

## Former board candidates sue college district

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Claims of racially polarizing Latino voters led to a lawsuit against the Cerritos Community College District by a former trustee and a former trustee candidate on Sept. 28.

According to Cerritos College President Linda Lacy, the lawsuit can impact students directly.

"Now we have to pay for attorneys and every time the district has to pay attorney fees, it comes right out of classroom-money for our students," Lacy said.

With former trustee Carmen Avalos and board candidate Tom Chavez, district voter Leonard Zuniga joined the "Latino Voters Challenge," against the district.

In the lawsuit, the plaintiffs claimed that the board was in violation of the California Voting Rights Act of 2001, in which prohibits "at-large," elections for governing board members.

The lawsuit claims that since 2003 there has not been more than a single Latino board member at a time and that the district is made up of 50% Latinos.

Chavez claims that in the 50 square miles of the district, three board members live within two miles of each other.

"The city of Cerritos has been dictating who gets elected on to the board even though there are many other cities involved," Chavez said.

Board of Trustee Vice President Bob Arthur was in attendance at Wednesday's board meeting in which the agenda was revised because of the lawsuit.

"I'm extremely disappointed in the three plaintiffs. I know each of those individuals personally," Arthur said. "This lawsuit has the potential to cost the district thousands of dollars, maybe even hundreds of thousands or more."

Zuniga feels the "at-large" system is unfair to voters of the Latino race who live in cities outside of the city of Cerritos, but within district lines.

"Out of the 12 cities [in the district], only two or three [are] being represented," Zuniga said. "We would like to see it [the district] being broken up into two districts."

According to the lawsuit filed by the firm of Goldstein, Demchak, Baller, Borgen & Dardarian, the plaintiffs and lawyers claim that

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# October sheds light on a cure

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For many people of Cerritos College, October being Breast Cancer Awareness Month is a chance to stand up and shed light on the naked truth of an illness that is expected to take more than 39,000 lives this year, according to the Susan G. Komen for the Cure website.

But for sociology major Melissa Alfaro, it is a reminder of the struggle that she faces everyday.

Alfaro, a survivor of Rhabdomyosarcoma, a disease that affects about one in a thousand people, believes the awareness that breast cancer receives helps victims of all types of cancer.

"Breast Cancer is more common, so I'm really glad that a lot of awareness to it. But, at the same time, there are a lot of different cancers that people don't usually hear about," she said.

While victims who suffer from the same condition as Alfaro don't have their own awareness month, some may feed off of the attention that October brings.

## Think pink

Everywhere from the White House to the NFL, the color pink is displayed to provide support to the men and women continuing to fight Breast Cancer.

According to the American Cancer Society, one in every eight women will be diagnosed with Breast Cancer while one in every thousand men will be.

The Cerritos College volleyball team first began supporting the cause in 2009 and after skipping the past season, its salute to the awareness has returned.

Prior to the team's match-up against Long Beach City College on Wednesday, the Falcons joined forces with the Side-Out Foundation and hosted its "Volley for the Cure" campaign.

The team sported white warm-up t-shirts before breaking out pink game jerseys.

It also sold jerseys that said, "Volley for the Cure" and "Fight Like a Girl".

Volleyball head coach Teresa Velasquez-Ortega said, "I began doing the event in 2009 because I had friends who had Breast Cancer," she said, "they became survivors so this is a good way to fundraise money for the cause."

She added, "I think it's important because we're women and people need to understand when they turn 30-years-old,

they need to get checked.

Volleyball setter Gloria Chang said a member of her family suffered from Breast Cancer.

She said, "It was scary because [my family] was unsure because cancer can go either way. It can either go really well or really bad but we were just hopeful. We prayed a lot and we just tried to support her as much as we could."

## Fighting for her mother

Chelsea Rae Rufo, West Coast University nursing major, has been involved in the fight against Breast Cancer for nine years.

"When my mom was sick, I wanted her to know I supported her by doing walks under her name, even though she was too ill to join," she said.

After surviving the battle for six years, Rufo lost her mother Zara in July 2008, leading to her increased participation.

"After she died, I wanted to continue making donations because they are more women out there that can survive Breast Cancer.

Last month, she was recognized by the ACS for being a volunteer for Making Strides Against Breast Cancer.

"[Being recognized] meant a lot to me because I don't do what I do to be recognized. I was never expecting an award so it was really amazing."

Alfaro strongly advises to not be afraid to get checked.

"Don't be afraid of any results. Don't wait until things get worse. It's very important to get checked. If you don't get the answer you want, you can always get a second opinion," she said.

Volleyball middle blocker Jessica Dorado said she really appreciates people who make an effort to support the cause.

She said, "I'm going to donate my hair to help out in a couple months because I've always want to cut it for a good cause that helps people."

## Breast Cancer Statistics

- **12% of American women will be diagnosed with Breast Cancer in their lifetime.**
- **39,000 people are expected to die from the disease this year.**
- **One out of one thousand men will die**

SOURCE: AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY PETE MOYE, LA RENA WIETRICK, AND YURIKH GUTIERREZ/TM

**The naked truth:** October has been Breast Cancer Awareness Month for 27 years. More than 39,000 people are projected to die from it this year.

## Approval of California Dream Act set to benefit undocumented college students

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Karla, a former Cerritos College student who asked for her full name not to be disclosed for fear of deportation, has had her fair share of experiences and struggles being an undocumented student. Even after graduating from Cerritos, she discovered certain economic issues while at the university level.

