

# TALON MARKS

CERRITOS COLLEGE

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## Aid delayed, Cerritos feels effects



**Before and After:** Left: A delay in financial aid disbursement kept students from purchasing books at the bookstore. Right: The on-time arrival of financial aid in August allowed students to purchase and rent the books they needed.

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Luis Meza, computer science major, expected to receive his financial aid money on the first day of school; instead he received an email on Dec. 20 from financial aid stating that his money would not be available until Jan. 20.

This meant that Meza could not use the money for school purposes, "It's not fair because they

set the date for Jan. 10 and now it's getting pushed back, I need the money to buy books for my classes," he said.

"Not only do I need it for books, I also need it for necessities such as food, gas, and bills. My phone insurance is late because I don't have the money to pay for it," Meza added.

The push back is affecting students across campus that are dependent on the money they receive.

Jossue Carrillo, kinesiology major, also shared the same predicament as Meza. Carrillo said, "I was supposed to use the money to buy books for my classes but that's going to have to wait," as he was browsing the bookstore estimating the cost of his books.

### Students Stranded

Jamie Quiroz, financial aid specialist, addressed that "system changes were the main reason"

why financial aid was pushed back.

Among the system changes included, every student that qualifies for financial aid has to meet the requirement of Satisfactory Academic Process (SAP).

The Financial Aid Office now monitors each student's academic progress by making sure each student meets certain regulations, like maintaining a 2.0 GPA and the completion of units.

"In the past, we only monitored that once a year, now the Feds are changing it to be every semester.

"We had to make changes to our system to accommodate that. It was a pretty major change," Quiroz said.

Along with all of the major changes that the department underwent, it had to do a lot of testing, which started before the fall semester and was expected to be up and running before spring semester was in session.

Quiroz said that they made the decision to postpone the disbursement date during the break, "Because that's when we said 'we're getting too close, I don't know if we're going to get this done in time

and we cannot disburse aid to students if they are not eligible."

Kimberly Westby, dean of student support services, said, "We (Financial Aid) felt confident running disbursements the first day of school, because it's actual enrollment versus anticipated enrollment." With anticipated enrollment, there would be a fluctuation of adds and drops the Friday before school would start.

Quiroz added, "We disbursed on [Jan. 10], and it just takes time for the disbursements to go through students' financial and fiscal services and Higher One and that is what takes Monday through Friday."

Another determining factor that affects the arrival of money to students is how fast grades are posted.

With SAP being checked every semester, as opposed to every year, financial aid cannot release money to students until they have been checked to see if they are up to par with the requirements.

"We still have some small population of students that we're waiting for their grades to be posted,"

**See Financial Aid Page 2**

## Possible cuts call to raise tuition

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Students learned that there was more to worry about than congested parking lots and long lines at the bookstore on the first day of the spring semester: a possible future fee increase.

Last Monday, seven days after taking office, California Gov. Jerry Brown released his first draft of the state's 2011-12 budget which includes a proposed \$10 per-unit fee increase for the state's community colleges.

The state legislature can now choose whether or not to adopt the budget as early as June 30.

Nursing student Teresa Torres, whose enrollment fee is covered by the Board of Governors Fee Waiver, does not receive any further financial aid and has begun calculating the fee increase into her expenses.

"If you're taking 12 units, that's 120 bucks extra. That's a book right there," she said.

Community college students seeking transfer into the University of California and California State University systems would likely also pay the price of Brown's proposed \$500 million cut to both institutions, according to Cerritos College President Linda Lacy.

"Students will either see another increase in tuition or reduction in the number of students accepted," Lacy said.

Nursing student Karina Orejel empathizes with students who have fallen victim to fee increases, but recognizes the importance of funding public services.

"It stinks for people who don't go to school already because of the cost, but I know that in California there are a lot of good services available that come with a price," she said.

"If I had to pay \$10 a unit more for someone to keep healthcare, I would be okay with it," she added.

Both UC and CSU systems previously approved 8 percent and 5 percent respective fee increases last November, days after Brown was voted into office.

Orejel attributes the current fee increase proposal to the \$28-million state deficit.

"I think that any increase is unpleasant, but at the same time, our

**See Budget Cuts Page 2**

## Reece prepares for new position, eager to help students

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"If somebody had to pencil in a job that just felt perfect, this would be it."

Bryan Reece used this scenario to describe his "dream job" as the new dean of student success and institutional effectiveness, a position aimed at improving student success rates at Cerritos College.

Reece began his job on Jan. 1 and claims to enact plans he had for Cerritos that are three years in the making.

Some of his 53 plans include working with faculty and improving traditional and online tools for students.

"A lot of these projects may have five or six people working on them and staying on

top of them is the big challenge right now," Reece said.

Reece says that in order to improve student success, student input is necessary in certain fields.

"One of the big issues we're dealing with is the support services. We need input on the look and feel of the LRC (Learning Resource Center). We need to bring five or 10 times more students into this area," he said.

"You have to make it an inviting environment. There are lots of ways to make this look as we're designing it. What should it look like? What do we call it? What should the language be around it?"

Reece also mentioned that one of the biggest challenges he faces is getting students to make the "habits of mind" campaign part of

their learning experience.

Reece said, "A lot of students understand what the iFALCON habits of mind are. They get the idea that these are the behaviors of successful students and the details behind all of it. The question is: how do we get students to implement these habits of mind on a day-to-day basis?"

However, this new position did not come without some tension. When the plan to create the new position was proposed in November, faculty members of the humanities/social sciences division were concerned about how the process would occur.

Reece addressed this issue, saying that he has helped create a smooth transition, focusing on helping new dean, Rachel Mason, with her new duties.

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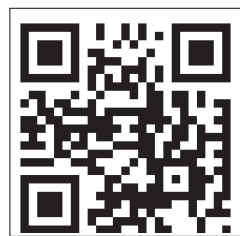


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# CERRITOS COLLEGE

## NEWS BRIEFS

Meeting held to discuss guns for campus safety

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ASCC senate members discussed firearms for campus police on Wednesday.

Among the 69 community colleges that have police departments, Cerritos College is among the three who currently do not carry firearms.

Omar Anderson, business major, said, "What happened in Arizona should allow us to give this legislature a good thought."

Construction halfway done

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As the new semester begins at Cerritos College, students are faced with the ongoing construction on campus.

Development for a better campus began in 2005. Since then, the campus has become a maze for students.

"There is a lot of construction going on and we have a bond program that is supposed to go on for five to eight years. We are at about our fourth year of our bond build-out program right now; we've got a couple more years yet to go with our bond built on numerous projects and buildings," Robert Riffle, director of physical plant facilities, said.

Free captioning services offered

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With the signing of The Twenty-First Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act of 2010, the Court Reporting and Captioning Careers departments will now offer closed captioning services to the Cerritos College staff community as skill enhancement projects for students in its department.

