

The historic Porter Tract neighborhood offers a unique perspective on FCC parking issues.

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Complete coverage of FCC Men's basketball including notebook, scores, standings and CVC team capsules

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Rampage

Volume LXXVII Edition 1

Serving Fresno City College Since 1949

January 29, 2001

Budget crisis to hit JC's

FCC students might pay \$24 per unit this fall.

By Tony Losongco
Editor-in-chief

California Gov. Gray Davis' budget proposal this month jolted community colleges by suggesting that fees may more than double, cutting all funding areas and sparking statewide frustration. In response, Fresno City College is scrambling both to trim its own budget and shield the impact for its students.

The California Community Colleges system faces a proposed fee increase, from the current \$11 per unit to \$24 per unit this fall, if state legislators approve Davis' proposed 2003-2004 budget.

Davis urges a 3.66 percent cut in Proposition 98 community-college programs. Collectively, a variety of Proposition 98 programs in the CCC and K-12 school systems have minimum funding rates set by a complex state formula.

Proposition 98 money, including disabled-student services and part-time faculty benefits, accounted for about 75 percent of all community-college funding last fiscal year. The budget plan also targets specific programs for additional cuts.

One of the major cuts affects Partnership for Excellence, a program aimed at boosting student transfers, basic skills and other goals. The Davis plan would slash \$102.4 million from PFE statewide, and as FCC looks to make its own cuts, the school has frozen PFE funds indefinitely.

Michael Roberts, president-elect of the Academic Senate, sent a memo to FCC faculty last month about the freeze. "Thus, it would be futile for any of you to spend the time and effort in writing proposals for PFE funding, at least until such funds become available again," Roberts wrote.

Roberts did not return phone messages left by the Rampage.

FCC President Ned Doffoney said the school must cut about \$2 million before July 1, when the next fiscal year begins and FCC may need further reductions. "We want those cuts to be as far away from the classroom as possible," Doffoney said.

For example, Doffoney said FCC will save about \$30,000 each semester by discontinuing grade mailings to its more than 20,000 students, who still will be able to access their grades through other methods, including Web-based student services.

Kirsten Macintyre, state community colleges chancellor's public information officer, said the proposed fee increase hit the community colleges hard. "We're just as shocked as the students are," she said. "We're disappointed...but the struggle's not over yet."

University of California and California State University regents already had ap-

See **Budget**, page 16

FCC men off to 25-1 start



Above, Rams guard Jason Walberg shoots for two points during FCC's home opener against Columbia College on Jan. 11. Right, forward Carl Lee jumps past a Porterville defender for a layup in the Rams 109-71 victory over the Pirates in the FCC gym on Jan. 18.

Photos by Lenetta Huxley



Only loss comes at hands of Modesto

By Josh Butters
Sports editor

Despite their first loss of the season, Fresno City College men's basketball coach Vance Walberg is making history in only his first season as a Ram.

Walberg helped lead FCC to the team's best start in school history, winning their first 24 games of the season.

The winning streak would end

at the hands of Modesto 97-81 on Jan. 22.

"You got to give them credit for what they [Modesto] did," said Walberg. "We didn't play our best game and they took advantage of it."

FCC had defeated Modesto earlier in the season 81-75.

"It helped that we had played them [FCC] before and that we had played them so close," said

See **Basketball**, page 14

Long lines slow down business at bookstore

Students vent usual book gripes, but website should increase student access.

By Latasha Ball
Rampage reporter

Buying your college textbooks can be a frustrating process that can take hours between locating the correct textbook to standing in the never-ending line.

"They need to add more people on days that are like the beginning of the semester," said Lola Rubio, second-semester student at Fresno City College.

There's light at the end of the tunnel

for FCC students who purchase textbooks, with a forthcoming FCC bookstore website that was constructed under a point-of-sale implementation.

"In April 2001, all SCCC bookstores purchased a point-of-sale system that included the website option," said Donna Rivera, manager of all State Center Community College District bookstores, including FCC's.

"If there was an online website for the bookstore, I would browse through it because there may be a book available online that isn't here," said Armando Renteria, sixth-semester

student at FCC.

"If there was a website [for the FCC bookstore] I would go online because it's more convenient and I'm at home," said Rubio.

The FCC Bookstore website will offer more than just textbooks for students to purchase. "Our first priority will be to get textbooks on the Web. Gifts and apparel will be added as soon as feasible," said Rivera, who

See **Bookstore**, page 16

Editorial

While wading through the budget math that could make Fresno City College students pay \$11 now and \$24 later, students should learn that the most important budget figure to them is the number 118.

Ever pay 118 percent more for something you really cared about, even if it hurt you to do so?

Commuters need gasoline to run their cars, even if the price jumps 118 percent suddenly. Supposing that were true, the current Fresno average for a gallon of gas would climb from \$1.48 to \$3.23.

Caffeine addicts who already have found an excuse to pay \$3.25 for a venti-size cup of cappuccino at Starbucks might swallow \$7.09, but it would cost them 118 percent

more than before.

Likewise, Gov. Gray Davis plans to test community-college students’ willingness to pay for their education. If the state legislature approves, they will pay \$24 per unit this fall. From the current \$11 per unit, that’s...you guessed it, 118 percent more.

With more than 20,000 students, FCC would experience an enrollment exodus, as more than 1,000 students here, assuming statewide predictions hold, leave school because of the sudden leap in costs. Who wants to see the number of college dropouts jump 118 percent?

Imagine the 1,000-plus sacrificial Rams: future nurses, fire-

fighters, peace officers. They are students who hold the dreams and desires but lack the cash. Sadly, while community colleges continually feed these dreams and desires, they starve for cash.

Davis’ proposed cuts burden community colleges more than University of California and California State University systems. The state has discouraged transfers to UC and CSU but has not armed community colleges to satisfy the lying-in-wait transfer students.

Unlike gas-guzzlers and coffee-drinkers, many California students will discover that their commitment to the community colleges does not rise to the level of addiction, and they will be nudged to quit, cold

Letters to the editor

Reader stands up for United States

I read the opinion article by Sakina Zaky (Point/Counterpoint, Dec. 4) with some trepidation. Ms. Zaky keeps referring to Americans as if they are somewhere other than her own backyard. Is she an American? She is living here and enjoying the freedom of this country including the freedom to worship in the religion she chooses and to express her opinions. This is not the case in some other countries such as Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, and Nigeria. Those of religions and opinions not sanctioned by their governments live in fear of their lives. The young Nigerian woman who expressed an opinion contrary to the accepted standard now has to live in hiding because there is a “fatwa” on her. (“Any true Muslim would make sure that this woman’s blood is spilled wherever she is.” — Mamoudu Shinkarfi, deputy governor

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. If more than one letter is submitted with the same view on the same subject, one may be selected.

of Zamfara state.) Is this the “most perfect life-style of Islam” to which she refers? Ms. Zaky’s opinion is not a popular one but she can freely express it without fear that high ranking government officials will call for her blood.

Even more disturbing than her

condemnation of a country in which she resides, her references to Muslims inheriting the earth could be perceived as a threat, especially when taken with her statement: “...the horrific events of 9/11, which is nothing in comparison to the mess that is about to hit the fan.” What does she mean by that? Does she have some knowledge of an attack coming more horrific than 9/11?

The important thing to remember about this country is that all opinions are allowed. We are free to express and disagree on any subject. As an American I am proud of that. Even if I do not agree with how my government is handling matters here and abroad, I can express my opinions and work to change things by voting, writing to my congressman, letters to newspapers and joining or supporting organizations working for changes. Ms. Zaky would do well to remember the freedoms she enjoys here. Tandy Willingham

Campus calendar

Arts

Gospel Fest – 3 p.m., Sunday, Theatre
New Works by Jim Shephard and Suzanne Sloan-Lewis – Feb. 6 through March 15, Art Space Gallery
Community Concert Band “Humor in Music” — 7:30 p.m., Feb. 7, Theatre

College Activities

Club Rush – 10 a.m., Wednesday and Feb. 19, Fountain Area
Volunteer Fair – 10 a.m., Feb. 12, Fountain Area/College Mall

Events

African-American History Month Opening Ceremonies – Monday, Theatre
“Choosing a Major” Workshop – 3 p.m., Feb. 5, Career Center
Spike Lee, “America Through My Lens” -- 1 p.m., Feb. 5, Gym

“The Research Revolution: Science and the Shaping of Modern Life” Discussion Series – 7 p.m.; Feb. 6, “Atomic Age”; Feb. 13, “Robotics”; Feb. 20, “Genetics”; Feb. 27, “Forensics”; Forum Hall room 101

Spoken Word/Speech Contest -- 10 a.m. to noon, Feb. 12, Theatre

Intramurals

9-Ball Pool Tournament – 10

a.m., Friday, College Activities
3-on-3 Basketball Tournament – 10 a.m., Feb. 7, Gym
8-Ball Pool Tournament – 10 a.m., Feb. 21, College Activities

Public Affairs

SCCCD Board of Trustees Meeting — 4:30 p.m., Tuesday, District Office
Training Institute Farm Labor Contractors Course — Feb. 22

Classified ads

AVON!

Buy or Sell! \$10. to start.
Great for holiday shopping, easy and convient

Great for people/student with various schedeules!
For more information call
Maureen @ 559.486.0123

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

Police log

From the files of the SCCCDC Police Department

Jan. 13

- Officer took report regarding unauthorized use of computer and building facilities at Clovis Center.
- Officer took report regarding vehicle stolen from Lot S.
- Officer took report regarding vehicle burglary at Madera Center.
- Officer observed vehicle with loud stereo on Campus Drive, initiated traffic stop. Driver cited.
- Sergeant took report regarding threats made by one student against another student in over parking space.
- Officer took report regarding theft of license plate.

Jan. 14

- Officers observed vehicle being driven in an unsafe manner, initiated traffic stop. Checked shaved driver had a suspended license. Driver arrested, cited, released, vehicle impounded. Report taken.
- Officer took report regarding a disruptive student in the library.
- Officer took late report regarding agency assist to Madera Sheriff’s office.
- Officer took report regarding general incident.
- Officer took report regarding general incident.

Jan. 15

- Secretary took counter report regarding lost security fob.
- Officer took report regarding disruptive student at Student Services.
- Officer took late counter report regarding stolen cell phone.
- Officer dispatched to bookstore regarding theft of textbooks. Individual arrested, cited, released. Report taken.
- DSO took report regarding Petty Theft.
- Officer took report regarding Petty Theft.
- Officer took report regarding general incident.

