



**Whack!**  
Women's tennis team places second at the Mission College Tournament

- page 7

# Rampage

## Fresno City College

Volume CIX Edition 3

Published since 1949

March 2, 2005

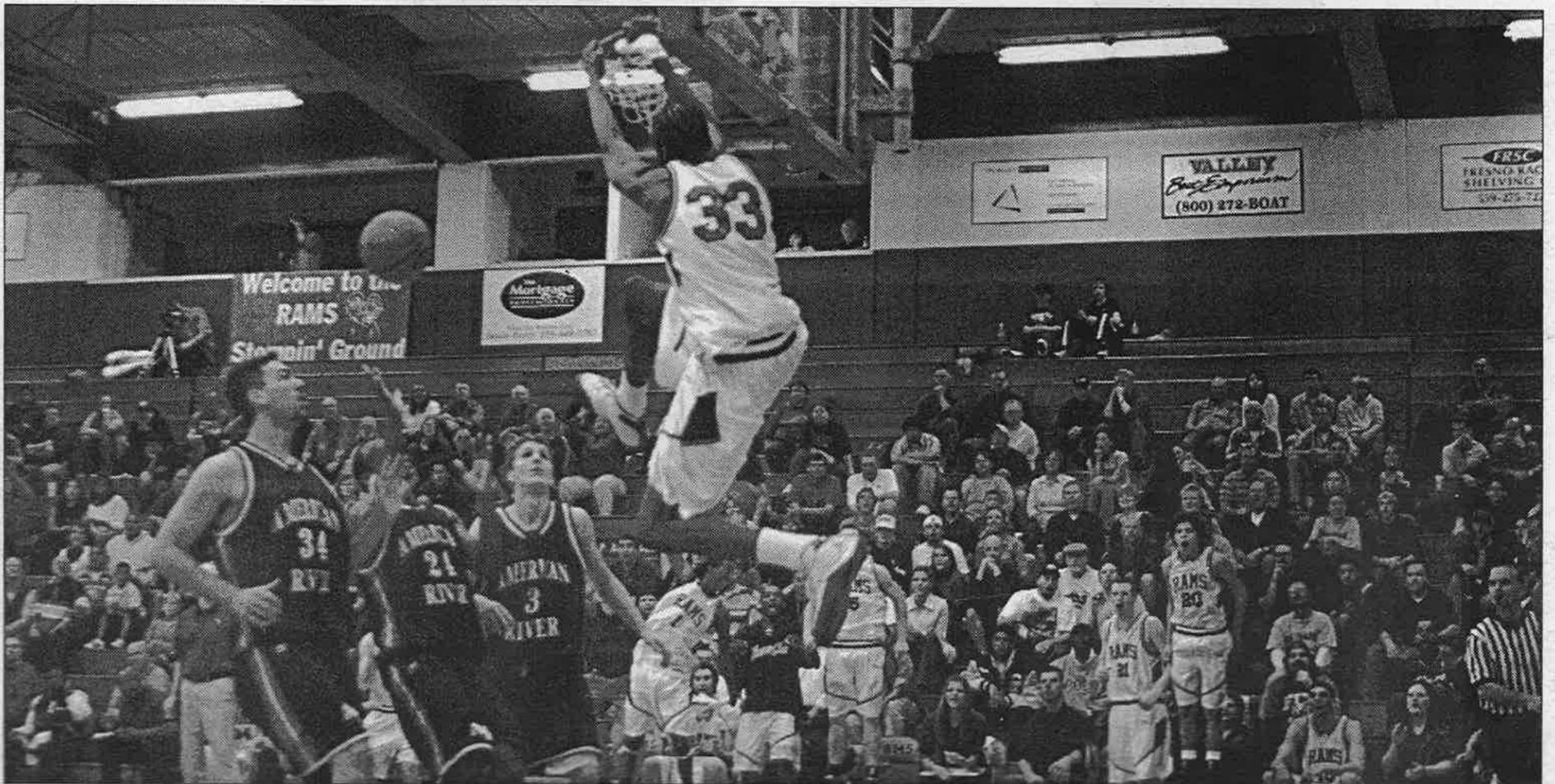


Photo by Daisy Rosas

FCC's Cedrick Kalombo dunks the ball while American River's Wolfgang Raffety (34), Ulysses Warren (24), and Eric Boyce (3) watch. FCC created 36 turnovers and lost only eight.

# Another victim

*FCC defeats American River 112-76 in first round of playoffs*

**By David Witte**  
Sports editor

The Fresno City College men's basketball team can't go back a year and change its 77-74 loss to American River in the second round of the playoffs.

What it can do, though, is beat American River by 36 points in the first round of the playoffs Feb. 26, bringing its season record to 30 wins and no losses.



*Walberg*

Wolfgang Raffety led American River with

In a rematch of last year's second-round game, No. 1 seed FCC defeated the No. 17 seed Beavers 112-76. Five Rams scored in double digits, led by Anthony Esparza's 25 and Jordan Farley's 18 points. Power forward

17 points.

"We really just overwhelmed them with our intensity," said FCC assistant coach Loren LeBeau. "You saw a solid, solid performance tonight."

The Beavers worked to break FCC's full-court press with long passes and the ball-handling skills of guard Eric Boyce, who finished the night with 15 points. After FCC pulled away to an early lead, ARC closed to 34-30

**See SPORTS, Page 8**

**Fresno City College 112**  
**American River 76**

**High scorers: Anthony Esparza, 25**  
**Jordan Farley, 18**

**Next for FCC: March 5, Cabrillo College, 17-10 at FCC Gym**

**State championships: March 10-13, Jenny Craig Pavilion, San Diego**

**Notable facts: Cedrick Kalombo was fourth in the state in blocks, with 91.**

## \$45 mil for nurses?

**By Ali Sadoian**  
News editor

California State Assemblyman Juan Arambula, D-Fresno, proposed a bill on Feb. 7 that will allocate \$45 million for enrollment growth in community college nursing programs.

If passed in the state's assembly, AB 232 will appropriate money from the general fund to the chancellor of California community colleges to go directly to the state's nursing programs.

Currently on the Fresno City College campus, because of the nursing program's popularity, "60 percent get into the program by lottery, and there is nothing we can do about that because it's the law," said Interim Dean of Instruction Carolyn C. Drake, Ed.D.



*Drake*

of the health sciences division. The other 40 percent of students are out of the division until the next year's lottery. According to the health science division's academic summary form, the lottery is a random selection process allowing all candidates equal opportunity to enter an impacted health science program.

"It's one of the better nursing programs. I transferred from another program because it wasn't as well put-together as this one. The instructors weren't as student

**See Nurses, Page 5**

## CalSACC at FCC

*Fate of March in March is decided, plans made*



Photo by Jason Kalpakoff

(Right to left) Rafel Ramirez, Frank Sjoberg, Ana Espinoza, and Steve Enriquez listen during a regional CalSACC meeting Feb. 26.

**By Rebekah Miranda**  
Editor in chief

Fresno City College is a member of region five of the California Student Association of Community colleges.

A CalSACC regional meeting was held on FCC's grounds Feb. 26. Stretching from Stockton to Bakersfield nine out of the ten schools in the region were represented.

Prior to the meeting, Student Trustee of the Kern Community District and CalSACC policy board representative, Brandon Lynch said, "Meeting in person



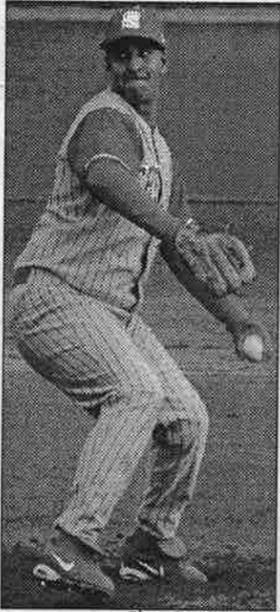
*Lorente*

helps to make sure we are all on the same page." Lynch explained that he felt that the top priority on the agenda was addressing the issue of the annual trip to Sacramento, known as the "March in March."

The march has been an opportunity for students and administration to voice their opinions on issues facing community colleges at a state level, said Lynch.

**See CalSACC, Page 3**

# Index



FCC lefty pitcher Michael Guerrero pushes off during a 12-3 victory over DeAnza Feb. 24.

Photo by Daisy Rosas

## Bonjour!

• FCC student is busy studying thousands of miles away from home.

– See News, Page 3

## Pass problems?

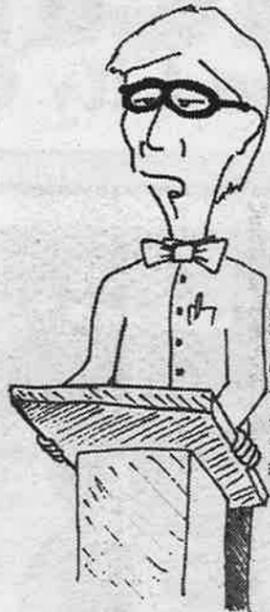
• Parking pass machine is a bit confusing for some FCC students.

– See News, Page 4

## Roll call

• Should attendance be taken at FCC or is it just a waste of time?

– See Views, Page 11



## Student mommy

• FCC reporter explains life as a mother and then a student.

– See Views, Page 13

## Horoscopes

• This space is for rent.

– See Reviews, Page 14

## Gettin' "Hitched"

• Will Smith's new flick is filling theaters, read what our critics says.

– See Reviews, Page 14

– See Sports, Page 7

# News briefs

## Former coach arrested

According to a Fresno County criminal case report, former Fresno City College interim volleyball coach Frank "Sonny" Perez, Jr. was arrested Feb. 2 after a warrant was issued for his arrest.

Perez, 38, is accused of three counts of child molestation. He was released from jail on \$140,000 bail, Feb. 4.

Perez was arraigned Feb. 17 and pled not guilty to the charges.

Perez served as the 2003 FCC interim coach for the 2003 women's volleyball team. Perez was also an assistant coach for the 2002 season.

– Ali Sadoian

## On-campus book signing

Award-winning author and Fresno native Daniel Chacon is coming to Fresno City College on Fri. March 11. Chacon will be reading and signing his acclaimed book of short stories, "Chicano Chicanery." This event will be held at 7:30 pm in the Student Lounge (College Activities Center) and is free to the public.

– Ali Sadoian

## Tracking Internet use

Fresno City College President Ned Doffoney said the college is looking into a policy of inter-departmental notification of student abuse of Internet access on Feb. 23.

The present system calls for such incidents to be referred to Dean of Instruction Robert E. Fox, who then creates a disciplinary file, according to Public Information Officer Kathy Bonilla.

The campus is in the process of providing Internet access in all classrooms.

"We must protect the integrity and reputation of Fresno City College while respecting student privacy rights. After all, this is supposed to be a free and open learning environment," Doffoney said.

– Will Tranquilli

## Student screening

Fresno City College Psychological Intern Arron Dehod, M.A. organized this year's Eating Disorder Screening to be held at the Student Center Mar. 3.

"The main reason for our screening is to raise awareness on this campus and in the community about eating disorders," said Dehod.

What was once known as a disease prevalent in women only has now been found in the male population. "Typically [eating disorders] are considered mainly with females, however there is more of a shift towards the males; about 10 percent of all eating disorders are from males," said Dehod.

Information regarding Eating Disorders can be obtained from Psychological Services.

– Mona Lisa McCormick

## Have a hot lunch

The microwave the Associated Student Government purchased last semester is now available for students. According to an ASG representative, delays occurred because the purchasing took longer than expected. The microwave can currently be found in the ASG office located above the bookstore.

