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Fresno City College

Volume LXXI Edition 3

March 1, 2000

## Campus sees reduction in crime

*By Jennifer Stern*  
Contributing Writer

The State Center Community College District (SCCCD) Police Department cites a 52 percent decline in car thefts and burglaries at FCC between the Fall and Spring semesters of 1999.

The police record shows 44 car thefts and burglaries during the Fall, and 28 in the Spring.

The decline, the department suspects, coincided with the arrest of James Roberts for burglaries and auto thefts at FCC and California State University,

Fresno (CSUF).

Calling himself 'James Soto', the arrest of Roberts and the drop in car thefts and burglaries across both campuses seem to validate the suspicion of State Center Police authorities. Soto is now serving a four- to five-year sentence.

All it takes is one thief to become very active and account for a majority of theft, says FCC Police Chief Marvin Reyes.

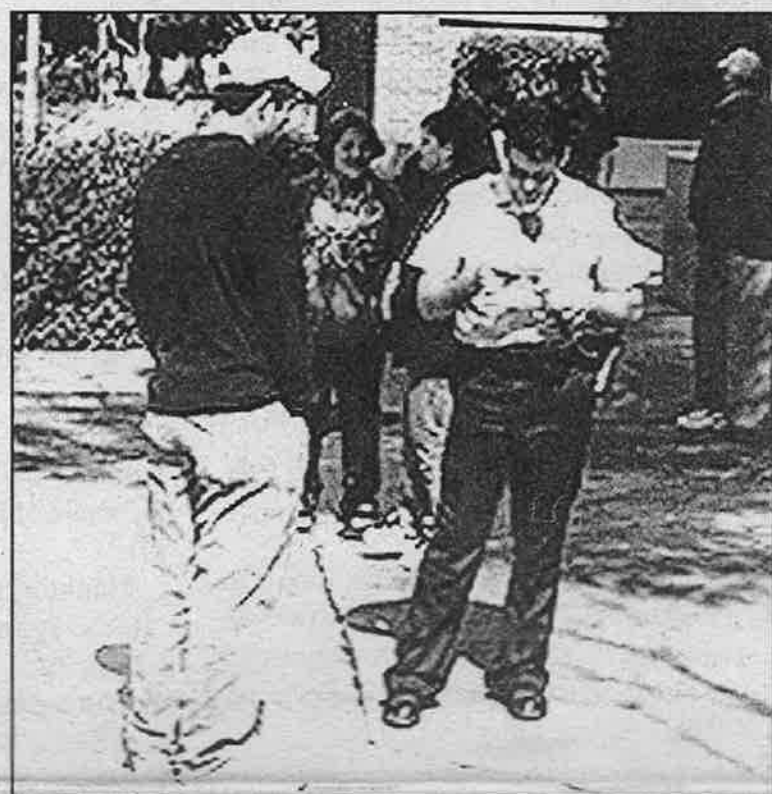
"If we see a pattern of vehicle theft, we call HEAT for assistance," he said. The Help Eliminate Auto Thefts (HEAT) task-force includes California Highway Patrol

officers and Fresno police officers, along with other law enforcement officials.

The HEAT task-force sends a team of up to six officers to assist on campus. HEAT and the campus police can watch every access and exit point. The task-force has managed to dramatically reduce Fresno auto theft. "All they do is deal with auto theft, and they are very good at it," Chief Reyes said.

Most car thefts and burglaries on campus are in the late afternoon to early

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page 3**



SCCCD Police Officer Tomlinson on duty.

Photo by Andres Corta

## Alumni speaks at FCC

*By Adrian Rodriguez*  
Editor-In-Chief

Fresno City College students attended a special presentation and book-signing of FCC alumni-turned-author Dr. Christine Johnson-McPhail last Wednesday.

In her speech "Never Underestimate The Power of Common Sense", Johnson-McPhail discussed the values learned as a child from her parents.

The presentation came on the heels of the release of her latest book, *A Pocket Book of Mother Wit*. She spoke about leadership in terms of mentorship, calling leaders "empowerment coaches".

"I dedicate this book to our ancestors," Johnson-McPhail said. "They were our original coaches. They left legacies greater than most."

Over 100 people attended the event in the FCC Theater. The speech hinged on popular adages, reinterpreted to exemplify leadership skills.

"I think our minds should be full of mother witt," she explained. "When I came to Fresno City College, nobody could do anything about my mind-set, because I already knew I had it going on. My folks and my neigh-



Guest speaker Dr. Christine Johnson-McPhail dishes out some "Mother Wit" in the FCC Theatre.

borhood had it going on."

Dr. Johnson-McPhail attended FCC in the 60's, where she transferred to Fresno State to earn both her Bachelor's and Master's Degrees.

"In fair play, no one gets played," she said. "FCC has an obligation to be loyal to us, and we have an obligation to be loyal to the institution."

McPhail also spoke later in the week in the Soroyan Theatre.

## Valley Business Conference 2000

*By Anna Ramos*  
Photo Editor

On February 24th, dozens of businesses and hundreds of people gathered at the Fresno Convention Center for the 21st annual Valley Business Conference.

