

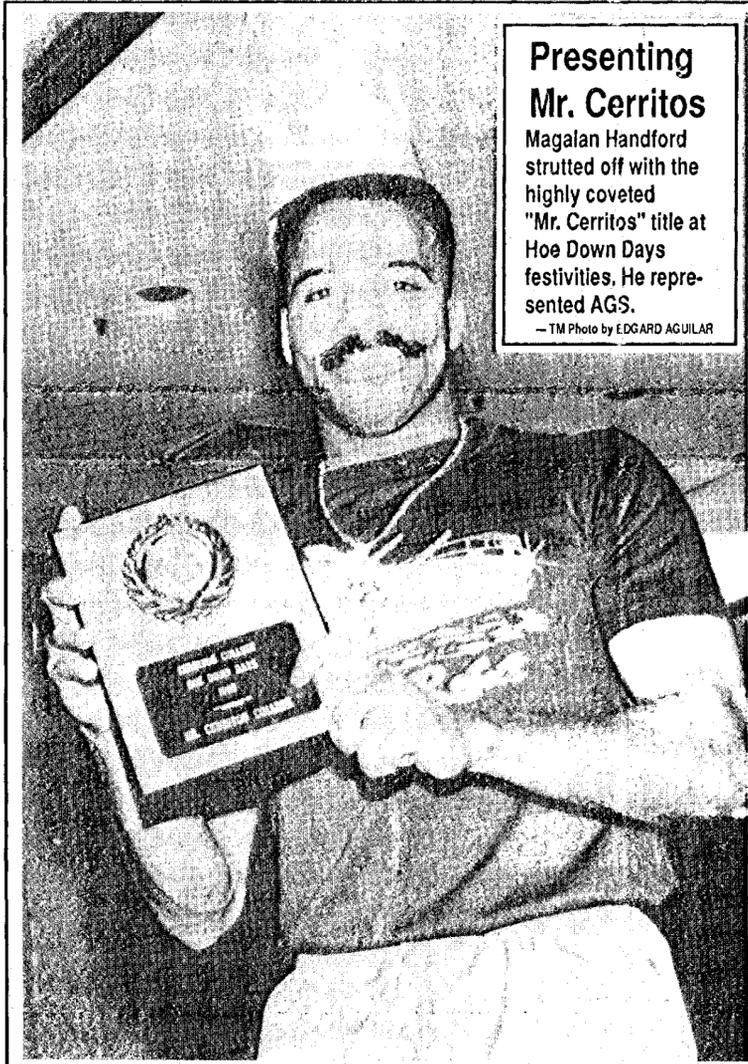
# Talon Marks

The 1st Amendment Student Newspaper of Record of Cerritos College committed to the calling that if the newspaper doesn't watch out for the students, who will?

CERRITOS COLLEGE

11110 Alondra Blvd., Norwalk, CA 90650

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**Presenting Mr. Cerritos Magalan Handford strutted off with the highly coveted "Mr. Cerritos" title at Hoe Down Days festivities. He represented AGS.**

— TM Photo by EDGARD AGUILAR

## Friday is deadline for getting in the ASCC presidential race

By Raysa Botero  
NEWS EDITOR

Do you have the right stuff? ASCC Presidential candidate applications and ballot pictures are due this Friday, March 31, at 4 p.m., and if you think you've got it, get on the ball.

According to the ASCC Constitution's Government Organization Code, candidates must have the following requirements:

Must have a minimum 2.0 cumulative G.P.A., and a minimum 2.0 G.P.A. from the previous semester; must maintain an enrollment of 10 or more units of work, at Cerritos College during their term in office.

A student government officer who fails to complete a minimum of 10 units during their term in office, shall be ineligible to hold an ASCC office during the next semester; no student shall serve more than a total of six semesters in the ASCC Student Government.

Any student who receives a failing grade in the previous semester shall not be allowed to serve in any student government capacity in the semester after receiving the grade; must possess a valid Cerritos College Photo Identification Card.

In evaluating summer work for eligibility, all units attempted in the Summer and Spring shall be added together; eligibility of write-in candidates will only be verified if the write-in candidate is elected.

All temporary or acting officials must also meet minimum qualifications.

At this point, two parties are running for the ASCC positions of

president and vice-president:

Susy Fierro, currently Chief Justice, is up for president, and her running mate for vice is Brent Glasgow, co-president of Alpha Gamma Sigma.

Running against Fierro is Idania Padron, representing Court Reporting, and her vice candidate is Matt Oliver, Physical Education.

An orientation for all approved presidential candidates is on Thursday, April 6. Publicity approval begins Friday, April 7.

Elections are Wednesday, April 19, and Thursday, April 20. Voting booths will be located at the Student Center from 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., and the Social Science and Health Science Buildings from 6-9 p.m.

Ballot tabulation will take place Thursday, April 20.

## Court rules that Prop 187 can't restrict enrollment

By David Vlayra  
MANAGING EDITOR

The plaintiff's motion requesting a preliminary injunction came before the courts on March 15 and the court decided that all of the requirements for a preliminary injunction had been met.

