

# COLUMBIA COLLEGE MOUNTAIN TIMES

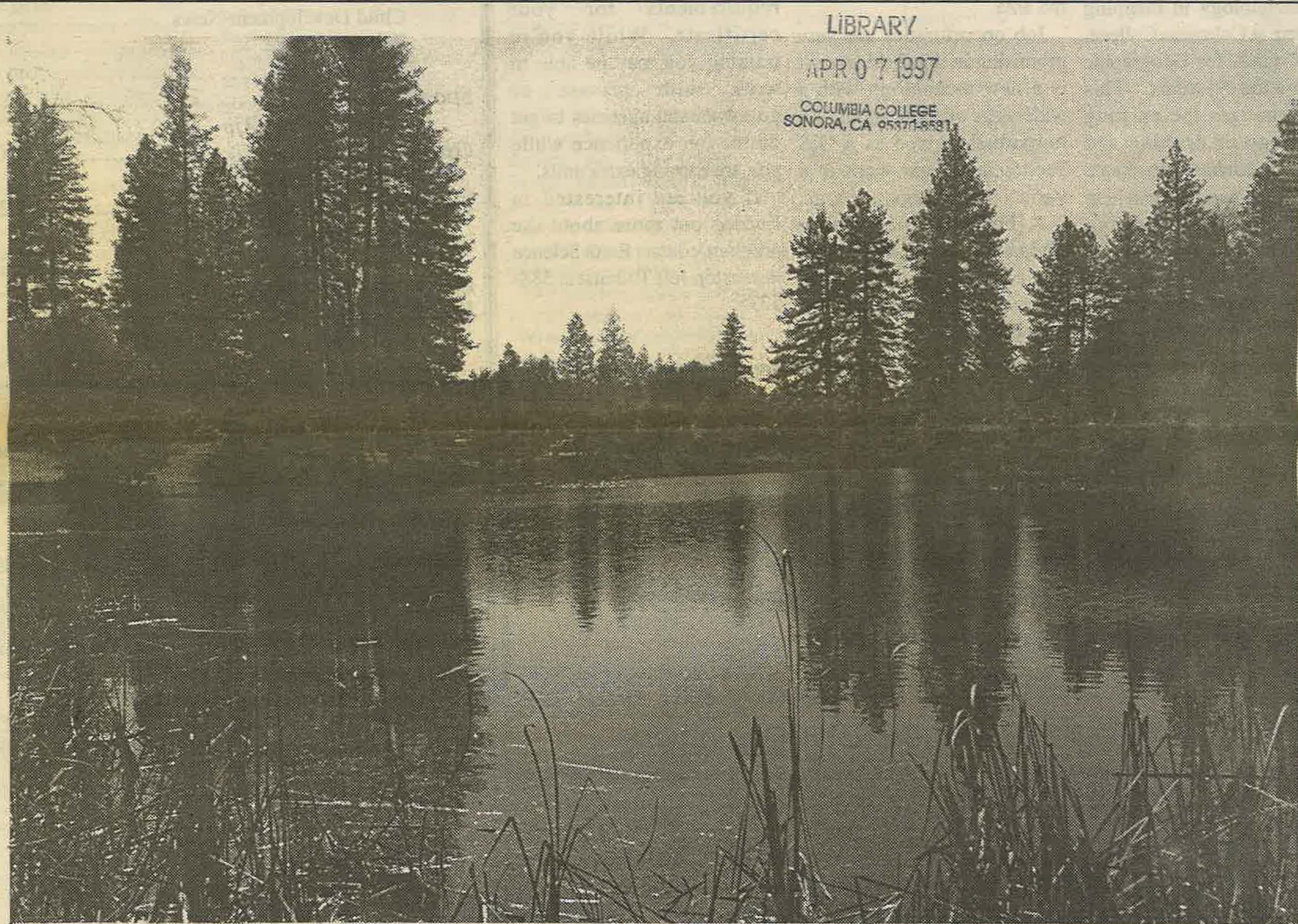
March 1997

Columbia College

VOL VI No. 2

## District Pulling Plug on C.C. Water

See Story on Page 4



What's Inside  
March's  
MTX?



Pow Wow 1997  
See Page 5



"To Kill A Mockingbird" Review  
See Page 8



Meet Jeff Tolhurst  
See Page 7



## New Career Options from the GIS Program

By Lisa Larsen  
MTX STAFF WRITER

Looking for a different career option? Check out the GIS program: training people for jobs using the latest cutting edge technology in mapping right here at Columbia College.

GIS stands for Geographic Information Systems. This system merges the existing technology of drafting and computer databases to create informative maps that can help solve complex planning problems. For example: a private business could use this system to analyze many factors involved in selecting a new

location for a store. It could map out areas that had available space within the budget, proximity to shipping areas, even demographics and spending habits of people in the area.

Job opportunities are very promising in this field since it is a new technology with a wide range of applications. An individual trained as a GIS Technician might work in a variety of settings, such as: U.S. Forest Service, timber companies, private agriculture, geology, archaeology, city planning, natural resource management, engineering,

architecture, and much more.

It's not as difficult as you might expect to get started, even some of the courses you took in high school might qualify as part of the requirements for your certificate. While you're training you may be able to work with private or governmental agencies to get on-the-job experience while you are earning extra units.

If you are interested in finding out more about the program, contact Earth Science instructor, Jeff Tolhurst at 588-5235.

## Fye's Office Supply

*THE FYE'S DIFFERENCE -*

- \* Free Delivery with No Minimum
- \* No Extra Charge on Special Orders
- \* No Hassle Return Policy
- \* Next Day Service on over 20,000 Items
- \* Your Complete Office Supply Store

**Does your current office supply source support Toulumne County?** Fye's Office Supply supported the following organizations in 1996 with either Donations of products or Monetary Contributions -

- \* Boy Scouts of America
- \* Humane Society
- \* Summerville High Sports
- \* Letters to Santa
- \* Roundup Queen Pageant
- \* Sonora High Sports
- \* Sonora High Homecoming
- \* Mother Lode RoundUp Parade

- \* Girl Scouts
- \* Sierra Aids Co
- \* Toys for Tots
- \* Sober Gra
- \* Visit With
- \* Colum

Visit all Three of Our Locations  
Downtown and Mono Way in  
Sonora...and Mark Twain Center  
in Angels Camp

**Proud Members of the  
County Chamber of Commerce**

### WHAT'S INSIDE March's MTX

<b>Campus</b> .....	2-5
Water Quality .....	4-5
Student Attacked .....	5
<b>Features</b> .....	6-8
Hepatitis C .....	6
Child Development News .....	6
Tolhurst Profile. ....	7
Student Profile .....	8
<b>Sports</b> .....	9
Basketball Wrap-Up .....	8
<b>Op/Ed</b> .....	10-11
Talking Heads .....	11
<b>Entertainment</b> .....	12-14
Tommy Castro Rocks .....	12
Spring Break on a Budget. ....	14
<b>Campus Reflections</b> .....	15
<b>Back Page</b> .....	16
CAR Funding Cut (continued) .....	16

### The Mountain Times is:

Managing Editor.....Karen Shelley  
Assistant Editor.....Lara Lelis  
Ad Design.....Michael Wadle  
Photographer.....Tim Mann, Amy Ward

MTX Staff Writers: Rebecca Escamilla, Tim Mann,  
Vickie Marks, Charmaine Mattingly, Marcia Thompson.,  
Lisa Larsen, Sandra Corbin & Zina Earhart.

•Advisor Michael Wadle

The Mountain Times is published as a part of  
Journalism. Our office is located at  
Redbud 14, "the Dungeon."

Inquiries, Editorials and Advertising should be addressed to:  
Mountain Times  
Columbia College  
11600 Columbia College Drive  
Sonora, CA 95370  
Phone (209) 588-5171

Opinions expressed in MTX are those of the writers and do not necessarily express the attitudes, views or individual endorsement ventures of the Mountain Times advertisers, student body, faculty, staff, or administration of the college or the Yosemite Community College District.



# CAR Cut from College Budget

By Lara Lelis  
MTX ASSISTANT EDITOR

Funding for Columbia Actors Repertory (CAR) will be cut by the district and a burst of muted controversy has ensued.

Columbia College Interim President Dean Cunningham was quoted in a press release, "What was once a college-centered drama program, built around local college students and actors from the immediate area, has grown to become a more professional theater."

Cunningham said in an interview last week, "At the moment, we need to make a clean break (with CAR) and take a deep breath."

Ellen Stewart, speech instructor and Associate Director at CAR, feels the decision was a mixed blessing.

"We have known for a very long time that having a business in the middle of a school district is close to impossible," she said. "We're basically incompatible. A separation needed to take place."

However, Stewart said, "You can have an amiable divorce or one that essentially tears apart the family. We were not informed this was going to happen."

"It's disturbing. I come to my mailbox in the morning and there's the memo," said Toner.

Stewart said that CAR found out the fate of the theater in the press release that was passed to all staff at Columbia, as well as community members. She said that the process of going from a college related theater to a non-profit theater would have been easier if it were done in a more timely manner (at the beginning of the school year.)

"The college district took a look at this program and they concluded there wasn't a value to them," she said. "But, making the transition could have been a whole lot easier. I feel like the process of which the program has been dismantled has not been very thoughtful. We've definitely been thrown a monkey wrench."

"The timing was calculated to give them 6 months advance notice," said Cunningham. He said that five years ago, when he was President, there was talk of discontinuing funding for the theater.

According to Cunningham, some reasons why the district is opting to cut funding:

-CAR has grown beyond the ability of the college as a tax-supported educational institution to sustain it.

-CAR is no longer college centered

-CAR has grown to become a more professional theater

Drama instructor and resident director at CAR, David Purdy, disagrees with the reasons.

"We do, in fact, use as many 'traditional' students as we can," Purdy said. "We make an effort to use them. Most of them begin, initially, in entry roles."

Purdy gave examples of some students who started by playing minor roles and are now some of the leads in the plays: Balele Shoka, Emily Orth and Orin Holland. He also said that many of the community members in the plays end up attending Columbia College to take drama classes and young actors in elementary school or high school have participated in plays at CAR and continue once they're in college.

District Chancellor Pamila Fisher said, "The program has gotten to the point where it's outgrown the program. With that, the costs have soared. It has pretty much consistently run in the red."

Fisher stated that CAR is currently \$30,000 in the red.

"The students are going to benefit from the redirection of resources," said Fisher. "Definitely." Fisher believes this because there would be more money for other programs, classes and supplies.

"We are not in debt. We are not costing the district. We do not cost the college. We pay our way," said Purdy, who went on to point out that two seasons ago, CAR was \$27,000 in debt. Purdy blamed the bad season on economic problems in the community and in the town of Columbia itself. He said the Columbia Park was off 15% and the county was feeling the recession and spending fell 20%.

According to Purdy, last season, CAR paid back \$13,000 of the debt plus broke even for that season's expenses. So far this season, CAR has paid back the rest of the debt and are in the black.

Purdy mentioned that many local

schools build their lesson plans around the plays produced at CAR and bring their classes in to see the play.

Cunningham sees the debt in a different way. "The theater is far from self supporting because Dave Purdy, Ross Aldrich and the costume designer are employees on our (college's) regular payroll. The personnel who have to do work for the theater, like our print shop, our business office, are also paid for by the college, not the theater.

"The college does that for the dance productions. They do that for the Jazz Club. It's the volume, though. We did that for Dave and have done that for Dave. It's now outgrown our ability to run it."

Stewart acknowledges the work of the college staff for CAR.

"We have been treated very well by staff members," said Stewart. "We have a lot of people to thank."

Cunningham said, "There are some personnel problems that are imposed on us by the state." He said that part time employees are only able to work 175 days a year and the enforcement of that law has become stronger.

