TALON MARKS

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Study abroad program underway for 2019



CARLO RASO/CREATIVE COMMONS

"The Faith and the Hope" (1715): By Gioacchino Fortini, located in San Filippo Neri Church in Florence, Italy. Cerritos College students traveling abroad will have the opportunity to study art history within different cultures.

Jasmine Martinez

News Editor 🔰 @talonmarks

An estimated group of 20 to 40 Cerritos College students interested in English or art history transferable units may have a chance to study abroad in Florence, Italy during the summer of 2019.

Students who need Art History 102, English 102 or English 110 to transfer to Cal States or UC's

will be kept on track while studying abroad.

Dr. Lisa Boutin-Vitela, professor of art history, and Dr. Stephen Clifford, professor of English, expressed their enthusiasm for student opportunities abroad.

"For me, it's always about teaching the literature within the culture. It's one thing to read literature and analyze it and write about it here in the states, and that's great, you get a lot of great depth from it," Clifford said.

"It becomes a whole different kind of immersive project to study literature, develop those critical thinking skills, and to do it in the culture, in the country where it happened," he elabo-

The program that Vitela and Clifford are working through, The American Institute for Foreign Study, offers classrooms in the heart of Florence.

Vitela believes in the importance of experiencing other

cultures and having the chance of staying four weeks, which is what the program is designed to do.

"I think the students [would] really get a feel for living in a new place and one of my goals is that the students will then feel more confident to do a full study abroad when they transfer to their next institution," said Vitela.

As far as concerns over finances for the trip, Vitela and Clifford emphasize the importance of

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Madden competition turns into bloody sight

Keanu Ruffo

Staff Writer @talonmarks

Last Sunday, a downtown Jacksonville restaurant hosted a "Madden 19" gaming competition which held players from all across the country.

Later into the competition, shots were fired in the restaurant killing two people and injuring

24-year-old David Katz, a Baltimore native, was the shooter who participated in the tourna-

Katz lost in the competition which led to his rampage that

After Katz's killing spree, he took his own life.

It's sad that no matter where you go, you are never safe...

Valeria sandoval

Valeria Sandoval and Kyle Johns, freshmen students at Cerritos College, expressed their thoughts on this horrific incident.

"It's sad that no matter where you go, you are never safe because there are people out there that want to cause harm to others," Sandoval said.

Katz's parents told authorities that he had been hospitalized twice in psychiatric facilities for mental illness before in the past.

Doctors prescribed Katz antipsychotic and anti-depressant

Johns stated that the situation was "stupid." He suggested that people be cautious with events like these.

Local witnesses told news reporters that the shooting took place after an apparent argument between some of the competi-

Katz possibly being one of

Katz had a .45 caliber, a 9mm and extra ammunition to commit the deadly shootings. Katz only used one of those weapons while the other stayed in his hotel room a couple blocks down from the restaurant.

Tristin Ventura, a sophomore student at Cerritos College, ex-



Falcons enter second game with no strive for glory, ends in loss

Murder House & Coven merge to make the

Read on page 5

Apocalypse

Read on page 8







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News

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starting the process Fall 2018, to make sure students are situated with funds, passports and other travel needs.

The program would be "carefully constructed," with plans years in advance, so students can plan ahead.

Clifford suggested applying for scholarships, grant funding and other varieties of funding opportunities.

He said there are often equity issues where community college students do not have many chances of studying abroad.

Early in their education, "These opportunities cause students to be more successful in their regular, on-campus work, but also in the community as

well," Clifford finished.

Information sessions will take place in September and October 2018, to get more students thinking about their plans and not decide too late.

The sessions are open to all students and staff, but the program requires the completion of English 100, 12 units and a 2.5 cumulative GPA before the start of the first summer 2019 session.

Vitela and Clifford say the program is set to happen unless not enough students apply.

They are hoping they have the opposite problem with an overflow of students interested.

"That's the goal. We are excited about starting it up," said Clifford.



BOB HALL/CREATIVE COMMONS

Piazza della Signoria: The Fountain of Neptune in Signoria square, situated in Florence, Italy. It is located in front of the Palazzo Vecchio.



GARY CORONADO/LOS ANGELES TIMES/TNS

experts question whether the \$27

"That burn rate is ludicrous,"

said civil engineer James Moore,

Southern California's transporta

tion engineering program. "It is

ence that it doesn't make sense to

The spending schedule hinges

so far outside standard experi-

in part on whether the rail au-

engineering problems resulting

in addition to the construction

hiccups typical of any project as

it links Los Angeles and the San

of inflation that some experts say

the price of pound steel, a cubic

yard of concrete, an acre of farm-

land or an hour of an engineer's

The actual costs will depend on

are highly optimistic.

from the state's complex geology,

thority can manage to avoid

assume it will occur."

director of the University of

million-a-day outlay necessary

under the plan would even be

CALIFORNIA BULLET TRAIN PROJECT: Construction of California's high-speed rail project in Fresno, Calif., on Aug. 15, 2018.

California's bullet train estimates too rosy, experts say

Ralph Vartabedian/Los Angeles TImes

possible.

The California bullet train project has cost state taxpayers an average \$3.1 million a day over the last year _ a construction spending rate higher than that for the Bay Bridge, Boston's Big Dig or any U.S. transportation project in recent history.

