



Volleyball at 10-5
story on Page 7

Instructor equivalencies at risk

by **Clare Godinho**
Rampage Reporter

Thanks to the efforts of the Fresno City College equivalency committee, some part-time teachers will still have a job at the start of next semester.

Ralph Black, attorney for the state chancellor's office, issued a legal opinion in 2003, that said community colleges in California were no longer allowed to issue single subject equivalencies, starting in January of 2006.

"We conclude that a district is not authorized to establish a single course equivalency

as a substitute for meeting minimum qualifications in a discipline," wrote Black in a letter to Mark Snowwhite, Secretary of the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges.

A single subject equivalency is issued to a teacher who does not have a master's degree, but does have the minimal experience and education requirements to qualify for a teaching position of a single class at a community college.

There are some disciplines where a master's degree is not required. This is due to the fact that a master's isn't issued

for that particular subject, like guitar playing, yoga, or jewelry making. To teach in these subjects, an equivalency will now be issued by each department, to those teachers who would be affected by the new rules, to ensure their job is to remain secure.

Now all community colleges in the state, need to work quickly to issue a new equivalency policy to all current part-time teachers that are to be affected.

About 25 FCC teachers are affected by the new equivalency policy.

Marilyn Moore, an FCC

instructor, has lead the task in organizing the committee that will issue these new equivalencies.

Each department will now have the task of constructing a new policy that determines the minimum requirements for each equivalency.

Once it is determined that a teacher meets the requirements of the new equivalency policy for that department, all that is needed to issue the new equivalency is the up-to-date transcripts and resume, licenses, letter from the dean, and letter from the department head

Help others, earn college credit

by **Matthew T. Mendez**
Rampage Reporter

Fresno City College students can gain experience and earn college credits with a volunteer program that pits students in a vast assortment of community aiding activities.

Registration for the Spring 2006 semester officially begins Oct. 31 for students with a decent grade point average and an acceptable amount of classes already passed and recorded on their transcript, but those who find themselves to be a bit lower on the priority list will be allowed to register shortly thereafter, depending on the level of academic achievement—or lack thereof.

The community involvement volunteer course is but one half of a whole program. The other half is entitled Strengthening Young Men By Academic Achievement, or SYMBAA, a program implemented to assist African American male students achieve success through a synchronized program of courses.

Students earn credits based on the amount of time they put into whatever line of work that best suits them and their future plan. 30 hours of volunteering will result in one unit earned; 60 hours will be sufficient for two college units; and completing 90 hours of community service will earn the student 3 units.

The program is listed as Speech 20 because its director, Lynn Badertscher, is a speech instructor at Fresno City College.

"Students get to choose whatever work they would like to do," she told The Rampage during an interview, "but I usually help them make that decision as well as handle a lot of the scheduling conflicts."

Students can enroll in the course up to four semesters, giving interested pupils plenty of chances to receive

**see Volunteers,
Page 4**

NASA stages Columbus Day protest

by **Clare Godinho**
Rampage Reporter

The Native American Student Association at Fresno City College held a rally to protest Columbus Day Oct. 10.

The rally was to raise awareness of the destruction that occurred to the indigenous people, as a result of the colonization of America by Europeans more than 500 years ago.

"It's not a day of celebration... it's a day of mourning," says Mischelle Liscano, FCC student, who is Chukchansi, Apache, and Ute. "People think we don't exist, but we're everywhere."

An FCC student named Red sleeve, who is with Renegade Sanctuary Records of Fresno, performed with fellow rapper, RX, also a student, during the event.

"These things that Americans have been teaching us our whole life, are lies," says Red sleeve, "We're still slaves of the mind."

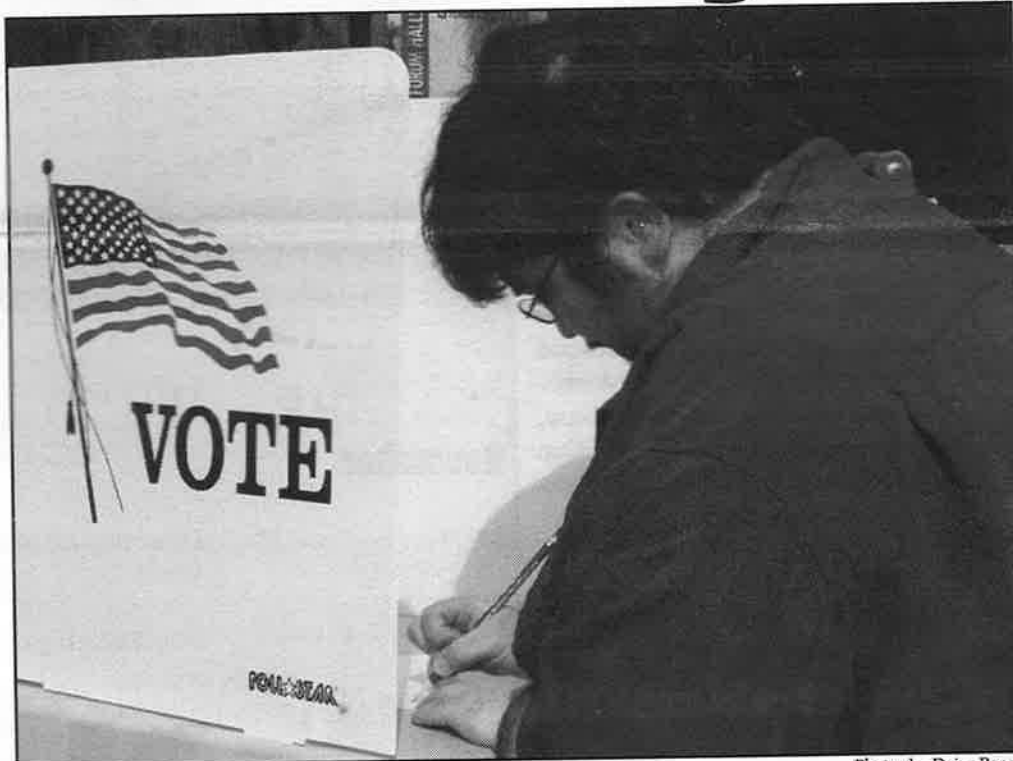
Their single, Warriors, can be heard on 90.7 FM, and their albums are scheduled to drop some time next year.

During the event, an unidentified teacher from the business building, confronted the NASA booth and threatened to call campus police. With the music still blaring away, he then physically turned down the music volume.

"When indigenous

see NASA, Page 3

Vote for royalty



Photos by Daisy Rosas

Ernie Garcia, Associated Student Government's election commissioner, places his vote for homecoming royalty Oct. 18. The winners will be crowned at FCC's homecoming football game against Merced Oct. 22 at Ratcliffe Stadium, along with other halftime festivities.



Letters to the editor

Lower the drinking age

America!

The land of the free. The place where rights thrive! Right? Well, firstly, it's the United States of America, and no, not all rights thrive. At least not for everybody.

If you believe otherwise, then go talk to Johnny down the street, who is struggling to have a sip of wine at the age of 18. We are living in the year 2005 and adults under the age of 21 cannot buy alcohol.

While the 21-year-old drinking age seems imbedded in American society, it is only a recent innovation. The minimum legal drinking age (MLDA) in the USA was made a national law in 1984.

The actual bill required "all States to raise their minimum drinking age to 21 within 2 years or lose a portion of their Federal-aid highway funds; and encourage States, through incentive grants programs, to pass mandatory sentencing laws to combat drunk driving." Following the federal government's "extortion" all the states complied and that is how we got where we are today.

Marine Lance Captain Lieutenant Marcus M. Cheny of Imperial, California, was one of the 339 people who died in combat in Iraq and Afganistan without having the right to drink alcohol.

When you are 18, you are judged mature enough by the society to vote, fight and die for your country, as Captain Lieutenant Cherry did, hold public office, be held liable for all adult offenses and so much more. If we are judged mature enough to have these rights and carry the responsibilities that are bestowed with them, then aren't we mature enough and responsible to have a beer?

This is unfair, unjust and goes against all of the values and ideals we treasure, promote, fight and die for, like Captain Lieutenant Cheny and so many others have died for.

Then, as it is today, the MLDA was targeted to reduce the risk associated between young adults and alcohol. But before though the message gets in our heads through the peripheral route, let's take some time to actually process it.

It's like saying that whoever drinks will drive and accidents hence we should prevent that person's access to alcohol.

This is a mentality many people carry. Whoever has taken an argumentation class would recognize the law's inference as a fallacy of non sequitor. Just because a person drinks it does not mean that person will drive. In this regard, a 19-year-old is no more likely to drink and drive than a 22-year-old,

a 40-year-old, or a 60-year-old. So why do we pick on the 21-year-olds?

Supporters of the MLDA claim that raising the drinking age has saved 20,000 lives. In fact, this is one of the most injudicious and indiscreet claims supporters assert.

The truth is, as researchers Peter Asch and David Levy put it, the "minimum legal drinking age is not a significant or even a perceptible factor in the fatality experience of all drivers or of young drivers."

In an in-depth and undisputed study, Asch and Levy prove that raising the drinking age merely transferred lost lives from the 18-20 bracket to the 21-24 age group. The problem with the 20,000 lives saved statistic is that it looks only at deaths for people aged 18-20 and does not consider what happened to the 21-24 age group. This is like getting graded attendance in class alone and having your homework, assignments, quizzes, midterm and final exam grades ignored.

What is it that makes number 21 magic? What is the difference regarding maturity and responsibility between a 20-year-old and a 21-year-old? The answer most, if not all of us, would give is none. What we say, though, doesn't count. What counts is what is written down in the books, and if we don't go out there and vote, we are going to be conjecturing this question for years to come.

Currently, only 4 countries (South Korea, Malaysia, Ukraine, USA) in the world enforce a minimum legal drinking age of 21. My question is: is it possible that the MLDA subconsciously promotes alcohol abuse, rather than control? While growing up in Cypress, a European country, I was taught from a young age to drink moderately and responsibly.

This was facilitated by my parents and my surrounding environment. That is how drinking should be learned.

Unfortunately, this is not the case in the USA, since young people often experiment with alcohol at keg parties and other "unsafe" environments.

If people aren't taught control and drinking responsibly, then it is highly possible that people will abuse alcohol when they encounter it. It is better to confront an issue than deny it.

By denying adults legal access to alcohol, we deny them not only their rights as a citizen, but also their opportunity to learn responsible drinking at an earlier age.

-Vias Nicolaides
FCC student

Compliments to reporter Nigel Wojtak

It's not often that I find myself lost for words, but in writing this, I'm finding it difficult to put into terms the pride and joy that I feel when I look and see my class project being given front page coverage in the Rampage. Not only did you meet my expectations, but exceeded them in writing about something that is truly significant to me; something that I, and my students, have given many countless hours to in terms of work and preparation.

