FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 11—17, 2007

In Progress
Kristen Habbestad is working to publicize the upcoming Career Expo on April 25.

Ms. Habbestad also assisted a producer from the History Channel to coordinate with the Facilities Department in arranging permission to film on the track. There may be opportunity to provide expert faculty members from HPEA for the filming; this project is developing.

Coverage

Long Beach Pres-Telegram — March 25, 2007 — Photo with caption of ribbon-cutting ceremony at Cerritos College’s new track, accompanying an article on another victory for Cerritos College’s baseball team.

Lynwood Press — March 29, 2007 — Article on the recent successes of several Cerritos sports teams.

Los Angeles Times — April 10, 2007 — Brief on Cerritos College as part of the “Higher Education Resource Guide,” a special advertising section.


Whittier Daily News — April 13, 2007 — Short promotional blurb about the staging of “Godspell” at Cerritos College (from press release).

Norwalk Community News — April 13, 2007 — Short article on commencement ceremony at Cerritos College (from press release).
Norwalk Community News—April 13, 2007—Article on scholarships awarded to 15 female Cerritos College students by the American Association of University Women.

Whittier Daily News—April 15, 2007—Promotional article about an upcoming technology seminar at Cerritos College.

Long Beach Press-Telegram—April 17, 2007—Article reports CSULB and LBCC students’ questions about security at their own campuses.

Long Beach Press-Telegram—April 17, 2007—Article reports on how colleges and universities are responding, security-wise, following a shooting rampage at Virginia Tech University on April 16, 2007.
For Immediate Release: April 17, 2007

Media contact: Kristen Habbestad, Public Affairs; (562) 860-2451 ext. 2287
Event Contact: Walter Fernandez, History Department, (562) 860-2451 ext. 2757

WHAT: Cerritos College’s Economics Club is holding a student debate on the current economic and social policies of Venezuelan President Hugo Chávez’s Bolivarian Revolution. The event is sponsored by Sociedad de Profesores Latinos, and faculty members, staff and students from all majors are welcome to attend.

WHEN: Tuesday, April 24
11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

WHERE: Wilford Michael Library and Learning Resource Center, Room 155 (Teleconference Center)
Cerritos College
11110 Alondra Blvd
Norwalk, CA 90650

A map of the campus is available at www.cerritos.edu/guide

CONTACT: For more information, contact Walter Fernandez at ext. (562) 860-2451 ext. 2757 or wfernandez@cerritos.edu.

Cerritos College serves as a comprehensive community college for southeastern Los Angeles County. Communities within the college’s district include Artesia, Bellflower, Cerritos, Downey, Hawaiian Gardens, La Mirada, Norwalk, and portions of Bell Gardens, Lakewood, Long Beach, Santa Fe Springs and South Gate. Cerritos College offers degrees and certificates in more than 180 areas of study in nine divisions. Annually, more than 1,200 students successfully complete their course of studies, and enrollment currently surpasses 20,000 students. Visit Cerritos College online at www.cerritos.edu.

###
Cerritos College to Host 50th Annual Commencement Ceremony on May 12

For Immediate Release: April 11, 2007

WHAT: Cerritos College will hold its 50th annual commencement ceremony to honor its graduating students on Saturday, May 12 at 5 p.m. in Falcon Stadium. Cerritos College’s Board of Trustees will present degrees and certificates earned during the 2006-2007 academic year.

This year’s commencement speaker is Cerritos College Mathematics Professor Manuel Lopez. Lopez came to the U.S. from Mexico at the age of 17 with his parents and two brothers. After he finished high school, Lopez enrolled first as an engineering major at East Los Angeles College. He later switched to being a math major so that he could become a teacher and planned to take classes there for two years before transferring to a four-year school. Because of economic hardship and the fact that he had to work much of the time to afford school, what started out as a two-year stay at a community college stretched into five and a half years before Lopez was able to transfer and graduate from his college of choice—UCLA.

