

TALON MARKS

CERRITOS COLLEGE

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TAP program update

FRANK RODARTE
Staff Writer
@rfrank88

The wait is almost over. Those waiting on the TAP card program can look forward to seeing the program in full effect as early as the upcoming spring semester.

The TAP card program is an attempt to get free or a reduced rate for students that commute to campus via public transportation, such as the bus or the train.

Dean of Student Services, Dr. Gilbert Contreras, has been working on getting the program started for a year now and is now in the "doing" stage of the project.

"Late November to December the project will be figured out," Contreras said.

He has looked into other campuses that have a similar program such as Rio Hondo College.

Working along side Dr. Contreras is a new employee by the name of Victoria Flores.

She is on a mission to gather all the information necessary for the program, such as how many students ride bikes to campus, how many ride the bus, who walks and also who drives to school.

"We are figuring where to gather all that info," Flores said.

They started partnering and had a meeting with MTA this past January and have been in talks with Norwalk Transit and Long Beach Transit, but no CAL yet.

The cost for this project is an estimated \$150,000 to \$200,000 every year.

Contreras emphasized they are not trying to add anymore student fees, but in order to do so they need student focus groups and support groups to help with the program.

They hope to accomplish two main goals, which is to promote environmental sustainability and increase an easier access to the college campus.

Another supporter is Aline Gregorio, Geography professor on campus, she says the program will stop pollution from fossil fuels and will also decrease parking issues around campus.

Gregorio has been partnering up with the "Go Green Task Force" to encourage the campus to become more sustainable.

"Sustainability is a goal we all share," Gregorio said.

Go Green will be meeting on Wednesdays at 3:30 p.m.

The room number has yet to be determined, but Gregorio encourages students to follow Cerritos College Go Green on Facebook.

THE BIG 3 CERRITOS COLLEGE BUILDING PROJECTS



Math/ CIS



culinary arts



Fine Arts



Quick Facts

Culinary Arts
Renovation of kitchen & learning spaces.
Grand Opening: Oct. 7
Funding Source: Measure CC
Program Cost: \$7,860,000

FINE ARTS

- Tentative Completion Date: 2017
- Program Cost: \$33,530,000
- Two Floors/ Bridge Connecting to Math/ CIS Building.
- Art Gallery

MATH/CIS

- Tentative Completion Date: 2017
- Program Cost: \$22,977,768
- Exterior area for students to congregate
- Observation deck with telescopes

Information provided by David Moore, Director of Physical Plant & Construction Services & David Buted, Project Manager

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY KARLA ENRIQUEZ

Hype talk inspires faculty

BRIANA HICKS
Staff Writer
@askCelena

Vice President of Academic Affairs, Dr. JoAnna Schilling, started this year's convocation off by saying that the event "Starts off the year. We bring all of our faculty and staff together, it's like a kick off."

Convocation was held at the Burnight Center last Thursday.

The event was filled with non-stop laughter when President/Superintendent of Academic Affairs,

Dr. Jose Fierro, received a special surprise from The Falconer band led by Dr. David Betancourt, director of bands and orchestra.

They performed "Fierro's Words to Live By," to the melody of "Mustang Sally."

The last to take the stage and spread inspiration was Dr. Fierro.

In his speech, he addressed the issue of students whose parents didn't go to college.

He referred to this as the first-year gap. The probability of those students graduating is very low.

Fierro spoke about a program set in place to help first-year gap students.

According to Fierro, the relatively new program, "seems to provide a very good support to students, but I would like to extend that program to all incoming freshmen."

Professor David Betancourt, stated, "Well I think the thing I really like and I took away from it is this whole idea that he was talking about how we can affect the future in a positive way. I think it was a great reminder for all of us."



BIANCA SALGADO / TM

Convocation: College President, Dr. Jose Fierro (left), received a surprise from Professor David Betancourt (right). Dr. Fierro delivered an inspirational speech.

NEWS

FULL STORY ON PAGE 2

Student services open late



CAMPUS LIFE

FULL STORY ON PAGE 3

Abstracted Visions



SPORTS

FULL STORY ON PAGE 6

Volleyball open season at home vs. Santa Ana



Subaru donates nine engines to Cerritos College

SAM LUEVANO
Staff Writer
@Luevano777

The Import Technician Training Program at Cerritos College is a program for students to learn about the latest technology in the automotive industry with the help of various auto manufacturers in the nation.

Frank Vega, alumnus from Cerritos College and current automotive instructor trained by Chrysler, said, “We all [automotive staff] have contacts in the field that we keep in contact with on a regular basis.”

Vega was instrumental in the recent donation of nine engines by the import automotive manufacturer Subaru of America.

Leonard Glick, Import Automotive Instructor at Cerritos College, said, “We’ve been talking with Subaru lately... how we might be able to help them with their needs as far as entry-level technicians into their dealerships.”

At the end of the spring semester of 2015, Subaru’s donation of nine engines to the automotive program served in the development of

its prospective employees. In the years to come, students learn the theory, work inside the many aspects of a car and finally become ready for the workforce.

The automotive class that students were going to use the engines in happened in the second six weeks of the summer semester according to Glick.

“Although the engines are not complete to be put into a car and be driven, these short-block engines (bottom end: crankshaft, connecting rods, pistons and cylinders) were essential to getting down the concepts, measuring cylinder walls and measuring the pistons,

Measuring the crankshaft, measuring the [engines] surface for flatness... the nine engines were perfect,” Glick said.

Receiving help from outside manufacturers like Cadillac, Chevy and Dodge along with Subaru, have contributed in some way to education for auto-tech students.

