

Program helps former criminal offenders attend Fresno City College and stay out of prison.

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The Fresno City College women's basketball team is awarded a No. 23 seed in the state playoffs

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Rampage

Volume LXXVII Edition 3

February 26, 2003



Protesters swarm Fresno's Tower District marching toward Fresno City College Feb. 15 to protest the United States' possible war against Iraq.

Photo by Pippa Watson

Valley rallies at FCC about war

About 1,500 protesters march, on both sides of possible war with Iraq.

By Pippa Watson

Rampage reporter

An estimated 1,500 protesters gathered in the Tower District Feb. 15 to show their opposition to a possible war between the United States and Iraq. The protesters marched from Van Ness Avenue in the Tower District to the west lawn of Fresno City College.

People of many different religions, races, and cultures united there for one purpose: to speak out against the war. There was an array of speakers including Vincent Lavery from the Fresno Center for Nonviolence.

Lavery began by speaking about the misinformation he said was propagated by the media. He also spoke about the large number of

people who were protesting around the world. The Fresno protest coincided with protests worldwide in opposition to war.

Lavery asked volunteers from the audience to tell him where they were from, and protesters gathered from throughout the San Joaquin Valley. Lavery ended his speech with "thank you President Bush for uniting the people of the world."

The ages varied from senior citizens to infants. There were also many familiar faces from the FCC staff to fellow classmates. The Campus Green, an FCC club, helped put the program together.

"I am against the war," said Fresno resident Mike Tyler. "It seems that oil is the motivation for it all again. That really disturbs me."

See Protest, page 6

Students cash in for college

By Tony Losongco

Editor-in-Chief

As a key financial aid deadline approaches, Fresno City College is helping students cram for financial aid applications. Despite a state budget crunch at the community colleges, campus officials caution students not to worry about available aid.

In advance of the initial Monday deadline to apply for Cal Grant awards, FCC held a Cash for College workshop Saturday to walk students through the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, a requirement for the Cal Grant program.

Although the State Center Community College District has offered more than a dozen workshops throughout the academic year, the workshop Saturday coincided with a statewide College Goal Sunday campaign to encourage students to apply for aid.

About 150 people attended Saturday's workshop, which gave line-by-line instructions on the FAFSA in English and Spanish. The workshop attracted current FCC students, families, and even high school students.

Andrew Esquer attends high school in Sanger but trekked to FCC to attend the workshop. "It made sense to me," Esquer said of the FAFSA information. "Pretty simple. Practical."

Alone, Paul DeSantis pored over the workshop information on behalf of his son, a student at Fresno's San

See Aid, page 6

FCC to offer screening, help for eating disorders

By Pippa Watson

Rampage reporter

Eating disorders are one of the leading causes of death in the United States. Many people suffer from various types of eating disorders, and to fight these types of problems Fresno City College is offering a free screening Thursday.

According to The Numbers Count on eating disorders, the three main types of eating disorders are anorexia nervosa, bulimia nervosa and binge eating disorders. These disorders hit a significant rate of females and college-age people, affecting as many as 5 percent of Americans.

Charmaine Radellant, an intern with FCC's Psychological Services, said participants in the screening will fill out a form that

determines the likelihood of whether the participant has an eating disorder.

If the screening reveals a possible eating disorder, participants will be referred to a counselor in the community. All names and information will remain confidential, Radellant said.

The screening program is part of a nationwide effort to inform people of how much of a detriment eating disorders can be to a person's health. The programs at FCC for people with eating disorders are not limited to students. Anyone from the community is welcome to get help, Radellant said.

Statistics show that females are much more likely than males to have an eating disorder. Males represent only between 5 percent and 15 percent of those with anorexia

and bulimia, and about 35 percent of those with binge eating disorder.

Over the course of a woman's lifetime, she may have between a 1.1 percent and 4.2 percent chance of suffering from bulimia. Anorexia afflicts between 0.5 percent and 3.7 percent of all females.

The mortality rate among people with anorexia has been estimated at 0.56 percent per year. That means that about 5.6 percent of anorexic females between 15 and 24 may die from their eating disorders.

Radellant said she is in her line of work because she is "an African-American dedicated to reversing social problems in African-American communities and others that affect an individual's ability to get on with their lives in productive ways."

Eating disorder statistics

- Between 2 percent and 5 percent of Americans experience binge eating disorder in a six-month period.
- Estimated mortality rate among anorexics is 0.56 percent per year, approximately 5.6 percent per decade among females ages 15 to 24.

Eating Disorders Awareness and Prevention Screening

10 a.m. to noon, 1 to 4 p.m., Thursday
FCC Student Lounge
For more information, contact Psychological Services at 442-8268.

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Fax: (559) 265-5783

e-mail: rampage@sccd.com

Editorial

Do you know what the most interesting unknown places on campus are? Do you know where they are? A Rampage photographer spent parts of three days looking for them.

We know they exist, we just could not find them. They are not listed on the campus map, nothing is said about them anywhere in the class schedule book or even in the College Activities flier of programs, services or events. There are four places on campus that a lot of students know nothing about. Are you wondering what they are?

The Art Space Gallery is right in the middle of the campus just steps away from the fountain area where all the hustle and bustle of the crowds go scurrying by every day. Have you taken the time to look inside the building that says Art Space Gallery? Did you even know it was there?

Fresno City College has wonderful exhibits of paintings, pottery, sculptures, and occasionally photography. The James Shepard and Suzanne Sloan Lewis exhibit that is there now is remarkable. The exhibit changes about every six weeks to two months so you would need to keep coming in to see what is there.

The second place is the Anthropology Museum, just across from the Art Space Gallery. Check in

Room 128 of the Social Science building for the newest exhibit.

When the photographer stopped in, the room was in disarray. The anthropology volunteers and students were hurrying to display the new exhibit of African culture, which will be finished soon. It looked to be an awesome display, from what she could see.

Number three on the list of things to check out is the Elroy Robinson Museum of Natural History. Located in the Science building, there are no signs outside and the only sign inside is by the door of Room 130. If you are not looking up you won't see it.

To her amazement, the photographer discovered many warm- and cold-blooded species of animal and plant life. The museum has periodicals that you can go through to look up information for a paper you might be writing, or just for general interest. The photographer was so impressed by the display, she admitted it was really fascinating and would go back.

The museum was named after a man who taught at FCC for 20 years. He was a naturalist born in Fresno in 1913 and died at the age of 76. Elroy Robinson would have gone to the 1936 Olympics but broke his ankle just prior to that time.

Robinson came back in 1937 to

be selected as outstanding athlete at the annual Amateur Athletic Union National Championship in New York, where he set world records in the 880- and 800-meter distance runs.

Last, but by no means least, is the Gladys Brown Botanical Gardens, in a fenced area next to the Science building. It is open from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Benches are provided in the garden to sit on.

When you walk in there it is like going to another land, viewing the peace and quiet of the beautiful surroundings. Venture over to the koi pond where there is a wonderful waterfall. The sound of the water and watching the koi will put you in a trance if you let it. This is a must-experience place.

The lady that the garden is named after, Gladys Brown, took a horticulture class here at FCC in 1976, and after the class was over she stayed and volunteered her time and labor to keep the gardens up. She still comes every day at 5 a.m. to rake and take care of the gardens. Brown will be 84 in October. She shows such love and dedication to the gardens.

All of the places we have mentioned are free of charge. What an experience you will have if you take the time to check these unknown places out.

Letters to the editor policy

Opinions expressed in letters to the editor are those of the authors. The Rampage reserves the right to edit letters for clarity, grammar and length. There is a 30-day waiting period between published letters from the same author. If more than one letter is submitted with the same view on the same subject, one may be selected. The next issue of the Rampage publishes March 12.

Campus calendar

Arts

New Works by Jim Shepard and Suzanne Sloan Lewis — through March 15, Art Space Gallery

City Singers Jazz Concert — 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, Recital Hall

"The Waverly Gallery" Theater Production — 7:30 p.m., March 13-14; 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., March 15; 7:30 p.m., March 20-21; 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., March 22; Theatre

FCC Concert Band & Orchestra Combo — 7:30 p.m., March 25, Theatre

College Activities

Club Rush — 10 a.m., March 26, Fountain Area

Events

Eating Disorders Awareness and Prevention Screening — 10 a.m. and 1 p.m., Thursday, Student Lounge

"The Research Revolution: Science and the Shaping of Modern Life" Discussion Series — 7 p.m.; Thursday, "Forensics"; March 6, "Global Warming"; March 13, "Biodiversity"; Forum Hall room 101

Renaissance Festival — 10 a.m., March 8-9, West Lawn

Fresno County History Day — March 15

Kids Day — March 18, campuswide

Track & Field Central Valley

Conference Championships — March 26, Ratcliffe Stadium

Intramurals

5-on-5 Flag Football — 10 a.m., March 7, North Field

3-on-3 Soccer — 10 a.m., March 21, North Field

Public Affairs

SCCCD Board of Trustees Meeting — 4:30 p.m., Tuesday, District Office

Classified ads

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Police log

From the files of the SCCC Police Department
Compiled by Gerard Morel

Feb. 11

- Officer took report regarding theft of textbooks.
- Officers dispatched to Lot E regarding vehicle burglary in progress. Individual identified by witnesses found in possession of burglary tools. Individual arrested, booked into juvenile hall. Report taken.
- Officer took report regarding battery.
- Officer took report regarding petty theft.

Feb. 12

- Officer took report regarding vehicle burglary.
- Officer observed vehicle peeling out, initiated traffic stop. Driver cited for exhibition of speed.
- Officer took report regarding vehicle burglary.
- Sergeant took report regarding petty theft.
- Officer took report regarding stolen vehicle.

Feb. 13

- Officer took report of harassment of student.
- Officer took report regarding vehicle vandalism.

Feb. 16

- Officer took report of vandalism near the Business Education building.

Feb. 17

- Officer took report regarding traffic collision.

Feb. 19

- Officer dispatched to campus mall regarding disturbance, report taken.
- Officer took report regarding vehicle burglary at Madera center.
- Officer took report regarding vehicle burglary at Madera center.
- Officer took report regarding damage to vehicle by tree branch.
- Officer took report regarding non-injury hit and run in Lot A.
- Officer took report regarding stolen bicycle.

Feb. 20

- Officer took report regarding vehicle vandalism in Lot S.
- Officer took report regarding general incident.

Rampage

RAMPAGE

FRESNO CITY COLLEGE
1101 E. UNIVERSITY AVE.
FRESNO, CA 93741

Editors

Editor-in-Chief: Tony Losongco
Business manager: Theresa Carr
Photo editor: Lenetta Huxley
Entertainment editor: Luis Quezada
Sports editor: Josh Butters
Adviser: Lisa Boyles
Operations manager: Samuel Yuk

Reporters

Latasha Ball, Vetta Evans, Erin Ferns,
Jen Langworthy, Cynthia Martinez,
Gerard Morel, Erika Razo, Veronica
Rodriguez, Felix Sanchez, Pippa
Watson

Photographers

Tiffany Brisendine, Teresa Dawson, Josh
Hires, Keith Kountz, Cynthia Martinez,
Pippa Watson

Graphics/Illustrators

Teresa Dawson, Jen Langworthy,
Zon Petilla

Business

Theresa Carr

Contributing

Pete Benavides, Jesse Garcia

Letters and submissions to the calendar will be accepted via e-mail or in person between noon-1 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday, at the Rampage office, Room SC 211, above the bookstore.

Editorial office/

News tips:

(559) 442-8263

Advertising office:

(559) 442-8262

Fax number:

(559) 265-5783

E-mail:

rampage@sccd.com

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Second chance given to ex-offenders

FCC program offers former criminal offenders an education instead of incarceration.

By Latasha Ball
Rampage reporter

When most students enroll in college for the first time, they have no idea what they want to major in and have many choices and avenues to explore. For former lawbreakers first entering college, their choices are narrowed down to one: drug and alcohol counseling.

In existence at Fresno City College since the mid 1980's, the alcoholism and drug abuse counseling option is an accredited human services program that offers former criminal offenders a second chance to enter the educational system.

"Because of their personal experiences, one that pops up is a drug and alcohol counselor so they wind up over here in this program," said Cliff Garoupa, alcoholism and drug abuse counseling instructor at FCC.

Because of this program and many others around the state, the need for drug and alcohol counselors has grown drastically. "Instead of being incarcerated, they're being required to go into therapy and as a result, there's this big need in the state for drug and alcohol abuse counselors," said Peg Mericle, social science division associate dean of instruction.

Since this program encourages the education of ex-offenders, enrollment has gone up within the program, offering between 400 and 515 majors.

"We've been told by the California Association of Alcohol Educators that we have the second largest drug and alcohol counseling accredited program in the state," Garoupa said. "I see enrollment and interest continue to grow, as more and more ex-offenders look at this as a viable opportunity for them."

Not only is the counseling program helping the lives of ex-offenders, but it's also helping cut down the risk of committing future crimes. "Anything we can do to support the education of an ex-offender will reduce the incidents of recidivism," said Mericle.

Taxpayers pay about \$24,000 a year to keep an incarcerated person behind bars. But for the same amount, program officials said, they could be paying for the education of a well-deserved student.

"For the price of putting one person in prison in California, you can send seven individuals to a community college, three people to a California State University, or two students to UC Berkeley," Garoupa said.

