

# THE PANHANDLER

Columbia College's New Student Newspaper

Vol. 4, Issue 4

November 22, 2006

## Dr. Riggs looks back on his tenure

BY SHANNON MCPHERSON

PANHANDLER STAFF

Dr. Jim Riggs, president of Columbia College, is retiring from the position after nearly 10 years of service. After taking a sabbatical leave for the spring semester, he will return in the fall of 2007 to teach full time as a humanities and music instructor.

As Riggs reflected on the past decade, he said that the job was exactly what he expected.

"I spent years as a dean and a vice president at a different college," he said. "I had a great opportunity to work with talented people and on great projects."

During a 10-year time period, there were many opportunities to achieve great accomplishments and Riggs believes he has done so.

"I am proud of how the college has grown and expanded, including the off-campus locations we now have in Angels Camp and Oakdale," he said. "I am also proud of the new buildings, such as the library, and the new facilities yet to come."

*"I want the students to realize they have control of their future."*

*- Dr. Jim Riggs*

During the time Riggs has been here, 60 percent of the current staff has been hired.

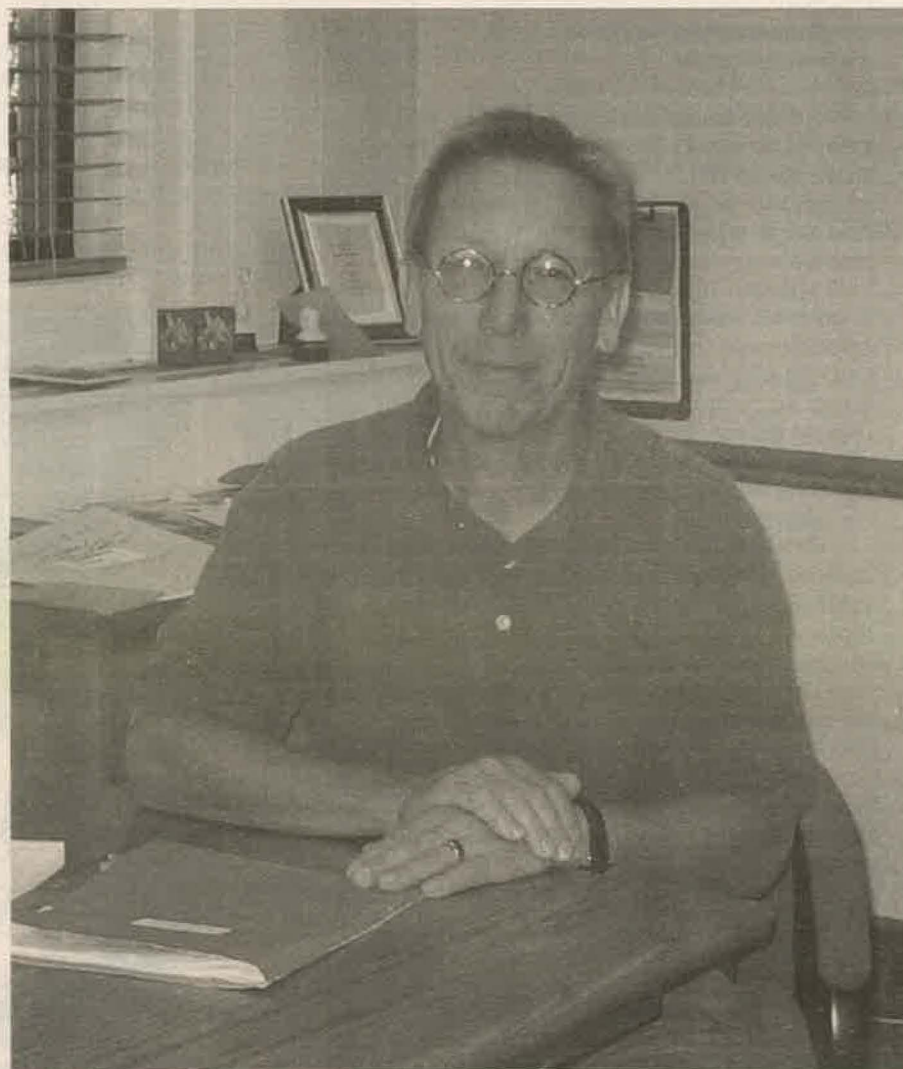
"I'm honored to have been involved in the hiring of new faculty and staff members that have brought a new energy to the campus," he said.

With many great things, there are also moments where we wish things would have gone differently.

"I wish I would have pushed the district harder for reforms," said Riggs. "We could have pushed them for more support and a better job on their end."

Being the president of an institution brings with it light-hearted moments as well. Riggs was the orchestra director at the college for a couple of years and that brought with it some humorous times.

"We were giving a children's concert in the Oak Pavilion for about 1,500 elementary school children and



PANHANDLER FILE PHOTO

Jim Riggs will be returning to the classroom in the fall of 2007.

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## Here's how to find if campus is closed

BY ELIA LUCA

PANHANDLER STAFF

Snow. Icy roads. Maybe a downed tree or two and little flooding. Isn't winter grand?

It is, actually, unless you've driven halfway across the county only to find that classes at Columbia College were cancelled for the day. That's why there are three ways students can check conditions on campus before leaving home in the morning.

Chief Operations Officer Connie Micals helps decide whether or not road and weather conditions make it

unsafe to hold classes.

"For students, it's very important to know that Columbia College has a Central Incident Command System that give out information about the weather conditions," Micals said.

The first way students can get this information is through the Internet at [www.gocolumbia.edu](http://www.gocolumbia.edu), the Columbia College homepage. If there is an incident, it will have a logo that says "Safety Conditions for Columbia College." Click on it and it will give you the latest information.

Another way is to listen to the local radio stations. If Columbia is closed or classes are delayed, that

information is sent to local radio.

Finally, students can call the college's general information number, 588-5100, and ask for the information directly.

The Incident Command group, a collection of key administrators and staff, declares major emergencies in the event of a natural disaster or bomb threat, plans and directs emergency responses, initiates a notification chain, assesses the extent of the disaster based on reports from area managers and outside agencies, and finally declares all-clear when a

See SAFETY, page 11



# EDITORIAL

## Anybody seen a schedule?

BY SHANNON MCPHERSON  
PANHANDLER STAFF

I don't know about the rest of you, but I happen to love planning my class schedule. I make about ten to fifteen different schedules in search for the perfect one. This process is long and what takes longer is the fact I change my mind about a million times.

You can imagine how excited I was when a couple weeks ago I got my registration appointment in the mail: November 22 at 1:15 pm, priority registration since I'm graduating. I was so happy to finally be able to pick and choose the classes I want to take.

When I got to school the following Monday, I looked for the new schedule.

Not there.

Strange, I thought to myself. I checked back every single day, hoping that the schedule with the green person on the cover would be replaced by something new and improved.

Nothing.

The days turned into weeks and still no schedule. November 22 is drawing nearer and I still have no idea what I am taking.

It seems odd and frankly stupid for the school to assign registration appointments to the students without the class schedule even printed yet.

I am graduating at the end of spring along with many other students and I was planning on making an appointment with my counselor to go over what classes.

But as the registration time draws nearer, it is going to be near impossible to get an appointment as the rest of graduates plan on to also.

It seems more logical to me to have the schedule all ready to go and then hand out the appointments, instead of waiting until the last possible moment and giving the students less than a week to prepare for the spring semester.

I'm sure there's a reason it takes this long to come up with a class schedule. But hasn't it been happening a couple of times a year for 40 years now? Shouldn't the campus be good at it by now?

There is a version on the web, and the rumors going around campus is that the printed schedule will be out November 28. That is way past the point for most students, because most of them should have already registered.

A lot of students don't even know that the schedule is available online; the school is not advertising it anywhere.