"It's very difficult for us to manage this correctly," said Cunningham. "Other non-profit organizations wouldn't be restricted for having only 175 hours a year. If we had an organization like Sierra Repertory Theater (SRT), we wouldn't have any restrictions on them."

"We offer school matinees to come in on low-cost tickets so they won't go to San Francisco with bus trips or all day excursions. They have study guides before hand (about the play)," said Purdy.

Purdy said there was a school for the deaf that attended Black Elk Speaks last season and there were sign language interpreters near the stage so the children could understand the play.

"We had a question and answer period and then we had a dance and brought up a number of powwow drums," Purdy said. "They brought some of the deaf kids up to do the drumming with us. At first, they were drumming, not to the beat. But then, they began to feel it and they all began drumming to the beat. The whole audience was dancing. That was enough to make this whole program worthwhile for me."

English instructor Jim Toner is also upset at the district's decision.

"My feeling of it is that I'm sure there are bureaucratic, practical reasons why it's been a problem for the district," he said. "I'm just sad to see any of the arts dwindle."

Toner feels the district is looking at things from only a capacity point of view. "It's quantity education. There's a real push for more students to take more classes and more units. Teachers are not discouraged to take overloads. I don't think art matters in the land of FTEs (Full Time Equivalency-How the district gets paid by the state. More FTEs, more money.)

An example, according to Toner, is a Drama class that was on the drawing board for this semester. It would have been a class which produces a brown bag drama series. Actress Jennifer Cachopo, who played Sylvia last fall at CAR, would have taught the class.

However, the class was not approved, even though there was a willing instructor and a great deal

of student interest.

"But, these are things that can't be measured," said Toner. "You can't measure when students' appreciation for arts increases, when their appetite to wonder goes up, you can't put a FTE on that."

"The state needs FTEs to support the other costs like Dave (Purdy), Ross Aldrich, the custodians and all. It's not an easy thing to do," said Cunningham.

Another issue in the decision was the Equity Actors and other paid actors.

"While it's true we've seen them (equity actors and other non-students) enrolled in classes, they only come here to take drama classes. The practice in the past has been to pay the enrollment fees (of the visiting actors). Their rationale is a good one. The state now tells us that is illegal. We cannot pay a student to enroll in any class," said Cunningham.

Cunningham said that this new policy will decrease enrollment in the drama program and the college

**Continued on back page...**



## Murphys Bagel Barn

*Choose from our selection of:*

Plain · Onion · Poppy · Sesame  
Garlic · Salt · Whole Wheat  
Cinnamon Raisin · Blueberry  
Strawberry · Three-Seed ·  
Murphys Combination

Our bagels are  
Fat FREE  
Cholesterol FREE  
and have no preservatives!



140 Main Street, Murphys, CA 95247  
728-1511

Phone Orders Welcome



# Campus Gets Out of Water Business

By Karen Shelley  
MTX MANAGING EDITOR

The Columbia College water system is seriously out of date and fails to meet state requirements for regulations of Surface Water Filtration and Disinfection. Public notification of non-compliance has been made by the college and bottled water has been made available in most campus buildings as well as in student housing.

According to Jane Saldana, Vice President for Student Services in a March 3, college press release, the campus water supply can be used for other purposes such as cooking, showering, and cleaning. Also, in the same release, Tracey Fitzgerald, Water Program coordinator for the Tuolumne County Health Department, Environmental Health Division, stated that the notice from the college to its water consumers was to inform concerned persons to take what precautions they felt were necessary. She also said the population most at risk may include pregnant women, the elderly, and persons who may be immunosuppressed (e.g. cancer patients, HIV positive or those recovering from surgery). She encourages persons with a particular health concern to consult with their doctor.

According to written correspondence provided to the MTX, during an inspection of the

college system conducted last October by the Tuolumne County Health Department, there were 18 areas cited for concern. Some of the problem areas are:

- in the pre-treatment facilities, coagulation dosage rates are not known; these must be periodically evaluated and adjusted during the year in order for the filtration process to work properly.
- ozone analyzer readings are not reliable; monitoring equipment not reliable (ozone is an oxidizer used in the disinfection process). Odor of ozone could be detected, indicating excess ozone not being destroyed as required. Health risks from this are unknown. Proper test kit not in use for measuring residual.
- no alarm in use to alert system personnel and to shut down system in event of failure of ozonators.
- water flow through plant controlled by manual valves which can mistakenly allow excess water through filters resulting in improperly treated water being delivered.
- major operational functions all conducted by personnel using manual valves.
- observation of water in finished water storage tanks revealed water to be "murky" and not consistent with turbidimeter measuring being recorded.
- because of piping, "finished" water is delivered directly to consumers

before going to the storage tanks where chlorine contact takes place.

Aside from these and other serious problems, the college evidently failed to supply the county with three different plans as required by the SWTR (Surface Water Treatment Rule), as well as the time commitment to allow the operator sufficient time to properly operate the water plant.

The college has consistently stated that its water has not changed and is safe, citing results of private lab testings done monthly from different sites on campus. What has changed are the state regulations for the treatment of ground water.

"The school has been working with the County since the 1993 state regulations went into effect," said Keith Beasley, whose long list of responsibilities includes the operation of the campus water plant. "The college purchased a new Ozone generation plant about a year and a half ago." This one piece of equipment cost approximately \$50,000.

"We thought it would be good for a couple more years, at least," said Beasley, "but now with the tightening of regulations, and the liabilities of managing our own water system, purchasing a new filter, new pumps, and automatic valve systems, etc, we just can't afford it." There is no guarantee that regulations will not continue to

evolve into even tougher standards, he added.

"It appears that eventually all small surface water plant are going to become obsolete," Beasley said.

During the March 4, YCCD Board of Trustees meeting, a vote was taken to agree to allow Chancellor Pamela Fisher to enter into negotiations with Tuolumne Utilities District. The vote was 5 in favor and 1 against.

When contacted by the MTX, Tom Hallinan, Jr., the only trustee to vote no, said, "I am in complete agreement with (Columbia) getting out of the water business. I didn't vote against this thing because I wanted to hold it up or anything. I just feel like a contract worth this much money (approximately \$300,000) should be looked at by the entire Board of Trustees. The total costs are not known and we may or may not qualify for a state grant to help pay for this."

"There seems to be a statewide movement away from small water plants, and there is every indication that the state regulations will continue to get stricter," said Maria Baker, YCCD Director of Facilities Planning and Development during a phone conversation with the MTX. "The district may have to continue to spend money keeping the equipment up to date, therefore, the best long term solution might be to connect to a public system." Baker said the projection for completion of the connection is the beginning of the

fall semester.

In the meantime, that bottled water we're enjoying so much, is costing the district in the neighborhood of \$1200 a month.

The approximate estimate for the construction to connect the school to the TUD system is \$300,000.

"When you start getting into the bidding system, this amount could change," said Baker. "The District has applied for Scheduled Maintenance Funds and should qualify as this would be considered a Life, Safety, and Health Project."

Eliminating the responsibility of maintaining water safety standards at Columbia College will be a relief to some, however, it is rather sad to see the days of self-reliance end. It leaves one to wonder whether the issue is an interest by the state to save money by reducing regulatory workload, or if there are real public safety concerns. Perhaps it is both.

In a related issue, water from our San Diego Reservoir may still be put to good use and help to offset some of the costs of buying water from TUD. The irrigation of lawns, and most particularly the soccer field, require a very large percentage of the overall water usage on campus. There are plans being studied to use existing pipes and systems to water the grounds from our reservoir.

See related story on page 5.

# Presidential Search Committee Finalizing Busy Process

By Zina Earhart  
MTX STAFF WRITER

How many of you are aware that the future of Columbia College is up to a committee? The committee was formed last semester to select a new president to replace interim President W. Dean Cunningham. Dr. Al Fernandes and the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) have overseen this committee throughout the process. The committee itself is a collaboration of college faculty, select students, and community

members, including a hospital administrator.

From the start the committee members laid the foundation to the ACCT and Dr. Fernandes, of how the program should operate. The ACCT was hired at \$20,000 to advise and oversee only, and the committee was in charge of the application evaluation and candidate selection.

According to Lynn Martin, chair of the committee, this selection was an intense process. Initially, there were 62 applicants. A high quality brochure was constructed in effort to

attract persons of high-esteem and merit.

The brochure contained a list of expectations, challenges, and opportunities for the individual. Several desirable qualifications are a Master's Degree or Doctorate, teaching or counseling experience, and understanding and sensitivity to cultural diversity.

Other important elements are to be considered including commitment to academic excellence, leadership, and a consistently high degree of integrity and ethical behavior. This individual

must display effective communication skills, have previously shown concern and support of Student Services, and believe in shared governance.

The committees' ideal candidate has all these components but must also be warm and human, and have the students', faculty's, and community's best interests at heart.

With these 62 Applicants, this dedicated team has applied several weeks of hard-core evaluation, and many hours in meetings to narrow this great number down to 14. These

14 chosen applicants have been contacted to appear for a personal interview.

A high level of confidentiality has been and will continue to be utilized to ensure a pure, untainted outcome. These preliminary interviews should take place on the 26th and 27th of March, and will further narrow down the running to three to five candidates.

These individuals will then be recommended to the chancellor, Pamela Fisher, and the Board of Trustees for the final decision.



## Pow Wow Back On Schedule



By Sandra Corbin  
MTX STAFF WRITER

This year's Fourth Annual Pow Wow almost didn't happen. Poor communication between those responsible for the presentation of the Pow Wow and those that would participate in the actual function was the problem. With the return of former director of the Pow Wow, Katy Wheeler, events are back in full gear and the celebration will begin as scheduled. April 12 sets the date of the Pow Wow. Admission is free and all age groups are welcomed.

The Pow Wow was generated originally for the Native American cultures to have a productive way in which to secure their traditions in their children. It has also become a beneficial way for the community to become involved in the native culture. In an interview

with Tom White Eagle, a continuing Pow Wow performer, he expressed that the Pow Wow was a way of "maintaining the Native American culture and sharing culture between ourselves and the community." White Eagle, a La Lakota Indian, has participated in the past three Pow Wows held here at Columbia College. He is representative of just one of the twenty to thirty different tribes that would be present, helping each other in the celebration of their forefathers.

In this celebration, you will find a variety of booths containing everything from home made crafts and Indian artifacts, to food booths with native cuisine, and story tellers to excite your imagination. The most visual part of any Pow Wow are the dancers. Among the "dances" at the Pow Wow, there are a variety, from the showy Fancy

Dancer, introduces around the time of Buffalo Bill and the wild west shows, to the more traditional dances such as the Grass dance. The outfits or regalia worn by each dancer tells a story all its own. Each tribe has its own patterns and designs and each dance may have a special outfit. Each dance also has a purpose, to give thanks, ask for guidance, or to just celebrate life. However, no dance would be complete without the drums.

"The drums are the center focus of our Pow Wows, they are the heart beat of our people."

I still hear those words spoken to me by Tom White Eagle, and I tried to imagine what it would be like if the drums were silent forever. It almost happened here and it is a disquieting feeling. Let's hope the drums never cease to send the rhythm of heartbeats across our campus.

## Foothills Famous Pasteurized Water

By Karen Shelley  
MTX MANAGING EDITOR

".....pasteurized, because it passes through more cow and sheep pastures than any other water in the country," is the local joke about our water.....the same water that comes out of our campus spigets and possibly out of your own at home.

The water that comes out of our faucets at the turn of the handle has quite a history. It starts out about 9,000 feet in altitude, just below Three Chimneys and Burst Rock in the Emmigrant Wilderness. This is where the headwater of the south fork of the Stanislaus River begins. The water travels about 15 miles down into Pinecrest Lake where it is released through a valve in the dam located there. It passes through Strawberry and on down into Lion's Lake, another 20 miles. The water is regulated through a dam there by P.G.&E.

