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RAMPAGE



FRESNO CITY
COLLEGE

Volume LXVIII Edition 4

☆☆☆ ONE OF CALIFORNIA'S OLDEST COMMUNITY COLLEGE NEWSPAPERS ☆☆☆

April 1, 1998

"There is a cost for Leadership"

By Luqman Haqq
Editor-in-Chief

Fresno Mayor Jim Patterson Speaks to Fresno City College Associated Student Government, at one of their recent Senate meeting in the Student Activities Center Senate room.

The Mayor was introduced to the Senators by Craig Reid, who is the Advisor to the (ASG) Senate and Student Activities. Reid pointed out to the Senators some of the many good things that the Mayor has done for the community at large and the many contributions that Patterson has made to FCC.

"Thank you for spending your extra time beyond your own

personal pursuits to serve as leaders," and thanks for inviting me to return to FCC. I am a Alumni, I spent two wonderful years here and I enjoyed it very - very much. I am happy to return to this campus", said Patterson, in his opening remarks.

Patterson spoke of the street light that he helped in getting installed at McKinley and Maroa. "It is my plans to do a lot more improvement around the Heaton area, which is in the neighborhood near Fresno City College," said Patterson.

As the program continued, the mayor talked of the role of a leader and he also pointed out many situations one might en-



Photo by Samuel Yuk

ASG presents Mayor with plaque of appreciation. Pictured are: Craig Reid, Ilene Martinez, Enoch Thompkins, Frank Loforti, David Shaw, Janice Jansen, Vida Verdugs, Marian Chiurazzi, Mary Lee McGough, Pamela Morris, Linda Leu, Mayor Patterson, Ernie Garcia, Abraham Garcia, Martha Patrick.

counter in this role. "When you decide to become a leader, there will be times as a leader, you will have to make a decision that may not be politically correct, or the majority may disagree with your decision, it might make someone dislike you. There is a lot of self sacrifice that comes with leadership. This is one of many cost in the role of leadership", said Patterson.

The mayor also spoke of the importance of having a sense of core values, which helps you make decisions easier. Core values is at the heart of humanities, it is what our found-

ing fathers were speaking on in the U.S Constitution, when they spoke of the 'self-evident truth'. Each and everyone of you has something that transcends the flash", said the mayor.

"There is a cost for leadership, and there are rewards that can be economic or social", said the mayor. He also stressed the need for a sense of family in your role as future leaders for the 21st century. "We can't get through in this world without a family, even if we don't have one we should adopt one."

entering higher status positions. Women of the new millennium doesn't mean that women will start to surface, but that women are in higher positions and will continue to rapidly grow. "Men will just have to step aside a little more and let us come in and understand that we have roles, but it's not going to be different, so don't say that all of a sudden now were stepping up and doing something we've never done, we've always been in the battlefields and we've always worked" says Smith.

More and more women are doing

Chancellor's Secretary Retires

Luqman Haqq
Editor-in-Chief

Kathryn Wharton retires from State Center Community College District Office On Friday March 27, there was a retirement reception held at the Board Room Of SCCC. This late noon reception was held in honor of Wharton's



Photo by Samuel Yuk
Kathy Wharton and SCCC Chancellor Bill Steward.

ten-year service as Executive Secretary to SCCC Chancellor Bill Steward. "We want to thank you Kathy and we would like you to know that we are going to miss you," There were many days I would come in the office and Kathy would just hand me a folder with things to do and at times with a map on the folder as to how to get there," said Chancellor Bill Steward.

As the reception was joined by many of Wharton's SCCC Cabin members, also present were a few of her family members, co-workers and former co-workers from her years at Fresno Unified School District. "I want to thank you Kathy for all that you've done for me to help me in the field of education, that has helped me a great deal in my career today", said Pete Mehas, Superintendent of Fresno County Unified Schools.

Dorothy Smith, SCCC Board member spoke on behalf of the SCCC thanking Kathy "for her years of work, we will miss you and we hope you will have a good life, and we thank you for all that you have done for us."

Jon Sharpe SCCC Vice Chancellor's gave Kathy a gift on the behalf of the Cabinet. "More than the gift, we would just like to say thank you Kathy, said Sharpe.

In the close of the program Kathy thanked every one for all of the gifts, and spoke of the great time she had working with every one, "Thank you all for coming," said Kathy, she and her husband plan to take a trip across the country in their six wheeler-Mobile-Home.

The Role of Professional Women in the New Millennium

By Janetra Johnson
Staff Writer



Photo courtesy of Gurdeep Sihota

Women of the Millennium panel: Kae Vu, Sharon Levy, Dorothy Smith, Bryn Forham, Enid Perez.

In celebration of Women's month, a panel of five professional women in the valley came to speak on "The Roles of Professional Women in the New Millennium", on March 20. The multicultural panel included: Bryn Forham, Community Hospitals of Central California; Dorothy Smith, President of the State Center Community College District Board of Trustees; Enid Perez, President of MALDEF; Kae Vu, from the Educational Outreach Center and Sharon Levy, Fresno County Supervisor, District 2 and Fresno's Business Woman of the Year.

It is no surprise to hear that women have come a long way in America. What is surprising is the speed at which women are

See Millennium, Back Page

Lets go SIFE Seeing, FCC'S team is rated 6th in the nation

James Wilcox
Staff Writer

There is an organization on the Fresno City College campus that is dedicated to the proposition of furthering the free enterprise system.

"Tell me and I will forget," said Students In Free Enterprise advisor William Syvertsen, "show me and I might remember, involve me and I will understand."

The FCC SIFE team won prominence nationally by designing a T-shirt and entering their creation in the 1998 SIFE Shirt Contest. The design is emblazoned with the SIFE logo. Two students with back-packs are shown walking into one side of the logo and walking out on the other side wearing business suits.

Syvertsen was notified by telephone on March 25 that his team's design had won the contest.

The FCC SIFE team will attend the San Francisco Regional Exposition on March 30, 31 and the 1998 International Exposition on May 12 in Kansas City, Missouri.

SIFE is not a student association and does not charge membership dues to students or institutions. Any FCC student may join. Meetings are held on Tuesday at 1 p.m. in BE-137.

Enrollment in a SIFE class (BA-27) can earn a student college credit (1 to 3 units) and a job resume service for life.

"I like working with students," said Syvertsen, "It sets up real life experiences with students."

SIFE has many projects in work, one of which involves students from Heaton Elementary school across McKinley Avenue from FCC in a service called Reading Really Rewards.

Elementary students are encouraged to read books at home from 15 to 20 minutes and the student's parents are evolved by certifying, in writing, that their son or daughter has accomplished the task.

The student is rewarded by receiving a pencil or eraser upon completion of their reading task and their school receives new books at the project's conclusion. Reading can be a real "hair-ball" for some youngsters.

SIFE students also promotes the principles of free enterprise to other students through workshops and seminars. They hold varied activities throughout the year, on and off campus and help new businesses to sell their products better through meetings with the business' employees.



Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) pose for photo opportunity near Veteran's Memorial Photo courtesy of SIFE

Some SIFE projects have helped to reduce the National Debt. The organization has collected more than \$300 in pennies toward this end.

