**Fastest-Growing Community College**

- **College of the Canyons Takes Top Spot in Nation**

In 2004, the College of the Canyons football team victoriously charged past teams nationwide and won the California State and the National Community College Championships. This year, it is not the college’s athletic prowess that has warranted the nation’s attention, but the tremendous growth the college has recently experienced - as much as a 14.3 percent student enrollment increase between fall 2004 and fall 2005 - making the college the fastest-growing community college of its size in America, according to a Community College Week study.

“This really doesn’t come as a surprise,” said Sue Bozeman, dean of district communication, marketing and external relations. “Classes are being held in every nook and cranny of the college, including the dining room. We always plan for growth, but we didn’t know we were the fastest-growing community college in the country - especially at a time when many colleges’ enrollments have declined.”

Of the 34 fastest-growing community colleges with student enrollments of 10,000 or more, College of the Canyons’ fall 2005 enrollment jumped to almost 16,000 students from the nearly 14,000 mark it reached the previous fall semester. Although final figures are not yet available, early estimates indicate the college may have had more than 19,600 students last fall. Following behind College of the Canyons were three other California community colleges, Ohlone College, College of the Canyons, and Oxnard College.

See **GROWTH** on Page 10

---

**Hypodermic Drive-Thru**

A College of the Canyons student nurse administers influenza vaccine to one of 839 people who took advantage of the college’s first drive-through flu clinic. The event was held Nov. 17. See additional coverage on Page 11.

---

**Nurses Trained Faster Than Ever**

- **Regional Nursing Collaborative Produces First Graduating Class**

Students from five regional, community college nursing programs celebrated together on Monday, Nov. 27 during a special ceremony held at the College of the Canyons Performing Arts Center. The ceremony marked the first graduating class of the Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) Regional Collaborative, a program designed to increase the opportunities for enrollment in nursing programs against the backdrop of a local, regional and national shortage of trained and qualified nurses.

The collaborative pools the resources of five Southern California community colleges, seven participating hospitals and donations from four foundations in a cooperative effort to accommodate more students in a shared, first-year associate degree curriculum in nursing.

In addition to College of the Canyons, other participating community colleges are Glendale Community College, Ventura College, Los Angeles Valley College and L.A. Pierce College.

Participating hospitals are Community Memorial Hospital of Buena Ventura, Glendale Adventist Hospital and Medical Center, Henry Mayo Newhall Memorial Hospital, Northridge Hospital and Medical Center, Providence Holy Cross Hospital and Medical Center, Providence St. Joseph Hospital and Medical Center, and Sherman Oaks Hospital.

Additional funding was provided by The Annenberg Foundation, Hill-Rom Co., Foundation of the National Student Nurses’ Association and the Weingart Foundation.

“Participation by all of these organizations is absolutely critical to the success of this important program,” said Sue Albert, dean of allied health at College of the Canyons.

See **NURSING** on Page 9

---

**Law Eases Access for High School Students**

High school students and their parents will forgo an annual tradition this summer, thanks to new legislation passed by the state Legislature.

In what had become a daunting ritual, 10th- and 11th-grade students seeking to take summer school classes at College of the Canyons raced against one another to get permission forms signed by their high schools before the limited number of available spaces was filled. Until now, only 5 percent of 10th- and 11th-graders at each local high school were allowed to enroll in summer school classes at College of the Canyons.

That all changed when Gov. Schwarzenegger signed Senate Bill 1303, which was sponsored by state Sen. George Runner at the request of College of the Canyons.

See **ACCESS** on Page 6
Development continues at the College of the Canyons Canyon Country Campus on Sierra Highway, and remains on schedule for a fall 2007 opening.

Grading of the 70-acre site is expected to be completed at the end of January, barring any weather delays. Work on retaining walls and slope stabilization started in January and should be completed within a month.

The next step is installing underground infrastructure, which includes water, gas, sewer, storm drain, phone, data and electrical service.

Building on these projects is expected to take place the first week of February, and work will commence shortly thereafter.

College of the Canyons purchased a number of surplus modular buildings at a discounted price to provide initial classroom and office facilities at the new campus. Those are being retrofitted and were moved on to the site in mid-January. The building sections will be assembled as soon as the Department of the State Architect approves the completed grading.

The campus will open with modular buildings, but plans are already being made to construct permanent facilities on the site. Thanks to Measure M, the $160 million bond measure passed by local voters in November, more modular buildings will be added and, with additional state funding, the first permanent building will be designed in 2008.

The value of the $160 million bond measure will be enhanced significantly because much of the construction funding from the state requires matching local funds. In other words, state funding would not be available if not for funds generated by Measure M.

The college has developed an educational master plan for the campus, and architects have designed a campus that will allow these functions to occur. The current design calls for a series of terraces that will accommodate the site’s existing terrain.

Access to the campus will be from Sierra Highway at the site’s southern end. A loop road will traverse the campus and exit at the north end of the property back onto Sierra Highway. Three parking lots will be located on the southern portion of the property.

Much of the campus will be invisible to motorists traveling along Sierra Highway. Large hills at the front of the site have been preserved to help shield the campus visually and minimize the noise from traffic on Sierra Highway. The result will be an environment conducive to teaching and learning.
It’s never been easier to apply for college.

Apply online today!

