

Rams show late heroics against Butte Feb. 5

- page 8

Rampage

Fresno City College

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Represent FCC, join ASG

Student body will elect new officers

By Poua Her
Rampage reporter

Elections for Fresno City College's Associated Student Government will be held April 26 through 28.

Available positions include: president, vice president, president pro-tem, and others.

ASG is an organization that represents the student population in trustee meetings and school functions.

"ASG is the group that hears the student voice. They are the ones that represent the FCC student voices, [and] influence student life, health and safety, cultural activities, and issues



Fox

in dealing with academics," said Robert E. Fox, Dean of Student Services.

Serving in the student government is an unpaid job that requires its officials to put in time for administration meetings and various events.

Students interested in making a difference on campus are encouraged to campaign for positions that interest them.

In order to qualify, students must be enrolled in at least six units, hold a 2.0 GPA, and must have a valid Associated Student Body card. Applicants must also gather 150 registered FCC student signatures on a petition.

Registration forms will be available March 10th in the student lounge, and must be turned in by

See Elections, page 2

Peace Corps wants SCCCCD students

By Poua Her
Rampage reporter

The Peace Corps is looking for volunteers from community colleges. The federally funded organization, is looking for people to serve in other countries as representatives for the United States.

The Peace Corps was started in the early 1960's by President John F. Kennedy to challenge students at the University of Michigan to serve as goodwill ambassadors to developing countries.

Since then, the agency has grown to 7,000 volunteers in more

than 70 countries across the world, including Bolivia, Haiti, Mozambique, and Thailand.

Former Fresno City College Dean Joaquin Jimenez is a recruiter for the Peace Corps. In his early 20's, Jimenez spent two years abroad with the Peace Corps as a teacher in Venezuela.

Jimenez was a choir teacher, and even started and directed a summer camp for kids in his first year. He lived and learned with the people, working not only with the children, but also the parents.

See Peace, page 2

Division sees huge demand for computer knowledge

By Mona Lisa McCormick
Rampage reporter

The Business Division at Fresno City College has a goal to provide the best education in the business field and to prepare students for transfer and the workplace", said Business Division Associate Dean of Instruction, Marilyn Meyer, Ed. D.



Meyer

Upon coming to FCC, Meyer taught at Fresno State for eight years as computer programmer.

She then became an instructor for 7 years at FCC in the Computer In-

formation

Systems Department in the Business Division before in 2001 being appointed the Associate Dean of Instruction.

Meyer knows computers and she means business.

There are seven computer labs in the Business Education building alone.

"The division is fast-growing and there is just a huge demand for anything that has to do with computers", said Meyer.

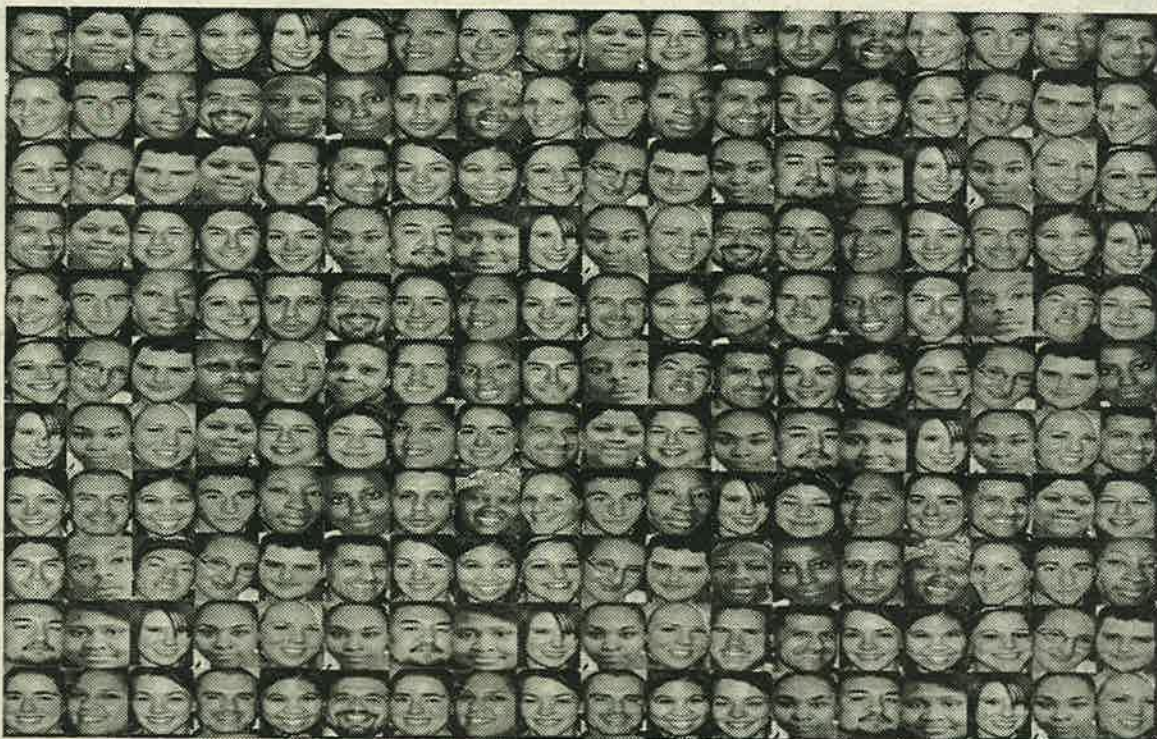
In 1992, FCC expanded and opened seven computer labs and classrooms in the Outreach Center at Manchester Mall for three main reasons.

One because "[the computer

See Division, page 2

"It is one thing to put that information out there and it is another thing to create prevention."

-FCC instructor Jean Kennedy



Photos by Sergio Cortes, Graphic by Daisy Rosas

A collage of Fresno City College students and faculty represents the equal risk everyone shares in contracting the HIV virus. According to the California Office of AIDS in July 2004 there were 550 HIV cases in Fresno County.

Who is at risk?

Fresno City College instructor believes that without awareness no one is safe from HIV

By Mona Lisa McCormick
Rampage reporter

The state of California has targeted the 93706 ZIP code in conjunction with The Good Citizens, Inc. to receive grant funds from the state for much needed help due to the high rate of HIV/AIDS cases in that area, according to the California State Office of AIDS and the Fresno County Health Department.

The Fresno County Health Department reported that African-Americans are among the fastest growing group carrying the HIV/AIDS virus.

Fresno City College instructor of Women's Studies, Jean Kennedy explained that her research confirmed the report across the board.



Kennedy

For the past year, Kennedy has done research on risk-taking behaviors. Kennedy will be presenting this information to defend her dissertation in May.

"My methodology for my research is a qualitative model using a questionnaire to gather information on risk-taking behaviors within the African-American community", said Kennedy.

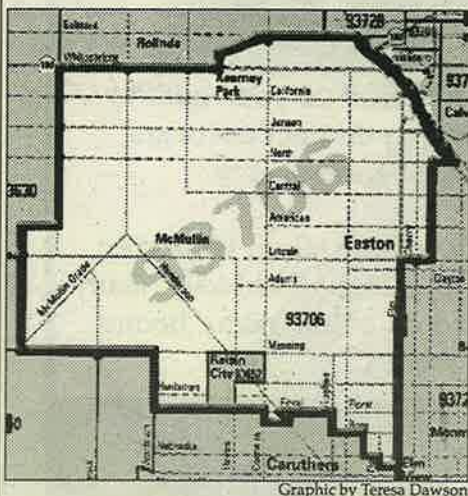
Kennedy is hoping the material from her research will be a useful tool for organizations locally, statewide and even nationally. She hopes this information will help the Center for Disease Control and Prevention to better interpret what constitutes risk-taking behaviors.

