



FCC receives certificate affirming accreditation

by Matthew T. Mendez
Rampage Reporter

Fresno City College's accredited status has been extended through 2012 via a certificate from the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges sent to the school president's office.

"My understanding of this document is that we will retain accreditation," said Paula Demanett,

the Academic Senate president, "with the understanding that we will continue to make significant progress toward remedying the recommendations made by the 2005 accreditation team."

The certificate, issued by ACCJC executive director Barbara Beno, calmed what had been an uneasy sense of ambiguity around campus among both staff members and students. FCC president Ned Doffoney received the certificate on March 27, more than three

months after the college received a warning regarding its accredited status.

The warning suggested that the college address several areas that the evaluation team did not find sufficient for an accredited school. Those suggestions included implementing a shared governance committee, improving library materials, establishing a program review process, and districtwide planning.

Twice a month, Fresno City

has updated its website to illustrate the steps the school has taken to meet the accreditation committee's standards. As of April 1, the school's accreditation report stated that the president's office has analyzed electronic communication from more than 500 sources, and that the first draft of the president's office program review has been completed.

The April 1 report, while claiming that the school is committed to increasing the amount of

money given to the library, said the school recognizes the "need to follow up to assure that the allocated funds result in buying the necessary resources" that is needed to meet accreditation standards.

Fresno City's initial response to the warning issued by the ACCJC is due Oct. 15, but the bimonthly reports posted on the website have given everyone involved the chance to review what is being done and leave feedback to the president's office.

Growing pains

by Joseph Rios
Rampage Reporter

The aliens have invaded. Extra-terrestrials have been spotted all over the nation in their Toyota pickup truck-space cruisers migrating from field to field without detection.

Strangely, their tracks are not marked by crop circles characteristic to the species. No, everywhere these aliens go, they pull grapes, nectarines, cotton, and almonds from branches and pack them so they can be shipped across the United States and throughout the world.

In December of 2005, The House of Representatives passed a bill criminalizing the presence of illegal or undocumented workers in the United States. The Senate picked apart the harsh bill on March 27, proposing a plan that would make it possible for residing undocumented workers to obtain a citizenship.

Under the House Bill, undocumented workers would be felons. Anyone aiding, housing, or transporting illegal aliens across the border would be found guilty of a felony as well.

The house bill, HR4437, would also add 700 miles of fencing along the Mexico-United States border at points with the highest number of immigrant deaths.

The Country responded to the bill enthusiastically to say the least. Highlighted by the conservative estimates of over 500,000 people walking through the streets of Los Angeles in protest, Mexicans and opponents of the bill have banded together to put a stop to, what they believe, is a case of the government blaming a group of people for the nation's economic problems.

Arturo Amaro has been a Chicano/Latino Studies and Sociology Professor for the past 30 years.



Photo by Jennifer Schmidt

People line up in front of the Mexican Consulate in downtown Fresno. On most days, the line extends around the block.

"[The House Bill] was mean-spirited and callous," said Amaro. "Hopefully people will get activated, they'll get animated and get their message across."

"They're just looking to point the finger," said Jesus Molina, a student at FCC. "They don't want to say it, but it's racist."

Democrat Howard Dean

chastised proponents of the bill in his statements to the press saying that they were simply taking a stand on immigration because it is an election year.

"It's perfect example of political grandstanding," said Amaro.

United Farm Workers President, Arturo Rodriguez told the

Fresno Bee, "It's an issue that's very emotional and critical to future of America. The American economy could not survive without immigrant labor."

One issue that has not been widely brought up by the media is how this bill would affect agencies and groups that deliver aid to these

see Immigration p. 4

Yoshino's removes security cameras

by Jessyca Dewey
Rampage Reporter

FCC student Kim Heintz's wallet was stolen from the condiment bar of Yoshino's Pacific Cafe on March 21. Heintz, a full-time FCC student and student aide for the school's counseling department, was on a break from class around 7:30 p.m. when she went into Yoshino's to get some food.

According to Heintz, after placing her order, she set her wallet down on the condiment bar and stepped away for a moment to get her food from the counter. Without realizing her wallet was still on the counter, she finished her meal and left the restaurant only to realize later that she had forgotten her wallet.

She returned to Yoshino's later that evening but they had already closed. She then called the campus police, who said her wallet had not been turned in to the lost and found and that the employees at Yoshino's had not found it. Heintz filed a police report but was unsatisfied.

Having seen the security cameras placed throughout the café, Heintz began to inquire about whether the theft may have been caught on tape only to be told that the cameras didn't even have batteries in them.

Heintz then brought the issue of the cameras to the attention of the business manager, Michael Guerra, who, in turn asked the owner of Yoshino's, Tom Hagihara, to either fix the cameras or take them out. Hagihara said he then removed them altogether.

Hagihara said that the wallet was misplaced on the left side of the room where there were

see Cameras p. 4

Cameras: FCC wanted cameras repaired or removed

continued from Page 1

no cameras anyway. The cameras, which had been put into the restaurant about five years ago according to Hagihara, had not been working for quite some time and were privately provided without any contract between the school and the restaurant. However, Heintz insists that she felt protected in the presence of the cameras.

"It gave me a false sense of security," she said.

Although Guerra did ask that the cameras be removed or repaired, the business contract between the school and the café does not specify any responsibility for security cameras. The contract states "[the] contractor and owner shall each be separately responsible for the acts of their respective employees and agents. Accord-

ingly, Contractor and owner agree to take all necessary measures to prevent injury and loss to persons or property located on the Owner's premises." The contract then later states "Contractor shall follow the Owner's policies in dealing with improper conduct, and shall report all incidents to the owner."

Hagihara has already complied to the request of Guerra's by having the camera's removed so that no one may be mislead to believe they are being recorded.

"People post signs that say 'Beware of Dog' and they may not have a dog," explained Guerra. "There is nothing in there that says [Yoshino's] has to have cameras and they have to be working."

Guerra also stated that Hagihara is a

"very honest gentlemen" and that "he has dealt with [the issue] about as appropriately as he could."

Although the cameras could be seen as deceptive, several students who frequent Yoshino's barely seemed to notice the cameras, although they could point out the

corners in which they formerly were.

"It's strange they're not here anymore," said Steven Hernandez, a student who is a regular at the café.

Another regular, Allyson Fanning, said, "I didn't even realize they were there half the time."



Photo by Jennifer Schmidt

Students eat lunch at Yoshino's Pacific Cafe. The cafe's ownership has removed the security cameras that were not in service due to a "false sense of security."

Rampage

RAMPAGE

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

Editor in chief: Quinn Robinson
News Editor: Clare Frederick
Business office: Leah Edwards
Sports editor: Quinn Robinson
Views Editor: Matthew T. Mendez
Reviews Editor: Victoria McLoughlin
Photo editor: Jennifer Schmidt
Adviser: Dympna Ugwu-Oju

Reporters

Jacob Wiens, Nigel Wojtak,
Joseph Rios, Jessyca Dewey,
Jeff Rodriguez, Herbert Graham,
Nathan Tyree, Sean Felten, Sonya
Henson, Macrina Aivazian, Mike
Read

Photography/ Graphics

Russel Bourg, Nathan Tyree,
Joseph Rios, Matthew T. Mendez,
Jennifer Schmidt, Clare Frederick

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

Newsroom: (559) 442-8263

Business: (559) 442-8262

Fax: (559) 265-5783

E-mail:

rampage-news@fresnocitycollege.edu

rampage-editor@fresnocitycollege.edu

rampage-sports@fresnocitycollege.edu

rampage-business@fresnocitycollege.edu

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

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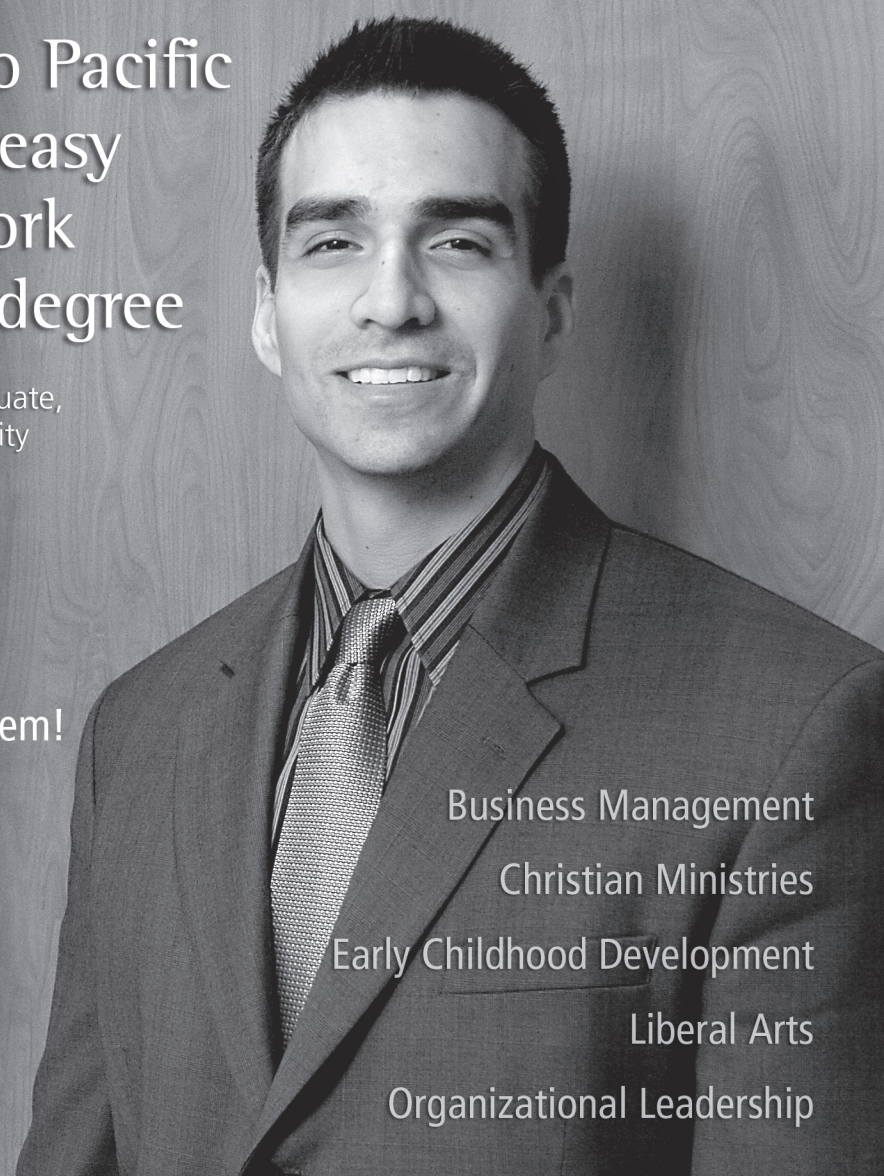
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CalWORKs students honored

by Mike Read
Rampage Reporter

These 135 people should not be in college. These 135 people who are on welfare, who are single parents with no high school education and no transportation should not be attending this college.

These 135 students should not be in school, let alone on the Dean's List.

But they are.

In overcoming a life of hardship, these 135 students have started down a road of success and were honored for it April 3 in FCC's theater.

CalWORKs, an organization at FCC that supports these students, took the evening and set it aside for them.

"These people don't have many reasons to celebrate. These are people that starve, have no transportation, [are] single parents yet say 'I'll do whatever it takes,'" said Sean Henderson, director of CalWORKs.

The goal of CalWORKs is to help transition people from welfare

into the workforce by empowering them with education. The state and county governments supply grants to help students with book costs, transportation costs, daycare, tutoring, and counseling; anything to meet the needs of its students.

"We try to alleviate stress," Henderson said. "We are here to encourage. I don't know any other way to say it."

Testimonies were recorded and displayed on the screen as a highlight for the evening.

Starting with Jamie, a single mother of four, expecting a fifth, who now has an average GPA of 4.0. The video then moved to James, a non-native speaker from the southern part of Sudan who now speaks English fluently and understands what all students must do if they are to succeed. Summing it up in one statement he said, "Just attend class." This led to Jennifer Connor, who closed the video in a story that told of being given up for adoption at the age of two and reunited with her mother 20 years later with a life built in success.

These people represent the

faces of the many who overcame more than the rest with a little help from people who genuinely cared.

Henderson brought the celebration to a close with a well-themed quote by Eleanor Roosevelt. It read, "No one can make you inferior without your consent." This is the heart of much that CalWORKs does.

In a world where many inherently have pre-supposed perceptions about those in the welfare system, right perception of your fellow man has never been more vital for a vibrant life.

"It is my belief we are all one or two breaks away from welfare," Henderson said, adding that in light of truly connecting with a human, these stereotypical personas surrounding those on welfare fade away when a common ground is found.

"Let your resources work for you," Connor said. For there is a light in FCC that seeks to bring struggling people from the pit of the realities of life and into one that holds a brighter future.



Photo by Robin Vallentyne

Kristine Walters, a Dean's List recipient for 2005, holds her daughter Lilley at the recognition reception for CalWORKs Dean's List recipients.

by Sonya Hensen
Rampage Reporter

Fifty agencies participate in Disability Awareness Day

More than 50 community agencies participated in Disability Awareness Day March 30, which was sponsored by Fresno City College's DSP&S.

By sponsoring this event, DSP&S wanted to raise awareness and "to outreach to the community and let them know about disabilities," said Pam Rippe of DSP&S. "And what types of services and products and agencies are out there to assist people with disabilities and bring them all into one location. For people with disabilities it's difficult sometimes, to get around town and find out what's available."

The following are just a few of the organizations represented at the event:

- Fresno Far Sighted 4-H is a club that raises puppies to be guide dogs for the blind.

Members of Far Sighted 4-H get the puppies when they are 8-10 weeks old. The trainers take the puppies home to socialize them and teach them basic obedience. When the dogs are about 18 months old, they are sent back to Guide Dogs for the Blind, Inc. for professional training. Then Guide Dogs for the Blind, Inc. matches them with a visually impaired or blind person, at no cost to the blind person receiving the dog. The dogs may be placed anywhere in the United States or Canada.

"It's a good outreach program," said Karen Harness, assistant club leader.

- The Talking Book Library for the Blind is a branch of the County library, and also part of a nation-wide program that provides books on tape and in Braille for

the blind. The library is free of charge and most of the materials are sent through the mail to the reader. Through this branch of the public library, 61,000 cassette books are available to readers in Fresno, Kings, Madera, and Tulare counties.

"If people are unable to read a standard printed book because they are blind, have a visual disability, or just a disability that keeps them from being able to pick up, hold, turn the pages a regular book...they can get books from us," said Wendy R. Eisenberg, branch librarian.

- United Cerebral Palsy is a non-profit health service agency. UCP helps patients with cerebral palsy learn how to use computers and surf the Internet. It also offers an art program where patients make

wind chimes, calendars, and mosaics.

- Community Catalysts of California provides services to over 900 people with special needs throughout the state. Locally, the group meets every Monday. The group helps people with everything from menu planning and cooking, to teaching personal safety.

- Fresno Adult School offers a variety of programs. In addition to an Adults with Disabilities program, the school offers courses for GED, ESL, and vocational training. There is also an enrichment program for children during the summer.

"We've had very good responses," said Elaine Clymer, Principal of Fresno Adult School. "Lots of people have stopped by...it's been an excellent day."



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Immigration: Bill would make driving Grandma to the store a felony

undocumented workers.

Linda Alanis is the interim president of the not yet formed M.E.C.H.A. club at FCC. "I'm a social worker and I deal with these people everyday," said Alanis. "Under this new bill I would be a criminal for doing my job."

Cardinal Mahoney of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese in Los Angeles urged parishioners to pray for humane reform of immigration laws. If the bill passed and it was made a felony to give aid to illegal immigrants, Mahoney said, he would instruct his priests and faithful Catholics to defy the law.

The language in the House bill suggests that felony charges could be brought up for acts as simple as driving your grandmother to the grocery store or, in Alanis' case, doing her job.

High school students across the nation walked out of their classroom last week in protest of the bill.

They hit the streets in mass, making pilgrimages to their respected city halls. Students from Roosevelt, Fresno High, and even as far as Reedley made the trip to Fresno City Hall chanting a saying championed by the late civil rights leader Cesar Chavez, "Si Se Puede" and reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Though many of the protesters were not of legal voting age, the bill would affect many of them directly and indirectly.

Numerous families are

made up of legal and illegal residents. In some cases, the mother is legal and the father isn't or the parents aren't legal but the children are. Some families have grandparents who have been here multiple generations and have deep roots in American soil.

This House Bill threatens to uproot these families, tear them apart, toss them back to a country they no longer know then build 700 miles of fence so they don't come back. And to sweeten the deal, it's a felony to try.

During the Senate Judiciary Committee meeting on March 27, Senator Lindsay Graham from South Carolina spoke out asking members of the committee, "Where is home?"

He explained that many of the undocumented workers have been here so long that it would be ludicrous to simply send them "home." The United States is home for them now.

The comprehensive bill that came out of the Senate has both parties split. President Bush is lobbying for a Guest-Worker program that would lead to the eventual citizenship of participants.

He said in an address last week dealing with the issue that the immigrants do work, "Americans will not do."

Fresno Mayor Alan Autry supports the idea of a comprehensive bill that would reform immigration laws with criminalizing the immigrants already here.

He fears that with the cur-

rent shortage of workers, a bill as severe as HR 4437 would only tighten the strangle hold on valley growers.

"We are currently in a crisis in the San Joaquin Valley," Autry told the Fresno Bee. "We need to act quickly in order to keep the economy of the San Joaquin Valley going."

This isn't the first time the immigration issue has been tackled by United States Government. President Ronald Reagan granted amnesty to workers in 1985 with little response from the believed mass of undocumented workers.

