

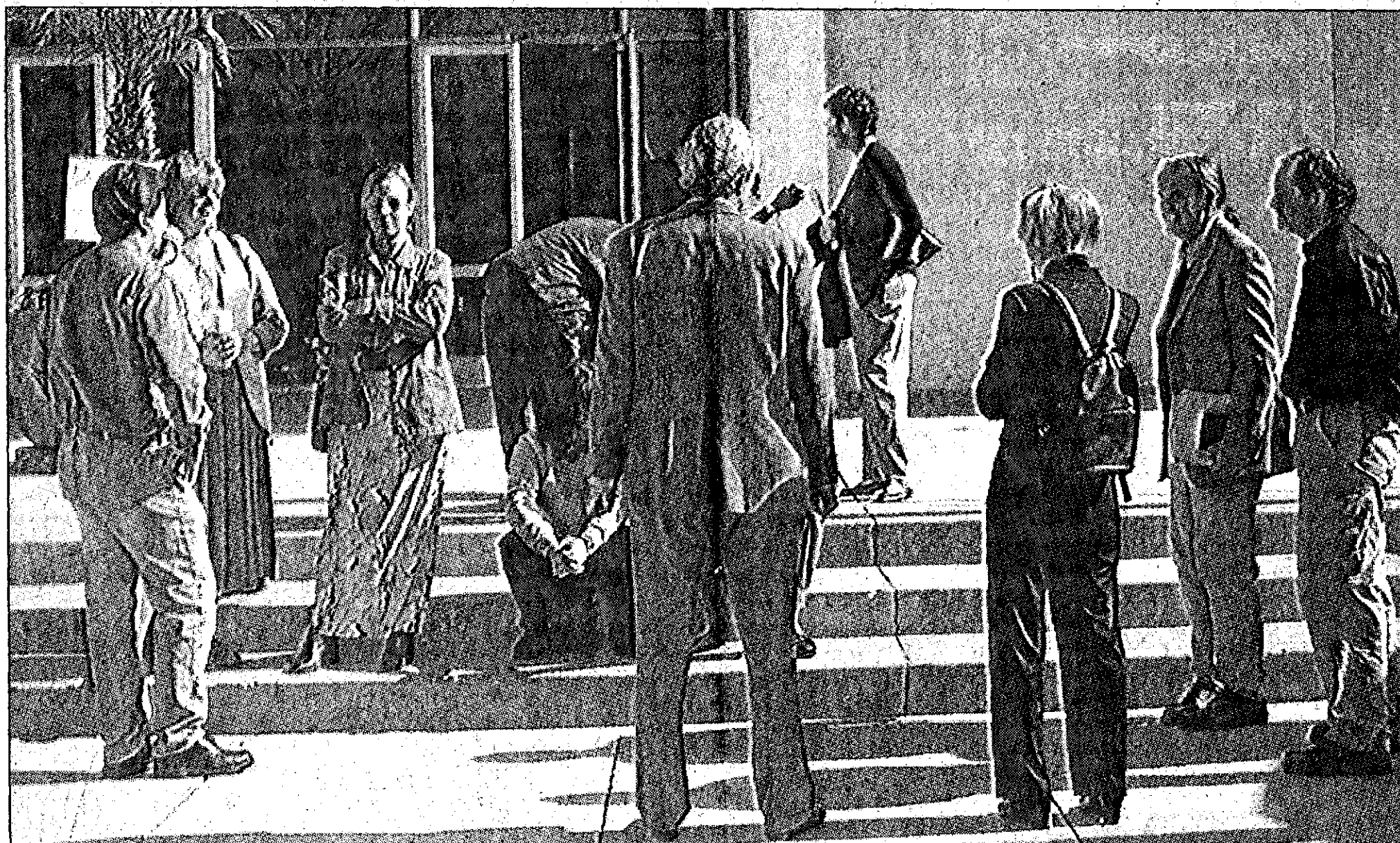
TALON

CERRITOS COLLEGE
NORWALK, CA

VOL. 48, NO. 15
FEB 13, 2002

Markus

No Classes
Cerritos College will be
closed on Feb. 15 - 18,
for President's Day.



CalWorks facing big cuts

TARA CARTER
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Gov. Gray Davis' 2002-03 preliminary budget proposal has left some Cerritos College employees feeling uncertain about their futures.

In an attempt to deal with a \$12.5 million deficit Davis proposed cutting \$58 million from the budget of the California community college CalWorks program last month, leaving only \$7 million for the curriculum statewide.

CalWorks is a program on California community college campuses that assists students who receive welfare obtain work skills and employment.

Employees help students arrange free child care, enroll in colleges, and become self-reliant individuals.

"Our program gives students an opportunity to make a difference by education," said Marina Rodriguez, an account technician in the CalWorks program.

Without the services that the CalWorks' program offers, students will be limited to financial help.

Employees fear that if the budget proposal holds, CalWorks will be terminated and they will find themselves unemployed.

"The proposed budget only leaves a tiny bit of money for the program," said Renee Bloch, a program assistant for the CalWorks program. That would not be enough to support the classified staff.

Although employment is a major concern for the CalWorks' employees, it is not the only concern on their minds.

Gina Alvarez, a job placement technician in the CalWorks program, fears that if CalWorks is terminated because of insufficient funding, recipients will suffer.

"We are able to connect and have personal relationships with the CalWorks' recipients."

I think they might drop out because we help to minimize some of the obstacles in their way."

Cerritos College President Jane Harmon strongly supports the CalWorks program and does not want its employees to act hastily.

"The employees of an institution are the people who help the college maintain its quality."

Harmon also added, "In the first budget the governor proposed

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Photos by Terese Leon

Instructors gather in front of staff meeting to boycott it. Teacher-made sign demands respect in front of the boycotted staff meeting held last Tuesday.

Teachers offered 5%

Offer comes after
many boycott
campus meeting

TARA CARTER
EDITOR IN CHIEF

The Cerritos College administration offered the salary committee a 5% raise last Thursday, exactly a week after staff and faculty members boycotted a meeting in front of the Burnight Theatre.

The offer includes a 3.87% COLA, with a supplement from the college's general budget of 1.13%. Faculty will have the opportunity to ratify or reject the proposition in a division meeting scheduled on Feb. 12.

