

**THE CONTINUING  
LEGACY OF THE  
TUSKEGEE AIRMEN  
PG.9**

JOSHUA ROBERTS,  
GRANDSON OF 'SPANKY' ROBERTS



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**WEBSITE'S NEW LOOK PG.3**

**NEVER TOO LATE PG.18**



# The importance of humanities

“**DO YOU THINK THE** main role of college is to make students ready for the job market? If so, why? If not, why not?”

This may sound like a test question, but it’s actually a question posed by Katherine Schulten in a Nov. 16 article in The New York Times. In the article, Schulten suggests that college students are losing interest in the humanities as majors.

She questions whether higher education should just be about vocational and job training as opposed to focusing on the teaching of critical thinking, expanding knowledge of the world and exposing students to diverse attitudes.

As the scope of college changes, especially at community colleges, it’s certainly an interesting and relevant question. How important is it to study fields like philosophy, culture, languages, music, art and history when these are fields that don’t easily translate into jobs?

Obviously, they are important in elementary school, but are these subjects in which students should major? The easy answer here is that unless one plans to teach within one of these fields, it’s probably risky to earn a degree in one of them.

However, majoring in a subject like performing arts or theater could lead to jobs in acting. And studying history and knowing about important historical events is particularly useful in many facets of life. So not all humanities majors are futile. But when it comes to majoring in these subjects, it really depends on what one intends to do with such a degree.

On the other hand, pursuing more vocational majors like nursing, aero-

navics, biology, business or other such fields opens graduates up to a plethora of jobs possibilities and opportunities for advancement. Not only that, but these are fields that can include hands-on training during college so that students can make absolutely certain they feel comfortable and ready to enter the workforce upon completion of these programs.

But college isn’t just about preparing oneself for a career. It’s about learning about life, learning how to analyze situations, learning problem-solving skills and social communication skills; it’s about expanding one’s horizons to become an educated and valuable member of society.

College can also be about trying new things. A philosophy class that a student signs up for just to fulfill a requirement might turn into a career in teaching or even a career in advanced study of the field.

The reality of the matter, though, as pointed out in Schulten’s article, is that humanities programs are being cut more and more because of this lack of interest. This is a problem that extends to elementary school as well with music and arts, the first classes to get cut when budgets tighten.

As Schulten says in her article, Tamar Lewin’s Oct. 30 New York Times story points out that even at prestigious universities, interest in humanities is lessening.

“Harvard had a 20 percent decline in humanities majors over the last decade, a recent report found, and most students who say they intend to major in humanities end up in other fields,” states Lewin in the article.

This comment points to an interesting aspect of the problem: the idea that most students who start out in humanities eventually pursue other majors.

Even if students aren’t majoring in humanities and ultimately move into other fields, such as science and technology, the information and knowledge gained in literature, history, philosophy or art classes are an integral part of the human experience.

Knowing about other cultures and other aspects of life, the origins of our societal norms and the evolution of our expertise is essential to understanding who we are and how we think. Critical thinking skills, the ability to analyze situations and being able to appreciate the world around us, including the works and accomplishments of the great artists, thinkers and musicians who walked the earth before our time, are some of the most important aspects of life.

Despite the fact that it isn’t easy to turn these subjects into a financially stable career—even teaching is not a sure thing—studying the great humanitarians, artists and thinkers of the past is absolutely critical in shaping one’s own personality, interests, skills and abilities.

The humanities are a part of college life that we must protect and cherish.

After all, as the 28th president of the United States Woodrow Wilson said in 1911, “A nation which does not remember what it was yesterday, does not know what it is today, nor what it is trying to do. We are trying to do a futile thing if we do not know where we came from or what we have been about.” ■

## CITY TALK

### This one holiday...

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Some outrageous, some hilarious, and some even brow-raising, City College students share their most memorable holiday moments.



**Joshua Jackson // audio engineering**  
“Every Christmas I make my brother a holiday compilation of all these holiday songs he hates and it gets worse every year. Then, I play them while we open gifts.”



**Anthony Gonzalez // graphic communications**  
“I wet the bed until I was 10. One Thanksgiving morning my mom and uncle held me over a hot brick and made me pee on it to get the pee demons out of my body.”



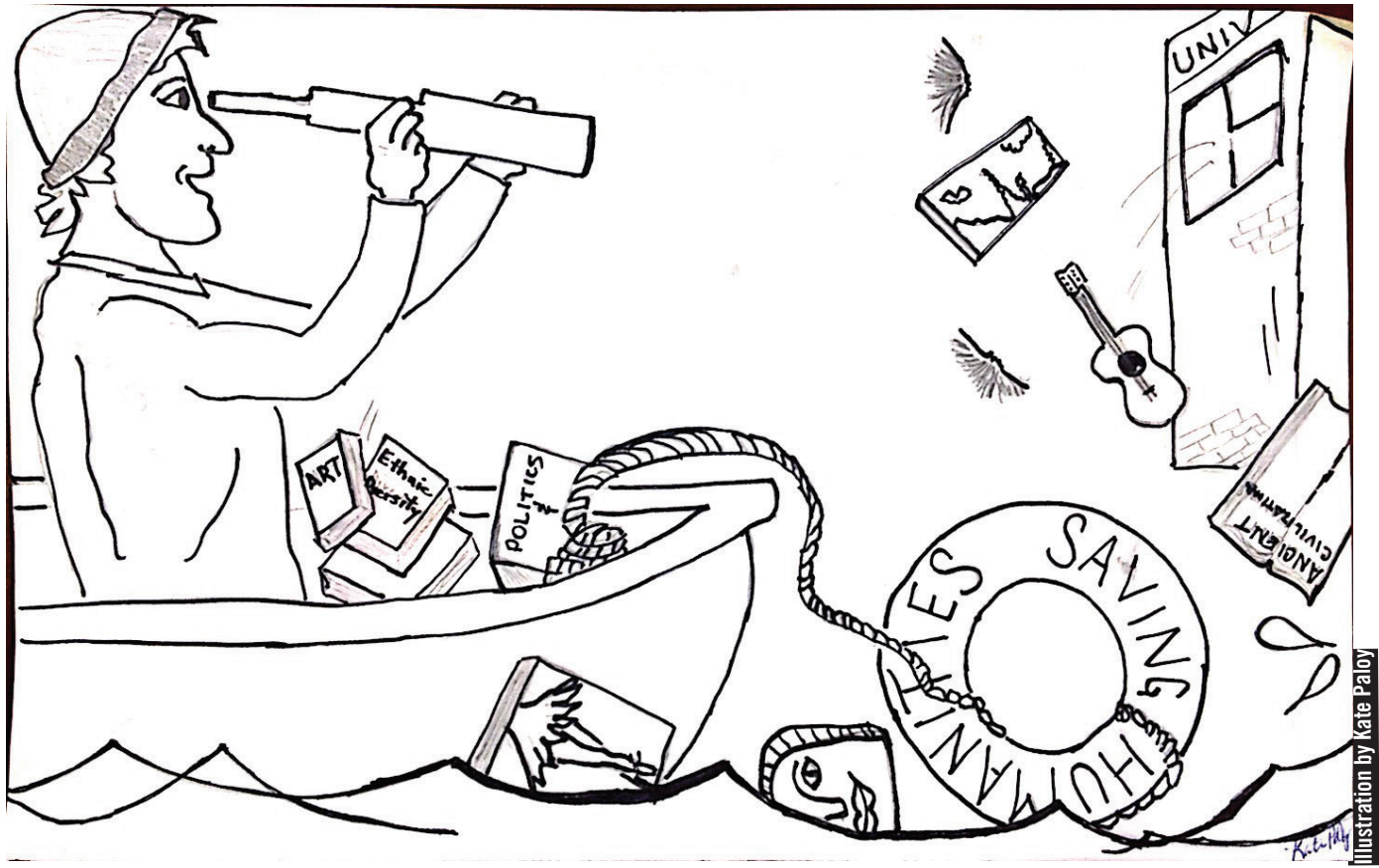
**Ziola Cadena // psychology**  
“My family will say goodbye and three hours later they’re still there, and it continues well into the morning.”



**Shannon Lallier // arts & animation**  
“Every year, we leave the [Christmas] tree up until New Year’s and my mom and I shoot party poppers at it.”



**Manuel Ramirez // philosophy**  
“We like to get really drunk and, occasionally, my grandma will go into the jump house where [the rest of us] are.”



## express

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# Website redesign

## New City College site to launch in spring, will focus on user experience

**Daniel Wilson**

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**A TEAM OF FACULTY**, staff and students at City College has been working since the fall of 2012 to deliver a new and improved version of the [scc.losrios.edu](http://scc.losrios.edu) website during the spring 2014 semester, said graphic communication professor and integral team member Don Button.

The new site will be responsive, among other many changes and upgrades, meaning that when it is opened on a mobile device, the site will resize itself to the user's screen size, said Button.

Button, who worked on the site over the summer and is on sabbatical this semester while finishing it, said the biggest challenge is trying to find enough time to get everything accomplished.

"Our goal is to have the bulk of it, all the student services and the divisions, up and running," said Button. "It'll still be in beta through spring."

The main focus of the redesign was to make the site easier to use for students in response to a recommendation by the accreditation committee, according to Amanda Davis, City College public information officer.

"It sparked the need to look at how our navigation is working," said Davis. "So this web redesign team was pulled together, and we started looking at what we already have."

Button explained that the original goal was to launch the new site in January, but because of a recent accreditation deadline change and concerns about launching during a busy time for site traffic, the site is now slated to launch in March.

"We realized switching the site right as the new semester was starting, when people might still be registering for classes and such, would probably cause more disruption than we thought initially," said Button.

Along with Davis and Button, the team consisted of Quinn Nakano, reprographics programmer; Elaine Ader, dean of information technology, and Aaron Winters, adjunct graphic communication professor. The team planned and designed the look and features of the new site with the help of former City College graphic communication student Chris Hopkins.

Hopkins said he was asked to join the committee by Tom Cappelletti, City College graphic communication professor.

"I was the only student there," said Hopkins. "There [were] a bunch of faculty members and then me, and we had all these discussions on the website. I was the student voice of that."

During the design process, Hopkins worked with Button and Winters to map

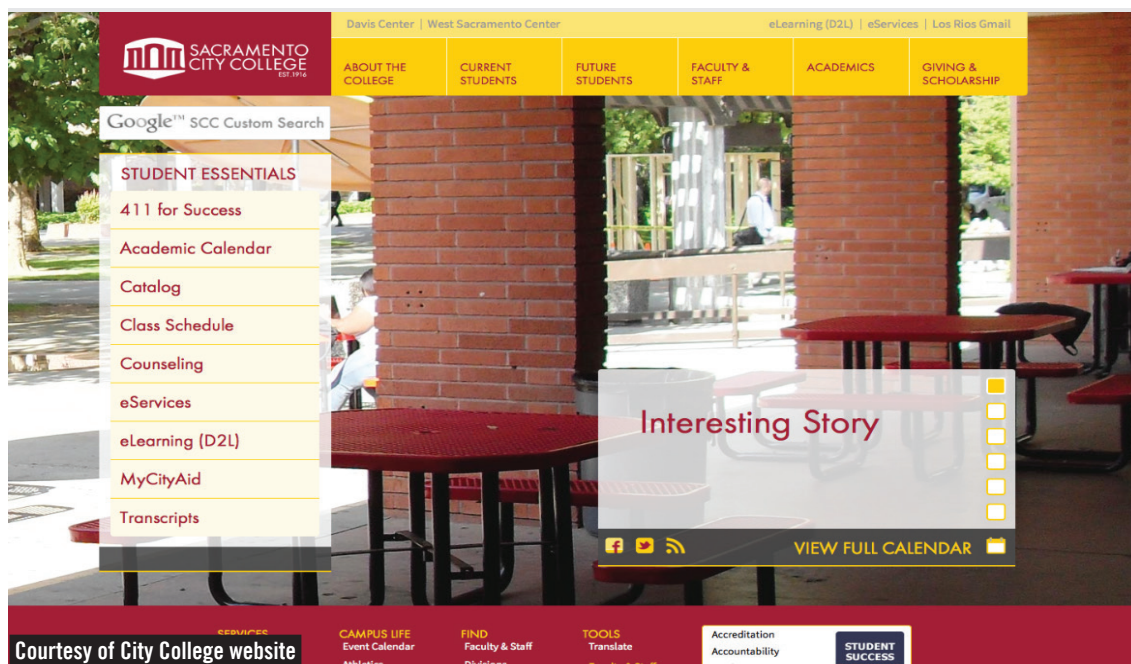
the current site, identify what content should be carried over and what was unnecessary.