Jan. 16

- Officer took report regarding possible sexual assault on campus
- Officer observed vehicle peeling out in Lot S, initiated traffic stop, driver arrested, cited, released report taken.
- Officer dispatched to admission regarding disruptive student. Student advised, report taken.
- Officer, Nurse, EMS dispatched to Theatre Arts regarding injured student. Student turned over to EMS. Report taken.
- Officer took report on petty theft.

Jan. 18

FRESNO CITY COLLEGE



RAMPAGE

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

Editors

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

Reporters

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

Photographers

Tiffany Brisendine, Teresa Dawson, Rundal Hearvey, Josh Hires, Keith Kountz, Cynthia Martinez, Ramiro Ramirez

Graphics/Illustrators

Teresa Dawson, Jen Langworthy, Zon Petilla

Business

Theresa Carr

Contributing

Wendy Alexander, Sean Durham, Jesse Garcia

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

Editorial office/ News tips:

(559) 442-8263

Advertising office:

(559) 442-8262

Fax number:

(559) 265-5783

E-mail:

rampage@scccd.com

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New groups kick off Club Rush

By Erika Razo
Rampage reporter

For students who enjoy being involved in clubs as well as those seeking to join one, Club Rush is a great place to start. Wednesday Fresno City College will be having its first Club Rush event of the semester.

The way it works is clubs set up booths around or near the fountain area of campus. There, students are able to ask questions or pick up information pertaining to the clubs' background and purpose. Fortunately, this spring FCC is offering a few new club choices. In all, FCC offers more than 30 clubs, with interests ranging from religion and culture to music and dance.

For instance, the Muslim Student Association, which is a re-established club, has begun again this spring. This association is open for everyone to join and will serve as an information source for any questions that students may have regarding the Muslim religion.

Club adviser Forouz Radnejad says, "The members will take a stand on the misinterpretation of the religion of Islam, whether it is from non-Muslims or Muslims." She also says the club will involve discussion about the impact of political situations, and the mis-stereotyping that goes on. Activities such as debates will take place, however most details are to be announced.

Another newly established club is the Student Registered Nurses Organization. This club will soon be a part of the National Organization or RN's, and according to club secretary Boni Bogart, this new club already has about 30 members.

Bogart goes on to say, "This organization will be involved in a number of activities such as national conferences, community diabetes walks, heart walks and much more." Students who are part of the medical field, or thinking about becoming part of it, may find this an ideal club to join. The club usually meets once a month, and Bogart said there's still time to join.

The established College Republicans also joins the many choices FCC offers. "This club helps teach Republican Party philosophies and tries to recruit members into the party," said James Joseph, adviser for the College Republicans, who added that last semester the students involved had a pretty good time, especially at the pizza parties.

Club Rush offers students the opportunity to know what kinds of activities and clubs FCC offers. Furthermore it also allows outside businesses to come and help provide services. For example, Wells Fargo Bank will also take part in Club Rush this month. The bank will be offering students the opportunity to get credit cards and open up new accounts.

David Yanez, an FCC student, said, "I mostly like that day because there are usually food booths out,

FCC dental clinic promotes healthy teeth

FCC hygienist students train in clinical setting.

By Veronica Rodriguez
Rampage reporter

The Fresno City College Dental Hygiene Clinic through its first-class training program hopes to promote the outstanding hygiene program that is located right on the FCC campus. All the while, students with hands-on training are preparing to be future hygienists with good salary.

"Our graduates are sought after," said Jean Kulbeth, academic chair for the clinic. "It is a premier [program] throughout the state."

Within the Health Sciences building, FCC has a dental hygiene program that has been in operation since 1972, with the first graduating class in 1974. Approximately 3,000 patients attend the clinic each year.

Dental hygiene students perform a number of procedures — scaling, root cleaning, x-rays, sealants, and even local anesthesia. Patients, the program's clinic chair cautioned, receive treatment only under the watchful eyes of actual dental hygienists.

"Students are under constant and direct supervision by our registered dental hygiene facility," said Monta



Kathy Papendorf, first-year student, getting her teeth cleaned by Diane Hernandez, second-year student, in the FCC clinic.



Photos by Lenetta Huxley

Molds stand in the FCC Dental Hygiene Clinic, ready for practice by Health Sciences division students.

"Our graduates are sought after. It is a premier [program] throughout the state."

--Jean Kulbeth, academic chair, FCC Dental Hygiene Clinic

Denver. Students, she added, actually perform these procedures on one another during their training.

Denver added that there are certain procedures students do not perform, such as filling, crowning, extractions, and bridges.

Studies have shown that lack of good oral hygiene can have a devastating effect on the mouth and other parts of the body as well, a fact which students and instructors reinforce. Dental hygiene students are well informed on cardiac, respiratory problems, diabetes, low birth rates and even pre-term births caused by poor oral hygiene.

"Hygiene is very important," said Boa, a first-year FCC dental hygiene student. She and her husband, who works at a dental practice, are both committed to

maintaining oral health, she said. "I want everyone to have a good smile and clean teeth."

Carina, a dental hygiene student, greatly promoted the profession of hygienist. "It only takes two years," she said. "It's fun getting to know other people."

Students provide their own equipment, they all have their own boxes to store their tools in, and

"each student has his or her own cubicle to work in," Kulbeth said. The clinic facility has space for 30 students.

Sterilization is very important to the students and staff, each of whom has to comply with the infection control procedures. Nobody leaves in uniform. Each student has to participate in the sterilization unit.

Once the students complete their training at FCC, they have education and practical training they need to secure professional certification. The certification process includes taking a patient to San Francisco or Los Angeles to clean the patient's teeth to the satisfaction of the clinical board.

Denver explained that the students, after completion of the program, will be "significantly, easily

More info

FCC Dental Hygiene Clinic
Health Sciences room 130
For appointment or more information, call the clinic at 442-4600, ext. 2601.

News briefs

Budget cuts down add/drop period

The deadline to drop spring classes in the Admissions and Records office has changed, leaving students one less day than usual to make schedule changes without penalty on transcripts.

Citing budget cuts, Admissions and Records cancelled Saturday hours for the spring semester. Friday is now the last day on campus both to drop a course without incurring a "W" mark, and to register for courses. However, students can make changes through touch-tone and Internet registration until Saturday without penalty.

The period to claim a refund for dropped courses passed last week.

Admissions and Records, located on the lower level of the Student

Services building, will open from 8 a.m. to 6:45 p.m. Thursday, and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday to process add or drop requests.

ASG to fill senate

FCC's Associated Student Government is seeking applicants to fill five positions on the student senate. ASG had initially set a Jan. 30 deadline for applicants, but prospective senators can still pick up an application for appointment.

ASG President Nanci Sumaya-Martinez will review applications and interview candidates. Senators attend mandatory Tuesday meetings and help staff the ASG office a minimum of three hours a week.

Applicants must maintain a 2.0 grade point average and enrollment in at least six units. First-semester FCC students must have transcript

records on file with the Admissions and Records office.

The ASG office is located in room SC-205, above the bookstore. For more information or for an application, contact the office at 442-8275.

Library series celebrates science

The FCC Library next week will host a video and discussion series on science and its role in society. The series, titled "The Research Revolution: Science and the Shaping of Modern Life," will cover a different topic each week.

The series begins Feb. 6 with the topic, "Atomic Age." Subsequent weeks will explore robotics, genetics, forensics, global warming and biodiversity. The Library will pres-

ent each program at 7 p.m., Thursdays, in Forum Hall room 101.

For more information on the series, contact Donna Chandler at 442-4600, ext. 8150, or via e-mail at donna.chandler@sccd.com.



[illegible]



“If you’re late for a class or if there’s no parking, then you’re going to park there anyways.”

– Lindsay Hawkins, FCC student

Historic area shares neighborhood with FCC, but not its curbsides

The Porter Tract lends a unique perspective to the FCC parking issue.

By Latasha Ball
Rampage reporter

Many students who are looking at their tickets from parking in the Porter Tract Historic District do not realize the historic allure and the fascinating architectural structures that lie in this neighborhood filled with residential only parking signs.

History

The Porter Tract is the first and only historical district in Fresno according to the Federal guidelines for historic districts. A historical and architectural survey was done by John Powell, a former teacher at FCC, the Cara Group, which consisted of FCC students enrolled in Special Studies 77. A book was published by the group of their findings in the Spring Semester of 1990.

The class chose to study this neighborhood because it held a variety of architectural styles and there was a sense of consistency in the homes that did not reflect the lack of originality that is sometimes seen in homes of today.

The Porter Tract homes were first built in 1914 and include architectural designs that are out of the ordinary and consistent throughout the neighborhood: Spanish Revival, Colonial Revival, Tudor Revival, Italian Renaissance, Prairie and variations of the Prairie Box, and Craftsman. Porter also used one or more architectural services to assist him in designing some of the homes.

The results of the research revealed that the Porter Tract was 100 percent in compliance with the federal guidelines for historic homes. The research also revealed that 59 percent of the homes are 70 years old or older. There was a strong pattern with the homes that showed architectural significance and character.

A lot of research and work has to be done in order for a district to be recognized as a historic district. “There are 13 other districts that have been proposed but it’s a tremendous amount of work,” said Karana Hattersley-Drayton, historic preservation officer for City Hall in Fresno.

In order for the Porter Tract



The Porter Tract neighborhood is off-limits for FCC student parking. Residents of the area must purchase a \$40 permit each year or face a \$40

to qualify as a Certified Historic District, according to the book the class published, the neighborhood had to meet federal guidelines for age, architectural value, and density of the buildings.

Many of the students conducting the research for the class were professionals in the design or real estate fields, teachers, students who were majoring in architecture or students just wanting to learn the skills of preservation.

Porter Tract residents

FCC English instructor Rose Marie Guglielmino, a Porter Tract resident for more than eight years, looks at the issue from a student’s point of view. “Some people are just so frustrated at trying to find a parking spot they finally just say ‘forget it, I’ll park here. If I get a

ticket then fine,” said Rose Marie Guglielmino, part-time FCC English Teacher and eight year resident of the Porter Tract.

The development and expansion of FCC growing from 14,000 to 21,000 plus students, has contributed to the Porter Tract’s residential growth. “The parking situation has been bad for about 40 years,” said Donald Selland, a 35-year resident of the Porter Tract.

Home athletic games that are held at FCC sometimes present problems to the people who try to hunt down a parking place and some bother not to read the “Residential Only” parking signs in the Porter Tract. “The only other time we have a problem is when games are going on. We get quite a few people who park here,” said Selland.

To help solve the problem of congestion in the neighborhood, the residents went to the Fresno City Council and voted to make

the Porter Tract a “Resident Only” neighborhood for parking.

