Energy policies and oil company practices combine to make gas prices skyrocket.

Page 2



Look for a review of the just-released "Mass Effect 3" in next week's paper.

See Arts & Culture

Jeremy Lin and Linsanity don't add up.

Page 6



March 7, 2012

www.coastreportonline.com

COAST REPORT

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Photo by Iris Orozco

Parking on campus can sometimes be a hassle and with small spaces many students have reported damage to their vehicles.

A Tight Squeeze

Forty percent of students report minor damage after parking at OCC.

BY JENIFFER LANE AND IRIS OROZCO

on campus are within the legal minimum measurements," Chief of Campus Safety John Farmer said.

Farmer said that most of the people who complain about damage to their cars also complain that the stalls are too small.

"If the parking stalls were any bigger the lots would hold less cars," he said. Farmer said the sizing of the stalls is done by an independent contractor that comes out every few years and is not the responsibility of public safety. According to Farmer, there is really only one solution for those complaining about the size of the spaces.

In an informal poll of students on campus 20 out of 50 students said they have found damage to their cars after being parked on campus.

But the small spaces aren't the

Judi Lagerlof, who has been working in OCC's metriculations office for 25 years, said

only danger to cars.

See PARKING Page 6

Parking data



College students take to the steps of the capitol to fight budget cuts.

Marching in solidarity

Dozens of protesters arrested after a sit-in at the state capitol.

BY JOSH FRANCIS EDITOR IN CHIEF

College students from around the state, fed up with state budget cuts to education, marched to the steps of the capitol in Sacramento Monday to air their grievances.

More than 5,000 students from the Cal State, University of California and California state community college system, joined by hundreds of faculty and community members, made a one-mile, chantfilled journey from Sacramento's Southside Park to the steps of the state capitol building around 9 a.m. Monday morning.

Twenty-two Coast Community College District students, including one Orange Coast College student and one OCC faculty member, took a bus to Sacramento on Sunday to join in on the annual March in March event.

Carla Martinez, OCC's student services coordinator, said she had been to the protest five times and said the students were passionate on Monday. She said the Sacramento Police Department took notice, increasing its presence at this year's protest.

The Orange County Register reported California Highway Patrol officers arrested nearly 70 protesters for trespassing Monday night after they refused to leave the capitol rotunda despite several warnings.

It is not illegal for people

STAFF WRITERS

While parking spaces on campus may be more available following the first two weeks of the semester, the size of the slots doesn't change.

And whether it's scratches, dings, dents or, in one case a big butt imprint, students, faculty and staff often complain that parking spaces should be bigger and spaces more accomodating to all size s of vehicles.

An informal survey of spaces by the Coast Report found that most of the parking slots in the Orange Coast College lots measure 7 feet to 8 feet wide, making practically all of them suitable for compact cars.

According to the city of Costa Mesa's parking design standards, a small [compact] space is 8 feet wide and a standard space is 9 feet wide.

While city regulations don't specifically dictate how many small car spaces are required as compared to those for standard or large vehicles, there must be 10 spaces per 1,000 square feet.

"If you want more space when parking, park at the fairgrounds," he said. "They are larger than the spaces at OCC."

While the latest statistics for the number of parking spaces on campus date back nearly seven years, at that time there were a total of 7,548 spaces, including 600 at the fairgrounds. There is no accounting of how many spaces are on campus now, Farmer said.

Like dozens of other students, faculty and staff members, Maxwell Pedroza, 20, a business administration major, said he has noticed scratches and tiny dents on the side of his 2008 sedan.

'The stalls are too small," he said. "That is why there are dents and scratches on cars, from people "Most of the parking stalls here opening their doors into them."

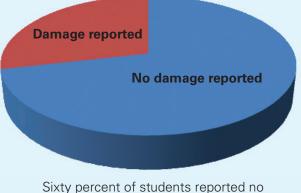
In 2005 there were 7,548 parking spaces on campus.

The average parking space width at OCC is 7 to 8 feet.

Parking spaces bordered by curbs are on average, a foot wider than regular parking spaces.

Damage Reports

Forty percent of students surveyed by the Coast Report saidthey have found damage on their car after parking on campus.



damage to their cars after parking on campus.

-Data compiled by Iris Orozco, Jennifer Lane, and Chris Sanchez

Purse snatcher hits OCC

Security cameras in the Arts Pavilion catch suspect taking a handbag.

BY ASHLEY LITWIN STAFF WRITER

An apparent purse snatcher on campus was caught on tape last week after security cameras captured a man leaving the Arts Pavilion shortly after a worker there reported her purse stolen.

The suspect, who was spotted exiting the Arts Pavilion

Wednesday around 6:15 p.m., was caught on Orange Coast College surveillance cameras wearing a Cal State Long Beach sweatshirt.

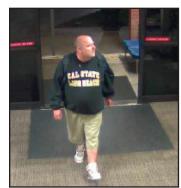
Chief of Public Safety John Farmer said that while a woman working in the Arts Pavillion was out of the room ,the suspect allegedly took her purse which contained several credit cards and an undisclosed amount of cash.

The suspect apparently took one of the cards and purchased items in the OCC cafeteria, Farmer said.

See **PURSE SNATCHER** Page 2







Photos courtesy of Campus Safety

suspected of stealing a purse from a female staff member in the Arts Pavilion around 6:15 p.m. Wednesday. If you hane any information about the suspect contact **Campus Safety at** 714-432-5017.

Students lack compassion

Study suggests young people are less likely to feel for others.

BY ASHLEY LITWIN STAFF WRITER

Today's college students are less likely to empathize with the emotions of others in comparison to previous generations, a new study suggests.

According to the study published on LiveScience, a science news website, today's students proved to be 40 percent less empathetic than their parents and grandparents.

The results were compiled through a series of 72 studies conducted between 1979 and 2009 on more than 14,000 American college students.

According the 2006 Jean Twenge book "Generation Me," the current group of college students has been labeled, narcissistic, entitled and self-centered.

Orange Coast College sociology instructor Terry Timmins said factors such as the Internet have led to the trend.

"The growth of our virtual social reality has contributed to the popularity of self-centeredness and a preoccupation with the lifestyles and the latest fashions and fads, a collective movement of sorts to narcissistic obsession," Timmins said.

The LiveScience study attributes the lack of empathy to an ever-increasing exposure to media.

