

TALON MARKS

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RETURN OF THE CLUBS

With the new semester comes new or returning clubs on campus. Clubs such as Black Student Union, MEChA and the EOPS clubs that have not been active have made a return, much like the Jedi, and hope to engage students.

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Among the many new or returning clubs on campus is the Black Student Union, the MeChA Club and the EOPS club.

These clubs have not been active for a few semesters and are making a comeback on campus.

The Black Student Union

The Black Student Union, started by Colston Westbrook, is a group of students on campus that wish to invite students of all races and educate them on the seldom known stories of blacks throughout history.

Westbrook, president of the BSU, wishes to see this new union flourish on campus.

The next meeting for the BSU is March 3. "When I went to go get the Union set up, I realized there used to be a BSU before this one, and that I was bringing it back," he said.

"We wanted to make this Union to basically let students, all students no matter the culture, voice their opinions," Secretary of

the BSU Xavier Jones said.

"This isn't just about voicing your opinion, different students have different ideas about things," he added.

According to Jones, there are students out there that have difficulty speaking their minds to the public because they do not wish to attract negative criticism.

"We want to be there for students like that, they can come to us and then express how they feel," Jones said. "Maybe they have a new idea, maybe they have a new project they want to do.

We want to be here, open hands open arms."

"The time is now," Westbrook said.

"With things like Michael Brown and Eric Garner going on, you need to raise awareness," he added.

Having a new management team at the forefront of the BSU, talks to keep the Union from going under the radar again are welcomed. However, the board of the Union will discuss topics like that in the upcoming meetings.

The goals that Westbrook and the BSU want to are to advocate causes for the black community, be socially approachable and educate the members on African-American history.

"We want to be sociable, so we are planning to have social events with the Union," Westbrook said.

Vice President of the BSU Issac Mciver, said the Union wants to teach people the figures whose stories were kept silent throughout history.

MEChA

MEChA or Moviento Estudiantil Chicano/Chicana de Aztlan, is a student movement whose foundations are based in higher education, Chicano or Chicana culture and history.

Although based on Chicano roots, the club is open to any who share the same ideals as the club or who identifies with them, regardless of race, gender or sexual orientation.

According to Co-Chair Juliet Martinez, along with fellow members, she brought the club back to life because she felt that there wasn't as much representation for Chicano, Chicana, Latino, Hispanic students on campus.

"You don't have to identify with these, so we plan to do workshops and hopefully invite everyone on campus that wants to learn about identity or history or current events in

our community," Martinez said.

According to Co-Chair Matthew Botello, "We're not only serving the Hispanic or Chicano students on campus. Specifically it began with Chicano students but it's evolved where it's for anyone,"

One of MEChA's goals is to bring about educational equality; awareness and the idea that a student does not have to assimilate into dominant society to be successful, according to Martinez.

"You can still succeed and be proud of where you come from," she added.

Botello said, "Stereotypes are dangerous and it's easy to pigeonhole us into fitting into an idea or a perceived notion to what we're doing. We want to change how people see us and each other."

Member Marcela Sanchez, architecture major, joined the club because she had been in a MEChA club in high school and was surprised when she came to Cerritos that there wasn't much representation for the Hispanic/Latino community.

"Continued on page 2"



DENNY CRISTALES/TM

Frozen: The new Child Development Center hosted its first Snowy Day last Friday. Children were treated to dancing, popcorn and even a Olaf snowman.

A 'Snowy Day' comes to Cerritos

DENNY CRISTALES
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Elsa, Olaf and other Frozen-like wonders were present, as the Child Development Center was host to Snowy Day last Friday.

Snow was brought in and poured through the back side of the playground, with an area catered to throwing snowballs and two snow slides for sleighing down available for children.

Snowy Day had a largely prominent Frozen theme to it, as the activities were all related to characters or plot points from the movie.

Kids had a chance to dance with Elsa, or pelt Olaf with snowballs. Everything Frozen was

available for all willing to participate.

Megalis Lopez, who brought her two daughters and sons with her husband, cited that the roomy atmosphere of the new center, along with it being public now, allowed Snowy Day to be more personable and more family oriented.

"He [Lopez's son] really loves it, and we love it, too," she said. "I just really love what the center does for the kids and the families. And the kids have fun with it, so you can't really go wrong with that."

It was the fifth year the center hosted the event, but it was the first time it was present in the renovated and relocated spot.

Marlen Murray, a teacher for four-year-old students at the center, said that the biggest part of

it was just bringing in the truck for the snow, as the now-spacious center ironically had the problem of fitting the truck through.

The program relied on volunteer work from parents and its staff to setup and plan the entire structure of the event.

Diana Jimenez, an intern at the Child Development Center, said, "This is my first time here, and it's just great to see everyone working together to get it going ... I love seeing the kids interact with each other."

Snowy Day is the Child Development Center's most anticipated event by the children, according to Murray, as they consistently would bring up the event as the date drew close.

"Oh, they love it," she said.

NEWS

FULL STORY ON PAGE 2

Philosophy Club encourages critical thinking



ARTS

FULL STORY ON PAGE 4

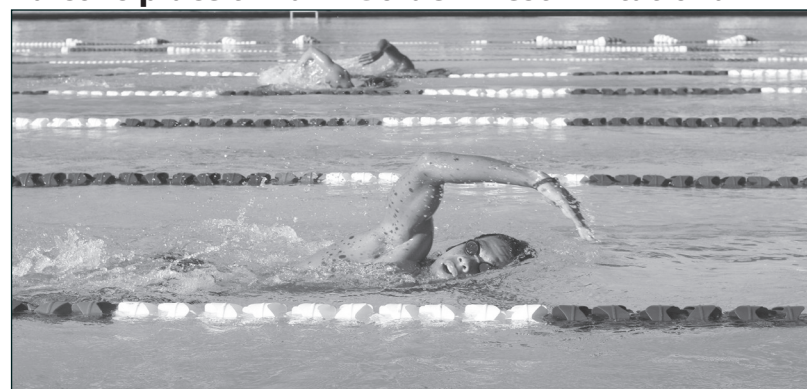
Greek play 'Trojan Women' given modern twist

