



GROSSMONT
COLLEGE

THE

SERVING THE GROSSMONT COLLEGE COMMUNITY

SUMMIT

Therapy when times get
'Ruff' See page 2.

ESL students compare
cultures Page 6.

Thursday May 26, 2011

Catch us online at www.GCSummit.com

Vol. 34 Issue 4



Rejoice! The End is Near!

Commencement exercises
set for 5:30 p.m., June 1
-See Page 8

Photo: Robert Sanchez

Dogs can soothe when student life is ‘ruff’

By Russ Lindquist

GROSSMONT COLLEGE—Years ago, the mother of Nadra Farina-Hess was hospitalized.

Farina-Hess, one of Grossmont’s librarians, would bring her dog with her to visit her mom. After, having been delighted by the positive response from her mom and other patients, Farina-Hess began to research about the use of therapy dogs as catalysts for stress relief.

She said that, along with her discoveries as to the benefits of therapy dogs, they are increasingly employed in high-stress situations. Many are utilized at higher-learning institutions, including Tufts University in Massachusetts, Oberlin College in Ohio, Yale Law Library, and even our neighbors at UC San Diego.

Farina-Hess is presently working to coordinate the use of therapy dogs, here on campus, with both the Office Professional Training (OPT) program, and Occupational Therapy Program (OTP). The former students would receive the typical therapy from the dogs, whereas the latter students would shadow the therapy dogs as the dogs work, thereby learning – first-hand – the healing effects of therapy dogs.

Some of the effects of therapy dogs on patients, according to Farina-Hess, include the following: decreased heart rate and blood pressure, mental stimulation, feelings of acceptance and good rapport,



Above: Shaun Pursglobe and children play with one of the therapy dogs (Photo: Robert Sanchez). Below: Joan Powell (left) sit with her dogs between petters (Photo: Russ Lindquist).



outward focus, opportunities for empathy and nurturing, increased motivation, entertainment, and socialization.

Dogs will occasionally become, themselves, a bit over-stressed from all the attention, said Farina-Hess. She went on to explain that each person who accompanies a therapy dog is highly sensitive to the dog and will give an over-stressed dog as much time off as necessary for the dog to be rejuvenated.

Each therapy dog, said Farina-Hess, receives extensive training, and must pass an American Kennel Club “Canine Good Citizen Test.” Moreover, each dog is covered with one million dollars worth

of liability insurance.

Shirley Colman is the founder of Independent Therapy Dogs, whom Farina-Hess contacted about providing dogs for the event. Coleman “coordinated the therapy dogs and their handlers, all of whom volunteer their time,” said Farina-Hess.

In total, 55 faculty, staff and students relaxed with a Therapy Dog, when they visited campus, on Tuesday, May 17.

Lindquist is Managing Editor of the GC Summit

Grossmont hires student activities director

By Earnest Carter

GROSSMONT COLLEGE--Sara Glasgow has been hired as Grossmont College's new director of student activities. She assumed her new duties on May 2.

Glasgow comes to Grossmont from San Bernardino Valley College, where she was a Student Activities/Campus Center Specialist. The law school graduate

(Gosaga University) had previously worked for a variety of nonprofit organizations, including the Make-A-Wish Foundation, well-known for granting special wishes for terminally-ill children.

Glasgow will advise the Inter-Club Council to foster student involvement and leadership on campus. In an interview, Glasgow stated

that her primary responsibility was "getting students really involved and excited about being at Grossmont."

As a campus newcomer, she currently is "in a phase of just observing and listening, hearing from students what they want," before undertaking new initiatives or projects. To that end, she encourages students to stop drop her an

email (sara.glasgow@gcccd.edu) or stop by her office (Building 36 Room 349). Her office hours are 12 to 9 pm Monday-Thursday and 8-5 on Fridays (summer office hours are 10-9 Monday-Thursday only).

A video interview with Glasgow can be viewed online at www.gcsummit.com, keyword "Glasgow."

Russ Lindquist named as next Summit editor

-Staff Report-

GROSSMONT COLLEGE--Russell Lindquist, currently managing editor of the GC Summit, has been named editor-in-chief for the summer and Fall 2011 semester, it was announced by Instructor Donald H. Harrison.

During the current semester, Lindquist was part of the campus newspaper's leadership team that had been assembled under the editorship of William Dudley, who holds a bachelor's degree and had worked as a textbook editor before coming to Grossmont to brush up on journalistic skills.

"Lindquist has shown himself to be an excellent reporter, who can spot and develop news and feature stories as they are happening," Harrison said. "He has a way of getting right to the heart of a story—a skill that he will be able to pass to other students in his new role." Additionally, said Harrison, Lindquist has demonstrated a skill in copy editing, and in newspaper and web layout." Harrison also

Continued on page 4



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THE SUMMIT

A publication of Grossmont College's MCOM 132 class
Thursday May 26, 2011
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Final thoughts from an outgoing editor



By William Dudley

GROSSMONT COLLEGE--

Well, this is it, the *final* (pardon the expression) *Summit* of this term. Thoughts, Bill, what are your final profound thoughts on this occasion?

I would like to express my sincere thanks to all the people involved in putting this together, including managing editor and incoming editor-in-chief Russ Lindquist (see article on page 3), my staff members/fellow MediaComm students, the award-winning Robert Sanchez (see page 2 and page 10) who made time from his many other projects to do photography for us this past year, and other contributors, including Grossmont's own photographer of every occasion, Stephen Harvey.

Also deserving of credit for this past year are Holly Phan and the Printing department, William Snead and Media Communications department, and the *Summit's* faculty instructor, the very experienced Donald Harrison. Did you know he is Jewish? (See page 5) and speaks in numerous accents? and likes to make puns? (See

headlines on any given page, except mine on the cover.) And he has his own online newspaper (See www.sdjewishworld.com)

But enough about the past. What lies ahead in the future?

If anyone knows what is in my future, please let me know. But as to the *Summit*, I do have my concerns, notwithstanding the best efforts of Don and Russ. We need more people to enroll in the class. We especially need MComm majors. Seriously, if you are interested in a career in media, communications, or public relations then this should be a no-brainer. And even if you never thought of yourself as a journalist or writer, why not give it a try?

We need professors and counselors to encourage students to consider this class.