"I couldn't really afford to join certain organizations or honor societies because of my financial situation. I always found myself struggling

to have the resources that I needed like when I needed to buy textbooks or sometimes even having to purchase food," she said.

However, students like Karla will soon not have to worry about struggles such as these.

Gov. Jerry Brown has signed AB 131, the second part of the California Dream Act, into law on Saturday, completing the approval of the legislation.

This legislation, which will take effect on Jan. 1, 2013, will allow undocumented students attending California colleges and universities to apply for and receive financial

aid, including Cal Grants.

In a statement released on Saturday, Brown said, "The Dream Act benefits us all by giving top students a chance to improve their lives and the lives of all of us."

In order for undocumented students to qualify for the new law, they must first qualify for bill AB 540, which gives lowered tuition costs for undocumented students.

According to Dean of Student Support Services Kim Westby, the Board of Governors Fee Waiver will also be a service that will be available to AB 540 students.

Westby also mentioned that the

new law can serve as a tool to motivate undocumented students to continue their education.

She said, "These students will now be encouraged to go to college because there is some funding available for them."

"In the past, if they weren't able to go to college because they couldn't afford it, now there's an opportunity for them to come."

Karla also mentioned that one issue she encountered was being ineligible for certain privileges as a student.

"One concern that I had was if I was qualified for cer-

tain programs or be able to be paid for certain research that I did."

The approval of AB 131 comes off the heels of the approval of AB 130, a complementing measure which will allow undocumented students to receive privately-funded scholarships after qualifying for AB 540 status.

According to the California Student Aid Commission, there is an estimated annual amount of 10,000 students who will apply for financial aid; 9,200 of those students would receive financial aid award offers

**See DREAM Act Page 2**

## Mobile News

Scan to listen to Judy Heiman of the California Legislative Analyst Office



<http://bit.ly/nRrVU4>



CERRITOS COLLEGE

NEWS BRIEFS

Homecoming Court election returns

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Homecoming Court elections began on Oct. 5 and 6. Returning candidate Raquel Ramirez said, “Any time the weather is really hot, really cold, or raining, people don’t stand around in the walkways and we can’t hand out the flyers or talk to people as they are walking by because no one wants to stand around in the cold.”

Candidates struggled to talk to voters, posters were washed out, flyers flew into puddles, but some of the candidates and campaigners continued to campaign.

The majority of candidates used candy and flyers, as well as talking to students to get their votes.

Project Love returns to Cerritos

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Project Love Foundation returns to Cerritos College to provide gifts for kids on the Navajo Reservation near Little Singer Community College in Arizona.

“We take about 200 to 400 kids depending on the situation,” Project Coordinator and professor Marla Burns said.

Project Love is an annual project that has been around for 20 years.

The project focuses on helping children from the Navajo reservation by buying them holiday gifts.

Burns explained what they do with the purchased presents.

“We take [the gifts] over to a staging area, we wrap everything and get them ready to go, and then the Navajos come and pick it up in a truck and take it back out.”

Disability Mentoring Day set for Wednesday


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Approximately 12 disabled students will be attending the Disability Mentoring Day on Wednesday, at the City Hall Council Chambers in Los Angeles.

Aurora Segura, counselor of the Disabled Student Programs and Services has participated with DMD for the past four years.

“I help our students with disabilities, by preparing them employment, such as a resume,” Segura said.

The estimated number of students that attend Mentoring Day is typically 14 to 15.



Up close and personal: Journalism major Eddie Alvarado interviews “Shake It Up” stars Roshon Fegan and Davis Cleveland for his website “HollywoodTeenTV.com.” He started his website in 2009 at the age of 18.

BRANDON RODRIGUEZ/TM

Student launches teen website

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who are based in Los Angeles.

“We have writers in Washington and New York,” Alvarado said, “so when an event is not in California, we can still cover it.”

Hinojosa explains that because of Alvarado, she has gained an interest in the Hollywood industry and has learned a lot from him.

“My experience with him and [“HollywoodTeenTV.com”] has been really fun. Before I thought celebrities were fake and stuck up, but once I started working here I realized that they are really nice,” she said.

Alvarado collaborates with other bloggers and websites. One blogger he interacts with is Caitlin Staniec from Missexclusive.com.

“I can honestly say that my favorite event to cover with Eddie was the Cody Simpson party,” Staniec said, “we had so much fun and got a lot of food.”

Alvarado expresses that his business is very important to him and will not let anything bring it down.

“I see myself doing this for the rest of my life.”

“What got me into this business was my love for the entertainment industry,” Alvarado said. “My love for being in front of the camera progressed to my love for being the one interviewing.”

Alvarado’s cousin and employee Maria Hinojosa explains that when Alvarado came up with the idea of the website, she laughed because she did not expect him to pursue that career path.

“I didn’t think he had the potential to do it but, he proved me wrong when he threw himself out there and wasn’t afraid to fail” she said.

Alvarado has interviewed a variety of celebrities such as the Hilary Duff, Selena Gomez, Cody Simpson, Demi Lovato and Roshon Fegan.

Alvarado started his website with a Justin Bieber poster contest, which led to the website getting more viewers and more celebrities exclusive interviews.

“I can say, I’ve come along way,” he said.

“HollywoodTeenTV.com” consist of 15 staff writers from across the nation and five editors

Attending red carpet events, interviewing celebrities such as Kim Kardashian, Justin Bieber, and Hilary Duff, and attending college classes is what 20-year-old journalism major Eddie Alvarado’s life consist of.