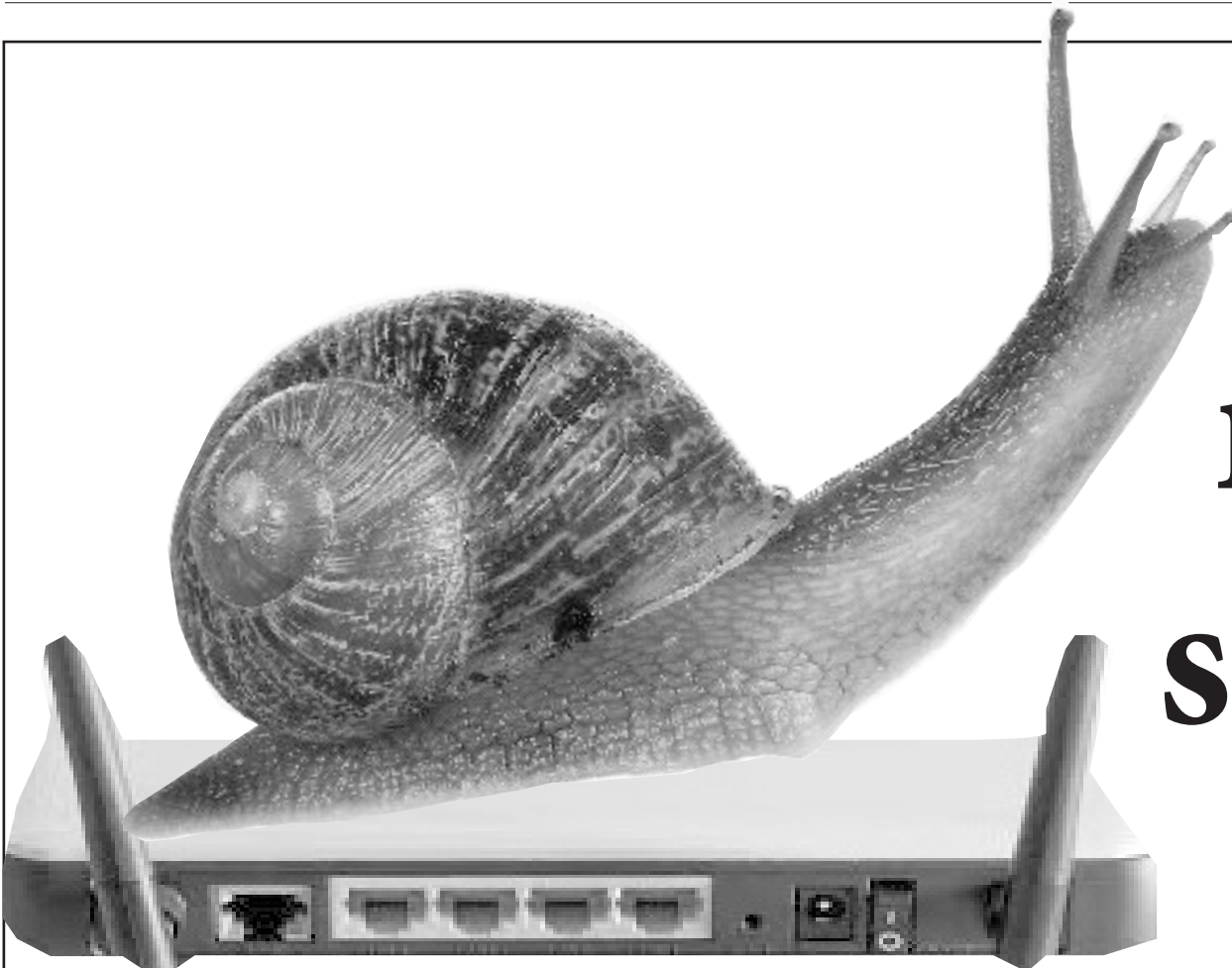


SPORTS

FULL STORY ON PAGE 6

Falcons place third in Golden West Invitational





Internet moving at snail's pace

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY: SEBASTIAN ECHEVERRY/ TM

Computers using school's Internet suffer slow working speed

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Classrooms stalled, office operations halted. Cerritos College fell into the darkness of slow Internet. The Internet on campus froze leaving students and faculty without proper resources to run day-to-day operations.

The campus Internet service provider, AT&T, ran into technical difficulties last Wednesday and Thursday.

The problem was a failed fiber optic link from within AT&T, not a direct issue on campus.

In the interim, a back-up link responded saving Cerritos from an Internet blackout.

The network failure also affected other areas that run the same AT&T Internet service.

Acting Director for the Information Technology department Patrick O'Donnell explained the internal problem that occurred at AT&T.

"One of the cards had gone out so [AT&T] had to replace that, but that was only about a two-hour down time from the time our Internet provider let us know and the time AT&T got the card replaced," O'Donnell said.

The Internet fray left students stranded with homework, research and course work still left to be finished for their classes.

Jasmin Hernandez, graphic design major, struggled during the impasse while working on homework and started looking at other

resources out of the campus.

"Well, as a graphic designer you always have to be on a computer and if you want to check something on the Internet to inspire yourself, you don't have that low-dial up service that is here at Cerritos," Hernandez said.

"I might as well go to Cypress, it has better service. I just do work at home instead. I think there's no service anywhere whatsoever," she added.

The current Internet plan at Cerritos College is called a GigaMAN service, running at 1.0 gigabits per second.

The back-up link is run through a DS3 service running at 45 Mbps, significantly lower than the primary connection.

According to O'Donnell, only about 50% of the GigaMAN link is used and congruent with the student population; enough to support the campus.

Instructional aide at the library, Daisy Cruz, explained the hassle students go through this semester when trying to connect to the network, both through desktops and Wi-Fi hotspots.

"We can't really do anything about the Internet. Students have to come here [the library] for the hot spot usually. Usually they're able to get on [the Internet] after a while. During this semester, it has been acting up, but just recently, I haven't had problems with it before," Cruz said.

The Wi-Fi hotspots are dispersed evenly throughout the campus with more emphasis on high-traffic areas.

New Wi-Fi hotspots are being established but close proximity with each hotspot intertwines the connections causing them to connect with one another.

All community colleges in California run their Internet service

through Scenic Solutions Group, a company dedicated to provide on-site network support, web hosting, co-location, and business e-mail services.

"[Scenic] provide all the links for the college for all the colleges in the state of California. At times [Scenic] have to rent links between others and AT&T is the one that they go with. The chancellor's office pays for our Internet," O'Donnell continued.

The California Community College Chancellor's Office provides the campus Internet access at no cost to Cerritos College.

