FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 8 - 14, 2005

In Progress
- Kristen Habbestad followed up with a reporter at the Press-Telegram to pitch the college’s culinary arts program as a possible story topic.

- Ms. Habbestad coordinated with the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce to have the college’s latest In Sight publication and a flier highlighting spring semester offerings included in a mailing to more than 350 new residents of the city.

Coverage
*Lynwood Press, Wave, Herald American, The Press* – October 6, 2005 – Calendar item about the Cerritos College Theater Department’s presentation of the “Diary of Anne Frank.”


*Inland Valley Daily Bulletin* – October 18, 2005 – Article about a former Cerritos College student on trial for murder.

*Orange County Register* – October 20, 2005 – Blurb about Cerritos College showcasing memorabilia for its 50th anniversary.


*Bellflower Bulletin* – November 2005 – Article about Cerritos College celebrating its 50th anniversary with a gala dinner.

Related News
*Press Telegram* – November 10, 2005 – Article about soon-to-be president of Cal State Long Beach, F. King Alexander, getting to know the campus.

*Whittier Daily News* – November 11, 2005 – Article about UCI patients in limbo following news of its liver transplant program losing federal funding.

*Press Telegram* – November 11, 2005 – Article about CSULB enrollment growing.
Newly Transplanted Falcon Adjusts to Life at University

Recently, Cerritos College’s Public Affairs Office conducted a ‘long-distance’ interview to catch up with former Cerritos College student Josh Franco, who transferred and began attending the University of California at Merced in fall 2005.

Franco is majoring in social, behavioral, and cognitive science with an emphasis in public policy.

CC: So, how is college life post-transfer? Are you glad you got involved in student leadership at Cerritos College?

Josh: Life after Cerritos College includes new experiences and incredible opportunities. Attending UC Merced presents some amazing challenges, but I am more than prepared to tackle them without hesitation and without doubt because of Cerritos College. In other words, I am more confident in myself and my abilities.

Also, I believe it is absolutely imperative that students get involved.

Get involved is a phrase that is often said and should be acted upon more. My involvement in the Associated Students of Cerritos College (ASCC) is something I will never forget because it molded me into a relentless change agent. The ASCC equipped me with essential life skills and empowered me to go out into the world and make a difference.

Make a difference is another phrase that is often said. I cannot believe the numbers of doors, the number of opportunities that are open and available to me because of my involvement in student leadership. Government agencies on all
levels, small and large businesses, non-profit organizations and the community itself are looking for people who want to positively contribute to them and society. The world needs global thinkers, and I believe the ASCC produces such people who not only think globally, but act locally.

CC: How did attending community college—specifically Cerritos College—affect your experience in transferring to a university?

Josh: I will always and forever be thankful to Cerritos College for the high-quality education experience it afforded me. And I am not strictly referring to my classroom experience, but to the whole experience of attending the college, interacting with fellow students, staff, faculty, administration and the board of trustees. It’s amazing to know that ANY student can have such a positive and enormously fulfilling experience.

In speaking with fellow transfer students, my belief that Cerritos College is one of the best community colleges in the state is reaffirmed. The wide selection of courses and programs of study, committed staff, highly qualified faculty and administration and sense of community and cooperation creates an atmosphere conducive to student success.

CC: Do you have a part-time job now that you’re at UC Merced? Has it helped you offset the costs of college?

Josh: I am a resident assistant (RA) in one of the dorms here on campus, and it’s a demanding, but immensely rewarding experience. Having essentially a part-time job (even though anyone who has been a RA knows it’s more than 20 hours a week) and attending college full-time is difficult, but necessary, because otherwise I wouldn’t be able to afford college.

Jobs are available on campus and within the surrounding university community and if a student needs to help pay for college, they can contact the Career Services department to find out about applying to open job opportunities.

CC: What are your future goals and plans?

After graduating from UC Merced, I plan to attend graduate school (to earn a master’s degree in political science or public policy) and begin a career in public service.

