

# COAST REPORT

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Photos courtesy of the American Chef's Federation

Orange Coast College student Annette Alvarado prepares a dish during a regional competition in Las Vegas.

## Cooking up a win

### FROM CAMPUS REPORTS

Orange Coast College culinary students took first place at the 2015 American Culinary Federation's Western Regional Student Team Competition in Las Vegas on March 21.

OCC's Hot Food Team faced stiff competition, coming out only one point ahead of Bellingham Technical College from Washington State to take the gold.

In total, Coast competed against five teams from the western United States.

"The competition was broken down into two phases: skills and cooking," OCC culinary professor and coach Bill Barber said. "In the skills section

the judges were particularly impressed with our team's vegetable cuts which they said were 'near perfect,' a comment I have not heard before in a competition."

Team members are Adrian Almanza, Annette Alvarado, Zackary Evans, Lauren Lopez and Elizabeth Mendoza.

The team will travel to Orlando in July to compete in the National Student Team Championships, facing off against three other regional teams. The last time the Pirates won the national title was in 2005.

"I am very proud of all of the team members for working so hard and doing their best despite all that they have going on in their personal lives such as work, school, etc.," Barber said.



Orange Coast College culinary professor Bill Barber (left) shares the regional competition win with his hot food team. The group will travel to nationals in July.



## Meet OCC's filmmakers

Student directors will discuss their entries into the Newport film fest.

### FROM CAMPUS REPORTS

Getting a taste of real life in the film industry, Orange Coast College student directors will be on hand today to discuss their entries in this year's Newport Beach Film Festival.

The directors will discuss their films and answer questions from 2 p.m. until 4 p.m. in the film department's TV studio, located in the Arts Center.

This year's selection includes six films by student filmmakers. The entries were chosen by a committee of OCC film instructors, who narrowed down the six

### If you go

**What:** OCC Shorts Press Junket  
**When:** Today from 2 p.m. until 4 p.m.  
**Where:** Arts Center  
**How much:** Free  
**Parking:** Park in the Merrimac Way Parking Lot

finalists from dozens of hopefuls looking to snag the highly coveted spots.

This is the 12th year that Coast has participated in the Newport Beach Film Festival and OCC is the only school allowed to show films in the 600-seat Lido Theatre.

"OCC Shorts" will be screened April 26 at the Regency Lido Theatre, 3459 Via Lido at 11 a.m.

## Time to gussy up the garden

### FROM CAMPUS REPORTS

Orange Coast College students have been hard at work preparing for the advent of spring and the demand by local home gardeners to spruce up the yard.

To meet these demands, the Orange Coast College Horticulture department will host its annual Spring Plant Sale on three Fridays between mid-April and early May — April 17, April 24 and May 1 — from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m.

OCC's annual sale is a popular event for local gardeners, with a large selection of vegetables, herbs, tomatoes, perennials and hanging baskets, including squash, eggplants, stevia, garlic chives, scaevola and begonia rieger.

More than 2,500 plants — which are produced by students who attend OCC's horticulture program — will be on sale at the event, and faculty members and students will be on hand to answer any customer questions and to

### If you go

**What:** OCC Spring Plant Sale  
**When:** Fridays, April 17, April 24 and May 1  
**Where:** Orange Coast College Horticulture Gardens  
**Parking:** Follow the signs in the Adams Avenue Parking Lot  
**How much:** Admission is free, prices for plants and flowers vary.

offer advice.

The sale will take place in the horticulture area's garden nursery, near the campus' Adams Avenue Parking Lot.

OCC's Horticulture department has sponsored the annual Spring Plant Sale for more than 30 years. Proceeds go toward student projects and scholarships.

## Tasty tacos take the humdrum out of Tuesdays

Varieties like short rib or carnitas elevate ordinary tacos each week.

BY KYLEE PICO  
FEATURES EDITOR

People often ask me about the best days of the week to go out — my answer is always Tuesday.

No, not because Drake decided the club is going up on Tuesday.

It's because growing up in Southern California I like to think of myself as a taco connoisseur, which means I am always looking forward to the only day of the week dedicated to my favorite entrée.

Don't worry — you may have missed out on this week's taco party but luckily for you, Tuesday comes every week and Orange County takes this weekly fiesta very seriously.

The choices on where to celebrate your Taco Tuesday can be overwhelming, however here is some help to narrow down your search.

First on my list is my favorite Costa Mesa gem — Wild Goose Tavern on 17th Street in Costa Mesa.

This hidden dive bar offers \$2 gourmet tacos that change weekly along with \$3 bottles of Coronas, \$4 tequila shots and \$5 margaritas.

They really mean it when they say gourmet — from short rib to the fried fish, this place really dishes out quality food

with dive bar prices.

They always have unique toppings like pickled onions, cucumbers or Sriracha chili sauces.

With a kitchen the size of your bathroom town closet, these cooks really know what they're doing.

I have never had the same taco twice which really just showcases these guys' creativity in the taco department.

Along with mouthwatering grub and heavily poured cocktails — this place always has great service which is really important to the vibe of your taco fiesta.

The Wild Goose bar staff is just as excited about their tacos as I am and it always seems like they are truly enjoying their shift.



Now, if you're looking for a venue a little more family appropriate, just about a mile away you'll find El Matador on the corner of Newport Boulevard and 18th Street in Costa Mesa.

This joint serves up some authentic Mexican food and offers two tacos for \$3 and \$4.50 margaritas all day on Tuesdays.

The tacos are either shredded or ground beef — I prefer the

See EATS Page 4



Photo courtesy of Google

Costa Mesa's El Matador offers two tacos for \$3 and \$4.50 margaritas all day on Tuesdays.



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Geography students get a real life look at the subject during a field trip.

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#### Craigslist scam

Fake checks from a fraudulent job almost cost one student a fortune.

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### AND ON THE WEB





**CRIME  
BLOTTER**



**Lock the bike**

Bicycle thefts continue to occur on the Orange Coast College campus and the types of bikes being stolen range from normal cruisers to elite road bikes.

