

'Traffic' gives an up close view of the drug war Page 4



Smile! Take a look, you might be on this page Page 8



FCC's women's basketball team is on a roll

Page 10



FRESNO CITY COLLEGE

Volume LXXIII Edition

A Publication since 1949

January 24 2001

# Long lines for financial aid checks is actually good news

By Joe Chacon

Rampage Reporter

Long lines on the first Thursday of the new semester can mean only one thing: Financial aid checks are being distributed. It's an all too familiar site, according to Financial Aid Coordinator Frank Ramon.

And that is a good sign.

"Long lines mean we are giv-

ing out millions of dollars of financial aid to our students. If we had short lines we would not be doing our job," Ramon said.

Direct deposit and mailing the checks have been tried before; however, the problem with this Ramon said is that, "Many students would receive a check in the mail and actually would not be attending school."

FCC student Elsa Ruiz said,

"It's frustrating, but I can understand it's part of obtaining money for school."

Checks are distributed four days after the first day of school to ensure students are attending classes.

"If a student is not attending classes, they are not entitled to a financial aid check," Ramon said.

See Long lines, Page 7



Photo by Joe Chacon

Students seeking financial aid checks had to show patience.

# LIGHTS OUT

# Power outage keeps students guessing and out of class

By Maggie Garza
News Editor

The power crisis that has been the topic in many classes on campus, hit home about 11 a.m. last Thursday when campus administrators started entering classrooms and evacuating the buildings.

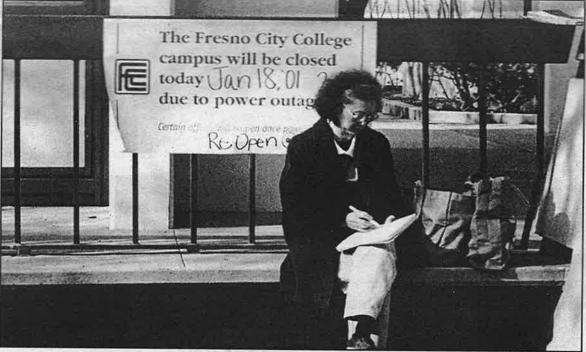
The blackout was caused by the California power crisis and was scheduled to last about two hours. Associate Student Government (ASG) and Student Activities posted signs informing students that campus buildings would be closed until 1 p.m.

Some students felt that it caused an inconvenience, driving around trying to find a parking spot only to be escorted from their class. Korioukina Eugenia, an FCC student, said, "I was planning to go to the library to study. ... I couldn't do my homework."

Other students found it as a plus -- classes being dismissed meant for some people that their last class was canceled and that was the end to their school day.

"It felt kind of good on Thursday when we got to go home early," student Saman Saffa said.

The biggest concern for stu-



Photos by Julian Torre

During FCC's power outage last Thursday, students had no other option but to sit (above) or mill around outside (below) while waiting for the electricity to come back on.

"Normally, if there were an outage that happens all of a sudden and the power goes out, we always evacuate our buildings for the safety of our students."

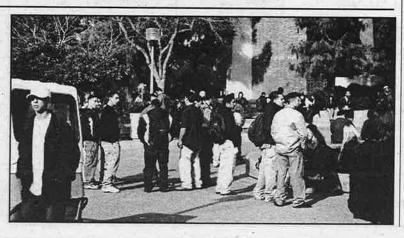
-- Kathy Bonilla, Fresno City College public information officer

dents, was whether they should return to campus for their afternoon classes.

"I was only worried that they didn't give us information when to come back so I didn't know what time to come back for my 12 o'clock class or 2 o'clock class," explained Saman Saffa.

Dale Risenhoover, ASG president, was concerned for students'

See Blackout, page 2



# Report cards for fall sent out late

By Jeff Swisher
Rampage Reporter

Better late than never seemed to be the general consensus among Fresno City College students after the Admissions and Registration office failed to meet its Jan. 6 deadline to mail fall semester final grade report notices to students. The office eventually mailed the grades Jan. 10, two days after the subsequent spring semester had begun.

The late delivery came as a result of a 10-second power outage on Jan. 5 at FCC, which disrupted the report card's printing system, according to John Cummings, dean of Admissions and Registration.

"The school's power went down," Cummings said. "When the power went down, it took down the printer lines. No backup ever kicked in."

As a result, the printing of the report cards was postponed until Jan. 8 and 9, leaving staff members with little more to do than wait for roughly 20,000 printouts.

"Last year we worked through Christmas break to get the report cards mailed to the students," Cummings said. "But this year, since the power went out on us, we were unable to work through Christmas. This was the first Christmas vacation I had in some

See Report cards, page 4

# Readers: Don't forget to write

As another semester begins, the Rampage staff is geared up and ready to continue serving the

community of Fresno City College. For more than 50 years, the Rampage has existed as a fixture on campus to inform and entertain its



**Julian Torres** Editor-in-chief

readers. Since our newspaper is produced by students of FCC and targeted at its student body and faculty, I feel that a close relationship between our publication and its readers could benefit both.

As a result, I would like to encourage communication from our readers. If you have comments on something that you see in the Rampage, know of an event that you would like to see covered, or just have an opinion about something on campus that you would like to share with our readers, we would like to hear about it.

We at the Rampage have made strides to make ourselves more accessible to our readers. Now, more than ever, it is easier to contact us. We hope that the addition of our new e-mail address (which we should have soon) and extended office hours will encourage increased feedback from those of you who read our newspaper.

Two new regular features have been added to our spring 2001 edition. They include an updated campus calendar (on page 2) and an on-campus personality profile (on page 3). In addition to our regular Taking it to the Streets feature, we feel that these will keep you in touch with what is happening on your campus and let you know what other people have to say.

We look forward to an interesting semester and hope our readers get as much from the Rampage as we get from you.

in the meeting and put them into



From the Files of the State Center Community College District Police Department

Jan. 3

PSO took report regarding stolen staff keys.

Report taken regarding vehicle vandalism.

Jan. 9

Officer took report regarding theft of bike from T-200 bike rack.

Officer took report regarding student having sei-

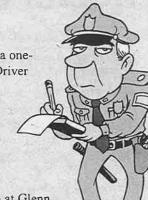
zures.

Jan. 11 Vehicle observed going wrong way on a oneway at Campus Drive and McKinley. Driver cited.

Officer took report regarding injured student.

Jan. 12

and Weldon, and initiated traffic stop. Driver



Officer obeserved vehicle run stop sign at Glenn

The day after the outage we met again to see how our plan worked; what was good, what was bad, things we needed to correct and things that went well. My office is in charge of putting together a little emergency kit that each building will have. They will have flashlights in them and signs stating the date and time."

Bonilla did have tips on what students should do in order to prepare themselves for the next out-

"First of all, know what's go-

ing on, listen to the news. We're in block eight, the college is. And this is for home, too, know what block you're in. Listen to the news they will always tell you. The best thing they could do is carry a flashlight in their purse, backpack or whatever."

As for as the power outage what can FCC do or we do?

