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CERRITOS COLLEGE

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Student athlete stabbed

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A member of the Cerritos College track and field team was stabbed at a birthday party and pronounced dead at a nearby hospital early Sunday morning.

Eighteen-year-old Jose Ramos took part in a fight between 10 to 15 gang members and party goers, who denied the gang entry, which resulted in his death and shots being fired.

"We lost our brother, it's hard. Our family is still waiting for him to come home," Silvia Ramos, the victim's sister, said.

Sources say the party was thrown for his girlfriend's birthday.

Ramos' older sister, Silvia Ramos, said, "words were exchanged when they arrived and that's when my brother came out and told them that they weren't invited."

She said the events that took place after happened so fast, "next thing you know, the guys jumped out of the car and pushed their

way inside, and started fighting with the guys and the girls.

"And when they swung at my brother, as he leaned back, another guy stabbed right in the heart."

Ramos was taken to Los Angeles County University of Southern California Medical Center, according to the Los Angeles County Coroner's Office.

He is the only reported casualty in the first homicide of 2011 for the 8-mile town of Pico Rivera, according to the Los Angeles Times Homicide Report.

"Gangsters try to have their way," a friend of the college student who was at the party said. The individual wishes to be unidentified.

According to the coroner's office, it will take three to four days for an autopsy to be conducted.

"His heart, from what the doctor said when they opened him, was destroyed. There was no way, there was nothing he could do," his sister said.

Ramos was the only son and the youngest sibling of four sisters.

He lived in Pico Rivera and attended El Rancho High School where he played football and was a member of the track team.

"He was funny and warm-hearted. He was a big guy, but he was actually really nice if you actually got to know him and always had a big smile that was really contagious," former high school track and football teammate, Jefferson Colindres, said.

After graduating from El Rancho, he enrolled into Cerritos College in the fall and began to work out for track.

"He was trying to do what he thought was right, and he paid

See Jose Ramos Page 3



COURTESY OF JOHN VAN GASTON

Rising runner: Jose Ramos was fatally stabbed at a Pico Rivera party early Sunday morning. The 18-year-old was a Cerritos College track athlete.

Student coverage in danger

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"I'm on probation right now because I wanted to get health care."

Kristen Connelly, who wanted to become a paralegal, is currently on academic probation at Long Beach City College after enrolling in classes to receive health care.

"I pretty much enrolled just to get health care.

"I picked a bunch of classes that I ended up getting Ws in. I wasn't really invested in them, because I just wanted the health care, and the only way I could get health care was by enrolling in school," Connelly said.

Students like Connelly stand to lose their health care coverage as Republican members of Congress adopt an agenda to repeal the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, arguing that it would allow federal-funded abortions and would cause the loss of around 650,000 jobs.

However, according to the Associated Press, those numbers have been manipulated to represent lost jobs, when they actually represent a part of the work force that would voluntarily choose early retirement as insurance outside its job becomes readily available.

Connelly said she has been on her parents' health care and Medicaid.

"It's hard for me. I have Irritable Bowel Syndrome, I can't hold down a job because it affects me in the morning. I can't afford health insurance because I don't have a job, so I have this chronic illness I can't get treatment for.

"I was on Medi-cal. That's never a walk in the park; it sucks for whatever family has to go through there. You sit for hours and hours. It's worse than the DMV because all these people are trying just to get basic health care amenities," Connelly said.

Last week, the bill that seeks to repeal the PPACA, aptly titled the "Repealing the Job-Killing Health

See Student care Page 3

ASCC Senate, Cabinet vote to approve arming campus police officers

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Both student senate and cabinet voted in favor of arming Cerritos College Campus Police this past week.

The issue was initially brought up last semester during a Safety Committee meeting.

In the wake of the L.A. shootings that took place last week, President of Cerritos College Linda Lacy commented on the matter. "Today we're in a very violent society, unfortunately, and there is a problem when our officers are our first responders and they don't have the ability to combat some of the situation properly."

Before the issue is passed it needs to be presented to the Faculty Senate so it can vote on it.

Ultimately, the issue will be presented to the Board of Trustees and there is no scheduled date for that.

ASCC President Felipe Grimaldo thinks it's very important to have our campus police officers armed.

"They are all trained officers. Outside in the public they are allowed to carry their firearms because they are peace officers of the law.

"But within our campus they are not supposed to. It's kind of taking away the purpose of why they are here, to protect and serve," he said.