The CDC will process the research by Kennedy and then have a better understanding of the language and behavior of certain minority groups and cultures.

According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, black individuals accounted for 49 percent of total AIDS cases in the United States in 2001. And 58 percent of all AIDS cases were black women.

Kennedy's research shows that Hispanic and African-American women are increasing in the number of HIV/AIDS infections.

"I've looked at infor-



HIV/AIDS in Numbers

*In Fresno County the ZIP code 93706 is the most heavily infected area with the HIV/AIDS virus in Fresno County.(see map)

*In Fresno County 1,356 cases of AIDS were reported between February 1983 and October 2004.

*In Fresno County 574 cases of HIV were reported between July 2002 and October 2004.

*In Fresno County 750 death cases have been reported between February 1983 and October 2004.

*In California 52,716 people were reported as living with AIDS.

*In the United States in 2002 384,906 people were living with AIDS and 35,147 were newly infected with HIV and since 1981 501,669 people have died of AIDS.

*Around the world since 2003 5.79 million people have died of AIDS.

*Information provided by Fresno County Health Department

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Peace:

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Jimenez has fond memories of his time abroad with the Peace Corps, and speaks very highly of his time in Venezuela.

"We live in a very global world, and the Peace Corps is one of those ties; one of few the programs that this country has that is a very positive tie with other countries world wide," said Jimenez.

The Peace Corps is looking for people of all backgrounds and skills to teach health and HIV/AIDS awareness, educate the youth, help in community development, agriculture, business development, and information technology.

Jimenez has tips on how to be accepted into a country. "If you like the food or least try to understand the food, and understand and enjoy the music, and understand the idioms of the language, that country will probably accept you," he said.

To be in the Peace Corps, a volunteer must be at least 18 years of age and a United States citizen. Each service is 27 months long, with three months of extensive training and 24 months on the job in the country that the volunteer is selected for.

Volunteers are fully trained by the Peace Corps and undergo interviews just like any other job. Those who are interested can fill out an application found in the recruitment office or on the Peace Corps website.

Once selected, a volunteer is then nominated to a program meeting their skills, goes through a medical examination, and then is officially invited to serve as a Peace Corps volunteer.

"Life is calling," says the Peace Corps catalog. "How far will you go?"

For more information please contact Joaquin Jimenez at the Employment Resource Center on Tuesdays from 8-11:30a.m. and Wednesdays from 2-5p.m. You can also receive information on www.peacecorps.gov.

Elections:

Continued from page 1

April 8th.

Current ASG President Daniel Lorente stresses the time and dedication required in holding a position. Lorente spends anywhere between 15 to 20 hours a week at meetings and other functions. "You shouldn't be running just to be running. It's seeing problems and combating them," said Lorente.

"[ASG] represents unparalleled opportunities for [students] to develop skills," said Dean Fox. It's more than getting something on your resume."

"[ASG] helps develop leadership skills and helps to make campus changes," said former ASG Elections Commissioner, Rnie Garcia.

When elections are held on April 26th-28th, FCC students may vote for their candidates in the Campus Mall.

The voting booth is open from 8a.m. to 6p.m. during those dates.

If you'd like to find out more information, ASG holds meetings that are open to the public,

Division: Technology opens new doors for FCC students

Continued from page 1

classes] were impacted at FCC, we didn't have a lot of space to grow and computer classes were very popular," said Meyer.

"Second reason was at that particular point and time, there was a big welfare-to-work push and we worked very closely with Calworks.

"Third, we have a number of students who don't have their own private transportation and Manchester Center is a hub for the Fresno bus system," said Meyer.

The Business Division not only offers the programs and classes at FCC and Manchester Center but also has their own job placement program in the division.

"Suing up for Success" is a FCC store in Manchester Center specifically to help students in attaining proper attire for the interview process.

The paralegal program at FCC was named one of the Top 100 in the country.

"That is just a big honor," said Meyer.

"[To be named] Top 100 not only with the community colleges but also among law schools that run para legal

programs, we were quite pleased with that," said Meyer.

In 2002, the division put into place a program for students who are interested in the computer operating system, which is the MCSE, Microsoft Certified System Engineer.

"[The MCSE program] is an exciting program because MCSE professionals make good money and it can cost quite a bit to obtain classes in which FCC students can attend for the regular \$26 per unit. And it takes only a year for certification," said Meyer.

Having great programs is one thing and trying to keep up with today's changing technology is another.

"It is a constant challenge. Fortunately, [the business division staff] is very devoted and enthusiastic. [The staff] is constantly seeking for new knowledge to teach our students so that they have the edge they need for the advantage in the workplace," Meyer said.

"[We] are very proud of the Business Division. We have a number of outstanding programs and a very devoted faculty and we are dedicated in helping our students."



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Big Ballers

• FCC men's basketball team clinches CVC title and breaks school record.

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Room for rent

• Two Rampage writers debate whether or not dormitories are a good idea or not.

— See Views, page 9

Horoscopes

• See the David Witte in action.

— See Reviews, page 11



Photo by Daisy Rosas

Geoffrey Clayton cuts around Kimarley Williams during FCC's

Calendar of Events

February

- 18 3pm Pre-Physician Society Meeting S-160
- 18 Lincoln's Birthday- Campus Holiday
- 21 Washington's Birthday- Campus Holiday
- 23 10am Club Rush Main Fountain area
- 26 9am CalSACC Meeting Student Lounge
- 28 Last day to apply for Spring 2005 AA/AS certificate graduation

March

- 2 10am "Empowerment of Women" College Center
- 2 Rampage Issue 3
- 11 & 12 7:30pm "Something's Afoot" FCC Theatre
- 21-26 Spring Break



Rampage
Fresno City College

RAMPAGE

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

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Fresno City College

"Women Sustaining the American Spirit"

National Women's History Month 2005

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Tuesday, March 1
Women Rock!
 Panel Discussion
 12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m., Student Lounge

Wednesday, March 2
Speaker: Lakota Harden
"Empowering Yourself"
 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m., Student Lounge

Wednesday, March 2
Speaker: Ellen Gruenbaum
"How Will Female Genitalia Cutting Stop?"
 6:30 p.m., Student Lounge

Thursday, March 3
Eating Disorder Screening
 11 a.m. - 2 p.m., Student Lounge

Thursday, March 3
Film: "Naturally Native"
 4:00 p.m., SO-110

Tuesday, March 8
International Women's Day
Bazaar, Reggae Band & Food
 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., Free Speech Area

Tuesday, March 8
Film: "Vagina Monologues"
 4:00 p.m., SO - 110

Wednesday, March 9
Poet: Shelly Savren
 12 p.m. - 1 p.m., Art Space Gallery

Friday, March 11
Film: "Better Than Chocolate"
 6:30 p.m., SO - 110

Saturday & Sunday, March 12 & 13
Renaissance Festival
 10 a.m. - 6 p.m., West Lawn

Tuesday, March 15
Kids Day

Tuesday, March 15
"Women in the Prison System"
 2 p.m., HS- 160

Wednesday, March 16
 Come listen to the voices of
Copper Wimmin
 Acappella trio
 TBA

Friday, March 18
"Women in Non Traditional Careers"
 12 p.m., HS- 160

Monday, March 28
Women and HIV
 5:30 p.m., AH - 108

Thursday, March 31
Film: "Magdalena Sisters"
 4 p.m., SO -110

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Awareness: *not knowing can prove to be deadly*

Continued from page 1

mation around women in the high risk population right now and heterosexuals in particular, women of color, specifically, are rapidly becoming infected.