In April the SIFE team will sponsor a campus-wide carnival where all campus clubs will have an opportunity to coordinate, operate and execute a booth of their choice ranging from food to games. Expected to draw the largest crowd since this year's Renaissance Faire, SIFE will have a dunk tank with various faculty members and sales of tri-tip sandwiches to fund future SIFE projects.

SIFE participates in Outreach and Community Caring projects by donating food, gifts and

blankets during the holiday season. They served lunch to the homeless at Poverello House.

Joining with the North Fresno Rotary club, the FCC SIFE team took 30 elementary school children on a San Joaquin River expedition where the children learned about ecology and their responsibility to the environment.

SIFE participated in Kid's Day by selling special editions of the Fresno Bee to benefit Valley Children's Hospital.

SIFE is a noteworthy on-campus association which shows a better side of the college scene. It is worthy of continued support by students and faculty. It has earned Rampage's endorsement.

Disabled Students Making Career Decisions

By Abel E. Jimenez

"Are you an extrovert or an introvert?" "Do you deal with facts or feelings in the workplace?" and "Do you like open-ended jobs or do you appreciate closure in your job?" Those were some of the questions stated at the Disabled Students Program and Services (DSP&S) student evaluation workshop, held March 17 at the Student Services Building.

The workshop made possible by DSP&S counselor Gary Grue presents students with the opportunity to "Make Career Decisions" the two-part theme for this workshop that enables working decisions for the disabled.

"The purpose of the workshop is to introduce students with disabilities to the ideas in going to work, they can make decisions about the work they're interested in and the kind of personalities that would fit the kind of job they're interested in," quoted guest speaker and Workability specialist Trish Ballantyne.

The students present at the workshop took a survey presented by the

Keirsey Temperament Sorter, "a simplified version of the Myers-Briggs Temperament Inventory" according to Ballantyne. Among the seventy questions on the survey were: "At a party, do you socialize with a lot of people, including strangers or only with people you know?" "Are you more realistic or speculative?" and "Are you more impressed by principles or emotions?" This survey conducts peoples' ambitions, desires, feelings and attitudes toward the workplace. "There is no right or wrong answer, this sorter determines what kind of job might await you and whether you have the skills to accomplish it," said Ballantyne.

The workshop also covers "an individual's interests, dealing with the things they like to do today, not necessarily what they already know, but the ambitions and the skills needed to go after the job you want," states Ballantyne.

This workshop coincides with the upcoming Disability Awareness Day on April 16.

Test Anxiety gets the best of students

By Valerie Wells
Staff Writer

Many people suffer from different types of anxiety disorders which cause them much difficulties in performing the various tasks required of them in their daily lives. One of the most common types of anxieties among college students is Test Anxiety.

So what is Test Anxiety?

Test Anxiety is a type of panic attack one feels when taking an exam. Many different things may run through the person's mind, or possibly nothing at all. This is mostly due to the fact that they have gotten themselves so wound up over the exam that they can not think at all. As Julie Silva, a counselor at the center says, a person's face will sometimes "become flushed or their heart starts pounding and their palms will even get sweaty." Some people will even shake slightly.

Why do some people suffer from Test Anxiety?

They do not prepare! According to Mike Gerber, a counselor in FCC's Psychological Services center, some people who suffer from Test Anxiety are not prepared when

they walk in to take their exam, and therefore panic because they do not know the material.

Gerber also says that it is partly due to a lack of confidence in themselves. A person will often send themselves "self defeating messages," such as "Oh, I'm so terrible at taking tests," or "I just know I'm going to bomb this test."

In some instances, students will study for an exam for hours and hours, but because they are unwilling to trust themselves, yet they will still suffer from Test Anxiety.

People who take on too much and strive for perfection at all times usually have unrealistic expectations of themselves and could be setting themselves up for failure. This is also characteristic of test anxiety. "If you take on too much, you're not going to be prepared," says Silva.

What are some strategies that can be used to avoid Test Anxiety?

Identify what is going through the

Please see Test Anxiety, page 3

Upward bound reaches out to help students.

By Brenda Miller
Managing Editor

On March 17, the director of Upward Bound Dr. Edward Wright, came to speak with Fresno City College journalism students about his program, Upward Bound.

Upward Bound started eight years ago at FCC to provide students the opportunity to demonstrate their educational talents, such as an aspiring Accountant or Nurse.

Wright explained that the main purpose of the program is to help prepare high school students that come from low income families, get a feeling for what college life is really like.

There are five schools associated with the program at FCC. They are Edison, McLane, Roosevelt, Fresno and Hoover. From the five schools there are 60 students enrolled with 15 on each schools' waiting list.

To qualify for the program students must be a US citizen or permanent resident and a potential first-generation college student of the family. They must also have an academic

need.

In order to participate in the program a student must be in grades 9-11 with a 2.0 grade point average and keep it all through the year. If grades drop the student is put on academic probation and will be dropped if the grades can not be brought back up.

"Students are referred to us by their teachers or counselors," said Wright, during his speech. "We are like a family environment, we work closely with the kids and their parents."

The staff consists of teachers, counselors, and tutors who help provide guidance. The tutors consists of students who attend FCC and Fresno State with a grade point average of 3.5 or higher. "We are always looking for good tutors," said Wright.

Students interested in being a tutor may contact the office for more information call (209)442-8297 or come visit room SC-216 above the bookstore in the Student Center.

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Impressions

By James Wilcox

About this anti-smoking movement. My point is that alcohol was banned in the United States for 14 years. The ban produced social and economic exacerbation's from which this country has yet to recover.

Alcohol wasn't taxed excessively like cigarettes, it was physically eliminated from the culture totally. Rum-runners and bootleggers made millions of dollars while users paid for their illegal elixirs at varied mark-ups. When organized crime entered the picture, that price often included the customer's life.

When the president, congress, or state and local government interfere in the way people live their personal lives, the interference is patently wrong and usually completed by questionable means. For the most part such interference is doomed to failure from the start. The American public, smoking or non-smoking, isn't dumb. No law exists to keep the government from practicing social control through legislation, but there should be one.

Cigarettes are taxed to prevent adolescents from purchasing them. They get them anyway and the existing law has now been changed to punish those who sell tobacco items to minors.

One argument seems to be that smoker's don't have any will of their own so the new laws are kept on the books to make them quit smoking by making tobacco too expensive. That sounds like prohibition to me and I'm sure that Carrie Nation would enjoy knowing you bunch of anti-tobacco extremists.

Making a bar that allowed smoking into one that doesn't is the same as taking away the bar's liquor license. People will go to where both smoking and drinking are allowed or they won't.

Sure smoking is expensive and making the cost artificially high to achieve some unattainable geo-physical goal is a waste of time.

First they tax my cigarettes to the point of my not being able to afford that luxury then they scare the hell out of me with prophecies of Worlds Collide in the next century. Enough of this BS.

I didn't do anything to anybody, just walked around minding my own business and thinking the best thoughts about the world in general.