In spring 2013, after the site was mapped and the final design was chosen, work on the site began. Button explained that the choice to use the WordPress platform, which, according to Wikipedia, is a "free and open source blogging tool and content management system," was

can go to find out about the program."

According to Winters, though he isn't currently working on the site, his main concern in the beginning was to create a layered feel to the information on the new site.

"The way that it exists now is that it's just very flat," said Winters. "There's no real hierarchy to any of the information. [We] tried to create more of a pyramid



City College's new website will feature a more organized layout and a dynamic home page, which will display news stories and important campus information.

made because of its universal ease of use.

"We chose WordPress because it's just the biggest, most popular, easiest to learn and powerful content management system," said Button. "It's worldwide and it's also essentially free, compared to paying thousands of dollars a year for a proprietary system."

Button added that part of the overall project is to help train the people who will be responsible for updating their individual content in each department. The site was designed to make this process as painless as possible, he said.

"We've got a set of templates, and so there's not a lot of room for individual creativity within the site, but we're sort of focusing on keeping the visual presentation sort of clean and unified throughout all the sites," said Button.

The reason for making the site more uniform is because the current site has a lack of continuity among the departments, according to Button.

"Our current site is sort of a mess in that way," said Button. "There's too much variation, a loss of sort of a brand identity for the school."

Button said that the key has been working with the departments about how their content is organized.

"This way every department that a student goes to is going to be organized in the same manner," said Button. "They're going to know where they get the contact info; they're going to know where they

than a flat structure."

Ader agreed that the new website will make the process of finding content smoother for users.

"We wanted to make sure the available information was easier to find," said Ader.

Other new features will include a refined and more accurate search function, a redesigned library site, a universal calendar system and a home page that will highlight news and important campus information, Button said.

A focus going forward, according to Davis, will be to assemble focus groups to test the new site and collect feedback in order to continue refining the user experience.

"We're going to be testing this with

students," said Davis. "[We'll] do some focus groups with students, with staff and faculty.... sit people down and say, 'You know, here's the new website, here's a scavenger hunt, look for these things. Did you have trouble

finding them? How did you find them? Did you use navigation? Did you use search?"

Davis added that it's important to stay current with industry standards in terms of what is user-friendly.

"You don't build a website and then say, 'OK, we're good now,'" said Davis. "The technology, the user experience is constantly changing." ■

## EVENTS CALENDAR

### SATURNALIA

**TUESDAY, DEC. 17 – MONDAY, DEC. 23**

*Ancient Roman festival celebrated by modern pagans.*

### WINTER RECESS

**FRIDAY, DEC. 20 – WEDNESDAY, JAN. 1**

*Campus closed.*

### FESTIVUS

**MONDAY, DEC. 23**

*Secular American alternative holiday popularized by "Seinfeld".*

### CHRISTMAS

**WEDNESDAY, DEC. 25**

*Christian holiday commemorating the birth of Jesus.*

### KWANZAA

**THURSDAY, DEC. 26 – WEDNESDAY, JAN. 1**

*Celebration of African heritage, unity and culture.*

### NEW YEAR BEGINS

**WEDNESDAY, JAN. 1**

*First day of 2014.*

### SEMESTER BREAK

**THURSDAY, JAN. 2 – WEDNESDAY, JAN. 15**

*No classes- administrative activities only.*

### GRADES DUE

**THURSDAY, JAN. 2**

*Final deadline for professors to post grades.*

### SPRING SEMESTER BEGINS

**SATURDAY, JAN. 18**

*First classes of spring 2014.*

### BIRTHDAY OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

**MONDAY, JAN. 20**

*A federal holiday celebrating the civil rights leader. Campus closed.*



# Individual Student Education Plans

Counseling department is preparing to assist all incoming students with iSEPs

**Jake Patrick Donahue**  
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**AS THE FALL SEMESTER** comes to a close, and the spring rapidly approaches, new students are getting ready to begin their journey at City College. For the counseling department at City College that means ramping up for a new load of Individual Student Education Plans or iSEPs.

According to City College counselor and Los Rios Community College District iSEP committee member Kris Janssen, City College counselors and Los Rios iSEP committee developed the plans in anticipation of Senate Bill 1456, the Seymour-Campbell Student Success Act of 2012, which, beginning fall 2014, requires all incoming freshmen at California community colleges to complete an orientation, an assessment test and an education plan (iSEP).

“We knew this [the state mandate] was coming, so we were really on the forefront for developing this tool,” said Janssen.

According to the new law, schools’ funding will be tied to their compliance with the requirements beginning in 2014 and will be based in part on what percentage of students completes all three of the requirements.

“The funding we get depends on how able we are to provide all of those

services,” said Janssen.

According to City College Counselor Richard Yang, who also sits on the district’s iSEP committee, orientations, assessments and iSEPs are not only requirements of the incoming freshmen next fall, but also are necessary tools for students’ success, which is the main goal of the counseling department and the college.

“Being a student is an investment. You’re investing in yourself. You’re investing time and effort into it, your heart into it, so you’ve got to make sure you get what you need to succeed,” said Yang.

According to Yang, it will be more difficult for students to enroll in the classes they need if they fail to comply with the new requirements.

“If students don’t do these things, then they lose their priority registration, which makes it even more difficult for them to succeed,” said Yang.

**Richard Yang**  
CITY COLLEGE COUNSELOR

Janssen, with an estimated 5,000 new students coming to City College next fall, the counseling department has considered many ways to manage the increased workload, including hiring more counselors, asking part-time staff to work more hours, and allowing incoming students to complete some of their requirements in a group setting to cut back on staff time.

“We have some great concerns on how we’re going to take this on, and we’ve discussed a lot of different things

to deal with that,” said Janssen. “We just put in a request for two more counselors, so we’re hopeful we’ll at least get one.”

According to City College Public Information Officer Amanda Davis, the Student Success Act included research on what types of tools make community college students more successful and the requirements of the law are based directly on that research.

“As a result of this statewide analysis of student success, a series of contacts with students [was] determined to be helpful,” said Davis. “Students who have an orientation and complete education plans tend to be more engaged and complete their goals.”

According to Yang, the iSEP program at City College is still relatively new, and counselors are still refining some aspects of the software responsible for developing the plans as well as learning how to use it effectively.

“It’s going to take some time. We’ve got to work out the kinks, and we need to make it more seamless for students,” said Yang. “Because everything is so new, we’re going to stumble along the way, but we’re going to pick ourselves up and keep on going.”

Yang advises all students to develop an iSEP and meet with a counselor regularly to discuss education and career goals as a vital part of students’ ability to be successful.

“Find a counselor that you can connect with, be proactive and involved as a student,” said Yang. “If you meet with a counselor that doesn’t answer your questions or doesn’t make sense to you, find another counselor, because it’s really important that you have someone to plan things out with.” ■

## Professor Talk

Teri Barth | [express.teri.barth@gmail.com](mailto:express.teri.barth@gmail.com)

When it comes to finals, City College professors have all the answers—literally. It would only make sense, then, that the Express turn to these keepers of Scantron keys for tips to successful finals.



**Keith Heningburg // professor of history and ethnic studies**  
“Don’t procrastinate.”



**Becca Sherman // professor of dental hygiene and dental assisting**  
“Stay organized; get a calendar, write out what is due when. [Also], setting goals as to when you’re going to study for a class really helps.”



**Steve Cirrone // professor of English**  
“My tip is coffee – lots and lots of coffee.”



**Stuart Graybill // professor of history**  
“Get ahead of the ball; start studying a week before finals—review, review, review.”



**Danette Ocegueda // assistant professor of dental hygiene**  
“Get plenty of rest and stay relaxed.”

# Food service contract with Aramark ends 2015

New bids will be available to extend or replace existing contract with district

**Will Owenby**  
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**THIS FALL LOS RIOS** Community College District extended its food service contract with Aramark for another year. The food service contract gives the company exclusive rights to all food service, including any catering or concessions on campus.

According to a City College food service update issued in October, the extension allows Aramark to continue the operation of all LRCCD food service facilities for one year, excluding vending machines.

The food service agreement approved in 2008 is composed of a series of one-year contracts, with a seven-year potential, which require an annual review before a renewal by the district.

The agreement with Aramark ends in 2015, and new bids for food service will be accepted at that time, according to Robert Martinelli, City College vice president of administration.

The contract financial commitment for the food service contract is \$500,000, and of that amount \$350,000 was spread among all four LRCCD colleges in the first year, according to Martinelli. The City College portion of the distributed con-

tract funds purchased the Panther Pause trailer next to Lillard Hall.

A food service advisory group was formed to provide a forum for requests and feedback for food services to the college. A common complaint regarding Aramark often comes from student clubs, said Martinelli.

“The clubs see the exclusive provision [from Aramark’s contract] blocking a significant source of fundraising revenue,” Martinelli said.

In an effort to provide a solution for the fundraising complaint, Aramark came up with a fundraising food service pack for campus organizations. For the cost of the food plus a 15 percent charge, clubs are able to serve food for campus events. In addition to food, Aramark provides oversight and food safety training, according to Martinelli.

“Food safety is always a big concern, and if it’s served on campus, the district is liable,” said Martinelli. “No one wants hot dogs from Costco that were left in someone’s trunk for a couple of hours.”

William Gant, a theater major who eats and socializes in the cafeteria a few times a week, said he is unconcerned about the quality of the menu.

“What do you expect? It’s a school cafeteria, and I do not really give it much

thought,” Gant said. “I guess some stuff’s OK, but some of it’s overpriced and not so good.”

Tony Gonzales, undeclared major, is attending his first semester at City College and said he feels that taste, variety and value are the primary issues for Aramark’s menu.

“They don’t use much seasoning when they cook, and there is not really a lot of choice,” he said.

He said he wants to try the Build-a-Bowl Bar, but limited hours and long lines have deterred him.

“The noodle Chinese bar looks good, but it’s hardly ever open, and if it is, the line is way too long,” Gonzales said.

With the exception of soft drink pouring, soft drink and snack vending machines that are under exclusive contract with Pepsi, all food service for LRCCD is contracted to Aramark’s Food Handling Service, Martinelli said.

According to Aramark’s website, the company offers a wide range of institutional services, including food service for over 2,200 K-12 schools, colleges and universities. In 2011 Forbes magazine listed Aramark as No. 18 on its richest privately owned business list in the United States. ■



# Diverse community defines City College

Campus and district administration build a better school by recognizing ethnic groups

Will Ownbey

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**THE FACE OF SACRAMENTO** City College is changing with increasing ethnic minority enrollment, according to federal statistics. The growing percentage of students at City College who are Hispanic or Latino reflects a national population trend.

At 29 percent, Caucasians are the largest population group at City College, followed by Hispanic or Latino at 26 percent, Asians at 22 percent, and black or African-Americans at 12 percent, two or more races at 6 percent, unknown race or ethnicity at 3 percent, American Indian or Alaskan Native at 1 percent. The total population consists of 56 percent women and 44 percent men, according to the National Center of Education Statistics.

There is a diverse mix of ethnicity, nationality and cultural heritage represented throughout the student population. The administration, staff and faculty works to make sure all groups are represented and included, said Dr. Kathryn Jeffery, president of City College.

"We, and when I say we, I mean every single one of us, staff and faculty, we will do whatever we can to make a student feel safe and welcome," said Jeffery.

At the beginning of each academic year the college hosts special welcome programs for the individual major ethnic groups on campus, and at the end of the year there are individual culturally themed graduation ceremonies that are celebrations for the families and extended families of graduating students, said Jeffery.

The rising Hispanic student population could mean access to a federal grant program that would benefit all City College students in the future, according to Christine Hernandez, dean of financial aid and student services.



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City College continues to try to meet the needs of students from all walks of life.

Currently City College is in the process of seeking designation as an HSI, Hispanic Serving Institution, from the United States Department of Education, Hernandez said.

The college hopes to gain that designation by 2016.

The HSI program is intended to provide opportunities for Hispanic students through grants to institutions with high enrollment, said Hernandez.

Once a school receives HSI designation it is able to apply for grant funding that can be used for various programs and improve-

ments that would benefit all students.

