

TALON MARKS

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Reduction in Pell Grant discussed

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There is word of a menacing Pell Grant reduction to community college students in California of approximately 55 percent of what it grants financial aid to students.

A super-committee set up by congress is conductive in figuring out the cuts that should be made to regulate the state's economy for upcoming years. Documents are then presented to the president for final accreditation.

The idea to reduce Pell Grant money was brought about by certain officials of the Republican Party, suggesting that students should be responsible for paying their own education without the help of the government.

One who supports this idea thoroughly is congress woman Michele Bachmann, who is also a candidate for the Republican presidential nomination.

In previous conversations in congress, Bachmann's tea party group claimed financial aid to be "the welfare of the 21st century".

ASCC Vice President Julian Del Real-Calleros explains that it is not too late for students to become involved in the anti-legislative movement for a the Pell Grant reduction. "We have until Nov. 23 to communicate with our congressmen [and] our senators, in order to tell them to not let the committee cut from financial aid," Del Real-Calleros said.

By reaching congressmembers in government, there is a chance that if the legislation were to reach the house or the senate after the committee, in consideration to the peoples petitions, congress may come to vote against it.

Students who receive the full Pell Grant amount of \$5,500 will be affected in their living cost, since most of this money is used to provide housing, nourishment, and transportation for an entire semester.

On the contrary, Del Real-Calleros discloses that "students who do live with [their] parents and have a car provided by their parents, would not be affected that much," due to the housing and nutritional

See Pell Grant Page 2

Pell Grant split still confusing students

PATRICK DOLLY
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Cerritos College students are still expressing mixed emotions over an earlier decision to split Pell Grant financial aid disbursements, with the second disbursement released on Oct. 28.

The decision to split the financial aid was made in an effort to prevent students from dropping classes after receiving their financial aid.

Undecided major Devin Wang thinks that it is not a good idea to split the financial aid.

"I understand where the financial aid department is coming from by deciding to split the financial aid, but it doesn't really seem right because students have received the disbursements at one time in the past."

Students like undecided major Darren Kong doesn't see what all of the fuss is about.

"It doesn't really matter to me if they give out the money at one time or if they split it. As long as I get the money, it really doesn't affect me."

Kong went on to say, "I do think that it helps more to split it to make

sure students stay in school and also to make sure that they don't spend it all at once."

Some students think that the split is a good idea. Undecided major Stefan Vera agrees that the financial aid should have been split.

"We shouldn't get [financial aid] all at once because people would just spend the money, and not use it right. It was a good idea to split it."

Vera went on to say, "[The financial aid department] is handling it the right way because some people get their money and then they are gone."

Accounting major Liz Villaseñor thinks that while she has not been affected, it is a good idea to split the disbursements.

"I think that it was a good idea to split the financial aid into two disbursements because statistically, a lot of the students have actually dropped and disappeared."

"It is a good idea that they are doing it in payments to ensure that they [students] actually complete the process of taking the classes that they need to take to remain eligible

See Grant Split Page 2



ILLUSTRATION BY ALEJANDRA AYALA/TM
Legendary: Cerritos College President Linda Lacy's plan to create a college hall of fame is beginning to take shape as the first class will be inducted in April. The hall of fame will find a home in the Cerritos College aviary gym when it is completed.

New hall honors Falcons

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Cerritos College President Linda Lacy's hope for a hall of fame is coming to life. The Cerritos College Hall of Fame has been founded to honor individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to the college. Lacy said it "gives the college an opportunity to say thank you."

The fields for nomination are:

- Athletics
- Distinguished Alumnus
- Distinguished Classified/Confidential
- Distinguished Faculty

According to Amy Condit, Foundation Development Officer, nomination applications for all categories will be online, and the website will hopefully be up this week.

Applications will be due on Nov. 30.

Lacy said that the Hall of Fame is to be one of her goals for the 2011-2012 year.

"The idea of the hall of fame is to recognize those individuals, bring them back and say 'hey, we appreciate all you've done for the college and the students.'"

Condit said that the hall of fame is a way to "help unite the campus and build morale."

Nominations will be taken into consideration by a sub-committee who will then pass on its chosen prospects on to a third and final committee who will decide which individuals will become chosen.

Once inductees are chosen, there will be an inaugural induction ceremony at the Cerritos Sheraton on April 12, 2012. The ceremony will tentatively consist of a cocktail hour, dinner, a possible video pre-

sentation, and the presentation of awards to those inducted.

The ceremony will be open for public attendance; ticket prices are still being discussed with the Sheraton Hotel.

Lacy hopes to have a place in future building plans to display all of the awards, specifically in the gym. When finished, she hopes to have a lobby with lighted trophy cases.

Until then, the awards will most likely be displayed in the Cheryl A. Eppler Board Room.

Sports Information Director John Van Gaston spoke about how the idea came into play.

"It started with Dr. Lacy, she wanted to have a campus wide hall of fame with different categories, and part of that is athletic-based."

PSA Club to present four awards

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The Peace Service Association Club will award four \$250 scholarships to four qualified Cerritos College students. The deadline to apply for the scholarship is Nov. 21.

Each of the four PSA scholarships have its own requirements for qualified students.