Alvarado started his own blog website called, “HollywoodTeenTV.com”, which is dedicated to young Hollywood stars when he was 18.

Alvarado said that he manages to balance his business and his school life.

“It is extremely hard to balance both,” he said, “Sometimes I have to choose between school and an event that is going on.”

The website has up to date information on Hollywood’s youngest teen celebrities, along with exclusive interviews and coverage on red carpet events.

“[HollywoodTeenTV.com] actually started right after high school when I stumbled upon a website, and it inspired me to start my own

Lawsuit: Board of Trustees members react to lawsuit brought up by former candidates

Continued from Page 1:

show the prohibited acts in which the Board is being sued over.

Resolution 11-20 was selected by the board at Wednesday’s board meeting, which would initiate a proposal to adopt “by-trustee area,” elections.

The resolution of by-trustee election, made by the board, is the districts disassembling into seven separate districts, with each area electing its own trustee.

“If it is an improvement to the Cerritos Community College District, in better serving our students, then that’s the action this board will take,” Arthur said.

The next board election will be held in 13 months, plenty of time for the board to address the issue, according to Arthur.

“It is my opinion that this lawsuit is just a gimmick in a sense and the law firm in question is basically looking to collect fees; looking for a pay-day,” he said.

Lacy states that the board is not disagreeing with the concept of an area election, but they are disagreeing with the fact that the lawsuit was filed after the board had already taken action.

Lacy provided the board with a timeline of the boards actions on the issue since the formal letter was sent.

In that timeline, the board was noted as taking account of the problems stated in the lawsuit.

“I think it’s a frivolous lawsuit, because the board was already acting prudently in a good conscience to make this happen,” Lacy said.

Triathlon Club prepares for Sunday race




PHILIP OKOLI/TM

Group planing: Triathlon Club president Christopher De Maree explains the bike portion of the Playa del Ray Triathlon. The club will compete on Sunday.

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•EDITORIAL•

# Cancer awareness goes further than breasts

When most people hear the word cancer, the most often associated form is Breast Cancer, and while that is a very serious form of cancer, it is not the only form that there is.

With October being National Breast Cancer Awareness Month, people are gaining awareness through mass media like advertisements, television, radio and print.

Along with the continued awareness brought forth by the month of October, we should recognize that, according to the National Cancer Institute, there are over 100 other forms of cancer which affect the human body as well. Cancer is not limited to the breast.

The National Cancer Institute also speaks of the most known forms of cancer as breast, colon, lung, and prostate cancers, but other cancers like Hodgkin's lymphoma, leukemia, skin, stomach, liver, pancreatic, bladder, and bone are just a few additional forms of cancer that is pressing the health of us as a society.

We are all directly impacted, either by a family member, a friend, co-worker, or even a teacher that has been affected by cancer.

Don't wait until your life has been impacted to make a difference. Do something about it now. Educate yourself and get inspired to

make a difference.

Please don't wait until the unexpected happens to try to raise awareness and money for a cause. Get yourself checked. Cancer does not discriminate. By taking a few minutes out of your day you can potentially add years onto your life.

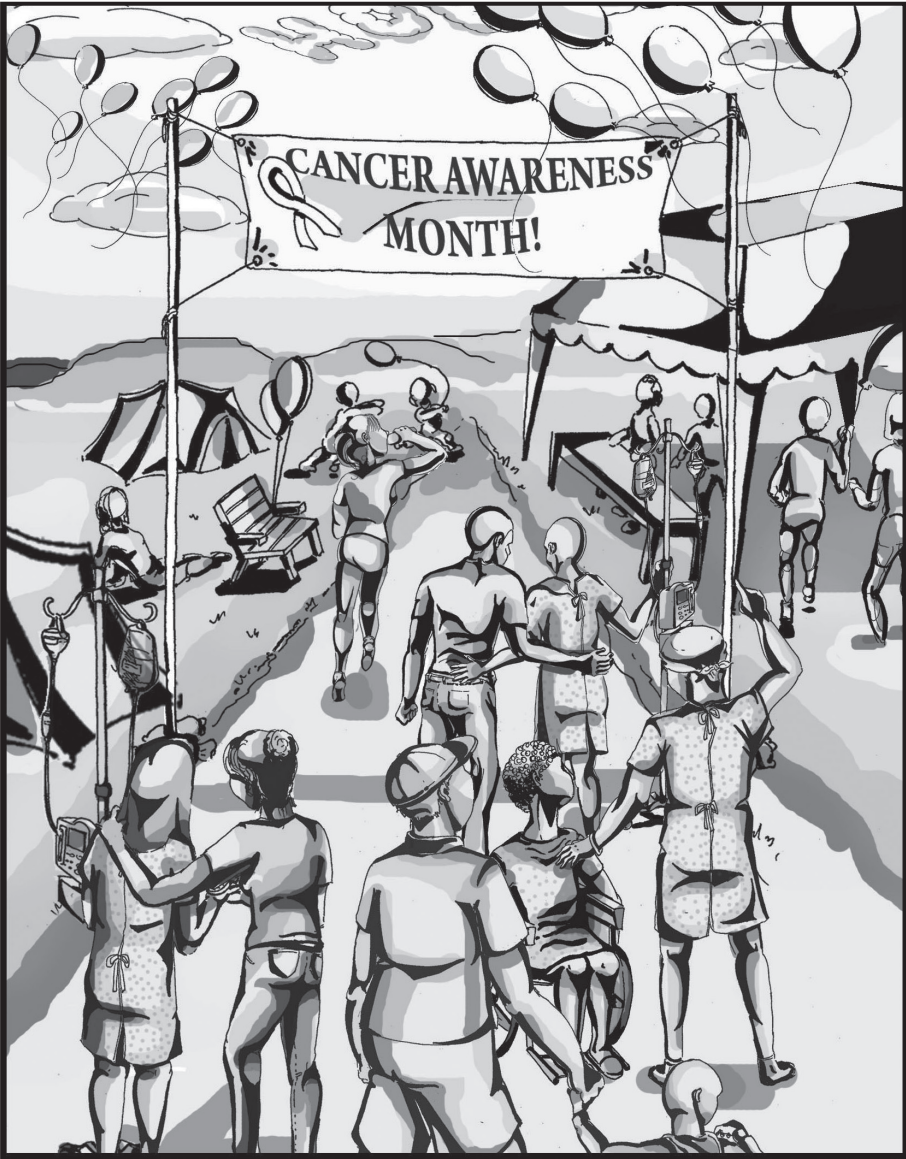
Why don't we organize a walk around the track in Falcon Stadium to raise money and bring awareness for all types of cancer?

