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very good) film
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for Rams, now
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FRESNO CITY COLLEGE

Ram *page*

Volume LXXIII Edition 7

A Publication since 1949

April 25, 2001

Neighbors pitch in



Driver David DeLaSota stops to give out water to volunteer workers, as he is swarmed by several thirsty Heaton Elementary students.

Photo by Julian Torres

FCC, Heaton join in fourth annual area cleanup

By Julian Torres
Editor-in-chief

Students and faculty of Fresno City College and Heaton Elementary converged on FCC's campus Saturday morning to take part in the annual neighborhood cleanup. Partners In Pride has been the

joint effort of the two schools over the last four years, receiving its name from Public Information Officer Kathleen Bonilla, according to FCC president Daniel Larios.

"We started it to help our neighbor Heaton Elementary, and it just grew," said Larios, who

noted that efforts included the need of curbs, gutters and lights for the community.

Several cleanup crews made their way on and around the campus, as the Fresno Police Department cruised the adjacent neighborhood streets, keeping a watchful eye. Not even the threat of rain

could keep volunteers away from their rakes and shovels.

"They (students) ask me from August, what day the clean up event is going to take place," said Heaton principal Nancy Hensel. "They really look forward to it."

See Cleanup, page 2

Summer a time for ... school?

By Maggie Garza
News editor

The last test will be handed in May 18 for Fresno City College students, when the Spring 2001 semester comes to an end.

For some, it will mean the beginning of summer jobs; for others, a summer absent of tests and books. But for many, it will mean an 11-day vacation before summer school begins.

It's time to start thinking classes for summer school, which begins May 29, and consist of 4-week and 10-week sessions. But before you hand in your desired schedules, here are a few things to remember for summer and fall registration:

- If you're a new or transfer student or a returning former student (haven't attended for one or more semesters), you must fill out and hand in a application for admission. (Currently enrolled students automatically receive registration information through mail.)

- Make sure you have reviewed the recommended prerequisites for the classes you wish to take. A

See Summer, page 3

ASG presidential candidates



Bobby Leahy



Coke Mislant



Ernie Garcia



Kevin Rays

Plenty of ASG candidates this time

By Anna Ramos
Rampage reporter

A candidate forum was held in the Free Speech Area April 18 for student government elections of the 2001-2002 school year.

The forum took place during last week's Asian Awareness celebration. It was an opportunity for students to see who is running for office and a chance for the candidates to introduce themselves and voice why they should be elected.

Out of the 10 candidates running for various offices, only four were able to show up. The four candidates were Bobby Leahy (president), Coke Mislant (president), Maggie Stearns (legislative vice president), and Doug Crutchfield (student trustee). Though there was not a big turnout out for

the event, the candidates were happy that they were able to get out and get some publicity.

"I'm happy to be out here. I'm already a senator, but I feel that in a higher position in ASG, I can make a bigger difference here on campus," stated Maggie Stearns, candidate for legislative vice president.

Campaigning officially began Monday after the candidates attended a meeting where they were briefed on rules and regulations for campaigning. Other candidates running for office include Kevin Rays (president), Ernie Garcia (president), Paul Torres (president pro-temp), Margaret Todd (student trustee) and Lisa Huerta (senator).

In past elections, candidates ran unopposed for office.

"It has been a while since we had four

people running for president," stated College Activities Director Gurdeep Sihota. This is the first election that there are two positions running opposed, with the remaining positions still running unopposed.

"I'm happy that there is more than one person running for president, it'll make the elections more interesting," Garcia said.

When asked why he was running for student government, candidate Paul Torres replied, "Why not? Why does anyone run for an elected position? They do it to make a difference."

Elections will be held May 1-3. Voting booths will be in the fountain area. Results of the elections will be announced May 4, during the Cinco de Mayo celebration in the Free Speech Area.

Commencement set May 18

Rampage Staff

The commencement ceremony for Fresno City College has been scheduled Friday, May 18, at Selland Arena.

Graduation exercises will begin at 7:30 p.m., and a reception at 9:30 follows in the ballroom adjacent to the arena.

Approximately 1,000 students will be receiving Associate of Arts and Associate of Science degrees and are eligible to participate in the traditional event.

Usually, about half of the candidates choose to be in the ceremony.

Judith Redwine, chancellor of the State Center Community College District, will be the commencement speaker, and Dan Larios, college president, will preside over the ceremony.

Robert Fox, dean of students, oversees the 25-member commencement committee, which is planning the event.

The committee is also making plans for three other events during commencement week scheduled at Warners Theatre on Saturday, May 12:

Certificate of completion ceremony and reception at 1 p.m.

— Certificate of achievement

ceremony and reception at 3 p.m.

— Honors ceremony and reception at 6 p.m.

All events do not require tickets and are open to the public.

Graduates who want to participate in the commencement ceremony can purchase a cap and gown at the College Bookstore for \$22. They may also purchase graduation announcements for \$11.75 per package of 10.

Photographs of the graduates will be taken on stage when they receive their diploma case and also when they exit the stage. A videotape of the ceremony is also available for purchase.

Cleanup

From page 1

Through the help of such sponsors as Producers dairy, Albertson's and CAL FED Bank, participants were treated to T-shirts, a barbecue and ice cream.

PIP is not the only collaboration of the two schools.

"We've become a real partner with them," said Larios. "In addition to this, we do the Multicultural Faire, Safe and Sane Halloween, and a summer swim program."

Gregory Barfield helps a group of children during Saturday's Partners in Pride effort.



Photo by Julian Torres

Campus Calendar

April 5 - May 11

•2001 Art Space Odyssey; Student art show: Art Space Gallery in Art/Home Economics building.

April 26

•FCC Showcase: Campus wide, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

•Woodwind ensemble: Room MS 132, 7:30 p.m.

April 26 - 29*

•City Dances 25 Spring dance concert: Theatre, 8 p.m. *Matinee performance on April 29 at 2 p.m.

April 28

•Celebrity basketball game:

Gym, 7 p.m.

•Campus Wide Softball Tournament: 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Contact College Activities for more info, 254-5711.

May 1 - 3

•Associated Student Government Elections: Fountain Area, 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.

May 4

•Pool tournament: College Center, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Contact College Activities.

May 2, 4

•Cinco de Mayo Celebration: Free Speech Area, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

May 14 - 18

•Finals Week

May 18

•Graduation Commencement: Selland Arena, 7:30 p.m.

May 29

•Beginning of 4-week and 10-week summer session.

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-1 p.m. Monday, Wednesday or Friday.

Classified Ads

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Looking for responsible, motivated individual? Morning class? Night class? We work with your school schedule. Bilinguals? Want the opportunity to earn \$7.25 plus commission selling major newspaper subscriptions? Team Result is a well-established call center. We need good people to make good calls. Benefits including medical, dental, vision, paid time off. Call 490-5111 for an immediate interview or stop by our Manchester Center location, 2nd floor next to CalTrans.

Money found

Money found on first floor of the Music (MS) building at noon Monday, April 23. Owner must contact ASG-442-8275. Found with Yoshino's receipt, owner will be asked amount of money lost, and info on receipt.

To place a classified in the Rampage, contact Aaron Keller at 442-8262. Or bring in the information from noon to 1 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

POLICE LOG

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

April 8

Officer found female in distress at main fountain. She was involved in a domestic dispute. The case was turned over to Fresno Police Department.

April 12

Officer took report regarding threatening phone calls.

April 16

Report taken regarding injured instructor.

April 17

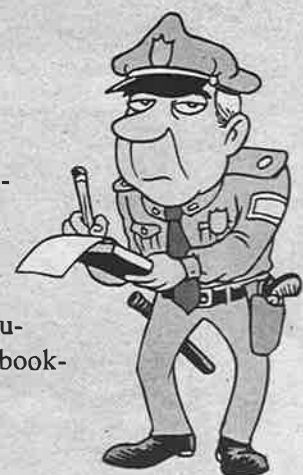
Report of stolen parking permit.

April 17

FCC police receive notice of threatening phone calls.

April 20

Report answered regarding three students smoking illegal substance in bookstore bathroom.



THIS IS THE FINAL EDITION OF THE RAMPAGE THIS SEMESTER. THE STAFF THANKS FRESNO CITY COLLEGE ADMINISTRATORS, INSTRUCTORS AND STUDENTS FOR THEIR SUPPORT. SEE YOU NEXT SEMESTER.

Fresno City College



Ram page

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RAMPAGE

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Asian journalists offer view of life on the job

By Jeffrey Swisher
Rampage reporter

Fresno City College's Asian Awareness Celebration kicked off April 16 in the College Center as Fresno Bee writer Nsong Xiong teamed with KSEE 24 anchor and reporter Priscilla Kwan to address students' questions about the field journalism.

The event—which launched a week of festivities in celebration of the Asian-American culture—offered a chance for Xiong and Kwan to share past experiences on the job, while giving their opinions of where Asian-American women stand in journalism today.

"I see more and more Asian female reporters, and that's encour-

aging to me," said Xiong, a Hmong feature writer who has worked at the Bee since November 1998. "But I would like to see more Hmong reporters."

Being an Asian-American member of the media has its advantages, according to Kwan.

"It can help if I were to apply at a station in a smaller city," said Kwan, who is Chinese. "Sometimes a station needs that token Asian."

For Xiong, interacting with different people and exploring the community is the best part of being a journalist.