I'm tired of all this crap about President Clinton and Mayor Patterson. If your going to prosecute these people... get on with it

Test Anxiety

continued from page 2

person's mind, as well as weaknesses in their study habits. This will aid the person in understanding what they are doing wrong and better prepare them for the coming exam.

Using different ways of learning the information you need to know for the test is also a good way of avoiding anxiety. This can be achieved by using pictures, flash cards, or even taking a tape recorder to class in the case when note taking is a problem. For extreme cases, making use of the tutorial center would also be helpful.

More good ways of combating test anxiety would be asking the professor what you need to know on the test, using study guides which are available for most classes in the bookstore and/or are on reserve in the library (some professors give them out). You can also benefit from using practice tests, which too, can be found on reserve in the library.

Learning relaxation techniques such as deep breathing and counting are helpful, as well as learning to build confidence in yourself. As Stuart Smalley says, "I'm smart enough, I'm good enough, and dog-gone it, people like me!"

The FCC Health and Psychological Services will be conducting an Anxiety Disorders Screening Clinic on Thursday, April 23. The screening will be held in conference rooms A and B in the College Center. It is available free of charge to FCC students, faculty, and staff. The sessions will be held at 10 am, 12 noon, and 2 pm.

The screening is designed to provide information regarding symptoms and treatment of various anxiety disorders, and to help participants determine whether they should seek a more thorough evaluation. Referral information will also be available.

POLICE LOG



April, 1998

■ March 30, 1998 (9:15 p.m.) — Officer initiated traffic stop at south bound Blackstone at McKinley after observing vehicle going the wrong way on a one way street. Campus Drive and Lot-D, driver was cited for going the wrong way on a one way street.

■ March 26, 1998 (4:45 p.m.) — Officer initiated traffic stop at Wishon and Home after observing vehicle failing to stop at sign at Campus Drive South and Poplar. Driver was cited for failing to stop at sign and no proof of insurance.

■ March 26, 1998 (8:00 a.m.) — Officer contacted three subjects on Weldon by Wendy's that were causing a disturbance. Subjects were contacted and found to be intoxicated subjects were turned over to parents. Report taken.

■ March 25, 1998 (10:30 a.m.) — Officers were dispatched to parking lot -E for a report of two suspicious juveniles. Officers contacted and identified the two and found that they were tampering with vehicle registration tabs. Juveniles were arrested and cited, then released to parents. Report taken

Blood Drive

FCC Health Services and the Central California Blood Center will be sponsoring a campus blood drive on Wednesday, April 15, from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. in the Blood mobiles that will be located at the entrance to the gym.



Ernie Shelton
1943-1998

The *Rampage* and *Fresno City College* student, staff, faculty and administration send our condolences to the family of Ernie Shelton

Who is Ally McBeal? She might be you or me.

By Abel E. Jimenez

One of the hottest and most talked-about shows on television is "Ally McBeal" airing Monday nights on Fox. Over the past month, newspapers and magazines became all the rage for this quirky show that's drawing the praise of women and the wrath of men.

For those of you still tuning into the NWO and Degeneration X, here's the 411 on Ally McBeal. It's the story of a Boston attorney who's very successful in her cases, with her love life being another story. The show's quirky features include a unisex bathroom that puts both men and women in the same room discussing courtroom and private conversations, with Ally surrounded by friends and colleagues that put "Seinfeld" to shame.

In recent issues of the Fresno Bee and TV Guide, readers were introduced to pro and anti-Ally McBeal perspectives from respective writers. Women praise her for being a symbol of today's woman while men have chastise her for being a whiny little girl who needs to "get a life." Why in the world would a man write a column about Ally McBeal? Would it shock you if this writer admits to not only enjoying Ally McBeal, but that her life nearly shadows mine. Pleased?

No, I don't plan to file a lawsuit, for I never planned to create a show based on my life, but with every passing episode, I see my life mirroring hers. Whether its pining for an old flame or getting booed off the stage at a comedy club or dancing with a visualized conscience or having a snappish attitude, Ally McBeal and I nearly live a "charmed" life. (Okay, so I don't wear short skirts and have a successful job like her, but the personal side ranks right up there.)

In the coming weeks, more sensitive issues will be focused and maybe it just



photo courtesy 20th Century Fox

might put a burden on your shoulder. Someplace in the mirror, you might ask yourself: "Am I Ally McBeal?" "Do I dance with an invisible baby? or ask myself does size matter? or have a snappish attitude? or continue to pine for an old flame?" (Probably not the kind of honest questions you want to write to Jazz especially if you admit that when you're hurting, arrows shoot through your heart.)

Not since "All in the Family" has a show raised questions and created controversy quite like "Ally McBeal" in making social and political statements while putting comedy in the forefront. Creator David E. Kelley quite possibly believes in the same philosophy that Norman Lear did for "All in the Family," that is to laugh at the premise while at the same time learn from it.

Played with cock-eyed humor and a tough but vulnerable persona, Ally McBeal may be in the guise of actress Calista Flockhart (see photo above), but in some aspects the majority of our lives shadow the characterizations of this intelligent but fair-gamed lawyer. I've confessed my little secret, how about you?

THE RAMPAGE

"Education is Liberation"

Dean Robert Fox

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Dear Jazz,

I'm dating a guy who really digs me, and I used to dig him. Recently I have noticed some things about him that usually don't necessarily make him a bad person, just turns me off. I'm not the sort of person to just tell him to get lost, but I just don't wanna chill with him anymore.

He wants a relationship and I just need a friend to kick it with. How can I dump him without hurting his feelings?

Signed Ms. Nice-gal

Having a problem with that special someone, or just can't find that special someone? Are you just feeling down and don't know why? Write to Jazz and get the friendly advice you need.

Address your letters to:

Dear Jazz

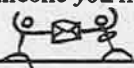
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Dear Jazz



Dear Ms. nice-gal,

This sounds like you need to confront this young man before he begins to get any more serious feelings for you. If he really digs you, then he's going to be hurt no matter how you let him down. The best thing to do is put yourself in his position and think of how could you be let down without any harsh feelings. Then, approach this guy and let him know how you feel. Whatever you do, don't write him a "get lost" letter and don't procrastinate. The longer you wait the more difficult it will be. Remember, it's not fair to get dumped for not doing anything wrong, but it really isn't fair to be with someone you no longer "dig".



Student opportunities in Community Service

By Richell Horder
Contributing Writer

Fresno City College Community Involvement Class is now in its fourth semester. According to the instructor, Lynn Badertscher, the class is going strong, with excellent results.

The community involvement class, known as Speech 20, provides students with the opportunity to see the inside workings of the profession or field of their choice.

The class offers students the opportunity to explore community services in learning environment. Students have taken Speech 20 for a variety of different reasons. "Students have enrolled in the class to experience career field before they get too far into school. Others wanted to do something for the community or work on an issue that they cared about," Said Badertscher.

During the semester, students from the class work with faculty and staff on a campus drive to raise money for Habitat for Humanity. The money raised is used to renovate condominiums for low income families.

