

Sign up now for graduation

Cerritos College's 44th Annual Commencement Ceremony will be held on May 12.

Students who are planning to graduate in Spring 2001 and would like to have their name published in the Commencement Program must file a "Request for Graduation" form by Mar. 9.

Students who file after Mar. 9 may still participate in the graduation ceremony, but their names will not appear in the program.

Forms are available in the Counseling Office, which is located in the Admissions Building.

Presidential candidate drops out

BY ALLYN MATTOX
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Dr. James Middleton, one of two finalists for the job of President of Cerritos Community College, has withdrawn as a candidate, according to a Presidential Search Update issued by Cheryl Eppler, Board of Trustees president, on Jan. 29.

Eppler said that Middleton withdrew after the search committee visited his campus on Jan. 24.

"He and his wife considered it and didn't feel this

was the right mix for him," Eppler said.

The search committee still plans to visit the Adirondack Community College campus in Queensbury, N.Y., on Feb. 14, where the remaining candidate, Dr. Jane Harmon, is currently on leave as president.

Eppler states, "We, as a board, chose two candidates. We are being very clear. We are going to see both candidates.

"We are scheduled to go to New York. We have to go and do that. We have to interview the other candidate."

Eppler was very clear that neither candidate is the board's first or second choice.

"We visited Middleton's campus first, because it was available first."

"Jane Harmon is not our second choice."

Eppler also stated that the board would evaluate the

site visit after the Feb. 14 trip and then decide to either choose Harmon or consider other options. One of those options could be to restart the entire search.

Dr. Morgan Lynn, interim president of Cerritos College, stated that she would serve as interim president until a new president is hired. She will then return to her position as vice president of Academic Affairs.

PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE

Harmon's past as president checkered

BY ALLYN MATTOX
EDITOR IN CHIEF

The sole remaining candidate for president of Cerritos Community College is Dr. Jane Harmon, currently on leave as president of Adirondack Community College in Queensbury, N.Y.

Harmon's term as president of Adirondack Community College was one of accomplishments, some that came at great costs.

The first cost was to students, who saw tuition raised \$100 to implement costly programs that had no prior funding arrangements.

The second cost was to Harmon herself, who lost the support of the entire school, received votes of no confidence from the faculty and support staff, and was eventually ousted from her job at the request of the nine department heads of the college.

According to articles in the Post-Star, a New York newspaper local to the Adirondack campus, Harmon was chosen as president of ACC by an unanimous vote from the Board of Trustees in March of 1998 from a pool of 45 candidates.

The board was looking for a leader who would establish stronger ties with the community, would make the college more visible, and would implement technical programs into the school's curriculum.

Harmon was very successful in all of these areas; however, she quickly lost support of the college community due to her controversial management style.

In September of 1998 Harmon officially became president of the college, and in the following

December changed the college's administrative structure, which resulted in the forced retirement of Dean Paul Arends, a long-time employee.

"Top administration had been at Adirondack for quite a while and we needed to make some changes," Harmon said.

By March of 1999, there were faculty grumblings that the school was becoming too vocational, and administrators, faculty, and support staff complained that Harmon was implementing expensive, new technical programs.

Regarding the unhappiness of administrators, faculty, and staff at ACC with her work, Harmon states, "There was a small group who was not happy with the direction it saw the college going. People don't want change to happen, especially if it affects them directly."

There was also criticism that Harmon was turning the school in too vocational of a direction, a charge that Harmon disputes. Harmon wanted the school to have an academic and technical environment.

"You can't have one without the other," Harmon stated.

Harmon says she worked to promote a relationship between the college and industries in the area.

She wanted to work with the business community so that ACC students would be ready, academically and vocationally, to join the work force.

Harmon also strived to have students transfer to four-year colleges. She feels the mission of a community college is to support the

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Police and mortuary representatives remove the body of Ramon Avila from the Social Science building Thursday.

Student dies in campus restroom

ARMANDO BROWN
AND CARMEN ALVIZURES
TALON MARKS STAFF EDITORS

The deceased body of a male student in his mid 50s was found on campus last Thursday, an apparent victim of a heart attack.

The body was found in a toilet stall at the first floor men's room of the Social Sciences building.

The name of the student, Ramon Avila, was released after the family was notified.

According to Cerritos Campus Police Chief Marvin Engquist, Avila's body was found between 5:30 and 5:40 a.m.

"It appears he simply stopped into the facilities to use the restroom, while on campus to attend a class, and expired from natural causes," Engquist said.

All evidence indicates that Avila entered the restroom the previous night.

The following morning, a member of the custodial staff found that there was someone using the facilities, so they decided to leave for a while.

Upon returning, the custodian found that the person was still there, so they announced their presence, but got no response.

At that point, the custodian called the campus police, who upon arriving, promptly tried to

determine if Avila was well, or in need of some assistance.

In the process, the police discovered that in fact he had expired.

The campus police immediately sealed off the two doors that lead to the hallway next to the restroom and began an investigation.

Through the investigation, the police were able to determine that Avila had a history of poor health, and currently had some serious health issues.

He was also under the medical care of at least one and possibly more physicians.

According to Engquist, police found that none of Avila's personal property or valuables were missing, and they later found his vehicle unharmed in a parking lot where he had apparently parked the night before.

As a result of their investigation, the chief stressed that Avila expired from natural causes, and he emphatically stated that there was "no evidence of foul play or involvement from any other party. No criminal involvement."

Engquist added, however, that the investigation would continue while the police gather additional details about the incident.

According to Young Chan, a Zebra Coffee employee, policemen were already in the vicinity before 7 a.m. when he arrived to prepare the coffee shop for its 7:30 opening.

In fact, no one was allowed access to the area except for professors and individuals that were admitted with permission.

Announcements had been posted since the early morning that indicated which classes had been changed to other locations as well as campus maps that directed the students to those locations.

Walking away from the Zebra Coffee Company, Marilyn Johnson, an interpreter for the deaf on campus, said she noticed something was wrong when she arrived in the C-4 parking lot, an area for staff, located in front of the Social Science building.

"When I pulled in, the sheriff's car was in the handicapped zone [which was the area] where I wanted to go," Johnson says.

Amber Wilson, a social science student, was on the second floor of the Social Science building when rumors about what might have happened began circulating.

"When I learned that they found a dead body

Continued on page 2

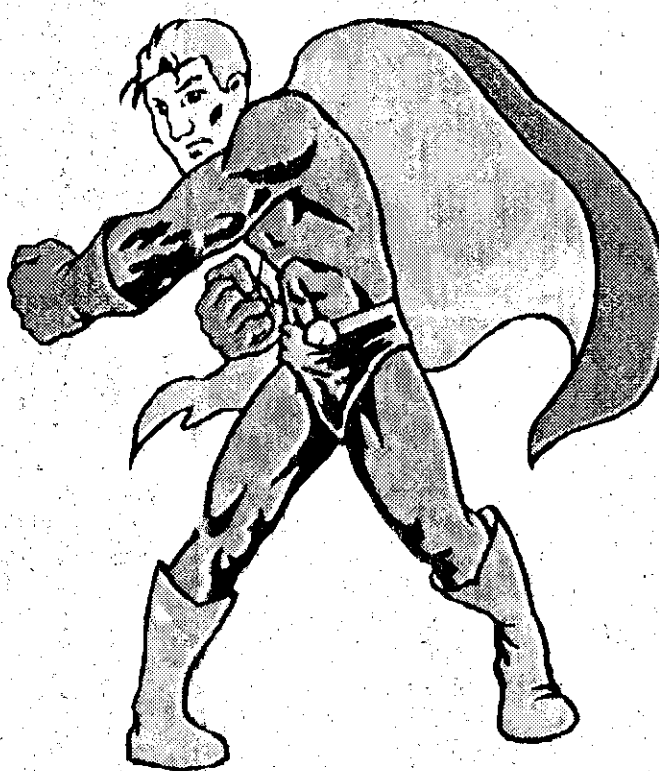
Be an energy

SUPER HERO

Help the college conserve energy during this time of crisis. We'll reward your best ideas in our energy conservation contest.