"The premise behind the program is to strengthen institutions as a whole," said Hernandez, "that's how the Depart-

ment of Education looks at it."

To qualify as an HSI a community college or university must have at least a 25 percent Hispanic

enrollment and half of the students must meet federal low-income standards to qualify for HSI designation and apply for the related grants, according to the U.S. Department of Education website.

Hernandez also said that with a

**"We are the urban campus in Sacramento."**

Chris Torres

STUDENT AFFAIRS SPECIALIST

## Phi Theta Kappa honors academic achievements

National honor society welcomes 156 new members from City College at annual induction ceremony

Harold Williams

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**CITY COLLEGE'S ACADEMIC HONOR** society Phi Theta Kappa hosted its annual new member induction ceremony Nov. 13.

"This year there were 156 new members of Phi Theta Kappa with 25 of those new members attending the induction ceremony," said academic honors program coordinator Professor Paul Frank.

According to Frank, the purpose of Phi Theta Kappa is to both recognize and encourage scholarships for students pursuing an associate degree, through the development of leadership and service.

"Phi Theta Kappa does a variety of things," said Frank. "It's an academic honor society helping to build research skills

through academic research and service, as well as offering scholarships."

During the induction ceremony tradition each member's name, major and life goal were read, as well as each member signing into the membership book and receiving a candle to light.

In addition to the induction ceremony each new member received a raffle ticket good for a \$100 book voucher to the City College Store. There were 10 winners, Frank said.

"Each book voucher was provided by the City College Foundation and Advancement Office," said Frank. Although Phi Theta Kappa focuses on students pursuing a two-year associate degree, it also assists students

transferring from a two-year college to a four-year university, including scholarship opportunities, according to Frank.

"Students learn to develop their leadership skills by helping to host a conference," said Frank. "They can also keep track of their leadership skills so that they are prepared for future job interviews."

According to Frank, each fall and spring semester the Nevada/California Regional Board of Phi Theta Kappa alternates between Northern and Southern California conventions.

"In addition to the induction ceremony, we also participate in fellowships with other chapters," said Frank. "Our chapter recently hosted the regional conference on leadership."

This year it was City College's turn to host the fall convention, which was held at the Embassy Suites in Old Sacramento, said Frank. "Our job was to locate a venue, as well as put together the convention programs, activities and food."

According to Frank, during the convention students and faculty participated in themed workshops and scavenger hunts.

"The convention gives students the opportunity to learn more about the organization and gain leadership skills, while participating in social fellowships

growing number of Asian students, City College might also qualify for another federal program, the Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-serving Institutions Program.

"The program is similar to HSI, and we are waiting for the new application requirements to be released in order to determine the college's eligibility," said Hernandez.

The college tries to stay informed about all programs that might benefit students, said Jeffery.

At the beginning of the academic year City College was invited as an emerging HSI to attend a summit organized by the Department of Agriculture to learn about the implementation of successful HSI programs, Jeffery said.

"We were allocated five slots at the conference," Jeffery said. "We sent 19 representatives, the largest delegation at the conference."

The diverse ethnic and cultural composition of City College students is represented by a number of clubs on campus, from the Indigenous Peoples Club to the Polynesian Club or the Hmong H.O.P.E. Club, according to Chris Torres, student affairs specialist for the Department of Student Leadership.

"We are the urban campus in Sacramento," said Torres.

Torres, who is also a City College alumnus, said the programs and services offered on campus do a good job reaching out to minorities, but there is always room to improve when it comes to ensuring all students understand what type of aid they are eligible for.

"The college does a great job of reaching out to the groups through the Cultural Awareness Center and clubs and activities," said Torres, "but sometimes undocumented students are unaware of what is available or intimidated when it comes to applying for assistance." ■

and meeting new members," said Frank.

Being a member of the honors program has opened many doors for theatre arts major Alicia Crawford in terms of financial assistance.

"PTK is a great service for students to become engaged in honors activities," said Crawford. "They assist students with locating exclusive scholarships available only for honors students."

Each semester the academic honor society sends invitations to qualifying students who must have completed a minimum of 12 units of coursework with a 3.5 GPA toward an associate degree.

According to www.ptk.org, Phi Theta Kappa is the largest and most prestigious honor society for colleges offering two-year associate degrees.

"Currently there is a \$75 one-time membership fee for each new member, which we're thinking of increasing as we have one of the lowest membership rates," said Frank.

In addition to joining the honor society, prospective members are also invited to the ceremony where new members are inducted, as well as having an opportunity to meet current Phi Theta Kappa students, Frank said. ■



# Time to look into campus scholarships

City College Foundation assists students in finding and applying for a variety of financial assistance

**Will Ownbey**  
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**SCHOLARSHIP SEASON IS NEAR** and the Sacramento City College Scholarship Foundation wants to remind all students not to become one of the walking dead.

The time to prepare for scholarship applications is now, according to Mary Leland executive director of the foundation.

“In October the foundation published a zombie-themed reminder card,” Leland said. “The cards were a collaborative design effort from our office staff, and we hoped zombies might get their attention.”

The intent of the card’s design was not to warn students about a possible threat from the undead on campus, but instead to alert students about the application period and their potential eligibility for one of the many scholarships administered by the foundation.

**“We hoped zombies might get their attention.”**

Mary Leland  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF SCC SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION

“It’s a myth for students to think they cannot apply for a scholarship unless they have a 3.5 or a 4.0 grade point average,” Leland said.

“We have 262 scholarships for every level of grade point average, major field of study or background,” she

said, “and students should not be timid about applying.” According to information provided on the back of the foundation’s reminder notice, the scholarship application period begins on Jan. 6, 2014, with a deadline for submissions on March 7, 2014.

To be eligible to apply for a foundation scholarship a student must have completed at least 12 units at City College by the end of the 2013 fall semester and be enrolled in at least 6 units for the 2014 spring semester.

A list of the scholarships offered will be available on the Foundation’s website when the application period begins.

“Many times students simply do not know they are eligible for scholarships or think you must have a high grade point average,” said Leland, “but there are donors who realize that some students have to work, have families, and sometimes a 2.5 or 3.5 may be all the student can do.”

Thea Renfrew, undeclared major, is attending her first semester at City College and said she plans to find out more about available scholarships. As a former American River College student, she said she was unaware of the foundation and its page on the campus website.

“Honestly, I only go on [City College’s website] to register for classes,” Renfrew said.

For Lilith Grog, English major, applying for a scholarship through the foundation was easy. Last year she said she simply checked the requirements, picked one she felt qualified for and then later received a notice of award.

“It was one of the smaller ones that did not require an essay,” she said, “but it was definitely worth it and did not take much time.”

“The scholarships are donated by faculty, alumni, big business, small business—all types of individuals and organizations—for many different reasons,” Leland said. “For many of the donors it’s their way of giving back or remembering someone.”

**“We have 262 scholarships for every level of grade point average, major field of study or background, and students should not be timid about applying.”**

Mary Leland  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF SCC SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION

Leland suggests that students should start asking their professors for letters of recommendation now and putting together a personal resume of their accomplishments.

The SCC Foundation office is located in Rodda North, Room 222, and is open from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday to offer help or answer questions. Students may also call (916) 558-2197.

Additional information may be found on the City College webpage [scc.losrios.edu/About\\_SCC/Foundation/Scholarships](http://scc.losrios.edu/About_SCC/Foundation/Scholarships). ■

# Cameras monitor campus facilities

Operations department and campus police utilize video surveillance to improve functions

**Jake Patrick Donahue**  
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**CITY COLLEGE’S OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT** gained a new tool in its efforts to efficiently manage campus facilities this year by installing a monitor in its offices allowing video access to those facilities.

**“[The cameras] are very valuable in assisting officers when there’s a crime in progress.”**

Valerie Cox  
LOS RIOS POLICE CAPTAIN

According to Director of Operations Greg Hayman, the operations department can more effectively serve its function by accessing live video feeds of campus areas that require involved management.

“We’re pretty much responsible for all managing and maintaining of facilities, and that’s what we use the cameras for primarily,” said Hayman.

According to Hayman, the operations department makes particular use of the four cameras at Hughes Stadium, which it manages extensively.

“It’s a huge expense to run the lights out there [in the stadium], so we can look on the camera and see that an event is done, and we can go out and turn the lights off,” said Hayman.

While the operations department is not responsible for campus security, it does, at times, notify the Los Rios Police Department when illegal activity is seen on its monitoring screen, according to the



A monitor located in the Operations building at City College displays a selection of camera views on campus.

police department.

“If somebody’s somewhere they shouldn’t be, which happens on occasion, we can call LRPD,” said Hayman.

According to outgoing Los Rios police Captain Valerie Cox, the security cameras on campus—of which there are 46, primarily in the parking lots and other high crime areas—are an invaluable tool

to both the police and others, such as the operations department, who need to know what is happening on campus.

“[The cameras] are very valuable in assisting officers when there’s a crime in progress,” said Cox, who has been reassigned to American River College. “They’ve been a great benefit.”

According to Public Information

Officer Amanda Davis, the operations department is a vital part of the functioning of campus facilities.

“The operations department is responsible for everything from keeping the school grounds clean and safe to maintaining the camera systems, if an elevator is out, a bathroom, all those types of things,” said Davis. ■



# A passion for fashion

City College students turn a dream into reality with a startup clothing line business

Daniel Wilson

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Photos by Guinevere Yep

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**FOR MANY STUDENTS, ATTENDING** a community college isn't just about completing coursework and earning a degree. It's also about exploring one's passion and establishing business relationships that can last a lifetime.

City College sophomores Daniel Ocampo, sociology major, and Johnny Sam, flight technology major, met in English Writing 100 this semester and have since turned their friendship into a business venture, a clothing line called Stayseen Collective, that they hope will become a local phenomenon.

**“We want to just be passionate and help other artists, help them come up.”**

Johnny Sam  
STAYSEEN COLLECTIVE FOUNDER

Ocampo says it took about four years to find someone who was serious about starting a business with him. He explains that the idea for the name came to him shortly after he graduated high school while he was considering the creation of a YouTube channel with some friends. Later, Stayseen Collective became the name of the clothing line.



Daniel Ocampo, creator of Stayseen Collective, wearing one of his company's crew neck shirts.

“I just want to be visual,” said Ocampo.

But Ocampo says the people he originally worked with weren't willing to commit to the venture as much as he would have liked, and it wasn't until he met his friend and business partner, Sam, that the idea took off.

“I've gone through a lot of business partnerships with people and then I met [Johnny], and he had the same vision and that's pretty much how it got started,” says Ocampo. “That's when Stayseen be-

came much more serious.”

Now, the duo says they hope to turn their business into an outlet for helping local hip-hop artists promote their music. Ocampo and Sam began printing and selling T-shirts and crewnecks, which range in price from \$18 to \$28, approximately two months ago, and the initial printing of about 24 shirts sold out in approximately 48 hours.

According to Sam, who is in charge of marketing and advertising the brand, the next step for Stayseen is to promote their products at local events.

“We want to be out there, like where you walk through a store like at Arden Mall, you see [our] brand right there; we want to reach that goal,” says Sam. “In the meantime, we want to just be passionate and help other artists, help them come up.”

Ocampo's vision for the clothing line is a little different.

“I wouldn't mind walking through any type of mall and seeing our brand out there, but for me it's more like I want to be able to express the true passion for graphic design,” Ocampo says.

Ocampo explained that some brands' logos are too complicated or don't necessarily convey a message, and that his goal is to keep their designs simple while still putting across a positive message.

“We're big fans of hip-hop,” says Ocampo. “Instead of going out there and dealing drugs [or other illegal things] to make money, we take something that we have passion for and bring in other elements as well. That's pretty much how we market it. Right now, we're just trying to target anybody that has a passion for fashion, anybody in the hip-hop game that's just looking for a sponsor, that's the people we try to target.”

Ocampo explains that the logo started out as a basic design using circles, which was inspired by a panda tattoo that Sam has on his right arm.

Since Ocampo came up with the name of the clothing line, he wanted to integrate something from Sam into the logo. He says he noticed that Sam is always wearing a type of hat called a snap back, which is a traditional baseball cap that has a snapping mechanism on the back of the hat. Ocampo took the idea of the snap back and added a line of stars to the logo to symbolize the snaps on the hat.

