



Ku Klux Klan stirs up controversy in Fresno

# Conference speaker Banks comes to FCC



Dennis Banks, co-founder of AIM

photo Charles Maddox

students were the foundation of the struggles concerning many issues in this country.

The conference was a major educational opportunity on many issues, including sovereignty, education, environment, religion, drugs and alcohol, sacred run, and the "Bring Peltier Home" campaign.

One confusing issue is the controversy over sports mascots. "They don't understand that making a mockery of our way of life and beliefs causes deep pain," Banks said.

Banks mentioned the fan who was popular for his celebrations of home runs made by the Cleveland Indians. Chief Knockahoma would do a funny Hollywood dance while making a sound by beating his mouth as the stadium played a thumping sound. Now, the Atlanta Braves fans do a tomahawk chop.

"When I see mock eagle feathers (they're

"Making a mockery of our way of life and beliefs causes deep pain."

— AIM co-founder  
Dennis Banks

research, but money becomes a factor when pots that still-born babies were buried in are auctioned for \$25,000 to \$50,000.

Indians teach how to dig graves, but not how to dig up somebody's grave. "Because of our beliefs, we could not touch the sacred soil that covers that person," Banks said. "We walk around it." As confusing as Indian beliefs are to white people, the actions that white people take are mystifying to Indians. "They might be full of some religious order, but they have no spiritual sense," Banks said.

As well as co-founding AIM in Minneapolis on Jul. 28, 1968, by knocking on doors and asking Native Americans to attend a meeting. Banks also founded the Sacred Run Foundation.

Sacred Run originated from a week-long meeting of chiefs in Vancouver, BC in 1977, which concerned the relationship between human beings and the Mother Earth environment. Its purpose is to carry a message from village to village about the sacredness of all life and the need for balance between humankind and this planet.

The first run, in 1978, was from Davis, CA, to Los Angeles, a distance of 500 miles.

"Since then our runners have run in 20 different countries over 60,000 miles," Banks said. Last year the run extended from LA to Atlanta, Georgia, to coincide with the Olympics. Each individual runner had to run the entire distance of 2,600 miles.

One of the biggest issues affecting AIM is the campaign to free Leonard Peltier — one of the founders of AIM — from imprisonment.

Peltier was convicted of the deaths of two FBI agents in a shoot-out on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota on Jun. 26, 1975.

Since his conviction, evidence has been brought through the court systems concerning FBI perjury and the inability to identify Peltier as the shooter.

Former US Attorney General Ramsey Clark requested clemency by the US president for Peltier in 1993. Peltier remains in Leavenworth and is not entitled to a reconsideration hearing until Dec. 2008. It is suspected that it is more convenient to keep an innocent man in prison than to deal with controversy regarding government misconduct.

Floyd Red Crow Westerman dedicates his concert tours to Peltier. "Wherever Dennis appears, I'm always ready to be there for Leonard Peltier," Westerman said. "So I'm going to sing for Leonard this afternoon for all of you." Among other songs, Westerman sang about missionaries, veterans, and anthropologists.

## □ American Indians gather to promote self-awareness

By Sheryl Youngblood  
Rampage Staff

Within the blood of every Native American lies a thread of DNA that preserves the Native American culture, according to Dennis Banks, co-founder of the American Indian Movement. "It allowed us to survive as Native persons," Banks said at the AIM conference at Fresno City College on Nov. 22.

The conference, hosted by the Native American Indian Student Association of FCC, also featured the famous actor, singer, and songwriter Floyd Red Crow Westerman. Westerman is most widely known for his role as Ten Bears in *Dances With Wolves*.

The all-day event included Northern Drum ceremonies, tribal dance ceremonies, prayers and blessings, food, and a panel of people selected from the community speaking briefly on issues and encouraging audience interaction.

About 10 percent of the more than 200 people present were college students. Banks, who spoke here 19 years ago, reminisced about the 1960s when college and university

chicken feathers), then they don't understand that the highest honor that we can give a person or receive in our lifetime is an eagle feather," Banks said. "It's like to the military what a medal of honor would be." Painting on faces and bodies is significant of receiving a name, or of the rites of passage into adulthood.

Banks did not know what would make white people understand the anger and the pain, until Sinead O'Connor tore a picture of the Pope on television. The amount of telephone calls to the network were staggering. "This insulted the Christian values in this country and throughout the world," Banks said.

Banks light-heartedly told a friend, "When the New Orleans Saints come to town, we'll dress up as Popes and we'll get these great big foam crucifixes and do some kind of crucifix chop. Then maybe they'll understand what it is to insult somebody's religious beliefs." Banks pokes fun at the possible event, but he made it clear that he could never do it.

Another painful issue for Native Americans is grave desecration. "When they make fun of our culture, it's easy to understand how they can dig for our bones," Banks said. University drawers and museums across the country are filled with the bones of Indians. The argument for it is

# Stanley still in the game in '98

By Allen M. Coleman  
Staff Writer

Fresno City College Rams head football coach Vance Stanley will still be pacing the sideline for the 1998 season.

A recent article in the Fresno Bee last month announced that Stanley had been fired from his head coaching job at FCC. According to the story, the information released about Stanley's departure came from a source within the school's administration.

The news came as a surprise to the community. However, Stanley expressed serious concern about the matter.

A newsletter was released on Dec. 2 officially announcing Stanley's return as FCC's head football coach for the '98 season. FCC President Dan Larios called a special news conference in which local news media reporters, press reporters, staff member and chancellor Bill Stewart of State Center Community College District attended.

Larios officially announced that Stanley is still FCC's head football coach for the upcoming season. Larios also mentioned in that due to miscommunication, Coach Stanley would not be asked to return for the '98 season and a third year as head coach. "We will make it right, and I decided this was the right thing to do," Larios told reporters.

The decision has been made — Vance Stanley and his coaching staff is scheduled

to coach another football season at FCC beginning in the fall of '98.

"I'm really happy for him," said Fresno City College Athletic Director Ron Scott. "He's a coaching colleague and we will give him a chance. I'm assuming he's only going to go one more year." Stanley did mention he had no coaching plans beyond the '98 season.

The head coaching ordeal was over for Stanley and his staff. "It's a relief to me, especially the way it was handled," he said. Stanley has years of coaching experience in the valley, including 11 years at Kings River (Reedley) College, 11 seasons at Fresno High where he posted a 74-22-9 record and 12 years as a full-time faculty member at FCC. Stanley also coached the Rams defensive line from 1991 to 1995 before taking over as head coach two years ago.

I'll be able to go out on a different note after serving 26 years of coaching in the



photo Rebekkah Mitchell

Coach Vance Stanley was mistakenly reported as being fired from FCC.

Valley," Stanley said. "We're trying to build a football program on what it was intended to be."

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# Have yourself a Tower District Christmas



By Sheryl Youngblood  
Rampage Staff

Move over Huntington Blvd. and Christmas Tree Lane! Santa's got a new hangout in town. His bag contains many Christmas activities for the Tower district this holiday season.

Under the glow of the 50-foot Christmas tree on the Tower Theatre, carolers entertain shoppers and theater-goers. Horse-drawn carriages provide people with jaunts through the neighborhood, and a Victorian Santa flashes his pearly whites at his new Victorian cottage for photos.

"Celebrating Christmas is our gift back to the community," said Bill Kuebler of the Tower District Marketing Committee. Committee members decorated the tower of the Tower Theatre with 45 strands of lights from the top of the spire to the bottom. The ball at the top represents the Christmas tree star.

Powell's Wagon Parties are providing the vintage surrey carriage for the free horse-drawn carriage rides. The two parking lots used for boarding are on the corner of Olive and Fulton from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., and on the corner of Olive and Broadway from 9:00 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.

The De Capo coral group from McLane High School toured restaurants and night spots on the 13th, performing their renditions of Christmas carols throughout the Tower district.

A break from the hectic scurrying of holiday preparations is provided in the form of family entertainment at the Good Company Players' Second Space Theatre and at the Tower Theatre. Performances of *A Christmas Carol* at 2:00 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. will continue at the Second Space Theatre through Dec. 21. *The Nutcracker* — *The Mouse Queen's Revenge* performances ran Dec. 12-14.

Santa will be in his Victorian Santa cottage for the last time on Dec. 20, from 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. for photos and fun.

## Dancers perform at FCC

By Genevieve Hinson  
Rampage Staff

The light crept through the blackened studio. Graceful bodies clad in blue bodysuits and white tights appeared. They stood still as mannequins. When the music began, they erupted in bountiful jumps and turns. The first dance, "My Favorite Color," initiated the *City Dances [in the Studio]* program held in the Fresno City College dance studio.

The *City Dances* program, which ran from Dec. 5 to Dec. 7, featured student-choreographed dance numbers set to varied styles of music ranging

from Lito Vitale to White Zombie.

The third dance, "Invisible Strength," created an artistic image which portrayed the emotions felt in many mother/daughter relationships. Music by the Mills Brothers incorporated text adapted from the *Joy Luck Club* by Amy Tan. The text, read by Aimee Morales, completed the poignant impact.

"*Latino American's Heart*," a mesmerizing solo piece, was performed and choreographed by award-winning dancer Jessica Mercuri. She energized the stage in a tight bodysuit which showed each muscle being demanded to perform. Her powerful and awe-inspiring presentation required the audience's undivided attention.

The collage of dances intertwined together. They flowed from soft-stepping moves to intense leaps and twists. The gestures and symbolism, intermixed with dance moves choreographed by individual students, expressed their imaginative talent, ultimately creating a beautiful art form.



photo L. Burgin

"Anarchy," choreographed by Jason Belo



photo L. Burgin

"Le Photographe Imaginaire," choreographed by Janice Jansen.

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## EDITORIAL

On Nov. 15, at 6:00 p.m., members of the Klu Klux Klan assembled on the Fresno State University campus. A large crowd of angry Fresnoans gathered to meet the Klan members — fervently protesting and shouting “Show your face!” Another crowd of protestors gathered near the Dr. King memorial in downtown Fresno. Still, countless others who were not present at either gathering were appalled that FSU would allow the Klan to assemble.

Seeing the Klan has the right to free speech, many people — including Fresno City College students — feel there is nothing that can be done to prevent the public spread of racist ideology. But there is.