"I enjoy covering the whole community," Xiong said. "I'm learning so much about Fresno and myself right now. When you

For more on Asian Awareness Week, which was held on the Fresno City College campus from April 16-April 20, see Page 11.

become a reporter, there are so many places you could go and there are so many things to do."

Xiong's favorite articles she has written at The Bee include a story about the influx of Hmong immigrants to Fresno and a feature on Hmong bands in the Valley.

When Kwan was asked about her most frightening experience as a reporter, she told a story of when her station assigned its reporters to ask members of a neighborhood

about a murder that occurred earlier that night.

"They sent us out right after a killing," she said. "We almost had to don bullet-proof vests. I'll bend over backward for the station, but I'll draw the line if my safety's in jeopardy."

Both journalists stressed that being a member of the media involves a responsibility to bring the public accurate information about current events. Every TV station competes with each other—not only to provide accurate news, but to broadcast it first.

But being the first to air a late-breaking story comes at a price.

"We have an incredible responsibility as reporters," said Kwan, who worked at Los Angeles'

KNBC and at KWES in Midland, Texas, before coming to Fresno.

"In TV, we are so concerned with being first on the air. When you do that, you sometimes sacrifice accuracy."

Xiong and Kwan are still climbing the ladder of a successful career in journalism. Through their journey, they learned that perseverance is the key to advancing in the media.

"I know you've heard this before, but you need to follow your dreams," Kwan told FCC students as the assembly ended. "Do what you want to do in life. Sacrifice like we did—leaving our comfort zones and working for minimum wage early in our careers. Just follow your dreams."

90 years of learning



Photos by Julian Torres

LEFT: Judith Redwine, chancellor of the State Center Community College District, cuts a cake Monday commemorating the 90-year anniversary of Fresno City College. FCC president Dan Larios (second from right) looks on with Les Thonesen (right), SCCCD president. **ABOVE:** The City Singers, headed to Carnegie Hall in May, perform during the ceremony in front of the FCC library.

Summer

Continued from page 1

prerequisite is a requirement a student must meet in order to register for a class. Corequisite is when a course must be taken simultaneously with another course if not already completed. When a course states "Advisory," that means the school recommends but does not require you to take a certain course before the course you wish to take.

- Prerequisites and corequisites may be challenged by students if they complete the Prerequisite/Corequisite Challenge Petition (available in the Counseling Center). Petitions must be approved.

- There is another way besides arriving on campus to register. There is Touch Tone Registration that is done by phone. All holds (business office holds, library, and Admissions and Records holds) must be cleared before. Information and steps are provided in class schedules. The number is (559) 229-9833 and the help line is 1-800-442-8200 (FCC).

- English/Math placement test are free. The test takes about three hours and information is provided at the Counseling Center hotline (442-8282).




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A lot of tales to tell in one book

By Julian Torres
Editor-in-chief

Last year, FCC's Humanities Division debuted a collection of writings and art by students, titled *The Ram's Tale*. *Ram's Tale 2001* is scheduled to be unveiled at a reception ceremony May 14. The ceremony is a free event open to the public, beginning at 6 p.m. in the Staff Dining Room.

"Contributors have not been previously notified," said Clay Rooks, managing editor and faculty adviser. "Many of them don't even know that their material has been chosen."

The annual originated from a previously similar publication called *The City Essayist*, which was a collection of student essays. *The Ram's Tale* broadened its horizon to include fiction, non-fiction, autobiographies, poetry and photographs.

"This issue will be larger than last year's," said Rooks. "Last year's was 112 pages, this one will be closer to 150-160 pages, and we've even included a drama this time."

Entries are being taken year

round in the Humanities Division Office. The deadline for the next issue is March 2002.

The efforts that go into producing the *Ram's Tale* are faculty and student driven. Material considered for submission is overseen by a panel of faculty advisers and ultimately decided upon by a student editorial board.

Production of last year's *Ram's Tale* was done by John Guglielmino's GRC-14 Visual Communication's class. Because the class was unavailable this year, the duties of production fell on the shoulders of Guglielmino and a handful of others, including advisers Rooks, Michael Roberts, Zay Guffy-Bill, and students Jarrod Chambers and Andrea Ogletree.

"The main purpose of it (*Ram's Tale*) is to encourage writing and the arts, giving students an understanding of the process involved in writing or taking a picture and the end result of publication," said Rooks.

Anyone interested in obtaining a copy of *Ram's Tale 2001* can do so at the reception or in the Humanities Division Office.

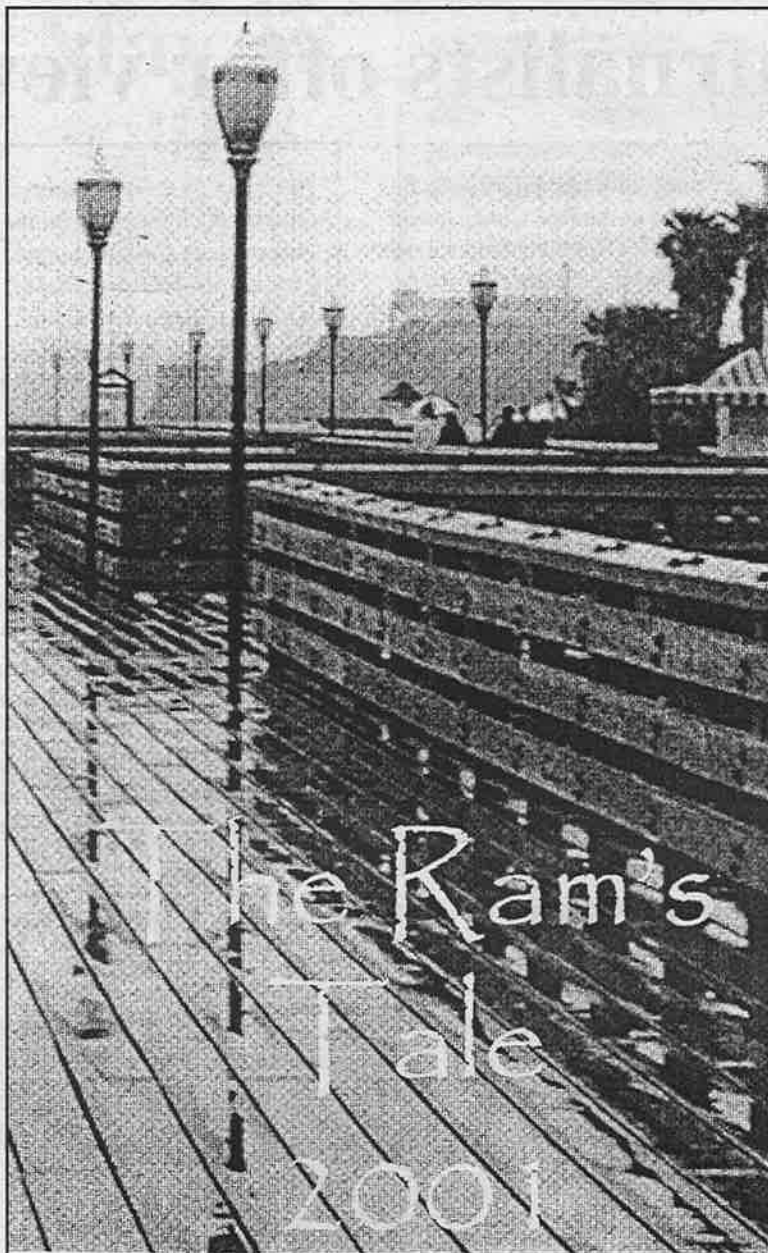
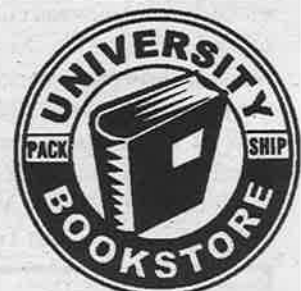


photo by Joe Chacon

The photo (left), titled *Silent Rain*, will make up the cover of the *Ram's Tale*, the upcoming book that consists of literary and photographic works of Fresno City College contributors. The photo was taken by Joe Chacon, a member of the Rampage.

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City Dances celebrates its 25th year with performance

By Jeffrey Swisher
Rampage reporter

In celebration of the 25th anniversary of City Dances, the Theatre Arts and Dance department at Fresno City College is presenting "City Dances 25," which runs Thursday through Sunday at the FCC Theatre.

City Dances will perform "Figures in White," an improvisational piece directed by Janice Jansen. City Dances alumni Aimee Morales and Kelly Brown will join the performance Thursday.

The improvised performance will be unpredictable — keeping audiences captivated and entertained through each show.

"It will come out slightly different every night," said Jansen, who has been at FCC for 26 years. "We have some alumni coming back, and I've been calling people up to let them know about it."

Jansen, who choreographed "Goddess; moonlight, snow," said the improvisational-based "Figures in White" was largely inspired by renowned modern dance choreographer Tandy Beal.

"We first saw it with Tandy Beal when her dance company visited," Jansen said. "The dancers would often start by wearing white and just wandering through the audience."

Jansen is confident that her dancers will turn in a successful performance.

"The dancers have worked on this all semester," she said. "They're fabulous."

