



FCC leader search resumes

By Bill J. Perry
Editor-in-chief

Wanted: Fresno City College president. Starting date: as soon as possible.

FCC remains without a permanent college president and until recently, State Center Community College District has advertised the open position on its employment Web site. The district had been accepting applications for the position until Feb. 1.

Just two days before the deadline, 38 applications had been submitted. More were expected by the cutoff date. "We are pleased with the number of applications we have received," said Randy Rowe, SCCCD associate vice chancellor of human resources. "We will exceed 40 applications."

However, the number of applications from past and present FCC employees remains unknown. "As far as who have submitted applications, in house, locally and other

See President, Page 7



Photo by Wendy Alexander

Up in arms

Dancers Mora Amina Parker, left, Dale Flemming and Tracey Franklin, right, of the Dallas Black Dance Theatre perform "Girl Problems" at the Tower Theatre on Feb. 5 as part of Black History Month. The event was made possible by the Fresno City College College Activities Office. For more on the Black History Month activities, see Pages 5, 10 and 11.

Rail safety efforts pick up steam



Photo by Lenetta Huxley

In a move to improve safety, a plan has been approved to build a wrought-iron fence that will limit the crossing areas that students take to get on the Fresno City College campus.

Petition to move tracks circulates

By Daren Watkins
Rampage reporter

The crossing guards are down, the lights are flashing with no train in sight, and you run across the tracks. Then it hits you. Not the train, but the \$271 ticket for trespassing.

The first of eight planned Operation Life Saver operations came as quite a shock to the 48 recipients of a very clear message: Keep off.

Prior notification of the Jan. 28 operation was not made to the students or staff members of Fresno City College. This was done to better educate the violators of the law. The dates for future operations have not been set.

"We have always ticketed for students around the rails," said Marvin Reyes, police chief for State Cen

See Rails, Page 7

FCC artist out of coma

By Brianna Quilici
Rampage reporter

Troy Massey loves Hungry Bear chocolate chip cookies.

A freshman at Fresno City College, Troy was "just getting back on track. He was finally growing up," said Ruby Massey, Troy's mother. Collecting miscellaneous items for his 3-D art class, the early morning of Jan. 13 remains a day in question.

He was alone in a west-central Fresno neighborhood pushing a shopping cart with discarded items he had been accumulating. In what investigators call a motiveless attack, Troy was brutally beaten, robbed and left unconscious on the street. Eyewitnesses driving down West Street saw the attack take place and called the police. Continuing to drive up and down the street, the onlookers reported to police that there were four or five assaulters, who were in their late teens or early 20s and drove a four-door white car.

"The eyewitnesses saw Troy after he had been beaten," Ruby said. "They wanted to see his actual face and have since visited him in the hospital. The image they had of him burned in their minds from that morning wasn't Troy."

Troy's head was badly beaten during the early morning hours, so much that Ruby could only identify her son by his hands.

"He has very distinct hands," she said. "The irony in all of this didn't come to me until a few days ago. Troy was only hurt in the head region. His true talent is in his head; it's his most valuable part."

Troy was in a coma for more than three weeks, but Feb. 5 brought renewed hope and spirit for his single-parent mother. "He recognized me on the [Feb.] fifth," Ruby said. "He is starting the slow journey toward recovery. Right now, he is in an infantile stage in his life. It is like he is 3 years old again."

"He will never completely be the same. He isn't completely conscience yet either. Until he fully

See Troy, Page 6

Editorial

As we enter a new year and a new semester, after the attacks of Sept. 11, people have been talking about how things have changed.

They talk about changes for the better. How people are more concerned and considerate of the needs of others. How government is more sensitive to the needs of the people. How Americans appreciate the values of the past and are starting to return the wholesome days of yesteryear – “baseball, apple pie and Chevrolet.”

Bull.

We say, “the more things change, the more they stay the same.”

Just two days into the new semester, violence erupted on campus as rival gang members engaged in a tit-for-tat brawl. That prompted Fresno’s Multi-Agency Gang Enforcement Consortium to assign some of its members to patrol our campus during the opening week of school as a show of force, in an effort to stem gang violence.

The violence must be overflowing from Fresno itself, where eight murders have been committed so far, just six weeks into the new year.

It’s ironic, isn’t it? The number of Americans killed by other Americans in Fresno may actually exceed the number of Americans killed by al-Qaida in Afghanistan.

FCC student Troy Massey was also the victim of terrorism right here in Fresno. Massey was brutally beaten in mid-January as he searched the streets with a grocery cart for items to use in an art project. The suspects are still at large while Massey is in the hospital.

Also in the news again is the Burlington Northern Santa Fe rail line that runs through the FCC campus. Fresno Mayor Alan Autry announced the formation of a commission to spearhead efforts to consolidate the rail line with the Union Pacific line that runs parallel to Freeway 99. While the commission – which includes district Chancellor Judith Redwine and student Katia Kazovian as members – is certainly new, the idea it promotes has been around for years. Even the most optimistic of rail consolidation proponents admit that it will take at least a decade, if ever, to move the BNSF tracks out of the heart of the city.

Meanwhile, the search for a new FCC president, which began at the start of the fall semester but then suspended after the Sept. 11 attacks, is on again.

Congressman Gary Condit, who was in the news at the start of last semester but then forgotten, is back in the news again.

Another energy scandal – this year it’s Enron, last it was PG&E – is poised to tie up President Bush’s administration in controversy, at least until the next presidential election in 2004.

We could go on and on with a list of things that never seem to change. We still haven’t mentioned the controversial Clovis campus, the lack of school parking, among other problems that seem to greet each new class of students year in and year out.

But we think we’ve made our point.

Yes, the more things change, the more they do stay the same.

But just once we would like to see someone prove that statement wrong.

Letters to the editor

Who is correct?

Mr. Geissert’s column (Jan. 30) begins accurately when he writes, “Education in the United States just isn’t what it used to be. The past two decades have seen a steady decline in test scores, as well as the overall quality . . . of our public schools.”

However, he attributes this decline – not to changing demographics or the growing complexities of student life – but to the “political correctness” movement within U.S. colleges that assumes academic license for the sake of “multi-cultural awareness.”

Does Mr. Geissert prefer ignorance to awareness?

Many readers probably have seen “The Lord of the Rings,” a top-selling movie that premiered last month and that is based on the fiction of the English-blooded J.R.R. Tolkien. How many readers (except those who’ve studied Tolkien) are aware of the fact that his work is based, not on English but on Celtic mythology? How many readers know about these two cultures, which share an ancient Welsh heritage? Political correctness makes the historical record complete.

And how many readers would pronounce the word Celtic with an S-sound at the beginning, instead of a K-sound as it is properly pronounced? A great many readers would do so – probably because they’ve been inundated with professional sports (like the Boston Celtics), a prominent feature of our entertainment-steeped culture. Political correctness corrects such errors, committed in ignorance.

Ignorance may be bliss, but in a multicultural society like ours it is offensive. Thank goodness that

Letters policy

Opinions expressed in letters to the editor are those of the authors. The Rampage reserves the right to edit letters for clarity, grammar and length. There is a 30-day waiting period between published letters from the same author.

nowadays more people are getting a higher education like that offered at FCC!

Entertainment – the product of an ever-growing industry in the country – is more to blame for the decline in public education than is political correctness. Sure, the movement may have its excesses, but it’s done more good than harm.

Paul Jackson
Paralegal Studies

Culture shock

I have always seemed to enjoy other people’s opinions, even when they didn’t quite agree with mine. Yet, as I read Carl Geissert’s opinion on political correctness, I couldn’t find that fine line between opinion and ignorance. I am sure Geissert is far from ignorant. Although his grammar looked productive, the message he got across was not only far from true; I wonder how in the world he came up with it.

There is a huge difference between political correctness and multicultural awareness. I am aware that political correctness has gotten out of hand, but it certainly is not being seen in public schools, and it

is far from the reason that education has seen a decline in the past decade.

If he had actually taken the time to take a good look at public schools, then he would have noted there are tons of factors involved. If the reasons were as obvious and so easily understandable, the problem would have been fixed a long time ago. Yet there are the issues of money, funds, the quality and quantity of teachers, student enrollment increasing with population, parent involvement, and the list goes on.

Multicultural awareness is, on the other hand, a necessity in our children’s education. This nation is built on a variety of cultures, and it is important that students can identify and relate while learning. It is important we teach our students the truth, not fables made up by a nation that is insecure about its past. We should let the students learn from our mistakes, so as they evolve into the next generation of leaders, they in turn do not make the same mistakes. I agree grammar and spelling isn’t as enforced as in past decades, but it’s important students don’t just learn where to put a comma but how to freely express themselves through the written word.

There is nothing ironic about those third world authors, in fact many are far more educated and talented than you (Geissert) or I will ever be. They are a part of our culture and society just as much as Plato and Shakespeare. Education has not taken a back seat because of the richness that multicultural awareness brings. I personally feel that you should spend some more time learning about other cultures and how to respect them.

Maggie Garza

Police log

From the files of the SCCCD Police Department

Jan. 22

- Officer took report regarding burglary in Parking Lot D.
- Sergeant took report regarding vehicle stolen from Parking Lot A.
- Officer took report regarding vehicle burglary in Parking Lot S.

Jan. 23

- Officer dispatched to bookstore regarding attempted resale of stolen textbooks. Individual arrested, cited and released. Report taken.
- Officer, nurse dispatched to Yoshino’s patio regarding injured student. Turned over to nurse. Report taken.

Jan. 24

- Officer took report regarding vehicle burglary in Parking Lot E.
- Sergeant took report regarding vehicle burglary in Parking Lot E.
- Officer dispatched to bookstore regarding possible shoplifter. Individual arrested, cited and released. Report taken.

Jan. 25

- Officer observed students in possession of alcohol. Students contacted, alcohol disposed of. Officer issued citation and report taken.
- Officer took report regarding harassment.

Jan. 30

- Officer responded to vehicle hit and run, contacted subject, cited and released. Report taken.
- Officer observed suspicious vehicle in Parking Lot D, initiated traffic stop. Check showed vehicle stolen. Five juveniles arrested, cited, released to parents. Vehicle stored. Report taken.

Jan. 31

- Officer took report regarding vehicle vandalism in Parking Lot E.
- Officer took report regarding, non-injury, single-vehicle accident in Parking Lot E.

Feb. 1

- DSO took report regarding graffiti vandalism at Student Services Building.
- Officers warned of possible fight, observed several groups assembling on mall. Individuals contacted, sent on way. Report taken.
- Officer took report regarding threats made by one student against another.

Feb. 4

- Officer took late report regarding stolen vehicle.
- Parking control discovered vehicle cited excessively. Vehicle towed impounded. Report taken.



RAMPAGE

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Cars targeted by thieves still a concern

By Tony Longosco
Rampage reporter

Recent burglaries on campus parking lots and along residential streets have concerned both students and police about the safety of vehicles and the valuables inside them. But while students blame low security presence, campus police often attribute thefts to unaware or careless drivers.

State Center Community College District police logged five reported vehicle burglaries in the first four days of the semester last month. Will, a first-year student who asked not to disclose his last name, discovered his car stereo system stolen at about 5:30 p.m. Jan. 23.

"They took my speaker, amplifier and deck," Will said, estimating his loss at about \$1,000. Will said he believed the burglar shuffled through other parts of the vehicle and unsuccessfully attempted to open the glove compartment.

In 2001, FCC recorded 28 on-campus car thefts, up from the previous year's total. Also, 14 on-campus burglaries took place in 2001, and FCC police chief Marvin Reyes attributed "most of them" to thefts from vehicles.

Will was not convinced his parking permit was money well spent.

"What I want to know is what they're doing with the \$17 anyway," Will said. "I do think that we might be paying too much."

Ray Doty, an architecture student, disagreed with the level of security at the parking lots given the \$17 he pays each semester to park there.

"It's already enough," Doty said, "plus the parking's bad enough as it is."

Doty's Ford Explorer has an alarm system, and he tries to "keep stuff under seats" to guard his property.

Reyes acknowledged the problem of auto theft but cautioned students to use common sense on campus.



Student cars line Cambridge Avenue behind the Health Science Building. Some students have reported car thefts early in the semester.

Photo by Lenetta Huxley

On-campus motor vehicle thefts:

- **FCC:** (21 in 1998, 25 in 1999, 21 in 2000)
- **Fresno State:** (18 in 1998, 42 in 1999, 29 in 2000). Fresno State also reported 14 motor vehicle thefts in 1999 and 16 in 2000 on public property (not required by Ed. Dept.)

"People really have to help themselves first," Reyes said. "The first line of defense against theft is with the owner."

Reyes cited as an example drivers who "put in the \$1,000 stereo system, but then they don't get the alarm," suggesting that students should use steering wheel locks, alarm systems or detachable car stereo faces as precautions.

"If they don't take those measures, they're advertising [their vehicles]," Reyes said.

However, Reyes said his staff works proactively to prevent theft. The SCCC District Police Department forwards all off-campus reports to Fresno City Police, and partners with the Help Eliminate Auto Theft Team and other law enforcement agencies to spot crime trends.

"Our task is to be aware of the potential [crimes], and try to pre-

vent them the best we can," Reyes said.

The FCC parking permits cost less than those at California State University, Fresno, which has a comparable enrollment. At CSUF, \$17 will buy a motorcycle permit, but most vehicles require a permit costing \$68 a semester.

According to filings required by the federal Department of Education, however, CSUF still has a comparable auto theft rate. In 2000, FCC reported 21 on-campus thefts, while CSUF reported 29. The difference was more dramatic in 1999, when CSUF outpaced FCC 42 to 25.

Schools are not required to report vehicle car burglary totals to the Education Department separate from non-vehicle property crimes.

The higher fees at CSUF pay for parking lot cameras, something

FCC does not have. Reyes would welcome funding for cameras, provided there could also be staff to monitor the cameras.

"An increase in parking fees would allow us to do these things," said Reyes, who added he knows of no impending increase. "If it [were] directed toward property protection, I'd be for it."

A reporting gap in off-campus areas has underrated the issue of safety in the neighborhoods near FCC. The Department of Education does not require campuses such as FCC and CSUF to submit numbers for crime in off-campus buildings or public property.

However, the district's parking policy grants FCC jurisdiction west of the campus to Wishon Avenue and north to Clinton Avenue. If a student's car parked in this off-campus area is stolen, the district police can respond but would not have to include the crime in its official filing with the Department of Education.

Reyes explained this gap by describing the bureaucratic roadblocks his office faces in coordinat-

ing reporting for all the district's centers.

"Whereas Fresno [Police Department] might keep very good statistics on what's happening" in the FCC off-campus area, Reyes said, it is a task developing trust with all the law enforcement agencies in the centers' neighborhoods such as the Reedley Police and Madera County Sheriff's departments.

Therefore, Reyes said, while CSUF only needs to accept the Fresno Police Department's reporting of its off-campus crimes, SCCC has opted not to accept its numerous partner agencies' statistics blindly.

"Rather than being haphazard with our reporting, what we try to do is do the best we can with on-campus reporting," Reyes said.

Regarding safety in the FCC off-campus neighborhood, Reyes restated that the district works with a variety of local agencies to prevent crime including the Fresno Police Department, which can localize its own patrols and data collection to a few city blocks.

Campus calendar

Art

Celebration & Expression: A Black History Month Show — 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Tuesday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Wednesday-Thursday, and 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Friday, continues through Feb. 28 at Art Space Gallery. For information, call 442-4600, ext. 8909.

The Ram's Tale — The deadline for submissions for the next edition of the Ram's Tale is March 1, 2002. Submit copies of original fiction, essays/autobiographies, poetry, drama/one-act plays, black and white photography, or two-dimensional artwork to the Humanities Division office. For information, call Clay Rooks at 442-4600, ext. 8122, or Zay Guffy-Bill at 442-4600, ext. 8119.

Events

Anthropology Club fund raiser — Noon today, cookie sale in the

fountain area.

Club Rush — 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Feb. 27, campus clubs set up fund raising booths around the fountain area.

Anthropology Club fund raiser — Noon March 13, cookie sale in the fountain area.

County Office of Education History Day — 8 a.m. March 16, historical art, reports and re-enactments in the Cafeteria by local elementary school children.

Kids Day — March 19, campus-wide distribution of a special edition of The Fresno Bee with proceeds benefiting Children's Hospital in Madera.

Club Rush — 10 a.m.-2 p.m. March 20, campus clubs set up fund raising booths around the fountain area.

NAISA Pow Wow — March 23, in the west lawn area.

Asian Awareness Celebration Week — April 1-5, various events

in the Student Lounge.

Military Showcase — 9 a.m. April 3, military equipment and booths will be located around the fountain area.

Spring Showcase 2002 — 9 a.m.-2 p.m., throughout the campus.

Fairs and festivals

Volunteer Faire — 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Feb. 20, booths will be set up in the mall and fountain areas featuring volunteer opportunities.

Renaissance Festival — 10 a.m.-6 p.m. March 9-10 on the west lawn near the Old Administration Building. Cost: \$4 adults, \$2 children, half off with a non-perishable food item, with proceeds to Marjorie Mason Center. For information, call Michael Butler at 226-5341.

Vendor Faire — 9 a.m.-6 p.m. April 23-25, on the mall and around the fountain area.

Health

A.A. meetings — Noon-12:50 p.m. Wednesdays, above the book store, Room 216.

Intramurals

Air hockey tournament — 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Feb. 22 at the College Center.

3-on-3-basketball tournament — 10 a.m.-2 p.m. March 1 at the Gym.

3-on-3 soccer tournament — 10 a.m.-2 p.m. March 15 in the free speech area.

2-on-2 volleyball tournament — 10 a.m.-2 p.m. March 29 in the free speech area.

8-ball tournament — 10 a.m.-2 p.m. April 5 at College Center.

5-on-5 flag football tournament — 10 a.m.-2 p.m. April 19 behind the Gym.

For more information on intramural events, call College Activities at 265-5711.

Stage

"Lost in Yonkers" — 7:30 p.m. March 7-9, 14-16 and 2 p.m. March 9, 16. A Neil Simon play directed by Chuck Erven at FCC Theatre. General admission, \$10; students, \$7. For information or tickets, call 442-8221.

Music scholarship winner's recital — 2 p.m. March 23, in the Recital Hall.

Folklorico Dance Recital — 2 p.m. April 6, at the Theatre.

Brass Bash — 7:30 p.m. April 8, at the Theatre.

City Dances Spring Dance Concert — 8 p.m. April 25-27, 2 p.m. April 28. A production of contemporary dance works choreographed by faculty and students, under the artistic direction of Janice Jansen. General admission, \$10; students, \$7. For information or tickets, call 442-8221.

District Export Center receives award

By Tony Longosco
Rampage reporter

Hidden within the Training Institute in Clovis, State Center Community College District's Export Center has maintained a low profile outside the business world. That profile, however, consists of winning awards and opening international markets to area companies.

Through its various grants and partnerships, the Export Center functions simultaneously as a Center for International Trade Development and a California-Mexico Trade Assistance Center, helping companies with all the complexities of doing business abroad.