CONTEST

1. What is your best/most creative idea for conserving electrical energy on campus? How can the college conserve energy?
2. Contest open only to current Cerritos College students.
3. Attach this entry form to your idea (attach separate sheet).
4. The Talon Marks Editorial Board will select the most practical and most creative ideas. Two winners will receive a \$50 Cerritos College Wallaces Bookstore gift certificate.
5. All entries must be received by noon Monday, Feb. 12. Submit entries at AC42.
6. Current Talon Marks staff members ineligible.



Name _____

Student ID _____

Phone _____

Campus reviews conservation ideas

BY ALLYN MATTOX
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Although the California Public Utilities Commission has given Cerritos College temporary relief from the huge penalties that were being imposed, the college still needs to find ways to conserve energy.

According to Peter Hardash, vice president of business services, the campus is doing quite a bit to conserve power.

The main usage of campus power is the heating and air conditioning systems.

"Tons of power is consumed by these units," Hardash said.

The school is cutting back on the air conditioning and heating units as much as they can.

Employees around campus have also been turning off lights when they are not needed in classrooms.

"We have even been getting complaints that the campus is too dark," Hardash said.

The campus does have some generators on campus to supply power in case of blackouts.

These generators can only be used in emergency situations, because of strict requirements imposed by the Air Quality Management District.

The campus will use the generators to light exit signs, hallways, and classrooms in case of an emergency.

The campus, prior to Oct. 1, has paid \$250,000 in penalties.

Penalties for the month of November were paid, but are being placed into a "memorandum account" until it can be decided if the school is responsible for paying the penalties or not.

The December electric bill was in error, because Edison forgot to charge the campus for the penalties it had incurred.

The January bill has not been received, but Edison has imposed penalties on this bill that the campus will not have to pay.



SHOWING SOLIDARITY- Obi Ugochukwu makes a donation to the Asian Indian Club as Dalsuth Kumbhani, president of the club, looks on.

Campus club collects to help India victims

BY CARMEN ALVIZURES
FEATURE EDITOR

The Cerritos College Asian Indian Club has been active throughout campus raising funds and sending supplies to India.

Although there are no booths around campus this week, checks payable to the "Asian Indian Club-Cerritos College" are still being accepted at the Student Activities Office.

India was hit by a 7.9 earthquake the morning of Jan. 26 at around 8:46 a.m. The earthquake came on a day that marked an annual holiday. The state of Gujarat was the worst hit state.

Sital Mandalia, vice-president of the Asian Indian club on campus, has family in Gujarat.

"Personally," Mandalia says, "a lot of my family has passed away because I do originate from Gujarat, near the epicenter. Two of my uncles are missing and my aunt's nephew died."

Jan. 26, Republic Day, was a holiday that commemorated the 1950 adoption of the Indian

Constitution and was to have been a reason to celebrate.

Instead of a celebration, the earth shook and buildings crumpled to the ground in the most powerful earthquake to hit India since that year.

As of last week, the club was collecting any form of donation from the campus community.

Although items such as clothing and canned food were welcomed and appreciated, the club hopes to primarily obtain monetary donations.

"We would prefer money," says Mandalia. "It's easier to send through, it's much faster, and they can make better use of it."

However, Mandalia emphasized that any type of donation is gladly received. "Food or clothing, and especially blankets, since it's cold there. We do have contacts that will send [the donations] over for us."

The student members of the club also wanted to let the campus know that their support can be shown in various ways.

"Just by letting other people in the college know that we're here to help, and that if they could pass the message around outside the college it would be better."

According to Mandalia, four booths were set up in various locations last week, the nursing department, the library, the student center, and the social science building by the Elbow Room.

Obi Ugochukwu, a psychology student born in Nigeria, supports the club in its efforts.

"When there is a natural disaster, everybody should come together. That is why we're doing this, it could be you."

"If it's you, you want somebody to help you. Especially in Los Angeles, we have all these people from all over the world. It makes us feel closer because you actually know people affected when the disaster hit."

For more information in how you can help, please contact Sital Mandalia via e-mail, sitalmandalia@hotmail.com.

Harmon's past as president checkered

Continued from page one

community and to have students trained for jobs in the area, which will result in improving the surrounding area's economy.

Harmon also expressed that she had many accomplishments as president of the college.

Harmon feels she worked diligently with a new administrative team and did much of the community outreach herself, which resulted in a \$1 million alumnus gift from benefactor J. Buckley Bryan, Jr.

SHE INTRODUCED NEW PROGRAMS

Harmon also started the Cisco Training Program at ACC. Cisco, according to Harmon, is the largest computer networking company in the world.

Harmon worked to help ACC become affiliated with Cisco, starting a training program that included helping high school students earn units that could be transferred to the college.

Harmon also negotiated an approximate 5 percent raise for teachers, whose salaries were some of the lowest in the state and brought them up to the middle range and more consistent with other teacher salaries in the state.

In May of 1999, the Board of Trustees gave Harmon a favorable review and extended her original two-year contract an additional year, but the following month the faculty union head complained of Harmon's leadership style, stating that she failed to involve the faculty in the decision-making process that implemented new programs at the school.

Harmon proposed plans included changing the community college, which this Spring had an enrollment of under 3,000 students, to a four-year college, implementing a weekend college program, and building student housing facilities on campus.

"Often there were programs coming out in newspaper articles before anyone on campus knew about them," said Kevin Kane, Faculty Assembly president.

HARMON'S STYLE WAS AUTOCRATIC

The trustees hired a consultant to look into complaints of the faculty's dissatisfaction with Harmon in the fall of 1999.

The consultant found that although Harmon was following the board's directives for the college, she needed to improve her relationship with the faculty.

Harmon exemplified "a top-down autocratic style of leadership," faculty president Michael Kerman read to the Board of Trustees in a prepared letter.

Administrators, faculty and support staff complained that Harmon didn't acknowledge disagreement with her ideas and failed to treat employees with respect.

At one board meeting, former ACC student body president

Nadine Coon also criticized Harmon by stating that Coon had been turned away from a meeting with Harmon, showing how Harmon failed to maintain an open-door policy with students.

STUDENTS USED ONLY AS PHOTO OPS?

Coon also complained that Harmon used students only for photo opportunities.