Ruiz Food Products Inc. provided a breakfast buffet for all those who attended and a networking and commerce showcase was put on by several businesses such as AT&T, Fresno Yosemite International Airport, Kaiser Permanente, Wells Fargo Bank, and many more.

The morning session included a motivational speech by renowned public speaker and author of *Live Your Dreams*, Les Brown. Brown delivered a high energy message about achieving your personal dreams and goals.

Carl Heiney, the Senior Technical Specialist at Microsoft

followed Brown's speech, and showed the audience how to use the new computer programs from Microsoft to improve business production.

Chief Technical Officer of Excite@Home Milo Medin, who himself is a native to Fresno, showed and talked about how he came to make it in the technology world and usage of the Internet for busi-

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## Chief's Column

By Adrian Rodriguez

Editor-In-Chief

A few years ago a story aired on television about a high school student named Tammy who studied feverishly for a 4.0 GPA. I imagine that by now she's graduated and entered institutions of higher education.

She only had half a brain. At the same age, I pulled a mediocre 2.565; I was the half-wit.

I don't mean in any way to make light of her disability; arguably by 'act of God', she lost an entire hemisphere of her brain. Despite this, she battled an academic thousand with impassioned consistency, while I'd resigned to bunting and egging the umps on from the dug-out.

Although our brains sometimes absorb an enormous amount of physical trauma, there are hundreds of stories like Tammy's. Yet, students in high school and college are at times completely apathetic about the grades they get. I snapped out of that daze after

(hearing that story)

graduating from Edison High School in 1998, but believe you me, there are even students at FCC who: a) hate textbooks; b) hate class; c) hate homework; and d) actually hate paying for a through c.

The only advice I would give to such a student would be to start loving or start living (from check to check).

As students, I'm sure those of us who actually believe in education are swift to snub this issue, and why not? Aren't I enrolled at FCC to promote *myself* first and foremost? Well, yes. Does that mean that we shouldn't be concerned about other students' success? Nope. Try turning around and occasionally asking this simple question: 'Did you start your essay yet?' If anything, students around you would become more interested about *your* success. Besides, you can study for *some* of the classes *some* of the time, but nobody can study for *all* of the classes *all* of the time - well, except perhaps Tammy.

The point is this: If you are enrolled at FCC, either you have invested in yourself or someone else has invested in you. Either way, the education is *your* responsibility; what the suits call *matriculation*. Anyone with *half a brain* can understand that.

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nesses.

A technology forum, held after a short refreshment break and consisted of Carl Heiney, Senior Technical Specialist from Microsoft; Charlie Barrett, Regional Sales Manager - E-Commerce Yahoo; Paul Borrud, E-Commerce Yahoo!; Mike Floyd, Senior VP (Marketing Sales) Dantel; and Milo Medin, Chief Technical Officer Excite@Home.

This time was allotted the audience to address

## ASG News Brief

News from the Associated Student Government

By Nam Dang

Rampage Staff

The Associated Student Government met on February 24 to make announcements and to discuss plans for the next few weeks.

Student Body President Adrian Rodriguez reported that there were new changes that have been implemented concerning financial aid. Joaquin Jimenez, Dean of Financial Aid, is scheduled to attend the next ASG meeting to discuss this issue.

President Rodriguez also reported that Political Science 2, History 11, and History 12 classes have been moved to Area D, which covers social science requirements.

Executive Vice-President Kevin Gifford reported that the ASG raised \$300 from their sale of Endangered Species chocolate bars.

Planning is continuing for the ASG's "RamDoggie RoundUp", scheduled for March 29th. Senator Meg Todd, the coordinator for this event, reported that the ASG received a donation 1,600 hot dogs from Hestbeck's.

Senator Gia Zingarelli confirmed that the ASG will sell calzones and lemonade at the Renaissance Festival, held on the weekend of March 4th & 5th.

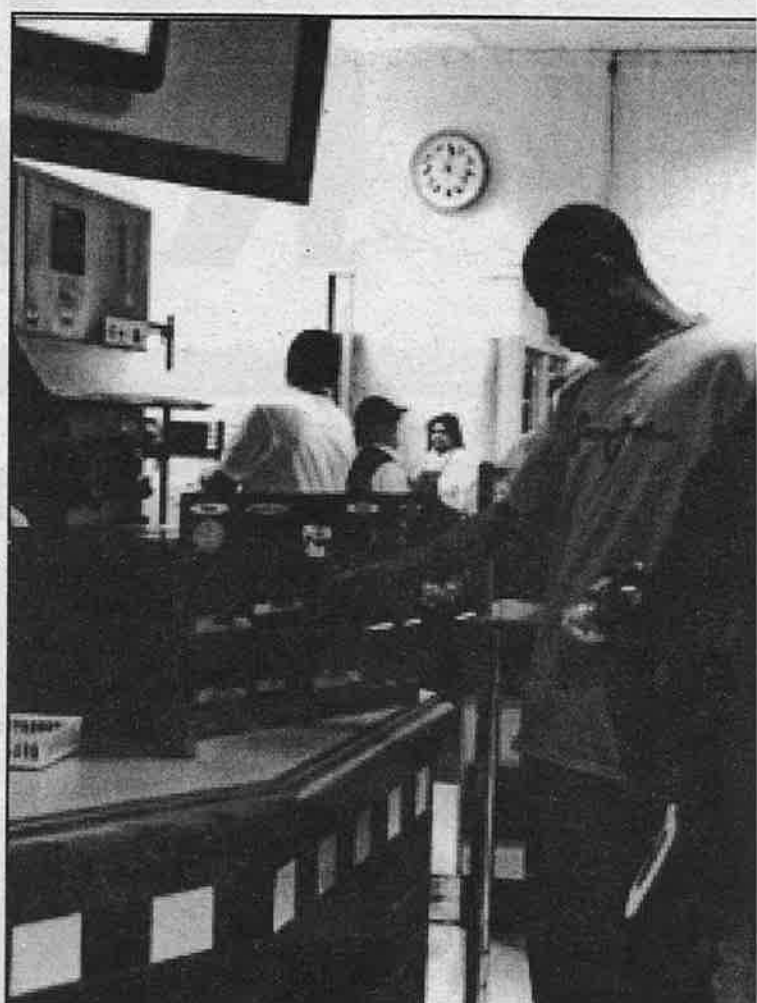
Student Trustee Mary Lee McGough reported that plans are being proposed by the California Community College system to change certain items in the book-grant system.

