



## Special Edition

### 2005 Accreditation Report

#### Commission's 2005 Recommendations

##### 1. Participatory Governance

Enact a governance process in which all constituent groups (such as ASG and Academic Senate) participate in the college's planning. FCC has been without a participatory planning body for a year.

##### 2. Program Review:

Develop a systematic program review model. The program review process was started in 1999, but several departments have yet to complete one.

##### 3. Planning

Develop a planning process that integrates budgeting, program review, technology and distance education, and HR planning (including hiring and evaluations).

4. "The team strongly recommends that the college remedy the serious deficiencies in the currency, quality, and depth of the library's materials collections as recommended by the previous team."

##### 5. Districtwide

Develop, implement, and evaluate a college-wide strategic plan that incorporates individual planning efforts and results in a cohesive planning framework, and remain aware of SCCCD's plans.



#### Rampage Editorial

### What's going on here?

Fresno City College received a warning from the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC). Simply, FCC faces severe consequences unless it completes a progress report back to the ACCJC by October 15, 2006.

The editors and reporters of the Rampage believe it is imperative that all FCC's stakeholders – administration, faculty, staff, and students – pull together to rectify the situation. There's too much at stake.

On the other hand, we are not the only college going through the same thing.

College of the Redwoods has also been placed on a warning like FCC has. Queen of the Holy Rosary has been placed on probation, which is the next step.

Eight other colleges from within the realm of the ACCJC

**see Editorial p. 2**

## Loud and Clear

### Accreditation team issues FCC challenging report

by Matt Mendez

Rampage Reporter

Fresno City College finds itself in danger of losing its accredited status after receiving a warning from a high ranking accreditation team that visited campus in the fall semester; the school is to send a progress report in response to the evaluation by Oct 15, 2006, after which the accreditation team will decide the school's fate.

An evaluation team from the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) inspected the college from Oct 25-27 of last year, prompting the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC)

to issue the warning along with several recommended steps the school should take if it hopes to keep its accredited status.

Although a warning was issued, the accreditation team's report was fairly positive. Among other favorable findings, the school received accolades for its work to improve on cultural diversity, its timely and innovative response to the rapidly changing workforce, and the design, operation and evaluation of student services.

The recommendations include creating a participatory governance body, implementing a systematic program review, and amending the "serious deficiencies in the currency, quality, and depth

of the library's materials"--all recommendations that were made by the previous evaluation team in 1999.

Many of the recommendations tie in together. The school's participatory governance body, which has ceased to exist for over a year, is responsible for the systematic program reviews; the shared governance body and the program reviews were the accreditation team's two biggest concerns.

#### Participatory Governance

The school used to have a running governing body, called the Institutional Planning and Budget Committee (IPBC), but the group ceased to exist in order to focus on producing the self study report

required for accreditation. Since the break up of the IPBC, there was no new vehicle being used as a governing body for over a year, causing the ACCJC to make their first recommendation.

Said Tony Cantu, the Dean of Student Services: "The governance group is the group that makes recommendations to the president."

A governance body is made up of administrators, faculty, students, and support staff, which could be any staff member of the school that

is not a teacher or an administrator.

Cantu, who was a part of FCC's last governing body, said, "We consider all the recommendations that are being made, and we agree and disagree...but at the end of the day, we make our recommendations to the president and he makes the final decision."

**see Report p.2**

#### What's inside:

- President of the Board of Trustees weighs in. **- Page 2**
- See what President Doffoney, Chancellor Crow, and others think. **- Page 15**
- See what has happened to other colleges in similar situations. **- Page 16**



# Report: *FCC effective despite limited resources*

**Program Review**  
The ACCJC requires each accredited college to have a systematic program review process functioning at all times. Currently, FCC is in the process of simplifying what many teachers and administrators referred as a “cumbersome” review process.

“We’ve got bits and pieces of planning, but it’s not integrated,” said Cantu, “and if you ask anybody on campus how the processes works, I don’t think they’d be able to tell you.”

The program review process was initiated by the ACCJC in 1999, during the last accreditation visit, and according to 2005 accreditation report, several major departments have yet to complete their first review. Those departments are listed as History, Biological Sciences, and Business and Technology.

**Deficiencies in the Library**  
To be fair, the ACCJC reported significant progress being made by the school in library staffing and services; however, the school’s practice of eliminating one old book for each new book it puts in did not let it slip by without being chastised. The accrediting team strongly recommends the college improve the “serious deficiencies” it found regarding the relevance of some of its books.

The team found that at least 43% of the books in FCC’s library have a publication date over 21 years old, and less than 17% have been published since 2001.

**Commendations**  
Despite the disquietude around campus caused by the warning, the accreditation report’s conclusion stated that the school “is run effectively given the limited amount of financial resources.”

Although most view the warning as a sign that the school is being severely censured, almost all sides believe it will have a very contributory effect once the problems are solved.

“That’s the nice part,” said Academic Senate president-elect Rick Santos, “this is a chance for all of us to look at ourselves and not just have a program review, but a school review...it’s a rather healthy thing.”

The school was particularly commended for the appearance of its campus and relative campus safety. The accreditation team’s report even went as far as to say “the college is a beautiful and safe place for students and offers a vast array of programs for students’ lives to become enriched.”

Even the library, which received some of the harshest criticism from the last two accreditation visits, got a lot of good feedback. Mainly, the team commended the library faculty members for the progress they have made in making researching easier for students. The expansion of the bibliographic instruction has lead to over 6,000 students making better use of the library’s materials each year.

The tutorial center and its service staff were also commended for their efforts to track both student usage and student satisfaction with programmatic services.

**Significance to FCC and students**  
Students who graduate or earn credits from accredited schools generally face little trouble having their degrees or units recognized at other accredited institutions.

For students with most of their transfer requirements behind them, the progress report’s due date of Oct 15 provides ample time for completion--regardless of the situation’s outcome. If Fresno City were to lose its accreditation, even attempting to transfer to California State University Fresno would prove to be a fruitless venture.

Fresno City College students should rest assured knowing that the school’s administrators and teachers are working hard to improve students’ lives; however, the faculty is in serious need of better communication amongst each other if the school is to retain its accreditation status.

# Board president weighs in

by Macrina Aivazian  
Rampage Reporter

Throughout Fresno City College’s 100 years of existence and numerous reviews from the Accreditation Council, this is the first warning the college has received.

Les Thonesen, the president of the Board of Trustees, says the Board is to be held accountable for the lapse.

“The Board of Trustees is responsible, but we delegate to the different administrative members to complete their jobs. No one person is to blame- it is a chain of shortcomings from all the levels of administration.”

The warning addresses certain administrative problems and communication issues between the faculty and administration.

“I can assure you that these problems will be resolved in no time. It should be noted that the educational value at Fresno City College is not under warning.”

The warnings concern only the administrative body in the areas of cooperative planning involving the faculty and administrators, program review, materials, and a college wide strategic plan.

Fresno City has received recommendations in the past concerning the issues

they recently received warnings about.

According the Les Thonesen, the issues concerning cooperative planning have been a problem since he joined the Board 24 years ago.

They thought they had improved on their weak areas, but the members of the council seemed to disagree.

Fresno City was also called on the fact that they do not have a participatory governance body.

“We’ve always had a governance body, but how we’ve used it and the extent that we’ve used it has not lived up to the standards of the Council.”

Chancellor Tom Crow will be overseeing the administrative improvements and make sure that the problems are fixed to the standards of the Council.

The administration has approximately 8 ½ months to get their act together.

If the Council does not see change at that time, then FCC may lose it’s accreditation which will in turn make it much more difficult for students to transfer their credits.

“I can assure you that these problems will be resolved in no time,” said Thonesen, “It should be noted that the educational value at Fresno City College is not under warning. The warnings received are only concern the administrative body, and I can promise you that they will be solved.”

# What is Accreditation?

School accreditation is the process by which an educational institution is rendered officially certified as providing services of acceptable quality.

In the United States, accreditation is typically awarded to criteria-meeting schools and hospitals, two invaluable public foundations that go without direct certification from the federal government.

A longstanding history of libertarianism in the U.S. has allowed accreditation to be conducted by private nonprofit agencies, such as WASC.

Libertarianism, as a political and societal philosophy, upholds individual rights, voluntary cooperation, and free will as major components to help ensure a well-governed public.

# Editorial: *Overarching recommendations still exist*

continued from Page 1

have been removed from the same status (warning) that FCC is on, and two other colleges remain on warning status after failing a progress report.

How did we arrive at this predicament?

Back in 2000, the “overarching” recommendations of the accreditation team focused on three areas:

- Implementation of Planning
- Plan for distance learning
- Deficiencies in the library.

In 2005, the accreditation report makes the *same* overarching recommendations, two concerning planning. How could we overlook such important details?

In 2003 the Institutional Planning and Budget Committee, which was the predominant group that provided input for planning and recommendations to the president, shifted their attention, so they could focus on the accreditation process. The college was left without this crucial, decision-making committee.

## Distance Learning

The report noted that FCC’s Distance learning technology has also taken a back seat, and the “new instructional focus of offering distance education classes was not aligned with a campus technology plan,” nor was there “a coordinated plan linking instruction, learning skills, distance education, campus technology, and staff development together.”

While the report noted in 2000, that the “serious” deficiencies of the accreditation study had been addressed, unfortunately those remedies were not completed to the satisfaction of the ACCJC.

Old and outdated books had been culled through, but the “collection is overly small for the size of the student body.”

Another major problem area noted by the accreditation committee involved the program review. According to the 2005 report, faculty and classified staff interviewed expressed uncertainty over what happens to the data that is collected from program reviews.

About one-half of the 102 programs failed to complete their reviews because “Nobody looks at them.” President Doffoney admitted he had not read all 150 program reviews. Doffoney reported that he expects his deans, and associate deans to review those documents. He would review any particular one if any, “extraordinary decisions were to be made.”

The way the process works is that the program committee takes the information that was collected, and makes recommendations.

“What happens to the recommendations is unclear,” stated the report.”

Program review is good for curriculum revision and departmental programming.

## Program Review

It stated that the program review process was “currently stalled,” but it also has been revamped to take a significantly shorter amount of time than had traditionally taken before.

An unidentified staff member at the last academic senate meeting commented that in 2003, her program review took 50 hours to complete.

The new program review model is expected to take only two hours to fill out.