I have had many peers and colleagues congratulate me on the piece, and compliment me on the work that I am doing in the classroom. But, in turn, I need to compliment you on making the students, and the campus, aware that such programs even exist. I appreciate your taking the time to write this article; and I am passing along the praise to you

as well, because you deserve it!

Nancy A Holland, HRMD
Business law instructor,
Business Administration
Fresno City College

A note from the editor

When leaving a letter to the editor, make sure to leave your name, otherwise we can not print the letter.

We sincerely enjoy hate mail here at the Rampage, but we enjoy it more when we can present your views to our readers.

So in the future, if you are not willing to take credit for your opinions, please do not waste our time.

David Witte
editor in chief

Calendar of events

| Date | Time | Event | Location |
|-----------------|----------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| October | | | |
| 20 | 9 a.m.-5 p.m. | Homecoming King/Queen Elections | Main Fountain Area |
| 21 | | Ram Pride Day | |
| 22 | 3-7 p.m. | Homecoming pre-game activities | Ratcliffe Stadium |
| 23-29 | | Red Ribbon Week | |
| 23 | 3 & 7:30 p.m. | Fresno Community Concert Band | Theatre |
| 31 | 5:30-8 p.m. | Fall Carnival | Ratcliffe Stadium |
| November | | | |
| 24-24 | | Promising Art Majors to Watch | Art Space Gallery |
| 1-2 | 9 a.m.-12 p.m. | FCC Fall Chorus Festival | Theatre |
| 2 | 10 a.m.-2 p.m. | Club Rush | Main Fountain Area |



FRESNO CITY COLLEGE
Rampage

RAMPAGE

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Classified Ads

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Voting for Props 73, 75, 78 & 80

Flavors of the Big Fresno Fair

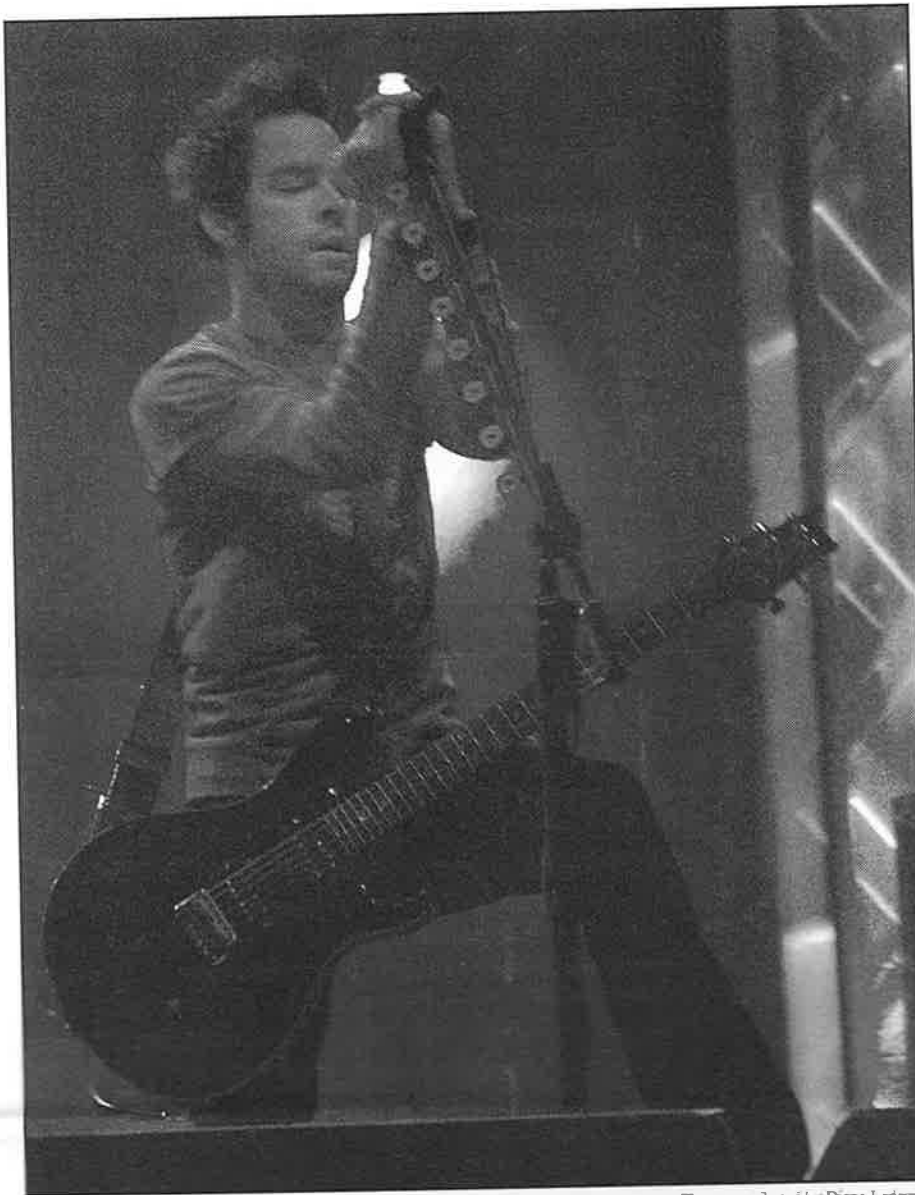


Photo contributed by Diana Ledesma

Pete Loeffler, lead singer of Chevelle, performs at the Big Fresno Fair Oct. 6 at the Paul Paul Theatre. Other acts at the fair included ZZ Top, Seal, Clay Walker, LeAnn Rimes, Los Rielero Del Norte, Fat Joe, Third Day, and Tower of Power.

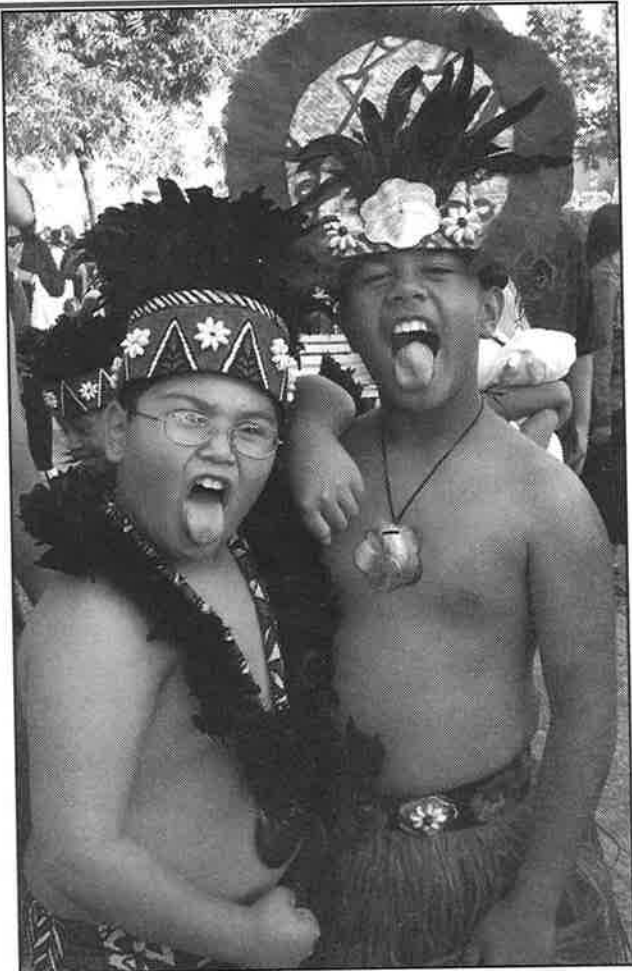


Photo by Theresa Carr

Right: Robert (right), from Tonga, and Kolej, from Fresno, prepare to perform the Tor Ote Hiroa, a polynesian dance which means "for the love of the culture."

NASA: Native Americans call it "a day of mourning"

continued from Page 1

people take a stand, to voice the opinion that we're entitled to, we get knocked down, and shot at. He (unidentified teacher) told us we didn't have any business being here," Liscano said, but they got permission from Dean Fox to put on the event.

"I think that some people are upset about the message," says Bernard Navarro, FCC American Indian studies teacher, "and that they'll find any excuse to thwart it."

Navarro, was in charge of putting on the event with fellow Native American studies teacher Michael Black Bull. "Columbus day to me is

indigenous people remembrance day," says Navarro, "I think about what happened in the past, reflect on the historical events that took place, and also remember there's still a struggle ahead, there's a liberation that's taking place, there's still a colonization."

He held the event to let students know that Columbus day, for indigenous people, is not a holiday, and that Columbus was not a hero.

"The United States is based on in many ways, imperialism," said Black Bull, "this is an empire, it is an empire that has conquered hundreds of native nations. We are the mirror that shows the true reflection of the United States."

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7:00 pm Langston Hughes lecture

E. Ethelbert Miller reading his own poetry
Tuesday, October 25, 2005
7:00 pm

Pablo Neruda - Movies and Popcorn featuring "IL Postino"
Tuesday, November 1, 2005
7:00 pm

Martin Espada on the life and works of Pablo Neruda
Thursday, November 3, 2005
6:30 pm Classical Latin music guitarist, Chris Toth
7:00 pm Martin Espada lecture

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Volunteers: *Fresno has highest poverty rate in U.S.*

continued from Page 1

hands-on training in the field they desire to enter.

With many positions available within state representatives' offices as well as establishments where one could work with the poor, elderly and children, the volunteer program is also a great way to ameliorate the quality of life for the less fortunate.

Some students enrolled in the program are working for Senators Barbara Boxer and Diane Feinstein.

Rabiah Rahman, one of the students enrolled in the course, is currently working for Senator Jim Costa. Rabiah is a Political Science major, and the volunteer work she does for Senator Costa "engulfs" her.

"It's one thing to hear about how legislation works, but it's another thing to experience it first hand."

With Fresno recently named the city with the highest concentration of poverty in America, recent class discussions have been focused on helping the disabled, impecunious and ill.

Speech 20 is also a good course for the environmentally friendly student.

"Last week as I was picking litter on campus I actually had a student approach me and thank me for what I was doing," said Cheryl Mendez, a disabled student who also volunteers at Fresno City College.

Community service jobs involving elementary and high schools are always very popular, and students can even work at Fresno High, which is right next door to Fresno City College.

Elementary and high school students can always use

more college students to help tutor them. The schools themselves need tutors for subject areas, and there's a special need for those fluent in Spanish, Hmong, Lao and Cambodian. Schools generally need volunteers to work for about 2-4 hours a week.