I intern at Congressman Dennis Cardoza’s Merced District Office, which gives me an opportunity to gain practical experience and essential knowledge. I am learning an incredible amount about local, state and national issues, as well as the responsibilities of a legislator and the interplay between the various levels of government.

I also attend Merced County Association of Governments’ meetings to gain a more regional perspective on issues facing the rapidly growing Central Valley. This further adds to my understanding of politics and passion to enact change.

Cerritos College really helped me discover my passion and my passion is serving people.
Even though each student at Cerritos College has their own unique experience, the outcome is the same and the outcome is success. Regardless of the field a person decides to pursue and how they wish to contribute to the improvement of society, Cerritos College prepares students to face the world, tackle the challenges it presents and create a better future.

I am just one of tens-of-thousands of Falcons who are soaring high.

**CC:** Thanks so much for talking with us, Josh, and good luck in your studies!

**Josh:** You’re welcome, and thanks!

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Friday, Oct. 7

College production: The Cerritos College Theater Department begins its run of the drama "Diary of Anne Frank," featuring college alumni, at 8 p.m. at Burnight Studio Theatre, on the Norwalk campus, 11110 Alondra Blvd. Subsequent performances are at 8 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 13-15 and 2 p.m. Oct. 16. General admission is $12, $10 for students and senior citizens. (562) 467-5058
S.G. grads have keyed the Falcons

JC roundup:

☐ Cerritos men's soccer team led by former Ram standouts

Wave Staff Report

South Gate High School has made quite a contribution to the Cerritos College men's soccer team.

Four freshmen, including two starters, from the City Section school have contributed to a Cerritos team that is 7-3-1 overall and 1-0 in the South Coast Conference following a 3-1 victory over Compton.

Forward Jessi Lopez, who scored 23 goals while earning All-City first-team honors at South Gate as a senior, recently produced a hat trick in a 5-1 victory over Southwestern. His three goals are second on the team to Humberto Lopez, a freshman from Nevada.

Marco Pulido, who earned All-City honors in football (as a wide receiver and kicker) and soccer at South Gate, had an assist in the win over Southwestern.

Two other ex-Rams — midfielder Missael Macedo and forward Steve Cornejo — are reserves for Cerritos, which has an SCC game at Mt. San Antonio Friday. Game time is 6 p.m.

☐

The Cerritos College football team, a 28-24 winner over rival Long Beach City last Saturday, has a bye this week along with the other Mission Conference teams.

The Falcons (2-3) return to play Oct. 15 at Saddleback.

By holding off LBCC, the Falcons avoided the first 1-4 start in school history. It took freshman linebacker John Lehault (Paramount High School grad) to sack Viking quarterback Alex Atspuro for an eight-yard loss on the last play of the game to secure the victory. LBCC had driven to the eight.

Jeff Kline was 26 of 35 for 302 yards and two touchdowns passing.
Former football star on trial in murder case

By Rod Leveque

RANCHO CUCAMONGA — A former Upland High School football standout went on trial Monday on charges he helped murder a man during a drug robbery nearly five years ago.

During opening statements in Geraldo Bascomb's trial, a prosecutor told jurors Bascomb was one of two men who burst into 22-year-old James Moser's Upland apartment armed with handguns.

Bascomb held Moser's roommate at gunpoint in the living room while an accomplice, who was never arrested, went into a bedroom and shot Moser in the back, Deputy District Attorney Debbie Ploghaus told jurors.

"They went there to rob James and to take his money," Ploghaus said.

Bascomb, 27, is on trial in West Valley Superior Court charged with murder and assault with a firearm in connection with the Jan. 28, 2000, killing.

The prosecutor and Bascomb's attorney gave only brief opening statements Monday. Ploghaus told jurors Moser was likely a target for robbery because he sold marijuana from his apartment in the 800 block of Orchid Court.

She said Bascomb was first linked to the killing by a man who recognized him fleeting through the apartments. But he wasn't arrested for more than two years, when an ex-girlfriend went to police with inculminating evidence.

Detectives then questioned Bascomb, who gave statements further implicating himself, Ploghaus said.

