FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 9—15, 2007

In Progress
Kristen Habbestad worked this week to provide a KPCC-FM (NPR affiliate) reporter with information and interview subjects relating to the Automotive Technology Program. The piece, which will focus on recent graduates of the program, will air later this week.

Coverage
The Downey Patriot — April 6, 2007 — Promotional brief on Darfur discussion (from press release).

The Downey Patriot — April 6, 2007 — Short promotional article on career expo/job fair hosted by Cerritos College (from press release).

The Downey Patriot — April 6, 2007 — Brief on student artwork featured at Art Gallery (from press release).


Highland Community News — April 13, 2007 — Article on Cerritos College’s graduation ceremony with bio on speaker Manuel Lopez (from press release).

Highland Community News — April 13, 2007 — Article on scholarships given to women at Cerritos College by the local chapter of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) (from press release).

Highland Community News — April 13, 2007 — Brief in community calendar section on Cerritos College’s production of “Godspell” (from press release).
Whittier Daily News—April 16, 2007—Short article on a seminar at Cerritos College covering new technology in the automotive industry (from press release).

Whittier Daily News—April 18, 2007—Brief on job fair held at Cerritos College (from press release).


La Opinion—April 24, 2007—Article discussing the benefits of a career in nursing and highlighting a workshop at Cerritos College designed to inform students of how to enter this career field.


Lynwood Press—April 26, 2007—Brief in community calendar section on Cerritos College’s production of “Godspell” (from press release).

Long Beach Press-Telegram—April 30, 2007—Promotional brief on the interfaith dialogue held at Cerritos College with Dr. Judea Pearl and Dr. Akbar Ahmed (from press release).

La Opinion—May 1, 2007—Information on summer classes offered by Cerritos College to community members.

Related News
Long Beach Press-Telegram—May 7, 2007—Article on a panel discussion at Long Beach City College about what new safety measures to implement following the V Tech tragedy.

Los Angeles Times—May 9, 2007—Article on Cal State Fresno student killing one person and injuring two in a dispute over a Playstation console.
Long Beach Press-Telegram—May 9, 2007—Article on Long Beach City College’s scaling back on aviation classes.

Long Beach Press-Telegram—May 10, 2007—Article on a new program scheduled to debut this fall at Jordan High School in Long Beach that will prepared students for careers in architecture, construction and engineering.

Los Angeles Times—May 12, 2007—Article on recruiting efforts by UCLA that resulted in doubling enrollment of black students.
Cerritos College Honors Project HOPE Class of 2007

22 Graduates of Project HOPE's Healthcare Career-Prep Program Mark Transition to Universities

For Immediate Release: May 14, 2007

Media Contact: Kristen Habbestad, Public Affairs; (562) 860-2451, ext. 2287

NORWALK, CA - May 14, 2007 - Cerritos College's Project HOPE (Health Opportunities and Pipeline to Education), and premiere sponsors Health Net of California, Orange County's Credit Union and Verizon saluted 22 graduates of the Project HOPE program on Wednesday, May 9 during the program's third annual graduation banquet entitled "Ensuring Diversity in the Health Professions." The ceremony celebrated the upcoming transition of the students to four-year universities now that they have earned their associate's degrees at Cerritos College.

The Project HOPE Class of 2007 included Angelica Barrera-Ng, transferring to California State University, Fullerton (CSUF); Mario Carrasco, who transferred to California State University, Dominguez Hills (CSUDH); Cynthia Ceretti, who graduated from Cerritos College's Nursing Program in the fall of 2006 and plans to pursue a BSN; Sonia Diaz, who was admitted into the Cerritos College Nursing Program in the spring of 2007 and plans to become a registered nurse; Margot Cisneros, who was admitted into the Cerritos College Nursing Program in the spring of 2007 and plans to become a registered nurse; Janei Dominguez, who transferred to the University of California, Riverside (UCI); Alvaro Espinoza, who will be transferring to the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA); Gabriel Gomez, who will be transferring to a four-year university in the fall of 2007; Robert Inunza, who plans to transfer to Charles R. Drew University in the fall of 2007; Charlene Lobardio who will be transferring to the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA); Amalia Moreno, who plans to transfer to Charles R. Drew University in the fall of 2007; John Reiner Narvaez, who will be transferring to California State University, Long Beach (CSULB); Mayanin Natividad, who plans to transfer to California State University, Dominguez Hills (CSUDH); Maria Ramirez, who will be transferring to Cal Poly San Luis Obispo; Reyna Raya, who will be transferring to California State University, Long Beach (CSULB); Rosario Rivas, who will be transferring to California State University, Long Beach (CSULB); Rosalie Reynoso, who will be transferring to the University of California, Santa Cruz (UCSC); Maricelis Robles, who will be transferring to California State University, Long Beach (CSULB); Viviana Ruiz, who will be transferring to the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA); Karina Vega, who was admitted into the Cerritos College Nursing Program in the spring of 2007 and plans to become a registered nurse; Melissa Vega, who will be transferring to California State University, Los Angeles (CSULA); and Brenda Velis, who...
will be transferring to California State University, Long Beach (CSULB).

"We are tremendously proud of all our graduates," said Project HOPE Director Graciela Vasquez.

"They are all hard-working individuals whose commitment and perseverance have paid off, and they are to be celebrated. These students are the future of healthcare and the future of California."

Ignacio "Nacho" Rojas, Jr., chair for the Project HOPE advisory committee and program coordinator of the Los Angeles County Office of Education's Parent & Community Services, served as emcee for the evening. Mr. Peter Delgado, CEO of Los Angeles County + University of Southern California (LAC+USC) Healthcare Network, served as keynote speaker.

