

THIS WEEK

Continuing

- » "A Celebration of Life" exhibition, Photography Gallery (through May 10)
- » Student Art Show, Art Gallery (through May 10)
- » Teacher Appreciation Week (through May 10)

14-21 • Wednesday-Wednesday

- » Final exams

19 • Monday

- » Nursing Pinning Ceremony, Theater, 6 p.m.

20 • Tuesday

- » Dental Hygiene Awards, Theater, 6 p.m.

21 • Wednesday

- » Commencement, lawn north of tennis courts, 6 p.m.

27 • Tuesday

- » Summer session begins

THEY SAID IT

"What the mind of man can conceive and believe, it can achieve."

– Napoleon Hill

"A picture is a poem without words."

– Horace

@Cypress is published each week. If you would like to have items included, please contact Marc Posner in the Public Information Office at ext. 47006 or mposner@CypressCollege.edu.

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May 16, 2008, Newsletter from President Michael J. Kasler

Core Values:

Excellence

Integrity

Collegiality

Inclusiveness

Honors Student Thomas Riebs is Graduate of the Year for 2008

► **He will head to UCLA in the fall and had designs on completing law school at Harvard University.**

Thomas Riebs had many reasons to give up on his dreams of a college education. But the UCLA-bound, Whittier resident never let them expire.

Born an American citizen in Denmark, where he was raised, Riebs lost his father before he graduated high school; his mother died shortly after he started college. Left with no other viable option, he put his dreams on hold to support himself and his younger sister.

Finally, in 2001, Riebs fulfilled a lifelong dream of moving to America, where he took a job in California working as a salesman for a packaging company. "I arrived carrying my dream of an education checked in my luggage without knowing anyone other than the people I would be working for," he said.

Two years later, he "met the love of my life." He also began taking college classes at night while continuing to work full time. When he was let go by his company, Riebs hit another fork in the road: a new

job versus pursuing his "dearest dream."

Riebs and his wife chose education. He enrolled at Cypress College as a full-time student in January, 2007. Since then, he's made the President's Honor Roll and has been selected to apply for the prestigious Jack Kent Cooke Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship.

He helped start the Cypress College Anthropology Club, and was involved with the Honors Program, the Transfer Center and community service both on campus and through his church.

In the fall, Riebs will continue his education at UCLA with an eye on completing Harvard Law School by 2013. "I intend to use my extensive knowledge of languages and different cultures to work for a law firm with international reach, or for a major international corporation as in-house counsel," he said.

"Many students attend college to get a degree," said David Halahmy, chair of the History Department at Cypress College. "Thomas attends college to earn an education. He truly loves to learn. I have no doubt that a generation from now, when people ask Thomas where he went to college and he replies Cypress College, our reputation as an institution of education will be greatly enhanced."



Thomas Riebs

Foundation Secures \$10,000 Donation

The Cypress College Foundation's new Special Gifts Initiative received a wonderful boost on Monday, when a \$10,000 donation was secured from a friend of long-time Foundation Board member Irv Pickler.

"This is an excellent start to the campaign," said Dr. Kasler. "It is the result of continued efforts of Raul Alvarez, our Foundation Executive Director, and the persistence of our supportive Foundation Board members, especially Irv Pickler,"

Golfer is State Champ; Softball in Championship Tourney and Baseball in Supers

Freshman David Min bested 59 other golfers on Monday, shooting a three-under par to become the 2008 Individual State Champion. On the whole, Cypress finished, fourth in the eight-team competition. Min becomes Cypress's second individual golfer to win a state championship.

Sophomore Raj Samra finished out his Cypress career tied

Story continues on next page

CHARGERS

Continued from previous page

for third in the individual results, where he lost the tie-breaker and finished fourth overall. Samra was honored as an All-State selection.



The softball team held off a late comeback attempt on Mother's Day to move on to their seventh straight State Championship tournament. The Chargers now move on to the State Championship tournament, along with seven of the best softball programs in the state.

With the victory, Cypress improved to 51-2 on the season. The Chargers will take on the fourth seed from the North Region, Shasta, to start the tournament. The Chargers begin their quest for their sixth state championship Friday at 2 p.m. at Orange Terrace Park in Riverside.



After dropping the opening game of the playoffs, the baseball team won consecutive games on Saturday against Canyons to move on to the Super Regionals. With the victories, Cypress improved to 29-17. The Chargers will head to Cuesta this weekend, where they will play a double-elimination tournament for the right to move on to the California final four.

Sheila Carlon, a 1985 Health Information Grad, is Alumna of the Year

Sheila Carlon has parlayed her community college education into a Ph.D. and a faculty position at Regis College, in Denver Colorado, where she is currently the Program Director and an Associate Professor in the Health Services Administration and Management Program.



Sheila Carlon

Carlon attended Cypress College from 1983-1985, earning an associate's degree after completing the Medical Record Technology Program.

By then, she had already worked as an administrative assistant for a number of years, as well as being a part-time ski instructor, a part-time paramedic and a substitute news anchor and reporter for KOA, Channel 4 in Denver.

With two associate's degrees, Carlon went on to earn bachelor's degrees from Metropolitan State College in Denver and St. John's University in Collegeville, Minnesota. She earned her master's from San Jose State and her doctorate from Fielding

Institute.

Carlon has a long list of community and professional service activities, including work with the Salvation Army's Disaster Preparedness/Response Team and serving as the coordinator of the Quarters for Kids Campaign. She is also a member of the Board for Arapahoe and Red Rocks community colleges, and Metropolitan State College. She is also a volunteer ombudsman for long-term-care facilities through the Denver Regional Council of Governments and a volunteer at the Ronald McDonald House.