"I agree with part of the notion that all the video games, the violent ones, have desensitized the students, but I think there are bigger issues," OCC anthropology and sociology instructor Monica Rothschild-Boros said. "I think that in order for a generation to be successful it has to have generational-defining moments so that it sets their internal clock and psyche in a certain way."

See EMPATHY Page 6

Multimedia and Online

Musink 2012



See the slideshow online at coastreportonline.com.

The subject pictured is

2 Campus



Accessory theft

A woman at the Swap Meet in the Adams Avenue Parking Lot reported her purse stolen while shopping for shoes on Saturday.

According to John Farmer, chief of Campus Safety, the victim reported hanging her purse on the back of her chair while she tried on a pair of shoes.

Farmer said the woman reportedly left the booth only to realize that she had forgotten her purse. When she returned, her handbag was gone along with an unkown amount of money, a California idenification card and a Social Security card.

Parking lot panic

A student called for medical aid using the emergency pole located near the Lewis Center for Applied Sciences in the Merrimac Way Parking Lot on Saturday after experiencing difficulty breathing, Farmer said.

Paramedics arrived on scene and reported that the man was on the ground but was conscious. He was shaking and had a high pulse rate.

Paramedics reported that

he was having a panic attack and he was trasferred to Hoag Hospital for further evaluation, Farmer said.

Please don't tell my mom

Orange Coast College Campus Safety officers reported a student code of conduct violation on Thursday at 2:55 p.m. in the Adams Avenue Parking Lot

The alleged offender was a male student who was reportedly lying face-down on the ground next to a white Honda Accord with the driver's side door open, Farmer said.

When the Costa Mesa Police Department arrived the subject admitted to having alcohol earlier that day, Farmer said.

The officers allowed the student to call his mother to be picked up and the keys to the vehicle were taken to the front desk of Campus Safety so the student's mother could pick them up at a later time.

According to Farmer the student was cited for public intoxication and underage drinking.

—The Crime Blotter was compiled by Ashley Litwin from Campus Safety reports. Global events, energy policies and oil companies affect gas prices.

BY JAMES DELAHOUSSAYE STAFF WRITER

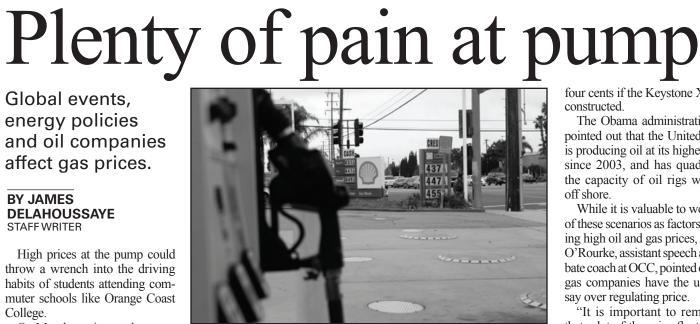
High prices at the pump could throw a wrench into the driving habits of students attending commuter schools like Orange Coast College.

On Monday, prices at the pump hit an average of \$4.35 in Orange County, according to gasbuddy. com and according to projections they will continue to climb in March

Costa Mesa is by no means a college town, and the spread out nature of Orange County demands that many college goers drive from home to school and back again.

For Mike Parra, a 22-year-old communication major at OCC. California's higher gas prices demands that he makes sacrifices during his time off.

"My car gets pretty good mileage, but I'm driving between work and school most of the week," Parra said. "At this point, with me spending hundreds of dollars a month in gas, I have to cut the amount of times I'm going out to grab some



Rising gas prices take a big bite out of students' budgets.

Photo by Lindsay Peters

coffee or meet friends."

There are many speculations as to why gas prices have continued to rise despite a slight drop of the cost

of oil over the weekend. Heightened international pressure on Iran's nuclear program has been met with threats from Tehran to close down the Straight of Hormuz. More than 40 percent of the world's oil supplies flow through the narrow waterway, and while Iran or the United States haven't taken military action, speculation alone has caused fluctuations in gas prices at home.

Republican candidates have also pointed to Obama's domestic energy policies as a major contributor to America's troubles at the pump.

All four presidential hopefuls have called for federally-controlled oil fields to be further exploited, along with the easing of environmental restrictions on natural gas extraction.

Critics also point a finger at the president's denial of TransCanada's Keystone XL pipeline that would run from the oil sands of Canada to the Gulf of Mexico.

However, a recent Bloomberg article reported that gas prices in the Midwest would actually increase 20 cents if the pipeline was built, because oil refineries originally located in America's heartland would be relocated to the Gulf.

Overall, the United States might have seen a drop in gas prices of

four cents if the Keystone XL was constructed.

The Obama administration has pointed out that the United States is producing oil at its highest rates since 2003, and has quadrupled the capacity of oil rigs working off shore.

While it is valuable to weigh all of these scenarios as factors affecting high oil and gas prices, Shawn O'Rourke, assistant speech and debate coach at OCC, pointed out that gas companies have the ultimate say over regulating price.

"It is important to remember that a lot of the price fluctuations seem unnecessary and could just be price gouging from oil companies. While the economics of the issue is fairly complex, it is hard to imagine that with the billions in subsidies oil companies receive, they are this vulnerable to world events," O'Rourke said.

Whether it is political or corporate policies that are contributing to the fluctuations in gasoline costs, everyone, including the people working at gas stations, are feeling the pinch.

We make 80 percent of our money from the pump," said a manager of a local Chevron who did not want to be named. "We all feel the market. People drive less, and we don't make the decisions on the price of gas. That comes from the higher ups.'

Couple leaves \$250,000 to Coast

BY AVI SEGALOFF STAFF WRITER

A \$250,000 donation was made to Orange Coast College from the estate of two former OCC students and sailing enthusiasts who continue to support the college even in the afterlife.

The \$250,000 is nearly a third of the couple's estate, and came as a complete surprise, even after the Blaich's involvement in OCC over the years, Doug Bennett, the Orange Coast College Foundation Director said.

"My aunt and uncle were both interested in education," said Jon Lant, nephew to the couple. "They believed in continuing education and were very enthusiastic with events at OCC."

Lant said when he would visit he was often taken by the couple to the evening lectures, and would go with Betty's parents and many of the Blaich's friends who would also attend.

"John knew a lot of people from his sailing club," Lant said. He would encourage them to go to the adult programs.'