The overall picture I get of Grossmont is one of very busy--extremely busy--overcommitted individuals, scrambling as best they can to get knowledge. For some, the primary purpose is simply learning. For many others, the point is to get the magic components--a degree, athletic exposure, certificate, academic credits, portfolio--to move on to bigger schools and bigger things. Everyone is

rushing to get somewhere, or rushing while trying to figure out the somewhere they want to go.

Another of my observations is that Grossmont College is not one community, but many communities. There are different academic departments, each with its own activities (and budget dilemmas); there are different groups within the student body--the athletes, the ESL and foreign students, the photographers, musicians, culinary students, video gamers, nursing students and health sciences majors.

Each group--heck, each individual--has a potential story to tell. The pride I have in what we've accomplished is linked with this nagging feeling that we've missed numerous interesting stories somewhere.

And that is what I think the *Summit* potentially could be--a cultivating ground for common community, a place where people can learn about what others are doing. Perhaps it would inspire them to reach out beyond their immediate circle.

Anyway, enjoy the issue. Peruse our web site at www.gccsummit.com

And think about taking the Media Comm 132 class.

Lindquist named as next Summit editor...

Continued from page 3

had high praise for Dudley, who oversaw the production of four issues of 'The Summit' magazine this semester in addition to adding stories on an almost daily basis to the www.gccsummit.com website.

"Bill has started what I hope will be a tradition on the GC Summit--serving as an editor who not only administers the paper, but who also gets right

out there and covers stories of every variety, setting a good example by his diligence." Media Comm 132 is a three-unit class that will meet during the Fall semester at 11 a.m. MTWTh.

The Monday class will be for one hour only, whereas the class will meet for two hours on each of the other three days. "We purposely scheduled it over the noon hour because that is when many campus events

occur," said Harrison. "Students will be able to cover those events during class time." The newspaper and website have opportunities for students desiring to learn news reporting and writing, photo journalism, video journalism and audio journalism. If you are interested in learning any of these skills, you can register directly in Media Comm 132, or contact Harrison at donald.harrison@gcccd.edu

Christians meet for fellowship on campus

Story and photo
by Russ Lindquist

GROSSMONT COLLEGE--A handful of Christians gathered under a tree near the 500 Buildings on Thursday, May 12 for informal religious study.

Their discussion focused on a lesson that equated Jesus to a gardener, faith to a seed and personal priorities to dirt, the idea seeming to be that Jesus sets a foundation for a person's faith but that, by good priorities or lack thereof, the person will optimize or squander the seed of faith. To attract people to the

meeting, organizers approached students asking whether they would like to participate in a lesson about Christian ideas. Glenn Cruz, the unofficial leader of the event, encouraged participants to read passages from the Christian Bible and then to reflect on them.

Among the questions raised for discussion was, "What are some ways that the world around us can cause problems for our [priorities]?" One woman responded that her "family members" might appeal to her sentimentality as an excuse for being a bad



Christian students join for fellowship on campus.

influence on her. An example, so far as I understood her, would be if her sister were to invite her to a bar for a drink, cajoling: C'mon, I'm your

sister. Come drink with me!"

Lindquist is managing editor of the Summit

Arabic club hosts end-of-semester festivities

GROSSMONT COLLEGE--The Arabic Club hosted an event focused on food, fun and education, in the main quad, May 18.

Of the event, Deana Hourani, the club's chef and marketer, and one of the coordinators of the event, said the following: "Every semester the Arabic club of Grossmont

College organizes and plans an event to increase student knowledge about Arab and Middle Eastern culture. This semester we decided to bring food from a couple Arab countries.

"We had a table for Iraq, Egypt, Morocco, and Lebanon. Every table incorporated... certain food from

that country. We also had Arabic music and [an educational game show] that asked students to [answer] questions about [Arabic culture,] ranging from geography, to history, to famous cities.

"The Arabic club continues to be a bridge between the Arab culture and western culture. The overall goal is to educate

the non-Arab students about Arab culture and traditions. We feel this is an enriching experience for all people."

The Arabic club had previously hosted a "teach-in" seminar on political and social upheavals in the Middle East and North Africa.

--Russ Lindquist

Instructor weighs formation of Jewish Student Union

-Staff Report-

GROSSMONT COLLEGE -- Is there sufficient student interest to warrant forming a Jewish Student Union on this campus?

Media Communications 132 Instructor Donald H. Harrison, whose faculty responsibilities include overseeing the production of the *GC Summit*, wants to assess that question prior to next semester when the club would start up.

Harrison requests any student interested in participating in on-campus Jewish cultural activities, beginning next Fall, to please contact him at donald.harrison@gcccd.edu

Besides teaching here, Harrison serves as editor and publisher of the online publication, *San Diego Jewish World* (www.sdjewishworld.com) and has extensive contacts within the local Jewish community.

He also is the author of the

biography, *Louis Rose: San Diego's First Jewish Settler and Entrepreneur*.

"I'd envision the club sponsoring a variety of on-campus cultural activities to help de-mystify Jewish people to other segments of the campus population," Harrison said.

"Perhaps if other religious and ethnic student clubs are interested, we also could engage in dialogue to explore our common interests." He said

there is a Jewish concept called "tikkun olam," which literally means "repair of the world." The belief is that we all have the responsibility to help make the world a better place not only for ourselves, but for our neighbors.

"Perhaps," said Harrison, "members of the Jewish Student Union would decide to participate in tikkun olam projects."

Special feature: Essays by Grossmont ESL Students



ESL students (from left) Nafih Sabagh, Maria Rodriguez, Bajhat Yalda, Ha Nguyen, Hiba Wadeaa, Amal Albarwary and Debora Cardenas. Photo: Mimi Pollack

Editor's Note: Over the past several weeks, the Grossmont Summit website has been featuring essays written by students in English as a

Second vLanguage that examine and compare American and foreign cultural values and customs. Three women's essays, on the relationships

between men and women, are presented below. They provide a small but revealing window into the globally diverse community that is Grossmont

College. More essays by the ESL program, can be found online at www.gcsommit.com Keyword "ESL."

Women's rights in Vietnam lag behind U.S.

By Ha Nguyen



GROSSMONT COLLEGE — In recent years, Vietnam has changed into a great economy and society. The role of women in the family and in society has been enhanced.

Many women have become leaders of big companies as well as holding important positions in the government.

However, an attitude still exists among many generations in Vietnamese society that women still have to handle all the housework. I appreciate the cultural values of my national traditions, but I do not like this attitude for three reasons.

First, women have no opportunities for advancement at work. Second, women have no time to rest or relax. Finally, men gradually become irresponsible, apathetic, and indifferent to

their loved ones.