But still it's not enough, plan-

In order to hit its 2033 deadline and \$77 billion budget, the California High Speed Rail Authority will have to increase daily spending by up to nine times over the next four years or risk putting the already-delayed system further behind.

Russell Fong, the authority's chief financial officer, acknowledges the goals will be difficult to achieve.

ing rate," Fong said.

Still, officials said they are beginning to ramp up spending, and the estimates were officially adopted by the rail authority board in its 2018 business plan.

But outside infrastructure

Francisco Bay Area. And that's not the only risk "It is a very aggressive spendwith the revised plan laid out earlier this year, which assumes rates

time in 10 or 15 years. Those prices are subject to unpredictable factors such as import tariffs, labor shortages and litigation by angry property owners.

If the rail authority misses the 2033 target date, inflation probably will raise the project's tab by as much as \$2 billion a year. That's because tens of billions of dollars of work could get pushed into future years when costs will be higher, and the state will have to keep employees, contractors and consultants on the payroll longer.

"One of the things that this program has experienced, which has not been good, is consistently projecting things to happen by certain dates and it does not happen," rail authority board member Michael Rossi, a former banking executive, said at a recent audit committee meeting.

Bullet train planners are under growing pressure to make progress on the system, which when completed would whisk riders from the Bay Area to Southern California in 2 hours, 40 minutes.

Voters approved the project in 2008 amid much fanfare, with backers saying the bullet train would connect far-flung parts of California in transformational ways, helping guide generations of development and transit policy

Despite excitement for the bullet train in a state mired in traffic, the system has been beset with both funding and engineering setbacks that have delayed the

It was supposed to cost \$33 billion and eventually reach from Sacramento to San Diego. Now, the route connects only San Francisco to Los Angeles, with the completion date pushed back 13 years.

To be sure, the vast majority of megaprojects around the world bust their budgets, though, for a variety of technical, legal, political and financial reasons. Boston's 3.5-mile Big Dig, for example, was finished in 2007 _ nine years behind schedule and at a cost of \$14.6 billion, up from an initial estimate of \$2.5 billion. The 11mile East Side Access tunnel in New York City is 14 years behind schedule, and its tab has grown from \$4.3 billion to \$11.1 billion.

The bullet train project, with its record-breaking rate of spending last year, fell 31 percent short of the authority's \$4.5 million-a-day target. In its current fiscal year, the aim is to spend \$1.8 billion, or \$4.9 million a day. At its peak in fiscal 2023, spending should hit \$10.7 billion _ or \$29 million every calendar day _ according to planning documents.

By comparison, records show that NASA spent an average of \$30 million a day during the 13-year Apollo moon program (adjusted to 2018 dollars) and had 35,000 government employees. The rail authority has been adding to its executive staff this year, but currently has 226 state employees and hundreds of consultants who also help manage the program.

William Ibbs, a University of California, Berkeley civil engineering professor who has consulted on high-speed rail projects around the world, also questioned whether California's aggressive timeline is achievable.

"It is going to be a challenge to get all the resources they need to spend \$10 billion in a year, given all the activity in California," Ibbs said, referring not only to building a bullet train system that passes through three mountain ranges but also large-scale water tunnel and subway projects planned in the state.

In addition, the tunneling process can result in delays. It can take a year to issue a request for proposals from bidders, and another year to issue a contract. Ordering boring machines and staging them in the mountains can take a year or more.

The rail authority has built into its business plan a range of costs that go as high as \$98 billion. It is part of an effort by Chief Executive Brian Kelly to acknowledge that uncertainties, such as future inflation rates, lay ahead.

According to Fong, the agency's estimates for future inflation are based on the industry's best

practices and rely on a composite of figures from Moody's, the California Department of Transportation, the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Department of Energy. Each source is used for specific cost categories, such as steel, cement, train cars, skilled labor, professional labor and diesel fuel, which are assembled into a single inflation estimate, Fong said.

While such accounting is the standard across the industry, it also contributes to the majority of megaprojects around the world busting their budgets.

In its technical documents, the rail authority projects annual inflation of 2.25 percent until the middle of the next decade, and no more than 3 percent until the completion date in 2033.

Edward Zarenski, a veteran construction industry executive who consults widely on cost trends, said inflation for nonresidential construction has been increasing at 3.5 percent over the last 25 years and at 4.2 percent over the last four years. The rail authority estimates are "detrimentally light," he said.

"If construction inflation is understated through 2025-26 by 10 percent, this budget will experience a shortfall in its forecast of about \$7 billion dollars" in that period, he said.

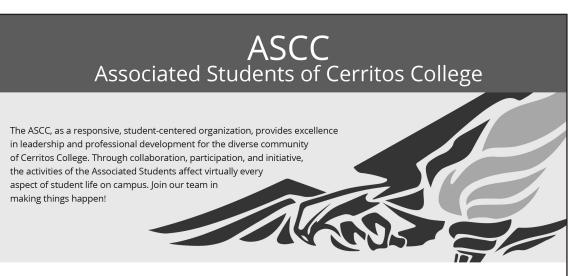
The rail authority's inflation estimates are similar to those used by many government agencies, said Marcene Taylor, president of the American Society of Professional Estimators and owner of a construction consulting firm. Nonetheless, she projects annual inflation rates of 4 percent to 5 percent, based in part on the high pace of construction activity across California and much of the nation.