John Blaich who died in 2003 and his wife Betty who died in

See **DONATION** Page 6

New degrees add confusion

Some mistakes have hampered transfer program meant to aid entry to Cal States.

BY ERIC GANDARILLA STAFF WRITER

Fall semester will mark the first year that Orange Coast College students will be able to transfer to Cal State Universities with one of Orange Coast College's newlyimplemented transfer degrees but confusion as to who actually has one of these degrees is still being dealt with.

According to Manoj Vickremesinghe, OCC articulation officer these transfer degrees were added to the list of available degrees at OCC a little over a year ago because of senate bill 1440. "Currently we have three different transfer degrees available at Orange Coast College," Vickremesinghe said. "Those are for communications, psychology and sociology majors."

vice president of student services more than 100 OCC students have applied to CSUs this fall claiming to have acquired or be in the process of acquiring one of these new transfer degrees.

One problem that Clark is reporting is that students are unintentionally checking off that they have completed these degrees on their online CSU applications even though they haven't because they simply don't know what they are.

Clark said another problem was students who completed their transfer degree but never applied for it are being from the CSUs that they applied to that they didn't complete them even though they technically did.

According to Vickremesinghe

having to take a few electives. In the new transfer degree

programs Vickremesinghe said that the 60 units are budgeted perfectly so that all of the units the student takes are comprise of only general education and their major specific classes.

'We're still working out some small details on how to negotiate the new system with the CSUs," Clark said. "Students are telling schools that they have these degrees but the schools want verification from us to make sure they really do."

Students who originally started at OCC working on the option two transfer program and now want to switch to one of the new transfer programs have to take some extra classes that they might

not have originally planned.





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Vickremesinghe added that while OCC currently only has those three available, more are being added. They have already approved transfer degree programs for kinesiology, early childhood and political science According to Kristin Clark, students who complete one of the new degrees will receive a .1 GPA bump, priority when transferring to a CSU and also a guaranteed spot in one of the 23 CSUs.

Vickremesinghe went on to say that the guaranteed spot into a CSU might not be for the campus the student requested, but admission will be guaranteed to a CSU somewhere in the state.

In the general option two CSU transfer program, 60 units are needed to transfer. In the transfer degree program the general education classes and the majorspecific classes don't add up to 60 though, so a student ends up

"I'm going to have to end up taking argumentation because I started here two years ago before they had my transfer degree," Victoria Elder, 19, a communications major said. "I just found out about it this year. If I had known about it earlier I would have started sooner.'

Since this is a transitional year for these new programs, some of the students who have been at OCC longer might not know about them. Counselors have begun to inform students about them now and the transfer center has outreach programs about the transfer degrees for students.

PURSE SNATCHER: Alleged purse theft has Campus Safety

From Page 1

Campus Safety has contacted Cal State Long Beach with The staff member filed a the suspect's photo hoping report with the Costa Mesa to gather some information Police Department and OCC on him.

"If someone sees him, don't approach, contact Campus Safety immediately so we can get our officers out there," Farmer said.

"You must pay taxes. But there's no law that says you gotta leave a tip."



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SP12 OCC

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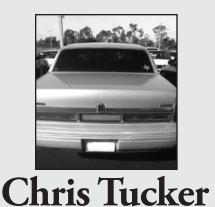
L OR EMAIL FOR YOUR APPOINTMENT NOW!!!!!



FEATURES 3 Determined to be in the books

PARKING LOT DIARIES

There are thousands of parking stalls on campus and each day they are packed with students. This week the Coast Report found out a little bit more about ...



BY ASHLEY LITWIN STAFF WRITER

old Orange Coast College computer science major, is the owner of a mobile computer repair business that fixes laptops and desktops across Orange County.

"I've always loved computers and I've always liked to do stuff for people so I figured if I can make money at it, why not," Tucker said.

Tucker's interest in computers started when he was 14 and he pursued that interest by interning for Eagle Computer Repair, a company based in Houston, Texas.

After OCC, Tucker plans to pursue a career in computers.

"My plan is to work for a big company and network in that world. I think it'd be cool to work for Google, but I kind of like what I'm doing now. I like interacting with people," Tucker said.

When he is not busy repairing computers, Tucker is doing checkout, stocking and food demos at Trader Joe's.

Born and raised in Hous- four years sober.

Chris Tucker, a 23-year- ton, Tucker moved to Orange County in 2007 and now lives in Huntington Beach.

> "The weather is nice but it's more expensive," Tucker said.

> Growing up with ten siblings— six sisters and four brothers, Tucker said that he prefers the company of women.

"I relate better to women because young guys out here always pretend to be something they're notwomen are just straight up and real," Tucker said.

Despite being a business owner at 23, things were not always easy for Tucker. He faced some difficulties

while living in Houston.

"I kind of had to get a jumpstart on life. I moved out here to get sober. I got mixed up with some stuff in Houston and wasn't exactly going the right way. I was a little bad boy. Then I moved out here," Tucker said.

California living has done Tucker well as he now runs his own business and has recently celebrated being at Guinness World Records to finally receive the record he believed

he deserved. Simons said that after two years of back and forth with Guinness World Records, he finally managed to receive the award. However, because the record was so late coming, "it cost me millions," he said referring to the potential income that he could have made had he received the record two years earlier. After receiving recognition

Simons said he was an outspoken student when he attended OCC in the early 70s and his tale of winning an Irene Ryan award, an honor given to the best student actors in the country, shows off his true nature as a dedicated and sometimes narcissistic actor and film maker. Simons won the Irene Ryan

award for playing five supporting roles in director John Ferzacca's play "Lennie."

Simons said when he won the award Ferzacca came up to him and said he couldn't believe he won. Simons said he told him, "If you'd have let me play Lennie we'd all be winners."

OCC theater arts instructor Rick Golson, who was a staff member while Simons attended, said Simons was a "wild and crazy guy."

"I thought good for him, he was really talented when he was here," Golson said.

He also said he attended a screen-

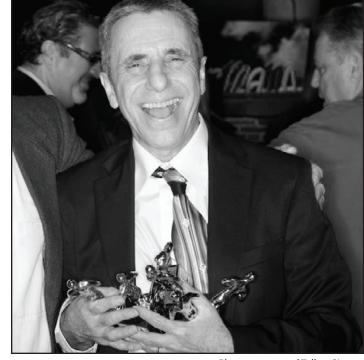


Photo courtesy of Talbot Simons

Simons received five awards for his film, "Still the Drums."

ing of Simon's film and said he nition for the world record he enjoyed it and thought Simon's acting performance was great.

