

The Long Valley

Gazette

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Celebrate Cinco De Mayo Today!

By Ed Aguilar

Cinco de Mayo, the celebration of the liberation of Mexico from potential dominance by the United States, will be recognized in various forms on the Canada campus today. According to Canada Professor Dr. Gilberto Villareal, Cinco de Mayo is a holiday celebrated more in the US than in Mexico. He said, too, that unfortunately the holiday has fallen victim to overcommercialism like so many in American society and that Americans are getting away too much from what the holiday really stands for.

Villareal commented that the recognition of the holiday is good, but that unfortunately the extent of people's perceptions of the holiday consists almost solely of "eating a few

Indian tacos and listening to Mariachi bands." This, he said, is almost typical of an American society that proceeds along in sublime ignorance. Villareal noted that Americans make up a culture that is generically called "American" while not giving recognition to the people who make up this culture. He said American society doesn't take a culturally relativistic point of view when it comes to such things as holidays, saying, "(Americans) tend to compare other countries' holidays to ours, and not ours to theirs."

Villareal said that Cinco de Mayo is a holiday during which instructors are compelled to address Mexican and other Latino cultures in their classrooms. So while students

through the university level receive at least occasional exposure to the richness and diversity brought to America by other cultures, Villareal points out that the majority of Americans try to excuse their ignorance by saying they're too busy to learn about the cultures of these people who may well be their friends and coworkers. Villareal noted that until now holidays with a European history have been celebrated because those of European descent have been the dominant population.

Villareal does practice what he preaches, too. He has taken his evening ESL classes and Canada Professor Donald Harris's evening Spanish classes and had the students interact so as to develop a heightened

sense of understanding between the two sects--each helping the other learn their respective languages. In the meantime it's hoped that the culture of each will also rub off on the other.

Villareal questions the mild arrogance that causes Americans to assume that they exist in a highly educated culture. He wonders why--since the United States is so advanced economically on a global scale--it has neglected trying to advance itself socially with respect to other cultures.

So this just gives you something to think about as you see people dining on burritos and tacos and listening to Latin music on Tuesday. And no, the height of Spanish culture is not found at the local Taco Bell.

Teachers Union - College District Disagree On Contract

By Jeff Harm

In a year dominated by news of economic hardship and unemployment, it's not surprising that the annual collective bargaining process that sets pay and benefits for Cañada's teachers has been unusually long and problematic. Every year, after the state budget is completed, the San Mateo County Community College District (Cañada, CSM, Skyline) begins negotiations with the teachers' union (AFT Local 1493). The process typically results in an agreement by spring, but so far this year little progress has been made, due mostly to a fundamental difference in each side's perception of the "how", and especially the "how much" questions involved.

Some of the delay is due also to the inevitable process of working out new proposals like "unit banking", a flexible system of accumulating extra units that teachers can then use later for early retirement, sabbaticals, or lighter work loads. Although both the district and the union agree that unit banking is a good idea, they give different reasons for the current lack of a concrete plan. Assistant Chancellor Clayton "Bub" Bowling believes the idea needs more specific development in order to avoid potential problems. "I think we both agree the concept has merit, and we are both anxious to agree upon a policy that works, but without the proper language, it can become a negative." Rex Smith, chief negotiator for the AFT, says the district's apparent concern with the details of some of the ideas like this one serves to focus attention on this basically no-cost proposal and shift it away from the real point of contention: how much

money the district has available for the other items on the table.

Bowling attributes the general delay to a particularly austere state budget that makes any pay increases more difficult. Dr. Diane LeBow, Cañada English professor, and President of the local AFT chapter, thinks the district may have good reason to stall: "Sometimes we've felt like those things have in past years been used as 'hostages' to make us give up things like, for example, salary increases." She also pointed out that the district earns interest on the money that would have been paid out during the year if negotiations had been concluded earlier.