"You can be paying a fraction of that

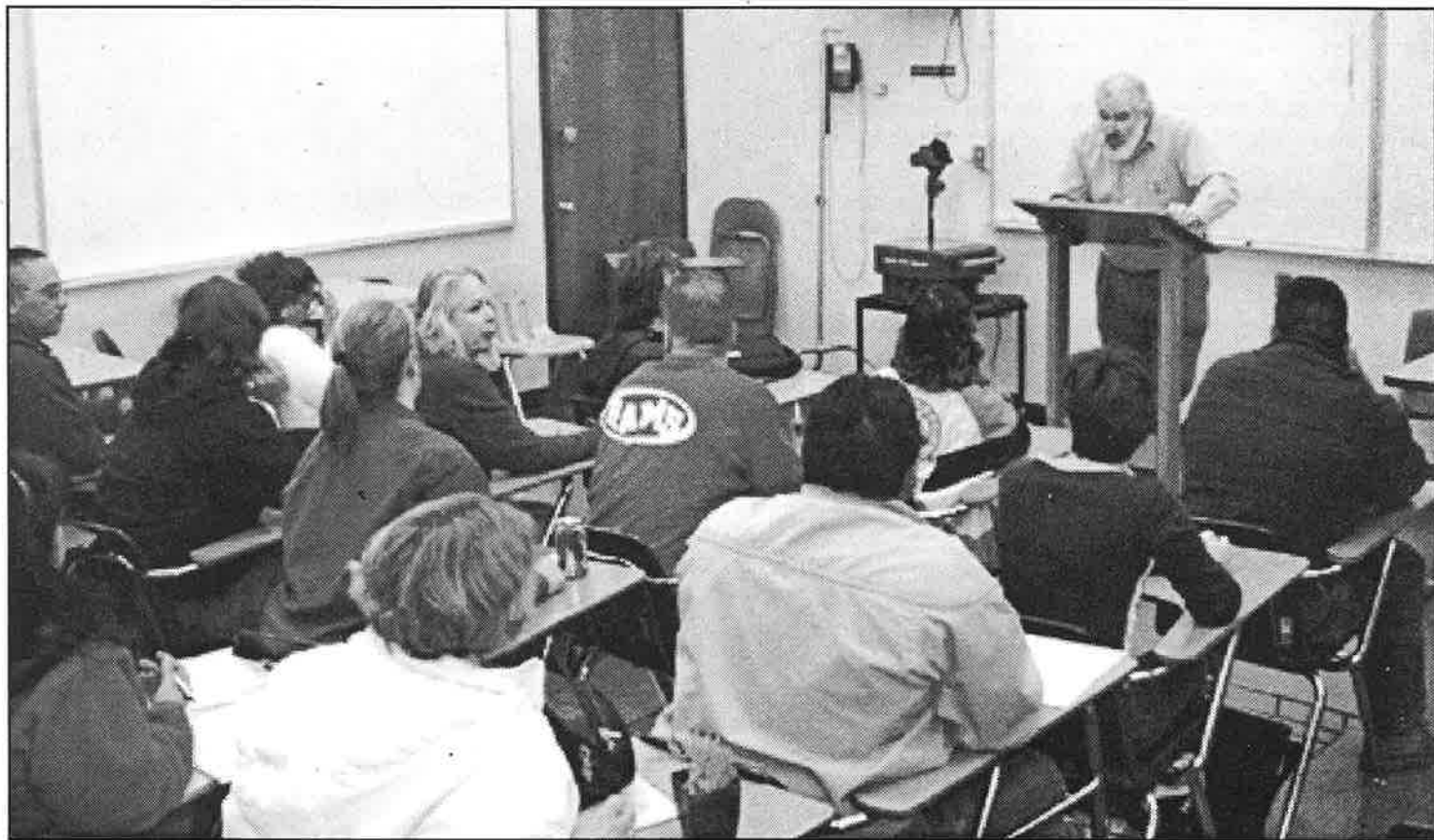


Photo by Josh Hires

Instructor Cliff Garoupa gives a lecture to an alcoholism and drug abuse counseling class that he teaches at Fresno City College.

amount for them to go to Fresno City College and to get a degree. If we can save one person's tax money, then that's what it's all about," said Sal Mena, an Extended Opportunity Programs and Services counselor who has been working with ex-offenders since 1973.

The program not only aims to expand the education of ex-offenders, but also to apply this knowledge to better the life of another in need.

"This program is helping me get more awareness with the people I'm working with," said Freddie Lomelin, a second-year student at FCC who is able to use his experiences with such drugs as heroin and alcohol to help counsel others.

"I am able to bring my life experiences into the classroom and transform that into a job," said Melissa Szuch, a second-year student who also feels she owes society for the wrongdoings she's done. "I know that I've taken so much from society, that I feel I should pay them back for everything that I've done."

Kelly Clark, a first-year student, feels that locking up juveniles does not solve any problems, but she would rather be helping juveniles with their problems instead.

"I was going for criminology, but I didn't want to be on the side of it locking people up. I would rather be on the side of helping people out," said Clark, who is enrolled in the program because her son got in trouble with drugs.

When ex-offenders get put behind bars, many do not notice how much they're actually capable of if they're shown the right direction. "I've worked with people in prison and I'm overwhelmed by how bright our incarcerated population is, and how much human potential we're wasting behind bars," said Mericle.

Most people who are put in prison do not have a say-so about what is done in their day-to-day lives. They're told when to wake up in the morning, what to do during the day, and when to go to bed.

"They come from a situation of total control into a situation where they have to use their judgment, have to make decisions and be self-motivating. That can be very frightening for them," Garoupa said.

"When they get used to a lifestyle, of making no decisions for themselves, it can present a problem when they're released and on their own." "When I got out, I didn't know how to maintain a checkbook, I didn't understand the ATM and I didn't have the life skills," Szuch said.

Many also bring with them the paranoia they had while they were in prison. "A lot can't deal with being in a crowded classroom because they feel intimidated if someone is going to shank them," said Mena.

On the other hand, Mericle seems to think some are adjusting quite well in the academic atmosphere. "You can bet that in just about every class you have, there's an ex-offender in that class. Do you know it? Probably not, so I would say they're adapting fairly well," Mericle said.

When a person is coping with an addiction they're trying to break, one needs support to make it through the problem. "I think this program could be improved by putting together a more comprehensive outreach and support program for ex-offenders or people who have drug and alcohol problems," Garoupa said.

One way the students and faculty are looking to solve this problem is by starting an ex-offender club, where students can go to if they need support or help. "I think it would help because I still have friends that are on parole and in prison and they're trying to figure out what to do with their lives," Szuch said.

"One of their major issues is they need a meeting place. Hopefully when the Old Administration Building goes online, that will be possible," Mericle said.

"Not only do ex-offenders feel lost on campus, but some are living their lives day-to-day, having problems applying for financial aid, and knowing where to get clothes or food if needed."

"Drug and Alcohol Counseling, in conjunction with EOPS, are putting together an ex-offenders college resources booklet that should be done by the end of the semester," Garoupa said.

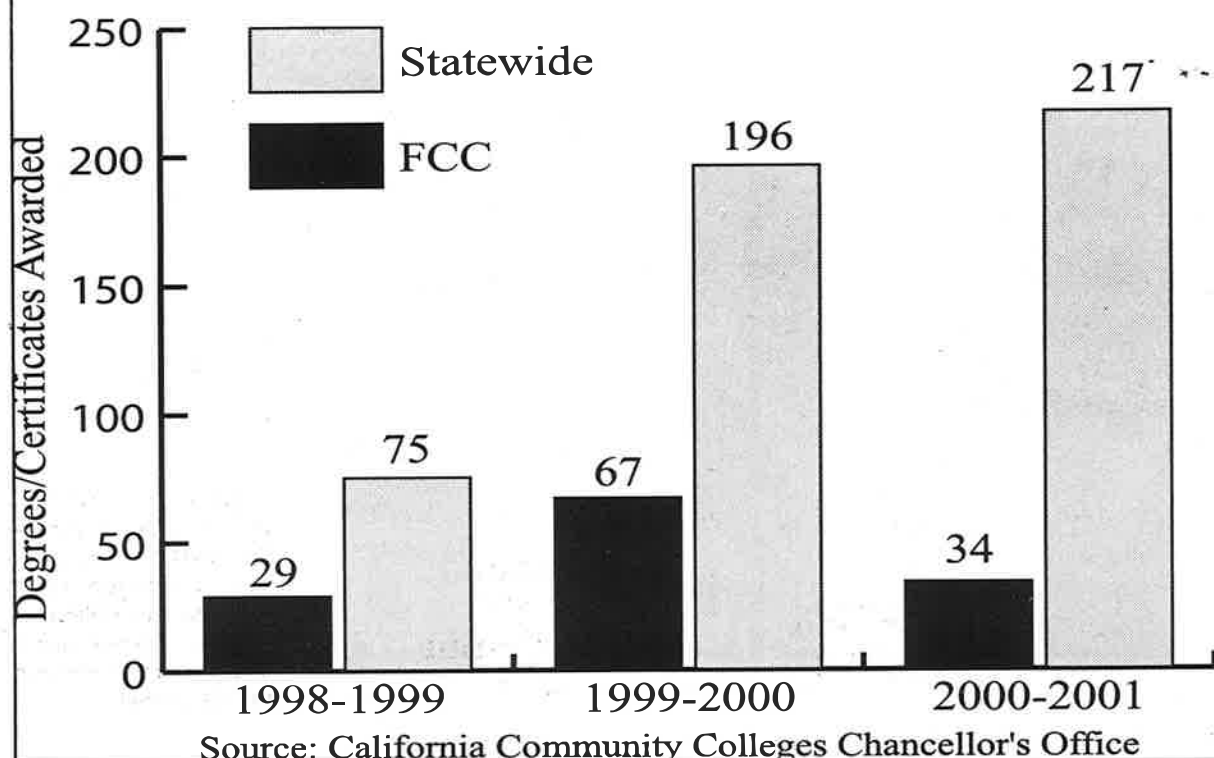
"Even if they had a fact sheet up in Admissions to explain to you step-by-step of the process of what you needed to complete this school, that would have been a wonderful asset to me," Szuch said.

After receiving their certificates of graduation from the program, many are influenced to continue their education in another institution, or take their certificate and start work. "A lot of the students continue on to Fresno State or jump into the field they're going into," Garoupa said.

Many students rise above their tribulations they once had to go through, to start their life again for a better cause. "They've been through a lot and the fact that they've chosen to go back to school deserves them a lot of credit and as much support as we can give them," Mericle said.

As a result of the faculty's and students' hard work and dedication, they're rewarded in the highest possible way. "Four out of the last five years, it has been our human service students that have gotten the dean's medal for the social science division. At least two of those students were ex-offenders," Garoupa said.

Graduates: Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Counseling Option



District institute trains companies and working adults

The Training Institute provides career development, often at a company's workplace.

By Erika Razo

Rampage reporter

With a variety of programs for working adults who want to enhance their skills, Fresno City College opens its doors to The Training Institute at State Center Community College District.

Currently, the training institution is located inside the Manchester Center mall and offers classes, workshops and seminars. These programs focus on the fields of manufacturing technology, computer software, medical training, family health and other areas to working people who want to enhance their skills. For prospective students, The Training Institute also offers a catalog with a listing of classes and class meetings.

Presently, these classes that are open to the public are offered at FCC, Clovis Center, the Center for Advanced Research and Technology in Clovis and other locations in the San Joaquin Valley.

"Our programs are geared at working adults who want to develop new skills," said Rob Weil, marketing coordinator for the Training Institute.

According to Weil, during this fiscal year, more than 1,000 working people participated in the public classes. Of those, about 50 percent were sponsored by their employers to attend. These classes have an atmosphere similar to the classes that are offered at FCC.

Although the workshops and some courses are similar to tradi-

tional on-campus courses, they also differ in many ways. For instance, some programs can be completed in as few as three hours, compared to other Training Institute programs, such as Pharmacy Technician Training, which can only be completed after more than 200 hours of training take place.

However, unlike most FCC classes, these courses do not give letter grades or units toward a major. Instead, those who attend are given certificates and are taught new working skills. Both the certificate and the skills are then applied toward the recipient's career field.

Another difference between FCC and the Training Institute is the staff, mainly the instructors themselves.

FCC has a variety of full-time and part-time instructors, with departmental structure and instructional support staff.



Photo by Lenetta Huxley

A farm labor contractor raises his hand during a Training Institute course Saturday in FCC's Forum Hall. Nearly 300 attended the license renewal class, which the institute teaches. This was the only license renewal course on campus this year.

On the other hand, The Training Institute has a full-time staff of only seven people, and all of the trainers are part-time employees who have worked in the field in which they are teaching or training.

Along with public classes, the institute also offers a series of on-site training sessions. Employers

can arrange for instruction of these courses at their workplace.

Performance Management, Mastering Leadership, and Quality in the Workplace are a few of the course titles that are available for on-site trainings. These particular workshops and seminars are performed at companies which are seeking outside training, for the purpose of work improvement.

Weil explains that this fiscal year alone, 20 companies have been involved in the on-site customized contracts.

As a testament to the popularity of the institute's programs, the Training Institute conducted specialized courses Saturday in FCC's Forum Hall building for farm labor contractors to renew their licenses. Nearly 300 farm labor contractors

were taught or were updated on a number of issues such as labor laws, health and safety, sanitation, housing regulations, and proper procedures of pesticide and chemical use.

According to the Training Institute website, the institute has been offering the renewal course at locations throughout the state this academic year. In fact, Saturday's course was the only farm labor contractor renewal class scheduled on campus this year.

