



EL CAMINO COLLEGE

Union

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Torrance, Calif.
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News LINE

Commencement speeches due today

The deadline for speech submissions for the commencement ceremony is today.

Graduating students interested in speaking at commencement may pick up an application at the Student Development Office, which is located in the Activities Center East Lounge.

For more information, call 310-660-3501.

Financial aid workshop scheduled today

Students still interested in applying for financial aid may attend a workshop today from 10 a.m. to noon in Room 208 of the Student Services Center.

For more information, contact the Financial Aid Office at 310-660-6038.

Transfer Center to host USC tour tomorrow

Interested students may attend a USC tour tomorrow from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Students who wish to participate must be currently enrolled in at least one course and have a current class printout.

A bus will leave the campus at 10 a.m. and return at 3 p.m.

For more information, contact the Transfer Office at 310-660-3408.

Research symposium scheduled for tomorrow

Students are invited to attend an Anthropology Student Research Symposium tomorrow from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

This free event will be at the Haag Recital Hall.

For more information, interested persons may contact Celso Jaquez at cdj1958@hotmail.com.

Funeral mass for Chief D'Amico Saturday

A funeral mass for Police Chief Michael D' Amico will be Saturday at American Martyrs Catholic Church at 10 a.m.

The church is located at 624 15th St. in Manhattan Beach.

Those who wish to attend need to arrive early so mass can begin promptly.

Interested persons may contribute to the Chief Michael D'Amico scholarship fund by sending checks to the EC Foundation Office.

For more information, the Foundation Office may be reached at 310-660-3683.

Scholarship awards reception Tuesday

The scholarship awards presentation and reception is scheduled Tuesday from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

It will be presented by the Financial Aid Office in the cafeteria.

For more information, interested persons may call 310-660-6541.

Summer job training available Wednesday

Summer job training will be available at the Finding Summer Job program Wednesday at the Student Services Center from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Students may learn resume and interviewing skills.

For more information, contact the Career Placement Center at 310-660-3449.

— Tatiana Richardson

Challenging boundaries



Filip Jerzycke/Union

Demonstrators march in downtown L.A., calling for reform for undocumented immigrants and workers. No progress has been made on the issue since last year.



Filip Jerzycke/Union

As they march, protesters carry signs focusing on the distinction between illegal immigrants and criminals.

Protest for immigration reform has smaller turnout, less EC impact.

Sara O'Connell
Staff Writer

Despite the hype and media fervor of last year, this year's May 1 protest failed to stir students' interest, as the campus was virtually devoid of any participation in immigration demonstrations.

However, protests still took place Tuesday morning in downtown L.A., although the number of demonstrators was smaller. The protests were mostly peaceful, though violence broke out in the afternoon at MacArthur Park, where police fired rubber bullets at several protesters.

Only about 25,000 people attended, in comparison to 650,000 last year.

"I feel that there was more passion last year; people were waiting for something like this to happen. We are still passionate, but for some reason I feel the passion was stronger last year and there were a lot more people," John Alvarez 21, said.

"We want to send out the mes-

sage peacefully, that we're still here and we're all united. There are a lot of us who are serious about it," Alvarez said.

Many protesters, such as Cecilia Barcenas, 32, housewife, were there because the immigration issue was personal.

"I'm here for my husband because I am legal but he is not. We want a good reform that will help those who really need it and have been waiting a long time for an answer," Barcenas said.

"I can't even describe how I felt last year; it was amazing. As a unit our people are so passionate, not even just about this protest, but about life in general," Angela Aguirre, a student at Pasadena City College, said.

Many demonstrators attributed the smaller turnout to the fact that there was less publicity for the march.

Regardless of the numbers, protesters stood shoulder-to-shoulder, united and ready to be heard.

"I understand they can't give papers to everyone but they can work something out. If these people can find jobs here, not only they prosper but the U.S. prospers as well," Alvarez said.



Filip Jerzycke/Union

Waving the U.S. flag, an 8-year-old, shows his support.

New immigration reform seeks to alleviate problem

The White House continues its attempt to develop a realistic solution to the age-old problem of illegal immigration.

Alma Padilla
Staff Writer

Tuesday's march served as a reminder for students who might have forgotten about the issues surrounding illegal immigration.

After weeks of closed-door meetings with Republicans, the White House has proposed new immigration reform with the hope of creating a viable solution to the problem.

Under this new plan, the more than 11 million estimated illegal immigrants living and working here could apply for work visas, after returning home and paying a large amount of money to become U.S. residents.

"I don't think it will pass; it is too politically charged," Laurie Houske, political science professor, said.

The new "Z" visa, as it is titled in the plan, would be useful for three years, and can be renewed indefinitely. However, this renewal would cost the individual \$3,500.

Under that plan, illegal immigrants could stay, work and apply to become legal residents after learning English, clearing a background check and paying small fines.

"There is just too much political rhetoric going on; politicians just don't want to deal with it. If they can avoid it, they will," Houske said.

This plan also calls for the immediate construction of 370 miles of physical fencing and the placement of 18,300 border patrol agents along the U.S.-Mexican border.

"We have no way of knowing who is coming in. We can't control the borders with a fence," Sue Dowden, sociology professor, said.

"People who are trying to get into the country can find ways around the fence."

Conservatives are strongly against amnesty or any proposal that would eventually give illegal immigrants

citizenship. They believe this would be rewarding them for breaking the law.

"We have tried amnesty twice before, and this only encourages more people to come into the country," Dowden said.

Although Congress is divided on this, a recent USA TODAY/ Gallup Poll taken last week indicated that 78 percent of Americans believe that those who are in the country illegally should be given an opportunity at citizenship.

"I don't think amnesty or citizenship should be seen as a reward. If you are here and you are a productive person, you are entitled to it," Jose Zarazua, sociology major, said.

While Congress continues its decades-long attempt to create a reform, millions of illegal immigrants will have to continue their wait.

"There is no absolute solution to illegal immigration," Dowden said.

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