"There isn't the labor to do the available work," Taylor said. "If you have a project now, you might not get any bidders."

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plained how small events like this should have some sort of security as well, not just big events.

"We should put a detector for weapons at every small event like this," Ventura exclaiming.

The victims of this fatal shooting were 28-year-old father and husband, Taylor Robinson White, and former Calabasas high school football player, Elijah Clayton.

Clayton was considered a top contender in Madden throughout

the nation.

This Madden event is associated with the "Madden NFL 19 Championship series" which is held by EA sports.

Players competed Sunday afternoon to move on to the round of 16 which will be sited in Las Vegas in October.

Founder and CEO of Complexity Gaming Jason Lake, who's associated with EA Sports, told reporters they are considering having security at future events.



JUSTIN FENTON/BALTIMORE SUN/TNS

Jacksonville mass shooting investigation: Federal authorities were at home in Baltimore's inner harbor on Sunday night, August 26, 2018 as pat of an investigation into the Jacksonvile mass shooting.

Opinion

Focus on the crime not your agenda

In another childish act of hypocrisy, Conservatives and supporters of stricter anti-immigration laws are using the violent murder of Mollie Tibbetts to further their own racist agendas instead of seeking justice for Tib-

The man responsible for her murder should be condemned based on his actions, not the color of his skin or his migratory status.

Tibbetts, a 20-year-old college student disappeared on July 18, 2018 and was later found dead on August 24, 2018.

The Iowa Division of Criminal Investigation said that a 24-yearold man by the name of Cristhian Bahena Rivera was charged with first degree murder in the death of Tibbetts.

After Bahena Rivera's migratory status came out, revealing that he's an illegal immigrant, media outlets and people have taken to focusing on that fact just to continue to label all immigrants of color as violent criminals that need to be deported and kept out.

People would rather blame a "broken immigration system" instead of face facts and realize that anyone could have committed this crime.

They only really care about the crime because he was a darkskinned "illegal alien".

A native-born, white-skinned American could have committed the same crime and these very same racist bigots wouldn't be screaming about how this individual should not be allowed to live in this country.

Instead they'll create a convenient narrative of how this in-



RACHEL TULLY/FREELANCE ILLUSTRATOR

dividual was a kind, loving family person who would never have done something so vile.

Or maybe they'll say that murderer was just a troubled person that didn't get the help they need-

A study published by the Libertarian Cato Institute in 2015 found that, "Native-born residents were much more likely to be convicted of a crime than immigrants in the country [who entered] legally or illegally."

There was also a social-science research reported by the SF Gate stating, "Undocumented immigrants are considerably less likely to commit crime than nativeborn citizens with immigrants legally in the United States even less likely to do so."

These people also refuse to even speak up about or even acknowledge how badly the government of this country is treating innocent children and holding them in literal cages.

Oh but never mind, it's totally okay to treat children like, if not worse than, animals if they're illegal immigrants right?

Let's just ignore the fact that there have also been allegations of abuse happening to these children who had no control over the circumstances that brought them to the U.S.

The undocumented community has been and continues to suffer because Conservatives and people who share their racist ideals would rather focus on the crimes of the few and ignore how unfairly the majority of the community is treated.

Often times, it doesn't even matter if someone came to this country legally if they happen to have a darker skin tone.

People will continue to be labelled as violent immigrants that need to be kicked out of this country just because of the color of their skin.

What Bahena Rivera did is undoubtedly wrong and he should be punished accordingly, however this does not give the Conservative Party or anyone else the right to use him to represent the rest of the community.

Tibbetts deserves justice, she doesn't deserve her death being used as racist propaganda.

The immigrant community as a whole also deserves to be rid of the stigma that they're criminals.

They don't deserve to be treated like animals or suspects because of the actions of a few who decided to commit violent crimes.

Horoscope for the Day

By Nancy Black, MCT Campus Aries (March 21-April 19) --Keep growing stronger. Take care of yourself. Assert your wishes. Talk about how you'd like things to be. Get expert assistance. You're especially persuasive. Taurus (April 20-May 20) --Something you try now doesn't work. Rather than forging new path, revise familiar routines and upgrade the organization levels. Cover the basics. Keep your patience.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) --Your friends can help with a breakdown. Reach out to your network to discover the resources you need. You can do without some stuff. Prioritize.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) --A professional dream lies within view despite obvious obstacles. Put in some sweat equity. Take charge, and budget carefully. Slow and steady wins the race. Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) --Broaden your view to include wider horizons. Keep agreements, and make deadlines. Share your thoughts and dreams. Explore to learn new ideas and philosophies.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) --Don't rush into a purchase. Talk it over with your partner. Adjust the budget, and wait to see what develops. Get creative and imaginative.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) --Communication resolves a roadblock with your partner. Release outdated preconceptions. Clean a mess: "I'm sorry. Please forgive me. Thank you. I love you." **Scorpio** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) --

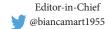
Focus on building strong, healthy foundations. The excellent work you've been doing reflects you well. Slow to avoid mistakes with a heavier load. Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) --

Fun and romance call to you. Make plans with someone you enjoy. Compromise to find the middle ground between one view and another. Keep it simple. Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -Family comes first. Tempers may be short. Don't make expensive promises. Avoid knee-jerk responses. New facts dispel old fears. Hold your peace.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) --Creativity doesn't always work in a linear fashion. Follow inspiration where it leads. Costs can vary widely, though. Don't get burned. Organize your ideas and plans.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) --Your ideas are attracting attention. Take advantage of profitable opportunities. Don't spend it before you get it. Finish a tough job before going out.

