

2022 STATE OF THE COLLEGE ADDRESS



JULIO RODRIGUEZ

Cerritos: Dr. Jose Fierro, who's on the left hand side, is joined in with some of the board of trustee members on the Oct. 12 State of the College Address.

Julio Rodriguez
Staff Writer

Cerritos College hosted its 2022 State of the College Address on Oct. 12 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Before the presentation began, the event offered lunch and desserts to all guests.

Goodwill, LBS Financial Credit Union, Parker and Covert LLP, DFCU, Sabio and Wallis Bank were sponsors of the event.

President of Cerritos College Dr. Jose Fierro spoke about Cerritos College and its march to a first-class educational institution and top-notch national level.

Dr. Ferro said that Cerritos College is ranked 9th in best community college, 11th

in national community colleges, 2nd for best cosmology school and 6th for culinary arts.

The opportunity cost for college students is 10.9 billion dollars, with a return investment being 55 billion dollars.

Additionally, it's been estimated that less than 10% of Latinx workers and 15% of black workers are employed in high-skill occupations compared to a third of white workers.

Cerritos College also provides housing for students who might be in need of one.

Cerritos College had statics for students for completing their 8 units within the first year where an estimated 28% were complete and 6% were not complete.

For math and English, 38% were complete while 13% were not complete.

A few students that are/were in Cerritos College were presented. They are Hector Ledesma, Micheal John Herrera De La Pena and David Hernandez.

Hector Ledesma is a first-generation college student, raised by immigrant parents. His goal is to tackle some of the biggest environmental issues going on in the world right now.

Michael John De La Pena is a former student of Cerritos College, having graduated in the middle of the pandemic.

His dream is to work at NASA and push boundaries. He was involved in two separate programs simultaneously for

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LA FERIA LATINA AT CERRITOS COLLEGE

Mel Ayala
Staff Writer

In honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, Cerritos College hosted La Feria Latina at the Performing Arts Stage, located near Falcon Square on Oct. 6 at 11 a.m.

The celebration welcomed guests to participate in games, eat free food and dance to the music provided by the mariachis.

The food table offered free pupusas, a dish originating from Honduras and El Salvador.

The pupusas were served with curtido; a mix of cabbage, red onion, carrots shavings, and oregano all soaked in vinegar.

Aside from the pupusas, the booth offered guests two choices of drinks, pineapple and horchata.

In front of the booth, on stage, the band performed classic mariachi songs such as "El Son De La Negra," a song widely considered to be Mexico's second national anthem.

The mariachis also welcomed any guests who wanted to sing alongside them.

Jesus Trejo Vargas, 21, a student at Cerritos College, went up on stage to perform a song by Vicente Fernandez called "El Rey."

Vargas, who is majoring as a dental hygienist, says it was his first time singing in front of a crowd at this event.

To the right of the stage were the activity booths and one of the booths invited guests to play a match of Millennial Loteria.

Loteria is a game popular within the Hispanic community similar to bingo.

Millennial Loteria incorporates popular modern themes such as social media and memes.

One of the players, Ernesto Salazar, an accounting student at Cerritos College, was at the booth as a volunteer for Alpha, an organization that offers help to individuals in the Hispanic community.

"I've been part of Alpha for about a year and a half. I like to help out my peers in the community," said Salazar.

The neighboring booth hosted a guess the flag game where participants win a prize for guessing which flag belongs to which country.

The booth next to it hosted a trivia game on Latin American history.

Participants spin the wheel, landing on a number corresponding to a question and if answered correctly, winners get a prize.

Rose Abrokwa, a nursing student at Cerritos College, was one of the volunteers running the trivia booth.

"It's fun volunteering here, Abrokwa said, "I get to meet lots of people and test their knowledge of Hispanic history. I like learning about Hispanic history myself."

La Feria Latina is a way for the people of the Latino community and people of other communities to come together and celebrate Hispanic Heritage month.

INTERIM CHANCELLOR GIVES UPDATES ON DACA

Samuel Chacko
Editor in Chief

California Community Colleges held a student media conference with student journalists on Oct. 6 at 2 p.m. via Zoom.

The speaker and the California Community College Interim Chancellor, Daisy Gonzales, talked about Undocumented Student Action Week and the expansion of Bachelor's degree programs.

Gonzales talked about the DACA federal court ruling and the importance of renewing an extension.

"It [the decision] essentially said DACA recipients will not be immediately disrupted, meaning they can continue to have their DACA status," Gonzales said, "However, whether it's illegal will be

determined at a future date."

The CCC Interim Chancellor said that in the meantime, there will be no new applications that will be accepted and only those that existed.

"We are during every single DACA student to please seek an extension as soon as possible while we all work to seek a long-term permanent solution," she emphasized.

The CCC alumni said, "The next two weeks are for advocacy for undocumented students are going to be critical."

In the more positive direction, Gonzales said that the Governor signed SP. 1141,



Daisy Gonzales

which eliminates a 2-year cap on credit courses that would be counting towards AB 540 students.

"Many of our AB 540 students were finishing their education in two years and because the old law required a third year," she said, "many of them were taking non-credit courses, that wasn't really helping them."

The Interim Chancellor also noted the signing of AB 1766 where the bill allowed undocumented people here in California to access a driver's license and ID cards.

Gonzales also announces that CCC will be celebrating Undocumented Student Action Week on Oct. 17 through Oct. 21 and the resource, findyourally.com.

As for the final update on DOCA, she said that the Governor expanded Medical for all undocumented immigrants from

COLLEGE HOSTS JOB FAIR



4-year: Jorge Soriano, early admissions coordinator for Cal State Long Beach (CSULB) is informing students about their campus and what their campus can offer to students.

