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Sympathetic tears: Family, friends, students and those who knew Renne Bloch gathered in front of Burnight Center Theatre on Feb. 9 for a vigil for Bloch. The crowd of over 60 people listened as past students of Cerritos College Theater Department shared their memories of Bloch and the difference she made in their lives.

Thank you Renee for always supporting me and being one of my biggest fans! I will miss you so much! R.I.P. my friend!

- Franco Falcon

Cerritos College Mascot

For all the times you were there for all of us, for all the moments you share, and for

all the work you did for Cerritos College Theater Department- thank you. May you rest peacefully, Renee. We will all miss you.

— SINEAD AVA

Rest in Peace. You'll be missed greatly by your warm personality. God

bless your loved ones.

— KIM APPLEBURY

Renee Bloch vigil held Thursday

BENJAMIN GARCIA **Opinion Editor** 🄰 @pieloverable

"She was always perky and smiling," alumnus Paul Tully stated when talking about his friendship with Fine Arts Communications Division Performing Arts Promotion Specialist, Renee Bloch at a candlelight vigil.

The vigil was organized by Lab Tech I in the Fine Arts/Communications Division, Alicia Edquist.

She will be remembered by Tully most for her love of the students and the theater department, which she was passionate about.

Tully and others said she would make an effort to go see the shows of students that had longleft Cerritos College.

According to the LA Coroners report, Bloch died by suicide and was found dead in her home Feb. 2. The vigil was held a week after her death on Thursday.

Recalling his experiences with Bloch theater arts major Angel Cabrero said, "I remember when I was cast in 'The Tempest' two semesters

"I was nervous. She said 'Try it out, you'll do it. You'll be fine.' So I went through the audition process and it was an amazing experience. I made said 'I knew it. I knew the [whole] time."

He will remember Bloch as a lover of theater, a person that always helped with love and with great courage.

Tully brought up his last memory of Bloch manager. and started by saying that he was being a jerk.

He had come to support a play that was being put on at Cerritos College but had not bought a ticket online [as he was supposed to].

When he got to the box office, the show was sold out but there were extra tickets saved for people who had not shown up.

He wanted to purchase a ticket but Bloch would not allow him to, explaining that to let him would be breaking a policy of the theater department.

"She had a lot of integrity," Tully summarized the story, adding, "I was being a jerk and got really upset with her."

Bloch's death left Tully with what he said was an important lesson to be more patient and kind with people, since he never would have thought that night would be the last time he would speak

Theater technology major Megan Bates, who came to the candlelight vigil to honor Bloch said that she first got to know Bloch when she became

it. Once I had told her I was cast as Caliban, she involved with the theater department as a lightboard operator.

> Bates helped Bloch without knowing she was head of publicity.

Later she was re-introduced to her as a stage

Bloch remembered Bates saying, "You're the

nice gal who helped me out last semester." Tully and many others at the vigil admitted to having "no idea she was suffering the kind of

pain she was." Among which, it was Bates who found it "extremely unbelievable" how and why Bloch had died; this was because she was known for being "bright, bubbly and cheerful"

Tully said, "As you've seen here tonight," referring to the large turn-out at the vigil, "somebody like Bloch is special because in the arts [department] you need people who care, love and are compassionate, and willing to give, to keep the artistic community going. Bloch was definitely a pillar in that community."

He added that he learned that "you don't know what somebody's going through, it's important to make that connection with each other and check in with each other."

The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline number is (1-800)273-8255.

Thank you, Renee for everything you did for the theater department. We will miss you and your colorful personality.

— ANA GOMEZ

Thank you for your constant support and all of your work You were the quirkiest [women] I knew and you will be truly missed.

— MEGAN B.

R.I.P. Renee, there was only one person like you and I will never forget you and how amazing and wonderful and caring you were.

Speaking up: Mark Sillings, Educational Master Plan Project Manager, for Moore Iacofano Goltsman Incorporated spoke during the final part of the EMP meeting held on Feb. 10 at Cerritos College. The meeting was held to collect suggestions and ideas to implement during the next five-years; and had over 110 people in attendance.

Faculty, staff attend Master Plan meeting

Managing Editor 🎒 @pslaralara

All were welcomed at the Educational Master Plan charrette; a meeting that had over 110 participants from the Cerritos College community.

"It was great to have the collaboration across the campus from all groups from students to faculty to classified staff to administrators and managers," Publications Department document services technician Lynn Laughon said.

The purpose for the Friday EMP meeting was to bring the Cerritos College community together and create a list of ideas, suggestions and plans for the next five years of Cerritos College.

The firm Moore Iacofano Goltsman Incorporated is in charge of organizing the meeting, Cerritos will work toward implementing in the next five years.

Faculty Senate President Michelle Lewellen said, "I thought it was good, lots of good information lots of good discussion."

MIG also created an online survey that students could complete online.

Mark Sillings EMP Project Manager for MIG said, "We had over 1,600 people respond to the survey which is four to five times what we've seen in other colleges; that was great. That shows there's a lot of desire from part of the community here to really make Cerritos College better than what it already is."

Psychotherapy major Shakira Serna Villa said, "[The meeting] was a very enriching event, the people who participated were very enthusias-

collecting data and creating the master plan that tic, [...] I hope that everything can move forward from improving assisting service programs to the new programs that we suggested."

> The meeting had 10 different discussion groups labeled from A to J that focused on one of the following areas:

- Culture of completion
- Program augment
- Professional development Partnerships
- Leadership continuity Information technology
- Internal communications External communications
- Streamlining systems
- Diversifying revenue

Continued on Page 2

Police report fondling incidents on campus

Monique Nethington Editor-in-Chief @sniqueee94

"I am always concerned regarding any crimes of this nature occurring on campus. I believe that both these crimes are isolated incidents that do not pose an ongoing threat to the campus community."

Chief of Police Tom Gallivan, of the Cerritos College Police Department said in response to the forcible fondling incidents that have occurred on campus in the last week.

The first incident occurred Feb. 1 in the men's locker room at approximately 8:30 p.m.

According to the safety alert sent out by CCPD, a male victim was inappropriately touched by the unknown male suspect.

A description was given and the suspect is described as a male-Hispanic, and is believed to be in his 20's six foot with a medium build; a slight belly, beard and slicked back

"The investigation is [now complete] and the suspect has not been identified," said Gallivan.

The second incident, Gallivan stated occurred on Thursday, at approximately 2:35 p.m.

However, CCPD was not alerted to the incident until approximately 4:15 p.m.

Officers were informed that a female was approached by a male while walking to class near Math and Computer Information Science Building.

While attempting to engage the victim in conversation, the suspect then grabbed the victim's buttocks and fled the scene.