From Lion's Lake the water enters the famous "ditch system". These ditches were hand dug by miners about 100 years ago. The water travels the ditch down into the

Twain Harte Valley. There the ditch splits. One goes on to Tuolumne City area and the other comes to Columbia by way of the Big Hill/Yankee Hill ditch. It comes into the San Diego Reservoir which is the lake in the middle of our campus. Here the water is pumped through the school's water treatment plant and then pumped to holding tanks located near the fire station. And from there it enters pipes leading finally, to our faucets.

As the water travels the open ditches, it passes through private pastures, as well as wild hillsides. Some of the old ditches are being converted into pipe systems. It is said that 50% of the water is lost to seepage and evaporation from the time it leaves the point of origin high in the mountains to the point where the ditch ends at Montezuma's Junction.

When Columbia College is connected to the TUD water system, we will still be getting the same water from the same place, but it will go through TUD's more advanced water treatment plant.

## Student Attacked By Motorists

By Vickie Marks  
MTX STAFF WRITER

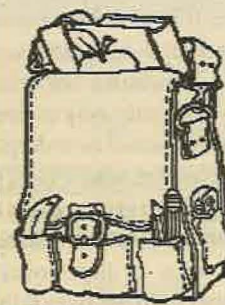
On February 12, 1997, at 11:50 P.M. a Columbia College female student was reportedly attacked on Saw Mill Flat Road by unknown assailants.

The student, who has remained unnamed, was walking along Saw Mill Flat Road on the night of February 12, when a car pulled over and the occupants asked if she needed a ride. What transpired after that is very sketchy, however there are

indications that the attack was sexual in nature.

The victim has not agreed to divulge any information publicly, so the facts are not known. What is known is that she called a friend the morning after to come pick her up. They drove to the Sheriff's Department in Sonora, where she spoke to a deputy and was then transported to Tuolumne General Hospital for an examination.

At press time, no additional information could be provided.



## Manzanita Bookstore

Located on Campus  
Overlooking the Lake

## More than a Bookstore

\* **Columbia College Logo**  
**Clothing - 30% Off**  
**Thru April 11th**  
**T-Shirts..Hats**  
**Shorts..Sweatshirts**  
**and Little People Stuff Too!**

\* **Check out our SALE**  
**TABLE for Great Bargains!**

\* **Graduation Announcements**  
**Available \$1.00 Each+ Tx**

**Weekly Specials - Show Your Student Activity**  
**Sticker.....Receive an Additional 5% OFF**

**Hours: Mon, Tues, Thurs, & Fri. - - 7:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.**

**Weds. - 7:30 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.**

**588 - 5126**



## 'Hepatitis C' Ranked No. 2 of Communicable Diseases

By Rebecca Escamilla  
MTX STAFF WRITER

We as Americans have been so involved in AIDS awareness, Cancer research and other more commonly talked about diseases, that we have altogether ignored the tragedy of a common and deadly virus. 3.5 million people are infected with it in the U.S. and 37 cases have been reported in Tuolumne County this year. This disease is Chronic Active Hepatitis C (HCV). It is the most dangerous type of Hepatitis you can transmit or receive. According to the Stockton Record on March 14, 1997; of the top 10 most communicable diseases reported by doctors and labs in 1996, Hepatitis C was ranked number 2. Awareness of this disease is almost obsolete. The only way we can fight this disease and protect ourselves is through public awareness. The more we know, the better chances we have of survival.

We must first define what Hepatitis C is. It is a viral infection of the liver, that is transmitted through blood, blood products and bodily fluids. People at highest risk of infection include, abusers of intravenous drugs, sexual partners of infected people, people with

Hemophilia, persons undergoing kidney dialysis and others who received blood transfusions within the last 20 years. Not all patients are part of the high risk groups. Ironically, about half of all reported cases have no identifiable source of infection.

It takes approximately 14 to 170 days to develop the disease after being infected. Once you've carried the virus for six months, you are considered "Chronic Active."

Some symptoms can be fatigue, irritability, nausea, loss of appetite, muscle ache, headache, joint pain, skin rashes, diarrhea, jaundice and thyroid problems. There are some patients however, who do not show signs of the disease for years, making it harder for doctors to diagnose.

A test called ELISA can detect antibodies to the virus and thereby determine if you've become infected or are a carrier. It measures your liver enzymes indicating the extent of damage. The only way to determine your status for sure is to undergo a liver biopsy procedure which is to remove a sample of the liver itself for testing. The trouble with this procedure is that it can be toxic at low doses. The patient risks complete liver failure just for the biopsy procedure.

The only approved drug treatment of the Hepatitis C virus is Recombinant Alpha Interferon. There

are side effects though, and the drug doesn't work for some patients. When patients stop taking Interferon, their liver function enzymes relapse to the level they were before taking the drug. Some of the side effects of Interferon are flu-like symptoms, fever, fatigue, headache, muscle ache, and chills usually occur within a few hours of injection. These symptoms seem to lessen as the drug is continued. There are some reactions at the site of the injection, such as dryness, inflammation, and itching. HCV patients have also reported dryness of mouth and an alteration in their taste buds. They have also reported fatigue, irritability or depression, which could be related to the drug or the disease.

Research for a cure has been a painstaking procedure. 8,000 to 10,000 patients die every year waiting for a cure. In March of 1993 a study was done to determine if the administration of a intravenous immune globulin, Gammagard, had caused patients to develop the Hepatitis C disease. An immunology program in Teritary Care Hospital gave 210 patients the immune globulin, of whom 23 became infected with HCV. The Hepatitis C virus was found in Gammagard. Those who were trying to protect

themselves from the disease were the very same people who developed it. Several research groups are formed every year by hospitals such as, Stanford Medical Center and U.C. Davis Medical Center. The American Liver Foundation is making strides in public awareness for the Hepatitis C virus. You can talk to your doctor to answer your questions and address your concerns about this serious disease.

In November of 1996, long-term liver patients, such as those with HCV, were shifted to the end of the transplant list. Carol Beasley, managing director of the Boston based partnership for Organ Donation supports the shift.

"There is only so much room in the lifeboats and a bunch of people are going to drown," said Beasley. The patients who are the sickest are no longer the top priority. Patients with acute liver damage, that have developed it suddenly, will be given top priority. In recent years supporters of the new policy adopted by the United Network for Organ sharing have classified long-term liver failure as a direct result of alcoholism and intravenous drug use. They say they are not passing judgment, but rather trying to make the most out of a limited number of

donated livers. In 1995, 3,922 liver transplants were performed. While 8 to 10 people die each day waiting for a liver. The death rate among HCV patients will rise drastically due to this new shift. Many patients who did not receive the Hepatitis virus through alcoholism or drug use will suffer due to the stereotype the United Network for Organ sharing committee has made.

Prevention can be practiced through safe sex, abstinence, and by not sharing any blood transmitting products such as; hypodermic needles, razors, scissors or nailfiles. Contact the American Liver Foundation for more information regarding prevention and up to date information on this silent virus at 1-800-223-0179.

Side bar:

Know how to treat your liver right!

Liver friendly foods are carrots, beets, garlic, bananas and juices containing the vitamins C and B. Things your liver should stay away from are, alcohol, caffeine, aspirin, tylenol and other acid based foods and juices. Eating right is treatment in itself and can keep you healthy for years. Avoid toxins to the liver to prolong the life of your liver.

### GOLD COUNTRY



• COFFEE SERVICE •

• WHOLESALE & RETAIL •

90 BIG TREES ROAD  
MURPHYS, CA. 95247  
(209)728-8634

## New Plans For Child Development Center

By Charmaine Mattingly  
MTX STAFF WRITER

Plans for renovation are currently underway at the Columbia College Child Development Center. A statewide program granted funds to the State Child Development Division which are allocated through the Superintendent of Schools Office then to the Center.

"The final figures are not known," said Kathy Sullivan, site director, "but we are planning to replace the linoleum and carpet."

Adjustments to the sinks and fountains to accommodate the children are among the plans. General repairs and maintenance will be expected along with more

bark and sand for the play areas.

The Center is a participant in the State Preschool system. The Center promotes educational and social programs for children ages 3 to 5.

"Miles of Smiles" is just one of the programs geared to instruct the children in personal care. All aspects of dental hygiene are learned and practiced. Other amenities include well-balanced meals subsidized by The Federal Food Program. One of the children's favorite programs, "Books for the Children" encourages an appreciation for reading while giving Early Childhood Development students practical experience.

Eager to get the word out, Sullivan said, "Most students don't know about the new income ceilings." According to Sullivan, a family of 4 earning less than \$2, 550/mo. can participate in the State Preschool at no cost.

"In light of the welfare reform, to really help people get the training they need, you've got to provide them with the programs to support them," Sullivan said. "We will be offering a summer school with lots of outdoor fun for the kids."

Look for the Center's booth at the upcoming 13th Annual ICES Children's Fair, Saturday, April 19 from 10 am to 3 pm at the Mother Lode Fairgrounds.



# Jeff Tolhurst Captures Geology Students' Interests

By Lisa Larsen  
MTX STAFF WRITER

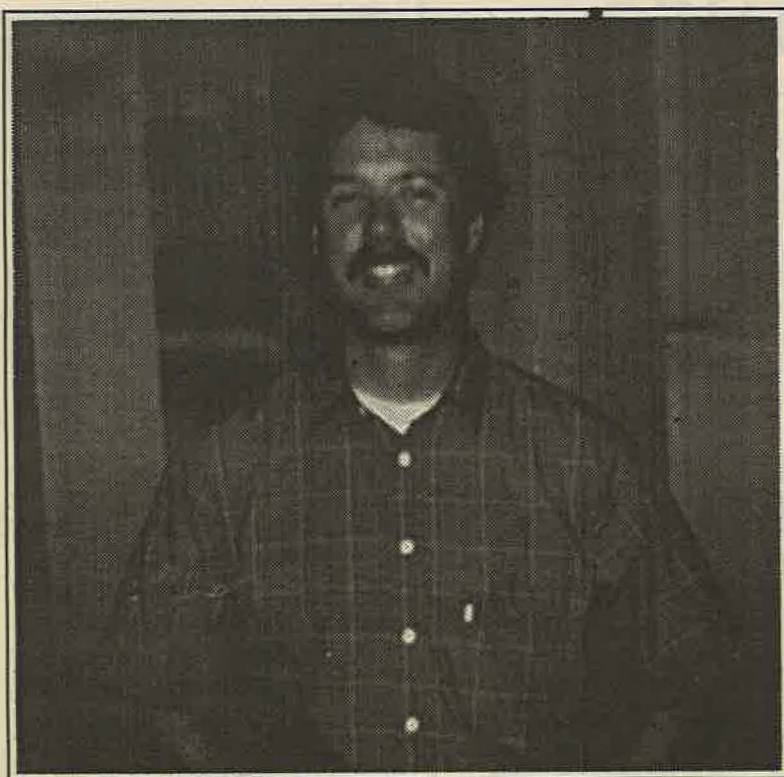
Fate is a strange thing. Had it not been for a seemingly insignificant decision, Jeff Tolhurst might very well be adjusting your braces today instead of teaching Earth Science at Columbia College.

I went to Jeff's office not knowing exactly what to expect. He greeted me wearing casual cotton clothing and a relaxed, outdoor-loving look about him. Precisely the look of a young geologist. Evidently it took a little longer for that realization to come to him. "I actually wanted to be an orthodontist originally," Jeff confided, smirking slightly. That was until, as a community college student in Monterey, he decided to take a geology course.