ASG President Daniel Lorente said that due to conflicts with Taher, the organization that operates the FCC cafeteria, the microwave could not be placed there. Lorente encourages students looking to warm their food to, "cruise up to our [ASG's] office."

– Christine Haeussling

## Mysterious gas leak

According to Psychological Services, Dean of Student Services Robert E. Fox had called the department and asked students and faculty to evacuate the Student Center building along with Yoshino's Café and the Bookstore due to a possible gas leak on Feb. 25. The students and staff reportedly smell the gas. The finds of an actual leak were never confirmed.

– Rebekah Miranda

# Calendar of Events

## March

**11** 7:30 p.m. Reading and signing with author Daniel Chacon Student Lounge

**11 & 12** 7:30 p.m. "Something's Afoot" FCC Theatre

**12 & 13** 10 a.m.- 6 p.m. Renaissance Festival West Lawn

**16** Rampage Issue 4

**16-18** 7:30 p.m. "Something's Afoot" FCC Theatre

**21-26** Spring Break

**28** 7:30 p.m. Olga Quercia Recital Benefit Recital Hall

**31** 7:30 pm FCC Jazz Festival FCC Theatre

## April

**1** 7:30 p.m. FCC Jazz Festival FCC Theatre

**4-12** Asian American Celebration

**Rampage**  
Fresno City College

FRESNO CITY COLLEGE

### RAMPAGE

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

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# International student prevails

*French native calls FCC home and excels in a variety of activities on campus*

By Christine Haeussling

Rampage reporter



Farley

Valerie Westen, 22, from France, is one of the 156 international students currently attending Fresno City College.

Spring of 2005 is her fifth and last semester at FCC. Westen wants to transfer to Fresno State University in the fall.

This is what a lot of international students do when they come to Fresno City College, according to Lee Farley, Dean of International Students and EOPS.

Most of the students who come here stay to complete their general education and then follow friends who go to Fresno State. "Other universities are so expensive, I can't afford to go there," says Westen, who initially aimed to go to UC Berkeley or UCLA. In the last two years she made a lot of friends in Fresno, so she doesn't mind staying.

When Westen came to the United States after her graduation from high school, an exchange organization she belonged to sent her to Fresno.

She liked it so much that she came back two years ago to study at a university.

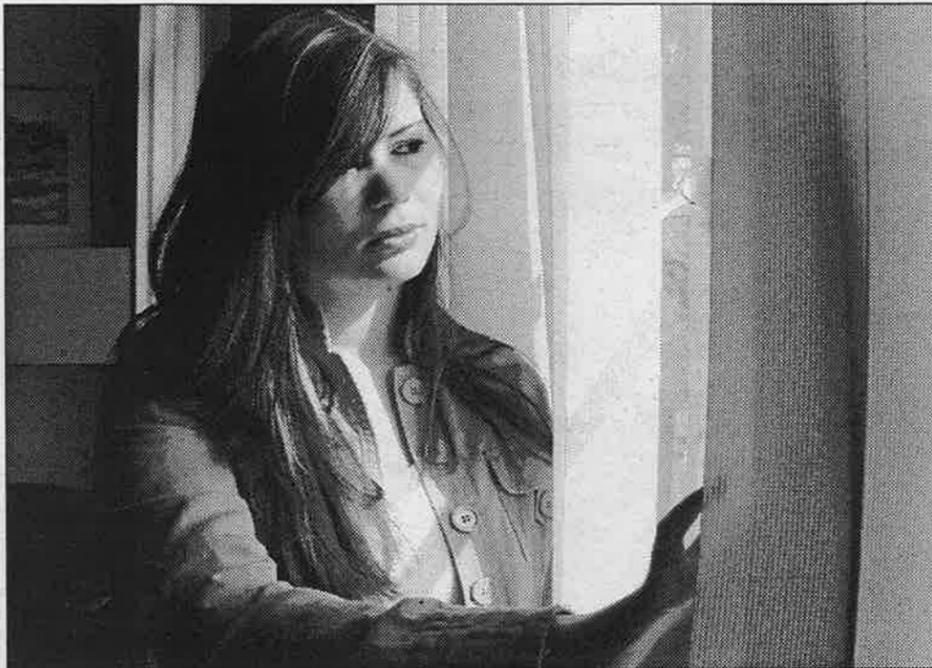


Photo by Sergio Cortes

Valerie Westen has been an FCC student since 2003 and plans to transfer to CSU Fresno.

Westen is living in an apartment with friends which is common for international students, according to Farley.

"Most students start out living with host families and move into an apartment with friends after one or two semesters." Westen is vice president of the Associated Student Government and

president of the Fresno chapter of PHI THETA KAPPA, the Honor Society of Two-Year Colleges. Her major is journalism and public relations. When she completes her education at Fresno State University she aims to be a magazine feature writer.

"Life here is so comfortable," Westen says about initially not wanting to go back to France.

"If you work hard enough you can get whatever you want."

What Westen misses most here, along with her family, is the food.

After two years, she's not sure anymore if she wants to live this far away from her family for the rest of her life.

Usually she would go home during summer and her mother or sister would visit for Christmas or spring break, but not this year. If she goes back to live in France, Westen doesn't know how far she'll get with her American graduation.

"There are 12 accredited journalism schools in France," Westen said. "Some people say you can only get a job in France when you graduated from one of those. On the other hand, it sounds good when you studied in the United States."

This is also what Dean Farley experienced.

"A lot of people think when you've gone to America and got a degree from an American university, it means more." With everything becoming more and more global it's very important to gain experience abroad, Farley said. "And globalization is a trend that's continuing."

The majority of international students come from Japan. International students usually are very good and ambitious students. To Dean Farley it seems like "they have more of a dedication than Americans." This is certainly connected to the fact that they pay more than seven times as much as American students.

## CalSACC: Student reps are hard at work

Continued from page 1

Lynch said, "In 2003, 15,000 students and administrators participated in the march and being shortly after Sept. 11, people seemed to have more fight in them."

In 2004, only 7,000 people showed up for the march. That is less than half than the year before. The march has lost its message. What would it look like if even less people showed this year?

That we don't care as much? That we don't have anything that we want to change and that we

are perfectly happy with the way things currently are?"

FCC Associated Student Government President Daniel Lorente said that because of the shrinking attendance plus a failure to secure a \$1 million state bond to fund the event, the march to the capitol would be cancelled.

CalSACC region five has now planned an independent "Lobby Day" as an alternative to the annual "March in March" and is inviting students, faculty, and administration to participate.

The trip to California's state capitol is scheduled for April 19.

"It will give students a chance to lobby against issues such as text book prices, tuition rates, and the effects of budget cuts," said Lorente.

FCC Director of College Activities Gurdeep Sihota explained that student representatives from CalSACC will possibly be able to meet with other student governments across the nation in March during a national conference.

Lara Solorio, member of the Associated Students of Porterville College explained that though region five does not meet in person too often, the members

hold biweekly teleconferences and communicate regularly though e-mail.

Solorio said, "Region five is by

far the most active in the state. We have great networking and we always know what is going on at the different schools throughout our region."



Photo by Jason Kalpakoff

California Student Association of Community Colleges representatives, left to right, Brianna Harvey and Will McCombs of Modesto, Daniel Lorente of Fresno, and Caroline Buster of Columbia, discuss the agenda at a regional meeting held at Fresno City College Feb. 26.



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# FCC Bookstore

# Puzzled by purchasing a parking pass?

## Machine takes \$5 bills for \$1 permits, the change is in the Business Office

By Daniel Cloyd  
Rampage reporter

Without a parking permit, students are given two choices if they wish to park in the parking lots at Fresno City College without receiving a ticket.

Students have to either purchase a day pass or park in the lots with coin meters.

Coin meters cost 25 cents for 30 minutes, and allow students to purchase up to four hours of parking time.

For people wishing to spend more than two hours on campus, a day pass costs \$1. The day pass allows someone without a parking permit to legally park in the FCC parking lot until 11:59 p.m. of the day they purchase the pass, not within a 24 hour period from the purchasing time.

Day passes are sold in machines located in the various parking lots on campus.

Most machines only take quarters with the exception of one. The machine located in Parking Lot "F," will take coins as well as dollars. This particular machine will take all bills from one to 20.

When using the machine you push the start button to begin, and choose the number of days you wish to purchase on your pass. The machine will give students their amount, which can be paid to receive the pass.

Gardenia Montez, a student aid of the FCC Police explained how the parking machine's work.

The permit students purchase is di-



FCC student Tommy Teso puts a \$10 bill into the parking permit machine located in Lot F. Many FCC students use the electronic parking permit machines without knowing how to get their change. Photo by Sergio Cortes

vided into a pass and a receipt. When a student buys a day of parking with a bill worth more than \$1, the difference is deemed at the college's business office.

Montez also explained that all the profit made from the sales of day passes is given to the college's business office.

The only part the police station plays is

checking the dates of the passes sold from the machine, as well as maintaining the machines so that they're expectable for student use.

# Students are sent to study abroad

## FCC sends students over seas to experience life in England for the spring

By Whitney Lafon  
Rampage reporter

Earlier this semester several Fresno City College students left home to spend a semester studying abroad in England.

While they are spending time in London, the students will be taking several courses.

British culture studies, history of English architecture, introduction to photography, reading and composition, and critical reading and writing will be taken by the attendees.

The students will also be staying with local families in London.

This will provide them with a place to receive mail, phone home, study and eat meals. It will also give the students an insight to local culture, customs and information about the city.

While they are in London, the FCC students will have the opportunity to travel on weekends to different locations and attractions in London and the surrounding areas. These include: London Tower, Buckingham Palace, the Roman ruins in Bath, and Stonehenge.

They can also travel to Ireland, Scotland, France and Holland, which are all within close reach.

The program began on Jan. 10 and ends on May 20.

The cost was \$7,482, which included round trip airfare, home accommodations, a daily continental breakfast and dinner.

The group was selected through a process, which included an application, evaluation of their grades, and an interview.

There are also several other opportunities to study abroad this year.

In summer '05 [from May 31 to July 2], a group of students will leave for Spain. They will stay in Salamanca

and live with a Spanish family.

They will be able to study Spanish and immerse themselves in the fascinating Spanish culture.

The Program costs \$3899.

If FCC students are interested, there are two informational meetings. The first meeting will be held on Tues., Feb. 22, at 5:00pm at Reedley College. The second meeting is the following day on Wed. Feb. 23 at 5:00pm at FCC in the District Office Board room (directly behind

Wendy's). There will also be a trip to Paris in summer '05, [July 1- July 31]. The focus of that trip will be for the students to learn French.

There will also be several classes students can take with transferable credits. Informational meetings will be held at the same locations on the 22, and 23 of February at 6:30 pm. Information on how to apply for both the trip to Spain and France will be distributed at the informational meetings.

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# Nurses: If passed in state assembly \$45 million goes to community college nursing programs

Continued from page 1

oriented. The instructors here are fantastic," said FCC nursing student Jessica Esau.

Finding nurses to teach in the program is a problem the administration is currently facing.

"It's a public health crisis, not just a nursing shortage because we need more nurses and we need more nurses on the faculty. So the whole thing we're trying to do is get the recognition that the faculty needs more faculty," Drake said.

"The problem is they get paid more to be nurses at hospitals rather than to be teachers. By giving it to us, [money from AB 232] the community colleges can hire more nurses to be nursing instructors," said Drake.

The second alternative to expanding the program, is creating a satellite program with the other State Center Community College

District campuses.

Drake said, "We need more money and more instructors. We know we have enough space in the hospitals to expand our program and our next step is to take it out to the community because we are a multi college campus. We need to create a satellite program.