For more information on specific programs, contact the Training Institute at State Center Community College District, at 256-0188.

News briefs

FCC to host Renaissance Fair

The 12th annual Fresno City College Renaissance Fair will take place March 8 and 9 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on the west lawn of the FCC campus.

The festival is a recreation of a 16th-century village fair. There, visitors can experience what led up to the crowning of Queen Elizabeth I, and how she claimed her throne.

"There will be about 1,000 costumed entertainers and we expect about 5,000 visitors to come through the gates," said Michael H. Butler of Another Time Production, the group putting this event together.

Organizers will also hold a dress rehearsal noon Sunday on the west lawn, which will draw costumed

performers from throughout California.

Advance tickets are on sale at The Movies, located at 1345 N. Van Ness Ave. Tickets are \$5 for adults and \$3 for children under-12.

Those who bring in a non-perishable food donation will receive \$1 off. The festival is a benefit for the Marjaree Mason Center.

ROTC re-enlists on FCC campus

Fresno City College welcomed a new military science instructor this semester, the first FCC-based instructor for the school's ROTC program. Army Sgt. Stuart Jensen will teach leadership courses, hold office hours, and be available on

campus every weekday.

"My job is essentially to lay the groundwork for a larger ROTC participation here because they want to increase the amount of classes they can provide," Jensen said. Previously, a California State University, Fresno instructor taught the training courses at FCC.

"Essentially, it's a leadership training that they could use if they want to pursue a career in business or any other type of leadership forum, and it's an introduction to military service," Jensen said. "You don't have to enlist in the Army... just to take the class."

For more information on the Army ROTC program at FCC, contact Jensen at 442-4600, ext. 2638, or Room 159 of the Health Sciences building.

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History month ends with FCC celebrations of culture

February events allow campus to celebrate successful FCC African-Americans.

By Erin Ferns

Rampage reporter

Fresno City College is coming to the end of its February celebration of African-American history. Pan Afrikan Student Union members are often spotted at events with their T-shirts emblazoned in excellence along with prominent African-American figures of FCC's campus, such as Robert Fox, dean of student services.



Robert Fox

Both Fox and the PASU have similar interests — success. "There is an expectation of success for all of our students," Fox said. "Many of our African-American students have achieved great things, those who have become doctors and lawyers and teachers. Many of them had to struggle to overcome obstacles, but it can be done."

Fox likes to recognize his students' achievements. In his 23 years as FCC dean, Fox has personally signed thousands of Dean's List certificates, something that didn't exist at FCC before. "There was always a Dean's list, but students just received a Xeroxed letter," Fox said.

Ironically, "the Fresno City College certificate has the same wording as the Dean's List certificate of the college where I graduated," Fox said. "I never got one, but I get to sign a lot of them."

Although he was an average student at the predominantly white Parsons College in Iowa, Fox was well aware of the importance of his education with the help of a biology instructor.

"He stopped the class one day and told us he was insulted by our lack of preparation," Fox said. From that day forward, the instructor made sure the students read their material and were able to answer impromptu questions during class.

"I'll never forget it, he said, 'I taught this course in Ethiopia. The same book to...young men and women who lived in houses with dirt floors and they learned it, and you will learn it. Come prepared,'" Fox said. "It was kind of a wake-up call."

On the campus mall, crowds gathered around various booths during this month's Club Rush. Different foods and items were sold at the event, including soul food at the PASU booth. In his red PASU shirt that read, "Black is the color of excellence," Isaac Riley was showcasing the club's soul food dinner.

PASU served "fried chicken, potato salad, macaroni and cheese, cornbread, spice cake, and Kool-Aid," Riley said. The red beverage was chosen "because we want to get as close to home as possible."

Riley, a 21-year-old student who aspires to become an art teacher, spoke of what PASU is about. "It's basically leadership, guidance, unity of the black community and success — striving for excellence," he said.



Photo by Pippa Watson

Fresno City College visitors tour a preserved building Saturday at Col. Allensworth state historic park in Kern County.

"I think a lot of African-American people are stereotyped," Riley said. "With this club, we tell our society...the school...the world that we're not all about that. We are civilized people. We have desires. We have goals. We have dreams that we want to accomplish."

Those dreams are precisely what Fox wants to instill in FCC's African-American students. "I believe that first and most important thing that an African-American student

can do is to believe in themselves and to be honest about their talents and to develop those talents," he said.

Fox advised students to "take the risk of dreaming a dream that doesn't exist." He used his own life experience as an example.

"When I was born, the thought that an African-American man would be a dean or a president of a college that is not a predominantly black college was laughable," Fox said. "Fortunately, I had parents to instill

in me pride and...to never give up."

Fox, who grew up in the rural South as well as places in "Europe and the Far East" due to his father's position in the military, was exposed to diverse cultures.

"It was not as important then as it is now for young people to be able to deal effectively with people that are different and that does not mean just getting along," Fox said. "It means being able to speak their language and to understand their culture."

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Protest, Continued from page 1

A diplomatic solution and more inspections are needed."

Jimmy Rivera of Clovis voiced similar concern about war. "There are many questions coming from both sides that are [legitimate], though war is never the answer," Rivera said. "More inspections are needed before an arms to war can be decided on."

Khadir Abdulghani, who is the president of the Muslim Student Organization of Fresno City College, was the last speaker at the rally. He spoke about how he is an American Muslim and United States citizen.

"American lives, resources, and lives of innocent Muslim civilians are not expendable," Abdulghani said. "We urge the members of Congress and this administration to slow down."

A group of war supporters met the rally participants during the march. "Peace supporters are just more human shields for the evil regime of Saddam [Hussein]," a woman said through a bullhorn.

Fresno police were at the rally, and although their numbers weren't overwhelming, the officers' presence was certainly felt.

"I support President Bush 100 percent," said protester Justin Moore, speaking of the president's attempts to build a coalition against Iraq and Saddam Hussein. "The U.N. is doing nothing about Saddam so we got to."

"People criticize President Bush," said Terese Farnen of Clovis. "While people are being used as human shields, starving, weapons are being developed. Where are the missing weapons?"

War supporters also gathered at the corner of Van Ness and McKinley avenues, at the southwest corner of campus. One protester's sign read, "We support our troops."

In one exchange, a woman started chanting, "What do we want? Peace. When do we want it? Now."

A man then responded to the woman, "You people want peace at any price," to which the woman replied, "Yeah, I guess I do want peace at any price."

Bob Wise, a Fresno resident, took a slightly different approach toward averting a conflict with Iraq. "Make love not war," Wise said. "Let's give peace a chance, America."



Gary Nicholes of the Fresno City College financial aid office leads a group of about 150 through the Free Application for Federal Student Aid at a Cash for College workshop Saturday in the cafeteria. Financial aid staff members were on hand at the workshop to assist high school and college students, and their families, with college financing options.

Photo by Lenetta Huxley

Aid, Continued from page 1

Joaquin Memorial High School. "It's awfully difficult for students to meet financial need," DeSantis said. "I think any aid is helpful."

Business major Loren Sealey attends FCC with financial aid and parental support, and he has found the aid process complex. "I guess the most difficult part is I don't understand most of the tax information, but the counselors make it really easy," Sealey said.

Joaquin Jimenez, district associate dean of financial aid, stressed completing the FAFSA by the initial Cal Grant deadline. "It can be very confusing, and it can be a difficult application for students to get over," Jimenez said of the FAFSA. "The important thing is they apply now, ASAP."

The traditional FAFSA process requires students to mail financial information to a federal processing center and wait for a response, also by mail. The response letter may request the applicant to verify information, which could slow processing further.

A new online FAFSA, however, issues students a personal identification number that lets them send off their applications digitally. With the Cal Grant deadline less than a week away, the online FAFSA can shorten the application process from weeks to days.

Students can submit applications for the Cal Grant beyond Monday, but Jimenez said: "It's just that they're applying late and there's a good chance they'll not be eligible for Cal Grant."

For FCC students like Sealey, financial aid is critical to making school affordable and

less stressful. "I probably wouldn't be able to go to school if it wasn't for the financial aid," Sealey said.

Sealey receives a state Board of Governors fee waiver, which pays all his \$11-per-unit enrollment fees. "It helps because I can afford not to work full-time," Sealey said.

California residents can meet the criteria for the waiver either through low income — less than \$26,475 for a family of four — or by participating in specific public-assistance programs. Jimenez estimated that about 14,000 FCC students benefit from the fee waiver.

In addition, about 8,000 FCC students receive federal Pell Grants, which consider total student education costs, including textbooks, personal expenses and transportation. "Colleges look at more than just tuition and fees," Jimenez said.

Colleges, Jimenez said, calculate this total student budget: about \$6,900 for students living with family, and about \$11,200 for those living away from home. Information from the FAFSA helps the federal government determine both a family's expected payment toward school and the resulting shortfall which financial aid could cover.

The Cash for College workshop detailed extra forms of aid beyond grants, such as federal work-study and scholarships. FCC, for example, publishes a booklet of about 110 scholarships geared to FCC students, who can apply for them with a single application.

With proposed state budget cuts that could impact student costs at community colleges, FCC staff at the workshop helped dispel myths applicants have about financial aid,

particularly about eligibility.

Jimenez cited students' "perception of not being eligible because people feel the costs go up." California Gov. Gray Davis' budget proposal suggests an increase in enrollment fees at community colleges this fall, from \$11 to \$24 per unit.

The state Legislative Analyst Office this month recommended an increase to \$25 per unit to help reduce proposed cuts to student services and other programs. This would add more than \$300 a year to full-time students' annual enrollment fees.

The state budget plan also proposes to cut about 3,000 Cal Grant C awards statewide, designed for students in vocational programs. But contrary to popular belief, Jimenez said, as the cost of college increases, the pool of students eligible for aid also increases.

"The other important thing to understand is you don't have to be enrolled full-time to receive financial aid," Jimenez said. "In fact, we have students taking three or four units getting a Board of Governors [waiver] and Pell Grant."

While Jimenez emphasized that students "could be eligible," and still need to meet various criteria and deadlines to get aid, FCC financial aid staff encouraged students to persevere through the necessary forms.

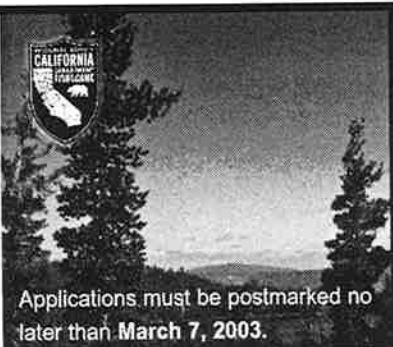
"You've got better chances applying for financial aid than playing the lottery," Jimenez said.

Gary Nicholes, an FCC financial aid office employee who presented at the Cash for College workshop, echoed Jimenez's sentiment. "Apply anyway," Nicholes said. "You don't know what you're gonna qualify for."

We want your sports

Interested in writing for the Rampage's sports page? Submit your articles to sports editor Josh Butters in Room SC-211 (above the bookstore) or email them to Rampage@SCCCD.com

APPLY NOW for the Fish and Game Warden Cadet EXAM



Applications must be postmarked no later than March 7, 2003.

Exam requirements: 60 semester college units, 18 of which must be in biological sciences, police science or law enforcement, natural resources conservation, ecology, or related field. For complete requirements, see www.dfg.ca.gov/hrb/pages/currentdfgexams.html

Mail the application to: Department of Fish and Game, Attn: Exam Unit, Room 1217, P.O. Box 944209, Sacramento, CA 94244-2090.

You MUST include a State of California Application (form 678), downloadable from the State Personnel Board website at (www.spb.ca.gov) AND a complete course list (especially the required 18 units)

For more information, please contact Human Resources at (916) 653-8120

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Going to war is not way to gain country's support

Is it really necessary for the United States to go to war with Iraq? I think not!!

I strongly think that President Bush is trying to regain the support of the American people by going to war with Iraq, having to due mainly with the 9/11 tragedy.



Vetta Evans
Rampage reporter
Opinion

Although there are a lot of good reasons for this war, the drawbacks are badly devastating. Really, if you think about all the innocent lives that are going to be taken in Iraq and in America.

The fact that Saddam Hussein is hiding weapons from our weapon inspectors is playing a big role in the wait for war. Obviously Saddam wants us to be unaware of what weapons they

have until the last minute. Maybe they are preparing the weapons for this war that would put them ahead of us so that their chances of winning the war is greater than ours.

What ever happened with the search for Osama bin Laden anyway? Didn't all of these problems escalate due to 9/11, because of him and his followers?

It could be that Saddam is purposely drawing attention away from bin Laden, so that they can plan on a major destruction on us or something that would affect the United States. They should think of other ways to solve the issues between the U.S. and Iraq.

If we lose this war, our country could possibly go into another recession and cause a lot of problems that I know a lot of us would not be able to handle. Some of these problems could be banks losing all their money,

stock markets crashing and businesses filing bankruptcy.

If we were to win this war it would probably lower gas prices and much more.

For those of us who are religious, we know that the Bible says war is the beginning of the end of the world and that spilling innocent blood on the land of prophets will only cause more problems that not even a president can handle.

That may or may not be true, but everyone might still be able to continue their lives. My point is that war should be prevented by any way possible, and we all know that Bush is not going to let it go.