"We may pay very minimal to have some of the stuff so it's basically what's available in the agreements that [Scenic] have. AT&T is the company that [Scenic] are using at this point," O'Donnell said.

Continued from: "Return of the Clubs" on Page 1.

Accounting Club

Those interested in accounting as a major and hobby, will find joy in the new installment of the Accounting Club started by Victor Villalobos, president of the club.

"I first wanted to start the club because I saw that it was missing for the community of students in the accounting courses," Villalobos said.

To those members in the career path of accounting, there were certain classes known to them, any other class, was unheard of.

The goal of the club is to gather all accounting majors and enthusiasts under one roof and collectively find different avenues such as guest speakers, work shops and conferences.

The club will be meeting March 31 and April 21 at 11 a.m. in the Liberal Arts Building.

EOPS Club

The EOPS Club was founded by students who reached their EOPS unit limit but still wanted be connected to one another.

According to member Rob Flores, "The EOPS Club encourages leadership, socializing and helping each other reach educational goals."

The EOPS Club meets every second and third Tuesday at 3 p.m.

Scan to see full list of clubs on campus



<http://bit.ly/1AqtwlN>

Program helps students find 'place in this world'

DENNY CRISTALES
Freelance writer

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"Unity."

In Kiswahili, it translates to "umoja." For Cerritos College, however, it translates to student success, according to Sheila Hill, a student services professional.

UMOJA is a student success program designed to help students figure out what they are good at and use that knowledge in order to become better students.

The program also provides a heavy emphasis on communication and togetherness, hence the counseling program's translation from the word "unity."

Unity is exactly what the counselors and faculty involved in UMOJA are looking to achieve amongst students at Cerritos College.

Hill said, "We're there to support [students] on helping them know what they're good at, defining and working on that, things that they need to work on and helping them in that endeavor."

This is UMOJA's "pilot year", it is the first academic year that it is active on campus.

The program now offers more in-depth counseling services, career services, field trips to schools and other resources in order to promote the idea of getting to know what's out there.

Last Wednesday, UMOJA had one of its counseling meetings at

the Teleconference Center in order to promote that very premise.

Among the guest speakers was Dawn Person, a California State University, Fullerton professor who is invested in UMOJA's purpose of unity.

The idea is for students to venture out and learn about different things, which in turn increases their dynamic and allows for a productive approach in learning more about their own selves, according to Person.

"The curriculum is designed so that the students are really immersed in a culturally relevant experience," she said.

Devaeghn Lewis, an undecided major, was at last Wednesday's meeting and found that UMOJA's premise is one that effectively utilizes a student's interests.

"We're [students] that have places in this world, it's their jobs as counselors to help us find it," he said. "And to not just look at our weaknesses, but to base it off of our strengths, abilities that we already have and to hone in on those abilities."

UMOJA has attained resources in order to promote its own personal growth, but, seeing as it is in its pilot year, Hill naturally wants it to expand further.

"Next year, we anticipate having a full new group of students entering the program. And as soon as we have that and continue to pilot it, we'll continue to go on with this

same premise," she added.

The program offers English counseling courses, another general-ed course that is available for transfer to a CSU or a UC and, eventually, open a math class.

UMOJA also tackles cultural issues, as briefly insinuated by Person, as one of the topics brought up last Wednesday was that of an "achievement gap."

"There's an achievement gap with African Americans and other groups of students who aren't performing at the same level as white student counterparts," Person said. "The idea is to close that gap and to get that achievement gap and turn it into an opportunity gap."

That opportunity gap presents itself through the principles and resources UMOJA offers, according to both Hill and Person.

Scan to visit UMOJA's site for more information



<http://bit.ly/1DPAwey>



GUSTAVO LOPEZ/ TM

Students for change: Philosophy Club meeting held Tuesday in Social Sciences room 137. Intern philosophy teacher Andrew Rehfeld gave a presentation about religion and science and whether the two ideologies were in conflict.

Those in search of wisdom flock to Philosophy Club

CARLOS MARQUEZ

Staff Writer

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Among all the clubs that Cerritos College offers, there is one at the Social Science Building that feeds those who are hungry for knowledge and wisdom.

For those who question the fundamental problems that surround our world nowadays, Philosophy Club awaits.

The meetings are every Tuesday at 11 a.m. at the Social Sciences Building in room 137, Film & Discussion: Journey of the Universe will be shown March 3.

The club invites students to be part of these meetings to find answers to the most recent hot topics related to religious studies, science and technology.

Considered as the microscope of wisdom, philosophy is the science

of thinking beyond looking for the answers of fundamental problems.

Philosophy professor and adviser of the club, Ana Torres-Bower, plays an important role in the department alongside with her partners and students whose goals are to create a friendly space that leads students to success.

"One of the purposes of the club is to have that student and teacher conversation in topics that are not covered in time at the classes," Torres said.

Occasionally, the club held meetings known as Socrates' Cafe, where the group watches a film and discuss the philosophical point of view from it.

In some cases, the club has special guests that give a presentation regarding a specific topic where on occasions the room is filled by an audience according to its schedule.

"This club is our pride and joy

because everyone helps and everyone works to make it happen," Torres said.

Brainstorming ideas helps the club gather topics that the Cerritos College community are concerned about and can be brought to the table; religion, being one of the hot topics.

The purpose of philosophy is to think correctly to become a better person in order to make fewer mistakes according to Torres.

The teachings that the club and the department offer aims to have students apply this knowledge in their lives and share it with future generations.

The students do not need to major in Philosophy to join the club, it is open for everyone to enjoy a good session of wisdom and go back to his daily routine with a new perspective.



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EDITORIAL



Breaking news: Tortoise beats slow Internet in race

By now, you've probably sat down on a computer or connected to the Wi-Fi with your external device and noticed the sluggish Internet that has plagued Cerritos College.

AT&T went through some technical difficulties; more specifically, the fiber optic link connecting the campus to the Internet went down, causing a massive calamity to students and faculty.

Through the downtime, a DS3 backup service kicked in, saving Cerritos College from being an Internet-free zone.

Though the convenience of having a fail-safe in instances such as this is good, the schematic of the back-up link is not.

Running at a paltry 45 Mbps, it is not convenient for students on campus to be running such a spotty fail-safe.

The primary Internet is a GigaMAN service, 22 times faster than the DS3 backup, according to the AT&T website.

A reliable and fluid back-up link that at least comes close to its predecessor is in dire need.

