

Mountain Times

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Columbia College

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Cafeteria worker was "wired"

Student used hidden transmitter to alert agents to campus drug deals

By Lara Lelis
MTX NEWS EDITOR

A student who worked in the campus cafeteria last spring was "wired" to transmit conversations about drug deals to narcotics agents.

The conversations between the student, who posed as a buyer, and suspected sellers, were monitored by Amador Calaveras Tuolumne Narcotics Enforcement Team (ACTNET) and led to the arrests of two Columbia College students. Two non-students were also arrested. A fifth suspect will surrender to authorities within a couple of weeks, according to Jim Boscoe, ACTNET prosecutor.

The informant had contacted ACTNET about the drug problem and went undercover for the agency, Boscoe said.

Francis Lynch, head of the Culinary Arts department, said he was unaware of the undercover operation.

"I'm very perplexed," Lynch said. "I would have thought I'd known."

Cafeteria patrons and workers interviewed by the Mountain Times were outraged.

"I hated what happened, I don't believe people should do (or sell) drugs on the job, or at school, but setting people up, trapping them, was wrong," said student Jennifer Lyson.

"Doing the bust was OK - drugs aren't good - but that person had to pretend to be a friend to all of the cafeteria workers, then had to backstab them, and I think that was wrong," said another student, Denise Olson.

A cafeteria worker who did not

want to be named said, "I think the whole thing really stinks considering that three months prior to the operation, the undercover person was heavily into drugs themselves. I feel it was contradicting and very wrong."

One of the students arrested, John Kulas, is serving a 60-day term in Tuolumne County Jail. Last July, Kulas allegedly gave methamphetamines to the student-informant off-campus. The informant was not wearing a wire at the time, said Boscoe.

A month later, Kulas was taken out of his food service class and escorted to his car by police. He had some marijuana in his backpack. The police searched his car and found nothing.

"They weren't too bad," Kulas recalled. "But I was scared, of course."

Kulas was convicted on the charges of possession of marijuana. The methamphetamine charge was dropped in a plea bargain. When he gets out next month, he will be on probation for five years and will begin paying a \$1,000 fine.

He is also worried about being expelled from Columbia College.

"I was very active on campus and they should take that into consideration," Kulas said during a recent interview at the jail.

If Kulas is not reinstated he said he would either see if he could continue his education through the mail or move to San Francisco and get a job.

Vice President of Student Services Kathryn Jeffery declined to discuss Kulas' status. But she did say, "The violation is a serious violation. It's not just against

the college's codes, but against the law, the penal code."

If Kulas is expelled, some students on campus have vowed to start a petition.

The other student who was arrested did not want to be named in this story, but supplied additional information about the undercover operation.

"She (the informant) had approached me on lots of occasions," the student said. "I gave her an inert substance, like Actifed, just to get her off my back. (The informant) lied all over the place. And they didn't find jack shit in my house."

The student was sentenced to 10 days of work release.

MTX staff writers Rebecca Hansen and Karen Bladel also contributed to this report.

Smoking restrictions coming to campus

By Lara Lelis
MTX NEWS EDITOR

Columbia students and staff may soon have to watch where they smoke under new smoking restrictions that could be adopted this semester.

The proposed restriction boundaries are as follows:

No smoking in all buildings, on trails (paved and unpaved), in high traffic areas and 20 feet from all doorways. Certain tables will be designated as "smoking tables" outside the Cellar Restaurant. The ashtrays will be placed 25 feet away from any entrances to buildings.

The school will provide the smoking and non-smoking signs.

Plans were drawn up by Student Senator Pete Sattari beginning last semester and are being finalized. Sattari said the restrictions could take effect as soon as they are approved by the College Council.



MTX PHOTO BY LARA LELIS

UNDER A CLOUD - There will be fewer places to light up when new smoking restrictions take effect.

"It's really a health issue, a litter issue, the fire hazard," said Sattari. "It gives a bad image to the school."

Originally, Student Council wanted to push for a smoke-free campus. But fearing opposition to an all-out ban, the Council opted for tighter restrictions instead.

"I don't think smoking should be banned on campus," said Ben Caras, Vice President of Policies and Procedures. "I am bothered

by it. But it violates certain rights. I think it'll upset a lot of the student population."

"We can't have a smoking police," agreed Don Stone, District Policy Representative.

"I would feel that my rights as an individual would be restricted (if a smoking ban was put into effect)," said business instructor Doug Kotarek. "I don't think it's a possibility."

"I don't like smoking," said Jake Lewis, who chews tobacco.

"I don't even like being around it. I don't feel it's the government's right to ban it. Smokers should have the courtesy to stop smoking around people who don't smoke."

Other students are glad to see smoking restrictions on campus.

"I think it's very rude to smoke around people who don't smoke," said Melanie McBride. "It'd be nice if we could have a designated smoking area on campus."

But some students think the plastic tables outside the cafeteria

are the wrong place for it.

"I wish they would smoke somewhere else," said Emily, a non-smoking student. "It's hard to eat outside because I feel I'm eating smoke with my food."

"You walk past the cafeteria and it's like a war zone," said Sarah Nylen, Vice President of Activities.