Not a different program, its still Fresno City College but we can satellite it out to different places."

According to Esau, the nursing program is the largest program west of the Mississippi, and has the highest graduation numbers and state board pass rates than any other nursing program in California.

"When you get a larger program, people think you lose the quality. Just because we get larger, the standards are still there, and we will provide this community with entry level nurses," said Drake.

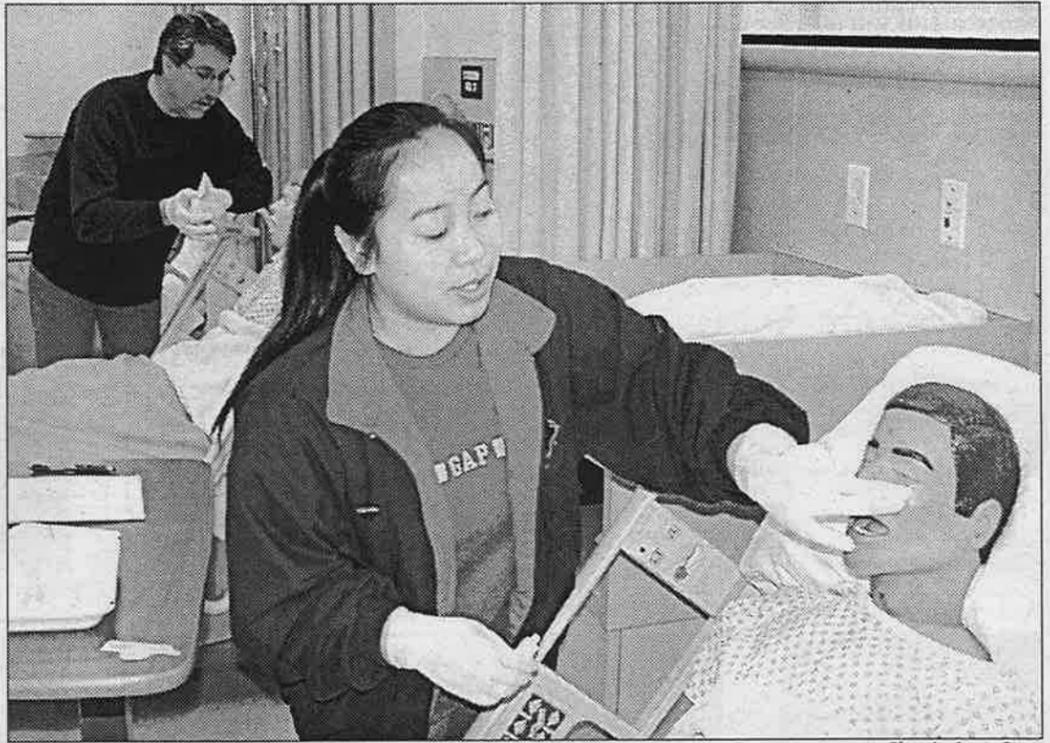


Photo by Sergio Cortes

Khanthaly Sophabmixay, front, and Mark Soliz, practice their nursing skills on a mannequin during class at FCC.

## March is Women's History Month at FCC

By Mona Lisa McCormick  
Rampage reporter

The month of March is an important time for women across the nation and across the world because it remembers and celebrates the heritage and history of women.

Because of the concern that as early as the 1970s women's history was not taught in the K-12 curriculum, the education Task Force of the Sonoma County (California) Commission on the Status of Women initiated a Women's History Week.

According to the National Women's History Project, on their website they state they chose the week of Mar. 8 to make International Women's Day the focal point of the observance.

As local celebrations grew, more and more schools districts and organizations decide to also hold similar celebrations. There was an overwhelming response as the National Women's History Week spread across the nation.

"Within a few years, thousands of schools and communities were celebrating National Women's history Week, supported and encouraged by resolutions from governors, city councils, school boards, and the U.S. Congress," said the NWHF.

1987, Congress was petitioned by the national history Women's project to expand the national celebration throughout the month of March. Since its approval and support from the House and Senate, programs and activities in schools, workplaces and communities have become more extensive.

Here, at Fresno City College, "We get a month where we do get to highlight and bring awareness to celebrations and contributions and issues that pertain to women," said Head of the Women's History

Month Committee Linda DeKruif.

The committee scheduled 14 events that bring women's contributions to the forefront.

"We start in the fall semester with planning the schedule and some of the events are co-sponsored by clubs on campus to get them involved with Women's History Month as well," DeKruif said, who is also a women's studies instructor and coordinator of the women's studies program.

FCC kicked off the Women's History Month Mar. 1 with a discussion of the music industry consisting of a

panel of three locale female artists. Throughout the month there are women speaking on the empowerment of women, female genital cutting, women in prison and women and HIV.

On Mar. 8, which is considered around the world as International Women's Day, FCC will host a bazaar. A reggae band will provide live music while FCC clubs and organizations on campus man the food and information booths.

That same day, "Vagina Monologues" and "Vagina Monologues

Globally" will be showing in room SO 110.

"It is based on a one woman show with short segments about the vagina which discuss both humorous and serious topics," DeKruif said.

Other movies are "Naturally Native", "Better Than Chocolate" and "Magdalena Sisters" which are all showing in room SO 110.

In conjunction with Women's History Month, Psychological Services offers an Eating Disorder Screening at the Student Center Mar. 3.

"The eating disorder screening we are putting on is part of a national event that goes across the country in various colleges and universities in an attempt to raise awareness within the young adult population, where eating disorders tend to start," said FCC Psychological Intern Arron Dehod, M.A.

Poetry reading by Shelly Savren will be held in the Art Space Gallery on Mar. 9 and there will be a performance by an a capella singing group named the Copper Wimmin in room MS 132 on Mar. 16.

## Relax, play or study Center offers students a break

By Mona Lisa McCormick  
Rampage reporter

The College Center offers a variety of activities for students of all ages.

"[The College Center] gives students another outlet other than just classes and academics," said College Center Activities Assistant Nanci Sumaya-Martinez. "[Students] can also meet other students here."

The College center is located in the cafeteria building west of the gym. The main area, a game room and a patio make up the center.

In the main area of the College Center, which is considered the Student Lounge, there are chairs and tables for students to sit and study, socialize, play games or just relax.

The game room houses three pool tables. Students can play for 75 cents per game.

"We have board games and cards that students can check out with their ASB card or driver's license," said Sumaya-Martinez.

Students also have access to newspapers, magazines in the student Lounge. Computers are offered to students who need to print out reports.

The main area of the College Center is also a place where students come for information. Students can obtain information on clubs, housing rentals, intramural sports and activities on campus.

The College Center houses the Senate Chamber where the Associated Student Government holds their meetings. Another room, called the TV Room, is a place where clubs can hold their meetings.

College Center hours are Monday to Thursday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Friday from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information, call the College of Activities Desk in the Student Lounge at (559) 265-5711.

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# Musical production in the making

## Theatre lab students create the set for FCC's production of "Something's Afoot"

Photos by Sergio Cortes



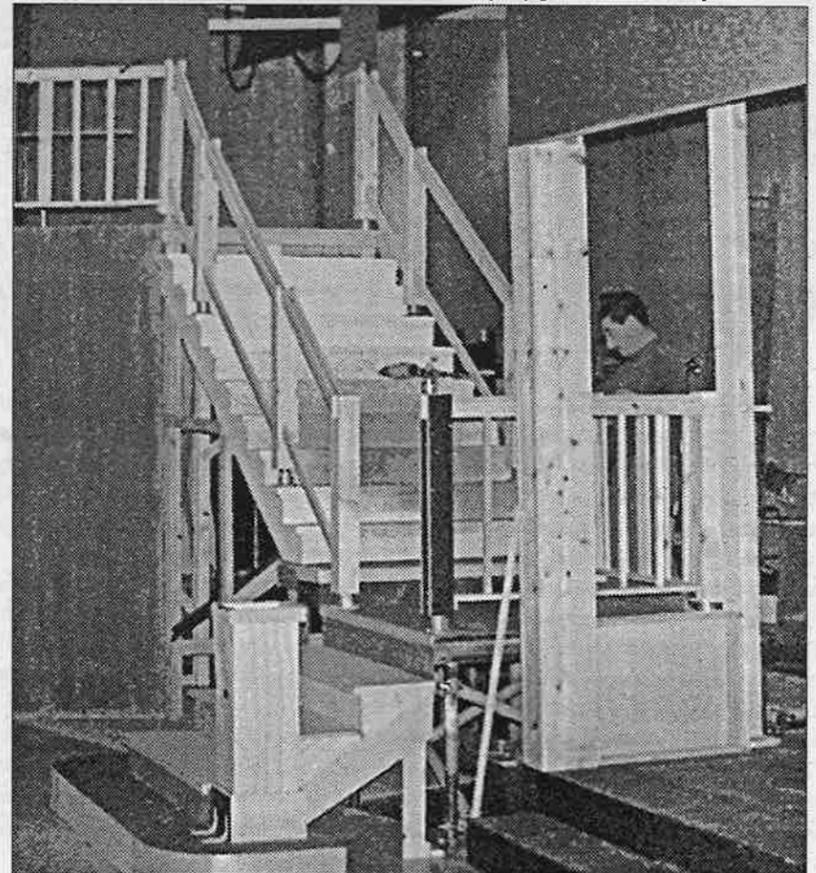
Nao Chue, left, and Theatre Manager Jeff Barrett put the final touches on a stage door.



Joshua Simpson, front, and William Robinson carefully paint a section of the set white.



FCC student Serafin Gutierrez works at creating a stairway for the set during his theatre lab class.



Construction of the set for "Something's Afoot" is underway and will soon be complete. The play begins March 11 and runs through March 19. Tickets can be picked purchased at the Theatre Box Office.