A web-submission form is in the works and submissions for closed captioning services will begin in mid-February and will be limited to staff and selected motion picture editing courses, according to Professor of Court Reporting, Vykki Morgan.

"The campus community initially meant the instructors, the library, instructional media, and we've done closed captioning work with film professor Steven Hirohama and his film students and their film projects. If there is the availability to do that, too, we're going to have some work experience projects and let our students work on it," Morgan said.



**Waiting:** Students waiting in line to get a free In-N-Out burger, chips, and a drink on Tuesday. The line extended from the middle of campus to as far as the Learning Resource Center.

# In-N-Out welcomes students

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Cerritos College has thrown an event to welcome returning and new students alike at the beginning of every semester for over six years. For the price of waiting in line, students can get an In-N-Out burger, a bag of chips, and a soda.

According to Amna Jara, coordinator of student activities, this is her first time helping serve food at the event.

"It's good to start off because

other colleges don't do this," ASCC senate member Mayra Cortez said.

"Today (Tuesday), we do it in the afternoon to help the students who come to school at 5:30 p.m. and on. Some students come after work and are hungry," she added.

About an hour before the event started, a long line formed with hungry students waiting for the In-N-Out truck to serve.

Raquel Ramirez, math major, said she loves In-N-Out and felt that waiting in line was worth it, "In-N-Out makes the best burgers out there and to get it for free is

awesome. It makes it worth being a student at Cerritos."

Jessie Sisneros, psychology major, describes what it was like at the end of line.

"Sure, I've got nothing else better to do while I wait until class starts, so why not?," Sisneros said.

According to Cerritos College Campus Connection on Tuesday a total of 1,800 meals were served and on Thursday a total of 1,300 meals were served, totaling to 3,100 meals on both days.

Mobile News

Scan to view a video of Welcome Day

<http://bit.ly/f7Dc1s>

## Budget Cuts: Governor Brown's budget proposal takes away from students

Continued from Page 1:

government is in way over its head; our debt is extremely deep," Orejel said.

"Education is the last place where there should be an increase. It just seems it's the last thing we should target," she added.

Lacy expressed similar concern for students.

"There is nothing good in the

budget proposal for students in higher education. In essence, students will be paying higher fees and receiving fewer services and opportunities," she said.

She offered a plan of action for students dissatisfied with the governor's plans: "Contact your local legislators."

## Financial Aid: Higher One charges students on their financial aid money

Continued from Page 1:

Quiroz said.

Late financial aid is not the only issue students are not happy about; they are not happy with their falcon cards, which are backed up by Higher One.

As of January 2010, the cost to replace a lost or stolen card is \$10 as opposed to \$20, but all of the other fees remain the same.

It costs \$0.50 if a customer uses his PIN instead of a signature; it also charges an inactivity fee of \$19 if the account has not been active for nine months and charges a \$2.50 fee if it is used at a non-Higher One ATM.

Meza said, "It's not fair at all. It takes away from the financial aid we receive."

Criminal justice major, Alberto Rodarte, said, "They should

at least have an ATM on campus," as a simple solution to avoid withdrawal fees.

A contract with School's First Credit Union doesn't allow Cerritos College to put a Higher One ATM on campus until the contract is expired in 2013.

The closest Higher One ATM location is across the street at Rodger's Catering on the corner of Alondra Blvd. and Studebaker Road.

Other ATM locations are Long Beach City College, Fullerton College and all L.A. District schools.

Westby urges students to visit Higher One's website to educate themselves on how to avoid the fees.

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# Student wrestles in to the record books

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Cerritos College's own professional wrestler, kinesiology major Michael Inman, will be in record books all across the world after breaking a Guinness world record in his wrestling match on Jan. 8.

Inman, who wrestles for the wrestling company "Epic War," under the name 'Rockstar' Mike Cordova, finally accomplished the historic seven-hour 'Iron Man' match, a match where the rules state whoever gets the most pins, and submissions in the given time limit wins the match, against Jaysin Strife, an up-and-coming wrestler, to secure their place in the Book of World Records for having the longest professional wrestling match in history.

"The match was great. It spanned through everything you can get from a match. If you wanted technical; if you wanted fighting (it was in the match); but not necessarily high flying," Inman said.

"The match was epic, to say the least."

This match is very meaningful to Inman, especially after a near fatal accident in April of 2009 where his car hit a truck and crushed him from the waist down, which fractured his pelvis, broke his tibia and destroyed his groin muscles.

"(Since the accident) I've been training up to strengthen the muscles. I have been almost 100 percent, but there is still some sensitivity in my ankles and knees; the end

of the match was where they came into play, and there was a lot of pain I had to deal with. But I think I trained enough that the injuries weren't much of a factor.

"A year and a half ago, I was in a near fatal accident, and now I'm breaking records," Inman said.

The match was originally supposed to be a six-hour match, taking place on Dec. 18 at the Murrieta Community Center, beating the five-and-a-half hour match in 1912 between Ed Lewis and Joe Stetcher, but a few reasons forced the match to be postponed.

"We had the [match] date set on Dec 18, so that gave me actually three weeks to get ready. So I was training hard and heavy; training twice a day, with cardio in the morning and cardio and weights in the evening, with the running being two to three hours.

"Luckily, we found out by a wrestling historian that the five-and-a-half match wasn't the record, and there was a six-and-a-half hour match on the (Guinness) books, so we had to beat that one. The venue (at Murrieta) was only set for six hours, and it was an extra \$500 for an extra block of time.

So we said forget it, we are going to go to another place we used to wrestle at. That actually was a great thing. (Moving the date to Jan 8) opened up more training time for me, and I didn't train as hard as I did, because I learned from my mistakes from the overtraining that I need to relax a little bit, and did more quality work," Inman said.

After the long wait, there was a last-minute change to the venue, which was moved to the promoter's house.

Though Inman lost the match to his opponent, he looked at the bigger picture.

"(Strife) deserved it. He's a rising star, and he did a great job. My heart goes out to him, because without him, we couldn't have done it. He was very professional," he said.

Fellow students are proud of Inman's accomplishments.

"(I don't know Inman personally) but I think it's amazing that a student that goes (to Cerritos College) has accomplished a world record; especially since it's something physical like wrestling," undecided major Amanda Navarro said.

"I am very happy to know that a student from our community can accomplish something like (a seven-hour wrestling match)," engineering major Caleb Shen said.

The 2012 edition of the Guinness Book of World Records, which will include Inman's record, is set to be available for the world in January of 2012.

He said, "I'm still trying to soak it all in. I'm still recovering from injuries for the match. (Feels like) I'm on 'cloud nine' right now.

"I can look in the mirror and say that we (Inman and Strife) have done something no one else has ever done.

"We are now world record holders and there's a big swell of pride that I feel, and I can't help but feel proud. I am very humble."