Event sponsors for the event included the Cerritos College Faculty Federation, Health Net, The California Endowment, WellPoint of California, Dr. Ismael and Judith Nuno, UCLA, Vida Financial, GBS Linens, the Office of Congresswoman Linda Sanchez, City of Norwalk Councilman Jess Luera, National Mental Health Association of Greater LA County, Verizon, and the Office of Supervisor Don Knabe, Orange County's Credit Union, To Your Health/A Su Salud, and Primegen Biotech Corporation.

Cerritos College's awareness of its diverse student population and changing community needs contributed to the birth of Project HOPE five years ago through Title V federal funding. Project HOPE is designed to increase the number and success of Latinos and other underrepresented students entering the health professions. The program is committed to remedying the Latino health care professional shortage by encouraging Latino youth to pursue education opportunities that lead to professional health care careers and helping them overcome challenges facing Latino students, such as the need for financial assistance for education.

The project aims to create an academic pipeline facilitating the success of minority students in this competitive field. Program activities include student services geared toward health careers; teaching strategies and courses that increase retention and success of Latino students and other minorities; organized workshops, conferences and research opportunities; community service venues; and peer and professional mentoring. For more information about Project Hope, visit www.cerritos.edu/hope.

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.

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Cerritos College's Teacher TRAC Program Celebrates 33 New Graduates

For Immediate Release: May 14, 2007

Media Contact: Kristen Habbestad, Public Affairs; (562) 860-2451, ext. 2287

NORWALK, CA - May 14, 2007 - Cerritos College's Teacher TRAC (Training Academy) program honored 33 Teacher TRAC program graduates on Thursday, May 10 as the students moved closer to gaining a bachelor's degree and teaching credential from California State University Long Beach.

Honoring Teacher TRAC students at the recognition ceremony were the Cerritos College Board of Trustees; senior members of Cerritos College administration; Sue Parsons, director of Teacher TRAC, Dr. Jean Houck, dean of the College of Education at California State University, Long Beach; Teacher TRAC leadership team and faculty members; and friends and family of the students. Each graduate received a certificate and a commemorative golden apple in recognition of their completion of the first leg of the Teacher TRAC program.


Scholarship awards were also presented during the event. Patricia Buchanan received a $1,000 Fred Gaskin scholarship that includes a $1,000 match from CSULB; Laura Hernandez received the Esther Espinoza Scholarship in the amount of $1,000 with a $1,000 match from the Cerritos College Foundation; Diana Carrera, Erika Morales and Yesenia Nieto each received an Eruditio Scholarship for $500 each; and Mark Shimazu received the D. Franklin Wright Mathematics Scholarship for $2,500.
Irma Jimenez, a Teacher TRAC alumna from the class of 2003, provided closing remarks and encouraged the class of 2007 to continue to be faithful in their studies and to hold high hopes for their careers in education.

Cerritos College's Teacher TRAC program offers many services, programs, and pathways for students interested in teaching K-12. For students interested in becoming an elementary school teacher, Teacher TRAC's flagship program is a partnership with California State University Long Beach. As a student in the integrated, standards-based Teacher TRAC / CSULB program, students can earn their bachelor's degree and multiple subject teaching credentials and complete their student teaching within four years. For more information about the program, visit http://www.teachertrac.com/.

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.

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UN rep will speak on Darfur conflict

NORWALK — Cerritos College will host a discussion about the Darfur conflict in western Sudan on April 23 at 9:30 a.m. The event will help educate attendees about the genocide currently occurring.

United Nations representative Peter Jackson will attend and give his perspective on the conflict.

For more information, call Dr. John Haas of the Humanities and Social Sciences Division at (562) 860-2451 ext. 2726.

Career expo and job fair at college

NORWALK — Cerritos College’s annual career expo and job fair will be held April 25 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the school’s Student Center. The event, which attracts more than 500 attendees each year, is free and open to both Cerritos College students and the general public.

Attendees should dress in business attire and bring copies of their resumes.

During the expo, attendees will have the opportunity to talk to recruiters, learn about the companies, explore job opportunities, network with recruiters, and receive suggestions from employers on resumes and interviewing skills. Employers representing business, finance, technology, healthcare, retail and other industries are schedules to participate in the expo.

Cerritos College’s Job Placement Office will offer free resume critiques in the weeks leading up to the expo. Resumes can be dropped off and picked up seven days later. A computer lab will also be available to create or update resumes.

Employers wishing to participate in the expo can call (562) 860-2451, ext. 2366 for information.

Art exhibit features best of student work

NORWALK — The Cerritos College Art Gallery will feature its annual exhibition of student artwork, on view from April 10 through May 8.

The annual exhibition features more than 100 student artworks chosen by Cerritos College Fine Arts instructors from their courses that include photography, drawing, painting, printmaking, ceramics, computer graphics and design, video and computer animation, among others.

Artworks will be exhibited inside the Art Gallery, Fine Arts building, room 50, Mondays and Thursdays, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 6 to 9 p.m. The event is free and open to the public.
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.
College plans discussion programs on Darfur and interfaith issues

NORWALK — Cerritos College’s Humanities and Social Sciences Division, along with the Global Consortium, will host international discussions April 23 and April 30 in the Wilford Michael Library and Learning Resource Center on campus, 11110 Alondra Blvd.

A discussion about the Darfur conflict in western Sudan will take place at 9:30 a.m. April 23 while at 7 p.m. April 30 there will be an interfaith dialogue between a Jewish professor whose son was killed by terrorists and a teacher of Islamic studies.

Both events are free and open to the public.

The Darfur program will help educate attendees about the genocide currently occurring in that region of Sudan. United Nations’ representative Peter Jackson will attend to give his perspective, said college Public Information Officer Kristen Habbestad.