With heterosexual African-American women in the forefront, Hispanic women are right behind in numbers", Kennedy said.

Fresno City College student, Sharda Rasheed said, "Since I am African-American, it really makes me sad knowing that AIDS is hitting the African-American community the most. But we can't go around judging people just because they have AIDS. [We should all] use protection and don't do drugs".

Because of challenges with access to proper health care, prevention and treatment of AIDS, the disease seems to strike African-Americans more often, according to the CDC.

Kennedy's research showed that HIV/AIDS was impacting some groups more than others.

"I began to realize how devastating this virus is, not

only as a health issue, but as an economic issue", said Kennedy.

"Economic-wise, my philosophy is if you don't have a healthy work force then you don't really have healthy a healthy community that can build economically", Kennedy added.

"It is one thing to put that information out there and it is another thing to create the prevention.

There is no point in saying that down the street there is a problem but then you're not doing anything to prevent it", said Kennedy.

The Good Citizens Inc., a community-based organization located in the southwest Fresno 93706 ZIP code, consulted with Kennedy in creating The Brotha and Sista Project, made possible by a grant from the California State Office of AIDS.

The grant provides prevention and intervention services for HIV Positive African-American women, men and other individuals.

The Project focuses on areas of health and wellness, referral

and linkages, counseling services, skills building for safe behaviors, support groups and social events.

The FCC Black Faculty and Staff Association is also becoming involved with community outreach. The Good Citizens Inc. asked Kennedy to help with providing volunteer students.

FCC students are also aware of the seriousness of this disease.

"AIDS is no joke", said second semester construction and real estate student, Axel Cortez, "it is an important issue".

Dalvir Kehal commented that AIDS is dangerous, "Always take the precautions. Know how it is transferred", said the first semester International Student.

The FCC Health Center provides anonymous HIV testing for students.

"We are walking targets. We need to take responsibility and ask [your partner] questions and be proactive in your sexuality", Kennedy said.

For further information about

FCC Bookstore



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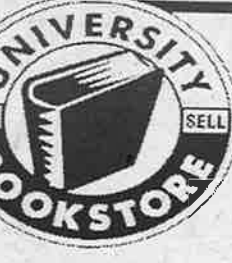
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Game of the Week

FCC Rams



VS.

West Hills
Falcons



Sport: Men's Basketball

When: Feb. 16, 7 p.m.

Where: West Hills College

Notes: The undefeated and first-ranked Rams travel to West Hills, the only other team in the conference with a winning record.

Dates & Info

Men's basketball

- Feb. 16, 7 p.m. @ West Hills
- Feb. 19, 7 p.m. @ COS
- Feb. 25 or 26, 1st Round State Tournament

Women's basketball

- Feb. 19, 6 p.m. @ Porterville
- Feb. 23, Regional Play-in
- TBA Playoffs 1st Round

Baseball

- Feb. 17, 6 p.m. vs. Chabot
- Feb. 18, 3 p.m. vs. Santa Rosa
- Feb. 19, 11 a.m. vs. Santa Rosa
- Feb. 19, 3 p.m. vs. Chabot
- Feb. 24, 12 p.m. vs. DeAnza
- Feb. 24, 7 p.m. vs. Hancock
- Feb. 25, 6 p.m. vs. Sierra
- Feb. 26, 6 p.m. vs. Ohlone

Softball

- Feb. 19-20, College of the Sequoias Tournament
- March 1, 1 p.m. vs. Taft (DH)

Men's tennis

- Feb. 19, 12 p.m. @ Foothill
- March 1, 2 p.m. @ Modesto

Women's tennis

- Feb. 18, 9 a.m. Double dual @ Modesto vs. Diablo Valley, DeAnza
- Feb. 22, 2 p.m. vs. Mission
- March 1, 2 p.m. @ Modesto

Men's golf

- Feb. 17, 12 p.m. vs. Monterey Peninsula College @ Carmel
- Feb. 18, 12 p.m. @ Hancock
- Feb. 24, 12 p.m. vs. Bakersfield
- March 1, 12:30 p.m. @ Gilroy

Track and field

- Feb. 18, vs. Sac City, Siskiyou, Lassen, American River @ Sacramento
- Feb. 26, vs. Hartnell, S.J Delta, Reedley

Finishing strong

FCC clinches conference title, pushes to 27-0

By Ryan McHenry
Rampage reporter

The Fresno City College men's basketball team clinched their third straight conference championship Feb. 12 at FCC with an 82-67 win over Porterville College. Modesto helped a little by defeating West Hills and putting FCC three games up with only two games remaining. Not only did the Rams win the conference championship, but they also extended their win streak to a school record 27 straight wins.

Jordan Farley led FCC in the win over Porterville, scoring 21 points and adding five rebounds. Defensively, Cedric Kalombo put his mark on the game, recording 6 blocked shots to go along with his 7 points and 2 rebounds.

With just two games to go in the regular season, the Rams explore uncharted waters as the team tries to close the season without a loss. The Rams strategy

throughout the season has been to wear teams out with fresh guys playing at an extremely high level of energy, leaving opponents flat-footed and tired.

When a team goes undefeated for this long it brings added pressure to the players to perform as teams try to end the streak.

"There is always going to be pressure playing under Walberg so we understand that pressure and feed off of it" said Geoffrey Clayton.

Clayton, a sophomore on this years team, played his final home game of the regular season Saturday night.

"I'm just happy we can come out and win one for the fans, we have played in gyms where there were only a few people, the fans come out here and support us so this win was for them," Clayton added.

The Rams, although they have

two games remaining, can't help but look ahead to the playoffs. What else do they have to prove, having won 27 games in a row in the regular season? There isn't much left to prove but continuing their own legacy and extending the school's record for most consecutive wins.

"Not many other teams match the energy we put out with our con-

ditioning and hard practices, so I am looking forward to the challenge of the playoffs," said Bubba Tolliver, one of the team's and conference's stingiest defenders.

The biggest question that remains to be answered is the question of whether or not this year's team has what it takes to win the state championship, which has eluded FCC in years past.

"The other FCC teams are great but we snapped the school record," said Reggie Butler. "What we are doing out there is beating teams that can't match our style of play. When we get to the playoffs that is going to be different, it will be the little things that will help us win state."

Head coach Vance Walberg is trying to play down the consecutive win record and keep the team fo-

See Men, page 8



Photo by Daisy Rosas

FCC's Jordan Farley hangs from the rim after dunking over Kimarley Williams (left) and Marvin Carraway (20) Feb. 12. FCC won 82-67, clinching the Central Valley Conference title.

13 Rams transfer to four-year colleges

By David Witte
Sports editor

Thirteen Fresno City College football players will play at four-year colleges next fall, including four at PAC-10 schools.

"Our goal in this program is to get 100 percent of our players on to four-year colleges," FCC coach Tony Caviglia said.

Palauni Ma Sun, Jr., and Pat So'oalo, both offensive linemen, have signed NCAA letters of intent Feb. 2 with Oregon, while running back Nate Wright and cornerback Aaron Miller signed with Oregon State.

Miller led FCC with six interceptions, two of which he ran back for touchdowns. Wright ran for 677 yards his sophomore year, falling

short of his freshman mark of 1452 yards his freshman year due to an injured ankle. He also received offers from Kentucky, Texas Tech, Marshall, Central Florida, and Mississippi State.

"I like the PAC-10, it's a good conference," Wright said. "I'll better myself if I play in the conference, playing against teams like USC and Cal."

