
Staff Writer  
laura.chau@talonmarks.com

Cerritos College film student, Dustin Ong, is steadily reaching his dream of becoming a cinematographer.

Ong realized his dream two years ago after viewing a series of videos on YouTube made by Wong Fu productions, a three-man independent production company that makes short films, music videos and vlogs exclusively for YouTube.

With an associate degree in film pending, Ong recently finished a three-day job with Vision Matrix, an event company that makes films for business clients.

Working as a production assis-

tant, he hopes that he made a good impression on the company that he will get re-hired.

"Employees go all over the country so I'm hoping to get another call from them if they have another event," Ong adds.

Under the guidance of Steven Hirohama, chosen students were put into "film boot camp," which is how Ong got in touch with Scott Hylton, a cinematographer.

These boot camps are put on by Hirohama to give film students hands-on experience and to put students in touch with people from the industry.

"Most of the boot camp sessions are conducted by those who are on my VTEA film production advisory committee.

"I have about a dozen industry pros with experience in all areas of animation, VFX, film and television production," Hirohama said.

Hirohama believes that in-class lectures and hands-on training are different. He requested grant money in order to fund these boot camps, where professionals from the industry come and help teach the students.

"These boot camp sessions are for the purpose of training students to be with industry pros outside the classroom," Hirohama says.

Only a select few were chosen to be part of the boot camp and Ong's determination and dedication made him stand out as a film student.

"I've selected [advanced] students to participate in these ses-

sions based on their past effort and interest in working on other student projects and class exercises," he elaborates.

These boot camp sessions will continue on to the spring semester.

Ong has already made a couple movies and is currently working on a commercial for a dentist's office.

He hopes to graduate in spring and start working as a cinematographer, but he keeps his goals reachable.

"I want to work for TV because it seems more realistic than an actual movie, but I'd take any production job," Ong said.



# Music is just a game, boy

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

Thompson Tran may be an electrical engineering major, but his true passion is music.

With no formal musical training, Tran relies on ingenuity to create music.

For example, his most learned instrument is the Nintendo Game Boy.

“When I was younger, I wanted to play the drums,” Tran said.

“But using electronic hardware is easier for me. I’ve been around computers all my life,” he says.

Tran rewired the Game Boy’s hardware to play and produce under the moniker, Quangstuh.

This do-it-yourself approach and attitude were the key to Tran’s introduction and gradual exposure to writing music.

“Before my Game Boy, I had never made or learned music in my life,” he pointed out.

Tran eventually leveled up and began incorporating the use of MIDI controllers and his laptop.

Discovering a versatile means to present his music has led him to find similar artists.

Tran has formed close ties with prolific musicians such as Derek Estrada and Alfred Darlington, also known as Baseck and Daedelus, respectively.

“A friend of mine introduced me to Daedelus at a show, and through that encounter I also met Baseck,”

he explains.

According to Tran, meeting these artists had a huge influence on his music and its evolution.

Khanh Thai, a 22-year-old fan, says, “It’s quite hard to describe his sound, but it does have a tinge of old-school, video-game music feel and a space-adventure trip to it.”

In time, his relationship with Baseck presented Tran with many opportunities.

“Derek checked out my Myspace page and heard the songs I uploaded there.

“He really liked it and asked me if I wanted to do a show at the Hive Gallery,” Tran said.

With that initial gig, Tran has built a fanbase among the denizens of the Los Angeles art gallery.

Despite the amount of success he has made, Tran distributes his music completely for free.

“If someone likes my music, they ask me if I have CDs or albums for sale and I just tell them, ‘Give me your email and I’ll give you one.’”

Photographer Briana Ramos explains why Tran’s music stands out.

“Quangstuh’s music is different from everything else I have heard because it can tell a story without any lyrics.”

According to Tran, if he can do it, then anyone can.

“My first journal was also my first Game Boy, and it’s funny because I’m trying to express how I feel through a damn Game Boy.”