The mere presence of the Klan is so controversial that it invokes police protection to guard them from angry crowds and their Constitutional rights. The Klan, dressed in traditional white robes and cone-shaped hoods, were not allowed to bear arms. However, they were armed in a way that was perfectly legal. The Klan came to the college campus not with guns and knives, nor sticks and stones, but with a fiery collective tongue that can break the brittle bones fused together to maintain peaceful race relations.

I spoke to a number of people the day before and the night of the rally. Among those I spoke to was an African-American bus driver and a handful of passengers. Everyone seemed upset about the rally, but no one seemed to know what to do about it.

“If I didn’t have this job, I would be down there [FSU] strapped!” exclaimed the bus driver. During my brief discus-

sion with the driver, I re-discovered what must be done to diffuse the Klan’s message.

The tongue is a more powerful weapon than either gun or knife. With it, men are trained to act uncivilly toward their fellow citizens. The Klan hopes to generate new membership by preaching racist views and one-race supremacy.

Their preaching is not at all new or foreign. Hitler used these tactics to infuriate his followers against the Jewish nation. He preached until his followers were convinced they were actually providing service to God. Thus, the Jews were castrated, tortured, starved, beaten, shot, gassed, electrocuted — the list goes on and on.

Although racism was here in America long before the Klan had ever originated, they became the pillars of it. They were responsible for maintaining the polarization of our country, and preventing its unification. They were active politicians, lawyers, governors and preachers. Their message caused whites to oppress blacks, and blacks to hate whites for it.

Dr. King faced racism, and he did it successfully. He did not simply ignore it, hoping it would go away. He did not “strap” himself with a gun, or carry a knife or a stick. He did not believe in violence. He strapped himself with a sharp and piercing tongue and preached convincingly to America, causing their hearts to capsize and empty out their racist views. I found that by preaching, the Klan had caused the racial tensions to swell and by preaching they are brought under control.

Yet, to simply preach is not enough. We must first allow their message to be heard, so that we can fully understand what is being preached. By understanding, we may know how to intelligently address what is being said. If we understand their argument, we can contrast it with our own. Secondly, we must understand that without a defense their will never be an offense. In other words, until we can defend the marginal steps we’ve already taken in our stride to free this country of racism, we will not be able to continue to go forward. We must understand that with violence we can never rid ourselves of hate without becoming just as hateful as those who hate us.

Someone once said, “Sticks and stones may break my bones, but words will never hurt me,” but we are well aware how far from the truth that really is. The Bible declares, “Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and they who love it shall eat the fruit thereof” (Prov. 18:21). The tongue is an incredibly powerful weapon that can either be used to make the strongest of us cry, or the saddest of us rejoice. With it politicians convince voters to sway in their favor and lawyers to argue for and against the guilty verdict. By it, wars are initiated and peace is made. Promises are issued and broken.

The Klan understand the power in the tongue, and until they are verbally challenged — not with aggression, hate, or ignorance — their message will remain undefeated.

— Cedric House

## In memory of Jose Salazar

On behalf of my family I would like to extend our appreciation to all of you for your support, encouragement, and respect for my father during the past 12 years. Words cannot begin to say what education meant to my father, unless, perhaps you were able to attend his memorial service.

With over 200 people accompanying my family and I, it was very clear my father’s life was dedicated to you students, in particular “La Raza.”

Special thanks to Mr. Venancio Gaona, Mr. Frank Ramon, Mr. Robert Fox, Mr. Joaquin Jimenez, Miss Leticia Canales, Liz Harris, Dr. Josefina Esparza, Mrs. Ikeda and the entire counseling center, La Raza faculty and staff, El Concilio de Fresno, and Club Latino just to mention a few.

Your thoughts and prayers are greatly appreciated. Continue fighting for educational rights. As students, truly appreciate your education. That was my father’s purpose in life, as many of you have been privileged to have witnessed in his works.

Deepest thanks,  
Lupe Salazar & family

Funeral services for Jose Salazar were held in Anaheim on Oct. 18, 1997. More than 150 people affiliated with Fresno City College attended the memorial service. Salazar was a counselor at FCC for 12 years.

## MEMO:

The *Rampage* is now recruiting talented students in all areas of newspaper publication for the Spring semester.

Positions are now open for:

- Editors
- Writers
- Photographers
- Graphic artists
- Proofreaders
- Cartoonists

If you are experienced and have an interest in any of these areas, please contact *Rampage* advisor, Mr. Nash, Mon. or Wed. between 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. at 442-8262 or 442-8263

Dear FCC *Rampage* editor,

This letter may be of the trivial sort you won’t print, but I would like you to address it. First of all, I am very honored to attend this college. It is a privilege to learn. So don’t take this as one of those racial matters.

I am a full-blooded Yankten Sioux from the Dakota Sioux Nation. My girlfriend is of Cherokee descent and we both belong to the Native American Inter-Tribal Student Association.

I work for a tribal organization and belong to two other Indian Committees, but I like to think of myself as a very culturally diverse person. For too long we have been neglected and pushed aside as a piece of history to teach in classes or buckskin and beads to make money off of, or in some wild west movie. We still exist and, for the most part, have adapted to new ways.

The reason I am writing is to inform you that we have heard that the school paper does not recognize us as worthy to print about. There is a conference for the American Indian Movement on Nov. 22, with Dennis Banks being the speaker. Does anyone at this college know who he is? Do any of your history teachers recognize this person and the Wounded Knee incident back in ‘73? There is much to be talked about at this conference: Big Mountain land dispute of the Navajos, Casino controversy from all nations, and the ever-popular team mascot uproar.

Personally, I like the Redskins and Chiefs. I like the Braves and the Indians, too. But what about cultural health? Alcohol and drug abuse have been very high since the boat people arrived. Original colonists used alcohol to trade with us for furs. Sobriety is what we also will talk about and encourage.

We set up our stand to sell our authentic “Indian frybread” on Club Awareness day. We sell our Indian tacos, and have our meeting afterwards. (Wednesday at 4:00 p.m.) Basically we are like

## LETTERS TO



## THE EDITOR

the other clubs, just smaller in number. We’re less apt to make the newspapers and TV, but we do make really good fry bread and tacos! Our events are limited and our money is short.

But the issue is real and I wanted to let you know we do exist! I am not extinct yet, there are a few full-blooded Indians left. Hopefully we don’t have to jump on a horse and put war paint on to get noticed.

I sure hope you take notice of my culture for good reasons, not bad. You can even stop by and try some Indian tacos.

One day the mystery under every leaf and rock will be revealed to us all. And I hope all the students enjoy the cultural diversity offered here at Fresno City College.

— Matthew P. Kellor

Matthew,

Thank you for your letter. Concerns of *Rampage* readers are not trivial. It is important to *Rampage* staff to provide information about college activities and organizations that encourage a growth of knowledge about the cultures on the Fresno City College campus, and in our

world society as well. Students learn not only through textbooks, but also through sharing experiences and identities.

I had the pleasure of working with the Native American Indian Student Association when I covered the pow wow hosted by NAISA on FCC campus on Sept. 13 for an article in the *Rampage*. I learned a lot from NAISA president Laura Wass. The article appeared in our third edition on Oct. 1. If you would like a copy of that *Rampage* newspaper, please come to the *Rampage* office located above the FCC bookstore. It was my intention after writing that article to cover the important conference of the American Indian Movement with speaker Dennis J. Banks and performer Floyd Red Crow Westerman.

I would like to note that I understand the discrimination that Native Americans have suffered. People often mistake my name to be an Indian name. When my family lived in Arizona during my youth, a group of boys gathered around my brother day after day after school and beat him up because our last name is Youngblood. Those memories still haunt me. Our name is an English translation of the Dutch name Jungbloet. I escaped beatings perhaps because my hair was too blonde for students to connect me to my “Indian” heritage.

I cannot speak for past or future editors.

I extend apologies to all FCC campus clubs and organizations who find *Rampage* coverage of their activities negligible. Please let us know your concerns by addressing your letters to:

**The Rampage**  
Letters to the Editor  
Fresno City College  
1101 E. University Avenue  
Fresno, CA 93741





FCC verses COS. In the trenches

photo Don Davis

# Rams finish with ups and downs

By Eric Mendoza  
Staff Writer

It was the best of times, it was the worst of times... Okay, it wasn't that dramatic, but the Fresno City College Rams' 1997 Fall Semester wasn't without its share of excitement and unforgettable moments.

City staked claim to four conference championships, three state appearances, two regional berths, and produced more All Conference Selections than any other area school - earning every right to the unofficial title of "The Valley's Best."

"We're off to a good start," said FCC Athletic Director Ron Scott. "I thought we had a successful fall and I'm real excited about Spring. We're going to try and win all nine conference championships."

From A to Z, or rather C from to W, let's take a look at how the Ram seasons panned out this Fall.

**CROSS COUNTRY (Bay Valley Champions); (State Finalists)** — If not for a last minute eligibility infraction, Coach Gary Bluth and his 'City runners would've had an even better season. Competing in the Bay Valley Conference, the Rams won the title behind strong showings from the freshman-trio of Michael Kasahun, Jose Godinez, and Martin Urroz, as well as sophomore Sam Coon.

The championship qualified FCC for the California Community College Cross Country Championships, on Saturday, November 22nd - in their own backyard at Woodward Park. Without the team able to compete due to a Ram runner not carrying enough units, Kasahun went on to place second at 20 minutes and 15 seconds, in the 5,000 meter.

Next year, the Rams expect to have an even stronger class, with experience.

**FOOTBALL (2-3 Central Valley Conference) (3-7 overall)** — How ironic was it, that in a season tarnished by disgruntled players abandoning ship left and right - and even with the Rams in the midst of chasing a conference championship - 2nd year head coach Vance Stanley was the recipient himself, of an ungracious Administrative shove off the plank, only to be asked back, one month later, to finish his original third and final term.

A poor record and a last-ranked CVC defense were mostly the result of players leaving the team, injuries and defenders playing out of position - a shuffling act probably more suitable for a Table Mountain Dealer.

In all, it was a season for the Rams to forget - and if you were one of the fortunate ones to spend your Saturday nights following the Fresno State Bulldogs or if you stayed home to watch COPS - you didn't miss much (more people were seen at a recent Mike Tyson fan-club meeting, than at Ram home games). As for you optimists, hopefully '98 will be a memorable one, and maybe FCC can give Stanley a much deserved, respectful, and appropriate send-off.