Another popular program is Habitat for Humanity, an organization that helps low-income families build homes. Volunteers would be expected to perform such tasks as help organize a volunteer "Thank You" Banquet, run work crews building houses or renovating condo units and starting a Habitat for Humanity campus chapter.

Students can also work at the Poverello House, which is a food and shelter center for the homeless. Jobs would include helping the homeless find "proper clean, fitting clothing" and assisting the social service director in the counseling of substance abusers.

The Poverello House looks for students who are hard workers and are sensitive to the needs of the homeless.

The programs in which students can work with U.S. Senators involve quotidian tasks like responding to constituent letters and phone calls, clerical work and attending meeting and events with other staff members. These are just a few of the programs Fresno City College's volunteer program offers—there are 133 different programs in all.

For students looking to obtain valuable experience in the major of their choice—as well as find out if they truly desire to enter that particular field, the Speech 20 program should be on the list when registration for the Spring 2006 semester begins.

available volunteer programs

| Agency name | skills needed | Phone # |
|---|---|---|
| All schools-Fresno, Clovis, Madera, etc. | Tutoring, recreation, help in the classroom, Clerical | any school |
| Community Food Bank | none | 237-3663 |
| Fresno Co. Library | interest in interviewing people, preparing copies, using computer software, and journalism skills | Elizabeth Barg 252-8657 |
| Habitat for Humanity | self-motivated and hard-working | 237-4102 |
| Poverello House | Hard workers who are sensitive to the needs of the homeless | Mary McGarvin Doug Kessler 498-6988 |
| Stone Soup | Bilingual: Hmong, Lao, Khmer, or Spanish. Love, children, tolerance For diversity, and strong work ethic | Kathleen Garabed 224-7613 |
| US Senator Barbara Boxer's Regional Office | Flexibility, professional demeanor, good phone skills | Margaret Arechiga 497-5109 |
| US Senator Dianne Feinstein's regional office | Flexibility, professional demeanor, good phone skills | 457-7430 |
| UMC Volunteer Services | Customer service skills, good phone Etiquette. Bilingual (not mandatory) Safety training (universal precaution) | Ted Korosy 453-5718 |



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A toast to the arts



Photo by Vivienne Henry
Julie and Mike Dana perform at the Toasting the Arts dinner in front of the FCC library Oct. 8. Julie is the instructor in charge of the City Singers, while Mike, the chair of the music department, leads the FCC Jazz Ensemble.

Weight Watchers meetings now in progress at FCC

by Victoria McLoughlin
Rampage Reporter

If you are one of the two thirds of Americans trying to slim down (according to the Center for Disease Control), you may have to look no further than your Fresno City College campus.

Weight Watchers meetings are now in session for the first time here at FCC and are currently being attended by its faculty.

So why aren't students involved in the program?

"I wasn't excluding stu-

dents by any means," said Josie Huckeba of FCC college resources department, who organized the meetings. "I just didn't have the opportunity to inform [them]."

For Huckeba, the faculty meetings will act as a means of assessing interest in the program. "We had our first meeting Wednesday [Oct. 12] and everyone seemed real revved up about it," Huckeba said.

When the first group's program ends Jan. 11, 2006, a second may begin shortly afterwards. "A week or two be-

fore the sessions end we'll....see if more people want to join," Huckeba said.

Depending on student interest, a 1 p.m. meeting may also be added next year.

"It's hard to accommodate everybody," Huckeba said. "I have to go with the majority."

For students, will the wait be worthwhile? Huckeba says yes. "By the fourth week I'd lost nine pounds!"

Huckeba began actively trying to lose weight before joining Weight Watchers, something she recommends to students.

"I got myself psyched up," Huckeba said. "By the time I joined I had already lost 15 pounds."

Currently, the FCC Weight Watchers fee is \$143.40, or three payments of \$47.80.

Weight Watchers is a weight loss program aimed to encourage members to make sound food choices and take regular exercise. Its new TurnAround program offers two ways for members to monitor their food intake by counting points or eating only specified foods from their "core" list.

In the first instance, members "count" the foods they eat based on how much a food will "cost" them. Food point values are based on fat, calorie and fiber content and are calculated by nutrition experts. Members are also given free tools to help them calculate a food's point value based on its nutrition label.

Members also have the option of basing their diet on a list of "core" foods, which include lean meats, fruits, vegetables, starches and dairy products. Rather than counting the point values of these foods, members are advised simply to eat sensible portions until they are satisfied.

The meetings are split into two chapters: the confidential weigh in, during which members check their progress with a meeting advisor, and the coaching session. Coaching is what seems to be the secret to Weight Watchers' success: members not only receive advice from meeting leaders but also real-life insights and support from fellow members.

According to the Journal of the American Medical Association April 2003, "People who attend meetings lose three times more weight than those who try to lose weight on their own."

Email questions about the FCC Weight Watchers program to jodie.huckeba@fresnocitycollege.edu.

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Women stay undefeated

Fresno City College and Modesto square off in arguably one of the best games in recent CVC history

By Quinn Robinson
Sports Editor

The women's soccer team for Fresno City College endured its toughest challenge of the season thus far when they played College of Sequoias on Oct. 11.

The Rams fell behind early when ex-Ram Megan Morgan sliced through the daunting defense of FCC and scored on the virtually untouchable Rams goalkeeper Sabrina Lawrence.

"They came out with some intensity today," said FCC head coach Oliver Germond. "I think they caught us off guard at the beginning because of the level they were playing at. They had a player out there who played for us last year and another one that tried out for my team but didn't make it so they had a little more than just a win to play for today."

The Rams who were 10-0-3 coming into the match up against the Sequoias found themselves trailing at half for the first time all season.

Starting the second half the Rams were down 1-0 against COS and were frantically trying to get on board as time was winding down in the game.

FCC got their wish as Tiffani Moore slipped past a couple COS defenders and unleashed a laser of a shot that went



FCC's Dominic Aragon (foreground) dribbles the ball around a Las Positas defender (7), while Steve Hosch during the Rams' 6-1 victory on Sept. 30

by Sequoias goalkeeper which gained an enormous eruption from the home crowd and players on the FCC bench.

As the players lined up to resume play, FCC came out

with a re-energized look to them as the home crowd was cheering them on to score that go-ahead goal while the fans from COS who took the 45-minute trek up highway 99 to watch

their team deliver an upset bid yelled back to keep the momentum from shifting to the Rams.

It was too late.

FCC seemed to catch a second wind after their game

tying goal as they played like the Rams in previous games and began to out run and out think the Sequoias defense. With time winding down in the game, FCC turned the intensity up even more and attacked the COS defense with all they had.

The Sequoias gave a valiant effort to subside the attack by the Rams but once again Tiffani Moore found her way in an opening in the COS defense and scored game winning goal with just minutes left to play.

"Our team played really well the second half," said Germond. "This was the first time we trailed late in the game like this and to have the team play the way they did was exciting to see, because that shows the fight that these girls have in them and they never gave up."

The Rams are now 13-0-3 and 2-0 in Central Valley Conference play. Their next big challenge comes from conference rival and also undefeated Modesto Junior College Pirates. In last year's series the Pirates swept the Rams en route to a CVC championship, so this year's series has all the makings of an exciting three game set as the winner of Oct. 18 matchup will have a one game lead for the CVC title with two more meetings between them left.

FCC men prepare for title defense

The Rams remain on their hot streak as they defeat CVC rival Modesto 3-1 on Oct. 14

By Quinn Robinson
Sports Editor

The men's soccer team is on another torrid pace as they are making themselves known to be top dogs in the hunt for their second straight conference title with a 3-1 victory over Modesto Junior College on Oct. 14 at the Rams soccer field.

It didn't take long for Fresno City to get on the board as the Rams' Jake Howard scored in the first minute on an assist from both Alex Montes and Elisandro Oregon to give FCC a 1-0 lead.

That lead held up for a few minutes before a penalty kick got by Rams goalkeeper Scott Grigsby to tie up the score at 1 with a little over 20 minutes left in the first half.

With eight minutes before half, FCC made a push for another goal and succeeded when Boris Beta scored from a few yards out as Montes found him a step ahead

of the nearest Pirate defender to put the Rams up 2-1.

The score remained the same through much of the second half as both teams jostled for field position and momentum of the game. FCC finally gained the advantage of a back and forth match up as Victor Regalado was open in front of the Pirates net to cap off the victory for FCC.

"It was a tough game today," said Modesto Junior College assistant coach Rick Leighton. "This is always a physical and grueling game when these two teams meet and it was no different today. Our plan of attack was just to go out there and play up on their guys. We like to play an aggressive style of soccer and press the opposing team so that's what we were trying to do today. FCC has a collection of good players, so our strategy wasn't necessarily

focused on one particular player, we were just trying to stop them as a whole."

Physical is definitely the best word to be used to describe the game on hand.

In the closing minutes of the game, both teams were seemingly drawing yellow card after yellow card for their aggressive play.

At one point, Jake Howard drew a yellow card for not getting the ball back in play in an orderly fashion, thus drawing criticism from the home crowd and Howard, who had to be quieted by some of his teammates before getting into further trouble.

"This is our seventh year with Modesto in the league," said coach Eric Solberg. "It's always a hard fought game and one of the best rivalries we have in the league and it's always a physical game when they play

us.

"The yellow cards at the end of the game I think was just out of frustration from my players and the fact that the refs didn't want the game getting out of hand so they started throwing the yellows. I'm not completely against that."

The Rams (11-3-1, 1-1) played American River College on Oct. 18 and then travel to Taft College before hosting another home game against West Hills College on Oct. 28.

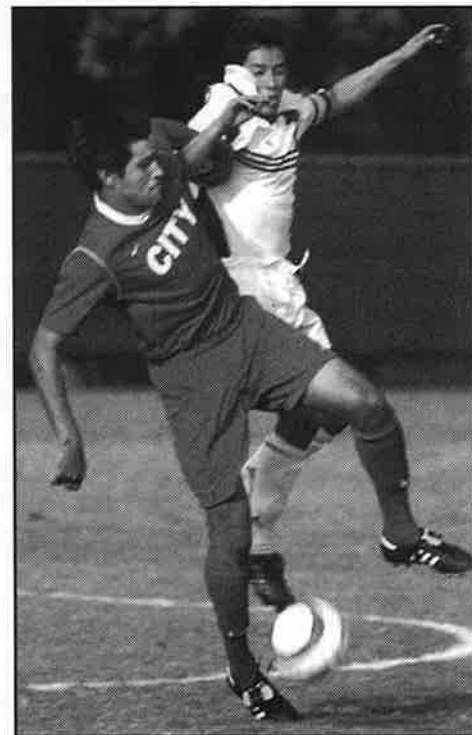


Photo by Jennifer Schmidt

FCC's Jon Lomeli battles a Modesto Junior College defender during the Rams' 3-1 victory over the Pirates on Oct. 14.