As is often the case, that small choice made a large impact on Jeff's life. The instructor of the course brought the subject to life, and Jeff found himself fascinated by geology. Still, after getting his associates degree, he decided to take a year off to decide upon a career. With a friend who was also interested in the field, and abundant job opportunities for geologists, Jeff found himself less and less interested in orthodontics. He had made his decision. He went on to earn his Bachelor's degree in Geology at U.C. Santa Barbara, a teaching credential in science, and his Masters' degree from Humbolt State. He is currently working on his doctoral dissertation while teaching here at Columbia.

After finishing his degree Jeff spent three years working with the U.S. Geological Survey. During this time period he traveled extensively throughout the southwest. Even though he thoroughly enjoyed his work, teaching always seemed to be his primary interest. Although only in his thirties, Jeff has taught at the Junior High, High School, Community College, and University levels.

As you may expect, Jeff is an avid fan of outdoor activities. He enjoys mountain biking, sea kayaking, hiking and skiing. While teaching at other schools he



would frequently make trips to our area and Yosemite National Park, never aware that there was a college in Columbia. It was only after he began work on his doctoral dissertation in South Carolina that he learned about Columbia College through a job announcement. He immediately remembered the area, applied, and was hired. I asked him about what brought him back to community college after all the different levels he had taught.

"I enjoy teaching at Community College more than at the University level. Universities are very research oriented with a lot of pressure to publish. At Community College the emphasis is more about teaching. You're also given more time to develop and design what you will teach. Teaching high school is great, but the pace is so rushed you hardly have time to use the bathroom," he said, laughing with a tone of exasperation.

From my viewpoint that free time won't last too long, judging from his popularity as an instructor and his class workload. This semester he teaches Physical and Field Geology, Global Tectonic Geology, and helps to oversee the GIS program (see article on page 2 for more information).

I spent a morning in his crowded Global Tectonic Geology class and soon discovered the reason for his popularity; Jeff Tolhurst cares about

capturing the interest of his students. He carefully explained concepts, using examples and a bit of humor, always stopping to get the students thoughts and answer questions. Classes are very project-driven, allowing students to develop a sense of interdependence. Students are encouraged to choose their own projects and solve problems with Jeff acting as their advisor. In his own words, he is not just teaching Earth Science, but is trying to "teach the students to think critically, problem-solve, and work together as a team." His teaching style stems from his own approach to life and learning. He describes it as "holistic." He is interested not only in the cognitive approach, but also understanding the underlying reason for how and why things work, as well as the kinesthetic process of learning.

Perhaps it is his approach to teaching, or the fact that he was once a confused community college student himself, but whatever the reason, the students I interviewed genuinely seemed to like him and enjoy the courses they were taking. Most of them said they thought they would be bored by the class, but have found themselves "sucked in."

So, if you're searching for your niche and find yourself in need of a science requirement, sign up for one of Jeff Tolhurst's classes. Who knows? Maybe fate is waiting there for you too.

## MURPHYS BOOKS

Buy, Sell & Trade  
New & Used Books Books On Tape  
Libraries & Collections Purchased

15% DISCOUNT ON NEW BOOKS  
20% DISCOUNT ON BOOKS PURCHASED BY  
SCHOOL DISTRICTS  
SPECIAL ORDERS WELCOME

**728-9207**

OPEN DAILY FROM 11 TO 6  
Sierra Hills Shopping Center, Hwy. 4 at Murphys

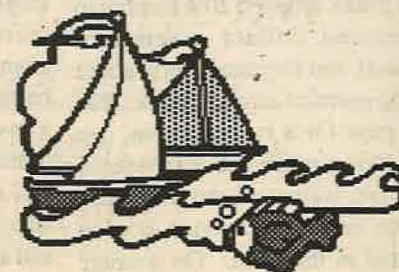
**Want a Great Job Working  
at a Mountain Lake ??**

**YMCA Camp Tulequoia  
Wants You !! ... to Work this  
Summer ..... if You ...**

- \* Love Kids
- \* Love the Great Outdoors
- \* Want to Become a Child's Hero
- \* Want to Make Friends
- \* Like to Use Your Special Talents
- \* Like Active Adventures

**Get a Jump Start on Your Career -  
We're Hiring - Lifeguards, Counselors,  
Crafts Directors, Waterfront Director,  
Cooks, Maintenance Directors &  
Assistants... and More!**

**For a Job Application and Interview call Us  
Now at - YMCA Camp Tulequoia near Kings  
Canyon National Park - CONTACT - Camping  
Services Director, 211 W. Tulare Ave.,  
Visalia, Ca. 93277 209/627-0700**





# Dorms Offer Upgraded Features



**By Rebecca Escamilla**  
MTX STAFF REPORTER

Did you know there are only seven junior colleges in the state of California that provide student housing? Columbia College is one of the most reasonably priced. Columbia college has some of the best rates and ergonomics of them all. They also provide a variety of services for the students.

The prices dropped 20% last fall to a thousand dollars a semester (prepaid), and they are helpful about making payment arrangements. That price pays for a two bedroom, one bath, living room and kitchenette. Heat, air, water, electricity, trash service and mail service is also included in the price. On average

there are 140 students a semester who live on campus. Compared to Humbolt State whose rooms are four hundred dollars a month per person, the Columbia College dormitories have a price many colleges simply can't beat.

The managers of the housing units have made many positive changes to the rooms and the recreation area. They have put in new carpets, new heaters, full size refrigerators, and are always working on new ideas to improve the rooms. As for recreation, the managers have changed the recreation unit for the better. In the last year they have taken a two room, two game facility and transformed it into a coffee house, and entertainment center. They've added a pool table, a foot ball game, and a laundromat. They also provide

a movie rental service. On average there are 140 students a semester who live on campus.

The student housing is more than just housing. It has a full running hostel; with a 36 person capacity. People from all over the world stay here. During the summer, the hostel acts as an alternative to housing revenue. Groups, sports clubs and high school students stay in the hostel for learning experience. This summer, a group of grade school students from Mexico will be staying in the hostel. They will learn about California and it's beauty. During the "Forever Plaid" production at Columbia Actors Reperatory, the actors stayed in the hostel.

All in all, the Columbia college dormitory is a bargain that can't be beat.

## Student Profile



**Returning Student Diana Reeder**

**By Charmaine Mattingly**  
MTX STAFF WRITER

The objectives of our student body are as equally diverse as the people themselves. Each person pursues very interesting goals. In this issue, we will talk with Diana Reeder. Reeder is a 36 yr. old reentry student.

"Diana, what prompted you to return to school?" I questioned.

"I have worked at Kline's Health & Fitness Club for 12 yrs. and I want to better educate myself in the health field with a long term objective as a physical therapist. Also, I am currently a Certified Aerobic Instructor and plan to advance to a Certified Fitness Trainer."

"How is Columbia College helping you to reach your goals?" I asked.

Eager to share her experience, she said, "Currently I am in an internship with Josh Bigelow working in the cardiopulmonary department. I work with people with lung impairments such as emphysema. Also, I work with Adaptive PE. The participants are

physically and/or handicapped challenged. I work with Kathy Kenna. Kathy is the Personal Trainer from the women's volleyball and men's basketball teams. I am learning how to wrap and prepare players for games and practices."

Realizing her obligations as a mother, I asked Diana, "Are you able to balance your parental duties with school?"

"As a mother of a six yr. old, I find juggling school and home responsibilities a rewarding challenge. After being out of school for so many years, school-life is stimulating, and I enjoy campus life," she enthusiastically responded.

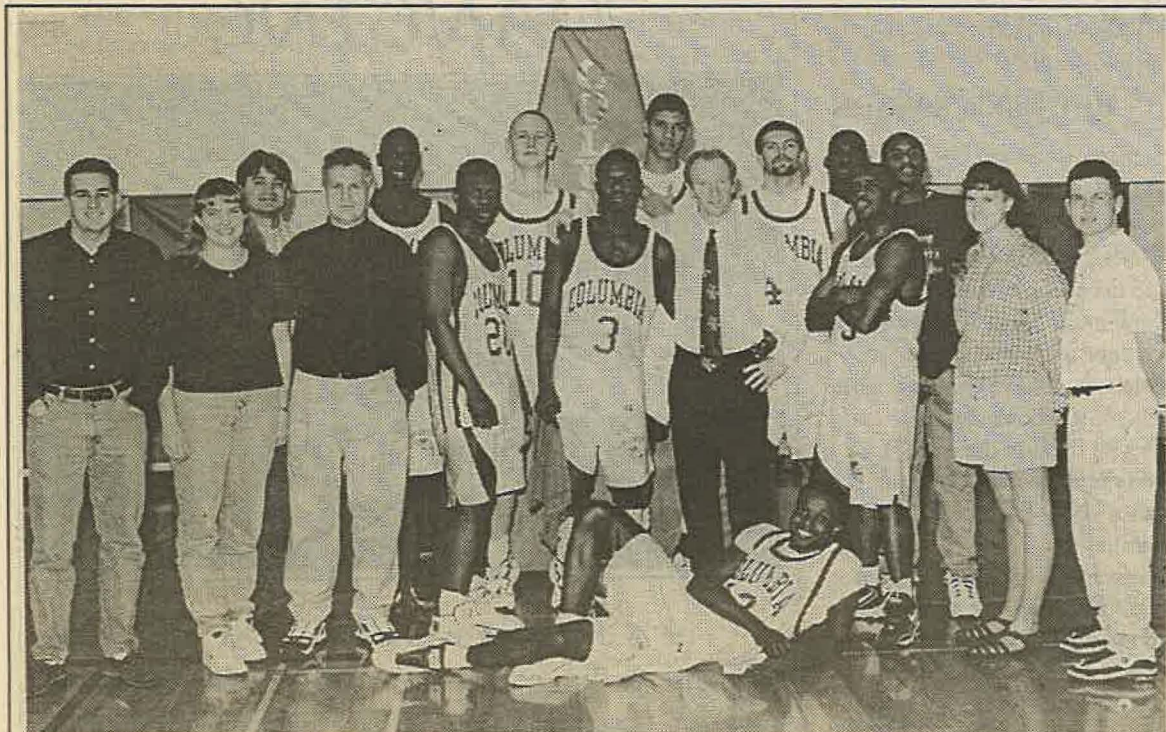
Diana wanted to leave this final motivating thought, "If I can do it, anybody can do it!"

Thank you Diana for your words of encouragement. We all appreciate you opening up and sharing your experience and goals..

*A career criminal gets back on track and stays there. Look for this terrific student profile in the*



## JUMPERS DEMANDED RESPECT



There are more to the team than just the players on the court. Some of the on and off the court team members are: **lying down** - Sherod Dent, **Standing L-R front** - Brian Powell, Sharla Kunz, Bill Vaughn, Tyreese Stewart, Haniff Collins, Glen Hefferman, Alton Sanders, Bridget Convery, John Sevy. **Back row L-R** - Gil Miranda, Darrell Brown, Gabe Wingo, Matt Williams, Shaun Kunz, Jason Bryant, Jonathan Cooper. *Photo by Tim Mann.*

By Tim Mann  
MTX SPORTS WRITER

The road to the Central Valley Conference Championship and a playoff spot, has long wound its way through Columbia. Many vehicles litter its shoulders, the stalled wreckage of so many teams' hopes and aspirations. This year, Columbia was expected to be bypassed, a hick town along the freeway leading to Fresno City College.

The Rams were too good, the Jumpers finally rebuilding and under a new, first-time head coach. Many CVC coaches figured to steam-roll Columbia, to pave over the Oak Pavilion once and for all, to relegate this small school to the one horse town they think it to be.

Wrong! Call him Coach, but road engineer Glen Hefferman faced the mighty CVC and forced it to come to Columbia, forced the issue here, in our gym, forced the oh, so good Fresno State J.V.s" to face our crowd, our pressure, to win or lose in our "house." This would be no sideshow, no game just for pride. This contest would be for all the marbles, the league championship within reach only for the winner.