“We pay for our own permits so we can park in front of our houses. We pay \$20 a year for the permit,” said Selland.

The FCC neighbors

“If you’re late for a class or if there’s no parking, then you’re going to park there anyways,” said Lindsay Hawkins, fourth semester student at FCC.

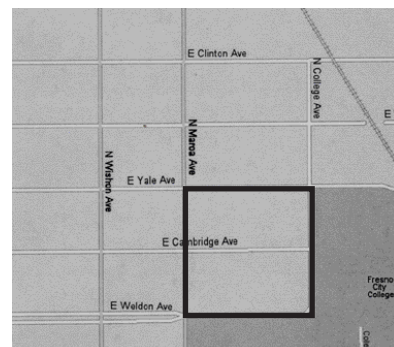
In the tract marked with resident-only parking signs, some students decide to pay the price of a parking ticket in order to get to class on time. “We go back out and we keep enforcing the residential parking,” said Jacob Caine, Street Maintenance Supervisor for the City of Fresno.

Kelli Walker, a fourth semester student at FCC, feels the need to expand parking. “If they’re not



Photos by Josh Hires

A lone vehicle sits along Cambridge Avenue the second week of classes. Residents have city permits to park there, but FCC students often risk tickets and park in the Porter Tract.



Map courtesy yahoo.com

Students without a residential permit are not allowed to park within the Porter Tract.

going to take the signs down, then they need to find somewhere we can park,” said Walker.

Some students feel it’s not just during games when they’re looking for a parking spot. “People park there because they have class and some have to walk across campus to their class if they can’t park there,” said Mai Xiaxiong, fourth semester

Budget cuts will affect our education

Are you aware of our recent budget cuts? Well, due to that very large budget decrease a lot of classes have been cut, some fees may be raised, and rumor has it that next semester there will be no report cards mailed to our homes.

Students, you will have to go online to receive your grades, so how will students with little or no Internet access be able to see if they passed or failed?

You will have a couple of options here on campus but how many of us are there with no access? If you think about it, the library computers will be jammed and you will

be forced to go out of your way to do something that the school should be doing automatically on their own.

It is unfair to us as students to be unaware of a large budget decrease like that, which is hitting us terribly hard.

There are students who are unable to complete their degrees because one or more of their classes have been canceled due to a weak number of students enrolled in the class. How will they finish?

The school board should have had held a meeting open to the public about the decrease and what it would affect and how we, the students, can try to overcome the crisis the best we can.

This decrease is affecting campus everywhere, from elementary schools to colleges. Although a lot of us are now aware of the cuts there should still be a meeting held

to discuss the terms of Governor Davis education cuts.

The school will save approximately \$30,000 by not mailing report cards to 20,000 students. The estimated average of saved money is about \$2 million by July 1.

There is also a proposed increase in the cost per unit up to \$24 a unit instead of our normal cost of \$11 per unit. For some students this price is way too steep and unmanageable. They will be faced with the options of finishing school at an unaffordable cost or quitting.

This budget cut is really a big problem because. If students choose to quit school, then the school will lose more money because most students have already gotten their financial aid checks. Then if they drop a class they will owe the department of education.

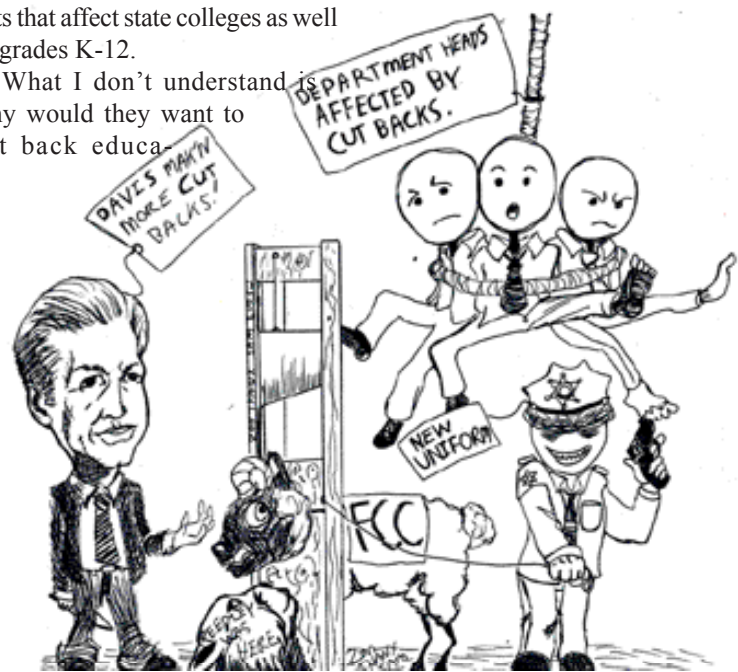
Everything to me equals out to be another probable loss of school

funding

There is a 3.666 percent cut from Proposition 98 (effects community colleges). There were also cuts that affect state colleges as well as grades K-12.

What I don't understand is why would they want to cut back educa-

tional funding when there is a lot of unnecessary funding that could be dropped instead of screwing with educational fundings.



Credit card debt can drown you if you let it

Every semester students are faced with many expenses. There's the cost of books and tools that help with the success of the courses.

Parking permits, gasoline, cell phone bills for those who choose to have their own personal form of communication are also other expenses. What about those who find smoking to be a necessity, or purchasing meals?

Those financial aid checks sure come in handy, but the recent budget cut is also not helping when there are plans to increase fees and everyone is expected to pay more sales tax.

Credit cards are another dangerous example of expense. The last thing I want is to pay outrageous interest rates.

Spending more than what you earn is where the problem begins. Why fill out an application to receive a credit card in the first place?

Many banks find college students to be an easy target. We're trying to make it through college and the only thing on some bank's mind is to drown us in debt.

The State of California has laws limiting the amount of advertising regarding credit cards on college campuses. Have you ever been stopped

while walking on campus by someone who is talking you into signing up to receive a credit card?

The National Consumer Council is a non-profit organization that wishes to create a debt free America. "It is our belief that credit card companies that insist on peddling their credit cards and evicting our children to credit are acting irresponsibly," is what the council said.

I think it's a lot better idea when you can purchase things with cash. The use of credit cards puts that cost off to the side for a while. When you don't pay on time the account increases.

When you finally are able to pay, well, guess what? All you're paying is interest and you never finish paying the actual cost of the purchase.

That's were people are faced with the need of consolidating their debts or filling bankruptcy. The worst part is having your credit ruined without being able to purchase a house, car or anything else.

Your bad credit gets put on a record that will appear when you submit your driver's license or social security numbers. Even if you pay what you owe, the record will not change for several years.

If you wish to ban credit card companies from soliciting on college campuses you can contact the National Consumer Council at 1-800-990-3990 to become a volunteer and favor the campaign.

On the dating scene, skip the pickup lines, please

For every person that happens to be out there, there is supposed to be another person for him or her. Yet, when it comes to love, there always seems to be the question, "Is there anyone out there for me?" However,

the answer is never a yes or a no. When it comes to the question, it is excessively vague.

It would help if people were not so choosy when it comes to what they look for in a person.

I mean, yes, that time of the year (Valentine's Day) is coming again, but it seems that for those out there that are looking for love, it is one of the hardest things to find at all.

I have seen half a dozen people out there that think that when trying pick-up lines that they will be able to work. Women these days, (after years of research) do not buy the pick-up lines any more because it only shows how immature and idiotic the guys sound in the end.

I have never used a pick-up line and really do not even know how to use them. I just start up a conversation and then try to find out if they happen to be taken.

If they are, then that is one less to ask

out of who-knows-how-many are out there.

Nevertheless, that still does not help the rest that happen to be out there.

So what do all of those guys out there do in order to get a girl? For one, they should keep their mouths shut when trying the pick-up lines because they will only laugh in your face for it and you will never get anywhere for it.

Girls also need to take note at the fact that the guys out there are looking for someone to be with, although that depends on what the guys have in mind. If all they are interested in is what they call scoring, then they are not worth it at all.

These days, you cannot tell who happens to be sincere or not. Moreover, the ones that are sincere keep being looked at like, "Not in this life time." That is only because of the guys that have just about ruined it for the rest of the guys out there that are legit and are looking for love.

So girls, if you can, please keep an eye out for the guys out there that are really looking and talk to them. Get to know them and see what you find out. After all, not all of us are trying pick-up lines in order to get a girl.

Campus Voices



Dennis Cook

"Instead of cutting school funds, Gray Davis should cut his own paycheck and reinstate my HS25 class that was cancelled."



Kelli Castagnola

"Why is Davis cutting state programs that help low income students, but building 11 more prisons?"



Misti Morrow

"Gray Davis sucks big time and it affects me trying to better myself and my life by going back to college. My book grant was less and books cost more."



Michelle Maloney

"Students are trying to raise above the poverty level by getting an education and cannot afford a fee increase. They are targeting the wrong group."



Marty Martinez

"I think it sucks, people are struggling now with \$11 per unit, I don't think it will help raising it \$13 more."

How do you feel about the possibility that enrollment fees may increase from \$11 per unit to \$24 per unit next semester?

Whose line is it anyway ??



Photo by Josh Hires

Another semester of traffic headaches began last week as drivers continue the ritual of “Hurry up and wait.”



Photo by Lenetta Huxley

First you wait in line to leave your backpack, then you wait to enter the bookstore, then you wait in line to pay for your books so you can leave, and if you’re lucky the credit card machines won’t go down.

