Avila Selected as Graduate of the Year

He’s a Puente Peer Mentor, a member of AGS and has been on the Chronicle staff.

Growing up in the city of Lynwood, the outlook for the future after high school seemed forlorn and fruitless for William Avila. His high school counselor suggested he fill out an Army form instead of a college application. Most of his friends were either incarcerated, drug addicts or idlers. Rather than taking this reproachful path that seemed like he was fated to follow, Avila has proven otherwise and has been selected as this year’s Outstanding Graduate of the Year.

Avila credits and thanks his mother for being the constant, positive force in his life. It was his mother who always recognized and believed in his potential and swayed him to consider college. And so, in the summer of 2002 Avila ended up enrolling at Cypress College, afar from the austere environment and distractions of Lynwood. Two years later, Avila is graduating with honors with a 3.88 GPA and is in the top 3% of all students at Cypress College. He has been recognized as a Who’s Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges Scholar as well as a Collegiate All-American Scholar by the United States Achievement Academy.

In addition to his studies at Cypress College, Avila is an active member of the Alpha Gamma Sigma Honor Society, Honors Program and the Puente Program. His community service activities include volunteering at the Orangewood Children’s Home and participating in campus events, such as Kindercaminata and Senior Day. He has dedicated at least ten Service Learning hours every semester since spring of 2003. As a graduate of the Puente Program, he has been a representative and recruiter at outreach events and other community service activities. Presently, he is a Peer Mentor for the current class and leads a weekly study group tutoring the new Puentistas.

Moreover, Avila has served as a senator on the Associated Students council during the 2003 spring semester. He has also written for the Cypress Chronicle, reporting sports news and the recent grocery workers’ union strike.

As a first generation college student, Avila did not have the comfort of seeking help at home. However, through his ardent work ethic that his mother instilled in him, he worked his way up from English 60 and Math 20. He leaves Cypress with a changed mindset of education and himself. “Cypress College has redefined my thoughts on education and success. It has expanded what I thought my capacity to be and has developed my potential as a student, a community member, and a leader,” he said. “I came here feeling unsure about life and now leave with so much confidence that it seeps through my pores. I embraced the hopes that my mother had for me and have transformed them into my own personal goals. Cypress College has given me every tool and every opportunity to make it happen.”

Avila has decided to attend Berkeley next fall as a mass communication major. He plans to pursue a career in journalism.
**Student Elected Vice President of CalSACC**

Karen Johnson was elected as Vice-President of the California Student Association of Community Colleges (CalSACC) at its annual spring legislative conference in Sacramento. As Vice President, she also holds a position in the Statewide Student Senate.

CalSACC is comprised of California Community College student government associations that provide student representation on educational issues to the Chancellor’s Office and the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges, and before the State Assembly, Senate and Governor’s Office.

Karen has been an integral member of the Associated Students of Cypress College for the past three years, serving in a variety of positions. She is currently the Student Trustee of the North Orange County Community College District, representing Cypress College.

In addition to serving on the CalSACC Region VIII Executive Board for the last two years, Karen has actively participated in the Academic Senate, Curriculum, Accreditation, Site and Facilities and several other committees. She also founded the Voter Registration Task Force at Cypress College and Coastline Community College, which aims to register hundreds of Community College student voters every semester.

She volunteered as Deputy Campaign Manager for NOCCCD general obligation bond Measure “X,” which passed to allow for $239 million in structural improvements for the district.

As a member of CalSACC, Karen is committed to opposing major cuts to our programs and ensuring that higher education remains affordable and accessible.

**Newly Tenured Faculty to be Recognized**

Congratulations to the following newly tenured faculty members who will be officially recognized by the NOCCCD Trustees at the May 27 board meeting in Anaheim: Virgil Adams, Social Science; Kathleen Alvarez, Health Science; Sarah Arnold, Language Arts; Lisa Clark, Vo–Tech; Cherie Dickey, Language Arts; Christie Diep, Language Arts; Sharon Easton, Counseling; Jean England, Counseling; Richard Fee, SEM; Michael Flores, Social Science; Robert Grantham, Counseling; David Halahmy, Social Science; Elizabeth Hamman, SEM; Barbara Kashi, Language Arts; Kathleen McAlister, Language Arts; David Nusbaum, SEM; Fola Odebunmi, Social Science; John Payne, Languages Arts; Kathleen Reidland, Vo–Tech; Doug Sallade, Vo–Tech; Renee Soensalo, Counseling; Wendy Valencia, Health Science; Amy Vega-Pritchett, Social Science; Denise Vo, Counseling; and Nancy Welliver, P.E./Athletics.