Export Center achievements since 1989:

- Counseling and technical assistance sessions provided: 1,800
- Companies served by those sessions: 1,700
- Exporting inquiries: 20,000
- Training seminars, conferences and workshops: 345
- Clients involved in those seminars, conferences, workshops: 9,050
- Export sales reported by clients through Export Center surveys: over \$230 million
- Total export sales, including those from trade shows: \$400 million

Candy Hansen, director of the Export Center, said her clients' inquiries have ranged from help with "a shipment stuck somewhere" to "someone who wanted to send a birthday present overseas."

"They call us because they just want to know where to go," Hansen said.

The Export Center, since its beginning in the Fresno City College Public Information Office in 1989,

has grown steadily, compiling more than 20,000 inquiries from clients which have reported a total of \$400 million in subsequent sales. The federal government in December recognized the center's success with the President's "E" Award for Excellence in Exporting.

"Based on our experience in getting this award, we can help other businesses," Hansen said. "It gave us a whole different awareness, statewide and nationwide."

The Export Center, the only college-based recipient of the "E" Award, won by highlighting its formation of the San Joaquin Valley International Trade Association, its yearly conference in May, and its

student internship program.

"When we started in '90, there was nothing to help businesses with international trade," Hansen said. "From the very beginning, we had good people work for us, and good businesses to work with."

As a foreign trade center in a locked Clovis, the Export Center has faced obstacles in promoting some of its programs to the community, but business awareness the center has increased, and the center has opened its doors to student interns and faculty researchers from the SCCC campuses.

"We feel like there's room for everyone," Hansen said.

Navy honors FCC instructor

By Daren Watkins
Rampage reporter

The U.S. Navy has recognized Jim Makofske, a Fresno City College accounting information systems teacher, for his outstanding peacetime service.

Makofske, who has taught at FCC for the past 13 years, is a captain and commanding officer of a unit at the Fleet Industrial Supply Center in San Diego. His unit works with the support hospital ship Mercy.

Mercy, which carries dated supplies, needs to be loaded when it is ready for deployment. Makofske's group loads the ship. He has been the commanding officer of this unit since October 2001.

On Oct. 30, 2001, the United States awarded the Defense Meritorious Service Medal to Makofske for his service with the Defense Contract Management Agency. The medal is the second highest peacetime honor that can be awarded. During his 26 years of service with the navy, Captain Makofske had six years of active duty (1975-81) and 20 years as a reserve. With the rank of captain, only an admiral outranks



Jim Makofske



him.

DCMA reviews contracts that vendors made with the United States for extra money that might have been budgeted. For example, if the United States ordered 100 units of a produce at a cost of \$1 million dollars, and only 97 units were available. The extra money that was going to be used for those three units would have to be removed from the budget. During his time of service, DCMA recovered roughly \$7 million in funds that were left over from these contracts of the Department of Defense. At a cost of roughly \$100,000, this Phoenix-based unit even developed software to assist them with the reconciliation of the contracts with what was actually produced by the vendors.

Currently, Makofske is still an active reserve. He puts in an average of eight weeks of active duty per year, which is more than the military requires him to serve.

Spanish students head to Old Country and New World

By Luiz Quezada
Rampage reporter

The Student Abroad Program is scheduled to make two trips. One to Mexico City from May 28 to June 7 and the other to Salamanca, Spain, from June 9 to July 21. Spanish instructors Camilla Colby and Guadalupe Vega still are recruiting Fresno City College students who would like to make the trip to Spain. Anyone in the community is welcomed to be part of the adventure. Jill Minar, who is the instructor and director of the Archaeology and Ethnology of the Valley of Mexico class and the adviser of the Anthropology Club, said the trip to Mexico is full but students will be holding fund-raisers before they leave. "It is a valuable experience, that's why I am committed to this kind of a program," Colby said. Students will be able to take courses in Spanish from levels one to eight, and a cultural class, earning up to five transferable credits for FCC. The registration will be done at the Don Quijote Institute. The institute is a 16th century monastery located one block from University of Salamanca. Minar said students going to Mexico will earn two credits for completing the course and a total of five if they make the trip. All of the registration is done on campus. Students going to Mexico will travel to San Juan Teotihuacan,

where they will visit the Arizona State Archaeology Lab. The students will also see the market in Pahuatlan, and the Otumba/Tepeyahualco aqueduct. Templo Mayor and the craft market in Mexico City are part of the visit. The cost of the Mexico trip is \$2,000, which includes round trip air fare, accommodations, a choice of two meals a day, and medical and travel insurance. The weekends will be free to students so they can attend museums, theaters, tourist sites and nightclubs. The students going to Mexico will conduct several fund-raisers, which include necklaces and bracelets made by students, and books, T-shirts, baskets, chocolate and doughnuts. They also have a museum open to the public, where they welcome donations. They will also be selling food April 11 during Showcase. On May 5, a new exhibition will open in the museum where students will be able to appreciate the culture and customs of the Aztec country.

"We're still brainstorming to see what fundraisers they will do to raise money," Colby said. The cost of the Spain trip is \$3,500, and includes similar costs as the Mexico trip. Teresa Rowe, an FCC student will assist in the organization of the fund-raisers for the trip to Spain, and Kristi Jacobsen, president of the trip to Mexico will, too.

An unidentified benefactor will donate up to \$2,000 toward the trip to Spain. It is still not known if the money will be given to only one student or disbursed to many. "Not only are they learning Spanish, but they are immersed in the culture," said Colby, who has made trips to Cuernavaca, Mexico and San José, Costa Rica. The minimum amount of students needed to make the trip to Spain is 15, and the maximum is 25. The classes will consist of six to 10 students. Vega, who teaches at the Madera Center, will be present on the Spain trip as well as Colby. Vega was born in Mexico City and is a fluent native speaker of the Spanish language. Vega has also made previous trips to Spain, Morocco, France, Italy and has travel experiences that include Mexico, Peru and Bolivia. Colby is scheduled to host several 50-minute power-point presentations at 10 a.m. Thursday, 9 a.m. Feb. 22, 10 a.m. and 10 a.m. March 1, in Room 206 in the Language Arts Building.

Information on the Mexico trip is available by calling Minar at 442-4600, ext. 8360. Information on the trip to Spain is available by calling Colby at 442-4600, ext. 8126 or Vega at 675-4818. The request application is available by calling Kim Quesada at 244-5900. Quesada is located in the SCCC Office of Education Services and Planning at 1525 E. Weldon Ave.

Stop the Hate events continue

By Megan Edwards
Rampage reporter

The Associated Student Government organized a poster competition to kick off the national Stop the Hate campaign.

Students were asked to design a poster that incorporated the "Stop the Hate" theme and helped promote the events for the campaign. The winner of the competition will receive a \$200 gift certificate at the Fresno City College bookstore.

The poster competition received

a relatively good response from students. ASG President Ernie Garcia said, "We have several entries, not a ton."

"[The entries] were all pretty good. We have some real talented people," Garcia said.

Posters had to be entered by Jan. 23 and the winner will be announced this week.

The national Stop the Hate campaign was organized to educate people on the numerous cultures throughout our nation.

Fresno City College will be par-

ticipating in this continuing campaign throughout the semester with a number of events on campus. There will be speeches and a movie night in the student lounge every Wednesday night, where they will play movies that focus on various cultural themes.

This month, the ASG and the Pan-African Student Union will be showing movies with an African-American theme for Black History Month. Next month, there will be themes for Women's History Month.

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Slavery reparations discussed

Students, staff debate compensation

By Megan Edwards
Rampage reporter

Fresno City College staff members presented a forum in the campus theater on the afternoon of Feb. 5 to address the issue of African-American reparations, monetary compensation for the age of slavery.

This is the second time such an event has taken place, and the staff hopes to make a tradition of it to provide FCC with an opportunity to voice topics that are relevant to students and staff.

Regarding the issue of reparations discussed at the event, Wendell Stephenson, professor of philosophy at FCC said, "It has to do with justice, and I'm interested in justice as a person, a citizen, and a philosopher."

He wasn't the only one. Although the turnout at the event wasn't as large as the last forum,



Photo by Wendy Alexander

FCC philosophy professor Wendell Stephenson, left; Jean Kennedy, an adjunct instructor for Women's Studies; and Kehinde Solwazi, a professor for African-American Studies make up a panel on reparations.

which dealt with the Sept. 11 attacks, a number of concerned students were in attendance.

Keyan Laghaifar, a freshman at FCC, joined the audience that day. He said, "It's been in my heart my

whole life, this issue of racism and the conflict between black and white. All humanity is one. It doesn't matter if you're black or white or if you're from whatever part of the world."

Members of the panel and audience said the forum could have done more but did a relatively good job of addressing the issue in light of how much time they had. Lecturers had only two hours to discuss

reparations.

"I do wish we could have discussed reasons for reparations and probed those reasons more than we had a chance to do," said Stephenson.

Laghaifar said, "I thought it went pretty well, I think [the panel] gave more comments than questions, but I think many of the reasons why reparations were deserved were addressed. They did a pretty good job with the time they had."

The event was organized by Homer Greene Jr. of the Counseling Center, Stephenson, and other staff members, to raise controversial issues such as this and open them up for discussion among students and staff.

The panel consisted of professors Kehinde Solwazi of African-American Studies, Jean Kennedy of Women Studies, and Stephenson. Moderators were Greene, and Terry Scambray of the English Department. And the lecturers were guest speakers Malik Simba, professor and chair of the Department of History at Fresno State, and Sharron Herron, assistant professor of the Department of Political Science at Fresno State.

Deadline for financial aid options near

By Brianna Quilici
Rampage reporter

Financial aid can be very confusing. The different programs and deadlines can keep someone circling for hours trying to find the answers. Help is easy to find.

Via the Internet or Fresno City College's Financial Aid office, students are able to get a grip on what is offered for them. "Financial aid paid for my books and health and registration fees. It is worth it to me to stand in the long lines because I am getting funding for college," said FCC student Allen Ford.

"Grants help me get through school not just with books and classes," said FCC student Nathan Busch. "The money I get is used toward other things I need for school, like fee waivers. The best part about grants is that I don't have to pay back the money."

But some of the highlighted and highly sought after programs that help fund education are not always the easiest to understand. Following are brief summaries explaining the differences and requirements for funding.

Loans

A loan is borrowed money that must be repaid with interest. Both undergraduate and graduate students may borrow money. Parents may also borrow to pay education expenses for dependent undergraduate students. Students can apply for loans until the funds diminish.

"It is a first-come, first-serve basis. When the funds are gone, that's all," said Mikki Johnson, an FCC financial aid assistant.

FCC scholarships

A scholarship is financial aid given to students who meet certain requirements. All scholarship applications are due by March 1, and the following documents and requirements are necessary to apply:

- An FCC Admissions application on file with the Admissions office by March 1.
- Free Application for Federal Student Aid application on file by March 1.
- A Scholarship application.
- A minimum 2.5 grade-point average, unless otherwise specified.
- The Donor Designated form.
- Two recommendations.
- High school GPA verification if no prior college units completed, or academic transcripts from any college previously attended if not on file with FCC's Admissions and Records Department.

Grants

A grant is a gift and does not need to be repaid. To be considered for the following grant aids, students must apply for financial aid by completing the FAFSA. You can fill out FAFSA online at www.fafsa.ed.gov or get a paper copy in the Financial Aid office. The FAFSA application form is due by July 1, but the grants themselves have to be postmarked by March 2, including the FAFSA application.

Most grant funds have a priority consideration deadline for filing, March 2, for the upcoming academic school year. California community colleges have a second deadline of Sept. 2 to apply for grants. Applications for summer school financial aid are due June 30. Eligibility is determined one award year at a time. The results of the

2002-03 are good only during that school year. Missing a deadline could prevent students from receiving some or all of the aid they are eligible to receive.

To determine financial needs, the U.S. Department of Education uses a standard formula, established by Congress, to evaluate the information included on the FAFSA form. Factors that will be considered include expected family income, college tuition and other expenses, attendance of school for a full scholastic year or less and whether applicant is a full- or part-time student.

Federal Pell Grant

A Federal Pell Grant, unlike a loan, does not have to be paid back. Pell grants are only awarded to undergraduate students who have not earned a bachelor's or professional degree. A professional degree would include a degree in a field such as pharmacy or dentistry. All Pell Grant applicants meet the following requirements:

- A valid Social Security number.
- California resident.
- U.S. citizenship or eligible non-citizenship.
- Meet U.S. Selective Service requirements.
- Attend an eligible California qualifying postsecondary institution.
- Be enrolled at least half time.
- Maintain satisfactory academic progress as defined at school of attendance.
- Have family income and assets below the established ceiling.
- Not be in default on any student loan.
- Not owe any federal or state grant refunds.

Cal Grant A Entitlements

Provides grant funds to help pay tuition/fees for California residents at qualifying institutions offering undergraduate academic programs of not less than two academic years. Awards are guaranteed for those who meet the program eligibility criteria. If a student receives a Cal Grant A award but decides to attend a California community college first, the student may choose to hold his award in reserve for up to two years.

Cal Grant B Entitlement

Provides grant funds for access costs for low-income students in an amount not to exceed \$1,551. This grant is to be used for living expenses and expenses related to transportation, supplies and books. Beginning with the second year of Cal Grant B benefits, Cal Grant B also helps pay for tuition/fees for California residents attending a qualifying institution offering undergraduate academic programs of not less than one academic year. Awards are guaranteed for those who meet the program eligibility criteria.

CCC Transfer Entitlement

Beginning in 2002-03, this award will be offered to California community college students who were not allowed Cal Grant As or Bs within a year of graduation from high school but meet criteria requirements at the time of transfer from CCC to qualifying institutions offering baccalaureate degree programs. Awards are guaranteed for

those who meet the program eligibility criteria.

Competitive Cal Grant A and B

The Competitive Cal Grants are to be used for the same purposes as the Entitlement awards, except these are not guaranteed. These awards will be offered on a competitive basis to those students who did not receive the entitlement award. The number of new Competitive Cal Grant A and B awards to be issued each year is 22,500. Competitive Cal Grant A awards are intended for students from low-income families.

These awards provide grant funds to help pay tuition/fees for California residents. Competitive Cal Grant B awards are intended for students from disadvantaged and low-income families. These awards provide grants to be used for living expenses and expenses related to transportation, supplies and books. Beginning with the second year of Cal Grant B benefits, it also will help pay for tuition/fees for California residents.

Last year, 35 million dollars went unused. Over 30,000 California students were denied Cal Grant money because the forms were filled out incorrectly. To ensure that students get the aid they are qualified for, they must read all instructions and helpful hints before completing the forms. Keep copies of all documents for personal records.

"The majority of FCC students receive some form of financial aid," said Johnson. "Assistance is available to students in need of enrollment fee waivers, grants, loans and scholarships."

The Financial Aid office can be reached at 442-8245.



Photo by Lenetta Huxley

Meredith Thurston (right), president of Valley Medical Center Foundation, presents check to Steven Boyd and Terry Barthulia.

Respiratory program gets \$470,000 boost

By Bill J. Perry
Editor-in-chief

Valley Medical Center Foundation presented a \$470,000 grant endowment on Feb. 6 to the Fresno City College Respiratory Care Program. The annual interest earned from the grant endowment will be used by the program help fund the establishment of the FCC Chronic Lung Disease Research Project.

"The money will be invested and every year the program will get part of the interest to use to conduct research," said Steven Boyd, Respiratory Care Program director. "The funding will be perpetual so we can do continual research."

The research done by RCP mainly involves Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Diseases, such as asthma, emphysema, chronic bronchitis and cystic fibrosis, all of which can be caused by smoking.

"Smoking is the largest curable cause of death, taking 430,000 lives each year," Boyd said. "It results in \$97.2 billion in health care costs and lost productivity each year, and 87 percent of all lung cancers."

As public awareness to the dangers of smoking increases, so do the efforts to quit the habit, but not always successfully. "Forty percent who smoke have tried to quit and have been unsuccessful, even in light of nicotine replacement options today," Boyd said.

FCC's new research project, partially funded by the grant endowment, will study nicotine addiction and different strategies to quit smoking.

"The project will try to develop better strategies for helping people quit smoking," Boyd said. "It will be targeting the FCC population first."

In the initial phase, students from the Respiratory Care Program will work in cooperation with interns from the Psychological Services Department, headed by Dr. Robert Richardson, to monitor participants as they attempt to quit smoking.

Because smoking is considered a mental and a biological addiction, the expertise from the Psychological Services Department will be important to the research project, Boyd said.

Some of the participants in the project will use psychological techniques to help them quit smoking, others will use traditional methods under the direction of students from RCP, and a third group will apply both techniques. "We will then compare the quit rates to see which is better," Boyd said.

"We will submit a paper for publication [detailing the project and the results] after 100 to 200 people go through the program. It may take two to three years."

The project is expected to begin by spring of next year, Boyd said.

The grant endowment was written by Dr. Bill Baker of the SCCC Foundation, assisted by Dr. Daniel Kim and Dr. Enok Lohne.

Valley Medical Center Foundation, which provided the funding, is an auxiliary agent of University Medical Center which supports medical research through grants.

Troy

Continued from Page 1

awakens, doctors can't say what the outcome will be."

In the meantime, Ruby is just glad that her son's condition is improving.

To help Troy talk, a valve has been placed on his trachea. The Passy Muir Valve is a one-way valve that attaches to the center of a tube that is inserted into an opening in the trachea. It assists with breathing and allows air to be directed upwards, enabling speech as air passes through the vocal cords. "The first thing he said was 'I want food,'" Ruby said.

Troy is in the DeWitt Subacute at Fresno Community Hospital and is expected to move to the rehab center at Children's Hospital Central California, formerly known as Valley Children's, sometime this week.

"It's hard on the other residents' families to see Troy doing as well as he is," Ruby said. "Some residents have been in a coma for five years and still aren't talking. Troy is making a quick recovery."

He is in physical therapy sessions for about two hours a day, which will gradually increase as he progresses.

"In one session Troy could be doing really well, while the next he could be delusional or in a plateau stage where he doesn't want to do anything," Ruby said. "For every step he goes up, he takes two steps down."

Ruby, a computer consultant whose job requires her to be on the road about three days a week, hasn't

returned to work since her son was attacked. "I am his only support system. I am not going to leave him alone," she said. "Troy hasn't talked to his father since he was 14."

Growing up with only his mother has enabled a very close relationship between them.

"Troy and I have a special relationship because it has always been just the two of us," Ruby said. That bond was tested when Troy was diagnosed with a seizure disorder at the age of 8. Although the disorder didn't cause any convulsions, "It affected his brain and thought process. His thinking and behavior were impulsive," Ruby said. "He was borderline suicidal at the age of 8."

A graduate of Edison High School, Troy had ambitions of attending Reed College in Portland, Ore., to pursue his interests in philosophy and metaphysics. "Troy's art is a statement of what he believes. Everything reflects his interests in philosophy and metaphysics," Ruby said.

Troy's 3-D art teacher, Marry Ollila, said that Troy was always the student who wanted to talk about his art work.

"Most artists can be reluctant or shy to talk about their work. Troy was always very eager to challenge other students and discuss what they were creating," Ollila said.

Dean of Student Services Robert Fox doesn't personally know Troy but has gone to visit him in the hospital.

"Troy is just your average 19-year-old who deals with health issues, maturation and finding his way in life," Fox said. "He unfortunately

was in the wrong place at the wrong time. It is a very tragic situation."