Rams humble CVC foe Pirates

FCC outplays Porterville as they sweep the Pirates in a three game set on Oct. 12 in FCC gym.

By Matthew T. Mendez
Rampage Reporter

In what was supposed to be a showdown between two of the Central Valley Conference's top three teams, Fresno City College resoundingly humbled Porterville College in a three-game sweep on Oct. 12 in the FCC gymnasium.

Fresno City, fresh off a heartbreaking home defeat to defending CVC champion Taft College, set the tone early in the very first game en route to a 20 point victory (30-10).

Although the score of the next two games would be much closer, the overall match was never in doubt. Game two ended with a final score of 30-25; game three was nearly identical with a score of 30-27.

Each team came into the game carrying a 5-1 record in league play, so expectations of an all out dog-fight loomed prominently throughout the crowd long before the first serve ever cleared the net. Those expectations would soon prove to be nothing but false hope for the Pirates and their disappointed fans.

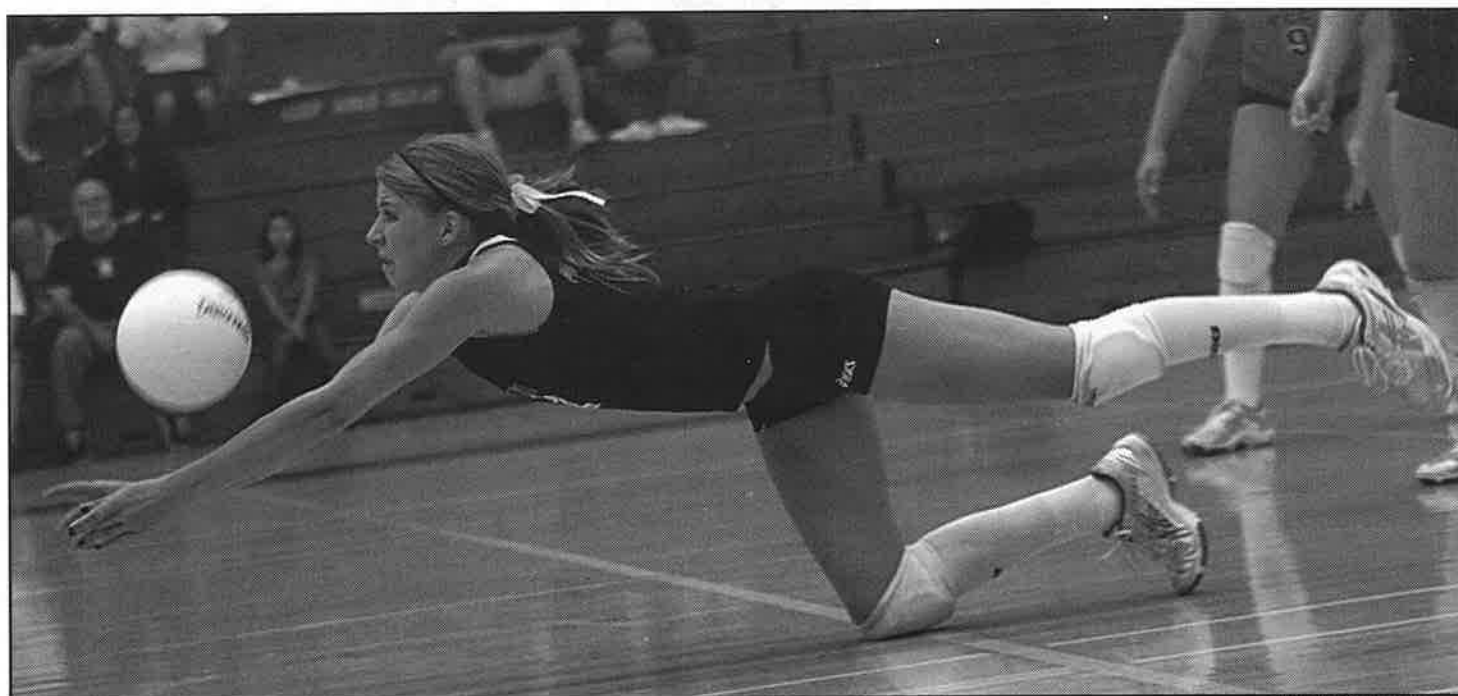


Photo by Daisy Rosas

FCC's Jaimie-Rose Walberg dives for the ball against Taft on Oct 5. The Rams kept up with Taft all night but fell just short of a victory as they lost to the Central Valley Conference volleyball power 3 games to 2. The Rams are now 10-5 overall and 6-1 in CVC.

While attending school in the early 1990's, Porterville's head coach, Raylene Juarez, was a former Fresno City College volleyball player herself; however, she did not receive the welcome back gift she had been hoping for.

With the loss, the Pirates fell to 9-6 overall, and now trail Taft and Fresno City College for the CVC outright

regular season title.

The Rams, whose record now stands at 10-5 overall, were scheduled to play Columbia College on Friday, Oct. 14, but Columbia canceled the match due to undisclosed security problems. Being a league game, it will almost certainly be rescheduled, but the new date has yet to be announced.

Over their last ten

matches, Fresno City has only had to play beyond the third game on three occasions. They have only been beaten in a sweep twice so far this year—against Shasta College and Sacramento City College on back-to-back games during a tournament in San Jose.

During their recent prodigious run, FCC's five spotless victories include just three

home games, the other two wins occurred on a neutral court against teams with winning records.

Fresno City's next game is on Friday, Oct. 21 against College of the Sequoias, in a rematch of an earlier FCC sweep. This game will be held in Visalia, so COS will be looking to avenge one of their worst losses of the season.

Rams wrestlers 'on pace for state'

FCC wins Sacramento City tournament, places fifth in West Valley tournament Oct. 15

By Joseph Rios
Rampage Reporter

Fresno City head coach Jared Smith is still chasing after a hat trick.

The last two head coaches, Anthony Camacho and Robert Arballo tacked up California state titles in their premier seasons as head coaches for FCC.

"We're on a pace to win a state title," said coach Jared Smith. "At the Sac City tournament, we proved we could win that state title. We just have to wrestle smarter."

The Rams left the Sac City tournament with a No. 1 state ranking and little more confidence and a renewed hope of a state title.

FCC ran away with the tournament win with 73 points. Bakersfield was their closest competition (65).

The Rams came away with four individual first place finishes. Sinai Singh pinned

Oscar Romero to take the 125-pound title. Mike Righi (133), Sinai Pezzat (149), and William Griffin (197) all took home first place for the Rams.

Singh and Griffin have only two losses between them this season. Nine of Griffin's wins have come by pins.

Fernando Carmago took second in the 285's and Kyle Wender also took second in the 165's.

Unfortunately, the high didn't last. In the West Valley Dual last week, Gerry Gallowese (133) suffered a severe concussion that rendered him unconscious for over two minutes. The team spent most of their visit in Saratoga in the hospital.

The injury carried psychological repercussions for the team that surfaced later on in the week.

"It was a long week and I think that contributed to our injuries and our illnesses," said

Smith. "It kind of messed with us a little bit."

FCC still came away from the dual with a win.

On the Oct. 1 match in Huntington Beach, the Rams had to settle for mediocre results. Plagued with illness and injury, the Rams were without a full squad.

"Last week was disappointing. We didn't take a full squad. We had some injuries," said Smith. "There's no excuse for the way we wrestled this week. We were in close matches. We just didn't wrestle smart last weekend."

The Rams then made the trip up north again on Oct. 5, this time to Hayward to dual with Chabot.

Sept. 30, the Gladiators defeated Skyline 33-18 in their conference opener.

The Rams defeated the Gladiators in a Central Valley Conference match up 32-12.

"They're always a solid

team. They can always present problems for us," said Smith.

After the Chabot dual, the Rams had a week off. Smith said his team would use the time wisely to recover from all the injuries they have suffered over the last couple of weeks. After their week off, the Rams went on to the West Valley Tournament Oct. 15.

"I think once our roster gets back to full strength, we'll be ready to go."

The West Valley Tourney hosts just about every College wrestling squad in the state and will give the Rams an early look at the competition.

"It's a big tournament," said Smith. "We'll have a good idea where we stand after the West Valley Tournament. We should see solid representation from everybody."

At last year's West Valley tournament, Fresno took fourth (92.5). Sierra won the tournament (116.50).

This year Fresno City placed fifth in the West Valley tournament that was under-standing for a team that was still recuperating from a series of injuries in which their wrestlers were not yet back at 100%.

Even though they didn't place as high as they would've liked, the Rams still managed a strong performance from William Griffin in the 197-pound division as he placed first. Other key finishers were Sabi Singh who finished second in the 125-pound division and Mike Righi and Sinai Pezzat who finished fourth and second in the 133 and 149 pound division respectively.

The Rams now wait until Oct. 22 in which they travel once again on the road to Santa Rosa for the North dual tournament before finally coming back to the friendly compounds of the FCC gym on Oct. 29 at 7 p.m. for their first home match in over a month.

Upcoming Events

Football

Oct. 22, vs. Merced 7 p.m.
Oct. 29, vs. San Joaquin Delta 7 p.m.

Men's Soccer

Oct. 18, vs. American River 3:30 p.m.
Oct. 21, at Taft 3:30 p.m.
Oct. 28, vs. West Hills 3:30 p.m.
Nov. 1, at San Joaquin Delta 3:00 p.m.

Wrestling

Oct. 22, North Dual Tourn. Santa Rosa 9 a.m.
Oct. 29, All-Star Dual 7 p.m. FCC

X-Country

Oct. 21, Santa Rosa Invitational TBA
Oct. 29, CVC Championship, Visalia TBA

Women's Volleyball

Oct. 21, vs COS 7 p.m.
Oct. 26, at West Hills 7 p.m.
Oct. 28, vs. Merced 7 p.m.
Nov. 2, at Modesto 7 p.m.

Women's Soccer

Oct. 18, at Modesto 3:30 p.m.
Oct. 25, at COS 4:00 p.m.
Oct. 27, vs. West Hills 4:00 p.m.
Nov. 1, vs. Modesto 3:00 p.m.

Women's Golf

Oct. 18, noon at Visalia, Valley Oaks
Oct. 20, CVC match TBA
Oct. 24-25, Lady Otter Invitational, Monterey TBA
Nov. 1, CVC Championship Lemoore 11:00 a.m.

COS runs wild

Highly touted QB leads Sequoias to victory over FCC

By David Witte
Rampage Reporter

Visalia - Fresno City College coach Tony Caviglia stalked toward his offensive unit in the second quarter of FCC's game against College of the Sequoias Oct. 15.