Cameras have been focused on all the areas where bikes should be locked, but 12 to 14 bikes have been recently taken with values of about \$400, according to Chief of Campus Safety John Farmer.

Campus Safety has seen three people on the cameras -- An older looking man who regularly wears a bandana, an African American student, and most recently a Caucasian student wearing a red hat who was seen stealing bikes near the Social Science building the day before spring break on March 27.

"The risk of bike theft rises when students forget their locks or have the thin cables that can be easily cut with the right tool. The best way to prevent this is to have a U-Lock or some mechanism that is more heavy duty than a standard bike lock," Farmer said.

**Targeting Toyotas**

Campus Safety has received reports of catalytic converters being stripped off of Toyota trucks in the OCC parking lots.

Catalytic converters are put on the trucks to reduce sounds of the motor and dissipate pollution that would normally be excreted from the truck.

Farmer said the most recent theft of these converters happened in the Merrimac Way Parking Lot on March 26 between 4 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.

Farmer said the converters are attractive to those who sell it to either recycling centers or auto shops for a couple hun-

dred dollars.

Campus Safety has been busy putting flyers on Toyota trucks around campus giving students tips on how to prevent being a victim.

"If you own a Toyota, the best way to prevent this crime is to have the bolts that protect your catalytic converter welded on to the car," Farmer said. "Or have a serial number put on the converter so if it does get stolen, the police have a better chance of tracking it down."

Farmer said Campus Safety should be contacted immediately if a converter is stolen but no suspects have been caught on camera.

**Elevated vandal**

A male student wearing a yellow shirt and a pony tail was seen on campus vandalizing an elevator in the Biology building on Thursday. The suspect was caught and confessed to Campus Safety along with apologizing for the damage he caused.

According to Farmer the man caused damage to 40 to 50 locations adding up a total of \$2,000 to \$5,000 in damage.

Farmer said the suspect most recently used a knife as the tool to etch the word "burger" on the walls of the second story elevator and students said they've seen him walking around the building quite often this semester.

"If the student is truly sorry, and willing to pay for the restitution, we usually will keep police charges out of the picture," Farmer said. "I take any crime personal on campus and keeping our facilities protected along with students is top priority."

—The Crime Blotter was compiled by Brandon Lien from Campus Safety reports.

**MUN comes to OCC**

Students have the chance to practice public speaking and diplomacy.

BY ABBEY FERNANDEZ  
SOCIAL MEDIA EDITOR

A recently re-instated Orange Coast College club has found its way back into student members' busy schedules.

After three years, the OCC Model United Nations Club was brought back to life last fall. Several international students who continued their college education at Orange Coast questioned why this club wasn't active and quickly resolved the issue by reinitiating the MUN club on campus.

"The OCC MUN club is about teaching students and people that there is more than one perspective other than just the American view. It's a club that lets the audience recognize that we're just one country out of many and that each has different perspectives, values, systems and beliefs," said club president Luis Basurto, 24, a political science major.

The club consists of 47 general members with about a dozen core members who compete in conferences. These same core members are also keenly involved in Coast's student government and other organizations and clubs.

The MUN conferences are local, regional, statewide, and national.

A conference looks something like this: the conference chairs issue randomly selected countries and committees to the participants.

The members then decide which country and committee they would like to represent. Once chosen, the member does research from scratch and profoundly studies the nation's



Photo courtesy of the Model United Nations Club

Orange Coast College Model United Nations Club members competed at the UC Riverside Conference earlier this month where Ryan Carr, 16, won the Committee Choice Award.

statistics, economic and political positions, among other information needed to properly prepare themselves to embody the country as a simulated political member at the conference competition.

"It's all about public speaking and building up your confidence. I personally believe that academics are not the only thing that we have to be good at. If you're looking to be a better individual in practical life, you have to be a part of something that develops those skills," said MUN Director of Operations Tehreem Khan, 21, a biology major.

OCC's MUN members rigorously practice to perfection. They have a minimum of two mandatory practice sessions per week when preparing for a conference and hold a meeting every Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. in the Social Sciences building room 112.

Since re-establishing the club and participating in two conferences, the Pirates have taken home three awards.

At the Santa Barbara MUN Conference in November, Basurto won the Distinguished Delegate Award and Khan won an Honorable Mention.

At the UC Riverside Conference earlier this month, high school and OCC student Ryan Carr won the Committee Choice Award.

Their next conference is at UCLA on April 16-19.

"In order to win, I had to work extremely hard, cooperating with and leading delegates from other schools who represented MUN nations. I was extremely proud to have won an award, not only for myself but for Orange Coast's MUN organization," said Carr, 16, a business economics major who is also MUN's director of training.

OCC MUN members are

looking to be a part of many more conferences throughout the academic year to get the club recognized across the U.S and represent OCC. Their goal is to compete in three conferences per semester.

They have been actively fundraising and will begin another candy fundraiser around campus.

"This club is a great idea. Most of the students are also majoring in political science, or maybe have taken classes in international relations and they're very interested in it. It gives them an opportunity to get in some depth on these things and gain a lot of valuable experiences in the art of diplomacy," said MUN faculty adviser and political science professor Mark Rossler.

If you are interested in donating or helping gather funds for the club, email [orangecoastmun@gmail.com](mailto:orangecoastmun@gmail.com).

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# Curiosity sparks an interesting life

OCC instructor Kris Jones shares his adventures with his students.

BY CRYSTAL NGUYEN  
MANAGING EDITOR

Imagine being perched on a granite cliff with a panoramic view of the towering summits, giant sequoia trees and cascading waterfalls of Yosemite as your classroom — a picture perfect moment that cannot be justified by a compact two-dimensional photograph in a textbook.

Orange Coast College geography instructor Kris Jones turns this surreal learning environment into a reality for his students, being one of the few teachers here who offer field trip opportunities.

“You don’t just talk about the rain shadow effect of mountains, you go see for yourself how dry it is on one side and how wet it is on the other side,” Jones said. “You can look at a photograph of the redwood forest in a book, but when you have it all around you it’s much different.”

OCC students will have the chance to embark on this eight-day summer field trip by enrolling in Jones’ Geography 198 course. Jones offered this course several times before and will offer it once again this summer from July 25 to Aug. 2 for two transferrable elective units.