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY ANDREA MORA AND GREG HORSEY/TM  
**Making Music:** Electrical engineering major, Thompson Tran, uses his Game Boy to make music. Since Tran started, he has developed a small fanbase.

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY®



What's  
Next  
For You?

© 2010 National University 8897-16

At **National University**, we know how hard you’ve worked to get this far, and we want to help you get even further. As a community college transfer student, you’ll be able to take advantage of these great benefits...

- >> Streamlined admissions
- >> No enrollment fee
- >> Flexible scheduling
- >> Unique one-course-per-month format
- >> Scholarship programs



LOS ANGELES CAMPUS  
5245 Pacific Concourse Drive, Suite 100  
310.662.2000

*The University of Values*  
An Affiliate of the National University System

800.NAT.UNIV | [getinfo.nu.edu/transfer](http://getinfo.nu.edu/transfer)



iFalcon tip of the week

Scan to view



DAILY SPECIALS!

**Teriyaki Chicken Bowl**  
**\$2.99**

**Deli Sandwiches**  
6" Sandwich (Ham & Cheese, Turkey, Veggie, BLT or Sub)  
**\$2.99**

**Deli Sandwich Combo Meal**  
6" Sandwich, Med. Drink & Chips  
**\$4.99**

Yogurt Me

Alondra Blvd

Home Depot

CVS

Studebaker Rd

Cerritos College

**Rodgers/Yogurt Me**  
10931 Alondra Blvd. Norwalk  
(Across from Home Depot & Cerritos College)  
(562) 864-0613  
ATM inside (No fee charge)

**OPEN DAILY**  
10am-9pm  
Closed Sunday





CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY  
**LONG BEACH**

*LOOKING TO TRANSFER?*

**THE BEACH IS STILL OPEN  
SPRING 2011**

**APPLY ONLINE AT  
WWW.CSUMENTOR.EDU**

**BY NOVEMBER 10, 2010**

Fall '10 coursework accepted for Spring.

**WWW.CSULB.EDU/ENROLLMENT**

**VISIT US ONLINE FOR ALL THE INFORMATION YOU NEED TO  
TRANSFER SUCCESSFULLY TO THE BEACH FOR SPRING 2011.**



# Wrestling looks ahead after victory

STEPHANIE ROMERO  
Staff Writer  
stephanie.romero@talonmarks.com

The Cerritos College wrestling team fought against Santa Ana College and defeated the Dons by a score of 12-3.

The comeback started at the 157-pound class when sophomore Jesse Ponce defeated Santa Ana opponent Aaron Lopez 9-3.

This increased the Falcons' points to 6-2.

Falcon freshman Cody Bolinger jumped out to a 6-2 lead in the first period at 165 pounds.

It was a 13-12 team lead after 174-pound Falcon freshman Thomas Estrada scored a 14-3 win.

Ryan Collins pinned his Santa Ana opponent in the first period at 184 pounds.

"I feel like I did well, but my legs were exhausted due to leg breakdowns, and I won by 11 points," Collins stated.

The Falcons jumped out early, as Delgado took a 4-1 win.

The two matches Cerritos lost were by close scores, with freshman Steven Cabanas losing 9-7 at 133 pounds and sophomore Tilman Tran dropping a 9-7.

The 28th annual Clinch Gear, also known as the Halloween Open, was hosted by Cerritos College last Saturday at 9 a.m. at Valencia High School in Placentia.

"[We were able to get] more practice in and be more aware of things when we wrestle," Ponce said.

The location was changed this season due to the current construction of the Cerritos College Aviary Gym.

"The only thing that changed about the event was the location," head coach Don Garriot said.

"It was a drag because we have to move mats and clocks over to the venue."

The wrestlers hosted and organized the event themselves.

Sophomore Eric Sauvageau said the event helped boost the bond between him and his teammates.

