



Better Safe than Sorry

Buddy Check demonstration visits FCC

by Carly Hubbell

Rampage Reporter

It's the dark cloud looming over every woman's head. It's the threat of despair, suffering, and anguish. It's breast cancer.

October is Breast Cancer Awareness month, and Fresno City College marked this event with speeches by influential speakers such as NBC's news correspondent Stephanie Baroojian and two representatives from the Susan G. Komen Foundation on October 5.

Representatives of the Susan G. Komen Foundation, Melissa Knight and Sharon Johnson, gave advice on breast self-exams, clinical visits, and insisted that every woman should make awareness of breast cancer their primary goal in life.

"Breast cancer used to be a taboo subject among women," says Baroojian, "But now we can talk about it a lot. I remember doing a story of a woman seven years ago who was really embarrassed to talk about what she was going through, but now it's much easier to get out in the open."

Breast Cancer now causes more deaths for women than any other cancer. According to the American Cancer Society web site, 13.2 percent of women born today will be diagnosed with breast cancer at some point

in their lives. Though the death rates are currently declining due to better treatment and earlier detection, in 2006, about 40,970 women and 460 men will die from breast cancer in the United States.



Demonstrations on self breast exam techniques were on display in the Student Lounge Oct. 5.

It can be treated, but the key is early detection. Many women feel that if they're not over the age of forty, breast cancer

detection isn't important, but the reality is it can affect a woman as young as nineteen. A video about a girl named Denise Garza, who tragically died at the age of twenty-four after going through a five-year battle with cancer as

age is vulnerable," said Baroojian.

The speakers advocated steps to help women detect breast cancer early, including participating in the Buddy Check system which Stephanie Baroojian and NBC support. The Buddy Check system relies on friends reminding women in their lives of the need to do a monthly breast exam. On the 24th of every month, (KSEE 24), women are encouraged to call their buddy which can be any woman, a friend, family member, or casual acquaintance, and remind them to do their monthly self-breast exam. This program has been going on for eleven years and is still going strong, reminding women that self checks are extremely important.

The women of the Susan G. Komen Foundation are also strong supporters of this system.

The foundation was built upon a promise of two sisters, Susan and Nancy Komen after Susan was diagnosed with breast cancer in 1978. This was before breast cancer became the big issue it is today. Sadly, Susan died, but not in vain. She got her sister to promise to spread awareness of this cancer and to someday find a cure. Nancy followed through by organizing the Susan G. Komen foundation and turning it into a global leader in the fight against breast cancer. The organization is known as a leader in promoting community outreach programs, breast screenings, and research in breast cancer treatment. So far, the program has advanced over a hundred and sixty million dollars in grant money across the United States to inform and to lend support to all going through or those at risk for breast cancer.

Knight and Johnson funded a grant that supplied numerous books and materials to the Fresno City College library to help students better understand breast cancer and how to detect it. Also in the library is a life-size diagram of a woman's chest, with one breast having nine lumps in it and the other perfectly fine. It's up to each woman to detect cancer in their own breasts through regular exams.

See Buddy Check pg. 6

FCC link in Dateline's Predator sting

by Maylin Tu

Rampage Reporter

Fresno City College employee Fernando Bernal, 33, was arrested on August 26th in Petaluma, California.

He was charged with attempted lewd or lascivious acts involving a child and burglary (entry with intent to commit a felony). If convicted, he could face anywhere from 18 months to 10 years in prison.

Sonoma County records indicate that Bernal has been released on bail.

Bernal was arrested as part of a sting operation organized by the Petaluma Police Department in cooperation with the group Perverted Justice, which bills itself as "The largest and best anti-predator organization online." The sting was also taped as part of NBC Dateline's special "To Catch a Predator."

Bernal worked as a Micro-computer Resource Technician in the Learning Resource Center. According to the Fresno Bee, he has been on paid administrative leave from the college since his arrest.

Fresno City College and SCCC administrators declined to comment on the case.

Bernal graduated from FCC in May of 1998 with an AS degree in Information Systems. He subsequently graduated from Fresno State in 2002 with his BS. At the time of his arrest, he had been working at FCC in some capacity—first as a student lab assistant in 1996—for ten years.

As a student, Bernal participated in an impressive array of extracurricular activities. He served as president of Club Azteca in fall '97 and spring '98. He was also a member of the Alpha Gamma Sigma Honor Society, a volunteer at the Poverello House, and an N.H.S.F scholarship recipient.

CIT instructor Roberta Baber had Bernal in one of her classes 10 years ago. She remembers him as a "neat kid":

"He was a really nice, quiet young man—very competent . . . very intelligent but didn't flaunt it."

After seeing him at the start of the school year, she was surprised to learn from her son that he had been arrested.

"I would have sworn he was one those people who wouldn't do that . . . he was a cool guy, always very respectful, always very friendly."

According to FCC psychology instructor Dr. Michael Schuller, this kind of disconnect between someone's public life and their private obsession is not uncommon:

"A person can be a politician, a banker, a bum, a congressman . . . and you can't tell. There's no way of knowing."

Bernal chatted using the screen name "a_latino_man559."

Upon initiating contact with a decoy from the group Perverted Justice, he quickly turned the conversation to sex, telling her within ten minutes, "I'm bored and horny."

Only problem—the de-

coy made it very clear she was a 13-year-old girl.

Subsequently, he asked her what she was wearing, if she was a virgin, and if she had ever

SEE BERNAL PG. 4



Photo by Robin Vallentyne

Next Issue: FCC "A Raisin in the Sun"

Stop the Hate

by Ife-Chudeni Oputa
Rampage Reporter

Fresno City College observed “Stop the Hate Week – Building a Culture of Peace” from October 2 through October 6.

Though similar programs are observed around the nation, Fresno’s “Stop the Hate” tradition has a local motivation. Sudarshan Kapoor organized the first “Stop the Hate” week in 1997, after the brutal beating of a Fresno State student. The racially motivated beating of Malcolm Boyd, an African-American, by a white supremacist gang member struck a chord throughout Fresno, and nine years later the community is still rallying together to stop hate.

“Stop the Hate” originated on the Fresno State campus, but in 2000 Fresno Pacific University and Fresno City College also became involved. FCC continued with that tradition last Monday. The goal of “Stop the Hate” week is to be aware and active against hate crimes. “Hate crimes can be a crime against property, can be a crime against person ... but hate crimes are motivated by hate, and not just hate of a person, hate of a whole group of people,” said FCC faculty Gerry Bill at the forum last Monday.

In recognition of “Stop the Hate” week, a “Forum on Hate Crime” was held on October 2, in the Student Lounge, from noon to 1 p.m. The panel consisted of a diverse group of Fresno City College faculty, including: Kehinde Solwazi, Gerry Bill, John Cho, Todd Martinez and Forouz Radnejad.

Panelists gave opening statements, and then the audience was given the opportunity to ask questions and make comments. “I think it is everyone’s responsibility to sit and look inwards and see what our biases are,” said Radnejad.

Like the panel, the audi-

ence was made up of a diverse group of students and faculty. Some students were expressed discouragement, saying it was pointless to try and change people who were set in their ways. Todd Martinez shared the philosophy he subscribes to, “Pessimism of the intellect, optimism of the will,” said Martinez. He empathized with the students who’d lost hope, but said that though it seems hopeless, people can’t stop trying.

The other panelists adopted similar attitudes. “If there’s injustice going on here in our own land, it’s up to us to do something about it,” said Bill, “If there are hate crimes going on in your community and you don’t say anything, you’re giving your consent.”

As much progress as the United States has seen, it still suffers from hate crimes. “In fact, there was a huge increase in hate crimes in 2001,” said Bill, “Actually, a 1600% increase.” With national issues such as the September 11th attacks and new immigration reforms, hate motivated crimes have increased against specific groups.

Unfortunately, hate crimes are happening even within the Fresno City College community. “It’s a serious moment on this campus because we’re dealing with hate crimes on this campus,” said Solwazi. Though details were not given, panelist Gerry Bill shared that a hate crime occurred on the FCC campus near the time of this year’s 9/11 commemoration. “Our campus is not immune to this sort of thing,” said Bill.

Martinez offered advice for everyone in the effort to stop the hate, “We have to look inward to understand in what ways we could be contributing to an environment of hate,” he said, “We really have to challenge what we’re thinking to get to ... acceptance.”

Ram page

Fresno City College



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

Editor in chief: Matthew T. Mendez
News Editor: Matthew T. Mendez
Sports Editor: Quinn Robinson
Views Editor: David Witte
Reviews Editor: David Witte
Photo Editor: Robin Vallentyne
Business Manager: Leah Edwards
Adviser: Dympna Ugwu-Oju

Newsroom: (559) 442-8263
Business: (559) 442-8262
Fax: (559) 265-5783
E-mail:
Editor In Chief:
rampage-editor@fresnocitycollege.edu
lowercasejenkins@hotmail.com

Rampage business Office:
rampage-business@fresnocitycollege.edu

Advisor:
dympna.ugwu-oju@fresnocitycollege.edu

Reporters

Matthew T. Mendez, Leah Edwards, Joseph Rios, Quinn Robinson, David Witte, Eric Valdez, Christian Beltran, DC Leavy, Chelsea Bieker, Carly Hubbell, Efren Marquez, Johanna Tanori, Brian Noonan, Buen Moua, Ana Zavala, Ife-Chudeni Oputa, Maylin Tu, and Michael Williams

Rampage is an award-winning newspaper published biweekly by the Fresno City College Journalism 4 & 5 program and is a member of Journalism Association of Community Colleges. Views expressed in The Rampage are those of the individual writers and do not necessarily reflect those of Fresno City College, its students, administration or the State Center Community College District.

Photography/ Graphics

Robin Vallentyne, Michael Behlen, David Witte, Matthew T. Mendez

Letters to the editor and submissions to the calendar will be accepted via e-mail or in person 12 noon - 1 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday, at The Rampage, Room SC-211, above the bookstore. Please keep all letters to a maximum of 500 words along with contact information.

Old Administration Building Tours: October 16th
8am-5pm @ 30 minute intervals

Classified ads

Fall 2007 Applications Workshops

All workshops will be held in Media Building/Library Li-142

California State University	University of California
October: 11 th 5:30-7 pm	October: 11 th 10-11:30am
November: 9, 21	October: 19 th 2-3:30pm
	November: 6 th 1-1:50pm **
**Writing the Personal Statement	November: 8, 14, 29

November information to follow in upcoming issue of the Rampage.
Please call to reserve a seat at the Transfer Center Student Services Bldg., 2nd Floor or call (559) 442-8290

Growing Real Estate company in Clovis seeking part time receptionist. Must have knowledge of Microsoft Powerpoint, Excel, Word. Must be customer service and detail oriented, organized, self-directed, reliable, and able to multi-task

Hours: Monday-Friday 9am-1pm
You may email OR fax resume to Bratton Homes, 559-325-5738, admin@brattonhomes.com

FALL WORK NOW

\$12.25 base-appt., FT/PT, flexible schedules, no exp nec, customer sales/service, ages 18+, cond. apply, 222-7527
www.workforstudents.com

Rooms 4 Rent

Large Home
5 Rooms to Rent
With full access to Game Room, Library, Office, Weight lifting Room, Dinning Room, Fireplace, and Large backyard with pool and barbecue.
\$450 + utilities per room
Contact: (559) 276-3663 or (559) 665-5531 Ext. 6530



Always on. Always fast.