He was described to be a white/ Hispanic male in his early 20's between six foot and six foot two inches; medium build, brown hair, a narrow dark beard and possible acne scarring on face.

The investigation is still active and the suspect has yet to be identi-

Gallivan stressed that campus police will remain highly visible and alert in and around the school's grounds.

Hillary Mennella, Associate Dean Student Health & Wellness said that if anyone were to find themselves in a dangerous situation like these to find a safe place and reach out to a trusted friend.

"It is important to make sure you are physically well, thus going to the nearest ER as soon as possible is advised," she said. "I'd also recommend making a police report as soon as possible."

She also advised that if you have been a victim of sexual crime to reach out to a trusted support system and to utilizes resources such as, "a Sex Abuse Treatment Center (SATC) counselor or therapist, and other professionals for information and support."

NEWS Wednesday, Feb. 15, 2017 , www.talonmarks.com

Educational Master Planning continues

Continued from Page 1

Each group had a mixture of faculty, management, classified staff and students which served the purpose of having multiple view points on each discussion topic.

Lewellen was in the professional development group; she was surprised by the students that were in her group, especially since they stated they saw the need for faculty and classified employees to have professional development training.

"I didn't realize students were aware that there would be training and I didn't know that they felt like 'Yeah managers, faculty, classified and everyone should be trained. I was a little surprised by that.

"I thought [students] just lived in their own student world. I'm very impressed with the students that came and gave that idea."

Because of the students suggestions Lewellen said, "I would recommend that we increase the opportunity for classified and managers to have training."

10 groups had a group reporter present to the rest of the groups at least four key points or suggestion the group discussed.

Serna Villa liked the group that emphasized on improving careers especially in health care; group B discussed program rein-

forcement and new programs.

She said, "The suggestions that were given are based on the future for the next five years. I recommended that there should be a special emphasis on English conversation [courses]. I also recommended [an emphasis] on gerontology [courses] because it is the career of the

Among the other groups discussed, communication was one that Laughon believes is

"How do we get the communication across the campus in a timely manner that everyone is able to get what will catch everyone's eye and have [everyone in the college] pay attention to. How do we get training for all of the constituencies faculty staff managers students?" Laughon said.

Research analyst, Latarah Williams participated in the meeting she was the reporter in the external communication group.

She said, "One thing that stood out to me was how everyone's emotion was on the community of the school, we wanted to make sure Toward the end of the meeting each of the that the school presence was more of a community supportive effort. It was more of 'let the students know that it's here and that they have support'. I really like how that's what Cerritos College wants to be known for."

Serna Villa like other attendees arrived for the meeting at 8:30 a.m. and stayed until "It was fast, enjoyable and had a continuity, it was a very well organized [event]."

Williams agreed the event was successful due to organization and the enthusiasm that fellow group members showed.

She said, "It was a good amount of time; [it] actually flew by I thought it was going to drag but everyone was involved in the con-

Cerritos College President, Dr. Jose Fierro



PERLA LARA/TM

President and student: Psychotherapy major Shakira Serna Villa speaking with Cerritos College President Jose Fierro at the end of the Educational Master Plan meeting held on Friday. Serna Villa gave suggestions on the direction the college should take over the next five-years.

3 p.m. when the meeting concluded she said, agreed and said, "I think [the meeting] went well; I think we got a lot of feedback from a lot of the groups in the college. The conversations were lively which is encouraging because it seems the people were engaged.

> "What caught my attention was the intersection of ideas from the different groups. They were working separately but somehow many of [the groups] ended up mentioning very similar things that became themes throughout essentially every group, which in my mind it means there is a high level of interest on campus of developing a number of initiatives."

> What comes after the meeting is the developing of the actual master plan, Sillings said, "We're close to finishing with analyzing the data now we're moving into the planning phase [...] we're going to develop a plan based on what comes out of today's meeting."

> Looking further ahead Fierro said, "We will do check points every six months to a year to see how much progress we have made because the idea is to use this plan as a guiding principle as we move into the next five years of the institution.

> "Obviously at the end of the five years we will do something like this but our starting point would be where we finish here, to make a continuous strategic educational master plan and continue to move forward."

Faculty discuss hiring priorities

> Natasha Molina Staff Writer 🧻 @natashamolina93

Faculty Senate extensively discussed a full-time hiring committee

Angela Hoppe-Nagao, speech instructor, first started proposing the full-time hiring committee idea to last fall.

"I've been a faculty member here for many years and as long as I've been here there has been a lot of dissatisfaction with how we go about selecting which department gets to hire new faculty.

"Last fall the committee wanted to create a task force to work on this issue and we passed a resolution last week, which will be this Faculty Senate Hiring Allocation Priorities Committee," said Nagao.

During this meeting how the committee's structure was approved and over the course of months the process on how it will follow through will be discussed.

"I'm really satisfied with how things are going. One of the things that needs to be considered is that the college has over 250,000 fulltime and 600 part-time faculty members and hiring full-time faculty is one of the most important decisions we make on this campus," Nagao said.

She wants to make sure that this new committee will be able to provide students with faculty that is needed and remain prevalent throughout the entire process.

Getting to this point was a difficult journey as rankings kept changing many times over the course of meetings and faculty began to feel as if its voice was being dismissed.

"Last fall we were told that we were going to get eight new full time faculty members for the campus [and] at the last minute, this spring we found out we were getting 18, so there has been a lot of changes and confusion and we want to create a process that is more transparent," Nagao stated.

Political Science Professor and acting President of the faculty union, Terrance Mullins, feels this topic has been long overdue and is what has been needed for many

"This is how this new committee is supposed to work: Ed Code (87360) gives the Faculty Senate a lot of purview over certain things like curriculum, hiring or faculty development. The problem was that deans were overseeing and making decisions when it was supposed to be under ED Code faculty driven,' Mullins expresses.

"The way it was working before this proposal divisions would be making their own rankings. Faculty had some input, then the deans of each division would go to a meeting behind closed doors and magic happened and in some cases the decisions would not make sense,"

Theoretically, the way its supate to vote yes or no then it will go the president for revision.



Falcon Safe: Cerritos College Police Chief Tom Gallivan and Associate Dean of Student Health present a Falcon Safe presentation to ASCC Senate. Mennella introduced Falcon Safe, to create and maintain Cerritos College, environment free from sexual assault and other forms of violence.

ASCC Senate works with Project Safe

Senators learn about learning how to take sexual activity. safety precautions to help prevent assault

JOCELYN TORRALBA @JocyTorralba

Associate Dean of Student Health Hillary Mennella said, "Once we stop accepting domestic violence, stalking, sexual assault and abuse as a norm then society will change for the better.