The PSA scholarships will be awarded to an AB540 student, an international student and a math, science, or English major, and the Linda Hsiao scholarship that is exclusively awarded to a PSA Club officer.

Daniel Fragoso, business administration major and co-president of the PSA Club, explained how the scholarships came to be.

"My adviser, Professor John Hsiao, wanted to give out specific scholarships to specific categories," he said, "so we both came to an agreement that these categories would be good choices to award on."

"We encourage a lot of people to apply. We know that there are a lot of people that definitely deserve the scholarships. The deadline to apply is on Nov. 21 and we will announce the winners around early December."

Fragoso also explained that this is the first time that PSA is awarding scholarships and that it hopes to do it more often in the future.

The method of raising the money for the scholarships is confidential, but Fragoso said that portions of the money came from fundraising at Cerritos College and from donations.

"I hope [the winners] spend the money to continue going to school, overcome any financial struggle they have, and anything that will help them create peace within themselves and their community as well."

Mobile News

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CERRITOS COLLEGE
News
BRIEFS

Cerritos College
will not have new
assessment testing

ROBERT BEAVER
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California community colleges are moving toward a centralized assessment testing system, which policy makers believe will simplify the placement process and save the state money. The system will enter a testing phase in spring 2012 at some community colleges, and is expected to be fully implemented in 2013.

Cerritos College will not be among the schools that will be testing the new system, which was signed into law by Gov. Jerry Brown in October, along with the Dream Act.

"It has the potential to be better because it will be flexible," Terrie Lopez, director of career and assessment services, said.

All Majors Fair set
for next Tuesday

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Information on certificate, degree, and transfer programs for a variety of majors will be available for students on Nov. 15 at the Cerritos College All Majors Fair at the Library Sidewalk from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

According to Re-Entry Resource Program Specialist for Cerritos College, Shannon Estrada, 15 majors have already signed up including English, cosmetology, nursing, and sociology.

"It will most likely be faculty members who will be representing each major, although since some of them will be teaching during the time of the fair. There also may be club members out there as well if that major has a club," Estrada said.

Healthy snacks
now available at
the bookstore

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Cerritos College nutritionist Hazel Ng and bookstore manager Robin Lee are working together to bring a variety of healthful food items to the bookstore.

The Cerritos College bookstore is now offering more nutritious items for students to choose from.

Items such as fresh sandwiches, salads, fresh fruits, and even protein shakes are now being offered alongside the standard hi-carbs fare.

"We're getting great feedback, we looked around to see what kind of items we could bring on campus that weren't offered around," Lee said.

College staff
discusses its
concerns about
healthcare

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Cerritos College employees express concern about their health care on Nov. 2 before the Board of Trustees in the Cheryl A. Epple Board Room, days before the California deadline to switch their health care plan.

Among the concerns was the fact that the deadline for employees to choose a health care plan was Nov. 4.

The deadline gave Cerritos College faculty federation members little time to decide, following an agreement with the college.

Reading instructor Matt Paige said his wife might have Pancreatic Cancer, and also said that the timing is not good because their appointment to switch was after the statewide deadline to change plans.

"We have been truly blessed for years to have a PPO because we can go straight to the specialist without having to see a primary care physician," Paige said.

"The dilemma we have is if we switch to something that costs less, we have to go the regular routine and have to see a primary care physician," Paige said.

Mobile News

Scan to listen to audio of the healthcare discussion



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Grant split:
Mixed emotions
from students
regarding split

Continued from Page 1:
for the amount of financial aid that they received."

Nancy Quyan, who is studying to be a social worker had mixed feelings about the disbursements.

"I think that it's a good idea because if kids are dropping out then that money can go to other kids that need actually need that money," Quyan said.

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Sharing the knowledge: Cerritos College Alumni Joaquin Navarro, Jonathan Alvarez and Jaclyn Ronquillo (left to right) talk about their transfer experiences to universities. The event was held on Tuesday at the Science Building in room 201.

Cerritos Alumni share transfer experience

MIGUEL HERNANDEZ
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"Never give up, the moment you give up, you give up on yourself. Your dreams are valuable; it's just a matter of time before you make them a reality. The key is consistency, tenacity, having discipline, being well structured and being goal oriented," Joaquin Navarro, a Cerritos College alumnus and UC Santa Barbara graduate, said.

Navarro was one of three Cerritos graduates who came to speak at Puente Club's motivational conference. The speakers came to talk about their transfer experience and answer questions any of the people attending had.

The event was held Nov. 8 from

11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in room 201 of the Science Building. Cerritos College President Linda Lacy was among the people in attendance.

Jessica Jasmine Diaz, vice president of Puente Club, was among the organizers of Tuesday's event.

"We decided that we should get more speakers who actually have experience regarding transferring and people who came to Cerritos and actually transferred," Diaz explained.

This is the first time Cerritos held an event like this but the Puente Club has gone to other motivational conferences at Cal State universities.

Jonathan Andrew Alvarez was the first speaker, representing the Cerritos College class of 2008.

Alvarez mostly spoke of the aca-

ademic troubles and struggles he had to face such as being enrolled for 21 units in his each of his last two semesters at Cerritos.

"I was in the Puente club, Psychology club, and involved in student government. They all contributed to motivate me because they all gave me a different outlook on what education meant to each person, and put my education in perspective," he said.