"There is nothing we can do...actually what we can do is help conserve energy," Bonilla said.

#### Blackouts

Cont. from Page 1

attendance and whether the confusion would go against them if they didn't return in time for their late afternoon classes.

He said that he was happy to have a day off from one of his classes.

All concerns and questions of students were discussed among administrators during a meeting held for the purpose of what to do if such an event happens again. A meeting was held prior to the incident, where faculty discussed what to do if a blackout were to occur here on campus.

In an in-depth interview with Kathy Bonilla, public information officer for FCC, she explained the power crisis situation and what students need to remember in case it happens again.

"On the west side of the (railroad) tracks most, of the campus is on block eight. The majority of the campus is on block eight. On the other side of the tracks where the Health Science Building is, the District Office, Campus Police, Child Development Center, Police Academy, they are on block 11.

We got notice Wednesday night that block eight may be in the rotation for power outages. It turned out they didn't have any power outages that night. On Thursday morning, in preparation, the management team held a meeting and discussed what we would do if they told us we were going to have an outage," Bonilla said.

FCC did get warning ahead of time and was able to prepare for the outage.

"Normally, if there were an outage that happens all of a sudden and the power goes out, we always evacuate our buildings for the safety of our students. Because some buildings can be pretty dark, especially those rooms that don't have any windows...we're worried about people in wheelchairs stuck on the second floor and not being able to use the elevator to get out of the building. We're worried about people getting stuck in the elevator, so that's why we usually evacuate the building," Bonilla explained.

"After we got out of that meeting we were told that block eight was going to be part of the outage so we took the plans we had made FCC was fortunate enough to

get an advanced warning, and school officials hope to get another warning before the next blackout, if it happens. "Since we had the advance

warning we were able to evacuate the buildings...about an hour after we were notified the power did go out," Bonilla said. "We were fortunate they (PG&E) did give us advance warning. They tell you that the power will be out from anywhere between 90 minutes to two hours. Now, we were actually out a little over an hour. To be safe, we will implement a safety plan for a two hour block."

Bonilla then explained how students should prepare in case of another power outage. "The thing that students need to remember is that when we have planned power outages we are only planning for a two-hour block," she said. "Students need to remember this isn't an all day thing."

FCC is still making plans on what to do if we find ourselves with the power out.

"We are preparing just in case.

# Fresno City College



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# Campus Calendar

Compiled by Rampage Staff

### Jan. 24

•Club Rush: Fountain Area, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Contact college activities at 265-5711.

### Jan. 25

•Placement tests: English, 8 a.m., noon, 5:30 p.m.; math, 9:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., 7 p.m. Assessment Center (east-end of library). Students advised to arrive 10-15 minutes early.

·Loma Linda University informational meeting: 6:30 p.m., Health Science Building (upstairs in Room 240). Contact Terri Pfeiffer, 244-2607.

#### Jan. 26

•9 Ball Tournament: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., College Center. Contact college activities at 265-5711.

### Jan. 27

"The Fantastic Normal Gentlemen": 8 p.m., College Theater. Tickets \$10 general admission; \$5 students/seniors; \$3 students with FCC ASB card. 442-8221.

#### Jan. 31

•Volunteer Faire: College Mall, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Contact college activities at 265-5711.

·African American History Month. Opening Day Ceremonies: Theater, 12 p.m. Contact college activities at 265-5711.

·Ken and Sally Owens Exhibit: Through, March 18 at Art Space Gallery.

•ICC Institute: Staff Dining Room 12 p.m. Contact college activities at 265-5711.

·Music Department Guest Vocal Recital: In room MS 132 at 2 p.m.

#### FOUND

Guitar: Found in Old Fig Garden on Maroa Avenue. Call Steve at 681-8774 to give description.

Do you have an item you wish to place in the Campus Calendar? If so, turn in complete information to the Rampage office, Room SC 211 (second floor, above the bookstore) between noon-l p.m. Monday, Wednesday or Friday.

# News' illustrious career ends with London trip

By Julian Torres Editor-in-chief

Nearly 40 years after becoming a teacher, Fresno City College instructor Charles Lynes is calling it quits, but not before saying bon voyage, one last time. The instructor will complete a 14week semester in London, which gets under way Sunday, as an encore to a fulfilling career.

Lynes began teaching out of FCC's Humanities division in 1970. He has taught English, reading, literature, theater and speech, after a 9 1/2-year stint at Fresno's Edison High School.

"I started in the '60s, which were interesting times and teaching at Edison even made it more interesting," recalls Lynes.

As social unrest began growing around the country during the time of the civil rights movement, changes were taking place everywhere, and Fresno was not exempt from such.

"Education of the time remained de facto -segregated. It was not until two or three years after I started teaching that we saw one of the first African-American basketball players playing for Hoover High," said

Lynes prides himself in being an active teacher, who likes to keep in touch with his students, a task which often found him and others constantly doing battle with the school district for speaking out in favor of their students.

"We were battling for them," said Lynes. "We always felt that west Fresno schools were equal but last. When changes occurred, they happened for other schools and then eventually to ours."

When Lynes arrived at FCC, the campus had a very different atmosphere than what many see today. It was a closely-knit school with little more than 5000 full-



Photo by Julian Torres / photo at right courtesy of Edison High Charles Lynes, shown at right in 1963 a few years after his teaching career started at Edison High, talked in the Rampage office (above) last week about his 40 years as an instructor. "As the school (Fresno City College) became bigger, it became less personal," said Lynes. "Students were required to register for classes in front of the instructor and most of the faculty knew each other better."

time students. Teachers did not have individual offices. Instructors were assigned desks and where there were offices; instructors would double-up. The campus consisted of no more than the administration building, gymnasium, and a bookstore.

"As the school became bigger, it became less personal," said Lynes. "Students were required to register for classes in front of the instructor and most of the faculty knew each other better."

Lynes believes that technology has slowly eliminated much of the interaction that people would have with one another. "If you get 10 minutes with a counselor today, you're lucky," said Lynes.

Lynes will complete his 40year teaching career away from home, yet he insists that London is somewhere he feels very much at home.

"This will be my third tour of duty in London and I think it's just marvelous," said Lynes, who will be accompanied by Joan Newcomb on the trip. Newcomb is also an FCC instructor, who will be retiring at the program's end.

After retirement, Lynes will have more time to spend with his family, including his three sons and five grandchildren. As he reflects on his career, he feels as if he has been a part of something good. Lynes has partaken in a career that has been highlighted by a visit to FCC by Dr. Martin Luther King and by the opportunity to work with minorities.

Lynes explains, "Once in awhile, I'll walk around campus, and think ... what an interesting place this is when you just take a look at all the different kinds of students, this is really what our country is about."



### More on the London program

The London semester is a program designed for all State Center Community College District students to take classes in another country, while at the same time fulfilling general education requirements.