That spirit brought Simons from being a Los Angeles area water tank sales person to funding his own \$1.4 million movie project.

Simon's hard work paid off but the praise wasn't enough

After Simons received recog-

purchased a full page ad in Variety magazine's post-Oscar issue costing him more than \$10,000 to congratulate himself for the record.

"I almost went broke paying for the ad, but I had to, for all these awards they [Hollywood] ignored," Simons said. "With the record, now they can't."

Smooth moves in the studio

Former OCC student opens up his own dance studio.

Former Coast

student sets a

Record for his

films' awards.

BY JOSH FRANCIS

by Guinness World Records for

"The most film festival awards

won in different categories by an

individual," former Orange Coast

College theater and performing arts

student Talbot Simons is eager to

make his name known to his peers

Simons, who attended the college

from 1972 through 1975, wrote,

produced, directed, acted in and

composed music for his 2009 film,

"Still the Drums," a movie about

the lives of four Vietnam veterans

He submitted the film into the

New York International Indepen-

dent Film and Video Festival and

won five awards — leading to his

"I was like holy shit, my face

The record did not come to

Simons however — he said he

consistently had to pester the folks

was hurting so much," Simons said

regarding his world record.

EDITOR IN CHIEF

in Hollywood.

after the war.

world record.

Guinness World

BY ELIZABETH SCHMIDT ARTS & CULTURE EDITOR

Former Orange Coast College student Jorge Contreras, 24, finds his passion through dance and music whether he is performing or teaching students at his company Que Rico Dance.

His dance studio teaches Bachata, a partnered dance from the Dominican Republic.

"Since I was five, I had a passion to dance but I didn't take it seriously until about four years ago," Contreras said.

Contreras took a hip-hop and a salsa class while attending OCC that he said was instrumental to his learning.

"Taking classes at OCC was a stepping stone, and if it wasn't for the classes at OCC who knows where I'd be. I took salsa classes when I was 14 but wasn't consistent," Contreras said. "I practiced on my own on a daily basis. I started teaching in my friend's backyard in Santa Ana. I loved it and wanted to share my passion with others."

He said he also learned a great amount from his dance partner at OCC, Christy Bermudez, who actually introduced him to Bachata and taught him the style of dance.



Photo Courtesy of Quericodance.com

See **DANCE** Page 4

Jorge Contreras



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4 ARTS & CULTURE Melding ink and music

Tattoo festival at fairgrounds brings fans from around the county.

BY ASHLEY LITWIN STAFF WRITER

Musink returned to the Orange County Fairgrounds with various musical stylings and tattoo artists Friday, Saturday and Sunday for its fifth annual festival.

The event hosted more than 300 of the world's finest tattoo artists and had a lineup of 12 bands including Tiger Army, The Howlers, Yellowcard, Bayside, New Found Glory, Guana Batz, Kill the Complex, COR, The Darlings, Hell or Highwater, Against Me! and Alkaline Trio.

The Musink concept was created by Bill Hardie, and incorporates skateboarding, art and music — things that can be enjoyed by people of every socioeconomic status.

Tattoo connoisseurs flocked the event to get inked by their favorite artists, some having made appointments months in advance.

"I'm the canvas," Joey Cardenas, 22, of West Covina said.

Cardenas volunteered to be a part of a tattoo contest and won first place for best back piece.

The festival also brings in a number of vendors with merchandise ranging from raccoon hats to body jewelry like plugs and tongue rings.

Tattoo artists attend the convention to promote their businesses as well as to show off their personal artwork.

"I own a local shop in Orange and this is a good way to meet the public,"Lucky Bastard, owner of Mr. Lucky Bastard's

Photo by Wendy Birchard

Dan Smith, from LA Ink, tattoos a woman at the Musink Festival at the OC Fairgrounds.

Fine Tattoo Work.

Bastard specializes in largescale Japanese and traditional American tattoos.

Aside from fan devotion, sev-

eral members of the Musink staff that we have artists from all over have been a part of the project since the beginning.

the world coming to Orange County to show off their work," said Corey Danger, 30, a Musink

crewmember said.

major, said she is eager to see the

play because of her fondness for

The theater department is re-

cruiting character actors, singers,

a break dancer and a celebrity

impersonator to perform in the

character roles will be held Mon-

day and Wednesday at 7 p.m. in the

Drama Lab Theater. Auditions for

1980s celebrity impersonators and

All singers should prepare 1980s

karaoke-type songs. Singers can

also perform without accompani-

ment and there will be no piano at

"This will be a very fun rehears-

There are roles for a large cast

-7 to 14 women and 7 to 14 men

al and performance experience,"

singers are Tuesday at 7 p.m.

Auditions for actors interested in

the 80s.

production.

auditions.

Golson said.

Snapshots reflect past and present

Artist uses pictures from discarded photo albums to make statement.

BY CONSUELO TOLENTINO STAFF WRITER

Jane Deschner's exhibit "Re-Collection/Recollection" is on display through Monday in the Orange Coast College Fine Arts Gallery.

Deschner's art stresses how important the differences from past generations are to present





Auditions set for end-of-semester **Theater Arts** performance.

BY CONSUELO TOLENTINO STAFF WRITER

The Orange Coast College Theatre Arts department will present its first-ever interactive musical and dance production on campus when the curtain goes up in early May.

The play, "The Awesome 80s Prom," will allow the audience to become a part of the production when audience members go on stage where they can dance and act along with the actors, Alex Golson, the play's director said.

Half of the play will follow a — who will portray stereotypical script, and the other half will be

Campus **Events**

For information on most campus events, call (714) 432-5880 or toll free at (888) 622-5376.

Music

"OCC Symphony Orchestra," March 17: The OCC symphony performance will include Brahms Symphony No.1 and Bruch Violin Concerto No.1. Ricardo Soto conducting. Curtain at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$10 at the door.

Art

"Class Act," OCC student Judi Jordan's solo exhibit through March 12: Photo gallery on the first floor of the Fine Arts building. Admission is free.

"Re-Collection/Recollection," OCC student Jane Deschner solo exhibit through March 12: Photo gallery in the OCC Fine Arts Building. Admission is free.