**WOMEN'S GOLF (12-2, 2nd place BVC); (Fourth in State)** — Third-year Head Coach Susan Yates guided her Lady Ram Swingers to another impressive campaign in '97. Not having any local or area competition, FCC finished its third season in the Bay Valley Conference - with the likes of junior colleges from Butte, Sierra, Yuba, American River, Sacramento City, and champion Foothill.

Twenty-nine year-old freshman Cydnee Sciacqua was the brightest of the Ram stars as she placed third in the 1997 California Community College State Championship hosted by Yates and FCC at Copper River Country Club, on November 17th. The Ram finished fourth - 19 shots behind state champion Cypress College.

After a front nine 42, Sciacqua caught on fire late, as she birdied three of the last four holes for a 37. Her 79 was enough to force a sudden-death playoff with College of the Desert's Erica Benefiel. Sciacqua's par on the uphill par-five second, gave her the playoff win. "My mental game went up and my scoring went down," Sciacqua said. "It has really, really improved over the season. It was intimidating, but it was a lot of fun."

**MEN'S SOCCER (10-1-1, CVC Champs); (13-2-3 overall); ('97 NorCal Regionals)** — This 1997

Please see Rams, Page 7

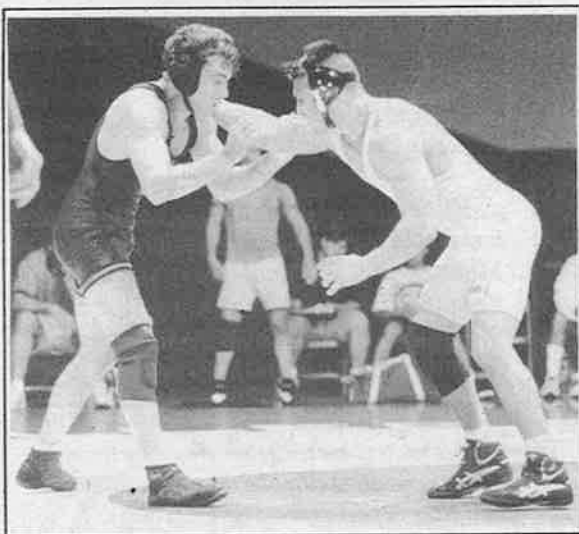


photo by Don Davis

Home match versus Moorpark

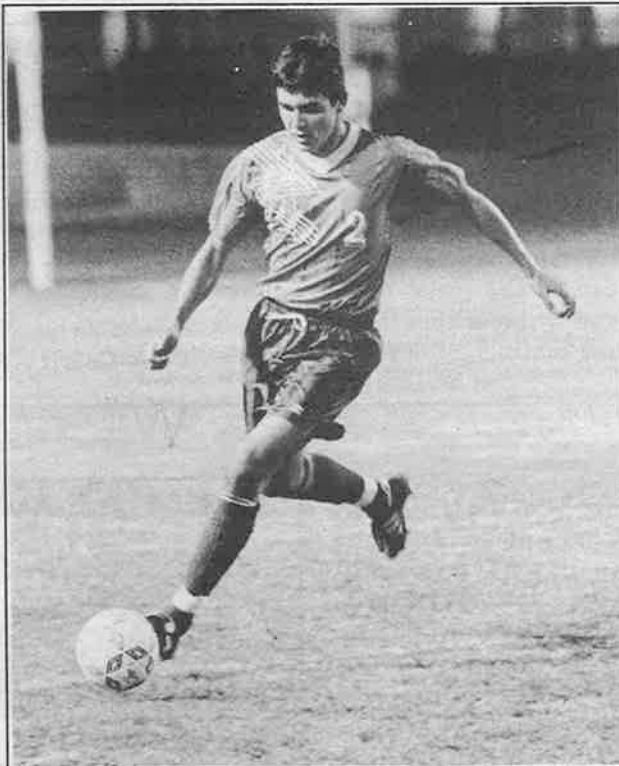


photo Don Davis

#2 Sean Gibson. 1st round Norcal Regionals



photo L. Burgin

Cydnee Sciacqua accepts award for third place at State Championships.



photo Don Davis

FCC Women's soccer celebrates winning the Conference Title

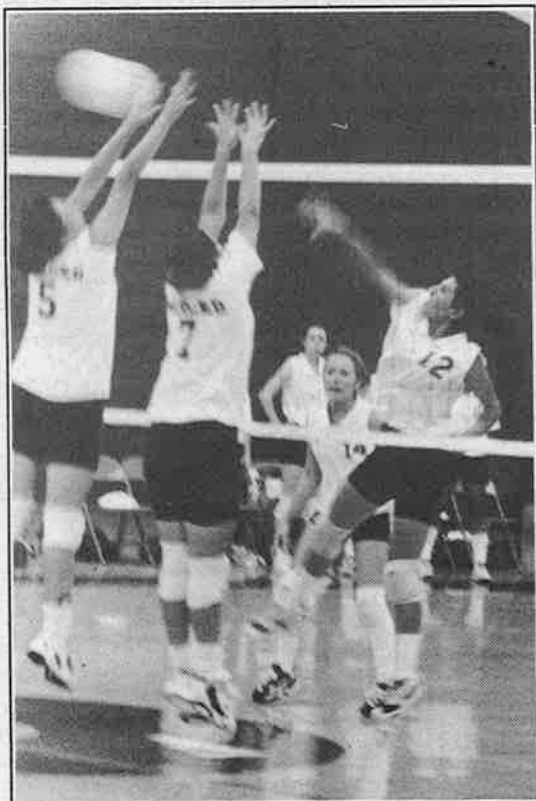


photo Dustin Splan

Home-match against Merced



photo Don Davis

Micheal Kasahun in Cross Country State finals.



# The Ram ZINE

## the Shroud

### The ART of body piercing

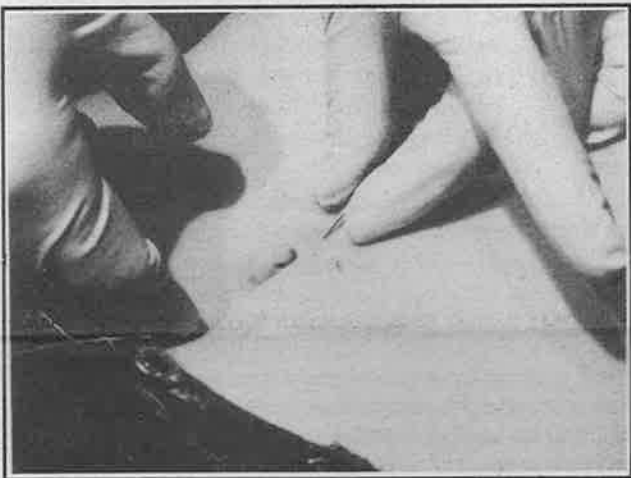


photo L. Burgin

Body piercing an art? Many people in today's society are discovering the answer to the question themselves.

No longer does the double-pierced ear lobe draw curious stares as in the early eighties. Even eyebrow and tongue piercings are becoming commonplace. Whether your personal preferences take you from the mild or the extreme — health, cleanliness, experience of the piercer and the after-care are issues to be concerned about.

**Spear of Shiva**, a well established body piercing studio in Fresno's Tower District, focuses on the client's knowledge of piercings. "Make sure you know what you're doing and what you're getting into and make sure you want to do anything before you do it," said Dana, a piercer at **Spear of Shiva**.

Piercings take a lot of care and time to heal. Approximately half of the clientele piercings do take them out. "People should be much more committed to themselves to take care of their piercings," said Dana.

Before taking the plunge, a client should research the piercing they desire. "A Tregus piercing on your earlobe takes four to six months to completely heal. Even then, you have to soak it daily," said Dana.

The time it takes to heal depends on what part of the body the piercing is. To make it easier on the client and help reduce the risk of infection, some piercings are given special caution. Dana prefers to only give one rook piercing (on the ear) at a time. This helps the client

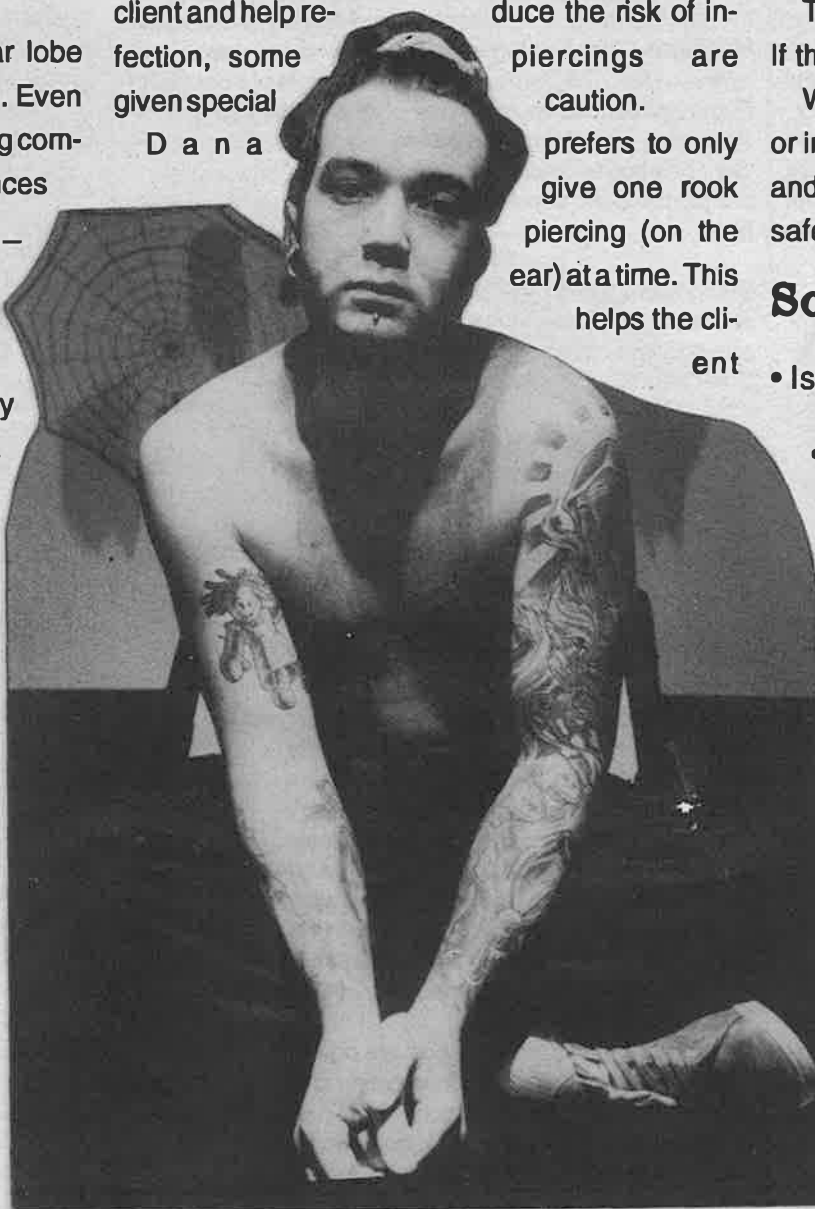


photo Janet O'Riley

### Witches in Fresno? page 2

avoid the tender side when sleeping and when talking on the phone.