PHOTO COURTESY OF LAURA WILLEMSTYN

**Ready to rumble:** Kinesiology major Michael Inman (left), also known as "Rockstar" Mike Cordova, measures up opponent Jaysin Strife (right) to begin their seven-hour Iron Man match. The match now holds the Guinness World Record for the world's longest professional wrestling match.

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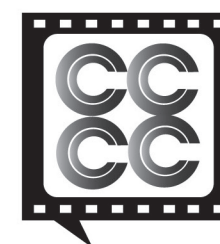


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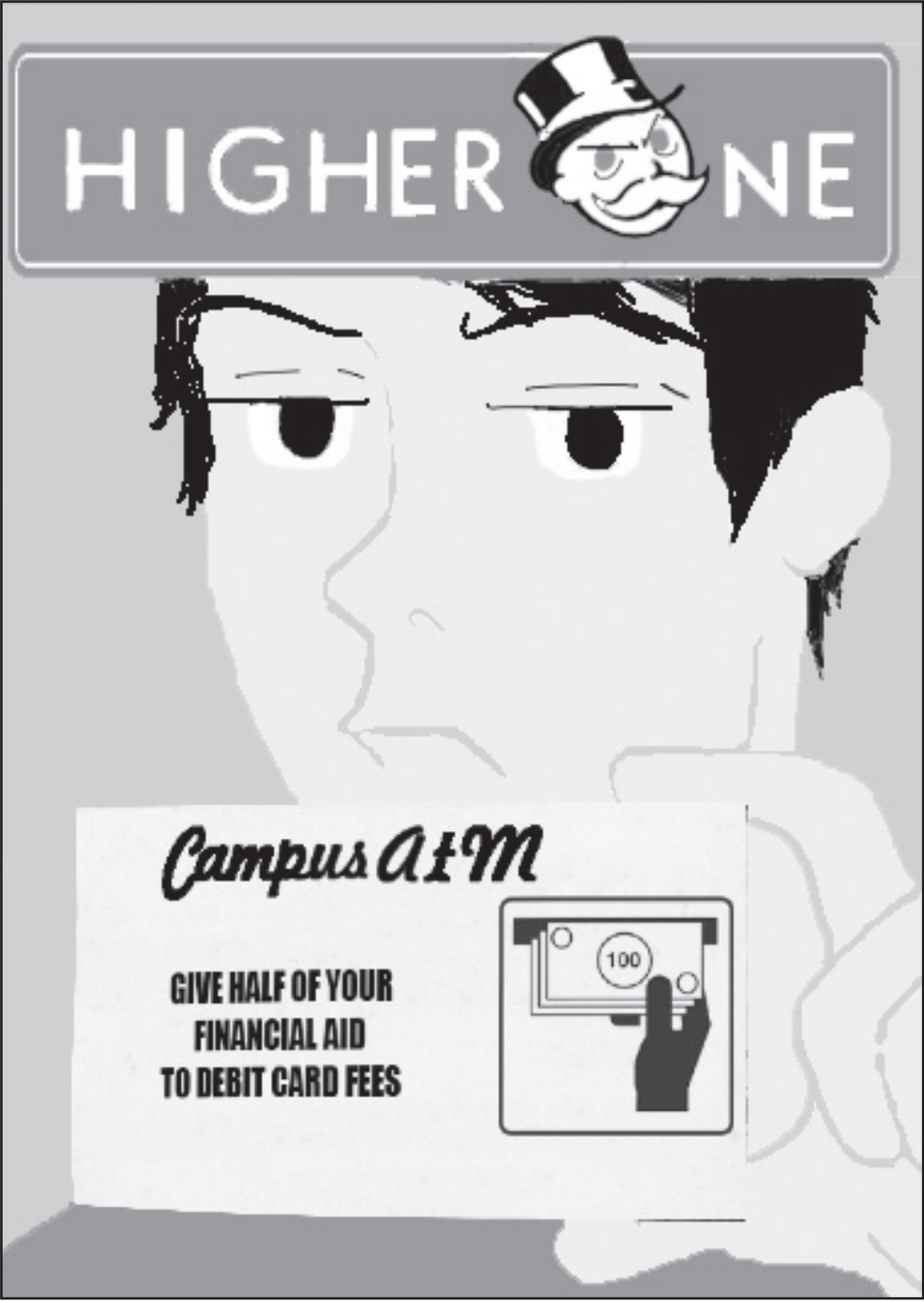
**Instructional Aide**  
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•EDITORIAL•

Higher One deals low blows



ILLUSTRATED BY JIMMY EDWARDS-TURNER/TM

In our society, finding money is quite possibly one of the biggest challenges for the modern-day college student.

That being said, the ideal solution for students' financial woes becomes none other than financial aid.

Financial aid is meant to assist the student with surviving in the college environment, providing help with books and more importantly, the overall cost of living while in college.

Students use financial aid for necessities such as transportation to and from school, bills and sometimes even to pay rent. How can we pay these necessities off if we do not receive our aid when we were told we would receive it?

In the past, we expected to receive our financial aid on the first day of school in order to facilitate paying for books, the basis for our educational experience. Higher One, the company behind the financial aid disbursements, practically guaranteed that all students who would receive financial aid would have it by the first day, or up to the third day, at the latest.

This semester we were told that these disbursements will arrive on Jan. 14, a full five days after the semester has started, without any explanations as to why this is the case. What this company doesn't seem to understand is that we don't have that much time to get what we need.

Students don't exactly have the time to go to their landlords or bill collectors and say, "Sorry for not paying. Can I have until the end of the week? My school hasn't given me my money yet."

As if the tardiness of the disbursements weren't bad enough, students are now complaining about being charged over-the-top fees for everyday transactions.

The fees that Higher One charges for include a \$2.50 charge for withdrawing from non-Higher One ATMs, a \$0.50 fee for every transaction that involves entering your Personal Identification Number and even a \$19.00 fee for not using your account!

These charges are outrageous and are the perfect recipe for bad business practices.

Although, it isn't that bad of a business for the folks at Higher One. According to the Better Business Bureau, Higher One recorded 88 percent of its revenue from its fees and charges in 2009.

Regardless of the fact that a business needs to make money, it goes without saying that the actions Higher One is taking to do so can be described as nothing more than highway robbery.

Cerritos College needs to search other suitors to provide our financial aid. We can no longer depend on this company for our needs and obligations and our school needs to find a company that can cater to the students of our campus.

Why tell Facebook what's on your mind?

Facebook is given information by over 500 million users, from many who are unaware, and even more who just don't care. Facebook shareholders are celebrating every time you update "your" page with not just what, when, how, or even why you are doing something, but how you feel in relation to the update.

Your information is bringing in revenue for Facebook and company. It has a value and yet you are not seeing a tangible in return. A virtual meeting place where artificial human transactions can be conducted for free is better than U.S. currency.