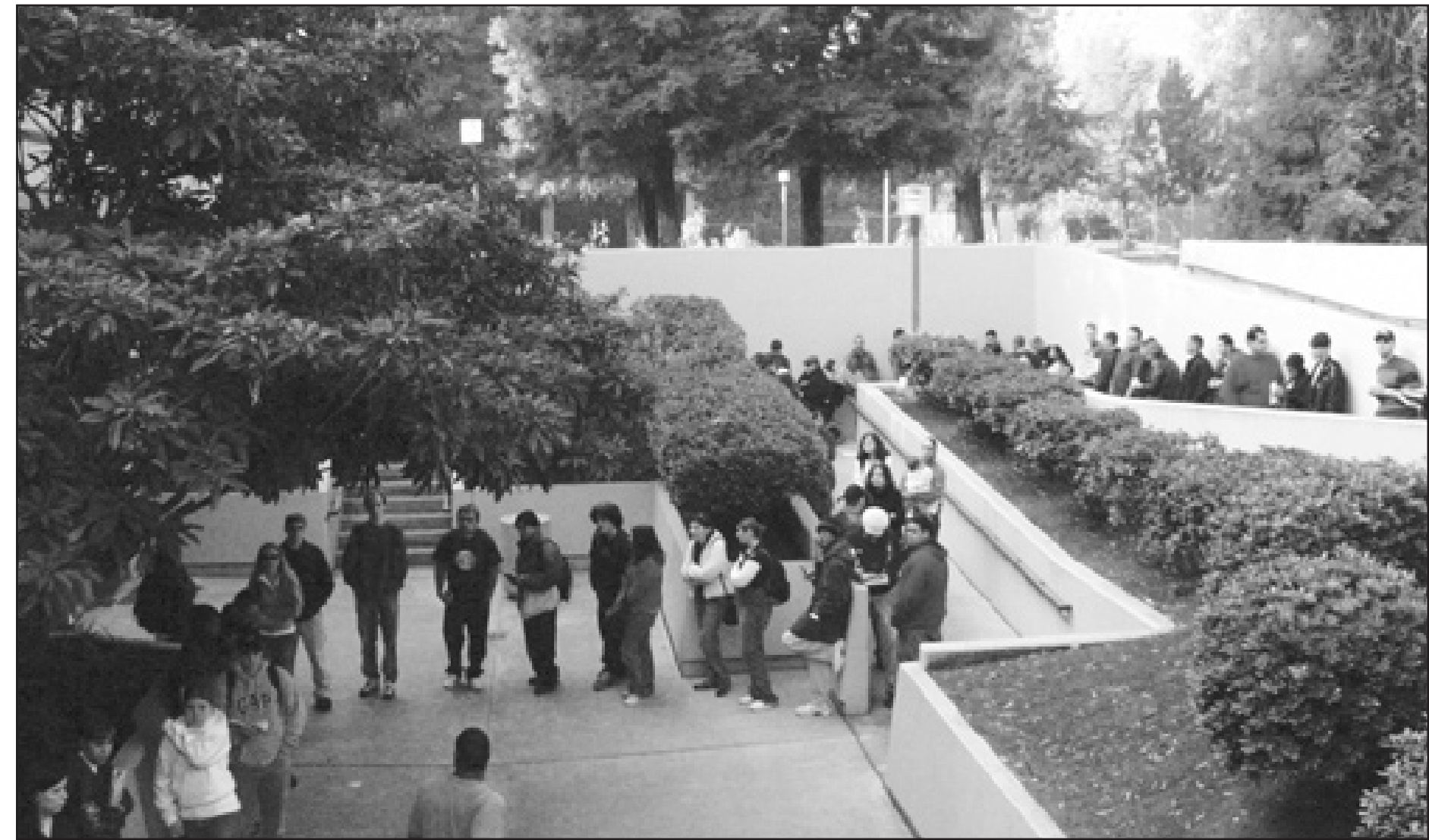


Photo by Rundal Hearvey

Welcome to Fresno City College Registration line; waiting time-one and a half hours. When neither TouchTone Registration nor WebAdvisor are options.



Photo by Tiffany Brisendine

Students continue to face parking woes with 9,000 parking permits sold and 2,456 parking spaces available as tempers ignite.

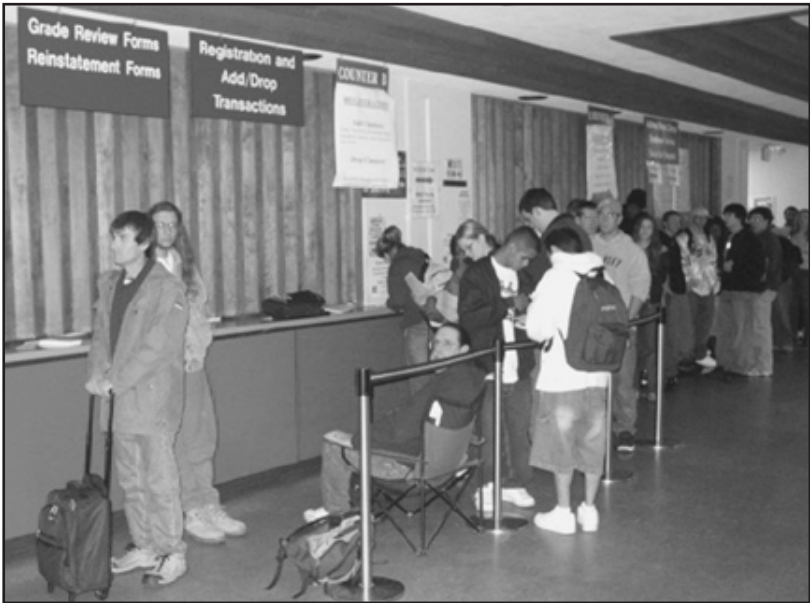


Photo by Rundal Hearvey

Laurence Kramer, with bloodshot eyes and a toothache, braved the dark, cold morning fog on his bicycle at 5 a.m. for the big payoff: to be first in line. Jonathan Armes came in second at 6 a.m. and Bert Dohrmann came in a very close third also arriving at 6 a.m. Bert was the smart one – he brought his own chair.

Shakira is a must see in concert

The Mandalay Bay Hotel in Las Vegas, Nevada introduced a Colombian superstar on Jan. 25.

The convention center started filling up as the opening band opened the concert. During the wait time the convention center filled to it's capacity.

A popular celebrity among the Hispanic community named Olga Briski was present to also enjoy the performance of the diva that would be appearing shortly. Few seconds later the curtain surrounding the stage opened and a big pile of smoke appeared and a gigantic cobra popped up in middle of the stage.

Everyone was astonished and there she was, Shakira!

Shakira delighted the audience with her sensual hip movements. The flexibility in her body amazed many. She also moved as if she was a robot. She was barefooted throughout the whole performance, making honor to her first album released titled "Pies Descalzados." From this recording she sang "Estoy Aqui," (Here I Am) "Pies Descalzados Sueños Blancos," (Bare Feet White Dreams) "Donde Estas

Corazon," (Where Are You Heart) and "Un Poco De Amor," (A Bit Of Love) who she sang a duet with one of her band members.

From her recording titled "Dónde Están Los Ladrones?" (Where Are The Thieves) she sang "Ciega, Sordomuda," (Blind, Deaf) "Si Te Vas," (If You Leave) and others, including hits from her newest release titled "Laundry Service." This recording is her introduction into what's known as a crossover. It contains the same song in both English and Spanish.

Gloria Estefan helped Shakira do some of the translations of the songs. Gloria's husband Emilio who works under Sony Enterprises is also the producer of Shakira's album.

While she sang "Octavo Día," (Eight Day) on a backdrop located at the back of the stage digital images were presented. It showed two men one wearing a George W. Bush mask and the other a Saddam Hussein mask.

They're were both playing chess and those chess pieces symbolized how the two presidents controlled people. The members of the band also wore masks of Fidel Castro; Cuban dictator, Vicente Fox; Mexican president and others.

Shakira mentioned that she would like to see the world come to peace. The message given off by

other images shown on screens was to bite hatred in the neck.

Fire explosions bursted from each side of the stage making everyone alert of the action. When she walked up on one of the ramps that were located on each side of the stage several people threw Colombian flags.

The flags were pulled down by a man standing next to the ramp to prevent her from stepping on them and possibly slipping. When another flag was thrown the native of Baranquilla grabbed it and began to swirl it up in the air and dance with it.

A guy in one of the front rows threw a red rose on stage and she grabbed it as if Shakira was letting her fans know that she was responding to their contributions.

Shakira also demonstrated her musical talents by playing an harmonica, guitar and a set of drums.

When many thought the concert was over, she arose from the center of the stage wearing a chandelier on her head and another outfit and shaking what nature gave her.

She changed at least four times throughout the night. Many excited fans yelled and danced along. The big faunally included spectacular lighting, confetti blown into the air and Shakira jumping into the same opening on the stage where she ap-



Special to the Rampage by www.superestrella.com

Shakira will visit Mexico and Puerto Rico in the next few months.

peared with the chandelier.

Shakira was named one of the artist with the worsteds hair do's of the year by the magazine People En Español. She still continues her relationship with her boyfriend Antonio De La Rua, son of Argentina's president.

Two hours of Shakira was not enough time for some, but they were impressed with the quality of the performance. Shakira's tour titled "Tour De La Mangosta," (Tour Of The Mongoose) has trav-

eled over the United States, in cities such as Chicago, Dallas, Oakland, and Phoenix.

She is expected to complete her tour by the end of this year after appearing in several more cities in the U.S. and Mexico, which will include Guadalajara, Monterrey and the capital.

Vegas a magnet for tourism with multiple attractions

By Luis Quezada
Entertainment editor

When thinking of cities that offer great entertainment, one seems to rise from beneath.

What better than a complete package of concerts, bars, casinos, plays and clubs. That's what Las Vegas, Nevada had to offer an estimated of 168,000 tourists, to welcome the year 2003.

One of the busiest traffic area, Las Vegas Boulevard was shut down during New Year's Eve to accommodate an immense crowd. Everyone gathered at "The Strip" an area full of hotels, major department stores and restaurants. As people walked through the crowds, several yelled the first thing that came to their mind, while they recorded with camcorders or used flashed photography.

People from Canada, Mexico, Japan and from other states in the U.S. such as California, Oregon, Arizona and Utah were present to be amazed.

The Bellagio, one of many prestigious hotels gave a spectacular water fountain show. Big monitors located on building structures kept the audience aware of the countdown. Red Hot Chili Peppers performed at the Hard Rock Hotel, while Sheryl Crow also performed at another hotel.

New Year's Day was full of many activities. Hotels such as the Caesar's Palace, The Mirage, Mandalay Bay, Treasure Island, MGM Grand, Rio and Palms offer slot machine fever.

Each hotel offering a special attraction like the magician duo Siegfried and Roy, Studio 54, Coyote Ugly, Pirate Ship show, a circus slash carnival atmosphere, Cirque Du Soleil, Wayne Newton and an Elvis impersonator. It is obvious that people find Las Vegas



Photo by Luis Quezada

A view down the road that leads to excitement.

to be irresistible. No matter what time of day or day of the week it is, the fun seems to continue 24, 7, as if the city never goes to sleep. What better jackpot to win than the one of adventure.

Only in the month of January more than a dozen celebrities were presented including Carrot Top, Erykah Badu, The Doors, Paul Rodriguez, Drew Carey, Papa Roach, Tony Danza, George Strait, Sinbad and Kenny Rogers.

Other artists scheduled to appear in the next three months are The Rolling Stones, Olivia Newton John, Charo, George Lopez and Dennis Miller. Dr. Phil is scheduled to perform in March, as well as Celine Dion, who will be performing in a newly built coliseum that will be given her name.