"This is a 1% improvement over the previous offer and comes exactly a week after the faculty boycott of the General Faculty and Staff Meeting," said Salary Committee Chair David Fabish.

Disgruntled faculty members, upset with their salary conditions, boycotted a staff meeting held in the theatre in an effort to pressure Cerritos College President Jane Harmon into raising their salary.

"We are not asking for very much," said Fabish, while attending the boycott. "All that we seek is a clear modest salary increase which recognizes the unparalleled level of love and hard work that I see my colleagues exhibiting everyday."

The boycott followed what the salary committee believes was an unfulfilled promise made by

Harmon.

In an informal talk with the president in December, Fabish claims to have made a deal with Dr. Harmon.

Fabish agreed not to make a salary presentation to the board of trustees at a Jan. 16 meeting and in return Harmon agreed to present the salary committee with an offer.

"She offered four percent and made it clear to me that she would come through with five," said Fabish. Harmon claims never to have made that such an offer.

"I have always said that the people are the most valuable asset to an institution," said the president. Given the budget situation we are doing the best we can."

But Jack Swanson an English professor at Cerritos believes the

Continued on page 2

Cerritos College donates blood and gift of life

SYLVIA DURAN
OPINION EDITOR

Red, white and blue balloons will lead the way to the Cerritos College blood drive next Thursday, at the Student Center Stage from 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

The American Red Cross will be on campus and it "needs as many people to come and donate blood," said Charles Gale, Jr., director of Health Services.

"We are getting the best that America can offer in blood donating services."

Last year Cerritos College donated 110 units of blood. Currently it has 150 sign-ups but is hoping to recruit another 150 to 200 donors. "We are hoping to obtain 200 units of blood this year," Gale said.

To accommodate locals who wish to donate blood, the college is offering free parking in the C-10 lot. Cookies, juice and different snacks will also be served.

Looking forward to donating? The actual donation takes only ten minutes, but there is a health prescreening and a 10-minute seating after donation, so the process can take about an hour. "It's important to set aside an hour or hour and a half when donating blood," Gale said.

Donors must be at least 17 years old, weigh at least 110 pounds and be in good health.

Blood expires in 20-30 days and individuals are able to donate blood

every 56 days. Remember to bring a valid form of identification. The blood donated will probably stay in the LA county area.

Temporary deferrals include persons who have been exposed to malaria, have had a tattoo within the

last year, pregnant women and persons not feeling well on the day of the donation. "If you suffer from any chronic illness, check with your physician before donating," Gale said.

Permanently deferred from

donating blood are those who have had viral hepatitis, chemotherapy treatments, or are at high risk of contracting HIV/AIDS.

The American Red Cross recommends that "you eat and have plenty of fluids before and after

donating."

Walk-ins are reminded that "Cerritos is notorious for walk-ins," Gale said. "The problem is that they tend to wait longer, as appointments donate first."

Continued on page 2



Photos by Daniel Aguilar

Instructor Terry Price (middle) creates training projects using composite materials similar to those found in military equipment such as B-2 bombers, stealth fighters, F-22 Raptors and the new F-35.

Plastics department wins DOD contract

TERESE LEON
AGE EDITOR

The Cerritos College Plastics Department has been chosen from colleges all around the nation to receive a multi-year contract from the Department of Defense to train quality auditors of composites.

The two-week class is a combination lecture and lab that teaches students how to recognize defects in plastic.

Students involved in the program have come from all over the country to participate. Companies, such as Boeing and Lockheed Martin, have sent their employees to Cerritos College to take the course.

Ron Dedalis, an engineer in the program, said, "What you learn is how to recognize and avoid defects."

Once trained the students will be inspecting B2 bombers, F18 and F22 jets, and hummers.

Pat McCulloch, one of the support instructors teaching the class, said that students are working on simulated air craft parts.

After students complete the class they are qualified to go to prime and sub contractors to inspect and validate plastics.

Terry Price, professor in the plastics department, said that the program benefits tax payers. The inspectors make sure that anything tax payers buy from the government is correct and defect-free.

NEWS

TALON MARKS

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Feb. 13, 2002

Blood drive Thursday

Continued from page 1

The staff covers approximately 15 people every 15 minutes. The American Red Cross will send enough staff to the blood drive according to the amount of appointments that the college reports. Appointments will donate first, and walk-ins will have to wait until the staff covers all appointments.

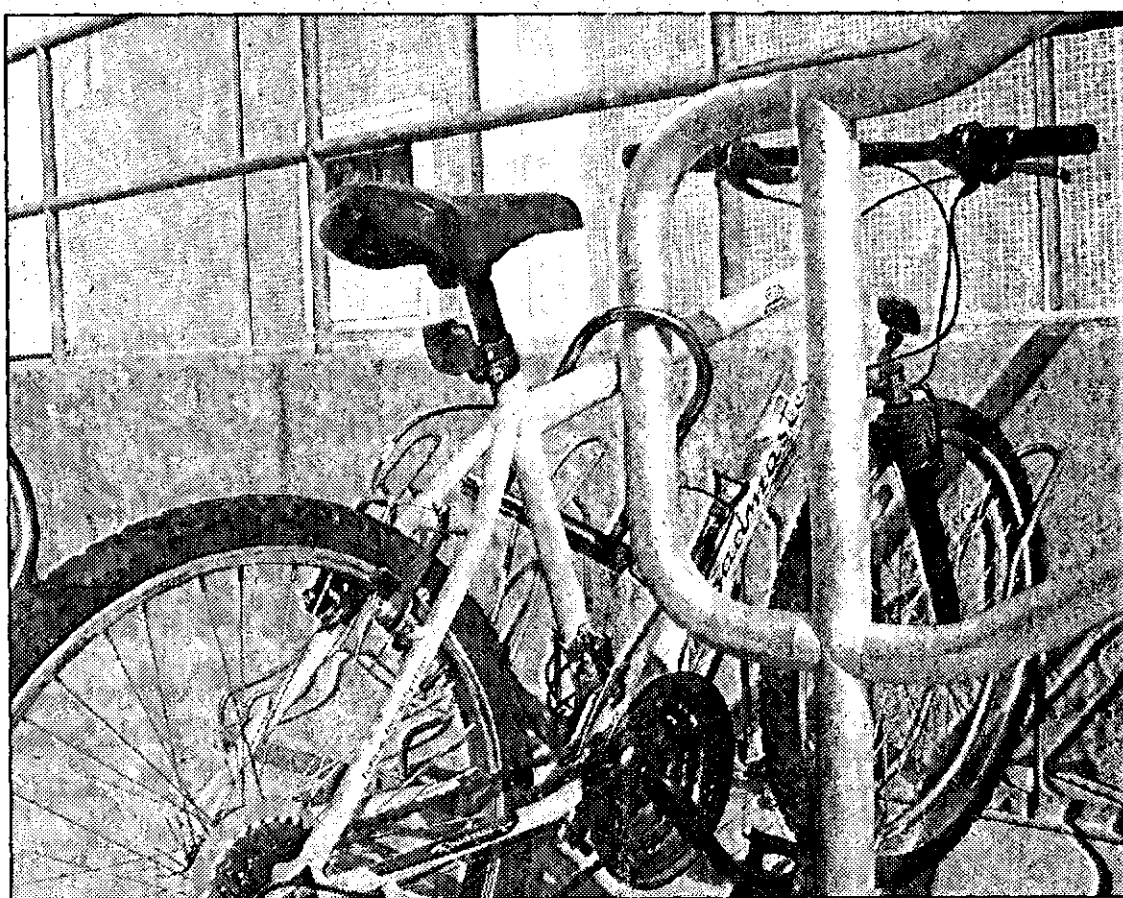
Don't think the Red Cross needs your help? "There are hundreds of surgeries and a big requirement for blood. Every holiday, or every time it rains, accidents increase along with the demand for blood," according to Gale.