Marissa Poortman-Pechan, 20, a communications major, attended the trip last summer and looks forward to sharing her newfound interest in exploration with Jones and the up and coming students this summer.

“You learn more about geography and California in eight days than you would learn in a 16-week class,” Poortman-Pechan said. “Being submerged in an area you are learning about is

much more impressionable and memorable than trying to comprehend the knowledge through a book in a classroom.”

Jones willingly takes on the responsibility of looking over multiple vehicles loaded with his students heading from one scenic spot after another — Mammoth Lake, Lake Tahoe, Lassen Volcanic National Park, Patrick’s Point State Park, Sonoma Coast State Park and Veteran’s Memorial Park in Monterey.

This educational experience consists of activities such as examining the land forms at the coast firsthand, exploring volcanoes, measuring the temperature and humidity in different parts of the state and embarking on nature walks. In addition, the students were given a tour of the Humboldt State University Geography department as well as a boat ride in the bay.

Many of Jones’ students agree that he makes for an ideal traveling companion, equipped with a strong sense of wanderlust, thirst for knowledge about the diversity of the world, and an easy going and adventurous character.

“Kris was just as enthusiastic about the field trip as we were. There was never a dull moment when travelling with him,” Poortman-Pechan said. “When he saw that the class was really enjoying a certain area, he never insisted on moving along — he let us enjoy the area.”

While he is able to cross over 60 countries off of his bucket list, Jones is not yet satisfied because he believes there is so much more out there waiting for him to explore. He recalls the beauty of landmarks such as the Himalayas and memorable moments, including the time he managed to find a way into the then-closed off Cuba by entering from Costa Rica.

This passion for travelling started when Jones spent his teenage years at a high school

in England, followed by the experience of being an exchange student in India for six months.

“You can talk about it and it’s in a book, but if you go there and see it and feel it and smell it, it’s much more powerful,” Jones said.

Jones returned to the states afterward and earned an associates degree in liberal studies at Saddleback College, but said he could not forget the eye-opening experience of studying abroad.

“I became more humble and flexible in understanding why cultures do things differently than I do,” Jones said. “Instead of judging what they do, I try to see it from their perspective.”

Working as a salesman at the time, Jones knew that he wanted to accomplish more than what he was doing. Wanting to share his experiences and the realization that there is a lot more out there in the world, Jones earned a bachelor’s and master’s degree in geography and international relations at Cal State Fullerton.

His mission to encourage an awareness of the cultures and places around the world has driven him as a physical geography teacher at OCC for 20 years. Jones said he took a liking to the atmosphere of community colleges because of the diversity and tendency of students to be motivated in their studies, and he wanted to be in a position to help people improve their lives.

Jones has also taught at Long Beach City College, Saddleback College and Santa Ana College. Additionally, having substituted at an elementary school, Jones jokes about what he has learned himself as a teacher.

“Kindergartens don’t have much of an attention span — actually college students don’t have much of an attention span either. Both like to get smiley faces on their papers if they do a good job,” Jones said. “It wasn’t actually that different, but I’ve



Photos courtesy of Kris Jones’ Facebook

Orange Coast College geology instructor Kris Jones (above) poses in front of a location sign during a recent student field trip. Jones (below) will take students on another trip this summer.

learned a lot of classroom management skills.”

Regardless of who or what he teaches, Jones keeps his lectures interesting by engaging his students whether they are on a field trip or in the classroom. Being well travelled, Jones always has stories of his adventures up his sleeves to help illustrate the material they are learning. He is also prepared to visually apply what he teaches to real life. For instance, Jones would bring in a cold water bottle to demonstrate how and why condensation happens.

One of the projects for Jones’ Geography 198 field trip requires each student to research a location and educate the class on that area, creating a learning environment stimulated not only by the professor but by fellow peers as well.

“It’s rewarding to see students wake up and be interested in the world and things they didn’t even know existed before, hopefully exploring and understanding it more after the

class,” Jones said. “I still travel and learn new things all the time — that’s what we live for.”

With his knowledge in K-12 education, Jones had the opportunity to intern for National Geographic in 1992, working in the geography education division. Jones had applied three times before finally being able to acquire the competitive position of a National Geographic intern, but he said it was well worth the wait to see how the famous magazine worked from the inside out.

During his four months as an intern, Jones lived in Washington D.C. and was able to visit New York, Atlantic City and Pennsylvania. He became educated about politics while living in D.C. and was therefore familiar with the area when attending the first inauguration of President Barack Obama.

While the internship strengthened his love for geography, Jones realized that he didn’t want to work in an office for the rest of his career. His case



of itchy feet is inevitably contagious, considering that he takes teaching outside of the classroom to ensure his students receive quality and hands-on education.

“A job is one thing, but having an interesting life — that’s the main thing,” Jones said. “I get to take my curiosity of the world and make it my profession. You can’t beat that.”