Depending upon which side of this fence the budget is viewed from, the district is either facing hard times or rolling in a surplus of unused cash. According to Bowling, this year's state budget does not include a cost of living increase, meaning the district has little to pass on to employees. The result is a district proposal for no raise or cost-of-living adjustment. "The position of the district is that we have a financial problem, unlike any we've had, at least in the previous four years that I've done this," said Bowling. Smith and the AFT contend that the district's accounting procedures habitually result in a hidden surplus. A series of "Faculty Times" fliers distributed by the AFT claim: "There is ample money, it is just cleverly hidden in the budget." For example, 1) "For the year ending this June, the district has budgeted \$3 million more than usual to pay for full-time faculty" (while hiring few new faculty); 2) no more than 28% of estimated funds for capi-

tal projects were actually spent; even less the previous three years; 3) a district net balance of "a healthy \$9 million... tripled in the last five years", and 4) the difference between total funds available for '90-91 and actual expenditures leaves \$7,588,000 available for '91-92. Bowling responds that those figures don't reflect the complete

hires consultants. As an example, he cited the \$480,000 cost for the district's negotiators, while he is not paid for his services. Bowling attributes those claims to the natural bias any union has against money being spent on things other than its membership. He said the money spent on equipment and district personnel is necessary to maintain an acceptable level of services. "When we've had the money to operate the district and provide for the huge number of services that the district provides, we've shared that money with employee groups, to the tune of 25% over the past four years. There is no intent to hide it away. There's nothing to be gained by doing that. We need to make sure that we can continue to provide the level of service to students commensurate with what we have in the past." According to Dr. LeBow, an objective budget analyst hired by the AFT has found no support for the contention that there is no money available.

Ultimately, the salary and benefits package agreed upon will depend on how much money is available and how it can be spent. The AFT has asked for a 6% increase in pay, an increase in the medical cap, and eye care benefits among others. The district has so far responded by saying the state budget will not provide enough for an increase in pay or addition of benefits; however, Bowling said

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budget picture. "They're looking at figures and accounts in a very simplistic manner, and inferring that the district can do what it wants with those sums of money. Much of that money has already been committed to previous years' commitments and is earmarked for other things. It also includes money that was a one-time allocation from the state that cannot be used for salaries. We're not that flexible, by either the law, or by previous years' commitments."

Some of those commitments, according to Smith, show that the district's priorities tend toward "perks and toys" at the expense of more appropriate uses. He says students suffer when class sections are cut, while the district buys expensive equipment and

the district can afford to offer an increase in medical coverage. He said when the district next meets with the AFT, they are going to offer to increase the medical cap at about 5%. Smith estimated the yearly

Cont. on pg. 3

Movie ReviewCan This Movie "Jump" ?

By Jeff Harm

"White Men Can't Jump" is a comedy. With that in mind, it's easier to forgive some of its flaws and focus on what director/writer Ron Shelton (Bull Durham) does well. The viewer's enjoyment of the movie might just depend on how distracting some of the far-fetched scenes are. Let's get these distractions out of the way first.

The main characters are refreshingly realistic but then the dialogue and the action turn disappointingly unbelievable. The movie's "white man", Billy Hoyle, played by Woody Harrelson, acts confused, does dumb things with his money, and has a kooky girlfriend who takes her booze like a John Wayne character: right out of the bottle. That's about what you'd expect from a drifter with no ambition living day-to-day in cheap motels. His partner Sidney Dean (Wesley Snipes), is smarter and more resourceful, and he lives a more stable life. The problems begin when these two interact with the world; it's not the same world the rest of us are used to.

The biggest divergence from reality is the mild depiction

of "tough guys." Billy and Sidney team up to hustle on the supposedly tough courts of Venice Beach and Watts, where they take turns insulting and ripping off everybody and his brother. Shelton sprinkles enough expletives throughout the dialogue to add authenticity, but then subtracts from it with the results of these confrontations: no blows are thrown. All the players do their best macho posturing, but the results are sometimes ridiculous: "Yo' mamma's so old. . .etc. etc. Then there is the requisite shoving match and play resumes. Kinda corny, but then it wouldn't be much of a comedy if the plot consisted of two obnoxious hustlers getting severely beaten on a daily basis.