The issue at hand would be if there are enough funds to buy the necessary equipment. Some of the expenses include the guns themselves, ammunition and proper storage units.

Vice President of Student Services Stephen Johnson said that the funds will most likely come out of one of two places: either from the Police Department funds that they receive through their own revenue, parking or live scan, or from the Police Department general fund.

Grimaldo estimates that it would cost \$68,000 to equip campus police properly, but this amount cannot be confirmed because Chief of Police Richard Bukowiecki could not be contacted for comment.

"If we can just get that protection, it would be perfect. If you think about it, we use more money on toilet paper than we waste, anyway," Grimaldo said.

ASCC Vice President Luis Ong believes

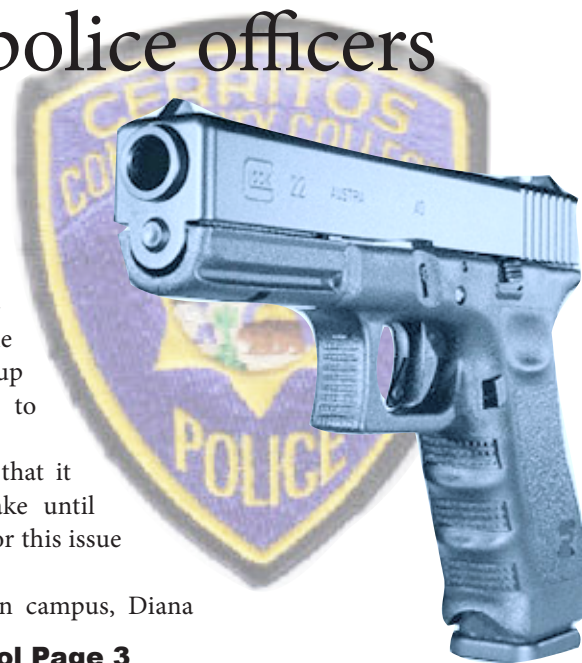
"being prepared is the best safety measure we can have."

The next step is for Bukowiecki to make a presentation in front of the management group that is scheduled to take place Feb. 7.

Lacy estimates that it would probably take until the end of March for this issue to be resolved.

As a woman on campus, Diana

See Gun control Page 3



Free ride: Paramount residents who attend Cerritos College can now catch a free ride to and from the campus.



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Campus construction limits students



Students forced to find other routes to get around Cerritos

STEPHANIE COBIAN
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Students are faced with the ongoing construction on campus as the spring semester begins at Cerritos College.

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

“It’s a hassle to walk around, especially behind the Student Center; it has made me late a couple of times. They (construction workers) need to hurry up and finish it already,” Brittany Lopez, paralegal major, said.

With parts of the campus closed for construction, students have had to modify their daily route to class.

“It takes me longer to get to my class so I get here earlier in order to not be late. It has also affected parking, and the dirt is really disgusting,” Berenise Gallegos, liberal studies major, said.

The overseer of the whole operation is Robert

Riffle, director of physical plant and facilities.

“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 have a couple more years yet to go with our bond to build on a number of projects,” Riffle said.

According to Riffle, since 2005, the campus has endured a number of changes, starting with the opening of the Science Building, the Southland Cerritos Center for Transportation Technologies and the renovation of the stadium field and track.

“We are currently in the middle of finishing up the baseball field renovation and we are just in the final phase of the tennis court renovation, which includes surfacing and fencing. Toward the end of the semester, we will start and finish the softball field,” Riffle said.

Other developing projects are the remodeling of the gym, the removal of the old pool and the improvement of the area between the Student Center and the Physical Education Building.

“Right now, we are waiting to get some finalizations from the Department of State Architecture to open up our new Physical Science Technology Building, and we should be opening that within the next few months,” Riffle said.

STEVE KIM/TM
Work in progress: The construction of various new buildings has caused students to find alternate ways to get to their classes on time. Despite the obstacles being placed by the construction, facilities, such as the Physical Science Technology Building, are close to being finished.

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Get informed: A more occupied Falcon Square during Club Info Day on Tuesday. Students got to find out about all the different clubs and even got join.

STEVEN QUINTANA/TM

Students get informed

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Cerritos College held Club Info Day in Falcon Square, on Tuesday. Club Info Day is held every semester. The fair started at 10 a.m. and had a few students throughout the clubs’ booths to start. “Club fair is really important. They help you get into universi-

ties, to get more information about anything,” Jessica Robles, medical major, said. Like a few other students out there, she had her eyes set on more than one club and held different-colored fliers in her hand. There is still no exact number as to how many clubs were out there, but representatives at the student activities office said that a list of all the clubs will be available on Friday, and will have all the approved clubs.