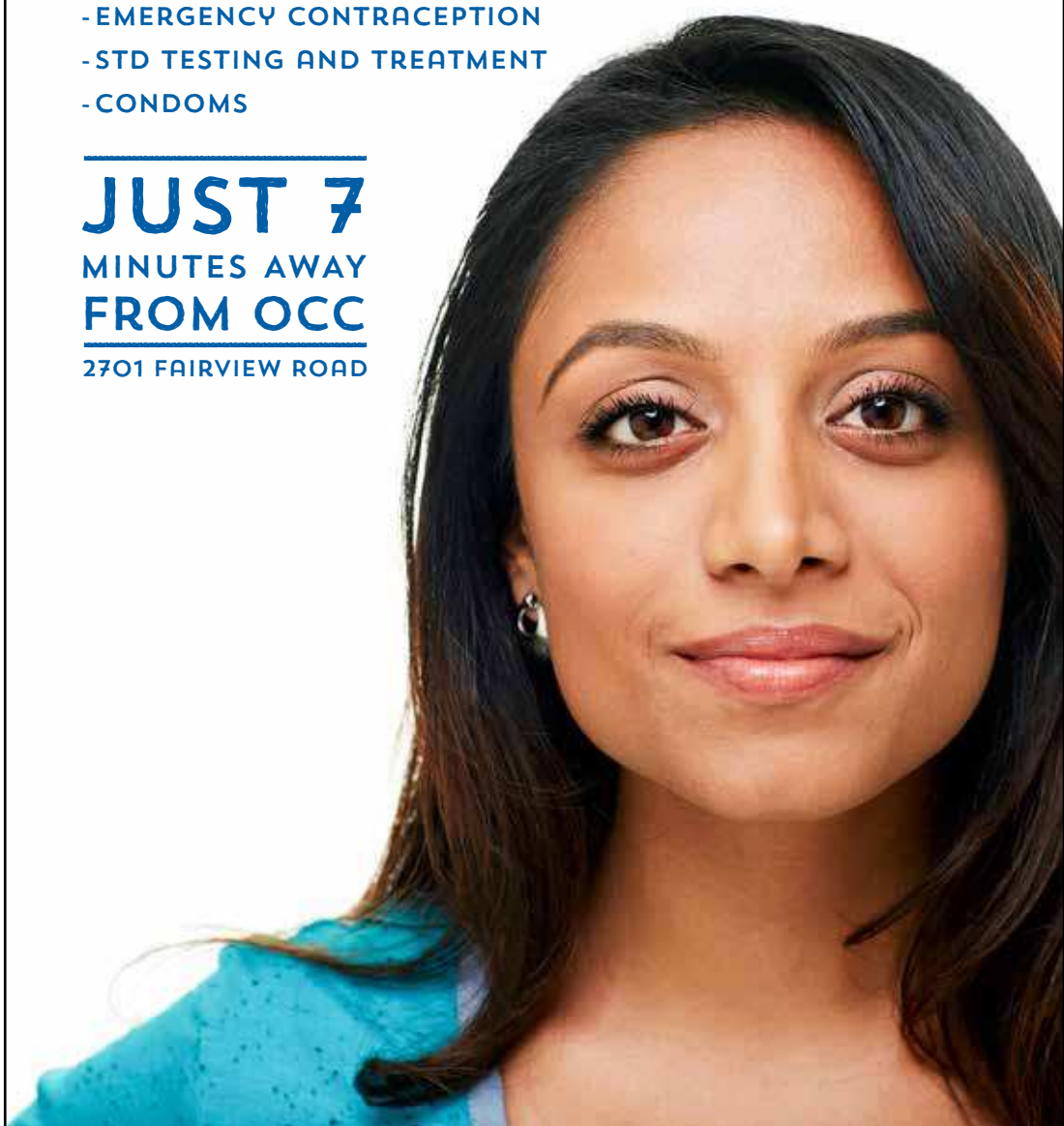
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# Fitting in can be hilarious

Under-represented Asian-Americans are at the center of this TV comedy.

BY JENNIFER NGUYEN  
STAFF WRITER

Fitting into a new place or community can pose difficulties including questioning how to fit in rather than if one should fit in. I mean, why blend in when you can stand out?

This question is one of the central points in "Fresh off the Boat," a new ABC comedy television series inspired by celebrity chef Eddie Huang and based on his memoir.

The show stars Randall Park, who played Danny Chung in "Veep" and breakout star Constance Wu who plays Jessica and has had roles in shows such as "Law & Order" and "Eastsiders."

The show revolves around an Asian-American family who move to Orlando, Fla. in the 1990s in hopes of achieving the American dream.

I was ecstatic to finally see a full Asian-American cast on their own show because there have been so few of them in the entertainment business.

The show, along with the characters, are endlessly entertaining and charming.

The acting along with the personalities of each character

left me laughing.

I immediately played the next episode until I found myself catching up on the series before my day ended.

If you like shows like "Modern Family" then give this show a chance because it focuses on the same themes — trying to fit in and balancing the love-hate family relationship.

Being Asian-American, I didn't expect the show to reflect my own family ideals or Asian-culture in general.

I expected it to show the struggles of an outsider family trying to find a break in America and so far, it has succeeded.

With fresh-faced and young Hudson Yang playing Eddie Huang, the protagonist of the show, and other younger cast members, I was concerned about the acting skills.

However, they are the ones who bring life into the show because of the relatable and difficult relationships of siblings.

There are viewers who find the show insulting because of constant stereotypes and the thick accent Wu has for her role.

"If you see a Tina Fey on television, you're not like 'All white women are like Tina Fey,'" Wu said in Time magazine. "Yet people are like, 'Oh, Jessica Huang's not like my mother, but this show is supposed to be about Asians, so shouldn't she be like my mother?'"

This show is not meant to cri-



Photo courtesy of ABC

"Fresh off the Boat" is a television comedy examining the funny side of an Asian-American family trying to find the American dream in Florida.

tique or represent Asian culture.

It is merely a show about a family who is trying to make it in America by running their own steakhouse.

The show doesn't concentrate on stereotypes but it is easy to focus on them when the show is based on a family who is rarely represented.

"Fresh off the Boat" is not a voice for Asian families, it just happens to be about an Asian family.

Eddie considers himself a black sheep of the family com-

pared to his younger brothers, who seem like angels straight down from heaven.

Their dynamic is hilarious because they tease and fight with each other the same way my brothers and I did when we were younger.

The difficulty of fitting in and adjusting to their new environment is relatable, whether it is adjusting to a new school or a new place to call home.

The show centers on how uncommon characteristics, such as having a thick accent

or being an 11-year-old Chinese boy who has affinity for hip-hop music, is something to embrace rather than be embarrassed about.

This show paves the way for more diversity in the entertainment industry.

It takes a light-hearted and amusing perspective on a situation many families can watch and relate to.

"Fresh Off the Boat" premiered on Feb. 4 and new episodes air Tuesdays at 8 p.m. on ABC.

## EATS: Students can get their taco fix every week with one of the great deals at local Taco Tuesdays.

From Page 1

shredded tacos because it just seems more authentic laying between deep fried corn tortillas topped with lettuce, tomatoes and shredded cheese.