Finally, the ASG received news from Advisor Gurdeep Sihota concerning one of their fellow members. Tragedy struck the family of Senator Pao Her on the morning of February 24th. His mother and two of his young siblings were driving when accidentally struck by an oncoming Amtrak train. The family of Senator Her was hospitalized at University Medical Center. Since that time, his mother and younger brother have returned home, and are in fair condition. However, his younger sister is still hospitalized at University Medical where she is listed in critical condition.

questions to the five-man forum. Such topics covered were the useage of the Internet, the future of E-businesses, and how to move "e-commerce" to "e-services". A slide show presentation was also presented by Mike Floyd, Vice-President of Dantel.

A paid luncheon was held in the Exhibit Hall, saw the presentation of the Leon S. Peters Award to Anne Speake. The keynote speaker of the luncheon was Henry Cisneros, President and CEO of Univision Communications, Inc.

More than thirty-seven businesses participated in this annual event.



Students line up to try the new counter in the cafeteria.

Photo by Andres Cotta

## Pizza Hut opens in cafeteria

By Adrian Rodriguez

Editor-In-Chief

FCC cafeteria business Chartwell's opened an addition to the food services provided. The Pizza Hut counter is located on the Southwest corner of the cafeteria.

Commented cafeteria worker Consuelo Perez, a

Radiology major at FCC "The students really like it."

The addition offers cheese, pepperoni and supreme-style personal pan pizzas, along with breadsticks. The counter also offers combination plates that include soft drinks.

## Fresno City College



Rampage

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Rampage is published bi-weekly by the Fresno City College Journalism 5 program. Views expressed in the Rampage are those of the individual writers and do not necessarily reflect those of Fresno City College, its students, administration or the State Center Community College District.



## Auto Thefts

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evening, according to Sergeant Anderson. Monica Culcasi, a FCC business major, returned to her car at 8 P.M. after class and saw a shattered window, a slashed convertible top, and a pried-open trunk. Her stereo and CD's were stolen. She thought her vehicle was safe in front of the Language Arts building (Lot 'D').

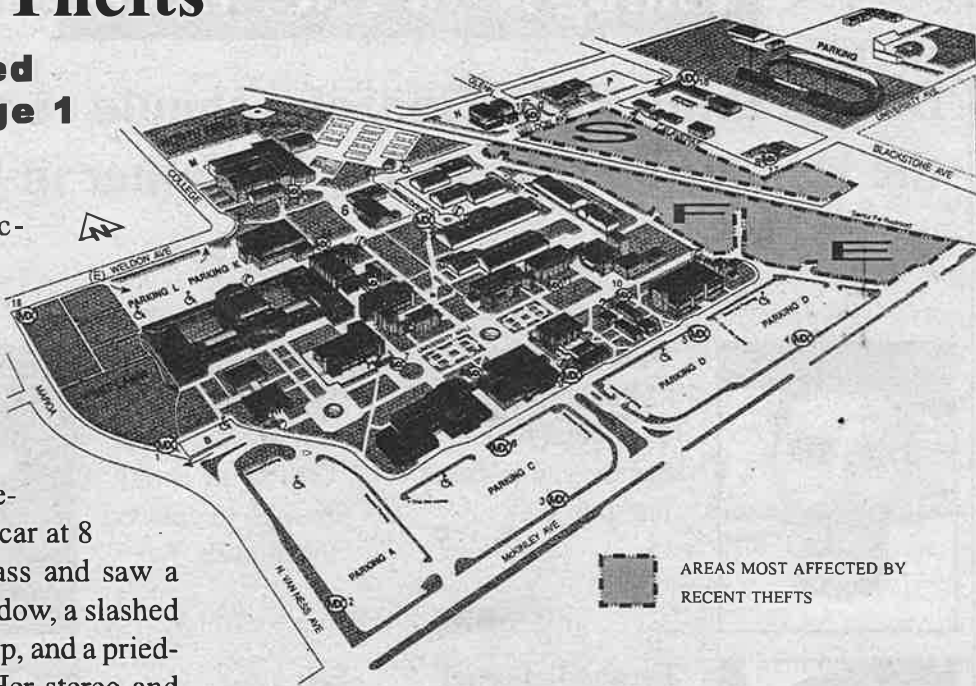
Parking lots 'E', 'F', and 'S' have the highest volume of reports, says Sergeant Anderson. These lots are near the railroad tracks. Parking lot 'L', behind the Old Administration Build-

ing, has the least reports of crime.