**“For me ... I want to be able to express the true passion for graphic design.”**

Daniel Ocampo  
STAYSEEN COLLECTIVE FOUNDER



Johnny Sam, 23, and Daniel Ocampo, 22, created the apparel company Stayseen Collective just a couple of months ago.

“I noticed as I was doing that, I started to see the form of an S,” says Ocampo. “And I was like, ‘OK, something else is missing. I'm just going to add a little smile to it,’ and there it is, it's got the S, the snap back is in there, it's got the eyes.”

The final logo resembles a smiling face, using the original circles idea, wearing a backward snap back cap, surrounded by the words ‘Stayseen Collective’.

Getting their name out there has been a bit of a struggle thus far because, as Sam explains, it's tough to get noticed without connections. Both Sam and Ocampo say they have big dreams for their brand's future. Sam says even if the business takes off, he still plans to work in his field.

“I would say I'd love to work still,” says Sam. “Flight technology is my thing, and this being my side business; it doesn't take a lot of work.”

For Ocampo, it remains a sort of a wait-and-see situation.

“We don't know how far this is going to go,” says Ocampo. “I'm a working student right now, and balancing all this is hard, but if this goes better than I expect it to then this right here could be our professional job.”

Sam says City College reading professor Nancy Olsen is his “favorite professor” and that she is a big proponent of their brand. Olsen has encouraged them to branch out in terms of marketing, he says.

“I'm so impressed that [Johnny] and his friend, in the midst of going to college, have already started their business; I think that's wonderful,” says Olsen. “I

told him the [Express] would be fantastic because it reaches all these students, faculty [and] staff.”

Ocampo says success comes down to being positive, dedicated and passionate, but that getting noticed takes time.



Johnny Sam is in charge of advertising for Stayseen Collective.

“Be patient,” says Ocampo. “You can't do something and expect something [to happen] the next week. Just be patient with the things that you do and hopefully things will work out.”

For more information on Stayseen Collective or to purchase T-shirts and sweatshirts, visit [www.stayseencollective.bigcartel.com](http://www.stayseencollective.bigcartel.com) or [instagram.com/stayseencollective](https://www.instagram.com/stayseencollective). ■



# Future job training opportunities open up

Mechanical-Electrical Training program upgrades campus facilities and increases class offerings

**Geoff McCain**  
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**AS THE COLD WEATHER** arrives and outside temperatures drop, most students don't even think twice about enjoying the warmth of the indoor buildings and classrooms on campus.

Except, probably, for the students in the buildings occupied by the Mechanical-Electrical Training (MET) department who get hands-on training from instructors on the maintenance and operation of climate control systems. The MET building features a new state-of-the-art boiler facility run by the students that generates heat for their classrooms and training areas.

"It is important that students get real-world training that prepares them for the current job market," says Jon Zeh, MET instructor.

During a recent tour of the facility, Zeh pointed out an old chiller from the building that was just torn down on campus. A chiller is a machine that removes heat from the water that circulates through pipes into the building; this in turn captures more heat to return to the chiller to be cooled by air and water.

"That chiller is being repurposed for training," Zeh says. "There are all types of dampers used to control air flow and controls that require maintenance. To work on them, you need to get inside the unit."

"The new 40-ton chiller and state-of-the-art boiler are two major training features that our training set our program apart from others," Zeh says.

The MET department is unique, according to Zeh.

"We are the only community college in California that has a steam plant we use for training our students," he says.

A steam plant boils water to produce steam that is used to heat their facility.

The recent completion of a hydronic water-balancing lab in 2012 is another example of the department's commitment to training, according to Zeh.

There are many job prospects for graduates, Zeh adds.

"There are a wide range of job opportunities including [jobs in] Heating, Ventilation and Cooling [HVAC]," Zeh says. "[There are also jobs for] residential and commercial HVAC technicians, stationary engineers, Direct Digital Control (DDC) specialist, air and water balancing [and] project management and sales."

The most recent change to the curriculum is the addition of the certificate program in Building and Energy Auditing. This year the California Legislature passed Assembly bill 1103 (AB1103), which, when it goes into effect in January, will require mandatory energy benchmarking and energy disclosure for non-residential buildings.

Roosevelt Jones, MET instructional assistant and system technician, has been assisting students in the program since 1988. Before working in the M.E.T. department Jones had years of military training in mechanical systems.

"After a 26-year career in the military with experience in the boilers and mechanical systems, I would like this



Geoff McCain // [geoff@gmccontracting.com](mailto:geoff@gmccontracting.com)

(From left), Jon Zeh, Roosevelt Jones and Matt Milan are instructional assistants in the Mechanical Electrical Training department.

**“The best part of my job is working with the students and helping them with the systems and applying knowledge of heat flow, density, volume, temperature and pressure calculations to the heating and cooling systems we are teaching our students.”**

**Roosevelt Jones**  
MET INSTRUCTIONAL  
ASSISTANT / SYSTEM TECHNICIAN

program to hands-on mechanical engineering training requiring the student to apply math, English, electrical and technical skills in hands on environment," Jones says.

Jones, who says he is retiring next year, enjoys assisting in the program.

"The best part of my job is working

with the students and helping them with the systems and applying knowledge of heat flow, density, volume, temperature and pressure calculations to the heating and cooling systems we are teaching our students," he says.

One of the students Jones assisted is Matt Milan, a recent graduate of the MET program.

Milan calls the MET program a "real bargain" compared to other private training programs.

"The state-of-the-art modern equipment is important in the training a stationary engineer [and] what I consider the top tier of technical training in the HVAC industry. Their job is to maintain and operate mechanical equipment such as boilers, refrigeration, pumps, motors, lighting cooling and heating and even solar systems in a building," he says.

After graduating, Milan volunteered time to the program and applied for a position as an instructor's aid and now works as an assistant in the department.

"Coming back to the program has allowed me to give back what others have taught me," Milan says. "Helping

students to understand the fundamentals of the program reinforces my own knowledge. I am always learning in this position."

There are many career opportunities for those who complete the program, he adds.

"Think about it: Climate control is used all around us-our homes, commercial buildings, cell phone towers, server rooms all need air conditioning. These are just a few of the many career opportunities available," says Milan.

Zeh agrees.

"The MET department is set up to offer career training for people that are looking to go to work," he says. "As a vocational education department we make sure people are trained to enter the work force. People get entry-level skills in courses that are relevant to today's job market." ■



# Tuskegee family continues to fly to new heights

‘Spanky’ Roberts still telling the story through his descendants at City College and beyond

Lygeia Andre  
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**REPLICAS OF FAMOUS AIRPLANES** hang from the ceiling of a former McClellan aircraft hangar, punctuated by the one with the tail painted red. Formally dressed people of every age and skin tone mingle with active service members and, maybe most significantly, older black men in red jackets with a very special historic insignia on the breast.

The Color Guard places the flags of the United States and California at each side of a small table with a single place setting, candle and another American flag.

At another time, this function might have been colored by an overtone of heart-break.

At the Tuskegee Airmen Incorporated local chapter’s Nov. 23 gala fundraiser held at the Aerospace Museum of California, this crowd has replaced heartbreak with a celebration of the enduring legacy of these American heroes.

The TAI Sacramento chapter is named after the late Col. George S. “Spanky” Roberts, not only the first black man selected for Tuskegee pilot training, but also the grandfather of both a professor and a current student at City College.

“It’s our family history,” says Maggie Green, granddaughter of “Spanky” Roberts and City College fashion major. “I tell people about the Tuskegee Airmen—a lot of people have never heard of them. They’re not in the history books.”

Green’s cousin, City College English

expectations.

“Before 1940, African-Americans were barred from flying for the U.S. military... because many believed they lacked qualifications for combat duty,” according to the National Park Service “Tuskegee Airmen” website.

“Civil rights organizations and the black press exerted pressure that resulted in the formation of an all African-American pursuit squadron based in Tuskegee, Alabama, in 1941,” says the website. They became known as the Tuskegee Airmen... [which] refers to all who were involved in the so-called ‘Tuskegee Experiment,’ the Army Air Corps program to train African-Americans to fly and maintain combat aircraft.”

This wartime concession to civil rights was not taken seriously by those who ran it.

“The whole program was designed with the intent for them to fail,” says Josh Rob-

**“They wanted them to fail. So they set the bar so high that the only people that they got were the most amazing people you could even imagine.”**

Josh Roberts  
CITY COLLEGE ENGLISH PROFESSOR

erts. “They wanted them to wash out. They wanted them to fail. So they set the bar so high that the only people that they got were the most amazing people you could even imagine.”

“So his nickname became ‘Spanky’ and it stuck with him the remainder of his life.”

“Spanky” Roberts went on to graduate in the first class of five Tuskegee cadets in 1942, right before commanding squadrons and flying more than 100 missions in World War II, according to the TAI website.

“When the war in Europe ended, the 332nd Fighter Group had shot down 112 enemy aircraft and destroyed another 150 on the ground. Also, they knocked out more than 600 railroad cars, and sank one destroyer and 40 boats and barges,” says the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force fact sheet on “Escort Excellence.”

“Their losses included approximately 150 killed in combat or in accidents. During the war, Tuskegee had trained 992 pilots and sent 450 overseas. By any measure, the Tuskegee experiment was a resounding success,” according to the U.S. Air Force fact sheet.

This information is on the wall of the Aerospace Museum of California on the former McClellan Air Force Base, but this crowd of about 320 doesn’t need to read it. This is family history, after all.

Including the 11 members of “Spanky”



Dianne Rose / Multimedia Editor // dianne.rose.express@gmail.com

Civil Air Patrol cadets carry out Color Guard duty at TAI event.

chapter identifiable by their bright red jackets showing the fighter group’s insignia, and they continue to serve by visiting classrooms of all ages to make sure the history is told.

“Most of what they do is going into classrooms and talking to kids of all ages. They’ve come here [City College] before,” said Josh Roberts. “There’s so much value to having the original documented airmen walk into a room and say, ‘Here’s what we’ve done.’...because it becomes so much less history at that moment and so much more a part of your experiences when the person is standing there.”

The remaining DOTAs were going through the program in the late 40s, well after that first graduating class. The only one here who remembers that graduation is 94-year-old Edith Roberts, the widow of “Spanky” Roberts.

“She’s the only person left who was actually there that day when the first class graduated,” says Josh Roberts. “We’re losing the generation so quickly.”

Still, this is not a place for sorrow. Edith Roberts is holding court at this party and inviting everybody to her 100th birthday party.

Besides, the Tuskegee legacy does not end with the loss of one of the veterans, because TAI, like many other Tuskegee groups across the country, focuses on the education of coming generations. The primary purpose of this fundraiser is to raise money for scholarships.

“All the funds go to our educational assistance programs,” says Leigh Roberts-Prawdzik, daughter of “Spanky” Roberts and organizer of this annual event for the past three years since its inception on the 70th anniversary of the first graduating class.

Her own son, Nathaniel Roberts, is winning an award tonight. The 17-year-old honors student is the Shining Star Winner of the Youth Aviation Program. He plans to attend the Air Force Academy. He is the next generation of the legacy.

“This is our future,” says Rodney Ray, master of ceremonies. “[These scholarship recipients] will carry on the tradition of the Tuskegee Airmen.” ■



Dianne Rose / Multimedia Editor // dianne.rose.express@gmail.com

(From left to right) Congressman Tom McClintock joins ‘Spanky’ Roberts’ family: Nathaniel Roberts, Edith Roberts, Josh Roberts and Maggie Green at the 72nd Anniversary Tuskegee Airmen Inc. fundraiser gala.

Professor Josh Roberts, also feels that it is an important story which still needs to be told.

“It was all from the black press,” Roberts says, referring to his grandmother’s collection of clippings from the time. “None of that was in the mainstream white press.”

This is a uniquely American story of responding to prejudice by exceeding all

George S. “Spanky” Roberts was one of these extraordinary people, graduating from high school at 15 and earning his bachelor of science degree in mechanical engineering two years later.

“He was so young when he got there [West Virginia State College] that all of the upperclassmen said, ‘Come here little boy, you need a spanking,’” says Josh Roberts.

Roberts’ family in attendance, the huge central room of the museum is filled with relatives and widows of DOTAs (Documented Original Tuskegee Airman).

Even those who aren’t related are treated like family because everyone is here to honor the continuing history.

There are still living DOTAs, including five at the George S. “Spanky” Roberts



# Custodial conversation

City College's cleanup crew weighs in on life and friendships behind the orange transports



Tamara M. Knox // tmrknox@gmail.com

Custodians Harry Outlaw and Jerry Pear at the City College receiving dock.