"This is a good opportunity to give back to our community. You can save somebody's life. It's not really that big of an inconvenience when you think about it. You are offering the gift of life."

Later that day, there will be a prevention unit in the Falcon Square promoting Natural Heart month. The American Heart Association, along with a list of local health agencies, will be on hand offering free glucose and blood pressure screenings. "We invite all students to stop by," Gale said.

Gale hopes to establish a blood drive twice a year; the beginning of every Fall and Spring semester. "It's a minor inconvenience to help and to care for our community."

For further information please call (562) 860-2451 ext.2321.



Photos by Laura Aguilar

One of the many bikes on campus tied to a pole instead of a bike rack.

Pedal chained to metal

TERESE LEON
ASE EDITOR

Students tying bikes to trees and poles instead of bike racks has become a problem over the last couple of weeks.

Police Chief Richard Bukowiecki said that recently so many bikes have been tied to poles and trees that pedestrians are starting to complain. "The bikes are a hazard to pedestrians," Bukowiecki said.

The campus police will start citing bike-riders who tie their bikes to poles and trees instead of bike racks. Bikes may even be impounded.

Julio Oregel, an Art major, sometimes ties his bike to poles, trees or "anything secure" because there isn't enough room on the bike racks. No one has ever told him to un-tie his bike from trees or poles.

Oregel said, "There's not

enough bike racks and the one in front of The Burnight Theater is always full."

There are a few other bike racks on campus but their locations are inconvenient so they are mostly empty.

Gardener Bill Griffin sees no harm in tying bikes to trees. He said that the bikes don't harm the trees in anyway, in fact the only thing wrong with tying a bike to a tree is that it might get scratched.

Teachers get 5%

Continued on page 2

budget can accommodate a raise and feels that is time for the faculty to enjoy some of the wealth they helped the college to generate.

"Over the course of the last nine years Cerritos College has enjoyed a substantial increase in the number of students and in the income that this institution generates, and our increases over the years amount to something like 1.8 percent which is less than the cost of living."

So in effect we have taken salary deductions while the institutions has enjoyed financial increases."

Salary conditions sparked the boycott but it was not the only reason faculty members attended.

Susan Ashe an English professor at Cerritos College who attended the boycott and commented, "It is not just the amount of money that we are getting but the whole process of dealing with us. We believe the administration especially the president needs to honor the commitments they have made to us."

We think that we deserve to be dealt with and negotiated with in an honorable way and we feel like it hasn't been done."

While all faculty members will benefit from a salary increases not everyone attended the boycott.

"Although I am delighted to see how few faculty members attended

the meeting I would have preferred that they would all have stood fast with me because I'm here for them," said the Salary Committee chair.

Attendees of the staff meeting were pleased with the way faculty members chose to show their unhappiness.

Steve Helfgot Vice President of Public Affairs was among them.

"There are lots of things that people can do to show their unhappiness. This was kind of a mild responsible way of doing it. No work went undone and no classes went untaught so I think this was a moderate way to protest."

Faculty members are not threatening to leave Cerritos if their salary demands are not met, but they plan to continue to make their voices heard.

"If the salary agreement is ratified, the Board is set to approve the settlement at its next meeting," Fabish said.

The settlement affects full-time faculty only. Part-time employees are likely to receive a salary enhancement this year, but through a separate funding source.

"I hope that a modest action like this is enough to make the administration see that our excellence need to be recognized," he said.

SYLVIA DURAN CONTRIBUTED TO THIS STORY.

CalWorks

Continued on page 2

the reduced funds but this is only the beginning of a very long process," Harmon said.

Employees are pleased that the president is supportive of CalWorks

and they are hopeful that the program will be able to continue.

"It is nice to hear the our school president is acknowledging our worries," Rodriguez said.

online this week

Our print edition
is just the beginning.

Over 600,000 scholarships
and \$3 billion in awards

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cartoons, satire

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after college

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EDITORIAL

Page 3

TALON MARKS

Feb. 13, 2002

EDITORIAL

Worth the Sweat?

Workers wage: 20 cents an hour.
Product: 60 dollars a piece.
Company value: billions of dollars.
Workers sweat: priceless, no value at all.
What are sweatshops?
Shops where the sweat of the workers is valued less than mud.
Sweatshops are factories that are used by corporate companies to make their products at very low costs.

This way the company can sell their high quality product, made cheaply, for a substantial amount of money and make an incredible profit. This maximizes profits for the company but at a bitter, immoral price.