Club Info Day was somewhat empty early on, but as the day progressed, most of the tables were being used and students were roaming around from table to table. With many of the clubs’ representatives eager to gain more members, they brought out props and fliers, which made students a little more interested. “A club is a part of the whole college experience. Being in a club, doing extra curricular activi-

ties just adds to the greatness of Cerritos College,” a member of the Anime Club, who wore a white bed sheet with a sombrero on his head known as ‘Mexi Ghost’, said. Not only the Anime Club was getting attention for what they brought to show students, the triathlon club had bikes on their table while the other clubs just passed out fliers with information.

Teacher TRAC extends deadline

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The Teacher Training Academy program, known commonly as Teacher TRAC, has extended its deadline for students to apply to Jan. 24 for the elementary pathway, and Feb. 3 for the secondary and CTE (Career Technical Education) pathways. Sue Parsons, director of the teacher TRAC and learning communities program, said that the deadline is usually at the end of the first week of every semester, but was pushed back due to the wait for a grant from the California Community College Chancellor’s Office. According to Parsons, the financial support allows members of Teacher TRAC to apply for paid internships. “We wanted to be as inclusive as possible. “We have a program; we want to help any student that wants to go into teaching. To get the formalized services, such as the counseling, the scholarships, internships, conference, you have to be a member of the program, you have to join the program so that we know who you are,” Parsons said. Sugar Dalit, nursing major, said that she thinks the extension is a good idea. “There’s a lot of programs we have here for Cerritos that are really limited on applying for programs they would like to have to take.

“I think that’s a really good idea for people that are taking any courses that would like to be teachers in the future,” Dalit said. Patty George, chair of the Mathematics Department and a member of the Teacher TRAC faculty team, said that the Teacher TRAC program is a fantastic training program for future teachers. George said that three courses in mathematics offered this semester through the program focus on things such as the real numbers system, geometry, and probability and statistics for elementary teachers. “The students that have come back to Cerritos College after transferring have told us, anecdotally, that they were much better prepared for the mathematics at, for example [Cal State Long Beach], than the rest of the students that entered with them. “The program gives students the opportunity to get to know each other, and they become friends sometimes, I hope for the rest of their lives, but certainly in their first teaching experiences. It develops a program where they can call somebody and get help, because they’ve developed these strong bonds with other people in the Teacher TRAC program,” George said. Teacher TRAC will hold an orientation for those who applied and were accepted into the elementary pathway on Jan. 27 in the Student Center from 3 to 4:30 p.m.

Gun Control: Safety is top priority for Cerritos College

Continued from Page 1: Herrera, business administration major, thinks it’s very important to arm campus police. “Especially now that I take night classes, I need to feel secure, and if [campus police] are armed, I would have a sense of security knowing that if something would occur, they will be able to do their duty. “Also, if people know they are

armed, the likelihood of someone trying to attempt something won’t be high,” Herrera said. Lacy adds, “We’re relatively a safe school and our students have never been in jeopardy, but you never know when something like that could occur, so you try to take every precaution necessary.”

Student Care: Health benefits at risk for young people

Continued from Page 1: Care Law Act”, was passed in the House of Representatives with a vote of 245-189. The bill would still have to pass in the Senate, which is largely in Democratic control. After passing in each chamber, it would go before President Obama, who released a statement on Jan. 18 defending the bill. “I’m willing and eager to work with both Democrats and Republicans to improve the Affordable Care Act. But we can’t go backward. Americans deserve the freedom and security of knowing that insurance companies can’t deny, cap, or drop their coverage when they need it the most, while taking meaningful steps to curb runaway health care costs,” Obama said in the statement. According to the federation

of state Public Interest Research Groups, or the U.S. PIRG, if a repeal of the Affordable Care Act was successful, insurance costs for 1.2 million young Americans, including Cerritos College students, would skyrocket, and they would no longer be able to purchase coverage under their parents’ plan. Tony Borman, welding major, said he just received insurance for the first time in six years. “It got me some glasses I really desperately needed for welding, and it turned around my welding game, and I don’t think it’s a good idea for them to take that away,” Borman said. Connelly said, “From the day a child is born, [its] parents worry about [its] health care. That’s the most important thing to them, and I just think it should be available to everyone.”