Another offensive lineman, Kalavi Blanchard, will play at Kentucky, while defensive lineman Tolifili Liufau and linebacker Zach Diles will play at Utah. Wide receiver DeAngelo Ramsey will play at Idaho, and fellow receiver Joey Stein, who led the Rams in receptions, will head to Division II Humboldt State.

"I was playing D-III out of high school," Stein said. "To be able to come back and play in front of my family and friends, and then jump up to a D-II, it's really great."

Four players transferred at the semester break: safety James Brown to Kent State, defensive lineman Levi Ehnisz to Sacramento State, Selevasio Fauolo to Nevada, and center John Vervey to Idaho.

Fauolo was second on the team with 106 tackles, including eight for losses and two sacks. Brown totaled 73 tackles (42 assists) and three interceptions.

"It's all about getting these guys to four-year colleges," Caviglia said. "We're always going to win, but it's all about getting them moved on."

Barely above even

FCC women fall to 14-13 overall with an 83-67 loss to Reedley, giving Reedley a season sweep

By Ryan McHenry
Rampage reporter

Fresno City College women's basketball suffered its second defeat at the hands of Reedley College 83-67 at Fresno City College Feb. 12. The Rams' second straight loss left head coach Donnie Johnson disappointed at the team's play thus far with a 14-13 record and 6-5 in conference.

Johnson is looking for help from his key players to give him something positive to build on for next season.

The Rams started the season at the College of the Sequoias tournament, finishing second and looking forward to a prosperous season.

Unfortunately the roller-coaster ride has left coach Johnson with something more painful than a stiff neck: a disappointing season.

"I never imagined us being where we are right now," said Johnson. "My stomach is still upset from the Reedley game."

The disappointing season is partially because of the lack of players coming to FCC due to so many colleges in the area pulling from the same pool as FCC.

"We are getting younger players than we have in years past, and more coaches are pulling girls from our area," Johnson said. "Bakersfield, Modesto, Reedley, COS, are all schools that are watering down our talent coming in."

Johnson also placed some of the blame on a difficult schedule and the fact that FCC doesn't have a tournament they host to give girls more experience, as in the case of COS and Reedley.

"We have one of the top ten toughest schedules in the state

and it wears you out when you have a young team like ours" Johnson said.

Johnson used the analogy of the women's team this year being similar to a chair; "We have four key players: Brittney Nicolls, Breanna Perry, Verenique Warren and Sandra Garcia. They are all the legs, when one of the legs is broken then chair will fall."

Lucky for Johnson there are two freshman on the team in that nucleus of players.

Verenique Warren and

Breanna Perry are both expected to return next year for the Rams. Warren is one of the team's better defenders and will undoubtedly anchor the Rams defense next year.

"Verenique works hard at what she does, she wants to learn, and that is encouraging. I'd like to see her become more of a complete player," said Johnson.

The Rams travel to Porterville College Saturday, February 19th at 7pm to close out the season.



Photo by Daisy Rosas

FCC's Brittney Nicolls passes to Raffinee Edwards during a 71-58 victory over Porterville Jan. 26. The Rams have since fallen to 14-13.

Softball season starts off slow



Photo by Daisy Rosas

FCC's Sarah Montoy misses a pitch during the Rams' 5-1 loss vs. Sierra College at FCC Feb. 8. FCC is 2-4 on the season.

By David Witte
Sports editor

Fresno City College's softball team split its double header in Fremont Feb. 13, defeating College of the Redwoods 14-9 in nine innings before losing to Ohlone 4-0.

Pitcher Jennifer Spradling earned credit for both games.

Despite seven errors, the Rams outhit Redwoods 14-10. Marissa Salazar went 3-3, with two doubles and two runs, Jennifer Coronado and Joyce Lett added a triple and two runs each, and Sarah Montoy, Michelle Lee, and Veronica Guzman each went 2-4.

The Rams followed this perfor-

mance with a 4-0 loss to Ohlone despite committing only one error. Spradling ended the weekend with a 2-2 record.

The Rams split their double-header Feb. 12 at San Mateo, winning the first game 9-5 behind Spradling's effort on the mound and in the batter's box. Spradling went 2-3 in the game, along with Melanie Madrid, who hit a double, and Cindy Chavez, who had a triple.

San Mateo rebounded with 11 hits in the second game, leading to an 8-3 victory. Melanie Madrid hit FCC's first home run of the season, but the loss fell on Montoy's shoulders. The freshman pitcher is 0-2 this season.

With FCC's 5-1 and 9-6 home losses to Sierra Feb. 8, FCC is now 2-4.

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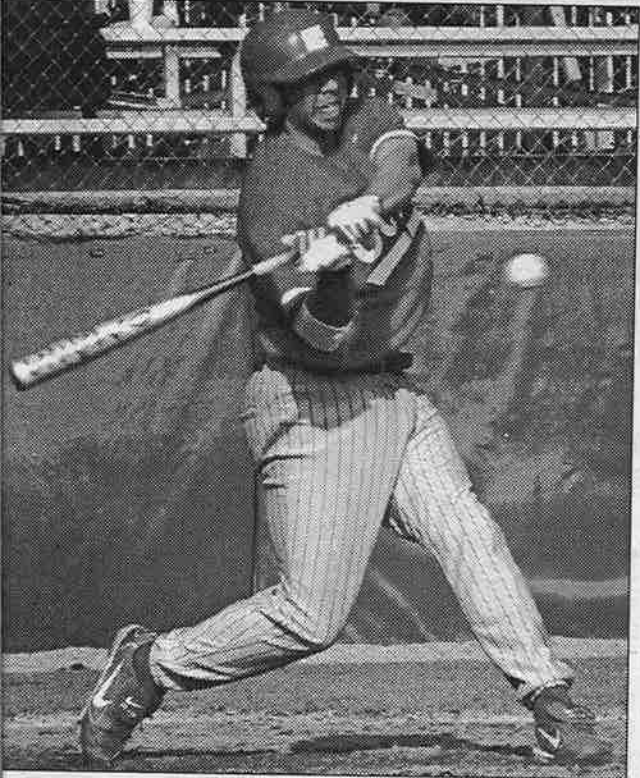
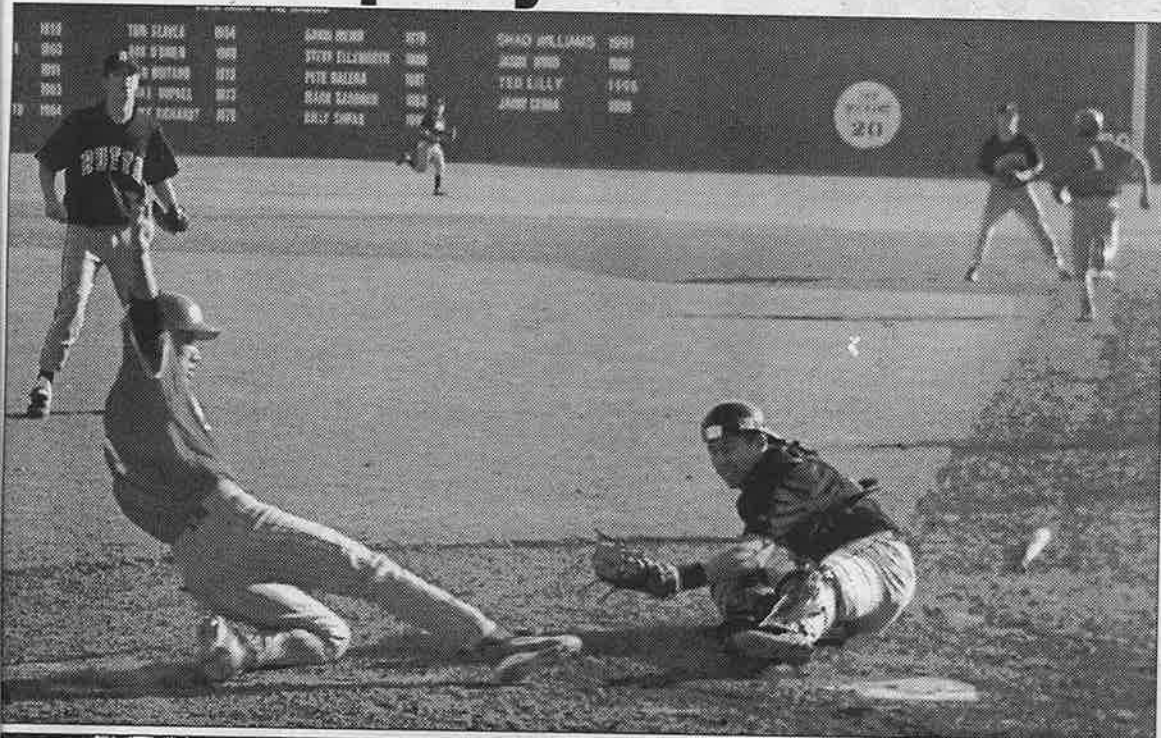
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Rams play small ball