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# SPORTS

March 2, 2005

7

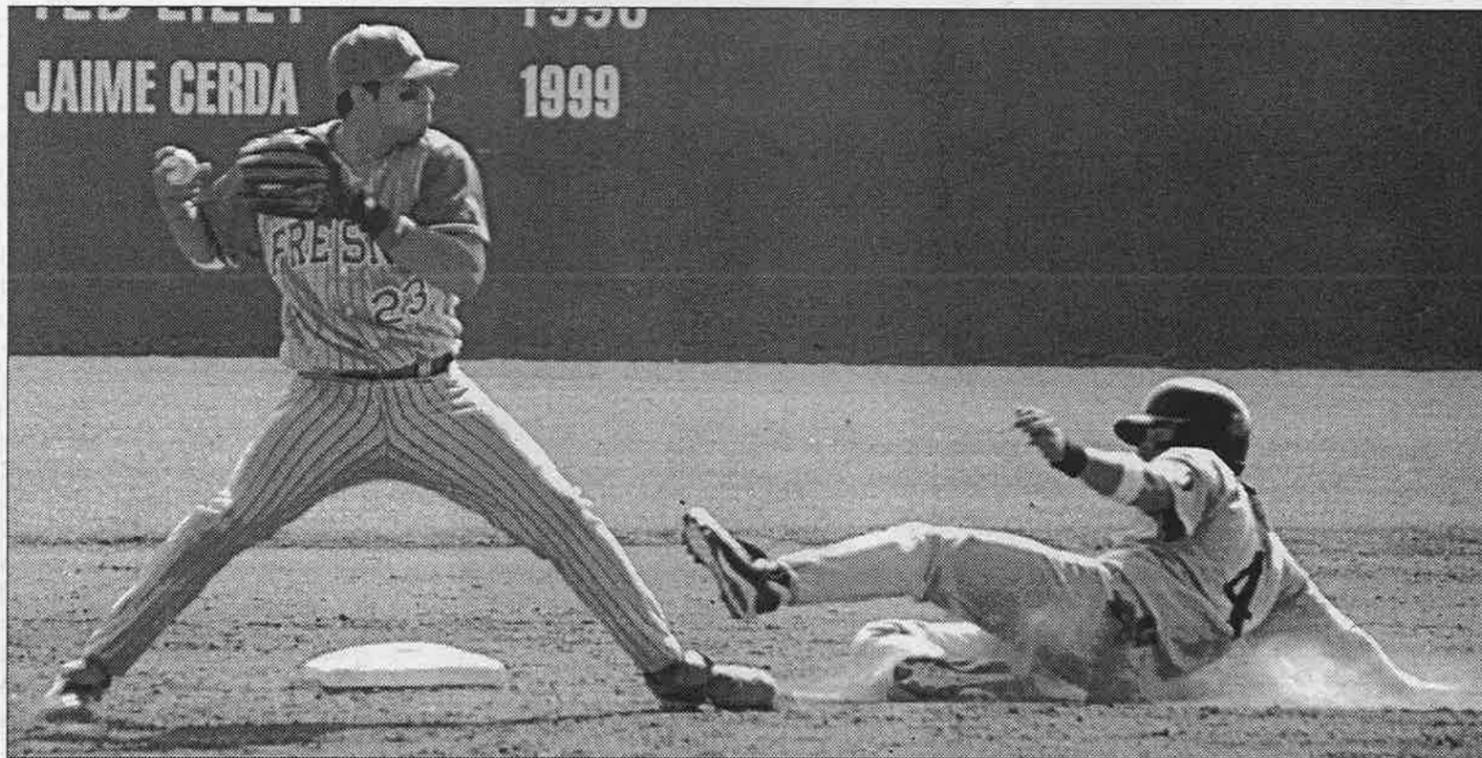


Photo by Daisy Rosas

FCC's Thomas Raymundo (left) throws to first base after forcing Cabrillo's Adam White (4) out at second for the third out of the second inning.

## FCC baseball at 9-2

Rams battle back after losing two of three to Sac City

By Quinn Robinson  
Rampage reporter

After a short stumble in Sacramento where Fresno City College lost two of three, the Rams are back on track after winning their sixth consecutive game against Cabrillo 7-1 Feb. 27.

FCC is now 9-2 overall, and was led by solid pitching from left-hander Chase Thomas. Thomas pitched five innings, giving up only one run, with six strikeouts.

On the offensive side, the Rams received production throughout the line-up as FCC accumulated seven runs on 18 hits. Jason Sadoian led the assault with two hits and three RBIs. Teammate Tyrese McDaniel had three hits and drove in one run.

Ranked No. 1 in the nation coming into the season, the Rams won their first three games heading into their match-up against perennial power Sacramento City College.

FCC struggled the first two games as two of its top pitchers, Andy Underwood and Rollie Gibson, suffered losses. The Rams, however, were able to win the rubber game of the series behind the pitching of Justin LaBreck.

The Rams were given some time off after

the demanding three-game series with Sacramento City thanks to Mother Nature. FCC came back the next week for a five-game home stand at Eules Park.

In the home stand, the Rams faced DeAnza, Hancock, Sierra, Ohlone and Cabrillo Colleges in the FCC Tournament. The Rams averaged over eight runs during the five game stretch while surrendering only 15 total runs throughout the tournament.

Already 11 games into the season, the Rams are batting .335 with a .455 slugging percentage and a .435 on base percentage. The pitching of FCC is looking just as good. A team ERA of 3.15 might seem a little misleading when five pitchers for the Rams have an ERA of three runs or less with freshman left-hander Chase Thomas having a 1.69 ERA and sophomore Justin LaBreck with a 1.80 ERA to name a couple.

The Rams start Central Valley Conference play March 3 against Porterville College in Porterville. After that, FCC returns to host a two-game home stand against Modesto Junior College on March 5 and Taft College on March 7.

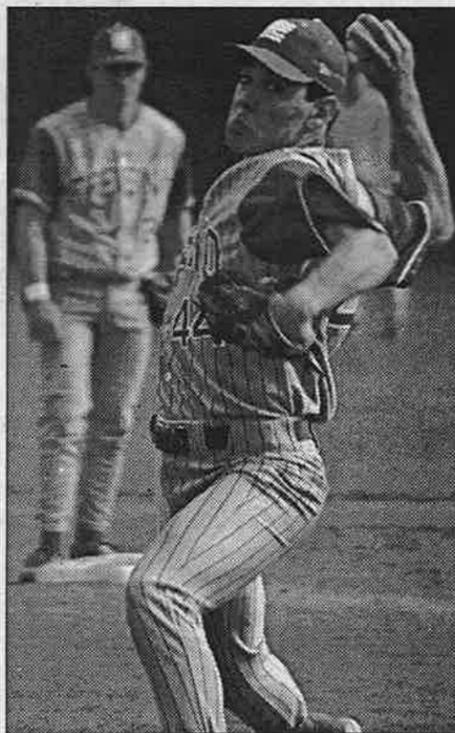


Photo by Daisy Rosas

Pitcher Derek Achelpohl unleashes a fastball during the fourth inning of FCC's 7-1 victory over Cabrillo College Feb. 27.

## Women's tennis places second in tournament

Two players, one doubles team take second

By David Witte  
Sports editor

Fresno City College's women's tennis team defeated Mission College 9-0 Feb. 18, earning four double-zeros (6-0, 6-0 sweep).

No. 2 singles Honoree Treadwell defeated Sandy To, No. 4 singles Kelley Locke defeated Donna Tellgren, No. 5 singles Victoria Prosperi defeated Lilly Le, and No. 6 singles Judy Leas beat Hein Vu, all by scores of 6-0, 6-0.

"We're just going to come out here and practice hard," said first-year coach Mary Jo Fallara. "[We'll] go out there, on the court and take whatever we learned in practice out there."

FCC is now 2-0 in dual matches this season, after defeating Bakerfield College 5-4 Feb. 9.

The Rams took second place out of sixteen teams at the Mission College Tournament in Santa Clara Feb. 11 and 12. Leas and Prosperi took second in their respective flights, and the doubles team Prosperi and Locke took second in their flight.

Tournament play was delayed by rain, and the players had to wait for the courts to dry.

"We were playing until 10 at night," said Locke. "We didn't get home until after midnight."

This year's team has a distinctly older

See Tennis, Page 9

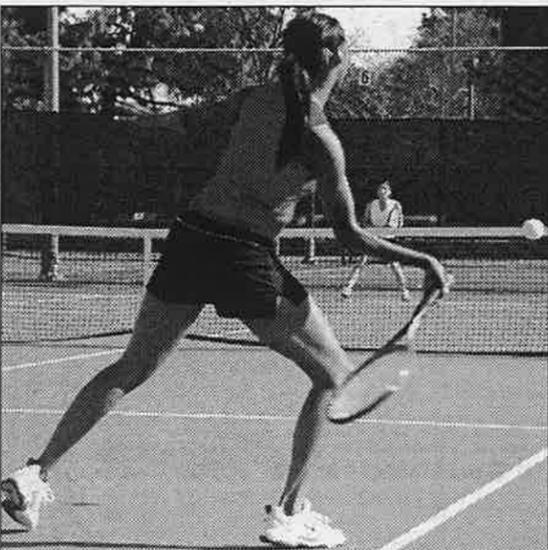


Photo by Daisy Rosas

Honoree Treadwell (front) returns a serve by Sandy To. Treadwell won her No. 2 singles match 6-0, 6-0.

## Game of the Week

FCC Rams  
2-4



Modesto  
Pirates  
2-1-1



Sport: Softball

When: March 8, 1 p.m.

Where: Modesto

Notes: The struggling Rams hit the road for a double-header at Modesto. Several games have been rained out in the Central Valley.

## Dates & Info

### Men's basketball

- March 5, 7 p.m. vs. Cabrillo
- March 10-13, state final eight Jenny Craig Pavilion, San Diego

### Softball

- March 3, 2 p.m. @ Merced
- March 5 and 6, Bash @ Buchanan
- March 8, 1 p.m. @ Modesto (DH)
- March 10, 2 p.m. @ Reedley
- March 15, 1 p.m. @ COS (DH)

### Baseball

- March 3, 2 p.m. @ Porterville
- March 5, 1 p.m. vs. Modesto
- March 8, 2 p.m. vs. Taft
- March 10, 2 p.m. @ West Hills
- March 12, 1 p.m. @ COS
- March 15, 2 p.m. vs. Reedley

### Men's tennis

- March 3, 2 p.m. vs. Porterville
- March 8, 2 p.m. @ COS
- March 10, 2 p.m. @ Reedley
- March 11, 2 p.m. vs. Modesto

### Women's tennis

- March 3, 2 p.m. vs. Porterville
- March 8, 2 p.m. @ COS
- March 10, 2 p.m. @ Reedley
- March 15, 2 p.m. vs. West Hills

### Men's golf

- March 3, 12 p.m. league tourney - Fresno
- March 8, 12 p.m. league tourney - Visalia
- March 10, 12:30 p.m. league tourney - Ripon
- March 15, 11 p.m. league tourney - Lemoore

### Track and field

- March 5, Beaver Relays (American River College)

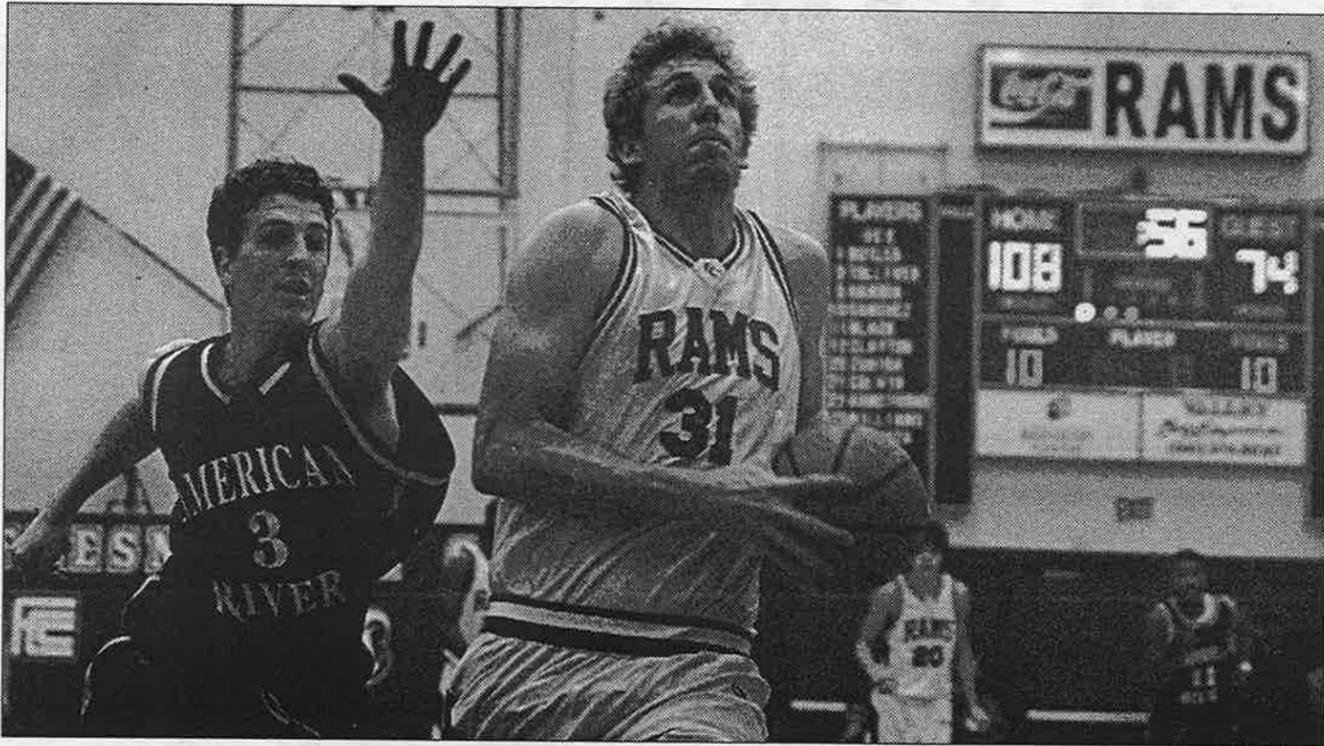


Photo by Daisy Rosas

FCC's David Lange (31) goes for a dunk after stealing the ball from American River's Eric Boyce (3) in front of a crowd 1,700 strong. Boyce had 12 of American River's 36 turnovers, and Lange finished the night with 10 points and one steal.

