

'Surreal' marathon



Emergency personnel assist the victims at the scene of a bomb blast during the Boston Marathon in Boston, Massachusetts, Monday, April 15, 2013. (Stuart Cahill/Boston Herald/MCT)



Cerritos College librarian has terrifying experience at Boston Marathon

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Lorraine Gersitz, Cerritos College librarian and co-adviser of the Triathlon Club, stood about 200 yards away from the finish line of the Boston Marathon, when two explosions took place.

Gersitz finished the race with a clock time of four hours, three minutes and zero seconds.

The two bombs went off within 10 seconds of each other when the clock reached 4:09.00.

After crossing the finish line, Gersitz searched for her husband Bruce.

Bruce, Gersitz's husband, was on subway line T in Boston when the explosions took place. It was planned that he would meet up with his wife after she finished her race.

With the velocity of texts received varying, she found out from her husband that the subway stopped at Fenway Park, which is approximately a mile and a half away from the finish line of the marathon and was walking to meet her.

When they united, Gersitz described the moment as, "The biggest hug you can imagine."

She said they both had tears in their eyes.

Gersitz also stood with fellow runners talking when the explosions happened. She

said that at first she thought it was a sonic boom, also adding, "At first you don't think it's an explosion."

After the second explosion happened and people started to react to it, Gersitz described the scene as surreal.

"(There were) sirens going off, helicopters in the air, and (the runners) were thinking 'oh, this isn't good,'" she said.

Gersitz said she can't even remember how many Boston Marathons she ran, saying, "It has to be somewhere around 15 or 20."

The marathon for Gersitz, is a joyful occasion that she says ended terribly.

"It was horrible. Your heart is just broken," Gersitz said. This is one of the ways she describes the event.

Gersitz portrayed the day of the event as any other Boston Marathon before it, with the course lined with community members.

"People come out in droves just cheering you on."

Gersitz was running next to a man who was knocked over by the explosion as was seen in footage.

She said she was feeling good and decided to speed up in order to reach her goal time of four hours.

Later on, she saw that man on the news footage get knocked over by the blast.

Although he appeared to OK, Gersitz thought that she could have been involved in the blast too.

"Someone's watching over me somewhere," she said.

Usually on a normal marathon day for Gersitz, runners walk around like celebrities in Boston, with people coming up to them and asking questions about the marathon.

But now after the explosions happened, **See Marathon Page 2**

Expansion of Wi-Fi might not reach every student

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Even though Cerritos College's campus Wi-Fi has expanded since the beginning of the 2013 spring semester, woman's studies major Irene Aceituno has had difficulty connecting to the internet.

"The Wi-Fi used to connect on my Kindle but then it stopped. Now, I usually use my phone as a hotspot," Aceituno said.

In January, Cerritos College allocated \$20,000 to upgrade and expand the Wi-Fi coverage to a larger part of the campus.

Cerritos College President Linda Lacy is enthusiastic about the upgrades to the school's Wi-Fi.

Lacy said that one of the reasons the school decided to expand the Wi-Fi was that students were vocal about having better Wi-Fi.

"A group of students came to me and said there was a real concern (about Wi-Fi), because at the time

they didn't even have it in the student center or the library.

So (Cerritos College) started expanding it, because I thoroughly believe (the college) need(s) access. The faculty definitely believes that and the administration wants to support that to."

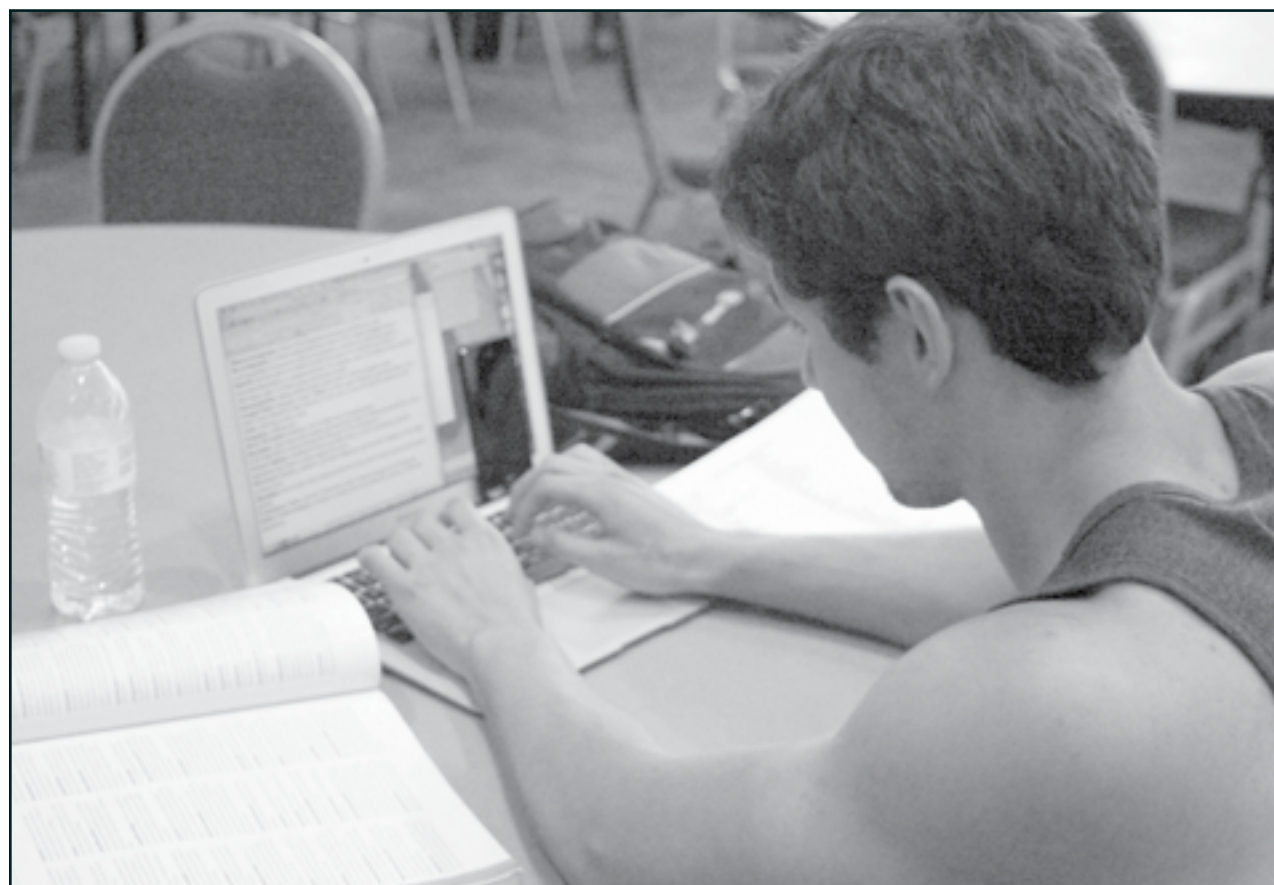
According to Lee Krichmar, director of information technology, the expansion has been done strategically with the input of school managers and students.

"I think we hit the most important spots. When we brought up the new gym, we put up access points right away.

"We're bringing new buildings online, for example the new liberal arts building. We're already identifying Wi-Fi locations in them as the new buildings come up."

One of the first areas upgraded was the library to better accommodate the students who use it to study.

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Getting connected: Political science major Oscar Rubio uses the Wi-Fi in the Student Center. The Student Center is just one of the 150 access points at Cerritos College. CHRISTOPHER MACIAS/TM