By April 2000 the faculty association and support staff union both cast votes of "no confidence" in her, and all nine ACC division heads called for her ouster.

The next month it became necessary to raise tuition \$100 to offset the costs of the new programs that were enacted by Harmon without prior funding.

At a meeting in August 2000, the ACC Board of Trustees stated unsatisfactory job performance as the reason for failing to renew Harmon's contract, and she was placed on administrative leave until August 2001.

According to Irwin "Butch" Rehm, former assistant to the vice-president of academic affairs and a member of the search team that recruited Harmon, the committee was very impressed with Harmon when they were conducting their



DR. JANE HARMON

search.

"When she interviewed at Adirondack, I was an employee at the time there, and I was one of her most avid supporters, but that definitely changed," Rehm stated.

Last December, Harmon participated in an on-campus forum at Cerritos College and stated that the reason for her administrative leave from Adirondack was due to "overwhelming the current board of the college."

Rehm disputes that the board was overwhelmed by Harmon or pressured to fire her.

"The board camped out on campus and did a very quiet but thorough investigation," Rehm said. "The board did not respond to pressure from the employees."

SAME PROBLEMS AT HIBBING JOB

The Post-Star reports that Harmon had some of the same problems with planning, budgeting, and interpersonal relationships at her previous job as an administrator at Hibbing Community College in Minnesota.

Many employees at ACC feel that the search committee that hired Harmon did not do a thorough enough job investigating her past performance. The search committee had called Hibbing Community College in Minnesota where Harmon had previously worked and received no negative references for Harmon.

Rehm now feels that an on-site visit by the ACC search committee to the Hibbing campus would have revealed more information about Harmon.

Cynthia Convey, interim director of personnel services at Cerritos College, stated, "The area of references is a highly technical and heavily litigated area."

As to the policy of giving references at Cerritos College, Convey added, "Because there is such tremendous legal liability, for the most part we release only employee information. We prefer to verify only dates of employment and position held."

MANY AFRAID TO TALK

Due to a fear of lawsuits, many workers don't want to go on record saying anything negative about a former co-worker. The same is true with those at Adirondack.

"We are very cautious about what we are saying for legal reasons," Kane said.

"Your committee will have to read between the lines as to what is not being said."

"But I want to commend the search committee that they are coming here. We didn't do a thorough enough job when we hired [Harmon]."

Rehm commented, "We would feel very badly if what happened to us and what happened at Hibbing were perpetuated."

Digital Printing Available

A new fingerprinting system is now in use at the Cerritos College Campus Police Department. The service is available to anyone who needs to be fingerprinted for employment or any other purposes.

The \$42,000 system, which the college obtained for free, allows fingerprints to be digitally scanned into a computer and then sent to the Justice Department and FBI databases, which will cross-check for criminal backgrounds.

The old process took approximately six to eight weeks to complete. The new system will have a turnaround of approximately one day. Cost is \$15.

For further information, including times of operation, contact the Cerritos College Police at (562) 860-2451, ext. 2325.

Student dies on campus

Continued from page one

in the men's restroom...that was scary," Wilson says.

At 1 p.m., a Chrysler minivan belonging to a mortuary chosen by Avila's family arrived on campus and was parked by a driver near the back doors of the social sciences building.

In the back section which leads to the business education building, the area surrounding the minivan was cordoned off by campus police, sheriffs, and traffic control officers.

Avila's body was taken out of the social sciences building at 1:35 p.m.

NEWS NOTES

Jazz quartet to perform

The Clayton Brothers jazz quartet is scheduled to perform in the Burnight Center Theatre at Cerritos College on Feb. 25, 2001 at 2 p.m.

The quartet is comprised of John and Jeff Clayton, Jeff Hamilton, and Bill Cunliffe.

Ticket prices are \$10 to the general public and \$5 for students and seniors.

Tickets can be either purchased at the door or by calling The Cerritos College Music Department at (562) 860-2451, ext. 2629.

Teacher TRAC a winner

On Feb. 16 the Cerritos College Teacher TRAC program will receive the "Outstanding Leadership Award" in Tampa, Fla. at the Chair Academy's Tenth Annual International Conference.

For information on the Teacher TRAC program, call (562) 860-2451, ext. 2212 or visit www.teachertrac.com.

Annual fundraiser

The Third Annual Monte Carlo Night will take place at 7:30 p.m. on March 17 at the Long Beach Yacht Club.

This will be an evening of music, dancing, and gaming that will aid in the event's effort to raise money for student awards and scholarships.

Silent and live auctions will be available for bid. In addition to the live and silent auctions, prizes will be given.

Tickets for the Monte Carlo Night are \$100 per couple, or \$75 per individual. For ticket information, call the Foundation Office at (562) 860-2451, ext. 2526.

Exhibit opening

A new exhibit will be opening on Tuesday at the Cerritos College Art

Gallery, featuring artists Marie Thibault and Linda Day.

Thibault is a professor at California State University, Long Beach, and Day is a professor at California State University, Sacramento.

The exhibit, entitled "Meet Me in Coalinga," explores the connection between the women's art and friendship.

The exhibition will run through March 8. A reception will be held in the Cerritos College Art Gallery on Tuesday from 6 to 8 p.m.

For more information, contact Gallery Director Geoffrey Allen at (562) 860-2451, ext. 2612.

Speech tournament

The Cerritos College Forensic Team will host its Annual Tabor-Venitsky Invitational Forensics Tournament on Feb. 16 and 17.

The team expects around 300 students from 20 different colleges and universities to be competing in Debate, Readers' Theatre, Public Speeches, and Oral Interpretation of Literature.

The Tabor-Venitsky Tournament offers some of the best competition in the country. Students will be preparing for both State and National Championships that will occur in March and April.

Folk tales focus on world unity

BY CARMEN ALVIZURES

TALON MARKS FEATURE EDITOR

An event with storytelling as its focus will take place next Tuesday at the Teleconference Center.

The event will be free of charge and will start at 11 a.m.

Michael McCarty will be the storyteller and the folk tales will range from African to African American. International, personal, and historical stories will be added.

McCarty, a person who studied math in college but later on became interested in oriental medicine, believes that he has been a storyteller all his life.

"According to my mother, as long as I can talk," McCarty recalls.

Formally, however, McCarty became more involved with storytelling in the 60s when he was attending high school in Chicago.

It was then when McCarty became aware of black history that he "had never studied in school."

Thus, McCarty went to other schools and shared stories with young audiences. As part of groups such as the NAACP and the Black Pepper Party, McCarty, became heavily involved with the art of storytelling.

"Storytelling," he says, "became part of my life."

McCarty has an interest for stories that are not commonly

told." He sees power in them and believes that "each person relates to each story in a unique way."

Aside from pointing out differences between cultures, McCarty also believes that stories can also have the ability to show commonalities between cultures, something, he says, that is just as important.

The goal of the event is, according to McCarty, "to have fun, enlighten, and edify."

McCarty also describes himself as a motivational speaker. He feels that there has not been a tremendous change from being an acupuncturist to being a storyteller.

"I went from one sort of healing to another," he says.

In McCarty's way of thinking, storytelling should spark an interest in the audience that will make people want to investigate their past.