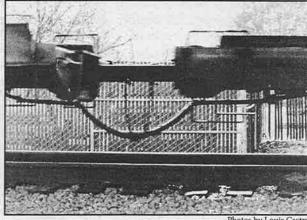
A semester's curriculum consists of many hard to get general education classes, such as English 1A. The program requires students to live with a host family, while adjusting to life in a foreign place.

However, students get time to themselves, including a nine-day Spring break and a stay in Paris, which is included with the program.

Although the program restricts itself to 25 students a semester, the cost remains \$6,000, in addition to any spending money needed, recommended at another several thousand dollars.

Next semester's accompanying instructors will be Gerry Bill of Social sciences and Rosemarie Guglielmino of Humanities. Any interested students may contact the educational Services Planning Department at 244-5906.





# Jumping the fence

Students taking a straighter road to class have been known to use makeshift holes in the fence along Campus Drive Avenue near Parking Lot F. The fence is intended to keep people from crossing the railroad tracks at an unsafe spot. The hole is patched every semester for safety reasons, according to campus police, but (left) some have found a different way to take the shortcut. Above, a train rolls by the newly patched spot.

# 4 January 24, 2001 Entertainment

# Traffic offers dramatic fireworks backed by a terrific cast

Michael Douglas, Catherine Zeta-Jones and Denis Quaid are the big names in the new film Traffic.

Those names are only the tip of the iceberg in a large ensemble cast that inhabit the new work from director Steven Soderbergh, who also directed last year's Erin



**Chris Castro** Entertainment editor Movie Review

Brockovich Much like he did in his last film, Soderbergh infuses. Traffic with a realistic look and tone that heightens the drama brought to this atypical thriller.

The story, based on a British miniseries, follows three basic stories, which are all intertwined, about the drug trade. Michael Douglas plays a judge recently appointed the U.S. "drug czar", the leader in the nation's war on drugs. Integral to this war is the destruction of drug cartels in Mexico. Also important is the trial of drug smugglers bringing the illegal product into the United States. However, the stories within those stories reveal the drug war is not easily fought.

For instance, the daughter of Michael Douglas' character is a habitual drug-using teen-ager. Benicio Del Toro (from The Usual Suspects and The Way of the Gun) plays a south-of-the-border cop who finds it hard to tell the good guys from the bad guys when a general enlists him to take down a burgeoning drug cartel. And Catherine Zeta-Jones finds herself struggling to keep her privileged life intact when she learns her husband is a drug smuggler.

Report cards

Cont. from page 1

Although final fall semester grades were made available Dec. 23 on the college's web site and touch-tone registration phone service, many students relied on the mailed report card to notify them of their final grades.

Michelle Getz, an FCC student currently on academic probation, felt that the college showed little regard for students who would have liked to have known their fall semester grades before registering for spring.

"Some students on academic probation need to know their grades before registering again," said Getz, who was unaware of FCC's phone service, which allows students to check their grades. "Luckily, I did pretty well this semester. But I could've had to retake a class and not even known it because the report cards were late."



Michael Douglas (right) is part of an all-star cast in 'Traffic.'

The cast is surprisingly large, with Don Cheadle and Luis Guzman playing the buddy cops who catch the drug smuggler. The cast also includes Benjamin Bratt, Selma Hayek, Topher Grace ("Eric" from "That '70s Show"), Albert Finney (Annie and Erin Brockovich), and many more familiar faces. It takes a cast this large to tell a story this big.

The script expertly ties all the stories and characters together without getting convoluted or hard to follow. The most commendable trait of the film is it presents a very

Cummings said that this spring semester may be the final time FCC dispatches report cards through mail. He went on to note that the amount of effort that goes into producing a report card, or as he stated, "single white piece of paper," wasn't worth the time or

"It costs \$17,000 to \$20,000 to do grade mailing," Cummings said. "With printing, mailing and sorting, the cost can be pretty ex-

Cummings hopes that in the future, students will use FCC's web site or its phone registration system to retrieve their final grades, making grade notification easier for the college and its stu-

"We want to make it easier for the student to get his or her grades from wherever they are," Cummings said. "The only time we'll issue the grades on paper will be with a student's transcript request."

heated issue without ever, ever resorting to preaching, and it never takes the easy way out. Soderbergh presents a film that doesn't offer any easy answers and realistically shows the audience that this is a war where even if one enemy is taken out, that enemy will probably be replaced by another. And, as Douglas' character realizes, there's no concrete way to fight a war in which the "enemies" can be one's own fam-

### Top Ten Albums from 2000

10. Pearl Jam - Binaural

9. OutKast - Stankonia

8. No Doubt - Return of Saturn

7. Travis - The Man Who

6. Shelby Lynne - I Am Shelby Lynne

5. Green Day - Warning:

4. Boss Hog - Whiteout

3. Eminem - The Marshall Mathers LP

2. Aimee Mann - Bachelor No. 2...

1. Poe - Haunted

# Horoscopes

By Diego Herra Rampage Reporter



Aries (March 18-April 19)

Others appreciate your point of view. Take time out of your hectic schedule to spend time with a love one.



Taurus (April 20-May20)

Someone close to you will express his true opinions toward you. Stay away from the Friend Zone, if you want a closer relationship with that person.



Gemini (May 21-June 20)

The difficulties in your life are becoming overwhelming. New ideas will spark a new interest in your life. Don't hesitate to jump at new opportunities.



Cancer (June 21-July 22)

A great month for you to get things completed. The moons of Saturn are aligned in your favor. Make sure to take advantage of your good luck.



Leo (July 23-August 22)

Job promotions are likely for you this month. Your hard work is going to pay off. Stay open to others' suggestions. Keep your mind concentrated on your goals.



Virgo (August 23-September 22)

A whirlwind of problems and dilemmas arise. Colleagues will test your limits. Nothing will seem to go for you this month. Try to understand what might come up.



Libra (September 23-October 22)

A surprise meeting with an old friend might occur. Keep your schedule open for events that might come up. Don't forget to assist others in need.



Scorpio (October 23-November 21)

Stay away from those that cause you stress. It will be better for you to skip situations you know that will cause you stress. It will be better for you to stay occupied in your work.



Sagittarius (November 22-December 21)

A lot of demands are placed on you. Family and work are at the center of your stress. Don't concentrate on pleasing others. Make sure you complete what has to be done.



Capricorn (December 22-January 19)

A good time to meet new people. The opposite sex will try to start something new with you or continue a new relationship. Don't take advantage of others vulnerability.



Aquarius (January 20-February 18)

Friends are with you. Stay strong in your time of need. Take some time to have fun and relax. This will ease your worries a bit.



Pisces (February 19-March 20)

Make time for that scheduled event you planned to go to. Great news surrounds your house; enjoy time together with them.

# Entertainment

# Local band hyped up

Saturday, at the Starline Club in the Tower District, a great band played a show. The band was called 40 Watt Hype. The band is made up of eight Fresno natives. Aaron Wall and Twylight are the

MC, Steve Lavigne on the drums, Derran Klassen on bass, John B the guitarist, J a m i e Fernandez percussionist,



Nick Bergstrom

Rampage Reporter DeLacerta on Concert Review

the trumpet, and sitting in on the saxophone was Dakota Johnson. They have a musical style all their own, a hardy mix of R&B, rap, hip-hop, groove, soul and dance. It's an interesting combination of all these very different musical styles. The main musical influence for this band was an awesome hip-hop group called Jurassic 5.

