

TALON MARKS

CERRITOS COLLEGE

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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 2015

VOLUME 59, NO. 15

FIRST ISSUE FREE, ADDITIONAL COPIES \$1

School searches for new president

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The Cerritos College Board of Trustees has finished its nation-wide search and has selected five candidates to run for the President/Superintendent position that will open when current President Dr. Linda L. Lacy retires this summer.

The five candidates will be visiting and taking a tour of the campus for a half-day and will be holding forum March 10 to 12 at the Tele-Conference Center (LC 155), which is located to the right of the library when entering from Falcon Square.

The forums will be open to the public and members of the community are encouraged to come.

In April and May the board will visit the home school of the two final candidates.

Lacy's contract will end on June 30 and the new president is expected to take position on July 1.

Miya A. Walker, director of college relations and public affairs, was able to shed some light on how the process for selecting candidates is made.

"The Board of Trustees goes through a very extensive process. The board holds the ultimate decision on selecting the president."

The search began after Dr. Lacy announced her retirement.

Updates on the search were discussed during the board meetings held on Wednesdays.

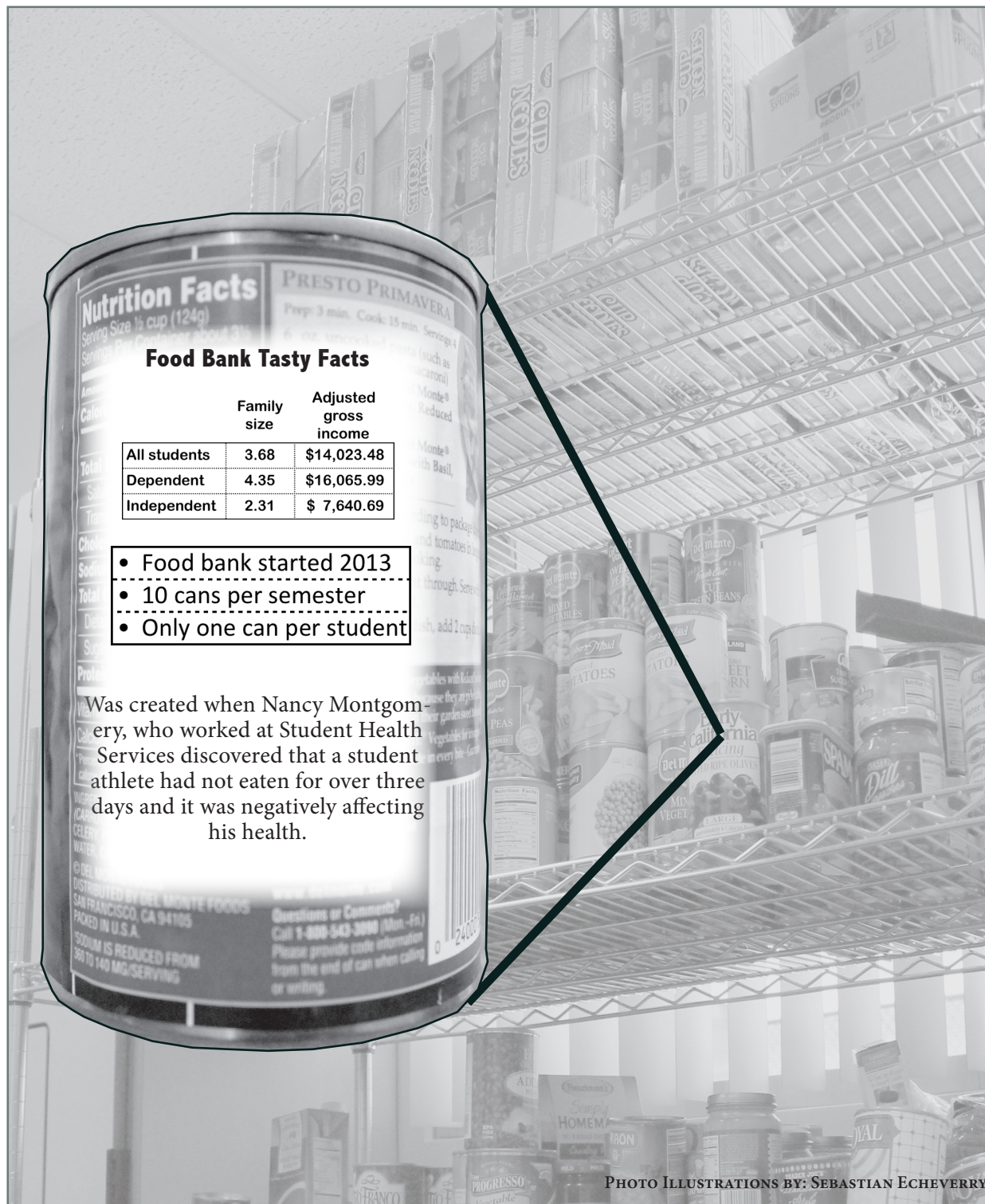
A presidential search committee was established and consisted of board members, the vice president, faculty, the student trustee and the ASCC president among others.

Dr. Eva Conrad, of the community college search services, went over how the selection process is made and on how the board has been going over the selection process.

"It's a tough decision, all of the candidates are accomplished and qualified. The board is really concerned about making its decision."

The President serves as the chief executive officer with responsibility toward the Board of Trustees. The board is in charge of planning, funding and fundraising for the college.

Food Bank provides for needy



Task force created after student-athlete incident

SAMANTHA VASQUEZ
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On campus many are quick to spend money on food, but they also forget to think about the students on campus that cannot afford it.

There are students on campus who are struggling to make ends meet and they rely on the school for help.

Many are unaware that the college has had a food bank for the last two years.

It wasn't created until Nancy Montgomery, who worked at Student Health Services, discovered that a student athlete had not eaten for over three days and it was negatively affecting his health.

The food bank is located in the Student Health and Wellness Center.

Carrie Edwards, member of the Food Task Force committee, said, "Students are able to stop by and receive their food without any preliminary questions asked or proof needed."

The Food Task Force committee was created in Spring 2014 when students voted on an integrated campus theme through a survey via e-mail.

Sylvia Bello-Gardner, member on the Food Task Force committee, said, "There were more than 3,000 votes from students and it turned

out food was the chosen theme."

The task force put together multiple activities and fundraisers where students were able to donate nonperishable goods to the food bank."

The reason for the constant fundraising for food on campus is because of depletion of food.

Commissioner of Inter-Club Council Suleyma Castillo said, "When a student goes to get help, he will be provided with 20 packs of food to last him from two to three days."

Castillo explained students will be allowed to go a maximum of only two times ever due to limited supply, after that the faculty will refer him to different food banks.

The Food Task Force committee has put together a Food Project Fair that will occur on Thursday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Falcon Square.

Also, the Task Force Committee put together a campus-wide food drive called "Cerritos College Cares and Collects." The fundraising will begin next Monday.

Clubs and classes that participate will be paired up with a division/department on campus and have an assigned box where anyone willing to donate food will be able to drop the donations off.

Edwards hopes the campus will develop a culture of giving.

"I think everyone knows what it's like to be hungry," Bello-Gardner said. "Instead of easily reaching for the food he wants, the student should stop and think about the people that cannot do the same."

Student affairs reaches conclusion

GUSTAVO LOPEZ
Editor-in-Chief
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The discussion about the Student Affairs Assistants positions has finally reached a conclusion.

During ASCC Senate on Feb.18, Senator Ivan Oyarzabal presented legislation SR 14-002, which called for the resignation of ASCC President Miles Aiello and then Vice President Charles Caguioa.

During the Senate meeting, Senator Oyarzabal stated that the position lacked the necessary success indicators or descriptions as required by the Student Equity plan.

He said, "[These success indicators] are to ensure that the money is being used to benefit all students."

ASCC President Miles Aiello has decided to veto the legislation.

He said, "I took in a lot of consideration from the executive Cabinet, and a large amount of information and concerns from students at large."

Aiello added that the arguments made against these positions were based on false information.

He said that the argument regarding the Student Equity plan was erroneous because the funds for the jobs did not come from student funds.

Among other arguments, was the lack of transparency, a possible conflict of interest and that there are no clear descriptions that would delineate the two positions.

Dean of Student Services Gilbert Contreras said, "The discussion is healthy at this time but it's disappointing in some ways that these positions are seen as not transparent or that the headline here is that there is some sort of controversy."