After earning a bachelor’s degree in mathematics at UCLA, Lopez became a middle school teacher at Gage Middle School, where he had previously served as a bilingual teaching assistant. Lopez later taught mathematics at Gahr High School in Cerritos and returned part time to school to earn a master’s degree in mathematics at Cal State Fullerton. Soon afterward, Lopez began teaching part time at Cerritos College and Cypress College. He loved his experiences working with community college students. In 2001, when a full-time opening arose at Cerritos College, he applied and was hired. Currently, Lopez teaches all levels of math at Cerritos College.

WHEN: Saturday, May 12, 2007 at 5 p.m.

WHERE: Cerritos College
Falcon Stadium
11110 Alondra Blvd.
Norwalk, CA 90650

A map of the campus is available at www.cerritos.edu/guide

CONTACT: For more information about Cerritos College’s 50th Annual Commencement, please contact the Student Activities Office at (562) 860-2451, ext. 2471 or visit www.cerritos.edu/commencement.

COST: Commencement is free and open to the public.

###
Cerritos College to Host Free Seminars on Needs of Automotive Aftermarket Industry

For Immediate Release: April 17, 2007

Media Contact: Kristen Habbestad, Public Affairs; (562) 860-2451 ext. 2287
Event Contact: Linda Isai, Economic Development Office, (562) 860-2451 ext. 2486

WHAT: Cerritos College, a leader in automotive technology training, is hosting a series of seminars focusing on the $250-billion automotive aftermarket industry. Topics to be covered include diesel technology and model-based definition. The seminars run April through July and are free and open to the public.

The seminar schedule is as follows:

“Basics of Rapid Prototyping”
Speaker: Matt Gaskill
Saturday, April 21
9 a.m. – noon

“Model-based definition with Interactive”
GD&T using Verisurf
Speaker: Jim Edwards
Wednesday, May 9
6 – 9 p.m.

“Lean 101 Awareness”
Speaker: Saeed Madjidi
Tuesday, June 5
6 – 9 p.m.

“Lean 101 Workshop”
Speaker: Saeed Madjidi
Wednesday, June 6
6 – 9 p.m.

“Value stream mapping”
Speaker: Saeed Madjidi
Tuesday, June 12
6 – 9 p.m.
Speaker: Bob Lozano
Saturday, June 23
9 – 11 a.m.

“ISO/TS 16949 Implementation”
Speaker: Bob Lozano
Saturday, July 7
9 a.m. – noon

“New Diesel Technologies”
Speaker: Jim O’Neill
Saturday, June 23
9 – 11 a.m.

WHERE: Metals Building — Room ME2
Cerritos College
11110 Alondra Blvd
Norwalk, CA 90650

A map of the campus is available at www.cerritos.edu/guide

CONTACT: For more information, please contact Linda Isai in the Economic Development Office at (562) 860-2451 ext. 2486 or lisai@cerritos.edu.

COST: All workshops are free and open to the public. Parking is $1 per day.

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###
Falcons soar to top of Southern Cal poll

Off to its best conference start in two years, the Cerritos College baseball team takes some lofty numbers into Thursday’s game at Griffith Park against Los Angeles City.

The Falcons, 12-5 winners over L.A. City Tuesday and 4-1 over defending state champion Long Beach City last Saturday, are 20-4 overall and 8-0 in the South Coast Conference. They won their first nine SCC games in 2005.

Ranked No. 1 in Southern California, Cerritos plays LACC at Griffith Park at 2:30 p.m. Thursday. They host L.A. Harbor at noon Saturday.

The pitching staff continues to shine for the Falcons before Kevin Camacho came out of the bullpen. Dominguez (6-0) struck out five and allowed five hits to earn the win.

The Cerritos College softball team (13-6-1, 3-2) rallied from a 4-2 deficit to post a 6-4 South Coast Conference victory over East L.A. Tuesday.

The Falcons, who host Mt. San Antonio at 3 p.m. Thursday, tied the score at 4-4 in the fourth, then got the game-winning runs in the top of the seventh.

Freshman outfielder Amber Cardona (Schurr High School) led off the seventh with a single and stole second. After two
The new track surface at Cerritos College was dedicated Saturday with a ribbon-cutting during the California Relays. From left are board members Dr. Ted Edmiston and Dr. Bob Hughtt, student-athlete Dennis Orsedom, Cerritos College president Noelia Vela and board vice president Bob Arthur.