"We like playing in Fresno when the crowds are hyped up and appreciative of us," Twylight said.

"We like the opportunity to

town," Lavigne said.

The concert on was amazing. The lyrical stylings of Wall and Twylight for starters were amazing. They work together very well and fit perfectly in with the music style.

Only one word describes John Berg and his skillful guitar playing --

awesome. On the bass it was Klassen with his mixture of funk and jazz style riffs that he can fit perfectly with the rest of them. Lavigne's drumming puts the music together. Then there is Jamie Hemandez playing the congas, an added plus to their already unorthodox style. Gabe DeLacerta on the trumpet did an awesome job. He added some awesome jazz trumpeting, and sitting in for this show on alto sax was Dakota

New Poe album a haunted triumph



Johnson, who did an excellent job. When you put all of these unique styles together, they put on a great

If anyone wants to check them out, they're playing at the Tower Theater on Jan. 27, because they won the battle of the bands on Oct 21, or you could check out their web site at www.40watthype.com for more information. They are putting out a new album in March with guest producer Jeff Logan.



Pictured left to right: Bay'la Washburne, Joe Kelarjian, Lori Baldwin, Jason Stansell, and Luis Ramentas show their stuff.

## Plaza gives 'suite' night of local acting

Theatre 3 is a theater company in downtown Fresno at 1544 Fulton St., behind the Fresno Metropolitan

Museum. They have a following of regular theatergoers that is large enough (on a good night) to rival a crowd Good Company Players



J. Riley Rampage Reporter Theater Review

(Roger Rocka's Second Space Theater). Yet, I ask one question. have you ever heard of it? Gordon Goede, director of est in theater is dying in today's

Theatre 3, believes that an interyouth. However, an influx of Fresno City College students who have come to see the current running play, "Plaza Suite," appears to negate that theory. As well as the showcasing of young talent in Good Company Players' "Junior Company," from which quite a few Fresno City College Theatre students got their start.

"Plaza Suite," running Jan. 5 through F.eb. 3, is a three-act play by Neil Simon, and each act is a story about a different couple in the same hotel room (staying at different times). All of Neil Simon's plays have to include a

conflict, and "Plaza Suite" is no exception. The first two acts deal with the struggle of adultery, while the last deals with a mother and father of a bride to be, attempting to get their daughter out of the bathroom and down to her

The set work is quite remarkable. Nice dark green walls with white doors and trim make you almost forget that this is not a real hotel room. The show's director, Goede, did the set design. The performance itself is quite enjoyable. Although you get the feeling that these couples do care about each other, their interaction with the other characters is somewhat lacking.

For example, in Act One, the tension between the characters, played by Bay'La Washburne and Lori Baldwin, is not really felt until long after Baldwin leaves the stage. Also, during the entire first act, Washburne's character fights hard to save her marriage, yet at the end of the act, does a complete 180 and flirts with the waiter. It seems a little unnatural to try so hard only to change your mind.

Overall, the cast pulls off a great performance considering the circumstances. Even with the few flaws, which appear to possibly be director oriented, the show was still nice. I give it two and a half stars on a bad night and three and a half stars on a good night.

### company in with spell-

Last year, Eminem and OutKast rattled and refreshed the world of hip-hop. Aimee Mann rubbed her

former record the face of her highly-acclaimed music. Pearl Jam and Green Day soldiered on with their signature sounds, while No Doubt and Boss Hog showed that



Chris Castro Entertainment editor Movie Review

boys weren't the only ones who could rock.

Shelby Lynne pulled a Dusty Springfield, proving once again that blue-eyed blondes can have a lot of soul. And Travis put out the kind of music Radiohead used to before they became "artists." But no album entertained or allowed for more pleasurable returns than Poe's Haunted return.

Seemingly coming out of nowhere, Poe's new album not only improves on her sound, first heard a few years ago on her Hello album but also works on a level few singer-songwriters have accomplished. The album serves not just as a collection of spectacular songs, but as a concept record whose songs can each stand on their own.

Eerily sampling the recordings her now-deceased father, Poe uses the album to dispel the demons that have troubled her since his death. This type of therapeutic music has been done time and time before, but most of the time is a hard thing to listen to, much

less swallow. Poe's But ability blend storytelling binding music provides for a highly enjoyable journey.

Poe's sound is hard to pin down. She sounds, at times like a lighter version of Garbage, a harder

version of Dido, Fiona Apple with a more electronica lean, even a little bit like Tori Amos. The two songs that stand out are obviously the title track, "Haunted" and "Wild." Besides opening the album and laying the groundwork for the creepy/beautiful songs to come, "Haunted" brings together elements of techno and the usual light rock. "Wild" plays up the techno element to full effect, its climax sounding like a song that should be a rave staple. The other track on the album are much more risky and are more rewarding in their own right.

"Control" and "Walk The Walk" both deal with female empowerment but take very different approaches ("Control" is darker and threatening while "Walk..." sounds more playful, "I am woman, hear me roar."). "Not A Virgin" at first sounds gimmicky in its theme (Poe telling a lover, or her father, how she's kind of a slut) but her playful delivery



and pounding music make the song one of the best on the album (and much more enjoyable than "Angry Johnny," from Hello). Many of the other songs on the

album are just great rockers ("Could've Gone Mad") and low tempo grooves ("Terrible Heart" and "5&1/2 Minute Hallway").

Only a few of her songs, such as "Amazed" and "If You Were

Here," specifically deal with Poe trying to deal with her father's death, but this theme is present throughout the album. With any luck, Poe's new album will gain popularity through word of mouth, since the big marketing move for the album seemed to be attaching "Haunted" on to the soundtrack to Blair Witch 2, which was hardly the hit anyone expected it to be. Hopefully, much like Dido's No Angel, which was released in Fall 1999, Poe's Haunted will slowly creep its way into the ears of anyone looking for exciting new music.

## Koontz thrills with 'eye

The 400-page book with the bright red cover shouldn't be hard to miss on the shelf. The newest

novel by Dean Koontz takes us through yet another fascinating tale of horror and suspense.

Katharine Strauss

From the Rampage Reporter Corner of His Eye has

**Book Review** an interest-

ing story line that introduces us to a strange cast of characters, such as Bartholomew Lampion, who from the day he was born has had troubles. His father died just minutes before Bart's birth, and at the

age of 13 he lost his eyes in an accident, but miraculously they grew back.

Junior Cain, a demon, if you can call him that, devotes his life to find his mortal enemy, who just happens to be Bartholomew. And the girl from San Francisco, the result of a violent rape, that is linked to the two mysteriously. This is just to name a few of the many people that make this book.

Once you start reading this book, you'll never want to put it down. From murder to intrigue, suspense and thrills, From the Corner of His Eye will keep you on the edge of your seat and the lights on at night. All the critics agree that Koontz has outdone himself again.