Faculty choreographers include Debra DeRosa-Parola and Cristal Tiscareno. Guest choreographers include Cheryl Gershaw and Brenna Betcher, along side



Special to the Rampage

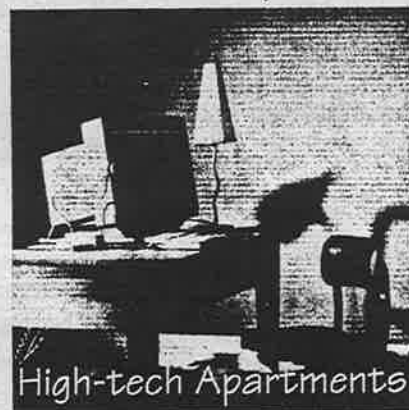
Kelly Brown, left, and Brenna Betcher practice for the City Dances performance.

students Erin Janssens and Ryan Avery.

The event begins at 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, and at 2 p.m. Sunday. Tickets are \$7 for general admission and \$4 for students, seniors and groups.

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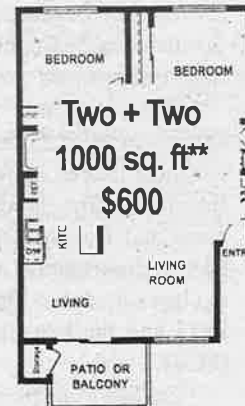
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From an accident, a new way of life emerges

By Bill Perry

Contributing writer

Six years ago, Ricardo Navarro found a way to get over a drinking problem, stop smoking pot and quit sniffing gasoline and other inhalants—he was in a near fatal car accident that cost him his right arm.

Today, he is a 23-year-old Fresno City College student working on a degree to become a substance-abuse counselor and employed full time as a night resident supervisor for Nuestra Casa Recovery Home. Now, with his personal experience and formal education, he wants to help others who are addicted to drugs and alcohol.

While Navarro's career choice seems like a natural fit, his parents, who divorced when he was in junior high, have not always agreed with his decision

to help reform alcoholics and drug addicts, many of whom are just released from jail. His father wanted him to pursue a higher-profile, more-lucrative profession. But Navarro didn't want that.

"When I went through the [FCC course catalog], I noticed there was a substance-abuse counselor degree," Navarro says. "I wanted that one."

Navarro, an only child who came from his native Mexico with his mother when he was 10 years old, speaks English with authority while retaining his Spanish accent. Wearing dark slacks and a neatly pressed dress shirt in his office at Nuestra Casa, he explains what he says to residents of the program who question whether he can relate to what they are going through.

"I was just like them, doing drugs, alcohol, being in the streets," Navarro said. "I motivate

The Rampage presents profiles of Fresno City College students submitted by the Journalism 3 reporting class.

residents not to give up. 'If I could do it, you can do it.' We teach them, 'You are a valuable person.' I try to bring their low self esteem to a high level."

Navarro knows from personal experience about what drugs and alcohol can do. "I survived death," he says, referring to the 1995 car accident. In addition to losing his right arm, the accident left him with two broken legs, a broken left arm and restricted to a liquid diet during his four-month hospital stay.

"Sometimes you go so low ...

that you hit the ground," he said. "It's a wakeup call. My accident was a wakeup call."

Navarro continues to answer that call by spending a good portion of his week working at the recovery center.

Nuestra Casa Recovery Home, located in a residential area along palm-lined Kearney Boulevard just west of Fresno, is a 16-bed men's facility for Spanish-speaking substance abusers. "I believe this is the only totally Spanish speaking facility in the Fresno area," Navarro said.

As a night resident supervisor at the home, Navarro's duties include checking the ground, ensuring the security of the facility at night, group student and recovery therapy, as well as handling household chores such as cleaning and grocery shopping. He spends some times each

weekend going to support groups himself for his own benefit.

But helping patients overcome their addiction is Navarro's main priority. The six-month program requires participants to live at the home for three months, followed by three months of living on their own while having weekly counseling sessions. After that, recovered patients will get a follow-up visit at nine months and again at 12 months.

"We have one of the highest success rates in the area," Navarro said. "We have very few relapses."

Navarro hopes to get an associate degree in the fall and then become state certified under the Certified Addictions Treatment Specialist program. He knows it will take time. But as he tells his patients, he's taking it one step at a time.

Mary Fatima Toovey raised a family and worked in a furniture store for 25 years. Now, at 54, she's returned to school in an effort to fulfill some of her goals and hobbies, such as teaching children, gardening and drawing.

Special to the Rampage



With her family raised, it's now Toovey's turn to shine

By Jacqueline Duckworth

Contributing writer

After working 25 years in a local furniture store, Mary Fatima Toovey, 54, resigned from her store management position and returned to school. She enrolled this semester at Fresno City College in Child Development and Literacy.

"I always put myself last," said Toovey, who married right after high school, always worked and raised two sons. "Now I am doing something for myself. I always wanted to make up for the time I lost when my own children were growing up and going to school. I got burned out working in the retail business. It wasn't worth it to me anymore. It was too stressful. Now I have peace of mind."

While earning three college credits, Toovey also receives part-time employment, with pay, through AmeriCorps, a federally funded program. As part of that program, she tutors children in reading at Homan Elementary, located near Harvard and West streets in Fresno, from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. Monday through Friday.

Dressed in a black blouse with plaid slacks, nylons and shoes with moderate heels, Toovey appeared professional. With every hair of her short, black coiffure in place, she talks freely and confidently.

"Children are such a pleasure to work

with," she said. "I also want to give something back to society. I feel I can give something truly meaningful by teaching children reading. I hope to become permanently employed by a local school," she said. "But other avenues are available. Cullinan Education Center and Sylvan Learning Center are two entities that offer tutoring for children. I could also possibly open up my own home sometime in the future offering tutoring for children."

In addition to attending school, Toovey enjoys several hobbies. She and her husband, Al Toovey, share a love of ballroom dancing. Belonging to several dance clubs locally, including Dixieland Jazz Society, she serves as president of The Big Band dance club.

Another of Toovey's hobbies is gardening. "I love to plant flowers," she said. "I just planted some lantanas. But my favorite hobby is probably drawing. I like to draw animals, especially panthers, and people's faces. I once drew a portrait of Elvis and also one of Tuesday Weld. And I won a 'draw me' contest, but I couldn't collect the prize because I was only 15."

Toovey said she's felt at ease returning to school. "Education is for all ages," she said. "Becoming more learned at any age is an accomplishment. It is not something one should be ashamed of or embarrassed about. I don't think age presents a barrier to new and daring adventures."

Hospice work a sad but rewarding choice

By Dana Parker

Contributing writer

It is unusual to find college students who dedicate time in their lives to volunteer work, especially activities dealing with sick and dying people.

Elizabeth Masini, a student at Fresno State and Fresno City College, has set aside the time. During an interview, she discussed her role as a volunteer at Hinds Hospice.

Masini, 20, volunteers for Fresno's Hinds Hospice Foundation, which runs a home for terminally ill patients. "The hospice accepts people who have a life expectancy of six months or less," she said. Six patients can be cared for at a time in the home. The hospice also helps terminally ill people who choose to stay in their own homes by arranging for nurses and volunteers to come to them, Masini said.

A registered nurse spoke on death awareness in one of Masini's classes at Fresno State, which led to her volunteering.

The RN said, "that hospitals can make patients feel uncomfortable," Masini said, "but the Hinds Hospice attempts to comfort patients in terminal situations."

The nurse seemed very enthusiastic about the hospice, Masini said.

"I want to get my bachelor of science degree in nursing, and go on to be a registered nurse," Masini said. "I thought volunteering at the hospice would be a good experience."

The training for volunteers consisted of different exercises and was emotionally charged. Volunteers were told to try to put themselves in the place of the patients.

"We did an exercise where we paired off and held hands with another volunteer while staring into their eyes as the director talked to us," she said. "You realize that the person sitting in front of you, your patient, had a life before this."

A grief and bereavement exercise really affected Masini. "We were told to list people and things that are important to us," Masini

said. "Then the directors would go around the room and take one item or person away from each volunteer's list to symbolize what a person is going through in the death process when everything is being taken away from them."

"We learned a lot about having compassion for the patients, and that it's OK to cry. Sometimes they say the best thing you can do for someone is cry with them."

Masini was called to meet with her first patient a few days after training ended. "I felt excited in a way. I wanted to go out and use all that I had learned in the training, but I was also really nervous the patient wouldn't like me or want me to be there," she said.

She had no chance to use her training because her patient died before they could meet. "I sent the family a card because I wanted them to know I was thinking of them, even if we didn't meet," Masini said.

Becoming a volunteer at Hinds Hospice has brought many emotions and memories out for Masini. "My grandfather died in a hospital," she said. "I wish I could go back to him with what I know now and sit with him and hold his hand."

Masini explained that previous experiences she had with death were uncomfortable. "I remember going to the hospital to see my grandfather but standing far away from him, like I was scared to get too close," she said.

She explained that her ideas on death since volunteering at Hinds Hospice have changed. "I don't think I'm as scared of death now. During training I had to decide how I wanted my own funeral to be dealt with."

Masini admires the staff and founders of Hinds Hospice. "I wish I could be like all of them," she said. "They're so compassionate, and they work around death all the time, but they think it is an honor to do it."

'Bridget Jones's Diary' translates well from the pages to the screen

It's a Wednesday in April. And I'm ...

Weighted down with work (from school and actual job), girlfriends (shut up), number of minutes late to first class 6 (can be excused due to what can be described as the spring break



Chris Castro

Entertainment
editor

Movie review

equivalent of jet-lag), number of plane flights taken over spring break 0 (it's hypothetical jet-lag, OK) breakfasts forgotten to be eaten 1, assignments due 3, assignments finished 0(!)