**Many pitch in to carry Cerritos over L.A. Harbor**

**Staff reports**

Six different players had two hits and at least one run and one RBI for Cerritos College’s baseball team Saturday, leading the Falcons to an 8-3 South Coast Conference victory over L.A. Harbor at Kincaid Field.

Nick Armstrong, Trevor Blood, Phil Rodriguez, Miguel Flores, Anthony Topete and Jr. Garcia all had two hits, and Armstrong and Topete drove in two apiece. Rodriguez and Flores each doubled twice and Garcia stole a pair of bases.

Cerritos, ranked No. 1 in Southern California, improved to 22-4 overall and 10-0 in SCC play. The Falcons led 1-0 after the first inning and 3-0 after two. The Seahawks (14-12, 7-3) answered with a run in the fourth and scored twice in the sixth.

But Cerritos responded each time in its next at-bat, scoring once in the fourth and three times in the sixth to extend its lead to 7-3. Flores drove in Rodriguez with a double in the third and Rodriguez had an RBI double in the sixth. Topete and Garcia each had RBI singles in the sixth as well.

“I thought we took really good at-bats with guys on second base,” said Cerritos coach Ken Gaylord. “I think that was the key.”

Freshman right-hander John Ortega pitched seven innings and improved to 6-1. Ortega struck out five and allowed five hits.

“I thought he did a good job,” Gaylord said. “He competed like he always does. Harbor has some good hitters, tough outs.”

Cerritos visits Harbor on Tuesday. The teams will conclude a suspended game from March 1 and then play their scheduled game.

— **David Felton**

**Cypress 5, Saddleback 3**

A.J. Smith allowed two earned runs in eight innings and Brandon Laird went 3 for 4 with a home run and three RBI and got the save to help the Chargers (16-10, 4-6) beat the visiting Gauchos (16-8, 5-5) in Orange Empire Conference play.

Cypress’ Bubba Rudy went 2 for 3 with a homer and two RBI.

**JC softball**

**Cerritos 8, Moorpark 0**

Korrin Soldan (4-3) tossed a three-hitter to lead the Falcons (15-7-1) over Moorpark (12-17-3) in the Tri-County Tournament at Cerritos. Stephanie Lemel drove in five runs.

**LBC 6, Palomar 3**

**Cypress 5, LBCC 2**

**Cypress 14, Palomar 3**

Sarah Frudakis earned the win with a six-hitter for the Vikings in their first of two nonconference games at Palomar. The Vikings (16-15) later fell to the Chargers, whose Kristen Wooley and Alyssa Gutierrez combined on a four-hitter.

Gutierrez (17-3) earned the win against Palomar, and Brooke Pelley hit a three-run homer.

— **Staff reports**
Cerritos leader of pack in the SCC

Despite a 6-5 loss in the regularly scheduled game Tuesday, the Cerritos College baseball team has maintained its lead in the South Coast Conference race.

In the continuation of the March 1 game postponed due to darkness, the Falcons escaped a bases-loaded jam in the ninth inning to hold off L.A. Harbor, 12-10.

Cerritos, 23-5 overall and 11-1 in the SCC, holds a two-game advantage over El Camino (19-10, 9-3) and a three-game cushion over Harbor (15-13, 8-4) and East L.A. (22-7, 8-4). The Falcons are at Pasadena City (6-22, 3-9) at 2:30 p.m. Thursday, then host the Lancers at noon Saturday.

Last Saturday, the Falcons defeated Harbor, 8-4.

Freshman pitcher John Ortega (Downey High School) pitched seven strong innings to improve to 6-1.

SOFTBALL

Talk about making fast week of an opponent.

With freshman pitcher Jessica Navarro (South Gate) tossing a two-hit shutout, the Cerritos College softball team needed only 60 minutes to defeat Fullerton, 8-0 Sunday in the Tri-County Tournament. Navarro is 13-4, while Cerritos is 17-7-1.

Navarro drove in the first run with a triple. Venice Martin Del Campo had a bases-loaded double to account for the final three runs.

The Falcons have a South Coast Conference game at 3 p.m. Thursday at El Camino. Saturday and Sunday, they take part in the Ventura Tournament.