So it was declared by the court that in order to maintain status quo prior to the enactment of Prop 187 and pending final judgment all respondents, defendants, officers, agents, employees and other persons subject to their authority or control be restrained and enjoined during the pending of this case.

It has also been ordered that any implementation or attempted enforcement of Sections 8 and 9 of Prop 187 including California Education Code 660108 and California Government Code 53069.65 as well as any transmission to the immigration and naturalization services directly or indirectly to be unauthorized.

This obviously restricts the use of Sections 8 and 9 of Prop 187 as the basis for expulsion or denial of admission to classes and/or services.

It has also been ordered that both public declaration and publishing regulations citing Prop 187 as grounds be forbidden.

Students and applicants will not be prohibited from attending or continuing their enrollment based on the provisions of Prop 187.

Students and applicants will only be asked to verify their status for the sole purpose of determining their residency status for tuition purposes only.

There will be no transmission regarding any student or applicant to either the INS or Naturalization services.

The trial to decide whether or not the colleges will be permanently enjoined from the implementation of 187 is tentatively scheduled for September.

## Sink-a-Scholar to raise funding for AGS honor society

By Elizabeth Espinosa  
STAFF WRITER

Someone will be making a big splash when the Honor Society, Alpha Gamma Sigma presents the annual Sink-a-Scholar, Thursday, April 6 from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., in the pool area.

Cerritos students will be donating money to see their least or favorite instructor jump in the pool. Participants include Mr. Cerritos, the 1994-95 Homecoming Queen, Angela Sosa, members of the Board of Trustees and club officials.

Benefit funds used for this event will go toward raise scholarships for AGS members.

Joining them will be KHIS FM (102.7) with live music and giveaways.

## Student Senate takes second look at Psych Club request today; Forensics approved

By David Vlayra  
MANAGING EDITOR

Monotonous repetition is an obstacle we all must hurdle in order to effectively perform a long term commitment. Evidently the ASCC Student Senate is bored because for the past two sessions they've begun the session with a pledge of allegiance to the wrong flag.

Granted, while the California flag deserves all the respect in the world, it's possible that they took it a little far.

Under Senate Bill 95500-9, the Forensics Team went before the Senate asking for approval of funds in the amount of \$1,230 to send 10 members to the state forensics conference in Walnut, at Mt. Sac.

After a heart-filled speech given by Frank Bullock, from the back of

the room, funds were granted.

The Psychology Club was the next organization to come before the Senate.

Psi Beta Psychology Club, a relatively new organization asked for approval of funds in the amount of \$513 to attend the Western Psychology Convention to be held in Los Angeles on March 31.

At this time speakers stated they would not be competing. Then, Michael Marin moved to postpone making a decision until next week, on March 22, at which time the club stated they would be competing and funds were approved.

Senate Bill 955011 came up for approval next.

This bill proposed to cut down the time and change the dates that the election booth would be open in order to reduce expenses and avoid paying unnecessary overtime.

This bill was passed unani-

mously with the exception of senator Lisa Macias who opposed the bill.

Before the closing of the March 15 session the group discussed the possibilities of installing a feature in the telephone registration that would not allow students to enroll in a class if they did not meet the prerequisites.

There is a need for the implementation of such a device. In a recent survey 10%-50% of students were found to be enrolled in courses they would not be qualified for.

After the opening of the meeting on March 22, under Senate Bill 95500-11, the Business Club came before Senate asking for approval of funds in the amount of \$1,482 to send 11 students to the State Business Leadership Competition to be held on March 31, through April 2 at CSULA-Rosemead.

## Academic Excellence honors 3.5+ scholars in ceremony tonight

By April Florentino  
CAMPUS EDITOR

Students will be honored for their academic achievements at the Academic Excellence Awards Ceremony tonight at 7 p.m. in the Burnight Center Theatre.

One student is selected from each major who has demonstrated academic excellence and achievement.

To qualify for this award, students must have 45 units of college work

Continued on page 2

## Board votes 4-3 with faculty committee not to renew Lara

By Mark Newton  
OPINION EDITOR

The crowds that earlier had packed the Boardroom were all gone when the Board of Trustees announced their decision not to renew speech instructor Rick Lara's contract beyond the 1994-95 school term.

Lara had previously waived his right to a confidential hearing, allowing the details of his evaluations to become public knowledge.

The main argument from Lara's lawyers was that proper evaluation procedure was not followed.

"What we did was to look at the quality of what he was doing in class through our observations and we found him to be deficient," stated Donna Miller, Instructional Dean for the Liberal Arts Division.

"We have been thorough in our evaluations and observations and I stand completely behind (them)," said Miller.

Continued on page 2

## Disabled get break in required courses proposal

By Debra England  
EDITOR IN CHIEF

In an effort to offer additional access to disabled students, Cerritos College is in the beginning stages of formalizing a process that will allow such students special accommodations in the courses offered here.

Said Ellen Horvath, "All academic institutions are supposed to be able to provide services that would assist disabled students to matriculate through the institution and be able to do so successfully."

The proposal to formalize is now in rough draft form and was patterned after Irvine Valley College, which has such a program intact.