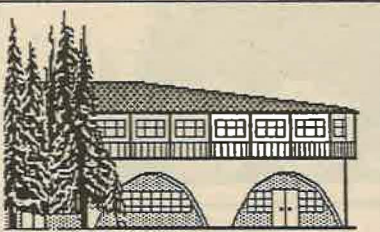
The amount of trash and litter produced by cigarettes is also a consideration.

"What do you think, the birds are going to pick them up or something?" asked Traci, a smoker, who then picked up a cigarette butt off the ground and threw it away.

Some smokers concede theirs is a bad habit, but they still puff away.

"Those of us who smoke should know better," said Kotarek. "It's an addiction we have to live with."

"I'll tell you what leads to smoking," said a student named Julia. "School."



CAMPUS BRIEFS

More computers

Columbia College received an \$82,000 grant to be used for computer purchasing and systems upgrading. Part of the grant will be used to purchase four 486DX2s and one laser printer for student use in the library.

Job referral

The campus Job Placement Office offers free employment assistance to all students. The office serves as a source of information on jobs available on and off campus.

The Job Placement Office in Dogwood 2 is open Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. It's best to make an appointment with Cass Larkin at 533-5148.

For current job listings see the Jobs Board located on the outside of the Manzanita Building at the Student Senate door.

CC better at night

Nights are a little bit brighter on campus thanks to some new lighting. John Miller, head of Buildings and Grounds, reports that the replacement of the old mercury lights with new, more powerful high pressure sodium lights is nearly complete.

Go join a club

Are you interested in experiencing other cultures, discussing Christian beliefs, repealing the prohibition of Cannabis, playing soccer, defending human rights, or exploring alternative lifestyles? You might look into joining a campus club.

If you are interested in joining Amnesty International, the Cannabis Society, the Chi Alpha Christian Club, the International Club, SALSA (Sierra Alternative Lifestyles Association), the Soccer Club or in starting one of your own contact Melissa Reed at the Student Senate Office or phone her at 533-5270.

Tree Doc battles bark beetles

By James Kaiser

Columbia College has called the doctor to treat trees afflicted with the Western Pine Beetle, but the campus grounds supervisor questions whether the treatments have done any good.

The recent drought, the worst in 400 years, along with the Western Pine Beetle, are responsible for the demise of 150 to 200 large trees on Columbia College's 276-acre campus.

During the spring of 1993

lege has paid the "Tree Doctor," George Reynolds, \$5,000 to apply systemic injections of insecticides, fungicides, and nutrients to pine trees infested with the bark beetle on an experimental basis. But Ken Lucas, supervisor of the grounds department, isn't sure the money has been well-spent.

"If we thought it was [working] most of the time we'd support doing it," said Lucas. "We have seen trees hit by the pine bark beetle and survive - without injection. So how do you know whether the

done in early spring, and if it included finding the already drought-weakened pines, and if this were followed by irrigation and timely injections, then we would see results, Carkeet said.

"It is my belief that more could be done by the grounds supervisor during the summer to alleviate the insect problem," Carkeet said. "However, until Ken receives greater financial support from the administration and YCCD, and also improves his awareness of the value of early detection then we will not be in control of the situation."

The Tree Doctor's efforts have been funded by the campus recy-

cling center, the groundskeeping budget, and the money gained by harvesting the trees from the Arboretum.

"It takes away from the groundskeeping budget," said Lucas. "We have one-and-a-half groundsman for 276 acres. We do the outside of 18 buildings, pruning, thinning for fire safety, we upkeep the campus trails and Par Course, and we even asphalt the roads and parking lot."

Carkeet and Lucas do agree on one thing: the best solution is for rain to fall long and hard over the next few winters to replenish diminished surface and groundwater supplies.



TREE DOC - George Reynolds examines one of his patients.

nearly 10,000 board feet of Ponderosa pine were killed by the bark beetle in the campus arboretum. They have been harvested for stumpage value using helicopter logging voluntarily coordinated by Fibreboard Corp.

"This loss amounted to over a dozen large trees," said Ross Carkeet, instructor of Columbia's forestry and natural resources programs. "All told, we have lost approximately 70 trees in the vicinity of the campus buildings during the last 20 years."

Over the last six years the col-

lection is working or not? I have to base my decision from the documents I have."

Two of those documents are U.S. Forest Service studies that conclude that treated trees have fared no better than untreated ones.

"The risk of further infestation to neighboring trees is greater than the possibility of recovery by infested trees," Lucas said. "The recommended treatment is to cut the tree down and remove immediately."

But Carkeet hasn't given up on the trees. If insect detection were



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To cheat or not to cheat

By Charlotte Hadley
and Karen Bladel
MTX STAFF WRITERS

A chemistry professor is conducting a final exam. He has told his students that all writing must stop when he calls time. Anyone who doesn't stop will automatically fail the exam.

At the end, all but one of the students finish as instructed. The one student keeps writing for thirty seconds or so until he is stopped by the professor, who tells him he has failed the exam.

The student walks to the front of the room with his blue book and attempts to argue. The professor doesn't budge, so the student takes an arrogant attitude.

dent takes an arrogant attitude.

