

Mountain Times

May 1995

Columbia College

Vol. II, No. 3

Mendonsa tells of OK City disaster

By Mike Phillips
MTX STAFF WRITER

On early Wednesday morning, April 19, Jim Mendonsa was watching the 7 o'clock news at his Twain Harte home when he first heard about the Oklahoma City bombing.

Watching the frantic Oklahoma City firefighters sort through the wreckage early that morning, Mendonsa knew what was to come.

Three and a half hours later, he was flying on a C-141 towards Oklahoma City.

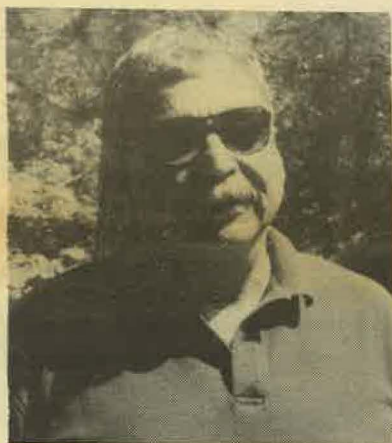
Mendonsa is a member of one of California's seven Urban Search and Rescue task forces (USAR). There are 24 USAR task forces in the nation and each task force has a 56-man crew. After the 1989 earthquake in the Bay Area, the government decided to form special crews to be more prepared for such disasters.

When they arrived in Oklahoma City, they immediately worked 30 hours straight, hand-moving debris and using jackhammers and rebar cutters to cut the fallen building chunks into manageable sections for the

cranes to lift out.

"We were physically running on adrenaline," Mendonsa said. "We didn't feel tired until our first rest time."

After the initial 30 hours, Mendonsa's crew worked 12 hours on, 12 hours off, for the next five days.



Jim Mendonsa

Mendonsa's task force alone pulled out 15 victims during their six days in Oklahoma. They would locate the casualties and call on the Oklahoma City firefighters to carry the bodies out.

"Since it was their city, they wanted to carry out the victims themselves," Mendonsa said.

During their stay in Oklahoma City, rescuers faced many hazards.

Thursday morning was the only time the sun came out the entire time Mendonsa and his crew were there. The wind-chill factor was often below freezing, which hindered the rescue workers' efforts. One of Mendonsa's crew members had to be removed from the worksite for five hours for rehabilitation due to the cold. Two others required medical help due to exhaustion.

Another problem the rescuers faced was biohazard. Crew members could not come in contact with the rain water after it seeped through all the wreckage and victims.

Although the focus of the media was on the Federal Building, the problems the city was facing were much bigger than what was perceived by the nation. Five blocks were affected by the disaster, more than 200 buildings were damaged and more than 30 were condemned, including several apartment buildings.

Three buildings collapsed from the rain alone during Mendonsa's

stay. Thousands of people were left homeless by the disaster. Emergency shelters filled up immediately.

"The effect this has had on our community is so minuscule compared to what those people are facing," Mendonsa said. "Overwhelming, if I had to come up with one word to describe it. Not our assignments or the devastation, but the senseless murders of all of those people."

While in Oklahoma, the rescuers stayed in the Southwestern Bell state headquarters building, a four-story structure about two blocks from the Federal Building. They slept with only a sleeping pad and the building's 24-hour lighting system made sleeping difficult.

Although the conditions were bad, the community helped by sending the task forces boxes of pillows, shampoo, soap, and other essentials to make their stay as pleasant as possible. Kids from the city painted emotional banners that were put up in the rescuers sleeping quarters.

"The support from the community was tremendous," Mendonsa said.

On the night before they left, Mendonsa and a couple of fellow rescuers stayed up until 3 in the morning, talking to each other and sharing their feelings about the emotional experience they had just had.

"It was very helpful talk for me, emotionally," Mendonsa said.

Before the task forces made their way back to California, the city of Sacramento had two debriefings for their families and loved ones. Mendonsa's girlfriend, Becky Miller-Crips, attended the debriefings. They briefly explained what the rescuers had gone through and what to expect from them, emotionally.

"They were very helpful for us," Mendonsa said. "She found there were other people experiencing what she was going through."

Although Mendonsa and his crew helped out immensely in Oklahoma City, they still had a sense of failure since they didn't pull out any survivors.

"There was work to be done when we left," Mendonsa said. "We did our job and completed our assignments, but our mission is rescue."

"It bothered me."

Student Senate Election: No choices, few voters

By Lara Lelis
MTX MANAGING EDITOR

Only 55 students voted in last week's uncontested Student Government elections.

Caroline Buster was elected Student Council President, Krista DeGolia was elected secretary, and Alyssa McCrea was elected Vice President of Activities.

Buster is involved in the student council now and attends meetings at the state and regional level. She hopes to bring more awareness of state happenings to the senators.

She recently attended a statewide conference in Fresno along with DeGolia and several other

senators.

"I expect to begin organizing the office, to get it in an organized manner," said DeGolia, a Liberal Studies major. "The main goal is to probably develop some new tasks that the secretary would be responsible for," said DeGolia, who has been at Columbia for a total of 5 semesters.

McCrea plans to continue the college hour music and other activities and fund-raisers. She said she wants to get the students involved in campus activities.

"I'm open to suggestions to get as many people as possible to be interested," she said.

McCrea, who is majoring in Music and Biology, graduated



Caroline Buster

from Sonora High in 1993 and vows to cut down her hours at work to devote more time to her V.P. position.

For her first event, she is helping organize a "pizza party" at Round Table Pizza in the Junction Shopping Center on June 6. When a pizza is purchased and



Alyssa McCrea

a flier, with a sort of coupon, is turned in as well, the Student Council receives 25% of that sale.