According to McCarty, it's important for the people in the audience to "dive into their own lives" and ask questions. People will get to know themselves better and identify with others.

With "stories that are not commonly told, but great in interest and great in meaning," McCarty hopes that the audience will "walk away with a big smile on their face and a mind full of knowledge and joy."



TM Photo

Michael D. McCarty is the "Storyteller." He will appear in a special performance Tuesday at the Teleconference Center.

More credentials, more respect, more money.

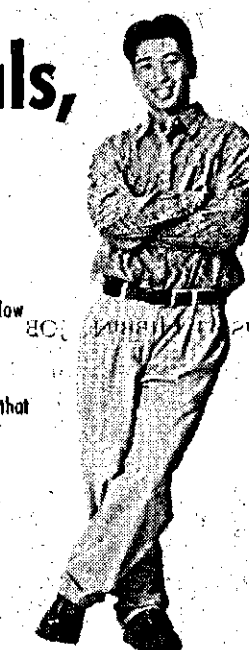
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Castaway stands alone among the rest

BY SERGIO RAMIREZ

TALON MARKS STAFF

Say you were stranded on a deserted island. Now imagine being stuck there for literally a few years on end. Suppose you were able to get by without the creature comforts of everyday life that most of us take for granted — phones, e-mail, computers, cars, supermarkets and the like. Would you be able to get by? Would any of us in this modern day and age truly be able to 'stay' alive with just our wits and whatever the island had to offer?

This intriguing premise is at the heart of "Castaway," the latest Tom Hanks vehicle that seems, as has become monotonous with most of his movies, to be destined for the yearly round of Academy Award nominations. Hanks' dramatic roles are becoming so, that one almost wishes that he'd do another comedy like his earlier films, if only for a little variety.

Hanks plays Chuck Noland, an employee for Federal Express, one of the troubleshooting types that goes around the world at the whim of his company on short notice to help set up new offices and help with shipping snags. Just as he is about to spend Christmas with his fiancée Kelly (Helen Hunt) in Memphis, his pager goes off,

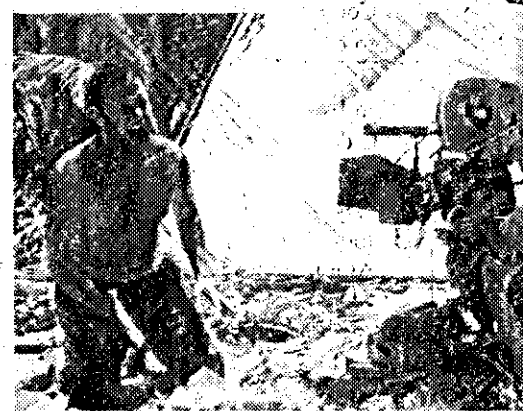


Photo courtesy Dreamworks

Tom Hanks stars in Castaway.

sending him off to an island near Tahiti.

This leads us to the crux of the story — the plane crashes — leaving Chuck as the only survivor.

At first his survival efforts are limited to shouting around, expecting someone else to be on the island other than him. As he finally takes to exploring his new surroundings, though, he gradually realizes that he's completely isolated, and it's up to him if he wants to live.

The transformation he undergoes over the

course of the film deserve the best make-up Oscar nomination that it's reportedly being considered for. Hanks goes from a clean cut, close shaven man to a scraggly, wild looking one who would fit in with any number of island tribesmen.

The cinematography is spectacular. If all tropical islands offer as spectacular the scenery as the one we see in this movie, then it's a wonder that there are any left completely deserted in the world.

What makes the film truly watchable, though, is Hanks. He spends roughly seventy percent of the movie by himself (with only a painted on volleyball named, appropriately enough, Wilson, for company, thus helping him keep his sanity) and his performance is among the best of his career.

The spontaneity in the now famous scene when he makes his first fire makes one forget that he no doubt had an entire crew of technical advisors to help him do it. You almost believe that you're an invisible companion to him as he struggles to make a new life on the island.

While every actor has at least a few roles they wish they could forget — even Hanks has "The Burbs" and "The Bonfire of the Vanities" on his resume — this counts as one of the best of his career.

'Room Service' delivers comedy starting March 9

The Cerritos College Theater Arts Department will perform "Room Service" a satirical farce about a producer and director who try to launch a Broadway show in 1935, at the height of the Depression.

There will be performances at 8 p.m. on March 9 and 10 and March 15 through March 17. The final performance will be a matinee on March 18 at 2 p.m.

The cast, which includes 14 students, two student stage managers, and a student director of lights and design, has put in a great deal of time and effort.

Students Chris Alvarado, Tony Paniagua, Nick Laris, and Arnold Sullivan play the lead roles. They are coached by student stage manager, Celeste Jimenez.

The entire production is under the direction of Theater Arts Professor Dr. Robin Huber. Excited about the show, he proudly boasts about the play's sets that were designed by a member of the Walt Disney Design team.

General admission is \$10, and Cerritos College students and seniors can be admitted for only \$7.50. For more information contact the Cerritos College Theater Arts Department at 562.467.5058.

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SPORTS

TALON MARKS

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February 5, 2001

Falcons win third in a row

BY JOHN KITANO
SPORTS EDITOR

The Cerritos women's basketball team ran its record to 23-4 with wins over L.A. Harbor and Compton last week.

The Falcons remain in second place behind L.A. Southwest in the South Coast Conference Southern Division with a 5-1 record.

After a 65-58 loss to the Cougars Jan. 24, Cerritos has now beaten its last three opponents by 22 or more points each.

Coch Karen Welliver now has a record of 398-190 in her 19th season as the Falcons' coach.

The Falcons face El Camino Wednesday at the Aviaary, and travel to Southwest for the rematch. Both games start at 5:30 p.m.

CERRITOS VS. HARBOR

Cerritos guard Tori Stewart said, "We won, but it wasn't pretty. We didn't play very well."

But it still counts as a win.

The Falcons took advantage of their team depth and pulled away from L.A. Harbor for a 74-52 win Wednesday at the Aviaary.

Cerritos ran out to a 15-4 lead at the start of the game and led 39-21 at halftime.

The closest Harbor (4-19, 0-5 in SCC South), using only six players, got to the Falcons in the second half was nine points with 10:56 remaining, when Tiffany McCollum (21 points) sank a three-point basket.

Cerritos outscored the Seahawks 21-8 the rest of the way.

Camille Singleton, who led the Falcons with 16 points, said, "All we have to do is just step up and play hard like we know we can, and

we won't have to worry about any more losses during conference."

Monet Andrews added 14 points, seven rebounds and six assists.

Eteri Wong scored 12 points and grabbed six rebounds.

Stewart, who led the Falcons with seven assists, said, "We didn't play to our coach's expectations and our own expectations."

CERRITOS VS. COMPTON

The Falcons scored 39 points in the second half to bury Compton College, 70-47 Friday at the Aviaary.

Cerritos outscored the Tartars 18-7 in the first eight minutes of the second half, and then added three unanswered baskets to lead 55-31 with 10:20 remaining.

Andrews led Cerritos with 16 points, and Singleton added 12.

Monique Harian scored 15 points and grabbed seven rebounds.

Nicole Bryant also had seven rebounds.