His quarterback, Stanley Nihipali, had just thrown an interception to Serge Elizee, a 300-pound lineman, who rumbled 24 yards for a touchdown, making the score 20-0 COS.

"This ain't nothing," he shouted at them. "Nothing!"

He was wrong.

COS rebounded from a 66-60 loss to previously winless Hartnell Oct. 1, and defeated FCC 33-24 to open Valley Conference play. COS quarterback Brent Schaeffer completed 14 out of 34 passes for 233 yards and two touchdowns. He has thrown no interceptions this season.

"I take my hat off to this defense," Schaeffer said, referring to the FCC defense. "They're a good defense, I

mean they were after it, they were swarming to the ball, flying around.

"You know, it was a good game."

Nihipali completed three passes out of 11 with one interception before he was pulled in favor of original starter Jeff Schott, who is still on the mend from a high ankle sprain.

Schott entered and racked up 252 yards on 17-of-24 passing, but threw two interceptions to one touchdown pass and a touchdown run.

The Giants defense shut down two-thirds of FCC's three-headed running monster, keeping T.R. Smith to eight yards on six carries, and Jose Rojas carried once for 11 yards. Travon Jones ran 14 times for 86 yards.

FCC's comeback attempt began when COS backup quarterback Devin Ramos grounded a pass in his own end zone, which was chalked up as a safety.

Just over a minute later, fullback Marcus Gray ran for a 2-yard touchdown,

and the score was 20-9.

The Rams ended the first half with two turnovers: an interception to COS defensive back Deon Germany, and a fumble by Schott.

The second half was a back-and-forth game, starting with Schaeffer's 5-yard touchdown pass to A.J. Jackson, followed by Schott's 35-yard touchdown pass to Roger Brunswick.

Giants kicker T.J. Grijalva followed this with a field goal, and Schott finished the third quarter with a 1-yard touchdown run, bringing COS' lead down to six points.

The only score of the fourth quarter was another Grijalva field goal.

FCC had the ball with less three minutes remaining, but a false start brought on a third and 14. The Giants swarmed Schott for a sack and an 11-yard loss. Facing fourth and 25, Schott's pass fell incomplete, and the Giants ran the clock down.

FCC faces a 2-4 Merced team at home Oct. 22, followed by a 1-5 San Joaquin Delta team.

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Briefs

Water Polo

The Fresno City College women's water polo team squared off against another tough conference rival San Joaquin Delta on Oct. 15 at the Sunnyside Aquatic Center.

The Rams held tough for most of the match but they were unable to come out a winner as Delta proved to be too much for the young Rams team to overcome as they lost 11-9. The loss puts FCC at 1-6 overall while holding a dismal conference record of 0-4.

Fresno City closed out the regular season at the Rocklin tournament up in the Sacramento area on Oct. 14 and 15 against some tough competition.

The combined win/loss total for the teams left on the Rams schedule was 35-28 going into the tournament.

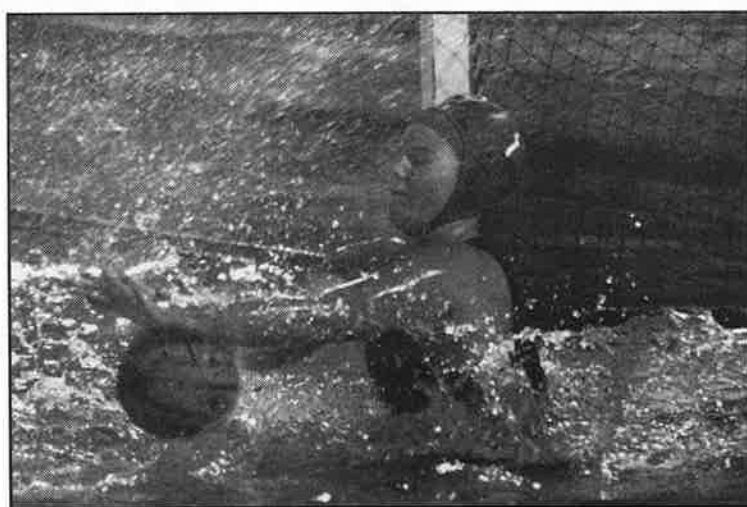


Photo by Daisy Rosas

Rams goalkeeper Jessica German blocks a shot attempt on Oct. 12 against San Joaquin Delta. The Rams ended up losing the game 11-9. The team has vastly improved in its third season of play. With the number of possible returning players on next season's team, the Rams are going to be a tough team to beat next season.

Fresno City closes out its season in the upcoming weeks with another match against Merced College. After that, the Rams have a mini-tournament on the 22 at San Joaquin Delta before closing out the season on the 26 against Modesto in Modesto.

GOLF

FCC's women's golf team keeps the pressure on the remaining schools in the Central Valley Conference as the Rams inch closer to another title under head coach Rhonda Williams.

Led by Tiffany Derksen and Elicia Gonzales the Rams have placed first in their mini conference tournaments four times while taking second in

three events and finishing third only once.

The Rams have one more mini tournament against Modest on Oct. 20 at Kings River Country Club before competing in the Lady Otter Invitational on Oct. 24 and 25.

One week later, the Rams will compete for another Cev tile as they conference champion-

ships are held on Nov. 1 at the Lemoore Golf course.

Depending how the teams finishes the season, the Rams might advance as a whole to the Norcal championship in roseville on Nov. 7 and 8 before the state tournament is held on the 14 and 15 respectively

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Where is the selection?

Support Yoshino's healthy food instead of an obesity statistic



Nigel Wojtak

When we need to make a decision, we all like a wide selection to choose from and we want it fast. When it comes to food we desire those same qualities. Some may feel that the food selection at Fresno City College is not quite up to par, however, I feel that there is just enough to choose from for the amount of time that a student spends on campus.

Since FCC is a junior college, many students are enrolled in just one or two classes or attend evening classes, therefore they do not spend too much time on campus and meals on campus are not held at such a high demand. The students that are looking to catch a bite to eat before their one o'clock-class can choose from Yoshino's Pacific Café or the Campus Café.

Yoshino's, located next to the campus bookstore, offers a wide variety starting with their signature menu that includes an array of Pacific coast foods such as noodle meals, chicken and even sushi. They also have sandwiches, soups and salads for people that just want a quick bite. Not only do they have lunch

meals but also snack items like bagels, muffins, chips and candy. Yoshino's has just the right amount of variety for that on-the-go student and at affordable prices, as well.

I have grabbed a few quick bites at Yoshino's and found it convenient, friendly and fast.

I have not had the pleasure of eating at the Campus Café but I have been inside and the selection, though more like that of a high school-cafeteria, is still abundant and at even better prices. The Campus Café is also a great place to catch a bite with friends because of the large cafeteria tables that can accommodate everyone.

If neither one of these places seems to fulfill your craving, McDonald's, Carl's Jr. and Taco Bell are just a short walk away. If you are still not satisfied and going to be on campus during lunch hour bring a sack lunch with healthier foods than what you would find on or around campus. Think about it, you will be saving money and keeping yourself from being just another obesity statistic. Money that would be spent on bringing a Taco Bell restaurant to campus should be used for classes, equipment and to keep buildings up to date.

As a junior college our campus is smaller and less people are taking a full school day so the selection is just right for the campus.

How about a turkey sandwich on wheat bread from Yoshino's instead of a Gordita Supreme?

One chicken bowl for me, please, and Taco Bell for the Clovis brats



Quinn Robinson

8 a.m.

The first class of the day for many students is in session and another long, tiring, day is in the ever so slow process of wrapping up in only seven hours, 59 minutes and 22 seconds.

During that time you have two or three more classes before the eleven o'clock hour and you are hoping you have time to grab a bite to eat before you have to hurry to your twelve o'clock class in the health science building.

So not only do you have to make an under-the-bridge-through-the-woods-esque type trip to your class, there is also another problem. It's Monday!

Granted, there are a couple of places for students to choose to eat lunch on campus and there are places within walking distance on Weldon Avenue to help diverse the selection for the student population, but if you are like me you do not have time to walk over to Wendy's or KFC and there is no way on earth you are giving up your parking spot just because you are hungry and pressed for time.

You'd rather starve.

This is why those running this ever-so organized campus of FCC, which actually reminds me more of Hoover High School, should consider giving a couple more options of what to eat on campus. No pun for Yoshino's, they are nice people and everything, but honestly, how many more days can you go eating a small chicken bowl for lunch?

And the faintest thought of cafeteria food haunts me, like the time during freshman year in high school when I saw my meat loaf move... I never found out what was breathing inside of the piece of meat, instead I just stabbed it, gave it to my friend and watched him down it.

Maybe FCC could find a way to bring in a fast food chain like Taco Bell which Clovis High has... spoiled Clovis kids... they would not have anything if they weren't attached to Fresno like a tumor. They'd be just as bad off as those who live in Reedley.

Beach. Ha! That's a good one. But that is for another day.

Anyways, back to my topic. A Taco Bell or fast food chain of that sort would be ideal as another choice for students when they are short on time, yet their appetite is craving a quick fix before rushing to their next class. It could generate money for FCC if there was a wider variety of selection on campus because then more students might decide to stay on campus for lunch for the convenience and the selection they have to choose from.

Campus Voices

by Eddie Ortiz, photos by Robin Vallentyn

Do you think there are enough places to eat on campus?



Phron Sok

Automotive Technician

"There should be more. There's too much of the same thing. I rather eat off campus. The food costs too much."



Brandon Klein

Fire Science

"No. Nothing at all. There's not enough being offered, except just fast food"



Saimoery Smith

General Ed.

"There are enough vendor machines but they're too expensive. Fresno City should give food for free."



Rayleae Flores

General Ed.

"We should spread the vendor machines and snack stands around campus because they're on one side of the campus."



Anthony Villalva

Real Estate

"I think a coffee shop should be built."

Eavesdropping

For years, I have been writing down quotes of people I talk to, or people I don't even know. Since I consider a lot of it very funny, I am so generous as to share it with you.

Shawn (to me): "Slow down, German!"

Dr. Kennedy: "That's not the proper way to address her. Call her 'Fräulein.'"

George: "If you drop your keys into a pool of lava, let 'em go, cause man... they're gone."

Rebekah: "This is totally a douchebag-convention."

Me: "Who's that over there?"

Rebekah: "That's Captain Douchebag."

Rebekah, after we went to the Taste Of Chaos-concert: "I've never seen so many Converse shoes in my whole friggin' life!"

Johannes M.V.H.: "There is no time I lost, I just used it different than I had planned."

Me: "Oh, Will is showing some skin!" (as he was wearing shorts)

Will: "I've always contended there's not enough comedy on campus."