Jaelyn Delos Reyes
Community Editor

Cerritos College transfer center hosted the University Fair for students who are interested in transferring to a university on Sept. 12 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The fair took place inside the Student Hall where more than 50 colleges/universities came to share information about their campus with Cerritos College students.

Students were able to speak with these universities about being competitive, what is needed for admissions and what the colleges have to offer them.

Brittany Lundeen, transfer

center co-director, talked about the importance of the fair for Cerritos college students.

“I think it’s really important for students to open their options up, not to just consider a local school, but the best school for them to attend,” Lundeen said.

This is the first time the transfer center is hosting the University fair since COVID hit the world.

“Prior to COVID, we had this twice a year, once in the fall and once in the spring,” Lundeen said.

“We’re normally outside, but with the heat and the construction going on we decided to move it inside this year,” the transfer center co-director added.

MJ Cabusao, a criminal justice

major, shares his thoughts and why he attended the fair.

“I always wanted to explore my options cause I’m a student-athlete,” Cabusao said.

“As a student-athlete, you always gotta have a backup plan,” said Cabusao

“I just wanted to see what universities there are in California if football doesn’t work out,” the Criminal Justice major added.

“Some students may not know there are other schools out there with better funding,” the criminal justice student said.

“At the end of the day, you want to be comfortable where you’re going to school,” Cabusao said.

Onay Gouda, an Accounting

major; Sera Ghattas, a Biology major and Madonna Ghaly, a Biology major; all share their thoughts about the university fair.

“We’re interested in seeing in different colleges that we don’t know about,” Gouda said, “We didn’t know about UC Santa Barbara and their programs for our majors.”

Ghattas said, “I think it was good to really know my options. I’d say I’m taking a safe route by getting educated on my requirements.”

“I walked in thinking that UCI is a dream school, but there were different colleges that we never even heard of,” Ghaly said.

“Like she said about Santa Barbara [points to Ghouda], they literally convinced us and they gave us really good information,” said Ghaly,

An accounting student said that it’s important to see what all the colleges have to offer and learn the differences between each school.

“Not only do they give you information about their school,” Ghaly said, “but give you advice about college and um like taking different routes to where you wanna be.”

The biology major added, “Your major doesn’t determine where you’re going to end up.”

The transfer center will host another University Fair in the spring semester for students to attend.

JAELYN DELOS REYES

E-WASTE EVENT AT CERRITOS

Jaelyn Delos Reyes
Community Editor

Cerritos College Environmental club hosted the free E-waste collection event on Lot 1, near the stadium, of the college’s parking lot to collect older technology.

They also accepted single-use and rechargeable batteries but items like mercury-containing equipment, light bulbs, aerosol cans and liquids were not accepted.

This is the first E-collection waste event that partnered with Teen against e-waste, a student-initiated, student-led, nonprofit organization that helps raise public awareness of the issue of e-waste.

Teen against e-waste focuses on the call for action for e-waste reuse, reduction and recycling for a greener and healthier planet.

The environmental club did host a battery drive in Spring 2022, but this would be the first battery drive for the event.

Morgan Darragh, President of environmental clubs, shares her thoughts about the e-collection waste event.

“A lot of the electronic waste has certain metals in them that need to be recycled,” said Darragh, “A lot of this waste can’t be thrown into general landfills, so it’s important.”

The primary goal to this event is to get the community to get rid of any unused technology waste.

College Address

Continued from Page 1

students at the university level.

David Hernandez, a first-generation law student, comes from immigrant parents.

He is a part of the accounting department and he plans to transfer to USC in the fall of 2023.

Paula Mejia, a member of the task force, speaks on what’s her pride and ambitions.

She said that when she sees something, she wants to help and wants to be a part of the creative process.

The member of a task force refers to a time in Chico State to help make a mascot and sees the vision of how to create and be a part of something.

“That would be my pride, I would say. I can be a part of something creative, something wonderful. For the people to see this is the entry to Cerritos College,” Mejia said.

The president of Cerritos College Jose Fierro has a message for students.

“Come to Cerritos College. We welcome everyone, regardless of who you are. Assure you are successful in your academic and professional career.” Fierro said.



JAELYN DELOS REYES

Fair: Madonna Ghaly and Onay Gouda, ones mentioned in the article, attended the University Fair on Sept. 12 during the university fair.

BLANCA PACHECO FUNDRAISER INTERRUPTED BY PROTESTORS

Samuel Chacko
Editor in Chief

Emanuel Guadarrama
Freelancer

A fundraiser for Blanca Pacheco, the first Latina elected for the Downey City Council and as the mayor of Downey, was held on Sept. 20 to help gain momentum for Pacheco's campaign.

The event was abruptly interrupted by protestors who supposedly represented Downey's water district and advocated for

rent control.

"We're here to protest you people, you people are bad, you don't want to clean the water, where's the accountability," said one of the protestors with his megaphone.

The protestor stated that Pacheco was going to allegedly receive a fundraiser from private water companies.

Cerritos College Board of Trustees member, Mariana Pacheco, shared her thoughts about the water issue which was advocated by the protestor.

"They're going to do whatever they can to make it as noisy as possible, it's nothing new by the

way," said Pacheco.

The Board of Trustee member said that the protestors wanted them to pay more money to treat the water and added, "Our water is fine and they tested it, it's not an issue, they've already done reports and the council voted no."

The organization that helped supported the protest was the Peace and Freedom Party in Los Angeles, who posted on their Instagram that they were invited by the downeytenantsunion.

"As a socialist party, we believe the speaker of the house should be the voice of the Californian working class," the post said.

"We are socialist and we are

supporting [the] working class issues like rent control, that Mayor Pacheco is against," Aaron Reveles said.

Aaron Reveles is the leading member of the Peace and Freedom Party in Los Angeles, on the state committee, and currently running for MUSD school board, talked about the protest.

"We supported [the protest] but we did not create it," Reveles said, "Socialism will win."