Las Vegas is a city full of many advantages, such as entertainment, employment, opportunity and quality of life. The disadvantages would have to be the long wait in traffic for traffic lights to turn green and lots of people everywhere, but that is reasonable for what the city has to offer.

The miles and hours traveled is worth the wait. When you realize that there's much

Coldplay gives another outstanding effort

Not often does a band travel west from Europe on its journey through international success. First there was the Beatles, then there was the likes of Radiohead and Oasis and now there's Coldplay.



Straight from the United Kingdom, the band has released their followup to "Parachutes," their sophomore album "A Rush of Blood to the Head."

Coldplay consists of bandmembers Chris Martin (vocals, guitar, piano), Guy Berryman (bass), Jonny Buckland (lead guitar) and Will Champion (drums).

The band automatically received radio play with their very first single off "Parachutes," the song "Yellow." After a second single, touring and time in the recording studio, Coldplay has finally resurfaced with another outstanding effort.

Compared to their first album, "A Rush of Blood to the Head" is a progression that is more compelling artistically.

Martin's vocals are more moving and emotionally. His piano playing is more aggressive and carries songs like "Clocks," their second single off the record and "Amsterdam," the album's final track.

Buckland's guitar playing has evolved from their debut, making the band less about Martin's multiple talents and more about the group as a whole.

Champion keeps it simple behind the drums. Anything more would take away from



Artist: Coldplay
Album: A Rush of Blood to the Head
Website: www.coldplay.com
Rating: ★★★★★ 1/2

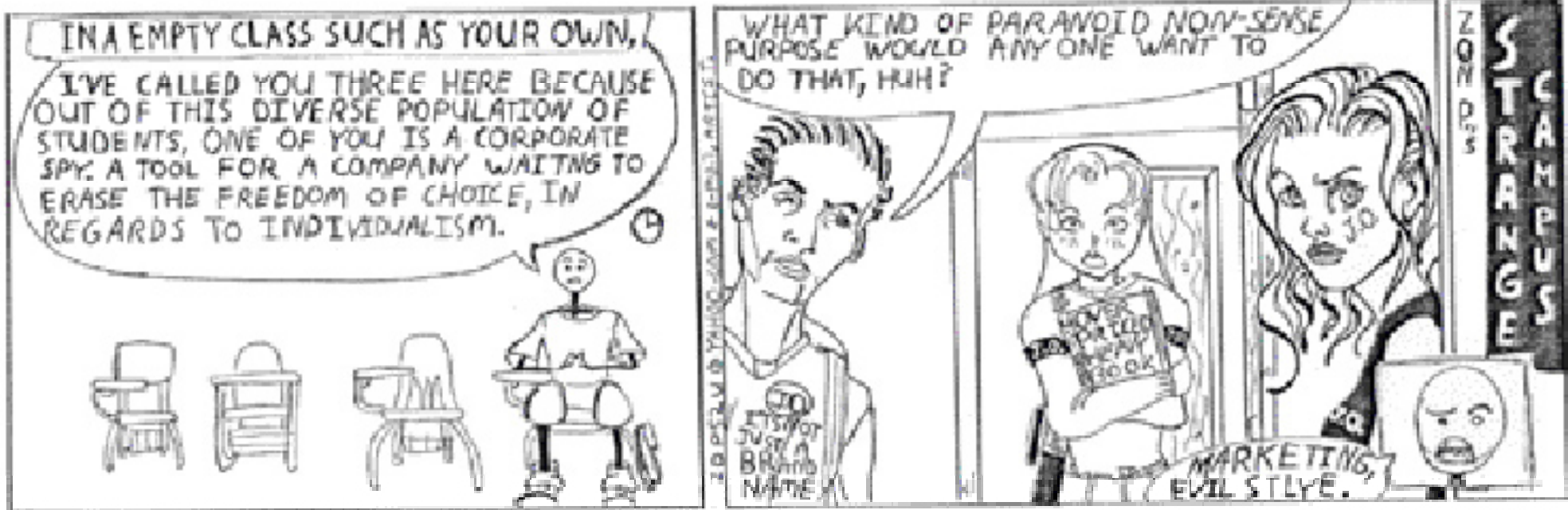
the beauty of the songwriting like in the love songs "The Scientist" and "Warning Sign."

The album's mood changes throughout, taking the listener on an emotional roller-coaster. Coldplay sometimes sounds like a stripped down version of Radiohead without synthesizers then they will sound completely original, like nothing you have ever heard before.

"A Rush of Blood to the Head" is monumental. In a time where garage rock has taken grasp of the rock world, Coldplay reminds us it's about the art of songwriting, not sounding exactly like whatever is popular at the moment.

Strange Campus

by Zon Petilla

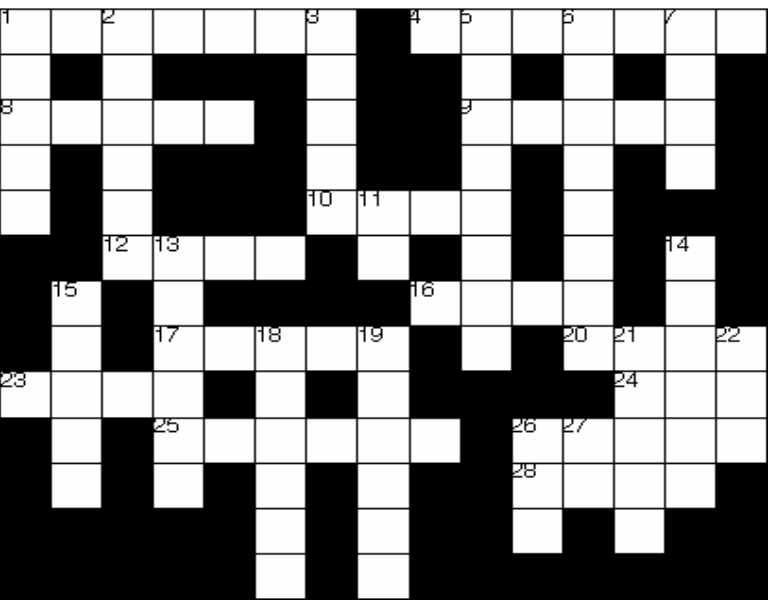


City Life

by Jesse Garcia



Crossword



- Across
1. What you get charged for on a cell phone
4. Information in numerical digits
8. How many boys wear their pants
9. Where money or valuables are kept
10. Break into a computer system.
12. How people often act when hiding a secret
16. Chapter of a textbook or study
17. This is done to hay
20. We have these on either side of our head
23. Talk too much, reveal
24. Idle, worthless person.
25. Opposite of gents
26. Having the mouth open in astonishment
28. Authoritative of formal statement
- Down
1. Head of a monastery
2. Entertain with
3. Where we all live
5. Citing as an authority
6. Flood with
7. Initial poker bet
11. Artificial intelligence
13. Work without serous effort
14. Abrupt
15. Radiating warmth or excitement
18. Account book
19. Dismal, not pleasant
21. Abacus – plural
22. Smudge, slander

Answer Box

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

9. Taco 11. Film 14. Ticket 17. Report 18. Head 20. De-vice

Down: 1. Brain 2. Loll 3. Night 5. Brief 6. Trek

8. Kodak 10. Honored 12. Igloo 13. Flyer 15. Choice 16. Title 19. Art

Recs.

Just a few recommendations from the editorial staff

- Movie to see:** Panic Room
A secret room meant to keep you safe can also keep you trapped.
- Video to rent:** Clue
The classic board game comes to life with three different possible outcomes.
- CD to burn:** Weird Al Yankovic
"Running With Scissors"
Features a rendition of "One Week" that highlights the Jerry Springer show. You know it's going to be crazy.
- Book to read:** Playboy
I know, it's a men's magazine, but we recommended Playgirl last time.
- Website to view:** mash4077.co.uk
*M*A*S*H fanatics can imbibe in all sorts of info, including cast and character bios.*
- Place to go:** L&B cafe
McKinley and Fruit across from Save Mart. Big honkin' burritos about a foot long for only \$2.75
- Live event:** Student Recital
April 25 at 1:15 p.m. in recital hall. The student must be pretty good to get this much attention.
- Game to play:** Beetle Adventure Racing
Everybody's favorite cars racing around sporting a paint job you wish you could have on your car.
- Television show to watch:** Classic Star Trek
It's an oldie but a goodie. All your favorite characters: Kirk, Spock, McCoy and the rest of the Enterprise crew.
- Poem to recite:** The Song of

Horoscopes

By Josh Harding



‘True life comedy’ in ‘Blue Collar’ tour

A special two-week engagement began Friday, Jan. 10, for the “Blue Collar Comedy Tour: The Movie.” This latest in cinematic comedy concerts features the stylings of longtime friends Bill Engvall, Ron White, Larry the Cable guy and, of course, Jeff Foxworthy.

A hilarious combination of true-life comedy and a slightly “redneck” view of the world make for one wild ride that has audiences in stitches and begging for more. Audiences have, as of yet, remained in the lower numbers, however this can be, at least partly, attributed to the miniscule amount of advertising.

To some degree, the film has a ready-made audience from those who have been to a performance of the tour or are fans of Foxworthy’s redneck jokes and Engvall’s “Here’s your Sign.”

The whole of the movie itself is more lent to the electrified and energetic air of a comedy club rather than our typical idea of a movie. For those who are fans of Foxworthy

and/or need confirmation of their “redneck” status, there is a healthy dose of “you might be a redneck if,” though the audience has to wait a while for it.

Ron White, quite possibly the least “redneck” of the four, is also probably the most outspoken. Not only does he joke about bodily functions and getting drunk, but he is actually drinking a scotch and smoking a cigarette while he is performing. White speaks about experiences he’s had while on this tour trying to get from one place to the other.

The most incomprehensible member of the tour is Larry the Cable Guy. Much of his material has a rather surprising ending. He begins by talking about his venture into Victoria’s Secret. “That’s like a grown feller in Chuck ‘E’ Cheese right there.” Larry, who does not quite live in the same world as the rest of us, is baffled by the various types of underwear available. NASCAR also pops up in the conversation. Larry wonders why anyone would want to take the Winston out of NASCAR.

Bill Engvall, rather than talking about bodily functions, decides



Movie: Blue Collar Comedy Tour
Starring: Bill Engvall, Ron White, Larry the Cable Guy, Jeff Foxworthy
Rating: ★★★★★

to joke about his family. He also shares how hard it is to be a parent. But, of course, no Bill Engvall show would be complete without a good supply of “Here’s your sign,” Bill’s subtle way of reminding us that we really aren’t that much smarter than the rest of the species on the planet. The funniest, and quite possibly a future winner of a Darwin Award (a book and website dedicated to people who have died doing stupid things), is Bill’s story of a worker in the lost luggage department.