"I felt it was good to spend time with my teammates, have fun and host a tournament," he said.

The proceeds of the tournament will go toward team expenses.

"It's hard to tell right now how much money was raised," Garriott said.

"We have bills to pay for medals and officials, but I would believe like a couple thousand dollars will be necessary to pay this year for the venue."

The team will have its next tournament against Rio Hondo College this Wednesday at North Torrance High School.

Though it is an off-campus tournament, the Falcons will be considered the home team.

## Cerritos College 31, College of Canyons 24



Defense wins championships: Several members of the Falcons' defensive unit receive further instruction from defensive coordinator Tom Caines during their loss against Saddleback on Oct. 2. The Falcons' defense has held opponents to 20.8 points this season.

# Falcons' Metcalf strips the ball away for the victory

## Falcons win two straight as the Big 10 takes shape

PETE MOYE'  
Staff Writer  
pete.moye@talonmarks.com

The Cerritos College football team has been powered by its explosive running game and dynamic receivers all season.

However it was the defense that propelled the players to the win late in the game, giving them a 31-24 victory over College of the Canyons last Saturday.

Falcons' defensive back Chris Metcalf stripped the ball from COC wide receiver Alex Fagerstrom after he caught the ball and Falcons' defensive back Kamar Morrison recovered it, ending the Cougars' final drive of the game.

The Cougars controlled the majority of the game until the end of the first half.

COC quarterback Justin Arias threw for 200 yards on 23 completions in the game, giving his team a

16-5 halftime lead.

"[COC] looked a lot like West Virginia University," Falcons' linebacker Alvin Gray said.

"They ran a spread offensive and the quarterback was running around everywhere."

Near the end of the first half, the teams got into a small altercation and the Cougars were given a 15-yard unsportsmanlike conduct penalty, that was assessed on the second-half kickoff.

The Falcons would use the field position to their advantage as they began a drive that was kept alive by two more unsportsmanlike conduct penalties and a pass interference call on COC before sophomore running back Daveon Barner scored a touchdown to finish the drive.

Barner scored another touchdown and gained 70 yards on the night, giving him eight rushing touchdowns this season.

The Falcons scored two more times, part of a 19-0 rally against the Cougars.

The first coming on a touchdown from running back Jaron Hytche and the second on a 25-

yard touchdown reception by wide receiver Lindsey Anderson from quarterback Kane Wilson.

The Falcons' offense continued its success as it gained over 300 yards for the eighth consecutive game this season, however penalties continued to be a problem.

They accounted for 109 yards on 14 penalties.

Penalties also negated a 27-yard interception return by Falcons' defensive back Tyrone Taylor late in the fourth as they were flagged for offsides.

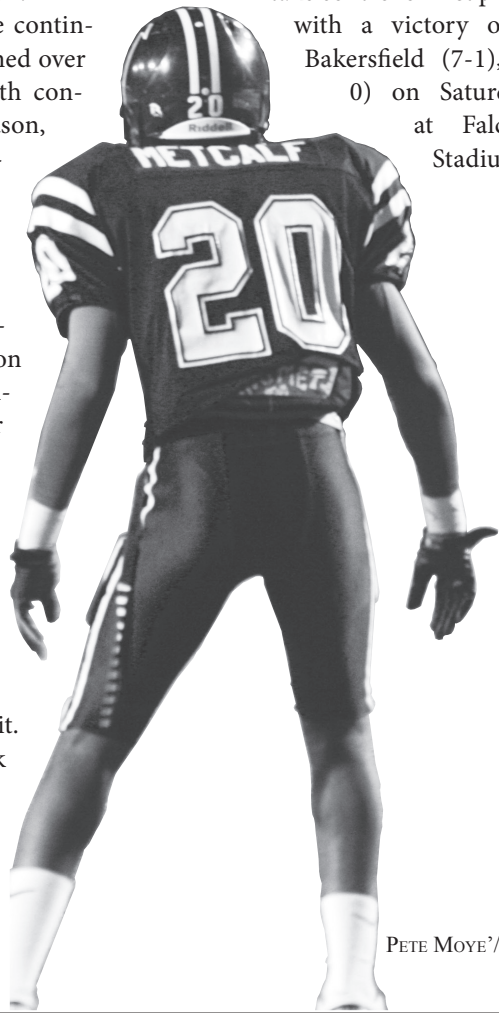
The players still have their eyes on a Big 10 title.