In the 1960's, the country attempted to alleviate its labor shortage with the Bracero Program. Nearly a quarter of a million Mexicans were brought across the border under Government contract to work, almost exclusively, in agribusiness.

Hundreds of Mexicans were cooped up in barns across the southwest. The eager workers were met with small living quarters, little food, and meager pay.

A small portion of the Braceros pay check was taken out by the Government with the promise that it would be repaid. A large percentage of the workers never saw that money. Individual suits have yielded returns, but most of the original Braceros that have since died or are in their upper 70's and 80's never saw the money they earned all those years ago.

Give blood, get a shirt

by Leah Edwards

Rampage Reporter

The Spring Blood Drive has arrived. The Drive will take place in the Student Activities Center from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. April 5. According to the MayoClinic.org only 5 percent of eligible donors across the nation donate blood, but the number of transfusions nationwide increases by 9 percent every year.

The Blood Drive is vitally important to people who will desperately need this blood. Statistics show that more than 25 percent of Americans will require blood at least once in their lifetime. The Mayo Clinic's statistics also state an average hip replacement typically uses one unit of blood, a cardiac bypass 2 units, a heart

transplant 2 units, and a liver transplant 10 units.

People often get squeamish at the idea of giving blood, but the truth is it is important to be strong and see the need is far too great to wimp out. Your gift of blood can make the difference for many people. One donation can help up to three people.

If saving a life isn't rewarding enough, t-shirts will be given to those who donate. You have your chance to save lives and obtain free bragging rights. Do your part and donate.

For more information you can contact the FCC Blood Drive contact persons at extension 8268 or Ralph Cabrera, at the Blood Center, (559) 224-2900, extension 3022.

Spring Break ideas

by Macrina Aivazian

Rampage Reporter

Spring break -- a whole week of no studying, no reading, and no 8 a.m. classes -- leaving students with so much free time they are left with no other option but to take a vacation.

Whether a student partakes in the stereotypical MTV Spring Break in Miami or simply drives a few hours to visit family or friends for a few days, a break from our normally stressful life and running around frantically is highly desired. It's nice to get away sometimes and relax or just to not have to deal with the stress.

Vacation adventures can turn into quite a hefty expense, though unless you choose to ignore the backbreaking expenses in order to have a tranquil getaway. In reality though, most of us cannot afford a luxurious trip but still want to feel we've achieved something during our spring break.

Here are some ways that spring-breakers can spend their free time.

For those with a wild and free spirit -- a trip to the beach with your closest friends where you strictly lay out on in the sand all day, and party all

night. You'll come back wondering where that picture of you was taken.

For those you who want to party but can't afford an out-of-town trip, no need to worry. You need a few cases of beer, a good BBQ, some dancing music, some friends in your backyard and VWALA! You too have the recipe for a fun spring break.

Recently though, more and more people are finding new ways to spend their week of freedom. Rachel Otto, a Fresno City College student said she spent last year's spring break volunteering in a small village in Mexico. "It felt good to spend my time helping others and spreading the word of God," she said. Rachel isn't alone. This new trend has become very popular. Youth groups around Fresno are taking organized trips to help Hurricane Katrina victims as well as to other parts of the country and the world.

So whether you are looking for a crazy party, a night out on the town, or an opportunity to help people in need during your spring break, hurry. You're running out of time.

Memories are waiting to be made this year, so get out there and make the best of Spring Break 2006!



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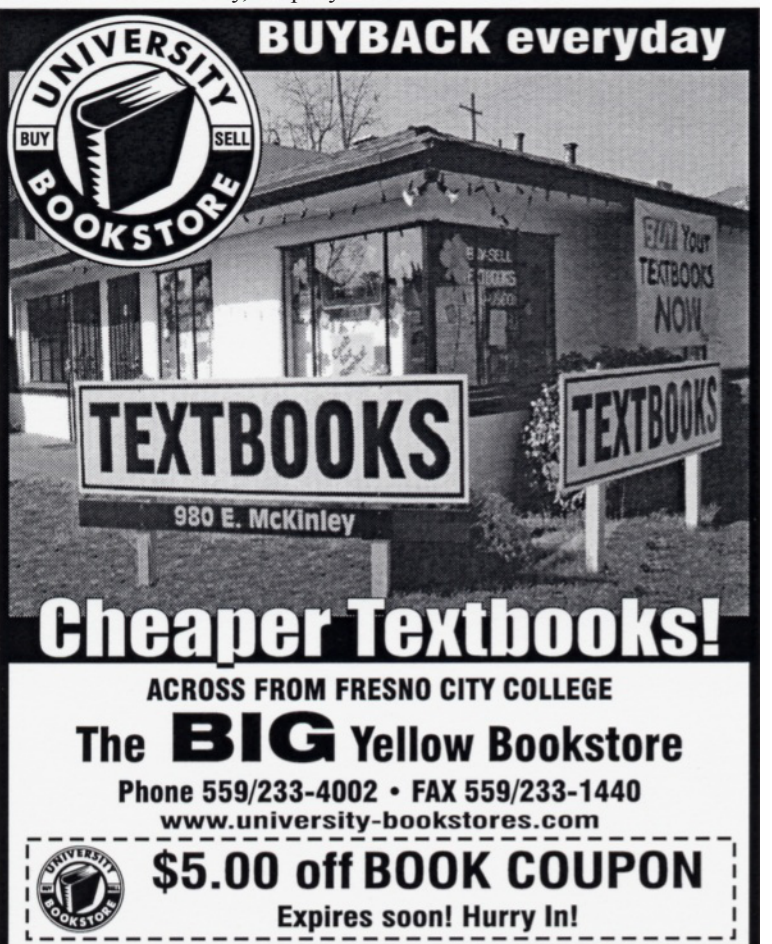
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Softball preps for final leg

FCC softball team in middle of pack for CVC title as season winds down.

by Quinn Robinson
Sports Editor

In the thick of things.

It's a cliché that is often thrown around in the sports world when a team is right smack in the middle of a heated race for a conference crown.

Fresno City College has had to privilege over the last couple of years to use that cliché in a lot of conference races.

None of these scenarios have involved the softball team the past couple of seasons as they have been in a rebuilding process.

This year, however, the softball team appears to be heading back to the days of conference championships and postseason appearances.

With a 14-12 record overall and a 6-4 Central Valley Conference record, the Rams took to the field in a home game against CVC rival Merced Devils on March 23 just missing a victory as they lost a close 2-0 ballgame.

"I'm just glad we won,"

said Brown. "It gives us a little more space from them in the conference standings and that's what we wanted to happen."

FCC's Tina Gonzalez and Merced's Nicky Brown were going toe to toe on the mound, trying to see which pitcher would be the first one to blink.

Merced was the first to break through with a run.

In the top of the fourth, with runners on base, the Devils knocked in a run courtesy of a single to take a 1-0 lead.

The Devils would add another run in the top of the sixth inning with a two out solo home run that would push the lead to 2-0.

The Rams had a couple more opportunities to get some runs on the board in the late innings, but Brown kept the FCC hitters on its toes and pitched her way to a complete game, seven-strikeout performance for the victory.

"The game today did not surprise me in any way," said Devils coach Steve Cassady. "They play defense well and we had to keep their hitters at bay and hope that our hitters can get enough [offense]."

On this day, our pitcher did what she needed to do and

we played good defense and came out with the win."

Even with the tough loss suffered at the hands of Merced, coach Williams remained optimistic about the season, much of which still needs to be played.

"Defensively we had a great game," said Williams. "We had two outs against them when they scored their first run and then they got the home run later on and things like that happen."

We have a lot of games left and I still think we have a chance to take this [CVC title]."

As of March 30, the Rams were 16-14 overall and posted an 8-5 record in conference.

FCC competed in a two-day tournament up in Saratoga on April 1 and 2, but results from the tournament were not made available by the time of production.

A doubleheader scheduled with Porterville College on April 4 was postponed due to the amount of rain that has been hitting the Valley the past few days and no make-up date has yet to be set. Weather permitting; the Rams will try to resume action on April 6 at home when they host the Reedley Tigers at 2 p.m.

Upcoming Softball Schedule

April 6 vs Reedley 2 p.m.

April 8 vs Solano College (DH) 12 p.m.

April 20 vs Modesto (DH) 1 p.m.

April 22 @ Taft (DH) 1 p.m.

April 25 vs. West Hills 2 p.m.



Photo by Jennifer Schmidt

Fresno City College's Cindy Chavez tries to beat out a throw at first base in a game against Merced College on March 23.

Ayala hammers out a feat

Track team makes up rained out event where Rams do well.

by Matthew T. Mendez
Rampage Reporter

The Fresno City College men's track & field team finished first and the women's team finished second in the 2006 Fresno Invitational track meet on April 1.

The men's team ended the meet with a total score of 182, beating out its closest competitor, Hartnell, who had scored 175.50; no other men's team in the competition scored higher than 105. The FCC women's score of 92 placed them as the distant runner-up to Hartnell's total of 228.