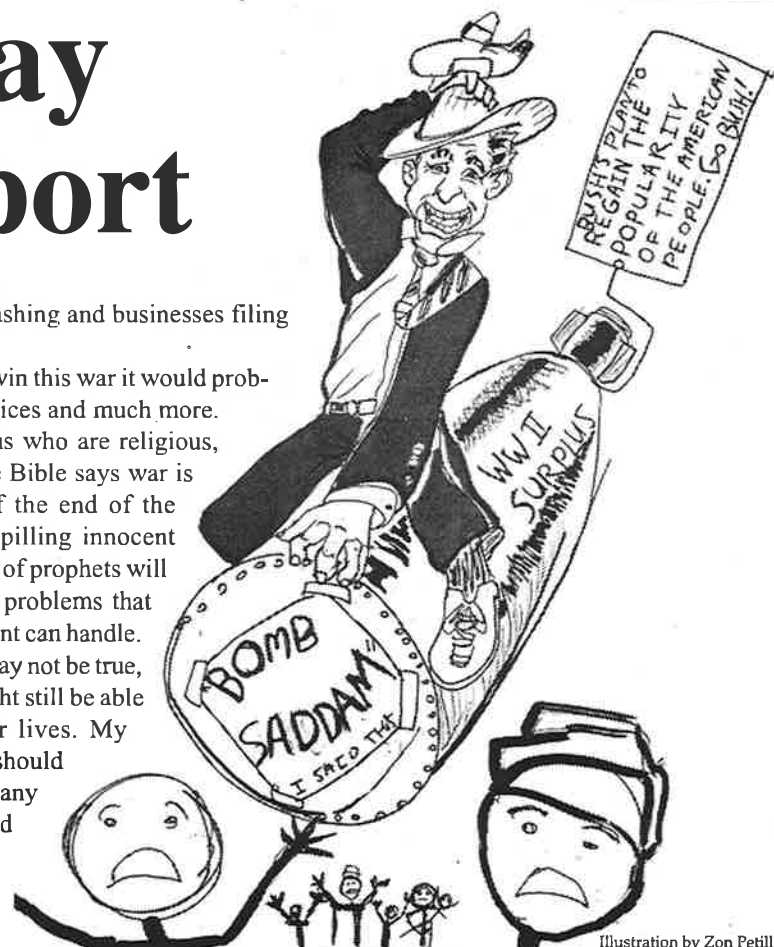


Illustration by Zon Petilla

Acts of few should not make all Muslims targeted

As in many countries of the global community, we find that the opinion of many citizens is often different from that of the legislative and financially elite.

What about the average person like you and me? What role do we play in America? Do we know what's going on or where every tax dollar is spent (by whom) apart from what comes on our TV screen?

Our nation is, in fact, changing at a fast rate. Our focus must be on change for the better.

As American Muslims, we bear great responsibilities in the face of misrepresentations of Islam by the media and misconduct of some people who associate themselves with Islam.

From founding father to present-day laborer, civil servant, teacher, doctor, or businessperson, Americans are hard working. Many Muslims of diverse backgrounds are also among these groups. It is time now to be hard working in another American way – to unite for the common good.

While it's true that a lot of people today are in fact involved in immoral practices, many Muslims and Christians in America have taken the initiative to form a bond based on morality and adherence to the Creator to make a positive change.

Following the example of the Last Messenger of Islam, the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh), Muslims (like Christians) feed the

homeless, take care of the less fortunate and try their best to be model citizens and a good neighbor to all.

Islam is the true friend of America. There are countless Muslims who were born and raised in the USA and enjoy its comforts and freedoms. That is not to say that others are not kind hearted and good. Mentioned in the Holy Quran is that "...thou wilt find the nearest of them in love to the Muslims those who say, 'We are Nasara' (Christians)..." (5:82). Why

then should people fear Islam?

Many of my friends who are American-born Muslims worked diligently at Ground Zero side-by-side with their non-Muslim counterparts to aid victims of the 9/11 tragedy and to clean away the debris left from this cruel act. This was in spite of being attacked as an American and then attacked again for being Muslim.

You'll find many non-Muslims, especially Christians at rallies calling for an end to war, solutions to the senseless genocide of Muslims worldwide, and attention to atrocities that have been inflicted upon Muslims and others (particularly in the so-called third

world) over the last century to date.

One speaker from the National Lawyers Guild argues the constitutionality of the Patriot Act and provisions allowing indefinite INS detentions. Others in Congress contest that the Administration is acting too unilaterally in its decision-making. This is an example of our luxurious right to disagree.

We also have the luxury of turning off the TV when faced with a broadcast of an issue that we don't like to hear about. However, many people in other countries have a different opinion about America and its citizens (us) because their daily lives are directly affected by our foreign policy. The term is "Foreign" policy. The American people are not to blame for the actions of our leaders.

No one should be the object of ridicule due to the actions of a few who have acted self-servingly in the name of the whole. Ask yourself how many times you were personally asked your opinion in a poll of what Americans think about an issue. In the same way, the religion and people neither of Islam, USA, nor any place should be subjected to abuses of any kind due to the actions of a few people among them.

That is the way of the unjust and ignorant. Everyone is entitled to an opinion or expression, but not to use it as a weapon to harm others.

The answer therefore, in a supposed government for and by the people must be to in-

quire, become informed, get involved, join hands, and take charge. Find out what is being done, what legislation is being passed, and exercise your rights. Wherever lives and resources are being misdirected, misused, or abused, it must be checked. Likewise, any good and sensible effort must be supported with consideration and justice.

Every society must take lessons from those people who came before them. What made them blossom and prosper? What made them fall apart? Surely individualism, ignorance, and corruption lead to downfall.

Great Islamic nations of the past saw the true meaning of harmonious cultural diversity, as in Muslim Spain. People of various races, religions, and nationalities lived there in peace, equality, justice, and freedom (but not freedom to destroy the society).

We all must take a little time to really understand the people, occurrences, and things around us (and not just from the TV). Our country was founded with great ideal.

Do we know the many ways Al-Islam has influenced our lives, history, and culture in the United States? Haven't we seen the productive effects of working together? Will we the people accept the challenge of helping our country to realize its maximum potential?

We know about our past. Our actions today will determine the brightness of our future, Let's do it together.

Campus Voices What is your view on the U.S. going to war with Iraq?

By Theresa Carr



Greg Medina

"I think we can use the money – \$300 billion – on all our social problems in America, not on war."



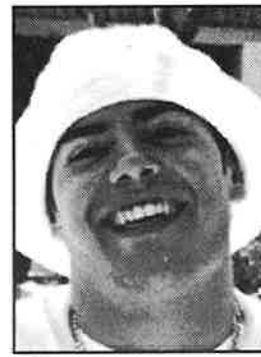
Michelle Shirzad

"I don't think they should go to war because problems don't get solved through fighting, they worsen."



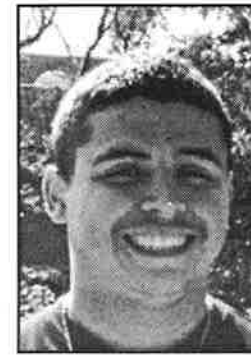
Thuy Truong

"Personally, I don't think we should go to war, because so many innocent civilians are going to die, but Bush has to do what he has to do to save the United States."



Justin Castillo

"I think that we should because we've been dealing with this fool so many years that we need to get it over with."



Angel Flores

"Don't go to war. Think of life on Earth. Leave the black and gold alone."

The House That FCC Built

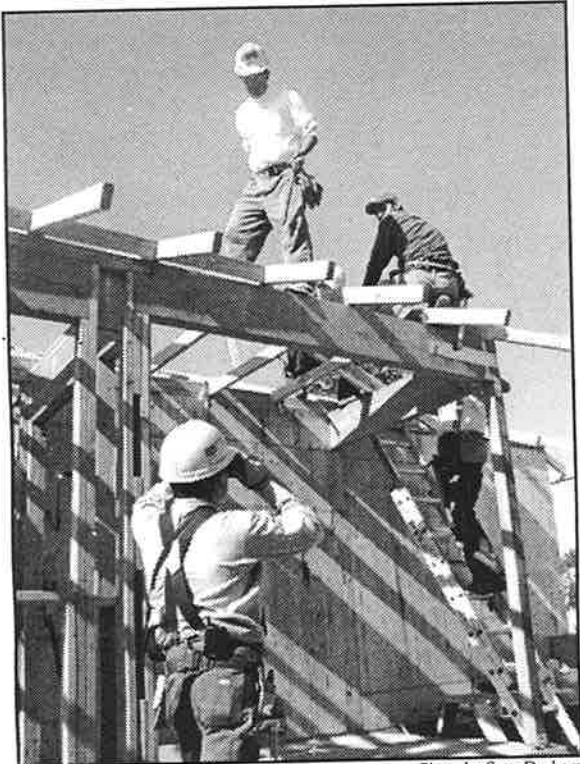


Photo by Sean Durham

Sergo Thompson photographs FCC students working on the trusses in the fall of 2001.

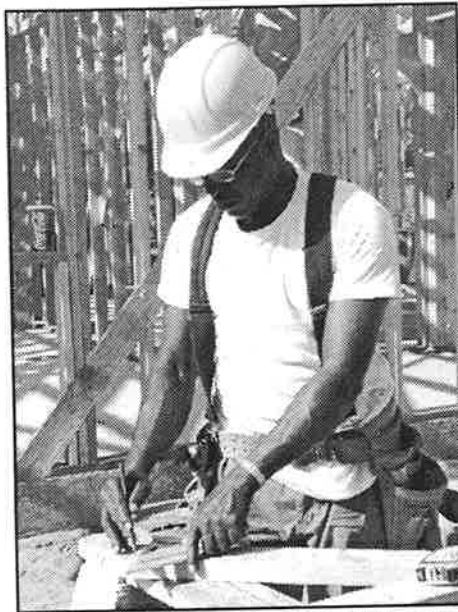


Photo by Sean Durham

Kofi Opoku-Agyemanq, a student at FCC (fall 2001), works on his future house with fellow students. His family was awarded the low-income house though a special program that includes the City of Clovis and Fresno City College.

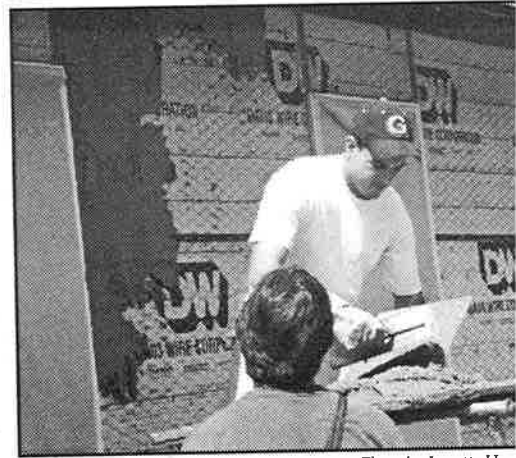


Photo by Lenetta Huxley

Above: Juvencio, a student at FCC (spring 2002) learns how to apply the mud to the side of the house.

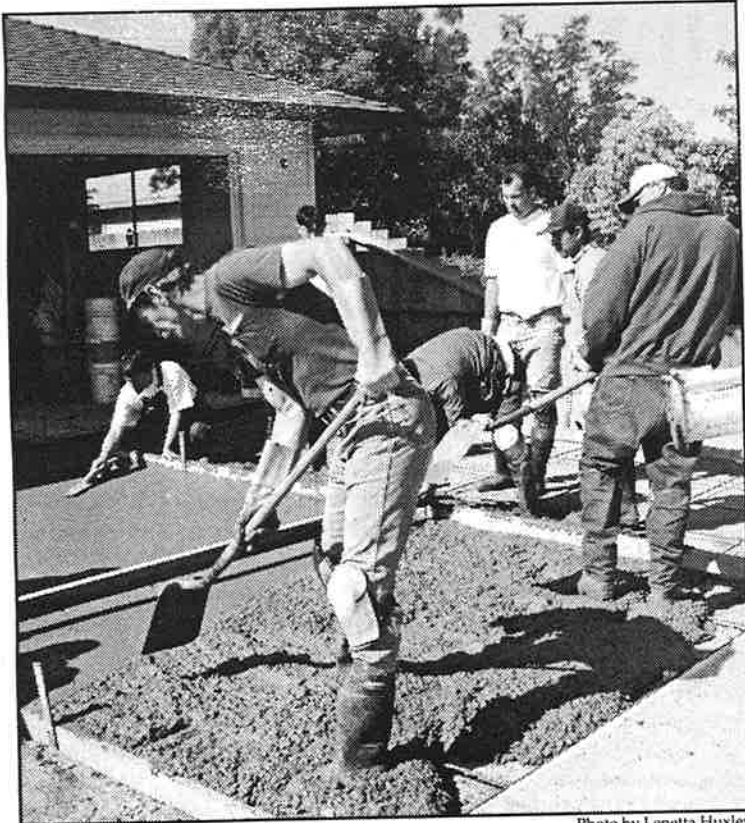


Photo by Lenetta Huxley

(Pictured above) Even the instructors got their feet dirty. Eric helps out students level out the concrete driveway in the spring of 2002.