It’s easy. It’s fast. It’s available 24-7.

Follow these simple steps:

• Log on to the college website at www.canyons.edu
• Click on “Apply Now”
• Fill out the application and you’re done!

College of the Canyons is inviting members of the public to serve on the Measure M Citizens Oversight Committee, a legislatively mandated watchdog group responsible for ensuring that the college expends bond revenues properly. Measure M, the $160 million bond measure approved by voters on Nov. 7, is subject to the strict accountability rules mandated by Proposition 39. The law requires the college to appoint a committee to provide oversight to ensure bond revenues are expended only on those projects specified in the bond measure and that they are not spent on instructor or administrator salaries or operating expenses.

The same process was used to oversee the bond revenues and expenditures of Measure C, the $82.1 million bond measure approved by voters in 2001. Although the committee was required to have at least seven members on that committee, all 12 of the citizens who applied were appointed. That committee determined the college has consistently been in legal compliance in its expenditures of Measure C bond funds.

By law, members of the oversight committee must represent five categories:

• recognized community business organizations,
• senior citizens’ organization,
• taxpayers’ organization,
• student government,
• a Santa Clarita Community College District advisory committee or foundation board member.

The law excludes from service any college employee or citizen with a potential conflict of interest.

Those interested in serving on the oversight committee can obtain more information by calling the Office of the Superintendent-President at (661) 362-3400. Additional information and an application form can be found by clicking the Measure M Committee button at www.canyons.edu. The deadline for receipt of applications is 5 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 21.

Voters OK $160 Million Bond Measure

• Approval Signals Start of Another Round of College Expansion, Modernization Projects

A $160 million general obligation bond measure proposed by the Santa Clarita Community College District generated the support of 62.3 percent of voters on Nov. 7, signaling the start of another round of expansion and modernization projects at College of the Canyons, as well as construction of facilities at the district’s new, soon-to-open campus in Canyon Country.

“We’re committed to building for the future so we can continue to meet the needs of the community we serve,” said Dr. Dianne Van Hook, superintendent-president. “Measure F is giving us the flexibility we need to upgrade our facilities and technology to enable us to update existing programs and services, and create new ones that benefit our students.”

College of the Canyons has long been one of California’s fastest-growing community colleges and was identified as the fastest-growing college in the nation last year. That sort of growth has demanded adaptability, innovation and ingenuity by the district, as well as strong support from the community. Just five years earlier, voters approved an $82.1 million bond measure that significantly reshaped the campus and provided funds to purchase land for a new campus in the eastern portion of the district.

The $160 million bond measure, the fourth in the district’s 37-year history — is allowing the district to move forward yet again by adding more classrooms and labs, upgrading technology to expand instruction in public safety and other high-demand professions, and improving earthquake, security and fire safety on campus.

The locally generated funds also will help the district secure as much as $80 million in state matching funds due to the statewide passage of Proposition 1D, and build and equip classrooms and facilities at the Canyon Country campus, which is slated to open for its first classes in 2007.

The additional campus facilities that this bond measure will provide are critical to meet the community’s educational and training needs. The college is out of space, even with the opening of three new buildings currently under construction. To illustrate that point, some 3,100 people applied for admission in the fall of 2005 but couldn’t enroll, and 2,200 more students are on waiting lists for required classes each semester because of the shortage in classroom space.

The $160 million bond measure approved by voters on Nov. 7, is subject to the strict accountability rules mandated by Proposition 39. The law requires the college to appoint a committee to provide oversight to ensure bond revenues are expended only on those projects specified in the bond measure and that they are not spent on instructor or administrator salaries or operating expenses.

The same process was used to oversee the bond revenues and expenditures of Measure C, the $82.1 million bond measure approved by voters in 2001. Although the committee was required to have at least seven members on that committee, all 12 of the citizens who applied were appointed. That committee determined the college has consistently been in legal compliance in its expenditures of Measure C bond funds.
Variety of New Classes Offered in '07 Semester

- Courses Include Automotive Technology, Culinary Arts
- New Programs Approved effective for 2006-07 Catalog
- American Sign Language Interpreting
- Associate in Arts Degree
- Automotive Technician
- Certificate in Achievement
- Automotive Technology
- Associate in Science Degree
- Construction Management Technology
- Associate in Science Degree
- Construction Management Technology
- Certificate of Achievement
- Culinary Arts
- Associate in Science Degree
- International Trade Finance
- Certificate of Completion
- International Trade Marketing
- Certificate of Completion
- Land Surveying
- Associate in Science
- Land Surveying
- Certificate of Achievement
- Linux/UNIX Administration Certificate
- Certificate of Completion
- Network Associate Certificate
- Certificate of Completion
- Network Engineer Certificate
- Certificate of Completion
- Recreation Management
- Associate in Science Degree
- Security Technologies Certificate
- Certificate of Completion
- Systems Administration Certificate
- Certificate of Completion

New Programs

- International Trade Finance Certificate of Completion
- International Trade Marketing Certificate of Completion
- Land Surveying Certificate of Achievement
- Linux/UNIX Administration Certificate Certificate of Completion
- Network Associate Certificate Certificate of Completion
- Network Engineer Certificate Certificate of Completion
- Recreation Management Associate in Science Degree
- Security Technologies Certificate Certificate of Completion
- Systems Administration Certificate Certificate of Completion

The spring 2007 semester at College of the Canyons will feature some brand-new courses that are sure to be popular with students. Leading the list are classes in the college’s new Automotive Technology Program. For the first time, students will be able to sign up for classes such as Automotive Engines; Suspension, Brake and Power Systems, and Automatic Transmission.