"MOPLA-Month of **Photography,"** Collaboration with OCC School of Photography April 7 through April 27: Photo gallery exhibit with an opening reception and artist. Lecture on April 7, from 4-8 p.m.

"I'm a Frayed Knot," an exhibition featuring fiber and mixed media, through March 17: In the Frank M. Doyle Arts Pavilion, open from 11 a.m. until 7 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday and 11 a.m. until 4 p.m. Saturday. Closed Friday, Sunday and Monday. Special tours and events can be arranged on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays by appointment by calling (714) 432-5102 to schedule a visit. Admission is free.

Theater

generations.

Deschner uses snapshots she collects from discarded family albums and embroiders words and questions onto them as well as quotations from wellknown people like Shakespeare and Eleanor Roosevelt.

This shows the gallery audience the differences between the present and the past in which the timeless pictures were taken.

Deschner uses pictures of evervday activities like dancing, mowing lawns, shaking hands and playing and asks why the

Photo by Consuelo Tolentino

"Re-Collection/Recollection," by Jane Deschner, will run through Monday in the Orange Coast College Fine Arts Gallery.

people in the pictures are doing and white portraits, which such activities.

When I first looked at her pieces of art I immediately saw the faces in black and white and felt attracted to it.

Deschner's art pieces have beautiful embroidery written on them, and the embroidered words are written in colorful threads that contrast the black

Orange Coast College Re-Entry Center

Empowerment for Women

Speaker Andrea Riggs

Women's right to vote, the 19th amendment, was ratified in 1920,

but how far have we really come? Where are we in 2012?

Andrea Riggs's talk, will address the current challenges of women today.

makes the photos livelier.

I enjoyed the exhibit and recommend that students consider bringing their families with them to see the art.

Deschner studied visual arts in Vermont College and lives in Montana where she continues to pursue her career as an artist.

improv, Golson said, and each performance will be different according to the audience participation of the night.

The play, written by Ken Davenport and featuring 1980s culture, is not only an interactive production but will have many things to surprise the audience.

"It will be a fun, silly, thrilling and appealing experience. Definently a lot of fun," Isabella Chavez, 20, a theatre arts major who said she plans on auditioning for the performance said.

Janel Ramirez, 19, a dietetics

DANCE: Former Coast student opens up dance studio in Los Angeles.

From Page 3

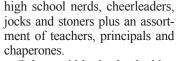
Contreras now directs Que Rico Dance Company, works at different venues, and holds group classes that meet four days a week at Stevens Steakhouse in Commerce.

"The first hour is beginner and second hour is intermediate/advanced it's fully Bachata," Contreras said. "We mix it up with today's influences too."

The Que Rico Dance Company groups are comprised of the Little Stars Team, the Rising Stars Team and the Show Team.

The Show Team represents Que Rico Dance in various competitions.

Contreras has traveled internationally and nationally for dance competitions and said he loved going to Santa Domigo,



Golson said he is also looking for a good dancer to perform a break dancing routine and a "special surprise guest star" who can deliver a solid impersonation of a 1980s rock star using real vocals or lip-sync techniques.

Scripts are available on reserve at OCC Library or from Golson in Drama 201.

The play will run May 3 through 5 and May 10 through 12 in the Drama Lab Theatre.

Dominican Republic where

Bachata originated and being able to study the culture of the dance.

Contreras' next competition is later this week in Italy and he will be performing with Serena Cuevas, the director of Deseo Dance Company.

"He's a fantastic dancer and great instructor," Cuevas said. "I have known him four years. Since then it has been a pleasure to work with him because we have a similar work ethic."

Contreras not only learned a lot from OCC but also explained how much he loves what he does today by teaching others to dance.

"When people say that I motivate them to dance, it inspires me to move forward to accomplish what I've set my mind to," Contreras said.

Reach High or shoot for the Coast Report

"Merry Wives of Windsor," March 8-11: By William Shakespeare. Guest director, Glendele Way.

Love and lust among the housewives of the OC, Shakespeare's tale of romance and revenge comes alive. March 8-10 at 7:30 p.m. and March 11 at 2:30 p.m.

Tickets \$10 advance \$12 at the door. Students, seniors, and children \$6 advance, and admission is \$8. Go to:

http://occtickets.com

"Awesome 80s Prom Auditions," Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

Actors interested in character roles will audition on Monday and Wednesday, March 12 and March 14, at 7 p.m. in the Drama Lab.

Dance

"Student Dance Concert," April 27 and 28 at 8 p.m.: Directed by Amelie Hunter. OCC students perform original choreography in a variety of dance styles.

Advance admission tickets are \$10, and admission at door is \$15.

Dining

OCC's Eclectic Café, every Friday: Menus featuring "fresh food at a fresh price." On-campus restaurant features a three-course gourmet menu prepared by OCC culinary arts students Fridays from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Student Center Cafeteria area closest to the OCC Administration Building. Meal is \$6. Call ext. 26435 for reservations.

Thursday, March 8 & 15, 2012 12noon —1:30 pm

Free Workshop

For more information, call the OCC Re-Entry Center at (714) 432-5162 or visit us in the Center located in Watson Hall, Room 433



EDITORIAL Gas price fiasco

has caused drivers everywhere to cringe when driving past gas stations or when filling up their tanks.

According to GasBuddy. com, a website that tracks the cost of fuel, the average price of gas in Orange County has reached \$4.34 per gallon. For those commuting to Orange Coast College, the increase in gas prices could pose a big problem.

Those who live near OCC may choose to walk instead of drive, while those commuting have little choice but to carpool with a fellow student.

Other methods of conserving gas may be to remain on campus rather than go home or get food off campus. With parking lots that are consistently full at school, signs point to this being a very logical answer.

Looking back a year ago, gas prices were at an average of \$3.88 a gallon in Orange County – we are paying 46 cents more a gallon today. This may not seem like a lot, but when it comes to filling up it can quickly add up.

To make matters worse, just

As the

United States

government

struggles to

find peace

with the

Middle East,

the Academy

The increase in gas prices one month ago the price of gas was \$3.78 a gallon.

> According to The Los Angeles Times, speculators did not expect gas prices to reach such a high until May and are now unsure how high gas prices may go. U.S. oil trading has been more than \$100 a barrel, some analysts speculate that the cost of gas may increase to \$5 a gallon in California while others don't see it breaking the 2008 record of \$4.58 a gallon in California and \$4.11 nationwide.