Young children and uneducated adults work over 60 back breaking hours a week for less than pennies an hour.

Workers are forced to labor away in unsanitary and dangerous conditions.

Some people support sweat shops and believe that shop workers should be thankful to have a paying job.

When infact they can't even afford the basic needs of life, even in the poor communities they struggle in.

It is believed that these types of shops only occur in third world countries.

This is a myth, they exist even in America, the country based on freedom, equality, and righteousness.

It might be hard to avoid buying products that are not made in sweatshops, partly because the average consumer may not know where their products originated from.

But it is not as hard as some people think it is to take action.

Even something as simple as an e-mail can cause the actions of corporations to improve and use policies that benefit both sides.

If just one person pitches in a hand, changes can be made.

Amongst things like boycotting products of companies that employ sweatshop workers and protesting, individuals should inquire about the products they purchase.

The freedom for information must be acknowledged and ignorance must be demolished towards the treatment of our fellow workers across the globe.

With united efforts we can pressure and make companies use labels that state how and where their products were made.

Toys, clothing, farm produces, everything can be made clean of human greed.

To treat our brothers and sisters completely unfairly is simply wrong if not consciously bad.

If students would like to help make a better community, gain more knowledge by e-mailing, calling, and writing the companies that are known to employ sweat shops workers.

A little devotion of time may help better the whole world.

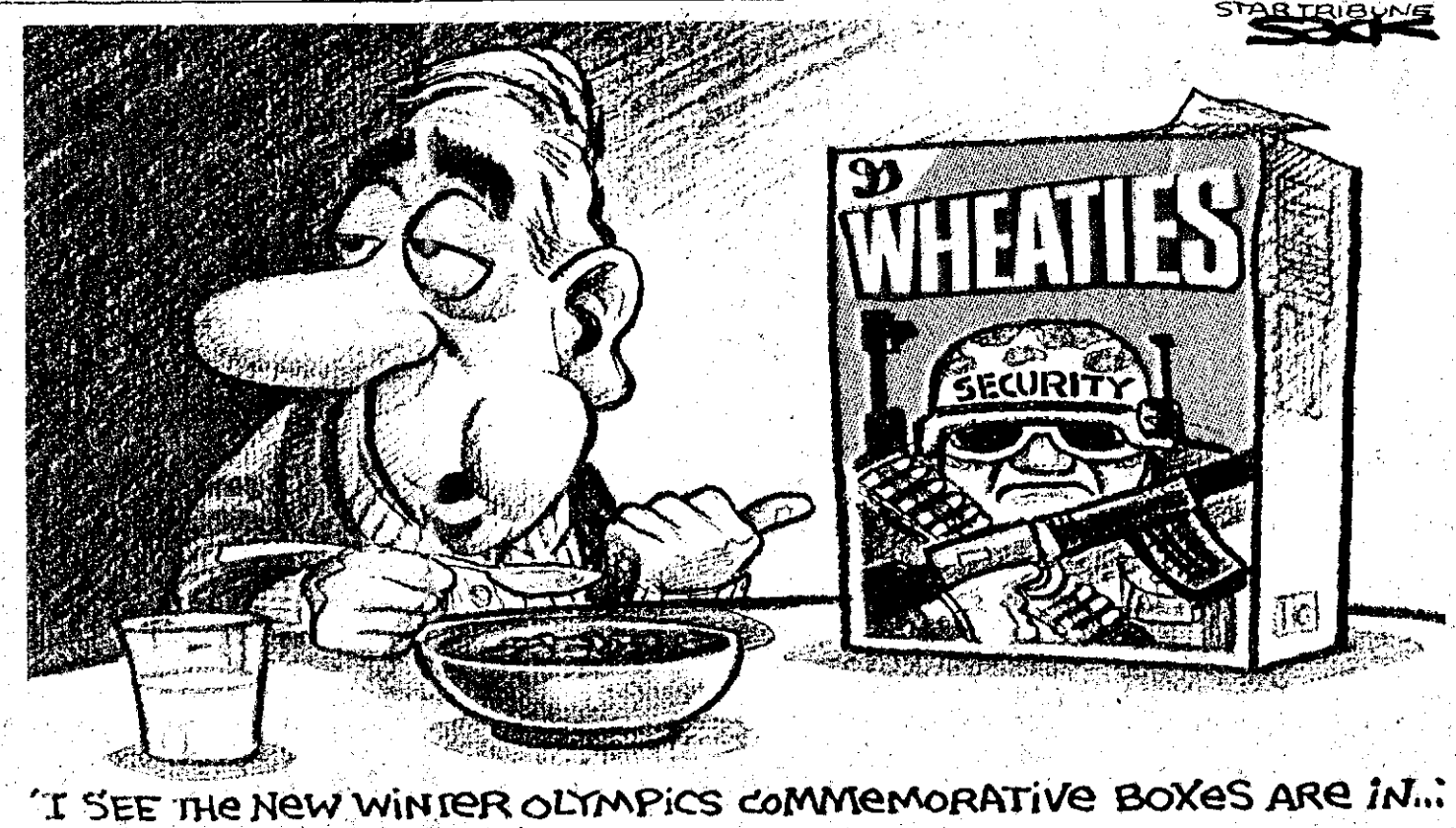
Where is the money is going?

To add to the billion dollar swimming pool of green while others suffer starvation.

To find out more about working coinditions in these shops read books

No one is too old or too young to help.

Imagine yourself in shoes of the mistreated.



Romance is in the air. . .



JIMMY MISTRY
Staff Writer

Having Valentine's Day is like having a birthday dedicated to love.

It is something everyone has, wants, and needs. It only makes sense to devote a day to love. In fact it doesn't make sense because everyday should be a day of Love. Everyone gets to have chocolate, flowers, and of course the over the top attention of your significant other.

If you are still in a search for your significant other, Valentine's Day gives you all the opportunities, excuses and reasons you would need to confess to your crush

about your devotion. How each and every waking moment you pray to run into them. Meet them, get lost in the abyss of their cosmic eyes.

Isn't it funny how everything turns good when you meet the other.

How cherry flavored food stops tasting like medicine, how chocolate makes you happy instead of fat, how flower pollen makes you smile instead of sneeze.