# Opinion

City Life

# Jesse Garcia







# Clinton to Gore to Bush, political scene has changed

What does the word politics mean to you? In fact, what does the word politician mean to you?

To a majority of Americans, politics leave a negative impression, one of distaste and acute resemblance to the word propaganda. The intended use of these words originally had

word propaganda. The in-Rampage Reporter tended use of these words

Editorial

positive meanings, but somehow our perception was skewed. Maybe the connotations of these cap on the administration of our 42nd president ...

President Clinton burst upon the national scene with the same flair and character of a Quentin Tarantino screenplay. The Clinton years will be noted for providing good times, at least economically. Americans have seen crime drop, education levels increase, and an overall improvement in the quality of life. But the sad fact is that Americans will remember his impeachment trial when thinking about his administration. It included scandals and investigations, which could compare to those of a daytime drama. Who can forget the famous stain on the leader. Yet, Americans gave President Clinton the highest approval rating of any president. He also managed to win voters' favors in two consecutive elections.

The president's counterpart, Al Gore, recently lost to George W. Bush in what many political junkies saw as the super bowl of politics. There were recounts and recounts, and strangely at the end, it was Bush who became the victor. Was the majority of the Supreme Court of the United States correct? Was it fair that Gore lost? Who's to say? Many persons feel that the Clinton era has carved a grand canyon of differences between liberals and conservatives. People are

outraged from the outcome of the elections and against anyone who Bush appoints to his cabinet. I have seen people go so far as to honk at anyone with a "Vote for Gore" or a "Vote for Bush" patch. Whether you voted for Bush or Gore, whether you're pro-choice or pro-life, gay or straight, man or woman, I know that everyone has some strong opinion that they will fight to the end for.

George W. Bush will enter the office with serious problems among African-Americans and Hispanics. Even though his platform was aimed to try harder to please such groups more than any other Republican candidate -- his

primary goal entering the office of presidency is to fix the wound and broken ties created by the election. Bush's first opportunit to do this will be on his inauguration. He will have the entirenation's full attention to lay on his plans for the next four year

Every day we hear about protest after protest in every major city. There are normal business men investing time out of the days to voice their opinion. Such denly, America is realizing the every vote does count. Your vot does matter, and if the Bush administration doesn't work out the way President Bush would like if you can bet Al Gore will use the "I told you so" remark.

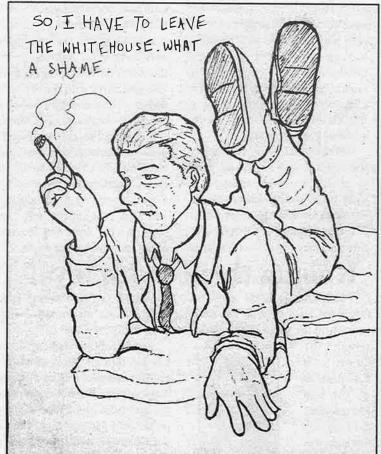


Illustration by Jesse Garcia

words changed because of our opinion to the people associated with these words.

The past eight years have brought us many emotional events we will never forget. Some events bring feelings of happiness, and others leave us with the disbelief of the utter stupidity of the actions of our elected officials. Let's re-

dress incident? Or even the dreaded cigar situation? Then there is Clinton's famous quote when he described what constitutes sex, and what the meaning of the word really is. Some people might say Clinton dishonored the position of the presidency by committing acts unrelated to his expected duties as the nation's

### Taking It To The Streets

Compiled and photographed by Julian Torres and J. Riley

# What do you think about California's rolling blackouts affecting Fresno City College?



- Tanisha Bass
"I think this is ridiculous.
How come the school was not prepared? Why weren't they concerned before it affected education."



- Veronica Piper
"It disrupts our education."



- Mohamed Hagi
"How can this happen? This is
California!"



- Robert Cruz
"I think it's kind of
messed up when the
entire state can't pay
their PG&E bill."



- Tanya Bernhardt "It's a blessing from above."



- Richard Hurtado
"It's the government's way to scare you about Y2K."

# Opinion

# How to buy books and still have enough money to eat

By Dale Mommer

Rampage Reporter

Today the typical college student must be more than just smart in order to get by with our daily lives. The typical college student faces the ongoing problem of how to pay for college and all the accessories that are needed to complete the assigned courses.

The biggest obstacle most students face is in the form of text-books where these overpriced commodities hit students hard. Here are some tips to solve this problem.

At Fresno City, tuition is one of many things that must be paid in order to attend class. There is nothing at college that is free. Students must pay for tuition, books, parking on campus, and for the facilities themselves through taxes. The biggest obstacle for students is paying for overpriced books that can easily overwhelm a student's finances. Classes like accounting and biology require books that usually cost more than \$100 new.

When it comes down to it there is little that we can do to make college publishers or the FCC Bookstore change things, but there are cheaper solutions to this problem.

My first tip is to buy your books before the semester starts. This saves you time and money because you can find used books at the local college bookstore before they are all sold out. By using your class titles and numbers you can determine what books you need and buy them before all the cheap books are gone. I also recommend you use this tactic when buying books online.

My second tip is to use comparison shopping techniques to find the cheapest textbooks. In addition to our college bookstore there are a variety of locally owned college textbook stores such as Sequoia Textbooks across from Fresno State and Textbooks for Less located across from FCC. If you have the time, you can easily save some money on regularly priced books or potentially find used versions.

My third tip is to buy as many used books as you can. By buying used books, you can save up to 50% on the marked new book price. I also recommend buying books from former students who likewise sell their books at a discounted rate. This method is riskier because the quality of the book may be of poorer quality with ripped pages, highlighted sentences and weather damage. This makes it crucial to see the book before purchase and thoroughly inspect it to ensure good quality. Also see if you can include their notes and study guides into the price because this will help you be prepared for the course.

My fourth tip is to sell all your old books yourself instead of selling them back to the school. The school gives you a small percentage of what you actually paid for the books and profits greatly at your expense. My recommenda-



Illustration by Josh Harding

tion is to sell your books yourself by posting flyers throughout the school. I recommend posting quotes approximately 50% of the original value unless the book is damaged in some way. I also recommend that you stick to this price and resist lowering the price if the buyer tries to haggle.

If you do not want to bother with this hassle and simply want to get rid of the books through selling them to the bookstore, I would recommend getting multiple quotes from the various bookstores throughout our area. Some bookstores will pay you a lot more if the book is in good condition, is accompanied by the

CD-ROM and study guide, and are in popular demand.

My fifth tip is to try and jointly buy your books with other students in your class. This can be very effective if your roommate is in the same class or you simply know them from previous semesters. This technique is very helpful in the expensive classes such as biology and accounting where the books easily eclipse \$100. Then meet with the student to complete the assignments together and further use these sessions to study for tests or quizzes. Another point to consider is that most new books currently possess CD-ROM's that have the entire book on outlined format.