The other major distraction derives from the unlikely results of the games themselves. The less exposure you've had to basketball, the less you'll be asked to stretch your imagination (which explains why Siskel and Ebert raved about it- what can you expect from a couple of guys whose only exercise consists of chewing popcorn and gesturing

with their thumbs?). Anyway, the film is shot around Woody's weaknesses so that all you see is him bouncing the ball (as opposed to actually dribbling) and putting up an awkward two-handed half-jumper. His game is not as suspect as the whole notion of two relatively short - both under 6'- players winning consistently against much bigger, talented players. No matter how high Woody might jump in the real world, no amount of skill could stop someone 8" taller who could play the game. It would be like Spud Webb and John Stockton (plenty of talent) against Magic Johnson and Karl Malone in a two-on-two, half court game. If you don't know how you'd bet, then you won't think the games themselves are funny. They're not supposed to be.

Like I said before, it's a comedy, not a documentary, so those things are more or less forgivable. The setting is something that needs no forgiveness. The movie was shot on location in L.A. The colorful and scenic Venice Beach shots combine with the drab and dreary Watts courts and cheap motels to form an interesting and varied urban backdrop.

If there's a message being woven into this setting it might be the way some racial stereotypes are brought out and made to appear ridiculous.

Aside from the obvious "awkward white guy who can actually play," my favorite example is Sidney's insistence that no matter how much Billy likes to listen to Jimi Hendrix, he can never "hear" him because Billy's not black. Billy's girlfriend then points out that Jimi's drummer was white. When Sidney argues, she produces the tape cover that shows the whole band was white except Jimi. The message is that there are probably fewer esoteric cultural differences between the races as people sometimes think there are. I think.

Since the Gazette has no official rating system, and some people only understand movies in terms of stars or thumbs or little guys in theater seats, I've devised a similar rating scale, the "Pokey" (as in Gumby and), in honor of our school mascot, the colt. It goes from "no Pokey" (like, say, "Earnest Goes to Camp" gets no Pokey), to four Pokeys (multiple Oscars). I give "White Men Can't Jump" 2 1/4 Pokeys. Fortunately for all of us, my limited command of computer graphic skills prevents me from creating the actual Pokeys here in the paper, so you get to pick which quarter of Pokey you like best. Use your imagination; it'll be a good warm-up for watching the movie.

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Schedule Wins Award

Cañada College's 1992 Spring Schedule of Classes was awarded third place in the state at the annual Public Relations Conference held in early April in Santa Clara. Only two class schedules in the state were chosen to be honored. Santa Monica College received both first and second place and Cañada College received third place. The awards are given to honor the best performance by California community college public relations professionals and are presented at a special awards banquet for the California Community College Public Information Officers.

Cañada College also placed in the top three for best photography. The award was given to Terri Creswell for

her photograph of King Lear used to publicize the recent Cañada Drama Department King Lear production.

The California Community College Public Relations Organization began the PRO awards in 1977. Cañada's Jack Swenson won the first PRO award that year for the Best Class Schedule. Swenson's schedule was one of the first to be designed and produced in the format Cañada's students receive today.

Cañada's has been a constant winner in these awards for the past few years. Awards have been given for Canada's Catalog, press releases, brochures, radio/TV spots, advertising and photography.

New Cook Book For Cañada

Canada's faculty, staff and their spouses have put enough recipes together to make a new cookbook. Yummy!

It all started out six years ago at some pot luck dinners. The food was so mouth-watering that three women came together and decided to do something so everyone could enjoy these tasty delights. Janet Hancock, Pat Hanada and the late Susan Yoshimura were the originators of this fantastic idea. Although some of the recipes started out as chicken scratchings on paper, Pat Hanada, Director of Canada's duplicating center, has carefully

been putting them away on her computer at home over the years. The categories consist of appetizers, breads, soups, main dishes/casseroles, salads, vegetables and, of course, the unforgettable favorite desserts. The price is not set but the book will be ready to order by Christmas season this year. There will be ten sample copies distributed around campus. "We are not out to make a buck, but we don't want to be put in a hole, either," said Tarrie Mitchell Chairperson of the Classified Council.