Still, if Fresno City College had followed its own internal recommendations, we might have discovered the inadequacies and averted the accreditation warning.

FCC’s own self study report had found “a growing concern among different constituent groups that one forum for planning was working well individually; however, the roles and decision making process are not clearly delineated,” and that “The process whereby recommendations reach the president’s cabinet for discussion, debate, and action is not clearly communicated.”

The questions we feel must be asked include, should any one person or office be help responsible for the slackness? Is it strictly an upper management issue? Could it have resulted from, perhaps, a lack of understanding (on the part of top administrators) of just how the evaluation process works? Could the present situation be due to a breakdown in communication or expectations that weren’t clearly defined?

One is also bound to wonder if the administration has gotten all the support it needed to carry out the planning process. Did all stakeholders do their part? Did they feel equally invested in the process? Were they given enough access as well as avenues to voice their concerns?

Hopefully once the new ad hoc-shared governance committee is put into place, the planning vehicle will commence, and whatever needs to get done will be done.

Brian Calhoun stated that, “The board members need to make the ultimate decisions as to the level of leadership being provided by senior administrators at the State Center Community College District, and at FCC.”

To quote the report from the ACCJC, “The time for assessment is over. Now systematic and sustained action is required.”





Q & A

with FCC President Ned Doffoney

by Sonya Henson

What is your overall assessment of the recent accreditation report?

The report was a collaborative work by all the faculty and staff of the college. The college worked hard to produce an accurate view of where the college was and the response to the re-affirmation self-study. We looked at the college as an institution we knew there were issues that we want to work on, we reported those issues to the commission on accreditation. They agreed with those issues and the way that we should work on them, and they gave us a time frame to work on them

Who would you say is responsible for these areas that need improvement?

This is a college issue. Everyone in the college is responsible to make sure the college works effectively. There is no blame... A collegiate environment is just that, we are all engaged in making the institution a better place. Each area of the college has a role in making the college a well functioning institution.

If the ACCJC reported that the Institutional Planning and Budget Committee (p. 3) “ceased to function as a planning body and had instead become the vehicle for the college’s self-study report,” could you explain what that would imply?

Yes, I can. It’s a longer than simple response. The Institutional Planning and Budget Committee had bogged down. That is, inclusive,

people had discontinued coming to the meetings. In order to revitalize the work of the self-study, we asked the college to publish some of the self-study rather than to focus on the bogged-down process.

What do you think students can do?

Participate. Participate in the governance of the institution. Participate in assuring that the quality of the institution is continued. Participate in the decision making process.

What do you think the Administration can do?

The same thing. We all participate in the governance of the institution; assure that we maintain well-functioning, well-documented processes that maintain the quality and integrity of the institution.

How close are we to losing accreditation?

That’s not even an option, not an issue. Fresno City College has no <pause> concern about losing its accreditation; there is no issue about the accreditation of Fresno City College. It is, and continues to be an accredited institution. There is no danger in terms of our accreditation, none.

How does this report affect the college’s morale?

It certainly gives us a heightened sense of awareness.

Could you name one or two specific areas that will be given special attention for improvement?

Shared governance and assuring that the students, faculty, and the classified staff all join in the governance decision-making process of the institution. We’re asking students to be on these committees. Students have always been asked to be on the committees. They have historically not participated and it is hard to know what you are thinking when you are never there [the students].

Who will develop the process that provides regular and systematic evaluations of its entire staff?

That’s already been

done. That’s been accomplished already. The regular and systematic evaluation of staff is a matter of board policy and a matter of insistence and it will be my responsibility to ensure that it occurs.

What is the road map for the future?

I’ll show you the outline, but that was part of the shared governance process, is that we develop the road map rather than I develop the roadmap. It’s a college wide function. So the roadmap will be a part of a joint-decision making process, a shared decision making process, rather than saying ‘you develop a road map, we’ll all follow it’, it is, ‘we’ll develop so that we’ll

know where we are.’

What’s first priority on the table?

We’re focused right now on our planning agenda and shared governance. There is an issue that asks us to increase the volume and depth of the library collections certainly we’re going to focus on that by adding a new associate dean on the library resources and some additional financial resources to bolster the collection.

What would you like to tell students?

What I want students to know is that the accredited status of Fresno City College remains. Certainly the commission acknowledged

that Fresno City College is a sound academic institution and making this acknowledgement, the commission commended the depth and the quality of our instructional programs and services to students. As we began an 18 month long self-study, we made a strategic decision to incorporate our planning process into the college’s self-study process. In order to complete that task, we held numerous, well-documented campus meetings designed to involve the college community in the self-study planning process. The accreditation evaluation did not agree with our strategic decision, and they told us about that in issuing the report. We will fully comply with the report by Oct. 15.

A shift in perspective

by Joseph Rios

Rampage reporter

There are leaky pipes and holes in the upper levels of the Fresno City College infrastructure.

In a letter to issued to President Ned Doffoney January 11, the Accrediting Commission said, “A warning is issued when the Commission finds that an institution has pursued a course of action which deviates from the Commission’s eligibility criteria, standards of accreditation, or policy to an extent that raises a concern regarding the ability of the institution to meet accreditation standards.”

The committee, made up of 11 professors, directors, deans, and teachers from various colleges all over the state, labeled the governing body of the college as an area in need of immediate attention.

The point should be stressed that the problems noticed by the commission dealt not with the classroom or with faculty, but with matters outside the realm of actual education.

The college, however, was commended for the quality of its

educational programs, learning resources, tutorial center, and online resources.

“This is not a classroom problem,” said President of Teachers Union Zwi Reznik. “[The administration] has to buy-in the fact that the faculty-members play a major role in the governance of the college.”

Reznik concurs with president of the district’s board of trustees Les Thonesen’s statement from the Fresno Bee in regards to governance issues.

“That’s been a concern of the faculty since I came on this board 24 years ago. It’s a measure of how well the administration works with the faculty to plan for the future of the college. It’s something I thought we had been doing a better job on, but the commission disagreed.”

There is a culture that much of the administration holds to that must be shifted, Reznik said, the input of the faculty, classified staff, and the students must be recognized.

At its present state, the power allotted like an inverted pyramid with the administration

resting atop its wide base.

“There is a top-down leadership,” said Shared Governance Chair, Linda Dekruif, “All four constituents have to be a part.”

Of course, the worst case scenario is that the college loses it accreditation. However, the staff on this campus is not going to allow that to happen.

“I don’t think of losing our accreditation as the worst-case scenario, I think of it as an impossibility,” said Dekruif. “It’s just not a possibility.”

Also, it is well understood that the problems addressed in the report cannot be fixed with a band-aid and a sucker. It is going to take time to see the solutions materialize.

“The college can’t just write a check and all these problems are going to go away,” said Reznik.

Anything yielded from this process will be a positive for the college unless the problems are merely swept under the rug.

“I don’t want these changes to be band-aids,” said Kruif. “I want them to go deeper; I want them to fix the problem.”



Q & A

with SCCCD Chancellor Thomas Crowe

By Clare Godinho and Quinn Robinson

Q: What do you think about the ACCJC’s report?

A: I like some of the commendations that they wrote that had to do with the quality of instruction of the college which I truly believe in. We got a little off track. It’s primarily in the planning process. We didn’t have a good enough vehicle of campus planning. There were a lot of things going but they were looking for an overall direction.

Q: Is part of the reason behind that because the IBPC shifted their attention to the accreditation process?

A: That’s primarily what it was. There was an ongoing vehicle in that brings all the concepts of that participatory governance.

Q: So once the participatory governance has been set then the planning will take place?

A: Participatory governance takes

place on campus all the time. You have everything from your senates and your curriculum committees that make recommendations. They kind of let that slide as they had to deal with the overall planning of the institution. That seems to be the overarching concern as I looked over the report.

Q: What is the road map that you see?

A: They’ve already started some of the things. The key to planning and keeping these things vibrant is involvement. We have to have students, faculty, staff, everyone involved in the process. As a student, if you see a planning process that’s not going to meet your needs or the needs of your fellow students you need to get involved with whatever type of committees where they can come in and voice their opinion. Based on all that input you develop your plan and then come back and monitor the plan and I think they’re on track to do that.

Q: What do you say to the faculty that believes there has been a breakdown in communication?

A: It’s a two way street. The first thing I would say is maybe those are things outside the accreditation process that needs to be worked on. It’s a requirement that they haven’t met and every other college in the state has met and has done it.

Q: What do you have to say about the process of systematic evaluations?

A: It’s within the faculty contracts. People are to be evaluated both tenured

and non-tenured. It’s a team approach to the evaluation for full timers, and it’s the same for the part timers. The evaluation has to be done simply because we want to improve instruction and services. If the teacher is not getting feedback and timely evaluations, we’re not doing justice to the teacher and in the long run the students get short changed. They’re hard to do because they’re time consuming, especially because of all the full time faculty we have.

Q: Why does the report believe it’s a challenge that all constituencies have access to the results of data collecting?

A: I don’t know what the reason would be other than people don’t have access to the decisions being made or something like that. It’s a communications situation that they’re going to have to approve.

They’re going to need to take a look at the types of meetings they hold in order to let everyone hear the issues that are being brought forth and so no communication blunders are made.

Q: Why weren’t you at the town-hall meeting?

A: “I wasn’t invited. It was a campus-wide meeting and I wasn’t involved. I think that in this particular case, you need a little campus talk with people and I know when I was president at Reedley I’d have a few town-hall meetings. I’m available to come anytime.

Q: tell me about the inadequacies in the library.

A: You deal with different groups. They come in many times and they have this standard that if you have this amount of students, you should have this amount of books. They’ve put a lot of money into the library but what they’ve done is while adding new books to the collection, they’ve got rid of old books and some think that the gain has not been as great as it should have been.

I think they’ve made some progress in there. If they had really wanted to play the numbers game, they wouldn’t have culled the collection and just said I got so much amount of books but this amount of them are out of date. I’m one that firmly believes that your library is your center for your academic program. It is important for us to have up to date books. I think we’re looking at more online services and electronic referencing, but you still need books.

Q: What is the timeline for implementing a plan of action?

A: They’ll have to have some reports by October and soon after that, they’ll have a visiting team come back and take a look at their progress. The team will then make a recommendation to the accreditation committee next year whether or not to continue with the accreditation status or remove it. If they thought progress was being made then they would take off the status and not require a progress report until the midterm of the six-year accreditation.