The CD even contains sample tests or quizzes and in many ways are vastly superior to the book in the ability to learn the material quickly and effectively. This would also allow you to your partner without worrying about repercussions and for chapter summaries and questions there is always the photocopier.

My final tip is to buy books off the Internet. On the worldwide web you can find a wide variety of textbooks from such sites as barnesand nobles.com, varsitybooks.com, half.com, and cheapertextbooks.com. By using these websites, the student can find a much wider variety of selection of stores with much more competitive prices and can save 30-50%. Further, most websites offer rebates for first time discounts such as \$10 off and/or free shipping.

Then after you use their introductory offer never visit the site again, and with the boom of internet sites you won't have to because there will be new sites to chose from. The only drawback to shopping on the net is you have to wait 3-5 business days for shipping, but the savings are worth the

College textbooks are overpriced but by using these tips you can save a lot of money. By further exploring your options, you will save time and money and be able to use the money you saved on much more creative, enjoyable things.

#### Long lines

Cont. from Page 1

Many students had something to say about the situation.

Johnnie Viriyavong said, "It's longer than last semester. It's better to mail the checks because it's the first check of the semester. that's why they do it that way."

Vilayphone Souvannarath said, "There should be separate lines for each last name, less hassle and it goes by faster."

Each semester there are two distribution points, half the alphabet (A through L) receives checks at the gym box office and the other half (M through Z) are distributed at the college theater.

Student Erasmo Garcia said, "The lines are extremely long, at least a 2 hour wait. I'll pick up my check the next day."

Student Frances Cummings, who picked up her check on Friday, said, "I had to wait in line three different times. My work schedule wouldn't allow me to stay in line for two hours. It started to rain, and I had to leave."

Ramon sympathizes with the students who have to wait.

"That's the only thing I don't like about the lines, in the winter it's cold and wet. In the summer it's very hot and uncomfortable. If there was a better way to do it (distribute checks), I would love to," he said.

Different colleges distribute their checks according to size, smaller schools have their students pick up their checks on campus.

"There are some colleges that do not pay until the third week of school," Ramon said. "They want to make absolutely sure that the student has been attending classes. It encourages some cost so they can earn the money."

A problem with not having the check the first week of school is students are unable to buy books, supplies and other necessities. One of the biggest problems is not the lines; ac-

cording to Ramon. It is not having the proper identification. "I had a couple of students that had their purses stolen so their drivers license and credit cards were stolen. Not having the proper ID seems to be the biggest problem to pick up the check."

"Over 2 million dollars was



Students with last names beginning M-Z line up outside of the theater's box office, awaiting their financial aid checks.

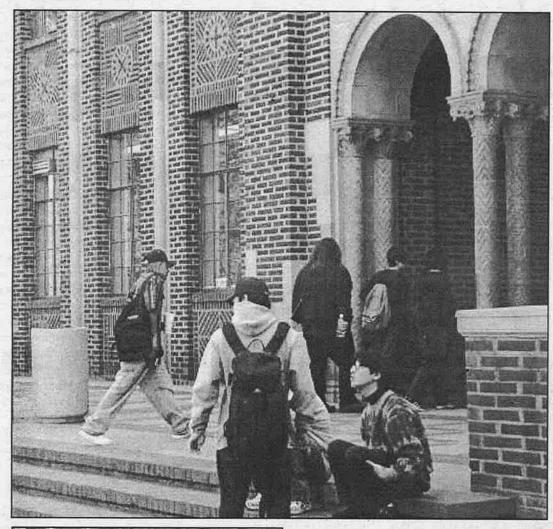
paid out last week, averaging 3,500 to 4,000 students that were in line," Ramon said. "Last year we gave out 17 and a half million (dollars) to our students. That money stays in our community to buy books, pay rent, put gas in their car and to buy diapers for their kids."

Next year Ramon plans to distribute 20 million, including pell grants, student loans, work study jobs, fee waivers, EOPS and CARE grants."

Ramon stressed how important it is to budget your time when picking up your checks and money when buying supplies. "Financial aid is available, and there is money for students so that they can help meet expenses, but there's a responsibility and that is to learn how to plan out your time, use your money wisely, apply on time and above all keep your grades up to receive your next check."

The Fresno City College Rampage

# Back to the Grind





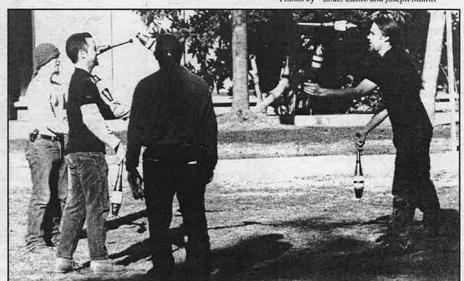






Photos by Louis Castro and Joseph Moffitt





The Fresno City College Rampage

# Sports

# Rams leaping in full stride

## FCC's Carl Lee scores 39 in each of last two games

By Brandon Castro Sports Editor

Fresno City College's Carl Lee dropped in 39 points to help the Rams hold off Merced's duo of Greg Ward and Keith McLawhorn -- who each scored 24 -- in an 86-83 Central Valley Conference victory Jan. 17.

Lee along with William Frisby was too much for the Blue Devils as they combined for 61 of Fresno's 86 points.

The Rams went ahead 80-76 when Lee and Frisby combined for 12 points. Then Merced's McLawhorn threw up a 3-pointer and was fouled. McLawhorn completed the four-point play to tie the score 80-80.

Forty-five seconds later, McLawhorn knocked down his second 3-pointer in a row to put the Blue Devils on top 83-80.

Frisby hit an inside jumper to push the Rams to within one-point with 43 seconds to go. With the possession in Merced's hands, Rams guard Cory Canteen took it away with a timely steal. Canteen passed the ball inside to Frisby. Frisby missed the lay-up and came down with the rebound, put the ball in and was fouled. Frisby completed his scoring with 22 points at the free-throw line with 22 seconds left. After a missed field-goal attempt, Lee came down with the rebound and was fouled. Lee made a free throw to secure the

Robert Ross made three of the Rams' four 3-pointers -- all in the first 10 minutes of the game to help the Rams take a 21-17 lead.

Then Lee scored 11 of the Rams' next 16 points before the half. The teams ended the half tied 37-37.

Fresno controlled the boards, outrebounding the Blue Devils 52-28. Lee had the team high with 15. Merced beat the Rams shooting from the field. The Blue Devils were 30 for 65 and Fresno was 29 for 66. But where the game was won was at the free throw line where Fresno was 24 for 34 and Merced was 16 for 29.

#### Saturday's game

Lee scored 39 points in his second straight game in an 86-84 loss to College of Sequoias.

The Giants led at halftime 51-36. Fresno shed back in it with shooting help from Maurice Moore and Ross.

With 11.3 seconds to play, the ball was in the hands of Rams guard Canteen. He drove to the basket and passed the ball to Moore who,0 missed the 3-point shot. Moore led Fresno with four 3-pointers.

