



THE NEW STUDENT LEADERS



The newly elect: Philip Herrera has been elected as the new student trustee. Kawthar "Kathy" Azzam was elected the new Associated Student of Cerritos College president with running mate Christopher Rodriguez as vice president.

Jasmine Martinez
Staff Writer
@butchmartian

Unopposed candidates, Kawthar "Kathy" Azzam and Christopher Rodriguez have been elected as new Associated Students of Cerritos College president and vice president. Philip Herrera was elected as student trustee.

Azzam and Rodriguez gathered 79 out of 94 votes total from the student body.

Azzam and Rodriguez agreed that they felt they had to work harder to prove themselves, as they did not want others to see the positions as being handed to them.

"I believe we worked hard for this. Although people noticed that we were unopposed I still

felt the need to put in all my effort into it," said Azzam, "I think it's necessary to show people that we [wanted] it versus getting it handed to us."

Herrera received 193 out of 298 votes.

Four votes overall were disqualified.

Herrera said he was not surprised, not because of overconfidence, but due to the hard work dedicated by his campaign team.

"I saw how hard my campaign team was working [and] saw how much support I had from the student body."

"Above everything, just how dedicated my campaign workers were."

"I'm really proud of them and I think that this victory belongs to them more than me, actually," said Herrera

He was also pleased with the

voter turnout.

"There was a nice amount of people that turned out," Herrera elaborated, "Not so much on the presidential election, but you know."

"I really respect everyone who came out today and all the trustee candidates that had their campaign team out there."

Azzam and Rodriguez believe they faced a barrier with students not voting.

They believe it was due to not having their 2018 Spring semester sticker.

Despite running unopposed

and being happy with the results, Azzam said she was urging for student voices to be heard.

"The amount of students that did vote, I'm glad that they did," said President-elect Azzam, "I just want to say thank you to everyone that helped us."

Herrera claimed he did not rest or stop and ran a campaign as if someone else was running an equally hard campaign against him and his team.

The campaign team spent a lot of the day talking to clubs, classrooms and booking meetings with professors, the hard

work according to Herrera.

He did not want to have any regrets and feels it is partly why he received a high amount of votes.

As student trustee, Herrera looks forward to a current project regarding the transition of food vendors on campus.

He has been following the case since the food vendors were almost replaced earlier in the semester.

More excited than anything that it is over, Rodriguez said, "We got a lot of work ahead of us."

ART FACES A GLARING ISSUE

Carmelita Islas Mendez
News Editor
@talonmarks

The outside exhibit in the Fine Arts building has been causing concern for art students as well as Director and Curator for the Cerritos College Gallery, James MacDevitt.

The glass windows on the exhibit have a glare which makes it difficult to see, explained MacDevitt.

MacDevitt said, "It's a complaint that I've heard from everybody who comes to see the series' openings lately."

The glare on the window is due to the ultraviolet protection that the glass offers. UV protection is necessary to keep the art pieces protected from potential damage caused by sunlight.

He explained that when beginning the Window Dressing series earlier in the year, the sun would set earlier and would not be an issue during the opening.

However, with the sun staying out longer, the glass reflects the light and prevents people from looking at the art inside.

Art and animations major Samantha Reina said that she would be "upset" to see that her art could not be appreciated because of the issue.

This is not the first time that the issue has come up, according to MacDevitt. When the building was still in construction he brought up the issue to the construction company's, Tilden and Coil, attention.

Reina said, "I would wonder if there is a practical solution, such as an awning to get rid of the glare."

"I explained to them that though I don't normally like to complain I had to put my foot

down and say that there was no way that this was going to work," said MacDevitt.

He continues to say that they

"

My solution to that is not necessarily to request changing the glass because I don't think they would

JAMES MACDEVITT
Director and Curator

"

"resolved it ... to the best of their abilities which was to recognize that the problem was the double-sided UV and they found us a different glass."

MacDevitt said, "The unfortunate side effect of having the UV coating at all is that during the day there is a glare which makes it a little hard to see inside."

Although a request could be put in to Director of Physical Planning and Construction Services David Moore to replace the glass, MacDevitt said that he does not plan to do so.

Moore said that he was not aware of the issue and had not heard of complaints. He said, "I'd have to investigate."

He said, "My solution to that is not necessarily to request changing the glass because I don't think they would, but instead to try to schedule the opening receptions for later in the evening."

Moore said that faculty were very involved into how the building would be constructed "to the point of over-involvement sometimes."