Sophomore wide receiver Gerryl Bennett said, "We are still in it. We have to come back home and beat Bakersfield then go to Allan Hancock [the week after]," he said.

Cerritos is now 6-2, 2-1 on the sea-

son.

The Falcons have a chance to take control of first place with a victory over Bakersfield (7-1),(3-0) on Saturday at Falcon Stadium.



PETE MOYE'/TM

# Volleyball splits South Coast Conference matches vs. ELAC and El Camino

## Falcons' Suesoff's passing leads the team over ELAC

PETE MOYE'  
Staff Writer  
pete.moye@talonmarks.com

The Cerritos College volleyball team defeated the East Los Angeles College Huskies with the strength of effective hitting from sophomore outside hitters Samantha Mora, Chanelle Puou, and sophomore middle blocker Amber Finley last Wednesday; however, it was swept in three games by El Camino College on Friday.

The Falcons came in to the match-up looking to redeem themselves after losing their Southern Coast Conference opener in a five-

game set to the Huskies on Oct. 1 and they were victorious.

Freshman Jessika Suesoff had another productive role at the setter position, controlling the Falcons' offensive attack with 40 assists.

Mora led the team with 18 kills, while Puou and Finley recorded 14 and 13, respectively.

Mora posted 15 digs and had defensive help in the back row as freshman libero April Perez recorded the team-high 19 digs and Suesoff contributed 13 assists of her own.

The Falcons couldn't bring the momentum into the El Camino game, losing what would have been their fourth straight win.

"After the LBCC game, it was up to us to keep our momentum up and we just didn't," Suesoff said. "We just have to pick it up."



Puou

The Warriors took control of the match and swept Cerritos in three games, 9-25, 12-25, 25-25.

The Falcons struggled as a team to hit the ball.

Puou led the team with only four kills.

Suesoff's six digs, and 11 assists bring her season total to 154,



Suesoff

second only to injured setter Lupe Garcia

The Falcons' record is now even at 8-8, 4-5 in conference play.

They will finish up their five-game road trip with Southern Coast Conference matches against Mount San Antonio College and Los Angeles Trade-Tech before



Finley

returning home to play a non-conference game against Pasadena City College.

Mt. SAC defeated the Falcons in a five-game set in their first meeting this season at home. Finley said, "We will be alright, we just have to pick it up."

## CERRITOS



### SPORTS BRIEFS

#### Men's water polo vs. American River College



Cerritos College freshman driver Pete Sirihanyakorn scored a goal with only 24 seconds remaining to take the late lead and a 15-14 men's water polo win over American River College last Friday.

Sophomore utility player Pj Gabayeron led the Falcons with six goals and three steals and Sirihanyakorn added four goals.

Cerritos will host the Southern Coast Conference Tournament this Friday and Saturday.

STEPHANIE ROMERO

#### Men's soccer vs. Pasadena



Sophomore forward Briant Reyes scored a goal in the 77th minute of the game on Friday against Pasadena City College, giving the Cerritos College men's soccer team the lead and sealing a 2-1 victory.

The Lancers maintained a 1-0 lead over the Falcons throughout the first half before giving up a goal to sophomore midfielder Edgar Melendrez in the 70th minute.

This is the second time the Falcons have defeated Pasadena.

PETE MOYE'

#### Women's water polo vs. American River College



The Cerritos College women's water polo team defeated American River College, obtaining an 8-7 non-conference win last Friday.