That this game would have any meaning, let alone deciding the title, was a measure of how far, and fast Hefferman had driven his team. Columbia, with only two returning

players, and a new coaching staff was starting from the back row, an "also ran" from the get go.

The CVC is such a powerful league, the best team in it ranks with the best of the State, its two and three spots out-rank other leagues' champs, and its four and five spots are often quite good, but its just tough luck for them to be in the CVC.

This year Fresno City College looked to have a lock on the pole position. Besides their strong feeder schools, they have a connection with the Fresno State Basketball program, acting as the agency to bring along some very talented players who need to get their grades and eligibility requirements in order. This boosts both programs and adds to the complexity of coaching and players in the CVC. A good community college team can look like chopped Spam compared to Fresno's sleek machine.

For an underpowered, rookie-coached, clunker like Columbia was forecast to be, the comparison was grim indeed. Nothing about Columbia's season was supposed to be impressive; a mere moped quickly run off the track.

Wrong again! The race would not by-pass Columbia, it would not be a flat track loop between Valley cities, it would not be a ho-hum event in Columbia, Fresno, or Porterville. It would once again be key to the final results; it would worry coaches who

thought they had no worries. It would be decisive. The winner would be better for having met the challenge, the loser for having been a part of such an intense struggle.

What about the "cars" being raced on this hastily constructed Columbian Scenic Tour? The Fresno speedster is certainly higher sticker-priced, very sharp looking, like a shark in the water. Its a finely appointed racer built and tuned just for this clash. Its a pleasure to watch this fine team perform.

The 96-97 Jumper entry might be likened to something built in a guys garage. Hefferman and his pit crew of Jim Glash (since departed), Gil Miranda, Bill Vaughn, and Israel DeHerrera had to scramble for parts, to pound and drill and hand shape into place, a road-worthy entry. The paint wasn't even dry for the first game. Some parts came off. Night after night of coaching reassembly, followed day after day of hard work and practice laps. The team felt the prod of the accelerator and slowly learned how to respond to it. The coach slowly learned how to drive this one of a kind, yet fundamentally sound machine.

And so, when race day was here, two teams, one store-bought, and one home-made, lined up to compete for a prize worth all the effort and sweat. It was all the more interesting to see what can be accomplished when there are obstacles to overcome

instead of just having a smooth track to glide around. Perhaps the maturity gained is to be appreciated over and above the laurels earned.

The final difference may have been Fresno's slightly deeper gas tank, or perhaps the wind factor. Certainly the losing score, 75-71, on the evening of February 5, 1997, wasn't the fault of any of the horses under the hood or the driver behind the wheel. Nothing worthy of attaining

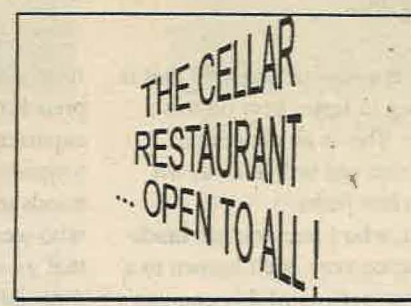
is easy, fair, or guaranteed.

The house was packed and the fans saw a great game, David and Goliath, the number #1 team in the state sweating out a game with a small school.

Small school, big talent. what a race to the wire!



**Spirit Leaders in Action L-R - Amy Purinton, Alyson Lee, Angie Hursky, Jen-Erin Childress. Not pictured: Li'Joya Perry and Amanda Gold..** *Photo by Tim Mann.*



*Spring Schedule*  
**January 27th through May 9th**

*Please Come In*  
*and*

*Enjoy the Cuisine*  
**11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. - Monday - Thursday**

*Located next to the Lake*  
*in the Lower Manzanita Building*  
**Public Welcome**



## Guest Editorial:

**"Middle Age Entry"**

By Cynthia Edwards

I don't recall precisely what sparked the courage in me to call up Columbia College and request an application. I've never gone to any college, and to top it off, I'm middle aged.

The application itself was challenging. College speaks in a whole different language. I'm convinced that you must first be educated to a certain degree, to understand the B.A., A.A., B.S., etc.

A few weeks after mailing off my application, an envelope arrives in my postbox from the college. I'm thinking with delight, "a college is writing me, and they want me." The catch was that I had to be matriculated. I promptly looked that one up in the dictionary. The college needed to access me in regards to my English and Math skills. I can fake commas and the other punctuation, but the last math class I had, was in 1969, and that was Basic Math 2. When I went to

school the general consensus (what my mother told me) was that I could get anywhere in life, if I could type. And I believed it.

Twenty-five years later, I find myself enrolled in Fall classes. Both my children are out of the house, off to college themselves. I desperately need something to fill my evenings, and my thoughts. My household work load has diminished, the laundry is at a minimum, and I no longer bake a cake because it sits around for me to eat the bulk of it.

I had heard nightmares from my daughter about the lines at her bookstore, but to my grateful relief, a bookstore person gently took me by the hand, and guided me to the books that I needed. I proudly posed for my I.D. card, and I find great pleasure in shipping it out at the theatre and local events where a discount is offered. Me, a student! I'm reminded of the pleasure that Steve Martin's character, The Jerk,

experienced when he saw his name in the phone book.

Oh, what a thrill, when I learned how to use the micro-film and fiche machine in the library. I now know which door to go in and out of at the cafeteria. I have explored and discovered a second student parking lot, next to the gym. I've learned not to be afraid of new obstacles in my life. Learning is exhilarating!

I was somebody before I went to college: I've owned houses, and raised two great kids. Now I have the opportunity to experience yet another American Dream. I have the opportunity of higher education. I proudly walk to class, experiencing minor goosebumps, and bursting with pride at where I am, and what I'm doing. I'm opening my mind to new ideas, and realizing that anything is possible, at any age.

**From the Mountain Times Mailbox****To the Editor:**

There is a serious problem that is beginning to fester here on this campus. This is an element of friction that can only lead down one of a few paths.

A man, who I am sure has made his presence very well known to a significant portion of this campus's student body, is becoming more and more of a nuisance as time progresses. This man is the guy who, instead of holding down a job and carrying his own weight in the world, devotes his time to harassing kids here on campus (he looks able-bodied to me, yet he doesn't seem to have a job to go to. I wonder if Social Security or the Welfare Office might be interested in the status of certain able-bodied individuals who can hold heavy signs all day long, but cannot hold down a 9-to-5).

Now a significant number of people (students) here on campus embrace a diversity of philosophies and belief systems (from Christianity to Paganism, and from Catholicism to Satanism) that differ

from what this gentleman is preaching. From my own experience, this guy holds grudges towards those who speak their minds to him (not to mention those who wear jewelry or medallions that go against his beliefs), especially upon asking him to leave them alone and to kindly keep his ideologies to himself. Now if we were to erect soap boxes in front of the cafeteria for the different religions to be represented, it would be a total circus (even more so than the current dog-and-pony exhibit that graces itself here already). This is why we don't go to that extreme.

This gentleman has a right to live how he chooses (unless he is breaking certain laws in particular). But this is not the place for that kind of stuff. The separation of an amalgamation between Church and State and other secular institutions has been fundamentally instituted; and for very good reason. Wars have been the only result of such a union, bringing anarchy and strife

because there is always someone else that perceives and believes things in an entirely different way than someone else.

It is starting to get way out of hand. Let's not allow religion to achieve its war-like climax (as it has all throughout history). Please keep it at home and/or at your church.

George Stevens

**To the Editor:**

In response to the letter published in the February edition of The Mountain Times, written by the P!@#ed off puppy; Get a life!

I would like to inform you that not all smokers are as inconsiderate as you propose them to be. Personally I do not, "Hawk-up lugies" as you suggest, yet I have witnessed many non-smokers in the habit of doing just that, and yes, I do agree it's disgusting. I also use the few ash cans provided on campus, as many people do, though

most of the time they are cluttered with candy wrappers, soda cans, gum and other debris that should be placed in their proper receptacles. With the ash cans emptied of objects that don't belong in them maybe more of the offensive ground butts would be properly disposed. I have on several occasions cleaned them out myself just to be able to extinguish my cigarette.

Complaining that you have to tolerate such unpleasantness while you try and enjoy your meal is a mute point. You have a choice on where you want to eat. Our choices, as smokers are limited. Before legislation was passed banning all smoking in public buildings, especially restaurants, most smokers used the ash trays placed before them. It is after all, more comfortable to sit in an air conditioned, or heated restaurant; enjoying a nice meal, conversation, and yes, our cigarettes, than it is to be huddled against the side of a building, battling the elements mother nature hands us. As our

choices of where we are allowed to smoke are restricted further, it may seem more evident to non-smokers that smokers are becoming increasingly inconsiderate, it's not that we don't care if we put out our cigarettes on the ground, it's that we are running out of appropriate places to put them.

There are certain areas on campus that are, "Designated Smoking Areas," one is located between the front stairs of the Manzanita Building, and the elevator by the cafeteria. The other side and inside are reserved for non-smokers. If you notice someone smoking in a "NO SMOKING" area you have every right to ask them to move, or even have security move them. If, however, you choose to sit in a smoking area and find what you see offensive, move. Even better, become involved with your college and help keep it clean as I do.

Sandra Corbin

**GROUNDS FOR DANCING**

PHOTO BY TIM MANN

The "Grounds For Dancing" cast receives the bitter news—no coffee breaks—from Director and Caffeine Czarina Terry Hoff. The caffeine buzz will kick in April 24-26 and May 1-3 at 8:00 pm in the Dogwood Forum. Make your plans "espresso" and don't be "latte." Further grounds for clapping will be served up on the Thursday dates when students get in for \$3.00. Regular admission prices are \$6/general admission and \$5/students and seniors. Tickets are available at the door, at Creative Learning Aids in Downtown Sonora and at the Manzanita Bookstore on campus.



## NATURAL SELECTION AND THE ENIGMA OF SELECTIVE TOLERANCE

BY CHRIS LUHDORFF

We live in a world that is dictated by certain rules, or rather, *natural laws*. This is a fact that we must all accept, and a fact of life that we must all adhere to - whether we like it or not. For those who are *familiar* with such laws, these few are usually not *unfamiliar* with the working balance of such things - and are usually quite successful in all their endeavors for having such innate attributes attached to their personality profile. For those who are unfamiliar with - or just refuse to acknowledge - these laws and how they intertwine within every aspect of our lives, those individuals are inevitably prone toward (or rather, doomed to) *inescapable failure* in life, and failure in most anything and everything that they put their hands or minds to do (and we all know about those special few who cannot walk and chew gum at the same time). Simply put, there are those among the Human Species who fall short of the obligations that come with the title.

Charles Darwin, one of the great thinkers of all time, wrote in his famous *ON THE ORIGIN OF SPECIES*, "...if any one species does not become modified and improved in a corresponding degree with its competitors, it will soon be exterminated." The implications are uncanny, especially when contrasted to modern parallels. Why would a species be so bent toward self-annihilation as is the Human Species? It would be one thing if humanity destroyed itself out of sheer ignorance; that would be a classic example of Natural Selection in action. But self-annihilation due to stupidity[?]; now that is something of an entirely different nature. Darwin spoke of the importance of modification, or changing with the environment, if you will. I prefer to call it "modernation," as it is an invaluable skill when it is able to be applied to oneself, especially when one considers the extensive nature of those... *certain attributes*, shall we say, that are characteristic of the larger portion of our society's Collective, and can thus be rightfully classed (although I'm not sure if there is a politically correct term for it) as examples of *reverse-evolution*. We humans are the only species that I know of (that are not already predestined for

extinction as, say, those in existence as a result of inbreeding) that are *capable* of [purposely] attempting to survive in a domain of debauchery.