"We want to stay up to speed,"

said Horvath. "We want to do everything we can to assist these students."

Most of the services as of now include such accommodations as interpreters and note-takers for deaf and physically impaired students.

The disabled student program also offers test-taking assistance for those who are unable to complete the exams with their fellow students.

"They're allowed to take the test at Disabled Student Services," said Horvath. "There they are allowed more time because it takes them longer to read through the test."

This is also a part of the proposal being presented by Disabled Student Services Director Robert Hughlett. It includes three levels that correspond to the student's

needs. The first level includes special accommodations, which are in operation. It entails such additional access such as tutorial help, in-class support services, and a slower pace of the course. An example is Math 23.1 and 23.2.

"This is in response to the math department being adjustable to the student's needs," stated Horvath.

If the first level is not appropriate for the student's needs, then level two, course substitution, will be considered by the Academic Accommodation Appeals Committee. There, according to the rough draft of the proposal, will the substitution be permissible.

The last level, the third level, course waivers, is a "last resort."

Continued on page 2

### PRESIDENTIAL FORM

Applications for running for the office of Student Body President are available in the Student Activities Office. Deadline is Friday, March 31.

### ART CLUB RESCHEDULED

The Art Club's Raku Night has been rescheduled for tomorrow night, March 30, from 5-9 p.m. Events include food, fun and raku.

### THE BIG "BREAK"

Spring Recess is April 10-15, with no classes Monday through Saturday. The traditional fun week is more and more rest and catch-up time...

### GRADUATION INFORMATION

The deadline for a place in the graduation program was Friday, March 17. Students may still participate in the commencement itself.

EDITORIALS

Time springs ahead Sunday to more daylight

The first Sunday in April, everyone will lose an hour of sleep. Every spring the clocks are set ahead on the first Sunday of April, and set back again usually on the last Sunday of October. This ingenious idea was first practiced in the first World War to conserve fuel by reducing for artificial light. The idea of "daylight savings" was first suggested by Benjamin Franklin. About a hundred years later in 1908, an Englishman by the name of William Willett tried to push for setting the clock ahead 80 minutes in the House of Commons, but he

was rejected. Considering it an absolute necessity to conserve fuel, President Herbert who was then the Relief Administrator insisted that everyone should set their clocks forward an hour. Ever since, the tradition has been kept. The Uniform Time Act was passed by the United States Congress to make certain the practice continued. Although we may lose an hour, we'll get it back in October, when we fall back. . . . After we spring forward Sunday, April 2—this very Sunday!

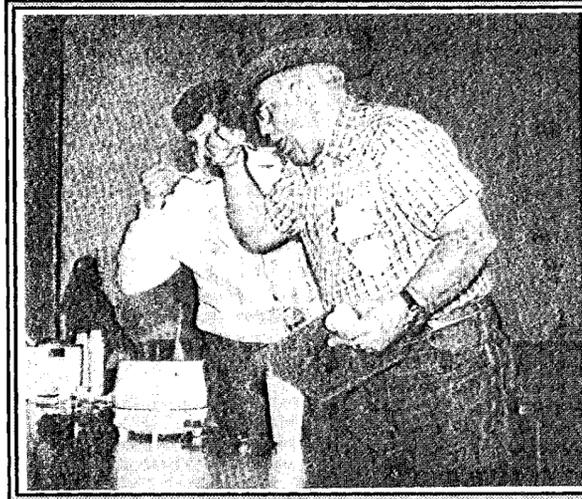
Written for the Editorial Board CHRISTINE LEE

We need some more St. Patrick's Days

For the refreshing spirit of it, here's to the shamrocks, leprechauns, and the wearing of the green that occurred on March 17, St. Patrick's Day. At least, the "pinch" maybe wakes us up a wee bit. The origins of St. Patrick's Day are not well known, though it apparently it has been observed in America since the colonial days. It honors St. Patrick, patron saint of

Ireland, who-as everyone knows-charmed snakes in Ireland and led them to the sea where they drowned. Legend has it he used a three-leaf clover in order to depict the Trinity, giving us the colorful shamrock. Through Irish Catholics primarily commemorate it, most folks are at least aware of St. Patrick's Day. We need more such days.

Written for the Editorial Board by JUDY CHOI



CHILI ANYONE?

MOT Director of Operations Peter Caimi gets a mouthful as he judges chili at last week's Hoe Down Days Chili Cook-off. Caimi is an official judge with the International Chili Society and volunteers time as a chili judge for charity.

TM Photo by EDGARD AGUILAR

If you're into big-time chili cook-offs, Peter Caimi may judged your bowl

By Gabriel Villarreal  
FEATURES EDITOR

When describing MOT director of operations Peter Caimi, it is difficult to choose just one forte. Caimi is a pilot, a military veteran and a journalist in his own right. But Caimi associates himself best with food—to be more specific, if you are what you eat, Peter Caimi is a perfectly seasoned bowl of chili.

"I really like the whole thing: the goal and the purpose of supporting a chili cook-off," said Caimi.

For 12 years Caimi has traveled church bazaars and nudist colonies for a perfectly balanced bowl of chili as an official (and highly decorated) judge of the International Chili Society.