If you are lucky enough to get a table between 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. you get to enjoy the happy hour prices too — this means \$2 off any cocktails and \$1 off all beers and wines on the menu.

If you're looking for a fiesta

with a view, just head north to Fred's Mexican Café on Pacific Coast Highway and Main Street in downtown Huntington Beach where their motto is "Kiss My Taco Tuesday."

Here you can enjoy \$2 grilled

chicken, crispy chicken, carnitas or cheeseburger tacos, \$3 steak, shrimp, calamari, grilled mahi, and fried fish tacos, along with \$5 bagged tall cans of Corona, Busch and Tecate and \$6 tequila shots.

I am all about the cheese burger taco — far from authentic but I will never argue with slapping some french fries and ground beef in a flour tortilla and calling it a taco.

Fred's has a great ocean view that can be enjoyed from more than half of the restaurant's tables and amazing salsa choices that I wish I could buy in bulk. However, Tuesday is the only day I would head into this place because their regular prices are

a bit too high and forget even trying to get a table here on the weekends — I'm talking three hour waits.

Now, last but not least, if you are looking to go up on a Tuesday — It's all about the 21 and over taco party at El Ranchito on Newport Boulevard in Newport Beach.

For \$5 you get to indulge in an all you can eat taco bar and \$4 margaritas and Dos Equis beers starting at 5 p.m. on Tuesdays.

However, this is not a place to take your grandmother for dinner — it's more of a frat party vibe. And they card and wristband at the door. Sorry kids.



Photo courtesy of Google

Fred's Mexican Cafe in Huntington Beach offers an ocean view, amazing salsa and a deal on their delicious fare.

## Campus Events

For information on most campus events, call (714) 432-5880.

### Concerts

**"OCC Jazz Ensemble," May 4:** A night of big band jazz by the OCC Studio Jazz Ensemble, Jazz Lab Ensemble and Jazz Improv Ensemble. Special guest artists to be announced. Directed by Paul Navidad and Dana Wheaton. In the Robert B. Moore Theatre. Curtain 7:30 p.m. Admission \$8 in advance, \$10 at door.

**"Baroque Masters," May 9:** Conducted by Ricardo Soto, the OCC Symphony's final concert of the semester highlights the Baroque masters. In the Robert B. Moore Theatre. Curtain 7:30 p.m. Admission \$15, students \$10 with ID

**"OCC Guitar Ensemble Concert," May 28:** Adam Pettit directs the classical guitar program showcasing soloists, small ensembles and a large guitar orchestra on classical guitars. David Murdy directs the studio program featuring jazz and modern rock and pop standards on acoustic and electric guitars. In the Robert B. Moore Theatre. Curtain 7:30 p.m. Admission \$10

### Theatre

**"Urinetown," May 8:** A musical by Mark Hollmann and Greg Kotis about a serious water shortage and town where you have to pay to pee. Recommended for mature audiences. In the Drama Lab Theatre. Curtain 7:30 p.m. on May 8-10, 15-16 and 2:30 p.m. on May 17. Admission \$12 in advance, \$15 at the door. Students and seniors \$8 in advance, \$10 at door.

**"One Act Play Festival," May 16-18:** The culmination of the year, the Repertory Theatre presents a variety of original and published one-act works. Recommended for mature audiences. In the Drama Lab Theatre. Curtain 7:30 p.m. Admission \$5 in advance, \$7 at the door.

### Art

**"Existence," through April 16:** An art exhibit exploring life, death and every moment in between. Featuring artists G. Gilday, J. Lowry and J.F. Podedvin. Opening reception 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Friday. In the Frank M. Doyle Arts Pavilion. Admission is free.



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# Craigslist almost scammed me

## COAST REPORT

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Vulnerability is the openness to moral attack, criticism, or even temptation — a position where most college students can find themselves.



Kylee Pico  
Features Editor

that my resume was impressive. He explained that he was away on business travel and wouldn't be back in a timely manner to conduct an interview and said he would take a leap of faith and just hire me.

My first assignment — cashing a check he would send me via mail.

Now here is where I fell vulnerable to the scam.

No one ever told me that fake checks could be deposited. I assumed that when the bank places the check in that round machine, it would validate whether the check was real or not.

I was extremely wrong.

The bank teller, with no hesitation, deposited that \$1,500 check into my account.

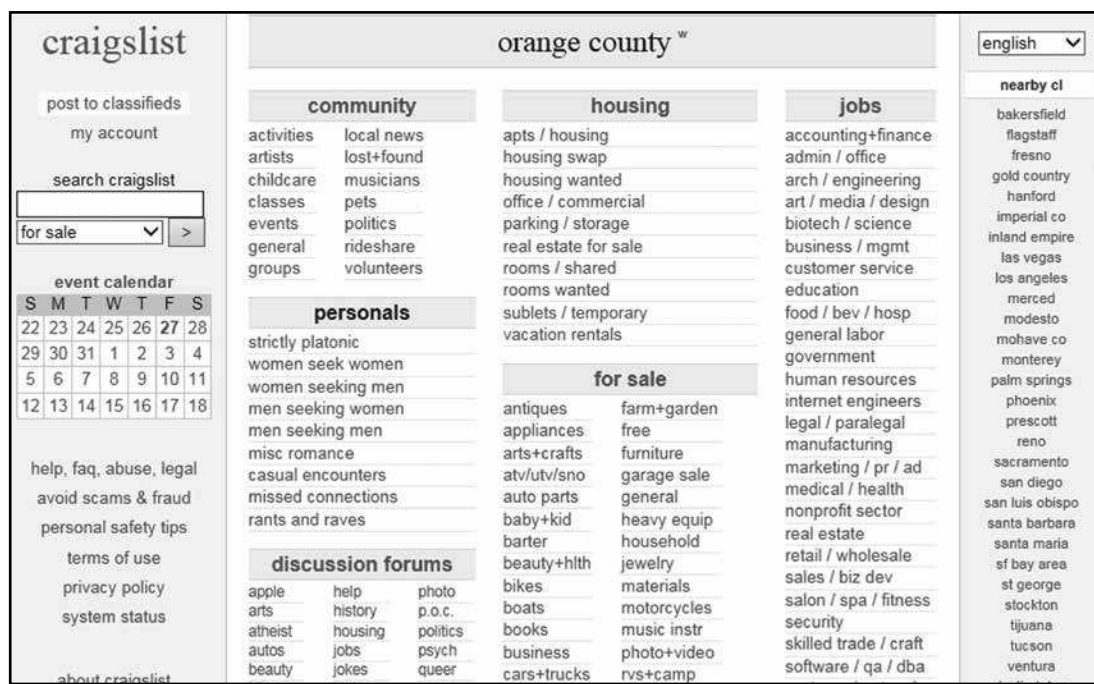
I thought I was in the clear.