Students get the chance to study communications theory, leadership, teamwork, and citizenship, and to apply these concepts to everyday life. All of the students volunteer in non-profit organizations of their choice. During the semester students work with the instructor and site supervisor to plan their service experience.

"The students network with people in their career field and can put the services on their resumes. I have a student with placement at the City of Fresno Public Works Department who has been offered a student internship, he starts in three weeks," said Badertscher.

"A student who is placed with the Fresno Police Department was out at DUI check point last week until 2 a.m. She was really excited. another student I have is a Pre-Med major. He volunteers at Holy Cross Clinic, a free clinic for those without insurance. He has learned to take vital signs and to do lab work."

"I think the Class has been really successful, some have taken it twice and others have kept their services," said Badertscher.

There are 150 placements for the students to choose from, ranging from government offices and agencies, AIDS Team, to Tree Fresno. Students develop civic and cultural awareness and occupational skills.

The business office at FCC has an account set up for anyone who wishes to donate money to Habitat for Humanity. Donations can be dropped off at the business office, addressed to Speech 20 or Habit for Humanity. For further information contact Lynn Badertscher in the Speech Communication Department, 442-4600 ext. 8127

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FCC students and Eisenhower program participants take a trip to the State Capital

By Rampage News

Members of the Eisenhower leadership delegation traveled to the State Capital on Thursday Mar. 26 to meet with Assembly man Chuck Poochigian, State Senator. Jim Costa and former FCC student and Eisenhower program participant John Connely, who is currently the head of computer operations for the State Assembly Majority office.

During the visit, the delegation was acknowledged on the State Assembly and Senate Floors.



Photo courtesy Gurdeep Sihota
FCC students and Eisenhower program participants at State Capital. Ernie Garcia, David Shoopman, Frank Loforti, David Shaw, Lisa Adinolfi, Andy Au-Yueng, Bao Tran, Thank Tran, Vatsuna Rajaphng Khy, Rene Vasquez, Jopsh Palmer, Hoa Tran, Martha Patrick, Nongly Xiong, Misty Polin, Abe Garcia, Linda Lau.

Where will you be in 2001?



Photo by Bernardo Salado

Information Meeting

Saturday, April 18

Room BE-134

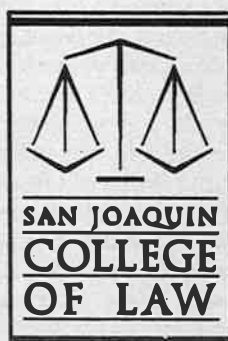
9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

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Hosted by the FCC Student Paralegal Association



Come to the Bookfair

Don't miss a great opportunity!! Come to the bookfair on Wednesday, April 15, in front of the Fresno City College Bookstore where there will be top quality NEW hardcover books for everyone in the family up to 70% below retail. Enjoy the greatest deals on the world's finest books, including NY Times Best-sellers, cook-books, children's books on sports, travel, general interest and much, much more... over 200 titles in all. The bookfair will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on

Wednesday, April 15, 1998.

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YOUR CAMPUS

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TODAY!!

Bumper Stumpers

Last edition's question:
Of these Fox Announcers, which one never actually played in the National Football League?

A. John Madden

This edition's question:
Oscar winner Cuba Gooding Jr. is a second generation star, for his father, Cuba Gooding Sr. was a soul singer whose credits include "Everybody Plays the Fool" and "Just Don't Want to be Lonely". What was the name of the group that Cuba's father sang in?

- A. The Main Ingredient
- B. The O'Jays
- C. The Stylistics

Answer, next edition.

A cast of feathers flock together

By Scott Cropper
Entertainment Editor

Thirty-one cast members of the Fresno City Theater Arts and Dance Department brought to a close their week-long performance of Greek writer Aristophanes', *The Birds*, in the FCC Theater Arts Theatre on Saturday March 21.

The place; somewhere above Fresno. The time; now. Pithetarus the Footloose, a Crapple, played by Tim Birch, is distinguished by his eminence of noxious bodily functions, accompanied by Eulepides the Footsore, a Fearling, played by Lionel Jones. Nervous and jumpy, he follows on the heels of Pithetarus. Transients, searching for a quiet place to reside. But Pithetarus has an ulterior motive, to secure complete power over the universe. Their search leads them to Epops, King of the Birds, played by William Avila. Once a human, Epops was transformed to a bird because of his promiscuous ways and is now only faithful to his Nightengale, played by Stephanie Friesen. Epops is the key in making Pithetarus' dream come true. Calling upon the birds of the world, from pigeons to swallows, to owls, they create a castle in the sky. People must pay a fee to Pithetarus in

order to have their wishes and desires reach the Gods in heaven. A fee must also be paid by the Gods to have those wishes and desires granted, becoming an even higher power than any God.

I found that the play was hard to follow at times. Adapted from a story written in a time of myths, legends and fables I was expecting some type of moral, but I couldn't figure it out. I thought that something would happen to one of the two humans, like the birds betraying them or something, but just the opposite happened, in fact Pithetarus even found himself a wife.

Aside from any hidden messages or morals that this might portray, I found this two hour play to be enjoyable. The costumes created, mimicked the colors and plumage of the birds almost to a tee. The Parrot, played by Mike Wright, with his multi-colored colored feathers, accented with an eye patch, and just as nasty and crass as any Pirate. Epops, dressed in Native American fashion, not distinguished to any bird, but rather a sense pertaining to the hawk, watchful and admired by his subjects.

Moving in slow jerks of the head and body, the cast members deliver an impressive interpretation of the birds portrayed. Along with using rollerblades to mimic *The Birds*' in flight.

Comic relief is offered through out the entire play. The cast tends to break out of character, from Pithetarus having to coerce Eulepides back on stage by threatening to withhold his paycheck. To which Eulepides goes off on some weird tangent by reciting the opening monologue to *Star Trek*.

Along with all the jumping and screaming and swooping around they still find time to throw in a dance step or two. Such as the memorable number lead by the pink clad Flamingo, Trochilus, played by D. Scott McQuiston.

He starts out with a soft, slow ballad storming into a hip-hop, rap dance number. It's a bit off beat, but quite humorous. Incorporating a past myth with modern convinces, *The Birds* proved to capture its small audience and critics as well.

The SITTING RAM

By Abel E. Jimenez

"WILD THINGS"

☆☆☆



Take two of Hollywood's young progressive actors (Kevin Bacon and Matt Dillon), along with a fast rising star (Neve Campbell) and put them in a complicated but convoluted story written by Stephen Peters and you've got "Wild Things", perhaps the most suspenseful and most raunchiest movie since "Basic Instinct".

Shot in the Florida Everglades with an alligator being the film's symbol, the plot opens with young high school instructor Sam Lombardo (Dillon) accepting an humanitarian award. Lombardo's good looks make him the craze of all the young girls at the high school particularly young and promiscuous Kelly Van Ryan (Denise Richards). When Van Ryan and her friend decide to visit Lombardo's house to wash his car for tickets to an event, this is where the tension begins. Van Ryan leaves the house with her shirt partially torn and her dignity emotionally damaged, she later confesses to her mother Sandra (Theresa Russell), that she was raped by Lombardo.