Vega said, “We’re just like doctors, you know... because we get to see things the way they’re supposed to be and we can imagine them before we even start working on them because we know what they’re supposed to do.”

The strategy is to keep up with current technology.

Manufacturers are highly motivated to ensure a competent workforce who is knowledgeable of the most recent advances.

The way to accomplish this is to get the students’ hands on the various components, exposing the inner-workings of different mobile machines.



Overtime: Juan Herrera, Film major [top], Ashley Salazar, Nursing major [right], and Angela Nuñez, Psychology major [left] work on their respective assignments at the school library. The library will be open on Saturdays as well.

Student services open late

Hours of service extended because of student feedback

ROB FLORES
Staff Writer
@LynwoodRobJF

According to Vice President of Student Services Dr. Stephen Johnson, “the board asked to extend hours in several offices including the library, Success Center, Admissions and Records, Counseling, Financial Aid, Student Health Services, Student ID Center and Student Activities Office.”

Dr. Johnson went on to add that some of these offices extended hours have either been effective since the first week of the semester or some are going to begin later on in the semester.

Dean of Academic Success, Shawna Baskette

says, “We extended the shifts for five staff members to be available to operate the library during the extended evening hours and Saturdays.”

Baskette went on to add “we have several service desks that require dedicated staff to serve students: the reference desk for research assistance with a faculty librarian, the circulation desk to check out materials, and the computer lab desks to help students with computer and software in the lab as well as study rooms.”

Baskette is happy to see that faculty and staff will now be able to serve students for longer hours and once again the library will be available Saturdays for the first time since Spring 2008.

Dr. Johnson explained that the extended hours were also due to student leader feedback at a joint meeting between the ASCC leaders and the Board of Trustees.

The new library hours are as followed: Monday through Thursdays 7:30 a.m. - 10 p.m. Fridays 7:30 a.m.-3 p.m. and Saturdays 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Vice President of Associated Students of Cerritos College, Ivan Oyarzabal explained what took place in the joint meeting, “we discussed the need for accessibility of resources for our night time students and noted that the Student Senate of California Community Colleges passed legislation to keep library hours open one hour prior to and one hour after the last class.”

Having places like the Student Health Services office open longer hours is a good thing according to criminal justice major Geovanni Bravo.

Bravo said, “I think Student Health Services is a good thing because you can get things such as blood pressure checked and other check ups; To me its beneficial.”

Bravo is also relieved to hear that there will be more opportunities to see a counselor due to extended hours this semester.

For updates on each department hour changes Dr. Johnson suggests you visit their home pages and signs will also be posted on the offices.



First aid: The Student Health and Wellness Center employee is looking over at some paper work. The Student Health and Wellness Center recently teamed up with Campus Police to put together a flier with a list of all the different services that both provide on campus is called “Stay Falcon Safe!”

Programs ask to be part of syllabi

GRESTER CELIS-ACOSTA
Managing Editor
@GresterC

Student safety, student wellness and student success are three important conditions and roles that any college plans to provide its students.

Cerritos College; however, has decided to provide a flier in which a list of the entire student services that both the Student Health & Wellness Center and Campus Police Department provide to students and where they can get help.

The flier was suggested to professors to be placed in the class syllabus, so students have the information available to them if they need it.

Associate Dean of Student Health & Wellness Hillary Men-

nella, was one of the persons that helped put this flier together.

“We were hoping that [professors] included this flier into their syllabus’ then it would be more readily available for students. I worked on this with [police] Chief Galivan because a lot of what we do overlaps close together, so we decided to put Chief Galivan’s services and Student Health Services on one flier,” Mennella said.

The flier came together in the spring semester of this year.

According to Chief of Police Tom Galivan, who also helped put together the “Stay Falcon Safe!” flier, said, “The flier was put together as a resource, kind of telling students what resources [are on campus] like campus police, where we have safety escorts if someone needs an escort at night... and then the bi-

cycle registration that we do, crime reporting that we do and basically that kind of information.”

Galivan said that the response to request for professors to place this flier in the syllabus was positive and that they were receptive to the idea.

He said, “What we hope to accomplish is to let the students and the campus community know that if their experiencing any issues or need assistance there’s a place on campus where you can go to.”

According to Mennella, the amount of students that come to the Wellness Center ranges anywhere from 350 to 450 a month, but drops off over the summer.

Detailed information regarding the flier and the rest of the services that are on the list are available at www.Cerritos.edu.

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Call Campus Police
562-860-2451 ext 2325

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KRISTOPHER CARRASCO AND CARLOS HOLGUIN/TM
Oxytocin molecule (Left): Artist Brian Bulfer expresses how life creates a phenomenal experiences. Oxytocin is produced during moments of intimacy.
Engaged (Middle): Steven Anchor, kinesiology major, goes through the gallery with an open mind.
The Species (Right): This piece is by Karen Lofgren. Lofgrens piece is based off of a hierarchy of needs of life's needs.