"Our campus is an excellent place to change norms and reduce stigma. We want our students, faculty and staff to be Falcon Safe and happy so that they may reach their educational and professional goals."

On Feb. 8, ASCC Senate had a Falcon Safe Presentation by Mennella and Cerritos College Police Chief Tom Gallivan.

Mennella introduced Falcon Safe, to create and maintain Cerritos College, environment free from sexual assault and other forms of violence.

"It is important for us to educate one another about our rights and to share our resources, to let people know where they can turn to if they find themselves or friend in a situation where they are the victims or who may be feeling coerced, scared, or alone," Mennella said.

Many students are victims of sexual violence, domestic violence, dating violence and stalking. She added that consent shouldn't be assumed, if you are unsure about it, make sure to clarify it with your partner before initiating

Consent shouldn't be assumed by:

- Appearance
- **Body Language** Non-Verbal Communication
- Previous Sexual Activity
- **Dating Relationships**
- Marriage
- Being under the influence of alcohol or other drugs

According to Mennella, students can experience depression and anxiety during college; signs or symptoms of other serious psychologist disorders that may not be present until a student is in early adulthood.

A psychologist has the expertise to diagnose and treat psychological disorders, provide counseling and assist in a crisis.

Dr. Hernandez is a resource for campus outreach and educational presentations on topics of mental health, relationship difficulties, trauma, life management strategies, and grief counseling.

Gavillan introduced the bystander effect during the presentation. It occurs when there is an emergency many individuals stand by and never reach out to help. He advised the senators to prevent this effect by actively keeping an eye out for situations that seem questionable.

He point out the following steps for bystanders to prevent someone from being taken advantage of:

- Notice the situation
- Evaluate the situation as a problem or potential harm

- Assume responsibility
- Know what to do

"Many people see something but don't call the police...If you see something, do something," Gallivan said.

He suggested if there is any emergency happening on campus, call the campus police as soon as possible.

He also said if students don't have their cellphones with them they can use the emergency systems around campus, such as the Blue Lights installed around campus.

If you are a victim:

- Take all threats seriously so call 911 if you are in danger.
- Talk to the police about protective or-
- Contact a hotline. Tell friends, family and others you
- trust about your situation and develop a plan when you need help. Avoid being alone.
- During an assault, consider negotiating, stalling for time, screaming, and
- Keep proof of every incident and report them to law enforcement and campus authorities.
- Get medical care as soon as possible for injuries, pregnancy prevention or STD testing.

Valyncia C. Raphael, Director, Diversity Compliance and Title IV Coordinator said there are many resources that are local and online for someone that is coping.

"On campus, we have excellent mental health support. More information can be found on the Student Health Services web-

There are also many community and national services and 24 hour hotlines, and many are listed in the Project Safe brochure."

She added that seeking help is one big step toward healthy coping, and counseling can help start that process.

Raphael will be working with Mennella

and Gallivan to give presentations across Vice President of ASCC, Enrique Rodriguez said the presentation was very informa-

tive and it opened the eyes of many so they know where to go for help, who to call, and what steps to take if someone is in that position or knows any friends that are going through something like this.

He continued to say that as a father he can now educate his daughter about stalking, bullying and abuse for her safety so she can pass it on to others.

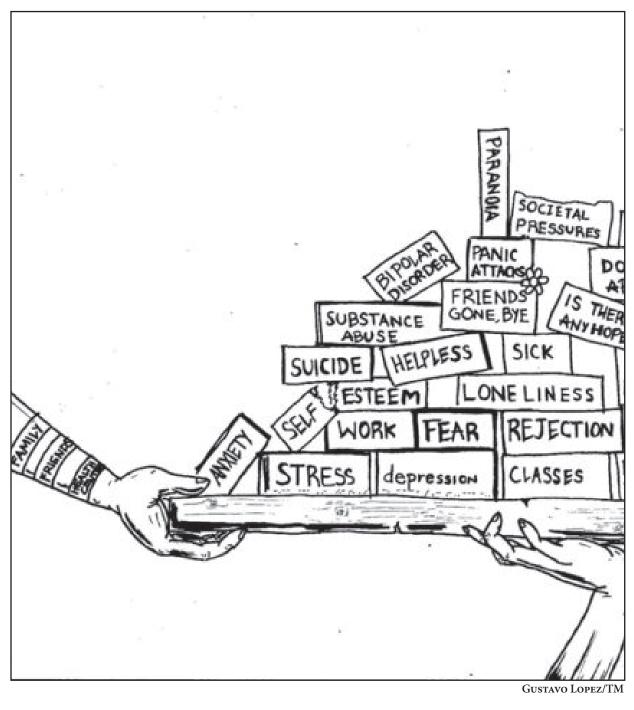
Gurpreet Ubbu, ASCC Senator Pro Tem, said, "I thought it was great. [The presentation was] very informative [and] I feel like [the] topic[s] [are] not discussed a lot because [they are] really sensitive."

She added that it's great for students because many are victims of bad relationships or violence and don't know that there are resources and support.

"I hop[e] senators go out and tell this information to other[s] because voice of mouth is the best way [to publicize]," said Ubbu.

Mullins mentioned. posed to work is that after the senate subcommittee makes their rankings, which departments get hired first it will then go to the sen-

Suicide prevention means no one's above getting help



Today, we live in a society that desperately need. rarely ever stops to enjoy the little things in life.

caught up in the idea of having to year. achieve overwhelming success and can be completely thrown out of the 24-34 and the third leading cause one is there to help them. window in search of just that.

It feels like the immense amount of pressure from the outside world to would be idiotic. achieve this ideal life has been fora young age, that people will add even more pressure to themselves think is a failure.

For lack of a better concept, the ness are the real silent majority. fear of failing impedes those who struggle immensely with the pressures of life from seeking the help they so desperately need to survive.

whiny or lacking the skills to be a wants us to be. "functioning member of society" is greater than the desire to seek help.

That idea can lead to extreme in doing so. consequences such as mental health issues or worse, suicidal thoughts.

may possibly need help to cope someone's hero. with stressors of life, doesn't automatically make them crazy or inept at living a happy functioning life.

doesn't mean that are without hope.

that society has set for how people for help and admitting that someshould live their life shames these thing is wrong. people from seeking the help they so

The millennial generation is so commit suicide on campuses each is the lack of a support system.

among people ages 15-24.

Suicide is permanent solution to treatable problem.

silent majority, those with mental ill- shock to new environment

The numbers prove it.

necognizing when something is sues, extend a helping hand. Nwrong, or too much, is crucial

Not being afraid to seek help is also crucial, you will not be shamed also has it's "CAIR" plan which notes

(or women,) no one is invincible. bles. Tust because a person struggles and But that doesn't mean we can't be

> Mental health awareness and sui- speak up. cide prevention is a two-way street.