"Do you know who I am?" he asks.

The professor says, "No, I don't and it wouldn't matter," whereupon the student says "Great!" sticks his blue book into the pile already turned in, and runs out of the room.

Sounds ridiculous right? Well, stories like this circulate around college campuses every year.

A series of informal surveys taken around Columbia College revealed that many students have cheated at some time in their academic career, be it on a third grade spelling test or on a final exam. Few admitted to cheating at Columbia, however, and most of the cheating seems to occur in

math.

Among tactics used over the years by Columbia students are: Keeping notes under the exam, using cheat sheets, exchanging answers between classes, looking at people around you, helping when the teacher leaves the room, and cheating off their calculators (via programming and hidden cheat sheets).

The faculty typically counteracts these stratagems by not repeating an exam, using different tests between classes, alternating tests, or not returning exams. If the exam is reused, it is usually a scantron or essay test.

"People who are academically weak tend to cheat off people who are equally as weak, so it

generally does not benefit their grade," said Robert Gritz of the Math Department. "But we, as the faculty, still reserve the right to suspend, expel, or put a student on academic probation regardless of the reason."

Vice President of Instruction Joan Barrett knew of no cases of students being suspended or expelled for cheating in the past few years.

Students who don't cheat say cheating doesn't do you any good, or they don't need to because they're prepared, or that it's morally wrong.

"I think it's wrong and I'd be afraid to get caught," said Jeremy Dykes, 19.

In a 1991 survey of 9,000 stu-

dents, North Carolina researchers found that 61 percent of high school students and 32 percent of college students have cheated at least once for a test. Unethical behavior was more common for those under 30.

When Columbia students were asked how they felt about other people cheating, many felt that it didn't matter unless it was on a final exam, while others felt that it was unacceptable under any circumstances.

Aside from the moral issue, they didn't like the idea that cheaters may receive the same grade that they receive for working diligently.

"I never cheat," said Violet, 18. "I'm against it. I think it's bad. I don't let people cheat off me."

Card catalog, book checkout get computerized

By Lara Lelis
MTX NEWS EDITOR



After more than 16 years of planning, the libraries here and at Modesto Junior College are computerized.

Along with computerized check-in and check-out using bar codes, the system includes Info-

Trac, a computerized card catalog for newspapers and periodicals.

The Yosemite Community College District spent close to \$100,000 for the system at the two colleges. A Canadian company, Best-Seller Library System, supplied the software programs for the project, dubbed OPUS (On-line Public User System) by librarians at MJC.

Opus is a character in the

comic strip "Outland" by Berkeley Breathed. Opus is also the Latin word for work.

"OPUS is alive," said Larry Steuben, head librarian at Columbia College. "It's a really slick way to find everything in the library. People are going to find what they want so easily."

Five computers are installed for student access to the system near the entrance. The OPUS program

is user-friendly and the staff in the library is willing to help novices learn.

With a few glitches in the system during the first few weeks, the computers were up and running on Jan. 24.

Steuben said in return for the program, Columbia and MJC would become demonstration sites: "People will be told, 'if you want to see our system, go to

Modesto or Columbia."

Printers will eventually be installed near the computer terminals and Steuben hopes to share a CD-ROM network with MJC.

"We're talking about the California Law Codes, a national telephone directory and other databases on CD-ROM. But that's going to be in the future," Steuben said.

Mexico trip planned for Spring Break

The Rotaract Club needs at least 7 more members to become an official club on campus.

The club plans on going to Mexico around Spring Break for a service project. Leadership skills are also a part of the club's purpose.

Anyone interested in joining the Rotaract Club may contact Vonna Breeze-Martin at 533-5274.

Move over, Ann Landers

Are you desperate? Do you need help with day-to-day life? An ear to listen to your problems? Someone to advise you or help you see the problem in a different perspective, but at the same time keep your identity safe without the cost of a call to the psychic hotline? If so, then write to your Mountain Ties columnist, Chantal. She will assist you with your problems with love, life, boyfriends and girlfriends. Drop off your letter in the Student Newspaper box in the staff mailroom in the Rotunda or mail it to: Chantal c/o Mountain Times 11600 Columbia College Dr. Sonoma, CA 95370.

From Ethiopia to Columbia

By Connie McCamey
MTX STAFF WRITER

Many people choose Columbia College because of the quiet, relaxed atmosphere, but Soliyana Wegayehu says, "It's too quiet here."

It's also too cold.

Soliyana, 18, grew up in Ethiopia with three brothers and two sisters. Her father still works in Ethiopia. The rest of the family moved to Los Angeles two years ago.

Soliyana says the move to the United States has been good for her family, but many issues such as homosexuality, sex outside marriage and AIDS came as a shock to her. Even small things like burping out loud still make her gasp. In Ethiopia, it is con-



SOLIYANA WEGAYEHU

sidered rude for women to burp in front of people.

Soliyana now lives at Columbia College in the dorm with a friend who is also from Ethiopia.

She chose Columbia because she wanted to live on her own. In Ethiopia she was often called upon to care for her younger siblings.