Poua: "There's a national crisis. I don't have a lipgloss!"

Dhimitraq: "Nobody knows what I'm doing until I don't do it."

Me: "Third beer, that's the limit. After that..."

Dhimitraq: "It's the fourth beer."

by Christine Haeussling

James (as someone joined our circle): "Look what the cat dragged in!"

Robert: "There's a lot more respect in confidence than in modesty."

Quinn: "We have some (expletive) working at the Clovis Home Depot!"

Rebekah: "I wish every day was last Sunday."

Me: "What was last Sunday?"

Rebekah: "I just had a really great day."

Make love, not sex

In a world where relationships lack the foundation which they were built on, one reporter attempts to open our eyes to what's missing



Mike Read

Love is beautiful.

It is kind of strange though, this love thing. I think I am falling in love with this girl. I have known her for about a year and it has been amazing. I feel like I know her—the passions that drive her, the fears that scare her, and the faith that guides her—knowing her from the inside out like this is so fulfilling, I sometimes feel like I am going to die when I am with her. But it is a healthy kind of feeling, something that helps me to depart from myself and live outside my world for God and others and I like that.

It feels like the key to a part of life.

She is kind of recluse in nature. It is like she is a gift from God or something that with patience and time, her slow-to-open heart is a unique present only for me, like a reward for trusting and being patient.

We have never even had sex.

I only ramble about all this to remind myself how fulfilling a relationship can be. When I stop and think, it is really quite amazing when this piece of insight hits and you recognize this deep longing that sits within us, given from a beautifully designed system that makes me desire and chase sincere, real relationships.

Thoughts like these always point me back to the Bible. I really like the Bible. I think it explains a lot about our world and why it is the way it is. Early on in its first chapters it talks about Adam, who was the first man God created. Adam and God walked around the Garden of Eden for a bit. God put Adam in the Garden to work it and take care of

it while laying down some do's and don'ts for him.

The verses go on to say something both strange and beautiful to me because of what God decides to tell us next. He goes on to recognize that, "It is not good for man to be alone..." and proceeds to make him a woman named Eve. (Genesis 2:18),

Now I am leaving out quite a bit, but what comes next I find quite romantic. I could get more in depth and mushy but I will not. I only bring this up to help us see a desire in us that comes out in our actions no matter who we are.

Be it the rich and poor, the atheist and Christian, the educated and illiterate, the powerful and meek, or the talented and handicapped, each one needs heartfelt and genuine relationships, each needs a community of people that love them.

We are wired that way.

Could you imagine someone saying the opposite? "My name is Mike and I am looking for a person who is shallow, superficial and that shoots the bull all day long." That kind of talk rivals the life we are meant to live.

I think we as humans stand alone in many aspects; one specifically is our depravity, our ability to distort. We have free will; we can do what we want. It is in this ability that through living in a fallen world, there are people who never see the light of what I am talking about, people who after so much time, willingly stay away from others. These are the people who walk around campus with headphones on, refrain from eye contact, duck in and out of class, never engaging any one, and then driving home to spend time alone. Their world is inside themselves.

I think after time, a person can get so deep into that place

they forget the way to the surface, and that becomes normal to them. I kind of used to be like that.

A guy named Don Miller best sums this point up in a book of his called *Blue Like Jazz*. He says, "We see those cigarette advertisements with the rugged cowboy riding around alone on a horse, and we think that is strength, when, really, it is like setting your soul down on a couch and not exercising it. The soul needs to interact with other people to be healthy."

"Our only downfall is our misconception of what a loving relationship is, so much so that more often it rips people apart rather than unifying them."

We see that unhealthy lifestyle come out in a social setting, one where the conversation is just awkward for both ourselves and the other person. I know a guy like that. He just started coming to my church. From so much time alone, this person has no idea how to function and thrive in a community of people who

want to love him. The saddest part is that he tells me he is dying for it. I keep telling him to come and be strong, to perseverethrough it, that in time he will flourish as a human being if he learns to relate.

It is with something like this I loose myself in thought. I am kind of a day dreamer. It's a lingering effect from my past life in emotional solitude. Occasionally I play this scenario in my head where I am the only person on earth. I wake up and walk downstairs to a quiet and cold kitchen, wondering where everyone is. I go outside and slowly pace down a desolate street looking around when an eerie fear creeps into me. I get in my car and drive to school, down an empty and vacant freeway, wondering what is going on. The parking lot is empty. The halls are empty. I yell "hello" and no one replies. No one answers their cell phone...

Soon after this picture, while I am still stuck in this world, a very brief but very real essence of what it might feel like to be completely alone comes into me. It is a very deep soulful unrest, somber and heavy.

It is in this feeling that I know a part of hell is to be alone.

I think some people confuse

see Relationships, Page 12



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A plan mastered and called genocide

Some thoughts on Paul Rusesabagina's speech, recent events in Darfur, and why nobody seems to care



Matt T. Mendez

It was pretty cool to see how many people turned out to watch Paul Rusesabagina bless the Fresno City College gymnasium on Sept. 20.

An even more satisfying sight to behold were the bleachers being completely inundated with students, although a lot of hands went up when asked how many were there for extra credit; nevertheless, chances are, they learned something they will not soon forget: the true value of human life, no matter what part of the world a person inhabits.

Rusesabagina's speech, the group discussion in the student lounge, and the press conference that precluded those events have been some of the highlights of my short life—and I collect comic books.

Paul Rusesabagina is the man Don Cheadle portrayed in 2004's Academy Award-nominated film *Hotel Rwanda*. In case you have not heard, Rusesabagina is responsible for saving over 1,200 people from being sliced open with a machete or executed by gunfire. During the course of about 100 days, up to 1 million people were murdered by Hutu rebels targeting the Tutsi population of the region. Rusesabagina (a Hutu) worked as a hotel manager at the Milles Collines Hotel in Kigali. It was that very location in which he would allow ostensibly sempiternal swarms of Tutsi victims to seek refuge inside the hotel.

During his speech inside the gymnasium, Rusesabagina informed the audience of the events on April 6, 1994, when the Rwandan president, Juvenal Habyarimana, was killed while his plane was shot down as it prepared to land in Kigali, the capital and largest city of Rwanda.

Almost immediately after the plane crash, the government funded radio station, RTL, broadcasted mali-

cious threats aimed at Tutsis and urged the killing of moderate Hutu "traitors" as well.

The Rwandan genocide finally ended that July, when the Tutsi dominated Rwandese Patriotic Front invaded from neighboring Uganda. The RPF defeated the Hutu regime 100 days after the genocide's inception, and subsequently, approximately two million Hutu Rwandans fled the country fearing retaliation by the suddenly empowered Tutsi government.

I was lucky enough to speak with Mr. Rusesabagina very briefly, and I asked him about the similarities he saw between Rwanda and the current crisis plaguing Darfur, Sudan. He told me exactly what I thought he would tell me—just with a little more eloquence.

"What I saw in Darfur was exactly what I saw in Rwanda—it's an absolute shame to mankind, and to the world's superpower."

He is absolutely right. If something does not happen right here in America, a lot of people simply do not care about it. I do not understand why caring about human beings in other countries is such an abhorrence to some U.S. citizens. But then again, some people did not care about what happened to the hurricane victims in New Orleans either.

As for the Darfur conflict, women are being brutally raped so often they are terrified to go outside to chop wood that is necessary for fires. Men do not chop the wood because they get shot when they are seen outside. There has been at least one reported incident of a woman being penetrated by a bayonet.

The conflict is mainly between the Janjaweed rebels, a government supported militia made up of Arab tribes, and the non-Arab population. In September 2004, the World Health Organization estimated that 50,000 deaths occurred in the Darfur "ethnic cleansing."

A recent British Parliamentary Report estimates that over 300,000 people have died, and the United Nations believes about 180,000 people have died since the start of the conflict.

In other words, there is no telling how many people have been massacred

in Darfur, and truth be told, there is basically no point in tallying up dead bodies anymore.

The conflict began in early 2003, when two rebel organizations—the Sudanese Liberation Army and the Justice and Equality Movement—attacked government forces and installations. They had accused the government of oppressing non-Arabs in favor of Arabs. The government had an insufficient amount of troops in the region and were completely caught by surprise. A large number of the Sudanese military are from the Darfur region, so the government distrusted many of its own units.



As a result, about 1.8 million people have been displaced, and obviously, the true number of deaths may never be known.

Something else that Rusesabagina said stuck with me well after I had left that discussion on genocide. He was explaining why he believed there was no effective foreign intervention deployed to help him and his "guests" in such a horribly desperate situation.

"Rwanda is very far away, you are all far away in the West, and you are very lucky. You're like a kid playing Nintendo, you get to tell your leaders, 'Please change things.'"

I am not saying that we need to send troops into Sudan to rescue anybody; we did not exactly save our own people after that hurricane now, did we?

I am just saying that we should be aware and vocal enough to help get something done to save those peoples' lives—no matter how miniscule our auxiliary efforts may seem.

I know we have crooked politicians in America, and sometimes it does not seem like we can make much of a difference, but we have to remember that this really is the greatest country in the world. Unfortunately, there are far too many of us who simply do not care about occurrences that do not affect our own lives. If enough people in the United States of America get behind a cause, the desired result can be achieved; remember, a politician's biggest concern is how the public perceives him and the methods behind his actions.

The powers in Washington know all too well that as long as the general public is behind them, they can clandestinely get away with almost whatever they please. We saw that happen during the months precluding the invasion of Iraq; the administration released questionable (very questionable) information to get the public behind something they honestly did not think would affect them too much. Maybe the war still does not affect everybody on a personal level, but obviously people's minds have changed over the last two years. People are just now beginning to realize that not everybody in the Middle East is "all the same."

I heard that comment a lot when I would argue with people about invading Iraq—and I do mean a lot. Maybe you have heard it once or twice yourself—or worse yet—maybe you have said it. There are probably people reading this column who I argued with in the past because they had made that very comment. Hopefully you are paying close attention, for this comment is directed your way: categorizing over one hundred million foreigners living in separate nations as "all the same" is a very ignorant approach to justifying your subconscious ethnocentricity, you worthless idiots.

I wish I could vulgarly berate and lambaste all of you with every fiber of raging disgust I hold in me, because I would be figuratively ripping each and every single one of you racist cowards a brand new poopie shooter.

Relationships: rushing into one for wrong reasons

continued from Page 11

this with a desire to have relationships. There is a certain something about us that must be filled with certain things; some kind of affirmation, appreciation, something that gives us value. We need to laugh with other people, talk about how we feel, let someone under our skin. It feels right at the end of the day.