The first art gallery show of the semester takes the public through the artists perspective of what life is

CARLOS HOLGUIN
Staff Writer
@ch_woodstock

As the doors open on the gallery, Director and Curator James MacDevitt welcomed students and participants alike on Tuesday Aug. 25 to witness the grand opening of "Abstracted Visions", the first gallery event at Cerritos College this semester. The Cerritos College Art Gallery is located on campus in room FA50. MacDevitt has worked hard to get a variety of art pieces for both this gallery and the upcoming Art Gallery. "Abstraction has been an important part

of modern art for the last hundred years, generally though it is focused on the idea of visual reductions. So you would reduce things down to their essences," said MacDevitt. According to MacDevitt, the pieces are all from professional artists (nearly all with MFA degrees) and many are college professors. The artists come from far and wide, including San Diego, Santa Barbara, Portland, Austin, New Jersey, and London. Some of the pieces focused on science and health, while others used a variety of resources, including one piece that relied on a record being played loudly in the room. One of the artists featured was Karen Lofgren, a Cal Arts graduate, who created a piece that hung from the ceiling made of leather from four different animals. "They're based on charts called Maslow's hierarchy of needs, which at this point is very antiquated but the model for that sys-

tem has been re-employed by advertisers and religious belief systems in order to promote the hierarchies of their propaganda," Lofgren stated. "I make a lot of different shapes of things. Some things that are inspired by different areas of research," she continued. "So it's not only research into charts and that type of symbology, but also other types of history and meaning." Angel Perez, a graphic design major, attended the opening day event to find passion. "I always try to keep an open mind and see the different perspectives from different people. It's interesting." Perez gravitated to a piece that displayed the molecular structure of different elements, noting the mix of science and art. Brian Bulfer, a featured artist who is working on a doctorate in art education at Columbia, also mixed science and art by creating a 3D model of an oxytocin mol-

ecule. "Oxytocin is a molecule that is processed in the brain in moments of social bonding and intimacy," Bulfer explained. Heads of the religious figure Buddha represented each atom on the model, a deliberate choice by Bulfer. "I wanted to play with this idea of statues and religious artifacts," he said. "I was thinking about what might be the chemicals in some of the processes and phenomenon we experience when in meditation, so I kind of used it to comment on some of the beliefs we have about some of the experiences we have. Many artists have their own perception of the universe which gives this show so much diversity. Bulfer doesn't think there is much of a difference of what artists do in the studio and what scientists do. He noted that the mix of unknown elements to create a solution lies very close to

ancient alchemy. The mixes of science, religion and art worked in the hopes to bring more than just art majors to view the event, as Lofgren explained " [Art] makes us human beings, it defines our species and allows us to imagine and grow. It's one of the most fundamental things that one can do besides creating a fire. "To lose such a fundamental aspect of what identifies our species, it just doesn't really make sense to me to have a system that supports other structures but not the most important of them," Lofgren said. "Abstracted Visions" ends on Sept 24 and is open to the public. Via Negativa, the upcoming Art Gallery put together by MacDevitt, will be held at the South bay Contemporary Art Gallery in San Pedro Art and will open on Sept. 3.

Club day engages student potential

ROB FLORES
Staff Writer
@lynwoodrobj

Clubs filled up Falcon Square on Tuesday in order to encourage student participation. The Social Science patio will also be home of the second part of club info day on Wednesday. Approximately 47 clubs signed up to participate at club info day. The clubs on campus are for all students and offer many resources for the college community. Nursing Major and President of the Phi Phi Club, Christian San Jose said, "Our club helps you build confidence by developing your public speaking skills." The Inter Club Council (ICC) of Cerritos College puts together this event to get students to network and break out of their shell. Many students of the college took advantage of club info day to promote their passion, such as Political Science Major Annalisa Chavez.

"Today, our club is out here trying to reach out to people asking them if they would like to learn about God. We encourage students to meet our club members Tuesdays and Wednesdays in front of the Student Center at 11:30 a.m." Commissioner of Day Time Activities Alveena Memon ran the Student Activities table and wanted to do something vibrant by giving out prizes to students who participated in club info day. Students can pick up a checklist from the Student Activities club booth in which they need to interact with at least ten clubs and fill out the list with information from each club. After returning the completed slip back to the booth, students can claim their prize. "Being in clubs helps me communicate with my peers. There are volunteer opportunities and it looks good on a resume along with motivating me to participate," Memon said. The ICC pushes to make club info day both entertaining and informative.

Political Science Major Alan Babadilla said, "I like club info day because I get to learn about different clubs and if I like a club I will join." According to Commissioner of ICC Joseph Frausto, any club can participate for club info day so much as they are a club of Cerritos College. Clubs can pick up a request form prior to the event or even last minute petition if there is room. The ICC takes time with planning this event and really looks forward to working with clubs both new and old. "We want to encourage student engagement and show students that there is more to just going to class. The school is full of potential," Frausto said. Part two of club info day will be held from 5 p.m.-7 p.m. on Wednesday and is open to all students. Students can create a club and go through the ICC as long as they have an adviser and 10 participants.



VANESSA VILLASENOR/TM
Representing: Viridiana Cabrera, Nursing major, provides students with information on why they should join MEChA. MEChA enforces student empowerment.

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Scan to watch the Art Gallery video



http://bit.ly/1Ulwxb

Cerritos College Convocation
President Fierro addresses previous school achievements along with future goals that the school is aiming for. Professor Betancourt and the Falconettes also make an appearance.

Scan to watch the Convocation



http://bit.ly/1N8Mlkj

The Weekly Geek
Talon Marks members give a quick update on what happened in the world of gaming, movies and TV shows over the summer. If you enjoy superheros, gaming and all other things geeky, this video is definitely for you.

American Ultra meets 'high' expectations

Movie Review

American Ultra
Director: Nima Nourizadeh
Rating: ★★★★★
Starring: Jesse Eisenberg & Kristen Stewart

ARIELLE MARTINEZ
Staff Writer
@Moviekidd1223

American Ultra is a movie so hilarious and unexpectedly gruesome that it will have you the minute you feast your eyes upon the screen. American Ultra stars Jesse Eisenberg and Kristen Stewart, two A-list actors who have starred alongside each other before (Adventureland. The best way to describe this feature film is a bloody stoner flick. The film has some major sappy love story aspects as it revolves around Jesse Eisenberg's character

Mike Howell, a liquor store clerk who also happens to be a sleeper agent. Howell's biggest problem, besides his nonsensical panic attacks in airport bathroom stalls, is being hunted for extermination by the government when 'activated'. This activation becomes the catalyst of action and events yet to come. American Ultra had big names like John Leguizamo, Connie Britton, Walton Goggins and Tony Hale. With all these big names, the performances they dished out were genuinenand outrageously surprising. Any presumptions about this film will prove you wrong. To categorize this film in a genre you would have to create a new label; something along the lines of pineapple express without the pineapples. This movie is aware of it quirks and makes fun of them while having a giant laugh about it all at once. It gives an underdog story a new name and a new hero to root for, an ex-government operative stoner. American Ultra gets a 4.20 rating out of 5 in my book.