Until I got a strange phone call from a man with what sounded like a French accent who explained he needed the cash I deposited wired to his orphanage in Nigeria.

I got a weird knot at the base of my stomach but thought I just deposited \$1,500 of his money, it wasn't mine, and I had to wire it.

I returned to the bank, where the same teller, with no hesitation, withdrew \$1,500 from my bank account.

It wasn't until I went into Albertson's to wire the money



Features Editor Kylee Pico nearly feel victim to a scam when she responded to a part-time job advertisement that was too good to be true on Craigslist.

that this knot in my stomach started to make me sick — my palms were sweating and I felt nauseous. I wasn't entirely sure why I was so uneasy. It wasn't my money — so I wired it.

I immediately got a feeling of terror and regret — I called my roommate who had just closed a fraud case and asked her if banks would cash a fraudulent check.

She chuckled and told me of course they would cash it. She

explained that once the check is determined fake, my account would be overdrawn the amount I had technically stolen and I would be under investigation for fraud.

That knot in stomach just launched its way into my throat and I burst into tears, running back into Albertson's and explaining to the lady at the MoneyGram counter that I needed to stop the transfer.

Luckily, I was quick enough

to halt the wire and I got my \$1,500 dollars back.

Still in tears, I returned to the bank, pushed the cash under the window and explained to them what had happened. They were able to fix it.

I was so relieved that this was finally over — after all my account only had \$100 that had rightfully belonged to me and there was no way that my twice a week serving gig could pay off a fraud debt.

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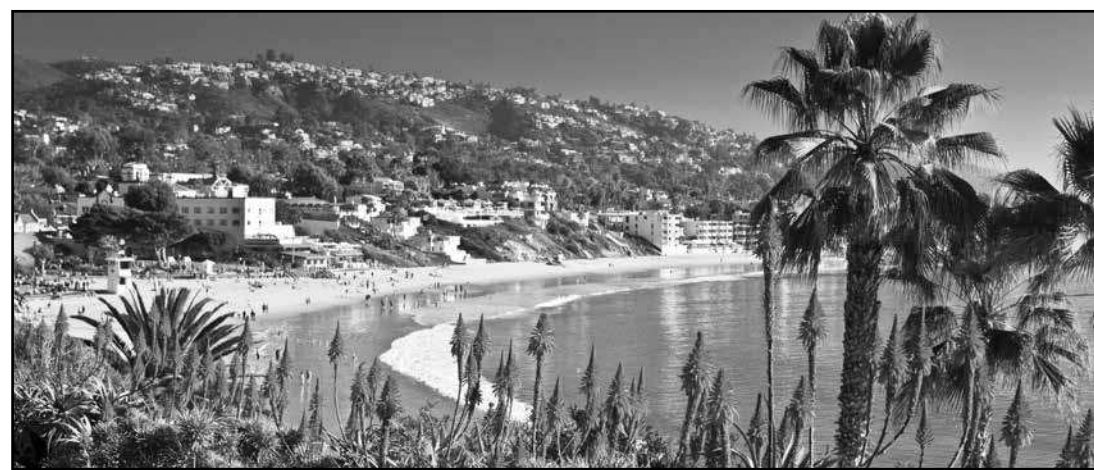


Photo courtesy of tripadvisor.com

Growing up seeing beautiful sights like this of Laguna Beach could be one reason why people complain about the little things instead of being grateful for what they have.

## Let's step back and be grateful for a change

We wake up to a world filled with chaotic alarm clocks, cursing over those poisonous cold showers, not remembering what goes on outside the bubble of Orange County.



Brandon Lien  
Staff Writer

people in the SoCal area. If one has never lived anywhere else than around OC, it is difficult to have them wrap their heads around the fact that everyone doesn't have a warm bed to wake up in, or parents that hug them every day.

Everybody is guilty of this crime, including me, but the attitudes of some are so extreme that I feel they need to be dumped into a third world country just to visualize the pictures I am trying to convey.

In the majority of my classes, all I want to do is mute my hearing when listening to students, and yes, teachers complain about their social lives.

Life is challenging (that's why we are here), and everyone has a specific type of challenge, but again, we must take into consideration the sensitivity of these obstacles and relate them to everyone around the globe.

An 8-year-old boy from Africa who must take care of his four younger siblings and his sick

mother, a young girl of 16 selling her body in Eastern Europe just to have pieces of moldy bread for dinner, or a father who wakes up every morning to bombs being dropped in the Middle East wondering if this is the last day his family will see the sunset.

Stop complaining Orange County.

Yes I am stressed from the pressures of school, yes I wish my parents were still together and yes we all have problems that we can't control.

It is how you react to these dilemmas which set you apart from the rest. When life punches, one needs to roll with the punches and not let it impact them so heavily.

Next time you forget a writing utensil, or get in a fight with your parents because they care, or say to yourself, "Why is his happening to me," remember that the world isn't around because of you. It's for who you touch with your positivity along the way. Stop complaining!

## Athletic facilities should be open

There is no doubt that Orange Coast College offers a variety of recreational facilities such as a gym, football field, dance studio, swimming pool and tennis, volleyball and basketball courts.



Irene Nguyen  
Social Media Editor

However, these facilities are only available to students either enrolled in the class or student athletes.

Times outside of class, practice, and games, the facilities aren't being put to use.

I see this as an inefficient use of our resources.

There are many students who would benefit from access to these facilities who aren't enrolled in those classes and aren't student athletes.