Most people are happy with this Facebook offering, a user-friendly network that sacrifices the depth and substance of human transaction for the ease and convenience of staying connected to multiple people around the world.

If you wanted more than just an account, say access to shares of Facebook, you will have to be patient. Facebook is a privately owned company and the CEO, Mark Zuckerberg intends to maintain absolute control and keep the company private.

TALON MARKS



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Facebook is not alone in this effort to remain a private company.

The \$450 million investments made by Goldman Sachs helped delay an Initial Public Offering (IPO) by Facebook until at least 2012.

"In a rare move, Goldman is planning to create a 'special purpose vehicle' to allow its high-net-worth clients to invest in Facebook." This is what makes the partnership between Facebook and Goldman Sachs controversial, according to the Fortune website.

"While the Securities and Exchange Commissions (SEC) requires companies with more than 499 investors to disclose their financial results to the public, Goldman's proposed special purpose vehicles may be able to get around such a rule because it would be

managed by Goldman and considered just one investor, even though it could conceivably be pulling investments from thousands of clients," as reported by Dealbook/New York Times.

If it is being recommended to Facebook or if the company is planning to attempt circumvention of the SEC guidelines for financial disclosure, that will send a bad message about how the two companies do business.

Be concerned, not because powerful, wealthy companies are pursuing more power and wealth, but because of how they are pursuing this power and wealth.

Many people that commented on various articles related to this business partnership suggested temporarily or even permanently deleting your Facebook account as a way to send a message.

Then encourage your friends and family to do the same. It is not enough to provide you with a nice interface to stay connected when these companies who are making actual money in a society that is impacting the same millions of users.

*"Be concerned, not because powerful, wealthy companies are pursuing more power and wealth, but because of how they are pursuing this power and wealth."*

Prominent procrastination always punks potential pupils

The frustration with having to deal with many responsibilities can lead some people into the habit of not getting things done.

It's one thing to feel overwhelmed, but when it comes to completing a task that has a deadline, that shouldn't cause people to hold things off to the last minute.

Psychologist William Knaus pointed out in a recent article for the University of Buffalo that 90 percent of college students are procrastinators, and 25 percent of those students are constant with the bad habit.

In college, there's an acceptable reason for why many people procrastinate. There is a tendency for students to procrastinate when simple work is assigned by a professor because it's perceived as boring.

When these thoughts occur, you'll consider brushing off assignments without having to stress about the duty of homework.

TALON MARKS



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You may think to yourself, "I still have until tomorrow when my assignment is due," or "My project isn't that difficult, plus I have so many other things to do, I can always finish my project later."

Your procrastination may not mean you're lazy. It can be from the difficulty of concentration, anxiety, personal problems, and the unexpected happenings of life.

Some people also have the trouble of organizing their time and correctly managing it in order to have the ability to tend to priorities.

Procrastination among college students is over-

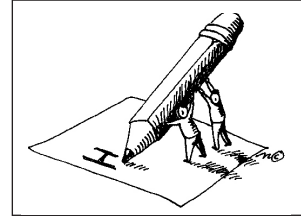
bearing with homework, school, working and the expenses of accommodating living situations.

Don't hold yourself back from achieving long- and short-term goals that you know you must be committed to.

Even if this means taking the time to step back and relax, take a deep breath and find yourself in a more suitable environment where you know that you can concentrate on studying for a couple of hours. This can help overcome procrastination.

Don't feel guilty about taking short breaks when you need to, but try not to distract yourself with TV or social networking.

Procrastination isn't something you can overcome in one day, but if you put the effort into trying to establish more self-control, then keep on reading informative websites and read books that promote a healthy lifestyle of keeping yourself on track.



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**KEVIN COLIN**  
photography major  
"There's nowhere to go. Everywhere you go you can't find a space and have to wait a long time."



**RALPH PALOMO**  
photography major  
"It's no good. They need to build a parking structure. That would be good; there's no parking at all."



**TANYA HOOPER**  
business management major  
"It's crazy, it's hectic. There's no parking."



**JEFF LAVULO**  
criminal justice major  
"There need to be more parking spots. I get here too early and lose sleep to come park my car."



**PHOEBE ACOSTA**  
psychology major  
"There's too much staff parking and it's irritating. I have been late. I'm always here an hour ahead."



**POPPY SEREDITH**  
business major  
"I have to wait up two hours before and leave my house an hour and thirty minutes early to find parking here."



# Art student paints own path to success



ANDREA MORA  
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Art major Geraldo Franco had his painting, “Iraq War,” hanging on the wall of Coffee Studio in Cerritos last semester as a way of promoting the art club and the art produced by students.

From an early age, Franco has taken an interest in painting.

“When I was in third grade, the class would do these drawings and the teachers would always comment and keep my work and use them as example,” he recalled.

At the age of 13, Franco held his first art gallery in Norwalk. “I was so nervous, I didn’t even know who to invite. I wasn’t ready for it but it was a good experience,” he said.

Galileo Gonzalez, computer animation major, said, “When I first saw his paintings, I was surprised with the talent,

I was blown away. He’s a very realistic painter.”

Franco tries to emulate American painter John Sargent. “He’s a really realistic painter, and that’s what I try to go for. He’s an inspiration,” he said.

With the full support of his family, Franco plans on becoming an art teacher eventually, teaching at the university level.

“When I was 17, a Starbucks manager offered me to draw for them, like the lattes and croissants out of chalk, I turned it down and missed out. I regret not doing that because he could have recommended me to other people,” Franco said about his one regret.

Aside from painting, Franco was also on the tennis team at Cerritos College, but due to scheduling conflicts with his classes, he opted to take the semester off but still continues to practice with them.

He is also involved in several clubs on campus, such as the Honor Club and Phi Beta Kappa.

Franco’s next project is the showcase that the Art Department hosts at the end of the semester.



PHOTOS BY ANDREA MORA/TM  
**Uncanny:** Franco’s paintings “Iraq War” (left) and “The Lourve” (bottom). Franco had his first art gallery held in Norwalk when he was 13. He was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa, the Cerritos College honor society, in spring 2010.



## ‘Hornet’ has plenty of buzz, but forgets to sting

### Movie Review

*The Green Hornet*  
**Starring:** Seth Rogen  
**Director:** Michel Gondry  
**Rating:** ★

GONZO SAUCEDO  
Social Media Editor  
socialmedia@talonmarks.com

“The Green Hornet” is a poor and seemingly uninspired film, completely devoid of character.

“Hornet” is filled with so much pointless dialogue and so many ludicrous scenarios, that nothing could possibly save it from the depths of the hole it digs itself into.

Seth Rogen co-wrote and starred in this film about a masked vigilante character first created in 1936.

He plays Britt Reid, a rich and spoiled party-boy whose father (Tom Wilkinson) is a millionaire newspaper publisher bent on exposing and abolishing all crime and corruption in Los Angeles.