> As to why the gas prices are especially high in California, The Los Angeles Times attributed that rise to the small amount of refineries present in California that cause a surge in prices when they face problems.

> In addition, there has been a decline in other sources of crude oil in Alaska that has forced a 71 percent increase in our imports of foreign oil.

The strain of importing has also caused a strain on the wallets of Californians, especially struggling college students who depend on their cars to commute to OCC everyday.

The crude truth

The average price per gallon of gasoline hovers at around \$3.90-\$4 in coastal states (especially California) and decreases slightly in inland states.

Dean Nothstein That gas is expensive is not Copy Editor the question.

What is under debate is why costs are that high and what consumers can do about it. In short, this is a pointless discussion because gas prices are controlled by basic economic principles, just like any other product or service.

There is an attitude among politicians that drastic changes should be made so that gas prices drop and the economy gets "back on its feet." This is almost silly in its hypocrisy and short-sightedness.

There is a simple equation to determine how much gas will sell for at the pump: Crude oil (68 percent) plus refining process (10 percent)

AB IMO PECTORE

plus marketing/distribution (8 percent) plus taxes (14 percent) equals gas price, according to the Energy Information Administration.

While supply and demand must also be factored in, inflation and taxes are the driving force behind the increased strain on consum-

So, compare gas prices now to those in the 1950s. Sixty years ago, gas was about 30 cents per gallon. According to investopedia.com, gas should be about \$2.79 today, adjusted for inflation, assuming there was no change in taxes or supply and demand.

Regarding the latter of the two, supply and demand, there has been a change in supply but not in demand.

High-quality crude oil is slowly diminishing in supply (though we're nowhere near running out), so the cost of it increases.

At the same time, while people may explore more fuel-efficient transportation options, more people world-wide start to need gasoline, so in the end the overall demand is about the same, with the average individual making small changes to his consumption if the price jumps too much, according to investopedia.com.

VIEWS

That leaves taxes. In 1950, 1.5 percent of the price paid at the pump was due to taxes. In 2011, it was 20 percent.

Politicians want to encourage consumers to drive hybrids, carpool and bike or walk. They want to change policies in the Middle East. Each one who pushes one of these policies or reform laws seems to think he's found the panacea for gas prices.

Supply decreases at a glacial rate. Demand stays relatively the same. Short-term conflicts cause short-term changes in price, for which politicians have short-term solutions. When they stop frivolously spending public money, they can justify driving prices up with their taxes. Meanwhile, they should stop trying to make other people solve problems they're creating.

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Ava Amiri

country of Iran in a different light.

Last month, for the first time in 84 years, the Academy Awards gave an Oscar to an Iranian film, titled "A Separation."

"At the time when talk of war, intimidation and aggression is exchanged between politicians, the name of their country, Iran, is spoken here through her glorious culture, her rich and ancient culture that has been hidden under the heavy dust of politics," said

struggles of a couple living in a middle class society in Tehran, Iran who have to deal with love, loss, punishment and parenthood.

The film is driven by narration, and throughout it there is an intense yet familiar mood that anyone who has experienced a separation or sickness in the family can relate to.

However, very few know that this award-winning movie almost wasn't released. According to an Associated Foreign Press release published on Yahoo News,

The Iranian cinema industry put obstacles in front of the movie and even halted filming in late 2010 because Farhadi spoke out publicly urging fellow filmmakers to make an "anti-regime" film.

But after surpassing all the obstacles, the movie was released in part due to its censorship and

never share with anyone out of fear of what they will say or think. Recently a lifelong friend

We all have

secrets and

feelings we

Collard and I were rem-Staff Writer iniscing about

the good old days of being a kid and we started talking about our annual dove hunting trips to Arizona that we used to go on with our dads.

Brian

We had been drinking and I guess I had enough Coorstruth-serum-light in my system to divulge some feelings that I had about dove hunting that I never got to air out.

You see, killing animals has never been my favorite thing to do. I tend to like my hobbies a little less lethal. Yes, football is a violent sport but the losing team doesn't end up on the dinner

table afterwards. I think I would enjoy hunting

able moving target at a distance is something I like and find respectable. It is challenging and it takes great skill and accuracy to be consistently successful.

The problem I had with dove hunting was when our accuracy was off. The shot would just graze the bird and it would slowly fall to earth still attempting to fly. When this happens, it is customary to catch the injured animal and put it out of its misery.

The way that we put a wounded dove out of its misery was by either ringing its neck, or by removing its head. Step one: grab its head with one hand and its body with the other. Step two: separate.

I remember thinking, "this was a bit drastic, couldn't we just give it some morphine or something?" The bird was running just fine, it didn't look to be in too much pain, and I bet if it could talk it would

Real men spill their guts But shooting an unpredict- was one thing, but when I actually held one in my hands my first instinct was to take it home as a pet rather than get all Henry VIII on the poor thing.

Because of this I always felt like a wuss. After all, no one else seemed to have reservations. They would just bend down, grab the bird, and snap its neck.

Needless to say I was very self-conscious as I was telling my friend about these feelings. That was until I saw his face light up as if a weight had been lifted off his shoulders after all these years, and he let out an emphatic, "Me too!" and admitted that he hated doing this as well.

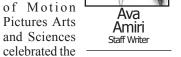
All these years of feeling like a wimp for nothing.

It makes me wonder if we all had the guts to tell people our feelings, we might actually find they are pretty normal.

Editor's note: Ab Imo Pectore is a weeki column by Brian Collard. Contact the writer: brianscolumn@gmail.com

Iran celebrates Oscar win





Asghar Farhadi director of "A Separation," during his acceptance speech.

His film explores the everyday

the very fact that it didn't mention anything about the Islamic Republic of Iran's notorious government.

more if I could just pretend to shoot the dove, shake its talon, say good game and we both go home to our families afterward.

have definitely voted to stay in misery and alive rather than the alternative.

Shooting these creatures while flying through the air

A quick and simple way to navigate

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Skateboarders glide through campus upsetting some along the way

I'm walk-

got plac-

es to be,

people to

see and

Boarders should ride shoelace express

Skateboarding is prohibited but tolerated on campus and it should not be.

Jennifer Skaters Lane try to make Staff Writer people see them as

more than just punk kids, and those of you who are running people down are not helping this cause.