"I'd just like to encourage everyone to come," McCrea said. "If anyone is interested, I have a million fliers."

Treasurer Katy Wheeler and Vice President of Policies and

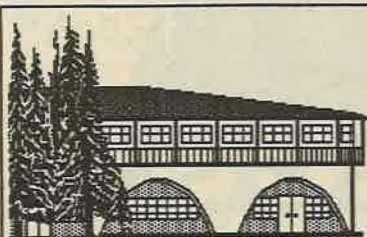


Krista DeGolia

Procedures Ben Caras are seeking appointment instead of running for office.

Caras is in the middle of the tedious process of re-writing the Student Council Constitution.

The Student Council meets once a week and has an office in the Manzanita Building.



mtx briefs

Choir auditions

Regular college choir will not be available next semester. There will only be Fire Choir, an audition choir led by John Carter. If you're interested in auditioning, sign up on the bulletin board outside Aspen. There will be different schedules for auditioning. Sign up for the one that best fits your schedule!

BYO: Cellar closed for spring cleanup

If you normally eat lunch in the Cellar restaurant, you now have to make other arrangements.

Last Thursday was the last day for the Cellar to serve lunch this spring.

This week the kitchens are being cleaned, and next week is finals week.

April corrections

In a story about the Bricks and Mortar program, Carmen Palermo's name was misspelled.

The last two paragraphs of a story about campus smoking restrictions were cut off and a separate story about plans for a new library was inadvertently inserted in their place. The smoking story should have ended thus:

"The only regulation that is currently being enforced is: no smoking around a dining area inside or outside, a new county regulation. The College Counsel voted that the area affected would be from the bottom of the steps to 10 feet past the elevators.

According to Student Council President Tony Ramirez, the reason for including the elevators was for the benefit of the people who use the elevators, some of whom have heart and lung conditions.

Attention grads:

Mandatory meeting on May 18 at 12:30 in Carkeet Park.

Pow Wow packs 'em in

By Karen Bladel
MTX STAFF WRITER

April 22 was one of the few warm sunny days we've had this spring, perfect for the second annual Columbia College Intertribal Pow Wow. The balmy weather was in sharp contrast to last year's drizzly Pow Wow and could account for the increased turnout of more than 1,000 people.

Children played everywhere, to

the background music of tribal songs and drums.

People of all ages wandered around the field browsing at the dozen or so booths that featured artifacts made by Native Americans. One could purchase the traditional jewelry, pelts, drums, stonework, paintings. While admiring the work one could hear stories of the history of a particular people, or Nation.

The Columbia Student Council's booth sold food and drink for bargain prices, tickets for a

drawing, and T-shirts. The lines at the next booth for the Indian fry bread and tacos wound out into the field toward the dance contests.

The ages of the contestants ranged from 6 to adults. The adults competed in the evening, the children and teenagers in the afternoon.

Some of the dances were traditional, like the grass dance and the special girl dance. This was a dance where the "special girl dancer" danced with members of her family, and then other dancers paid their respects to them and

joined the dance.

Other dances have evolved more recently, like the fancy shawl and the hoop dance.

There were drawings all day for gifts and gift certificates donated by numerous members of the community. Among the 50 prizes were a tanning session donated by The Sun Room, and an 1880 silver dollar donated by the Goldrush Emporium.

Last year's Pow Wow lost around \$1,500. This year it should break even, according to Student Council member Katie Wheeler.

Manzanita Bookstore

BUYBACK	5/19 & 5/22-25
BOOKS AVAILABLE	June 5 & 6 for Summer 1995 Closed June 7 & 8
FALL 1995 SCHEDULE	Most textbooks available Aug. 2
OPEN	8/2 & 8/3 7:30 am - 3:30 pm 8/7-8/9 7:30 am - 6:00 pm
CLOSED	7/24 - 8/1 & 8/11 & 8/12

We're Back!!

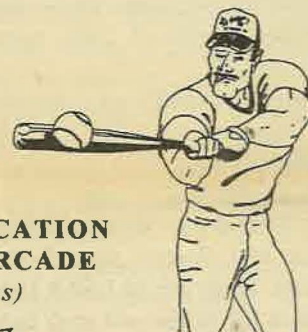
Batter Up!

INDOOR BATTING RANGE

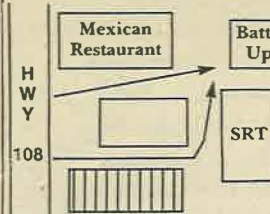
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COMMUNITY SERVICE SUMMER OFFERINGS

Bus Excursions

- Yosemite Valley, May 31
- "Stage Door Charley" in SF, June 14
- UC Berkeley Botanical Garden/Oakland Museum, June 15
- "Phantom of the Opera," June 28 & July 26
- Fisherman's Wharf & Sausalito, July 10

Short Courses

- Parent and Me Ceramics
- Ceramics Open Lab
- Field outing near Emigrant Wilderness
- AutoCAD Plotting, Projects & Practice

Youth Activities

- College for Kids on Campus & Groveland
- Children's Theater Conservatory
- Basketball & Volleyball Camps

Check the summer schedule or with Admissions Office for details or call 533-5139.

Payson takes tobacco industry to task

By Rebecca Hansen
MTX STAFF WRITER

What do millions of people across the country have in common? Tobacco - either in the form of a small stick, or looking somewhat like dirt in a can.

In any shape, the contents are the same: arsenic (poison), butane (lighter fluid), ammonia (floor cleaner), acetone (paint stripper), and almost 4,000 more chemicals.