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Long Valley Gazette Staff

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Students Respond To San Quentin Execution

By Ruth Escalante

Canada student Jake Messina had a rather direct and harsh proposal for dealing with the issue of capital punishment after the recent execution of Robert Alton Harris at San Quentin. He said, "With all the economic problems that we have today the money that we spend housing prisoners would be better spent on the homeless and the poor in our country. I'm sure that our government could find a cheap and inexpensive way to dispense with the trash that is kept in our prisons."

Freshman Lisa Malaspina softened this opinion somewhat when she said, "I'm for it in extreme cases such as Charles Manson who can do nothing but add to the insanity and violence in

our society. We have to start dealing with extreme crimes in an extreme manner. Our jails are already overflowing and in my opinion it's a complete waste of money to provide food and shelter for a killer who will never change. As long as they're alive they're a threat to society. It's time we fight back."

The most frequently and widely accepted argument in favor of capital punishment is that fear of death deters people from committing crimes. Many people oppose the death penalty because they believe it's cruel and unusual punishment and/or it doesn't solve the problem. Does killing a person somehow prove that it is wrong to kill a person? Their are arguments based on people who believe that execution costs less than putting a

person in jail for life. This is, of course, not the case since it costs more to bring a prisoner to execution than to keep them in prison for life. Experts including psychiatrists, medical and polygraph examiners cost from \$500 to \$1,000 per day while courtroom costs can run up to \$2,200 per day. So it becomes quite obvious that death penalty cases are not only time-consuming but expensive for taxpayers and both sides.

According to history major Thom Lichtenstein, who is against capital punishment, "It does not solve the problem. Look at why 2,500 people are on death row in the U.S. Education is part of the answer to the question of how to reduce violent crimes. It wouldn't take care of all of it, but most of it. This would help instill

self esteem and respect for others."

Canada freshman Nora Tadday said, "As a practicing Catholic I'm against capital punishment. Criminals should pay for their crimes by serving their sentences."

Although people still have different arguments and opinions on this topic, the controversy on what to do staggers on, death penalty or not.

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ESL Student Speaks Out On "Prison Life"

Dear Editor

Being an ESL student, I felt like a hostage locked up in an English speaking prison during the last thirty years. To this date, I am still agonizing over my mistakes in speaking and writing. The language has never really sunk in completely and I doubt that it ever will. Most of the natives take the basics for granted but I have to struggled to keep them straight.

On many occasions, I was haunted by nightmares and awakened by my boss's hollering as he reviews my report, "Stupid, you used the wrong tense here!" or "You dummy, put a comma there!" There goes my promotion opportunity once again out the window. Though I have had a fairly successful career as a professional engineer, I could have realized more of my potential if it were

not for my weakness in English. It was my stupidity for not taking corrective action sooner.

Please tell your students not to make the same mistake that I made. English 800 and other english classes are the most important courses in his or her career. Once the English language is mastered, all other career related subjects will fall into place. It does not work the other way around.

As you read my paper out loud in front of my classmates on the evening of March 10, 1992, it was the high point of my imprisonment. For a moment, I thought you were the warden telling all my fellow inmates that my time was up, and I could go home now. I was overwhelmed with joy as I staggered out of the prison door. Wow, it felt great! Thank god, I am free at last!

An ESL Student

President's Message: Ophthalmic Program Up In The Air

By Ed Aguilar

Canada President Dr. Doug Kechter gave an update on the projects the Administration has in the works right now. The recommended 1992-'93 budget has been submitted with a contingency allocation, but as yet it's not sure whether or not the college will

receive the money it hopes to. This includes a base budget of \$9.6 million, with a \$80,000 contingency included. There is additional request for \$63,000 in order to sustain existing programs deemed as highest priority, and an additional \$350,000 requested for programs evaluated as second-level priorities. These second priorities

are things such as repairs to buildings and equipment as recognized by the staff.