Most products don't need a gender



Chanel's announcement of a makeup line specifically for men is a perfect example of gendering products simply due to physiological differences and not to promote the concept of gender.

The concept of gender is subjective yet companies insist on gendering even the most benign of products, such as band-aids.

By gendering products, companies are unintentionally promoting the fallacy that women must stick to products that fall under the female category and men must stick to products categorized as male.

Is the average person so insecure in their existence that they must buy products that must coincide with their cisgender iden-

In order to make a buck, corporations have conditioned their consumers with the notion that gender is simply black and white, that you must be one or the other, there is no in-between.

There are certain products that do need to be gendered, however, because fact of the matter is the physiological make up of the human body differs from what society has deemed male and what has been deemed female.

Skincare products and vitamins are a perfect example of items that must be gendered.

Note that these products aren't gendered to make money by preying on mainstream society's need to define things with a gender.

By gendering everyday items such as band-aids, clothes and toys, current generations and even future generations will be conditioned to stick to a gender they may feel does not accurately define them.

Another reason as to why everyday items, that don't cater to certain physiological differences, should not be gendered is because it promotes ignorance that the concept of gender is simply man and woman.

As long as items are gendered, the concept that there are two genders, and that individuals must simply be one or the other will still be in place.

People will not be able to live freely as who they truly are if an outdated concept is continuously forced upon them.

According to a report done on the connection between gender and neurology, "While biological gender is usually manifested in physical appearance, the individual gender identity is not immediately discernible and primarily established in the psyche of a human being.

Although gender may seem apparent, in most cases, it's not.

For those affected by the stigma of gender and expressing their true identity, it may trigger within them the sense that gender is so important in mainstream society, that their identity does not hold the same importance.

If corporations make a bigger deal of including and accommodating body size and ethnicity, then they wouldn't find the need to enforce decaying gender roles.

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

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What women want

Bianca Martinez

Editor-in-Chief @biancamart1955

Hi, are you a male sexually attracted to the female gender?

If the answer is yes, find a comfortable locale, take a seat and learn the answer to the age old question, "what do women want from a man?"

1. Don't mansplain.

I once had a boyfriend who used to mansplain on a daily basis until one day I snapped, "Just assume I know everything, because I do, but when I don't, I'll let you know."

Now I know that some guys think they are just being chivalrous, but in actuality it's condescending and pretentious.

Women are not helpless creatures, when we need help we'll let you know.

This also goes for when women

are telling you about their day, they don't want you to provide solutions, sometimes all we need is a supportive ear.

2. Under no circumstances do you address women in an archaic manner.

"Get back in the kitchen and make me a sandwich" is the perfect example.

You don't hear women saying, "throw on a loincloth, grab a spear and provide for me."

You want to treat a woman like a housewife from the 1950s, then go become a hunter-gatherer like the neanderthal that you are.

3. Accusing women of being on their period when they are displaying a disposition that does not work to your advantage is ill advised.

As cisgendered men, you have never experienced a menstrual cycle a day of your existence, because of this lack of empathy and

Bianca

understanding of a menstrual cycle you decide to resort to the trait some of you may know best, assholism.

Do your research, be patient and most importantly, be kind.

4. Don't ever gaslight or manipulate your partner whenever they bring forth a concern about your actions in your collective relationship.

If you can not effectively manage human emotions then leave the relationship and let your partner take the path towards self-healing, because at this point you are being emotionally abusive towards your partner.

Only a soulless human trashbag would emotionally abuse the person they claim to love.

Don't be a soulless human trashbag, it's literally that simple.

5. Women were not created to cater to you.

Women are entitled the right to not speak to a man they don't feel comfortable with.

The female sex does not have to smile for your creepy asses just because you think it would make them look "prettier."

Nobody asked you, last time we checked men are not the authority on what's pretty.

6. Your partner and women in general, have the right to say no in any situation, at any time.

Women are not your property, if she says no to any of your shenanigans, then that's it, end of conversation.

If you love and support her as much as you claim, don't dare put her in any uncomfortable situation.

7. Remain loyal to your partner.

Unless your partner has cheated on you there is no excuse for you to continue with that sense of loyalty.

If you find yourself attracted to or chasing after other women, then do your partner a favor and end the relationship right there before you deteriorate her level of self-esteem even more.

8. Stop projecting and erase the concept of fragile masculin-

If you are so uncomfortable with who you are as an individual then take a step back from the relationship and reevaluate yourself and self worth.