CVIP Broadband
FREE modem / rates starting at \$29.95*
*Per month, with a 12 month commitment.

Connecting you to your community.

All Hail Holland, Business and Law

By Leah Edwards
Rampage Reporter

Are you one of many students struggling to decide on a major? It can be overwhelming.

If you are one of those students, you might consider a degree in business or law. If so, Nancy Holland is an instructor you need to meet.

“If you’re going to be in business, you have to know the laws. Most lawsuits can be prevented in the owner, manager or supervisor has knowledge of the laws and simply applies them,” said Holland “I teach preventative law and try to give my students the necessary tools they’ll need for not only locating laws but applying them to real situations.”

Holland is no stranger to the business world. She began her first business, teaching guitar lessons while still in high school and by the time she began college she had built up her business to over 35 students.

This was but the first of the successful entrepreneurial ventures Holland has been involved in. She said that anyone could succeed if they are willing to put out the effort and work hard for what they want.

It is patience, dedication and determination that lead to the greatest triumphs in life.

“I tried to get my foot in the door for six years,” Holland said of her position with Fresno City College, “and after much persistence, I finally landed a fantastic job working with wonderful people.”

The same was true regarding her son. Holland and her husband Randy had tried for several years, and discovered on a trip to the doctor for what she believed to be the worst ‘flu’ she’d ever had, that she was in fact pregnant. Their son Michael is now four.

Now, Holland has a found the balance of a wonderful career and family. It isn’t always easy to juggle work responsibilities and home obligations. “Juggle is the

operative word,” said Holland, but the end result is a rewarding fulfilled life.

Holland teaches Business classes as well as holding the title of Business Administration/Marketing Department Chair.

“I make sure my Department stays on track,” said Holland. But the thing that brings Holland the most satisfaction in her job said Holland, “Teaching and working with the students.”

It seems her student’s feel the same, “Mrs. Holland is a great teacher,” said Kristi Gies, FCC, BA 18 student. “I like her because she just tells it like it is,” added fellow student Yevonda Swint. Business Law isn’t an easy class, but Holland does her best to introduce students to the world of law in inventive ways.

“I offer my students hands-on experiences. Along with mock trials, I take my students to the Court of Appeal, Fifth District in Fresno,” said Holland. “I am also working with my colleague,

Robert Schamalle on going to the California Supreme Court.”

Holland’s BA 18 class recently toured the Court of Appeal, Fifth District here in Fresno. “I would like to publicly thank Leisa Biggers, Julie Bagoye for setting up the tour, and the Honorable James Ardaiz, P.J. for giving his time to our students,” said Holland.

The students got a chance to tour the courthouse and spend time with Justice Ardaiz, as he explained the Appellate process and the types of arguments they hear. It was an informative trip,” said Yevonda Swint, FCC BA 18 student, “learning about the various levels of the courts and how they function.”

“The best part of the trip is getting to see the court in action,” said Holland “It was fascinating to listen to both sides of the case being presented.”

Holland’s mock trials give the students the opportunity choose a particular side of a case and gain first hand experience in their own ‘court of law.’

The upcoming mock trial, Holland’s ninth here at FCC will be Massachusetts v. Environmental Protection Agency. “It’s going to be a real gas,” said Holland.



Photos courtesy of Nancy Holland



Nancy Holland's BA18 class visits Court of Appeal, Fifth District in Fresno

Q&A

Q: What’s your favorite food?

A: Mexican

Q: What’s your favorite color?

A: Blue

Q: What’s your favorite type of music?

A: Classical / Jazz

Q: What’s your favorite past-time?

A: Listening to Rush Limbaugh

Q: What’s your favorite book?

A: The Velveteen Rabbit

Q: What’s your favorite saying?

A: “The details of your incompetency are of no concern to me.”

We Got No Milk??

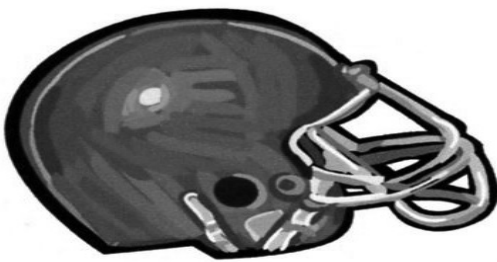
Rampage Reporters Ana Zavala and Maylin Tu represent the Rampage in The 2006 Big Fresno Fair’s Media Goat Milking Contest



Photos by Maylin Tu



FCC Rampage enters Fresno Fair Media ‘Goat milking’ contest and the outcome was nill



FCC HOMECOMING SALE

20% OFF APPAREL OCT 16TH-OCT 21ST

@
YOUR FCC BOOKSTORE



GO RAMS!!!

Bernal: Claims he wouldn't have followed through

continued from Page 1

seen a naked man. He also sent her live web cam pictures of his genitals.

According to Perverted Justice's founder Xavier Von Erck, Bernal seemed very comfortable with the sexually graphic nature of his online chat with what he thought was an underage girl.

"This guy had no fear . . . he just jumped right into the conversation."

During the course of the conversation, according to the chat transcripts, Bernal talked about teaching her different sex acts.

He even told her: "I'll be the best sex you will ever have."

Schuller says that for men who pursue young girls, the attraction is often based on the illusion of power and control:

"They're afraid of adult women—they still feel inferior, awkward . . . but if it's a younger person, they feel like a man."

For a man with this fixation, while an adult woman might judge him, with an inexperienced girl, "[he] can feel powerful."

This applies even more so if the girl has never had sex.

"[They think] if she's a virgin she can't judge me at all . . . they feel even safer."

Von Erck points out that where an adult woman might say no, these men believe that a young girl doesn't know any better.

"[They think that] a thirteen year old is impressionable and you can get them to do anything you want."

He says that 60% of the time, online predators will ask the girl: "Will you try anal?"

Schuller says that for the majority of sexual predators, the impulse becomes an addiction:

"Most of them don't want to do it—the shame, the guilt, their career . . . They're not proud of what they do . . . They're conflicted inside."

Add to that addiction the seeming anonymity of the internet, and you have a highly toxic combination.

"The privacy of your own room . . . you can just get into your wildest fantasies," says Schuller.

And although people might say or do things online they wouldn't say or do in real life, in the case of Bernal and the other men arrested during the sting, they did more than just talk.

As psychology instructor Dr. Mary-Anne Valentino-Singer states, "To go from fantasy to behavior is a huge line that one crosses."

Bernal crossed that line when he drove from Fresno to Petaluma on August 26th, traveling three hours to meet the 13-year-old girl he had met online. His interaction with first the "girl" (really an 18-year-old actress), Dateline's Chris Hansen, and finally his arrest, were all caught on tape as part of Dateline NBC's program "To Catch a Predator."

In the show, upon arriving at the house, he lets on that he has brought the girl a hamburger—and condoms.

Confronted by Chris Hansen from Dateline NBC, Bernal is apologetic, telling

him, "I'm really sorry, sir."

When Hansen asks him what he's sorry for, he replies, "for being here."

Questioned further, Bernal admits he knew the girl was 13 and that he "needed to get out of town." As for his motives, he says he planned to "see what happens."

When asked point blank if he would have had sex with a 13-year-old girl, Bernal says, "No. I probably I wouldn't . . . I just needed to talk, you know."

No word on how condoms aid conversation.

Schuller says he doesn't buy Bernal's insistence that he would not have actually followed through. His guess as to the percentage of men who would drive all the way to Petaluma with a willing 13-year-old girl at the other end of the road then renege at the last second?

"Close to zero."

He compares it to an alcoholic going to a bar or a chocolate cake addict going into a bakery without actually intending to indulge.

"It's hard to believe."

Some people have criticized Dateline NBC and Perverted Justice for what they say are questionable tactics.

Did the sting constitute entrapment?

No, says, Jim Edison, coordinator of the police academy at FCC.

"[Entrapment is when] I entice you to commit a crime so I can arrest you."

Criminology instructor Bill Bertolani likened Perverted Justice's methods to having an undercover police officer pose as a drug dealer or a prostitute, then waiting for the suspect to initiate contact and define the transaction.

Von Erck says there is nothing illegal about the organization's methods for catching sexual predators:

"I always try to give the analogy of fishing. All you have to do is sit and wait. Unlike fishing, you don't have to wait that long."

So far this year, Perverted Justice has been involved in the conviction of 230 online sexual predators. Von Erck asserts that many people are unaware of how many such men exist and how quickly some of them get to the punch line:

"I have never gone into a chat room [as an underage girl/boy] without being solicited . . . [Sometimes] all I have to say is 'oh, ok' and 'sure' and those individuals will want to come over and have sex with me."

Twenty-nine men, including Bernal, were arrested during the Petaluma sting.

The question remains whether those who engage in this kind of behavior have any hope of rehabilitation.

Schuller says while the impulse will always be there, it is possible for sexual predators to curb their behavior.

"You really have to want to . . . Most try and fail."

Of the 29 men arrested, Von Erck says Bernal drove the farthest of all of them. When asked what distinguished Bernal from your usual online predator, he responded, "just his lack of fear."

"At this point a lot of guys are scared . . . if he knew that people [get] arrested for [this], he didn't let on."

FCC Homecoming Queen candidates

by Chelsea Bieker

Rampage Reporter

It's that time of year again. The weather is getting cooler, the leaves are falling off the trees, and we can finally anticipate an end to Fresno's heat filled summer. Along with this time of the school year, is Fresno City's Homecoming football game. Mark your calendars for October 21st, and head over to Ratcliffe stadium for all the excitement.

We all remember Homecoming when we were in high school, with the floats, and the candidates for homecoming king and queen. It was an exciting time, and here at Fresno City, things haven't changed all that much.

One of the most exciting components of an event like this is the Homecoming Queen and King competition.

In previous years the crowned winners were decided through a count of votes, but this time around the rules are a little different. The candidates are expected to sell raffle tickets to win. By October 16th they are expected to have sold two hundred tickets.

Joleen Dinning, 17, isn't too concerned. "I expect to sell way more than that!" said Dinning. With hopes of transferring to UCLA as a Political Science major, Dinning feels this is a great opportunity to display her involvement in her school. As a current senator in the ASB program she is no stranger to playing the part of leader at Fresno City. "I'm a little nervous, I mean, it's a new experience because I never ran for Homecoming queen in high school."

When asked her main goal of this experience, she laughingly replied, "I'm bringing sexy back!" With her bubbly personality, she won't have any problem.

Kia Yang, 25, has some different reasons for running for the position of queen. "I really want to be a good role model to other young women at Fresno City. I'm a single mom, and I'd like to prove to other single mothers out there that it's never too late to be involved." Yang said. It certainly isn't too late for Yang, who has



plans of transferring to Fresno State and getting her B.S in Forensics.