FCC sophomore Sharon Ayala turned the track meet into her own personal breakthrough event by setting a new nation leading mark in the hammer throw by tossing the hammer 56.03m. Freshman Nancy Vizcarra-Gamboa placed second with a throw

of 43.07, giving the Rams the top two spots in the women's hammer throw.

Ayala and Vizcarra-Gamboa also placed first and second in the women's discus throw with scores of 45.08m and 36.06m respectively. Ayala earned the top spot in the shot put event as well with a 12.19m toss; Vizcarra-Gamboa was third with a 10.24m toss.

In the women's 3000m steeplechase, Rams' freshman Anna Joyner took first place with a time of 15:12.9, and in the high jump event, fellow freshman Kimberly Montag set a new state leading mark by leaping 5'5".

In the men's 200m dash, Fresno City almost swept the leader board by taking first and third place. Freshman Rodney Oliver finished the race ahead of everyone else with a time of 22.53, and sophomore Emanuel Palmer was close behind him by finishing the race in 23.12 seconds.

Palmer finished second-to-none in the 400m dash, finishing first with a time of 51.09, while freshman Anthony Brown was fourth with a score of 54.33.

Freshman Bryant Washington had quite a day during the Fresno Invitational, finishing first in both the 110m hurdles and the 400m hurdles. Freshman Cruz Adams finished second in the 3,000m steeplechase, while sophomore Martin Palavacini came in third.

FCC placed second behind Hartnell in both the men's 4x100 and 4x400 relay races, but sophomore Tim Bautista came in first place in the pole vault with a score of 4.59m. Michael Pierce, a freshman, finished third in the pole vault by leaping 3.50m in the air.

Sophomore Phil Garvin finished second in the long jump event, and Mike Cheese topped the triple jump event with a mark of 13.35m.

In the men's shot put, Jor-

dan Murphy could only do well enough to place third with a toss of 12.19m, but he came in first during the hammer throw by launching the hammer 38.96m.

Fresno City's next scheduled track meet, the Ed Adams Invitational, will be held in Salinas at 9:00 a.m. on April 8.



Photo by Robyn Vallentyne

Competitors from schools across the state compete in a track meet hosted by FCC at Ratcliffe Stadium on April 1. The meet was originally supposed to take place on March 25 but due to heavy rain, was put off until the following week.

A storm is brewing

FCC's baseball team is lighting up the scoreboard like an electrical storm

by Jeff Rodriguez
Rampage Reporter

The Fresno City College baseball team's recent meeting with the Reedley Tigers wasn't a pretty one. FCC outscored the Tigers 32-1 in the two games to continue their ferocious conference play. "This showed our team has a lot of depth," said Coach Ron Scott.

FCC took the short trip to Reedley March 21, to start their scheduled home and home series. The Rams offense came right out of the gates, teeing off on the Tigers' pitching. Matt Lieb went 3-3 with 2 RBIs, while Brian Oliver hit two doubles with 2 RBIs on a 3-4 day. Sean Halton added 2 RBIs of his own for the Rams en route to an 11-1 victory. Kris Haycock went 2-2 with a double. Taylor Lewis (4-0, 4.25 ERA) struck out five Reedley batters while grabbing the win.

FCC's offense did not miss a beat when Reedley visited Euless Park, on March 23 as FCC cruised to an easy 21-0. The Rams went through three different Tigers pitchers in the fifth inning, scoring ten runs on nine hits in the process. Fifteen different Rams collected

a hit, and fourteen knocked in at least one run.

"It was nice to see some of the other players get an opportunity," said Scott.

Derek O'Reilly had a solid day at the plate going 3-4 with 2 RBIs. Sean Halton added to the barrage by hitting a double and knocking in three runs, as Chase Thomas and Kyle Garhert went a combined 5-6 at the plate with Thomas driving in two runs.

The Tigers only picked up five hits the entire afternoon against FCC's Daniel Mora who upped his record to 4-2 with a respectable 2.81 ERA.

FCC's trip to Porterville on March 25 was postponed due to the weather conditions. This game is rescheduled to April 3. Weather also caused March 28 game to be postponed. Porterville was scheduled to make a trip to Euless Park. Porterville is now scheduled to visit Euless Park on April 19.

Taft traveled to Euless Park March 30 ready for the task that FCC was going to present. Taft jumped out to a 3-1 lead in the early innings as their pitching was cruising through the Rams vaunted lineup. FCC had their backs against the wall with two outs in the eighth and still trailing 3-1.

Mark Pestorich changed all that with one swing of the bat. Pestorich singled in two runs. The Rams completed the comeback to grab the victory 4-3.

"It was a great win," said Scott. "We don't want to lose at home, especially when it is a

team in the bottom half of our conference."

Larry Holscher (4-2, 1.69 ERA) recorded the win for FCC. O'Reilly went 2-4 for the Rams. Oliver went 2-3 to help the Rams recover from the deficit.

Taft had revenge fresh on their minds when FCC visited the Cougars on April 1. The Rams had no plans for another come-from-behind win. They left no room for doubt in this one as FCC pounded on the Cougars for a 16-2 win. In the fourth, FCC had their second ten run inning of the season. Carlton Wilder hit a triple going 2-2 with 2 RBIs as Robert Walden went 2-3 hitting a double and knocking in 2 RBIs of his own. Brian Oliver went 2-2 and hit a home run with 4 RBIs as Taylor Lewis recorded his fifth win to take his record to 5-0.

FCC (22-6, 13-2 CVC) still holds the top spot in the NorCal coach's poll. They moved past Modesto and Merced for the top spot in Central Valley Conference standings.

"We are a game ahead of Modesto in conference," said Scott. "I think it will come down to us and Modesto for the conference championship."

FCC has a home and home coming up with COS. They will then travel to Visalia on April 4 and then host the Giants at Euless Park April 6. FCC winds up the week with a road game against Merced on the April 8, and then the Rams travel to Santa Maria for the Hancock Tournament on April 11.

Upcoming Schedule

April 5 @ Porterville 1 p.m.

April 6 vs COS 2:30 p.m.

April 8 vs. Merced College 1 p.m.

April 11-13 Hancock Tournament TBA

April 18 @ Merced College 2:30 p.m.

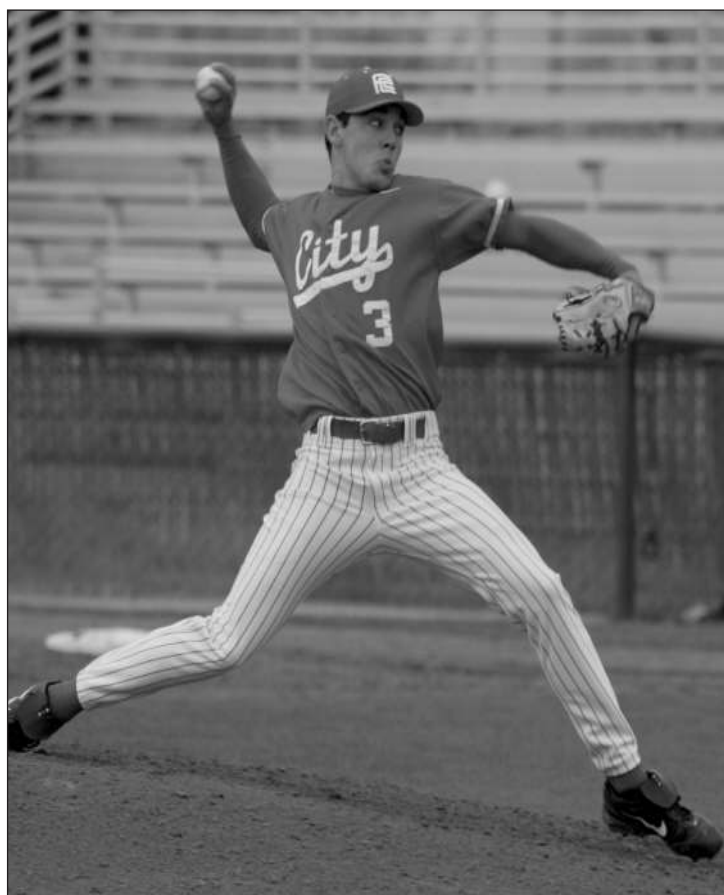


Photo by Jennifer Schmidt

Fresno City College continues to receive superb pitching from its staff including #3 who is 4-2 with a 2.81 ERA. In his last start, he went 6 innings while only allowing three hits and seven strikeouts

Rampage
Fresno City College



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Excessive penalization on the offensive

NFL adds a few rules to the 2006 season, including harsher penalties to deter endzone antics

by Quinn Robinson
Sports Editor

Palmer drops back to pass; he throws deep down the middle to Johnson. Caught. At the thirty, the twenty-five, twenty, fifteen, ten, five, touchdown.

Now the real game begins. The past few seasons, fans of the National Football League have witnessed almost everyone who's scored a touchdown break out with some sort of end zone celebration.