Jose Ramos: Friends and family march to stop the violence

Continued from Page 1: for it. He didn’t deserve it,” Vincenzo Iaia, a Cerritos teammate, said. Many of Jose’s peers are saddened by the news and have nothing but kind words toward him. Angel O. Reulas, Cerritos student, organized a peace march. He did not know Jose, but seeing the reaction his friends had, he felt the need to “wake people up.” The march will be Jan. 30 at Rivera Park at 3 p.m. Supporters will carry signs from Rivera Park to Washington Boulevard and finally to Rosemead Boulevard. Ramos recalled a conversation she had with her brother a month earlier while they were at their brother-in-law’s funeral about how he wondered how many people would show up to his funeral if he died.

“I told him, ‘don’t say that,’ and a month later this happens!” she said as she sobbed, replaying the conversation. Anyone who knows about the whereabouts of the suspect or knows any information about the incident can contact LASD Homicide at (323) 890-5500. An open service will be held at Guerra Gutierrez Mortuary at 5800 E. Beverly Blvd. from 5 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. on Friday..



STEVEN QUINTANA/TM

Wanna Ride?: One of the four College Bound stops, in Paramount, waiting to give students rides. Students from Cerritos College may ride to and from school for free.

Students ride free on city bus

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With the purchase of two 2010 Starcraft Allstar hybrid shuttle buses, made possible with a transit grant given through Rep. Linda Sanchez, D-Cerritos, the city of Paramount now offers free round-trip shuttle service for its residents who attend either Long Beach City College or Cerritos College. Elizabeth Ayala, political science major, has switched from using the Metro bus line to the College Bound bus service.

“It makes things easy for me because it drops me off right here in front of the school, and it’s near my house and I don’t have to wait and pay for the other bus,” she said. Enrique Bernal, electrical engineering major, is a full-time student and saves over \$15 a week by using the free service. He would like other students to take advantage of the free bus service. He said, “They should spread the word around and send fliers to places and just tell them there’s a free bus service to community colleges.” Sandra Martinez, math major, found out about the free rides through word-of-mouth.

“My aunt, who also lives in Paramount, contacted me about it because she knew I came here. I love it,” she said. Both shuttle buses can accommodate four wheelchairs and have a capacity of 22 passengers. Students can board at four pickup and drop-off locations throughout the city: Paramount Park, Progress Park and at the corners of Orange Avenue and Somerset Boulevard, and Century Boulevard and Orange Avenue. Shuttle bus hours of operation are from 6:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., with a turnaround time of 25 minutes.

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•EDITORIAL•

Wake up, smell the concern



ILLUSTRATED BY JIMMY EDWARDS-TURNER/TM

There's an elephant in the room; it's time to give it a name: Concern.

Students are concerned, not just for our financial aid or for a guaranteed spot in a class, but for our safety.

Even if it isn't the first thing we think about when we set foot on our campus, or the last thing we consider when we shuffle out the door, there's a question lurking in the back of our minds in light of recent events:

How safe is our campus?
What if something like (insert latest student-related shooting or stabbing here) was to happen at Cerritos College?

The truth is we're never safe.
Due to circumstances outside of our control, we can never be completely safe.

You can't see a gun hiding in a backpack until it goes off and you can't read the thoughts of a mentally ill individual until he shoots into a crowd.

If one of these incidents was to happen on our campus, we wouldn't see it coming—there is no shame in that.

There is shame, however, in admitting that we know we aren't prepared to deal with such circumstances, and we're waiting for someone to get the hint that it's time to make a decision.

This isn't a plea to buy fancy weapons that someone somewhere

in this school will label as an avoidable expense.

This is a call to action—some action—that shows this school is working as a collective unit to reach a decision.

It's necessary and fair to include everyone's voice; it's unfair to shut out the majority of the student body.

Even without an official, all-inclusive town hall meeting where both sides present their arguments, students have found one way to put in our vote.

Our student senators and officers have already voted unanimously on the issue and even submitted a motion to grant our campus police department the right—better yet, the responsibility—to equip its officers with firearms while on duty.

The sad truth is: We don't have the power to cast the final vote, even if we outnumber faculty and administrators.

When it comes to supplying our police officers with the necessary tools to do their job to the best of their ability, it's easy to come to a conclusion.

When it comes to making a decision that affects more than 23,000 lives, we need to make it a priority to discuss the subject and make it clear that we're all listening.

We're all thinking about this; we're all waiting.