Trust me, I look forward to spending many sleepless nights and wasted hours, agonizing over my schedule if and when the spring schedule does make its debut.

## Letters to the Editor

## But that's what my teacher told me...

To the Editor:

"My teacher told me..."

The subtitle I have given my piece this time is a phrase I have heard used to introduce the most astonishing information. "My teacher told me" is also often the response to my request of my students for the source of their information. A few examples:

- A.D. means "after death."

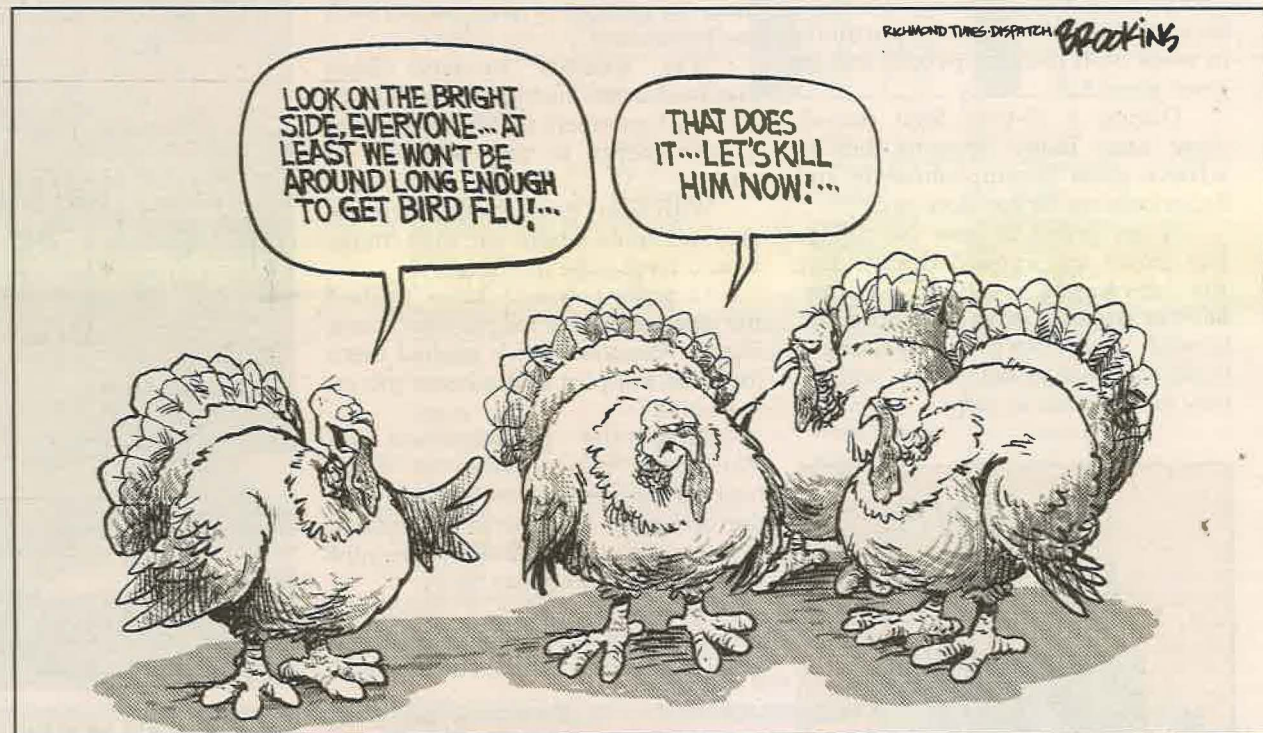
I refuse to believe that anyone judged to be capable of the

responsibility of guiding the young in California is incapable of doing the simple math that would make Jesus Christ, if we compute the calendar from the year of his death, die at the age of zero. A remarkable feat, even for the Lord!

- We must always say "my wife/husband/father/mother and I"; we must never say "my wife/husband/father/mother and me." What I suspect the teacher told the students who make this absurd

claim is that "you must always say 'my wife/husband/father/mother and I' when it is the subject of the sentence." That is true, as is its corollary: You must never say "my wife/husband/father/mother and me when it is the subject of the sentence." My guess is that the students who have taken "my wife and I" to be always required fell asleep or went into mental outer space after the main clause of the

See LETTER, page 11



## THE PANHANDLER

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# OPINION

## Thanks'giving' was taking from some

BY SENNECA TWO EAGLES  
SPECIAL TO THE PANHANDLER

What is Thanksgiving and why is it called that? Who is giving thanks? I know my ancestors don't. Is it the settlers giving thanks that they're about to swindle my people out of their land? If so, why do we celebrate it? Don't get me wrong I'm not a history buff. For example, my high school history book had recorded that 105 were killed in the Wounded Knee massacre. My great grandma has told me the story about Wounded Knee and her mother was alive then, it was more like 327 women, children and unarmed men that were slaughtered. That is more than a slight

understatement in my mind.

Ever wonder why in the pictures we see of Thanksgiving everyone is happy? I do. I can see why the natives are happy, they are doing what they have always done, helping and caring for life.

Think of what my people saw. They saw ships full of pale, skinny, sick-looking people, and my ancestors went to there aid without fear or prejudice; just with respect for life as they have always had for all of the creator's creations.

I see a table full of food that my people have made and taught the settlers to prepare so they could survive.

What is disturbing to me is the

settlers are happily at the table to take this dinner, (the land and later their lives). You see from the moment the settlers set sail to an already inhabited land for the purposes of colonizing it, they had to have had it in their minds all along that they were going to move in and take over.

The settlers could only do this by first classifying my people as nothing more than animals, savages.

Still, they sat down to dinner with us and allowed us to save their lives. There is no other way to see it, because it is exactly what did happen.

And that's what I don't like about Thanksgiving. The happy image we have softens history. By making the picture one of happiness it lets people think it was all about peace and harmony, but that was and will always be one sided.

## VIEWS OF THE HOLIDAYS



## Holiday traditions change as life evolves

BY SHANNON MCPHERSON  
PANHANDLER STAFF

The months of November and December bring with it not only the cold and the rain, but the oh-so-wonderful holidays. There is something for everyone and they all suit any type of background a person might have. There is Thanksgiving, Hanukah, Kwanzaa, and Christmas among others to choose from or you can celebrate none if you choose.

My all time favorite is Thanksgiving. To me, it's not really a time to sit around the table and give thanks for all the things I have. I instead look forward to the best stuffing on the West Coast, my homemade cranberry tart (which is pretty darn good if I do say so myself), and mashed potatoes.

Leave the yams at home, you could even forget the turkey, those

three things alone will make for the perfect Thanksgiving.

Our family (my mom, dad, brother and I), have always hosted Thanksgiving, so that has become our little tradition. We usually have my dad's family over at our house.

But this year is going to be a little different; that set of relatives now lives in Hawaii. Unless someone is planning to FedEx the turkey, we will not be spending to holidays with them. It makes me sad because it's like an end of an era; family members leave and new ones come in, for example, my brother's girlfriend.

I won't be making little place cards for the table with everyone's name on them and little pictures of pumpkins and pilgrims. Things change and we just have to learn to adjust to that.

Christmas Eve was again spent with my dad's side of the family. We had the same meal every single year

for as far back as I can remember: potatoes, baked ham (which completely grosses me out), broccoli soufflé (yes, it does exist), Jell-O and green bean casserole. No offense to my wonderful grandma and aunt, but seriously! Who thought of that?

Every year we would have little party crackers where we would pull the ends and inside would be a silly hat, joke, and toy which I always ended up with no matter how old I was. All of us would put on the hats and read aloud the jokes, no matter how lame they were.

Christmas Day is spent with my mom's side of the family. We would pack all the presents in the car and drive to my grandma's house. We used to have to drive from Salinas to Lake Don Pedro, but now they we live up here, we have a lot shorter drive.