As previously said, people that stressors of life. This image, and expectation, struggle can be ashamed of asking

Emorycaresforyou.emory.edu your well being.

also stated that one of the biggest According to emorycaresforyou. risk factors for those struggling with emory.edu more than 1,000 students mental illness, or suicidal thoughts,

It takes a strong, caring hand to Suicide is the second leading give them that push and let them an extravagant lifestyle that self-care cause of death among people ages know that it is okay and that some-

> Recognizing the other warn-To not call this an epidemic ing signs is an important aspect of reaching out for both parties.

Some risk factors among colever beaten into everyone from such a temporary problem, or at least a lege students include lack of coping skills, difficulty adjusting, feelings of It is time for self-awareness and inadequacy, increase pressure, feelin hopes of not becoming what they outreach. People always talk about a ing the loss of a support system or a

> If you know anyone who suffers, or is experiencing any of these is-

Resources like the National Suito being that functioning member of cide Prevention Lifeline are some of The fear of being seen as crazy, society that the world so desperately the tools you direct people to who are in need of help.

Cerritos Student Health Center how to approach someone who may No one on this earth is superman be experiencing ideations, or trou-

> Tf you yourself are experiencing Lany of these problems, please

On the Cerritos College Campus While it takes a person wanting to you are able to attend workshops Just because someone struggles receive help it also takes someone to through out each semester that can from a life-hindering mental illness make that first step in reaching out. give you the tools to cope with the

> There's no shame seeking help. Don't worry about societal taboos and worry about the state of

A place for Diwali in U.S. government

Adolfo Valdez Freelance Writer @VocalBeligerent

Rajan Zed, the Hindu statesman, is urging that Diwali be recognized as a state holiday in California and be added to school calendars, so that Hindu students can be accommodated.

A lot of people and politicians are objecting because they think this country was founded by "Christian principles" when in reality, it was founded on the idea that religion should be separated from government, to not create conflict with other people's freedom.

In Notes on Virginia, founding father and author of the Declaration of Independence Thomas Jefferson wrote:

"Millions of innocent men, women and children, since the introduction of Christianity, have been burnt, tortured, fined and imprisoned; yet we have not advanced one inch towards uniformity."

Zed has been fighting for this cause and other religions are doing the same is a problem

since the first human decided to create deities.

Some Greek philosophers were against certainty that a deity created all life, and believed that "doubt" should be used to create a better

The war of religions has been waged throughout centuries. for this reason, religion should be practiced by the individual and not any government.

All religions have the same goal -- to worthis life, you will suffer some punishment by the deity or deities who created this vast uni-

This thought diminishes the potential of a human being because fear is created, and any questions that ask why what is right or wrong are met with punishment.

This is scary because it shows you how much control the masses have and over the individual's freedom.

However, religion does have positive out-

that has been affecting the human race ever comes -- one of which is the feeling that you are not alone.

> Hope is created, and through praying you can have forgiveness of your wrong doings. This will help you mentally and emotion-

ally, but is just a white lie. You create this alternative universe just to

feel you are doing the right thing. Life is a learning experience and that is the

We follow this same path of our ancestors ip and believe that if you do things wrong in asking questions, letting curiosity explode so that one day we create or find the process of how things are created and see future generations progress into something beautiful.

> Separation of church and state should be implemented for us to progress as a society.

Freedom of religion means that you have the right to embrace religion or deny it personally and not inconvenience others'.

Our founding fathers wanted us to live in unity, not in a battle (that in reality is non-

-THE ENVELOPE-

How to heal the mind for anarcho-socialists

BENJAMIN GARCIA **Opinion Editor** @pieloverable

There has been a lot of talk on campus of such things as mental health, suicide awareness and self-

There are quite a large number of Star Wars nerds on campus mourning the death of our self-described bipolar sister, Carrie Fisher. Many more members of the Cerritos College community are mourning the suicide of Fine Arts Communications Division Performing Arts Promotion Specialist, Renee Bloch; a friend, source of support

and a lover of theater. The Re-Entry Resource Program is hosting a Self-Esteem Workshop on February 16.

In correlation with all of these happenings, I have complied several different ways to heal the mind that you could use to help to overcome the troubles in your life and live a better life:

- **Reading** is a way to collect knowledge and relax at the same time. Often times it's hard to relate to real people because they're stupid; naturally, introverts can relate much more to characters in novels. Besides that, research suggests that reading novels prevents Alzheimer's and helps develop (much needed) social skills.
- Steal things! Not big things like diamonds or freedom of speech. Steal the \$9 fudgsicle from the 7-Eleven across the

street (which, by the way is illegal, don't do it). Break the pens at the banks off the chains. Steal someone's man. Remember, it's not stealing if you don't believe in personal property.

- **Decluttering** is another way of decreasing mental anguish. Throw out the old, useless things and do not replace them! Give yourself more room to breathe. Donate those old clothes to charity. Clutter leads to anxiety, embarrassment and family stresses. Removing the trash and the memories that accompany it is a valid way of healing the mind.
- Harass capitalists like cookie selling Girl Scouts.
- Burn all the money. (This is also illegal, don't).
 - Ignoring people is useful when your immediate peers don't know how to listen. Block out the noise by listening to the stand-up album of bipolar comedian Maria Bamford. Talk to your distant peers -- your extended family members, your local barista or the person answering the phone of a suicide hotline. (Call: 1-800-273-8255)

Scan the code for very, very goodly columns!



FREE SPEECH ZONE





Production and printing of Talon Marks is

choice."

ASHELY WINSTON

ACCOUNTING MAJOR

"I would say [a person could

get an abortion no later than]

two or three months because

around that time you should

know if to keep the baby

or not. I support [person's]

Associated Students of Cerritos College. Facilities and academic supervision are provided by the Journalism Program.

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ELIJAH GAINS FINE ARTS MAJOR

WHAT IS THE LATEST A PERSON

"I haven't really researched too much on the topic. Personally, I believe life is life, but a [person] does have a right to an option or an opinion of what [they] wants to do with [their] body. I don't think there's a right answer."



EMMA MASON Undecided major

"I think [people] should get an abortions if they want to because it's their right -- their choice. Before it's illegal, I don't really know [what the latest is that a person could get an abortion]."





TALON MARKS

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Club day fun day: Members of the SAFE Club giving information to a student on Feb. 8 during the Club Info Day. SAFE Club promotes awarenes and inclusion of all

Club Day/Night uneventful

Dennis Osorio Staff Writer @talonmarks

The campus of Cerritos College welcomed camaraderie and unity via its semesterly Welcome/Club Info Day and Night.