To choose a reputable piercer, ask questions. If they can't answer, keep looking.

Whether the piercing desired is in the ear lobe or in the genital area, investigating the procedure and the piercer are important steps to ensure safety and health.

### Some things to consider:

- Is piercing their specialty?
- How long have they been piercing?
- Are the tools sterilized in an autoclave? (Have them show it to you)
- Is it a licensed business?
- Are they willing to discuss the procedure?
- Did they tell you about after-care before the piercing?
- Also ask former clients about their experience.

➡ by Genevieve Hinson

Piercer Tikl Rhasaan of **Spear of Shiva**  
photo L. Burgin



# Witches in Fresno?

Local Pagan recounts experience of finding her "way" and addresses public misinformation

Lydia and her family were living in Rome when she was three years old. She remembers wandering off once while out shopping with her parents. About three blocks away was a store with an animated witch in the window. "So I ran down to this store," explained Lydia, "and just stared at this moving witch in the window."

But with both Catholic and Episcopalian influences from her parents, Lydia wasn't exposed to anything "pagan" until later in life. In second grade, she began reading books on witches. That was when she said she made the realization, "Wow, witches don't have to be evil! They can do good healing magic!" In junior high school, she took an interest in the Salem witch trials and began reading books on that period in America's history.

Following her own traditions, Lydia eventually began to look into Paganism. She began to perform personal rituals, with only her "gut instinct" on what her altar should be like.

Her initial first-hand encounter came after meeting the owner of the Brass Unicorn, a new age store in Fresno's Tower District. With this new exposure, she realized there were actually people who thought the same way she did.

Last year, Lydia made a commitment to learning about the Pagan faith. Despite the time-consuming nature of the band, she has made time for her studies, and she said it has been very rewarding.

According to Lydia, her parents were not the least bit surprised about her new path. "I told them everything," she said, "and they think it's good that I have some sort of direction."

Not that she hasn't experienced any opposition on the way. During one Midsummer observance on a common grounds at a friend's home, Lydia said nearby tenants called the police saying "that shouldn't go on here."

"When the security guard showed up," she said, "he didn't really care. He was actually kind of interested, but said he had a job to do. I told him 'We can't just stop. Give us five minutes and we'll finish.'" Lydia and her friends finished off the ritual with a mob of angry tenants watching from the road.

"If people don't agree with it," she said, "they have no right to say that we can't or shouldn't do it. If one group is told not to 'do that,' where does it stop?"

One of the main reasons Lydia cites for intolerance to any unconventional beliefs is misinformation. "People are too ready to believe what they're told," she explained, "but they don't have the gumption to research it themselves — they like to be scared by things."

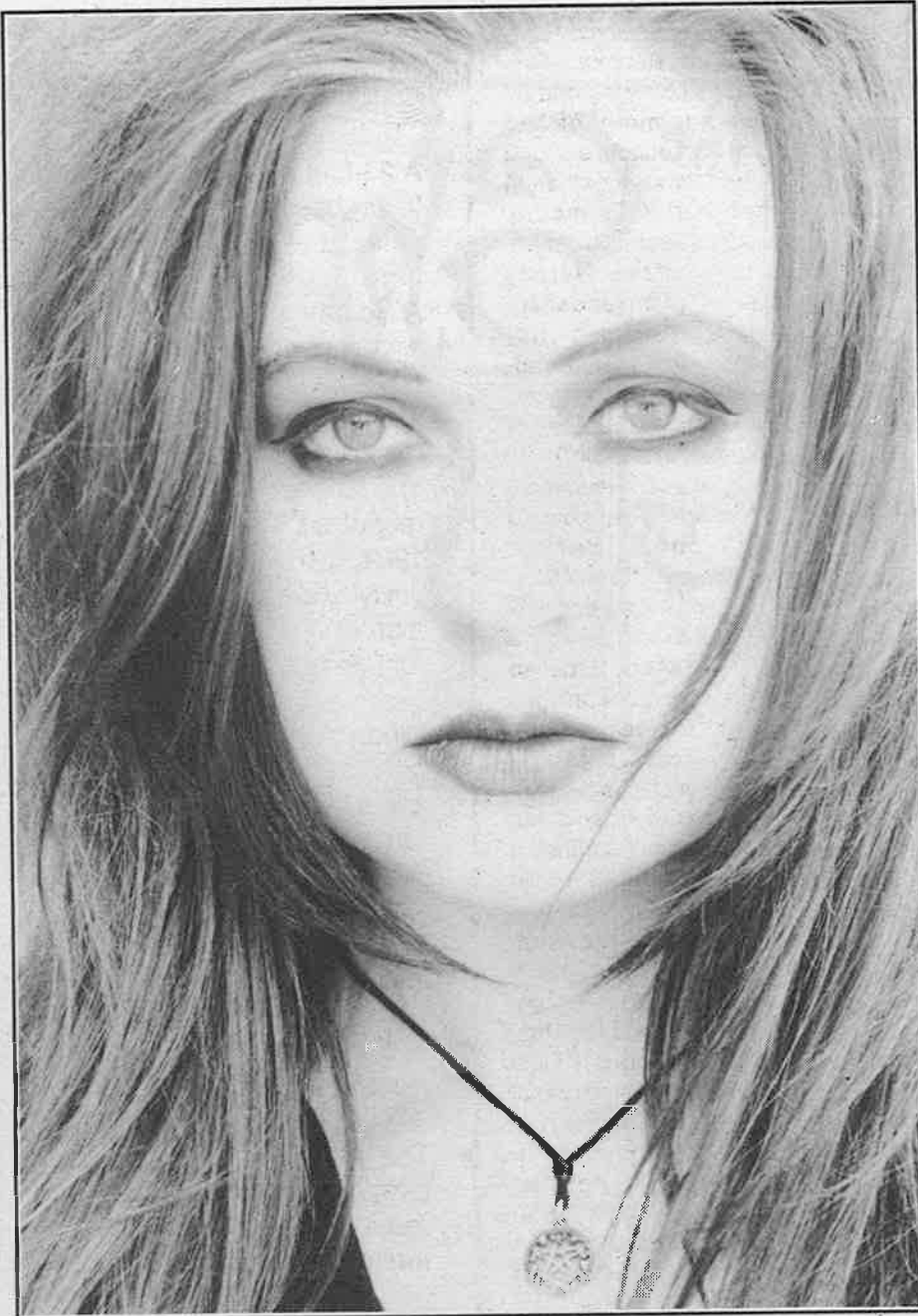
## The Shroud

With two musically-inclined parents, song was in Lydia's blood right from the start — although she might not have established it right then. "I was being rebellious," said Lydia. "I wanted to be a ballet dancer."

But one can't get too far from one's genetics. Lydia is now the vocalist and lyricist for gothic rock band **The Shroud**, which celebrated its sixth birthday on Halloween night. Since then, **The Shroud** has become a well-established (though underrated) musical group.

Metamorphosing from the lineup of an earlier band called **The Shroudettes**, **The Shroud** incorporates the sounds and stylings of 80s gothic rock and modern dark rock on a "neo-pagan slant." And although not all members of the band are pagan, their upcoming CD *A Dark Moon Night*, due out in early 1998, follows the pagan wheel of the year — the cycle of the seasonal procession from Spring to Winter.

"I wanted to have things go in a proper order," said Lydia. "I thought, 'Maybe we can try to align this [album] in some



"Paganism is such an old thing," she added, "and there's something I always like to tell people who are afraid of paganism: If you go far enough back on your family tree, you'll find *everyone* was pagan. Before the Church came along, that's really all there was."

On Halloween night, Channel 30 Action News aired a segment on "witches in the valley." A brief interview with Lydia attempted to dispel some of the misconceptions attributed to the pagan faith. They also filmed a mock ritual held at Lydia's home.

For Lydia, this is one further step towards a more educated and therefore accepting culture. "Every little bit counts," she said, "and I think this is the next big issue. First there was civil rights, then AIDS awareness — I think religious freedom is the next big thing."

And with the Neo-Pagan revival upon us, it just *may* be the next "big thing." Paganism is now re-rearing its previously clandestine head, integrating itself into many aspects of everyday life. The Shroud is just one example of a band with Pagan-influenced music. New books dealing with Neo-Paganism and **Wicca** are hitting the bookshelves every day, helping to inform people, and Neo-Pagan groups around the world strive to educate people about the Pagan faith.

### Witch-hunt:

An investigation carried out ostensibly to uncover subversive activities but actually used to harass and undermine those with differing views.

way; plant the seeds at the beginning of the year, then 'harvest' it." In contrast to the delayed release of **The Shroud's** previous album *Long Ago and Far Away* due to frequent lineup changes, *A Dark Moon Night* results a less chaotic album.

According to Lydia, the initial musical idea of a song — contrived by **Shroud** band members Rodney Walker, Iyan Reed, Eric Dansby and Hendrik Groger — is what inspires her lyrics. After producing a melody complementary to the mood, she creates fitting verses. Songs such as "Under a Dark Sky," — which recounts how Lydia feels during a good thunderstorm — and "Wednesday's Child," — which deals with feeling alienated and seeking a place to fit in — create a mysterious and emotional atmosphere; an atmosphere defined by Lydia as "escapism."

Expressiveness in her songs are one of Lydia's endeavors, and communicating on a deeply personal level is of importance to her. But she adds, "I'm certainly not going to try and write overtly pagan songs, like 'Oh yes, everyone needs to join up now.'"