Freshman utility player Shelby Gleason scored the game-winning goal with a little over seven minutes remaining.

The Falcons move on to host the Southern Coast Conference Tournament this Friday and Saturday.

STEPHANIE ROMERO

## Falcons' Dig Leaders

- |                    |     |
|--------------------|-----|
| 1. April Perez     | 211 |
| 2. Samantha Mora   | 157 |
| 3. Jessika Suesoff | 147 |
| 4. Chanelle Puou   | 75  |
| 5. Lupe Garcia     | 71  |





ORLANDO DOMINGUEZ/TM AND COURTESY OF THE RENEGADE RIP  
**Rivals on the field:** Dion Curry (left) and Julian Dean Johnson (right) will meet once again on the field when Cerritos plays Bakersfield. Johnson's team beat Curry's team the last time they met in high school.

# Curry and Dean Johnson match up for third time

STEVEN QUINTANA  
Sports Editor  
sports@talonmarks.com

The Cerritos College football team (6-2) will host its final home game of the season as it will take on Bakersfield College, whose record is 7-1 on the season, only having lost to the No. 1 ranked team in the nation, Mount San Antonio College.

This game will showcase a rematch of two of the top players, statistically, of both teams, running back Julian Dean Johnson from Bakersfield and wide receiver Dion Curry from Cerritos for the third time.

Their first meeting was when they were in eighth grade then later three years ago, when Johnson's alma matter North High School defeated Curry's team while he was at West High School in Bakersfield, 40-13.

### Julian Dean Johnson

"Julian came from a very rough background," Allen Thigpen, director of the mentoring program We Are G.A.M.E (Getting Athletes Mentoring and Education) said, which both Johnson and Curry are in.

Johnson's father was not in his life and his deaf mother battled a drug addiction, and he has four brothers.

Johnson joined a gang when he was 12 after his older brother, Chris, joined one.

"I wanted to be what he was so I started bangin' with him," Johnson said in a previous interview.

He spent 30 days in juvenile hall after getting in an altercation with a rival gang member.

### The Turnaround

His life started to turn around when he found out his girlfriend was pregnant.

Johnson joined his school's junior varsity football team and started to pull away from his gang life.

"He is a very dedicated, humble, and respectable guy," Thigpen stated. "I always tell him, 'Call me Allen,' [yet] he still [chooses] to call me Mr. Thigpen."

Johnson has come a long way since his gang life.

"He has done very well, he is now talking about graduating from college," Thigpen said.

Despite racking up some positive numbers on the field in high school, the Bakersfield head coach, Jeff Chudy, was still skeptical whether Johnson would be good enough.

"I didn't think he would be as good of a runner as he turned out to be. He put on some muscle since high school, so he definitely proved me wrong," Chudy said.

### Dion Curry

"Originally, I saw (Dion) [playing] at the Arena Bowl. I went to go see Julian and I saw Dion and I said, 'Wow! Who is that,'" Thigpen said. "He was actually the defensive player of the game, which just shows his versatility as a player."

"My life was pretty good," Curry said. "My mom did a good job keeping me away from poverty and bad neighborhoods."

"He comes from a good Christian family," Thigpen mentioned after he remembered seeing Dion help his mom at a shelter handing out food to underprivileged people.

Curry and Johnson have been

playing against each other since they were in the eighth grade.

"I didn't know him personally, but I knew of him because people talked about him, because he was a good running back," Curry said.

"I think [Dion] has improved significantly in football since high school, with the proper coaching," Thigpen said, "and I've seen him turn into a fine young man."

Curry believes that this continuation of his meeting on the field with Johnson will be a good match-up.

"It's going to be exciting because he is a good running back and I feel [like] I'm a pretty good receiver, so it is going to be a good game."

### Falcons vs. Renegades

If we play how we are supposed to play and play how we are coached, I think we can do [well]," Curry said.