The April 30 program will feature Judea Pearl, Akbar Ahmed and a representative from the United Nations, Habbestad said.

Pearl is a UCLA researcher and a representative from the United Nations, Habbestad said.

He has since launched the Daniel Pearl Foundation, through which he has worked with Ahmed, who is the chair of Islamic studies at American University.

Subsequent to a dialogue between Ahmed and Pearl last year in Pittsburgh, the two jointly received the 2006 Purpose Award for "fighting intolerance, conflict and terrorism through dialogue and exchange," Habbestad said.


College plans community career fair

NORWALK — Cerritos College’s annual Career Expo and Job Fair will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. April 25 in the Student Center on campus, 11110 Alondra Blvd.

It is free and open to Cerritos College students and the general public. It is recommended that attendees dress in business attire and bring copies of résumés with them, said Kristen Habbestad, the college’s public information officer.

Those who attend will have opportunity to talk to recruiters, learn about the companies, explore job opportunities, network with recruiters and receive suggestions from employers on résumés and interviewing skills, she said.

Employers representing business, finance, technology, healthcare, retail and other industries will participate.

Prior to the expo, the college’s Job Placement Office is offering free résumé critiques. Students may bring in their résumés for evaluation and pick them up seven days later.

A computer lab also is available for students to create or update their résumés. Computer lab assistants are available to help with use of the computers, Habbestad said.

Registration for employers who wish to participate in the event is $90. Information: (562) 860-2451, ext. 2366.
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 its 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

LaPalma/Cerritos AAUW awards women at Cerritos College

The Local Scholarship Committee of the La Palma/Cerritos 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 Pachenga 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 Steihl 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.”

Joan Steihl presented the Steihl Family Memorial Scholarships in memory of her mother, Marie Nickerson, to Cerritos College students Susana Naranjo and Viviana Ruiz. From left are Local Scholarship Co-Chair Diane Merrick, Naranjo, Ruiz, Steihl, and Cerritos College Dean Francine DeFrance. Photos Courtesy of Francine DeFrance

The 15 students who received the scholarship awards were introduced by Cerritos College instructors who had nominated them. Assisting the Local Scholarship Committee and presenting the AAUW Local Scholarship Awards was Francine DeFrance, instructional dean of humanities and social sciences and an AAUW member. The scholarship winners were Savitha Achar, Elmira Afshari, Lindsay Allen, Nicole Biba, Cindy Cornejo, Lacinda Feagin, Synthia Hadingtias, Aditi Khurana, Irasema Macias, Susana Naranjo, Mohini Patel, Armela Perona, Viviana Ruiz, Jessica Sanchez and Riley Schnitz. Winners of the Steihl 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 Steihl 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. Steihl 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 Villalobos. They were also congratulated for their achievements by Cerritos College President Dr. Noelia Vela, La Palma/Cerritos AAUW President SauRabih Deedwania, 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.
Cerritos College Theater to Present Godspell

The Cerritos College Theatre Department will present Godspell, a musical based on the Gospel According to St. Matthew, beginning Friday, April 27 at 8 p.m. Five additional showings will follow opening night. Godspell presents a whimsical view of Jesus, as his followers and disciples re-enact parables and scenes from Jesus’ life with great energy through song and dance. Godspell will be presented on April 27 and 28 at 8 p.m.; May 3, 4, 5 at 8 p.m.; and May 6 at 2 p.m. Performances will be at the Cerritos College Burnight Center/Theatre, 11110 Alondra Blvd., Norwalk. A map of the campus is available at www.cerritos.edu/guide.

General admission is $18; Cerritos College students with current spring ID and senior citizens are admitted for $15. Group ticket prices are also available. Tickets are available for all performance dates and may be purchased through the Burnight Center Theatre box office. Box office hours are Monday through Thursday, noon to 5 p.m.
**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.

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**Job fair to be held at Cerritos College**

**NORWALK** — Cerritos College’s annual career expo and job fair will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. April 25 in the student center on campus, 11110 Alondra Blvd.

The event, which attracts more than 500 people each year, is free and open to Cerritos College students and the general public.

Employers representing business, finance, technology, healthcare, retail and other industries will participate.

Employers who wish to participate can call (562) 860-2451, Ext. 2366.

For more information, call (562) 860-2451 Ext. 2367.
Students receive automotive awards

NORWALK — The Cerritos College Foundation has awarded two students the Jeannie M. T. Yang Memorial Automotive Scholarship, according to the college’s Public Information Officer Kristen Habbestad.

Alberto Rivera of West Covina and Hector Medina of Inglewood, students in Cerritos College’s Automotive Technology program, each were honored with $500 scholarships for their progress in the vocational auto tech courses, at the foundation board’s March 8 meeting, Habbestad said.

Rivera, the father of two young children, has decided to return to school to seek a career in the automotive industry. He is currently enrolled in the Automotive Service Educational program and has a 4.0 grade point average.

Rivera plans to continue in the Northwood University program with the career goal of becoming an auto dealership service manager or director.

Medina is enrolled in Cerritos College’s Automotive Manufacture Specialty program. He plans to obtain his associate’s degree with the career goal of working as a BMW certified technician.

“I am grateful for this scholarship because it will help me purchase the materials I need for the program,” Medina said.

The Jeannie M. T. Yang Automotive Scholarship awards a total of $2,000 each year to four students in the automotive department at Cerritos College.

Yang was a community college professor originally from mainland China who had a great love for education. The award was established in 2004 by Peter Leutheuser, Yang’s longtime friend and executor of her estate.