## What is Paganism?

Pagans are people who belong to any of a number of nature-oriented religions, whose worship revolves around seasonal cycles and the phases of the sun and moon.

There are many different Pagan religions, each with their own set of beliefs and practices. In general, however, Pagans are earth or nature-based in their religious practices and believe everyone has, within themselves, the capacity and ability to improve their conditions.

One Pagan religion, Wicca, in common with many other religions, recognizes Deity as twin; as the Goddess and the God (although some Wiccans may choose to solely revere the Goddess aspect). This is a concept known as polarity; the separation of male and female, in accordance with the principles of nature. Wiccans believe that just as all things in nature are divided by gender, so is Deity.

One way Pagans — especially Wiccans — positively affect their surroundings is through the practice of Magick (spelled this way to distinguish it from "parlor tricks"). Magick can be defined as: *the process of causing change through the focusing of one's natural powers and energies.*

While there is no one specific book that can claim to be a "Pagan Bible," most Pagans temper their Magick by keeping three basics in mind:

1. *The Wiccan Rede* — "An it harm none, do what thou wilt." — is a mock archaic phrase, suggesting that any behavior that does not harm others or works against their free will is morally acceptable.

2. *The Law of Three* — a different understanding of Karma (a concept which states that right action is returned with positive energy, and negative action with negativity) — suggests that any energies sent out, good or bad, will be

returned in triple strength.

3. The dependence on natural laws. Pagans believe that in this world there are certain laws which cannot be altered; such as gravity — what goes up must come down.

### Halloween night:

Pagans around the world — including those rallied at a march in Washington DC — observed three minutes of silence at midnight eastern time, 9:00 p.m. pacific time, during which healing energies were sent to the planet. All day, people who weren't able to make it to the march were asked to wear green and do positive things for the planet, such as contributing to food and blood banks.

### By Alan DeCoronado

- ♦♦ Portrait of Lydia by Rebecca M. Caraveo
- ♦♦ **The Shroud** group shot by Andy Davey, taken at photo shoot for *A Dark Moon Night*
- ♦♦ **The Shroud** logo by Armando Norte

### Wicca:

1. A pagan nature religion having its roots in pre-Christian western Europe and undergoing a 20th-century revival, especially in the United States and Great Britain.
2. An ancient Latin word meaning "wise one," referring to Witches of old who were the religious leaders, doctors, lawyers and psychologists of a village.





## Portishead

GO! Beat / London Recordings

★★★★

## Portishead

**Portishead** is the band that some music journalist coined the term "trip hop" for upon the release of their debut album *Dummy*, which earned them ubiquitous "Album of the Year" accolades. Three years later they have resurfaced with a new album; appropriately self-titled *Portishead*.

Named for a town near Bristol, England, **Portishead** is a British band that grabs its ideas from all over. On their new album *Portishead* — a groundbreaking marriage of hip-hop beats, torchy cocktail jazz and dub atmospherics — **Portishead** conveys an utter film noir feeling. The spirits of *Dummy* still haunt their new release, but the experience and the years have definitely left their mark.

While *Dummy*'s sound was sweetened with slight recognizable melodic flavors drawn from R&B, even gospel, and sounded like something James Bond would have enjoyed, this new album is stranger, more unsettling; more sour.

Vocalist **Beth Gibbons** finally unleashes her voice on this album, running rampant through the tangled beats and hypermelodies. It is distorted on many of the tracks — wailing like that of a frail, rave-damaged shut-in one minute and cooing with sexy jazz club quiet the next. Even when it's on the border between imploring and chafing, **Gibbons'** voice mixes in like an additional instrument.

One song, "All Mine," is driven by the strength of big band brass, and desperate, almost manic vocals. Another, "Half Day Closing," ends with **Gibbons'** eerie siren wail twisting wraithlike into what sounds like a UFO touching down. "Humming" opens with a portentous Moog synthesizer solo that seems borrowed, in mood, from a '50s sci-fi or horror flick, backed by a crescendo of strings.

**Geoff Barrow** — the cinematically minded DJ behind much of the band's distinctive sound — scratches together an appropriately moody soundtrack for **Gibbons'** ordeal from warmly crackling vinyl and spare samples (Inspector Clouseau's theme, rappers The Pharcyde, Sean Atkins' '50s lament "Hookers And Gin").

Just as the last track, "Western Eyes," slows to an end, **Barrow** scratches in Sean Atkins from vinyl. As if answering **Gibbons'** plea, the crooner sings, "I feel so cold, all hookers and gin. This mess we're in."

Perfection is not easy to come by, and with *Dummy* coming so damn close, it's not surprising that **Portishead** would have to try twice as hard with a sophomore effort. Fans of **Portishead's** smooth old groove might find *Portishead* too elliptical or obscure. But to those whose musical tastes tread into the rugged and edgy unknown, a word of warning: after a few good listens, you may find it hard to shake *Portishead's* anthems of iconoclastic bliss from your mind. And who knows; you might even find yourself "Humming" along to the sounds in your head.

↔ **Alan DeCoronado**

## ALBUM REVIEW

On their new

album.

*Portishead*

release a new

edgy, rugged

force.



## BRAIN CANDY



A 23-foot iron pillar in Delhi, India, has not rusted in 1,500 years, and no one knows why.

A Roman glutton named Arpocras once devoured four tablecloths and a broken glass at one sitting.

The longest jail sentence on record is 381 years. Passed in 1964, a 16-year-old boy plead guilty to six counts of attempted murder and a series of armed robberies.

When possums play "possum," they are not playing. They actually pass out from sheer terror.

The United States has never lost a war in which mules were used.

In England, the Speaker of the House is not allowed to speak.

The microwave was invented after a researcher walked by a radar tube and a chocolate bar melted in his pocket.

The motto on New Hampshire license plates is "Live Free or Die." These license plates are manufactured by prisoners in the state prison in Concord.

The Museum of Modern Art in New York City hung Matisse's "Le Bateau" upside-down for 47 days before an art student noticed the error.

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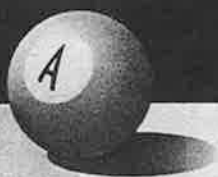
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**By Elizabeth Leffall**

**photo Jennifer Travis**



**Travis Stutte**—"I think it's really stupid, and I think they're really going about it the wrong way."



**Candace Jeffers**—"I was astonished to see so many people at the rally fighting it. It was good to see so much support."



**Mercy Ayodele**—"I feel as a Christian that it's not the KKK's fault, but what's in them, which is the devil speaking. We've got to remember this is spiritual warfare and we're not fighting against flesh but the spirit."



**Tywna Washington**—"I don't think it was a good idea. I felt scared but I was more surprised than anything else. Out of all the places, I never thought there would be a KKK rally here in Fresno."



**Vincent Visciglio**—"I think that everyone has their right to free speech but I don't agree with it."



**Cory Law**—“[Allowing the rally] doesn’t say much for the administration, considering the events with Malcolm Boyd. The KKK stand for hatred, I think it’s hypocritical. I think they could have used better judgment.”

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## THE RAMMY AWARDS

.....And the Winner Is.....

Based on News Sources and official contest statistics, the Sports Writers of *The Rampage* proudly present **The 1997 Fall Sports Rammy Awards**. Recognizing the athletes and coaches of Fresno City College, whose achievements have made '97 a memorable year. The envelope, please.....

### FOOTBALL

#### Outstanding Player in a Lead Role

fr. QB - KENNY ROSE

#### Best Supporting Athlete

so. DE - ROBERT THEUS

#### Outstanding Performance in a Game

MIKE WAYTE'S 3 td's vs. West Hills

#### Game of the Year

Sept. 12: 24-21 win @ Laney

#### Best Surprise of the Season

fr. RB - CHRISTIAN LAITA & PK - SCOTT SEALS

#### Players to Watch in 1998

MIKE MARQUEZ; CARLOS COX; CASEY

HOLEMAN

### MEN'S SOCCER

#### Outstanding Player in a Lead Role

fr. GK - AARON BRYAN

#### Best Supporting Athlete

so. DF - MARTY ZUBIRI

#### Outstanding Performance in a Game

PHIL MARIN'S 2 goals, 2 assists @ West Hills

#### Game of the Year

Week #1 victory over rival Modesto

#### Best Surprise of the Year

fr. ST - JOSE NOLASCO

#### Players to Watch in 1998

ANTHONY MURRILL; JOSE GARCIA; RICH

REYNA

### WOMEN'S SOCCER

#### Outstanding Player in a Lead Role

fr. ST - MELINDA TEJEDA

#### Best Supporting Athlete

so. GK - LYDIA RODRIGUEZ

#### Outstanding Performance in a Game

TEJEDA'S 2 scores in NorCal Regional

#### Game of the Year

Nov. 4: won 2-1 over C.O.S. (NEAL'S 100th)

#### Best Surprise of the Year

Ram Defense: allowed 2 goals in 12 games

#### Players to Watch in 1998

BETH KUBLEY; LINDA ROSARIO; KAREN

TRAPP

### WOMEN'S GOLF

#### Outstanding Player in a Lead Role

fr. CYDNEE SCIACQUA

#### Best Supporting Athlete

fr. SUSAN FARRELL

#### Outstanding Perform. in a Round

SCIACQUA'S 79: third in California

#### Match of the Year

Sept. 30: win at champion Foothill

#### Best Surprise of the Year

FARRELL

#### Players to Watch in 1998

SINA RIGHTHOUSE; ROSIE SYN

### VOLLEYBALL

#### Outstanding Player in a Lead Role

so. SW - MICHELLE MEDRANO

#### Best Supporting Athlete

tie: fr. ST - TANGI GRAF & SW - TOYA SEELEY

#### Outstanding Perform. in a Tourney

MEDRANO'S 45Kills, 39digs @ American River

#### Match of the Year

Nov. 21: tough home loss to Kings River

#### Best Surprise of the Year

fr. SW - CRYSTAL LEE

#### Players to Watch in 1998

LEAH MORRIS and the rest of fr. class

### CROSS COUNTRY

#### Outstanding Player in a Lead

fr. MICHAEL KASAHUN

#### Best Supporting Athlete

fr. JOSE GODINEZ

#### Outstanding Perform. in a Meet

KASAHUN'S 21:09 in 4-Mile BVC Championship

#### Runners to Watch in 1998

MARTIN URROZ

### WRESTLING

#### Outstanding Player in a Lead

tie: so. PARIS RUIZ; so. TOM GOHDE

#### Best Supporting Athlete

tie: fr. JONTE DAVIS; so. WILLIAM BROWN

#### Match of the Year

RUIZ; T. GOHDE; DAVIS; BROWN in state-individual finals (all champions)

#### Best Surprise of the Year

DAVIS

#### Wrestlers to Watch in 1998

SCOTT GOHDE; CLEMENTE MORENO; MIKE

ECK

### OVERALL WINNERS (Fall '97)

#### Women's Athlete of the Year

fr. MELINDA TEJEDA (led CVC in scoring)

#### Men's Athlete of the Year

fr. MICHAEL KASAHUN (BVC Champ; #2 in State)

#### Team of the Year

WRESTLING & WOMEN'S SOCCER

#### Coaching Staff of the Year

SOCCER'S BILL NEAL & SCOTT ALCORN

#### Performance in a Game

Nov. 8 - MIKE WAYTE'S 3 tds & 172 yds.