Favoring the beats of Urban hip hop, Troy creates graffiti pieces and writes lyrics in his spare time. "His collages feature social commentary about what is going on in the world. He creates a montage of ideas and thoughts," Ruby said.

Troy is still just your average teen-ager. "He doesn't like to listen to me, and he is very aggressive," Ruby said. "I have to remind him that he can't do everything any more."

Sara, Troy's black and silver tabby cat, has been in the family for 16 years. "I was able to bring Sara to the hospital so Troy could see her. He tried to bite her," Ruby said. "He tried to bite me; I prefer to look at it as being his sign of affection right now."

Troy has had people of all types come to visit him. "One afternoon we had faith healers who wanted to see my son. People who don't even know him are pulling together to make Troy feel important. My son is an example of how miracles can happen," Ruby said. "People who knew him and people who know him are all coming together to help in the rehabilitation process. The most important thing is to make him feel connected to the world still making him feel important."

Students who are interested in visiting Troy or making any contributions, can contact FCC and you will be direct to personnel who can help. A foundation is in the making to help pay for the time, energy and money the family needs.

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Rails

Continued from Page 1

ter Community College District. Reyes expressed his concern about students who are also crossing the tracks south of Weldon Avenue. "We try to give [students] a warning," he said.

The number of officers on duty varies from day to day based on the time of year and activities on campus. The campus police department has 13 sworn peace officers.

These officers are not the only ones who are concerned about safety. The non-profit organization Fresno Area Residents for Rail Consolidation has gathered more than 3,200 signatures from people in the Fresno area from all walks of life. Seven hundred of those signatures have come from FCC students. Those who signed along with 42 organizations, including SCCC, make a total of 7,000 people who support removal of the Burlington Northern Santa Fe line that cuts through the heart of Fresno — including the FCC campus — and placed alongside the Union Pacific line that runs parallel to Freeway 99 in a less populated area of the city.

Katia Kazovian, an FCC student who was recently appointed to a rail consolidation task force by Fresno Mayor Alan Autry and who witnessed the death of a fellow student from a train accident on campus, is heading up the gathering of more signatures.

Autry's task force, which held its first meeting Jan. 30, created a subcommittee to set up an action plan for getting the tracks moved. "Our ultimate goal is to move the tracks, but for now we are hoping to slow

the trains down to 35," said John Ferdinandi Jr., founder of FARRC and one of the members of the mayor's task force for rail consolidation. The next meeting is planned for sometime during the last week of February.

The subcommittee decided that the Amtrak trains, that are currently allowed to go up to 79 mph, would be the first trains they would like to slow down. While traveling northbound from the curve in the tracks at Hammond Avenue, (known as the Hammond curve) which the trains have to traverse slowly to prevent derailment, Amtrak trains can reach nearly 70 mph when they approach the FCC campus.

Freight trains, because of their length, can only get up to 45 mph when they reach campus. At these speeds, trains still are going fast enough to cause fatal injuries on any of the 11 crossings in the five miles from the Hammond curve to FCC. The trains, when approaching crossings, are supposed to give two short blasts followed by one long blast from their horn.

The plan to slow down the trains has divided members of the community. One group says that slowing down the trains along the Hammond curve will cause more accidents because people know that trains will be going only 35 mph. The other group, which has far more people, says that the increase in delays along the five-mile stretch from the slower trains will contribute to safety.

Meanwhile, the tracks that run through the campus continue to be a concern. "Many ideas have come up for the Weldon crossing," Reyes said. One of the ideas that were discussed at a board meeting Feb. 7

was building a wrought iron fence along the tracks. BNSF would install the fence, while FCC would maintain it. When the fence is going to built is still unknown, however the board did approve the project and would like to see it move forward. They are really do-

ing a "wonderful job in rail consolidation. It is just going to take time," Reyes said.

The next meeting dates have not been set for the mayor's task force.

The meetings are public and are held at City Hall. Until a permanent number is set up, you can call John

Ferdinandi Jr. at 243-0710 for times. Katia Kazovian can be reached at 498-4968 if you would like petition information. You can also contact Teresa Patterson in the SCCC office or at 244-2637 for a petition.

President

Continued from Page 1

wise, the candidates are confidential," Rowe said.

The search for a new FCC president initially began last August after Daniel Larios left the post in May for the position of president/superintendent at Antelope Valley College.

However, SCCC's search was suspended after the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11 on the recommendation of the district's consulting firm, Association of Community College Trustees. At the time, ACCT and district Chancellor Judith Redwine agreed that it would be pointless to continue with the search in the fall because of the precipitous downturn of the economy and a limited applicant pool from which to select a qualified president.

Nationwide advertising for the

position started again in December, with applications for the position coming in soon thereafter.

Kelli O'Rourke, co-chair of the President Selection Committee, said the applications that were turned in by the Feb. 1 deadline will be reviewed through today. Then the committee will select an undetermined number of the most qualified applicants for the first round of interviews. "We anticipate interviews on the 27th and 28th of [February]," O'Rourke said.

After the interviews, the number of applicants could be pared down to about 3 to 5, said Rowe. "Perhaps by the end of March, there will be an open forum meeting for faculty and staff to talk to the candidates and get their views and their commitment to FCC." The time and place of the open forums is still pending.

If things go as planned, an offi-

cial announcement revealing the name of the new college president could be made some time after the spring break. "We hope to have a recommendation to the Board of Trustees by April 2," O'Rourke said.

"The timeline is designed so that the appointment [of president] can be made in April, with the president coming to work on or before July 1, when the fiscal year begins," Rowe said. "But if he or she wanted to come earlier, that would be fine."

In the meantime, FCC continues under the leadership of Art Ellish.

Ellish, who had served as FCC's dean of instruction for 26 years until 1998, came out of retirement to serve as the college's interim president. "We have an agreement with Art [Ellish] to see us through this academic year," Rowe said. "Art will be on until a new president comes on board."

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Will you be my Valentine?



History of Valentine's Day

See's Candies and Hallmark will probably get a pretty nice boost in stock prices as millions of Americans rush out to buy candy and cards for Valentine's Day. That's right, it's February and Cupid is flying around with bow and arrow in hand taking aim.



Liz Speer
Rampage reporter
Opinion

Do you have your eye on a special someone? Well, if you do Valentine's Day can be the perfect time to make your move. The history behind this lovers' holiday didn't start out with much romance. The word "valentine" is associated

with the Christian martyr or martyrs named Saint Valentines. The records are unclear, and there is some confusion as to whether there was one or two Saint Valentines.

On the list of Roman martyrs, there are two saint Valentines recorded as having been beheaded on Feb. 14, but these deaths supposedly took place at two nearby towns, which evokes the question that the same death may have been recorded twice. Historians say it is possible that Saint Valentines death was recorded first by one town and then again by the other town leading to the appearance that there were two men by the same name.

The 14th of February was set aside in the Christian community to remember the martyrs, but it was also the day the Romans celebrated

their feast of Lupercalia which was a young lovers festival. The youth would draw names out of a box to determine their date for the event. Then the couples would exchange gifts at the festival and many ended up becoming lovers and eventually getting married.

Once Christianity had become popular, church leaders tried to give the pagan festival Christian meaning. Pope Gelasius moved the Lupercalia festival from Feb. 15 to Saint Valentine's Day on Feb. 14 in 496 to remember Saint Valentine's death. The martyr was forgotten but the traditional gift exchange and expression of love carried over. So this Valentine's Day as you kiss your loved one and chomp down on chocolate, remember Saint Valentines.



To value the true meaning of love

Valentine's Day, the one day of the year when couples demonstrate to one another how much they love each other.

Friends are valued for their commitment of being a "good" friend. A time to appreciate the lovely actions that people demonstrate to a certain amount of individuals. But what exactly is love? Is love the nourishment of the soul?



Luis Quezada
Rampage reporter
Opinion

Physical attraction seems to be the most popular way of sparking that flame of passion. Suddenly one feels butterflies and begins to fantasize. Our minds wander off to day dreaming land. A crush develops, but you never decide to tell that person what your true feelings are. Why not speak up and give yourself a chance?

Relationships are not just about running away and suddenly deciding to have a secret marriage in Las Vegas. You should be willing to offer your loved one something spiritual, instead of just physical activity. Quality time should be considered more important than materialistic items. Do not get me wrong, we all like receiving gifts, but our impressions should be based on actions. Like those that tell us how that person really is. What they seem to value and believe in.

How far would anyone be willing to go to demonstrate how much you love and care about someone? God gave one of Adam's ribs to Eve: Eve ate the forbidden apple. This began, what is identified as committing a sin. Not exactly the ideal example, but an example of how a relationship suffers from the choices that one decides to make in life.

If only people would be more



patient and understanding, and learn more about their partner, would they be able to identify each other. Like when looking into a mirror and seeing the reflection. Keeping a sense of balance would probably help to eliminate chaos. Communication, trust and being able to admit when one is wrong, are some of the key elements to a well-balanced relationship. This could eliminate the results of so many divorces in our society. To what I have seen and heard, failed relationships seem to lack at least one of these elements.

Have we begun to lose our moral values, or do some people just seem not to care anymore? What will happen to our future if people continue with their "whatever" attitudes. People need to realize that life is too short to continue with disastrous relationships. We need to focus on what we hope to expect from life. Take on the challenge and defeat the obstacles.

Valuing who you are and what you have to achieve and offer the world should be the number one priority. You must first learn to accept yourself, before you can start accepting others. If you give respect, you will most likely receive respect. Understand that love is not a game, it is a privilege. Love, family and respect should be important aspects of any human beings life. Value your loved ones while they are still alive, because when they are gone, it is too late. All there is left to feel is regret.

How do I love thee, I'm unsure

I guess that since this is the Valentine's Day issue, I can jump on the bandwagon and write something that pertains to love—in some way, shape or form. (er, and be warned! This is a tad on the scatter-brained side!) I think it only fair that I disclose the fact that I have no concrete ideas as to what love is, let alone the mechanics involved behind the scenes to sustain such a feeling. I mean, I thought I felt it a few times, but isn't this an area that's basically all or nothing?



Denise Seidl
Rampage reporter
Opinion

One of the more intriguing things I do to cure boredom is to watch people...all kinds of people, but it always seems that the ones in love have a tendency to stick out more, almost like I had a radar for these types. The most fascinating aspect of these observations would have to be the way in which each of these people has freely given himself or herself over to something so much larger and more in control of them then they can ever possibly realize. Watching as the childish grins stretch from ear to ear when seeing each other after a class, the doe eyes, the affection, the utter contentment, it makes me wonder how someone as empathetic as myself has yet to experience this feeling!

Don't get me wrong, even though I'm not positive that I've been all the way in love, I can say that I've been involved in a few relationships where the mere sight of the person caused butterflies in my stomach—it's just that I don't ever remember feeling the desire to abandon my individualistic self in favor of a cozy two-person unit. I've never noticed myself thinking such novel thoughts as, "Could this be the one?" or "I think I'll tattoo

his name on my butt!" It just utterly boggles my mind when I see those exact feelings held, and genuinely so, by people I once thought incapable of such depth in emotions. I don't wish to sound so pessimistic, as I admit that love *does* exist and is felt by a great many of you. I just ... don't know what it's like or where to find it. It must be absolutely enlightening, that carefree and spontaneous feeling that I've heard love offers. But I need to ask, what's it like when things turn out contrary to what's expected? How does one go about living their life falling in and out of love seemingly at the drop of a hat, yet managing to appear as if it takes no toll on them? In scrutiny, I see that it does in fact affect them, so what's the point of continuing on in the same unstable manner? I see this happening far too often to those closest to me, yet all I can do is stand by idly, and be there when it counts—as I'm sure it's a widely known fact that love is, and always will be, blind. When I give readings to people, I can sense firsthand the love they feel for another, yet it never feels familiar (in the sense that I've never felt that way toward another, others have loved me, but it wasn't reciprocated).

And what's the deal with giving your love to one who has an utter lack of respect for you? I mean, this would have to be quite a phenomenal feeling to be able to create such a sturdy blockade that ending the relationship once and for all no longer presents itself as an option when faced with massive amounts of negativity. I can see how one can become so caught up in the other person that they don't see the harm being done to themselves, but there has to come a point when its obvious as to what the score is—or more correctly, what it isn't and never was. That old saying rings true again and again—we



only hurt the ones we love most—could it be that I'm avoiding love to avoid the hurt? Is it really better to have loved and lost than to have never loved at all? After all, here I am sitting here with no knowledge whatsoever to the validity of this statement. All in all, I recognize that all my questions can be answered myself exclusively, though precisely *when* the answers will manifest, I know not. I have no problem with waiting around for results. I just wish there were more constructive things I could be doing to help further my plight! And though I have no real right in holding my steadfast opinion concerning love and its operations, I do feel that the usual ideologies regarding love (there's one true love/soul mate there for everyone) are not sufficient enough to meet my needs. Why can't there be more than one? Doesn't it make more sense to have that in each phase, or stage, of your life, there's one perfect person to help you through it? If it turns out it's the same person that helps you time and time again, then so be it, but if it isn't, why beat a dead horse? I speak merely from an observational standpoint, but I feel it holds water when tested. I just can't fathom the idea that I'll meet and stay with one person my entire life, though perhaps that's a part of being in love is truly about.

Which leads me back to waiting around for it to surface (sigh) hate waiting for something so obscure. But that's just the way it goes...

Loving a day that brings much pain: Valentine's Day

I always loved Valentine's Day. The way the air smelled of candy and sweets, the way the women's hearts would light up when their boy-friends actually remembered to get them something, and the way the children smiled because they got some of those tiny chewy hearts. But on the same notion, Valentine's Day (or as I like to call it, V-Day), has always been a hard time for me.

See, I've always been single on V-Day. Not to mention, that twice, I was dumped right before the non-secular holiday came around. This year is no different, aside from the



J. Riley
Entertainment editor
Opinion



fact that I was left about three and a half months ago. You'd think that with me still suffering over the loss of her, that I would have a cynical view of V-Day (as many people do), but yet I seem to be one of the more enthusiastic members of the Rampage staff about these Valentine pages.

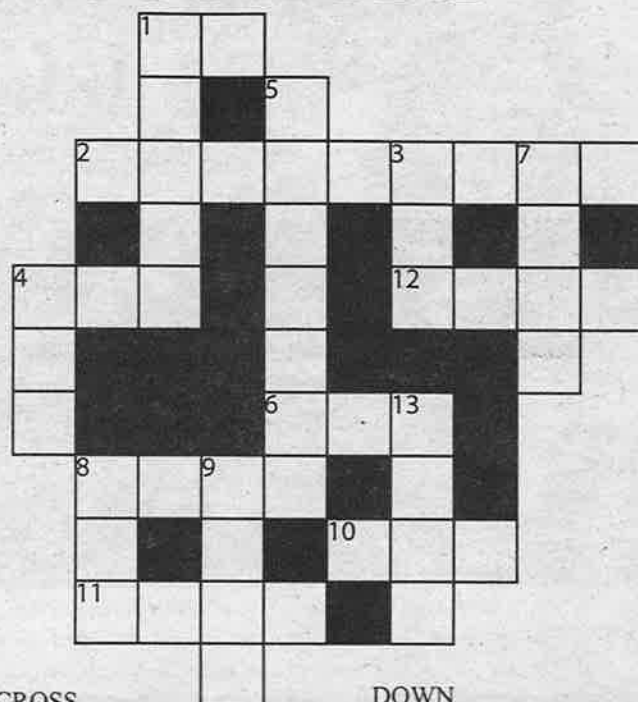
Maybe one of the reasons, is my

love of seeing joy on peoples' faces. Just because I'm not happy, doesn't mean that they can't be. As a matter of fact, up until this year (mainly because I don't have the cash flow right now I wish I had) I would give out 60 to 90 dollars worth of candy every V-Day. Just to see a spark I guess, a glimmer of the joy I never get the chance to endure on V-Day.

Now, don't get me wrong, my female friends are still getting something special this year. I'm just making them myself rather than buying chocolate. Of course, these photo/computerized Valentine's may not be as mood altering as chocolate. Yet, I know of at least a few ladies in which this would bring smiles to their faces.

I guess when it comes right down to it, that's all I want: To bring a smile to a face that needs one.

Crossword



ACROSS

1. Yes in Spanish.
2. "Would you be my ___?" It's what many romantics have been searching for recently.
4. It's the one and only "___" A famous doctor.
6. "... Like a cat on a hot ___ roof."
8. Are we having ___ yet? No, not that...
10. A famous Egyptian king. "... Smells like rain."
11. Have you been naughty or ___?
12. Florescent lighting

DOWN

1. "___; the final frontier."
3. The number of fingers humans have.
4. Can ya ___ it? Archaeologists can.
5. The name of our multipart story.
7. Lunchtime.
8. They're smelly, scaly, and they only have just one atrium and one ventricle supplying blood to their bodies.
9. Quarterbacks have to worry about this. They keep their lunches in it too.
13. A person, place, or thing.

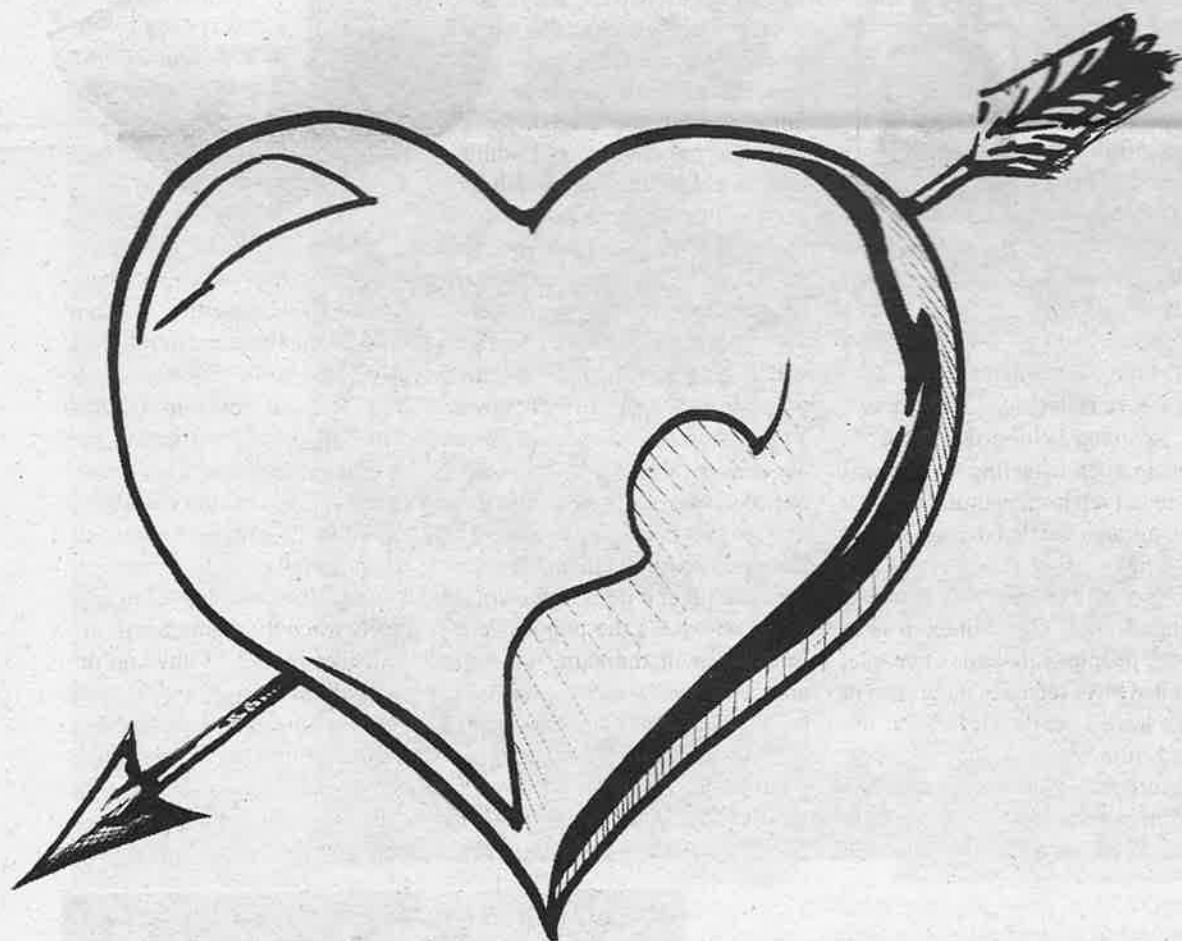


Illustration by Jacob Franks

Say

What?