Once again, I always look forward to the food. My brother would make

pigs in a blanket, which is, for those of you who live sheltered lives, a tiny sausage cooked inside a roll. I would make a peppermint cream pie which is to die for, for lack of a better term.

It's just fun to hang out with cousins and talk and open presents. Our family isn't really close so holidays where we're almost required to spend time together are nice.

With these new living situations, everything is going to be different, but things change. Our holidays are going to be noticeably smaller in numbers, but as the years go on husbands, wives and children will be added to the mix.

New traditions will start and someone will get a hold of my grandma's broccoli soufflé recipe to torture future generations.

Just now, a big portion of my life is gone and there is nothing like the holidays to point that out.



# NEWS

## Biking club pedals an ecological path

BY DAVID WARD  
PANHANDLER STAFF

Columbia College is one of the most beautiful college campuses in the state. Students Elbert James and Sandra Spaulding have started the Environment Bike Club to enhance the appreciation of nature in its entirety.

"I just did it to make people happy," James said. "Toulumne is very scenic."

James and Spaulding began the club by buying several bikes to provide to other members. With four bikes in their keeping, the Environment Club slowly came to reality after several weeks of waiting at the Student Senate, finally they were under way.

"You come to college to make something of yourself," Spaulding said. "Joining a club will make you look good."

Soon members began to join and events were planned. The first meeting was cancelled due to rain, but the second was a go for the five members that arrived. On November 9, they set out for an hour riding on the back roads ending with every member excited at what they had done.

James enjoys the fall colors and

See CLUB, page 10



DEANNA DELEON/PANHANDLER PHOTO

Members of the Biking-Environmental Club (from left): William Tomsha, adviser Ross Carkeet, Sarah McCulloch, James Budrow, Jenny Fuqua, John Breazeal, President Elbert James and Anthony DePage.

## Health fees protect Columbia students

BY DEANNA DELEON  
PANHANDLER STAFF

Health fees on campus are mandatory with registration and no longer fall under BOG fee waivers, but do students really know what they are getting for their money?

Connie Mical, Chief Operations Officer encourages students to find out, take part, and be active in the financial decisions of the Yosemite Community College District in regard to their student health fees.

In spring 2005, legislation for AB92 passed to remove the health fee from the BOG fee waiver, generating more funds for our health services.

"These funds can only be used for health services," said Mical. "That includes clinic, mental health services,

and accident injury insurance."

The health fee for the spring and fall semesters are \$14 per student, and in the summer it drops to \$11.

"The fees drop because the semester is shorter and services available are fewer," said Mical.

There is no nurse on hand during the summer semester, but insurance and mental health services are still intact.

Earlene Kellar, a licensed clinical social worker, is available to any student needing help with possible mental health issues. This includes crises intervention at no additional charge to students. Crises intervention covers up to six counseling sessions.

After that, a student can be re-evaluated for additional visits when needed.

"The health fee is not just for the (medical) vending machines," said Mical.

If a student with no insurance was to be injured, say in a serious fall on campus, the health fees the student paid at the time of registration would cover them like a primary insurance.

If the student already possessed insurance, the campus plan would act as a secondary insurance for their medical needs.

Currently the campus is in the process of negotiating for additional clinical services from local medical care providers and organizations.

Any new services obtained would be free of additional charge to students.

This could expand health service office hours, including summer

months and the extended availability of campus nurse Lauren Campana.

"Student opinions are very valued on this campus," said Campana. "Come and see Juniper 2. Everything in there belongs to the students."

During the voting on AB92, students statewide came forward requesting more student health services.

"The Associated Students said they wanted this," said Mical.

The \$14 per semester seemed a small price to pay when up to 18 percent of all students have no kind of health insurance what so ever.

"This is an opportunity for students to become involved," said Mical, "and the more informed the students are, the more meaningful their part can be."





# The Spot

Good section!

Arts & Entertainment

## A dark Dracula comes to life

BY DEANNA DELEON  
PANHANDLER STAFF

The tale of Dracula is as old as the Carpathian Mountains themselves and still just as mystifying as the day Bram Stoker first laid pen to paper.

Columbia College's own A.C.C.L.A.I.M. drama club, under the direction of Joseph Barnes, will be presenting "Dracula" during the month of December.

"In no way is this a happy situation for any one," said Barnes as he directed his cast into the darkened mood and undertones of this classic horror.

Based on Stoker's original tale, Hamilton Dean and John L. Balderston, adapted the blood lusty story of the infamous vampire for stage.

"Dracula" will be Acclaim's fourth production to date.

1959 Thunder Bird, Snoopy the Musical, and IV-Evening of One Act, were all very well received, and expectations have risen with them.

Anthony De Page, student body president and cast member, is looking forward to the success of "Dracula".

"It's true to form," said De Page "Sensual, dark, scary and taken very seriously."

Although there is sensual content, and mild violence, said De Page, there is no parental advisory. Come one, come all and enjoy.

Tickets are \$8 for Adults and \$5 for students and seniors.

"Dracula" will be playing in the Dogwood forum December 1 through 10 with evening show times beginning at 8 p.m. and weekend matinees at 2 p.m.

For more information call the Manzanita bookstore 588-5126.

## Dorm cooking makes fine (and cheap) meals

BY ELIA LUCA  
PANHANDLER STAFF

All in all, most students who live on-campus wouldn't be telling you the truth if they said the kitchen set-up at the dorms is splendid. But with that said, you can still get by making a delicious meal for yourself at the dorms.

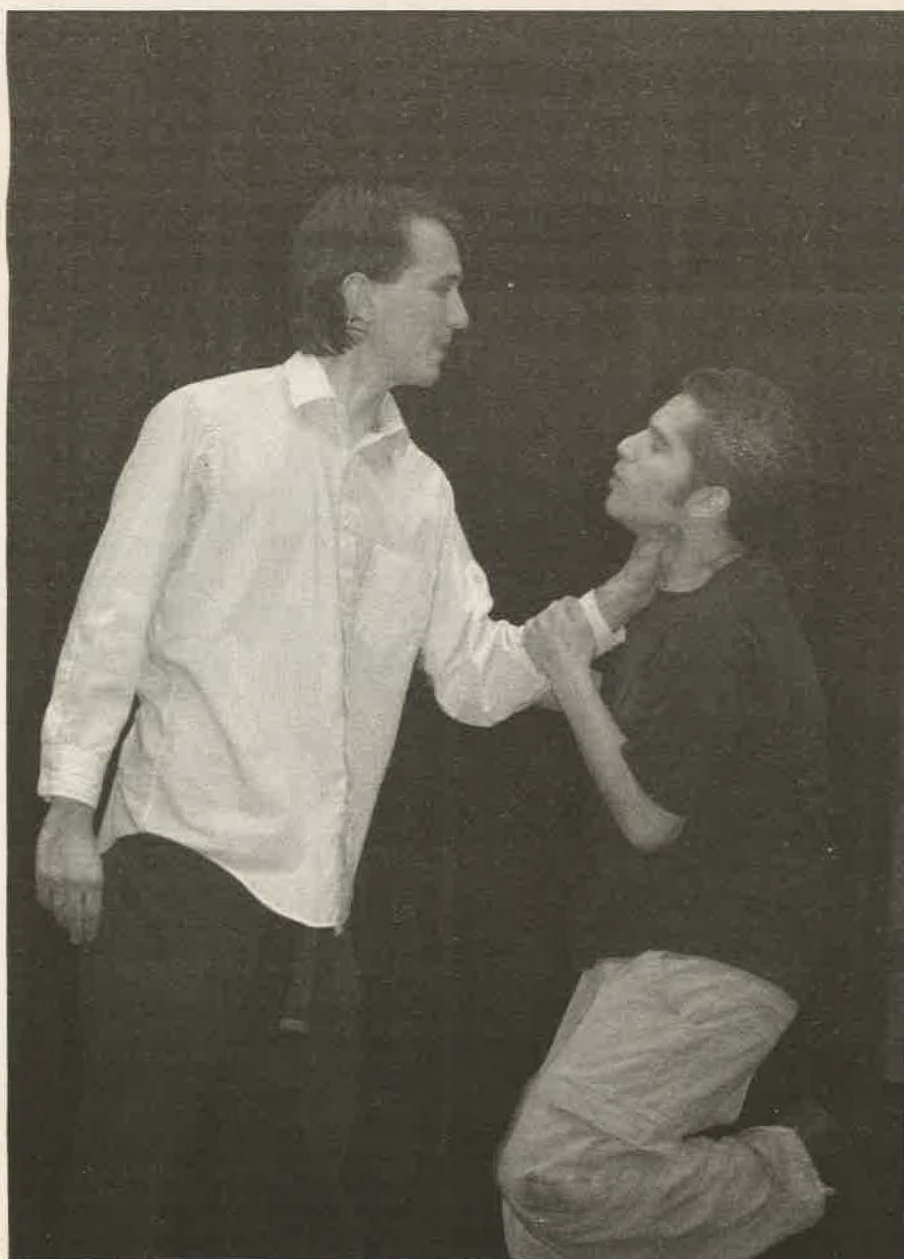
A regular dorm kitchen consists of a stovetop with two burners and a sink right beside it. Most tenants brought other cooking implements,