“As long as there are vehicles on the road,” said Audrey Green, director of new programs at the college, “there will be a need for highly skilled automotive technicians. The supply of trained automotive technicians cannot keep up with the demand. Automotive dealerships and independent service providers are constantly in need of trained technicians.”

The automotive technology classes provide in-depth training with extensive hands-on experience. In the classrooms, students learn the theoretical diagnostic and service. In the automotive laboratory setting, students will apply the learned theory in the classroom. An automotive technology instructor, Gary Sombor, will begin teaching this spring.

Several new classes will also be offered in the college’s Culinary Arts Program. Offered for the first time are Principles of Baking (see the article on Pastry Chef elsewhere in this issue), Principles of Pantry and Garde Manger (garde mangier is a French term for a cool, well-ventilated pantry area, usually in hotels and large restaurants, where cold buffet items are prepared and other foods are stored in refrigerated units), and Culinary Fundamentals.

The culinary arts certificate program provides students with intensive professional and practical experience and a hands-on approach to the daily operation of a professional kitchen. Said Green. “There is a balance between developing the skills of food preparation and the restaurant management qualifications necessary for career growth.”

The program focuses on cooking skills development and problem solving, and challenging students to critically evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of culinary operations and identify entrepreneurial approaches to operations. Green stressed that the Culinary Arts Program is particularly relevant since the restaurant industry is the largest employer in California, providing 957,100 jobs statewide. The restaurant industry provides for almost 7 percent of those employed in California.

Additional classes offered this spring include International Business Law, Electronic Music for Stage and Advanced Plane Surveying.

To learn more about these classes, and to apply and register, visit the college’s Web site at www.canyons.edu.
Pastry Chef Cooks Up New Culinary Arts Classes

This summer, College of the Canyons is offering students the opportunity to study American history and literature in New England from July 31 to Aug. 9. Students will experience firsthand the landmarks that are considered as a cultural touchstone for the historical and literary legacy of America. “There is no better place to study the works of Thoreau and Emerson than in Massachusetts,” said James Charles, Rookwoodson, of the culinary travel advisory committee.

“Even the most pristine and meticulous note-taking done from the lecture of a passionate instructor in a traditional classroom setting doesn’t beat having the opportunity to prepare the meals and work. “I hated them,” Schwaneke said. “I came to COC in search of class however the discounted day-old pastries were not then-6-year-old Cindy Akranke had the opportunity to prepare the meals and work. “I hated them,” Schwaneke said. “I came to COC in search of class

T o then-6-year-old Cindy Schwaneke, nothing was worse than the discounted day-old pastries their teacher brought home from work. “I hated them,” Schwaneke said. “From that time on, I knew I wanted to be a pastry chef because, to me, freshness is a must.”

Now an award-winning pastry chef with more than 20 years of experience in the food-service industry, Schwaneke is teaching the first pastry baking class at College of the Canyons during the 2007 winter session that runs through Feb. 3.

Schwaneke came to COC in search of class-to complete my four-year degree, and that is how I learned of the great need to address the culinary arts passion in our valley,” said Schwaneke. “I would love to give my students a strong desire for a future in culinary arts by sharing my passion and experiences with them.”

Schwaneke has experience in teaching specialty classes in pastry design, baking and cake decoration as well as having the opportunity to prepare the specialty desserts for the Academy Award dinner hosted by Wolfgang Puck’s Spago.

At Spago, Schwaneke had the opportunity to train with Sherry Yard, who was named outstanding pastry chef by the James Beard Foundation. “A resident of Santa Clarita for 17 years, Schwaneke has also worked with the Hyatt Hotels in Valencia and Huntington Beach for the Four Seasons Hotel in Beverly Hills.

Canyons Extension Goes Online

B uying postage stamps, licking envelopes and registering for classes over the phone is a thing of the past, as this year the College of the Canyons Extension implements online registration. The website, www.canyons.commiutext.net, will be accessible 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and will make registration easy for those with busy schedules.

“We are very excited about the enhanced access this site provides to the community,” said Karen Gottschalk, director for community extension and non-credit programs.

The website provides busy members of the community with the opportunity to leisurely browse through the schedule and enroll in a wide variety of classes, seminars and workshops on their schedule, not ours.”

For more information about class registration and information, call Canyons Extension at (661) 362-3300.

Pastry Chef Schwaneke Looks Ahead

To then-6-year-old Cindy Schwaneke, nothing was worse than the discounted day-old pastries their teacher brought home from work. “I hated them,” Schwaneke said. “From that time on, I knew I wanted to be a pastry chef because, to me, freshness is a must.”

Now an award-winning pastry chef with more than 20 years of experience in the food-service industry, Schwaneke is teaching the first pastry baking class at College of the Canyons during the 2007 winter session that runs through Feb. 3.

Schwaneke came to COC in search of class-to complete my four-year degree, and that is how I learned of the great need to address the culinary arts passion in our valley,” said Schwaneke. “I would love to give my students a strong desire for a future in culinary arts by sharing my passion and experiences with them.”