The President noted that he has appointed a task force made up of members of the faculty, administration, advisory committee, people from industry, and students to review the future of the ophthalmic program terminated.

The program was suspended indefinitely for the instruction year of 1993-'94. The possibilities about what to do with the program are as follows: (1)The program may be terminated, (2)The program may be restructured, or(3) The program may be relocated to an ROP site. The president was unclear as to which option is likely.

Teachers Union - Continued From Page 1

increase in medical costs at closer to 10-12%. While there is no official deadline for settling on a contract, at some point the negotiations may have to evolve through a series of different stages, involving more people from outside the district. The change begins if an "impasse" is declared. The AFT has described itself effectively at that point of impasse several times, but there is as yet no official declaration.

After impasse, a state mediator would be appointed to intervene. The mediator's advice can be rejected, since it's not binding on either party. If that happens, a process called "fact-finding" is initiated.

Impartial experts examine the books and the priorities of the district, and make a recommendation, which is also non-binding. If nothing is settled after ten days, the recommendation is made public. Smith and LeBow both believe that the district would be opposed to such public scrutiny. If there is still no progress after the publication of the fact-finding results, the district can then adopt the last, best offer that it put forth.

Citing the recent insolvency of some other school districts, Bowling stressed that the district wants to avoid that problem by keeping any offers "within the ability of the district to pay."

LeBow, describing the district as "super solvent", sees its apparent frugality as symptomatic of an unnecessarily adversarial philosophy maintained by the district, and fostered by the philosophical gap between academic-minded teachers and more business-oriented administrators. She contrasts this district to others where more input is solicited from faculty, and decisions are based on mutually agreed-upon goals.

Over the years, this district has fared comparatively well financially. Whether it might perform its mission better if it was administered differently will probably not be discovered this year. Whether or not it has accu-

mulated enough of a surplus to raise pay and increase benefits in a year marked by a tight state budget is a question that will be answered during the final stages of this long negotiating

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Baseballers Hope To Qualify For Big Tourney

By William Roark

With an 18-6 record the Colts went into their most important game to date with Ohlone College. The game was held at Canada College's home field and was won in the late innings. Ohlone took an early lead scoring five runs in the first inning, however the Colts came on strong in the late innings scoring the necessary runs to win the game and clinch a playoff spot. The Colts took second place overall in league play with a record now of 18-6 and an overall record of 22-11. On May 2nd the Colts hosted one more home game against Monterey College, Garcia says that this was to be a tough game however his team has played real strong. This game will also end the conference play for the Colts even though they have already clinched a second place finish on the season plus a playoff

spot.

Pitching has again proved to be a strong component in the Colts success. Garcia says that his pitching staff has overwhelmed him. Some of his strongest starters have turned in some excellent performances. Up to date Brian Nelson has increased his record to 2-0 with three saves. Brian has thrown for a total of 13 innings with four walks and 19 strikeouts and a collective 2.3 earned run average. Brian also completed the game against Ohlone to add another save to his record. Jose Valenzuela has turned in some strong performances lately as well. Jose has thrown for a total of 54 innings allowing only 14 walks with 32 strikeouts and an earned run average of 1.84 which Garcia says is to be commended. Josh Montgomery is another of Garcia's hurlers having an exceptional year. Josh has three wins with one

loss. However, some of his other stats look impressive. Josh has an earned run average of 3.32 after pitching 43 innings, allowing 20 walks. He has fanned 58 of the batters faced. Danny Moore turned out an exceptional performance his last time on the mound. He pitched an eight inning shutout before being relieved. The outcome of the game ended as a shutout. Nonetheless, Garcia says it was a well-thrown game. Danny's earned run average is a well trimmed 1.30 after 32 innings pitched while only allowing four walks with 22 strikeouts. Danny also threw a three hit shutout against Cabrillo on April 11th.