What do half a million Americans have in common? Each year, half a million Americans die from cancer. Not only from ciga-

rettes, but from chew also. Twenty six hundred of those half million are infants.

On May 4, Ross Payson, the Coordinator of the Tuolumne County Tobacco Control Program came to Columbia to speak on the harmful effects of tobacco use.

Despite the grim statistics, Payson said, "Tobacco companies pay thousands to support politicians and to movie producers to have their stars chain smoke in their movies." Eddie Murphy in Beverly Hills Cop I smoked Lucky Strikes. Lois Lane in Superman was made a chain smoker for a measly \$30,000.

From 1986 to 1993, tobacco

companies paid a whopping total of \$8 million to support politicians. Assembly Speaker Willie Brown received \$600,000 from 1988 to 1995, not including gifts, vacations, and more from the tobacco industry.

Payson showed that more people die from tobacco-related causes yearly than from auto accidents, AIDS, murder, and drug abuse combined. Payson also said that by the year 2,000, 10 million people per year will die from tobacco products.

Payson gave many statistics about tobacco that would make you think twice before spending \$2 for that little box. Each year

53,000 non-smokers are killed by others' smoke. Researchers have also linked smoking to SIDS (Sudden Infant Death Syndrome).

Yearly, from 1960 to 1994, there have been more than 50,000 fires caused by lit cigarettes. The death toll from these fires includes 6,000 children and 2,000 pets. Current studies show that lung cancer has now even surpassed breast cancer as the number one killer of women.

Payson's biggest point was that it's hard to teach children not to use this addicting substance when they are bombarded by cigarette advertising wherever they go: at a baseball game, where the big

Marlboro sign is behind the pitcher; at a football game, where the Marlboro banner is hanging behind the goal posts; or at home watching the car races on TV where the Marlboro logo is flashed in front of your eyes more than 70,000 times.

When shown the results of its own study, one tobacco company closed down its lab, and fired its researchers. The industry's attitude was best expressed by one of its own executives who said, "We'll be damned if we're going to allow a couple of rats and monkeys to destroy a multi-million dollar industry."

Vending machine thwarts cafeteria's casual thieves

By Lara Lelis
MTX MANAGING EDITOR

An increase in vandalism and stealing prompted the cafeteria to install a high-tech Snapple dispenser in place of the sliding-door cooler.

The new, fully-automatic vending machine - designed to deter people from taking drinks without paying - was placed in the cafeteria last month and has raised the price of Snapple by 25 cents.

The machine has had problems of its own.

"Once, a bottle hit the bottom (of the machine) and broke," said Francis Lynch, head of the Culinary Arts Department. "It's a weird design on the machine and they haven't worked all the bugs out."

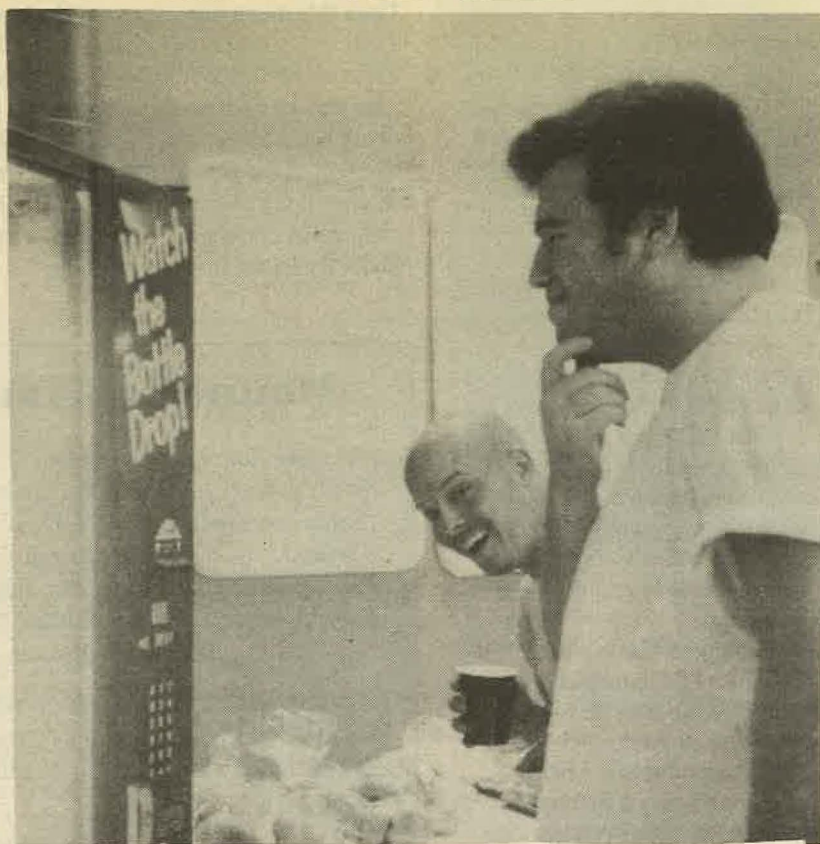
The money for the vending machine came from a fund set aside from cafeteria profits. Sales range from \$16,000 to \$22,000 a month and profits range from a \$3,000 gain to a loss of \$7,000.

The cafeteria is not supposed to make a profit from its sales, but unexpected costs come up.

During a recent power outage, the compressor in a refrigerator overheated, costing the cafeteria \$440.

"Those things are unforeseen and unusual," Lynch said.

Vandalism and what Lynch refers to as "disregard for prop-



SNAPPLE A DAY - John Hansen, Ben Caras watch the bottle drop.

erty" cost the cafeteria every day.

