

# The Long Valley Gazette

Canada College, Redwood City

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## Retention Gets Attention

### Many Reasons Why Students Drop Out

By Yvonne Moriarty

"Nineteen percent of the students at Canada who enroll in a course drop out before the end of the semester." according to Herbert Warne, Interim Dean of Registrar.

"Retention cannot be based on the figures alone, because there are so many reasons why a student drops out. Students at a community college have numerous responsibilities, therefore school is not on the top list of their priorities. School is not survival, but working and taking care of children is." stated Elizabeth Armstrong, Dean of Basic and Applied Sciences.

John Friesen, Dean of Humanities, believes that it depends on the instructor to keep students motivated. An instructor must keep the course interesting, and be interested in the students.

"Instructors should provide more personal attention to the students. From the beginning, students should be aware of exactly what is expected of them throughout the course, and then they will have less fear," according to Grace Adams, Dean of Business and Social Sciences.

Some instructors will go the extra distance to retain students in their class. Eldon Earnhardt, Anthropology Instructor, said, "Personally, I care about the students. I will give an exam over if the student does poorly on the first one. All students in my class have an equal chance."

"Communication is important to work through any problem. There are student services that help a student through a crisis, and I will recommend them if they will benefit a student," stated

Bob Curtis, Drama Instructor.

Lois Cunningham, Social Science Instructor, said, "I am not in the position to talk a student out of dropping a class, but I always want to talk to them if given the chance. If it's possible to work a situation out, I will."

Jeff Skillsky dropped his Math class. Skillsky claims that the reason he dropped the class was because the instructor didn't explain the material well, and the pace was too fast.

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### "School is not survival, but working.....is"

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Several students agree that there are always circumstances that force a few students to drop a class, but the instructor's technique of teaching is very important.

Another reason why students drop a course is the way the teachers talk to them. "Students can tell if a teacher is dedicated and genuinely cares about their students. Students have a tendency to work harder for the teacher who cares," stated one student. An instructor can retain their students by having respect for the student and keep the door for communication open.

All of the feedback from students concerning retention is not negative. Jill Brose is enrolled in a biology course. "The Instructor (Black) explains the material in a way that is easy to understand. She involves the whole class and uses positive reinforcement," stated Brose.

"I have had teachers who did not care if I attended their class or not. My opinion was not welcome and I did just what I needed to pass. I also took a philosophy class. I would have stayed in

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## Christmas Buying On a Budget

By Yvonne Moriarty

'Tis the season to be jolly, unless your shopping list is bigger than your bank account. Below are a few suggestions for Christmas gifts that can be purchased for \$10 or less.

For the "patriotic" person on your list, Target has a Statue of Liberty for \$9.99 that dances to music. It's guaranteed to bring laughs throughout the year.

There are slippers for men and women at Mervyns for \$7.99. They are the perfect gift for that person who needs warming up. They also have scarfs on sale for \$4.99.

For the domestic person on your list, Oven Mitts with Santa or Rudolph are at Target for \$3.99. Open the mitt and inside is an elf inside Santa's mouth. Place Mats make a good gift and are available at most Department Stores. Also, Stove Top Sets are inexpensive and look nice.

If shopping for a student, Webster's Deluxe Desk Reference Library which contains two dictionaries, Grammar Guide, Factfinder and Thesaurus  
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# Choral Concert In 'Main' Thurs.

By Daniel Trecroci

The Canada College Choral Ensemble will be performing its annual Winterfest concert in the College's Main Theatre, and encourages anyone interested to come and partake in the festive gala that will feature holiday music.

The concert will take place at 11:00 am on Thursday, December 13. Performing will be the Canada Choral Ensemble, the Canada Women's Ensemble, and the Humanitarians, which is composed entirely of Canada faculty and staff. Featured on the program will be a display of Christmas Carol literature, and very popular selections. The show will conclude with a sing-along of traditional carols.

This is a good opportunity for anyone caught up in the hustle and bustle of college life to just sit back and get involved with the holiday swing of things, and it's free to boot.



## Long Valley Gazette

**Editors:**

John Kenny  
Daniel Trecroci  
Nicole Burleson

**Staff:**

Linda Fuentes  
Ryan Jones  
Shannon Meyer  
Yvonne Moriarty  
Christian Palmer  
Dana Turley  
Shon Williams

# Tradition Foreign to Some

By Shannon Meyer

Last month, Canada's International Club celebrated their first annual Thanksgiving party. Margie Helms, who is in charge of the club, held the festivities at her house. Since Thanksgiving is an American holiday many of the students do not celebrate it. This tradition was quite foreign for them.