Sandra, a real estate heiress and a one-time lover of Lombardo's decides to press charges against him, but officer Ray Duquette (Bacon) and his partner Gloria Perez (Daphne Rubin-Vega) cannot file charges until other girls come out. Enter acid-tongued, emotionally troubled Suzie Toller (Campbell) who confesses to Duquette and Perez, she was raped one year ago by Lombardo. With the help of a persistent district attorney (Robert Wagner), whose daughter Lombardo was seeing, Sandra has Lombardo charged with two counts of rape.

Lombardo, forced to quit his job resulting from the charges, calls on a wise-cracking

ambulance chasing lawyer (Bill Murray) to take his case. In the courtroom, Lombardo's attorney throws away Suzie's credibility by telling the court that while Suzie was in jail, she contacted Lombardo five months after being raped and that she was angry at him for not responding to her. Suzie confessed to lying about Lombardo and admitting that Kelly had a thing for Lombardo and that she only cried rape because at one time Lombardo dated her mother, creating a donnybrook in the courtroom and throwing away any chance the Van Ryans had of nailing Lombardo.

With Lombardo a free man, he decides to get away from the townspeople and spend some time in the everglades, it is here where everything changes, nobody is who they say they are and trust gets thrown out the window (The real story here is that Lombardo is out to bilk money out of Sandra Van Ryan's fortune). Along the way, the film uncovers deception, betrayal, murder and lesbianism. Duquette, outraged over being deceived by the trio of Lombardo, Suzie and Kelly sets his plan in motion to nail Lombardo much to the police department's chagrin. As the cat-and-mouse hunt between Duquette and Lombardo begins, there are more twists and turns that lead up to a finale so unbelievable, you'd have to see it to believe it and don't be so quick to leave once it says "The End", the pieces that were tightened in the movie loosen out showing the characters for who they really are.

Tautly directed by John McNaughton (Mad Dog and Glory), "Wild Things" may seem trashy and exploitative and may demean both men and women, but it is very entertaining and

suspenseful as long as you don't think about it too hard. Bacon, who also serves as executive producer is underwritten and underused, but delivers the bulls-eye in the bravura finale. Dillon and Campbell stand out in this attractive, cast along with Murray who delivers a hilarious performance. Perhaps the most auspicious theme to describe "Wild Things" is "Just when you think you have the answers, we change the questions".

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Rams in a hometown "State" of mind

By Abel E. Jimenez and
Eric Mendoza
The Rampage

During the weekend of May 14-17, Fresno City College and Buchanan High School will welcome the elite junior college softball programs in California. The city will be buzzing, the Division I recruiters will be flocking, and the excitement for local softball fans and athletes will be as hot as the valley temperatures. Hopefully.

The Rams want to be in between the chalked lines.

"We want to play in it, not work at it," said four-year coach Rhonda Williams.

The thought of tearing ticket-stubs, selling sunflower seeds and keeping scorebooks doesn't exactly appeal to the Rams.

"City is banking on their sophomore cast and mix of newcomers to guide them to an opportunity to play in their own backyard.

Fresno has lost just three key players from last year's Central Valley Conference championship team.

"The attitude is good," said Williams, whose Rams currently hold third place in the tough CVC, with a 3-2 record, as of March 27.

"They want to win and they know what it takes."

It's going to take the Rams playing out of a mediocre start, 12-10 overall, posting a .500 record in pre-season tournaments.

ARMED & HOPEFUL

Pitching coach Ralph Salazar is hoping freshman Alexis Jennings (Clovis West) can emerge as 'City's "work-horse" and ace of the right-handed trio staff. Last season the Rams earned run average was a low 2.14. Gone are, Christy Anderson and Aaryn Biggs - both who transferred out.

Heading into the March 31 doubleheader against Taft, Jennings (4-3) and freshman Julie Shute (4-6) were tied for sixth in CVC earned run average at 2.32.

Sophomore Sarah Pinkerton rounds out the rotation. Pinkerton was (8-6-1) for the '97 Rams, with a 1.09 conference ERA.

"We actually have three starters," said Salazar, a former local star-pitcher himself in the 1970's and 80's.

"It's difficult to say who's the ace of the staff. We kind of rotate them around. It all



State hopeful. The 1998 FCC Rams are aiming for May's State Championships.

Photo by Juana Echeveste

depends who we play,...what [the opposition's] strengths are."

FIRE-POWER

Many believe FCC has the best all-around catcher in the conference, in sophomore Jackie Reyna.

Reyna posted impressive offensive statistics during last season's title run; batting .511 in CVC competition and led the club with 5 home runs and 40 RBI.

The sophomore cast of: outfielders Erica Vollweiler and Julie Montague, and second-baseman Karla Tovar represent the strength of the Rams line-up. Vollweiler is currently leading the CVC with a .478 batting average.

"I think we're even better than last year," said the centerfielder, who led the '97 squad with 76 hits, 52 runs and 22 stolen bases.

"I think if we come together as a team,...we're gonna pull it out."

Montague agrees: "We're a lot more unified this year. We work a lot harder. We really want to win 'State' this year, so that's what we're really focusing on."

With 11 games remaining, the Rams are chasing College of the Sequoias and Modesto for the top two spots.

Fresno split a doubleheader with Modesto on March 19 and end the season hosting the Pirates on April 28.

The Rams won't face C.O.S. until an April 21 home doubleheader, a make-up date due to rain.

The state championship finals are just a month away and FCC sees it as a golden chance for some home-field advantage. But no one is looking past the CVC race, where the winner could be a favorite come May.

"It's tough, anybody can beat anybody," Williams said of her own conference.

"It's going to be a battle on a daily basis."

1998 SPRING SPORTS GUIDE

Events through April 15

BASEBALL

Sat. Apr. 4 - *PORTERVILLE - 1:00 pm
Tue.-Thu. Apr. 7,8,9 - Allan Hancock
Easter Tournament - All Day
(Santa Maria)

MEN'S GOLF

Thu. Apr. 2 - *FRESNO - 12:00 pm
(Mini Tournament)
Mon. Apr. 6 - Ray Taylor Tournament -
12:00 pm
Tue. Apr. 7 - Ray Taylor Tournament -
12:00 pm (Visalia)
Tue. Apr. 14 - *COS - 12:00 pm

SOFTBALL

Thu. Apr. 2 - *Kings River (DH) - 2:00 pm
Sat.-Sun. Apr. 4-5 - Easter Tour - TBA
(College of the Sequoias)

TRACK & FIELD

Fri. Apr. 3 - Bob Mathias/Fresno Relays -
11:00 am
Thu. Apr. 9 - Ed Adams Inv. - 10:00 am
(Salinas)
Tue.-Wed. Apr. 14-15 - Nor Cal Hep/De
Championships - 10:00 am
(Hartnell)

MEN'S TENNIS

Thu. Apr. 2 - *Modesto - 2:00 pm

WOMEN'S TENNIS

Thu. Apr. 2 - *Modesto - 2:00 pm
Tue. Apr. 14 - Dual Quarter Finals - TBA

*denotes Central Valley Conference contest

HOME GAMES IN CAPITALS

Around the Horn

Rams struggling to keep pace mid-way in CVC Baseball

By Allen M. Coleman
Staff Writer

Fresno City College baseball team was on a roll earlier in the season, and the team couldn't do anything wrong, as they pounded opponents week after week, averaging more than 20 runs per game in Central Valley Conference play.