such as microwaves and toaster ovens, George Forman-type indoor grills, and even some barbecues. There are even some dorms with conventional ovens.

There is also a barbeque by the volleyball courts where you can cook your food there, or a full kitchen with an oven in the recreation room for all to use.

Emily Freda, a student at Columbia College, isn't a fan of the

See COOKING, page 8



DEANNA DELEON/PANHANDLER PHOTO

Jordan Horn gets Mike Hill's full attention in a scene from Dracula.



# Maintenance team keeps campus running

BY DAVID WARD  
PANHANDLER STAFF

The maintenance staff at Columbia College have kept the campus operating since the campus opened, working behind the scenes to fulfill every request given to them by the faculty of expanding college.

Campus Operations Manager Charles Oldfather is the head of maintenance, replacing Rod Hampton. Kent Lucas was the first head of maintenance when Columbia College was first being built; Charles' began his term on October 27, 2005.

Before coming to Columbia, Oldfather was an airline pilot for West Air United Express. A

back injury and buyout ended his piloting career, and Oldfather began to reuse his skills in carpentry and facilities maintenance and got a job managing the facilities at the Flying J ranch in Bakersfield.

During a hard winter in February, Flying J had been buried in snow and the California Highway Patrol closed the Grapevine. Oldfather used his giant Dodge truck to persuade the CHP to let him pass, and towing a Bobcat loader behind him, got through and had the entire facility dug out in two days.

He stayed at the Flying J until Columbia had an opening for a position in management for facilities and maintenance. Here Oldfather met the team he was to become dependent on for helping him to keep Columbia College running smoothly.

"This is a great crew," he said. "That makes the job easy."

Chuck Cooper, a Maintenance 3 Carpenter, has worked on nearly everything on campus and is the main heavy machine operator besides Oldfather.

Darin Blume and Steve Shively, Skilled Maintenance Specialists, are the backbone of the team.

"You name it we do it," Steve Shively said. "We have a whole bunch

of stuff going on."

Ben Dorsett, performs maintenance and moves just about everything on campus that gets moved. Doug Cromwell manages the computer system controls for the heating ventilation and air conditioning on campus as the HVAC Technician.

Steve D'orsa, is the main groundskeeper on campus, with Ken Ciaatti who holds the part-time groundskeeper position for Columbia College.

Joycie Lopez, office assistant and coordinator, began working for Columbia after retiring from Tuolumne County, she then took up a part-time job so she could leave the house every now and then. Lopez's job is issuing work orders from the requests of the staff on campus.

"They are a great crew to work with," she said. "They make the job very easy."

She's an integral part of the crew, Oldfather said.

"We would be up a creek without Joycie," he said. "She is sorely missed when she is not around."

The maintenance team has worked on the entire campus and everything surrounding it, including Baker Station. They are currently finishing a warehouse and an enclosure to cover their backhoe and other equipment, including a new power generator that will keep them running should the power go out.

They've helped remodel inside the Manzanita Building, expanding the Admissions and Records service windows and turning a hallway into a spare office. They also did tremendous work on the cabinetry inside and down below, creating an office for the culinary arts students.

Campus roads have also received some adjusting from the maintenance team's 1950-era bulldozer that's running again after the gas tank was cleaned and carburetor replaced.

"I like this campus," Oldfather said. "I love the people and I want to be here."



PHOTO COURTESY OF CHARLES OLDFATHER

Darin Blume (far left) and other members of the maintenance staff prepare to install a new water heater in the Manzanita Building.



## MOTHERLODE MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. COMMITTEE'S THE CHALLENGES OF DIVERSITY ESSAY & Art CONTEST

500 to 1,000 Words &  
Alternative to the Essay Contest:  
Something Other Than an Essay... Art in any  
media: Creative Expression, Rap Lyrics, Photos,  
Video or Performance Art.

Deadline for Entries: **December 15, 2006**  
Announcement of Winner: January 14, 2007  
Topic: Challenges of Diversity in the Essay, describe a  
problem you have encountered based on diversity.  
What was the difference in viewpoints? If it has been  
solved, describe how, and if it has not been solved,  
describe some strategies or possible solutions.  
Finally, explain what you realized from the experi-  
ence. Something Other Than an Essay can  
address the Challenges of Diversity by any  
means of artistic expression.

### PRIZES

1ST PLACE

\$500

2ND PLACE

\$250

3RD PLACE

\$100

Best Class Projects: \$400 each

3

### CONTEST RULES

1. All entries must be submitted by the deadline.  
2. All entries must be original work.  
3. All entries must be submitted in a sealed envelope.  
4. All entries must be submitted in a sealed envelope.  
5. All entries must be submitted in a sealed envelope.

## Campus safety report available

The Columbia College *Annual Safety Report* is available to all students and employees. The report includes statistics for the previous three years concerning reported crimes that occurred on-campus; in certain off-campus buildings or property owned or controlled by Columbia College; and on public property within, or immediately adjacent to and accessible from, the campus. The report also includes institutional policies concerning campus security, such as policies concerning sexual assault, and other matters. You can obtain a copy of this report by contacting the Campus Security Office, the Business Office, or by accessing the following web site: <http://columbia.yosemite.cc.ca.us/Security>

For more information, please call Deanna Lamb at 323-6810, [DeeLamb@aol.com](mailto:DeeLamb@aol.com).  
On Columbia College Campus, contact Jim Toner, Civic Engagement Project.  
At Sonoma High, contact Sharon Shapiro in the Library.



# Scrooge takes the stage at Fallon House

BY SHANNON MCPHERSON  
PANHANDLER STAFF

Grab the mistletoe and bring your Santa hats because Sierra Repertory Theatre is ringing in the holiday season with *A Christmas Carol*.

Nothing feels more Christmassy than an old favorite retold by director Time Irving and he does a good job of it.

Cheers to Jay Newington for designing beautiful and colorful sets that never bored me throughout the production.

The costumes designed by Diana Newington were wonderful as well and perfectly fit in with the 1870s time period. This play is the perfect way to get you into the holiday spirit.

Unfortunately there were a few things that I felt distracted from the play.

To simulate a ghostly being coming to Scrooge, bright green,

yellow and other colored lights started flashing as the fog machine kicked in while disembodied male and female voices yelled, "bah humbug!" and "decrease the surplus population!" I almost felt like I was at a rave rather than at a theater in Columbia.