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Telephone numbers: (562) 860-2451, ext. 2617
FAX (562) 467-5044

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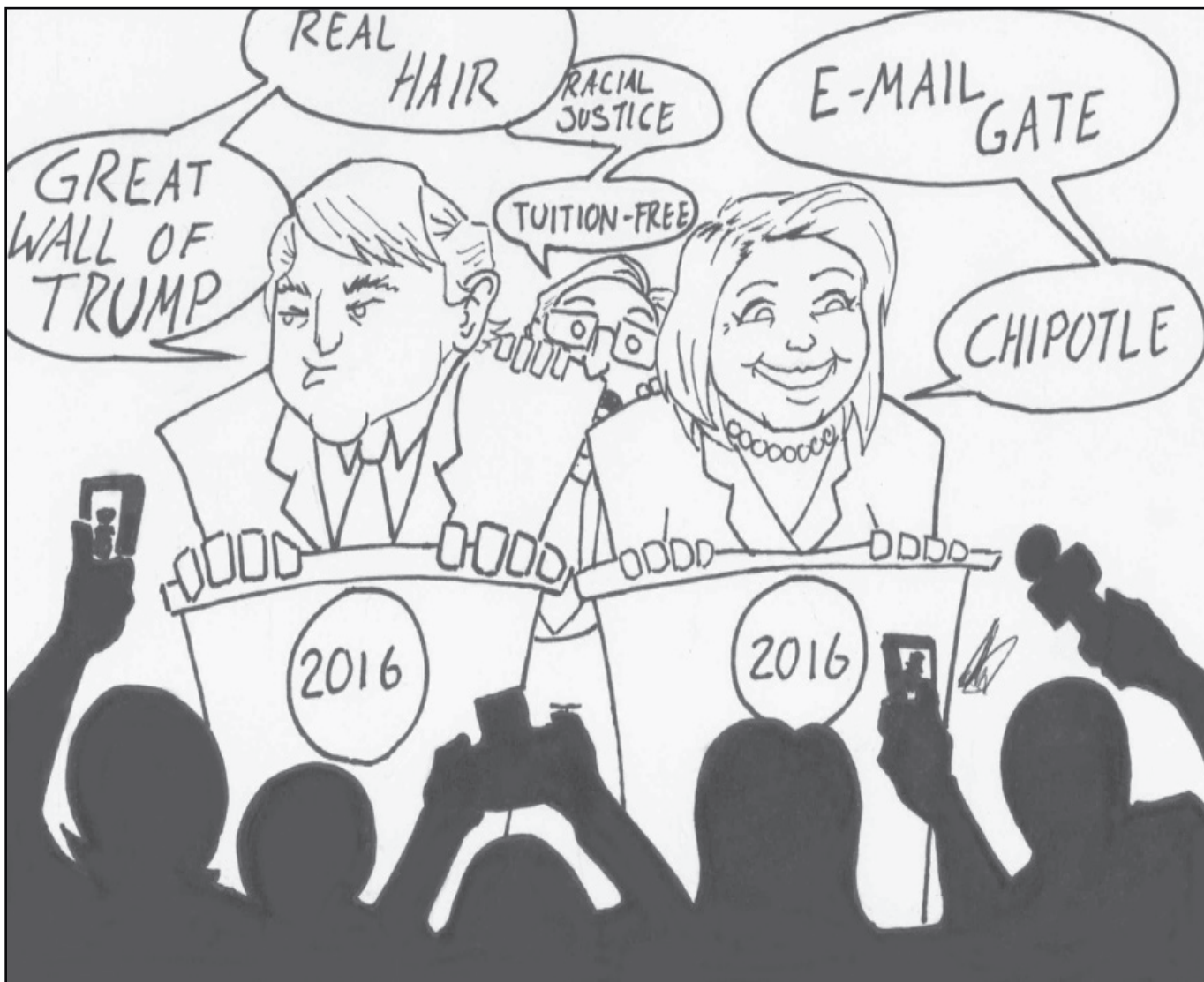
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EDITORIAL



CARLOS MARQUEZ/TM

Controversy over intellect: The spectacle of political race

Anchor babies, Mexican rapists, “The Great Wall of Trump, and “e-mail gate” are some of the many controversies that have been at the forefront of the race for the White House.

The spectacle and the celebrity have gotten more attention and support than the issues that should matter to voters.

In 2015, we have a former first lady, a member of a political dynasty, a celebrity businessman, and a self-professed socialist running to earn the nomination for their respective party.

And that's all we seem to focus on, the novelty of the candidates.

The political race has turned into “What is Donald Trump going to say today?”

It is alarming how his celebrity power and audacious comments have gained him supporters all around the nation simply because people like good entertainment.

It really is a mockery of what the American political system stands for; justice, equality and democracy.

It's become “The Apprentice,” with Trump already fitting his titular role and Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders trying to keep up.

And you know what? We've let it become that way. Our ability to perceive something seriously has diminished along with our collective ability to question things.