Photos by Daisy Rosas
Above - Takuya Tsuda scores the winning run against Butte College Feb. 5 while Jason Sadoian (1) runs toward first base in the bottom of the ninth inning. Left - Adam Matchum swings at a pitch during the same game, which FCC won game 9-8, beating Cosumnes River 6-4, Shasta College 13-4, and Butte 9-8, the Rams hit the road for a three-game series at Sacramento. FCC lost the first two 10-3 and 5-0, but won the third 2-1.

Men: Walberg keeping the team focused on winning

Continued from page 6

cused by sticking with the basic fundamentals of the game. He has explained to the team the opportunity they have in playing for a great team like this one, reminding the team that most players in the state, or even the country do not have the opportunity to be a part of something as special as this.

"We know it in the back of our minds, but coach has us concentrating on the little things," said Butler.

Butler's explosiveness allowed him to score 16 points by way of 8 slam dunks in the game versus Merced College.

"We all talk about the record and how great it is to be undefeated outside of the basketball court, but when it comes time to play we have to focus on getting the win," Clayton said.

Trying to remain humble in spite of all the team's success is something that coach Walberg is trying

his best to instill inside his players' heads. Freshman guard Heath Colvin was unable to comment on the team's success due to teammate Geoffrey Clayton.

"We had to run lines last week because he [Clayton] said that it would take a division one team to beat us," Clayton said. "So he can't talk to you."

With the way this team is playing, Colvin may be right. FCC has not only won all their games but the team has an average winning margin of 29 points per game, and has scored at least 100 points in 19 of the 27 wins.

FCC, although it has won the conference championship, still has to beat a very good West Hills team that is second in the conference and a COS team that was severely short-handed due to injuries in their first match-up to remain unbeaten. Both games being on the road presents an even bigger challenge Feb. 16 at Coalinga, and Feb. 19 at Visalia.

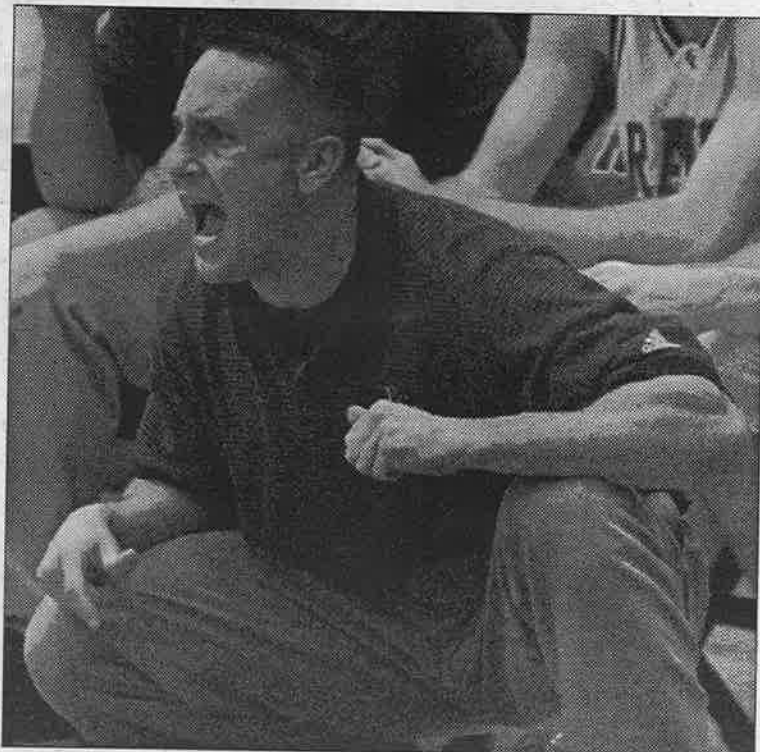
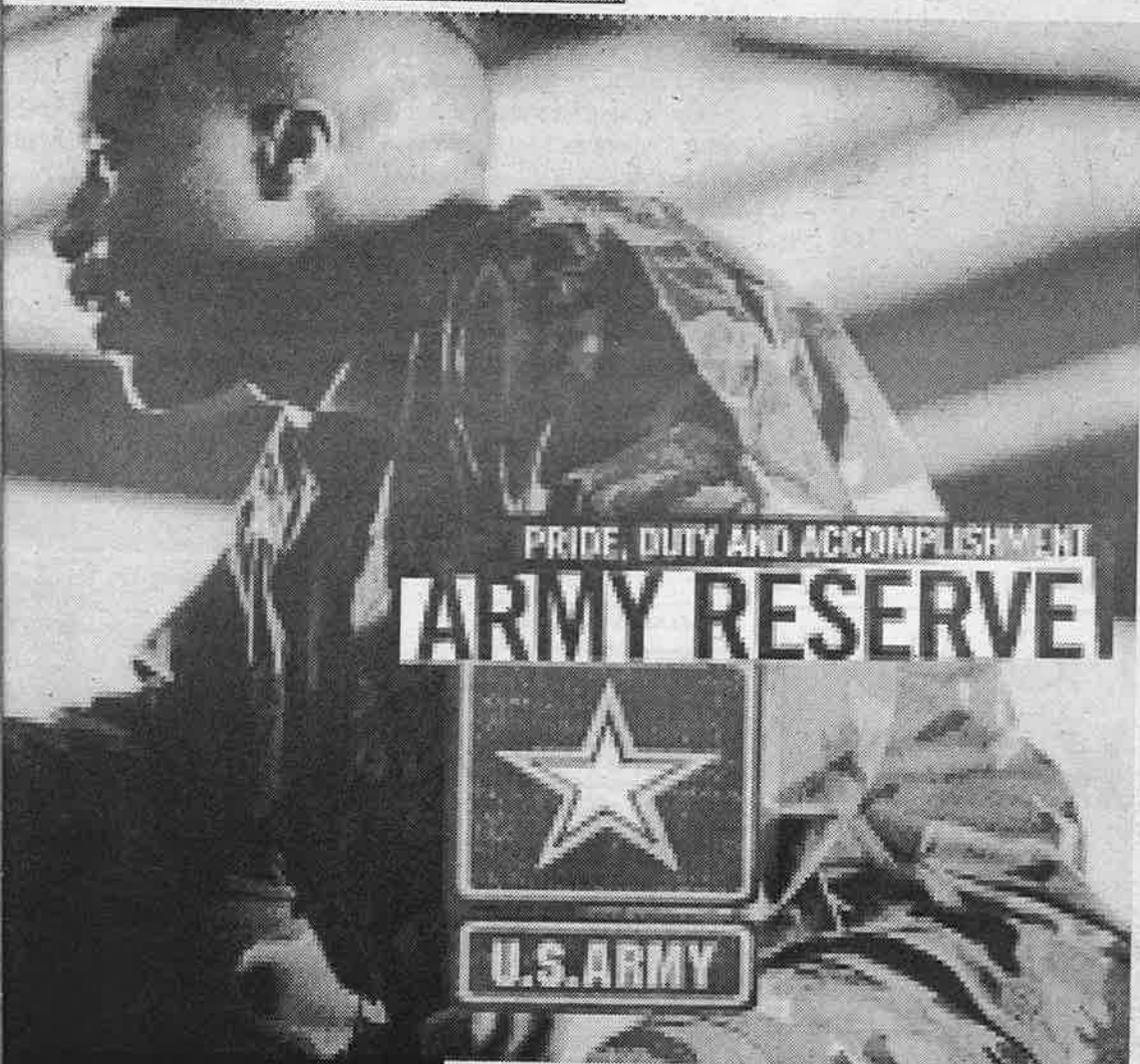