Mess with our mortality and doom us all

Death is inevitable. Generation after generation, we experience death, uniquely as individuals and collectively as a species.

However, the people of the 21st century may be awarded the option of extending their life span significantly thanks to a roundworm gene known as “drr-2.”

According to Sciencedaily.com, researchers at the University of Michigan discovered that when they manipulated “drr-2,” which is similar to the human gene “eIF4H,” they could increase or decrease the life span of the animal.

The process could put an end to diseases related to aging. But before we build a monument to the roundworms and build a utopian society in the dirt, let's talk about the consequences.

This advance will put us in the carpool lane toward self-destruction; it has the potential to upset the natural order of the universe.

The anti-aging drugs that will be put on the



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market won't be available to just any Joe off the streets, which could cause a rift by separating humanity into those who live long and prosper and those who simply don't.

The dangers of this scenario aren't just socio-political.

The logistics of controlling the population boom that would emerge would be nullifying, and it could very well break the earth's creaky back.

If you gave me the option between living a modest number of years before dying of some age-related disease and gambling on experimental drugs that twist my genes around to extend my life span, I would go with the non-gene-twisting option.

“It is our responsibility, as humanity, to collectively reject the concept of immortality and embrace our ultimate end, because without death, we cannot truly appreciate life.”

Lack of game room hours is a time crisis for students

Nothing is more relaxing than hurricane-kicking some friends in the face before your geology class, or ending a day of classes with a game of pool.

The campus game room is the only area designated for spending your time in the most unproductive and idle manner: playing games with your friends.

Every other building and domain at Cerritos College is here out of necessity, as a resource, or as a convenience. The game room is our only privilege.

So shouldn't this privilege be extended to all students? It would make sense.

However, those of us that must deal with the many issues that come with taking a night class also have to tolerate the fact we just don't get to play billiards.

This isn't fair to the hundreds of students that pay for their units just like everyone else.

If you paid to be here then you should be able



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to enjoy all of the campus' facilities and amenities, and that includes everything from the library to the food court to Street Fighter.

The Learning Resource Center is left open until 9 p.m., so why not leave the game room open until 7 p.m.?

If not for the sake of those students who have been disregarded, then at least for the sake of those that want to earn their way through their higher education.

The game room is another job on campus for students involved with the work-study program to

fill.

Increasing the hours of operation would be favorable for those of us that work part-time on school grounds.

Students employed in the LRC can work shifts between 7:30 a.m. and 9 p.m., and those in the food court, from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

An extension in the hours would be beneficial to all parties involved.

Night students get to indulge in the school's few liberties, work-study students get an extra hour of paycheck, and the Associated Students of Cerritos College would see an increase in revenue it could use accordingly.

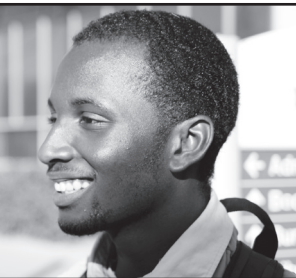
This is a small but positive change in the routine environment of our college campus that could easily be implemented.

Let's take some action and have administrators and faculty consider and adopt some useful ideas.



FREE “Do you think the campus police officers should carry guns?” ZONE

COMPILED BY:
JIMMY-EDWARDS TURNER
PHOTOGRAPHS BY:
BENJAMIN FARREN



PHILIP ADEAGBO
philosophy major
“I don't think it is necessary because we haven't had any problems so far.”



DAR-RELL PROVO
computer science major
“I don't see it necessary, however, if they are police officers and security officers then they are allowed to carry guns.”



RUTH VERA
undeclared major
“I don't think we need guns in this school, but if anything, they should carry one just in case.”



SOCHEATA HANG
engineering major
“It's safer for campus police to carry guns just in case something goes down so they have protection.”



JONATHAN BELLAIRS
music major
“I think it is ridiculous. They are not qualified, and even if they are qualified, what do we need guns on campus for?”



BRIANNA VEGA
English major
“I guess it'll be okay if anything happened here at school, but I wouldn't want them shooting at anyone for no reason.”

'Strings' proves to be little more than predictable

Movie Review

No Strings Attached

Starring: Natalie Portman
Director: Ivan Reitman
Rating: ★ ↗

MICHELLE MORENO
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A movie about two friends who are into the idea of using each other for sex sounds like something that people would watch for the basic appeal of "sex buddies".

When it comes to watching "No Strings Attached," you're really up for a movie that is just another corny love flick that one wouldn't even want to watch while going on a date.