"The best fat for making soap comes from humans."

With this feature we are testing your cinematic intellect. Check the answer box on page 13 for the SayWhat and Crossword answers.

Taking it to the streets

Compiled by Jenny Langworthy

What was the worst Valentine's gift that you ever received?

"An unexpected disappointment."
--Mike Sosa



"I never got a bad one."
--George Jurs

"A heart-shaped ring."
--Krystal Hilsabeck



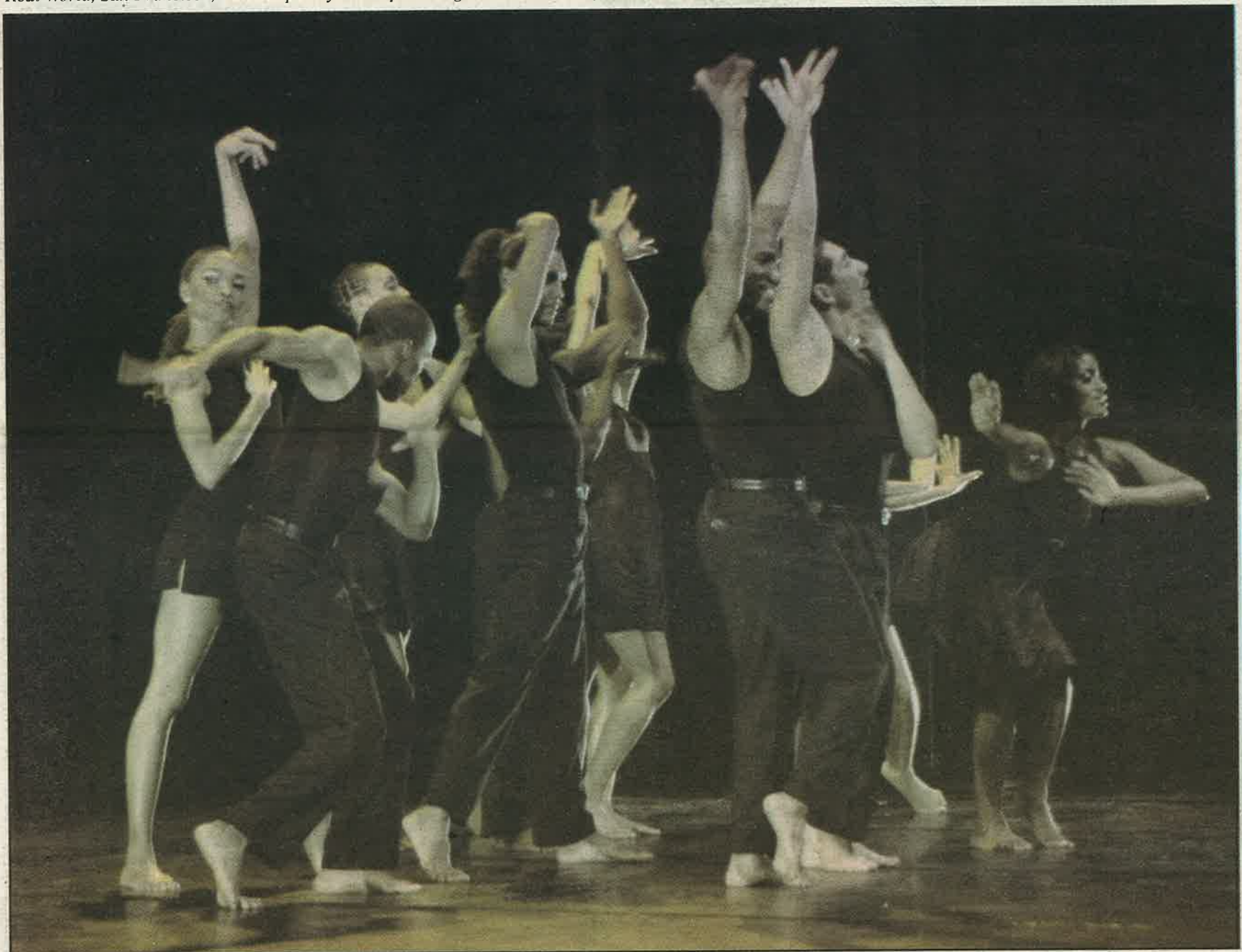
"Nothing, the big fat zero."
--Darrell Davidian

"A blind puppy."
--Aaron Clark





Beverly Brown (foreground) and the Fresno Community Voices of Angels choir perform on gospel night in the FCC College Theatre on Feb. 1. Earlier that day, Mohammed Bilal (right), a member of MTV's "The Real World, San Francisco," recites poetry and raps during the Black History Month opening ceremony.



The Dallas Black Dance Theatre, which is celebrating its 25th year as the oldest, continuously operating professional dance company in Dallas, performed its "Making a Lasting Impression" show at the Tower Theatre on Feb. 5 as part of Black History Month. The performance was presented, in part, by Fresno City College.



FCC students Leticia Evan (left), Adam Grant (below) and Michael Lollis (right) all performed at the opening ceremony of Black History Month at the FCC College Theatre.





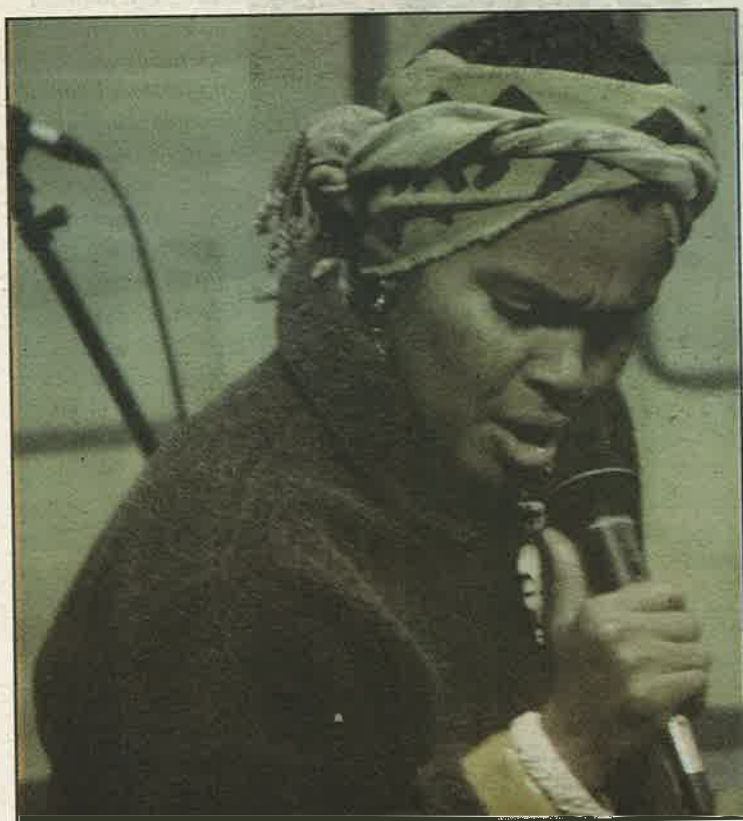
Dance performances by the Dallas Black Dance Theatre ranged from modern to jazz to ethnic and spiritual.

a glimpse of history

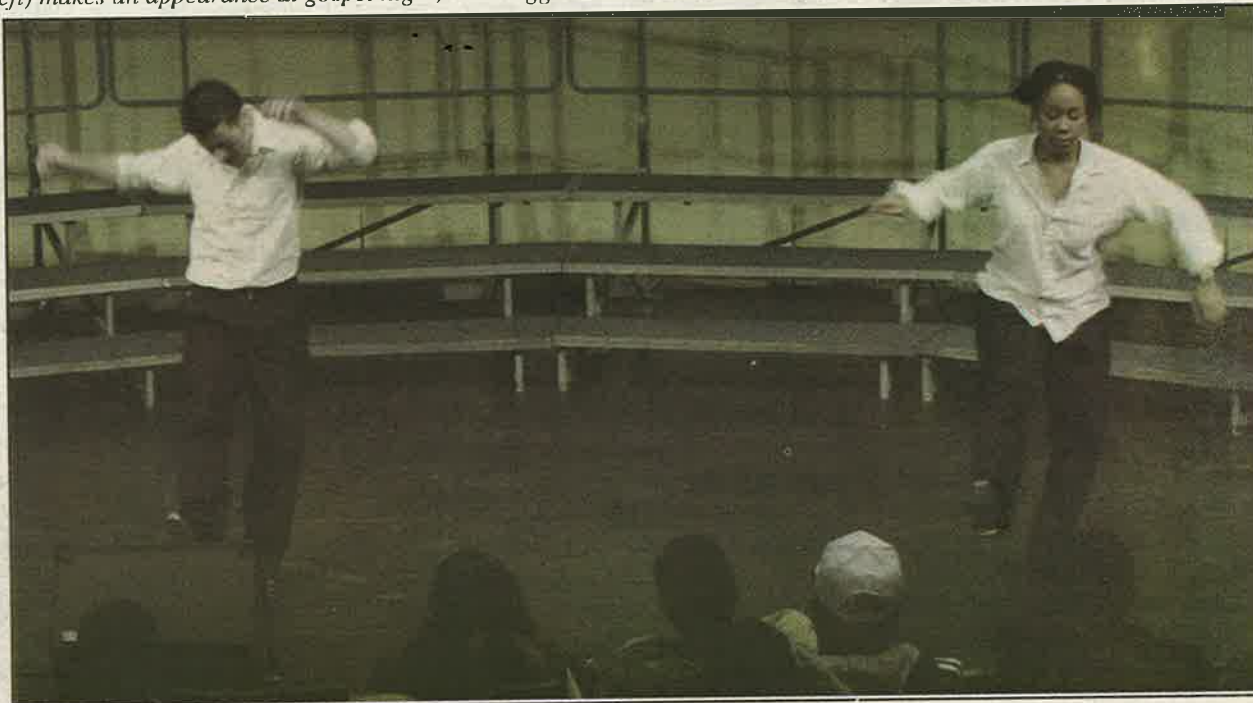
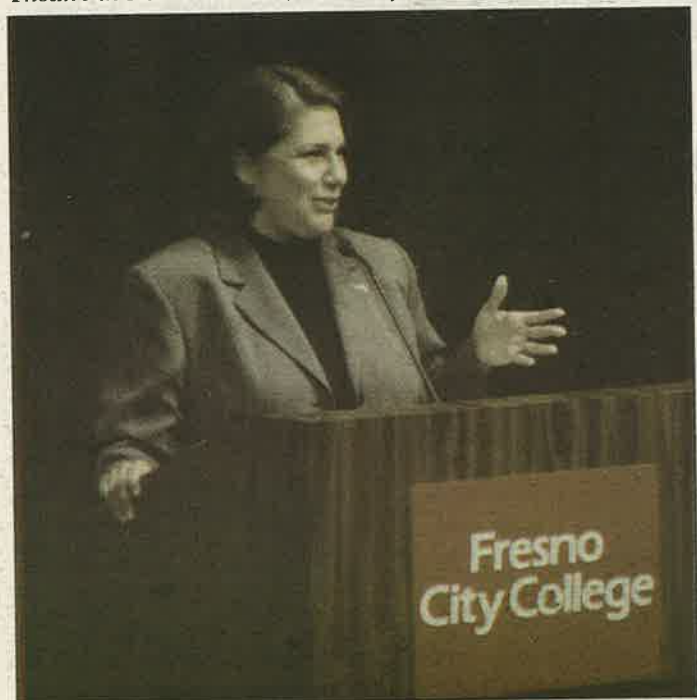
Photos by
Wendy Alexander
and Lenetta Huxley



Fresno City College instructor Lucille Rash plays the role of Miss Anna Mae Brown while hosting the opening ceremony to begin Black History Month at the College Theatre on Feb. 1. In the story, Anna Mae Brown returns home but can't find her friend Wilber. Much to Anna Mae Brown's dismay, she learned that Wilber had died and been cremated.



Black History Month festivities included Lorraine Fletcher (above) performing as the opening act at gospel night; the camera catches a member (above) of the Dallas Black Dance Theatre in blurred motion; Assemblywoman Sarah Reyes (below left) makes an appearance at gospel night; and Reggie Lovero and Jackie Clark of Dance Studio of Fresno perform.



Sanity vs. Racism

"Check it out," Annie boasted, proudly revealing a new tattoo on her bicep that read 88.

I gazed upon it with a sigh. I thought that body tattoos were a moronic form of self-mutilation. But there was more stupidity behind it than I thought. "What does it symbolize?" I asked, rather perplexed by this strange code.

"Um... it's a long story," she dodged, quickly pushing her sleeve back down.

"Come on, Annie, you're obviously proud enough to get it carved into your flesh, you might as well explain it to me," I pressed.

"You know my boyfriend..." she began.

"Yes, that skinhead," I said with a degree of disgust. She was the sweetest girl; I didn't know why she would get swept up with scum like that.

"Well, I kinda got involved with it," she continued timidly.

"What?! Annie, I warned you not to be fooled by that ridiculous dogma. And the tattoo?" I kept pushing for an explanation.

"The letter 'H' is the eighth letter in the alphabet, so 88 is HH, or Hail Hitler. I'm a white supremacist," she proclaimed looking confidently into my eyes.

I was absolutely astonished. Annie was one of the nicest girls I had ever met; I couldn't believe that she would ever fall into such a hateful organization. Was I really in the year 2002? Did such things as segregation, racism and white supremacy still exist? Apparently I was living a sheltered life inside a utopian bubble that had just popped.

I grew angry. I don't like it when my bubbles get popped. "This isn't because of that waste of human space you're dating, is it? Annie, you can't let other people make such decisions for you, you're..."

"No, Megan," she cut me off. "I've felt like this a long time, OK, I've made up my mind."

Apparently so, she already had the tattoo. Now all she had to do was shave her head to match the amount of wisdom she had with the amount of hair. I realized that leaping into a fiery tirade would only cause her to tune me out. I centered myself and looked into her eyes. She was still sweet little Annie, glancing around, rubbing her arm insecurely. I knew it had to be some kind of misinterpretation of emotions that had caused her to choose this route. With my philosophy class in mind, I began the great debate, assuming the role of Socrates. I was determined to enlighten her.

I started calmly asking her questions about her beliefs and why she had come to such conclusions. She began by regurgitating twisted statistics that pinned urban crime, poverty, and every other sin against humanity to the African-American population. "Annie," I warned, "You must be cautious when dealing with statistics. They can be manipulated to prove almost any-

thing. You never know who carried out the survey or in what manner. Who tested these statistics, where did you hear about this?"

"I don't know, I heard about it from the others," she replied.

"The other skinheads?" I asked. "Yeah... well," she changed the subject. I made my point. Megan 1, white supremacists 0.

She continued with a number of unfortunate anecdotes where she or many of her friends were the targets of African-American gang violence.

"Annie, I'm very sorry that those things happened to you, but anecdotes in no way prove a general characteristic of any given population, and you know it," I countered. I could hear the cheerleaders in my head, "Go Megan, go Megan."

"Oooh, Megan," she growled. She knew it.

"I'm just sick of all the black, brown, whatever pride things they're always throwing in our faces when we can't have any kind of white pride event," said Annie. "And society just sits there and lets it happen because they're too afraid to stop it."

"Ok. You say you're sick of all the racial pride groups flaunting their power?" I queried.

"Yeah," she said proudly. She thought she had me.

"Well, aren't you just as bad as them by joining a white supremacist group and flaunting your pride?" I looked at her with a smile. She gazed at me, trying to compute everything.

"But..." she stammered.

"Annie, why do you think society is super sensitive about the issue of racism? It's because of people like you, joining white supremacist groups and putting pressure on people of other races. You're becoming what you hate by joining such a group. Annie, it's ridiculous to think that one race of people is supreme to another. 'Race' has become a term that distinguishes between various ethnic backgrounds. But last time I checked, there was only one race of human beings, and that is the homo sapien. We are all equal, Annie, I thought you knew that," I remarked, ending the game with a three-pointer. The crowd went wild.

"I did know that," she added quietly.

We continued the debate for hours, laughing at the ridiculous idea of white supremacy, or any form of hate for that matter. I realized that discussion and debate was far more effective than admonishing a person for their wrongs.

What really affected me about this enlightening debate was how easily a person could be swayed toward hatred. After a few unfortunate encounters, some social discomfort, and a couple of unprofessional statistics a person can be thrown into the vicious cycle that is racism. We need to think, people. Before giving into a blazing storm of frustrations, step outside of yourself for a moment and rationally consider the origin of your anger. You'll realize that the source of your problem is, well, only skin deep.



Megan Edwards
Rampage reporter
Opinion

Snowboarding vs. skiing

"Whoa...!" I laughed giddily. I was on my feet, not falling, wobbling, or wavering. I was finally gliding lightly across the snow.

"So this is snowboarding." With arms out and muscles tense in a perpetual pre-sitting stance, I began to gain speed. Chilling air licked my face, my feet vibrated as the board cut across the icy terrain. Nature propelled me across the frozen face of an ancient mountain.

"Wait a second," I paused. Overwhelming euphoria quickly transformed into paralyzing fear. Trees were racing by, my body was bouncing across chunks of snow, I couldn't turn. It hit me, suddenly I was no longer defying nature, courageously carving into the ancient peak, but rather, this demon mountain decided to teach me a lesson in gravity. The board roared beneath me, scraping across the icy landscape. Every attempt to get my back end forward sent me plummeting toward the outer edge of the run, toward rocks and trees, and my inevitable demise.

But before I could do anything quasi-intelligent, my toes dropped, catching my edge and catapulting me through the air, face first, arms spread like an eagle. For a split second, before I realized what had happened, I found myself soaring through the clean mountain air, the roaring stopped, I was floating through absolute serenity.

Then, SMACK, I landed hard against the snow, hands first, then elbows. I slid across the frozen terrain on my belly, lower body spinning like a propeller.

Finally, I found myself lying on my back against an embankment, staring up at the crystal blue sky. I felt myself breathe out of my body, and, once realizing how cold it was, rush back in with a gasp.

"So..." I coughed, "this... is snowboarding."