9. Be aware and tolerant of your male privilege.

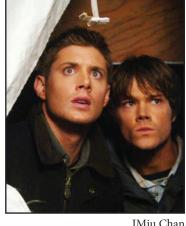
As a male, you normally don't run the high risk of rape, assault and robbery that women do.

You don't have to walk after dark in a hurried panic, clutching keys or mace in your hand while you whip your head frantically around to make sure no one is following you.

So when women recount an experience where they were catcalled, don't tell them that it was a misguided compliment, or that they should of told the catcaller to "fuck off."

Women have been killed for something as simple as politely saying no, men haven't.

Be self aware that women don't have the same liberties as men.



Supernatural: Returning for season 14 on Oct. 11, "Supernatural" will air on the CW. Jensen Ackles and Jared Padalecki will continue to be the main

Returning this fall

Elizabeth Corcoles

A & E Editor øtalonmarks

As per usual, fall has several series that are making a return to television and some of which are worth the binge watch.

Here's a preview of what is to come in the following weeks on

"Ozark," the money laundering show which stars Jason Bateman, returns for its second season on Aug. 31.

"BoJack Horseman," the animated series returns for season 5 on Sept. 14.

"Atypical," the series of a teenager with autism returns for season 2 on Sept. 7

Marvel's "Iron Fist" returns for season 2 on Sept. 7

If you fancy cable programming, here are a few of the more anticipated series:

"American Horror Story: Apocalypse" will also make its debut Sept. 12 on FX.

The series will merge the plot lines of "AHS: Murder House" and "AHS: Coven" and have returning cast members, such as Jessica Lange, Sarah Paulson, Evan Peters, Billie Lourd, as well as other reoccurring stars.

Returning for season 9, "The Walking Dead," is set to premiere on Oct. 7 on AMC.

Although front-man Rick Grimes, portrayed by Andrew Lincoln, is leaving the series this upcoming season, it should be an interesting to see how the writers showcase the exit of the main

In regards to network programming, the CW has some gems of its own with "Riverdale" and "Supernatural" making a return to television this fall as well.

The teen drama based off the Archie comics, "Riverdale" makes its fall premiere on Oct.

"Supernatural," leaves off with Dean Winchester, played by Jensen Ackles, being the vessel for Michael, the archangel. The series returns Oct. 11.





The Frights latest album shows minimal growth



Elizabeth Corcoles



The Frights' new album "Hypochondriac," released Aug. 24 offers its listeners a darker, angsty and cleaner sound as far as production.

The album clearly holds the element of vulnerability, somber and distraught, but the album shows minimal signs of growth.

Although they continue to hold onto their surfer punk-rock sound, the new album claims to be "embarrassing and personal," according to Mikey Carnevale's, lead singer and guitarist, interview on Epitaph.

"Tell Me Why I'm Okay" is the first track on the album starting with a monotonous voice, Carnevale shows off his vocals towards the end of the song.

As well as having a country

feel and lots of background noise, "Tell Me Why I'm Okay" is just OK, and is one of the tracks that is easily skippable.

Track number two, "CRUTCH," is a high tempo, angry song that is definitely worth the listen.

"CRUTCH" is Carnevale singing about his pain, angst and not knowing how something he loves so much, could turn into something he hates.

Continuing on with "Broken Brain," the album returns to its melancholy start.

Slow tempo, softer and pleasing vocals of Carnevale start the song off and lyrics like, "I'll be alright, staying with you, It'll take some time, to save me, You'll kill the pain, with all that you do," adds to the sensitivity of the

"I used to like FIDLAR," reads the opening line in "Whatever," and it seems fitting since Zac Carper of FIDLAR helped compose this track, as well as producing the album.

The lyrics in "Whatever" are described as a toxic relationship. Carnevale sings, "I'm just tri-



The Frights: From San Diego, The Frights release their new album, "Hypochondriac" on Aug. 24. The album follows their sophomore album "You Are Going To Hate This," in 2016.

ing to pull my life back together, and I am too fucking tired, of you calling me a liar, just tell you what I want, I'll say whatever," fulfilling his statement that he wrote a more personal and vulnerable album.

"Hypochondriac" has tracks that have snippets of music that truly possess elements of growth and creativity, such as "Me and We and I," "CRUTCH," "Hold Me Down" and "Whatever."

While they also have tracks that are mediocre and reminicent of early American rock in the early 2000s,

The Frights didn't exactly disappoint, but they also did not do anything groundbreaking for the indie-rock genre.

After releasing their third studio album "Hypochondriac," two years later after "You Are Going To Hate This" back in 2016.

The new album makes you want to head-bang along with some tracks and others, just look out the window and ponder about what went wrong in life.

A & E

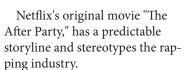


Sebastien Barre

Wiz Khalifa: The rapper made a cameo in the Netflix original "The After Party." Wiz's cameo made a cringe-worthy appearance.

Netflix's 'The After Party' is a complete miss

Marilyn Parra
Staff Writer
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With the overuse of drugs, strippers, and obscene jokes this movie gives a bad light to the world of rap.

Young rapper Owen, played by real-life artist Kyle Harvey, is trying to pursue his dream of being a big-time rapper with the help of his best friend and manager Jeff, played by Harrison Holzer.