Adaku Anyanwu, is a Physical therapy major with a minor in

African studies, who plans to transfer to Temple University in the Spring of 06. She is

also excited about the opportunity to be a positive role model.

Reina E. Lopez, 28, wants to prove that everyone should be involved in their school. "So many young girls aren't willing to participate in events like this. I want to show them that with some confidence, age doesn't matter," said Lopez. She is working hard to be an example of just that. As a senator in the Student Government, and an avid member of the Latin American club, Lopez enjoys being involved. "Everyone should come to Homecoming and be a part of FCC!" Lopez said.

Although it is too late to run for homecoming queen or king, it isn't too late to be part of the excitement. By buying raffle tickets, you will be eligible to win a grand prize of \$100, a second place prize of \$75, or a third place prize \$50. So bring your Ram spirit and support your favorite Queen or King on the 21st!

Where Does Your Money Go?



Your money matters.
A dollar spent here stays here to
support student activities.
A dollar spent there... who knows?

Fresno City College Bookstore

You Skate, You Pay

FCC’s Campus continues to be a ‘skate’ free zone

by Ana Zavala

Rampage Reporter

Skating on campus might be the cause of you walking home at the end of the day.

Last year when the underpass first opened, skaters flocked to try out the new attraction, but not without being noticed. Tickets were handed out to all those testing the area. Today, skating is not as big a problem as it has been in previous years.

Yet, campus police confiscate as many as three boards a month.

Skate boarders know they’ll get in some trouble if found skating on campus. But, all skaters see are the great skating spots all over campus; one can say the campus is like a skate park...perfect for a 360 pop shovit, Backside tail slide, front side ollie, front feeble, back smith, hard flips, nollie backside heel flips, front side nose grind, back tail and a variety of other tricks.

Still, there are many skate parks throughout Fresno that should be an alternative to skating on campus.

“We don’t want these kids to get injured, no one’s trying to take their fun away,” said Joseph Callahan, Chief of Police

here at Fresno City College. Callahan says, “It’s in the hand book (about regulations on skating)” The

School regulation states, “...nor shall any person skateboard...upon driveways, sidewalks, or landscaped areas”.

“That’s why I carry an extra,” said Hamilton.

Campus police can only confiscate a board that is in use; Hamilton takes advantage of this and carries an extra in case one gets taken away.

Campus police also issue a \$16 ticket. Skateboarders can claim their property as soon as they pay the fine.

The good thing is that most of the time Campus police only have to confiscate a board one time to stop them from skating on campus, said Callahan.

Hamilton has witnessed a few fellow skaters get their boards taken away.

“They should give warnings first, innocent people get their boards taken away”, said Hamilton.

Callahan begs the differ, “they’re aware of policy, they choose to ignore it.”



Photo by Robin Vallenytne

rules aren’t just there to protect the person skating but also those around them. Also campus police have to enforce regulations for liability purposes.

So why are students still skating on campus?

Callahan says most people found skating on campus aren’t even FCC students.

David Hamilton, an ATC student at FCC and skater knows it is a violation of rules to skate on campus.

Experience Thailand & Vietnam in Summer 2007

Immerse yourself in the vibrant cultures of Thailand and Vietnam. Visit temples and world-class museums. Ply the Chao Phraya River through the center of Bangkok. Explore the shops of the Old French Quarter of Hanoi. Experience the performing arts of these fascinating countries. Taste the foods. Feel the energy of the local markets. Even take a Thai cooking class! You can have all this and more for less than \$3000 and earn 6 units of transferable credit! Sign up today for this one-of-a-kind educational and cultural experience.



Next Informational Meeting

September 28 5:30 pm District Office Board Room

Questions?

**Call Kim Quesada
at 244-5906**

FCC rallys to give the gift of blood

by Leah Edwards
Rampage Reporter

Were you one of the blood donors last week? Or were you one of the many, who meant to donate but just didn't follow through?

Fresno City College held it's Fall 06 Blood drive last week with a total number of 109 registered donors; an increase of 10 donations from the previous Spring Semester.

Each semester, Fresno City joins with the Central California Blood Center in an effort to increase blood donations for the valley. The Central California Blood Center is the sole provider of blood for the 31 hospitals in Fresno, Tulare, Madera, Kings and Mariposa Counties. They need to collect 5,000 to 6,000 pints of blood a month to meet the Valley's need for blood.

For every donation, three lives can be saved. You can make that happen. What else can you do in less than an hour that can potentially save three others' lives?

"We always appreciate any increase in donations," stated Chris Sorensen, Director of Community Relations, "Thank you to everyone who came out and made a donation."

For a college of over 20,000 student, 109 donations seems a small drop in the bucket compared

to the need, and the hope is for an increase in support. According to the Central California Blood Center's web site, the Valley's blood supply has dropped below 40% of the needed inventory.

"Recent heavy usage has dramatically dropped our supply for most blood types," stated Dean Eller, President and CEO of the Central California Blood Center. "We are asking new and returning donors to please take an hour and help save someone's life. Patients in Valley hospitals need us."

Those unable to donate this

gether in the spirit of the season and in the spirit of saving lives," stated Wayne Martin, owner and "Pumpkin King" of the Pumpkin patch, as quoted on the Central California Blood Center web site.

Donors must be in good health, weigh at least 110 pounds and be at least 17 years old. A Photo ID and Social Security number are required for registration.

Sorensen said they plan to have Blood Centers at various locations on campus for the Spring Blood drive, so students won't have to travel strictly to the Stu-



The Central California Blood Center takes a donation Oct. 4.

Photo by Robin Vallentyne

semester can still visit any Fresno branch of the Central California Blood Centers: 3445 N. First St., 8094 N. Cedar Ave., 1515 S. Mooney Blvd., or at the other centers in Visalia and Porterville to give blood.

Another option is the 7th Annual 'Great Pumpkin' Blood Drive on Friday, October 13th and 14th from 9a.m. until 4p.m. at the Pumpkin Patch on the N.W. Corner of Shaw and Blackstone.

"It's a great time to bring the community and families to-

dent Lounge if they want to make a donation.

For more information contact Chris Sorensen, Director of Community Relations and Development for the Central California Blood Center, at 559-224-2900 ext. 3005.

Buddy Check: How to give a breast exam

Continued from pg. 1

"Chances are, you already have or will be touched by breast cancer, either by getting it or by watching a loved one go through it," said Knight.

A self-breast exam goes as follows:

*At the end of your menstruation, when your breasts aren't as tender, lie down with a pillow under the shoulder of the breast that you're inspecting.

*Use the pads of your three middle fingers using light, medium and firm pressure in a circular motion around your breast. Use an up and down vertical pattern, being sure to examine every part of your breast.

Then make sure to check above and below your collar bone as well as your armpit area.

*The next step is to stand upright in front of a mirror. Look for any visual changes in the size, shape, or general appearance of your breast. Look for dimpling, a rash or discharge from the nipple.

*Stand in four different ways in front of the mirror; arms at your side, arms over your head, hands on your hips as your tightening your chest muscles and bent forward with your hands still on your hips.

*If you feel a lump or see anything out of the ordinary,

contact your doctor right away to get a mammogram and a professional opinion.

A yearly mammogram should be done for anybody over the age of forty. If you are in your twenties or thirties, this should be done every three years.

While treatments for this cancer are helping many survive, there is still not a cure for this deadly disease. Awareness of the serious consequences breast cancer can serve on a life and the knowledge of early detection is the only way you can fight it yourself.

Pink ribbons signifying breast cancer are being sold at the



Photo by Michael Behlen

Fresno City Bookstore as well as plenty of markets around Fresno, whose proceeds go to research that will one day find a cure and rid women of this dreadful ordeal.

BUYBACK everyday

TEXTBOOKS

980 E. McKinley

Cheaper Textbooks!

ACROSS FROM FRESNO CITY COLLEGE

The BIG Yellow Bookstore

Phone 559/233-4002 • FAX 559/233-1440

www.university-bookstores.com

\$5.00 off BOOK COUPON

Expires soon! Hurry In!

National University®

Continue your education without putting your life on hold

At National University, we offer you a quality education that's both accessible and affordable. Our one-course-per-month format, including onsite and online courses, lets you finish your degree at an accelerated pace — while keeping up with work, family and friends. And, to make transferring even easier, qualifying California community college students are guaranteed admission! So why wait?

Transfer to National University today!

The University of Values

1.800.NAT.UNIV

www.nu.edu/transfer

A force to reckon with

Soccer team on the fast track as they start conference play.

By Mike Williams

Rampage Reporter

Everything is going just as planned for the Fresno City men's soccer team this year.

With a record of 9-1-3, the Rams are prepared for the second half of the season, which is mostly against teams in their conference.

Although the Rams are ranked 2nd in the College Community College Soccer Statewide Standings, Coach Solberg's biggest fear is that his team might get complacent.

Solberg is pleased with his teams ranking right now going into league, ranked 2nd in the State. The team that's in front of FCC is Mt. San Antonio.

Taft, ranked No. 3, is in the same league as FCC and they haven't played each other yet. A lot of players from FCC have been looking forward to playing Taft all year.

These two exciting teams will meet up for the first time Oct. 20, here in Fresno. The second match up will be the last game of the regular season for the Rams, and that's Nov. 10, at Taft College.

Solberg and his team have been on a little break these past two weeks, only playing three games, beating Hartnell (1-0), Las Positas (2-0) and West Hills College (3-1).

Andrew Fled scored the only goal against Hartnell, assisted by Victor Regalado. Scott Grigsby kept up his consistent play with four saves.

Against Las Positas, Jose Lopez stepped in at goalie and had three saves. Sean Vogt scored a goal assisted by Silvestre Arias. Later on Arias scored a goal as-

sisted by Devon Grousis.

In a conference match-up against West Hills, Feld, Pinto and Leon Bueno each scored one goal. Pinto had one assist and Regalado dished out two assists. Grigsby

powered offense that is complemented by a good defense leaves the Rams right among the elite teams in the state. FCC has scored 39 goals this year while allowing only 10. These last couple

any more easy wins this season. Five of the last eight games are league games. And league games are never taken lightly. The Central Valley Conference, which consists of four teams, is a

should be taken lightly", says Vogt. "Every game we have to get up for." Vogt, a sophomore defender, is one of the leaders on this team and he knows the difference between non-league and league play. "Every game is going to be tough."

Vogt is one of the players that have been forced to step up his play because of Nick Casagrande's injury, he's doing a fine job of keeping his play at a high level.

Casagrande is expected to make his return this week, after suffering a thigh muscle injury earlier in the season. If Casagrande returns, expect a better FCC team.

Solberg is really big on his team practicing well. Getting this year's team to practice hard is not a difficult task at all.

"This is the hardest working team I've had since I've been here," said Solberg. "They're really easy to coach."

Being comfortable is the only thing Solberg is worried about. Solberg is making sure his team stays hungry and doesn't get comfortable with their ranking and record. His way of doing that is challenging them at practice and letting the team know he's not satisfied.