Sure Trump's antics were outlandish, wacky even, like something out of

a Monty Python film, but now you realize he and his followers are violent and ignorant.

U.S. voters base their voting decision on a couple of characteristics and one of those is the candidate's image.

Intellect becomes unimportant as long as the candidate has charisma.

Lest we forget part of why John F. Kennedy won the election in 1960 is because he simply looked better on television than did the awkward Richard Nixon.

We vote with the same mentality one would vote the finalists of American Idol. Have the voters lost their way? Isn't what we always preach to the rest of the world?

That we are the forebears and masters of democracy?

The media plays a tremendous role in shaping the views of the public in political races.

The media has given coverage to what meal Hillary Clinton chooses rather than her problematic stance on Israel.

And so does the same by covering Donald Trump's hateful antics while the rest of the candidates loom in the shadows of this week's controversy.

In those deep shadows Bernie Sanders, democratic hopeful, stands tucked away.

While the underdog who everyone underestimated is drawing bigger crowds than any other candidate (approx. 27,500 in LA,) his voice is a mere

echo in the distance.

There is danger in that, because for anything to be relevant in American lives, it has to be hammered into us day in and day out in the media or we forget about it.

How quickly did we forget Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, or the black church burnings in the south?

As Bernie Sanders speaks of a much needed revolution, the media insists on moving their lens to a man who wants to prove to a crowd that he is not indeed wearing a toupee.

As Hillary Clinton denounces gun violence, media coverage is emphasized on the insults laid upon Ted Cruz by House Speaker John Boehner.

Somewhere in the nation Sanders is giving an impassioned speech about the Robin Hood Tax he plans on levying on Wall Street in order to grant free college tuition.

Somewhere in the nation, Sanders is speaking on the wider than ever income disparity between the middle and upper class.

Somewhere in the nation, Sanders is speaking on introducing legislation to abolish for-profit prisons.

But if the coverage isn't there, is it really happening?

Nintendo making movies again

ROB FLORES
Staff Writer
@LynwoodRobJF

Nintendo doesn't stand a chance at replicating the success Marvel and DC comics have achieved in the film industry.

Nintendo films would not achieve as much adult fans; at best Nintendo can tailor strictly to a child audience.

The “Donkey Kong Country” franchise would be great for kids to see an animated film and reintroduce them to the SNES games.

The competition is tough due the fact that DC Comics dominate television and Marvel dominate the film industry.

If Nintendo is going to stand a chance in making a decent film and stand out they will have to stick to doing an animated film and just get an ensemble of celebrities to do voiceovers, so they can get any kind of appeal like the “Lego Movie” did.

After much success Marvel has had with their stand-alone hero films they have had even more success teaming up each hero from all their films to make “The Avengers” and suddenly DC feels they have to catch up by making a “Justice

League” film.

If Nintendo were to make a non-animated film they may have success with “Metroid” and fans would love to finally see a female hero like “Samus” on the big screen considering that “Catwoman” and “Electra” were failures.

In order for Nintendo to truly succeed, they would have to create a cross-over film with another company such as Capcom, due that there were a lot of successful video games for the age of the Super Nintendo console; one of which was “Double Dragon” which deserves a reboot.

If both companies would team up they could do a “Mega Man” film, which could appeal to kids who are fans of Iron Man being that “Mega Man” is kid oriented.

At best “Star Fox” is the closest that Nintendo could get to create a film that resembles a multiple hero movie which tends to be more appealing to teenager audiences.

If Nintendo plays its cards right and has a decent script, maybe “F-Zero X” can capture some of the elements from the “Fast and Furious” franchise, but it is a slim chance that could ever happen.

Is that a Nazi... no it's Donald Trump

PERLA LARA
Photo Editor
@PSLaraLara

“Government is incompetent ...but I'm a great manager,” Presidential candidate Donald Trump, said during a news conference in Dubuque, Iowa on Aug. 25.

As an American, I elect a governing body. I see the value in having all the branches of government and more importantly the checks and balances that have been put in place to make America a true republic.

As of Tuesday, Presidential candidate, Trump's only political stance has been on immigration reform. He is running a campaign that is like a version of Adolf Hitler's campaign platform. What can Donald Trump be thinking?

Like Hitler, Trump also promotes a book he wrote in his campaign rallies. He uses his book as proof that he is intelligent and that he has the solutions to all that is wrong in the country.

F5Z

FREE SPEECH ZONE

Are mass shootings trending in society?

COMPILED BY:
SEBASTIAN ECHEVERRY

PHOTOGRAPHS BY:
AMANDA DEL CID



GRACE MORENO
Nutrition major

“I think it's a problem with society...it's a circle...we're all a circle and everything is connected. I question what's on the news... the real news is covered up. If you choose to speak the truth, it's dangerous and you risk your lives.”

HOLLAND GRAVES
Electrical Engineering major

“I definitely believe that there is a great desensitization going on. Speaking language that isn't definitive that allows space for more thoughts to happen, I truly believe that that form of language is debilitating toward healing the situation.”



BIANCO CASTILLO
Nursing major

“This question is difficult, my opinion is [to] respect different people and opinions.”



MATTHEW RIOS
Botany major

“A lot of our society and American culture is built around violence and glorifying war. I wouldn't doubt that there are more shootings to happen, it's definitely a trend.”



GABRIELLA CHAVEZ
Nursing major



“Most of the time people are holding grudges... like the shooting with the reporters, he (the shooter) was holding a grudge because he lost his job to the woman.”

Trump's political strategy is to win the votes of the working class, women and the African-American demographic.

His campaign, like Hitler's, is one of bigotry, fear and hate that sets illegal Mexican immigrants as the cause for all the problems in America.