"It's funny how people think about property," he said. "Creamers, sugars. All that stuff nibbles away (at the money)."

"Well, it's unfortunate and in most instances, it's a few people who violate that trust," said President Ken White. "It ends up hurting everyone. When prices go up, it effects all of us. I certainly hope that anybody fooling with the furniture and helping

themselves to the products without paying should realize they are hurting everyone else here."

On the plus side, the littering and garbage around the cafeteria has decreased this year.

"It's gotten a lot better. There's a few slob. People do leave spills. Next semester, who knows, it might get a little better," Lynch said.

White said cafeteria food prices would remain affordable.

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Year in review: Help wanted

Wanted: writers, photographers, cartoonists, advertising salespeople.

The Mountain Times ends the first year of its revival in desperate need of more staff. A rule of thumb in journalism might be: always have more people than pages. The ratio at the Mountain Times, as the semester winds down, is 5 staffers to 8 pages. Not good. Not enough.

The lack of a computer was a hindrance as well. When it came down to crunch time on the production of the paper we found ourselves dashing back and forth between our office in Redbud and the computer lab in Fir every time we needed a headline or a caption or another print-out of a story. This was not terribly efficient, and not very pleasant on rainy days (though we did get plenty of exercise).

To review: we got out one paper in the Fall semester and three in the Spring. The goal is to publish weekly. More realistic, for Fall 1995, might be two papers per month. To pull it off, we need more people.

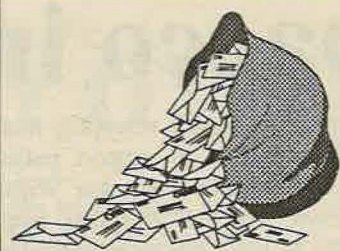
This, then, is a plea, to those of you who are returning in the fall: get involved with the paper. Even if you can't take the Journalism class, bear in mind that the paper is not the exclusive property of its staff. Far from it. It belongs to the entire campus community and should be a forum for the exchange of information and ideas. We'll take news stories, columns, photos, even fiction and poetry from anybody - subject to review by the paper's editors.

It hardly needs to be said that the paper will not quash any submissions for political reasons. Our only concerns are: Will we be sued for libel if we print it? Will anyone on this campus be interested? Is it readable?

At the very least, write letters to the editor and let us know about any event, meeting, or news we ought to be covering. We realize it takes time - and more frequent publication - for people to acquire the habit of thinking of the campus newspaper when they've got news folks can use. But it was a little frustrating to see press releases and photographs going to the Union Democrat and not to us. Understaffed as we are, it's especially critical that other people serve as our eyes and ears, drawing our attention to things we might otherwise miss.

We thank our advertisers for their patience and Karen Rasmussen and Fred Petersen in the computer lab, Larry Steuben in the library and the folks at IMC for their support.

Hope to see you in the fall.



mtx mailbag

Pot is not a 'drug problem'

Dear Editor,

In the story "Drugs in the Dorms" which appeared on the front page of the April Mountain Times, Lara Lelis states that there is a drug problem on campus. To support this statement, she points to twenty-four marijuana seedlings growing in a student's dormitory room. She included several quotations from students and administrators which also seem to verify her claim. However, Lelis does not present any clear picture of the magnitude or character of this "problem."

Are students shooting heroin into their veins between classes? Is there a crack epidemic in the dorms? Lelis only mentions marijuana. From the information available in the article I can only deduce that some students (or possibly most students?) smoke marijuana. Does the Managing Editor of our school paper actually believe that this constitutes a drug problem? Maybe she has never taken the 15 bus to the end of Third Street in San Francisco.

A drug problem is when the corrupt agencies of our government bring cocaine and heroin into the country as spoils from their covert wars and dump them on the poor people of our inner cities.

A drug problem is when hundreds of thousands of people die every year from the use of alcohol and tobacco.

A drug problem is when patients suffering from chronic diseases are forced to endure the pain of AZT and chemotherapy, but are not allowed the relief of marijuana.

My heart goes out to all the students who have been evicted from the dorms for violating these ridiculous marijuana laws. But more than that, my heart goes out to those 24 seedlings destroyed before they had a chance to grow tall.

What if they gave an election and nobody came?

By Karen Bladel
MTX STAFF WRITER

There was a Student Senate forum in the Rotunda on April 20. Or was there?

All seven of the Student Council offices were supposed to be contested in this week's election, but only three of them attracted candidates. Two of those candidates were running unopposed. The only competition was for the office of President. When the candidates gave their position statements at the forum, one of them bowed out of the race, leaving three unopposed candidates.

The apathy toward student politics doesn't end with the lack of interest in being in student government, either. Only around 10 students showed up to hear what the candidates had to say. Does this mean that everyone else knew every thing they needed to know about the candidates? Or does this mean that only 10 students planned to participate in the election of the people who will represent the entire student body?

Students complain continuously about decisions that are made for

them, and yet they do nothing about it. The posters all over campus stating that all a person has to do is vote to make an impact refer to this campus as much as to federal, state and local elections.

If no one runs for an office, there will be an appointment for that office by the Student Council President. That means the Student Council will reflect the interests of a very small group of people.

If you don't agree with those people, too bad, you should have run for office yourself.

This is not to say that there is anything wrong with those people who are currently running for office. Quite the contrary, they have the interest, and the commitment that it takes to be involved.

Careers are what most Columbia students are interested in. Yet few seem to realize that the skills they could acquire through participation in the Council may be very useful when they need to navigate the political waters at a large corporation or a small business.

Some of the interest may have been drawn off by the Sukay concert that was happening at the same time as the candidates' forum.