Schwaneke has experience in teaching specialty classes in pastry design, baking and cake decoration as well as having the opportunity to prepare the specialty desserts for the Academy Award dinner hosted by Wolfgang Puck’s Spago.

At Spago, Schwaneke had the opportunity to train with Sherry Yard, who was named outstanding pastry chef by the James Beard Foundation. “A resident of Santa Clarita for 17 years, Schwaneke has also worked with the Hyatt Hotels in Valencia and Huntington Beach for the Four Seasons Hotel in Beverly Hills.

Canyons Extension Goes Online

B uying postage stamps, licking envelopes and registering for classes over the phone is a thing of the past, as this year the College of the Canyons Extension implements online registration. The website, www.canyons.commiutext.net, will be accessible 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and will make registration easy for those with busy schedules.

“We are very excited about the enhanced access this site provides to the community,” said Karen Gottschalk, director for community extension and non-credit programs.

The website provides busy members of the community with the opportunity to leisurely browse through the schedule and enroll in a wide variety of classes, seminars and workshops on their schedule, not ours.”

For more information about class registration and information, call Canyons Extension at (661) 362-3300.

Pastry Chef Schwaneke Looks Ahead

To then-6-year-old Cindy Schwaneke, nothing was worse than the discounted day-old pastries their teacher brought home from work. “I hated them,” Schwaneke said. “From that time on, I knew I wanted to be a pastry chef because, to me, freshness is a must.”

Now an award-winning pastry chef with more than 20 years of experience in the food-service industry, Schwaneke is teaching the first pastry baking class at College of the Canyons during the 2007 winter session that runs through Feb. 3.

Schwaneke came to COC in search of class-to complete my four-year degree, and that is how I learned of the great need to address the culinary arts passion in our valley,” said Schwaneke. “I would love to give my students a strong desire for a future in culinary arts by sharing my passion and experiences with them.”

Schwaneke has experience in teaching specialty classes in pastry design, baking and cake decoration as well as having the opportunity to prepare the specialty desserts for the Academy Award dinner hosted by Wolfgang Puck’s Spago.

At Spago, Schwaneke had the opportunity to train with Sherry Yard, who was named outstanding pastry chef by the James Beard Foundation. “A resident of Santa Clarita for 17 years, Schwaneke has also worked with the Hyatt Hotels in Valencia and Huntington Beach for the Four Seasons Hotel in Beverly Hills.

Canyons Extension Goes Online

B uying postage stamps, licking envelopes and registering for classes over the phone is a thing of the past, as this year the College of the Canyons Extension implements online registration. The website, www.canyons.commiutext.net, will be accessible 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and will make registration easy for those with busy schedules.

“We are very excited about the enhanced access this site provides to the community,” said Karen Gottschalk, director for community extension and non-credit programs.

The website provides busy members of the community with the opportunity to leisurely browse through the schedule and enroll in a wide variety of classes, seminars and workshops on their schedule, not ours.”

For more information about class registration and information, call Canyons Extension at (661) 362-3300.
Enrollment Fees Waived for High School Students

Special Program Allows Students to Enroll in College Classes While Still Attending High School

College of the Canyons has a special program that allows students to take college classes while still attending their regular high school. This program, called “Special Admission,” is available to students from both public and private high schools. It is a great opportunity for students to get a head start on their college education.

The great news is that College of the Canyons waives enrollment fees for up to two courses per student per semester. To participate in the program, students have to buy their own textbooks and supplies, and pay other mandatory term fees such as those for health, the student center, and student representation. They also may want to purchase a student ID card. However, the main enrollment fees are waived.

The Special Admission program is a smart choice for high school students who want to take a class at College of the Canyons in the summer. Instead of having to wait until they graduate and enter college, the summer program allows students to gain college credit while they are still in high school. The classes they take may be from general education or occupational classes, or coursework to help them pass the high school exit exam.

With those exceptions, almost any high school class who wishes to take a class at College of the Canyons in the summer may do so. Summer is an excellent time for high school students to take college classes. Because they are not taking their normal high school classes, students can focus on the class and find out exactly what it takes to be successful in college.

Summer school is an outstanding way for high school students to get a jump start on their college education or explore job training options. With the help of Dr. Richard M. Hook, president, and Dr. Kevin D. Kemple, superintendent-president, “It’s a smart choice because it makes high school students more competitive in the job market,” said Dr. Sharp. “This will benefit them throughout their journey toward better health and happiness.”

The program kicks off with a registration and pre-assessment workshop, which will take place before pre-assessment workshops. Students will then be encouraged to take a pre-assessment workshop, offered on Feb. 21 and repeated on Feb 22. Participants will choose two of three nutrition workshops and one of two fitness workshops, which will be held on May 2 and May 3. The post-assessment workshops will be held, and on May 9 the whole group will celebrate with a closing ceremony.

For additional information, contact Barke at (661) 362-3244.
**Mediated Math Solves Problems**

- Self-Paced Learning Method Ideal for All Students

Individualized assignments are also provided. Math tutors and assistance are available throughout the day for homework help. Math software is also available for use at home to provide additional instruction and practice, as well as scheduled one-on-one tutoring outside the classroom.