Moore said, "I gotta see if there are alternatives or if it's something that we want to address."

A discussion broke out in the Associated Students of Cerritos College senate concerning an Arduino internship with NASA. It focused on the question to whether undocumented, AB 540 and international students should be prioritized in legislation.

The Arduino Internship Opportunity is in association with the NASA California Grant Community College STEM Project.

The internship has been offered at Cerritos in past years. It gives college students the ability to learn and use skills to create projects which will be presented and evaluated by NASA.

The legislation was introduced by Senator Sarah Montes De Oca and seconded by Senator Christopher Rodriguez. It was presented to the student council by ASCC Vice President David Ramirez during the ASCC meeting on April 4.

The legislation included a request to increase funding for the internship opportunity.

"

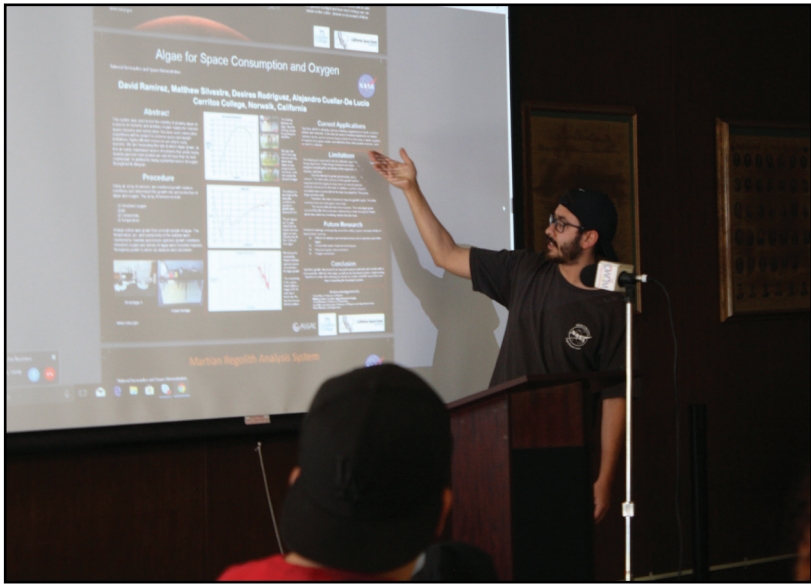
I think it's not fair when students who have that capacity ... are not able to do so because of the fact that they are deemed to be in a category of people...

DAVID RAMIREZ
ASCC Vice President

"

This is to allow an additional two students to participate in the program, which is currently at an even ten, as the funding allocated this year is less than years prior.

During the presentation by Ramirez, an issue was brought up by those in attendance regarding who should be consid-



CARMELITA ISLAS MENDEZ

NASA for all: David Ramirez presented how the Arduino internship benefitted students. He wanted to fund AB 540 and international students.

ered to fill the additional two openings.

Some in attendance at the meeting argued that the legislation should take further steps to include and prioritize undocumented and international students.

Others argued that priority should not be given to undocumented students, but instead focus on all students who are interested.

Ramirez had this to say about the scrutiny, "I believe the senate wanted to cover the entire spectrum of people who are impacted by the restrictions in funding of the program, the amending today was to make sure they covered everyone."

"The professors already have it at heart that they want to fund students who are undocumented, AB 540, or international students. They wanted that on paper. I think that it's not fair when students who have that capacity or exceed that capacity are not able to do so because the fact that they are deemed a category of people who are ineligible."

Senator Robert Campbell argued, "There is a lot of money that could be going to this legislation, because its a fantastic piece of legislation."

"My concern is if we expand

the scope of this or we reallocate absolutely anything, we want to make sure that we don't give just a certain specific group of people this opportunity."

"Especially if we increase it to more than two students like we did last year. We want to extend this opportunity to all students on the campus."

"The wording that we had currently didn't allow for anyone outside of undocumented or AB 540 students."

Rodriguez stated, "They want to make sure it's not just AB 540, undocumented students, or permanent residents, they want to make sure that it's available to everybody."

"I think it's better to bring people from different countries and cultures, and gain from their knowledge."

Ariana Hernandez, a Cerritos College student, was present during the meeting. She stated, "I felt it was unfair to add only two students."

According to her, the senate should do more to include undocumented students. "They have to add a total of six students, to include all students here at Cerritos College."

The discussion about the legislation will continue during the next ASCC meeting on April 11.