Welliver said that she was pleased with the team's play. "I thought it was the best we played in a little while."

"I thought our effort was good, and I thought we saw some things offensively that we've been working on, so I was real pleased."

"Monique Harian just did a heck of a job on their big kid. I thought she had a really good game."

"Nicole (Bryant) took a great charge down there. But I thought we did some nice things, both offensively and defensively."

"We would have put her back in if it was close. But we didn't have to, so we didn't, just for caution."

"She's fine. She's a tough kid."



GOING AFTER THE BALL - Eteri Wong of Cerritos battles for a rebound against L.A. Harbor. Wong scored 12 points and pulled down six rebounds in the Falcons' 74-52 win.

FROM THE SKYBOX Time for Baseball

BY JOHN KITANO
SPORTS EDITOR

A few more musings from the past week.

If you can't wait for the Dodgers or Angels to begin, get your baseball fix here at Cerritos.

The Birds began their season over the weekend, and the fans are already in mid-season form, ready to second guess the coaches.

On the first weekend in February, the temperatures reached well into the 80's, which was perfect weather for baseball.

If you come to see the Birds play, here's a tip. At the beginning of the game, sit in the top row on the first base side. That is where the shade is.

Glendale's first baseman has a familiar name, Fernando Valenzuela.

Yes, his father is the Dodger pitching great.

After the men's basketball team defeated Compton, you could hear the players in the locker room cheering in celebration.

When are we going to hear the Cerritos basketball games on WPMD radio?

IN CONCLUSION

Remember, if you're hitting the bullseye every time, you're standing too close to the target.



SOFTBALL ACTION - Antefette Bustamante of Cerritos fouls off a pitch against Santa Ana.

Softball team starts off season on wrong foot

BY ARMANDO BROWN
STAFF WRITER

The Cerritos softball team has come limping out of the gate.

With only one returning starter, pitcher Julie Angel, the team will have to try to mature quickly.

Since the Falcons' season started on Jan. 27, they have only won one game in seven tries.

The Falcons opened with two losses in Bakersfield, but did not let it worry them too much because they felt they were caught a little off guard.

According to Gladys Rodriguez, left fielder for last year's team, the weather was colder than they expected, and they were miserable while they were there.

On Wednesday they returned to the familiar surroundings of home and more comfortable weather.

They also got to play in front of two time softball Olympic gold medalist Dr. Dot Richardson, who happened to be in attendance.

She said, "I just love softball,

I'm just out here enjoying the game and enjoying the beautiful field."

Unfortunately for the Falcons, their opponent, Santa Ana was just too strong for them, winning 13-0.

The Falcons rounded out the week with a loss at L.A. Valley before heading out to the College of the Desert Tournament for three games over the weekend.

In the tournament, Cerritos took on Taft and Citrus Saturday, and Sunday played College of the Desert and San Diego City.

The Falcons went one and four at the tournament, recording their first win of the season against Citrus.

According to head coach Lynn Laughon, Shortstop Brenda Con, second baseman Ariana Contreras and third baseman/pitcher Virginia Brido (all freshmen) are expected to make big contributions this season.

Rodriguez said, "The team has a lot of potential, they just need to get it together."

Baseball team splits weekend games

Birds rip Canyons 26-4, lose to Glendale 5-4

BY JOHN KITANO
SPORTS EDITOR

Nine Falcons drove in at least one run as the Cerritos baseball team ran away from College of the Canyons, 26-4 Saturday in the South Coast Conference Invitational at Kincaid Field.

Outfielder Kalen Norton, who drove in six runs, said, "That's what we needed today, since we lost yesterday."

"We needed some big runs. We needed to come together offensively."

The Falcons batted around four times, and led 15-0 after four innings.

With Cerritos leading 17-0 in the top of the sixth, the Cougars broke through with four runs.

The Falcons answered with six runs in their half of the inning, and three more in the seventh.

"I just wanted to win, that's all," said Norton, who hit a home run in the third inning and a triple in the seventh.

"And that's what it took. Stick the ball. That's it."

Earlier in the day, the Falcons defeated L.A. Valley

15-3, and Friday the Falcons dropped their opener to Cuesta, 7-3.

Outfielder Ruben Salazar, who drove in three runs, said, "Even though we lost we didn't get whooped."

"We came back and scored."

"So that just shows the character we have, and today we played like Birds are supposed to play."

Norton added, "We have a chance to win the tournament tomorrow because we scored a lot of runs, and we won both our games."

But the team fell one run short against Glendale and lost 5-4 in 10 innings Sunday.

In the fifth inning, Glendale scored three runs off the Falcons (2-2) as five of the first six batters reached base.

Cerritos came back with two runs in the seventh inning, and tied the game in the ninth when Thomas Bruce singled in Carl Johnson from third.

Glendale won the game in the tenth inning when Brandon Bell singled in pinch runner Marcus Griffin.

The Falcons left eight runners on base, five in scoring position.

more baseball on page 5



IT'S A HIT - Cuesta catcher Chris Miller watches Kalen Norton of Cerritos get a base hit.

MEN'S BASKETBALL Cerritos records two BIG victories

BY ARMANDO BROWN
STAFF WRITER

Cerritos' basketball gym was rockin' last week!

The men's basketball team broke out of a two-game slump to beat up on L.A. Harbor 79-73 Wednesday, and then came back on Friday to absolutely massacre Compton 78-69 in their conference rematch.

The atmosphere for both games was electric, and pep squad member Patricia Fierro said, "I'm very excited. I think (the team was) great."

The home crowd was also excited, and the Falcons seemed to feed off of it.

The guys wanted Compton badly.

They lost a painful game to the Tartars earlier in the season at Compton, and it was almost unanimous among the Cerritos players that it was a game they could have won. They couldn't wait to get (Compton) back at (their) house."

FALCONS DOWN SEAHAWKS

Before getting to Compton, however, the Falcons would have to face a dangerous Harbor team, who, with an 0-4 record, was going to be desperate for a win.

And knowing that Cerritos had been struggling in conference play with a 1-3 record and two losses in a row, Harbor's Seahawks were going to be looking to kick the Falcons while they were down.

Over the course of the first half, the Falcons played like a team that was on a mission.

They were charged up, aggressive and very unselfish.

The only problem was that Harbor was playing like it did not want another loss either.

At halftime the score was tied at 35.

As the second half took shape, both teams knew that another loss would put them in a deep hole, and

the contest became a battle between two wounded animals fighting for survival.

Marques Harris and Aaron Hamilton led the fight with an infectious emotion.

They were not going to let their team lose a third game in a row.

Then with about six minutes to play, Marcus Harvey caught the fever, and the three of them took the game over.

With 2:45 to play, and down by five, the Falcons kicked, clawed, scraped and willed their way to the win.

In an intense, exciting effort that had the home crowd on the edge of their seats, the three H's combined to outscore the Seahawks 14 to 3, with James Perkins chipping in two free throws to seal the win with 18.5 seconds to play.

After the game, sophomore Tony Booker (eight points) said, "We just got a burst of energy from somewhere. We had been looking for it all night and it just came at the right time."

"Our sophomores stepped up and made some big plays, that helped us get through it down the stretch, and I think that was the difference. We shot our free throws well, and just knocked down jumpers."