Mathematics classes from arithmetic through intermediate algebra are offered in this format. There is also an opportunity to complete an algebra preparation class along with additional algebra classes all in the same semester, allowing direct admittance into Intermediate Algebra following successful completion of the algebra preparation course.

The Mathematics Department believes that this freedom in the learning process, along with a pertinent and challenging high academic standards, will benefit a great number of students.

For more information, call (661) 362-3384 or (661) 362-3211.

---

**Rosy Assignment**

### Study Trip to China

D
given by wild imaginations and a hunger for adventure, countless children have begun the Herculean task of digging a tunnel to China in their backyards, only to abandon the project, unfinished, due to the heat of a sweltering summer day.

Now, instead of digging that tunnel, College of the Canyons is offering students the opportunity to earn credits for Asian history and humanities classes during a 15-day trip to China and the Yangtze River from June 11 to 25.

"Some of my best adventures have happened in China," said COC history professor Sherrill Pennington. "I climbed the Great Wall, stood during a 15-day trip to China and the Yangtze River.

This class meets off-campus at Canyon Country ACCESS.

---

**Langston Hunts House Project Coming to COC**

L
gueston Hunt once said, "Jazz is a mon
tage of a dream deferred. A great big dream—yet to come—yet in the lifetime of the individual, ultimately and finally true." On Tuesday, Feb. 27, that "great big dream" Hunt referred to will harmonize with the multimedia performance the Langston Hunts House Project “Ask Your Mama: Twelve Moods for Jazz.” The event is presented by the Associated Student Government in honor of Black History Month.

Dedicated to "the greatest horn blower of them all," Louis Armstrong’s "Negro Mother," was written by Hughes as an 800-line, 12-part poetic suite. The intention was to transmit the mood created during the Harlem Renaissance by spoken word, a live jazz quartet and the use of visual illustrations on screen of African American artists and photographers such as Jacob Lawrence, Gordon Parks and Romare Bearden.

"The purpose of highlighting the realization of the global struggle for freedom at the time, "Ask Your Mama" remained unfinished due to Hughes’ death in 1967. Hughes wrote the entire work and images made it possible to finish Hughes’ vision justly. The words, sounds and images in "Ask Your Mama" offer a rare glimpse of an unforgettable era in our cultural history, bridging the Harlem Renaissance, the post-World War II era, the civil rights movement and the black arts performance expansion of the 1960s.

The performance is scheduled at 7 p.m. at the College of the Canyons Performing Arts Center. Tickets cost $10 each. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit www.canyonspac.com.
Early Childhood Center Marks 25th Anniversary

In a way, the College of the Canyons Center for Early Childhood Education (CECE) is becoming a grandparent. After 25 years of service to the community, the preschool program now frequently enrolls second-generation children – the children of children who attended the center’s preschool during the center’s first years. Those first attendees are nearing their 30s, and many are parents who want their kids to have the same wonderful preschool experience.

“It cemented our sense of having created a lasting institution for our valley,” said Dr. Diane Stewart, dean of early childhood education and training programs.

The center, which is celebrating its 25th anniversary with a series of events in 2007, has served more than 3,000 children and countless satisfied parents over the years. The anniversary will be celebrated through three events: the annual Drum Circle to be held in March, the family spring picnic held April and the annual ECE staff appreciation dinner in May.

The center provides infant/toddler and preschool programs for children, staff and the community. In addition to its programs for children, the center also provides a supervised practicum experience for students majoring in ECE programs at College of the Canyons. ECE students work with the certificated, credentialed instructors in their classes and receive a stipend in the laboratory.

“The continuity between theory and practice has proven to be a unique strength of the college program and is a model for community colleges throughout the state,” Stewart said.

The center is located on the western side of the College of the Canyons campus at a building constructed specifically for that purpose in 1995. The ECE complex consists of a main building and three modular buildings. They provide several classrooms that accommodate 190 children in infant/toddler programs in morning, afternoon and full-day preschool programs. There are two additional college classroom rooms for adult classroom work.

The original site of the center was the college’s current administration building. At the time of its opening in 1985, the original center consisted of three classrooms and 45 children in a morning preschool program.

In 1985, the center became the first community college lab school in California to be accredited by the National Academy of Early Childhood Programs. It continues to maintain an accredited status.

Low-income students and community members enrolled in services at the center have benefitted from funds provided by the Department of Education Child Development Division since 1990.

A group of children with small shovels helped officials break ground for the facility in 1993, and also helped Superintendent-President Dianne Van Hook cut the ribbon when it opened in 1995.

“We have been dedicated to providing and modeling the most current theories and curriculum in the field of early childhood education,” said Stewart, “and we are very proud of our contributions to early childhood education in the community.”

For more information about Early Childhood Education College at the Canyons, visit the college’s Web site at www.canyons.edu.
The College of the Canyons Nursing Program has been reaccredited by the California Board of Registered Nursing (BRN). The goal of accreditation is to ensure that education provided by institutions of higher education meets acceptable levels of quality.

The college’s associate degree program in nursing was found to be in compliance with the rules and regulations set forth by the BRN, which accredits the nursing program every eight years.