Bascomb's lawyer, James Brown, didn't hint at his strategy during his opening statement, speaking just long enough to ask jurors to keep an open mind until the end of the case.

Bascomb played football for Upland High in 1994 and 1995. He graduated in 1996 and moved on to play for Occidental College.

His notoriety as a Highlander running back is partly what landed him in jail.

Moser's two roommates and girlfriend were the first witnesses to testify in the trial Monday. All said they were unable to identify the men who stormed into their apartment.

But another resident of the complex testified he saw Bascomb and another man run through the apartments immediately after the shooting.

Eddie Garcia, who also attended Upland High in the mid-1990s, said he wasn't friends with Bascomb, but recognized him because of his pigskin prowess.

"The football team was very well known at the time," Garcia testified. "They were champions."

Garcia said he tore a page from his high school yearbook with Bascomb's picture on it and gave it to police officers immediately after the shooting.

Upland High football coach Tim Salter also testified Monday. He described Bascomb as respectful, popular, and "one of the best players he's ever coached.

Bascomb's trial is expected to last only a few days in West Valley Superior Court.

Testimony is scheduled to resume today in Judge Gerard Brown's courtroom.

Rod Leveque can be reached by e-mail at r.leveque@dailybulletin.com or by phone at (909) 483-9325.
CERRITOS 1929
Memorabilia exhibit: The city is showcasing the history of Cerritos College and commemorating the school's 50th anniversary with a free "Building Futures" exhibit at the library. The exhibit, which opens Nov. 1, will feature memorabilia, historical photos and collector's items. Information: (562) 916-1350.

- Ellyn Pak
(714) 704-3788
epak@ocregister.com
OWL Program to host annual walk-a-thon

NORWALK — Cerritos College’s Older Wiser Learner Program will host its third annual Founders’ House of Hope Walk-a-Thon at 9 a.m. Nov. 19 at El Dorado Regional Park, 7550 E. Spring St., Long Beach.

Participants gather sponsors to support their distance walked during the timed event. Donations support residents of the Founders’ House of Hope in Artesia, which deals with chronic mental illness.

Donations will help with psychosocial rehabilitation services and supplies for the residents’ creative expression classes, offered through the OWL program in the Adult Education & Diversity Programs at Cerritos College.

Donations from the first year’s walk amounted to more than $5,000, while last year’s totaled more than $7,000. Donors will also receive complimentary items according to the amount donated.

For more information, call Sally Greer at (626) 860-2451 ext. 2517.
Cerritos College Celebrates 50 Years with Golden Gala

In celebration of Cerritos College's 50th Anniversary, the Cerritos College Foundation hosted a multitude of well-wishers—including former and current college trustees, faculty, administrators and staff, community members, local legislators, alumni and retirees—at a gala dinner and silent auction recently held at the Norwalk Marriott Hotel. Proceeds from the silent auction will

See Golden Gala on page 4

Golden Gala Continued from page 1

go toward establishing and growing the new 50th Anniversary Scholarship established jointly by the Associated Students of Cerritos College and the Cerritos College Foundation.

Throughout the cocktail hour, program and dinner, attendees were treated to entertainment provided by a virtual "who's who" of notable Cerritos College groups and personalities. Performers included the Cerritos College Jazz Combo, the Cerritos College Community Choir, an improvisational comedy team comprised of Cerritos College Theatre Professor Kevin Hoggard and his current and former drama students, as well as the Cerritos College Pep Squad and Pep Band, led by Cerritos College Director of Orchestra and Bands David Betancourt.

An additional program highlight featured retired Cerritos College Administrator Dr. Fran Newman and current Cerritos College Music Department Chair Dr. Christine Lopez performing a piano duet medley of songs from the last half-century of popular music. Dr. Ed Bloomfield, retired Cerritos College philosophy professor and college administrator, served as emcee for the evening. President Dr. Noelia Vela also shared comments with the audience, thanking local supporters and friends of the college.