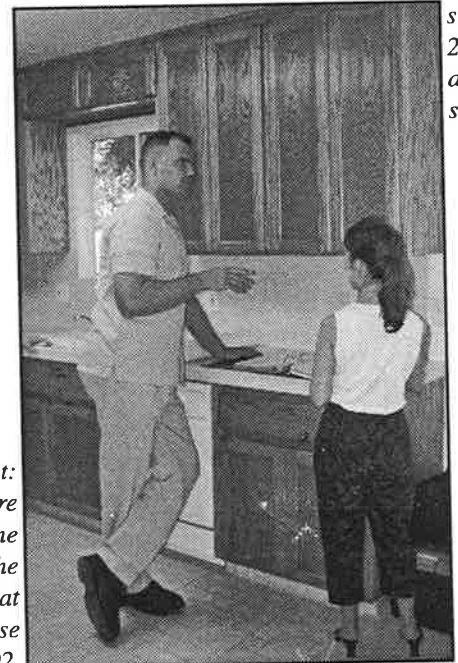


Photo by Lenetta Huxley

Right: The cabinets in the house were built on the FCC campus in the cabinet shop. Ryan explains to the visitors of the open house what went into the building of the house in spring of 2002.

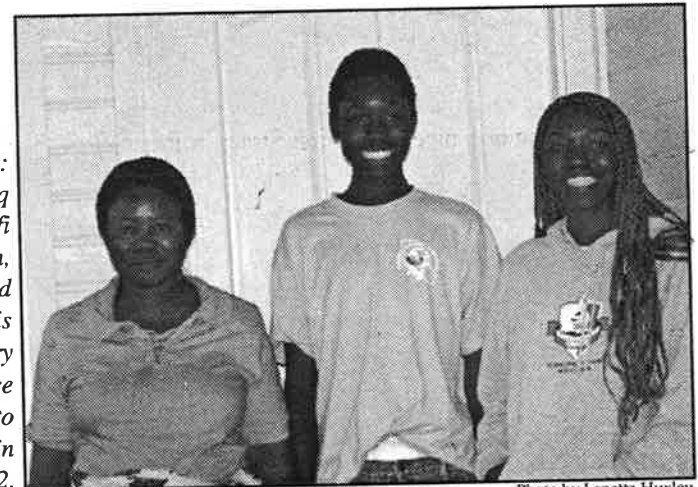


Photo by Lenetta Huxley

Right: The Opoku-Agyemanq family — husband Kofi (above), wife Adukuen, son Kwadwo, and daughter Abena, who is an FCC student — is very proud to live in the house so many people helped to build. They moved in spring 2002.

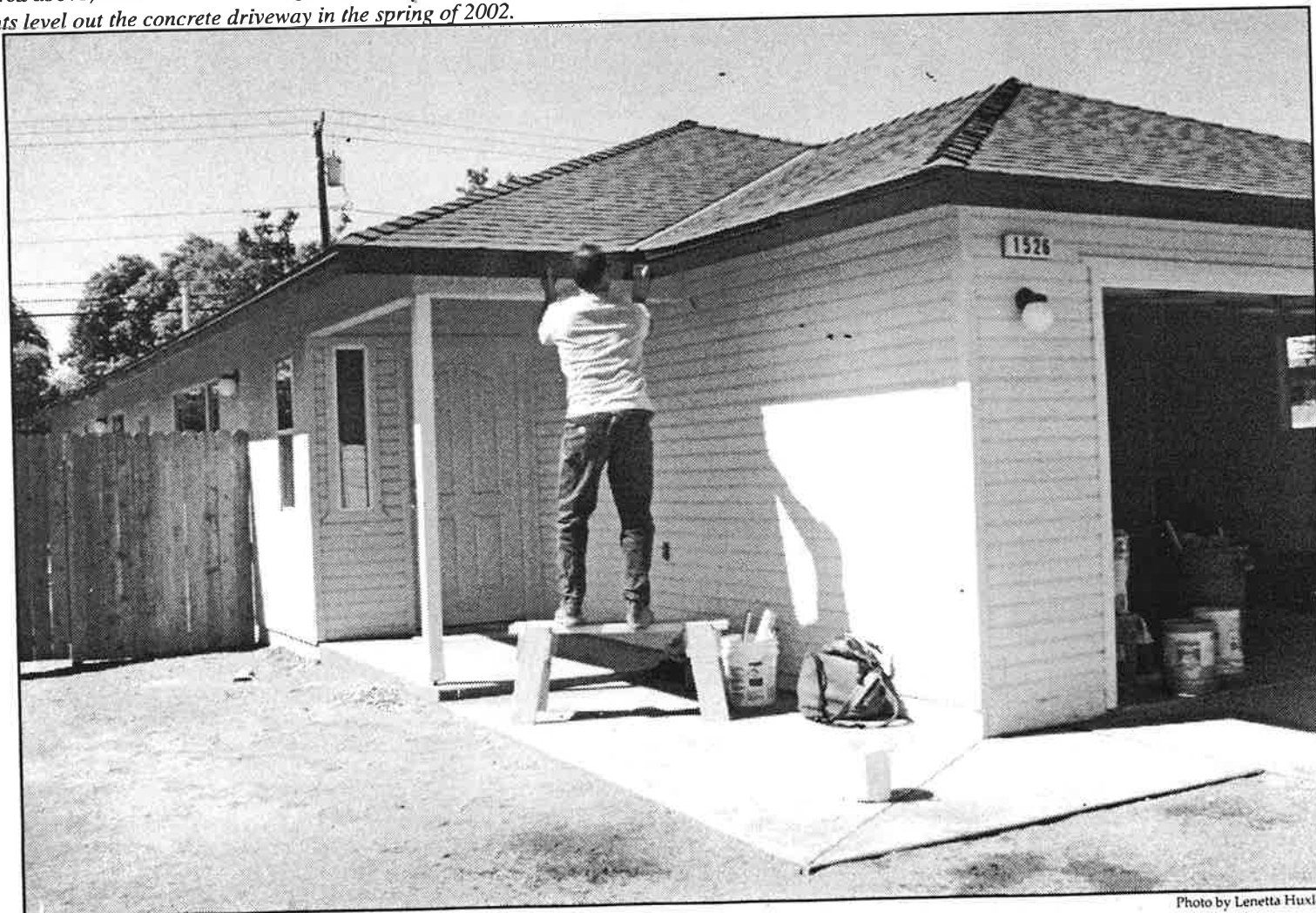


Photo by Lenetta Huxley

Left: Ryan puts on the finishing touches to the house, such as the trim, rain gutters and lights. All that is left to do is minor cleanup and the house is ready to be lived in by the family in spring of 2002.

Gallery celebrates 25 years

Collection consists of pottery and paintings.

Luis Quezada
Entertainment editor

The Fresno City College Art Space Gallery presents Terrashire 25th Anniversary Show, an exhibit that includes pottery forms and paintings, which opened on Feb. 6. The pieces presented are works by Jim Shepard and Suzanne Sloan Lewis.

The desire to create a personal form of art made Shepard decide to take a watercolor course. In summer of the year 2000, when Shepard turned 56, he became an FCC student in, instructor Robin Gay McCline's class.

During spring, last year Shepard made a trip to central Europe. On this trip he decided to illustrate some of the places that caught his attention. His inspirations were the vivid memories of historical building structures and colorful atmospheres. Pieces from this experience include "Harlem," "Delftware," "Netherlands Winter-2002," "Train to Chartres," "Tulip Fields," "Old Mill," and "Winter Clouds."

Lewis's pieces include pottery dimensions with art put over them. The drawings on the pottery seem like they should have been made on paper, but them being on a piece of



Photo by Josh Hires

An FCC student admires the work of James Shepard and Suzanne Sloan Lewis, at the Art Space Gallery. The show opened on Feb. 6 and will run till the 14 of March. The gallery is located in the Art/Home Economics building and is free of charge to the public.

pottery makes it something much more unique and insightful.

McCline is one of three people scheduled to instruct workshops. McCline will instruct a six-week watercolor workshop at the Fresno Art Museum, located at 2233 N. First Street in Radio Park, begin-

ning March 5. The workshop will be held Wednesdays from 10AM to 12PM, until April 9. Two others will conduct classes, which include life and sensory drawing, and the other two will conduct workshops on collage and bookmaking. Members and people 15 years of age and un-

der are free of charge. Non-member admission is \$4 and \$2 for students. For more information please call 441-4221, extension 112.

The FCC gallery is open to the public and there is no fee to enter. The gallery is located in the Art/Home Economics building. The ex-

hibit will run until March 14. Gallery hours are Monday and Tuesday from 10AM to 5PM. Wednesday and Thursday from 10AM to 8PM and Friday from 10AM to 2PM. If you would like more information you can call 442-4600, extension 8909.

De La Hoya plans to visit Fresno for latest project

By Luis Quezada
Entertainment editor

The acclaimed golden boy of boxing will be visiting the Selland Arena in Fresno on Friday, Feb. 28 to further promote one of his most recent projects.

Oscar De La Hoya's boxing career has dealt with many challenges. Some of his opponents include Mexican boxing legend from Culiacan, Sinaloa, Mexico, Julio Cesar Chavez. De La Hoya last visited Fresno in 1994, when he was promoting his fight with Chavez. De La Hoya also fought Felix "Tito" Trinidad, a Puerto Rican honor.

Oscar De La Hoya even began a singing career that ended after one recording was released. He mentioned in an interview with Cuban talk show host Cristina Saralegui, which airs on Univision Network, that he was not returning to music.

During his musical experience he was able to meet the women of his dreams. Oscar married Puerto Rican singer Millie Corrette. De La Hoya was also able to make another one of his goals become reality. He obtained his Mexican citizenship through a Mexican consulate in Los Angeles, near his hometown.

De La Hoya returns to Fresno after nine years to present himself as a boxing promoter. Golden Boy Promotions (De La Hoya's production company) will star "Puños De Oro," (Fists Of Gold). De La Hoya decided to become a promoter to allow new boxing talent to become exposed to the business.

The boxers scheduled to appear consist of José Navarro with a record of 15-0 and 7 KO'S. Navarro has won the NABO super flyweight and IBA Continental Americas titles.

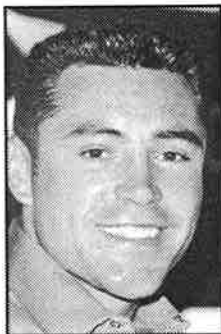
Lisa Lewis, a Fresno firefighter with a record of 4-5 will be on the ringside up against Julie Crockett of Los Angeles, with a record of 3-0. Brothers Librado Andrade (13-0, 9 KO'S) and Enrique Ornelas (13-0, 8 KO'S) are also on the card.

The event will be televised by Telefutura, sister network of Univision, on "Solo Boxeo," (Only Boxing). Golden Boy Promotions has also hosted boxing matches in Bakersfield and San Jose with the assistance of Roy Englebrecht, chief operating officer and a boxer himself.

"It's exciting to go to Fresno and hold a televised fight there. I'm very anxious to see how the fans are going to react," De La Hoya told "Vida En El Valle," a bilingual newspaper. Oscar expects to see a big turnout for this event by boxing fans.

Tickets range from \$15 to \$100. The VIP package is \$250 and includes two ringside seats, a boxing glove autographed by Oscar, two t-shirts and VIP parking. It will also include entrance to "Fiesta De La Hoya," (Party De La Hoya) which will take place at the Fresno Convention Center, Feb. 28 from 8PM to 11PM.

The celebration will include mariachi music, Mexican folkloric dance, food and beverages. Tickets are available at the Selland Arena box office and at ticketmaster outlets. For more information please call 227-9999.



Oscar De La Hoya

KJ-52 collaborates with Eminem

KJ-52 is a Dove Award Nominee that comes out with his second album tilted "Collaborations". "This record right here is basically me collaborating with different artists, different styles, but when it comes down to it — the bottom foundation is Christ. What he's done in my life and how he's changed my life," said KJ.

KJ has been writing rap music since the age of 12. Growing up in a home where his parents were divorced, it had a great negative effect on his life. With out much stability in his life, it led him to make a lot of negative choices." Growing up, I had a lot of anger, bitterness, and hurt," explains KJ.

"Collaborations," is a collection of songs that reflect different aspects of KJ's personality. KJ's voice is often compared and even sometimes mistaken for rap artist Eminem. In the song "Dear Slim," he speaks out to the artist Eminem in a confrontational way, but compassionate way also. "After my first record came out I got a lot of Slim Shady comparisons," said KJ. The song "Dear Slim," is formatted along the same lines of Eminem's song "Stan." These are some of the words that were directed towards Eminem. "I hope you understand that I aint even dissing you and even though it's a song, you'll probably never listen to [it]."

"That a life without Christ is just a life that is never fixed."

The big news was that KJ saw Eminem at the MTV Music Awards and went up to him. He had the opportunity to spend a few minutes with Eminem and gave him a copy of



Veronica Rodriguez

Music Review

his album "Collaborations."

His songs cover topics like "everybody wants sex but they don't want the consequence," from the song titled "Wait For You." The song "Where Were You" is directed to fathers with words like "Where? Where were you?"

"Just when I needed you daddy, where were you," in this song he is obviously trying to portray the pain that kids feel with out their fathers.

This album was definitely made to cover issues that affect youth in life.

KJ-52 is scheduled to perform at the seventh annual Christian Music Festival, tilted "Spirit West Coast", at Laguna Seca in Monterey, California on July 25, 2003. For more information please call (831) 443-5399.

Artist: KJ-52
Album: Collaborations
Website: www.kj52.com
Rating: ★★★★★

Strange Campus

by Zon Petilla

FOUR COLLEGE STUDENTS ARE TRYING TO FIND WHICH ONE OF THEM COULD BE A CORPORATE SPY FOR A COMPANY CALLED J.O.