"My biggest obstacle in transferring was myself, I was pretty doubtful that I would transfer, until I actually got my first acceptance letter, I didn't think I would transfer.

"The fear might be there but you have nothing to lose in trying."

After he gets his bachelor's degree in UCLA in 2013, he plans to go to San Diego State University for

his master's program in educational counseling, and hopes to become a counselor for Cerritos.

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Scan to view slideshow of the Cerritos College Alumni's transfer experience.



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•EDITORIAL•

Transfer, then choose a major

Contrary to prior belief, it is not necessary to choose a major at the community college level.

When you first register for college, you fill out a list of information and you are also asked to choose a major.

In reality, you don't have to choose a major.

What is the point of declaring a major in a subject such as theater just to transfer to a school like Cal State Long Beach with the same major to be told that you have to start all over?

The reason you go to a two-year school is to complete your general education, which is usually the first two years at a university.

So why choose a major when you're at a community college?

It would just be a waste of time and money to start taking classes that you need for your major when they might not even be transferable.

Students work way too hard in their academic careers to dedicate time to taking classes for a major that may not even be an option.

Another reason is that a student might decide to change his major several times after taking classes for these several majors, which would be pointless.

When students declare a major, they are basically being set up to fail

because if they change that major, they will have to pretty much start all over.

The only time when it would be even remotely necessary to declare a major would be if the student intended to graduate with an associate's degree and had no intention of transferring.

The primary focus of students at this point in our education should be accomplishment, not set back.

The best option is for a student to focus on what is important: Finishing his or her general education.

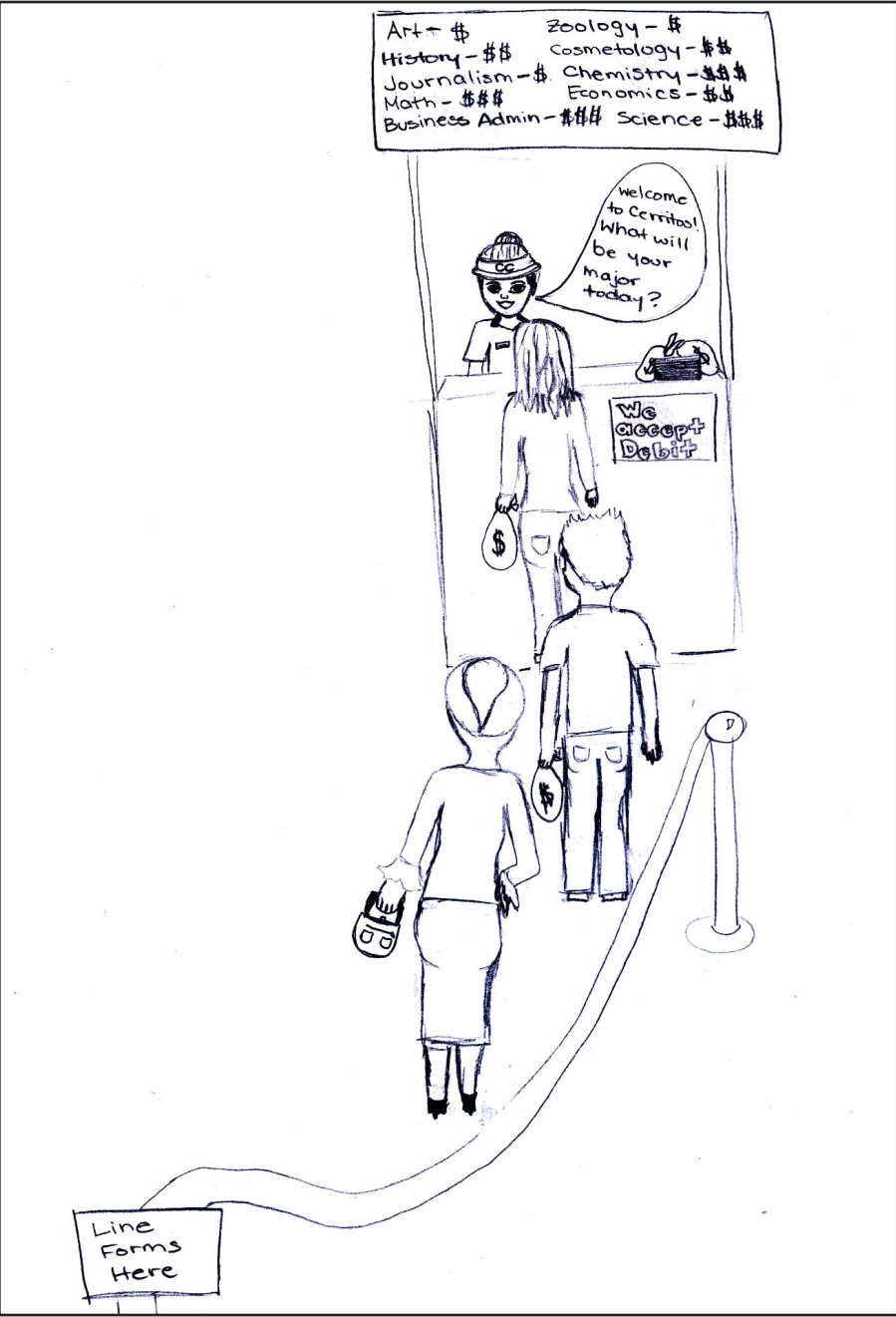
Focus on taking your core classes while in community college.