The *Ghost of Christmas Future* has the reputation of being a scary, cloaked figure. SRT approached this character by making an eight foot tall figure on wheels constructed out of some wobbly material with plastic skeleton hands peeking out from the black sleeves. I hate to admit this, but I actually laughed out loud at this point. A theater of this caliber should have done better.

As always, Sierra Rep brings in the best actors and this play is no exception.

Ty Smith has starred in around 51 roles at this company and he portrayed the evil crone Ebenezer Scrooge. He is one of the best actors

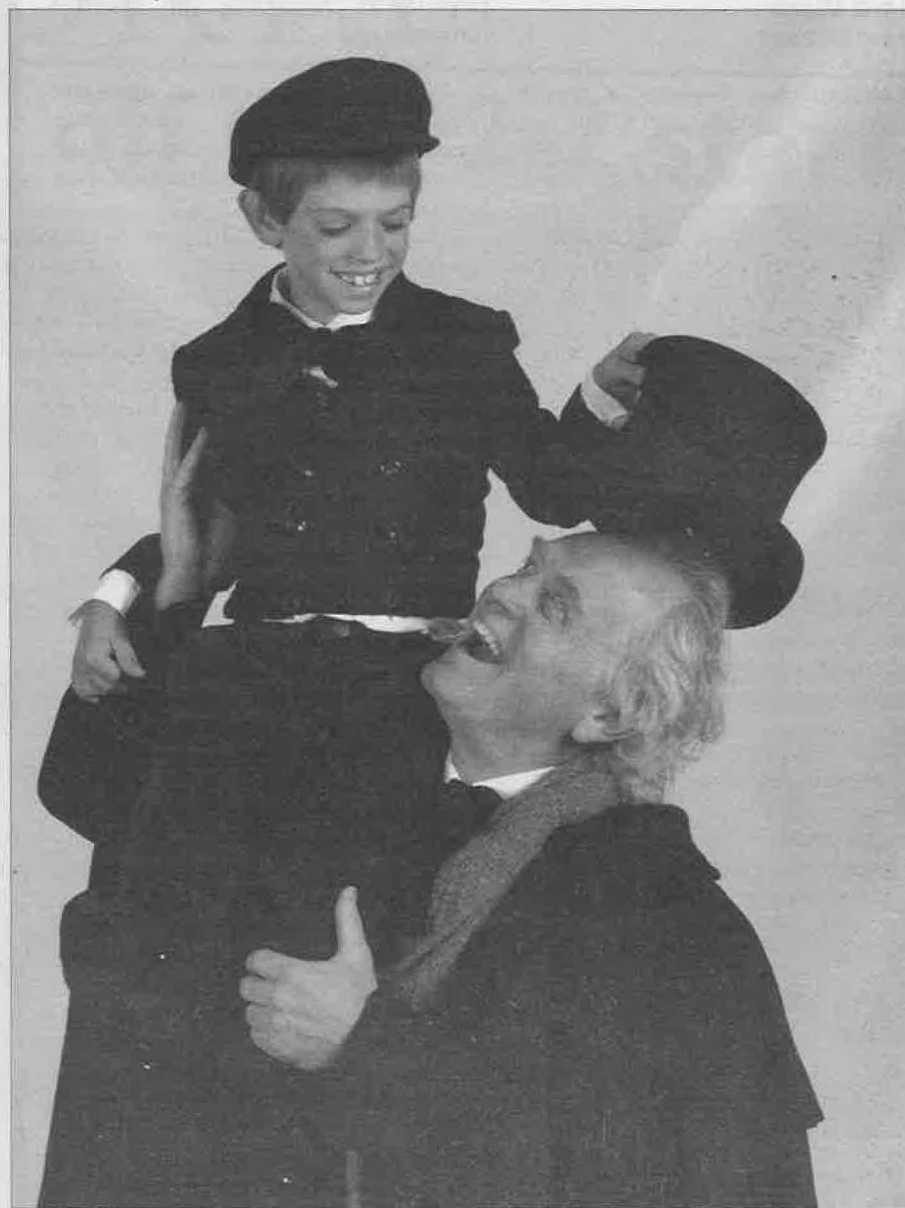


PHOTO COURTESY OF RICH MILLER PHOTOGRAPHY

Scooge (Ty Smith) with Tiny Tim (Jacob Capito).

I have seen and he brings a new light to this old character.

Philip Vanderveer returns to the Fallon House Theatre as Scrooge's trusty employee, Bob Cratchit. He wonderfully portrays the loving father and devoted husband.

Jacob Capito makes his debut at SRT as Tiny Tim. Kudos to him for being so brave in his first performance with this company and being able to sing solo, because I know I wouldn't have been able to do that.

The *Ghost of Christmas Past* is played beautifully by SRT regular Becky Saunders.

Christopher Spencer returns to the foothills as the jubilant *Ghost of Christmas Present*.

The rest of the Cratchit clan is composed of Jake McCarthy as Peter, Tracy Mulholland as Martha, Madilyn Wold as Belinda, and Jenny Stephenson as the endearing Mrs. Cratchit.

David McBean plays the fearful ghost of Marley, Ted D'Agostino as the persistent nephew Fred along with his loving wife Belle, or Laura Pedersen-Schulz.

Scrooge's early employer, Mr. Fezziwig is played by Timothy Bergen, young Scrooge is Clayton Froning, Scrooge's old friend Dick Wilkins is played by Brandon Walker, and Scrooge's housekeeper, Mrs. Dilber is played by Terra Shelman.

I still find myself a little partial to the Muppet's adaptation of this classic with Kermit the frog playing Bob Cratchit, but once again Sierra Repertory Theatre hits another one out of the ballpark with the retelling of an old classic.

This production will be playing until December 23 at the Fallon House Theatre in Columbia.

For more information call the box office at 532-3120.



PHOTO COURTESY OF RICH MILLER PHOTOGRAPHY

Scrooge (Ty Smith) looks on as young Scrooge (Clayton Froning) is rejected by his sweetheart Belle (Laura Pedersen-Schulz.)



# Huge Ford truck runs clean – on grease

BY DAVID WARD  
PANHANDLER STAFF

Gasoline has become a major thorn in most drivers' sides, but not for Jeff Tolhurst.

Tolhurst, a professor of geology, drives a biodiesel machine. With two 55 gallon drums filled with purified vegetable oil fueling his giant white 1999 Ford F350 truck, Tolhurst is nearly gas free.

It's not a new idea. Rudolph Diesel, the inventor who created the diesel engine, actually ran his motor with peanut oil he had produced on his own farm.

Diesel engines are constructed from very bulky material, which is needed for the large amount of pressure the engines are put under to operate. Inside a diesel engine fuel is compressed until it turns into an atomized mist that is heated and then explodes, giving power to the engine.

Rudolph had the mindset that every citizen could be a farmer and provide for themselves. But petroleum was found to be more cost effective to produce and fill the tanks of the burgeoning car

population, removing the idea of natural fuel.

Not Tolhurst.