Every step you take feels like you're walking on clouds.

Besides, Valentine's Day doesn't have to be about only the significant other. It can be about making people happy. You can give out your admiration to everyone.

It might not mean much to you, even though it should, but it would make the other person's day!

And all it takes is a flower or a chocolate or a hug or a smile and a delightful thought.

If all other reasons fail to please you, the best reason to like Valentine's Day is so you can sing songs aloud and act happy and everyone would just assume you just received a special gift from the special someone. That special someone that you've not only been day dreaming about and unconsciously taking in oxygen for.

You can even skip all the way across the campus or your office and the feeling is always shared. Well, maybe some people might get annoyed, but that's just because they didn't get any special gifts.

Just snicker in your naughty mind and share your glowing chocolate with them!

What a hokey holiday!



TERESE LEON
A&E EDITOR

American holidays are WEIRD. On the fourth of July we celebrate our independence with colorful explosives and barbecued meat.

On Halloween we dress up little kids as dead people and send them around to our neighbors begging for candy.

On Valentine's Day, we celebrate our love. It sounds like the most normal holiday of all, because nothing is more natural and normal than love.

In fact, love is so natural and normal that having one day a year set aside to celebrate it makes me kind of suspicious. Why are we celebrating our love for one another on only one day? Shouldn't we show our girlfriends/boyfriends that we

love them everyday?

So I did a little research to find out exactly who this St. Valentine guy is and why he has a whole day of love devoted to him.

I found out that no one knows who he is. Not even the history channel's website can tell you.

Which leads me to believe that Valentine's Day was created by Hallmark. They had a lull between Christmas and Easter card sales so they called up Hershey's and together created a new holiday.

Pretty soon 1-800-flowers got in on the act and now once a year guys are forced to spend way too much money to improve their love to their girlfriends.

And their girlfriends are probably faking that they like the gifts anyway, because face it, if you let a guy buy jewelry without help from you, it's going to be tacky.

And candy rots your teeth and makes you fat, especially those one-pound boxes from See's. Flowers die and cards are overly sentimental, not to mention that they're not even written by the person that bought them for you.

If you're single on this day, you've really got a bad deal. Having to watch all the happy lovebirds kissing everywhere you go, having to listen to all your friends' romantic plans, if you don't feel like a loser at the beginning of the day, you will by the end, just wait.

So just make the best out of a bad situation, whether you're single or not. Boycott the whole holiday and everything related to it. Wear black, listen to Bikini Kill, visit heartless-bitches.com, don't order a raspberry white mocha from Starbucks, don't hold anyone's hand, look for ripped up valentines and smashed flowers in the gutter. Do it all because Valentine's Day sucks.

TALON MARKS

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Campus Comment:

What is the most interesting gift you've given or received for Valentine's Day?

COMPILED BY
ERIKA PALMA, DANIEL AGUILAR

ONLINE POLL how will you celebrate valentine's day.

- ☐ eat candy
- ☐ spend it with your boyfriend/ girlfriend
- ☐ wear black
- ☐ protest
- ☐ check email
- ☐ Singles Bar

Register answer online at
www.talonmarks.com
Results are immediately available.

Outside the business Education building the first tree on the left, I hired a professional singer to sing a song for her. However she left for Berkeley and ended our romance.
James Santos English



Last year I was bumming out because I didn't have a valentine and I was missing my ex. My good friend bought me a rose and took me out to lunch to make me feel better.
Terina Armenta Psychology



I got reservations at Sequoia's in Georgetown. I had just come from a theatrical production of "Miss Saigon" we had balcony seats at the restaurant Terina great view of the river.
Myung Choi



Last year my three best friends got together and got me balloons, candy and flowers. I was going thru tough times and they cheered me up!!
Faviola Ochoa Business Ad.



I was rolling at a rave and this guy looked so fine to me so we went out the day before valentines and when I was sober he looked so ugly I dised him on Valentines at the last minute.
St. errie Seng Scragg



I made a valentines card out of my shirt, I decorated it with red hearts and leopard prints. It was really creative and cute.
Germaine Renner Business



In the 12th grade I bought my girl 12 long stem red roses, and a 5 foot Teddy Bear to school for her.
Ray Morrow Electronics



I took my girlfriend shopping she tried on a dress for prom, she said she couldn't afford it. The next day I bought it for her and kept the dress in my room for almost three month.
Mick Cunvons.



Made for Mtv: Pretty faces for hire

JIMMY MISTRY
STAFF WRITER

If you want to buy one CD this year, just one, don't make it Soul Sista by R&B/Soul artist Ketara Keke Wyatt.

Unless you are into people trying to make music just for money.

Wyatt adds tunes to the words.

Words that she didn't write.

Most of the songs on the CD Soul Sista are written by the producer of the CD, Steve Huff.

The ones that aren't are covers. Like If Only You Know originally done by Patti LaBelle. Steve Huff also deserves credit for the crackling instrumentals.

He is one testosterone-filled mamma jamma man, like a young teen male with

a one-track mind.

All the songs are basically about getting it on.

You might wonder what songs aren't about that these days, well keep wondering. With lyrics like Put your hands on my thighs while I'm staring in your brown eyes... I don't care what the others say there is nothing I wouldn't do for you... us in the rain... I love it when you scream my name, going 60 in the third lane, we pull over in the parking lot and we park in my favorite spot doing just about anything.

The superficiality does not end.

The songs completely lack a theme.

Wyatt was quoted on Music Remedies.com, Each song I chose to do I totally related to. All songs written

reflect who I am, and many of my real life experiences.

Wow, she must have had some very important life learning experience while the guy was putting his hand on her thighs.

And who can't relate to credit cards, shopping, and dissing the opposite sex?

This CD sounds like something you'd hear at a classy restaurant at a very low volume because the restaurant people want you to pay attention to your own conversation.

Your instincts would automatically ignore what sounds like chefs getting in a fight in the kitchen, but is actually the music from the speakers.

The songs do not have that flare of ups and downs, or that symphony that makes

one's heart fill with emotional wisdom or weep by sharing the pain.

How music pulls and pushes you in different directions, gets you hyper or calms you down.

Instead it's a static repetition of everyday life problems and the kitchen earthquake music.