After his father dies, Reid becomes the head and editor-in-chief of The Daily Sentinel and befriends

Kato (Jay Chou), one of his late father’s old employees.

It just so happens that Kato is an auto mechanic magician and an invincible martial artist.

Together, they proceed to devise the dumbest plan ever: to fight crime while simultaneously... committing it.

Reid retains Rogen’s patented manner of speaking, which is constant shouting for no particular reason.

Reid has nothing intelligent or funny to say through the whole film. Almost no attempt is made to make his character likable.

Kato undoubtedly drops the best lines in the movie, but that’s mostly just because he says them in a funny accent.

Reid’s pretty secretary, Lenore Case, is played by Cameron Diaz, and serves nothing to the film’s plot.

In any other subpar film, she’d at least provide some motivation for our hero. The movie needed a girl, so Diaz was cast so that she could smile at the camera in some shots.

Academy Award winner Christoph Waltz plays crime lord Chudnofsky, and not even he is saved from the movie’s single-dimensionality, as his face barely shifts ex-

pression throughout the whole film.

“Hornet’s” action is mindless and painfully tiresome, save for a couple of slow-motion sequences in which Kato beats some thugs up.

Coincidentally, these are also the only scenes in which the 3D is somewhat engaging and not totally futile.

These scarce scenes were the only real entertaining bits of the film.

“Superhero” movies usually adopt a fantastical concept, but they also usually attempt to make it seem real.

This film is just filled with unbelievable and inexplicable situations that one couldn’t help but shake his head at.

This is what the movie mostly consists of: ridiculous, boring action.

“Hornet” actually takes itself seriously and tries to push a virtuous message across to the audience.

What this message was, isn’t clear.

The end credits were really cool, though. Is it sad that this was also the best 3D sequence one could see? One might think so.



**Pyrotechnics:** *The Green Hornet* (Seth Rogen) and his partner Kato (Jay Chou) escape an explosion. “*The Green Hornet*” was released on Jan. 14.

## Cerritos Music Club cooking up sound using instruments

CLAUDIA GONZALEZ  
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The Cerritos College Music Club is excited and looking forward to the spring semester, with members meeting every Tuesday at 11 a.m. in BC 53. Members consist of music majors and non-music majors who just really love music.

Club President Rusty Kennedy encourages students to join, and said, “New members are always welcome to come.”

Kennedy said that there was no skill requirement to join the club, and he further explained that during meetings they listen to music from iPods or YouTube or end up having a “jam session.”

They still, however, take care

of business and discuss events in which they perform, such as charity concerts. As a club, they play two concerts per semester.

Rosemarie Medina, the club coordinator, named “Toys for Tots” and the “Cans Concert” as a couple of projects the club has been involved with.

Medina mentioned the club helps students, especially new students, to get out there and get over that stage fear.

“It’s nice when they do this music club. It sort of takes them away for a little bit and not just takes them away. It also helps them understand how important their major is,” Medina said.

Club members also have a chance to bring up any upcoming concerts they are interested in or

talk about their own concerts and performances.

Just as any student is welcome to join, all styles of music are accepted as well. There have been a variety of musicians who have different tastes in music ranging from classical piano to pop to jazz to punk.

The club is also branching out to other clubs on campus such as the Child Development Department and the Artists Society.

The club advertise themselves through music. Instead of having a bake sale or handing out flyers, members perform to spread the word on what they love to do.

“We’re not cooks, we’re musicians; so let’s go out there and play,” Kennedy said.

## Theater Department shows not for ‘faint-of-heart’

GONZO SAUCEDO  
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The Cerritos College Theater Department will be hosting two productions this semester: “The Last Days of Judas Iscariot” and “Reefer Madness.”

“The Last Days of Judas Iscariot,” debuting on March 5, is a humorous play about the hypothetical court case deciding the ultimate fate of Judas.

John Zamora, a theater arts instructor at Cerritos, is directing “Last Days.”

“Reefer Madness,” which debuts May 6, is a musical satire of the 1936 anti-marijuana propaganda film of the same name.

Patrick Pearson, also a Cerritos instructor, is directing “Reefer Madness.”

“The script is very funny, the characters are over-the-top, and I believe it will be great to work on,” Pearson says about directing the play.

He also cited the play’s raciness as a potential draw. “Cerritos students should be excited because the

theater department is potentially taking a big risk by doing a show with this title.”

Department Chair Georgia Well said, “This season is geared to appeal to a younger audience.”

Both plays are notorious for being controversial, as they deal with religion and drugs.

Renee Bloch, performing arts promotions specialist for the theater department, said she commends its willingness to put such plays on.

“These shows are not for the faint-of-heart, to be sure, and promise to bring bawdy, over-the-top humor to the campus this semester,” she said.

“In such dire times with the war effort still trudging on, seemingly without an end in sight, and with the California state budget in dire straits, we can only release the pressure of these stressors by rejoicing in humor and celebrating one of the truly beautiful things about our culture: our ability and willingness to poke fun at ourselves and even the things we often-times hold sacred.”



# ‘Witch’ loses the audience with plot

**Movie Review**

Season of the Witch

**Starring:** Nicholas Cage  
**Director:** Dominic Sena  
**Rating:** ★ ↘

JOEY BERUMEN  
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With Nicolas Cage (Behmen) as an unbelievable martyr who has a change of heart after 12 years of crusaded killing, and a cheesy demon that resembles that of a half hearted Raimi brothers’ film, “Season of the Witch” leaves the viewer pleading for the next installment of National Treasure, Book of the Maya.

You know, that one that predicts the end of times.

Don’t get me wrong, the Evil Dead Trilogy is great, but when a demon justifies its plan for world domination and the end of man with sappy dialogue, as in “Season of the Witch,” one tends to start thinking about the \$10 popcorn he just bought minutes before while crossing his fingers that Keanu Reeves doesn’t make an appearance.

The film, which shares its name with George Romero’s 1972 film, was not a total let down.

The beginning held promise, even going as far as to throw in some honestly, spooky segments set in the 14th century while the plague was becoming widespread.

Then again, it is not too hard to

set a spooky scene when dealing with a witch, eerie religious references, and perhaps one of the darkest ages known to man.

While the story seemed to have the makings of a good film, the execution of the film by the actors and director alike leave much to be desired.

Each word seemed to stutter for substance.

When this happens in films it seems that the logical answer to counter that would be for the director to call for less chit-chat and more “stab, stab.”

Instead of doing so, director Dominic Sena seemed to counter bad acting with a twist that was presented as more like a slap in the face.

If the film had gone the way of terrifically terrible, it would have made much more sense, instead it is relegated to the world of misfit movies.

One consistent bright spot was the presence of Ron Perlman (Felson), whose tough guy demeanor and haughty off based remarks seem to entertain the audience long enough to get them through the other acting blunders and overall lack of conceptualization.