"If I have a serious and tough practice, they know I'm not getting complacent."

Although the Rams are ranked No. 2 in the state, Solberg still thinks they have a lot of room for improvement.

The Rams are a good team, we'll see within these next couple of weeks if they can make the jump to becoming a great team.

"Right now we're a good team," said Solberg. "But good teams don't win championships."



photo by Robyn Vallentyne

The men's soccer team is giving their opponents all they can handle right now. The Rams have scored 38 amount of goals in 14 amount of games and are anxiously awaiting their match against Modesto on Oct. 13.

saved four goals in the Rams first league win.

"Our offense is clicking better", says Solberg. A high-

of games the Rams have flat out dominated any team that steps on the same soil as them.

The Rams may not have

small conference but every team is talented and they are always gunning for FCC.

"None of these games

Cross-country prepares for the home stretch

Team readies itself for Central Valley Conference Championship at Woodward Park.

By Brian Noonan

Rampage Reporter

Running on fumes with several injuries and no shows, the Rams put up a valiant effort in finishing third overall on Saturday, Oct. 7 at the Crystal Springs Invitational. Despite slipping two spots in the latest NorCal team

rankings, the men's team still has high hopes for the upcoming championship meet on Nov. 4 in Belmont.

"Everyone has the mentality that we are a great team and are able to compete with the best out there," said sophomore Tony Pulido. "We have some of the best distance runners that the school has seen in quite some time."

Pulido is currently the man to beat in Northern California after his runner-up finish at Crystal Springs and a dominant victory at the Lou Vasquez Invitational on Saturday, Sept. 28.

He is now ranked number one individually and scored an explosive 16 second victory over Cristian Morinico, last spring's NorCal 5000 meter runner up.

Other notable finishers for FCC included freshman Bobby Rodriguez and sophomore Cruz Adams. The two pulled out top 15 efforts to help the Rams to a 96-point team score.

Adams has improved considerably this season, knocking nearly a minute off his time each race. Missing from the equation however was frosh standout Isaac

Vizcarra. Freshman John Brodie raced, but was not able to finish as well as he would have liked due to injury. Brodie has been in the scoring five in FCC's previous races. With so many injuries in the middle of the season, the Rams are hoping they can get healthy come

**see championship
pg 9**



Athlete Spotlight

By Brian Noonan

Rampage Reporter

Katie Bayliss

Katie Bayliss, currently in her second year at Fresno City College has high hopes for the women's water polo team this year. Coming back from acid- reflux surgery earlier in the 2006, being at the top of her game hasn't been easy. With hard work and long hours practicing over the summer with her team, Bayliss isn't only recuperated; she is determined to help her team become the best.

Q: How long have you been playing water polo?
A: I've been playing Polo since my freshman year of high school. I was four-year varsity and all league at Bullard High.

Q: Do you feel the team is strong this year?
A: Yes, I feel we are extremely strong. I think the main reason for this is because we know each other so well. I know my teammate's strengths and weaknesses, and they know mine.

Q: What is the most rewarding part of playing water polo for you?
A: Definitely the games; when I'm playing it's like this amazing rush of adrenaline, and winning just tops it all off.

Q: Do you have any complaints about the sport?
A: The only complaint I've ever had is that I feel water polo doesn't get nearly enough credit. People don't know what is going on underwater, it's brutal. It's a tough sport, but hardly anyone knows we even

have a team here. Also, it sucks wearing a swimsuit four sizes too small.

Q: What was it like going through a major surgery and coming back so quickly?
A: It was scary when I had to get acid reflux surgery, because I didn't know what to expect. I knew there would be a lot of pain, and there was, but it was doable. There were some days when I really didn't think I could get back into shape, but I stayed strong, and I'm just so happy to be playing with my team.

Q: What are your future plans for water polo and life?
A: I'm thinking about majoring in business or marketing. I would love to transfer to a place where I can continue playing polo. I love this sport; I want to be involved in it as long as I can.



Athlete Spotlight

By Mike Williams

Rampage Reporter

Jackie Anaya

Jackie Anaya is a one third of the group that leads the FCC volleyball team on and off the court. Anaya is as vocal as they come. She picks her team up when they're down and makes sure that they keep up the beating when they're up. A player like Anaya is needed on every team in any sport. A teammate that's always positive and never hesitant to give inexperienced freshmen some advice. Anaya is a competitor and she's determined to help her team win a league championship.

Q: Are you satisfied with this season so far?
A: Yes, we're a really young team and we've been able to adjust to different situations.

Q: Do you talk trash to other teams?
A: No, we promote good sportsmanship.

Q: What's your major?
A: Business Administration.

Q: What's in your CD player right now?
A: Country music, I like Kenny Chesney.

Q: What do you love about you're team?
A: The relationship that we have.

Q: How many positions have you played throughout you're career?
A: About 3.

Q: What was the team's best game this season and why?
A: Butte, because it's the best that we've ever played. We all came together as

a team and everyone got there job done.

Q: What's your favorite movie?
A: "10 Things I Hate About You".

Q: What other sports have you played?
A: Honestly, I've only played volleyball. I started playing when I was 10.

Q: What would be the first thing you would do if you won the lotto?
A: Buy myself a nice car and invest my money.

Q: Who are your idols?
A: My parents.

Q: What's worse: final's week or summer training?
A: Definitely final's week.

Q: What are you're plans for next year?
A: I plan on transferring to Fresno State and playing volleyball there.

One team, one goal

FCC volleyball continues to give opponents all they can handle

By Mike Williams
Rampage Reporter

The Fresno City College Volleyball team (10-5) has everyone right where they want them: guessing.

Trying to predict if the Rams will get down, meaning they will win most of their remaining games. Or will the team lie down and let the season slip away?

Coach Bethany Buller seems confident as well as the girls. The coaches and players know how important this nine game stretch is. The Rams may be turning some heads within these next couple of weeks.

FCC closed out September by beating Taft and winning two out of four games in the San Jose tournament.

Taft, a game Buller and the rest of her team were looking forward to, was a great game beginning to end. Although the Rams won 3-1, three out of the four games could have gone any way, (24-30), (30,11), (30-20), and (30-28).

Lindsay Myrick and Tanena Jackson each had

six kills while Ashley Fantazia led the team with seven kills.

FCC faced a Columbia College team Oct. 4 that knew they didn't have a chance.

The Rams wasted no time putting Columbia in their place, winning the first game 30-18. A fast start is always nice to have, especially at home.

FCC went on to win the next two games with out a problem, 30-15 and 30-20. Columbia almost made FCC break a sweat that night.

"We come out and play hard every game", says Lauren Storey. "It really doesn't matter who we're playing."

The Rams finished off the week beating Merced College. Melissa Anaya played outstanding with 20 assists. Tanena Jackson had seven kills, Jackie Anaya had six kills and Myrick had five kills. Jackie Anaya also had 12 digs.

The Rams have a lot of tough games coming up, and injuries to key players do not make it any easier. Jacqueline Hill and Storey, two sophomore leaders on the team, both have shoulder injuries, which forces them to have different roles on the court. Hill and Storey are tough girls and will be back to their old ways soon.

With Hill and Storey taking a step back, other players have a chance to step up and make plays, and that's what Myrick, Fantazia, Tanena and Donesha Jackson are doing.

These freshmen are not just playing good one game and average the next. They're keeping the level of play up.

"We're seeing a lot of improvement from our freshmen", said Buller. "We're starting to become more consistent."

In September, the Rams had three tournaments in four weeks. In FCC's case, these tournaments helped in their favor because a lot of freshmen were able to get experience on the court.

The Rams are done with the tournaments and looking forward to conference play.

"Every game we have to start with high intensity", says Storey. "And get off to a fast start."

The coaches as well as the players feel like the team is improving. One reason why the team is getting better is because of the players understanding each other better according to Tanena Jackson.

Tanena and her sister Donesha Jackson have been great for FCC, blocking ev-



Photo by: David Witte

Freno City College's Lyndsay Myrick (12) attempts to spike the ball against Columbia College on Oct. 4 at the FCC gym.

everything in sight. Their team can always rely on them for a kill shot at any point in the game. Keep your eyes on these two impact play-

ers who are getting better day after day, and are determined to help get their team up to the ranking they deserve.

championship:

Rams have avoided injuries to have successful season.

continued from pg 7

championship time.

"Everybody's going to get a few dents and dings here and there," said Brodie. "If someone does get a serious injury (which has yet to happen) we give it attention and rest immediately; the races don't count until the post-season, so missing one or two for the sake of healing won't hurt."

It seems the entire team has their sites set on not only winning the NorCal championship, but also finishing very high at the state meet.

Accomplishing this goal will take hard training, an intelligent race strategy, and paying close attention to injuries.

The Rams will travel to Salinas on Friday, Oct. 13 for the Toro Park Invitational. Start time

for the men's race will be 3:30 p.m. Freshman Tim Falagon gave his insight with regard to race strategy and preparation for the upcoming race.

"My racing strategy is to make sure I eat healthy and train hard at the beginning of the week, and back off a little bit when it comes close to the race...(I will) go out slower the first mile and then start picking guys off and make sure I beat Hartnell's 5th guy," said Falagon.

"If we can get our 6th and 7th guy in front of him then we have a really good chance of winning the race."

The Rams' next meet will be on Oct. 20 for the Pat Ryan Invitational in Santa Rosa.

W o m e n ' s s o c c e r r e m a i n s t h e t e a m t o b e a t i n C V C



photo by Robyn Vallentyne

The Fresno City College women's soccer team haven't missed a beat. The Rams have continued their winning ways as their record now stands at 10-2 overall. Coach Germond's squad is one of the frontrunners for a Central Valley Conference title.

Do you know who they are?

Rams still find it hard to gain recognition after 4-1 start.

By Quinn Robinson
Rampage Reporter

Living in the city of Fresno for a college student in their twenties usually means nothing to look forward to until sports kick their seasons off.

Back in the mid 90's it was Fresno State basketball with Jerry Tarkaninan. The recognition then jumped to Pat Hill and his squad of football players that play under the "shut up and hit somebody" motto.

Hill managed to keep the focus on his team for a number of years while producing NFL players David Carr, Bernard Berrian and James Sanders. At

the same time, Hill had an idea of turning the Fresno State Bulldogs into the "valley's team" by going after players from around this area.

Hill's definition of valley extends from Sacramento to Bakersfield.

With that being the case, probably the best group of valley athletes is being overlooked and the funniest thing of it all is that they play right across the street at Ratcliffe Stadium.

The Fresno City College Rams football team is off to a great start this season with a record of 4-1. The offensive production that is missing at Bulldog Stadium is live and well at Ratcliffe.

The Rams have put up 173 points in the five games they've

played this season while only giving up 93. The only blemish on FCC's record this season is from City College of San Francisco.

The fact that FCC was shutout 40-0 by CCSF the last time the two teams met was enough to make any Rams loyalist hesitant when they were back on our schedule this year.

This time around, there was a difference. We saw a

hungry FCC football team take the field and jump out to a 21-0 lead in the first half.