My man playing ball in the prison court calls me up on my cell phone but I'm too busy shopping for myself got bills to pay. Yes, tell us more about this interesting phenomenon that is life, Steve.

We all just want to hear about the miniscule of troubles daily life brings.

Hmm, if anyone wants to get a record label deal with MCA, please write down

how your cell phone slipped from your hand or how you saw a guy driving in his Benz today.

Please share the profits with me when you become rich.

That's just for the lyrics and the instruments, as for Wyatt, the 20-year-old has potential.

Having been in a gospel at the age of 2 and singing for the choir while in high school is seriously impressive.

At 14 she met the guy who saw a pretty face and decided to put it to good money making use.

At 15 she joined the early version of Destiny's Child.

And if you listen to the CD you'll know she looks and sings the part till now.



Sgt. Connie Parker (Laura Linney) is called to the home of Dehise (Lucinda Jenney) and Gordon Smallwood (Will Patton) to question a mysterious stranger in "The Mothman Prophecies."

Mothman reveals intimate look at bizarre happenings

SYLVIA DURAN
OPINION EDITOR

The Mothman Prophecies, based on true events, explains the supernatural events that took place in Point Pleasant, Virginia. The movie, directed by Mark Pellington, gives the audience a detailed intimate look at the bizarre events involving the legendary Mothman.

Richard Gere and Laura Linney deliver performances that will keep the audience at the edge of their seat, ready to dash out of the theatre, that is. Though the Mothman doesn't make any physical appearances, he does make a couple of revealing phone calls that will leave the audience questioning the authenticity of the so-called true events.

Washington Post reporter, John Kline (Gere), goes for a short drive and ends up in Point Pleasant, Virginia, hundreds of miles away from home. The small town is plagued by bizarre occurrences and haunted by a Moth-like creature. The extraordinary episodes are linked to impending disasters. Kline hopes to link the supernatural events to the mysterious death of his wife, that took

place a couple of years earlier.

The Mothman Prophecies is ideal for those who believe in the supernatural and are enticed by the unknown. I do not recommend this movie to skeptics nor people with short attention spans as the movie tends to lag at moments.

Mark Pellington could have made the movie a little more interesting. He had the right plans and facts, but instead of running with the idea, he lagged and consequently produced an ordinary film that made little or no impression on the audience.

I was very disappointed with the movie. I was hoping to see the Mothman. But the darn thing never did make an appearance. So now, like the rest of the audience, I am still curious to see the Mothman.

Instead, I sat there wishing it would end soon and wondering what's for dinner.

Whether the events really did take place or if they are just a fragment of a population's overactive imagination.

Kenyatta entertains students in his one-man play Thursday

TARA CARTER
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Who was Paul Robeson?

Cerritos College students asked themselves that very question as they entered the Burnight Theatre last Tuesday.

They emerged knowing the life story of one man and the struggle of an entire race of people.

In a celebration of Black history month Stogie Amir Kenyatta, a classically trained actor, brought the life story of African American trial blazer to Robeson to life as he starred in the one man play entitled "The Life and Times of Paul Robeson."

Kenyatta skillfully interlaced comedy, poetry, and music with an intriguing way of story telling to tell the story of one of the first black historical figures in the United States.

Robeson born to slaves overcame racism, discrimination and personal tragedy to become an acclaimed scholar, athlete, actor, and "citizen of the world."

Following his father's advice to take a stand and persevere, Robeson became the first black lawyer hired to a national law firm, the third black student admitted to Rutgers University and the first black man to portray Shakespeare's Othello in a Broadway play.

A speaker of 20 languages and a traveler of the world, Robeson used his popularity to speak out against racism, the Vitenamn war the liberation of Africa.

Although Kenyatta's portrayal depicted the story of one man, the struggle of a people was felt through out the play.

Despite Robeson's accomplishments, he was surrounded by racism.

Theatres that allowed him to perform to sell out crowds one night wouldn't even let him through the front door the next, and although he was a highly paid lawyer his white secretary refused to take dictation from him.

Irene Rojas, a Cerritos College student who attended the play, was amazed at the accomplishments Robeson made despite the racist mind set of Robeson's time.

"Black people were so discriminated against back then. It's interesting to see Robeson accomplished so much."

Kenyatta wanted to inspire the audience with his performance.

"I want people to learn from this play. I want them to follow Robeson's example and know that there is absolutely nothing that they can't accomplish."



Actor Stogie Amir Kenyatta enchanted an audience with his portrayal as Paul Robeson.

How Do You Feel?

In a hundred words or less tell us how you feel about the death penalty. Email responses to TM editor at ceritos.edu

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SPORTS

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TALON MARKS

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MEN'S BASKETBALL

Falcons claim sole possession of first place

Since winning their first South Coast Conference championship back in 1970-71, the Cerritos College men's basketball team has gone more than two years between winning titles only once (1975-79).

It has been two years since the Falcons have won a conference title, but made great strides in winning their 17th SCC title after defeating Long Beach City (67-61) and Los Angeles Harbor (78-54) last week.

With the wins, the Falcons are now in sole possession of first place with just four regular season games remaining.

This week, Cerritos (21-6, 5-1) will face two tough opponents on the road. On Wednesday, the Falcons will travel to Compton to face the Tartars, while they are slated to face El Camino on Friday, with both games scheduled for 7:30 p.m.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Cerritos breezes past competition

The Cerritos College women's basketball team had little trouble holding on to first place in the South Coast Conference South Division last week, as it defeated Long Beach City (100-66) and Los Angeles Harbor (78-22).

With the wins, the Falcons are 22-5 overall and 6-0 in the division, with just four regular season games left in the season.

This week, Cerritos will travel to Compton on Wednesday and to El Camino on Friday, with both games to start at 5:30 p.m. In their first meetings, the Falcons defeated the Lady Tartars (98-28) and the Warriors (80-30).

Sophomore forward Antares Vice connected on 12-of-13 shots, while she added nine rebounds, five steals and two assists to her game-high 29 points.