ONLINE

Want a job? Learn more here



<https://bit.ly/2JBEr4M>

OPINION

YouTube needs to make some change for the future if it's site

The wage gap isn't based on sex, it's based on choices

Free Speech Zone: YouTube and censorship

Page 2

COLLEGE LIFE

The Business Club represents Cerritos College at State Business Leadership Conference

Cesar Chavez and Chicanos Movement comes to life in performance

Bianca Bitches: Women are not whistle-bait in a Text Avery cartoon

Page 3

SPORTS

Baseball completes shut out of Compton College

Inaugural Column Schmackem: Video games aren't sports

Tennis head to playoffs with winning streak



Page 4

EDITORIAL

YOUTUBE'S FUTURE



RACHEL TULLY/FREELANCE ILLUSTRATOR

No matter how upset you are with a company's policies, it will never make it okay to go and open fire on innocent employees, but now that it's happened to YouTube's San Bruno, California headquarters what will the company do regarding the changes it had made?

On April 4th, a woman by the name of Nasim Aghdam unjustifiably opened fire on YouTube employees.

Aghdam's misdirected rage resulted in at least three injured YouTube employees and her taking her own life.

It was revealed that Aghdam acted out because she was upset with the companies recent policy changes which she claimed were censoring her videos and demonetizing her unjustly.

Now Aghdam isn't the only Youtuber to express this kind of malcontent, though she is the first one to jump to an extreme.

In September of 2017 LGBT+ content creators had their content demonetized when the com-

pany made the move to keep videos with 'controversial' content from gaining revenue.

Other Youtubers were also coming forward, saying that their videos on mental health issues and non controversial topics were being unjustly demonetized.

For a while, there was also a glitch in the system where if someone unsubscribed from a channel two users would be unsubscribed.

There's also the ongoing issue with how even if users turn on notifications for their favorite channels they still aren't always notified about the newest uploads.

YouTube's content creators often rely on these channels as main or large sources of income.

So they being upset with YouTube suddenly changing things that affects their livelihoods without properly communicating or even taking them into consideration is justified, Nasim Aghdam's attack on the company never will be.

However, now that the flaws in these policies and how they have impacted both the company and its users are being brought to the mainstream media's attention because of these unfortunate events it should take this time to reflect and revise it's algorithms and rules.

YouTube could make an effort to reach out to its content creators and users to find methods that could benefit all the parties involved, have an open and honest method of communication.

A major change the company should make is to stop leaving the job of picking which videos are too controversial to be monetized to its automated algorithm and put it back into human hands.

As the site stands now, videos are screened via a secret algorithm based on YouTube's community guidelines.

None of the company's content creators understand exactly how the algorithm works and none of the sites users can seem to figure out how the program

decides who will be age restricted and/or demonetized and who won't be.

Human moderators aren't called to screen videos unless the uploader notices that their video has been demonetized and submit an appeal.

YouTube can look into making contracts, officially hire its content creators instead of just maintaining these advertisement partnerships with them.

That way Youtubers can rest assured that they will definitely receive payment for their continued work and YouTube will continue to get a steady stream of new content that pulls in and keeps users on the site.

The company could also revise or make its advertisement policy clearer so that Youtubers can adjust and manage their content accordingly.

What happened at YouTube's never should have, but instead of focusing on a shooter that took things too far this could be used as an opportunity to advance the company and make it better.

THE WAGE GAP: VICTIM BY CHOICE

Refuting that the wage gap is due to sexism. This article explores other conclusions as to why there's a pay gap between men and women

David Jenkins Jr.
Editor-in-Chief
@mr_sniknej

The gender wage gap exists, but as to why it exists is due to the different choices that men and women make.

The talking point that women make 77 cents to the dollar to that of a man is something that has been said for years

Some statics say different numbers other than 77, but we'll keep this for argument's sake.

Now, there's no denying that the gap is there, the argument is the reason as to why it's there.

Men and women make different choices when it comes to their occupation.

There's a difference in fields of study, profession, balances between home and work.

The gap existing is not proof of discrimination. If this was the case then who ever is writing the checks is breaking the law and should be taken to court.

Pay based on discrimination has been illegal since 1963 under the "Equal Pay Act" signed into law by John F. Kennedy.

Those opposing the argument of choice will make the claim that women get paid less then men for doing the same work is based off of sexism.

No serious economist takes this claim seriously, which is why you only hear politicians and activists making it.

I'll give an example of how this works by using another gap that exists that no one talks about.

The gender death gap in the work place.

In the U.S alone, 93 percent of men die in the workplace as to women, seven percent.