Even though we lost in the waning seconds of that football game, many fans, myself included, realized that this team was back.

The past few years, FCC football has been playing under a condition of anonymity. Coach Tony Caviglia has tried to get his team some recognition over the

years and he's been successful, but if your name isn't Pat Hill and you coach college football in the valley then you're out of luck.

This years FCC football team could very well be the best kept secret in the valley and quite honestly, they're the only team in town that's worth watching.



Photo by Robyn Vallentyne

Fresno City College lines up against Sacramento City College on Sept. 30. The Rams won the game 28-20 to improve their record to 4-1 on the 2006 season.

Swinging for a title

Golf team has to work to short game.

By Buen Moua
Rampage Reporter

Fresno City College women's golf team started this fall season, already taken five first places in the start of the season in the Central Valley Conference Mini Tournament (CVC).

FCC took another first place with the team score of 346 at last week's mini tournament, against Modesto Junior College with a zero, Canada 361, and West Hills College 505.

The top four individual scores for the Oct. 5 tournament were Tiffany Derksen (80), Meghan Olsen (84), Hilary Ross (88) and Rebekah Rallis with (94).

"We're in first place right now with four conference matches left," said women's golf coach Rhonda Williams.

In preparing for every match, coach Williams said they practice two days a week out at the River Park driving range.

The first two home games were at Fig Garden Golf Club in the CVC Tournament on Sept. 19.

The Rams defeated Canada and West Hills by a score of 339 for FCC while Canada and West Hills followed with a 365 and 465 respectively.

The Sept. 21 game against Sierra and Sacramento City College came with the same results. FCC won again by posting a score of 337 to Sac City's 355 and Sierra's 356.

Last year, the women's golf team took the CVC Championship and qualified for the State Championship game.

The Rams finished in third place. Tiffany Derksen was the second medalist in the 2005 Nor-Cal Championship, placed second as an individual in the State Championship and was one of six named to the all-state team.

This year the team is even more determined than ever. They have proven that individually as well as a team with four straight first places of the first four tournaments.

Williams said that it's a very mental game, and that they need to improve on our short game—the chipping and the putting.

"Playing good on a consistent basis," said Williams. "That's always the challenge in the game of golf. Not letting bad shots or bad holes ruin the round."

"With four matches left, we're up by two points of Canada, which is the other team in the conference that we're battling for first place. If we win two out of the next four mini tournaments, then that should clinch the CVC Championship for us."

The next conference matches the women's golf team will be playing is in Modesto at Spring Creek Country Club on Oct. 10, and in Visalia at Valley Oaks on Oct. 12. Both matches start at noon.

"I expect that we're going to do well [this week], we play in Modesto and so our goal is to win that one and go on from there," said Williams.

Waiting in line?

Move to the front with career training at
San Joaquin Valley College



SHORT-TERM PROGRAMS

Business

Business Administration
Construction Management
Corrections Officer
Health Care Administration

Technical

Industrial Technology
Refrigeration AC Technology

Medical

Medical Assisting
Dental Assisting
Pharmacy Technology
Surgical Technology
Veterinary Assisting



sjvc.edu
Fresno Campus
295 E. Sierra Avenue
877.206.4089

A tatted workplace?

It's not discrimination to require a certain standard in appearance

by lfe-Chudeni Oputa
Rampage reporter

“When you walk into a place of business, what’s the first thing you...” Can you guess what the question will be?

As human beings, our first impression of everything is visual. We don’t walk into a place of business with our eyes closed and our ears open, ready to listen and get to know each other.

More than any other sense, sight governs our actions.

As a result it is vital for businesses to be visually acceptable. Requiring employees to meet a certain standard in appearance is not discrimination; it’s good business.

In this society, whether right or wrong, judgements are often based solely on appearance. These days, looks even influence the way we vote in presidential elections, and the workplace is no different.

From corporate business to sit-down restaurants, companies must first think of their demographics.

It’s fine for Starbucks to have employees with multiple piercings and tattoos, because their demographic reflects that. However, at a high-class restaurant like The Ripe Tomato where the typical customer is middle-aged or older, and conservative, those same characteristics are bad for business.

Appearance is a natural factor for every employer to consider. No one would begrudge Hooters the right to turn down a less than busty babe, or GQ magazine the right to select only the most chiseled features.

Why should any other business be different? The same rules apply. Just as people would stop buying GQ magazine

if the models were balding men with beer-bellies, consumers will stop shopping at their local bookstore if the cashier looks like a convict.

Now don’t misunderstand, there is a line between good business and discrimination, but when it comes to things like untraditional piercings, tattoos, and long hair, the line is not crossed.

Employers will still consider and hire potential employees with these traits, but it is the employer’s right to require that these things not be visible during work hours. This can hardly be considered unreasonable. Any person who is old enough to legally get a tattoo is old enough to know that it might affect their ability to find a job.

Plus, these are all things that can be altered for the workplace without disrupting one’s lifestyle. Well, all except hair, but that grows back.

The fact of the matter is that a business is not there to accommodate its employees; it’s there to make money. It is no less fair for a business to make decision based on aesthetics, than for a university to make decisions based on academic achievement. Each entity is looking out for its own best interest. If companies don’t put the views of their clients before the views of their potential employees, there will be no business for which to hire.

Just as companies have the right to choose, job hunters have the right to choose. If exposing tattoos and sporting long hair is that important, find another job.

Companies can choose to lose out on a dedicated worker because of their aesthetic policies and people who don’t want to change can choose to stay broke and unemployed.

Just because I have body art doesn't mean I'm not a worker

by Brian Noonan
Rampage reporter

With an influx of body art movements powered by shows like The Learning Channel’s Miami Ink, and A & E’s Inked, the need to address appearance-based discrimination in the workplace has become necessary.

The real question here is; should employers be partial to potential new hires based on appearance?

For illustration’s sake, consider this example. Joe and John both apply to the same company. Joe is a college graduate with a master’s degree, while John has an associate degree. Joe also has a long history of relevant job experience while John has relatively little in comparison.

However, Joe has visible tattoos on the inside of his right arm along with plugs in his slightly stretched ear lobes. Because John has a more “clean-cut” look in the eyes of the employer, he is hired over Joe, despite being less qualified. Is this fair? Is this an intelligent decision on the company’s part?

The answer to both questions is a resounding no.

Unfortunately, instances similar to this are happening every day. By selectively choosing applicants based on their appearance, employers across the nation are missing out on potentially more qualified individuals and creating a negative image for themselves.

The excuse that body art is generally a red flag for incompetence or potentially illicit behavior should be thrown out the door. Where this may have been valid 20 or 30 years ago, it certainly does not apply today. Everyone and their mom, literally people’s moms, are getting tattoos and body piercings these days. I myself have my ears

pierced and one tattoo on the inside of my right arm.

Why should this stop me from being competitive in the hiring process? I maintain a 3.6+ GPA in school, have near-perfect attendance, and an extensive employment background.

I’ve never been convicted of a crime, and in fact, my father is a policeman. Yet with all of these qualifications, I find myself having to remove my earrings and wear shirts that will conceal my tattoo for job interviews. All this just to allow myself the same opportunity as someone else that may be less qualified but has no body art.

Instead of continuing to gripe and complain, I’d like to make a modest proposal. To all of the companies and corporations out there, rather than marking appearance factors such as tattoos and piercings as a precursor to rejection, place the emphasis on qualifications and verbal communication skills in the interview.

This may seem a bit sophomoric, but the fact remains that companies continue to sidestep this invaluable bit of advice.

By doing this you will provide yourself with the best possible employees and create a more positive public image. You may even increase your customer base by creating a renewed sense of support among tattoo and body art enthusiasts.

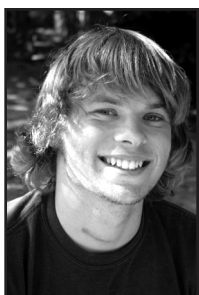
Ignore the archaic stereotypes that these individuals are not qualified. The evidence just simply isn’t there anymore. Sure there are many tattooed applicants who aren’t qualified, but there are just as many, if not more, non-tattooed applicants who aren’t qualified.

Be a trend-setter and help create a more non-biased hiring process. Focus on the facts of qualification, not the fiction of appearance.

Campus Voices

by Joe Rios and Robin Vallentyne

Should appearances such as tattoos and piercings have an effect on employment?



Steve Olson
Architecture

“No, because that doesn’t reflect your work ethic.”



Barry Richey
Undecided

“Yes. It makes you look bad. No one’s going to want to hire you.”



Brenda Martinez
Medical

“No, it shouldn’t matter how you look, as long as you can do the job.”



Stephanie Niles
Dance

“Yes, it makes you look very unprofessional.”



Danielle Garza
Business

“No, as long as you can cover them up.”

I'll stop being a jerk, if you stop being a b-

by DC Leavy
Rampage reporter

In the last issue of the rampage one of my colleagues Ana Zavala wrote that "Boys are jerks," and after a long list of dates and bad relationships, she hasn't changed her mind. Well the shoe fits on both feet on this subject. Women are jerks too but are better known by their common name B!#%es.

Even though most of the guys you've dated are jerks, doesn't mean that we're all jerks. It just means you have terrible taste in men.

Just because you choose to go for the guy that looks cute but has no real brains or substance is no reason to criticize the others. It just means you got to raise your standards a bit sweetheart. They should have to do more than just buy you a beer, a burger and feign interest in what you have to say.

How about you:

1. Give the guy that really

likes you a chance. Just because he's not Fabio, Enrique Iglesias or Tom from Myspace shouldn't make a difference.

2. Stop being so picky, it's good to have high standards just not unrealistic ones.

3. Go for the guy that doesn't still live at his mom's house.

4. Realize that just because a guy works at McDonalds or Wal-Mart doesn't make him a loser.

5. Adjust YOUR schedule and make time to give the nice guy a chance, the bad boys only end up on "Cops."

6. Oh and the most logical one, DON'T DATE JERKS!!!! Duhhh.

If you think you can criticize men just because certain one's did it to you, then I should be able to make the same observations. If that's so then "Women are

insane!"

I don't know how many times I've been cheated on or used by women of just about every race. Whether it's a gold digger looking for a way out of paying rent or a drama queen that's decided soap operas were too boring and she could make a better one with your relationship, they tend to suck. Soon you got long lost cousins that you didn't even know existed taking her away for the weekend to talk about the past.... It doesn't stop there, because apparently every woman wants her man to be psychic as well as have the ability of solving every problem she has, without a hint to what the problem is. So after years of frustration I found a few helpful rules in play-boy as well as Myspace that are made for women to help with the confusion.

These are all # 1:

1. Learn to work a toilet seat, your a big girl, if it's up, put it down. We need it up, you need it down. You don't hear us complaining about you leaving it down.

1. Ask for what you want.

Subtle hints do not work!!!! Obvious hints do not work!!!! Just say it.

1. Anything that we said six months ago is inadmissible in an argument. In fact, all comments become null and void after seven days.

1. If something we said can be interpreted in two ways and one of those ways makes you sad or angry, we meant the other one. (always the other one)

1. You can either ask us to do something, or tell us how you want it done, NOT BOTH! If you already know the best way to do it, just do it yourself.