The film starts at a high school party where a young Emma (Natalie Portman) and a young Adam (Ash-ton Kutcher) sit next to each other with the awkwardness of being the only two that aren't fooling around.

It goes on from there to five years later, where they meet each other once again at a college frat party, and surprise: Emma and Adam see each other and lock eyes, but don't go any further than that step.

What was very problematic about the film is that it started out with two people, who are later in the movie supposed to be "sex friends," and it only makes the film that much more of a dull story with two very attractive actors starring in it.

Natalie Portman's effort to make her character a dry, unaffectionate

workaholic, does help with the fact the she's the one who pursues the idea with Adam.

The way the two started to have sex was when Adam was going through his own battle with his father dating his ex-girlfriend, which causes him to have a drunken night and to have sex with any girl who will agree.

He ends up at Emma's house, awaking naked, thinking he had sex with one of her roommates. The scene pops up as generally humorous, but what was more disappointing was the chemistry between Portman and Kutcher.

From the short moment of them encountering each other sexually, the movie carries on with different scenes of them having sex in different places and at different times of the day. But sadly, the movie ends with them seeming to be just sex friends.

Throughout the movie, Adam starts to fall in love with Emma, but Emma doesn't want to commit to serious relationships because of her trauma with her father passing away when she was in college.

So, Emma tells Adam the morning after they "spooned" with each other, fully-clothed, that it would be best for Adam to sleep with other women.

You can guess that Emma and Adam end up with each other in the movie without having to see it. So, save your money and maybe wait for the film to come out on DVD because this film is a no-brainer in figuring out that it will make you fall asleep in the last hour of it.



Comedy Unleashed: David Allhands dances in the audience to "Hold Me." The group, "Caged Comedy," says it plans to perform with the USO Tour in Iraq this upcoming summer. Other members on stage (from left to right) are Christina Gutierrez, Rafael Medrano, Christopher Rodriguez and Jared Head.

Cerritos comedy thrills

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Cerritos College students in the improv group "Caged Comedy" opened the doors to the Downey Theater on Friday night in Downey.

The show, which lasted about two hours, was full of laughter.

During its performance, "Caged Comedy" played games, acted, and danced around the theater to songs like "Hold Me" and "Thriller."

"Caged Comedy" member, Blake Calvert, said, "I hope that, with our performance tonight, people who came here with problems forgot about them. I hope everyone had a good laugh."

Audience member Roy Trebino said, "Their performance was fantastic. I feel sorry for the people who were supposed to be here

and didn't show up."

"Caged Comedy" plans to do other shows and expects to be in Iraq for the summer.

"We plan to go to Iraq on the USO Tour," said Calvert.

The group is a mixture of Cerritos College and high school students that originated in Downey.

Though the group went through a previous breakup, former members decided to continue on and add different members, completing the seven.

Chris Rodriguez, "Caged Comedy" member, said, "I was in the Student Center and Jared came up to me and asked me if I wanted to be part of the group, and well, here I am now."

High school member David Allhands said, "I audition for them. I like acting and I believe that improv is the center of acting."

"I hope that... People who came here with problems forgot about them."

BLAKE CALVERT
Caged Comedy

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Scan to view slideshow of "Caged Comedy" show



www.talonmarks2.com/slideshows/sp2011cagedcomedyslideshow

Artists unveil 'The Big Picture' show in L.A.

LAURA CHAU
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If one is akin to the world of street art, then Shepard Fairey should be a familiar pen name.

The world famous street artist and creator of the popular clothing brand, Obey, teamed up with Mark Mothersbaugh, the frontman of 70's pop band "Devo," to debut the two-person show on Saturday in L.A.

The art show, titled "The Big Picture," is presented by Subliminal Projects and The Art of Eylum, a non-profit organization which seeks to enrich the lives of gravely ill children through

art.

Marissa Textor, gallery manager at Subliminal, says that the public's response was a little overwhelming.

"The crowd was a little unexpected. Of course, Shepard always brings a big turnout, but it's great."

Fairey's work in the show included much of the same style people are familiar with when they think of Shepard Fairey or Obey, while Mothersbaugh's work consisted of thousands upon thousands of postcard-sized artworks, which all come together to form the "big picture."

A man who identified himself as "Al Crackenbrew," said he loved the show's concept.

"It's about time these guys were in the same room together. They've been making great stuff for about 20 years," Crackenbrew said.