As an institution of learning, every one of us needs to support bringing awareness to cancer. For the month of October, let's change our school colors from blue and white to pink and white.

You can donate to any of the cancer-related causes. You can participate in a cancer walk. Students, you can get together with your friends and all decide to participate in a bake sale.

If you don't have money, you can volunteer your time, or get all of the clubs on campus to come together and organize a walk for fundraising purposes.

We need to not only bring awareness to Breast Cancer, but to all cancer. Making a difference starts with being informed, followed by being inspired, so get inspired, stay inspired, then act on it.



It's the month that no one stays in bed for.

ILLUSTRATED BY ALEJANDRA AYALA/TM

### WAYS TO RAISE AWARENESS

1. Donate to charity
2. Volunteer at events
3. Hold a bake sale/fundraiser
4. Participate in a cancer walk
5. Utilize the Health Services on campus
6. Use social media to spread awareness or ideas

## Google Wallet: Innovation or another broken invention?



Technology has reached an all-time low. Google, which is taking over the world gradually, is on its way to forming a monopoly and nobody seems to catch on to it.

Google Wallet can possibly become the easiest way to

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identity theft ever known to mankind. Hackers, after all, are good at what they do and now more than ever have an easier opportunity of reaching a hackable item that holds a person's financial life.

First, it became the most popular search engine. Then not too long ago, it released Google Plus, a new social networking site that claims to be better than all others. Now, it has developed this new innovation called Google Wallet, which is like carrying your wallet within your phone.

Some things are meant for humans to take care of and anyone in their right mind

would think twice about trusting their phone to handle money transactions and payment all the time.

You can look for a checkout symbol such as one that is called paypass and MasterCard as well, and Google Wallet will serve as your paying option simply by tapping your phone on the radar.

It's really just a matter of time before people begin to unlock other people's Google Wallets and their lifesavings may just be in the hands of a complete stranger and they are powerless to stop it.

Today's youths manage to see all the great things that technology has to offer society and that is perfectly fine because it does facilitate things quite a bit, but people should keep in mind that everything that has a good side also has a bad side to it.

## Has your IQ gone down since getting your phone? There's an app for that

Each year, a new generation of phones comes into existence, each upgraded phone having more features than the last. Smarter phones are making dumber people.

Downloadable applications made getting information and staying in touch fast and simple. Unfortunately, it also affects our brain use.

With so much information available at the touch of a button, it seems faster and easier to use the phone's brain rather than our own.

From using a calculator for a simple math equation to using the GPS feature to drive down the road, smartphones have taken over our lives.

TALON MARKS

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Between Googling and using your brain to remember facts from elementary school, using the internet usually seems faster. Thinking through problems, or using your memory to re-

member schedules or homework seems irresponsible now that there are convenient memo pads within your phone.

Relying on technology to do work is now a theme in society. Before it goes any further, people should take the time to spend a day without technology. Without relying on

smartphones to do all the thinking for them, people may realize their potential for knowledge and wit.

Convenience is not worth losing the great aspects of sociality, and mental sharpness. Challenge yourself to take a day, or even a week, without a smartphone and do all the thinking yourself.



“What month is Breast Cancer Awareness Month? How do you choose to show support for Breast Cancer awareness?”

COMPILED BY: ROSAURA MONTES  
PHOTOGRAPHS BY: MIGUEL HERNANDEZ



**ALDEMAR SANCHEZ**  
marine biology major

“I think it's in October. I've taken part in Breast Cancer walks and worn pink shirts for it.”

**ALEXANDER PENICK**  
undecided major

“I have absolutely no idea. I don't know of any ways to support it.”



**JOSE FLORES**  
nursing major

“I do not know. I wear logos or ribbons to show care toward that.”

**KATHIA MORALES**  
English and Spanish major

“October. For the past eight years I have been part of Relay for Life with the American Cancer Society, a 24-hour run that raises funds for all types of cancers.”



**PRISCILLA ORONA**  
psychology major

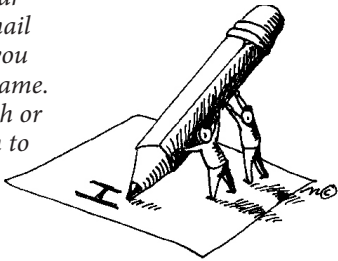
“I have no idea. I tend to buy items with the pink ribbon to show my support.”