“The BRN accreditation is necessary to run a nursing program,” said Nancy Faulconer, nursing program technician for the college. The accreditation process ensures that the program, faculty, responsibilities, curriculum, and policies “were in compliance with the rules and regulations of quality.”

Nursing Program Impresses Accreditation Team

The first class produced by the regional nurse training collaborative participates in official completion ceremonies on the stage at the College of the Canyons Performing Arts Center on Dec. 15. The lack-of-classroom barriers that prevented students in adequate numbers from completing this part of their curriculum.

The clinical aspects of the training then were able to take place at the participating hospitals and medical centers. To accommodate the additional nurse trainees, the hospitals and medical centers frequently scheduled clinical hours at non-traditional times such as evenings and weekends.

One hundred new students enter the ADN Nursing Collaborative program each January, ADN programs prepare roughly 70 percent of California nurses annually.
Growth

FROM PAGE 1

Rio Hondo College and Victor Valley Community College. There were 178 colleges in that same group reporting growth data.

The data collected nationally for Community College Week's Special Report: “The Fastest-Growing Institutions: Interpreting the Numbers,” was provided through the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS), a data collection service conducted by the National Center for Education Statistics, a division of the U.S. Department of Education.

The IPEDS surveys contacts nearly every postsecondary institution in the country — more than 7,000 — asking for fall enrollment data, which is then analyzed and reported. With a response rate close to 100 percent, the vast majority of colleges reply because failure to do so would result in disqualification for the enrollment of students who receive federal aid.

“This study validates our reasons for passage of Measure M,” Superintendent-President Diane Van Hook said. “We have always engaged in strategic planning to prepare for the future, and we knew we were experiencing unprecedented growth when we voted on the rate of enrollment for 2011 years ahead of schedule. But we certainly didn’t expect the numbers we see now.”

The growth college is experiencing can be credited to factors such as providing students with more options, the creation of new degree programs in in-demand careers and a population surge resulting from the fast-growing Santa Clarita Valley and neighboring cities.

Last year, the college introduced its first month-long winter session between the fall and spring semesters in response to the high demand by students wishing to get ahead in some of the college's most popular courses.

This year, school was back in session when the college welcomed nearly 5,000 students ready and eager to work during the winter.

In an effort to stay in tune with the changing job market and highly sought-after careers, the college has created new programs in fields such as culinary arts, welding, auto technology, paralegal and others. This spring, two new programs in land surveying and construction management will allow students to earn a certificate in both fields or associate degree in those fields.

The college expects more growth in the years to come, especially after enrollment fees dropped from $26 to $20 per unit due to the passage of a bill signed by Gov. Schwarzenegger.

Specifically designed to make California community colleges more affordable and accessible for local residents, the fee reduction — which went into effect on Jan. 1 — will attract students who can afford college for the first time and allow current students to enroll in more classes at a lower cost than before.

“It will be interesting to see how the college adjusts and develops as we continue to grow,” Bozeman said.

“Fortunately, Measure M will allow us to meet the needs of the community well into the future as we develop our new Canyon Country campus, and build new facilities and programs existing ones on the main campus.

“With the passage of Measure M, the 210-acre campus has both endorsed the value of the college to our valley and enabled it to continue providing the education we all value so highly.”

Packed parking lots and seemingly non-stop construction activity have been the norm at College of the Canyons for some time. This aerial photo, shot fast-growing Santa Clarita Valley and neighboring cities.

Last year, the college introduced its first month-long winter session between the fall and spring semesters in response to the high demand by students wishing to get ahead in some of the college's most popular courses.

This year, school was back in session when the college welcomed nearly 5,000 students ready and eager to work during the winter.

In an effort to stay in tune with the changing job market and highly sought-after careers, the college has created new programs in fields such as culinary arts, welding, auto technology, paralegal and others. This spring, two new programs in land surveying and construction management will allow students to earn a certificate in both fields or associate degree in those fields.

The college expects more growth in the years to come, especially after enrollment fees dropped from $26 to $20 per unit due to the passage of a bill signed by Gov. Schwarzenegger.

Specifically designed to make California community colleges more affordable and accessible for local residents, the fee reduction — which went into effect on Jan. 1 — will attract students who can afford college for the first time and allow current students to enroll in more classes at a lower cost than before.

“It will be interesting to see how the college adjusts and develops as we continue to grow,” Bozeman said.

“Fortunately, Measure M will allow us to meet the needs of the community well into the future as we develop our new Canyon Country campus, and build new facilities and programs existing ones on the main campus.

“With the passage of Measure M, the 210-acre campus has both endorsed the value of the college to our valley and enabled it to continue providing the education we all value so highly.”

Packed parking lots and seemingly non-stop construction activity have been the norm at College of the Canyons for some time. This aerial photo, shot

Continued on NEXT PAGE
Hundreds Receive Flu Shots During Unique Clinic

• 839 Members of Public Take Advantage of Free Immunizations at Drive-Through Event

I t janned traffic for a while on Valencia Boulevard. Carloads of families, friends and neighbors lined up outside the College of the Canyons parking lot to open. There was a real sense of anticipation – of something new, something different, a first-time event that no one wanted to miss. No, it wasn’t a sporting event, an entertainment fix or a retailer’s promotion handing out hard-to-get merchandise. It was the first time, not community members ranging in age from infants to people in their 70s and 80s lined up in droves to participate in what is considered to be an unpleasant task – receive a flu shot.