"When I worked for the Fresno PD, we would see 15 or 16 year-old high school students who stole three or four cars every night, and made it to school in the morning," Chief Reyes said. "Students need to protect

themselves and their property by staying alert."

Campus police will investigate any suspicious behavior reported. To give the description of sex, age, clothing or any "unique descriptors", Chief Reyes urges students to call the 24-hour number at 442-8201.



“

If we see a pattern of vehicle theft, we call HEAT for assistance.

- MARVIN REYES, FCC POLICE CHIEF

”

## Inter-Club Council News

By Nam Dang  
Rampage Staff

The Inter-Club Council is the governing organization of all clubs on campus. Here's the latest news from the I.C.C. meeting on February 24.

President Pro-Tempore Brandi Williams reported that the following clubs have agreed to participate in the upcoming Renaissance Festival: Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE), Phi Theta Kappa, and Alpha Gamma Sigma.

Gurdeep Sihota, Interim College Activities Director, reported that calendars highlighting the different activities for Women's History Month will be available in the College Activities office beginning on March 1.

PPT Williams reported that Kids Day is scheduled to take place on March 21. Kids Day is a fundraiser that gives individuals an opportunity to sell special editions of the Fresno Bee, with proceeds benefiting Valley Children's Hospital. Advisor Sihota mentioned that FCC traditionally has done well in this fundraiser; raising \$2,000 per year on average.

The next Club Rush is scheduled for March 8. Club Rush will take place from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the main foun-

tain area. PPT Williams reminded the clubs to turn their food forms in to the College Activities office no later than March 3.

The Student Paralegal Association will have a rummage sale during the month of March. For more information, contact Nancy at 226-3383.

The Latter-Day Saints Students Association (LDSSA) is holding their "Meets and Treats" event on March 3. This event is scheduled to take place at the Latter-Day Saints Institute (located on Van Ness and McKinley), and will include a talent show.

SIFE is soliciting volunteers for a program that is aimed to teach children about business. More information is forthcoming.

## POLICE LOG

FROM THE FILES OF THE FCC CAMPUS POLICE DEPT.

February 16 - 9:13 a.m.

Officer recognized suspect from Fresno Police Department (FPD) Bulletin. Suspect arrested and turned over to FPD.

February 16 - 11:15 a.m.

Upon routine traffic stop, officer observed strong odor of marijuana. Suspects were cited and released. Report taken.

February 19 - 6:40 p.m.

Officer dispatched to Lot F regarding vehicle burglary. Report taken.

February 20

Officer observed graffiti at several locations on campus. Report taken.

February 20 - 2:38 p.m.

Officer observed juvenile on second floor of Math/Science Building who appeared to be under the influence of marijuana. Officer discovered marijuana on person of juvenile. Juvenile arrested, cited, released.

February 23 - 11:05 a.m.

Officer dispatched regarding suspicious person in/around women's restroom. Report taken.

February 24 - 5:34 p.m.

Officer dispatched to Fitness Center regarding possible assault that occurred two weeks ago. Victim examined by nurse and psychological services. Suspects identified. Report taken. Investigation on-going.

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\*Army National Guard Tuition Assistance provides for reimbursement of up to 75% of tuition for up to 15 college credits per fiscal year (1 October to 30 September).

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## A young child torn between two nations

By Francisco Duarte

Rampage Staff

The story of Elian Gonzalez continues to stir national and international debates about his return to Havana, or grant of American citizenship by Washington.

The debates in the United States Congress and an assortment of American and world media has, since the Cold Wars ended, polarized opinions regarding who has fundamental rights over decision(s) favorable to the Cuban child - his Cuban biological father, or American courts.

The polarization of views is fueled by Miami Cuban exiles and separate others for distinctive reasons.

The Exiles see President Fidel Castro as a callous

"dictator" and an enemy of "freedom" and "democracy" while the significant others voicing their feelings about the case see the death of Elian's mother and second husband at sea as payments for his American citizenship.

Rightly or wrongly, the Elian story does equally encourage broad divergencies of perspectives. Some simply mirroring decades of American-Cuban Cold War's tactics encompassing governmental idiosyncracies and political philosophies, while others are aimed at circumventing the legal and logical facts of Elian Gonzalez's fate.

The truth of the situation seems simple. Elian was wrestled from the sea by members of the American Coast Guard when a makeshift raft ferrying him, his

## Taking It To The Streets

Do you think Elian Gonzales should remain in the U.S., or be returned to his father in Cuba?