But not all of it.

Around the Pond by Jason Forbes



Mountain Times

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Follow the reader: MTX sees writing on the Redbud wall

We recently taped some blank paper to our door at Redbud 14 and invited readers to share their thoughts. The question was, "What would you like to see in MTX? Here are 20 answers:

1. Vowels.
2. A little fiction?
3. Mushrooms!!
4. Cleaner bathrooms (or at least ones that work).
5. Scantly clad men with nice rears.
6. Truth might be nice!
7. A Columbia College Playgirl with big tits IQs.
8. What's in store for Columbia College's future? (growth)
9. Need swimming pool.
10. How long are the Canadian geese going to be around the lake?
11. HAPPY THOUGHTS!!!!
12. The truth about environmentalism: it's all Chicken Little hysteria with no real science behind it.
13. If the environment has no science, then what does it have?
14. What's going on with financial aid at federal level?
15. Pornos.
16. A big picture of Lara Lelis smoking pot.
17. What is MTX?
[MT = Mountain; X=Times]
18. We want to know the inside psyche of our instructors. What makes them tick?
19. The answer to life, the universe, and everything.
[See No.20, below.]
20. BEER!

International Club sees UN from the inside

By Pakuda Ly

Spring Break is a time when college students usually go to places like Florida. Who would have thought that a group of us would want to go to New York and spend our break debating world issues?

Columbia College has participated in the National Model United Nations for several years, with instructor Anne D'Orazio serving as the advisor. This year I am the President of the Club and have been a part of the UN team for the last two years. Some of the nations that we have represented are: Mongolia and Bolivia and now, Niger.

Attending this year's conference were about 2,000 international students from roughly 100 universities and colleges plus a dozen junior colleges.

Boutros-Ghali welcomes teams

At the opening of the conference, UN Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali challenged all the delegates to work toward peace and a better world. He said it was a very big event that we as students from all around the world could come together and represent nations that in some cases were not ours to begin with, and how we would understand the difficulty the leaders of the world have to face.

He left some of us in awe while turning others off. One person said, "It was a bunch of nothing." Another said, "He was buttering the bread." I could only assume that even though some of us give respect where respect is due we still have our own opinions on how the world ought to be.

Tuesday night was our first session in committees and all the delegates went to their own committee conference rooms. One committee dealt with admission and budgets, another one with social and geographic dilemmas and the General Assembly Plenary dealt with the resolutions that those committees had passed. Nuclear Nonproliferation and Social and Economic Development were also on the floor.

For the next four days all the committees were to have resolved the problems that were in their committee and to have written and passed resolutions "calling

upon," "requesting" and "urging" certain factions to do something.

Of course, that never really happens when there are about 187 nations debating issues from different political stands. This is where all the fun and excitement of the event began.

For example, in one committee I was not sure where Niger would stand on the three issues presented: Peacekeeping, Secretariats and Contingency Funds. Even after having done the research, I needed to know the views of the Niger government. Since we didn't know when we could talk

At the briefing I felt that we were synchronized in the way we were thinking and how we saw the event. It was amazing that the person who advised us felt the same way we did about the governments that run the world: How the power of the UN isn't that of the UN but that of the US and other powerful nations. How the developing countries' hands are tied because of the exploitation and the imperialism that was ruling and still is ruling them. Only now it is the trade market that has colonized them.

Niger and other nations that are very poor are forced to sell themselves and do other things that they would not do if they were economically well off.

In my committee, which dealt with money, I asked the consulate what was the most important of the three topics that I was debating on. The reply was that they were all very important but all of them were costing too much and have produced very little result and a lot of waste.

This year most of the committees did not finish what was on their agenda. While we had four days to discuss three issues the actual UN has six months to a year to debate their issue.

On Saturday one representative from each nation went to the United Nations to vote on the resolution that had been passed in the committees and hear the reports from the Security Council and other organizations in the UN.

It is amazing that we as students could come together for one week and discuss issues that could be crucial to one nation or another. The experience was very stimulating and I felt that it opened my eyes to the wonder and hardship of what other nations have to suffer at the hands of powerful nations.



THE DELEGATE FROM NIGER - International Club member Marty Meller at the Model United Nations conference in New York.

to the Niger Ambassador on our issue, I could not wait to confirm if what I went with was in keeping with our nation's policy.

Meeting at Nigeran Consulate

On Wednesday, all the delegates had scheduled a mission briefing that went through the first part of the morning. Our briefing was at 11 a.m. near the UN so we all walked there. The briefing was very helpful and informative to the groups. We had all of our questions answered. The Nigeran Consulate even gave us inside information on what the UN personnel were doing in a certain project. I felt very confident that the decision I made was very close to that of the Nigeran policy.

We talked about what we would like to see happen or change and how the world could be a better place if our leaders thought of the people first and not of the power that one could have. I felt that even though we were very different from the Nigeran in culture and beliefs we had a common ground in wanting to stop the deceit and lies that the world feeds to us.

Niger among have-nots at UN

After the briefing I went back into session and push for economic relief and aid to help the developing nations to develop economically. In my position paper I stated that Niger would support whatever the UN had decided and that was correct indirectly.

So much for honor system

By Karen Bladel
MTX STAFF WRITER

A Student walks into the cafeteria, opens a cooler door, removes a bottle of tea and sits down at a table of friends. He talks to his friends, finishes the drink and he leaves without paying for the tea. What happens next?

Well, after this happens continuously over a period of time the cafeteria replaces the "honor" cooler with a leased vending machine.

This reduces the need to remember the price of the different drinks: they've all been raised to a dollar.