Jacksonville

Case Study

compton

by Victoria McLoughlin

It happened to them

Jacksonville University’s Edwards Waters College, located near downtown Jacksonville, first drew attention when five of its administrators were fired in June 2004. School officials refused to explain why at the time, but it became clear in December of the same year when it was announced that the school had lost its accreditation.

The revocation followed a plagiarism scandal, in which school officials were alleged to have copied parts of a key document from two other colleges. The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools , which was responsible for the revocation, ruled that Edward Waters administrators showed a lack of integrity and competence.

The decision meant that students could not receive federal financial aid, and also inhibited the chances of universities and potential employers recognizing course credits from the college.

Students, faculty and members of the community rallied against the ruling, and in February

2005, Jacksonville Mayor John Peyton appealed the decision at a hearing in Atlanta. Days later, JU received notification that its appeal had been denied.

Edward Water College sued in March, seeking an injunction to block the action of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. The SACS met with EWC leaders, and accreditation was restored as part of a settlement deal. The pending lawsuit was dismissed.

But EWC’s troubles were far from over. Poor financial judgment on the part of previous administration meant that Jacksonville University was placed on probation in December 2005, according to President Dr. Kerry Romesburg.

“SAC’s concern is not misplaced,” Romesburgh admitted in an interview with Jacksonville’s First Coast News.

“This would have been our eighth year of deficit spending,” Romesburg said in an interview with First Coast News. “It will not happen this year,” Romesburg said.

Previous JU administrations authorized builds during a time of tremendous financial hardship for the college. One construction project was an on-campus house for the former university’s President.

The University now appears to be back in the black, after a \$30 million credit from a Miami developer. JU has signed a deal to the developer for a condominium project, which will utilize 62 acres of land formerly belonging to Jacksonville University. The President’s house is expected to be torn down.

EWC also benefited from a further \$1 million donation by The Lazzara Family Foundation this month, in aid of scholarships and operating expenses. The Lazzara family are Jacksonville locals who have supported Edward Waters College for several years.

Lazzara credited the university’s recent success to its new administration.

Enrollment at Edward Water’s College has risen to 800 students this spring.

“We are taking all the necessary precautions and safeguards to protect your official records by digitizing all transcripts to hold them safe and inviolate,” Compton Community College (CCC) Interim President Jamillah Moore said recently to students.

CCC students may soon attend a college that is unaccredited, and Moore used CCC’s website to address many of their key fears.

“If we lose our appeal, we will ensure that your credits remain valid by establishing a *Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)* with a neighboring community college, which is allowed by law,” Moore said.

The MOU would allow students to take classes on the Compton campus, but such classes would be offered by a neighboring college. “This is...not permanent solution,” Moore admitted.

Compton Community College (CCC) knows Fresno City College’s position well.

In June 2005, the college received a strict warning from the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges and

was instructed to make substantial changes before November of the same year. CCC was unable to these changes to a satisfactory degree, and the Accrediting Commission sent a document reaffirming the termination of the college’s accreditation on November 21 2005.

CCC promptly appealed to WASC- the parent organization of the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, asking them to reverse the Accrediting Commission’s decision.

According to Article VI, Section 3 of the WASC: “During the period up to and including the appeal, the institution’s status with the Commission shall remain the same as it was prior to the decision being appealed.” This allows CCC to retain its accreditation and the full rights of a community college during its appeal.

CCC is currently in limbo regarding its accreditation. College representatives will soon present a self-study report to a hearing of WASC members. The time and place of the hearing, as well as the deadline for its verdict, has not yet been announced.

Recommendations from 2000

Overarching:

1. The team recommends the college continue the implementation of planning processes which integrate budgeting, program review, strategic planning, and staff development. This process should be based upon objective analysis of the current situation and a forecast of future circumstances. It should become an institutionalized effort, understood by all participants. The desired outcomes of all planning efforts should be clear and measurable.

2. The college should articulate its plan for distance education and technology and coordinate it with staff development, resource allocation and staff support to ensure effective implementation for students.

3. The college needs to address correction of the serious deficiencies in the currency, quality, and depth of the library’s materials collection.

General:

- Recommendation #1: The college needs to enhance its use, analysis and interpretation of information as it institutes a collegewide planning process. That process needs to integrate all major functional planning for the college.

Recommendation #2: The team recommends that the college articulate its plan and resource allocation process for distance education and technology.

Recommendation #3: The college needs to address correction of the serious deficiencies in the currency, quality, and depth of the library’s materials collection.

Recommendation #4: The team recommends that the college evaluate its efforts in distance learning and coordinate them with other technology needs. In addition, it should develop a resource allocation program consistent with a frequently reassessed technology plan to provide adequate levels of technology support and training.

Recommendation #5: In order for college faculty to reflect the population they serve, the team recommends that the college design and implement a unified staff development process under which there would be coordinated training for faculty screening committees and which would provide multi-cultural awareness training for all staff.

Recommendation #6: The team supports the college’s assessment that a study focusing on the organization and depth of classified support is in order as the college assumes new challenges.

Recommendation #7: The team recommends that the college focus on development of an inventory system that integrates with the management information system. Steps should be taken immediately to establish a process which satisfies audit requirements.

Recommendation #8: Given the enormous demand for new facilities on college grounds, the college must continue to work toward a resolution of the problems posed by the “Old Administration Building.”

Recommendation #9: The present accreditation team concurs with the 1994 accreditation team and recommends strongly that the college develop and provide written guidelines for developing and prioritizing of budget plans. These guidelines should clearly articulate each campus constituency’s role in the process and link planning to the budgeting process.

Recommendation #10: The Board should do a regular self-assessment of its effectiveness. This self-assessment could serve as a model for other units on campus.



Patrick Stumpf

Patrick Stumpf, Associated Student Government president, was surprised when he heard the news of the accreditation warning.

“I was concerned because part of the warning was directed at ASG, concerning our student representatives and certain meetings that are not being held,” Stumpf said.

To fulfill their requirements, as set forth by the recommendations, ASG plans to make sure they have a student representative at Shared Governance meetings.

“Overall, we are going to better our communication with these other decision-making voices,” said Stumpf, “I have lots of confidence in our staff and student body. We will pull through this.”

2005 COMMENDATIONS

Taken directly from the ACCJCA’s accreditation report

1. The team commends the college for the diversity and quality of its educational programs, as reflected in the vibrancy of campus climate, programming, and interactions.

2. The team commends the faculty-based web-supported curriculum review process that has effectively initiated the requirement for student learning outcomes.

3. The team commends the Career and Technology Center for its excellent instructional programs and service, such as maintenance mechanics, automotive technology, body and fenders, maintenance tech, and the fire academy, which meet the economic needs of the Fresno community

4. Library faculty members are to be commended for the progress they have made in expanding bibliographic instruction. More than 6,000 students per year now are learning to make more efficient use of information resources.

5. The college is to be commended for providing safe and sufficient physical resources to support student learning programs and services. Members of the accreditation team described the main campus as beautiful. The institution has been able to attract significant state, local bond and other monies to make impressive improvements in buildings and technology.

6. Tutorial Services staff are to be commended for their comprehensive tracking of both student usage, as well as student satisfaction with programmatic services.



## Parking still prime problem

by Joseph Rios

Rampage Reporter

When it comes to parking, students at Fresno City College have two choices: walk or dance.

During the morning and mid-afternoon hours, it is near impossible to find a parking spot on campus. Students find themselves doing the tango with one another in and out of the parking lot aisles throughout the school day.

To avoid the stress of finding a spot on campus, some students choose to park in the neighborhoods surrounding the campus.

"You don't have to wait to find a spot," said Tyrone Carter while walking across McKinley Ave. "There's just less hassle."

Parking is easier to find, but not always close.

Students who park on the outskirts of campus must walk two to three blocks at times to get on campus. If you add the distance to class, it becomes quite an adventure to get to class.

Parking in those areas has its benefits though: finding a spot is faster, you have a better chance of getting to class on time, you get more exercise, and you save on a parking pass.

However, there is a risk of getting ticketed for parking in certain restricted areas south and north-west of the campus.

A hand full of streets are lined with signs that read, "No Parking - Residents only." Parking in these restricted areas results in a \$35 ticket - almost double the cost of a parking pass.

Del Estabrooke, Parking Manager for the City of Fresno, said that they write 30-35 tickets a day in the areas around FCC. At the beginning of each semester they can write as many as 100 tickets every day.

Students are surprised to come back to their cars and find a pink present on their windshield. Most of the time, this can be avoided.

"Pay attention," said District Police Lieutenant Ron Watson. "You got to look for these signs. They are there."

The City only requires that the "No Parking" signs be placed every 150 feet. A careless student could easily overlook a sign and unknowingly park in an illegal zone.



Photo by Jennifer Schmidt

Many students would rather chance getting a ticket than have to pay for a parking permit on campus

The neighborhood streets with signs are there because the residents petitioned for them. Each resident is given a permit to put on their car, just like students, to park in front of their own homes.

The houses on the west side of Glenn street do not even have a

driveway. This makes the signs essential. Students are free to park on the east side of Glenn; that side of the street has no restrictions.

In most cases, residents do not mind having students park

in front of their homes.

"We don't have a problem with it," said Antonia Arguiano. "Sometimes I let students park in my own driveway."

What bothers some residents is when students move garbage cans on trash day and they

block the driveway, preventing them from leaving their home.

Another complaint is that their street is never swept because the curbs are lined with cars during the day.

The parking shortage keeps students in silent outrage year after year. The problem has many calling for more spaces or even a parking structure.

"They should make more spaces," said Henry Rodas while waiting in his car before class, "Even people with parking passes have to park on the street."

It costs approximately \$2,500 to construct a single parking stall. Multiply that by a few hundred and the price breaks the millions.

The next issue is location. Where could another lot be built? Fresno City College does not have the luxury of vast fields surrounding its campus that it could tear into to build parking lots.

The next proposal is: if you cant go out - go up. Why doesn't the college build a parking garage?

The cost for a single stall in a basic parking garage can easily hit \$10-15,000. After they are built, the law requires that they be well lit and patrolled 24 hours a day.

Elevators have to meet code, janitors, mechanics, and electricians have to be paid - a whole lot more then cement goes into a parking garage.

"I've got a few garages here in Fresno I got to take care of," said Estabrook. "They're just like one of your classrooms. The only difference is they don't have windows."