MATT, YOU WROTE AN ARTICLE ABOUT HOW GREAT IT WAS THAT J.O. GAVE \$25,000 TO "LEE, SPIKE" SO HE COULD TELL US ALL TO WATCH OUT FOR CORPORATIONS BRAIN WASHING US IN ORDER TO SELL US THEIR PRODUCTS. EITHER YOU'RE A MORON OR A CORPORATE SPY. ONLY ONE OF THOSE COULD WRITE A "PUFF" PIECE LIKE THAT.

LOOK PAL, I DON'T KNOW WHAT WORLD YOU COME FROM, BUT HERE, PEOPLE LIKE ME LOVE THE FACT THAT J.O. DOSE THE RESEARCH TO CREATE PRODUCT THAT I LIKE SO THEY KNOW I'M A THIRTY YEAR OLD COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENT WHO IS WILLING TO PAY A TEN YEAR LOAN FOR THAT CAR. SO WHAT IF THEY CREATE THIS MEASSAGE THAT OWNING A CAR IS WHAT YOU NEED TO DATE ATTRACTIVE WOMEN AND EXPLORE A NITE LIFE.

WHY SHOULD I CARE ABOUT CRITICALLY ANALZING THE VALUE OF MY LIFE, WHEN JO PLANS IT OUT. YOUR THIRTY GET THE CAR TO GET THE BARE MARRY, AND BUY A NEW J.O. MADE HOUSE, BIG DEAL.

AND YOU CALL YOUR SELF A COLLEGE STUDENT?

City Life

by Jesse Garcia

THIS IS GAME POINT FOR ME !!!

GEEK, I'M DOING BAD. I'M BARELY KEEPING UP WITH ANGIE IN THIS TENNIS MATCH.

THIS IS THE LAST POINT. IF I SCREW THIS UP, I'LL LOSE. GOTTA CONCENTRATE.

LOOKS LIKE I WIN!!

T.J., ARE YOU O.K.?

MY GROIN

NOT PAYING ATTENTION

Crossword

Complete the Crossword and Win Free Popcorn

Bring your completed entry to the Rampage, located in Room SC-211, above the Bookstore, and give it to Jen Langworthy, with your name and a contact phone number. We will draw 10 names from the correct entries and winners will be announced in next issue. Rampage staff members are not allowed to participate in the promotion.

ACROSS

- Baseball is one of these
- What a person does when they're excited
- Decline in condition
- What most people see in a mirage
- Opposite of west
- British term for crazy
- Milliliter
- Embarrass
- Kilowatt
- Link firmly or closely
- Annoying insect with a stinger
- Sick
- No later than
- Main upright part of a plant
- Associate in Arts

DOWN

- Spanish for priest
- What you are when you get fired
- National bird
- What someone might do if they can't have kids
- First word of clue for one across
- Otherwise
- Advertisement
- Barrier for defense
- A television cartoon with Pikachu
- What "makes the world go 'round'"
- On fire
- What monks and nuns wear
- All of us
- Exist
- Baglike part
- Short for tata

This contest is sponsored by the FCC bookstore

Win a Free Popcorn from the FCC Bookstore

Horoscopes

By Theresa Carr

ARIES (Mar 21-April 19)

Embrace your sense of purpose. Do whatever it takes to get the job done. Harmful habits fall by the wayside when healthy ambitions are driving you. Physical exercise gives you all the necessary energy. Move from goal to goal, letting each new accomplishment build on the last one.

Taurus (Apr 20-May 20)

There are good and bad attitudes. You know that you're cool and deserving, but you should also know that you're not especially better than anyone else. If you start feeling superior about a stroke of luck, you won't gain any good will among your equals. It could just as well have been one of them.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21)

Who knew it would happen like this? You certainly didn't. The turn of events that catches you unprepared will also leave you speechless. Silence is golden, and that's just as well. Words could ruin a moment like this.

CANCER (June 22-July 22)

This is a challenging time in a tight place. People expect things that you can't possibly deliver. If they're wrong, correct them. If you forgot your

own promise, all you can do is apologize and try your best.

LEO (July 23-Aug 22)

You know how it feels to be a winner. Maybe you're a returning champion, or maybe you're savoring your first real victory. The competitive animal in you is convinced that there are many more to come. Now you can see the logic of all being fair in love and war.

VIRGO (Aug 23-Sept 22)

Pay attention to the theme of uncertainty that's playing just below all your carefully orchestrated events. Do you really think that a quick fix followed by an escape will solve everything? Long-term consequences are a big concern when dealing with family members or residential property.

LIBRA (Sept 23-Oct 22)

You wouldn't be a Libra if you didn't focus on the relationships between people, or the dynamics between people and things. Any group that you join instantly becomes a dream team. Real affection binds you together, and that leads to increased efficiency.

SCORPIO (Oct 23-Nov 21)

Popularity is a funny thing. Maybe it's not your turn to be famous, but you're watching the phenomenon from

the sidelines. Suddenly there are different rules and different friends.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

One thing leads to another when you're playing by the rules. Good friends are looking forward together, waiting for the reward that is obviously coming their way. Optimism gets you through hard times without making you aware of any real difficulties.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 18)

What seems possible at night may not hold up under a daylight scrutiny. Know your limits when you reach them, preferably before someone else says no. Maybe you should move to a situation that would actually welcome your fertile mind.

AQUARIUS (Jan 20-Feb 18)

Make firm appointments with people who aren't available. One way or another, you'll experience everything, even if it takes you all week. Lesser mortals wonder how you maintain your dense social schedule.

PISCES (Feb 19-Mar 20)

Dealing with the truth gives you a sneak preview of some very real solutions. It may be a tough day at the office, but you'll come home with the feeling that you accomplished something.

The 'Devil' comes to the movies

A young boy is doused in chemicals causing him to lose his sight but heightening his other senses a thousandfold. Also, the chemicals allow his sense of hearing to function as a sort of radar, allowing him to "see." His father is murdered after refusing to throw a boxing match. The boy has now grown up to become a vigilante fighting against crime to avenge his father's death and exact revenge on the man who killed him.



Jen Langworthy
Rampage reporter
Movie review

For those of you who read comics this will undoubtedly sound familiar, and indeed it should. It is the story of the hero of Fox Studios' newest release, "Daredevil." Ben Affleck portrays the orphan turned crime-fighter Daredevil, a.k.a. Matt Murdock alongside Jennifer Garner as the electrifying Electra (pun intended). A little mystery, a little action and a whole lot of special

effects (and of course a special cameo by Spider-Man co-creator Stan Lee) certainly make Daredevil's adventure on the silver screen stand a far cry from the original comic book format that so many are used to.

The fact that Daredevil's hearing functions as a type of radar created an interesting situation for effects coordinators, especially when Daredevil uses rain and water spraying to "see" Electra and Kingpin. The costume designer also faced an intriguing situation when asked to make an actor who could see appear as a blind character. A few questions arise in the minds of viewers as they watch the film. Such as, how does the priest know that Matt Murdock is, in fact, Dare-



Two intertwined, flaming D's are all that remain to indicate that the vigilante Daredevil was ever there.

Special to the Rampage from www.imdb.com

devil? It also leaves people wondering, after a jump from his childhood to present day, what happened during all those years in between. When did he become Daredevil, how did the priest find out and how did he become a lawyer?

All in all, this new version of "Daredevil" was much improved over its original cinematic counterpart, which featured the devil in a hornless, all black costume. A definite chemistry could be sensed between the actors and this gave the movie an extra sense of realism.

Movie: "Daredevil"
Starring: Ben Affleck & Jennifer Garner
Rating: ★★★★★

Won't clique with 'em, can't clique without me

I know that I would never do this, but because of what I had been seeing as of late on campus, I feel that this has to be dealt with. That is the cliques on campus. You know the type; they always stick together and talk about others behind their backs.

I mean, heck, I have even been a victim of some. So no, I have never been a part of them.

I have always known that to be a part of one of those would be to sink to a new and not only a desolate low, but as lonely low that no one ever wants to be a part of when they start getting hurt themselves.

So yes, I have known about them all my life, but because of the fact that I have always been sensitive to others' feelings, I have never wanted to sink that low just to have friends.

Heck, this topic has been brought up several times in the past. However, the ones bringing it up have never had it done to them since they have been around for

years and have never had to deal with this type of thing before.

However, now that we happen to be in the early part of the twenty-first century, one would think that this would be something of the past that should have died in the past. Again, however since some people never know when to let other things go, and that is where the problem happens to lay right there.

I mean it is bad enough when they do the talking about you behind your back, but when they turn a request away for help and then start to whisper about you in front of you thinking that you cannot hear them, that is where most of the problem lay in the first place.

They only happen to be sensitive to their own feelings and no one else's. Well just remember what this past 14th meant, which means that you can understand when something happens to go wrong for you in the end then you end up feeling it and it does not feel good.

Well remember that the next time that you happen to be asked that very question of help and think twice before answering, you might actually be happier with the answer that you come up with instead of the one that you were going to think of before.



Felix Sanchez
Rampage reporter
Opinion

Going solo is clearly 'Justified' for Timberlake

Justin Timberlake, 21, is making a transition with "Cry Me A River," a song from his new album, "Justified," which has become a hit. Many people have asked if Timberlake is going solo, since he is not rejecting his group N-Sync. This album proves that he can actually do without them. This CD is well worth your \$17 spent at Tower Records. Many also say that Justin is trying to imitate Michael Jackson, and even if he is not try-

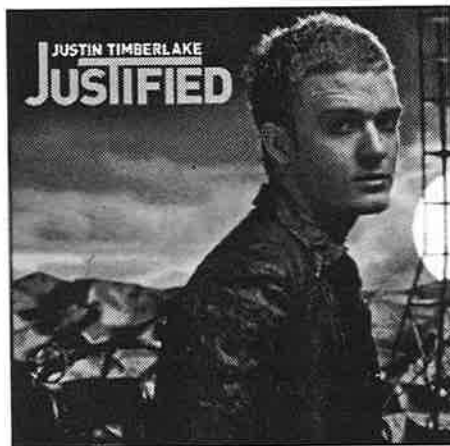


Cynthia Martinez
Rampage reporter
Music Review

ing to imitate him, it seems like he is in various magazines, and even on live television.

Justin has said that Michael Jackson is his idol. If it weren't for idols, who knows where Justin Timberlake would be heading. His songs, "Liked I Love You," "Rock Your Body," and "My Kind of Girl," have true life relating lyrics. His break-up with Britney Spears has also caused much speculation.

One of his songs titled "Cry Me A River," has the beat movement, and is uplifting, which makes you want to shake what your momma gave you. No other song makes you want to start dancing and show off



Album: "Justified"
Artist: Justin Timberlake
Rating: ★★★★★

your steps like this song. This CD is one of my best. It deserves the five stars. Justin Timberlake truly demonstrates that he has talent, so don't miss out on it.

Make a difference at your college

Register next semester for Journalism 5 and join the Rampage staff. If you want to learn more about becoming a reporter, a photographer, an editor, a graphic artist or an ad salesperson, then this is the class for you. Call 442-8263 or stop by Room SC-211 (above the bookstore) if you have any questions.

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February 19
Fountain Area
10am-2pm

March is Women's History Month

(Look for the many events going on this month)

Intramural 5 on 5 Flag Football
March 7
Behind Gym, 10am - 2pm



FCC Renaissance Festival
March 8 - 9
West Lawn

KIDS Day
March 18
Campuswide, all day



Intramural 3 on 3 Soccer
March 21
Behind Gym, 10am

CLUB RUSH
March 26
Campuswide, all day



ASIAN AMERICAN WEEK
March 30 - April 5

UPCOMING EVENTS



Photo by Keith Kountz

FCC's Akyia Mayberry shoots for two in the Rams season finale on Feb. 22 against College of the Sequoias. Mayberry had 8 points.

Lady Rams make NorCal playoffs

By Josh Butters
Sports editor

After a year of not making the playoffs, the Fresno City College women's basketball team are back in the postseason.

Despite having a sub .500 record and losing its last four, the Rams are seeded No. 23 in the field of 28.

The Rams will have to overcome the loss of their star player, freshman guard Ninon Salemon, who went out with a season-ending knee injury in the Rams 87-77 loss to Taft College on Feb. 19.

"It's hard losing your best player," said FCC Coach Donnie Johnson.

"Our star player who has played almost every minute of every game goes out and it gets ugly."

The Rams finished the regular season with a 70-56 loss to College of the Sequoias in the FCC gym on Feb. 22.

FCC found themselves down by four at halftime but the Giants pulled away early in the second half.

The Rams shot 8 of 21 from the free throwline.

Freshmen Ashley Connel and Shanae Ross had 13 and 12 points respectively.

In most likely their last home game as a Ram, sophomore center Amanda Vierra scored all of her eight points in the first half while Nicole House made two free throws.

FCC's finished the regular season 11-17, 5-7 in Central Valley Conference play.

FCC will take on the No. 10 seed, Solano College on Mar. 1 at Solano.

If the Rams were to defeat Solano, FCC would play the winner of Reedley/ Sacramento on Wednesday, Mar. 5.

The Rams are 8-12 in road games.

"I don't know what to expect," said Johnson of the playoffs.

"Anything could happen

Of Note

Other CVC teams in the playoffs include No. 22 seeded Sequoias (13-16) and CVC champions Merced (28-6) who earned a No. 2 seed and a first round bye.

NorCal playoffs

Fri. Feb. 28

No. 11 Santa Rosa (20-9) vs.

No. 22 Sequoias (10-21)

No. 16 Siskiyou (20-8) vs.

No. 17 Taft (19-12)

Sat. Mar. 1

No. 7 Reedley (26-8) vs.