Integrity is a sign of maturity. I think we've just been downgraded a notch.

'Breaking Legs' a crackup

By Jason Forbes
MTX THEATRE CRITIC

If you're not easily offended and ready to laugh, then "Breaking Legs" is for you. The play consists of some strong language, sexual situations and a lot of laughs.

Terrence O'Keefe (Don Bilotti) is an English professor trying to raise money for a play he has written. He has second thoughts about accepting money from mobsters Lou Graziano (Don Pierazzi), Mike Francisco (Walt Leineke), and Tino De Felice (Vince D'Aloia) when he sees how they treat Frankie Salvucci (Gary Scheiding, who owes them money).

O'Keefe is stuck, however, when he becomes involved with Lou's daughter, Angie Graziano (Maryann Curmi-Jordan). He is left with the task of finding a way out of his predicament, if he can.

Bilotti turned in a strong performance and the other actors put forth an adequate job. The acting started out shaky but seemed to stabilize as the actors became comfortable in their roles.

David Purdy, the director, did a good job for the most part. The play flows at a nice pace and changes direction at the right times.

It seemed, however, that parts of the play were irrelevant and detracted from its credibility. In one scene, mobster De Felice tells Salvucci that smoking is bad for him while they all sit around drinking alcohol.

In another scene, Salvucci seemed to go out of his way to say that there is nothing wrong with interracial relationships. These are good issues but did not fit into the context of the play. It seemed to force public service announcements on the audience.

The humor in the play is what kept it alive. It is very funny and the actors play the audience really well. The play is well worth the \$8 it costs for students.

"Breaking Legs" is showing at the Fallon House Theatre Thursdays through Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. It will finish up on June 4.

As the program says "you will laugh... or else!"

'Billy,' 'Agnes' best monologists

By Karen Bladel
MTX STAFF WRITER

The two-minute limit was all the time needed by Orin Holland, winner of the comedy portion of the second annual Monologue Contest.

Holland gave a very funny physical portrayal of Billy Benoxine from "The Young Ones." He competed against six other contestants.

There were 11 contestants in the drama category. The winner was Mary Shriver, who gave a stirring performance as Agnes from John Pelmier's "Agnes of God."

The judges, all from Columbia Actors Repertory, were Art Director Don Belotti, Business Manager Sally Farington and Technical Director Ross Aldrich.

Goodbye, Class of '95

By Jason Forbes
MTX GRADUATION BEAT

The Columbia College Jazz Band will fill the air on May 26, accompanied by 106 graduation caps.

Graduation is finally here and we can say good-bye to Columbia College and hello to summer.

The 27th commencement celebration is scheduled to begin at 6:30 p.m. in the Oak Pavilion.

The Student Welcome will be given by Student Council President Tony Ramirez. He will be followed by Dr. Anne D'Orazio, who will welcome the faculty. The Student Graduation Address will be delivered by Natalie Markham and Pakuda Ly is scheduled for the Student Farewell.

Graduate Takashi Kanda says that he is "looking forward to graduation as well as attending Washington University next semester."

Columbia College President, Dr. Ken White, reflects on graduation as a "recognition of what students have accomplished."

A reception will be held in the Oak Pavilion Mezzanine following the ceremony.



Best of Show

Jeben Berg won the prize for his acrylic painting, "Uncle Sam and I" in the 1995 Columbia College Student Art & Photography Show. Thirty-eight students entered their work in such categories as oils and acrylics, watercolors, mixed media and graphics, ceramics and pottery, photography, and sculpture. Art instructors from Merced College judged the 22nd annual show, which was displayed in the Rotunda until last week.

SRT's 'Oleanna' to benefit Int'l Club

A special benefit performance of David Mamet's play, "Oleanna," will be given this Thursday at 8 p.m. at Sierra Repertory Theatre.

The play centers on a male college instructor and his female student who sit down to discuss her grades and in a terrifyingly short time become participants in a modern-day Inquisition. Innocuous remarks suddenly turn damning, and the relationship between a somewhat complacent teacher and his seemingly hapless pupil turns into a fiendishly accurate picture of the mechanisms of power, censorship, and abuse.

Tickets are \$10 and may be purchased from the Columbia Bookstore. Proceeds will go to the Columbia College International Club.

Good luck, grads! A great summer to all!



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Next to California Style

Weightlifting catches on among women

By Rebecca Hansen
MTX STAFF WRITER

Weightlifting in the '90s is no longer a man's sport. Just ask any of the females who are taking weightlifting classes at Columbia College.

Leah Wilson is in Morgan McBride's weightlifting class and she says she likes the class because it's really focused on the needs of the female body.

"All of the girls here are more comfortable with themselves and the other classmates. Besides, guys usually tend to look down on females when they're trying to do things like working out and

"The guys try to help you out, show you the ropes, so you're doing everything right," she said.

Andrea also did track and field with the shotput and discus, which turned her onto weightlifting. She likes competing with the guys more than the girls because "that's when you really find out how good you are."

"Fifi" Atakilti has been into weightlifting for a little more than two years.

"I really like to be in shape and I like the kind of treatment I get in the co-ed class. In a class with emphasis on women, you don't seem to have as much incentive to push yourself harder than you

Both instructors thought the women in their classes were much more concious of their bodies than males, but coach Saia said, "Females seem to evaluate their bodies much more so they listen better. I also believe that they're not as stubborn, which makes them a lot more coachable."

McBride believes that co-ed classes make all the difference, and even though she has a few guys, the women in her classes are a lot less intimidated without the males around.

"They're actually here to do weightlifting, a serious workout instead of worrying how they look or what others are thinking."