To do that we'd have to look at the cost of the primary GigaMAN link and the DS3 back-up link.

Some may argue that the Internet hasn't been "down" in years, so why allocate money toward a shelved fallback option?

It simply is not enough megabytes to

support the faculty and 22,000 plus students on campus.

The Internet is the lifeblood of student success. It gives us an advantage to getting our work done effectively and at a faster pace.

Books and notes are fairly close to giving us the advantages the Internet does, but this is 2015; everything is digital and on the Internet.

Students cannot be expected to succeed with such unreliable resources at the helm.

Some do not have the luxury of working on coursework at home, but resort and depend on coming to campus to use the resources available. The lack of Internet disrupts that.

Others simply need the stress liberation of coursing through their favorite websites during their leisure time or looking for inspiration for assignments.

This not only affects students, but also greatly impacts faculty.

Professors cannot conduct lectures without accessing their online notes, showing specific examples and communicating with students through the Internet.

The current Internet speed, a GigaMAN service, is approximately 1,000 Mbps compared to the DS3 back-up service of 45 mbps.

By comparison, students and faculty

will be lucky to load their web browsers at that rate.

Especially during peak high-traffic hours, people cannot rely on the Internet when last-minute scenarios occur.

A limited back-up link to complement our exceptional GigaMAN link is no back-up at all, merely there to serve as a token link.

To put it into perspective, the average Internet speed in California is 7.68 Mbps according to statetechmagazine.com.

That's in respect to individual households, but to think a DS3 link is enough to support Cerritos College is asinine.

Though for the most part they have been consistent, AT&T has had a previous incident with the GigaMAN service going down.

As a campus, we need to have our options open and explore other Internet providers that have compiled better track records with colleges.

Other competing Internet services include CenturyLink and Windstream.

For a primary Internet replacement, AT&T also offers a DecaMAN Internet service which moves data up to 10 gigabytes-per-second.

Though that may be getting ahead of ourselves, all options should be kept open when dealing with the logistics of student success: The Internet.

Immigrants raising debt

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President Barack Obama's executive action plan regarding immigration can no longer be implemented due to a temporary injunction issued by Federal Judge Andrew Hanen.

While I disagree with President Obama's plan, I also disagree with how immigration is currently being handled.

The injunction was issued based on three supporting factors:

1) A substantial threat that the states would suffer irreparable injury if the injunction was denied.

2) The threatened injury outweighs any damage the injunction might cause the government.

3) The injunction will not disserve the public interest.

This decision is important for the 26 states that are suing President Obama due to the extreme costs the states will face because of the Deferred Action for Parents and Lawful Permanent Residents Program.

I agree with the lawsuit, that this executive decision is going to cause "irrefutable damages" to the state's economy.

By Feb. 27, both sides are ordered to "meet and confer and formulate and file" to decided what is going to happen next.

The U.S. is already in debt and the situation is only going to get worse if millions of people who are not contributing to the economy are suddenly benefitting from tax money.

Rewarding those who came to the U.S. illegally completely disregards the efforts of those who paid their dues because they truly wanted to become an American citizen and have the opportunity to make a better life.

Completely opening or shutting the borders is not going to make the immigration situation any better.

If President Obama wants to improve immigration, he should be focusing on a program that will implement two major things; getting people into the country, and teaching them how to contribute effectively to society so they can have the opportunity to live the life they dreamed about.

Water? That'll be \$20,000, please

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The ASCC Senate recently voted to allocate \$20,000 of school funds into the placing of five hydration stations throughout the Cerritos College campus.

The actual cost of the stations over time is still vague and whether the students will actually use the stations is uncertain.

Though it is a seemingly good idea to provide fresh, clean water to students on campus, the cost is somewhat ridiculous.

The life expectancy of the stations was not included in the approved plans. This means that the cost of these five stations could be substantially greater over time.

It was stated that these five stations would replace water fountains already in place on campus.

It is unclear if these stations will replace all water fountains or where they are going to be placed.

FSZ

FREE SPEECH ZONE

How has the slow Internet affected students?

COMPILED BY:
MONICA GALLARDO

PHOTOGRAPHS BY:
SAMANTHA VASQUEZ



BRIDGIT GARCIA
Nutrition major

"You can't bring your laptop because it doesn't work, or even your phone. If you're trying to Google something real quick, you can't because it doesn't work and you can lose your work."

RAUL CASTILLO
Chemical Engineering major

"It's affected students by sometimes not allowing them to actually get to what they're supposed to do. If you can't get an assignment done on time, it really affects your schoolwork."



ALYSSA FALCON
Undecided major

"I think it affects students in a way where we can't get our stuff done as quick and fast as we can, as effectively as we can."



GREG FLORES
Aerospace Engineering major

"I don't know, I don't really notice anything, so that's how it's affected me."



TYLER GRAY
Engineering major

"It just really bugs them [students]. It's really annoying."



My greatest concern with this, and many of the topics that cross the senate floor, is that there aren't enough questions being asked.

If the school is going to invest as much as \$20,000 into something, every last detail should be worked out before being approved.

The approval of something without full certainty in its details shows reckless and impulsive voting by the senate.

Money in general is not to be taken lightly, let alone when it funds something that may not be a high priority.

I'm not saying that the hydration stations are a bad idea. The idea that students would have access to clean, filtered water is something worth discussing.

We do live in Southern California after all, where it can be 80 degrees fahrenheit in the middle of winter.

The hydration stations would be useful all-year round.

I feel that there are options for

keeping students hydrated that would be less costly and last longer.

Perhaps if the school just maintained the water fountains that we already had in place there would not be cause for these hydration stations.

Another solution that could not only save the school money but maybe turn a small profit, would be to simply put in a few more vending machines containing cold, bottled water.

I don't see the need to spend \$20,000 on five stations for filtered water, though I do see a need for students to have more access to clean drinking water. I bring my own water and coffee with me to school every day.

Other students should also try to bring their own bottled water, thus saving their own money and the school's money.

If a student will fork out five bucks for a coffee at the Zebra cafe, I think a dollar for a bottle of water is attainable.



Cast of Trojan Women: The cast was doing run-throughs of the play with the sets still under construction. From back row, left to right: Jorge M. Folgar, Andrew M. Rogers and Gabriel Webb. Front row, left to right: Andrea Lavilles, Natasha Lopez, Gabrielle Gutierrez, Arielle Martinez and Oralia Neria.