**Chargers**

Carolina Naranjo and Siranya Stamm were honored as recipients of the Jewel Keusder ESL Scholarships at the Language Arts Award Luncheon.

Both received $500 scholarships and have had their names engraved on a plaque displayed in the 2nd floor trophy case in the Humanities Building.

**Diane Edwards**

has been selected as a Merit Award Recipient in the category of Digital Imagery in the 2004 Media Arts Award competition.

Established five years ago, the Multimedia and Entertainment Initiative competition recognizes the exceptional creativity of California Community College and high school students enrolled in media–related instructional programs.

The Academic Senate announced **Betty Virgoe**, Music, as the Outstanding Adjunct Faculty Award recipient and **Carol Harvey**, Nursing, as the Outstanding Full–Time Faculty Award winner.

**Steve Gold**

announced at the May 11 Board of Trustees Meeting that he is concluding his term as President of the Cypress College Academic Senate. **Michael Brydges** will be taking over at the next Board meeting.
Pitcher Klabacha Earns All-State Softball Honors

Lindsey Klabacha has been the heart of the Cypress College pitching staff in her two seasons with the Chargers. The right-hander enters the 2004 COA State Tournament with her name firmly implanted in the college’s record book. She is third all-time in career victories with a record of 59-9. Her sophomore season to date has produced a mark of 30-2 with an earned run average of 0.68. She has allowed 148 hits in 217.33 innings of work.

The Anaheim Canyon High School graduate posted a record of 29-7 in her first year with the Chargers. She gave up just 131 base hits in her 211.33 innings pitched with an ERA of 1.23.

Klabacha, who earned All-State recognition in her freshman season, has led the Chargers to two Orange Empire Conference championships. She compiled a 25-1 record in her two years of OEC action and was chosen the conference’s Pitcher of the Year both seasons. In her frosh campaign she was 11-0 with an ERA of 0.69 and went 14-1 with an 0.64 earned run average last season.

Klabacha recently pitched a seven-hit shutout as the Chargers defeated Fullerton College, 8-0, in the title game of the SoCal Regional Tourney May 9 at Cypress. The victory qualified the Chargers for the COA State Tournament.

She recently signed a letter of intent with Arkansas Tech University in Russellville, AR.

Softball and Baseball Teams in the Playoffs

SOFTBALL: The Chargers advanced to the Commision On Athletics State Tournament Saturday-Sunday, May 15-16, at Riverside Community College after defeating Fullerton College, 8-0, in the title game of the Southern California Regional Tourney May 9.

The semi-finals on Saturday, May 15, will feature Cypress against West Valley College (noon) and Sacramento facing Mt. San Antonio (3 p.m).

The championship game is Sunday, May 16 at noon.

Charger fans can listen “live” to all tournament action available on the webcast.

BASEBALL: The Chargers, who finished the regular season with a 22-13 record, were seeded No. 10 in the 16-team Southern California Regional Playoff field.

Cypress will open the post-season at No. 7 College of the Canyons (24-12) Saturday, May 15. The first pitch is scheduled for 1 p.m.

For updates on the progress of Cypress College athletic teams, be sure to check out the PE/Athletics Web page by clicking on “divisions” and then “PE/Athletics” or by typing http://pe.CypressCollege.edu into your Web browser’s location bar.
Class Schedule for Fall 2004 Now Available

Cypress College has released its class schedule for the fall term, and the document is now available on the college’s Web site. Printed copies are also available for $1 in the campus bookstore.

Fall classes begin on August 23, September 7 and October 25.

Students planning to attend fall classes can apply using CCC Apply Online or by submitting the conventional paper application to the Admissions and Records Office. The paper application will be in the Fall Schedule of Classes and is available in the Admissions and Records Office.

New and returning students who mail in the application must ensure that it is postmarked by Monday, August 9. After Monday, August 9, the application must be submitted in person.

The Admissions and Records Office is still accepting applications for summer classes. The paper application must be submitted in person. The CCC Apply Online is available until further notice.

Summer classes begin June 1, July 6 and 12.

Students can apply for both summer and fall 2004 classes on one online or paper application.

Koo is JPLUS Scholar; Fellowship at JPL or Caltech

Peter Koo has been selected as the 2004 Cypress College Jet Propulsion Laboratory Undergraduate Scholar (JPLUS) candidate.

As the JPLUS Scholar, Koo will receive a stipend of $500 for two consecutive years. He is also eligible to vie for a Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF) at Jet Propulsion Lab or Caltech and land a part-time job at JPL.