"I want to be responsible for myself," she said, "and face problems on my own without my parents."

Soliyana is majoring in computer science. Though universities are free in Ethiopia, she says that in the United States there is more opportunity to be what you want to be.

Soliyana would like to return to Ethiopia and raise her own family there if the government situation improves.

No runs, no hits, several errors

There is no such thing as a small mistake in the newspaper business.

No one likes seeing his name spelled wrong. No one who wants people to call for reservations or tickets likes to see an incorrect phone number -- to say nothing of the person stuck with fielding all those wrong number calls from people trying to make reservations or buy tickets.

A "he" does not like to be called a "she." Lieutenants do not appreciate being referred to as sergeants. And so on.

But the worst thing about such small mistakes is not that they anger or alienate individual readers, but that they undermine the credibility of the newspaper. Readers may well wonder if we can't get the small stuff right, the easy stuff -- names, numbers, dates, dollar amounts -- how we can be trusted on the big stuff right. And if the information in a newspaper is not reliable, what good is it?

We raise these questions in this, our second issue, because there were a few such mistakes in our first issue. We knew there would be, just as we knew that we -- and you -- would be dismayed by them. How could we have made *that* mistake? How could we say Joel Barber was 55 years old at the time of his death, then list his birth and death dates as 1949-1994? How could we have a sports story that says the Lady Jumpers lost to Fresno under a headline that says they defeated Modesto?

How indeed? About all we can say, lamely, is that sometimes you miss the obvious. All we can do is apologize, resolve to be more careful next time -- having as many pairs of eyes as possible review the copy before it goes to the printer is the obvious remedy -- and take cold comfort from knowing that the big papers, from The New York Times right on down, make the same sorts of mistakes.

In future issues, we'll run our corrections in a box and spare you the hand-wringing. Just this once, while we're groveling for forgiveness, we'll list them here:

In a story about campus safety, we listed the wrong Wendy as the person to call if you need an escort to your car. It should have been Wendy Archer.

In a story about the campus cafeteria, we referred to Francis Lynch in the feminine -- as he pointed out to us.

Campus security would like everyone to know that it is *not* policy to let people slide if they forget their parking permit. We don't recommend making a habit of it.

An October concert in Carkeet Park was sponsored by the Cannabis Club, as well as by SALSA.

Small potatoes? There's no such thing.

Again, we urge you to call inaccuracies to our attention. And don't forget the sins of omission. What have we missed? What cries out for a story? Let us know.

-rf

Does CC prep grads for jobs?

By Mark Joachim
MTX STAFF WRITER

Is Columbia College doing its job? In the real world, reading, writing and arithmetic may get you the degree, but is it resources, responsibilities and readiness that get you the job in Tuolumne county?

Eight out of 10 natural resource employers in Tuolumne County, including the county itself, agree that general education is nice but they need people ready to fill the high-tech positions around the corner.

"At Columbia College, Tom Holst is really doing what he can to stress GIS (Global Information Satellites)," said Tuolumne County Senior Planner Larry Beil. "We would love to hire his students, although, due to our restricted budgets we don't have the time to train them on the specifics."

The U.S. Forest Service says Columbia's students are difficult to place since their summer break begins in June, a month after they need positions filled, and they return to school in August, a month before the end of summer forest season.

Such scheduling conflicts may give students from outside the community the edge, but hiring students from this community may yield benefits beyond their knowledge of the area.

"I make it part of my job to find out the community's needs and encompass that within my program," said Ross Carkeet, Head of the Forestry department at Columbia. "I have made sure the Forestry department here is fortunate enough to own some technology that even Humboldt State rents."

The natural resource field is reaching for high-tech solutions to many of its problems. Although job opportunities are scarce now, the Forest Service reports that a high percentage of its employees will be retiring within the next 10 years.

That means jobs have to open up soon, but our small school needs your input. Don't be hesitant to talk with the administration if you think this institution needs improvement in a department that will help your future goals.

Talking Heads

Question:

What is the strangest thing you've seen the ducks or fish eat?

Paul Van Tuyl

"I saw them eating potato chips. But that isn't really weird."



Kim Miller

"I saw them eating a dead frog. I looked down and it was sick."



Bertrand Grossi

"I've seen with my own two eyes, two gentleducks with Pepe Le Pew, go inside the cafeteria for a tea brunch."



Sarah Patterson

"I was doing homework outside the cafeteria and a nearby duck tried to eat my paper. I couldn't believe it. Neither could my teacher."



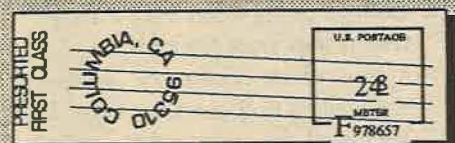
Jeze Prim

"My finger."



Liz Maddalon

"Just about everything they eat is weird."