In the wild, and animal adapts itself to *survive at peak performance* (or at least the highest attainable level) *under the worst case scenario*. Humans, of course, are more likely to give up under minimal levels of stress (which is why we have so many that suffer from the [self]inflictions of drug and alcohol abuse). In the wild, and animal's sole purpose is to *fight* - tooth, fang, and claw - to survive at all costs; they will defend themselves and their young, and if necessary they will *die* trying. Humans are famous for *neglecting their children*. Every single day you hear of parents who have abandoned their children, abused them, and many other things that are either too graphic or too disturbing to even mention here.

Does this sound misanthropic? Well, it is supposed to. How could one not be, to a certain degree; unless of course one holds a certain level of tolerance for such things, in which case you're a *part of the problem*, instead of being a *part of the solution*. It is because of my intolerance for such things as this that I set sail a few years back to try and find the "perfect locality" in which to sprout some roots. I *traveled the country* in search of the perfect community: from the East Coast, to the far North, from the deep South (where the motel that I stayed at played marathon showings of that Burt Reynolds movie, "Deliverance," and everyone in that community could pass as "movie extras" in that film) to California's larger metropolitan areas. My choices were obviously not all that diversified (I mean, which would you prefer: Ned Beatty squealing like a pig to the tune of dueling banjos, or a community that on Christmas Eve, instead of exchanging presents, they exchange *gunfire*). Through all of my travels, I discovered that the perfect *community* does not even exist in a society such as ours. Therefore, one must make their existence *really count* in whatever environment that they happen to be in. But whatever environment one chooses to be a part of, there is a little thing called the "law of

averages" which must be taken into consideration. We, as students, have decided that "school" is our chosen environment; we must be willing to not only heighten our skills and scholastic prowess, but we must be willing *to use it where it counts*. But if we do things that can hamper our learning capacity and productive output, (like goofing off instead of studying for that midterm the next day) we tilt the law of averages to the negative side of the scale.

It is important to consider the long term effects of our choices. Do we want to risk our future successes at the expense of few brain cells, (especially if one doesn't really have all that many to spare) or would we rather endure a little discomfort and *kick ass* in school so that a few years down the road you can have that [dream] car, house, or job that you've always wanted? (Just imagine, if you apply yourself now, in a few years you can drive that *new car* through the old neighborhood; you might even see several people that you knew [those who didn't take advantage of the given opportunities that you did]. Well, one good thing might come out of it though: your friend, who is thirty and still lives at home with mommy, can get you a free lunch at the fast food establishment that he has worked at, on and off, for the past eight years just to pay rent and put gas in his '72 Dodge Dart).

All kidding aside; although certain things may have been socially acceptable at one time, they now are not. (Remember when the cognitive capabilities of Cheech and Chong were upheld like icons for the masses, who thought that it was cool to exist in a state of disavowed existence, holding no responsibility [or concern] for their own future or the future of their children). The *real world* dictates that you must *evolve* with the times, or be left behind (and there won't be welfare or food stamps to fall back on pretty soon, and "skid row" is already experiencing a problem with overpopulation). Take advantage of your given situation [environment] and make the most of it now. Be Willing to roll with the punches, *adapting* to whatever is necessary, what is acceptable, and what is in your *own best interest*. In a fast paced society, as is ours, you may not be given a second chance. Think about it.

## Talking Heads

### WHAT'S YOUR BIGGEST BITCH ABOUT C.C.?



Carol McGuffey

"Speeders. Students and faculty that speed up the road putting all the local wildlife in danger. Also, the people who race through the handicapped parking."



Jessica Dennen

"Columbia College needs Internet access for all students and they should all be able to have their own e-mail accounts."



Kathy Thulowit

"They could change the night shuttle. Everytime I get half-way to my car, it passes me and it's empty."



Karen Fuko

"The hike, the duck turds on the sidewalk and the food in the cafeteria. They're supposed to be learning how to cook."



Kim Best

"The steps. The parking is what sucks. I want front row parking and ATM access."



## TOMMY CASTRO BREATHES THE BLUES

By Michael Wadle'  
MTX ADVISOR

The Exhibition Hall at the Sonora Fairgrounds was shaking on Saturday night, March 8th, as San Francisco's Tommy Castro Blues Band headlined the Sierra AIDS Council's benefit concert. A crowd of over 800 filled the hall, eating ribs from Wilma's Flying Pig Restaurant, drinking beer from SnowShoe Brewing Co., and enjoying other goodies from the Conscious Choice.

Blues Guitarist Castro and his band — Keith Crossan (sax), Randy McDonald (bass) and Shad Harris (drums) — delivered over two hours of hot, powerful blues blended with a sprinkling of funk and soul. Dressed in black, Castro attacked and seized control of the crowd as he delivered ringing guitar solos backed by

the pumping rhythm of his band.

It's obvious that Castro's band has honed its style from years on the road. The band has earned a reputation as the "hardest working band" in the Bay Area. It's easy to see why, as Castro led them through two long sets featuring music from their first two albums, including: the Castro penned "Had Enough," "Leave this Town," and the band's second album title "Exception to the Rule." Castro didn't stop there as he delivered a powerful rendition of the Willie Dixon classic "Let Me Love You Baby", and one of his signature songs, the Freddie King classic "Me and My Guitar."

The lively crowd was provided with folding chairs for the "concert," but the event

quickly turned into a dance, as the vast majority of the crowd pressed the stage to view Castro and his band and "move" to the blues. Castro encourages crowd participation by his good natured banter and obvious enjoyment in bringing his brand of the blues to Sonora. The concert opened with an hour set from the Sacramento based Mick Martin and the BluesRockers. Martin plays "lead harp" and provided a nice appetizer for Castro's tasty entree and flaming guitar solo desserts.

Good food, great music, and an enthusiastic crowd — all for a good cause. What a Saturday night!

## Good Stuff

gently used ... gently priced

**Clothing - Jewelry**

**Housewares - Furniture**

Benefits WATCH program providing job training and homes for people with developmental disabilities.

**Open 7 Days  
588-0550**

**70 Stockton Street  
Sonora**

(Across from Visitors Bureau)

## World Class Jazz Festivals Right Here in Sonora

By Athena Hamann  
MTX GUEST WRITER

Columbia College was the recent Hot Spot, ignited for two weekends by fiery talent and sizzling Jazz. Professional and amateur musicians joined to form the annual jazz festivals presented by our very own Columbia College Jazz Artist Series. First was the Vocal Jazz Festival that be-bopped all hours of Friday, February 28, and Saturday, March 1. The following week was the Instrumental Jazz Festival that tooted and blew past dark on Friday, March 7, and Saturday, March 8.

Both festivals were host to a group of nationally celebrated musicians. In the vocal festival there were six great artists. The wonderfully skilled Cornelius Bumpus, formerly of the "Doobie Brothers." Phil Mattson, a top innovative music educator and Jazz Genius. Freddy Ravel, who played for the film "Evita," performing sound tracks, and is seen in Madonna's nominated video and is also the musical director for Earth, Wind, and Fire. He also has a new hit CD, Sol to Soul. With them was Don Shelton, a sought after multi-talented jazz pioneer with internationally known albums. also, Michele Weir, and Angie Doctor, who are jazz vocalists, arrangers, and composers with works published and performed in the USA and abroad.

The Instrumental Festival was home stage to four stars each playing numerous instruments. They were Bob Secor, a published musician currently teaching jazz classes at Delta College in Stockton. also with Bob was Marvin McFadden, who is a splendid trumpet player and has been a part of many albums with his back-up sounds that are in high demand. Joining them was Paul Contes and his duo of sax and flute, with help from the Trombonist with the mostest, Dave Eshelman, who is the Director of Jazz studies at California State University, Hayward.

Each evening brought to the stage the above artists together with our own Columbia Jazzers to produce a truly unique jazz show. Led and directed by Rod Harris, April 11.

the jazziest Jazzer at Columbia College, were four groups consisting of many students of Columbia and a few talented others. These groups were first, the Columbia Jazz Choir with seven vocalists doing both feature songs and providing back-up. Next is the Columbia Kicks horn section whose awesome sounds combined with their stage "personality" enhance every show they play in. Also playing were the Columbia Kicks Big Band whose impressive sounds pushed into professional levels, leaving some listeners with no choice but to boogie.

Finally, there was the indispensable rhythm section. they accompanied every mentioned group, and guest artist, showing off great talent and versatile skills, along with the ability to make some great jazz.

During the festival's daytime hours, Columbia College was buzzin' with a multitude of high school jazz groups, and a few private groups. In the line-up were the local jazzers like Calaveras High's group and Summerville High's bunch, along with some long distance groups from San Jose and other areas. Each group performed before the guest artists, then received a clinic. There were also opportunities for any group to go to a workshop with any guest during any of those exciting days.

There are reasons why our little Columbia College gets continuing visits by these and other musical stars. Of course the area is beautiful, without many inhabitants, but it's the jazz music produced here with our neighbors that really seems to attract.

If you haven't seen these shows of "must see" quality, then April 11 at 7:30 P.M., is your chance. Price for general admission is \$4.00 and \$2.00 for students. This show is special because Columbia students will be featured, so don't deny yourself a part in this next Red Hot experience in Dogwood, April 11.

## PIZZA PLUS

178 Big Trees Rd. Murphys, Ca. 95247

HWY 4 - Sierra Hills  
Shopping Center

\* Great Pizza

\* Salads

\* Ice Cream

\* Sodas

\* Cold Beer

\* Video Games

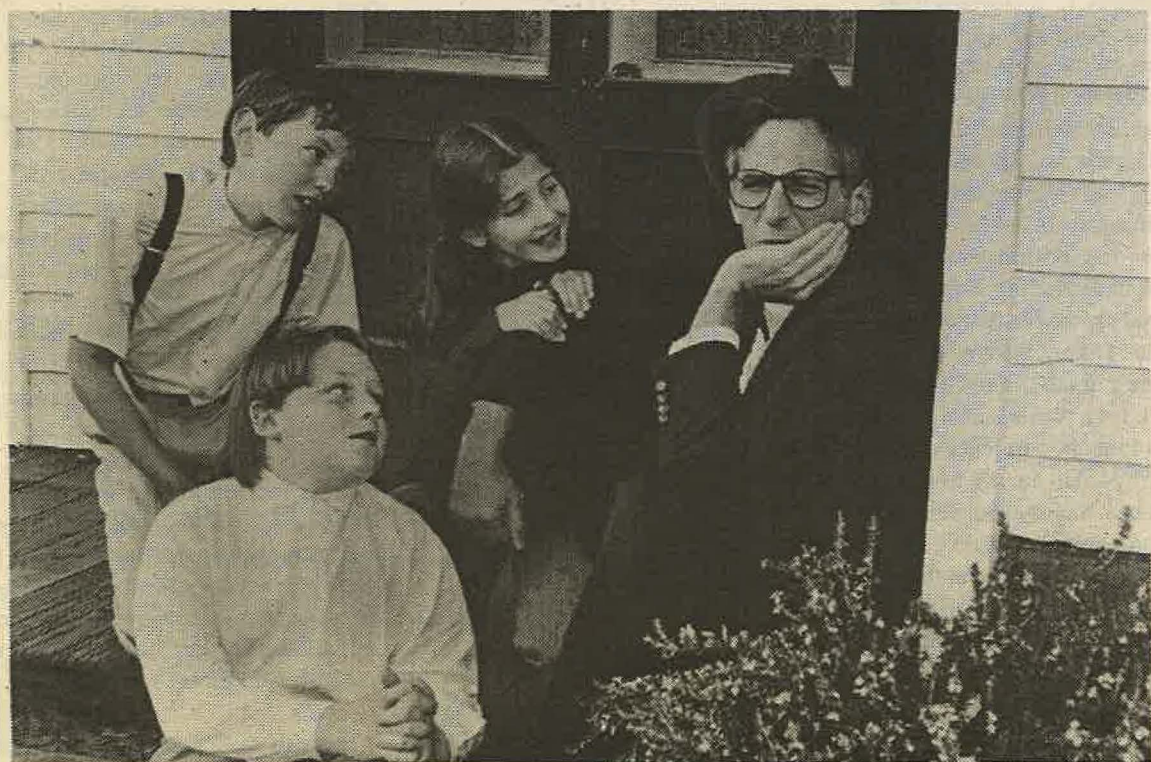
**Call 728-8666**

Columbia College  
Students - Show  
Your Student ID -  
Get 15% Off Your  
PIZZA ORDER





## CAR's *Mockingbird* Entertaining and Intriguing



**PLEASE!**- Jem (Tim Tennyson), Dill (Nate Bender, front) and Scout (Redeana Umland) plead with Atticus (Don Bilotti) to let Dill stay. *Photo by Rich Miller*

By Sandra Corbin  
MTX STAFF WRITER

To Kill a Mockingbird was by far one of the better performances of the season. For someone who has never experienced live theater, this play would surely get you intrigued to attend again. There is a special power to the theater, as lights dim announcing the beginning of the play, conversations stop and anticipation of sight and sound commence.