Some in the senate believe that these positions create a conflict of interest because as they would answer to Contreras.

Contreras at first stated that these jobs were not because of the positions as ASCC president and vice president but later added that

these positions were given to Aiello and Caguioa until the senate decided to have paid presidency positions.

He added that these positions were meant to open the way for more student jobs in the future; one of the goals he's strived for.

Another issue was that these jobs were not presented before senate until after the fact.

Senator Victor Villalobos said, "They [Contreras, Aiello] are 100 percent right about that and I've publicly acknowledged it in different government assemblies on campus."

However, he added that when the issue arose, the dean of student activities picked and chose what to let ASCC in on and also gave false info.

Villalobos added, "So was it legal? Yes. Was it in alignment with one of the core values of Cerritos College 'promoting respect and trust in all people be they students, community members and employ-



ASCC Senators calls for resignation: ASCC President Miles Aiello addressing senators' concerns in the ASCC senate meeting held Feb. 18.

FEATURE

FULL STORY ON PAGE 5

Fame in Philippines, wishes stateside growth



ARTS

FULL STORY ON PAGE 6

31st Faculty Gala receives attendance boost

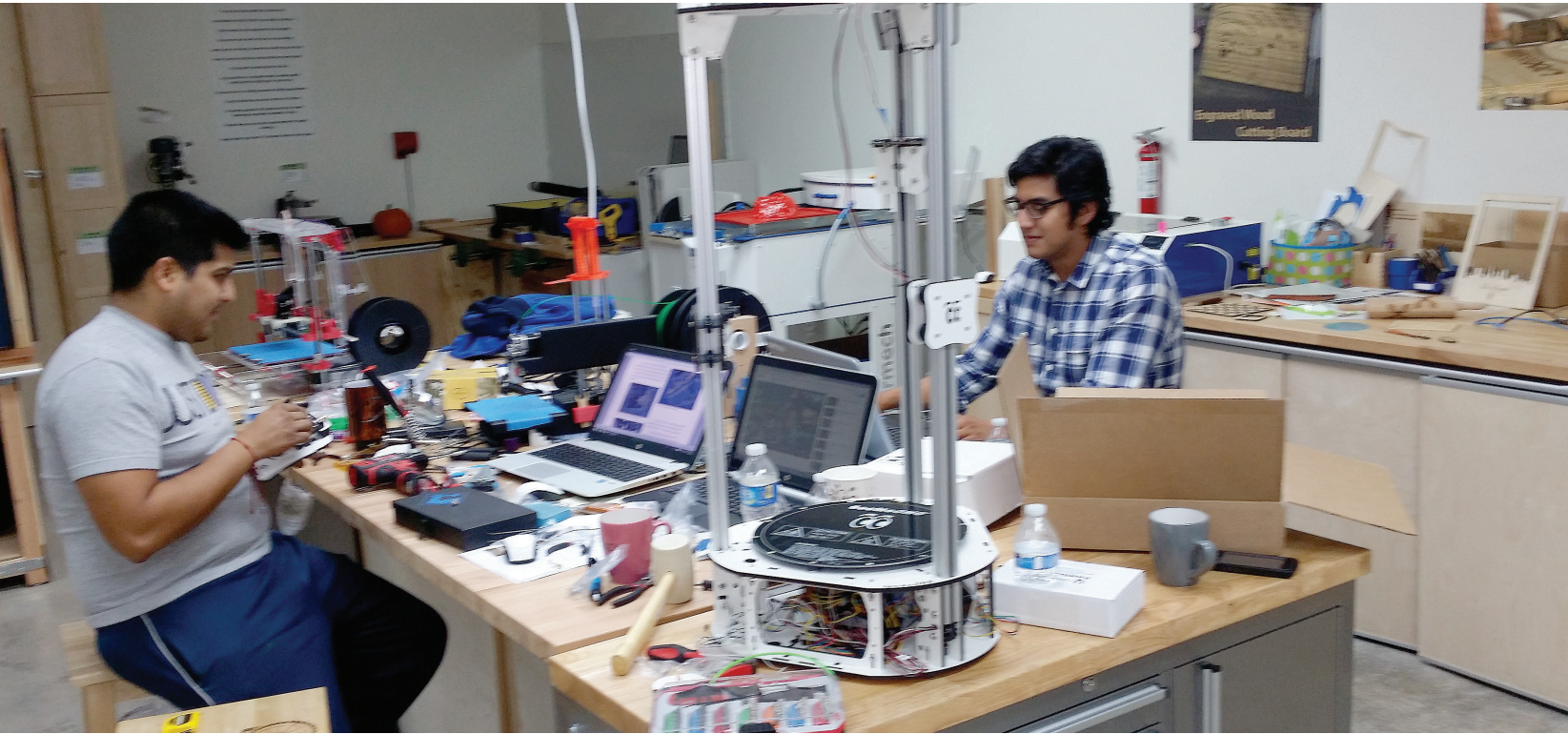


SPORTS

FULL STORY ON PAGE 8

Height comes up short for women's basketball





Prints that fly off the page: Jonathan Valdivia (left) and Luis Mendez (right) working with their 3D printers to complete their projects. According to Professor Miodrag Micic, these students either have majors in the field or are in the New Products Development and Engineering Design and Technology department. Micic advises students that are interested in activities like the one pictured, will not be found in the physics or metals programs.

Students create own business

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Stepping into a growing market, four students from the Cerritos College New Products Development program started Astanark 3D, a company with 3D printing capabilities to help other companies with New Product Development, with the process of bringing a new product to the market. Luis Mendez, one of Astanark 3D's founders, explained how a school project helped create the company.

"I became involved in the creation of Astanark 3D through a school project where Elias Lopez and I built our own 3D printers together," Mendez said. Mendez and Lopez then met fellow classmate Jonathan Valdivia, who also expressed interest in starting up a company. In Dec. of last year, the three met Robert Delgado, which completed their group of founders. "My position came about the same night Airwolf 3D set the world record on Dec. 12 for the Robohand," Delgado said.

He added, "That is where the network began, with Elias, Luis and Johnathan, while I helped supervise the 3D printers during the time frame the record was being set." "We had dinner that night as a group and discussed goals, ideas and interests, which allowed us to share a chemistry like no other. That's when the connection couldn't be more obvious for us." By building their own printers, Lopez and Mendez obtained a better understanding of how the machines worked and what

they could do to help others whose knowledge of 3D printing was limited. "Right now the company is still in development and we are trying to adapt to the rapid changing market," Lopez said. "So, at the moment, we are working locally with people that have issues with their printers and also give one-on-one lessons on how to maximize the resolution of [the] 3D printer. Also, we help to assemble 3D printers and do upgrades on any 3D printer," he added. While the company is starting with the intention

to help others with printers already in existence, the ultimate goal would be to design and sell its own 3D printers. With the market expanding at such a fast rate, the company hopes to continue expanding its portfolio of available services to companies that seek help. "We seek to offer more services such as engineering consultations, rapid prototyping and new product development," Delgado said. "We are working on building more resources to allow us to develop products of our own for the near future."

ASCC student government approves hydration stations

Go-Green Committee brings water to 22,000

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Being composed of 75 percent water, students will now benefit from fresh water after ASCC Senate passed legislation last month to approve \$20,000 for the installation of five hydration stations on campus. ASCC President Miles Aiello said he was glad to see the senators approve the legislation. "I feel very ecstatic for the community," Aiello said. "[Students] will have accessibility to fresh water." He said water has always been available to students and the community, but that the cost to buy bottled water in the bookstore is overpriced. The Elbow Room charges extra for purchasing with a card and the water is too expensive. "The areas where the stations will be placed are in high traffic areas, areas that are really used by students and those hydration stations will be really visible." Aiello added that Director of Facilities David Moore, has the funding in case the machinery breaks down and that the cosmetic appearance of the stations will be overseen by the recycling technicians on campus, wiping down graffiti or dirt from the stations. Moore said, "[Facilities] assisted with some product identification and the students picked out the locations." He said the locations have been identified and now the project at

hand is going out on the field and checking if the locations are appropriate. "We need to make sure we ordered the right fountain to go in there, they are not all the same and you have to make sure your plumbing lines up," Moore said. He added that if there was a reason to use funding to repair any of the stations, the cost would not impact normal budget spending trends. "It would be like any other mechanical piece on campus. [If it broke down] we would take care of it, funding should be rather minimal. We should be able to absorb it in our normal operations," Moore said. According to Moore, not only does the machine supply water to students, it also has a monitor that tracks how many bottles students are saving. "In other words, every time someone fills up one of their refillable bottles, it tracks how many plastic bottles you have averted," he said. Senator Josephine Diaz had questions following up the proposal for the hydration stations. She said, "It's a lot of money that we could have pulled from somewhere else. "My main concern was 'do Facilities know how to look over them if they break down?'" According to Diaz, the locations for the placement of the water stations were too vague. "I'm happy to hear that the water is filtered. I know that was a major question if the water would be filtered by the stations," she said.