"Chili is one of the most popular foods in the world," said Caimi who's palate has had the pleasure of concoctions ranging from simple beef, to venison to even...Rattlesnake!

So what makes a good chili? For Caimi, there is only a quick tolerance for cumin and cilantro.

He said International Chili Society rules dictate that fillers like beans and grains can not be used—strictly meat and sauce.

Caimi's history as a "chili-head" began when he helped a friend. Today, though, Caimi devotes about 2 weekends a month to chili judging. His wife Nicole often attends also to keep score and judge. Caimi said chili cook-offs donate their funds to charity groups like wildlife defense and children's groups.

"Chili cook-offs are really good fun for families and friends, not just adults," said Caimi.

Caimi said he has traveled great distances to judge and has spent up to \$1,000 in travel and lodging.

"We (judges) get no remuneration for judging, except for the camaraderie and knowing we've done something good. But that is more than anything we could want," said Caimi.

Caimi said cook-offs can be individual events or events in cooperation with carnivals, car shows and fairs.

Usually cook-offs have related contests like "Miss Chili Pepper" and "Mr. Hotsauce," as well as vendors with hats, western wear and music, too.

Chili cook-offs are divided as local, regional, state and world.

International Chili Society World Championships will take place in Reno this year. And putting an end to the stereotype of chili cook-offs as a quaint hillbilly event is the fact that a street in the "Biggest Little City" will be blocked off for it.

The camaraderie and friendship are great said Caimi.

He praised cook-offs for their ability to encompass "all walks of life."

"Usually you'll go to a cook-off and see people you haven't seen for a couple of months or a week and it still seems the same," said Caimi.

"At cook-offs it really doesn't matter who you are. There is a great deal of family in it, and if you're a chili-head then you're a chili-head," he said.

Barbera pulls 'Multicultural Day' funding

By David Vlayra  
MANAGING EDITOR

If you've walked around campus and happened to notice that ASCC has been crossed out on all of the signs advertising the Multicultural Festival, that's because the ASCC is no longer co-sponsoring the Multi-Cultural Festival.

Quick actions and rash decisions may be responsible for the sentiments expressed in those signs.

ASCC President Jackie Barbera states "Complaints from individuals and conflicts from other clubs forced her to withdraw the request for funds made by USA."

Barbera further stated that she would assign ASCC Commissioner of Activities Irene Rodriguez to investigate further into

this matter and report back to her on March 30, one day after the festival was scheduled.

Barbera, then further offered to write a letter of formal apology to the group.

After a conversation with Lisa Macias, it was decided that Barbera, along with representatives from USA, would meet with Associate Dean of Student Activities Phil Houseman to discuss the issue further on March 20, but Barbera never showed up.

On that same day, however, Barbera rescinded her statement and stated that if the group still wanted the money, they were entitled to it.

Unfortunately USA had already reached agreements with the entertainers contracted for the festival to void the contracts.

Despite all of this, USA is determined to hold this festival.

The festival will take place on Thursday, March 30 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Quad area.

The purpose of this festival is to offer students the opportunity to enjoy different types of food and experience some of the diverse cultures that make up our campus.

It was then decided by a unanimous vote of over 100 members to not accept the money in the contingency fund allocated for events such as this.

Although they are proceeding without funds there will still be food and merchandise booths.

As of yet, USA is still waiting for their letter of apology.



THE WINNERS—"Women's History Month" essay contest winners are, from left: Gabriel Villarreal (Third Place), Cristina Hernandez (Second Place), Cynthia Anne Golembeski (Third Place), Professor Francine De France and Elham Bayour (First Place). Bayour said she will donate her \$100 prize money to a local battered women's shelter.

TM Photo by EDGARD AGUILAR

French study trip offered June 30 through July 30

By April Florentino  
CAMPUS EDITOR

The opportunity to study French at the University of Paris, Sorbonne is sponsored by French instructor Roland Bellugue.

"This is a great opportunity to learn the French language and the culture at the same time. This will be an unforgettable experience," said Bellugue.

The one month program will begin on June 30 and end on July 30, 1995.

The program includes round-trip airfare from LAX, courses at the university, (earn up to 5 transferable units), books, breakfasts and dinners, and accommodations.

Numerous excursions are included as well. Some of the trip's highlights include: museum, monument and cathedral visits; three

weekend excursions to Pierrefonds-Senlis-Chantilly, Chartres Versailles and Provins-Moret-sur Loing, Bastille Day celebration, Le Tour de France arrival and much more.

The program is open to anyone 17 years or older, no previous French is required.

Program price is \$3190. Financial aid, loans and grant applications may be picked up from Bellugue in the Liberal Arts building, office W. Applications for trip financial assistance are due on March 31.

Two informational meetings will be held on April 1 and May 6, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. in LA 29.

For information about the trip, contact Bellugue at ext. 2827.

Academic Excellence program...

Continued from page 1 completed with a 3.5 grade point 45 at Cerritos College with a 3.5 or higher).

Nine units must be completed in the area of recognition with a 3.5 grade point average or higher and received the recommendation of a faculty member in the area of recognition.