Greek play: Modernized, set in Afghanistan

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With only six weeks to prepare, the cast and director are working hard to bring the world premiere of Diane Arnsen Svarlien's translation of the classic Greek play, The Trojan Women, to modern times.

The Trojan Women is a play written by Greek playwright Euripides in 415 B.C.

It is set after the Greeks won the Trojan War by entering the city hidden in a giant wooden horse.

In the play, the war is lost, the kings are dead and the women of Troy are held captive awaiting their fate.

The play is a tragedy focusing on the aftermath of war and what happens to the women of Troy.

More precisely, it focuses on the now captive Queen of Troy, Hecuba, and the time she spends waiting to be boarded on a ship to be sent off as a slave along with the other women of Troy.

According to Director C. Julian White this is, "A play about women being taken away at the end of the war; the men and the boys have been killed and the women are waiting their destiny;"

He added, "This play comes from the perspective of the conquered, therefore a women's perspective, what it is like to be ripped away from your culture; your men, your boys, the place you call home."

With that in mind, it was important to have the translation of the text to be written by a woman.

That woman is Diane Arnsen Svarlien, who in her book "Euripides" translates Andromache, Hecuba and Trojan Women.

This will be the first time her version will be performed since publishing her translation of the play in 2012.

Even though the play was written in 415 B.C., White sees war as a constant throughout history.

He surprised the cast by modernizing the play and having it set in Afghanistan after a city invasion by the Taliban.

Actress Oralia Neria, who plays part of the chorus in the play, said, "The fact that we're putting it [the play] in Afghanistan opens up our mind into what that world is like."

"We did have to do research on that religion and the culture. We learn and become more open minded."

Gabrielle Gutierrez, who plays Hecuba, said, "There's a quote that says 'history is told by the winners, not the losers,' and this whole entire play is from the perspective of the conquered people."

"So you get to see how devastated they are and how war in general is not a pretty thing, and not a good thing any of it."

The audience can expect a traditional Greek play with a lot of monologues and a small amount of singing, regarding the changes that were made.

White said, "We went straight through with some little cuts just to make it easier to go from scene to scene."

The Trojan Women premieres this Friday at 8 p.m.

A role just a 'Hair' strand away in Brown's latest play

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Being the second night of auditions, director Reed Brown felt optimistic and is excited for the Cerritos community to come see the musical.

Last Wednesday marked the 30th anniversary of the first time the Cerritos Theatre department hosted the musical, Hair.

Hair is a historic rock musical, which premiered in 1968 and is based on the political changes during the 60s, drugs and sexuality. Other issues the play confronts are race and freedom of speech.

There's a few topics in Hair that are relatable to some of the issues going on today that people deal with on a daily basis.

"I thought it was interesting that in 2015 that it was still relevant that with everything that's going on in Ferguson, Missouri, the political strive from the streets that after all these years, we are still faced with race riots, armed police, a lot of the strive that was happening in the 60s. You'd think we would've resolved and we haven't," Brown said.

Ivan Oyarzabal, theatre and communications major, said, "I think there's a lot of relatable themes that Hair has that talk about the current political temperature, especially with all these talks of a particular involvement in the Middle East."

"This talks about a group of unconventional friends that are trying to protest the war in Vietnam. So in a sense this kind of reflects the

current political temperature that we have here in, I guess I would say, liberal America."

Besides the relatable topics, Hair will also be full of top 40 hits and music that everyone knows and has heard of, for example, "Age of Aquarius," by The 5th Dimension.

Most of the students were open minded to any role and didn't really care what part they'd get as long as they get to be part of the play.

And for others, the audition for this play was a chance for them to challenge themselves as actors.

Theatre major Jorge Folgar said, "I think musicals are the hardest for me, so I just decided 'You know what? Do the hardest thing you can and we'll see how it goes' [...] if you're even slightly interested in doing any kind of theatre, try out for it, it's actually a lot of fun and you make a lot of friends who are like family."

Hair seems to be a very different but yet a very relatable musical. Brown hopes the audience comes to see the performance with curiosity and open minds.

"It spills off the stage, I'll leave it at that. It comes out at you quite a bit," Brown said.

Natasha Lopez, theatre arts major who's also currently in Trojan Women adds, "I think the audience will really like it. I saw the movie when I was a kid and I thought it was really catchy, so I think they'll like it. It's a fun musical, all the songs are really good [...] go see the show."

Hair performance dates will start in May (see bottom of page for more details).



Byron Ortiz, Undecided major

"I feel it's pretty cool because all the color printing is on digital, so we have to go through the process of using film to get black and white."



Erica Figuerora, Fine Arts and Nursing major

"I like it. I like the fact that they [students] can print that way, it forces you to experiment with how they used to do it back then and we have the digital lab for color."



Samuel Udo-Udoma, Creative Writing major

"I think it's not that great, a lot of pictures these days are in color and its more vibrant and lively."

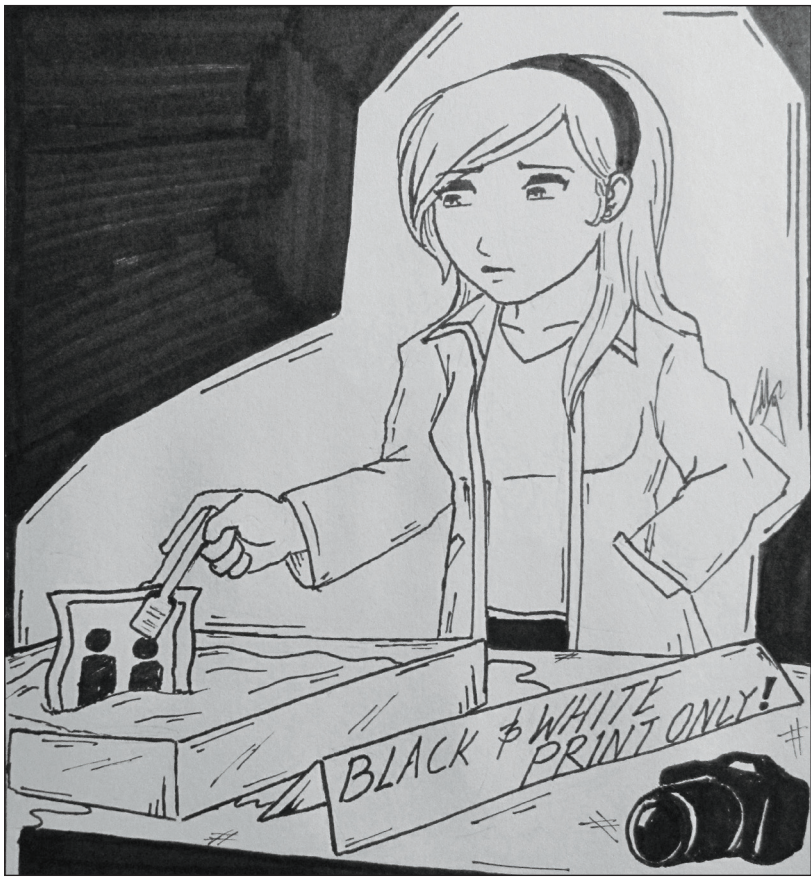


ILLUSTRATION BY CARLOS MARQUEZ/TM

What do you think about not being able to print in color for photography?