Skateboarding in an area where there are several pedestrians is dangerous to the skater, as well as the people walking in the area.

Just last week I was walking and some guy on a board ran into the back of me and nearly knocked me over and then didn't so much as nod his head at me in apology. Skateboarding on college campuses is banned at several schools, Cal State Fullerton, UC Irvine, UC Riverside and Cal State Long Beach just to name a few. Many forget that included in that list of schools that prohibit skateboarding,

campus to the other.

you go to a bigger school

where they fine you \$112 to

should be used in an area with high pedestrian traffic. There are too many chances for accidents. is Orange Coast College.

with, two have been run Our campus is small, unlike Cal State Fullerton into by a skateboard and or UCI. It takes us 10 minthree students said they had utes to walk from the back been forced out of the way of Adams Avenue Parking to avoid being hit. Lot to the Robert B. Moore There is no sense in Theatre, and I know because hurting yourself bailing off I do this every Monday and your board to avoid a per-Wednesday. At a large cam-

son or car, or running into pus it can take 20 minutes another person just because to walk from one side of you are late for a class. I have been around skate-If you plan on transferboarders my entire life ring you might as well — my dad skated and I break the habit now before

have friends who skate. If you can't ride with respect you don't deserve to ride.

\$150 for skateboarding.

Most people think that

Nothing with wheels

Out of 12 students I spoke

skateboarding on campus

is wrong but bikes are OK,

I disagree.



Andrea Dinh Managing Editor

I most definitely do not have the time to waste walking behind people who enjoy just strolling along.

That is why I support people who choose to skateboard around campus. Skateboarders are just trying to get where they need to be in the least amount of time. Skateboarding not being allowed is a crazy idea to me.

Bicycling is allowed on campus, but skateboarding

is not. I don't understand why it's OK for students to ride around on a huge 6-foot bike that takes up half the walkway, but it's not OK for them to get around on a little board with wheels.

To me, that seems extremely unfair. I personally have never had a negative encounter with a skateboarder and maybe that is why I do not have a problem with people skateboarding around campus.

It seems to me that the possibility of being run over by a student riding their bicycle would be much more painful than getting hit in the back of the ankle with a skateboard that may have strayed from its owner.

My theory is, if you don't want to get hit by a skateboard, then move out of the way. If people want to con-

tinue moving along at the incredible speed of one mile per hour, then they should not walk in the middle of the sidewalk when people are trying to get on with their day at a normal human speed, with or without a skateboard.

Skateboarders may annoy pedestrians but when I see someone on a skateboard speeding by I choose get out of the way. If I become extremely impatient and aggravated with people walking at a snail's pace, I can only imagine a skateboarder's anger when they encounter people who walk slowly.

Prohibited or not, I understand why a skateboarder continues to skateboard on campus. When there are places people need to be, most people try to find the quickest way to get there.

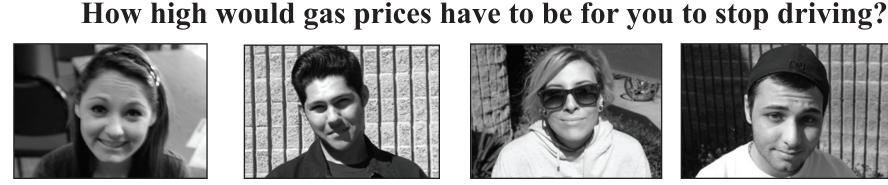
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QUESTION



Chloe Tiberghien 19, special education

"I will never stop driving."



Haley Jordan 18, liberal arts

"When the gas prices get higher than minimum wage."



Jade Ramos 18, business

"When gas prices get about a penny higher, that's when I'll stop driving."



Josie Stoffregen 20, social services

"If gas prices get to \$5 a gallon I will definitely stop driving."



Zied Jahshan 18, business management "My parents pay for my gas so I have nothing to really worry about."

<u>6</u> Sports Bouncing forward

Will Ligon stands out on the court and is named to All-Empire team.

BY PATRICK PHAM STAFF WRITER

Sophomore basketball standout Will Ligon has been selected to be on this year's All-Orange Empire Conference first team.

A graduate from Centennial High School in Corona, Ligon put on an impressive two years at Orange Coast College with a career total of 810 points — the 18th most in school history. He also led the conference with 510 points at fifth best in the state and was sixth most in the state with 77 three-pointers made.

"It's all good accomplishment to do two years in a row, especially since we have a good team that doesn't seem to compete for state," 19-year-old psychology major Ligon said.



Photo by Patrick Pham In two years, Will Ligon has scored 810 points and looks forward to transferring.

He started playing basketball in the second grade and said his best game at OCC was against

Enough Linsufferable hype

Santa Ana College when the Pirates won by 22 and he scored 37 points and went 10 for 24 shooting.

Both he and his coach describe him as a catch and shoot kind of guy like Ray Allen. Shooting and passing aren't problems for him. Coach Steve Spencer said Ligon has expanded his game and is able to play the two-guard position.

"He had a great career at Orange Coast College and he was the best shooter that I've ever coached," Spencer said. "He was definitely in the top two, right behind Jason Gary as far as numbers go," he added.

So far Ligon has an offer from Concordia University, but he'll most likely get offers from D1, D2, D3, and IA divisions.

As an academic student, he averages from a 2.9 GPA and is on track for graduation.

When he's not playing basketball, he said he's either watching cartoons, working out or hanging out with friends.

FAST TIMES



Photos by Patrick Pham

Men's track placed first earning 75 points at a meet against El Camino and Cuyamaca colleges on Feb. 17. Women's track earned 51 points to finish second. Top, Carmille Garcia and Grace Adams Handy run during the meet. Garcia earned first place in the the 800-meter dash with 2 minutes, 28.95 seconds and 3,000meter dash in 10 minutes, 53.05 seconds. Above left, sprinter Taylor Perez takes off during the meet. Right, Julia Garcia sprints over hurdles. The Pirates will be competeing in the Ben Brown Invitational at Cal State Fullerton Friday through Monday.



PARKING: Small but still legal, Coast lot spaces bring on ire.

From Page 1

she has had damage to her car. After seeing damage to a friend's car in a campus lot, Lagerlof said she turned on her PT Cruiser and heard a loud "clunk, clunk, clunk" sound.