The Falcons will face a Bakersfield running game that overwhelmed Allan Hancock College, 29-7, which is the opponent the Falcons this Saturday.

Scan to



listen

## Cross country gets set for SoCal Championship

Women finish third as men finish in unexpected sixth place

REBECA VEGA  
Managing Editor  
managing@talonmarks

John Goldman, head coach for both men's and women's cross country teams, is confident both teams will qualify for the state championships at this week's race, the Southern California Championships at Mission Bay Park in San Diego on Friday.

"Let the chips fall where they may, we'll be alright," Goldman said.

The wmen's team has placed in the top five at six out of seven races this season, including last Friday's South Coast Championships at Mount San Antonio College, where it placed third with a team score of 83 points behind LA Trade Tech with 28 points and Mt. SAC with 46 points.

The men's team has placed in the top five at four out of seven races this season and is looking to bounce back from an uncharacteristic sixth-place, 144-point finish at last Friday's race, coming in 13 points above last-place-finisher East Los Angeles College.

Illness and injuries took a toll on two of the usual top three runners, freshmen Joey Moreno and Robert Duran, who finished 42nd and 51st, respectively, and affected the men's momentum.

Sophomore runner Sandra Flores, one of Cerritos' women's top three runners, placed tenth with a time of 19:47, and attributes the Falcons' success to teamwork,

which led to proper packing.

After performing better than expected, Flores and the other women are staying focused for the remainder of the season.

"We have two of the biggest races coming up and we need to stay prepared mentally and physically," she said.

Sophomore runner Gabriel Hilbert, the Falcons' No. 1 runner, earned First Team All-Conference honors at the South Coast Championships for finishing seventh with a time of 21:48, and is encouraging his teammates to think positive for this Friday's race.

### NEXT MEET

The women's team moved down a spot in the southern regional rankings from No. 8 to No. 9 after last Friday's South Coast Championships.

The men also dropped a spot from No. 11 to No. 12.

Goldman looks for the men to get back on track after they've suffered injuries to their number one and number three runners.

"We aren't a very deep team, so when you lose a couple key guys it's pretty tough."

Both teams are now looking to qualify for the Nov. 20 State Championships by placing in the top 14 at this Friday's Southern California Championships.

"We'll get our heads straight and come back strong," Hilbert said.

"We're getting really serious for SoCal."

Goldman says the teams to beat in the tournament will be Mt. SAC and El Camino

## Student athletes do balance their academics well



Student athletes at Cerritos College are always among the most competitive athletes in all community colleges in the state of California, but these days it just isn't enough for some people.

Educators often try to speculate about how serious athletes take their education.

Whether an athlete is a one-star prospect with a Rhodes Scholarship or a blue chip prospect who can barely average a 2.0 grade point average, her intelligence should not be challenged.

Volleyball player Johanna Tope said, as a student athlete, she is more determined to perform well in the classroom.

"Without good grades you can't play," she said. "To know you're going to get to play the sport you love for a free education [at a four-year university] definitely has to be added motivation."

The National Collegiate Athletic Association requires incoming freshmen to have a 2.0 grade point average entering their first year of college, in addition to a minimum of a 1010 SAT score and 86 ACT score, as long as they have met all the other requirements.

If athletes are constantly going to be challenged, why aren't they given the same right to challenge others about thier athletic skills?

I'm changing LIVES. Starting with MINE.

**CSUDH students learn about their world. And themselves.**

At **CSU Dominguez Hills**, students build on their talent. Discover new skills. And accomplish more in a few years than some do in a lifetime. In small, interactive classes led by nationally recognized faculty, CSUDH students learn that they have the power to change their own lives, as well as their communities.

Learn more at **CSUDH.EDU/FutureStudents**.

**California State University DOMINGUEZ HILLS**

**APPLY NOW**

(310) 243-3696 • 1000 E. Victoria Street • Carson, California 90747