Law enforcement later showed up, on behalf of the owners of the OLA Restobar, to ask the protestors to move further away from the restaurant because it impacted their business.

Emilio Sosa, a chief executive officer for The Arc of Los Angeles and Orange Counties, said, "She would support ending homelessness and increasing funding for education."

Sosa also mentioned that Pacheco cares about all communities and that the cities she represents would also benefit the most.

A council member from district five of Downey, Mario Trujillo, announced their supervisor, Janice Hahn.

Hahn is a strong, confident supporter of Pacheco and said that someone had reached out to her to find a potential candidate to run for the seat and that she immediately thought of Pacheco.

According to Hahn, Pacheco wanted to check with her family first and after a couple of days, Hahn called Pacheco to see if she had an answer.

Pacheco answered the call to run for a seat in the California State Assembly, which will be held on Nov. 8.



Pacheco: The Peace and Freedom Party came out to support a protest during the Sept. 20 fundraiser.

POLITICAL LIFE & PEACE AND FREEDOM PARTY
LOS ANGELES

ANNUAL HAVANA NIGHTS IN DOWNEY

Julio Rodriguez
Staff Writer

Downey hosted their Annual Havana Nights event on Oct. 6 between 6 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

In previous years, the event was hosted on top of a parking lot structure on 2nd street.

Havana Nights consisted of live performances such as "La Charanga Cubana" and "DJ Warapo." Before the performances, there was a special appearance by the Mayor of Downey, Blanca Pacheco.

There were tons of activities at the event like card games, an arts and crafts center, a section of "Connect 4" and a bean bag toss for children to play with.

In addition, there were also other places to take your photos such as the old cars on display, the big letters spelling Downey, etc.

There were 40+ vendors that sold different items like toys, jewelry and clothing, which were curated by Angel City Market Inc.

The vendors weren't exclusive to normal items but included

drinks and desserts such as Frescas, Cuban food, juice packs and so on.

A vendor and artist, Michelle Taylor, spoke about why Havana Nights was a special event to her.

Taylor talked about how she was invited by Downey Art Coalition to show off her artwork.


"It's still nice to have an event that's just hosted for Cuban culture," the artist said, "That's what Havana Nights is about."

Nancy Calas, a vendor who sold vegan Cuban food and owns the catering business, "Malecón," spoke about what inspired her to make Cuban food.

"When I came out to California from Florida, I felt like I wanted to share Cuban food with people," the vendor said.

"I thought there were a lot of vegans so I found a way to make all of my favorite Cuban (food) plant-based," Calas said.


She said that she wanted vegans and non-vegans to eat Cuban food that was traditional or plant-based versions of her favorite Cuban meals.




Associates in Chinese

CHINESE PROGRAM


Cerritos College Chinese Program offers Chinese AA Degree. Since 2017 when the degree was awarded, there has been nearly 30 students who have obtained the degree. These graduates have either transferred to four-year universities to explore Chinese further by taking upper-division courses or have entered into a profession that is dedicated to U.S.-China educational, cultural and commercial cooperation and exchanges. Cerritos College Chinese Program builds a pathway to help students achieve their goals in the field of Chinese Studies.



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- Cal State Los Angeles
- San Francisco State

Future at a glance

Opens doors for careers choices, opportunities to study abroad, scholarships & grants, advance Mandarin skills, & possibility to earn higher pay

For more info about Chinese Program, please go to <https://www.cerritos.edu/fl/chinese.htm>.



JULIO RODRIGUEZ

Havana: La Charanga Cubana is performing while people are dancing to their music at the Havana Night event on Oct. 7.

COMMUNITY



Charity: Michael Lopez accepting cash donation on Oct. 14.

BENJAMIN GARCIA

PRE-THANKSGIVING CHARITY FOR MISSION ECHO

Benjamin Garcia

Freelancer

Michael Lopez runs a non-profit Mission Echo which gives aid to the homeless. Mission Echo depends on donations from the community to fill his van with supplies for families and folks on skid row.

Families and folks in Skid Row depend on a local non-profit titled Mission E.C.H.O. for direct food aid, as well as first aid supplies, blankets, shoes, hygiene products and temporary shelter. However, a vital event to collect donations was rained out on Oct. 14.

The event was advertised as family fun with vendors, a live DJ and a raffle for a PS5, to supplement the constant

fundraisers of the non-profit organization. Instead, there were generous regular donors of the organization and a utility van full of people to help receive various offerings.

Michael Lopez, the CEO of the Mission E.C.H.O., had almost nothing to do with the planning of the event. He was just told to show up with the non-profit's van.

All the details were handled by podcaster Jesse Estevez of @qvo_latino_talk. Talon Marks reached out to Esteves for comment but received no response.

Being a Huntington Park man, Lopez didn't even play a role in choosing the location of Adventure Park in Whittier for the event.

Lopez focuses on the actual work of collecting mostly

food donations for direct aid; the hashtag "#ItsOnlyFood," displayed in @mission_echo's bio, is a reminder of this.

Lopez further promises that cash donors' donations go directly to buying food and not to ingratiate himself in public favor or sustain large overhead. He is committed to this mission of feeding the hungry because he himself spent 18 years in prison, struggled with addiction and experienced homelessness.

The word "E.C.H.O." in Mission E.C.H.O. stands for "Ex-Cholo Helping Others." He described himself as an ex-cholo because, in his words, "I'm no longer a gang member, hurting my community, doing drugs." He added that he doesn't judge anyone and everyone in Skid Row

has a story.

These days, Lopez works as a program director of a patients' rights advocate program in Orange County, using his bachelor's degree in criminal justice and a master's degree in forensic psychology.

One of those regular donors present at the event were two people who have helped fund multiple times and had won various raffles. They showed up in person to give the organization a cash donation. Long-time patrons Teresa Q. and Jerry S. would only give their last initial.