#### Game of the Year

Nov. 4 - W. SOCCER clinch CVC & NEAL'S 100th



Q.B. Rose felt pressure all afternoon from Boykin (97), Justice (44), and Murdick (45). Photo Don Davis

# FCC Ram football '97 review

By Allen M. Coleman  
Staff Writer

A nightmarish season filled with injuries, controversies, player walk-outs and a 3-7 record has finally ended for the Fresno City College Rams Football Team, in a 46-14 loss against College of Sequoias at Visalia on 22 November.

In the quarterbacking department, Freshman standout Kenny Rose (Sierra HS) missed three games due to a knee injury during the season had 197 pass attempts, completing 73 for 1,227 yards averaging 153.4 yards per game. Rose at 6'1" 200 pounds is a big physical quarterback who can take the hits. Sophomore Robbie Bogdanovich, 6'1" 195" (Fresno, Central) started a few games during the season, but couldn't seem to come up with the win for the struggling Rams, although he did help carry the Rams to a 6-5 record during the 1996 season.

Freshman running back Mike Wayte, 5'11" 200 (Clovis, Buchanan) was dubbed the Rams feature back down the final stretch of the season. Wayte had a game high of three touchdowns, 105 carries for 531 yards and six touchdowns, averaging 5.1 yards per carry on the season. Three of Wayte's touchdowns were pass receptions. Wayte grabbed 10 passes for 210 yards. Freshman running back Steve Stephens, 5'9" 180 (Fresno, Hoover) also provided some strong rushing yards in the Rams backfield with 78 carries for 347 yards and six touchdowns before being ruled academically ineligible.

Freshman wide receiver Mike Marquez 6'3" 205, (Fresno, McLane) hauled in five long touchdown bombs from Rose on the season and the longest at 86 yards.

Sophomore pre-season All-America pick and 1997 All-CVC tight end Jason Levandusky, at 6'5" 240 (Fresno, Washington Union) had 16 receptions for 244 yards and 1 touchdown. Levandusky was named to the '97 Junior College All-American second team. Wide receiver Nick Chester, 6'1" 200 (Kingsburg HS) had 25 receptions for 432 yards and two touchdowns last season but couldn't seem to get open often enough to put the Rams on the scoreboard.

The offensive line was lead by 1997 All-CVC Freshman, Jeremy Dominguez, 6'5" 320 and All CVC Freshman James Simons 6'6" 295. The rest of the Rams offensive line also held solid ground for for running backs in the big games.

The defensive line seemed to have tailed off mid-way through the season. Barring injuries defensive end Robert Theus, 6'4" 240 (Fresno Hoover), defensive lineman Gary Smith, 6'0" 305 (Fresno, Edison) and the other half of the defensive line played well, but were often caught up in a hit and miss situation against opposing running backs which left the defense hopeless in a few games. In the games against Merced, Blue Devil All-CVC and leading rusher, Reuben Droughns broke a state record by gaining 350 yards rushing. This didn't help the Rams defensively who rank last in the conference.

A series of injuries occurred in the linebackers department. Sophomore middle linebacker Jacy Garza, 6'2" 225 (Fresno, Memorial) was sidelined with a knee injury in the game against College of San Mateo, and was out for the season. Tall freshman, outside linebacker Ray Robles, 6'3" 215 (Fresno, Bullard) has plenty of range, but also went down with a knee injury during conference play. Robles hopes to return healthy in the spring of '98. Freshman linebacker Tracy Hunt, a local player from Fresno McLane High School also received All-CVC honors for the '97 season. Hunt at 6'2" 215 was a plus for the Rams defense. Freshman Carlos Cox, a converted wide receiver at 6'0" 200 (Dadeville HS, Alabama) picked up the slack at middle linebacker for an injured Garza. Cox, Hunt and sophomore linebacker Michael Fernandez filled the gaps for the Rams defense. Fernandez at 6'1" 215 (Fresno, Washington Union) who was tough against the run also snagged second-team All-CVC honors this season.

The trio of Rams defensive backs: Free safety Steve Craig, 5'10" 170 (Fresno, Clovis West) made first team All-CVC in his last season. Craig ranked second in the conference with three interceptions. Sophomore cornerback Kendrial Terrance, 5'10" 165 (Fresno, Hoover) ranked third in the conference with three interceptions and 64 return yards, the most in the secondary. Strong safety Stewart Coleman, 5'10" 170 (Fresno, Bullard) ranked fourth in the conference with three interceptions and 42 return yards. Craig, Terrance and Coleman provided solid hitting and good pass coverage in their final season, but at times a more aggressive pass rush and linebacker blitz was needed to free up the secondary in tough man-on-man coverage. Freshman cornerback Paul

Holland at 6'0" 155 (Fresno, Edison) came up with one interception all season, but did assist in the special teams department. Brandon Dixon, 5'10" 240 (Fresno, Central) and Kim Johnson 5'10" 160 (Fresno, Hoover) was used sparingly at the corners.

The Rams special teams department came up with several big plays. Freshman running back Christian Laita at 5'9" 200, and a native of Honolulu, Hawaii provided two huge kick off returns for FCC this season. Laita racked up 300 yards in kick off returns and his longest on the season was a 79-yard touchdown return against Merced on a muddy field at Ratcliffe Stadium on Saturday November 15. Feisty freshman wide receiver, Casey Holeman (Shaver Lake, Sierra HS) who only stands 5'7" and weighs 150 pounds also provided some good returns. Holeman chalked up 245 yards in kick off returns and his longest on the season was for 50 yards, averaging 33.3 yards per return. Freshman tight end Robin Matthews, 6'3" 245 (Coarsegold, Yosemite HS) caught a few passes but wasn't used much on offense, although he did help in the special teams department.

Freshman wide-receiver, Scott Seals, a 5'10" 170 wide receiver and place-kicker from (Fresno, Bullard) who sat quietly on the bench during pre-season would pan out to be a great place-kicker. Seals has a great leg. He ranked second in the conference with four field-goals and his longest was at 41 yards. Seals didn't receive All-CVC honors this season, however he just might be the best in the conference next year.

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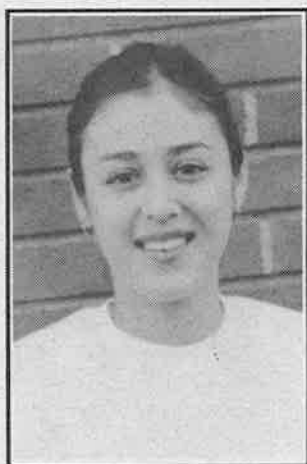
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# Rams in the

## FAST LANE

By Eric Mendoza  
Staff Writer



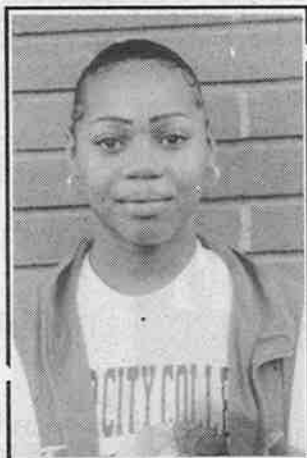
**#10 - Leslie Leon - 5'5 fr. guard**  
Corcoran H.S., Valley Champions/  
Ventura JC  
Strengths: good all-around player, great defender  
She said: "We need to play together as a team, then we can win a state championship."



**#12 - Summer Sawtelle - 5-7 fr. guard**  
Corcoran H.S., ESL Champions/  
Ventura JC  
Strengths: great defense, good 3-point shooter. Scored 16 & 17 points in S.B. Tourney.  
She said: "We can win state with the players on this team."



**#23 - Rosalyn Snowden - 5'6 fr. point guard**  
Roosevelt & Fresno H.S., NWYL Co-Champions  
Strengths: quickness and defense, coming off torn acl.  
She said: "We need to come together as a team, not individuals. I want a championship ring before I leave this place."



**#22 - Tanzenika "Nika" Holmes - 5'10 so. forward**  
Westminster H.S. (Orange County)  
Team MVP & All-CVC in '96  
Strengths: ability to swing game momentum, clutch 3-pt. shooter, defense & rebounding  
She said: "We have some ballers on this team, we just need to come together."



**#33 - Aisha McGee - 6'0 so. forward**  
Edison H.S.  
Second Team All-CVC in '96  
Strengths: game is improving, great rebounder. Made All-Tourney at Glendale with 26 pts.  
She said: "We have the talent to be the best team."



**#52 - Katie Scott - 6'3 fr. center**  
Clovis H.S., NEYL Co-Champions  
Strengths: improved whole game, developed confidence  
She said: "We have a chance to achieve huge things. I think the losses will be a learning experience."

Living up to the standards of last season's remarkable record of 26-5 (tying the school-mark) will be hard to do, especially after starting this year at 3-5. Unfortunately, the Rams gym is on *College Avenue* and not *34th Street* — this miracle is highly unlikely to occur.

An early, tough pre-season tournament schedule, which included two meetings against state-champion Ventura (losing both) has the Rams staff and players searching for answers before January 3rd — when they open their Central Valley Conference schedule at Taft College.

With the absence of sophomore center Jennifer Gray, a 6'2 transfer from Florida C.C., the coaching staff had been forced to juggle line-ups against top-ranked opponents.