Now, should I conclude that society hates men and are trying to wipe them out?

No, that would be incredibly stupid and if anyone makes that claim they deserve to be mocked and ridiculed for their nonsense.

With this gap comes the same

conclusion. Men and women make different choices as to where they work.

Men often choose to work under dangerous environments such as construction, sewage, coal mining and with heavy machinery.

These men know the risk when they make the choice to sign up for the job.

We live in a economic free society where we can choose our occupation. These choices matter when it comes the gaps explained above.

Studying STEM will make you a lot more money than studying gender theory, but hey, people make those choices based on their pursuit of happiness.

If a woman wants to be a full time mom, that's a choice that she makes.

Choice is in important factor when addressing these discrepancy.

It is a case by case situation.

Its a leap to conclusion that these discrepancies exist due to an all-seeing and invisible systemic patriarchy.

Don't get it wrong, there is still residue form the patriarchy that once was, but lying and making people false victims is not the way to address these issues.



If you'd like to voice your own opinion send a letter to the editor using the QR code above! Can't wait to hear from you.

Free Speech Zone

Should YouTube be allowed to censor its content creators or should Youtubers be allowed to express themselves?

Complied By:

Bianca Martinez
Managing Editor
@talonmarks

Alison Hernandez
Opinion Editor
@alisonshnews



Issac Samarah
Mechanical engineering major

"Content creators should be allowed to express themselves, YouTube's policies have gone to the extreme, people who express their topics or beliefs in a appropriate manner have been censored because the subject topic is just a little bit "ehhh". People who need YouTube to run a career have lost money and lost opportunity to pay for everyday expenses."



Ryan Ortiz
Natural sciences major

"YouTube should not censor them, as long as you are not directly hurting anyone, expressing views that insult a specific group, or if it doesn't violate community guidelines you should be able to post what you want, the idea of free speech is you should have the right to say what you want unless you are acting on it or directly causing harm."



Susana Olivas
Art major

"A mix of both because if there is no control what people are posting then they can post whatever they want like violent content, but if the content creator is allowed to post whatever they want, they can express their opinion."



Joshua Iniguez
Psychology major

"They [content creators] have to learn to express themselves through their videos and if you censor most of their stuff, you can't really get the point across to the audience."

TALON MARKS

TALON MARKS is a First Amendment publication.

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

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

Facilities and academic supervision are provided by the Journalism Program.

Newsroom offices are located in the Fine Arts Building, Room FA245. Cerritos College is located at 11110 Alondra Blvd., Norwalk, CA 90650

Telephone numbers: (562) 860-2451, ext. 2618

Spring 2018
STAFF

Editor-in-Chief David Jenkins Jr.
Managing Editor Bianca Martinez
Online Editor Jose Flores
News Editor Carmelita Islas Mendez
College Life Editor Carlos Martinez Jr.
Opinion Editor Alison Hernandez
Sports Editor Jah-Tosh Baruti
Production Manager Jocelyn Torralba

Staff Writers

Desmond Byrd
John Chavez
Liz Corcoles
Jackelynn Martinez
Jasmine Martinez
Jaxx Mena
Karina Quiran-Juarez
Carlos Ruiz
Malik Smith
Cesar Villa

Vol. 62
© 2018 Talon Marks

Faculty Adviser
Christian Brown

Instructional Lab Tech I/Adjunct
Alicia Edquist

Journalism
Association of
Community Colleges

Pacesetter Award
2009-2010



PBL WINS AWARDS AT CONFERENCE

Jackelynn Martinez
Staff Writer
@_jackelynnM

Phi Beta Lambda, also known as the Business Club, represented Cerritos College at 2018 State Business Leadership Conference in San Diego CA on April 6-8. A total of 32 participants were able to attend and represent the chapter.

PBL’s goal is developing leaders and members for careers in business and other related fields with personal skills.

“It’s a business club but we are open to all majors. Our advisors are very supportive and are always there for PBL. PBL is like family,” Ariel Diane Valencia, accounting major, said.

Itzzayana Jarquín, vice president of PBL, said she had no doubt that being VP has been challenging, but it has helped her develop the person she is today.

“I feel honored to guide this group of members,” Jarquín added, “not only that but to motivate everyone.

“It’s one thing to be a student and another thing to be a vice president when you have to take your actions to another level and show professionalism.”

Jarquín gained leadership skills and experience that will help her grow in the future, such as networking with business professionals.

She said, “this past conference has been a big group in a while, bringing about 32 people and I feel delighted that we have motivated students and know what PBL is about.”