(The final and in my opinion the most important one.)

1. If we ask you what's wrong and you say "nothing" we will act like nothings wrong. We know your lying, but it's just not worth the hassle.

It might be true that men

are mostly jerks, and it might be true that women are bi#@es, (which explains why we go so well together).

There is one thing that I agree with the previous article on, and that's the fact that no one should ever be used just for sex, unless that's what both parties want. If a girl really likes you and thinks she has a chance of being your girlfriend then don't step on her emotions by using her for sex. Getting your heart crushed sucks and it doesn't matter whether you're a man or woman.

If a guy shows you he likes you don't be so quick to diss and dismiss his advances just because he's not the cutest one in the room.

My definition of a bitch is= a female dog. My definition of a B!%#* is a woman that uses you for her own material gain or to get something to eat when she has no money. A woman who keeps you around like a puppet on a string when she has no intention of ever being with you, kind of like a cat playing with a mouse.

Joe knows how to say hello



The semester's half-over. I'm hip-high in a flood of new faces, some I haven't seen in a while, some I wish I could see more, and a few that make me wish the phrase, "Man, I haven't seen them in long time" was still pertinent.

Still, I can't wait for the day when I can walk out near the fountain and the multitudes are no more than a few scattered gazers and the occasional minstrel on a guitar. I'd love to be there when the financial aid moochers get their check, head to Fresno Tire and Wheels and skate away on fo-fo's as far away from the school as possible.

Until then I'll do what I do best: I watch. I watch people, I watch them go about their business, how they walk and talk, interact with others and react to the world around them. Sometimes I feel like my observations are a step short of the oak tree gawks by the local Peeping Tom. But, from all my observation, I have discovered this: people are funny.

Yes, they're funny; we are funny.

Take for example the painful act of saying hello. Nothing is more amusing than watching the shift in stance from normal to uncomfortable when somebody is forced to say hello. Somehow the phrase, "like pulling teeth" doesn't quite hit the nail on the head.

Imagine it, you're walking along the cracked concrete walkway on your way to your next class. You have your bag at your hip and a notebook in hand. The sun is hot, but you walk at a quickened pace. Your eyes are forward, but your mind is elsewhere. You're thinking,

"That girl in 1A was pretty hot. She thought I was funny. I'm hungry. Yeah, she thought I was funny. Man, she's really hot. Did I forget to put on deodorant. I hope I sit next to her again tomorrow." Or it maybe something like, "That guy in 1A's a joke. I can't believe he was actually talking to me. Do those black workout pants I wore last week at the gym make my butt look big? Oh my god what is that woman wearing?"

Just then your eyes catch someone coming your way. Your thinking, "Wait. I know that guy. Well, I kind of know that guy. I met him through the friend of a friend last summer at my cousin's birthday. Should I say hi? I don't know."

Meanwhile he's thinking the same thing and you're both alternating from eye contact to the floor, to the squirrel on the grass, and back to eye contact.

"Maybe I'll say hi. Or maybe a nod? Is a smile too much? What about a wave?"

You're getting closer now and if any acknowledgement of the other's existence is going to take place, it's going to have to happen in the next quarter of a second or so. The tension builds, you're looking, they're looking. Then after all the suspense, you shoot the classic no eye-contact half-smile and a some kind of head nod if they're somebody special.

I hate it when that happens. Come on. Seriously. How hard is it to just say hi to people? I see it all the time. I'll watch people as I walk up to them knowing that this situation is about to occur. And do you know what I do? I stare at them. Right in their eyes. It's my way of saying, "Yeah I recognize you. What are you gonna do about it? You're gonna sit there and act like you don't know me aren't you? Yep. She's gonna walk by, look dumb and act like she doesn't know me."

This kind of thing happens on the daily. Don't worry, with the



"Yeah, I see you. What?"

knowledge I'm about to toss your way, you'll be ready to greet anyone at anytime and in the right way.

First, there's what I'm going to call, "Swearing in with flare." You raise one hand to ear level and flutter the fingers with a cheesy, ridiculous smile that in no way exemplifies your excitement after seeing that



"Swearing in With Flair"

person. But hey, you're polite and you don't really hate them. And if you did, you'd probably just stare at your cell phone as they walked by. Disclaimer: I'm going to have to stress that this greeting is strictly a girls-only greeting. In no way or at any time is this particular greeting acceptable for a guy to use. I'm sorry.

Or you might be one of those, "Inch worm howdy" people. You bring the hand to the cheek and curl your index finger up and down while you scrunch up your face. Once



"The Inch-worm Howdy"

again, ridiculous. But, you're still acknowledging the other person, which is always the goal.

Who can forget the hood classic, "Head nod." If you see a man's man or even someone with whom you want to maintain respect, shoot them a head nod across the room and your reputation will still



"Head Nod"

be intact. Throw in a, "Sup bro" to mix things up every once and a while and the homies will always show love.

But, my favorite will always be "The Salute." When you're in a



"The Salute"

hurry this greeting becomes your best friend. I'll be walking down the halls like the devil's chasing me, passing up folks left and right and somebody'll make eye contact with me or shout my name and I may or may not have time for them. If I do or don't have any desire to stop and talk with them, I'll shoot them a salute. It's great, you say hello and goodbye with one swift motion from the forehead. The person's feelings aren't hurt and I don't skip a beat.

Ok, I've never been much of a hugger. My grandma herself told me that I'm not a huggable person. But hey, who doesn't like a good hug

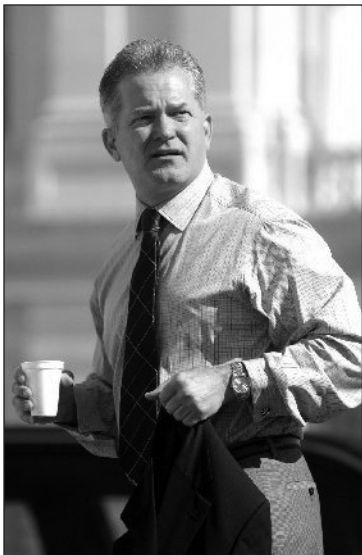


"The Prison Hug"

every once and a while? If they're a long lost friend, family member, or cellmate, this is definitely the way to go. You just walk on up to them and hug 'em for about a second or two. You can do variations. Pats on the back are nice – too many and you're performing the Heimlich. A good single squeeze usually gets the job done.

But whether it's a business or pleasure there is never anything wrong with a hearty handshake. If you're shaking hands with another guy, for Pete's sake, shake his hand like a man. Get thumb to thumb and give it a squeeze; none of this limp wrist pancake slap crap. It sickens me when I go in for the clench and I get fingers. If you're gonna shake my hand, shake it. And you better not have soft girly hands either, because that's just weird.

Foley too friendly



Former Rep. Mark Foley

by Joseph Rios
Rampage reporter

It seems like every time I pick up the paper there's a headline or a lead for a story that talks about a middle-aged business man, politician, or teacher that has been caught for some type of lewd con-

duct with a minor.

This whole fiasco with former Florida Representative Mark Foley is no different.

The scoop on Florida's Rep leaked out nearly two weeks ago, just in time for mid-term elections.

As if his "overly firendly" correspondance with a former page wasn't enough, his lawyer later claimed that he was under the influence of alcohol when it happened.

On top of that, his lawyer went on to reveal that Foley was gay and that he was molested by a clergyman when he was a child.

Foley checked into a rehab clinic for his alcoholism and mental issues shortly after it all hit the fan.

After his 30-day stay in the clinic, he's going to have to deal with the repercussions which will undoubtedly be nothing more than a slap on the wrist.

We at the FCC Rampage would like to thank Earth Talk/The Environmental Magazine for their contribution. If you have any questions regarding Earth Talk articles, please contact them directly.

EARTH TALK

From the Editors of E/The Environmental Magazine



Photo Courtesy of Getty Images

MAYOR'S JOB FAIR

October 12, 2006 ~ 10am to 2pm

FRESNO CONVENTION & ENTERTAINMENT CENTER EXHIBIT HALL

Over 1,000 jobs offered by more than 100 employers

- ♦ Entry-level to professional and technical positions
- ♦ Dress professionally
- ♦ Bring several copies of your resume
- ♦ Be prepared for onsite interviews

* Kaiser Permanente will be hosting a workshop at 9:00 am on the basics of entering the health profession.

TO PRE-REGISTER FOR THE KAISER WORKSHOP OR FOR MORE INFO, CALL KATIE (559) 621-2926 OR DARRYL 621-2919

A variety of employers will be on-site, including:

- * Kaiser Permanente * Pelco * Saint Agnes Medical Centers
- * Concentra Medical Centers * Fiesta Foods * CHP * UPS
- * Bank of America Call Center * US Postal Service * KSEE 24
- * Fresno County Office of Ed. * Wells Fargo Bank * SK Foods
- * Coca-Cola * Merrill Lynch * Quest Diagnostics * JC Penney
- * Madera Unified School District * Producers Dairy Foods
- * Mercedes Benz * Fresno County Sheriff's Dept. * LinkUs
- * Fresno County EOC * Genesis Family Center * Old Navy
- * Macy's * City of Fresno * Clear Channel Radio * Chico's
- * Granville Homes * Gottschalk's * Paychex, Inc. * Macco
- * The Windham * Sunrise Medical * Westar Transport * IRS
- * Social Security Administration * Cargill Beef Packers * EDD
- * Von's Supermarket * Beverly Health Care * Radisson Hotel
- * The Fresno Bee * Fresno Unified School District * Applebee's
- * Jones Cleaning Centers * Clovis Police Department
- * Whole Foods Market * Coalinga State Hospital * Comcast
- * San Joaquin Gardens * Per-Se Technologies * Broder Bros.
- * State Center Community College District * B-K Lighting
- * Fresno County Federal Credit Union * Warner Co. Jewelers
- * Chukchansi Gold Casino * Children's Hospital Central CA
- * Kings County HR Department * Southwest Transportation
- * The Fresno Bee * Regal Entertainment Group * Univision TV
- * Guardian Industries * DNC Parks & Resorts * Kiddie Kare Inc.

\$2 garage parking available at "O" and Inyo streets.
(Behind the William Saroyan Theatre) Must pick up a discount voucher ticket at registration table.

Sponsored by City of Fresno Parks, Recreation
and Community Services Department
& the Mayor's Jobs Initiative



Dear EarthTalk: What is the best eco-friendly vehicle choice for those of us who need a pickup or SUV? We are about to replace two older trucks with one that is more fuel-efficient.-- Barbara Roemer, via e-mail

Fuel efficiency has not typically been the calling card of pickup trucks and sport-utility vehicles (SUVs). Small hybrid gasoline-electrics are all the rage now among commuters looking to save money at the pump, but similar technology has been slower to gain traction in the "light truck" category. Carmakers have made strides in recent years, though, to meet growing demand for vehicles of all kinds that will sip and not gulp.