Photo by Daisy Rosas
Assistant coach Loren le Beau screams at his players during FCC's 82-67 victory over Porterville Feb. 12.



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R002

VIEWS

February 16, 2005

Dorm for rent?

*Good idea.
Students will take school
more seriously.*

*Bad idea.
FCC's dorms could turn
into something scary.*

What do Fresno State, College of the Sequoias and Reedley College have that Fresno City College does not?

Dormitories.

And, why not? Fresno City College should be able to have a McCormick Hall, okay well maybe not to be named after me, but dormitories would definitely be a big plus for FCC.

Remember the parking problem? That great monster of a problem? Dormitories would alleviate some of the parking problem because instead of finding a place to park, the students would just be able to walk to school, and that would count for some type of fitness right? Another plus.

But then for those of you late people, (okay, okay I'm included in that group), you can't use the excuse that you were late to class because you couldn't find parking.

Dormitory living is a great idea because for someone like myself, I drive at least 30 minutes to get to campus, not including foggy days, and that's one way. So if I lived in the dorms, I would definitely have extra time to study. The library and computer lab would just be a hop skip and a jump away. Or I could use that extra time to hang out or most likely, sleep.

If you look at dormitory living through a sociologists eyes, (thank you Ms. Vang), staying in a space where living quarters were shared with another student helps socializing skills, just hope that you don't get a devil worshiper in a cult for a roommate. You and your new roommate or even others in the dorms can hang out, eat together, go to games together, share beauty secrets, what-



Mona Lisa McCormick

You can't use the excuse that you were late to class because you couldn't find parking.

ever the case may be. But I can assure you that after a couple of weeks of dormitory living, you will be a social butterfly. You could never imagine that you knew so many people.

Generally, breakfast, lunch and dinner are included in the "staying in the dorms" package, another plus. Can you imagine not having to cook your own meals and still be able to dine with your friends from your dorm? By the way, I have eaten in the cafeteria and (no offense to

Yoshino's) but cafeteria food is way better than what I would cook.

FCC dorms could be used in the summer time for high school graduates in getting acquainted with college life by living with other students going through the same transition. There would be counselors and den mothers to help.

If FCC offered dormitories, I would definitely consider signing up to be a resident. So when one of my fellow students would ask me, "Where do you stay?" Instead of saying, "For right now, I am still staying with my parents." I would be able to say, "I'm staying in the dorms". Cool.

Dormitories at Fresno City College seem like a good idea until you reflect on the problems the college already faces.

Think of all the space that would be used to build dorms, when more parking lots could be installed. Think of all the money that would be spent, that could be used to remodel the dilapidating classrooms.

My point is, why add to the problem with unnecessary expenditures when the college could improve on things it already has. Not to mention the chaos it would cause to the aging residen-



All Sadoian

Are we going to assume that FCC students have enough money to pay for housing?

tial neighborhoods.

People that reside in the area wouldn't appreciate noisy, irresponsible college students moving in next door. Sure, I'm making a huge generalization about the students that would be living in the dorms, but on a Friday and Saturday night I'm sure the dorm residents won't be sitting on the couch, quietly watching the Golden Girls [unless you're me of course.]

Location also raises my eyebrow. Where would the dorms be placed? We all know there is so much empty land surrounding the college. What will be torn down to make room?

Maybe, the historical, old administration building? Forum Hall? The toxic science labs? Or even, [gasp] a parking lot!

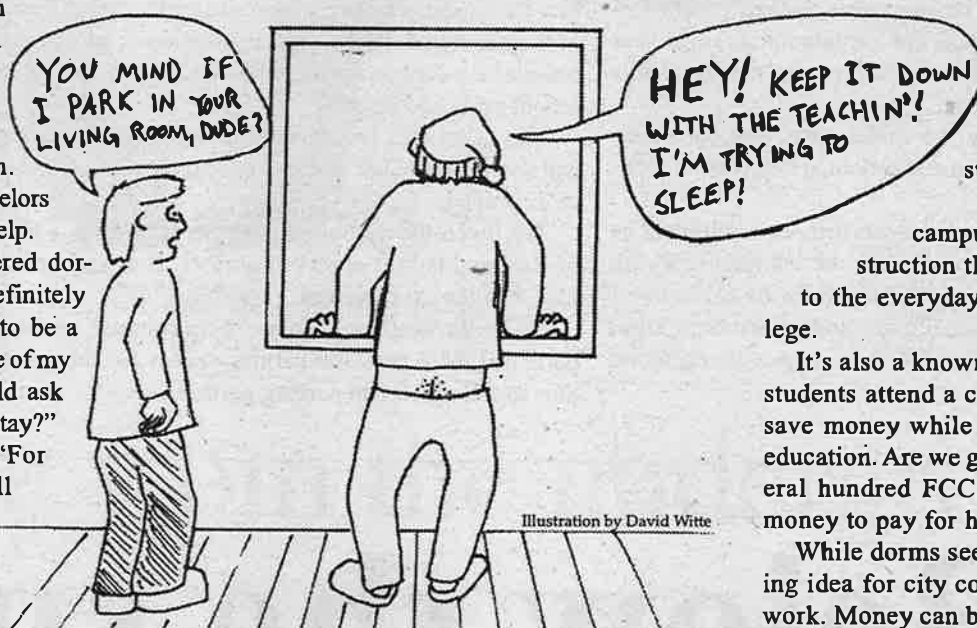
OK, maybe I'm being too dramatic, but really, where is there enough room to house several hundred FCC students on campus?

If dorms were placed on campus, think of all the construction that would be disruptive to the everyday movement of the college.

It's also a known fact that a reason why students attend a community college is to save money while getting a worthwhile education. Are we going to assume that several hundred FCC students have enough money to pay for housing?

While dorms seem like a fun and exciting idea for city college students, it won't work. Money can be spent on more important things.

IF FCC HAD DORMS...



Campus Voices

Does Fresno City College need dorm rooms?

By Sergio Cortes



Joey Viveros
English

"It wouldn't be a bad idea. Dorms work for full-time students."



Ry Wyche
Physics

"Dorms are good as long as they don't turn into the projects."



Jeremy Tuttle
Business

"The drop out rate is so high that all the people living in dorms could cause an administrative nightmare."



Ray Chin
Accounting

"The school should build more parking lots."



Dawn Doninick
Music

"Yes, for the people who can not afford to live in an apartment."