For some students, this experience is sadly coming to an end.

President of Phi Beta Lambda, Briana Morales will be transferring soon and she said, “I’m not sure if the university I’ll be



Competing to win: Kimberly Hong, director of programs, hugs Kelly Seang, accounting major, when her name was announced for first place in accounting principles. Phi Beta Lambda represented Cerritos College at the 2018 State Business Leadership Conference on April 6-8.

attending will have a PBL chapter, so ending it here makes me emotional.”

Being president of PBL has been such an honor for her, she never imagined she’d be president a year later after joining the club.

She said, “I took this position very seriously and gave it my all, I hope to have inspired and motivated others.”

“I had no leadership experience, taking this opportunity has helped me grow as a person as well as a leader along with the members of the club.” She added.

Morales said that joining the organization was one of the best decisions she has made, she considers PBL to be her second family.

She also shared that it was a great opportunity to be surrounded by individuals who have drive and similar goals as she does.

Morales said, “I enjoyed attending the workshops provided at the event and the privilege of sharing this experience with so many of my fellow PBL members, made it that much of a better experience.

“I value everything that I have learned and been able to experience. I’ll definitely miss this business organization.”

The conference ended with an Awards of Excellence Ceremony at Qualcomm auditorium.

The winners at the ceremony included:

- Ariel Diane Valencia--Accounting Principle -

Third Place, Information Management--Second Place and Macroeconomics - Fifth Place

- Rodrigo Quintas,Justice Administration - Second Place, Macroeconomics - Third Place and Impromptu Speaking - First Place

- Salvador Carballo-- Entrepreneurship Concepts - Fifth Place and Personal Concepts - Fourth Place

- Hector Centeno--Networking Concept - Third Place and Sales Presentation - Fourth Place

- Janet Carranza--Sports Management and Marketing – Second Place

- Shennis Reyes--Impromptu Speaking –

Fourth Place

- Tina Vejar--Future Business Executive – Third Place

- Diego Cervantes--Justice Administration – Third Place

- Juan Sandoval--Justice Administration - Fourth Place

- Kelly Seang--Accounting Principles – First Place

In addition, Cerritos College placed third in the name tag competition.

They competed against different universities like UCR, USC, UCSD, CSUF and community colleges like Diablo Valley.

“I am really happy about receiving multiple awards,” Valencia said. “I was hoping to at least place in one of my competitions.

“But I wasn’t really confident about it because I thought I could have done better.”

She added, “I was pleasantly surprised to have placed in all three competitions I participated in.”

Valencia has been a part of PBL for two years, she found it during Club Info Day when she was looking to get more involved on campus.

“PBL holds a special place in my heart because it has helped me grow and helped me step out of my comfort zone,” she said. “I have learned a lot and I am thankful for PBL.

“I really enjoyed conference, I like that the conference has workshops, competitions and networking.”

“My friends have been telling me about PBL for like a while, so I just decided to join this semester,” Eric Hutchens, art major and first time attendee, said.

“They asked me if I wanted to go to conference, but I said I needed to see about money.

“They told me that they might get funding from ASCC and then I said if that goes through then hell yeah.”

Kelly Seang, accounting major, said, “ I was excited enough to be nominated in top 5 and didn’t expect to be first place at all.

“After they announced that I am first place, my heart beat so fast I was so blank and couldn’t believe it myself.”

She added, “Out of excitement, I think I acted silly up there on stage because I couldn’t control my joyful feeling.”

Seang shared she prepared by reviewing notes she had from accounting 101 and 102.

“I’d like to thank ASCC who accommodated Cerritos students to attend the conference free of charges,” Seang said.

SUN’S OUT, BUM’S OUT, MEN GET OUT

Bianca Martinez
Managing Editor
@BiancaMart1955



With spring finally in full bloom in California, it is time for women to bring out the dresses, crop tops, shorts and rompers.

Unfortunately along with the influx of these garments comes the influx of assholes who forget that women have the right to dress accordingly to the weather.

Before I kick off, men who are reading this, please save your “but not all men” mentality and instead of feeling the need to correct me, correct your fellow men who have inspired the motto, “men are trash.”

It is unfair that women should feel that they have to opt out on shorts and wear jeans in this weather just because certain men with machismo ideals find themselves in heat.

It’s obvious that the men who catcall and harass women aren’t going to listen to the victims who do overcome fear and speak out against mistreatment.

A possible solution is for those who believe that they are not affected by the delusion of male superiority is to educate their male brethren to stop being self-entitled creeps.