My friend glided up to me, mak-

ing a perfect stop by my side. "Are you OK?" he asked, "You totally ate it. That was a sick wipeout!"

I began to yell, but trailed off with a groan, "You told me snowboarding was easy!"

I was staring up at the sky above Academy at Sierra Summit, the alleged "easy run," for the 50th time that day. We started at 9 a.m., it was 2:30 p.m., and I was still on the same slope.

"How long is this thing?" I whined, looking hopelessly down the icy hill. Tears stung my eyes, as my body begged me to stop such torture.

"Come on," said my friend, lifting me from my miserable state. "You were doing great, it's just you're first time."

"On the contrary, my friend," I quipped, "gravity is doing great, I, on the

Now that I've been snowboarding a few more times, I'm a lot happier. In fact, I love it. The only thing keeping me from being on the slopes every weekend is that ever-confining issue of money.

Snowboarding is a beautiful sport... well, sometimes. The ride up the face of the mountain is the perfect place for meditation. All you can hear is the rubbery squeak of the lift cable, and an occasional pop from the crystal forest below. It's as if it was cold enough to freeze sound. The air is actually clean, which is foreign to us Fresnoans. And the view is perfect. If you look behind you, you can see for miles across the mountain range, and down to a peaceful lake below.

Then you get off the lift.

There's nothing harder, in my humble opinion, than getting off of the lift. I usually end up sliding in circles down the little hill on my belly, met with the abrasive, "Get out of the ways" from the authorities. I dust off the snow, cast a glare at the merciless lift managers, and hop onto Academy for some fun.

On the slope, I have to dodge a myriad of seated snowboarders and speedy skiers. Those skiers are ruthless and they have terrible disdain for snowboarders. They carve by at breakneck speeds, spraying snow all over any resting snowboarder in sight. And they glide by smugly on the flat areas, pushing themselves along with their prissy little poles, while snowboarders are forced to hike. For some reason skiers don't think we belong on the mountain.

I have nothing against skiers. I have a lot of respect for those double-board bound pole bearers. It's a stupid rivalry on the slopes between skiers and snowboarders. But, hey, do they have their own park? I didn't think so.

Snowboarding is extremely trying, especially when starting out. It takes amazing physical stamina and exceptional balance and coordination. So don't get frustrated your first time. Keep getting back up, watch out for trees and skiers, and good luck. You'll need it.

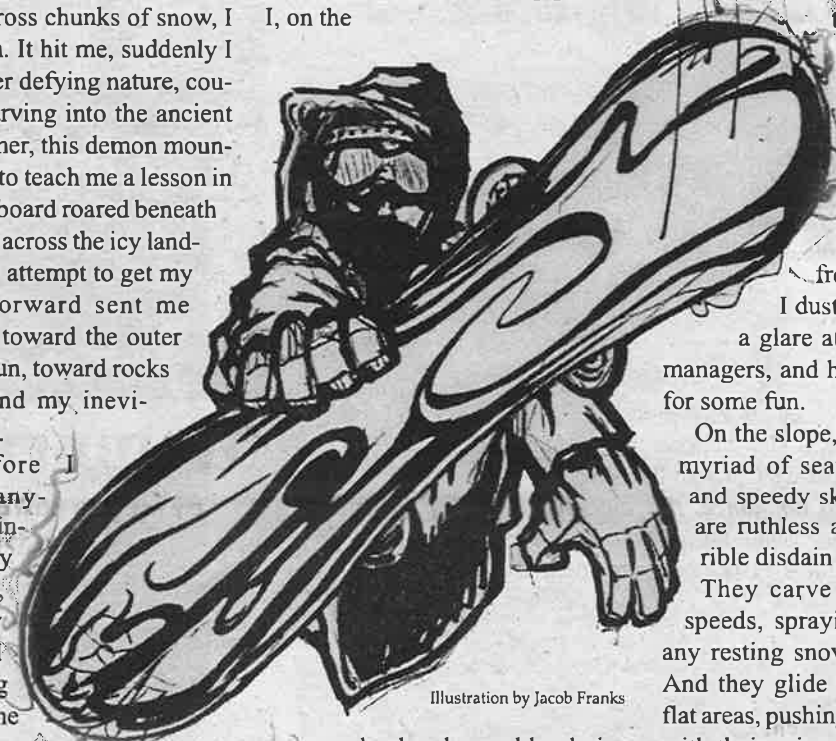


Illustration by Jacob Franks

other hand, am a blundering idiot, with no apparent coordination, whatsoever."

I never realized how difficult this "sport" was, if you even want to call it a sport. I wasn't feeling very sporty. I was wet, cold, and sore all over. And this was called "fun?"

That first day was miserable. I spent the entire day on one slope. Well, I spent most of the day on my frozen rear, and the rest, wobbling like a toddler.

But something about snowboarding enchanted me. Perhaps it was the amazing feeling of self worth every time I began to grasp the technique, or a feeling of adventure, cutting through the wild mountain environment. It was definitely cool.

Islamic schools vs. United States

Religion is on the minds of us all these days, and each religion (including Christianity) carries its own code of laws, ethics, culture and educational system.

The religion of Islam is no different. Islam has its own form of educational system, based on the Laws of God, but in the United States, the government made laws

forbidding one to teach a religious system in the public school system.

Throughout America, the Muslims have set up their own schools to teach their young according to the Islamic system of education. One such school system, Gateway schools, are located throughout California. Although, when the Islamic schools, like Gateway join forces with the general public school systems of America, they are expected to adhere to the rules of said system, which in most cases, is in utter conflict to the Islamic system of God.

Still, even if the alleged violations of misappropriating \$3.9 million are true of the Gateway school system, then those running the schools should have been proven guilty of said crime and fined for their actions, or removed from the system.

But to punish the innocent children attending these schools by taking away the charter for the schools, and denying them the right to their religious beliefs just goes to prove that America is out to destroy Islam by any means necessary.



Sakina Zaky
Rampage reporter
Opinion

City Life

by Jesse Garcia



10 Recommendations

Just a few humble suggestions from the editorial staff

Movie to see: I Am Sam

A touching movie about a man with the mind of a 7-year-old raising his 7-year-old daughter. This movie is quickly becoming a must see.

Video to rent: Shawshank Redemption

A prison movie that gets its story across without falling back on the typical prison movie stereotypes.

CD to burn: Break the Cycle

It's by Staind, need I say more?

Book to read: The Verbally Abusive Relationship: How to Recognize It and How to Respond

As if you can't figure out the subject matter from the title...

Website to view: www.tower2000.com

A site that allows you to view many locations in the Tower District.

Place to go: Grandmairie's Chicken Pie Shop

Maintaining a 1950s ambiance, this pie shop is one of the Tower District's most popular venue for breakfast, lunch and dinner.

Live event: Intramural Air Hockey Tournament

If you like to play or watch, it's at 10 a.m. Feb 22 in the College Center.

Game to play: Final Fantasy X

The ultimate saga in the ultimate RPG series now for the Play Station 2. Just play it, you'll believe. 'Nuff said.

Television show to watch: Scrubs

A comedic series based on the lives of pre-meds learning the trade. Tune into NBC at 9:30 p.m. Tuesdays, once the Olympics are over.

Poem to recite: Daughter of Eve

A sad poem by Christina Rossetti. If only telling you about it could do it justice ...



Memorable memories at Memorial

By Megan Edwards
Rampage reporter

On Feb. 6, the Memorial Auditorium Restoration Society (MARS) presented "Memorial Memories," a collaborative performance by various talented people from all over Fresno, at the Fresno Memorial Auditorium.

The event was to raise money and interest toward the restoration of the old auditorium; specifically, for a new sound system. The current sound system is out of commission and understandably so. It was put in when the auditorium was built in 1937. So they've been forced to rent sound equipment, which has increased the cost.

There are a number of projects being carried out by the Memorial Auditorium Restoration Society toward the old theater. Their hope is to restore the theater back to its glory days when it was the main cultural and entertainment center in the Fresno area. Currently, they'll be restoring the marquee in front, a \$15,000 project to be carried out by the same business that built it 50 years ago, the Fresno Neon Sign Company. They also wish to restore the lighting system, which too is from 1937. Such projects are expected to cost about \$200,000.

Stephen Mensel, president of MARS said, "If you talk to people who grew up here [about the auditorium], they'll have this kind of look in their eyes as it brings back the warm fuzzies."

You could feel that sense of pride radiating from the audience of elderly members. Between acts, a projector flashed silver photographs of a shiny new auditorium and some of its memorable events, while silver-haired-theatergoers murmured,



Above: New Wrinkles performs a dance routine on stage to make money for the Memorial Auditorium Restoration Society.
Left: The lobby to the Memorial Auditorium

Photos by Wendy Alexander

"Oh yes, I remember that... why that's the time we..." and so forth.

Marian Mosley, from the MARS Board of Directors, organized the event. "I have some wonderful memories from this place," Mosley said with an air of sweet nostalgia. Taking my arm, she continued, "Why, I had the big honor of getting to dance in a little chorus line when Bob Hope came up here and MC'ed" at Fresno State's annual Spring Fling. She attended Fresno State College when it was located here on the Fresno City campus.

Each of the performers, from host John Wallace, to seven-year-old ballerinas, donated their time and talents to the event with the auditorium's restoration in mind.

Mike Downing, a freshman at Fresno State University and percussionist in the Fresno Youth Symphony said, "I think [the Fresno Memorial Auditorium] needs a lot of work. It won't get better if people don't help."

Unfortunately, the old auditorium, whose stage once held legends like Frank Sinatra and Louie Armstrong, doesn't even have a curtain. Performers had to scurry on and off stage before the 65-year-old light system flickered on. But despite its impairments, the show

went on.

Art and Lorraine Farkas both came to see their daughter perform in the Young Dancers of Severance Fresno Ballet School, but came to enjoy the atmosphere of the theater as well. "I love [the Fresno Memorial Auditorium], it's first class and very intimate," said Art. "I really believe in preserving these older buildings because they're not only beautiful, they're historical," Lorraine said.

"It's a wonderful place. It still has a great vitality to it," said Mensel.

Even some of the younger people there were charmed by the old auditorium. Charla Calahan, a senior at Clovis High School and second chair French horn of the Fresno Youth Symphony said, "I like the old style look. It's a nice, cozy, comfortable theater."

There was a variety of performers that night, including John Wallace, MKF: Altered Modalities Jean Lane, Cynthia Merrill Dance Theater, Richard Woods, the New Wrinkles, Young Dancers of Severance Fresno Ballet School, Children's Musical Theatreworks, Cheri Stark, Miss Lesandre Avrey, Jackie and Keith Kelly, and the Fresno Youth Symphony.

Answer Box

These are the answers for this issue's crossword puzzle and this issue's "Say What?"

CROSSWORD - Across: 1. Si 2. Valentine 4. Dre 6. Tin 8. Fish 10. Tut 11. Nice 12. Neon Down: 1. Space 3. Ten 4. Dig 5. Rebirth 7. Noon 8. Fun 9. Sack 13. Noun SAY WHAT? - Brad Pitt, "Fight Club"

In Brief Bio

On Marie Jacques



Marie Jacques is a talented artist at Fresno City College who is following her passion in the field. She is a Renaissance woman of sorts, competing on the women's badminton team for her sophomore year, working in the library, and, of course, painting and writing poetry.

Jacques started creating art in elementary school and has stuck with it ever since. She started out drawing sketches, and then her work evolved into painting. Now she is an art major and enjoys painting two-dimensional art work using water color. Jacques attributes her motivation and dedication to art to two special teachers in her life. The first was Sally Stallings, a seventh-grade teacher at Bullard Talent Junior High and the second is one of FCC's art teachers, Anne Scheid. Jacques feels that both of these teachers have motivated her and helped her improve as an artist.

Jacques has entered several of her pieces in the Fresno Fair and has been awarded a collection of ribbons over the years. In recent years, in the category for beginning water color, she has received first place for a piece call "Remembering the Kennedys" and third-place ribbons for "A Kennedy Moment" and for a portrait she painted of Drew Barrymore.

In the halls of the Administration Building at FCC, you will find some of Jacques's work proudly displayed. She is also in the midst of other art projects on campus and is always ready to get involved.

- Compiled by Liz Speer



The backside of Kittie's Album shows the front of the band.

Kittie plays well with 'Oracle'

Kittie is one of the first all-female metal bands made up of three women. Morgan Lender, lead vocalist who plays guitar and piano, Talena Atfield plays bass, and Mercedes Lender is on the drums. These girls are breaking new ground in metal music



Nick
Bergstrom

Music review

on their new album "Oracle" with Lender's growling voice and the pounding bass and guitar. Then Lender can also sing in her "nice voice." The mixture between the growling and singing makes this

CD just that much better.

Kittie had a really good self-titled debut album, and its first single, "Charlotte," is off the album. Now they have a brand new single, "JW Winter," which is one of the best songs it has ever come out with. These women make up one of my favorite bands to come out in the last five years, and this album just makes me like them more.

"JW Winter" is a kind of sweet sounding song with Morgan using her wonderful voice throughout the verses, and then the loud growling of the chorus. My favorite part is the music and the beat. When it all comes together, it creates something absolutely amazing sound.

"What I Always Wanted" is another good mixture of growling and

Band: Kittie
Album: Oracle
Website: kittie.com
Rating: Talented

singing. I just love when they have this contrasting sound of voices and instruments, which makes this one of the best songs on the album.

I like the song "Safe" because there is a cool piano part throughout it. Mix the piano with the guitar, drums and bass, and you get a unique flavor to add to the slamming metal riffs that these girls portray throughout this album.

If you want to know more about this really talented band just go to www.kittie.com and enjoy.

Ghostface's 'killah' album, weep with joy

Familiar with the pearl theory of artistic endeavor? Its rule holds that pain or challenging circumstances within the heart and soul of an artist provides the eventual inspiration and focus for the work — much like the oyster transforms the irritations of individual granules of sand and dirt into the magnificence we affectionately deem pearls.



L. Gary IV

Rampage reporter
Music review

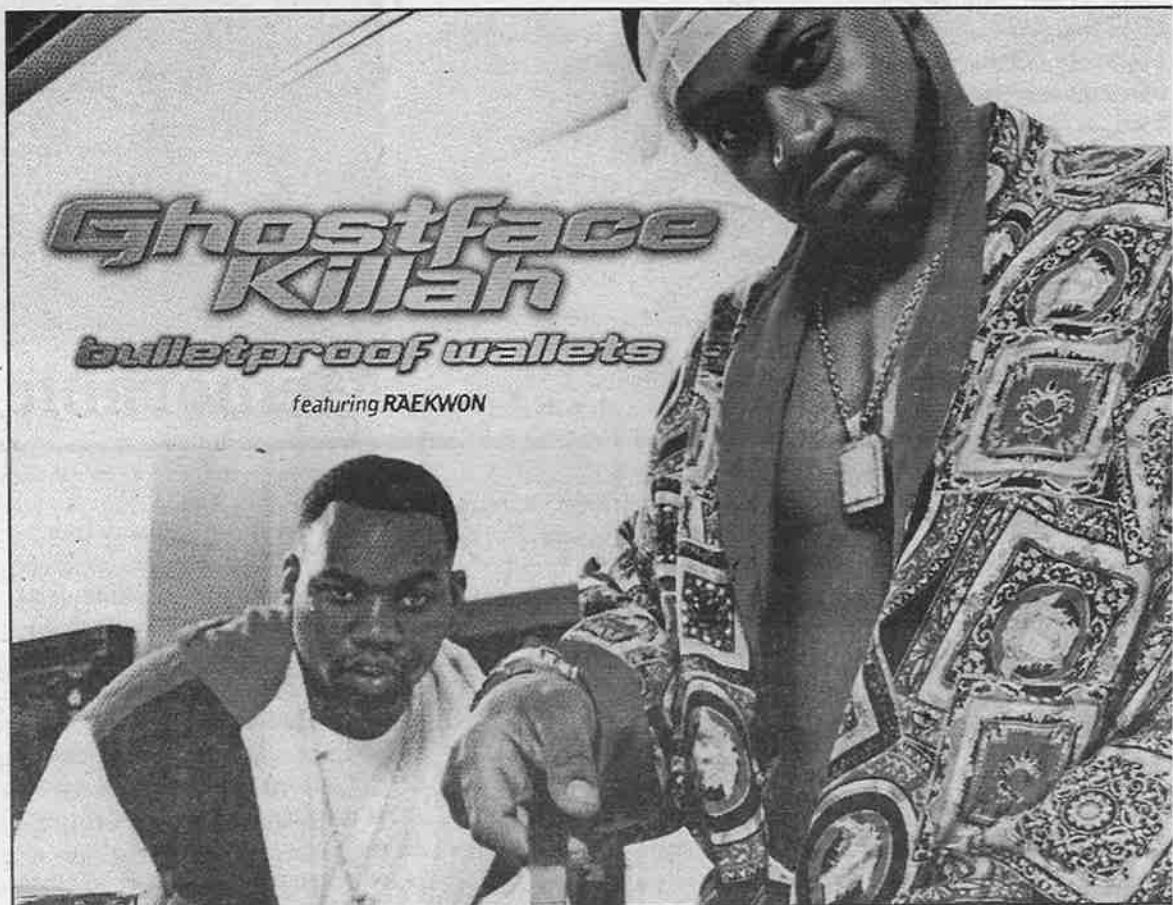
It is nothing more than a natural process for both, but to the onlooker one of majestic proportion — the schizophrenic rages of Vincent Van Gogh, the conducive miseries of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart startle us, amaze us, and inspire us. It is within this realm that the true brilliance of Dennis Coles, "One Ghostface Killah" by namesake, and his manifesto's, 1996's *Ironman*, 2000's *Supreme Clientele*, and 2001's *Bulletproof Wallets*, his latest, can be recognized, applauded, and endured.

Through 16 tracks, deliberately unordered, *Bulletproof Wallets* lunges at its listener, rabid with derangement only found in George W.

Artist: Ghostface Killah
Album: Bullet Proof Wallets
Rating: ★★★★★1/2

Bush supporters, convulsively thrashing at your jugular, torn flesh and mangled flank its residual. Immediately it becomes evident, the high-energy "Maxine" forces you at gunpoint into a world of crime-ridden hypocrisy, domestic violence, and murder, followed by the intense "Theodore", a thunderous chiding to an erstwhile associate, and "Strawberry," an intense, moment by moment recollection of past sexual interlude.

Few possess the vernacular diligence of the self-prescribed "wallabee king," nor the outright willingness to exert thoughtful, intelligently conceived quips and libretto into decisive, borderline genius professions of both his life and environment, distancing himself greatly from the status quo of emcee, preoccupied with substance abuse and sexual consumption. Ghostface is taboo, personified into human expression, a defying pioneer driven and moved by means, passions, and principles unfathomable by modern peers. "The Forest" (childhood innocence lost), "The Juks" (American economic



Ghostface Killah poses for the album cover, while cooking.

policy and its relation to the African American collective), "The Hilton" (the value of true friendship), and "Interlude 1" (man & materialism), show Ghostface tackling a diverse, intellectually resolute array of subject matter, poeti-

cally stipend with just enough flair to differentiate between Harvard lecture and Def Comedy Jam semantics.