Also present at the event was Victoria Valdez who knows Michael Lopez because they are both Huntington Park alumni.

Valdez happened to be in town and wanted to show up

for this event in person because homelessness is an issue close to her heart. She shared that her mother was homeless.

Mission E.C.H.O. accepts donations of anything that a person may need and works with all volunteers every day of the week.

Every Tuesday, Mission E.C.H.O. holds a Hot Dog Tuesday event where people in Skid Row can depend on a meal during the week at night on E. 5th St. and Towne Ave., something rare among hot food aid organizations in Los Angeles. A \$250 donation feeds 125 people.

Sometime in December, a tentative date will be chosen for the next van-filling event held by Mission E.C.H.O.

OPENING DAY AT KNOTT'S SCARY FARM

Gabriel Villegas

Staff Writer

Knott's Scary Farm 2022 opened its doors on Sept. 22 at 7 a.m. with new and returning mazes, with monsters old and familiar to run from.

Knott's Scary Farm is now requiring minors to be accompanied by adults and chaperones, who monitor groups of five children, to be permitted into the park for free due to teenage fighting taking place in July.

The treacherous journey began at "The Depths," a returning maze centered on a group of night watch miners, that disappeared deep into the caves underneath containing sea monsters and undead miners.

The Depths" was followed by sci-fi horror, "Dark Entities," which was focused on a flight

crew whose ship had been taken over by an infectious alien that mutates its host.

Knott's Scary Farm 2022 offered different activities to see and guests were able to enjoy live shows such as, "Puppet Up!," "Carnaval du Grotesque" and "Conjurers - Dark Magic," all while monsters still roam the park grounds.

Just at the edge of Ghost Town, "The Grimoire" was introduced as 2022's newest maze where several horrifying characters were released from a book during a campfire scary story-telling session.

Around the bend, the "Gore-ing 20s" featured several prohibition-era ghouls to poke fun at guests, push the ways of sobriety and spark up fear.

For first-time Knott's Scary Farm guests, it's recommended that one enters at the front to avoid slandering sadists.



Clown: CarnEvil clown taking a break from scaring guests to smile for the camera Knott's Scary Farm 2022 on Sept. 22.

GABRIEL VILLEGAS

Just past the "Gore-ing 20s," the "CarnEvil Zone" contains "Mesmer: Sideshow of the Mind" in which Mesmer, the hypnotist, reaches into guests' deepest, darkest fears with circus-themed frights because clowns never fail to scare.

Spending its final year at Knott's Scary Farm is "Dark Ride: Castle of Chaos," an amusement park-themed maze with appropriately chosen obstacles

such as bumper cars and broken ride pieces for monsters to hide behind.

Other exciting mazes included the return of "Origins: The Curse of Calico," a Ghost Town-themed maze with much brilliant exposition, alongside "Pumpkin Eater," which is also spending its last year at Knott's Scary Farm.

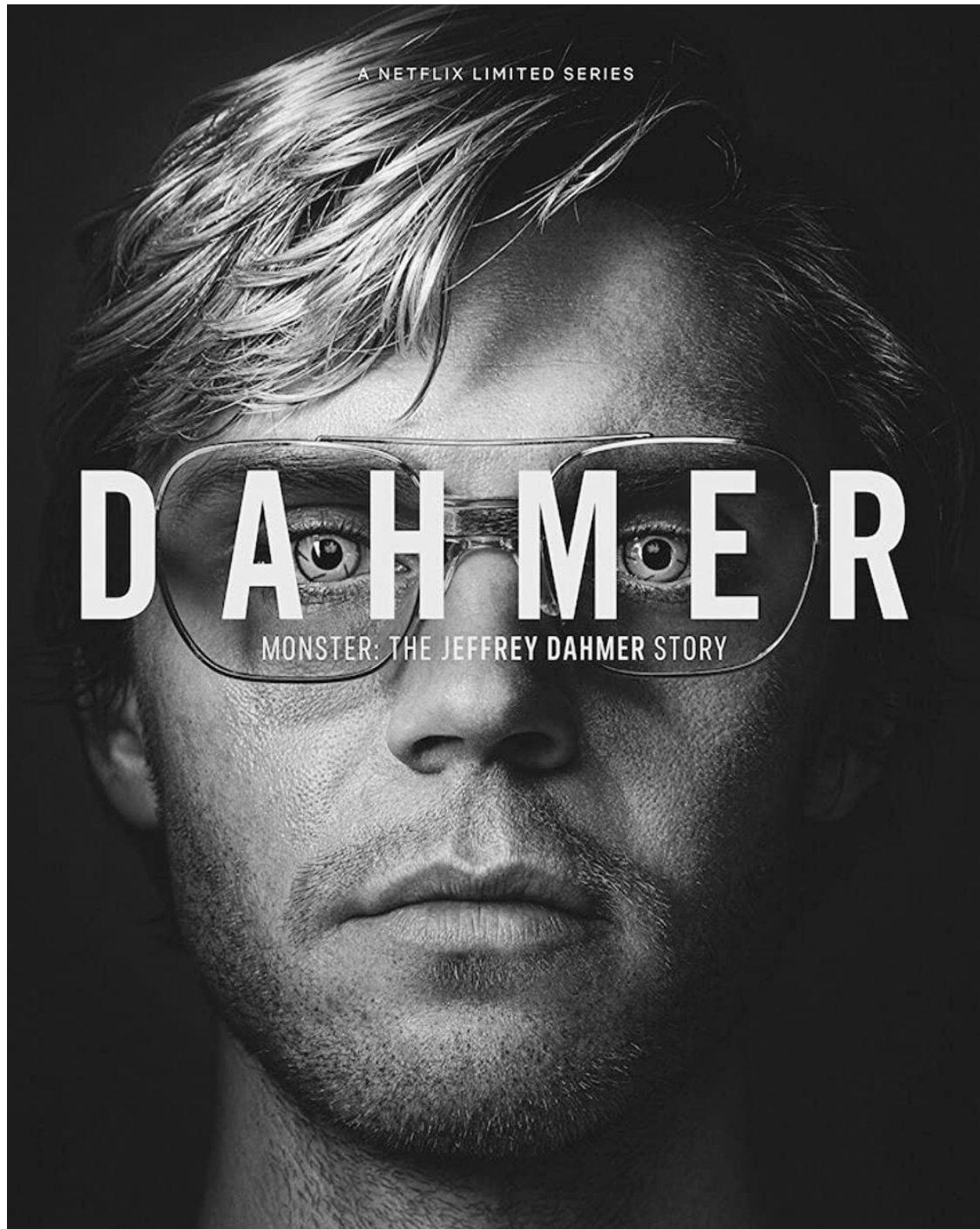
Less memorable mazes included "Wax Works," for its lack