Welcome Day was held on Feb. 8 from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. and Welcome Night Feb. 9 from 5 p.m. - 8 p.m.

The event took place in the Falcon Square where different clubs set up to lure students to join their club of preference, having different interactions and dynamics.

It consisted of the networking of students and club representatives sharing the vast information regarding their specific clubs.

Cerritos had the tradition of giving students a free In-N-Out burgers with their current semester sticker.

This year, it was the Culinary Arts Department who did the catering, having taco plates that consisted of two tacos, rice and beans.

having the In-N-Out Burger truck.

Most students were not aware that this was occurring while the clubs were out.

Cerritos Student Athlete Captain Council was one of the clubs that participated in the event.

Andrew Fowler, president of the SACC said that the purpose of this club is to bridge the gap between athletes and the rest of the campus and also between the different sports teams because there is a huge segregation among them.

"I think it's important that everyone is involved with something because every single one of these clubs is helping better our community and better our college in their own specific way," he said.

He also mentioned that having an event like this is very important for students because many students don't know about certain clubs existence, especially first semester stu-

"Getting out there, being social,

This was not as successful as I know it's hard of a lot of introverts to get out there and be social but it's something you have to work toward," he concluded.

> SACC also had a few student athletes from Track and Field under Coach Wagner's assistance performing pole vault.

> The Society for Advancement of Chicanos/Hispanics and Native Americans in Science was another club looking for new members. It is an organization that helps

> Chicanos, Hispanics and Native Americans in Science related fields, with scholarships, career options and research opportunities. Alexandria Macias, SACNA's

> president said that people in general should get involved in a club they're comfortable with. "It's a place for people to be themselves."

> Andres Cavazos, historian for the Student Alliance For Equality Club, said that the SAFE club is an equality club that provides a safe place for anyone to join.

The club promotes advocacy

and awareness; welcoming the LGBT community, religious or nonreligious, no matter what race, color or beliefs, to be together as one and having bonding experiences to get to know each other.

SAFE, will be hosting a Drag Show in March were members will dress as drag queens. The dates are yet to be determined.

Joshua Mathews, kinesiology major thinks that the importance of having club info day is an opportunity for students to browse the different clubs that offer distinct opportunities in order to follow different paths to furthering their education at a 4-year university.

"You can gain responsibility and leadership skills and be more confident about yourself," he said.

Afro-Mexicans find Los Angeles in 1781

MICHAEL CUESTO Staff Writer @talonmarks

History Professors Walter Fernandez and John Macias would consider Afro- Mexicans to be the first to populate the city of Los Angeles and the true founders of the Pueblo of Los Angeles.

Fernandez and Macias spoke during the Afro-Mexican Ancestry and the Founders of the Pueblo of Los Angeles lecture held in LC 155 Feb. 7 11 am to 12:15 pm.

One thing Professor Fernandez said was, "California has been defined and narrowed down to the fourth grade curriculum."

According Fernandez and Macias, just a few years after we secure our independence with French help in a war against the British.

Eleven families traveled from Sinaloa, Jalisco and Sonora to populate a free land in September 1781; that land being "The Pueblo of Los Angeles."

Just recently in 2013 the black population was recognized in

This black population being the result of the slave trades that

were going on in the 1600's among Spaniards and Mexicans.

Engineering major Manuel Favela found it interesting that his parents hometown Sinaloa, Mexico had an impact on the founding of The Pueblo of Los Angeles.

Nursing major Jessica Gonzalez's was thrilled with the outcome of the lecture and the new knowledge she picked up from it.

Gonzalez said, "Before the lecture I thought it was Spaniards that founded Los Angeles.

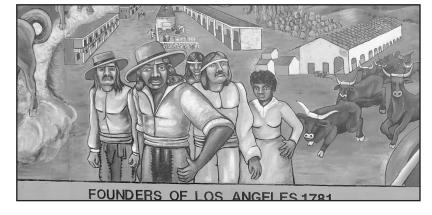
After the lecture I learned that it happened to be Afro- Mexicans from nearby states in Mexico of where my parents are from."

Fernandez said, "The Los Angeles settlers were a hybrid cul-

There was the mixture of the indigenize, Spaniards, Mexicans and also Africans would be found in the state of Sinaloa, Mexico."

Macias said, "Growing up I had the idea or notion that the founders of Los Angeles were Spaniards. I never had the idea that there were Afro- Mexicans or Africans involved.

"By the time I get to high school this was a Mexican contribution but it would be obscure to say. Because were leaving out the African roots that are involved."



Halal Guys draw foodies to Los Cerritos Promenade

BENIAMIN GARCIA **Opinion Editors** 🥖 @pieloverable

The highly acclaimed and widely appreciated halal chain, Halal Guys has recently opened at the Cerritos Promenade to crowds of "foodies," which the city has in no small supply.

The new location is nestled in between Jamba Juice and El Roccoto, and in a close proximity to the Cerritos Mall, which makes it's placement, in one word, ideal, but the placement is not the only element of Halal Guys on South St. that makes it an eatery of notoriety.

Everybody knows that the hummus is the heart of any Mediterranean restaurant and one of the key elements by which to judge the quality; the hummus is to die for, whether you're a texture person or a taste person.

of oil to allow the hummus to be smooth and not chalky without leaving an unpleasant aftertaste; and the garlic is not over-powering, which makes the restaurant an excellent place for a casual date, if you're a college student on a budget.

Rivaling the hummus, the tabouleh is to live for. It does it's job of being a pallet cleanser, it's not bitter or hard to swallow and it is visually appealing with fresh cilantro

Of course, the sauces are excellent; particularly the hot sauce and white sauce.

If you like your food to punch you in the face as I do, ask for a lot of the hot sauce; but be warned, it's warm roast does nothing to tame the fiery flavor of the pepper.

The white sauce offsets this flavor perfectly and is also good on it's

The recipe uses the right amount own as it brings a certain moistness and character to the meat and pita, which it needs.

> My only complaints are that the pita is both starchy and thick in width, which makes it hard to swallow; and the french fries leave something to be desired on their own, thought paired with the halal make a great vehicle for meat and

> It is precisely the format of the food that gives the Halal Guys' cuisine a charmingly urban feel which is complimented with the bright and bustling atmosphere and streets of New York decor.

> Go to Halal Guys to reward yourself for a good job on an exam or presentation well done or simply for a pleasing dining experience.



benjamin Garcia / TM Foodies: Halal Guy workers rushing to help the full line of customers at the soft opening of the halal guys in the cerritos prom-

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enade. the city of cerritos was chosen because of it's reputation for being a haven for "foodies."