**MAYRA CORTEZ**  
administration of justice major

“I think it's in July. I take part in the Breast Cancer walks in Hollywood and try to find out where other walks are.”



Did one of us write something that ground your gears? Do you want to congratulate us on the great job we're doing? Whatever the case may be, we would love to hear from you, our readers. Send a **LETTER** to the **EDITOR**. We accept electronic mail at [editor@talonmarks.com](mailto:editor@talonmarks.com) and boring regular mail at our office in FA-42. If you want your letter or e-mail to be printed, you must proudly sign it with your real name. Letters in poor taste will not be printed. This means we don't want any hate speech or conspiracy theories (unless they're hilarious). We only edit your letters for length to print them, but they appear in full online. If the subject of your letter is campus-related, then it will be given priority.



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# UTM gets ready for performance

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Along with the growing interest that Cerritos College students express in theatre comes the desire to grow beyond campus productions. The Urban Theatre Movement has once again been the company to fulfill those needs.

Co-founded by Paul Tully and Brenda Banda in 2009, Urban Theatre Movement was created to offer a place for local actors to go and apply their skills beyond the Cerritos College campus.

Urban Theatre Movement's latest production, "Short Eyes," was written by playwright Miguel Pinero and directed by Artistic Director Julian Acosta.

"Short Eyes," which takes place in a New York City jail in the 1970s, is about a group of jail inmates, the politics of jail, as well as the crime of child molestation and the reaction by the inmates to another inmate who committed that crime.

Tully commented on the play, saying, "Short Eyes' is about humanity. These men are in prison, and they are in this hard, tough, animalistic environment.

"They make decisions; they have rules, politics, and race wars. The white [inmates] can't drink after the blacks; the black [inmates] can't talk to the whites."

Pinero wrote the play when he was in prison, using his adaptation of life inside of prison and the similarities outside of prison.

"Short Eyes" is performed by UTM members, two of which are current Cerritos College students.

Broadcast communications major Miguel Amenyinu plays the role of amateur boxer Omar Blinker.

Amenyinu previously appeared on the Cerritos College theatre stage in the summer of 2010 one act play "Bad Idea," as Dude, and in "Last Days of Judas Iscariot" as Simon the Zealot.

The role of Blinker is Amenyinu's first production outside of Cerritos College, and his first with Urban Theatre Movement.

"This is probably the most complex role that I have ever done. You have to find answers for yourself; it really takes a lot out of you," Amenyinu said.

UTM Marketing Associate and theater arts major Shanelle Moore commented about her excitement about the production saying, 'Short Eyes' is the biggest production that we have [had] yet. We are really excited about it."

Tickets are \$30 at the door, but Tully is offering a student discount; tickets will be \$10 for all current Cerritos College students with the current fall semester sticker. This discount is limited to Thursday and Sunday night performances.

UTM is also offering interim positions within the company which allow students unable to pay to see the play the option of serving as an usher or other position in exchange for a free ticket to a show.

"Short Eyes" will run at the Los Angeles Theatre Center at 541 South Spring Street in downtown Los Angeles with an opening night of Nov. 17 and closing on Dec. 18.



Return to the stage: The Cast of "Return to the Forbidden Planet" rehearsing for the upcoming premiere. The play opens at the Burnight Theatre Friday at 8 p.m.

PAOLA PEREZ/TM

# 'Forbidden Planet' hits Burnight

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"Return to the Forbidden Planet" kicks off the Cerritos College Theater Department's fall 2011 season.

Directed by playwright Bob Carlton, "Forbidden Planet" is a musical play set in the 1950s using popular, previously-released songs.

"Forbidden Planet" is about a flight crew whose spaceship gets drawn to a mysterious planet.

Loosely based off of William Shakespeare's "The Tempest" and the 1950 science fiction film "Forbidden Planet," which was also inspired from Shakespeare's "The Tempest," the Burnight Center Theatre will house the production for its entire run on campus this semester.

What once began as an outside performance produc-

tion, the play moved indoors in the 1980s, and uses comedic undertones throughout the production.

Theatre arts major Matthew Cruz, who plays Chief Malnutrition, expressed his thoughts on the play, saying, "It is a great play with witty and easy-to-understand comedy. The music is also nostalgic to the era."

"Forbidden Planet" is the first production in what is expected to be a well-received semester for the Theater Department.

Cruz also spoke about the difference between this production and others which are similar, saying, "It [Forbidden Planet] has something for everyone. The comedy and music are great."

Filled with chart toppers of the 50s and 60s, "Forbidden Planet" is expected to be widely entertaining.

The hope is that the combination of the music, comedy, and performances will be more than enough to bring stu-

dents out to see the show.

With songs like "Great Balls of Fire" by Jerry Lee Lewis, "Born to be Wild" by Steppenwolf, "All Shook Up" by Elvis Presley and "The Shoop Shoop Song (It's in His Kiss)" by Rudy Clark, "Forbidden Planet" promises to have a wide array of entertainment value.

The production opens with shows on Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. with closing weekend performances of Oct. 20-22 at 8 p.m. and an Oct. 23 matinee performance at 2 p.m.

Presale general admission tickets are \$15. Cerritos College students with ID, staff, faculty, senior citizens, middle and high school students are all \$12 if purchased before opening night. General admission at the door is \$18 and \$15 with ID.

# Literature Club open for all eager students

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"Literature is my life. I came back to college just to study English," Literature Club Vice President Danny Acuna said.

Not everyone in the club is an English lover.

However, students like Kelly Willis, criminal justice major, were not interested in literature.