## Basketball: This year's FCC team is more than three stars; coaches cite depth as the deciding factor

continued from Page 1

with seven minutes left in the first half. It was the closest they came all night.

"Teams are going to break our press at times, we're not worried about that," said FCC head coach Vance Walberg. "The biggest thing we want is the tempo up."

Fresno ended the first half with a 59-42 lead.

"They got worn down," Esparza said. "They got tired in the second half, and we were just able to capitalize."

The Rams' pressure earned them the ball on one 35-second shot clock violation, and two violations when the Beavers were unable to get the ball across half court within ten seconds.

"That's one of the things we're after," LeBeau said. "The first thing we're after is to tire them out."

Both head coaches cited FCC's depth as the main difference between this year and last year.

"I think they're deeper," said ARC coach Mark Giorgi. "You can't key on one guy. Last year, you could take away, well you couldn't take away, but you could key on [Jason] Walberg, [Adam] Wall, and [Tyrone] Jackson."

Walberg now plays at St. Mary's College, Jackson is at Arizona State, and Wall plays for Mesa State in Colorado.

"[Last year] you could let their three main guys score 20, and shut down everybody else," Giorgi said. "But in this instance, you can't do that, because maybe six guys could do it."

Although the Beavers out-rebounded Fresno 42-31, FCC poured on 12 three-pointers to ARC's three. FCC also led in turnovers, creating 36 while giving up eight.

"They didn't have great guards, they had one or two guards," LeBeau said. "We were just pacing it tonight, waiting for them to dribble. We want to two-time the ball, and tonight we just kind of waited for them to get out of con-

trol, and then we put on the trap."

A trap is when two defenders pin the ball carrier against the baseline or sideline, making it difficult to pass or anything else.

"When their big guy [Raffety] got it, we didn't trap, because he can see over the top," LeBeau said. "So it was a strategic game tonight, and we just played it to a tee."

The Rams move ahead to the second round of the regional playoffs, playing No. 9 Cabrillo at FCC March 5. Cabrillo, which is in Santa Cruz, defeated No. 8 Chabot of Oakland 93-79 Feb. 25.

"Next week's the big one," Walberg said. "Next week, we win that, and we go to state, and that's the game we lost last year."

Cabrillo is 17-10 on the year, and went 7-5 in the Coast Conference South, taking fourth in the division.

"[Cabrillo is a] very smart team, very well-coached team," Walberg said. "They shoot the heck out of it. They have one superstar, a kid named Maurice Miller, he had 44

last night. They have a lot of defense they can play."

The winner of the game will advance to the state tournament at the Jenny Craig Pavilion in San Diego March 10-13.

In a budget-cutting move, the 2004 playoff field was cut to 32 teams - 16 from the north, and 16 from the south.

Only four teams advanced to the state playoff tournament, instead of the usual eight, ruffling feathers around the state.

For the 2005 playoffs, the field has expanded to 38 teams - 18 from the north, and 20 from the south. The state tournament is back up to eight teams. Six other teams in the north will fight for the remaining three spots March 5.

No. 2 San Joaquin Delta will host No. 10 San Francisco, No. 3 West Valley will host No. 11 Yuba, the preseason favorite, and No. 12 San Jose, an upset winner over No. 5 Santa Rosa, will host No. 13 Siskiyou, who upset No. 4 Diablo Valley 77-74.

## Sports briefs

### Women's hoops lose in second round of playoffs

The Fresno City College women's basketball team ended its season with a 77-62 loss to second-seeded San Jose Feb. 26.

The Rams ended the season with an even 15-15 record after a 75-68 victory over No. 15 Solano in a play-in game Feb. 23.

After starting the season strong, FCC lost five of its last six games before the playoffs. The Rams ended with a 6-6 conference record.

The two other teams still in the playoffs are Reedley and Porterville. Reedley takes on No. 1 Santa Rosa March 5 after a 61-55 victory over San Francisco, and Porterville, after the third-seed spot, defeated No. 14 Contra Costa 63-52. The Pirates host No. 6 Lassen March 5.

See page 10 for playoff brackets.

### FCC track and field teams win Fresno Rotational

The Fresno City College men's track and field team won the Fresno Rotational Feb. 26, beating out six other colleges. FCC scored 180 points, followed by Hartnell with 142, Reedley with 90, Sacramento with 82, San Jose with 64, San Joaquin Delta with 11, and Merced with 5.

Willie Whetstone won the 100-meter dash and the 200-meter dash, and Dustin Silva took first in the 800-meter run. Beau Bean placed first in the 400-meter hurdles, and FCC's four-man relay team took first in the 400-meter relay.

Other first places included Zach Ryan in the high jump, Jared Oakden in the pole vault, and Aris Borjas in the javelin.

The women's team scored 171 points to beat out Sacramento, Hartnell, San Joaquin Delta, San Jose, and Reedley, despite placing first in only the discus and the hammer throw, both by Sharon Ayala.

FCC placed consistently in third or fourth in most of the other events, adding up to the best score.

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## 2005 California men's basketball playoffs

### North

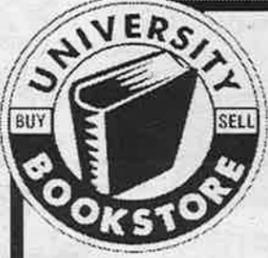
### South

| North  |  | South   |  |
|--|--|---|--|
| <b>Bracket A</b><br>No. 17 American River 83<br>15-13<br>No. 16 Sacramento 76<br>15-11<br>No. 1 Fresno 112<br>29-0<br>No. 9 Cabrillo 93<br>16-10<br>No. 8 Chabot 79<br>17-10       |  | <b>Bracket A</b><br>No. 17 Santa Ana 60<br>12-13<br>No. 16 Santa Ana 73<br>15-15<br>No. 1 San Bernardino 77<br>24-4<br>No. 9 Antelope Valley 77<br>18-11<br>No. 8 LA Southwest 87<br>18-9 |  |
| <b>Bracket B</b><br>No. 18 Shasta 87<br>18-10<br>No. 15 Feather River 95<br>18-9<br>No. 2 S. J. Delta 85<br>28-1<br>No. 10 San Francisco 76<br>18-9<br>No. 7 West Hills 75<br>18-8 |  | <b>Bracket B</b><br>No. 18 LA Harbor 68<br>15-13<br>No. 15 Southwestern 88<br>20-8<br>No. 2 Saddleback 96<br>25-2<br>No. 10 Chaffey 120<br>20-9<br>No. 7 Long Beach 102<br>19-8           |  |
| <b>Bracket C</b><br>No. 14 Los Medanos 81<br>20-9<br>No. 3 West Valley 92<br>23-4<br>No. 11 Yuba 99<br>17-10<br>No. 6 Hartnell 69<br>17-10   |  | <b>Bracket C</b><br>No. 19 Fullerton 92<br>14-14<br>No. 14 San Diego 80<br>18-9<br>No. 3 LA City 95<br>26-3<br>No. 11 Mt. San Jacinto 74<br>18-10<br>No. 6 Ventura 87<br>23-4             |  |
| <b>Bracket D</b><br>No. 13 Siskiyou 77<br>17-8<br>No. 4 Diablo Valley 74<br>25-4<br>No. 12 San Jose 85<br>21-6<br>No. 5 Santa Rosa 72<br>20-7                                      |  | <b>Bracket D</b><br>No. 20 Moorpark 86<br>14-13<br>No. 20 Moorpark 100<br>15-13<br>No. 4 Mt. San Antonio 92<br>29-0<br>No. 12 Canyons 64<br>18-8<br>No. 5 Desert 66<br>24-6               |  |

Winners advance to State Finals

### Tennis: FCC plays Porterville at home March 3

continued from Page 7  
 flavor than past teams.  
 "We had a couple of younger girls, and we needed a few more," Fallara said. "We had those girls at Fig that wanted to play, so we brought them down."  
 These new players make up half the team, which returns only one player, Tami Xiong, from the 2004 season.  
 "Experienced players are very important to our program," said assistant coach Bill Waite.  
 FCC began conference play March 1 at Modesto (results not available at time of printing), and then return home against Porterville March 3.  
 "I'm really excited to be able to play for the team," Leas said. "It's a really nice group of women who play, and all the girls who weren't playing were out here rooting for us."



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## 2005 California women's basketball playoffs

| North                          |                               | South                            |                                   |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| No. 18 Sacramento 60<br>11-13  | No. 18 Sacramento 45<br>12-13 | No. 1 Pasadena 71<br>26-1        | No. 16 Compton 60<br>20-19        |
| No. 16 Merced 58<br>13-14      | No. 1 Santa Rosa 69<br>23-4   | No. 1 Pasadena 82<br>25-1        | No. 16 Compton 68<br>19-9         |
| No. 9 Reedley 61<br>17-8       | No. 1 Santa Rosa 69<br>23-4   | No. 9 El Camino 69<br>19-7       | No. 9 El Camino 19-7              |
| No. 8 San Francisco 55<br>20-7 | No. 9 Reedley 61<br>17-8      | No. 8 Ventura 43<br>21-7         | No. 8 Ventura 21-7                |
| March 5                        |                               | Winners advance to State Finals  |                                   |
| No. 12 Shasta 53<br>17-9       | No. 5 S. J. Delta 88<br>22-7  | No. 4 Mt. San Antonio 48<br>23-7 | No. 13 Cerritos 48<br>18-12       |
| No. 5 S. J. Delta 88<br>22-7   | No. 5 S. J. Delta 88<br>22-7  | No. 4 Mt. San Antonio 75<br>22-7 | No. 4 Mt. San Antonio 75<br>22-7  |
| March 5                        |                               | Winners advance to State Finals  |                                   |
| No. 13 Sequoias 70<br>18-11    | No. 4 Foothill 77<br>22-7     | No. 5 Cypress 59<br>18-9         | No. 12 Bakersfield 59<br>18-9     |
| No. 4 Foothill 77<br>22-7      | No. 4 Foothill 77<br>22-7     | No. 5 Cypress 78<br>23-5         | No. 5 Cypress 78<br>23-5          |
| March 5                        |                               | Winners advance to State Finals  |                                   |
| No. 14 Contra Costa 52<br>20-9 | No. 3 Porterville 63<br>22-6  | No. 3 Antelope Valley 79<br>29-2 | No. 14 Canyons 79<br>16-11        |
| No. 3 Porterville 63<br>22-6   | No. 3 Porterville 63<br>22-6  | No. 3 Antelope Valley 81<br>28-2 | No. 3 Antelope Valley 81<br>28-2  |
| March 5                        |                               | Winners advance to State Finals  |                                   |
| No. 11 Mission 52<br>20-6      | No. 6 Lassen 73<br>23-4       | No. 6 Fullerton 60<br>18-9       | No. 11 Imperial Valley 60<br>18-9 |
| No. 6 Lassen 73<br>23-4        | No. 6 Lassen 73<br>23-4       | No. 6 Fullerton 75<br>20-8       | No. 6 Fullerton 75<br>20-8        |
| March 5                        |                               | Winners advance to State Finals  |                                   |
| No. 17 Fresno 75<br>14-14      | No. 17 Fresno 62<br>15-14     | No. 2 Riverside 68<br>17-12      | No. 17 Moorpark 77<br>16-12       |
| No. 15 Solano 68<br>14-13      | No. 2 San Jose 77<br>25-4     | No. 2 Riverside 81<br>24-4       | No. 15 Orange Coast 69<br>17-12   |
| No. 2 San Jose 77<br>25-4      | No. 2 San Jose 77<br>25-4     | No. 2 Riverside 81<br>24-4       | No. 2 Riverside 81<br>24-4        |
| March 5                        |                               | Winners advance to State Finals  |                                   |
| No. 10 Butte 71<br>18-7        | No. 7 Sierra 84<br>20-7       | No. 10 Citrus 61<br>20-8         | No. 10 Citrus 61<br>20-8          |
| No. 7 Sierra 84<br>20-7        | No. 7 Sierra 84<br>20-7       | No. 7 Chaffey 45<br>23-5         | No. 7 Chaffey 45<br>23-5          |
| March 5                        |                               | Winners advance to State Finals  |                                   |

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# Attendance?