There is much more to be dissected, examined, and analyzed — the beauty of this release is that it

allows for individual assessment and evaluation. *Bulletproof Wallets* allows the listener wide varieties of spectrum and facet, applicable to any medium one may conceive. Delight in its vibrance, warmth and glow.

Even without names, Slipknot ties on good music

While on stage, there is no telling who's who. They pride themselves as being the band without names, or identities. They are known by only numbers 1-9. Their faces are covered and concealed from the crowd by masks. While on stage, they throw their rage-filled music around so that everyone in the crowd knows what it is like to be in their shoes.



Nick
Bergstrom

Rampage reporter
Music review

Slipknot, from somewhere in the rural part of Iowa, had played and toured that state for years before

Band: Slipknot
Album: Iowa
Website: slipknot1.com
Rating: One of my favorites

busting onto the "Nu" metal scene with its self-titled album Slipknot.

The album was one of the top sellers of the year and ended up platinum. While they were touring for the album, they managed to score a spot on the main stage at the biggest metal show, OZZfest.

I was actually there, and they rocked the house.

Slipknot is made up of nine twisted individuals who all have something to add to a sound that will be hard to remake, with the passionate yet dark lyrics added to the



Slipknots nine members bring their destructive style back with their sophomore album Iowa.

noise of a turntable and some percussion. There are two guitarists, a bassist and another turntable and so on.

Their new album, "Iowa", is a musical explosion that can erupt

from your home stereo speakers, with songs such as "My Plague", "Disasterpiece" and "The Heretic Anthem."

These are my three favorite songs on the album. Their style runs

wild through this entire album with their deep tuning on their instruments to the wild drummer.

"My Plague" is the song that I played on the radio, and it is one of my favorite songs. It is one of the darker songs on the album.

"Disasterpiece" is another of the songs I like to blast on my stereo. It all starts with the beat from the drummer. That's what makes this song work.

"The Heretic Anthem" is one of the faster songs on the entire album and that is why it is one of my favorites. The rest of the album is just about the same.

Some songs are faster, some are slower, but all in all it is a very strong second album.

Getting it on with 'Getting It On'

Sex! I'm going to go out on a limb and suggest that I've successfully captured everyone's undi-

vided attention at this point (isn't it amazing the caliber of reaction that one little word can insinuate?). At any rate, I've decided to review a book on the

collectively taboo subject of (gasp) sex, and all that's encompassed within (well, physically at least. The emotional aspects are left up to you to decipher through...)

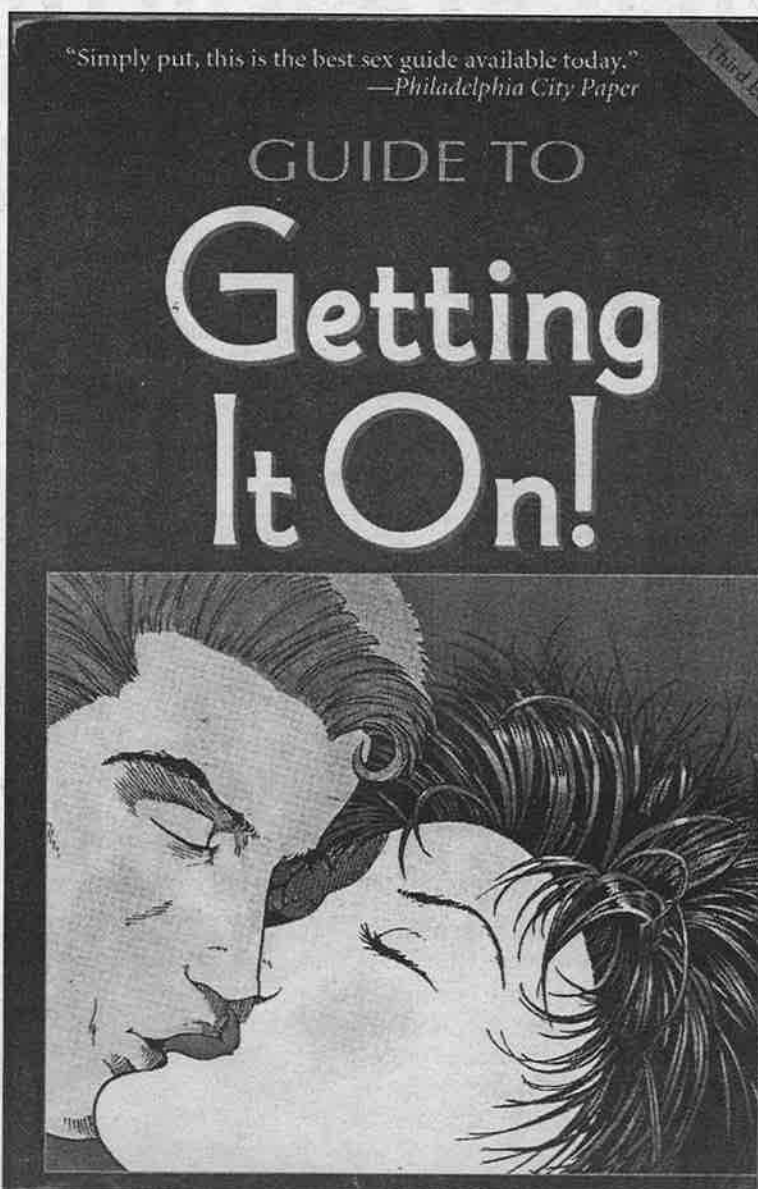
The title, "Guide To Getting It On!" is rather self-explanatory, yet I feel it operates as a hindrance of sorts when it comes down to the first impression of the book as being more than "just another sex book." The author, Paul Joannides, steadily maintains such a straightforward, yet sarcastic tone, that it's difficult *not* to be drawn to his infectious brand of humor regarding the most "hush-hush" of human pleasures. Be forewarned, though; if modesty is a characteristic you hold dear, allow ample time for the initial shock value to wear off before you assume this isn't your cup of tea. After all, "learning about sex and intimacy is a lifelong task. Even with years of experience, we still blow it on occasion. The best we can do in the pages that follow is to tell you what we wish we had known about sex 20 years ago. Do with it what you want."

There are certain responsibilities and stigmas attached to the writing of a typical sex book that this guide rejects in favor of expressing more diverse views of attaining sexual pleasure. Wanna be spanked? Like to be tied up? Prefer toys to the real thing? Curious about the naughty specifics involved in trying out something new? Get a taste of a few techniques you're too shy to actually show interest in, yet are dying to explore further? Feel like you're out of the proverbial loop when it comes to the more deviant and obscure areas of sensuality? Or perhaps you fancy yourself a seasoned veteran who wishes to leave no sexual dimension unentered. The circumstances make no difference to me, though hopefully they'll make enough of a difference to you. Plainly put, "This guide makes no assumptions except that you are curious about sex and might



Denise Seidl

Rampage reporter
Opinion



As if you can't figure out from the title, the cover gives you a good idea of what the book is about.

want to enjoy it even more."

Are you aware of the various sexual laws as they vary from state to state? Most are no brainers, while others make you wonder *where* the brain was when some of these were passed. In which state is there no official statute that specifically outlaws bestiality? Which state deems it illegal to "lewdly and lasciviously associate and cohabit together" — live together prior to marriage? Who gets to keep the ring if the engagement is called off in California? (Check out chapter 48: Sex Laws to find the answers to these and other more absurdly based limitations.)

I also wanted to draw your attention to the fact that there are individual chapters devoted to the recognition of commonly over-looked yet equally important issues pertaining to sex such as: the use of birth control, the crucial practice of good hygiene, attempting pregnancy, sex during pregnancy, explaining sex to your children and tips for the disabled. When you take into account the fact that each chapter is chalk

full of useful resources and websites to further aide you in your quest for sexual Zen, I can't see *how* you haven't bought your own copy yet! (All major chains carry the Guide-Borders, Barnes & Noble, etc.) It's even been translated into Czech, German, Hebrew and Italian... so no excuses! Perchance it that you're not particularly into sex, the Guide still makes a rather unorthodox conversation piece for the coffee table.

Theoretically this has been a tool in widening your perceptions concerning the availability of such an informative, yet interestingly reader friendly sex book/guide. And if all else fails, I've set aside a well phrased quote that should speak volumes where I've decided to leave off: "No matter how much money or social status you acquire, you can never leave who you are or what you've become on the floor at the edge of the bed. Sex may be a wonderful thing, but it can't make up for an existence that has little integrity, value or meaning."

Music scene

Visit www.PlanetGig.com for more information

Friday, Feb. 15

Straight Up Sinners — (Blues) 8 p.m. Lemoore Naval Air Station

Lucid — (Hardcore) 9:30 p.m.

Gravity, Shaw & Fresno St., 21 & over

Dr. Rhythm — (Rock) 9:30 p.m.

Dan's, 4245 N. First St., 21 & over

West Coast Players — (Variety) 9

p.m. Golden West Casino,

Bakersfield

Upside Right — (Punk) 8 p.m.

Big Game Entertainment, 1533 Belmont Ave., all ages

808 — (Alternative) 11:30 a.m.

California State University, 9001

Stockdale Highway, Bakersfield,

All ages, Free

Saturday, Feb. 16

Dr. Rhythm — (Rock) 9:30 p.m.

Beer Hunter, Ashlan & Fwy 99, 21 & over, \$3 cover

808 — (Alternative) 9:30 p.m.

Zapp's Park, Blackstone & Olive, 21 & over, \$3 cover

The Late John Doe —

(Alternative) 9:30 p.m. Zapp's Park, Blackstone & Olive, 21 & over, \$3 cover

Numbhead — (Alternative) 9:30 p.m. Zapp's Park, Blackstone & Olive, 21 & over, \$3 cover

The Sleepover Disaster —

(Alternative) 9:30 p.m. Gravity, Shaw & Fresno St., 21 & over, \$5 cover

Superfluid Helium 3 —

(Alternative) 9:30 p.m. Gravity, Shaw & Fresno St., 21 & over, \$5 cover

Friday, Feb. 22

Straight Up Sinners — (Blues) 8:30 p.m. Butterfield's, 777 E

Olive Ave, 21 & over, Free

Dr. Rhythm — (Rock) 9:30 p.m.

Dan's, 4245 N. First St., 21 & over

Friday, Feb. 22

Straight Up Sinners — (Blues) 8:30 p.m. Butterfield's, 777 E

Olive Ave, 21 & over, Free

Dr. Rhythm — (Rock) 9:30 p.m.

Dan's, 4245 N. First St., 21 & over

Friday, Feb. 22

Straight Up Sinners — (Blues) 8:30 p.m. Butterfield's, 777 E

Olive Ave, 21 & over, Free

Dr. Rhythm — (Rock) 9:30 p.m.

Dan's, 4245 N. First St., 21 & over

Friday, Feb. 22

Straight Up Sinners — (Blues) 8:30 p.m. Butterfield's, 777 E

Olive Ave, 21 & over, Free

Dr. Rhythm — (Rock) 9:30 p.m.

Dan's, 4245 N. First St., 21 & over

Friday, Feb. 22

Straight Up Sinners — (Blues) 8:30 p.m. Butterfield's, 777 E

Olive Ave, 21 & over, Free



Red Room — (Rock) 10 p.m.

Gravity, Shaw & Fresno St., 21 & over

The Sleepover Disaster —

(Alternative) 8 p.m. Kuppajoe, 3673 N. First, All ages, \$5 cover

Vicious Rumor — (Rock) 9 p.m.

Rivers Bar, Hwy 99 & Ave 384, Kingsburg, 21 & over

Saturday, Feb. 23

Straight Up Sinners —

(Alternative) 8:30 p.m. Butterfield's, 777 E Olive Ave, 21 & over, Free

Ploy — (Hard Rock) 9 p.m. Tokyo

Garden, 1711 Fulton St., 21 & over, \$3 cover

808 — (Alternative) 9 p.m. Tokyo

Garden, 1711 Fulton St., 21 & over, \$3 cover

Numbhead — (Alternative) 9 p.m.

Tokyo Garden, 1711 Fulton St., 21 & over, \$3 cover

Mynis — (Alternative) 7 p.m. Big

Game Entertainment, 1533 Belmont Ave., All ages

Vicious Rumor — (Rock) 9 p.m.

Rivers Bar, Hwy 99 & Ave 384, Kingsburg, 21 & over

Dirty Johnny — (Classic Rock) 9

p.m. Chuy's, 2760 W. Shaw Ave, All ages, Free

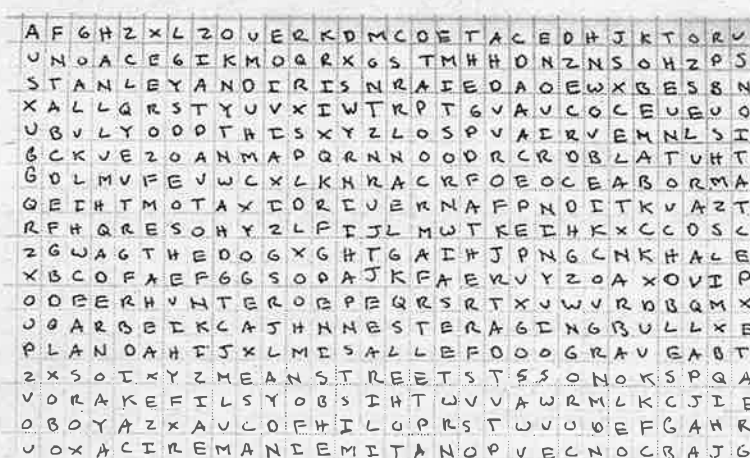
Mercury Bullet — (Rock) 8 p.m.

Elementz, Tower District, \$6 cover

Sparkle Jet — (Alternative) 2 p.m.

Tower Records, 5611 N. Blackstone, All ages, Free

Word search



The Dynamics of actor Robert DeNiro

Mean Streets (1973)

Taxi Driver (1976)

The Deer Hunter (1978)

The Godfather Trilogy

(1972-90)

Raging Bull (1980)

Once Upon A Time in America

(1984)

The Untouchables (1987)

Awakenings (1990)

Goodfellas (1990)

Stanley & Iris (1990)

This Boy's Life (1993)

A Bronx Tale (1993)

Heat (1995)

Casino (1995)

Jackie Brown (1997)

Wag The Dog (1997)

CopLand (1997)

Great Expectations (1998)

Ronin (1998)

Analyze This! (1999)

In the past two weeks, FCC has been host to many performances. The gospel night in the College Theatre on Feb. 1, the piano recital in the Recital Hall on Feb. 2, and the community concert band (right) in the College Theatre on Feb. 8.



Photo by
Cathy Alexander

Three movies that are worth seeing

Gosford Park

A who-done-it murder mystery set in the early 1930s countryside of England. A gathering of the well to do family and friends of Sir William McCordle and Lady Silvia come for a weekend at Gosford Park for food, games, socializing, a shooting party, and most importantly, the murder of McCordle himself.



Kat Strauss
Rampage reporter
Movie reviews

But this movie is so much more than a murder mystery. It's a historical look at the ways the upper crust and lower class cohabitate. This beautifully filmed movie shows both worlds of this country mansion. It depicts how the maids, butlers and valets worked around the clock to make their employers happy, while the upper class just works on keeping its name clean and preserved.

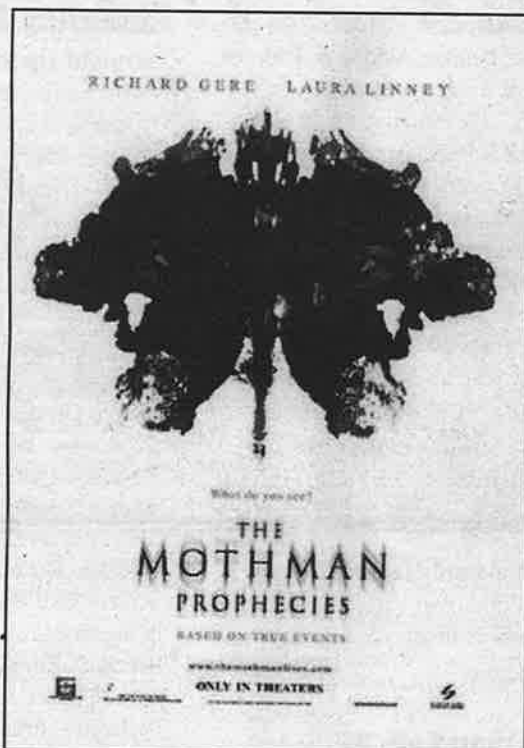
A house where gossip, sex and deception run amuck, everyone is a suspect, they all have motives, and all suspect each other, except for the vegetarian movie producer who is oblivious to the whole situation as he spends most of his time trying to get an outside line to the states to work on his Charlie Chaplin movies. It seems the master of the house wasn't well liked, and had one too many skeletons in his closet, leading those around him to dive into the realms of blackmail, and secrecy, all livened up with a hint of comedy.

This historical look of upper and

working class individuals was a stunning, yet beautiful representation of a classic story, beautiful scenery, magnificent costumes and light entertainment. You'll recognize some of the faces, such as Ryan Phillippe and Maggie Smith, as well as some new faces you'll want to see in future work.

The Mothman Prophecies

Mark Pellington, British director of award winning music videos, PBS anthologies, the opening credits for "Homicide: Life on the Street," and



the independent film, "Going All the Way," as well as a few big name movies, has created a new masterpiece to add to his resume. With his trademark visuals and unique use of color and light he creates a surreal approach to a strange, alluring movie.

Chills run down your spine as you watch the story unfold taken from true-life events. A reporter, John Kline played by Richard Gere, takes a trip to cover a story after his

wife's death (Debra Messing, "Will and Grace") to find he has traced very little time mysteriously finding himself in a small town at the border of West Virginia, when his intentions were never to go there at all. As if that isn't confusing enough for the guy, he finds himself wrapped up in more strange things, leading him to befriend the local cop, Laura Linney. They work together to get to the bottom of the reports of strange lights, unexplained noises, and sightings of a scary winged alien type creature, known as the Mothman, a mythical creature known to show up before tragic accidents.

The movie leads up to a tragic bridge scene, with visuals so stunning you won't believe your eyes, and leaves a weird feeling in the pit of your stomach.

I defiantly recommend you see this movie with a friend, not only is it comforting having someone you know next to you when you get goose bumps, but you'll want someone who saw it to talk about it afterwards. Trust me, you'll want to talk about it.

I am Sam

Filmed documentary style is a compelling film of a mentally challenged man, Sam played by Sean Penn. He is left to raise his baby girl with the help of his friends who are just as incapacitated as he is and his next door neighbor, a brilliant recluse. Together they all help to raise this young, intelligent, darling

little girl.