All in all, this movie definitely

Cobain’s ‘Journals’ a must-read

Nine years ago the music world lost the most influential voice in its history, Kurt Cobain. Now, an avalanche of Nirvana material has begun to be released.

First there was the song from the band’s final recording session, “You Know You’re Right.” Now comes “Journals,” a look into the diaries of one of the greatest frontmen ever.

Probably not meant to be read, one asks that question to themselves once reading the first page, which says “Don’t read my diary when I’m gone... when you wake up this mourning please read my diary. Look through my things and figure me out.”

How Cobain’s diary is depicted is ingenious. It is not retyped like one would think but the actual pages of the diaries are reprinted in the singer’s own handwriting, which shows a glimpse of his personality.

Comics drawn by Cobain and doodles show his artistic ability in ways other than music. On the cover

of Nirvana’s album “Incesticide” is a painting that Cobain drew himself.

Cobain’s ideas and visions for Nirvana are shown through bios he wrote out, his musical influences and his planning for music videos.

Also included in “Journals” are the first drafts of Nirvana songs like “Smells like Teen Spirit,” “In Bloom,” “Come as you Are” and “Heart Shaped Box.”

Cobain’s diaries are completely inspirational for those wanting to be successful in music.

In a letter in the book where Cobain fires the second drummer of Nirvana he discusses how he can’t imagine the band being a success without practicing at least five times a week.

“Journals” has no plot; it not a novel, but its content carries itself. It gives Nirvana fans a different point of view of Cobain, which has never been explored before. One learns more about Cobain reading 20 pages than listening to every song that Nirvana ever recorded.

Under the book’s sleeve is the actual cover of one of Cobain’s diaries, which says, “If you read, you’ll judge.” Kurt Cobain was always one to speak the



Josh Butters
Sports editor
Book review

Toledo’s is one of best restaurants in town

Ummm.... Like Mexican food? Who doesn’t. Toledo’s Mexican restaurant has to be one of the best restaurants in town, and I can give you at least three reasons why.

The first reason is the quality in the food. I have never been to a restaurant that cooks homemade meals as good. Everything is fresh, never cold or warm, or preheated tasting.

They serve you a big quantity of refried beans with melting white cheese on top. The rice is steaming, and the salsa they put on their chicken and beef tamales and tacos of carne asada will melt your mouth away.

Not to mention they have the

best beef enchiladas I’ve ever had. Perfectly cooked, never burnt or crusty or put sloppily on your plate. The red sauce and white cheese just melts away on your plate. To top it off, they have a big menu, with lot’s of different entrees to choose from.

The second reason it’s the best is the prices. For a restaurant with great food, they have reasonable prices to go along.

They have specials going on most of the time. For example they have the special before 3 p.m. You eat before 3 p.m. and get refried beans, rice and any two items – tacos, enchiladas, tamales, or mix and match – all for less than \$5.

Their entrees start up from about \$7 to \$10 per plate, but trust me the money is well worth it.

Last of all, the restaurant has great service. They are located in three different locations around Fresno. I’ve been to two, and they’ve always treated me right.

They never forget to offer re-

fills, or to ask if you’re missing something. They have always made sure I was happy with my food and enjoying it.

Their locations are great. In two of the locations they have patios to sit and eat outside. They have real Mexican music playing in the background, and sometimes have real mariachis around. You feel like you’re almost in Mexico having breakfast lunch or dinner.

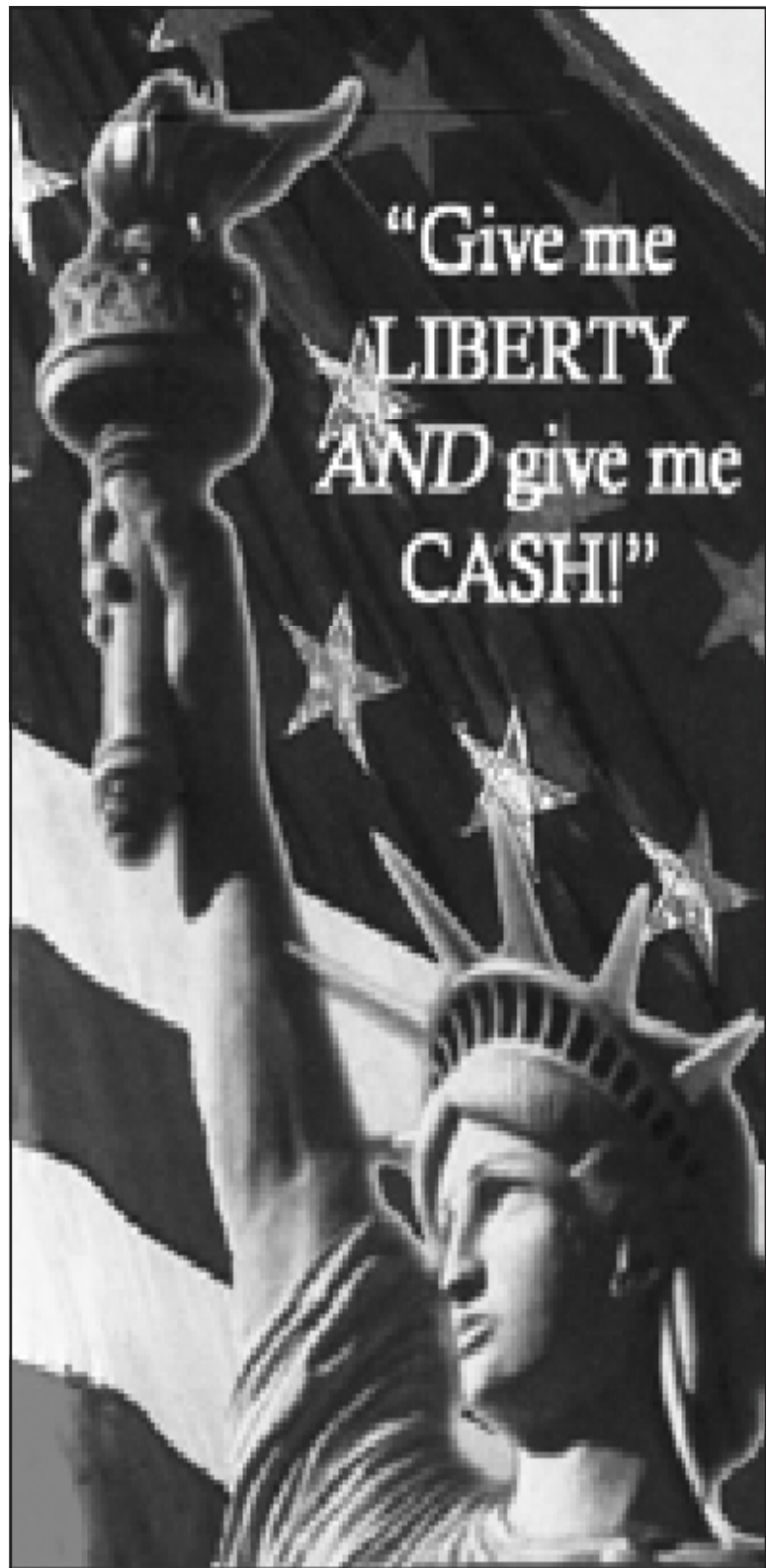
They have the little Budweiser and Corona bottles hanging on the walls and ceiling. The little colorful lights they have hanging all around give it an even more Mexican effect.

They have torches out in the patio, which are great if it’s a little cold outside. They even have TV’s up in the corners in case you want to watch a little soccer, which is like American football to Hispanics.

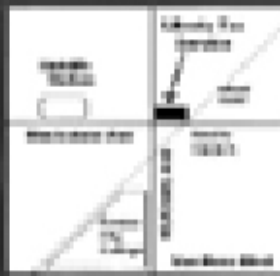
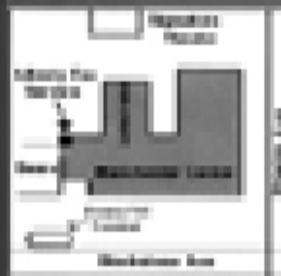
It’s a great restaurant, but don’t just take my word for it. Go and find out for yourself. Don’t forget it makes a great place to take a date



Cynthia Martinez
Rampage reporter
Restaurant review



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Time for Tennis



Photo by Keith Kountz
FCC's men's tennis team held an exhibition match against Mission College on Jan. 25.

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

Rams lose third straight

FCC to face College of the Sequoias next

The Rampage

The Fresno City College women's basketball team lost their third straight of the season to Taft College on Jan. 25.

FCC found themselves with a one-point lead at halftime with the score being 30-29.

The Rams saw their small lead disappear in the early moments of the second half and at one time were down by 13.

Despite a late charge FCC fell short 69-58.

Tonisha Yancey had a double double with 16 points and 13 rebounds.

FCC's Shanae Ross was one point shy of a double double with nine points and 12 rebounds.

The Rams dropped to 8-13 on the season, 2-3 in Central Valley conference play.

Taft improved to 15-9 overall, 3-2 in CVC.

FCC shot 21 of 63 from the field



Photo by Keith Kountz
FCC's Shanae Ross goes up for a layup in the Rams' 69-58 loss to Taft College on Jan. 25. Ross had nine points, 12 rebounds.

and out rebounded the cougars 54-35.

The Rams will face College of the Sequoias tonight at 5 p.m. in the FCC gym.

FCC will travel to Porterville College on Saturday.

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Basketball, Continued from page 1

Modesto coach Paul Brogan.
“It gave us confidence going into the game.”
FCC would miss 17 free throws in the loss.
“We knew that it would eventually hurt us,” said Walberg of missing free throws throughout the season.
“We have to learn from the loss.”

Regardless of the defeat, credit is due for what Walberg has done for the Rams.

Some questioned if the up-tempo style of basketball that made him successful at Clovis West High would be a triumph at the junior college level.

Their questions have been answered.

The Rams are the highest scoring team in the state, averaging 104 points per game and are winning their games by an average of 19.

“Nobody expects this kind of start,” Walberg said.

Along with FCC’s run came the No. 1 ranking in the Community College of California Men’s Basketball Coaches Association poll which they shared with Diablo Valley until their first loss of the season.

Modesto is the only CVC team to play both Diablo Valley and FCC.