Compiled by Rampage Staff



**Nate de Leon**  
"I think that the biological father has the right to keep his son."

**Rheanna Lopez**  
"I think that he should stay in the U.S. till he is old enough to decide for himself."



**Fernando Bernal**  
"I think it should be a decision that the kid and his parents should make, not the Government."

**Eric Diaz**  
"I think he should go back to the U.S. to live with his father."



**Mandip Sandhu**  
"Well they should let him remain here if he wishes too."

**Victoria Green**  
"I think it's important to keep the interest of the boy's welfare, rather than using him as a political pond."



## Prop. 22

By Devin Riley

Opinion Editor

On March 7, California voters will go to their little voting booths and decide on this year's controversial new measure, Proposition 22. This Proposition seeks to eliminate all chances of same-sex marriages from being recognized by this diverse state.

Laughably filed under the 'Family Code' section of the law, here is the word-for-word scripting of the proposition: "Only marriage between a man and a woman is valid or recognized in California." At a mere 14 words, this dual lesson in stupidity and hate may be the shortest proposition ever to find its way to the voting booths. After all, to make something both stupid and long can be something of a challenge.

You may have seen the banners and signs in front of some homes, churches, or businesses. In big yellow letters, the signs all read "YES ON 22! Protect Marriage." This always brings a smile to my face for one simple reason: Marriage cannot be protected. Only in the past 70 years has this institution been about love as its original purpose was purely for the convenience of creating an alliance or to secure financial stability.

At least half of the people that will read this article are the product of a divorced home-life. It is fact that 50% of marriages go under in the first three years. Although some get appropriate divorces because their marriages turn vio-

lent, marriage has become just another document to be weaseled out of. People have always married and divorce over money, greed, and other assorted shallow conditions. And now we can add high scale prostitution to this "holy act" of union thanks to the Fox's network's blockbuster episode of *Who Wants to Marry a Multi-Millionaire*. The show registered unbelievably high ratings and was most likely viewed by all those who will vote Yes on this proposition. And they want to ban homosexuals from marrying? I say only homosexuals should be allowed into marriage, this way marriage may finally have class. Personally, I don't see why anyone would want to get married; there is nothing more certain to end a great relationship than marriage. It's called 'wedlock' for a reason.

Furthermore, it amazes me that 30 years after the civil rights movement became the center of American attention, homosexuals are still shunned in several social arenas. There is no justification for excluding any decent citizen from his or her basic rights and liberties, so the fact that such an unconstitutional law is on the ballot shows a dramatic step back in progress. All the painstaking and courageous efforts of the sixties will be gone, leaving behind only a ignorant trail of intolerance. This law does nothing but show how little people actually care for or think about their fellow humans. People need to wake up and realize that they don't have the authority or responsibility to conform others to their desires, and should tend to their own pathetic and faltering existences, back out of other peoples lives, and vote against this horrible measure.

And of course, there is the religious impact. For those with strong religious convictions who

are proud to support such a ridiculously hate-filled proposal, you should know that there are thousands of churches, synagogues, and other religious organizations that admirably are protesting this proposal. It's about time that the religious fraternity has owned up to its message that 'God loves all of His children unconditionally'. Homosexuals are the same as you and I. They are you and I. So a sexual preference that some are born with is different from yours—who cares? It has been said that God didn't and wouldn't create homosexuals, that people choose to go down that 'road of sin.' People are born with innate sexual preferences. So all the religious theories of homosexuality being evil and wrong can remain theories.

Homosexuals don't choose to be excluded from the main and receive less rights. Homosexuals don't choose to be humiliated, beaten, and oppressed. Sorry, but I can't remember the time in my life that I chose whether I was going to be attracted to the fine female form or the firm male body. Oh wait, I think I do: it was in the third grade, at the same time that I decided to be right-handed.

The saddest thing about this proposition is that it will probably pass. Recent Fresno Bee polls have 65% of the people in favor. So again, as is often in American history, the theme becomes the 'American Dream' denied. Although you should vote against Prop 22 to protect love, it seems the majority is content with excluding an entire group of people once more. So, in a sense, by voting for Prop 22, your votes are protecting something: it's protecting the only two traditional American values that can spring to your mind: exclusion and oppression.



## Reindeer Games needs you to play along

By Chris Castro  
Entertainment Editor

*Reindeer Games*, directed by John Frankenheimer and starring Ben Affleck, is quite the enigma. The movie is a big, action-packed thrill ride made by Miramax, the studio known for the smart and quaint little films that made Ben Affleck the hot commodity he is today, such as *Chasing Amy*, *Good Will Hunting*, and *Shakespeare In Love*. The film is relatively good when compared to other Hollywood thrillers such as *Double Jeopardy* and *A Perfect Murder*. In that case, the film is very well-crafted and original. When *Reindeer Games* is compared to the film noir genre of the 1940's, which it is obviously trying to emulate, the movie flatly fails.

Ben Affleck plays a car-thief who gets out of a

jail only to find himself roped into executing a casino heist with his new girlfriend's brother. Affleck does an admirable job in the prototypical wrong-man scenario, common in crime dramas of the 1940's. Unfortunately, the film seems to be copying films like *The Maltese Falcon* and *Double Indemnity*, in which the protagonists are witty cynics who are so dark-edged, they are very close to being villains. Affleck is working with a script that gives him very few good lines and instead of taking advantage of the dark side Affleck displayed in *Dogma*, the director gets him to be the clean-cut good guy. Charlize Theron is suitable in the femme fatale role, save for being just a little too bubble-headed during the first half of the movie. Gary Sinise has way too much fun playing the ratty-haired hood

Gabriel, so much so that he is completely unbelievable and non-threatening.