*Calling roll robs students of valuable time.*

To be or not to be in class? That is the question. It's like the question, "Should we make attendance mandatory at a banquet in a Sudanese refugee camp?" Of course, there may be a danger that some of the starving refugees are secretly bulimic and are only in the camp to certify their refugee status but that is unlikely. I mean, what a place to be just for the credit!



**Will Tranquilli**

phones, MP3s, pocket video games, class naps and The art of testing has been refined for centuries. It may not be perfect but is surely superior to the assumption of learning through osmosis.

By the time the student has completed 12 years of school, he/she should have a pretty good idea of what it takes to learn a subject. Some instructors may lecture, some may rely on reading assignments. The best do both.

If the student feels competent to rely on reading and the teacher has adequate testing skills, attendance taking seems ludicrous.

If the instructor lacks testing skills and the department does not provide adequate testing instruments, the credits for the class are no more reliable than rumors since the only definitive measure is the student's presence in class.

While this may explain why high school graduates cannot read, write or name their state's senators, it does little to justify post-secondary educational attendance-taking.

Calling roll wastes valuable class time. The only reliable information calling the roll provides is a list of those students who are not, during class time, stealing the teacher's hub caps.

And, of course, they still have friends.

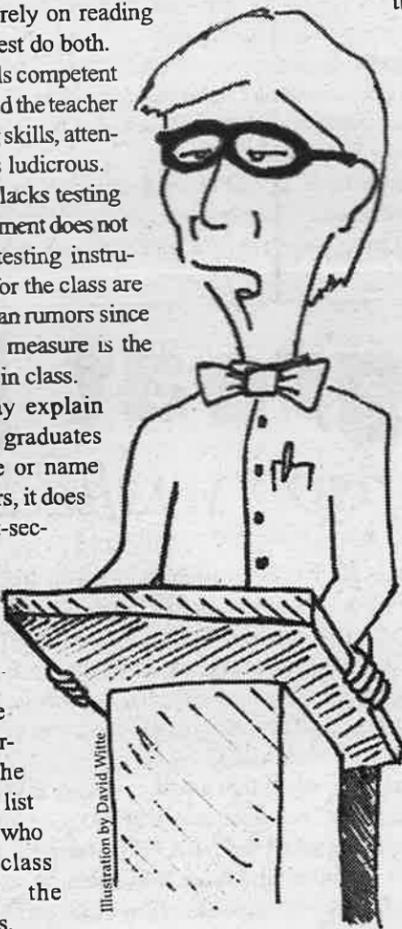


Illustration by David Witte

*Class is actually more interesting than you think.*

Instructors at college should definitely still take attendance. When I came to Fresno City College, honestly, I wasn't ready yet for instruction without attendance being taken. I simply wouldn't have been in class that often.

I'm not sure if it's an effective idea that a lot of teachers give points on attendance. On one hand it gives additional points to students who come to class every time anyway, on the other hand I don't think that students who don't bother to come to class more than three times a month worry much about



**Christine Haeussling**

wouldn't know this and hadn't learned all the stuff that sticks in your head just because it's interesting

Taking attendance is also important for financial aid. If no attendance was taken the state couldn't figure out if all the people who apply for financial aid actually use it and go to class or just let the state pay tuition for classes they hardly ever visit. Enabling the state to check the actual attendance of financial aid applicants helps to keep the system fair. This way financial aid is only given to people who really want the education instead of giving it to people who just go to college because their friends go there, they don't know what to do after high school anyway and hey, campus is not a bad place to occasionally hang out!

Some people might think that since they pay for their education they shouldn't be restricted by attendance. Well, just paying for the classes doesn't guarantee a graduation.

You don't get your general education by only paying but by passing tests. A degree certifies that you completed your GE. A test can't check everything that you learned in class. Ergo you could just pass the test and still not know much about a subject you will have a certified knowledge of later.

If you come to class regularly (and I don't mean every other week) you learn more than by reading someone else's notes the day before the test. It's also important to come at the beginning of class and stay until the end, so it's good that most teachers record tardies and count three as one absence.

Class isn't an open meeting where you just drop by for a few minutes if you feel like it.

A lot of kids in college are not mature enough to get this, that's why attendance is still necessary.

*Bueller?...  
Bueller?...*

attendance points. I don't think they care much about points at all.

Once you go to a four-year college, instructors don't look at attendance as closely as they do in a community college. Ergo, it's a good line between high school and four year college. Teachers look at attendance but accept you missing class a few times, they just give you less points for it.

If you are required to go to class every time it might even turn out that the class is actually more interesting than you thought! If you hadn't gone to class that much, as you actually intended, you

By Sergio Cortes and David Witte

## Campus Voices

Is taking attendance necessary at FCC?



**Ryan Casavez**  
Business

"It is unnecessary because we pay for college and choose to be here."



**Maria Isupov**  
undecided

"If people don't feel like coming to class it shouldn't be necessary."



**Roger Mendoza**  
Pharmacy Tech.

"No. We are old enough, we are liable for our own actions."



**Isaac Okin, Ph.D**  
FCC instructor

"I wouldn't think so. We don't have to pamper you."



**Gabe Rosas**  
Film

"It is on you if you don't want to further your education."



**Griselda Vasquez**  
Liberal Studies

"No. we come here because we want to. It is our choice."

# Backstage at FCC

*Maintenance is only remembered when something's wrong*

How would you like a job where no one knows who you are until they need you?

How many football games do you attend at night with all the lights off?

The lights don't turn on by themselves, heating and air conditioning don't just work without someone monitoring them.

Most stories are written about teachers and students on campus but there would not be students or teachers without this campus running smoothly.

Fresno City College runs because of all the people behind the scene. They are the people who ride around campus with the white carts. They are the ones that go up on roofs to make sure that ventilation is up to par. They are the ones that go under buildings to make sure that the boilers are working properly.

Without people to fix and maintain buildings and grounds everything would fall apart.

Maintenance is only remembered when something goes wrong. No one thinks about the things that are done everyday in order for teachers to teach, and for students to be comfortable in class.

Who do we think takes care of all the plumbing, the lighting, the doors and so on? Teachers and administrators get so much credit, and people don't realize what goes on while stu-

dents and teachers are going from class to class.

I had a great opportunity to see how much it takes to run FCC. The men and women who work on campus do so much and they don't get enough credit for all the things that they do for us.

Mornings begin at 7am for the maintenance, when I am usually still curled under the covers.

I met Bob Brewer, a maintenance worker, and he gave me the grand tour of what he calls "the village." There I was introduced to some of the people who do not only work for Fresno City College, but the district, which includes Reedley College, Madera Center, Clovis Center, and others.

These talented men and women work everyday trying to keep things from falling apart, so that we don't have graffiti sprayed on the walls, and make sure that everything, from locks to plumbing, works.

The maintenance crew for the Fresno City Campus works hard but they often get no recognition for all the things that they do.

We have to keep in mind that even if we are here only for a couple of years, these people have been here a long time.

This is their home and we are just guests that come and go, flipping light switches and using everything that they have, and occasionally also breaking things. So next time you see someone working on a light fixture, painting a wall, fixing the plumbing; thank them. They deserve the thanks, the appreciation, and the recognition.



Poua Her



## Death of a great journalist

*Writer Hunter S. Thompson wished for a loud goodbye*



David Witte

Rest In Peace.

This is what people usually say when someone passes away. But in the case of Hunter S. Thompson, a slight modification may be in order.

Rest In Chaos, you drug-addled genius, free of these filthy swine.

Thompson, known best for his 1971 tale of drugs and mischief entitled "Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas," took his own life with a .45-caliber pistol Feb. 20. He was 67.

The author left no suicide note, but had made arrangements for his remains to be cremated and

blasted out of a cannon at his Woody Creek, Col. Estate, according to the Aspen Daily News.

"Dr. Duke," as he was nicknamed, burst onto the American literary scene in 1967 with a chronicle of his dealing with various groups, ranging from Ken Kesey and his LSD-soaked followers to the most notorious motorcycle gang in the country. The work was entitled "Hell's Angels."

Thompson is credited with the creation of Gonzo Journalism, a combination of journalistic reporting, embellish-

ment, and fiction. He has been immortalized on film by Johnny Depp ("Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas," 1998) and a young Bill Murray ("Where the Buffalo Roam," 1980).

Thompson began his journalistic career in the Air Force as a sports editor for the base newspaper at Pensacola, Fla. Throughout his life, he continued writing on the world of sports, usually the dark underside.

"It is embarrassing to admit that I've been taking the NFL seriously all these years," he wrote in an ESPN.com column. In a later column, he attacked the NBA: "The fan base will continue to shrink, as more and more fans catch on to the morbid 'fact' that the last nine minutes of any NBA game are the only part of it worth watching.

"Once the advertisers catch on, they will flee the scene like rats down a pipe into darkness."

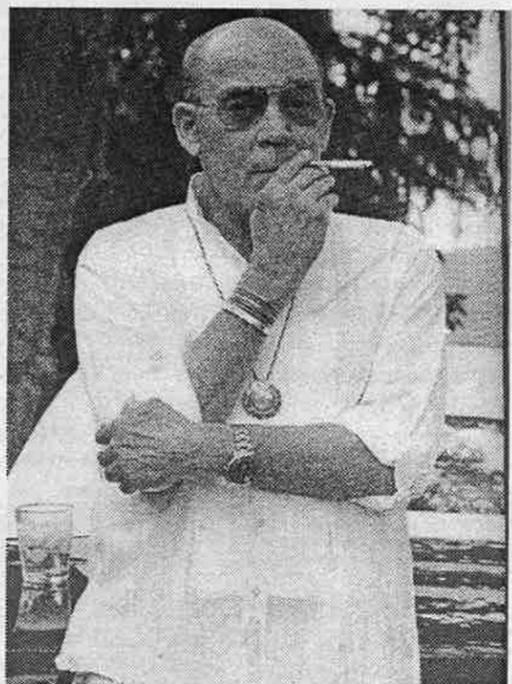
He also wrote of more obscure aspects of sports, such as the Honolulu Marathon:

"Why do these buggers run? What kind of sick instinct, stroked by countless hours of brutal training, would cause intelligent people to get up at four in the morning and stagger through the streets of Honolulu for 26 ball-busting miles in a race that less than a dozen of them have any

chance of winning?