If Gray can work herself back into the starting line-up, and *she will*, the Rams would like to unleash their aggressive approach, with pressure defense and an uptempo offense — according to Wood, a philosophy best suited for this team.

Right now though, the coaches are relying on a young tandem of guards — some playing out of position, and results have led to dismal field-goal percentages and being outrebounded.

"I'm just disappointed," said Ram Assistant Donnie Johnson. "I think we have better players [than '96]. I think we have to find the chemistry. We have the ability to do it. If things click, we can win the state championship. The players can change that."

City welcomes back three returnees, in 6-foot guard Nika Holmes (1st Team All-CVC, averaging 14.9 points and 7.4 rebounds in '96), 5'6 guard Miriam Sanchez (1st Team All-CVC member & school-record holder in steals), and 5'11 forward Aisha McGee (2nd Team All-CVC last season).

With the addition of five freshmen and two junior college transfers, Ram fans will have to witness growing pains for a while. Former Fresno High star, freshman Rosalyn Snowden (who will handle the starting point duties) and sophomore guard, transfer Summer Sawtelle (Ventura) will have to take care of ball and stay out of foul trouble.

Quality minutes from the freshman trio of back-up point guard, K.K. Bulter (Los Angeles), 6'3 center Katie Scott (Clovis), and guard Leslie Leon (Corcoran/Ventura JC) will be crucial in the Rams quest for another State Sweet 16 appearance.

The common themes around the Ram camp have been "teamwork" and "togetherness". The coaches preach it, the team understands it, but the results have yet to be seen.

Coach Wood's pre-season enthusiasm, about veteran leadership and prize recruits has turned about half-circle, after watching her squad cave in to early pressure. The Lady Rams have been regarded as being the junior college version of Jerry Tarkanian's Bulldogs — in terms of star-quality talent, depth, style, and Division I potential.

"I truly believe in teamwork and the whole working together is the most important thing," Wood said. "These girls are competitors that want to win and to do that they need each other."

**Minutes, minutes, minutes!**

Unless the California Community College Rules Committee extends an official contest to 80 minutes, playing time will have to be passed out like a bottle of Gatorade in the desert. Not everyone is going to be satisfied.

With Gray in the middle, any other four could easily start for this ball club and make a serious run at an *outright championship*. When the players understand *that*, the game *should* come like second nature. *This* is what they're here for.

It's going to be interesting, to say the least. Who's going to step up as a leader — and who will be the first, to not accept losing... as a team.

### WOMEN'S HOME GAME SCHEDULE

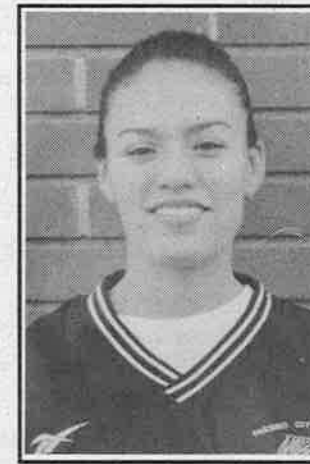
Wed, Feb. 18 Merced College\* — 5:00 pm

\*denotes Conference game

**#3 - Jennifer Gray (not pictured) - 6'2 so. center**  
Westminster H.S. (Orange County) CIF Champions/Florida CC  
Strengths: quickness, agility, plays bigger with long arms  
Just reinstated as of December 4th.



**#25 - Nicole "Niki" Casapulla - 5'10 so. guard**  
San Luis Obispo H.S./Cuesta College; led conference in scoring  
Strengths: great shooter, court awareness. Made All-Tourney at S.B., scored 15 & 20 pts.  
She said: "We need to win together and lose together. We need to communicate."



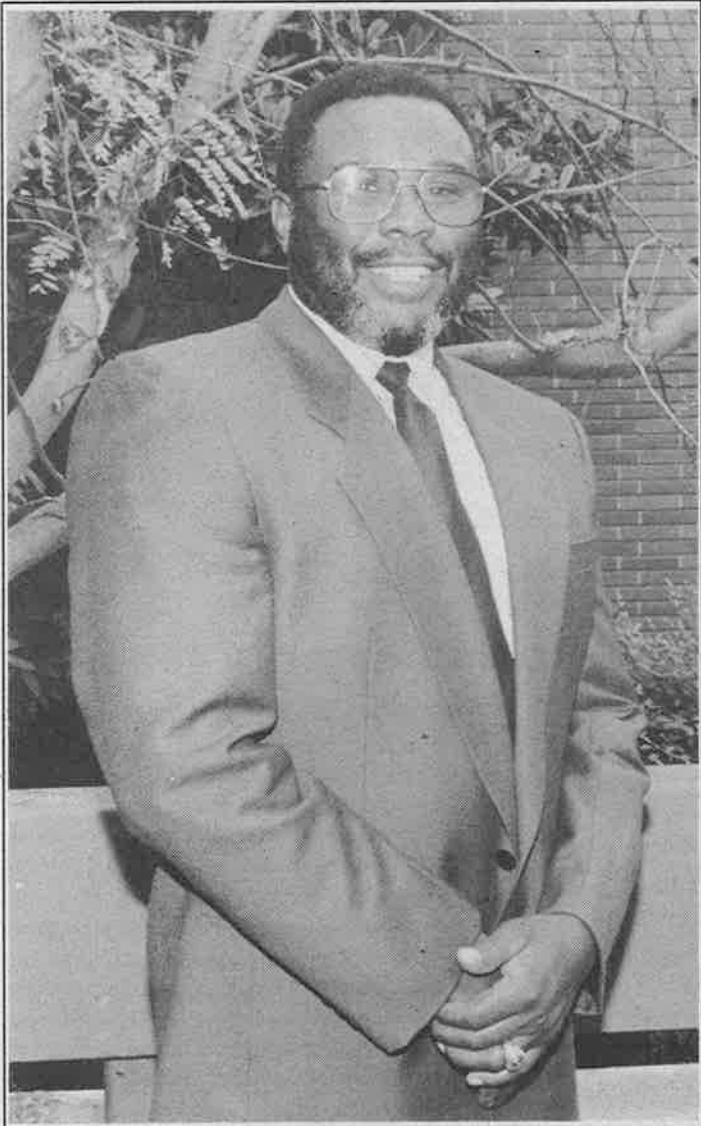
**#30 - Miriam Sanchez - 5'6 so. guard**  
Sanger H.S.  
All-CVC in '96, broke school record for steals.  
Strengths: great defense, quick hands.  
She said: "We have a lot of good shooters, but right now we only have one post player."



**#5 - Carolyn "KK" Butler - 5'10 fr. guard**  
Narbonne H.S. (Harbor City); Division I State Runners-up  
Strengths: good passer, perimeter game, ball-handler  
She said: "I need to assist more and help out our centers."



# FCC Counselor enters OSU Sports Hall of Fame



FCC counselor Ernie Smith.

photo Don Davis

By Allen M. Coleman  
Staff Writer

Life is like a long and winding road, filled with ups and downs. For FCC counselor Ernie Smith, it has been just that.

Smith was born in Clarksville, Texas. His family later moved to California, where he attended Lemoore High School. Smith was an all-around athlete who played football, basketball and ran track.

"I had four brothers who were also athletes; Tommie, James, George and Gene," Smith said.

He set national high school records at Lemoore in the 120-yard high hurdles and 180-yard low.

Track and field allowed Smith to compete in many different places throughout the United States. "Because of my athletic abilities, I have experienced traveling with the USA Track Team and competed in Canada," Smith said.

Smith ran a 5.1 second indoor 50-yard dash, tying a world record at Calgary, Alberta, in 1970. He was most noted by NFL scouts for his blazing speed, and as a result was drafted in the 17th-round by the St. Louis Cardinals. His fastest times ever recorded were 20.4 in the 200-meters, and 9.3 seconds in the 100-yard dash at a dual-track meet between Oregon State University and UCLA. Smith was also the number one kick-off return specialist in the nation.

But tragedy struck him on the practice field while lacing his track shoes and preparing for a workout. A stray javelin pierced his left leg 10 inches above the knee, cracking his femur bone.

His career in track was now questionable, but Smith didn't give up. He continued competing with the Starters Track Club of Oregon. "If you quit," he said, "you have not defeated anyone but yourself, and you will always have that 'what if.' After surgery I had to make a decision and I couldn't continue playing football."

Even though Smith was determined, some major

adjustments had to be made in his life. "I decided education was more important," Smith said. He earned his Bachelors and Masters degrees at OSU, and is awaiting final confirmation on his Doctorate from Portland State University. Not bad for a kid who only considered himself a "C" student in high school.

Smith was also a counselor, instructor and women's track and field coach for 11 years at Mt. Hood Community College in Gresham, Oregon. He coached football at Corvallis High School in Corvallis, Oregon, and was the men's sprint coach at Washington State University.

"I didn't start believing I could get a college education until I was seriously injured," Smith said. No matter what the circumstances were, Smith was destined to make it. "An injury to your body should not be an injury to your mind," he said. "One of the greatest assets an athlete or a person can have is to adapt to changes."

He believes you have to be tough in mind, you have to decide you are somebody, and you are worthy. "After mental toughness you develop a plan, because preparation carries the guarantee of success, and education should be the final outcome," Smith said.

Smith is in every sense a winner who has paid the price through hard work, dedication and sacrifice. "I've done some things," Smith said. "I've

had some misfortunes. That gives me insight that I can share."

But the hard work paid off. Smith was inducted into the state of Oregon Hall of Fame in August of 1992, and on Oct. 10, 1997, he was inducted into the OSU Sports Hall of Fame along with fellow athlete and world-class sprinter Willie Turner. It was OSU where Smith excelled in track and football.

"I have to say it was an honor. I was quite surprised. It makes you feel good," Smith said. "When you make a decision and stand by your convictions, there are consequences."

**"If you quit  
you have not  
defeated any-  
one but your-  
self, and you  
will always  
have that 'what  
if.'"**

— Ernie Smith

## Rams: A look back at the Ram season

**MEN'S SOCCER (10-1-1, CVC Champs); (13-2-3 overall); ('97 NorCal Regionals)** — This 1997 squad was not only loaded with great position players, but the family-type atmosphere was the main ingredient to an outstanding record. Led by coaches Bill Neal and Scott Alcorn, the Rams played well down the final stretch and clinched the CVC title with just one game remaining in the regular season.