All these precautions are made to ensure the safety of the students and of the vehicles in the garage.

"The college is just not ready to take on the liability," said Watson.

The cost of the garage would inevitably fall on the tax payers, the students, or both. The stress of parking becomes a necessary evil if tuition and parking fees are to stay as inexpensive as they are.

In places like Sacramento, it costs as much as \$35 a month to park in a parking garage. At UC Davis, it costs \$7 to park for just one day.

Paying that kind of money makes walking across the street or driving around for a few minutes sound a whole lot better.

We all have choices.

*"Even people with parking passes have to park on the street."*

-Henry Rodas

## FCC theater students attend competition in Utah

by Herbert Graham

Rampage Reporter

Ten actors and actresses from Fresno City College were nominated to attend the American College Theater Festival (ACTF) regional theatrical competition in Utah.

The competition was from February 13-18. FCC students represented ACTF's region 8, which

consist of California, Arizona, and Utah.

The students were allowed to bring a partner to compete with them, providing a total of twenty spots for students to represent FCC.

Ryo Vasquez, FCC student, was nominated for his performance of "Teazers".

The theatrical play, "The Canyon Suite," which was written by FCC's own Chuck Ervin,

was also nominated to compete in Utah. He is an advisor for this trip as well, along with Dr. Michael Swanson.

Over 100 students auditioned in the ACTF regional competition. Students at the regional competition performed monologues and two scenes two-three minutes long. Those short performances determine whether an individual will move further to another round. There were three

rounds, the preliminary, semifinals, and finals. Those who make it to the finals are allowed to attend the ACTF national competition in Washington DC. The national competition will be held in the Kennedy Center.

The Fresno City College students who attended the regional finals funded themselves. No fundraisers were held to help pay for the expenses of the trip.

One Fresno City College

student, Aaron Bonilla, who was nominated to attend the regional competition explained his opinion concerning the trip, and what he hopes to gain.

"Going to this competition is a great place to connect with other individuals. Even if you do not make it to the finals a judge or someone might ask you to participate in something they are doing, for example a play, movie, or commercial."



# Rampage

## RAMPAGE

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## Go, United States, Go!

by Jessyca Dewey

Rampage Reporter



“What would the most advanced, most forward-looking, most self-assured country in history do without its periodic crises of confidence?” wrote Charles Krauthammer in the most recent edition of ‘Time Magazine.’

He goes on to say that many times throughout history the extremely superior, untouchable United States of America has faltered in its’ position as the number one super-power in the world. He says we have always come through it before and we will now.

Let’s do a little review. In 1998, CNN released a report on the Chinese military and their potential to surpass the U.S. as the world’s military super-power.

“The United States is widely regarded as the world’s sole military superpower. But many experts expect China to challenge that status on the military front within the next century,” wrote Military Affairs Correspondent Jamie McIntyre.

According to the Economic Policy Institute, the United States has the highest poverty rate among the countries that belong to the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development.

Furthermore, in 2004 37 million people in the U.S. lived in poverty, which was up 1.1 million since 2003, according the U.S. Census.

Many European countries have much better health care and provide many more services to the people. In Sweden, parents may get up to 16 months of paid maternity leave whereas in the United States, parents are lucky to get two months of unpaid leave.

Recently, the National Center of Education Statistics revealed that only 31 percent of college graduates can read at a proficient

level. Mark S. Schneider, commissioner of education statistics remarked, “The declining impact of education on our adult population was the biggest surprise for us, and we just don’t have a food explanation. What’s disturbing is that the assessment is not designed to test your understanding of Proust, but to test your ability to read labels.”

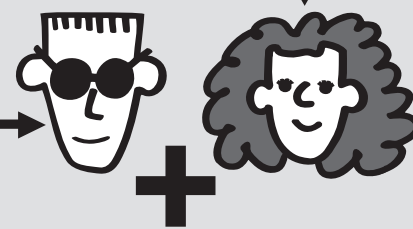
The study consisted of a sample group of 19,000 individuals over the age of 16 who were asked to read prose, do math and find facts in documents. The results, according to WorldNetDaily.com, “stunned, shocked and appalled” American educators.

According to the National Center for Educational Statistics, in 1998 approximately 31% of all 4<sup>th</sup> graders performed at or above the proficient reading level. 38% of these students performed at or below the basic level.

At a local level, the Fresno County dropout rate exceeds the state average by 36% and now Fresno City College’s status as an accredited institution of higher education is on shaky ground.

Perhaps instead of following the advice of Krauthammer that we should just overlook the statistics and continue to consider ourselves the reigning country of the world, we should rise to the occasion. Perhaps, rather than disregarding such concerns as a “periodic crises of confidence” we should take them into consideration. We should do whatever it takes to combat such statistics so that when the occasion should arise, the United States can confidently and most importantly, correctly, claim position as the reigning super-power of the world.

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# A concert of music from around the world

by Herbert Graham  
Rampage Reporter

The Fresno City College’s Accapella Choir, City Singers, and Chorale’s, performed “A Concert of World Music,” earlier this month.

The multicultural concert on February 6, took place in the FCC Theater.

The FCC Percussion Ensemble, The Gibson Goldnotes, FCC Folklorico Dancers, and the Polynesian Children of Fresno also performed in the concert.

Julia Dana is the director of all three of choirs and Matthew Horton is the Accompanist.

The theme of the multlultural concert was “It Takes a Whole Village to Raise a Child,” which is from a west African saying by Joan Syzmko.

There was music from many different countries, for example Sweden, Scotland, Spain, China, Philippines, Samoa, South Africa, and the United States.

The first song of the concert was “It

Takes a Village.” This grabbed most the audiences’ attention because it was the theme of the concert and brought excitement.

Other songs, for example “The Flower Drum Song” and “Pokpok Alimpako” the choir smiled and gave energy, and lured the audience to smile and enjoy the song with the choir.

After the Fan Dance the audience gave a thunderous applause.

There were songs that described joy, but also songs of pain as well.

“Motherless Child” is a song of pain and suffering. While the choir sang, the emotional value was apparent. The soloist Isabel Contreras expressed emotion and pain in her performance.

The last song for the concert was “Down By the Riverside.” The song left the audience wanting more and leaving with a smile on your face.

The Polynesian Children of Fresno choir song with the Fresno City College choir to offer a grand finale performance.

# Ask Your Mama: *The Langston Hughes Project*

by Sonya Henson  
Rampage Reporter

Langston Hughes wrote “Ask Your Mama: Twelve Moods for Jazz” as a 12 part poem to be combined with music. “This creative masterwork was left unperformed at the time of Hughes’ death.” says Dr. Ronald C. McCurdy, musical director of the Langston Hughes Project, Ask Your Mama: 12 moods for jazz. The Langston Hughes Project brings the poet’s vision to life. The performance is based on musical cues originally suggested by the author and combined with slide show of images from the Harlem Renaissance.

The lights go down and a voice begins to speak. This is Langston Hughes himself, explaining his poem, “Ask Your Mama”, is meant to be accompanied by music where he has written such instructions. And so the music comes in.

Dr. Ronald C. McCurdy begins with a trumpet solo, and gradually the other instruments join. Elijah James Brueggemann plays piano, Dan Lutz Bass Cello, Robert Asare Perkins percussion, and Eric Bailey videography. Between musical sessions, Dr. McCurdy reads each of the twelve sections of the poem.

The artists come from across the country. Dr. McCurdy is the chair of the jazz department at the University of Southern Claifornia. Elijah James Brueggemann is a native of Los Angeles. Dan Lutz completed the music program at the University of North Texas. Robert Asare Perkins earned a bachelor of music at the Univeristy of Southern Claifornia. Eric Bailey has co-founded both a film group and the MN Spoken word Association.

Dr. McCurdy says, “This is Hughes’ homage



in verse and music to the struggle for artistic and social freedom in America and abroad at the beginning of the 1960’s” Hughes uses sarcasm such as, “You know, right at Christmas they asked me if my blackness, Would it rub off? I said, Ask your mama.” From Cultural Exchange (Mood 1). The poet also includes such philosophic lines as, “Sometimes you are lucky, or at least you can dream lucky-even if you wake up cold in hand. But maybe with a new antenna you will get a clearer picture.” From Blues in Stereo (Mood 5).

The Langston Hughes Project was presented as part of the college’s celebration of African American History month, at the FCC Theater on Feb. 10. College President, Ned Doffoney delivered the formal welcome, proclaiming to all in attendance, “You know the importance of respect and dedication and love for jazz.”

The Alvarado group, St. Agnes hospital, The Rios Company, and JazzFresno sponsored the evening’s events. This is the first event JazzFresno has planned and promoted as an organization. “We’re trying to be the hub of jazz in Fresno,” says Alana Shapazian of JazzFresno.

JazzFresno’s mission is to promote mainstream jazz in the Central San Joaquin Valley. Teaming up with 90.7 KFSR radio station, JazzFresno hopes to expose the community to various facets of jazz. More information about JazzFresno can be found at [www.jazzfresno.org](http://www.jazzfresno.org).

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# Wall of Honor celebrates 10 years with six new inductees

by Jeff Rodriguez

Rampage Reporter

State Center Community College District is celebrating their 10 year anniversary of the Wall of Honor.

Six new members will be inducted on Feb. 28, 2006 at the African American Historical and Cultural Museum.

Former Chancellor Bill Stewart created this wall to celebrate success of African-Americans who had affiliation with community college district. Inductees must have either attended one of the SCCCDColleges (Fresno City College, Reedley College, Clovis Center, Madera or Oakhurst Center), or be part a board, commission, longstanding committee, faculty, or staff of SCCCDC.

Dorothy Smith, a member of the Board of Trustees said, “Inductees must been a vital force in the community. It is not because someone is a student or professor.” Giving back to the community is an important part of being inducted.

“Past inductees had the ability to impact the community in a special way,” said Bill Riddlesprigger, member of the black faculty and staff.

This year’s inductees surely meet the criteria. Pauline Fuller, Paul White, King Rhodes, James Rhodes, Cecil Rhodes, and Robert Rhodes are going inducted to the Wall of Honor.

Pauline Fuller is a counselor at Fresno City College. She has been a member of Fresno City College staff for 28 years. She was on the Financial Aids Appeal Committee 2002, 2003, 2004, and 2005. She also

attended Fresno City College as a student, and served as President of the Black Student Union. KSEE 24 recognized her last year during African-American History Month as on of the “Portraits of Success.” Improving education for all students was her career goal.