**Meg Masterson**

Guest Writer // m3masterson@gmail.com

**A FLEET OF SMALL** “cone orange” trucks sits dormant outside the receiving area at City College as the custodial staff takes a mid-morning break.

This brick building near the center of campus houses the shipping and receiving dock, a handful of offices and a small break room where a quartet of men sit in creaky chairs and chat over snacks. These men serve as the stewards of the campus, tasked with maintaining the buildings and grounds.

City College custodian Harry Outlaw, who has worked on campus for 39 years, sits in the far corner with a grin lighting up his face.

“We keep the place clean and tidy, set up for various functions, and teardown,” says Outlaw as the other custodians in the room nod their assent. “We basically keep things running around here.”

The custodial work is fulfilling, Outlaw adds, but it isn't the highlight of his days.

“I get to see people from all over the world,” says Outlaw. As he talks, his smile turns into a wry smirk. “And I see some strange things around here.”

One of Outlaw's coworkers and his close friend, Jerry Pear, laughs in agreement.

“Oh, we see strange things all right,” says Pear, who has worked at City College for 22 years.

When the subject of “strange things” around campus pops up, the group around

the table nearly explodes, swapping stories about everything from raccoons in dumpsters, to having to break up illicit activities in supposedly secluded parts of campus, to the perils of the old library and theater.

“Before the [Performing Arts Center] was remodeled,” Pear says, “we had to use this catwalk to change the lights. The walkway was about this wide,” he holds his hands a foot or so apart and cocks an eyebrow, “and it was pretty dark up there. There was nothing below you but a long drop and some seats to land on.”

“Oh!” Pear changes the subject, “there

was this one time that I was taking a trash bag out of a bin near the quad,” says Pear. “I didn't see it, but there was a squirrel in there. When I opened up the lid, the thing came rocketing out at me!”

Pair stands up and gestures as he continues his story.

“The little guy hit me right in the chest,” says Pear. “[He] used me like a springboard, knocked off my hat and took off like a shot!”

Pair remembers that he and a number of students who also saw the incident stood frozen for a moment before some-

one asked if the janitor was all right.

“I was fine, but it was definitely a surprise,” Pear says.

When not on the job at City College, the custodial crew participates in various activities to keep themselves active. Outlaw says he likes to go bowling.

“My bowling game could use some improvement, definitely... I'm a victim of the seventh pin, but I'll get it with diligence,” says Outlaw, explaining that the seventh pin is situated on the far left of the last row of pins. As a right-handed bowler, he says, it's difficult to hit it without veering off into the gutter.

Pair isn't shy about his life outside work either, and he details how he keeps busy.

“Well, before I got here I was—well, I still am—a licensed barber,” says Pear. “I'm also a musician — a guitarist. I play mostly country and old time rock 'n' roll.”

Pair also belongs to the Capital City Motorcycle club, which just celebrated its 100th anniversary. “I have a Road Star 1700 Yamaha,” he says with a smile. “Anything can be in [the club],” Pair explains, “everything from a Harley to a Honda.”

Before moving along, Pair reveals that Outlaw is a musician as well.

“I heard him singin' a song that I

hadn't heard in years!” Pair says. “And so I joined in.”

Along with Outlaw, Pair and one of their friends played an event together a few years ago and invited the City College staff. There are no current plans for a reunion tour, but Pair and Outlaw reminisce about the event with smiles.

Outlaw stays quiet in his corner of the room, but Pair exclaims, “It was great!”

The friendly rapport between these custodians is evident in their tone and faces as the conversation around the table turns to the previous night's episode of “Sons of Anarchy,” a TV show about a fictional outlaw motorcycle club in California's central valley.

“Yeah, we watch that show and come in and talk about it,” says Steven Lind, another custodian at City College. “‘Sons of Anarchy’ and ‘Boardwalk Empire.’”

“We talk about lots of things,” says Pair. “Not just TV... In here, we have a pretty diverse bunch of people. Just don't let anybody take someone else's beer and we'll all be OK.”

Before stowing away their food, snapping their radios back into the holsters and making their way back to their orange trucks on an adventure to keep City College running smoothly, the custodians all agree on the best part of their jobs: the people.

“This is a good job,” says Outlaw. “Good people.”

Pair agrees with a nod, “I like the people. Get to meet all kinds of people here.” ■

**“We keep the place clean and tidy, set up for various functions, and teardown... We basically keep things running around here.”**

— Harry Outlaw

CITY COLLEGE CUSTODIAN



# Yu-Gi-Oh: Not just a card game

Jacky Fu competes for money, prizes through a passion in Yu-Gi-Oh!

**Robert Bonetti**  
 Story and photo by robert.bonetti.express@gmail.com

**THE SMELL OF BODY** odor of cheap plastic table-tops. Posters plastered on every wall. This is what it feels like to be in a comic book store.

Though some people are off reading comics or playing videogames on a console in the corner, others are playing card games. To some people, a game is something that is played on occasion and done for fun. For others, it is a lifetime passion. For a select few, it is a way to make money and win prizes.

Jacky Fu, a 20-year-old City College student, does all this. Sitting slightly hunched over with thick, black glasses and equally dark hair, Fu takes up his card-playing stance. This slouch started when he got his first set of Yu-Gi-Oh! cards in fifth grade and since then, has been his Yu-Gi-Oh! playing position. More recently, the stance has carried him into the competitive Yu-Gi-Oh! tournament scene.

“Ever since I went to my first locals, just like down the street, I was like, ‘Wow, this game is actually way more complicated than it needs to be,’” says Fu. “So I decided to learn all the rulings.”

Playing at a local card shop and practicing with teammates Tamarrier Watson and Mike Moreno, Fu has been preparing for the Yu-Gi-Oh! Championship Series, more commonly known as YCS. Held monthly at various locations around the country, YCSs are two-day events where players compete for various prizes, a trophy and a chance to play on the world stage.

The team’s most recent tournament, held in San Mateo, did not go as well as the members had hoped. They mainly lost to cards limited to one per deck.

“I went X-3 and did not make it to day two,” says Moreno. “X is the amount of rounds. If it’s a 10-round tournament and you went X-3, you went seven and three.”

“It’s fun. I get to meet new people.”  
 Jacky Fu  
 CITY COLLEGE STUDENT, YU-GI-OH PLAYER



Much like Moreno, Fu had a similar experience. While he did not drop out of the tournament, his standings were too low to make it any further. “I technically went X-3 but dropped after round three,” says Fu, recalling his most recent tournament standings.

Despite their losses, Fu and his team plan to keep practicing and going to tournaments. The next tournament they will be headed to will be some time next year. “As long as I have interest in the game, I’ll just keep playing it,” Moreno says.

Watson, on the other hand, has a different mindset on his losses. He has been playing since the first YCS was ever conducted and has a very specific goal in mind. “I have literally been screwed seven times in a row,” says Watson. “I’m still gunning for my national invite. I just want it. I’m going to keep going until I get it.”

Fu holds these same ideals but has a different attitude about YCS in general. While winning is an important aspect of the tournament, just being there is an experience in itself. “It’s fun,” says Fu. “I get to meet new people.” ■

# Senate president leads with skill and determination

City College student politician impresses with ambitious efficiency

**Diana Lefort**  
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**PRESIDENTS ARE NOT MADE**, they’re chosen, so the saying goes.

Sandeep Singh, president of the City College Student Senate, was chosen, picked by the students on campus who saw he had the willpower within to make changes that make a difference.

“I just want to help,” says Singh. Singh, 19, joined the Senate in fall 2012, and he has made his way to the top— fast. He says his passion is trying to understand situations with given resources, and that’s exactly what the Student Senate was looking for. His communication and interaction skills got him noticed by many peers. Singh was then offered a position in the Student Senate, where he walked into it with open arms.

“He thinks things through,” says City College Senator and colleague Lincoln

“Sandeep is awesome and has ‘made’ the organization of Student Senate.”

Taylor Valmores  
 FORMER CLUB AND EVENTS PRESIDENT

Scott, who admires Singh’s empathy and understanding.

Singh’s accomplishments are many. He has recruited and filled executive positions for the Student Senate within one

month. No easy task. He has attracted active and passionate members of whom he is proud. He has attended Chancellor Cabinet Meetings and has been requested to speak at events and public speaking. Additionally, he works on countless projects: a campus suggestions box, student discounts, billboards and more.

“He has a hand in everything,” says Secretary of Legislative Affairs and colleague Paige Schlicht, who calls Singh “super-involved and friendly.”

Singh has always worked hard to achieve all that he wanted. He appears to work every second of every day to make it count for the next. He works to fight for the best, to help others and solve the most difficult problems that come their way.

But nothing has come easy. Working in his high school library as a teacher’s aide and in the City College Work Experience office, he has experienced work in different areas.

With blackened curly hair, caramel-colored skin and a can-do attitude, Singh’s ethnic background is Punjabi. He was born in Sacramento and lived with his grandparents during his first year. He then moved to the boroughs of Elk Grove where he lived for nine years. As a child, Singh suffered an accident in which he lost his eyesight for three months. This incident has contributed to how he perceives things in life today.

“Not a good feeling,” says Singh about temporarily losing his vision.

He was not brought up religiously, but morals were instilled in him. His father encouraged him to follow his passion, and his mother stressed education.

Singh enjoys working and understanding the campus, as well as getting to know the campus administration. He has built relationships with many people.

“Sandeep is awesome and has ‘made’ the organization of Student Senate,” says former clubs and events President Taylor Valmores.

As a psychology major, Singh plans on transferring to UC Berkeley or Sacramento State University to get his bachelor’s degree.

“I live life, not run away from it,” says Singh. “I’m just me.” ■



Sandeep Singh, president of the City College Student Senate, takes a break by the student government placard.





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Panthers quarterback Taylor Laird  
Photo by Dianne Rose

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# New officer on duty

Sam Esquibel, campus cop and veteran takes on City College

Cody Kuenzli  
Staff Writer // ckuenzli@mail.csuchico.edu

**CITY COLLEGE HAS A** new officer making the rounds, and he says he's determined to show the best side of the school's police department.

"We're college police, but we're community police, too," says Sam Esquibel, who works the evening shift on campus.

When he was a kid living in Missouri, Esquibel and his mom and two brothers stayed in an old church run by the Salvation Army. Every year, state troopers would come for Christmas to buy the kids presents, and this inspired Esquibel to give back to the community, he says.

Part of his inspiration also came from his squad leader in Iraq, who would tell Esquibel about his time as a police officer in Kansas.

**"I went to the chief and said there was a need for better communication between the poice department and our students."**

Sam Esquibel  
CITY COLLEGE POLICE OFFICER

After the army, Esquibel graduated with honors in business administration from Sierra College and is now continuing his studies in government.

After he finished at the police academy, the Los Rios Community College District was the first place that took him on.

"It's a fun job... I can't complain, Sac City is a cool campus," he says.

He says he'd prefer to stay at City College rather than join another precinct.

"[In other precincts] they just 'hook and book.' You can't really do that here," he says. "[The students and staff] become your friends, you have a stake in it, and you're going to see these people every day."

Esquibel is also the first Associated Student Liaison Officer on campus, and says it was his idea to create the position.

"I went to the chief and said there was a need for better communication between the police department and our students," Esquibel says. "If we can find a

way to better figure out what the students needs are, then why not do it?"

The captain approved, and now Esquibel represents campus police with the Student Senate. The senate tells him their needs and he, in turn, informs them on what the police department can do to help them.

He also makes a point of getting to know people on campus, he says.

"I try to be visible when I walk around campus. The better they know me, the more they talk to me," says Esquibel.

He says he calls it community-oriented policing, with an emphasis on the community part.

"Community-oriented policing is more about finesse," Esquibel adds.

He explains how it helps the officers as well, not just the people they serve.

"It kind of humanizes us too, because they kind of see us as opposition, but we're not, we're here to make the students safer," Esquibel says. "The students think of us as more of an occupying force. I'm just trying to change that."

Esquibel's prior experience with an "occupying force" is what contributed to his can-do attitude: The officer served in Iraq from 2007 to 2008 as part of the troop surge.

"I had literally been in country for like 10 minutes, and I'm already getting shot at?" Esquibel recalls of arrival in Baghdad.

Starting on his first mission, he survived a roadside bomb attack. He says he had to drive a fuel truck that was "basically a bomb."