The bats are also coming alive for the Colts. Kevin Gallagher leads the league in two different categories. Kevin has hit eight home runs and has a whopping 31 runs batted in to take control of these two categories. One of Kevin's most impressive home runs

came against Hartnell College where he hit a grand slam and knocked in five runs. Against Skyline on April ninth Kevin scored four times while going 5-6 with the bat and added one of his home runs to his collection.

The Colts will end their season against Mission and then head toward the state tournament where Garcia says his team should fare well if his team performs up to their qualifications.

Don Juan In Hell

Don't miss the Drama Department's spring production "Don Juan In Hell," directed by William Kenney. Performance dates are April 30, May 1, 2, 7, 8 and 9th at 8 pm in the Flexible Theater.

David Ott - Tennis Coach/Perennial Student

By Shandon Lloyd

Those students who recently graduated from Woodside high school may be surprised to find their former tennis coach, David Ott, as a fellow student at Canada. Obviously, Ott is not your typical student. He came to Canada three years ago, intent on gaining computer skills in order to enhance the business aspect of professional tennis instruction. Since then, he has become sidetracked by his quest for knowledge.

David Ott began working as a tennis pro out of the Alpine Hills Country Club in Woodside, where he built up enough of a reputation to start teaching independently on the private courts of Woodside, Atherton and

Portola Valley. In 1981 he was hired to coach tennis at Woodside Priory, where he also oversees the tennis facilities, donations, summer camps and group lessons. In 1990 he took on the additional responsibility of coaching the Woodside high school tennis team. The team has had a relatively successful year under his guidance and will probably finish fourth in the Peninsula Athletic League.

Through coaching tennis, Ott has come into contact with a wide variety of people whose reasons for interest in the game vary. The range of reasons which he contends with encompasses adults pursuing this sport for purely social reasons, to kids whose parents feel they should be occupied during the hot summer

months. Whether it be through coaching a team, or indoctrinating an unwilling student, Ott draws his inspiration from seeing his younger players achieve. His coaching preference lies in public schools, which provide diversity among a greater number of students. Ott's favorite subjects are the beginners, because they are generally more willing to listen and be "molded".

So what's Ott doing at Canada anyway? He's pursuing education for the fun of it. He has no intention of obtaining a degree or transferring to a four year school. Instead, he is content to work his way through each department - leaning towards liberal arts - for nothing more than personal enrichment. In this process, however, Ott has discovered that much of his

learning at Canada has enhanced his teaching abilities. For instance, his psychology classes can be applied to developing new methods of coaching students.

Ott has no intention of leaving the world of tennis anytime soon. He has expressed an interest in introducing tennis to inner city kids - a group unlikely ever to come into contact with the typical suburban tennis court. Another possibility may be consulting for companies producing tennis equipment. As for Ott's pursuit of education, as long as classes continue to be offered at Canada, he will continue to attend.



Golf Team Swings Into First Place

By Kristy King

The golf team swung its way into first place after winning the last match on the Coast Conference Championships. The six member golf team led by coach Jerry Drever had an

outstanding season. Brad Garrett was on the All-Conference team, averaging 75.8 per round. Although the golf team has won the final league standings, they will have no time to rest as they the play

in the NorCal Championships Monday May 4th. This will be a 36 hole match at Bidwell Park in Chico at 7 am. The following match, held the same day, will also be held in Chico at the Table Mountain golf course at

1:30 pm. The top four teams will go to the state tournament in Glendora in southern California.

Final standings (as according to match average) go as follows:

	Canada:	80
Final Standings	Monterey:	76
	Cabrillo:	65
	San Jose:	52
	De Anza:	40
	Gavilan:	23
	Foothill:	0

Season's Average, by player:	
Brad Garrett	75.8
Jamie Bendetoff	77.1
Chris Kleyps	78.2
Gary Young	78.4
Phillip Laurie	79.6
Dan Jomate	79.7