The main problem with *Reindeer Games* is that its first half is meandering, not very interesting, poorly written and badly acted. Yet the second half, which contains the robbery and many plot twists, is solidly crafted. The climax of the film is so ingenious and unexpected it lead one to believe the film was written by two brothers; the first half penned by an uneducated fan of movies like *Con Air* and *Armageddon*, while the second half was done by a connoisseur of old-fashioned crime movies. The movie needs the viewer to sit through and go along with the first half of the film to get to the twisty, well written climax. The second half almost makes up for the lackluster first half.

## TOP 10 List

A look at Devin and Chris's choices for Best Albums of 1999 and of the 90's

By Chris Castro

Entertainment Editor

Best Albums of '99

1. Foo Fighters - *There is Nothing Left to Lose*
2. Nine Inch Nails - *The Fragile*
3. The Jon Spencer Blues Explosion - *Xtra-Acme USA*
4. D Generation - *Through the Darkness*
5. Fiona Apple - *When the Pawn...*
6. Smashmouth - *Astrolounge*
7. Go - *Original Motion Picture Soundtrack*
8. Moby - *Play*
9. Beck - *Midnite Vulture*
10. Rage Against The Machine - *The Battle of Los Angeles*

By Chris Castro

Entertainment Editor

The 90's Best Albums

1. Soundgarden - *Superunknown*
2. Nirvana - *Nevermind*
3. Radiohead - *OK Computer*
4. nine inch nails - *the downward spiral*
5. The Smashing Pumpkins - *Melon Collie and the Infinite Sadness*
6. U2 - *Achtung, Baby*
7. Rage Against The Machine - *(self-titled)*
8. Garbage - *Version 2.0*
9. Metallica - *(self-titled AKA The Black Album)*
10. Sarah McLachlan - *Surfacing*

By Devin Riley

Opinion Editor

The 90's Best Albums

1. Public Enemy - *Fear of a Black Planet*
2. Ice-T - *Original Gangsta*
3. Ice Cube - *Death Certificate*
4. Radiohead - *OK Computer*
5. Dr. Octagon - *Dr. Octagonacologyst*
6. Del tha Funkee Homosapien - *No Need For Alarm*
7. Boogie Down Productions - *Sex and Edutainment*
8. The Pharcyde - *Bizarre Ride to the Pharcyde*
9. Digable Planets - *Blowout Comb*
10. Tool - *Enima*

## Artist Michael McMillen's exhibit opens in Gallery

By Jennifer M. K.

Rampage Staff

Artist Michael McMillen's exhibit opens at FCC's Art and Space Gallery.

On Wednesday, February 23, art lover's patience paid off when Michael McMillen's installation "Dracula's Daughter and the Theater of Salt" opened in the Art and Space gallery. The installation starts at the door, where tin roofing is nailed to wooden beams. Other items in the installation include a cistern, a gear driven display and an old rusted bedframe with wire springs and a lit candle on a gothic candle holder. McMillen was on hand during the entire event, and was more than happy to talk about his work. When I asked him what his art meant, he encouraged me to interpret it myself.

I started at the doorway and worked clockwise. As I walked through, I decided to take the author's title literally, so as I walked around I interpreted each section: The tin that went to the roof was Dracula's daughter's room. Because his daughter did not begin life as a vampire, her room was dark and cold with no windows.

Next was the cistern which I understood as a representation of her life. The cistern had a large part missing from the side and had leaves and dirt on the inside. The part missing represented the part her father took from her life— Her humanity. The

cistern was empty, the way she felt.

The next part represented her flight from home. A suitcase was mounted on the wall with a string coming out of it. The string represented her life as it wound around different pulleys. The pulleys all went in different directions but they were leading the string to the same place. At the end of the string was a piece of paper that had a map. It represented all of the places she had gone as she tried to escape her father. The map was being dipped into a bowl of salt water in some sort of Unholy baptism. It seemed that, as hard as she tried to escape the influence of her father, he was always around her.

In the middle of the room four benches were pushed together to form a cross. It was a talisman that Dracula's daughter tried to use to keep her father away from her. The significance of the cross being in the middle was that she tried to use it, but it didn't work the way she planned.

The very last part

of the exhibit was the bed. It had no mattress and cement pillows. One lit candle was perched on an ancient candle holder. This was where Dracula's daughter ended up. Despite her escape and all of her journeys, her destiny brought her back to her father's bed. A bed that held no comfort and no rest. The bed her father made for her.

These were my impressions of the exhibit. McMillen encourages everyone to come to the Art and Space gallery and form their own opinions.