Harris, who played like a man possessed, was six for eight on field goals, four for five on three pointers and four for four from the free throw line to score a team high 20 points. He also dished out six assists, pulled down seven rebounds and had four steals.

Hamilton was eight for 10 on field goals and added 17 points. He also grabbed six rebounds.

Harvey made two three-pointers, was two for two from the line and chipped in 12 points. He matched Harris with six assists, and also with four steals.

Perkins and Tony Booker each

SPORTS

February 5, 2001

TALON MARKS

Page 5

BASEBALL PREVIEW

Birds take aim at conference title

BY DAVID AMEZCUA
STAFF WRITER

If you really want to know how the Falcons are going to do this season in baseball, then here are some people who can answer that question.

Falcon Coach Ken Gaylord said, "Our goal is to win the conference championship and doing so, putting us in the best set for the post-season."

"It's too early to tell what the players care about the most. Whether it be individual statistics or team statistics."

Last season the Falcons finished 33-12. They ended the season with the league's best earned-run average at 2.55.

The Falcons were swept by Cuesta and Palomar, and ended up tied for the South Coast Conference campaign with East Los Angeles.

The returning players are Jesse Lugo, Dominick Phillips, Brett Cayton, Joseph Ammirato, John Vasconcellos, Bryan Bakers, Kalen Norton, Alex Coleman, Jim Slater and Jason Dibble.

Coleman said, "It's going to be a tough season, because L.A. Harbor has good pitching. L.A. City is pretty good. The conference is tough."

"We aren't mentally ready for the season, because we have to work on putting the ball into play with two strikes, and the pitchers have to

work on keeping the ball down."

TJ Bruce said, "I think if we continue to work hard, we will have a good season."

Phillips said, "I think we are going to have a pretty successful season. We have a good chance of winning it all."

"Our defense is pretty good. Our pitching at first was a little bit bad, but it has improved."

"We are really happy to play." The reason is because "We have worked very hard."

Rick Pijuan said "I think we've got a solid team."

"If we play well as a team, and if the pitchers do well, we will go pretty far."

Baseball team opens season

Birds drop opener to Cuesta, then rip Valley

BY DAVID AMEZCUA
STAFF WRITER

Cerritos lost its opener to Cuesta College, 7-3 in the opening game of the South Coast Conference Invitational Friday at Kincaid Field.

The Falcons' Joseph Ammirato scored on a wild pitch in the bottom of third inning to tie the score at one.

After the Cougars took the lead with a run in the top of the sixth, Cerritos scored the tying run in its half of the inning on a Cuesta balk.

Cuesta added three runs in the top of the seventh inning, and two more in the ninth.

In the bottom of the ninth inning Salazar got on base with a double, and scored on a single to make the final score 7-3.

After the game Falcon coach Ken Gaylord said, "I thought the team did poor."

"We've got to try to build some momentum."

"We've got to give them (Cuesta) credit."

Pitcher Erick Morales said, "We should have come out stronger earlier, not later in the game."

Outfielder Kalen Norton said, "We needed to come together as a team."

Catcher Brett Cayton said, "The pitchers did right. It (the pitching) kept us in the game."

BIRDS DEFEAT VALLEY

The Falcons did not seem to be too happy about their 15-3 win over Los Angeles Valley College Saturday.

Gaylord said, "We still didn't play well. Too many of our guys struck out."

"Our guys came into the game afraid to play. The thing that told me that the players were afraid to play, was their body language."

Falcon Ruben Salazar said, "I think in the beginning we were flat."

Falcon infielder Jesse Lugo said he was not satisfied with the win. "We started off slow. We should

have scored nine runs every inning."

Cayton said, "We came out slow. We've got some guys who play for themselves."

"We've got to come together as a team."

In the top of the fifth inning, the Falcons' Rick Pijuan got on base by getting hit by a pitch, and scored on a sacrifice fly to give Cerritos a 2-1 lead. Norton doubled to bring in two more runs, then Hector Zamora drove in Norton to make the score 5-1.

The Falcons added a run in the top of the seventh inning. Valley scored twice in its half, the second run scored by Brett Munson on a wild pitch.

In the top of the eighth, Cerritos scored nine runs. Salazar scored on a wild pitch, and TJ Bruce drove in Carl Johnson to make the score 8-3.

Zamora, Bryan Baker and Cayton drove in two runs each, and Jim Slater drove in one more run to make the score 15-3.

Sports Briefs

TRACK MEET MOVED

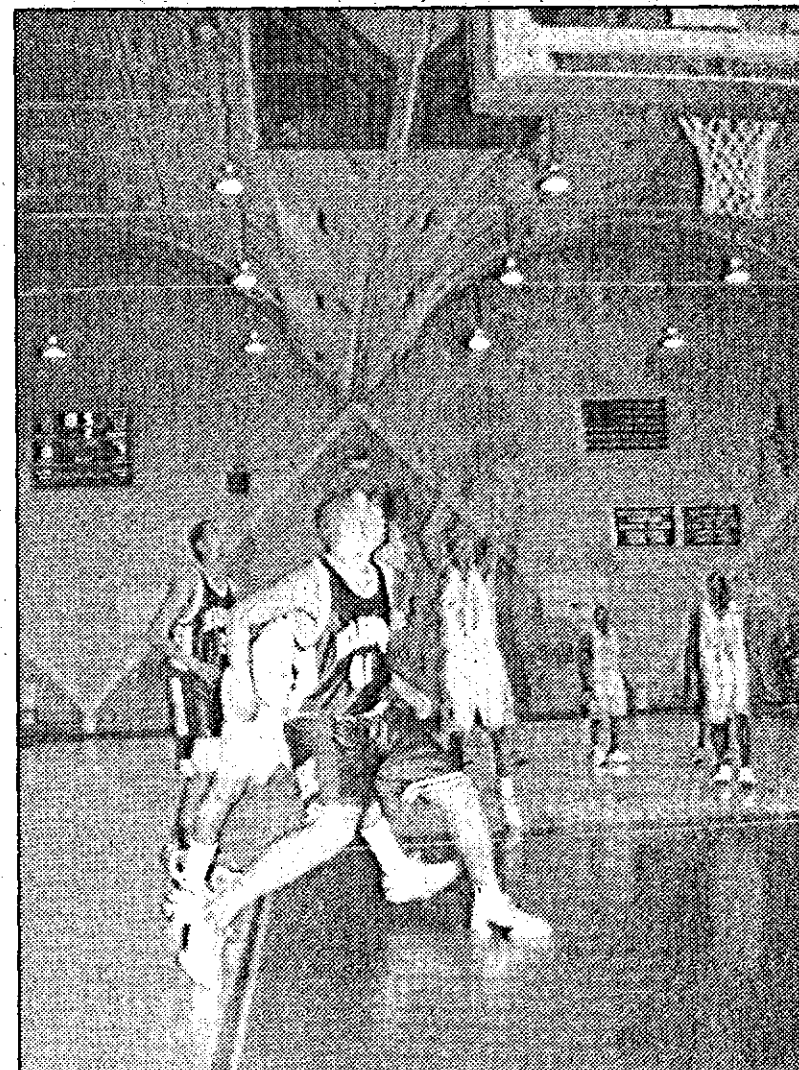
The South Coast Conference Relays will take place at Cerritos College Friday at 2 p.m., having been moved from Long Beach City College.