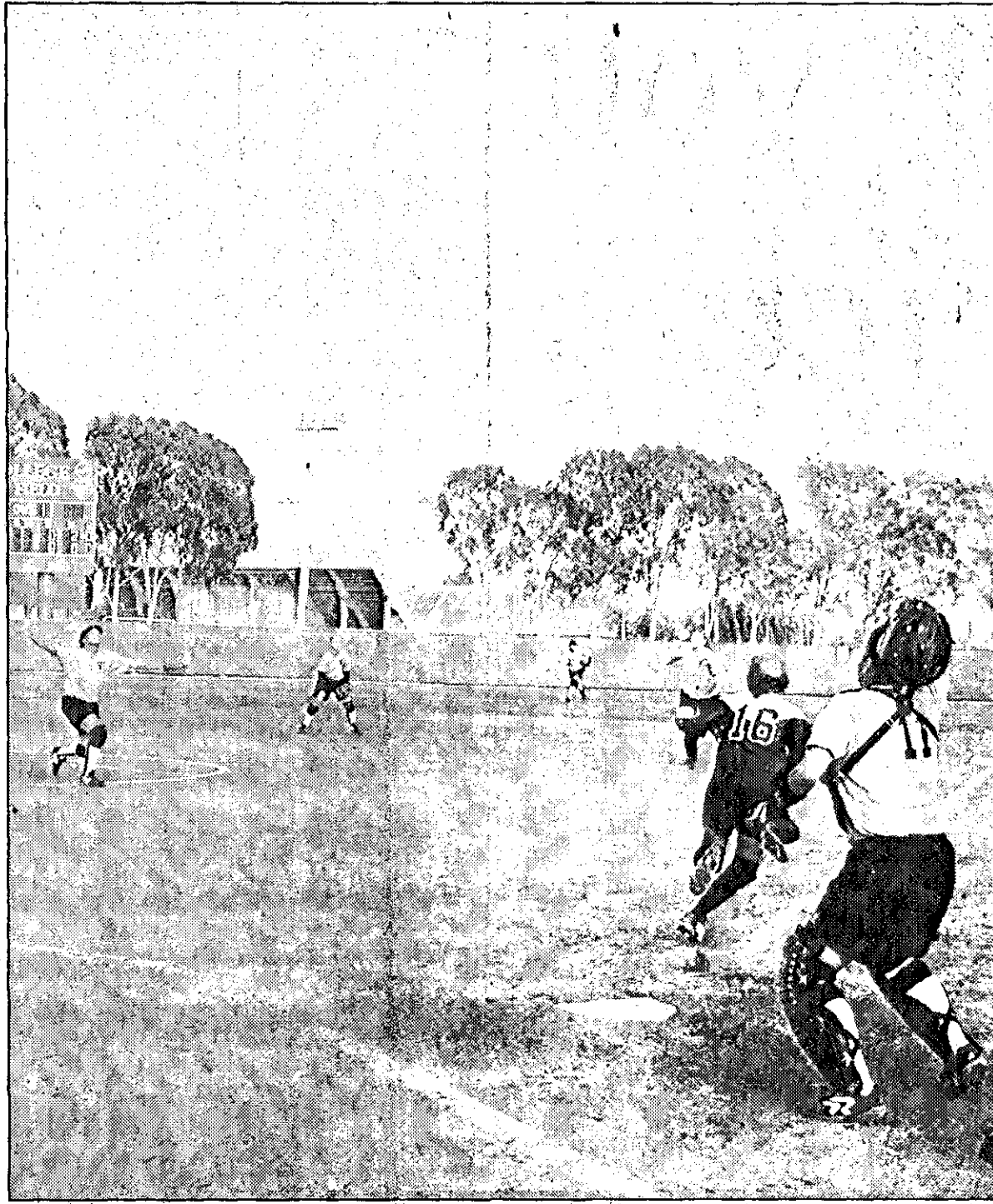


Photo by Daniel Aguilar

Cerritos' Samanah Sadri runs out a infield pop fly against Ventura College last week in a non-conference game. The Falcons lost the game 3-0. This week the Falcons (6-3, 0-1) will host Mt. San Antonio on Friday in conference action, while they will travel to Santa Barbara on Saturday for games against the Vaqueros and Saddleback.

New attitude for mostly new track team

MARISOL ROJAS

ASSOCIATE EDITOR

The brand new Cerritos College women's track team is looking forward to an exciting season with its experienced athletes.

Eighty-five percent of the Women's track team is composed of freshmen athletes. Coach Michael Allen is excited in "assessing their future potential." This fresh team may be new here to Cerritos, but most are definitely not new to the sport.

Yunique Pettigrew and Dawn Riles both come from Mayfair High School. Both were on the track team at their school participating in multiple events such as hurdles and distant running.

April Brown and Cora Diggins went All State at Bellflower High School. Adding on to the team are returning players such as Erica Thompson and Tanisha Cole. Both hold school records in sprint.


While recruiting for new athletes Allen insists on getting parents involved in their child's academic future. He informs parents from the beginning that track at Cerritos isn't always fun and games, it is also about taking care of business. "We want to promote a healthy academic environment. It's a total program."

Winning isn't the top priority for this team. Allen has little tolerance for athletes who don't take their academics as seriously as they take the game. "If they really, really want to win they have to get things done in the classroom."

The team insists on making use of the services offered at school, like tutoring and the computer labs, to help improve their education. Allen said, "We're getting a positive response from the community." He recently let go of some of his returning players because they were unable to keep up with their studies.

Besides providing "academic excellence" the track coaches insist on providing total training to help improve their athletes potential on the field. Weight training, athletic videos on publicized track events as well as their own meets allow the women's track team to "tap their potential further."

It's nice to stroll down the long halls of academia, but there's something to be said for completion.

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ALICIA WARNER
FEATURES EDITOR

It is classic. How many times have you heard the teachers on the campus tell students to shut off their phones during class? No matter how many times they tell students, those darn cell phones start to ring during the lecture. What seems to be the latest craze in the United States is being able to have the best cell phone with the most features including all the multi-ring tones.

Betty Vasquez, Liberal Arts major, 43, has a cell phone of her own. "I got one mainly to check on my kids at home," Vasquez says. Though Vasquez commented on not liking the phone from AT&T because of the really bad reception.

So what do people, mainly students, want to know when they are in search for the best plan, smallest phone or the best quality in a cell phone? The main focus is that students tend to use their phones like a house phone. So how do students keep a low-cost phone with the best features with the latest trends?