Many of her students want a little more than the allotted 50 minutes for the class and usually come in and start early.

"Of course," McBride said, "this is why every semester I have waiting lists for my female weightlifting classes."



PUMPING IRON - Fifi Atakilti and Andrea Emmrich work out.

"They're not as stubborn, which makes them a lot more coachable."

weightlifting," Wilson said.

All of the women in McBride's class seemed to be really hard at work, each concentrating on her own personal training and needs. The most common reason for taking a class with emphasis on women was that they could all feel comfortable and not feel like they were being judged while working hard.

Andrea Emmrich and Frewini "Fifi" Atakilti are both enrolled in Coach Jim Saia's Weightlifting II class. Andrea has been involved in weightlifting for more than three years and actually prefers the co-ed classes.

normally would. Plus, being in Coach Saia's class makes me feel equal with the males instead of inferior."

Both of Coach Saia's women students, like many women of Columbia College, feel there aren't enough sports showing what the women here can do. "Sure, tennis and volleyball, but what about track or basketball?" said Emmrich.

McBride said that although there is an emphasis on women, there are always a few males registered in her classes. Jason Knight is one of those males. He said the main reason he took the class was because he wanted a P.E. class, and this was the one that happened to fit his schedule. And about his female peers, all he had to say was, "It's not a matter of competition here, because we're all here for the same purpose. Besides, they'll put me in my place with no problem."

Tennis

Doubles team just misses

By Mike Phillips
MTX SPORTS WRITER

Melissa Marino and Debbie Sagaser of Columbia came within a match of qualifying for the State Championships of junior college tennis.

In the Northern California Championships held last month at Modesto Junior College, Marino and Sagaser, seeded eighth, defeated Andrea Guijarno and Elizabeth Zanolli from Cosumnes River of Sacramento 6-2, 6-2 in the first round of action.

In the second round, they were ousted by 12th seeded Robin Penwell and Lisa Churko from American River of Sacramento 7-

6 (7-4), 6-4, after leading 5-4, 40-0 in the first set.

If Marino and Sagaser had won, they would have earned a berth in the state tournament held last month in Elk Grove.

In NorCal singles play, Sagaser was ousted in the first round by No. 3 seeded Laura Buchholtz of Santa Rosa 6-0, 6-1. Marino defeated Jennifer Robinson of Sacramento City College 6-2, 6-3.

In the second and last round for Columbia College tennis in the '95 season, Marino was defeated by No. 4 seeded Liz Hennerman of Santa Rosa 6-0, 6-3.

Sagaser came to Columbia from Los Banos High, Marino from Oakdale High.

Got a nose for news?

An eye for photos?

Register for Journalism 1 in the Fall and join us at the Mountain Times.

Student of the Month

September 1994 - **Karalee Canham** spent 15 years in several progressive specialties of a successful aviation career. Karalee has earned Certificates of Achievement in Forestry and Natural Resources and A/S degrees in Biology, Forestry and Natural Resources. She plans to transfer to CSU, Stanislaus.

October 1994 - **Jennifer Lyson** is the mother of a three-year old boy named Max. Her goal is to be able to provide an opportunity for Max to have an education. She belongs to two clubs, SALSA and Rotaract where she works with members of the community. Jennifer was also chosen as Student of the Year.

November 1994 - **Danielle Kuhr** is a psychology major who hopes to transfer to Sonoma State. Her career goal is a Ph.D. in Psychology. She participated in the Bricks & Mortar Program as well as volunteers at the Women's Center, Sierra AIDS Council and the Fallon House Theater.

December 1994 - **Susan Daniels** keeps busy with two bookkeeping jobs, being a full-time student and looking after her children. She will graduate in Spring '95 and will transfer to CSU, Stanislaus as a business major with emphasis in accounting.

January 1995 - **Rebecca Crisp** is a Business Administration major and will be graduating in May, 1995. She has lived in seven different states and attended eleven different schools in her lifetime.

February 1995 - **Michelle Dake**, a Business/Accounting Major, will be getting a certificate in May and plans to return in the Fall to earn an Associate of Science degree. She has been on the Dean's list since attending Columbia College.

March 1995 - **Judy Farrell** was a restaurant owner for ten years before coming to Columbia College. She has a twenty-two year old daughter and will receive her AS in Office Occupations in Fall 1995.

April 1995 - **Don Stone** has served as ASCC President, Student Trustee of the District and Policy Board representative for California Student Association of Community Colleges. He will receive an AA in Liberal Studies/History.

Basketball

Claim Jumper fans rest easy: Saia coming back this Fall

By Mike Phillips
MTX SPORTS WRITER

In a decision that pleased all Columbia College Claim Jumper faithful, Jim Saia was rehired as head basketball coach for 1995-96.