Our place is Yoplace: Art major Kay William's and Emma McCullough painted a mural at local business that serves yogurt in Long Beach called "YoPlace". This being one of the eight murals being in the

8 murals, 8 businesses, 1 winner

DAVID JENKINS Arts & Entertainment Editor ず @mr_sniknej

"We are collaborating with local small businesses, specifically in Lakewood just because they were the community that came to us and initiated this project. They have been inspired by the work of our students are doing; they want to invite those students to come and paint on their walls."

A month ago Art Director James MacDevitt began the mural project and social media contest on Instagram.

Eight local small businesses allowed art students from Cerritos College to paint murals for their businesses.

The way the contest worked was students from Cerrtios College would visit all eight of these businesses, take a selfie with the and then post them on Instagram with the hashtag #LakeOverMuralProject. In which they would automatically enter a



Black and White: Art major Mike Fountain painted this mural. For local business Nep-

tunes Raw Oysters & Seafood Bar.

Fifty Shades Darker the second

film in the franchise, adapted for

screen, from E.L James trilogy starts

out from where Fifty Shades of Grey

books so I didn't know what to ex-

Movie Review

Fifty Shades Darker

Starring: Jamie Dornan,

Director: James Foley

Rating: ★★★★

Dakota Johnson

might want to watch it again.

I loved the film, I didn't read the

I left very pleased, thinking I

left off.



DAVID JENKINS/TM **5 in 1:** Painting major Francisco Tapia creating the logo of the small local business Allison Tutoring by using five different canvases.

raffle to win an Apple iPad Air 2.

The eight businesses were:

- Allison Tutoring
- Cassidy's Corner Cafe Labwerkz Prinitshop
- La De Da Salon
- Lakewood Family YMCA
- Neptunes Raw Oysters & Seafood
- North Shore Poke
- YoPlace

Kay Williams, who's art collaboration art was on display at YoPlace, said, "I'm really satisfied with it.

"A lot of people really liked it, kids came up and said 'wow it's so pretty' all the workers at YoPlace really liked it."

The art at YoPlace displayed animals hanging out and eating yogurt. Since the YoPlace is a business that provides yogurt she and her collaboration partner thought the theme fit the small local business.

Painting major, Francisco Tapia's mural was made for Allison Tutoring.

He said, "It was strictly for the business. I wanted to please them and they said they wanted something that related to the business. Pretty much their logo. That's pretty much what I did. I did their logo."

Tapia did each color of the Allison Tutoring center logo on to separate canvases and was able to hang each canvas separately on their wall giving the image of their logo.

The contest also had artist Mike Fountain paint the mural for Neptunes Raw Oysters & Seafood Bar.

He explains that the bar being black and white had a lot to due with the decision of the art, the general manger of Neptunes Raw Oysters & Seafood Bar Carter Lav suggested that it be in black and white.

Fountain had originally had color on the painted canvas.

"I took [Carter Lav] a series of drawings and painting to get and idea and his facility when you go in there is black and white. So I showed him a picture that was in the student painting [class] this spring [...] I brought it to him in person and he said he wanted to see it in black and white."

He went on to explain that Carter was taken back by the completion of the mural.



Hit of Blue: Fine Arts major Christina Covarrubia and Painting major Jon Harguindeguy collaborated together. This was done at a salon in Lakewood called La De Da Salon



Hawaiian Shore: Studio art major Alexis Rivera painted this mural at local business in Cerritos called North Shore Poke.

At La De Da Salon, a collaboration mural was done by Fine Arts major, Christina Covarrubia and Painting major, Jon Har-

They had one drawing done on the employee door and the other on the wall.

Harguindeguy said, "It was done to match the salon. We came in and checked out the salon, we saw the style that it already had set. We saw that it was very nice, very clean and very modern. And making sure that it stayed within those tones [...] we tried to match up everything until we hit

[...] We went over everything with the owner as well to see that she got the best product as well." Harguindeguy said.

Seeing these murals and acknowledging these small businesses, a total of four people posted selfies with these murals with the hashtag #LakeOverMuralProject.

The winner of the contest as yet to be posted and thus, has not been determined. The social media contest ended on Sunday.

Out of the four who posted selfies on Instagram it can only be a wonder who will

Valentine's

Day: Go on,

express yourself

> DAVID JENKINS Arts & Entertainment Editor 🔰 @mr_sniknej

"This is the second year that we've done something like this, [I'm] kind of entries. Last year I had over 30 entrees and they were really great. We also had six judges last year, so this is the second annual," English instructor Erin Cole, the creator of the Valentine's day writing contest, said.

The Valentine's Day writing contest is open to the Cerritos College students until Feb. 28.

Prizes are up for grab to first, second and third place winners.

The contest is suppose to prompt students to write a 750 word fiction or nonfiction essay about the subject of love.

Not just a romantic love between two lovers, but outside the traditional concept of love.

Cole said, "I felt there was an opportunity there, especially because with Valentine's Day, I feel like it's a day where it's just celebrating heterosexual couples all over the place. I really felt that in our student population we have, all forms of love happening here.

"We have same-sex, we have transgender we have inter-racial and inter-cultural. And then you have people who aren't even in love right now, but they love something else. They may not have romantic love, but have non-romantic toward their children or their siblings [...] I wanted to open it up to people who might feel disenfranchise on that day."

Cole explains that last year's winner was a woman who wrote about her two sisters and the love that they had for each other.

By that, it can be seen that the traditional out look on Valentine's Day is overcome by a different outlook in this contest.

One of the individuals who helped Cole with the idea of this contest is the coordinator of the Safe Zone Program and creative writing instructor Lance Kayser.

"Cole and I are obviously colleagues but also friends and she had come to me with basically the germ of an idea she's like; 'I have this idea for Valentine's Day contest, but I don't want it to be a traditional one that's so boring lets do something different.' So I kind of helped [come up with] strategies with her.

We came up with something partly because[...] I'm the coordinator of the Safe Zone Program on campus and so we tried to strive for something that would fit with people who don't normally fit into the traditions of Valentine's Day how do we catch those groups of people," Kayser said.

To enter the contest:

- Create a Turnitin account by going to Turnitin.com (if you don't already have one.)
- Type in the Class ID: 14592857
- Enter the Password: love
- Submit your work with your full name, student ID, e-mail address and the title of your story.



Fifty Shades more dark, full of surprises JOCELYN TORRALBA In the movie a miserable Chris- and more vanilla. Staff Writer tian Grey (Jamie Dornan) tries to The music is more joyful, less @JocyTorralba get back with Anastasia Steele (Da-

> Once the two get back together his dark past haunts him and interferes between the two.

him another chance.

kota Johnson) and she demands for

a new arrangement before giving

Anastasia breaks off her contact and subsequent relationship with

After leaving him heartbroken and determined to win back the college graduate after their bitter breakup at the end of the first film.