Paul White graduated with an Associate of Arts Degree from Fresno City College in 1968. He played basketball for the Rams. He went on to get his Master of Public Administration from Fresno State. He was a member of the March of Dimes and former Chairman of the Board, Fresno County Black Infant Health Leadership Committee, NAACP life member, California State Department of Community Services and Development, Board of directors for the Marjaree Mason Center, and many more. He received the President’s award and Certificate of Appreciation from the United Black Men of Fresno. These are just the beginning of the great things this man contributed to the community.

“It is a well deserved honor,” said Shiela White, Paul’s wife. “He was a man who embodied the community.” Paul believed that education is part of the tide that lifts the boat of economic prosperity.

King, James, Cecil, and Robert are all four brothers. “I never thought something like this would happen,” said James Rhodes. “It is such an honor for all of us to be inducted together.”

King attended Reedley College. He played football for the Tigers. He set an example for his brothers to follow. “We all followed my brother King,” said James Rhodes. King went to San Francisco State where he pursued a dental career. He now

owns and operates two dental practices in the state of Texas. He loves to help struggling children in the community.

James also attended Reedley College, and played football for the Tigers. James is a retired school principal. He goes out to the community to help kids in need. He believes struggling is what you make it. “I wish I could tell kids who say they are struggling what happened to the Rhodes family,” said James Rhodes. The Rhodes family lived in a tent while growing up, but they stayed in school and made a difference. He believes effective teaching changes lives. He gives free tutoring to students in need. He is also does ministry for the lord.

Cecil was just like the other brothers going to Reedley, and playing football for the Tigers. He is an Assistant Chancellor at Stanislaus State. He believes education

is important for all students. Counseling students about education is a passion of his. The four brothers get together once a year at Cecil’s house.

Robert Graduated high school a year early. He started Reedley College at the age of 16. He would also play football for the Tigers. He would further his education by becoming a medical doctor. He was the ER director of Madera Community Hospital. He now works at Delano State Prison as a medical doctor.

These six inductees have met all the criteria, and are great role model for African-Americans in our community. “The Wall of Honor gives black children in our community a source of inspiration. Allowing them to see people that look like them accomplish so much, and dream big,” said Bill Riddlesprigger.

## Tolerance and diversity go hand in hand



### FCC community gets club for education, fun, and support

by Sean Felten

Rampage Reporter

Fresno City College offers several clubs for students to join. There’s one club that hasn’t been discussed that much on campus and that club would be the Diversity Club. Many students don’t know what the club is about. It’s time to shed some light on what this club is all about.

Diversity Club is a club that caters to the GLBTQ community (Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, and Questioning Individuals). It’s basically a place for support on many issues that affect this community.

Its old name used to be called Unity Club, but recently it changed to Diversity to sound more inclusive to everyone.

SusanHolford (FCC faculty member) started this club. Currently, this club has five faculty members as advisors: Susan Holford, Nancy Gutierrez,Todd Martinez, Margaret Hebert, and Jerry Thurston.

The club discusses many different

topics, in relation to the GLBTQ community. Sometimes, the club will choose to watch different films that deal with GLBTQ characters that face many different issues.

These films are meant to be educational along with entertaining. There are several events that go on with the group, and some of these events are at certain locations.

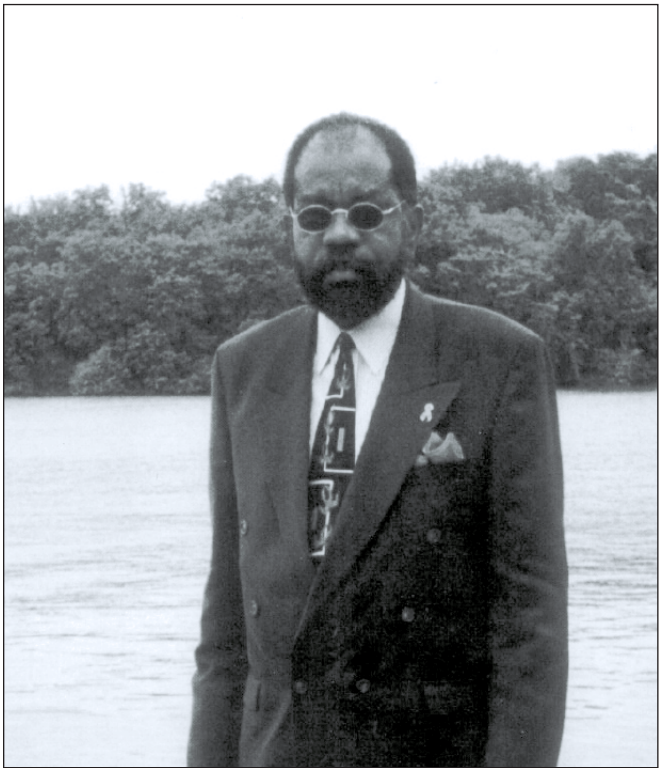
Diversity was formed because there really wasn’t a place to go for people in the GLBTQ community. This club is open to anyone, regardless of sexual orientation.

The president of the club is Anthony Flores, vice-president is Emily Hernandez, treasurer is Katrina Rios, and the secretary is Raisha Tacella.

If you’re interested in this club, the Diversity Club meets every Friday at 3:00pm in SO-110 (Staff Lounge).

Here’s a list of upcoming events- “Coming Out Stories” which is in April. Queer Advocacy Youth Day (March 6th) Movie nights are held each month.

The late Paul White is one of the 2006 nominees for the Wall of Honor. White played for the Fresno City College basketball team before transferring to Fresno State in 1968.



## Letters to the editor

I am a student at City College and I was reading the Rampage from Feb 8th 2006, when I came across a movie review section. The article by Jessyca Dewey on the movie Matador is the reason I am writing this e-Mail.

Jessyca begins the article by saying how awful the movie “Matador” is, she rates is as one of the worst movies she’s ever seen. She is very vague as to describing the reasons she believes the movie “Matador” is so terrible. What I found really unprofessional is the fact that Jessyca admitted at the end of the article that she had in fact, not seen the entire movie. She says “Why make myself endure the end?”

I can answer Jessyca’s question by saying that, as a “journalist” her job is not to assume things but to report facts. I also can’t figure out how the news editor of the

Fresno City Rampage would allow such an article to be published. I think it is very unprofessional for someone to write a critique about a movie which he/she has not seen completely.

I understand this is only a college newspaper and that the Rampage journalists lack the experience of professional journalists, but it is the Editor or Advisor’s job to teach students the proper ways of conducting a real critique.

I enjoy reading the Rampage on my breaks but I feel it is my duty to report any type of errors I encounter in it.

Yours truly

Alex Sanchez



## Rams add fourth notch to their belt

*FCC’s win over COS earned them their fourth conference title in four years and a No.2 seed*

by Joseph Rios  
Rampage Reporter

Three? Make that four straight Central Valley Conference titles.

The Hustling Rams’ victory over The College of the Sequoias on Saturday propelled them to their fourth league crown and a No.2 seed in the NorCal Regionals.

The COA Championships will be held at Selland Arena this year. Both the men’s and women’s championships will be held in Fresno. The games tip-off on March 9, leading up to both final games March 12.

Fresno City finds itself in a familiar position: (1) they’re top of the league (2)

they’re headed to the playoffs.

Last season, FCC became the third team to win the COA Championship with an undefeated 34-0 record. Compton College did it in 1970 with a 33-0 record. Riverside Community College, under former Fresno State head coach Jerry Tarkanian, was the first in 1964. The Tigers finished 35-0.

FCC hosts the winner of Foothill and Cosumnes River in the second round Feb 25.

Cosumnes River went 1-13 in the Bay Valley East Conference last season. They brought the season to a wrap with a 4-22 overall record.

Foothill ended their Coast North record last season 4-6. They finished a flat .500

with a 13-13 record overall.

With so much practice and experience at the top it may seem like a walk in the park for the Rams to take the title and move onto the post season. This was not the case for the Rams’ last game against COS.

Coach Vance Wahlberg never looks past a team, especially when they are also 12-1 and the game decides who holds the league title. If not more importantly, the game would decide where the Rams sit in the playoffs.

The Giants wanted to knock off FCC and make sure that they got a lower seed and the “gift” of a road opener.

However, in classic Ram fashion, Fresno hit the

ground running. The Rams shot their way to an 84-66 victory.

The smaller, faster Fresnans made use of their shooting ability on the outside to eliminate the COS Giants.

In the first half alone, the Rams hit 8 of 13 from the field – a sharp contrast in comparison to the Giants’ 1 for 5.

COS brought it within 11 points in the second half, but the Rams held tough and put the game away.

The win against the Giants etched win number 11 in their streak. FCC has won 21 of their last 22 games going into the post season.

Tyson Parker and Adrian Sanchez led the Rams against COS with 13 points

each. Sanchez hit three from outside the arch in the first half.

Freshman out of Oakland, Keena Payton matched sophomore Heath Colvin for 11 points. Sophomore Rock Cardoso followed behind with 10.

Sophomore Jordan Farley put up 9 points for the Rams. Dubois Williams scratched 8 points. Freshman from Clovis East, Philip Mat-cham contributed 6 points and Gary Jenkins (recovering from a hand injury) etched 1.

Ten Rams on the roster put points on the board. They shot 11-29 from the arch and 29-66 overall. FCC shot 78 percent from the free throw line (15-19).



Photo by Nate Tyree

Jordan Farley, a 6’5” sophomore for FCC, goes for a layup against West Hills College.



Photo by Nate Tyree

FCC sophomore guard Adrian Sanchez attempts a short range jumper in the Rams’ game against West Hills College.



# Baseball set for league play

*Rams battle defending state champions, and brace themselves for questionable officiating in CVC*

by Jeff Rodriguez  
Rampage Reporter

Fresno City College had a heck of a time when they faced off against Santa Rosa last season. The Rams appeared to have things figured out against defending state champion Bear Cubs. FCC had the lead through five innings against Santa Rosa, which was declared a final after rain. The next morning, however, FCC was forced to restart their game with Santa Rosa.

The Bear Cubs would eventually take that early game behind their starting pitching. A couple displays of good fielding by the Rams kept them close in the second game. Third basemen Kris Haycock, made a great driving stop to halt a Bear Cubs rally. Pitcher Sean Halton, snared a line drive and then doubled off the runner at first.