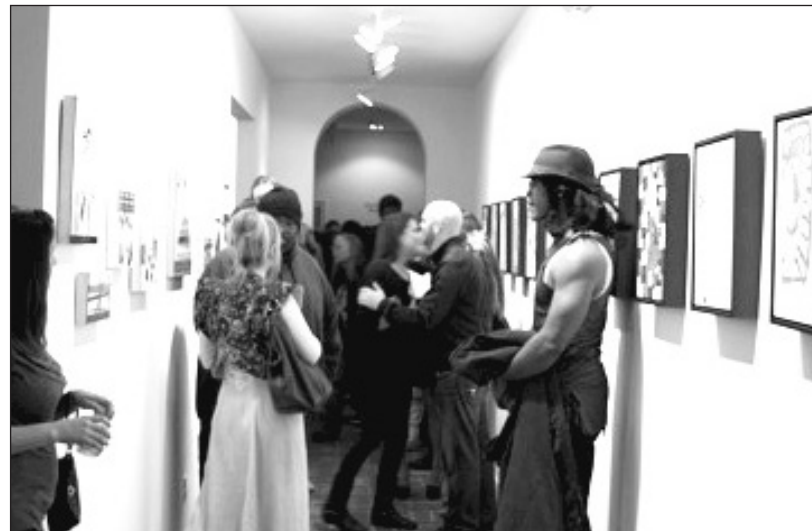
In addition to original works by Fairey and Mothersbaugh, the show also featured work from terminally ill children in Los Angeles hospitals.

The work, which made up about 30 percent of the gallery, received a strong response.

"My favorite is the children's art," Wayne Kramer, guitarist of the rock group "MC5," said.

"You can almost feel their energy and strength through these paintings. I love it."

The gallery will be open until Feb. 19 and is free to the public.



Kids' corner: People gather in the hallway to view children's artwork. The Art of Eylum, a non-profit organization that seeks to enrich the lives of gravely ill children, helped make the gallery possible.

PHOTO BY LAURA CHAU/TM

Cerritos film students win awards for entries in gambling PSA competition

BENJAMIN FARREN
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Four of the five top honors for a Public Service Announcement for problem gambling were awarded to Cerritos College students that submitted videos for the 2010 Department of Alcohol and Drugs PSA contest.

"Perhaps the most important concept I was able to convey to the students was they only had 30 seconds to make a lasting impression and to do so they had to affect the viewers on an emotional level," said film professor Steven Hirohama.

Mark Martinez, auto mechanic major, drew inspiration from a scene in the movie "500 Days of Summer."

"There is a specific scene in the movie where it splits into two. On one side are his expectations of what is going to happen, and the other side is reality, and that is what I based my PSA on," Martinez said.

Karla Vasquez, film and television major, said that observing the rules "really inspired [her] to not only just point that they have a problem, but probably that there is hope that they can get [help]."



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Falcons basketball blows lead



PHOTO BY BENJAMIN FARREN/1M
Game on: Sophomore forward Addaryl Thomas tips off against an ECC Compton Center player. The Tartars overcame a 40-26 deficit to win the game.

ANTHONY HODGE
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Despite a first-half lead, the Cerritos College men's basketball team followed up with a disappointing second half and lost to El Camino College Compton Center 82-73 on Friday, putting its record at 8-12.

Sophomore guard Nick Sanchez led the team with 22 points, three rebounds, three assists and three steals.

The Falcons capitalized on their fast breaks, which included a dunk by freshman guard Anthony Scott.

Cerritos continued to execute the fast breaks throughout the half and went into halftime with a 40-26 lead.

Sanchez said, "We were sticking to the game plan, executed good passing and we got good shots."

Down by 27 points at the start of the second half, the Tartars started off with the ball and began their comeback.

El Camino started to find momentum and took advantage of Cerritos' mistakes.

With 15:29 remaining in the game, El Camino caught up, bringing the score to 48-45.

"We got happy and started turn-

ing over the ball and doing things we weren't supposed to be doing," freshmen J.P. Olukemi said of the comeback effort by El Camino.

Olukemi scored eight points off the bench.

The Falcons continued to make mistakes and El Camino was able to put the odds on its side.

Later in the game, the Tartars had the momentum in their favor as they burned the clock.

By the end of the game, Cerritos attempted another comeback, but the lead was too wide, and time ran out.

The game ended with El Camino on top, 82-73.

El Camino scored 55 points in the second half, as opposed to the

27 points in the first half of the game.