Illustration by Bruce Gates



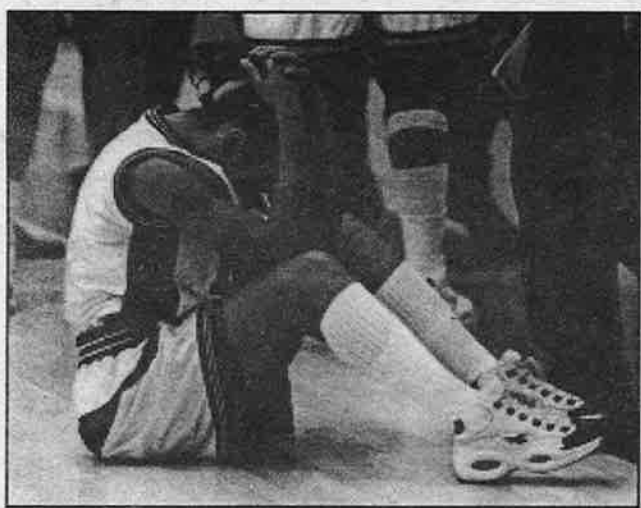


Photo by D. Song  
A competitive game comes to an emotional close for Zammiah Johnson.

## Women put up a very tough fight

◆ *Defeated by one in quadruple overtime*

*By Kareina Clark*  
Rampage Staff

After four overtimes and an array of defensive and offensive playing Fresno City's Women's Basketball team lost to Merced in a score of 79 to 80. "Although the game was lost this does not mean a total lost or dissapointment from the fans" says FCC student, Stephanie Hernadez, "All members of the team put in a lot of work during this game".

Such players like starters number 52 Charissa Butler who had 15 points and Amber Easter who had 14. After the first half of the game both teams had a score of 56. This score was followed by seven more points in the 1st overtime, three in the second, eight in the third and a 6-5 lead Merced's way in the fourth and last overtime that caused FCC to loose the game.

This game was the women's last home game before going to the Regional Playoffs on February 26 in which the schedule is to be announced.



Photo by D. Song  
A tight match gets tighter as Monica Ulrick, no. 10, bowls over the defense.

## Men's Basketball demolishes Columbia College, playoff bound

*By Nam Dang*  
Rampage Staff

In final regular home game showing, the FCC Men's Basketball dealt Columbia College an 81-74 point defeat.

In the game played on FCC's turf, Central Valley Conference forward Terri Miller scored 17 points while Daymian Turner and Corey Canteen netted 11 points each. Down 14-1 in early minutes of play, FCC roared back to a 15-14 without surrendering its lead.

"We didn't play hard at the start and didn't get good looks," stated Rams forward Paul Charles. "But we maintained our intensity to overcome that big deficit."

"We've been starting out slow all season, so it's second nature to us," stated Rams center Reggie Borges. "We just go out and try to claim the lead and not lose it again."

"Columbia came out hot," stated Rams coach Denny Aye. "But we settled down, played better defense, and basically wore them down." "We're better than that. We just needed to come out and play ball," he said.

As the regular season comes to a close, the players say that they have learned a lot, which will help them



Photo by D. Song  
Daymian Turner, no. 22, stuns the defense and the crowd with a spectacular finger roll on a break-away in the Rams' 81-74 rout of Columbia.

in the playoffs.

"Being ranked number one doesn't mean you won't lose," stated Charles. "You gotta come to every game ready to play and ready to win."

"However much playing time you got during the regular season, you can't complain about it come playoff time," stated Borges. "Just play as a team because one loss and you're out."

"We cannot underestimate anyone in the playoffs", stated Rams forward Daymian Turner.



Photo by D. Song  
Jockeying for position, no. 40 Reggie Borges sets up the next offensive strike.

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## Track and field opener yields big finishes for both teams

By Joe Chacon

Sports Editor

Fresno City College has hosted its first track and field meet at Ratcliff Stadium East of the FCC campus. The track and field attractions held over the weekend brought together competitors from colleges near and far.

During the meet, competing colleges and participants were ranked first, second, and third on the basis of team points scored.

San Joaquin Delta College placed first with 173, Fresno City College 172, Modesto 167 in third and College of the Sequoias finishing with 160 points. Of the 17 events during the competition, Fresno City placed in 10 events, in top 3 positions.

"I thought the kids performed really well, we did a lot of good things, because of the weather we haven't had a lot of good practices," said Head coach D. Dewitt.

In the 400 meters Miles

Giovanni came in first. Alex Riley CVC triple jump holder placed third in the triple jump, 1st in the long jump and 4th in the hurdles. Football cross over Josh Norman, 1st in the 100 meters and 200 meters. Gabe Zarate, the high school National Record holder the youngest ever to hold that title at the high school level placed 1st in the high jump.

In the women's competition Modesto placed first with 163.5, C.O.S. second with 145, FCC third with 131.5 and Delta fourth with 98 points. Sarah Yanes placed 1st in the 100 meters and the triple jump. In the javelin, Guillemin placed 1st place and in the discus, Krauter finished 1st and Prieto 2nd.