The Rams took the lead in the bottom of the eighth on a fielder's choice. Pitcher Daniel Mora was cruising on the mound into the ninth, until infielder Clint Pridmore hit a home run to tie the game at 5 for Santa Rosa. The Bear Cubs would later add a sixth run to take the lead for good.

The Rams started the season with a 9-4 record. Porterville is coming up next on their schedule. "We have had a good start to the season for having such a tough schedule," said coach Ron Scott. After dropping the first game of the season on the road against Cabrillo College, the Rams have since won seven of their next eight games at home.

Pitcher Larry Holscher, picked up his first win in a 10-4 route of Cabrillo on Feb. 7. Pitcher Ryan Hofmann, got the win in a 6-1 victory over Cabrillo bringing his record to (2-0).

They took two out of three from Sacramento City College at Eulless Field. Daniel Mora (2-0) got the win in the first game against Sac City 5-4. Larry Holscher (2-0) would record his second win in a 6-4 win in the second game over Sac City. FCC failed to complete the three game sweep falling 6-4 at Eulless Field.

Chabot College would drop two while visiting the Rams. The second game was part of the tripleheader on Saturday. Derek O'Reilly went 3 for 3 and scored two runs in the 6-2 win over the Gladiators. Rams pitcher Lee Collins recorded the win by striking out five in his first start of the season.

Now the Rams will gear up for league play. The league expanded the schedule to 28 games this season, making the league games start earlier. "The league is always trying to find a way to make us lose," said

Scott.

Under Scott, the Rams have won 10 Central Valley Conference titles in 14 seasons. Scott has no reason to believe this year will be any different.

"We plan on winning the league," said Scott. "We win it every year."

Although Scott remains optimistic about the season, the CVC proves to be a tough task for the Rams. Modesto and Merced are quality opponents, league rival Porterville has always been a place where FCC hate to travel because of questionable umpiring. The Rams will travel to Porterville twice this season for CVC clashes.

### Upcoming games at FCC

2/23.....	Porterville
3/2.....	West Hills
3/4.....	Sequoias
3/7.....	Reedley
3/11.....	Modesto
3/18.....	West Hills
3/23.....	Reedley
3/28.....	Porterville
3/30.....	Taft
4/6.....	Seuoias
4/8.....	Merced
4/20.....	Modesto
4/29.....	Taft



FCC freshman right-hander Derek Achelpohl in action against Chabot College.



Fresno City freshman infielder Kent Riemer gets set to ring in a pop-up

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# The Sports Corner

## The media’s wrath against Bonds

by Quinn Robinson  
Rampage reporter

Greatness.  
Everyone in this world would love to experience it once in his or her lifetime. We will even go as far as doing the craziest things just to gain the notoriety that greatness bestows.

In professional sports, great players have come and gone for generations. Each has its own flock of adoring fans who follow every move, have every collectible imaginable and stay up so late to watch them play a game on the west coast, that they are better off just showering and heading to the office afterward than going to sleep for two hours.

Why is it then that we feel this way about so many players, but seem just fine about seeing perhaps the greatest player of all time leaving for good?

If I were to read off the stats of seven MVP awards, eight consecutive Golden Gloves and 12 Silver Slugger awards, you would sit there in amazement and wonder what type of specimen could do such a thing?

When I tell you that “specimen” is Barry Bonds, the entire fascination of such statistical supremacy fades away like the support you would receive in a newsroom environment--- that’s another story for another day, maybe next issue who knows.

Back to the topic at hand, since the day he debuted in the Majors (May 30, 1986, Arizona State to be exact), Bonds has received numerous criticisms for his “me-first” attitude he displays at will, conflicts with teammates and fans (Jeff Kent and the Boston fans for example) and the fact that his godfather is perhaps the greatest CF of his time, if not ever, in Willie Mays.

Many wanted to see Bonds fail just for the fact that he was—in a way— related to Mays. Their tempers and outlooks on the game were very different, but their prowess was a cut above the rest.

When Bonds reached the 500 home run plateau in 2001, a feat few in baseball have been able to accomplish, there was no celebration at home plate like there would’ve been with let’s say a Mark McGwire or Sammy Sosa. He just crossed the plate like the previous 499 home runs he had hit and walked back to the dugout.

In a sense, Bonds isn’t like McGwire or Sosa. He doesn’t tick that way. McGwire and Sosa loved it when they had the spotlight in the ’99 season during the chase for the home run record of Roger Maris.

In 2001 when Bonds was off to a monster start, he didn’t care much for all the publicity, he wanted the focus to be off of his soon to be record setting season of 73 home runs in a single season,

because that was just the type of person he was. He didn’t need anyone to tell him how good he was or that his swing was capable of taking the breath away of sixty plus thousand spectators in a moment’s time. He just wanted to be Barry, that’s all... just Barry.

The media, however, decided to keep prying on one who mystified us so much with his outbursts in the locker room after games and his comments in the paper made to either the media or teammates.

The biggest misunderstanding of Barry Bonds is he said what was on his mind, no matter when or where he said it. People like that intrigued us and made us respect them, but when it came from Bonds’ mouth, we find it repulsive and ignorant.

A couple of years after his home run record season, controversy over a Bay Area laboratory known as BALCO came to light. Bonds’ trainer, Gary Anderson, was associated with the owner of BALCO, Victor Conte. When a federal grand jury called numerous sports figures to testify about the BALCO case, Bonds was one immediately called to the stand.

As word got out across the nation, many began to speculate that Bonds was a dead-ringer for steroids. McGwire admitted to using a horse steroid after his 70 home run season in ’99 and since entering the season in ’86, Bonds went up from his original weight of 185 pounds to a muscular 220-230 range. It’s possible that the cause of that are steroids, because seriously, no one can ever put on thirty to forty pounds of muscle in 18 seasons.

Come on let’s be serious. For the math whizzes out there that’s a total of two and a half pounds of muscle per season. It’s really not that much when you think about it and if you want to make the argument and tell me that “He still did take steroids” then here’s what I have to say to that.

Who cares?  
Bonds hasn’t been the only one to ever take steroids. Hell the intimidator turned pretty boy Jason Giambi admitted to taking steroids and the media praised him for that. But they persistently continue to ridicule Bonds because honestly, he won’t admit to something I don’t think he ever did knowingly, or ever did period.

So as the baseball season is less than forty days away, many of you should take this season and really take a good look at Barry Bonds.

It just might be we will never see another player like him.

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## Is FCC the new mall?

*It's obvious why people prefer hanging out at the fountain to going to class*



**Christine Hauessling**

Rampage Reporter

Who could have known that, eventually, the hangout haven that was the mall would be replaced by FCC?

Yes, our campus is the new mall. Unless, that is, stores at the mall count for anything, but the average American adolescent knows better than that.

The mall was, and still is, where the average Matt and Ashley go to mate. Well, let's not take it that far. It's where they go to check out members of the opposite sex, make contacts and parade around in a manner similar to that of the peacock showing off its colorful feathers.

Taking into account that I am analyzing a different species here, this has to be translated: baggy pants meet tight hip-huggers, bed-hair meets hair that requires the female to get up several hours before dawn to look as if she just got out of a display window.

When I started regularly visiting our lovely campus, and I really think it is lovely, I wondered about all the people seemingly never leaving their spot close to the waterhole.

A friend then told me that 50% of people you see on campus just go there to socialize. The other 50% are the ones you hardly see on campus since they only rush from the car to class and back.

I have come to adopt this point of view and every semester I see it enforced by those people whose presence in class declines proportionally to the time they spend checking out each other.

Come to think of it, campus is indeed the best place to meet partners on a daily basis... although for some, it may not be the best idea to start dating while he's still your teacher.

First of all, it sounds smart, going to campus. You don't have to tell people that you never actually grace any classes with your presence.

Second, campus provides open restrooms and easy access to a diverse selection of food.

Also, FCC has yet to come up with the idea of a cover charge! So, you save a great deal of money. Even more since there is no social obligation to buy girls drinks, which leads me to two more advantages: you are allowed on campus even when you are under 21.

Also and probably more importantly, no alcohol means no beer goggles which means no horrible surprises the next day.

It beats online dating because you actually get to see the person you're talking to and this may help you eliminate weirdos. But beware, unlike Match.com, there are no dating guarantees at FCC.



**Nathan Tyree**

Rampage Reporter

Let's hope that if you are a student at Fresno City College you attend your classes rather than hanging out at the water fountain with little insight of attending a class.

A four-year, even a two-year, degree is much more important to receive for someone's future career rather than throwing that time out the door by hanging out and not learning. I am not the only one who has noticed the deterioration of determination in students who do not attend classes and merely show up along the walkways and fountain steps of the campus only to socialize with passing friends who attend class.

A college degree is essential in today's working class society and industrial jobs. To not earn a degree when given the chance in yesterday's or tomorrow's society is preposterous. Today's industry and career choices need to receive many of the students that graduate from college, and it needs them as soon as possible to keep the impact of workflow at a steady pace. Our society relies upon young men and women between the ages of 20 and 30 years old but what message are we sending to the working class of America when we, a two-year community college, have students that go to school but do not attend classes?

If you want to socialize and not attend a class, then you parked your car at the wrong parking lot because it is not the mall parking lot. Throughout the years, malls have been used to symbolize a place where friends and cliques hang out and talk. Please do not make this community college or any other college campus a place to symbolize cliques and the socialism a mall represents. This campus is meant to represent many walks of life that yearn to learn and to help move forward a technological and complex society into the future.

What has happened to our determination to finish college and succeed in society? If you're a student on the four-year, or even seven-year plan, graduating from a two-year community college and you're also spending the day on campus and not attending class, then next semester, register earlier and fill the weekdays with courses in order to graduate sooner. I can understand if you are a student who already has a large workload of job, school, and family under your belt and you need to pace yourself in order to get your degree, but I cannot understand why someone who has a small workload would want to come to school only to socialize.

If you take the time and energy to travel to Fresno City College, you might as well take that time and energy to buy the units you need to finish a two-year degree. It makes me wonder what the American society will be like in twenty years when we young adults are wasting our time by speaking about gossip, reality TV, sitcoms, movies, what actor is divorcing what actress, or what rapper shot what rapper, instead of attending a class needed for the intended degree.

If you want to socialize, then go to the mall. If you want to be educated, then go to class. Period!