Koo and other JPLUS recipients will be honored at an awards banquet on Monday, May 17th from 6 to 9 p.m. at Caltech.

In spring of 1997, the Jet Propulsion Lab inaugurated the Jet Propulsion Laboratory Undergraduate Scholar (JPLUS) program to recognize and encourage scholarly achievement and creativity in community college students majoring in engineering, mathematics, computer science, or the physical sciences.

Educators of Tomorrow Club Donates 600 Books

The Cypress College Educators of Tomorrow Club held a book drive for Swain Elementary School. The club president, Jasmine Mageno, initiated the drive when the club was at Swain School to read to the students for Read-Across-America day.

Cypress College faculty, classified, and students donated over 600 books to the book drive, and the club presented them to Swain School on April 29. The books are both new and used, and they are for ages K-6. They will be placed in the Swain Library, as well as in individual classrooms. Some will also be used for gifts to students.

Graduation Set for May 25

Cypress College will host its annual commencement ceremony on Tuesday, May 25. This year’s graduation begins at 6 p.m. on the campus’ east lawn adjacent to Gymnasium II.

Cypress College is awarding degrees and certificates, which verify completion of a vocational/occupational program, to 722 graduates this year.

The ceremony will feature faculty, special guests and student speakers. The commencement address will be delivered by Dr. Robert C. Maxson, President of Cal State Long Beach.

Mark Eaton will be honored as the college’s Outstanding Alumnus of the Year. The retired Utah Jazz star played two seasons for Cypress College and led the Chargers to the California State Basketball Title in his sophomore season.

A reception honoring the graduates will be held adjacent to Gymnasium II, immediately following the ceremony.

The public is welcome to join the Cypress College graduation celebration.
Campus Support Services Survey

This semester has seen a lot of survey activity some were tied to our accreditation self-study, some were tied to reporting requirements, and others were tied to our expanded quality assessment efforts. We have one more quick survey to conduct. I know the timing isn’t ideal. Surveys on the campus climate, VTEA students and IQA took precedence.

Happily, this is the last survey for the semester. It is brief and should take only 10 minutes to complete. This survey is designed to gather feedback from all faculty, staff and managers regarding satisfaction with specific campus support services (for example, Staff Development, Campus Safety and Maintenance and Operations). The campus support services included in this survey are those participating in the pilot program of this new quality assessment process.

Please take a moment to provide feedback regarding your level of satisfaction with these campus support services.

The web survey is available at the following address:

http://survey.cypresscollege.edu/survey/cssqasurvey.htm

It is available from on or off campus using MS Explorer or Netscape (recent versions will work best).

As always, your feedback is anonymous. Results will be shared in summary form with the managers of each program so that they can identify program strengths and establish priorities for any areas needing improvement.

Recognizing that this is a very busy period, we plan to keep the web survey open for at least three weeks. I’ll send out a few reminders too.

If you have questions about the survey, or run into any technical problems, please contact me via e-mail or by phone.

Thank you,

Heather Brown
Director, Institutional Research
(714) 484-7311
The California Newspaper Publishers Association Foundation has awarded seven $1,500 grants to journalism programs to improve their production hardware and software.

Five of the seven grants went to community college programs.

CNPA received 28 applications for the grants — 13 from community colleges, seven from high schools and eight from universities. The grants go toward the purchase of new hardware or software, or for upgrades to improve the quality of the publication.

The five community colleges that received grants are Cerritos, Cypress, Moorpark, Riverside and Yuba. The other two grants went to high school programs.

Cypress College Advisor Robert Mercer noted that his program used the money to purchase a new Nikon camera.

The donation was presented to Cypress College by Pat Cavanaugh, publisher of the News Enterprise newspaper and a member of the Cypress College Foundation board. He is also a member of the CNPA.

Cavanaugh is shown above (center) with current Chronicle editor James Yoon (right) and former editor Cain Barber (left) during the check presentation at the Chronicle newsroom.
End of the Year Luau

The End of the Year Luau featured some familiar faces (top left) as a number of retirees joined the party. Soon-to-be retirees (bottom) Barbara Russo and Bill Centobene, as well as a number of others, were honored. The big news was the success of the opportunity-drawing baskets (top right) which were created by various groups on campus. They helped raise money for Staff Development.
Let’s Get Visible, Visible...

We’re about to get additional visible signs of construction — this time in regards to the central plant. Another trailer and fencing will go up on the south side of campus — around the Business Building, Tech Ed I, II, and III, and Gym II — on the ground floor for the piping of the central plant.