of monsters and "Bloodline 1842," a vampire-themed shooter which is best progressed with a small party, yet groups were too large to appreciate all its details.

Tickets, merch and a private guide are up on their website if you want to experience Knott's Scary Farm yourself.

Knott's Scary Farm will be open until Oct. 31 and opens from 7 p.m. to at the latest, 2 a.m.

DAHMER EDUCATION OR CONTROVERSIAL?



NETFLIX

Netflix released their official *Dahmer: Monster The Jeffrey Dahmer Story* poster to the general public.

Samuel Carey
A & E Editor

Joel Carpio
Staff Writer

“Dahmer” or “Monster: The Jeffrey Dahmer Story” was released exclusively to Netflix on Sept. 21 and it had some mixed reviews, to say the least.

It has been Netflix’s number-one show since being released, in fact, it’s the biggest show debut since season 4 of *Stranger Things* was released.

To date, the “Dahmer” Netflix’s true-crime drama series has ranked in a whopping cumulative of 196,200,000 hours watched worldwide and has an IMDB rating of 8.2 out of 10.

Many IMDB users also left reviews touting the superb acting and portrayals by the actors of all the actual people.

Some people are even lusting over Jeffrey Dahmer and turning him into a “sex symbol.”

One user that goes by eriksurreward acclaimed the true crime series and said, “The cinematography, one of the best that I have seen in a true crime series of a serial killer!”

It’s safe to say many people found an affinity and liked the

series, but several others felt the opposite.

The series of course didn’t come without its controversy, Netflix has been accused of the inaccurate portrayal of events.

Categorizing the true crime series under the “LGBTQ” category on Netflix had many saying it was insensitive and wrong since Dahmer preyed on gay men.

Perhaps the one controversial point several people seem to be agreeing on is that Netflix is profiting off the victims of Jeffrey Dahmer.

“It’s sad that they’re just making money off this tragedy, Rita Isbell, the sister of victim Errol Lindsey said, “That’s just greed.”

Eric Perry, the cousin of Errol Lindsey said that the Netflix true-crime series is “retraumatizing” their family.

The families of Dahmer’s victims also recused Ryan Murphy, the co-creator of “Dahmer,” for not notifying them in advance they were going to do a series on Dahmer and for not cutting them a check.

On the other hand, the series exploits the victims’ families and in a way glorifies Jeffrey Dahmer.

Some critics say that making

continuous series about the serial killer is turning him into an “icon.”

Recently the “Dahmer” true crime series became Netflix’s second most popular English series

The series can be quite educational to people who haven’t heard of the “Milwaukee Cannibal” so that they too can be informed about the dangers of people who want to portray his image.

Most critics loved the series it was the second-highest-viewed show all across the country.

As of Oct. 12, over 701.37 million hours watched by the people of the U.S tuned in to see what was all the fuss was about.

Some would even say Dahmer went after black and brown men which would indicate the racial tendencies of his victims and from the media.

Evan Peters who portrays Jeffery Dahmer said in a promotional video for “Monster” and went over his feelings about the story.

“It’s called The Jeffery Dahmer Story: It’s repercussions, it’s how society and our system failed to stop him multiple times because of racism, homophobia, It’s just a tragic a story,” Peters said.



GABRIEL VILLEGAS/TM

“UNTITLED (1987)” in natural lighting being observed by visiting couple on October 1, 2022

STAY GALLERY HOSTS EXHIBIT FOR CERRITOS COLLEGE ALUMNI

Gabriel Villegas
Staff Writer

The Stay Gallery hosted a night exhibit for local artist, Cerritos College alumni, Angel Acordagoitia on Oct. 1 for his presentation of “A Black Light Affair.”

The Cerritos College alumni made sure to introduce himself to each guest with a handshake followed by an insight about himself, his background and his exhibit.

Guests varied from former co-workers to collaborators, art enthusiasts and occasional Downey residents.

Acordagoitia stepped in a new direction using blacklight reactive paint, which was different from his previous work such as murals to portraits to abstraction.

The artist’s goal was to make art with more than one meaning and to display a variety of paintings ranging from portraits to more abstract materials.

“I wanted to do a different show for people to experience something new,” said Acordagoitia, “I wanted to portray two different stories in the same painting.”

While the neon acrylic gives an edgier side to his portraits of Picasso and Jean-Michel Basquiat, his murals stood out because of the hidden details that revealed a larger truth to his message.

“Coatlucue” or “Las Dos Madres” featured the Aztec pantheon and earth-mother goddess in daylight as it portrayed La Virgen de Guadalupe or the Virgin Mary, using acrylic blacklight paint.

As a Hispanic artist, Acordagoitia’s portfolio is heavily centered around Mexican history and historical Hispanic figures.

Acordagoitia learned how to draw at a young age from his

father and older sister.