Currently, General Motors is the only carmaker offering hybrid pickups. Hybrid versions of its Chevrolet Silverado and GMC Sierra 4x4s have been available since 2005, and get about 18 miles per gallon (mpg)/city and 21/highway. The non-hybrid versions get 15/19 mpg, but cost \$1,500 less. GM claims that those paying the hybrid premium will get back that extra investment in fuel savings over three to five years.

Toyota reportedly has plans for hybridizing its full-size pickup line, too. The company recently unveiled its FTX concept truck, a large 4x4 hybrid pickup, hinting that technology developed for the project will likely end up in its

current full-size Tundra pickup. But no such models have hit showrooms yet, and Toyota remains mum about a release date. Meanwhile, industry analysts have been picking up chatter about a hybrid version of Honda's popular Ridgeline pickup, but the company has yet to publicly announce plans.

Regarding fuel-efficient SUVs, consumers have a few more choices. Ford currently leads the charge with its Escape Hybrid model, a smaller SUV that gets 36/31 mpg. Ford makes similar SUV hybrids under its Mercury and Mazda brands. Meanwhile, Toyota's mid-sized Highlander Hybrid SUV clocks in at 32/27 mpg, while the similar Lexus RX 400 Hybrid gets 33/28 mpg. All these vehicles post significantly better fuel efficiency ratings than their non-hybrid counterparts, but also cost more up front.

If you're looking to purchase a new hybrid-electric car or truck in the U.S. before the end of 2007 you may qualify for a healthy tax credit, depending on the fuel efficiency of the vehicle. According to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), a 2007 4WD Chevrolet Silverado or GMC Sierra hybrid pickup would garner a tax credit worth \$650 (2WD versions qualify for a \$250 credit), and the new 2WD Ford Escape Hybrid and Toyota's Highlander Hybrid each qualify for a whopping \$2,600 credit. Buyers of the 2007 Lexus RX 400h can count

on getting \$2,200 back. The credits are limited to the first 60,000 sold, though, so if you're looking to jump on the hybrid bandwagon you should run, not walk, to the nearest showroom.

Replacing an older truck with a newer model--especially a hybrid--will almost always guarantee better fuel economy, but it might not be the most environmentally sensitive way to go, all things considered. Some experts would argue for keeping the old truck, and fixing and tuning it up, thus preventing another new vehicle from hitting the roads while an old one clogs up the junkyard. Repairing an old vehicle is usually cheaper than buying a new one, though it is difficult to quantify the cost of ongoing maintenance hassles.

CONTACTS: IRS Hybrid Vehicle Tax Credits, www.irs.gov/newsroom/article/0,,id=157632,00.html; U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Fuel Economy Information, www.epa.gov/fueleconomy/.

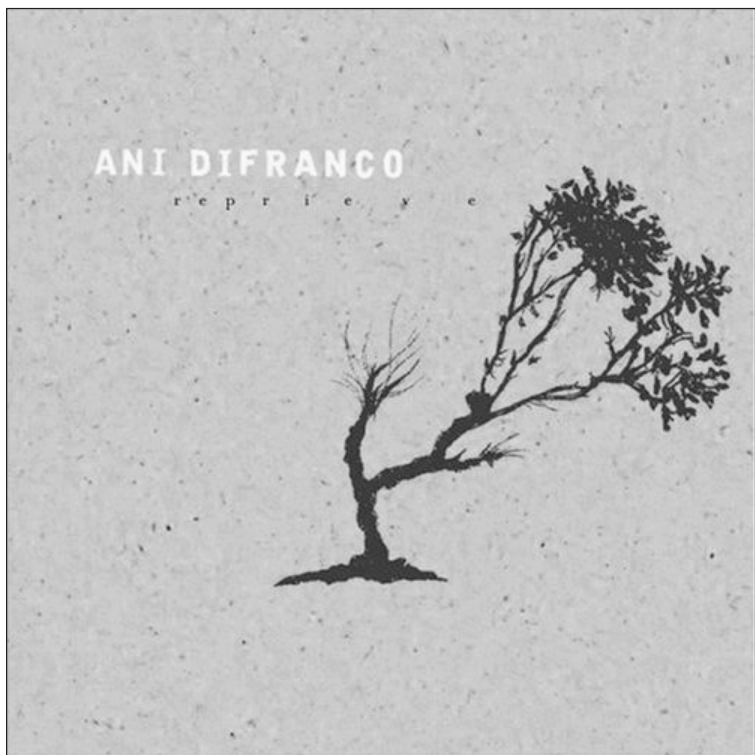
GOT AN ENVIRONMENTAL QUESTION? Send it to: EarthTalk, c/o E/The Environmental Magazine, P.O. Box 5098, Westport, CT 06881; submit it at: www.emagazine.com/earthtalk/thisweek/, or e-mail: earthtalk@emagazine.com. Read past columns at: www.emagazine.com/earthtalk/archives.php.

Reviews

14

October 11, 2006

Difranco's album 'Reprieve' another success



by Ife-Chudeni Oputa
Rampage reporter

Ani Difranco puts everything she has into her music, and *Reprieve* proves to be no exception. The album is comprised of her usual mix of personal and political subject matter that gives the listener a glimpse into her mind.

The majority of the album was recorded in New Orleans before Hurricane Katrina hit. "We had to evacuate along with everybody else," said Difranco in an interview with Ron Ehmke, "so I ended up in Buffalo ... and spent a few months there with the left over gear that I had abandoned."

In her latest album, Difran-

co displays a supreme level of musicianship. She is responsible for all of the vocals, and many of the instruments. Together, Difranco and Todd Sickafoose perform all of the instrumentals on the album.

Difranco had to leave behind the master recordings when she evacuated from New Orleans, but returned to rescue them.

After leaving New Orleans, Difranco was left with minimal tools to continue production.

"I found myself in Buffalo for a few months with this skeleton of a record and a cheesy synthesizer and an Omnicord at my disposal," said Difranco, "It was fun for me, that challenge ... to try and make cool sounds with an inherently uncool instrument." Nevertheless, the musicianship is

superb.

As always, Difranco's talent as a lyricist is self-evident. Whether spoken-word, or song, it is the words that give her music its power. This is evident in the title track. "Reprieve" is a demonstration of Difranco's eloquent political commentary.

Though written before the hurricane, "Millennium Theater" perfectly captures the mood of post-Katrina New Orleans. "I would think of myself as prophetic if people hadn't been saying for a hundred years that this was going to happen," said Difranco.

As politics and personal life intertwine, Difranco delivers music that tugs at the heartstrings. Tracks like "Shroud" show her ability to balance her political criticism with self-reflection, and a challenge to listeners to look inward at their contribution to the current state of affairs.

Difranco, who is taking a break from touring after being diagnosed with tendonitis, said she was able to focus on this album in a way that is not typical for her. "This year of taking it easy

was beneficial to the record-making process," said Difranco, "just sort of taking time to reflect and decide which directions I wanted

to pursue and which to abandon."

Listeners will find that *Reprieve* is another in a long list of successes for Ani Difranco.



'The Departed' may be long, but it's worth it

by Brian Noonan
Rampage reporter

Famed director Martin Scorsese makes an Oscar-worthy comeback with his gritty mob thriller, *The Departed*.

Supported by an all-star cast and a witty screenplay, the crime drama looks to be in the late-season scramble for Best Picture honors.

Leonardo DiCaprio stars as Billy Costigan, an undercover agent for the Massachusetts State Police with family ties to various mob bosses and local criminals in the Boston area. His task is complete long-term identity immersion with the goal of finally nabbing infamous Irish Mafia head Frank Costelloe (Jack Nicholson). Because of the extremely discreet nature of Costigan's identity, only Captain Queenan (Martin Sheen) and assisting Officer Wignam (Mark Wahlberg) have access to the information that proves Billy is anything more than another low-down gangster scumbag. A year passes as the police slowly make their case against

Costelloe, waiting for the perfect moment to take him down. Things get dicey, however, when Queenan and Wignam discover there is a mole working for Costelloe inside the department. Matt Damon plays the role of the aforementioned insider, Detective Colin Sullivan. The story progresses along, and follows a cat and mouse game between Costigan and Sullivan, as each tries to outwit the other before their undercover identities are exposed. The climax is reached when each man discovers each other at almost precisely the same time. Soon Queenan is dead and Wignam resigns, leaving Costigan with no one but his mental psychiatrist and romantic confidant Madolyn (Vera Farmiga) to trust. This is when the plot hits a huge twist, as Madolyn is engaged to Sullivan. So as not to spoil the ending for any potential viewers, the detailed synopsis stops here. Justice does prevail in the end, but the bloody aftermath is as satisfying as it is frustrating.

Challenging viewers to question their own issues of mo-

reality and character, *The Departed* is a startling venture into the fiery debate of loyalty versus moral chastity. DiCaprio captures the essence of his character with startling veracity, illustrating a constant mental struggle between the ultimate choice of right or wrong. He has an uncanny ability to convey a character's innermost feelings that elicits sympathy from the audience. Nicholson also delivers an outstanding performance in villainy, evoking viewers with his controversial catch phrase "You can become a cop or a criminal. But when you're faced with a loaded gun, what's the difference?"

With other notables such as Alec Baldwin, Anthony Anderson, and Ray Winstone adding to the remarkable cast depth, *The Departed* is the best crime thriller since *L.A. Confidential*. Unexpected story twists, cleverly inserted comedic relief, and impeccable direction

make this film an instant classic. Although it is a bit lengthy and extremely violent, both efforts were necessary to make the concept work. If you can stand the gory headshots and 159 minute running time, *The Departed* is a movie that definitely will not disappoint.



Jack Nicholson and Leonardo DiCaprio star in "The Departed."

Martin, Kutcher carry ‘Open Season’

by Ife-Chudeni Oputa
Rampage reporter

Martin Lawrence and Ashton Kutcher have honed their token roles.

Lawrence typically plays the quirky leading man who’s confident to the point of arrogance, but still charming, and Kutcher plays the lovable, dimwitted comic relief (as demonstrated in the hit shows

“Martin” and “That 70s Show”). Both Lawrence and Kutcher take these characters to another level as a domesticated bear and a wacky deer in the Sony Pictures Animation film, “Open Season.”

Lawrence plays the voice of Boog, a grizzly bear rescued as a cub and raised by Ranger Beth (Debra Messing). Boog is living the good life. He has his own fully-furnished garage, meals on

demand, and he’s somewhat of a local celebrity, but all of this changes when he lends a hand to Elliot (Kutcher).

As they say, “No good deed goes unpunished.” Elliot attempts to repay Boog for his kindness by showing him life outside the wall of the garage. The chaos that ensues buys Boog a one-way ticket back into the wild, just in time for hunting season.

Boog attempts to get back home, but with Elliot leading the way, it’s like the blind leading the blind. The suave character Lawrence brings to Boog unravels under the pressures of the wild. Not only does Boog have to worry about Shaw (Gary Sinise), a ruthless hunter with a personal vendetta against the bear, but the forest animals all have it in for him as well.

Gary Sinise moves far away from his “CSI: New York” character to play Shaw, who has a rather “Animal Farm” view of the future. Other voices include Jane Krakowski, Billy Connolly, and the ever-popular voice of Patrick Warburton. The actors do a great job of bringing the characters to life.