In the same news conference Trump also said, “A woman is getting ready to have a baby, she crosses the border for one day has the baby, all of a sudden. For the next 80 years hopefully longer, but for the next 80 years we have to take care of the people.”

He made the statement in response to reporter Jorge Ramos asking about his campaign position to end birthright citizenship.

According to Trump's online statement on immigration reform he seeks on, “Immigration reform that will make America great again.”

He would end birthright citizenship because “This remains the biggest magnet for illegal immigration. By a 2:1 margin, voters say it's

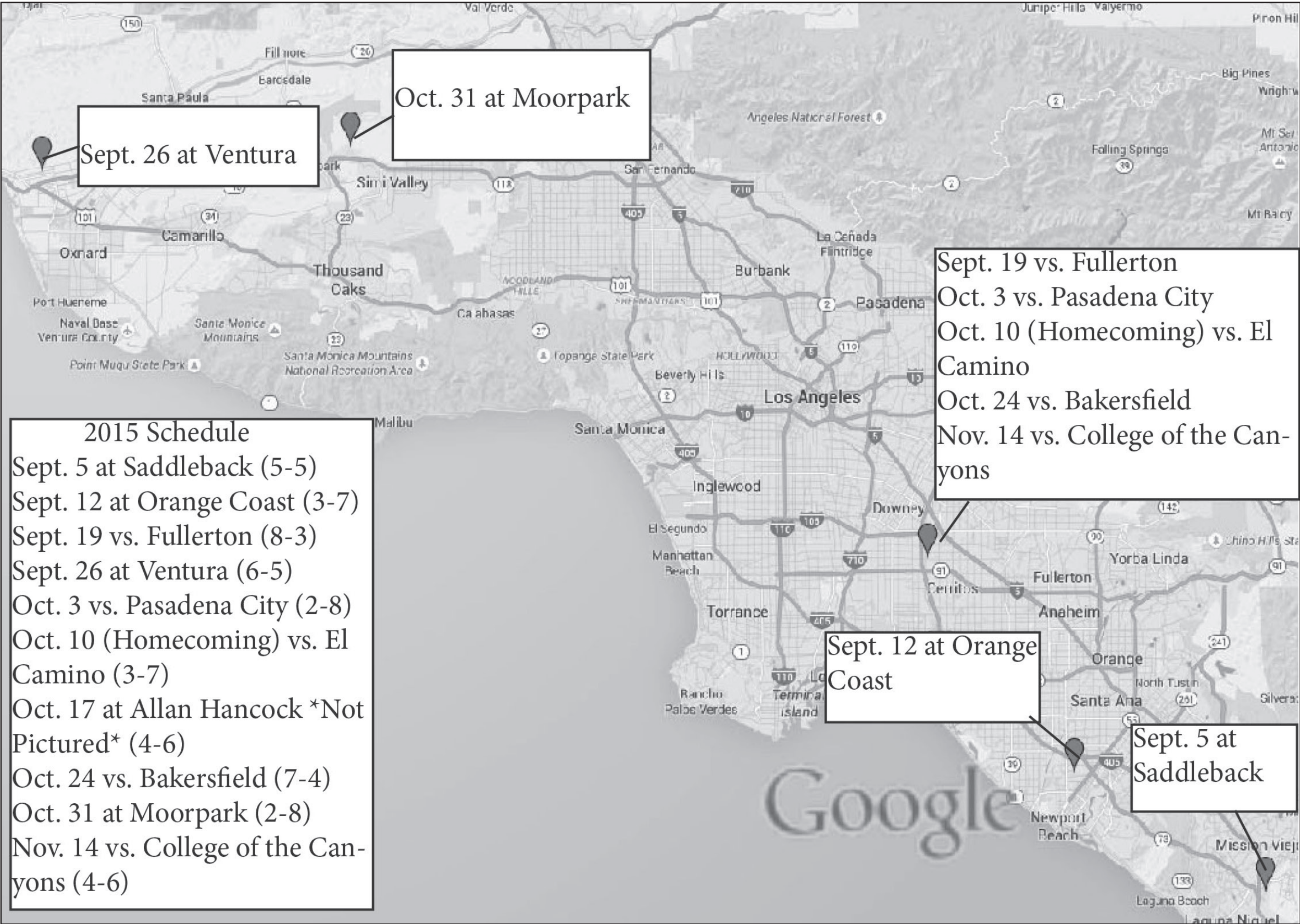
the wrong policy, including Harry Reid who said ‘no sane country’ would give automatic citizenship to the children of illegal immigrants.”

Ending birthright citizenship would require the reform of the 14 Amendment of the constitution. The amount of congressional support and legal steps needed to change the constitution makes it highly unlikely for Trump to accomplish even if he did become president.

The end to birthright citizenship is just an empty promise that Trump is using to cause controversy, to gain the support of extremist groups and fuel his xenophobic campaign.

Of course, in the 0.0001 percent chance that Trump was elected president he would build a wall between Mexico and the United States.

After that, he would build a detention center or as Hitler would call it a concentration camp, after all as Trump states “I'm a great builder.”



Mapping the journey: The image map above, taken from Google, pin-points the locations of the fields where the Cerritos College football team will play its opponents to try to capture the state championship and bring it home to Cerritos College. The first two games of the season are on the road at Saddleback (Sept. 5) and at Orange Coast (Sept. 12) before heading home for the first home game against Fullerton (Sept.19).

Road to state

TERREL EMERSON
Sports Copy Editor
@sir_chatterbox

Overview

Coming off back to back bowl championships the Cerritos Falcons' Football team have their eyes focused on winning state.