There is plenty of time to declare a major when you get to a four-year, or at the very least, declare your major toward the end of your career at the community college level.

It is better to finish it in community college than having to deal with math and English classes once you transfer.

The only reason you should have to still take math or English classes once you transfer is if your major requires you to.

Community colleges are where students look at all possibilities, in terms of majors, and universities are where you do all the work to get accredited in the field you choose.



ILLUSTRATED BY LAUREN GANDARA/TM



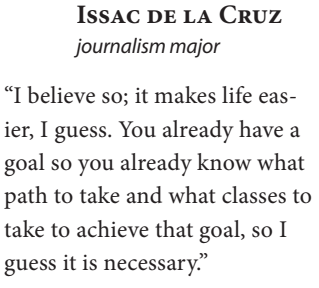
"Is declaring a major at the community college level necessary?"

COMPILED BY:
ALEJANDRA AYALA
PHOTOGRAPHS BY: JIM BRANNON



YVETTE RODARTE
business major

"No, it's not necessary. You are here to get to know yourself more and decide what you really want to do with your life, so it shouldn't be mandatory."



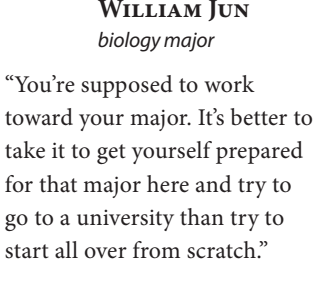
ISSAC DE LA CRUZ
journalism major

"I believe so; it makes life easier, I guess. You already have a goal so you already know what path to take and what classes to take to achieve that goal, so I guess it is necessary."



MARCELA FLORES
physician assistant major

"If you already have it defined from the beginning, then it is necessary so that all the classes that you take will focus on your major."



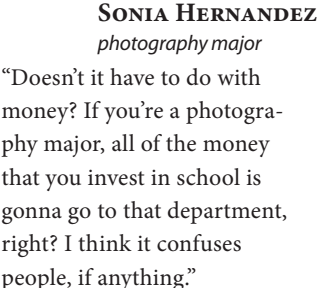
WILLIAM JUN
biology major

"You're supposed to work toward your major. It's better to take it to get yourself prepared for that major here and try to go to a university than try to start all over from scratch."



JUAN MORENO
psychology major

"I think it should be because that way you'll know what you're going into, but its difficult to declare a major because you still don't know what you want."



SONIA HERNANDEZ
photography major

"Doesn't it have to do with money? If you're a photography major, all of the money that you invest in school is gonna go to that department, right? I think it confuses people, if anything."



Mobile News

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Gay rights history doesn't belong in schools

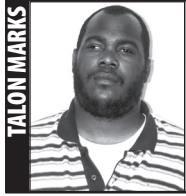
What is the definition of "gay rights?" Most people would describe it as the equality of social and civil liberties.

The homosexual community is lobbying to have "gay rights" taught in our schools. This proposal would promote rebellion from the same laws and restrictions that the heterosexual community has to adhere to on a daily basis.

If we do this, why don't we take it a step further and bring back Proposition 19 to legalize marijuana and allow that in our schools as well?

Why don't we bring back the initiative to teach "Ebonics" in schools also?

We could have one big school system of stoned, "ghetto" vernacular-speaking homosexuals. Why don't we teach them the proper street etiquette for holding a firearm? We could com-



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pletely revamp the K-12 curriculum.

Of course not, right? We would never do something like this because we know that if nothing else, we don't want the slightest possibility of introducing our children to anything that could even remotely be conceived as providing a less than desirable impression for our youth.

There would be no need for parents anymore. What would the purpose of a parent be if a youth can go to school and learn about sexuality, drugs, bad habits, and who knows what else?

In a lot of schools, the Pledge of Allegiance has been altered so that it would not include "God" because people were offended. How is it acceptable to take "God" out of schools and replace it with gay in schools?

I didn't think so. Here is the bottom line. We all have the right to decide who we would like to spend our time with socially.

No one is questioning the homosexual lifestyle, but that lifestyle in our schools where our young and impressionable youth seeks out the path that will shape the person that they will become in their lives has no place.

Just like we don't like to be solicited with advertisements, phone calls, and signatures, we also don't like, nor are willing to accept being solicited sexuality either.

Letter to the Editor: Gay rights education is a must

Dear Editor:

I was so saddened to see our beloved Talon Marks portraying an ill-constructed argument against gay rights being taught in schools, as what appears to most readers to be a news article.

The root of the issue is not just that this article appears to be newsworthy, which it isn't, however that out of all the opinion pieces I read online, not one used such incendiary rhetoric as Patrick Dolly's piece titled, "Gay rights education should stay out of public schools."

I read on to one fallacy after another, red herrings and straw men arguments equating gays fight for equality to a "protest specific platform" and the relationship between gays and straights to that of, "groups of white supremacy and extreme minorities." Tell me, when did you attend your last straight klan rally?