COLLABORATION
ARIEL JIMENEZ & LAUREN TORRES
Staff Writers
@TalonMarks

Is Cerritos College stuck in its old ways? The Cerritos College Photography Department is lacking color due to costs while others, such as East Los Angeles College, seem to find funding so its students can experiment with color. The dark rooms provided by Cerritos only have the chemicals to develop and produce black and white images. This may or may not hinder aspiring artists that want to go into the new age of art. Talon Marks asked photography students how they felt about the situation.

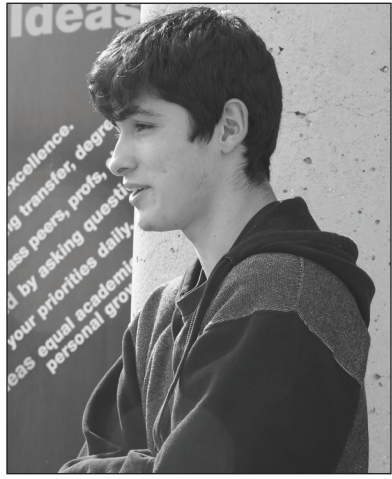
Itze Romero, Photography major

"I think it's easier for people to comprehend, color's a lot more difficult, a lot more goes into it."



Martin Sanchez, Mathematics major

"They [students] should be able to print in color and other forms, it shouldn't just be in only black and white."



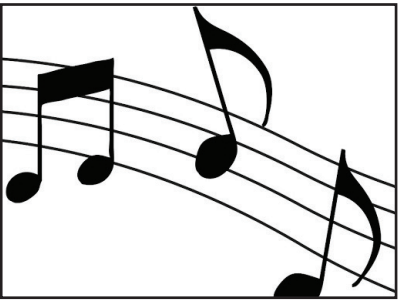
Monica Jerez, Graphic Design major

"I feel it's better because now we use digital, we can see color, so we can get the effect of black and white."



Music Department Applied Music Program recitals:

Every Wednesday at 11 a.m. and again at 6 p.m. in room BC 51. Next week:
-11 a.m. Analys Gomez/Voice & Jason Lopez/Clarinet
-6 p.m. Jae Won Kim/Voice & Janet Cisneros/Clarinet



TAKEN FROM IMGKID.COM

Theatre Department Coming soon to the Bur- night Center near you:

HAIR! THE MUSICAL! The historic rock musical confronts issues with race freedom of speech, drug use and sexuality.
-Performance dates: May 1, 2, 7, 8, 9 at 8 p.m. and May 10 at 2 p.m.



TAKEN FROM TICKETPRO.PL

Norwalk community Excelsior High will host the Holi Festival of Colors

-Saturday, March 7
-From 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. (gates open at 10:30 a.m.)
-\$5 admission, kids 12 and under free!
-15711 Pioneer Blvd.



TAKEN FROM FESTIVALOFCOLORSUSA.COM



MONICA GALLARDO/TM
Recordbreaker: Center fielder Joanna Perruccio singled to left field against ELAC on Feb. 17 and went on to steal second. She broke the school record for most stolen bases with 49.

Perruccio ‘steals’ her way to history

MONICA GALLARDO
Opinion Editor
@radioeggs

Centerfielder Joanna Perruccio made history and stole her 49th base and broke a school record for most stolen bases.

On the softball field she bats lead-off and covers center field, swiftly using her speed to run down fly balls and steal bases to keep the team atop the South Coast Conference.

During the second inning of the Feb. 17 game against East Los Angeles College, she safely stole second and went on to score, contributing to the Falcons 13-5 blowout victory.

That stolen base was Perruccio's 49th of her career and made her the current record holder for most stolen bases in Cerritos College softball history. The previous record was set in 2008 by center fielder Capree Williams.

"I thought it was cool. I'm trying to not really think about it because I feel like it just takes me off of having fun and playing the game and trying to win," Perruccio said. "It's cool. I'm happy that I conquered the record."

Her other accolades include the Golden Shoe Award from the National Fast Pitch Coaches Association which she received for leading the state with 44 stolen bases in the 2014 season.

She also earned First Team All South Coast Conference honors for that same season.

"It's good, I feel great. It's awesome to have stolen that amount of

bases. It's a great accomplishment. I'm proud of myself," Perruccio said.

As a student at Long Beach Wilson High School, she received Second Team All-League honors as a junior and First Team All-League honors during her senior year. She also helped the team win the league championship her junior year.

Head coach Kodee Murray said, "We are very fortunate to have [Joanna] playing. [She] was an All-American last year with base-stealing and her playing the field, so she's on the road to going back to being able to do that again."

Assistant coach Jenel Guadagno said, "Joanna plays hard every day. She's a great player and I look forward to watching her continue stealing bases and playing in the future."

Perruccio plans to transfer and play for a four-year university, as well as become a coach in the distant future. "I would love to coach. I want to work with young kids, I love kids. I would love to coach because I love this game, it's fun," she said.

Third baseman Crystal Cano said, "Joanna holds a huge part in our team. She's our leadoff hitter so she's the one who gets everything started.

"Whether it's laying down a bunt and beating it out with her speed or hitting it over the right fielders head," she added.

According to Cano, Peruccio makes it seems so easy in the outfield.



ALEX NAVEJA/TM
Pin for the victory: Cerritos heavyweight Robert Chism pins his opponent from Rio Hondo in the Falcon Gymnasium. Falcons add another win with a final score of 38-9.