A reception will be held immediately following the awards ceremony in the Board Room. Refreshments will be served.

Disabled...

Continued from page 1

"Only in the most extreme cases would the third level be considered by the committee," said Horvath.

"In my history here at Cerritos, only about one or two times has a course waiver occurred."

As stated in the draft proposal, "A waiver will be considered only when there is evidence that the student has met all the requirements for substitution and there are no viable alternative courses determined by the Academic Accommodation Appeals Committee."

Said Horvath, "If the academic department from where the student requested to waive the course felt strongly that it would interfere with the integrity of the academic program then they could make a decision not to do something."

"There is also a fine line between making a reasonable and an unreasonable request."

U-Haul truck hauls drugs, stolen equipment

On March 27 just after noon, Campus Police Officers D. Barr and R. Reyes pulled up to a U-Haul vehicle parked at the end of the parking lot C-10.

The occupants, Amin Dagbig, a 34 year old male caucasian and a 30 year old female caucasian, Geraldine Denise Cieslewicz, along with her eleven year old daughter claimed "They were just lounging."

The two occupants were both found to have suspended drivers li-

censes and after a permissive search methamphetamines were found on the two individuals.

At this point the two suspects were taken into custody and the eleven year old girl was transferred to the Department of Social Services.

Dagbig was found to have \$15,000 in warrants and both suspects were found to have prior narcotics convictions.

"Some of the equipment in the U-Haul," said campus police, "is presumed to be stolen."

Narcotic substances were found hidden throughout the vehicle among sofas, computer equipment, stereo equipment, televisions, and a leather sofa.

Campus police spent a better part of the day emptying out, inventorying, and searching the contents of the truck. The vehicle was then impounded.

- DAVID VIAYRA

Spring Awards forms due May 2

The Spring awards Banquet will be held at The Centre at Sycamore Plaza in Lakewood to honor those students who have exhibited exceptional service and leadership.

The ceremony will take place on May 5.

Nomination forms are available from Student Activities beginning March 20 and are due by 4 p.m. on May 2.

Award recipients and advisors are admitted free. ASCC members are \$10 and Guests are \$15.

- DAVID VIAYRA

Talon Marks

Talon Marks is produced weekly by Journalism and Communication majors and minors and others interested in enhancing their writing, analytical, and critical thinking proficiency—and in developing highly marketable primary and secondary skills. Production and printing of Talon Marks, WINGS magazine, Summer (TJ)Mesa and the Student Handbook are funded by the Associated Students of Cerritos College (ASCC). Facilities and academic supervision are provided by the Department of Journalism, C. Thomas Nelson, Chairman. Unsigned editorials are the responsibility of the publication's student Editorial Board. Other views are solely those of the author and are not to be considered opinions of the publications staff, the Editorial Board, the Adviser, the Cerritos College administration, or the Board of Trustees. Newsroom offices are located in the Arts and Crafts building, Room AC42.

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**DEANNA KING**

**What has happened to the tradition?**

Spring break is coming. So is Easter. We enjoy the ultimate leisure for one week, many forget the reason for it.

While Easter was intended for the recognition of the resurrection of Jesus Christ, most just remember a week of relaxation, a bunny or two, and maybe even going to church one time.

Easter has changed from a sacred and humble day to one of flowers and bunnies.

Commercialism has taken over the holiday industry, Easter just doesn't seem the same as when I was a child.

Up until I was six, I went on an Easter egg hunt, decorated eggs, received a basket full of yummy stuff with a pink rabbit inside, and I went to church.

Up until I was 11, I just decorated eggs and received a basket full of yummy stuff with a pink rabbit inside, and went to church.

All the while, the basket full of yummy stuff and the pink rabbit got smaller and smaller. When I hit junior high, Easter was denoted and marked by nothing except going to church.

It seems that everything associated with Easter was meant for

those innocent little people who have yet to discover the injustices of living holidays as an adult or mature adolescent.

In memory of buoyant and healthy childhood, this year I am going to revert back to my juvenile ways and take advantage of the commercialism while I can. I urge you to do the same in order to escape the perils of adulthood and remember the good ol' times...

Here are some of my favorite masochistic things that you can do to highlight the break.

1. Buy and boil 100 eggs. Eat all the whites and then mold the yolks into your favorite Brady Bunch Characters. (Jan and Marsha work best.)

2. Buy yourself one of those big baskets wrapped in plastic, full with candy and a pink rabbit all for yourself.

3. Dye your skin different colors with the dyes from one of those Easter egg kits.

4. Protest against the sale of Cadbury eggs. Those things are gross!

If you find these too infantile, in an effort to save "the kid in you," at least buy some of those pink marshmallow rabbits and bite the heads off. They're g-g-r-r-eat!

**The Spud Chronicles • By Marla Amendola**

**The politics of the potato: It has vast historical significance... and is mother of the french fry, too. Does man deserve its nobility**

Some people regard the common potato as a colorless nutritional nonentity. They think of it as the pedestrian second billing in the "meat and potato" diet.

I submit that it is much more than that.

It defined Idaho. Without the potato, Idaho would be only a Latter Day Saint second stringer, behind Utah as a Mormon home state.