In 2006, she was the American Health Information Management Association's Triumph Award for Educator recipient. The national award recognizes those who have made an impact in the Health Information Management profession, and is presented to a person who demonstrates excellence in preparing the next generation of professionals for their HIM careers.

When she's not teaching, Carlon enjoys traveling, riding her horses, playing tennis, skiing and bicycle riding.

Del Taco President Shirlene Lopez is Keynote Speaker at Commencement

Del Taco's Shirlene Lopez is dispelling all sorts of statistics about the number of times people change jobs in their careers. The number usually ranges between 7 and 10, but don't tell that to Lopez, who has worked only one place in her 29-year career: Del Taco. She joined Del Taco one day after her 14th birthday, beginning her career mopping floors and wiping tables — the only job she was legally allowed to do at that age.

In October 2006, Lopez was named president of the Orange County-based company and now oversees Del Taco's 500-plus restaurants and more than 16,000 employees. In between mopping floors and running the entire \$550 million company, Lopez moved steadily up the corporate ladder. Within four years after joining Del Taco, Lopez was a restaurant general manager and by age 20, she was a training manager and part of the new store opening team. In 1989, Lopez became human resources manager for the company and later she handled special projects including store remodeling, corporate office relocation and other brand-wide initiatives.

In 2002, Lopez became executive vice president, operations services where she oversaw all operations, training and human resources. Since the acquisition of Del Taco by Sagittarius Brands last year, Lopez has served as overall brand leader for the chain.

Lopez is an understated leader with a playful personality. More than anything, she knows the restaurant business — what works and what doesn't and why not. Her focus on the customer experience has helped shape the Del Taco culture both at the corporate office and in the restaurants where Lopez enjoys spending most of her time. In fact, Lopez is known throughout the Del Taco chain for starting her restaurant visits with a march straight to the kitchen to test the beans. Still her favorite item after all this time, Lopez is proud of the fact that each Del Taco restaurant still makes the lard-free beans from scratch and cooked for three hours.

BRIEFLY

The Engineering and Physics Club was named the "Club of the Year" by the A.S. Inter-Club Council. Led by EPC president, David Glover and the club's Faculty Advisor, Brinda Subramaniam, EPC grew from a new club with a few members at the start of the school year into the most active club on campus, according to the ICC. Throughout the school year, members of the EPC have been involved in countless extracurricular activities, such as a monthly EPC bowling team called the "Atomic Hammers." In addition to this, members have been exposed to beneficial experiences, which include campus tours to four-year engineering schools in Southern California and numerous technology seminars and CalTech and the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena.

The EPC has also made it a point to give back to the community they live in and have done so through various community service activities including beach clean-ups and charity walks to benefit cancer research. EPC members say the accomplishment they are most proud of is the creation of a physics study community called Delta Omega Tau, which meets weekly. The success of DOT and the EPC have resulted in higher grades for participating students.

@Cypres
Online



Web Redesign Update

A number of groups on campus had the opportunity late in the semester to hear a presentation about the upcoming launch of the Cypress-College.edu website.

The presentations were made by Rick Rams, Dean of Student Support Services, who is heading the project, and by Marc Posner, a member of the Web Team.

To help a wider audience understand the issues and to offer a first look at the site, we've attached a version of the presentation that was made.

Of course, the live version of the presentation can be scheduled by asking your manager/dean to schedule a presentation by contacting Rams.

[Click here to begin the presentation.](#)

Next steps:

- (1) The Web Team is excited to share a special 'sneak peek' of the forthcoming release of the new CC website. A full release of the site is targeted for August 2008. Look for the 'sneak peek' address in your campus e-mail before graduation.
- (2) The Web Team and Academic Computing are diligently working with the vendor on server-speed issues.
- (3) The Web Migration and Creative Team are working to get images, current content and information posted to the site with the hopes of a comprehensive release in early Fall 2008.
- (4) This is a work in process. The Web Team will create a process for you to report your feedback, thoughts, concerns in early Fall. The goal is to continually improve the site. The Web Team believes that even the 'sneak peek' version of the site represents a massive improvement.



Dear Colleagues:

The Governor is now delivering his May Revision. Below are some of the highlights affecting the community colleges. I will provide a more detailed update later, after we have had a chance to review the fine print.

Overview

The Governor proposes raising \$15.2 billion through borrowing against future State Lottery revenues. A ballot measure will be required to accomplish this objective. He proposes using these additional revenues to address the state's fiscal imbalance over the next three years.

The Governor proposes fully funding Proposition 98 in 2008-09, as opposed to suspending Proposition 98 as he had proposed in January.

Current Year (2007-08)

- The May Revision proposes an augmentation of approximately \$69 million to partially backfill the current-year property tax shortfall. In addition, about \$6 million in other technical adjustments is available to address the shortfall. Taken together, this would address approximately \$75 million of the \$92 million current-year shortfall.

Budget Year (2008-09)

The May Revision proposes the following changes to the 2008-09 budget:

- An augmentation of \$138.7 million, reflecting a downward adjustment in estimated property tax revenues for 2008-09.
- An increase of \$35.5 million for enrollment growth, bringing the total growth funding in the budget year to \$95.5 million (1.67 percent).
- An increase of \$572,000 to restore the reduction proposed in the Governor's Budget to the Foster Care Training program which will preserve approximately \$700,000 of federal matching funds for training foster parents.
- Provisional budget bill language is proposed to provide districts flexibility to transfer funds between categorical programs in two programmatic areas.

More later,

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