OCC could hire an attendant at each facility to monitor activities and charge a small cover of \$2 to \$3, a charge so minimal students wouldn't mind paying.

Those who don't have access to the gym, pool, or basketball courts — let's admit these things are a luxury to some students — would be able to meet their summer fitness goals or just meet up with their friends to play a pick-up game.

Not only would this bring in revenue as well as student job opportunities, it would also add an extra element of energy and vibrancy to our campus by engaging students with one another.

In other words, it would bring students of like interests to the same place and foster smaller communities within the whole.



Photos courtesy of Orange Coast College

The Orange Coast pool



The Basil H. Peterson Gym.

Many students come to class and go home without socializing with anyone. This way, students would be more apt to connecting with others who share the same hobbies or play the same sport.

Students are also ridden with stress, so having a physical outlet could relieve much of that tension.

In addition to these benefits, making these facilities available to the wider student population will also make those dreaded gaps between classes much more bearable.

Students would now be able to do fun, active things between classes rather than the usual nap that leaves them lethargic.

They can play their favorite sport during their breaks, perhaps even relive those high school glory days.

They can make new friends, new memories — ones that wouldn't be possible without the provided facilities.

## QUESTION

of the WEEK

## Where would you want to do an international internship?



Elvira Sanchez  
19, undecided

"Japan, Spain or Australia because the cultures seem completely different from America. It would be nice to experience that."



William Barnes  
18, robotics

"Japan. I really enjoy their culture and they have the most advanced technology."



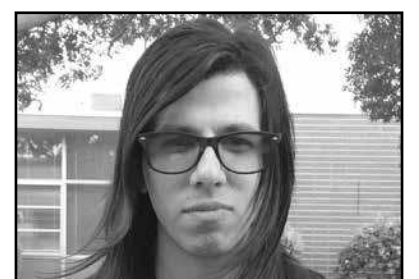
Giovanni Pena  
23, psychology

"Probably Spain. I think Spain has a very similar culture to the Mexican culture and I like their art, in particular my favorite artist's work is Salvador Dali."



Glenn Miller  
30, finance

"Rome because Europe is a place where you could travel to many countries by just being there and as a student you don't have to spend a lot of money."



Oscar D. Ponce  
23, biology

"Norway because of black metal and free college tuition."



# Coast runs away with first place

Men and women give the the competition a run for their money.

FROM CAMPUS REPORTS

His two performances lasted a combined 33 seconds, but for sprinter Kyle White, his strong times in the 100- and 200-meter dashes helped propel the Orange Coast College men's track and field team to a solid win at the 2015 Coast Classic Invitational on Friday.

White, a standout running back on OCC's football team in the fall, showed off his speed against some top track programs in the area as the Pirates claimed the team title with 205 points. Cerritos finished second with a score of 194, while Santa Monica City College (88 points) took third.

In the 100, White came out of the blocks strong and blazed the trail to the finish line with a winning time of 10.95 seconds. Cerritos' Clifford Scott took second with a time of 11.05, while SMCC's Edward Lampley (11.2) took third.

In the 200, it was a sea of orange and blue at the top of the standings as White led a 1-2-3-4 finish for the Pirates with a winning time of 22.21. OCC teammates Gregory Warner (22.55), Terrance Chester (22.67) and



Justin Gibbons (22.85) completed the Coast grand slam atop the standings, before Cerritos' Justin Reid broke the Pirates barrage by finishing fifth with a 22.93.

That same OCC foursome of White, Warner, Chester and Gibbons again led the way for Coast in the 4x100 relay as the Pirates edged out Cerritos with a winning time of 42.23, just ahead of the Falcons' foursome time of 42.32.

Multiple top performances were a theme for the Pirates on Friday as two other events concluded with 1-2 scores for OCC. In the 5,000, sophomores Lucio Ramirez and Brandon Ferguson claimed the top-two spots. Ramirez was the lone performer under 16 minutes after crossing the finish line with a time of 15:48.17. Ferguson also turned in a solid time and placed second with a 16:19.48.

In the javelin, it was another 1-2 finish for Coast as Tommy Duong claimed the top spot with a distance of 152-feet, 8-inches, while teammate Jason McKinnon took second with a throw of 143-0.

Coast took home first place in four other events as Eamon Smythe won the 800 with a time of 1:55.29, Jesus Valdez claimed the top spot in the 3,000 steeplechase (10:28.76), Bryson Crawford won the long jump (22-1) and Tyler Courtney picked up the win in the discus (131-3).

On the women's side, the Orange Coast College women's track and field team finished second overall behind powerhouse Cerritos at Friday's meet.

Led by a pair of wins in the hurdle events, the Pirates finished with 78 points and trailed only the Falcons (316.5) in the six-team



Photos courtesy of Orange Coast College

The Pirates men's track team came in ahead of the pack and finished first at the 2015 Coast Classic Invitational over the weekend thanks to strong running, throwing and hurdling efforts. The women finished second overall with strong performances in the hurdles and relays.

invitational. Cuyamaca (67.5) finished third overall, while Moorpark (38), Santa Monica (34) and Antelope Valley (9) round out the team scoring.

In the 100-meter hurdles, OCC's Taylor Sims took on a small army of Cerritos runners and beat them all to the finish line with a winning time of 15.35 seconds, just ahead of Falcon runner-up Jenai Vickers (15.41) and Emma Kratsberg (15.41).

OCC teammate Hannah Heising outlasted Kratsberg and company, winning the 400 hurdles with a time of 1:05.34. Kratsberg finished second with a 1:05.66, while Vickers took third at 1:08.11.

Heising and Sims teamed up with Mycol Smith-Ray and Fate-meh Javdi Tabarrok to win the 4x100 relay with a time of 49.88.

Other top-five performances for the Pirates came from Je-

nessa Reyes in the 1,500 (3rd, 5:03.57), Heising in the 100 (3rd, 13.08), Smith-Ray in the 400 (4th, 1:01.41) and Jessica Cardenas in the high jump (5th, 4-feet, 7-inches) and triple jump (5th, 29-9 1/4).