He was on one of the most dangerous roads in Iraq, with frequent explosions and ambushes, and he says he vividly remembers multiple rockets and mortar attacks on his base.

The experience changed him, he says now.

"You kind of get desensitized to the thought you might die any second," says Esquibel.

Now at City College, Esquibel says he tries to understand issues people have first, rather than just arrest someone.

"The thing that separates me is I don't have an ego," says Esquibel. "If I can work it out, instead of taking them to jail, I try."

He adds that the police do take people downtown to the Sacramento City



Photograph by Dianne Rose // Multimedia Editor / dianne.rose.express@gmail.com

Officer Sam Esquibel, an Iraq war veteran, walks into the campus police department with a smile.

Police Department when they have to, but it's not very often.

"When you see [the TV show] 'Cops' it's all chasing people down... getting in fights, send the dog in and all that stuff," says Esquibel. "If you can talk to people, 99 percent of those problems go away."

During his daily patrols at City College, Esquibel says he always hits the trouble spots first, like the dark areas of the parking lots.

And unlike what many may think, he adds, crime doesn't happen more at night.

"There's not a specific time crime happens," Esquibel says.

Those who drink, do drugs or have sex in the parking structure seem to think "Oh, if I go up to the fourth, floor no one will find me," he says.

The officer says his frequent checks in the parking structure have helped to end a spree of catalytic converter thefts.

He already knows most of the City College staff and faculty, and they say they appreciate his efforts.

"He's not like a normal police officer, he walks the beat like the old school beat cops," says Luz Vazquez, an administrative assistant in the Language & Literature Department. "We feel like we can actually trust someone to come [if we

need help]."

Esquibel remembers one time in particular when he and his partner had to deal with a homeless man panhandling in the café. When Esquibel went to talk to the man, it seemed like the man wasn't all there.

**"He's not like a normal police officer. He walks the beat like the old school beat cops."**

Luz Vasquez  
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

"He was getting a little shaky [and] hearing voices in his head," he says.

Esquibel explains that when the man didn't relax, he and his partner talked to him in a calm manner and got him his coffee.

"We found out he had just been released from a mental facility," Esquibel says. "This guy doesn't need to go to jail. He hasn't committed an egregious crime."

This approach is crucial to what he does, Esquibel says.

"If you talk to people in a way where you understand them, or actually hear them, that's all they want: to be heard," he says. "A lot of situations can be resolved just by talking; you don't have to escalate." ■



Photograph by Dianne Rose // Multimedia Editor / dianne.rose.express@gmail.com

Officer Sam Esquibel represents campus police at student senate meetings.



# Stumbling onto success

87-year-old City College English professor's 'accidental' lifetime of adventure

Iman Zahra  
Guest Writer // imanzhra@yahoo.com

**THIS IS THE MAN** who saw it all. He has been everywhere, and he has tried it all.

He sits down to enjoy his morning coffee at Starbucks after a life full of adventures.

"I've lived many lives," says Harold Knox, an 87-year-old English professor who has been teaching at City College for 46 years.

"I stumbled into everything," Knox says. "Everything was accidental, and I was very lucky."

Knox "stumbled" into many things before he became an English professor at City College. He was a journalist, a traveler, and an U.S. Navy seaman. He joined City College in 1967 and has been teaching here ever since.

"I like the whole atmosphere," says Knox, who still has the motivation to teach. "Students teach you as much as you teach them. It keeps your brain younger, and it also gets me out of the house." Knox also has had time to fly and travel around the world during his teaching career.

"I've visited 60 countries," says Knox, which include Antarctica, Palestine, Turkey, and many others. He has an adventurous story about each one.

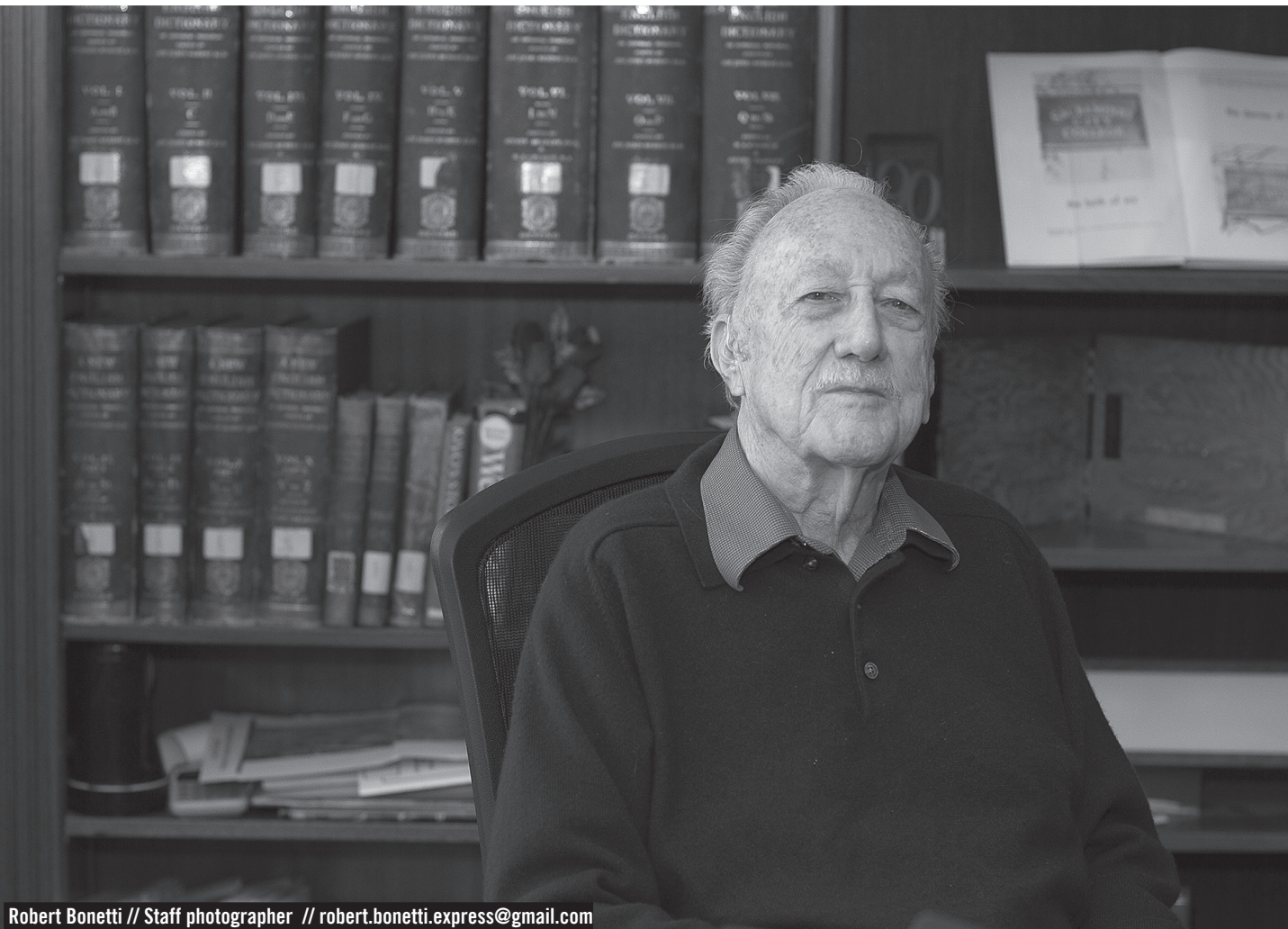
**"I stumbled into everything. Everything was accidental, and I was very lucky."**

Harold Knox  
CITY COLLEGE ENGLISH PROFESSOR

"He is a Renaissance man," says Armand Vattuone, one of Knox's friends who meets him and others at the Starbucks near City College on a weekly basis. "He is an inspiration to seniors."

A long healthy life full of surprises and "accidents" is what got Knox to the place he is today.

As a young man of 17, Knox had no



Robert Bonetti // Staff photographer // robert.bonetti.express@gmail.com

Professor Harold Knox takes a moment to rest after sharing his story of prank phone calls, his educational path and his work as a column writer.

plans other than joining the Navy and serving his country, considering that World War II had just erupted. After he enlisted, the first "accident" happened that changed his life.

Thinking he was going to see fighting action in the Navy, Knox qualified for officer training for the U.S. Naval Air Corps and spent most of his military career in college in Michigan. After he served in the Navy, Knox entered the university thinking he'd become a doctor, but that changed when his campus newspaper wrote something offensive about the Southerners.

"I wrote back a joking letter in bad English," laughs Knox, a native of Tennessee who used a country accent and

bad grammar in the letter to make the newspaper staff feel guilty for offending a Southern reader. "The school sponsor called me up and wanted me to join the campus paper staff."

**"I hope I am half as mentally alert when I am his age."**

Richard Kellough  
KNOX'S COFFEE BUDDY

It was there that Knox fell in love, and there was no way out. He fell in love with English, and ended up getting a bachelor's degree, and later on a master's, in journalism.

"I couldn't quite get it out of my blood," says Knox, as he describes his addiction to working for the newspaper. He worked for the United Press International in Atlanta.

While in Georgia, Knox was required to cover the state Legislature in Jackson, Miss., where another "accident" happened and opened doors for him.

"I saw one of the senators going from desk to desk, and I said, 'What is he doing?'" says Knox. "Turns out he was

passing a commendation for me as a reporter to let me stay in Jackson."

It was one lucky incident that led to the next for Knox.

During the period when Knox was in Mississippi, he got his own daily column working for the Tupelo Journal. He describes it as "the most enjoyable and least paid" job he has ever had, but he loved it. He got to write about anything he pleased.

And as before, one adventure led to another for Knox.

While visiting a former professor in Michigan, Knox talked about teaching as a career, saying that he thought he would never go into the teaching field. That's when his professor told him, "I got you a teaching job at Michigan State University. Would you take it?"

That is when his career started as an English professor.

"I never intended to be a teacher," says Knox. "I realized, 'Hey, I like this.'"

And so he has been at it for half a century.

"I hope I am half as mentally alert when I am his age," says another one of Knox's coffee buddies, Richard Kellough. "He has a good sense of humor."

And that sense of humor follows him to the classroom.

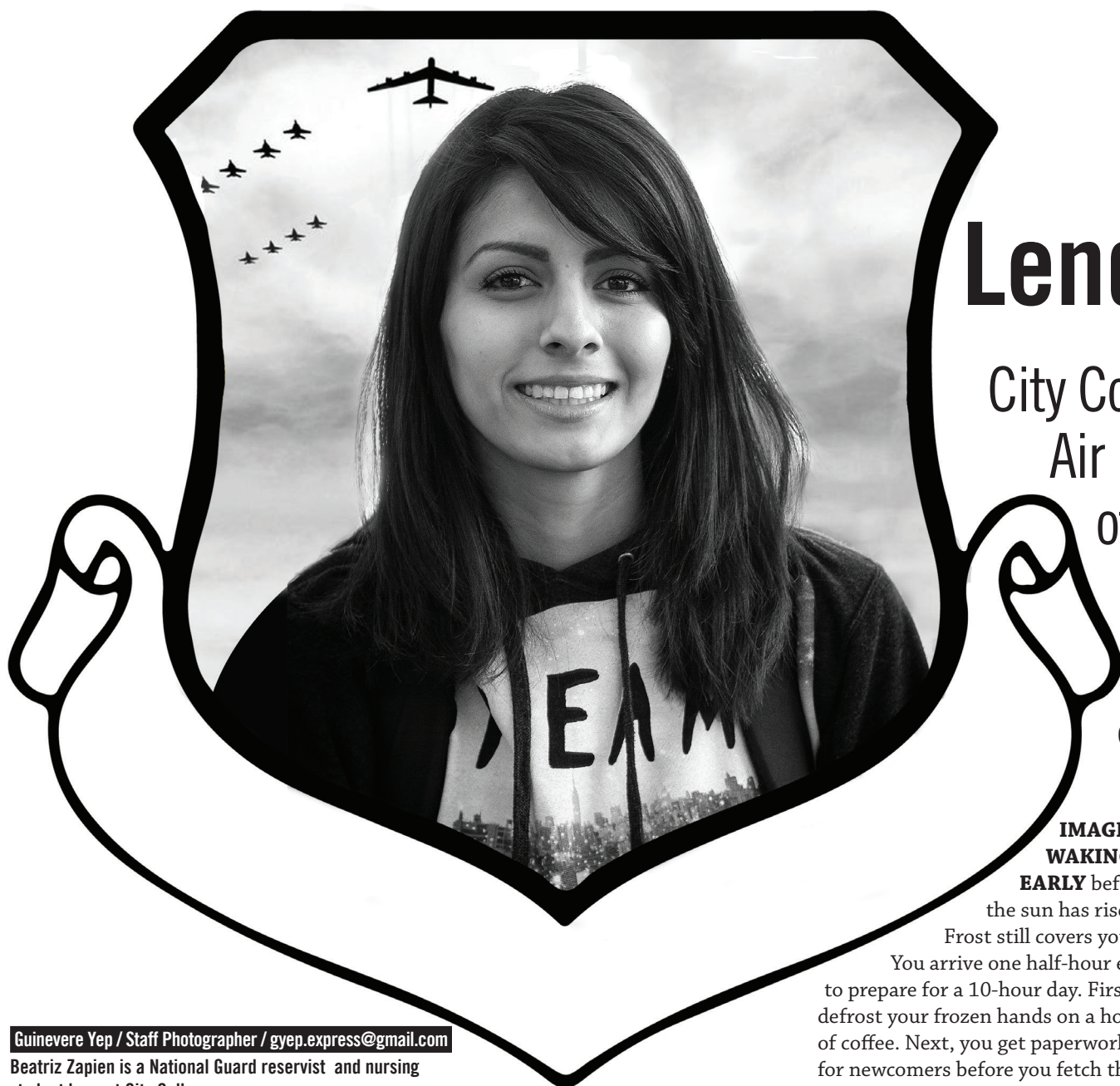
Chris Sharpe, a student in Knox's English class at City College, says, "He cares about how we do in class."