Whether it is good: Chad Johnson. Or bad: Warren Sapp. The "celebration" is part of the game, as we know it today.

Now as the NFL's competition committee met in the off season to discuss these antics along with a few other policies that have now been put in place for the 2006 season, many fans find themselves wondering what will come of the rule changes.

Some of the new rules brought up: disallowing quarterbacks to get hit below the knees so they don't suffer career threatening injuries a la Carson Palmer and Daunte Culpepper is a good way to go so the talent that is in the NFL today can last a few more years than it would have without this type of rule.

Throwing penalty flags for celebrations and cutting down the challenge time on plays from 90 seconds to 60 really doesn't mean

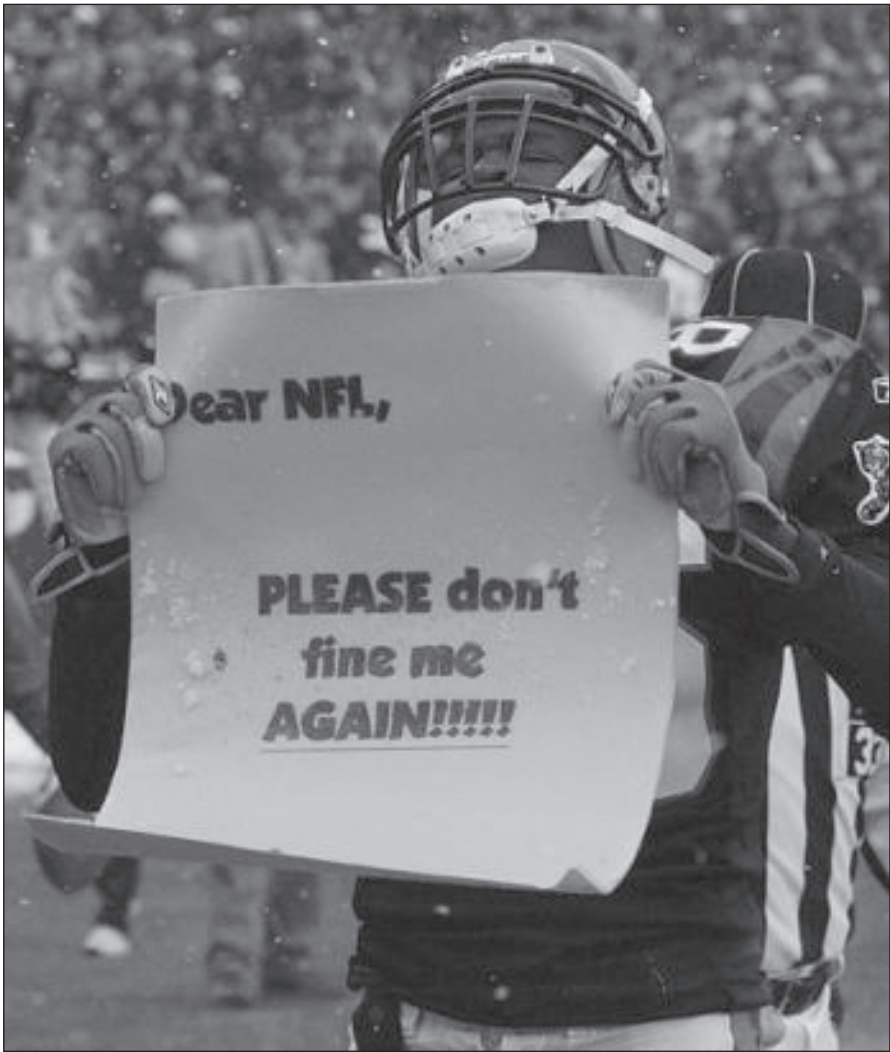
much. Players like Chad Johnson, Terrell Owens and Steve Smith will still do their patented—well at least it should be—end zone dances every time their agile bodies cross the pylons. And referees will still take three to four minutes to review a play that questions whether a players knee was down before the ball came loose and was recovered by the opposing team.

What many in the NFL front office may not realize is that end zone celebrations are part of the game and are considered entertaining, let alone very amusing by those who wish they could get away imitating the same dance on a Saturday afternoon at the park.

The NFL is slowly turning back to the so-called "No Fun League" that many sports commentators have dubbed it in the past with the creation of the new rule.

The Competition Committee should just let the athletes play and express their creativity freely after all the bumps and bruises they get while trying to reach the promised land and just think of it this way:

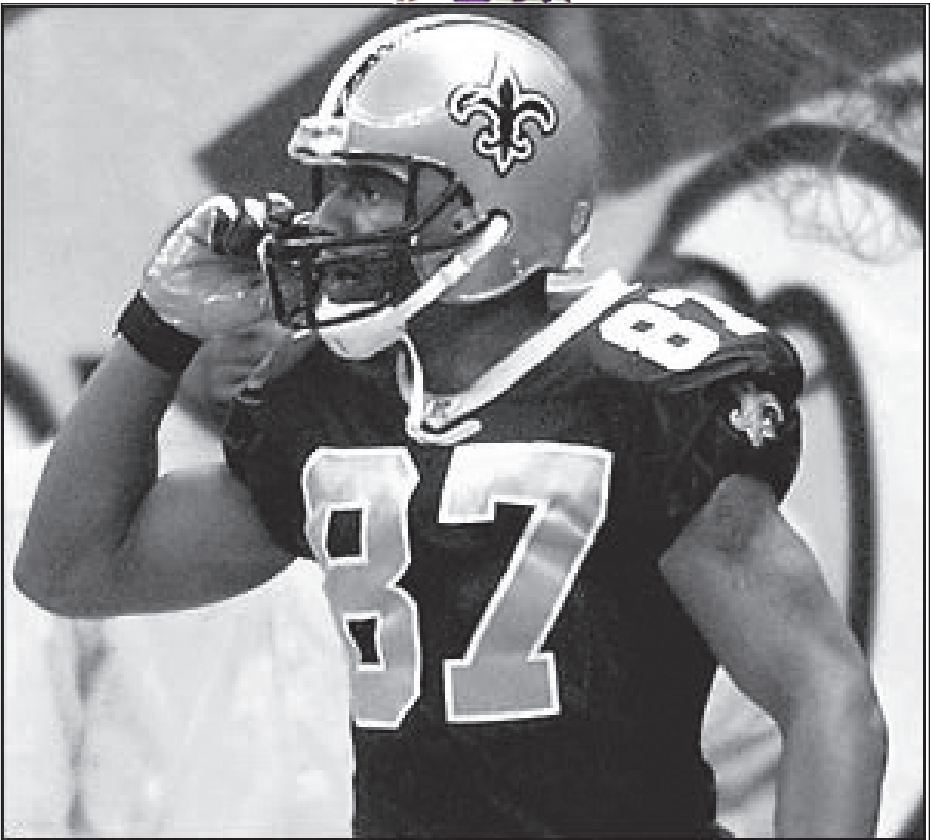
As long as a Piston/Pacer like brawl doesn't erupt on an NFL field near you, the celebrations should be allowed to stay.



Cincinnati Bengals star receiver Chad Johnson has promised that he will form a competition committee of his own with Terrell Owens and Steve Smith to discuss innovative ways to celebrate their trips to the end zone in 2006



Celebrations like this are ones that are still going to be deemed necessary by the NFL front office. Spiking the ball, Lambeau leaps and dunks will still be allowed by officials without receiving a 15-yard penalty.



New Orleans Saints receiver Joe Horn had a hard time hearing the voice on the other line after he scored a touchdown in a 2002 home game. Horn received a hefty fine for this celebration as he pulled a cell phone out from under an end zone goal-post and pretended to dial a friend watching him on television at home.



Important 2006 recognition ceremony dates for you to remember:

Saturday, May 13, 2006 at the Tower Theatre

Certificate of Completion

1:00 p.m.

Certificate of Achievement

3:00 p.m.

Honors Ceremony

6:00 p.m.

Friday, May 19, 2006 at Selland Arena

Commencement Exercises

7:30 p.m.



Purchase your commencement cap and gown early at the Fresno City College Bookstore.
Gown, cap, tassel and one announcement are \$27.99 plus tax.

Should we be more strict towards illegal immigrants?

We're all the same, no matter where we come from, so get over it



Clare Frederick
Rampage Reporter

I wonder how at-home the immigration protesters really feel here in Fresno. They were pretty mad after all, walking in the rain to a near-by town, or to the closest city hall, just to prove a point. I understand their frustrations. If I was here for a while, working hard, being a good person, and suddenly someone told me I was a felon for not signing some papers, or for not going through some process, or for even helping out an illegal in need, I'd raise some hell too.

I guess that would make me a law-breaker, and I've got a few illegal friends. I've partied in garages with the doors wide open on a hot summer night, surrounded by people who are here illegally. We'd drink Budweiser, look at guns, and watch a boxing match or two, while eating carnitas. Their kids were so happy, even to be playing with something as simple as a stick. Heck yeah I was the only white girl there, but it was fun. Let em stay, I say.

