

CERRITOS NEWS

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BIRTH OF A FALCON

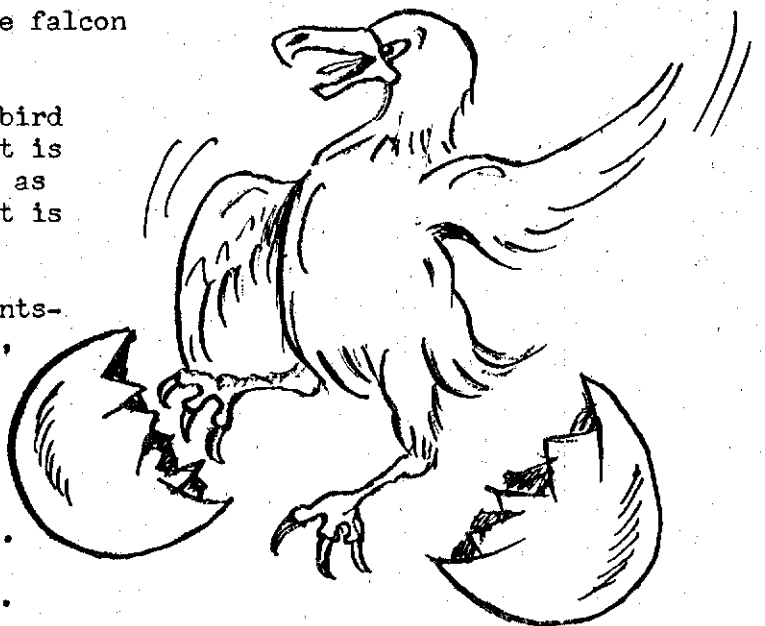
A lovely brown-eyed baby was born Tuesday when the Cerritos JC student body officers selected the falcon as its official school mascot.

The falcon, you know, is a fierce, keen-eyed bird more feared than the eagle by other birds. It is swift, has a razor-sharp beak and legs strong as steel. Its talons are long, needle-edged. It is taught as a fledgling to hunt wild birds.

Falcons were known to have been trained as hunters as early as 2,000 B.C. In China, Babylon, India, Japan, falconry was a sport of the nobility. It came to Europe in the Middle Ages and died with the advent of firearms.

The falcon has a long, gracious past. We hope at Cerritos to give it a glorious future.

Official school colors will be announced soon.



The New Math Look

How times change! Now, when we went to school math teachers were sometimes thought of as stuffy individuals who knew their subject matter, but little else. You know the type.



THOMAS H. UPTON

Well, Thomas H. Upton, geometry instructor at Cerritos, is a product of our jet age. At the age of 28 he's tops in his field in math. Four years ago, however, our versatile professor was playing shortstop for the New York Yankees. Prior to that he was shortstop for the Washington Senators. In 1950 and '51 he played for the St. Louis Browns... (Short pause here while Daddy Heath, our old geometry teacher, turns over in his grave).

Upton, who lives in Whittier, was signed up for pro baseball at the age of 16, and played in the New York Yankee farm system until the Browns grabbed him in 1950. He is married, has a girl, 2½, and another girl eight months old. When not teaching at Cerritos he is coaching and teaching at Compton JC. In 1953 he received his M.A. at USC and decided to quit pro baseball while he was on top.

"The drawing area for this college is tremendous," he said. "With Cerritos getting nothing but the best in staff personnel we're going to have a wonderful college in a very short time."