Jason Caplinger
Fire Tech.

"It doesn't really affect me. I live out of town."

Tranquil Tantrums

'Earned it at Fresno City College...'

...And you bet I'm proud of it.



Will Tranquilli

Ram-land's arms spread wide to welcome all who wish to me.

We, as loyal Ram-landers, aka Fresno City College students, want to accept all who come here as equals.

But, this column is aimed only at those students whose attachment to reality is more than theoretical. You know who you are. Self-awareness is not the strong suit for those who consider reality a "nice place to visit but wouldn't want to live there." We must leave them to their own devices.

The argument here offered can be verified through simple logic. Just think it through.

First point, the students' efforts here are recorded as academic credits on a transcript that will follow them like a stray dog throughout life. Those credits will say, "Earned at Fresno City College."

Those who will be reading those credits will have a mental picture of Ram-land which will determine how those credits are evaluated. If the school is recognized as the long-established, highly respected institution of higher learning that it is, those credits will be recognized as golden.

On the other hand, if FCC has a reputation as a two-year party school, how much respect can the credits command?

It's just common sense, we students carry on our shoulders the burden of protecting and enriching the school's reputation.

True, the administration also bears that responsibility. The excellence of the faculty and staff, the attention-drawing sports program (see Sports page 6), the wide diversity of courses offered, the physical plant and classrooms, right down to the elegant beauty of the campus landscaping provide convincing evidence.

The administration takes the school's reputation quite seriously. Again, it is just common sense.

However, as Voltaire observed, "Common sense is not so common." As proof of this, observe how casually trash is dropped where we walk or sit. Survey the proliferation of graffiti defacing Ram-land, our place of learning.

The impression is that too many students treat our campus like a bus stop they don't expect to ever see again. This is 'pass-through' mentality. It ought not to be displayed by those students who are intimately acquainted with the real world.

It's just common sense, we students carry on our shoulders the burden of protecting and enriching the school's reputation.'

"Pass-through" thinking is wrong, very wrong. Our academic records will forever note our time at Ram-land. Would we like it to be seen as a garbage dump? Not if we are on speaking terms with reality.

A little thought will quickly reveal this to be fact. It doesn't matter how long a student plans to be here, his presence will forever be recorded and reviewed.

Just take a moment to look at the quiet elegance of the campus layout, the superb magnificence of the landscaping. Few campuses anywhere, of any size are its equal. Once aware of the beauty of the physical environment, each trip to the campus is a visit to wonderland. It will also be a source of school pride and respect.

This being said, two concerns must be dealt with: parking and sports. There are stories from our first issue that beg to be examined.

The first is the continuing problem of parking. The beauty of Ramland is best observed on foot. But one can't go on foot until the car is parked.

Under the headline, "Lots of help coming" our story reports that there are 2300 parking spaces but the school admits to selling 10,000 parking permits.

Imagine if an airline sold 10,000 tickets for flights with only 2300 seats or a hotel booked 10,000 reservations for 2300 rooms. Heads would roll.

These figures mean, if you purchase a parking permit, you have 23 chances out of 100 of actually using that permit on any given day. 23 out of a hundred isn't a permit, it's a lottery parking on campus WITH A PAID PERMIT it's a crapshoot at best.

This is without figuring the number of metered spaces that could be used by non-permit holders. "Oh, but only about 2300 students attend classes at any given time," you say?

Would that be because 7,700 students can't find parking places?

Of course, as the Rampage reported, we can take heart in the fact that help is on the way — in the year 2009! What's taking it so long? It probably can't find a place to park.

The other issue we reported on is our sports program. Ram-land is nationally recognized to have the number one rated baseball team in the country. We also have the number one basketball team in the state — undefeated in (as of this writing) 25 straight games.

What they do to their opponents on the court would be crimes on the street, they are phenomenal.

At halftime, some bookmakers might be offering odds against the Rams' opponents not coming back for the second half.

A sports program this successful is another source of school pride.

It is interesting to note that the Fresno Bee's sports editor could be drafted by the State Department because said editor has proven capable of keeping secrets. The secrets in question are the successes of Ram-land's sports program.

On February 6, the Rams set a school record for consecutive wins — 25. Read the Bee's sports section and that fact is still a secret. Good luck in Washington, sports editor.

Despite the parking problems and the sports cover-up are minor blemishes on an otherwise splendid institution, Ram-land is an experience students can, and should, and MUST take pride in. When you see fellow student say, "Fresno City College? You bet! I've been there and I'm proud of it."

Below the surface

Forestiery Gardens are one of Fresno's forgotten treasures



Whitney Lafon

Large stone and cement steps lead ten feet underground to a massive and beautiful home that is carved out of Fresno's famous field stone.

It is so picturesque and old world, there is really nothing like it anywhere in Fresno.

Roman archways are guarded by old black iron gates, and a large banquet hall where you can easily picture a large wedding or party happening. The whole experience is incredible.

The Underground Gardens were created by a Sicilian immigrant named Baldasare Forestiere, who first came to Fresno to become a farmer.

When he dug into the soil and found field stone underneath, it made the land difficult if not impossible to cultivate. To escape the summer heat, Baldasare dug a cellar to sit in and cool off.

Each year, he dug out another room, and eventually he began to live completely underground in this full functioning house.

Over a span of 40 years, the space grew to 10,000 square feet.

This labyrinth of tunnels and architectural achievement features more than 50 rooms, and 100 patios, court yards, and grottoes, all lying beneath 10 Acres of land.

The massive skylights hold numerous plants and a fruit tree. One of the trees produces seven different kinds of fruit.

The Underground Gardens are one of Fresno's forgotten treasures. It is one of those things that we often hear about but we never actually go and see because we have taken it for granted for so long. I think that people look at it with the logic that if something was so wonderful they would have heard

about it and gone to it a long time ago.

There are so many interesting and fascinating things to do in Fresno. The Underground Gardens is definitely one of the most interesting things to do. I strongly recommend that everyone go and see them.

Information about Forestiere Underground Gardens can be found at 5201 W. Shaw Avenue or call 271-0734. Gardens are open for tours on the weekends.

Horoscopes

David Witte
(This space for rent)

No animals were harmed in the making of this column. Very much, anyway.



ARIES (March 21-April 19) A flock of pigeons will take over your living room, forcing you to watch the Golden Girls all day.



TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Johnny Cochran will come to your aid after you are accused of being the Wisconsin Nun-beater.



GEMINI (May 21-June 20) A tree will fall in a forest. The consequences will be debated for centuries.



CANCER (June 21-July 22) You will meet your estranged twin at a frat party, and proceed to steal his cheerleader girlfriend.



LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) You will discover that what you thought was your neighbor's dog crapping on your lawn is actually your neighbor.



VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Your test to join a Buddhist monastery in Tibet will hinge on the question, "What is the square root of 367,926?"



LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) Your three-day killing spree will be ended by 14 officers, three security guards, two custodians, and a squirrel.



SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Your pleas for those damn dirty apes to get their hands off you will fall on deaf ears.



SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Your week will be uneventful. Maybe even boring.



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Capricorn has been shut down, due to poor sales and a general lack of interest.



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) You will thwart your tapeworm's quest to rule the world when you put too much hot sauce on your burrito.



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) Pisces is tired of telling you how your week will go, and just wishes you would go away.

Tribute to Hollywood

Community concert band wows packed FCC theatre



Poua Her

The Fresno Community Concert Band performed on February 4, in the FCC Theatre. The concert was a sold out event as people arrived at the last minute and searched for a seat among the crowd.

People of all ages were in attendance as the Community Concert Band prepared to treat the audience to a night of entertaining music. The room filled the lights dimmed, and the performance begun.