## Astronomical prices for unaccredited classes?



**Sean Felten**

Rampage Reporter

Many students attend Fresno City College in hopes of transferring to a CSU or UC campus a couple years later. In order to transfer, students need to take courses as aligned by the general education (GE) transfer list.

Students need to complete at least 60 units or more to achieve their AA degree before transferring. It is mandatory that students finish their GE requirements for the English/Mathematics area. Many students, however, get placed into lower division English and Mathematics courses, which don't

count for transferable units because they are developmental courses. Therefore, I raise this question: Should lower division courses count as credit, or are we just wasting our time taking courses that don't count as units at all?

The expectations of a transferring student are that they take at least 15 units each semester. When you do the math and add it up, in two years, the student would have finished 60 units.

Once students reach 60 units,

they can officially transfer with or without their AA degree.

However, many students won't finish in two years for various reasons. One of the reasons is because lower division units don't count for transferable credit.

I think they should count because we're already paying astronomical prices for our courses and textbooks. An average three-unit class is \$78. Why do we have to be haggled? Maybe as time goes on, change will happen. We still have a long way to go.



# A coffeehouse for FCC

*Whether you are a student, a teacher, a vegan, a carnivore, looking for good coffee, free internet or just a place to relax - head to Javawava next to Fresno High School*



**Christine Hauessling**

Rampage Reporter

"How's the Chai Tea?"

"Oh, it's a taste bud orgasm!"

That goes not only for the tea but most of the things Javawava offers, such as soup, salads, sandwiches and wraps, all very healthy and vegan-friendly.

Javawava has been at the corner of Echo and Weldon, in front of Fresno High School, since summer 2003. In August 2005, Mike Canton bought it. Although he

had been in corporate sales since graduating college, ever since he started hanging out in coffee shops Mike wanted to have his own. The two things he always makes sure exist at Javawava are quality and friendliness.

"With those two things in a coffee shop everything else sort of comes together." Voilà, there is your friendly place for customers, as well as for people who work there.

Javawava has five employees, all students or young people who are into local arts or theater, working hard at the coffee shop as well as on their artwork.

"The Wuave," as it is affectionately called, has another calling besides being a first-class coffee shop: supporting local artists.

Every first week of the month, right in time for Arthop on the first Thursday of the month, the look changes when new art is featured inside the coffee shop. All done by independent local artists on all levels, from very amateur to professional, this creates a

colorful variety of paintings, sculptures and photographs.

"I've always had a fondness for this side of town," Mike gives as the reason why he chose a coffee shop so close to Tower District, where he feels more at home than in the northern part of town.

Even though there is a long list of artists whose art will be featured in the next months, Mike is always open to new artists. All they need to do is just come by and ask.

While he doesn't sell any of the pieces exhibited, Mike makes contact between artists and potential buyers at no commission.

Hours are Monday through Friday from 6-5, weekends from 7-3. Unless there are special events, that is. Every second and fourth Wednesday of the month, the coffeehouse is open from 6 p.m. through 8:30 p.m. for Open Mic Night.

Javawava also has a Movie Night that starts at 8 p.m. and happens on every first

and third Saturday of the month. The last movie shown was "Office Space."

"I'm very lucky to have the staff I have," Mike says about his crew doing most of the creative work at Javawava.

The walls inside have already been yellow and red for a while, but the decoration on the high shelves above the windows are the staff's work. It's a colorful mixture of antique items, flowers, a huge Scooby Doo doll, a mannequin; you should take a look yourself.

Javawava offers free wireless internet, lots of light shining through big windows on two sides, friendly faces, and couches, if you need a time out from studying.

"We've had many people fall asleep on our couch over there," Mike said.

But if you'd rather stay awake and soak up the atmosphere, I suggest one of their many different espresso drinks or five roasts of coffee, including "Chocolate Fudge Coffee."

## Porn, God, and the "why" question meet one another



**Mike Read**

Rampage Reporter

merely lean back to see a society immersed with under and overtones of sex, each one attempting to feed and feed off of the ever-present and ever-growing lusts of human nature.

In a society that does nothing short of idolize and literally worship sex, it is not unreasonable to ask "Why?"

I think when you break it down, one will see our so-called instinct surpasses the normal biological function. An abnormal sexual appetite far exceeds the intended purpose, so much so that we are left with something that has been degraded far from its original and intentional beauty.

Why is it so necessary to let the excitement of the opposite sex overtake our being on a daily basis?

I went on a walk late last night to ponder these "why" questions.

I started thinking about human history and the backdrops in which so much unfolded.

I started thinking about the idea of a divine being and worship and how every culture since the beginning has been driven to adore something outside their selves.

In whatever context you look at history, good or bad, right or wrong, it is pretty infallible to deny the human desire to worship something greater than ourselves.

Somewhere inside us we need something outside ourselves to validate us; to tell us that we are okay, and feel okay. We need something to overtake us from time to time to get us through the day.

Could this be since we have long ago lost the original purpose we were put on this earth for?

Society today is no different from the generations of old; it just comes out in a different way.

From Pornography, substances, co-dependency in relationships, to a workaholic mentality, trying to impress our peers, breaking our backs to make money or taking pride in a savvy vocabulary, we each have habitual quirks that we live out for affirmation and comfort.

To use sex as an undercurrent and backbone is a mistake. Sex is something that was never intended to carry this kind of load. It cannot and will not sustain.

I know this subject can be easily

scoffed at, but ask anyone who has chased their sexual desires in full. In the beginning and for a time it is great, but the abyss that is inside every person opens more and more, never allowing us to be filled. The sexual appetite of man can never be muted.

If you believe that sex is free and costs nothing if you're protected and that porn is harmless, you have fallen into one of the great lies of this age.

Perhaps only through experience will a person understand this.

Porn hurts people. In many different ways and with varying degrees I think it negatively affects people's lives.

Lastly, here is a tangible remark which I pray inspires you to meditate upon: Eventually you are all going to die; so perhaps these "why" questions concerning our behavior and existence are worth looking into.

If you would like to lean more about addictions, especially pornography, I have a well of testimonies, personal experience, and references. Email me at [spiikemiike@hotmail.com](mailto:spiikemiike@hotmail.com)

## Look in the mirror

*FCC Psycholocigal Service Center offers free eating disorder screening March 1*



**Leah Edwards**

Rampage Reporter

Are you obsessed with your weight? Do you throw up after eating? Do your friends tell you that you are thin, but your head keeps yelling, "Hey fatty"? Get Real and face the fact that you could be one of the growing number of Americans killing themselves through an eating disorder.

The American Psychiatric

Association identifies various eating disorders such as bulimia and anorexia. According to several renowned authors including Mehler & Krantz, for women between the ages of 15 and 24, anorexia leads to more than 12 times as many deaths each year than all other causes of death. It kills more Americans than any other mental health problem.

If you or someone you know is one of the 1.2 million who suffer from anorexia or another disorder, the Fresno City College Psychological Service Center is offering a free eating disorder screening in the Student Lounge on March 1, from 11a.m. until 2 p.m.

If you know someone who might benefit, bring him or her in.

If your friends think you have a problem, come in and shut them up or find out if they might be right.

Our society prides itself on appearances. People base health and beauty on size, but this is not always accurate. According to Jeff Wood, a Psychological Intern here at Fresno City College, "The problem with many eating disorders is that these individuals do not see the problem in themselves. The first step is helping them recognize their problem."

The screening will take only fifteen minutes out of your day but could potentially save your life or that of a loved one. Life is precious; don't throw it away because of the fear of being too fat. What good is a beautiful, thin body if you're dead?





Another epic battle in the war of the sexes

## Vicci

vs.

## Jake

### Strike a balance when it comes to being nice.

Let's get something straight. It's not that "nice guys finish last". Most women look favorably on niceness and want a man who can be sensitive, *just in moderation*. Women are attracted to a man who shows he cares, but also knows how to occupy himself, who acts as confidently in a fist fight as he does talking to his girlfriend's mother. It's all about balance!

Here are a few examples of how underestimating the importance of balance can lead to problems....

Regularly waiting for your girlfriend to return from work, school or a night with her friends smacks of desperation. Conversely, returning with flowers after a night out with *your friends* says "I'm independent, but my, how I love you." This is a sentiment we're more than comfortable with.

Agreeing with every suggestion your girlfriend makes is also unwise. Choose a restaurant or movie once in a while and your input will be gratefully received. The phrases "whatever you want," "if you like," and "sure" get very old very quickly.

And try not to overdo the declarations of love. Those three magic words have a great deal of power for women, unless that is, if they're uttered every few sentences. Use "I love you" as assistance



when you're late, drunk, horny (or all three) and your girlfriend will see right through you. Settle for classics like "I'm sorry," "please," and "I don't want to argue" in times of adversity and you'll be infinitely more respected. Save the "I love you"s for a time when you honestly feel you love her!

And finally...smooching. Few things will irk your girlfriend more than excessive PDAs (Public Displays of Affection). When it comes to hugging, kissing and general canoodling, your girlfriend will have a definite limit- which you'll need to discover with great caution.

There'll be times when she's happy to share a moment of togetherness, but equally as many when she'll find your octopus tendencies near repulsive.

If you sneak up behind her while she's talking to a store clerk, she may become irritated. If you attempt to hold her hand while shopping and she's looking through a rack of clothes, she may become angry. And if you lose your ability to gauge company entitlement, and attempt to suction-cup

in front of her boss or her parents, she may.....have you killed. Or at least break up with you promptly and without remorse.

Fortunately, there is a simple solution: just stay attuned.

You see, while some girlfriends like a lot of the mushy stuff, many don't. Most will let you know when "just enough" has become "too much", either by ignoring your phone calls, seriously overscheduling, sighing more often than usual....et cetera.

But it doesn't have to be this way. Be wary of awkward silences and faraway stares, and you may be able to prevent negative points from being racked up at all.

Most advice is adapted as the years roll on, but when it comes to relationships, many of the classics endure. Now, just as much as "then", there's a lot to be said for leaving a girl wanting more.

So why not try it yourself, Mr Nice Guy? Back off just a little, and wait to see how utterly desirable you become.

### What's so wrong with being Mr. Nice Guy?

I spent Valentine's Day with my family-- all women-- who chose to sit around a dinner table and gripe about men the entire evening. The griping didn't involve any specific man really; just men in general.

My sister was suffering from "Lonely Valentine's Day Syndrome", but I just couldn't understand why she was alone. Her ex-boyfriend was a great guy

and they got along famously! Her reason for dumping him? He was too nice!