If the Irish potato crop hadn't failed and caused a famine, the thousands of Irish who emigrated to the U.S. would have stayed home and remained farmers. Instead, they were forced to become American urban dwellers. They became public servants and filled the lists of fire and police departments and local political machines.

An argument could be made that the potato is largely responsible for

the blue-collar, Democratic, and Catholic identity of the great cities of the American Northeast.

The potato is probably responsible for John Kennedy's presidency. The potato is used in the making

of vodka, well-documented as an abused substance in Russia. Thus, the dissolution of the Soviet Union must be at least partially attributed to the potato. Under the influence of excessive vodka consumption, the Supreme Soviet couldn't get the government to fly as well as they did.

avoided into the desirable and highly touted complex carbohydrate, the indispensable first love of runners, bikers, and swimmers.

It has also traveled uptown, garbed in fancy dress consisting of cheese, bacon, chili, broccoli, and sour cream to serve as the stuffed potato-skin appetizer.

Tough and versatile, yes. But, the potato is also compassionate and humane. It copes with the ebb and

flow of our loyalty toward it without ever stooping to the level of its cousin, the dreaded bean, by committing demeaning retaliatory sabotage upon our bodies.

Man clearly doesn't deserve the potato's nobility.

**Hail the mighty potato. Even fermented, it wields its power over governments.**

Hail, the mighty potato. Even fermented it wields its power over governments. Its political influence aside, as a

service go past collecting naval beach sand samples or throwing up on public sidewalks? You can enjoy a more politically correct week by volunteering your time to more worthwhile activities. 'Break Away' and 'Habitats for Humanity' are two organizations that will make sure your vacation is spent guilt free.

Whatever you chose to do, even if the farthest you decide to flock is the living room couch with trusty remote in hand, please do it safely and responsibly.

**TAMMY WINCHELL**

**Spring break: a time for serious fun**

Spring is here and not only is it the time for April showers and May flowers, but also the more popular, 'Spring Break.'

This eagerly awaited, one-week respite has become more of a ritual than a recess and most college students don't spend it tip-toeing through the tulips. Each year, millions of fun and sun seeking scholars will flock to a vacationing spot of their choice for "rest and relaxation."

Beaches are still the favorite for

most, though any contained body of water will do in a pinch.

Nerds become heroes by excelling at belly flopping, bathing suit fabrics are stretched to unknown limits, the pool is discovered to be the best place to keep liquids cold and sitting in the hot tub while playing Nintendo adds a whole new obstacle to the game and that's just beginning of the week.

Can't swim? Or does your idea of community

Paint should not be accessible to minors. Stores should be fined if caught selling the spray cans to minors. There should be more police patrolling the streets at night when this so-called "art" is produced. But more importantly, the people of each community need to stick together and make their message heard; that graffiti is not welcome in their community.

Such measures will hopefully get through to at least some taggers, and with time they'll realize that their destructive rampage must stop.

**NORMA ACIN**

**Paleolithics, Greeks, Romans 'taggers' too?**

Art is an expression of beauty that has taken on the first people.

The Paleolithic man painted animals in his cave to symbolize a good and prosperous hunt.

The Greeks carved marble statues to express their appreciation for the beauty of the human body.

The Egyptians built gigantic statues, pyramids, and the incredible Sphinx all in worship of their kings and Gods.

These works of history and beauty all have a purpose, and are recognized as masterpieces.

Now, the only thing covering our buildings, walls, and street

signs is graffiti. The appalling and destructive signatures and multi-colored "chicken scratches" of gangs that are invading our cities. Graffiti is not art.

It is a selfish, irresponsible act of rebellion, vandalism, and boredom. The painters, known as "taggers," have no respect for anyone's property including God's. Last week a church fell victim to the profanity and obscene writings of the "outcasts."

Stricter measures should be enforced to help control this ignorant epidemic that our cities have fallen victim to.

Stores should be fined if caught selling the spray cans to minors.

There should be more police patrolling the streets at night when this so-called "art" is produced. But more importantly, the people of each community need to stick together and make their message heard; that graffiti is not welcome in their community.

Such measures will hopefully get through to at least some taggers, and with time they'll realize that their destructive rampage must stop.

**APRIL FLORENTINO**

**Trial watchers raise your right hand...**

These people can sit in front of the tube from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

They schedule their appointments before and after these specific times of the day.

They even manage to screen their phone calls and only pick up at commercials or sidebars.

These are the people obsessed with the OJ Simpson trial. They follow every single hearing, every testifying witness and every type of newscast or media related information.

If anything has to do with OJ Simpson's double-murder trial, they've already heard it.

The OJ Simpson trial has altered many of our lives. Whether you are a devoted trial watcher or not, it's hard to avoid it, even if you try.

What can be more frustrating than trying to watch your favorite soap opera or television program,

but instead finding Marcia Clark questioning or calling her next witness.

People who work during the day, can't even leave the trial at home. Some people watch it during their lunch break or even better, record the entire trial with their VCR.

Or if you do not have a VCR, you can always watch the recaps of the day's events on your favorite news station on the 4, 5, 6, 10 and 11 O'clock news. Not to mention you can probably catch some news about the trial on Dateline or 20/20.

