

College News



by Ariel Wesler and the PCC staff

November 2002

College Knowledge Night!!

**Presented by El Camino HS,
Taft HS, and Canoga Park HS.
November 19th, 2002
At El Camino High School
from 6:45-9:00 pm
Over 20 different experts will
be there giving workshops!**

College Rep Visits

UC Davis--Nov. 1st
USC, UCLA, CSUN—Nov. 5th
UC Santa Cruz—Nov. 6th
Santa Monica College—Nov. 7th
UCLA – Nov 12th, 19th, & 26th
Bard College (NY) – Nov 13th
Pierce College – Nov 14th & Nov 21st

A UCLA rep is in the College Office every Tuesday to answer any questions regarding the UC application process.

A CSUN rep is also in the College Office every Tuesday to provide help with the CSU application.

**Sign up to talk to college reps in
the College Office!**

College Fair Field Trip

Join Ms. Livingston on November 8th for the Los Angeles College Fair. 11th and 12th graders can sign up in the College Office. Only 100 spaces are available so pick up your trip slip today in the College Office. Trip slips must be returned to Ms. Livingston by Nov 6th!

\$\$ Scholarships \$\$

Here is a list of the scholarships that are currently available in the college office:

- African American Future Achievers Scholarship
- Principal's Leadership Award
- Toyota Community Scholars Program
- 2003 Discover Card Awards for Juniors
- Voice of Democracy
- National Alliance for Scholastic Achievement
- Raoul Teilhet Scholarship
- Mary C. & William G. Drake Scholarship
- Mechanical Engineering
- The Ron Brown Scholar Program
- The Beverage Industry College Scholarship
- American Fire Sprinkler Association
- Coca-Cola Scholarship
- Asian- American Scholarship

The Perfect College Essay: Help is available!!

By Jamie Agisheva

Every senior during the months of October and November starts to panic about the acceptance in the college of his/her choice. "What if my gpa is not that high and my SAT or ACT scores are lower than my competitors?" whines the typical senior. Seniors panic and fall in the state of self-mistrust and depression. The only thing seniors should realize is that colleges do not look **only** at one's gpa and SAT scores. College admissions officers are not as numbers oriented as all seniors think they are. Colleges appreciate those who play sports, instruments, participate in clubs to serve the school and community, or any other extracurricular activities. When admissions officers receive an application, they carefully look over the personal statement. The personal statement is your chance to make your application stand out by telling them things about yourself. Admissions officers read hundreds of essays every day and can spot a weak one immediately. If an essay is unique and gives good information, the essay will make a positive impact on the admissions officers.

Write the essay about yourself and make it personal. After all, it is called personal statement. It's your opportunity to tell the admissions staff whatever you think they need to know about you! Do not procrastinate! Start the essay early, ask several adults to read it over and give suggestions.

There are some websites that could aid you with the personal statement, but they cost money. EssayEdge.com offers help to make the essay look good for the admission officers. The website helps prevent typical mistakes in the personal

statement such as not being lucid, personal, unique. Correcting an essay this way could be a little pricey. Accepted.com is like the previous website –professional editors help with the personal statements. Bestresumes.net claims to be the least expensive website to edit the essay. The website also presents good tips and advices. **You don't have to spend money to get help with your essay!** The best way to correct the essay and make sure it has a proper tone and uniqueness is by letting others read your essay. Tell them to be objective, ask them questions like "What does this essay say about the author?" "Would you like to know this person more closely?" and "Would you spend four years with this person in college?" If the answer is not acceptable, change those errors until the essay is suitable to present to the admissions officers.

College Application Deadlines

UC and CSU apps—Nov. 30th
USC—December 10th (for financial aid)
Last SAT I and II-- Dec.7th (Reg: Nov. 1st) Late: Nov. 13th
Last ACT—Dec. 14th Reg: Nov. 8th
Late: Nov. 21st

How Am I Going To Pay for College?!!!

This seems to be the issue plaguing most parents and seniors this time of year. So, take a deep breath, relax, and come to the **financial aid meeting** for seniors and their families on Dec. 16th, 2002 at 7pm in Oral Arts.

Scholarship Scam Alert!

There are NO legitimate scholarships that require you to give them money! Do not pay a company for financial aid help or scholarship help! **The College Office will help you for FREE!**