Posted in the Falcons' locker room are multiple posters stating "Do it right!" The outset for the upcoming season is win the opening game, win conference and ultimately win the bowl game. The sights this season have turned into state championship aspirations.

Last season, the falcons ended the year with a Golden State Bowl win over Santa Barbara.

The win brought Cerritos College's overall season record to 8-3.

With an overall season record like that not too many games seemed to be close. The Falcons outscored all opponents 332-268. With that dispersed among all 11 games, that is a little over 30 point per game averaged and a little under 25 points per game against.

One stat to notice from last season to this season is the overwhelming stat of freshmen to sophomores. On the training camp roster there are 76 freshmen and only 35 sophomores.

One bright spot is the return of starting quarterback Jimmy Walker No. 7. He put up some pretty staggering numbers. He went 158/300 for 2,323 yards with 25 touchdowns and 20 interceptions. That's about an average of 211 yards with a little over two touchdowns per game.

On the other hand not all players can return. The top three rushers from last season have all moved on from Cerritos College. Those top running backs were Travis Newberry No. 20, Joseph Donnell No. 6, and DeVonte Carter No. 9. They accounted for well over 1,000 yards rushing. This season it will become a joint collaboration for the making up of those lost yards.

The defense was pretty consistent all of last season, by only allowing over 30 points in three games all of last season. David Fangupo No. 45 is looking to lead the Falcon's defense coming into this season.

Last year he posted 33 tackles with two sacks. The defense should only improve this season with multiple returners returning to the team with most coming in the secondary.

Offense

The Cerritos Falcons offense is going to be led for the second straight year by Jimmy Walker No. 7. Walker showed glimpses of a promising sophomore season last year.

Walker was given the reigns as the leader of the offense in his first year and he showed why keeping the team in his possession would be a smart move for Head Coach Frank Mazzotta.

Despite having numbers that clearly speak for themselves Walker still felt the

need to improve something during the offseason.

"This season I'm just letting it all come to me," Walker admitted. "I'm a year smarter and I've matured so it should all come easier to me," Walker added.

His teammates also aren't shy about expressing their love and gratitude toward their quarterback.

"He's become more patient. He looks more calm back there, he knows the offense more. Needless to say I trust him to lead us," sophomore running back Robert Gordon said No. 33.

Not only has the offense weighed in on the praise of Walker and his progression. Defensive tackle David Fangupo No. 45 had high admiration for his offensive leader.

"He has a sense of confidence now. Not that he didn't have confidence last year, he's just more confident. One reason he's confident is the offensive lines improving coming from last season. He knows he has more time to get rid of the football," Fangupo explained.

The offensive line wasn't too bad last year however; they paved the way for three running backs last season to reach over 400 plus yards rushing.

Although, since those top rushers are no longer with the team someone has to fill the void. Gordon feels as though it has to be a joint team effort in order to replace those three rushers.

"We have to come out strong in the first quarter and get every yard we can," Gordon said.

"The running back group that we have is solid from top to bottom there are no fall offs. We all have big play capability. We can be dangerous," Gordon proclaimed.

Despite knowing the severity of the importance of sustaining a running game the team is well aware not to become one-dimensional.

"We as running backs just need to make the most every time we touch the ball. Again if we do that we can be dangerous," Gordon said with a smile.

Quarterback Walker also weighed in on the idea of becoming a one-dimensional team.

"We're not one-dimensional. As good as our running game is [we] were still able to put up record passing numbers," Walker explained.

However, Walker admitted that "running game is the staple for the offense" and the offense "thrives" off of the running game.

Defense

While most fans would point to the offense as the key to the Falcons' success in the previous season. In the Golden State Bowl the defense allowed its third lowest scoring output of the season in 19 points.

Needless to say despite that staggering end to the year the aforementioned Fangupo still feels the team can improve.

"We have to play every game like it's our last. We have to be stingy up front and not allow any [momentum]," Fangupo expressed.

"Our defensive line is still young, but we trust our [defensive backs] to take care of business," admitted Fangupo.

Fangupo would go onto give credit to defensive backs Thadd Daniels No. 5 and Deon Smalls No. 3.

While Fangupo pointed out the elephant in the room it is hard to negate the fact that the Cerritos football team has twice as many freshmen on the roster than they do sophomores. However, nobody seems to worry too much about that.

"Experience always plays a factor but we have a good group of young guys and a good group of older guys to teach the young guys. They'll be ready to make quick adjustments," Walker stated.

Fangupo looks to himself to be one of the many people looked at to lead the younger group of guys.

"Its like Coach [Mazzotta] always tells us, 'we have to buy in.' And the younger guys have bought in. They came in raw and they are getting there if they are not there already," Fangupo explained.

With an offense as explosive as the Falcons have one could assume the defense could get lackadaisical and not give it their all on every play. Fangupo sees no sight of that.

"We have to lean on each other. We have to be there to pick each other up. We have skills on both sides of the ball we just have to bring intensity on both sides as well," Fangupo stated.

It seems as though the Falcons have learned from all mistakes last season and are mentally prepared for the upcoming season as well as physically prepared. We will see how prepared the team really is on Saturday as players and staff head out on the road to take on Saddleback College as they embark on the road to state.



The long road ahead: Head Coach Frank Mazzotta (left) keeping a close eye on starting quarterback Jimmy Walker (right) during practice. Mazzotta on Walker, "He's a good leader, he's a pretty accurate passer, he's smart."



Women's Cross Country: Last Friday the women cross country team held practice at Excelsior Track. The women open their season on Saturday at the Mark Convert Open.

Women's cross country hopes experience will lead to a memorable season

CHRISTIAN GONZALES
Sports Editor
@ChrisG_Sports

With only having half the runners compared to the men's team with 15 women on the roster, the women still have an edge with more experienced runners this season.