Let's begin with this "preposterous" idea that if gay rights were taught in schools it would somehow lead to rebellion "from the same laws and restrictions that the heterosexual community has to adhere to." I am not even sure what laws he is talking about. We all tend to

break the same laws. I can't think of any laws and restrictions that gays would begin rebelling against.

His idea that the teaching of figures like Harvey Milk, a man whose life embodies the struggle for equality that gay rights have faced, is somehow wanting "our youth to be corrupted with meaningless banter." It should go without saying that we learn from our mistakes and that history should be taught so that we may do so.

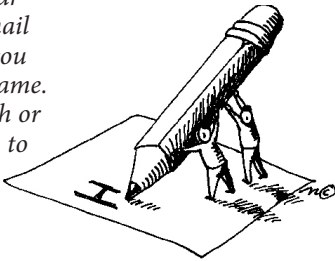
The last paragraph baffles me. "We also don't like, nor are we willing to accept being solicited sexual-

ty either." I hope you aren't comparing gay rights to sexual solicitation, we'll assume you mean gays are selling their lifestyle.

On to Dolly saying that no group should be catered to more than any other; hypocrisy at its finest. Mr. Dolly, would you say then, we shouldn't have Black History Month or teach the history of abuse Native Americans suffered? History is history.

Andrew Ramirez

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 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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JACC Pacesetter Award
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Making monsters: Theater major Candace Montgomery (left) assists in putting makeup on Halloween Haunt monster Molly Bennett (right) on Oct. 27. Cerritos College Theater students visited the park to help makeup artists create monsters for the event.

Theater students make monster magic

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Alma Griffin was once a theater major at Cerritos College, but now she applies her theater degree in her career as a make-up artist for Knotts Berry Farm.

Griffin graduated from Cerritos College in 1994 and has worked at Knott's as a make-up artist since 1996. She discussed how attending Cerritos College prepared her for her profession.

"They [the theater instructors] are very good teachers. They don't allow sloppy work. They know which students to push the hardest, and because they did that, it made me not afraid to make mistakes," she said.

Cerritos College theater students participated in a field trip to Knott's Berry Farm on Oct. 27, where they were allowed to assist in

applying makeup to actors portraying monsters at its seasonal Halloween event, Halloween Haunt.

Cerritos College has participated in assisting the artists for more than 10 years.

Students went from makeup station to station, watching the artists apply various types of makeup to the monsters. Makeup Shift Lead for Knott's, Denise Paxton, talked about what the event consists of for students.

"When the students are here, they observe the makeup artists in their actual environment. They see what happens on a day-to-day basis in the makeup room."

Other students, like zoology major Kimberly Arcega, were excited about being able to work on some of the monsters' makeup.

"I was here last year [with Cerritos College] and was able to work on some of the monsters. It was pretty fun. It feels good knowing that the final product of what I made is out there in the park scaring people."

Theater major Mathew Cruz expressed concern about the day's events, saying, "I'm pretty nervous. I'm afraid that I might mess up and ruin one of the makeup artists' creations."

Cerritos College theater professor Susan Watanabe spoke about the benefits of the event, saying, "It is a lot of fun. It is a good learning experience for them to see how professionals work."

"Generally in class, [students] do the labs on themselves, so this gives them opportunity to figure out how to put make-up on someone else."

Undecided major Andrea Valdez said, "This whole thing is pretty amazing. It is pretty awesome seeing how the makeup artists do this. This is a field that I have a lot of interest in."

Mobile News

Scan to listen to interviews of people involved with Halloween Haunt

http://bit.ly/v20LdF

New 'Harold & Kumar' a holiday hit

Movie Review

A Very Harold & Kumar 3-D Christmas
Starring: Kal Penn, John Cho
Director: Todd Strauss-Schulson
Rating: ★ ★ ★

ENRIQUE RIVERA
Staff Writer
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Christmas came early with the new comedy, "A Very Harold & Kumar 3-D Christmas," released on Nov. 4.

A movie that features Santa Claus, drug abuse, a waffle-making robot, shotguns, murderers, sex appeal and Neil Patrick Harris, has worked entertainingly well.

The film did contain unnecessary cheap 3-D tricks and a similar structure than the previous Harold & Kumar films.

It had a slow beginning to set up a ridiculously entertaining plot.

The fun and entertainment begins 45 minutes into the film when the excitement of Harold and Kumar's adventure begins.

One of the biggest differences between this film than the previous two (besides the 3-D effects) is the introduction to a softer and different side of Harold and Kumar.

Through their friendship, the two literally have been through some amazingly crazy adventures, despite the differences of their cultures and lifestyles.