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The U.S.S. Pelias crew ship survived the attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941.

The Pelias Scholarship is given to exceptional students, new and returning, who are majoring in engineering.

In 1980 the college agreed to display the bell not only as a sign of victory but as a memorial to the crew and those who gave their lives at Pearl Harbor.

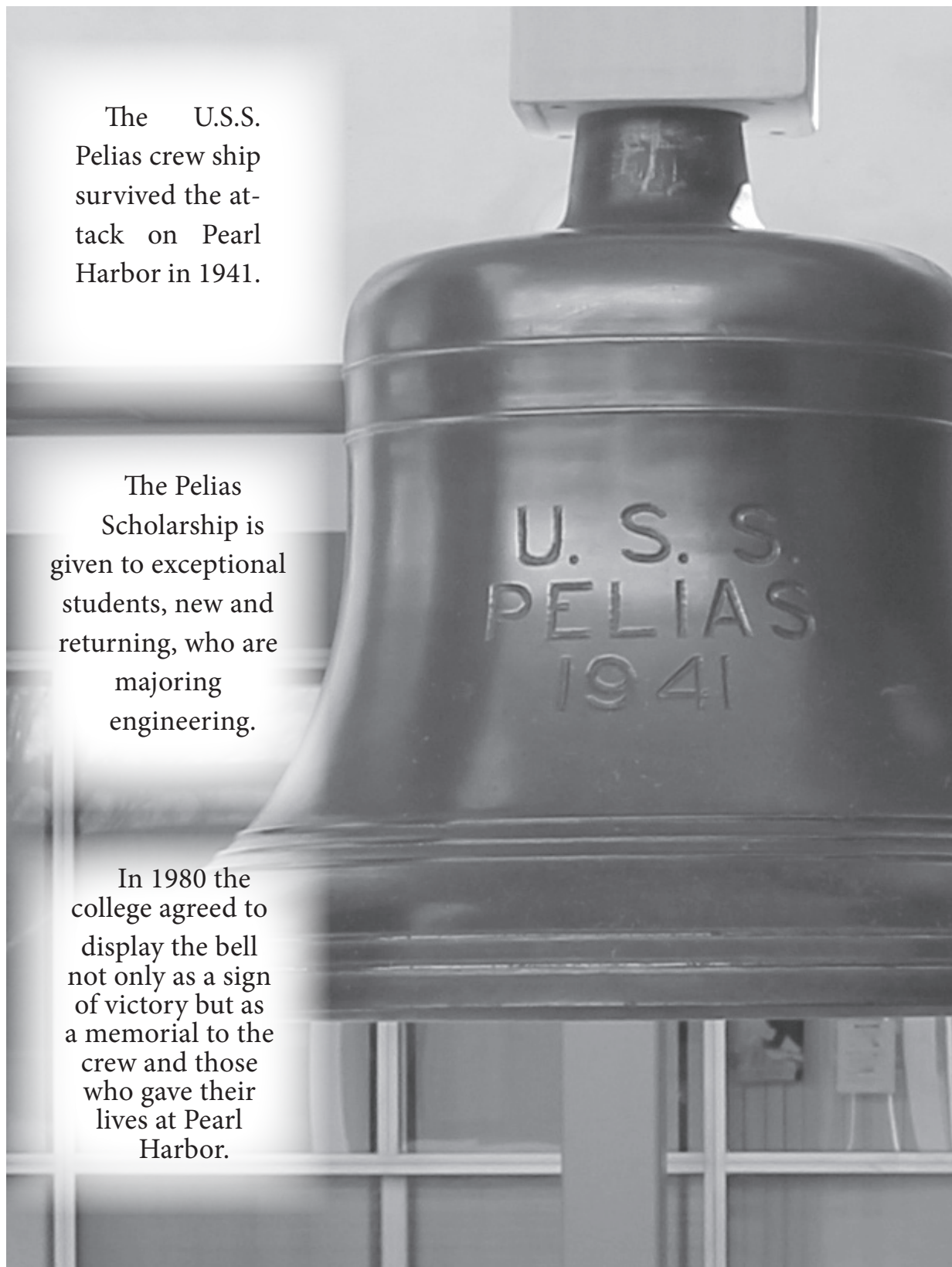


PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY GUSTAVO LOPEZ

A forgotten relic

The history of the U.S.S. Pelias bell that students may not know and the science and engineering scholarship named after it

BRIANA VELARDE
Staff Writer
@breevee_

An often overlooked "heirloom" here at Cerritos is the U.S.S. Pelias Bell. Where did it come from and why is it there?

The U.S.S. Pelias crew ship survived the attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941. In 1980, Cerritos College received a replica of the ship's bell.

It was brought to the attention of Nello Di Corpio, Dean of Community Services at the time, that the college needed a victory bell.

Di Corpio then contacted a salvage yard and found the Pelias bell. Shortly after Donald Bongers, one of the ship's crew members, contacted Di Corpio. Bongers wanted to purchase the bell.

Treasurer of Cerritos College Foundation Janice Cole said, "Mr. Bongers told Di Corpio that the crew would have reunions all over the country to commemorate its time on the ship."

After some negotiation, Di Corpio convinced Mr. Bongers that Cerritos College would be a great location to store the replica from Pearl Harbor.

In 1980, the college agreed to display the bell not

only as a sign of victory but as a memorial to the crew and those who gave their lives at Pearl Harbor.

Many Pelias crew members gathered on campus and dedicated the U.S.S. Pelias bell to the campus. "Crew members from all over the world converged on Cerritos College to dedicate the bell and the monument that displays it," Cole said.

The bell was displayed on the day of the college's 25th anniversary and can be seen in the Administration building quad. The bell itself has "U.S.S. Pelias 1941" deeply engraved. Right below the engraving is a finely bronzed plaque that states it was given by the Cerritos College Foundation and U.S.S. Pelias crew in 1980.

"The crew also donated thousands of dollars for a scholarship that bears its name for engineering or physics students that we continue to give out each year," Cole added.

The Pelias scholarship was first established in 1984 and has been given out since then to outstanding students graduating from the engineering or physics program.

Anyone can donate to the Pelias scholarship fund, which is located inside the Cerritos College Foundation office.

Cerritos Hall of Fame to induct eight new members

ARMANDO JACOBO
Online Editor
@_Jacob_Armando

The fourth annual Cerritos College Hall of Fame induction will take place Thursday.

The dinner and awards ceremony recognizes former faculty, students and partners that have positively impacted Cerritos College.

Honorees include:

- Distinguished Female Athlete: Vernecia Smith
- Distinguished Male Athlete: Bob Vaughn
- Distinguished Coach: Rhea Black
- Distinguished Alumnus: The Honorable Peter Espinoza

- Distinguished Classified: Beverly Sweet
- Distinguished Faculty: Dr. Marijean Piorkowski
- Distinguished Corporate Partner: Kaiser Permanente
- Distinguished President's Award of Excellence: Los Angeles County Supervisor Don Knabe.

Nominees are selected by a steering committee comprised of diverse faculty members from different areas throughout campus.

President Dr. Linda Lacy created the idea of developing an enshrinement for people that have impacted Cerritos College after her years at Riverside College.

"Cerritos has a real rich tradi-

tion...but it never really did recognize the people that have been here that contributed to the lives of the students and programs and we didn't acknowledge their efforts after they left," Lacy said.

College Foundation Secretary Janice Cole reminisces on past Hall of Fame ceremonies and evoked a feeling of camaraderie.

"It's almost like our reunion when you go to it it's great to see people that have made an impact on the college through the years [and] the faculty members here have touched thousands of students lives," Cole said.