He started working with his uncle, who was taught by a former student of Frida Kahlo, which led Acordagoitia to paint murals and portraits.

Another prominent mural that stood out was “The Outsider,” a mural displaying a boy whose shirt reads “ART MADE ME DO IT” as he looks down at his phone.

The mural also had several figures shown to be distracted by their own devices.

Under the blacklight, the message on the boy’s shirt is revealed to be “SOCIAL MEDIA MADE ME DO IT” comparing the amount of influence art has on the general public and society’s youth compared to social media.

Acordagoitia blends Hispanic culture with street culture, using abrupt, sharp lines to create rough images of iconic figures such as the rock band “Guns N Roses” as well as images symbolizing Mexican history.

Other pieces included self-portraits that were blended with abstraction, displaying the artist in a nightclub-like scene alongside turntables and neon patterns, associating himself with the nightlife image.

Acordagoitia’s “Immortal Gallery” featured other works that were not displayed at the Stay Gallery.

The art had themes of society’s youth and Hispanic history, which targeted a wider margin of audience.



GABRIEL VILLEGAS

Portraits of artists, painted by Angel Acordagoitia, displayed at the “Black Light Affair” exhibit at Stay Gallery.



JESUE ALDUENDA

Cinderella: An executive informs the princess she has been recast by diverse new talent

STOP USING PEOPLE OF COLOR AS PROPS

Lukas Luna-Arellano
Opinion Editor

The upcoming live-action movie, “The Little Mermaid Remake” has drummed up controversy with its casting of black actress Halle Bailey to play the role of originally white character Ariel.

Though Disney has responded to the outrage over this decision by claiming the moral high ground, they are in truth cynically monetizing the backlash to this diverse casting to market their next product.

While Bailey’s casting is the controversy on everyone’s lips at the moment, consider that she is only the first in a long line of similar decisions from Disney and other major studios.

The 2017 iteration of “Beauty and The Beast” reframed the character of LeFou, played by Josh Gad, as a gay man.

However, despite the media

hooplah, in the end it turned out to be a brief scene where LeFou is dancing with another man.

Disney and its imitators have fallen into a pattern of prompting a frenzy of controversy surrounding the race swapping and reorientation of classic characters, yet ultimately do nothing significant. Why?

The answer has proved itself time and again to simply be cynical corporate marketing tactics.

The novelty of a live action remake of an animated classic is long since dead and Disney needs something to prop up what they are hoping will be the next big blockbuster.

Regardless of one’s feelings on the matter, it is impossible to deny that the artificial diversity of these castings drum up conversation.

Many of today’s social commentators got their start dissecting yesterday’s “diverse” casting.

This ultimately leaves the

people they claim to cater to with little more than table scraps that they are expected to treat like some great victory.

What message does this ultimately send?

Clearly not the one of diversity and inclusion that Hollywood is banking on.

Instead, they are telling this potential audience that they are no better than the leftovers of white characters.

Since creating an original character requires more work and has less potential reward, these audiences had better get used to being nothing more than props in a marketing campaign.

What potential ways forward are there in a situation like this?

The original black characters have proven they can still rake in a considerable profit.

It was not long ago that Black Panther was dominating global box offices and that movie’s sequel is due soon.

IT’S TIME TO STOP THESE IPAD KIDS

Jesus Alduenda
Staff Writer

Parenting is a tough task, especially be the case when it comes to keeping your children in check.

Parents used to insist on making their kids more productive. Unfortunately, with the advent of technology, it seems parents are more likely to give their kids an iPad.

Giving a kid an iPad is at times a distraction and a means for a child to be distracted while a parent is out busy doing something else.

Inherently, giving a kid an iPad is not a bad thing.

The issue is that this seems to be the way children are growing up now. What should be normal life

experiences such as interaction and physical education, are now minimized.

Parents might find it easier and less work to hand over technology to get their baby to stop crying.

It may be useful at the moment and work to allow the parent peace and tranquility.

Technology has drawbacks for children like social skills, relationships, health problems, ability focus and the dangers of browsing.

But when should there be a stop? It is solely up to the parent?

This can lead to several issues like the child being dependent to a phone or iPad.

Jenny Radesky, MD, clinical instructor in Developmental-Behavioral Pediatrics at Boston University School of Medicine

and a former fellow in pediatrics at Boston Medical Center, gave her thoughts on children and technology.

“If these devices become the predominant method to calm and distract young children, will they be able to develop their internal mechanisms of self-regulation?” Radesky said.

There needs to be a line drawn and responsibility on the parents half before creating a child dependent on their devices.

There are more questions than answers when it comes to children and technology.

Since technology has huge drawbacks for children, parents need to make the hard decision to the time kids spend on their iPads and technology.

GAS PRICES WILL GO BACK DOWN, EVENTUALLY...

Joel Carpio
Staff Writer

The rest of the country was seeing a steady decline in oil until it quickly came back up; prices at the pump will go down but there’s no telling when.

Initially, gas prices soared after Russia invaded Ukraine and skyrocketed the amount of crude oil per barrel.

This time the root of the problem is local refineries are having issues refining gasoline causing there to be a shortage.

Severin Borenstein, an economist and faculty director of the Energy Institute at Haas at UC Berkeley said on the matter, “The increase this time is due to a scarcity of refined gasoline.”

The invasion of Ukraine by Russia will not last forever and once it does end, we could see gas prices return to how they were before the Russia’s aggression.

The United States could potentially end its embargo with Russia over imports of cruel oil, despite the war not being over and that could decline gas prices.

Governor Gavin Newsom has signed the state budget for 2022-2023 which now confirms that the state will allocate money to distribute out to the middle class of California as part of a tax rebate.

While this will not lower the price of gas at the pump, it does give 23 million Californians a chance of receiving a check of up to \$1,050 as soon as Oct. of 2022.