Right. So, in the v. g. (very good) "Bridget Jones's Diary," Renee Zellweger plays Bridget Jones, a self-obsessed, weight-obsessed, cigarette-obsessed, man-obsessed single woman trying to cope with a career and keep her sanity in modern-day London. Based on Helen Fielding's celebrated *Bridget Jones's Diary* (the novel of the same name, but that's plainly obvious as you can plainly see), the film plays like a happier, funnier, female version of last year's "High Fidelity," also based on a British novel (also, of the same name...well? It is!). However, unlike "High Anxiety," "Bridget Jones's Diary" doesn't move the action across an ocean (it's the Atlantic, right?) to better appeal to American audiences (since we're the only ones that matter) keeping the distinct British humor and setting that made the book such a success.

Yes, Renee Zellweger is an American playing a supposedly overweight British woman. Her accent is fine; not noticeably bad, therefore all right. She is noticeably heavier, though, since she was the typical skin-and-bones Hollywood actress, she doesn't look fat, but that's kind of the



Renee Zellweger (right) is an American actress playing a weight-obsessed British woman.

point. Most women try to look the way Renee Zellweger looked before she became Bridget Jones, simply because they all think that's what's attractive (magazines and other media certainly fuel this complex which is what makes women like Bridget Jones so crazy...and so easy to identify and/or sympathize with). Anyway, Zellweger does a good job inhabiting a much beloved character and actually outdoes her Golden Globe winning performance in "Nurse Betty."

This is all fine and dandy, but if the film and its source material were weak there wouldn't be much else to write about this film. Luckily, it's a romantic comedy that is actually funny. Following the title character's adventures in romance, as well as her exploits in the workplace and family and friend environments, the film captures the self-awareness of the book by allowing the audience to laugh with Bridget as much as they laugh at her: Bridget seems to get into situations we have all experienced or been apart of. (Oooh, I just finished a sentence with of...that can't be good.) She is set up by her parents, foibles a speech in front of a crowd of literates, cooks (v. badly) for her friends, and is regularly embarrassed by her smug married friends, associates, and her

mother.

Besides embarrassing herself nearly every time she steps foot in public Bridget finds herself having to choose between two men: Mark Darcy (Colin Firth) and Daniel Cleever (Hugh Grant). Darcy is a very attractive barrister (that's lawyer to us Yanks) who unfortunately wears a sweater with a cartoon reindeer on the front, is mean-spirited and dull, and seems to hate Bridget Jones as much as she hates him. Daniel is Bridget's charming, sexy, witty boss who starts their relationship by instant-messaging Bridget on her computer about the length of her skirt (or, rather, the lack thereof).

The more Bridget worries about her weight, appearance and confidence, the more everyone likes her. Darcy and Daniel even have a bonafide, if not hilarious, street brawl in her name!

By the end of the film, Bridget finds that most everyone she knows likes her "just the way she is," as will most people who go see this great film. It's a welcome break from the usual glut of "romantic comedies" that aren't funny, or smart that give so-called "chick flicks" the power to drive sane people to sleep, groan, yawn, or go insane.

"Bridget Jones's Diary, though, v. v. g.

Horoscopes

By **Diego Herra**
Rampage reporter



Taurus (April 21 - May 20)

Make up your mind. Spending too long when making decisions will not benefit you. In fact, it could cause you some unnecessary grief because today you'll tend to over analyze your options. The simple solution to this problem is to make decisions more quickly, especially on less-important matters.



Gemini (May 21 - June 21)

Today, more people around you will differ in their beliefs from yours. Rather than clash with all of them, listen respectfully to their opinions. Try explaining your positions, only if absolutely necessary. Great day to expose yourself to other points of view.



Cancer (June 22 - July 22)

Can you avoid money? Today you may want to try. Your judgment regarding the use of money is below normal levels. Try putting off any major purchases or investments. You'll also want to avoid advising others on how to spend their money.



Leo (July 23 - Aug. 22)

Your individuality shines. For the best day possible, try showing off the qualities that make you unique. Could include wearing your favorite clothes, sharing your hobbies and collections, or even sharing your desires with others.



Virgo (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22)

Relationship elevator going up. Today, you'll want to spend more time with someone you find special because today the stage is set for your relationships to improve and mature. If possible, try planning something unique with that someone special. Do not let outside influences interrupt your time together.



Libra (Sept. 23 - Oct 23)

Take time for both. Today you will have dual needs. On one hand, you'll want to take part in social activities. Equally, you'll need some time alone. Fortunately, you can and should do both. Plan time with others, yet find a quiet place to spend an hour alone.



Scorpio (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)

Your health and physical well being are in stronger focus. Great day to focus on bettering your health. To help achieve the best results today, try to focus mostly on eating healthy foods and getting enough rest for your body to rebuild its natural defenses.



Sagittarius (Nov. 23 - Dec. 21)

To feel your best today, try spending more time trying to socialize with others. Attending a party would fit the bill perfectly. However it is not the only solution. You can also go to any crowded public place where you can mingle with lots of people. Great day to go to a popular restaurant, movie theater or store.



Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 20)

Romance is a much greater possibility for you. You need not say a word to increase your chances. Your non-verbal signals are the key to improving chances of a successful love connection. When meeting people, let your eyes and smile express your true intentions.



Aquarius (Jan. 21 - Feb. 18)

Your leadership skills are stronger than usual. So much that you should put yourself in situations where you can exemplify greater leadership qualities. You'll find that you are especially effective when you stand out in front and lead others by example. Great time to invite friends to join you.



Pisces (Feb - March 20)

Simplicity is your key to having the most successful and satisfying day. It means that you will want to avoid situations that seem overly complex. Instead, choose to do things in the simplest manner possible. It is also a great time to focus your time on favorite places, activities, and people.



Aries (March 21 - April 20)

Do you feel like having an adventure? Today, you are more likely to have an adventure, if you go on a short journey. No need to go very far, just someplace you have always wanted to go before, yet have never been. Today is a good day to surprise a close friend with news or a small gift.

This spider spins a waste of a web

You will be talking about this movie! Saying things like, "wait a second, didn't he or she"... and "wouldn't that"... and "how could"... as you try to trace all your way back through the twisted story of "Along Came a Spider."



Diego Herra

Rampage reporter

Movie review

As with many suspense thrillers, the viewers are asked to suspend their disbelief and put rationality on hold. "Along Came a Spider" expects you to forget all the information you ever remember

about how detectives actually solve crimes. This was not a well written script of "Law and Order". If you want to see how law enforcement actually deals with hostage situations, don't watch this movie. But if you are here to see Morgan Freeman (playing hero detective Alex Cross) carry a movie, then this is your cup of tea.

The plot revolves around the kidnapping of a senator's daughter, who is snatched from her exclusive private school. The kidnapper, Gary Soneji (Michael Wincott), is a loner who wants Cross to take this kidnapping as a gift.

This movie is a prequel to the movie "Kiss the Girls". Morgan Freeman is teamed with an attrac-

tive secret service agent, Jezzie Flann (Monica Potter), who was blamed for the kidnapping during her watch. Jezzie's job was to watch Megan Rose (Mika Boorem) the daughter of the U.S. senator, but she couldn't prevent Soneji, the "perfect teacher," from kidnapping Rose.

Now it's up to hero detective Cross to find out what Soneji wants before the kidnapping turns into homicide.

As much as I admire Freeman's performance, I can't bring myself to recommend this movie. The cheap thrills aren't worth the self-inflicted torture you endure at the antics of the implausibility of this film.

'Day Late' far from falling a dollar short

Terry McMillan, author of "Waiting to Exhale," "How Stella Got Her Groove Back," and "Disappearing Acts," has written a new book. "A Day Late and a Dollar Short" is a story about a family just as true as any real family.

McMillan's writing is fantastic. In the beginning of the book, she starts off the chapters in first person, individually told by each family member. I love how the same people and events are viewed from many perspectives. The Price family, a family of six, Viola, the mother; the father Cecil; and their four adult kids Paris, Janelle, Charlotte, and Lewis are so much like real families. They fight, squabble, pick favorites, stick up for



Katharine Strauss

Rampage reporter
Book review

each other, love and make up. When you read this book, it's almost as if these people actually exist outside the pages of text.

McMillan is a pro when it comes to writing edgy storytelling, giving the characters every day problems such as gambling and pill popping. She seriously has no worries about what she writes because she knows it's life. She is able to add a sense of humor to the situations that only a family could have for each other.

She brings you into this family, shows you its perspectives and secrets, and makes it hard to want to admit you are getting closer to the end of the book because then you won't have anything left to read.

I believe anyone will like this book, and I'm looking forward to seeing if it will become a movie like her other novels. I suggest picking up a copy and reading it for yourself. It truly is a beautifully written piece of literature.

Florida rockers combine classical style to hit hard with '13 ways to bleed'

Cold is my favorite band in all of metal music because of its unorthodox style.

The band mixes hardcore metal with classical music to make its own

style of music. Lead singer Scooter Ward "is one of the best song writers in music today" (from Ozzfest.com) Ozzy Osbourne himself praised this young song writer. From Jacksonville, Fla.; Cold released its first CD in 1998 and turned into one of the best new metal bands. Last year, Cold released a new album, "13



Nick Bergstrom

Rampage reporter
Music review



Most rock fans will warm up to the sounds of Cold.