In Vietnam, especially in cities, besides eight hours of working in the office or the companies, women have to take care of buying groceries, cooking, cleaning, washing clothes and child care. The housework takes up all their time, so they no longer have enough free time for reading, studying, or researching issues related to their job. At the university in Vietnam, older women are really rare because

they do not have time. I know a woman whose name is Thanh.

She directs a company that provides high-level personnel in Vietnam. Thanh is a highly educated woman. She had at least four opportunities to go to foreign companies to cultivate business in the United States and Australia...but she could not go because no one could take care of her children as well as handle her housework.

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Two types of marriages common in Iraq

By Hiba Wadeaa



GROSSMONT COLLEGE—Each country has his own cultural

traditions, and we may agree or disagree with these traditions. There are differences in the cultural behavior of the countries, such as in one country this behavior is accept-

able, and in another country it is not. My country like any country has some cultural traditions that I like or dislike. Two of these traditions that I dislike are about marriage, and the relationships among Iraqi families.

The tradition of marriage is different from one country to another. In Iraq, and especially

in my culture which belongs to the north of Iraq in Mousel, most of our marriages are arranged by our families or some relatives or friends.

When a guy wants to marry a girl, he has to do many things before he can marry her and this takes a long time and some times results in the end of the engagement due to problems

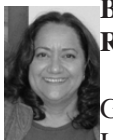
that might happen.

First, he has to ask for her hand; then, he has to go again with his parents and some relatives to ask for her hand again from her uncles and aunts; then, the two families plan for the engagement party. After that, all the relatives have to invite both of them

Continued on page 13

Mexican wedding customs changed over time

By Maria Rodriguez



GROSSMONT COLLEGE — In Mexico, at the time of my grandparents, forms of courtship and dating in

small towns were very different than they are now. My grandmother said that dating was not always for love. Unions were often made for convenience, to enlarge property, to perpetuate a last name or to climb the social-

ladder. Only on very rare occasions these unions were about the feelings of the boyfriend or the girlfriend. I believe that those customs did not take into account the opinion of women, who were judged in a very strict

way, but on the other hand, when the courtship went well, there were a few fun traditions. One custom was "stealing women" and the other custom was to "escape" with the boyfriend. My

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Staff profile: Holly Phan, printing supervisor

By Russell Lindquist

GROSSMONT COLLEGE--Ho Chi Minh City (formerly Saigon) is a long way from Grossmont's printing department. Yet Holly Phan's life-journey has taken her from one to the other.

Born in Saigon as Holly Doan, Phan immigrated to the United States as a 17-year-old with her father, mother and brother in 1992, graduated from Hoover High School in San Diego,

then went to Grossmont and thereafter to SDSU.

Her father, a former captain in the Army of the Republic of Vietnam, was among many Vietnamese allies who accepted an offer from the U.S. government to come live in the United States.

In 2000, Phan received her B.S. in Computer Science and then, in 2001, accepted a job in Grossmont's printing department. She was promoted in 2006, and then was made acting supervisor in 2007. This year, she was officially



Holly Phan

named supervisor of the printing department.

She married her husband, Isaiah Phan, in 2001, and

they have two daughters, 7-year-old Desiree and 17-month-old Daisey. Among the challenges that Phan sees in her role as printing supervisor is to navigate the budget-cuts. "With current and potential future budget cuts, this will be the biggest challenge for me [and] I believe that, together as a team, we can manage to work with the college, faculty and staff to maintain excellent services and keep in sync with the vision of the college."

Lindquist is managing editor of the GC Summit

Campus vendors support student activities

By Corey Streeper

GROSSMONT COLLEGE--Occasionally the Main Quad on campus seems like a commercial bazaar, with vendors from off campus selling their wares. They sell anything from jewelry and clothing to trinkets and posters.

I went down on Thursday, May 19, to see what it takes to be able to be a vender on campus. When I showed up there were many students perusing the stacks of posters that were available for purchase. Rick, the vendor who didn't want to tell his last name, was sitting in a chair by a table, where he

kept records of purchases. He told me that he sells posters on all of the college campuses in San Diego although he prefers to sell at the universities as the students there tend to spend more.

I asked what kind of approval he needs to be able to set up his product. He replied that he must get a permit from the student association and it costs 20% of his revenue.

This sparked an interest in me. What does this 20% percent permit cost add up to? How does the school use the funds? And finally, can anyone sell items on Grossmont campus or do the items have to be an approved product?

At the Student Activities Office, I spoke to Irene Bauza, a senior account technician. "The vendors on campus fill out a business application, which is reviewed by the Associate Dean of Student Affairs," she

said. The proceeds go to the Inter Clubs Council to be used for such things as sanitation classes each semester; a class that is required for students and other individuals on campus before they may be involved in any food handling activities.

In addition, clubs that do their own fundraising can request up to \$200 in matching funds from the ICC to help pay for the cost of events. Clubs that travel to state and regional conferences can request up to \$400 from ICC to cover travel costs for their advisor.

"Vendors who sell items on campus will bring a copy of all daily receipts to our office, and they donate 20% of their total sales to the Inter Clubs Council," Bauza said. Banks, credit unions and other vendors that are only promoting a

business will pay a flat rate of \$100 per day."

Although construction on campus has taken away some vendor space this year Bauza stated that "the income from vendor sales has been dropping off in the past several years anyway." For the academic year 2010-2011, the ICC has received approximately \$3,400.00.

That's not much money but it is definitely a step towards providing at least some relief especially in a time when community colleges are facing one of the most severe budget crunches in California history.

Streeper is a student in MComm 132.

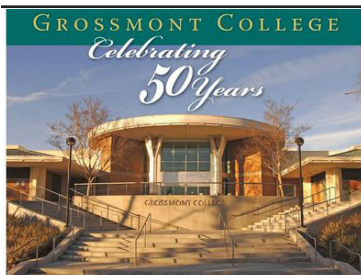


Photo history marking Grossmont's 50th anniversary is on sale for 19.61 (get it?) at the campus bookstore.

Commencement: many reasons for hope



Will it be here or there? School officials say that graduation ceremonies will be conducted in the Main Quad or on the second level of the parking structure, depending on whether it rains on June 1st. Alyssa (pictured) is hoping for sunshine. Photos: William Dudley

By William Dudley

GROSSMONT COLLEGE--



The 50th Annual Commencement Ceremony is scheduled to take place on June 1, at 5:30 p.m. in the Main Quad, unless it is raining, in which case the ceremony will be held on the middle level of Grossmont's parking structure.