The tax rebate will also allocate and distribute \$400 in debit cards per vehicle a person owns to ease people’s pockets.

Recently, there’s also been a growing movement toward repealing a gas tax that has charged us an extra 50 cents for gasoline.

The movement has grown so much that California Republicans have picked up on it and are now calling for the California Legislature to put the repeal of the bill on the ticket for the 2022 California midterms.

The bill’s repeal has become a hot button issue in the upcoming elections

A big reason why California has some of the most expensive gas prices in the county is because of the gas tax and if we vote to repeal the tax, it will drive gasoline prices down substantially.

Marie Dodds of AAA Oregon certified that all up along the West Coast gas prices have been soaring due to refinery issues and unexpected maintenance checks.

We know the prices at the pump will go down eventually, unfortunately, we just don’t know when and by how much.



Richard Masoner

Gas: Soaring gas prices in California nearly reached \$5 a gallon.

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MEN'S SOCCER CRUISES VS SAN DIEGO

Ivonne Zepeda
Social Media Editor

The game started off strong with both teams going head to head to conquer the other's defense.

While Cerritos put up a tough defense, Mt. San Antonio scored the first goal in the first five minutes.

The Mounties had a short-lived victory as Reghan Roscoe, No.11 (Frosh) Defender, took the ball through their defense to the goal 8 minutes in, evening the score 1-1.

Falcons put up a strong offense to try to take the lead and had many goal attempts.

As their offense got stronger, the goal became clear for the Mounties, who scored again.

Only 10 minutes into the first half they took the lead 2-1.

Cerritos put up an aggressive fight to even the score but left their defense open and the Mounties took the opportunity to increase their lead to 3-1.

The second half mirrored the first with Mt. SAC scoring within the first 5 minutes, 4-1.

Cerritos refused to give up and picked up the pace where it was needed.

The Falcons' increased their communication and could be heard throughout the field.

The game grew more intense as the final 18 minutes counted down as the Falcons picked up the pace in desperation to make a comeback.

With 11 minutes left on the clock, Casandra Gomez No.8 (Frosh) Forward scored a consolation goal which left the score at 4-2.

The final 10 minutes were desperate for Cerritos, as they made goal attempts.

It was a close game but Cerritos was down at the end 4-2.

Lauren Vasquez No.10 (Soph) felt that the team's energy wasn't the same during the second half but they toughed it out and finished with two goals.

Gomez said an improvement for the team is becoming more aware and calming down, "Cause when we don't do that, that's when we start panicking...and that's when our chances get better."

Cerritos may have faced a loss, but the team remains confident in its ability to bounce back.

"I think I would rather have a team that continues to grow than starts off strong and kind of plateaus," Interim Head Coach Tessa Troglia said.

Troglia believes that the team is improving every game, "I think we're on the incline," adding that she sees the team's growth and progress.



SAMUEL CHACKO

Linemen: The person on the left is Adiran Manzo "Zo," in the middle is Joseph Perez "Chancho" and on the right is Jonathan Manzo, who are part of the Cerritos College offensive line group.

HERE'S THE THREE TOP PLAYERS FOR 9TH RANKED FALCONS

Samuel Chacko
Editor in Chief

Falcons' football is currently ranked ninth in the CCCAA rankings and three of the top players for the Falcons talked about how the current football season is going and their future plans after Cerritos.

The quarterback for the Falcons and business major, Jordan Simpson, first started playing football with his dad in the park.

"Since I was seven, my dad, he has coached me and my little brother to play football just at the park," Simpson said, "Every day, in June, we'd just workout the whole time and then we played in August."

When Simpson isn't threading the needle on the football field, the games he plays are Madden and NBA 2k.

"I play a lot of NBA 2k," Simpson said, "Our starting running back Von and our starting receiver all play in the park and that creates chemistry on the field and off the field."

Coaching is something Simpson also wants to do and said that he would like to have a kid and coach him.

"I do want to play at the highest level possible so I can have the most amount of experience to relay," Simpson said.

Milo Lopez, who's a business major and starting strong safety

for the Falcons, played football his whole life.

"He's [his dad] always taught me to be humble and good things will come so he's definitely been an inspirational part of my life," Lopez said

Lopez had an offer for a four-year college before the season and is open for any college but would like to go away from home, "and experience something different."

"Hopefully I achieve my goal as a Division I player and definitely pride myself in being a good person and when the time comes, be a good father and husband too," Lopez said when asked to envision the future.

Jonathan Manzo is an offensive lineman for Cerritos College, is a sociology major and wants to be a counselor for special needs students.

Manzo said that his NFL comparison would be Trent Williams, "just his overall abilities to read the defense and know what's coming and how he slows the game down."

The psychology major also added that the offensive line group is more comfortable and open with each other.

"Every Friday, we go out to eat as the offensive line," he said, "We go to like Roadhouse or anywhere and just eat as a team."

Falcons football will be playing at El Camino on Oct. 22 at 6 p.m.



SAMUEL CHACKO

Safety: This is Milo Lopez, who's the Safety for the Falcons' and is a business major as he poses for the camera on Sept. of this year.

CERRITOS BRINGS THE THUNDER VS PANTHERS 50-14



ROMAN ACOSTA

Booth: *Sophomore quarterback Jordan Simpson No. 5 handoffs the ball to Sophomore star running back and Davon Booth as Booth scores the Falcons' first TD of the game against Chaffey on Oct. 17, as they beat the Chaffey Panthers 50-14.*

Samuel Chacko
Editor in Chief

Cerritos brought a 'lighting fast' start having dominated the Chaffey Panthers at home in their first league conference game on Oct. 15 at 6 p.m.

Despite weather delays due to rain and lightning, that stopped the game for 45 minutes, the game went on as scheduled.