No. 26 Sacramento (10-21)

No. 15 DeAnza (22-11) vs.

No. 18 Ohlone (19-10)

Byes

No. 1 Contra Costa (30-4)

No. 2 Merced (28-6)

No. 3 Marin (24-5)

No. 4 SJ Delta (27-6)

*Not all participants are listed

Women's basketball team deserved more support

The Fresno City College women's basketball team deserved more respect than it received this season.

Despite the lackluster atten-

dance numbers and the sub .500 record, the lady Rams played with as much heart and determination as the men's team and was why



Josh Butters
Sports editor
Opinion

they were able to make the playoffs.

The women's squad put in as much time practicing and trying to get better despite not being ranked in any of the coaches polls at any time of the season.

When FCC had a four-day weekend, the Rams were in the gym the day before its game against Merced who was ranked No. 5 in the state. FCC would lose that game (score).

If it weren't for occasional women/men doubleheaders, the women's season attendance would have been easily one-third of what it was.

When playing before the men, FCC would average about a crowd of 500, most of who just came early to see the No. 1 men's team in California.

In the women's last game of the regular season on Feb. 22 in the FCC gym, the Rams were watched by less than 120 people in their 70-56 loss to College of the Sequoias.

You can't blame the girls for losing so many games. Is there really a home court advantage when there's no one there to cheer you on?

FCC hung through it though, showing their character. With seven freshmen on the team, the Rams will have a strong base for success next season.

Most likely the Rams won't make it past the first round of the playoffs. On the road against one of the highest seeded teams would be a far-fetched feat even if your star player wasn't out with an injury.

The extra game should be seen as just an award for their work. Anything can happen and an upset is never out of the question, just not probable.

The women's basketball team deserved a larger patronage for their efforts. They should have more noise from applause than the sound of crickets chirping in an almost empty gym.

Maybe next year there will be those there to silence the chirps of those crickets... maybe next year.



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Rams win CVC title, playoffs next

FCC receives home court advantage through the first three rounds of the playoffs with No. 1 seed

By Josh Butters
Sports editor

Before the season even started, Fresno City College men's basketball coach Vance Walberg made it clear what he wanted to do in his first season, win a Central Valley Conference title and make it to the state championships.

After 34 games, Walberg has completed one of those tasks with the Rams winning their second-straight CVC title.

FCC clinched at least a share of the title on Feb. 19 when it defeated Merced 121-94.

Sophomore forward Carl Lee led the way with 27 points.

Its 119-72 win against Reedley on Feb. 22 gave the team the sole possession of the championship.

Not only have the Rams broken school records for the best start in FCC's history and longest win streak, but another record is in the team's grasp.

With a win on Mar. 1 in the FCC gym at 7 p.m. against Alameda in the first round of the playoffs, the squad would surpass the 1962-63 team's record for

wins in a season (33) with its 34th victory of the year.

After going 33-1 overall, 13-1 in conference, the Rams are now in the best position possible to make it to the state championships in San Diego with home court advantage throughout the first three rounds of the playoffs by receiving the No. 1 seed in the NorCal regionals.

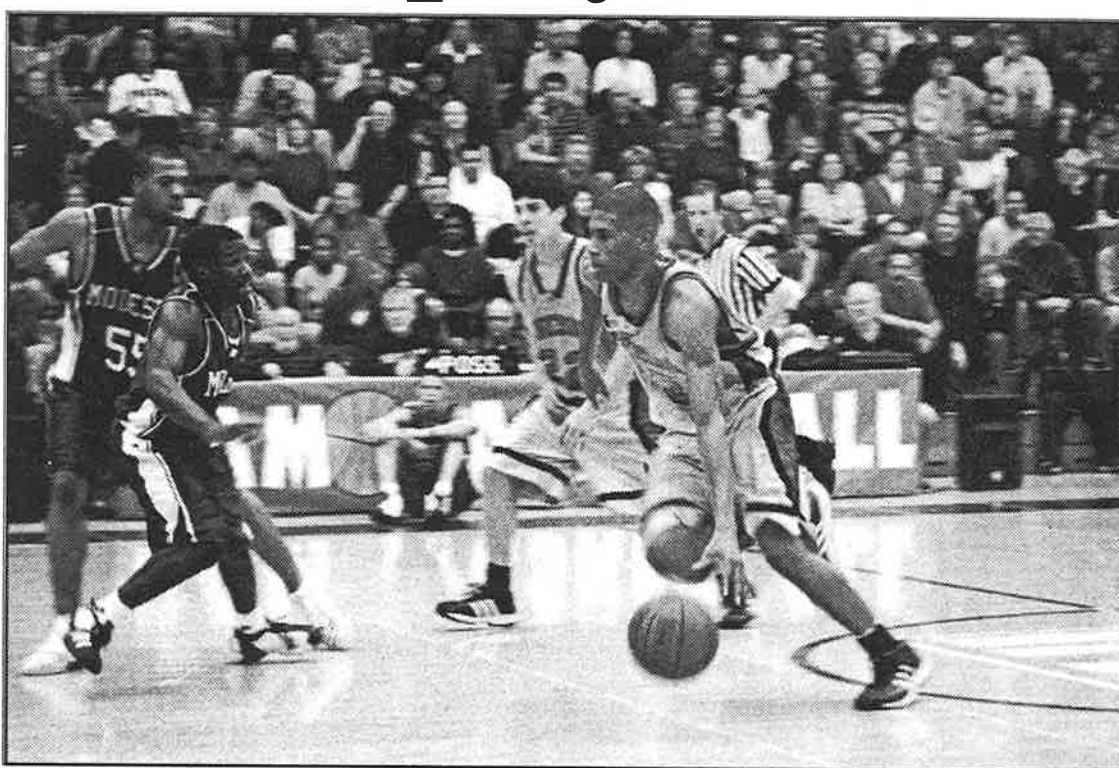
Despite winning its first 24 straight and its last nine, FCC must put together the most important winning streak of the season.

FCC defeated Alameda 116-85 in its season opener on Nov. 8 in the first round of the Butte College tournament.

If the Rams were to get passed the first three rounds, FCC would join seven other teams in the quarterfinals, with the NorCal and SoCal each being represented by four teams respectively.

Lee is hoping in his last year at FCC to have a chance at the state title.

Just like all season long, FCC will take it one game at a time in the playoffs if they plan on moving ahead in their bracket and making it to San Diego.

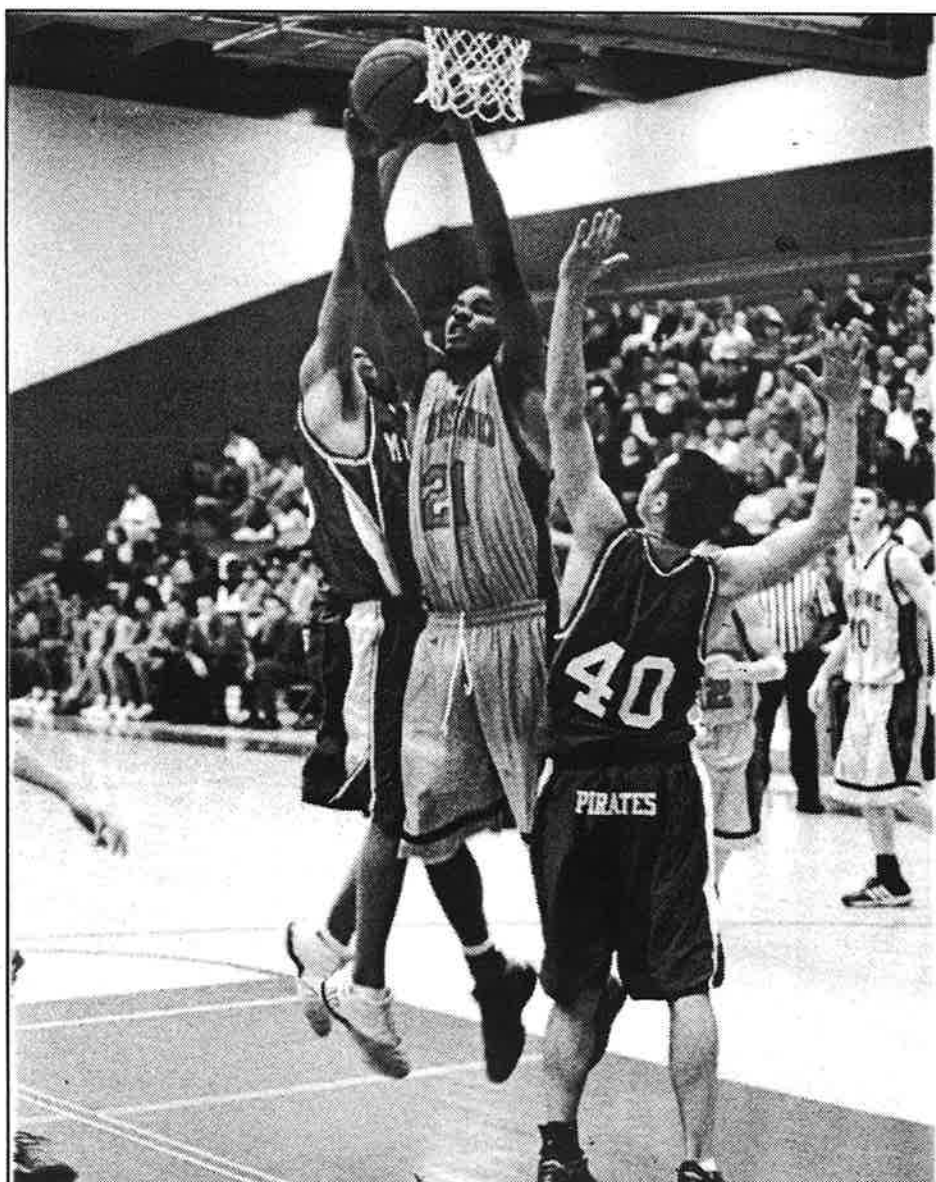
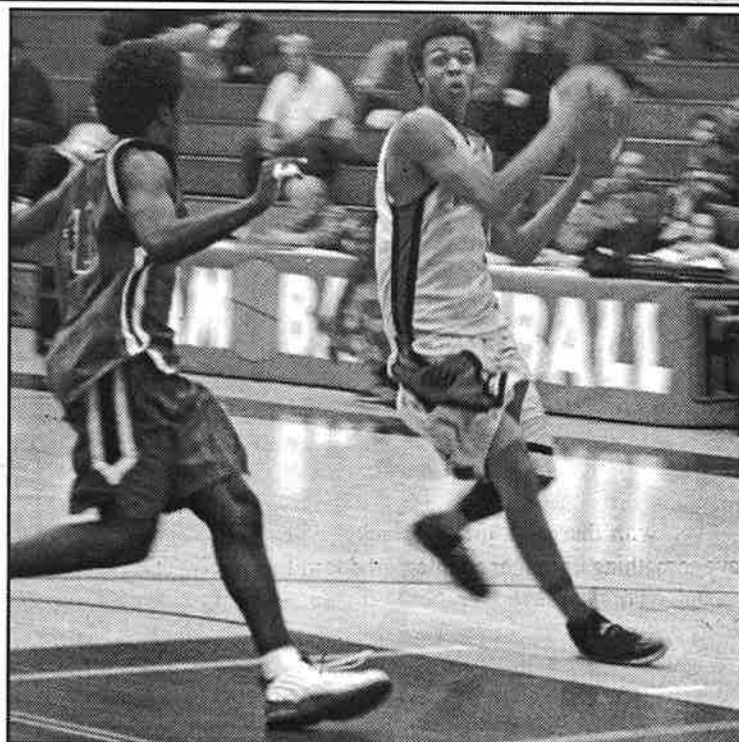


(Above) Tyrone Jackson advances the ball upcourt against Modesto Junior College on Feb. 15.

Jackson had a game high 32 points in FCC's 119-67 victory over the Pirates.

(Right) Freshman Wing Chad Thornton-King goes in for a layup in the Rams victory against West Hills College on Feb. 12. King finished the regular season with a field goal percentage of .660. FCC will take on Alameda on Mar. 1 in the first round of the state playoffs. FCC defeated Alameda in its season opener on Nov. 8 116-85.

Photos by Keith Kountz (above) and Lenetta Huxley (right)



Sophomore forward Carl Lee grabs a rebound against Modesto Junior College. Lee scored 15 of his 18 points in the second half of the game.

Photo by Keith Kountz

JC Men's basketball notebook: Rams rack up the school records

By Josh Butters
Sports editor

In a year filled with broken records, the 2002-03 Fresno City College men's basketball team claimed another.

In the Rams' 119-72 victory over Reedley on Feb. 22, FCC made 23 3-pointers, a school record.

The victory over the Tigers also tied the Rams for most wins in a season in FCC history (33).

The 1962-63 Rams went 33-4 in route to a state championship.

Bulldogs coach visits FCC

Fresno State head coach Ray Lopes was in attendance for the Rams' 104-73 victory over West Hills College on Feb. 15.

"They're an interesting team to watch," said Lopes of FCC. "You have to make your shots to even have a chance to beat those guys."

No place like home

With the Rams' 119-67 victory over Modesto Junior College, FCC extended their home winning streak to 19 games. If the Rams advance in the playoffs, they would have home court advantage through the first three rounds.

After the first three rounds, all teams still competing would play a possible three games

all in San Diego at the California State Championships.

Lighting up the scoreboard

For the season, the Rams have averaged 105.1 points per game, highest in the state.