Let's hope for sunny weather.

About 4,000 people are expected to attend the festivities, which will honor all Grossmont students who have met the requirements for an Associate's Degree and/or Certificate of Achievement (Grossmont estimates that number to be 1500).

Students had until March 18 to apply at the Admissions and Records (A&R) Office to ascertain whether their academic record qualified them for a degree or certificate. There was an appeal process available for students who did not meet the deadline.

Students are being encouraged by Grossmont's Student Affairs Office to invite family members

and friends to attend the festivities, and to get their "caps, gowns, tassels, personalized invitations and commencement merchandise" at the campus bookstore.

Let's hope that the commencement merchandise isn't too expensive.

The keynote speaker will be Christina Csanadi Deckard, who attended Grossmont College in 1979 and 1980 after graduating from Granite Hills High School in 1978.

After being rebuffed from four-year universities from enrolling in physics classes, she became the only female physics student at Grossmont.

She went on to transfer and earn a bachelor's degree and two master's degrees at San Diego State University. She taught math and science at Grossmont from 1989 to 1998.

Deckard is currently an internationally-recognized laser expert and a senior scientist at the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center Pacific in San Diego.

Speaking for the students will be Timothy Snowball, who will receive associate degrees in Political Science and University Studies.

Mental health issues prevented Snowball from graduating high school, but in 2008 at age 25 he

applied to Grossmont and took a political science class. "Before Grossmont, I did not even know that Political Science was a college major," he said.

"I quickly discovered that not only was I capable of being a student, I was actually quite good at it. My entire perception of school was changed forever."

Snowball's GPA earned him spots on both the President's and Vice President's Lists and a membership in Phi Theta Kappa, an academic honors society.

Let's hope the speeches are inspirational.

There will also be five other special alumni guests – one representing each of Grossmont's first five decades.

Grossmont president Sunita Cooke has announced that the "wall of honor" will be back by popular demand. In this ceremony, "faculty and administrators line the walkway as graduates exit toward an ASGC-sponsored reception area near the Health and Science complex." There will be photo opportunities there as well.

Let's hope to see you there.



Last year's graduates prepare. Photo: Stephen Harvey.



Leadership

One quality of leadership is a willingness to s-t-r-e-t-c-h yourself, as President Sunita Cooke seems to be demonstrating while awarding Counseling and Assessment Supervisor Tammy Huston the President's leadership award at 12th annual recognition and awards ceremony. Photo: Stephen Harvey

Career conference ponders future for students

Story by Russell Lindquist,
Photos by June Bayha

GROSSMONT COLLEGE—What future lies ahead for Grossmont students, many of whom are at this college for job or career training. Nancy Davis, supervisor of student development services, recently headed a summit on campus to connect career counselors with business leaders and economists to discuss the present and future job market in San Diego.

Steve Hoey, a program manager for ConnectSanDiego, spoke optimistically on San Diego's job market prospects, arguing that many companies here now focus on ways to outsource locally, rather than nationally or internationally. Also, he said that tech jobs

(of which San Diego has plenty) endure well through tough times. According to estimates presented by Hoey, local services will account for 772,600 jobs (62%) of the economy of San Diego for the upcoming year, while defense-related jobs will comprise 142,000 jobs (12%) followed by technological innovation and manufacturing (137,700 jobs, 11%) and research (35,000, 3%).

The two coasts have shifted

the proportions of military jobs, he said. In the past, the East Coast had one and a half times as many jobs as the West Coast. Now the percentages are reversed, which he says should add 18 billion dollars to San Diego's economy.

Students prepared for a career in engineering will – as usual – be highly sought. Hoey estimated that there is a shortfall of engineers – “5,000 to 10,000 are needed today.” Software engineers, he said, account for

at least one third of San Diego's need for engineers. According to Hoey, engineering majors have an average of four job offers upon graduation.

When asked by Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District Chancellor Cindy Miles for possible reasons why San Diego has been hit so hard by economic recession, Hoey replied that San Diego is home to many “seed-stage,” early-stage companies, further stating that such companies tend to lose-out disproportionately from roll backs by venture capitalists. However, Hoey said, such losses can be mitigated by government grants as well as by strategic partnerships with other up-and-coming companies.



(from left) GC Students and Career Center workers Michael Okoye, Elizabeth Barea, Christian Ramos, Stephen Dailing helped with the conference.

Lindquist is Managing Editor of the GC Summit.

College districts press for state-tax extension

GROSSMONT COLLEGE (Press Release) – Community college leaders in San Diego and Imperial counties have called for support of Gov. Jerry Brown's recently revised budget, saying that tax extensions proposed by Brown are necessary.

Administrators with the six community college districts and students who spoke at a news conference at Grossmont College urged legislators and California voters to support funding for the system that educates about 300,000 students each year. Constance M. Carroll, chancellor of the San Diego Community

College District, said state funding to the six districts has been cut by \$73 million in the past two years, resulting in the elimination of 3,300 courses and turning away tens of thousands of students who haven't been able to get the classes they need.

Although Brown's revised budget issued May 16 restores some funding to the state's community colleges, due to larger than expected tax revenues of \$6.6 billion and the \$10 per unit increase in student fees, the tax extensions that must be placed on the ballot are critical because the additional revenues

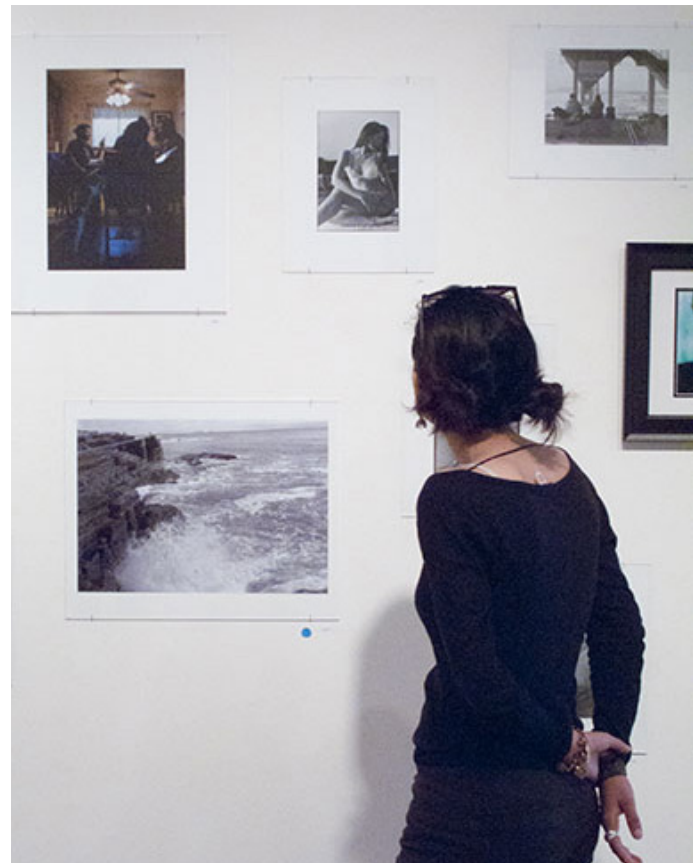
aren't sufficient to close a state budget deficit estimated at \$15 billion.