Knox didn't just experience a couple of adventures. His whole life was an adventure. ■



Photo Illustration by Kate Paloy





Guinevere Yep / Staff Photographer / gyep.express@gmail.com  
Beatriz Zapien is a National Guard reservist and nursing student here at City College.

# Lending a hand

City College nursing student,  
Air Force reservist helps  
others in need

Reed Stroup  
Guest Writer // reed.stroup@gmail.com

## IMAGINE WAKING UP EARLY

before the sun has risen. Frost still covers your car. You arrive one half-hour early to prepare for a 10-hour day. First, you defrost your frozen hands on a hot cup of coffee. Next, you get paperwork ready for newcomers before you fetch the wing commander to start training.

Once a month and two weeks out of the year on annual tour, Beatriz Zapien leaves her civilian lifestyle to go to work for the Air Force Reserves at Beale Air Force Base in Marysville.

Zapien, who is in the nursing program at City College, is roughly 5-feet, 8-inches tall and has slender arms and legs. She is 21 years old, has shoulder-length chocolate-brown hair, light-brown eyes and a sweet smile that matches her giggly laugh.

Zapien weighs about 115 pounds, but that doesn't stop her from performing as an airman with her 940th Force Support Squadron unit. She looks delicate on the outside, but can kick some butt if she has to. After all, she is competing in a man's world where women are still a minority.

During her weekend commitment, Zapien and other flight members run, go to the gym for a couple of hours, and do calisthenics, which consist of various types of pushups, situps, and squats.

"I run whenever I get angry," says Zapien, who says running helps her blow off steam.

The Air Force is not her first exposure to a male-dominated program and its expectations of fitness. In high school, Zapien joined the Sacramento Police Department student program for four years.

Prince Rasheed was in the high school program with Zapien. Throughout those four years, he says he learned all about the personality traits Zapien displayed in the program.

"It doesn't surprise me that Zapien chose the Air Force," says Rasheed, who also understands why his friend is now in a career in nursing. "Zapien has a genuine want to aid, assist and improve the quality of life of those around her."

Zapien agrees her greatest passion is helping people. She doesn't want a desk job. She is going to school for nursing so that she can help people who are injured in combat.

"I'd rather make people feel better and be passionate about my job even if I'm in a tent," Zapien says. "I like to be hands-on."

Zapien normally has a reserved demeanor, but after a while, she opens up with a friendly manner. Though she has a soft voice that is hard to hear, her laugh carries, and pleasantly, she is not a woman of few words. She says cats, little kids, and her teasing boyfriend, Ivan Dunzweiler, make her laugh.

Dunzweiler is also in the Air Force and knows what qualities it takes to be in the military.

"I believe it's her work-hard, never-quit work ethic that has made her successful and looked upon for guidance from her junior airmen," Dunzweiler says.

Along with taking a full load at school, she sacrifices her free time to make a difference in the emergency room at UC Davis Medical Center.

"Out of everything that I'm juggling in my life right now, I am more proud of volunteering at the ER," Zapien says. "Getting to work with the technicians is my favorite."

You might expect someone in the military to see life in black and white, but not Zapien. She is open-minded and does not appreciate closed-off people.

"I hate one-minded people who bash other people's opinions," Zapien says.

On the other hand, she says she finds people's genuine personalities beautiful and has a philosophy: Act today as if anybody in your life could be gone.

"Don't take anything for granted," Zapien says. "Live life every day with an open mind and care for everyone."

Walking by or meeting her you wouldn't expect this tiny and innocent-looking woman to be a tough one. Even more, thinking of her as a member of the military might be the last thought to cross your mind.

But Zapien admits to one fear — talking in front of people.

"My voice starts to shake. I'll get cold and smile a lot," she says. ■

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# Finding a balance

City College golf star strives for excellence on the golf course, while living with diabetes

Isiah Lerma

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**GOLF IS A MENTAL** game as much as it is a physical game, but when a player faces a daily battle with a disease like diabetes, the stakes are even higher.

As a diabetic, City College freshman golfer Madison Holm says she must maintain normal blood sugar levels because an imbalance can cause mental and physical fatigue if not handled correctly.

"In some aspects, [the diabetes] can be the most difficult part of golf," explains Holm. "If my blood sugar is high or too low, I can't swing the club right, and I mis-hit things."

But despite her condition, Holm says she has come to embrace her daily struggles with success every time she steps on the golf course.

"I'm always constantly checking [my blood sugar]," says Holm.

Holm, who plans to double major in psychology and criminal justice and says she would like to work for the FBI, has been no stranger to tough challenges since her diagnosis of Type 1 diabetes when she was 10.

These days, the athlete's weekly schedule includes about 20 hours of golf, a daily commute from Auburn that takes about 40 minutes one-way, more than 30 insulin shots and a full-time academic workload.

Because of this intense schedule, Holm says her first semester at City College has been "tough, but manageable."

Still, with support from her parents and self-determination to achieve her goals, Holm says she's been able to balance her responsibilities well.

"Both of my parents are extremely influential [in my life]," says Holm.

"They're supportive and they want to see me succeed, but over the past couple years I've become more self-sufficient with the diabetes. So I don't really need

"Both of my parents ... have a love for the game because I love it."

Such support from her family to overcome challenges in the game of golf



Dianne Rose / Multimedia Editor / dianne.rose.express@gmail.com

City College freshman Madison Holm waits with her father, Martin Holm after finishing her round during the Jan High Memorial tournament at the Bing Maloney Golf Course in October.

as much help from [my parents], but they still help me a lot."

Holm attributes the beginnings of her love for golf to her father who began showing her the basics at a very young age.

"My dad got me into golf when I was 8, and I started playing competitively my freshmen year of high school," says Holm.

is extremely important to Holm, she says, because the sport is so mentally tough and exhausting. Although, like any challenge, frustrations are inevitable especially as the expectations get higher.

Teammate Lauren Dahl, business major, explained that getting frustrated while playing golf is a part of the sport, and with Holm, it's no exception. Because

of those challenges, Holm doesn't let her diabetes get in the way of her goals, says Dahl.

"When Madi's diabetes acts up, it does take a toll on her physically," says Dahl. "However, I have never met someone who is able to mentally persevere as much as she does."

According to Holm, though her first season at City College has been full of challenges, it has been a positive experience.

"Golf in itself is a sport where you become a better person through it," she says. "It definitely takes you through ups and downs."

Even with her hour- and-20- minute commute to and from City College, the double major, the constant struggle to do better on the green and her daily battle with her disorder, Holm has tried to remain resilient, she says.

"I chose golf because there are different challenges every single time," Holm explains. "You're not in a gym where the [setting is] the same—you're outdoors and there are different factors that play into each time you go out there."

Although Holm was accepted into every four-year college she applied for while in high school, she says she opted out of a purely academic college experience and decided to attend City College in hopes of earning a golf scholarship to one of the schools that originally accepted her.

"I'm still actively trying to better my game so I can get to a point where I can play golf and do my academics in college with at least some money, hopefully in two years," says Holm. "It's hard, but it's possible." ■

To see a video about Madison Holm, visit [www.saccityexpress.com/a-shot-of-life](http://www.saccityexpress.com/a-shot-of-life)

## The final punch-out

City College boxing class prepares for end of semester

Harold Williams

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**WHILE MANY STUDENTS ARE** studying for finals, students in City College's boxing class are training for their last matches of the semester.

According to Varie Walker, biology major and current student in the class, boxing students receive a final grade based on their performance in the final match. However, because it is an amateur boxing match, there is no winner determined.

"In order to get a passing grade, you have to participate in two matches," says Walker. "Although the score is not kept, the crowd can pretty much tell who's winning if the match is sort of one-sided."

City College boxing instructor Peter Pryor adds that students who take the course will be provided with a pair of gloves and headgear but must bring their own mouthpiece, jump rope and hand wraps.

"Because this is a beginning class, we steer towards amateur-style boxing," says Pryor.

In comparison to boxing, the sport of Mixed Martial Arts has become increasingly popular. In MMA, fighters are

allowed to use a mixture of striking and grappling, which includes standing and ground maneuvers.

Pryor says the difference between boxing and Mixed Martial Arts is an emphasis on technical and defensive skills rather than knockouts as it is in MMA.

"There's a lot of technical skills that we teach that MMA just does not have," says Pryor.

When it comes to getting ready for the final competition, Walker says workout sessions focus on cardio exercises in addition to 15 minutes of running during the beginning of class.

"We also learn a new technique each class," says Walker. "We then practice in drills."

Justus Croy, English major, says his favorite part of the class is the competitiveness, which includes the chance to lightly spar each day.

"I played football in high school, so I was looking for another competitive outlet," says Croy.

Croy says it is the time of the semester when students get serious about their performance in class.

"This is when the competition really kicks in," says Croy. "Everyone will try harder and put their skills to the test—no more holding back." ■



Dianne Rose / Multimedia Editor / dianne.rose.express@gmail.com

City College boxing students Alex Elias and Varie Walker spar during class in the North Gym on Nov. 19.



# Water wings

City College water polo player dives head first into single-motherhood

Teri Barth  
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**FOR MANY, IN ADDITION** to sleepless nights while studying for exams and waiting for financial aid disbursements, making new friends, joining clubs, falling in and out of love, and parties will make the list of college memories.

Such is not the case for all college students, though. City College freshman Melissa Wall, who plays water polo in the position of utility, which she describes as similar to that of a soccer forward, says her memorable college moments will be of a different sort. Wall's list will include things such as maintaining a split-campus schedule, motherhood and daycare dilemmas.

Wall says she began playing water polo five years ago while still in high school. Although it was love at first splash, Wall says she was forced to take time away from the sport after becoming pregnant.

Now, after a three-year hiatus, Wall is back in the pool, playing collegiate water polo as a single-mother.

According to Wall, her purpose for playing is threefold: She loves the sport, being a team member is a quick means to getting back into shape, and she enjoys the social interaction with other women her age.

"Because it's a very physical sport, you have to bond with your teammates, and it just makes it more fun," Wall says.

According to Wall, she was thrilled to be back in the pool.

However, Wall says when the child-care provisions she had in place for her son fell through, her water polo attendance became irregular. Unable to find other arrangements for her son, Wall contemplated quitting the team, but instead she packed a bag for her son with his favorite toys and some snacks and took him to practice with her.

"I was starting to miss practice on Mondays and Fridays because I didn't have anyone to watch my son," says Wall. "[Since] I had [already missed] a couple of times, I just figured, 'Hey, let's just bring him and see how it goes.'"



Dianne Rose / Multimedia Editor / [dianne.rose.express@gmail.com](mailto:dianne.rose.express@gmail.com) .  
Melissa Wall smiles with her son Riley at Hoos Pool.