Coast is competing in the Southern California Multi-Event Championships at San Diego Mesa before heading to the Mt. SAC Invitational on Saturday at 9 a.m. at Mt. San Antonio College.

# Swim takes first, third in Pasadena conference

FROM CAMPUS REPORTS

The Orange Coast College women's swim team ruled the pool at the 15th annual Pasadena City College Invitational on Friday and Saturday taking first place while the men's team finished in third.

The lady Pirates won the team title with 673.5 points, topping rival Golden West (478), Diablo Valley (468), Santa Barbara City (414.5) and host Pasadena City College (316).

The men's team finished with 442 points, trailing only Golden West (767) and Diablo Valley (684) for the entire meet.

The women's team shined the brightest in the 200-yard medley relay, where the foursome of Alexa Clayfield, Valeria Acosta, Chloe Kim and Kessy Hickey fought off a spirited effort by the Rustlers to win the

event with a time of 1 minute, 50.02 seconds.

GWC finished second with a 1:50.62, while Diablo Valley (1:52.14) placed third.

Clayfield helped get the Pirates into the lead right away with a strong 50-yard split of 27.84 and from there the other three OCC swimmers kept the lead the rest of the way.

Sophomore diving standout Candis Buck continued her outstanding season by sweeping the field in both the 1-meter and 3-meter events.

Buck scored a 214.45 in the 1-meter (54 points ahead of runner-up Alexis Kerns of College of the Canyons) and 231.15 in the 3-meter (46 points ahead of runner-up Leigh Hodgson of Cypress).

At a competition where 18 meet records were set, the women's team used its depth at several events to earn the team win.

Clayfield, Kim and Hickey were joined by Rebecca Aguilar and that quartet finished second in both the 200 freestyle relay (1:38.18) and the 800 free relay (8:08.89).

Aguilar and Hickey, along with Nacinda Paap and Lexi Hill finished second in the 400 medley relay (4:04.64), while the foursome of Hickey, Kim, Paap and Aguilar finished runner-up in the 400 free relay (3:41.78).

Other individual top three performances turned in by the Pirates include: Aguilar in the 50 free (2nd, 24.29), 100 butterfly (2nd, 58.54) and 100 free (2nd, 53.95); Clayfield in the 200 individual medley (3rd, 2:13.41), 400 IM (2nd, 4:46.9) and 200 backstroke (2nd, 2:09.35); Paap in the 100 breaststroke (3rd, 1:10.21) and 200 breaststroke (2nd, 2:33.57); Kim in the 200 butterfly (2nd, 2:15.59) and 100

butterfly (3rd, 58.89); Hill in the 200 butterfly (3rd, 2:16.47) and Hickey in the 50 freestyle (3rd, 24.56) and 100 free (3rd, 54.39).

In the men's competition, one of the top events for the Pirates came in the 400-yard freestyle relay, where the foursome of Derek Price, Josh Hayashi, Tyler Connors and Cory Nguyen claimed second place with a time of 3 minutes, 14.38 seconds, topped only by a meet-record time of 3:07.63 by the Rustlers.

In the 200 backstroke, Connors showed a solid individual effort and finished second with a time of 1:56.97, while Nguyen touched the wall third with a 1:58.33.

Connors also earned a top-three mark in the 100 back, taking third with a time of 53.81.

The men's team also claimed three third-place times in three other events, the 200 free relay



Photo courtesy of Richard Quinton

An Orange Coast College swimmer on the women's team competes in the Pasadena City College Invitational.

(1:27.40), the 400 medley relay (3:36.12) and the 200 medley relay (1:39.57).

The Pirates men's and women's teams will return to action this weekend at the Southern

California Diving Regionals at El Camino College. Coast will then compete at the Orange Empire Conference Championships held at Riverside City College on April 16 through 18.

### Orange Coast College

#### Spring 2015 Study Skills & Personal Development Workshops

Extra Credit Slips Available

Topic	Date	Time	Presenter	Location
Major Undeclared/True Colors	M 4/13	1-2pm	D. Escobar	Watson Hall 262
Careers For Kinesiology Major	T 4/14	1-2:30pm	E. Tom	Watson Hall 262
Job Interview preparation	W 4/15	12-1pm	A. Guillen	Watson Hall 244
Pre-Health Preparation	TH 4/16	1-2:30pm	L. McKinley	Watson Hall 262
AST (Associate Degree Transfer) **				
**Math/Physics Majors **	M 4/20	12-1:30pm	S. Hogue	Watson Hall 244
How to Deal with Daily Stress	T 4/21	1-2:30pm	M. Traver	Watson Hall 262
ADT (Associate Degree Transfer) **	W 4/22	1-2:30pm	C. Barnes	Watson Hall 262
** Psychology/Sociology/Anthropology Majors **				
Careers For Business Adm. Major	TH 4/23	1-2:30pm	R. Icaro	Watson Hall 262
CSU/UC Transfer Preparation	M 4/27	1-2pm	L. Bagatourian	Watson Hall 262
Careers For Social Science Majors	T 4/28	1-2pm	R. Zamudio	Watson Hall 262
ADT (Associate Degree Transfer) **				
**Communication Studies Major**	W 4/29	12-1pm	D. Guillen	Watson Hall 244
Test-Taking Preparation	TH 4/30	2-3pm	H. Walker	Watson Hall 262
Out of State Transfer Preparation	M 5/4	1-2pm	C. Jupiter	Watson Hall 262
ADT (Associate Degree Transfer) **				
**Kinesiology Major**	T 5/5	12:30-2pm	E. Tom	Watson Hall 262
Prioritizing Techniques	W 5/6	1-2:30pm	B. Figueroa	Watson Hall 262
AST (Associate Degree Transfer) **				
**Early Childhood Educ. Major**	TH 5/7	12-1:30pm	C. Plum	Watson Hall 262
AST (Associate Degree Transfer) **				
**Business Adm. Major**	T 5/12	12-1:30pm	R. Icaro	Watson Hall 262
Reading & Note-Taking	W 5/13	1-2pm	P. Mucino	Watson Hall 262
Allied Health Professions	TH 5/14	1-2:30pm	C. Plum	Watson Hall 262

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