Sam, who has the mental capacity of a 7-year-old, has Lucy (named after "Lucy in the Sky With Diamonds") taken from him on her 7th birthday. He has to fight the court system to get her back with the help of Rita, Michelle Pfeiffer, a top lawyer who for popularity reasons takes his case pro bono. She soon finds herself drown-

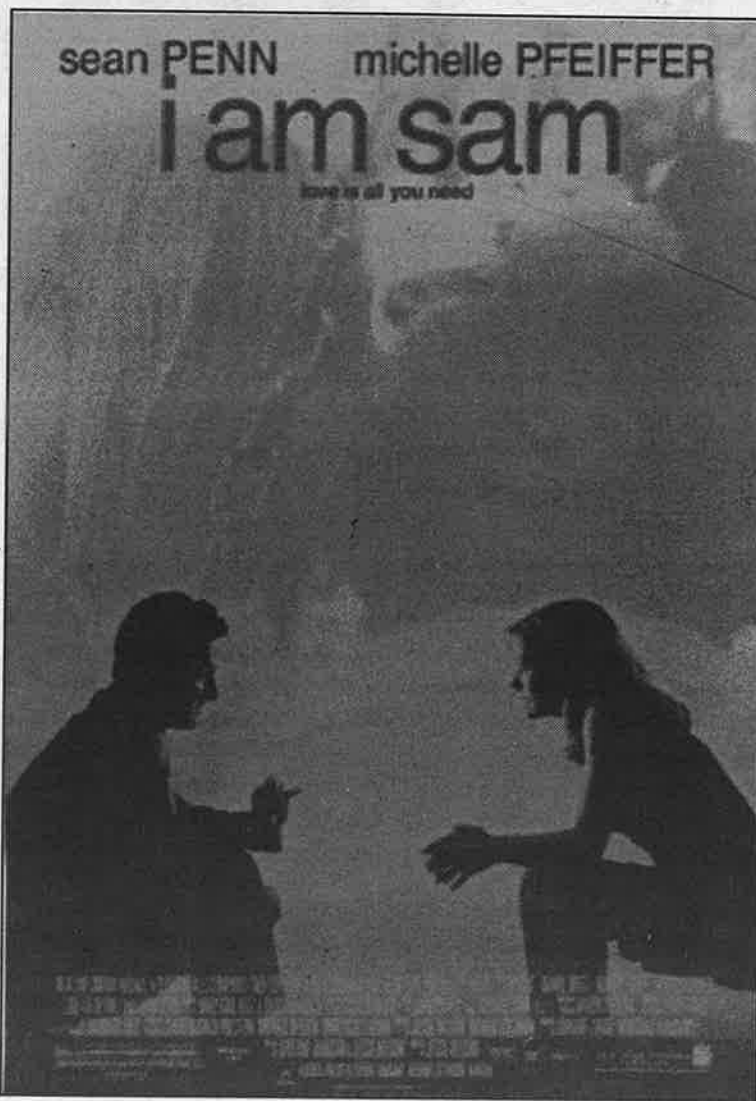
ing in his case neglecting her own family in the wake. Together Sam and Rita fight the system, and their own problems, learning what being a family is really all about.

I thought this was a beautifully

mastered film.

Not being a big Sean Penn, fan I held a greater respect for him after this performance. The raw emotion put into this film mixed with the compelling story kept you in your seat and your eyes a little teary, in fact I don't think a single person left the theater dry-eyed.

I loved how there was a Beatles theme throughout the entire film, being as John Lennon was Sam's personal hero. There were references throughout, as well as a soundtrack of Beatles songs redone by Aimee Mann, Michael Penn (Sean's brother), Sarah McLachlan, Rufus Wainwright and so many more. It was such a beautiful movie there's no way for me to put it into words; you'll have to go and experience it for yourself.



StoryTime

This is a new feature in which we showcase a fictional, multipart short story.

Rebirth; 2002074

After realizing that my novels were what inspired him to become the scientist he was, he began calling me guru (I never said he was a socially bright guy). Even now, I despise being called that. Pretty soon, a "meeting-of-the-minds" (or a conference rather) was to take place on the new orbital vacation spot, the Titan. The conference was to discuss new discoveries in the scientific world. Apparently, much to my dismay, I was one of these so-called new discoveries.

We left for Titan, on June 6th, what would have been my 93rd birthday had I not been frozen under so much ice. The Titan was massive, 2 kilometers of cooper, steel, and titanium, to name a few of the metals used in its design. It was made to look similar to a boat in space. As we were docking, I told Cam that the engineer had to have been male, because it appeared as if he was overcompensating for his "shortcomings." Little did I know that it was designed and built by his ex-wife, so in all essence, she was overcompensating for his "shortcomings."

The conference was a day away, so I thought I'd do a

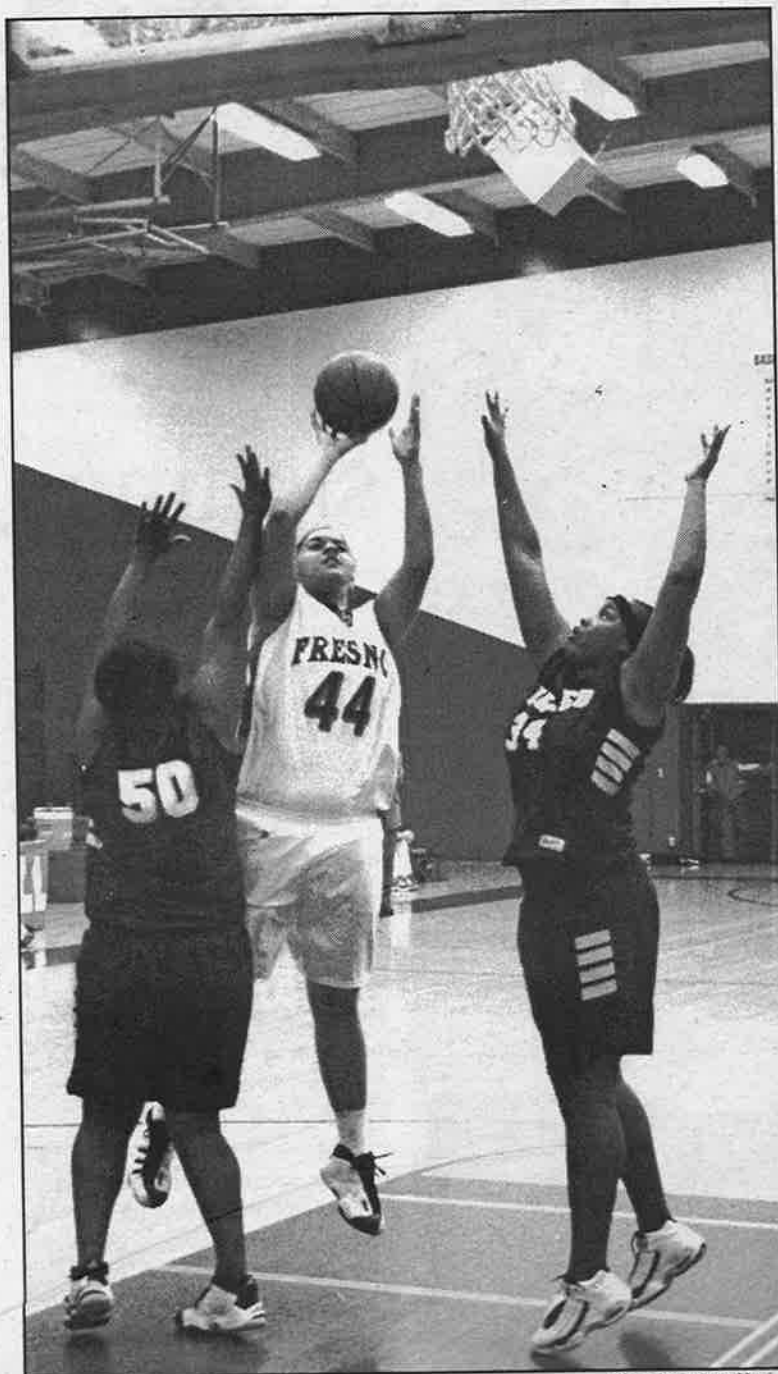
little exploring. But, Cam, fearing for my confusion, decided to lock me in my room. Although I'd understood his reasoning if it had been a few centuries, it had only been a couple decades, and I had been getting along fine in Vancouver. But there was nothing I could do, because he had the key.

So, to keep my mind occupied, I read everything in my room, including the instructions to my awful looking tuxedo. When I first saw it, it looked like a polyester/leather tailcoat... little did I know, that it also had a loincloth like flap in the front, that went down to my knees. Not to mention the arrowed shoulder pads. The shirt was of a gray, grid-like material, which connected to the jacket and pants with a few 'snap-cables'. Under the wrist of the jacket were controls that allowed me to change the appearance of the shirt and the color of the jacket and pants. With the touch of a button, I now had on what appeared to be a white tuxedo shirt with gold studs and a black tie. Although I did get a kick out of this interesting technology, I still wished that there would have been a way to rid the tux of the awful

loincloth and the arrowed shoulder pads.

After playing with the tux for a little while, I found the television an interesting distraction. Television had become almost completely interactive, with interchangeable camera angles which you could toggle with at whim, interactive news hosts (completely computer generated of course), and 3-D explorations of interesting areas. I chose the latter of these features, and began to explore the Titan with it. The interactive tour guide informed me about the more, interesting, new discoveries aboard. First, there was the only human clone to have lived passed the age of 12, then there were the two prototypes for the manned Jupiter probe mission planned for 2075, a new way to filter out the CO2 that was choking the planet since the rainforest was almost gone, a new birth control method that was said to be "more effective than abstinence," and last but not least, there was me, a human-popicle from the turn of the century recently defrosted. Eventually, even that got boring and I began to read, of all things, the safety manuals.

To be continued in the Feb. 27 issue of the Rampage



Niki Williams (44) scored 23 points in loss against Merced.

Rams tied for 3rd

With four games remaining left in the Central Valley Conference, the Fresno City College women's basketball team is tied with College of the Sequoias for third place after its 83-62 loss to conference leader Merced.

The Blue Devils outscored the Rams 50-33 in the second half.

Niki Williams scored 23 points and Cassandra Chambers added 12 for FCC.

Williams also pulled down 15 rebounds.

Heather Kircher was limited to seven points.

Women's basketball schedule

Nov. 10: l. College of Marin 68-52
Nov. 16: d. Modesto Junior College 60-49
Nov. 17: d. Porterville College 82-78
Nov. 18: l. West Los Angeles 69-59
Nov. 20: l. Hancock College 68-62
Nov. 23: l. Solano College 63-54
Nov. 24: d. Los Medanos College 77-54
Nov. 29: l. Mount San Antonio College 76-60
Nov. 30: d. DeAnza College 65-59
Dec. 1: d. Antelope Valley College 62-47
Dec. 2: l. San Joaquin Delta College 85-75
Dec. 6: d. Los Medanos College 80-56
Dec. 7: l. Contra Costa College 76-42
Dec. 8: d. Porterville College 70-58
Dec. 14: l. Sierra College 87-59

FCC will play at lowly Modesto Junior College at 7 tonight.

Three games behind Reedley, the Rams will host the Tigers at 7 p.m. Saturday.

FCC was lucky to trail 33-29 in the first half against Merced because it shot 8-for-22 (36%) from the field, but made 10-for-13 (77%) from the free-throw line.

Williams shot 7-for-8 from the line and 7-for-15 from the field but fouled out.

Chrissy Basher led the Blue Devils with 18 points.

Dec. 15: d. DeAnza College 62-57
Dec. 16: l. College of the Sequoias 62-51
Dec. 18: d. Merritt College 51-47 (OT)
Dec. 27: l. Pasadena City College 78-56
Dec. 28: d. Feather River College 86-54
Dec. 29: l. Santa Rosa Junior College 67-49
Jan. 9: d. Porterville College 73-71
Jan. 16: l. Merced College 55-52
Jan. 19: d. Modesto Junior College 64-57
Jan. 23: l. Reedley College 86-75
Jan. 26: d. College of the Sequoias 72-61
Jan. 30: l. Taft 72-67
Feb. 2: d. Porterville 84-59
Feb. 9: l. Merced 83-62
Today: at Modesto, 5 p.m.
Feb. 16: Reedley, 5 p.m.
Feb. 20: College of Sequoias, 7 p.m.
Feb. 23: at Taft, 7 p.m.

Rams gain momentum

By Anthony Galaviz

Sports Editor

Fresno City College men's basketball coach Mark Mendez never doubted his team after its loss to West Hills on Feb. 6.

That gave the team more momentum against Columbia on Saturday.

Willie Johnson scored 33 points and Robert Ross added 15 as the Rams pulled out a 108-101 Central Valley Conference victory over the Claim Jumpers before a crowd of 1,200.

"Our backs were against the wall," Mendez said. "There was no excuse (after the loss to West Hills). We looked at each other the next day, and it carried over tonight. We earned (this victory). We controlled the tempo and took it to them."

The victory puts FCC in a three-way tie for first place in the CVC at 8-2 with College of the Sequoias and Columbia with four conference games remaining.

FCC (20-7) hosts Porterville at 7 tonight.

If FCC and Columbia finish the conference winning all its games and deadlocked in first place, FCC would earn the higher seed in the 32-team Northern California playoffs because it swept two games from Columbia in the CVC.

The difference for the Rams against Columbia was depth.

Six FCC players scored in double figures. Maurice Moore and Deshawn Anderson added 14. Bilal Russell and Harry Good contributed with 10 points.

"Our depth played a part in our victory," Mendez said. "Our depth and poise under the crowd noise was very good in critical situations."

"The young men showed me something with their play and composure throughout the game. They

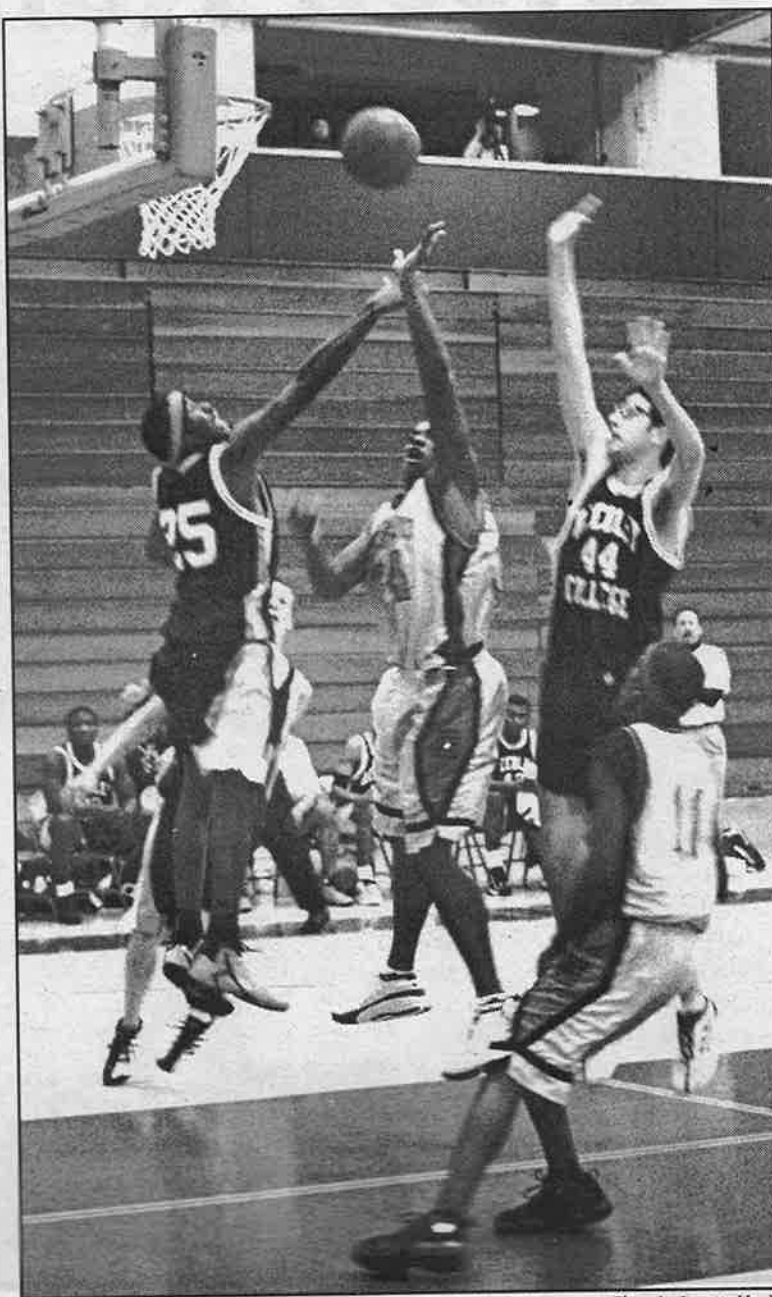


Photo by Lenetta Huxley

FCC's Bilal Russell takes it to the hoop against two Reedley defenders.

played hard."

FCC shot 19-for-25 at the free-throw line, including Johnson's 16-for-18.

"Willie Johnson shows me why he's the MVP in the league," Mendez said. "Willie is a tremendous player. Willie was the man."

FCC led by as many as 11 points

in the first half. Columbia made its run with 2 minutes left.

The Claim Jumpers' Derrick Steward scored 24 of his 35 points in the second half, including a basket to pull Columbia within 94-90, but Good tipped in a miss to put FCC back up by six points.



Photo by Wendy Alexander

Willie Johnson, the Rams' leading scorer at 20.7 points a game, drives against Reedley.

Men's basketball schedule

Fresno City (17-6 overall, 5-1 Central Valley Conference)
Nov. 9: d. Miramar Naval Air Station 82-51
Nov. 10: d. Edwards Air Force Base 107-102
Nov. 11: l. Fresno Pacific Alumni 85-81
Nov. 15: d. Ventura College 67-65
Nov. 16: l. City College of San Francisco 72-70
Nov. 17: d. Porterville College 76-69
Nov. 20: d. Hartnell College, 76-70
Nov. 29: l. Santa Rosa Junior College 74-70
Nov. 30: d. College of the Siskiyous 71-68
Dec. 1: d. Hartnell College 84-74
Dec. 5: l. San Joaquin Delta College 65-62
Dec. 6: d. College of Marin 72-62
Dec. 7: l. Columbia College 72-61
Dec. 12: d. Lemoore Naval Air Station 106-81
Dec. 14: d. Hancock College 86-77
Jan. 4: d. Lemoore Naval Air Station 87-59
Jan. 5: d. Fresno Pacific Alumni 99-95
Jan. 9: d. Reedley College 62-61
Jan. 12: d. West Hills College 69-56
Jan. 16: d. Columbia College 97-91
Jan. 19: d. Porterville College, 81-76
Jan. 23: l. Merced College 98-90
Jan. 26: d. College of the Sequoias 81-77
Jan. 30: at Modesto Junior College, 7 p.m.
Feb. 2: d. Reedley 70-54
Feb. 6: l. West Hills 86-80
Feb. 9: d. Columbia 108-101
Today: Porterville, 7 p.m.
Feb. 16: Merced, 7 p.m.
Feb. 20: at College of Sequoias, 7 p.m.
Feb. 23: Modesto, 7 p.m.
March 1-2, 6, 9: State playoffs
March 15-17: State finals, Stockton

Fifteen Rams move up

Signings highlight banner day for football

By Anthony Galaviz
Sports Editor

Fifteen Fresno City College football players signed their national letter-of-intent last Wednesday including Fresno State bound offensive lineman James Martin and running back Rodney Davis.

Rams coach Tony Caviglia was overwhelmed with the number of players that signed on with their respective colleges.

"This is the most I've ever had," Caviglia said. "These guys did a tremendous job. This just goes to show you what kind of football players we have who know what it takes to get to the next level."

"They're good football players. It's a credit to the institution, administration and coaches."

Martin, a J.C. Grid-Wire first-team All-American, picked Fresno State because he wanted to play in front of family and friends.