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Editorials express the views of the Editorial Board. Other opinions express the view of the author and are not to be considered opinions of the publication's staff, the Editorial Board, the advisers, the Cerritos College Associated Students, the college administration or the Board of Trustees.

Production and printing of TALON MARKS is partially funded by the Associated Students of Cerritos College.

Facilities and academic supervision are provided by the Journalism Program.

Newsroom offices are located in the Fine Arts Building, Room FA42.

Cerritos College is located at 11110 Alondra Blvd., Norwalk, CA 90650

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Vol. 59
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Spring 2015

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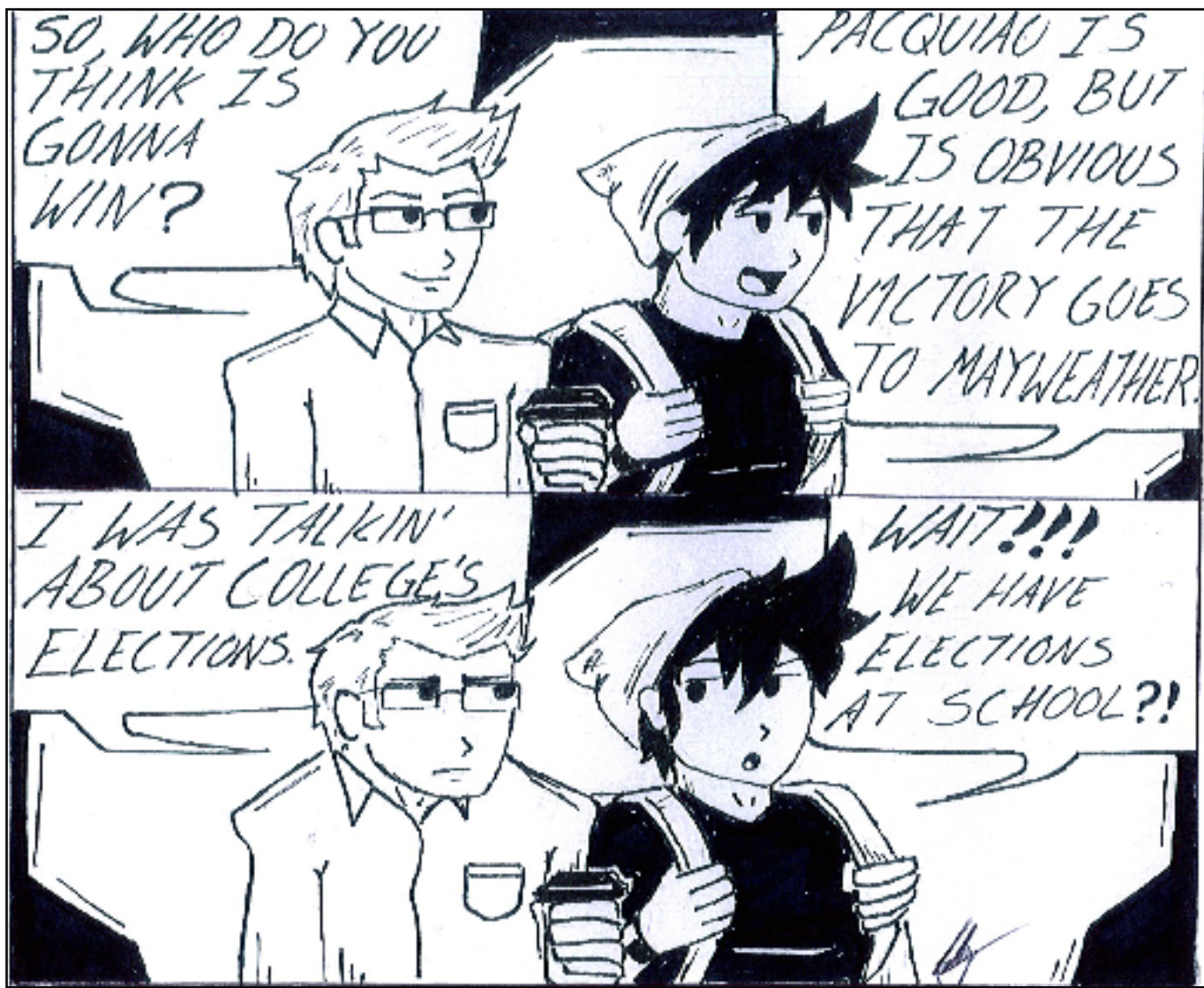
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EDITORIAL



CARLOS MARQUEZ/TM

Search for new president seeks student advisement

Whether you attend Cerritos College to take a course that you couldn't take somewhere else or you're here as a regular student, it's always a good idea to grasp a general understanding of what's happening on campus, especially if it can indirectly affect you.

Students are being given the opportunity to become involved in choosing the new president of Cerritos College and yet nobody seems to care.

As many may or may not know, current President Dr. Linda Lacy is finishing her last semester here as she is retiring.

This means that in a matter of months we'll be having someone new representing over 23,000 students and faculty members.

The school has set up a timeline of the presidential search process.

It is giving the students and faculty an opportunity to voice their concerns on the decision of who becomes the new head honcho and it is important that we become actively involved in doing so.

During a board meeting, Dr. Edward Hernandez of Community College Search Services provided the Board of Trustees with a list of the five Presidential candidates.

These meetings, which take place on Wednesdays at 6:30 in the Cheryl A. Epple Board Room, are open to the public and many don't take advantage of our right to watch history unravel before us

as the college makes this important decision.

Next Monday through Thursday, the candidates will participate in public forums to showcase who they are, as well as an opportunity for students and faculty to speak out, ask questions or even just sit back and listen.

Here is a list of the five candidates:

- Dr. Jose Fierro, Vice President of Academic Affairs and Chief Academic Officer at Laramie County Community College. (Cheyenne, Wyoming)
- Dr. Peter Perhac, President/CEO of Steamboat Campus, Colorado Mountain College. (Steamboat, Colorado)
- Dr. Angélica Loera Suarez, Vice President, Student Affairs Division at Southwestern College. (Chula Vista, California)
- Dr. Rajen Ramalingum Vurdeen, President of Fullerton College, North Orange Community College District. (Fullerton, California)
- Dr. Monte E. Perez, President of Los Angeles Mission College, Los Angeles Community College District. (Sylmar, California)

It's no secret that a lot of students on campus are not involved within campus, but how often does a college get to elect a new president? Not often.

A student's primary goal is to succeed in the future.

Whose overall job is it to assure that success is being met as proficiently as possible? The president's.

The public forums give students the chance to ask questions or voice opinions about how each candidate will affect the school.

Wouldn't you like to know a little about the person whose job it is to oversee your education and overall success?

The selected candidate would be held accountable for everything that may or may not happen at Cerritos College.

As students, we should be aware of who is leading our school and our education.

Whether you are only here to transfer schools in a few semesters or you just need one class that you couldn't take at another school, something as big as choosing who is in charge of your school will affect your outcome.

This is why students and faculty need to make the effort to attend the public forums and future meetings.

This decision is not chosen by the spin of a wheel, but goes through an immense process of elimination to select the perfect candidate.

So why do thousands of students take it so lightly? Get involved and be a part of the decision.

Public wins the Internet

MONICA GALLARDO
Opinion Editor
@radioeggs

The government sometimes makes questionable decisions, but last Thursday, the Federal Communications Commission voted in favor of net neutrality, keeping the Internet free and open to all consumers.

We should all agree that the FCC made the right call. The Internet is a broad utility that should not be controlled by any conglomerate.

It is not the government's way of controlling the Internet, it is the FCC showing that it listened to the public demand for net neutrality.

Net neutrality keeps websites such as Amazon and YouTube open to all users, regardless of which Internet service provider you have.

Similar to the government's checks-and-balances, the FCC will prevent Internet service providers from charging consumers for faster service.

Imagine trying to do your homework

and having to look up an important article on the Internet, only to be stopped because you can't afford quick, efficient Internet service. Whether you're trying to watch a video or do research for an important paper, fair use of the Internet should always be free.

As students, it is important that we all have access to equal Internet service. We can't do our work without the Internet and can't afford to pay for faster service and be left hanging in the slow Internet lane.

The FCC made the right choice in keeping the Internet open, but the fight for net neutrality is not over yet.