WOMEN'S TENNIS

The Cerritos College women's tennis team defeated Ventura, 9-0 in a scrimmage Jan. 30 at Cerritos.

Dora Prado, Mayra Mariscal, Jeanette Manzo, Lara Yuttriaga, Jessica Colcho and Kowani Collins each won their matches in straight sets.

The doubles teams of Prado and Mariscal, Yuttriaga and Charisse Arrogante, and Manza and Colcho won their matches.



Ammando Brown/TM

AT THE LINE - James Perkins of Cerritos shoots a free throw against L.A. Harbor. The Falcons won the game, 79-73

Men's basketball

continued from page 4

contributed eight points to the win.

Seldom-used freshman Dwight Blair got some rare playing time and made the most of it scoring two points and grabbing four rebounds in roughly five minutes.

THE REMATCH

Going into Friday night's game, Booker summed up the mood of the team best. "We're really confident. We feel good, you know (the) win (Wednesday) is definitely going to help our momentum. We're just ready to go to war."

And a war is what the Falcons gave to Compton's Tartars.

They had dug deep down inside to find the will to survive against Harbor.

According to Booker, their coach complimented them on the win, but told them they would have to "come out even harder against Compton."

Cerritos unleashed a wave of balanced attacks that saw seven of its players contribute on its way to a 21-6 lead in the first 6:30 of play.

At halftime, the Falcons held a 37-28 lead.

Everybody on the team was contributing to the abuse they were unleashing on Compton, but once again, Harris and Hamilton were the emotional leaders of the war.

Five minutes into the second half, Harris and Compton's Armon Thomas exchanged some not-so-

pleasant pleasantries, and Hamilton rushed over to see if there was anything he could interject.

All three players were charged with technicals, and the incident seemed to charge both teams up even more.

Over the next 10 minutes the war's intensity would build, and the Tartars would battle their way to within three of Cerritos.

Less than a minute later, though, Curtis Williams drained a three-point basket, and Compton called a time out.

Over the course of the final four minutes, the Falcons, determined to make some noise in the second half of conference play, beat up on Compton, and sent them home nursing their wounds.

After the game, Harris said "It's just about winning it, you know, you just want to do everything you possibly can to win, and we had to come out and be the aggressors and show them that there wasn't no backing down."

On the night, the Falcon team came up with a very balanced attack.

Williams, who came up with a solid shooting performance, scored a team high 20 points that included three three-pointers and three for four from the free throw line.

Miguel Bennett and Marcus Harvey chipped in 14 and 13 respectively.

Aaron Hamilton and James Perkins came out with nine and eight rebounds respectively.

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Sports Schedule

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Wednesday - 7:30 p.m. Home vs. El Camino
Friday - 7:30 p.m. at L.A. Southwest

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Wednesday - 5:30 p.m. Home vs. El Camino
Friday - 5:30 p.m. at L.A. Southwest

BASEBALL

Friday-Sunday at Best in the State Tournament at Sacramento
Friday - 9 a.m. vs. Canada at Sacramento
Friday - 12:30 p.m. vs. Santa Ana at Sacramento
Saturday - 9 a.m. vs. Canada at Sacramento
Saturday - 12:30 p.m. vs. Sacramento City at Sacramento

GOLE

Wednesday - 12:30 p.m. vs. Orange Coast at Costa Mesa Golf Course

SOFTBALL

Friday - All Day in Fullerton Tournament at Behringer Park
Saturday - All Day in Fullerton Tournament at Behringer Park
Sunday - All Day in Fullerton Tournament at Behringer Park

WOMEN'S TENNIS

Thursday - 2 p.m. Home vs. Compton

MEN'S AND WOMEN'S TRACK AND FIELD

Friday - 2 p.m. South Coast Conference Relays AT CERRITOS

TALON Marks

The Talon Marks is a First Amendment publication. Editorials express the views of the Editorial Board. Other opinions express the view of the author and are not to be considered opinions of the publications staff, the Editorial Board, the advisers, the Cerritos College Associated Students, the college administration or the Board of Trustees.

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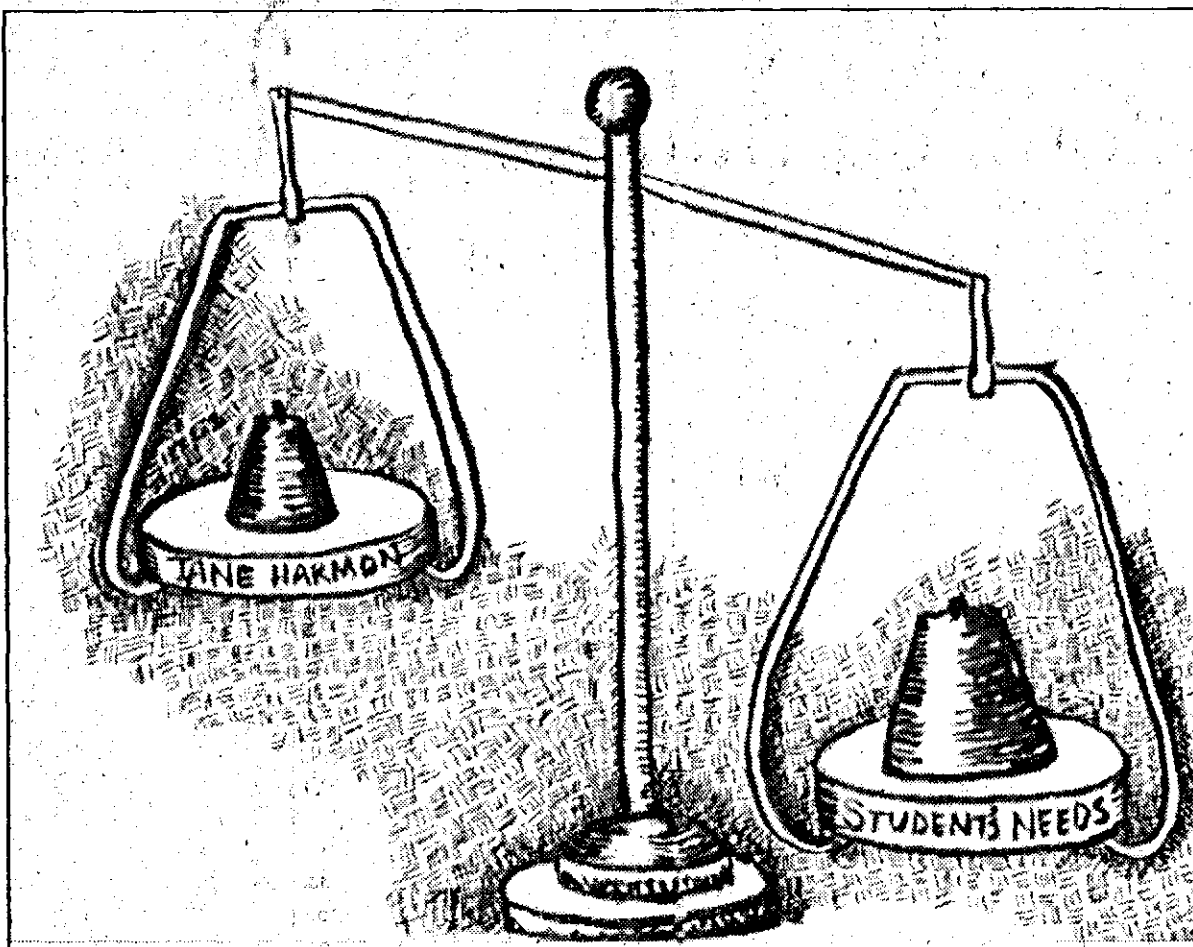
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Letters to the Editor are subject to editing due to content and spacing. Letters must be submitted the Thursday before publication at Talon Marks, AC 42.