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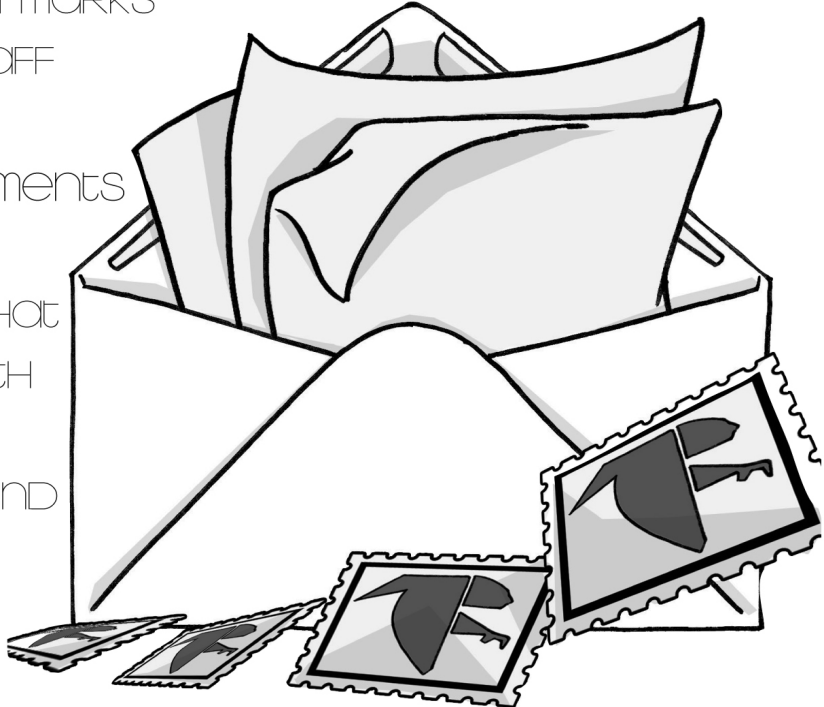
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LAUREN GANDARA/TM

Beyond the pads: Cerritos College linebacker Donovan Amituanai bares his chest that displays the name of his daughter who is named after his deceased mother. Amituanai is one of several football players with tribal tattoos.

Amituanai’s ink inspired by his family’s influence

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Inked with the reminder of those closest to him on his arm and chest, Cerritos College linebacker Donovan Amituanai talks about the influence his tattoos has on his life.

Being Samoan and Polynesian, he has two very large tattoos. One is a half sleeve and the other one is across his chest.

He got his first tattoo when he was 18 years old as a graduation present from his father when he graduated from Long Beach Poly High School.

Marked for his family

“The one that really stands out is the ‘A’ with the crown, that’s for my last name, Amituanai. It symbolizes royalty and loyalty to my family. It means a lot to me,” he said.

“All the other stuff on my tattoos are also from my father. I wanted to be just like him growing up so I wanted to get the same things that he has on his tattoo. His father had some of the same things so its been

passed on from generation to generation”

When he turned 21, he got a second tattoo of his daughter’s name on his chest after she was born. He also has angel wings to represent his mother who had passed away when he was 10 years old.

His daughter Aima is named after his mother.

“We Polynesians are strong believers in getting tattoos that mean something, we don’t just put anything on our bodies. Obviously, the things that I have are some things that my family had and I represent it with pride when I play on the field that people can see it on my arm.”

Both on and off the field, Amituanai said that he smiles knowing that he always has those important and influential people with him.

“Whenever I look at them, it puts a smile on my face.”

True test of pain

Amituanai said that he got his tattoos in the most sensitive areas on his body because he believes that he should endure pain for

the things that mean the most to him.

“Growing up, I saw my father had one and I always just thought it was something cool and as I got older I realized that the things that he had on his arm weren’t just tattoos, it actually meant a lot to him.

“It had tradition behind it and that’s what I wanted, I wanted something that meant a lot to me.”

A team influence

Teammate and quarterback Paul Lopez said that he likes the fact that Amituanai’s tattoos are about his tribe and have a cultural meaning behind it unlike some people who just get tattoos for the sake of having them.

He added that Amituanai seems to be very passionate about his tattoos because he is also very passionate about his tribe.

Defensive end Ma’ataua Brown is Samoan who also has tribal tattoos. “I think it’s pretty amazing the way his tattoos reflect our culture,” Brown said.

It makes me work harder when I’m out on the field and I just beat my chest some-

times when I’m on the football field because I know that I have this tattoo on my chest. I know that I’m representing every will. The

one on my arm is the one I really like also because it’s something that my father has and I know that he’s with me wherever I go.”



LAUREN GANDARA/TM

Flex: Cerritos College linebacker Donovan Amituanai flexes his right arm that displays more of his tribal tattoos. He received his first tattoo after graduating from Long Beach Poly High School in 2008.



LAUREN GANDARA/TM

Hands of tradition: Cerritos College wide receiver Silver Vaifanua catches a pass during a Falcons’ practice. Vaifanua’s tattoo represents several elements of strength.

Tribal tattoos exemplify players’ respect for culture

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Several Pacific Islanders on the Cerritos College football team represent their culture by getting tribal tattoos to represent something significant in their lives.

However, the difference between the significance of the tattoos is what sets them apart.

Defensive tackle Alex Tava is from the Tongan tribe.

He had the symbol for warrior tattooed on his arm when he was 16 years old.

He said, “That’s how I felt inside. I felt like I should’ve gotten it because it represents me.”

Former Cerritos College defensive end, now assistant defensive line coach, Darrell Tupuola is full Samoan.

His mother is American Samoan and his father is Upolu Samoan.

His first tattoo he got as a senior at Long

Beach Poly High School and his second one he got while attending Cerritos College after he received a football scholarship from Azusa Pacific University.

Tupuola explained the meanings of his tattoos.

“They have different meanings but together, all the meanings tell a story of my ancestors and my family.”