The Falcons will open the season on Saturday in the Mark Convert Open at Carbon Canyon Park.

The women's cross country team, won first place in two events- last season one in the Embry Riddle Invitational and the other in the Brubaker Invitational.

The team also won second place in two other events, one in their opening meet last season in the Mark Convert Open and the other in the South Coast Conference Championships.

Bryan Ramos who is entering his first year as a Cerritos head coach, said, "Our strong point is our returners. We have four sophomores in our top five and that is going to be key for us. They are able to handle higher mileage this year harder workouts and higher intensity."

He added, "Well our first meet gives us a chance to run against division No. 1 and division No. 2 schools, but our women should do very well because they know [their] course well."

Ramos previously helped Glendale Community College women's cross country team reach three

state championships in 2007, 2009, and 2011. During his time at Glendale he also lead the women's cross country team to five-second place finishes in state championships.

A sophomore who red-shirted in 2013, Marylu Puldo, is this year's captain for the women's cross country team. She was named first team all conference last season as a freshman.

"We worked on bonding and being together and communicating that there is no misunderstanding so it's easier for us to function," Puldo said.

Another runner who returned to the roster this season is freshman Stephanie Perea.

Perea is really excited for this upcoming season and determined to start off well at the Mark Convert Open.

"We have to go out there and show the universities what we got and give them competition and show them that community colleges are [just] as competitive as universities,"Perea said.

After being done with its first meet, the team looks to continue its season at the Fresno Invitational on Friday, Sept.11.

Last season in the Fresno Invitational the team placed in third place with a total of 105 team points.

Men's water polo travels to the East coast to start off the season

CHRISTIAN GONZALES
Sports Editor
@ChrisG_Sports

The men's water polo team played its first couple of games out of state in Annapolis, Maryland.

This first game this season will be played against Gannon University at Annapolis, Maryland.

This will be the second consecutive year the team travels to Maryland to start the season.

Cerritos College defeated Gannon 13-12 last season and expects to be challenged this time for its first game.

Last season the Falcons went with a 2-4 record last season on the Maryland road trip with wins coming against Gannon Pennsylvania University and Salem Oregon International University.

Last year's team went 21-9 and hope to be better this season with a couple of players who red-shirted last year and bring experience to the team.

Water polo went 5-2 in conference and finished in third place.

"Those players will probably make the biggest impact for us and we have some guys coming out of high school that are going to make an impact too, but the experienced guys will make the biggest contribution."

— Head coach Joe Abing



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Volleyball scrimmage: Natalie Caravantes (left) and Kayley Stephens (right) jump to block the shot from Sydney Maldonado No. 6 of Fullerton. The scrimmage helped the volleyball team prepare for Friday's game against Santa Ana.

Volleyball team opens season at home against Santa Ana

CHRISTIAN GONZALES
Sports Editor
@ChrisG_Sports

Last Thursday, the Cerritos women's volleyball team held a scrimmage before the start of the 2015 season.

A total of seven teams, each played the other for 30 min. and had a break for the match length.

The scrimmage brought six other colleges to help prepare all the teams for its respective seasons.

Some of the colleges that were present at the scrimmage were Riverside, Long Beach, Fullerton and Santa Ana.

There was no score keeping while during the scrimmages.

The women's team will play Santa Ana on Friday at home. Cerritos got a little preview last friday to know what to expect. When Santa Ana comes back to play Cerritos its first game of the season this Friday.

Head coach Teresa Velasquez-Ortega, entering her 16th season as head coach, said, "We prepared really hard. We have a new squad and we have a lot of talent in this team."

She added, "I think it's very good the girls get together and I'm surprised we did what we practiced in the scrimmage."

With 14 players on the roster this season, Ortega is looking for second year players to help the freshman this season on and off the court.

One of those players is Nicole Spigner, outside hitter, who is entering her second

season, after red-shirting last season.

"We need to come together as a team that is what we have to do because we are good and have good players, but we have to come together," Spigner said.

The volleyball team went 14-8 last season with a record of 11-3 in conference, with a win streak of 6 games.

Another player who is entering her second season is Natalie Caravantes, setter, who played in 20 matches last season.

For Caravantes, the off-season consisted of "[work outs] before practice with our trainer and we did a lot of weight lifting."

The women's volleyball team will host its second annual Cerritos Tournament on Sept.11 and 12 and will play a total of four games that weekend.

Men's cross country opens season at Mark Convert Open

CHRISTIAN GONZALES
Sports Editor
@ChrisG_Sports

"It's a young team this year mostly freshmen, but this year we have a lot of talent."

He added, "We are training for five miles instead of four miles race that's what it takes to be a contender in state."

On Saturday, the team will open its season in the Mark Convert Open at Carbon Canyon Park in Brea, California. The event consists of a couple D-1 and D-2 universities and some other colleges. Last season, the team placed in fourth place at this meet.

Alejandro Rios who is the captain and in his sophomore season, said, "Going into next meet we just want to see where everyone is at, who could be in the run for top seven."

He added, "We have big PRs (personal records) we want to hit and we have been preparing physically and mentally."

This year the roster has a total of 30 runners with 22 freshmen and 8

sophomores who returned this season.

Anthony Lopez is one of the freshmen looking to make a difference in his first year with the other 21 runners.

"As a freshman [it's] a new experience I'm excited for that and it should be a good experience," Lopez said.

The men's cross country team will be running its second meet next Friday at Woodward Park in the Fresno Invitational.



Men's cross country: Men's cross country prepares for its first event this Saturday at Carbon Canyon Park. The team held practice last Friday at Excelsior Track.