Now the tables have turned on wealthy Mr. Grey as he comes crawling back to Anastasia and swears he would stop his famous erotic practices and discipline of dominance and submission to be by her side once again.

It wasn't long before Anastasia was back in Christian's dark world.

Despite the films title, it is literally less dark than the first movie sensual and there are definitely more playful late night frisks. As Ana and Christian begin to

settle down his past begins to haunt them and their future. With the introduction of new

roles such as Leila (Bella Heathcote), Jack Hyde (Eric Johnson) and Elena Lincoln (Kim Basinger) the plot of the trilogy and films earn a lot of attention and a great amount of intensity keeping the fan-base at the edge of their seats.

One of the biggest improvements in the film is the humor that Christian and Ana illustrate toward each other, most of which is inten-

The new sense of humor between the couple brings an unexpected touch to the new film.

In addition to their new sense of humor and their progress in their relationship, Christian opens up about his darkest secrets to Ana.

new fore coming opportunities in py couple. her life such as her job. Although Ana goes through hell

daring, forthcoming and sexy. Christian is shown performing boyfriend duties such as shopping, cooking for his girl, while being over protective as always and will

and back, there is an advantageous

outcome: she is now more brave,

do anything to keep Ana at his side. However, no one is going to see Darker for the jokes, more like to up their sex game.

The sex scenes are more bold, risqué, daring and push the boundaries beyond anywhere you expect the movie to go.

At the same time Ana and Christian's chemistry is more playful and down to earth.

Ana is more open when it comes to sex while Christian is willing to do anything to keep Ana by his side. Although the ending of the film

From the new relationship that is full of excitement and joy, there Ana has with Christian she also gets are still shadows haunting the hap-The magnitude of intensity from Fifty Shades Darker builds up the

> passion and severity for the next film, coming out in February 2018. This is a great movie for a girls night out or to take your man to

> learn a couple tricks from Mr. Grey. You might want to stay after the

ending credits for a little surprise.



Universal Pictures

Talon Marks **Sports Center**

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Feb. 15 vs. Long Beach 5 p.m. Feb. 17 at El Camino 5 p.m. Feb. 22 SoCal Regional Playoffs Feb. 25 SoCal Regional Playoffs Mar. 1 SoCal Regional Playoffs

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Feb. 15 vs. Long Beach 7 p.m. Feb. 17 at El Camino 7 p.m..

BASEBALL

Feb. 14 vs. Golden west 2 p.m. Feb. 10 vs. Golden West 2 p.m. Feb. 11 at Golden West noon Feb. 14 vs. Ventura 2 p.m. Feb. 16 at Fullerton 2 p.m. Feb. 18 at College of the Canyons noon

SOFTBALL

Feb. 14 vs. Pasadena City 3 p.m. Feb. 15 vs. Chaffey 3 p.m. Feb. 16 at Rio Hondo 3 p.m. Feb. 18 at Riverside 1 p.m. Feb. 21 at Chaffey 3 p.m. Feb. 23 vs. Mt. San Antonio 3 p.m.

TRACK AND FIELD

Feb. 23 Cerritos College Open

Feb. 24 Cerritos College open noon

Mar. 3 Cal State LA invitational 9 a.m.

Mar. 4 Cal State LA invitational 9 a.m.

WOMEN'S TENNIS

Feb. 14 vs. Riverside 2 p.m. Feb. 16 at Westmont 2 p.m. Feb. 17 at College of the Sequoias noon

Feb. 18 vs. Chabot noon Feb. 18 vs. De Anza 3 p.m.

MEN'S TENNIS

Feb. 14 vs. Riverside 2 p.m. Feb. 16 at Westmont 2 p.m. Feb. 17 at De Anza 10 a.m. Feb. 21 vs. Palomar 2 p.m. Feb. 23 vs. Glendale 2 p.m. Feb. 24 vs. Grossmont 2 p.m.



Going Baseline: Freshman forward Dezmon Murphy drives past an LA Harbor defender on his way to basket during the matchup on Jan. 25. Harbor would defeat Cerritos in the first matchup between the teams by two points and marked the third straight Cerritos loss by two points or less.

Falcons get even with Harbor

Max Perez Sports Editor @Talonmarksports

The Cerritos men and women's basketball team exacted revenge on Los Angeles Harbor as both teams came away with victories.

The men were able to defeat the Seahawks 78-54 in their largest victory of conference play, while to women won 66-54 for their third straight victory.

The men's team previously lost to LA Harbor by two points, and at the time dropped Cerritos to 0-3.

Since then the Falcons have gone on a five game win streak and are 5-3 in conference play.

Cerritos has now beaten the three teams that beat them earlier

Head coach Russ May said, "I think our mindset has been much better this time, the sign of a good team is learning from your mistakes and improving."

The men controlled LA Harbor throughout the game, and by halftime had a 42-25 lead.

did not let up, outscoring Harbor 36 to 29 and closed the game out to officially get their revenge.

Freshman Dezmon Murphy said, "This time around everyone understood who we were playing and what kind of competition it was."

Coaches and players alike agree that the Falcons' focus has been the catalyst for the its recent success.

Murphy said, "We realized we can win it all, we just have to be focused 24/7 and do what we have to do and [May] is going to lead us to the promise land."

May would like to see the team carry this mindset into the final week of conference play, but would also like to see his team remember the focus and concentration it had against LA Harbor.

The women's team would also get revenge on the Seahawks, as LA Harbor is responsible for the Falcons first conference loss.

Women's head coach Trisha Raniewicz was excited about the victory, but felt that this victory was more for the players.

"They lace them up and get out entering their final week of conferthere everyday, and I feel like their hard work is rewarded."

The women started out strong in the first quarter leading by as much 9 points, but that would not stop LA Harbor from competing.

Despite trailing 22-13 at the end of the first quarter, LA Harbor would fight back to reduce the deficit to two points by halftime.

In the third quarter, Cerritos pushed the lead to as much as 13 and finished the quarter up 9 points.

In the final quarter of play, the women applied steady pressure to Harbor not allowing them to come within 10 points.

games they have not only been able to win by at least 12, but have been able to overcome slow first half performances to win the game.

Raniewicz said, "I think we might be a second half team [...] it makes me a little nervous, but then that shows resiliency and thats a great word and a great characteristic to have this time a year."

The men and women are now

ence play before the postseason be-

The men now have sole possession of second place in confernce only behind 7-1 EC-Compton.

The women's team is in a tie for third place with LA Harbor both at 5-3 in conference.

The two teams in front of Cerritos are second place Long Beach City and first place El Camino, who are the two remaining games on the Falcon's schedule.

Both the men and women will host Long Beach City Wednessday and travel to El Camino on Friday.