"It was my dream to play for (Fresno State)," he said. "It means a lot to me."

"(Coach Pat Hill) is a great guy. That's what I liked about him."

Fresno State returns both starting offensive tackles, and the coaching staff considers Martin a contender for either positions.

Martin was All-California Region II voted by California Community College Football Coaches Association. Was named 2001 player of the year in the Central Valley Conference and Martin allowed one quarterback sack by his opponent.

Davis selected Fresno State because of his brother, Marque.

"It's exciting for our parents," he said. "Ever since Marque's been there, I wanted to go there. Now they get to cheer us on next year."

Davis was named first-team All-CVC as a sophomore and was the Rams' second-leading rusher (686 yards, five touchdowns on 90 attempts).

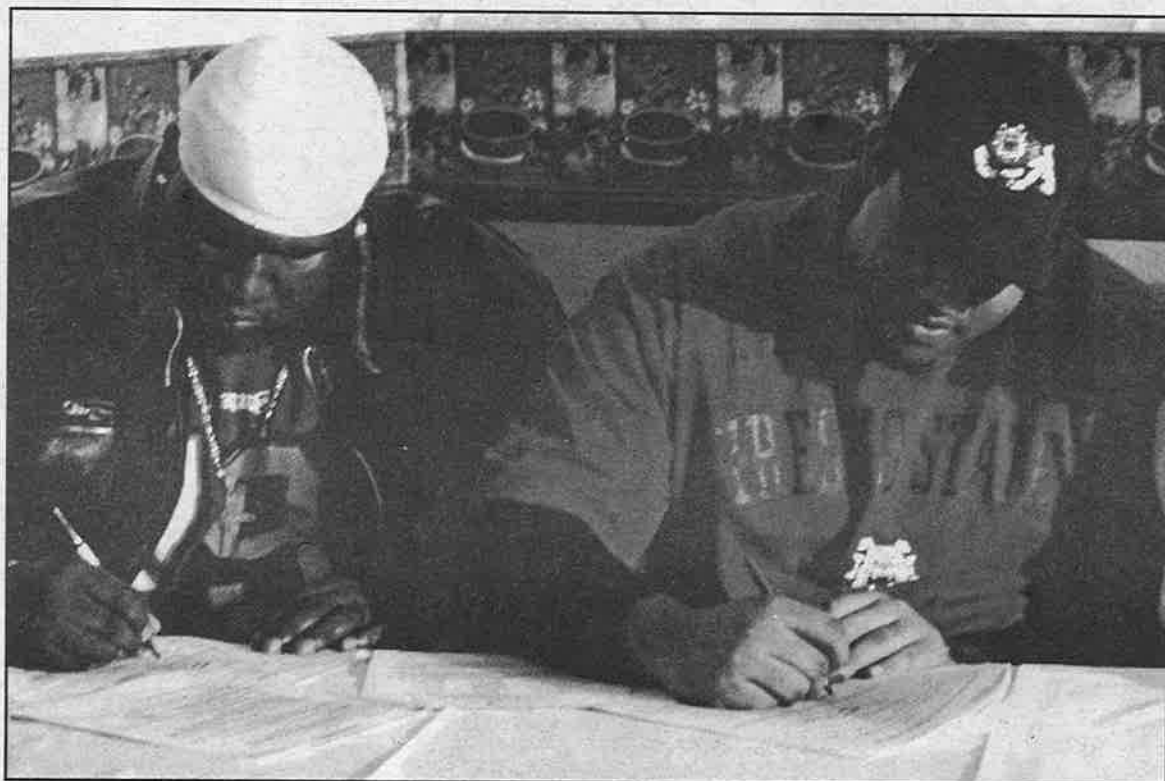
Fresno State coaches believe Davis will add depth to the running back position.

The Bulldogs might get another Ram.

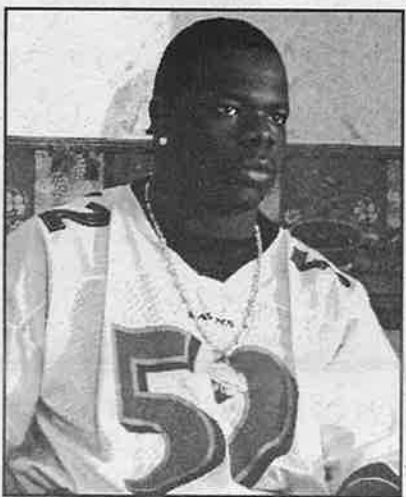
Jesus Wright, the brother of Rodney Wright, hasn't decided where he will be going. His choices are Fresno State and Portland State. Wright is considering walking on at Fresno State.

Iowa State recruit Max Steward, a linebacker, is already looking forward to next season. That's because the Cyclones will play Florida State Aug. 24 in the Eddie Robinson Classic.

"I'm ready to go out there," said Steward, who turned down Iowa,



Charles Goldman and James Martin officially sign with Tuskegee and Fresno State, respectively.



Aaron Austin (above left); LaVance Ray and Max Steward (above); Fernando Yanez, Rodney Davis and Goldman (left); and Rocky Faga and Loa Emmersley (below) take part in signing day.

Oregon and Nebraska. "I feel comfortable with California players they have there."

Steward was named to the second-team JC Grid Wire All-American. In his two years at Fresno City, Steward had 121 tackles, four interceptions, one for a 39-yard touchdown and seven sacks.

Defensive lineman Loa Emmersley turned down to play at Tennessee and signed on with Boise State, but he has a good reason why.

"Wife and family," he said.

Emmersley will be joined by teammate Fernando Yanez.

Tight end Aaron Austin is going to Pac-10 school Arizona State.

The 6-foot-6 former Dos Palos High standout led Fresno City in touchdown receptions (6) as a freshman. He was named JC Grid-Wire All-American honorable mention.



LaVance Ray, a Fresno State bounce-back, joined the Rams in 2000 and was grateful for that because he signed with San Diego State.

"I got a second chance," he said. "I feel I wasn't getting any love (from Fresno State). I got up walking away from the team."

National letter of intent signings

James Martin, 6-5, 300, So., OL, Clovis West, Fresno State

*First team junior college All-American and league MVP. Allowed one quarterback sack by his opponent.

Rodney Davis, 5-10, 195, So., RB, Dos Palos, Fresno State

*First team all-CVC. Second-leading rusher (688 yards, five touchdowns).

Aaron Austin, 6-6, 245, So., TE, Dos Palos, Arizona State

*All-CVC first team. Had 47 catches, 668 catches including 15 touchdowns.

Max Steward, 6-2, 220, So., LB, Redwood, Iowa State

*Second-team junior college All-American. Had 121 tackles, four interceptions, one for a touchdown return and seven sacks.

Justin Bridger, 6-2, 300, So., OC, Clovis, University of Akron

All-CVC. Transferred after 2001 semester.

Rocky Faga, 6-2, 320, So., DL, Kaimuki High School, Hawaii, University of Hawaii

*Recorded 39 tackles, six pass breakups, seven sacks and three recovered fumbles.

Loa Emmersley, 6-3, 280, So., DL, Kealoha High School, Hawaii, Boise State

*All-CVC. 26 total tackles, eight sacks, three forced fumbles and three pass breakups.

Fernando Yanez, 6-5, 250, So., DL, Memorial, Boise State

*All-CVC. 27 tackles, four pass breakups and two interceptions.

LaVance Ray, 5-11, 185, So., DB, Clovis, San Diego State

*Had 53 tackles, five interceptions and one sack.

Zach Barnes, 6-3, 320, So., OL, Castro Valley, San Diego State

*Completed his sophomore year in 2000. J.C. Grid-Wire first team All-American. Currently enrolled at San Diego State.

Josh Norman, 5-10, 170, So., DB, Edison, Texas A&M-Kingsville

*Completed FCC career in 2000. Had 20 tackles and 13 pass breakups. Was state track and field champion in 100 meters.

Julius Haynes, 6-3, 315, So., DL, Edison, Wayne State University

*Recorded 16 tackles for losses including four sacks.

Danny Jones, 5-9, 185, So., DB, Edison, UNLV

*Transferred to UNLV after 2001 semester. Played one year for the Rams, recording 17 tackles and four pass breakups.

Nate Sconiers, 6-4, 280, So., Washington High, Alabama State

*A versatile, team player.

Charles Goldman, 6-2, 318, Fr., Dos Palos, Tuskegee University

Rampage roundup

Men's tennis

Fresno City men's tennis coach Mark Belman and his team are off to a fast start.

The Rams captured the 28th annual Modesto Invitational Saturday.

FCC's Fernando Crisosto won the individual championship match in Flight 3.

In doubles competition, Alonzo Medina and Crisosto were the champions in Flight 1.

The Rams will hope to continue its success when it travels to Ventura College today for a 2 p.m. match.

FCC will host Bakersfield College Saturday at 11 a.m.

Women's tennis

FCC was edged out by DeAnza College on Friday losing 5-4.

DeAnza's Yukiko Kitamura beat the Rams' No. 1 singles player Lesli Jauregui 6-3, 6-2.

FCC's Kim Herman, Michelle Ornellas and Michelle Quinn all won their respective singles matches.

Beth Schiller and Quinn won doubles for FCC.

The Rams will host Mission College Friday at 10:30 a.m.

Track and field

FCC begins its season at the CVC preview in Modesto on Saturday.

The Rams will host College of the Sequoias, Reedley and San Joaquin Delta Feb. 23 at 10 a.m. at Ratcliffe Stadium.



Photo by Wendy Alexander

Leslie Jauregui returns a shot against Delta's Yukiko Kitamura of De Anza. Jauregui, FCC's No. 1 women's player, lost the match 6-3, 6-2.

Tonight at FCC: 7 p.m., men's basketball vs. Porterville

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Rams riding high with 8-0 mark

Already, FCC has beaten No. 1 Sacramento City

By Anthony Galaviz
Sports Editor

The Fresno City baseball team is off to a fast start, thanks to solid pitching and timely hitting.

Through eight games, the Rams' victories include a win over No. 1 Sacramento City, 4-2 on Feb. 3 at Euless Park.

FCC pitcher Mike Gillen limited the Panthers to one run on five hits over seven innings as the Rams swept through the Fresno/Merced Tournament unbeaten in four games.

FCC came back Feb. 7-9 and swept through the FCC tournament to remain undefeated at 8-0.

Against Santa Barbara, the Rams led 14-1 before the Vacqueros rallied to fall short 17-16.

The Rams' biggest game so far was against Sacramento City.

In a rematch in last year's state final four, Gillen, San Diego State bound, struck out five to earn the win against the Panthers.

David Griffin, a sophomore left-hander, pitched two innings. Grif-

fin struck out four and allowed a run on Adam Ricks' RBI groundout in the ninth.

FCC beat Sacramento City twice last year, including a 13-4 win to knock the Panthers out of the Final Four to earn a trip to the state championship game.

Down 1-0 in the fourth, Rams freshman left-fielder Tyler Ross delivered a two-out RBI double to tie the game.

Rams catcher Dayton Buller singled to center off Panthers' reliever Alex Creel to score Jason Pasma from third to put FCC up 2-1.

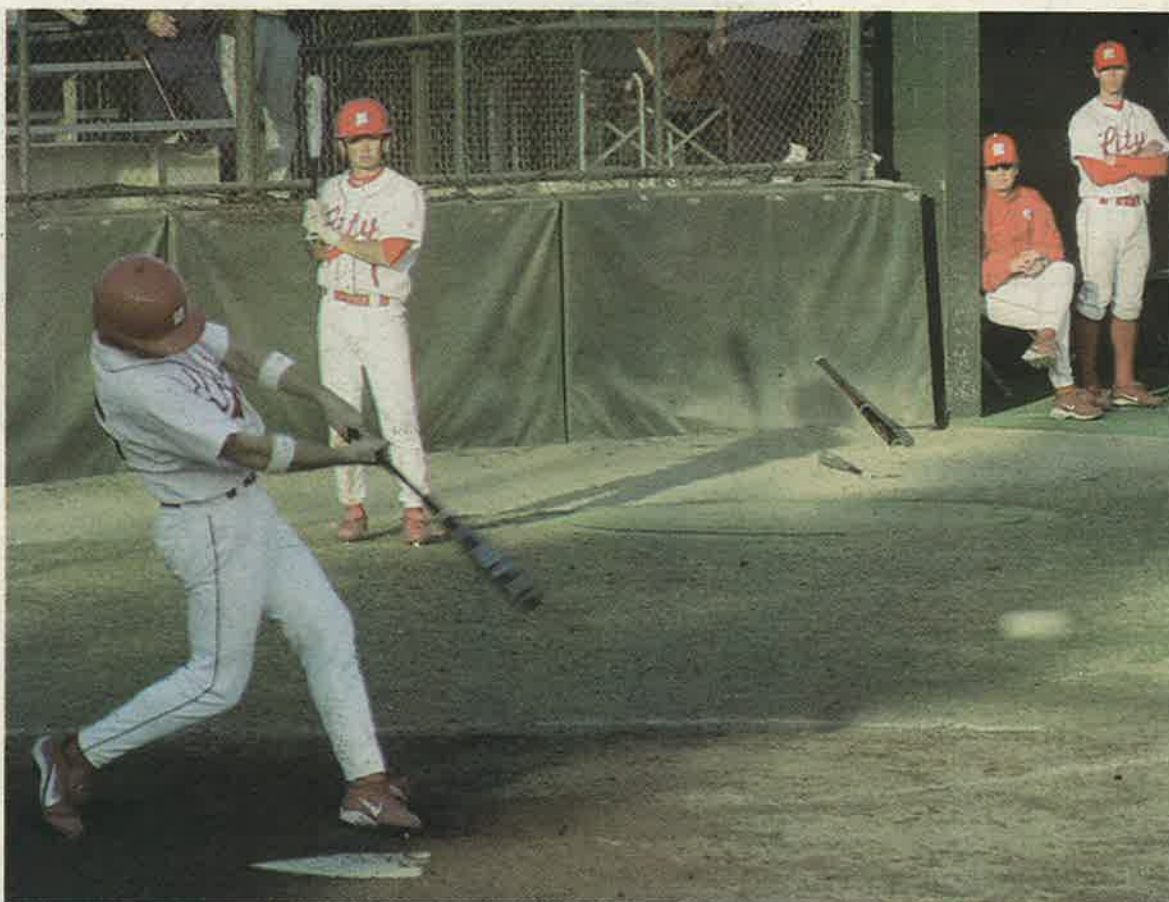
Buller added another run with a groundout in the eighth. Buller had two RBI.

Gillen picked up his second win when he struck out nine in seven innings.

The Rams scored their most runs against Santa Barbara Feb. 9.

FCC scored six runs in the first and second inning.

Craig Click was 2-for-2 with three runs scored. Ryan Hunt had a home run with three RBI.



Dayton Buller lines a single during FCC's 4-2 victory against Sacramento City. The Rams are undefeated.

Photo by Lenetta Huxley

Baseball schedule

Friday-Sunday: 4-0 record at Fresno

City/Merced Tournament

Feb. 7-9: 4-0 record at Fresno City Tournament

Today: at San Joaquin Delta College, 2 p.m.

Feb. 15: Solano College, 6 p.m.

Feb. 16: Solano College (DH), 11 a.m.

Feb. 21-23: Fresno City Tournament, TBA

Feb. 28: at Merced College, 2 p.m.

March 2: Porterville College, 1 p.m.

March 5: Taft College, 2:30 p.m.

March 7: Reedley College, 2:30 p.m.

March 9: at College of the Sequoias, 1 p.m.

March 12: Modesto Junior College, 2:30 p.m.

March 14: at West Hills College, 2:30 p.m.



March 16: College of the Sequoias, 1 p.m.

March 19: Merced College, 2:30 p.m.

March 21: West Hills College, 2:30 p.m.

March 23: at Taft College, 1 p.m.

March 26-28: at Hancock Easter Tournament, TBA

April 4: at Modesto Junior College, 2:30 p.m.

April 6: at Reedley College, 1 p.m.

April 9: at Porterville College, 2:30 p.m.

April 11: Porterville College, 2:30 p.m.

April 13: Taft College, 1 p.m.

April 16: at Merced College, 6 p.m.

April 18: Reedley College, 2:30 p.m.

April 20: at College of the Sequoias, 1 p.m.

April 23: Modesto Junior College, 2:30 p.m.

April 25: at West Hills College, 2:30 p.m.

April 27: TBA, 1 p.m.

April 30: TBA, 2:30 p.m.

May 2: TBA, 2:30 p.m.

May 10-12: Regionals, TBA

May 17-19: Super Regionals, TBA

May 25-27: State Championships, Fresno, TBA



Photo by Lenetta Huxley

FCC first baseman puts a tag on a Santa Barbara baserunner during the Rams' win in tournament play last weekend.

Rams win one, lose one vs. Delta

By Anthony Galaviz
Sports Editor

The Fresno City College softball team split two games against Delta College, losing the first game 4-1 and winning the second 3-1 on Saturday in Stockton.

The Rams were supposed to play San Mateo in a round-robin double-header, but San Mateo didn't show up.

In the first game against Delta, FCC committed two errors; one of them resulted in a run in the second inning.

Delta All-American pitcher Cheryl Evans pitched a one-hitter in the 4-1 victory. Evans struck out nine and walked three.

In the second game, the Rams scored two runs in the third inning and added an insurance run in the fifth en route to a 3-1 victory.

Rochelle DeAmaral picked up the win for the Rams. Kawana Chester was 2-for-4 with two runs scored. Stacy Ihde was 2-for-3 with two RBI.

The Rams got their first run when Ihde had an RBI triple to score in Chester. Sarah Gonzalez followed with a sacrifice fly.

FCC added another run in the fifth inning when Ihde had a RBI double scoring in Chester. Chester, who had a stolen base against Delta in the two games, has seven stolen bases in five games.

No one has ever come close to that in FCC history.

"She's tearing it up right now," FCC coach Rhonda Williams said. "She's got an amazing number of stolen bases."

Fresno City will host Sacramento City at 11 a.m. Saturday.



FCC's Dana Serrato take a good cut against West Valley.

Photo by Wendy Alexander

Softball schedule

Record: 2-3

Feb. 2: l. West Valley 4-1, 2-1

Feb. 7: d. Cuesta

Feb. 9: l. Delta 4-1, d. Delta 3-1

Saturday: Sacramento City, 1 p.m.

Feb. 22-24: at Bakersfield (Tournament of Champions)

Feb. 26: Taft (DH), 1 p.m.

Feb. 28: at West Hills, 2 p.m.

March 5: at Porterville (DH), 1 p.m.

March 7: Reedley, 2 p.m.

March 9-10: at Ohlone Tournament

March 12: Merced (DH), 1 p.m.

March 14: Modesto (DH), 1 p.m.

March 16-17: Bash at Buchanan, TBA

March 21: at College of the Sequoias, 1 p.m.

April 2: West Hills (DH), 2 p.m.

April 4: at Taft, 2 p.m.

April 9: at Reedley (DH), 2 p.m.

April 11: Porterville, 2 p.m.

April 16: at Modesto, 2 p.m.

April 18: at Merced, 2 p.m.

April 20-21: at Merced Tournament

April 23: College of the Sequoias, 2 p.m.

May 4-5: Northern California Regionals

May 10-12: State Championships, Fresno