The Rams secured a 1st round home game, in the NorCal Regionals on November 18, as the #3 seed, but lost in a heartbreaking fashion to #6 Skyline - in a penalty kick shoot-out. The loss ended all high expectations of reaching the State Final Four, just as the squad appeared to be one of the favorites.

"It was a successful season," Alcorn said. "It was disappointing, losing in the 1st round. We were a better team than Skyline."

The Rams piled on the 1st Team All-CVC selections with five starters, including freshman goalkeeper and CVC Co-MVP Aaron Bryan. Sources say that Bryan is ready to transfer, now, to a top Division I program - possibly Fresno State.

Alcorn is already preparing for next season, after stepping down from Buchanan High School, where he was Tri-Athletic Conference Coach of the Year in 1997, guiding the Bears to the Section playoffs.

"We have to start building for next year," he said. "We're going to try to bring in some top-notch players."

**WOMEN'S SOCCER (10-1-1, CVC Champs); (13-2-3, overall); (2nd round NorCal)** — 1997 was quite a year for Coach of the Year Bill Neal, as his Lady Rams made a gallant effort - making a run at the elusive State title. In the Rams' case, "the key to a good offense, was an even better defense."

The stingy 'City defense dominated conference foes - allowing just two goals in twelve games, outscoring their opponent 28-2. Sophomore goalkeeper Lydia Rodriguez was showered with post-season awards, earning 1st teams on All-CVC, All-NorCal, All-Regional, and CVC's Defensive Most Valuable Player.

The Rams managed to reach the 2nd round of the NorCal Regionals, after beating West Valley at home, 4-0 on November 18.

Freshman striker Melinda Tejeda was the Ram force on the offensive side of the ball, leading the conference in goals scored. Tejeda was named to 1st Team All-CVC, All-NorCal, and CVC's Offensive Player

of the Year.

**VOLLEYBALL (5-9, 5th place CVC)** — Beginners luck was hardly the theme for the new Ram volleyball era, under 1st year coach Sandi Auble. With just one sophomore, in Michelle Medrano - who finished the season on the sidelines with an injury, the Rams received a heavy dosage of "welcome to the CVC", going 0-6 against the top three teams.

The inexperience showed, at more times than others - unforced errors, poor passing, and a lack of court communication all added up to playing "catch-up" and the Rams didn't have enough power-hitters to compensate.

The tables may turn next year however, as Auble will go from suiting the youngest team - to the oldest team, as 10 sophomores return, including three All-CVC players. If a team leader can emerge, 'City could be Ram-tough.

"[Auble] will turn that around," said Rams A.D. Ron Scott. "She has a good freshman nucleus and I see us competing for a conference championship next season."

**WRESTLING (Bay Valley Conference Champions); (Dual NorCal Team Champs); (State Dual Team Champions); (Four State Individual Titles)** — Coach Bill Musick and his Wrestling Team capped another superb season by bringing home four California champions (school-record) - after the final tournament of '97, in Saratoga.

Dec. 4th -7th: Sophomore Paris Ruiz successfully defended his state-crown at (134 pound division) and finished his final year at (28 wins and just 1 loss). Jonte Davis (142) finished an outstanding freshman campaign (32-2), by winning his weight division. After a sixth-place medal in last year's final, sophomore William Brown won the 150-pound class and ended up at (30-4) overall. Sophomore 190-pounder Tom Gohde 'hit the mats' hard all season long (30-1) and also won his division during his final meet, as a Ram.

Despite placing third, in the team standings, FCC has remained consistently strong and one of the state's most feared programs throughout Musick's Ram career - and next Fall should be no different.

Behind the strength of Davis, Clemente Moreno, Mike Eck, and Scott Gohde - among others, look for the Rams to be state-bound again in 1998.

## FALL 1997 FCC RAM ALL-CONFERENCE SELECTIONS

### FOOTBALL

1st team All-CVC:  
(OL) fr. Jeremy Dominguez  
(OL) fr. James Simons  
(TE) so. James Levandusky  
(DL) fr. Tracy Hunt  
(DB) so. Steve Craig  
2nd team:  
(LB) so. Mike Fernandez

### WOMEN'S GOLF

1st team All-Bay Valley:  
fr. Cydnee Sciacqua  
fr. Susan Farrell  
so. Sabrina Garcia  
Honorable Mention:  
fr. Sina Righthouse  
so. Jan Baker

### MEN'S SOCCER

1st team All-CVC:  
(GK) fr. Aaron Bryan (Co-MVP; All-Region)  
(MF) so. Corky Sells (All-Region)  
(MF) Michael Wallace  
(DF) Nick Correa  
(DF) so. Marty Zubiri  
(Coach of the Year) Bill Neal

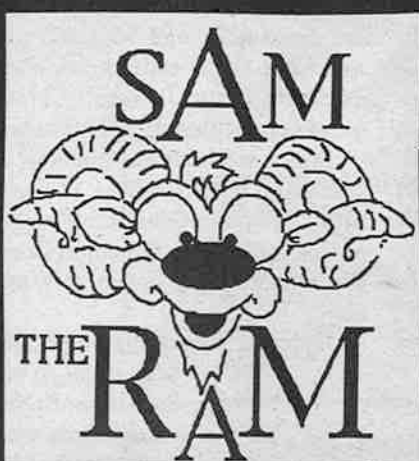
### WOMEN'S SOCCER

1st team All-CVC:  
(GK) so. Lydia Rodriguez (Defensive MVP; All-NorCal; All-Region)  
(ST) fr. Melinda Tejeda (Offensive MVP; All-NorCal)  
(ST) fr. Bethany Kubley  
(ST) fr. Linda Rosario  
(ST) fr. Karen Trapp

### VOLLEYBALL

1st team All-CVC:  
(SW) fr. Toya Seeley  
2nd team:  
(ST) fr. Tangi Graf  
(MB) fr. Leah Morris





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Kathy Bonilla, FCC Public Information Officer, participates in Children's Book Week

### FCC bookstore hosts celebrity readers

By Sheryl Youngblood  
Rampage Staff

The Fresno City College bookstore featured famous media guest readers for National Children's Book Week Nov. 17-21. Heaton Elementary School kindergarten students and teachers attended the activities.

Guest readers included Bud Elliot and Faith Sidlow of channel 24, Kenneth Crumpton and Lucy Ruiz of channel 47, Isabel Eggert and Reina Cardenas of channel 21, Jadine MacLiver of channel 26, Nancy Kast, SCCC director of Personnel Services, and FCC president Dr. Larios.

Heaton kindergarten teachers and their students, about 20 children per class, were escorted across McKinley Ave. by FCC campus police.

The children were very excited about their visit, and their behavior was closely monitored by FCC bookstore attendants and Heaton faculty members and teachers. "We've learned from last year's experience that their attention span isn't very long," said Janet Santillan, FCC bookstore employee. "They practically sat on Bud Elliot's lap."

Santillan was one of the people who picked out story books to be read. She looked for short books that provide a learning experience. Some books included numbers, others centered on dinosaurs. One book was about crayons that don't like each other because they

are different colors, but a little girl uses them and finds that they make a very pretty picture together.

Dr. Larios brought his own *Winnie the Pooh* book which fit into his pocket, but he decided it was too small for the children to enjoy. He picked from the bookstore *Danny the Dinosaur* to read, "because his name is Danny," Santillan said. "He didn't realize it was so long." Dr. Larios sat on the floor with the children. He ended up reading *Winnie the Pooh* as well at the children's request.

The children represented a variety of cultural backgrounds. Heaton provided a Hmong teacher to be an interpreter for some children who didn't speak English. One of the reading sessions during the week-long activities was done primarily in Spanish.

The learning goes both ways between adults and children. "These little children really teach us," said Anne Gendusa, Heaton staff member. "You have no idea how much."

The FCC bookstore donated three books to every classroom that participated in the event. It also provided popcorn, balloons, and little fanny packs. "By the time a class gets here, they've already heard from a previous class and are looking forward to their treats," Santillan said.



### The Rampage

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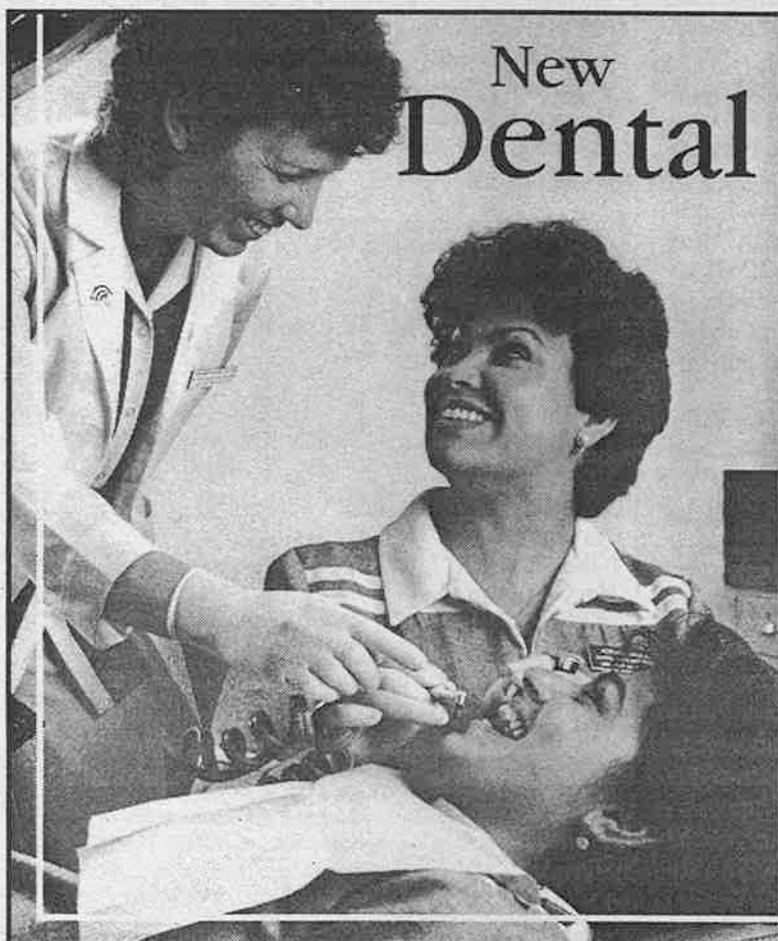
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