Most importantly, if you are

male and you witness another male harassing a woman in public, INTERVENE.

Do something to diffuse the situation, if you are afraid of the other guy getting physical, then call the cops, just as simple.

Most of you men are probably asking yourselves, “why can’t she just defend herself?”

Well, it’s not that simple. A woman can say “leave me alone” but the guy can interpret that “leave me alone” as “beat my face in.”

Men with machismo values don’t have racing thoughts about whether or not they can wear a pair of shorts without facing some form of harassment so why have we allowed it be the norm for women to have those racing thoughts?

Catcalling is not complimentary, it is insulting, degrading and anxiety inducing.

Sexual harassment is not flirtatious.

It’s already uncomfortable enough with the hot climate, please, men, don’t contribute to the uncomfortable-ness by complying with the social climate.

Women shouldn’t have to cover up, especially during hot weather because men can’t keep it in their pants.

We just want to be comfortable like everyone else.

Not to be mistaken for whistle-bait in a Tex Avery cartoon.

This is not the 1900s where a glimpse of leg is enough to turn your average joe into a sex fiend.

Stop sexualizing body parts that are also seen on your mom, grandmother or sister.

You wouldn’t walk up to your grandma wearing a tank top and say, ‘hey, granny, nice tits!’

“A MOMENT WITH CESAR CHAVEZ” BRINGS CHICANO MOVEMENT ON STAGE

Cesar Villa
Staff Writer
@talonmarks

Adimly lit stage with a makeshift tent, a couple props and one man is all it took to provide a deep insight into the life and legacy of Cesar Chavez.

“A Moment With Cesar Chavez” is a performance written, adapted and performed by Roberto Alcaraz, actor and lecturer at Cal State Long Beach.

Alcaraz explained that he was inspired by Chavez and mentors that were products of the Chicano Movement.

He believes that Chavez’ legacy is an important story to keep telling because he wasn’t a celebrity, he didn’t have a large fan base, he was just a man who wanted to make the “invisible, visible”.

Alacaraz states, “A young lady asked here today, ‘Where are all these national movements today?’

“And to take away this idea that Cesar didn’t necessarily set out to start a national movement.

“The opportunities arose for national attention [...], but really it started with local people living local lives that wanted to better the conditions for farm workers.”

Although it was a one-man-play Alcaraz brings Chavez’ character to life along with other characters such as: Chavez’s parents, fellow activists, a teacher and even a younger version of Chavez.

Zion Flores, public relations major, said she found out about the play in her leadership class and wanted to educate herself more about Chavez’ activism and



CESAR VILLA
The movement: “A Moment With Cesar Chavez” is a performance written, adapted and performed by Roberto Alcaraz, actor and lecturer at Cal State Long Beach. It was based on Chaves and the Chicano movement.

contribution to American history.

Flores aspires to be an activist and learned from the performance of how Chavez started a movement.

“I learned the importance of relationships, Chavez didn’t do it alone, and the importance of believing in the movement and the activism.

Flores said,“Even though you may have small numbers it can grow over time.

“You got to stick with the movement in its ups and downs, it’s important to know that your message is getting out.”

Randy David Rodriguez, undecided major, found out about the performance through the Puente program.

Rodriguez stated that when he applied to Cerritos College he was a bit lost and needed help to get his footing.

He was referred to the Puente

program that helps with college transferring and guides you with your future.

He was surprised to find out that the play only had one cast member.

“Usually when I see plays it’s with more people, but a one guy play, that was pretty cool,” he said.

Both Flores and Rodriguez’ favorite scene was when the young Chavez was disciplined at school for speaking Spanish.

It not only showed the negative portrayal of a school teacher denying Chavez’ Mexican identity, but also Alcaraz’ ability to bring that moment to life.

“Being a minority, I can relate to being looked down upon, or a second class citizen,” Rodriguez said.

Puente student, Adriana Esparza majoring in English and minoring in music went to the performance through the pro-

gram.

She was able to relate to the performance when it talked about how hard it is to afford a proper education when you don’t have the financial means to do it.

Esperanza said, “I remember I would consistently ask myself, ‘Why is it so much harder for me to do things, and my friends are able to do it much more simpler?’ You know because their parents are more educated.”

Many first generation minorities suffer financially due to language barriers and are not able to afford an education.

Sometimes providing food and shelter is all a parent can afford and is up to their child to work twice as hard to provide their own education.