SWIMMING

The Cerritos College men’s swimming team (4-0) won nine of the 15 events in the three-way South Coast Conference meet that included L.A. Trade Tech and Pasadena.

Highlights for the Falcons were freshman Nikos Kostinis (Warren) winning the 100-yard backstroke in 58.47 and 200 back in 2:11.99. Teammate Jose Aguirre (Downey) took second in the 200 back and 50 freestyle.

Cerritos hosts Long Beach City at 2:30 p.m. Friday.
Cerritos College: This Norwalk-based campus offers university transfer and two-year associate degrees, as well as adult vocational training in the health, computer, welding and pharmacy clerk fields. Classes that train students to earn their General Education Development (GED) certificate are available as well. Applications for the summer session, which begins May 21, are being accepted. For more information, call (562) 860-2451 or visit www.cerritos.edu.
Darfur to be discussed at event

NORWALK - Cerritos College will hold a discussion about the Darfur conflict in western Sudan from 9:30 to 11 a.m. April 23 in Room 155 of the Wilford Michael Library and Learning Resource Center, 11110 Alondra Blvd.

The event is aimed at educating the public about the genocide occurring in Sudan. United Nations representative Peter Jackson will also make a presentation.

The discussion will be broadcasted live through the California Community College Satellite Television and online at www.cccsat.org.

For more information, contact John Haas by e-mail at jhaas@cerritos.edu, or call (562) 860-2451, Ext. 2726.
Around Whittier

Cerritos College to stage ‘Godspell’

NORWALK - The Cerritos College Theatre Department will hold six showings of the musical "Godspell," beginning at 8 p.m. April 27 at the Burnight Center Theatre on campus, 11110 Alondra Blvd.

Additional performances will take place at 8 p.m. on April 28 and May 3, 4 and 5, as well as 2 p.m. May 6.

General admission is $18 per person, $15 for seniors and Cerritos College students with ID.

Tickets can be purchased through the Burnight Center Theatre box office from noon and 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

For more information, call (562) 467-5058.
Cerritos College to hold 50th annual commencement ceremony

Cerritos College will hold its 50th annual commencement ceremony to honor its graduating students on Saturday, May 12 at 5 p.m. in Falcon Stadium. Cerritos College’s Board of Trustees will present degrees and certificates earned during the 2006-2007 academic year.

This year’s commencement speaker is Cerritos College Mathematics Professor Manuel Lopez. Lopez came to the U.S. from Mexico at the age of 17 with his parents and two brothers. After he finished high school, Lopez enrolled first as an engineering major at East Los Angeles College. He later switched to being a math major so that he could become a teacher and planned to take classes there for two years before transferring to a four-year school. Because of economic hardship and the fact that he had to work much of the time to afford school, what started out as a two-year stay at a community college stretched into five and a half years before Lopez was able to transfer and graduate from his college of choice—UCLA.

After earning a bachelor’s degree in mathematics at UCLA, Lopez became a middle school teacher at Gage Middle School, where he had previously served as a bilingual teaching assistant. Lopez later taught mathematics at Gahr High School in Cerritos and returned part time to school to earn a master’s degree in mathematics at Cal State Fullerton. Soon afterward, Lopez began teaching part time at Cerritos College and Cypress College. He loved his experiences working with community college students. In 2001, when a full-time opening arose at Cerritos College, he applied and was hired. Currently, Lopez teaches all levels of math at Cerritos College.

Commencement will be held on Saturday, May 12, 2007 at 5 p.m. at Cerritos College, Falcon Stadium 11110 Alondra Blvd. Norwalk, CA 90650. For more information about Cerritos College’s 50th Annual Commencement, please contact the Student Activities Office at (562) 860-2451, ext. 2471 or visit www.cerritos.edu/commencement. Commencement is free and open to the public.
La Palma/Cerritos AAUW awards women at Cerritos College

By Edna Ethington

The Local Scholarship Committee of the La Palma/Cerritos AAUW American Association of University Women held their 14th Annual Recognition and Awards Program for Outstanding Cerritos College Women Students at the school in March. The Local Scholarship Committee, which was led by Co-Chairs Diane Merrick and Diane Huston, raised over $4,500 this year to be given as scholarships. They held a rummage sale in the fall, took a trip to Pachanga Casino with family members and friends in March, and solicited monetary donations from their own AAUW members. Included in the amount raised was a $1,000 donation from the Stiehl family in memory of Marie Nickerson.