After a 5-4 loss at Merced, things started going down hill, mainly due to a bullpen plagued with sore pitching arms and inconsistent offensive play. Rams sophomore right-hander Brian James is still listed as a doubtful starter when Porterville visits Saturday.

"James is down with a back injury," said Rams' veteran pitching coach, Eric Solberg. James' injury is not the only problem in the Rams bullpen. Sophomore right-hander Rip Rogers strained a muscle in his shoulder. Rogers was being used in short relief after coming off elbow surgery. Murphy's Law, "if it can happen, it will happen."

"We haven't pitched well in league, our pitchers can't seem to get the breaking ball in the strike zone."

Modesto swept the Rams in two games, 11-4 and 8-3. The four losses, thus far set the Rams back to third place in the CVC.

"We're struggling in all facets," said Solberg, after the loss against Modesto on

Monday, at Euless Park.

"Our pitching wasn't bad today, we just have to work through this situation." The Rams could only manage three runs and seven hits off Modesto right-hander David Cash. Cash threw nine complete innings for the victory. FCC's left-hander David Campos was the losing pitcher. Campos was relieved by right-hander Mike Ploharz in the first inning. FCC is 8-4 in conference play and 18-7 overall on the season.

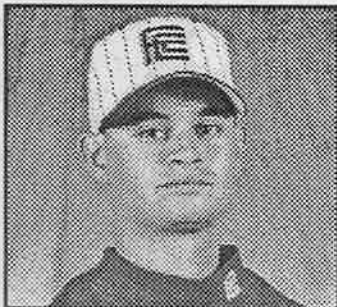


Photo courtesy PFO

Ram sophomore Rip Rogers is sidelined for the remainder of the season, due to injuries.

Current Baseball Individual Team Leaders

Individual Batting

S. Lopez	.402
M. Prieto	.400
S. Woodard	.397
A. Purkiss	.359
B. Gutierrez	.352
J. Papi	.345
L. Lamoure	.342
R. Accardo	.341
J. Cerda Jr.	.335
A. Hoskins	.333

Home runs

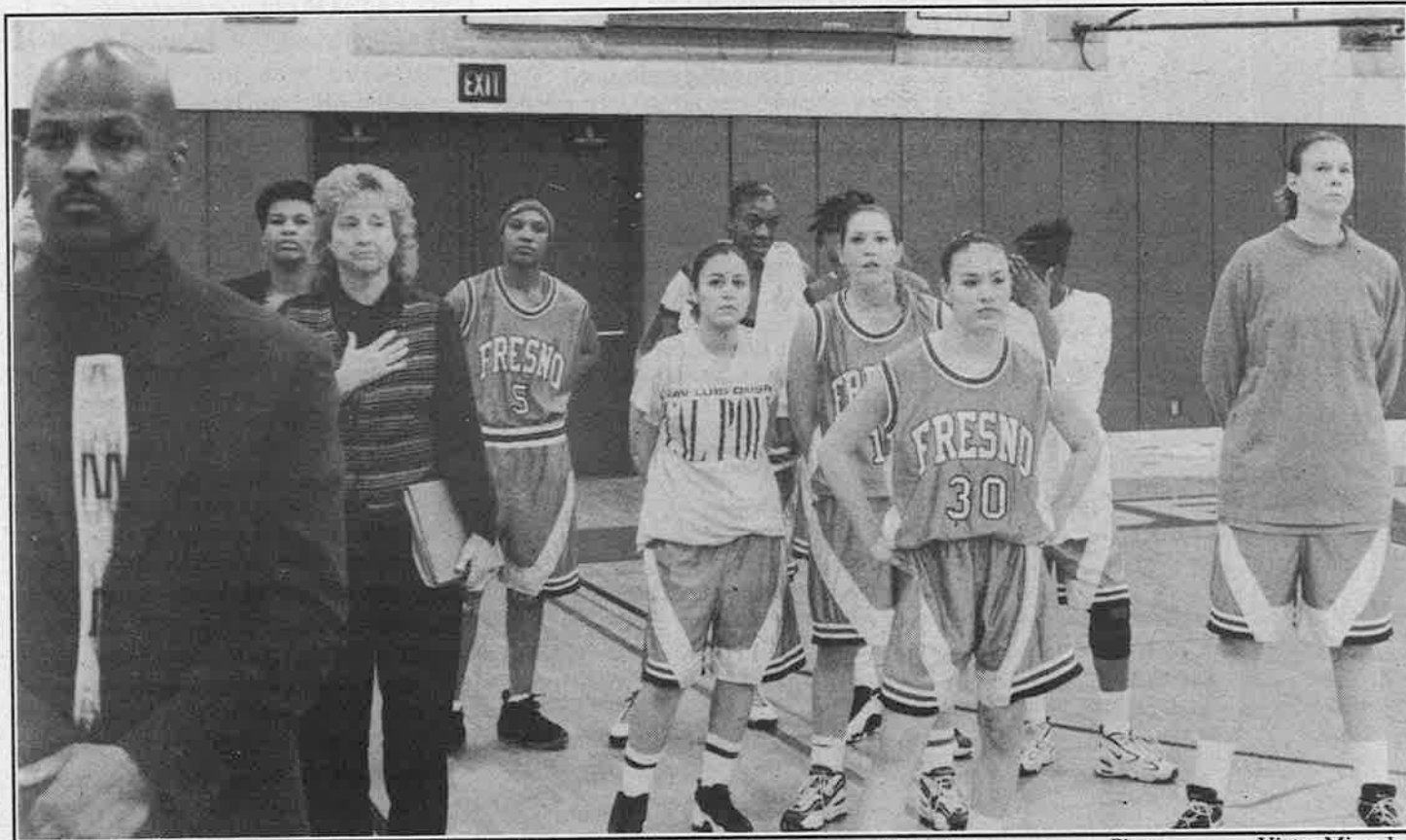
S. Lopez	7
R. Accardo	5
L. Lamoure	4
R. Smith	2
A. Hoskins	1
M. Prieto	1
S. Woodward	1
A. Purkiss	1
J. Cerda Jr.	1
(grand slam)	

Individual Pitching W-L ERA SO

B. James	4-1	2.45	35
D. Campos	4-1	2.59	55
Jamie Cerda	4-2	3.83	51
M. Ploharz	4-1	4.28	16

After a season filled with controversy and turmoil, members of the 1997-98 Fresno City College women's basketball team now find themselves...

...Growing Apart



Last stand. The FCC Rams stand before the National Anthem prior to their final game, losing 64-50 at De Anza on March 7.