The Literature Club has a variety of people from English majors to those joining the military; it is a versatile place, open to anyone and everyone.


Vanessa Vega, criminal justice

major said, "I came here once, just to test the water, and I really liked the people who were here. I was worried it was going to be really egotistical. The people here are nice; they don't think that their taste in literature is superior. This is a welcoming environment."

Literature Club President Matt Hamilton, an English major, took over the club after his first semester in spring of 2010. His main goal is to promote literature.

If you're interested in reading or writing, or just want to make new friends, the Literature Club meets every Tuesday at 2 p.m. in Liberal Arts 24.

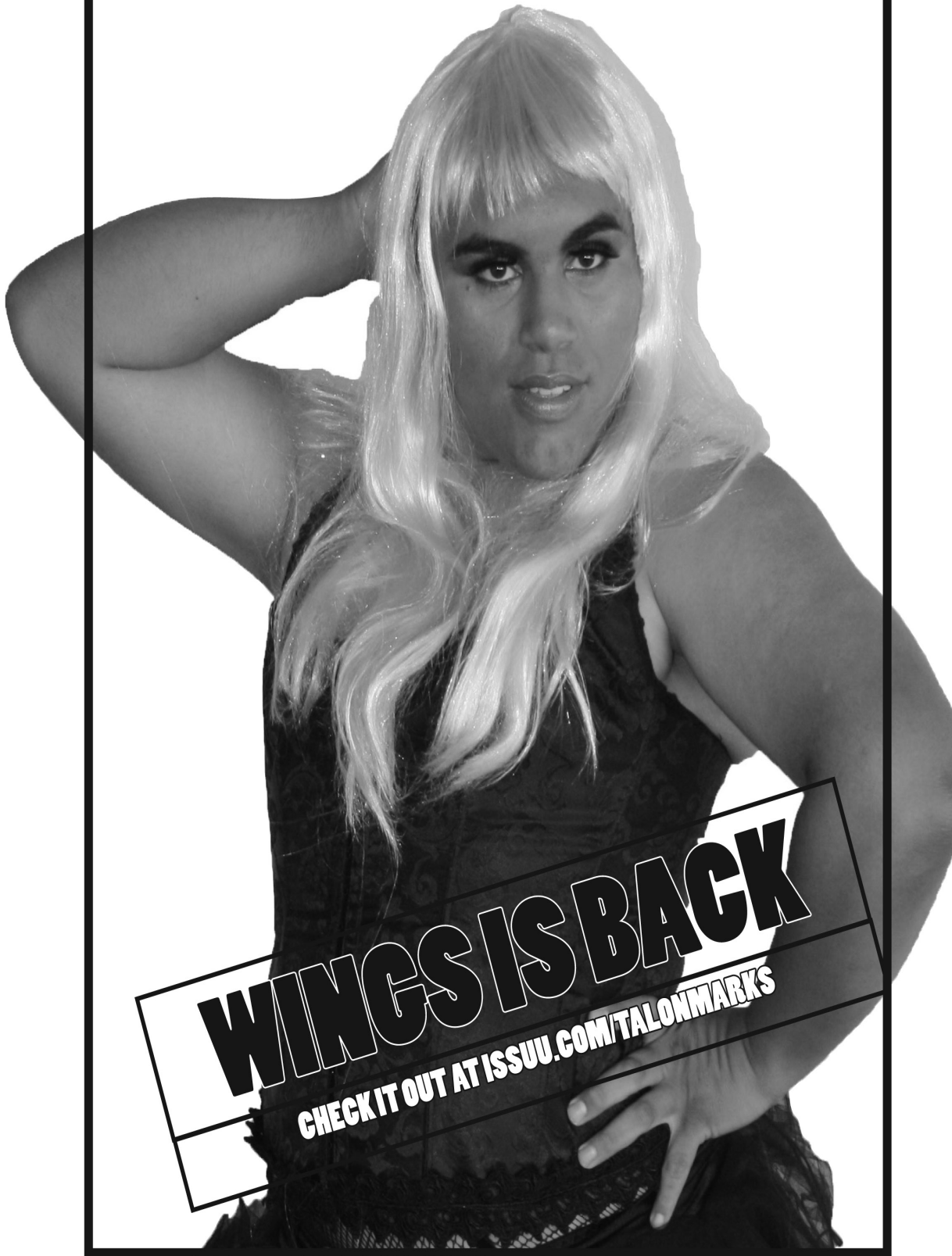
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## Volleyball shut out by Pasadena City College

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Unable to win a set, the Cerritos College women's volleyball team lost 3-0 against Pasadena City College on Friday at Gahr High School.

Lancers middle blocker Yanise Joseph commented on the game, saying, "We're definitely a faster-paced team."

In the first set, the Falcons started off ahead 8-2, but Pasadena came back to win the set, 25-17.

Lancers outside hitter Ella Moe explained that the team helps one another by giving each other advice concerning their technique.

In a closely contested second set, both teams remained close as Cerritos tried to keep up with a score of 11-8 at the first timeout.

The Falcons were unable to score made several errors.

The Lancers took over, ending the set 25-15.

With 12 digs, 53 assists, and 35 attempts this season, Cerritos College outside hitter Brittany Buffington talked about the problems the team encountered in the game.

"We kind of shut down on ourselves, like we weren't talking and we didn't really regroup until it was too late already," she said.

The Falcons started off the third set leading the game until Pasadena caught up with an 8-7 score by the first timeout of that set.

Going back and forth for the lead, Cerritos was able to get ahead with a score of 16-14.