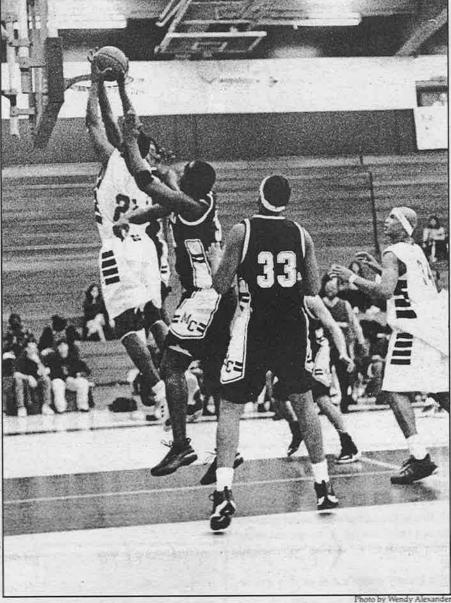
The Rams shot the ball well from the free -throw line, making 17 of 23, a statistic that kept them in the game. COS shot a poor 7 for

COS outrebounded Fresno 37-34; Lee led all rebounders with 13.

Lee's 39 points led all scorers. Ross collected 14 points, Cory Canteen 13 and Frisby had 10.

Sequioia's Brandon Guyton led the Giants with 22 points and hit five 3-pointers. Fred Nichols and Demario Jones leveled the Giants scoring with 11 points each.

The Rams play again tonight against Modesto Junior College at 7 p.m. in the gymnasium.



Top: Carl Lee

goes hard to the

basket against

the Merced Blue

39 in a victory

over Merced. (R)

William Frisby

runs toward the

22 points in the

Left: William

Frisby scores two

of his 22 points as

Merced watches

helplessly. Carl

the basket in

missed shot.

Lee (R) gets near

preparation of a

game.

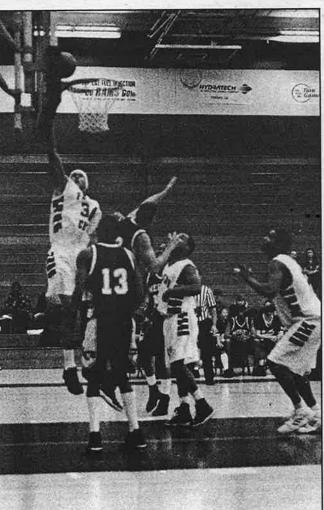
rowd under the

basket. Frisby had

Devils. Lee scored

"We've adjusted just fine. We work hard in practice every day, and our guys are improving. The wins will come. The guys put what happened behind them, and they are ready to play now."

--Peter Sharkey, Fresno City College men's head basketball coach



# Everything's great with new coach

By Anthony Witrado Rampage Reporter

No one expected this. It shouldn't have been this smooth. Some didn't want it to be like this.

"Everything is so great," Wil Frisby said in a thick New York accent.

"It's been real smooth so far," Cory Canteen

The "everything" and "it's" Frisby and Canteen are raving about, is the transition from an old coach to a new one that the Fresno City College men's basketball team has made this year.

Last season's coach, Denny Aye, was released by the school after an investigation of illegal subsidization of players. The investigation led to Aye's firing and no postseason for the team. The school wasted little time finding a replacement for Aye, who took the team to the state final four last year. Peter Sharkey was hired as interim coach.

Things started out a little rough for Sharkey. Many of the players expecting to see major minutes for the Rams this season were shaken by the

"I was really scared," said the 6-foot-7 Frisby. "I was even going to leave (school)."

Those who stayed, however, found things to

"I was worried," Canteen said, one of three players on the roster to play under Aye. "I didn't know what to expect. I thought it was going to be a lot tougher, but Coach is cool." According to players, Sharkey was expected to

be an old-school, hard-nose coach. One of the first things he told his team after being hired was that he wanted to see their socks. This meant players could no longer wear "baby" socks, which cannot be seen with shoes and has been the chosen style of young players throughout the country.

This was just one example of the new discipline Sharkey brought to FCC, but players have

"He is cool, man," Frisby said. "He's more of a 'new-school' coach. It's easy to play for him. He lets us run up and down; he lets us play our game."

"These guys are great," Sharkey said of his players. "They are always happy, they always have bounce in their step.'

The team is 12-7 overall and hovering in the middle of the Central Valley Conference with a 3-

"We should be OK," Canteen said. "We lost a lot of guys who put up big numbers last year."

The team picked up two pretty good replace-

Frisby and freshman Carl Lee (also a native of New York) are both averaging in double figures and, along with Canteen, have shouldered much of the team's offense. Lee has been a dominant inside presence.

"We're not a very athletic team," Lee said, "but we're athletic enough to match up well (with other teams), so we think we can play with anybody."

"We've adjusted just fine," Sharkey said. "We work hard in practice every day, and our guys are improving. The wins will come. The guys put what happened (with the program) behind them, and they are ready to play now."

The relationship between Sharkey and his players is fine. It's obvious. They converse almost as if

Sharkey: "What were you telling that guy at the free-throw line?"

Lee: "Oh, nothing coach. He had just asked me a question and I ...

Sharkey: "Don't even try it, 'cause I know you're lying."

The two walked off laughing.

Photo by Wendy Alexander

# Sports

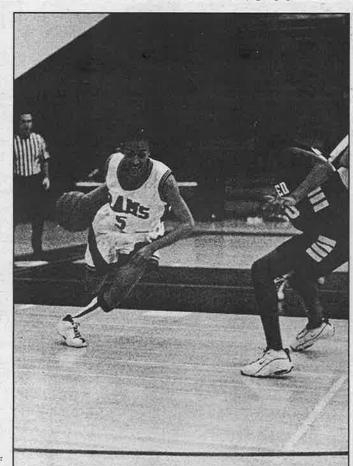
# FCC puts pressure on in women's basketball

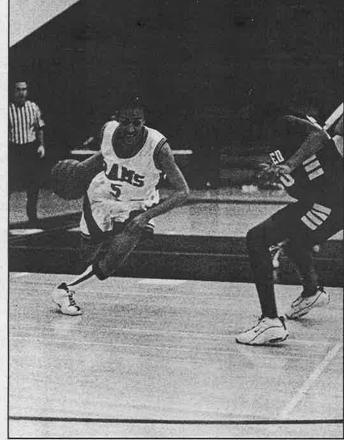
Rams boast one of state's best team's with a 22-4 record

> FCC's Zammiah Johnson (No. 5) hustles up the court past a Merced defender.

FCC's Kendra Yancey (far right) gets her shot blocked by a Merced Blue Devil

Photos by Wendy Alexander







The Fresno City women's basketball team is on a roll.

The team is 22-4 on the year and 4-1 in the Central Valley Confrence and is one of the top squads in the state.

All this despite playing most of the season without one of its best players, Kendra Yancey, because of a torn knee ligament.

Coach Donnie Johnson has put together

a team of young ladies who can run-n-gun with the best in California. Last year the team fell short, losing in the second round of the playoffs 64-62 to No. 1 Shasta Col-

But history doesn't look as if it will repeat itself this season.