Ways To Bleed On Stage."

Cold is made up of Ward (vocalist), Kelley Hayes (guitar), Terry Balsamo (guitar), Jeremy Marshall (bass) and Sam McCandless (drummer). On their new album, they turned from strictly hardcore rock to more of a melodic sound. With songs like "Just Got Wicked," "She Said" and "The End of the World" you can hear this change.

Throughout this entire album you can tell they use more of a classical style in their music. The first song on the album, "Just Got Wicked," starts with a slow drumbeat followed by the guitar and then through in the bass. The chorus mixes harmonic chords with the average power metal chords. In the second song, "She Said," it starts out with

a sweet piano solo and then goes into the guitar, with has a wah-wah pedal plugged in to give it an interesting sound.

Then the chorus hits with the hard-metal sounding guitars and bass that gives this you everything you would possibly want in a song.

"The End of the World" is my personal favorite on this album. With its soft verse that switches into the pounding chorus. it fits perfectly together. I think anyone who likes alternative, hard-rock metal should check these guys out.

If you just want to see them in concert go get your OZZfest tickets; they are one of the headliners on the second stage.



Florida metal band, Nonpoint, has a sound is reminiscent of such other bands as Staind, Limp Bizkit and Korn.

Band combines familiar sounds to make a point

From Florida comes a band called Nonpoint, whose new breed of heavy metal is quickly becoming mainstream. The band consists of four members: Elias Soriano (vocals), Andrew Goldman (Guitar), Robb Rivera (Drums) and Kirch Balzwak (Bass).

The band's style is very similar to Staind with a message that is as shocking as Korn's, combined with the intensity found in early Limp Bizkit. The best



Dale Mommer

Rampage reporter
Music review

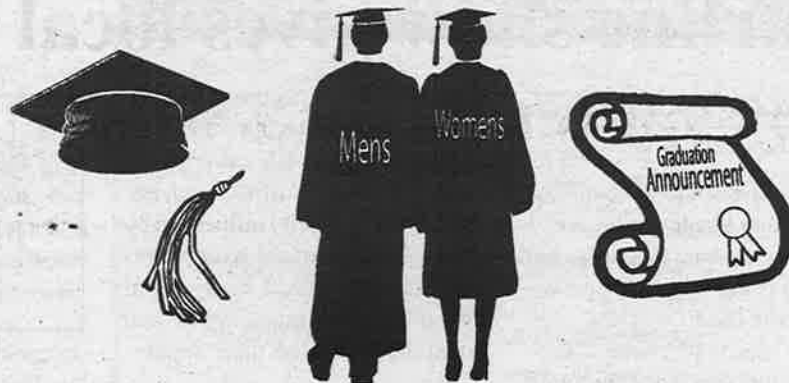
aspect of this band is the run-on lyrics that few bands can effectively pull off: However, Nonpoint succeeds with clever lyrics and great melodies. The song, "What a Day," is the best on the album, using lyrics to convey a point about how one instantly can change life for better or worse.

I recommend Nonpoint to anyone who likes the type of music heard on KRZR or New Rock 104.1.

This band will be touring on OZZfest this summer, but it still needs support in gaining recognition. Call KRZR and request the song "What a Day" or log onto Napster and download the song; you'll be glad you did.



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8 April 25, 2001

Entertainment

Rampage

HOMEGROWN STARS

Students put out hits during Air Guitar

Students donned costumes and lip synced to their favorite tunes on April 4, during the Air Guitar Contest.

BOTTOM: The event, held in the Free Speech area, drew several onlookers. Monetary prizes were given to the top three placers.

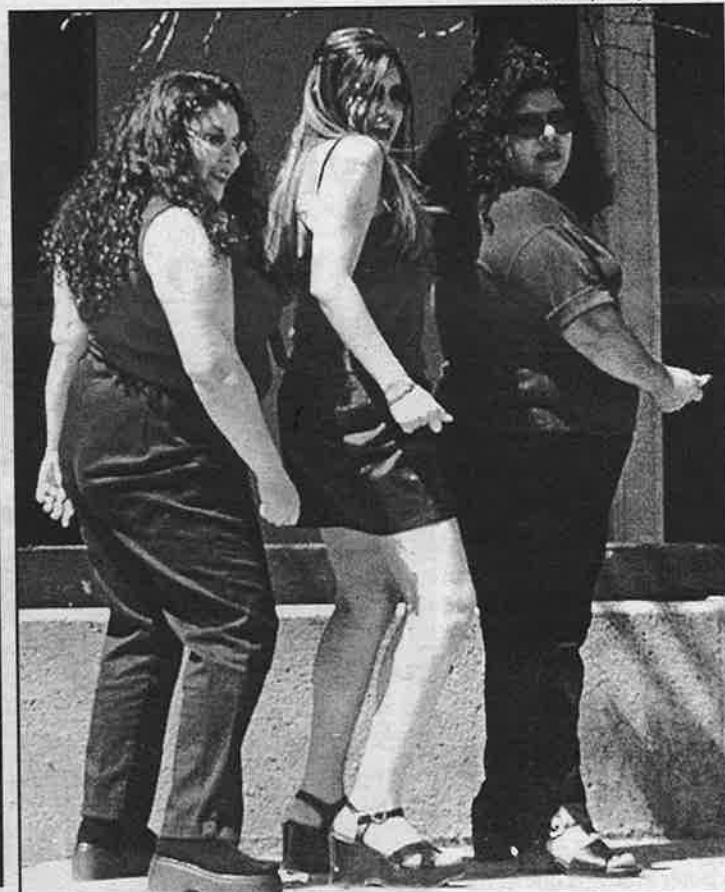
FAR RIGHT: 1st place, winner of \$100 - Felix Rubio.

RIGHT: 2nd place, winner of \$50 - Deepi Sran.

LOWER RIGHT: 3rd place, winner of \$25 -(center) Anna Ramos.



Photos by Cathy Alexander



Starline show gives local band a shot at television fame

By Dale Mommer

Rampage reporter

MTV, ESPN and Warner Bros. combined to create a pilot television show under producer and former Fresno City College student David Tobin.

The idea is to create a show based on city bands and their fight to make it into the record industry, giving them an outlet to perform their music and have it heard by millions. The taping of the pilot took place at Starline in Fresno. Performing live were the local bands Mynis and Dirtnap, which were selected because of their reputations as great performers and their high-intensity shows.

Mynis is a talented band that has opened for Zebrahead and Sprung Monkey. Mynis is a regular guest at the Warped Tour. The bands members are Matt

Gonzalez (drummer), Rob Gonzalez (guitar), Jason Benham (bass) and Tom Vlahauas (vocals). The Gonzalezes are FCC students.

Mynis is heavily influenced by Tool, Deaftones and King Crimson. This is a great heavy metal band whose singer, lyrics and melodies justified their appearance.

Dirt Nap is a band that seems to get better every time I hear them. The bands members are Gabriel Milton (bass), Tommy Montoya (guitar), Adam Stahl (guitar), Gary Shipmen (drummer) and Josh Dickson (vocals). The band has evolved in the last couple of months, adding another guitar player and developing Dickson, whose lyrics are more developed. The band's major influence is Tool, and that is demonstrated through their songs -- melodies that have that same

Next performance:
Mynis and Napoleon . .
Blownaparts at The
Starline, 7 p.m.,
Saturday

originality that made Tool great.

The event was produced by Tobin, who wanted to bring this experience to his hometown of Fresno. Tobin went to FCC for two years before transferring to Fresno State and majoring in psychology. While with WB, he has produced many pilots that have been picked up by the WB or its affiliates and is someone who could open the door for local bands.

Shows like this demonstrate exactly how much effort, determination and skill is created by these local bands as they try to make it