Letters Policy

Letters and stories must be received one week prior to the publication date posted on the door of Redbud 14 (our office). They may be placed in the Instruction Office Student Newspaper Box or mailed to us at:

Columbia College Mountain Times
c/o Editor
11600 Columbia College Dr.
Sonoma, CA 95370
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- ☑ All submissions are subject to the following:
- ☑ They must be typed or on a PC formatted disk.
- ☑ Letters to the editor are limited to 200 words, stories are limited to 500 words.
- ☑ A verifiable signature, phone # and/or Address must be included, your educational major is optional.
- ☑ Items will be subject to grammar editing, and may be condensed, due to available space.
- ☑ Submission publication will not be guaranteed.

Strangers become friends in dorms Piling on the fees

By Patty Madson
MTX STAFF WRITER

When it was time for me to decide what college I was going to attend, I came up with a small list. I knew I wanted to go to one in Northern California. I knew that it had to be a community college because I didn't quite have all my credits for a state college or university. Dorms were also an important aspect to me because it would be less expensive and a way to meet people, too.

From my list, I chose Columbia College to visit. I can't say that I instantly fell in love, but something did draw me here and my mom just loved it. I did not share her enthusiasm. There was still that part of me that was afraid of leaving my comfort zone.



What if they listened to opera while they studied?

Doubts fogged my mind and I almost considered just going to the junior college back home. That way I could room with one of my friends from high school, which would be so much easier.

I caught myself, though. I realized that I didn't want the easy way out and that this was the place for me.

I am not sure what made me want to come here. Maybe it was the beauty of the campus or the mountains, or the friendliness of the people I had already encountered. Anyhow, I filled out a dorm application on which I wrote my habits and a few personality traits. I paid the deposit and I registered. So it was official. I would meet my roommates on August 14 and start school the next day.

MTX PHOTO BY REBECCA HANSEN

DORMIES - There's more to dorm life than hitting the books.

My reaction to the dorms was less than enthusiastic. I saw one and I was a bit horrified that I would be living there with three other girls. "It is actually student housing, not the dorms that are at most colleges. So it's actually more like an apartment. I would be paying for double occupancy - two girls to a bedroom - and I was not looking forward to it.

Each apartment has two bedrooms, one bathroom and a sitting room connected to a small kitchen. A bedroom has two twin beds, two desks, and two armchairs. The bathroom has two sinks, a shower and a toilet. The living room has two built-in couches against the wall with no backrests. The kitchen consists of a sink, two burners, a small refrigerator, a table with four chairs and two walk-in pantries.

My stomach sank when I saw the minimal space that I would have to share. Then my thoughts went toward my future roommates. What if they were evil girls who would make my life hell? What if they were slobes? What if they were neat freaks?

As I watched my family drive away after they moved me in I thought, "This is it. Your new life here begins." Home was four-and-a-half hours away and I did not know a soul here.

It's weird, though. I never felt really scared when I got here. Everyone was pretty easy to talk to and my roommates did not show any signs of evil-ness. The water did smell a bit like chlorine and our place did not quite have the homey feel to it, but we were all adjusting.

The dorm is like a mixing pot. Columbia isn't a big college, so there are not that many people. But the people who live in the dorms are all so different. Despite the wide variety of people most of us are friends. Since I have been here, I feel that I have found a little of myself due to the people I have met and who are now my close friends.

One may think that dorm life is very confining, but there is fun to be had. I highly recommend the dorms to any first-time student, at least for one semester. It's a great experience and I'm glad I did not take the easy way out.

By Mark Joachim
MTX STAFF WRITER

Year after year community college students face swelling enrollment fees. The state has done little to suppress the increases and it appears it has no intention of doing so.

Tired of paying additional fees, frustrated students are reluctant to pay and often waive any optional fees during registration. The fees most in question at Columbia College are the Student Center, Student Rep and Material Fees. These fees are attached with little explanation as to what benefits they provide and who deemed them beneficial to the students.

The Student Center Fee adds an extra maximum \$10 (\$1 per unit), to the cost of semester enrollment. The funds are placed in a trust for future construction of a campus Student Union Center. It was enacted by a majority vote of the student body in 1992.

The Student Rep Fee is \$1 per semester; students are asked to pay the fee during registration. The fee is to offset Student Government representation costs incurred during its state and local endeavors to keep community college affordable. This was voted into effect by a two-thirds vote of the student body in 1993.

"The fee is being collected statewide to ensure that we have a voice at the state level fighting to keep our tuition costs down", said Don Stone, Student District Policy Representative.

Material Fees which are commonly attached to labs range from

\$5-\$15. These fees are not the standard for California's community colleges. Columbia is one of only a few that collects them; MJC does not. Due to the pressure by students, our Student Council is currently looking into the need and legality of these fees.

How can these fees that claim to enhance the learning process and provide convenient access to learning aids be justified when more students find themselves lacking valuable resources due to departments cutting required texts for the sake of lab enrollment?

If Columbia is going to continue as a district institution, and Material Fees are needed by the district, a standardization of fees between campuses should exist.

SALSA is spice of campus life

By Mark Joachim
MTX STAFF WRITER

If you attend Columbia College, chances are you've heard of SALSA, but you may not know what it is.

Sierra Alternative Lifestyles Students Associated or SALSA, is more than just a "gay club." It's for everyone who feels under-represented in this community, on and off campus.

Among its members are those of minority cultures and religions, including Buddhists and Native Americans. SALSA's objective is to unite diversified students on campus.