Leutheuser is also the brother of Todd Leutheuser, executive director of the Southland Motor Car Dealers Association and a foundation board member.

“We’re truly inspired by these students as they begin their careers in the auto industry,” said Todd Leutheuser, who presented certificates to the students.
College foundation plans multi-city chamber mixer

WAVE STAFF REPORT
NORWALK — The Cerritos College Foundation will host its 11th annual Chamber Mega Mixer from 5 to 8 p.m. Tuesday in the Cerritos College Student Center on the local campus, 11110 Alondra Blvd.

The mixer will feature an “It’s a Jungle Out There,” theme. Participating chambers include Bellflower, Cerritos, Downey, Lakewood, La Mirada, Norwalk, Paramount and Santa Fe Springs, said Kristen Habbestad, the college’s public information officer.

Admission and parking are free. Parking is available in Lot C-10 only, located off 166th Street next to the strawberry field.

Since it began, the Chamber Mega Mixer has grown each year to feature booths from local businesses, along with several of the college’s award-winning programs, Habbestad said.

There will be networking opportunities, door prizes and drawings, and food prepared by the Cerritos College Culinary Arts Program.

Reservations for exhibitor tables are being taken.

Exhibitor tables will be sold at $145 each on a first-come basis. Only 45 tables are available, she said.

Information: (562) 860-5451, ext. 2526 or ext. 2539.

Professor will speak at Cerritos graduation

WAVE STAFF REPORT
NORWALK — Cerritos College mathematics professor Manuel Lopez will be the main speaker at the college’s 50th annual commencement ceremony at 5 p.m. May 12 in Falcon Stadium, on campus, 11110 Alondra Blvd.

The college’s Board of Trustees will present degrees and certificates earned during the 2006-07 academic year, said Kristen Habbestad, the college’s public affairs coordinator.

Lopez came to the United States from Mexico at the age of 16 with his parents and two brothers. After he finished high school, he 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, Habbestad said.

After earning a bachelor’s degree in mathematics at UCLA, Lopez became a middle school teacher at Gage Middle School, Huntington Park, where he had previously served as a bilingual teaching assistant.

Lopez later taught mathematics at Galvin 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. In 2001, Lopez was hired full time at Cerritos College.

Currently, Lopez teaches all levels of math at Cerritos.
Chambers to host annual Mega Mixer

Cerritos College and the Cerritos College Foundation will host the 11th annual Chamber Mega Mixer from 5 to 8 p.m. on Tuesday.

The event, themed “It’s a Jungle Out There,” takes place at the Cerritos College Student Center.

Chambers from Bellflower, Cerritos, Downey, Lakewood, La Mirada, Norwalk, Paramount and Santa Fe Springs are expected to participate.

Admission is free, but if you are a member of a local chamber, you can reserve an exhibitor table and “join the jungle.” An entry of $145 includes one six-foot table, two chairs and a linen.

Payment for tables is due today.

To reserve space, call (562) 860-2451, ext. 2539. A credit card will be required at the time of reservation.
Una carrera llena de oportunidades

Fórum busca apoyo y orientar a estudiantes de enfermería

EN DETALLE

Qué: fórum de enfermería
Caudrón: 28 de abril de 2007, de 8:30 a 11:30 a.m.
Dónde: Cal State College's Student Center
Dirección: 11110 Alondra Blvd., Norwalk, CA 90650
Costo: gratis

L a enfermería es una de las carreras que gran demanda en la actualidad, también es una de las mejores pagadas. Sin embargo, es pocas las personas que se gradúan en el país desea esta profesión.

Ante esto, la Asociación Nacional de Enfermeras Hispánicas (NAHN) y el proyecto de Oportunidades en el Área de la Salud y Educación (Health Opportunities and Pipeline to Education, HOPE) del Colegio de California unieron fuerzas para efectuar un fórum, que ayudaría a quienes estudian enfermería a continuar sus estudios y tener éxito en su profesión.

El fórum tendrá lugar el próximo 28 de abril, de 8:30 a 11:30 a.m., en el Student Center del Colegio Cerritos, ubicado en 11110 Alondra Blvd., Norwalk, CA 90650. La entrada es gratuita.

El evento educativo está abierto a todo estudiante de enfermería (en cualquier grado de la carrera) y sus padres, así como a los enfermeros que están trabajando en este campo laboral.

María Castro, enfermera registrada y vicepresidenta de la NAHN, afirma que el fórum educativo contactará con profesionales veteranos en este campo de la salud, quienes orientarán a los estudiantes en los pasos que tienen que seguir para lograr graduarse y obtener la credencial de enfermería del estado de California.

TÓMASE TRATAR
Graciela Vázquez, directora del proyecto HOPE, explica que durante el fórum se disucutirán los siguientes temas, que afectan de formas inmediata y futura a los estudiantes y egresados:

1. Oportunidades de otras carreras dentro del campo de la enfermería.
2. Qué se necesita para ser aceptado y alcanzar el doctorado en un programa de enfermería.
3. Información sobre servicios de apoyo y becas disponibles para preenfermería y estudiantes que cursan la carrera de enfermería.
4. La necesidad de enfermeras o enfermeros que representen a la población en este campo de la salud y que trabajan en las comunidades menos favorecidas.
5. Oportunidades de liderazgo después de concluir los estudios en la Escuela de Enfermería.

"Recogemos estos temas educativos y de orientación porque hemos visto que muchos estudiantes hispánicos que ingresan a la carrera de enfermería tienen problemas para finalizar sus estudios por falta de recursos económicos y alcance que desean graduarse como enfermeras registradas que logran pasar los exámenes de la Asociación de Enfermeras Registradas", comenta Vázquez.