Cindy L. Miles, chancellor of the Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District, said further funding cuts would devastate campuses already hard hit by a \$15 million reduction in the past two years. The district stands to lose another \$8.1 million this year while struggling to meet the highest demands in the history of its two colleges, Grossmont College in El Cajon and Cuyamaca College in Rancho San Diego. The district has been forced to

cut nearly 800 course offerings, meaning that 5,000 students will be turned away this summer and in the 2011-2012 school year, Miles said. With further funding cuts, the district would receive \$12.9 million less from the state, increasing the class section cuts to 1,000 and turning away as many as 8,000 students. Further cuts “would be nothing short of an educational Armageddon for our institutions, our students and the community,” she said.

Preceding provided by the Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District

Student exhibit intrigues at the Hyde Art Gallery



Students Emily Geraci (left) and Vanessa Alcavar peruse Hyde Art Gallery photo and ceramic exhibits. Photos: Robert Sanchez.

By Leon Goodrum

GROSSMONT COLLEGE—I had the pleasure of viewing the “Grossmont College Art Student Exhibition 2011”, a collection of student works submitted by instructors. Ceramics, drawing, jewelry, photography, digital media, furniture were among the categories represented.

I found the gallery a delight and the selected pieces showcased

wonderful art otherwise not accessible to the public.

Some of my own personal favorites include a photo titled “The Gardener” (11-183) which features a grandmother tending her lawn.

The vivid color is warm and calming while the balance was easy on the eyes.

Another piece that immediately

caught my eye was “Animal #3” (11-92) a wonderfully done ceramic sculpture protruding from the wall with a scowling turquoise wolf atop a man’s head.

The color choice was what initially caught my attention, something visually pleasing about the salmon-colored man and the dominating turquoise wolf.

The exhibition featured nearly 300 works and all are great pieces in their own right.

Roy Adzak, sculptor and photographer, once said, “Good art is not what it looks like, but what it does to us.” Be sure to head down to the Hyde Gallery and see how the pieces affect you.

Goodrum is Entertainment Editor of the GC Summit



The student art exhibit included over 300 pieces, representing, according to curator Ben Aubert, “the best work of the students over the last two semesters.” Photo: Stephen Harvey

Slam poet Roger Bonair-Agard enlivens Arts festival



Bonair-Agard

**Story and photo
by Taylor Harris**

GROSSMONT
COLLEGE— Slam Poet
Roger Bonair-Agard graced

Grossmont Community
College on Thursday, May 5,
to wrap up the 15th Annual
Literary Arts Festival.
Bonair-Agard wasn't
originally on the agenda for

the Literary Arts Festival
but at the last minute he
was able to fill Patricia
Smith's spot and I don't
think anyone could have
done a better job.

Twice National Poetry
Slam Champion, Bonair-
Agard opened his
performance to a full
Room 220 audience by
reading Patricia Smith's
works from her book
Blood Dazzler then he
followed with his own
works, some from his book
Gully.

During his performance
he was engaging with the
audience, he was personable,

and he had a terrific sense of
humor. He wrapped up the
night with a question and
answer segment that led to
insight and laughter. It was
a great way to punctuate
the events of the two-week
celebration of words.

In an interview with Sydney
Brown, an English professor
and event organizer, and
other highlights from the
festival.

Interested reader can go
to the *GC Summit* website
for video coverage of the
festival.

*Harris is a student in MediaComm
132*

Henry Jordan's spirited farewell to Grossmont

By Corey Streeper

GROSSMONT COLLEGE
— *Blithe Spirit* was Professor
Henry Jordan's farewell play
with Grossmont College. He has
decided to retire after 22 years on
our campus and after having di-
rected more than 44 plays. Jordan
let the curtain fall laughing with

this Noel Coward play. Written in
1941 to lighten the mood during
World War II, it is considered an
improbable farce.

The plot is about a middle-aged
writer, Charles Condomine
(Daniel Ludwig) who invites
a medium (Kate Hewitt) to his
home to perform a séance. From
the moment she enters the home,



hilarity en-
sues. She
conjugates
the spirit
of his dead
wife,
Elvira (Erin
Burke)
who
spends the
rest of the

play very comically torturing
his second wife (Lisa Brindley)
and making her best attempts to
kill him. This play was a laugh
riot from start to finish and kept
show-goers enthralled until the
curtain call.

*Streeper is a student in Media-
Comm132*

OPT program raises money at Souplantation

By Alexis Tittle

LA MESA, California
—With school funding
declining, many programs,
including Office
Professional Training
(OPT) at Grossmont,
hold fundraisers at local
restaurants to assist in
their needs.

At Souplantation in La
Mesa on Thursday, OPT
added funds to its program

coffers. The deal was that
the restaurant donated to
the OPT 15% of customer-
designated sales including
dinner and a drink.

To incentivize supporters
to participate in the
Souplantation fundraiser,
OPT gave away gift
baskets. In its continuing
campaign, OPT held a
fundraising walk On April
30. Now it is calling
on supporters to go to

Goodsearch.com and
search for Grossmont
College. Whenever people
search, a penny is donated
to OPT.

The OPT program is a
one-semester course for
office professionals that
specialize in accounting,
insurance, banking
financial services and
office administrative
support.

The training program last
17 weeks and students
are enrolled in 12-20
units of college credit.
All students take courses
in keyboarding, office
procedures, effective job
search, business English
communication, Microsoft
Word and Microsoft Excel.