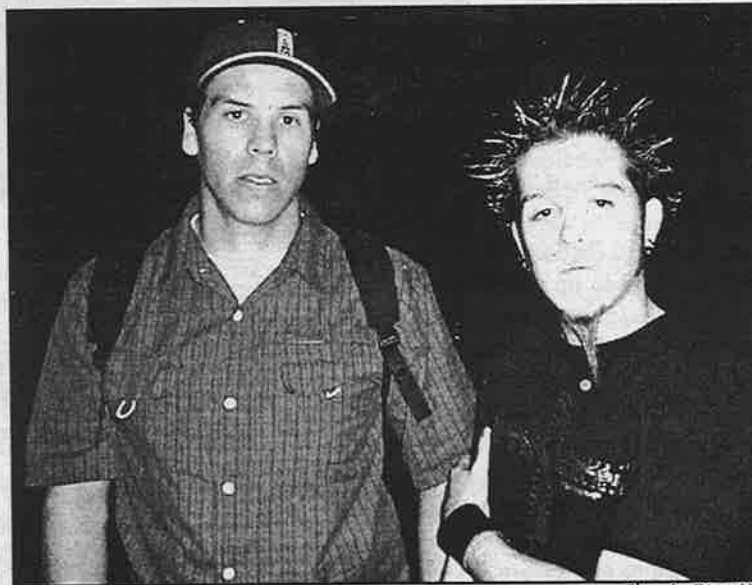
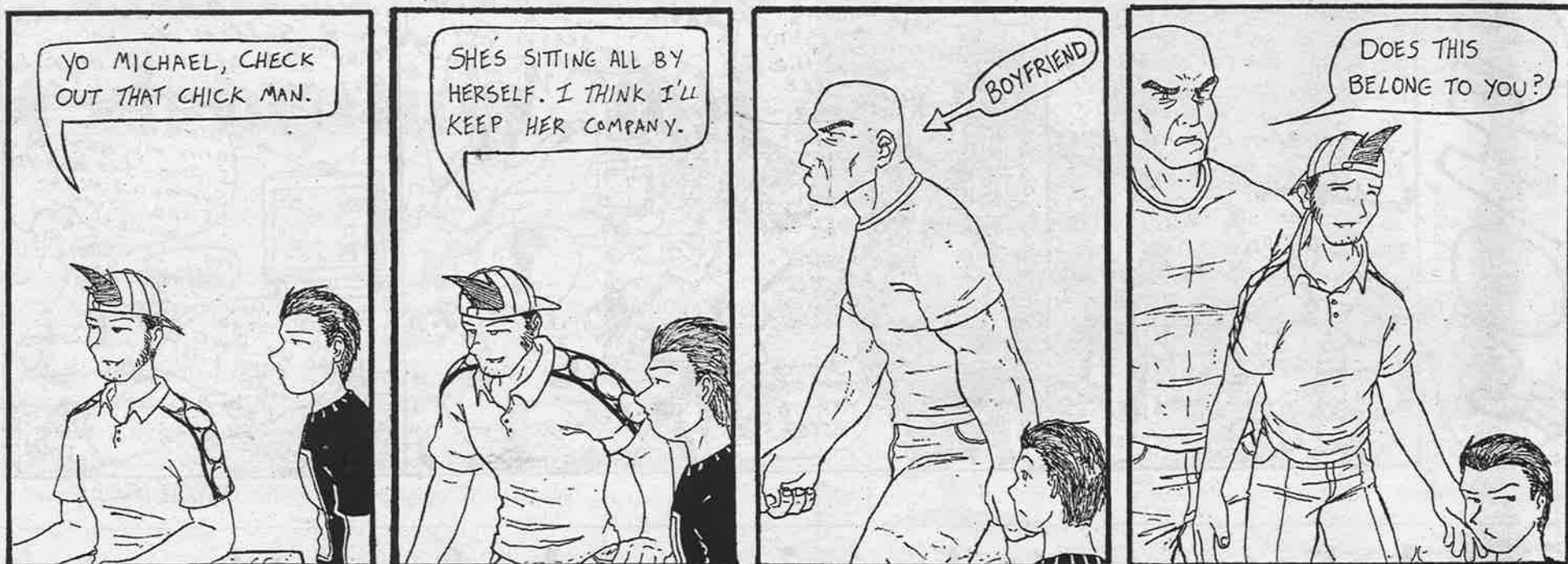


Photo by Diego He

Rob Gonzalez (left) and Matt Gonzalez are part of the band, Mynis. and become mainstream. It is through hard work that bands such as Dirtnap and Mynis are beginning to be noticed by the major record labels. I wish all local bands, big or small, good luck in their dreams and hope Tobin's pilot will make them come true. Starline will continue to host local bands.

City life

Jesse Garcia



How to avoid getting caught in the tangled web of love

Today's high-tech society is controlled vicariously through computer companies and technicians. As a result, love has moved from the bar scene to the computer chat room. But is this a good idea?



J. Riley

Granted, Rampage reporter there are still many people who cruise the bar and dance scene, but the Internet has taken many of the shy folks away from the walls and the empty tables and led them to the keyboards of their computers.

Classified ads are placed all over the Internet, including on Yahoo.com, America Online, Classifieds2000.com, and CollegeClub.com. While most sites are free, some, like



Illustration by Josh Harding

FriendFinder.com, require paid memberships.

There are also specialized classified ad websites that are situated to your interests. For adult personals, you can visit AdultFriendFinder.com or visit Classifieds2000.com and click the

adult personals link. If you are a nudist, there are a handful of websites out there where every ad is written by someone of the same lifestyle.

Many people place ads and search for ads on these sites, but you must be careful, according to

some searchers. Some ads appear like the genuine article, yet the e-mail you get for your response to the ad, is simply a link to a pornography site. Other ads may state that a person is a 19-year-old female in search of a 20-year-old male, yet turn out to have been written by a 68-year-old man named Gordon.

The general consensus of people questioned thought that Internet relationships were not a good way to go.

"They're a waste of time," said Mike Kelley, a student tutor in the Learning Resource Center computer lab, "but if you've got the time and want to do it, then go for it."

Some people, on the other hand, are fearful of it,

"I don't think anything good

can come from that," said Talisha Williams.

Despite the distrust some people have, the number of ads placed online has doubled in the past year, according to statistics provided on some classified ad websites.

With the large number of options the Internet provides, classified ads aren't the only means of Internet romance. Chatrooms, message boards and instant messages are all ways used by Internet users to find their soulmate.

Almost everywhere you look on the Internet now, there is a new romance chat or a chat room with a name like 'Singles15-30'. Certainly not everyone is interested in finding love online. But to those who do, feel free and godspeed ahead. And remember, BRB LOL.

Weak game show won't survive heated prime-time competition

If I was a contestant on the "Weakest Link," I would vote myself off instead of continuing to play the game.

I was not impressed by the game show where the contestants answer fast-paced questions, get voted off, and then get insulted by the host before being told the terrible line, "You are the weakest link, goodbye."

At that line I wanted to change the channel, but for news purposes I continued watching. I watched as the number of people quickly dwindled until there were two. After each person was voted



Dale Mommer

Rampage reporter

Opinion

off, each would have quick interview stating how they felt about it and who should be voted off next. One girl even gave the host a long evil stare before exiting the stage. Then there was the final round, where the two contestants left answered questions for a specific sum earned by all the players they answered correctly throughout the game. It would start out on even ground until somebody broke the tie by answering a question right. If the other person could not answer the question correctly, then that person loses the game.

This game show may be a hit in England, but its first attempt in the United States is not successful. The host's humiliation of contestants combined with stealing successful strategies from "Survivor" and "Millionaire" are not original nor entertaining. I think

the game should be done so contestants get voted off due to how many questions a contestant gets right or wrong. The top two contestants who answer the most questions should be able to go to the final round, not the two who coincidentally, did not get voted off. The belittlement of contestants must also stop because no one wants to see someone get insulted in front of a worldwide audience. If they fail, it should be due to the questions, not from lack of self-esteem of being voted off the show.

In the end "The Weakest Link" has fallen way below my expectations for a successful game show. After today's story, I will never watch the show again because it is a boring, frail attempt by NBC to compete with other shows. The show itself, is indeed, the weakest link.

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Greed of corporate America can be fought by you

Since the beginning of the Industrial Revolution, corporations have profited from large factories, centralizing the masses to the cities, and producing products that are economically feasible. Companies such as Ford, General Electric and Nike have all made fortunes from mass production creating products that are desirable and affordable. The U.S. government has aided this movement through laws, tax breaks and policies such as NAFTA that increase these companies' profits.



Dale Mommer

Rampage reporter

Opinion

What has resulted from this merger of government and big business is a stable economy that produces goods that general consumers are willing to go into debt to obtain. The price of capitalism has resulted in debt and abuse of foreign resources.

The acquisition of products in today's society has become a driving force in our daily lives. Items such as credit cards and loans are used to buy items such as cars or automobiles producing debt among many of the people in our country. True, we cannot function in today's society without these items, but to what point do we stop and question whether we truly need these things or not.

Then there is this price for these wonderful items that in today's societies are being produced by foreign labor or sweatshops around the world. Under agreements such as NAFTA made between the United States and our neighboring countries, corporations are finding it is cheaper to assemble their products overseas and then ship them back to be sold in our markets. Many of the clothes you wear are made in sweatshops around the world where the labor is cheaper, meaning the company can "pass that savings onto you," the consumer.

But is that savings worth the cost of these corporations funding sweat shops that underpay and mistreat workers all for profit? If so, what does that say about our country?

I interviewed a Korean woman named Chie Abad, who works for an organization called Global Exchange that protests various clothing lines such as the Gap, Old Navy, Banana Republic and other who use sweatshops.

As a former sweatshop worker in Saipan, she explained the horrid working conditions, barbed wire fence, poor wages and strict shadow contracts where becoming pregnant could result in termination.

To make matters worse, Saipan is a U.S. protected province, but the people who work in these sweatshops do not benefit from this in any way. The workers are forced to sign shadow contracts by their employer that basically gives all their rights away. Then they have to repay their employer the

cost of whatever sum is to buy their services from their country. In short, the conditions these workers have to endure in an American province are not up to code with the labor laws of the United States. Not even close.

The clothing industry is not the only guilty corporation that manipulates foreign labor. The auto industries, such as General Motors and Ford, which were originally based in the United States, have branched out to assemble their vehicles out of the country. Under NAFTA, these companies have gone to Mexico and Canada to assemble their cars using cheap labor. The working conditions in these factories are better, but the workers are not nearly making the minimum wage a worker at Burger King would receive in the states.

Another setback is these companies have closed U.S. factories so they could move production to these locations resulting in American auto workers losing their jobs.

The most notorious example is the city of Flint, Mich., where GM closed its entire auto processing center. Flint was the hometown of GM; it's where GM opened its first factory and produced their cars.