“They’re both great teams,” said Brogan, whose Pirates lost to the Vikings 71-51 on Dec. 20.

“It would be hard to say who would win if they played each other. They play two completely different styles of basketball.”

The Rams record-setting season has included six tournament championships despite playing their first 21 games on the road.

“The road games gave us the opportunity to become closer as a team,” said Walberg. “We were able to spend time with each other that we probably wouldn’t have otherwise.”

Now the Rams will look to claim their conference championship and then the state title, which will be handed out after the state championships held at the Jenny Craig Pavilion in San Diego on March 13-16.

“Their [FCC] goal is nothing



ing short of winning league and advancing to state,” said Walberg.

“Right now we’re not thinking about it [winning the state championship],” said guard Jason Walberg, son of coach Walberg.

“We want to take it one game at a time and eventually we will get there.”

FCC opened up conference play against two teams that were favored to do well in the Central Valley Conference, College of the Sequoias and Columbia College.

In their conference opener at Sequoias, the Rams struggled early but were able to come out on top 108-87.

FCC didn’t see action in their own gym until their 107-91 victory against Columbia College on Jan. 11. The win gave the Rams sole possession of first place in the CVC.

“That first home game was tremendous,” Walberg said of the turnout.

“It was nice to see the support and we hope it continues and grows.

Since then, the team has picked up wins against Porterville, West Hills and Merced, pushing their CVC record to 5-1.



In their most recent game, on Jan. 25 against Merced, the Rams bounced back from their first defeat in convincing fashion, with a 118-65 victory over the Blue Devils.

The game marked the Rams best defensive showing of the year.

“We wanted to make a statement,” said Jason Walberg. “We want people to be aware that they don’t want to play us after a loss.”

Jackson was also pleased with the game.

“It was a good way to get our confidence back,” said Jackson.

“We came out with a lot more intensity on defense.”

Even with going undefeated through their non-conference schedule, the Rams can’t afford a let down.

“I think top to bottom our con-

Central Valley Conference Team Capsules

Reedley Tigers

Against FCC on: Jan. 29, Feb. 22
Place: Fresno, Reedley
Time: Both games at 7 p.m.
Last Season: 13-15 overall, 7-7 (4th CVC)
2002-03 Record: 11-12 overall, 3-3 CVC
Ranking: N/A
Coach: Brian Fonseca
Did you know?: Reedley’s Myron Jenkins was an honorable mention to the 2001-02 All CVC team. Jenkins is currently the only player in the CVC to return from last season that was on the All CVC 1st or 2nd team or was a honorable mention.

Pirates

Against FCC on: Feb. 8
Place: Porterville
Time: 7 p.m.
Last Season: 6-22 overall, 3-11 (7th CVC)
2002-03 Record: 10-14 overall, 1-5 CVC
Ranking: N/A
Coach: Scott Eitelgeorge
Did you know?: Porterville also played FCC in their fourth game of the season, losing to the Rams 123-78 in the semifinals of their own tournament.

West Hills Falcons

Against FCC on: Feb. 12
Place: Fresno
Time: 7 p.m.
Last Season: 14-17 overall, 6-8 (Tied-5th CVC)
2002-03 Record: 6-15 overall, 0-6 CVC
Ranking: N/A
Coach: Mark Acre
Did you know?: Before the Rams 97-81 loss to Modesto, FCC’s last loss to a CVC team was on Feb. 2, 2002, in Coalinga against West Hills.

College of the Sequoias Giants

Against FCC on: Feb. 1
Place: Fresno
Time: 7 p.m.
Last Season: 20-13 overall, 10-4 (3rd CVC)
2002-03 Record: 12-9 overall, 5-1 CVC
Ranking: No. 13 in NorCal
Coach: Rusty Smith
Did you know?: FCC and Sequoias played each other back to back this season. FCC won the games 82-74 (Dec. 30) and 108-87 (Jan. 11) with only their second game affecting CVC standings.

Columbia Claim Jumpers

Against FCC on: Feb. 5
Place: Columbia (Sonora)
Time: 7 p.m.
Last Season: 25-6 overall, 11-3 (2nd CVC)
2002-03 Record: 14-9 overall, 4-2 CVC
Ranking: Tied-15th in NorCal
Coach: Andy Vasher
Did you know?: Columbia’s 107-91 loss on Jan. 11 against FCC marked the Rams first home game of the season after 21 straight on the road.

Porterville

Modesto Pirates

Against FCC on: Feb. 15
Place: Fresno
Time: 7 p.m.
Last Season: 6-22 overall, 1-13 (8th CVC)
2002-03 Record: 12-12 overall, 4-2 CVC
Ranking: Tied-15th in NorCal
Coach: Paul Brogan

Merced Blue Devils

Against FCC on: Feb. 19
Place: Merced
Time: 7 p.m.
Last Season: 15-15 overall, 6-8 (Tied-5th CVC)
2002-03 Record: 11-11 overall, 2-4 CVC
Ranking: N/A
Coach: Bill Russell

Men's Basketball Notebook: Rams' offense shines

By Josh Butters
Sports editor

FCC’s offense continues to put up big numbers. The Rams are ranked No. 1 in the state in scoring offense with 104 points per game.

The second highest scoring offensive team is Oxnard who averages 84.6 points per game.

FCC has record breaking start

The Rams’ 24-0 start was the best in school history. The record was previously held by the 1999-2000 FCC squad who went 17-0 to begin the season.

FCC’s 24-game win

streak was also a school record.

Forcing Errors

Despite having one of the statistically worse defenses in the state, giving up 84 points per game, numbers can be deceiving of defensive pressure.

In their first three games against Central Valley Conference opponents, the Rams forced College of the Sequoias, Columbia and Porterville to commit 109 turnovers.

Golden Eagle Conspiracy

Rams coach Vance Walberg hit pay dirt with having two of his former Clovis West High players

on his roster.

Freshmen guard Jason Walberg, his son, is averaging 21 points per game, highest in the state among freshmen. Jason Walberg has also shot 103 of 232 from 3-point range.

Also a freshman guard, Tyrone Jackson is averaging 19.6 points, 6.7 assists per game. Jackson also leads the state averaging 4.8 steals per game.

Rams drop in state rankings

FCC and Diablo Valley shared the No. 1 ranking until FCC’s 97-81 loss at Modesto dropped the Rams to No. 3 in the state.

FCC held the posi-

tion alone for two weeks before the Vikings took it over for a week. The two teams shared the No. 1 ranking for two weeks.

Other high ranked teams are Los Angeles City (2), Antelope Valley (4), Santa Rosa (6) and San Jose (7).

Defending state champions Saddleback broke into the top 10 at No. 8.

Get Your Tickets

FCC’s home opener against Columbia College saw a near sellout crowd of 2,000.

Tickets for FCC’s home games are \$5 for adults, \$3 for non-FCC students with ID, senior citizens and children under 12. FCC

CVC Scores

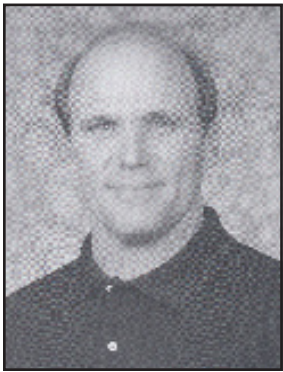
Jan. 15
Fresno 109, Porterville 70
Sequoias 87, Modesto 86
Columbia 88, West Hills 79
Reedley 63, Merced 59
Jan. 18
Fresno 109, West Hills 88
Sequoias 82, Reedley 64
Modesto 77, Porterville 73
Columbia 88, Merced 77

Jan. 22
Modesto 97, Fresno 81
Merced 62, West Hills 58
Reedley 83, Porterville 80
Sequoias 81, Columbia 63
Jan. 25
Fresno 118, Merced 65
Modesto 68, Reedley 65
Columbia 70, Porterville 59
Sequoias 74, West Hills 65

CVC Standings

Team	Conference	Overall
T-1. Fresno	5-1	25-1
T-1. Sequoias	5-1	12-9
T-3. Columbia	4-2	14-9
T-3. Modesto	4-2	12-12
5. Reedley	3-3	11-12
6. Merced	2-4	11-11
7. Porterville	1-5	10-14
8. West Hills	0-6	6-15

Standout Rams



Vance Walberg
Head Coach

Helped lead Rams to best start in school history in his first season as coach.



Jason Walberg
Guard

Leads the state in scoring among freshmen with 21.0 points per game.



Tyrone Jackson
Guard

Averages 19.6 points and 6.7 assists per game. Also leads state with 4.8 steals per game.



Carl Lee
Forward

Averages 17.6 points per game. Had 23 points in FCC’s 109-88 victory over West Hills.



Chad Thornton-King
Forward

Leads team with 1.6 blocks per game. Has field goal percentage of .675.



Adam Wall
Guard

Made five 3-pointers in the Rams’ home opener against Columbia Col-



Sal Espinoza
Guard

Scored 13 points in FCC’s conference opener against College of the Sequoias.



Dino Archie
Guard

Is one of two Rams to have JC basketball experience before this sea-



Tyson Parker
Guard

Had 17 points, 10 assists and seven rebounds in Rams’ 109-71 victory over Porterville Col-



Rams put on ‘greatest show

The Barnum & Bailey circus was given the nickname “The Greatest Show on Earth.” The St. Louis Rams are supposedly “The Greatest Show on Turf.”

Now it’s the Fresno City College men’s basketball team’s turn to have a “great” nickname.

With the aspects of a state championship in the Rams’ grasp, lets make them known as “The Greatest Show on Court.” The name would be well suited.

In his first season as the Rams’ head coach, Vance Walberg produced the program’s best start in school history, winning their first 24 games.

The Rams can pass last year’s win total next week. FCC didn’t win their 25th game of the season last year until the opening round of the playoffs, which is still nine games away for this year’s team if they go that far.

When it’s all said and done, the Rams could be 39-1 and the first team to go undefeated for the entire season in California for more than 35 years if it weren’t for their one loss.

It’s a shame that the Rams only have seven home games this season, 10 if they receive a high seed and make it to at least the third round of the playoffs. They have been playing some of the best basketball in the state and weren’t even seen by a home crowd until their home opener on Jan. 11.

FCC runs and runs and when you think they would pass out, they run some more. The team’s bench is deep, with nine players receiving sufficient playing time, Walberg substitutes fresh players in almost every other minute to keep the games at a fast pace.

Their defense is statistically one of the worst teams in California, giving up 84 points per game but numbers can be deceiving.

The squad’s full court pressure is exciting. They make opposing teams commit turnovers faster than a blink of an eye. It’s no wonder freshman guard Tyrone Jackson leads the state in steals per game with 4.8.