Along with hundreds of individual supporters and sponsors, a number of corporate benefactors contributed to making the gala evening a touchstone event. Gala sponsors included Bovis Lend Lease; Cerritos College Trustee Bob Arthur and Family; the City of Cerritos; the City of Norwalk; Follett's Cerritos College Bookstore; Gerald P. Roodzant, D.D.S.; Los Angeles County Supervisor Don Knabe; Norwalk Marriott Hotel; Seville Construction Services; Southern California Gas Company; A Sempra Energy Utility; Swinerton Management and Consulting; BDP Architecture; and The Pepsi Bottling Group.
Getting to know you

LONG BEACH — F. King Alexander, the soon-to-be president of Cal State Long Beach, on Monday returned to the campus for the first time since being named the next leader of the 33,000-student university.

Alexander, who is expected to begin his presidency Jan. 16, held meetings with high-level administrators, including Provost Gary Reichard and outgoing President Robert Maxson.

By Kevin Butler
Staff writer

Few takers for AD job

Bob Keiser reports on CSULB's frustrating search for an athletics director / B1

Please see CSULB / AD
CONTINUED FROM A1

"It's been very warm and very welcoming," Alexander said. "And the really nice thing is that I've been able to get around the campus quite a bit today, and I've met a lot of students."

The California State University Board of Trustees picked Alexander, currently president of Murray State University in Murray, Ky., over three other finalists up for the job.

One question Alexander may get a lot once he starts the job: What does the "P" in his name stand for? The answer: Fiddlin', pronounced "Feel-din'," an old family name that he stopped using years ago. He uses the "P" because otherwise many people assume his name is "Alexander King."

"It's hard enough being named King Alexander," he joked.

Among the topics Alexander discussed Monday with Maxson and other administrators were full

fund-raising efforts, proposals to build more student housing and ideas for increasing graduation rates.

Maxson led him on a tour of campus, including the Walter Pyramid.

"I think it's a neat facility," he said. "It's unusual, and I'm coming from an institution that takes basketball very seriously."

Today he is scheduled to meet with CSULB interim athletic director Cindy Masur and attend a regular meeting of the CSU Board of Trustees in Long Beach before taking a late-night flight back to Kentucky.

Maxson's last day has been tentatively set for Jan. 6.

Doug Robinson, left, vice president of student services at Cal State Long Beach, talks with Maxson and Alexander on Monday.

Steven Georges / Press-Telegram

Retiring CSULB President Robert Maxson, left, takes new President F. King Alexander on a tour of the campus on Monday. Alexander is currently president of Murray State University in Murray, Ky.
UCI patients in limbo
Liver transplant program loses federal funding

BY GILLIAN FLACCUS
ASSOCIATED PRESS

IRVINE — When Elodie Ir-
vine was diagnosed with a
deafly kidney and liver dis-
ease, doctors at UCI Medical
Center told her she would have
a new liver within six months — possibly even a week.

But as months became
years, Irvine watched, terrified
and helpless, as 10 friends
from her hospital-sponsored
support group died without
getting the transplants they
needed.

After four years, Irvine's
nephrologist became suspi-
cious and advised her to trans-
fer to another hospital, where
she got the desperately needed
kidney and liver transplants
within two months.

Others weren't so lucky.

More than 30 people died
while waiting for liver trans-
lants from the UCI Irvine
Medical Center, which received 122
liver offers between August
2004 and July 2005 but trans-
planted just 12, according to
federal records.

"They let me sit and sit at
home in bed for four years. I
thought I was going to die," said Irvine, choking back tears.

"To be honest, most of my
friends are dead. I watched
them die one by one. They
kept on telling us, 'It's soon, it's
soon.'"

The federal government
informed UCI Medical Center
Thursday that it would immedi-
ately stop paying for liver trans-
lants for Medicare recipients
on UCI's waiting list. The
move by the U.S. Centers for
Medicare and Medicaid Ser-
VICES means that many of the
more than 100 patients still in
the program will have to be
transferred elsewhere.