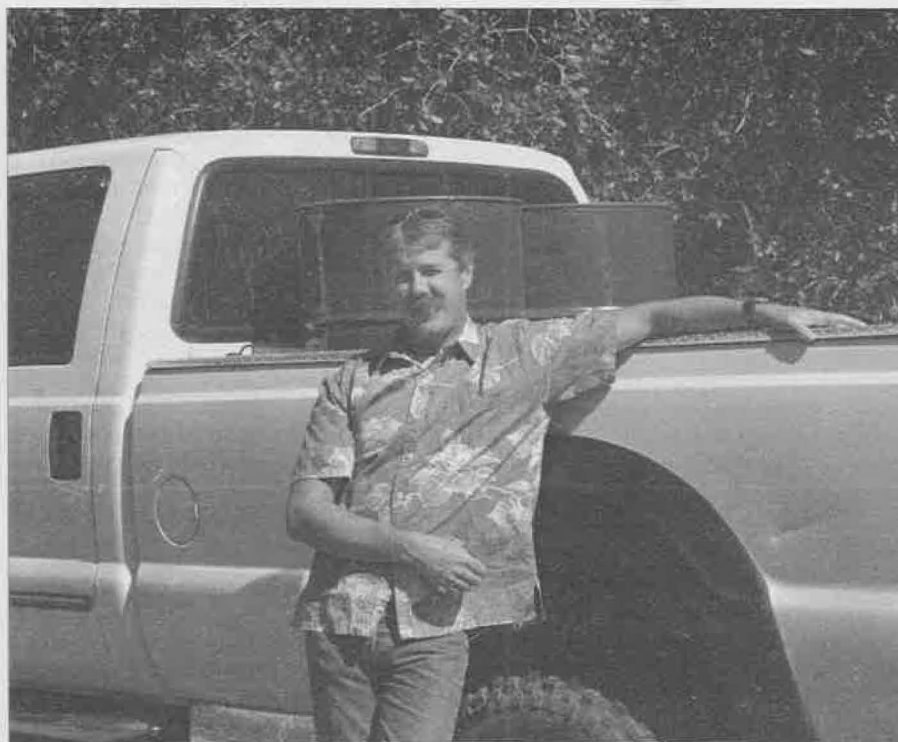
"We should invest in alternate fuels," he said. "Everyone together should demand the government to seek alternate fuel sources."

Tolhurst began his own part for the economy after purchasing his Ford, wanting a large truck for personal safety and advantage in the local terrain. He then sought a source of power.

Tolhurst soon found biodiesel for the truck from a local restaurant and removed the problem of constant refueling by strapping two 55 gallon oil drums in the truck bed and filling each with vegetable oil. Having to pump the unfiltered oil into his tanks and making a miserable mess while dealing with the schedule of the restaurant was a constant hassle.

"You have to pump it out yourself and it is messy," he said.

EvergreenBiodiesel, a cooperation partly owned by Mike Malloy, constructed a biodiesel plant on 10 acres of land and solved Tolhurst's restaurant issue. After acquiring vegetable oil from restaurants in Groveland and a casino in Yosemite,



DAVID WARD/PANHANDLER PHOTO

Professor Jeff Tolhurst with his biodiesel-powered truck.

Evergreen adds alcohol and lye to make glycerin, the biodiesel used by Tolhurst.

"With biodiesel, you get power

and lubrication," Tolhurst said. "And diesel engines are 40 percent more efficient than gas with less emissions."

## COOKING: Dorm style

Continued from page five

setup.

"These kitchens are too small to cook anything substantial," said Freda.

College students are not known for having a lot of money to spend, especially on food, but somehow people get by turning Top Roman, pasta and Rice-a-Roni into a satisfying meal.

"On our salaries, it's impossible to keep a full fridge of food when drifters are constantly raiding it," Freda said.

Big barbecues are rare, but when they do come around it's usually a full meal with a bunch of friends helping out around the kitchen, preparing the salad and side dishes while others are outside grilling beef or chicken.

Eric Johnson, a music major, said his favorite meal to cook at the dorms is fajitas. They are cooked on the stove top with some meat and vegetables, and then thrown in a tortilla.

"It's easy and quick to make, and it tastes good," said Johnson. "I'm not Mexican, but I can cook some damn good fajitas."

Deshaun Williams, a physical

education major, doesn't seem to have a problem with the kitchen condition.

"Even with this small kitchen, I can still make the best fried chicken in these here parts," said Williams.

Maichael Iakopo is a culinary major at Columbia College, and lives in one of the few dorms that have an oven. The thing he enjoys to cook the most is Chicken Cordon Blue.

"It's ham and cheese chopped up and stuffed inside the chicken, what can get better than that?" said Iakopo. He also adds a little extra cheese melted on top to make it nice and crispy.

One of the best appliances to cook your food in is the toaster oven. If you like bread and cheese, there's hundreds of pizza combinations you could try out, not even counting that you can make anything you want crunchy.

It may not be the best cooking condition you could ever imagine, but as you can tell that it doesn't really affect the outcome of the food. Sure, it might drive some people to go and eat out more, but all you need is something that will cook your food in the end.

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# SPORTS

## Basketball team off to a 2-2 start

BY ROYAL H. GARRISON IV  
PANHANDLER STAFF

Columbia College beat Gavilan College in Gilroy by 3 points, with a finale score of Gavilan 82, Claim Jumpers 85. Columbia had two losses, to Las Positas 97 - 91 and to DaAnza College. The Claim Jumpers are two and two on the season.

The basketball team proved they were ready for league play when they took an easy win over the Columbia Alumni team. The final score was Claim Jumpers 123, the Alumni 85.

The Claim Jumpers led the whole game, never giving the Alumni a chance to recover from the outset. Even though Columbia's star player Joe "Coach" Carter went into foul trouble early in the first quarter, the Jumpers controlled the floor and the boards all game.

The hometown man, former Sonora High Wildcats Marcus Cendro was the game-high scorer for the Claim Jumpers with 17. He was followed closely by Jess Donnerberg who hit four 3-point shots and had a game high 16 points. Jon Hammell also had 16 points.

"We play pretty good as a team; we need to work on defense a little more," Donnerberg said.

Coach Nathan Rien played every player on the team this game, allowing each to do his part as a team member in order to show that they're a well-rounded squad.

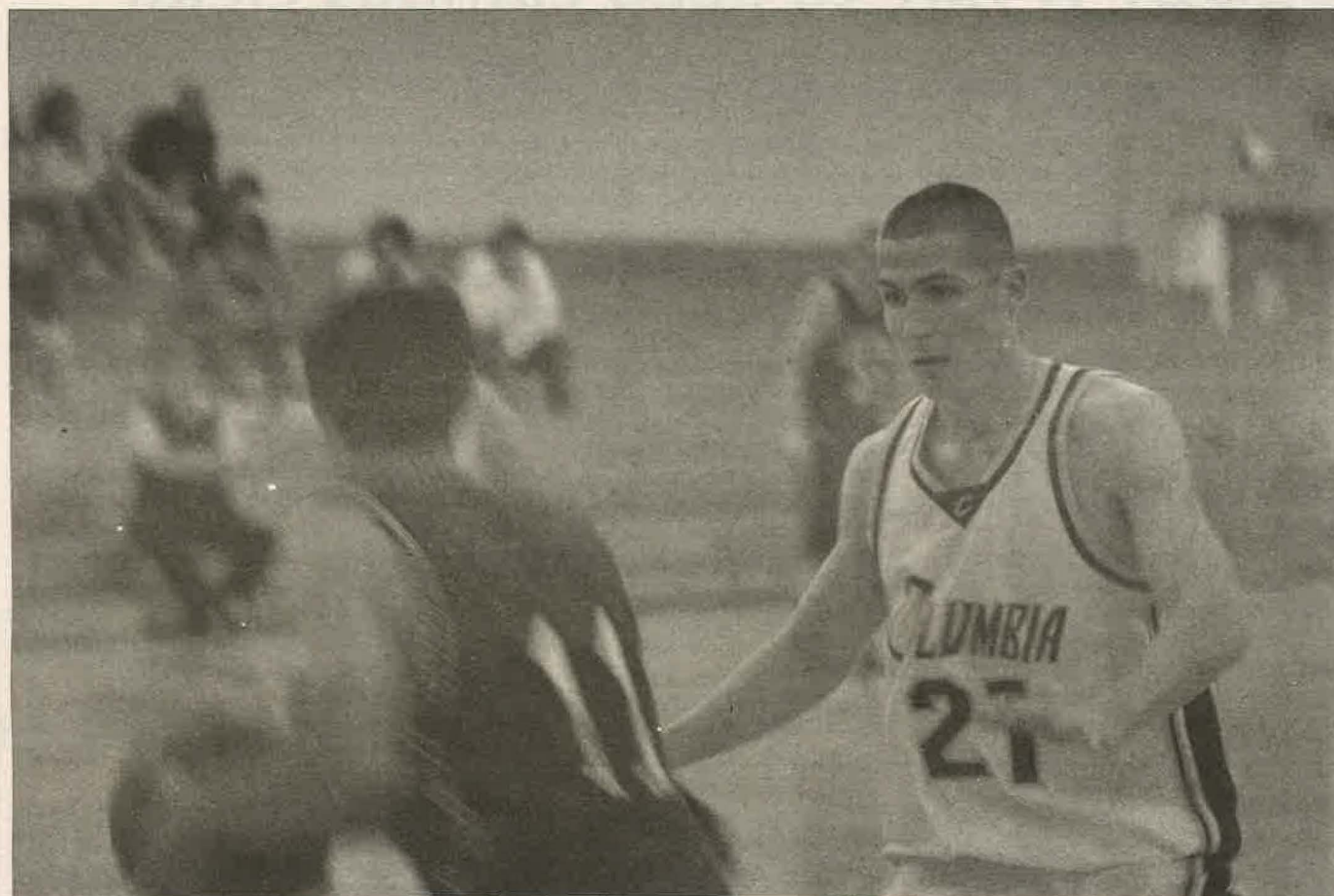
"I plan to play every member of my squad every game unless there are dispensary reasons," he said. "Every player is part of the team, and at every practice we get better and better."