DEMANDA CRECENTE

"La necesidad de enfermeras y enfermeros es inmensa", comenta Castro, "y es un poco, desafortunadamente, que muchas de las personas que tienen que hacerse de enfermeras y enfermeros, en los hospitales, no se forman por ausencia de dinero para seguir un camino que está muy bien pagado".

La escuela salarial en este campo de la salud oscila entre los $45,000 y los $60,000 anuales. Según Castro, el salario de un enfermero o enfermera depende del nivel de educación que logra y el campo laboral donde se desempeña.

Por ejemplo, un enfermero registrado ganaría mucho más que uno que tan sólo logre el grado de enfermero, dijo.

Como enfermera o enfermero registrado, el profesional recibirá una vida mejor, a pesar de que sea mayor, y que se mantenga en el campo de la salud y el bienestar de las personas.

"Nos vemos comprometidos a trabajar para incrementar la cí-
Student art show set at Cerritos

Wave Staff Report

NORWALK — The Cerritos College Art Gallery is featuring its annual exhibition of student artwork through May 8, college Public Information Officer Kristen Habbestad said.

The exhibition features artwork by more than 100 students chosen by Cerritos College fine arts instructors from courses that include photography, drawing, painting, printmaking, ceramics, computer graphics and design, video and computer animation among others, she said.

The Art Gallery is in the Fine Arts Building on campus, 11110 Alondra Blvd. Gallery hours are 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and 6 to 9 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday.

Information: (562) 860-2451, ext. 2612.
Interfaith dialogue at Cerritos College

Cerritos College today will host an interfaith dialogue with Dr. Judea Pearl and Dr. Akbar Ahmed.

Pearl is the father of slain Wall Street Journal reporter Daniel Pearl, who was killed in Pakistan in 2002.

The event begins at 7 p.m. in the Wilford Michael Library and Learning Resource Center, Room 155. Admission is free, but an RSVP is required. Parking is $1.

The event will be broadcast live through the California Community College Satellite Television network and online at www.cccsat.org.

Cerritos College is at 11110 Alondra Blvd., Norwalk. To RSVP, call (562) 860-2451, ext. 2726.
ACLASES DE VERANO
PARA LA JUVENTUD EN
CERRITOS COLLEGE

Leer y Escribir, Actividades deportivas, Buceo y natación, Arte, Cursos académicos, Baile, Clases de computación, Actuación y Ciencias.

Existen Súper Campamentos de 1 semana de duración y se reúnen mediados todos los días, ya sea en las mañanas o en las tardes, de acuerdo a su horario. Ya sea que necesiten reforzar su estudio académico, se estén preparando para la universidad, quieran explorar arte o en proyectos de ciencia, siempre hay un campamento para uds. Diseñado para todas las edades, el Súper Campamento les dará una experiencia de aprendizaje muy completa en conjunto con proyectos prácticos.

Tipos de Campamento
1) Campamento Académico
2) Campamento Pre universitario
3) Campamento de Ciencias
4) Campamento de Computación
5) Campamento de Arte
6) Campamento Deportivo

Junio 25 a Junio 29

Llame para costos de los campamentos

APREnda A DISEñAR UNA PÁGINA DE INTERNET

Cursos:
- Web Design
- Adobe Illustrator
- Macromedia Flash
- Photoshop Elements
- Diferentes horarios y costos en julio

PARA ADULTOS
CURSO SOBRE ADMINISTRACIÓN DE UN PEQUEÑO NEGOCIO

Administrar un negocio como propietario requiere de mucho entendimiento, habilidades y conocimiento, todo lo cual es claramente demostrado en esta serie del Pequeño Negocio. Aprendé a cómo llevar fluidamente un negocio. Su negocio debe ser una ‘vaca lechera’ y podrá convertirse en un crédito activo para ser vendido en mucho dinero en el futuro. Los cinco talleres detallan las cinco funciones de administración y proveen de un discusión profunda de los cuatro elementos de cada disciplina.

Los talleres:
1) Planeación del Negocio (Business Planning)
2) Administración organizativa (Organization Administration)
3) Finanzas del Negocio (Business Finance)
4) Recursos Humanos y Personal (Personnel and Human Resources Development)
5) Ventas y Mercadotecnia (Sales & Marketing)

Llame para horarios y costos. Todas las clases son en inglés.

Cerritos College
Community Education
11110 Alondra Blvd.
Norwalk, CA 90650
Tel: (562) 467-5050 ext. 2521
www.cerritoscommunityed.com
LBCC safety steps weighed

Phone, security links promise quicker aid to police, student, faculty panel.

By Kevin Butler, Staff writer
Long Beach Press Telegram

LONG BEACH - Installing phones in Long Beach City College's classrooms and hallways was one idea floated Monday during a panel discussion on ways to improve campus security in the wake of the Virginia Tech shooting massacre.

A Long Beach police officer, three faculty members and the student government president discussed the state of security at the two-campus college and what steps students, faculty, staff and administrators should take to prepare for emergencies such as a shooting rampage.

Several panelists stressed the need for installing phones in classrooms that would connect with campus police and emergency services. They pointed out faculty and students now have to rely on their cell phones in emergencies. Cell phone 911 calls are routed to the California Highway Patrol dispatch center, creating delays.

"We do need to have some sort of system to make sure that we have hard-line access," said Gad Perez, president of the Associated Student Body, the college's student government.

Panelist Donald Douglas, an LBCC political science professor, said that the college needs to ensure that faculty are regularly trained in emergency procedures. Faculty members should be able to distribute handouts to students describing the safety procedures, he added.

Perez said that students need to step up and be an active part of the solution, adding that it has been difficult for her to find student volunteers to serve on a campus safety committee.