Esparza believes that we must understand what our community has went through and to push Latino empowerment and to continue staying educated.

TENNIS EYES CHAMPIONSHIPS

Carlos Ruiz
Staff Writer
@thecarlosruiz

Jah-Tosh Baruti
Sports Editor
@press1800tosh

The Cerritos College men and women's tennis team are now in the semifinals in So Cal Regional playoffs.

Both teams were seeded No. 1 heading into the playoffs after their respective tournaments.

The men's tennis team will play the finals in singles and doubles on April 11.

Freshmen Kent Hunter and Victor Castro are up against each other in the final singles match.

Hunter made his way into the finals by winning the quarterfinals match 6-0, 6-1 and then winning his semifinals match 6-0, 6-3.

Castro fought through both of his matches, winning against his own teammates in the quarterfinals 6-2, 6-0 and then in the semifinals 7-5, 6-1.

While they will be clashing in the singles, they are preparing for their doubles matchup against sophomore Kwangeun Lee and freshman Dario Rico.

Hunter and Castro won their doubles matchup against El Camino College 8-0.

Lee and Rico made it to the finals in doubles after upsetting the second seeded Falcons sophomore Marcos Paulo Silvestre and freshmen Alex Prokopchuk in a 9-7 victory.

The women's tennis team was victorious in the South Coast Conference tournamnet winning



Winning: Sophomore Lisa Suzuki won the conference singles. Suzuki also won the doubles with her partner freshman Kseniia Prokopchuk.

both singles and doubles.

Sophomore Lisa Suzuki and freshman Kseniia Prokopchuk teamed up against El Camino College.

The match was won by the Falcon pair 8-1, and now they improved their doubles record to 22-0 this year.

Although Suzuki and Prokopchuk are partners in the doubles matches they were pitted against each other for a final singles match.

Suzuki came out victorious against Prokopchuk in the singles match 6-4, 2-6, 6-2.

This loss for Prokopchuk was her second loss this year in the singles now with a record of 23-2, while Suzuki improved her singles record to 18-3.

The women's tennis team capped off the 2017-18 regular season with 19 straight victories, in rout to a 21-1 overall record (6-0 division play).

Coming off of a season where



PHOTOS BY CARLOS RUIZ

Preparing: Freshman Kent Hunter during day two of the conference tournament. Hunter is in the finals for both singles and doubles.

the squad went 10-6, the team experienced newfound success at the helms of rookie head coach Quinn Caldaron.

Although the coaching position was a quick turnaround, Caldaron inherited a hungry team.

Sophomore Petra Such, confirmed that when she said one of the team's goals this season was to go undefeated.

"I'm sad about that one [loss] actually, that one was a

university."

Such continued, "We are sad that there is that one little loss, but we are really happy about 21 [wins].

The team topped 20 wins for the second time since the 2012-13 season.

In 2016 women's tennis won its first CCCAA State Dual Team Championship in school history defeating De Anza College.

The 2018 crew seeks to have similar success in the playoffs.

"...Everyone is working really hard and...dedicated, we have one goal all together—to win the state championship," Such commented.

Caldaron said, "I think the only way we get upset is if we get a little complacent and assume we're going to win, so to keep the girls motivated to keep pushing is going to be my biggest job."

The men's tennis team finished its season with an overall record of 24-2 (9-0 conference), while ending with a winning streak of eight.

Hunter has been having a standout rookie year heading into the playoffs, he's the only player, including out of the pool of women's players to go undefeated in their singles matches, as he went 19-0.

"It makes me feel good about myself that I can perform at this level for the entirety of the season," Hunter said.

Lee stated, "These guys are some of the best guys here—much better than last year."

Caldaron's goal is for the team to play their best tennis.

"We still have work to do, If we push and we play our best tennis, I don't think anyone else can beat us, if we play our best," Caldaron said.

"The players themselves have been extremely welcoming to me and open to new coaching ideas. I hope that they're getting something out of my coaching."

Both the men and women's tennis team won their first playoff victory against San Diego City College 5-0.

The Falcons will have its next playoff game on April 17.

SHMACKEM: VIDEO GAMES ARE NOT REAL SPORTS, UNDERSTOOD

Jah-Tosh Baruti
Sports Editor
@press1800tosh

SHMACKEM is a new column putting the SHMACK down on various topics relating to sports and other opinions.

So let's get this settled, once and for all, video games are not sports, I repeat they are not sports--yes I'm talking to you Fortnite-addicted players.

Video games should not even be mentioned in the same breath as the words sport or athlete.