I think some try to get this from unhealthy things at times, instantly gratifying things. Sex and drugs are big ones. Even things like video games or working on cars help get us there. I use these

as examples because I think a lot of people do them. They fulfill, consume our thoughts, and bring happiness for a time, but only for a time.

There is a certain piece of us that is meant to live in a vibrant and loving community, living and breathing in a relationship with another human being. This is a part of us that we must have and can not be substituted by anything else.

This puzzle piece of a thing we call a human life has requirements we must fulfill to function and feel OK. We can cram the wrong piece into the wrong

space, and this makes us feel ok for a while, but if it was never meant to fit it will eventually fall out. Then where do you turn?

So like I said, I am into the Bible. And like I said, it explains a lot. If you look at the two greatest commands God gives us, they are to love Him and love others above ourselves which I think he says for a reason. It is not just a matter-of-fact statement, but a command that has our best interests in mind.

Later he says it is the most excellent way and I am learning that is true. Love really is the greatest thing we as

humans can ever experience. With God and others, a life founded in a selfless love grows to be a deep, rich, fulfilling, life-changing experience that has no rival when experienced in its totality. God tells us to do this because it is something amazing that He wants us to experience. He tells us to do it because He is love, and part of him is exchanged when we love other people the right way.

Our only downfall in this as a whole is our misconception of what a loving relationship is, so much so that more often than not it rips people apart rather than unifying them.

Reviews

October 19, 2005

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Horoscopes

David Witte

(Lord of the Dumb People)

These horoscopes may cause cancer, headaches, bleeding from the eyes, depression, swollen left pinky fingers, erectile disfunction, and giant anal warts.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

The Jerk Store will call to inform you that they are running out of you.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

You will have a vivid dream about flying, and wake up on a 747 over New Mexico.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

Your quest for heavyweight champion of the world will come to a screeching halt when Siegfried and Roy beat the crap out of you.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

You will be fired when you stab your boss in the eye with a paperclip for reasons unknown.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

You will regret your decision to place a \$200,000 bet on the Raiders when each and every member of the team comes down with tetanus.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) It would serve you well to abate the utilization of grandiose vocabulary. It is a formidable undertaking for your multitudinous populace of acquaintances to comprehend what you're divulging.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

A sewer pipe under your house will explode, leaving your living room smelling about the same as it was before.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

You have two days to live. Wait, is your name Willy Finkerton? Oh. Never mind.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

You will find yourself wondering what Jesus would do, but Jesus never hit anybody with a Ford Taurus, so it's not really a valid comparison.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

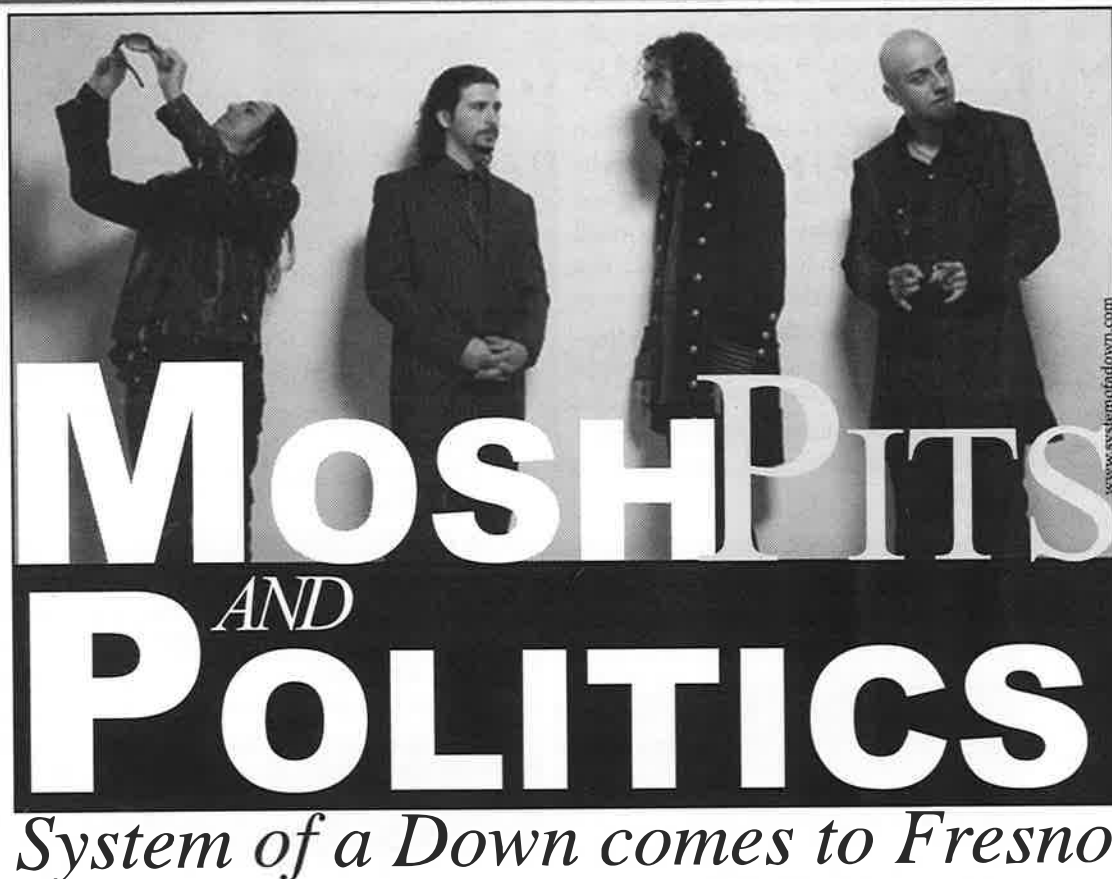
You will lose your trophy for the California chess championships when you test positive for anabolic steroids.

AQUARIUS (Jan 20-Feb. 18)

You will be chased by a Gremlin for miles on end, and finally escape when it runs out of gas.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

The Magic Squirrel of Acapulco will be enraged after you steal its enchanted acorn, and you will be cursed to an eternity of taking math classes taught by Jessica Simpson and Dan Quayle.



Matthew T. Mendez

8:30 a.m.: I wake up for school, and the very first thing that pops in my head is a vivid memory of the first and only time I've seen System of a Down perform live. It was Sept. 28, 2001, at the Civic Center in San Jose. Slipknot took the stage immediately after System, and the two bands provided me with the most exhilarating four-and-a-half hours of my life.

Needless to say, I'm looking forward to revisiting

half of that experience.

9:41 a.m.: Completely ignoring my normal morning routine, I instead listen to as much System as possible before a class field trip (good times, good times).

I had purchased my ticket the day after they went on sale, and was disquieted to find out every floor seat was gone. Ha! Security is going to have to shoot me in both my kneecaps to keep me from reaching the pit; there is absolutely no way I'm going to be able to stand still while System of a Down are on stage doing what they do best: generating a mass circle pit—and Fresno, believe it or not, is home to some pretty vicious mosh pits.

If, for whatever reason, I am unable to sneak onto the floor

area, section 108 will not be a very safe place for those complacent with merely observing a world-class heavy metal show.

10:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m.: The loooongest day of school I have ever had to endure. "No lights...NO MUSIC!"

4:10 p.m.: My mind has become completely consumed with schemes detailing how in the world I'm going to finagle myself passed security and into the floor section (idiot).

7:27 p.m.: Inside the SaveMart Center, and already one thing is clear: System of a Down's newfound popularity has attracted some noticeably pusillanimous fans. Soon, another unnerving reality hits, and it becomes painfully obvious that me and my friends aren't going to be able to get to the

floor without the serious risk of getting thrown out. Three other guys tried jumping over the railing and ballistically running in from three separate areas, and within seconds each of them had at least three security guards drag them out by their arms and necks—their money wasted, their shame grand. We spent the entire Mars Volta set trying to bribe every security guard in the vicinity (\$30 for the three of us); the security guards at the SaveMart Center are unnecessarily scrupulous—damn them and their impenetrable code of ethics.

8:43 p.m.: The Mars Volta finished their disappointing set, and the predicament that has been troubling me for the last two months finally becomes a reality. I know exactly how much fun I am about to miss out on. Please, don't buy floor seats if you're not going to get in the mosh pit—that's what distinguishes a hard rock concert from any other show. It's not like we can start a pit at Linkin Park or an Eminem concert, although I've heard it's been done before. Give me a break.

Darkness Becomes the Unsuspecting Stadium

Time no longer existed: As soon as the lights turned off, so did my brain. A huge curtain drops over the stage, and the silhouette of guitarist Daron Malakian appears. "Soldier Side," an ode to the fallen soldiers worldwide, is the opening song, which leads straight into the virulently inculpatory "Bring Your Own Bombs." The song's hook, "Why don't presidents fight the war? Why do they always send the poor," is one of the greatest

see SOAD, Page 15

From Oakland to Fresno

'Tower of Power' hits the Big Fresno Fair



Joseph Rios

I'm still a young man. But I wasn't wasting my time.

Tower of Power, natives of Oakland, made their way back to The Big Fresno Fair on Oct. 11 and showed Fresnans "what is hip."

When I walked into the Paul Paul Theater, I got the feeling that I was a little out of place.

Don't get me wrong, I love T.O.P. and I love old-school soul and funk.

But when I looked around, all I saw were guys over forty with handlebar mustaches, leather jackets with matching caps, Bob Dylan t-shirts, and thick black Ray-Ban sun glasses

even though the sun had set over an hour ago.

These were old-school 1960s and 70s types, many of them veterans of the Vietnam War.

They walked in with a "too cool" jazzy swagger, chins up - no smile, towing their old-lady in one arm and a foaming Bud Light in the other.

Then there was me. I sat on the aluminum bleachers, 18-years old, alone, sipping on a milk, chewing on a cinnamon roll, wearing a Jimi Hendrix t-shirt I bought at the swap meet wondering how long it would take for the peach fuzz on my lip to look like a pair of handlebars.

I'd been introduced to Tower of Power by my parents. My dad was once one of these guys. Of course, he came a long way from his smooth jivin', funkadelic hippie days, but I

have to admit that some of it rubbed off on me.

Since my days in the crib, Tower of Power has entertained my ears with sweet soul music. I'm no jive turkey, but I know the Oakland Stroke and you best believe I still be diggin' on James Brown.

There is one thing that comes to mind when you think about Tower of Power: brass. Brass. Brass and more brass. T.O.P.'s horns have graced the tracks of world famous artists such as, Aerosmith, Carlos Santana, John Lee Hooker, Elton John, Sammy Hagar, B.B. King, Stevie Nicks, Ray Charles, and Rod Stewart to name a few.

Anchored by baritone sax player Stephen "Doc" Kupka, the brass section puts out humming blasts of head nodding bliss with the backing of over a century of experience between them.