The entire area of Flint became solely dependent on the auto industry to survive. When GM closed every single plant in the area, Flint became a ghost town overnight. Clearly the relocation of the work force to other countries has begun to have an impact on our society.

Then there is the government, which has stood by and watched as corporations loot the world for profit. Through campaign contributions and lobbying, corporations have been highly successful in stopping change and passing what they want. NAFTA was heavily lobbied for by such influential corporations as General Electric and was assisted by the World Trade Organization, World Bank and International Monetary

Fund. World Bank and the IMF have fueled these corporations' search for profit. The government justifies what the corporations do so. As long as this bond exists, corporations will be free to operate as they please.

The big question people must ask when they are presented with these facts are: Is what's good for these corporations good for the country?

If you are happy with how these corporations do business and continue to buy their products, then the answer is yes. If you are not happy with how these companies do business but still continue to buy their products, then nothing will change. If you are not happy with how certain corporations do business and refuse to buy their products, then the message will be clear. The message will be to change.

Taking It To The Streets

By Maggie Garza and J. Riley

How long have you been at Fresno City, and what are you planning to do afterward?



-Khaliib McCall

"I've been here since '98. I'm going to change my program study so I'll be here a little longer. After this, I have my certification so I'll be working somewhere."



-Lakeisha Raymond

"Since September. I got a scholarship, and I'm going to go to a four-year college."



-Rob Tyson

"About five years on and off. I just can't seem to break free because I love it so much. After this, smile a lot. Transfer to Fresno State or just be happy I completed something in my life for a change."



-Mercedes Kinner

"Too damn long; I'm pursuing a master's degree in criminology."



-Brian McCrory

"It's my first semester here, but I went to Madera City. I'm just here to transfer to a state."



-Julio Perez

"Three years. Just get my degree and start working."



By Chris Castro

Top Ten Reasons to Discontinue "Top Ten List"

10. Didn't get me as much "play" as I thought it would.
9. Lack of inspiration.
8. Lack of interest.
7. Lack of lack.
6. Getting tired of making one joke and then extending it over the rest of the list.
5. I feel I'm repeating myself.
4. I feel I'm repeating my- ... never mind.
3. I'm leaving and I doubt anyone can sustain, much less surpass, the level of humor I have instilled into these lists.
2. Poo-poo, wee-wee, funny, hee-hee.
1. Copyright infringement.

Asian Awareness Celebration 2001

Asian Awareness Week festivities got under way on April 16. On Wednesday, April 18, in the Free Speech area, groups displayed their native attire and performed authentic cultural dances.

RIGHT: Students of Ahwahnee Middle and Hoover High schools perform a Laotian Dance.

BELOW: FCC and Fresno State students entertain onlookers with their Cambodian dance. Campus Asian clubs were instrumental in the event, selling fried chicken and fruit smoothies.

BELOW RIGHT: Participants concluded the day with a friendship dance, in which all in attendance were encouraged to take part.



Photos by Julian Torres



Making a racket

Fresno City College's Hector Almada, at right during a recent practice, beat teammate Alonso Medina 6-1, 6-0 to win the Central Valley Conference tennis singles championship Saturday at Fresno City. Almada, from Hermosillo, Mexico, used a strong serve and tough ground strokes to knock off his doubles partner and roommate. Medina, though, got some satisfaction when he teamed with Almada to win the doubles title -- over FCC teammates Brandon Pound and J.R. Cagle, 7-5, 6-3.

In the women's final, FCC's Kati Papi lost 6-2, 6-2 to Amanda Wilson of West Hills. Wilson and partner Cari Taylor teamed to beat Papi and Stephanie Thompson 6-3, 6-3 for the women's doubles title.

Photo by Joe Chacon



Wham! Suddenly, a new champ rules

By Brandon Castro

Sports Editor

Hasim Rahman's right cross to champion Lennox Lewis' chin did more than shock. It created a new heavyweight champion.

Rahman knocked out Lewis with a punishing right near the end of the fifth round in Johannesburg, South Africa, on Saturday night.

"He came out and tried to dictate the pace, but I wouldn't let him. I never took an opponent serious before this," Rahman said to HBO broadcaster Larry Merchant minutes after the fight.

Rahman (34-2) did not back down to the champion and continuously threw his jab that eventually led to the knockout punch.

Rahman chased Lewis into the ropes with four jabs and with the champ smiling at him. The Baltimore native threw the devastating right cross that dropped the champ for the shocking knockout.

"I felt fine in there. I was going about my work nice and comfortably and there was no way Hasim Rahman could beat me," Lewis told HBO just after the fight. "This is just what happens in heavyweight boxing. That's the situation when you get two big guys in there with right hands."

Lewis (38-2-1) caught the challenger with a few sequences of his own. In the

second round he hit Rahman with a right, left, right combination that momentarily fazed the challenger. In the third, Lewis hit him with a right hand that swelled Rahman's left eye. Then at the bell, he hurt Rahman with a left hook to the body and a left hook to the head that sent the challenger walking slowly into his corner.

Lewis' stamina was questioned because he arrived in Johannesburg two weeks before the fight with little time to get used to the 5,200-foot altitude. That showed in the fourth round as he clearly began breathing hard.

Rahman had been in Johannesburg one month before the fight, and before that trained in the mountains above Big Bear Lake in California to prepare for the high altitude.

Rahman set himself up for a much bigger future payday as reportedly he brought in \$1.5 million dollars.

A clause in the contract ensures Lewis of a rematch.

"We want Rock (Rahman) to defend his title within three, maybe four months, then we can sit down and look at a rematch," Rahman's co-manager Steve Nelson told an ESPN reporter.

If Rahman keeps his title, the rematch will surely happen. "I definitely want the rematch" Lewis said, "Hasim Rahman is the champ today. The second time around Hasim Rahman is going to go."

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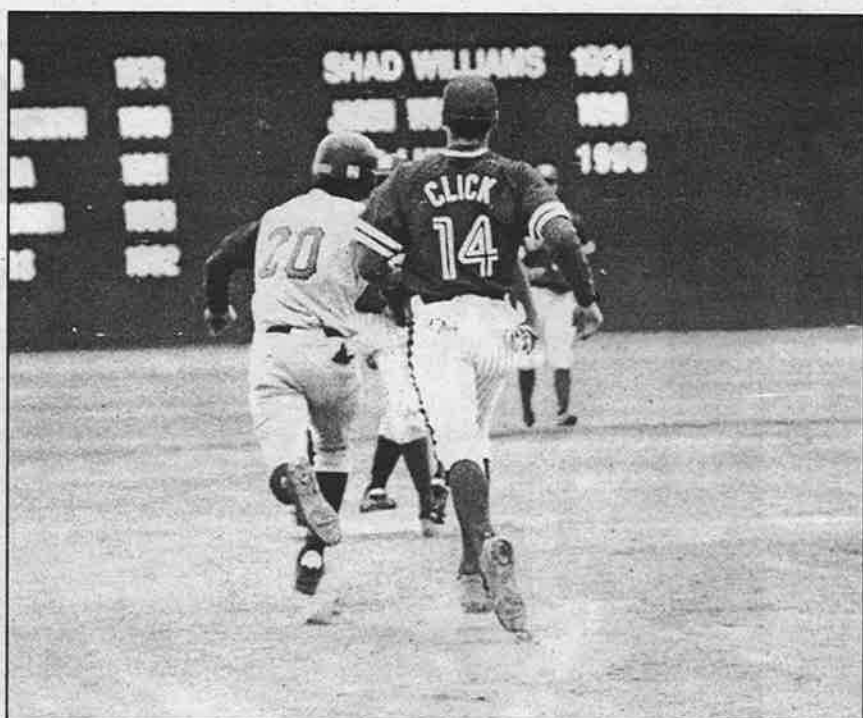
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Photos by Louis Castro

On the run

If it's Fresno City College against College of the Sequoias, it's going to be wild. And Saturday was no exception when the Rams found two COS runners off base and began running them down. Craig Click (14) chases a COS runner back to second (above). The runner reaches second safely (top, right), but another COS runner is caught between first and second base (right). That runner got back to first safely. Even so, the Rams won 2-1 at Euless Park in a game that kept Fresno City close to COS in the race for first place.



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Tautofi makes another good move -- to UCLA

By Joe Chacon
Rampage reporter.

Football in April? For Fresno City College football player David Tautofi, a first-team all-conference and second-team All-America choice, he wouldn't have it any other way.

Last season, the Rams completed one of their best seasons, finishing 10-0 in the regular season but losing to San Francisco City College in the Hawaiian Punch Bowl.

Tautofi, a defensive end, is currently in spring training with the Rams football team, getting ready for this fall at UCLA.

He earned a full scholarship to UCLA and plans to fit right into the Bruins' 4-3 defense as a starter.

"Right now I'm not allowed to work out with UCLA," Tautofi said. "As far as right now I'm working out with next year's team for City trying to get myself ready for next season at UCLA."

Tautofi also works out and runs with defensive line coach Niko Liulamaga as part of a tough conditioning program.

Tautofi transferred from Missouri Valley College after one year. "I wanted to change schools, it (Missouri Valley) was just too far from home," Tautofi said. "I thought that I would be better playing at some other school, so I came to Fresno City to try and get another chance at a Division 1 school."

Even though Tautofi started at Missouri, he missed a family atmosphere and became homesick.

Tautofi had heard that his friend Rocky Faga from Kaimuki High in Waikiki had planned to attend Fresno City in the fall.