Letter should not have mentioned race

ARMANDO BROWN
ONLINE EDITOR

The gist of Henry Spurgin's letter (see "No jumping on the sofas," Jan. 31; we got the name wrong and put "Spurzar") is about the annoyances and unruly behavior he has had to endure while in the student center.

Among these annoyances, he has witnessed certain individuals who walked or jumped on the couches, has heard loud, obnoxious and rude people who disturbed other students, and has been subjected to the vulgar use of the "F" word.

I have never seen anyone jumping on the sofas. However, on several occasions, the place has looked (and sounded) more like a playground than a place where students attending an institution of higher learning can go to relax, take a break from their studies, or socialize with other students.

I, too, have been irritated by loud, obnoxious people, and on occasion with the "F" word being thrown around, felt like I was in some seedy barroom rather than Cerritos College's student center.

However, in describing the inci-

dents he witnessed, Spurgin makes sure to mention that one of the individuals he observed walking on some of the couches was African-American.

Including Spurgin, I counted six specific individuals he mentioned in his letter, yet only one of these individuals was singled out because of her race.

Now, I do not know Henry Spurgin. He may be a wonderful human being. So I won't make any accusations about his character.

However, I will say that by mentioning the race of only one individual, his letter takes on strong racial overtones.

It would have been in really poor taste to also list the races or ethnicities of the other five people.

However, I suppose the reader could have at the very least reasoned that Spurgin is just ignorant, rather than possibly a bigot.

If he did not want people to misinterpret his letter or form an inaccurate opinion about him, he should have left race out of it.

I have observed the disappointing behaviors of some of our fellow students, which have included people running around, screaming at

the top of their lungs and generally not having any regard for their fellow student.

However, the people whom I have seen performing these acts have represented a wide range of ethnicities and races on our campus, not just one, as Spurgin suggests. We could attribute this kind of behavior to poor parenting, rather than the color of skin.

In my mind, only a bigot could spend three-and-a-half-hours in the student center and not see that it is a mix of different races who sometimes behave poorly, and not just one.

Open your eyes. Stop spending so much time in the student center, and go out and take the time to get to know the people whom you seem to be prejudiced toward.

You might be pleasantly surprised to find that not all members of any particular group are like the few bad apples you have observed.

Maybe then you will have learned to see people as a whole, and not judge them by the actions of some confused girl who does not know the difference between her feet and her rear end.

Letters to the Editor Roaches! Roaches! Roaches!

To the Editor:

Monday morning a student and I went into the Ladies' restroom in the Student Center, turned the lights on, and saw what seemed to be hundreds of roaches running around.

We went to the Food Court to buy food for breakfast. This was

approximately 7:15 a.m., on Feb. 5.

We were shocked at that scene, because the restroom is located between the Food Court and the Culinary Art's cafeteria.

Are roaches considered to be protein in the food chain? Maybe that is why they are left to run around. Could they travel to the

food places? Could you find yourself crunching on some?

Now, what should be done? Exactly who is to blame?

I say, let's exterminate the entire system, or those at the helm, and don't forget about the roaches!

Sincerely, Joyce Kelly

EDITORIAL

Board should pass on Harmon

Dr. James Middleton, current president of College of Marin, California, has dropped out of contention as the next president of Cerritos Community College.

This leaves Dr. Jane Harmon, currently on leave as president of Adirondack Community College, as the sole candidate. But is she the RIGHT candidate?

Harmon has a strong background in following directives from the Board of Trustees.

She has a strong background working with businesses and cultivating community support.

Her school received a \$1 million endowment while she was president.

Harmon is coming from a school with an enrollment of under 3,000 students, where she failed to garner the support of the college community.

Harmon has been accused of using students only for photo opportunities and for having no open-door policy.

Dissatisfied administrators, faculty, and staff ousted Harmon from her term at Adirondack.

Harmon started innovative plans at Adirondack, but didn't plan for funding of these programs, which caused a \$100 rise in tuition.

Cerritos College has an enrollment of 21,681, as of Jan. 31. Can she garner the support of the college community here?

Do we want a president who fails to have an open-door policy with students?

Do we want a president who alienates an entire campus?

Do we want a president who forces programs into implementation without proper planning?

Do we want fee increases?

Can we afford to pay a president a year's salary to stay home, as Adirondack Community College has done?

We need a president who can balance the needs of the Board of Trustees, the community, the students, the faculty, and the support staff.

Is Jane Harmon the right person for the job? We don't think so.

But maybe Interim President Morgan Lynn is.

Be considerate with cell phones

You are sitting in the library, trying to concentrate on your work and although you hear people whispering you are able to manage.

Suddenly, a cell phone rings, the person answers, and what seemed to be a brief greeting, as in "I'm in the library, I'll call you back," turns into "I can't hear you very well, what?"

The person on the cell tries to understand what is being said at the other end of the line, but remains seated.

Other times, the person on the cell will walk out of the library, but will insist on talking while on the way out.

In these types of situations, you know more than what you need or care to know. The person on the cell gets louder, and there is an audience forming in the near vicinity.

It defeats the purpose of going to the library, doesn't it?

The issue here boils down to this word: consideration.

And we do not intend to infringe on anyone's right to use a cell phone. All we're saying is, if you are in the library, remember what you are there for.

In many cells you can access a menu and, depending on the menu format, you can select "silent" as a profile you will temporarily choose for your phone. That is the first step in showing consideration.

CAMPUS COMMENT

Where is your favorite place to eat on campus?

By Sergio Ramirez
Photos by Claudia Valdez

"Chicago Harv's. I just like the food and they have pretty big combos."

MIGUEL RAMIREZ
GRAPHIC DESIGN



"I like it all. I don't have a favorite place, they're all good."

OBI OGOCHUKWU
PSYCHOLOGY



"The pizza place Frantone's, because I like Italian food."

JONATHAN AVILA
COMMERCIAL MUSIC



"Chicago Harv's. Because they have different varieties."

CHI NGUYEN
BIOLOGY



"Chicago Harv's because it's got a big variety."

WENDY MANCILLAS
ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE



"The food court by the speech building because they have a microwave oven. I always bring my own food from home."

FEI FEI WANG
ART DESIGN



"My favorite place to eat is Frantone's because I like pastas."

YVETTE ROMO
LIBERAL STUDIES



"My favorite place is Chicago Harv's because I like the variety they have on their menu."

ROCIO VALDEZ
LIBERAL STUDIES