Photo courtesy Victor Miranda

By Eric Mendoza
Rampage Sports Opinion

The Fresno City College women's basketball team laughed together, they cried together. They fought together, they lived together. They played together, they won together. The Lady Rams played apart at times, and they found themselves losing — together. But, if you knew anything at all about them, it would be hard not to cheer for them.

FCC head coach Karen Wood and assistant Donnie Johnson allowed *The Rampage* (well, me, my notebook, and an old school camera) to follow the Rams' every move, as they traveled across northern California, attempting to capture the school's first-ever state championship.

The long bus and van rides filled with singing songs, telling jokes, studying homework, reading magazines, eating at every fast-food joint off highways 99 & 152, and talking at length, just about life — was a story all in itself. The bond this team will forever share is unique, and even, special in its own crazy way.

The playoff run for the '97-98 Central Valley Conference Champions ended with a regional final, 14-point loss at De Anza on March 7. Most were relieved it was over.

The season was bitter-sweet for the 10-player squad, as the conclusion was not what they had hoped for, not what many had expected — but in retrospect, probably what they earned...what they deserved.

In full circle fashion, Wood, Johnson and three returning sophomores, brushed their shoes on the State Final Welcome Mat once again, only to knock, knock, and pound on the door — to no answer. Left standing on the Final 8 porch, from the outside looking in, the Rams (22-12) battled back from a 3-7 season start, but ran out of answers, and ran into De Anza.

Wood, the winningest high school girl's basketball coach in the San Joaquin Valley, with 375 victories at Lemoore, has posted 48 wins against 16 losses in her first two years at 'City — one of the best back-to-back seasons in school history.

(At the time of publication, Wood could not be reached for comment.)

She preaches rebounding. And her teams respond.

She stresses defense. Sure enough, the Rams created havoc and forced turnovers like it was in style.

Poor free throw shooting, offensive turnovers, and low field-goal percentages were the teams Achilles. In the scorebook, that is.

No, the plus/minus ratio (in any category) was never a reason to point fingers after a loss, or even issue credit after a win for that matter. No, the reasons never showed up on paper (no pun intended).

The Ram team that played together, won "big" together. The Ram team that lost together, ultimately beat themselves.

Many projected Fresno to reach the State Finals this season and possibly win the whole thing. Coming off a 26-5 (school win record) season, Wood was entering '97-98 with a recruiting class second to none. The line-up of potential and talent was scary to think about too long.

"We had more talent than every team in California," said Rams second-year assistant Donnie Johnson without hesitation. "Every team!"

"Home away from home"

Just seven months ago, 8 players from 7 different cities and schools piled into a rented two-story house, just feet from the FCC campus, and began to start new lives together.

Sophomores, 'Nika Holmes from Los Angeles and out of Westminster High School; her cousin and high school teammate, transfer Jennifer Gray (Detroit, Michigan); Miriam Sanchez (Sanger); and Nicole Cassapula (San Luis Obispo) — Freshmen, Carolyn "K.K." Butler (Inglewood, Narbonne HS); Katie Scott (Clovis); and Leslie Leon and Summer Sawtelle (Corcoran), transfers from Ventura JC; all moved in, under one roof.

Only sophomore Aisha McGee (Edison) and freshman Rosalyn Snowden (Fresno) remained at their homes in Fresno.

Egos, attitudes, ten different opinions and rumors of their new home turning into a "community hang-out" caused for many "off the court" distractions.

"Oh my goodness," said Butler.

"At first it was cool. Then a lot of problems began because of basketball. Yelling matches, fighting, it was like the [MTV's] Real World. When we lost, the players took their problems out on each other, instead of sticking together."

After a bad day at school, practice, or a bad game, 80% of the team came home — to each other.

"Everybody was cool at first," said Gray, who's now living in her fourth residence in three years, having moved out of the house since the season ended. Gray is leaning towards transferring to Oregon State University — over San Jose State, Ball State, Long Beach State and Fresno State.

"When you'd get upset, you didn't have anywhere else to go. That was the bad part about it. But when everything was good, everything was cool. It was our home away from home. I tried to treat them like sisters, because we relied on each other for so much. I had a great deal of trust with all of them."

A full team practice without any negative outbursts was cause for balloons and party hats.

Some members openly questioned player motives for skipping practices, team meetings, or the seriousness of "injuries."

"I'll remember [in the beginning] every-

body had an attitude and didn't care," said Gray.

"But deep down inside, everybody cared. At the end of the season we worked hard and wanted to win. I'll remember this team as a 'fighter.' If I had to do it over again, I don't think I'd change anything. I'd do it all again."

New life

With the new year, turnabout came and a new found formula for success. Get this, the concept of teamwork.

Behind them, was a pre-season of tough tournament competition and working out the kinks in a new system.

Ahead, was a welcomed menu of CVC opponents, where the Rams athletically outclassed everyone else — by light years.

"It started out bad. A disaster," said Holmes, who will visit Brigham Young University on April 3. Holmes would be the only African-American on BYU's women's roster, if she signs — thus, turning down scholarship offers from Long Beach State (near home), Fresno State, and San Jose State, where teammate Aisha McGee will play.

"But after winning our first game, we enjoyed that feeling. It was more team oriented, instead of 'I.'"

Rolling up 12 straight wins, 'City went through the CVC undefeated and landed themselves with a No. 12 seed spot in the regional playoffs — by all standards, a favorable draw

and a realistic shot for coming "back from the dead" and contending for a state title.

A first-round 20-point home win over No. 21 Hartnell College and a nail-biting upset at No. 5 American River, gave every reason to think that "it" could actually happen.

But, that's all the Rams could manage, who admittedly weren't ready for a disciplined No. 4 De Anza, who reached the Final Four.

It wasn't the girls' fault," said Johnson, who sources told *The Rampage*, will not return for his third year at 'City.

"We weren't prepared."

Johnson did agree that the team was its own worst enemy.

"As a coach I try to treat the players fair...they were failing on and off the court. The better they played, they were able to put [negative] things aside, plus winning helps things, winning with pride...I wasn't happy even when we were winning."

Separate lives

Gone: possibly Johnson to another local junior college, coaching women.

Gone: the "Big 3" in Gray, Holmes and McGee. FCC may never have a better post-trio.

Gone: Miriam Sanchez. The season record-holder in steals says that she will be content if she never picks up a basketball again. Despite offers from Division II schools like, Notre Dame (northern California) and Menlo, Sanchez may chose to earn a degree at Long Beach State.

Gone: Nikki Cassapula. A shooting-guard averaging 12 points and 7.4 rebounds per game will fit in very nicely for any program. Menlo, her hometown's San Luis Obispo, and Fresno State are possibilities.

Returning?: Wood and five freshmen including Butler, Snowden, Sawtelle, Leon and Scott — all could help the Rams contend for titles next season.

"Katie Scott has learned more this year than any other player," said Johnson, who believes the Clovis High graduate was in for a culture-shock.

"She's going to be a better person because of it."

Scott, 19, says the journey with her new teammates has had a positive impact.

"It takes a while to get to know each other," said the 6'3 freshman.

"Some of my best and worst experiences have come in this house. It's been an uphill battle to get to know each other. But, right now, I'm lovin' my roommates."