The celebration began at 2pm on Thanksgiving day. The weather was beautiful so much of the time was spent outdoors playing games and listening to music. "The stereo was on full blast and the students were having a good time," said Margie. Each student was asked to bring a native dish from their own country for everyone to sample. Of course there was the traditional turkey dinner prepared by Margie. The party finally ended around 10pm when Margie dropped off the last of the guests at home.

Shino Fujisawa is the club's president assisted by five other officers. The club's total membership is 15. Some of the members only stopped by between

other engagements, however there ended up being around 35 people at the party. Some of the students brought friends of theirs who weren't members or students at Canada. "Margie is a great person and we are all happy that she is our advisor. Margie and her husband made us all feel very comfortable and some didn't even want to leave," said Shino.

The club itself donated \$100 to the dinner and donations were also made by Jack Greenalch and the Canada bookstore manager Judy Inouye. A turkey was donated by Suzanne Huey who is the International Club counselor.

Right now there are no plans for a Christmas party but hopefully a dance for Valentine's day. Shino is planning to get together with the president of the student government and have a big dance for both clubs.

Since this was so successful and lots of fun, Margie is planning on doing it again next year. If you would like to get involved contact Susanne Huey, the International Counselor in Bldg. 13 rm 130 or call 306-3289.

### DROP OUTS from pg.1

it regardless of my grade because the teacher made the class interesting and fun," according to Valerie Hanepen.

Frank Young, Philosophy Instructor believes that a class cannot be boring. Students have to be involved. If they are not allowed to participate, they will be Zombies sitting at desks.

### GIFTS from pg.1

rus. It is available at most bookstores for less than \$9.00.

Calculators that have the capacity to do Algebra are on sale at K-Mart. Prices start at \$6.99.

Music is a gift that everyone

appreciates. All stores that sell cassettes or CD's have selections on sale. Prices start at \$3.99 for cassettes or \$7.99 for CD's. Be sure not to buy Guns-n-Roses for someone who likes Barry Manilow.

Christmas socks are a great gift for that person that you feel like you "have to get them something." Prices range from \$1.99 to \$3.99 and some even sport Santa on the side.

Finally for him, be sure to purchase the risque Christmas underwear. Prices and styles vary. At Mervyns, snuggies (briefs) are \$4.87 and boxers are \$7.99. They even have ones that play Jingle Bells.

When Christmas shopping remember, it's a jungle out there.

## SCHOLARSHIPS, FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS

ED'S SERVICES

BOX 3006

BOSTON, MA 02130

# NEW AA MEETING ON CAMPUS

By Ryan Jones

Alcoholics Anonymous, a well known treatment program that has helped millions of people deal with alcohol abuse, is now available to students and faculty members on the Canada Campus. The AA meetings are held on Tuesdays, from 11am to 12 noon in building 13, room 110.

Alcoholics Anonymous is a twelve step program that is designed to help people with addictions to alcohol by

giving them a structured plan of recovery as well as a support group of fellow members to talk with. One of the most important parts of Alcoholics Anonymous is the confidentiality. Anyone or anything talked about during the meeting is only between the people that were at the meeting and nothing is ever spoken of or repeated outside of meetings.

You do not have to be an alcoholic to attend the AA meetings on campus. The meetings are open to people who have alcoholic parents or relatives and

would like to find out more about alcoholism and it's effects on the mind and body. Members of this program are quick to point out that the philosophy and structure of Alcoholics Anonymous can be applied to many aspects of a person's life and help in many different ways. Although AA might not be the right program of recovery for everyone, it has helped cure millions of alcoholics, and continues to help people in thousands of cities across the country.

## SPORTS

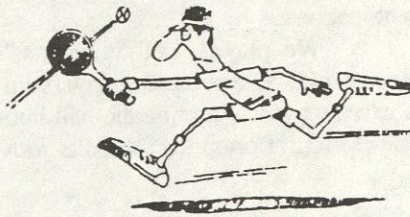
# Tennis Coach 'Very Optimistic'

By Chris Palmer

The Canada men's tennis team is getting ready for what looks to be a promising season. The coach for the team is Mr. Paul Welles, who is in his seventh year at Canada. "I'm very optimistic about the season. All the guys out here want to play and that's a good sign," Coach Welles said. he was reluctant to give any far-sighted expectations as there are still a couple of months before regular season play, but the team is definitely looking good.