Columbia College student Clarissa Powell attended the game against the Alumni.

"It was a lot of fun to watch this season team win over the Alumni," she said. "I'm looking forward to seeing them win more games this season."

During a 3-day conference at Las Positas College, Carter led the team in the point guard position, scoring 15 points.

"Being a sophomore, I feel the responsibility of being a leader, on in off the court," Carter said. "I believe we have great potential to be one of the top teams in the conference. As



ROYAL H. GARRISON/PANHANDLER PHOTO

Jon Hammell plays defense against the Columbia alumni team.

*"As long as we play together, our goals can be accomplished."*

- Joe Carter

long as we play together, our goals can be accomplished."

The next Claim Jumper home games will be December 13 against DaAnza College, December 22 against Lassen College and ending this year with the Columbia Holiday Classic December 28.

The New Year begins with a game against Reedley on January 3 and on January 10 the Claim Jumpers will host the College of the Sequoias, and on January 20 will play Modesto in the Dome.

"We have a strong team this year, we should go further than we did last season," Rein said.



ROYAL H. GARRISON/PANHANDLER PHOTO

Joe Carter dribbles down the floor against the Columbia alumni.



# RIGGS: Will return next fall as a professor

Continued from front page

they were starting to fidget towards the end," he said. "So I asked who would like to come up and help me conduct, thinking only a few kids

would volunteer.

"As it happened, about 50 or 60 kids stood up there," he said laughing. "It was a good accident on my part."

Another funny moment also dealt with a children's concert, where they

were performing Peter and the Wolf. But instead of people, the performers were Muppets.

"Muppets are much easier to orchestrate than people," he said.

Some of the memories Riggs is

most fond of are the graduation and scholarship awards ceremonies.

"It reminds me that we're here for students and it's great to see their success."

Next semester, Riggs plans on traveling and preparing for the fall semester. He'd like to travel to the East Coast and Asia; most of all, Mongolia.

"The music over there is so unique, I'd love to be able to hear it for myself."

So what does he think of his replacement, Dr. Joan Smith?

"I think she is a great fit for the college," he said. "She has the leadership to take the college to the next level."

Riggs had some final thoughts about Columbia College and its students.

"I want the students to realize they have control of their future," he said. "There are great opportunities through Columbia College to make a difference and take charge of their future and empower themselves through education."

## CLUB: Trying to keep campus clean

Continued from page 4

beauty of Toulumne County, which, with its scenic view and clear skies, is a great place for a long bike ride. Winter will see the club remaining on campus but all other seasons are open for riding outside the campus, including Saturdays when the group meets at selected locations.

In the future, the club hopes to grow and wants to extend by planning barbecues that will run late and make T-shirts for members. The overall goal for the Environmental Bike Club, though, is to have a healthier environment and greater appreciation for the outdoors, including keeping a clean campus.

Recycling and stirring motivation for a cleaner campus is the main goal of the Environmental Club.

"You don't want to live next to a bunch of trash," Spaulding said.

James and his club have taken great measures to keep the campus

free from trash lying on the ground; James sometimes commits an entire day to cleaning the campus. And the club placed more than a dozen recycling and trash cans on campus for the convenience of everyone.

"Let's promote a healthier environment by not littering," James said.

James has also volunteered to transfer all recycling to the large green recycling bin near the dorms. Inside, James often finds trash from the dorms instead of in a large trash bin that next to the dorms.

Trash is also found inside the recycling bins, which are right next to trash cans, and trash is found everywhere on the ground even after an area has been cleaned. Trash is left by students who do not care, and James has become more than frustrated.

"I'm not paid to do it," James said. "People feel like they shouldn't

bother. See how you feel if someone undoes what you do."

James will continue the Environmental Bike Club, possibly needing to put in Ecology for the reason that they are the Ecology club. Interested in making or finding a road that leads from Sonora to Columbia, James continues to find ways to contribute to more bike use for everyone.

Riding a bike is James' most enjoyable experience for himself and his club, meeting a hill and climbing it is rewarding, as the easy ride down is a wind blasting experience.

"It's funner in life," James said.

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### Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

2	7	5	6	9	1	3	4	8
6	3	9	8	4	7	5	1	2
4	8	1	5	3	2	9	6	7
8	4	3	9	7	6	1	2	5
1	9	2	4	5	3	7	8	6
7	5	6	1	2	8	4	3	9
9	2	4	3	8	5	6	7	1
5	1	8	7	6	4	2	9	3
3	6	7	2	1	9	8	5	4

### King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 27 mins.

HES	OLEO	SARA
UGH	MODE	CLAN
TOR	READOR	AIN
ACHE	IMAGE	
ALPHA	HUMP	
VINO	CUSPIDOR	
ERE	DOMES	OWE
SALVADOR	COED	
EVER	HYMNS	
THERE	PEAS	
YOGI	SPLENDOR	
PLAT	ORAL	ANA
EDDY	DONS	YON



# Dickens Faire trip to San Fran planned

Get into the holiday spirit by attending the Great Dickens Christmas Faire in San Francisco on Friday, Dec. 1. Columbia College community education is providing a bus and admission package to make the trip even more enjoyable.

The City's Cow Palace will be transformed into nineteenth century London with all the color, charm and merriment of a Dickens Christmas scene. Wander the decorated streets among musicians, chimney sweeps and others in period costumes. Available for purchase will be unique gifts and fine gourmet foods from around the world.

The tour bus will leave from The Junction shopping center in Sonora at 8 a.m. and will return at 8 p.m. The \$50 per person fee includes admission to the faire and bus transportation.

Among other upcoming community education activities are two classes taught by David Cook: Building Your Dream House for a Song on Tuesday, Nov. 28, and Become a Community Education Instructor on Wednesday, Nov. 29. Both classes will meet from 6 to 9

p.m. in Manzanita room 18-1 on the college campus.

Along with tips on building your dream house, Cook will provide information on how to own it free and clear in five years. The class will cover acquiring land at county tax sales, buying building materials for 10 cents on the dollar, living on your land comfortably and rent free while building, and getting the best help for the least money.

In addition, Cook will provide information in his other class on how to make extra money working part-time as a community education instructor. "You don't need a teaching credential and almost anyone can do this," Cook said. "Learn how to use your own experience to teach and help others."