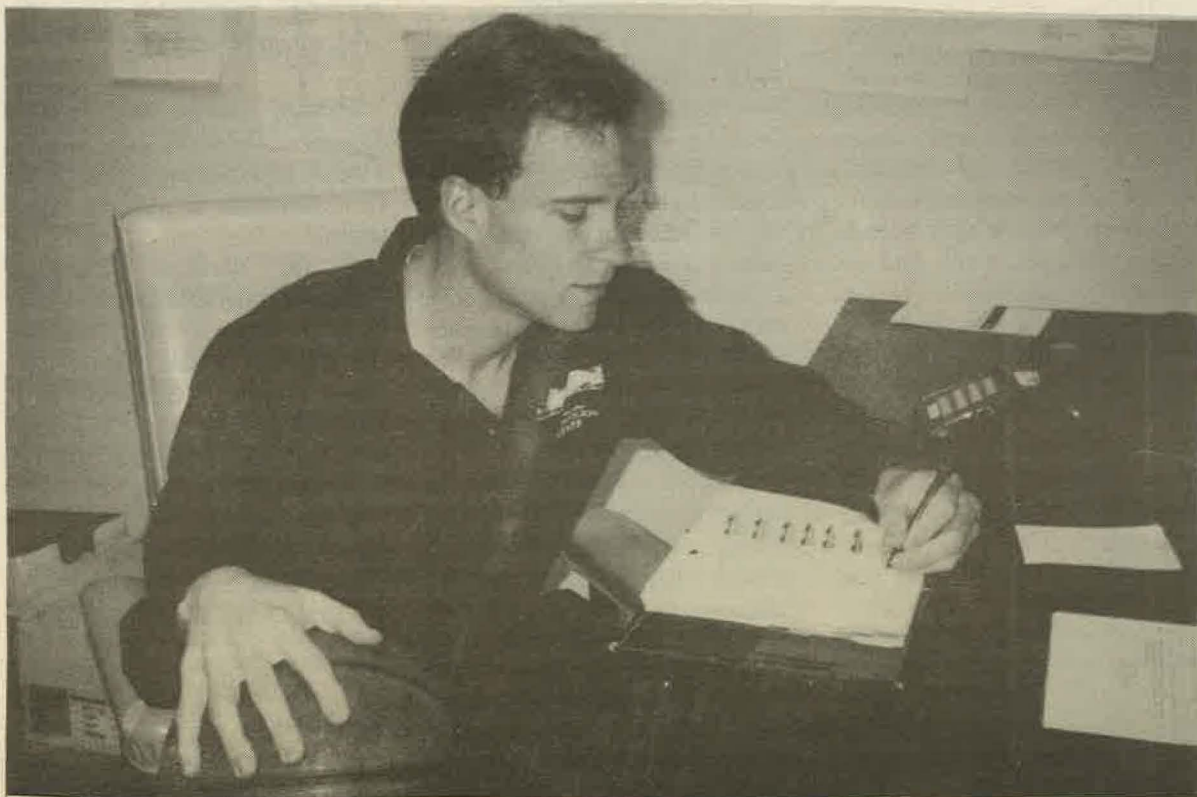
Saia had a very productive first year, leading the Claim Jumpers to a Central Valley Conference title and taking them deep into the playoffs with little time to put together a team before the season started.

Saia, who took on the interim job after Denny Aye left Columbia for CSU San Bernadino, was pleased with the rehiring.

"I feel relieved the process is over," Saia said. "It's also nice to have some stability in your life."

The complicated "process" Saia referred to is the reason Claim Jumper fans had to anxiously await the rehiring of the very popular first-year coach.

The hiring process begins with the four-person hiring committee searching through all the resumes



NOT INTERIM - Newly rehired Coach Jim Saia gets ready for another basketball season.

and selecting three or four candidates they feel fit the position. The committee then interviews the candidates and selects a can-

didate, Saia, to recommend to Columbia College president Ken White.

White then chooses to either approve or decline the candidate.

If he approves, he recommends the selection to the chancellor, Pamela Fisher, who in turn, recommends the selection to the Board of Trustees. The Board of

Trustees then brings it to the floor at a board meeting and a decision is made.

Saia's contract is a series of four one-year probationary contracts, after which he will be offered a permanent job as head coach of the Claim Jumpers.

"I think Columbia College is the best junior college situation for basketball in the state," Saia said. "They provide good facilities and there is great support from the community."

Saia will be faced with the task of replacing transferring students Adrian Ealy, Nate Allen, Jerome Latimer, Ese Hursky, and Mike Fieber. Saia has received a verbal commitment from star point guard Gabe Wingo from local Summerville High School and has been in contact with players from Reno, Sacramento, the Bay Area, and New York, which has been a sweet spot for Claim Jumper talent in the past.

"I feel really good about next year," Saia said. "We have a returning sophomore class that will be familiar with my system."

Golfers finish 6th

By Jason Forbes
MTX SPORTS EDITOR

The Columbia College golfers finished their season in sixth place in the Central Valley Conference.

A fifth place finish in their final match, at the par-72 Merced Country Club, secured their standing.

Chris Ryan led Columbia with a score of 78. Bryan Williams, who just missed the Northern California Playoffs, shot a 79. Columbia finished with a team score of 403 on the afternoon.

Columbia's coach, Chris Bit-ticks, felt that the team "finished on a positive note. We did better down the stretch and I'm looking forward to next season."

Columbia will lose Williams, but the rest of the team should remain intact for next season.

Team member Tighe Hammam described the team as having "good chemistry," and that they should "improve greatly next season."

Soccer

Playoff berth for booters

By Jason Forbes
MTX SPORTS EDITOR

The Columbia Soccer Club had its season extended when they learned that they qualified for the Budweiser Cup.

The club's regular season ended last month with a third place finish in the Central Valley Soccer League.

"We didn't know that we qualified because the rules are in Spanish," said team manager Bobby Renschler. "It wasn't until the league president called last week that we found out."

The club's season lasted six


months and could go another two if they make it to the finals of the Budweiser Cup.

They are guaranteed at least three games as the tournament is set up as a replica of the World Cup. Twenty-four teams throughout the Central Valley will participate in the competition.

The team is worn down from their long regular season but Renschler has found a way to motivate them: "I just told them that the winners of the tournament will receive a lifetime supply of Budweiser."

Columbia's first match will be in Livingston against Changuitiro at 1 p.m. on May 28.

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