"This is the question we have come to Hawaii to answer again. They do not enter to win. They enter to survive, and go home with a T-shirt."

Thompson also wrote volumes on politics, following the 1972 Presidential election in his book "Fear and Loathing: On the Campaign Trail '72." He covered the Watergate scandal extensively, and in his later days often compared George W. Bush to Richard Nixon.



Simon & Schuster

He was known for his love of guns, motorcycles, and mind-altering substances. He lived his life as close to the edge as possible, and then wrote about it.

"There is no honest way to explain it because the only people who know where it is are the ones who have gone over," he wrote in "Hell's Angels."

"The others — the living — are those who have pushed their control as far as they felt they could handle it, and then pulled back, or slowed down, or did whatever they had to when it came time to choose between Now and Later."

"But the edge is still out there. Or maybe it's In. The association of motorcycles and LSD is no accident of publicity. They are both a means to an end, to the place of definitions."

R.I.C., old man. Say hi to Tricky Dick.

He was known for his love of guns, motorcycles, and mind-altering substances. He lived his life as close to the edge as possible, and then wrote about it.

## Tranquil Tantrums

# Our Freedom Charter is Dying

## *The Declaration Preamble Annotated*

A recent "Nova" episode dealt with the National Archive's efforts to preserve and prevent further deterioration of the Constitution, Bill of Rights and Declaration of Independence. That we must make every effort to keep these marvelous parchments from crumbling to dust is beyond dispute.

Upon rereading the first of those esteemed documents, the Declaration of Independence, one realizes that its tenets — very concept of what government must be is even more at risk than the parchments on which they are written.

Just as the parchments must be repaired and their preservation secured, so must their application to our times be mended where damaged and preserved against future destruction. Their preservation demands our attention. It is toward this end that the document that set forth those world-changing concepts is examined.

### Preamble

"When in the Course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind"

[A president and the Congress ought not invade and occupy a sovereign nation clearly and intentionally disrespecting the opinions of the rest of the world?]

"requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal,"

[Our current tax structure contradicts this.]

"that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life,"

[We are rare among civilized nations because we have the death penalty.]



Will Tranquilli

"Liberty"

[Patriot Acts I and II, enough said.]

"and the pursuit of Happiness"

[Same-sex marriage outlawed?]

"...That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed."

[Not vice versa, as in the case of Florida elections which ignored that consent.]

"...That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness."

[Hummmmm...]

"Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes";

[Long established Social Security is scheduled for ill-fated change.]

"and accordingly all experience hath shewn, that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed."

[With all its imperfections, we prefer that it not be tinkered with, thank you very much.]

"But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object evinces a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism,"

[See Patriot Acts above.]

"it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future security".

[Hummmmm, impeachment?]

"...Such has been the patient sufferance of these Colonies; and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their former Systems of Government. The history of the present King of Great Britain "

[And King Bush of Washington]

"is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States."

[More and more federal funding to the states has strings attached, i.e. forbidding abortion counseling, mandatory equal time in science classes for creationism, etc.]

"To prove this, let Facts be submitted to a candid world."

[How is this to be done with the near-total concentration of ownership of mass media in the hands of the puppet-masters who control the government? It won't be done with embedded journalists, trust that.]

We, of today, are entrusted with preserving the ideals set forth in this awe-inspiring document which has and continues to inspire people of the world to secure their own freedom."

What a loss the world would suffer if we don't live up to that responsibility. What a crime against mankind if we allow those ideals to die.

The words of Patrick Henry come to mind;

"...why stand we here idle...give me liberty or..."

## Life as a mom and then a student



Mona Lisa McCormick

yeah, after I go to school, then I get to go to work. And then I get to go home and make sure you have had dinner and then I have to make sure you take a bath, oh yeah did I tell you I also have homework to do? But all he heard was, "Yes, but right now I'm getting ready for school just like you."

And so that is how my days work. I sometimes wonder how I would fare

way back when women were not allowed to go to school, but stayed home, care of her family and did her domestic duties.

Would I be satisfied with that? Knowing what I know now, how women have excelled even if they have children, not having to choose



Left to right, Mason, age 3, and Matthew McCormick, age 5

between motherhood and career. I believe I would still have made the same choices.

When making choices of whether or not I should stay at home and dedicate my life to my children, I think about my goals of where I want to

be when I finish school. It is the same dedication to my children that pops into my head when I think about graduating.

Many students drop out because of challenges with childcare. "Thank you" cannot cover how grateful I am to my parents and other family members for helping me in that department.

They know my reasons for going back to school and they can also see my vision.

I want to be able to be a good role model for my children. I know that I may not have as much time with them, and the long hours studying sometimes make me weary, but being a "stu-

dent mom" I think that I am not the first woman who has done this and succeeded nor will I be the last.

I have the great privilege of knowing a woman named Anacleta T. Soriano who has also traveled down that road of being a student mother. She was a special education teacher attending California State University Fresno for her Masters degree in education. She would work all day and then attend classes at night. She would bring along two of her children ages 10 and 14. When she was in class those two children would be in the library studying or reading. She was a great role model.

Anacleta T. Soriano is my mother. I guess being a student mom runs in the family.

## Horoscopes

David Witte  
(Not a real astrologer)

Nobody was harmed in the making of this column. This time.



**ARIES** (March 21-April 29): A strange man will sell you a gerbil which will turn out to be the reincarnated spirit of Richard Nixon.



**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20): Your first appearance on Cops will land you the starting role in the prison production of Guys and Dolls.



**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20): You will invent an antacid tablet that has side effects similar to LSD, and live the rest of your days swimming in \$100 bills and polka-dotted elephants.



**CANCER** (June 21-July 22): You will be stranded on a desert island with your favorite album, your favorite book, and Tito Jackson.



**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22): An undercooked rib-eye steak will be your downfall when you slip on it while avoiding that banana peel.



**VRIGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Your dream wedding will come to fruition when you marry that hooker with three nipples and an eye patch in the nearest Denny's.



**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You will lose your hunting license, and they will never let you into the zoo again.



**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): In your visit to South America, you will run across a tribe of vicious Amazons, who will sell you books at a slight discount.



**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Sagittarius is really getting tired of you. "What's going on? What's going to happen this week?" Get a life.



**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Your case of the runs will ruin a roller-coaster ride for everyone.



**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Your habit of making up words will confusify everyone around you.



**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20): Your love affair with Wilfred Brimley will end in a haze of senility when he remembers that you slept with George Burns in 1973.

# What's the 'Hitch'?

Everyone can learn from this romantic comedy starring Will Smith



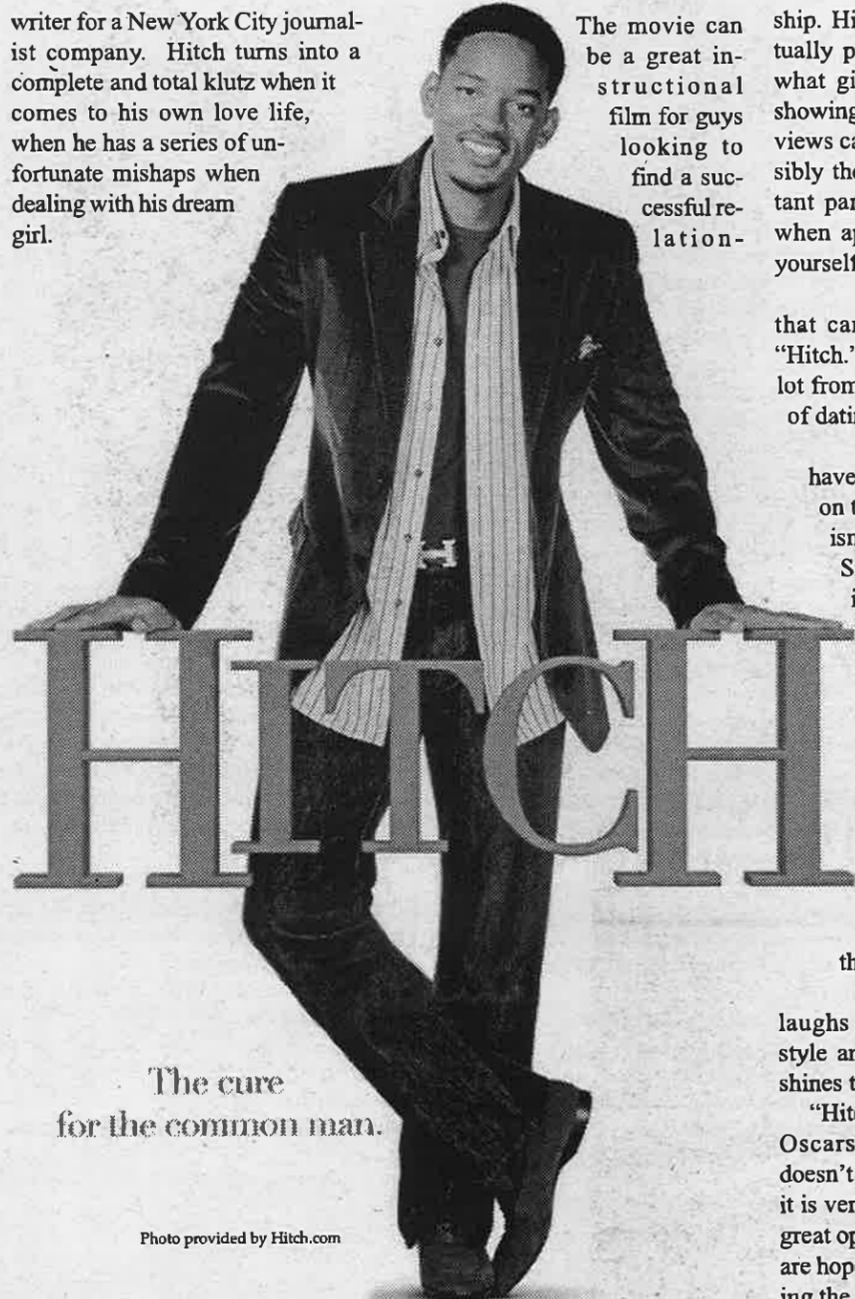
Ryan McHenry

Life, love, relationships and good journalism? That's the premise of Will Smith's new film "Hitch." Smith adds another great performance with an entertaining view on the dating scene.

Smith plays the roll of Alex Hitchens or "Hitch," as he likes to call himself. Hitchens is a successful dating instructor that helps men catch the girl of their dreams. The movie co-stars Kevin James as Albert, who is a financial advisor who falls head over heels for Allegra Cole, one of his clients. James does a great job in a breakthrough movie roll, successfully making the transition from primetime television's "The King of Queens." James plays the part of a hopeless romantic who has absolutely no game when it comes to women.

Everything seems to go Smith's way in the film as far as his career goes, that is until he meets the very beautiful Eva Mendez. Mendez plays the part of a very successful gossip column

writer for a New York City journalist company. Hitch turns into a complete and total klutz when it comes to his own love life, when he has a series of unfortunate mishaps when dealing with his dream girl.



The cure for the common man.

Photo provided by Hitch.com

The movie can be a great instructional film for guys looking to find a successful relation-

ship. Hitch preaches for men to actually pay attention and listen to what girls have to say. Simply showing an interest in a woman's views can go along way. And possibly the hardest and most important part, is taking the first step when approaching women to set yourself apart from other men.