Each class requires a \$40 fee payable to Columbia College, and a \$20 materials fee for the instructor.

Interested persons can register on-campus at the admissions and records office or call the community education office at 588-5144 for registration information.

## LETTER: Seven sentences?

Continued from page 2  
teacher's instruction.

• Finally, an amazing "told me": this week one of my students told me (and I did not fall asleep or visit Mars!) that his instructor told him: "all of your paragraphs must contain seven sentences, no more, no less." I cannot conceive of the circumstances in which this got mis-

heard but it must be so. Otherwise, we are going to consign Conrad, Dickens and Henry James, all of whose paragraphs, at a guess, exceed seven sentences, to outer darkness. Not to mention James Thurber and William Saroyan, many of whose paragraphs fall short of that number.

Listen carefully to what your teacher tells you and make sure you get the whole story.

Dr. Michael Duffet

## SAFETY

Continued from front page  
disaster is over.

Ultimately the president of the college has the final word in case of an emergency, but the Incident Command group advises the president.

Also, sorry to say, if your class was canceled because of weather or safety conditions, the class will not be made up. The teacher will try to catch you up on what was scheduled, but no extra days will be added.

So if you wake up and see that it might be too icy, foggy, snowy or wet to get to school safely, check one of the resources listed above to see if you're right.



## Campus and Community

### Debate team wins again

The Columbia College Speech and Debate Squad continued its award-winning season by snatching up two honors at the Northridge Swing Speech and Debate Tournament held at CSU Northridge.

The teams of Taureanna Shimp and Caitlyn Ellis and Trevor Wittke and Zack Macbeth each earned awards at the tournament as Columbia College became the only school from Northern California to advance to the tournament's quarterfinals.

Southern California presented tough competition with UCLA, USC, Pepperdine, and Northern Arizona University in attendance.

Students Danielle Carmack and Cody Cooper impressively demonstrated nerves of steel while they each earned two victories in their debating debut.

The team would like to thank Craig Johnston for his invaluable assistance and the campus community for its continued support.

### Body sculpting builds abs

What is body sculpting?

Body sculpting is a class that is taught by Coach Raelene Juarez of the College's Athletic department every Monday and Wednesday from 1 p.m. to 2:25 p.m. and on Tuesday from 11:20 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.

Body sculpting is exactly what it says: a class in sculpting your own body using physical exercise.

This class consists of toning your body using muscle toning equipment, starting with the free weights, where students learn the bio-mechanics of how to perform exercises correctly.

Then the class trains with therapeutic bands and a big round stability ball. Every class period, the students do a lot of ab and back exercises.

You might be asking yourself: what is the purpose of body sculpting?

"I believe that it is very important to target one's core, because everything you do from walking to sitting to playing sports, plus an everyday life activity requires the usage of abs and back muscles," said Juarez.

Fellow athletic Instructor Josh Bigelow believes agrees.

"This is a very good course to have in the college's curriculum and is a good strength to Columbia's athletic department," said Bigelow.

When you're trying to figure out what to take for your physical education requirements, give the body sculpting class here at Columbia College a shot.



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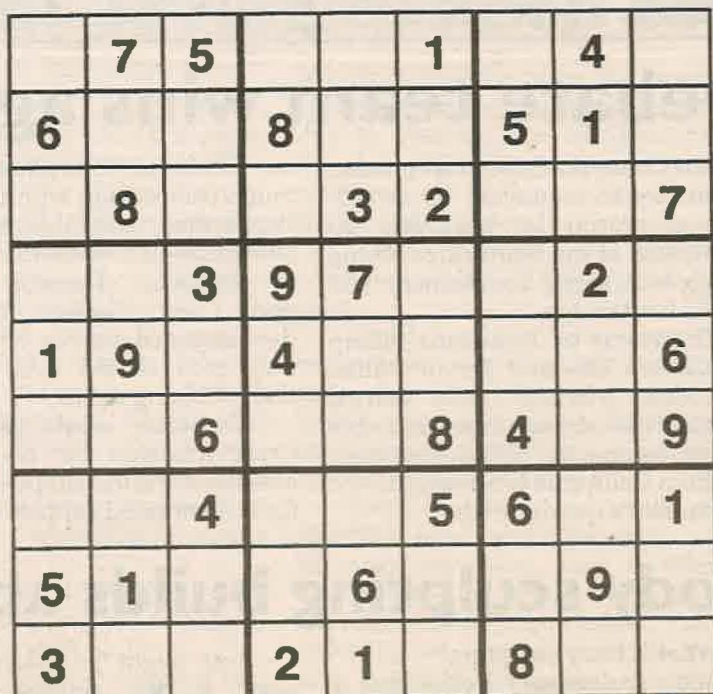
Tuesday to Saturday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.





# PASTIMES

## Weekly Sudoku



Answers are on page 10

Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas

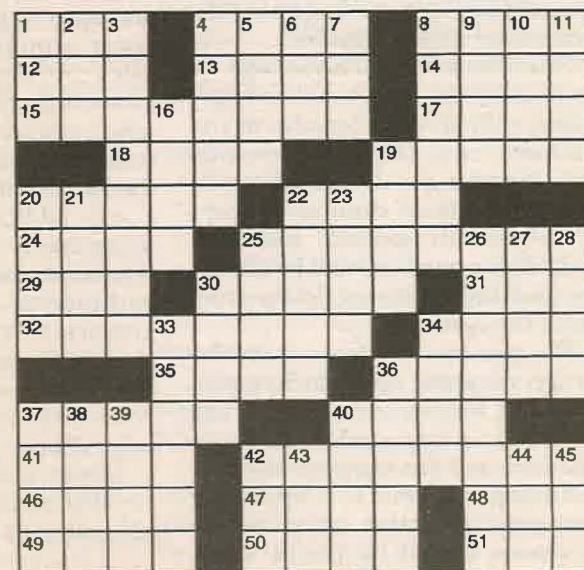


## King Crossword

### ACROSS

- 1 Cock and bull?  
4 Bread spread  
8 TV chef Moulton  
12 Reaction to a bad taste  
13 Fashion  
14 Family  
15 Bullring VIP  
17 "It - Necessarily So"  
18 Rue the run  
19 Visualization  
20 Omega's opposite  
22 Camel feature  
24 Provider of veritas  
25 Spittoon  
29 Before  
30 Capitols' caps

- 31 Pay with plastic  
32 Brazilian port city  
34 Dorm dweller  
35 Eternally  
36 Songs of praise  
37 First word of many limericks  
40 Look-alikes, idiomatically  
41 Boo Boo's mentor  
42 Pomp  
46 Detailed map  
47 Exam format  
48 Literary



- collection  
49 Vortex  
50 Dresses in  
51 Thither
- entree  
9 Others (Lat.)  
10 Pealed  
11 Initial chip  
16 Toyota subcompact  
19 Satan's staff  
20 Brutus' birds  
21 Trevi toss, once  
22 Comedy  
23 Addict  
25 "The Da Vinci"  
26 Calamitous time  
27 Actor Wilson  
28 Cincinnati squad
- 30 Comic Letterman  
33 Truth  
34 Blue hue  
36 Some women's footwear  
37 Work at the keyboard  
38 Cling to  
39 "Zounds!"  
40 Blueprint  
42 Turf  
43 Favorable vote  
44 Lennon's lady  
45 Skedaddled

Answers are on page 10

## On the Street: What are your plans for the holidays?



Hope Schumann

I'm going to Monterey with friends for Thanksgiving and home to Groveland for Christmas.



Andrew Phillips

Not much, just dinner with my parents.



Cori Nieman

I'm going to Reno for Thanksgiving, 'cause that's where the family is.



David Belt

Hunting in Humboldt for Thanksgiving and snowboarding for Christmas.