According to The Los Angeles Times, large corporations that oppose net neutrality, such as Verizon and Comcast, can still sue the government for this decision.

That is why it is important that the general public continues to inform the government that it works for us, not the other way around.

We need to continue to use our voice to prevent the rest of the population from falling to another corporation.

Editor's note: our just approach

GUSTAVO LOPEZ
Editor-in-Chief
@Gus_Lopez07

In the past couple of months, ASCC Senate has been engaging in discussion about the Student Affairs Assistant positions filled by ASCC President Miles Aiello and former Vice President Charles Caguioa.

Covering this issue as a school paper has been difficult and not without its hiccups along the road. With that being said, there have been complaints from both sides of said issue.

The main issue is one of impartiality. As a journalistic entity, it is our job to report the truth, especially in politics.

While this is the ideal that Talon Marks strives for, it is not an easy goal.

Whatever the Talon Marks staff may report on, so long as it is the truth, it will report it without tak-

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FREE SPEECH ZONE

What do you look for in a President?

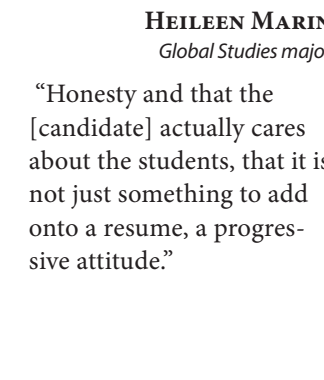
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CARLOS HOLGUIN



HUSSEIN CHAHIN
Undecided major

"I want [to see] change. Hopefully, if I'm not busy, I will attend [the forum]."



HEILEEN MARIN
Global Studies major

"Honesty and that the [candidate] actually cares about the students, that it is not just something to add onto a resume, a progressive attitude."



LUIS ORTIZ
Physics major

"Somebody that is really outgoing and has a good way with people. Someone that has their own specific personality. There is no way for me to find the time to attend [the forum]."



BIANCA CERILLO
Criminal Justice major

"A good person who will help everybody out. Yeah, I'll go [to the forum]."



JONATHAN PADILLA
Physics major

"Somebody that has good leadership skills and good character. Someone who does someone a favor and asks nothing in return. Maybe I will attend the forum."



ing sides and not everyone can deal with that. Impartiality can be an abstract concept to some.

We follow a code of ethics to make sure that we don't publish things with the intent to harm someone or someone's reputation.

That means that no one on campus can tell us what or how to report on something, especially if it is to fit an individual's agenda.

We can't have students or staff telling us to write something a certain way to discredit someone.

So as long as these two maxims are not violated and it is the truth, then we will report on that issue.

We are not just reporters, but we are also students with our own opinions, but those opinions don't necessarily represent Talon Marks as a newspaper.

As we say in the newsroom, "If everyone hates us, we're doing our job right."

On a more personal note, because of my friendship with mem-

bers of The Social Equality Club, I have been associated with the group and deemed a member.

That is not true and I hope to avoid any animosity because of this. While not a member, I have helped them copy-edit a few newsletters, but as far as my own political leaning, there is none.

I want to make it clear that I have not taken sides and neither has Talon Marks, contrary to some rumors.

Mistakes can and have been made and because of those misconceptions, it might seem that Talon Marks supports one side, but it doesn't.

Such mistakes are always fixed as soon as possible and that is how we learn to sharpen our craft of journalism, by learning from our mistakes.

My goal for Talon Marks is for it to be taken seriously as a newspaper, with accuracy, truth and impartiality. That is what we strive for.

Student takes the wheel

How one student overcame his fears and returned to school

GUSTAVO LOPEZ
Editor-in-Chief
@Gus_Lopez07

Determined, engaged and focused is how English Professor Jack Swanson described administration of justice major Steven Tataje.

An “A” student from Cypress, Calif., he is always looking for ways to better himself and others.

He was also a motivational speaker at his church.

Tataje, the oldest among his siblings, takes pride in being the good influence to his siblings.

That however, wasn’t always the case.

After two years of drifting through life after high school, he returned to school with newfound determination. He started off slow, by taking one class, but he did so with fierce ambition, which earned him an “A.”

“Before I used to be a slacker, procrastinated a lot,” he said.

Tataje added that he knew his materials, but didn’t ask questions.

“I felt like if I didn’t need to try, why bother,” he added.

He felt that despite his understanding of his class materials, he couldn’t reach that potential.

Now at 22 years old, “I’m always upfront, asking questions if there’s something I don’t know.”

Things weren’t easy for Tataje.

After a year of Cypress College, he lost motivation and began to flunk out of his classes and even as a motivational speaker he personally didn’t feel motivated himself.

Tataje quit motivational speaking even as he dropped out of school.

“I fell in a great depression, I felt worthless. I didn’t value my life anymore,” he said.

Tataje got into a couple of car accidents, including one with a police car.

He started taking more risks and engaging in bad habits.

“I destroyed almost every part of myself during those two years off. I was antisocial, I forgot everything I learned in school,” he said about returning to school.

“Luckily, I’m still alive,” he said. Tataje added that during his year off, he watched motivational cartoons, movies and clips. This eventually led him to come out of his slump.

One of these inspirations came in with a cowl and a dark disposition.

“I was never a Batman fan, so I watched it and I was inspired by him. He (Batman) aspired to be the best he could be and that inspired me,” Tataje said.

“I was too scared to take that leap,” he said.

But he did, slow at first and then came back with a vengeance.

Kari Pike, speech professor here on campus said, “The truth of the matter is I was no different with Steven than I am with anyone else.”

She added that most students start off strong like Tataje but burn out by the end of the semester.

Pike said, “I care and encourage them to give me whatever their best is. Steven simply took the tools I offered in class and used them.”

Tataje hopes to become a peer counselor here or at another college, and achieve the President’s list at Cypress College, since he’s already on the list here at Cerritos.

He said, “One thing I can tell people is to always keep an open mind, because if you keep yourself closed then what’s the point?”



COURTESY OF BEATRIZ REYES

Singing for the Queen: Beatriz Reyes better known as Jayke, performs for the Queen of Thailand during the 2012 Asean Music Festival. The Queen along with 10 delegates of other Asian countries were treated to performances from Reyes and other singers.

Student here, pop star there

An ordinary student with a less-than-ordinary background talks about her singing career in the Philippines and how she hopes to rise stateside.

SEBASTIAN ECHEVERRY
News Editor
@C_bass581141

Goosebumps flow throughout the surface of Jayke’s skin as she approaches the stage.

She takes deep breaths, focuses on the lines of a song she must have heard 101 times over during rehearsal.

Jayke clears her throat and leaves all her concerns and troubles backstage.

And for that split second, she is truly alive and consumed with the passion she has always wanted to pursue.

Jayke, better known as Beatriz Jacqueline Rayas is a student at Cerritos College in the United States, but a famous singer in the Philippines.

“Well I’ve been singing since I was a kid,” Reyes said. “I remember singing all these Disney songs growing up, but as I got older I started taking it more seriously.”

From talent shows to singing center-ice at hockey games, Reyes began to formulate the idea that she wanted to make a career out of singing.

Seth Riggs, the same Seth Riggs that worked with Michael Jackson, was Reyes’ singing teacher.

“He [Riggs] had this picture of me on his piano because I was going to do a show with Ron Dante,” Reyes said.

“So when the scout saw my picture on Seth Riggs piano, he said, ‘I want her contact info.’ At the time I was 14, so I was still a minor, instead he gave my father’s contact info to the scout.”

When the two met, Dante told Reyes to learn five songs.

“After a week [of practicing the five songs] I went back to Dante and he said, ‘alright, let’s record,’ “

She added, “So I was nervous, he has a straight face like Simon Cowell, so he was dead-on strict on me.”

Without Dante’s strict ways of teaching, Reyes said she wouldn’t be where she is now.

“I really thank him, for just making me who I am today,” Reyes said.

The decision came, Reyes was torn between joining American Idol in the United States and trying to become the youngest contestant on the show, or traveling with Viva Entertainment agent, Vic Del Rossario, for five years to the Philippines.

“My mother told me, make sure you are sure about your decision,” Reyes said.

She decided to go to the Philippines and work with Viva Entertainment for five years.

For her first album, Reyes’ first name was changed from Beatriz to Triz.