With a score tied at 20, both teams were neck and neck.

However, the Falcons were unable to keep up as the Lancers won the last set, 25-23.

Falcon libero Madison Guastella compared the team's game against Long Beach City College to the Pasadena game.

"I think Wednesday's game was really good and we were really hyped up and then it kind of dipped down for this game," Guastella said.

"Now that we know what kind of team they are, we realized it isn't the same team from last year," she said.

Guestella added, "I think the second time we play them we're going to get them back."

She has 112 digs, five aces, and 12 attempts in the season.

The Falcons will play away against El Camino College on Wednesday at 6:00 p.m.

Last year, Cerritos lost all three sets to El Camino in South Coast Conference play.



**Pressuring the offense:** Sophomore Shelby Gleason (top) defends against Cuesta College's utility player Erin Hasenkamp (bottom). Gleason is the second-highest scorer on the team with 39 goals, 14 steals and nine assists in the season.

## Gleason leads team in tourney

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After winning its second game against Cuesta College, the Cerritos College women's water polo team went 1-1 at the Pasadena City College Tournament on Friday.

The loss ended the team's eight-game winning streak.

Orange Coast College defeated the Falcons in the first game by a score of 8-3, making it the team's second loss of the season.

The Falcons came back the second game to beat Cuesta College 10-8.

Cerritos College Head Coach Sergio Macias felt overall that the team had an off day.

"I tried to stress the importance of the game against Orange Coast. I think if we would have won that game it would have guaranteed us a top-six seat for playoffs."

The Falcons missed 17 out of 20 of their shoots attempts against Orange Coast.

"There is no excuse on how bad we played this morning. Orange Coast executed on our mistakes," Macias said, "but we're not scared to play them a second time."

Macias added, "Every game is big at this level, every game has an effect in our seating for playoffs."

Sophomore utility Shelby Gleason stated that the lack of effort cost them the game.

Gleason had six steals in the second game against Cuesta College.

"In the second game we tried adding a lot of communication," she said, "and we talked before the game and we knew we had to step it up."

Gleason believes that Orange Coast was one of the more difficult teams because they are more skilled and have better swimmers.

Sophomore utility Stephanie Tuning added that the team improved their defense in order to beat Cuesta.

Tuning had nine steals and 14 turnovers in the first game against Orange College.

"We kept them [Cuesta College] even, whereas in the first game we gave up on defense."

Tuning added that she believes that she led the defense better in the second game.

"Defense always wins the game," Tuning said.

Macias believes there was an increase

in intensity from the players in the second game against Cuesta.

Freshman goalie Sharon Ku had eight saves against Cuesta College.

Freshmen attacker Sarah Aguayo and utility Yuridia Vela along with sophomore Adriana Rodriguez each had three goals against Cuesta.

Macias believes that the team played good enough to win during the second game but not to the best of its abilities.

"We'll take any win possible, but this wasn't a good win."

The Falcons will travel to Rancho Cucamonga on Wednesday to take on Chaffey College.

Gleason states that the team will practice harder and fix the mistakes for its encounter with Chaffey.

"Hopefully it's a much better game," Gleason said.

The Falcons defeated Chaffey in the first week of October with the score of 14-12.

"If we win that game [against Chaffey] there is a very strong chance we will get the No.1 seat for the [South Coast] conference," Macias said.

## Mobile News



Scan to see a slideshow of the Cerritos College water polo team



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## Family history drives Cerritos defensive tackle toward NFL future

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Family and football go hand-in-hand for defensive tackle Kyle Peko, not just because two of his cousins have played in the NFL, but because he grew up loving football.

"When I was growing up, I loved to play football, but I never really got to play because in Pop Warner, I was always too big. I didn't play football until high school, I just played baseball my whole life.

"Once I hit high school, I joined the football team, and I loved it."

His cousin, Tupe Peko, an offensive lineman who played at Cerritos College before transferring to Michigan State University, was drafted in 2001 and was best known for his time with the Indianapolis Colts before retiring in 2007.

Active NFL player Domata Peko is another cousin, drafted out of Michigan State in 2006 by the Cincinnati Bengals as a defensive tackle and continues playing for them this season.

At La Habra High School, the current defensive tackle excelled as an offensive

lineman, making second team All-League and All-Area Rookie of the Year as a sophomore.

Cerritos College football Head Coach Frank Mazzotta has a long history with the Peko family, coaching Kyle's father as well as other family members.

"It's kind of been a long history, and he's really a great football player," Mazzotta said.

He has known Kyle Peko since Peko's freshman year in high school, when Peko played for Mazzotta's son, Frank Jr., who is the head coach for La Habra.

He would enjoy more success as a junior, placing first team All-League, All-Area and All-CIF Lineman of the Year.

Last year, he was named by ESPNHS on California 2011 Football Players to Watch.

Peko said it was an honor to make the list, saying, "I was pretty excited about that."

Mazzotta describes Peko as athletic and quiet, but he is counting on Peko to prove himself with his actions on the field down the road.

"Kyle was probably the best high school football player around," Mazzotta said.

He said that when Peko went to a camp following high school, "they put him on de-

fense, and he was the best defensive [player] they had from high school."

Since arriving at Cerritos, Peko has been placed on the other end of the ball as a defensive tackle.

"He's not quite a seasoned Defensive lineman," Mazzotta said. "He got a few lessons (against Los Angeles Harbor College). He learned that you can't stand around thinking you're going to make plays. But he's a good player."