Other trial-watchers said that they watch the OJ Simpson double-murder trial to experience and learn more about our criminal justice system, especially those who are interested in pursuing a possible career in police and law. It has also given them an insight into current events and important issues.



**VALERIE PEREZ**

**Technology has yet to 'pen' me down**

I used to consider myself a pretty modern, up-to-date kind of girl. While I don't wear the very latest fashions, I'm pretty open-minded to the ever-changing trends and technological inventions.

All of sudden, I find I'm the only person I know who has yet to purchase a computer.

Of course, I have friends and relatives giving me speeches that go, "I can't believe you're in college and don't have a computer. You would love it. It would make all those research papers so much easier!"

I say nothing, but know that writing research papers is hard enough without having to purchase and learn how to operate an incredibly complicated box of microchips.

This doesn't exactly sound like the road to greater ease and comfort. Especially when I have a perfectly good pen.

Hey, I have a bag full of them. And I hear all this talk about e-mail.

Technology has given us the power and opportunity to "Talk" to strangers day and night. Sure, it's a good way to meet new people, but for a person who doesn't have much free time on her hands, the computer would probably end up being a decoration.

All things aside, I might consider buying one eventually. Maybe after I run out of this bag of pens.

**JENNIFER PICKETT**

**Oscars a winning show**

I am now sitting in front of my television with junk food at my side and the remote control safely hidden from anyone who might want to change the channel, to watch the 67th Annual Academy Awards.

It has become a sort of tradition with me. I've watched the Oscars since I was small and I've rarely missed a year, if ever.

I love the glitz and glamour of it all. It gives me a chance to see the fancy dresses and pressed tuxedos, the glamour my starving student life seems to lack.

Of course, I also watch to see if my favorite actor, actress, or movie wins the coveted prize of the golden statuette.

And it surprises me how much of a tradition it has become to other people. Look at all the people who watch the awards on T.V., millions and millions of people.

And what about all the Oscar parties. It seems that anyone who is anyone is having them. Some even become legendary.

I guess people go to these parties to come together with people they probably haven't seen since the Super Bowl party two months before. It gives people a chance to

look back at the years before and to make new memories.

And isn't that what traditions are all about? Our lives go by so fast that if it takes a show on T.V. to give us an excuse to get together with the ones we love, and enjoy ourselves, then so much the better.

My yearly tradition has now spread to my family and friends who are now huddled around the T.V. with me to watch the highly anticipated show.

And the winner is...

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**JESSICA GONZALEZ**

**Can't find a danged place to smoke this side of...**

All I wanted was some coffee, conversation and a couple of cigarettes.

I don't think that's very much. After all, that's pretty mild compared to a typical Friday night for "Generation X."

Of course, the new law for not smoking in enclosed areas made it a little difficult. Therefore, a night which was going to be spent a couple of blocks from home turned into a trip roughly 30 miles away!

I picked up a friend and we went to Mimi's Cafe, having in mind simply a cup of coffee, a little

conversation, and a few cigarettes out on the patio. But it turned out Mimi's was closed.

Our next resort would have been to go to Norm's or Denny's, but we forgot you can't smoke in there anymore.

So there we sat in the parking lot, mad at the government, mad at people and I guess, essentially, mad at ourselves.

I didn't want to go too far, but I had no other alternative (if you've ever been to Downey, then you know there's absolutely nothing to do there), so we ended up in a

coffee shop along Santa Monica Boulevard in West L.A.

I went all the way over there, contributing to traffic on the highways and pollution in the air.

It's pretty disturbing when you think about it and realize just how much control the government really has over us. Everything we do every single day is in accordance to their rules.

In this great land of freedom, how much freedom do we really have anymore? We can't even

have a cup of coffee, a couple of cigarettes, and a little conversation.

Of course, we do have the freedom to drive all the way to West L.A.

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LADY FALCONS ARE 5-2 FOR NO. 2 IN CONFERENCE

# SOFTBALL WINS HUSKIE TOURNEY IN GRAND FASHION

By Kelly Barth  
ASSOCIATE EDITOR/SPORTS

Character. Good teams have it and realize it's crucial to success.

If their ever any doubts about the Cerritos College softball team's character they silenced all of them this past week.

On March 22 the team faced Long Beach City, although they lost 5-3 the team made a huge improvement from the earlier 10-0 loss to the Vikings.

Two days later the Lady Falcons got a superb pitching performance Trisha Cox.

Cox pitched a complete game five hit shut-out against Pasadena City.

Cerritos' 1-0 victory came from the arm of Cox as well as the bat.

In the seventh after a Susan Norio single and a fielder's choice that moved her to second, Cox stepped in and drove home the only run of the game.

With the win Cerritos improved their record to 12-6, 4-3 in conference and then set their sights on the Huskie Invitational played this past week end.

Cerritos won five of six games on their way to winning tournament title.

Cerritos lost the opening game to LA Pierce 6-3 before coming back in most impressive fashion as they got back-to-back shutouts in wins over Citrus, 4-0 and Rio Hondo, 6-0.