Yeah, I know law is law, and they're breaking the law, but the government has no money to enforce the law, which is really out-dated. The law just needs to be changed. How many illegal citizens get pulled over in a day, and the cop just writes up a ticket and sends them off? It's a lot, people. There's no money for enforcement. This was obvious during the protests. If they had money, INS would have shown up with a big load of busses and haul off every single one of the illegal protesters to whatever country they had come from.

Besides not having enough money to enforce the proposed immigration law, the simple act of humanitarianism is more important to me than any man-made law. If there were an illegal person dying on the

side of the road, I would never walk away. Sorry, you're illegal, I can't help you. No. A law that says I'd be a criminal for helping out an illegal is one you can guarantee I would break.

Another thing we should break is the traditional thought that an illegal can't call this land home. If the Mexican immigrants want to call this land home, they should. Wow. Did I even just write that sentence as if it was something profound? How far have we come as a society if I just had to type that out? This was their homeland after all, a long time ago.

We can get past all that though. I see a land between Canada and South America that will have no boarders one day. I'm not talking now, but hundreds of years from now there will be one huge nation of people, called the United Countries of America. People won't care so much about who's what race, or what part of the boarder you're from. Instead of it being a Mexican issue, it'll be a human race thing. You think I'm dreaming? Well then maybe I should go back to sleep.

Perhaps while I sleep, I could question the whole timing of it all too. Like Rush Limbaugh was saying the other day about how the anti-war people must really be jealous about the way the immigration issue has taken control of the political spotlight. But where is this immigration thing really coming from? It seemed like it appeared out of nowhere, strategically placed to possibly hide the negativity of the war in Iraq. Sure the accusation of puppet master is lofty, but sometimes you have to call a spade a spade.

This situation could really be a lot worse. We should be glad that we have this protesting thing with Mexicans, and not the French, who had a million people protesting that new job law, which would allow an employer to fire you for no reason within the first two years after being hired. In California, an employer can fire you whenever. Ha! The French protesters closed down airports and the Eiffel Tower for something we've always had to deal with. Can you imagine the scenario that would emerge if the immigration issue involved the French instead of the Mexicans?

Some new laws are definitely needed, but not the ones that are currently being proposed



Jessyca Dewey
Rampage Reporter

America. Land of the free. Home of the brave. That is, of course, unless you are not American.

Land of the free? The dictionary definition of "free" is "not imprisoned or enslaved" and "not controlled by obligation or the will of another." And brave? Let's see. To me, risking one's life in rough waters on makeshift rafts or running across freeways and leaving all that you've ever known behind you in another county in order to offer your children better lives takes bravery.

Now let's revisit this slogan- "land of the free and home of the brave." Maybe we should get a new slogan. How does "Stay the heck out of our heartless country" sound? Hmm. It doesn't sound great to me.

But yet, this seems to be what the Senate is trying to say. They tried to make being an illegal alien a felony. Hell, they even tried to make being in a car with an illegal alien a felony. Okay, okay... so they're changing this proposed legislation. We still get the point.

It's pretty easy to make anti-immigration legislation sound like anti-humanitarian and many times, they can be. However, as uncompassionate as they may seem, such laws may eventually begin to turn the tide in our treatment of illegal aliens.

Undoubtedly, the U.S. needs to reform the immigration system. Although this shouldn't be done by building walls and training militia, more restrictions on immigration should definitely be put into place.

The current legislation just isn't cutting it. Part of the process of becoming a legal resident includes a certain period of time of illegality and this just doesn't seem efficient. People generally have to sneak into the country in order to even begin the process of gaining legal status.

Yet the new laws that the Senate is trying to pass don't exactly fit the bill. Instead of making over the current system so that immigration is easier to control, not to mention more fair, they just want to make things more difficult for immigrants, whether they are already here or not.

Throwing illegal immigrants into prisons will not solve our immigration policy. Even U.S. prisons have better living conditions than that of the average Mexican civilian. Coming from a place where there is no consistent form of nourishment, no provision of shelter and no working and sanitary sewer systems, to many, the U.S. prison system may sound like a much better option. Simply enforcing the illegality of immigrants would not help our situation.

Perhaps the Senate does have some clue when they talk of passing legislature regarding work visas. Perhaps if the government created and enforced some way to ensure that the immigrants were indeed contributing to the economy rather than taking away from it, some legislature would be helpful.

The laws we need aren't laws that further criminalize the illegal aliens we currently have residing in the country. The laws we need aren't laws that make it nearly impossible for people to immigrate to the land of opportunity. We do need immigration laws but if we put up brick walls, it would no longer be called the land of opportunity. If we made it a felony to even be in the car with an illegal alien, it would no longer be called the land of the free. If we failed to deal with the actual issues rather than attack them at the base of the problem, it would no longer be called the home of the brave.

Campus Voices

by Nathan Tyree

Should America have stricter immigration laws?



Carrie Hubble,
Chelsea Bieker
Journalism &
English

"Not really, if something isn't broken, then it doesn't need to be fixed."



Wendy Rith
Architecture

"Yes, because it would cut down on smuggling illegal things like babies, drugs, and weapons."



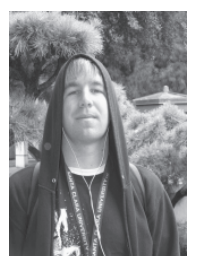
Moaaz Gill
Engineering

"No, people tend to forget about the many productive immigrants that come to America from all over the world."



Amorette Guzman
Music

"Yes, because I think they need to come in the correct way and fix the tall fence."



Keegan Conway
Political Science

"No, I don't think so. I think right now we don't have a major problem, so we don't need a drastic change."

Forget MySpace, embrace YouTube while you still can.

I know everyone is currently in love with that other website, but there's this new site that's only been around for a year and it kicks MySpace's you-know-what.



Matthew T. Mendez
Rampage Reporter

If you're anything like me, you hate MySpace, but you're on it everyday and you check your unread messages more than your business email address. Shame on you.

If you haven't heard of YouTube, then you're nothing like me, and you should probably thank God for that. Anyway, despite MySpace's recent stranglehold on the online community, some of us have found a much more productive way to completely waste our time.

I can't explain exactly what YouTube is, but I'll try: YouTube is everything anyone could have ever wanted in a website; it's everything you never will be. Millions of viewers upload their own videos onto the web as often as they want. Also, it has a crapload of copyrighted material, so pretty soon it's not going to exist anymore—at least not in the manner that us Tubers have

grown accustomed to.

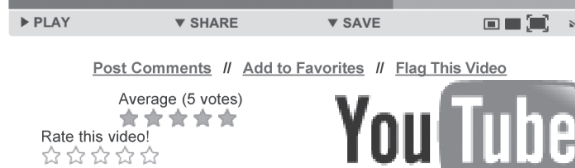
Maybe I shouldn't be writing about it. Too damn bad.

Everyone has an old TV show that they used to love but never get to see anymore, and some of us even have dozens of them. Yeah, most old shows are out on DVD by now, but if you're anything like me, you don't have the money to be wasting on them.

I enjoy tubing unreleased episodes of the original *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles* cartoon. I also enjoy destroying my brain cells by watching *Pinky and the Brain*, *Animaniacs*, and *Inspector Gadget*, among others.

You know how you watch a show now that you used to love when you were a kid and you say to yourself, "What the hell was I thinking?" *Ninja Turtles* is not one of those shows for me; it's as cool today as it was fifteen years ago.

But there aren't just TV shows on YouTube, there are clips of old standup acts, hard-to-find commercials, music videos, and movie trailers. Still, many people are reluctant to spend their designated MySpace time on another website. I can only assume that is because there is pretty much no way to talk to your friends on



YouTube. Those of you who are overly concerned with socializing should probably get off the computer anyway. Stupid MySpace.

If you're a fan of foreign commercials packed with a humorous twist, just type in "man vs. bear" in the search engine. You'll find a hilarious ad for John West's Red Salmon in which a man and a grizzly bear are engaged in a kung-fu battle by a river for the bear's salmon meal.

You may happen to be a fan of cute animal clips, so type in "cat boxing," and you'll find an adorable little video of a

pugnacious kitten challenging an elder cat to a wrestling match. Kitties always produce fan-pleasing video clips, so you can never go wrong with some good old-fashioned feline ballyhoo.

Maybe you're just one of those freaks

that likes to constantly video tape themselves. Well, now you can force millions of other people to watch them online. All you have to do is paste the html code into the designated



space, and label your video something that you know lots of people will search for, like "Dave Chappelle."

Of course, many people will not click on your video once they see it's your unfunny butt and not really Dave Chappelle, but still, many idiots will click on your video just because they're bored. God bless America.

Speaking of America, try typing in "We stand as one" on your YouTube search engine. I'm not sure, but you just might find the most touching display of patriotism this world could have ever imagined (extreme sarcasm should be noted). It's a homemade video by some idiot from New Jersey who wrote his own song as a tribute to the victims of Sept. 11.

A noble idea? Yes.