Cell phones, though, are not for everyone. Tasha Maillette, 19, explains that she doesn't have one because she sees no need for one. While trying to think why people need cell phones in the first place she feels it's "Because they have to feel important, needed, and not alone," Maillette commented.

People have many choices to make and questions that need to be answered while in search of a cell phone. How long will the battery last? Will it be easy to use? What kind of features does it come with? But when it really comes down to which kind of cell phone the consumer wants, it's the type of plan that makes people seek out certain companies.

Cell phone manufacturers such as Audiovox, Nokia and Motorola are on their way to coming up with the latest models of sleeker, less-expensive digital handsets with longer lasting batteries.

There are options available for cell phone users such as voice-activated dialing, caller-ID, voice mail and plenty of memory.

The new high-tech options for the phones come with instant messaging, e-mail access, and web browsing. Along with the new options come a bigger cost to the consumer. Though some of these new options will take some of your monthly minutes.

There are two types of plans when in search of a cell phone. The plan that is usually offered is the pre-paid phone, where the consumer would pay for minutes. The most typical buyers of the pre-paid plans are people with little or no

credit history. The draw backs with the pre-paid phone is that the consumer is limited to a certain amount of minutes and there is no trendy model phones that come with this type of plan.

The other type of plan is the Contract plan, which is a plan that offers a certain amount of minutes for a flat monthly fee. Prices can range from the lowest at \$10 for about 10 minutes of air time to a \$400 plan that would offer as much as 4,000 minutes. Usually the more amount of minutes the consumer buys, the lower cost per minute.

Draw back of the flat monthly fee is if the consumer goes over the allotment of minutes, the company can charge at a rate of anywhere from 25 to 65 cents per minute. So while the consumer wants to be able to use his or her phone, a word of warning don't go over the minutes unless willing to pay the extra money.

In order to terminate the contract, some consumers can pay as much as \$200 to be released from the contract he or she signed.

The best option for consumers who want to research all the deals and packages that companies have to offer is to take a look at Consumer Reports Magazine. No fancy talk needed to confuse the consumer and no buying gimmicks

that will leave the consumer unsatisfied.

Take time in picking a plan that is right and won't end up costing an arm and a leg.

With cell phones as one of the leading causes of car accidents. Some state governments are taking another look at a law to ban the use of cell phones while driving a car.

"They should be outlawed. No one can drive and talk at the same time," Vasquez says.

Tasha Maillette agrees with Vasquez, "All cell phones are a distraction in the car and all they do is cause more accidents with people not paying attention to the road ahead of them."

Even though cell phones can be costly and annoying when the ringer goes off in class, cell phones can be quite helpful.

In the case of Columbine High School, where two shooters gunned down students and teachers. Students were able to call the police on their cell phones to let them know what was happening and where some students were injured.

With the recent terrorism attack on Sept. 11, passengers on the airlines and civilians in the World Trade Center used cell phones to help police and FBI know what was happening on the aircraft and in the World Trade Centers.



Talking on — Shawna Cupples seems to be enjoying her conversation on her cell phone while taking a break from class time. The Quad has more phones on it than Ma Bell herself recently.

Brand and Model	Overall Score	Voice Quality		Ease of Use	Battery Life	Talk Time		Tested Battery Capacity	Dimensions	Weight
		Noisy Bkgrd	Quiet Bkgrd			Digital	Analog			
CDMA HANDSETS (compatible with service offered by Alltel, Sprint, PCS, U.S. Cellular, and Verizon Wireless)										
SAMSUNG SCH3500	Very Good	Very Good	Very Good	Very Good	Good	2:49	1:38	1,000 mAh	4 in. x 2.0 in x 1.1 in.	5.3 oz.
MOTOROLA P8160	Very Good	Good	Very Good	Very Good	Very Good	5:24	2:16	900 mAh	3.6x2.1x1.1 in.	4.4 oz.
AUDIOVOX CDM-9000	Very Good	Very Good	Good	Very Good	Good	3:59	1:21	950 mAh	5.5x1.8x1 in.	4.7 oz.
MOTOROLA SC3160	Very Good	Good	Good	Good	Excellent	6:36	2:58	1,350 mAh	4.5x1.7x1.5 in.	6.9 oz.
NOKIA 6185	Very Good	Very Good	Good	Good	Good	4:08	1:43	1,500 mAh	5x1.8x1.3 in.	5.8 oz.
QUALCOMM QCP 860	Very Good	Very Good	Very Good	Good	Fair	2:15	0:47	n/a	5.5x2.1x0.8 in.	4.5 oz.
NOKIA 5180	Good	Very Good	Good	Good	Good	2:43	1:04	900 mAh	5.2x2x1.2 in.	6 oz.
TDMA HANDSETS (compatible with service offered by AT&T Wireless, Cingular, and U.S. Cellular)										
MOTOROLA ST7790	Very Good	Very Good	Very Good	Very Good	Fair	2:13	1:03	550 mAh	3.7x2x1.1 in.	4.3 oz.
ERICSSON R280	Very Good	Very Good	Very Good	Good	Good	2:28	1:28	800 mAh	5x2x0.8 in.	6.2 oz.
ERICSSON T18	Very Good	Very Good	Good	Good	Fair	2:38	1:12	750 mAh	4x1.9x0.9 in.	5.3 oz.
MOTOROLA T8097	Very Good	Good	Very Good	Good	Good	2:16	1:16	900 mAh	3.6x2.1x1.1 in.	4.8 oz.
NOKIA 5160	Good	Good	Very Good	Good	Fair	2:03	1:01	900 mAh	5.2x1.9x1.2 in.	6.3 oz.
NOKIA 6160	Good	Good	Very Good	Good	Good	2:15	1:15	900 mAh	5.1x1.9x1.2 in.	6.1 oz.

Did You Know?

Dialing 911

Americans ring 911 from cell phones 118,000 times a day, and while most emergency calls get through, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) cannot say how many do not. Serious shortcoming in emergency-call services because some 911 calls aren't routed to the closest response center. "Enhanced" 911, now being developed under FCC order, will pinpoint locations, but its rollout is still nearly a year off.

Consumer Reports

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