According to Oxford Dictionary, the definition of a sport is "An activity involving physical exertion and skill in which an individual or team competes against another or others for entertainment."

Physical exertion is key in sports, there is no real physical exertion in video gaming.

The only physical exertion used when playing video games is with your thumbs and hands using the controller or the keyboard and mouse of a computer.

“

You can't sit on your ass and be an athlete

JAH-TOSH BARUTI
Sports Editor

”

As for the word athlete, Meriam-Webster Dictionary says it is defined as "A person who is trained or skilled in exercises, sports, or games requiring physical strength, agility, or stamina."

Just because you spend hours playing NBA 2k, it does not mean you are trained or skilled

in exercises, requiring physical strength, agility, stamina.

If you've been like Patrick from Spongebob, living under a rock, then eSports, might be unfamiliar. Electronic video gaming or pro video gaming, is what eSports is.

A video game sporting industry that's poised to eclipse a billion dollar industry in some time.

They are using the sports theme to generate money and viewers.

The pro-leagues of video gaming teams even pose for photo shoots with jerseys like actual sports teams, it's comedy.

Fortnite is the hit game on the market right now, Epic Games, the maker of Fortnite describe the game as an "Action-building game."

Imagine a kid playing Fortnite all night and his Mom telling him to go to sleep and the kid replies, "No, Mom, I'm an athlete."

My issue is when people use the term sport to refer to people playing video games in a competition.

If it really was a sport, would the people competing in video game competitions be called athletes?

No one in their right mind would call people with controllers in their hands an athlete.

You can't sit on your ass and be an athlete, just keeping it real.

It is merely competitive, with no physical involvement, therefore eSports is not an actual sport.

As long as players of these professional video gaming teams are still sitting down and only using mental strategies and not physically moving their bodies actively, then don't call it a sport--and don't you even try and bring up chess!

RECENT GAME SCORES: April 10

Softball
Win
11-2
versus
Los Angeles Harbor
College

Baseball
Win
3-2
versus
Los Angeles Harbor
College

M. Tennis
Win
5-0
versus
San Diego City College

W. Tennis
Win
5-0
versus
San Diego City College

BASEBALL SWEEPS COMPTON COLLEGE



CARLOS RUIZ

Batting 'em in: Sophomore Rollie Nichols hit a single down centerfield, batting in sophomore Nick Penzetta in the bottom of the fifth inning. Nichols finished the ball game with two RBI's and scored once.

Carlos Ruiz
Staff Writer
@thecarlosruiz

The Falcons baseball team swept the series against Compton College in an 11-0 shutout.

Previously playing Compton College on two separate occasions on away territory the Falcons were able to win both games 19-5 on April 3, and 4-1 on April 5.

Cerritos College played a consecutive ball game, putting

up 16 hits throughout all eight innings.

The team had nine runs batted in, eight batters walked and 15 runners were left on base in the game's entirety.

Head coach Ken Gaylord said, "We left a lot of runs out there, but pitching and defense was good."

He said, the team was told to just take care of business coming into the last series game against Compton College.

When it comes to conference matches, Gaylord says, "You

don't look at their records, it's about us getting better and that's how you gotta take it."

Sophomore second baseman Rollie Nichols made up four of the 16 hits in the game.

Nichols finished the game with two RBI's and scored once in the bottom of the seventh inning.

Nichols said, "I haven't been hitting to well, but I talked to Gaylord before the game and he told me just to simplify and trust in my abilities.

"It worked out, I got a few

good hits and it made it easier when you have guys on base, opens up holes and it helps in scoring runs."

When Nichols went up to bat, he tried to just clear his head and feels like he usually does better when he's clear headed.

"I was trying to stay up the middle, which I got a couple hits up the middle. I told my coach 'I think I'm going to stay up the middle for the rest of my life,'" Nichols said.

Freshman left fielder Gabriel Gonzalez was left on base four times throughout the game.

Gonzalez reflected on his performance saying he could've helped the team a little bit more, but overall feels like he did pretty well.

Sophomore Valentin Flores-Gomez pitched six innings, striking out seven batters, walking two batters and allowing only two hits.

Flores-Gomez said, "I could've done a lot better with my fast ball, but overall it was an alright [game]."

Cerritos College won the home conference match against Los Angeles Harbor College 3-2, on April 10.

After the win, the Falcons are now 25-8 overall in the season (10-5 in league).

The Falcons have its next conference matchup versus Los Angeles Harbor College on April 12 at 2:30 p.m.