On the defensive side, FCC gives up 82.1 points per game and are ranked No. 84 in the state in team defense.

CVC well represented in state playoffs

Out of the eight teams in the Central Valley Conference, all eight made the postseason.

Of those eight, West Hills received the lowest seed in the Northern California regional bracket (31).

Other than Fresno, College of the Sequoia had the highest seed in the tournament (15).

Diablo Valley losses second of season

Despite being the last team in the state to lose their first of the season, Diablo Valley College lost its second of the year in their regular season finale against Santa Rosa Junior College 67-63.

The BearCubs went 14-0 in conference play to claim the Bay Valley West title while the Vikings went 12-2 with both losses coming at the hands of SRJC.

Diablo Valley went 31-2 overall and claimed the No. 3 seed in the NorCal playoffs.

Santa Rosa was given the No. 2 seed.



Josh Butters

Sports editor
Opinion

March Madness, the JC way

Whoever said Christmas is the most wonderful time of the year obviously wasn't a college basketball fan.

The title of the greatest time that falls on a calender has to be awarded to March Madness. Even the California junior college basketball teams will have their version of it.

Never mind Division I's version with 65 teams and with players you have only been able to see on television.

The JC adaptation will be as or even more exciting. It will have the same last second heroics, Cinderella stories and the one and you're done format just like the other tournament.

The JC bracket will have players you know. Some you might have a class with or grew up playing at recess with. Local kids that might have lived next door to you.

You don't get that with the Division I tournament.

Even with that said, the JC bracket will have something its bigger counterpart doesn't through its first three rounds, home court advantage.

You wouldn't have to travel that far to see your team play, all the games will be in state.

The Fresno City College men's basketball team will have home court advantage throughout these three rounds.

There's no better experience than having a playoff game at a non-neutral site, even if it is some other team's floor. In a prayer shot at the buzzer to win or a giant upset, there's a better chance of the court being stormed.

If a team were to advance to the fourth round, the quarterfinals, it would pack its bags to sunny San Diego for the state championships.

The teams at that point would be narrowed down to eight and after three games only one squad would be able to go home happy.

Teams that usually play in gyms the same size as a high school's would be playing on a bigger scene; an arena with the championship game being on cable television.

Nothing gets better than that for an athlete who is used to only playing in front of 1,500 at once and the only cameras in his face are the ones of coaches and family members trying to capture the moment.

That's what makes the JC's March Madness special. None of these players are going to be in the NBA or WNBA next year or playing overseas in the European league.

They will still be the same people as they were before, just maybe with a piece of hardware to show that they were king or queen of the mountain at one point of their basketball lives.

But isn't that what the Madness of March is supposed to be all about in the first place?



California Community College Men's Basketball Northern Regional



***Highest seed is home team**

Baseball Rams go 2-2 in own tournament

FCC opens Central Valley Conference competition against Merced on Feb. 28.

By Josh Butters
Sports editor

The Fresno City College baseball team went 2-2 in its own tournament held at Euless Park Feb. 20-22.

"I think we played alright," said Rams head coach Ron Scott. "If you said we would go 12-3 to start the season we would have taken it."

FCC lost its tournament opener to Chabot 4-3 in a game that went 13 innings. The Rams then would defeat Allan Hancock 16-5 and DeAnza 8-6.

Laney would defeat FCC 5-3 on the last day of the tournament.

Down 5-1 in the bottom of the 8th inning, FCC's Roman Castanon hit a 2 RBI single, driving in fellow Rams Carl Lipsey and Brett Lindgren to cut the lead to two.

The Rams found themselves with the bases loaded later that inning and an Eagles double

play would end the threat of a comeback victory for FCC.

Laney went into its game against FCC with a record of 1-11.

The Rams have lost their three games this season by a combined 4 runs.

FCC is currently No. 2 the NorCal.

Scott is happy with the position the Rams are in entering league play.

"We wanted to get some momentum going into league and we have that enthusiasm," said Scott.

The Rams lost its season opener to Ohlone 12-11 but then won 12 of its next 13.

In that run of 12-1, the Rams were able to pick up two wins

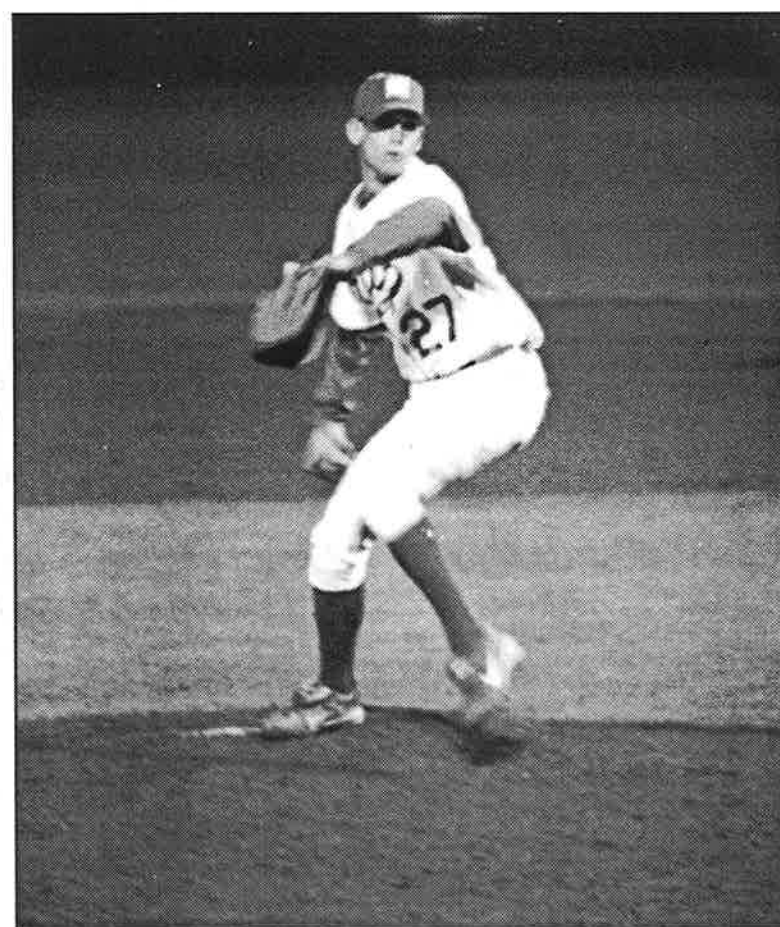


against the state's top ranked team, Sacramento.

"We've beat all the good teams," said Scott.

FCC will host its conference opener on Feb. 28 at 2:30 p.m. against Merced College.

All 15 of the Rams games so far have been at home. The team's first road trip will be on Mar. 1 when they will travel to take on Taft College at 1 p.m.



Photos by Keith Kountz

(Right) Thomas Raymundo at bat against Chabot on Feb. 20 in the tournament hosted by Fresno City College at Euless Park. (Above) Allen Bushey relieves fellow teammate Danny de la O in the seventh inning against Chabot. FCC would lose 4-3 in 13 innings.

Tennis teams' seasons roll on

By Keith Kountz
Rampage reporter

The Fresno City College men's tennis team is gearing up for its conference matchups. Leading the team is first year coach Steve Loop.

With the Rams many conference championships, Loop is able to drive his players toward success.

"We use it as a motivation tool," said Loop of FCC's dominate history.

With more than 20 CVC titles in the school's history, you might think that there would be some pressure for a first year coach, but there isn't.

"The pressure dose not effect me much, the ball has been set," said Loop.

"We are a family and I know that will help us out this season."

As you go to a game or practice you will see that the team is very determined and motivated. "Our work ethic is strong," says Loop.

"One of the things we are working on is our fitness level and staying healthy." The Rams have so far had no major injuries and hope to

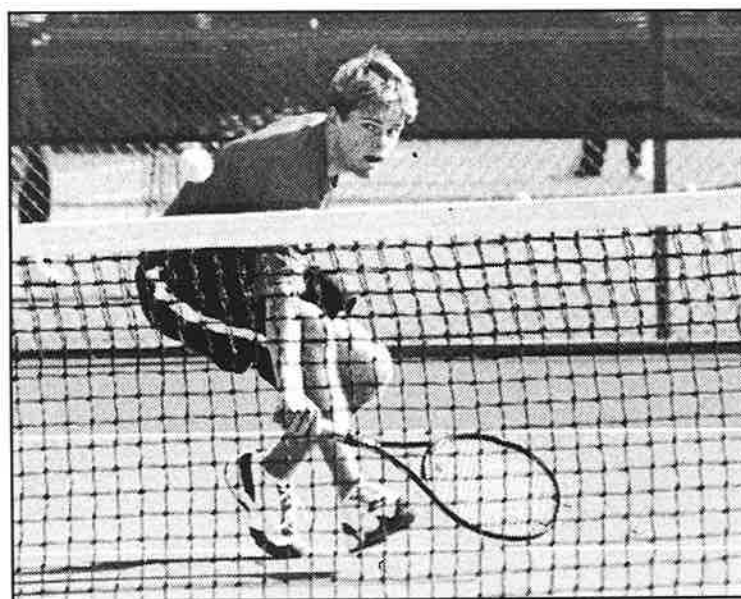


Photo by Keith Kountz

FCC's Sam Gibbs digs out another win against Cabrillo on Feb. 18.

keep it that way.

With the conference opener on Mar. 6 in Porterville against the Pirates, they should have a great season. The only losses that they have had are to College of the Desert and U.C. Santa Cruz. "Those will be our only losses," said FCC's Rick Souza of Desert and UCSC.

"They showed us the bar and we must meet it."

On the other side of the court are the lady Rams. They still have one more stop on Thursday Feb. 28 in Modesto against Diablo Valley and American River. They start their conference on Mar. 4. against West Hills.

Softball team wins tourney title Rams improve to 7-6 on the season

By Josh Hires
Rampage reporter

The Fresno City College women's softball team proved that they are a force to be reckoned with by winning the gold division of the Central Valley Invitational tournament in Merced this weekend.

However the win was not accomplished without the entire team effort. "After the West valley game the team really turned it around, and played strong. "Everyone came together," said Assistant coach Natalie Driggers after the Rams went 3-2 in tournament play.

The team had a sluggish start at best losing the first two games to Shasta College in Seven innings 3-2 and to West Valley College 5-2.

Pitcher Rachelle Deanaral led the winning effort by pitching a 4 hitter, striking out six, for a 10-2 victory against Taft College.

FCC's Brandy Milton led another outstanding effort by going 3 for 3 with a double and two RBI's in the Rams extra inning loss to Shasta College.

Other notable players were pitcher Katrina Jacques who had a very successful outing in route to a 3-1 victory against San Joaquin Delta College, and Sara Gonzalas who contributed by going 7 for 15. With the victory the Rams clinched the gold division.

The Rams are 7-6 on the season.

FCC will host West Hills College on Feb. 27 at 2 p.m.

FCC Tennis Schedules

Women

March 4	@ West Hills College	2 p.m.
March 6	@ Porterville College	2 p.m.
March 11	@ Modesto Junior College	2 p.m.
March 13	Reedley College	2 p.m.
March 18	College of the Sequoias	2 p.m.
March 20	West Hills College	2 p.m.
March 25	Porterville College	2 p.m.
March 27	Modesto Junior College	2 p.m.
April 1	@ Reedley College	2 p.m.
April 3	@ College of the Sequoias	2 p.m.
April 10-12	@ CVC Tournament, Modesto	All Day
April 22	NorCal Semifinal	TBA
April 24-27	Ojai Tournament, Ventura	TBA
April 30	NorCal Finals	TBA
May 1-3	NorCal Tournament, Marysville	TBA
May 8	State Finals	TBA
May 9-10	State Tournament, Stockton	TBA

Men

March 6	@ Porterville College	1 p.m.
March 8	DeAnza College	10 a.m.
March 11	@ Modesto Junior College	1 p.m.
March 13	Reedley College	1 p.m.
March 18	@ College of the Sequoias	1 p.m.
March 25	Porterville College	1 p.m.
March 27	Modesto Junior College	1 p.m.
March 28	Grossmont College (@ Copper River CC)	1 p.m.
April 1	@ Reedley College	1 p.m.
April 3	College of the Sequoias	1 p.m.
April 8	Dual Team Playoffs	TBA
April 24-27	Ojai Tournament, Ventura	All Day
April 30	Dual Team Finals, Stockton	1 p.m.
May 1-3	NorCal Tournament, Marysville	All Day
May 8	State Finals	TBA
May 9-10	State Tournament, Stockton	All Day

FCC Softball Schedule

Feb. 27	West Hills College	2 P.M.
Mar. 1	@ San Jose City College	11 A.M.
	College of San Mateo (@SJCC)	1 P.M.
Mar. 4	Porterville College	1 P.M.
Mar. 6	@ Reedley College	2 P.M.
Mar. 11	@ Merced College	1 P.M.
Mar. 13	Modesto Junior College	2 P.M.
Mar. 15	Allan Hancock College	12 P.M.
Mar. 18	College of the Sequoias	1 P.M.
Mar. 20	Taft College	2 P.M.
Mar. 22-23	Bash at Buchanan High School	TBA
Mar. 27	@ West Hills College	1 P.M.
Apr. 1	@ Porterville College	2 P.M.
Apr. 3	Reedley College	1 P.M.
Apr. 10	@ Modesto Junior College	2 P.M.
Apr. 12-13	Sierra College Tournament	TBA
Apr. 15	@ College of the Sequoias	2 P.M.
Apr. 24	Merced College	2 P.M.