While playing for the Falcons in 2006, Tupuola recieved the Z-Man Award after posting 18 tackles with three tackle for loss for Cerritos.

Ma’ataua Brown, defensive end for the Falcons, is Samoan but unsure of the specific tribe that he comes from.

He has his last name tattooed on his right forearm with the tribal symbols for “fala” tattooed inside his name.

According to Brown, a fala is a type of mat for sitting or lying down in the Samoan culture.

He said that the reason for getting the symbols tattooed in his arm was his cousin’s idea, just

to add something extra.

Silver Vaifanua, wide receiver for Cerritos College, is also Samoan and is unsure of the specific tribe that he comes from.

His tattoo is a half sleeve, going from the left side of his chest to his lower biceps.

His reason for getting the tattoo was just to get it, but he also added, “It’s just to represent my culture and the artwork.”

Going into detail about his tattoo, Vaifanua said the spears on his tattoo mean protection and the ropes on his tattoo ties everything together. He is unsure about the rest of the symbols tattooed on his arm.

Brown said, “I don’t think that the tattoos bring us closer together. It’s just a tattoo.”



For the win: The Cerritos College women's water polo team celebrates its South Coast Conference championship win over Long Beach City College 8-7 at Mount San Antonio College on Saturday. Utility player Shelby Gleason (top), put the game away by making a goal in sudden death.

Women's water polo returns to throne

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Utility player Shelby Gleason led the Cerritos College women's water polo team to a sudden death victory with the game-winning shot over the Long Beach City College Vikings 8-7 to win the South Coast Conference Championship on Saturday at Mount San Antonio College.

"We called a time-out, so we expected a goal and I just put it away," Gleason said.

The Falcons managed to keep

the Vikings scoreless in the fourth quarter and final minutes to tie the score at 7-7.

Cerritos College goalkeeper Sharon Ku said, "We were pretty consistent with our effort, it was just a matter of executing it in the beginning and toward the end, our defense stepped up."

Cerritos' late rally in regulation caused the game to be sent into overtime, but neither team was able to score after two, three minute overtime periods.

After Cerritos freshman attacker Katherine Gabayeron was able to recover the ball first on a sprint

against a Vikings player, she quickly called for a time-out.

During the time-out, Cerritos head coach Sergio Macias was able to set up a strategy for his team to score.

"I just told the girls, keep playing hard and eventually the goals will go in," he said.

Coming out of the halftime, Gleason took possession of the ball off a pass from attacker Sarah Aguayo.

Gleason took a shot at the left side of the net to score what would be the game winning shot.

"[Gleason] took a smart shot

that ended up being the game winner," Macias said.

With the win, the Falcons have won the SCC three of the last four seasons.

Cerritos will now move ahead to the SoCal regional, where it is the No. 3 seed.

"The seedings are not officially out, but if I'm going to guess it looks like we're playing Orange Coast College, who gave us a loss earlier [this season]. I think these girls are going to be excited to play them again to redeem ourselves," Macias said.

Herrera takes first in SoCal Championship

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Daniel Herrera, freshman cross country runner for Cerritos College, continued his dominance this season as he finished in first place overall for the men's team at the Southern California Championships on Saturday.

The men's cross country team finished in ninth place with 196 team points.

Assistant Coach Christian Cruz felt that the team as a whole had a good day.

"It went really well. All of our men had personal records. They all got their best marks of the year."

The Southern California Championships were held at Guasta Park in Ontario, which is where the SoCal Preview Meet was held earlier this season, which Herrera also won.

Herrera outperformed his previous performance at Guasta Park of 20:08.97 with a time of 19:58.60. The win was his fifth victory of the season.

Herrera spoke about the difference between the SoCal preview meet and the Southern California Championships.

"Both races were at Guasta Park, but the conditions were completely opposite. At the SoCal [preview] it was hot, and in the SoCal Championships it was raining and windy."

The Falcons' ninth place finish was one place higher than the previous meet at the same location where the Falcons finished in eighth place.

Sophomore Luis Calderon was an alternate for the meet and did not race, but commented on the

team's performance, saying, "Even though it was raining, the team performed flawless. Everyone was able to run personal bests."

Cerritos College runner Munar Kahssay finished the day with a 17th-place finish with a time of 20:50.55.

After Kahssay's 17th-place finish, the Falcons did not have another runner cross the finish line until freshman Brandon Taylor finished in 48th place. Taylor finished the day with a time of 21:21.97.

Freshman Thomas Poston ended the day in 60th place. His final time was 21:34.33.

Sophomore Joey Moreno crossed the finish line with a time of 21:41.17. He finished in 74th place.

The Falcons' next meet will be in Fresno where they will compete in the state championships on Nov. 19.

Last year the Falcons placed fifth out of 28 other schools.

Mobile News

Scan to listen to an interview with men's cross country runner Daniel Herrera



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Two wrestlers place fourth in Lassen Tournament; team places sixth overall

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Off the heels of a recent home-stand at Excelsior high school, the Cerritos College wrestling team placed sixth in the Lassen Tournament in Reno, Nev. on Saturday.

Ruben Orta at 155 pounds and Rudy Delgado at 133 pounds, both placed in fourth, which was the highest for the Falcons.

While two other wrestlers placed fifth, and one placed sixth.