Student involvement is important because "we are often the voice of innovation," she said at the discussion, held on the college's Liberal Arts Campus.

Gun control was a major topic of discussion, with some students asking the panel whether, in the wake of the tragedy, students and faculty with proper licenses should be allowed to bring their guns to school to defend themselves during attacks. Drugs and weapons are prohibited at LBCC.

Faculty member and panelist Charlotte Joseph said that the college should continue to have a weapons-free policy.

"It's the job of the college to make sure that we are as safe as possible," she said.

Panelist David Fritz, an officer with the Long Beach Police Department - which provides security at LBCC - noted that few gun owners are properly trained in the weapon's use.

Police need student tips and support to maintain security, Fritz said. Students shouldn't view the sharing of important safety information with police as "snitching," he said.

Panelist Elliot Rock, a political science professor, said that the college administration often is constrained legally from taking action against problem students. For example, expelling a student could open up the college to lawsuits, he added.

"There are no easy solutions here," Rock said.
Cal State Fresno shooting leaves 1 dead, 2 injured

The incident was the result of a dispute over a video game console, police say. The alleged gunman surrendered the next day.

By ERIC BAILEY AND STEVE CHAWKINS

FRESNO — A student at Cal State Fresno fatally shot one man and wounded two others in a dispute over a video game console, police said Tuesday.

Despite a cordon of more than 50 Fresno police officers that converged within minutes of the incident late Monday at a student housing complex just off campus, the alleged gunman managed to elude police.

Accompanied by an attorney, he surrendered outside a friend’s apartment shortly before noon Tuesday.

Jesueal Brooks, 19, a criminology student who had played basketball at Hayward High School, was in touch with police, his parents and his lawyer during intense negotiations Tuesday morning.

His demeanor on the phone was “very calm” and reflected some remorse, Fresno Police Chief Jerry Dyer said at a news conference.

When Brooks turned himself in, he had shaved off his dreadlocks and changed his clothes, apparently in an effort to disguise himself, the chief said.

The incident prompted instant comparisons to the mass shootings at Virginia Tech last month, but officials described the Fresno attack as a spontaneous outburst, rather than a calculated killing. Unlike the Virginia Tech massacre, which left 33 dead, the Fresno shootings were not acts of random terror, police said.

Four young men had confronted Brooks in his apartment in an argument over a PlayStation game console when he pulled a handgun and started shooting, police said. One of the men was uninjured.

Authorities believe that Brooks was probably hiding within the University Village apartments, so they combed the complex for more than four hours.

Several hundred residents were bedded down in a campus dining hall. Within two hours, a psychologist was conferring with students who were anxious or agitated.

Many elected to stay at University Village, a collection of three-story buildings just across from the university’s Bulldog Stadium. Throughout the night, SWAT team members knocked on every door, checking for the possibility that others had been harmed or taken hostage.

The dead man was identified by police as Brant Daniels, 19, a former Cal State student who was last enrolled in 2006.

Paige Hicks, 19, a journalism major from Pittsburgh, Calif., was up late working on a paper when she heard the shots. A friend of Daniels, she said he was “just a sweetheart — the kind of guy who always had a smile on his face, the kind of guy who’d go out of his way to say hi.”

Police identified the two wounded men as Cal State Fresno student Roderick Buycks, 18, and Drew Pfleif, 22, who is not enrolled at the university. The two men were treated and released from a hospital.

As news spread of the shootings, the school fielded phone calls from concerned parents around the nation and in countries as far-flung as Argentina and Japan. Officials offered students who had fled their apartments late Monday night the use of cellphones to call home.

The campus remained open Tuesday. Although police acknowledged that they did not know exactly where the alleged shooter had fled, Chief Dyer said they were confident that he was not on campus. He would not elaborate.

“At no time were students on campus at Fresno State in any danger,” Dyer said.

Still, some on Tuesday chose not to attend class.

“I would have canceled class, too,” said Aaron Jones, 23, a marketing major who served in the Marines. “In light of the situation at Virginia Tech, I’m not about to put myself in that danger.”

In a statement e-mailed to students, faculty and staff members Tuesday morning, university President John D. Welty called the incident “a senseless tragedy that affects all of us in the university community, especially with the memories of the Virginia Tech shootings so fresh in all our minds.”

In an interview, Welty said that he and other senior administrators arrived on campus shortly after the attack. He dispatched a university vice president to the hospital where the wounded students were being treated, and ordered that a phone tree developed for emergencies be put into action.

He said students are planning a memorial observance.

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LBCC cuts back pilot training

**Education:** Advanced courses on hold while basic courses offered.

By Kevin Butler
Staff writer

LONG BEACH — A professional airline pilot and an aviation student criticized plans to cut back Long Beach City College’s pilot training program next semester at a Board of Trustees meeting on Tuesday.

LBCC in the fall semester plans to offer the program’s three basic courses — basic aeronautical ground schools, commercial ground school and instrument ground school.

The more advanced meteorology, navigation and flight simulator classes have been put on hold indefinitely until the program can be reviewed by an advisory committee to see if it meets student needs, according to Farley Herzek, dean of the LBCC School of Trade and Industrial Technologies.

John Ringel, a Continental Airlines pilot whose son takes LBCC aviation pilot training courses, told the five-member board that the courses being cut in the fall are the “most popular, well-attended” in the program.

“Is this the way of improving a program?” Ringel said.

Board president Doug Otto said that the trustees would place the matter on the agenda of a future meeting.

Ringel also criticized plans to move the program, now located at the Liberal Arts Campus, to the Pacific Coast Campus, arguing that the new location is more distant from the Long Beach Airport than its current home.