At the beginning of the movie, it is obvious both characters do not know how to act. After watching this movie it is clear to say, any ordinary person has what it takes to be in a movie.

The excessive use of real-life rappers and social media stars took attention away from the main characters.

Artist like Wiz Khalifa, French Montana and DJ Khaled are examples of multiple roles with short and cringe acting lines.

Watching celebrities act in this movie is second-hand embarrassment with their awkward jokes proving they should stick to writing and recording music.

More than half the artist appearing in this movie had no connection to the story line which made it seem as if adding big-time rappers would give this movie more credibility.

The female roles were degrading with the unnecessary use of strippers and young girls looking for a high.

Derogatory remarks that were made in the film about how a woman should look and act were offensive.

Actress and singer Teyana Taylor starred as Bl'asia, a stripper with a crazy ex-boyfriend.

Taylor accomplished one thing no other artist in that movie did, and that was acting. Her role was



the most believable and creative, it was nice to see at least one stripper in the movie portrayed as tough and hard working.

Despite the lack of originality, the writer did a great job covering the use of technology. Especially, making social media a key factor to help Owen.

As well as incorporating the slang used in today's generation, words like "deadass," equivalent to using the word literally and "tripping" which is used to say someone is acting or saying crazy things.

Director and writer Ian Edelman clearly needed help writing this movie.

Edelman tried too hard to make the movie relatable, which ended up being a total mess.

Towards the end, the director added a clip dedicating the movie to producer Lee "Q" O' Denat.

O' Denat was the founder of the famous site, World Star Hip Hop which is mentioned throughout the film.

It was a dedication that lacked energy, with such a great story to tell, Edelman should not have done it alone.

He could've saved a lot of money by reducing the appearances of celebrities throughout the film. There was no need to cast a celebrity in almost every scene.

As for the rap lyrics, they were corny and cheesy. Harvey did a bad job freestyling the raps. They didn't sound natural at all, it was clear that they were too rehearsed.

Overall, "The After Party" is not the best movie to watch. As unrealistic as it is the movie can be quite entertaining with its bad acting and cringe moments.

It's a movie to watch when you have finished all your favorite Netflix shows.

Buzzfeed can be clever



Elizabeth Corcoles

A & E Editor

@talonmarks

Buzzfeed's new documentary series on Netflix, "Follow This," is thought provoking and gives us an insight on issues that marginalized people deal with on a daily basis and are not entirely covered in mainstream media.

With the series being 15 to 20 minute long segments, Buzzfeed keeps it short and sweet and gives an abundance of information to ponder about.

Some of the topics the documentary focuses on are light and fun, like autonomous sensory meridian response.

If that still does not make sense, the Urban Dictionary describes it as, "The sole purpose of ASMR is to relax people... Ideally, ASMR videos are meant to give the viewer a relaxing tingle at the back of their head and/or spine."

A seemly interesting way to combat anxiety and depression, it seems to have a large followSafe injection spaces are locations where people can safely inject themselves with illegal drugs.

The space is to provide those



Larry D. Moo

Scaachi Koul: Reporter for Buzzfeed, Koul, gives viewers an insight on topics that aren't seen on mainstream media. Koul works for Buzzfeed Toronto.

ing on YouTube, according to Buzzfeed.

While other topics are heavier, such as intersex and sex workers fighting for their right to continue their work, Buzzfeed shines a light on the topics without going overboard.

Most of the topics discussed in the documentary aren't foreign subjects to most of us, although the safe injection space is a new topic. people with assistance if they need so, for example if they overdose.

Although, it may become reality in the U.S. late 2018, since the city of Seattle is testing out the idea of a safe injection space, according to Buzzfeed.

Buzzfeed developed a documentary that isn't comprised of jokes and gags and prove that they too can be a serious publication.



Los Angeles to Anaheim Project Section

Preferred Alternative Open House Meetings
September 8 - 24, 2018

ALL MEETINGS WILL BE IDENTICAL WITH A PRESENTATION A HALF-HOUR AFTER THE LISTED START TIME

MONTEBELLO Saturday, September 8, 2018 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Montebello Senior Center 115 S Taylor Ave Montebello, CA 90640

SANTA FE SPRINGS+ Wednesday, September 12, 2018 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Gus Velasco Neighborhood Center 9255 S Pioneer Blvd Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670

DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES+ Monday, September 17, 2018 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Nishi Hongwanji Buddhist Temple (Gym) 815 E 1st St Los Angeles, CA 90012

ANAHEIM Thursday, September 20, 2018 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Brookhurst Community Center 2271 W Crescent Ave Anaheim, CA 92801

BUENA PARK Monday, September 24, 2018 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Buena Park Community Center 6688 Beach Blvd Buena Park, CA 90621

+English/Spanish Meeting +Live webcast presentation starts at 6:00 p.m. http://ustream.tv/channel/chsra

For more information, please visit hsr.ca.gov

LANGUAGES AND OTHER NEEDS

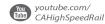
Interpretación en español será disponible en todas las reuniones. Downtown Los Angeles및Buena Park미팅 시 한국어 통역사를 이용하실 수 있습니다. Magiging available ang mga enterpreter ng tagalog sa mga pagpupulong sa Downtown Los Angeles. Downtown Los Angeles 會議將提供華語翻譯.