After the first album came another name change, and that name was Jayke.

While Reyes grew in her singing career her father Renato Reyes, had to work in the United States while his daughter worked in the Philippines.

To record an album, it cost quite a sum, however, Renato felt money was not going to stop his daughter from reaching her dream.

“Money is money,” Renato said. “The experience and the support that we [the family] gave from those years in the Philippines was really a good experience that you cannot buy.”

The expenses did not bother Renato, he acknowledged that the path that his daughter took was a monetary one, however, Beatriz was on her way to sing for top-rated shows and the Queen of Thailand.

“I don’t care about the expenses, I don’t care about how much we spent for my daughter as long as we [family] supported her,” Renato said. “We gave everything that she needed and wanted for her career.”

Aside from the glitz and glamour, Beatriz’s father wanted her to return to the United States after her five years in the Philippines to finish her college state side.

Beatriz had a performance scheduled with ASAP, a very popular show in the Philippines.

As she prepared back stage for her primetime moment, the thought of her father

not being able to make it, being in the United States working, began to creep into her mind.

As she fought back the tears, the stage assistants began calling her to make it on stage.

“It was really hard,” Renato said. “It was really difficult to be separated from each other, that was the sacrifice for five years.”

“I hope, that she will continue and finish her schooling here in the United States,” he added.

“It’s very hard for a pure-blood Filipino to make it there, even though she has Filipino blood, she has to learn the language [Tagalog].”

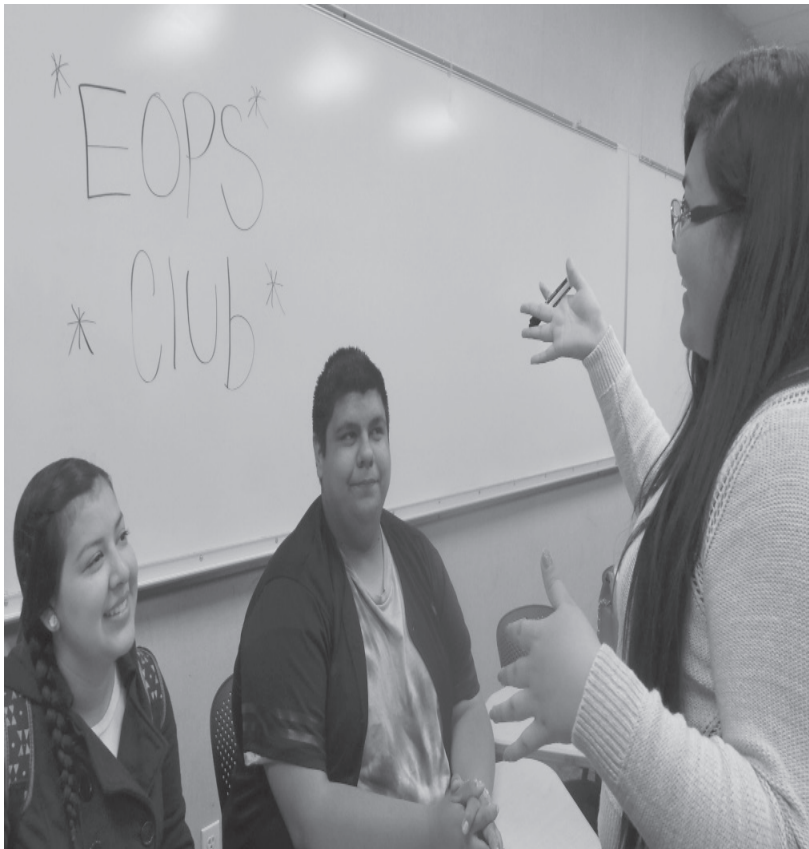
Beatriz is currently working on what she calls “reels.”

They are a compilation of snippets of movie scenes and TV show scenes where she acts them out so she can show the reel to a director along with her resume.

“I can see how difficult it was for my parents, being married for 30 plus years they sacrificed so much for me,” Beatriz said.

“They let me follow my dreams and move to the Philippines to do that, and I’ve been told that not a lot of families do that and from the bottom of my heart I am so blessed and thankful,” she added.

EOPS club begins where program ends



PERLA LARA/TM

EOPS Club Secretary Carisa Cortez, Vice-president Justin Raya, President Cely Anaya at the EOPS conference room. The three club officers are preparing for the next club meeting.

PERLA LARA
Staff Writer
@PSLaraLara

When someone says EOPS many think of counselors’ offices and a stuffy professional atmosphere; until recently that would be true, but now Cerritos College has the EOPS Club. The EOPS Club is separate from the EOPS program and has a different atmosphere and a completely different approach to helping students.

After two years on Feb. 10, the EOPS Club once again opened its doors thanks to two best friends Cely Anaya, business administration major and Justin Raya, fashion major, have been best friends since the sixth grade. Anaya is now the club’s president and Raya is the club’s vice-president.

Commissioner of the Inter-Club Council Sulyema Castillo encouraged and helped in the club’s formation. She said, “They were so motivated to become more involved. I am so proud of them.”

President Cely Anaya and Vice-president Justin Raya Both share the view that the club should be a fun place where you can meet other students. Anaya describes the club as “basically a social networking group, to get together be more social with more people, we also do fundraising and volunteer work.”

At the last meeting the EOPS Club had 14 members. Anaya and Raya encourage other students to join, Raya said, “It’s cool to get more involved in school activities,”

Anaya said “(Joining the club) looks good on your college transcript.”

She added, “We tell everyone who wants to join that they do not have to be a part of the EOPS Program to participate.”

The EOPS Club is different than the EOPS program Anaya said, “We do not give what the EOPS Program does. We are there to help each other more.” The club offers advice on where to go to get help. Another way that the club is different than the program is that the club is focusing in two areas, volunteer work and scholarships.

For volunteer work Anaya said their club is discussing the possibility of going to Downtown Los Angeles to feed the homeless. “As a club every time we meet we will be discussing what events we would like to volunteer too,” she said.

The next big club activity will be on March 24. The club plans to have a bake sale in front of the EOPS office.

The proceeds of will go into a scholarship fund exclusively for the EOPS Club members.

The club meets every second and third Tuesday of the month in the EOPS office conference room.



Punk: First cover of Merys and Holguin's comic book. The title was inspired by legendary punk band, The Ramones.

Punk an inspiration for comic book artist

LAUREN TORRES
Staff Writer
@laur_literature

If punk rock really is dead, it's at least still very much alive in independent comic literature.

Just ask Cerritos College student Matthew Merys, artist of 'I Don't Wanna Walk Around With You', a comic created by Merys and fellow student Carlos Holguin that tells the story of "music, love and lying to yourself."

"Its kind of a 'boy meets girl, falls in love, things go wrong,' typical kind of story," Merys explained.

He added, "All the characters are punk kids. Our main character has a mohawk, that's what makes it different."

Fans of punk music might recognize the name, as it comes from one of the most legendary punk bands around.

"It's a Ramones song about not wanting to date someone. The name came first, then when I talked to Carlos I was like, 'You want to make a comic book? I've got a great name.'"

Going off a dream and a song title, Merys was only left with coming up with a story plot to match.

"I was like 'what kind of plot would you do with that?' then I went to Carlos and he ran with it and made one of the best-written comic books, even if I wasn't working on it. [It's] one of the best written comic books I've ever read."

Alexis Lapuz, a former Cerritos College student, donated a large sum of money toward the comic's

Kickstarter campaign before any full issue existed.

"What compelled me to donate to the comic was the fear of what would come if not funded sufficiently. They have a genuine idea, and things like that stir something in people [...] All I can say is they did an exceptional job with the limited resources available to them and I am amazed how professionally it turned out."

This venture into comics was a long time coming for Merys, whose love for art started early.

"I've been drawing since I was five, I've wanted to do comic books. I drew a Power Ranger and that was it for me," he said.

While Merys' own style is bold, blocky and exemplarily haphazard, he cites post-60s artists as some of his biggest influences.

"I'm a pretty big fan of 60s Marvel. The post-Kirby era, right when Jack Kirby and Steve Ditko started leaving books and people started coming on. John Buscema, John Romita Jr. I'm a 90s kid, so, Jim Lee, John Romita Jr."

What sets Merys' art apart from the rest of the pack is that he draws characters like people and that's a big thing in comics.