Causing turnovers create opportunities for the Rams, and they make them count. FCC has multiple threats to make a shot from behind the three-point line. Freshman Guard Jason Walberg, son of Coach Walberg, is the most dangerous threat, making 97 three pointers this season through Jan. 13.

In the paint the Rams have two of the most consistent forwards in the state. Freshman Chad Thornton-King makes 67.5% of his shots while Sophomore Carl Lee is averaging almost 18 points per game.

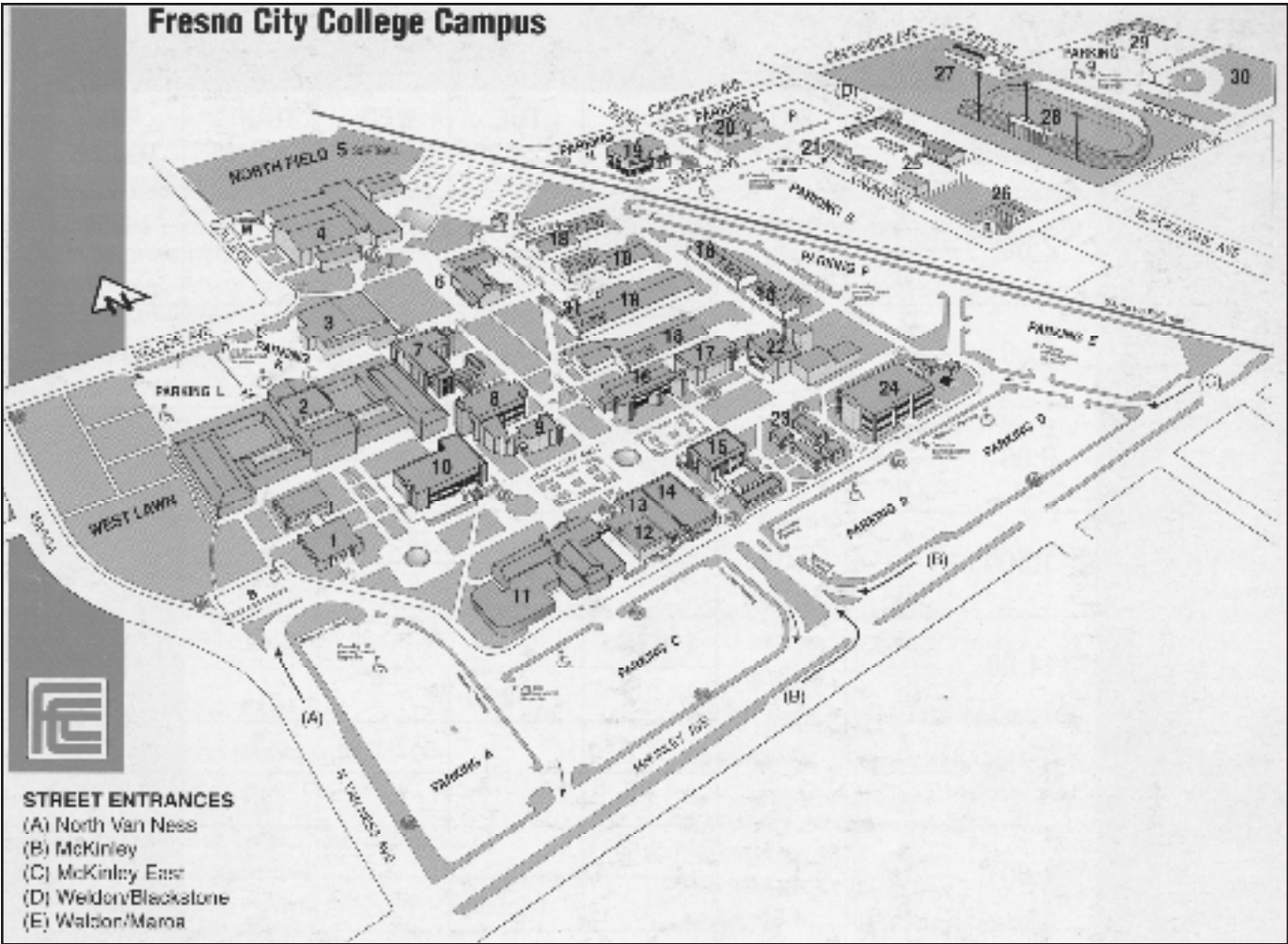
One of the best parts of this team is how they can totally be off another team’s radar because of their lack of height. At first glance, you laugh at the thought of them actually being a good college team.

When they tip off, opposing teams are taken off guard by FCC’s greatness. They are a legitimate threat to win the state title with their tallest player being only 6-6.

“The Greatest Show on Court” bounces on. The Rams still have four regular season home games and it is mind boggling to think why one wouldn’t want to see what the hype is all about.

This is the probably the best team in school history and chances to see them in Fresno are limited. The team is making history and should be checked out at least once before the season is just that- history.

Player and coach photos courtesy of Public Information Office



While attending Wednesday night Basketball Games, you may park in Lot S where parking restrictions have been lifted. (See Map Above). Saturday night parking has no restrictions on campus.

Bookstore, Continued from page 1

also added the bookstore website will be available by March.

There were other helpful tips offered by students that would help speed up their purchasing process, such as including an automated teller machine.

"They need an ATM/MasterCard machine at each cash register instead of having students run back and forth to the ATM," said Rubio. "They should order books on time and they should have plenty of help," Renteria said.

Many students order online to find their textbooks at a cheaper price. Aaron Roberson, a fourth-semester FCC student, said he uses book websites for competitive prices. "[They] have the ones I'm



Photo by Rundal Hearvey

Long lines keep the FCC Bookstore busy, requiring the store to open extra registers the first weeks of school.

looking for," Roberson said.

"Professors select the books they require for their classes and the bookstore orders them," Rivera said. "We do not have control over textbook cost, book prices are established by the publisher."

"It usually stays busy all week long but it wasn't as busy as last summer because there are not as many freshmen," said Elizabeth Kieser, an FCC bookstore employee.

Most students talked about the shortage of

textbooks for their required classes. "They need to restock books. I tried to get a book and I have to wait for the order," Renteria said.

"They barely have any [used books] at the FCC bookstore.

Budget, Continued from page 1

proved mid-year fee hikes of 12 percent and 10 percent, respectively. Undergraduates at Fresno State now must pay \$72 more this spring than they did last semester. Regents could approve another increase for the fall.

Macintyre said the proposed budget cuts could spur a drop of about 140,000 community-college students systemwide — a combination of about 100,000 "students who would actually drop out, and students who would've enrolled in the fall," she said.

That estimate almost equals the total enrollment of all Central Valley community colleges between Stockton and Kern County. Budget figures anticipate community-college enrollment to shrink 6 percent statewide. UC and CSU, on the other hand, expect more students next year.

Even at \$24 per unit, the enrollment fees only will generate about 5 percent of the community colleges' total revenue. Large portions will come from state sources such as lottery proceeds (36 percent), and local property taxes (35 percent).

"I have very limited income," said first-semester student Laura Jenkins, who expressed concern about the \$24-per-unit proposal. "If I were to pay that, things that I do would suffer, and my education would suffer." The fee increase, she added, could force her to leave school.

The Davis budget plan argues that California's community colleges are still less expensive than other states'. At Las Vegas' Community College of Southern Nevada, students pay a registration fee of \$45.50 per credit, almost double California's proposed enrollment fees.

Another blow to the CCC system is a proposed 28-percent reduction in the number of Cal Grant C awards, which aid students in vocational programs. On the other hand, Davis pledges to fully cover UC's and CSU's fee raises with higher Cal Grant A and Cal Grant B awards.

"A lot of students are going to

think, 'I just can't afford this,'" Macintyre said. She added that the community colleges have programs to assist students, as do UC and CSU, but lack the money to promote them to the students who need help. "And that's just a devastating shame," she said.

Pat Romano, an alcoholism and drug abuse counseling major, said the state budget hits him twice because of cuts both in higher education and vocational rehabilitation. Romano disliked the consequences of Davis' proposed cuts.

"He's trying to do it to save money for the state, but all he's doing is hurting the poor people — the little guy," Romano said.

Aid that Romano received for books this semester fell short about \$75, which he had to pay out-of-pocket. He estimated that the budget plan may set him back one or two semesters toward his degree.

Now facing higher costs, Romano said he lacks other options. "When I started here, I told myself failure's not an option," Romano said. "I'll just have to do without some things and see myself through."

Hitomi Masugata came to the United States in May and started at FCC this semester. She waited in long lines outside the Admissions and Records office the first week of school. "Day before yesterday I couldn't register because my class started," after one hour in line, Masugata said.

As an international student, Masugata must pay a \$157-per-unit tuition fee this semester in addition to the current \$11-per-unit enrollment fee. Next year's combined fees could reach \$189 per unit for FCC students like Masugata, if state and district proposals pass.

State Center Community College District annually sets tuition fees for students who are out-of-state and foreign residents, based on a computation of the state's cost of educating students, according to Douglas Brinkley, district vice chancellor for administration and finance.

Foreign-resident students also pay a \$16-per-unit capital outlay fee, covering costs of building operation. District trustees this month approved tuition increases to take effect next fall, rising to

\$149 per unit for out-of-state residents and \$165 per unit for foreign residents.

The district estimates it will collect about \$50,000 next year from its \$8-per-unit increases for the out-of-state and foreign residents. Added to the proposed \$24-per-unit state enrollment fee, an international student would pay \$2,835 for 15 units. "Too expensive," Masugata said.

However bleak the budget may look for the state community colleges, FCC and its parent district secured funds with voter approval of Measure E and Proposition 47 in November. Measure E projects depend partly on state matching dollars, but will raise \$161 million for SCCC.

Proposition 47 provided for one project at FCC over the next two years — renovation of the Applied Technology buildings. Also, by passing Proposition 47 voters authorized a second school-facilities bond to be put on the ballot in 2004.

Furthermore, Sacramento's current budget woes do not faze President Doffoney and his long-term vision for FCC. "I see it as a blip on the screen," Doffoney said. "The pace may diminish, but the goal doesn't."

They're not discounted much and are rarely available," said Roberson.

"We do try to purchase as many used books as we can, but under some instances that is not possible," said Rivera of book availability.

Some students choose the option of purchasing their textbooks

at University Bookstore, a book retailer across from the college. But like anywhere else, they may not have what you're looking for.


"The bookstore across the street didn't have the textbook I needed so I came here [to the FCC bookstore]," said Megan Murphy, second-semester student at FCC.

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