The movie combines funny set-ups with hilarious outcomes. Boog and Elliot’s love/hate relationship provides a steady source of humor throughout the film. It is truly enjoyable and chock full of laughs. Though it is obviously geared toward a younger crowd, it’s entertaining for all ages.



“Open Season” features Martin Lawrence and Ashton Kutcher.

Chingy’s new album ‘Hoodstar’ shines dim

by Efren Marquez
Rampage reporter

As a musician myself, I like to think that I’m willing to give any new music the benefit of the doubt.

However, when it came to the new release by rapper Chingy, this was not the case. Hoodstar, the newest album by Chingy available on Capitol records, is some of the worst rap or hip hop that this reviewer has ever heard. The generic beats used are tired and totally void of any creative spark and the subject matter runs the typical rappers gamut from getting rowdy at the club to making sure that you are drunk and stoned at all times. Enlightening? Hardly.

While this album is sure to appeal to fans and the club scenes, it doesn’t seem to offer anything new to anyone who is already familiar to this type of hip hop.

The first strike is the misspelled song titles such as “Rid’in Wit Me” and the atrocious “Ass N Da Aurr.” The second strike is the blatant, demoralizing sexuality that tries to give the album a smooth R&B flavor but just ends up sounding corny and contrived. It is just more and more of things every other rapper has already covered. The third strike is the fact that help from renowned producers

such as Timbaland and Jermaine Dupri could not save this album. This release is just more brainless Pimpin’ and Clubbin’ music that will probably only appeal to those who already have an affinity for it as well as impressionable youth.

However, there some saving graces to this release. There are several “shout outs” to the artists’ hometown of St. Louis, Missouri which remind us all that he started at the bottom like everyone else and the track “Cadillac Door” is heartfelt in how Chingy tries to convey his message of positive thinking in the face of adversity. This message is especially poignant since Chingy is a success story from the dreary ghettos of St. Louis.

These two things are the only good to come from this album. While Chingy himself is certainly talented, his subject matter is lewd and uninspired and overall this album is a waste of precious listening time. How can someone who is so good with words and rhyme come out with such a terrible album? Maybe all that getting drunk and stoned has finally caught up with him. Two thumbs down, an F and no stars are awarded to this musical car crash. Hoodstar is a dim star that should be blown out of the sky.

Horoscopes

by DC Leavy

These horoscopes have been inspected by the USDA (not really)

Aries - March 21-April 19
Don’t be so selfish. Let the other person have the last piece of pizza. Let’s face it, it’s not like you NEED it.

Taurus - April 20-May 20
Stop it! Don’t do it, and leave it alone! For the love of god, leave it alone!

Gemini - May 21-June 21
Your parents didn’t mean to have you, but they’re glad you came around. Now it’s time to move out.

Cancer - June 22-July 22
Your dad has brown eyes, and your mom has brown eyes. So why do you have green eyes? Do the math.

Leo - July 23-August 22
Tibetan Buddhist have learned to keep calm under extreme circumstances, and you flip out over a lost remote control?

Virgo - August 23-September 22
Someone’s going to break into your car today and steal your CD player, back pack and your Cd case, but they’ll leave all your CD’s behind. What does this tell you?

Libra - September 23-October 22
Terrorism all started from under your bed.

Scorpio - October 23 - November 21
We all know what you do at night, you’re not fooling anyone.

Sagittarius - November 22-December 21
Roses are red, Violets are blue, milk, eggs, sugar.

Capricorn - December 22-January 19
My dad use to have a shirt just like that, until he got a job and could afford a new one.

Aquarius - January 20-February 18
“Queer eye for the straight guy” will come to your house to do a show, and they’ll leave it exactly the way it is. Think about it.

Pisces - February 19-March 20
If I were you I’d just buy a red rubber nose, pink hair and big shoes and call it a day.

Norrius - March 10-March 10 (Sign of the Norris)
“Instant Winner!!!!!!”(always)
You will have a strange urge to roundhouse kick someone in the face today. Go with it.



COLLEGE ACTIVITIES OFFICE

UPCOMING EVENTS

Register to Vote!
Oct. 9 - 13
Fountain Area
9am - 5pm

Ramburger Roundup BBQ
Wednesday, Oct. 18
Free Speech Area
10am - 5pm
Free Meal with Current ASB Card or \$5.00 Without

Ram Pride Day
Friday, Oct. 20
Wear your Official FCC Apparel or Just Wear Red



Fall Carnival
Tuesday, Oct. 31
Ratcliffe Stadium
5:30pm - 8pm



Homecoming
Saturday, Oct. 21
Ratcliffe Stadium
F.C.C. vs. C.O.S.
4:30pm Tailgate
7pm Kick - Off

5 on 5 Football
Friday, Oct. 27
Ratcliffe Stadium
10am - 2pm

Friday Night Jazz
Friday, Oct. 27
5:30pm - 9:30pm
Old Administration Building Courtyard
Tickets Available in the Student Lounge

WE NEED YOUR HELP!
Please donate candy for our fall carnival. All donations can be taken to the FCC Student Lounge by Monday, October 30 at 3:00p.m.

For more information, call: 265-5711

School for decent moviemaking

Heder can't carry tough guy role needed in 'School for Scoundrels'

by Joe Rios
Rampage reporter

Billy Bob Thornton has the rude, beer toting, stubble-faced, man's man character down pat.

Too bad his surplus of testosterone wasn't enough to save the watered down movie I now regret to have seen.

In "School for Scoundrels" Thornton plays Dr. P, a mysterious teacher of a classified course for losers. His program makes Tony Robbins's, "Unleash the Power Within" seminar look like hand-holding day-care center where they sip milk out of cartons.

Balding, sometimes overweight disgraces to mankind flock to his course to grow a pair and pull their swirly'd heads out of the toilets they call life.

Enter: Jon Heder. In the opening scene we meet Roger (Heder). He's your classic low self-esteem, confidence-free pansy who reads self-help books and passes out when he gets nervous. He's single, a meter maid, and has little to no athletic ability.

The audience witnesses his emotional breakdown after his "Little Brother" doesn't want him as his mentor in the Big Brother program anymore. After-

wards, his best friend recommends Thornton's class.

The problem with this movie is that it never really commits to one plot line. Had the entire film been a Cinderella story about Heder's miraculous transformation from milksop caterpillar to macho butterfly I might have liked it.

Unfortunately, the movie continues after the transformation is complete. And this is where it gets disappointing. Heder in no way fits the profile of a tough guy. Granted, he plays the role of gutless nancy to a tee. But the sharp, confident suit just doesn't fit.

Obviously Heder is still riding on the coat tails of Napoleon Dynamite. Had it not

been for that role, there would be no reason he would be cast in this film.

After the first ten minutes, the movie quickly becomes nothing more than littered laughter, an awkward plotline, and poorly cast actors.

The unlikely pair grab hold of your hand and take you down this windy road. They tell a few jokes along the way, but you long to reach the destination. Just when you think its over, you turn a corner and the plot rolls forward.

Heder eventually gains confidence in himself and catches the

eye of his Australian neighbor Amanda (Jacinda Barrett). Thornton moves in and falls for her as well. What was believed to be over now goes on for another 40 minutes.

The two rams clash in a battle of, "I got you, now I got you" while she dances around in the middle.

Once the plot finally slows and the train seems to pull into the

station, they toss another twist and, this time, it actually works. It practically saves the movie from turning out to be a sappy chick flick where the two lovers meet for a warm embrace amidst a crowded airport terminal.

Sorry to burst your bubble, but Heder gets the girl – big surprise.

My DeNiro-esque expression turned to actual disgust after the credits began to roll and Heder was turning flips underwater in some pool over in Florida. That was it.

Like many moments before the audience was taken out on a limb and left swinging from a noose. No climactic laughter or anything. Just rolling credits with speedo wearing Heder as the backdrop.

Matt Walsh and Horatio Sanz provide a little relief with tid-bits of laughter and violent antics, but they in no way make the movie. Ben Stiller stops by as a former star-pupil of Dr. P who's life swirls from promising fairy tale into a tragic romance between him and his house of fifty cats. Even he wasn't man enough to save this movie.

I can't believe I paid twenty bucks for me and my girlfriend to see that crap.



www.movieweb.com

"Black Dahlia" not what it's built up to be

by Chelsea Bieker
Rampage reporter

The Black Dahlia is based on the actual happenings of the most notorious murder to ever happen in California. Set in the 1940's, this film noir takes a look at the story of the two cops who tried to crack the case. When the body of Elizabeth Short is found cut in half with all of her internal organs removed, Bucky Bleichert (Josh Hartnett) and his partner Leland Blanchard not only decide to solve this gruesome murder, they become obsessed with it.

This sounds like it could be an awesome movie, doesn't it? From the trailer I saw a few months ago, I had no doubt it would be. You see, in the trailer they weaved together what looked to be a dramatic, disturbing account of a murder, and all these other cool things that would make a movie great. Creepy music, violent images, romance, Josh Hartnett, intrigue...

Think again. Maybe I built The Black Dahlia up to much in my head. Maybe it was a good movie, and yet somehow I just didn't appreciate it. Or maybe it was just simply a bad movie. I want to tell you to go see it, and I wish I could rave about how great it was, but it just wasn't... instead, it was plain and simple.

The Black Dahlia no doubt had an all-star line up of actors; with Josh Hartnett, Scarlett Johansson, Mia Kirshner, and Hilary Swank, how could they go wrong? It was a smart move to have beautiful people acting in this film, because there is no other reason to watch it if they weren't. I felt as though Hartnett's performance was a tad bit hol-

low and unbelievable. This was not a good thing, considering he narrates throughout the whole film.

I keep going back to the preview, because I have never seen such a chilling trailer. The movie is almost nothing like it at all. It tries to be very "film noir" but fails due to the lack of seriousness. Speaking of seriousness, I would now like to address the scene in the movie in which Bleichert goes to a ritzy dinner to meet current girlfriend, Madeline Linscott's (Swank) family. Her sister asks Bleichert if she can do his portrait, and he agrees. It is not until the audience has forgotten about their brief exchange of words, does she reveal what she has been drawing. She hands him a slip of paper with a comical pornographic scene unskillfully drawn of the two of them having... um... sexual relations. I'm sorry to say that this may have been the best part of the movie, simply because my facial expression changed. But was it necessary? And furthermore, what was the point? This wasn't the only awkward point in the film, but it was probably the most unexpected.

The Black Dahlia was based upon the novel written by James Ellroy, and actually does have a great story line to it. It's about an aspiring young actress in Hollywood, California trying to make her way into the business. If the film had spent maybe ten minutes looking into the life of the girl, I would have (most likely) felt some sympathy for her when she was cut in half. Due to the poor character development, I really didn't care. In fact, my favorite part of my whole movie going experience was the preview for Clive Owen's new film, Children of Men... Now that looks good.



www.movieweb.com

Scarlett Johansson stars as Kay Lake in "The Black Dahlia."