One look at any mainstream comic and it's clear how rare it is to see characters that look like real people.

So far the comic has two full issues out with a third one in the works. Fans and readers can pick up either issue for only \$1 at Candm publishing.squarespace.com.

Play introduces modern elements

PERLA LARA
Staff Writer
@PSLaraLara

The stage was small but the emotions were big.

The play "The Trojan Women," which premiered last Friday, delivered strong performances that evoked the audience's emotions.

Directed by C. Julian White, the play follows Euripides play scene by scene.

Aside from the many Greek elements in the play, the core deals with the sense of loss, devastation and the anger that comes with war.

The play's modern adaptation allowed some of the audience members to connect with the perfor-

mance.

Actress Andrea Lavilles who played one of the three chorus characters said, "The director really wanted to try something new and break it [the lines up] so we each had a turn speaking with the audience."

Theatre major Ayari Hluz said, "I liked it! I thought it was an accurate representation of war."

Hluz's boyfriend, Jose Rivas, said, "The portrayal of the treatment of women is still relevant [today]."

The only criticism Hluz and Rivas had for the play was that the gods seemed out of place, "I don't think they really fit into it," Hluz said.

Jorge M. Folgar who played Poseidon was aware that his character would be difficult for the audience to understand.

He was the first character on stage and had a long monologue.

He recognized the importance of making the language more relatable to the audience.

Because the play used expressions that were commonly known in its time, the play's drawback was the use or misuse of language.

The gods' dialog was hard to follow and further distracted the audience from what's important.

Which was the play's unique perspective of those who have lost everything they once had.

Even the right to choose how to continue with their lives and asks the audience to relate to them.

A mistake the play also made was the way it handled its tone.

The mood quickly shifted from being a modern interpretation to that of an archaic one.

But having a conquering army of Talibans was a great way to pull the audience in the story.

It's a way to start asking "what if this happened to us, what if our cities our homes came under attack and we lost?"

In regards to delivering human emotion and having the audience understand its point of view the play was a huge success.

Faculty Gala

The 31st gala raised money for student scholarships and had an attendance boost

DENNY CRISTALES & NICOLETTE AGUIRRE
@TalonMarks

Students got to see their teachers perform in another setting besides the classroom on Sunday.

The Faculty Gala had live music and entertainment to raise money for student scholarships at the Burnight Center.

It was the 31st bi-annual event of its kind, with Cerritos College faculty playing the respective instruments it teaches in the classroom in front of the audience at the theatre.

Instruments from the guitar to the cello to the piano and even a vocal performance were presented at the gala.

David Betancourt enjoys the exposure the gala provides for the teachers on campus.

"It's a great opportunity to showcase them," the Director of Bands and Orchestra said. "It's like a win-win. A lot of people don't realize just how talented our faculty [is] ... It shows what [the faculty] is capable of and it's pretty amazing to watch."

Conrad Immel, a part-time vocal instructor at Cerritos College, sung along to Charles Ives poems while piano instructor Christine Lopez provided the melody in the background.

Immel always enjoys a chance to perform.

"I've sung at practically every Faculty Gala. I've sung lots and lots of different songs," he said.

Immel is at his 17th year teaching at Cerritos College. He first performed in Germany in 1966 and had been in love with it ever since.

He is coming off his "blues" performance from last semester's Faculty Gala.

Diana Parmeter was a guest cello player at the gala and noted slight nerves crept up on her in the beginning, but her seven-minute performance alongside Paul DaSilva on the piano quickly eliminated that.

"I get a little nervous, but I've played my pieces with a pianist quite a few times, so I feel pretty comfortable," she said.

A comical moment was when Parmeter had the wrong bow to accompany the cello and the piece she was playing for, so she had to run off the stage and get the correct one.

The audience laughed it off.

With the laughter, vocal performances and instruments sounding off, the audience was there to embrace all of it, as Miguel Arrazola, a music major, was there for that very reason.

He has a passion for music, "I expect the best, man. It's my first time coming here and I was really excited. I heard the event from all the teachers and I just love the passion I get from music. It's just good vibes and really peaceful."

Some students attended the gala to see some of their own music teachers perform.

Johnny Rodriguez, a music major, was

in attendance at the Faculty Gala for his third time and was there in order to see his teacher Andrew Maz play the guitar.

"He had been talking about it for a long time and it's good just to finally see him do it," Rodriguez said.

Vanessa Vidal, an anthropology major, was also there to see her piano teacher Greg Schreiner perform.

It's money well spent for some students to see their instructors perform, but some will find it's money spent going full circle.

All proceeds went toward raising money for music students; \$15 were charged per ticket via general admission at the door.

"It's a great way for us to give to them," Betancourt said.

He said there was a slight bump in the amount of people that attended the event from last semester, with the number jumping from "about 70 to 100 plus."

There was slight trouble getting people to attend the gala in the past, he noted.

"I noticed that in recent years there's been a little bit of a decrease in attendance, so we made an effort this time around and wondered what else we can do," he said.

Betancourt said that the Music Department utilized media outlets to gain exposure for the Faculty Gala, in addition to teachers promoting the event during classes.

This attributes to the bigger attendance for this semester, he said, and it's also a great experience for both performers and attendees.

"Everybody wins. More people get to experience the live music and the performers really enjoy playing in front of a full house. It's a very different feeling."

Teachers who performed were:

- Andrew Maz -- Guitar
- Christine Lopez and Greg Schreiner -- Piano
- Michael Higgins -- Guitar
- Adam Schroeder -- Baritone Saxophone
- Conrad Immel -- Baritone and Christine Lopez -- Piano
- Paul DaSilva -- Piano and Diana Parmeter -- Cello
- Sung Ae Lee and Christine Lopez -- Piano

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Injury cannot stop this Bell from ringing

Another season, another injury, but the men’s basketball forward overcame odds through perseverance and religion



DARYL PETERSON/CERRITOS FALCONS
On the line: Falcons forward Josh Bell driving the ball in against LA Harbor College at the Falcon Gymnasium. The Falcons would win with a final of 67-60.

TERREL EMERSON
Staff Writer
@sir_chatterbox

Motivation, determination and overall encouragement are only some of the characteristics Falcons forward Josh Bell displays on the daily for his teammates.

He stands at a stout six feet, four inches and at 220 pounds.

Sophomore Bell turned what could have been misery into what he described as a miracle.

Prior to the 2012-2013 season, his first year, Bell tore his ACL for the third time.

“It was very difficult for me because I tore my ACL for a third time and I had to watch another season go by,” Bell said.

“There were nights I cried and had to ask ‘God, why me?’ ” he added.

Bell wouldn’t have to question much for long.

For the 2013-2014 season he finally donned a Cerritos Falcons jersey.

Bell would go on to play in 26 games, starting in six of them. He averaged merely five points and five rebounds.

While some may not believe that is much, for somebody coming back from tearing a major ligament, that is commendable.

He did so while shooting over 60 percent from the field. With a season high of 23 points and a season high of 10 rebounds.

“It was like a burden [had been lifted] off my shoulders because I had been through so much and for me to complete a year with no injuries was great,” Bell said.

“I wouldn’t change it for [anything]. Everything happens for a reason and it was [a] learning experience and maybe it was a test from God telling me to be patient,” he added.

Religion is a big part of Bell’s life, and he credits his beliefs in getting far in his sports career.

“I thank [God] every day for giving me life and even before every game I pray that everybody who steps on the court [leaves with] no injuries,” he said.

Following his freshman season, Bell faced what could have possibly changed his life forever.

“I was supposed to miss this year because in the showcase earlier this year I messed up my knee and I thought I tore my ACL again and I went to get an MRI and the doctor said I did.

“Like a week later I went to my surgeon and he said I didn’t. It just looked like my [surgically repaired] knee,” Bell concluded.

Bell shocked his teammates when he played in 19 games this year, averaging almost 10 points per game (third on team), nearly eight rebounds (led team) and over a steal per game (led team). With season highs 19 points and 17 rebounds.

“Josh is the heart of this team. He has sacrificed so much this year risking tearing his ACL again,” head coach Russ May said.

“Again, he just showed tremendous, tremendous sacrifice,” he reiterated.

Bell was undoubtedly one of the biggest motivators for his teammates as seen throughout the course of the year. Fellow Sophomore Micah Winn is no different.

“He is an absolute warrior, my absolute favorite teammate I ever had. He is like my big brother.