*Tittle is a student in
MediaComm132*

In memory of Professor Roberto Erquiaga

GROSSMONT COLLEGE—What is it that separates a good teacher from an exceptional one? I suppose that can vary.

But what seemed to have set apart the late Spanish Prof. Roberto Erquiaga as an exceptional teacher was his absolute and obvious love of teaching.

Before having patiently guided, in Fall 2008, yet another group of first-semester Spanish students – myself included – through the absolute basics of the subject, Erquiaga had already taught Spanish for the better part of four decades, at

both Grossmont and Southwestern College.

Surely Erquiaga had plodded through the same, simple concepts hundreds of times before, with thousands of previous students, yet, Erquiaga never once seemed, to me, to consider even a single lesson or rule in Spanish 120 to be tedious, even after all his years.

He was teaching at age 87 (and died one week before turning 88). He was born in Lima, Peru on March 16, 1923 and died on March 9, 2011. --Russ Lindquist



The late Prof Roberto Erquiaga flanked, in Fall of 2008, by two of his Spanish 120 students - this reporter and Nadia Malabad.

Mexican wedding customs changed...

Continued from page 6

grandmother lived at the time of the Mexican Revolution (1910) and she mentioned that women were the subject of fights or trophies of battle. The parents hid their daughters because the soldiers were taking them.

My great-grandfather hid my grandmother and her sisters in a basement to prevent them from being stolen. After the revolution, stealing women could be with the women's consent or not. When it happened without the consent of the woman, there was not any kind of courtship. It was enough for a man to like a woman to steal her.

The parents also considered dishonoring their daughter, leaving her with only one choice, to serve and obey the man who had taken her. Stealing a woman was a power play. There was no negotiation or objection, only the resignation by the woman's family. Another option that was a little more civilized was to leave

her in a church or a respectable house of a relative and take possession of her on the wedding day.

The other custom that I have called "escaping" is different from the first one in that this is with the consent of the woman. My grandmother said that in her time, obeying our parents was a strong emotional load to bear. Women often had a big dilemma: the love of parents or her man. When a man courted a woman, there were no details that revealed the intention of the man, only gestures and meaningful encounters. When he was accepted by the woman, he also had to be accepted by the parents. This could prove difficult. The refusal by parents could be social or economic.

Many times if the boyfriend was poor and the girlfriend's parents disagreed, they took extreme measures such as the use of violence or confinement. As a result of these situations,

the couple made the decision to escape. The parents did not leave them with another option.



Gradually, the ways of dating changed. Women started to socialize and have a little more freedom, and this really began to establish love courtship. Even so, when the boyfriend was accepted by the family, he could only visit the girlfriend once or twice a week, always with the presence of a family member. The couple kept a prudent distance. They never held hands, hugged or kissed. If they did this, it was always in secret because people might badly judge them. The one who always ended up hurt was the woman.

The ways to meet a woman were interesting. One of them was when men and women went to the town plaza and walked around. Women walked in one direction and the men in the opposite direction, so that they could look at each other.

When the men wanted to know if they were accepted by the women, they used body language or signs such as winking an eye or giving a flower and if the woman returned the winking and she accepted the flower that meant that he was right. If she already had a boyfriend, she could not walk around the plaza.

I loved to hear my grandmother talk about the customs of her time. I think that it could be exciting to escape with the boyfriend or to share a secret kiss. On the other hand, being the woman that I am, I just imagined the life of a woman at that time, with no options and no freedom to decide on her future life and also without the support of her parents. I believe that they had no other option other than that of resignation and that is very sad. It must have been terrible. Anyway, that was another era, and values have changed.

Rodriguez is a student in ESL 105.

Grossmont ESL program seeks volunteers

By William Dudley

GROSSMONT COLLEGE—With seven hundred students, Grossmont College has one of the largest populations of English learners among local community colleges.

The population is divided almost equally into two categories: foreign students who came to the United States to pursue education and who will return to their home countries, and immigrants or refugees who are trying to build a new life and

new home in the United States.

Challenges in learning English can differ greatly based on the person's country of origin. For example, students from Russia have trouble with "a" and "the" — such articles do not exist in their native language. Different backgrounds and cultures have different challenges in learning English. Native Arabic speakers, on the other hand, have trouble with capitalization.

Grossmont ESL students often do not interact with people

on campus other than their classmates and instructors, according to ESL chair Chuck Passentino and ESL instructor Mimi Pollack. Both are seeking opportunities for greater interaction between Grossmont ESL students and the rest of the Grossmont community. Pollack recruits people to serve as pen pals for students.

ESL instructor Patricia Bennett has her students interview Americans about various topics for written reports. Passentino invites people from all walks of

life who are "native speakers" of English to help his students practice conversation.

Grossmont students and others interested in volunteering for English language practice could contact Passentino at chuck.passentino@gcccd.edu.

Another fun option would be to join the International Club, which hosts field trips and other joint activities for foreign and American students.

Dudley is editor in chief of the GC Summit.

Vietnamese women's rights lag...

Thanh is one of many women who have to skip a lot of opportunities for advancement at work.



Vietnam

Vietnamese people have a habit of eating fresh food.

They use very little frozen food, so women have to buy fresh groceries every day. They usually get up at 5 or 6 am to go to the market to buy food, take their children to school, and then go to work. In the afternoon, they pick up their children, go home, prepare meals for lunch, and go back to the office.

Day after day, they have no free time. Women with a tight schedule are very common in

Vietnam. They are so busy that they usually put the TV on in the kitchen or dining room to watch the news or movies during the dinner.

Most Vietnamese women cannot read books, go to the theater, or join clubs. Although, they are very tired, they still try to keep their family happy. They have been educated from a very young age that the housework is done by women. Vietnamese men rarely share, or help with housework. It's common in Vietnam to see men, before going to work, often go to the cafe.

After work, they go to restaurants to eat and drink beer with their friends or business partners. Some of them go

straight home after work; but only to read newspapers or watch TV while their wives have to prepare the dinner by themselves. Then, the husband sits at dinner table and waits for his wife to bring him food. With this attitude, Vietnamese men become irresponsible with their family. They do not care about women's misery. Therefore, the divorce rate and domestic violence in Vietnam has a tendency to increase.

I have found life in America is completely different: men can go shopping, cook, clean, and take care of children; they share the housework with their wives, and they are concerned for the spiritual life of women. American women have a voice and their own freedom. They

are not bound by stereotypes that women must do all the housework. They are protected by law.