"We promote and celebrate growth, learning, understanding, and respect of all people's orientations, belief systems, backgrounds and the human right

to be diversified," said long-time member Teri Telles.

The majority of active members are gay students who feel a sense of activism in protecting their right to happiness. Although most members join in order to associate with those who are accepting of all identities, it is not a support group.

The members, drawn together by more than just personal interests, have deep concerns for the victims of AIDS and those in danger of contracting.

Activities of the club include the famous "burrito feasts," and community education through the distribution of "Safer Sex Kits" during AIDS Awareness Week. Beyond Columbia, they attend meetings and events with similar college groups throughout California.

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A lot of music for a little college

By Elisa Cavender
and Rebecca Hansen
MTX STAFF WRITERS

Want to be acknowledged for those songs you've been practicing in the shower all these years? Join the Columbia College music program.

The courses offered each semester range from survey classes, which examine the many fields of music, to jazz ensemble, which involves studying and performing instrumental and vocal jazz.

Many courses are offered for the beginner and continue through intermediate to an eventual audition for the vocal jazz ensemble course. In the fall there is even a course dedicated to Christmas caroling.

In addition to the classes, the department sponsors public performances throughout the academic year, including the annual Columbia College Jazz Artists Series.

Organized 14 years ago by music instructor Dr. Rod Harris, who is a saxophonist himself, the series regularly features such luminaries as singer Carl Anderson and singer-saxophone player Cornelius Bumpus.

"Certainly all the artists influence and inspire me, but Cornelius Bumpus and Carl Anderson are great inspirations of



MTX PHOTO

MUSIC MAN - Instructor Rod Harris gives students an earful.

mine," said Harris. "I have a wide and varied like for music, but I am mostly a jazz fan."

While Harris specializes in jazz and the ensemble groups that accompany it, his next-door neighbor in the music department, John Carter, deals primarily with the choral groups. With his water bottle and piano accompanist,

Dorothy Maechler, by his side, he directs his voice class to "pick up the beat." And they do.

Genice Jones, a music major at Columbia, is part of the vocal jazz ensemble and says she has learned a great deal from both Harris and Carter.

"Columbia College has a great music program for a school its

size," said Jones. "The first time I met Cornelius Bumpus I went whoa! It was great for me for Cornelius to sit down and talk to me."

If there is a complaint about the music department it's that the equipment and practice areas are nothing to write home about. The school does have three pianos, but there are generally classes in progress that leave vocalists with few opportunities for piano accompaniment.

"The music facilities are very

poor," said Melissa Reed, a student of Carter's. "There is no room or practice space and it affects the way we practice and perform."

Reed is trying to enlist the aid of the student senate in the quest for new equipment and practice. In the meantime, the students sing on.

Next up in the Columbia Jazz Artists Series is a vocal jazz festival on March 3-4. The festival will feature Carl Anderson, Sunny Wilkinson, Don Shelton, Michelle Weir, Kirby Shaw and Phil Mattison.

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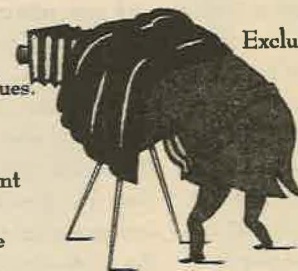
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EDITORIAL



Jumper games worth seeing

By Jason Forbes
MTX SPORTS EDITOR

I often hear the complaint that there is nothing to do in this town. Coming from Monterey, I tend to agree.

In Monterey you can catch a live band every night of the week. People stay out late and bingo isn't a way of life. There's one thing that Tuolumne County has that Monterey doesn't, however, and that's a top-notch basketball team.

The Columbia Claim Jumpers have class and poise but more than that they're entertaining. If you haven't been to a game I strongly urge you to check one out. I guarantee that you won't be disappointed.

To insure that you have a good time I offer you the following tips:

1. Bring your walking shoes. Parking is terrible and you may have quite a trek ahead of you.
2. Bring your student ID card and tickets will only cost you \$2.
3. Bring a seat cushion. The seats can be quite uncomfortable.
4. Whatever you do, don't sit near the band. Not that the band is bad but because of what they do when the opposing team has a free throw. They make an ear-piercing shrieking noise which is quite annoying. I had the misfortune of sitting in the middle of this at my first game. They left me deaf for an hour and I was later informed, by sign language, that it was to disrupt the other team.

If you follow these tips you should have an enjoyable experience. You'll see Gilbert Smith dribble through the defense, Nate Allen hit consecutive threes, and Robert Parker's monster slams.

So go to a game and let me know how you liked it. If you need to find me I'll be the one sitting the farthest from the band.

A friend remembers Spyder

By Mike Phillips
MTX SPORTS WRITER

Columbia point guard Jerome Latimer was sitting in his room on a normal Wednesday night when he received a phone call from Elaine Booth.

Booth had housed Richard "Spyder" Saunders when he played basketball for Columbia in 1993. She told Jerome that Richard had an accident on the court and he stopped breathing. He thought Richard had just got the wind knocked out of him or something not so serious.

It was serious.