A good idea? Hell no. It's probably the ugliest thing I've ever seen in my entire life, and one of the funniest.

I am confident that YouTube has something for just about everybody. Personally, I spend most of my time tubing live performances by Tool and A Perfect Circle. You, on the other hand, had better start tubing before the FCC limits the website's access and restricts the type of videos users are allowed to upload. So, when given the chance, what would you tube?

God is not a conservative homophobe

Even Christians have a tough time distinguishing the faithful from the stereotypical



Mike Read
Rampage Reporter

God is not a homophobe.

God is not a Republican.

A lot of the thoughts to come stem from a recent film I saw called *V for Vendetta*. It was a great flick and culturally relevant with a strong political undercurrent concerning the conservative Republican Party's view.

The message was an extreme foreshadowing of what conservative values might look like if implemented in a fascist form.

The government's faith in God was an excuse to suppress the people. Through terror

and censorship they concealed the truth while killing off those practicing homosexuality and eavesdropping on its citizens for the sake of national security.

Sound a little familiar?

As I sat through it I actually found myself getting offended. I felt like my faith and my God were being portrayed as something that fosters hate and oppression and makes every one want to rebel and drink vodka all day. I felt like the movie was talking to me because I have come to associate myself with Christ and His teachings.

What is more noteworthy is that I *instinctively* felt this; that because they were ripping on the Republican Party they were ripping on me because I was a Christian.

Somewhere in this the Republicans have come to represent Jesus? What?

Since when did George Bush represent Jesus? Of all the politicians that have been raised with a foundation of "Christian values," since when were they the *officially* anointed as the spokesmen of my God.

I bring all this up because I do not like a lot of what I hear on the radio about recent political movements. It is not that I disagree with the content of their message but more of the over all vibe.

These debates are shaping my God into this republican homophobe when he is not this. He is love. He is a God beyond our comprehension that sits waiting for his mankind to acknowledge His presence amidst the debate He holds for the standard of his creation.

It is important to note the involvement of mankind in anything usually turns out messed up, including involvement with God. If we looked at

the people of the Catholic faith we could say they are all child molesters. Or if we looked at the people of the Muslim faith we could say they are suicidal lunatics.

Those that do look to these people as the whole reason for believing or not believing do themselves a severe injustice. The journey for truth comes down upon the shoulders of the seeker and is revealed in the quite solitude of your heart.

The bottom line is we are all hypocrites trying to do what we think is best. A lot of the time we will poorly represent Christ and the things of God. We will continue to do this as long as we exist, but we

will never stop trying to reach that standard.

The God of my Christian faith came down in the flesh of Jesus to heal the broken people of this world. The ministry here on earth was an eternal metaphor for what He is doing now. It is a good thing. Better than anything you have heard before. He was a friend to people that did no have it right, to those who were confused and needed something greater than what the world has to offer, to those who need healing and love. He came to save us.

This is the God so many serve imperfectly.

We are but mere men and can do nothing perfectly, so please, be patient with us.



We believe that when you truly embrace diversity,
you embrace God.

Join us for Easter: 6:30, 8:00, 9:30 & 11:00 a.m.

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Reviews

April 5, 2006

11

Another epic battle in the war of the sexes

Vicci

vs.

Jake

Chivalry in the 21st century

Throughout history, chivalry has played a major part in male-female relations.

Chivalry comes from the French word “chevalier”, meaning knight. In medieval times, the chivalrous knight was “gracious and gentle [towards noble ladies]” according to online encyclopedia, Wikipedia.

For example, it was once customary for a man to place his coat over a puddle to prevent a lady getting her feet wet. Sir Walter Raleigh scored big points with his queen when he did this back in Renaissance times.

Raleigh may well have been familiar with the Code of Chivalry, composed by Leon Gautier; it advised knights, among many things, to be generous.

While few women expect a man to sacrifice his clothing every time it rains, many appreciate a little generosity. And this doesn't mean that men need to save for a sports car or diamond ring. What makes a big impact on the fairer sex, even today, is generos-



ity of spirit.

Manners cost nothing, but too many men overlook them when on a date. Spending a fortune on a memorable dinner counts for little if fundamentals are forgotten; no man wants his company to be memorable for the wrong reasons.

Holding the door open makes a difference, as does allowing a woman to pass through first. Taking a woman's coat, and offering one's own when it gets cold seems to happen less and less, but stands out when it does.

It's important to remember that chivalrous acts are not reserved simply for date nights. Gentlemanly behavior shouldn't be turned on simply in the company of a desirable female. As Gautier implied hundreds of years ago, chivalry is a state of

being; it's about honoring one's fellow man as much as impressing a lady friend. It's about being as noble to one's church and country as one is to her parents. Manners are crucial, even if people are strangers.

So why is this column directed specifically at men rather than both sexes? The reality is that some believe that opening doors and pulling out chairs are particularly non-macho. Minding one's p's and q's can sometimes be viewed as unappealingly effeminate.

Guys, take it from a woman: chivalry is hot. Be a gentleman not only to your girlfriend, but to her best friend, postman, and garbage collector; you'll separate yourself from the rest of the crowd...and let's face it, getting noticed, if you're lucky, sometimes leads to getting laid.

The Ex Files

It's pretty common for a new partner to be curious about an old partner.

But why do girls obsess about their guy's ex-girlfriends, as if she's still a threat?

The “Ex Files” have been a topic of discussion among my friends lately, and I couldn't help but wonder... should exes really be an issue? I mean, they are in the past, so should guys ever bring them up again? The relationship got sour for a reason. Don't we have the right to throw the mold out and never speak of it again?

For some reason, girls are obsessed with knowing every detail about ex girlfriends. This truly baffles me. I wouldn't want to know how hot an ex was or how brilliant they were! This type of behavior screams insecurity. And if insecurity doesn't exist in the relationship, then it's about to!

Guys usually don't bring up ex girlfriends. Guys who have

somewhat of a brain won't bring them up if they know what's good for them. Why must we avoid the topic? Because ignorance is bliss. Who wants to know that their guy has had ___ ___ ___ girlfriends (I'll let you fill in the blanks). The numbers can be depressing and disheartening for a girl who has a competitive edge.

So here's what the unlicensed psychologist, Mr. Wiens thinks would be a proactive solution: don't ask, don't tell. We've all heard this policy before, but let's use it in a different context. The Ex Files are like a cavity that can easily be avoided. Avoid the sweetness of knowing all the details of all the exes. The sweetness only lasts a while, then it's on to the painful and annoying cavity that will eat away at the relationship. If that small amount of sweet goodness is worth all the pain, then go right ahead. But really, how good is it to know?

So ladies, don't bring it up. Just leave it a mystery.

There are so many other important aspects to a relationship. Let's focus on the good stuff! I know a good argument feels good once in a while and keeps the spark going, but don't cross a line that might cause permanent damage.

Unless your man is having late night phone calls, or showing up with a new sweet scent on his shirt, then stop the harping. You might just send him running off into the arms of that ex, who wasn't even in his thoughts until you brought her up!



In Hollywood, it's who you know



Jessyca Dewey
Rampage Reporter

There are people in this world who are just naturally inclined to be successful. They have this undeniable drive and, usually, the personality, intellect, and talent to go right along with it. Then there are people like Paris Hilton.

Now, if you're a fan of Paris, please forgive me for what I'm about to say. Oh, wait. No, actually, you can just jump off of a cliff because Paris Hilton deserves all the bashing she can get.

First of all, Paris really is just not that good looking. She kind of always has that “deer-caught-in-the-headlights” look. Add that to the fact that she doesn't look like she has eaten in weeks and you get stuck with a starving deer about ready to get run over by a Range Rover.

Have I mentioned that she is as dumb as a doornail? This is the woman that coined the phrase “Wal-Mart... Do they like make walls there?” Let's just say that if survival of the fittest really was the rule of the day, Miss Hilton very

likely wouldn't have made it much past the age of three.

Yet still this dumb dame is still estimated to have made \$6.5 million dollars from 2004 to 2005 and this is money she made all by herself. Well, I guess you wouldn't exactly say all by herself... The point is that it is money that she at least worked for.

However, even that is stretching it. To say that she “worked for” the money that she made off of her new perfume line is a kind of a loose term. Shrugging your shoulders and saying “Hmm... I think I want to sell my own perfume” does not make a working woman. She and Ashlee Simpson would make great friends.

Simpson Jr. is best known for being “Jessica's less attractive little

sister,” but really, it is not quite fair to compare the two. By the same token, it's far from fair that Ashlee oh-so-conveniently borrowed her sister's fame for her own benefit. Particularly when her music sucks. Honestly, it's so screechy that it might actually be damaging to the ear.

Why do we even know who these people are? Why are their names instantly so well-known, while actors like Matt Damon -who is undoubtedly talented, dedicated and driven- struggle to be noticed?