A combined effort on the part of College of the Canyons, the L.A. County Department of Public Health, the City of Santa Clarita and the L.A. County Sheriff’s Department, resulted in a “stay-in-your-car, roll-down-your-window, roll-up-your-sleeve, get-a-shot and drive off” experience for hundreds of community members. More than 800 people – 839, to be precise – received the free shots during a three-hour period on Nov. 17. The dispensing of flu shots was seen as a worthwhile public service in anticipation of a particularly active flu season this winter, but it served a greater purpose for the agencies involved. The process of dispensing vaccines to a mass population is a concern for those who are responsible for disaster preparedness and health officials with potential, future pandemics. Should a large outbreak of disease or a pandemic occur resulting in the need for mass inoculations, many sites similar to this one in Santa Clarita would be needed to serve the needs of communities.

The clinic provided excellent experience for College of the Canyons nursing students who, under the supervision of nursing instructors and Community Public Health personnel, administered the shots.

College of the Canyons nursing student volunteers administer influenza immunizations to the occupants of a line of motor vehicles during the free drive-through clinic at the college on Nov. 17.

Want Success? Learn to Communicate!

The most important skills employers look for in today’s college graduates are communication skills. These include oral and written communication, as well as other skills such as listening and following directions.

The Department of Communication Studies offers classes to help students prepare for life and the workforce. Certificates of completion are available in General Communication focusing on the use of language and argument, and the workforce. Certificates of completion are available in General Communication focusing on the use of language and argument, and the workforce.

THEATR-180 Theatrical Make-Up 1.00

THEATR-150 Intro to Lighting Design 3.00

THEATR-126 Improvisation 2.00

THEATR-120 Stagecraft 3.00

WELD-160 Adv. Gas Tungsten Arc Weld 2.00

WELD-150 Welding Technology 15.00

WELD-130 Welding Metallurgy 3.00

WELD-103 Metal Sculpturing 2.00

WELD-120 Industrial Welding I 5.00

WELD-119 Weld/Cert. & License Prep 3.00

The trip costs $2,995 per person and includes 33 meals, round-trip airfare, private motor coach transportations, gratuities and accommodations for 13 nights. For more information contact Pennington at (661) 362-3717.

CHINA

The trip included a tour through Beijing, Xian, Shanghai and a cruise on one of the world’s longest rivers, the Yangtze. Students will visit the Forbidden City, Shanghai Museum, the Great Wall and the Terra Cotta Warriors archeological site.

The trip costs $2,995 per person and includes 33 meals, round-trip airfare, private motor coach transportations, gratuities and accommodations for 13 nights. For more information contact Pennington at (661) 362-3717.
Lady Golfer Take 2nd Place in State Tournament

The College of the Canyons golf program, led by Head Coach Gary Peterson, has engineered the men's and women's programs into two of the best in the state. In the spring of 2006, Peterson and his team won the men's state championship, and this season the women's team looked to follow in their footsteps, finishing as runner-ups in the state championship.

"I'm very proud of the women. They played very well with an all-freshman team," said Peterson.

The young Lady Cougars (36-9), boasting only first-year players, consistently finished in second place behind WSC rival Santa Barbara City College (45-0). Canyons beat Santa Barbara in one tournament this year, the LadyOtters were runner-up in the stroke play.

"It took a while for the women to understand that the jump from high school to college golf," said Peterson. "Instead of nine holes, there are 18, the length of tournaments and travel is hard. But, I think when we went to the Lady Otter Invitational, they read their potential."

At the state championship, held at Belmont County Club in Fresno, the Lady Cougars followed the lead of Tessa Harp in the first round. Harp birdied on the seventh and 12th holes and finished the first round with a 2-over-par 74. As a team, COC shot a combined 334 after the first 18 holes, with Darlene Bognot and Ashley Redmond rounding out the top of the heap with scores of 83 and 86.

Concluding day one, Canyons traveled first place Santa Barbara (312) by 20 strokes and was ahead of third place Irvine College (352) by 18 strokes.

"After the first round, we came to the conclusion that Santa Barbara was going to win," stated Peterson. "They were consistent all year and the team was just too good and too solid. I told the women that the second round was the first day of next year. I asked them to show me what I could expect next season."

As Santa Barbara ran away with first place, Redmond emerged as the leader of day two, tying Bognot's score, but things got difficult behind COC after being only four strokes behind in the second round.

"We had 150 (Redmond) ratified our second-place finish. She is capable of being a very strong golfer and will be very successful next year," said Peterson.

In the fall, Peterson led six players improving their scores or gaining a fourth place Western State Conference Championship finish. The College of the Canyons' women's golf program has won four conference titles (2000, 2001, 2002, 2003 and 2004) and a state title (2001) since the program was started in 1999.

"We did well," said Peterson. "But, in 2001 we won a state championship, so I know we can do better. If I didn't have high expectations from my teams, I wouldn't be a good coach.

Athletes Persevere Amid Ups and Downs of Competition

As with every sports season, teams will win some and lose some. This year, the College of the Canyons athletic program, that just finished its fall season, was no stranger to ups and downs.