However, with the most entertaining acting coming from a supporting actor (Perlman) and a witch (Claire Foy) who is a shabby cross between a dirty Taylor Swift and a pissed off teenager on “My Super Sweet 16,” it leaves the film dissatisfying and ultimately forgettable.



Peep Show: GIPS members perform at Bell Gardens High School. GIPS was founded in 1986.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE GIPS

# ‘GIPS’ bringing the funny

**ARIANNA SMITH**  
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“A lot of people try to be a famous actor and it is probably one of the hardest professions to get into.”

Michael Timoney, communications major, said this in regard to being a part of GIPS, which stands for Generic Improvisational Peep Show. “Being a part of GIPS, you get your own little stardom.”

GIPS is an interactive comedy group that uses audience suggestions to play theater-like games. “It has 50 to 60 formats and specific rules and ways we play, and we get suggestions from the audience, like a relationship or location,” Sal Velazquez said, who was a member of the first group and now is its current adviser and director.

The group started in 1986 at Cerritos College under the direction of theater arts teacher Kevin Hoggard.

Velazquez said that, initially, the group only performed for class and then it started perform-

ing wherever they could, such as evening shows at Cerritos College and local theater arts schools.

Velazquez even stated that GIPS performed for a senior citizens home and a Cerritos College hair show. Now, the group performs for local high school students and it does six shows a day that last 45 minutes to an hour long.

For members like Timoney, it definitely has its rewards.

“You get kids who come up to you after a performance and say, ‘you were my favorite performer!’ And when you go back to that school in the spring they remember you and they come and talk to you, so it is always good to have a little fan.”

To Martha Montoya, undecided major and troupe member, GIPS isn’t just an improv troupe but also a teaching tool. “I like being in GIPS because it teaches me a lot, like being a better performer and being in front of people, talking and not being worried and how to think on the spot.”

Velazquez added that members of GIPS learn valuable character traits like discipline, professionalism, responsibility and how to behave.

“When we go to the schools, they are representing the college, so they learn to behave, and they learn responsibility because they have to perform at 7:30 a.m., so they have to be up early every Friday,” Velazquez said.

“It is a commitment.”

GIPS holds auditions every fall semester in October and the ones who make it are a part of it for the whole school year. Even though the group is currently on break, it will resume performing this spring.

Velazquez recommends that anyone who wants to audition, sign up for Kevin Hoggard’s beginning improv class, which is offered every semester.

“He’s the best teacher, he really is,” Velazquez said.

He also recommends that if you want to have a good audition you should “know how to play the game and learn the fundamentals.”

For more information on GIPS go to the group’s Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/The.GIPS](http://www.facebook.com/The.GIPS).

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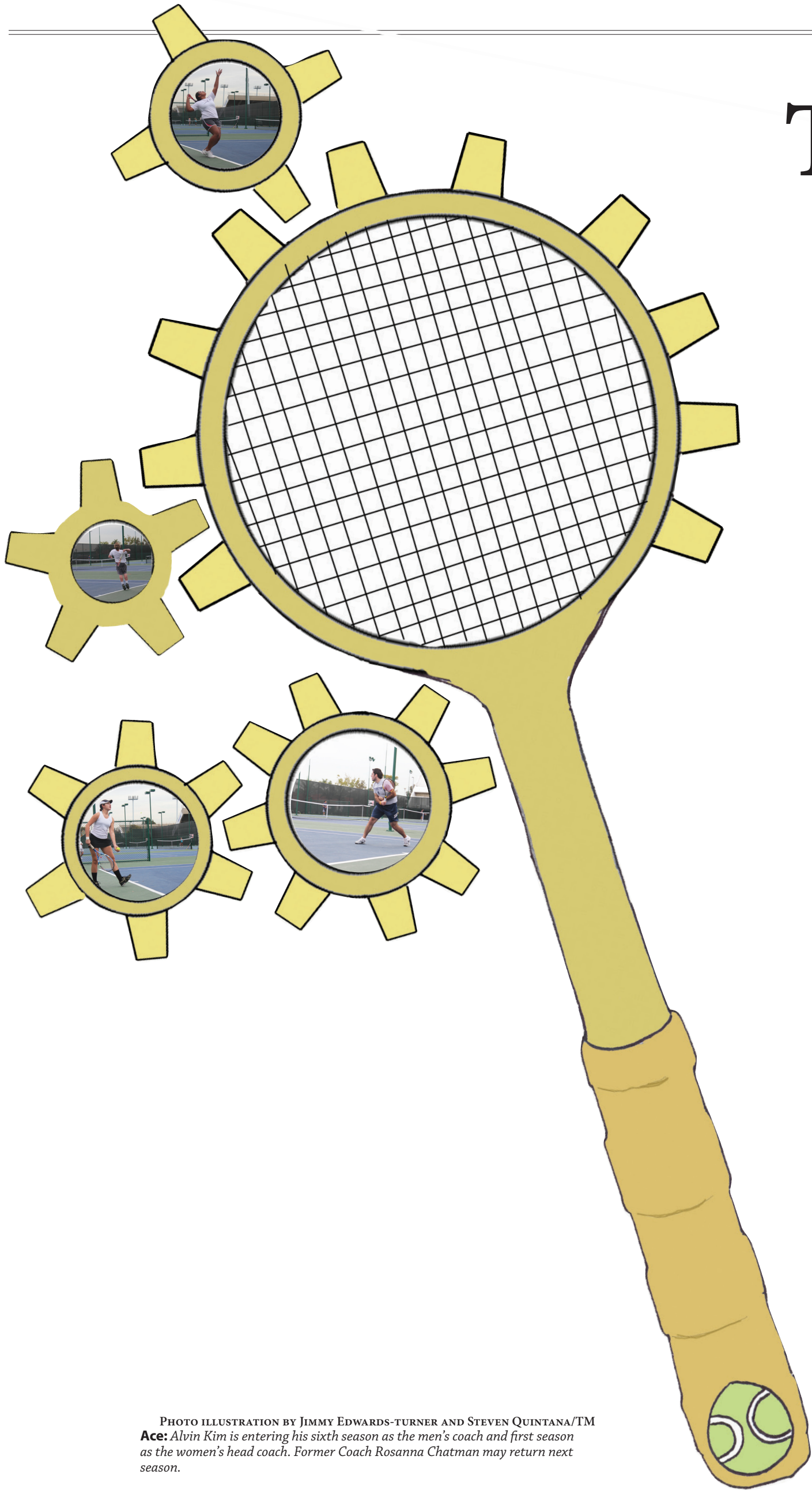


PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY JIMMY EDWARDS-TURNER AND STEVEN QUINTANA/TM  
**Ace:** Alvin Kim is entering his sixth season as the men's coach and first season as the women's head coach. Former Coach Rosanna Chatman may return next season.