Alright then

Holmes, whose #22 jersey should be hanging from the gymnasium rafters (with her 791 career points and 461 rebounds at 'City), believes that her two years in Fresno was a learning experience.

"I'll remember the different people that I've met and the different personalities, from where I'm from," said Holmes.

"We'd all hang out and watch movies together. We all have fun together. Honestly, I'd like to keep in touch with everyone, to see how everyone is doing and see if anyone has kids, and let them know how I'm doing...yeah, that would be nice."



Silent thoughts. From left to right: 'Nika Holmes, Leslie Leon, K.K. Butler and Summer Sawtelle join the team during a pre-game prayer, led by Aisha McGee's father, Dude McGee.

Photo by Eric Mendoza

The Gab Column

"What are you doing for Spring Break?"

By Brenda Miller and Valerie Wells
Photos by Juana Echeveste



Jeetey Xiong — "I really don't have much planned. I'm throwing a slumber party for my church youth group. Oh, and of course tons of homework."



Kirk Lynn — "I'm going to Pismo with Kristi Dean."



Kristi Dean — "I'm going to Pismo with Kirk Lynn"



John Arrington — "I'm planning on spending my time wisely in having a wonderful time before school comes around and more stress comes."



Terrah Wibbenhorst — "I plan to spend time with my boyfriend."



Brandon Tillman — "Work and visit with my girlfriend."

On March 18, the Associate Student Government Fitness Faire weightlifting competition took place and the winners in the following categories were:
LIGHTWEIGHT- 167 lb. Cho Ly, benchpressing 345 lbs.
MIDDLEWEIGHT- 188 lb. Darnell Taylor, benchpressing 315 lbs.
HEAVYWEIGHT- 203 lb. Jason Fargune, benchpressing 335 lbs.

FEMALE-	Jasmine Johnson,	benchpressing	275	lbs.
	Kimba Crocketts,	benchpressing	155	lbs

Millennium, Continued from front page
remarkable things and are receiving recognition for doing them. Forhan has done something many women are starting to do, run for political office. Four years ago she stepped out and decided to run for office herself for the state assembly. "I wasn't successful, but that was okay. It was an opportunity to take a risk. To step forward and try something new. Failure is not something to fear, in fact failure and success very much intertwine"

Powerful Words

Women of today are stepping forward, speaking out and are being understood. "We as women when we step up and step out and step on to the new millennium our voices and forces will not only be heard, but we will be seen and we will receive the power to be reconvened with," says Smith

Roles of Professional Women

Vu believes women play several roles which include: "First, we should all be mothers and wives because the family is important. Second, as students we must be knowledgeable. Third, women must be working professionally and offer their services to the community. Fourth, we must be educators in educating the public. Similarly Perez states, "when I became educated my goal was to come back and give back to my community. Fifth, women need play the role of a mother, wife, professional (working woman) and educator. Sixth we must all care, if we don't care about each other then there is no future."

Setting It Straight

Levy humorous states "a woman is like a tea bag, you really don't know how strong she is until she is in hot water." Levy strongly believes "every time you do something you learn from it." Women are still fighting of maintaining a respectable representation in the work force. Mistakenly women who speak out and are aggressive receive a bad reputation "For some reason (being aggressive) it is more acceptable in men, that when a woman is ambitious and aggressive she is whiny and pushy" says Levy. Slowly but steady, women are receiving the same social equity men are. Lastly Levy tells the students "you have every thing going for you, make the most of it."

The New Millennium

According to Perez "in the new millennium we will have more women in politics, because I believe the more women we have in politics the better it's going to be for women in general."

Fashion Corner

by Sassy and Styles

Tips for women:

Sandals are coming back, as the sun begins to bring us warmer days. The main focus, this week, is toes. If you have toes that are ashy, unpolished, dry-looking, and/or unclipped then this is some information you and others may appreciate.

First things first, take care of the condition of your feet. Try a pedicure. If you can't afford one, do it yourself. Wash your feet and massage moisturizing lotion into your feet, really concentrate on the heel of your feet. This part is usually forgotten. Push back the cuticles on your toes and clip the nails. Last summer, the fake nail was put on the big toe. Girls, that was not cute. Just paint the nails a color that can be worn with every outfit or if you have the time, paint them according to what you wear. Make sure you're careful to not do them in a hurry. There's nothing more disappointing than putting on a cute outfit and going to put on those new sandals and realize you don't have time to paint them over and the paint that is there is chipped, smudged, or non-existent.

Also, start early on taking care of any unsightly corns. You may say you don't have them, but when you try to sport those sandals, the truth shall be seen. Another exciting accessory to bring attention to your toes, the toe ring. Yes, they invent rings for every part of the body, and the toes are no exception!

Tips for men:

Fellas, just because you are men, that doesn't excuse you from having nice looking feet. Don't think you can sport the nice, comfortable sandals, this hot season, with some ol' crusty toes and ashy feet. If your feet look anything like Jamie Foxx's feet in the movie "Boyz n the City" then you have a lot of work ahead of you. Better yet, you need to have a professional tend to your feet and just wear tennis shoes with several pairs of socks! But for those who can get away with it, and I do mean little to no maintenance needed, then just follow a few steps from tips for women; lotion your feet well and keep the toes clipped.

Remember people: you may look good... but we can always help you look better!

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The poet's spot

Innocent of a child

Where is the innocence
of the children of today
what ever happened to the times
when they just wanted to play.

What happened to girls playing with
toys
where did their innocents go
all their now interested in
is babies and how fast they grow.

What happened to boys
roughhousing round
now their using drugs
and being shot to the ground.
Can we give the next generation
a better chance?
can we teach them to play
and learn to dance?

Children are a treasure
we need to learn to love
to teach them about good things
and about the lord up above.
The world will be a better place
if we would just take time
to teach them to do what's right
and they will grow up just fine.

By Sasha D Jones.

Live or Die?

Will I live to see tomorrow
Does anyone have some time
I can borrow
Day by Day, I seek to pray
that my God lets me stay.

It is Him that has the time
that I could borrow
I pray that He hears
my sorrow.

As I look at the world today.
I often ask why
should I stay.

When no one else,
seems to care,
they don't even pray.

Someone speaks from within
telling me
self death is a sin.

So I guest I will stay
and continue to pray.

If I should go before
my time,
it will be by no
act of mine.

By Luqman Haqq

TRY POETRY

It's how you listen to the birds
at twilight and the sun has set
It's the way you feel in the morning
after the rest you almost regret

It's piercing the heart
of someone you love
With the painful confession
to the Lord up above
It's allowing your thoughts and your pen to
connect only to create what your mind has se
Gather your feelings you've cast aside
and take your readers on a mystical ride

The words may not appear quickly for
some But when they come to a halt
don't drop your pen and run.

Just tuck the pen snugly behind your ear
for in the back of your mind is a notion
and in the mind the Lord will retrieve
an intellectual lyrical potion.

BY IESHA C. MAYES

The Rampge is looking for some good
poems to print for our next issue. If you
want your poems published bring them
to Room SC-211 above the bookstore.