In a letter informing UCI of
his decision, Medicare's
Chronic Care Policy Group
director Lawrence D. Wilson
wrote that UCI's program had
a one-year survival rate of
68 percent to 70 percent
between July 2001 and June
2004 — far below the federal
requirement of 77 percent. It
also performed far fewer than
the 12 transplants per year
required, with as few as five
transplants in 2005, he said.

Wilson also said the pro-
gram has not had a resident
liver transplant surgeon since
June 2003 but has been con-
tracting with other surgeons
to treat patients. He questioned
how the team's two surgeons
— Dr. Ajit Khamani and Dr. Mar-
cus Hart — could be on call at
UCI while also listed as staff at
the University of San Diego,
about 90 miles away.

"There was a lack of evi-
dence to establish that UCI
took corrective action to
address its substandard vol-
ume and survival rates, such as
developing a plan to actively
recruit transplant surgeons,"
Wilson wrote.

Officials at the medical cen-
ter told the Los Angeles Times,
which first reported the prob-
lems Thursday, that the low
transplant rates were due to
staff shortages. The medical
center, located in the city of
Orange, declined to answer
questions from The Associated
Press, but planned to release a
printed statement.

More than 100 UCI patients
are still awaiting transplants,
including a friend of Irvine
who has been waiting for 10
years. Twenty-eight patients
joined the program this year.

By the time Irvine received
her transplant, her liver had
swelled to four times its nor-
mal size and the veins on her
diseased organs had started to
burst. She broke her back in six
places while lifting a casserole
out of the oven — something
she attributes to four years of
bedrest that weakened her
spine.

Irvine, a single mother of a
3-year-old son, filed a lawsuit
against UCI and learned that
the hospital had turned down
36 organs — 38 livers and 37
kidneys — that could have
been appropriate for her.

She settled with UCI earlier
this year for an undisclosed
amount; her lawsuit prompted
the federal review that
revealed larger problems with
the program.

"I tried to find parents for
my son. I made him tapes so
he could remember me. It was
a very tough time," said Irvine,
now 51. "He would be like, 2
years old and I'm vomiting in
the toilet and I had rub my back
and say, 'Mama, it'll be OK.'"

Dr. David Imagawa, who
oversees UCI's liver transplant
program, said a full-time trans-
lant surgeon will join the hos-
pital in early 2006.

"We agree that there were
some problems, and we're mov-
ing forward to change them,"
Imagawa, who founded
UCI's liver transplant program
in 1994 and left in 2002 before
returning last summer, told the
Times.

Imagawa acknowledged the
hospital made mistakes in Ir-
vin's case but said the organs
offered for her were "not suit-
able for someone without
life-threatening emergency."

The Centers for Medicare
and Medicaid Services is work-
ning with a local organ procure-
ment agency to transfer
patients on UCI's liver trans-
lant waiting list to other facili-
ties.
LONG BEACH — Full enrollment rose at Cal State Long Beach, but not enough to prevent CSU Fullerton from having the most students in the 23-campus system.

CSULB's enrollment grew to 34,547, while CSUF now boasts 35,040 students.

Higher fall enrollments also were seen at 12 other California State University campuses, with large gains at Northridge and San Jose, a system official said.

Enrollment at the CSU system rose to 405,000 students this semester, less than 1 percent more than the 397,000 enrollment in the fall 2004 semester, administrators said Thursday.

Enrollment in the 23-university system was about 409,000 students in the fall 2003 semester and 407,000 in the fall 2002 semester.

System officials credited this year's increase to its higher education compact with Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger.

"This is good news, especially since we were able to provide access to more students this year, thanks to increased funding provided by the governor's compact with the CSU," said Chancellor Charles B. Reed. "Our outreach to high schools and community colleges is continuing and we will be working to enroll more students during the upcoming spring and winter terms on campuses with available space."

The campuses at Northridge and San Diego also have more than 30,000 students.

Another part of the system's agreement with Schwarzenegger requires students to pay higher fees over the next few years. The CSU Board of Trustees voted recently to increase student fees by 8 percent next year.

The board also approved a 13.7 percent salary increase for each Cal State president - the first since 2002.