# Tennis gears up for season

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With the season near, both tennis squads work toward their goals while finding themselves in different places from last year.

The men's squad will start the season officially ranked 13th in southern California, as well as having the number one ranked player.

While the women's team with a sudden coaching change and a freshman-dominant roster, look to gain experience this season.

"I will not be coaching this season due to work related injuries. Alvin Kim will be taking over the men and women's tennis teams this year, last year's women's coach Rosanna Chatman said on the recent coaching change.

Both teams have a scrimmage at the end of the month and for Coach Kim, who last year only coached the men's team, now has the responsibility of taking over the young women's team as well.

"This is strictly a rebuilding year," Coach Kim said when explaining his expectations for the women's team.

"Keep them open about making this season an experience," Kim said about a goal for his freshman loaded squad.

This should not be difficult for freshmen Brianna Thompson, who the new coach sees as a key new player to the women's roster.

Without any players with college experience, it might be difficult for the Lady Falcons, but with most of the ladies having played in their respective high schools, that should keep them competitive in a strong conference.

The men's team, who are starting the season ranked at the 13th spot in Southern California, try to bounce back from a difficult season.

Finishing second in their confer-

ence last season proved to show why they start this season so motivated.

"Stronger for it," Kim said about his feelings towards last season, which he stated as being a terrible one.

One bright point last year for Kim and the school was then-freshman Derek Siddiqui, who reached state semi-finals for singles and became the third All-American in Falcon history.

"Try and win the Ojai title and state title," Siddiqui said stating his personal goals for his sophomore season.

Siddiqui had the best singles record on the team last season, posting 22-5.

A muscle injury, which may have cost him from going further in state last year, is said to be just in the past.

"No worries this year," Siddiqui said on the muscle injury.

Siddiqui's injuries are possibly the least of his problems now with his high ranking.

"Everyone is gunning for me," he said when hearing of his preseason No. 1 ranking.

With the season still weeks away, both Falcon teams will continue to practice until their first matches and although they may have some unde-

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## Tennis Spotlight on Coach Alvin Kim and Derek Siddiqui



STEVEN QUINTANA/TM  
**Served:** Alvin Kim is entering his sixth season as the men's head coach. He was selected as the men's Coach of the Year in 2008.

### YEARS COACHING

Entering 6th Season

### PERSONALS

2008 men's tennis coach of the year

### OVERALL RECORD

83-20

### CONFERENCE RECORD

42-3

### SEASON

### EXPECTATIONS

Entering 6th Season

### MEASUREMENTS

Height: 6'3

Weight: 155

### LAST YEARS RECORD

Entering 6th Season

### STRENGTHS

FOREHAND, SINGLES

### Weaknesses

Volleys

### PERSONALS

RANKED No. 1 IN  
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA



STEVEN QUINTANA/TM  
**"Retun of the set-1":** Derek Siddiqui is warming up at practice. Siddiqui looks to redeem his playoff loss last season in the state tournament.



# Cerritos soccer teams ranked No. 6 and No. 14 by NSCAA



STEPHANIE ROMERO/TM  
**A step ahead:** Midfielder Tiffany Schultz (right) after shooting past an El Camino College defender. Schultz scored the second most points on the team with 27.

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The men and women's soccer teams were ranked No. 14 and No. 6, respectively in the country by the National Soccer Coaches Associations of America.

"It feels great to be in the top ten programs, but our goal is to be number one in the nation," women's soccer team Head Coach Ruben Gonzalez said.

The Falcons' 2010 season was cut short in the third round of the California State playoffs against Santa Rosa College in a 1-0 defeat.

Though their championship run ended early, the women had success last season, winning the South Coast Conference title for the fifth year in a row.

"The athletes that come to Cerritos College are expected to

be successful; that is why they (the athletes) come to our program", Gonzalez said.

"It is a great accomplishment [for the team], so I'm happy for the young ladies," Gonzalez said after being ranked the highest since their 2008 State Championship.

The men's soccer team was recognized on the list for the fifth year in a row, dropping to 14th in the nation after a less successful school year.

The third seed of the Southern California Regional Playoffs sought out to capture its third straight California State Championship, however, it was stopped short in a third round loss, 2-1, against College of the Canyons.

"Being third in Southern California and 14th nationally obviously gives us recognition, but overall [the drop in ranking] is a bit disappointing," head coach Benny Artiaga said.



STEPHANIE ROMERO/TM  
**Fighting for position:** Sophomore forward Ruben Gonzalez (left) was second in goals with five this past season. He helped lead the Falcons to a 11-3-9 record.

## Fonoti, Lopez, and McGill named First-team All-Americans by CCCFA



PHOTO COURTESY OF CERRITOS.EDU  
**In the trenches:** Fou Fonoti was part of an offensive line that accounted for 2219 yards on the ground this season.

**Name:** Fou Fonoti  
**Position:** Offensive Tackle  
**College Choices:** Arizona, UCLA, Michigan State



PHOTO COURTESY OF CERRITOS.EDU  
**Controlling the skies:** Keith McGill led the defense with seven interception for a total of 203 yards this past season.

**Name:** Keith McGill  
**Position:** Free Safety  
**College Choices:** University of Utah, verbal commit



PHOTO COURTESY OF CERRITOS.EDU  
**Plugging up the middle:** David Lopez was named the Defensive Player of the Game for two playoff games in a row.

**Name:** David Lopez  
**Position:** Inside Linebacker  
**College Choices:** University of Miami, Liberty, Portland State

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Cerritos College football players Fouimalo Fonoti, David Lopez, and Keith McGill anchored a Falcon team that went 9-3 and came within one game of the California State Championship last season.

Their consistent high level of play has been strong enough for the three to earn All-American honors, administered by the California Community College Football Coaches Association.

Lopez was given the honor of 1st Team All-American and 1st Team All-State.

He was key to the Falcons' success on defense this season as he led the team in total tackles (107), sacks (4.5), and tied for the team lead in forced fumbles and fumble recoveries with two, respectively.

He was also recognized as a unanimous All-Conference selection, and received the Defensive Player of the Southern California Championship Game, as well as the Southern California Bowl.

Lopez feels it's a blessing and an honor to be recognized as one of the best linebackers.

"It finally shows that years of hard work pay off if you put in work like a champion", he said.

The sophomore has played football since his freshman year at Garfield High School in Los Angeles and he has since received many prestigious honors.

Liberty University and Portland State University have kept their eye on the football all-star but he is leaning toward the University of Miami.

If making it to National Football League is not in his favor, he will still revolve his future around football and eventually manage his own business.

"Every football players dream is to play professional football, but I have always planned a second career as backup, in communication and business," Lopez said.

"Either way, I am always going to be involved in football."

Aside from Lopez, the Falcon football team also has free safety McGill on the defensive unit.