Not only was the head coach of the City College water polo team Steve Hanson fine with her decision to bring her son to practice, Wall says Hanson welcomed him.

"[Hanson is] very family-oriented," says Wall. "He doesn't complain about



Dianne Rose / Multimedia Editor / [dianne.rose.express@gmail.com](mailto:dianne.rose.express@gmail.com) .  
Melissa Wall (right) looks to pass against Fresno City College at Hoos Pool in September.

me bringing my son to practice, which is really good. Otherwise, I don't know what I would do."

Regularly attending practices again, according to Wall, along with the coaching skills of Hanson, has helped her performance in the pool.

"[I've experienced] a lot of improvement; we've all improved a lot," says Wall. "I really like that [Hanson] has taught us

more technique and strategy. He actually takes the time and effort to actually improve [our] game instead of to just play the game."

Wall says her academic goal is to apply for admission to the nursing program at City College. Until then, she is fulfilling the prerequisites for the program Tuesdays and Thursdays at Cosumnes River College, which is closer to her home.

Of course, a multi-campus schedule has its challenges, says Wall, especially on Tuesdays and Thursdays since a traditional classroom setting is not conducive to bringing her son with her.

"In the morning, I have classes at [Cosumnes], and then I leave and come

to [City College] for practice," says Wall. "Then I leave and go get my son and hang out with him for about an hour and a half, then go drop him off at his dad's, and then go back to school. So, yeah, Tuesdays and Thursdays, I'm constantly going."

Regardless of the difficulties associated with single-motherhood or a multi-campus schedule, Wall says she's glad things such as going to water polo practice with his mom and dangling his feet in Hoos pool will make her son's list of childhood memories.

Wall says that although her college experience isn't what she had envisioned it to be, she has no regrets.

"I would definitely do it again," says Wall. "He's worth it." ■

To see a video on Melissa Wall, visit [www.saccityexpress.com/son-is-motivation-to-play](http://www.saccityexpress.com/son-is-motivation-to-play)

## GAME RESULTS

### MEN'S BASKETBALL

- DVC TOURNAMENT**  
**Nov. 29,** City College – 79, San Jose City College – 90  
**Nov. 30,** City College – 81, Contra Costa College – 72  
**Dec. 1,** City College – 92, Solano College – 76  
**MODESTO TOURNAMENT**  
**Dec. 4,** City College – 83, Lassen College – 76  
**Dec. 5,** City College – 75, Columbia College – 54  
**Dec. 6,** City College – 55, Fresno City College – 78  
**Dec. 7,** City College – 74, Contra Costa College – 79

### WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

- GILCREST INVITATIONAL AT COLLEGE OF THE SEQUOIAS**  
**Dec. 5,** City College – 68, Mt. San Antonio College – 60  
**Dec. 6,** City College – 71, Santa Barbara City College – 68  
**Dec. 7,** City College – 53, TBA College – 63

### VOLLEYBALL

- REGULAR SEASON MEETS**  
**Nov. 13,** City College – 2, Sierra College – 3  
**Nov. 15,** City College – 3, Diablo Valley College – 1  
**Nov. 20,** City College – 1, San Joaquin Delta College – 3

### WRESTLING

- REGULAR SEASON MEETS**  
**Nov. 13,** City College – 30, Sierra College – 12  
**SCC MULTI DUAL MEET**  
**Nov. 23,** City College – 51, Glendale College – 6  
City College – 57, San Joaquin Delta College – 0  
City College – 48, Santa Rosa College – 3  
**NORTH REGIONAL**  
**Dec. 7,** City College – first place

### CROSS COUNTRY

- CALIFORNIA STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS**  
**Nov. 23,** City College women's team – 27th place of 27 teams

### GOLF

- CALIFORNIA STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS**  
**Nov. 18-19,** City College – Individual Qualifier: Lauren Dahl

### WATER POLO

- BIG 8 CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIPS**  
**Nov. 8,** City College – 5, Diablo Valley College – 22

### SOCCER

- Nov. 5,** City College – 0, Diablo Valley College – 3  
**Nov. 8,** City College – 0, American River College – 2  
**Nov. 13,** City College – 1, Sierra College – 2





# From coach to player

Former City College basketball coach shoots for his dreams on the court



City College forward Michael Wiggins (middle) gets tied up with Shasta College guard Chaz Thompson at the American River College Gym on Nov. 15.

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**IT'S NEVER TOO LATE.** That's what former City College basketball coach and current small forward on the men's basketball team Michael Wiggins thinks.

"Yeah, [I'm a] 25-year-old freshman. You don't see too many of those, but I'm living proof that it's never too late to go to school and follow your dreams," says Wiggins.

While Wiggins is a new addition to the roster, his experience with the team goes back to his first year at City College in 2009 when head Coach Andrew Jones invited Wiggins to join the coaching staff as an assistant coach, a role he filled until joining the team as a player this season.

"He tried out for the team, and he didn't make the team," says Jones. "We really liked him [when he tried out for the team], and we thought he would be a good person to have involved in the program. So I said I might as well make [Wiggins] a volunteer assistant."

After three seasons as an assistant, Wiggins says that coaching had him itching to get back on the court. He wasn't fond of the idea of one day sitting back and wondering what could have been if he returned to playing.

"Ultimately, I said, 'You know what? While I'm still young and still able to go to school full time and play basketball, let me do it.' I don't want to have any regrets. That's my biggest thing," says Wiggins. "I just had this burning desire in me that [I] wanted to play."

Having never played at the collegiate level made it harder to connect with some of the players he had coached, says Wiggins, a problem he solved by making the team this year.

"I never had played at the junior college level, and yet I was a coach at the junior college level. That didn't sit well with me," Wiggins says. "I was asking my players to push themselves in ways that I've never pushed myself, and I felt a little guilty for that."

While Wiggins has seen success as a coach—coaching the team to a playoff berth in 2012 and winning records in two of his three years as a coach—he says his primary goal in attending City College is to excel as a student.

**"I'm living proof that it's never too late to go to school and follow your dreams."**

Michael Wiggins  
CITY COLLEGE BASKETBALL PLAYER

"Coming to Sac City, my first intent was to come here for school," says Wiggins. "That was one of the biggest motivating factors for me to come back to school: the fact that I didn't have a college degree."

In trading his seat on the bench for a spot on the floor, Wiggins realizes that he brings a level of experience and basketball knowledge invaluable to a young team and says that helps him to be a leader.

"They come to me for advice. They come and ask me questions, and that humbles me," says Wiggins.

Players who were on the team during Wiggins' tenure as an assistant coach, like sophomore small forward Derek Rhodes, feel that it's a definite advantage to have a built-in connection with a new player.

"It's a little bit different," says Rhodes. "Last year when he was the coach, we had great chemistry, and for him to be [a] player now, we still connect very well. So it's a good thing."

Wiggins says he now sees himself as both a player and a coach, which he hopes may help the young roster throughout the season. But he adds that because he's new to college basketball, he will look to his teammates for advice.

"Never having played, I have to listen

to them," he says. "When I need game advice, the roles will flip-flop."

Assistant Coach John Florence—who describes Wiggins as the kind of player any coach would want on the roster to help mold a young team into a winning one—has worked with Wiggins for the past three years on the sidelines.

He says Wiggins' new role as a player has been an adjustment for both of them, an adjustment Florence notes that Wiggins has handled particularly well.

"I think he's done a great job with the transition from being a coach," says Florence. "I think the guys have really accepted him mainly because Mike works really hard and doesn't take any plays off."

Wiggins says he wants to become a top player in the area during his debut season this year, focusing on his defensive skills, which he and those around him feel are his strong suit.

"Defense is just something that I've excelled at, so my goal is to be one of the best defenders this state has to offer," says Wiggins.

According to Coach Jones, while Wiggins may not be the most talented player on the squad, his defensive prowess makes him a definite asset in close games.

"He was in one game recently down the stretch when we were going very defensive-minded," says Jones. "That's his skill—at the defensive end."

Wiggins says he feels playing for the Panthers is a worthwhile means toward accomplishing his ultimate goal.

"My main goal is to be a coach at the professional level," Wiggins says. "For me, to have started here at the college level, I'm blessed." ■

To see a video on Michael Wiggins, visit [www.saccityexpress.com/from-assistant-coach-to-player](http://www.saccityexpress.com/from-assistant-coach-to-player)

## SPORTS CALENDAR

### MEN'S BASKETBALL

#### SISKIYOU'S TOURNAMENT

**Dec. 29** at 6 p.m. — Lane Community College at College of the Siskiyous in Weed

**Dec. 30** at 4 p.m. — Butte College at College of the Siskiyous in Weed

#### REGULAR SEASON GAMES

**Jan. 7** at 7:30 p.m. — American River College in Sacramento

**Jan. 10** at 7:30 p.m. — City College vs. Modesto Junior College

**Jan. 14** at 5:30 p.m. — Cosumnes River College in Sacramento

**Jan. 17** at 5:30 p.m. — City College vs. Santa Rosa Junior College

**Jan. 21** at 7:30 p.m. — City College vs. Diablo Valley College

**Jan. 24** at 7:30 p.m. — San Joaquin Delta College in Stockton

**Jan. 28** at 7:30 p.m. — Sierra College in Granite Bay

### WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

#### SOLANO SHOWDOWN

**Dec. 13** at 8 p.m. — Solano Community College in Fairfield

**Dec. 14**, TBA — Solano Community College in Fairfield

**Dec. 15**, TBA — Solano Community College in Fairfield

**Dec. 18**, 6 p.m. — City College vs. Feather River College

#### WEST HILLS CLASSIC

**Dec. 20**, TBA — West Hills College in Coalinga

**Dec. 21**, TBA — West Hills College in Coalinga

**Dec. 22**, TBA — West Hills College in Coalinga

#### REGULAR SEASON GAMES

**Jan. 7**, 5:30 p.m. — American River College in Sacramento

**Jan. 10**, 5:30 p.m. — City College vs. Modesto Junior College

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**Jan. 21**, 5:30 p.m. — City College vs. Diablo Valley College

**Jan. 24**, 5:30 p.m. — San Joaquin Delta College in Stockton

**Jan. 28**, 5:30 p.m. — Sierra College in Granite Bay

### WRESTLING

#### CALIFORNIA STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

**Dec. 13** at 10 a.m. — California State Championships at San Joaquin Delta College

**Dec. 14** at 10 a.m. — California State Championships at San Joaquin Delta College

For more information, visit [sccpanthers.losrios.edu](http://sccpanthers.losrios.edu).



GAME ON

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# PANTHERS BASKETBALL HIGHLIGHTS



City College sophomore guard Antwoine Davis gets an easy two points against Shasta College during the Beaver Classic Tournament at the American River College Gym on Nov. 15.



City College sophomore center BeBe Williams goes up for the basket against Napa Valley College freshman's Allana Burnham during the Sasha Brown Classic at Goto/Goldenberg Court on Nov. 22.



City College sophomore forward Kendra Snowden goes up for the basket against Napa Valley College freshman Allana Burnham during Sasha Brown Classic at Goto/Goldenberg Court on Nov. 22.

City College sophomore guard Antwoine Davis gets fouled as he goes to the basket by Shasta College during the Beaver Classic Tournament at American River College Gym on Nov. 15.

Photos by Dianne Rose  
Multimedia Editor  
dianne.rose.express@gmail.com.





Melissa Wall, City College sophomore, utility, passes the ball during the home match against Modesto Junior College at Hoos Pool on Oct. 30.



Elliza North, City College freshman outside hitter, and Lauren Winkler, City College freshman middle hitter/opposite hitter, go up for the block during a home match against Santa Rosa College at the North Gym on Oct. 2.

# City College Fall 2013 Sports Highlights

Photos by Dianne Rose

Multimedia Editor

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(LEFT) Josh Hadley, City College freshman running back, finds the hole during a home game against Santa Rosa Jr. College at Hughes Stadium on Sept. 20.



(ABOVE) City College freshman, Albert Landeros won his match against Jack Gaylor of Glendale City College of Arizona during the City College multi-dual meet in the North Gym on Nov. 16.



(LEFT) Katarina Perez, City College freshman midfielder, kicks the ball up field during a home match against Sierra College at Hughes Stadium on Nov. 13.

(RIGHT) City College freshman, Madison Holm, at the tee box during a match with Fresno City College at the Bartley Cavanaugh Golf Course on Nov. 5.