Mazzotta explained that freshmen have to deal with a big jump in competition from high school to junior college, because the colleges don't just have six good players on the field at one time, they have eleven good players at once using good schemes.

"That's part of our problem with our team right now, the leadership's not there because we don't have any older guys, so we have got to create that," Mazzotta said, "Once you get that, then you create confidence."

This young team is the result of more than 15 players receiving scholarships last year and five returners that didn't come back. However, Mazzotta remains optimistic, saying this group is as good as any he

had in a long time.

"I kind of felt that [players] like Peko, they're going to be good. It's just that we're going to take our lumps a little bit here, probably until they get used to the speed and the difference in football."

When it comes to inspiration, Peko cites his father as his role model.

"He's always the one that's driving me to do better, and try to go somewhere."

His father has had to deal with kidney issues for about five years, and as a result, he has lost a lot of weight.

After struggling in the classroom in high school, Peko said he felt he let his father down, which led Peko to Cerritos to work toward what he envisions as his future in the NFL.

"That's my main goal, to go to the NFL," Peko said.

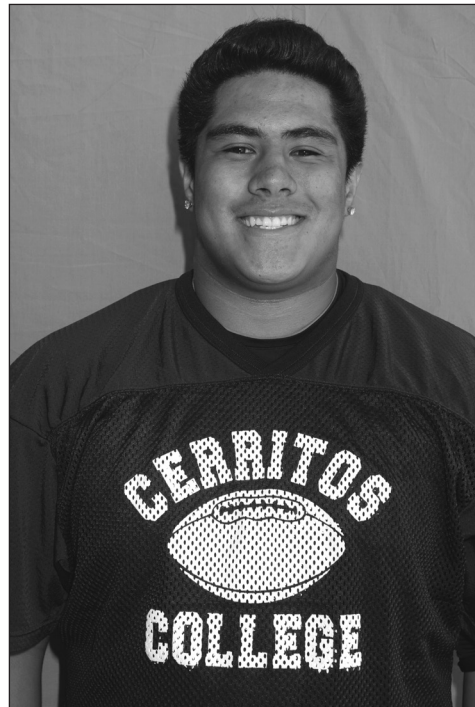
Peko wants to win a championship with Cerritos, but noted it won't be possible without succeeding as a student.

He said his most important goal for this semester is to pass all his classes.

He said that playing for his favorite teams, including the University of Southern California Trojans and the Oakland Raid-

ers, "would be a dream come true."

Peko addressed what he expects for the season ahead, saying, "Be ready to watch us win the rest of our games this season."



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**Close save:** Freshman Michael Skinas saves one of Grossmont College's shots Saturday morning. The Falcons lost 15-5, but came back to beat Orange Coast College, 9-7, in the second game of the day.

# Falcons break even at RCC

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Going 2-2 at The Riverside Community College Tournament, The Cerritos College men's water polo team faced Palomar College, Grossmont College, and host RCC. Cerritos College Head Coach, Joe Abing stated that the team started the tournament in a positive direction. "We had a really good first game against Palomar. Everybody on the team contributed," he said. "In our second game against [RCC], we had a really close game and ended up losing by one," he said. Freshman utility player Joey Gonzales was fourth in goals

scored on the team prior to the RCC Tournament and led the team in goals during the Palomar match. The team had 11 different players score against Palomar with sophomore utility player Isaac Ogloblin and freshman driver Chad Castro scoring two goals each. Sophomore driver Mario Ibarra felt RCC planned its strategy more effectively, after the Falcons first RCC Tournament match. "[RCC] was a little more prepared for us, from our first win [against Palomar]," Ibarra said. Ogloblin had two of the team's eight goals, with two assists and two steals against RCC. Abing said that the biggest difference was the team converting

two of 11 shots at the goal when the Falcons had a one-man advantage. The 15-5 loss to Grossmont College marked the Falcons' second loss to the school so far this season. "We just didn't have the energy to play a team as good as Grossmont College. They have three very good players and when you play them one-on-one they are probably going to score," Abing said. Gonzalez commented on the overall importance of this week's games. "We can only learn from this experience here and take it to Conference," he said. The Falcons advanced to 13-8 overall on the season during

the tournament and prepare for Chaffey College Wednesday.

Mobile News

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# Men's soccer team will face ECCCC

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The Cerritos men's soccer team is currently ranked No. 3 nationally and is ranked No. 1 in the state of California, the Southern Region and in the South Coast Conference. The team posts an undefeated record of 4-0 in SCC play and an overall record of 10-1. They will be facing off against El Camino College Compton Center on Wednesday. The Tartars are currently winless in SCC play and post an overall record of 1-8-2. They have averaged only 0.5 points per game against conference opponents. Cerritos College Head Coach Benny Artiaga said the team plans to "take it to them early and ex-

pose them." The Falcons are averaging 3.5 points per game against conference opponents. Freshman midfielder Daniel Garcia and freshman forward Angel Ayala are the Cerritos No. 1 and No. 2 leading scores on the team. Garcia has posted nine goals on the season, while Ayala has recorded six goals on the season. On the other side of the coin is the Cerritos defense, which is led by captain Alejandro Covarrubias and has allowed a total of only two points in the last four games against SCC opponents. Covarrubias feels strong defensive play is attributed to the team's chemistry. Cerritos will have to beat ECCCC on Wednesday to remain undefeated and keep its No. 1 one ranking.



**For the goal:** Freshman forward Angel Ayala attacks the Long Beach City College defense Friday at LBCC. Ayala had one assist in the 5-1 victory.



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