日本語の通訳は Downtown Los Angelesでのミーティングでご利用になれます。

Other language requests can be accommodated upon request. Meeting facilities are accessible for persons with disabilities. All requests for reasonable accommodations and/or language services must be made three working days (72 hours) in advance of the scheduled meeting date. Please call (877) 669-0494 or the Authority's TTY/TTD number at (916) 403-6943 for assistance.









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Scrimmage ends well for Falcons

ning most

turns from

the goal of

offense to

Christopher Martinez

Staff Writer @chris_reports_

Cerritos College's football team appeared strong on Aug. 23 as they took on San Jacinto College in a scrimmage match.

The team's scrimmage consisted of many drills by position amongst themselves, and against the other team.

Once the drills were completed both teams took turns on offense, regardless of the outcome of the previous or current play.

Nearing the end of the scrimmage the teams played two 15-minute quarters, where scores where not kept and some plays were able to be run twice regardless of the down.

During the drill section of the scrimmage, Cerritos looked



Grosfeld: Head coach Dean Grosfeld walking the sidline. Grosfeld was on the field for the first time for this exhibition match against Mt. San Jacinto Community College.

and efficient either team can either get them to their position. Quarterbacks and wide receivers worked on drills together against their opponent where the offense would pick a play to run and try to score. Once the team failed they

would switch, this would continue until the drills came to a

The kickers and punters looked equally strong running kick return drills and field goal drills.

The kickers practiced returns three to four times each before

switching to offense.

Once the team had switched to offense the returning team looked organized and was playing as a unit as they blocked properly and ran plays correctly.

As the drills came to a close, Cerritos and San Jacinto had a two-quarter scrimmage.

Cerritos came out strong scoring first and while Cerritos does have smart quarterbacks that can throw, it was their running game

that sealed their first touch down.

San Jacinto also had a strong offense scoring on a few plays, but it was the Cerritos defense that had limited their scoring.

Throughout the scrimmage Cerritos had stuffed play by play, shutting down San Jacinto in drills and throughout the scrim-

The team will have a home game against East Los Angeles



DERRICK COLEMAN

Pass Game: Freshman wide receiver no. 5, C.J Parks running the ball up field. Parks is playing his first year for Cerritos College.

SHMACKEM: Year of the Los Angeles Rams



Jah-Tosh Baruti Freelancer @press1800tosh

You heard it here first, the Los Angeles Rams will make it to the team's first Super Bowl appearance since the 1999 season.

The Rams did lose in a blowout versus the Baltimore Ravens on Aug. 9 in the first preseason game of the 2018-19 season, however, it's still just the preseason, so that loss doesn't count and should not be examined harshly.

Last year marked the Rams second season back in L.A. The team compiled an 11-5 record en route to its first playoff berth since 2004 and a first place finish in the National Football Conference West Division.

The year prior, the team had an abysmal season and finished at 4-12, missing the playoffs yet again for the 13th consecutive

With that being said, this is the year of the Rams. The year this team takes it to another level and reaches the Super Bowl.

The main reason for the upcoming ascension is because the team is loaded with talent, starting at MVP candidate running back Todd Gurley, quarterback Jared Goff, and defensive end Aaron Donald.

Another key cog of the team is head coach Sean McVay, who took home coach of the year honors last season, his first with the Rams.

The team just got even better as well this past off-season, from current players taking that next step in working out and getting better, to new additions elevating the already solid roster.

Rams general manager Les Snead traded for three All-Pro players, in addition to signing another All-Pro player in free agency.

After getting a taste of regular season success and then later feeling playoff disappointment, this Rams squad is ready to have a dream-like season similar to



CREATIVE COMMONS

Super Bowl: Photo of the Vince Lombardi trophy. This trophy was won by the Philadelphia Eagles, for Super Bowl 52 against the New England Patriots.

that of the 2015 Carolina Panthers team that went 15-1 and clinched a Super Bowl berth.

The difference between this crew and the Panthers is that the Rams have an unstoppable force at running back, something Carolina did not possess.

Gurley will be the difference maker and take home Super Bowl MVP honors.

The road to a Super Bowl

berth will not come easy, as the team will most likely have to get past either the Falcons or the Philadelphia Eagles, the reigning champions.

However, this Rams team is young, hungry and has had time to grow. Couple those features with the talent on the roster and you've got the makings of a championship team.

Record prediction: 13-3

Playoff outcome: Super Bowl win

The Rams are currently 2-1 in preseason games.

Regular season action for the Rams kicks off on Sept. 10 at 7:20 p.m. versus the Oakland Raiders.

Jah-Tosh Baruti is a former sports editor and columnist for Talon Marks, SHMACKEM discusses various topics relating to sports and other opinions.

Sports

Falcons off to a mixed start



CARLOS RUIZ

Fighting: Sophomore forward No. 13, Christian Perez fighting for the ball during the first game of the day against the L.A. Wolves. Perez also played against the 2008 State Champion Alumni during the second half.

Carlos Ruiz

Sports Editor
@thecarlosruiz

Falcons begin the season with back to back games, starting on a tough note due to a second game loss.