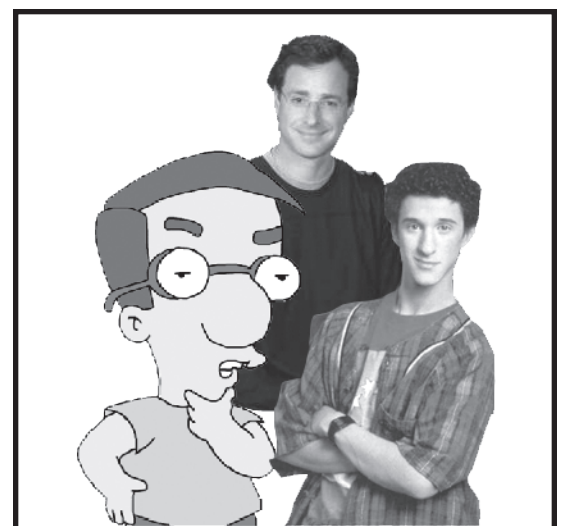
I couldn't understand my sister's logic. What makes a guy "too nice"? Is it about being too boring (is boring such a bad thing)? Maybe, to girls, "too nice" means too clingy, over-protective, lacking the masculine "edge"....

Most men aren't incredibly sensitive and nice when it comes to relationships. Maybe women just expect to be treated like dirt in a relationship, and when a genuinely good guy comes along, it just seems wrong be treated well.

Maybe women like men to make them angry, make them jealous, make them feel something-anything- just to avoid being bored.

Ladies, if you're honest, isn't your priority to find a good-looking guy, rather than one who will treat you the way you deserve to be treated? Isn't it more about his pecs than his personality?

If you agree, I beg you to change your mind! The next time the goofy looking guy with the thick glasses comes up to you in the cafeteria, try rethinking an automatic, superficial response. Just once, give the underdog a chance; he might prove to be a lifelong companion.



Above: nice guys Millhouse Van Houten, Danny Tanner and Samuel "Screech" Powers.....will they ever get the girl?

by Victoria McLoughlin  
Rampage Reporter

"When a Stranger Calls" and "The Pink Panther" don't seem like they'd fit comfortably together in any category. The first is a pop horror about a babysitter terrorized on the job, and the second is a family comedy that details the antics of a bumbling French detective.

So what's the common denominator? Both are fresh deliveries from the land of remakes.

"When a Stranger Calls" was first released in 1979 and directed by Fred Walton. The version released this year was directed by Simon West, of "Gone in 60 Seconds" and "Tomb Raider" fame.

The Pink Panther legacy dates back even further. First released in 1963, it was directed by

Blake Edwards and starred comedian du jour Peter Sellers- equally if not more popular in his day than new leading man, Steve Martin.

When it comes to putting a new spin on an old classic, these two movies are just the tip of the iceberg. At least five will have been released between fall 2005 and 2006; these include "King Kong", "The Pink Panther", "Poseidon" and "Dougall".

The massive success of movies like "King Kong" (2005) and "The Italian Job" (2004) prove that deja-movies have an audience, but how would this audience feel about the originals? Many are unaware of a movie's remake status as many advertisers often choose not to draw attention to it ("The

Pink Panther" is an example).

If more people knew about the movies of yesteryear, would Hollywood fight an audience uprising- wherein movie-goers opt out of seeing remakes in favor of renting the original?

Perhaps not. Perhaps originals like "Psycho" and "The Exorcist" have had their day, and audiences crave both CGI (computer generated imagery) and more up-to-date soundtracks.

Decide for yourself whether the latest versions of movies are worth production costs like \$304 million (Poseidon, 2006). After all, if you rent a few classics and don't like what you see, there's bound to be another remake just around the corner.

## Bored with remakes?

Right: an image from the "When a Stranger Calls" (2006) movie poster.

Below: an image from the original "When a Stranger Calls" (1979) movie poster. Which do you find more sinister?





# Local band wows fans at The Starline

*Improvisation stars The Same Shape play a lively set to promote their new CD.*

by Jessyca Dewey

Rampage Reporter

Fresno band The Same Shape released their first CD in big style on Friday, February 17 at the Starline, a small but popular venue in the Tower District.

Many people were happy to be packed shoulder-to-shoulder with like-minded fans, hyped to be celebrating the band's long-awaited CD release.

The Same Shape, which was originally formed about two years ago, consists of Tommy Delgado (vocals and guitar) Ian Blesse (drummer) Chad Battenburg (keyboards) and Cristian Mueller (bass). The band is proof that art comes in all forms, and that it does exist in Fresno.

All four of the band members are from Fresno and graduated from area high schools. Ian Blesse attends FCC and Chad Battenburg attends Clovis Center.

Not only are they from Fresno but they have also been in the music scene for quite some time. Delgado and Blesse began playing together about three years ago at The Starline and were joined by Battenburg a year later, when the three became "Paper Airplane."

That band broke up and, with the addition of Mueller, The Same Shape was born.

The band's musical style is a unique blend of rock, jazz and blues and hits a chord with many music enthusiasts. Perhaps this is one reason The Starline was so incredibly crowded during the CD release party. Or perhaps it was simply because the band's endeavors to build a name for itself in the community this past year and a half has paid off.

The boys' musical careers began at young ages, something which is obvious



Photo by Jessyca Dewey

*Above: band members Thomas Delgado (left) and Christian Mueller (right) play at local club The Starline.*

when listening to their improvisational skills.

"I had a Muppets drum-set," says Delgado, laughing, when asked about his musical history.

"I broke a lot of buckets," added Blesse who received his first drum-set in sixth grade. Battenburg began piano lessons as a seven-year-old and has been playing publicly since he was 12. Mueller began as a guitarist, but later switched to bass guitar.

According to the band, Delgado creates most of the riffs and other members work on the rest of the song. This method seems to have worked. In order to record the album, the band retreated into the foothills and, with the help and studio of friend

Nino Moschella, they recorded the album in a little over a day.

A day and a half was all they needed. The CD has a very high-quality sound and does a phenomenal job at capturing the essence of the band live.

During the show, their talent for improvisation became obvious as Delgado led the band into a little tune that he rattled from off the top of his head. Impressively, it sounded great.

With the combination of stage presence, talent and Delgado's jazzy and distinctive vocals, the performance definitely showcased one of Fresno's finest offerings to the music scene. The CD is a great alternative to seeing the band live, and The Same Shape are

keen to have copies available at each show they perform.

"The best part of having the CD out is that people can listen to our tunes without having to see our ugly mugs," said Delgado.

The CD will be sold at upcoming shows and most of the band can be found playing at the Starline every Wednesday night for open mic night.

For more information on the band's CD (album cover: right) and upcoming shows, visit their website: [www.thesameshape.com](http://www.thesameshape.com).

## The Same Shape trivia

Become an instant fan of The Same Shape, using the information below:

Thomas Delgado  
(Guitar and Vocals)  
Favorite Piece of Clothing:  
Shants, or Shanties  
(cross between pants and shorts).

Ian Blesse  
(Drums)  
Favorite Piece of Clothing:  
Drum Sticks worn in hair.

Cristian Mueller  
(Bass)  
Favorite Piece of Clothing:  
A T-Shirt with some type of beer on it.

Chad Battenburg  
Keyboards  
Favorite Piece of Clothing:  
Sneakers with no socks.

\*above information gathered from [www.thesameshape.com](http://www.thesameshape.com)  
album cover image and studio photo also taken from this website.

## Anatomy of a Lie

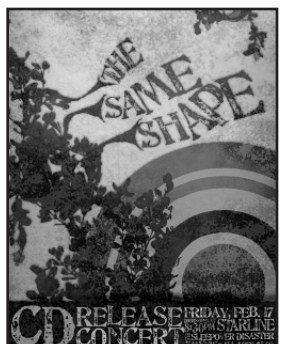
Mike Neham

I look out into the world and what do I see?  
A world looking back with a will to deceive.  
So what is a lie?  
To me, it's a beach with no sand,  
a belt with no buckle,  
or a cake with no sugar.  
A lie is thunder without a sound,  
or a king without a crown.  
What's a lie to you?  
To me it's a sunrise with no light,  
or the darkness shining bright.  
A lie is bull without horns,  
or a rose without thorns.  
Well, what is the truth?

Because I really want to know.  
How coarse is that sand?  
How tight is that buckle?  
How sweet is the sugar?  
How loud is that sound  
and how fragile is your crown?  
How bright is my day  
and how dark is your night?  
How heavy are those horns,  
and how sharp are those thorns?  
Because.  
Because...  
Because we're all dying to know.



*Above: The band hard at work in the studio.  
Right: A poster advertising the band's CD release concert at The Starline.*





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PLAN

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plan

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- No additional charge for domestic long distance.



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River Park Just left of Borders

**FRESNO-** (559) 221-2701  
5046 North Palm Ave.  
Fig Garden Village,  
Next to Uncle Harry's

**FRESNO-** (559) 253-2830  
5640 E. Kings Canyon Rd., #102  
Vons Shopping Center



**FRESNO-** (559) 243-2000  
3191 W. Shaw Ave., #A  
Towne Square Shopping Center,  
next to Starbucks

**FRESNO-** (559) 353-3999  
8817 N. Cedar Ave.  
Vons Shopping Center,  
Next to Starbucks

**CLOVIS-** (559) 325-9825  
779 Herndon Ave., #101  
At Herndon & Clovis Ave.  
Next to Starbucks

**CLOVIS-** (559) 323-2284  
1050 Shaw Ave., #1043  
Sierra Vista Mall

**CLOVIS-** (559) 322-3310  
175 W. Shaw Ave., #101  
Next to Starbucks



**LOS BANOS-** (209) 827-8155  
1350 Pacheco Blvd., Ste. A  
In Walgreen's Shopping Center



**MERCED-** (209) 384-5700  
560 W. Olive Ave.  
Next to Starbucks



**TURLOCK-** (209) 664-3990  
2840 Geer Rd.  
Raley's Shopping Center



**SELMA-** (559) 891-2301  
2851 Highland, #113  
Food 4 Less Shopping Center



**VISALIA-** (559) 738-7880  
3323 S. Mooney Blvd.  
Inside Sequoia Mall

**VISALIA-** (559) 733-8255  
5410 W. Cypress Ave., Suite 103  
At Akers & Hwy. 198

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