Amy Balangkura was dominate as she won both games for Cerritos on Saturday.

In two games Balangkura did not allow a run and only gave up a total of three hits in two games.

Balangkura pitched a one hitter against Rio Hondo and then silenced the Citrus bats allowing just two hits.

Balangkura helped her own cause as she collected four hits showing that she can be just as effective as an offensive weapon as well.

Also joining the Cerritos hit parade were Cox, and Karen Rosales. Cox and Rosales teamed to go 5-

for-9 each. Rosales clubbed a three run home run against Rio Hondo.

The blast capped a six run Falcon fourth as they advanced to the single elimination championship round.

Cerritos swept through the Championship round with wins over College of the Desert, Santa Monica and Ventura.

Against both Santa Monica and College of the Desert Cerritos overcame a three run deficit.

In the quarter finals Cerritos overcame a three run deficit and Karen Rosales tripled home the game winning run as the Falcons beat College of the Desert.

Against Santa Monica the Falcons were faced with a three run deficit only to bounce back for the win.

Cerritos used a five run fifth inning to gain the lead and eventually win 5-3. Cerritos capitalized on four singles and two walks in the inning.

Suzanna Duarte was the championship game hero for Cerritos as she connected for two home runs and solo shot and a grand slam.

In the bottom of the fifth and Cerritos trailing 3-2 Duarte stepped in with bases loaded and promptly cleared them.

The dramatic home run gave Cerritos a lead they would not relinquish at 6-3.

Ventura would add one more run but it wasn't enough as Cerritos hung on to capture the game and the tournament title.

Balangkura, who was spectacular in the tournament's pool play round on Saturday came up big on Sunday as well.

Balangkura pitched and won both the quarterfinal and championship games. Balangkura allowed just one earned run in 22 innings.

Cerritos also got fine pitching performances from Cox as well, Cox picked up a win and a save. She helped the team a the plate going 9-for-16.

Duarte, Balangkura and Cox were All Tournament selections.



## LET'S GO OUT TO THE BALLGAME

Dara Billis slides her way home in Cerritos game against LBCC, while Leticia Garcia (19) scores in the same manner against East L.A. (ABOVE) Falcon slugger Matt Eeles is greeted by teammates Carlos Olea (33) and Jose Miranda (24) after a two run homer against LBCC. Falcons beat Vikings 11-3.

TM Photos by EDGARD AGUILAR

## Men's tennis take three in a row against Warriors

By James Reynosa  
ASST. SPORTS EDITOR

Prior too popular belief, image isn't everything it's timing and the Cerritos' men's tennis team current three game winning streak, couldn't come at a better time.

With only three weeks left before the SCC playoffs, the men's

tennis team is peaking at the right moment—defeating El Camino 7-2.

This week the Falcons will host Los Angeles Trade Tech this Thursday, at 1:30 p.m.

Fernando Rodriguez started the match with a hard fought victory (2-6, 6-2 and 6-4). It was followed by another three-set victory, this time by George Santa Maria (6-3, 2-6 and 6-1).

Other single winners included Seung Hong (6-0, 6-0) and Alex Glowacki (6-1, 6-4).

All season long the superior doubles play has been the difference.

Against the Warriors, it would be no different. The team of Hong-Glowacki kicked off with a 3-2 win. That was followed by Laz Gutierrez and Rodriguez winning, 8-6, and the team of Santa Maria and Manny Guerra finished up the sweep with a 8-6 victory.

The Falcon women have been going the opposite direction of late, being defeated by El Camino 1-8

and 3-6 at the rackets of Mt. SAC.

This week they will try to bounce back by traveling to L.A. Harbor on Thursday at 2:00 p.m.

Nasdy Diaz was the team's only winner against El Camino, as she racked up a 6-2, 6-2 victory in singles play. Cerritos didn't win any other games in the match.

Against the Mounties, Diaz (6-2, 7-6) and Melina Nedilsky kept the match close and the doubles team of Sandra Camacho and Diaz swept their opponents 6-0, 6-0—putting the match lead down to 3-4.

## Baseballers host LA Harbor today, only team to beat them in conference; 7-1 good enough for 1st

By Mike Myers  
ASSOC. SPORTS EDITOR

Cerritos has gone on a seven game winning streak after their season opener loss, boosting their conference record to 7-1.

Today the Birds take on Harbor, their only lose in conference, here at 2pm at Birdland in a rain make-up game.

With the Birds' recent winning

streak being unleashed on the SCC competition, the only thing that has slowed them down is the recent weather.

The Birds had two of their games canceled last week because of the downpour.

On Wednesday though, the sun shined enough just enough for Cerritos to make-up a previously rained out game against El Camino.

Joe Abell started for Cerritos and pitched eight strong innings

until being relieved by freshman Jason Marr. Together they allowed one run and six singles for the game.

Freshmen Jose Alvarez and Tony Vasquez stepped up like season veterans at the plate and accounted for two of the the Birds three runs.

Stellar defense combined with the outstanding pitching rained on El Camino's and finish with a 3-1 victory.

**CHRIS FARLEY      DAVID SPADE**

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