When she got out to look she said there was a large dent on the hood of her car and the clattering noise was the hood hitting some-

thing on the engine.

and you could tell it was a guy's because it was so big," she said.

Lagerlof said she was allowed to put up fliers asking if anyone has seen anything, but no one came forward.

"I had to pay a \$500 deductible and I was without a car for six weeks," she said.

Lagerlof said she is also the reason the speed bumps were added to Gym Parking Lot. She said she was concered for her safety and others when walking

out of Watson Hall into the Gym Parking Lot.

"No one ever stopped at the stop sign and people just sped through the parking lot," Lagerlof said. "It was scary."

She said campus safety occasionally asks around campus if anyone knows of hazards on campus, and she mentioned the lack of speed bumps in the parking lot.

Those bumps were added a few

Jeremy Lin, the starting point guard for the New York Knicks, has what some may call a Lincredible" success, but in reality he's Patrick

not a basket-Pham ball player. Staff Writer Of course, I've seen him

play. I'm a Knicks fan and I am disgusted by how many people jump on the bandwagon so quickly. Sure, he outplayed Kobe and beat the Lakers, but let's be realistic -- the Lakers aren't contenders anymore.

The biggest problem I have with all this craze is his so-called nickname, "Linsanity." Obviously, there are other lame nicknames such as "Linja," "Linspiration," "Super Lintendo," and so on, but the reason why I dislike the most common nickname "Linsanity" is because it pertains



Courtesy of Getty Images

Too much attention is given to a few good games by Jeremy Lin.

Now he gets to stay in a luxurious 1,182-square-foot condo at the W Hotel not too far from Madison Square Garden Arena.

So far, the Knicks have lost four times with Lin as their starter. That's great and all, but it shouldn't even be possible for

Heat. The Heat did exactly what they said they would: keep Lin under 10 points, 1-for-11 shooting, and caused him to turn the ball over eight times.

There's a reason why this guy was undrafted, didn't receive any scholarship offers from Division

to my favorite player, Vince Carter on the Dallas Mavericks. If you fans are going to have a nickname, make it something original and most importantly, don't copy it from one of my favorite players.

I don't care if he's Asian, black, white or Mexican, he could be whatever race he wants to be, but he will never enter my book of being called good. Thanks to his sudden run of luck, he doesn't have to sleep on his brother's couch anymore or at his teammate Landry Fields' house.

one of the worst teams, the New Orleans Hornets, to snap their seven-game win streak. It was all thanks to Lin's carelessness that caused nine turnovers.

Another team that stopped the 'Lincraze'' was the New Jersey Nets when Deron Williams convincingly showed Lin how to play the point guard position, scoring 38 points, grabbing four boards and dishing out six assists.

Still, I'd say the most convincing win so far with Lin as a starter was against the Miami

I schools, was released by both the Golden State Warriors and the Houston Rockets, and was sent to the D-League not once, but twice.

Being sent to the D-league, also known as the Development League, says it all. If that doesn't say enough, then let's consider the fact that the team he's on right now sent him there.

I could go on and on about why I hate Jeremy Lin, but I believe he will struggle the second half of the NBA season and find his way back to the bench.

ally sends five to six students and

a faculty member to the capitol.

DONATION: Late couple's generosity benefits Orange Coast.

From Page 2

From Page 1

2010 both were enrolled in Adult Education Programs throughout much of their adult lives, Lant said.

Over the years John and Betty contributed small gifts to OCC, but nothing more than \$600 and small motor parts for boats Bennet said.

The Blaichs had no children. The donation was not the first

Today's fast-paced lifestyle

may also be contributing to the

decline in empathy, the study sug-

gests and students say their gen-

eration isn't benefiting from it.

time the college inherited a gift from the couple, After John's death in 2003 they gave a sail boat to the sailing center Bennet said.

"The board has not yet decided what to do with the money," Bennett said. "It might be put in an endowment and saved."

John grew up kayaking and sailing and graduated from the University of Southern California in engineering. He worked

"With Generation Me, every-

thing is about instant gratifica-

tion - 'What am I going to do

this weekend, what's happening

on Facebook, who's playing

at this concert?' We need to

have better priorities," Bijan

EMPATHY: Students' priorities may be out of whack.

for the Crucible Steel Corporation and met his wife on a business trip to Syracuse in 1953.

Betty married John soon after, and returned with him to Newport. By the time John passed away they were married nearly 50 years.

Both Betty and John are known for their love of OCC and the belief in providing the same great educational experience they had with others.

PROTEST: CCCD students continue March in March tradition.

From Page 1

to enter the capitol building however it is illegal to protest inside the building, Martinez said. None of the students arrested were CCCD students.

"The crowd was very passionate, there was a lot of solidarity from all the students in the state," Martinez said.

Ngoc Nguyen, 19, an OCC advocacy committee member, said that although she was the only student from Orange Coast attending the protest, she brought more than 100 letters from students at the college with her to present to state Sen. Tom Harman (R-Orange County), whose district runs through much of the county.

"I'm here to represent all of the students at OCC," Nguyen said.

Nguyen said students from the district came to the protest with specific goals, including a primary goal of advocating for Senate bills 1052 and 1053.

The bills would provide students with access to free open-source digital books as well as require publishers to provide textbooks in libraries.

Nguyen said the group of CCCD students didn't get the opportunity to present the letters directly to Harman but said an aid accepted the letters and discussed the bills with them on behalf of the senator.

"It seemed like a successful meeting. It seemed like he [the aid] was very supportive," Nguyen said.

The trip, which is funded by the ASOCC and the CCCD, usu-



However, this year four members of the group from OCC were unable to join Nguyen and Martinez due to illness, Martinez said. "We can't just sit back and complain anymore," Nguyen said. "We can vote and we have to." Nguyen also reiterated the day's most popular chant directed at

state legislators, "Hear us out or

we'll vote you out."



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Shiravi, 19, a bioengineering major said.

While past generations of college students might have been viewed as empathetic liberals, the current generation may not possess those same characteristics.

OTHER HEALTHY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED For research study involving measurement of hemoglobin. If you are between 18-35 yrs old, healthy and weigh 220lbs or less, you may be eligible to participate in a research study with monetary compensation for your time. Multiple blood draws and a fluid infusion are required over the 90 -120 minutes study period. Please call for details. Masimo Corp. 40 Parker Irvine, CA 92618 949-297-7137