Head Coach Lisa Hooper's volleyball team turned the program around after a 6-13 overall, 3-7 Western State Conference record. Sparked by five players from last year and talented freshmen, the Lady Cougars finished 16-8 overall and 6-4 in conference and was ranked No. 14 in the state in the California Community College Women's Volleyball Coaches Association poll. In the playoffs, the Lady Cougars were ousted against Irvine Valley, and lost 3-1.

The cross country team earned a spot in the men's and women's state meet, the first time since Head Coach Linlde Kane has been in charge of the program. After the men placed third in the WSC Finals and 11th in the SoCalChampionships, the team came in 16th at the state meet with a time of 111:04 and a 22:13 average over the four-mile course. The women finished the conference in 12th place and 14th in the SoCal Championships. Headed into the state meet, freshman Andrea Biship contended for the top spot and helped lead her team to an 18th-place finish. She ended the three-mile course in 18:36.

Gary Peterson, head coach for the men's and women's golf team, had another successful season, this time with the women's team. With only freshmen dotting the roster, the Lady Cougars 16-8 overall and 5-4 in conference place second place behind rival Santa Barbara City College (45-0) in conference play and at the state championship.

Harp School graduate Tessa Harp led the young Lady Cougars after the first round with a 2-over-par 74 and fellow Hart alumna Ashley Redmond was the top finisher on day two, with 11-over-par 83. As a team, the top Lady Cougar for the two-day event.

The men's (9-14-2 overall, 5-8-1 in conference) and women's (9-10-4 overall, 3-5-4 conference) struggled this season, but did bright spots in their 2006 campaign. Concluding the soccer season, 10 players were named to the All-Western State Conference team. First Team honorees included: Alex Torro and Avery Wamire. Second Team honorees included: Josh Donis, Greg Ibach, Samantha Chalmers and Ashley Green. Salvador Corona, Alex Lasca, Sydney Coutin and Jessica Torres received honorable mention.

With the loss of WSC Division Player of the Year Marcel Marquez, the Lady Cougars are looking for the next All-American linebacker Joey LaRocque and with five other players off to the Pac-10, the 2006 football season served as a year of rebuilding. For the first time since the program was reinstated in 1998, the Cougars did not make the playoffs or receive a bid to a bowl game.

The Cougars finished with a 5-5 overall record, 4-3 in conference, and a fourth place finish in the Western State Conference. Canyons did receive multiple nods from the WSC though, honoring 17 football players with All-WSC awards, and naming sophomore running back Joey LaRocque as the Western State Conference Northern Division Player of the Year. Scott led the team in rushing for 303 yards, along with 65 receptions for 996 yards and 11 touchdowns. He is the fourth consecutive Cougars player to be named the WSC Division Player of the Year and joins a distinguished list of former Cougars. Defensive End Brandon Peku earned the award in 2003, wide receiver Tyrell Smith in 2004 and quarterback Marcel Marquez in 2005.

COC now looks towards its winter athletic teams, men's and women's basketball, as they begin their march to a successful campaign.

Greg Herrick and the defending Western State Conference champion Lady Cougar basketball team headed into conference play at the beginning of January. They look to repeat last season's success with a talented group of women that includes All-State selection and WSC MVP Ashley Redmond. The Lady Cougars have four players averaging double digits in scoring and four averaging double figures in rebounding more than five rebounds a game.

The men's basketball team is off to one of the best starts in recent years. Head Coach Howard Fisher. After defeating the defending state champi ons, Bakersfield College, 78-72 on Dec. 21, the Cougars won the Vaquero Classic at Glendale College and came in second in the Rancho Vista Classic and Cougar Holiday Classic. Sophomore Everett Bryson and Third Team All-Western State pick in scoring with 14.5 and 14.6 ppg respectively. Bryson also leads the team in rebounding, grabbing 7.1 rpg.

Unofficial Transcripts Now Available Online

If you have attended college or graduated from college, there is no need to tell you how important college grades are. Any college or university will want to see that a college or university receives directly from the issuing college or university. It must bear the college seal, current date and an appropriate signature.

Many colleges provide the first few official transcripts at no charge to students, but large quantities of official transcripts can get expensive, especially in intensive job search and any endeavors requiring indisputable information about a person's academic performance.

Large colleges and universities often dedicate many employees at considerable expense to prepare official transcripts and often don't make “unofficial” transcripts available. Yet unofficial transcripts are extremely helpful to students. They are frequently used in job application packets (official transcripts may be required prior to hiring), in demonstrating completion of prerequisites for more advanced classes, for transfer application packets to four-year colleges and much more.

College of the Canyons has simplified and sped up the process for obtaining unofficial transcripts. All students have the ability to go to www.canyons.edu, click on the “Student” button, click on the “Transcript” button and follow the directions. “We are pleased to be able to provide this streamlined service,” said Jasmine Rayes, director of admissions and records. “Best of all, this service is available at no charge to the students.”

Need Help Finding a Job? For many people, the new year means making a commitment to find a new job, change careers or explore new opportunities. The College of the Canyons Career Center can help. Advisors are on hand to help students select, prepare for and explore career options. They can help you improve your resume, search out employment opportunities, prepare for job interviews and update resumes and be prepared for interviews.

The Career Center is located in Building C, Room 103 on the main campus and is open 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Fridays. Some services are walk-in, but some appointments can be made by calling (661) 362-3286.