"Rocky and his Uncle Ese Moi were talking about City," Tautofi said. "I put a lot of thought into it, and when Rocky was going to come here, I decided to come here. Me and Rocky were the two original Hawaiians that were suppose to come here."

Tautofi got in touch with Liulamaga and started the process to attend Fresno City.

Tautofi had no idea that the Rams football team and coach Tony Caviglia were in the early stages of a successful year.

Caviglia said, "David was here one semester and had a stellar year, we were gonna recruit his brother. We hope he has an outstanding career at UCLA."

Tautofi said, "I didn't know much history about the school and how good they were football-wise, and I was really surprised to be a part of a good team. We were a better team than last year, together as a team."

He could have gone back

home and played at the University of Hawaii, but he would have had to sit out a year as a transfer student. "I knew in my heart I couldn't stand not playing for a whole year," Tautofi said.

At 6-foot-3 and 295 pounds, Tautofi felt a little intimidated by the Rams reputation and the unknown.

"I didn't know what to expect. I came in kind of blind after the first few weeks of practice that's when I started to see my way around here," Tautofi said. By transferring from another school, there was no sure way to know if he'd made the right choice coming to Fresno to play football.

"I kind of had to fight my way in here to play. If I don't see anybody, and I hear about people not knowing what to expect I get nervous. I never get intimidated by the guy's size."

Tautofi's support group in Fresno are fellow Hawaiians on the team and his friends. He also has family in Southern California.

"All the boys from Hawaii inspired me here," Tautofi said. "There were a lot of times we felt isolated and many hard times, but we would get together and have a barbecue and talk it out. We stuck it out together. We made it through. A lot of times, boys that come from Hawaii don't make it."

A famous cousin from Southern California called him after the Pro Bowl about UCLA.

The cousin, linebacker Junior Seau of the San Diego Chargers, agreed with Tautofi that he made the right choice even though

UCLA and Seau's alma mater -- USC -- are rivals.

Last year, Tautofi almost gave up on football because of an injury in high school. He lost scholarships from the University of Hawaii and Arizona. It was a turning point in Tautofi's football career. He had no intention of going to college.

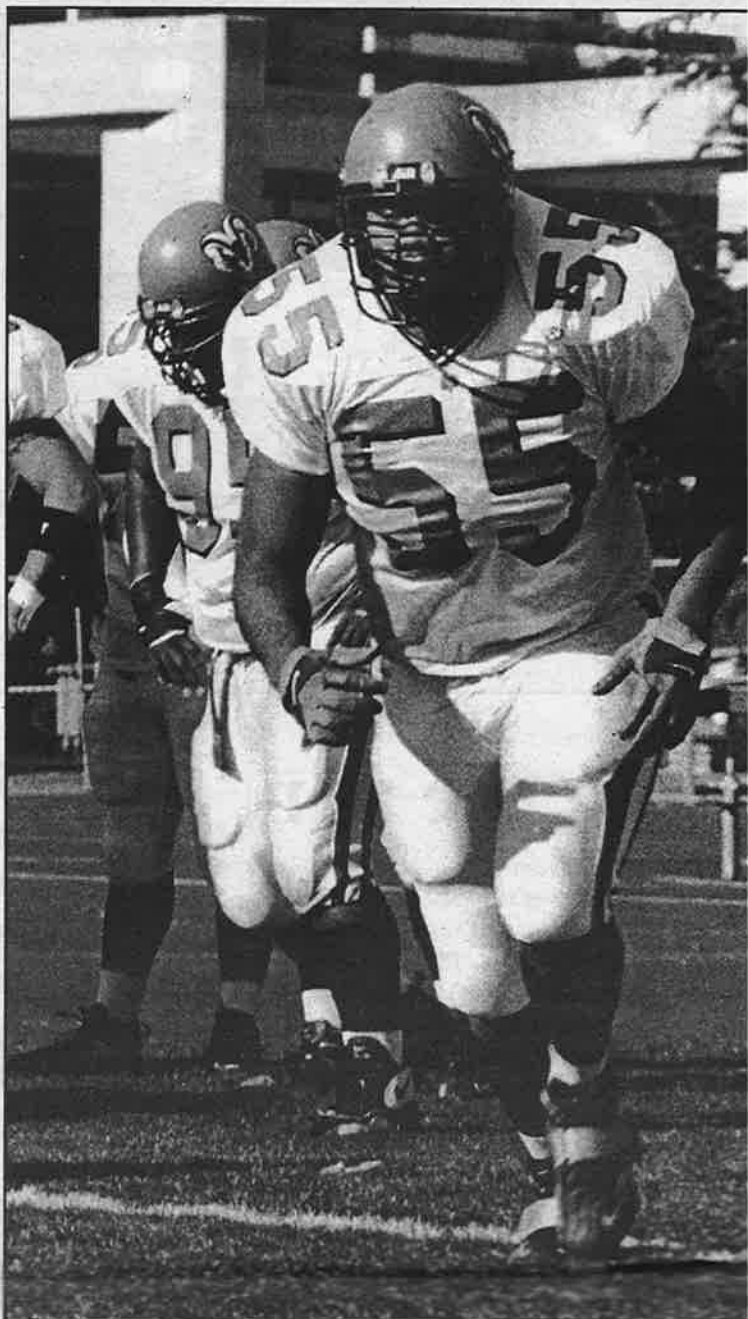
"My parents Fau and Malu took me out to dinner and we talked about it," Tautofi said. "That's when I got a scholarship to Missouri Valley after three months. I was so homesick, but I realized how important my education was, so I came to Fresno to be closer to my family."

Tautofi got his chance to play and work on a scholarship to a Division 1 school on the West Coast. "I had so many letters of intent it was unbelievable," he said.

Tautofi is about to achieve one of his goals by going to UCLA, but another one of his dreams is to play in the National Football League. Although football has opened many doors for Tautofi, he also knows the importance of an education.

"Education comes first and football second," he said. "An education from a prestigious school like UCLA should be very good now I can hold my head up high."

Tautofi leaves for UCLA this summer. "This is something big for me and my family," he said. "My dad is really proud, and now Fresno City has a reason to root for the Bruins."



ABOVE: David Tautofi, a Fresno City College defensive end, will trade in his Rams uniform for one from UCLA, where he will join the football team this fall while on scholarship.

BELOW: Members of the FCC football team pose with David Tautofi, who is standing in the center. Others standing are (left to right) Pat Johnson, Rocky Faga, Ulu Faumuinw and J. Quatino. Squatting are (left to right) Junior Isa and Franco Porter.



Photo by Joe Chacon

Rams star Ortega takes talent to Fullerton

By Anthony Witrado

Rampage reporter

For Rochelle Ortega, it was all about the right feeling.

It felt right when she decided to pass up several scholarship offers to four-year universities to play volleyball and basketball at Fresno City College.

It felt right when she decided to become a Ram after posting a 4.21 grade-point average at Roosevelt High.

And it felt right when the 6-foot-1 forward visited Cal State-Fullerton. Enough to get Ortega, a freshman, to sign an NCAA national letter-of-intent to play basketball for the Titans next fall.

"It just clicked with the team when I visited the Fullerton campus," she said in a press release. "They remind me of past teams I've played on."

Ortega has used the familiarity as a base for past decisions as well.

In the summer of 2000, she decided to attend FCC to the disbelief of many. Recruiting schools, media, family and friends could not understand why a young lady with such a bright future would choose a junior college over a scholarship at just about any school desired.

The decision wasn't that complex for Ortega.

"I wasn't ready to leave Fresno," the shy 18-year-old explained. "That's all. People would tell me I could've gone somewhere else."

So with numerous athletic awards and academic achievements tucked securely under her lanky arms, Ortega headed to FCC to play basketball and volleyball — a sport she only began playing her senior year of high school.

After only two seasons of competitive action, Ortega was recognized by the Central Valley Conference as one of its outstanding players.

However, her real test came on the hardwood where she had been a standout all four years at Roosevelt.

No problem.

Ortega finished the season averaging nine points, six rebounds and three blocks, shooting 78% from the field on a team that finished 30-7 — the best women's basketball record in

school history -- and went to the state final four, losing to eventual champion Ventura College 74-58. The CVC recognized her effort, naming her first team all-CVC.

"I just wanted to come in and contribute right away," she said.

Achieving top honors in two sports didn't hamper Ortega's

performance in the classroom, either.

Ortega carried 21 units and earned a 3.3 GPA during the fall. She also said she was impressed with Fullerton's placing of 85% of its students into the medical field, making her goal of becoming an athletics trainer more

attainable.

Basketball coach Donnie Johnson was pleased with the decision of the humble freshman.

Ortega is the second eldest in a tightly bonded family of six children but says she is prepared to leave. Her father knows it will be best for her, saying Ortega has

matured greatly since being at FCC.

To all the people on her back about passing up a scholarship after high school and posing the tiring question of "why?," Ortega has an answer: "I tell them I will get there eventually."

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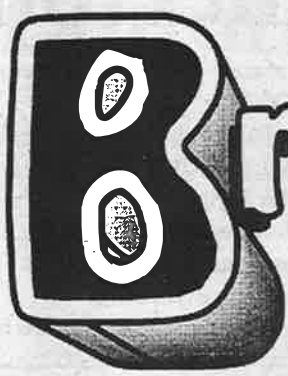
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