The theme for the night was "Hooray for Hollywood," with music from many movies including: 'Harry Potter', 'The Lord of the Rings' - The Fellowship of the Ring, 'Pirates of the Caribbean', and many others.

The Fresno Community Concert Band was excellent. They played music that audience members of all ages responded to. You didn't have to be a connoisseur to enjoy the music played by the band. They played very well and everyone enjoyed it.

The music was unexpectedly lively and you could picture the



Photo by Ashli Moore

Jack Begley (front) and Dan Osamura (center) follow the conductor as they perform one of their pieces of music for the crowd Feb. 4. With the theme of "Hooray for Hollywood," the Fresno Community Concert Band played music from various motion pictures.

movies playing out in your mind as the music played. It was a great show for both the very young and the old. The audience was even treated to an explanation about the game Quidditch, from a young Harry Potter fan, who seemed insulted that the conductor didn't know how the game worked.

It was very different from the Fresno Philharmonic concerts. This group had personality and it showed through the music that it chose to play that night.

The band itself was diverse in its age group, from one young lady with black and red hair to the grey haired music veterans.

Among the band members was Wendy Begley. Begley is a 20 year-old trumpet player who has been with the concert band for two years. Many past and present music teachers, students, and other music lovers filled out the rest of the concert band.

"We sell out every concert," said conductor Robert Nielson. "We can't do it with just one show." Some concertgoers I sat around echoed the statement.

David Harper, a retired teacher from Selma, has been to the concert six times now and enjoyed each one.

"People should be here, fighting tooth and nail to get here," said Harper. Harper wants a larger venue so more people have the chance to enjoy the show.

As the evening closed and the audience dispersed out to their cars, audience members couldn't stop talking about what a great show they had just seen. This group of performers played well beyond their years. Instead of "Hooray for Hollywood," it should be hooray for the Fresno Community Concert Band for a great performance.

The next Fresno Community Concert Band performance will be held Friday, April 8, at 7:30pm in the FCC Theatre. The theme for that show will be "Musical Picture." Anyone wanting information about concert dates and tickets can contact the Fresno Community Concert Band at: www.fresnoccb.org.

Straight from the underground

FCC student displays his lyrical creativity on solo debut



Quinn Robinson

Lost Art.
Optimus Prime.

Either way you say it, FCC student Lejon Brooks is making his presence felt in the world of underground hip-hop.

The 25-year-old English major has been in underground groups such as Neighborhood Watch and Legion of Prophets and has just released his first solo album titled 'Metamorphosis Act.'

"This is my first solo CD," said Brooks.

"It got to the point where I got tired of people saying 'this is how

you should do this' 'this is how you should rhyme'. I have no problem with taking suggestions. When you get to the point where you can't express yourself in your own way, that's when it's time to try something new."

Brooks fell in love with music early in his childhood. Listening to underground hip-hop, classical jazz and gospel music, Brooks began to beat box at the age of seven.

When he first got involved in the hip-hop underground, he went by the stage name of Lost Art. Brooks said the reason why he chose that name was he felt beat boxing was the lost art of hip-hop.

It wasn't until four years ago that Brooks tried his hand at writing rhymes also. He has since dumped the stage name of Lost Art and took on a new identity as Optimus Prime.

Brooks' CD 'Metamorphosis Act' revisits the classic beats from the '80s

and '90s while delivering relevant messages in their lyrics that relate to today's world.

"Everything that ex-humes from the mouths of mainstream artists is garbage," said Brooks.

There's no intelligence behind their lyrics and there's no message behind the lyrics. The messages in my songs are more abstract than anything, but there are also some political messages and messages about struggles in everyday life."

In the future Brooks hopes that his skills in the underground will take him around the world.

"I'd like to travel," said Brooks. "I'd really like to do hip-hop in Japan and Europe."

See Hip-hop, page 12

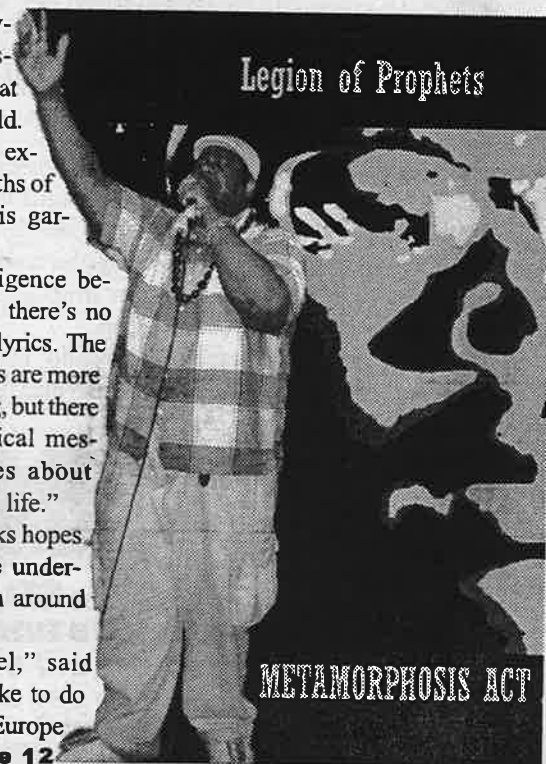


Illustration by Teresa Dawson

Sockundary Edukation

by David Witte



Collective Soul discovers its 'Youth'

Rock band returns from hiatus to release seventh CD



Christine Haeussling

After a three-year hiatus Collective Soul is back with their seventh album 'Youth':

"Youth is a mindset, not a number!" said lead singer of Collective Soul Ed Roland.

All songs on the CD spread this idea. They're great cruising music, especially for the spring. Full of Yeah-life-is-good-feeling they get you in a good mood when you're in a bad one and make your mood even better when you're already happy. Especially 'Better Now' with the chorus

"I'm feeling better now."

The songs on 'Youth' are very smooth yet not too slow and still really comforting. Listening to 'Feels Like (It Feels Alright)' reminds me of the big party at the end of the movie 'Dazed And Confused', many people, everyone is content and just having a great time.

Other favorites are the heartfelt and hooky ballad 'How Do You Love' as well as the atmospheric, rich mid-tempo rocker 'Perfect To Stay'. 'Under Heaven's Skies' explodes from its genial verses into a ferociously raucous chorus and is a song to hear over and over again.

A bonus to the CD is the detailed booklet with all the song texts and some good pictures of the guys, one big eye candy.

Collective Soul will be playing in California with stops in Ventura Feb. 18, Anaheim Feb. 19, San Diego Feb. 20 and



Collective Soul (left to right) Shane Evans, Will Turpin, Ed Roland, Joel Kosche and Dean Roland are back again to release their seventh album titled 'Youth'. The group is touring the country right now and will perform in cities across California starting on Feb. 18 and ending on Feb. 23.

in San Francisco on the 23. If you're somewhere near these cities, don't miss them!

"I want people to feel the good energy, the good place that we are in," said Roland's brother and fellow band mem-

ber Dean about 'Youth'. "I think that a lot of these songs represent that."

If you want to know more about Collective Soul and their tour dates check out their homepage: www.collectivesoul.com.

Hip-hop: Artist looks to travel

Continued from page 12

and just see the rest of the world. I'm just going to keep doing what I love. This is something I've been doing for years. I grew up on the love of the art of [music], it's unfortunate that underground isn't getting the

'Metamorphosis Act' is a great CD from beginning to end. The way the lyrics and rhythms of the tracks flow together is something that mainstream artists and record labels are missing.

Hopefully they'll catch on one day. If not, then the rest of the world



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