An hour later Jerome received a very emotional call from Elaine telling him of Richard Saunders' death.

He had collapsed on the court moments after a game-winning dunk in an intrasquad game at San Francisco State University, where Saunders had transferred after two seasons at Columbia.

For the rest of that November night, Jerome sat in his room and thought. Didn't say a word for the rest of the night, just thought.

The last time Jerome had talked to Saunders was the week before. Saunders had wanted a Columbia schedule and was going to come see Jerome play Nov. 18. Jerome had also planned to go to San Francisco to see Saunders play.

Jerome recalled the first time he'd ever seen Saunders. He

came to Columbia in January of 1993, where he was redshirting for the Claim Jumpers basketball team. He strolled into the Oak Pavilion to view his first basketball game at Columbia. The crowd was chanting, "We want Spyder, we want Spyder." Moments later he saw Saunders come into the game and throw down a thunderous 360 slam dunk.

Although Saunders didn't play much, he was a huge crowd favorite. He was loved by the hundreds of kids he helped coach in Denny Aye's local basketball clinics.

"He loved kids, he loved all people," Jerome said. "Everybody liked him, he was so easy to get along with and he was always smiling."

Saunders death shocked Jerome the most because he wasn't out on the streets messing around, he was doing what he loved, playing basketball.

"The scariest thing about it is it could happen to anybody. Every time I play basketball I think about it. Now, sometimes when I get tired, I slow down."

The Claim Jumpers wore black ribbons on their jerseys for the 1994-1995 basketball season in memory of Saunders.

Jerome spoke at the service held for Saunders at the Oak Pavilion in December. About 75 people showed up to pay their respects to a man who will be deeply remembered and admired by all who knew him.

Sonora MD uses picture books to calm kids' fears

By Chris Van Tuyl

As the Claim Jumper basketball players awaited their preseason physicals, they had the usual choices of reading material: out-of-date magazines and doctor's journals on the table, posters graphically diagramming diseases on the wall. But in addition to these, there was a small book featuring characters with such wacky names as Lubba and Dubba.

That's because they were being examined by Todd Stolp, a Sonora physician who doubles as the doctor at the college clinic. When Stolp is not practicing medicine, he's drawing it. He recently collaborated with physician-writer Neil Shulmann, the author of Doc Hollywood, on a book called What's in a Doctor's Bag? which transforms the mysterious equipment in the dark recesses of the little black bag into playful creatures who jump out and explain their purposes to a little boy waiting for the doctor to come back.

Lubba and Dubba are the always wiggling twin earpieces of the doctor's stethoscope. As they're only too proud to tell the boy, they are the only instruments that can hear, and hopefully for Columbia's athletic teams, what

they hear is usually the lubba-dubba of the heart.

First out of the bag is Otis the otoscope and then in rapid succession Ms. Kneeknocker (the reflex hammer,) Mr. B.P. Cuff (who takes the blood pressure,) Tempo (the thermometer,) and Woody (the tongue depressor.)

Each character takes a turn at introducing him- or herself before jumping back into the bag just before the doctor returns. The boy, much more knowledgeable and much less afraid, impresses the doctor as the exam continues.

Stolp's purpose in doing the book is to help children feel more comfortable around doctors.

He is presently working on an eight-page coloring book with the same characters. Commissioned by the Georgia Baptist Medical Center, 100,000 copies will be distributed to the poorer areas of Atlanta sometime after the first of the year.

Stolp has been associated with the college for more than eight years, but he's not seen that often on campus because cutbacks in funding have made him available only on an on-call basis. He is responsible for the Columbia's team physicals while Dee Hall, a registered nurse, attends to the campus' daily medical needs unless she needs to call in a doctor.



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New coach, same success

Claim Jumpers finish first for fifth straight year

By Mike Phillips
MTX SPORTS WRITER

The Columbia College Claim Jumpers won the Central Valley Conference League championship with a record of 12-2, with their only losses coming on the road to College of the Sequoias (COS) and Fresno.

They were a perfect 7-0 at home in the Oak Pavilion, outscoring their opponents by an average of more than 17 points per game.

Second in league was COS at 11-3, followed by Merced at 10-4, Fresno at 9-5, West Hills at 6-8, Kings River at 5-9, Porterville at 3-11 and last was Modesto at 0-14.

The Claim Jumpers had their share of injury problems. Adrian Ealy missed seven games with a fractured foot. T.K. Davis missed five games with a sprained ankle, and Harlon Roberson missed two games with the same injury.

But no matter who got hurt,



MTX PHOTO BY REBECCA HANSEN

CENTER OF ATTENTION - Center Shaun Kunz shoots a jumper.

there was always somebody else to come in and fill the role. Ese Hursky stepped up big when Ealy went down, averaging 12 points per game, doubling his average from when Ealy was playing.

Guard Jerome Latimer and forward Robert Parker were both selected to the all-CVC team picked Feb. 21. Latimer averaged 9.1 points per game and Parker averaged 10.2 points per game for Columbia. Centers Shaun Kunz and Gilbert Smith led the Claim

Jumpers in league play with a 13.7 average.