Robert Chism flies to Lindenwood University

ALEX NAVEJA
Sports Editor
@TalonMarks

Robert Chism flew to Lindenwood University in St. Louis, Missouri, as he accepted a full-ride scholarship for wrestling and signed on Jan. 17. He arrived and started school on Jan. 24.

"It feels amazing, it's what I've been working for since sports came into my life," Chism said.

But before he started to duel in the mats, he played football his first two years at Cerritos.

Head Coach Don Garriott was proud to see one of his wrestlers earn a scholarship for wrestling.

"It feels great when one of your players accepts a scholarship. I feel like (the coaching staff) did our jobs as far as coaching is concerned," Garriott said.

Chism is a wrestler who was in the 285-pound heavyweight division and is ranked and no. 1 in state for his weight class.

As a football player, he played on the offensive line as a center and was a first team All-American selection as Cerritos starting center.

He also wrestled and played football at Downey High School.

The decision he had to make was a tough one because he played both sports in high school, as well as college and he has a deep love for both sports.

He said, "It was a hard decision to make; my

family and friends helped me make it and I also had to do a lot of thinking before I made the decision."

There was a long list of scholarships that he got offered to play football and wrestling which consisted of Cal Baptist and Notre Dame Ohio for wrestling.

He also got offers from Northern University and Ouachita Baptist for wrestling and Forthays for football.

There is a reason behind every decision that is made, and in this decision he had to convince himself.

"The reason why I chose Lindenwood was because it was the best choice toward my major, which is criminal justice.

It's a private school, so the classes aren't as compacted with a lot of students so I knew I would get a better education and it can wrestle," Chism said.

Coach Garriott believed that Chism deserved the scholarship.

"Robert had a good work ethic. Sometimes it's hard for a good heavyweight to find people to push him in practice.

"Luckily, we have another good heavyweight and they were able to push each other. Because of this, they were both able to qualify for state finals," he said.

In the state final, Chism would have to go

against his own teammate Jesse Gomez, who was also in the same weight class as him and practiced with him every day.

"We knew all season it would come down to them being in the finals against each other. By

that time, we had already won the team title so it was just sit back and watch them beat each other up," Garriott said.

That match was one that the whole team had been anticipating and waiting for. They wrestled against each other every day, but this time it was different, they were battling for the state title.

Chism said that that match was one of his toughest matches he had ever been a part of in his entire time of wrestling.

He said, "It's what we have been talking about and preparing for all year. We were both excited for the match, but I know we both wanted to win and we're gonna wrestle all out."

"I know that's what we both wanted. It was a great match, wasn't easy but we both knew how we would wrestle, so I went out and wrestled," he added.

Women focus on long-distance swimming

DENNY CRISTALES
Freelance Writer
@Den_Crist

"Exhausting" is one way the women's swim team would describe swimming 10 events in one day, but that's exactly what it did last Friday at the Golden West Invitational.

The invitational had women swimmers qualify from preliminary competition toward the finals.

Both preliminary and final competitions were swam the same day, so as a result, those who swam and qualified in prelims, swam again for finals.

This led to the large number of events [10].

According to head coach Sergio Macias, seven events are held in total, and even then, it's usually split into two days.

"It was great conditioning and experience. Our team, I'm sure [it] was exhausted," he said. "We wanted to put [the women] in tougher

events so they could get something out of it."

Mt. San Antonio College and Pasadena City College are the two schools up next for competition this Friday, but endurance needs to be strengthened before then.

"We're going to have to learn to adapt and make that transition," Macias said.

Amanda Rabb, who specializes in breast stroke, qualified for finals during the invitational and had to do double duty in prelims and finals.

Her qualification allowed her to swim with the top 24 swimmers at the meet.

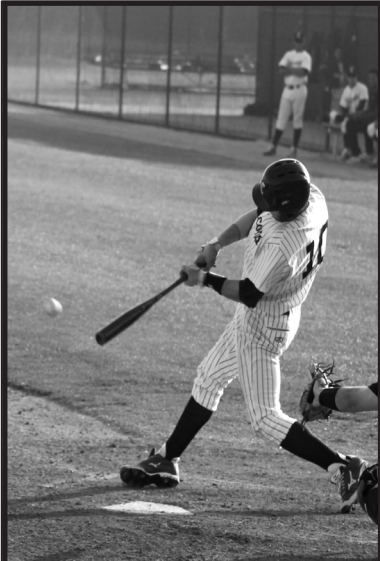
Despite her qualification, Rabb agrees with her coach about long distance.

She said, "Just because he [coach] gives us a slower amount of time for a set, it doesn't mean we stay relaxed. You've got to sprint it like you're at a meet. You train going fast constantly."

Cerritos Falcons Sports Scoreboard



Softball: Feb. 23 at Riverside 2 p.m. postponed due to rain. Game has been rescheduled to Monday, March 16 at Riverside.



Baseball: Feb. 20 at Fullerton 2 p.m. Lose: 5-1 WP: Castaneda LP: Arambula Brett Thompson: 1-4 HR, R, RBI, H



Men's Tennis: Feb. 20 at OCC 2 p.m. Doubles: Kagoma and Torrebella won 8-5. Single: Antoniuk won 6-1, 6-3



Women's Tennis: Feb. 24 vs. Saddleback 3:00 p.m. Doubles: Heath and Yatsenko won 8-2 Single: Alcasid won 6-2, 6-1

Falcon Previews



MONICA GALLARDO/TM
Getting the out: *The Falcons get the line drive double play at Nancy Kelly field.*

Softball added another win to their winning streak,in addition to their four wins. They are currently 5-0 for conference record and are in first place of their conference. In their previous game against El Camino at home, they were neck and neck and pulled off the win with a 1-0 gamescore. Their next game is another conference match-up at Los Angeles Harbor Feb. 26 at 3 p.m.



MARIO JIMENEZ/TM
Getting the bunt down: *Falcons execute a bunt down the third base line. This is against the Glendale Vaceroes at home in Kincaid Field.*

Baseball won a close game yesterday against Goldenwest College with a final score of 3-2 taking it at home. Their next 12 consecutive games are conference games. The team hasn't started conference games yet, but they will have an additional 10 conference games starting on March 3, against Pasadena City at Jackie Robinson Field at 2 p.m.



CHRISTIAN GONZALES/TM
Extra Practice: *Mathieu David returns the ball in his home court during practice.*

Men's tennis currently has a five game winning streak and have not played any conference games yet. They have an overall record of 8-1, consisting of a home record of 5-0 and an away record of 3-1. Their next game is Thursday, against El Camino at home at 2 p.m. The game after that will be against San Diego Mesa at home with the women at 2 p.m.