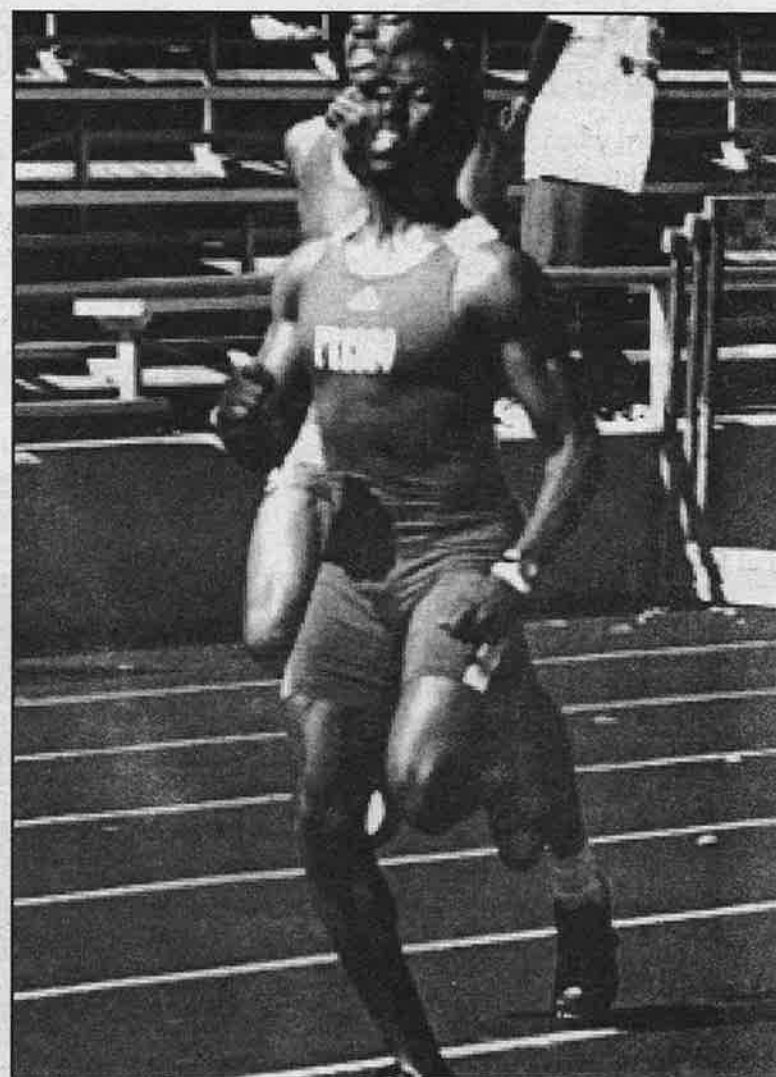


Photo by Louis Castro

Going the distance, Miles Giovanni takes first in the 400 meter race. He also went on to help his team win the 400 meter relay.

### 2000 Football News Brief

Fresno City College Rams football schedule for 2000 season has been posted. FCC return match with Los Altos for a preseason grudge match. The Rams lost 31-0 in the 1999 Kiwanis Silicon Valley Bowl game, giving Head coach Tony Caviglia's Rams its second defeat.

On the schedule to play at Ratcliff Stadium, FCC will take on Laney, College of the Siskiyous, Butte and San Jose.

Hawaii, Kamike High's Matthew Faga 6-foot 3-inch 300-pound nose guard, player of the year in Hawaii has a major commitment to play for the Rams 2000 season.

Central Valley Conference lineman Fine Nai, one of the lineman blocking for All-American Morris Maurice, who broke all State and National rushing records, has signed a letter of intent Division 1-AA Southwest Missouri State, and signing with Cincinnati kicker Victor DiMarou.

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## Elian Gonzalez

continued from page 4

Coast Guard when a makeshift raft ferrying him, his mother, and second husband to American ripped apart, killing them.

The second truth is that the fate of little Elian, an immigrant by legal U.S. Justice Department and INS policy's definitions, is being argued without either his professional and personal participation, or the proper legal representation and recognition of his biological father's wishes.

The third truth deals with the absence of precedence of grant of American citizenship by the United States Government and Courts to a child whose living biological father wants returned to country of birth and jurisdiction.

Above all else, the inability of the United States to establish a correlation between prior decisions involving illegal entrants and current management of Elian's problem seemed inherently designed to exacerbate American-Cuban confrontations.

The question now becomes whether six-year-old Elian Gonzalez has turned into a pawn of a political propaganda campaign, not of his making, in which the stakes are stacked against President Castro because of popular American perceptions of him - - NOT OF MR. GONZALEZ AND ELIAN, HIS SON.

Everyone brings different thinking to the story. This OPINION article represents mine, and draws from similar, but not exact experiences.

### LAW AND MORALS

A majority of people in America seems to misunderstand or stereotype the Cuban in exile. The tendency is to believe that their only reason for everything is hate and insisted that the child must be returned considering the legal and moral arguments previously discussed. The Cubans in exile sustained that any free society has the right and even the moral obligation to modify, nullify or create new laws when those changes are claimed by justice and the pursuing of freedom. The unity of the family is not, nor can be, the ultimate argument when issues of human dignity and liberty are on stage. The run-away slave should not be returned to his master. For them, Elian is not a boy rescued from the waters, he is a symbol of their own search for liberty. Is like a living flag that like the American famous quote says: "Give me liberty or give me death". Elian's mother and countless others that have paid the highest price in opposing the dictator, even in absence, or maybe because of that, their voices should be heard as a powerful testimony in any national or international court of human opinion. Probably, this is the better time to set a precedent.



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