Men aren't the only ones that can benefit from watching "Hitch." Women also can learn a lot from this movie on the subject of dating.

Women and Men alike have the tendency to pre-judge on their first impression. This isn't always such a good idea. Simply approaching women is stressful enough to make you act like a complete moron.

What people need to realize is that we are all human, and no one is perfect in this world.

The question we should really be asking is, "Are we perfect for one another?" And that's what counts when it comes to the relationship.

The movie has lots of laughs and Smith's charismatic style and lighthearted personality shines throughout the movie.

"Hitch" probably won't win any Oscars come next year, but it doesn't take away from the fact that it is very entertaining, funny and a great opportunity to help those that are hopeless when it comes to finding the right woman.

# 'Constantine' promises a hell of a time

Keanu Reeves returns to the screen as a biblical warrior



Sergio Cortes

Keanu Reeves returns to the big screen in Warner Brothers' newest psychological thriller "Constantine."

John Constantine (Reeves) is not your traditional exorcist. He is a lone warrior that takes on the legions of hell with his full arsenal of holy weapons. Nevertheless, Constantine finds himself damned to hell unless he can see pass his own bitterness and understand the true meaning of his cause. There might be a chance for redemption

when he is raised from the depths of hell and decides to help a Los Angeles police detective, Angela Dodson (Rachel Weisz) investigate the mysterious death of her twin sister, Isabel (also Weisz). They soon discover that the death of Isabel is a warning about the coming of Satan's son. Together Constantine and Angela set out to stop the forces of evil from helping Satan's son enter our world before hell truly breaks loose.

What makes "Constantine" unique is the direction that director Francis Lawrence takes it. The movie breaks away from the typical cliché of demonic horror movies and instead illustrates an interesting portrayal of the forces of good

and evil at work. Lawrence takes the audience deep into the underground world of demons and angels that ironically parallels that of organized crime and the established justice system. The idea of people having miniature angels and devils on their shoulders is taken to a whole dif-

ferent level by the movie. The angels and demons are only permitted to influence individuals and are not allowed to physically come in

See Constantine, Page 15

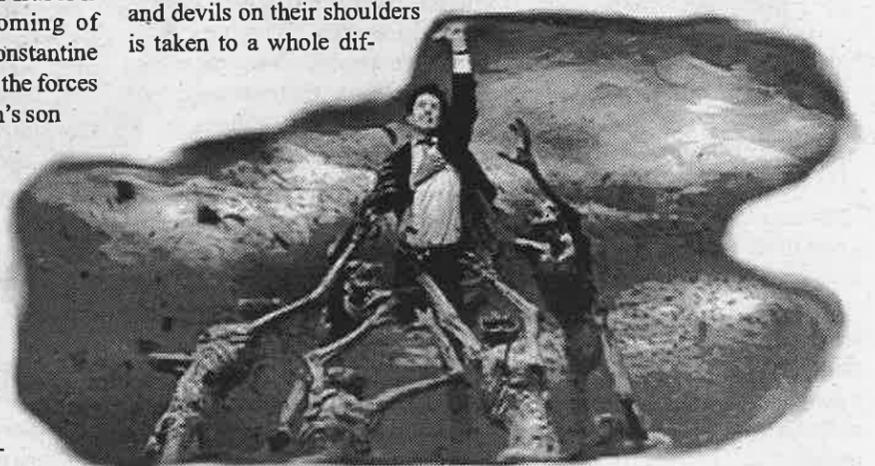
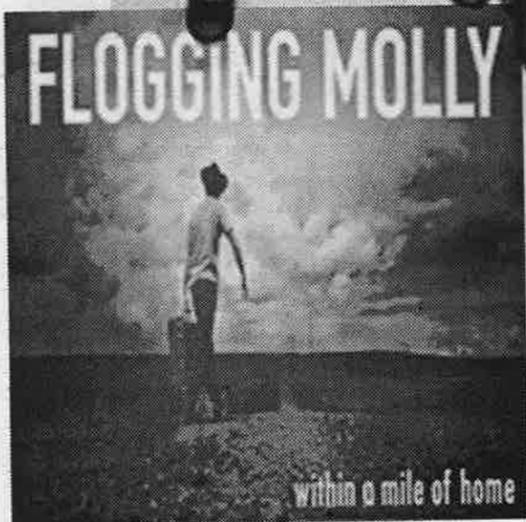
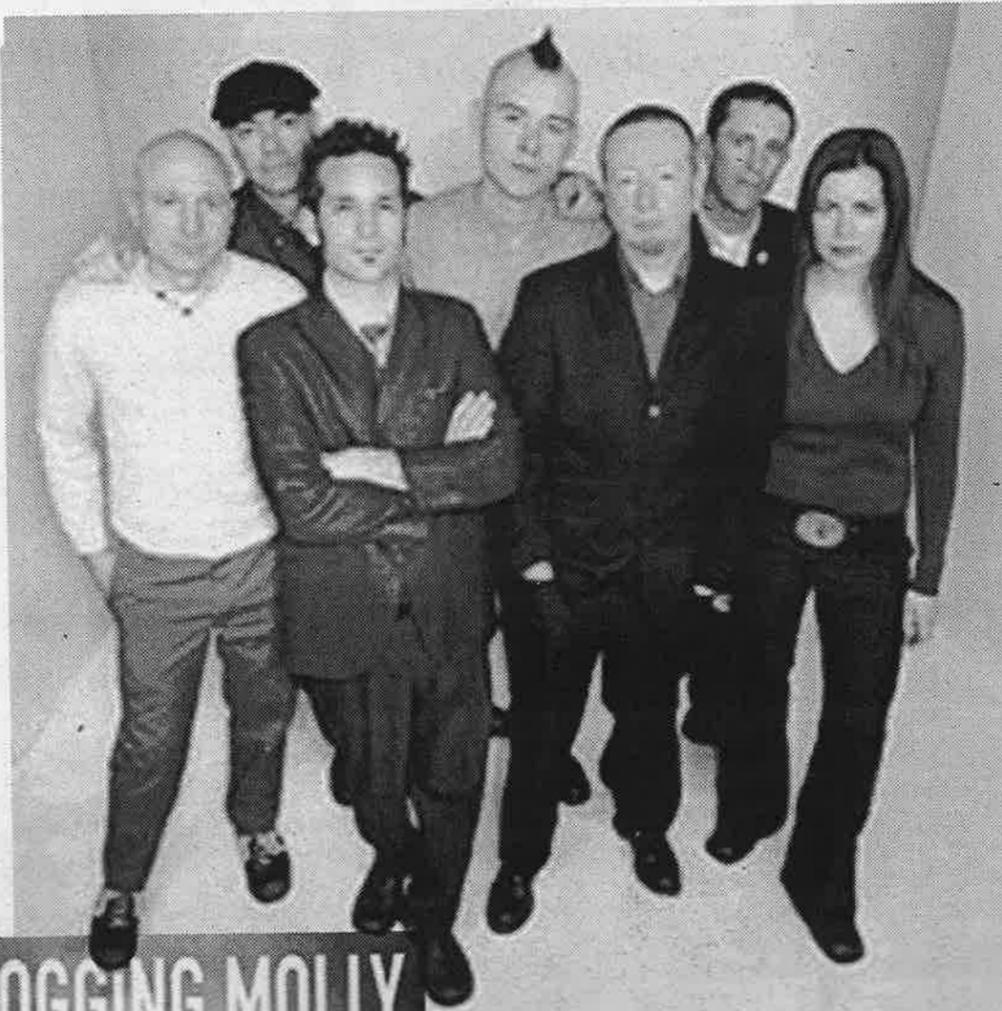


Photo Courtesy of Yahoo Movies

# Been around the block

*Celtic punk band Flogging Molly releases their third album*



Daniel Cloyd

Punk Rockers Flogging Molly are back for a third go around as they released their latest album "Within a Mile of Home."

Flogging Molly hasn't lost any of their original sound as they still stick to their bread and butter by combining Celtic Folk music with punk beats.

Earlier bands seeking to mix punk with Celtic influence like The Real McKenzies and Dropkick Murphy's have either displayed one aspect of the combination or the other, but Flogging Molly has provided a great balance between the two and has continued to do so with their latest album.

It took a while for Flogging Molly to get some recognition for the type of music they play.

The band has been around since 1987 and started out by playing at a small Los Angeles bar "Molly Malone's" which was the brainchild for the name of the group when they signed their first record deal.

What makes this group of seven unique is the instruments they use to make their music. Flogging

Molly consists of two guitarists a drummer and bassist. That's where they draw the line. The other three members of the band play a mandolin, accordion and fiddle. Members of Flogging Molly have also been known to play numerous other instruments on their tracks.

The band has become increasingly popular since first album release in 2000 titled "Swagger." After a successful first album, Flogging Molly followed it up two years later with their second release "Drunken Lullabies."

Still riding high on their strong following after two albums, Flogging Molly went on tour and even made a stop in Fresno this past January when they performed at the "Rainbow Ballroom."

Flogging Molly has definitely provided a breath of fresh air to punk rock. Their innovative style is something that any up and coming bands should take note of. "Within a Mile of Home" can be found in most record stores and is a great buy for anyone into punk or a less traditional Celtic folk music.

## Constantine: Audience might lose interest in movie with psychological path the movie takes

Continued from page 1

conflict with them. Such predetermined rules set either by God or the devil is confusing and anyone can easily get lost with all the biblical references made by the movie. If you're not up to date with the Bible you may not distinguish which biblical references are true or just plain Hollywood nonsense.

For those who expecting the same kind of action you saw from Reeves in "The Matrix" or that of Weisz in "The Mummy Returns," then you might be somewhat disappointed.

This film does have a few action sequences but they lack real intensity. Lawrence does not turn "Constantine" into a demon slaying action movie or a gross out horror flick like some were hoping for.

Instead he develops it into a movie about the intrigue of the unknown. Lawrence places too many scenes in the minds of the audience. By doing so he risks confusing them as most of the viewers find themselves asking what exactly happened as they exit the theater.

"Constantine" is a great movie for audiences that are interested in suspense and have the patience to come up with their own explanation of mysterious occurrences. It is not as appealing for those that expect heart-pounding action or a scary thriller. The hellacious world of "Constantine" should be enough to satisfy the average moviegoer but should have the rest of us questioning if it's worth two hours of our time.



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**Don't say "I do" to 'The Wedding Date'**



Joanne Lui

"The Wedding Date" is a predictable yet enjoyable romantic comedy that turns the tables on gender roles in a kind of reverse "Pretty Woman" for the new millennium. Dermot Mulroney, most well known as Julia Robert's best friend in "My Best Friend's Wedding,"

continues his matrimonial-themed movie tendencies as the titular date in "The Wedding Date."

Mulroney plays Nick, a charming, self-assured male escort whom Debra Messing's Kat hires to pretend to be her new boyfriend at her sister's wedding in London, because Kat wants to make her ex-fiancé the best man, jealous.

The movie follows a formulaic plotline as Nick, essentially a glorified hooker, falls in love with the neurotic and insecure Kat while trying to teach her to believe in herself.

Although the movie is fairly by the book, the actors are beautiful and pleasant to watch.

Messing displays some of the comic genius she uses every week

on "Will and Grace," and Mulroney is sure to make women's hearts melt.

If you're looking for a cute date movie or just a fun night out with the girls, "The Wedding Date" is a safe choice. For the most part, it'd be wiser to just save your money and go to your nearest Blockbuster when the movie inevitably hits the shelves.

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