Currently in Vietnam, the state agency is organizing the annual poll, "Women are good at work, good at home." The conception, doing housework is women's responsibility, is rooted in the consciousness of the leaders of the country. This concept is not of a few individuals; but of an entire nation. I want to break this notion by encouraging women to speak up. From there, the role of women can be improved and keeps up the momentum of women all over the world.

Nguyen is a student in ESL 103

Two types of marriages common in Iraq...

Continued from page 6

with their parents for lunch or dinner. They have to plan for the henna party. Finally, they get married. In addition, the family of the bridegroom has to do another party after the wedding party, and they have



Iraq

to buy a sheep and butcher him next to the bride. All of that is complicated and not necessary, so I dislike these traditions. The close relationships between the families are good and bad at the same time.

The families in my country are so close to each other and that is good because they love, support and help each other all the time. Also, these relations can be bad because they think that they have the right to control and manage your life and sometimes they arrange

your marriage even if you dislike the person. For example, in our culture when a girl is engaged to someone, her family has to ask the opinion of her uncles and aunts. All that is old-fashioned.

Wadeaa is a student in ESL 103

What to see this summer? 'Water for... Furious... Thor'



By Leon Goodrum

LA MESA — Summer movie season has already begun. Here are three possibilities for your post-finals viewing pleasure.

The Movie for ComicCon Fans

Thor is a film based on the Marvel comic of the same name and is the fourth film released by Marvel Cinematic Universe. Fans of the comic got wind of the film back in 2006 but, due to setbacks, the production of the film was halted until director Kenneth Branagh revived the project.

The film begins in the ancient past. We find Thor's father, Odin (Anthony Hopkins), king of Asgard, at war with Frost Giants who have set out to conquer the nine realms, Earth included. Odin defeats the Frost Giants and takes their source of power — the Casket of Ancient Winters. After this, the realms return to peace. This is where we meet our young hero Thor (Chris Hemsworth) and his young brother Loki (Tom Hiddleston), a wide-eyed dark-haired child.

Thor prepares to receive his crown when there is a disturbance in the kingdom, as the Frost Giants attempt to reclaim their stolen items. Thor, enraged by this threat, marches off to do as his father did and slay the Frost Giants. Odin, angered by his son's disobedience, strips Thor's powers and casts him out of Asgard to Earth, where he is to remain in exile until he gains the right to return to his home.

The rest of the film takes place in New Mexico where we meet the rest of the cast — Jane Frost

(Natalie Portman) her assistant Darcy (Kat Dennings) and Dr. Erik Selvig (Clark Greg) who are tracking strange events occurring in the New Mexico skies.

The night lights up and out falls Thor. Unaware of his lack of power, he attempts to flex his



muscle to no avail. Then, with Thor gone from Asgard, we find his brother Loki's true colors exposed resulting from years of jealousy and rage towards Thor. Loki plans to take the throne after the news that the king is lying comotose.

Will Thor be able to return to Asgard and reclaim his throne? Will his brother Loki, God of Lies and Mischief, usurp Thor's place?

Over all, *Thor* was very enjoyable. It has action, humor, a bit of romance, and foreshadowing of things to come. There is not much bad that I can say about the film. My one problem was that the film seemed to lose my interest when there was no action, and hints to a possible sequel were far from subtle.

The Romantic Tearjerker

Water for Elephants stars big-screen heartthrob Robert Pattinson, along with everyone's favorite blonde Reese Witherspoon. The film, based on the Sara Gruen novel by the same name, follows the forbidden romance between Marlena Rosenbluth (Witherspoon) and Jacob Jankowski (Patterson).

Jankowski is a college student in his early twenties whose world is shattered when his parents die in a violent car accident. He then discovers that his father, a local vet, has been treating animals for free as well as accumulating large debt to pay for the schooling of his son. These events force Jankowski to leave Cornell University just short of graduation to find his own way even as the United States is going through the Great Depression. He then joins a traveling circus where he meets the beautiful and married Marlena. The two embark on a dangerous love affair.

The film was an okay watch, probably best-suited for couples and those of you who like tear-jerkers. Personally I found the film's progression and conclusion to be unoriginal (it was like *Titanic* in some ways). Though Witherspoon and Patterson acted well, their joint attempt to portray an epic love story seemed forced.

The film is quite lengthy so grab your popcorn and snacks, fellas; and ladies, bring your tissues.

The Franchise Action Film

Furious Five is the fourth in the order of *The Fast and Furious* franchise. Although there are five films, the third — *Tokyo Drift* — is technically the last in the order. In 2001, when *The Fast and the Furious* was released it became an instant hit, producing several sequels including *2 fast 2 furious*, *Tokyo Drift*, and *Fast and Furious*.

Returning characters who blessed the screen in this action-packed ride included the following: Vin Diesel, Paul Walker, Tyrese Gibson and Chris "Ludacris" Bridges. With the

addition of a new cast member Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson, the cast has really been rounded out. The movie starts off after the events of the fourth film of the series, *Fast and Furious*. We find Dom Toretto (Diesel) finally caught and brought to trial for the savage beating that had occurred in the first film. Brian O'Conner (Walker), along with Dom's sister Mia (Jordana Brewster), break Dom out of custody, and the trio flee to South America.

O'Conner is now a former FBI agent, and is on the run along with Mia and Dom, chased by Luke Hobbs (Johnson) a mammoth of a man with a flawless track record of capturing fugitives.

The trio, in order to make their lives set, devise a plan to pull one last big job. Then enter a cast of wise-cracking, race-car-driving thieves, including Roman Pearce (Gibson), Tej (Ludacris), Han Lue (Sung Kang), and Vince (Matt Schulze). The film has excellent cinematography, shot on location in Brazil.

The downfall of the film is the acting (not to mention you kind of know what has to happen in the end if you follow the series). *Furious Five* is a good watch if you're a fan of the movie series, however don't expect the same amount of races and awesome cars — the film is, instead, focused on the lives of the cast and their desperate fight to stay out of jail.

Oh yeah, don't forget to catch the end credits — surprises are in store.