He took me under his wing when I came out of high school and I learned so much about the college game playing with him and talking to him,” Winn said.

As far as Bell risking further injury by playing this year, the aforementioned Winn was at a loss for words.

“He proved he was mentally tough, resilient, focused, fun to be around and he is a good high character guy that any team would be privileged to have,” he said.

When it came to the freshmen on the team, Bell wanted to simply teach them to “play every game as if it’s your last.”

Among his favorite moments as a Falcon, Bell reflected back to a time when he was a freshman and as a No. 8 seed the Falcons knocked off the No. 1 seed Antelope Valley after weeks of people saying they didn’t stand a chance.

That game just put into perspective of how Bell along with this team as a whole overcame adversity.

Bell looked toward the future and explained what a lasting impression he would want to leave on Cerritos and be remembered for.

He wanted to be remembered as somebody who never gave up and always gave it 110 percent all the time.

Bell added, “Somebody who inspired his teammates to be the best they can be and someone who genuinely loves life and is a man of God.

“I want people to say ‘he was a great basketball player and was a guy who always saw the good in people and always made people smile and laugh.”

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CHRISTIAN GONZALES/TM
Winning the match: Anastasia Khomyachenko at home against El Camino College. Final: 6-3 Cerritos.

Anastasia Khomyachenko

Khomyachenko started playing young as well in her homeland in Russia and also because of her family.

“[I started playing] because my father wanted it,” Khomyachenko said.

She added, “My mom wants me to get a good education and my father wants me to play for the college and university.”

Like teammate Mariia Yatsenko, Khomyachenko has also had to deal with the language barrier here in the U.S.

However, she is learning fast and adapting by the day.

Yatsenko likes America a lot, she said, “America is better than the Ukraine because the quality of life is better and you get to study.”

While she may wear her emotions on her sleeves, Khomyachenko is a competitor who feels that every game is different.

“It’s not really hard, not really easy, you just need to be concentrated for each game,” she said.

“I want an education. I haven’t decided [on a major] yet, but I think I want to be a dentist.

“I’m [also] interested in psychology, but I don’t know I haven’t decided.”



CHRISTIAN GONZALES/TM
Evening up the score: Mariia Yatsenko is at home against El Camino. Final: 6-3 Cerritos.

Mariia Yatsenko

Yatsenko is from the Ukraine and started playing tennis when she was five-years-old.

“My grandfather is so crazy about tennis and he started to teach me, then maybe four years later I got my first coach,” Yatsenko says about why she started playing.

Yatsenko was very excited to live in the U.S. and join the tennis team.

Yatsenko played in many tournaments in her homeland, all of which only improved her play on the court and made the possibility of playing in the U.S. a reality.

“In Ukraine we have international tournaments so it’s hard, but sometimes matches in the U.S. are so hard too, so maybe the level is about the same,” she added.

“I want to become a professional tennis player, so I hope I achieve high results in tennis.”

Yatsenko is currently majoring in business and takes pride in wearing navy and white colors of Cerritos every time she takes the court.



CHRISTIAN GONZALES/TM
Swinging to score: Milos Zoric swings at home against El Camino. Final: 8-1 Cerritos.

Milos Zoric

Zoric, computer programming major, is a sophomore from Serbia.

He attended high school at Gimnazija, Indija and is on the men’s tennis team at Cerritos.

He started playing tennis late at the age of 14 and learned the ins and outs of the game by the age of 18.

Zoric was in the top 50 under 18 in Serbia.

Teammate Agustin Lombardi said, “He is a great guy he gives us advice all the time he motivates us and I wish him the best.”

His accomplishments are being top 30 under 16 in Serbia.

Head coach Alvin Kim said, “He’s been real loyal, he’s also one of our captains he has been the glue that sticks the team together and it does show on the score board.”

The difference he saw is the weather from Serbia to America. In Serbia they have extreme seasons, summers are very hot and winters are very cold.



CHRISTIAN GONZALES/TM
Backhand the ball: Amadi Kagoma swipes the ball at home against El Camino. Final: 8-1 Cerritos.

Amadi Kagoma

Kagoma, a sociology major, is a sophomore from Kenya and attended Malezi School in Nairobi, Kenya.

He chose to play for Cerritos because Head Coach Alvin Kim reached out to Kagoma via e-mail that made him feel comfortable, straightforward and honesty from his coach.

Agustin Lombardi, kinesiology major, said, “I value him. He his a very good role model. He works, he wins and this is what it’s [tennis] basically about.”

Kagoma has not decided yet if he wants to pursue tennis as a career; he is looking to get a scholarship and then make a decision after.

Kim said, “He’s an amazing guy he works hard. We are working hard to get him a full scholarship and he has a couple offers.”

Coming to America wasn’t easy for Kagoma as the visa took a long period of time with a lot of questions.

Kagoma’s personal accomplishment is how far he is in school because of the challenges back home, and he has a perfect record of 11-0.



SEAN FULMER/TM
Setting the play: Michelle Navarro and Selena Romero are setting up a play at Irvine Valley. The team lost 58-48.

Height comes up short

The women’s basketball team had a height advantage, but it still came up short in its game against Irvine Valley College

TERREL EMERSON
Staff Writer
@TalonMarks

A valiant Cerritos effort fell short to Irvine Valley, 58-48 last Friday.

The loss brought an abrupt ending to what looked like a rather promising season.

“We were competing and the [women] fought hard,” head coach Karen Welliver said.

She added, “We were a young team this year and [it] kept improving. We had some really big wins and we won a tournament.”

With Cerritos the No. 14 seed and Irvine Valley ranked No. 3, many people thought the game would be a blowout in terms of competition on the end of Cerritos.

The game was a lot closer than the final tally entails with Irvine Valley taking its first double-digit lead with under a minute to go in the game.

Sophomore center Selena Romero believed Cerritos had a chance at stopping Irvine Valley and handing the team its first loss in nearly two months.

Despite not starting, in which coach Welliver only deemed a “team [issue],” Romero still scored 11 of her 17 points in the first half.

“I just knew that this was a big game. I had to do what I had to do to help my team the best way I could. That was the only thing, it was just a regular game for me,” Romero claimed.

Freshman forward Crystal Lomax, who started in place of Romero, scored two points.

In comparison to Romero’s first half, freshman forward Aissha Baldwin’s first half was not so great.

Baldwin scored just two points and had one rebound.

“I just wanted to win. After the first half, everyone was a little nervous or tentative and I knew I had to step it up,” Baldwin admitted.

Step it up she did, scoring 17 of her game high 19 points in the second half. She also finished with six rebounds.

“She got really aggressive, she really took it to the whole being aggressive. I think because [Irvine] didn’t have much height when [it] had to bring in [its] subs she could

kind of dominate,” Welliver said.

Despite the attribution that Cerritos had the height advantage and the statistic that showed the Falcons outscoring Irvine Valley 26-14 in the paint, the Falcons still shot 22 times from beyond the arc.

The issue is the fact that only four went through the net. That equates to 18 percent for the game and a miniscule eight percent for the second half.

“It’s just kind of who we are. We almost always do that. We got inside shots and we usually make [more three pointers] than that,” Welliver said.

On the contrary, defending Irvine’s three-point shot seemed to be a problem for the Falcons. Irvine Valley shot 8-17 (47 percent) from the three-point line.

“Pretty much, [Irvine was] just making [its] shots. [Its] shooters weren’t staying in one place.

They were moving around and that’s hard to defend,” freshman guard Kennedy Cooper said.

Baseball

Conference match against Pasadena City College

The Falcons have their second conference game this Thursday against Pasadena City College at home at 2 p.m.

The first conference game was rescheduled for Wednesday.

Conference game two out of 21



Softball

Conference game to keep 6-0 conference record

The Falcons play Pasadena City for another conference road game on Thursday at 2 p.m. The team continues to have a perfect conference record of 6-0.

Conference game eight out of 22

Women’s Tennis

Conference match against College of the Canyons

The Falcons will be home for a conference match on Thursday against College of the Canyons at 2 p.m. The team currently has a three-game winning streak.

Conference game six out of 15



Men’s Tennis

Nice vacation before more conference games

The Falcons will not have another game until March 12 and that game will be a conference match against Mt. SAC. The men hold a 2-0 record in conference play.

Conference game three out of nine