The men's soccer team played its first two exhibition matches of the season this past weekend against L.A. Wolves football club and the 2008 State Champion

alumni.

Although both games didn't keep score, head coach Benny Artiaga was able to see how his team performed on the pitch.

The players had their first game against the L.A. Wolves, which ended on a positive note.

Artiaga said, "We saw a lot of good things, we saw a team that's very structured and ready to go."

Artiaga praised his sophomore goalkeeper no. 1, Jordan Aldama

after the match.

"We have the best goalkeeper in the state of California... he wears his emotions on his sleeve, he's our vocal leader. Once he learns to channel those emotions, he'll be real special.

"Now with his experience and maturity, I think he's ready to take our team to the next level." Artiaga said confidently.

Sophomore midfielder no. 6, team captain Esteban Camacho

feels a big responsibility being the captain and is pushing the team to win.

"We did really good, there's obviously still some things to clean, but everything we practice, we executed," Camacho said.

Sophomore forward no. 13, Christian Perez feels the team did good enough.

"We're not at our highest peak, we'll get there. We're evolving, getting better day by day," Perez said.

With the first game past the team, its next objective was to tackle the 2008 state champion alumni, who were returning to Cerritos College for the 10th anniversary since they won.

Artiaga in his 4th season led the 2008 team to a state title and is hoping to lead the 2018 roster to a state title as well.

The players didn't have the same outcome on their second performance that day.

"I don't accept losing, I will not accept that from any team that I coach ever," Artiaga said.

Artiaga believes the team thought it was just a "fun at the park" game.

"That's not the way I coach and that's not the way I think," Artiaga said.

Watching his alumni play, Artiaga is overjoyed with seeing his old play against his new.

"They are the epitome of what we wanna teach here, 10 years later and they're still winners in their mind," Artiaga said.

Overall Artiaga said, "We're ready, the soccer part wasn't a concern we did what we had to. It's the mentality that you can lose or you can not compete at any given moment [are] the little things that bother me."

The men's soccer team has its next game away at Hartnell vs. Fresno City on Aug. 31.

Cross Country

- Sep. 1 at Carbon Canyon Men: 8:30 a.m. Women: 9:15 a.m.
- Sep. 8 at Woodward Park Men: 9 a.m. Women: 10 a.m.

Football

- Sep. 1 v. East LA College
 Home at 6 p.m.
- Sep. 8 v. Moorpark College Away at 6 p.m.

Volleyball

- Aug. 29 v. Fullerton & Citrus
 Home at 2 p.m.
 Home at 6 p.m.
- Sep. 5 v. West LA College
 Away at 6 p.m.

Water Polo

- Men: Sep. 7 & 8
 TBA v. Golden West

 Tourn.
- Women: Sep. 5 v. LA Trade Tech Away at 3 p.m.

Wrestling

- Sep. 8 at Bakersfield Duals All at 9 a.m.
- Sep. 22 at West Hills
 Tournament

Soccer

- Men v. Fresno City Tournament Away Aug. 31 at 1p.m
- Women v. Highline Away Aug. 31 at 12 p.m.

Opinion: The Anthem is an irreplaceable sports tradition

Keanu Ruffo Staff Writer

@talonmarks

CBS, Fox, and NBC should still broadcast the National Anthem no matter what because the anthem and the American Flag represents freedom.

It has always been a part of the sports broadcast tradition to show before any and every sporting event.

For this upcoming 2018 season, the choice for players and coaches to participate in the anthem is still an option.

Since teams are still given this choice, broadcast networks CBS, NBC, and Fox are debating if they should show the National Anthem or not.

A CBS representative stated to the media that the viewing of the Star Spangled Banner has also been taken out of there broadcasting plans as well. With Fox, there plans are to show both the National Anthem and the star spangled banner, but only during special broadcasts such as Thanksgiving, Veterans Day, and the post season. NBC is still undecided on their decision.

Taking a knee during the "National Anthem" is wrong because it's disrespecting veterans who fought and are still fighting for freedom and who are willing to sacrifice their lives for others back home.

Over the past years, NFL players have protested by taking a knee, raising a fist or locking arms during the national anthem before playing in a game to stand up against police brutality and racial inequality.

Players doing this are not only standing up against the issues for themselves, but are standing up for other Americans that express the same beliefs.

These horrific acts sparked a

nationwide debate and led to the question, "should politics be kept out of sports?"

NFL players took after Colin Kaepernick, a former San Francisco 49ers quarterback, who was the first player to take a knee before games which started a tradition where players can stand up for what was right and wrong.

Kaepernick caught the eye of millions of Americans including President Donald Trump.

President Trump stated, "Players who take a knee during the National Anthem will be fined as well as the team."

Many Americans including the President, thought the act of players kneeling during the National Anthem was considered unpatriotic.

It may be considered unpatriotic to many, but it doesn't say in players contracts that they can't peacefully protest and have the right to express their beliefs. Later in the season, the NFL gave players the choice to either stay in the locker room or walk

out to the end of the tunnel to participate in the national anthem.



KEITH ALLISON/CREATIVE COMMONS

Kneeling: Some members of the San Francisco 49ers kneel during the National Anthem before a game against the Washington Redskins at FedEx Field on October 15, 2017 in Landover, Maryland.