Young Redeanna Umland, began the first scene, playing the role of "Scout." Redeanna seems to be as comfortable on the stage as the average child would be on the playground. Her confident portrayal of a young southern white girl

confronted with the prejudices of a small Alabama town was outstanding. Throughout her performance, her professionalism shone bright. This is one young actor well on her way to bigger and better things. Redeanna's believable innocence supported the parts played by Nathan Bender and Tim Tennyson, both boys executed their parts with enthusiasm and excellence. The three children almost took the show by themselves.

The lead role of "Atticus", portrayed by Don Bilotti, was of a thoughtful man empowered by his beliefs and commanded by his morals of truth and justice. Don Bilotti's role, although the lead, did not overshadow the other actors' contributions. In fact Bilotti's performance enhanced the validity of

the supporting cast.

Over all the production of "To Kill a Mockingbird" was not only wonderfully executed, it did its job of evoking thought and challenging the cruelty of prejudices, that even today choke humanity and weaken the wealth of our lives. For me this is one play worth seeing more than once.

In recognition of all the production staff and the actors that have dedicated a part of their lives to the Columbia Actors Repertory theater, for their outstanding contributions to the community and for the contemplation, laughter, and tears brought to the hearts and minds of those who have enjoyed the past thirteen seasons, Thank You.

### VEGGIE CORNER

FEATURING SCRUMPDILLITYDUMPTOUS VEGETARIAN RECIPES

#### Ingredients:

1 Carton Tofu (16oz)  
2 Tbls. Chicken-style seasoning  
chopped green onion  
chopped bellpepper (green or red)  
garlic (opt.)  
2 Tbls. oil  
pinch of tumeric (opt. for a more egg-like color)

Drain tofu and crumble in bowl.  
Add chicken-style seasoning & tumeric. Saute veggies in oil. Be sure not to overcook veggies. Add tofu to veggies. Salt & pepper to taste. Serves like scrambled eggs with toast and fruit. Buon appetito!

By Charmaine Mattingly

#### Scrambled Tofu

serving 4

JOIN MTX NEXT

### semester!

Be A Part of the paper! Speak your mind! Enrich the Campus! Get experience! Learn how a newspaper really works!

Register for Journalism 1 or 10 next fall!

## WILMA'S FLYING PIG SALOON



### Flying Pig Saloon

April 97 Schedule

All Times 9pm

**Fri 4/4- Force of Habit**

**Sat 4/5 - The Roger Perry Band**

**Fri 4/11 - Hunchback Joy ride**

**Sat 4/12 - The Killer Blues Band**

**Fri 4/18 - The Juke Joint**

**Jumpers**

**Sat 4/19 - Blues Box**

**Fri 4/25 - The Mackers**

**Sat 4/26 - Gary Hamilton's Blues Band**

**Wednesdays - Open Mike**

**W/Lonny Lee Walker**

**Thursdays - 7 pm Lonny Lee Walker on Piano**

**Boogie on the...  
Southside !!**

**532-8305**

275 S. Washington Street

south of the signal in Historic Downtown Sonora



# Starving Student Travel Tips for Spring Break

By Lisa Larsen  
MTX STAFF WRITER

You're young and independent and Spring Break is finally here! You've got a week of free time and months of pent-up stress just dying to be set free. Finally, a chance to get out of your hole and see the world! Reality check: YOU'RE BROKE! Ahh, the life of a college student. All I have to say is: No money is no excuse. Cheap travel opportunities are out there if you're willing to put up with a few minor inconveniences. The world is waiting, but you have get off your butt to see it.

First, you have to decide where you want to go. Spring Break doesn't allow a lot of time to travel, so consider limiting yourself to the California/Nevada area and saving the big cross-country-road-trip for Summer break. The next step is to think about what you're looking for in a vacation. Are you looking to relax and mellow-out? Don't go to Vegas expecting to find serenity. Instead, think about trying out different natural hot springs all over Northern California or car-camping on the beach. If you're looking for a party, that's not going to work for you. Carpooling to Palm Springs or Vegas with your buddies would be your best bet for a good time.

No matter where you choose to go you need to think about transportation. I may be a wimp, but to me its still too cold to hike or

bike to your destination. Normally you can find some great airfare prices if you know where to look, but at this time of year you can forget it. the cheapest way I have found to get around is to carpool! and split the gas with as many people as possible. Unfortunately, it can be tough to find people to travel with that won't drive you insane after you've been trapped with them in a car for 10 hours straight. Another option to consider is taking a bus. \

Greyhound is offering a "Spring Break Special" right now. If you make reservations three days before you leave and have a student I.D., they'll give you 25% off any fare, or you can travel round-trip anywhere in the United States for \$129. Not a bad deal if you're going solo. If you want more info, their phone # is: 800-231-2222.

Now that you've arrived at your destination, you're going to need a place to stay. As I said before, I am a wimp. I am not into freezing in a tent on a Northern California beach this time of year. Unless you're a die-hard stud, wait until summer or go south to somewhere like Catalina Island. Hostels, casino hotels, and mooching off distant relatives are my favorite options for this time of year. For more information on hostels there are some great guidebooks at the Public Library or you can check out one of the hosting web sites on the internet (I recommend:

www.hostels.com).

If you're looking for that relaxing trip that we mentioned earlier, try the hostel in Moss Beach about 30 minutes south of San Francisco on Highway 1. It sits on a bluff overlooking the ocean in a tiny town by the same name. The hostel is a lighthouse keepers home that has been converted. There's a great old lighthouse, spectacular views, great trails to hike to the beach, and even a private hot tub you can reserve. All for between \$10 - \$20 a night depending if you want a private room for two or sleep dorm style. During the day you can make a quick trip to Golden Gate Park for a picnic and sightseeing in San Francisco or just explore the nearby small coastal towns. Meals can be a major expense in these areas, so think ahead. There's a full kitchen for your use at the hostel. Bring some food from home to make a quick breakfast or a picnic lunch. For dinner, go to the fresh fish market in Half Moon Bay (about 5-10 minute drive), they will clean and crack the fresh crab you buy, and pack it in ice for no charge. Head to the beach with your blanket, bread, and crab and pop open a bottle of wine while you watch the surfers and the sunset. Life is good!

That's great if you're looking to relax, but what if you want to party and get crazed? No one beats Las

Vegas for non-stop party action, unfortunately it can be outrageously expensive this time of year. Vegas can be done reasonably if you follow a few simple ground rules:

- Don't gamble. Use your money for something more fun like a concert...or food.
- Don't stay on the strip. You'll pay through the nose and if you're there to have a good time you will hardly ever be in your hotel room. I spent New Year's Eve in Las Vegas, and every hotel room on the strip was at least \$150 a night. I stayed at a casino called "Railroad Pass" (about a 15 minute drive from the strip) and spent \$40/night which I split with four people. It was lame, but I only spent about 6 hours/day there, and I was asleep, so who cares?! Don't eat three meals a day. Find a cheap buffet at the old end of the strip and gorge yourself at breakfast. Now this next tip is not for the faint of heart: Bring a big purse or a back-pack filled with ziplock bags. Fill them with rolls or fruit from the buffet and, Viola! A FREE dinner. Trust me, you'll be so full from breakfast you won't want to eat much anyway. I know it's totally unhealthy, but so is staying up all night for a week straight.

Supplement expensive stuff like concerts with free entertainment. Watch the volcano erupt and see the white tigers at the Mirage, watch

the pirates battle in front of Treasure Island Hotel, see Rock and Roll paraphernalia at the Hard Rock Hotel or movie stuff at Planet Hollywood, see the statues come to life or take your picture with a gladiator at Caesar's Palace, check out the light show on Fremont street, watch people get married by an Elvis impersonator at the Graceland Wedding Chapel....all for free.

If you're not into seeing Ingelbert Humperdink, call "The Joint" at the Hard Rock Hotel for the best concert information (1-800-HRD-ROCK). Worth a look while you're there is the pool area. It boasts the only man-made beach in Las Vegas, complete with a waterslide, and underwater music. If you've got a few extra bucks take a ride up the "Stratosphere Casino." They have two exposed thrill rides on top of a space needle. Skip the coaster, but don't miss the "Big Shot." Just make sure to go with an empty stomach.

Hope these tips get you motivated to try something different this Spring Break. Take some risks and do something new. Remember, even if your vacation is a nightmare, at least you'll have some great stories to tell when school starts again.

See you next issue with some tips for planning your summer vacation!

## The Bagel Bin

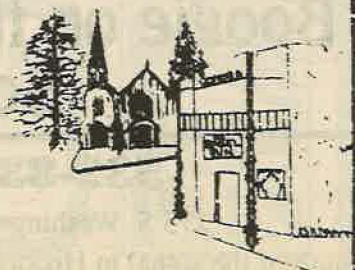


Best In The West

**All Natural Bagels Baked Fresh Daily**  
**No Preservatives • No Fat**

All Grain Honey • Challah • Onion • Garlic • Plain  
Whole Wheat Cinnamon Raisin • Poppy • Salt  
Sesame • Sun-Dried Tomato • Jalapeño • Blueberry  
Onion Cheese • Jalapeño Cheese • Pizza • Cheese  
Apple Spice • Banana Nut • Chocolate Chip  
Peanut Butter • Pumpkin • Strawberry • Pepperoni

- Fresh Homemade Bagel Sandwiches and Low Fat Spreads
- Espresso Bar
- All doubles
- Open 7 a.m.
- Monday - Saturday



83 N. WASHINGTON • DOWNTOWN SONORA • 533-1904

# The Perfect Pit-Stops

By Marcia Thompson

## Espresso

Have you ever wondered what the difference between a "latte" and a "cappuccino" was, but were afraid to ask? Well, the **Espresso Gold Drive-Thru Stand**, at the corner of Sawmill Flat and Parrotts Ferry Rds., is the place to learn. Have Rick or Bonnie whip you up one of their many coffee drinks. Bonnie's mochas are my favorite, but they're all delicious! They also serve fresh fruit smoothies and Italian sodas/slushes. Their menu consists of: Caspers Hot dogs, garden veggie-burgers, homemade tomas and burritos, as well as smoked tri-tip sandwiches. Prices range from \$1.95 to \$3.10. You'll be pleasantly surprised if you take a moment to pull-over. It's fast, friendly & convenient.

## Sandwiches

When you're driving through Angels Camp, don't forget to stop at the **Pickle Barrel**. The owner is Sally Spedeacci; she makes all the soups & desserts. The resident chef Patty Smalling makes delicious sandwiches. Ranging from Veggie Delight to Rueben and Barbeque Beef. Try a Pickle Barrel Special with or without bacon and delight in the experience. Everything is fresh, homemade and carved to order. As an added attraction, you can check out locals & tourists alike from the window seats. Locals getting their mail at the post office across the street or sneaking in the gift shop to get a tan. There's a tanning salon hiding in there. All this adds up to a pleasant break from your fast food delis.