Awards ranging from $100 to $500 were given to 15 Cerritos College students who plan to continue their studies at a four-year college or university. With these awards, the local branch promoted the AAUW mission: "To advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education and research."

Lacinda Feagin, Synthia Hadingtias, Aditi Khurana, Iraessa Macias, Susana Naranjo, Mohini Patel, Armela Perona, Viviana Ruiz, Jessica Sanchez and Riley Schnitz. Winners of the Stiehl Family Memorial Scholarships in Memory of Marie Nickerson were Susana Naranjo and Viviana Ruiz. Ruiz and Naranjo each won a $500 scholarship for their outstanding academic achievement and activities.

La Palma/Cerritos AAUW member Joan Stiehl extolled her mother’s life as an example for women students. She said that her mother did not go back to school to study for her college degree until she was 50. She believed in the importance of education for women and actively encouraged women to get their college degrees. Nickerson was an active member of the AAUW and served as president of her AAUW branch in Northern California. Stiehl said that the scholarships for Naranjo and Ruiz were a fitting memorial for her mother.

The 15 students also received commendations from Senator Alan Lowenthal, and Congresswomen Grace Napolitano and Linda Sanchez, which were presented by Geneve Villacres. They were also congratulated for their achievements by Cerritos College President Dr. Noelia Vela, La Palma/Cerritos AAUW President Saurabh Dedwania, and La Palma/Cerritos AAUW member Jackie Shahzadi.

The families who attended the awards program expressed pride in their students. It may have been the first time for some of the women to receive recognition for their academic achievement. Some women who received the awards were the first in their families to attend college.
Free technology seminar slated

NORWALK - Cerritos College will host a three-hour seminar on Model-Based Definitions technology from 6 to 9 p.m. May 9 in the metals building, room ME2, on campus, 11110 Alondra Blvd.

The seminar is free and open to the general public.

Attendees will have the opportunity to learn about this new technology, which is poised to eliminate paper drawings in the design and production of automotive aftermarket parts, replacing them with solid models.

Learning how these parts can be analyzed for conformance has become more important as MBD has come into widespread use, officials say.

It will be taught by Jim Edwards, Southern California account manager for Verisurf Software Inc., a privately held software development and manufacturing solutions company in Anaheim.

For more information or to RSVP, contact Linda Isai in Economic Development at (562) 890-2451, Ext. 2486 or Nick Real, machine tool technology department at Ext.2925.

An RSVP is requested for this seminar.
CSULB students question security

Crime: Several agree that large, open campuses are difficult to secure.

By Kevin Butler
Staff writer

LONG BEACH — Cal State Long Beach student Mike Salvarani had an immediate question after learning that a gunman on Monday had killed 32 people at Virginia Tech.

"Are we prepared for something like that?" asked the 20-year-old junior while sitting in the University Student Union.

Cal State Long Beach students on Monday reacted calmly to the news of the deadliest shooting rampage in U.S. history.

Unlike high schools — most of which are closed campuses with limited entrances — most universities, including Cal State Long Beach, consist of open spaces that attract many outside visitors each day.

"You don’t know who is walking on the campus," said 20-year-old junior Bhavika Shehd.

Shehd said that students should be on the lookout for suspicious activity and be aware of their surroundings.

“I just think as individuals we should be aware of our environment," she said.

As a security precaution, she has programmed the number of CSULB campus police — (562) 985-4101 — into her cell phone.

The CSULB police force, consisting of 27 armed, sworn police officers, has participated in joint training exercises with the Long Beach Police Department on an armed gunman scenario, said CSULB police chief Jack Pearson.

The two agencies have "just an outstanding working relationship," he said.

Law enforcement agencies in the future will be studying and analyzing the Virginia Tech incident to learn from it, he said.

The Virginia Tech massacre shows that crime "can happen anywhere," Pearson said.

"And you just have to train and be prepared to respond," he said. "Preventing something like that is highly improbable, unless you just get flat lucky."