Head coach Russ May said, "We did little things we shouldn't be doing, and that's why they came back at us. We did not handle success very well."

He added, "We're going to learn how to play two halves."

Sanchez said the team has to turn it around for its next game.

"We've just got to work hard, go back to the gym, and pay attention as students of the game," he said,

"We have to move on from here, we can't get this game back."

Mobile News

Scan to view slideshow of the game vs Compton



www.talonmarks2.com/slideshows/sp2011/me nsb-ball1.21.2011

Students should have intramural sports clubs



wearing the right attire.

They must also respect the equipment, their coach and their teammates.

Students like freshman softball player, Veronica Perez, feel that creating this program will ruin the image of real athletes with talent.

She said, "I say 'no' to intramural sports, because why play if you're not that good. If you have a hobby there is slow pitch, and other types of leagues, but not at a college varsity level."

Other students disagree with Perez. Softball player Kristy Mele said, "I do think we should have intramural sports, because they give people who are not good in sports a chance to actually play and learn."

Many coaches are busy coaching their teams, however even the busiest coaches support this idea; softball coach Kodee Murray being one of them.

She said, "I think that allowing students to sign up for intramural sports develops a sense of pride for going to the school that you are attending and it is an excellent idea."

"Intramural sports bring a unity to a school, it pulls students in that do not have the time, or maybe not the skills, but it is something that they can belong to."

Considering games do not plan themselves, there would need to be a person directing this program.

Murry suggested that "some one who is huge on physical education, a person like coach Deborah Jensen who can organize big groups and move them, and a person who does a lot here at Cerritos College."

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STEPHANIE ROMERO/TM

Submission: Jose Lopez, a 285-pound wrestler (left), in his match against Luis Contreras from Fresno City College (right). Lopez won the match and captured his second individual California State Championship.

Wrestler named Athlete of the Month

STEPHANIE ROMERO
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Falcon wrestler Jose Lopez, from the 285-pound class, was named State Male Athlete of the Month of December by the California Community College of Athletic Association after posting a 33-1 record this season. Teammate Eric Sauvageau says Lopez's drive and determination to get better was the key to his success. "Jose working out by himself all the time improved his skills but all he needed to do was figure out how to win," sophomore wrestler Eric Sauvageau said. Having six to seven years of experience in wrestling, and advice from his high school football coach to "give it a chance," Lopez has won back-to-back state championships.

"I wasn't interested in wrestling; I thought it was weird guys wrestling in tights," Lopez said. Lopez won his match against Fresno City College wrestler Luis Contreras with a 4-0 domination in the first state championship. Lopez traveled to Arizona to the Embry Riddle tournament and lost against wrestler Levi Cooper. "I was unprepared. If the elevations and conditions were different I could have done it. If I had a little more gas, I would have had him," Lopez said. He achieved a record of 66-5 both seasons on the Falcon team, winning nine tournaments and taking second place in three. Falcon wrestling coach Don Garriott said, "Things we worked with weren't technical but psychological. I wanted him to wrestle entire matches, and not just try to win, but to dominate his opponent and wrestle to his ability.

"For a guy his size, he is extremely quick and explosive. As a 290-pound guy, he is in great shape," Garriott said. He earned a scholarship to continue wrestling at Dickinson State University in North Dakota. Lopez accepted the scholarship after regional assistant coach Tyson Springer presented him with the offer. "I was being offered a full ride. All I had to pay for were books," Lopez said. While still wrestling at Cerritos, he became the fourth wrestler in school history with two consecutive wins at the California State Championships. "I'm better than that. I really don't find glory in that and I'm still on the road to pursue a better ending," Lopez said about his award.

There's no such thing as "offseason"



These days, to be an elite athlete, you cannot take any breaks. Every single moment, someone is gunning for you and trying to be better than you. While every sport has a designated offseason, both players and coaches have diminished its value, and they should. They are in weight rooms, on practice fields, working just as hard as they do during their regular season. Softball coach Kodee Murray believes that the offseason is key to developing a program. "Every coach on this campus, not just myself, works out with his athletes during [the offseason]," she said. "You get the core of your work done in the offseason because you cannot get your team ready if you don't. "The offseason is an extremely important aspect for this team." Preparation is key to staying on top of the game and with recruiting continuing to get better at every level, these players and coaches can't afford to slip up and lose any advantages. Freshman outfielder Veronica Perez described the offseason as a time to be evaluated by coaches. "Coaches are looking at you to see what you're capable of doing in their sport."

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