Goodrum is Entertainment Editor of the GC Summit

New constellations for star football players

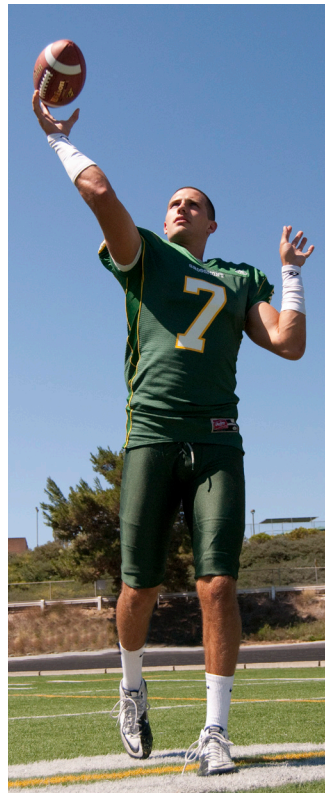
By William Dudley

GROSSMONT COLLEGE—Quarterback Ryan Woods and defensive tackle Henry Simon are among a group of players from the 2010 Grossmont football team who have accepted offers to continue their football playing at four-year institutions.

Ryan Woods will be going to San Jose State University as soon as he finishes classwork at Grossmont in June. Simon is headed to Iowa State in the summer.

Woods, the Grossmont offensive MVP and second-team all-conference, had received multiple offers from Division 2 and Division 1-AA schools, but had his heart set on playing for a Division 1 football program. At San Jose State of the Western Athletic Conference, Woods would get a chance to play the likes of Stanford, UCLA, BYU,

as well as conference opponents including Nevada, Fresno State, and Hawaii. Another factor in



Quarterback Ryan Woods.
Photo: Andy Wilhelm

his decision was that San Jose was a 90 minute away from his hometown of Sacramento, making it much easier for his family to come see him play.

Woods still has a red shirt year available, which might be used this year because SJSU has a returning senior quarterback.

Simon's impending move to Iowa State of the Big Eight conference stems from connections developed from his year at San Diego State University prior to coming to Grossmont. The defensive coordinator at SDSU had moved to Iowa State and had retained his interest in Simon. Simon expressed little concern about Iowa winters. "I like the cold," he said, especially compared to hot California weather.

Both Woods and Simon can be seen on the football field periodically, as they continue to

participate in team workouts in order to keep in shape.

Other players who have accepted football offers include:

- Crieg Cofer, Hawaii
- Alex McClelland, UC-Davis
- Josh Spence—Virginia Union
- Ivan May, Stoney Brook U
- Tramaine Wilkes, Harding U
- Caleb Farrell, Harding U
- Josh Udeh, Alabama A&M
- Shane Pinson, Benedictine U
- Jake Podpora, Chowan U at North Carolina

In addition, Kevin Woods has received an offer to play for Arkansas, while linebacker and first-team all conference linebacker Pat Kelly has received offers from several different schools, but both have yet to make their final decisions.

Dudley is Editor-in-Chief of the GC Summit

Tennis victory, volleyball heartbreak...

Continued from page 16

straight sets 6-1, 6-4, then in the final beat Ortiz in three sets 6-0, 6-7, 6-3.

The state doubles final was a rematch of the Southern California tournament, but with a different ending, as Hansard and Rodriguez (Santa Monica) defeated Ortiz and Reibstein 6-2, 6-1.

For men's volleyball, this was to be the final season under head coach Fred Featherstone, who is retiring from Grossmont after a 22-year coaching stint.

After compiling a 10-2 conference record (good for second place), the Griffins

beat El Camino in the first round of the junior college state championship tournament held in Orange Coast College in Costa Mesa. The Griffins then upset top-seeded Long Beach State in four sets (17-25, 25-16, 25-22, 25-22) avenging a February regular season loss.

It was the first time a Grossmont volleyball team had made it to the state final — the only San Diego County community college besides Palomar to ever make it that far.

However, in an epic five-set match against Irvine Valley College, the Griffins lost the first two sets by identical 17-25 scores. They then

came back to win the next two 25-23 and 25-18. In the fifth match they fell behind again, only to mount yet another comeback. However, a high ball from Irvine fell just within the lines to deny what would have been a sweet finish for Featherstone.

"This is going to sting for a while," he was quoted as saying after the match. "I'm proud of the guys for fighting their way back into it and not quitting."

Jose Mendoza (14 kills in the match) and Shane Beatty (49 assists) were named to the all-tournament team.

*Assistant coach Travis Lee is expected to take over the

team next season, although no official announcement has been made.

In other sports news, the softball team won the Pacific Coast Athletic Conference (PCAC) for the fifth straight year, finishing with a conference record of 13-2.

Pitcher Melanie Goff made 1st team All-State, while Alyssa Taylor made the All-Southern California team.

The men's swim and dive team also won the PCAC crown. Tom Bruce finished second at the state swim meet in April and was named PCAC swimmer of the year. Sedderick Bassett finished fifth in the state diving championships.



GRIFFIN SPORTS



Tennis victory, volleyball heartbreak!

By William Dudley

GROSSMONT COLLEGE
--A dynamic women's tennis rivalry/partnership and an oh-so-close comeback in men's volleyball highlighted a successful spring sports campaign for Grossmont College.

Women's tennis, basketball, and softball all won Pacific Coast Conference titles, as did the men's swim/dive team. Women's tennis and men's volleyball carried their victorious ways to the state level.

Jazmin Ortiz and Sharon Reibstein, the top two players for women's tennis coach Megan Haber, found themselves constantly playing for regional and state title matches – either against each other in singles, or together in doubles.

In the Southern California regional individual tournament, held at Grossmont College in May 5-7, Ortiz and Reibstein found themselves playing against each other for the regional championship. Reibstein won 6-1, 6-3.

The consensus judgment on how it felt to compete against one's teammate, according to the players and Coach Haber, was "weird." Haber noted that in such events she did not coach as actively as she sometimes does, but rather just kicked back and enjoyed watching the match.

No hard feelings, however,



Above: Sharon Reibstein (in the foreground) waits, as her teammate, Jazmin Ortiz serves. The two won the Southern California doubles championship. Photo: William Dudley. Below: High-flying men's volleyball team fought their way through the finals but lost eventually to Irvine Valley College. Photo: Stephen Harvey.



as Ortiz and Reibstein teamed together to power through two teams in one day. They beat Nicci Yvanovich and Amy Segraves of Santa Barbara City college 6-2, 6-2, then defeated Krystal Hansrad and Criss Rodriguez of Santa Monica 6-2, 7-6, to win the Southern California doubles championship.

The team then traveled to Fresno for the Community College State Women's Tennis. There Reibstein and Ortiz both fell victim to the same player – Katerina Mozolyuk of Santa Monica Community College. She defeated Reibstein in

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