Crystal Clausen, a 21-year-old senior, agrees that in an open campus it would be extremely difficult to stop a determined gunman from entering the grounds.

"It’s not something you can prevent," she said.

Although the university theoretically could erect gates and metal detectors, such severe precautions are "just going to heighten fear," she said.

Clausen said students shouldn’t allow their lives to be controlled by fear of such incidents.

"You might as well stay at home and live with your mom if that’s the kind of fear you live with," she said.

Marshall Thomas, a CSULB staff member, said he feels safe on campus.

He attributes his sense of safety to the positive culture he sees on campus, as well as the work of the university police force.

"The police here are actually outstanding," he said.

Long Beach City College contracts with LBPD to provide security at the school.

"Here at Long Beach City College, our students’ safety is our number-one priority," said LBCC spokesman Chi-Chung Keung.

Kevin Butler can be reached at kevin.butler@presstelegram.com or (562) 499-1308.
Colleges look for faster ways to get urgent emergency messages to students during crises

By Martha Irvine, AP National Writer
Long Beach Press Telegram
Article Launched: 04/17/2007 08:39:52 AM PDT

The two hours it took for Virginia Tech officials to e-mail students a warning about a gunman on campus has raised concern about how schools can get critical news out faster in a crisis.

"When you're in the middle of something, two hours is not very long. But when you're looking in, it does seem like a long time," says Mitchell Celaya, the assistant chief of campus police at the University of California, Berkeley.

At UC Berkeley, Celaya says an extreme emergency would warrant, among other things, a siren on an outdoor public address system followed by an announcement with instructions.

The University of Florida is working with local police to place automatic calls to campus telephones with similar kinds of messages, including alerts about hurricanes and tornadoes.

And the University of Cincinnati has gone as far as making its public address system audible inside buildings.

"There is no one magic communication system that we can press a button and let everyone know what is going on," says Chris Meyer, assistant vice president for safety and security at Texas A&M University, where they use all of the above methods and others.

Getting word out to students also was the plan at Virginia Tech, where officials have been working on a system that would get emergency alerts to students via text messages on their cell phones.

That system was not in place Monday, during the deadliest shooting rampage in modern U.S. history. Some students said their first notice of trouble came in an e-mail at 9:26 a.m., after the second shooting had begun.

University president Charles Steger said the university decided to rely on e-mail and other electronic means to spread the word, but said that with 11,000 people driving onto campus first thing in the morning, it was difficult to get the word out.

The University of Georgia has joined a small but growing number of institutions that are testing similar systems. Their service, provided by the California-based NTI Group, is voluntary and allows students to plug in various phone numbers and e-mail addresses to a Web site - and then transfers messages from the university using phone systems outside the affected area so it doesn't jam local phone lines.
"One person may be receiving five different messages through five different means," says UGA spokesman Tom Jackson.

Elsewhere, some universities are devising more targeted means of security in hopes of quickening their responses.

The University of Washington has a high-level safety team that was put in place after a murder-suicide. The aim is to move staffers who are in danger to other offices or provide them extra security protection. However, that system failed recently when a 26-year-old staffer was killed by her ex-boyfriend on April 2.

There's also no guarantee that students will heed warnings.

Diane Brown, spokeswoman for the University of Michigan's public safety department, says officials there sometimes have trouble getting students to exit buildings during fire alarms and other emergencies because of false alarms.

"How do you overcome that desensitization?" she asks.

She and others note that it's also common for students to let strangers into dorms that are locked or require key cards. Propping doors open is also still a rampant practice.

And the fact of the matter is, campuses are largely open places where just about anyone - especially a student - is free to roam.

For that reason, college officials across the country agree that, in the end, no higher education institution is immune to this kind of violence, no matter how well they prepare.

"Obviously, these crazy out-of-the-blue nightmare scenarios can happen just about anywhere," says John Holden, a spokesman at DePaul University in Chicago.

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On the Net:

International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators: http://www.iaclea.org

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Associated Press writers Dan Sewell in Cincinnati; Juan Lozano in Houston; Jessica Gresko in Miami; Curt Woodward in Seattle; David Eggert in East Lansing, Mich.; and Arthur Rotstein in Phoenix contributed to this report.