ARMANDO JACOBO/TM
Gametime: *Stef Flores is playing singles at home against Riverside, losing 6-3.*

Women's tennis is coming off of a four game winning streak with winning two conference games against Victor Valley and Long Beach City and two non-conference games against Cypress and Saddleback. The next conference game will be against El Camino at home with the men. Game time starts at 2 p.m. Then the next day, they will host a game at home against San Diego Mesa.



EMILY CURIEL/TM
Swimming for the meet: *Marlon Moreno works on his freestyle during practice in the pools. The Falcons next upcoming meet is on Friday, Feb. 28 at Pasadena City. This meet will be a conference meet against Mt. San Antonio and Pasadena City.*



SEAN FULMER/TM
Taking the jumper: *Falcons forward Sydney Lopez going for the jumper against Los Angeles Harbor in Falcon Gymnasium. The Falcons wont the game 88-35.*

Falcons place with #14 seed earning a first-round playoff bye

MARIO JIMENEZ
Copy Editor
@Talonmarks

The Cerritos women's basketball team ended the season with an overall record of 18-12 with a 5-3 mark in conference play, which was good enough to earn a playoff berth albeit as a low seed.

The Falcons will enter the single elimination tournament looking to make some noise and bring a title to Cerritos College, who they will play in the first round remains to be determined.

Despite not knowing who they will face, the Falcons are preparing as normal in the days leading up to the tournament and are ready for the chase.

Women's head basketball coach Karen Welliver is excited for her team and know that the playoffs are a whole new season, "Once you get to playoffs everyone's equal,

"Even though you have seedings, it's one and done for everybody."

Welliver is proud that her team earned a playoff berth because they don't come easy.

"Not everybody gets to be there, so it's something to really shoot for and work hard for," she added.

The Falcons are coming off of two tough conference losses against teams that will be in the playoffs.

Welliver believes that her team can learn from the mistakes they made in the two losses and adjust for the playoffs.

"Those two games were really tough games against good teams, so they were like playoff games. We want to learn how to have more composure and just gain experience from it."

Coming off of two losses to rivals might deter a team's confidence, but as Welliver explained the Falcons have their heads up high.

"I think we're a confident group. We just have to keep learning from every experience and that's the key with anything. We just have to keep our focus and keep the positive talk going."

The confidence in the players shows as sophomore center Selena Romero explained that practice has been business as usual in the days leading up to the tournament.

"We're pretty much just doing the same thing that we usually do in practice," she said.

Romero did acknowledge that the Falcons practiced new things and even added something new to their repertoire.

"We put in a new play so hopefully we'll use it because so far everybody knows what we're running," Romero added.

Going into the playoffs, Romero and her teammates know that the upcoming games will be just as tough, if not tougher, than the previous two.

The Falcons now have plenty of experience in these type of games and are ready to leave it all on the court for a championship.

"We're going to treat this game like any other hard game that we've played like Mt. SAC or LBCC. It's all going to be the same, we just have to play hard and work together," Romero said.

Athletic trainers help athletes reach potential

SAUL LOPEZ
Freelancer Writer
@TalonMarks

Being an athlete here at Cerritos College, it's easy to forget and take for granted the support teams.

To help our athletes achieve their full potential, Cerritos carries fitness programs to strict diets, but what often isn't recognized is the recovery aspects of sports that are often very important for injured athletes.

The Athletic Center staff is ready to help student athletes recover

from any injuries they have taken in the field or court.

Ayuna Yoshii, a student athletic trainer at the center, has come a long way to pursue a career in helping athletes recover.

"I'm from Japan, and in my country it's not popular and I don't have support, so I just use the Internet or a book to help."

Athletes in Japan don't have a wide support net as they do here in America. Rehabbing from an injury takes on more of a conventional approach as opposed to special attention from a trainer.

She works with a wide array of students and staff to help her care for the people who are in the athletics programs.

Coming from a different culture, she's here doing from taping to icing athletes.

She's pursuing her passion far from home and one day might return to help her home land of Japan to help her fellow athletes over there.

Although her current plans are to stay here and work, she has had a lot of help from her fellow students and colleagues.

"We rehab injured athletes, set up plans, we also do a lot of taping, and we sit around and observe and make sure nothing goes off the rails, and if it does we're there, we are the first responders," said Anthony Allen, a student athletic trainer.

He added, "She knows more than I do, but without each other it wouldn't work. We would be overwhelmed at times."

The feeling of camaraderie and the environment seem to play a big factor on how the students and staff work together in the center.

Falcons 'swim' their way to next meet

EMILY CURIEL
Staff Writer
@Talonmarks

Falcons take 3rd place at the Golden West Invitational on Feb 20.

The invitational was a meet with many events. Some of the Falcons had to swim at least 10 different races. The meet turned out really well because the teams that were competing were not in Cerritos conference.

This is good for the team because they got a chance to see where they stand and how strong the swimmers are. Head coach Joe Abing said, "[The] Golden West Invitational was a really good preparation for Friday (Feb. 27), because it's the first dual meet."

Dual meets are swimming events that happen in different order. Abing also said, "Everyone is getting better, we have already improved a lot and we have gotten in much better shape."

With the steady Rasta vibes all

the swimmer seem to really go with the flow so far this season. The team does not look restless or down, but more motivated to do better and better for each meet they have.

Weather if it's an invitational meet or a conference meet, these Falcon swimmers look rock steady.

As for the conference meet that is coming up this Friday Feb. 27 at Pasadena City College at 8:00AM, the swimmers seem exceptionally confident and ready to make some extra splashes around the pool to hopefully scare some opponent swimmers out of the water.

Backstroke swimmer Jerry Regan said, "I think the team is mentally prepared for the meet. I just feel like in order to contribute I need improve my times.

Like in high school my times were way better than they are now, so I feel like it's me trying to get back to the times i had before. Once

I'm there I can work on getting faster and until then I'll be happy."

The goal for this upcoming conference meet is to work on time. Time is of the essence for these Falcons who seem to be extra confident.

Butterfly stroke swimmer Isiah Gayton said, "I think we'll do good [if] we show up and just race."

Abing is looking forward for this conference duel. He is confident that his swimmers will do really well this Friday Feb. 27 at Pasadena City College.