At 174 pounds, Tyree Cox took one of the fifth place positions.

Whether or not the two home matches prepared him for the tournament, Cox said, "It was pretty

good preparation."

"There are some things that I could've worked on that I didn't work on," Cox said.

"Now I know what I need to work on so I'll come back and do those things this week," he said.

Foris Meeks, 149 pounder, took sixth place.

After the team's first-out-of-state tournament, the team implied that distance had to do with it's failure.

Meeks said, "Part of me thinks so but I don't know what happened. After that third match it just all went downhill. I don't know what went wrong."

George Knight, at 197 pounds, was unable to place.

He said, "I think I'm in the

wrong weight class, I think I should've lost some more weight and gone down a weight class."

Knight also adds that the team was missing some key wrestlers that would've helped the team to get a higher place.

"As a team, they show us everything, it's just us not applying it. They teach us efficiently it's just a matter of applying it," he said.

The Falcons will have their next match away against Rio Hondo College on Wednesday at 7 p.m.

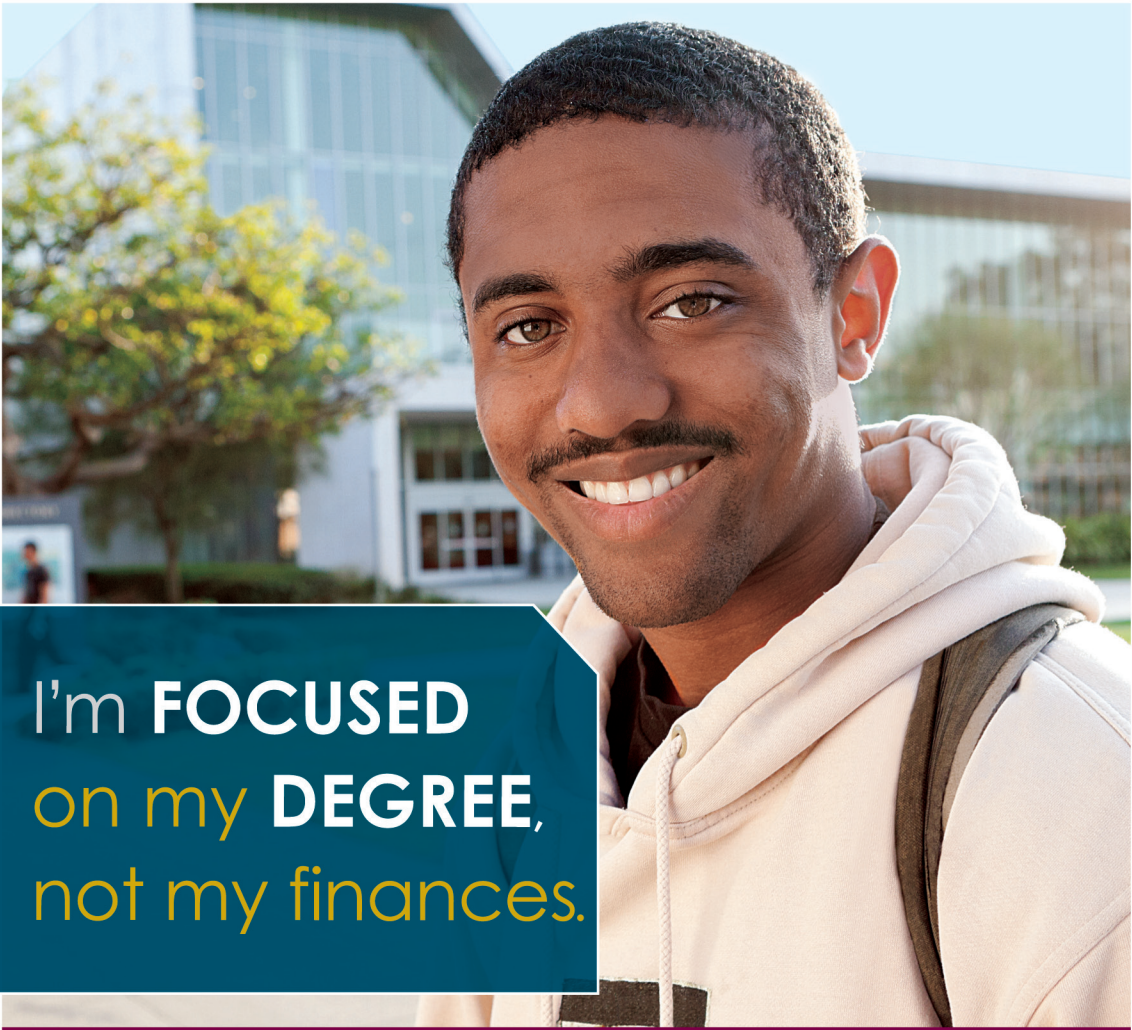
The Falcons have competed against Rio Hondo at regionals defeating them 43-9.

In the Lassen Tournament, Rio Hondo placed third.

Men's water polo defeated by Vikings in SCC title game



Taking shots: Cerritos College men's water polo driver Chad Castro (right) takes a shot at the Long Beach City College goalkeeper (not pictured), during the South Coast Conference Championship game. The Falcons went down early in the first quarter and were unable to overcome the deficit, resulting in the 17-10 loss.




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