Christopher Rosenfelt, a student in the program, told trustees he had planned to take a navigation and a simulator course this fall but was told they would not be offered.

He urged the board to look into the matter.

“I don’t know where to turn to,” he said. “I feel that the rug has been pulled out right from underneath me.”

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Jordan High gets building program

Education: Students to train for careers in architecture, construction, engineering.

By Kevin Butler
Staff writer

LONG BEACH — A program designed to prepare students for careers in architecture, construction and engineering is scheduled to begin at Jordan High School this fall.

A product of a collaboration between the city of Long Beach and the Long Beach Unified School District, the Jordan ACE Academy is expected to open with 60 10th grade students.

The school district hopes to have 300 to 400 students in grades nine through 12 enrolled in the program by the 2010-11 school year.

The program is designed both for students who want to get jobs right after high school and those students who want to continue their education at a four-year university or community college, said Matt Saldaña, principal of the district’s Regional Occupational Program.

Already 150 students have expressed interest in the program, which is needed to produce skilled workers for the architecture, construction and engineering trades, Saldaña said.

Businesses in those areas are in desperate need for employees who enter the work force with the high skills and knowledge needed for their success in the industry,” he said.

Long Beach Mayor Bob Foster in his State of the City speech in January announced plans for the career academy and has committed to raising $500,000 in private start-up funds.

The district is using about $180,000 in federal funds to purchase equipment, supplies, software, curricula and other items, Saldaña said.

An advisory committee of representatives from labor unions, LBUSD, city government, and business and industry has been formed in support of the program.

Jordan was chosen as the site of the academy because of interest from the school’s teachers and principals, Saldaña said.

“There was a tremendous amount of work at the grassroots level with classroom teachers who helped see this through,” he said.

The district hopes that eventually academy students will be able to get internships with employers and concurrently enroll in some college-level classes at Long Beach City College or Cal State Long Beach, Saldaña said.

Plans call for the program to be located at Jordan’s main campus, at 6500 Atlantic Avenue, he said.

The district now envisions that students from other high schools interested in the program could apply to transfer to Jordan under the district’s school-of-choice process, Saldaña said.

The program will not result in any net increase of students at Jordan High School, he said.

Kevin Butler can be reached at kevin.butter@presstelegram.com or (562) 499-1308.
UCLA to get twice as many black freshmen

Incentives and a new admissions process have improved numbers that had troubled the school.

By Larry Gordon
Times Staff Writer

The number of black students who intend to enroll as UCLA freshmen in the fall will be double last year's, an increase to 203 that officials attribute to changes in application review methods and to new private scholarships organized by African American alumni.

The boost, announced Friday, eased concerns that blacks' presence at UCLA had declined so much — down to 103 freshmen or 2.2% of the class last year — that some African Americans felt uncomfortable at the Westwood campus and others were reluctant to enroll.

UCLA Acting Chancellor Norman Abrams said he was very pleased with the increase and thanked alumni and current students who raised scholarship donations and sponsored events to woo blacks waver ing about enrollment. Abrams said all that was done without violating Proposition 209, the state initiative that bans the use of race in university admissions.

"I think we got the message out that we are a welcoming environment and that we have this great legacy and tradition with regard to African American students," Abrams said, referring to such black alumni as former Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley and Nobel Peace Prize laureate Ralph Bunche.

Among the incoming freshmen is Miles Rashad Goodloe, a highly ranked Cresshaw High School student and musician who said a $9,000 grant from the [See UCLA, Page B12]
Incentives boost number of blacks entering UCLA

Los Angeles Times con't
May 12, 2007

Taylor, the conservative architect of Proposition 209, said the new scholarship effort did not break the law. "Certainly if people privately want to offer scholarships, that's their business and I have no problem with them using their money however they see fit," he said.

But he said he suspected the application review of students with non-academic records was unequally applied in some cases to blacks and Latinos versus whites and Asians. "I wish I weren't suspicious," Connerly said.

Even with the new scholarships, UCLA did not win all the accepted black students. Courtney Porter, a Carson resident who attends the KingDrew Medical Magnet High School, chose UC Berkeley, she said, for its Northern California location and because she felt more genuinely welcomed there.

"I had a feeling that UCLA was desperate for African American students and recruiting me more just to get their numbers up," she said.

On the other hand, Marvin C. McClain Jr., passed on UC Berkeley, Stanford and five other schools in favor of UCLA partly because of a $9,000 grant from the new black-oriented fund.

The Inglewood High School senior, who wants to study computer science and engineering, said he was not deterred by the relatively low numbers of blacks at UCLA. "I entered my mind that I would be leaving my comfort zone. But I wanted to see other kinds of people and become more well-rounded," he said.

For the UC system overall, officials recently released a tentative freshman enrollment total of 30,093 at the nine undergraduate campuses for the fall. Of those, Asians comprised 41.4% whites, 31.5% Latinos, 17.3% and blacks 3.4%. More complete statistics are expected later this month.

UC Merced, the newest campus, noted a big jump for its third freshman class: 693 so far compared with 458 this time last year.

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State Guard alone on the tuition front

Only California doesn't provide college aid. Antiwar sentiment and budget woes are factors.

By Nancy Vogel
Times Staff Writer

May 14, 2007

SACRAMENTO — Riding a surge of public support for the citizen soldiers fighting an unpopular war in Iraq, California lawmakers are scrambling to issue them special license plates, waive car registration fees, offer free parking at state parks, even cut the price of their fishing licenses.

Moving through the Legislature now, such measures would join laws passed in the last couple of years that allow the soldiers — mostly National Guard members — to postpone payments on mortgages, credit cards and property taxes and give them "preference points" for state civil service jobs.