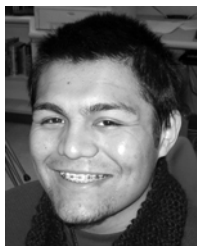
We have all heard the story of the struggling young Hollywood actor and it's funny to think that Matt Damon was once so unknown. Damon, an incredibly talented individual, went to audition after audition and took role after role only to

continue to go unnoticed all the while people like Paris Hilton and Ashlee Simpson- who are famous solely because of their families- were gloating in the spotlight.

Why is this? Who really thinks that Paris Hilton and Ashlee Simpson really make viable contributions to the entertainment industry? If the title of a song is “La, La”, is it really worth recording? And is a perfume really worth buying simply because it comes in a little pink bottle labeled “Paris Hilton”? No.

On the other hand, is a feel-good movie like “Good Will Hunting”, a moving tale about a math-whiz janitor getting discovered and rising in the ranks worth watching? I'll leave that one up to you...

HBO lifts the lid on student demonstrations



Joseph Rios

Rampage Reporter

Enough was enough.

While the nation fought Communism and the war in Vietnam, Mexicans students in Los Angeles were still struggling to get the bathrooms open during their lunch hour.

They read books about a history they weren't a part of. They stood up every morning and said the words, "...with liberty and justice for all," knowing all too well that "for all" meant everyone except them.

They were paddled for speaking Spanish and encouraged by guidance counselors to seek industrial and clerical professions if or when they graduated high school.

For the Mexican students, the cup grew too full, and on March 8, 1968, it overflowed; high school stu-

that led up to the walkout, through the eyes of Paula Crisostomo, a senior at Lincoln High School in East LA.

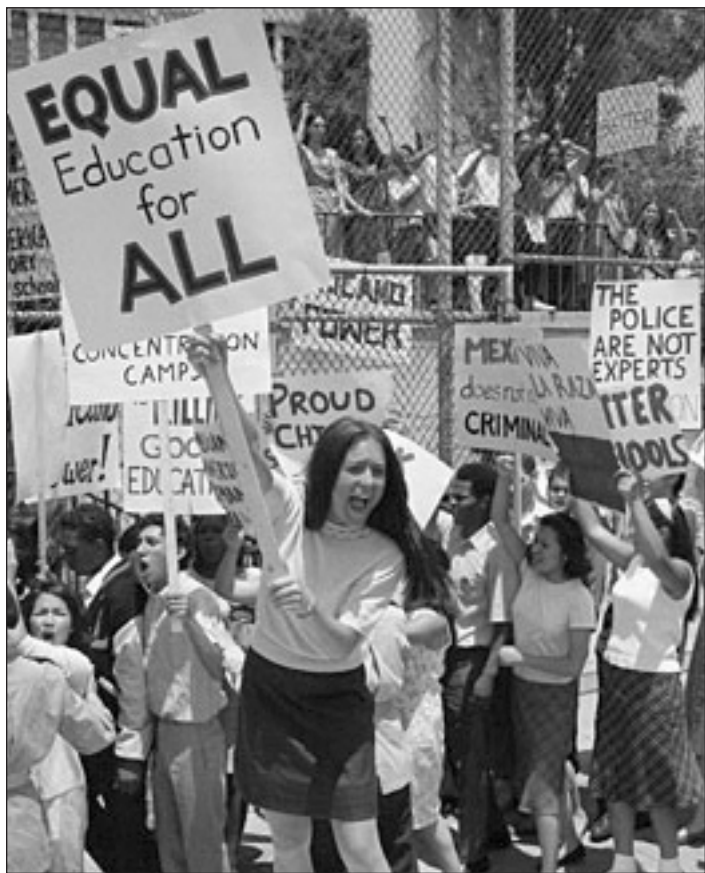
In an early scene, Crisostomo stands watch while her friend relieves herself behind a bush because the bathrooms were locked during lunch. In their history class they read about the Civil War, but are surprised to see that the Mexican contribution is left out of the text.

Crisostomo and members from other East LA high schools draft a survey for students to speak out on the treatment of Mexicans. Responses are, for the most part, the same.

"The key issue for the 1968 walkouts was that there was a real lack of cultural history being taught in the schools of East L.A.," Olmos said. "They knew very little about themselves."

Results were largely overlooked by the school board. Students were determined to take action.

Even after many students were beaten in the first walkouts, their boycotts continued. In one scene, a teacher tries to keep students from



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An image from the HBO feature-length presentation "Walkout" spotlights the little-known East L.A. demonstrations in 1968.

dents from all over East Los Angeles rose from their seats and quietly walked out of their classrooms in protest of the ill-treatment they received in school.

Police officers were told to force students back into their classrooms. The peaceful protest quickly turned to violence.

Students wielding signs were met by police officers wielding batons.

The film, "Walkout" recounts this widely unknown event in L.A. history.

Director James Edward Olmos told HBO Films, "This story isn't really known by anyone except for the students that participated. You're talking about an event that really isn't known that well even though it's [one of] the largest high-school student demonstrations [the U.S.A. has] ever had."

The movie highlights the events

leaving by likening them to lambs to the slaughter.

The 500 or so students from Lincoln High grew into a mass of over 20,000 students, parents, Brown Berets, and even members of the Black Panther party.

The walkouts quickly yielded results. At the time of the walkouts, 40 students made up the Mexican population at UCLA. In the fall of 1968, there were over 1200.

"I think this film will help inspire students, to help students realize that their self-respect, self-esteem and self-worth is the single most important aspect of living," said Olmos. "It's what gives you the ability to say to yourself, I want to move forward. I want to be all that I can be. That's the single most important thing that can be given to a young person."

Giving Thrice as much

Joseph Rios

Rampage Reporter

Forget all the tired notions about musicians; forget the images of sex, drugs, and rock n' roll. Those days are fading almost as quickly as the rockers who worked hard to build that rep.

More and more often, bands are coming out of the woodwork that have a charitable heart and a sincere desire to use their music as a mode for helping people.

I had the chance to sit down with Riley Breckinridge, the drummer from the band Thrice, just before his band took the stage at Taste of Chaos March 27. Thrice has made it perfectly clear that they are not just a band out to make money selling records.

"We've had such good fortune with this band," said Breckinridge. "It makes sense that we try to share that with people who are less fortunate."

Whether it's through charity shows, charity walks, or t-shirt and album sales — the band uses their fame and musical talents to aid the less fortunate.

Their charity has got the attention of many in the media. It has some putting them in the same category as U2, who devote their time and money to causes around the world.

"That's a nice compliment," said Breckinridge. "We don't have the resources to be as influential as a band like U2, but that's the reason why we're doing this."

"You don't have to be...U2 to get involved and improve the quality of people's lives," Breckinridge said.

The bands' allusions to God is a second reason they've been likened to U2. The lines of each track, written by frontman Dustin Kensrue, are oozing with references to the Bible, God, and faith.

"Over the years, I think his faith has been a large part of his life," Breckinridge said of Kensrue. "From record to record you'll see his personal growth and his own spiritual growth."

Songs like, "For Miles" off their new album *Vheissu*, quote directly from Biblical text, using words spoken by Jesus Himself like, "...there is no greater love, than that one shed his blood for his friends."

In addition, the track "Like Moths to Flame" closely resembles the story of Peter denying Jesus after he was arrested.

But Thrice does not want to be defined as a Christian band.

"There's never been an agenda," said Breckinridge. "Bands will get categorized as a political band or a Christian band, but...we're not out to convert anybody."

"I'm not a Christian and I'm in a band with three Christians...they've never tried to convert me," said Breckinridge. "We're just encouraging people to think."

The band's lyrics resonate with Christian listeners and non-Christian listeners alike, who are searching for answers about life, who they are, why they're here, and where they'll end up. Thrice have also made an impact on people's lives through their financial contributions and volunteer time.

"Hopefully we can show peo-



Dustin Kensrue of Thrice sings in front of a Fresno crowd at Taste of Chaos March 27. Fresnoans crowded Selland Arena for bands like As I Lay Dying, Atreyu, Story of the Year, and The Deftones, who headlined the show after Thrice.

Photo by Joseph Rios

ple how easy it is to get involved," said Breckinridge. "You don't have to give a ton of money, you can give a buck or two bucks...the little things add up."

Money from Thrice's debut album, "Identity Crisis", went to Crittenton Services for Children and Families in Fullerton, CA. The program helps heal the wounds caused by abuse and neglect within families.

Proceeds from the band's sophomore album, "Allusions of Safety", went to A Place Called Home. APCH provides at-risk children and young people in inner-city L.A. with a safe alternative to the gangs, drugs, and poverty that surround them.

"There are a lot of kids out there that have come from broken homes," said Breckinridge. "They are not afforded the opportunities we had as kids. For us to be able to help those kids have a greater chance of realizing some of the dreams they have is really cool."

A portion of "Artist in the Ambulance" went to help Syrentha Savio Endowment (SSE), which is a program that provides financial assistance to underprivileged women with breast cancer.

Profits from "Vheissu" will go to help 826 Valencia, a program that helps children ages 8-18 with their writing skills, in the realm of creative writing, expository writing, or English as a second language.

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