I couldn't help but stand up and clap my hands. With so much soul pumping through the Paul Paul Theater, you would have thought we were in church. They were passing out the soul vaccinations like they were samples in the fair's exhibit booth.

Then at the peak of the excitement, they were gone.

"Goodnight Fresno!" lead singer Larry Braggs yelled over the cheers of the crowd.

My clapping came to a halt, my eyes opened, my smile turned to an expression of disbelief.

"Where are they going," I thought. I felt like yelling at L.B., "Hey Buddy, you didn't play 'You're Still a Young Man.'"

"Don't worry," the woman next to me who was old enough to be my mother said. "They'll come back out."

see Tower, Page 15

'Fog' makes little sense



Rocio Angulo

In the small town of Antonio Bay, a terrifying and malevolent force hidden within a thick and eerie fog terrorizes its residents.

Shrouded by the fog lies a ghastly secret of merciless revenge, one that the town's inhabitants would do well to unravel — before it's too late. The Fog is reminiscent of one 100 years earlier that wrecked a ship and drowned the seamen aboard. Sure enough the sailors are back and out to kill whom ever they find.

I expected it to be a little scarier. Yeah it has some violence in it when some students get killed on the boat, and when everybody else dies in the movie

but that's about it.

Then the disturbing brief sexuality comes when the couples are in the shower and then go to bed.

It's more of a suspense movie and makes you think: why would someone ever make a movie about the fog and people coming back from the dead to kill you? Why is the fog so powerful? But the reason is because the pirates just want the bay to be for them selves how it used to be before people started moving in and taking over it.

So, they started to kill everybody until they got what they actually were looking for.

Genre: Science Fiction/ Fantasy, Suspense /Horror and Thriller.

Rating: PG-13 for violence, disturbing images and brief sexuality.

Cast: Tom Welling, Maggie Grace, Selma Blair, DeRay Davis, Kenneth Welsh.

Director: Rupert Wainwright.



Columbia Pictures

What to do this Halloween

compiled by Clare Godinho

Zoo Boo

Date: Oct. 22

Time: 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Contact: Zoo Society 264.5988

Location: Chaffe Zoo

Cost: Adults \$12, Children \$10

Trick or treat w/ the animals

carnival games

Halloween in the Tower

Date: Oct. 31

Time: 6:00 - 10:00 p.m.

Contact: Tower District Marketing Committee 497-8362

Location: Tower Theater Parking Lot

Cost: \$10 in costume; \$15 not in costume

Live performance by costumed band, Sippy and Old Guzzler.

Costume contest, brews, treats.

Halloween at Hobb's Grove

Date: Oct. 7-30, closed on Mon. & Tues.

Time: Ticket booth opens at 5:30 p.m.

Haunting begins at dark

Contact: 875-8150

Location: On Central Avenue, one mile east of Academy

Cost: \$8.50-\$11 each or \$26.50 for all three attractions.

More than 100 ghouls stalk in the dark of over 36 haunted acres. There is a haunted forest, a haunted house, and a haunted hayride. There are also full concessions, a fire pit, entertainment, and of course goodies.

Fresno Goth Halloween Costume Ball

Date: Oct. 29

Time: 8 p.m. to 1 a.m.

Contact: www.fresnogothon.com

Party Line: 778-1313

e-mail: info@fresnogothon.com

Location: Jon Jon's - 1432 H Street,

Downtown Fresno

Two blocks North of the Downtown stadium between Stanislaus and Tuolumne

Cost: \$7 advanced \$10 at the door.

DJz Primary Girl, Commando Gretchen, Wreckweim and the late Maverick Cadaverick

Dress to kill.

Pelco's 2005 Masquerade Ball Benefiting Toys for Tots

Date: Oct. 29

Time: doors open at 6:30, dinner at 7:30.

Contact: 292-1981

Location: Valdez Hall, Fresno Convention Center

Cost: \$75 per person

Roaring twenties costumes, or black and white with masks encouraged

FREE! Halloween Party

Date: 10/31/2005

Time: 3:30 -5:30 p.m.

Location: Sunset Center 1345 W. Eden

Contact: Hinton Center 621-6630 for more information.

Carnival, Costume Contest with prizes. All Ages

FREE Pinedale Halloween Event

Date: Oct. 29

Time: 5-9:30pm

Location: Pinedale Community Center

Contact: 621-6600

Dance for youth ages 12-18. Halloween Party for kids ages 4-16. Food, Games, Contests & Pumpkin carving.

Grizzlies, Ghosts, and Goblins

Date: Oct. 19

Time: 4 p.m.-6 p.m.

Location: Grizzlies Stadium

Contact: Sarah Marten 320-2547

Free to Fresno Parks and Recreation children. Costumes, bobbing for apples, pumpkin relay, mummy wrap.

'Elizabethtown' doesn't know what it wants to be



Jacob Wiens

his father has died while visiting relatives in Kentucky. Being the older sibling, he packs up his things and heads to Elizabethtown to pick up his father's remains. On Drew's flight, he meets a quirky flight attendant (Kirsten Dunst) who helps him find his way, leading him through a journey of self-discovery.

This is where the film gets sloppy. It skips around from heartfelt moments of soul searching to romantic all night conversations, then back to the soul searching, and then...big surprise... BACK to the romance.

The problem with "Elizabethtown" is that it doesn't know what kind of movie it wants to be. Is it a chick-flick or a father-son outing? A romantic comedy or a coming of age drama? It felt as if it wanted to mesh all of these into one, but didn't quite work out as planned.

Bloom's first attempt as a modern day character, after such hits as "Lord of the Rings" and "Pirates of the Caribbean", is impressive. Bloom's face looks fresh out of a cartoon, full of wide-eyed expression and innocence. I can't imagine this movie with a different leading man, but maybe Bloom should have chosen his first modern day script more wisely.

When I think about the success of director Cameron Crowe's career, some staples of American pop culture come to mind.

I can't help but echo, "Show me the money," from "Jerry Maguire", or think about Kate Hudson singing along to Elton John in "Almost Famous". Crowe has managed to capture our hearts over and over again. Elizabethtown, Crowe's latest attempt at heart tugging, delivers with mediocre results.

Drew Baylor (Orlando Bloom) is a successful corporate executive for a leading shoe company. He is about to be the cause of the most expensive "fiasco" to ever hit the shoe industry. After he is fired from a job he spent eight years working night and day for, he finds out

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David Witte



100 ghouls at Hobb's Grove



Jacob Wiens

I must say that seeing your siblings run for their life from an ax-wielding maniac in the woods might seem like a terrifying experience. But at Hobb's Grove last weekend, it brought a smile to my face. There's nothing quite like hearing a blood curdling scream coming from your bratty little sister or brother.

Hobb's Grove returns to Sanger to terrify Valley residents this Halloween season. There's nothing comparable to Hobb's Grove around the Central Valley. With three separate areas of

haunting on over 36 acres of land, anything goes! Over 100 ghouls are out to terrorize your evening. Whether you purchase a ticket for a stroll through Zilo's Woods, a charming hayride into Shaddow's Keep, or take up house in Hobb's Backwood's Home you are sure to scream like the best of 'em.

Ongoing entertainment will fill the area for the month of October, with a stage for live bands, firepits for lounging around with your friends, and full concessions. The haunting starts at dark, but lines have always seem to grow longer closer to Halloween.

My advice is to get there early, buy a Combo ticket and enjoy all three areas. Start with the hayride. It will ease you into the scares and give you a few laughs, then move to the house for some chills. Finalize the evening with the walk through the woods. It is pretty darn scary. Save the best for last. I promise, it'll be worth it!

SOAD: band is avant-garde

continued from Page 13

inquiries in the history of recorded sound. Why do they always send the poor?

I was in the middle of the aisle when another security guard told me I had to go to my seat, which was in Texas. In mid-song, I ran up the stairs and all the around the arena like a moronic bat out of hell, cursing the SaveMart Center for all eternity. By the time I finally got to my seat, "Revenge" was spellbinding the crowd with its harmonious chorus and machine-gun percussions.

I had to take a moment to catch my breath; I hadn't run so much since I played basketball in high school ('99), and sports could never get me to sprint as fast as I did on this night.

Then System played a song off their self-titled debut called "Know," and I got my first glimpse of the mosh pit. Fortunately, three of the four pits in San Jose were larger than the single pit in the SaveMart Center, but than again, Mudvayne and Slipknot also graced the crowd that evening.

Fresno's pit was consistent though, and it remained about the same size during the entire set. I would've been right at home; I do not belong in the bleachers. The people unfortunate enough to be seated directly around me know that by now.

Lead singer Serj Tankian is a pretty weird human, but he's hilarious

and amazingly talented. That guy changes the tone of his voice during each song more often than Master P has stolen Tupac's lyrics during his career. Malakian has become much more of a vocal figure as the band has evolved. Limited to an infinitesimal background vocalist on their first album, he wrote and appeared vocally in all but one song on *Mezmerize*, their latest record.

The best term to describe System of a Down is avant-garde, meaning they're a group that's active in the invention and application of new techniques within a given field—especially music. They are not for the myopic, and they certainly are not for the government.

Entertainment Weekly named *Mezmerize/Hypnotize* the most anticipated album of 2005, and this used to be one of the most unorthodox bands that have ever existed. They're no longer that insanely weird little band they were on their first album; *Toxicity* officially turned them mainstream by selling six million copies.

I still consider Tool to be the best contemporary band on the planet; Slipknot's definitely the ideal band for a mosh pit. System of a Down, by spreading awareness of the Armenian genocide, their constant efforts to raise money for charity, incorrigible dedication to improving society and innovative music, have become the most important band on the face of the earth.

Tower: 'Power' full of artists

continued from Page 13

Sure enough, they did.

Adolfo Acosta came up to the microphone trucking his trumpet and hit the four most famous notes in Tower of Power history: the solo notes that open the song, "You're Still a young Man."

If it wasn't for the fear of being called a sissy by the large Mexican biker sitting next to me, I would have cried.

Throughout the song I belted out my off-key version of the song. I sounded horrible, but it's what I do in my car when I'm driving down the freeway anyway so I figured, "Why not?"

The band finished up and everyone cheered then filed out of the theater.

As I weaved through the mob back out to the parking lot, I wondered if 50 Cent could jam on the baritone sax like the Doc, or if Fat Joe could bring fans to their knees with a saxophone solo like Emilio Castillo, or if Mario could hit vocal notes as far right on the piano as L.B. or former lead singer Lenny Williams; the more I thought about it, the more I came to realize that there is a shortage of prominent artists in the music business today.

But before I jumped on my soap box, I paused just outside my car and was content with two realizations after walking away from the Paul Paul Theater that night: I'm still a young man and Tower of Power is definitely hip.

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