The one thing they want most, though, is not available: state money for college. All it would take, Guard officials say, is $3 million a year, a negligible sum in the state's $130-billion proposed budget.

California is the only state that gives no such help to those who commit to National Guard duty. Year after year, bills to change that have died in the Legislature because lawmakers faced budget shortfalls or opposed the war in Iraq, among other reasons. One aid law did pass, four years ago, but it has yet to help anyone because it hasn't been funded.

State military officials say their surveys of Guard members show that help with education costs is the No. 1 thing that would encourage them to reenlist.

"It'd definitely be an incentive for me to stay in," said Lt. Walter Wade of Sacramento, who missed the birth of his son last year because he was in Kuwait. He is working long-distance on a master's degree in financial planning through the University of Nebraska.

He uses a federal program that gives National Guard members up to $4,500 a year for college, but it covers less than half of his education costs.

Forty-nine states offer National Guard members benefits such as free state university tuition and stipends of $500 a semester.

"It's the right thing to do," said Lt. Col. Ivan Denton, commander of recruiting and retention for the Indiana National Guard, whose state pays full tuition to state colleges for people who commit to serving several years.

Denton said he tells recruits: "The reason you're getting the money is because your state and nation so appreciate your service."

The message in California, which ranks dead last among states in National Guard participation per capita, is different.

Sgt. Yvette Benitez of Sacramento, who spent all of 2005 in Kosovo province, Serbia, with the California National Guard, said the absence of education aid "makes us think, well, they want us to deploy, they want us to serve any type of disaster the state of California has … but yet they don't want to help us with small things like education."
Unlike people who join the U.S. Army, Navy, Marines or Air Force, those who join the National Guard typically hold civilian jobs and serve the military part time. The Bush administration has leaned heavily on the Guard to serve in Afghanistan and Iraq. Since 2001, more than 15,000 members of the California Army and Air National Guard have been deployed.

State Sen. Jack Scott (D-Altadena) chairs the Senate Education Committee, which has scuttled attempts by the California Guard to get tuition assistance for members. College aid ought to be based on financial need, not on membership in a group, Scott said, and if the federal government deploys the Guard overseas, then it should give members the same educational benefits as enlisted men and women, who can get more than $1,000 a month for school.

"It's the federal government that's made the decision to go to war," Scott said.

Assemblyman Chuck Devore (R-Irvine), who retired last month from the Guard after 24 years, said the Legislature is out of touch with the military.

Only 13 of the state's 120 lawmakers have military experience, and Devore said that since the closure of many bases in recent decades, most Californians have no regular contact with the military.

And some lawmakers are reluctant to do anything that could be viewed as support for the war in Iraq, he said.

Pete Conaty, a retired military officer who lobbies for the nonprofit National Guard Assn. of California, said state military officials are part of the reason there is no education aid, because they are not comfortable asking for the Legislature's help.

"They are taught from Day One to avoid politics," Conaty said. But "they're … realizing they need to have incentives if they're to meet their recruiting and retention goals."

State Guard officials say $3 million a year for education would more than pay for itself. Soldiers would have to commit to as many as six more years of service, depending on how much aid they wanted for college. Guard officials figure $3 million would help them retain at least 1,000 soldiers.

It is the best tool, they say, to reverse a steep decline in California Guard enrollment, which has fallen from 18,000 in 1996 to 15,800 today.

That's a smaller force than the 16,800 fielded by Texas, even though Texas has 12 million fewer people.

Two years ago, in a change that recognized California's consistent lack of success in building its force, the federal government cut the number of Guard positions authorized for California from 19,300 to 15,800 and shifted the positions to other states.

"For $3 million a year five years ago, we could have kept that brigade-size element here in California," said Lt. Col. Michael N. Wells, deputy director of government affairs for the California Guard.

"It's not just the money, either. It's the equipment.

"The state is very reliant on the National Guard to have helicopters, to have engineers, to have some degree of medical capability, some degree of organizational capability to interface with the federal government and other states," Wells said.

"It provides things that they just don't have sitting on their shelves," he said.
Devore said he has to "constantly reeducate" his colleagues that the state underwrites less than 4% of the $1-billion-a-year cost of the California National Guard, whose payroll is almost completely funded by the federal government.

"That's a force of men and women that's capable of responding to floods, fire, earthquakes, etc.," Devore said. "It's like, guys, show them some love!"

California created a Guard education aid program in 2003. But the Legislature and governor failed to fund it until last year, when Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger allocated $200,000, enough to give 100 Guard members $2,000 each for tuition in return for another year of service.

No one has been able to use the money, however, because the California Student Aid Commission hasn't finished writing regulations on how it may be spent. And the law that created the program expires in two months.

Assemblyman Sam Blakeslee (R-San Luis Obispo) is trying to extend the law.

"There's great pomp and ceremony about lowering the flag to half-mast…. But show me money," he said.

Schwarzenegger has $1.7 million for tuition aid for the Guard in his proposed 2007-08 budget. On Thursday, a Senate budget subcommittee rejected that request.

Subcommittee chairman Sen. Michael Machado (D-Linden), echoing the view that the federal government should do more, told Guard officials that the issue needs to be vetted by Scott's education committee.

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* (INFOBOX BELOW)

Other states' aid

Unlike California, many states offer their National Guard members education benefits. Here are some examples:

Connecticut: 100% tuition waived at state colleges

Delaware: 100% tuition reimbursement at state colleges

Idaho: Up to $120 a semester for tuition

Michigan: Tuition reimbursement up to $2,000 a year

Virginia: Up to $6,000 a year for tuition

Washington: Interest-free loan forgiven upon completion of service

Source: California National Guard