May and Raniewicz will both be In each of the women's last three looking to fine tune their respective teams before the postseason.

> May would like his team to stay aggressive and have each player fill his role; while maintaining the same level of focus the Falcons have displayed these last five games.

> While Raniewicz said, "We have to play 40 minutes, we have to have composure and take care of the ball [...] we're just going to have to stay together as a team."

Softball moving at own pace



Sophomore pitcher Kristen Voller has been the starting pitcher for the Falcons in their last two games against Mt. San Antonio College and Pasadena City.

Against Mt. Sac, Voller threw five scoreless innings before surrendering three runs in the sixth that would evetually lead to a loss (3-2)

In the next matchup versus Pasadena City Voller threw a complete seven innings and only allowed four hits and one run for the victory (2-

Despite the loss to Mt. Sac, head coach Kodee Murray described Voller's performance as stellar.

The two most recent games have been the lowest scoring of the season by the Falcons, their previous wins came by the scores of 20-2, 13-9 and 8-0.

Against Mt. SAC the game was scoreless until the bottom of the sixth when the mounties would take a 3-0 before switching sides.

In the top of the seventh the Falcons battled back with a two run single by Ashley Melendez to bring the game within one.

The comeback came too little to late as the next batter would pop out to first base for the third out and end the game.

Although it was a tough loss for the Falcons, Coach Murray had nothing but respect for the other team, in particular the opposing starting pitcher, Racqual Espinoza.

"She threw extremely well against us [...] we can swing, but she threw and outstanding game."

Espinoza pitched the entire seven innings only allowed two hits and two runs throughout the entire game, both runs and one hit coming in the final inning.

After the game, coaches and players stayed positive and hoped to polish various aspects of their game.

Sophomore infielder and pitcher Jissel Caballero said, "We fought well as a team, we stuck together and didn't single each other out, we just kept it together, we win together and we lose together."

The team feels very confortble with where it is at at this point in the season.

Murray said, "We'll get better, and that [game] showed them how

much better they can actually get." Freshman infielder Briana Lopez added, "We are working as a team to get better."

The Falcons had five days before their next matchup against Pasadena City.

Caballero said, "We worked on communication and adjusting to the pitcher sooner, a lot of vocal things on the field."

The game against Pasadena started out much the same as the last, the first four innings were scoreless.

In the fifth, Pasadena broke the silence with a RBI single to give them a 1-0 lead.

Then in the bottom of the sixth Cerritos scored its first run of the game due to a pitchers error.

Cerritos was able to stop Pasadena from scoring in the top of the seventh to give the team an opportunity to win it.

In the bottom of the final inning, with two outs and the bases loaded, Pasadena walked outfielder Kimberly Oli to secure a score by Desiree Flor.

The Falcons finished the game with only two hits but managed to draw six walks and only strike out five times as a team.

Voller was able to strike out seven Pasadena batters and no walks.

The victory marked the fourth of the season for Cerritos.

Sophomore pitcher Kristen Voller said, "We're competing against any team we play, whether they're suppose to be better than us or not we're playing at out level."

Swim starts off strong

Sports Editor @Talonmarksports

The Cerritos College swim teams traveled to Palomar College to compete in the first events of the

Both men and women competed in the Waterman Festival Friday and the Palomar Pentathlon the following day.

Being the first events of the season, both head coaches had a chance to see their teams in a competitive atmosphere.

Women's head coach Sergio Macias said, "It gives a good preview of the strengths and weaknesses of our team as well as individuals."

Both teams enjoyed success as the men placed fourth in the Waterman festival and first in the Palomar Pentathlon, and while the women did not place in the Waterman Festival, they did finish second in the pentathlon.

At the Waterman Festival Cerritos competed against Chaffey, Riverside, Palomar, San Diego Mesa, Grossmont, Cypress and Crafton

Three out of the 15 swimmers on the men's team scored points for

Sophomore Jason Ly led the team in scoring, coming away with 43 of Cerritos 62 total points, placing third in the 50-yard backstroke for 16 points, seventh in the 50yard free stroke for 12 points and placed fourth in the 100-yard individual medley for 15 points.

No swimmers from the women's team placed in any events at the Waterman Festival.

Saturday was the Palomar Pentathlon where Cerritos competed against Palomar, Chaffey and San Diego Mesa.

San Diego Mesa did not have any male swimmers competing.

Scoring for the men was led by Angel Rojas, who scored 40 total points after placing first in the 100yard fly and the 50-yard free events.

The men had a total of five individual first place finishes that lead to a total of 710 points.

Second year swimmer Cristian Garcia said, "We've been working the last three or four weeks and even last semester trying to get our stamina and conditioning up, and it all paid off."

Men's head coach Joe Abing added, "Our team's depth helped us on Saturday."

The women bounced back Saturday and scored 429 points to place second as a team in the Pentathlon.

All 11 swimmers scored at least 10 points, led by Isabella Sierra with 32 points, placing second in the 100-yard breaststroke for 17 points and fourth in the 200-yard individual medley for 15 points.

First year swimmer Kalina Nevilles said, " I think we all worked very well together and we all tried

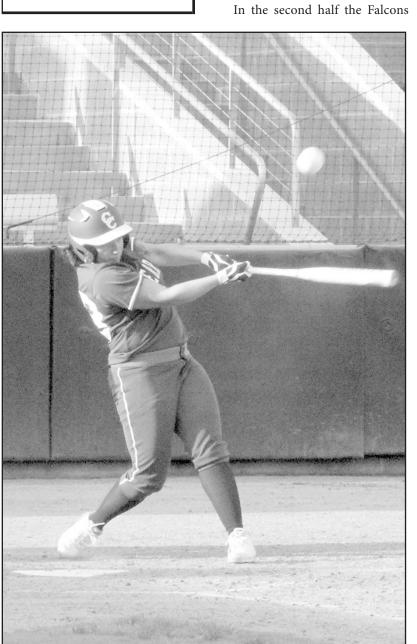
Although Sierra and Jackie Oliveros led the team in points, Macias pointed out Lindsay De Haas and Elisa Prohroff for their performance in Saturday's meet.

De Haas finished sixth in the 100-yard fly and the seventh in the 200-yard individual medley for a total of 25 points, while Prohroff finished seventh in the 50-yard free and third in the 1000-yard free for 28 points.

"Those two swimmers were our standout swimmers."

Macias concluded, "I think [the athletes'] attitudes are very positive, they aren't scared of a challenge."

The next event for the team's will be the South Coast Conference Pentathlon, held at Pasaden City College Friday.



Swing for the fences: Catcher Rain Vega pops out to third base for the second out of the fifth inning against Mt. San Antonio. Vega would finish 0-3 in the team's first loss of the season