This year's league championship is the fifth straight for Columbia. They continued their home winning streak, now up to 25 straight at the Oak Pavilion. Head coach Jim Saia was named coach of the year in the CVC. The Claim Jumpers couldn't ask for anything more, except for

winning the State Championships at UC Irvine.

Tennis, anyone?

Netters coached by Sonora's Maucere

By Mike Phillips
MTX SPORTS WRITER

The Columbia College tennis team began its season Feb. 21 against Porterville with the women's team losing 5-4 and the men's team losing 9-0 in Central Valley Conference play.

The team hosted its first match Feb. 23 against Merced with the women's team losing 6-3 and the men losing 8-1.

Although 0-2, the women's team has been very competitive so far this year. Number one seed Melissa Marino from Oakdale and number two seed Debbie Sagaser from Los Banos have dominated their opponents in league play, with a combined 6-0 record.

"Melissa and Debbie are one of the best teams in the CVC," said head coach Larry Maucere.

The number three seed is Trishan Carollo from Dos Palos. Carollo beat Merced's Judith

Perez in the first set of their match 7-6 (7-4), but she had to default the match because of back pains.

The fourth, fifth and six seeds, Karri Miller, Kylie Reed and Tiffany Gleason round out the team. Gleason played competitively, beating Tina Taylor from Porterville 6-3, 3-6, 7-6 (7-2), and taking Merced's Heather Assai to three sets before losing 6-4, 4-6, 6-4.

The men's team has started off slowly this year, but they showed improvement in their last match against Merced.

The number one seed is Mike Newman, the two seed is Dave Van De Car from Tahoe High, third seed is Josh McDivitt, four is Mike Phillips, followed by Scott Miller at five. The six seed is Mike Fieber, who is on the Claim Jumpers basketball team, and will begin to play when their season is completed.

Saia's players hit their shots - and their books

By Mike Phillips
MTX SPORTS WRITER

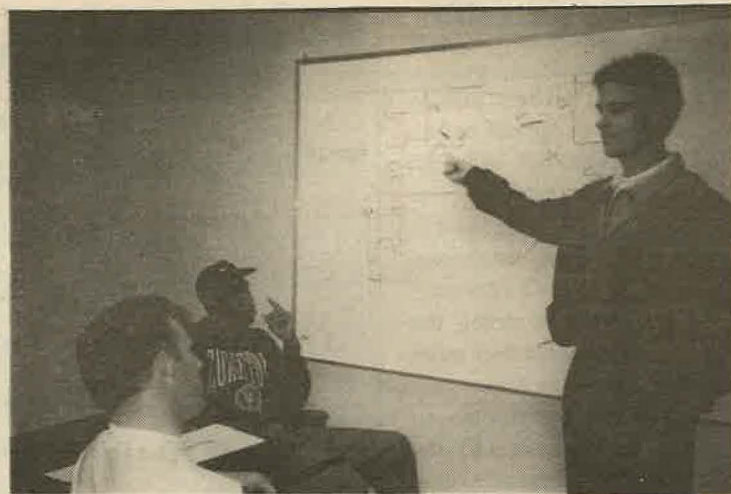
"No pressure. I knew what I was getting myself into."

Words from Jim Saia, the new head basketball coach at Columbia College. What he got himself into was hardly a no-pressure situation. When he was hired on June 30, 1994, he had roughly a month to put together a basketball team that won the State Championship the previous year.

And how have the Claim Jumpers done, you ask?

They dominated the Central Valley Conference under Saia, going 12-2. They ended the season on a seven game winning streak, heading into the playoffs a number two seed, and having already beaten the number one seed, West Valley, 81-77, in a tournament in Monterey.

Not a bad year for a team predicted to finish dead last in a pre-season Central Valley Conference coaches poll.



MTX PHOTO BY LARA LELIS

Xs & Os - Jumper Coach Jim Saia and assistants Wil Hooker and Dave Horton have a strategy session.

Saia is no stranger to success. He played basketball for Drake High School, by the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco. While he was there, the team won two State Championships and at one point had won 56 games in a row.

Last year, as an assistant at Di-

vision I power Fresno State, Saia helped the Bulldogs go all the way into the third round of the N.I.T. They finished the season with an impressive 21-11 record.

Saia also earned his Master's Degree in Physical Education while at Fresno State.

He has also been an assistant coach at Indiana State and at UC Berkeley, where he worked under Coach Lou Campanelli.

At Columbia, Saia has taken over the head coaching spot left by Denny Aye, now the coach at CSU San Bernardino. Aye was a coaching legend at Columbia, turning a small college basketball team into a statewide powerhouse and creating Claim Jumper hysteria in the process. Aye ran basketball clinics for kids, who were treated to coaching by Columbia College basketball players.

Saia stresses academics. He set up a study hall for his players five days a week, an hour a day, and makes sure every one of them goes to class on a regular basis.

"School is part of basketball," Saia said. "Education will carry them through life, not basketball. I'm just teaching responsibility."

This concept has earned Saia many fans, none bigger than his own group of players.

"There is a big difference between this year and last year," point guard Jerome Latimer said. "You can go in and talk to Coach about anything. He cares about you as a person, not just about his team."

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