Amber Easter and Nina Roberts are among the leading scorers, and contributions from freshmen Rochelle Ortega (a standout volleyball player also at 6-feet- 3) and Rachel Green have added extra depth,

needed because of Yancey's season ending Fresno's only loss in the CVC came

down at home. The Rams held a 17-point lead with 10 minutes left in the second half, but the team only managed one field gaol the rest of the

way.

against Merced in an uncharacteristic melt-

The Blue Devils rallied and knocked of fFresno 65-62.

Johnson said his team didn't hustle or play its trademark tenacious defense during the final 10-minute collapse.

The Rams got back on track however, blowing by Porterville 71-56 in the next outing.

# Baseball begins the slide into the season



FCC baseball team gears up for the spring season. The Rams open the season Feb. 2 at noon, in the FCC/Merced tournament at Euless Park. Euless is located east of campus behind Ratcliffe next to the Police Academy.

# Sports Calendar Compiled by Rampage Staff

•10 a.m. 9-ball tournament, College

Center

#### Jan. 27

•7 p.m. Womens Basketball vs. College of the Sequoias, Gym.

### Jan. 31

•5 p.m. Womens Basketball vs. Taft,

#### Jan. 31

•7 p.m. Mens Basketball vs. West Hills College, Gym

### Feb. 2-4

•12 p.m. FCC/Merced Baseball tournament, Euless Park

#### Feb. 3

•10 a.m. Softball vs. West Valley, Softball field

•2 p.m. Softball vs. Butte College, Softball field.

#### Feb. 3

•7 p.m. Mens Basketball vs Columbia

# Sports

# Baltimore will win, quoth the Raven

Who do you think will win Super Bowl 35? We asked 121 students and staff.

Ravens

54%

Don't know

Giants

29%

By Brandon Castro

Sports Editor

The Baltimore Ravens vs. the New York Giants in the Super Bowl? That's right. The two best teams in the National Football League. Their power is defense. Their defensive will overpowers offenses' wishes.

The Ravens defense punishes opposing offenses. The Ravens allowed only 165 points during the season, setting an NFL record. The Ravens pounded running backs throughout the season, not allowing a 100yard rusher in 36 games.

The Giants have the fifth-ranked defense and are second against the run. In the conference championship, the Giants looked more like the No. 1 offense, scoring 41 points and allowing none. Quarterback Kerry Collins set team records by throwing for 381 yards and five touchdowns. The Giants shutout, shut-down, and shut up the Minnesota Vikings.

Sunday, as all the corporate gurus sit in the stands waiting for past Super Bowls to come alive, hoping to watch one feam drive down the field once, then twice, then another, they will be shocked when it doesn't happen. There will be more punts than points, with swarming defenses crowding ball carriers.

#### Players To Watch

Ravens middle linebacker Ray Lewis

is the league's defensive player of the year. Lewis governs the No. 1 defense and is relentless on every play. Lewis prowls the middle of the field with power and fearlessness. Lewis ate up contenders, tallying 137 tackles and three sacks during the season.

The Giants' counterpart, left side linebacker

Jesse Armstead, chalked 102 tackles, including five sacks during the season.

Armstead's five tackles and one sack helped the Giants eliminate the Minnesota Vikings from the postseason. Armstead is quick on his feet and able to cover running backs in the flats and also able to blitz quarterbacks from all sides.

The Ravens second-teamer, defensive end Keith Washington, blocked two field goals against the Tennessee Titans in the divisional round of the playoffs. One of Washington's blocks was run back 90 yards by special-team's player Anthony Mitchell for the go-ahead score early in the fourth

Giants kick returner Ron Dixon is another to watch. He returned the opening kickoff 90 yards untouched against the Philadelphia Eagles in the divisional round. A play

like this can turn a game

#### **Inside facts**

· Baltimore running back Jamal-Lewis vs. New

> York's No. 2 rushing defense. Lewis power

runner and tally's most of his yards up the middle. In this, his rookie season, Lewis rushed for 1,364 yards with six TDs. However, New York held Minnesota to only 54 yards.

ADVANTAGE: New York. In this The Year of the Defense, the Giants defense will contain the Ravens running game.

 New York running backs Tiki Barber and Ron Dayne vs. the Baltimore defense.

No question, no team can run the ball against the Ravens.

ADVANTAGE: Baltimore. The Ravens will dare the Giants to throw the ball and cause costly mistakes.

· Giants lest defensive end Michael

Strahan vs. Baltimore right tackle Harry Swayne.

Strahan had 9.5 sacks during the season and 66 tackles. Swayne needs help from right guard Mike Flynn to contain the quick Strahan.

ADVANTAGE: New York. It's very difficult to stop a speedy defensive end. Without double teaming Strahan, he will make plays. If they double Strahan, it will open it up for the other defensive linemen to make plays.

#### **Special Teams**

Ravens kicker Matt Stover has made 17 field goals from beyond 30 yards. Stover is 6 of 6 from 40-49 yards away, and 2 of 3 from 50-yards plus. Giants kicker Brad Daluiso has made 5 out of 8 attempts from past 30 yards. Daluiso has only made one field goal from beyond 40 yards.

ADVANTAGE: Baltimore. Stover can kick longer, further, better, or how ever you want to put it.

#### The Prediction

Defense will win this game. Big plays, turnovers, interceptions and fumbles will make this game. The Ravens make more big plays on defense than any other team.

Neither team will move the ball consistently. This game will be a punting battle and a field-goal attempt match that Baltimore will win. The final score will be 17-

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### CALL:

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Fresno City College

# African American History Month

"Know Your History and Let the Future Fall into Place"

Thursday, February 1, Opening Day Ceremonies 11:00 a.m., Theatre

Friday, February 2, Gospel Night 7:00 p.m., Theatre

Saturday, February 3, **DEF COM Comedy Show** 9:00 p.m., Theatre

Tuesday, February 6, **Dallas Black Dance Theatre** 7:00 p.m., Tower Theatre co sponsored by: CAL FED

Wednesday, February 7, Soul Food Sale 10:00 a.m., Fountain Area

Tuesday, February 13, African American Health Issues and Careers 12:00 noon, Student Lounge Wednesday, February 21,

African Americans in the Media Panel 12:00 noon, Student Lounge

Friday, February 23, Speaker: Theophile Obenga TBA

Tuesday, February 27, PASU UMOJA Circle "Putting God First"

Wednesday, February 28, Game Show: "Who Wants to be Rich" 12:00 noon, Cafeteria

For more information call the College Activities Office at (559) 265-5711



\$5.00

Barbecue Ribs or Chicken Potato Salad, Combread, Corn on the cob or Collard greens, with dessert and soda



### Served on these days:

Friday, February 9, Friday, February 2, Friday February 23, Friday, February 14,

\$3.95

Barbecue Hotlinks, Beef Hotdogs or Hamburger, Potato Salad, Cornbread, Corn on the cob or Collard greens, with dessert and soda