Cerritos kicked off to the Panthers as Chaffey started their drive on their own 38-yard line.

The Panthers were quickly met by a 'flock of Falcons' as they lost yardage and went three and out on their first drive.

The Falcons started on their own 34-yard line and quickly went to work as they leaned on the Utah State commit Davon Booth who rushed for 14-yards on his first carry.

Quarterback Jordan Simpson connected with Michael Bruner on a 39-yard pass that put the Falcons on the 10-yard line and resulted in Booth punching in the TD as the Falcons go up 6-0 due to a missed PAT.

The Falcons defense was causing pressure all night as they forced the Panthers to make mistakes early as the Panthers have to punt again.

Cerritos started their second offensive series on their own 15-

yard line, Booth had a 60-yard run on 2nd and 5 that put the Falcons in the red zone before the 2nd quarter.

Simpson found his tight end Jacob Lejia for a 7-yard TD on 3rd and goal as the Falcons scored the 2-point conversion with a Booth run.

Falcons' stop Chaffey again and Simpson 'let it fly' on the deep ball as he completed a 59-yard pass to wide receiver Jaceon Doss.

The Falcons were forced to settle for a field goal as kicker Abraham Delgadillo's kick was good as the Falcons took a 17-0 lead halfway in the 2nd quarter.

Cerritos got the ball yet again drove down the field with just enough time to kick another field goal as Delgadillo's kick was good from the 32-yard line.

Booth set the tone with a 22-yard run on the first play of the 3rd quarter and another explosive run for 23-yards taking it to the Panthers 3-yard line.

On 2nd and goal, Simpson found Doss in the endzone on the 17-yard TD pass as they go up 27-0.

The Panthers next series was cut short thanks to a great defensive play made by the Falcons as linebacker Angel Garcia picked off the pass at the 42-yard line and returned it for

20-yards.

On 2nd and 5, Travys Davis scored from the Panthers 7-yard line to put the Falcons up 34-0.

Chaffey's next offensive series started late in the 3rd quarter led to the Panthers scoring their first TD at the start of the 4th quarter.

Michael Hayes, Running back for Falcons, fires back with his own score and makes the game 47-7.

The Panthers once again kicked off to Bruner who had a 69-yard return and two plays later, Running Back Marcus Minor scored the rushing TD in the 4th quarter, making it four running backs who scored for the Falcons.

Chaffey once again scored leaving a minute left on the clock as Cerritos ran out the clock.

The Falcons won with the final score of 50-14 with the Falcons winning big.

"They [the team] were laser focused and it even shows with the lightning delays, they stayed focus," head coach Dean Grosfeld said.

The Falcons' head coach said that El Camino, their next opponent, is a big rivalry game and that his team will be locked in and ready to go.

Cerritos will play a conference game against El Camino, at El Camino in the 'Milk Can Game' on Sat. Oct. 22 at 6 p.m.



SAMUEL CHACKO

Stone: *Stone Robledo, who's a Sophomore at Cerritos, has the top position on Sergio Gutierrez as he wins in a 7-2 victory on Sept. 12.*

CERRITOS' WRESTLING CRUSHES SANTA ANA 40-10

Samuel Chacko
Editor in Chief

Before the game began, there was an introduction of each member of the Falcons and Santa Ana who would be competing on Oct. 12 at 7 p.m.

Once the national anthem was praised, the wrestling game began with the 125-pounders Frosh Jameer McCrae (Cerritos) and Frosh Damien Lopez (Santa Ana).

McCrae clawed back from a 6-4 lead by Lopez with an escape point and had a complete reversal to take the lead and win 7-6.

Malachi Lyles, who's a 197-pounder (Frosh), was one of many players who were yelling his support to his teammates.

The next match comes in the 133-pound division with Diego Jasso (Frosh) winning by forfeit in a quick match against Santa Ana.

Anthony Pereyra (Frosh), who's in the 141-pound division, fighting Branden Huynh (Frosh).

Pereyra kept the quick victories going with the 141-pounder pinned Huynh and won at 1:08.

The winning continues as Mario De La Torre (Frosh), fighting at 149 pounds, won by pinning Nicholas Gutierrez (Frosh) down at 1:47 of the match.

Just as the winning continues, the pinning continues with Felix Osorio (Soph) of Cerritos winning at 157 pounds by pinning Zeke Hueter (Frosh) at 1:49.

However, Santa Ana fights back with Salvador Munoz

pinning Mataeo Jaramillo at 1:57 of the round.

The 174-pound fight had Jonathan Aldama (Frosh) from Santa Ana wins against Elijah Ocampo (Frosh) with a majority decision of 11-2.

The noise of the stadium picked up as Stone Robledo of Cerritos (Soph) won a majority decision over Sergio Gutierrez (Frosh) 7-2.

During the match, you hear the Cerritos team yells "Stone!" after every second of his match.

Cerritos' Jacob Medina (Frosh), the 197-pounder, won by forfeit as the Falcons continue to pile on and keep their lead intact.

Kobe Pablo (Frosh), who's fighting at 285-pounds, goes up against Santa Ana's Ruben Morfin (Frosh).

The Administration of Justice major laid down the justice with a dominant performance in the final period, winning 12-3 in a majority decision.

Don Garriott, the head coach of the Falcons' wrestling, talked about how most of the Falcons' wrestlers went up a weight class so the team was a little smaller than them.

"Where we're at is kinda where we need to be this season," Garriot said, "We still have some peaks we need to get to but right now is where we want them to be."

"It's always good to get a conference," the head coach said,

Cerritos wrestling will play at Rio Hondo on Oct. 19 at 7 p.m.



SAMUEL CHACKO

Felix: *Felix Osorio (Soph) fought at 157 pounds and pinned Mataeo Jaramillio to win his one on one on Oct. 12 at 7 p.m.*