## Sausage

If you've already passed Angels Camp, going toward Altaville, and are having a craving for sausage, stop at **Heeters** (where Highway 4 meets 49). Larry Heeter is a graduate of the college's Culinary Arts Program, but already possessed much knowledge from working at Brennan's in New Orleans for 9 years. His sausage is fresh, natural and free of nitrates. It's truly the best I've ever eaten. He makes a cajun, french garlic, beer, bratwurst, hawaiian made with macadamia nuts and pineapple, chicken cilantro with sundried tomatoes, and chicken-apple italian. All sausage sandwiches come with potato salad, creole onion soup or chili for \$4.95. Try it, you'll like it.



dusting the desert off my jeans  
 walking down alleyways in the filtering light of an  
 evening on New York St.  
 sweet my favorite tamarinde tree in the jungle of  
 Costa Rica  
 watching a sunset with my friends as I sit on the beach  
 and sip Tequila  
 alone in a white city Athens  
 commuting to a city filled with businesspeople like  
 myself  
 the warmth of a dark lover next to me  
 thinking of the night on the other side sunlight warm on  
 my face  
 a crowd of energy longs for just one more song  
 letting a single salty drop fall onto the letter never to be  
 received  
 human...i am human.

by Sofia Penabaz

### ***Violetta's Party and John's a Flake***

By Rebecca Escamilla

Waiting for the phone to  
 ring  
 Is like waiting for the  
 lottery numbers  
 There's always that tiny  
 chance  
 But usually you never win  
 And he never calls  
 Stood up again, only this  
 time.....  
 I didn't even bother getting  
 ready!  
 You think, "Where would I  
 be right now  
 If he had shown up?"  
 Laughing, Dancing,

Drinking  
 Probably leaning against a  
 shelf  
 Knocking a rock and a vase  
 down  
 Getting hit in the head and  
 bleeding  
 With embarrassment  
 "Is it hot in here or is it just  
 me?"  
 You ask, and get strange  
 looks in response  
 Then you know, maybe it's  
 you  
 That's why he stood you up!  
 He knew!  
 Clumsy girls never get  
 picked up at 8:00

### ***Meeting You***

When I feel your touch,  
 I realize  
 Why I care for you so much  
 The way you look  
 at me,  
 just the way you do,  
 I wonder what  
 you see.  
 I wonder if you feel what I  
 feel too.  
 The way you hold  
 me  
 and caress my body  
 Makes me feel the best  
 Your single touch  
 on my hand  
 Will make me free of this land.  
 All of this makes me  
 know I don't want or need the  
 rest.  
 I know you have passed  
 my test.  
 If I ran away  
 today  
 I wonder if you'd want  
 me to stay  
 or just keep on going the same  
 way  
 I can't imagine my  
 life now  
 without  
 you.  
 You were always the one who  
 could bring  
 me through.  
 I am trying to give  
 this every day  
 I love you more & more.  
 Meeting you has  
 opened  
 another  
 door.

By Jen House

In memory of the countless numbers of the Wolf population that  
 have been needlessly slaughtered, because of the mass-hysteria and ill-  
 informed folklore, that depicted them as heartless predators. It is because  
 the true nature of these most gallant and chivalrous of the mammalian  
 species was so misunderstood, that such acts stand, by paradigm, as true  
 acts of ignorance and stupidity on the part of Mankind.

May we, as a people, learn from our past...

### **MISUNDERSTOOD MISANTHROPE**

Allow me to introduce myself:  
 I am he who misunderstands  
 The reasons you have driven us  
 Far from our lands.

I've heard much misinformation;  
 Many stories, many tales  
 Told of an evil presence  
 Lurking in your hills and you vales.

"Progress!" was your cry into the  
 wind  
 As our cries were being silenced.  
 The cries of our Young and Old  
 ...Silenced by untold violence.

The cries of our ancestors can still  
 be heard  
 Echoing through the hills, filling  
 the air.  
 Though few can still hear them...  
 Even fewer still care.

We take care of our young  
 And do not pollute their minds.  
 So who is the real evil animal,  
 The four-footed or the two-footed  
 kind?

I introduce myself to you in hope

That you might learn from our  
 demise;  
 Learning to see with unmolested  
 eyes

...Not judging another simply  
 because  
 You might not understand,  
 That nothing can compliment one  
 more  
 The way being "different" can.

You may have deemed us Evil  
 But we know the truth.  
 The true heartless killers are you;  
 ...We only kill for food.

I would not trade my world for  
 yours,  
 Selling out for convenience, and  
 technology.  
 In a world of herd-like creatures as  
 yourselves  
 It is indeed very good to be

...A wolf.

By Chris Luhdorff  
 COPYRIGHT, Chris Luhdorff,  
 1996

### ***Count your Blessings***

Count your garden by the  
 flowers,  
 Never by the leaves that fall,  
 Count your days by golden  
 hours;  
 Don't remember clouds at all,  
 Count your nights by stars,  
 not  
 shadows.  
 Count your years with smiles  
 not  
 tears.  
 Count your blessings, not  
 your  
 troubles.  
 Count your age by friends,  
 not  
 years.

by Vickie Marks

Stepping Through The Gateway To Success



## **Gateway/TRIO**

Providing Educational Opportunities  
 for Youth in our Community

- Educational Field Trips
- Student Success Workshops
- Tutoring
- Motivational Speakers
- Study Sessions

A program designed to help young people stay in school,  
 improve their grade point averages, graduate from high  
 school, and pursue post-secondary opportunities.

For further information please contact  
 David Chesnut at Columbia College:

**588-5247**

## **COLUMBIA CANDLE & SOAP WORKS**

# **CANDLES**

CANDLE MAKING SUPPLIES

# **HANDMADE SOAPS**

# **BATH ITEMS**

GIFTS FOR LADIES  
 AND GENTS ALIKE

LOCATED IN HISTORIC COLUMBIA STATE PARK  
 AT 22719 PARROTS FERRY RD.  
 ( IN THE OLD FEED STORE )  
 PLEASE CALL 209-536-9047



## College Opts Not To Fund CAR Next Season

Continued from page 3

will be losing money.

When asked about the concern over Equity Actors, Toner felt they were a great benefit to the college.

"It requires looking at the students and who benefits from them," Toner said. "I'm glad they bring equity people in. We students learn enormous amounts from these people. These equity people come into my class. They hold classes. Peter Crase (an equity actor here from England), has been holding a Shakespeare class. Here's this guy who worked for the most prestigious acting companies and he's here. Here's 20 of us country folk who learn to act Shakespeare from Peter Crase. If CAR wasn't here, that wouldn't happen."

"I think (the use of equity actors as a reason for removing funding) is seriously overrated," said Stewart. "We want to have professional actors when we can. That has an enormous benefit on the training of the actors we have from the college. The level goes up for everybody. That person is there as much as we are to train the people that are out there. Clearly, we have not been taken over with the desire to solely have equity actors."

Toner, who has acted in plays at CAR, said he molds his English 1B classes around the productions at CAR. He said that he'll pick a play to cover in class that CAR is producing and bring his classes to see the play. "It elevates the product. It is access to our students. We read the plays, but plays are meant to be acted. I'm not going to go to SRT and audition there. I won't be in another play now. My life is less rich because of that. And what I learn from being in plays impacts the way I teach. This is part of the fabric of my class and of my life."

Toner feels that the college is not open to supporting the arts. "To accept those kinds of programs, you have to be comfortable with ambiguity, with gray areas, comfortable with things that can't be measured. Those who are making the decision to stop funding, if they aren't thinkers of art, if quality literature is not a part of their life, it is harder for them to shake out of the pragmatic look of life."

Toner was upset at the way the decision was made and executed.

"It's not in their interest to form a committee (comprised of people for and against the funding, students, teachers and community members)," said Toner.

"But there are middle grounds to this," he said. "Whoever made the list (of options), there should be five options, if that person is a leader. I want to see that. I hope they put many, many hours into this decision and I want to know what was the thinking process behind this. I hope it's not a question of personalities."

Cunningham said the decision was made because of the personnel/money issue and because the theater would be up for bids in two years. He said the City Hotel has a contract with the theater until that time. If a non-profit organization was started for the theater, the state could not put the theater up for sale.

"The only option we had was a clean break," said Cunningham. He said that in the future, the college would like to work together with the theater to have drama lab classes there. But, the college would not be the overseer of the theater.

Purdy is optimistic about this option and hopes this joint-venture will be productive for both the theater and the district.

"This is my community," said Toner. "I chose this place because it's a place I can be for 20 years. I have a big stake in this place. And one of the reasons I chose this place is because of the artistic life."

Stewart believes that the theater has enhanced the community.

"I think we've made an attempt over the years to educate by virtue of the plays we've chosen," said Stewart. "We want to provide thought-provoking plays. Out of 100 different shows, there have been a million different realities portrayed. Our focus has been to talk about issues in the world that we think are important. We've tried to bring in other people's views into a community that doesn't have a lot of ethnic diversity."

Purdy said that Peter Crase, who is an internationally-known director/actor, has taught at the London School of Acting and the Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts (world renowned institutions). Crase has volunteered to teach basic Shakespeare to students at the Sierra Waldorf school and is

teaching short courses for the college.

"Equity people don't make that much money," said Toner. "They make a lot less than I make as a teacher here."

Toner gave an example of a school in San Francisco he taught

at that lost or fired 90% of the faculty within two years of an administration change that wasn't supportive of the arts. Within four years, the school closed down and is now a parking lot.

"A life without art is a life of acquiring things," said Toner.

"instead of focusing on the quality of your soul."

"The bottom line," said music instructor John Carter. "Art has never been cost effective."

"We're survivors," said Stewart. "Whatever happens, usually happens in a positive way. I think we'll work it out."

# COLUMBIA COLLEGE STUDENT HOUSING AVAILABLE NOW!

## LIVE ON CAMPUS!

WALK TO CLASS  
FURNISHED UNITS  
UTILITIES INCLUDED  
AIR CONDITIONED UNITS

EAT LUNCH AT HOME  
FREE MORNING COFFEE  
BARBECUE  
COIN LAUNDRY

- ◆ EACH UNIT HAS TWO BEDROOMS, A BATHROOM, A DINING TABLE, A LIVING AREA WITH SEATING, A KITCHENETTE WITH A FULL SIZE REFRIGERATOR, SINK, AND TWO-BURNER STOVE.
- ◆ EACH STUDENT IS PROVIDED WITH A BED, NIGHTSTAND, DESK, CHAIR, LAMP, AND WARDROBE CABINET
- ◆ REC ROOM HAS A COMPUTER, BIG SCREEN SATELLITE T.V., VIDEO RENTALS, POOL TABLE, FOOS BALL, & MINI BASKETBALL, ALL FOR RESIDENT'S USE
- ◆ OUTSIDE THERE IS A BARBECUE AREA, DECK, HORSESHOE PIT, HALF COURT BASKETBALL, AND SAND VOLLEYBALL COURT
- ◆ ALL UNITS HAVE HEAT, AIR CONDITIONING, PHONE JACK, AND T.V. JACK

### SUMMER 1997 RATES:

Summer Lease (Mid May- Mid August)

SHARED BEDROOM-\$800.00 prepaid/ SINGLE BEDROOM-\$1,100.00 prepaid

### FALL 1997 RATES

Semester Lease (Mid August-Mid December)

SHARED BEDROOM \$1,100.00 prepaid/ SINGLE BEDROOM-\$1,650.00 prepaid

School-year leases including Winter Break are also available.

For more information, or a tour, CALL (209) 533-3039