The two top players on the team are both ranked in the top 30 in the state, which is very good in California. Returning is Todd Waibel of Redwood City, ranked 28 and is looking to have a great season. He is the number two man on the team. The star attraction this year for the team will be Niza Simunyola. Simunyola is a native of Zambia (Central Africa) and will be playing at Canada for at least this season. He is ranked 17 in the state. He and Waibel together are ranked 13 in doubles.

In Zambia, Simunyola played on some courts where he was told about the chance to play on college teams in



the states. He wrote to a few schools, Canada being one of them, and waited for a response. Canada was the quickest to answer and seemed very interested in Simunyola. His brother, who attends school in New York, then spoke to Coach Welles over the phone and set things up.

"This is a new school for me and I hope to do my best and get the most of what I can out of it," Simunyola said. He seemed very relaxed and ready for the season and has a 90 mph plus serve which most players only dream of. His teammates expect him to rank number one in the state as soon as he gets to play in his first tournament.

He only smiled at that remark. He and Waibel will definitely be two guys to watch as they try and move up the rankings. Eric Newman of Redwood City, Jim Drimmer also of Redwood City and Pat Bates of Half Moon Bay are three others who will help aim the Colts toward a conference championship.

Last year the Colts took fourth in the conference. Coach Welles has had three second place teams in his seven years. This year may be the year Coach Welles gets his first championship. Foothill College of Los Altos has dominated the number one spot for years now and it's about time for a change. Move over Rover and let Canada take over. It looks like they have the talent and with Simunyola and Waibel leading the team the Colts will definitely be a front runner this tennis season.

Their first match is on Feb. 12 against Sonoma State at Sonoma. That is followed by a tournament in Modesto with 26 or 28 other teams. This is when the team will really see how it matches up to other schools. The Gazette will keep you posted on the team's progress in coming issues.

## BASKETBALL

# Colts Find Winning Ways After Loss

By John Kenny

On Nov. 27, Canada's basketball team fell to visiting San Joaquin Delta by a score of 69-57 in a non-conference matchup.

Canada was hanging on to a 27-16 first half lead after Barry Danner's three pointer with just under six minutes remaining in the half. Danner led the Colts with 18 points. Danner was hot from three point land sinking five in the game. The Colts Chris Grant dumped in 13 and rejected four of Delta's shots.

A melee broke out between members of our baseball team and the fans/cheerleaders from Delta with 10:19 remaining in the second half.

As in any college sporting event, there was heckling between the fans. This simply just went too far. A member from the baseball team is sending a letter to apologize for the incident, according to Dr. Martinez, Canada's Vice President.

The team members realize what did take place was wrong and feel really bad about the matter according to Martinez.

As far as both colleges are concerned, the matter is closed. No injuries

were reported.

Delta rallied back in the second half, outscoring Canada 44-28 to take control of the game. The Mustangs took the lead for good with 13:30 left in the game on Gary Kron's 3-pointer.

On Nov. 29, the Colts pulled out a 62-58 victory over visiting New College of San Francisco in another non-conference game. The Colts upped their record to 6-2 with the win.

The Colts enjoyed a 35-13 lead with just over three minutes remaining in the first half. New College battled back, however, cutting the lead to 35-21 at the half.

The Colts were once again outscored in the second half, this time by a ten point margin.

Canada stayed in control throughout the half, although the defense could have played better according to Canada head coach Mike Legarza. Legarza was able to put everybody into the game and use a number of different combinations.

"We played well in spurts," Legarza said. "Our perimeter players did an excellent job of getting the ball into Dale Horton. Horton led the Colts with

15 points. Barry Danner connected for 14, and Mark Wilkenson added nine in the winning effort.

Future home games are as follows:

Fri, Dec 14 vs. Cabrillo

Fri, Dec 21 vs. Hartnell

Fri, Dec 28 vs. Australian Na-

tionals



## College Hosts Tournament

By John Kenny

Canada hosted its first annual eighth grade basketball tournament Nov. 30 and Dec. 1. It was quite a successful weekend and monies raised will go toward the new weight room.

Kennedy School of Redwood City were the champions as they upended St. Simon's of Sunnyvale in the final game. Taylor School of Millbrae was the consolation round winner.

As I was a coach in this tournament, an enormous amount of thanks should go out to Coach Mike Legarza and his basketball team as they donated 18 hours of their time and did a wonderful job with the kids and the entire organization of the tournament. Lois Cunningham deserves equal credit as she ran a concession stand all weekend to help in the fundraising for the weight room.