The Univeristy of Utah verbal commit was voted the conference's Defensive Player of the Year, as well

as being recognized as 1st Team All-American, and 1st Team All-State.

He helped to lead the team with 203 return yards, seven interceptions, and two blocked kicks; one of them coming on the final play of the Falcons 27-21 win over Bakersfield College.

McGill is a dynamic ball-hawking safety who stands at 6'4", 214 lbs and he consistently runs a 4.35.

He said part of the decision to go to Utah was the school joining what will be known as the Pac-12.

"Honestly, I would have gone elsewhere if they didn't join the Pac 10.

I kept telling the coaches, 'You've got to join the Pac 10.' Everyone wants to play against schools like [University of Southern California]," he said in a previous interview.

University of Arizona, Arizona State University, Kansas State, University of Montana, New Mexico University, Oregon State University, San Diego State University, and San Jose State University are among the other schools who have offered him a scholarship.

Despite being one of the top football prospects

to come out of Cerritos College in recent years, McGill is also concerned about his life off of the field.

He is currently raising his four-year-old daughter with his girlfriend who plays softball.

"We are basically a package deal," he said.

"I know my girlfriend will want to enroll where I go and it's really a big factor in my decision.

"I'm looking for a place to play football, but I'm also looking at what is best for my family."

On the other side of the ball, standing at 6'5, 300 pounds, Fonoti, more commonly known as "Fou", a shorter variation of his first name, has been recognized for All-American and All-State honors.

Fonoti, along with Lopez, was a unanimous All-Conference selection.

He received eighteen football scholarships and listed UCLA, Michigan State, Washington State, Arizona, and Rutgers as his top choices, despite initially not considering college football as a possibility.

Fonoti says that he will attempt to make it to the National Football League.

"My major is criminal justice, so I want to get my degree in that, and God willing, I make it to the pros," he said.

## Sanchez seals win over Los Angeles Southwest College

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Sophomore guard Nick Sanchez sealed the game by tying it with a three-pointer and finished it with the winning free throw that ended the game with Cerritos winning 87-86 at Southwest College on Friday.

"It didn't go how we planned, but it's our first conference win. We just have to move on from here and concentrate on the next game," Sanchez said.

Coming off of a four-game losing skid, the Falcons seemed to be struggling to obtain a victory that would give it a chance to head into the playoffs.

Cerritos managed to build their endurance in the start of the second half and played head-to-head with Southwest.

Throughout the game, the Falcons had the advantage over Southwest with their size, however, Southwest continued to use its speed and hustle to take advantage of every loose ball opportunity.

When the game started to become more of an intimidating challenge, the Falcons head coach

called time-outs to talk to his players and advised them what plays to perform to help them come back with a stronger composure.

"I thought we were really focused and concentrated. For the last five minutes, we lost our aggressiveness, but for the most part I was really happy the way our team played."

Forward Darius Williams contributed to the game with 13 points, and was one of the players who helped change the tempo of the game.

"We played consistently throughout the whole game, that's a good thing for us, because if we're consistent, then we'll do good," Williams said.

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# Kincaid Field renovations close to finish



PHOTO BY STEPHANIE ROMERO/TM  
**A piece of history:** Coach Ken Gaylord said he saved a fragment of the old dugout when it was torn down.



PHOTO BY STEPHANIE ROMERO/TM  
**A field of legacy:** In 1990, the field was named Wally Kincaid, a former coach who led Cerritos to six state championships and a 60-game winning streak.



PHOTO BY STEVEN QUINTANA/TM  
**Fresh start:** After a disappointing 14-22 season last year, the Falcons will look to use the new field as motivation to turn things around.



PHOTO BY STEVEN QUINTANA/TM  
**Home-field advantage:** The Falcons have compiled a 57-45 home record since the 2007 season.



PHOTO BY STEPHANIE ROMERO/TM  
**A new era:** The Falcons open up their 2011 campaign with a home game against Fullerton College on Feb. 3.

## Gaylord reflects as the waiting process comes to an end

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The construction to Kincaid Field began last fall and Cerritos College head baseball coach Ken Gaylord is relieved to see that it is almost finished.

"A little part of history is gone," he said. "The field has been here since 1959 and it was renovated again in 1979."

Gaylord admits that despite how beautiful the field is, it is an even greater teaching facility for his team.

"The field is very beautiful and I'm especially thankful for [Cerritos College President] Linda Lacy and [Vice President of Business Services] David El Fattal for helping get this field done so fast," he said.

The team has struggled to find a temporary home in

which to practice, moving its workouts to the soccer field, football field and an indoor facility in La Habra as if they were "a band of gypsies," according to Gaylord.

Pitcher Nick Quezada is expected to be the ace of the pitching staff this season.

He said, "Everyone on the team is really excited about [the new field]."

"It has been tough for us not having a field but we tried to make the best of it, and hopefully, it will pay off for us next season."

The Falcons play their first game on Feb. 3 against Fullerton College.

Pitcher and first basemen Jake Bell is going through his first spring training as a Falcon after transferring from Lewis and Clark State University (ID).

"I can't wait to be one of the first to play on the field," he said.

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# Exhibit gets comfortable

**BENJAMIN FARREN & JIM BRANNON**  
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The Cerritos College Art Department will be hosting two art shows this semester, “Object ~ Orientation” and “Drawn into a Dialogue,” both starting simultaneously on Feb. 1.

Each show plans to offer something different while ultimately sharing a common theme.

James MacDevitt, director and curator of the Cerritos College Art Gallery, said that the Art Department does four exhibitions every year.

“In the past, two of those have been faculty show and then our final student show that we do at the end of the year, which is a juried show.

“It includes works that have been selected by the faculty of their most promising students selecting their most mature work from any one particular class session,” MacDevitt said.

MacDevitt said that an outside juror comes to the show and chooses works to be recognized.

On the flyer for the “Object ~ Orientation” exhibit, there is a sofa chair made of human skin, with a hairy pillow on a light blue background. It is not really human skin, rather it is a sculpture. This is part of a set that includes a couch and a coffee table.

Ambar Yanez, business administration major, commented on the “Object ~ Orientation” exhibit.

“I’ve seen it in movies and shows, and it’d be cool to have it here. It’d be nice to go to and see something different.”

Photography major Gabriela Rufino said, “I think it’s really interesting. I’ve never seen it, so I think I would go and take a look at all the things that the Art Department has to offer to us.”

Sculptures are not the only types of art to be found at the show. Drawings of the Enola Gay exploding from a person’s neck are followed by another project from the same artist, showing a person with wild stallions for a head.

The exhibits will be open at the Cerritos College Art Gallery between Feb. 1 and March 10.

**From left to right:** Jessica Harrison, “Armchair” (2009) by Jessica Harrison, “Enola” (2008) by Yuval Pudik, “Just a Tree” (2010) by Macha Suzuki and “Untitled (Ostrich)” (2009) by Justin Cole

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